Keywords: neutron diffraction; polarized neutrons; X-ray magnetic circular dichroism

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Structural, Magnetic and Electric Properties of GaFe_{1-x}Mn_xO₃. <u>M.Bakr</u>^a, A. Senyshyn^a, H. Wang^a, G. Parzych^b, L.Dobrzynski^{b,c}, K.Szymański^c, H. Fuess^a. "Institut for Materials Science, Darmstadt University of Technology, D - 64289 Darmstadt, Germany. bThe Soltan Institute for Nuclear Studies, Poland. 'Faculty of Physics, University of Bialystok, Poland.

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Gallium iron oxide (GaFeO₂) is a member of a multiferroic family which exhibits ferrimagnetic and piezoelectric properties below room temperature [1-2]. This material has orthorhombic (double HCP Closed-Pack) crystal structure with space group P c 2, n with four different cation sites labeled Ga1, Ga2 (mostly occupied by gallium) and Fe1, Fe2 (mostly occupied by iron) [3-5]. The different physical properties of GaFeO3 are strongly dependent on the distribution of cations within the structure. The magnetic properties of GaFeO3 strongly depend on the preparation method which affects the cations distributed over different sites. Polycrystalline GaFe_{1-x}Mn_xO₃ materials have been prepared by a traditional solid state reaction (SR) and sol-gel (SG) methods. Structural analyses showed that the maximum Mn content is 10% and 50% for samples prepared by SR and SG, respectively. All samples crystallise in the orthorhombic system with P c 2, n space-group. The Curie temperature (T_c) for GaFeO₃ (SR) is about 190K and increases or reaches room temperature when the temperature of preparation is decreased from 1400°C to 700°C. The Curie temperature for SG reaction is slightly above room temperature. With increasing the Mn content the transition temperatures as well as the coercive field decrease. Dielectric investigations revealed a temperature independent anomaly at around 255 K with frequency dispersion of dielectric constant only for GaFeO, prepared at 700°C (SG) and Mn doped samples prepared by both methods. It follows from the neutron powder diffraction and Mössbauer spectroscopy revealed that GaFeO₃ exhibits a ferrimagnetic order with spins parallel to c-axis. Both, the cation and magnetic, orderings depend strongly on the preparation conditions.

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Neutron Diffraction Study of DyVO₃ and HoVO₃. Manfred Reehuis^a, Clemens Ulrich^b, Jun Fujioka^c, Shigoki Miyasaka^c, Yoshinori Tokura^c, Bernhard Keimer^b. ^aHelmholtz-Zentrum Berlin, Germany. ^bMPI-Stuttgart, Germany. ^cUniversity of Tokyo, Japan. E-mail: reehuis@helmholtz-berlin.de

Vanadates with the formula RVO, (R = Y or rare-earth)element) exhibit many exciting properties, which can be related to orbital or spin rearrangements [1], [2]. In order to provide a more complete basis for the theoretical description of the electronic properties of these compounds we have started to carry out a comprehensive investigation of the crystal and magnetic structures of YVO₂, NdVO₂ and TbVO, [3], [4]. In the room-temperature lattice structure the influence of the relative ionic sizes leads to tilts of the VO₆-octahedra. From La³⁺ to Lu³⁺ the distortions show a continuous increase due to the well-known lanthanide contraction. With decreasing temperature the vanadates show a structural phase transition at $T_{\rm S1}$, where the orthorhombic structure (Pbnm) changes to a monoclinic structure with the space group P2,/b due to the onset of the cooperative Jahn-Teller effect and the onset of orbital ordering. In the monoclinic phase the magnetic moments of the V^{3+} -ions show antiferromagnetic ordering with the modes C_v , C_v and G_z , where the z-component is the weakest. A second structural phase transition (T_{S2}) could be observed for vanadates containing smaller R^{3+} -ions ($R^{3+} = Y^{3+}$, Ho³⁺ - Lu³⁺) [1]. Below T_{s2} the crystal structure changes back to the orthorhombic structure and the vanadium moments are purely G-type ordered along z [3], [4]. In DyVO₃, where the R^{3+} -ion is slightly larger than Ho^{3+} , a critical phase competition between different spin-orbital-ordered states was observed only recently [5]. Our neutron diffraction experiments of DyVO3 showed that the transition to the pure G-type ordering sets in at $T_{\rm S2} = 63(1)$ K. For YVO₃, where Y^{3+} is only slightly smaller than Dy^{3+} , this transition sets in at considerably higher temperature $T_{\rm S2} = 77(1)$ K. As found earlier for YVO₃ the G-type ordering in DyVO₃ remains stable upon cooling from $T_{\rm s2}$ down to 6 K. But with increasing temperature the monoclinic C-type phase surprisingly appears in DyVO, between 13 and 23 K. For HoVO₃ this intermediate phase could not be observed. On the other hand the second phase transition of this vanadate sets in (cooling process) at the strongly reduced temperature $T_{\rm s2} = 26(1)$. With increasing temperature it sets in at the higher value $T_{s2} = 36(1)$ K, indicating the presence of strong hysteresis effects. Further it is important to note that both the magnetic moments of the Dy³⁺- and Ho³⁺-ions show a long-range ferrimagnetic order up to the unusually high temperatures 23(1) K and 36(1) K, respectively. Our study clearly showed that strong exchange interactions between the magnetically ordered V-moments and the magnetic Dy3+- and Ho3+-ions lead to a reduction of the transition temperature T_{s} , as well as to an increasing of the magnetic ordering temperature of the R^{3+} -ions.

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