

Programming in the Life Sciences #5: converting the results into HTML



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Pra3006, Html, Javascript

Abstract

Now that we have the communication working with the Open PHACTS LDA, it is time to make a nice GUI.

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chem-bla-ics

Now that we have [the communication working](#) with the Open PHACTS LDA, it is time to make a nice GUI. I will not go into details, but we can use basic JavaScript to iterate over the JSON results, and, for example, create a HTML table:

Output

Search Results

Name: Aspirin

Name: Aspirin aluminum

Name: 2-O-(2-Acetoxybenzoyl)-1,4:3,6-dianhydro-5-O-(2-chloro-6-methylisonicotinoyl)-D-glucitol

Name: 2-(2-Bromoacetoxy)benzoic acid

Name: Methyloquin

Compound Details

<http://www.conceptwiki.org/concept/be0e8fa4-e4dd-4c25-9854-6f578e045587>

JSON reply

```
[{"_about":"http://www.conceptwiki.org/concept/dd758846-1dac-4f0d-a329-06af9a7fa413","match":"Aspirin Structurally","prefLabel":"Chemical Viewed Structurally"},"altLabel_en":["acidum acetylsalicylicum","Easpirin","Salacatin","Acetylsalicylsaeure","Globentyl","Solpyron","aspirine","o-Acetylsalicylic acid","Contrheuma"]}]
```

In fact, I hooked in some HTML `onClick()` functionality so that when you click one of the compound names, you get further details (under *Compound Details*), though that only outputs the ConceptWiki URI at this moment. A simple for-loop does the heavy work:

```
html = "<table>";
for (var i=0; i<response.length; i++) {
    html += "<tr>";
    html += "<td>";
    dataJSON = JSON.stringify(response[i]);
    //    dataJSON.replace(/"/g, "'");
    html += "Name: <span>" + response[i].prefLabel + "</span>";
    html += "</td>";
    html += "</tr>";
}
html += "</table>";
document.getElementById("table").innerHTML = html;
```

So, we're set to teach the students all the basics of programming: loops, variables, functions, etc.