## Theoretical Investigations of the Spin Hamiltonian Parameters and the Local Structure of a Trigonal Co<sup>2+</sup> Center in Bi<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>O<sub>12</sub>

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The spin Hamiltonian parameters anisotropic g factors  $g_{\parallel}$ ,  $g_{\perp}$  and hyperfine structure constants  $A_{\parallel}$  and  $A_{\perp}$ , as well as the local structure of the trigonal  $\mathrm{Co^{2+}}$  center in  $\mathrm{Bi_4Ge_3O_{12}}$  (BGO) are theoretically investigated by the perturbation formulas of the spin Hamiltonian parameters for a  $3d^7$  ion in trigonal symmetry, based on the cluster approach. It is found that the impurity  $\mathrm{Co^{2+}}$  substituting the host  $\mathrm{Bi^{3+}}$  undergoes an off-center displacement  $\Delta Z (\approx -0.132 \, \mathrm{\mathring{A}})$  away from the center of the oxygen octahedron along the  $\mathrm{C_3}$  axis. The spin Hamiltonian parameters based on the above displacement show reasonable agreement with the observed values. The results are discussed.

*Key words*: Electron Paramagnetic Resonance (EPR); Crystal-field Theory and Spin Hamiltonians; Defect Structure; Co<sup>2+</sup>; Bi<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>O<sub>12</sub> (BGO).