

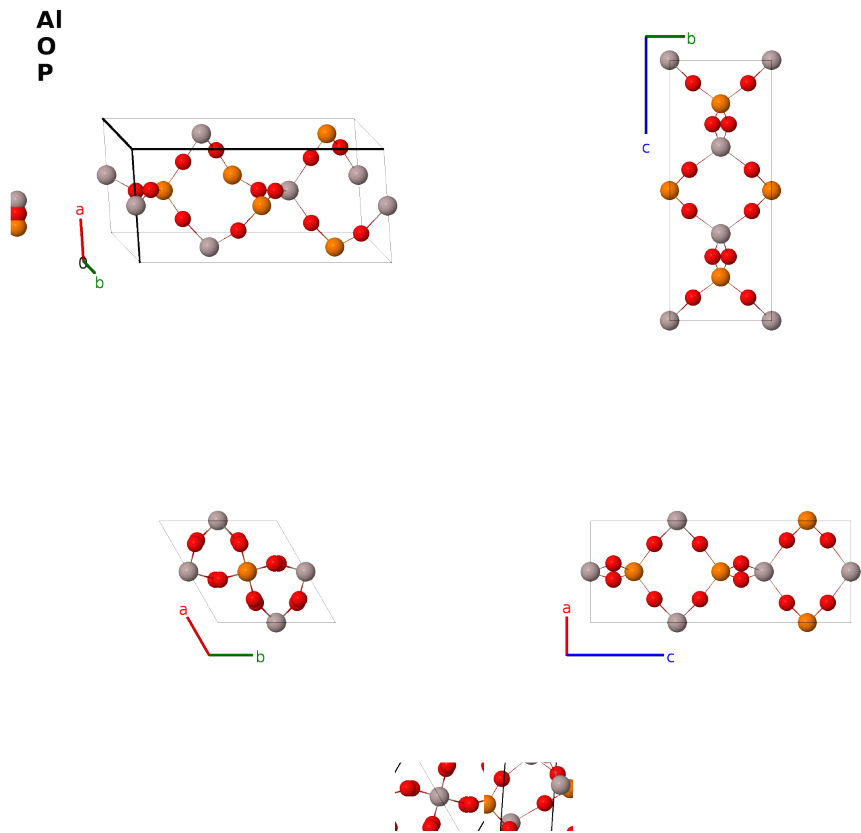
β -Berlinite (AlPO_4) Structure: AB4C_hP18_181_c_k_d-001

Cite this page as:

- H. Eckert, S. Divilov, M. J. Mehl, D. Hicks, A. C. Zettel, M. Esters, X. Campilongo, and S. Curtarolo, *The AFLOW Library of Crystallographic Prototypes: Part 4*, Comput. Mater. Sci. **240**, 112988 (2024), doi: 10.1016/j.commatsci.2024.112988.
- 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/U1X5>

https://aflow.org/prototype-encyclopedia/AB4C_hP18_181_c_k_d-001

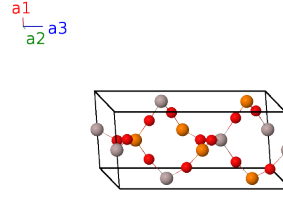


Prototype	AlO_4P
AFLOW prototype label	AB4C_hP18_181_c_k_d-001
Mineral name	berlinite
ICSD	9643
CCDC	1594615
Pearson symbol	hP18
Space group number	181
Space group symbol	$P6_422$
AFLOW prototype command	<code>aflow --proto=AB4C_hP18_181_c_k_d-001 --params=a, c/a, x₃, y₃, z₃</code>

- This is the high-temperature form of berlinite, the analog of β -quartz (C8).
- Below 853K (Ng, 1976) it transforms into α -berlinite in the alarsite (AlAsO_4) structure.
- Our silica and aluminum phosphate page has much more about the relationship between these structures.
- We originally found this structure described in (Muraoka, 1997), but their aluminum and phosphorous coordinates are inconsistent with the Al-O and P-O distances and bond angles, so we use this earlier work.
- Like β -quartz, this structure is chiral, Sohncke Class II, and so may also be found in the enantiomorphic space group $P6_222$ #180.
- (Ng, 1976) put the phosphorous atoms on the (3c) Wyckoff position, but the AFLOW Wyckoff ordering protocol shifts the origin of the z -axis by $c/2$, moving the aluminum atoms to the (3c) site.

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
$\mathbf{B}_1$	$= \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{a}_1$	$=$	$\frac{1}{4}a \hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}a \hat{\mathbf{y}}$	(3c)	Al I
$\mathbf{B}_2$	$= \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{a}_2 + \frac{1}{3} \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$\frac{1}{4}a \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}a \hat{\mathbf{y}} + \frac{1}{3}c \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(3c)	Al I
$\mathbf{B}_3$	$= \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{a}_2 + \frac{2}{3} \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$\frac{1}{2}a \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{2}{3}c \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(3c)	Al I
$\mathbf{B}_4$	$= \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$\frac{1}{4}a \hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}a \hat{\mathbf{y}} + \frac{1}{2}c \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(3d)	P I
$\mathbf{B}_5$	$= \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{a}_2 + \frac{5}{6} \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$\frac{1}{4}a \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}a \hat{\mathbf{y}} + \frac{5}{6}c \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(3d)	P I
$\mathbf{B}_6$	$= \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{a}_2 + \frac{1}{6} \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$\frac{1}{2}a \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{1}{6}c \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(3d)	P I
$\mathbf{B}_7$	$= x_3 \mathbf{a}_1 + y_3 \mathbf{a}_2 + z_3 \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$\frac{1}{2}a (x_3 + y_3) \hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}a (x_3 - y_3) \hat{\mathbf{y}} + cz_3 \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(12k)	O I
$\mathbf{B}_8$	$= -y_3 \mathbf{a}_1 + (x_3 - y_3) \mathbf{a}_2 + (z_3 + \frac{1}{3}) \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$\frac{1}{2}a (x_3 - 2y_3) \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ax_3 \hat{\mathbf{y}} + c(z_3 + \frac{1}{3}) \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(12k)	O I
$\mathbf{B}_9$	$= -(x_3 - y_3) \mathbf{a}_1 - x_3 \mathbf{a}_2 + (z_3 + \frac{2}{3}) \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$-\frac{1}{2}a (2x_3 - y_3) \hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ay_3 \hat{\mathbf{y}} + \frac{1}{3}c (3z_3 + 2) \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(12k)	O I
$\mathbf{B}_{10}$	$= -x_3 \mathbf{a}_1 - y_3 \mathbf{a}_2 + z_3 \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$-\frac{1}{2}a (x_3 + y_3) \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}a (x_3 - y_3) \hat{\mathbf{y}} + cz_3 \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(12k)	O I
$\mathbf{B}_{11}$	$= y_3 \mathbf{a}_1 - (x_3 - y_3) \mathbf{a}_2 + (z_3 + \frac{1}{3}) \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$\frac{1}{2}a (-x_3 + 2y_3) \hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ax_3 \hat{\mathbf{y}} + c(z_3 + \frac{1}{3}) \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(12k)	O I
$\mathbf{B}_{12}$	$= (x_3 - y_3) \mathbf{a}_1 + x_3 \mathbf{a}_2 + (z_3 + \frac{2}{3}) \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$\frac{1}{2}a (2x_3 - y_3) \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ay_3 \hat{\mathbf{y}} + \frac{1}{3}c (3z_3 + 2) \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(12k)	O I
$\mathbf{B}_{13}$	$= y_3 \mathbf{a}_1 + x_3 \mathbf{a}_2 - (z_3 - \frac{1}{3}) \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$\frac{1}{2}a (x_3 + y_3) \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}a (x_3 - y_3) \hat{\mathbf{y}} - c(z_3 - \frac{1}{3}) \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(12k)	O I
$\mathbf{B}_{14}$	$= (x_3 - y_3) \mathbf{a}_1 - y_3 \mathbf{a}_2 - z_3 \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$\frac{1}{2}a (x_3 - 2y_3) \hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ax_3 \hat{\mathbf{y}} - cz_3 \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(12k)	O I
$\mathbf{B}_{15}$	$= -x_3 \mathbf{a}_1 - (x_3 - y_3) \mathbf{a}_2 - (z_3 - \frac{2}{3}) \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$-\frac{1}{2}a (2x_3 - y_3) \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ay_3 \hat{\mathbf{y}} - \frac{1}{3}c (3z_3 - 2) \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(12k)	O I

$$\mathbf{B}_{16} = -y_3 \mathbf{a}_1 - x_3 \mathbf{a}_2 - \left(z_3 - \frac{1}{3}\right) \mathbf{a}_3 = -\frac{1}{2}a(x_3 + y_3) \hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}a(x_3 - y_3) \hat{\mathbf{y}} - c\left(z_3 - \frac{1}{3}\right) \hat{\mathbf{z}} \quad (12k) \quad \text{O I}$$

$$\mathbf{B}_{17} = -(x_3 - y_3) \mathbf{a}_1 + y_3 \mathbf{a}_2 - z_3 \mathbf{a}_3 = \frac{1}{2}a(-x_3 + 2y_3) \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ax_3 \hat{\mathbf{y}} - cz_3 \hat{\mathbf{z}} \quad (12k) \quad \text{O I}$$

$$\mathbf{B}_{18} = x_3 \mathbf{a}_1 + (x_3 - y_3) \mathbf{a}_2 - \left(z_3 - \frac{2}{3}\right) \mathbf{a}_3 = \frac{1}{2}a(2x_3 - y_3) \hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}ay_3 \hat{\mathbf{y}} - \frac{1}{3}c(3z_3 - 2) \hat{\mathbf{z}} \quad (12k) \quad \text{O I}$$

References

- [1] H. N. Ng and C. Calvo, *X-ray study of the α - β transformation of berlinite (AlPO_4)*, Can. J. Physics **54**, 638–647 (1976), doi:10.1139/p76-070.

Found in

- [1] Y. Muraoka and K. Kihara, *The temperature dependence of the crystal structure of berlinite, a quartz-type form of AlPO_4* , Phys. Chem. of Miner. **24**, 243–253 (1997), doi:10.1007/s002690050036.

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).