

## Supplementary Information

### Melting pseudosymmetry and thermal expansion in 3-benzoylpropionic acid

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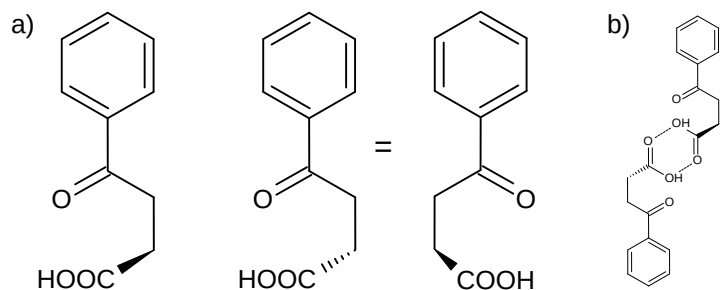
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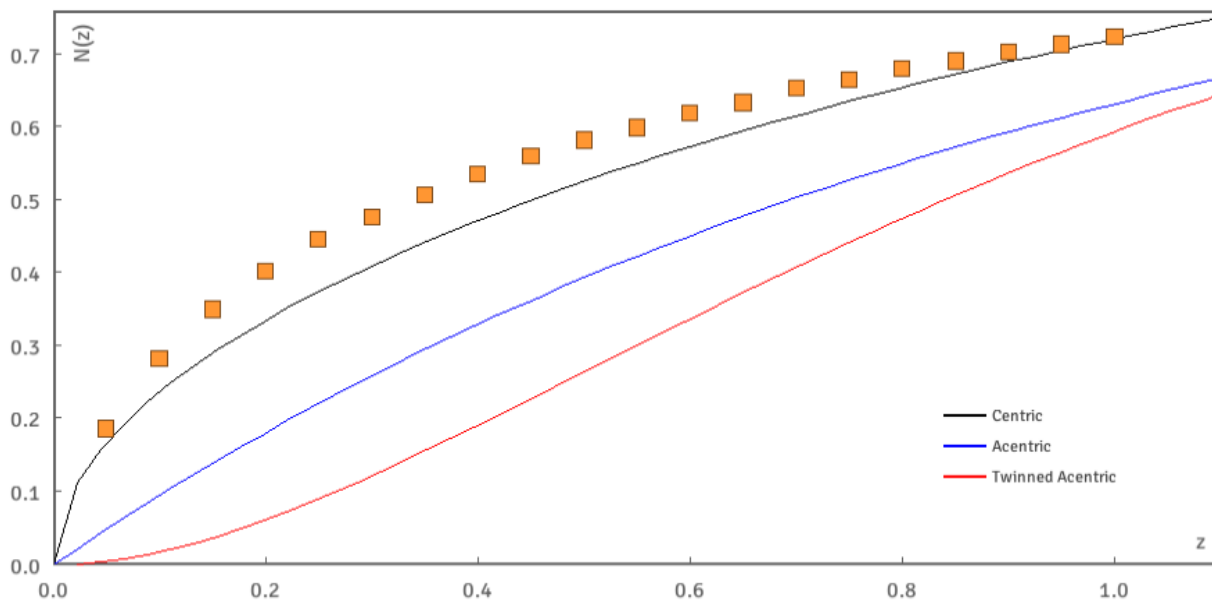
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## 1. Conformational isomerism in BPA



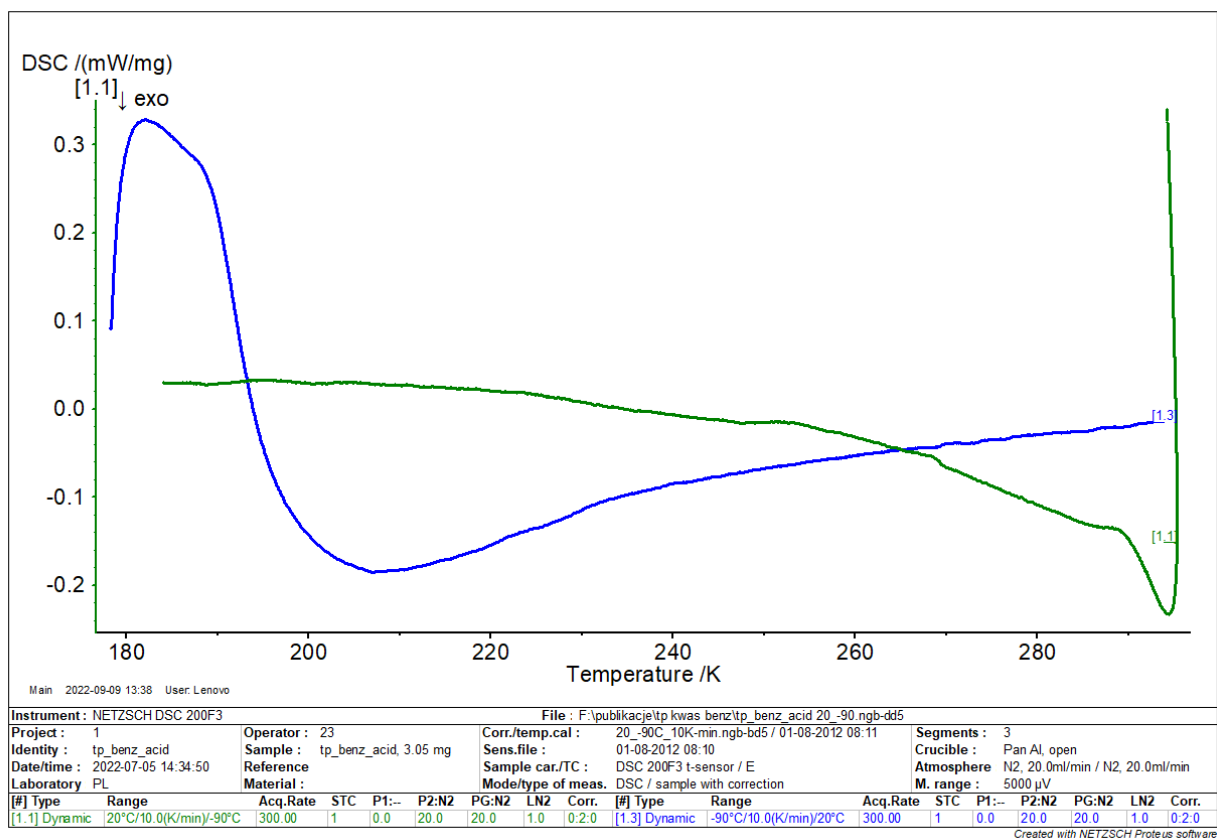
**Figure S1.** Conformational isomerism in BPA, depending on a position of the carboxylic group in respect to benzoylpropionic part (a). Two molecules in a dimer related by the inversion symmetry form a pair of the conformational enantiomers

## 2. Cumulative intensity distribution in BPA structure at 200 K



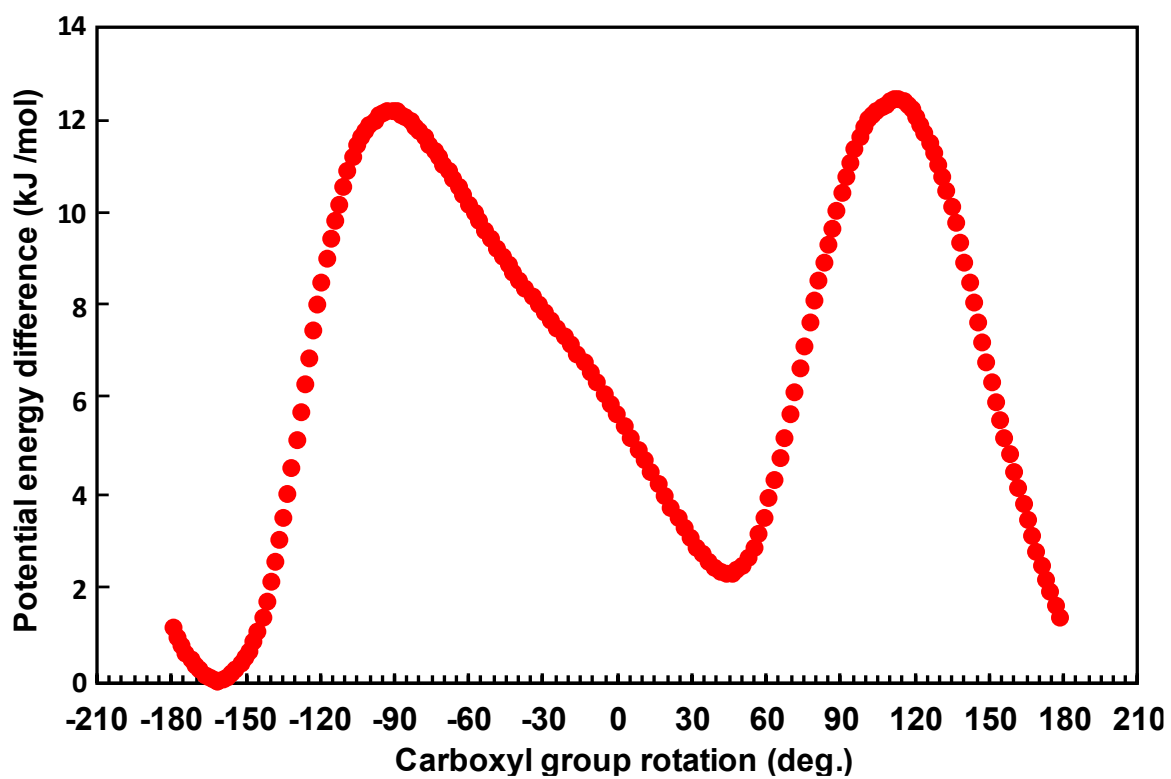
**Figure S2.** Cumulative intensity distribution in BPA dataset collected at 200K.  $z$  is the normalized intensity and  $N(z)$  is its cumulative distribution.

### 3. DSC measurements of BPA crystals



**Figure S3.** DSC measurement of BPA crystals in 180-295 K range. The lack of the significant thermal events is seen during the heating (blue curve) and cooling (green curve) cycles.

#### 4. Calculation of the potential energy of BPA molecule



**Figure S4.** Potential energy of BPA molecule as a function of the rotation of the carboxyl group (see Figure 6).

#### 4. Comparison of the selected crystallographic parameters with the reported structures

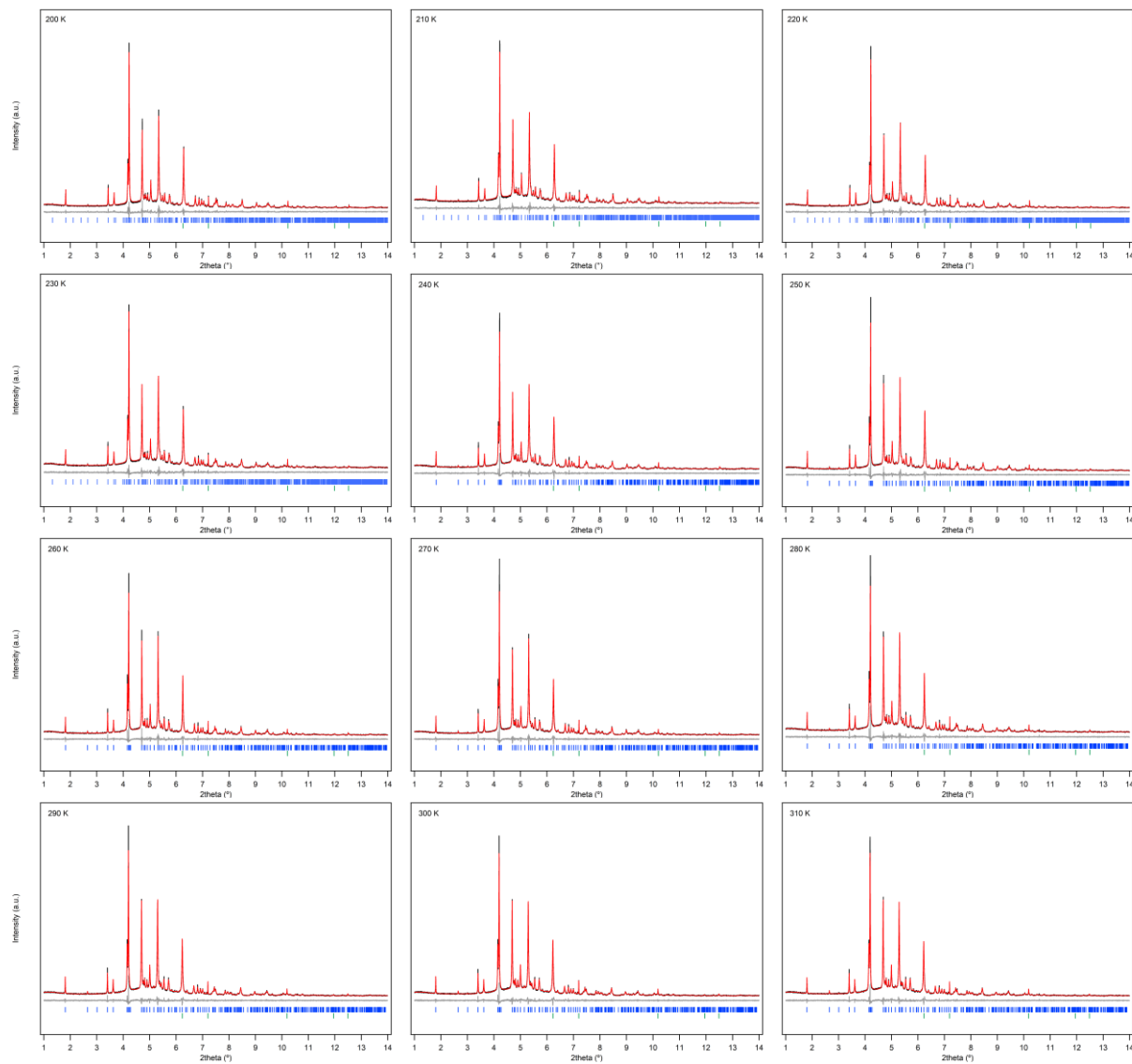
**Table S1** Crystal data and structure refinement for the reported structures of BPA

| Identification code                         | VERMAG <sup>1</sup>                            | VERMAG01 <sup>2</sup>                           | This study                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Empirical formula                           | C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>3</sub> | C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>3</sub>  | C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>3</sub>                |
| Formula weight                              | 178.18                                         | 178.18                                          | 178.18                                                        |
| Temperature/K                               | 295                                            | 235(1)                                          | 290.00(10)                                                    |
| Crystal system                              | monoclinic                                     | monoclinic                                      | monoclinic                                                    |
| Space group                                 | P2 <sub>1</sub> /c                             | P2 <sub>1</sub> /n                              | P2 <sub>1</sub> /n                                            |
| a/Å                                         | 15.071(10)                                     | 12.728(6)                                       | 12.8223(5)                                                    |
| b/Å                                         | 5.435(9)                                       | 5.200(3)                                        | 5.2450(2)                                                     |
| c/Å                                         | 16.058(10)                                     | 14.426(6)                                       | 14.5064(5)                                                    |
| α/°                                         | 90                                             | 90                                              | 90                                                            |
| β/°                                         | 129.57(10)                                     | 111.33(3)                                       | 111.569(4)                                                    |
| γ/°                                         | 90                                             | 90                                              | 90                                                            |
| Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>                       | 1013.91                                        | 889.391                                         | 907.28(6)                                                     |
| Z                                           | 4                                              | 4                                               | 4                                                             |
| ρ <sub>calc</sub> /cm <sup>3</sup>          | 1.167                                          | 1.331                                           | 1.304                                                         |
| μ/mm <sup>-1</sup>                          | 0.68                                           | 0.106                                           | 0.801                                                         |
| F(000)                                      | 376                                            | 376                                             | 376                                                           |
| Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>                | 0.30 × 0.40 × 0.45                             | 0.175 × 0.175 × 0.075                           | 0.29 × 0.29 × 0.03                                            |
| Radiation                                   | Cu Kα (λ = 1.54184)                            | Mo Kα (λ = 0.71069)                             | Cu Kα (λ = 1.54184)                                           |
| 2θ range for data collection/°              | N/A                                            | 3.00 to 50.00                                   | 7.886 to 160.064                                              |
| Index ranges                                | N/A                                            | -11 ≤ h ≤ 11, 0 ≤ k ≤ 14, 0 ≤ l ≤ 27            | -16 ≤ h ≤ 14, -5 ≤ k ≤ 6, -16 ≤ l ≤ 18                        |
| Reflections collected                       | 828                                            | 1559                                            | 9404                                                          |
| Independent reflections                     | 637                                            | 859                                             | 1893 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0275, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0231] |
| Data/restraints/parameters                  | 637/0/N/A                                      | 859/0/158                                       | 1893/0/158                                                    |
| Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>           | N/A                                            | 1.05                                            | 1.08                                                          |
| Final R indexes [I ≥ 2σ (I)]                | R <sub>1</sub> = 0.1, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1    | R <sub>1</sub> = 0.058, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.066 | R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0433, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1203             |
| Final R indexes [all data]                  | R <sub>1</sub> = 0.1, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1    | R <sub>1</sub> = 0.058, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.066 | R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0519, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1268             |
| Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup> | 0.13/-0.13                                     | 0.23/-0.06                                      | 0.14/-0.15                                                    |

## 5. PXRD data

**Table S2** Unit cell parameters for BPA polymorphs and NaCl from temperature PXRD experiments

| Temperature<br>(K) | <b>BPA <math>P2_1/c</math></b> |           |            |             |                       | <b>NaCl</b> |                       |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
|                    | $a$ (Å)                        | $b$ (Å)   | $c$ (Å)    | $\beta$ (°) | $V$ (Å <sup>3</sup> ) | $a$ (Å)     | $V$ (Å <sup>3</sup> ) |
| 200                | 15.368(1)                      | 5.2139(2) | 22.408(1)  | 97.781(2)   | 1779.0(1)             | 5.6206(2)   | 177.56(2)             |
| 210                | 15.381(1)                      | 5.2165(2) | 22.419(1)  | 97.759(2)   | 1782.5(2)             | 5.6228(2)   | 177.77(2)             |
| 220                | 15.3910(9)                     | 5.2193(2) | 22.436(1)  | 97.730(2)   | 1786.0(1)             | 5.6247(2)   | 177.95(2)             |
| 230                | 15.403(1)                      | 5.2219(2) | 22.451(1)  | 97.705(2)   | 1789.5(2)             | 5.6268(2)   | 178.15(2)             |
|                    | <b>BPA <math>P2_1/n</math></b> |           |            |             |                       | <b>NaCl</b> |                       |
|                    | $a$ (Å)                        | $a$ (Å)   | $c$ (Å)    | $\beta$ (°) | $V$ (Å <sup>3</sup> ) | $a$ (Å)     | $V$ (Å <sup>3</sup> ) |
| 240                | 12.7448(6)                     | 5.2234(2) | 14.447(7)  | 111.299(3)  | 895.93(7)             | 5.6280(2)   | 178.27(2)             |
| 250                | 12.7606(6)                     | 5.2273(2) | 14.4553(6) | 111.337(2)  | 898.13(6)             | 5.6301(2)   | 178.47(2)             |
| 260                | 12.7747(5)                     | 5.2307(2) | 14.4655(6) | 111.391(2)  | 900.01(6)             | 5.6322(2)   | 178.67(2)             |
| 270                | 12.7881(6)                     | 5.2340(2) | 14.4754(6) | 111.440(3)  | 901.83(7)             | 5.6342(2)   | 178.86(2)             |
| 280                | 12.8018(6)                     | 5.2372(2) | 14.4859(7) | 111.493(2)  | 903.67(7)             | 5.6362(2)   | 179.04(2)             |
| 290                | 12.8159(5)                     | 5.2447(2) | 14.4984(6) | 111.599(2)  | 906.29(6)             | 5.6389(2)   | 179.30(2)             |
| 300                | 12.8306(5)                     | 5.2506(2) | 14.5098(6) | 111.640(2)  | 908.62(6)             | 5.6411(2)   | 179.51(2)             |
| 310                | 12.8478(5)                     | 5.2546(2) | 14.5225(6) | 111.704(2)  | 910.90(6)             | 5.6438(2)   | 179.77(2)             |



**Figure S5.** PXRD patterns collected for a mixture of BPA and NaCl. Data was fitted by Pawley refinement: black and red curve represents data and fit, respectively. Blue and green ticks signify the calculated Bragg peak positions for BPA and NaCl, respectively.

## 6. Lattice parameters from SC XRD

**Table S3** Unit cell parameters (in Å) for BPA from single-crystal XRD experiments upon cooling, indexed in both LT and RT unit-cell settings. The values have been rounded up to the last significant figures.

| T<br>(K) | RT $P2_1/n$ setting |        |         |         |        | LT $P2_1/c$ setting |        |         |                |         |
|----------|---------------------|--------|---------|---------|--------|---------------------|--------|---------|----------------|---------|
|          | $a$                 | $b$    | $c$     | $\beta$ | Volume | $a$                 | $b$    | $c$     | $\beta$ (deg.) | Volume  |
| 290      | 12.8218             | 5.2386 | 14.5099 | 111.553 | 906.46 | 15.4328             | 5.2383 | 22.6124 | 97.586         | 1812.02 |
| 280      | 12.8092             | 5.2346 | 14.4945 | 111.475 | 904.40 | 15.4368             | 5.2371 | 22.5766 | 97.596         | 1809.17 |
| 270      | 12.7932             | 5.2346 | 14.4811 | 111.422 | 902.76 | 15.4304             | 5.2346 | 22.5559 | 97.625         | 1805.77 |
| 260      | 12.7767             | 5.2308 | 14.4697 | 111.356 | 900.64 | 15.4303             | 5.2322 | 22.514  | 97.63          | 1801.56 |
| 250      | 12.7623             | 5.2283 | 14.4575 | 111.291 | 898.84 | 15.4287             | 5.2281 | 22.4864 | 97.653         | 1797.66 |
| 245      | 12.7555             | 5.2279 | 14.4532 | 111.293 | 898.01 | 15.4201             | 5.2278 | 22.4818 | 97.661         | 1796.15 |
| 240      | 12.7467             | 5.2281 | 14.449  | 111.272 | 897.29 | 15.419              | 5.2263 | 22.4693 | 97.676         | 1794.45 |
| 235      | 12.741              | 5.2262 | 14.4442 | 111.275 | 896.25 | 15.411              | 5.2248 | 22.4605 | 97.693         | 1792.23 |
| 230      | 12.7355             | 5.2252 | 14.4426 | 111.271 | 895.62 | 15.4045             | 5.2234 | 22.4518 | 97.711         | 1790.22 |
| 220      | 12.7175             | 5.222  | 14.4328 | 111.23  | 893.44 | 15.3922             | 5.2222 | 22.4341 | 97.736         | 1786.87 |
| 210      | 12.67               | 5.2184 | 14.419  | 110.89  | 890.68 | 15.381              | 5.2199 | 22.4181 | 97.775         | 1783.34 |
| 200      | 12.6944             | 5.2185 | 14.4113 | 111.283 | 889.58 | 15.3685             | 5.2184 | 22.4015 | 97.796         | 1779.97 |

**Table S4** Unit cell parameters (in Å) for BPA from single-crystal XRD experiments upon heating, indexed in standard setting for RT phase. The values have been rounded up to the last significant figures.

| Standard $P2_1/c$ setting (RT phase) |         |        |         |                |
|--------------------------------------|---------|--------|---------|----------------|
| T (K)                                | $a$     | $b$    | $c$     | $\beta$ (deg.) |
| 240                                  | 14.4507 | 5.2289 | 15.4102 | 129.586        |
| 250                                  | 14.4635 | 5.2320 | 15.4141 | 129.545        |
| 260                                  | 14.4736 | 5.2352 | 15.4181 | 129.514        |
| 270                                  | 14.4811 | 5.2347 | 15.4284 | 129.474        |
| 280                                  | 14.4951 | 5.2425 | 15.4265 | 129.433        |
| 290                                  | 14.5064 | 5.2450 | 15.4301 | 129.394        |

## References

- 1 S. Selladurai, M. S. Kumar and K. Subramanian, *Proc. / Indian Acad. Sci.*, 1990, **102**, 39–43.
- 2 H. W. Thompson, P. A. Vanderhoff and R. A. Lalancette, *Acta Crystallogr. Sect. C Cryst. Struct. Commun.*, 1991, **47**, 1443–1445.