

## Supporting information

# Self-flux grown $\text{Ba}_4\text{Fe}_4\text{ClO}_{9.5-x}$ crystals exhibiting structures with tuneable modulation

Alla Arakcheeva,<sup>\*a,b</sup> Wen Hua Bi,<sup>a</sup> Priya Ranjan Baral<sup>a</sup> and Arnaud Magrez<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Crystal Growth Facility, IPHYS SB, EPFL, Lausanne 1015, Switzerland; arnaud.magrez@epfl.ch.

<sup>b</sup> Phase Solutions Co Ltd, ch. des Mesanges 7, Lausanne 1012,

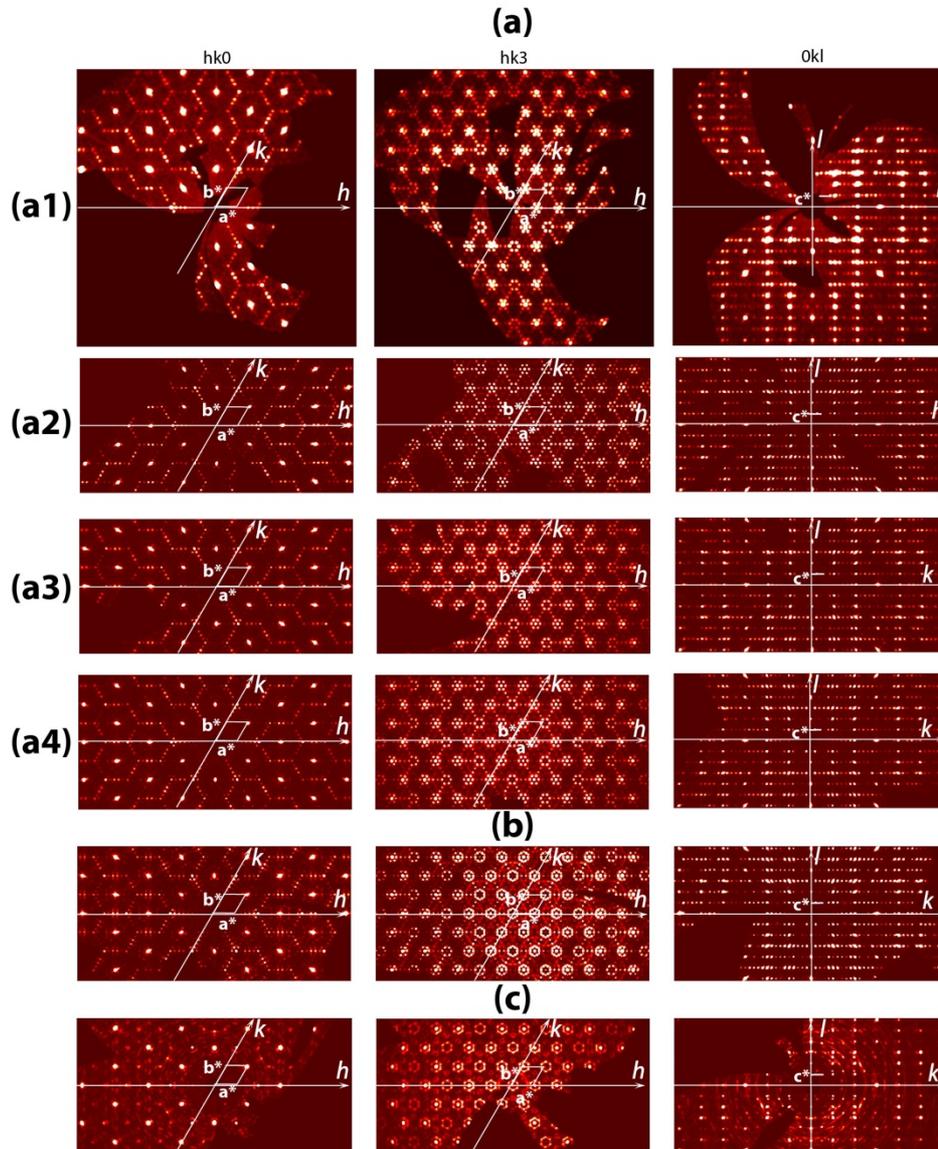
Switzerland;

Corresponding email: alla.arakcheeva@epfl.ch

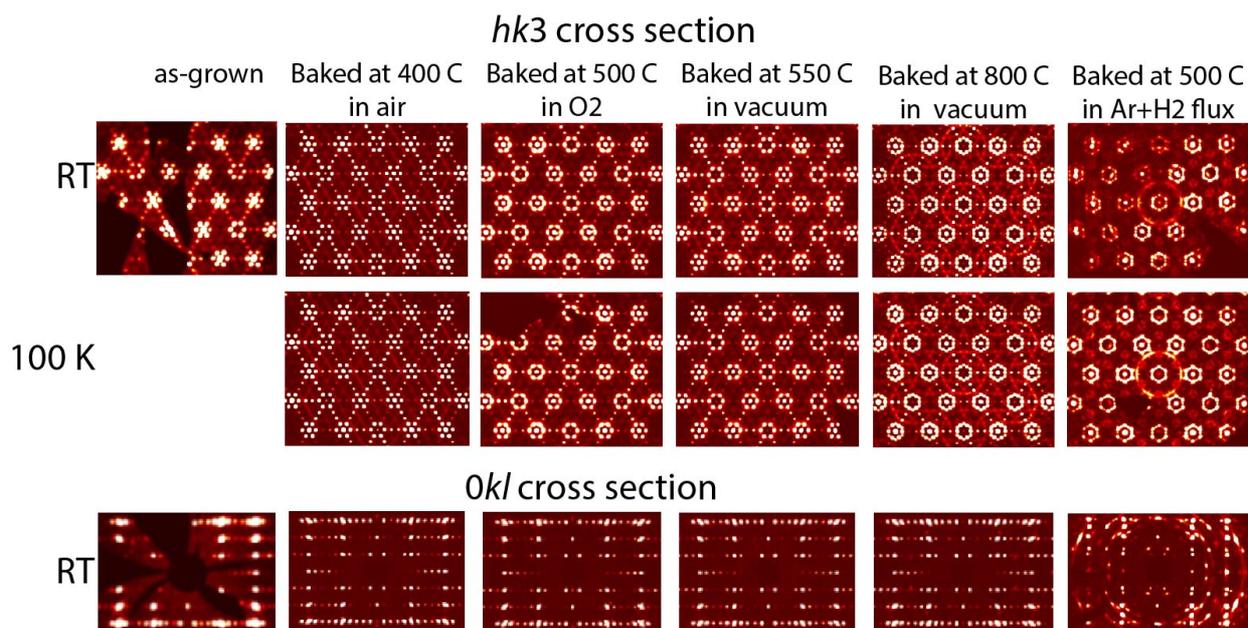
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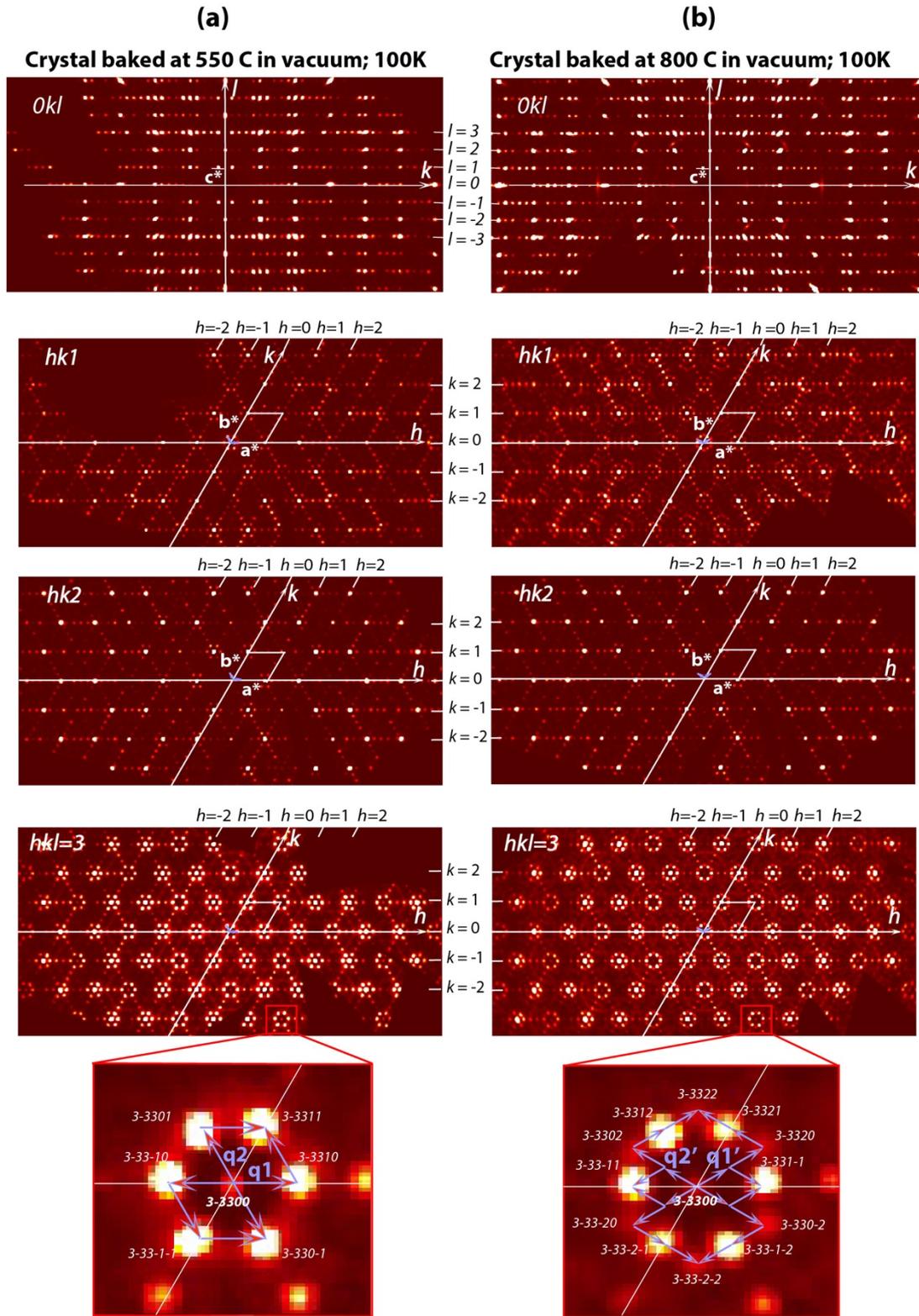
## Reconstruction of the reciprocal space cross sections



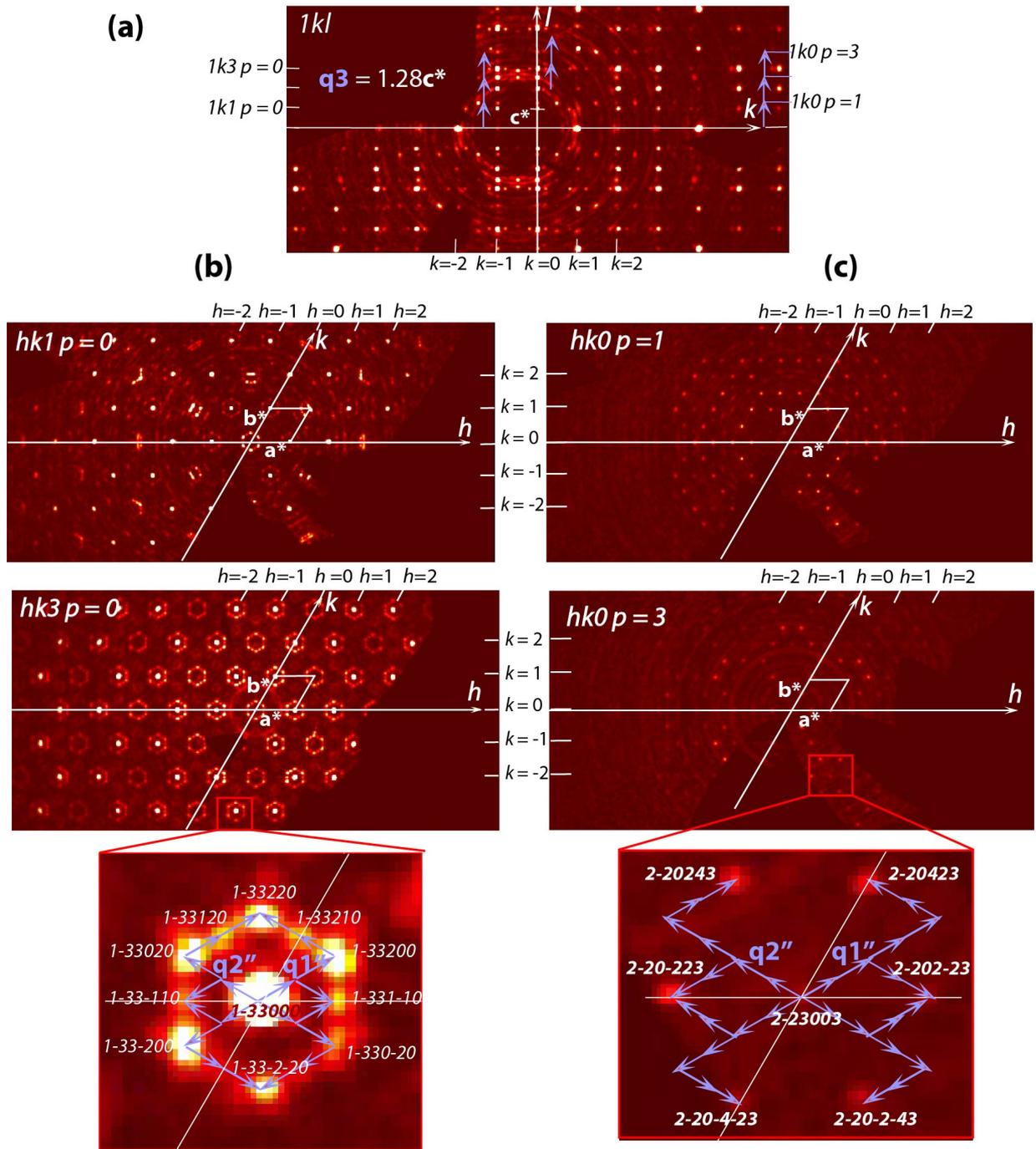
**Figure S1.** Representative cross sections of the reciprocal space reconstruction for  $\text{Ba}_4\text{Fe}_4\text{ClO}_{9.5-x}$  crystals treated under different redox conditions: (a) oxidation conditions (group I), (b) high-temperature neutral (group II), and (c) reducing conditions (group III). Horizontal panel (a1) corresponds to as-grown crystal; the XRD experiment was taken at 100 K. Horizontal panel (a2) corresponds to the crystal baked at 550 C in air; the XRD experiment was taken at 100 K is similar to one taken from the crystal baked at 400 C at the same  $T = 100$  K. Horizontal panel (a3) corresponds to the crystal baked at 500 C in  $\text{O}_2$  flow; the XRD experimental data are similar at both RT and 100 K. Horizontal panel (a4) corresponds to the crystal baked at 550 C in vacuum; the experiments are similar at both RT and 100 K. The sections  $hk0$ ,  $hk3$ ,  $Ok1$  demonstrate the brightest main reflections, and weaker satellite reflections, and specific features of diffuse scattering. The main reflections define the basic reciprocal unit cell (white rhombuses for  $\mathbf{a}^*$ ,  $\mathbf{b}^*$  in  $hk0$  and  $hk3$  and white dash in  $Ok1$  sections), which is identical for all the crystals.



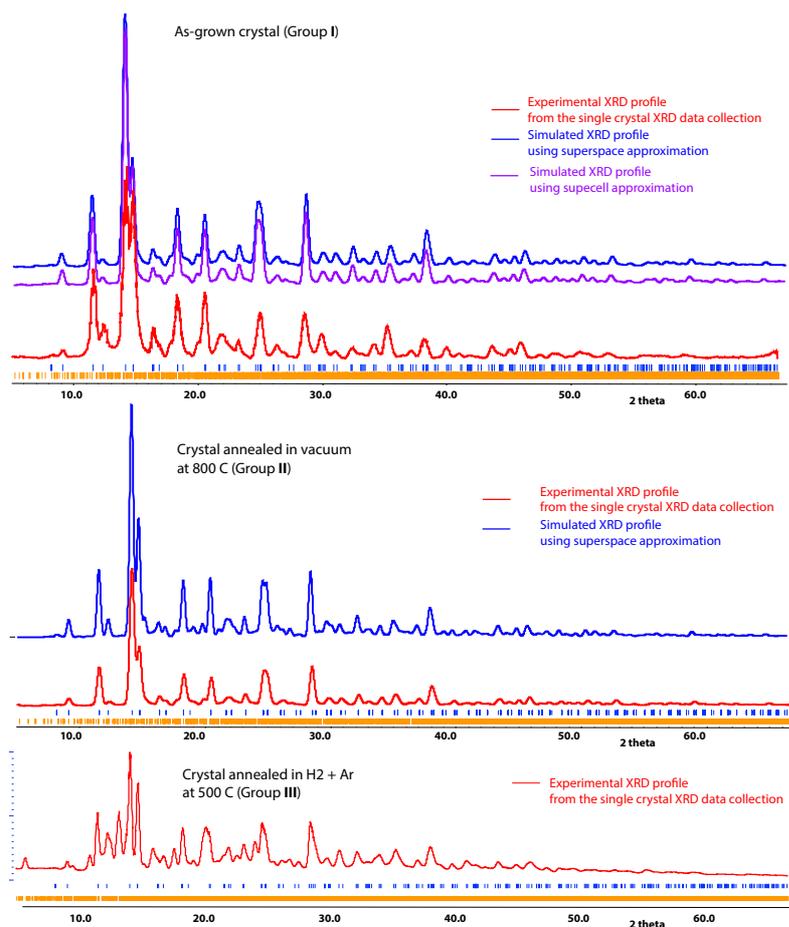
**Figure S2.** Diffuse scattering for Ba<sub>4</sub>Fe<sub>4</sub>ClO<sub>9.5-x</sub> crystals treated under different redox conditions.



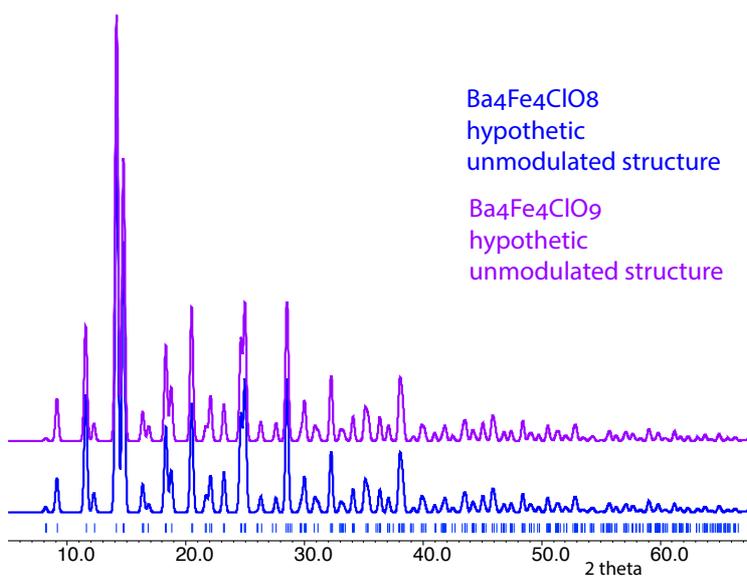
**Figure S3.** Reciprocal space sections and indexing of reflections for crystal Group I (vertical panel (a)) and Group II (vertical panel (b)) of  $\text{Ba}_4\text{Fe}_4\text{ClO}_{9.5-x}$ . Panel (a): typical patterns and indexing of reflections (bottom) for crystal of Group I using  $\mathbf{q}_1 = 1/5\mathbf{a}^*$  and  $\mathbf{q}_2 = 1/5\mathbf{b}^*$ . Panel (b): typical patterns and indexing of reflections (bottom) for crystal of Group II using  $\mathbf{q}_1' = 1/15\mathbf{a}^* + 1/15\mathbf{b}^*$  and  $\mathbf{q}_2' = -2/15\mathbf{a}^* + 1/15\mathbf{b}^*$ , which are related to the vectors in (a) as  $\mathbf{q}_1' + \mathbf{q}_2' = \mathbf{q}_1$  and  $2\mathbf{q}_2' + \mathbf{q}_1' = \mathbf{q}_2$ . The  $hklmn$  index of each reflection is defined by the vector sum  $h\mathbf{a}^* + k\mathbf{b}^* + l\mathbf{c}^* + m\mathbf{q}_1 + n\mathbf{q}_2$  and  $h\mathbf{a}^* + k\mathbf{b}^* + l\mathbf{c}^* + m\mathbf{q}_1' + n\mathbf{q}_2'$  for Group I and II, respectively.



**Figure S4.** Reciprocal space sections and indexing of reflections for crystal Group III of  $\text{Ba}_4\text{Fe}_4\text{ClO}_9$ . Panel (a):  $1kl$  cross section shows incommensurate vectors (blue arrows)  $\mathbf{q}_3 = 1.277\mathbf{c}^*$  applied to  $hk0$  and  $hk2$  reflection lines. Panel (b) shows reflections, which can be indexed in  $hk1$  and  $hk3$  planes using  $\mathbf{q}_1'' = 1/16\mathbf{a}^* + 1/16\mathbf{b}^*$  and  $\mathbf{q}_2'' = -2/16\mathbf{a}^* + 1/16\mathbf{b}^*$  as shown at the bottom. Panel (c) shows satellite reflections, which can be only indexed using the additional  $\mathbf{q}_3$  vector as shown at the bottom. The  $hklmnp$  indexing uses the vector sum:  $h\mathbf{a}^* + k\mathbf{b}^* + l\mathbf{c}^* + m\mathbf{q}_1'' + n\mathbf{q}_2'' + p\mathbf{q}_3''$ .



**Figure S5.** Comparison of the simulated XRD profiles and those calculated on the basis of the experimental diffraction data (Mo  $K\alpha$ -radiation) measured for single crystals  $\text{Ba}_4\text{Fe}_4\text{ClO}_{9.5-x}$  of Groups I and II. At the figure bottom, the experimental diffraction data (Mo  $K\alpha$ -radiation) measured for a single crystal  $\text{Ba}_4\text{Fe}_4\text{ClO}_9$  of crystal Groups III is also shown. Blue and orange strips indicate positions of the main and satellite reflections, respectively.



**Figure S6.** Powder XRD patterns calculated for the hypothetical unmodulated structures (Mo  $K\alpha$ -radiation).

### Experimental details for Ba<sub>4</sub>Fe<sub>4</sub>ClO<sub>9.5-x</sub> average structure determination and refinement

**Table S1.** Experimental details for Ba<sub>4</sub>Fe<sub>4</sub>ClO<sub>9.5-x</sub> average structure determination and refinement using crystals processed under different conditions. For all crystals: hexagonal space group,  $P\bar{6}m2$ ,  $Z = 1$ ; experiments were carried out with Mo K $\alpha$  radiation.

|  | Group I   |   |   | Group II  | Group III   |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| Crystal processing condition   | As-grown  | Baking at 400 C in air                                | Baking at 500 C in O <sub>2</sub> flow                | Baking at 800 C in vacuum                             | Baking at 500 C in (Ar+H <sub>2</sub> ) flow          |
| Crystal data   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Chemical formula   | Ba <sub>4</sub> Fe <sub>4</sub> ClO <sub>9.4(1)</sub> | Ba <sub>4</sub> Fe <sub>4</sub> ClO <sub>9.5(1)</sub> | Ba <sub>4</sub> Fe <sub>4</sub> ClO <sub>9.5(1)</sub> | Ba <sub>4</sub> Fe <sub>4</sub> ClO <sub>9.4(1)</sub> | Ba <sub>4</sub> Fe <sub>4</sub> ClO <sub>9.0(1)</sub> |
| <i>a</i> , <i>c</i> (Å)  | 5.7612(6),<br>9.9792(12)                              | 5.7625(5),<br>9.9880(11)                              | 5.7625(5),<br>9.9859(12)                              | 5.7655(5),<br>10.0022(12)                             | 5.7585(5),<br>9.9796(12)                              |
| <i>V</i> (Å <sup>3</sup> )   | 286.85  | 287.23  | 287.17  | 287.94  | 286.59  |
| Data collection  |   |   |   |   |   |
| Temperature (K)  | 100   | 100   | 100   | 293   | 100   |
| No. of measured, independent and observed reflections  | 1969, 432, 424<br>[ <i>I</i> > 3σ( <i>I</i> )]        | 4402, 449, 442<br>[ <i>I</i> > 3σ( <i>I</i> )]        | 4986, 409, 360<br>[ <i>I</i> > 5σ( <i>I</i> )]        | 5182, 421, 419<br>[ <i>I</i> > 3σ( <i>I</i> )]        | 2759, 393, 393<br>[ <i>I</i> > 3σ( <i>I</i> )]        |
| <i>R</i> <sub>int</sub>  | 0.029   | 0.067   | 0.079   | 0.086   | 0.063   |
| Refinement   |   |   |   |   |   |
| <i>R</i> [ <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup> > 2σ( <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup> )], <i>wR</i> ( <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup> ), <i>S</i> | 0.032, 0.088,<br>2.38                                 | 0.040, 0.100,<br>4.12                                 | 0.030, 0.081,<br>3.66                                 | 0.030, 0.080,<br>3.42                                 | 0.040, 0.100,<br>3.61                                 |
| No. of reflections   | 424   | 442   | 360   | 419   | 393   |
| No. of parameters  | 38  | 34  | 29  | 32  | 29  |
| Δρ <sub>max</sub> , Δρ <sub>min</sub> (e Å <sup>-3</sup> )   | 2.28, -3.42   | 5.03, -3.14   | 5.37, -3.20   | 3.23, -1.43   | 5.48, -2.50   |

**Table S2.** Experimental details for Ba<sub>4</sub>Fe<sub>4</sub>ClO<sub>9.5-x</sub> modulated structure determination and refinement using crystals processed at different conditions. For all crystals: hexagonal crystallographic system is fitted space group  $P\bar{6}m2$  for the average structure; experiments were carried out with Mo K $\alpha$  radiation at 100 K.

|   | Group I   |   |   | Group II  |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Crystal processing condition                          | As-grown  |   | Baking at 400 C in O <sub>2</sub> flow                | Baking at 800 C in vacuum   |
| Structure refinement approximation                    | Superspace approach   | Supercell approach                                    | Supercell approach                                    | Superspace approach   |
| Chemical formula                                      | Ba <sub>4</sub> Fe <sub>4</sub> ClO <sub>9.4(1)</sub>                                     | Ba <sub>4</sub> Fe <sub>4</sub> ClO <sub>9.4(1)</sub> | Ba <sub>4</sub> Fe <sub>4</sub> ClO <sub>9.5(1)</sub> | Ba <sub>4</sub> Fe <sub>4</sub> ClO <sub>9.4(1)</sub>   |
| Space / superspace group                              | $P\bar{6}m2$ ( $\alpha,0,0$ )000( $-\alpha,\alpha$ )00 (No. 187.2.82.3) †                 | $P\bar{6}m2$ (No. 187)                                | $P\bar{6}m2$ (No. 187)                                | $P\bar{6}m2$ ( $\alpha,\alpha,0$ )000( $-2\alpha,\alpha$ )00 (No. 187.2.83.4) ‡                                 |
| Wave $\mathbf{q}$ -vectors                            | $\mathbf{q}_1 = 0.2\mathbf{a}^*$ ;<br>$\mathbf{q}_2 = -0.2\mathbf{a}^* + 0.2\mathbf{b}^*$ | -   | -   | $\mathbf{q}_1 = 1/15\mathbf{a}^* + 1/15\mathbf{b}^*$ ;<br>$\mathbf{q}_2 = -2/15\mathbf{a}^* + 1/15\mathbf{b}^*$ |
| $a, c$ (Å)  | 5.7612 (6), 9.9792 (12)   | 5.7612 $\times$ 5 = 28.806 (1), 9.9792 (12)           | 5.7625 $\times$ 5 = 28.813 (1), 9.9859 (12)           | 5.7655 (5), 10.0022 (12)  |
| $V$ (Å <sup>3</sup> )                                 | 286.85 (5)  | 286.85 $\times$ 25 = 7171.25 (3)                      | 287.17 $\times$ 25 = 7180.77 (3)                      | 287.94 (5)  |
| No. of measured, independent and observed reflections | 37819, 11036, 3368 [ $I > 5\sigma(I)$ ]   | 37819, 8870, 3407 [ $I > 5\sigma(I)$ ]                | 37905, 8879, 4231 [ $I > 5\sigma(I)$ ]                | 58747, 9678, 4707 [ $I > 5\sigma(I)$ ]  |
| $R_{\text{int}}$                                      | 0.060   | 0.064   | 0.053   | 0.082   |
| $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)]$ , $wR(F^2)$ , $S$             | 0.050, 0.117, 2.16  | 0.031, 0.072, 1.34                                    | 0.052, 0.127, 3.99                                    | 0.095, 0.231, 6.31  |
| No. of reflections                                    | 3368  | 3407  | 4231  | 4707  |

|   |             |             |             |               |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| No. of parameters   | 248         | 317         | 318         | 207           |
| $\Delta\rho_{\max}, \Delta\rho_{\min}$ (e $\text{\AA}^{-3}$ ) | 5.32, -6.20 | 1.97, -1.48 | 6.06, -2.14 | 19.41, -12.62 |

† Symmetry operations: (1)  $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5$ ; (2)  $-x_2, x_1-x_2, x_3, -x_4-x_5, x_4$ ; (3)  $-x_1+x_2, -x_1, x_3, x_5, -x_4-x_5$ ; (4)  $x_1, x_2, -x_3, x_4, x_5$ ; (5)  $-x_2, x_1-x_2, -x_3, -x_4-x_5, x_4$ ; (6)  $-x_1+x_2, -x_1, -x_3, x_5, -x_4-x_5$ ; (7)  $-x_2, -x_1, x_3, -x_4-x_5, x_5$ ; (8)  $-x_1+x_2, x_2, x_3, x_5, x_4$ ; (9)  $x_1, x_1-x_2, x_3, x_4, -x_4-x_5$ ; (10)  $-x_2, -x_1, -x_3, -x_4-x_5, x_5$ ; (11)  $-x_1+x_2, x_2, -x_3, x_5, x_4$ ; (12)  $x_1, x_1-x_2, -x_3, x_4, -x_4-x_5$ .

‡ Symmetry operations: (1)  $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5$ ; (2)  $-x_2, x_1-x_2, x_3, -x_4-x_5, x_4$ ; (3)  $-x_1+x_2, -x_1, x_3, x_5, -x_4-x_5$ ; (4)  $x_1, x_2, -x_3, x_4, x_5$ ; (5)  $-x_2, x_1-x_2, -x_3, -x_4-x_5, x_4$ ; (6)  $-x_1+x_2, -x_1, -x_3, x_5, -x_4-x_5$ ; (7)  $-x_2, -x_1, x_3, -x_4, x_4+x_5$ ; (8)  $-x_1+x_2, x_2, x_3, x_4+x_5, -x_5$ ; (9)  $x_1, x_1-x_2, x_3, -x_5, -x_4$ ; (10)  $-x_2, -x_1, -x_3, -x_4, x_4+x_5$ ; (11)  $-x_1+x_2, x_2, -x_3, x_4+x_5, -x_5$ ; (12)  $x_1, x_1-x_2, -x_3, -x_5, -x_4$ .

**Table S3.** Atomic position parameters (site symmetry,  $xyz$ ,  $U_{eq}$  and occupancy) in  $Ba_4Fe_4ClO_{9.5-x}$  average structure (sp.gr.  $P\bar{6}m2$ ;  $a \approx 5.76$ ,  $c \approx 10.00$  Å) for crystals processed under different conditions.

| Crystal processing condition | Group I   |  |   | Group II   | Group III  |
|------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
|                              | As-grown  | Baking at 400<br>C in air                                    | Baking at 500<br>C in O <sub>2</sub> flow                       | Baking at 800<br>C in vacuum                                 | Baking at 500<br>C in (Ar+H <sub>2</sub> )<br>flow           |
| Ba11<br>1f: (2/3 1/3 ½)      | $U_{eq} = 0.007$ ;<br>occ. = 1                                  | $U_{eq} = 0.008$ ;<br>occ. = 1                               | $U_{eq} = 0.003$ ;<br>occ. = 1                                  | $U_{eq} = 0.016$ ;<br>occ. = 1                               | $U_{eq} = 0.017$ ;<br>occ. = 1                               |
| Ba12<br>1e: (1/3 2/3 0)      | $U_{eq} = 0.012$ ;<br>occ. = 1                                  | $U_{eq} = 0.018$ ;<br>occ. = 1                               | $U_{eq} = 0.014$ ;<br>occ. = 1                                  | $U_{eq} = 0.022$ ;<br>occ. = 1                               | $U_{eq} = 0.008$ ;<br>occ. = 1                               |
| Ba21<br>2g: (0 0 z)          | $z = 0.3046$ ,<br>$U_{eq} = 0.003$ ;<br>occ. = 0.47             | $z = 0.3054$ ,<br>$U_{eq} = 0.003$ ;<br>occ. = 0.41          | $z = 0.3074$ ,<br>$U_{eq} = 0.001$ ;<br>occ. = 0.51             | $z = 0.3052$ ,<br>$U_{eq} = 0.008$ ;<br>occ. = 0.45          | $z = 0.3040$ ,<br>$U_{eq} = 0.004$ ;<br>occ. = 0.50          |
| Ba22<br>2g: (0 0 z)          | $z = 0.1958$ ,<br>$U_{eq} = 0.005$ ;<br>occ. = 0.53             | $z = 0.1952$ ,<br>$U_{eq} = 0.009$ ;<br>occ. = 0.59          | $z = 0.1977$ ,<br>$U_{eq} = 0.003$ ;<br>occ. = 0.49             | $z = 0.1977$ ,<br>$U_{eq} = 0.011$ ;<br>occ. = 0.55          | $z = 0.1955$ ,<br>$U_{eq} = 0.008$ ;<br>occ. = 0.50          |
| Fe1<br>2h: (1/3 2/3 z)       | $z = 0.3434$ ,<br>$U_{eq} = 0.012$ ;<br>occ. = 1                | $z = 0.3468$ ,<br>$U_{eq} = 0.013$ ;<br>occ. = 1             | $z = 0.3522$ ,<br>$U_{eq} = 0.008$ ;<br>occ. = 1                | $z = 0.3489$ ,<br>$U_{eq} = 0.022$ ;<br>occ. = 1             | $z = 0.3394$ ,<br>$U_{eq} = 0.022$ ;<br>occ. = 1             |
| Fe2<br>2h: (2/3 1/3 z)       | $z = 0.1574$ ,<br>$U_{eq} = 0.015$ ;<br>occ. = 1                | $z = 0.1630$ ,<br>$U_{eq} = 0.021$ ;<br>occ. = 1             | $z = 0.1669$ ,<br>$U_{eq} = 0.012$ ;<br>occ. = 1                | $z = 0.1663$ ,<br>$U_{eq} = 0.012$ ;<br>occ. = 1             | $z = 0.1568$ ,<br>$U_{eq} = 0.013$ ;<br>occ. = 1             |
| Cl1<br>1a: (0 0 0)           | $U_{eq} = 0.046$ ;<br>occ. = 0.47                               | $U_{eq} = 0.008$ ;<br>occ. = 0.41                            | $U_{eq} = 0.008$ ;<br>occ. = 0.51                               | $U_{eq} = 0.026$ ;<br>occ. = 0.45                            | $U_{eq} = 0.001$ ;<br>occ. = 0.50                            |
| Cl2<br>1b: (0 0 ½)           | $U_{eq} = 0.003$ ;<br>occ. = 0.53                               | $U_{eq} = 0.037$ ;<br>occ. = 0.59                            | $U_{eq} = 0.031$ ;<br>occ. = 0.49                               | $U_{eq} = 0.030$ ;<br>occ. = 0.55                            | $U_{eq} = 0.055$ ;<br>occ. = 0.50                            |
| O1<br>6n: (x -x z)           | $x = 0.502$<br>$z = 0.243$<br>$U_{eq} = 0.007$ ;<br>occ. = 1    | $x = 0.495$<br>$z = 0.246$<br>$U_{eq} = 0.007$ ;<br>occ. = 1 | $x = 0.493$<br>$z = 0.250$<br>$U_{eq} = 0.004$ ;<br>occ. = 1    | $x = 0.498$<br>$z = 0.252$<br>$U_{eq} = 0.015$ ;<br>occ. = 1 | $x = 0.501$<br>$z = 0.246$<br>$U_{eq} = 0.046$ ;<br>occ. = 1 |
| O21b<br>6m: (xy ½)           | $x = 0.154$<br>$y = 0.424$<br>$U_{eq} = 0.043$ ;<br>occ. = 0.20 | -----  | $x = 0.154$<br>$y = 0.428$<br>$U_{eq} = 0.008$ ;<br>occ. = 0.20 | ---  | ---  |

|                         |   |  |   |  |  |
|-------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
| O21b<br>3k: (x 2x ½)    | ----  | x = 0.215<br>y = 0.430<br>U <sub>eq</sub> = 0.046;<br>occ. = 0.333 | ----  | ----   | ----   |
| O21a<br>3k: (x 2x ½)    | ---   | ---  | ---   | x = 0.3693<br>U <sub>eq</sub> = 0.281;<br>occ. = 0.400 | x = 0.186<br>U <sub>eq</sub> = 0.018;<br>occ. = 0.667  |
| O22a<br>3j: (x 2x 0)    | x = 0.642<br>U <sub>eq</sub> = 0.023;<br>occ. = 0.064 | x = 0.637<br>U <sub>eq</sub> = 0.012;<br>occ. = 0.333              | ---   | x = 0.634<br>U <sub>eq</sub> = 0.018;<br>occ. = 0.064  | x = 0.7045<br>U <sub>eq</sub> = 0.012;<br>occ. = 0.333 |
| O22a<br>1e: (2/3 1/3 0) | ---   | ---  | U <sub>eq</sub> = 0.004;<br>occ. = 0.30               | ---  | ---  |
| O22b<br>3j: (x 2x 0)    | x = 0.815<br>U <sub>eq</sub> = 0.017;<br>occ. = 0.667 | x = 0.824<br>U <sub>eq</sub> = 0.046;<br>occ. = 0.493              | x = 0.822<br>U <sub>eq</sub> = 0.013;<br>occ. = 0.667 | x = 0.817<br>U <sub>eq</sub> = 0.018;<br>occ. = 0.667  | ---  |