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Structural and Magnetic Characterizations of $Y_x Co_y$ Nanowires¹ BISHNU DAHAL, KESHAB SAPKOTA, RAJENDRA DULAL, PARSHU GYAWALI, IAN L. PEGG, JOHN PHILIP, Catholic University of America — Nanowires of $YxCo_y$ (Y_2Co_{17} , YCo_3 and YCo_5) are grown using electrospinning technique and by annealing at high temperature. The size of the nanowires varies from 80 – 300 nm in diameter. Structural analyses show that Y_2Co_{17} exhibits rhombohedral crystal structure while YCo_5 displays hexagonal crystal structure. The as-grown nanowires are polycrystalline in nature with an average grain size of 40 nm. YCo_3 nanowires are amorphous in nature. All the Y_xCo_y nanowires are found to be strong ferromagnetic materials as reported in the bulk system. The observed coercivity of the Y_xCo_y nanowires is low, typically around 500 Oe in comparison to the large coercivity observed in YCo nanoparictles

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