



## Article Critical Current Density and Meissner Effect of Smart Meta-Superconductor MgB<sub>2</sub> and Bi(Pb)SrCaCuO

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**Abstract:** The smart meta-superconductor MgB<sub>2</sub> and Bi(Pb)SrCaCuO increase the superconducting transition temperature ( $T_C$ ), but the changes in the transport critical current density ( $J_C$ ) and Meissner effect are still unknown. Here, we investigated the  $J_C$  and Meissner effect of smart metasuperconductor MgB<sub>2</sub> and Bi(Pb)SrCaCuO. The use of the standard four-probe method shows that  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup> and  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag inhomogeneous phase significantly increase the  $J_C$ , and  $J_C$  decreases to a minimum value at a higher temperature. The Meissner effect was measured by direct current magnetization. The doping of  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup> and  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag luminescent inhomogeneous phase causes a Meissner effect of MgB<sub>2</sub> and Bi(Pb)SrCaCuO at a higher temperature, while the nonluminescent dopant reduces the temperature at which samples have Meissner effect. The introduction of luminescent inhomogeneous phase in conventional MgB<sub>2</sub> and copper oxide high-temperature Bi(Pb)SrCaCuO superconductor increases the  $T_C$  and  $J_C$ , and Meissner effect is exerted at higher temperature. Therefore, smart meta-superconductivity is suitable for conventional and copper oxide high-temperature superconductors.

**Keywords:** smart meta-superconductor; transport critical current density; Meissner effect; critical transition temperature

### 1. Introduction

Superconductivity has greatly expanded people's understanding of condensed matter physics and greatly promoted the progress of industrial technology [1,2]. In the superconducting state, superconductors have zero-resistance characteristic and complete diamagnetism (Meissner effect) [3–7]. The zero-resistance characteristic and Meissner effect are both independent and closely related to each other. A material must satisfy the zeroresistance characteristic and the Meissner effect simultaneously to determine whether it is a superconductor [2].

All superconductors transition from a superconducting state to a non-superconducting state may have their own characteristic parameters: critical transition temperature ( $T_C$ ), critical current density ( $J_C$ ), and critical magnetic field ( $H_C$ ) [1,3]. Critical current density  $J_C$  is an important parameter to characterize superconductivity, and it is also one of the main parameters to measure the performance of superconducting materials in engineering technology applications. In scientific research, the electric transport and hysteresis loop methods are two widely used methods to measure the critical current [8]. The electric transport method is accurate and reliable, and it is used in the international critical current measurement standard. Electrical transport measurement usually uses the four-probe method. After a certain current I is input into the sample through the current lead, the voltage V of the sample is measured. The critical current  $I_C$  is defined as the transport current when a significant drift voltage exists [9–11]. The current–voltage (I-V) curve is used to determine the critical current  $I_C$ , which then enables the determination of the critical current density  $J_C$  [12,13].



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Since the discovery of superconductivity, increasing transition temperature and transport critical current density of the superconductor has been the main research direction of superconductivity. At present, the commonly used methods to increase the superconducting transition temperature are to modify existing superconductors and develop new superconducting materials, such as doping Al [14], C [15], and Li [16] in MgB<sub>2</sub> and doping Cs [17], SnO<sub>2</sub> [18], and ZrO<sub>2</sub> [19] in a BiSrCaCuO superconductor. However, the dopants are unstable at a high temperature and will react with the superconductor. Thus, this method cannot increase the superconducting transition temperature. In recent years, researchers have found that hydrides have a higher transition temperature under high pressure. For example, a superconductivity of 203 K was observed in a sulfur hydride system at 155 GPa [20], superconductivity of 250 K in  $LaH_{10}$  at 170 GPa [21], and the room temperature superconductivity of 287.7 K in a carbonaceous sulfur hydride system at 267 GPa [22]. Although this approach can achieve a higher superconducting transition temperature and even room-temperature superconductivity, the extremely high pressure and small sample size limits its further applications. Thus far, there is no particularly good strategy for increasing the superconducting transition temperature. Chemical doping is the easiest way to change the  $I_C$  of superconductor because it does not require costly raw materials or complex technologies. For example, doping graphene [23] and  $Dy_2O_3$  [24]in MgB<sub>2</sub> and doping Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [25], MgO [26], and SiC [27] in BiSrCaCuO decrease its  $J_C$  in self-field. Meanwhile, doping anthracene into MgB<sub>2</sub> [28] and doping Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [29], SnO<sub>2</sub> [30], and ZnO [31] in BiSrCaCuO will increase its  $J_C$  in self-field. Although the  $J_C$  of superconductor increases or decreases in self-field due to chemical doping, the corresponding  $T_C$ decreases. Therefore, no particularly effective method can increase the  $T_C$  and  $I_C$  at the same time in self-field.

A metamaterial is a kind of composite material with an artificial structure. It exhibits supernormal physical properties that natural materials do not possess, and these supernormal properties are determined by special artificial structures [32,33]. Recently, Smolyaninov et al. proposed that a higher transition temperature can be obtained by constructing a metamaterial superconductor with an effective dielectric constant of nearly zero or hyperbolic metamaterial superconductor [34–36]. In 2007, our research group proposed to introduce an inorganic ZnO electroluminescence (EL) material in the hightemperature Bi(Pb)SrCaCuO superconductor to influence the Bi(Pb)SrCaCuO superconducting transition temperature [37-39]. Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> is a non-electroluminescent material and can become a kind of electroluminescent material after the addition of a small amount of Eu<sup>3+</sup> ions as the luminous center. Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup> is a rare earth luminescent material with excellent performance. In addition, the preparation of  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup> into  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag topological luminophore can further improve its EL performance. With the development of a metamaterial, we constructed a MgB<sub>2</sub> and Bi(Pb)SrCaCuO smart meta-superconductor in recent years. The smart meta-superconductors are composed of superconducting particles and Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup> and Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag luminescent inhomogeneous phases. We doped  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup> and  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag EL materials in conventional MgB<sub>2</sub> and high-temperature Bi(Pb)SrCaCuO superconductors [37-44]. The research results showed that the doping of  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup> and  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag EL materials increases the  $T_C$  of MgB<sub>2</sub> and Bi(Pb)SrCaCuO. The  $T_{\rm C}$  of MgB<sub>2</sub> is increased by 1.2 K, and the zero resistance temperature  $T_{\rm C,0}$  and the onset transition temperature  $T_{C,on}$  of Bi(Pb)SrCaCuO are increased by 4 and 6.3 K, respectively. We believe that this result is due to superconducting particles acting as microelectrodes to excite the EL of the luminescent inhomogeneous phases under the action of an external electric field. EL energy injection promotes the formation of electron pairs. Accordingly, the  $T_C$  of MgB<sub>2</sub> and Bi(Pb)SrCaCuO can be increased via EL [43,44].

In previous studies, the  $T_C$  of MgB<sub>2</sub> and Bi(Pb)SrCaCuO were increased by constructing a smart meta-superconductor. However, the  $J_C$  and Meissner effect were not studied. This study investigates the  $J_C$  and Meissner effect of MgB<sub>2</sub> and Bi(Pb)SrCaCuO smart meta-superconductor. The results show that the addition of Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup> and Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag luminescent inhomogeneous phase increases the  $T_C$  of MgB<sub>2</sub> and Bi(Pb)SrCaCuO, while increasing the  $J_C$  and the  $J_C$  of the luminescent inhomogeneous phase doped samples decreases to a minimum value at higher temperatures. The direct current (DC) magnetization data indicate that  $Y_2O_3:Eu^{3+}$  and  $Y_2O_3:Eu^{3+}+Ag$  luminescent inhomogeneous phase doping causes a Meissner effect of MgB<sub>2</sub> and Bi(Pb)SrCaCuO at a higher temperature, while non-luminescent doping reduces the temperature of the Meissner effect.

#### 2. Experiment

### 2.1. Preparation and Characterization of Pure MgB<sub>2</sub> and Doping MgB<sub>2</sub> Superconducting Samples

Using MgB<sub>2</sub> with three different particle sizes, three series of samples doped with a luminescent inhomogeneous phase or non-luminescent dopant were prepared by ex-situ sintering, and the samples were marked as <sup>a</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub> ( $\Phi_a < 30 \ \mu m$ ), <sup>b</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub> ( $\Phi_b < 15 \ \mu m$ ), and <sup>c</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub> ( $\Phi_c < 5 \ \mu m$ ) series samples, and the thickness of prepared bulk samples is 1.2 mm. X-ray diffraction (XRD) and scanning electron microscope (SEM) characterization show that the main phase of all samples is MgB<sub>2</sub>, a small amount of MgO impurity phase is detected, and the particle sizes of <sup>a</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub>, <sup>b</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub>, and <sup>c</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub> decrease sequentially. The curve of the temperature dependence of resistivity (*R*–*T*) shows that the non-luminescent dopants Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Sm<sup>3+</sup> doping decreases the *T<sub>C</sub>* of MgB<sub>2</sub>, while the luminescent inhomogeneous phase Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup> and Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag doping increases the *T<sub>C</sub>* of MgB<sub>2</sub> in different amplitudes. The preparation process and related characterization of pure MgB<sub>2</sub> and doped MgB<sub>2</sub> samples were described in [44].

# 2.2. Preparation and Characterization of Pure B(P)SCCO and Doping B(P)SCCO Superconducting Samples

Three series of pure B(P)SCCO and doped B(P)SCCO superconducting samples with different particle sizes were prepared using three kinds of B(P)SCCO raw materials with successively decreasing particle sizes, and the samples were marked as A (A1–A6), B (B1–B6), C (C1–C7) series samples. The thickness of prepared bulk samples is 1.2 mm. XRD and SEM show that the main phase of the prepared samples is the high-temperature phase Bi2223, which contains a small amount of the low-temperature phase Bi2212, and the microstructure is a randomly distributed plate-like structure. The particle sizes of A, B, and C series samples decrease in turn. *R*–*T* test indicates that the non-luminescent dopants Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Sm<sup>3+</sup> doping decreases the *T<sub>C</sub>* of B(P)SCCO, while the *T<sub>C</sub>* of B(P)SCCO increases with the doping of luminescent inhomogeneous phases Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup> and Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag. The preparation process and related characterization of samples were described in [43,45].

### 2.3. Testing of Transport Critical Current Density and Meissner Effect

As usually conducted in superconducting systems, transport critical current density ( $J_C$ ) was determined by I-V measurements at different temperatures (below the onset transition temperature  $T_{C,on}$ ) with a voltage criterion of 1  $\mu$ V/cm [8,12,13]. Subsequently, DC magnetization measurements were performed on the prepared samples [46]. The samples were cooled slowly in a magnetic field of 1.8 and 2.5 mT parallel to the plane, and data were collected during heating. All samples are fully diamagnetic.

### 3. Results and Discussion

As usually conducted in superconducting systems, I-V curves of superconductors at different temperatures were used to extract  $I_C$ . The I-V curves of the samples were tested by a four-probe method. A test current was applied to the prepared samples, and a Keithley digital nanovoltmeter was used to measure the high resolution voltage. Figure 1 shows the I-V curves of pure B(P)SCCO (A1) at different temperatures (106, 108, 110, and 112 K). The extraction criteria of  $I_C$  are given in this figure, and the  $I_C$  of all samples prepared is obtained using this criterion in this experiment.



Figure 1. *I–V* curves of pure B(P)SCCO (A1) at 106, 108, 110, and 112 K.

Figure 2a,b show the relationship between  $J_C$  and the temperature of pure <sup>a</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub> and  $^{a}MgB_{2}$  doped with 0.5 wt%  $Y_{2}O_{3}$ :Sm<sup>3+</sup>,  $Y_{2}O_{3}$ ,  $Y_{2}O_{3}$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup>, and  $Y_{2}O_{3}$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag. Figure 2c,d depict the relationship between *J<sub>C</sub>* and the temperature of pure <sup>b</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub> and <sup>b</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub> doped with 0.8 wt% Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Sm<sup>3+</sup>, Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>, and Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag. Figure 2e,f demonstrate the relationship between J<sub>C</sub> and the temperature of pure <sup>c</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub> and <sup>c</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub> doped with 1.2 wt% Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Sm<sup>3+</sup>, Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>, and Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag. The *J<sub>C</sub>* of <sup>a</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub>, <sup>b</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub>, and <sup>c</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub> are  $8.9 \times 10^4$ ,  $7.8 \times 10^4$ , and  $7.2 \times 10^4$  A/cm<sup>2</sup> at 20 K. As observed, the  $J_C$  of pure  $MgB_2$  and doped samples decreases with the increase in temperature, which is consistent with the results of [28,47,48]. The  $J_C$  of pure MgB<sub>2</sub> is comparable to references [49,50]. The  $I_{C}$  decreases slowly when the temperature is lower, and the decreasing rate increases with the rise in temperature. The doping of Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup> and Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag luminescent inhomogeneous phases increases the  $I_{C}$ . The <sup>c</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub> series samples with the smallest particle size have a higher dopant content, and the most increases in  $J_C$ . At T = 34 K, the  $J_C$ of  $Y_2O_3$ : Eu<sup>3+</sup> and  $Y_2O_3$ : Eu<sup>3+</sup> +Ag doped samples increases by 32% and 38% compared with purely that of <sup>c</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub>, respectively. The J<sub>C</sub> of non-luminescent dopant-doped MgB<sub>2</sub> samples first reduces to a minimum value, while the luminescent inhomogeneous phase-doped samples can have the  $J_C$  at a higher temperature. For example, the  $J_C$  of pure <sup>c</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub> reduces to a minimum value at 36.8 K, and the J<sub>C</sub> of 1.2 wt% Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Sm<sup>3+</sup> and Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> doped samples reduces to a minimum value at 35.8 and 35.6 K, while the  $J_C$  of 1.2 wt% Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup> and  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag doped samples decreases to a minimum value at 37.8 and 38 K, respectively.



**Figure 2.** The relationship between  $J_C$  and temperature of pure MgB<sub>2</sub> and doping MgB<sub>2</sub> samples. (**a**,**b**) The relationship between  $J_C$  and temperature of pure <sup>a</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub> and <sup>a</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub> doped with 0.5 wt% Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Sm<sup>3+</sup>, Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>, and Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag. (**c**,**d**) The relationship between  $J_C$  and temperature of pure <sup>b</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub> and <sup>b</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub> doped with 0.8 wt% Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Sm<sup>3+</sup>, Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>, and Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag. (**e**,**f**) The relationship between  $J_C$  and temperature of pure <sup>c</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub> and <sup>c</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub> doped with 1.2 wt% Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Sm<sup>3+</sup>, Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>, and Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>, and Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag. (**b**,**d**,**f**) are partial enlarged images.

Figure 3a, b represent the relationship between  $J_C$  and temperature of pure B(P)SCCO (A1) and B(P)SCCO doped with 0.2 wt%  $Y_2O_3$ :Sm<sup>3+</sup> (A2),  $Y_2O_3$  (A3),  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup> (A4),  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag (A5), and 0.3 wt%  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag (A6). Figure 3c,d depict the relationship between  $J_C$  and temperature of pure B(P)SCCO (B1) and 0.2 wt% Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Sm<sup>3+</sup> (B2), Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (B3), Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup> (B4), Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag (B5), and 0.3 wt% Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag (B6) doped samples. Figure 3e, f demonstrate the relationship between  $J_C$  and temperature of pure B(P)SCCO (C1) and B(P)SCCO doped with 0.3 wt% Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Sm<sup>3+</sup> (C2), 0.3 wt% Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (C3), 0.3 wt% Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup> (C4), 0.3 wt% Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag (C5), 0.4 wt% Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup> (C6), and 0.4 wt% Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag (C7). The J<sub>C</sub> of B(P)SCCO (A1), B(P)SCCO (B1), and B(P)SCCO (C1) are 103, 70, and 54 A/cm<sup>2</sup> at 90 K. The figures show that the  $J_C$  of all samples decreases with the increase in temperature, which is consistent with [51,52]. The  $J_C$  of all samples decreases rapidly at lower temperature and slows down at higher temperature. This finding is completely contrary to the results observed for the conventional superconductor MgB<sub>2</sub>. The  $J_C$  of pure B(P)SCCO is comparable to that of references [52-54]. Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup> and Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag luminescent inhomogeneous phase doping increases the  $J_C$  of B(P)SCCO, and the  $J_C$  of C-series samples with the smallest particle size increases the most. At T = 90 K, the  $J_C$  of Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup> and Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag luminescent inhomogeneous phase-doped samples increases by 80% and 95% compared with that of pure B(P)SCCO. Moreover, the  $J_C$  of luminescent inhomogeneous phase-doped samples decreases to a minimum value at higher temperature, while the  $J_C$  of non-luminescent dopant-doped samples decreases to a minimum value at lower temperature. For example, for C-series samples, the  $J_{\rm C}$  of pure B(P)SCCO (C1) reduces to a minimum value at 107.5 K, and the  $J_C$  of 0.3 wt%  $Y_2O_3$ :Sm<sup>3+</sup> (C2),  $Y_2O_3$  (C3) doped samples reduces to a minimum value at 106.5 and 106 K, respectively. While the J<sub>C</sub> of 0.3 wt% Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup> (C4), 0.3 wt% Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag (C5), 0.4 wt% Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup> (C6), and 0.4 wt% Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag (C7) doped samples decreases to a minimum value at 110, 112, 112, and 113.5 K, respectively.

Figure 4 depicts the DC magnetization data of pure  ${}^{c}MgB_{2}$  and  ${}^{c}MgB_{2}$  doped with 1.2 wt% Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>, and Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag. Magnetization measurement shows that prepared samples have diamagnetism at a lower temperature. The diamagnetism of the superconductor can be represented by a Meissner effect, which is usually described in the literature by the relationship between the Meissner effect and temperature [46,55,56]. Therefore, we also showed the relationship between the Meissner effect and the temperature, as shown in Figure 4. The *Y*-axis is the percentage of the Meissner effect, indicating the strength of the Meissner effect (that is, the strength of the diamagnetism of the sample), and the *X*-axis is the temperature. The Meissner effect disappears at 36 K for pure <sup>c</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub> sample, and it disappears at 34.6 K for the <sup>c</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub> doped with non-luminescent dopant Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>. Meanwhile, the Meissner effect of Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup> and Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag luminescent inhomogeneous phase-doped <sup>c</sup>MgB<sub>2</sub> samples disappears when temperature is higher than 36.8 and 37 K, respectively.

Figure 5 shows the DC magnetization data of pure B(P)SCCO (C1) and B(P)SCCO doped with 0.3 wt%  $Y_2O_3$  (C3),  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup> (C4), and  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag (C5). Meissner effect is observed in all Bi(Pb)SrCaCuO samples by DC magnetization data, and the Meissner effect weakens and eventually disappears with the increase in temperature, which is consistent with the results of references [57–59]. The Meissner effect of pure B(P)SCCO doped with non-luminescent dopant  $Y_2O_3$  disappears when the temperature is higher than 100 K, and that of B(P)SCCO doped with non-luminescent dopant  $Y_2O_3$  disappears when the temperature is higher than 97 K. Meanwhile, the Meissner effect of  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup> and  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag luminescent inhomogeneous phase-doped samples disappears when the temperature is higher than 102 and 104 K, respectively.



**Figure 3.** The relationship between  $J_C$  and temperature of pure B(P)SCCO and doping B(P)SCCO samples. (**a**,**b**) The relationship between  $J_C$  and temperature of pure B(P)SCCO (A1) and B(P)SCCO doped with 0.2 wt%  $Y_2O_3$ :Sm<sup>3+</sup> (A2),  $Y_2O_3$  (A3),  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup> (A4),  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag (A5), and 0.3 wt%  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag (A6). (**c**,**d**) The relationship between  $J_C$  and temperature of pure B(P)SCCO (B1) and 0.2 wt%  $Y_2O_3$ :Sm<sup>3+</sup> (B2),  $Y_2O_3$  (B3),  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup> (B4),  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag (B5), and 0.3 wt%  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag (B6) doped samples. (**e**,**f**) The relationship between  $J_C$  and temperature of pure B(P)SCCO (C1) and B(P)SCCO doped with 0.3 wt%  $Y_2O_3$ :Sm<sup>3+</sup> (C2),  $Y_2O_3$  (C3),  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup> (C4),  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag (C5), 0.4 wt%  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup> (C6), and 0.4 wt%  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag (C7). (**b**,**d**,**f**) are partial enlarged images.



Figure 4. DC magnetization data of pure  ${}^{c}MgB_{2}$  and  ${}^{c}MgB_{2}$  doped with 1.2 wt% Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>, and Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag.



**Figure 5.** DC magnetization data of pure B(P)SCCO (C1) and B(P)SCCO doped with 0.3 wt%  $Y_2O_3$  (C3),  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup> (C4), and  $Y_2O_3$ :Eu<sup>3+</sup>+Ag (C5).

In conventional MgB<sub>2</sub> and high-temperature copper oxide Bi(Pb)SrCaCuO superconductors, the sample doped with non-luminescent dopants has a Meissner effect at lower temperatures, while the Meissner effect is found in samples doped with a luminescent inhomogeneous phase at a higher temperature. Therefore, the superconductivity is enhanced by the doping of the luminescent inhomogeneous phase.

### 4. Conclusions

In this study, the *I*–*V* curves of Bi(Pb)SrCaCuO and MgB<sub>2</sub> smart meta-superconductor are measured by a four-probe method, the transport critical current density  $J_C$  is obtained and the changes in  $J_C$  are explored, the Meissner effect is also studied by DC magnetization measurement; the conclusions are as follows:

- 1.  $Y_2O_3:Eu^{3+}+Ag$  luminescent inhomogeneous phase doping increases the  $J_C$  of  $^cMgB_2$  by 38% (T = 34 K), while the  $J_C$  of non-luminescent dopant-doped samples decreases. The  $J_C$  of pure  $^cMgB_2$  decreases to a minimum value at 36.8 K, and the  $J_C$  of  $Y_2O_3:Eu^{3+}$  and  $Y_2O_3:Eu^{3+}+Ag$ -doped samples decreases to a minimum value at 37.8 and 38 K, respectively. Meanwhile, the  $J_C$  of  $Y_2O_3:Sm^{3+}$  and  $Y_2O_3$ -doped samples reduces to a minimum value at 35.8 and 35.6 K. The Meissner effect disappears at 36 K for pure  $^cMgB_2$  sample, and it disappears at 36.8 and 37 K for  $Y_2O_3:Eu^{3+}$  and  $Y_2O_3:Eu^{3+}+Ag$  luminescent inhomogeneous phase-doped samples. Meanwhile, the Meissner effect disappears at 34.6 K for  $Y_2O_3$  non-luminescent dopant-doped sample.
- 2.  $Y_2O_3:Eu^{3+}+Ag$  luminescent inhomogeneous phase doping increases the  $J_C$  of Bi(Pb)SrCaCuO by 95% (T = 90 K), the  $J_C$  of non-luminescent dopants doped samples decreases. The  $J_C$  of pure Bi(Pb)SrCaCuO (C1) decreases to a minimum value at 107.5 K. The  $J_C$  of  $Y_2O_3:Eu^{3+}$  and  $Y_2O_3:Eu^{3+}+Ag$ -doped samples decreases to a minimum value at 112 and 113.5 K, respectively. Meanwhile, the  $J_C$  of  $Y_2O_3:Sm^{3+}$  and  $Y_2O_3$ -doped samples reduces to a minimum value at 106.5 and 106 K. The Meissner effect of pure B(P)SCCO (C1) disappears when the temperature is higher than 100 K. The Meissner effect of  $Y_2O_3:Eu^{3+}$  and  $Y_2O_3:Eu^{3+}+Ag$  luminescent inhomogeneous phase-doped samples disappears when the temperature is higher than 102 and 104 K, while that of the  $Y_2O_3$ -doped sample disappears when the temperature is higher than 102 and 104 K, while that of the  $Y_2O_3$ -doped sample disappears when the temperature is higher than 102 and 104 K.
- 3. The  $T_C$  and  $J_C$  of smart meta-superconductor MgB<sub>2</sub> and Bi(Pb)SrCaCuO increase simultaneously. The  $J_C$  of luminescent inhomogeneous phase-doped samples decreases to a minimum value at a higher temperature. A smart meta-superconductor has the Meissner effect at higher temperatures. All these findings indicate that the improvement in superconducting performance through a smart meta-superconductor is applicable to conventional and copper oxide high-temperature superconductors.

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