



The Beilstein Online Database

Implementation, Content, and Retrieval

Here is the first volume to discuss the important aspects of the computer-based Beilstein Handbook, the most complete and systematic collection of evaluated data on organic compounds.

This 10-chapter book opens with an introduction and overview of the Beilstein Online database. Subsequent chapters cover:

- how the database was assembled
- the specific implementations of the two current systems (STN and DIALOG)
- chemical structure search software
- the physical property data in the system
- the Lawson number, a valuable tool for structure similarity searching

Of special interest is an industrial view from a large pharmaceutical company on how they use the database. A view from academia relating the experience of an organic chemist in a chemistry department and of a librarian in a chemical engineering department, both of whom have been using the database since it was available is also presented.

Stephen R. Heller, *Editor*, U.S. Department of Agriculture

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