

Nierite (α -Si₃N₄) Structure: A4B3_hP28_159_ab2c_2c-001

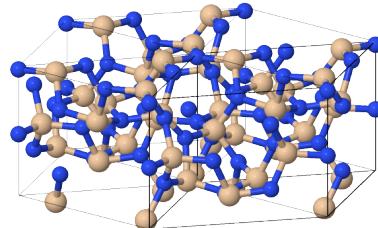
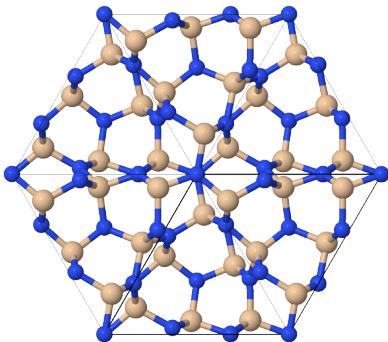
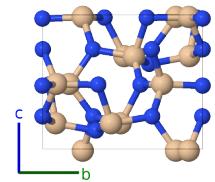
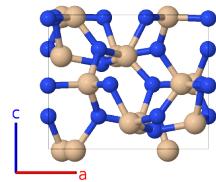
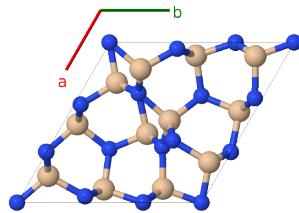
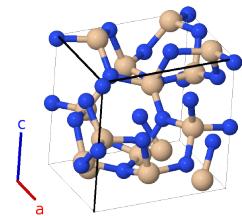
This structure originally had the label A4B3_hP28_159_ab2c_2c. Calls to that address will be redirected here.

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<https://aflow.org/p/9UA2>

https://aflow.org/p/A4B3_hP28_159_ab2c_2c-001

● N
● Si



Prototype

N₄Si₃

AFLOW prototype label

A4B3_hP28_159_ab2c_2c-001

Mineral name

nierite

ICSD

79797

Pearson symbol

hP28

Space group number

159

Space group symbol

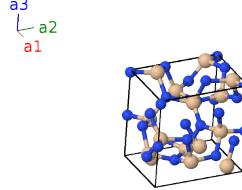
P31c

AFLOW prototype command `aflow --proto=A4B3_hP28_159_ab2c_2c-001
--params=a, c/a, z1, z2, x3, y3, z3, x4, y4, z4, x5, y5, z5, x6, y6, z6`

- Nierite can also be found as hexagonal β -Si₃N₄.
- The data for this structure was taken at 300K.

Trigonal (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	$z_1 \mathbf{a}_3$	$c z_1 \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(2a)	N I
\mathbf{B}_2	$(z_1 + \frac{1}{2}) \mathbf{a}_3$	$c(z_1 + \frac{1}{2}) \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(2a)	N I
\mathbf{B}_3	$\frac{1}{3} \mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{2}{3} \mathbf{a}_2 + z_2 \mathbf{a}_3$	$\frac{1}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}a\hat{\mathbf{y}} + cz_2\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(2b)	N II
\mathbf{B}_4	$\frac{2}{3} \mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{1}{3} \mathbf{a}_2 + (z_2 + \frac{1}{2}) \mathbf{a}_3$	$\frac{1}{2}a\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}a\hat{\mathbf{y}} + c(z_2 + \frac{1}{2})\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(2b)	N II
\mathbf{B}_5	$x_3 \mathbf{a}_1 + y_3 \mathbf{a}_2 + z_3 \mathbf{a}_3$	$\frac{1}{2}a(x_3 + y_3)\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}a(x_3 - y_3)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + cz_3\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6c)	N III
\mathbf{B}_6	$-y_3 \mathbf{a}_1 + (x_3 - y_3) \mathbf{a}_2 + z_3 \mathbf{a}_3$	$\frac{1}{2}a(x_3 - 2y_3)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ax_3\hat{\mathbf{y}} + cz_3\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6c)	N III
\mathbf{B}_7	$-(x_3 - y_3) \mathbf{a}_1 - x_3 \mathbf{a}_2 + z_3 \mathbf{a}_3$	$-\frac{1}{2}a(2x_3 - y_3)\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ay_3\hat{\mathbf{y}} + cz_3\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6c)	N III
\mathbf{B}_8	$y_3 \mathbf{a}_1 + x_3 \mathbf{a}_2 + (z_3 + \frac{1}{2}) \mathbf{a}_3$	$\frac{1}{2}a(x_3 + y_3)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}a(x_3 - y_3)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + c(z_3 + \frac{1}{2})\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6c)	N III
\mathbf{B}_9	$(x_3 - y_3) \mathbf{a}_1 - y_3 \mathbf{a}_2 + (z_3 + \frac{1}{2}) \mathbf{a}_3$	$\frac{1}{2}a(x_3 - 2y_3)\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ax_3\hat{\mathbf{y}} + c(z_3 + \frac{1}{2})\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6c)	N III
\mathbf{B}_{10}	$-x_3 \mathbf{a}_1 - (x_3 - y_3) \mathbf{a}_2 + (z_3 + \frac{1}{2}) \mathbf{a}_3$	$-\frac{1}{2}a(2x_3 - y_3)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ay_3\hat{\mathbf{y}} + c(z_3 + \frac{1}{2})\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6c)	N III
\mathbf{B}_{11}	$x_4 \mathbf{a}_1 + y_4 \mathbf{a}_2 + z_4 \mathbf{a}_3$	$\frac{1}{2}a(x_4 + y_4)\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}a(x_4 - y_4)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + cz_4\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6c)	N IV
\mathbf{B}_{12}	$-y_4 \mathbf{a}_1 + (x_4 - y_4) \mathbf{a}_2 + z_4 \mathbf{a}_3$	$\frac{1}{2}a(x_4 - 2y_4)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ax_4\hat{\mathbf{y}} + cz_4\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6c)	N IV
\mathbf{B}_{13}	$-(x_4 - y_4) \mathbf{a}_1 - x_4 \mathbf{a}_2 + z_4 \mathbf{a}_3$	$-\frac{1}{2}a(2x_4 - y_4)\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ay_4\hat{\mathbf{y}} + cz_4\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6c)	N IV
\mathbf{B}_{14}	$y_4 \mathbf{a}_1 + x_4 \mathbf{a}_2 + (z_4 + \frac{1}{2}) \mathbf{a}_3$	$\frac{1}{2}a(x_4 + y_4)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}a(x_4 - y_4)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + c(z_4 + \frac{1}{2})\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6c)	N IV
\mathbf{B}_{15}	$(x_4 - y_4) \mathbf{a}_1 - y_4 \mathbf{a}_2 + (z_4 + \frac{1}{2}) \mathbf{a}_3$	$\frac{1}{2}a(x_4 - 2y_4)\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ax_4\hat{\mathbf{y}} + c(z_4 + \frac{1}{2})\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6c)	N IV
\mathbf{B}_{16}	$-x_4 \mathbf{a}_1 - (x_4 - y_4) \mathbf{a}_2 + (z_4 + \frac{1}{2}) \mathbf{a}_3$	$-\frac{1}{2}a(2x_4 - y_4)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ay_4\hat{\mathbf{y}} + c(z_4 + \frac{1}{2})\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6c)	N IV
\mathbf{B}_{17}	$x_5 \mathbf{a}_1 + y_5 \mathbf{a}_2 + z_5 \mathbf{a}_3$	$\frac{1}{2}a(x_5 + y_5)\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}a(x_5 - y_5)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + cz_5\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6c)	Si I
\mathbf{B}_{18}	$-y_5 \mathbf{a}_1 + (x_5 - y_5) \mathbf{a}_2 + z_5 \mathbf{a}_3$	$\frac{1}{2}a(x_5 - 2y_5)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ax_5\hat{\mathbf{y}} + cz_5\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6c)	Si I
\mathbf{B}_{19}	$-(x_5 - y_5) \mathbf{a}_1 - x_5 \mathbf{a}_2 + z_5 \mathbf{a}_3$	$-\frac{1}{2}a(2x_5 - y_5)\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ay_5\hat{\mathbf{y}} + cz_5\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6c)	Si I
\mathbf{B}_{20}	$y_5 \mathbf{a}_1 + x_5 \mathbf{a}_2 + (z_5 + \frac{1}{2}) \mathbf{a}_3$	$\frac{1}{2}a(x_5 + y_5)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}a(x_5 - y_5)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + c(z_5 + \frac{1}{2})\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6c)	Si I
\mathbf{B}_{21}	$(x_5 - y_5) \mathbf{a}_1 - y_5 \mathbf{a}_2 + (z_5 + \frac{1}{2}) \mathbf{a}_3$	$\frac{1}{2}a(x_5 - 2y_5)\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ax_5\hat{\mathbf{y}} + c(z_5 + \frac{1}{2})\hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6c)	Si I

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{B}_{22} &= -x_5 \mathbf{a}_1 - (x_5 - y_5) \mathbf{a}_2 + (z_5 + \frac{1}{2}) \mathbf{a}_3 & = & -\frac{1}{2}a(2x_5 - y_5) \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ay_5 \hat{\mathbf{y}} + c(z_5 + \frac{1}{2}) \hat{\mathbf{z}} & (6c) & \text{Si I} \\
\mathbf{B}_{23} &= x_6 \mathbf{a}_1 + y_6 \mathbf{a}_2 + z_6 \mathbf{a}_3 & = & \frac{1}{2}a(x_6 + y_6) \hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}a(x_6 - y_6) \hat{\mathbf{y}} + cz_6 \hat{\mathbf{z}} & (6c) & \text{Si II} \\
\mathbf{B}_{24} &= -y_6 \mathbf{a}_1 + (x_6 - y_6) \mathbf{a}_2 + z_6 \mathbf{a}_3 & = & \frac{1}{2}a(x_6 - 2y_6) \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ax_6 \hat{\mathbf{y}} + cz_6 \hat{\mathbf{z}} & (6c) & \text{Si II} \\
\mathbf{B}_{25} &= -(x_6 - y_6) \mathbf{a}_1 - x_6 \mathbf{a}_2 + z_6 \mathbf{a}_3 & = & -\frac{1}{2}a(2x_6 - y_6) \hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ay_6 \hat{\mathbf{y}} + cz_6 \hat{\mathbf{z}} & (6c) & \text{Si II} \\
\mathbf{B}_{26} &= y_6 \mathbf{a}_1 + x_6 \mathbf{a}_2 + (z_6 + \frac{1}{2}) \mathbf{a}_3 & = & \frac{1}{2}a(x_6 + y_6) \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}a(x_6 - y_6) \hat{\mathbf{y}} + c(z_6 + \frac{1}{2}) \hat{\mathbf{z}} & (6c) & \text{Si II} \\
\mathbf{B}_{27} &= (x_6 - y_6) \mathbf{a}_1 - y_6 \mathbf{a}_2 + (z_6 + \frac{1}{2}) \mathbf{a}_3 & = & \frac{1}{2}a(x_6 - 2y_6) \hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ax_6 \hat{\mathbf{y}} + c(z_6 + \frac{1}{2}) \hat{\mathbf{z}} & (6c) & \text{Si II} \\
\mathbf{B}_{28} &= -x_6 \mathbf{a}_1 - (x_6 - y_6) \mathbf{a}_2 + (z_6 + \frac{1}{2}) \mathbf{a}_3 & = & -\frac{1}{2}a(2x_6 - y_6) \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ay_6 \hat{\mathbf{y}} + c(z_6 + \frac{1}{2}) \hat{\mathbf{z}} & (6c) & \text{Si II}
\end{aligned}$$

References

- [1] P. Yang, H.-K. Fun, I. A. Rahman, and M. I. Salehb, *Two phase refinements of the structures of α - Si_3N_4 and β - Si_3N_4 made from rice husk by Rietveld analysis*, Ceramics Int. **21**, 137–142 (1995).
- [2] D. Hardie and K. H. Jack, *Crystal Structures of Silicon Nitride*, Nature **180**, 332–333 (1957), doi:10.1038/180332a0.

Found in

- [1] R. T. Downs and M. Hall-Wallace, *The American Mineralogist Crystal Structure Database*, Am. Mineral. **88**, 247–250 (2003).