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SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

The Effect of High Pressure on the Crystal Structures of Polymorphs of *L*-Histidine

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Electronic Supplementary Information Table of Contents

Table S1 Phase behaviour of polymorphs at high pressure from the Cambridge Structural Database (v 5.41, Nov 2019) and literature	3
Table S2 Crystallographic information for all structures	5
Table S3 Absolute mean difference in the contributing energy terms between PIXEL and SAPT calculations	12
Table S4 Bond lengths of the two polymorphs of the amino acid L-histidine	12
Table S5 Valence angles of the two polymorphs of the amino acid L-histidine	13
Table S6 Conformation of the two polymorphs of the amino acid L-histidine	14
Figure S1 Comparison between the experimental and optimised molecular structures of the polymorphs of the amino acid L-histidine	15
Figure S2 Stabilising intermolecular interaction between imidazole rings and destabilising interaction generated by the ammonium groups, in the crystal structure of the polymorphs of the amino acid L-histidine viewed along <i>a</i>	16
Figure S3 Crystal packing along the <i>c</i> -direction for form I at 0 GPa and for form I' at 6.6 GPa	16
Figure S4 The torsion angle τ_3 as a function of pressure, for the monoclinic polymorph of the amino acid L-histidine	17
Note on the variation of intramolecular bond distances with pressure (Table S7)	17
Derivation of the Relationship between Overall and Component Volumes and Bulk Moduli	19
Table S8 Parameters for the Birch-Murnaghan equations of state (EoS) of the molecule, network and void in phase I and II	20
Figure S5 Equations of states of the network and void space for phase I and II of L-histidine.....	21
References	21

Table S1 Phase behaviour of polymorphs at high pressure from the Cambridge Structural Database (v 5.41, Nov 2019) and literature.

Ambient Pressure				High pressure		
	Form	Space group	Refcode / Temperature	Form	Space group	Phase behavior
P-aminobenzoic acid	α	$P 2_1/n$	AMBNAC06 / 293 K ¹	δ	$P n$	<p>δ-form can be recovered at ambient conditions. Direct compression of the α-form at ~ 0.85 GPa (water). Solution recrystallization: AMBNAC14 / 0.49 GPa (ethanol) AMBNAC15 / 0.33 GPa (water) AMBNAC18 / 0.8 GPa (water and ethanol)^{2,3}</p> <p>α-form and β-form are phase stable up to ~ 13 GPa (Raman spectroscopy).⁴</p>
	β	$P 2_1/n$	AMBNAC04 / 298 K ⁵			
	γ	$P na2_1$	AMBNAC09 / 100 K ⁶			
Chloropropamide	α	$P 2_12_12_1$	BEDMIG10 / 295 K ⁷	α'	$P 2_111$	<p>BEDMIG18 / 3.33 GPa⁸ The same phase transition is observed for a dry powder sample of the α-form at 5.5 GPa.⁹ β-form undergoes different phase transitions depending on the choice of pressure-transmitting medium (Ne, He, paraffin, 1:1 pentane-isopentane).^{11,12} β-form and ε-form transform to different phases depending on the type of mechanical treatment.¹³</p>
	β	$P bcn$	BEDMIG01 / 295 K ¹⁰			
	ε	$P na2_1$	BEDMIG04 / 295 K ¹⁴			
	δ	$P bca$	BEDMIG03 / 295 K ¹⁴			
	γ	$P 2_1$	BEDMIG19 / 293 K ¹¹			
Piracetam	I	$P 2_1/n$	BISMEV03 / 293 K ¹⁵	V	$P \bar{1}$	Forms I, II and III interconversion under mechanical activation and pressing. ¹⁶
	II	$P \bar{1}$	BISMEV / 293 K ¹⁷			
	III	$P 2_1/n$	BISMEV13 / 290 K ¹⁹			
Tolazamide	I	$P \bar{1}$	CABCUD03 / 295 K ²¹	IV	$P 2_1/n$	BISMEV04 / 0.4 GPa ²⁰
	II	$P \bar{1}$	CABCUD35 / 295 K ²³			
Glycine	α	$P 2_1/n$	GLYCIN20 / 301 K ²⁴	δ	$P 2_1$	<p>α-Form is phase stable up to 6.2 (GLYCIN64),²⁵ 6.4 GPa (neutron powder diffraction),²⁶ 50 GPa (angle-dispersive X-ray diffraction).²⁷ GLYCIN62 / 7.8 GPa²⁸</p>
	β	$P 2_1$	GLYCIN71 / 293 K ²⁸			
	γ	$P 3_1$	GLYCIN18 / 293 K ²⁹			
				ε	$P n$	GLYCIN68 / 4.3 GPa ²⁵
				ζ	$I 1$	DOLBIR43 / 0.0 GPa ³⁰

Ambient Pressure				High pressure		
	Form	Space group	Refcode / Temperature	Form	Space group	Phase behavior
Paracetamol	I	$P 2_1/n$	HXACAN35 / 293 K ³¹			Form-I-to-form-II transformation observed in a pressure-cycled powder sample above 4 GPa, not detected when a single-crystal was used. Potentially, ' <i>the monoclinic polymorph is slightly more compressible</i> ' ³² Further evidence of the form-I-to-II transition in a later Raman study, which also described additional polymorphs at 8 GPa (form IV) and 10.5 GPa (form V). ³³ Recovery of form II assisted by anti-solvent addition at high pressure. ³⁴
	II	$P bca$	HXACAN33 / 293 K ³⁵			
	III	$P ca2_1$	HXACAN40 / 293 K ³⁶			
L-cysteine	I	$P 2_12_12_1$	LCYSTN36 / 295 K ³⁷	III	$P 2_12_12_1$	LCYSTN25 / 4.2 GPa ³⁸ Phase transitions observed by Raman spectroscopy at 2.1 GPa and 2.3 GPa. ^{39,40}
	II	$P 2_1$	LCYSTN / 293 K ⁴¹	IV	$P 2_1$	LCYSTN26 / 1.7 GPa ³⁸ Reversible phase transitions at ~2.9 GPa and ~3.6 GPa observed by Raman spectroscopy. ⁴⁰
CL-20	β	$P b2_1a$	PUBMUU01 / 293 K ⁴²	ξ	$P 2_1/n$	PUBMUU23 / 3.3 GPa ⁴³ Spectroscopic experiments observed a ϵ -form-to- γ -form transition between 4.1 and 6.4 GPa, which subsequently transforms to the ξ -form at ~18.7 GPa. ⁴⁵
	γ	$P 2_1/n$	PUBMUU06 / 293 K ⁴²			
	ϵ	$P 2_1/n$	PUBMUU18 / 295 K ⁴⁴			
ROY	ON	$P 2_1/c$	QAXMEH / 293 K ⁴⁶			Y-form is phase stable up to 5.2 GPa (QAXMEH21), bulk modulus of 6.0(7). ⁵⁰ OP-form is phase stable up to 9.3 GPa, bulk modulus of 4.3(3). ⁵¹
	R	$P \bar{1}$	QAXMEH02 / 293 K ⁴⁶			
	YN	$P \bar{1}$	QAXMEH04 / 293 K ⁴⁶			
	ORP	$P bca$	QAXMEH05 / 293 K ⁴⁶			
	YT04	$P 2_1/n$	QAXMEH12 / 296 K ⁴⁷			
	R05	$P 2_1$	QAXMEH31 / 250 K ⁴⁸			
	PO13	$P 2_1/c$	QAXMEH52 / 293 K ⁴⁹			
	Y	$P 2_1/n$	QAXMEH01 / 293 K ⁴⁶			
	OP	$P 2_1/n$	QAXMEH03 / 293 K ⁴⁶			
Benzocaine	I	$P 2_1/c$	QQQAXG04 / 300 K ⁵²	IV	$P 2_1/c$	QQQAXG15 / 0.78 GPa ⁵³
	II	$P 2_12_12_1$	QQQAXG07 / 300 K ⁵⁴			

The research in the CSD was performed by selecting structurally characterised organic molecules (R factor < 10) whose ambient-pressure polymorphs have been investigated at high-pressure for comparison, with the highest-pressure structure reported. When available, supplementary studies performed with different techniques were added for completeness.

Table S2 Crystallographic information for all structures. Several crystals were used for each study to confirm reproducibility and ‘fill in’ large pressure increments.

CCDC Deposition Number	2020565	2020566	2020567	2020568	2020569
Phase, Pressure (GPa), Crystal #	I, 0.00	I, 0.23, 1	I, 0.58, 1	I, 1.32, 1	I, 1.33, 2
Crystal data					
Crystal system, space group	Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$	Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$	Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$	Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$	Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$
Temperature (K)	298	293	293	293	293
a, b, c (Å)	5.1586(5), 7.3367(6), 18.7825(13)	5.1558(7), 7.3090(8), 18.817(18)	5.1208(6), 7.1807(7), 18.765(17)	5.0563(4), 6.9875(5), 18.674(12)	5.0631(5), 6.9866(7), 18.655(11)
α, β, γ (°)	90, 90, 90	90, 90, 90	90, 90, 90	90, 90, 90	90, 90, 90
V (Å ³), ρ (g/cm ³)	710.86 (10), 1.450	709.1 (7), 1.453	690.0 (6), 1.494	659.8 (4), 1.562	659.9 (4), 1.562
Radiation type	Mo $K\alpha$, $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å
μ (mm ⁻¹)	0.11	0.05	0.12	0.06	0.06
Crystal size (mm)	0.35 × 0.30 × 0.15	0.25 × 0.15 × 0.15*	0.25 × 0.15 × 0.15*	0.25 × 0.15 × 0.15*	0.25 × 0.25 × 0.15**
Data collection					
Diffractometer	Agilent SuperNova	Beamline I19-EH2	Beamline I19-EH2	Beamline I19-EH2	Beamline I19-EH2
Absorption correction	Multi-scan	Multi-scan	Multi-scan	Multi-scan	Multi-scan
T_{\min}, T_{\max}	0.6816, 0.7454	0.6423, 0.7439	0.6688, 0.7439	0.6530, 0.7442	0.6609, 0.7442
No. of measured, independent and observed [$I > 2\sigma(I)$] reflections	8266, 1440, 1251	924, 388, 348	804, 357, 319	925, 442, 365	1609, 657, 535
R_{int}	0.045	0.013	0.011	0.012	0.031
$\theta_{\max}, \theta_{\min}$ (°), completeness	2.981, 25.242, 100%	2.044, 15.686, 40%	1.9330, 15.6163, 37%	2.128, 17.726, 34%	2.128, 17.697, 49%
$(\sin \theta/\lambda)_{\max}$ (Å ⁻¹)	0.626	0.556	0.554	0.627	0.626
Refinement					
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)], wR(F^2), S$	0.042, 0.069, 1.61	0.059, 0.119, 2.31	0.063, 0.127, 2.46	0.066, 0.144, 2.58	0.039, 0.083, 1.29
No. unique reflections/parameters	1440 / 102	388 / 46	357 / 46	442 / 46	657 / 101
No. of restraints	0	25	25	25	100
$\Delta\rho_{\max}, \Delta\rho_{\min}$ (e Å ⁻³)	0.20, -0.16	0.22, -0.18	0.27, -0.21	0.30, -0.25	0.16, -0.19

CCDC Deposition Number	2020570	2020571	2020572	2020573	2020574
Phase, Pressure (GPa), Crystal #	I, 2.01, 1	I, 2.06, 2	I, 2.53, 1	I, 3.06, 2	I, 3.20, 1
Crystal data					
Crystal system, space group	Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$	Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$	Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$	Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$	Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$
Temperature (K)	293	293	293	293	293
a, b, c (Å)	5.0093(5), 6.8705(6), 18.569(14)	5.0023(6), 6.8485(8), 18.580(12)	4.9780(5), 6.8013(7), 18.521(15)	4.9447(4), 6.7345(6), 18.434(9)	4.9403(5), 6.7284(7), 18.432(17)
α, β, γ (°)	90, 90, 90	90, 90, 90	90, 90, 90	90, 90, 90	90, 90, 90
V (Å ³), ρ (g/cm ³)	639.1 (5), 1.613	636.5 (4), 1.619	627.1 (5), 1.644	613.9 (3), 1.679	612.7 (6), 1.682
Radiation type	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å
μ (mm ⁻¹)	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06
Crystal size (mm)	0.25 × 0.15 × 0.15	0.25 × 0.25 × 0.15	0.25 × 0.15 × 0.15	0.25 × 0.25 × 0.15	0.25 × 0.15 × 0.15
Data collection					
Diffractometer	Beamline I19-EH2	Beamline I19-EH2	Beamline I19-EH2	Beamline I19-EH2	Beamline I19-EH2
Absorption correction	Multi-scan	Multi-scan	Multi-scan	Multi-scan	Multi-scan
T_{\min}, T_{\max}	0.6591, 0.7442	0.6575, 0.7442	0.6211, 0.7442	0.6727, 0.7442	0.6271, 0.7442
No. of measured, independent and observed [$I > 2\sigma(I)$] reflections	1021, 477, 387	1143, 550, 489	1000, 484, 393	993, 500, 451	924, 453, 348
R_{int}	0.023	0.013	0.030	0.014	0.029
$\theta_{\max}, \theta_{\min}$ (°), completeness	2.161, 17.736, 37%	2.167, 17.654, 43%	2.897, 17.704, 38%	2.201, 17.685, 42%	2.918, 17.701, 37%
$(\sin \theta/\lambda)_{\max}$ (Å ⁻¹)	0.627	0.624	0.626	0.625	0.626
Refinement					
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)], wR(F^2), S$	0.059, 0.122, 1.90	0.034, 0.076, 1.56	0.064, 0.126, 1.70	0.037, 0.077, 1.60	0.055, 0.106, 1.46
No. unique reflections/parameters	477 / 46	550 / 101	484 / 46	500 / 101	453 / 46
No. of restraints	25	100	25	100	25
$\Delta\rho_{\max}, \Delta\rho_{\min}$ (e Å ⁻³)	0.22, -0.21	0.13, -0.16	0.28, -0.26	0.14, -0.15	0.19, -0.22

CCDC Deposition Number	2020575	2020576	2020577	2020578	2020579
Phase, Pressure (GPa), Crystal #	I, 3.85, 1	I, 4.45, 1	I', 4.62, 2	I', 5.02, 1	I', 5.61, 2
Crystal data					
Crystal system, space group	Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$	Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$	Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$	Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$	Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$
Temperature (K)	293	293	293	293	293
a, b, c (Å)	4.9065(5), 6.6743(7), 18.352(15)	4.8797(5), 6.6367(7), 18.251(16)	4.8515(5), 6.8861(8), 17.238(11)	4.8335(3), 6.8544(5), 17.230(12)	4.8301(5), 6.8383(10), 17.128(14)
α, β, γ (°)	90, 90, 90	90, 90, 90	90, 90, 90	90, 90, 90	90, 90, 90
V (Å ³), ρ (g/cm ³)	601.0 (5), 1.715	591.1 (5), 1.744	575.9 (4), 1.790	570.8 (4), 1.805	565.7 (5), 1.822
Radiation type	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å
μ (mm ⁻¹)	0.06	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07
Crystal size (mm)	0.25 × 0.15 × 0.15	0.25 × 0.15 × 0.15	0.25 × 0.25 × 0.15	0.25 × 0.15 × 0.15	0.25 × 0.25 × 0.15
Data collection					
Diffractometer	Beamline I19-EH2	Beamline I19-EH2	Beamline I19-EH2	Beamline I19-EH2	Beamline I19-EH2
Absorption correction	Multi-scan	Multi-scan	Multi-scan	Multi-scan	Multi-scan
T_{\min}, T_{\max}	0.5481, 0.7442	0.6412, 0.7442	0.6056, 0.7442	0.6306, 0.7442	0.6457, 0.7442
No. of measured, independent and observed [$I > 2\sigma(I)$] reflections	1443, 514, 402	1149, 448, 368	1092, 530, 428	1078, 422, 351	924, 438, 372
R_{int}	0.037	0.024	0.036	0.027	0.022
$\theta_{\max}, \theta_{\min}$ (°), completeness	2.220, 17.721, 43%	2.232, 17.723, 38%	2.588, 17.694, 46%	2.186, 17.730, 37%	2.606, 17.712, 41%
$(\sin \theta/\lambda)_{\max}$ (Å ⁻¹)	0.626	0.626	0.626	0.627	0.626
Refinement					
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)], wR(F^2), S$	0.050, 0.104, 1.51	0.054, 0.108, 1.79	0.047, 0.097, 1.36	0.048, 0.096, 1.59	0.040, 0.077, 1.43
No. unique reflections/parameters	514 / 46	448 / 46	530 / 101	422 / 46	438 / 101
No. of restraints	25	25	100	25	100
$\Delta\rho_{\max}, \Delta\rho_{\min}$ (e Å ⁻³)	0.24, -0.21	0.28, -0.23	0.19, -0.21	0.26, -0.17	0.14, -0.17

CCDC Deposition Number	2020580	2020581	2020582	2020583	2020584
Phase, Pressure (GPa), Crystal #	I', 5.86, 1	I', 6.60, 1	II, 0.00	II, 0.11, 1, 1	II, 0.44, 1
Crystal data					
Crystal system, space group	Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$	Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$	Monoclinic, $P2_1$	Monoclinic, $P2_1$	Monoclinic, $P2_1$
Temperature (K)	293	293	298	293	293
a, b, c (Å)	4.8112(4), 6.8129(5), 17.100(12)	4.7918(3), 6.7777(5), 17.040(11)	5.1698(4), 7.3884(6), 9.4715(7)	5.1632(6), 7.3711(6), 9.466(9)	5.1218(6), 7.2236(5), 9.427(8)
α, β, γ (°)	90, 90, 90	90, 90, 90	90, 98.177 (5), 90	90, 98.082 (19), 90	90, 98.171 (19), 90
V (Å ³), ρ (g/cm ³)	560.5 (4), 1.839	553.4 (4), 1.862	358.10 (5), 1.439	356.7 (3), 1.445	345.2 (3), 1.493
Radiation type	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å	Mo $K\alpha$, $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å
μ (mm ⁻¹)	0.07	0.07	0.11	0.05	0.06
Crystal size (mm)	0.25 × 0.15 × 0.15	0.25 × 0.15 × 0.15	0.20 × 0.20 × 0.15	0.20 × 0.20 × 0.15	0.20 × 0.20 × 0.15
Data collection					
Diffractometer	Beamline I19-EH2	Beamline I19-EH2	Agilent SuperNova	Beamline I19-EH2	Beamline I19-EH2
Absorption correction	Multi-scan	Multi-scan	Multi-scan	Multi-scan	Multi-scan
T_{\min}, T_{\max}	0.6639, 0.7442	0.6290, 0.7442	0.5953, 0.7454	0.634, 0.7439	0.6109, 0.7440
No. of measured, independent and observed [$I > 2\sigma(I)$] reflections	1830, 519, 460	728, 395, 325	3651, 1456, 1202	703, 367, 281	838, 404, 299
R_{int}	0.047	0.025	0.035	0.028	0.037
$\theta_{\max}, \theta_{\min}$ (°), completeness	2.200, 17.717, 47%	3.653, 17.731, 36%	3.511, 26.378, 100%	2.914, 15.731, 36%	3.511, 16.270, 37%
$(\sin \theta/\lambda)_{\max}$ (Å ⁻¹)	0.626	0.627	0.625	0.558	0.577
Refinement					
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)], wR(F^2), S$	0.046, 0.099, 1.61	0.047, 0.099, 1.37	0.039, 0.067, 1.26	0.066, 0.125, 1.86	0.064, 0.122, 1.68
No. unique reflections/parameters	519 / 46	395 / 46	1456 / 101	367 / 46	404 / 46
No. of restraints	25	25	0	25	25
$\Delta\rho_{\max}, \Delta\rho_{\min}$ (e Å ⁻³)	0.20, -0.21	0.19, -0.18	0.20, -0.18	0.21, -0.20	0.22, -0.19

CCDC Deposition Number	2020585	2020586	2020587	2020588	2020589
Phase, Pressure (GPa), Crystal #	II, 0.70, 2	II, 0.82, 1	II, 0.97, 3	II, 1.47, 1	II, 1.87, 2
Crystal data					
Crystal system, space group	Monoclinic, $P2_1$	Monoclinic, $P2_1$	Monoclinic, $P2_1$	Monoclinic, $P2_1$	Monoclinic, $P2_1$
Temperature (K)					
a, b, c (Å)	5.104(3), 7.1487(8), 9.4237(17)	5.0851(6), 7.1064(6), 9.395(8)	5.0767(6), 7.0869(7), 9.402(2)	5.0325(6), 6.9670(6), 9.357(8)	5.006(3), 6.8962(7), 9.3401(19)
α, β, γ (°)	90, 98.23 (4), 90	90, 98.30 (2), 90	90, 98.428 (12), 90	90, 98.73 (2), 90	90, 99.27 (4), 90
V (Å ³), ρ (g/cm ³)	340.3 (2), 1.514	336.0 (3), 1.534	334.62 (9), 1.540	324.3 (3), 1.589	318.3 (2), 1.619
Radiation type	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å	Ag $K\alpha$, $\lambda = 0.56086$ Å	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å
μ (mm ⁻¹)	0.06	0.06	0.07	0.06	0.06
Crystal size (mm)	0.25 × 0.20 × 0.10	0.20 × 0.20 × 0.15	0.25 × 0.20 × 0.15	0.20 × 0.20 × 0.15	0.25 × 0.20 × 0.10
Data collection					
Diffractometer	Beamline I19-EH2	Beamline I19-EH2	Bruker D8 Venture	Beamline I19-EH2	Beamline I19-EH2
Absorption correction	Multi-scan	Multi-scan	Multi-scan	Multi-scan	Multi-scan
T_{\min}, T_{\max}	0.6501, 0.7441	0.5434, 0.7440	0.6996, 0.7449	0.5903, 0.7440	0.6538, 0.7442
No. of measured, independent and observed [$I > 2\sigma(I)$] reflections	1374, 565, 496	864, 420, 319	3768, 769, 621	946, 401, 293	713, 423, 390
R_{int}	0.030	0.041	0.034	0.038	0.010
$\theta_{\max}, \theta_{\min}$ (°), completeness	2.454, 17.600, 43%	2.951, 16.493, 38%	3.201, 23.587, 42%	2.971, 15.890, 42%	2.522, 17.741, 34%
$(\sin \theta/\lambda)_{\max}$ (Å ⁻¹)	0.622	0.584	0.713	0.563	0.627
Refinement					
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)], wR(F^2), S$	0.040, 0.087, 1.41	0.068, 0.132, 1.71	0.054, 0.114, 2.03	0.061, 0.128, 1.92	0.037, 0.082, 1.81
No. unique reflections/parameters	565 / 101	420 / 46	769 / 46	401 / 46	423 / 101
No. of restraints	100	25	25	25	100
$\Delta\rho_{\max}, \Delta\rho_{\min}$ (e Å ⁻³)	0.16, -0.17	0.21, -0.20	0.28, -0.21	0.21, -0.24	0.15, -0.15

CCDC Deposition Number	2020590	2020591	2020592	2020593	2020594
Phase, Pressure (GPa), Crystal #	II, 2.77, 2	II, 3.00, 3	II', 3.21, 3	II', 3.71, 2	II', 4.28, 1
Crystal data					
Crystal system, space group	Monoclinic, $P2_1$	Monoclinic, $P2_1$	Monoclinic, $P2_1$	Monoclinic, $P2_1$	Monoclinic, $P2_1$
Temperature (K)	293	293	293	293	293
a, b, c (Å)	4.949(3), 6.8093(9), 9.2876(18)	4.9324(10), 6.7931(13), 9.245(4)	4.8807(8), 6.7916(11), 9.192(3)	4.833(3), 6.8184(12), 9.177(2)	4.8215(5), 6.8188(7), 9.163(8)
α, β, γ (°)	90, 100.88 (4), 90	90, 100.81 (3), 90	90, 103.38 (2), 90	90, 104.63 (4), 90	90, 105.17 (2), 90
V (Å ³), ρ (g/cm ³)	307.35 (19), 1.677	304.28 (16), 1.694	296.44 (13), 1.738	292.6 (2), 1.761	290.7 (2), 1.772
Radiation type	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å	Ag $K\alpha$, $\lambda = 0.56086$ Å	Ag $K\alpha$, $\lambda = 0.56086$ Å	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å
μ (mm ⁻¹)	0.06	0.08	0.08	0.07	0.07
Crystal size (mm)	0.25 × 0.20 × 0.10	0.25 × 0.20 × 0.15	0.25 × 0.20 × 0.15	0.25 × 0.20 × 0.10	0.20 × 0.20 × 0.15
Data collection					
Diffractometer	Beamline I19-EH2	Bruker D8 Venture	Bruker D8 Venture	Beamline I19-EH2	Beamline I19-EH2
Absorption correction	Multi-scan	Multi-scan	Multi-scan	Multi-scan	Multi-scan
T_{\min}, T_{\max}	0.6620, 0.7442	0.5972, 0.7445	0.4939, 0.7445	0.6554, 0.7442	0.6053, 0.7442
No. of measured, independent and observed [$I > 2\sigma(I)$] reflections	1042, 493, 437	1421, 464, 340	1346, 410, 343	878, 451, 399	723, 386, 302
R_{int}	0.022	0.065	0.043	0.019	0.025
$\theta_{\max}, \theta_{\min}$ (°), completeness	2.552, 17.738, 40%	3.318, 20.548, 38%	3.386, 20.537, 35%	2.575, 17.748, 39%	2.995, 17.752, 34%
$(\sin \theta/\lambda)_{\max}$ (Å ⁻¹)	0.627	0.626	0.625	0.627	0.627
Refinement					
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)], wR(F^2), S$	0.058, 0.124, 2.02	0.036, 0.069, 1.04	0.046, 0.098, 1.65	0.052, 0.119, 2.03	0.095, 0.193, 2.96
No. unique reflections/parameters	493 / 46	464 / 101	410 / 101	451 / 46	386 / 46
No. of restraints	25	100	100	25	25
$\Delta\rho_{\max}, \Delta\rho_{\min}$ (e Å ⁻³)	0.30, -0.26	0.14, -0.13	0.21, -0.18	0.24, -0.22	0.48, -0.38

CCDC Deposition Number	2020595	2020596	2020597	2020598
Phase, Pressure (GPa), Crystal #	II', 4.62, 2	II', 4.98, 1	II', 5.20, 3	II', 6.85, 1
Crystal data				
Crystal system, space group	Monoclinic, $P2_1$	Monoclinic, $P2_1$	Monoclinic, $P2_1$	Monoclinic, $P2_1$
Temperature (K)	293	293	293	293
a, b, c (Å)	4.8149(14), 6.8108(6), 9.132(3)	4.7892(5), 6.7998(7), 9.085(8)	4.8007(19), 6.781(2), 9.110(6)	4.7210(8), 6.7249(10), 9.029(14)
α, β, γ (°)	90, 105.37 (2), 90	90, 104.78 (3), 90	90, 105.55 (4), 90	90, 106.16 (4), 90
V (Å ³), ρ (g/cm ³)	288.76 (13), 1.785	286.1 (3), 1.801	285.7 (2), 1.804	275.3 (4), 1.872
Radiation type	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å	Ag $K\alpha$, $\lambda = 0.56086$ Å	Synchrotron, $\lambda = 0.4859$ Å
μ (mm ⁻¹)	0.07	0.07	0.09	0.07
Crystal size (mm)	0.25 × 0.20 × 0.10	0.20 × 0.20 × 0.15	0.25 × 0.20 × 0.15	0.20 × 0.20 × 0.15
Data collection				
Diffractometer	Beamline I19-EH2	Beamline I19-EH2	Bruker D8 Venture	Beamline I19-EH2
Absorption correction	Multi-scan	Multi-scan	Multi-scan	Multi-scan
T_{\min}, T_{\max}	0.6524, 0.7442	0.5520, 0.7442	0.6544, 0.7340	0.5850, 0.7442
No. of measured, independent and observed [$I > 2\sigma(I)$] reflections	1124, 458, 390	408, 280, 217	1305, 373, 303	756, 382, 292
R_{int}	0.048	0.018	0.059	0.029
$\theta_{\max}, \theta_{\max}(\text{°}), \text{completeness}$	2.585, 17.695, 40%	3.021, 17.737, 25%	3.468, 20.541, 34%	3.044, 17.764, 34%
$(\sin \theta/\lambda)_{\max}$ (Å ⁻¹)	0.626	0.627	0.626	0.628
Refinement				
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)], wR(F^2), S$	0.039, 0.082, 1.16	0.092, 0.186, 2.73	0.056, 0.097, 1.36	0.079, 0.164, 2.40
No. unique reflections/parameters	458 / 101	280 / 46	373 / 46	382 / 46
No. of restraints	100	25	25	25

Table S3 Absolute mean difference in the contributing energy terms between PIXEL and SAPT calculations

<i>COMPONENT</i>	<i>ORTHORHOMBIC FORM</i>		<i>MONOCLINIC FORM</i>	
	<i>Absolute mean / kJ mol⁻¹</i>		<i>Absolute mean / kJ mol⁻¹</i>	
	0 GPa	6.60 GPa	0 GPa	6.85 GPa
Coulombic	4.5	8.0	4.0	8.2
Polarisation	3.7	2.9	3.9	2.7
Dispersion	9.0	13.1	9.0	13.4
Repulsion	15.5	25.1	15.3	26.0

Table S4 Bond lengths of the two polymorphs of the amino acid L-histidine.

Bond	Experimental structure				DFT-Optimised structure			
	<i>Orthorhombic form</i>		<i>Monoclinic form</i>		<i>Orthorhombic form</i>		<i>Monoclinic form</i>	
	0 GPa	6.60 GPa	0 GPa	6.85 GPa	0 GPa	6.60 GPa	0 GPa	6.85 GPa
O1-C1	1.247(3)	1.247(14)	1.242(3)	1.20(3)	1.2598	1.2526	1.2590	1.2351
O2-C1	1.245(3)	1.261(7)	1.248(3)	1.236(15)	1.2674	1.2707	1.2685	1.2693
N1-C2	1.491(3)	1.479(7)	1.483(3)	1.493(17)	1.5023	1.4847	1.5025	1.4849
N2-C4	1.376(3)	1.399(7)	1.381(3)	1.402(17)	1.3982	1.3966	1.3978	1.3979
N2-C5	1.324(3)	1.309(17)	1.319(3)	1.31(4)	1.3370	1.3291	1.3367	1.3323
N3-C5	1.331(3)	1.325(12)	1.331(4)	1.31(3)	1.3611	1.3519	1.3611	1.3550
N3-C6	1.362(3)	1.370(11)	1.365(4)	1.38(3)	1.3843	1.3790	1.3842	1.3754
C1-C2	1.530(3)	1.517(17)	1.535(4)	1.51(3)	1.5448	1.5290	1.5441	1.5209
C2-C3	1.529(3)	1.523(11)	1.534(4)	1.53(2)	1.5457	1.5365	1.5456	1.5323
C3-C4	1.501(3)	1.474(15)	1.493(4)	1.47(3)	1.4996	1.4917	1.5001	1.4867
C4-C6	1.353(3)	1.343(17)	1.357(4)	1.35(3)	1.3798	1.3740	1.3806	1.3677

Table S5 Valence angles of the two polymorphs of the amino acid L-histidine

Valence	Experimental structure				DFT-Optimised structure			
	<i>Orthorhombic form</i>		<i>Monoclinic form</i>		<i>Orthorhombic form</i>		<i>Monoclinic form</i>	
	0 GPa	6.60 GPa	0 GPa	6.85 GPa	0 GPa	6.60 GPa	0 GPa	6.85 GPa
C4-N2-C5	104.8(2)	106.1(9)	104.9(2)	106.6(19)	105.52	106.06	105.55	105.81
C5-N3-C6	107.14(19)	106.9(10)	107.0(2)	108(2)	107.30	107.66	107.34	107.59
O1-C1-O2	126.3(2)	123.5(11)	126.3(3)	126(2)	126.57	124.24	126.42	124.18
O1-C1-C2	117.0(2)	118.7(6)	117.0(2)	116.9(13)	117.01	117.69	117.12	117.86
O2-C1-C2	116.7(2)	117.7(9)	116.6(2)	117.3(19)	116.39	118.03	116.40	117.87
N1-C2-C1	109.74(18)	107.0(9)	110.1(2)	110.2(18)	110.16	107.53	110.35	108.21
N1-C2-C3	109.9(2)	110.4(5)	110.3(2)	108.8(12)	110.30	110.13	110.57	109.85
C1-C2-C3	110.80(18)	111.3(6)	110.0(2)	111.6(13)	111.44	112.25	110.55	111.72
C2-C3-C4	112.79(18)	112.9(6)	113.5(2)	111.0(13)	112.24	112.94	112.99	110.68
N2-C4-C3	120.4(2)	120.5(9)	120.7(2)	124(2)	120.83	120.16	120.87	121.36
N2-C4-C6	109.5(2)	107.5(9)	109.2(2)	107(2)	109.26	108.68	109.27	108.86
C3-C4-C6	130.1(2)	132.0(6)	130.1(3)	128.7(13)	129.91	131.15	129.86	129.60
N2-C5-N3	112.0(2)	111.8(7)	112.3(2)	111.7(19)	111.56	111.15	111.54	111.01
N3-C6-C4	106.5(2)	107.7(6)	106.6(3)	107.4(14)	106.37	106.44	106.31	106.70

Table S6 Conformation of the two polymorphs of the amino acid L-histidine

Conformation	Experimental structure				DFT-Optimised structure			
	<i>Orthorhombic form</i>		<i>Monoclinic form</i>		<i>Orthorhombic form</i>		<i>Monoclinic form</i>	
	0 GPa	6.60 GPa	0 GPa	6.85 GPa	0 GPa	6.60 GPa	0 GPa	6.85 GPa
O1-C1-C2-N1	-27.3(3)	-18.4(7)	-27.9(4)	-18.0(14)	-28.99	-16.36	-29.86	-13.67
O1-C1-C2-C3	94.3(3)	101.7(7)	93.8(3)	103.0(13)	93.79	104.91	92.78	107.37
O2-C1-C2-N1	155.0(2)	164.8(5)	154.5(2)	165.9(10)	152.88	165.87	152.63	169.61
O2-C1-C2-C3	-83.4(3)	-75.1(7)	-83.7(3)	-73.1(14)	-84.35	-72.85	-84.73	-69.35
N1-C2-C3-C4	-59.0(3)	-51.0(11)	-58.0(3)	-51(2)	-56.30	-47.56	-55.21	-52.11
C1-C2-C3-C4	-180.5(2)	-168.5(6)	-179.7(2)	-172.9(12)	-178.99	-167.33	-177.72	-172.19
C2-C3-C4-N2	56.5(3)	55.1(8)	53.8(4)	56.5(17)	54.73	52.01	52.08	55.06
C2-C3-C4-C6	-123.1(3)	-125.7(8)	-127.8(3)	-114.4(15)	-124.22	-128.85	-128.87	-119.41
C3-C4-N2-C5	-179.8(2)	179.7(6)	178.8(3)	-173.4(17)	-179.04	-179.92	179.27	-173.86
C6-C4-N2-C5	-0.2(3)	0.3(7)	0.0(3)	-0.9(14)	0.12	0.77	0.04	1.64
N2-C4-C6-N3	0.4(3)	-0.4(7)	0.3(3)	1.5(13)	0.20	-0.49	0.19	-0.98
C3-C4-C6-N3	-180.0(2)	-179.7(6)	-178.3(3)	173.7(17)	-179.25	-179.70	-178.95	174.03
N3-C5-N2-C4	-0.2(3)	0.0(7)	-0.3(3)	-0.2(15)	-0.40	-0.77	-0.26	-1.70
N2-C5-N3-C6	0.4(3)	-0.2(7)	0.5(3)	1.2(15)	0.54	0.48	0.39	1.13
C4-C6-N3-C5	-0.5(3)	0.4(7)	-0.5(3)	-1.7(14)	-0.43	0.03	-0.34	-0.05

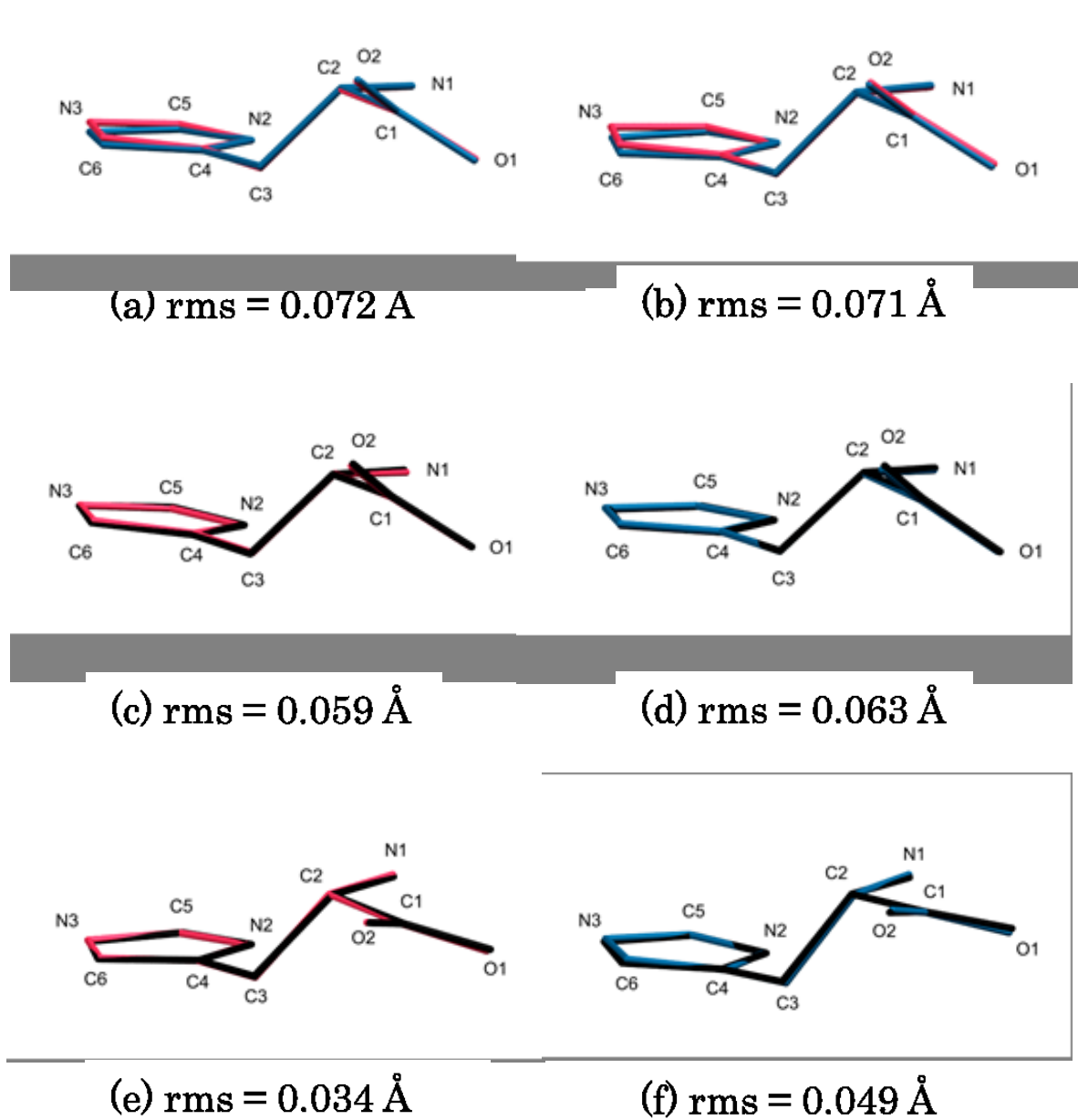


Figure S1. Comparison between the experimental (a) and optimised (b) molecular structures of the orthorhombic (pink) and monoclinic (blue) polymorphs of the amino acid L-histidine at ambient conditions. Comparison between the experimental (coloured) and optimised (black) molecular structures in the ambient-pressure phases I (c) and II (d), in phase I' (e) at 6.60 GPa and in phase II' (f) at 6.85 GPa. Hydrogen atoms are excluded from the analysis. Overlay of the structures was determined using the structure overlay feature in MERCURY.

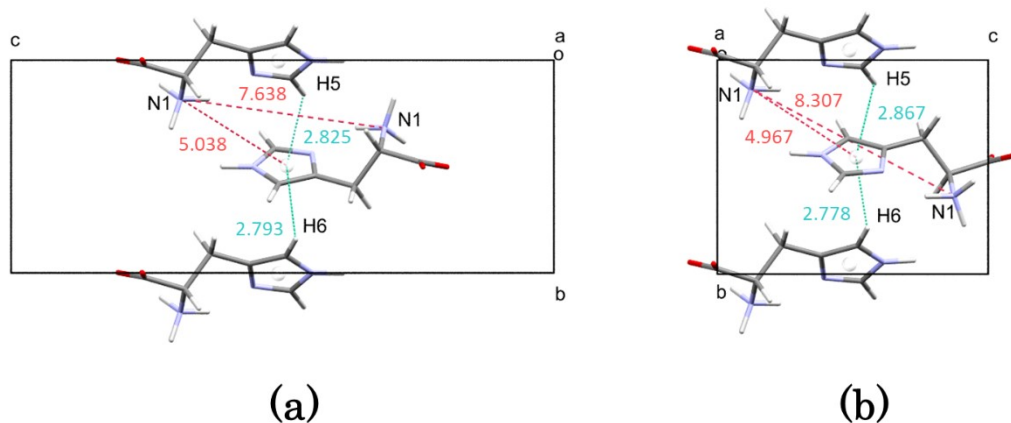


Figure S2. Stabilising intermolecular interaction between imidazole rings (green) and destabilising interaction generated by the ammonium groups (red), in the crystal structure of the orthorhombic (a) and monoclinic (b) polymorphs of the amino acid *L*-histidine viewed along *a* (distances between contacting groups are reported in Å)

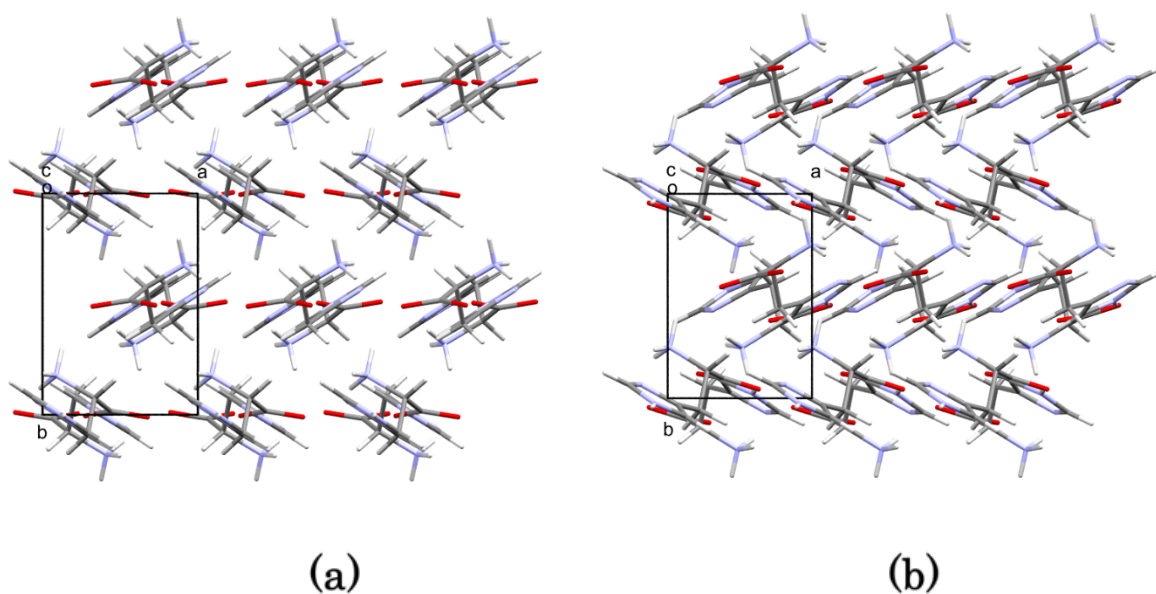


Figure S3. Crystal packing of the orthorhombic polymorphs (phases I and I') of the amino acid *L*-histidine at ambient pressure (a) and 6.6 GPa (b), as viewed along *c*. These figures complete the description provided in Figure 3. Giving a complete view of the unit-cell content. Intermolecular interactions are omitted for the sake of clarity.

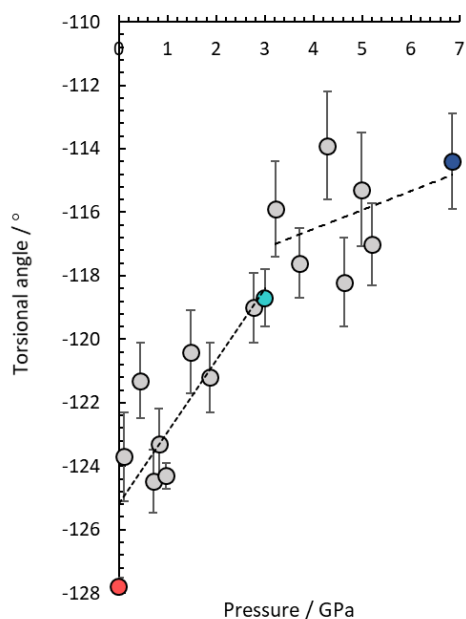


Figure S4. The torsion angle τ_3 as a function of pressure, for the monoclinic polymorph of the amino acid L-histidine. The colour code is the same used in Figure 6 in the main text. Dashed trend lines were obtained through χ^2 minimisation.

Note on the variation of intramolecular bond distances with pressure

High-pressure data-sets suffer from low completeness because of shading by the diamond anvil cell, leading to low data-to-parameter ratios during refinement. It is common practice (in our group at least) in high-pressure structure analysis to restrain intramolecular bond distances and angles to those observed at ambient pressure as a means of stabilising refinements and ensuring a chemically reasonable structural model. The following note, prompted by a question asked by a Referee to this paper, provides some justification for the practice.

The largest shortening in optimised bond distances in Table S4 is 0.018 Å for N1-C2 in phases I and I'. The corresponding values in phases II and II' is 0.0176 Å, also for N1-C2. These differences are beyond the precision of the measurements in the present paper.

Amongst the most precisely determined high-pressure crystal structures of organic materials has been presented by Casati *et al.*⁵⁵ and co-workers in their charge density analysis of an annulene derivative which 'de-aromatises' at high pressure. The differences between the bond distances measured in a 'standard' structure determination at ambient pressure (CSD Refcode BCBANN07) and a charge

density analysis at 7.7 GPa (BCBANN12, also room temperature) are listed in Table S7. The largest difference is 0.024(2) Å for C12-C13, which is similar to the value given above for histidine. In terms of Δ/σ the differences are all statistically significant. Note, however, remark made by the authors that distances from multipolar refinement on high resolution data and those from 'standard' refinements are not directly comparable because the thermal motion is better de-convoluted, giving in general slightly longer C-C distances for all bonds. Nevertheless, contractions of the order 0.02 Å might be expected below ~ 10 GPa.

It is not uncommon in refinements on high-pressure crystal structures to for bond distance standard uncertainties to be 0.01 Å or more. Hence, while intramolecular distances in organic compounds are affected by pressures below 10 GPa, the differences are often within the precision of the measurements unless special steps are taken to improve completeness (or if symmetry is high). For this reason application of restraints does not much affect data-fitting statistics, while at the same time improving the effective data-to-parameter ratio and thereby stabilising structure refinements.

Table S7: Comparison of bond distances at ambient conditions and 7.7 GPa for syn-1,6:8,13-Biscarbonyl[14]annulene, as reported by Casati et al. Taken from data deposited at the Cambridge Database with refcodes BCBANN07 and BCBANN12.

	<i>Bond</i>	<i>d</i> /Å 0 GPa	$\sigma(d)$ /Å 0 GPa	<i>d</i> /Å 7.7GPa	$\sigma(d)$ /Å 7.7 GPa	Δ /Å	$\sigma(\Delta)$ /Å	Δ/σ
<i>C1</i>	C14	1.3941	0.0014	1.377	0.002	0.0171	0.0024	7.00
<i>C1</i>	C15	1.4838	0.0013	1.477	0.002	0.0068	0.0024	2.85
<i>C1</i>	C2	1.4071	0.0015	1.4126	0.0019	0.0055	0.0024	2.27
<i>C10</i>	C11	1.408	0.002	1.404	0.002	0.004	0.0028	1.41
<i>C11</i>	C12	1.3791	0.0018	1.395	0.002	0.0159	0.0027	5.91
<i>C12</i>	C13	1.4113	0.0014	1.387	0.002	0.0243	0.0024	9.95
<i>C13</i>	C14	1.3928	0.0014	1.405	0.0018	0.0122	0.0023	5.35
<i>C13</i>	C16	1.485	0.0013	1.472	0.002	0.013	0.0024	5.45
<i>C15</i>	O1	1.2073	0.0011	1.215	0.002	0.0077	0.0023	3.37
<i>C16</i>	O2	1.2087	0.0011	1.215	0.002	0.0063	0.0023	2.76
<i>C2</i>	C3	1.384	0.0017	1.374	0.003	0.01	0.0034	2.90
<i>C3</i>	C4	1.4117	0.0018	1.429	0.003	0.0173	0.0035	4.94
<i>C4</i>	C5	1.379	0.0017	1.373	0.002	0.006	0.0026	2.29
<i>C5</i>	C6	1.4117	0.0014	1.414	0.002	0.0023	0.0024	0.94
<i>C6</i>	C15	1.4851	0.0013	1.47	0.003	0.0151	0.0033	4.62
<i>C6</i>	C7	1.3953	0.0014	1.376	0.002	0.0193	0.0024	7.91
<i>C7</i>	C8	1.3938	0.0014	1.394	0.002	0.0002	0.0024	0.08
<i>C8</i>	C16	1.4851	0.0013	1.473	0.003	0.0121	0.0033	3.70
<i>C8</i>	C9	1.4111	0.0015	1.395	0.002	0.0161	0.0025	6.44
<i>C9</i>	C10	1.3784	0.0018	1.396	0.003	0.0176	0.0035	5.03

Derivation of the Relationship between Overall and Component Volumes and Bulk Moduli (Relating to Section 3.5 of the Main Text).

The isothermal compressibility κ is defined as

$$\kappa = -\frac{1}{V} \left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial P} \right)_T \quad [1]$$

which is the inverse of the isothermal bulk modulus K

$$K = -V \left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial V} \right)_T, \quad [2]$$

where P = pressure and V is the volume of the unit cell. The volume of the network of contacts in the unit cell (V_{net}) can be obtained as described in Section 2.6 of the main text; the void volume $V_{\text{void}} = V - V_{\text{net}}$.

The compressibility of the network can be defined as

$$\kappa_{\text{net}} = -\frac{1}{V_{\text{net}}} \left(\frac{\partial V_{\text{net}}}{\partial P} \right)_T \quad [3]$$

with a similar relationship being defined for the voids.

Since $V = V_{\text{net}} + V_{\text{void}}$, $dV = dV_{\text{net}} + dV_{\text{void}}$, giving

$$\kappa = \frac{1}{V} \left(-\frac{\partial V_{\text{net}}}{\partial P} - \frac{\partial V_{\text{void}}}{\partial P} \right)_T \quad [4]$$

Substituting [3] into [4] yields

$$\kappa V = \kappa_{\text{net}} V_{\text{net}} + \kappa_{\text{void}} V_{\text{void}}. \quad [5]$$

In terms of bulk moduli ($K_{\text{net}} = 1/\kappa_{\text{net}}$ etc.) equation [5] is

$$\frac{V}{K} = \frac{V_{\text{net}}}{K_{\text{net}}} + \frac{V_{\text{void}}}{K_{\text{void}}} \quad [6]$$

Note that this relationship only applies when the total volume is the sum of the component volumes.

Table S8. Parameters for the Birch-Murnaghan equations of state (EoS) of the molecule, network and void in phase I and II, at 298 K (Relating to Section 3.5 of the Main Text).

Molecular Volume		
2nd order Birch-Murnaghan EoS	Phase I	Phase II
T_0/K	298	298
$V_0/\text{\AA}^3$	141.538	141.558
K_0/GPa	642(12)	513(20)
K'	4	4
K''/GPa^{-1}	-0.00605	-0.00757
<i>Reduced</i> – χ^2	0.94	0.96
Network Volume		
2nd order Birch-Murnaghan EoS	Phase I	Phase II
T_0/K	298	298
$V_0/\text{\AA}^3$	115.522	112.438
K_0/GPa	99(9)	67(2)
K'	4	4
K''/GPa^{-1}	-0.03931	-0.05832
<i>Reduced</i> – χ^2	8.93	7.34
Void Space Volume		
3rd order Birch-Murnaghan EoS	Phase I	Phase II
T_0/K	298	298
$V_0/\text{\AA}^3$	62.194	66.613
K_0/GPa	5.3(3)	4.29(15)
K'	2.46(11)	2.98(14)
K''/GPa^{-1}	-0.88678	-0.91158
<i>Reduced</i> – χ^2	6.41	0.58

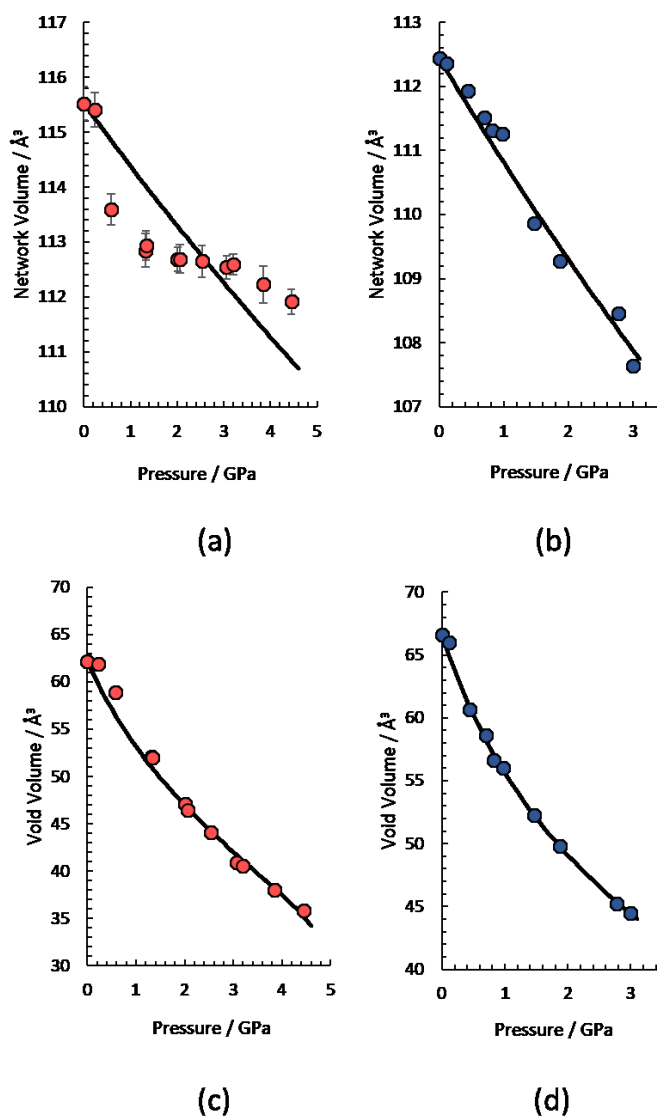


Figure S5. Black lines represent the equations of state, whose parameters are listed in the table above, of the network (**a, b**) and void space (**c, d**) for phase I (red) and II (blue) of L-histidine. Where not visible, errors are smaller than the circles. Note that fitting has been unsuccessful in the case of the network in phase I shown in part (**a**).

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