

α -N ($P2_13$) Structure: A_cP8_198_2a-001

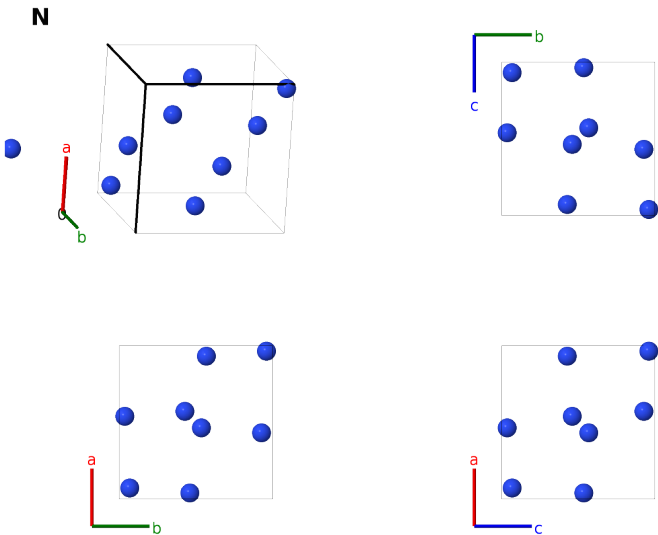
This structure previously used the label(s) **A_cP8_198_2a**. Calls to these addresses will be redirected here.

Cite this page as:

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

https://aflow.org/prototype-encyclopedia/A_cP8_198_2a-001



Prototype	N
AFLOW prototype label	A_cP8_198_2a-001
ICSD	27249
CCDC	1602557
Pearson symbol	cP8
Space group number	198
Space group symbol	$P2_13$
AFLOW prototype command	<code>aflow --proto=A_cP8_198_2a-001 --params=a, x_1, x_2</code>

- Solid nitrogen is found in three forms (Mills, 1969; Donohue, 1974):
 - The ground state α -N structure, stable below 35.6K, found either in a centrosymmetric or a non-centrosymmetric cubic structure.
 - The hexagonal β -phase, which has freely rotating N_2 molecules and is stable up to the melting point, and

– High-pressure γ -N, stable above 355 MPa.

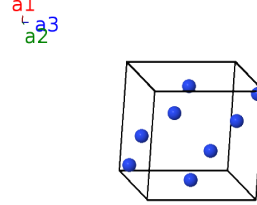
- There is considerable controversy about the crystal structure of α -N, as outlined in (Donohue, 1982, pp. 280-285). This page assumes the non-centrosymmetric $P2_13$ #198 structure. The other possibility is the $Pa\bar{3}$ #205 structure, where the N_2 dimers are centered on an inversion site. (Venables, 1974) makes a convincing case that the ground state is $Pa\bar{3}$, but we present both structures. Density Functional Theory calculations show no appreciable difference in energy between the Pa_3 and $P2_13$ structures. (Mehl, 2015)

Simple Cubic primitive vectors

$$\mathbf{a}_1 = a \hat{\mathbf{x}}$$

$$\mathbf{a}_2 = a \hat{\mathbf{y}}$$

$$\mathbf{a}_3 = a \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$



Basis vectors

	Lattice coordinates		Cartesian coordinates	Wyckoff position	Atom type
$\mathbf{B}_1$	$= x_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + x_1 \mathbf{a}_2 + x_1 \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$ax_1 \hat{\mathbf{x}} + ax_1 \hat{\mathbf{y}} + ax_1 \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4a)	N I
$\mathbf{B}_2$	$= -\left(x_1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \mathbf{a}_1 - x_1 \mathbf{a}_2 + \left(x_1 + \frac{1}{2}\right) \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$-a\left(x_1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \hat{\mathbf{x}} - ax_1 \hat{\mathbf{y}} + a\left(x_1 + \frac{1}{2}\right) \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4a)	N I
$\mathbf{B}_3$	$= -x_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + \left(x_1 + \frac{1}{2}\right) \mathbf{a}_2 - \left(x_1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$-ax_1 \hat{\mathbf{x}} + a\left(x_1 + \frac{1}{2}\right) \hat{\mathbf{y}} - a\left(x_1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4a)	N I
$\mathbf{B}_4$	$= \left(x_1 + \frac{1}{2}\right) \mathbf{a}_1 - \left(x_1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \mathbf{a}_2 - x_1 \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$a\left(x_1 + \frac{1}{2}\right) \hat{\mathbf{x}} - a\left(x_1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \hat{\mathbf{y}} - ax_1 \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4a)	N I
$\mathbf{B}_5$	$= x_2 \mathbf{a}_1 + x_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + x_2 \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$ax_2 \hat{\mathbf{x}} + ax_2 \hat{\mathbf{y}} + ax_2 \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4a)	N II
$\mathbf{B}_6$	$= -\left(x_2 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \mathbf{a}_1 - x_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + \left(x_2 + \frac{1}{2}\right) \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$-a\left(x_2 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \hat{\mathbf{x}} - ax_2 \hat{\mathbf{y}} + a\left(x_2 + \frac{1}{2}\right) \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4a)	N II
$\mathbf{B}_7$	$= -x_2 \mathbf{a}_1 + \left(x_2 + \frac{1}{2}\right) \mathbf{a}_2 - \left(x_2 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$-ax_2 \hat{\mathbf{x}} + a\left(x_2 + \frac{1}{2}\right) \hat{\mathbf{y}} - a\left(x_2 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4a)	N II
$\mathbf{B}_8$	$= \left(x_2 + \frac{1}{2}\right) \mathbf{a}_1 - \left(x_2 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \mathbf{a}_2 - x_2 \mathbf{a}_3$	$=$	$a\left(x_2 + \frac{1}{2}\right) \hat{\mathbf{x}} - a\left(x_2 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \hat{\mathbf{y}} - ax_2 \hat{\mathbf{z}}$	(4a)	N II

References

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Found in

[1] J. Donohue, *The Structures of the Elements* (Robert E. Krieger Publishing Company, New York, 1974).

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