



Understanding Zeolite Frameworks

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Overview

What are Zeolites?

- History
- Classical and General Definition
- Channel and Pore Opening
- Synthesis
- Application

Describing Zeolite Frameworks

- International Zeolite Association (IZA)
- History of the Atlas of Zeolite Framework Types
- Organisation of the Atlas
- Examples

How to Build Zeolites

- Structural Sub-Unit (SSU)
- Periodic Building Unit (PPU)



What are Zeolites?

History

- # Zeolites have been studied by mineralogists for almost 250 years.

Zeolite	Date	Zeolite	Date
Stilbite	1756	Mordenite	1864
Natrolite	1758	Clinoptilolite	1890
Chabazite	1772	Offretite	1890
Harmotome	1775	Erionite	1890
Analcime	1784	Kehoeite	1893
Laumontite	1785	Gonnardite	1896
Thomsonite	1801	Dachiardite	1905
Scolecite	1801	Stellerite	1909
Heulandite	1801	Ferrierite	1918
Gmelinite	1807	Viseite	1942
Mesolite	1813	Yugawaralite	1952
Gismondine	1816	Wairakite	1955
Brewsterite	1822	Bikitaite	1957
Epistilbite	1823	Paulingite	1960
Phillipsite	1824	Garronite	1962
Levynite	1825	Mazzite	1972
Herschelite	1825	Barrerite	1974
Edingtonite	1825	Merlinoite	1976
Faujasite	1842		

History

- # 1756: A. F. Cronstedt
 - History of zeolites starts with the discovery of Stilbite.
 - Described behavior under fast heating conditions. The mineral seemed to boil because of the fast water loss.

$\zeta\epsilon\iota\nu$ = **zein** = **to boil**

$\lambda\iota\theta\omicron\varsigma$ = **lithos** = **stone**

→ **ZEOLITE**

History

- # 1784: Barthelemy Faujas de Saint-Fond
 - As a French Professor in geology he formulated a nice formalism based on observations to indentify zeolites in his book “Mineralogie des Volcans”.
 - In his honor, a well known zeolite is called **Faujasite** in 1842.

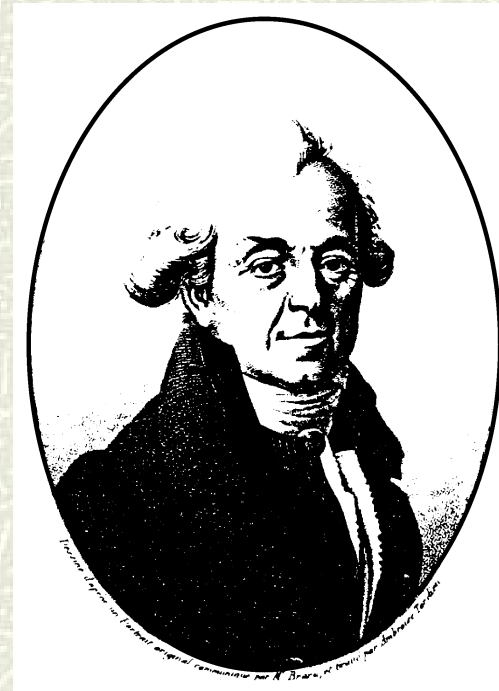
Quels font donc les caractères qui doivent diriger le Naturaliste dans la connaissance de la véritable zéolite? Je crois que ceux que je vais indiquer suffiront.

1°. La zéolite soumise à un feu vif dans un creuset, ou rougie à la lampe d'émailleur, & mieux encore, placée dans un charbon qu'on creuse & qu'on allume, & attaquée avec l'air déphlogiftiqué, jette, un instant avant sa fusion complete, un feu vif & brillant qui cesse & n'a plus le même éclat lorsque la matière parfaitement fondue roule en globules dans le creuset de charbon.

2°. La zéolite est fusible sans addition, & donne un beau verre.

3°. Réduite en poudre fine & traitée avec les acides, elle produit bientôt une gelée solide & transparente, sans faire aucune effervescence.

4°. La crystallisation réunie aux autres caractères, sert aussi à la faire reconnoître. Son origine est encore problématique.



History

- # Until the early 1940's attempts to synthesize zeolites were made by mineralogists interested in the stability with other minerals.

- # Union Carbide pioneered the synthetic molecular sieve zeolite business, initiating research in 1948 on adsorption for purification, separation and catalysis.
 - 1950: Synthesis of pure Zeolite A and X.
 - 1953: Patent filed for Zeolite A and X.
 - 1954: Final structure of Zeolite A and X.
 - 1956: Zeolite X with high silica/alumina ratios → Zeolite Y.
 - 1956: Structure of Zeolite A published.
 - 1958: Structure of Zeolite X published.
 - 1959: Patent granted.

History

(Published 1956 in *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*)

[CONTRIBUTION FROM THE RESEARCH LABORATORY OF THE LINDE AIR PRODUCTS COMPANY, A DIVISION OF UNION CARBIDE AND CARBON CORPORATION]

Crystalline Zeolites. I. The Properties of a New Synthetic Zeolite, Type A

BY D. W. BRECK, W. G. EVERSOLE, R. M. MILTON, T. B. REED AND T. L. THOMAS

RECEIVED APRIL 19, 1956

The properties of a new zeolite, a hydrated crystalline sodium aluminosilicate, are described and the syntheses of 14 new zeolite species and 6 of the 35 known zeolites are announced. The new zeolite, designated type A, is represented by the formula: $\text{Na}_{12}[(\text{AlO}_2)_{12}(\text{SiO}_2)_{12}] \cdot 27\text{H}_2\text{O}$. The structure is cubic, $a_0 = 12.32 \text{ \AA}$, space group $\text{O}_h^1\text{-Pm}\bar{3}\text{m}$, and is characterized by a 3-dimensional network consisting of cavities 11.4 \AA in diameter separated by circular openings 4.2 \AA in diameter. Removal of the crystal water leaves a stable crystalline solid containing mutually connected intracrystalline voids amounting to 45 vol. % of the zeolite. A high capacity adsorbent is produced which readily occludes molecules of a certain size and shape but excludes others. Sodium ions, accessible to the intracrystalline voids or pores, undergo cation exchange readily in aqueous solution. Replacement of sodium ions by calcium ions effectively enlarges the pore openings so straight chain hydrocarbons are readily adsorbed but branched chain hydrocarbons are excluded.

[CONTRIBUTION FROM THE RESEARCH LABORATORY OF THE LINDE AIR PRODUCTS COMPANY, A DIVISION OF UNION CARBIDE AND CARBON CORPORATION]

Crystalline Zeolites. II. Crystal Structure of Synthetic Zeolite, Type A

BY T. B. REED AND D. W. BRECK

RECEIVED APRIL 23, 1956

The new synthetic zeolite, Type A, is cubic, $a_0 = 12.32 \text{ \AA}$, and X-ray data are consistent with space group $\text{O}_h^1\text{-Pm}\bar{3}\text{m}$. The unit cell composition is $\text{Me}_{12/n}[(\text{AlO}_2)_{12}(\text{SiO}_2)_{12}] \cdot N\text{H}_2\text{O}$ where Me is an exchangeable cation of charge n , and N varies from 20 to 30. The unit cell dimension varies slightly with the cation present. The aluminosilicate framework consists of $24(\text{Si,Al})\text{-O}_4$ tetrahedra which are joined to form 8-membered oxygen rings in the faces and distorted 6-membered rings on the 3-fold axes. A large cavity 11.4 \AA in diameter occupies the center of the cell and smaller 6.6 \AA cavities are located on the 3-fold axes. Probable positions of the cations in the lithium, sodium, thallium and calcium forms are indicated, and correlation of the structure with the adsorptive and ion-exchange properties of the Type A zeolite is discussed.

Classical and General Definition

Classical:

- Aluminosilicate open network of corner-sharing $[\text{AlO}_4]^-$ and $[\text{SiO}_4]^-$ tetrahedra (Al, Si \rightarrow T-atoms build framework).
- Charge of the framework is compensated by mono or divalent cations or protons within the cavities or channels.
- Exchange capability of cations.
- Additional water molecules are present in the cavities.

General:

- Three-dimensional framework of tetrahedrally coordinated T-atoms with cavities or channels with the smallest opening larger than six T-atoms.
- T-atoms: Si, Al, P, As, Ga, Ge, B, Be, etc.

Channel and Pore Opening

# Aluminosilicates	:	7.4 x 7.4 Å	Faujasite
# Silicates	:	8.1 x 8.2 Å	UTD-1F
# Aluminophosphates	:	12.7 x 12.7 Å	VPI-5
# Galliumphosphates	:	4.0 x 13.2 Å	Cloverite
# Microporous materials	:	< 20 Å	
# Mesoporous materials	:	20 – 500 Å	
# Macroporous materials	:	> 500 Å	

Synthesis

Natural zeolites

- Volcanic origin (hot-spring, lava, sediments).
- Natural zeolites have been found in many different countries.

Hydrothermal sol-gel synthesis

- Aqueous solution under vapor pressure of the mixture.
- Temperature range up to 300 °C.
- Structure directing agent as template (e.g. tetramethyl-ammonium).
- Template removal by thermal and oxidative decomposition.

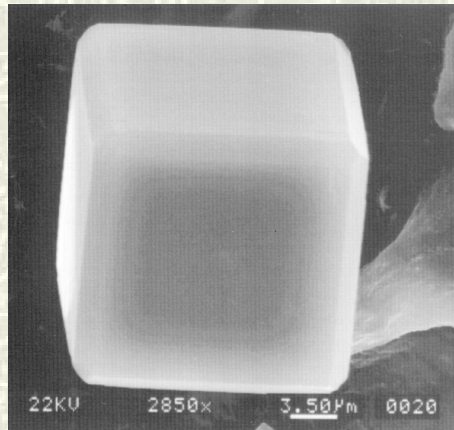
High pressure hydrothermal synthesis

- High pressure autoclave.

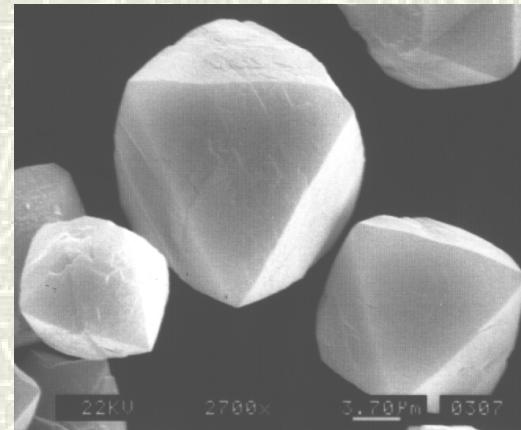
What are Zeolites?

Synthesis, Examples

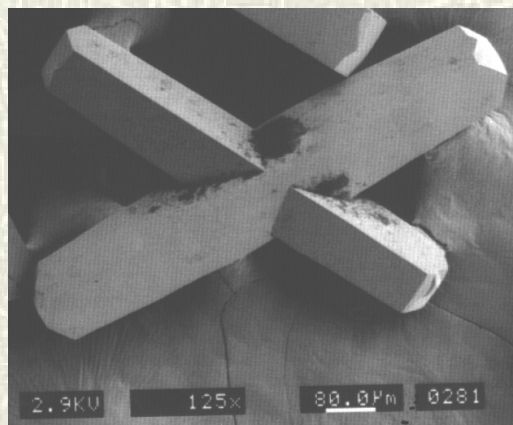
Linde Type A



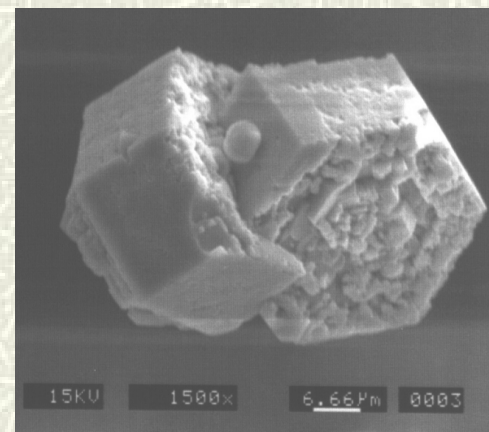
Linde X



Silicalite



AIPO-5



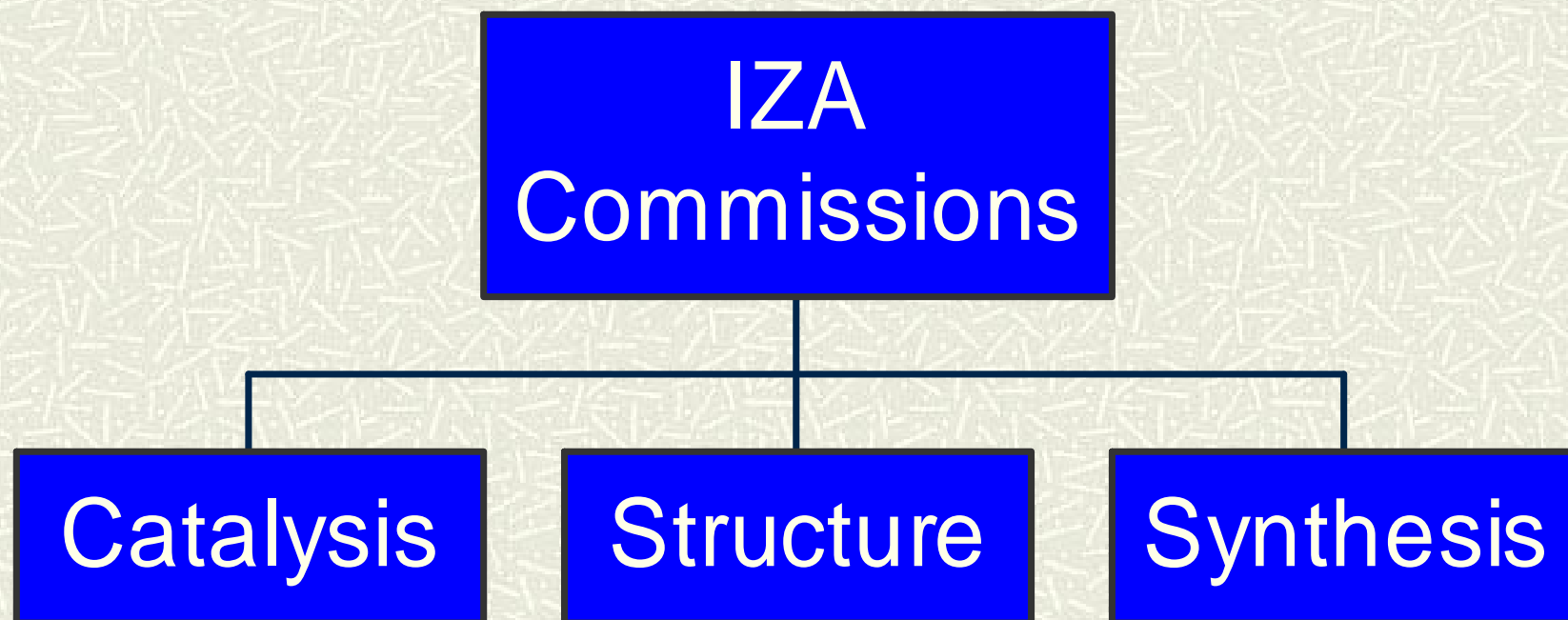
Application, Examples

- # Purification of gaseous and liquid mixtures and solutions by sorption (activation by evacuation and heating).
- # Reversible sorption capacity for water.
- # Removal of odors and pollutants.
- # Ion exchange.
- # Softening of water for washing (substituted polyphosphates).
- # Removal of heavy metal ions in mine wastewater and radioactive fission products (Cs, Sr).
- # Natural zeolites used for soil fertilizing purposes (Substituted ions of potassium, ammonium, phosphate).
- # Catalysis in petrochemical industries (conversion of organic molecules in liquid and gaseous phase).



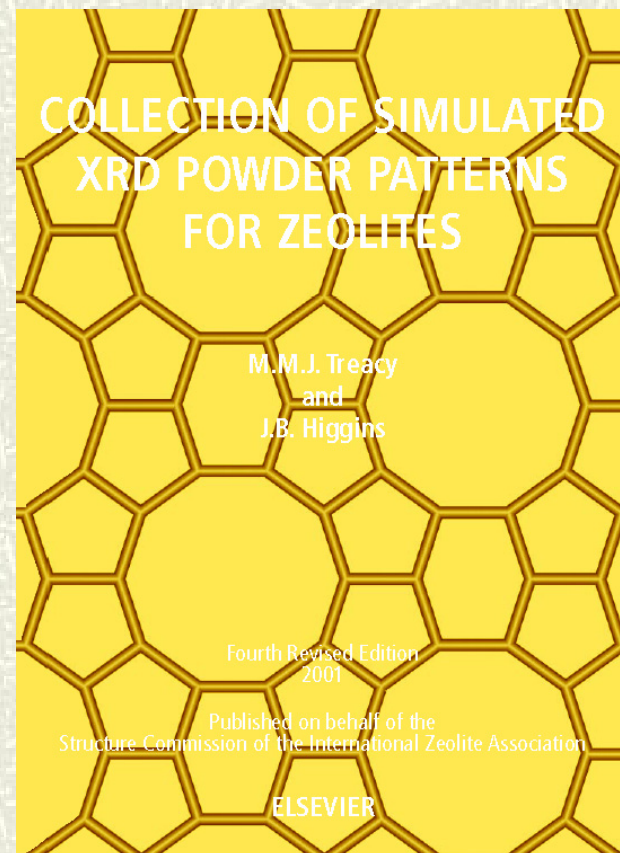
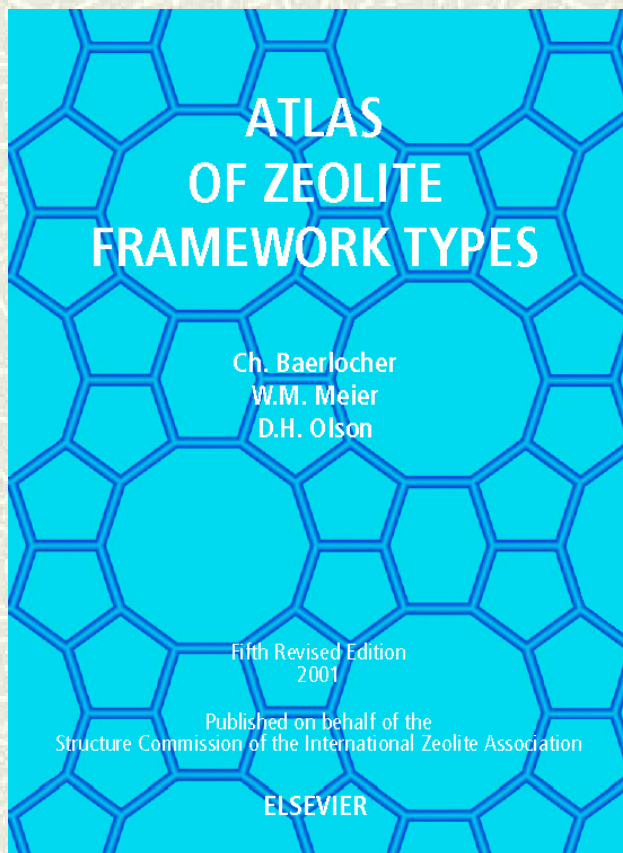
Describing Zeolite Frameworks

International Zeolite Association (IZA)



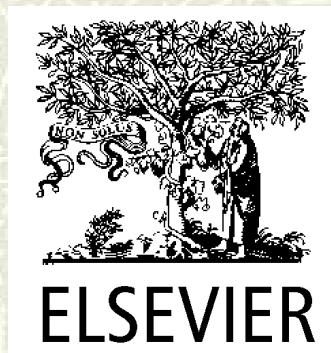
International Zeolite Association (IZA)

Books from the Structure Commission



Availability

Printed Version



www.elsevier.com

Electronic Version (pdf-Files)



www.iza-online.org

History of the Atlas of Zeolite Framework Types

Edition	Year	Zeolite Frameworks
1 st	1970	27
2 nd	1978	38
3 rd	1982	85
4 th	1996	98
5 th	2001	133
Web Edition	Dec. 2003	145

History of the Atlas of Zeolite Framework Types

Change of name for the Atlas recommended by IUPAC in 2001

Old : Atlas of Zeolite **Structure** Types

New : Atlas of Zeolite **Framework** Types

- **Structure**: Implies both, the framework and extra-framework constituents.
- **Framework**: Corner-sharing network of tetrahedrally coordinated atoms.

Organisation of the Atlas

Two pages in the Atlas for each framework type code

Left page

Framework Type Informations

- Framework type code
- Stereographic figure
- Idealized cell constants
- Coordination sequences
- Vertex symbols
- Secondary building units
- Loop configurations of T-atoms
- Framework description
- Isotypic framework structures
- References

Right page

Type Material Informations

- Crystal chemical data
- Framework density
- Channels (observed rings)
- Stereographic figure (channels)

Framework Type Informations

Framework Type Code

- # Previously called Structure Type Code.
- # Three capital letters (IUPAC Commission on Zeolite Nomenclature, 1978).
- # Usually derived from the name of the type materials (Appendix D in the Atlas).
- # For interrupted frameworks the 3-letter code is preceded by a hyphen (-).
- # For intergrown materials, the * denotes a framework of a hypothetical end member.

Code	Abbreviated Name	Full Name
■ LTA	Linde Type A	Zeolite A (Linde Division, Union Carbide)
■ LTL	Linde Type L	Zeolite L (Linde Division, Union Carbide)
■ FAU	Faujasite	
■ MFI	ZSM-5 (five)	Zeolite Socony Mobil – five
■ -CLO	Cloverite	Four-leafed clover shaped pore opening
■ *BEA	Zeolite Beta	

Framework Type Code

- ✦ Codes are only assigned to established structures that satisfy the rules of the IZA Structure Commission (Rules can be found in Appendix B).
- ✦ The codes should not be confused or equated with actual materials. **They only describe and define the framework.**

Not allowed:

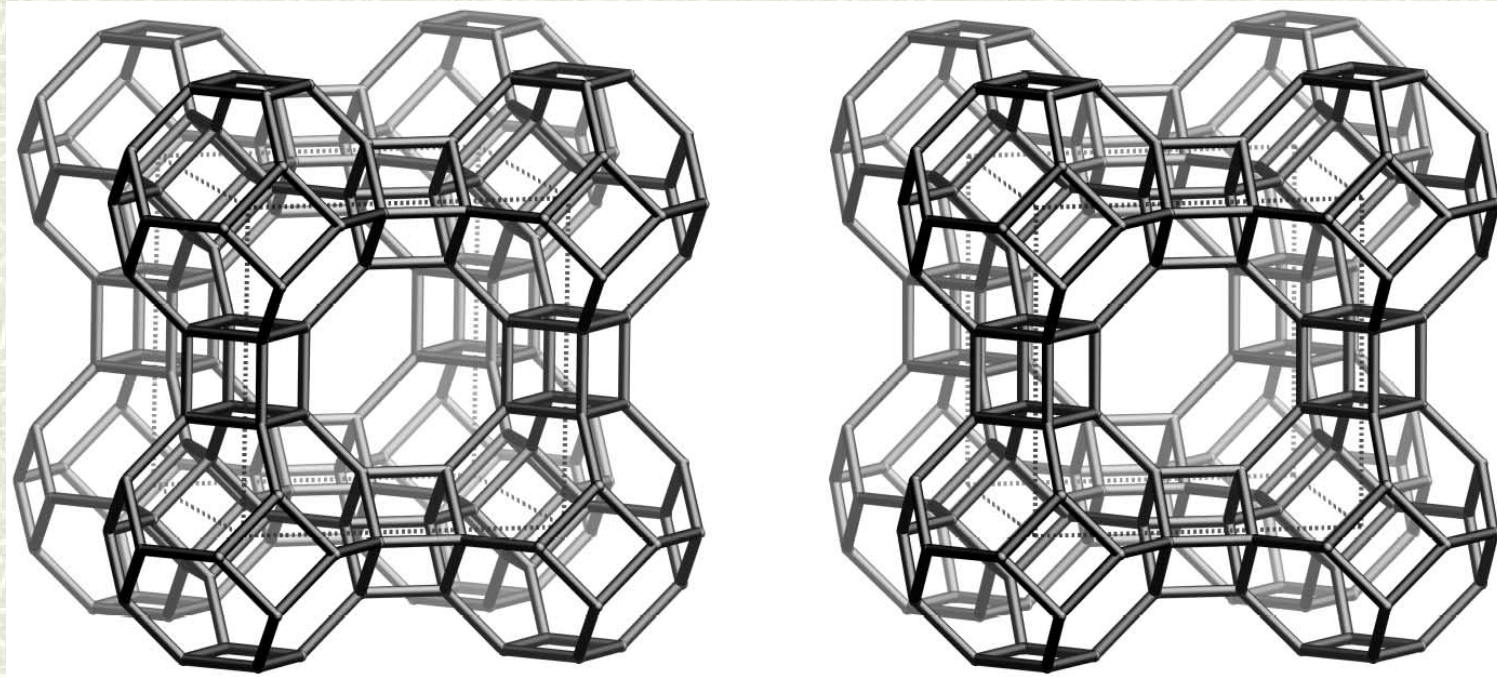
- NaLTA, NaLTL, NaFAU

Correct is to use: | | for guest species, [] for framework host

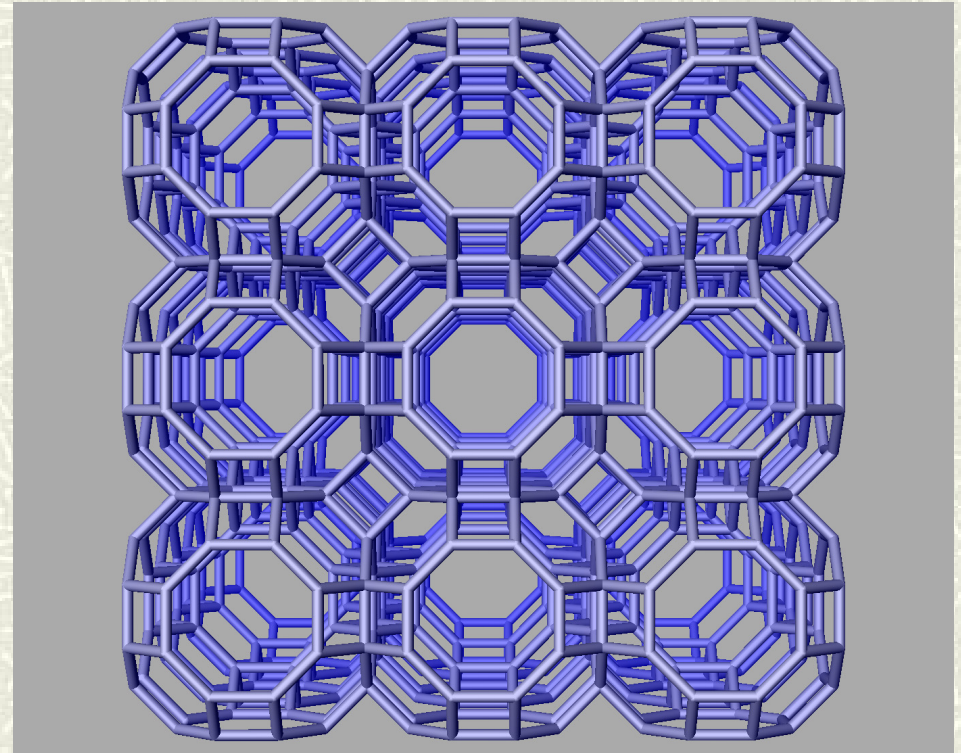
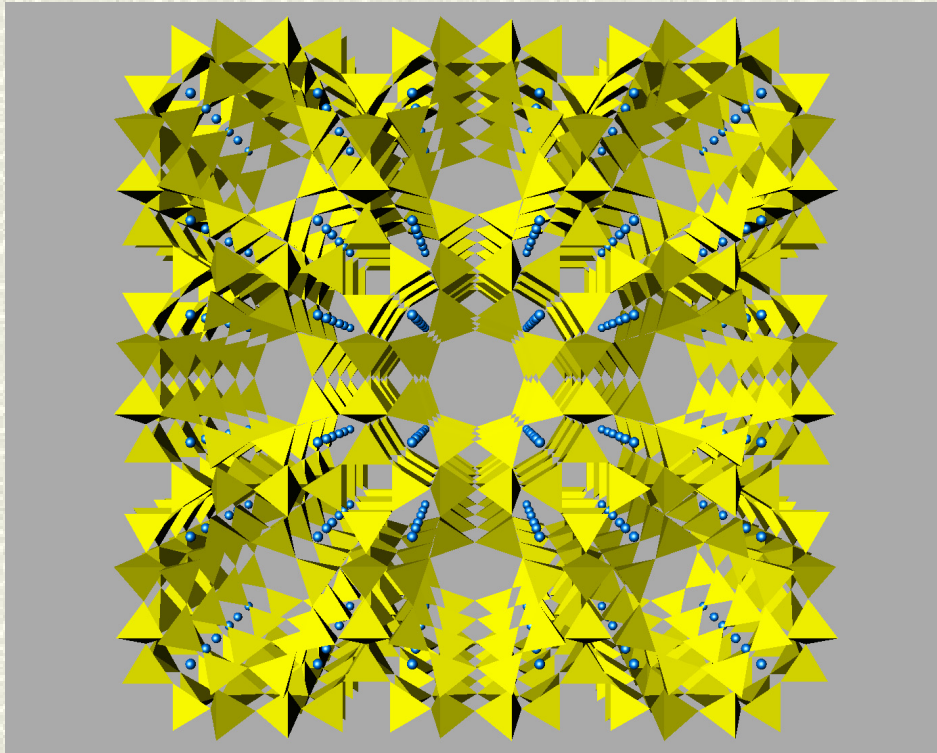
- $|\text{Na}^+_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{27}|_8 [\text{Al}_{12}\text{Si}_{12}\text{O}_{48}]_8\text{-LTA}$ or $|\text{Na}| [\text{Al-Si-O}]\text{-LTA}$
- $|\text{K}^+_6\text{Na}^+_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{21}| [\text{Al}_9\text{Si}_{27}\text{O}_{72}]\text{-LTL}$ or $|\text{K-Na}| [\text{Al-Si-O}]\text{-LTL}$
- $|\text{Na}_{58}| [\text{Al}_{58}\text{Si}_{134}\text{O}_{384}]\text{-FAU}$ or $|\text{Na}| [\text{Al-Si-O}]\text{-FAU}$

- ✦ Framework types do not depend on composition, distribution of the T-atoms, cell dimensions or symmetry (T-atoms: Si, Al, P, As, Ga, Ge, B, Be, etc.).

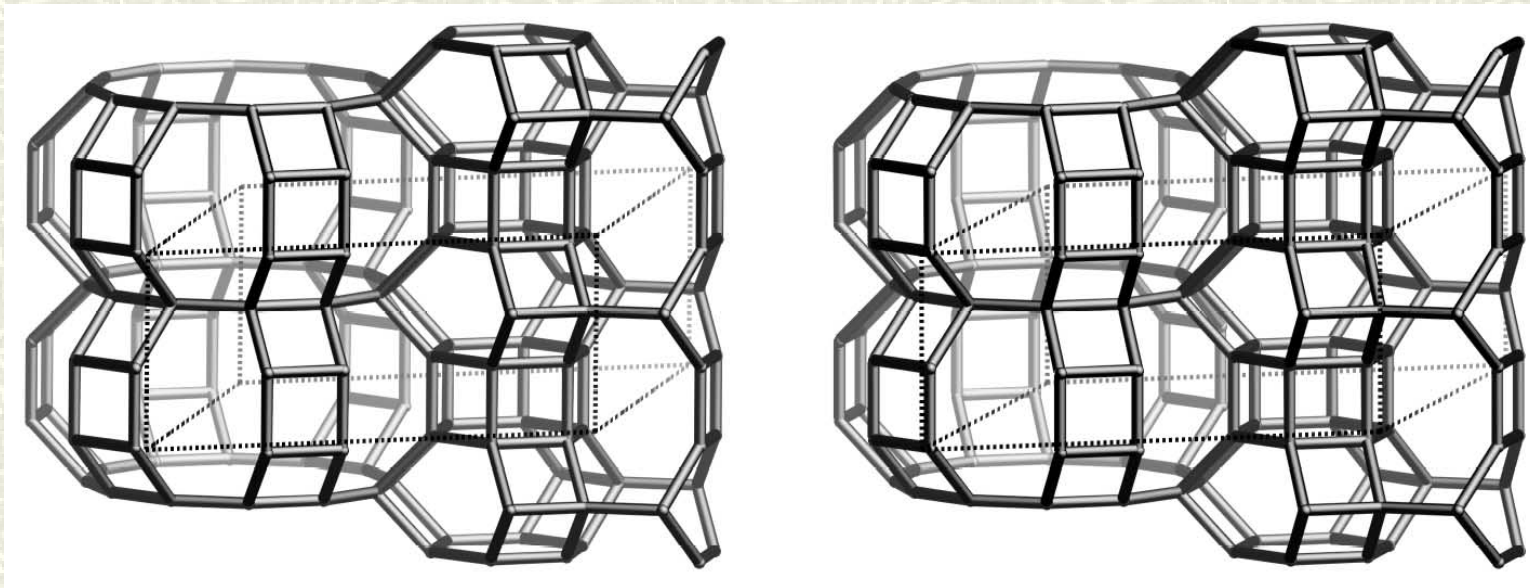
LTA Framework: Stereographic Figure



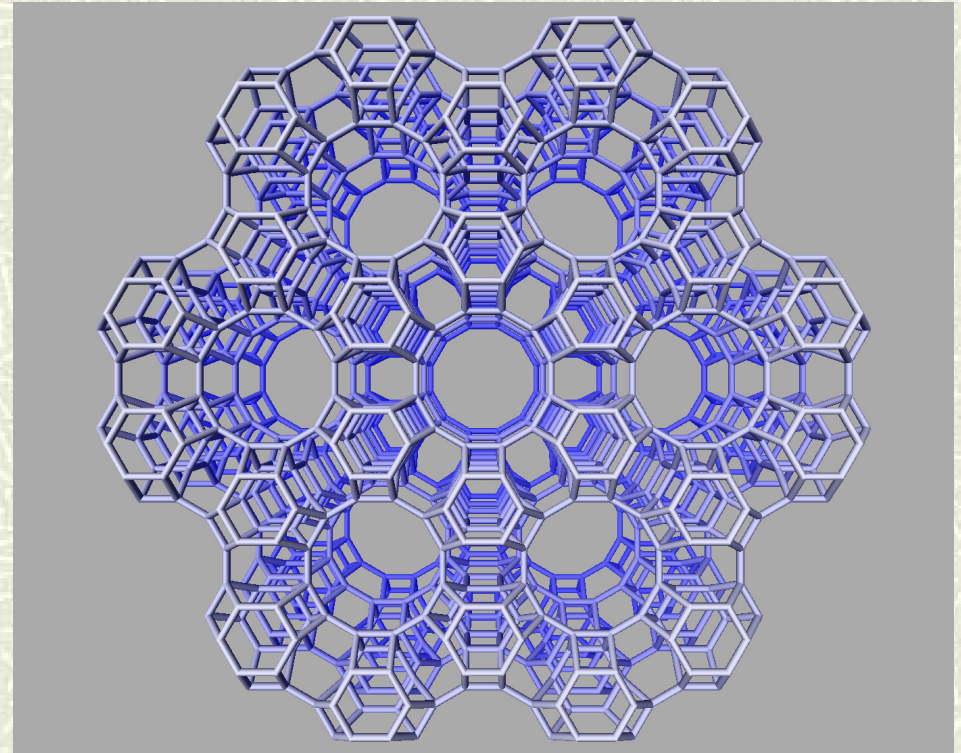
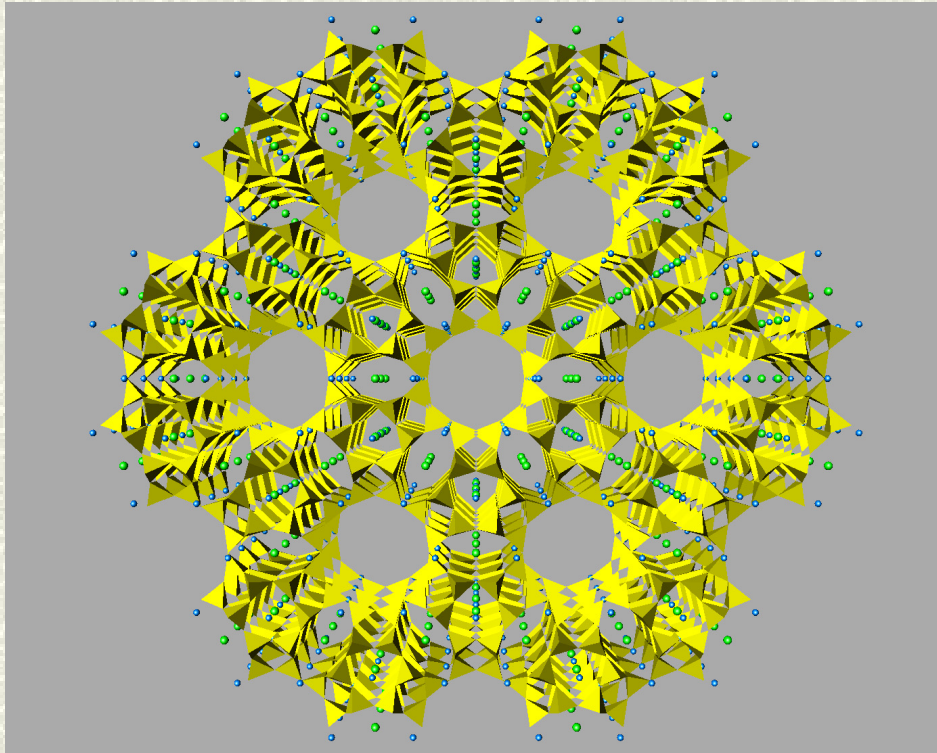
LTA: Structure and Framework Figures



LTL Framework: Stereographic Figure



LTL: Structure and Framework Figures



Idealized Cell Parameters

- # They are obtained after geometry refinement in the highest possible symmetry for the framework type.
- # Refinement was carried out assuming:
 - Hypothetical SiO₂ composition
 - $d_{\text{Si-O}} = 1.61 \text{ \AA}$
 - $d_{\text{O-O}} = 2.629 \text{ \AA}$
 - $d_{\text{Si-Si}} = 3.07 \text{ \AA}$

	Crystal System	Space Group	Cell Parameters
LTA	Cubic	Pm-3m	$a = 11.9 \text{ \AA}$
LTL	Hexagonal	P6/mmm	$a = 18.1 \text{ \AA}$ $c = 7.6 \text{ \AA}$

Coordination Sequences (CS)

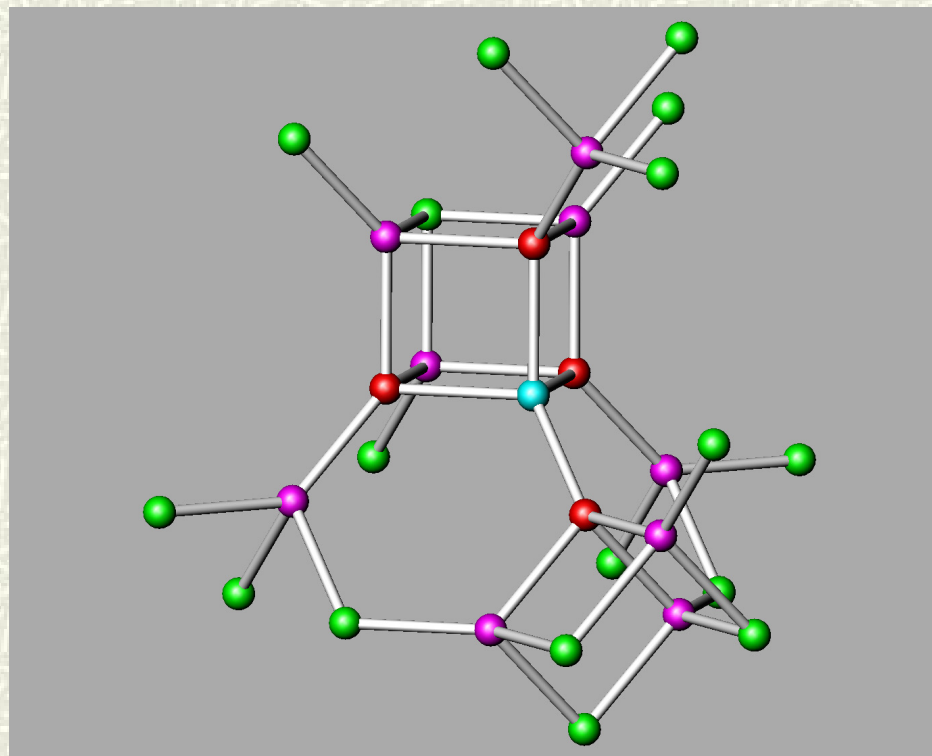
- # Each T-atom is connected to $N_1 = 4$ neighboring T-atoms through oxygen bridges.
- # These neighboring T-atoms are then linked in the same manner to N_2 T-atoms in the next shell.
- # Each T-atom is counted only once.
- # Infinite, ideal case without T-atom sharing:

$$N_0 = 1 \quad N_1 = 4 \quad N_2 = 12 \quad N_3 = 36 \quad N_4 = 108$$

- # Listed in the Atlas for every T-position:
 - Multiplicity and site symmetry of the position
 - CS from N_1 up to N_{10}

Coordination Sequence for LTA

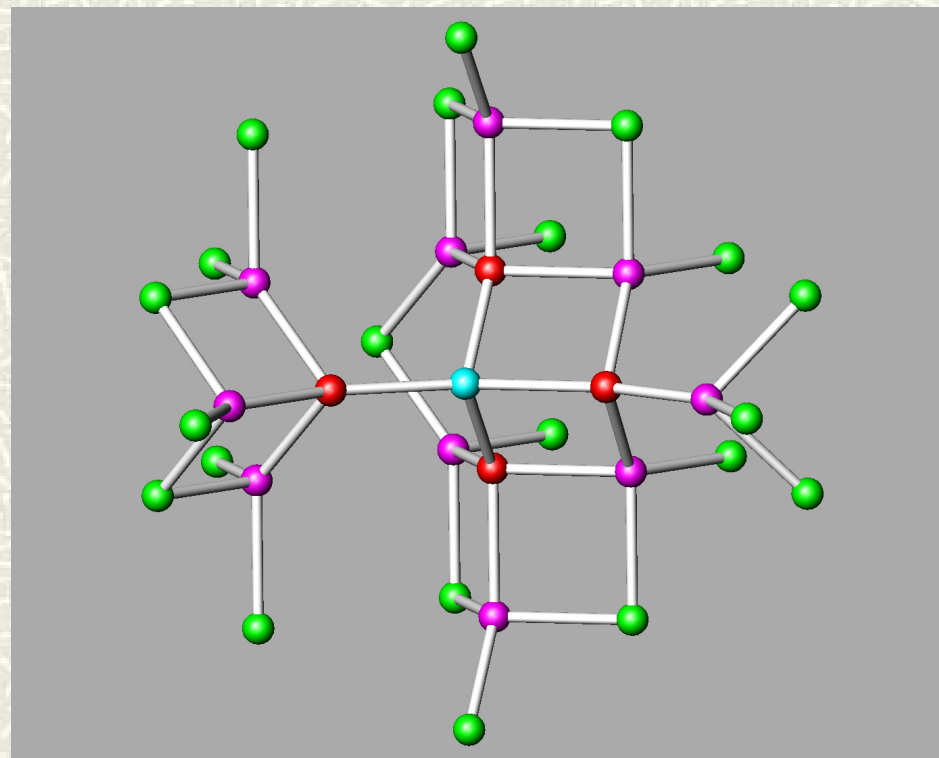
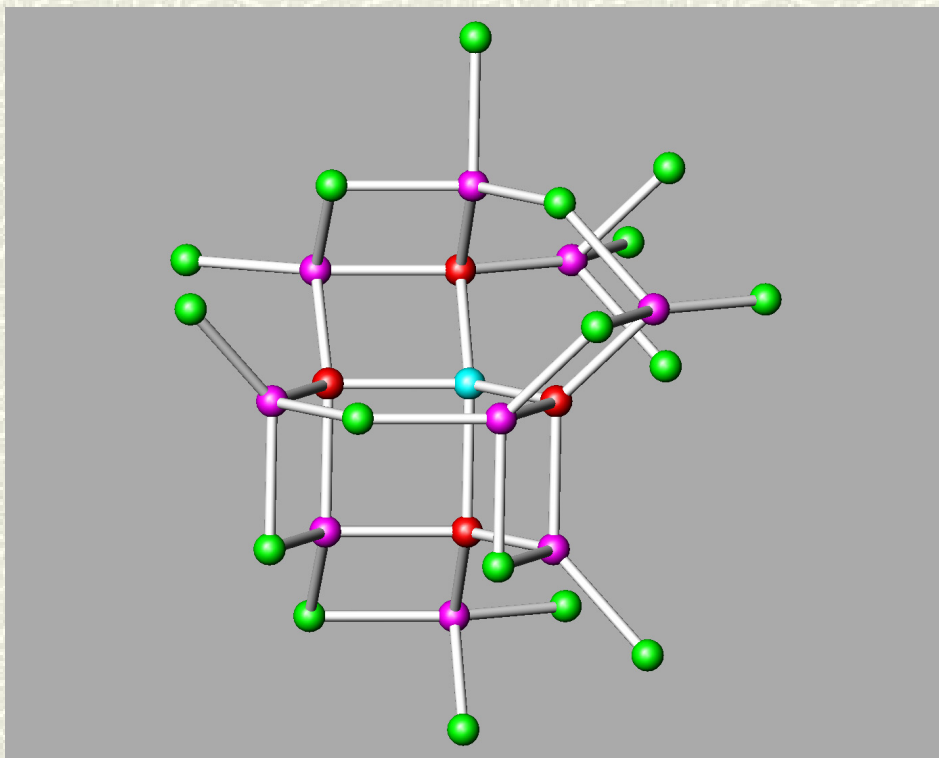
T1 (24, m) 4 9 17 28 42 60 81 105 132 162



Coordination Sequences for LTL

T1 (24, 1) 4 9 17 29 46 69 ...

T2 (12, m) 4 10 21 35 49 66 ...



Vertex Symbols

- # The vertex symbol indicates the size of the smallest ring associated with each of the 6 angles of a tetrahedron (T-atom).
- # The symbols for opposite pairs of angles are grouped together.
- # Rings of the same size at a vertex are indicated by a subscript.

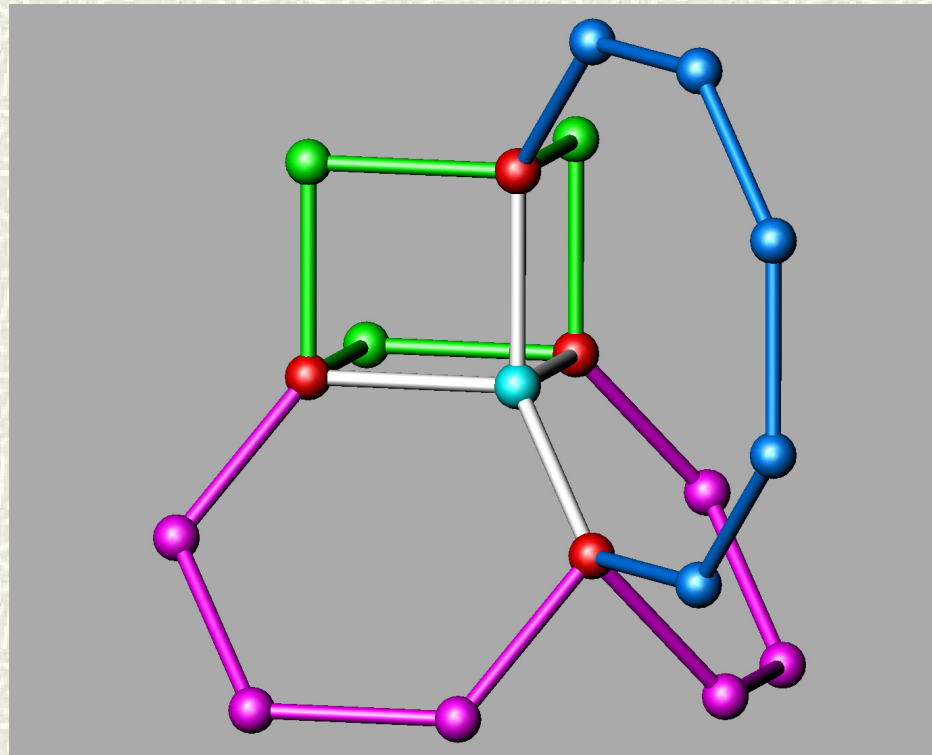
LTA T1 4 . 6 . 4 . 6 . 4 . 8

LTL T1 4 . 4 . 4 . 6 . 6 . 8

 T2 4 . 8₃ . 4 . 8₃ . 6 . 12

Vertex Symbol for LTA

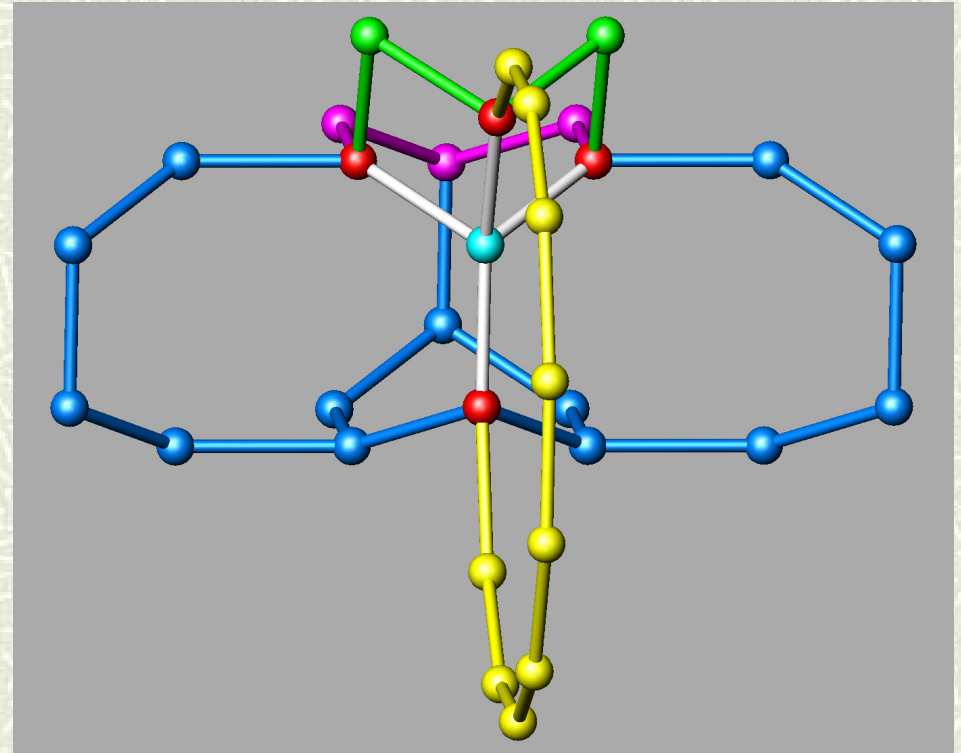
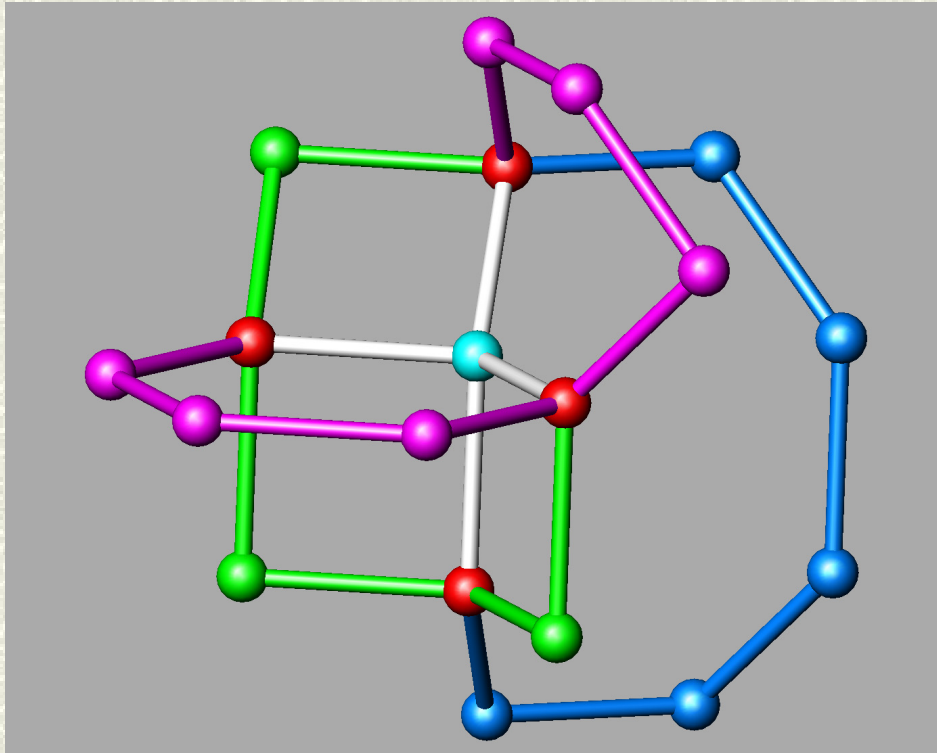
4 . 6 . 4 . 6 . 4 . 8



Vertex Symbols for LTL

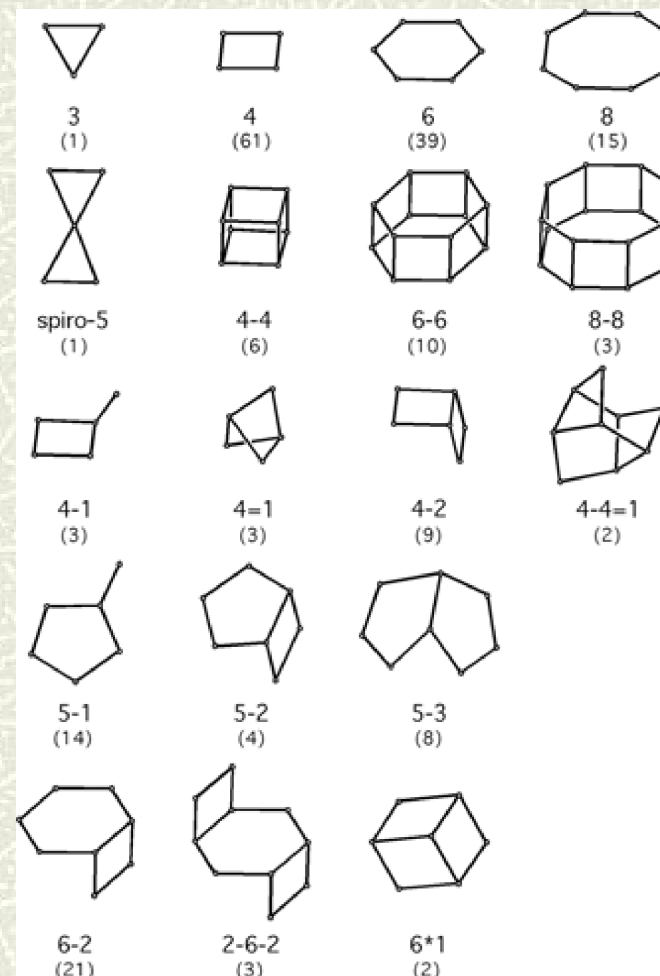
4 . 4 . 4 . 6 . 6 . 8

4 . 8₃ . 4 . 8₃ . 6 . 12



Secondary Building Units (SBU)

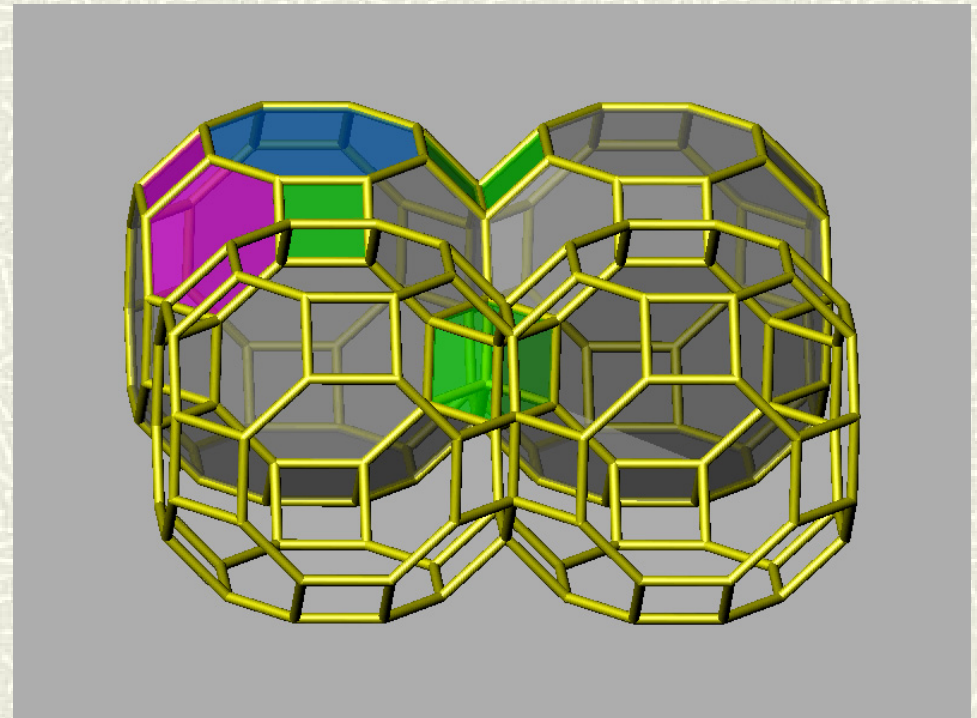
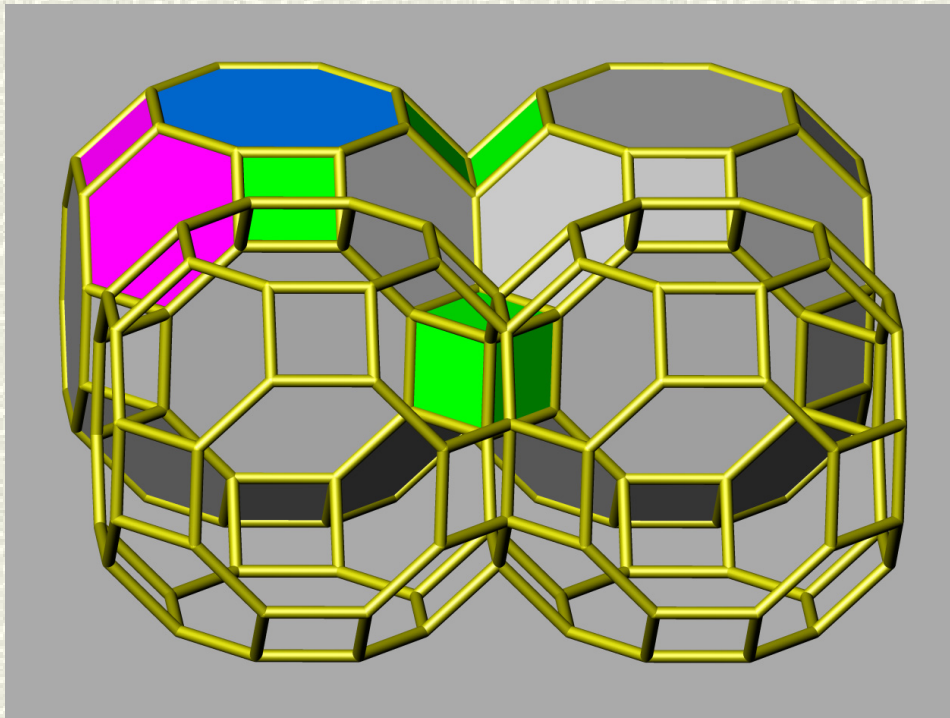
- # The primary building unit is the TO_4 tetrahedra
- # SBU are derived assuming that the entire framework is made up of one type of SBU only.
- # Assemblage of the framework does not necessarily involve crystallographic symmetry operations.
- # If more than one SBU is possible, all are listed.



Number in () = frequency of occurrence

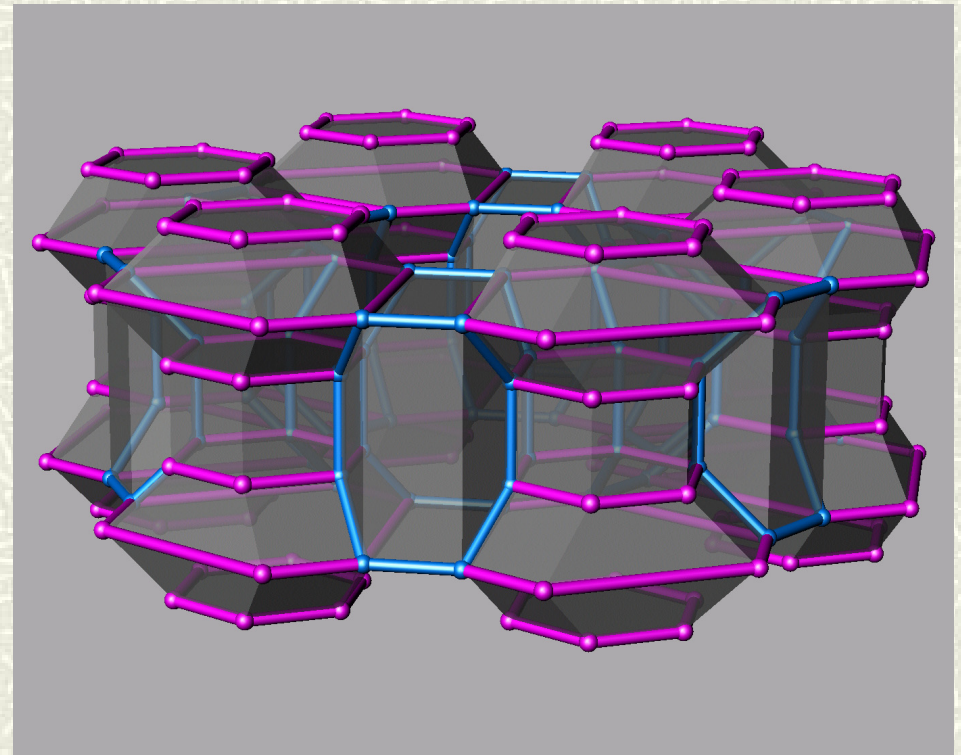
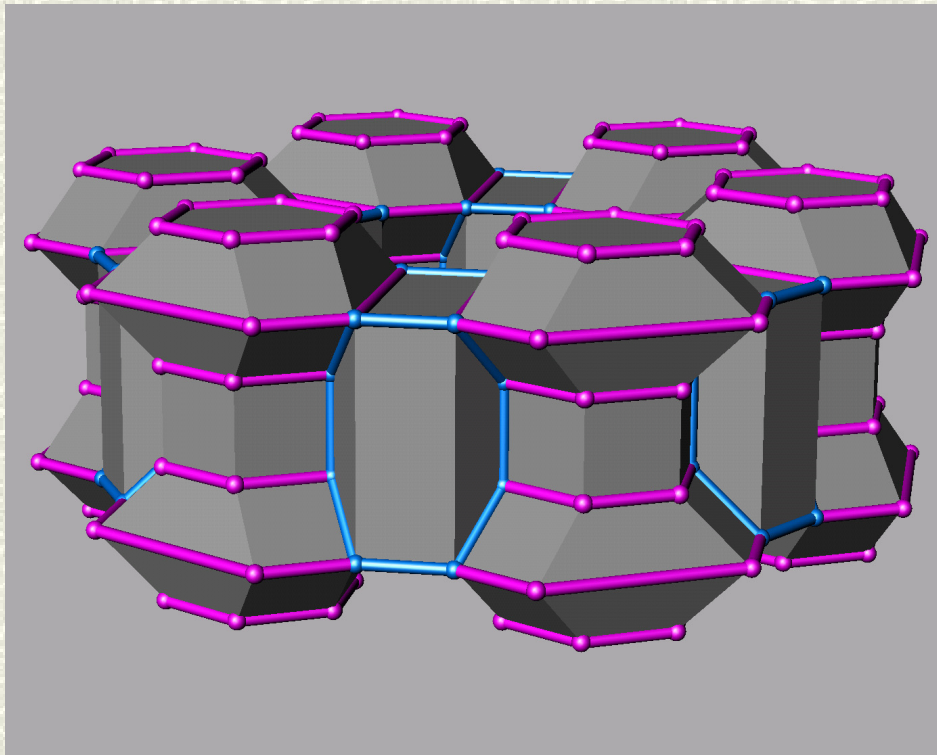
Secondary Building Units for LTA

8 or 4-4 or 6-2 or 4-2 or 4



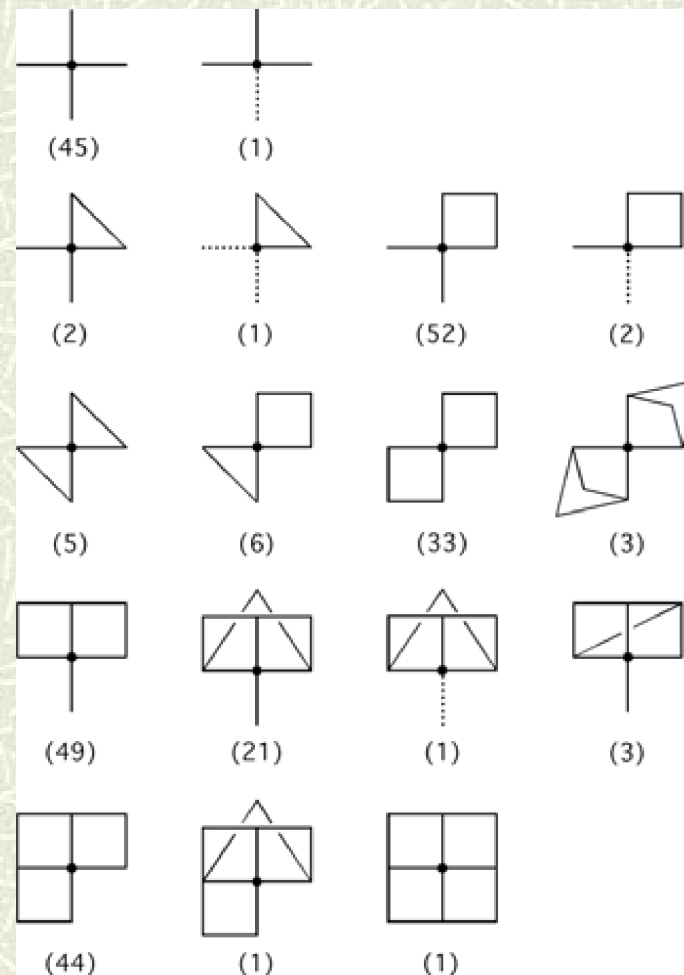
Secondary Building Units for LTL

8 or 6



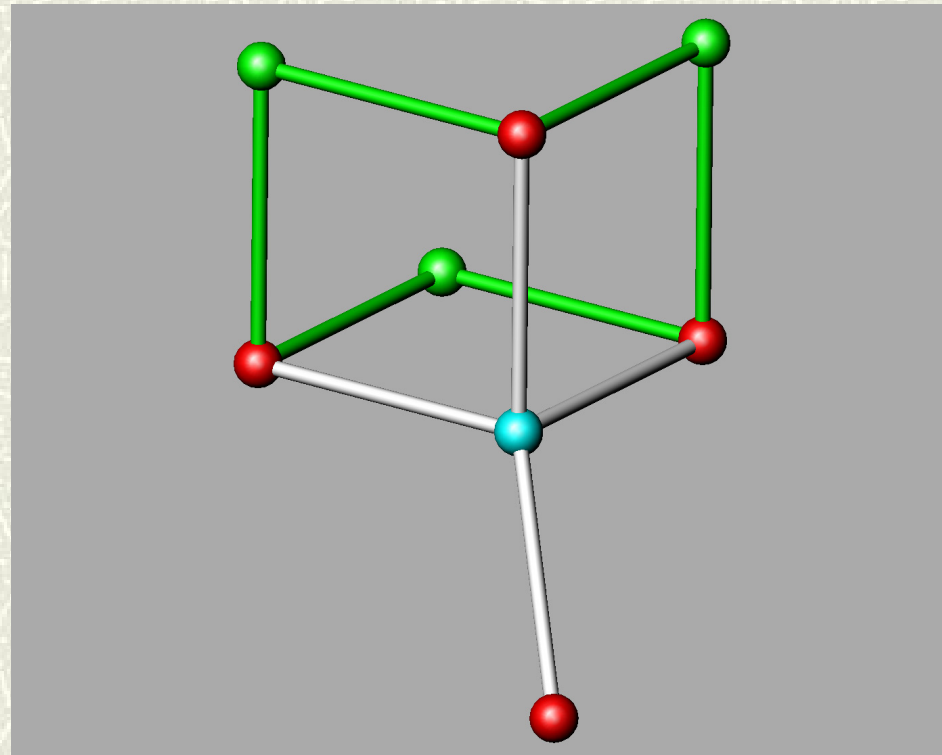
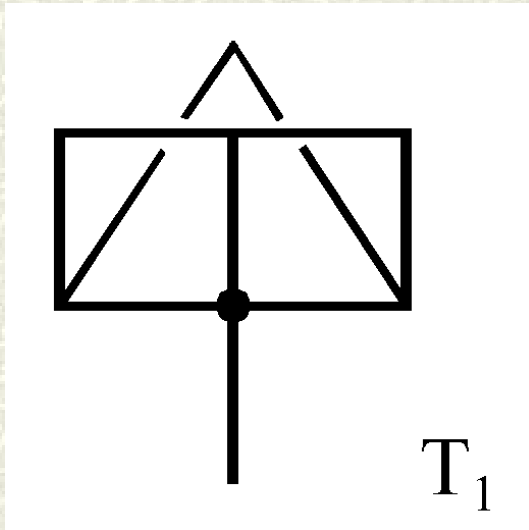
Loop Configuration of T-atoms

- # Simple graph showing how many 3- or 4-membered rings a given T-atom is involved in.
- # Can be used for classification purposes.
- # Information given is a subset of the vertex symbol.
- # Solid lines: T – O – T link.
- # Dotted lines: T – O bond found in interrupted frameworks.

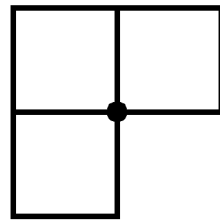


Number in () = frequency of occurrence

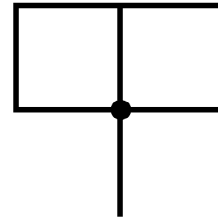
Loop Configuration of T-atom for LTA



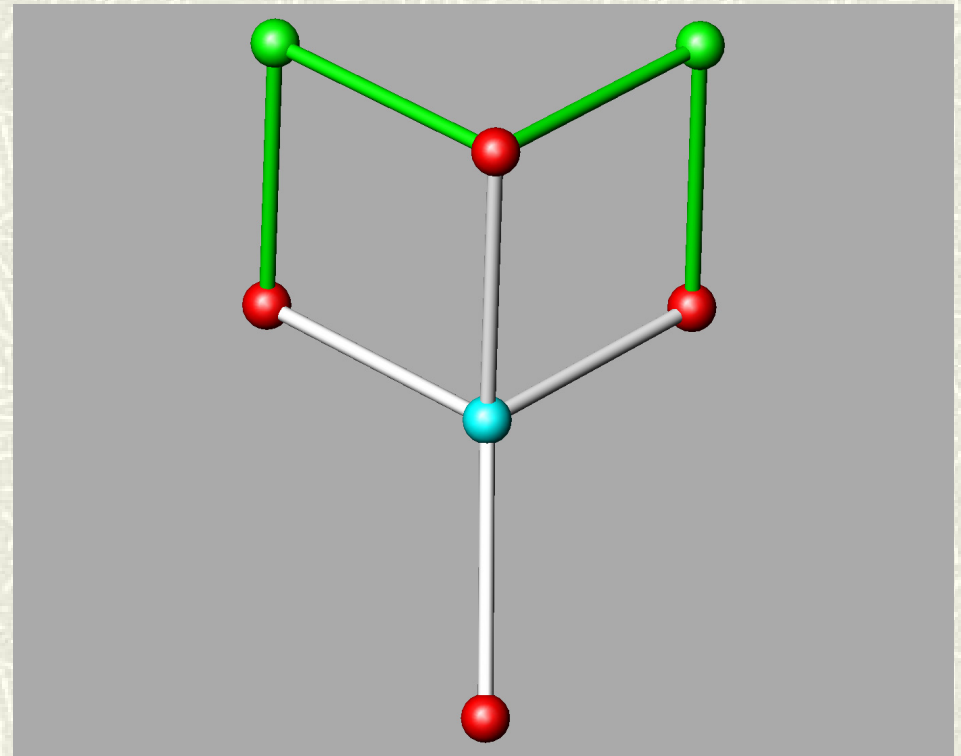
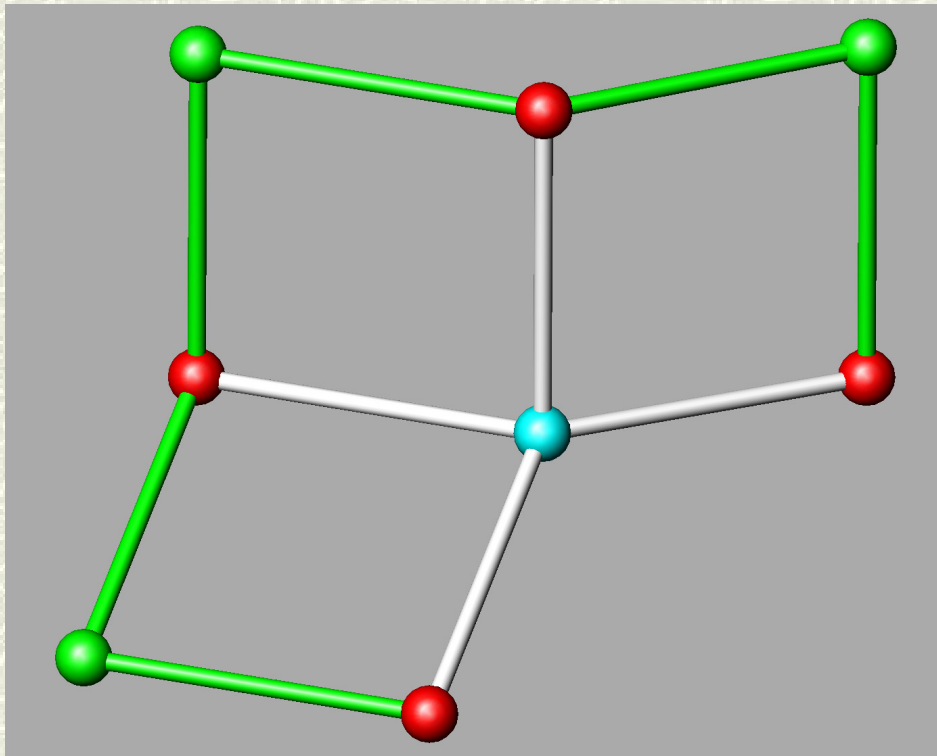
Loop Configuration of T-Atoms for LTL



T_1

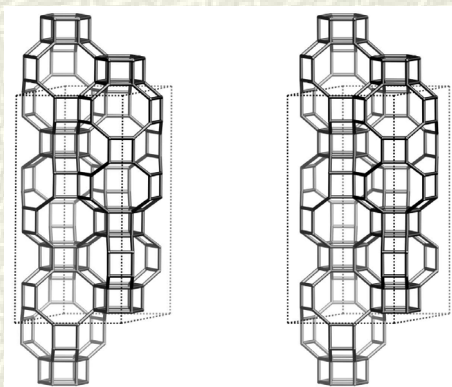


T_2



Framework Description

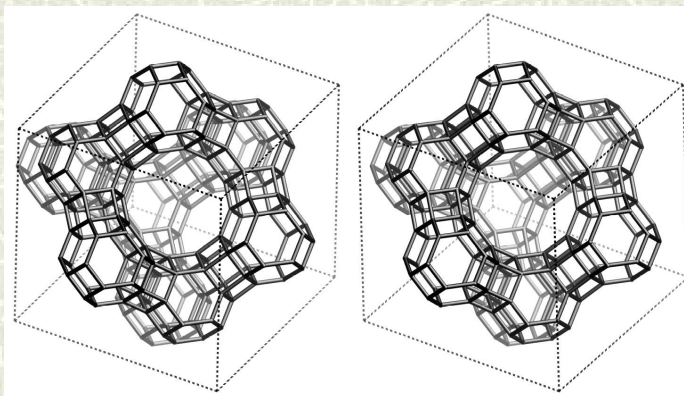
- For all 15 framework types of the so-called ABC-6-family the ABC stacking sequence is listed.



AFT

Framework description: AABBCCAACCBB sequence of 6-rings

- Listed are also some other structural relationship which are thought to be helpful.



FAU

Framework description: structural derivative of diamond and cristobalite, respectively

Isotypic Framework Structures

- # The type material, the species first used to establish the framework type, is given first and marked with an asterisk.
- # As-synthesized materials that have the same framework type but different chemical composition.
- # Materials with different laboratory code.
- # Materials obtained by post synthesis treatment (e.g. ion exchange, dealumination) are generally not included.

LTA

Isotypic framework structures:

*Linde Type A^(1,2)
[Al-Ge-O]-LTA⁽³⁾
[Ga-P-O]-LTA⁽⁴⁾
Alpha⁽⁵⁾
LZ-215⁽⁶⁾

N-A⁽⁷⁾
SAPO-42⁽⁸⁾
ZK-21⁽⁹⁾
ZK-22⁽⁹⁾
ZK-4⁽¹⁰⁾

LTL

Isotypic framework structures:

*Linde Type L⁽¹⁾
(K,Ba)-G,L⁽²⁾
Gallosilicate L^(3,4)
LZ-212⁽⁵⁾
Perlielite^(6,7)

Zeolite Type Categories and Framework Type Groups

Zeolite type categories:

- Silicates
- Phosphates

Framework type groups:

- Silicates
- Phosphates
- Both, silicates and phosphates

Silicates ^a			Both Silicates and Phosphates	Phosphates ^b	
AFG	IFR	OFF	ABW	ACO	SAO
ASV	ISV	OSO	AET	AEI	SAS
*BEA	ITE	-PAR	AFI	AEL	SAT
BIK	JBW	PAU	AFX	AEN	SAV
BOG	KFI	-RON	ANA	AFN	SBE
BRE	LIO	RSN	AST	AFO	SBS
CAS	LOV	RTE	BPH	AFR	SBT
CFI	LTN	RTH	CAN	AFS	VFI
-CHI	MAZ	RUT	CGS	AFT	WEI
CON	MEI	SFE	CHA	AFY	ZON
DAC	MEL	SFF	DFT	AHT	
DDR	MEP	SGT	EDI	APC	
DOH	MFI	STF	ERI	APD	
DON	MFS	STI	FAU	ATN	
EAB	MON	STT	GIS	ATO	
EMT	MOR	TER	LAU	ATS	
EPI	MSO	TON	LEV	ATT	
ESV	MTF	TSC	LOS	ATV	
EUO	MTN	VET	LTA	AWO	
FER	MTT	VNI	LTL	AWW	
FRA	MTW	VSV	MER	CGF	
GME	MWW	-WEN	PHI	-CLO	
GON	NAT	YUG	RHO	CZP	
GOO	NES		SOD	DFO	
HEU	NON		THO	OSI	

^a including germanates

^b including arsenates

References

- # Is not a complete list.

- # As general rule, references are given to:
 - Work to type of materials first establishing that framework type.
 - Subsequent work adding significant information regarding the framework topology.

- # References to isotypes are limited to the work in which sufficient data are provided to establish the identity.

Type Material Informations

Crystal Chemical Data

- # Composition, expressed in terms of cell contents (New IUPAC rules are used).
- # Crystal system, space group and cell parameters.
- # Relationship of the unit cell orientation with respect to the framework type, if the space group setting of the type material differs from that of the framework type.

Crystal chemical data: $[\text{Na}^+_{12} (\text{H}_2\text{O})_{27}]_8 [\text{Al}_{12}\text{Si}_{12} \text{O}_{48}]_8$ -LTA
cubic, $Fm\bar{3}c$, $a = 24.61 \text{ \AA}$ ⁽²⁾
(Relationship to unit cell of Framework Type: $a' = b' = c' = 2a$)

Crystal chemical data: $[\text{K}^+_6\text{Na}^+_3 (\text{H}_2\text{O})_{21}] [\text{Al}_9\text{Si}_{27} \text{O}_{72}]$ -LTL
hexagonal, $P6/mmm$, $a = 18.40 \text{ \AA}$, $c = 7.52 \text{ \AA}$ ⁽²⁾

Framework Density (FD)

- # The framework density is a simple criterion for distinguishing zeolites and zeolite-like materials from denser materials.
- # Definition:
$$\frac{\text{Number of T-Atoms}}{1000 \text{ \AA}^3}$$
- # Non-zeolitic, denser framework structures: $FD > 21$.
- # Zeolite with fully crosslinked frameworks: $FD = 12.1 - 20.6$.
- # FD's less than 12 have only been encountered for the interrupted framework of cloverite (-CLO).
- # The FD is obviously related to the pore volume but does not reflect the size of the pore openings.

FD vs. Smallest Ring in Loop Configuration

The + sign indicates that there are some T-positions associated with only larger rings

LTA

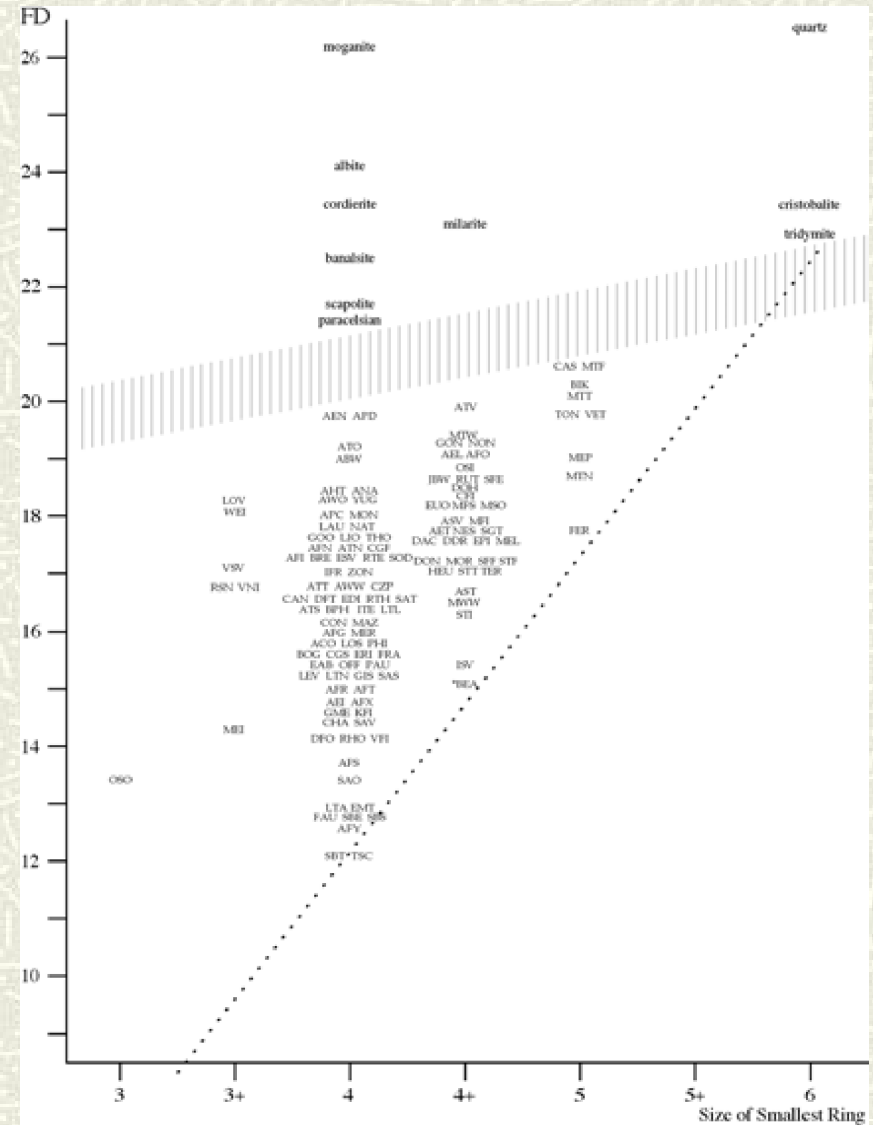
- Smallest ring size: 4
- FD = 12.9

LTL

- Smallest ring size: 4
- FD = 16.3

MFI

- Smallest ring size: 4+
- FD = 17.9



Channels

Short notation for description of channels

- # Channel direction, relative to the axis of the type material structure:
 - $\langle . . . \rangle$: All symmetry related directions.
 - $[. . .]$: Only given direction.
 - $\perp [. . .]$: Channel direction is at right angle to the given direction.

- # Number of T-atoms forming the ring (in bold type).

- # Free diameters of the channels in Å.

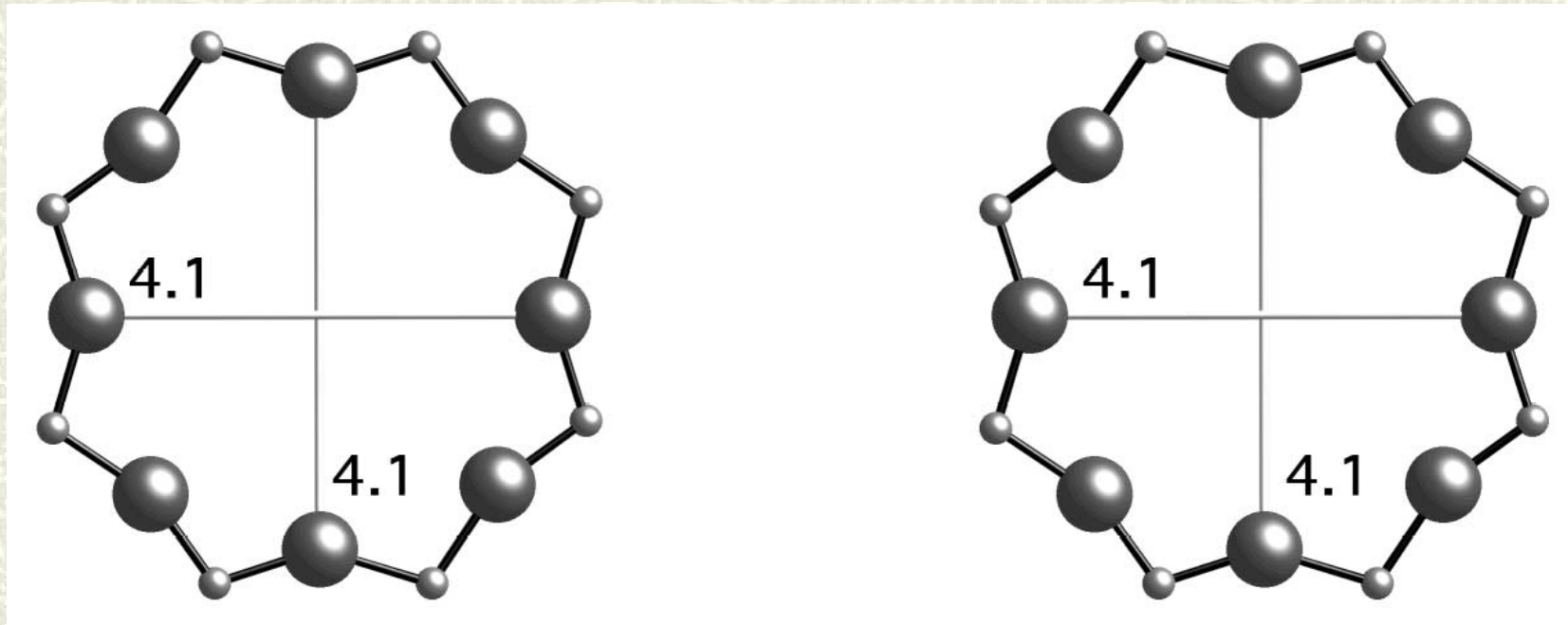
- # Number of asterisks (*): Channel is one- two- or three-dimensional.

- # Double arrow (\leftrightarrow): Interconnecting channel systems.

- # A vertical bar (|): No direct access from one channel system to the other.

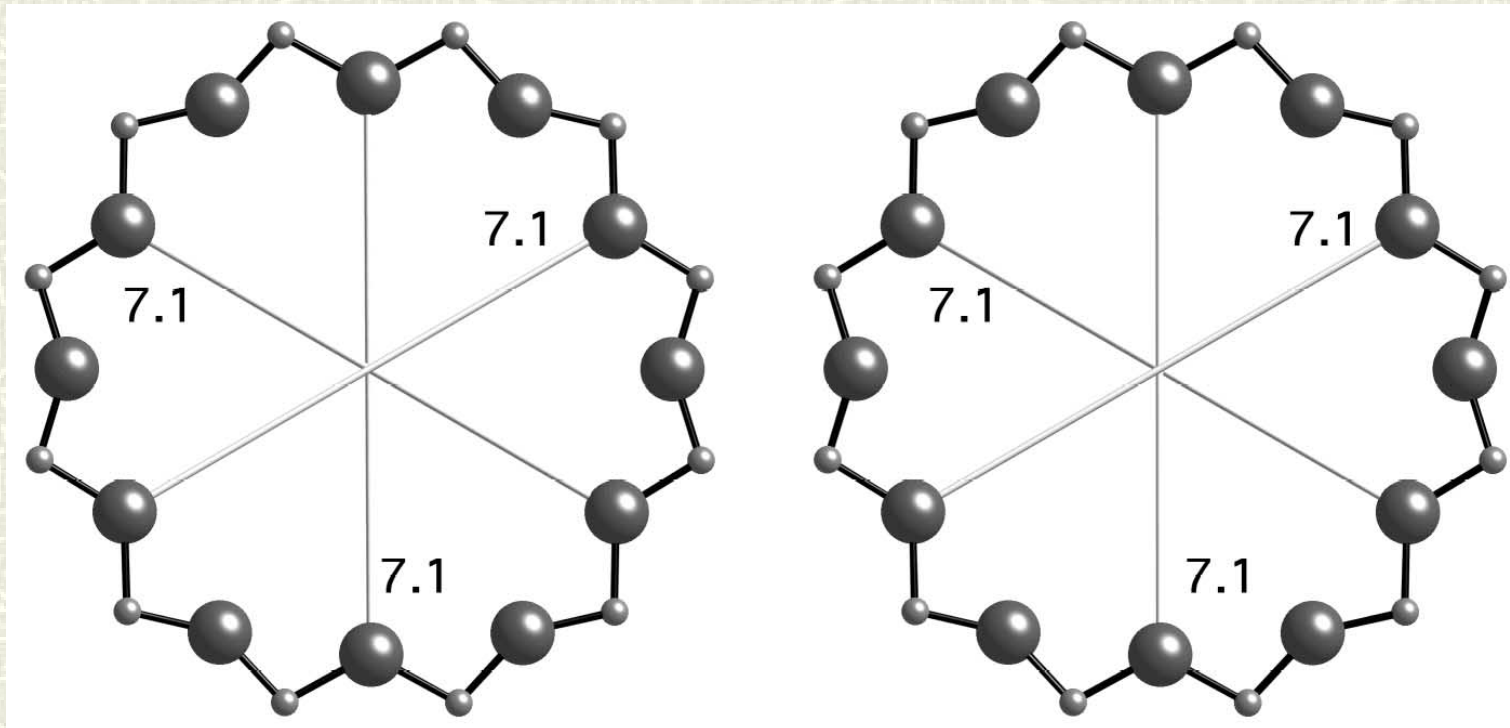
LTA: Channel

$\langle 1\ 0\ 0 \rangle$ **8** 4.1 x 4.1 ***



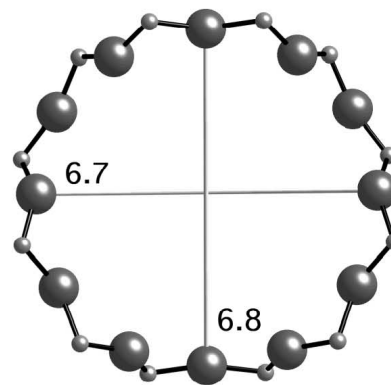
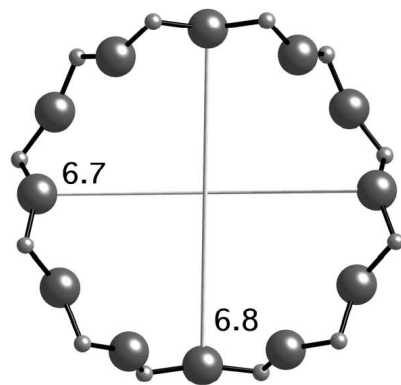
LTL: Channel

$[0\ 0\ 1]$ **12** 7.1 x 7.1 *

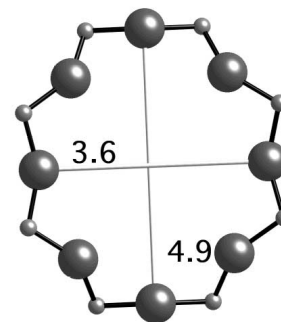
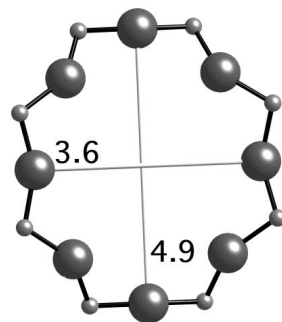


OFF (Offretite): Channels

$$[0\ 0\ 1] \mathbf{12\ 6.7\ x\ 6.8}^* \leftrightarrow \perp [0\ 0\ 1] \mathbf{8\ 3.6\ x\ 4.9}^{**}$$



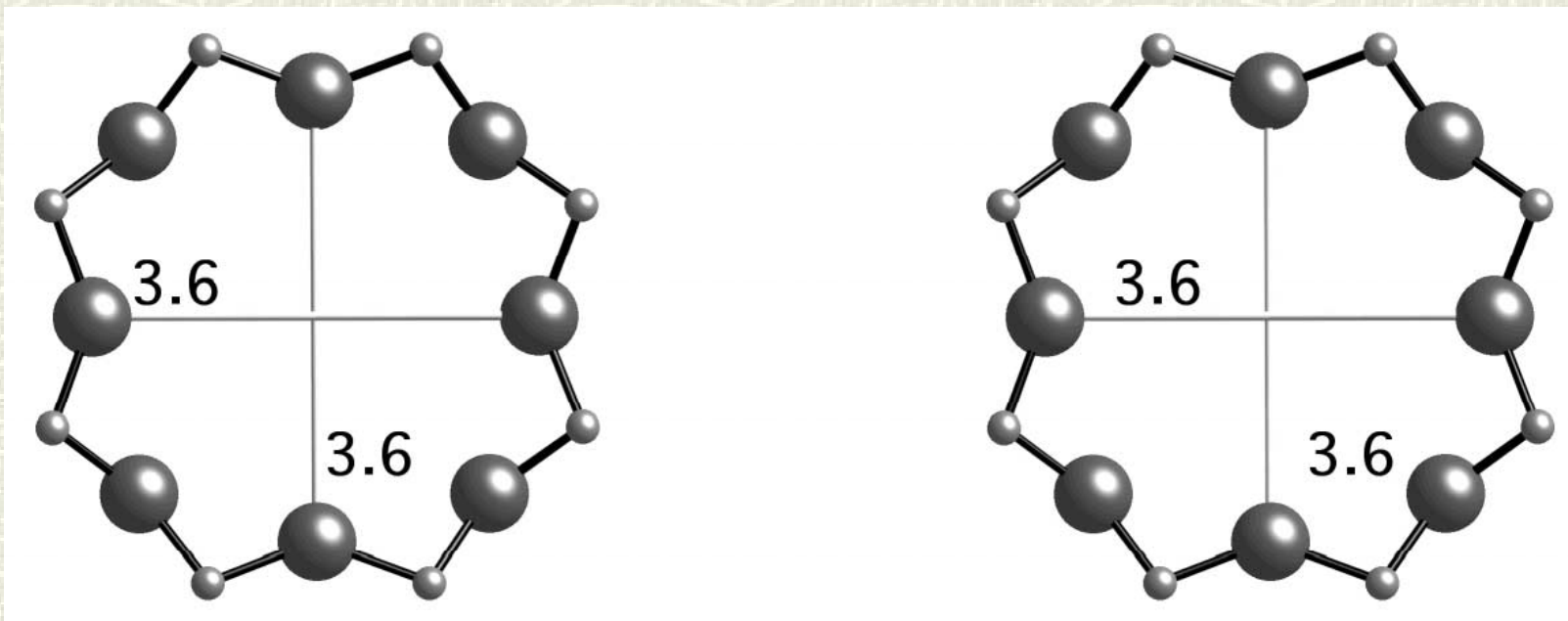
12-ring viewed along [001]



8-ring viewed normal to [001]

RHO (Zeolite Rho): Channels

$\langle 100 \rangle$ 8 3.6 x 3.6 *** | $\langle 100 \rangle$ 8 3.6 x 3.6 ***





How to Build Zeolites

Building Units

- # Zeolite frameworks can be thought to consist of **finite** and **infinite** component units.

- # Finite units introduced are:
 - **Secondary Building Unit (SBU)**
 - **Structural Sub-Unit (SSU)**

- # Infinite units can be build up by different finite building units:
 - **Periodic Building Unit (PBU)**

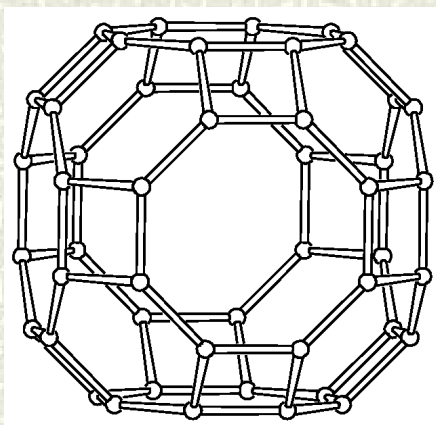
- # Component units, finite or infinite, are used to build the framework using translation, rotation, or mirroring.

- # Building units are common to several framework types and allow an easy description of the framework.

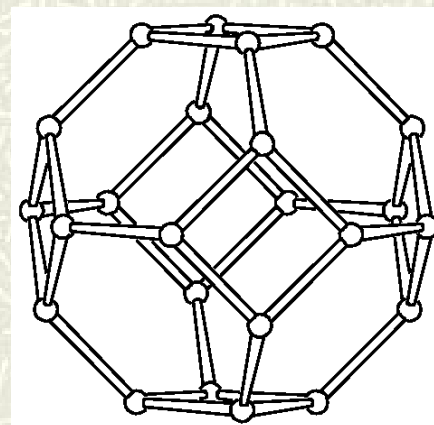
Structural Sub-Unit (SSU)

- SSU have greater complexity than SBU, e.g. polyhedral cages.

α -cage (48 T-atoms)



β -cage or sodalite cage (24 T-atoms)

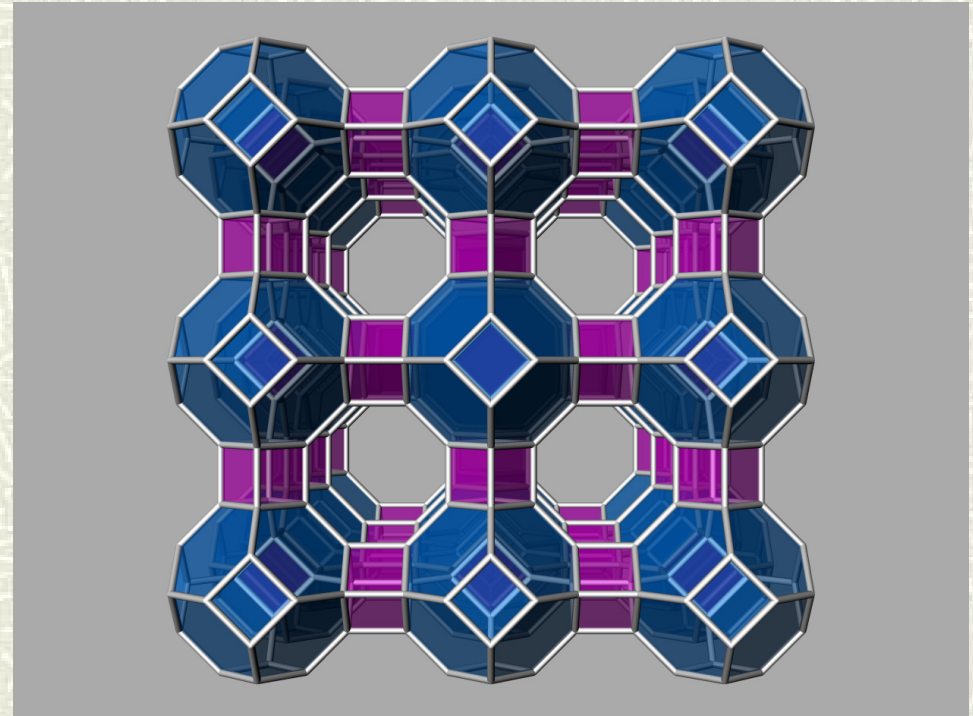
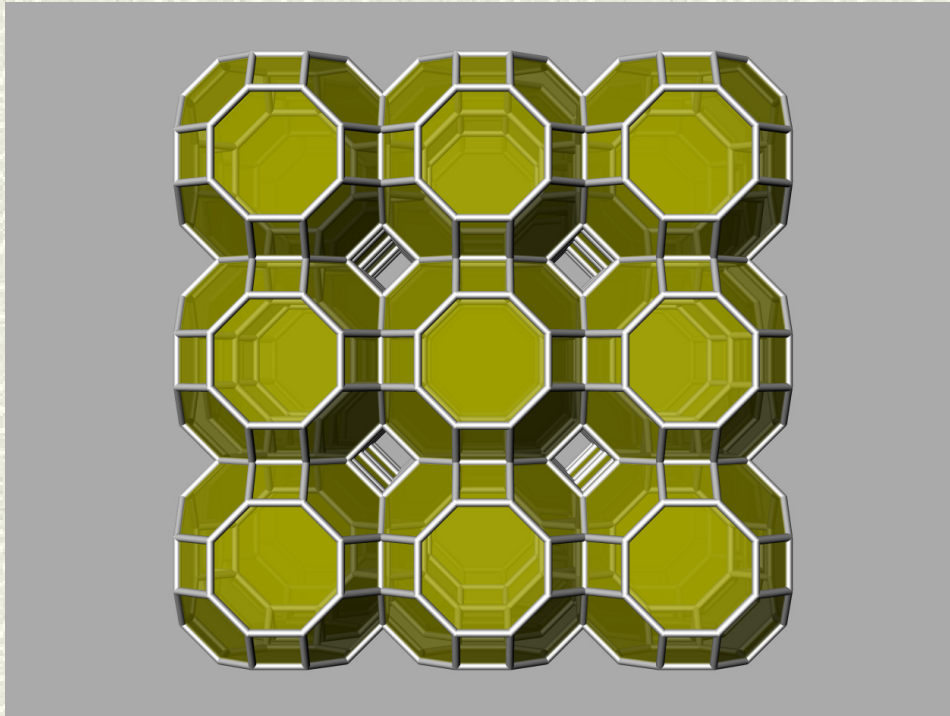


- SSU are not SBU because very often the framework can not be constructed from SSU alone.
- Frequently, SSU need to share corners, edges or faces to complete the framework.

Structural Sub-Unit for LTA

α -cage

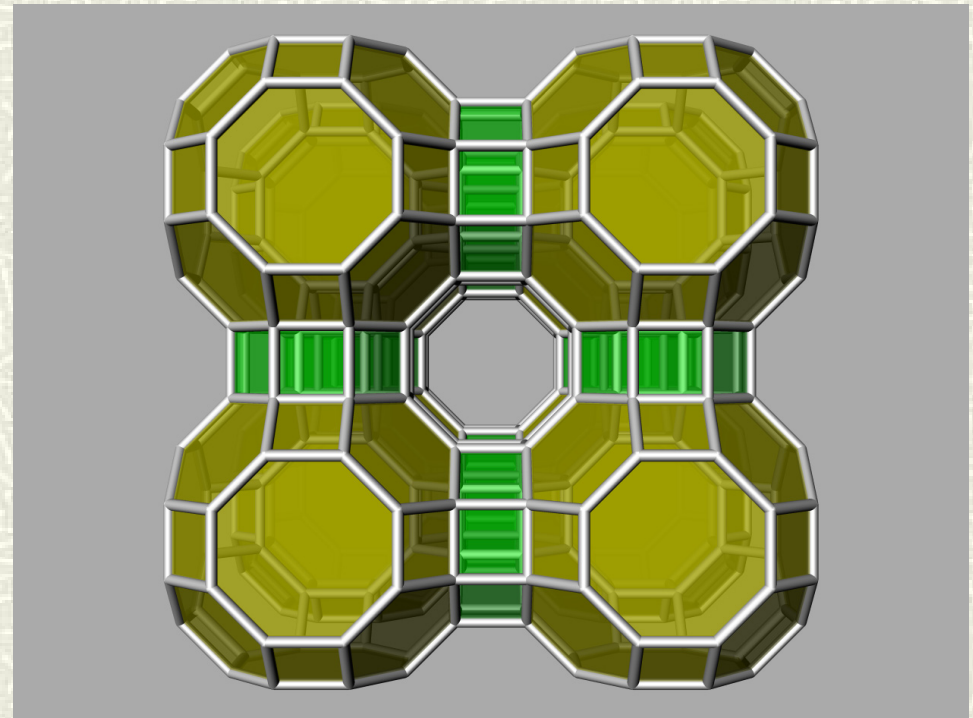
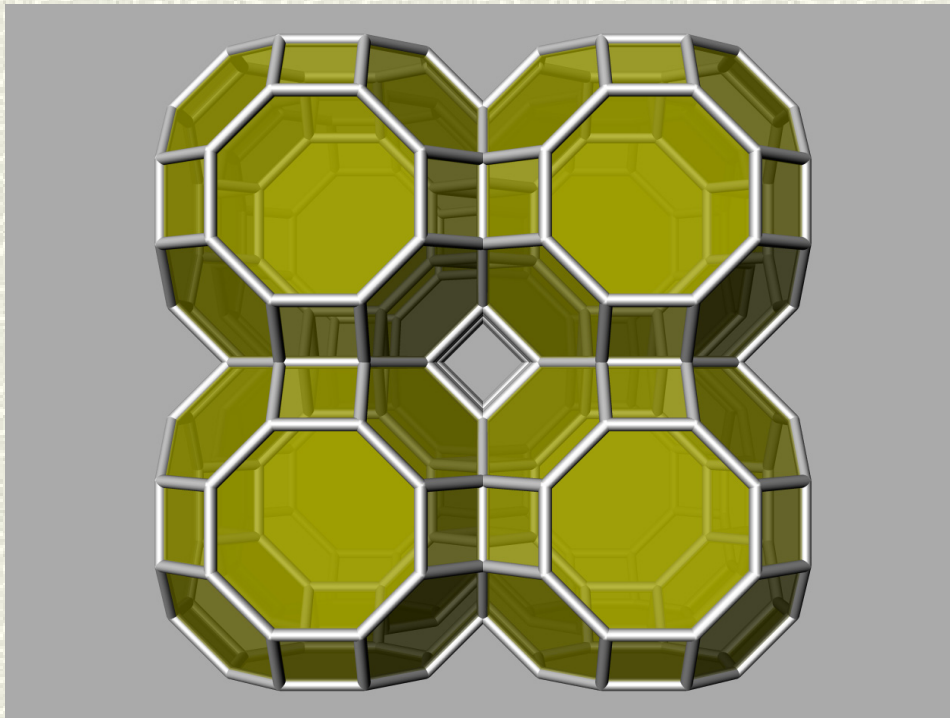
β -cage



Structural Sub-Unit for LTA and RHO

LTA

RHO

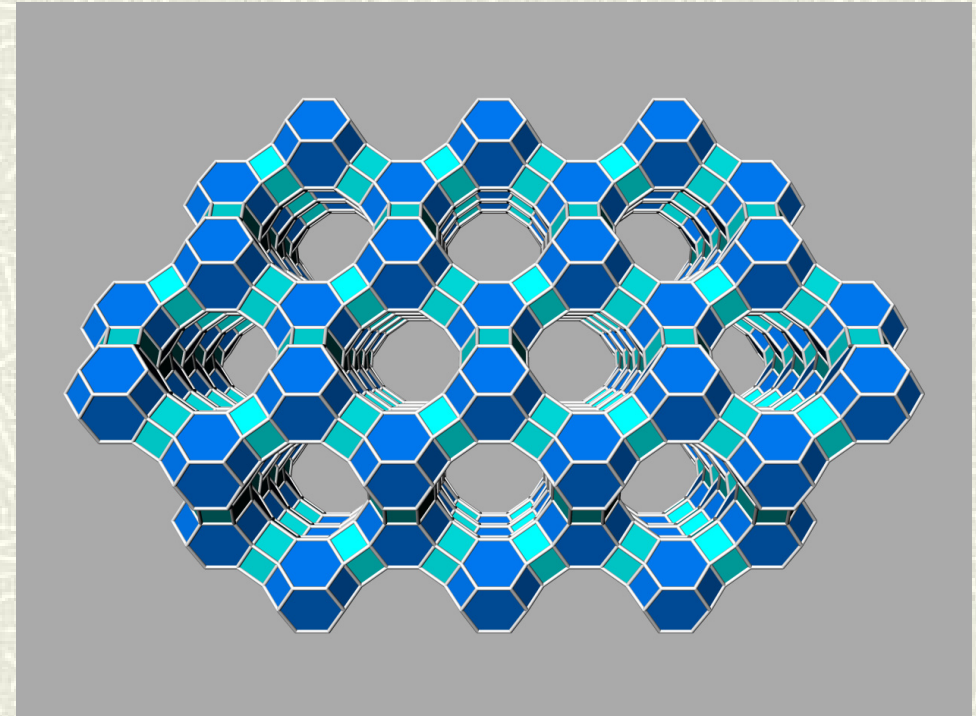
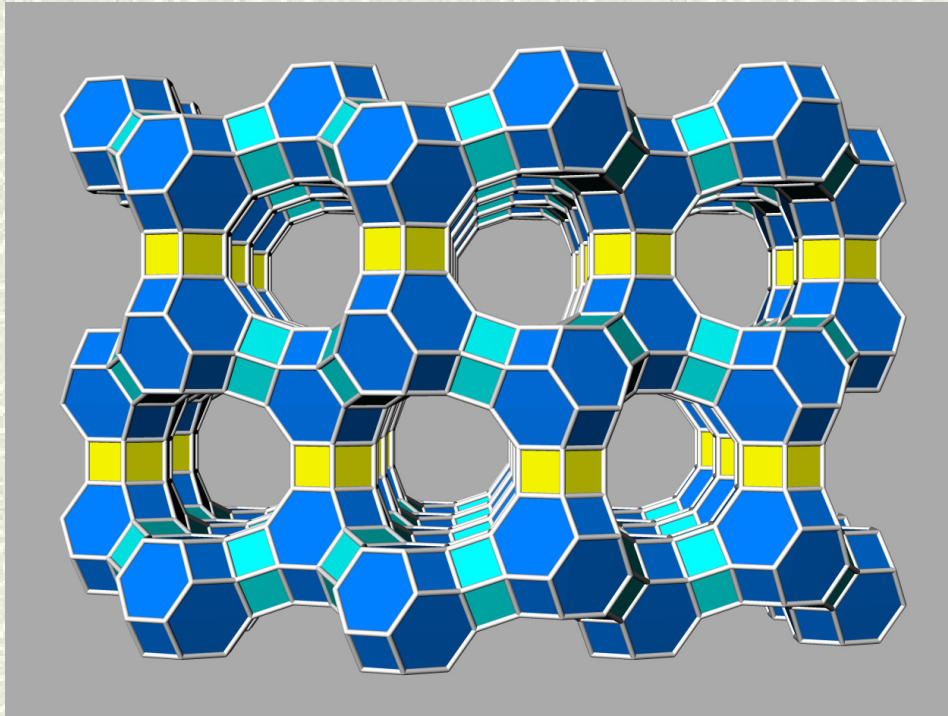


PBU: Framework of EMT and FAU

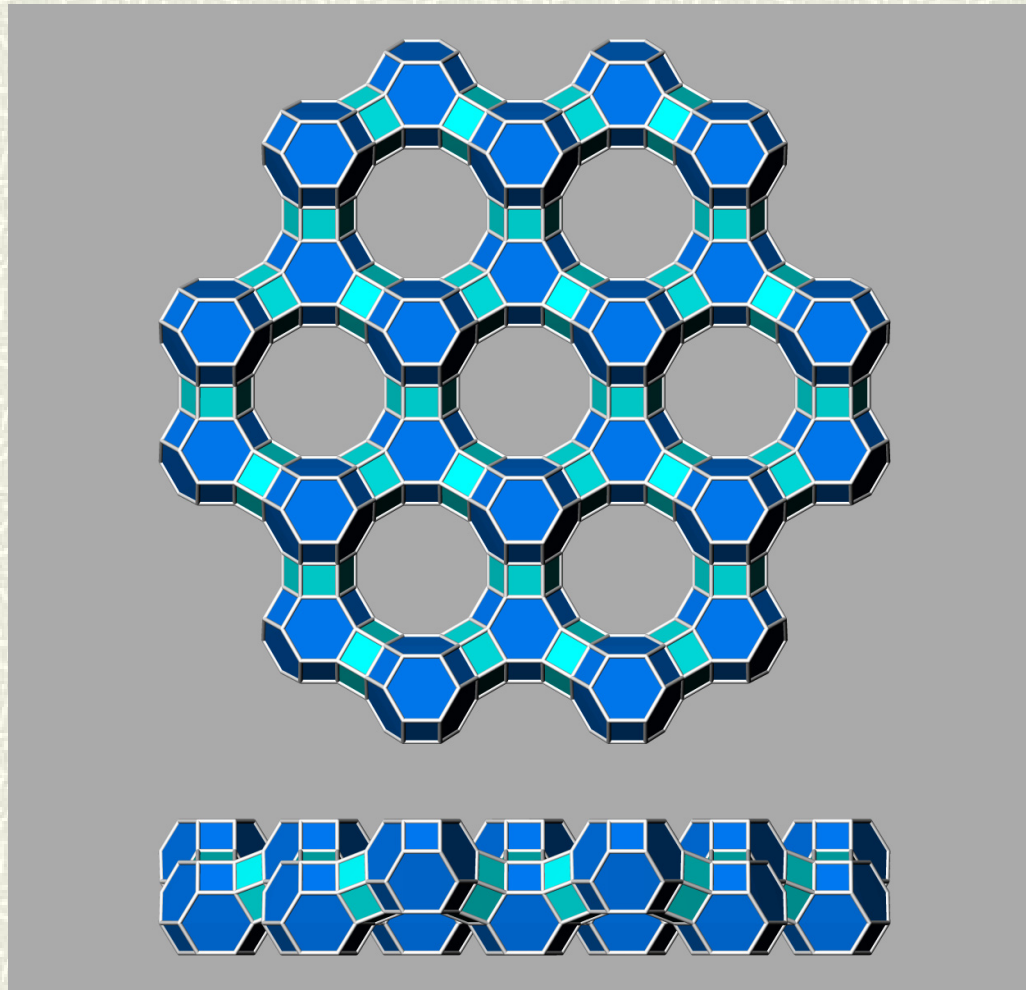
EMT

View along $[1\ 1\ 0]$

FAU

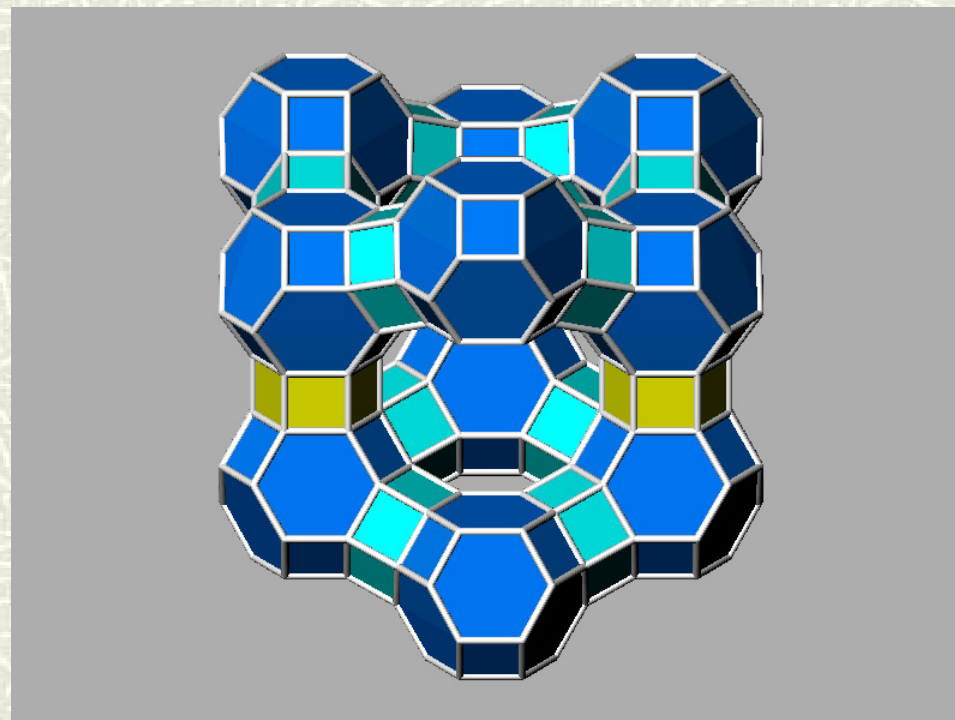
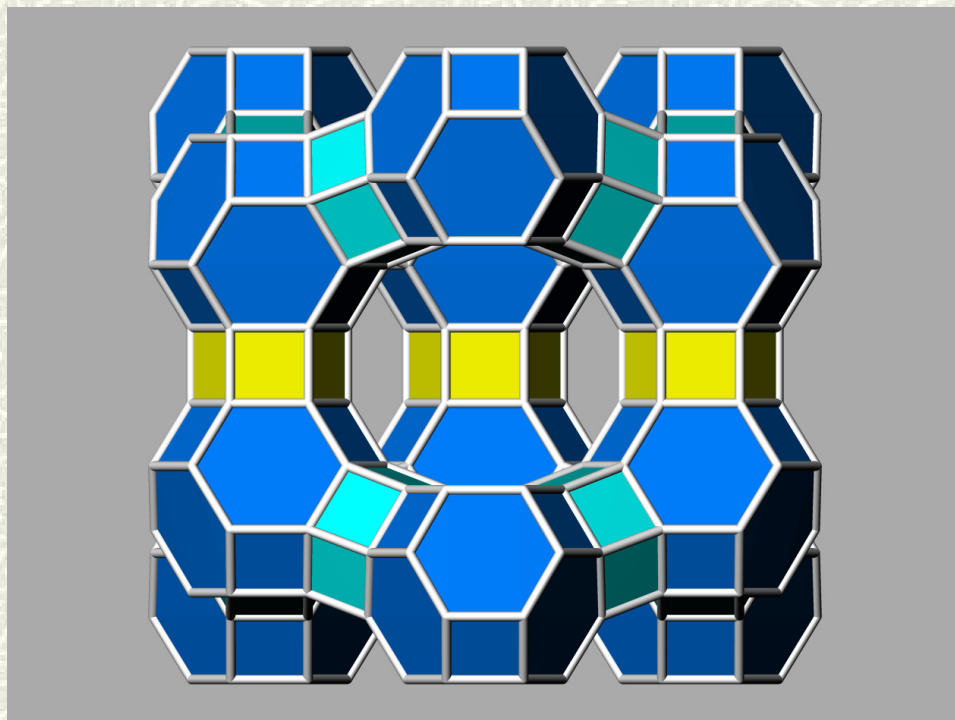


Periodic Building Unit for EMT and FAU



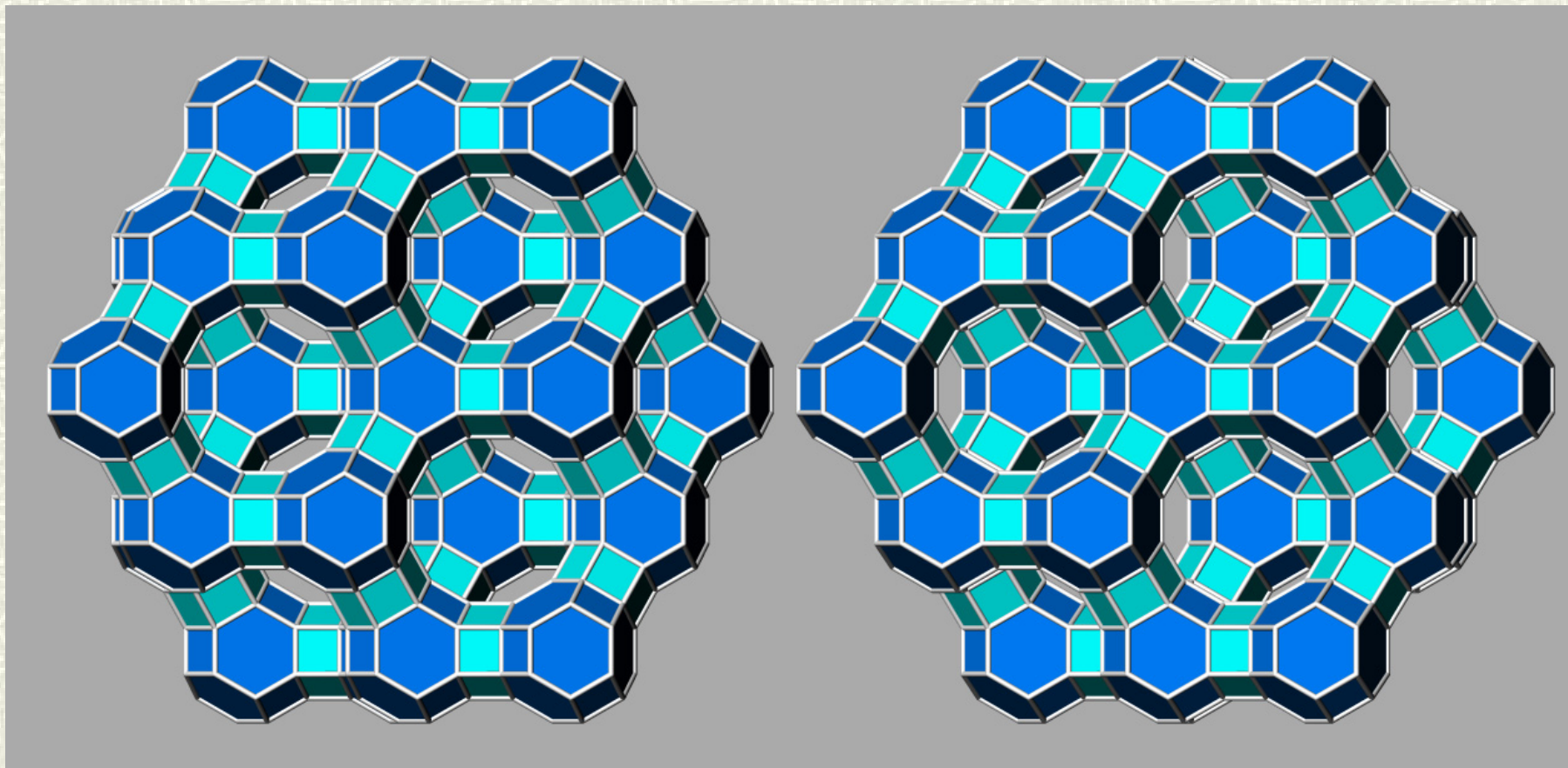
PBU: Framework of EMT

Mirror symmetry between successive layers

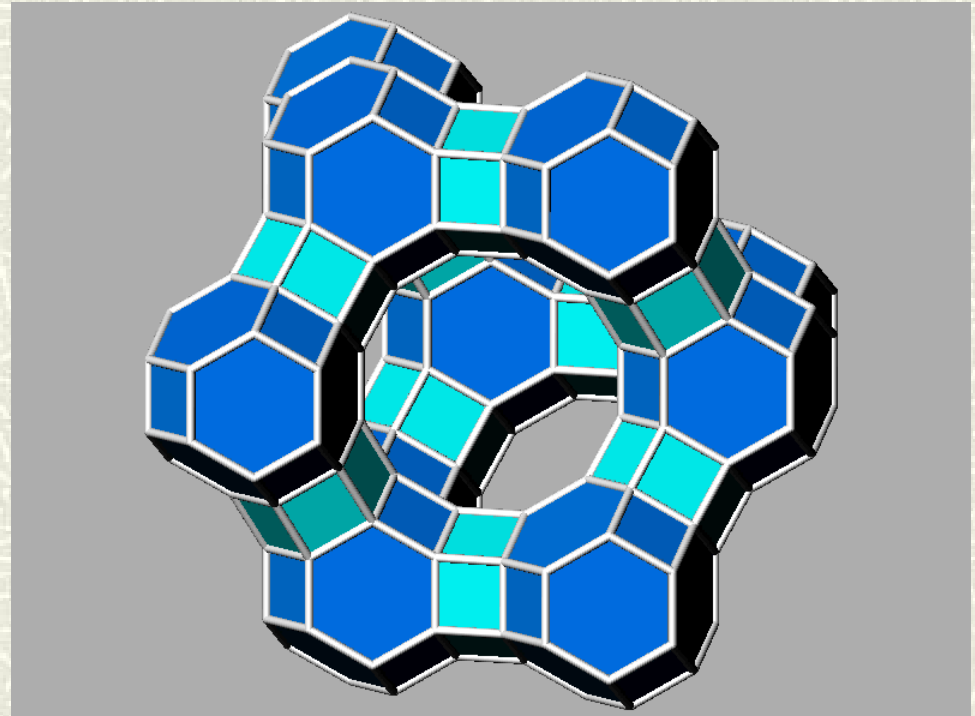
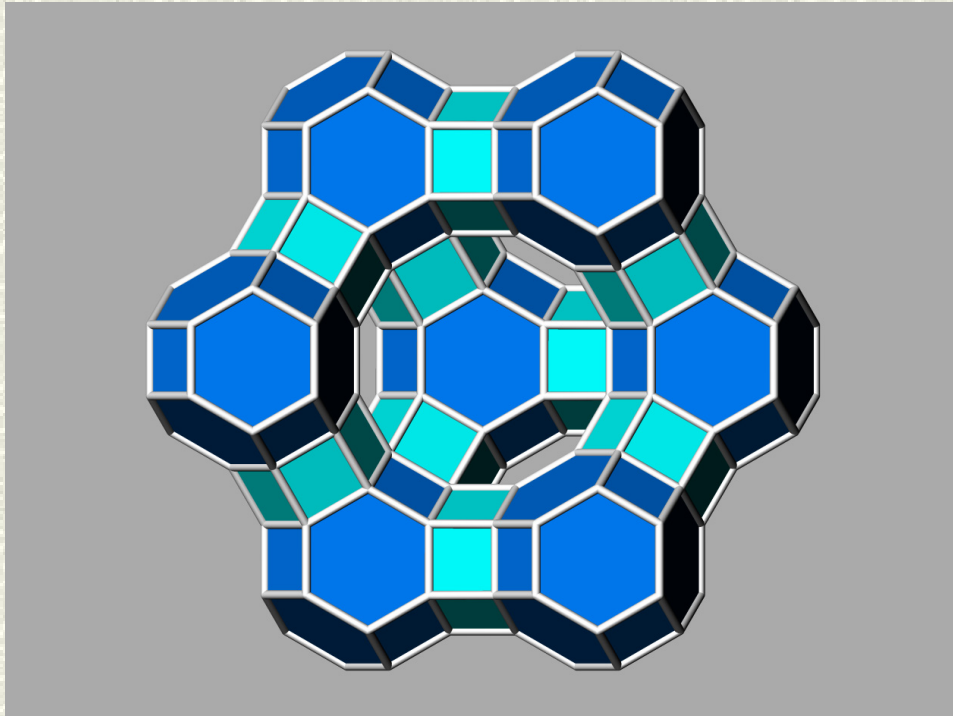


PBU: Framework of FAU

Inversion symmetry between successive layers



PBU: Super Cage of FAU



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