

Internet Connection

The following review is the third in a series of articles surveying free online resources of potential interest to chemists. The first article appeared in the July-Aug 2006 CI, p. 26, and the second in the Sep-Oct 2006 CI, p. 29.

Free Information Resources for Chemists—Part 3

by Leslie Glasser

Chemical Journals

While subscriptions are generally required to access the chemical literature, many journals permit free Internet access after a period. For example, all reports and recommendations in IUPAC's *Pure and Applied Chemistry* <www.iupac.org/publications/pac> are available immediately upon publication, while the remaining material is available for free a year after the complete publication of a volume.

IUPAC's news magazine *Chemistry International*, <www.iupac.org/publications/ci> offers free access from the time it is published.

Currently, the Open Access Publishing movement is urging a move towards free public access to publicly funded, original research publications <<http://bmj.bmjournals.com/cgi/content/full/328/7430/1>>, with the author paying the publication costs. An important new site for this movement is "Open Access Central" <www.openaccesscentral.com>, which is the portal for three open-access sites: the well-established "BioMed Central," which lists over 150 peer-reviewed open access journals covering all of biology and medicine; "Chemistry Central" <www.chemistrycentral.com>, which currently features chemistry-related articles from BioMed Central, including the new online *Beilstein Journal of Organic Chemistry* <<http://bjoc.beilstein-journals.org>>; and the forthcoming "PhysMath Central" <www.physmathcentral.com>. Links to the many current or recent journals that offer free full-text articles appear in English on the Belorussian site <www.abc.chemistry.bsu.by/current/fulltext.htm>. The U.S. National Science Digital Library provides links to a wide range of resources <www.nsd.org>.

General Software

Application software (which must be installed in your computer system) when mentioned below is for the widely-used commercial Windows operating system (in its various guises); no effort has been made to include Linux-based software, although this free operating system is of growing importance.

Free software of a general nature is available from many sites—for example, tu cows <www.tucows.com/downloads/Windows>, Download.com <www.download.com>, ZDNet <downloads-zdnet.com.com/2001-20-0.html?legacy=cnet>, and so on. A useful chemical application is a Java-based checker for consistency in experimental data, as is typically presented in an article for publication <www.rsc.org/Publishing/ReSource/AuthorGuidelines/AuthoringTools/ExperimentalDataChecker/index.asp>.

Update (to part 1)

eMolecules, <www.emolecules.com>, is the new incarnation of the chemical search engine Choogle, which had to alter its name for legal reasons (see *Chemistry World*, July 2006, p.10).

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