

# Chapter 12: Structures & Properties of Ceramics

## ISSUES TO ADDRESS...

- Bonding and structure of ceramic materials as compared with metals



# Atomic Bonding in Ceramics

- Bonding:
  - Can be ionic and/or covalent in character.
  - % ionic character increases with difference in electronegativity of atoms.
- Degree of ionic character may be large or small (i.e., mostly covalent):

IA												0					
H 2.1												III A	IV A	V A	V I A	V II A	He -
Li 1.0	Be 1.5											B 2.0	C 2.5	N 3.0	O 3.5	F 4.0	Ne -
Na 0.9	Mg 1.2	III B	IV B	V B	V I B	V II B	VIII			IB	I I B	Al 1.5	Si 1.8	P 2.1	S 2.5	Cl 3.0	Ar -
K 0.8	Ca 1.0	Sc 1.3	Ti 1.5	V 1.6	Cr 1.6	Mn 1.5	Fe 1.8	Co 1.8	Ni 1.8	Cu 1.9	Zn 1.6	Ga 1.6	Ge 1.8	As 2.0	Se 2.4	Br 2.8	Kr -
Rb 0.8	Sr 1.0	Y 1.2	Zr 1.4	Nb 1.6	Mo 1.8	Tc 1.9	Ru 2.2	Rh 2.2	Pd 2.2	Ag 1.9	Cd 1.7	In 1.7	Sn 1.8	Sb 1.9	Te 2.1	I 2.5	Xe -
Cs 0.7	Ba 0.9	La-Lu 1.1-1.2	Hf 1.3	Ta 1.5	W 1.7	Re 1.9	Os 2.2	Ir 2.2	Pt 2.2	Au 2.4	Hg 1.9	Tl 1.8	Pb 1.8	Bi 1.9	Po 2.0	At 2.2	Rn -
Fr 0.7	Ra 0.9	Ac-No 1.1-1.7															

CaF<sub>2</sub>: mostly ionic (points to Ca and F)
 SiC: covalent (points to Si and C)

Adapted from Fig. 2.7, Callister & Rethwisch 8e. (Fig. 2.7 is adapted from Linus Pauling, *The Nature of the Chemical Bond*, 3rd edition, Copyright 1939 and 1940, 3rd edition. Copyright 1960 by Cornell University.)



# Ceramic Crystal Structures

## General considerations of structures for many (not all!) ceramics with ionic bonding

- Anions (e.g.,  $O^{2-}$ ,  $F^-$ ,  $Cl^-$ ) usually (but NOT always) larger than metal cations
  - Close packed anions in a lattice (usually FCC packing)
  - Cations fit into interstitial sites among anion

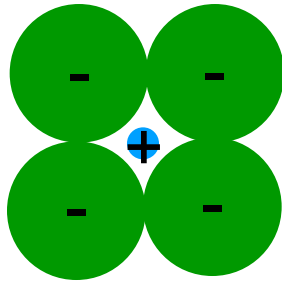


# Factors that Determine Crystal Structure

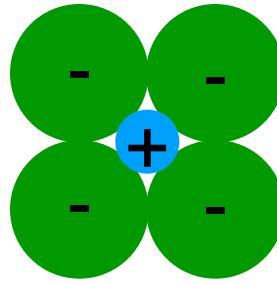
1. Maximize the # of oppositely charged ion neighbors (or CN)

- CN depends on relative sizes of ions:

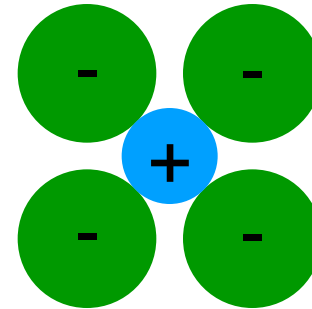
--.



unstable



stable



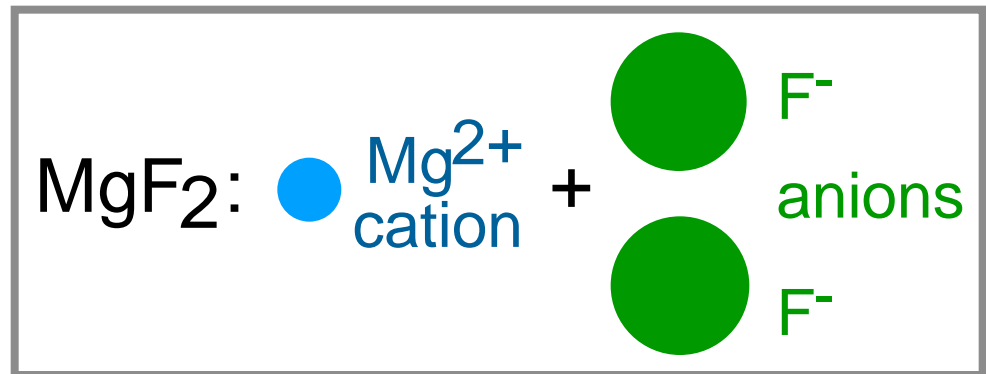
stable

Adapted from Fig. 12.1,  
Callister & Rethwisch 8e.

2. Maintenance of charge neutrality :

--Net charge in a ceramics should be zero.

--Reflected in chemical formula:



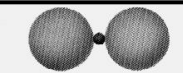
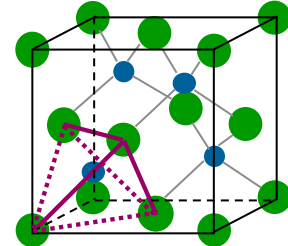

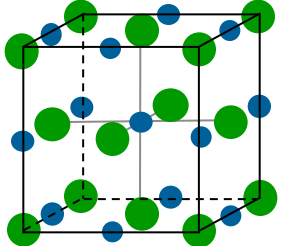

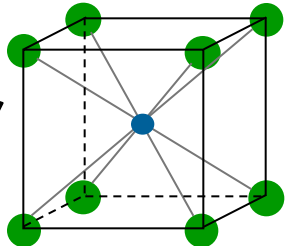
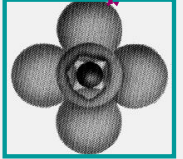
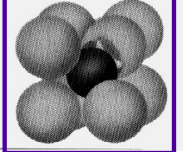

m, p values to achieve charge neutrality



# Coordination # and Ionic Radii Ratio

- Coordination # (CN) for cation increases with size ratio of  $\frac{r_{\text{cation}}}{r_{\text{anion}}}$

To form a stable structure, how many anions would surround around a cation?

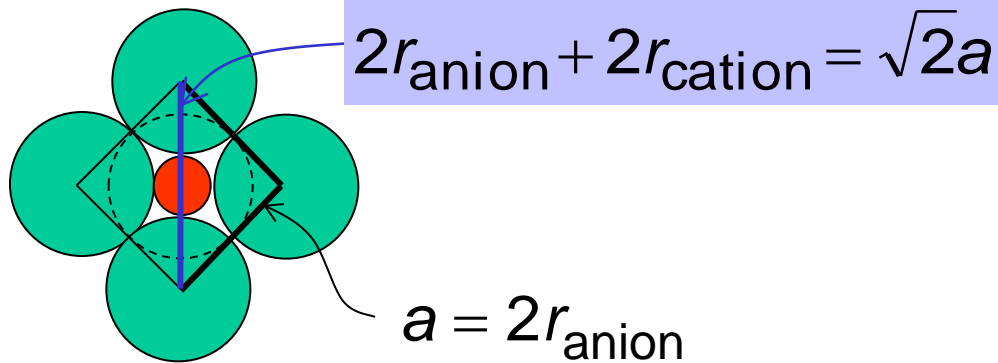
$\frac{r_{\text{cation}}}{r_{\text{anion}}}$	CN				
< 0.155	2	linear			e.g.: ZnS (zinc blende) Adapted from Fig. 12.4, Callister & Rethwisch 8e.
0.155 - 0.225	3	triangular			e.g.: NaCl (sodium chloride) Adapted from Fig. 12.2, Callister & Rethwisch 8e.
0.225 - 0.414	4	tetrahedral			e.g.: CsCl (cesium chloride) Adapted from Fig. 12.3, Callister & Rethwisch 8e.
0.414 - 0.732	6	octahedral			
0.732 - 1.0	8	cubic			
> 1.0	12				

Adapted from Table 12.2,  
Callister & Rethwisch 8e.



## Extra: Determination of Critical Cation to Anion Radius Ratio (Will NOT be examined)

Example for determining critical  $r_{\text{cation}}/r_{\text{anion}}$  for an **octahedral** site with CN = 6



$$2r_{\text{anion}} + 2r_{\text{cation}} = 2\sqrt{2}r_{\text{anion}}$$

$$r_{\text{anion}} + r_{\text{cation}} = \sqrt{2}r_{\text{anion}} \quad r_{\text{cation}} = (\sqrt{2} - 1)r_{\text{anion}}$$

$$\frac{r_{\text{cation}}}{r_{\text{anion}}} = \sqrt{2} - 1 = 0.414$$



# Example Problem: Predicting the Crystal Structure of FeO

- On the basis of ionic radii, what crystal structure would you predict for FeO?

Cation Ionic radius (nm)

Al<sup>3+</sup> 0.053

Fe<sup>2+</sup> 0.077

Fe<sup>3+</sup> 0.069

Ca<sup>2+</sup> 0.100

Anion

O<sup>2-</sup> 0.140

Cl<sup>-</sup> 0.181

F<sup>-</sup> 0.133

- Answer:

$$\frac{r_{\text{cation}}}{r_{\text{anion}}} = \frac{0.077}{0.140} = 0.550$$

based on this ratio,

-- coord # = 6 because

$$0.414 < 0.550 < 0.732$$

-- crystal structure is NaCl (rocksalt) type

Data from Table 12.3,  
*Callister & Rethwisch 8e.*



# Rock Salt (NaCl type) Structure

For NaCl (rock salt) structure

$$r_{\text{Na}} = 0.102 \text{ nm}$$



$$r_{\text{Cl}} = 0.181 \text{ nm}$$



$$r_{\text{Na}}/r_{\text{Cl}} = 0.564$$

∴ Since  $0.414 < 0.565 < 0.732$   
octahedral (CN=6) sites preferred  
for Na<sup>+</sup>

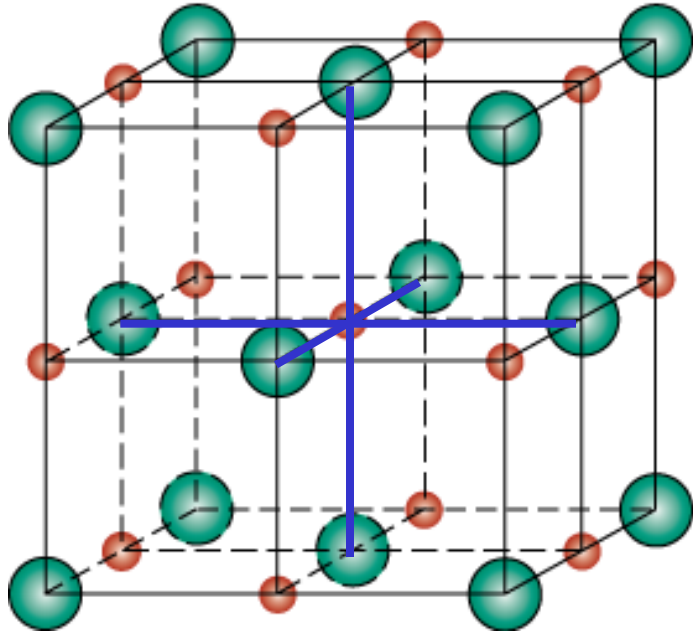
Q:

- 1) Does this CN number make sense based on the unit cell structure given?
- 2) Within one unit cell what are the averaged numbers of Na and Cl atoms?

**4 Na, 4Cl**

3) What is the chemical formula?

**NaCl**



Adapted from Fig. 12.2,  
*Callister & Rethwisch 8e.*

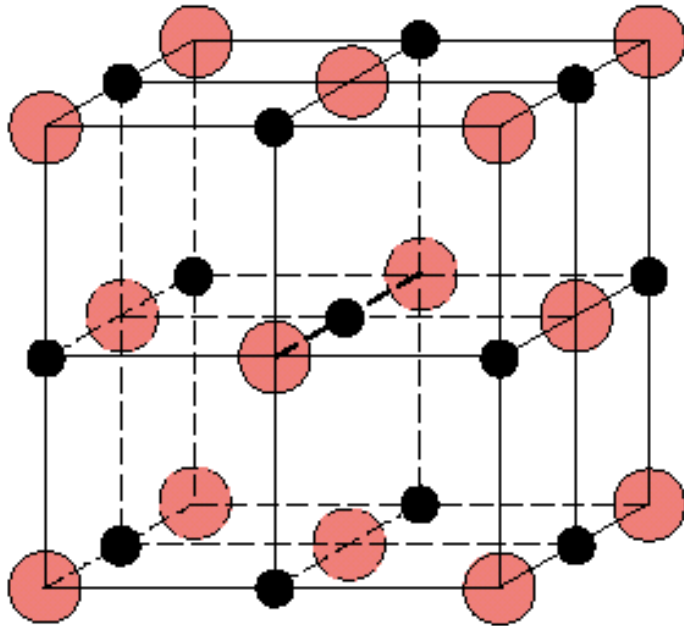




# MgO

MgO also has the NaCl structure

Adapted from Fig. 12.2,  
*Callister & Rethwisch 8e.*



$O^{2-}$

$$r_O = 0.140 \text{ nm}$$



$Mg^{2+}$

$$r_{Mg} = 0.072 \text{ nm}$$

$$r_{Mg}/r_O = 0.514$$

$\therefore$  cations prefer octahedral sites

$\therefore$  Since  $0.414 < 0.514 < 0.732$   
octahedral (CN=6) sites preferred

So each  $Mg^{2+}$  (or  $Fe^{2+}$ ) has 6 neighbor oxygen atoms

Q:

- 1) Does this CN number make sense based on unit cell structure given?
- 2) Within one unit cell, what are the averaged numbers of Mg and O atoms?

4Mg, 4O

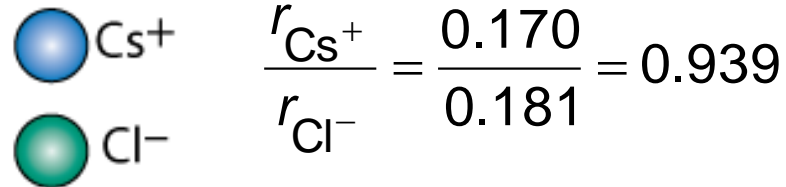
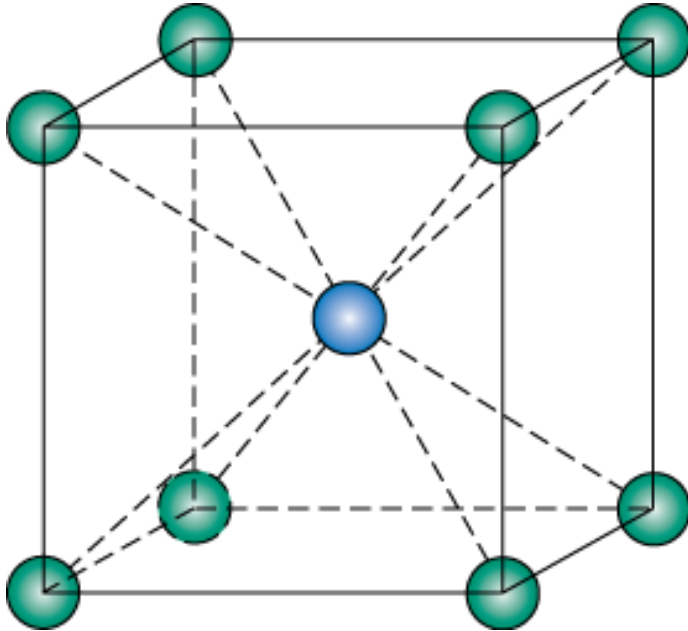
- 3) What is the chemical formula?

MgO



# CsCl Type Crystal Structures

Cesium Chloride structure:



∴ Since  $0.732 < 0.939 < 1.0$ ,  
cubic sites preferred

So each Cs<sup>+</sup> has 8 neighbor Cl<sup>-</sup>

Adapted from Fig. 12.3,  
*Callister & Rethwisch 8e.*

Q:

- 1) Does this CN number make sense based on unit cell structure given?
- 2) Within one unit cell, what are the averaged numbers of Cs and Cl atoms ?

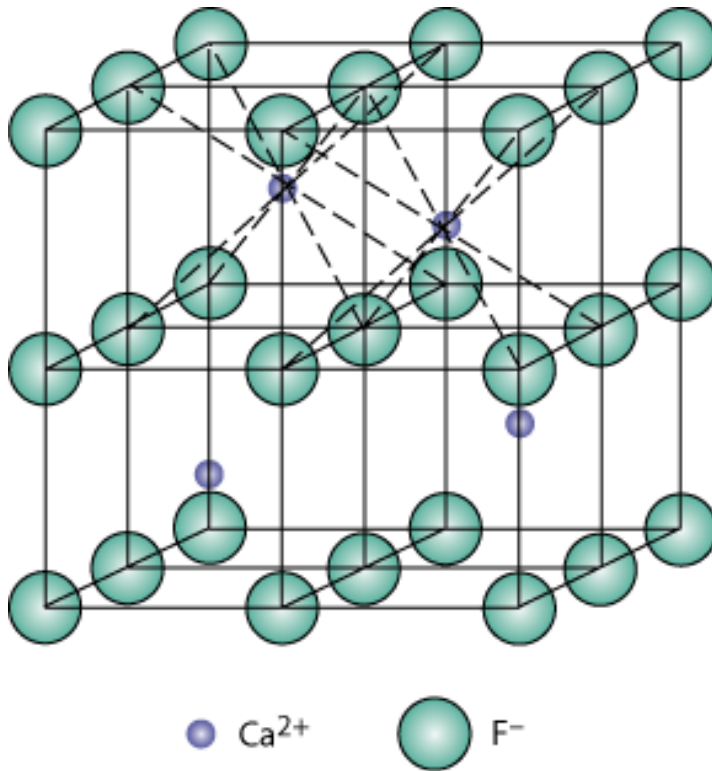
**1 Cs, 1 Cl**

- 3) What is the chemical formula?

**CsCl**



# Fluorite (CaF<sub>2</sub> type) Crystal Structures



Adapted from Fig. 12.5,  
*Callister & Rethwisch 8e.*

- Calcium Fluorite (CaF<sub>2</sub> type)
- Cations in cubic sites
- UO<sub>2</sub>, ThO<sub>2</sub>, ZrO<sub>2</sub>, CeO<sub>2</sub>

Q:

- 1) Does this CN number make sense based on unit cell structure given?
- 2) Within one unit cell, what are the averaged numbers of Ca and F atoms ?

**4 Ca, 8 F**

- 3) What is the chemical formula?

**CaF<sub>2</sub>**

# Perovskite Crystal Structures

- Perovskite structure

Ex: complex oxide

Q:

- 1) What is the CN number based on unit cell structure given for  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$  ?

$\text{CN}(\text{Ti}^{4+}) = 6$

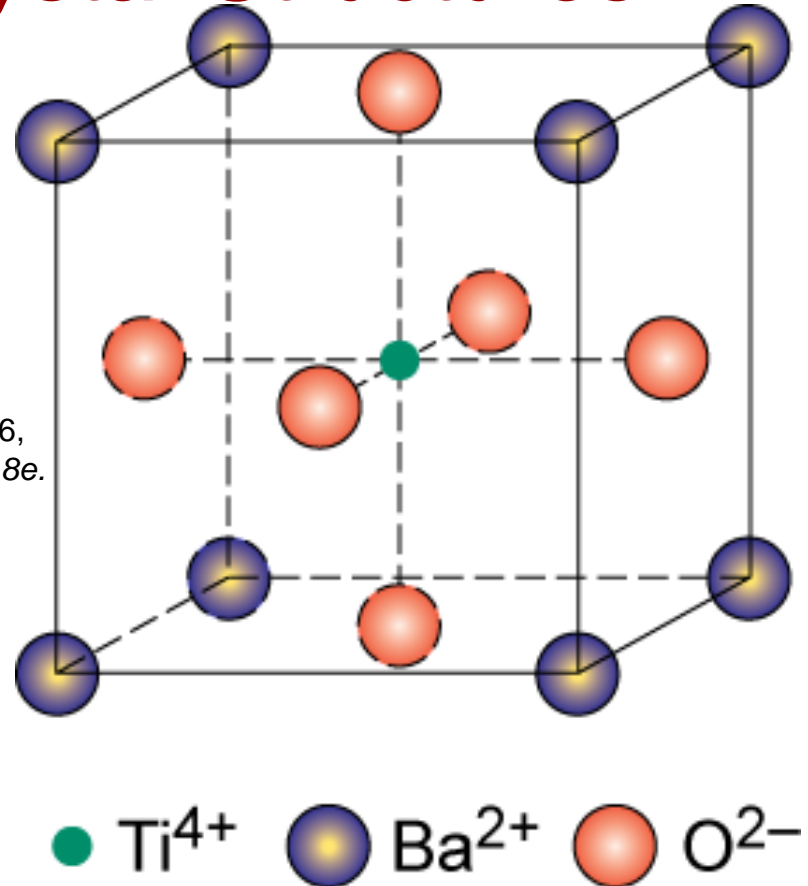
- 2) Within one unit cell, what are the averaged numbers of Ba, Ti, and O atoms ?

1 Ba (hint:  $8 \times 1/8 = 1$ ), 1 Ti (hint: one in unit cell center), 3 O (hint:  $6 * 1/2 = 3$ ),

- 3) What is the chemical formula?

$\text{BaTiO}_3$

Adapted from Fig. 12.6,  
*Callister & Rethwisch 8e.*










# VMSE: Ceramic Crystal Structures

**Ceramic Crystal Structures**

Main Menu Print Main Help

This module allows you to observe and rotate (using mouse click-and-drag) unit cells for the seven common ceramic crystal structures listed in the left bar window. For each of these crystal structures, atomic/ionic packing arrangements for several crystallographic planes may be generated, which planes may also be rotated. Spinel and inverse spinel crystal structures may be displayed in terms of close-packed planes of oxygen ions and

### Unit Cells

-  NaCl
-  CsCl
-  ZnS
-  Diamond
-  Graphite
-  CaF<sub>2</sub>
-  BaTiO<sub>3</sub>

Spinel/Inverse Spinel  
Close-packed Structures  
Molecule Definition Utility



### Sodium Chloride (NaCl)

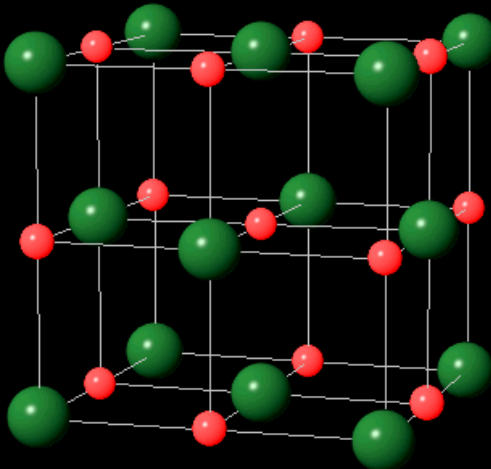
Change to FULL-SPHERE representation

Atomic Packing For:

- (100)
- (110)
- (111)
- (112)
- (122)
- (123)

Reset

-  Sodium
-  Chlorine





# Density Computations for Ceramics

Number of formula units/unit cell

$$\rho = \frac{n'(\Sigma A_C + \Sigma A_A)}{V_C N_A}$$

Avogadro's number

Volume of unit cell

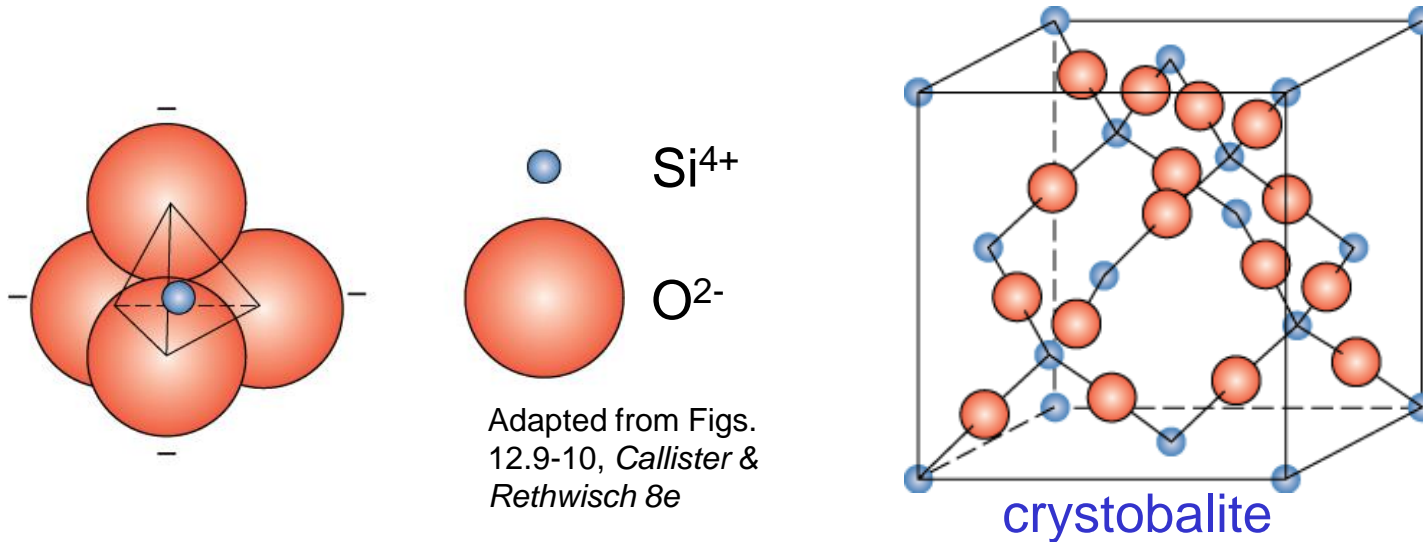
$\Sigma A_C$  = sum of atomic weights of all cations in formula unit

$\Sigma A_A$  = sum of atomic weights of all anions in formula unit



# Silicate Ceramics

Most common elements on earth are Si & O

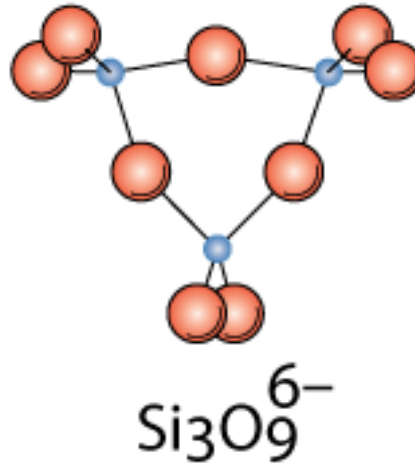
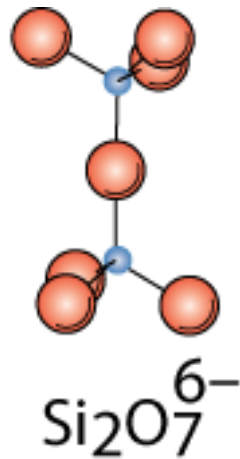
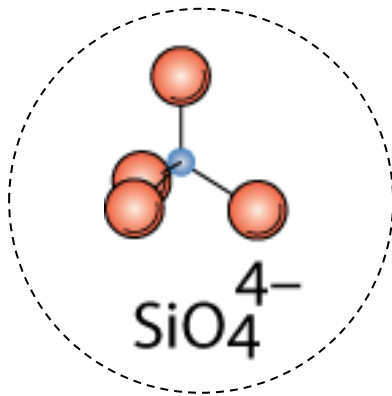


- $\text{SiO}_2$  (silica) **polymorphic** forms are quartz, cristobalite, & tridymite
- The strong Si-O bonds lead to a high melting temperature ( $1710^\circ\text{C}$ ) for this material

# Silicates

Bonding of adjacent  $\text{SiO}_4^{4-}$  accomplished by the sharing of common corners, edges, or faces

Basic building block



Adapted from Fig. 12.12, Callister & Rethwisch 8e.

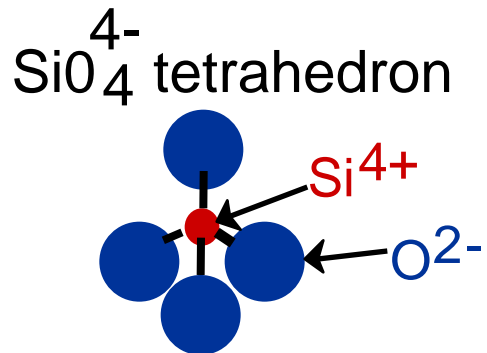
Presence of cations such as  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ , &  $\text{Al}^{3+}$

1. maintain charge neutrality, and
2. ionically bond  $\text{SiO}_4^{4-}$  to one another



# Glass Structure

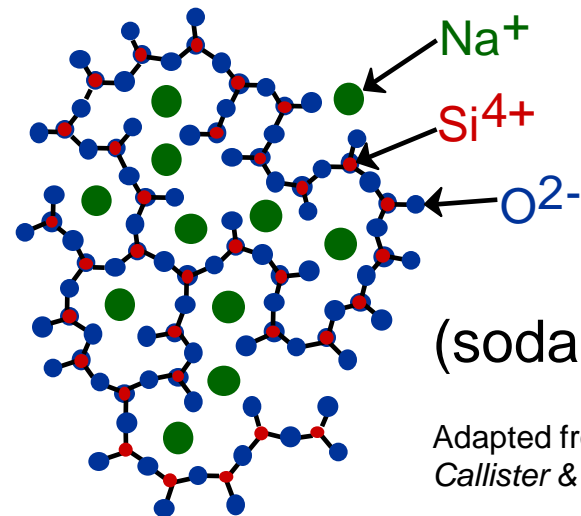
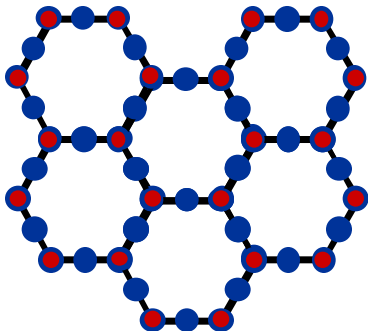
- Basic Unit:



Glass is noncrystalline (**amorphous**)

- Fused silica is  $\text{SiO}_2$  to which no impurities have been added
- Other common glasses contain impurity ions such as  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Al}^{3+}$ , and  $\text{B}^{3+}$

- Quartz is **crystalline**  
 $\text{SiO}_2$ :



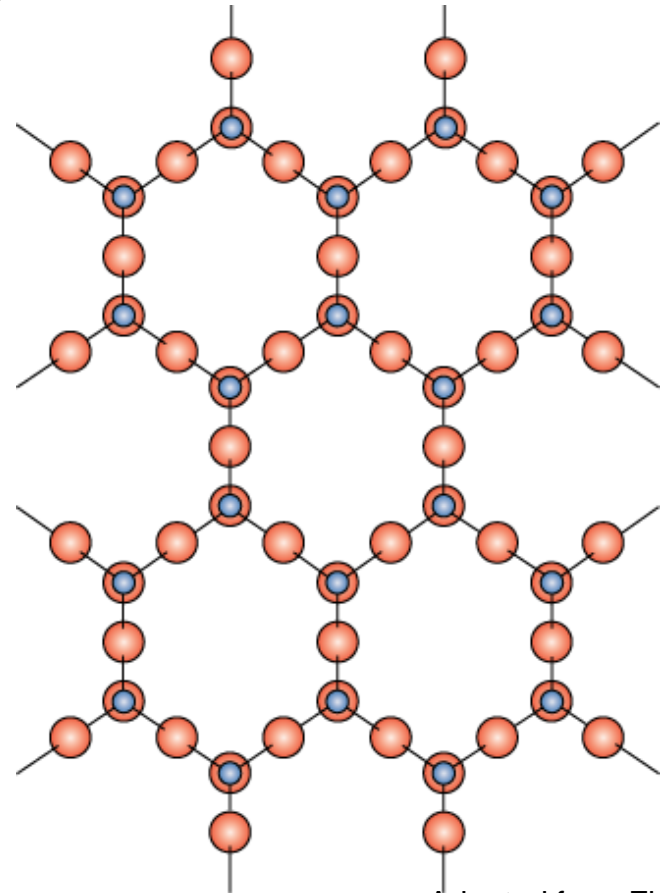
(soda glass)

Adapted from Fig. 12.11,  
*Callister & Rethwisch 8e.*



# Layered Silicates

- Layered silicates (e.g., clays, mica, talc)
  - $\text{SiO}_4$  tetrahedra connected together to form 2-D plane
- A net negative charge is associated with each  $(\text{Si}_2\text{O}_5)^{2-}$  unit
  - Each hexagon has 6 Si corner, but each Si can be counted only as  $1/3$  therefore,  $6 \times 1/3 = 2$  Si
  - Two types of oxygen:
    - 6 O, one on each side of the hexagon, counted as  $1/2$ , therefore  $6 \times 1/2 = 3$
    - 6 O, each along the three-cell edge, counted as  $1/3$ , therefore,  $6 \times 1/3 = 2$
    - Totally:  $3+2 = 5$  per unit (hexagonal) cell
- Negative charge balanced by adjacent plane rich in positively charged cations

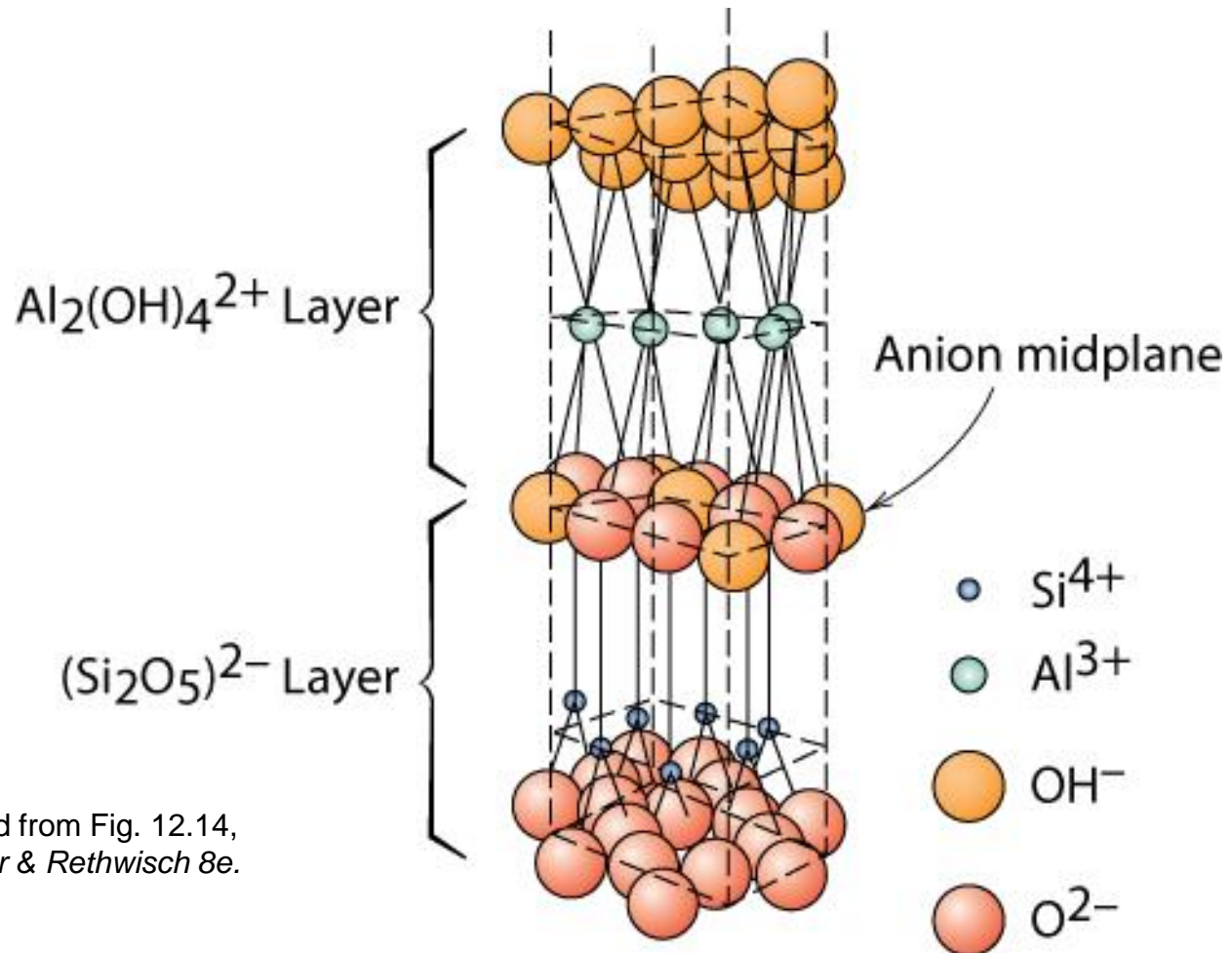


Adapted from Fig. 12.13, Callister & Rethwisch 8e.



# Layered Silicates (cont.)

- Kaolinite clay alternates  $(\text{Si}_2\text{O}_5)^{2-}$  layer with  $\text{Al}_2(\text{OH})_4^{2+}$  layer



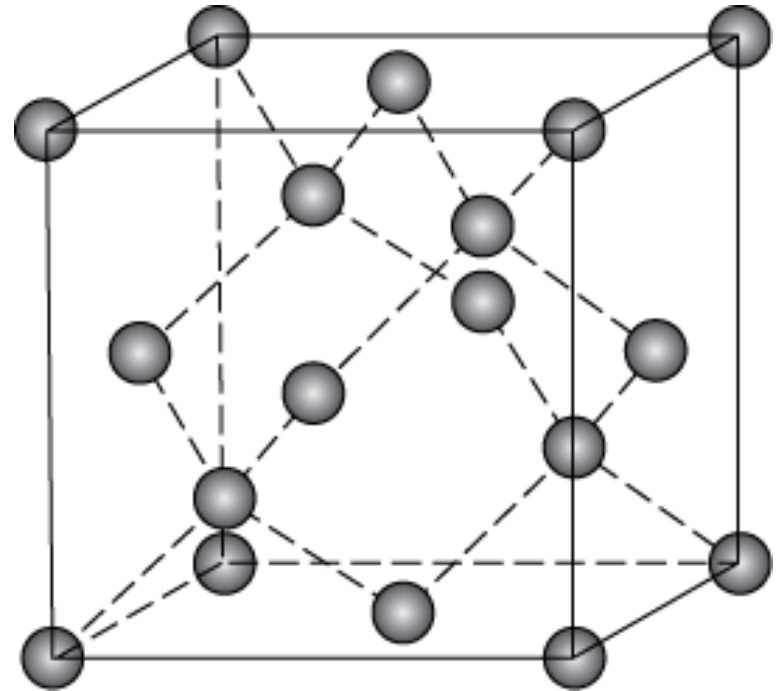
Adapted from Fig. 12.14,  
*Callister & Rethwisch 8e.*

Note: Adjacent sheets of this type are loosely bound to one another by van der Waal's forces.

# Polymorphic Forms of Carbon

## (1) Diamond

- Tetrahedral bonding of carbon atoms
  - Hardest material known
  - Very high thermal conductivity
- Large single crystals – gem stones
- Small crystals – used to grind/cut other materials
- Diamond thin films
  - hard surface coatings – used for cutting tools, medical devices, etc.

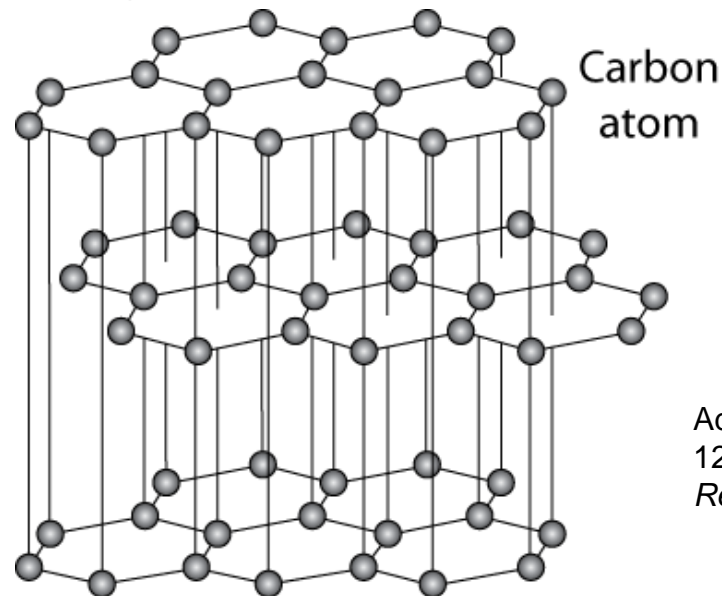


Adapted from Fig. 12.15,  
*Callister & Rethwisch 8e.*

# Polymorphic Forms of Carbon (cont)

## (2) Graphite

- Layered structure – parallel hexagonal arrays of carbon atoms



Adapted from Fig.  
12.17, *Callister &  
Rethwisch 8e.*

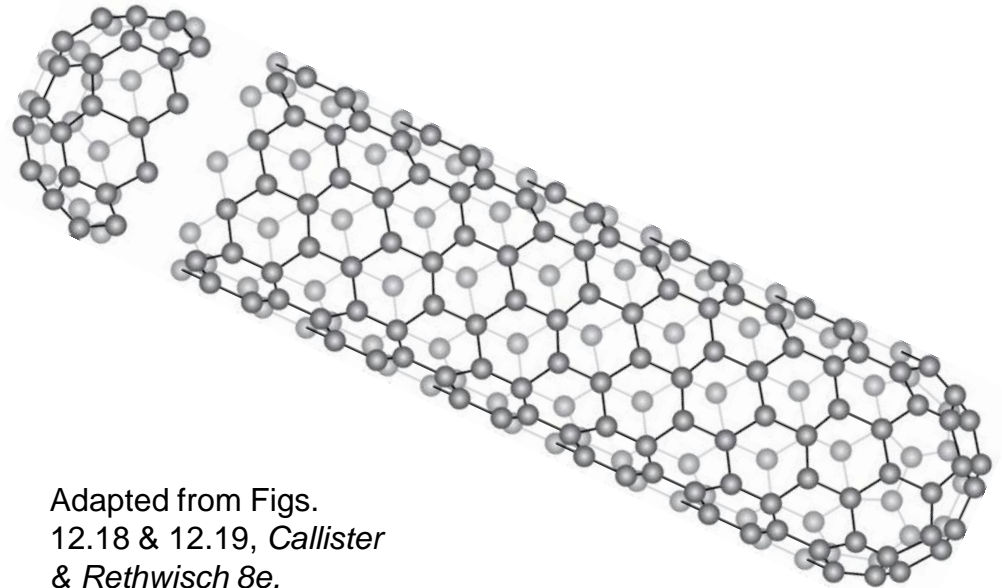
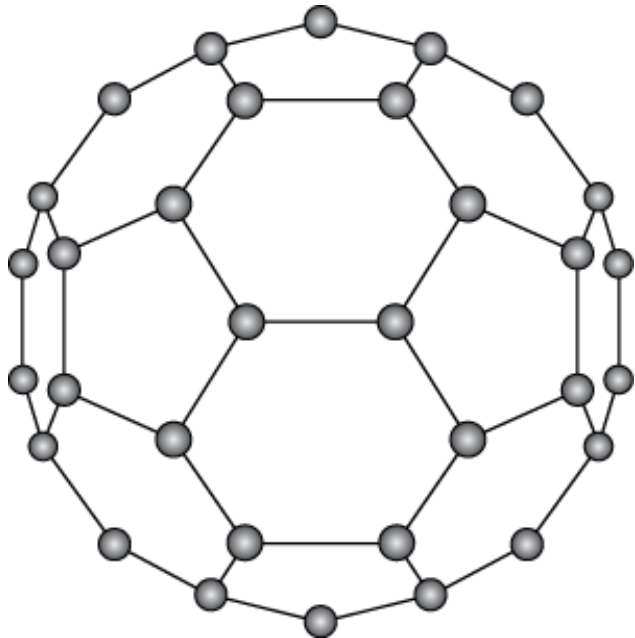
- Weak secondary bonding (van der Waal's forces) between layers → planes slide easily over one another – as good lubricant

# Polymorphic Forms of Carbon (cont)

## Fullerenes and Nanotubes

### Others

- **Fullerenes** – spherical cluster of 60 carbon atoms,  $C_{60}$ 
  - Like a soccer ball
- **Carbon nanotubes** – sheet of graphite rolled into a tube
  - Ends capped with fullerene hemispheres

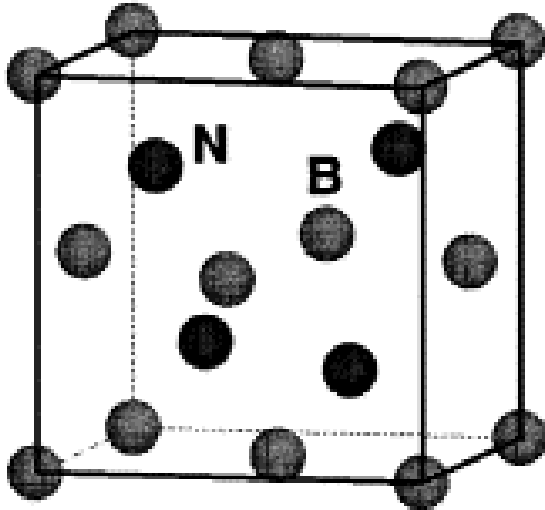


Adapted from Figs.  
12.18 & 12.19, *Callister*  
& *Rethwisch 8e.*

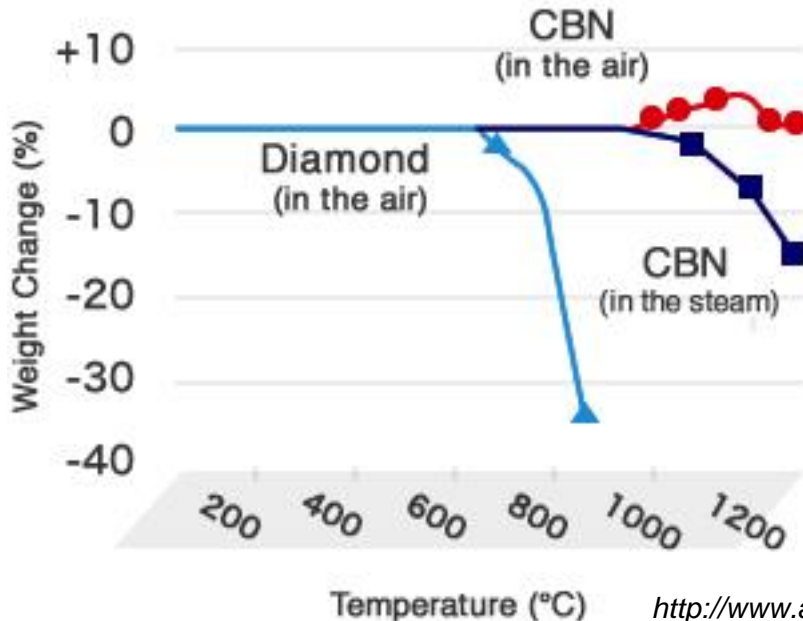
# Boron Nitride: Cubic vs. Hexagonal

Cubic BN (cBN)

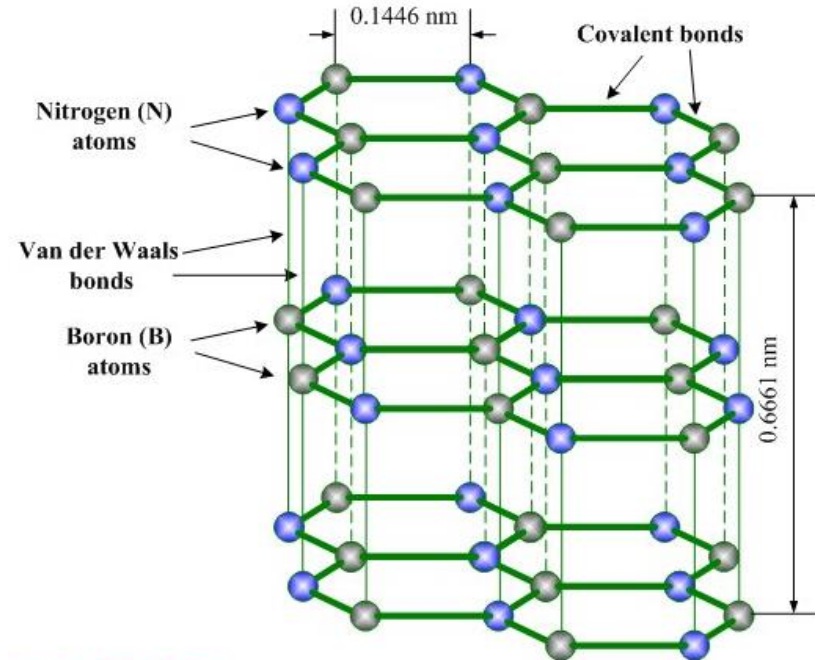
All covalent bonding



<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0925963502003291>



Hexagonal BN (hBN):  
secondary bonding between layers



[www.substech.com](http://www.substech.com)

cBN is extremely hard (second only to diamond) and useful for machining cast iron, while hBN is extremely soft and useful as a lubricant

