

Molecular Foundry Conference and Abstract Call

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Preparing AX₂ compounds in a dry glove box.

PbCl₂, SnCl₂, BaCl₂ and BaI₂ all fall into a category of crystals known as AX₂ compounds. At ambient pressure, these materials are analogue compounds that crystallize at ambient conditions in the cotunnite (orthorhombic, Pnam) structure. The next phase (post-cotunnite (monoclinic, P1121/a)) is claimed to be the final step in the structural sequence for AX₂ compounds by Leger et al [1]. This holds significance because these compounds are iso-structural with a high pressure phase of silica, which is believed to be the primary component of rocky exoplanets.

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