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Honors

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Honors Capstone Review Critique

Some strengths of this project are how varying the direction could have gone with this research. There is so much unknown in chemistry that we (my mentor and I) could have tried 100's more reactions and still not have scratched the surface. Some limitations for this research are how long it can take to see some results from reactions. Some of the reactions I have done may take a year to crystalize enough to get results and some are just showing results now when the semester is ending. The results obtained from this research fit as much as it can into existing articles but is different because of how research is meant to find a new crystal structure. It would have been nice if I had a structure I obtained this semester for my poster and I think if I had done research sooner and had more time it definitely would have been possible. I think that the way the reactions have proceeded so far that in the future with new students and my mentor continuing to work on the reactions that they will eventually crystallize and be characterized.

Many of the reactions I worked on could have been very close to becoming crystals if they were given more time or we had worked them up with a few more methods in the lab. I would have loved to see them actually crystalize and work more with them after they had and got their crystal structure. If we were able to get a crystal and characterize it we could discover whether or not we had created a new crystal or something that has been discovered before. It is more likely that a new crystal would form because we have not found any articles with the same methods we used or a similar structure as we were expecting.

If Covid-19 had not hit during my earlier years of college I would have probably been more eager to be in the lab and start research earlier in my college career and done many more reactions. Starting earlier if I had still only done the 12 reactions I still would have had a better chance of getting a crystal just because of the time it takes some to crystalize out of solution.

Even though I do have some regrets for my project and when I started it I think that if given another chance I would do the same project as it was fun and really fun to learn more about and never made we want to not come into the lab and second guess my decision.