

Curiosity: Same formula, different connection map

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The formula C_4H_{10} counts four carbons and ten hydrogens, but it does not say whether the carbons form one straight chain or a branched arrangement. Those are different connection maps, so they are constitutional isomers. A property table can then ask a useful comparison question: what differs in the listed data for those two maps?

The careful answer stays close to the evidence. A comparison can show that one printed card has a higher listed boiling point than another. It cannot automatically explain every molecular detail or predict the property of every new molecule, much less establish hazard, health, pharmaceutical, or consumer-use claims.