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Subject: Generating derivatives of parent structure  
Posted by [lutek14](#) on Sun, 05 Nov 2023 09:09:08 GMT  
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Hello,

I appreciate the quality of the program, but require some assistance. I have an original structure and wish to generate derivatives by substituting specific locations by certain residues. Is this achievable? Alternatively, could you recommend any freely available software that can accomplish this task efficiently?

Thanks

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Subject: Re: Generating derivatives of parent structure  
Posted by [nbehrnd](#) on Sun, 05 Nov 2023 18:14:19 GMT  
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Hello,

this taps into the generation of a combinatorial library you find below Chemistry -> enumerate combinatorial library. Either you find your reaction among the templates DW ships by default, or you create your own reaction pattern. Tab «reactants» allows you to use molecules already defined in a .dwar, or .sdf; or to let DW select ones which are commercially available (criteria are adjustable).

See chapter «chemical structures», section «combinatorial library» in DW's help or the online web page[1] for additional information. It however is time well invested to follow Isabelle Girault's video tutorial about the topic «RSC CICAG Open Source Tools for Chemistry Workshops:- Advanced DataWarrior»[2] recorded in 2021 around 47:18 min:s on youtube. (There is sequel «DataWarrior workshop by Isabelle Giraud»[3] by her to complement the insight about DW, too.)

Regards,

Norwid

[1] <https://openmolecules.org/help/chemistry.html#VirtualLibraries>

[2] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mQCf9GakQW0>

[3] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Is2hLqqSFvM>

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Subject: Re: Generating derivatives of parent structure  
Posted by [lutek14](#) on Sun, 05 Nov 2023 20:15:33 GMT  
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Hello, thank you for your response.

However, I am not seeking reactions themselves, but just structures. For instance, I would like to create combinations with substituted hydrogen atoms on the aromatic ring, altered heterocycle, and various sized side chain .

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Subject: Re: Generating derivatives of parent structure  
Posted by [nbehrnd](#) on Sun, 05 Nov 2023 21:36:35 GMT

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The combinatorial library is generated within a .dwar file and eventually contains an array of the structures of the product, as well as as of the corresponding starting materials.

Departing from here, you can either

- edit this array to selectively copy & paste the column(s) of interest / remove columns not suitable, or
- export the .dwar file as such as a .sdf file which then contains only the structures of the products.

See the .dwar and .png attached for a small 10 by 10 library to yield benzophenones as illustration. This approach DW provides is intuitive, the implementation to recur on compounds only known «in house» or commercially available delivers the results quickly.

Regards,

Norwid

#### File Attachments

1) [Combinatorial\\_Library\\_dwar\\_file.png](#), downloaded 367 times

Combinatorial\_Library.dwar

File Edit Data Chemistry Database List Macro Help

Table

	Product	Reactant-ID 1	Reactant-ID 2	Reactant 1	Reactant 2
1		MCULE-4541	MCULE-9646		
2		MCULE-4541	MCULE-6125		
3		MCULE-4541	MCULE-4759		
4		MCULE-4541	MCULE-9632		

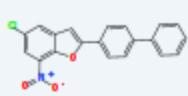
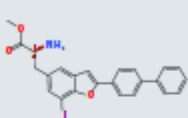
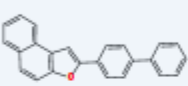
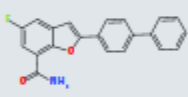
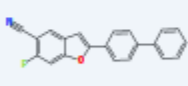
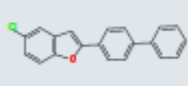

Structure

96 of 681 MB      Selected:      Visible:100      Total:100

- 2) [Combinatorial\\_Library.dwar](#), downloaded 468 times
- 3) [Combinatorial\\_Library\\_exported\\_sdf\\_file.png](#), downloaded 375 times

Combinatorial\_Library.sdf

File Edit Data Chemistry Database List Macro Help

Table				
	Structure	Molecule Name	Reactant-ID 1	Reactant-ID 2
1		Compound 1	MCULE-4541	MCULE-9646
2		Compound 2	MCULE-4541	MCULE-6125
3		Compound 3	MCULE-4541	MCULE-4759
4		Compound 4	MCULE-4541	MCULE-9632
5		Compound 5	MCULE-4541	MCULE-4717
6		Compound 6	MCULE-4541	MCULE-3891
7		Compound 7	MCULE-4541	MCULE-7915

Structures

2D View

3D View

253 of 786 MB      Selected:      Visible:100      Total:100

4) [Combinatorial\\_Library.sdf](#), downloaded 452 times

Subject: Re: Generating derivatives of parent structure

Posted by [thomas](#) on Fri, 08 Dec 2023 23:42:10 GMT

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You could also use the "Build Evolutionary Library..." functionality. This creates new molecules from a starting generation by random small modifications. You can also define parts of the molecule that shall not be modified by just selecting it. I tried that with your molecule and selected all but 4 ring positions. This causes random modifications at all selected atoms, which includes ring cleavages.

Then you are supposed to add fitness criteria, which are used to value the quality of created structures. Those structures, that match your criteria best will be kept and form at the same time the parent generation for the next round of random changes. I just defined a simple criterion: the molecular weight shall be not higher than 240. Otherwise I just use default options for everything else. The settings look like this:

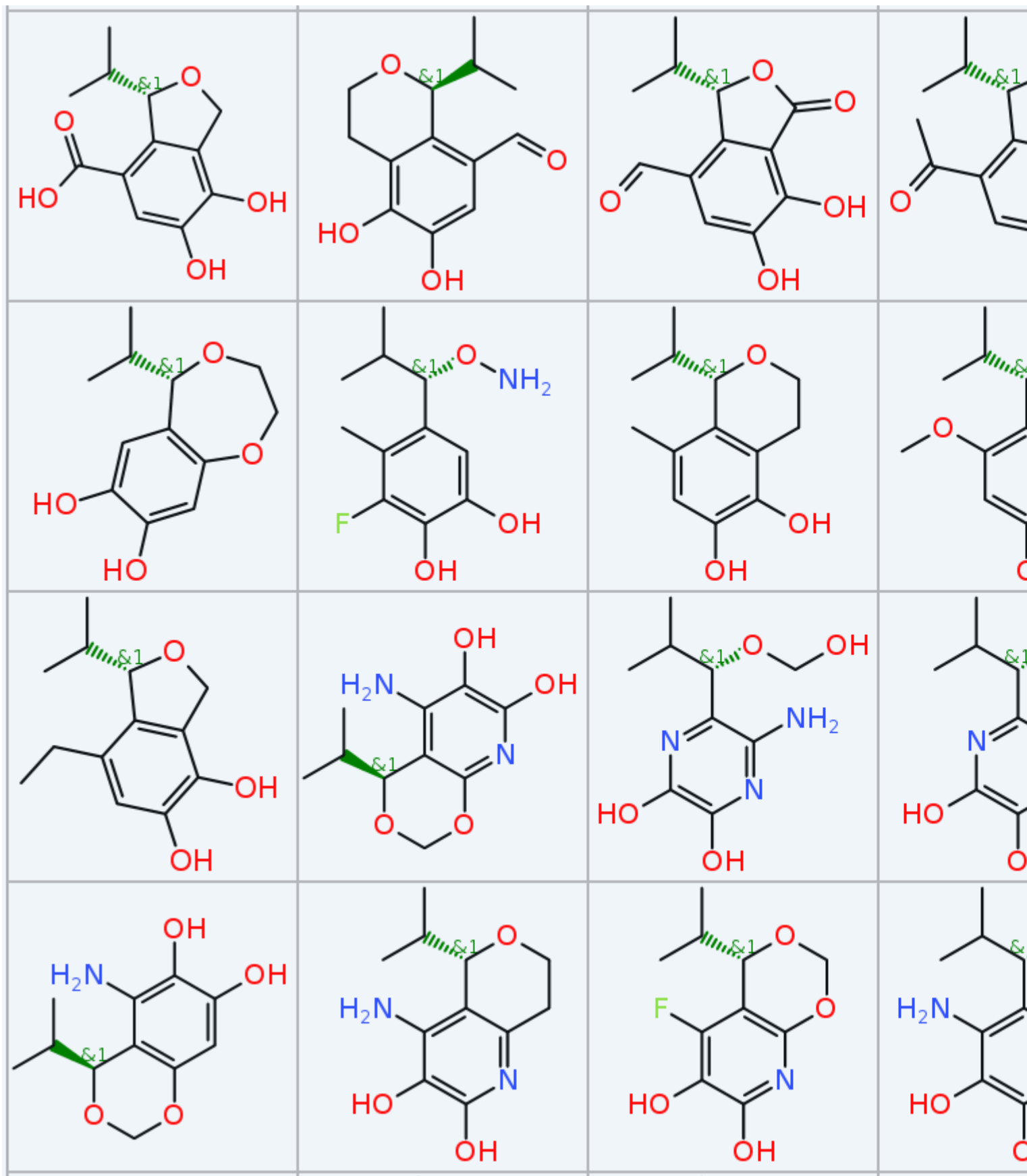
In less than one second DataWarrior created 267 different molecules in 15 generations that all contain the selected (red) part of your defined starting structure, with lots of variations regarding substitution, ring size, partially open ring structures and molecular weights always below 240. The picture shows a small subset.

Of course, you can be more specific with fitness criteria, e.g. use chemical similarities, pharmacophore similarities or even a docking score...

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### File Attachments

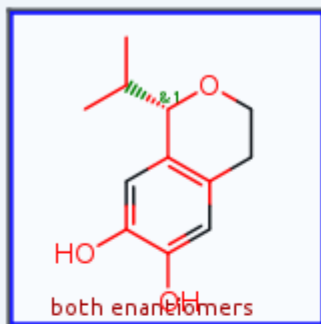
1) [temp2.png](#), downloaded 675 times



2) [temp1.png](#), downloaded 722 times

Root generation compounds:

Default



(Select sub-structures to protect)

automatic



Cycle

128



Compounds per cycle

8



Compounds survive a cycle

Fitness Criteria

Prefer 'Molecular weight'  $\geq$

and  $\leq$

240