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Electron paramagnetic resonance of Mn^{4+} in $PbTiO_3$

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Abstract. The electron paramagnetic resonance spectrum of Mn^{4+} in single-crystal lead titanate has been studied at 9.8 and 33.8 GHz. An axial sextet with $g_{\perp}^{eff} = 3.7742(1)$ to $g_{\parallel}^{eff} \approx 2.00$ was measured at 9.8 GHz and with $g_{\perp}^{eff} = 2.7048(15)$ at 33.8 GHz; a second sextet was observed at high field at 9.8 GHz. The spectrum was fitted using spin Hamiltonian parameters $S = \frac{3}{2}$, $I = \frac{5}{2}$, $g_{\parallel} = 1.99$, $g_{\perp} = 1.987$, $A_{\parallel} = 79.46 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$, $A_{\perp} = 71.05 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ and $|D| = 0.3166 \text{ cm}^{-1}$. The electronic spin value and the magnitude of the hyperfine constant, $|A| = 73.9 \text{ cm}^{-1}$, confirm the Mn^{4+} assignment. A superposition model analysis using available $b_2(R)$ functions for $3d^3$ configuration ions in oxide hosts was unable to reproduce the observed axial crystal field magnitude, $|D|$.

1. Introduction

The ferroelectric perovskite lead titanate has been extensively studied because of the technological importance of the material [1]; however, due to earlier problems in high-quality single-crystal growth fewer spectroscopic studies have been completed than in related perovskite oxides. Recent work on the development of nonvolatile semiconductor memory and pyroelectric detector devices has intensified interest in $PbTiO_3$. An important aspect of materials engineering is the ability to control physical properties through doping, for instance $PbTiO_3$ ceramics doped with Mn have been shown to produce materials with high mechanical quality factors and low dielectric losses [2]. Electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) spectroscopy can unambiguously determine the configuration of an incorporated paramagnetic ion and yield information on the local site. At room temperature $PbTiO_3$ is tetragonal with $c = 415.2 \text{ pm}$ and $a = 390.4 \text{ pm}$; the Ti ion is displaced with respect to the centre of the oxygen octahedron by 30 pm along [001] while the Pb ion is displaced 47 pm from the corner site with respect to the oxygen octahedron in the same direction [3].

Here room-temperature 9 and 35 GHz band EPR measurements of Mn^{4+} in $P4mm$ phase $PbTiO_3$ single crystals are reported. Computer simulations [4] of the spectra by exact diagonalization of the spin Hamiltonian

$$H = \beta B \cdot g \cdot S + S \cdot D \cdot S + S \cdot A \cdot I + B \cdot g_n \cdot I$$

have been performed. An alternative form for the second-order fine-structure term $S \cdot D \cdot S$ is $H_F = \sum_{m=2}^{M+2} b_2^m O_2^m$ where b_2^m are constants and O_2^m are normalized spin

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operators and can be transformed to axes where only O_2^0 and O_2^2 are non-zero yielding $H_F = b_2^0[S_z^2 - \frac{1}{3}S(S+1)] + \frac{1}{3}b_2^2(S_x^2 - S_y^2)$. Hence $b_2^0 \equiv \frac{3}{2}D_z$ and $b_2^2 \equiv \frac{3}{2}(D_x - D_y)$ and for tetragonal symmetry $b_2^0 \equiv D = \frac{3}{2}D_z$ is the only non-zero fine-structure or crystal field term.

The first study of $\text{PbTiO}_3:\text{Mn}$ was performed by Ikushima and Hayakawa [5] and identified the spectrum of Mn^{2+} . The values of the spin Hamiltonian parameters reported for the tetragonal phase were $g_{\perp} = 2.084(2)$ with a hyperfine constant $A_{\perp} = -82.0(1.5) \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ and an axial crystal field splitting $D = 502(4) \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$. The Newman superposition model [6] was subsequently used to model the observed crystal field splitting from which it was concluded that the Mn^{2+} substituted for Ti^{4+} at a position intermediate between the Ti site displaced from the centre of the oxygen octahedron and the centred site [7]. A sextet spectrum with $g_{\perp}^{eff} \approx 4$ was first reported by Hennings and Pomplun [8] in Mn-doped ceramic tetragonal lead titanate and assigned to Mn^{4+} based on the magnitude of the hyperfine constant, $|A| = 74(1) \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$. A further study of Mn-doped PbTiO_3 ceramic was completed by Windsch *et al* [9] and reported a resolved sextet at $g_{\perp}^{eff} \approx 4$ and two partially resolved sextets at higher field from which the spin Hamiltonian parameters $g = 1.987(2)$, $|A| = 72.0(1.5) \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$, and axial crystal field splitting $|D| = 0.318(3) \text{ cm}^{-1}$ were obtained. Superposition model analysis was also performed utilizing a power law form for the metal ion ligand function $\bar{b}_2(R)$ from which it was deduced that the Mn^{4+} ion was displaced 30 pm along [001] with respect to the oxygen octahedron, i.e. at the Ti site, the exact form of the function used was not given [9]. More recently Molak and Wójcik [10] have reported 9 GHz band EPR experiments on a number of $\text{PbTiO}_3:\text{Mn}$ single crystals; centres assigned to Mn^{2+} and to Mn^{4+} were observed. A sextet spectrum with $g_{\parallel}^{eff} = 2.01$, $g_{\perp}^{eff} = 4.79$, $A_{\perp} = 78.2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ was assigned to Mn^{2+} while a similar spectrum with $g_{\parallel}^{eff} = 2.01$, $g_{\perp}^{eff} = 3.75$, $A_{\parallel} = 72.2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$, $A_{\perp} = 69.7 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ was assigned to Mn^{4+} ; variations in these parameters were found between different crystals. Following this work Klotzsche *et al* [11] have performed a 9 GHz band study on $\text{PbTiO}_3:\text{Mn}$ single crystals and the spin Hamiltonian parameters $g = 1.983(2)$, $|A| = 72(1) \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ and $|D| = 0.3045(15) \text{ cm}^{-1}$ were obtained at room temperature.

Detailed EPR studies of manganese ion doping of related perovskite titanates SrTiO_3 and BaTiO_3 have been reported [5, 12–16]. In SrTiO_3 Mn^{4+} was identified in both the room-temperature cubic and low-temperature tetragonal phase and was determined to be substitute for Ti [15]. A study [16] of successive reduction of $\text{SrTiO}_3:\text{Mn}$ cubic phase crystals identified three Mn-related centres assigned to Mn^{2+} , $\text{Mn}^{2+}-V_0$ and $\text{Mn}^{3+}-V_0$. For BaTiO_3 Mn^{4+} has been observed only in the rhombohedral low-temperature ferroelectric phase [14]. From application of the superposition model it was concluded that the Mn^{4+} substituted for Ti^{4+} at the Ti site displaced from the centre of the oxygen octahedron. The absence of the Mn^{4+} spectrum from higher-temperature phases has been assigned to rapid reorientation yielding information on the character of the order–disorder BaTiO_3 phase transitions [14, 17]. Study of Cr^{3+} , isoelectronic with Mn^{4+} , in the three ferroelectric phases of BaTiO_3 has shown that Cr^{3+} substitutes for Ti^{4+} at the centre of the oxygen octahedron [18] in contrast to the Mn^{4+} case. The centred site is favoured as Cr^{3+} has one less positive charge than the Ti^{4+} it replaces and hence experiences a repulsion from the negatively charged oxygen ligands [14, 19]. The EPR of Mn^{2+} in tetragonal and cubic phase BaTiO_3 has been reported [5, 12, 13]; application of the superposition model showed Mn^{2+} substituted for Ti^{4+} at a site displaced from the centre of the oxygen octahedron toward the Ti site position, similar to Mn^{2+} in PbTiO_3 [7].

2. Experimental details

The polydomain $PbTiO_3$ single crystals used in this study were grown by a modified flux method detailed elsewhere [20]; none of them were intentionally doped with Mn. The crystals were light-yellow rectangular plates with [001] perpendicular to the major face. Electron paramagnetic resonance measurements were made with a Bruker ESP300 spectrometer. The 9 GHz band measurements were made with a cylindrical cavity and a rotating magnet while 35 GHz band measurements also used a cylindrical cavity but angular-dependent data required rotation of the sample. The microwave frequency was measured using an EIP 588 frequency meter and the magnetic field sweep calibrated at the sample position using a Micro-Now 515B NMR magnetometer.

3. Results and discussion

A sextet spectrum with a hyperfine constant typical of ^{55}Mn was observed from two of the crystals studied, ANL02PT and ANL03PT; the spectra presented were recorded from ANL03PT. Two sextets were observed for 9 GHz band measurements with the applied field B_0 perpendicular to [001] ($\theta = 90^\circ$), one centred at 185 mT (see figure 1) and the second at 660 mT (see figure 2). The $g_{\perp eff}$ for the low-field group was found to be 3.7742(1); the variation of the line position with the angle θ between [001] and the applied field B_0 is shown in figure 3. The spectrum could not be resolved for $\theta < 30^\circ$. The high-field sextet was located on the shoulder of a more intense transition which precluded study of the angular dependence. The 35 GHz band spectrum for $\theta \approx 90^\circ$ is shown in figure 4 and yields $g_{\perp eff} = 2.7048(15)$. The experimental spectra were simulated [4] using the spin Hamiltonian parameters $g_{\parallel} = 1.99$, $g_{\perp} = 1.987$, $A_{\parallel} = 79.46 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$, $A_{\perp} = 71.05 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ and $|D| = 0.3166 \text{ cm}^{-1}$. The energy level diagram for B_0 perpendicular to [001] is shown in figure 5. The resulting simulations are shown in figures 1 to 4.

The observed angular dependence of the low-field hyperfine sextet is in agreement with that observed by Molak and Wójcik [10]. Simulation of the observed spectra using $S = \frac{3}{2}$ resulted in close agreement allowing assignment of the Mn centre to Mn^{4+} . The magnitude observed for the hyperfine constant A_{\perp} , $71 \times 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-1}$, is less than that reported [5] for $PbTiO_3:Mn^{2+}$, $82 \times 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-1}$, consistent with this assignment. The axial crystal field splitting $|D| = 0.3166 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ obtained here is similar to that observed in ceramic and single-crystal $PbTiO_3$ by other workers [9, 11].

The Newman linear superposition model [6, 21] has been applied with considerable success to the determination of the local position of substituted transition metal ions in perovskite titanates [7, 14, 18]. The model assumes the spin Hamiltonian parameters may be calculated from a linear superposition of single ligand contributions of the form

$$b_n^m = \sum_i \bar{b}_n(R_i) K_n^m(\theta_i, \varphi_i)$$

where $K_n^m(\theta_i, \varphi_i)$ are spherical harmonic functions of rank n of the polar angles, e.g. $K_2^0(\theta) = \frac{1}{2}(3 \cos^2 \theta - 1)$. The $\bar{b}_2(R)$ are functions of the radial metal–ligand distance R and are intrinsic parameters dependent on the nature of the paramagnetic ion and on the ligand type. The form of $\bar{b}_2(R)$ can be expressed as a Lennard-Jones- (LJ-) type function

$$\bar{b}_2(R) = -A \left(\frac{R_0}{R} \right)^n + B \left(\frac{R_0}{R} \right)^m$$

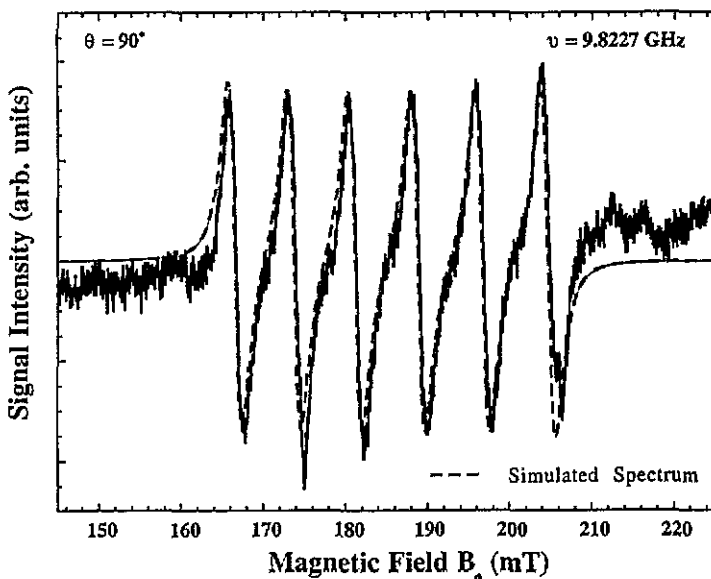


Figure 1. The room-temperature 9 GHz band experimental EPR spectrum for B_0 perpendicular to [001] and the simulated spectrum showing the low-field sextet.

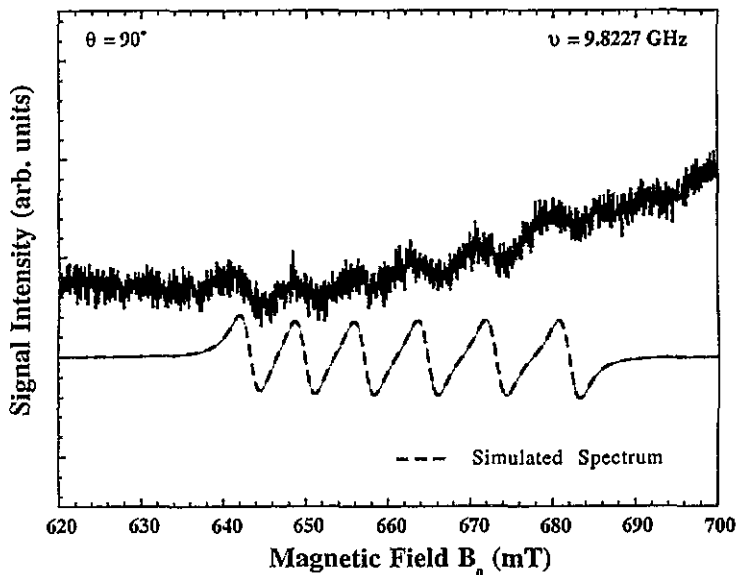


Figure 2. The room-temperature 9 GHz band experimental EPR spectrum for B_0 perpendicular to [001] and the simulated spectrum showing the high-field sextet.

which has been shown to be applicable to Cr^{3+} in SrTiO_3 and to Mn^{4+} in SrTiO_3 based on experimental uniaxial stress EPR experiments [14, 22]. The function is obtained, in part, by matching the value and derivative to those obtained from the experimental strain coupling parameters, G_{11} and G_{22} . Over a more limited range of R a power law expression of the

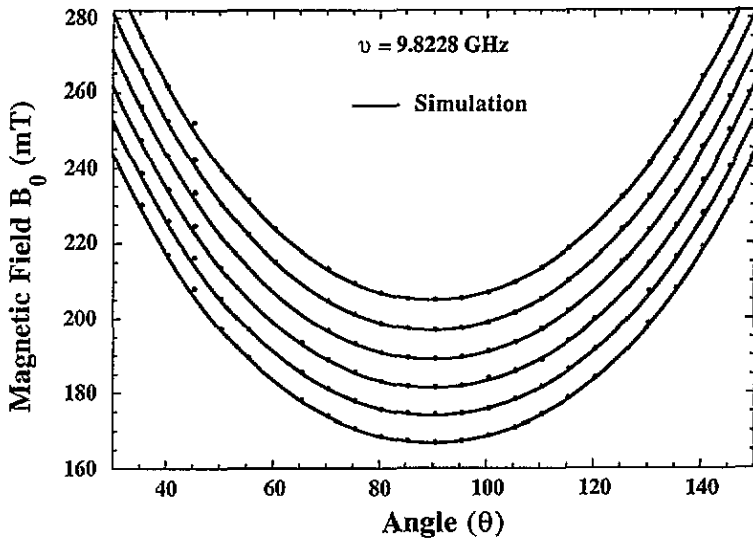


Figure 3. Experimental and simulated line positions for the low-field sextet as a function of angle, θ , between the applied magnetic field B_0 and [001].

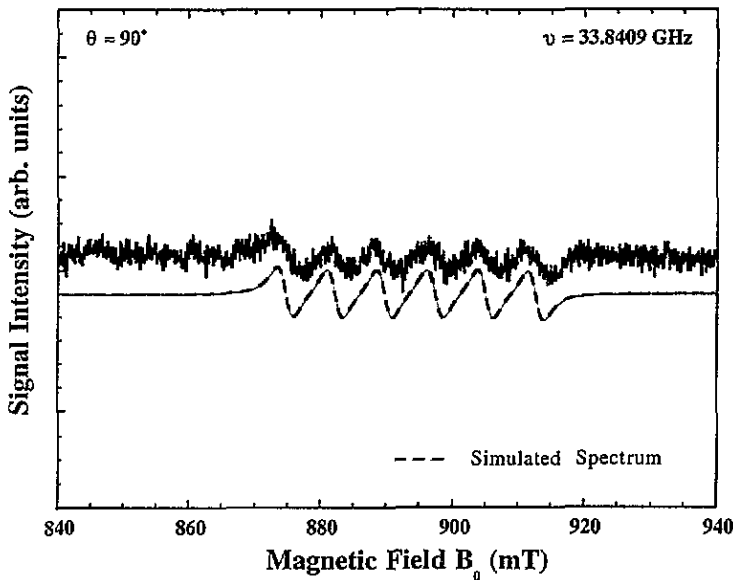


Figure 4. The room-temperature 35 GHz band experimental EPR spectrum for B_0 perpendicular to [001] and the simulated spectrum.

form

$$\bar{b}_2(R) = \bar{b}_2(R_0) \left(\frac{R_0}{R} \right)^{t_2}$$

may be applicable where $t_2 \bar{b}_2 = -\frac{3}{4}G_{11}$ and $\bar{b}_2 = \frac{1}{2}G_{22}$. The LJ form of $\bar{b}_2(R)$ for

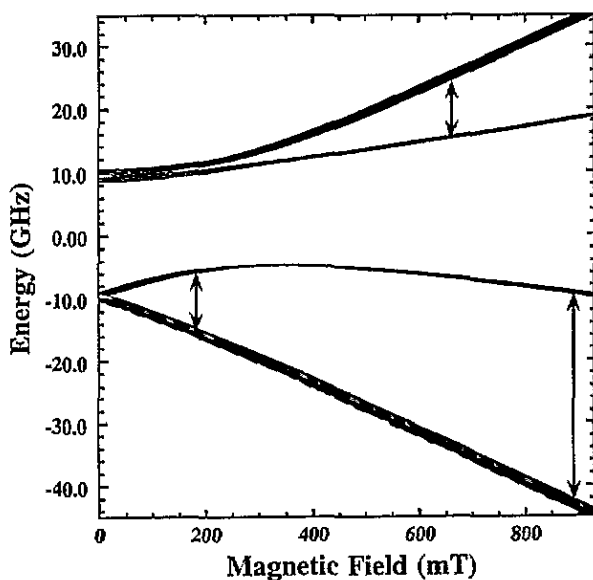


Figure 5. The calculated energy level diagram for B_0 perpendicular to [001] showing observed 9.5 and 33.8 GHz band transitions.

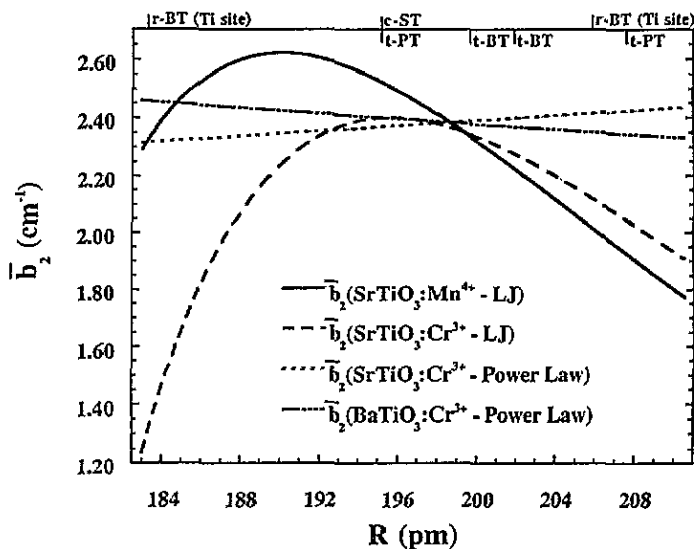


Figure 6. Superposition model functions $\bar{b}_2(R)$ for $\text{SrTiO}_3:\text{Mn}^{4+}$ [14] and $\text{SrTiO}_3:\text{Cr}^{3+}$ [22] in Lennard-Jones form and power law functions for $\text{SrTiO}_3:\text{Cr}^{3+}$ [22] and $\text{BaTiO}_3:\text{Cr}^{3+}$ [18]. The characteristic lengths for cubic (c) SrTiO_3 (ST), tetragonal (t) BaTiO_3 (BT) and PbTiO_3 (PT) and rhombohedral (r) BaTiO_3 are also shown.

$\text{SrTiO}_3:\text{Mn}^{4+}$ [14] and $\text{SrTiO}_3:\text{Cr}^{3+}$ [22] is shown in figure 6 along with the power law function for the latter [22]. The parameters for $\text{SrTiO}_3:\text{Mn}^{4+}$ are $A = -11.1 \text{ cm}^{-1}$, $B = -8.48 \text{ cm}^{-1}$, $R_0 = 190.5 \text{ pm}$, $n = 10$ and $m = 13$. These values were used

along with available crystallographic data [3] for $PbTiO_3$ to calculate Mn^{4+} b_2^0 values. The experimental magnitude was not reproduced for any position along [001] from the centred site to the Ti site. The minimum magnitude was found for the position halfway between the two sites where $b_2^0 = -1.1 \text{ cm}^{-1}$. The studies of Mn^{4+} in perovskite titanates show that substitution for Ti takes place [14]. The neutral charge state of Mn^{4+} with respect to the lattice would be expected to favour the off-centre Ti site specifically [19].

4. Conclusions

The electron paramagnetic resonance spectrum of Mn^{4+} in single-crystal $PbTiO_3$ has been identified and shown to be consistent with the spin Hamiltonian parameters $g_{\parallel} = 1.99$, $g_{\perp} = 1.987$, $A_{\parallel} = 79.46 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$, $A_{\perp} = 71.05 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ and $|D| = 0.3166 \text{ cm}^{-1}$. These values are in agreement with previous studies [9, 11]. The available superposition model functions $\bar{b}_2(R)$ for $3d^3$ ions in oxide hosts were found not to be sufficiently accurate to reproduce the observed crystal field magnitude for $PbTiO_3:Mn^{4+}$.

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