Manufacture of nano-magnetita particles starting from Heptahydrated Ferrous Sulphate







	357.85	357.85			
Iron sulphate	Sodium Hydroxide	Iron hydroxide	Na Sulphate		
FeSO4.7H2O+	2NaOH=	Fe(OH)2+	Na2SO4+	7H2O	
277.85	80.00	89.85	142.00	126.00	
1000.00	287.93	323.38	511.07	453.48	
195.70 195.70					
Iron Hydroxide	Air (blowing)	Iron oxide yellow			
2Fe(OH)2+	1/202=	Fe2O3.H2O+	H2O		
179.70	16.00	177.70	18.00		
323.38	28.79	319.78	32.39		
Nano Magnetite					
		535.55	535.55		
Iron oxide yellow	Iron sulphate	Sodium Hydroxide	Nano magnetite		
Fe2O3.H2O+	FeSO4.7H2O+	2NaOH=	Fe3O4+	Na2SO4+	9H2O
177.70	277.85	80.00	231.55	142.00	162.00
319.78	500.00	143.96	416.68	255.53	291.52

Procedure:

In a stainless steel tank equipped with a stirrer, 5m3 capacity, put 2,400 liters of water, pour 1,000 kilos of ferrous sulfate heptahydrate, and dissolve by stirring.

Once the sulfate is dissolved, add, slowly and with stirring, 300 kilos of sodium hydroxide dissolved in 600 liters of water. (or a 50% concentration solution of the same)

We have now a suspension of about 323 kilos of ferous hydroxide (as a gel) and 511 kilos of dissolved sodium sulphate.

Then we start blowing air into it until it turns light yellow in color: This being a suspension of Yellow iron (ochre) in nanoparticles. Stop blowing air when overnantant solution is clear.

Then, while stirring we add to this suspension 500 kilos of heptahydrated iron sulphate, then we add 150 kilos of sodium hydroxide dissolved in 300 liters of water (or a 50% concentration solution of the same). While stirring we heat the mix up to about 80-100°C until it turns deep dark in color.

Afterwards we filter the nano-magnetite formed and wash it off free of all the sodium sulphate dissolved in the mother liquor. The filtered magnetite pulp (Fe3O4) is conveniently flash or spray dried .