

# Structure and Molecular Motions in Rubidium Tetraphenylborate

A. Pajzderska, H. Małuszyńska, and J. Wąsicki

Faculty of Physics, A. Mickiewicz University, Umultowska 85, 61-614 Poznań, Poland

Reprint requests to A. P.; E-mail: apajzder@main.amu.edu.pl

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By X-ray diffraction it was found that at 293 K the crystals of rubidium tetraphenylborate are tetragonal, space group  $\bar{A}2m$ ,  $a = b = 11.212(2)$  Å,  $c = 8.098(2)$  Å, with 2 molecules of  $\text{Rb}^+[\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{20}\text{B}]^-$  in the unit cell. The molecular reorientations as functions of temperature were studied by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR. Two types of motions were detected: an anisotropic reorientation of the tetraphenylborate anions about their mass centres, and small-angle reorientations / oscillations of the phenyl rings. The dependence of the potential energy of the anion in the crystal on the angle of the phenyl ring rotation about the B-Ph bond was obtained on the basis of atom-atom calculations. The dynamics of this compound was compared to that of tetraphenyltin.

*Key words:* NMR; Relaxation; Potential Energy; X-ray; Crystal Structure.