

Magnetic, Mössbauer and magnetostrictive studies of amorphous $\text{Tb}(\text{Fe}_{0.55}\text{Co}_{0.45})_{1.5}$ films

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Abstract: The $\text{Tb}(\text{Fe}_{0.55}\text{Co}_{0.45})_{1.5}$ films were fabricated by rf magnetron sputtering from a composite target. Samples were investigated by means of x-ray diffraction, vibrating sample magnetometer, conversion electron Mössbauer spectra, and magnetostriction measurements. The as-deposited film is an amorphous alloy with a perpendicular magnetic anisotropy and an intrinsic magnetostriction $\lambda = 1080 \times 10^{-6}$ in an applied field of 0.7 T. In this state, it was determined that the hyperfine field $B_{\text{hf}} = 23.5$ T and the cone-angle between the Fe moment direction and the film-normal direction $\theta = 12^\circ$. After annealing in the temperature range of $T_A = 250\text{--}450^\circ\text{C}$ the amorphous structure still remained, however the anisotropy was changed to a parallel one. The soft magnetostrictive behavior has also been improved by these heat treatments: the parallel magnetostriction $\lambda_\parallel = 465 \times 10^{-6}$ was almost developed in low applied fields of less than 0.1 T and, especially, a huge magnetostrictive susceptibility $\chi_\lambda = d\lambda/d(\mu_0 H) = 1.8 \times 10^{-2} \text{ T}^{-1}$ was obtained at $\mu_0 H = 15$ mT. © 2000 American Institute of Physics.

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