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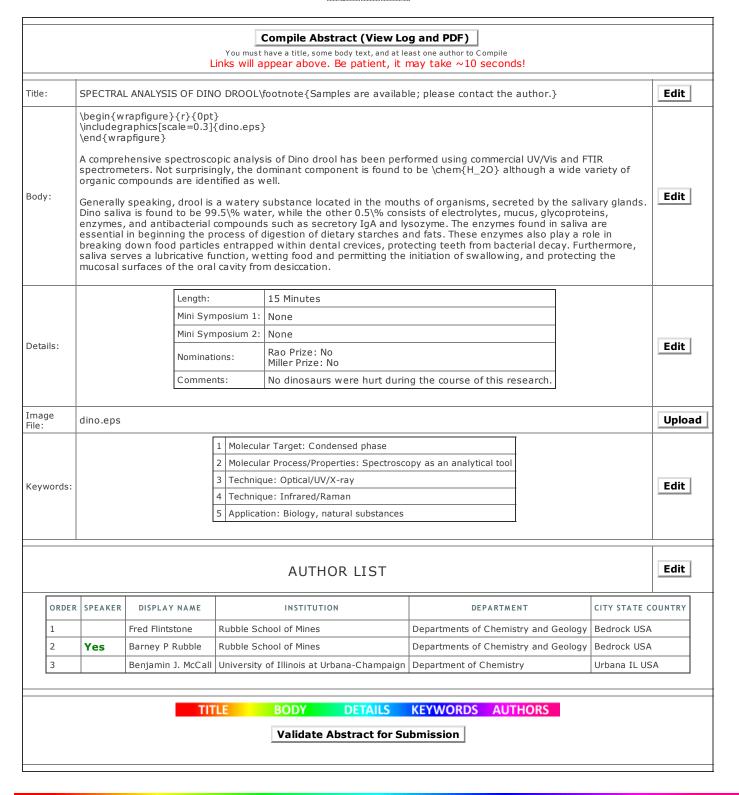
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SPECTRAL ANALYSIS OF DINO DROOL^a

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A comprehensive spectroscopic analysis of Dino drool has been performed using commercial UV/Vis and FTIR spectrometers. Not surprisingly, the dominant component is found to be $\rm H_2O$ although a wide variety of organic compounds are identified as well.

Generally speaking, drool is a watery substance located in the mouths of organisms, secreted by the salivary glands. Dino saliva is found to be 99.5% water, while the other 0.5% consists of electrolytes, mucus, glycoproteins, enzymes, and antibacterial compounds such as secretory IgA and lysozyme. The enzymes found in saliva are essential in beginning the process of digestion of dietary starches and fats. These enzymes also play a role in breaking down food particles entrapped within dental crevices, protecting teeth from bacterial decay. Furthermore, saliva serves a lubricative function, wetting food and permitting the initiation of swallowing, and protecting the mucosal surfaces of the oral cavity from desiccation.



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Time required: 15 min

Keywords: Condensed phase — Spectroscopy as an analytical tool — Optical/UV/X-ray — Infrared/Raman —

Biology, natural substances

Mini-Symposia Requested: None — None

Competing for Rao Prize? No **Competing for Miller Prize?** No

Comment: *No dinosaurs were hurt during the course of this research.*

^aSamples are available; please contact the author.

^bI swear I had nothing to do with this work!