# ADVANCES IN MATERIALS ENGINEERING Volume 2

vorume 2

Edited By: Md Abdul Maleque Iskandar Idris Yaacob Zahurin Halim



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# Characterization of Electroplated Nanocrystalline NiFe Alloy Films

Keywords: NiFe alloy films, Electrodeposition, Nanocrystalline, Magnetic properties.

Abstract. The preparation of nanocrystalline NiFe alloy films by electrodepositions process and their structural and magnetic properties are addressed. The X-ray diffraction (XRD) measurements confirm that all NiFe alloy films of the present study possess the face center cubic structure. The crystallite size lies in the range 7-16 nm. Alternating gradient magnetometer (AGM) with up to 10 kOe applied magnetic field was used to study the magnetic properties of NiFe film. The results showed that saturation magnetization *Ms* of both films thickness increase with decrease current density, which is due to the increase in Fe content of the NiFe alloy film. The lowest values of coercivity *Hc* around 3.9 and 2.3 Oe was found for sample deposited with current density of 11.5 A/dm² corresponding to a nickel content of 79 at% and 72 at%, respectively. For the higher current densities, i.e., higher nickel content in the NiFe films.The maximum saturation magnetization *Ms* was 119 emu/g and 191 emu/g obtained at current density 6 A/dm² for 3 and 50 μm thickness, respectively.

#### Introduction

Polycrystalline solids with grain size less than 100 nm are called nanocrystalline materials. The properties of nanocrystalline materials are very often superior to those of conventional polycrystalline coarse grain materials. The field of nanostructure materials has grown considerably in the last fifteen years. More and more researchers realize that the control of materials structure on the nanometer scale is the key to unique properties. Many synthesis techniques for production of nanostructure materials have been developed. Examples are gascondensation, ball milling, so-gel technique, sputtering, and electrochemical deposition [1]. Nanocrystalline structures offer a new opportunity to improve current magnetic materials. Electroplating offers several advantages as a process for magnetic-material deposition. Films can be electroplated with excellent magnetic properties and plating cells are relatively inexpensive. Recent developments in electronic devices demands for higher frequency operation of magnetic devices such as magnetic heads and magnetic sensors. For these high frequency magnetic devices, the development of soft magnetic thin films with excellent high frequency characteristics is a very important issue [2]. It is known that NiFe alloys are important soft magnetic materials, which have been widely applied in the field of electronic devices. They are used the cores of precision instrument transformers and of transformers and reactors operating at audio frequencies, for magnetic screens used to protect cathode ray