

# $\beta$ -Alumina ( $D5_6$ , $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ ) Structure:

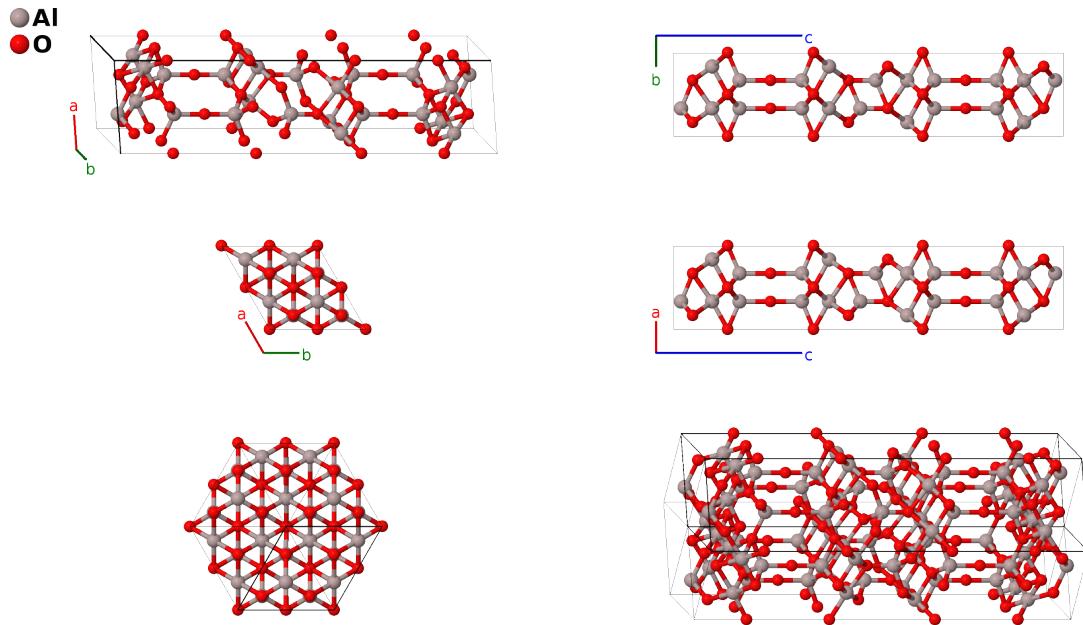
A2B3\_hP60\_194\_3fk\_cdef2k-001

This structure originally had the label A2B3\_hP60\_194\_3fk\_cdef2k. Calls to that address will be redirected here.

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<https://aflow.org/p/T15Z>

[https://aflow.org/p/A2B3\\_hP60\\_194\\_3fk\\_cdef2k-001](https://aflow.org/p/A2B3_hP60_194_3fk_cdef2k-001)



**Prototype**  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$

**AFLOW prototype label** A2B3\_hP60\_194\_3fk\_cdef2k-001

**Strukturbericht designation**  $D5_6$

**Mineral name**  $\beta$ -alumina

**ICSD** 24226

**Pearson symbol** hP60

**Space group number** 194

**Space group symbol**  $P6_3/mmc$

**AFLOW prototype command**

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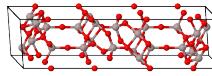
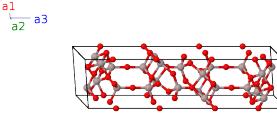
- Alumina comes in a variety of forms. In the Encyclopedia we have:

- Corundum, or  $\alpha$ -alumina ( $D5_1$ ) is the mineral usual found in nature.
- $\beta$ -alumina ( $D5_6$ ) (this structure)

- We describe  $\gamma$ -alumina ( $D5_7$ ) using  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  as the prototype.
  - $\delta$ -alumina is a tetragonal distortion of the spinel structure. It is found in nature as deltalumite.
  - $\kappa\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$ .
- (Hermann, 1937) assigned this the *Strukturbericht* designation  $D5_6$ , calling it  $\beta$ -corundum, and subtitled the section “with small  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}$  impurities.”
  - As noted by (Gottfried, 1937) and (Le Cars, 1975), the Na impurities replace Al atoms on the (4f) Wyckoff positions, along with some unspecified O sites. More detail can be found in the ICSD CIF.
  - Charge neutrality requires that some of the displaced atoms remain in the lattice, and they are moved to (2a) Wyckoff positions at  $(0\ 0\ 0)$  and  $(0\ 0\ 1/2)$ .
  - Here we only list the “ideal” structure.

### Hexagonal primitive vectors

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{a}_1 &= \frac{1}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{y}} \\ \mathbf{a}_2 &= \frac{1}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{y}} \\ \mathbf{a}_3 &= c\hat{\mathbf{z}}\end{aligned}$$



### Basis vectors

	Lattice coordinates	=	Cartesian coordinates	Wyckoff position	Atom type
$\mathbf{B}_1$	$\frac{1}{3}\mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{2}{3}\mathbf{a}_2 + \frac{1}{4}\mathbf{a}_3$	=	$\frac{1}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}a\hat{\mathbf{y}} + \frac{1}{4}c\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(2c)	O I
$\mathbf{B}_2$	$\frac{2}{3}\mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{1}{3}\mathbf{a}_2 + \frac{3}{4}\mathbf{a}_3$	=	$\frac{1}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}a\hat{\mathbf{y}} + \frac{3}{4}c\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(2c)	O I
$\mathbf{B}_3$	$\frac{1}{3}\mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{2}{3}\mathbf{a}_2 + \frac{3}{4}\mathbf{a}_3$	=	$\frac{1}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}a\hat{\mathbf{y}} + \frac{3}{4}c\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(2d)	O II
$\mathbf{B}_4$	$\frac{2}{3}\mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{1}{3}\mathbf{a}_2 + \frac{1}{4}\mathbf{a}_3$	=	$\frac{1}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}a\hat{\mathbf{y}} + \frac{1}{4}c\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(2d)	O II
$\mathbf{B}_5$	$z_3\mathbf{a}_3$	=	$cz_3\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4e)	O III
$\mathbf{B}_6$	$(z_3 + \frac{1}{2})\mathbf{a}_3$	=	$c(z_3 + \frac{1}{2})\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4e)	O III
$\mathbf{B}_7$	$-z_3\mathbf{a}_3$	=	$-cz_3\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4e)	O III
$\mathbf{B}_8$	$-(z_3 - \frac{1}{2})\mathbf{a}_3$	=	$-c(z_3 - \frac{1}{2})\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4e)	O III
$\mathbf{B}_9$	$\frac{1}{3}\mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{2}{3}\mathbf{a}_2 + z_4\mathbf{a}_3$	=	$\frac{1}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}a\hat{\mathbf{y}} + cz_4\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4f)	Al I
$\mathbf{B}_{10}$	$\frac{2}{3}\mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{1}{3}\mathbf{a}_2 + (z_4 + \frac{1}{2})\mathbf{a}_3$	=	$\frac{1}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}a\hat{\mathbf{y}} + c(z_4 + \frac{1}{2})\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4f)	Al I
$\mathbf{B}_{11}$	$\frac{2}{3}\mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{1}{3}\mathbf{a}_2 - z_4\mathbf{a}_3$	=	$\frac{1}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}a\hat{\mathbf{y}} - cz_4\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4f)	Al I
$\mathbf{B}_{12}$	$\frac{1}{3}\mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{2}{3}\mathbf{a}_2 - (z_4 - \frac{1}{2})\mathbf{a}_3$	=	$\frac{1}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}a\hat{\mathbf{y}} - c(z_4 - \frac{1}{2})\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4f)	Al I
$\mathbf{B}_{13}$	$\frac{1}{3}\mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{2}{3}\mathbf{a}_2 + z_5\mathbf{a}_3$	=	$\frac{1}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}a\hat{\mathbf{y}} + cz_5\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4f)	Al II
$\mathbf{B}_{14}$	$\frac{2}{3}\mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{1}{3}\mathbf{a}_2 + (z_5 + \frac{1}{2})\mathbf{a}_3$	=	$\frac{1}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}a\hat{\mathbf{y}} + c(z_5 + \frac{1}{2})\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4f)	Al II
$\mathbf{B}_{15}$	$\frac{2}{3}\mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{1}{3}\mathbf{a}_2 - z_5\mathbf{a}_3$	=	$\frac{1}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}a\hat{\mathbf{y}} - cz_5\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4f)	Al II
$\mathbf{B}_{16}$	$\frac{1}{3}\mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{2}{3}\mathbf{a}_2 - (z_5 - \frac{1}{2})\mathbf{a}_3$	=	$\frac{1}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}a\hat{\mathbf{y}} - c(z_5 - \frac{1}{2})\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4f)	Al II
$\mathbf{B}_{17}$	$\frac{1}{3}\mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{2}{3}\mathbf{a}_2 + z_6\mathbf{a}_3$	=	$\frac{1}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}a\hat{\mathbf{y}} + cz_6\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4f)	Al III
$\mathbf{B}_{18}$	$\frac{2}{3}\mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{1}{3}\mathbf{a}_2 + (z_6 + \frac{1}{2})\mathbf{a}_3$	=	$\frac{1}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}a\hat{\mathbf{y}} + c(z_6 + \frac{1}{2})\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4f)	Al III
$\mathbf{B}_{19}$	$\frac{2}{3}\mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{1}{3}\mathbf{a}_2 - z_6\mathbf{a}_3$	=	$\frac{1}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}a\hat{\mathbf{y}} - cz_6\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4f)	Al III
$\mathbf{B}_{20}$	$\frac{1}{3}\mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{2}{3}\mathbf{a}_2 - (z_6 - \frac{1}{2})\mathbf{a}_3$	=	$\frac{1}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}a\hat{\mathbf{y}} - c(z_6 - \frac{1}{2})\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4f)	Al III
$\mathbf{B}_{21}$	$\frac{1}{3}\mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{2}{3}\mathbf{a}_2 + z_7\mathbf{a}_3$	=	$\frac{1}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}a\hat{\mathbf{y}} + cz_7\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4f)	O IV
$\mathbf{B}_{22}$	$\frac{2}{3}\mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{1}{3}\mathbf{a}_2 + (z_7 + \frac{1}{2})\mathbf{a}_3$	=	$\frac{1}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}a\hat{\mathbf{y}} + c(z_7 + \frac{1}{2})\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4f)	O IV



## References

- [1] W. L. Bragg, C. Gottfried, and J. West, *The Structure of  $\beta$  Alumina*, Z. Kristallogr. **77**, 255–274 (1931), doi:10.1524/zkri.1931.77.1.255.
- [2] Y. L. Cars, D. Gratias, R. Portier, and J. Théry, *Planar defects in  $\beta$ -alumina*, J. Solid State Chem. **15**, 218–222 (1975), doi:10.1016/0022-4596(75)90205-4.

## Found in

- [1] C. Hermann, O. Lohrmann, and H. Philipp, eds., *Strukturbericht Band II 1928-1932* (Akademische Verlagsgesellschaft M. B. H., Leipzig, 1937).