

**NH₄(B₆PO₁₀(OH)₄)·H₂O: Exhibiting the Largest Birefringence in
Borophosphates**

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Experiment Section:

Reagents

H_3BO_3 (Shanghai Aladdin Chemistry Co., Ltd., 99.5%), $NH_4H_2PO_4$ (Tianjin Fuchen Chemical Co., Ltd, 99.0%) and $SnCl_2 \cdot 2H_2O$ (Shanghai Aladdin Chemistry Co., Ltd., 98.0%) were ground as received without further purification.

Synthesis

$NH_4(B_6PO_{10}(OH)_4) \cdot H_2O$ crystals were synthesized by boric acid flux method. First, the mixtures containing H_3BO_3 (4mmol, 0.2473g), $NH_4H_2PO_4$ (1.15mmol, 0.1321g) and $SnCl_2 \cdot 2H_2O$ (1mmol, 0.2257g) were put into a 23ml Teflon-lined stainless steel autoclave without any stirring and grinding. Then the Teflon-lined stainless steel autoclave was put into oven. The autoclave was heated to 220 °C within 3 h, held at that temperature for 3 days, and then cooled to 30 °C at a rate of 5 °C/h. Owing to the low yield (5% based on H_3BO_3), the final products were selected millimeter size crystals.

In addition, as is known that K, Rb, Cs-phases can often exhibit the similar structures with NH_4 -phase, so we also had tried to synthesize the K, Rb, Cs-phases. But unfortunately, we did not succeed to obtain them.



Figure S1. The selected millimeter size crystals of $\text{NH}_4(\text{B}_6\text{PO}_{10}(\text{OH})_4)\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

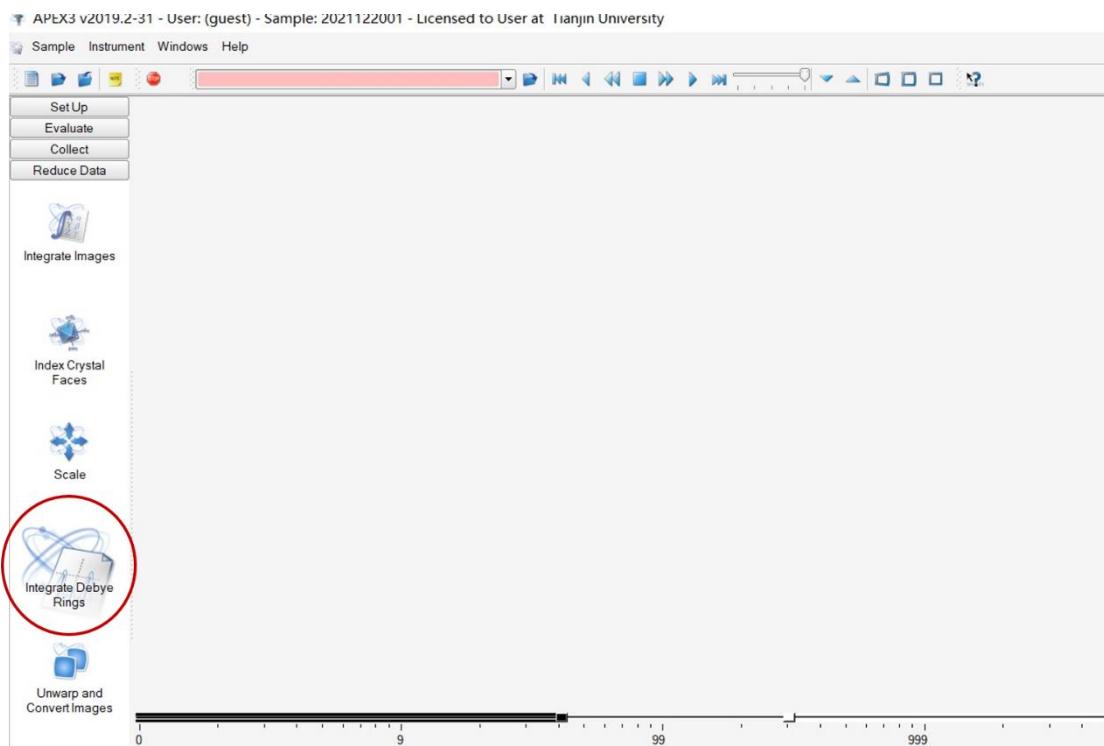


Figure S2. The program of X-ray powder diffraction patterns of $\text{NH}_4(\text{B}_6\text{PO}_{10}(\text{OH})_4)\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

The powder X-ray diffraction data were collected using Bruker SMART APEX III CCD diffractometer with Integrate Debye Rings program at room temperature (Mo K α radiation). Data were collected in the 2θ range of $10\text{-}70^\circ$ with a step size of 2.00° and a step time of 60 s.

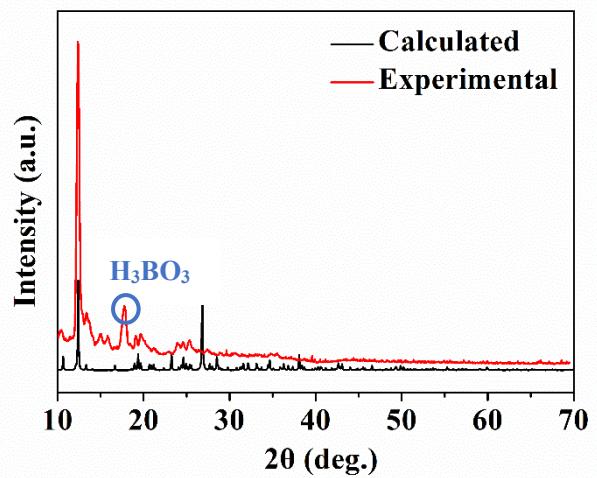


Figure S3. X-ray powder diffraction patterns of $\text{NH}_4(\text{B}_6\text{PO}_{10}(\text{OH})_4)\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

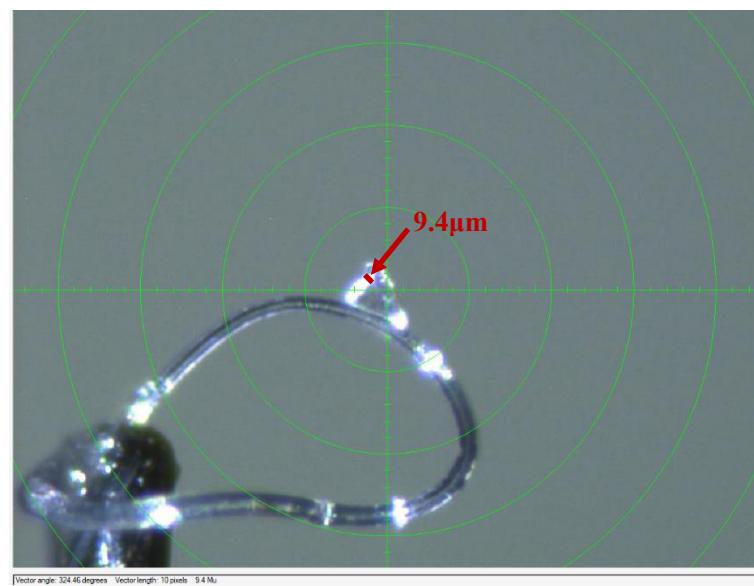


Figure S4. Photograph of crystal size.

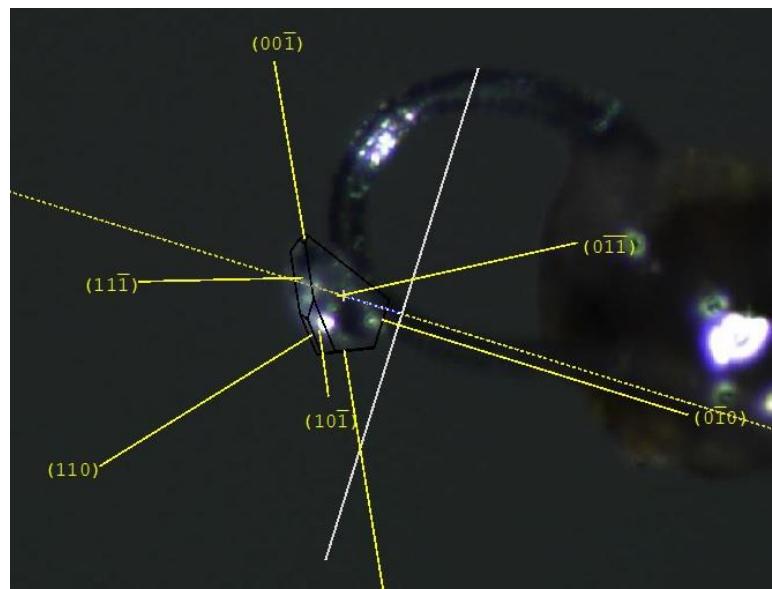


Figure S5. The crystal orientation of the $\text{NH}_4(\text{B}_6\text{PO}_{10}(\text{OH})_4)\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ was indexed by using a Bruker SMART APEX III.

Table S1. Atoms coordinates and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters for $\text{NH}_4(\text{B}_6\text{PO}_{10}(\text{OH})_4)\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

Atoms	x	y	z	U(eq)	BVS
N(1)	1412(5)	6282(4)	8567(3)	40(1)	3.04
P(1)	2605(1)	4800(1)	5077(1)	16(1)	5.13
B(1)	2728(5)	9266(4)	2373(4)	22(1)	2.98
B(2)	-2203(5)	10025(4)	3752(4)	21(1)	2.98
B(3)	-966(5)	8342(5)	2080(4)	22(1)	2.98
B(4)	4297(5)	7748(5)	584(4)	25(1)	2.97
B(5)	-576(5)	7181(4)	4581(4)	16(1)	2.99
B(6)	4888(5)	6523(4)	3038(4)	19(1)	3.03
O(1)	1731(5)	4541(4)	1446(3)	63(1)	-2.51
O(2)	3681(3)	8052(2)	3358(2)	19(1)	-1.80
O(3)	-44(3)	7134(2)	3078(2)	19(1)	-1.80
O(4)	-1379(3)	8796(2)	4787(2)	19(1)	-1.83
O(5)	1024(3)	6331(2)	5337(2)	17(1)	-1.98
O(6)	-2133(3)	9781(3)	2434(2)	29(1)	-1.85
O(7)	2972(3)	9111(3)	989(2)	29(1)	-1.85
O(8)	5281(3)	6555(3)	1549(2)	20(1)	-1.87
O(9)	4116(3)	5179(2)	3851(2)	18(1)	-2.01
O(10)	1957(3)	3688(2)	4651(2)	19(1)	-1.98
O(11)	3315(3)	3944(3)	6501(2)	21(1)	-1.98
O(12)	1504(4)	10662(3)	2650(3)	32(1)	-1.05
O(13)	-731(4)	8186(3)	737(2)	34(1)	-1.03
O(14)	4614(4)	7629(3)	-785(3)	40(1)	-1.02
O(15)	-3109(4)	11548(3)	3902(3)	34(1)	-1.03

Table S2. Selected distances (Å) and angles (deg) for NH₄(B₆PO₁₀(OH)₄)·H₂O.

N(1)-H(3)	0.8256	B(5)-O(4)	1.443(4)
N(1)-H(4)	0.8861	B(5)-O(3)	1.458(4)
N(1)-H(6)	0.9337	B(5)-O(5)	1.486(4)
N(1)-H(8)	0.7307	B(5)-O(10)#1	1.509(4)
O(1)-H(9)	0.8307	B(6)-O(8)	1.430(4)
O(1)-H(10)	0.7466	B(6)-O(2)	1.455(4)
B(1)-O(12)	1.349(5)	B(6)-O(11)#2	1.494(4)
B(1)-O(2)	1.363(4)	B(6)-O(9)	1.501(4)
B(1)-O(7)	1.392(5)	P(1)-O(9)	1.524(2)
B(2)-O(15)	1.353(4)	P(1)-O(10)	1.527(2)
B(2)-O(4)	1.356(4)	P(1)-O(11)	1.534(2)
B(2)-O(6)	1.393(5)	P(1)-O(5)	1.537(2)
B(3)-O(3)	1.357(4)	O(10)-B(5)#1	1.509(4)
B(3)-O(13)	1.353(5)	O(11)-B(6)#2	1.494(4)
B(3)-O(6)	1.395(4)	O(12)-H(7)	0.9840
B(4)-O(8)	1.355(4)	O(13)-H(2)	0.9543
B(4)-O(14)	1.357(5)	O(14)-H(1)	0.9128
B(4)-O(7)	1.397(5)	O(15)-H(5)	0.9603
H(3)-N(1)-H(4)	113.6	O(2)-B(6)-O(11)#2	109.9(3)
H(3)-N(1)-H(6)	122.7	O(8)-B(6)-O(9)	108.1(3)
H(4)-N(1)-H(6)	113.6	O(2)-B(6)-O(9)	111.7(3)
H(3)-N(1)-H(8)	112.8	O(11)#2-B(6)-O(9)	106.0(2)
H(4)-N(1)-H(8)	96.1	O(9)-P(1)-O(10)	105.45(13)
H(6)-N(1)-H(8)	92.5	O(9)-P(1)-O(11)	111.87(14)
O(12)-B(1)-O(2)	123.7(3)	O(8)-B(6)-O(11)#2	106.9(3)
O(12)-B(1)-O(7)	115.8(3)	O(2)-B(6)-O(11)#2	109.9(3)
O(2)-B(1)-O(7)	120.5(3)	O(8)-B(6)-O(9)	108.1(3)
O(15)-B(2)-O(4)	123.6(3)	O(2)-B(6)-O(9)	111.7(3)
O(15)-B(2)-O(6)	115.6(3)	O(11)#2-B(6)-O(9)	106.0(2)
O(4)-B(2)-O(6)	120.8(3)	O(9)-P(1)-O(10)	105.45(13)
O(3)-B(3)-O(13)	121.0(3)	O(9)-P(1)-O(11)	111.87(14)
O(3)-B(3)-O(6)	119.4(3)	O(8)-B(6)-O(11)#2	106.9(3)
O(13)-B(3)-O(6)	119.6(3)	O(2)-B(6)-O(11)#2	109.9(3)
O(8)-B(4)-O(14)	120.0(3)	O(8)-B(6)-O(9)	108.1(3)
O(8)-B(4)-O(7)	120.2(3)	O(2)-B(6)-O(9)	111.7(3)
O(14)-B(4)-O(7)	119.9(3)	O(11)#2-B(6)-O(9)	106.0(2)
O(4)-B(5)-O(3)	113.5(3)	O(9)-P(1)-O(10)	105.45(13)
O(4)-B(5)-O(5)	108.0(3)	O(9)-P(1)-O(11)	111.87(14)
O(3)-B(5)-O(5)	111.0(3)	O(8)-B(6)-O(11)#2	106.9(3)
O(4)-B(5)-O(10)#1	107.4(3)	O(2)-B(6)-O(11)#2	109.9(3)
O(3)-B(5)-O(10)#1	110.6(3)	O(5)-B(5)-O(10)#1	106.0(3)
O(8)-B(6)-O(11)#2	106.9(3)	O(8)-B(6)-O(2)	113.8(3)

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: #1 -x,-y+1,-z+1 #2 -x+1,-y+1,-z+1

Table S3. Hydrogen bonds for $\text{NH}_4(\text{B}_6\text{PO}_{10}(\text{OH})_4)\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

D-H...A	d(D-H)	d(H...A)	d(D...A)	$\angle(\text{DHA})$
O(1)-H(10)...O(10)	0.75	2.51	3.087(4)	135.8
O(1)-H(10)...O(3)	0.75	2.38	3.019(4)	145.1
O(1)-H(9)...O(14)#3	0.83	2.14	2.886(4)	148.9
N(1)-H(8)...O(15)#4	0.73	2.28	3.003(4)	169.3
O(12)-H(7)...O(4)#4	0.98	1.76	2.741(4)	177.7
O(15)-H(5)...O(2)#4	0.96	1.82	2.778(4)	174.7
N(1)-H(4)...O(8)#2	0.89	2.07	2.936(4)	164.6
N(1)-H(3)...O(13)#5	0.83	2.18	2.982(4)	163.9
O(13)-H(2)...O(12)#6	0.95	2.63	3.367(4)	133.8
O(13)-H(2)...O(7)#6	0.95	1.88	2.816(3)	167.0
O(14)-H(1)...O(6)#6	0.91	1.93	2.829(4)	166.4

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms:

#1 -x,-y+1,-z+1 #2 -x+1,-y+1,-z+1 #3 -x+1,-y+1,-z
#4 -x,-y+2,-z+1 #5 x,y,z+1 #6 -x,-y+2,-z

Table S4. A summary of mixed-coordinated borophosphates.

BPOs	Synthesis	B:P	BO₃:BO₄
M ₂ [BP ₃ O ₁₂](M=Cr,V,Fe)	Solid state	1:3	3:0
Co ₅ [BPO ₆][PO ₄] ₂	Low temperature flux	1:3	1:0
CsSc[B ₂ P ₃ O ₁₁ (OH) ₂]	Hydrothermal	2:3	1:1
[C ₆ H ₁₄ N ₂] ₂ [VOB ₃ P ₄ O ₁₅ (OH) ₅]·H ₂ O	Hydrothermal	3:4	1:2
Na ₂ [MB ₃ P ₂ O ₁₁ (OH)]·0.67H ₂ O(M=Co,Fe,Mn,Ni,Zn)	Low temperature flux	3:2	1:2
Na ₅ (H ₃ O){M ₃ [B ₃ O ₃ (OH)] ₃ (PO ₄) ₆ }·2H ₂ O (M=Mn,Co,Ni)	Hydrothermal	3:2	1:2
Na ₅ (NH ₄)Mn ₃ [B ₉ P ₆ O ₃₃ (OH) ₃]·1.5H ₂ O	Hydrothermal	3:2	1:2
Na ₈ [Cr ₄ B ₁₂ P ₈ O ₄₄ (OH) ₄][P ₂ O ₇]·nH ₂ O	Hydrothermal	3:2	1:2
Na ₂ [VB ₃ P ₂ O ₁₂ (OH)]·2.92H ₂ O	Low temperature flux	3:2	1:2
Na ₅ KCu ₃ [B ₉ P ₂ O ₃₃ (OH) ₃] ·H ₂ O	Low temperature flux	3:2	1:2
LiNa ₂ B ₅ P ₂ O ₁₄	Solid state	5:2	2:3
Li ₂ B ₃ PO ₈	Solid state	3:1	2:1
Li[B ₃ PO ₆ (OH) ₃]	Hydrothermal	3:1	2:1
(NH ₄) ₂ [B ₃ PO ₇ (OH) ₂]	Hydrothermal	3:1	2:1
(NH ₄)[B ₃ PO ₆ (OH) ₃]·0.5H ₂ O	Solvothermal	3:1	2:1
K ₂ MB ₄ PO ₁₀ (M=Rb,Cs)	Solid state	4:1	2:2
K ₃ B ₄ PO ₁₀	Solid state	4:1	2:2
K ₃ [B ₅ PO ₁₀ (OH) ₃]	Hydrothermal	5:1	2:3
Na ₃ B ₆ PO ₁₃	Solid state	6:1	4:2
K[B ₆ PO ₁₀ (OH) ₄]	Hydrothermal	6:1	4:2