PRACTICAL SUPERCONDUCTOR DEVELOPMENT
FOR ELECTRICAL POWER APPLICATIONS
ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY
QUARTERLY REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2000

This is a multiyear experimental research program focused on improving relevant material properties of high-$T_c$ superconductors (HTSs) and on development of fabrication methods that can be transferred to industry for production of commercial conductors. The development of teaming relationships through agreements with industrial partners is a key element of the Argonne (ANL) program.

Technical Highlights

Recent results are presented on YBa$_2$Cu$_3$O$_x$ (Y-123) coated conductors, including fabrication by pulsed laser deposition and sol-gel techniques, and characterization of yttria-stabilized zirconia (YSZ) layers deposited by ion-beam-assisted deposition (IBAD) and of MgO layers deposited by inclined substrate deposition (ISD); improved flux pinning at 77 K in Ag-sheathed (Bi$_2$Pb)$_2$Sr$_2$Ca$_2$Cu$_3$O$_x$ (Bi-2223) tapes; and, in relation to fault-current limiters, effects of transient magnetic fields on a superconducting cylinder.

Fabrication of Coated Conductors by Pulsed Laser Deposition

Y-123 films were deposited by pulsed laser deposition (PLD). The excimer laser wavelength was 248 nm and the pulse width was 25 ns. Pulse energy of 160 mJ, pulse repeat rate of 8 Hz, and an oxygen pressure of 250 mtorr produced a growth rate of $\approx$0.25 nm/s. For deposition of the CeO$_2$ layer, 1 Hz and 300 mtorr of oxygen pressure were used. Substrates were mounted with Ag paste to a heated sample stage. Targets were rotated during deposition. The distance between the target and the substrates was 7.5 cm.

Three types of substrates were used for the deposition of Y-123 thin films:

(1) (001)-oriented LaAlO$_3$ (LAO) single crystals for initial optimization of the growth conditions;

(2) Hastelloy C (HC) substrates coated with biaxially textured YSZ buffer layers that were deposited by IBAD;

(3) Hastelloy C substrates with biaxially textured MgO buffer layers grown by ISD.
The structure of the films was examined by scanning electron microscopy (SEM) and X-ray diffraction (XRD), including pole figures and $\phi$ scans. $T_C$ and $J_C$ values for all films were measured inductively. For some of the films, transport $J_C$ was also measured, with or without an applied magnetic field. For the transport measurements, an Ag film ~2 $\mu$m thick was coated on the Y-123, and the composite films were annealed for 2 h in O$_2$ at 450–500°C.

(1) Y-123 films grown on (001) LAO substrates

Y-123 films were deposited on (001) LAO substrates at substrate temperature ($T_s$) values of 745, 755, 765, 770, 780, 790, 800, and 810°C to optimize deposition temperature, oxygen pressure, and annealing conditions (Table 1). The thickness of the films was ~0.3 $\mu$m for a 22 min deposition. Several thicker films of 1 $\mu$m were deposited to achieve a higher $I_C$ and $J_C$.

XRD confirmed the c-axis-oriented growth of the films. In the temperature range that we studied, a higher deposition temperature led to a higher $T_C$ in the resulting Y-123 film. The best $T_C$ and $J_C$ values were obtained at $T_s$ = 790°C: $T_C = 90$ K, transition width ($\Delta T$) = 0.2 K, inductive $J_C > 3.3$ MA/cm$^2$, and transport $J_C = 2.4$ MA/cm$^2$. For example, Fig. 1 shows the transport $J_C$ results of a Y-123/LAO film (Specimen 0530A, 1.0 $\mu$m thick, width = 5 mm) deposited at 790°C, with inductive $J_C = 0.8$ MA/cm$^2$.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Samples</th>
<th>$T_s$ (°C)</th>
<th>Thickness (µm)</th>
<th>$T_C$ (K)</th>
<th>$\Delta T_C$ (K)</th>
<th>Inductive $J_C$ (MA/cm$^2$)</th>
<th>Transport $J_C$ (MA/cm$^2$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0731A3</td>
<td>745</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>85.0</td>
<td>&gt;2.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0728A3</td>
<td>755</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>86.0</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0714A1</td>
<td>765</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>86.2</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0717A2</td>
<td>765</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>86.0</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>&gt;1.0*</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0421A1</td>
<td>770</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>86.4</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0509A</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>87.1</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0530A</td>
<td>790</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>86.0</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0517A2</td>
<td>790</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>89.9</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0720A1</td>
<td>790</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>88.0</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>&gt;3.3*</td>
<td>to be done</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0508A1</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>87.0</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>2.77</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0727A2</td>
<td>810</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>90.5</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>to be done</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*$J_C$ value exceeded range of inductive system.
Fig. 1. Y-123/LAO films (0530A, 1.0 μm thick, width = 5 mm) deposited at 790°C. Inductive $J_c = 0.8$ MA/cm$^2$; also, $J_c$ under applied magnet field.

Y-123 films with a thickness of 1 μm exhibited $J_c$ values of 0.7–0.8 MA/cm$^2$, much lower than the 2.4 MA/cm$^2$ obtained on a 0.3-μm-thick Y-123 film. Similar thickness dependencies have been reported by many others.

(2) Y-123 films grown on YSZ(IBAD)/HC substrates

Y-123 films were grown on YSZ(IBAD)/HC substrates at various temperatures (Table 2). The c-axis orientation and biaxial textures of Y-123 films were confirmed by pole figure analysis on these films (Fig. 2). The full width at half maximum (FWHM) values of the φ-scan peaks of the films are 15-18° and 18-22° for Y-123 and YSZ layer, respectively. Typical $T_c$ values were 88 K, the transition width was ≈2 K, and $J_c$ values were ≈0.2 MA/cm$^2$. Better texture will be required to obtain higher $J_c$s.

**Table 2. Results of Y-123/YSZ/HC films**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Samples</th>
<th>$T_s$ (°C)</th>
<th>Thickness (μm)</th>
<th>$T_c$ (K)</th>
<th>$\Delta T_c$ (K)</th>
<th>Inductive $J_c$ (MA/cm$^2$)*</th>
<th>Transport $J_c$ ($10^5$A/cm$^2$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0526A</td>
<td>735</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>87.0</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0525C</td>
<td>745</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>88.5</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0524A</td>
<td>755</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>88.2</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0523A</td>
<td>765</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>86.8</td>
<td>≈5.5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*There is no suitable conversion constant for Y-123/metal film to deduce the inductive $J_c$ value.
Fig. 2. Pole figures (a and b) and $\phi$ scans (c) of Y-123/CeO$_2$/YSZ/HC films (0607A2), FWHM $\approx$15-18° for Y-123(103) and 18-22° for YSZ(111).

To improve the lattice match between the Y-123 film and the YSZ buffer layer, a CeO$_2$ buffer layer was deposited on YSZ/HC by PLD (Table 3). Through use of these depositions, the Y-123 (100) orientation can be eliminated (Fig. 3) and $T_c$ can be increased to $\approx$90 K.

(3) Y-123 films grown on MgO(ISD)/HC substrates

Y-123 films were deposited on MgO(ISD)/HC substrates. Buffer layers of CeO$_2$, SrTiO$_3$ (STO), or and MgO were deposited to improve the surface smoothness and the lattice match between Y-123 and the ISD MgO layer. The films that have been produced are shown in Table 4. Analyses are in progress.

X-ray pole-figure measurement of the Y-123/STO/MgO(PLD)/MgO(ISD)/HC reveals clear biaxial texture for both the Y-123 and the MgO (ISD) layers (Fig. 4). The tilt angles of the MgO layer and of the Y-123 film derived from the pattern is 30°.
Table 3. Results of Y-123/CeO$_2$/YSZ/HC films

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Samples</th>
<th>$T_a$ (°C)</th>
<th>$\Delta T_c$ (K)</th>
<th>$T_c$ (K)</th>
<th>Inductive $J_c$ (MA/cm$^2$)</th>
<th>Transport $J_c$ ($10^5$A/cm$^2$)</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>0609A2</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>90.0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0607A2</td>
<td>755</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>88.0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0612A2</td>
<td>755</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>90.0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0622A1</td>
<td>755</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>90.5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0621A</td>
<td>765</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>87.0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0627A</td>
<td>775</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>88.0</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

*There is no suitable conversion constant for Y-123/metal film to deduce the inductive $J_c$ value.

Fig. 3. 2θ diffraction pattern of Y-123/YSZ/HC and Y-123/CeO$_2$/YSZ/HC samples; Y-123 (100) peaks have been eliminated by the growth of CeO$_2$ buffer layer.
Table 4. Y-123 films grown on MgO(ISD)/HC substrates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Films</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Y-123/MgO(ISD)/HC</td>
<td>ISD MgO biaxially textured layer only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y-123/CeO$_2$/MgO(ISD)/HC</td>
<td>Additional CeO$_2$ buffer layer introduced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y-123/STO/MgO(ISD)/HC</td>
<td>Additional STO buffer layer introduced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y-123/STO/MgO/MgO(ISD)/HC</td>
<td>Additional MgO and STO buffer layer introduced by PLD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To date $T_c$ values have been <77 K, and so no $J_c$ values have been measured. Clearly, either the MgO surface must be improved through cleaning and annealing and/or buffers will be needed between the MgO and the Y-123.

With respect to future work, the IBAD will focus on decreasing the FWHM. Successful ISD will require improvement in the matching of Y-123 to MgO. Annealing conditions must also be optimized for the Ag coatings on the Y-123 thin films for transport $J_c$ measurements.

**Deposition of IBAD Buffer Layers for Coated Conductors**

Previous work has firmly established that the degree of texture development in YSZ films produced by IBAD is primarily dependent on the ratio of ions to atoms (r-value) arriving at the substrate surface during processing. The r-value can be changed by varying the ion beam current density ($I_b$) and deposition rate.

Based on work reported in the June 2000 Quarterly Report, we have constructed an IBAD YSZ texture/processing contour map (Fig. 5). Thickness and texture data were integrated to quantitatively map out the zones of preferred YSZ orientation. The two most easily changeable and important variables in the development of texture are the atomic and ion fluxes, better described as the deposition rate and the ion current density. The data needed to generate relatively smooth contour lines (iso-FWHMs and iso-thicknesses) were calculated by fitting the experimental data to curve fits. The data within zones that were not heavily studied were generated by extrapolating appropriate individual curve fits. Most of the experimental data were gathered at deposition rates between 0.64 and 3.2 Å/s and at ion current densities between 150 and 350 µA/cm$^2$, at which the tendency for biaxial texture development was the strongest.

The zones that showed (111) and (200) preferred growth are shaded. The (200) preferred growth is presented as dark gray; it spans a large region and is present for r-values greater than ≈1.67. The (111) zone of preferred growth is marked by lighter
Fig. 4. Pole figure patterns of (a) MgO(220) plane and (b) Y-123(103) plane of Y-123/STO/MgO(PLD)/MgO(ISD)/HC sample.
Fig. 5. Orientation of YSZ as a function of IBAD processing conditions.

gray and is found between the 1 and 1.67 r-value contour boundaries. There is little overlap of the (200) and (111) preferred growth that occurs at an r-value of ≈1.6. Thus, the small zone of (111) + (200) can be assumed to start at the (111) transition to the (200), proceeding to extend into and overlap a very small strip of the (111) zone. Low r-values, <1, produced YSZ films that were essentially amorphous. The boundary of transition from (111) to (200) preferred orientation approximately follows the 1.2 (1.67) thickness/r-value contour line. The (200) zone is present at $1.67 \leq r \leq r_c$, where $r_c = 6.65$, and marks the value at which sputtering overwhelms deposition.

The contour of zero thickness at the $r_c$ marks the boundary at which the atom arrival rate and etching rate reach unity, and preferred (200) film growth begins. However, this boundary is not as well-defined as the line suggests. The processing zone between the zero and 0.2 thickness contour boundaries was highly susceptible to ion bombardment. Such large r-values introduced increased amounts of ion damage and stress between the film and substrate and was evident by visual inspection that revealed poor cohesion and delamination of the films deposited within this zone.
The region marked with heavy lines within the (200) zone represents biaxial texture development. Contained in this area are iso-FWHMs (lines of equal biaxial texture). FWHM data were obtained from films produced with ion current densities of 150–350 μA/cm². No FWHM data were obtained for very low deposition rates, which require excessively long processing times to reach the 1.6 μm thickness criterion. Thus, the dashed borders represent the cutoff of data analysis. However, the biaxial texture zone can be expected to extend past the dashed regions following the isolines, eventually being pinched off at an r-value of ≈3, which corresponds to both low and high deposition-rate and current-density coordinates. This zone can be expected to extend through the (200) zone, terminating at the $r_c$ contour boundary.

**Y-123 thin films prepared by a solution process**

For fabrication of coated conductors on metallic substrate, various processing methods have been investigated to achieve high $J_c$ values. Metal-organic decomposition (MOD) or sol-gel processes, which are performed in nonvacuum environments, offer great promise because they are cost-effective and easily scalable. Solution techniques are now being studied by many researchers, and good results have been obtained. An MOD process based on trifluoroacetate (TFA) has produced some of the highest $J_c$ values of all the solution techniques. However, its application to metallic substrates has not been consistently successful, mostly because of a lack of full understanding of the processing conditions and their relationships to resulting structures and properties. We are now working on systematically optimizing the parameters of the TFA process. LaAlO₃ (LAO) single crystals are being used as the substrate. With the idea of the application to metallic substrates, we are in particular concentrating on lowering heat-treatment temperatures.

Solutions have been prepared in ambient atmosphere. Metal acetates of Y, Ba, and Cu were weighed to 1:2:3 ratio, dissolved in trifluoroacetic acid, and refluxed for 4 h. The resultant solution was then dried in air to evaporate the solvent and obtain a blue solid residue. The solid residue was then easily dissolved in methanol. We made the total cation concentration 1.5M; this methanol-based solution was used in our experiments.

The solution was coated on LAO single crystals by dip or spin coating. The precursor film was converted to an epitaxial Y-123 film through two steps of heat treatments. In the first step at low temperature, a uniform solid film containing substantial fluorine formed. An epitaxial Y-123 film developed and the fluorine was eliminated with heating in Ar at higher temperatures. Four maximum temperatures, ranging from 720 to 780°C, were studied. After the firing steps, the composition of each final Y-123 film was determined by atomic emission
spectroscopy. $T_c$ was measured inductively. Microstructure and texture were evaluated by SEM, XRD, rocking curves, and $\phi$ scans.

Microstructures of representative samples are shown in Fig. 6. Many pores and small particles were observed, which is typical of films fabricated by a post-annealing process. The films prepared at 720°C (Fig. 6a) and 740°C (Fig. 6b) consisted of several layers of c-plane and acicular, a-axis-oriented grains. The main texture of all of the films was c-axis-perpendicular. As can be seen in Fig. 6c, the 760°C sample exhibited few a-axis grains, indicating that the texture is improved at this temperature. In the film prepared at 780°C (Fig. 6d), numerous large particles were observed rather than acicular grains, and the Y-123 layers below the particles appeared to be smoother than in other samples. The large particles were Cu-rich. This suggests that a CuO-rich liquid phase begins to form at ≈780°C, enhancing growth of c-axis-oriented grains.

Fig. 6. SEM photomicrographs of samples prepared at (a) 720, (b) 740, (c) 760, and (d) 780°C.
Sharp $T_c$ transitions were observed in films prepared at 740 and 760°C. For processing in Ar, temperatures between 740 and 760°C are thus considered to be optimal for forming the Y-123 phase.

Figure 7 shows (004) and (005) peaks of Y-123 films prepared at 720, 740, 760, and 780°C; the location of the strong (111) peak is marked by an arrow, but the peak itself is absent. The films were found to be highly textured, in spite of the frequently observed a-axis grains. However, impurity peaks, which are considered to come from second phases, were also observed in the XRD patterns.

In addition, the FWHMs of $\phi$ scans and rocking curves were measured to evaluate in-plane and out-of-plane textures. Figure 8 shows (113) $\phi$ scans of films prepared at 740 and 760°C. The FWHMs of the (113) peaks were <1° for both, indicating strong c-axis alignment of the grains. The FWHMs of rocking curves of the (002) peak were <0.5° (Fig. 9). These are excellent values in comparison to those found in the literature. In addition, the maximum heat-treatment temperature in our study was relatively low compared to the previously reported ones, which augers for successful adaptation of this TFA process to coated conductors.

![XRD spectra that show strong texturing.](image_url)
Characterization of Coated Conductors at the Advanced Photon Source

During FY 2000, we initiated studies aimed at developing and applying synchrotron-based X-ray diffraction, scattering, and spectroscopy methods to coated conductor substrates, buffer layers, precursors, and fully processed samples. This work is being done at the Advanced Photon Source (APS); it makes use of capabilities available at the Materials Research Collaborative Access Team (MRCAT) insertion device beamline located at Sector 10 (10-ID) of the APS. The X-ray beam at 10-ID is (1) high intensity (>10^{13} photons/sec), (2) highly collimated (≈0.002° beam divergence), and (3) tunable over a wide energy range (5 to 90 keV). The beamline is presently equipped with a well-instrumented X-ray spectroscopy bench and an 8-circle Huber goniometer that provides better than 0.02° resolution of diffraction lines in the θ/2θ mode. Examples of some of the capabilities we are attempting to exploit for the detailed characterization of coated conductor embodiments during various stages of fabrication/processing are given below.
Fig. 9. Rocking curves of (0 0 2) peak of films produced at (a) 740 and (b) 760°C; FWHM values are <0.5°C.

The XRD pattern in Fig. 10 was obtained from a Y-123/CeO₂/YSZ/Inconel coated conductor sample on a coated substrate embodiment produced by the IBAD method, with the Y-123 applied by PLD. The pattern, recorded in 15 min with an unattenuated 11 keV beam (λ = 1.1271 Å), covers the 2θ range of the first ten [0,0,l] diffraction lines of Y-123 (many of which have saturated the detector), as well as specific diffraction lines for the underlying CeO₂ and YSZ buffer layers and the Inconel substrate. Detecting the strongest of the [0,0,l] reflections of well-textured Y-123 is normally not difficult with a modern laboratory X-ray source, but detection of the underlying buffer and substrate diffraction lines becomes more difficult as the Y-123 layer becomes thicker. The appearance in Fig. 10 of non-[h,0,0] diffraction lines for the substrate and buffer layers (albeit only weakly in some cases) has implications for the texture of the templating architecture underlying the Y-123 layer. Raman microspectroscopic examination of this sample revealed no evidence of second phases and none were detected in the XRD pattern of Fig. 10.
Fig. 10. Synchrotron θ-2θ XRD pattern of a Y-123/CeO$_2$/YSZ/Inconel coated conductor sample produced via an IBAD-processed substrate and PLD-deposited Y-123.

The patterns in Fig. 11 were obtained from Y-123 films supported on LaAlO$_3$ single-crystal substrates, with the Y-123 layers formed by heat treatment of dip-coated trifluoroacetate (TFA) precursors. From a correlation with Fig. 10, it is clear that most of the diffraction lines for patterns YJ21 and YJ38 in Fig. 11 are due to [0,0,l] lines of c-axis textured Y-123. However, the pattern for film YJ21 shows evidence of the presence of additional phases, as indicated in the scale-expanded segments of the pattern shown in Fig. 12. For the X-ray wavelength used in this measurement (1.1271 Å), most of the types of second phases one might expect to encounter for a TFA-based Y-123 film have the strongest diffraction lines in the 2θ range from 15° to 35°. (This would include phases such as Y$_2$O$_3$, BaF$_2$, BaCuO$_2$, Y$_2$BaCuO$_5$, CuO, and non-[0,0,l] lines of Y-123.) The expanded pattern in Fig. 12 shows evidence of the three strongest lines of cubic BaF$_2$ (marked with black dots in Fig. 12), as well as the [1,0,3]/[1,1,0] line of Y-123 (black x) and a line indicated with a * that is believed to be the [2,0,0] reflection of Y-123, although it does occur near the expected 2θ value for [2,2,0] of LaAlO$_3$. 
Fig. 11. Synchrotron XRD patterns of two Y-123 films deposited on single-crystal LaAlO$_3$ by the TFA dip-coat method. The five most intense lines (all [0,0,I]s of Y-123) are saturating the detector.

- YBCO / [0,0,3] through [0,0,6]
- YBCO / [1,0,3]+[1,1,0]
- BaF$_2$ / [1,1,1], [2,0,0], and [2,2,0]
- YBCO / [2,0,0] or LaAlO$_3$ / [2,2,0]

Fig. 12. Expanded view of the XRD pattern for sample YJ21 in Fig. 2 showing evidence of BaF$_2$, and non-[0,0,I] lines of Y-123.
Figure 13 shows the rocking curve for the [2,0,0] diffraction line of a single-crystal YSZ substrate obtained directly from a TFA-type Y-123/CeO$_2$/YSZ coated conductor specimen. The insert displays the corresponding θ-2θ XRD pattern in the 24° to 26° 2θ range. In this range, one normally finds the [2,0,0] diffraction lines of YSZ and CeO$_2$ at 25.30° (d = 2.574 Å) and 24.04° (d = 2.706 Å), respectively, for λ = 1.1271 Å. It appears in the insert that the [2,0,0] of the CeO$_2$ layer(s) may be manifested at two somewhat higher 2θ values, indicating a more compressed structure. Specifically, we observe a weak diffraction line at 24.48° and a more intense one at 25.27°, which equate to d-spacings of ≈2.64 Å and ≈2.58 Å, respectively, assuming these two diffraction lines do emanate from the CeO$_2$ buffer layer structure. This interpretation of the diffraction pattern suggests that the CeO$_2$ film may be stratified into two or more layers with different [2,0,0] d-spacings. The sharp/narrow feature in the rocking curve is interpreted to be from the [2,0,0] reflection of YSZ indicated in the θ-2θ inset, where it appears at 25.34°, which gives a d-spacing of 2.570 Å for the YSZ single-crystal substrate (i.e., close to the accepted value of 2.574 Å). The broad underlying feature in the rocking curve is believed to be due to the [2,0,0] line of the ≈30-nm-thick compressed CeO$_2$ buffer layer. It is noteworthy that the diffraction pattern and rocking curve were obtained through a ≈0.5-μm-thick Y-123 over layer. We are continuing to investigate the utility of synchrotron-based X-ray diffraction methods for the quantitative in-situ study of stress/strain and misorientation effects in coated-conductor buffer layers.

**Characterization of Coated-Conductor Specimens by Raman Microscopy**

We continue to use Raman microscopy techniques to characterize coated conductors, substrates, precursors, and fully processed samples. The full-symmetry forms of orthorhombic (x=0) and tetragonal (x=1) Y-123 have distinct Raman spectra that contain (for each form) five readily detectable phonons. However, it is well known that Y-123 can also exist in several other types of stable and metastable structures and that these structures can coexist (see, for example, M. N. Iliev, Am. Chem. Soc. Symp. Ser. 730 (1999) 107). The Raman spectra of the various forms (and mixtures of forms) of Y-123 are sensitive to the types of structural perturbations that one must be concerned about during the preparation/fabrication of Y-123-based coated conductor materials. These can include (1) poor c-axis texturing, (2) cation disorder, (3) disconnected/fragmented metal-oxygen bonds (e.g., due to blotchy/incontiguous deposition), and (4) incomplete oxygenation. The frequency ranges of the five characteristic Raman phonons of orthorhombic and tetragonal Y-123 are summarized in Table 5, together with characteristic frequencies of other frequently observed coexisting phases.
Fig. 13. Rocking curve for the [2,0,0] diffraction line of the YSZ (single-crystal) substrate in a Y-123/CeO$_2$/YSZ-coated-conductor embodiment, showing evidence of what appears to be a compressed CeO$_2$ buffer layer. Inset displays the local 0-20 diffraction pattern.

Note especially in Table 5 the two modes for disordered types of Y-123 structures (Y-123-D) typically observed at \( \approx 225 \) cm$^{-1}$ and \( \approx 585 \) cm$^{-1}$. The 225 cm$^{-1}$ mode is reported to be associated with domains of broken metal-oxygen (M-O) chain structures, such as in samples exhibiting clumpy/island-like deposits. It is known that the 585 cm$^{-1}$ mode is clearly correlated with cation disorder in the Y-123 lattice (see, for example, G. Gibson et al., Physica C 333 (2000) 139). Also, it is important to note that each of the five characteristic phonons of YBa$_2$Cu$_3$O$_x$ and YBa$_2$Cu$_3$O$_7$ is sensitive to the angle of incidence of the Raman excitation laser with respect to the Y-123 crystallographic axes and the excitation/detection polarization orientations. In Raman microscopy examinations, the direction of the incoming laser radiation and the direction of the detected Raman scattering are typically the same, and that direction is usually perpendicular to the substrate surface, hence it is also perpendicular to the a-b planes of the Y-123 film (for well-textured samples). Under these excitation/detection conditions (referred to hereinafter as the \( xx/yy \) orientation), the 340/335 and 140/150 cm$^{-1}$ modes of YBa$_2$Cu$_3$O$_x$ and YBa$_2$Cu$_3$O$_7$ are considerably more intense than the other three modes. In particular, for perfectly textured Y-123, the 475/505 cm$^{-1}$ mode should be weakest of all. The appearance of
Table 5. Characteristic Raman frequencies of Y-123 and common coexisting phases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Characteristic Phonon Mode Frequencies (cm⁻¹)†</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YBa₂Cu₃O₆</td>
<td>115 140 340 450 475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YBa₂Cu₃O₇</td>
<td>115 150 335 435 505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y-123-D*</td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BaCuO₂</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CuO</td>
<td>635(s) 290(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y₂BaCuO₅</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

†(m) and (s) indicate moderate relative intensity and strong relative intensity, respectively.
*Y-123-D indicates normally inactive Y-123 phonons that become active through loss of inversion symmetry or disorder.

This telltale Y-123 mode in xx/yy orientation is generally indicative of the presence of poorly textured domains, wherein Y-123 grains are puckered or tilted upwards with respect to the substrate surface. In addition, since the frequency of this mode for YBa₂Cu₃O₇ₓ varies monotonically from x=1 to x=0, it can be used as an approximate indicator of the oxygen stoichiometry of the Y-123 phase.

Recent Raman microscopy examinations of Y-123 coated conductor specimens on single-crystal and textured metal substrates have produced spectra that are highly useful in gauging the quality of the Y-123 deposit. These specimens have come from IBAD, ISD, and TFA deposition processes. The spectrum in Fig. 14 was obtained from a TFA-based film deposited on an LaAlO₃ single crystal and processed at 780°C. In this spectrum, the laser has been defocused over a ~30-μm-diameter domain. An interpretation of the spectral features is given in Fig. 14. Note that there is evidence of BaCuO₂, possible cation disorder (although this is difficult to determine with certainty in the presence of BaCuO₂ because of overlapping phonons), a less than optimally textured YBa₂Cu₃O₇ₓ phase with x→1.0 (as indicated by the intensity of the 475/505 cm⁻¹ phonon and its appearance at a value of ~500 cm⁻¹), and some degree of M-O chain disruption.
Fig. 14. Raman spectrum of a Y-123 film on an LaAlO	extsubscript{3} single crystal substrate, showing many of the features typically observed for Y-123-coated-conductor specimens.

TFA-type Y-123 precursors processed at progressively lower temperatures (<780°C) showed less and less BaCuO	extsubscript{2}, but evidence of cation disorder (585 cm	extsuperscript{-1}) persisted. This is shown clearly in Fig. 15. It is also evident that the samples processed at the two lower temperatures (740 and 720°C) suffered less from the occurrence of broken M-O chain structure domains, but contained increasingly greater amounts of CuO (≈290 cm	extsuperscript{-1} mode).

Figure 16 shows Raman microscopy results for an IBAD sample and two ISD samples on textured Inconel substrates. The text blocks to the right of each spectrum in Fig. 16 outline the interpretation of the results. Comparison of the results in Figs. 15 and 16 reveals that the best samples in terms of Y-123 texture, phase purity, M-O disruption, and cation disorder are those produced by the IBAD process. These are also the coated-conductor samples that have exhibited the highest critical current density values in our laboratory.

Figure 17 contains Raman microscopy results for two TFA-type samples (on single-crystal YSZ) produced by a collaborating organization. In each case, we present spectra for three different locations on the same sample to show the spot-to-spot variability we have regularly encountered with IBAD-, ISD-, and TFA-processed coated-conductor specimens. Referring to the two samples as S1 and S2, respectively, spectra S1-A, S1-B, and S1-C, when viewed in progression, indicate
Raman microscopy spectra of TFA-type YBCO samples on LaAlO$_3$ for four heat treatment (HT) temperatures: Note
- broken M-O chain structures set in above 740°C (1),
- evidence of CuO at the lower HT temperatures (2),
- reduction in in-plane texture for HT temperatures above 760°C (3) vs (4),
- evidence for orthorhombic YBCO (4),
- BaCuO$_2$ begins to appear for HT temperatures above 740°C (5),
- cation disorder persists for all HT temperatures (6),

Fig. 15. Raman microscopy data for a series of TFA-based Y-123 films on LaAlO$_3$ single-crystal substrates. See descriptive text at left of each spectrum for a summary of the interpretation.

Increasing amounts of M-O disruption (225 cm$^{-1}$), BaCuO$_2$ (=630 cm$^{-1}$), and loss of Y-123 texture (the disappearance of the 335 cm$^{-1}$ mode). The progression through spectra S2-A, S2-B, and S2-C reveals a similar result. In fact, there is almost no evidence of c-axis textured Y-123 grains in spectrum S2-C. Quite possibly, the BaCuO$_2$ impurity producing the strong scattering at ≈630 cm$^{-1}$ could be deflecting the Y-123 grains around it out of the plane of the substrate. Raman images of BaCuO$_2$ crystallites embedded in Y-123 films on single-crystal and textured metal substrates show that these crystallites are mostly in the micrometer-size range and occur in patches, but some have in-plane dimensions of several micrometers - large enough to disrupt the Y-123 film texture during grain growth.
• YBCO/CeO₂/YSZ/Inconel (IBAD)
  - evidence of a continuous film (1)
  - good in-plane texture (2)/(3)
  - orthorhombic YBCO (3)
  - minimal cation disorder (4)

• YBCO/CeO₂/MgO/Inconel (ISD)
  - broken M-O chain structures (1)
  - poor in-plane texture (2)/(3)
  - orthorhombic YBCO (3)
  - moderate cation disorder (4)

• YBCO/YSZ/MgO/Inconel (ISD)
  - evidence of continuous film (1)
  - fair in-plane texture (2)/(3)
  - orthorhombic YBCO (3)
  - moderate cation disorder (4)

Fig. 16. Raman spectra of selected IBAD and ISD coated conductor samples. See descriptive text at left of each spectrum for a summary of the interpretation.

Bi-2223 Tapes with Improved In-Field Performance

First-generation (Bi,Pb)₂Sr₂Ca₂Cu₃O₇ (Bi-2223) superconducting tapes are used to build large prototype devices such as magnets, transformers, power cables, fault current limiters, and SMES units. State-of-the-art first-generation tapes are multifilament tapes made with Ag or Ag-alloy sheaths. They are typically 3.5 mm wide and 250 μm thick, >100 m long, and capable of withstanding 100 MPa tensile stress without degrading $J_c$ values. They have a critical current $I_c \approx 50$ A at 77 K in self-field.

A goal is to improve pinning in Bi-2223 tapes. We have attempted to improve pinning by creating defects at the interface between Bi-2223 and MgO. This technique has yielded promising results that will be discussed.
Fig. 17. Raman spectra of TFA-based Y-123 samples (S1 and S2) at different locations on the same sample, showing spot-to-spot variability.
The precursor powder was produced by the chemical precipitation method and contained Pb-added Bi-2212, Ca$_2$PbO$_4$, alkaline-earth cuprates, and CuO. Precursor powder particles were consolidated into billets by a drybag pressing method. The prepressed billets were inserted into Ag tubes, swaged, drawn through a series of dies, and then rolled to a final thickness of either ≈450 or ≈250 μm. Tape samples were cut and heat treated at 828°C in 8% O$_2$ atmosphere. The total annealing time was approximately 60 h. Each heat treating step was 30 h at the set point. A slow cooling schedule incorporated three cooling steps: 2°C/h for 8 h, 10°C/h for 10 h, and 60°C/h to RT. Cold pressing with 50-70 tons load was applied after the first heat treatment.

To make tapes with improved pinning, Ag was removed from one side of the as-rolled tape by chemical etching. The exposed side of the Bi-2223 was placed on an MgO single crystal and heat-treated, along with a reference tape under the same conditions. Following the first heat treatment, Bi-2223 adhered to the MgO single crystal. The composite Bi-2223/MgO tape was cold-pressed under the same load as the reference tape, and put through another heat treatment.

Bi-2223/MgO samples tapes were also fabricated on MgO films that were produced by electron-beam (e-beam) physical vapor deposition. The MgO was deposited to a thickness of ≈2.5 μm onto a Bi-2223 surface at a temperature of 750°C. Samples were then heat-treated under the same conditions as the Bi-2223 reference tape and the Bi-2223/MgO single crystal.

Microstructures were characterized by SEM and transmission electron microscopy (TEM), and chemical analysis was performed by energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS). Transport and inductive $J_c$ values were obtained at 4.2 and 77 K.

TEM revealed that the contact between the Ag and Bi-2223 grains was excellent. XRD indicated that the c-axis of Bi-2223 was perpendicular to the interface.

Transport critical current was measured on short samples of Bi-2223/Ag tapes at 77 K. The following $I_c$ measurements at 77 K in self-field were obtained after each heat treating step: 30-35 A after the first heat treatment, and 90-100 A after the second heat treatment. Figure 18 shows the $I_c$-$H_{app}$ characteristics of the superconducting tape that carried 120 A in zero applied magnetic field at 77 K ($I_c = 3 \times 10^4$ A/cm$^2$). Magnetic fields up to 0.4 T were applied perpendicular and parallel to the tape width. Magnetic field dependence at 77 K showed pronounced anisotropy for fields parallel and perpendicular to the tape width. A perpendicular field of 0.4 T lowers the $I_c$ value from 120 to 5 A. A parallel field showed weak dependence: magnetic field of 0.4 T reduces the $I_c$ value from 120 to 35 A.
Fig. 18. Characteristic magnetic field dependence of transport critical current for multifilament Bi-2223/Ag tape at 77 K.

To characterize high-\(I_c\) tapes for high field applications at 4.2 K, a short sample (4 cm) that carried 120 A at 77 K was tested at 4.2 K in a field applied perpendicular to the width of the tape. An \(I_c\) value of 560 A was obtained in the self-field at 4.2 K (\(J_c \approx 1.4 \times 10^5\) A/cm\(^2\)). After an initial drop to 310 A at 1 T, the critical current reaches a plateau and then declines to 245 A at 6 T. The observed \(I_c\) drop in the low-field region at 4.2 K indicates that connectivity and grain alignment of Bi-2223 grains could be further improved by a factor of \(\approx 2\).

A monofilament Bi-2223 reference sample was made by the technique stated above, heat-treated twice and pressed, and then measured for transport \(I_c\) at 77 K. Voltage vs. transport current characteristics for a thin Bi-2223 reference tape at 77 K with a magnetic field applied perpendicular to the width of the tape showed a sharp decrease. \(I_c\) decreased from \(\approx 50\) A at zero field (\(J_c \approx 2 \times 10^4\) A/cm\(^2\)) to \(\approx 2\) A at 0.4 T. This clearly illustrates the weak performance of the Bi-2223 tapes at 77 K in applied magnetic field perpendicular to the width of the tape.

To improve pinning in Bi-2223 tapes, defects were introduced at the interface of the sample. Ag was removed from one side of the tape, and the exposed surface of the Bi-2223 was placed on an MgO single crystal. After the first heat treatment, good contact was developed along the interface between the Bi-2223 and the MgO single crystal. Transport critical current values for Bi-2223/MgO composite tapes were twice those for the Bi-2223 reference tape at 77 K in zero field. The tapes were cold-pressed and heat-treated again. High-magnification TEM was used to reveal at
higher resolution the nature of defects in Bi-2223 grains at the interface with MgO (Fig. 19). Defects that were perpendicular to the direction of current in Bi-2223 grains were observed.

After etching Ag, cold-pressing the Bi-2223 with the MgO, and during heat treatment, there is a chance of damaging the sample and causing the superconductivity to decrease. The thin Bi-2223/MgO sample showed a $T_c$ of 109 K. It is apparent that the etching, pressing, and heat-treating has not decreased the $T_c$ of the Bi-2223/MgO sample.

Figure 20 shows the normalized values for transport current in applied magnetic field for the thin Bi-2223 reference sample vs. Bi-2223/MgO sample. In a magnetic field of 0.4 T applied perpendicular to the width of the tape, transport critical current was about three times higher in the Bi-2223/MgO single crystal than in the Bi-2223 reference tape. $I_c$ value in a field of 0.4 T decreased to ≈12% of the $I_c$ value in the zero field for the Bi-2223/MgO sample, while the Bi-2223 reference sample decreased to ≈4%.

![Fig. 19. High-magnification TEM photomicrographs showing interface between Bi-2223 and MgO single crystal after cold-pressing and second heat treatment: (a) ≈120,000x; (b) ≈200,000x.](image)
Fig. 20. Normalized transport current as function of applied magnetic field for thin Bi-2223 reference tape and Bi-2223/MgO tape at 77 K.

Samples of e-beam MgO were processed under the same conditions as the Bi-2223 reference tape and the Bi-2223/MgO single-crystal tape. (E-beam evaporation has potential industrial use; single crystals of MgO do not.) $T_c$ was $\approx 102$ K and inductive $I_{c,\text{drive}}$ was $\approx 150$ mA for the Bi-2223/e-beam MgO sample ($I_c \approx 2 \times 10^4$ A/cm$^2$). However, the transport current measurements did not show improved pinning in these samples. The method is being examined further.

**Transient Characteristics of Superconductor Tube Subjected to Magnetic Fields**

Bulk high-temperature superconductors in the form of hollow cylinders or rings have two potential practical applications. The first is magnetic shielding and the second is in fault-current limiters (FCLs) for the power industry. A typical FCL consists mainly of an iron core inside a superconductor tube and a copper coil wound on the outside of the superconductor tube. When an FCL is used under normal operating conditions, the shielding capability of the superconductor tube keeps the impedance low. Under fault conditions, the large current in the copper coil exceeds the shielding capability of the superconductor tube and there is a jump in impedance because the iron core is no longer shielded from the coil by the superconductor tube.
In principle, the superconductor tube can provide shielding whether the source of the applied magnetic field is outside or inside the tube. We describe the results obtained at 77 K of induced current and transient characteristics of a melt-processed Bi₂Sr₂CaCu₂O₈ (Bi-2212) superconductor tube. Tests were conducted with copper coils placed either outside (externally applied field) or inside (internally applied field) the tube to study the differences in transient characteristics of these two configurations.

The pulsed current supply and the test setup are identical to those that we reported previously (Fig. 21). In the first test section, a copper coil is wound externally on the cylindrical superconductor tube. The coil has 80 turns, is ≈145 mm long, and has an inside diameter almost identical to the outside diameter of the superconductor tube. The Bi-2212 tube was 190 mm long, with a wall thickness of 8.0 mm and an outside diameter of 70 mm. A Hall probe was placed at the center of the tube to measure the axial magnetic flux density B. To measure the leakage field, a second Hall probe was placed on the outside of the copper coil, at the same elevation as the Hall probe inside the tube. A Rogowski coil was employed to measure the induced current in the superconductor tube. Response times of both the Hall probe and the Rogowski coil were much shorter than the transient time of the present experiments. The second test section is similar to the first, except that the copper coil is placed inside the superconductor tube.

Figure 22 shows the measured current and field at relatively low excitation current. In this figure, N is the number of turns of the driving coil; I (shunt) is the excitation current in the copper coil, measured by the shunt resistor; I (tube) is the induced current in the superconductor tube, derived from the signal of the Rogowski coil; Bᵢ is the magnetic flux density, measured by the Hall probe inside the Bi-2212 tube; and Bₒ is the magnetic flux density, measured by the Hall probe on the outside of the superconductor tube.

Figure 22a shows that the field inside the tube (Bᵢ) remains close to zero, which indicates that the externally applied field has not penetrated the tube. This finding is supported by the fact that the induced current I (tube) almost cancels the excitation current NI (shunt). A small field on the outside of the tube (Bₒ ≈ 10 gauss) is the leakage field. This leakage field originates from one end of the external coil, circulates through a path outside the coil, and returns to the coil at the other end. Figure 22b shows that the applied field generated by the internal coil has also not penetrated the tube because the field outside the tube (Bₒ) remains close to zero throughout the test. The field inside the tube is much larger, with a maximum Bᵢ ≈ 400 gauss. The field inside the tube (Bᵢ) represents the leakage field, which originates from the center of the coil and circulates around the internal coil,
Fig. 21. Schematic diagrams of test section: (a) coil outside superconductor tube, and (b) coil inside superconductor tube.

through the gap between the superconductor tube and the internal coil. This leakage field is relatively high because all the fields are concentrated inside the coil, which has a limited volume. This is different from the case with the coil outside the tube, where the leakage field is circulating through an unbounded space. The current profiles in Fig. 22b are not as symmetric as those in Fig. 22a. Figure 22a shows that the profile of the induced current in the superconductor tube is almost a mirror image of the excitation current, indicating very good shielding and very little leakage field. This current symmetry with respect to the zero current axis is somewhat distorted in Fig. 22b. For example, the peak excitation current is ≈13,000 A, whereas the peak current in the superconductor tube is only ≈9,000 A. This difference in current is needed to support the relatively large leakage field, which is due to the 1-mm gap between the superconductor tube and the internal coil. Even though the leakage field is relatively large when the coil is inside, it is still capable of shielding the space outside the tube from the internally generated magnetic field at relatively low excitation current.
Fig. 22. Measured current and field at relatively low excitation current for (a) coil outside superconductor tube, and (b) coil inside superconductor tube.

Figures 23a and 23b show the measured current and field at some intermediate excitation current. The magnetic field inside the tube (\(B_i\)) (Fig. 3a) shows that 2 ms into the test, when the excitation current reached 32,000 A, the tube is just penetrated by the externally applied magnetic field. The interesting behavior is that when the excitation current NI begins to decrease, the magnetic field inside the tube continues to increase. This behavior can be explained by the concept of nonlinear magnetic diffusion. The results shown in Fig. 23b do not seem to indicate that the internally generated magnetic field has penetrated the tube because the field outside the tube (\(B_o\)) remains close to zero throughout the test. However, when the field outside the superconductor tube is plotted on a more sensitive scale, as shown in Fig. 23c, the data indicate that the internally generated magnetic field has penetrated the tube at \(t = 8\) ms. This corresponds to a peak NI of \(\approx 33,000\) A, which equals the NI at penetration for the case of coil outside the tube.
Fig. 23. Measured current and field at intermediate excitation current for (a) coil outside superconductor tube, (b) coil inside superconductor tube, and (c) coil inside superconductor tube, results plotted on more sensitive scale.

Figures 24a and 24b show the measured current and field at relatively high excitation current. With the coil outside the tube, the data for B₁ clearly indicate that the externally applied field penetrated the tube in 1.5 ms, and this occurred at NI ≈ 40,000 A. Figure 24a shows that again there is a delay between the peak NI and the peak B₁. When the coil is inside the tube, the data for B₀ in Fig. 24b indicate that the
internally generated magnetic field has penetrated the tube and affected the field outside the tube. The data indicate that field penetration occurred at \( t = 3.5 \) ms, which corresponds to \( NI = 52,000 \) A.

Several features are common to both test configurations. First, both tests show that there is a delay between the peak \( NI \) and peak penetration field (peak \( B_i \) for coil outside and peak \( B_o \) for coil inside). This delay decreases with increasing peak \( NI \). For example, the delay between peak \( NI \) and peak \( B_i \) is 8 ms for peak \( NI = 34,000 \) A (Fig. 23a). This delay decreased to 3 ms when peak \( NI = 65,000 \) A (Fig. 24a). Similar behaviors were observed for the case with coil inside the superconductor tube. Second, both test configurations show that the value of \( NI \) and \( I(\text{tube}) \) at field penetration depends on the ramp rate of the excitation current (\( dI/dt \)). Third, both test configurations show that the time at field penetration determined by the Hall probe coincides approximately with the time when the induced current \( I(\text{tube}) \)

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**Fig. 24.** Measured current and field at relatively high excitation current for (a) coil outside superconductor tube, and (b) coil inside superconductor tube.
reaches its maximum value. Finally, all of the tests show that the induced current was initially negative and opposite the direction of the excitation current, but eventually the induced current crossed over the horizontal axis and became positive to support the trapped field inside the superconductor tube.

High-$T_c$ superconductors usually follow the so-called power law in the flux creep regime, and the resistivity is a function of current. It can be shown that the magnetic diffusion equation becomes nonlinear when the resistivity depends on the current. For cylindrical geometry, the one-dimensional, nonlinear magnetic diffusion equation takes the form

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (D_m \frac{\partial B_2}{\partial r})/r = \frac{\partial B_2}{\partial t},$$

(1)

where $B_2$ is the magnetic flux density in the axial direction, $r$ is the radial coordinate, $t$ is time, and the magnetic diffusion coefficient $D_m$ is given by

$$D_m = \rho(J)/\mu_0,$$

(2)

with the current-dependent resistivity $\rho(J)$ given by the power law. For melt-cast-processed Bi-2212 with a wall thickness of several millimeters, the characteristic diffusion time at 77 K and an electric field strength of 1 $\mu$V/cm is several hundred milliseconds. This is much larger than the rise time (several milliseconds) of the pulsed current in the present experiment. Therefore, magnetic diffusion is important and cannot be neglected. However, a characteristic diffusion time of several hundred milliseconds is too long for the Bi-2212 tube to be penetrated in the present experiment, which shows that penetration occurred in a few milliseconds.

Two factors increased the rate of magnetic diffusion and facilitated the field penetration of the tube. First, the speed of magnetic flux propagation (diffusion) strongly depends on the local resistivity $\rho$ in the superconductor. During a transient, the local gradient of magnetic flux density can be greater than that of Bean's model, and the local current density can be greater than the critical current density at a field strength of 1 $\mu$V/cm. Local resistivity increases with current density, which speeds up the magnetic diffusion process because the magnetic diffusion coefficient $D_m$ is linearly proportional to $\rho$. Second, when local $\rho$ increases, so does dissipation ($\rho J^2$). If heat is not removed quickly enough from the superconductor, the local temperature will rise. When temperature rises, the resistivity increases, further increasing the magnetic diffusion coefficient, and speeding up the magnetic diffusion process. The observation that the penetrated field is still rising while the excitation current (NI) is decreasing is the result of magnetic diffusion. A finite time is necessary for magnetic flux density to diffuse from the interior to the boundary of the tube. When the excitation current begins to decrease, the flux density is greater inside the wall of the tube than outside the wall, magnetic diffusion is still in force and causes the penetrated field to increase. This
series of events cannot be explained by Bean's critical-state model, which is applicable to steady-state conditions only.

With regard to applications, such as fault current limiters (FCLs), the present experiments show that the leakage flux is greater when the coil is inside the tube than outside the tube. They also demonstrate that the superconductor tube is equally capable of shielding internally or externally generated magnetic fields. To further support this conclusion, we have measured the inductance ratio of these two configurations. The inductance of the outside coil alone was 0.22 mH; that of the outside coil with the superconductor inside (at 77 K) was 0.049 mH. The reduction in inductance was a factor of 4.48. The inductance of the inside coil alone was 0.096 mH; that of the inside coil with the superconductor outside (at 77 K) was 0.020 mH. Reduction in inductance was a factor of 4.80. Therefore, both configurations will work for an FCL and the reduction in inductance does not differ by much. However, under fault conditions, an FCL with a coil inside will have an inductance less than that of an FCL with a coil outside because, inherently, the latter has a larger volume than the former. Finally, it should be noted that the present experiments were conducted with an air core only and are different from the superconductor-shielded-core-reactor (SSCR), which usually contains an iron core. A closed iron-core SSCR is mostly a resistive device and is quite different from an air-core SSCR, which behaves more like an inductive device.

Interactions

From July though early September, Alicia Salazar, a graduate student from the University of Madrid, worked with J. P. Singh. Her goal was to fabricate high-quality bulk superconductors that are to be used in a series of studies of fundamental properties. Powders were synthesized and several bulk pieces were made.

On July 10, Balu Balachandran attended the ANL-IGC-LANL CRADA meeting at Los Alamos.

Balu Balachandran and Roger Poeppel attended the HTS Industrial Overview Committee (IOC) meeting at Los Alamos, August 28-29.


Vic Maroni attended a Wire Development Group Meeting held in conjunction with the FY 2000 Peer Review in Washington, DC. The meeting date was July 20; the other attendees were from American Superconductor Corp., LANL, ORNL, and Univ. of Wisconsin–Madison.
A new Ph.D student from the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), Tim Weber, joined the superconductor program on September 11. He will be advised at UIC by Prof. M. J. McNallan. His project on substrate development in coated conductors will be supervised by Balu Balachandran.

Dr. M. B. Srinivas, School of Physics, University of Hyderabad, India, visited Argonne and on Sept. 15 gave a seminar on the dielectric needs for HTS applications.


On Sept. 26, 2000, Dr. Gye Won Hong, Head, Functional Materials Group, Korean Atomic Energy Research Institute, Seoul, visited Argonne and gave a seminar on HTS activities in Korea.

List of Publications and Presentations

Published or presented:


Submitted


U. Balachandran, Development of High-Temperature Superconductors for Electric Power Applications, Presentation at State University of Sao Paulo at Ilha Solteira, Brazil, June 14, 2000.

U. Balachandran, High-Temperature Superconductors, Oral presentation at Associate Laboratory Director's Quarterly Meeting, Argonne, June 26, 2000.


U. Balachandran, Report to the Industrial Overview Committee for the Superconductivity Technology Centers, Presentation at Industrial Overview Committee Meeting, Los Alamos, NM, Aug. 28-29, 2000.


1998–2000 Patents

Method and apparatus for measuring gravitational acceleration utilizing a high temperature superconducting bearing
John R. Hull
U.S. Patent 6,079,267 (June 27, 2000).

Engineered flux pinning centers in BSCCO, TBCCO and Y-123 superconductors
Kenneth C. Goretta, Michael T. Lanagan, Jieguang Hu, Dean J. Miller, Suvankar Sengupta, John C. Parker, U. Balachandran, Donglu Shi, and Richard W. Siegel

Passive fault current limiting device
Daniel J. Evans and Yung S. Cha
Automatic HTS force measurement instrument
Scott T. Sanders and Ralph C. Niemann

Method and etchant to join Ag-clad BSCCO superconducting tape
Uthamalingam Balachandran, A. N. Iyer, and J. Y. Huang

Elongated Bi-based superconductors made by freeze dried conducting powders
Uthamalingam Balachandran, Milan Lelovic, and Nicholas G. Eror

Thin-film seeds for melt processing textured superconductors for practical applications
Boyd W. Veal, Arvydas Paulikas, Uthamalingam Balachandran, and Wei Zhong

Superconductor composite
Stephen E. Dorris, Dominick A. Burlone, and Carol W. Morgan

Surface texturing of superconductors by controlled oxygen pressure
Nan Chen, Kenneth C. Goretta, and Stephen E. Dorris

Method for synthesizing and sinter-forging Bi–Sr–Ca–Cu–O superconducting bars
Nan Chen, Kenneth C. Goretta, and Michael T. Lanagan

Mixed-mu superconducting bearings
John R. Hull and Thomas M. Mulcahy