

# Work in Progress: an Open DocCheck replacement

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## Keywords

Cdk, Javadoc, Java, Xml

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## chem-bla-ics

While it is still very much in progress, I have already made more progress than I had hoped for. The [JavaDoc Doclet API](#) is actually not too difficult to use, though my use will very likely improve more later. The [CDK](#) has been using [Sun's DocCheck](#) utility for testing the library's JavaDoc quality, but the reports never really satisfied me. Moreover, the most recent version is ancient and because it is *closed source*, no one can continue on those efforts. DocCheck is [MIA](#).

Instead, [PMD](#) is given nice overviews of what it believes to be wrong with the CDK, and also provides a decent XML format which allows extraction of information, which is used by, for example, [SuperNightly](#) as showed yesterday in [PMD 2.4.5 installed in the CDK 1.2.x branch](#).

I have been pondering about it for a long time now, but writing a JavaDoc checking library is hardly core cheminformatics research; at least, you would not get funding for it, despite everyone always complaining about good documentation. *Alas*.

Last week, I was reviewing some more code, and again saw the very common error of the missing period at the end of the first sentence in JavaDoc. This one is sort of important for proper JavaDoc documentation generation, but the complexity of the current DocCheck reporting, people are not familiar enough with it. Being tired of having to repeat myself, I decided to address the problem, but creating better [Nightly error reporting for the CDK JavaDoc](#).

So, I started [OpenJavaDocCheck](#), or *ojdcheck*. As mentioned, I have made quite promising progress, and the current version provides the ability to write custom tests (which I plan to use for validating content of [CDK taglet](#) content), and create XML as well as XHTML which can be saved to any file. To give you a glimpse of where things are going, here's a screenshot of the current XHTML output:

<b>Class</b>	<b>Line</b>	<b>Error</b>
1 Molecule	104	No documentation given for the method: clone
1 BioPolymer	254	No documentation given for the method: getStran
1 BioPolymer	258	No documentation given for the method: toString
1 BioPolymer	267	No documentation given for the method: clone
1 ChemObject	447	No documentation given for the method: getBuild
1 ChemObject	453	No documentation given for the method: setNotific
1 ChemObject	457	No documentation given for the method: getNotifi
1 ElectronContainer	90	No documentation given for the method: clone
1 ElectronContainer	94	No documentation given for the method: toString
1 FragmentAtom	52	No documentation given for the method: isExpand

The current list of tests is really small, and consists of a single test:

- test if each class and method has JavaDoc