

Hexagonal BiI_3 Structure:

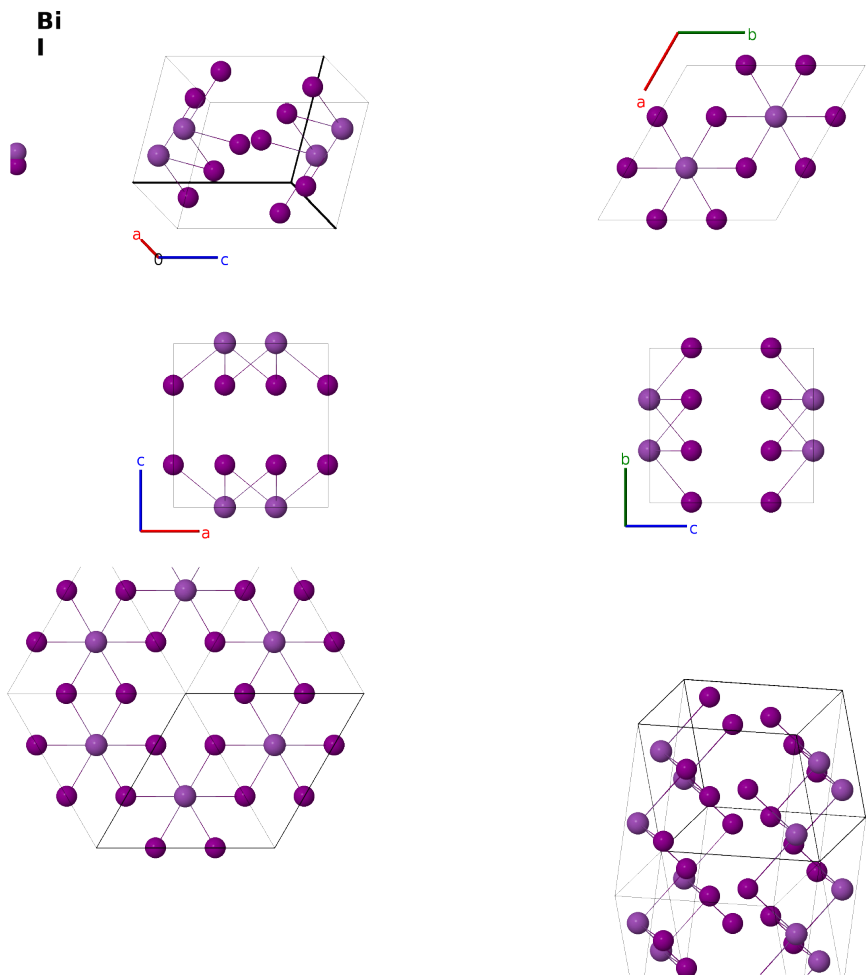
AB3_hP8_162_c_k-001

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- D. Hicks, M. J. Mehl, M. Esters, C. Oses, O. Levy, G. L. W. Hart, C. Toher, and S. Curtarolo, *The AFLOW Library of Crystallographic Prototypes: Part 3*, Comput. Mater. Sci. **199**, 110450 (2021), doi: 10.1016/j.commatsci.2021.110450.

<https://aflow.org/prototype-encyclopedia/D8KY>

https://aflow.org/prototype-encyclopedia/AB3_hP8_162_c_k-001



Prototype	BiI_3
AFLOW prototype label	AB3_hP8_162_c_k-001
ICSD	20676
CCDC	1598437
Pearson symbol	hP8
Space group number	162
Space group symbol	$P\bar{3}1m$

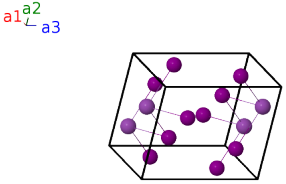
AFLOW prototype command `aflow --proto=AB3_hP8_162_c_k-001`
 `--params=a, c/a, x2, z2`

Other compounds with this structure

TiCl₃

- BiI₃ has also been reported in the rhombohedral $D0_5$ structure. The Bi-I bonds are similar in both structures, with the only difference being the staging of the layers.
 - Note that although the lattice is hexagonal, the symmetry is trigonal.
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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
$\mathbf{B}_1$	$= \frac{1}{3} \mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{2}{3} \mathbf{a}_2$	$=$	$\frac{1}{2}a \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}a \hat{\mathbf{y}}$	(2c)	Bi I
$\mathbf{B}_2$	$= \frac{2}{3} \mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{1}{3} \mathbf{a}_2$	$=$	$\frac{1}{2}a \hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}a \hat{\mathbf{y}}$	(2c)	Bi I
$\mathbf{B}_3$	$= x_2 \mathbf{a}_1 + z_2 \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$\frac{1}{2}ax_2 \hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ax_2 \hat{\mathbf{y}} + cz_2 \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6k)	I I
$\mathbf{B}_4$	$= x_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + z_2 \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$\frac{1}{2}ax_2 \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ax_2 \hat{\mathbf{y}} + cz_2 \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6k)	I I
$\mathbf{B}_5$	$= -x_2 \mathbf{a}_1 - x_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + z_2 \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$-ax_2 \hat{\mathbf{x}} + cz_2 \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6k)	I I
$\mathbf{B}_6$	$= -x_2 \mathbf{a}_2 - z_2 \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$-\frac{1}{2}ax_2 \hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ax_2 \hat{\mathbf{y}} - cz_2 \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6k)	I I
$\mathbf{B}_7$	$= -x_2 \mathbf{a}_1 - z_2 \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$-\frac{1}{2}ax_2 \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ax_2 \hat{\mathbf{y}} - cz_2 \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6k)	I I
$\mathbf{B}_8$	$= x_2 \mathbf{a}_1 + x_2 \mathbf{a}_2 - z_2 \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$ax_2 \hat{\mathbf{x}} - cz_2 \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(6k)	I I

References

- [1] Z. G. Pinkser, *The electron diffraction analysis of BiI₃ and the modern ideas on the structure of the layered lattices*, Trudy Instituta Kristallografii, Akademiya Nauk SSSR **7**, 35–48 (1952).

Found in

- [1] *Inorganic Crystal Structure Database*. Entry 20676 (BiI₃).

First cited in

N. Anderson, M. J. Mehl, H. Eckert, S. Divilov, X. Campilongo, and S. Curtarolo, *The AFLOW Library of Crystallographic Prototypes: Part 5*. Submitted to Computational Materials Science (2026).