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**Magnetoelastic coupling in doped multiferroic YCrO<sub>3</sub>** YOGESH SHARMA, Materials Science Programme, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, SOMDUTTA MUKHERJEE, RAJEEV GUPTA, Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, ASHISH GARG, Materials Science and Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur — Recent years have witnessed a renewed interest in ABO<sub>3</sub> structured perovskites due to possibility of combining ferroelectric and ferromagnetic order parameters in a single phase. Here we show an experimental study on one such material namely YCrO<sub>3</sub> which shows a phase transition from paramagnetic to a canted antiferromagnetic state at  $T_N \sim 142\text{K}$  and a ferroelectric transition at  $T_C \sim 473\text{K}$ . The material has an orthorhombic crystal structure (S.G.Pbnm) In the present work, we prepared polycrystalline samples of YCr<sub>1-z</sub>X<sub>z</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (X= V or Ni) by conventional solid-state-reaction method. X-ray diffraction shows the formation of single phase material. DC magnetic measurements exhibit a magnetic transition at  $T_N \sim 140\text{K}$  and the presence of magnetic hysteresis below this temperature. Above  $T_N$ , the susceptibility follows the Curie-Weiss law with the corresponding effective magnetic moment  $\mu_{eff}$  of  $3.75\mu_B$  close to the theoretically expected value of  $3.87\mu_B$ . Further, we investigated the magneto-elastic coupling in the material using temperature dependent Raman scattering. We observe 16 phonon modes below  $T_C$ . Phonon modes at 145, 403 and  $422\text{cm}^{-1}$  showed pronounced deviation from the expected anharmonic behavior below  $T_N$ , suggesting a spin-phonon coupling below  $T_N$ . Further, we also look at the effect of doping at the Cr site on the magnetoelastic coupling strength in this material.

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