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**Magnetic properties and electronic structure of doped multiferroic  $Y_xA_{1-x}MnO_3$  (A=Ca, Sr, Ba)** J. Y. JUANG, Electrophysics, National Chiao-Tung University, C. C. HSIEH, T. Y. CHENG, J. M. LEE, J. M. CHEN, J.-Y. LIN, K. H. WU, T. M. UEN, Y. S. GOU — We report the magnetic properties, X-ray absorption spectroscopy (XAS) on a series of doped multiferroic materials  $Y_xA_{1-x}MnO_3$  (A=Ca, Sr, Ba).  $YMnO_3$  when doped by alkaline-earth metal with various ionic sizes, display dramatic changes in magnetic properties as compared with the parent compound. For Ca-doped sample, the antiferromagnetic (AFM) phase transition appears to take place at a much lower temperature (30 K) as compared to that of undoped one (42 K), which could be Mn-rich. On the other hand, when doped with ions of larger size such as Ba and Sr, the AFM temperature decreased only slightly to around 38 K but with significantly smeared transition. By comparing the XAS results to standard manganese oxide powder,  $YMnO_3$  exhibits the dominant  $Mn^{+3}$  characteristics obtained from the standard  $Mn_2O_3$  powder. Although, the undoped- $YMnO_3$  and Sr-, Ba-doped  $YMnO_3$  exhibited very similar electronic structure as revealed in the XAS data, the XAS of Ca-doped sample, again, is very different from that of  $YMnO_3$ . It is surprising to observe that Ca-doping has resulted in most significant modifications in the magnetic property and electronic structure of  $YMnO_3$ , since  $Ca^{+2}$  is having exactly the same ionic size as that of  $Y^{+3}$  and is expected to cause minimal distortion on the lattice.

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