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Thickening of $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_y$ coated conductors fabricated by self-heating technique in Pulsed Laser Deposition method and evaluation of the superconducting properties

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$\text{REBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_y$ (REBCO) coated conductors (CCs) are expected for high critical currents (I_c). In order to improve the I_c , it is essential to increase the film thickness while maintaining the high critical current density (J_c). However, it has been reported that a -axis oriented grains as the film thickness increases are generated and J_c decreases^[1]. The occurrence of a -axis grains is due to the decrease in surface substrate temperature during the deposition. Thus, many research groups have developed the method of a heating substrate. For example, one of the methods is self-heating (S-H) technique. This technique is a method to heat the substrate by the Joule effect. The system provides rapid thermal response compared with the conventional heating system that heats the substrate with a heater^[2].

In this study, we fabricated $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_y$ (YBCO) CCs on IBAD-MgO substrates which were heated by S-H technique in pulsed laser deposition (PLD) method. A thermocouple temperature ($T_{\text{T.C.}}$) was measured by attached thermocouple to substrate. $T_{\text{T.C.}}$ was maintained by proportional-integral-derivative (PID) control during the deposition. For comparison, YBCO CCs without PID control are also fabricated. We fabricated a thick film of which thickness was about 0.9 - 8.6 μm was prepared under the conditions of $T_{\text{T.C.}} = 758$ and 783 $^\circ\text{C}$, oxygen partial pressure $P_{\text{O}_2} = 200$ mTorr, and laser energy density $D = 1.5$ J/cm².

Fig. 1 shows thickness dependence of I_c deposited at different $T_{\text{T.C.}}$. It was confirmed that I_c was increased by PID control. I_c reached about 750 A/cm-width (77 K, self-field) and was saturated in the film at $T_{\text{T.C.}} = 758^\circ\text{C}$ at the thickness of thicker than 4.9 μm . This result might show that dead layer including a -axis oriented grains and other phases is formed on the surface of the CCs in thickening. We will report the microstructure of pure YBCO thick CC and superconducting properties of BaHfO_3 -doped YBCO thick film in magnetic fields.

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[2] G. Majkic et al., IEEE Trans. Appl. Supercond. 25 (2015) 3

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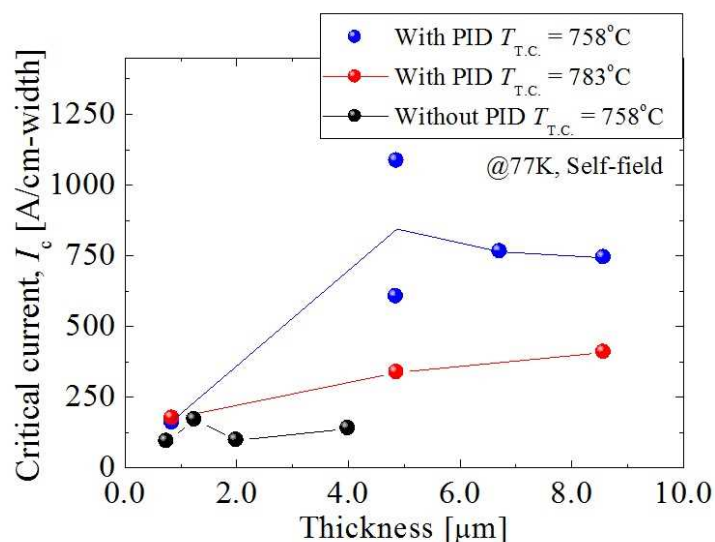


Fig. 1 Thickness dependence of I_c in YBCO CCs deposited at various $T_{\text{T.C.}}$ s with and without PID control of substrate temperature