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Thermoremanent Magnetization in $\text{Er}_{1-x}\text{Tm}_x\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_4$

J. Kim, J. S. Ahn, and B. W. Lee*

Department of Physics, Hankyong University of Foreign Studies, Yongin Kyugki-do 449-791, Korea

*Corresponding author: B. W. Lee, e-mail: bwlee@hufs.ac.kr

Rare-earth iron oxides of the form RFe_2O_4 (R=Y, Er, Tm, Yb and Lu) have a rhombohedral structure with the space group $R\bar{3}m$ [1]. It is composed of the alternate stacking of the hexagonal $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_{2.5}$ layer (W-layer) and the hexagonal $\text{RO}_{1.5}$ layer (U-layer) along the c-axis. Strong magnetic interactions between the localized Fe moments give rise to magnetic ordering below 250 K [2-5]. The thermoremanent magnetization (TRM) is observed in R=Tm, Yb and Lu [4, 5]. In order to understand origin of TRM, we have studied the magnetic properties of Tm substituted ErFe_2O_4 . We prepared stoichiometric polycrystalline samples by solid-state reaction. Figure 1 shows the temperature dependence of field-cooled (FC) and zero-field-cooled (ZFC) magnetization for ErFe_2O_4 and $\text{Er}_{0.9}\text{Tm}_{0.1}\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_4$ with an applied magnetic field of 100 Oe. The field-cooling effect is observed in $\text{Er}_{0.9}\text{Tm}_{0.1}\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_4$, but not in ErFe_2O_4 .

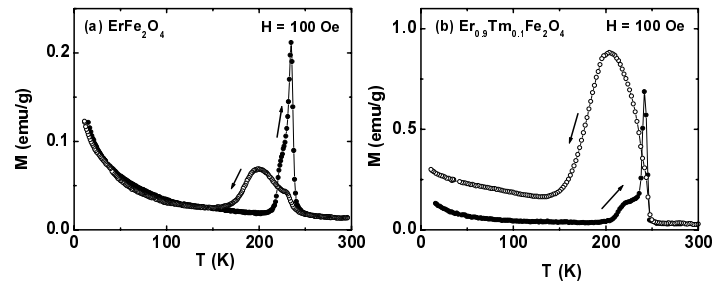


Fig. 1. Temperature dependence of magnetization for ErFe_2O_4 and $\text{Er}_{0.9}\text{Tm}_{0.1}\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_4$.

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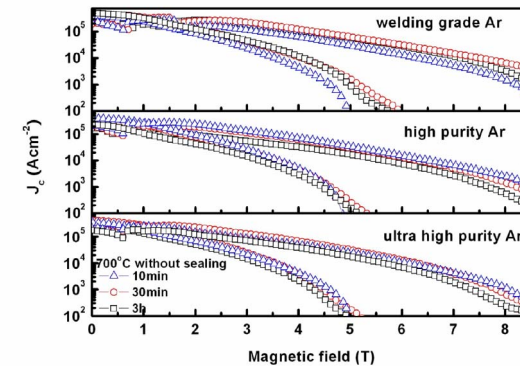
Influence of Heat Treatment on the Superconductivities of MgB_2 Bulk Sintered in Different Processing Atmosphere

Y. Zhang*, S. H. Zhou, and S. X. Dou

Institute for Superconducting and Electronic Materials, University of Wollongong, Northfields Ave. Wollongong, NSW 2522, Australia

*Corresponding author: Author I Zhang, e-mail: yz268@uow.edu.au

The effect of processing atmosphere and heat treatment on critical current density, J_c , was studied for MgB_2 bulk samples made using the in situ technique under argon atmosphere with three different purities, ultra-high, high, and welding grade. The critical temperature, T_c , and the amount of MgO show little variation for the samples treated under the three different argon atmospheres. The J_c for the sample processed under the welding grade argon has much weaker field dependence in high field region than that for the samples treated in ultra-high and high purity argon. Scanning electron microscope (FEG-SEM) examination revealed that the sample processed in welding grade argon possessed small grains, and XRD refinement analysis revealed larger crystalline strains, to all of which the improvement in high field J_c of this sample can be attributed, because they are believed to act as effective pinning centres. These results verify the dual reaction model where the MgB_2 formation and the reaction between oxygen and precursor take place simultaneously, resulting in an optimal doping effect.



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