MÖSSBAUER SPECTROSCOPY OF Fe-BASED NANOPOWDERS SYNTHESISED BY MICROWAVE PLASMA TORCH

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Microwave plasma torch at atmospheric pressure was used for the synthesis of Fe-based nanoparticles [1]. The discharge was ignited in argon which flowed through the central gas flow channel whereas the reactive mixture of H_2/O_2 gas and Fe(CO)₅ vapour was added by a concentric opening of the outer channel. The morphology and composition of the synthesised nanopowders were studied by TEM, XRD, Raman spectroscopy and Mössbauer spectroscopy.

Only γ -Fe₂O₃ (d_{XRD} = 20 nm) phase was identified by XRD in the **T89** sample. However the Fe₃O₄ characteristic peaks (669 cm⁻¹, 349 cm⁻¹) were also observed in the Raman spectrum.

 γ -Fe₂O₃ (d_{XRD} = 18 nm, 41 wt.%), ϵ -Fe₂O₃ (d_{XRD} = 27 nm, 28 wt.%), and α -Fe₂O₃ (d_{XRD} = 39 nm, 31 wt.%) phases were identified in the XRD pattern of the **T104** sample. In its Raman spectrum the characteristic bands of α -Fe₂O₃ were observed besides the week bands of γ -Fe₂O₃ and Fe₃O₄. The bands of ϵ -Fe₂O₃ were overlapped with the bands of α -Fe₂O₃, Fe₃O₄, and γ -Fe₂O₃.

In the **T107** sample α -Fe (d_{XRD} = 48 nm, 51 wt.%) and Fe₃O₄ (d_{XRD} = 10 nm, 49 wt.%) phases were found by XRD. The presence of Fe₃O₄ was clearly confirmed by Raman spectroscopy.

[1] L. Zajíčková, P. Eliáš, M., Jašek, O. et al. Plasma Phys. Control. Fusion 47 (2005) B655-B666

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