

displacive transition

A transition in which a displacement of one or more kinds of atoms or ions in a crystal structure changes the lengths and/or directions of bonds, without severing the primary bonds.

Examples:

The transitions of the low-temperature polymorphs of SiO₂ (quartz, tridymite and cristobalite) to their respective high-temperature polymorphs, which involve distortions or rotations of the SiO₄ tetrahedra. Also *Jahn–Teller* and *ferroic transitions*.

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