

Study of CoFe₂O₄ particles synthesized with various concentrations of PVP polymer

ABSTRACT

CoFe₂O₄ particles were synthesized using metallic nitrates and polyvinylpyrrolidone (PVP) using sol-gel method followed by calcination for 2 h at 960 C. PVP performed as a surfactant and the effect of various concentrations of PVP on the resultant CoFe₂O₄ powder was studied. The resultant samples were characterized by XRD, TG/DSC, HR-SEM and VSM. X-ray diffraction results indicated the crystalline phase of CoFe₂O₄ particles and impurity phase of hematite was observed for higher PVP concentrations. SEM images demonstrated the influence of PVP concentration on the size of the particles. By VSM measurements, the variations in magnetic properties with respect to PVP concentration are studied. All the magnetic characteristics H_c , M_s and M_r increased for 6 wt% and 15 wt% of PVP concentration. The CoFe₂O₄ particles synthesized with the optimum concentration of PVP may be very attractive for potential applications because of their outstanding magnetic properties ($M_s = 81.1 \text{ Am}^2/\text{kg}$, $H_c = 831 \text{ Gauss}$).

Keyword: Chemical synthesis; Magnetic materials; Magnetic properties; Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA)