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SmBCO/IBAD-MgO Coated Conductors Fabricated by Reactive Co-evaporation

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Coated conductors(CCs) have been fabricated by various thin film processes such as pulsed laser deposition(PLD), metal organic deposition(MOD), metal organic chemical vapor deposition(MOCVD) and co-evaporation etc. to increase the critical current density. Thermal co-evaporation method is one of the candidates to develop high quality CCs with low-cost that has benefits to deposit wide area uniformly and use cheaper thermal evaporation source and raw materials. Good CCs have been usually made by using the Ion beam assisted deposition(IBAD) template. Recently, Superpower Co. reported that fabricated CCs using IBAD-MgO template with the highest electric performance (790 m x190 A/cm-w = 150,100 A·m). IBAD-MgO process is the fastest biaxial texturing process in the IBAD processes.

In this study, we have used IBAD-MgO process to fabricate the biaxially textured template for CCs and co-evaporation method to deposit Sm₁Ba₂Cu₃O_y(SmBCO) superconducting layer on IBAD-MgO template. The batch type co-deposition system was specially designed and was named EDDC (evaporation using drum in dual chamber) that is possible to deposit superconducting layer with optimum composition ratio of materials at temperature over 700°C and several mTorr of oxygen. We have investigated the influence of SmBCO phase composition ratio on the critical current density of CCs. A higher J_C was measured at the composition ratio of Ba deficiency (1.8 \degree 1.9) and Cu rich (3.1 \degree 3.4) compared to the Sm₁Ba₂Cu₃O_y stoichiometry. Especially, highest J_C of 2.6 MA/cm² was measured at the composition of Sm₁Ba_{1.85}Cu_{3.15}O_y that has dense surface morphology. And also, we have investigated the optimal oxygen partial pressure (pO₂) and deposition temperature to increase the critical current density of SmBCO CCs. SmBCO CCs deposited at 15 mTorr pO₂ and 800°C shown the highest J_c of 2.58 MA/cm²(I_c =310 A/cm-w.) at 77 K, self-field. Long SmBCO CCs were fabricated and measured critical current using R2R hall probe measurement system and R2R transport I_c measurement system. Magnetic field property of CCs was examined by using high field magnet for the magnet applications.

Keywords : SmBCO, IBAD, coated conductor, biaxial texture, critical current

Acknowledgement

This research was supported by a grant from Center for Applied Superconductivity Technology of the 21st Century Frontier R&D Program funded by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Republic of Korea.