



RESEARCH ARTICLE - physics

Study the Effect of Calcined Temperature on Structural, Optical and Magnetic Properties for Cobalt Ferrite Nanostructure

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Article Info.	Abstract
<p><i>Article history:</i></p> <p>Received 13 October 2023</p> <p>Accepted 27 November 2023</p> <p>Publishing 30 June 2024</p>	<p>In this work, CoFe₂O₄ nanostructure was synthesized from Cobalt and ferric nitrates and sodium hydroxide (NaOH) by hydrothermal method. Effect of heat treatment on the structural, optical, and magnetic properties of the resulting powder was studied at calcination 400°C and 600°C with different concentration of NaOH. The resulted products were characterized by X-ray diffraction (XRD), Field emission scanning electron microscopy (FE-SEM), Fourier transformed infrared (FTIR), UV-Vis absorption, and vibrating sample magnetometer (VSM) technique as synthesis and when calcination at 400°C and 600°C with different concentration of NaOH. The absorption spectra show CoFe₂O₄ nanostructure absorb the ultra violet area. The high temperatures of the calcination process results in the reduction in crystallite size that their average crystallite size is found (11-14.26) nm. The FE-SEM images indicated that particles were agglomerated and spherical shape and size between (23.6 - 57.9) nm expect the morphology is clearly a structure nanorods at 3M at 400 °C. The created CoFe₂O₄ nanostructure have demonstrated ferromagnetic behavior for all the samples behavior which was found in VSM results examination.</p>

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1. Introduction

Cobalt ferrite (CoFe₂O₄) possesses a cubic spinel structure. In the inverse spinel configuration of the ferrite, Fe³⁺ ions usually live in the tetrahedral sites, while Co²⁺ and Fe³⁺ ions live in the octahedral sites (called B-sites) [1]. In order to manipulate the composition and microstructure of ferrite nanoparticles, it is imperative to employ several preparation methods [1]. CoFe₂O₄ nanoparticles have been synthesised using several methods in earlier studies, including sol-gel [2, 3], hydrothermal [4], chemical co-precipitation [5, 6], solvothermal [7], solid-state [8], and solution combustion [9–12] techniques

CoFe₂O₄ was studied because it has some interesting properties, such as high permeability, great electrochemical stability, amazing electrical and optical properties, and the ability to show different redox states [13,14]. These aforementioned features render it appropriate for a diverse array of applications [15, 16]. The properties of CoFe₂O₄ nanoparticles are determined by various factors, including the preparation method, morphology, particle size, heat treatment, and cation diffusion at tetrahedral and octahedral locations. These nanoparticles exhibit distinct and enhanced properties in electronic and electromagnetic device applications when compared to their bulk counterparts [17].

In this research, we have created a straightforward hydrothermal technique to produce cubic spinel CoFe₂O₄ nanoparticles. The impact of different calcined temperature and NaOH concentration on structural, optical, and magnetic properties of CoFe₂O₄

nanoparticles were investigated. The characteristics of the CoFe_2O_4 nanoparticles were studied to investigate their potential applications for use in advanced supercapacitors and photocatalytic oxidation of various dyes.

1. EXPERIMENTAL WORK

CoFe_2O_4 nanostructure was prepared from Cobalt and ferric nitrates using the hydrothermal method. The aqueous solutions of Cobalt nitrate hexahydrate with 0.2M was dissolved in distilled water and stirred in a magnetic stirrer until the solution appears pink. Ferric nitrate monohydrates (Iron nitrate nanohadrate) with 0.4M was dissolved in distilled water and stirred it until the solution appears orange. Dissolve NaOH with (1, 2, and 3) M in deionized water and stirred at 70°C the resultant solution appears transparent. Then cobalt salt and iron salt were gradually added to NaOH boiled solution, then the pH of the solution was measured and its value was changed to 9. The resultant solution stirred for (6h) at 70 °C, the solution appears black. The resulting solution was placed in an autoclave and then placed in an oven at 100 °C for (3h). Resulting solution centrifuged for 30 min with 6000 revolutions per minute, then this process was repeated three times. Dried the resulting precipitate at 100 °C for 30 min, the material appeared in the form of a small black mass. The resulting substance was ground well and became a black powder, then annealed at 400°C and 600°C the resulting samples are ready for examined. These same steps were repeated different concentrations of NaOH. In the present study, CoFe_2O_4 nanostructure have been prepared by using the hydrothermal technique and annealed at various temperatures (400, and 600) °C. The purpose of this work is to examine how the annealing temperature affects morphological, structural, and optical properties of CoFe_2O_4 nanostructures synthesized. By using a Shimadzu version 4 (XRD) system, the structure related to the CoFe_2O_4 nanostructures was analyzed, and the intensity was recorded as a Bragg angle function. The radiation source was Cu ($K\alpha$) with $\lambda= 1.5406 \text{ \AA}$ wavelength was used as the radiation source, while 40kV and 30mA were used for the voltage and current, respectively. The scanning angle 2θ was varied between 10 and 90 degrees step size 0.2 degree, at a speed of 10 degrees per min, with a preset time of 1.2 seconds. For analyzing the morphology regarding samples, a Field emission scanning microscope (FESEM) is used (MIRA3model-TE-SCAN (Dey Petronic Co.)). The Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) test is employed to analyse the spectra of various substances. This is accomplished by utilising a Bruker FTIR analyzer, specifically the Tensor-27 model, manufactured by Bruker Optics Inc., located in Billerica, MA. The test is conducted in an attenuated total reflectance mode. The data were recorded in the range of wave number from 400 to 4000 cm^{-1} . To investigate the optical properties like absorbance-based absorbance spectra a UV-Visible spectrophotometer (190-1100) nm (Meterrech SP - 8001) was utilized. An AGFM-VSM model 117 was used for recording M-H curves regarding the samples during magnetic experiments with the use of a VSM.

2. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The cobalt ferrite nanostructure fabricated by employing a hydrothermal approach with 1 M of NaOH concentration and calcined for 0 °C, 400 °C and 600 °C are confirmed by the peaks observed in Fig. 1. The samples display the recognizable reflection from (220), (311), (222), (400), (422), (511), (440), and (533) planes, which are in good agreement with those of CoFe_2O_4 obtained from JCPDS card no. 96-591-0064. The peak (222) appeared at 0°C, 400 °C and vanish at 600 °C. Another finding is that peaks shift to lower 2θ as the temperature of calcination rises, this shows that as thermal energy is added, the rate at which cobalt ions are incorporated into the lattice increases[18]. Due to the fact that the peak shift and

lattice constant vary depending on the substituted cations, this makes it possible to discriminate between the diffraction patterns of distinct spinel ferrites[19]. However, when the calcination temperature increased, the peak strength steadily dropped, indicating that the expansion of peaks was hampered by the rise in calcination temperature. The vibrating of the atoms in the sample may be directly connected to the drop in nanoparticle peak intensity as temperature rises[20]. Recently study[21] demonstrated how changing the distance between the nearest crystal planes (d) might result from an increase in atomic thermal vibration caused by an increase in temperature, and therefore the 2θ position of the diffraction peak also shifts from its original position; and the diffraction peak's intensity decreases. The high purity of the product is supported by the fact that the XRD spectra did not find any further impurity peaks[22]. The crystallite sizes have been calculated from the highest intensity (311) peaks utilizing

the Debye–Scherrer's formula [23][24] for all the cobalt ferrites calcined samples and the results were recorded in Table 1.

$$D = \frac{k\lambda}{\beta \cos \theta} \quad (1)$$

Where k = shape factor, $\lambda = 1.54060\text{\AA}$, β = Full Width Half Maximum (FWHM) and θ = diffracting angle. The results showed that when the calcination temperature increased, the crystallite sizes had relatively reduced. The high temperatures of the calcination process may be to blame for the nanoparticles' cracking or fracturing, which results in the reduction in crystallite size[25]. By applying Bragg's Law to the X-ray diffraction (XRD) pattern, the lattice parameter was determined [26]. The symbol for interplanar spacing is " d ," and the lattice parameter for the corresponding 2 peak position value is " a ." The integers h , k , and l are commonly referred to as Miller indices [27].

$$a = d\sqrt{h^2 + k^2 + l^2} \quad (2)$$

Lattice constant has expanded from 8.39 to 8.53 \AA . The substituted cations affect how the lattice constant behaves since the radius of Fe^{3+} (0.64 \AA) is lesser than Co^{2+} (0.72 \AA) this answers the rising lattice constant with the introduce of cobalt cation into the lattice. [28]. According to a research [19], the lattice constant increased as the calcination temperature rose.

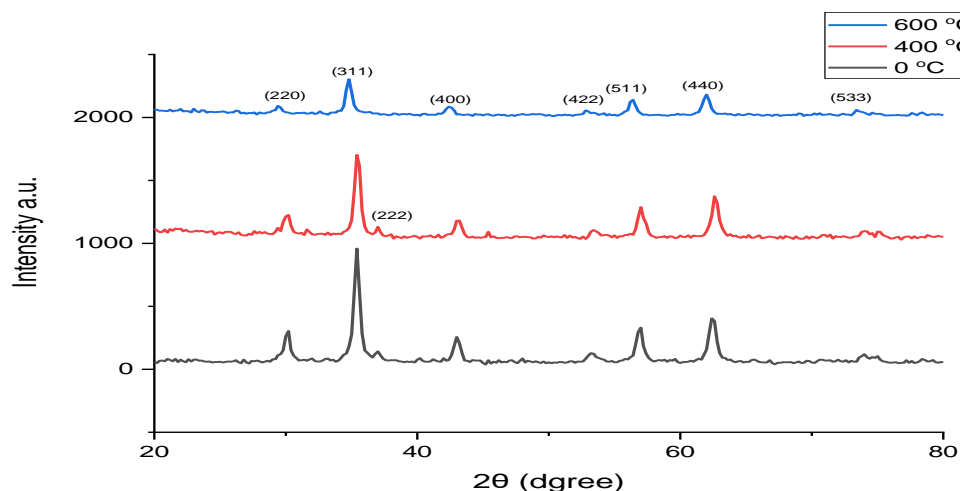


Figure 1: XRD of CoFe_2O_4 with different calcination temperature at 1 M NaOH

Figure 2 represents the XRD of the prepared cobalt ferrite nanostructure by hydrothermal with 3 M NaOH concentration and calcined at different temperature (0 °C, 400 °C, 600 °C). The CoFe_2O_4 nanostructure appears structure with a comparison to the standard card (JCPDS card no. 96-591-0064). The samples demonstrate the typical reflection from (220), (311), (222), (400), (422), (511), (440), and (533) planes. Comparing the XRD patterns, It is noticed diffraction peaks are present of the calcinated sample at 600 °C are narrower and more intense, this assumes that it enhances the crystallinity with the temperature of calcination is elevated[29][30]. An additional peak at 2θ 45.6° related to secondary impurities were observed for the sample calcined at 600 °C, which may have been driven on by sample degradation[31]. Cobalt ferrite was also calcined by an earlier study [19], and it had a peak at the same angle. Lima *et al* [30]also confirmed that the CoFe_2O_4 NPs presented a secondary phase during the synthesis. Since the creation of the impurity phase is inconsistent with the concentration of the substituent. As a result, it can be mainly linked to the synthesis or postsynthesis circumstances of the samples[32]. For all of the calcined samples, the crystallite sizes were determined from the highest intensity (311) peaks using equation (1), and the results are shown in Table (1). Table 1 showed that when the calcination temperature increased, the crystallite size relatively marginally reduced. This may be as a result of the presence of an impurity obtained by the oxidation process [33]. The super-exchange bonds between the magnetic cations break when an impurity or lack of oxygen ions are present at the surface, causing a significant surface spin disorder. The super-exchange interaction depends on the bond angles and bond lengths, this, clearly would differ near the surface due to the bonds' termination. As a result, the bond length and angle are broken when the super-exchange bonds are broken. A dead surface layer that reduces crystallite size and saturation magnetization may arise as a result of the disordered spin at the surface[34]. Equation (2) was used to get the lattice parameter from the XRD pattern. By raising the temperature of calcination, the lattice constant dropped, which may indicate that during cation migration during annealing, Fe^{3+} ions in tetrahedral sites migrate to octahedral sites and Co^{2+} ions in octahedral sites migrate to tetrahedral sites [35].

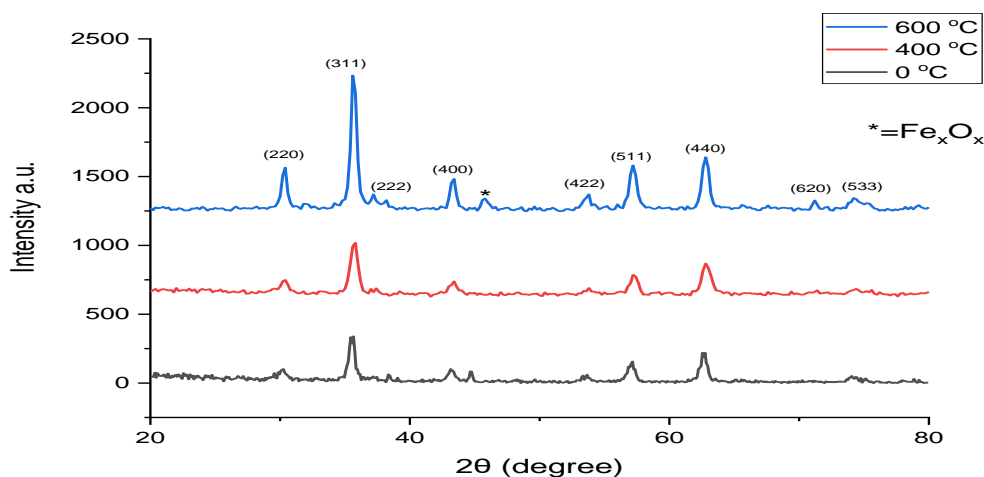


Figure 2:

XRD of CoFe_2O_4 with different calcination temperature at 3 M NaOH

Figure 3 clearly demonstrates the XRD of the hydrothermally created cobalt ferrite nanostructure with 5 mol NaOH concentration and calcined at different temperature (0 °C, 400 °C, 600 °C). The CoFe_2O_4

nanostructure appears structure with a comparison to the standard card (JCPDS card no. 96-591-0064). The diffraction spectra exhibit peaks of (220), (311), (222), (400), (331), (422), (511), (440), and (533) planes related to the cobalt ferrite cubic phase. From XRD patterns, it is evident that the calcination induces narrower and higher diffraction peaks, evidence of a rise in crystallinity [19][29][30]. Peaks at 2θ 20.6°, 29.4°, 34.1°, 39.6° and 45.6° represent to impurities that formation during synthesis or post-synthesis of the samples[32]. Because there were too many Fe ions after the synthesis process and not enough Co ions to occupy the octahedral sites in the spinel structure of the ferrite, α -Fe₂O₃ was present[36] According to a report [34], hematite is created when iron hydroxide reacts with air during calcination. The presence of α -Fe₂O₃ was previously reported in the literature [31][37][34]. In accordance with earlier articles[19][34]by raising the calcination temperature to 800 °C or higher, the amount of cobalt ferrite impurities might be reduced and even eliminated. In order to determine the crystallite sizes for all of the calcined samples, the highest intensity (311) peaks were used, the findings are shown in Table (1). It was shown from table (1) that when calcination temperature increased, the crystallite size relatively reduced. Because of the presence of hematite might minimize crystallite size after calcination[38]. As mention above, The super-exchange bonds between the magnetic cations are broken when an impurity or an absence of oxygen ions are present at the surface, inducing a large surface spin disorder[39]. The disordered spin at the surface may result in the existence of a dead surface layer that decreases the crystallite size and saturation magnetization[33]. Equation (2) was used to determine the lattice parameter from the XRD pattern. The results indicated that the lattice parameter reduction with the increasing of calcination. Similar behavior of the lattice constant was observed by Prasetya *et al* [40].

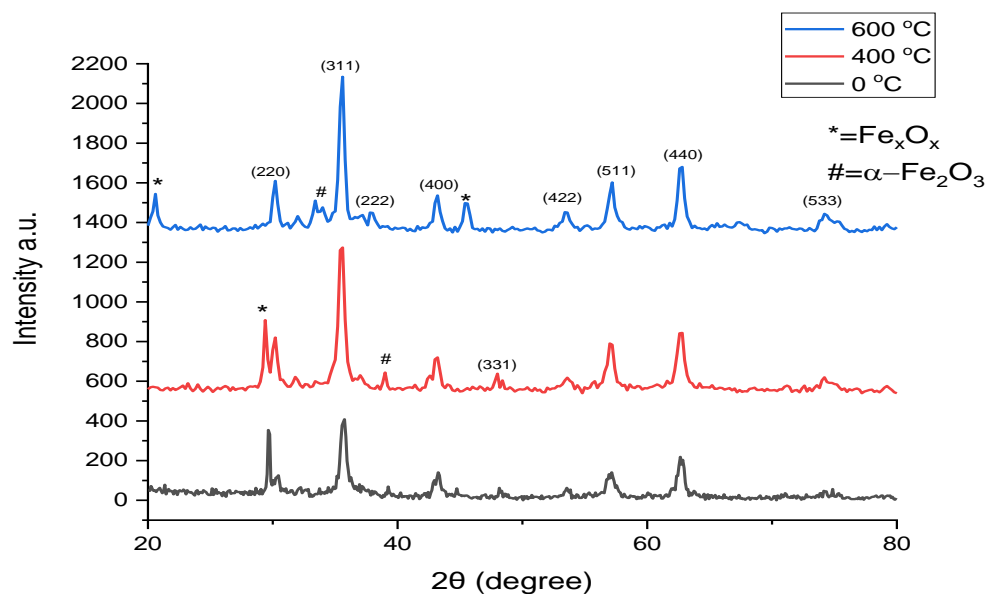


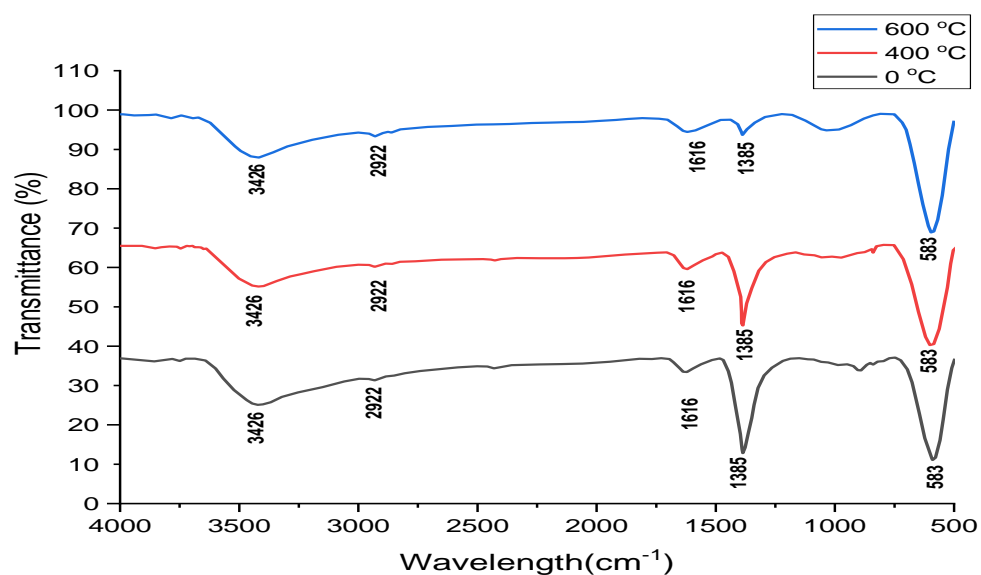
Figure 3: XRD of CoFe₂O₄ with different calcination temperature at 5 M NaOH

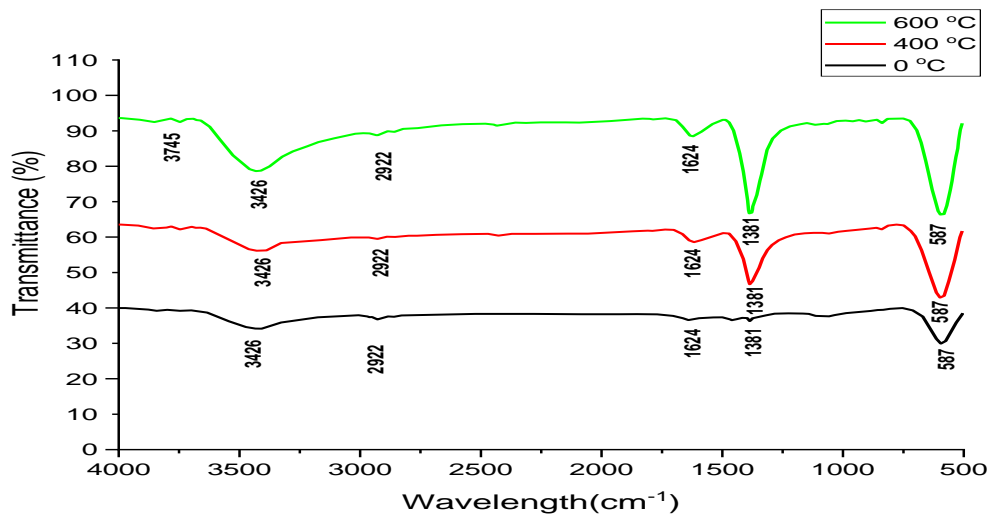
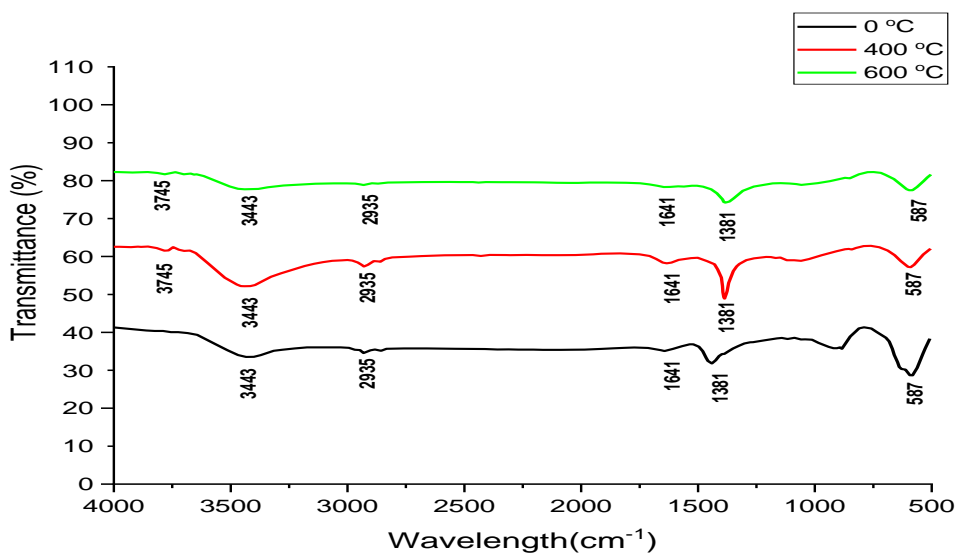
Table 1: Crystallite size and lattice constant of CoFe_2O_4 with different calcination temperature

Sample Name		2 θ (degree)	FWHM β (degree)	D(nm)	Lattice Constant (a) Å
NaOH Concentration	Calcined Temperature °C				
1 M	0	35.4226	0.6173	14.11	8.39
	400	35.468	0.6109	14.26	8.38
	600	34.8149	0.6218	13.98	8.53
3 M	0	35.54581	0.57108	15.26	8.59
	400	35.7153	0.749	11.64	8.55
	600	35.688	0.6394	13.63	8.33
5 M	0	35.66876	0.6167	14.13	8.42
	400	35.5208	0.6552	13.30	8.37
	600	35.5531	0.6205	14.04	8.36
JCPDS card		35.632			8.35

Figures (4, 5 and 6) shows calcinated cobalt ferrite nanostructures at (0, 400 and 600) °C for (1, 3, 5 mol) of NaOH concentration presented in the range (4000-500) cm^{-1} have been investigated by FTIR spectroscopy at room temperature.

The well-known bands in the 3775-3426 cm^{-1} , 1616-1641 cm^{-1} and 1381-1385 cm^{-1} range are assigned to the O-H stretching vibration indicating the existence of water adsorbed in the surface of the nanostructures [29], [32], [41]–[46]. The absorption bands at 2922-2935 cm^{-1} were observed, which are linked to the C-H stretches[19], [42]. Furthermore, the frequency band 583-587 cm^{-1} shows strong absorption and is assigned to vibration of the tetrahedral metal complex which comprised in a bond between the oxygen ion and the tetrahedral site metal ion[26], [35], [43], [47]. The fabrication of cobalt ferrite uses different molar concentrations of NaOH, as illustrated in Figures, which alters the absorption strength but stays in the same frequency range. This demonstrates that the different NaOH molar concentrations during the production of cobalt ferrite has the potential to modify its magnetic characteristics[48]. FTIR peaks of synthesized cobalt ferrite nanostructures were shown in Table (2).

Figure 4: FTIR of CoFe_2O_4 with different calcination temperature at 1 M NaOH

Figure 5: FTIR of CoFe_2O_4 with different calcination temperature at 3 M NaOHFigure 6: FTIR of CoFe_2O_4 with different calcination temperature at 5 M NaOH**Table 2:** FTIR peaks of synthesized cobalt ferrite nanostructures

Chemical Bonds	Band Location cm^{-1}		
	1M	3 M	5 M
O–H stretching vibration		3745	3775
O–H stretching vibration	3426	3426	3443
C–H stretches	2922	2922	2935
O–H stretching vibration	1616	1624	1641
O–H stretching vibration	1385	1381	1381
Metal-Oxygen stretching vibrations	583	587	587

The optical absorbance of cobalt ferrite nanostructures synthesized with 1 mol of NaOH calcinated at 0, 400 and 600 °C temperatures is shown in Fig. (7) in the wavelength range of 200–800 nm. The absorbance is often influenced by a number of variables, including oxygen deficit, band gap, impurity centers, particle

size, lattice strain, and surface roughness[49]. However, the absorption spectra show that the products substantially absorb the ultra violet area, which is consistent with the findings of other studies [22]. The size and shape of various products of cobalt ferrite nanostructure may be the source of the tiny absorption discrepancies in the spectra of the samples[50].

The energy gap values were about 3.22, 2.96 and 2.65 eV for cobalt ferrite nanostructures with concentrations 1 mol NaOH calcined at (0, 400, and 600°C), respectively. While, Rashmi *et al* [51] found the energy band is 4.1 eV. Furthermore, Saleem et al [52] were found energy band between 3.98 eV to 3.21 eV. Many other studies[53][54][55][56] were found energy band between 1.10-2.41 eV. The findings demonstrate that as calcination temperature is raised, CoFe₂O₄ nanostructure optical energy gap values decrease. This suggests that a drop in energy band gap value is connected with a rise in calcination temperature, possibly due to a quantum size impact. It is proposed that transitions between the valance and conduction bands may be the cause of the band gap reduction.[57]. While Habibi *et al*[58] explained a solid comprising Fe³⁺ and Co²⁺ ions might add a new level to the conduction band and the electrons could be promoted from the valence band to these ions levels, resulting in a narrowing of the band gap.

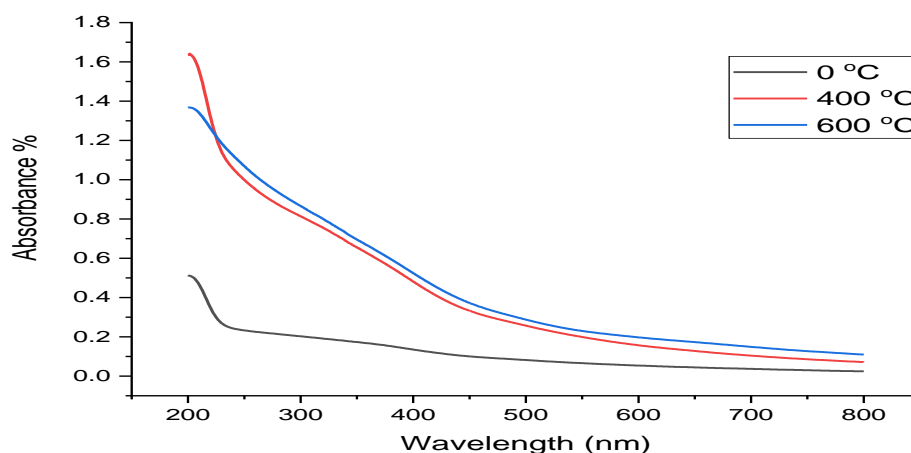


Figure 7: Absorption of CoFe₂O₄ with different calcination temperature at 1 Mol NaOH

The optical absorbance of cobalt ferrite nanostructures synthesized with 3 mol of NaOH calcinated at 0, 400 and 600 °C temperatures is shown in Fig. (9) in the wavelength range of 200–800 nm. The amount of oxygen, band gap, impurity centers, particle size, lattice strain, and surface roughness are several of the variables that affect absorbance in general.[49]. However, at the absorption spectra, it can be seen that the products highly absorb UV radiation, which is consistent with the findings of earlier studies[22]. The size and shape of various cobalt ferrite nanostructure products may be the origin of the modest absorption variations seen in the samples' spectra [50].

The energy gaps of cobalt ferrite nanostructure were determined from equation (3). The energy gap values were about 3.32, 3.37 and 3 eV for cobalt ferrite nanostructures with concentrations 3 mol NaOH calcined at (0, 400, and 600 °C), respectively (see Fig. (10)). Meanwhile, Rashmi *et al* [51] found the energy band is 4.1 eV. Saleem et al [52] were found energy band between 3.98 eV to 3.21 eV. Many other

studies[53][54][55][56] were found energy band between 1.10-2.41 eV. The results show that the optical energy gap values of CoFe_2O_4 nanostructure decrease relatively with increasing calcination temperature. Sugihartono *et al*[59] thought that the oxygen vacancy is responsible for the band gap's shrinking. Thus, the oxygen vacancy is caused by a disordered crystal structure at the high calcination temperature.

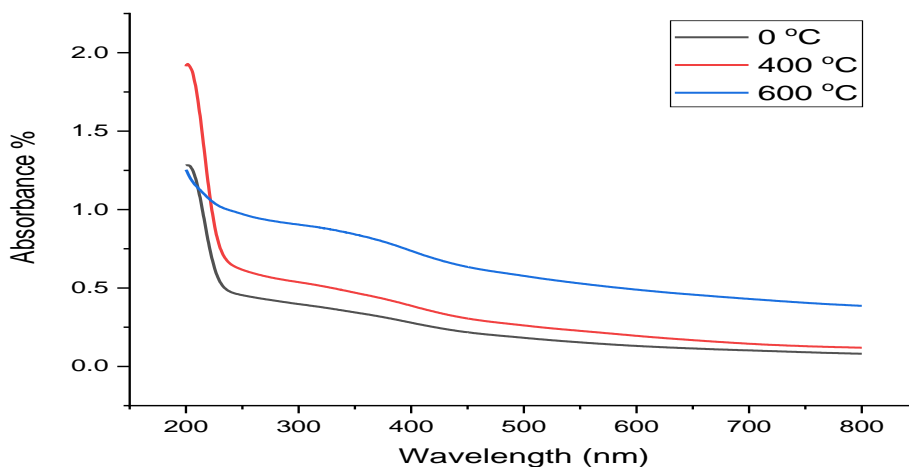


Figure 9: Absorption of CoFe_2O_4 with different calcination temperature at 3 Mol NaOH

The optical absorbance of cobalt ferrite nanostructures synthesized with 5 mol of NaOH calcinated at 400 and 600 °C temperatures is shown in Fig. (11) in the wavelength range of 200–800 nm. The absorbance is often influenced by a number of elements which is oxygen deficiency, band gap, impurity centers, grain size, lattice strain and surface roughness[49]. On the other hand, we can see from the absorption spectra that the products substantially absorb UV radiation, which is similar to previous study results [22]. The small absorption differences in the spectra of samples may be because of the size and morphology of different products of cobalt ferrite nanostructure [50].

The energy gaps of cobalt ferrite nanostructure were determined from equation (3). The energy gap values were about 3.44, 3.5 and 3.79 eV for cobalt ferrite nanostructures with concentrations 5 mol NaOH calcined at (0, 400, and 600°C), respectively (see Fig. (12)). While, Rashmi *et al* [51] found the energy band is 4.1 eV. Saleem *et al* [52] were found energy band between 3.98 eV to 3.21 eV. Many other studies[53][54][55][56] were found energy band between 1.10-2.41 eV. The findings demonstrate that as the calcination temperature is raised, the optical energy gap values of the CoFe_2O_4 nanostructure decrease. These results are in agreement with earlier study[31]. The accumulation of NPs may be the cause of the band gap energy increase with temperature. The NPs' band gap energy rises as they are aggregated since this lowers their surface-to-volume ratio and, consequently, their capacity to absorb light. The creation of new structures inside the nanoparticles as a result of the calcination process is another possibility that might contribute to the impact that was seen [60]. Table (3) showed the value of energy gap of all samples.

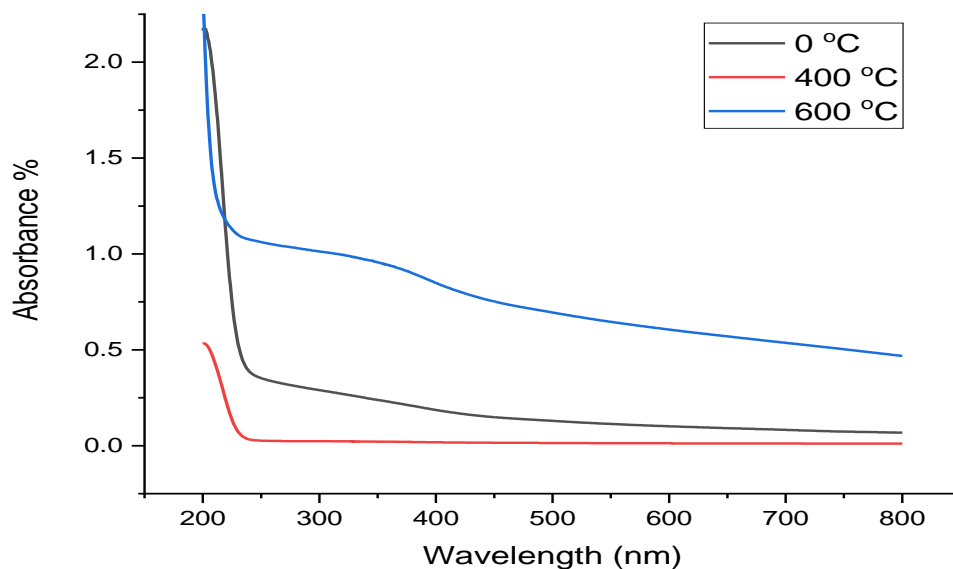
Figure 11: Absorption of CoFe_2O_4 with different calcination temperature at 5 Mol NaOH

Table 3: Value of energy gap of all samples

Sample Name		Optical Energy band (eV)
NaOH Concentration	Calcined Temperature °C	
1 Mol	0	3.22
	400	2.96
	600	2.65
3 Mol	0	3.32
	400	3.37
	600	3
5 Mol	0	3.44
	400	3.5
	600	3.79

Figure (10) shows the FE-SEM micrographs of cobalt ferrite nanostructure synthesized with 1 M of NaOH calcinated at different temperatures. The FE-SEM images indicated that particles were agglomerated and spherical shape and size between 23.6 to 57.9 nm. The crystallite size determined from the X-ray diffraction data was less than the particle size that was seen. Because of the resultant agglomeration, which caused many crystallites to combine to create a bigger particle, as well as grain development at a higher calcination temperature, the Gibbs free energy coming from the reduction of extended surface area of nanoparticles is minimized [26]. Similar results were observed in previous studies [61][62][53][58].

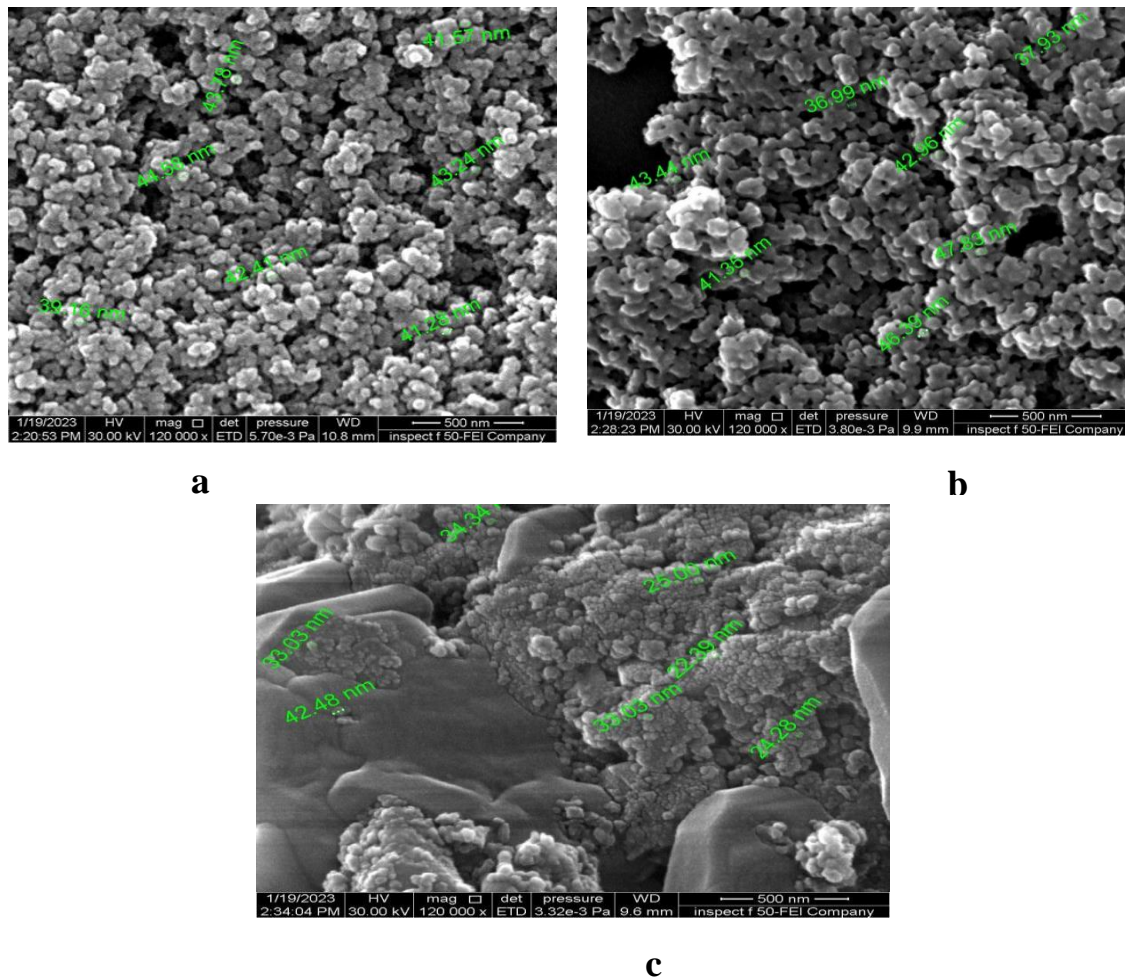


Figure (10): FE-SEM images of CoFe_2O_4 with 1M concentration of NaOH (a) as synthesis (b) 400°C (c) 600°C

Figures (11) shows the FE-SEM micrographs of cobalt ferrite nanostructure synthesized with 3M of NaOH calcinated at 400 and 600 oC temperatures. It is clear in figure (11a) that nano-rods and spherical shapes are formed and agglomerated. The morphology is clearly a structure nanorods with a diameter of 78 nm and length of 533 nm which is similar to Pervaiz et al [63] results. The particle aggregations increased when the calcination temperature was raised to 600 °C. Hence, that higher temperature inevitably causes moderate agglomeration [31].

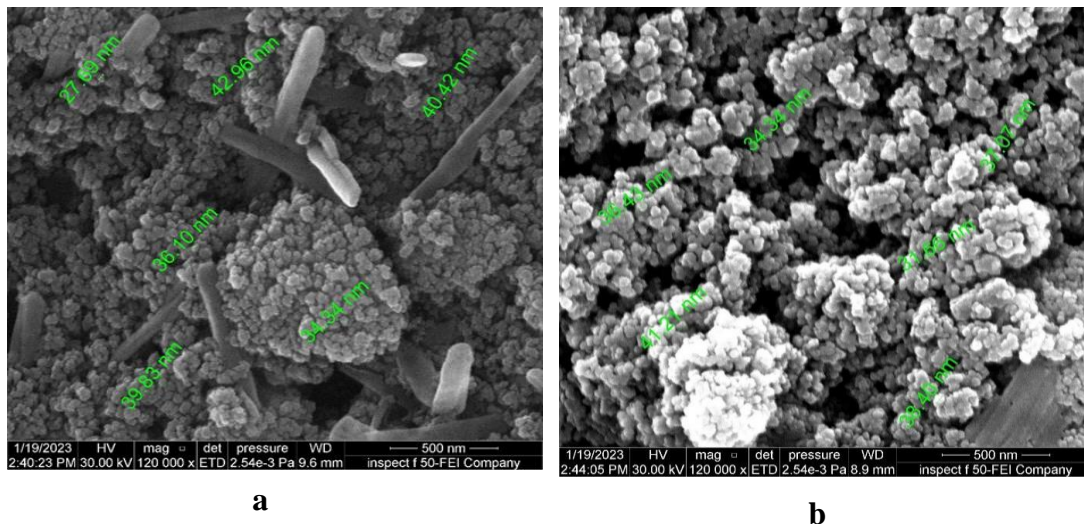


Figure (11): SEM picture of CoFe_2O_4 with 3M concentration of NaOH calcined at (a) 400 °C (b) 600 °C

Figure (12) shows the FE-SEM micrographs of cobalt ferrite nanostructure synthesized with 5 mol of NaOH calcinated at 400 and 600 °C temperatures. It is clear from Figure (12) that CoFe_2O_4 have uniform morphology with the individual particles have a particles size from 23 to 49 nm but there is agglomeration of particles. The magnetic contact and van der Waals interactions between the nanoparticles cause this aggregation[44][64]. Moosavi et al[34] explained magneto-dipole interactions between crystals and the presence of the hematite impurity caused the trend toward agglomeration to be seen.

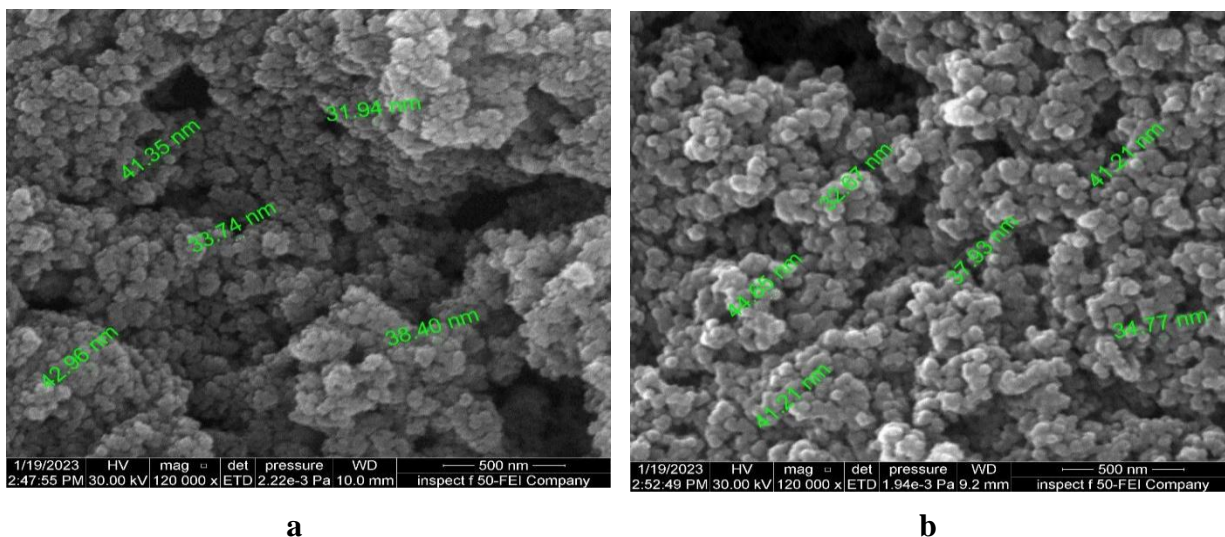


Figure (12) SEM picture of CoFe_2O_4 with 5M concentration of NaOH calcined at (a) 400 °C (b) 600 °C.

Magnetic characterization of the cobalt ferrite synthesized with 1 M NaOH samples before and after calcination was performed using a vibrating sample magnetometer as showed in Figure (13). The cobalt

ferrite nanostructure's ferromagnetic characteristics before and after calcination were shown by the magnetic hysteresis that was discovered at room temperature. The coercivity H_C of the CoFe_2O_4 nanostructure samples without calcination was 439 Oe, and after calcination for 400 and 600 °C, it increased to 1740 and 1439 Oe respectively. The saturation magnetization (M_s) before calcination was 58 emu/g and after calcination it was 60 and 68 emu/g for 400 and 600 °C respectively. The saturation magnetization values (M_s) are lower than the bulk CoFe_2O_4 (~80 emu/g)[34][65]. The interplay between the magnetic spin moment's surface order and disorder and the disruption to the spinel structural inversion brought on by Laplace pressure may be responsible for this decrease in saturation magnetization [66]. Table (3) showed the saturation magnetization and remanent magnetization increased with increasing calcination temperature. This resulted from the treatment at low temperatures' partial crystallization and tiny particle size. Hence, the particle size was increased with increasing calcination temperature which has been confirmed from FE-SEM analysis. Other elements, such as the high percentage of surface atoms, the unsaturated ligand, and the potent thermal disturbance properties, could also be play a role. Hence, it may be inferred that the magnetic configuration of the crystal exhibited instability and disorder, resulting in the inability to maintain a consistent magnetic moment in alignment with the external field [61]. The saturation magnetization can also rise with particle size because the powder surface contained a non-magnetic layer, and the proportion of the layer dropped as the particle size increased [61]. Reduced grain growth is the cause of the rise in coercivity with increased calcining temperature [67].

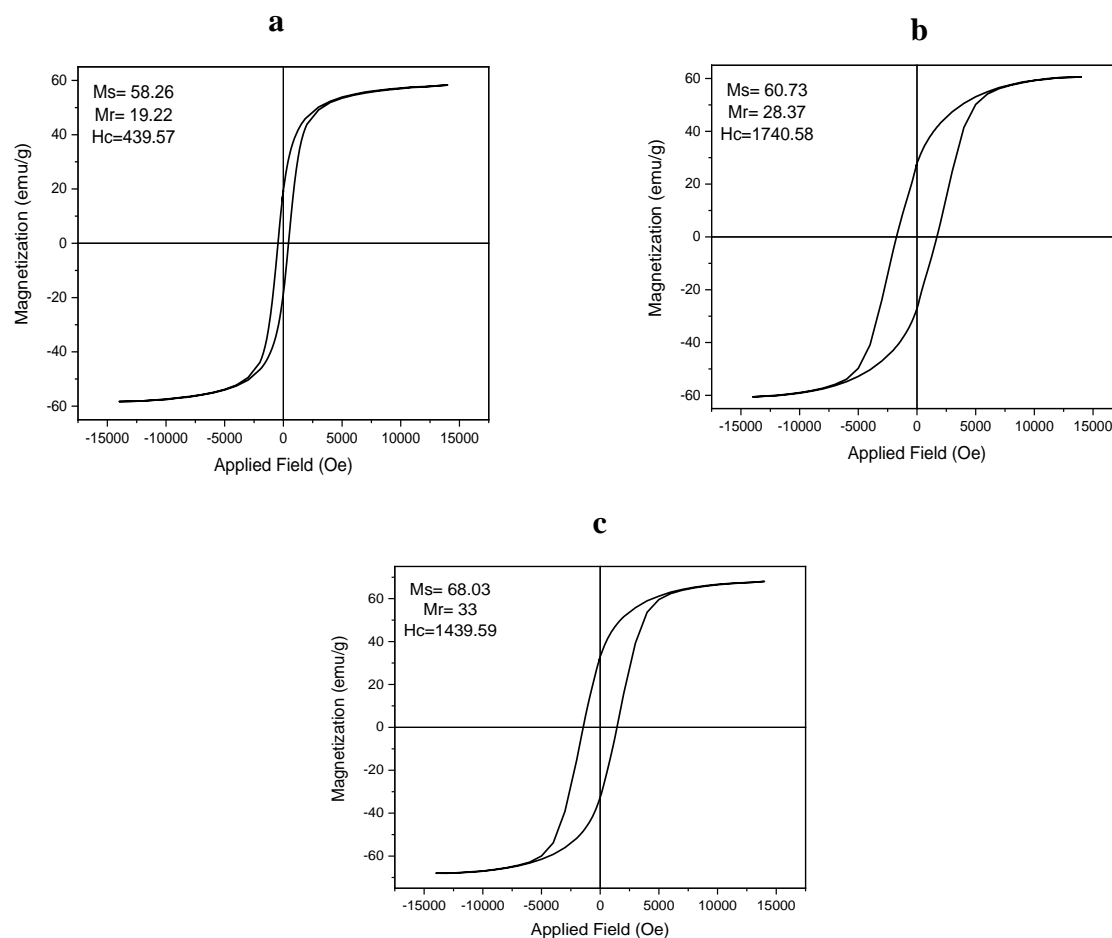


Figure 13: The hysteresis of M–H curve of CoFe_2O_4 with 1 M NaOH, calcined at a: 0 °C, b:400 °C and c:600 °C

The method of synthesis, the cation distribution (super exchange interaction), crystal size, and shape have a significant impact on the magnetic properties of nanocrystalline spinel materials [63]. Figure (14) shows the M–H loops for the studied samples at room temperature. Magnetic characteristics of cobalt ferrite nanostructure synthesized with 3 M of NaOH calcinated at (0, 400 and 600) °C temperatures were studied under a field of 15 KOe. Saturation magnetization (M_S), remanent magnetization (M_R), and coercivity (H_C) values for cobalt ferrite nanostructure are given in Table (3). The magnetic saturation, magnetization remnant, and coercivity were all comparatively enhanced with higher calcined temperature, as seen by the M-H loops. In relation to the calcination temperature, there are two factors that influence the variation in saturation magnetization and coercivity. Higher calcination temperatures further amplify the magnetic properties' enhancement as the size of the nanoparticles increases. The phenomenon of size-dependence in magnetite nanoparticles (NPs) has been extensively studied and is well acknowledged. This phenomenon has been linked to the existence of a magnetic dead layer on the surface of the nanoparticles. Furthermore, the migration of cations to the required crystalline sites was influenced by the annealing temperature, which concurrently resulted in a decrease in the quantity of surface defect sites. The NPs samples exhibited larger coercivities when subjected to higher calcined temperatures, indicating that annealing at elevated temperatures might induce structural deformation and enhance the anisotropy of the Co ions [30].

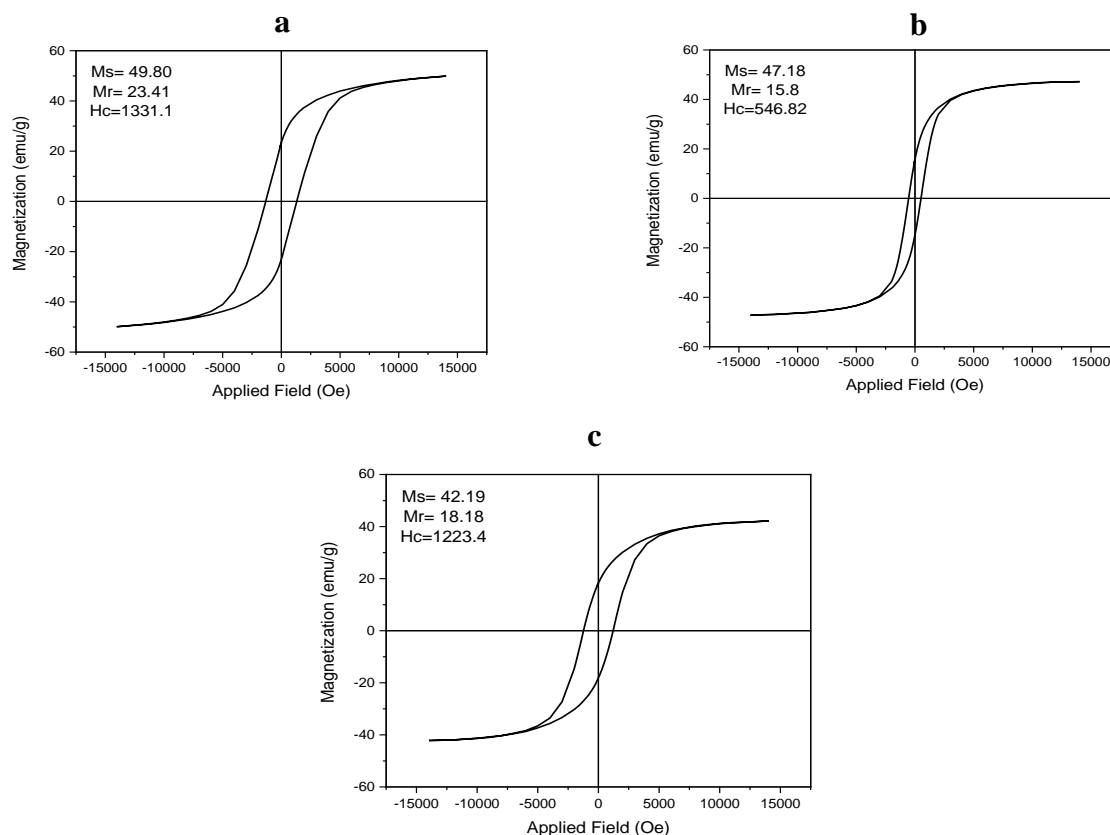


Figure 14: The hysteresis of M–H curve of CoFe₂O₄ with 3 M NaOH, calcined at a: 0 °C, b:400 °C and c:600 °C

Fig. (15) represents the hysteresis curves of cobalt ferrite samples synthesized with 5 M of NaOH and calcined for 0, 400 and 600 °C. The hysteresis curves show normal ferrimagnetic behaviour for all the samples. The magnetic parameters such as saturation magnetization, magneton number remnant magnetization and coercivity are obtained from the hysteresis curves. According to table (3) it was

observed that M_S is decreased with increasing calcination temperature. The loss of saturation magnetization for nanosized particles is caused by the finite-size effect of the tiny magnetic nanoparticles and the existence of a magnetic dead or antiferromagnetic layer on the surface. Additionally, unlike in bulk ferrite, the distribution of metal cations has an impact on the magnetic behavior of the ferrite-structured nanomaterials.[68]. H_C relatively decreased with increase annealing temperature because of the anisotropy barrier's anisotropy barrier's thermal fluctuations of the blocked moment and the inability to align the moments in an applied field[34]. Remanent magnetization decreased with increment of annealing temperature due the process of saturation magnetization[69]

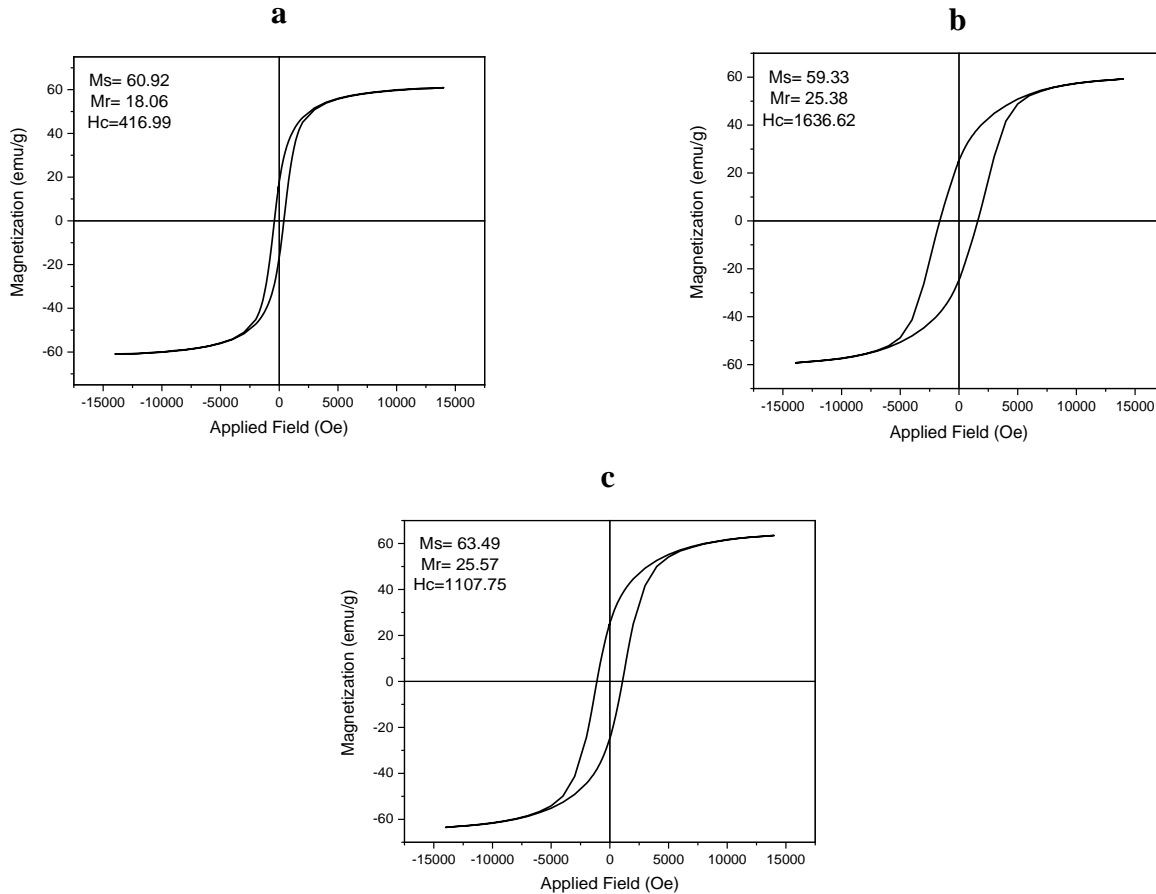


Figure 15: The hysteresis of M–H curve of CoFe_2O_4 with 3 M NaOH, calcined at a: 0 °C, b:400 °C and c:600 °C

Table 3: Magnetic properties of the cobalt ferrite nanostructure

Sample Name		M_S (emu/g)	M_R (emu/g)	H_C (Oe)
NaOH Concentration	Calcined Temperature °C			
1 M	0	58.26	19.22	439.57
	400	60.73	28.37	1740.58
	600	68.03	33	1439.59
3 M	0	60.92	18.06	416.99
	400	59.33	25.38	1636.62
	600	63.49	25.57	1107.75
5 M	0	49.80	23.41	1331.1
	400	47.18	15.8	546.82

3. CONCLUSION

CoFe₂O₄ has been prepared through hydrothermal route successfully. After obtaining CoFe₂O₄ powders they were calcined at 400 °C and 500°C. The nanocrystalline nature regarding the synthesized particles is confirmed by XRD data, and it was discovered that the crystallite size decrease with higher annealing temperatures. Synthesized NPs had a spherical shape and size (23.6 -57.9) nm expect at 400°C with 3M NaOH, we get nanorods shape with a diameter of 78 nm and length of 533 nm according to FESEM examination. Studies of UV-vis absorption showed a blue shift in absorption spectra. Magnetic properties of CoFe₂O₄ nanostructure were investigated via VSM analysis. The magnetic saturation, magnetization remnant, and coercivity were all comparatively enhanced with higher calcined temperature. The hysteresis curves show normal ferromagnetic behavior for all the samples.

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