Supporting information

Hydrothermal growths, optical features and first-principles calculations of sillenite-type crystals comprising discrete *MO*₄ tetrahedra

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Fig. S1 Powder X-ray diffraction patterns of *M*-doped α -Bi₂O₃ crystals (*M* = Zn, P, Ni, La, Cd, Cr, Al) by mild hydrothermal methods.





Fig. S2 Unit cell parameters and volumes as a function of the composition of $Bi_{12}(Bi_{1-x}Fe_x)O_{20}$.

Fig. S3-S8 Rietveld refinement plot of the powder X-ray diffraction profile of $Bi_{12}(Bi_xM_{1-x})O_{20}$ (M = V, Fe, Ga, Ge, Mn, P).









Fig. S9 IR absorbance spectrum of the as-grown $Bi_{12}(Bi_{0.375}Mn_{0.625})O_{20}$ crystal.





Fig. S10 XPS pattern of the as-grown Bi₁₂(Bi_{0.375}Mn_{0.625})O₂₀ crystal.





Fig. S12 PDOS projected on each species of atoms in Bi₂₅FeO₄₀.



Fig. S13 PDOS projected on each species of atoms in Bi₂₅MnO₄₀.

