



Running InChI Anywhere with WebAssembly

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The InChI Value Proposition

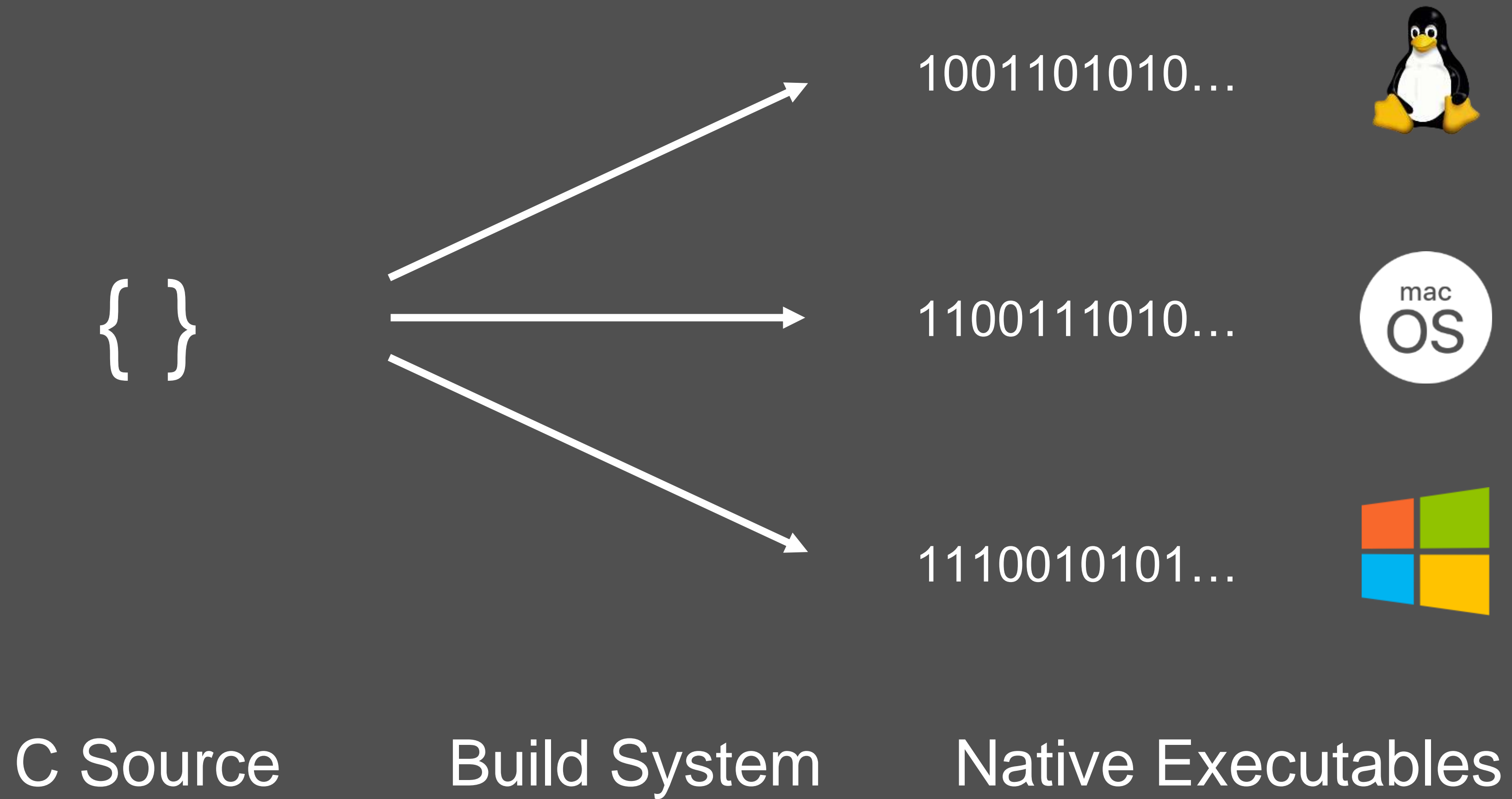
- Unique Key: Does this database have this molecule?
- Foreign Key: What other databases have this molecule?
- **Permissionless** (cf. CAS)

InChI Source Code

```
/******  
EXPIMP_TEMPLATE INCHI_API  
int INCHI_DECL MakeINCHIFromMolfileText( const char *moltext,  
                                         char *szOptions,  
                                         inchi_output *result )  
{  
    int retcode = 0, retcode2 = 0;  
    long num_inp = 0, num_err = 0;  
    char szTitle[MAX_SDF_HEADER + MAX_SDF_VALUE + 256];  
  
    STRUCT_FPTRS *pStructPtrs = NULL; /* dummy in this context */  
    INPUT_PARMS inp_parms;  
    INPUT_PARMS *ip = &inp_parms;  
    STRUCT_DATA struct_data;  
    STRUCT_DATA *sd = &struct_data;  
    ORIG_ATOM_DATA OrigAtData;  
    ORIG_ATOM_DATA *orig_inp_data = &OrigAtData;  
    ORIG_ATOM_DATA PrepAtData[2];  
    ORIG_ATOM_DATA *prep_inp_data = PrepAtData;  
    PINChI2 *pINChI[INCHI_NUM];  
    PINChI_Aux2 *pINChI_Aux[INCHI_NUM];  
    INCHI_Iostream outputstr, logstr, prbstr, instr;  
    INCHI_Iostream *pout = &outputstr, *plog = &logstr, *pprb = &prbstr,  
        *inp_file = &instr;  
    int output_error_inchi = 0;  
    int have_err_in_GetOneStructure = 0;  
  
    INCHI_IOS_STRING temp_string_container;  
    INCHI_IOS_STRING *strbuf = &temp_string_container;  
}
```

- 165,000 lines of code
- Mostly C

Deployment



What About...



Ubiquitous



Native Code not Allowed!

Servers... Permission

The Most Important App



THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

**Your Browser Is the Most Important App You Have—
Make Sure You Use the Right One**

JavaScript



JS

- Browser debut in 1994
- Universal browser support
- Pretty fast

InChI to JavaScript



Rewrite
160,000 lines
of C to JS.



Transpile
160,000 lines
of C to JS.



<https://github.com/metamolecular/inchi-js>

JavaScript as Assembly Language



- Ad hoc solution
- Limited tooling
- Limited scope
- Gobs of glue code
- Not built for speed

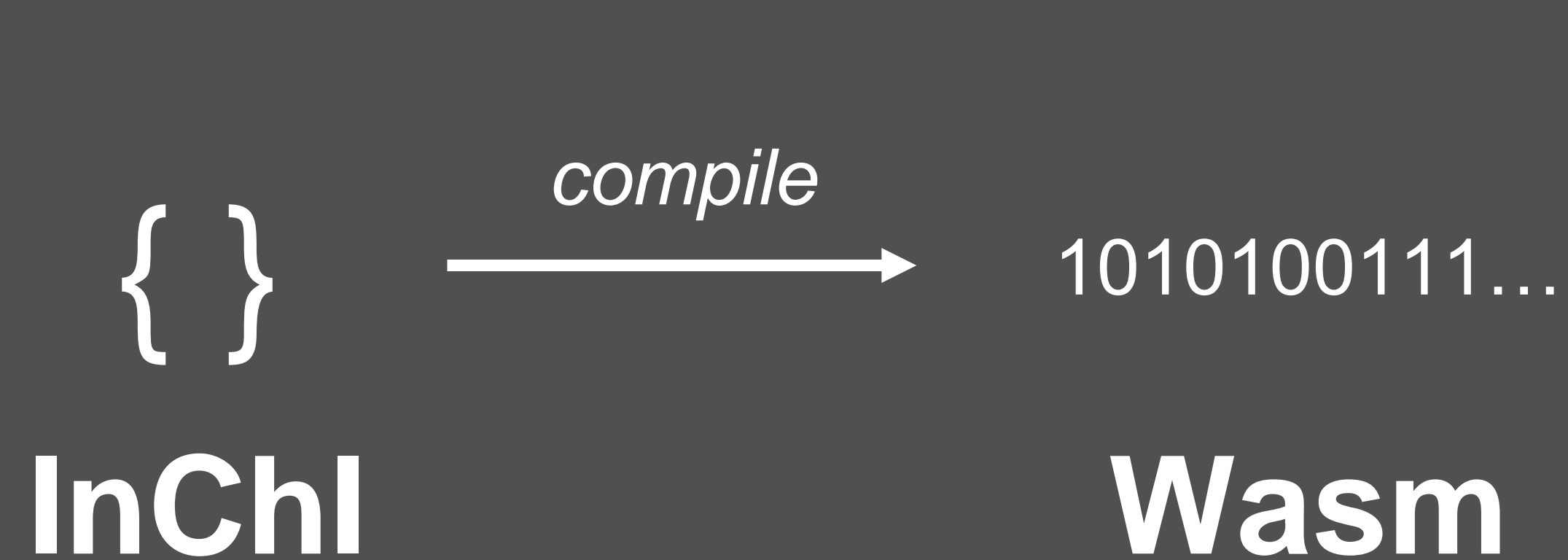
WebAssembly (Wasm)



WA

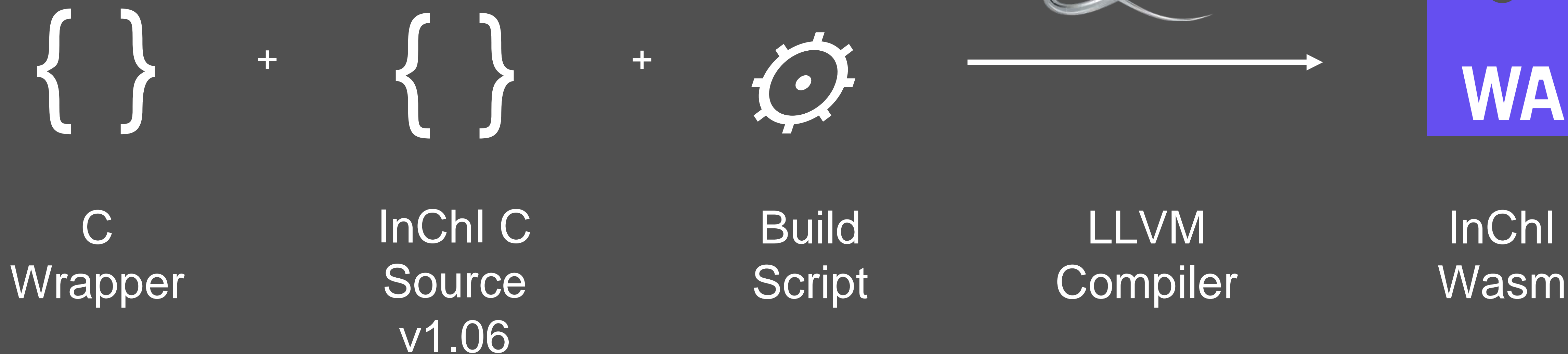
- Binary instruction format
- Fast, portable compile target
- Sandboxed for security
- Runs in all browsers, 2017
- W3C Standard, 2019
- **Runs InChI?**

Goals



- Minimal tooling
- No auto-generated glue code
- Use verbatim InChI source
- In other words, a build system

InChI-Wasm Project



<https://github.com/rapodaca/inchi-wasm>

Application Stack

HTML



User Interface

JS

JS-Wasm Interface (2 KB)

WA

InChI Wasm (601 KB)

JS

Standard Library (Static, 69 KB)

InChI Wasm Test

```
CWRITER02282009502D
Created with ChemWriter - https://chemwriter.com
6 6 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0999 V2000
 75.8435 -39.8212 0.0000 C 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
 84.5038 -44.8212 0.0000 C 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
 93.1640 -39.8212 0.0000 C 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
 93.1640 -29.8212 0.0000 C 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
 84.5038 -24.8212 0.0000 C 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
 75.8435 -29.8212 0.0000 C 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
 1 2 2 0 0 0 0
 2 3 1 0 0 0 0
 3 4 2 0 0 0 0
 4 5 1 0 0 0 0
 5 6 2 0 0 0 0
 6 1 1 0 0 0 0
M END
```

- NEWPSOFF
- DoNotAddH
- SNon
- SRel
- SRac
- SUCF
- SUU
- SLUUD
- RecMet
- FixedH
- KET
- 15T

InChI:

InChI=1S/C6H6/c1-2-4-6-5-3-1/h1-6H

InChI Key:

UHOVQNZJYSORNB-UHFFFAOYSA-N

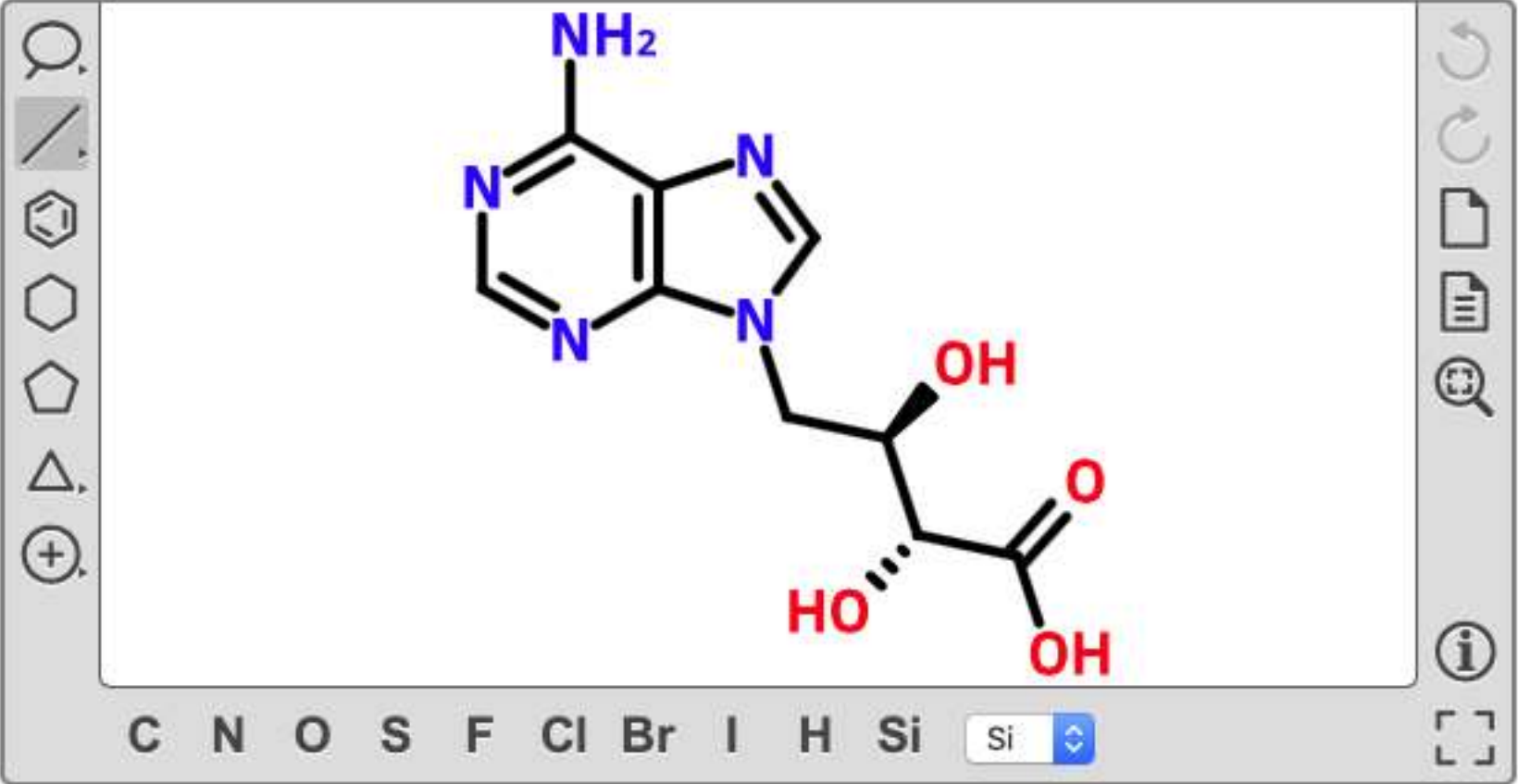
Error:

chemwriter.com/inchi

ChemWriter

[Examples](#) | [Developer Guide](#) | [User Guide](#) | [Support](#) | [Plans](#)

Interactive InChI



NEWPSOFF
 DoNotAddH
 SNon
 SRel
 SRac
 SUCF
 SUU
 SLUUD
 RecMet
 FixedH
 KET
 15T

InChI:
`InChI=1S/C9H11N5O4/c10-7-5-8(12-2-11-7)14(3-13-5)1-4(15)6(16)9(17)18/h2-4,6,15-16H,1H2,(H,17,18)(H2,10,11,12)/t4-,6-/m1/s1`

InChI Key:
`LIEMBEWXEZJEEZ-INEUFUBQSA-N`

Error:

C Wrapper

```
#include <string.h>
#include <time.h>
#include "inchi_api.h"
```

```
int molfile_to_inchi(char *molfile, char *options, char *result)
```

← Wasm interface

```
{
```

```
    inchi_Output output;
```

```
    memset((void *)&output, 0, sizeof(output));
```

```
    MakeINCHIFromMolfileText(molfile, options, &output);
```

← heavy lifting 💪

```
    int status = output.szInChI ? 0 : -1;
```

```
    strcpy(result, status == 0 ? output.szInChI : output.szLog);
```

← copy result (InChI or Error)

```
    FreeINCHI(&output);
```

```
    return status;
```

← JS error reporting

```
}
```

Also, `inchi_to_inchikey` with help from Bob Hanson

Build Script

```
clang \
--target=wasm32-unknown-wasi \
--sysroot ${WASI_LIBC_HOME} \
-Oz \
-v \
-Wl,-import-memory \
-Wl,-wrap,clock \
-Wl,-export,malloc \
-Wl,-export,molfile_to_inchi \
-Wl,-export,inchi_to_inchikey \
-Wl,-no-entry \
-DTARGET_API_LIB \
${PLATFORM} \
-Iinchi/INCHI_BASE/src \
inchi/INCHI_BASE/src/*.c \
inchi/INCHI_API/libinchi/src/*.c \
src/inchi_wasm.c \
-o build/inchi_wasm.wasm
```

← LLVM compiler

← Wasm Target

← Standard Library

← **Obscure, hard-won hack**

Wasm options

Standard build
stuff

Data Schlepping in JS

```
window.molfileToInChI = (molfile, options) => {  
  options || (options = "");  
  
  if (molfile.length + 1 > inputMaxBytes) {  
    alert("Model data is over the maximum of " + inputMaxBytes + " bytes.");  
    return "";  
  }  
  ...  
  const encoder = new TextEncoder();  
  const decoder = new TextDecoder();  
  
  const inputView = new Uint8Array(memory.buffer);  
  inputView.set(encoder.encode(molfile + "\0"), pInput);  
  inputView.set(encoder.encode(options + "\0"), pOptions);  
  
  const result = instance.exports.molfile_to_inchi(pInput, pOptions, pOutput);  
  const outputView = new Uint8Array(memory.buffer.slice(pOutput, pOutput +  
    outputMaxBytes));  
  const o = outputView.subarray(0, outputView.indexOf(0));  
  const output = decoder.decode(o);  
  
  if (result == -1) {  
    throw Error(output)  
  }  
  
  return (output);  
};
```

← Inputs: molfile and options

← Byte wranglers

← Translate input

← Call InChI Wrapper

} Write output

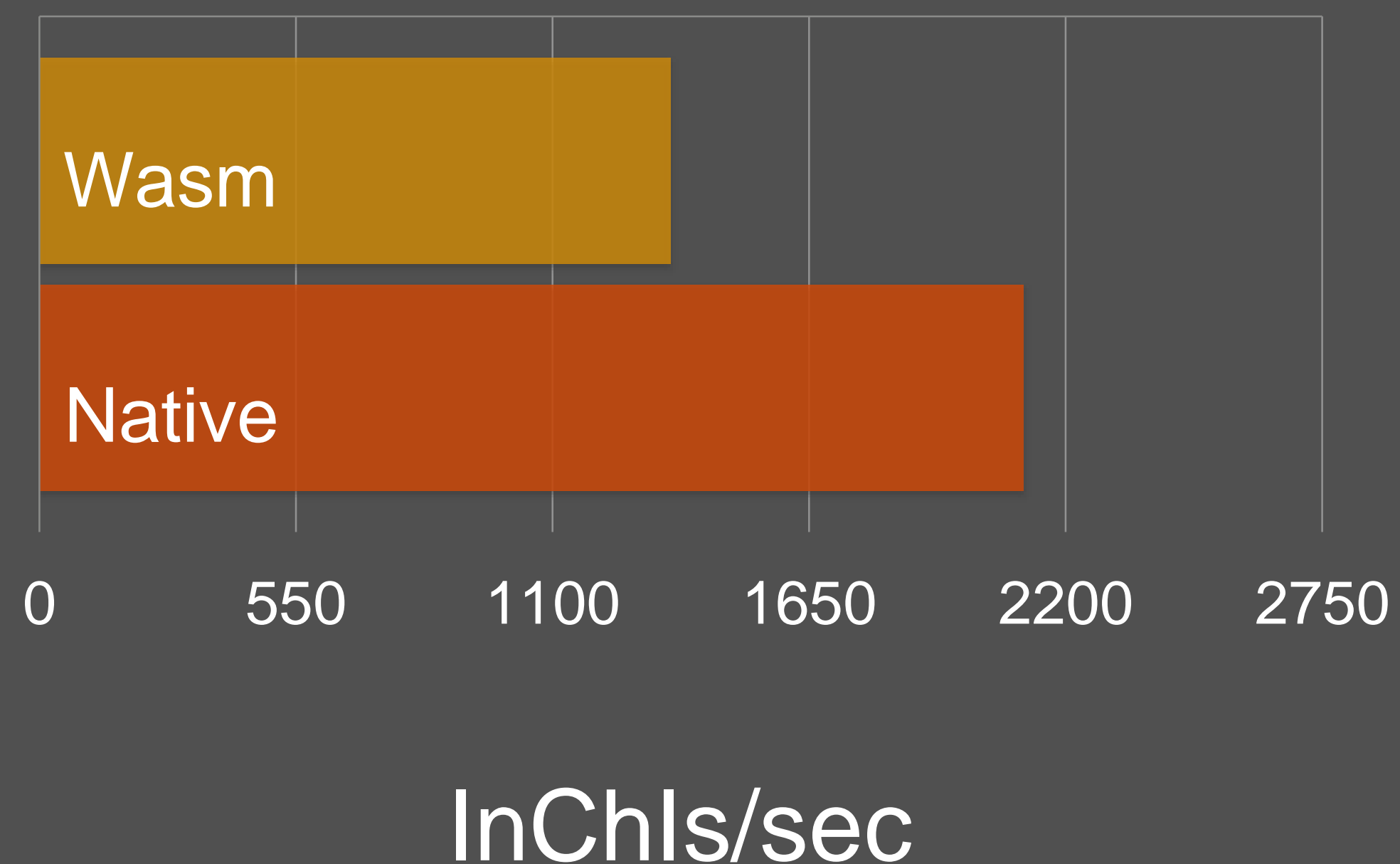
} Return result

Performance

“WebAssembly **aims to execute at native speed** by taking advantage of common hardware capabilities available on a wide range of platforms.”

- webassembly.org


Benchmark




- 114 K SureChEMBL Update
- Test Wasm & native
- Same InChI output
- 155 ChEMBL discrepancies
- 3 Errors

Rethinking the Web Browser for Chemistry

Draw a structure ?







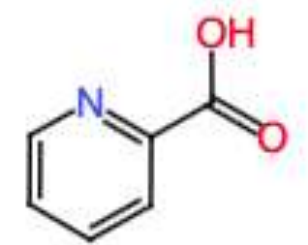
Search mode* Substructure

Filter by article name

Click on a row to see the Wikipedia article

Structure	Article name
	Picolinic acid
	Homarine

Picolinic acid



MF C₆H₅NO₂
MW 123.11

[View in wikipedia](#)
[Search similar molecules](#)

Picolinic acid is an [organic compound](#) with the formula C₅H₄N(CO₂H). It is a derivative of [pyridine](#) with a [carboxylic acid](#) (COOH) substituent at the 2-position. It is an [isomer](#) of [nicotinic acid](#) and [isonicotinic acid](#), which have the carboxyl side chain at the 3- and 4-position, respectively. It is a white solid that is soluble in water.

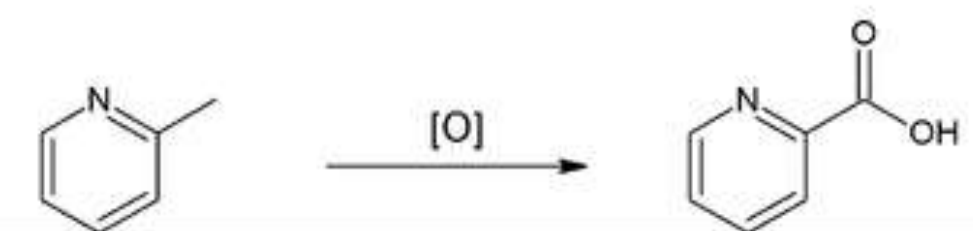
In [synthetic organic chemistry](#), has been used as a substrate in the [Mitsunobu reaction](#) and in the [Hammick reaction](#).^{[2]:495ff}

Coordination chemistry

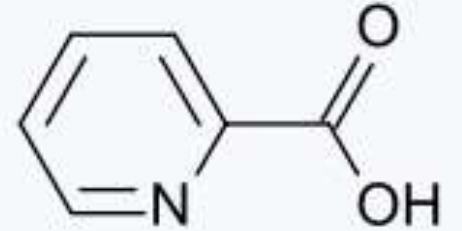
Picolinic acid is a bidentate [chelating agent](#) of elements such as chromium, zinc, manganese, copper, iron, and molybdenum in the human body.^{[3]:72} Many of its complexes are charge-neutral and thus [lipophilic](#). After its role in absorption was discovered, zinc dipicolinate [dietary supplements](#) became popular as they were shown to be an effective means of introducing [zinc](#) into the body.^[3]

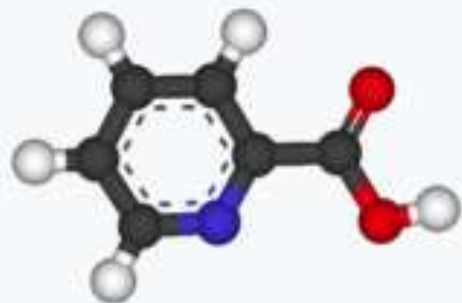
Production

Picolinic acid is formed from [2-methylpyridine](#) by [oxidation](#), e.g. by means of [potassium permanganate](#) (KMnO₄).^{[4][5]}



Picolinic acid





Names	
Preferred IUPAC name	Pyridine-2-carboxylic acid
Other names	Picolinic acid
Identifiers	
CAS Number	98-98-6 ✓
3D model (JSmol)	Interactive image
ChEBI	CHEBI:28747 ✓

This notebook is owned by [mdboom](#). To run it, press the button. To save any changes, you need to [log in](#).

Editor Report Preview

Pyodide

Pyodide brings the Python runtime to the browser via WebAssembly, along with NumPy, Pandas, Matplotlib, parts of SciPy, and NetworkX.

Console Workspace

```
document.body.style.backgroundColor = '#ff0000'
else:
  document.body.style.backgroundColor = '#ffffff'
button.addEventListener('click', onclick)
```

← undefined

```
>> # python
class Foo:
  def __init__(self, val):
    self.val = val
foo = Foo(42)
foo
```

← <Foo object at 0x8af4c0>

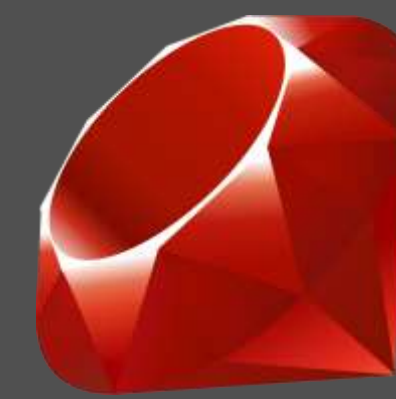
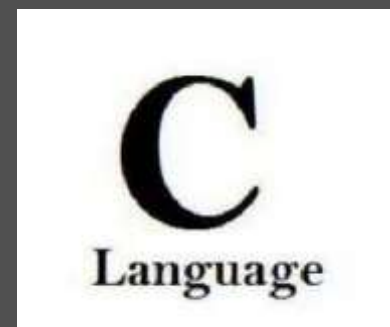
```
>> // javascript
var foo = pyodide.pyimport("foo")
foo.val
```

← 42

```
>> import numpy as np
x = np.linspace(0, 2.0 * np.pi, 100)
y = np.sin(x)
y
```

>>

Beyond the Browser



A Template for Future Work

- Legacy code written in C, C++, or FORTRAN
- Incentive for in-browser and/or serverless deployment
- Compile to Wasm with LLVM
- User Interface in HTML5

<https://metamolecular.com>