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Annealing effect of NiO/Co<sub>90</sub>Fe<sub>10</sub> thin films: From bilayer to nanocomposite

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## Highlights

- Field annealing modified the microstructure and magnetic properties of CoFe/NiO.
- Low-temperature annealing affected the bilayers by reordering the crystallites.
- High-temperature promoted interdiffusion and created a nanocomposite single layer.
- Ni, Co, and Fe formed metallic dispersion in the oxide matrix of the nanocomposite.
- Nanocomposites have isotropic magnetic properties while bilayers are anisotropic Highlights (for review).

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