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www.elsevier.com/locate/ceri

PII: S0272-8842(18)30794-6
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ceramint.2018.03.218>
Reference: CERI17855

To appear in: *Ceramics International*

Received date: 31 January 2018
Revised date: 23 March 2018
Accepted date: 24 March 2018

Cite this article as: N. Lenin, K. Sakthipandi, R. Rajesh Kanna and J. Rajesh, Effect of Neodymium ion on the Structural, Electrical and Magnetic Properties of Nanocrystalline Nickel Ferrites, *Ceramics International*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ceramint.2018.03.218>

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Effect of Neodymium ion on the Structural, Electrical and Magnetic Properties of Nanocrystalline Nickel Ferrites

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Abstract

NiNd_xFe_{2-x}O₄ nanoferrites with different compositions of $x=0.01, 0.03, 0.05, 0.07$ and 0.09 were prepared using the sonochemical method. The structural, optical and morphological properties of the prepared nanoferrites were characterized by X-ray diffraction, ultra violet-diffuse reflectance spectroscopy, scanning electron microscopy and X-ray fluorescence techniques. The X-ray diffraction analysis of the prepared nanoferrites confirmed the presence of a cubic spinel structure. The average crystallite sizes of the prepared nanoferrites were 52, 49, 46, 44 and 40 nm for $x=0.01, 0.03, 0.05, 0.07$ and 0.09 , respectively. The particle size of the prepared NiNd_xFe_{2-x}O₄ nanoferrites was in the range 60-40 nm. The dielectric parameters ranged from 2.9 GHz to 5.6 GHz. Decrease in the dielectric constant was observed with an increase in Nd³⁺ ions in the prepared NiNd_xFe_{2-x}O₄ nanoferrites. However, a reverse trend was observed in the dielectric loss. An impedance analysis of the prepared nanoferrites was carried out to explore the pseudo-capacitance behavior. The saturation magnetization and remnant magnetization values of the prepared nanoferrites decreased with an increase in the concentration of Nd³⁺ ions in NiNd_xFe_{2-x}O₄ nanoferrites.

Keywords: Nanoferrites, Optical properties, Dielectric constant, Magnetic properties, Impedance

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