

Effect of quenching wheel speed on the magnetic properties of melt-spun NdFeM (M=B, Ti)

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1. Introduction

In last 60 years, the magnetically compounds composed of rare earth and 3d elements have been developed as high performance permanent magnets such as SmCo₅, Sm₂Co₁₇ and Nd₂Fe₁₄B. In the 1960s, SmCo₅ compound appeared as the first rare earth high-performance magnets. This magnet has magnetic properties such as a large uniaxial magnetocrystalline anisotropy, a relatively high saturation magnetization, a high Currie temperature and very high maximum energy product. Subsequently, the Nd₂Fe₁₄B compound was produced either by powdering/sintering in 1984 and the maximum energy product of this compound reached 36.25 MGOe. This Nd₂Fe₁₄B magnet has been rapidly developed and then the magnet which has the maximum energy product value of 59.25 MGOe was produced. This magnet is the best permanent magnet in the present industry. Recently, permanent magnets are essential components in the many industries because of their ability to provide a magnetic flux and the magnetically hard alloys of nanocomposites with rare earth elements especially have attracted rapidly increasing interest. Nanocomposite magnets consisting of a soft magnetic α -Fe or Fe₃B phase exchange-coupled to a hard magnetic Nd₂Fe₁₄B phase have been extensively studied due to their remanence enhancement effect, high energy product, and low cost. In this paper, we simultaneously investigate the hard magnetically compound and nanocomposite in one type compound by changing quenching wheel speed. We produce the NdFe-based compounds with various quenching wheel speed in order to study a transition from soft phase to hard phase.

2. Experiment

In order to ensure a homogeneous composition, ingots of NdFeM (M=B, Ti) were repeatedly melted and solidified under Ar atmosphere four times. These alloys were fabricated by melt spinning onto a copper wheel at speed of 800 ~ 3000 rpm for rapid solidification. Melt spinning was carried out in a chamber with highly purified Ar atmosphere. The microstructure of the samples were characterized by XRD. The hysteresis loops were obtained by VSM to study magnetic properties.

3. Result and discussion

Figure 1 and 2 display the XRD patterns and hysteresis loops of Nd₂Fe₁₄B powders for wheel speed values of 2500 and 3000 rpm, respectively. 2500 rpm sample shows only Nd₂Fe₁₄B phase, small coercivity and high saturation magnetization. The XRD pattern of 3000 rpm sample exhibits Nd₂Fe₁₇ and Fe phases, 3000 rpm sample has large coercivity and low saturation magnetization.

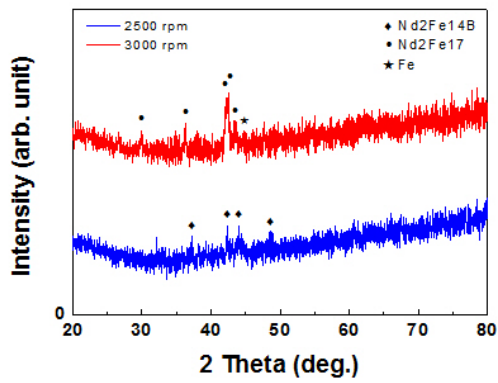


Fig. 1. XRD patterns of $\text{Nd}_2\text{Fe}_{14}\text{B}$ powders

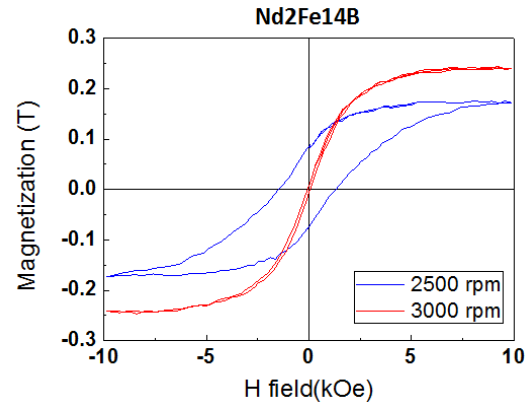


Fig. 2. Hysteresis loops of $\text{Nd}_2\text{Fe}_{14}\text{B}$ powders

4. References

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