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High saturation magnetization Fe₃O₄ nanoparticles prepared by one-step reduction method in autoclave

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Abstract: Conformal magnetite nanoparticles are successfully prepared by one-step reduction method in the autoclave with controlled reduction conditions. The x-ray diffraction pattern indicates pure phase of Fe₃O₄ nanoparticles with high crystallinity were obtained. TEM analysis shows the presence of spherical nanoparticles with homogeneous size distribution of ~20 nm. The obtained Fe₃O₄ nanoparticles have high saturation magnetization *M_s* of 75.3 emu·g⁻¹. The inverse spinel Fe₃O₄ phase displays a distinct ferrimagnetic anisotropy. The Verwey metal-insulator transition of magnetite nanoparticles usually takes place at the blocking temperature of 120 K. The one-step reduction method in the autoclave of magnetite with well-controlled phase and high saturation magnetization in this work provides a promising opportunity for the synthesis of magnetic nano-materials to be used in wastewater treatment, catalyst, lithium-ion battery, contrast imaging, and especially in bio-applications.

Keywords: One-step reduction; Magnetite; Verwey transition; Well-controlled phase; High saturation magnetization

1. Introduction

Iron is fourth-most abundant element in the earth's crust and exists in various oxidation states. Ferrous Fe(II) and ferric Fe(III) iron are occurred naturally and form three main oxidation, for instance FeO, Fe₃O₄, Fe₂O₃. In which, magnetite (Fe₃O₄) is

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