



# A Potentially Useful Semiorganic Nonlinear Optical Material L-Asparagine Potassium Penta Borate Octa Hydrate (Lasppb) for Opto-Electronic Device Fabrication

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**Abstract:** L-Asparagine potassium penta borate octa hydrate(LASPPB) single crystals were synthesized from its aqueous solution at ambient temperature. Single crystal XRD confirmed the orthorhombic nature of the crystals. The UV-Vis spectroscopy highlighted the transparent nature of the LASPPB crystal. The lower cut-off wavelength was equivalent to 204 nm. The optical band gap was 6.06eV. The various functionalities incorporated in the synthesized compound were analysed by FTIR technique. The Second harmonic efficient of the LASPPB was 0.77 times that of KDP. The TG/DTA analyses showed the thermal stability and the melting point of LASPPB. The micro hardness test revealed the soft category of the material.

**Key words:** Single crystal, UV-Vis study, FTIR-study, Thermal stability, microhardness.

## 1. Introduction:

Non linear materials have the spectrum of advantages in the areas of optical data storage, optical communication, electro-optic applications etc.,<sup>1-4</sup>. Also, the nonlinear single crystals find wide applications in various industries like microelectronics, semiconductors, photonics, sensors etc.,<sup>5-6</sup>. Hence, the search for the new single crystals is an evergrowing task. In this series, the semiorganic materials retain the merits of organic and inorganic materials<sup>7-8</sup>. L-Asparagine one of the organic amino acid is important for protein structure and metabolism of cells and nerves. Potassium penta borate octa hydrate is a mid-alkaline salt. It has been widely used and assumed great asset for NLO devices in UV laser generation<sup>9</sup>. This potassium penta borate was combined with aminoacids like L-Alanine, Glycine and reported<sup>10-11</sup>. Also, L-Asparagine was discussed by many researchers<sup>12-19</sup>. In this present study, L-Asparagine is combined with Potassium penta borate octa hydrate in 1:1 ratio and its growth and characterization are discussed.

## 2. Experimental:

### 2.1 Synthesis:

The title compound LASPPB was synthesized by taking analar AR grade L-Asparagine and Potassium penta borate octa hydrate in 1:1 ratio and triply ionized water was used for the synthesis of the crystal. A magnetic stirrer was used for the dissolution of the contents for 4 to 6 hours. The solution was filtered and

allowed for slow evaporation. After 7 days, we got single crystals of LASPPB successfully and one well defined seed crystal was taken and suspended in the mother solution to get the bulk crystal.

## 2.2 Characterization:

Using Enraf Nonius X-ray Diffractometer, the lattice parameters were calculated. A  $\lambda$ -35 double beam spectrometer was used to identify the transmission property in the range of 190-1100nm. The amino acid and borate groups in the LASPPB were confirmed by using the Perkin Elmer FTIR spectrometer (Model SPECTRUM RXI). The wavelength range used in the spectrometer was 400-4000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  method adopted was KBr pellet method. A Q-switched mode locked Nd:Yag laser of wavelength 1064nm was used with a pulse width of 10ns and a repetition rate of 10 Hz was made to pass through the sample. The green signal generated in the LASPPB of wavelength 532nm confirmed the second harmonic generation. Using the model SII EXSTAR thermal analyzer, the thermo gravimetric analysis(TG) and differential thermal analysis(DTA) were done on the title compound in the nitrogen atmosphere. The rate of heating used was 20 $^{\circ}$ c per minute. Shimadzu HMV-2000 microhardness tester was employed to calculate the hardness number of the LASPPB for various loads.

## 3. Results and Discussion:

### 3.1 Single Crystal XRD studies:

The unit cell parameters of the LASPPB crystal are calculated as  $a = 5.614\text{\AA}$ ,  $b = 9.907\text{\AA}$ ,  $c = 11.847\text{\AA}$ ,  $\alpha=\beta=\gamma=90^{\circ}$  and the volume of the cell is  $V = 656\text{\AA}^3$ . The number of molecules per unit volume is 4 and the space group is  $P2_12_12_1$ . Also, the LASPPB crystal belongs to the orthorhombic system. The photograph of the LASPPB crystal is shown in Fig.1 Table.1 shows the details of the unit cell of the LASPPB.



Fig.1 The photograph of LASPPB

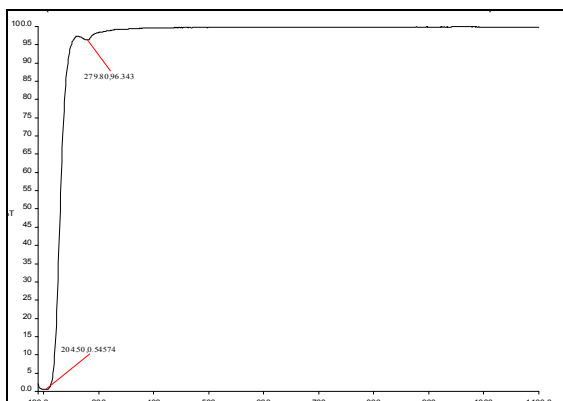
Table.1 Details of the unit cell of LASPPB

Parameter	LASPPB
a	5.614 $\text{\AA}$
b	9.907 $\text{\AA}$
c	11.847 $\text{\AA}$
$\alpha=\beta=\gamma$	90 $^{\circ}$
Volume	656 $\text{\AA}^3$
System	Orthorhombic
Space group	P212121
No. of molecules per unit volume	4

### 3.2 UV-Visible studies:

The migration of the electrons in the  $\sigma$  and  $\pi$  orbital from the ground to higher energy states by absorbing UV visible light can be studied by recording the UV-Visible spectrum. The recorded transmittance for LASPPB is 98% starting from the UV- lower cut-off wavelength of 204nm to 1100nm. It is shown in Fig.2 This transparent nature is the mandatory condition for the Opto-electronic applications like infrared diode, IR sensor modules, photovoltaic cell and laser applications<sup>20-21</sup>. The optical band gap of the LASPPB was 6.06eV

and it was calculated using the formula  $E_g = 1.243 \times 10^3 / \lambda_{\text{max}}$ . This larger band gap shows the lower incorporation of the defects in the crystal.



**Fig.2 UV-VIS Study**

**Table.1 Details of the unit cell of LASPPB**

Parameter	LASPPB
a	5.614 Å
b	9.907 Å
c	11.847 Å
$\alpha=\beta=\gamma$	90°
Volume	656 Å <sup>3</sup>
System	Orthorhombic
Space group	P212121
No. of molecules per unit volume	4

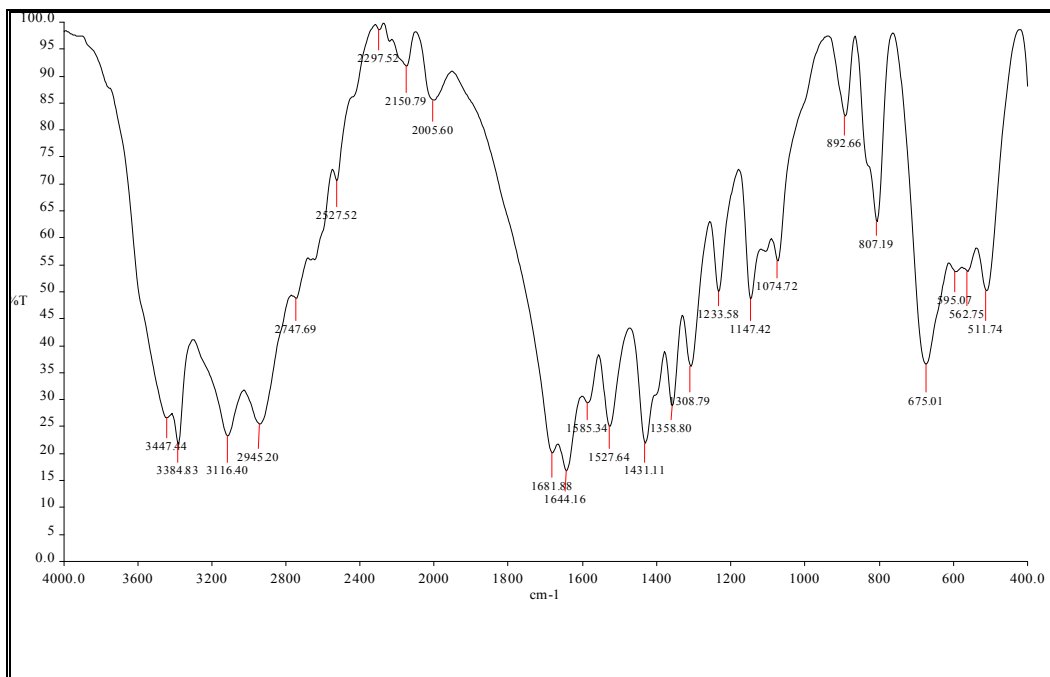
**Table. 2 Spectral Band Assignments of the LASPPB:**

Wave number cm <sup>-1</sup>	Band Assignments
3347	O-H stretching vibration
3384	O-H stretching vibration
3116	NH <sub>2</sub> stretching vibration
2945	NH <sub>3</sub> stretching vibration
2527	C-H symmetric stretching vibration
2005	N-H stretching
1644	NH <sub>3</sub> deformation vibration
1431	B-O terminal symmetric stretching vibration, symmetric vibrations of COO-
1358	C-H bending, B-O asymmetric stretching
1308	CH <sub>2</sub> wagging
1233	C-H <sub>2</sub> rocking, B-O asymmetric stretching
1147	B-O asymmetric stretching
1074	C-N stretching
892	CH <sub>2</sub> rocking
807	C-C stretching

### 3.3 FTIR Analysis:

To analyze the different functionalities in the LASPPB, the FTIR spectrum, ( Fig-3) has been recorded for the wavelength range of 400-4000 cm<sup>-1</sup> using Perkin Elmer Fourier Transform Infrared Spectrometer (model spectrum RXI) by KBr pellet method. They are shown in Table.2 The O-H stretching vibrations are confirmed

by the peaks at  $3447\text{cm}^{-1}$  and  $3384\text{cm}^{-1}$ <sup>15</sup>. The peak at  $3116\text{cm}^{-1}$  measures the  $\text{NH}_2$  stretching vibration. The  $\text{NH}_3$  stretching vibration gives the strong absorption peak at  $2945\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The symmetric stretching of C-H produced a peak at  $2527\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The N-H stretching vibration gave its characteristic peak at  $2005\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The  $\text{NH}_3$  deformation vibration produced a peak at  $1644\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Symmetric vibration of  $\text{COO}^-$  and B-O terminal stretching vibrations are positioned at  $1431\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Meanwhile, C-H bending vibration is identified at the wavelength of  $1358\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The asymmetric stretching vibrations of B-O are assigned at  $1233\text{cm}^{-1}$  and  $1147\text{cm}^{-1}$ <sup>22</sup>. Also, the peak at  $1308\text{cm}^{-1}$  is because of the  $\text{CH}_2$  wagging. Moreover, the peaks at  $1074\text{cm}^{-1}$  and  $807\text{cm}^{-1}$  are due to C-C stretching and C-N stretching. The rocking of  $\text{CH}_2$  is observed at  $892\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



**Fig.3 FTIR-Study**

### 3.4 Second Harmonic Generation Analysis:

The non linear optical property of LASPPB was tested by the Kurtz powder method<sup>23</sup>. For this, a powder sample was densely packed between two mirrors and  $1064\text{nm}$  wavelength of laser beam with an input pulse of  $6\text{ns}$  and repetition rate of  $10\text{Hz}$  was incident on it. The emission of green colour light of wavelength  $532\text{nm}$  was detected by the photomultiplier tube and hence LASPPB can be used as a second harmonic generator. The compared SHG efficiency of the LASPPB was equivalent to  $77\%$  with that of standard KDP.

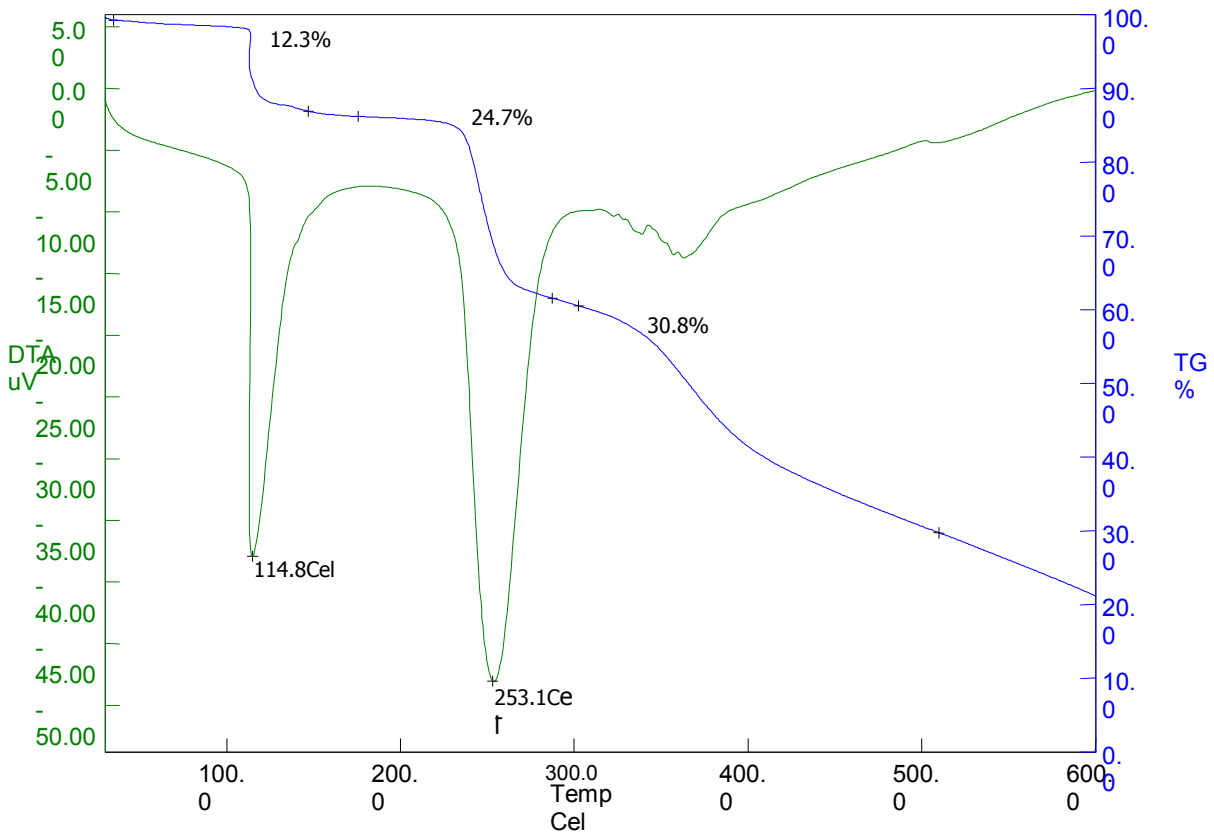
### 3.5 TG/DTA Studies:

The simultaneous TG and DTA test was performed on the LASPPB sample weighing  $5.688\text{mg}$  using a SII EXSTAR 6000 model thermal analyzer in atmosphere of nitrogen. The range of temperature of  $30^\circ\text{C}$  to  $800^\circ\text{C}$  with a heating rate of  $20^\circ\text{C}$  per minute was used for the analysis. The TG/DTA curves of the LASPPB were shown in Fig-4. From this, it was observed that a weight loss of  $12.3\%$  at  $114.8^\circ\text{C}$  occurs because of the release of water molecules present in the crystal lattice. Then at  $253.1^\circ\text{C}$ , there is a weight loss of  $24.7\%$  occurs. This may be due to the release of potassium, borate and the remaining amino acid group present in the crystal lattice. The DTA analysis shows one endothermic transition between  $114^\circ\text{C}$  and  $253^\circ\text{C}$  which agrees well with the TGA curve. The another sharp endothermic peak at  $253^\circ\text{C}$  is assumed as the melting point of the LASPPB crystal. Hence it is observed that LASPPB is suitable for device fabrications.

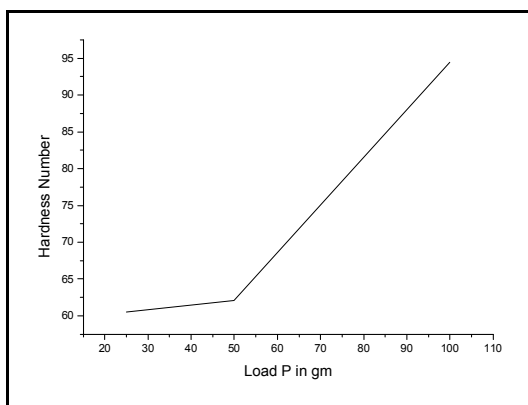
### 3.6 Micro Hardness Study:

The microhardness of a substance is an important parameter to define the strength of its material. The hardness testing provides useful information about the mechanical properties like elastic constants, yield strength etc. of the substance. Hardness is the resistance offered by the crystal for localized plastic deformation. The microhardness of the LASPPB was tested by using Vicker's test by varying the applied load. The plot of

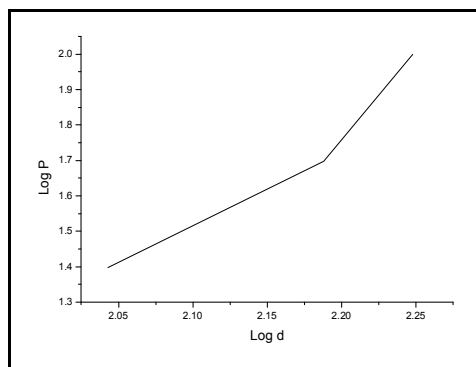
hardness Vs load is shown in Fig-5. This denotes the increase of hardness number as the applied load increases. This behaviour is known as the reverse indentation size effect (RISE). The graph of  $\log P$  Vs  $\log d$  is shown in Fig-6. From this plot, the work hardening coefficient,  $n$  can be found and it is equivalent to 3.6. According to Onitsch, materials for  $n > 1.6$  are soft and hence, the LASPPB is a soft material<sup>24-25</sup>.



**Fig.4 TG/DTA Diagram**



**Fig.5 Hardness Number Vs Load Diagram**



**Fig.6 Log P Vs Log d Diagram**

#### 4. Conclusion:

Single crystals of L-Asparagine potassium penta borate octa hydrate LASPPB are synthesized successfully. The single crystal study confirms the orthorhombic nature of the crystal. The transparent nature in the UV-visible and Infrared region confirms the non linear property of the crystal and the opto-electronic device fabrication. The FTIR study proves the amino group and the borate groups. The TG/DTA analyses explain the thermal stability and the melting point of LASPPB is equivalent to 253°C. The microhardness study reveals the soft category of the LASPPB crystal.

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