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Study of the Effects of the SiC Doping on the Critical Current Density of the Ti-sheathed MgB<sub>2</sub> Superconducting Wires<sup>1</sup> GAN LIANG, HUI FANG, SHELLEY KEITH, CAD HOYT, Sam Houston State University, MINA HANNA, F. YEN, B. LV, M. ALESSANDRINI, K. SALAMA — The effects of the SiC doping on the magnetic critical current density  $(J_c)$  of the Ti-sheathed MgB<sub>2</sub> superconducting wires were studied for the first time. Two groups of Ti-sheathed  $MgB_2$  wire samples were prepared and studied: for the first group, the size of the SiC particles was 20 nm and the concentrations were 5%, 10%, and 15%; for the second group, the concentration of the SiC dopant was 10% and the sizes of the SiC particles were 20 nm, 45 nm, and 100-200 nm. Contrary to the  $J_c$  results reported on the SiC-doped Fe-sheathed MgB<sub>2</sub> wires, we found that the  $J_c$  for the SiC-doped Ti-sheathed  $MgB_2$  wires decreases with both the concentration and particle size of the SiC dopant. We found that only for the wires with 100-200 nm SiC size, the  $J_c$  is greater than that of the undoped MgB<sub>2</sub> wires. This unusual dependence of  $J_c$ on the size and concentration of the SiC dopant is discussed in association with the results from the magnetization, electrical resisitivity, x-ray diffraction and scanning electron microscopy measurements.

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