

Electronic Supplementary Information

**An Antimony (III) Borate with Large Birefringence Exhibiting
Unwonted [B₅O₁₁] Fundamental Building Block and Dimeric
[Sb₂O₆] Cluster**

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Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinement for SbB₅O₉.

Empirical formula	SbB ₅ O ₉
Temperature	296.15 K
Crystal system, space group	Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$
Unit cell dimensions (Å)	$a = 4.3535(4)$ $b = 26.18(2)$ $\beta = 113.526(5)$ $c = 6.6465(6)$
Volume (Å ³)	694.57(11)
Z, Calculated density (g/cm ³)	4, 3.058
Absorption coefficient(mm ⁻¹)	4.000
$F(000)$	592
Theta range for data collection(°)	3.113 - 25.242
Limiting indices	$-5 \leq h \leq 5$, $-31 \leq k \leq 34$, $-8 \leq l \leq 8$
Reflections collected / unique	8877 / 1597 [$R(\text{int}) = 0.0556$]
Completeness to theta	99.90%
Goodness-of-fit on F^2	1.110
Final R indices [$F_o^2 > 2\sigma(F_c^2)$] ^a	$R_1 = 0.0244$, $wR_2 = 0.0495$
R indices (all data) ^a	$R_1 = 0.0319$, $wR_2 = 0.0513$
Largest diff. peak and hole (e·Å ⁻³)	0.553 and - 0.733

^a $R_1 = \Sigma||F_o| - |F_c||/\Sigma|F_o|$ and $wR_2 = [\Sigma w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2/\Sigma wF_o^4]^{1/2}$ for $F_o^2 > 2\sigma(F_o^2)$.

Table S2. Atomic coordinates ($\times 10^4$), equivalent isotropic displacement parameters ($\text{\AA}^2 \times 10^3$) and bond valence sum (BVS) calculations for SbB_5O_9 . $U(\text{eq})$ is defined as one third of the trace of the orthogonalized U_{ij} tensor.

Atoms	x	y	z	$U(\text{eq})$	BVS
Sb(1)	-1867(1)	-559(1)	13937(1)	8(1)	2.83
B(1)	854(11)	-564(2)	10315(7)	8(1)	3.04
B(2)	4533(10)	-577(2)	8146(6)	9(1)	3.07
B(3)	4668(12)	-1530(2)	7579(7)	12(1)	3.04
B(4)	9185(12)	-2086(2)	9577(8)	16(1)	3.06
B(5)	4098(12)	-2430(2)	6998(8)	15(1)	3.07
O(1)	1110(7)	-634(1)	12400(4)	12(1)	2.09
O(2)	3970(6)	-548(1)	10179(4)	9(1)	1.99
O(3)	-1997(6)	-492(1)	8523(4)	10(1)	1.88
O(4)	2395(6)	-209(1)	6453(4)	8(1)	2.21
O(5)	3276(7)	-1069(1)	7054(4)	11(1)	1.87
O(6)	7862(7)	-1604(1)	9116(5)	18(1)	2.00
O(7)	12377(7)	-2141(1)	11031(5)	20(1)	2.09
O(8)	2764(7)	-1951(1)	6493(4)	18(1)	1.95
O(9)	7279(7)	-2499(1)	8513(5)	22(1)	2.02

Table S3. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) for SbB₅O₉.

Sb(1)-O(1)	1.954(2)	B(2)-O(5)	1.472(5)
Sb(1)-O(2)#2	2.431(2)	B(3)-O(5)	1.333(5)
Sb(1)-O(4)#3	2.030(2)	B(3)-O(6)	1.372(5)
Sb(1)-O(4)#4	2.145(2)	B(3)-O(8)	1.396(5)
B(1)-O(1)	1.358(4)	B(4)-O(6)	1.370(5)
B(1)-O(2)	1.396(5)	B(4)-O(7)	1.347(5)
B(1)-O(3)	1.347(5)	B(4)-O(9)	1.374(5)
B(2)-O(2)	1.468(4)	B(5)#5-O(7)	1.361(5)
B(2)#2-O(3)	1.446(5)	B(5)-O(8)	1.365(5)
B(2)-O(4)	1.491(5)	B(5)-O(9)	1.360(5)
O(1)-Sb(1)-O(2)#2	80.93(10)	O(3)#6-B(2)-O(4)	109.0(3)
O(1)-Sb(1)-O(4)#3	95.56(10)	O(3)#6-B(2)-O(5)	112.1(3)
O(1)-Sb(1)-O(4)#4	84.39(10)	O(5)-B(2)-O(4)	101.3(3)
O(4)#3-Sb(1)-O(2)#2	81.77(9)	O(5)-B(3)-O(6)	122.9(4)
O(4)#4-Sb(1)-O(2)#2	148.61(8)	O(5)-B(3)-O(8)	117.8(4)
O(4)#3-Sb(1)-O(4)#4	72.20(11)	O(6)-B(3)-O(8)	119.3(3)
O(1)-B(1)-O(2)	112.6(3)	O(6)-B(4)-O(9)	119.7(4)
O(2)-B(2)-O(4)	112.2(3)	O(7)-B(4)-O(6)	118.7(4)
O(2)-B(2)-O(5)	109.4(3)	O(7)-B(4)-O(9)	121.6(4)
O(3)-B(1)-O(1)	126.3(3)	O(7)#8-B(5)-O(8)	122.8(4)
O(3)-B(1)-O(2)	121.0(3)	O(9)-B(5)-O(7)#8	116.4(3)
O(3)#6-B(2)-O(2)	112.3(3)	O(9)-B(5)-O(8)	120.8(4)

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms:

#1 -x,-y,-z+3

#2 x-1,y,z

#3 -x,-y,-z+2

#4 x,y,z+1

#5 x+1,-y-1/2,z+1/2

#6 x+1,y,z

#7 x,y,z-1

#8 x-1,-y-1/2,z-1/2

Table S4. The antimony borates.

	Formula	Space group	Band gap (eV)		Sb-O framework	Ref.
			<i>Cal.</i>	<i>Exp.</i>		
Sb III	SbB ₅ O ₉ *	<i>P2₁/c</i>	4.10	4.66	Dimeric [Sb ₂ O ₆] cluster	
	SbB ₃ O ₆	<i>Cc</i>	4.08	3.95	Isolated SbO ₄	1
	Na ₂ SbB ₃ O ₈	<i>P2₁/c</i>	4.22	3.89	Isolated SbO ₆	2
	K ₂ SbB ₃ O ₈	<i>P2₁/c</i>	4.18	3.69	Isolated SbO ₆	2
	Rb ₂ SbB ₃ O ₈	<i>P2₁/c</i>	4.21	4.82	Isolated SbO ₆	2
	KSbB ₂ O ₆	<i>Cc</i>	3.61	3.63	Corner-sharing SbO ₆	3
	BaSb ₂ B ₄ O ₁₂	<i>C2/c</i>	3.94	4.26	Corner-sharing SbO ₆	3
	SmSb ₂ BO ₈	<i>Pnma</i>	/	3.54	Corner-sharing SbO ₆	4
	EuSb ₂ BO ₈	<i>Pnma</i>	/	3.46	Corner-sharing SbO ₆	4
	GdSb ₂ BO ₈	<i>Pnma</i>	/	3.48	Corner-sharing SbO ₆	4
Sb V	TbSb ₂ BO ₈	<i>Pnma</i>	/	3.53	Corner-sharing SbO ₆	4
	β -RbSbB ₂ O ₆	<i>Cc</i>	3.639	/	Corner-sharing SbO ₆	2
	K ₃ Sb ₄ BO ₁₃	<i>P$\bar{1}$</i>	/	/	Corner-sharing SbO ₆	5

* represents the work

Note: the above compounds are all derived from the Inorganic Crystal Structure Database (ICSD), and the antimony inorganic borates except for disorder and obvious errors are listed in the statistical data.

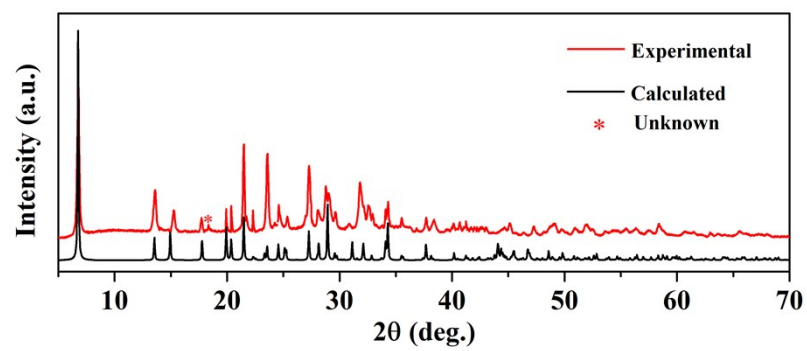


Figure S1. Experimental and calculated XRD patterns of SbB_5O_9 .

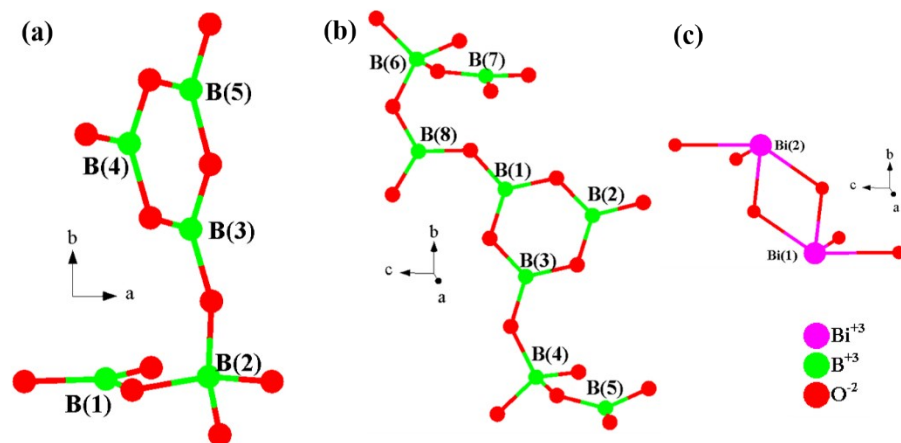


Figure S2. The fundamental building block (a) $[B_5O_{11}]$ of SbB_5O_9 and (b) $[B_8O_{18}]$ of $Bi_2B_8O_{15}$; (c) The $[Bi_2O_6]$ dimeric cluster.

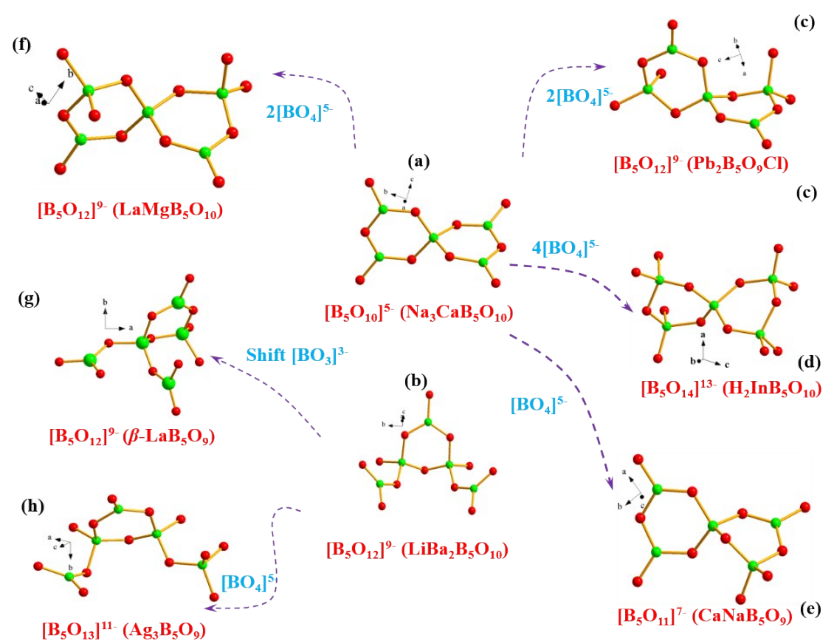


Figure S3. The fundamental building blocks $[B_5O_n]$ ($n=10, 11, 12, 13, 14$) from different borates.

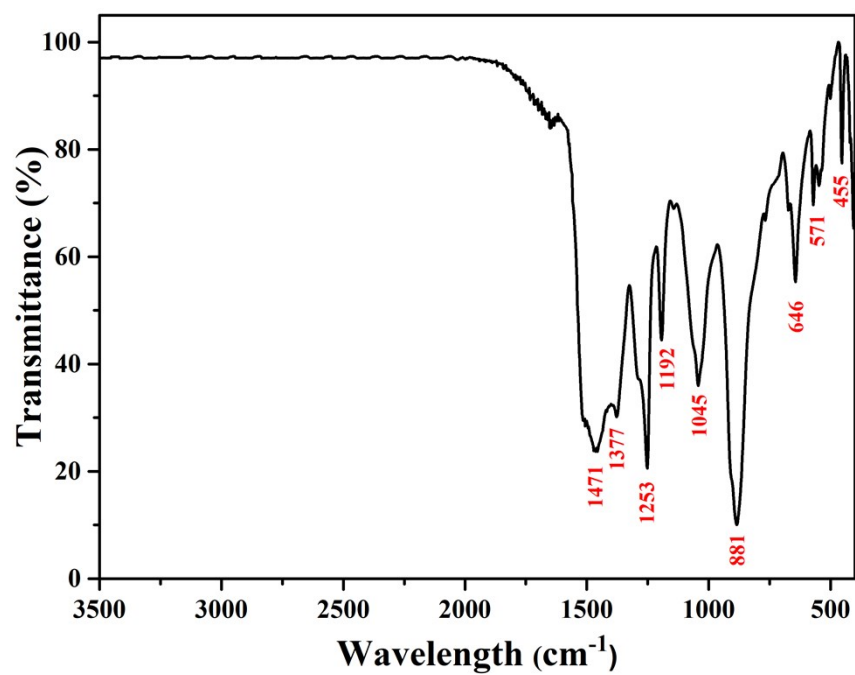


Figure S4. The IR spectrum of SbB₅O₉.

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