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## ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

# Effect of magnetic field annealing on the magneto-elastic properties of nanocrystalline NiFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>

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#### Abstract

The effect of magnetic-field annealing on the strain sensitivity (q) and saturation magnetostriction ( $\lambda_s$ ) of NiFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> nanoparticles synthesized by citrate-gel method was investigated. The use of field-annealing resulted in improved magnetoelastic properties at the expense of coercivity. A maximum  $\lambda_s$  of - 40 ppm at 2 kOe, associated with q value of - 3.3 ppm/Oe at 5 Oe was achieved in the field-annealed NiFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>.

Keywords: Nanoparticles; Magnetic materials; Magneto-elastic; Magnetostriction; Sintering;

Sensors.

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