

Space group ambiguity in $\text{Tb}_2(\text{Porphyrin})_3$

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A triple-decker $\text{Tb}_2(\text{Porphyrin})_3$ sandwich complex refines in both $I4/m$ and $I-4$. In $I4/m$, the molecule has $4/m$ point symmetry, the refinement is stable, and the outer porphyrins are ordered, but significant disorder is modeled in the center porphyrin. Alternatively, in $I-4$, with molecular point symmetry -4 , no disorder model is required, but heavy restraints/constraints are needed for the portion of the molecule that has $4/m$ point symmetry. This talk aims to stimulate discussion from the different schools of thought about which is the preferred space group choice for modeling the structure.