



# **Chemical Indexing**



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### Inspec Chemical Indexing on STN

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Chemical Indexing is found in appropriate Inspec database records from the start of 1987. It is a controlled indexing system for inorganic substances and material systems.<sup>1</sup>

Inspec Chemical Indexing is designed to deal with a number of problems which arise in searching for chemical substances. These include:

- substances which occur in solid-state physics, such as gallium aluminium arsenide, which may be represented in a variety of ways, including GaAlAs or AlGaAs or Ga<sub>x</sub>Al<sub>1-x</sub>As or (GaAs)<sub>0.5</sub>(AlAs)<sub>0.5</sub>, meaning that it is impracticable to enter all the necessary search terms for comprehensive retrieval. Inspec Chemical Indexing solves this by allowing you to search for any system containing gallium, aluminium and arsenic regardless of the original stoichiometry.
- some chemical element symbols or molecular formulae which have the same spellings as common English words, or may be ambiguous as they can be used as acronyms to represent other concepts, or may even be identical to Online Vendor system commands. For example gallium phosphide has the molecular formula GaP which also spells the English word gap, beryllium has the chemical element symbol Be which is the English verb "to be" (found in approximately one third of all Inspec records) but also the acronym for Boltzman Equation or Beta-Emission line. Inspec Chemical Indexing solves these problems because only chemical information appears in the Inspec Chemical Indexing field.
- the lack of differentiation between upper and lower case characters in the majority of Online Vendor search systems, leading to ambiguity when searching a molecular formula whose characters may also be used to represent a chemical element, such as cobalt and carbon monoxide, both represented by the letters c and o. Use of the Inspec Chemical Indexing role for an element will differentiate cobalt Co from carbon monoxide, the binary system, CO.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> If you want to search for organic compounds, you should use the compound name and search within the uncontrolled indexing field.

Furthermore, you have a range of search options because Inspec applies Chemical Indexing to each inorganic substance or material system at three levels. For example, you could retrieve references to sulphuric acid,  $H_2SO_4$ , by using strategies including:

- H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> itself because the whole substance or system is indexed,
- Any substance containing an SO<sub>4</sub> group or alternatively an H<sub>2</sub> group because the components are indexed, and
- Any substance containing H, S, and O because the individual elements making up the substance or system are indexed.

To enable you to distinguish between references to a component as an element or as a part of a more complex system, each indexed term has an associated role. These roles are:

#### Table of Chemical Indexing Roles

Basic Roles	Abbreviation	Function Roles	Abbreviation
Element	EL	Adsorbate	ADS
Binary System	BIN	Dopant	DOP
System of >2 components	SS	Interface System	INT
		Surface/Substrate	SUR

#### Indexing Example

For the interface system Au-LiNbO<sub>3</sub>

- The complete system with its role is indexed
  - e.g. Au-LiNbO3/int
- Any substances or material subsystems contained above are indexed with their roles
  - e.g. LiNbO3/int Au/int LiNbO3/ss Au/el
- Any chemical groups with their roles are indexed
  - e.g. NbO3/int NbO3/ss
- Chemical elements with any numbers (integers and decimals only) associated with composition, and their roles are indexed
  - e.g. O3/int O3/ss
  - Chemical elements with their roles are indexed
    - e.g. Au/int Li/int Nb/int O/int Li/ss Nb/ss O/ss Au/el

<ul> <li>AN 1991:3788290 INSPEC DN A1991-010684</li> <li>TI Linear and nonlinear SH surface acoustic waves</li> <li>CT crystal surface and interface vibrations; gold; lithium compounds; surface acoustic waves</li> <li>ST nonlinear SH surface acoustic waves; linear shear horizontal surface acoustic waves; envelope dark solitons; superimposed linear elastic thermodynamical interface; nonlinear dispersion relation; transverse modal behavior; Au-LiNbO3; LiNbO3</li> </ul>	
CHI Au-LiNbO3 int, LiNbO3 int, NbO3 int, Au int, Li int, Nb int, O3 int, O int, LiNbO3 ss, NbO3 ss, Li ss, Nb ss, O3 ss, O ss, Au el; LiNbO3 sur, NbO3 sur, Li sur, Nb sur, O3 sur, O sur, LiNbO3 ss, NbO3 ss, Li ss, Nb ss, O3 ss, O ss	

Figure 1: Sample Inspec Record from STN - selected fields

If a given system contains two elements, then it is a binary system even if one of the elements is only a very minor component like a dopant.

Role	Example	Criteria
adsorbate	CO/ads	Used for species being
		(ads)sorbed.
dopant	Si:P (Si doped by P)	Used for systems into
		which an impurity is
		diffused and those in
		which the impurity is a
		probe.
interface	InGaP-InAIP	Semiconductor
		junctions, devices,
		integrated circuits,
		electrochemical
		batteries, etc.
surface	Fe/sur	Used for surface or
		substrate, e.g.
		oxidation, corrosion,
		wear of iron.

#### **Function Role Definitions**

To search for inorganic substances in documents added to the Inspec database before 1987, you should use the controlled and uncontrolled indexing fields. The controlled indexing field contains terms from the Inspec Thesaurus. See below for further details. The uncontrolled indexing field contains formulae rather than names of the substance, and will use the terminology of the original document.

#### Inspec Thesaurus Terms

Each chemical element has its own Inspec Thesaurus Term<sup>2</sup> e.g. HYDROGEN, GALLIUM, etc. which can be used to search for documents relating to studies of the indexed element. Many elements have Inspec Thesaurus Terms for their compounds, e.g. ALUMINIUM COMPOUNDS, MERCURY COMPOUNDS, etc. In addition, the Inspec Thesaurus has broader and narrower chemical terms such as ALKALI METAL COMPOUNDS, GALLIUM ARSENIDE, MIXED VALENCE COMPOUNDS, etc. Inspec use the most specific Inspec Thesaurus Terms to index documents. Therefore use of a broad term will not automatically retrieve documents indexed with narrower terms. Several Inspec Vendor search systems allow thesaurus terms to be "exploded" i.e. for a chosen thesaurus term to be searched along with all of its narrower terms automatically. Please consult the Inspec Thesaurus either Online or via the Inspec Search Aids CD-ROM for appropriate search terms and to see whether your chosen Vendor offers the "explode" feature. Use of the Inspec thesaurus terms allows retrieval of documents back to 1969. Inspec Chemical Indexing Search Guide

Inspec Vendor	Inspec Database including Chemical Indexing	Chemical Indexing Search Field	Chemical Indexing Roles	Chemical Indexing Search Examples
STN	Inspec	/CHI	EL BIN SS ADS DOP INT SUR	Search a single component: S BE EL/CHI S SI/CHI – for the component with any role Search multiple components within a multicomponent system: S (AL SS(S)AL SS(S)AS SS)/CHI where S indicates within the same indexing sentence. Note: Additional STN generated fields may be used, ELC for Element Count and ET for Element Terms. Use ELC to limit a search of, for example, 3 components to systems that only have 3 elements in total, i.e. 3/ELC. Use (L) to link CHI to ELC, e.g. S (AL SS(S)GA SS(S)AS SS)/CHI(L)3/ELC

#### **Table of Vendor Search Examples**

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Inspec Thesaurus Terms use British English spelling and terminology, hence there is an Inspec Thesaurus Term SULPHUR which will be used for sulfur, ALUMINIUM for aluminum, etc.

Element	Symbol	Element	Symbol	Element	Symbol
actinium	Ac	hafnium*	Hf	praseodymium	Pr
aluminium	Al	hahnium	На	promethium	Pm
americium	Am	(now dubnium)	(now Db)	protactinium	Pa
antimony	Sb	hassium	Hs	radium	Ra
argon	Ar	helium	He	radon	Rn
arsenic	As	holmium*	Ho	rhenium	Re
astatine	At	hydrogen	Н	rhodium	Rh
barium	Ва	see also		roentgenium	Rg
berkelium	Bk	deuterium,		rubidium	Rb
beryllium	Be	tritium		ruthenium	Ru
bohrium	Bh	indium*	In	rutherfordium	Rf
bismuth	Bi	iodine	1	samarium	Sm
boron	В	iridium	lr	scandium*	Sc
bromine	Br	iron	Fe	seaborgium	Sg
cadmium	Cd	krypton	Kr	selenium	Se
caesium*	Cs	lanthanum	La	silicon*	Si
calcium	Ca	lawrencium	Lr	silver	Ag
californium*	Cf	lead*	Pb	sodium	Na
carbon	С	lithium	Li	strontium	Sr
cerium	Ce	lutetium	Lu	sulphur	S
chlorine	CI	magnesium	Mg	tantalum	Та
chromium	Cr	manganese	Mn	technetium	Тс
cobalt*	Со	meitnerium	Mt	tellurium	Те
copper	Cu	mendelevium	Md	terbium	Tb
curium	Cm	mercury	Hg	thallium	TI
deuterium	D	molybdenum	Мо	thorium	Th
see also		neodymium	Nd	thulium	Tm
hydrogen		neon	Ne	tin*	Sn
darmstadtium	Ds	neptunium*	Np	titanium	Ti
dubnium	Db	nickel*	Ni	tritium	Т
dysprosium	Dy	niobium*	Nb	see also	
einsteinium	Es	nitrogen	Ν	hydrogen	
erbium	Er	nobelium*	No	tungsten	W
europium	Eu	osmium*	Os	uranium	U
fermium	Fm	oxygen	0	vanadium	V
fluorine	F	palladium	Pd	xenon	Xe
francium	Fr	phosphorus	Р	ytterbium*	Yb
gadolinium	Gd	platinum	Pt	yttrium	Y
	Ga		Pu	zinc	Zn
	Ge		Po	zirconium	Zr
	Au	potassium	K		
gallium germanium gold	Ga Ge	plutonium polonium*	Pu Po		Zn

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Certain element symbols when searched with the binary role, give ambiguous results, e.g. the letters c and o in a binary system could be the element cobalt within a binary system, or the binary system carbon monoxide. To differentiate the binary system, it is good practice to search both the binary system whole and one of the elements within the binary system, e.g. search CO/BIN AND C/BIN which will retrieve records where a carbon binary system is indexed, that system being CO. Alternatively combine the Chemical Indexing search with a search of the appropriate Inspec Thesaurus Term, e.g. S (CI=CO BIN) AND DE=CARBON COMPOUNDS . Searches of binary and multicomponent systems using the element symbols indicated by \* in the table above need searching this way.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Where an element symbol or a molecular formula matches a database field label or search system proximity operator, it may be necessary to enclose the search in quotes. For example, on OCLC the title field label is TI. This is the same as the element symbol for titanium. On OCLC search it as CI: "TI" W EI. See individual Vendor Inspec data sheets for details.

## Table of Chemical Groups and Their Formulae

Chemical Group Name	Chemical Group	Chemical Group Name	Chemical Group
	Formula		Formula
alumina	AI2O3	iron garnet	Fe5O12
aluminium garnet	AI5O12	see also ferrite	
arsenate	AsO4	magnesate	MgO3
arsenate	As2O3	manganate	MnO4
bismuthate	Bi2O3	molybdate	MoO4
borate	BO4	niobate	NbO3
borate	B2O3	niobate	Nb2O5
borate	B3O6	niobate	Nb2O7
borate (per-)	BO3	nitrate	NO3
bromate	BrO3	nitrite	NO2
carbonate	CO3	phosphate (ortho-)	PO4
carbonyl	CO	phosphate	P2O5
chromate (di-)	Cr2O7	phosphate (pyro-)	P2O7
chromate (per-)	CrO3	phosphite	PO3
/cyanide	CN	phosphite	P4O12
ferrite	Fe2O3	selenate	SeO4
ferrite	Fe2O4	selenite	SeO3
ferrite	Fe3O4	silica	SiO2
ferrite (ortho)	FeO3	silicate	SiO4
see also iron garnet		sulphate	SO4
gallium garnet	Ga5O12	sulphate (thio-)	S2O3
garnet (aluminium)	AI5O12	sulphite	SO3
garnet (gallium)	Ga5O12	tantalate	TaO3
garnet (iron)	Fe5O12	titanate	TiO3
germanate	GeO2	tungstate	WO3
germanate	GeO3	tungstate	WO4
hydroxyl	OH	vanadate V2O5	
hydroxyl (deuterated)	OD	vanadate (meta-) VO3	
iodate	IO3	vanadate (ortho-)	VO4
		zirconate	ZrO3

Abbreviation	Formula	Abbreviation	Formula
ADP	NH4N2PO4	KSP	KSnOPO4
AG	AI5O12	KTP	KTiOPO4
BBO	BaB2O4	LMN	PbMgO3NbO3
BEL	La2Be2O5	NASI or	NaZrSiO4PO4
BPSG	B2O3-P2O5-	NASICON	
	SiO2		
BSG	B2O3-SiO2	PLZT	PbLaZrO3TiO3
BSN	NaBaNb2O6	PMN	PbMgO3NbO3
BSO	Bi12SiO20	PSG	P2O5-SiO2
DKDP	KD2PO4	PZT	PbZrO3TiO3
GG	Ga5O12	SBN	SrBaNb2O6
IG	Fe5O12	YAP	YAIO3
ITO	InSnO	YLF	LiYF4
KDP	KH2PO4	ZBLAN	ZrF4-BaF2-LaF3-
			AIF3-NaF
KNSBN	KNaSrBaNb2O6	ZBLANP	ZrF4-BaF2-LaF3-
			AIF3-NaF-PbF2

#### Table of Abbreviations and Their Corresponding Formulae