

TITLE:

Effects of Substitution of Sr, K or Na for Ba on the Structure and Properties of Gel-Derived YBaCuO Superconducting Oxide (Commemoration Issue Dedicated to Professor Sumio Sakka On the Occasion of His Retirement)

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CITATION:

Fujihara, Shinobu ...[et al]. Effects of Substitution of Sr, K or Na for Ba on the Structure and Properties of Gel-Derived YBaCuO Superconducting Oxide (Commemoration Issue Dedicated to Professor Sumio Sakka On the Occasion of His Retirement) ...

ISSUE DATE: 1994-10-31

URL:

http://hdl.handle.net/2433/77570

RIGHT:



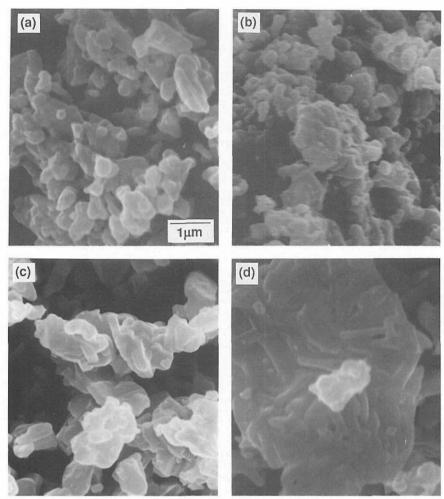


Fig. 7. The SEM photographs of the sintered pellets of YBa_{2-x}R_xCu₄O₈; (a) non-substituted 124 phase, (b) R=Sr, x=0.4, (c) R=Na, x=0.1 and (d) R=K, x=0.2.

3.5 SEM Observation

SEM photographs of sintered pellets of non-substituted 124 phase, Sr-124 phase of x=0.4, K-124 phase of x=0.2 and Na-124 phase of x=0.1 are shown in Fig. 7. It is seen that grains of K-124 and Na-124 phases are larger than those of non-substituted 124 and Sr-124 phases. The grain sizes are approximately 0.2–1.0 μ m for non-substituted 124 and Sr-124 phases, and 1.0 μ m for K-124 and Na-124 phases. It appears that K-124 and Na-124 pellets, which consist of plate-like grains, are sintered better than non-substituted 124 and Sr-124 pellets, which consist of smaller spherical grains.

4. DISCUSSION

4.1 Changes of Lattice Constants

There are three factors which determine the lattice constants of the present 124 phases; (1)