

# Structural Properties of thin film fabricated from Iron Oxide ( $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$ ) and Nickel Oxide ( $\text{Ni}_2\text{O}_3$ ) Nanoparticles

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**Abstract:** In this study, Iron oxide ( $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$ ) and Nickel oxide ( $\text{Ni}_2\text{O}_3$ ) Nano-material samples were prepared by sol-gel method and used for fabricated thin films with different thicknesses (55.25, 78.7, 90.9 144.9 and 263.15) nm. The structural properties were studied using X-ray diffraction technique (XRD). The crystal system of Iron oxide and Nickle oxide were cubic and hexagonal respectively, the structural properties (density, particles size and d-space) increase with thin film thickness increase expect dislocation density which decrease with thickness increase, the density of Iron oxide samples increases by rate (0.00405 mg.  $\text{cm}^3/\text{nm}$ ) with thickness increase but for Nickel Oxide increase by rate (0.001129 mg.  $\text{cm}^3/\text{nm}$ ), The crystals size of Iron oxide increases by rate 0.04757 and Nickel oxide by rate 0.01577 with thickness samples ,the dislocation density of Iron oxide decreased by rate 0.00184  $\text{nm}^2/\text{nm}$  but for Nickel oxide decreased by rate 0.00449  $\text{nm}^2/\text{nm}$  for Iron oxide the d- spacing increased by rate 0.000494 of and or Niekcel Oxide increased by rate 0.002786.

**Keywords:** thin film, Nickel Oxide, Iron Oxide, XRD and dislocation density.

## Introduction

Nanoscale materials have recently revealed novel applications in a variety of technological fields [1]. Because of their unique, optical, catalytic, electrical, and magnetic characteristics and enhanced physical characteristics such as thermal, or chemical and mechanical, metal oxide nanoparticles are widely employed for many applications like magnetic materials, cosmetics, batteries, pharmaceuticals, catalysts, optical devices, protective coatings structured materials, and biomaterials [2–5]. Thus, the preparation of metal oxide semiconductors with different sizes and morphology has gained significant attention due to their excellent chemical stability and thermal property [6]. Among different nanomaterials, NiO and FeO nanoparticles (NPs) have been extensively employed in many applications such as electro-optical devices, gas sensors, photocatalysts, antimicrobial agents, antibiotics, and electrode materials. Nickel Oxide (NiO) is an important transition metal oxide with cubic lattice structure with wide intrinsic band gap of ~3.6 eV. Among the magnetic nanoparticles, fabrication of nickel nanoparticles (NPS) is often more difficult than that of the other particles, this is because they are easily oxidized. To achieve pure nickel nano-crystals, numerous methods have been conducted in organic environments in order to prevent formation of hydroxide or oxidation [7-9]. Iron oxide nanoparticles (NPs) have attracted much consideration due to their unique properties, such as super paramagnetic, surface-to-volume ratio, greater surface area, and easy separation methodology, it has cubic crystal system and band gap about 2.2 eV. Various physical, chemical, and biological methods have been adopted to synthesize NPs with suitable surface chemistry [10]. Thin films have number of applications in various fields. Few of them are A.R. coating, interference filters, polarisers, narrow band filters, solar cells, photoconductors, IR detectors, waveguide coatings. Temperature control of satellites, photo thermal solar coatings such as black chrome, nickel, cobalt etc., magnetic films, superconducting films, anticorrosive films, microelectronics devices, diamond films, reduction of fabrication through coating or surface modification i.e. epitaxy and heterostructure films, high temperature wear resistance films, hard coatings [11,12]. The aim of this work is to study is study the structural properties of Nickel Oxide and Iron Oxide thin films.

## Material and Method

Nickel oxide ( $\text{Ni}_2\text{O}_3$ ) and Iron oxide ( $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$ ) were prepared from nickel nitrate hexahydrate ( $\text{Ni}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) (6.6 g dissolved in 508 mL deionized water) and Ferric nitrate nonahydrate ( $\text{Fe}(\text{NO}_3)_3 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) (40.4 g dissolved in 515 mL deionized water) respectively (0.1M of each ),each solution was but in the magnetic stirrer at 700C for 90 min and we were added methanol to accelerate the reaction, after 90 min the colour of Nickel solution was change from dark green to white green however , the Iron solution was change from white yellow to brown. Nickel oxide and Iron oxide thin films were prepared by spread a 0.1 M solutions of nickel nitrate and ferric nitrate onto the pre-heated amorphous glass substrates kept at ( $390^\circ\text{C} \pm 10^\circ$ ) C using spin coater. Film thickness was measured by using the weight difference method considering the substrate surface area and the density of the bulk Nickel oxide and Iron oxide. As the density of thin films was certainly lower than the bulk density. The structural properties of the films were investigated using X-ray diffractometer (XRD)

Results and Discussion

The crystal structure of all samples characterized at room temperature using a Philips PW1700 X-ray diffract meter (operated at 40 kV and current of 30 mA) and samples were scanned between 10° and 80° at a scanning speed of 0.06 °C/s using Cu K $\alpha$  radiation with  $\lambda = 1.5418\text{\AA}$ .

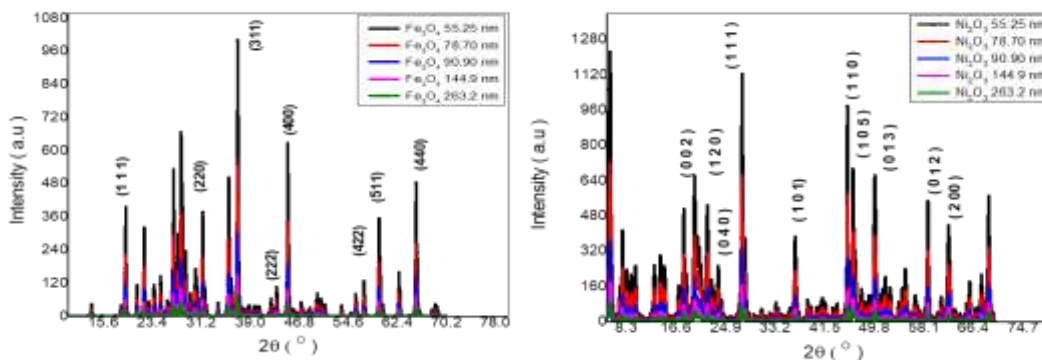


Fig (1): the XRD pattern of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> and Ni<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> samples

The crystal structure of all samples characterized at room temperature using a Philips PW1700 X-ray diffractometer (operated at 40 kV and current of 30 mA) and samples were scanned between 10° and 80° at a scanning speed of 0.06 °C/s using Cu K $\alpha$  radiation with  $\lambda = 1.5418\text{\AA}$ . The representative XRD charts of all samples (Iron and Nickel) Oxide as show in fig (1) and fig (2). The Miller indices of Iron Oxide are (111) at 19.14 °, (220) at 31.39 °, (311) at 36.96 °, (222) at 38.79 °, (400) at 44.96 °, (422) at 55.70°, (511) at 59.4° and (440) at 65.35 °, the major lattice planes in the XRD patterns confirms the formation of spinel (Cubic /F-Center ), (Cubic /Primitive) and (Cubic /I-Center) while Miller indices for Nickel Oxide are (002) at 17.5 °, (120) at 19.5 °, (040) at 22.1 °, (111) at 27.7 °, (101) at 36.4 °, (110) at 45.25°, (105) at 46.14°, (013) at 49.69 °, (012) at 58.4 ° and (200) at 62.38 ° and it is confirms the formation of spinel (Hexagonal/ Primitive) .

Table (1) some crystallite lattice parameter (c-form, a, b, c,  $\beta$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $\gamma$ , density, Xs (nm) and d – spacing) of all samples that made by five Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (Iron Oxide) sample.

thickness (nm)	a=b=c (10 <sup>-10</sup> m)	Density (g.cm <sup>-3</sup> )	Particle size Xs(nm)	Dislocation density $\delta$ (nm <sup>-2</sup> ) $\times 10^{-4}$	d-spacing (Å°)
55.25	8.09	4.857	55.05	3.299782792	2.0297
78.7	8.39	5.102	56.06	3.181953386	2.21935
90.9	8.39	5.2071	56.10	3.177417459	2.22425
144.9	8.35	5.2071	62.95	2.523530343	2.6007
263.2	9.4	5.808	64.25	2.422443943	3.59315

Table (2) some crystallite lattice parameter (c- form, a, b, c,  $\beta$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $\gamma$ , density, Xs (nm) and d – spacing) of all samples that mead by five Ni<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (Nickel Oxide) sample

thickness (nm)	a=b (10 <sup>-10</sup> m)	c (10 <sup>-10</sup> m)	Density (g.cm <sup>-3</sup> )	Particle size Xs (nm)	Dislocation density $\delta$ (nm <sup>-2</sup> ) $\times 10^{-4}$	d-spacing (Å°)
55.25	4.61	5.61	5.3175	53	3.55998576	5.3175
78.7	4.61	5.61	5.3175	55.75	3.217438517	5.3175
90.9	4.523	7.36	5.434	56.15	3.171761176	5.434
144.9	2.955	7.227	6.803	57.03	3.074632807	6.803
263.2	2.818	20.56	7.435	57.44	3.030896719	7.435

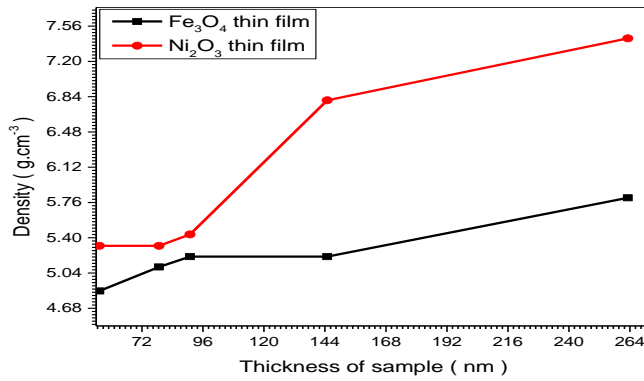


Fig (2) the relationship between thicknesses and density of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> and Ni<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> samples

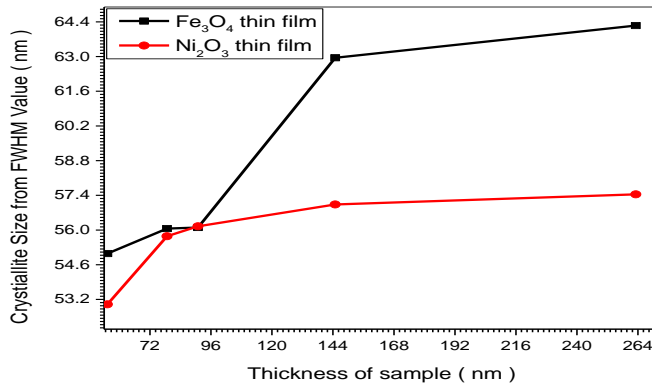


Fig (3) the relationship between thicknesses and crystal size of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> and Ni<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> samples

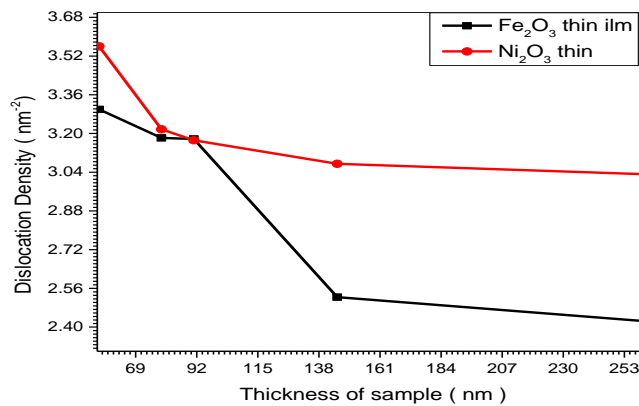


Fig (4) relationship between thicknesses and dislocation density Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> and Ni<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> samples

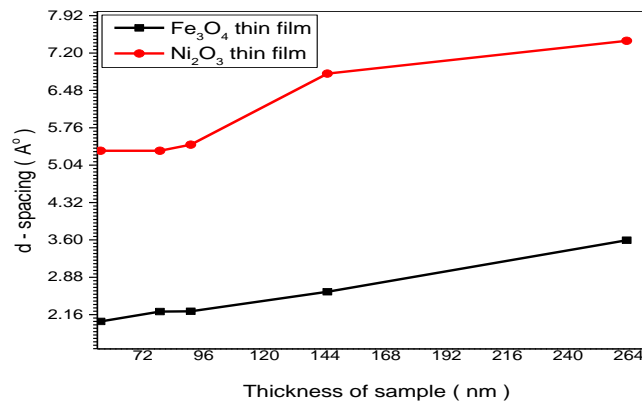


Fig (5) relationship between thicknesses and d- space of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> and Ni<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> samples

Table (1) and table (2) shows the XRD parameters of all (Iron and Nickel) Oxide samples at various crystalline orientations. Fig (2) describes the relation between thickness of (Iron and Nickel) Oxide and density of all samples, it was observed that density of Iron Oxide samples increases when thickness of the thin film increases by rate (0.00405 mg. cm<sup>-3</sup>/nm) but for Nickel Oxide increase by rate (0.001129 mg. cm<sup>-3</sup>/nm). The dislocation density ( $\delta$ ) of (Iron or Nickel) Oxide samples nanoparticles were calculated and listed in table (1) and (2) respectively, from fig (4) the dislocation density of Iron oxide decreased by rate 0.00184 nm<sup>-2</sup>/nm but for Nickel oxide decreased by rate 0.00449 nm<sup>-2</sup>/nm. Fig (3) shows the relation between the (Iron and Nickel) thin films thickness and crystallite size. The crystals size of Iron and Nickel oxide rated of with thickness increases by rate 0.04757 samples and 0.01577 for Iron Oxide and Nickel Oxide samples respectively. Finally, fig (5) describes the relation between the thickness of (Iron and Nickel) Oxide and d- spacing of all samples, for Iron oxide the d- spacing increased by rate 0.000494 of and or Nickel Oxide increased by rate 0.002786.

### Conclusion

Nickel Oxide Ni<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and Iron Oxide Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> Thin films were fabricated with different thicknesses, the crystal form of fabricated thin films confirm with the previous studies (cubic system for Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> and hexagonal for Ni<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>), all structure properties studied (density, particles size and d-space) increase with thickness increase expect dislocation density which decrease with thickness increase.

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