



Investigation into the effect of the cooling rate on the magnetic properties of alloys that are based on the FeCoB matrix

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Abstract

The paper presents the results of tests carried out on samples of FeCoB-based alloys. The samples were produced by a technique involving the injection of each liquid alloy into a copper water-cooled mould. The investigated materials are characterised by much better properties than their crystalline counterparts with the same chemical composition. It has been shown that the cooling rate has a significant impact on the magnetic properties of the produced alloy. Alteration of the production parameters of FeCoB alloys has a decisive influence on the resulting properties of these alloys. The research has revealed evidence that changes in the structural characteristics are related directly to changes in the magnetic properties.

Introduction - essence

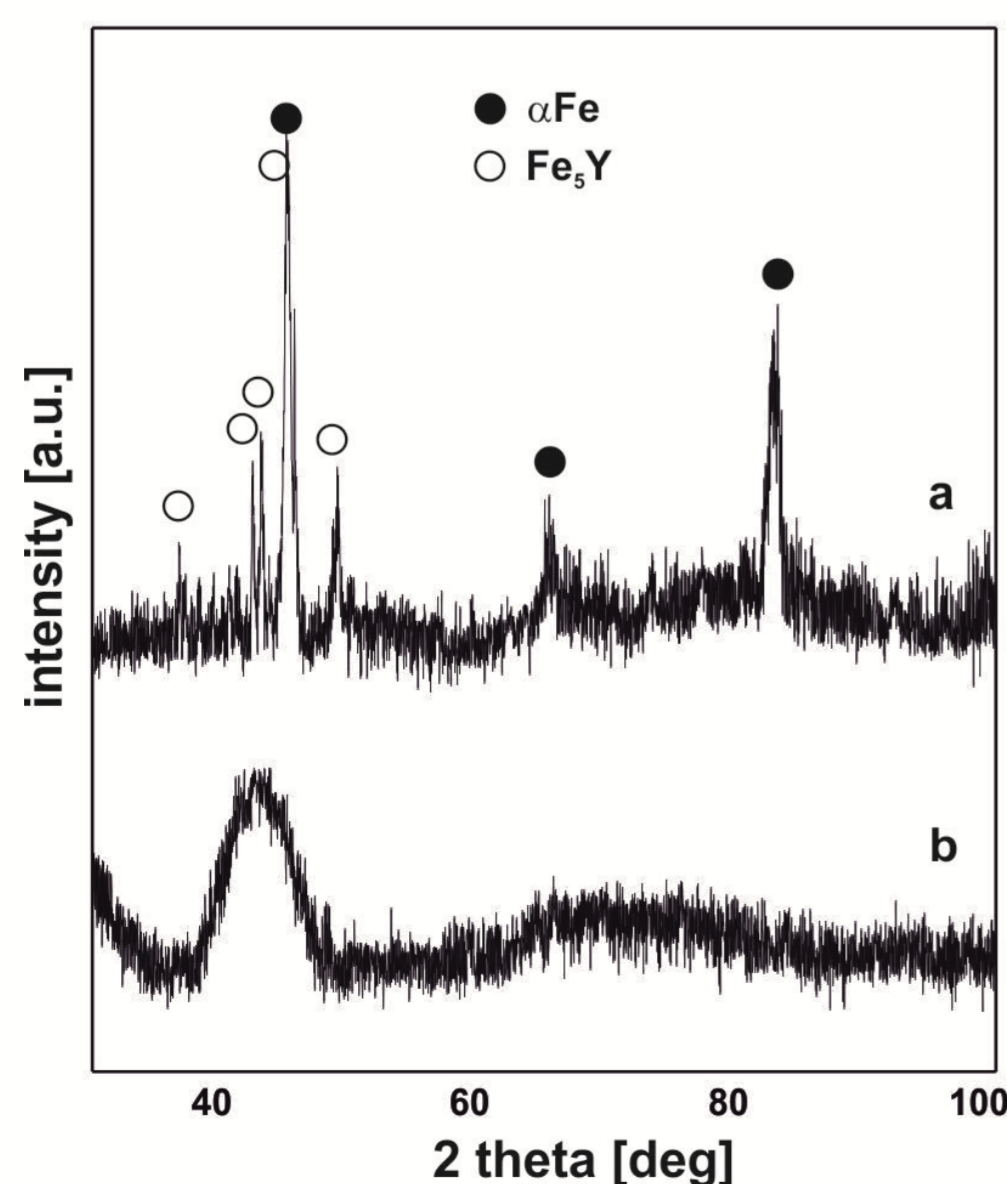
Development of physics, chemistry, metallurgy and materials engineering is conducive to obtaining new materials. Way of their production method may determine their values [1-3]. Further stages of refinement their properties are different treatment methods, e.g. soaking, heating, interference with a current pulse or a laser beam of different power [4-8]. In the 90's of the last century a new group of amorphous materials called bulk amorphous alloys was born [9-11]. Interestingly, these materials differed from their predecessors (classic amorphous materials in the form of tapes [12, 13]) only in thickness. Later studies have shown that the thickness have great importance in the case of properties [14]. In order to produce bulk amorphous alloys, three criteria developed by A. Inoue and colleagues from the Tohoku University in Japan should be used [15]. They assumed that the alloy should consist of more than three components whose atomic radii (at least the main components) will differ by more than 12% and the alloying components will have a negative heat of mixing. All these criteria are limiting migration of atoms in the volume of the solidifying alloy, which in turn inhibits the formation of energetically privileged systems.

Experimental procedure - highlights

Samples prepared in this way were tested for structure with use of x-rays. X-ray diffractometer by BRUKER, model ADVANCE 8 was used. Measurements were made in the range of 2 theta angle 30 - 100 degrees, with measuring step of 0.02 degrees and exposure time 7 s per step. Measurements were made for low energy crushed samples in agate mortar within toluene. Performing measurements for crushed samples makes it possible to obtain information from the entire volume. Measurements of magnetic properties were made with the use of a LAKESHORE 7307 vibrating sample magnetometer, operating in the range of magnetic field strength up to 2 T. Both structure and magnetic properties measurements were performed at room temperature.

Results

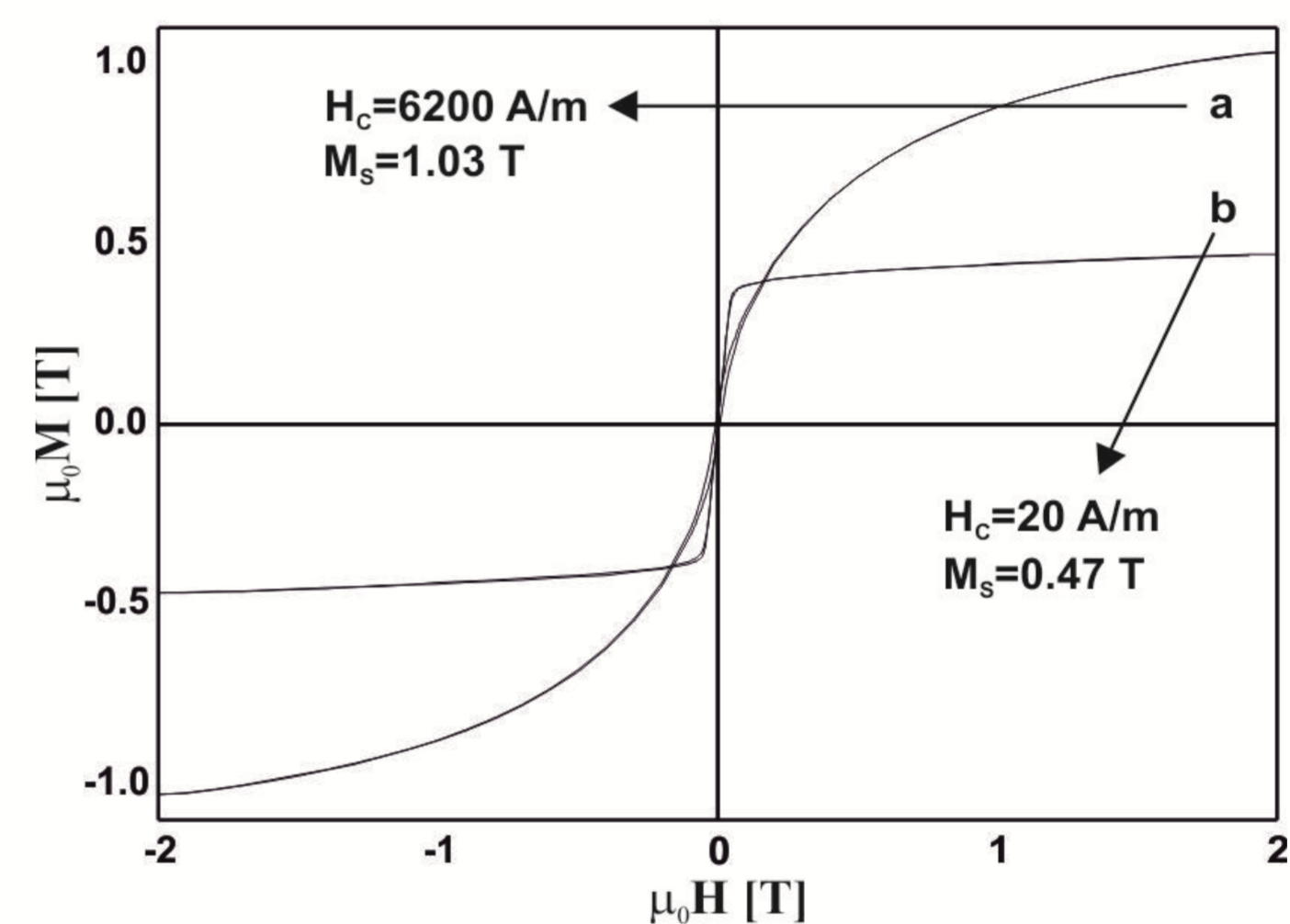
Fig. 2. X-ray diffraction patterns for the alloy samples: a) rapidly-cooled sample, b) crystal ingot



Conclusions

Process of producing rapidly-cooled materials determines the evaluation of structure and has a direct impact on ferromagnetic alloys properties. Appearance of a well-developed crystal structure without directional texturing significantly deteriorates the soft magnetic properties of this type of alloys.

Fig. 3. Static magnetic hysteresis loops for the alloys: a) cooling on a copper plate, b) rapidly-cooling



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