

Príprava a štúdium vlastností MgB₂ supravodivých tenkých vrstiev

Autor: Jana Brndiarová

Školiteľ: Ing. Maroš Gregor, Ph.D.

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ABSTRAKT

The thesis deals with the optimization of the preparation of superconducting MgB₂ thin films in order to achieve the best superconducting transport properties. We worked in two steps. We first prepared the precursor MgB by vacuum vapour deposition followed by their ex-situ annealing to recrystallization and creating a thin film of superconducting MgB₂. Our goal was to optimize the preparation of films of suitable deposition parameters and especially by ex-situ annealing. The quality of prepared films was affected by two key factors and that was specially the choice of the working gas in which the samples were annealed and annealing temperature. Argon, nitrogen and argon mixture with hydrogen (5%) were used as the working gases. The temperatures of 700, 750 and 800°C were used for annealing, and we studied the influence of temperature and the working gas in the chemical composition, surface topography, structure and transport properties of thin layers prepared. To investigate the chemical composition of the samples we used X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy and energy-dispersive X-ray analysis, the topography of the films was evaluated with atomic force microscopy, the crystal structure was examined by X-ray diffraction and superconducting transport properties were investigated by measuring the R(T), I(V) and j_c(T) characteristics.

From the transport measurements, EDX, XPS and XRD analyzes it was clearly visible that MgO layer on the top of MgB₂ influences the quality of prepared thin layers. We found, that samples annealed in argon and nitrogen paradoxically have better quality than samples annealed in reduction atmosphere. We explained this effect in the thesis by the protection character of MgO layer. This layer prevents diffusion of magnesium from the thin film to the vacuum chamber during annealing and establishes better conditions for crystallization grains of MgB₂. This hypothesis is clarified by measurement of grain size by X-ray diffraction.

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