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# ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

### Effect of Yttrium substitution on the structural and magnetic properties of GdCrO<sub>3</sub>

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#### Abstract

We report the preparation of single phase samples of  $Gd_{1-x}Y_xCrO_3$  (x = 0 - 0.30) compounds using the sol-gel method. Analysis of X- ray diffraction patterns shows a systematic decrease in lattice parameters *a*, *c* and volume of the unit cell with increase in Y concentration. Raman spectra recorded at room temperature shows a systematic shift of various modes towards higher wave number suggesting the presence of lattice distortion. The temperature variation of magnetization measurements show the presence of magnetization reversal and the magnetic compensation temperature is found to decrease upon Y doping. The origin of magnetization reversal is explained by considering competition between the paramagnetic moment of Gd<sup>3+</sup> ions under the influence of negative internal field and the weak ferromagnetic component of Cr<sup>3+</sup> ions due to canted antiferromagnetic ordering.

Keywords: Gadolinium chromites; Yttrium substitution; Magnetization reversal.

### I. Introduction

Rare earth orthochromites with general formula RCrO<sub>3</sub> (R = rare earth or Y) are an important class of multifunctional materials due to their rich physical properties like magnetization reversal (MR), exchange bias, magnetocaloric effect and multiferroicity which find potential applications in magnetic recording, data storage, thermomagnetic switches and magnetic refrigeration[1-8]. RCrO<sub>3</sub> with an orthorhombic distorted perovskite structure exhibits canted antiferromagnetism below their Neel temperature ( $T_N$ ) and the canting arises due to the antisymmetric Dzyloshinskii-Moriya interaction (DM) [9, 10] which also accounts for the origin of weak ferromagnetism in these materials [11]. In these orthorhombically distorted perovskite materials, the magnetic exchange interaction between Cr<sup>3+</sup> ions and the rare earth ions ( $R^{3+}$ ) leads to spin reorientation transition at low temperature [12].

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