

High current superconductors: materials challenges for large scale applications

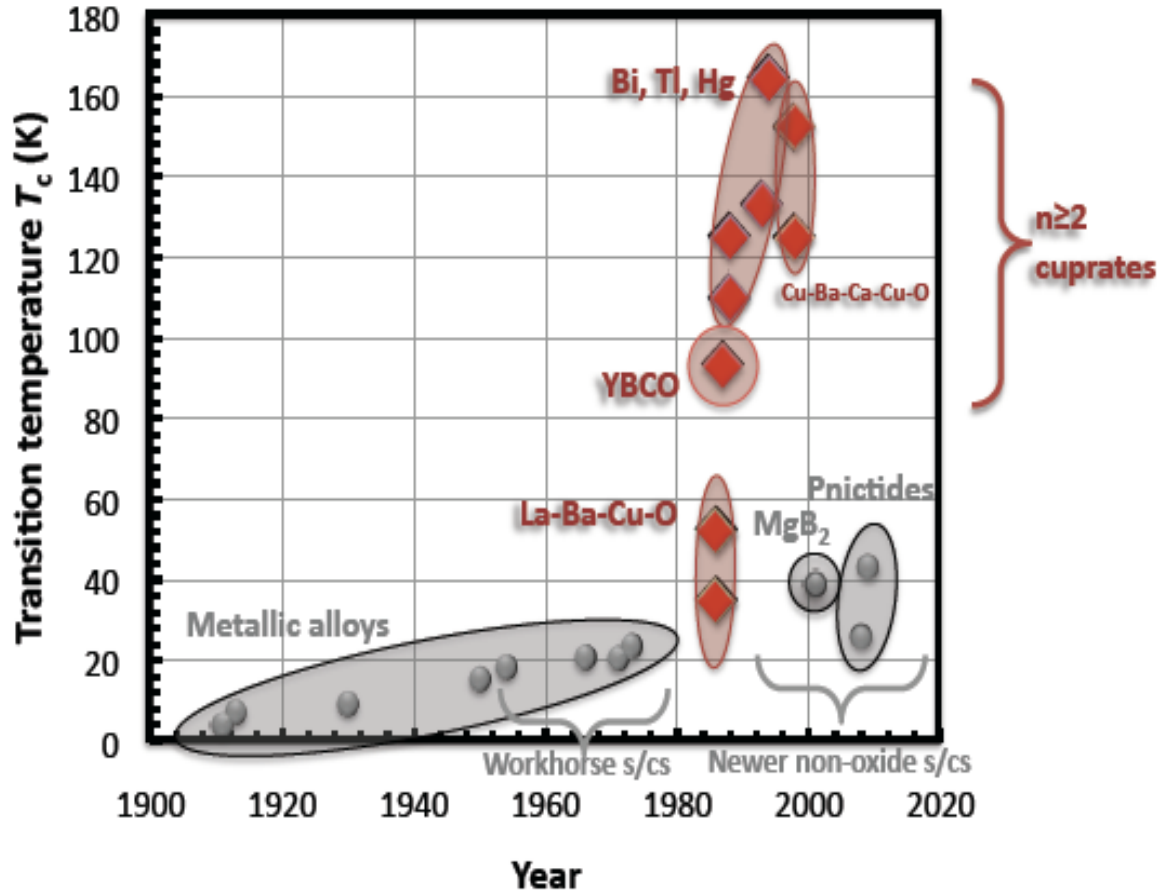
Xavier Obradors

*Institut de Ciència de Materials de Barcelona
CSIC, 08193 Bellaterra, Spain*

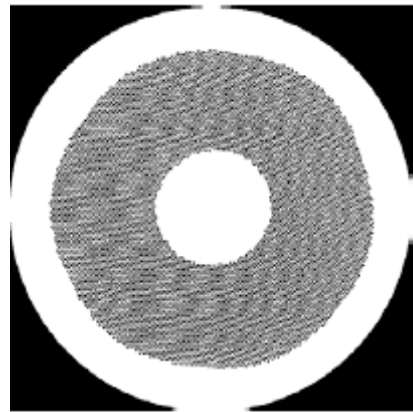


Progress in superconducting materials

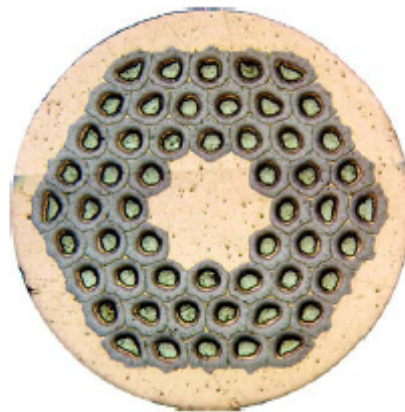
25 years after the discovery of HTS



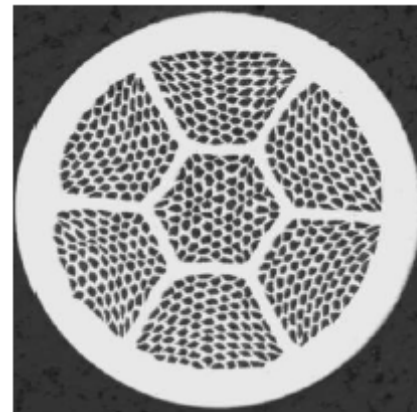
$\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_{7-x}$ is still the most promising material for power applications: T_c is not the most relevant parameter



Nb-47Ti



Internal Sn Nb₃Sn

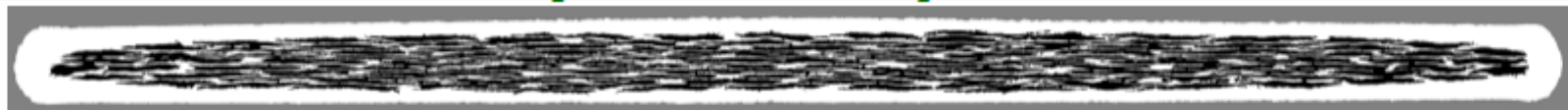


Bi-2212



MgB₂

Magnet wires should be long, strong, stable, affordable, have high critical current density, high upper critical field and preferably round

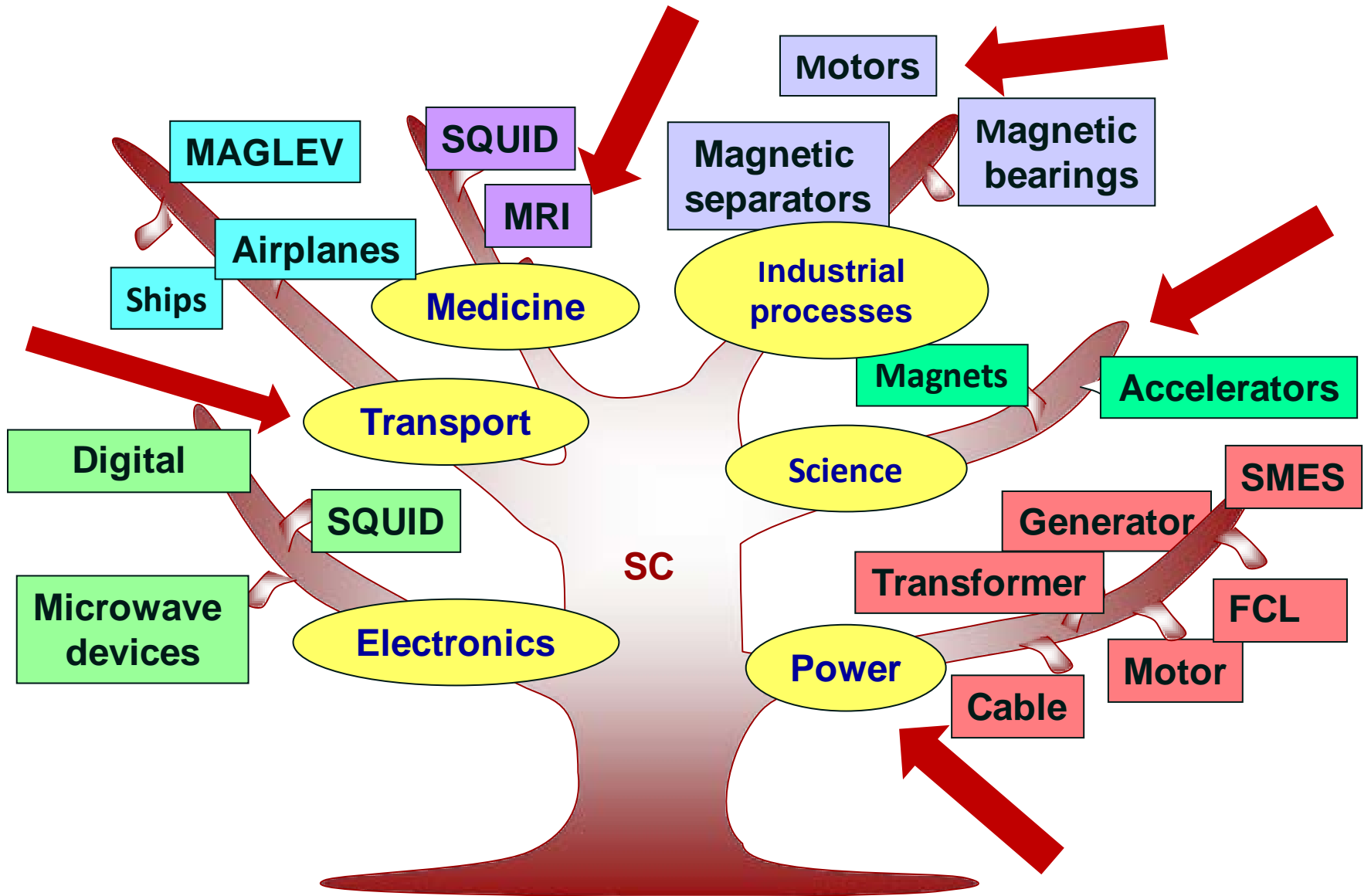


Bi-2223








REBaCuO coated conductor

Superconductivity applications tree



Introduction - Contributions to Power Applications at Applied Superconductivity Conference 2012 in Portland

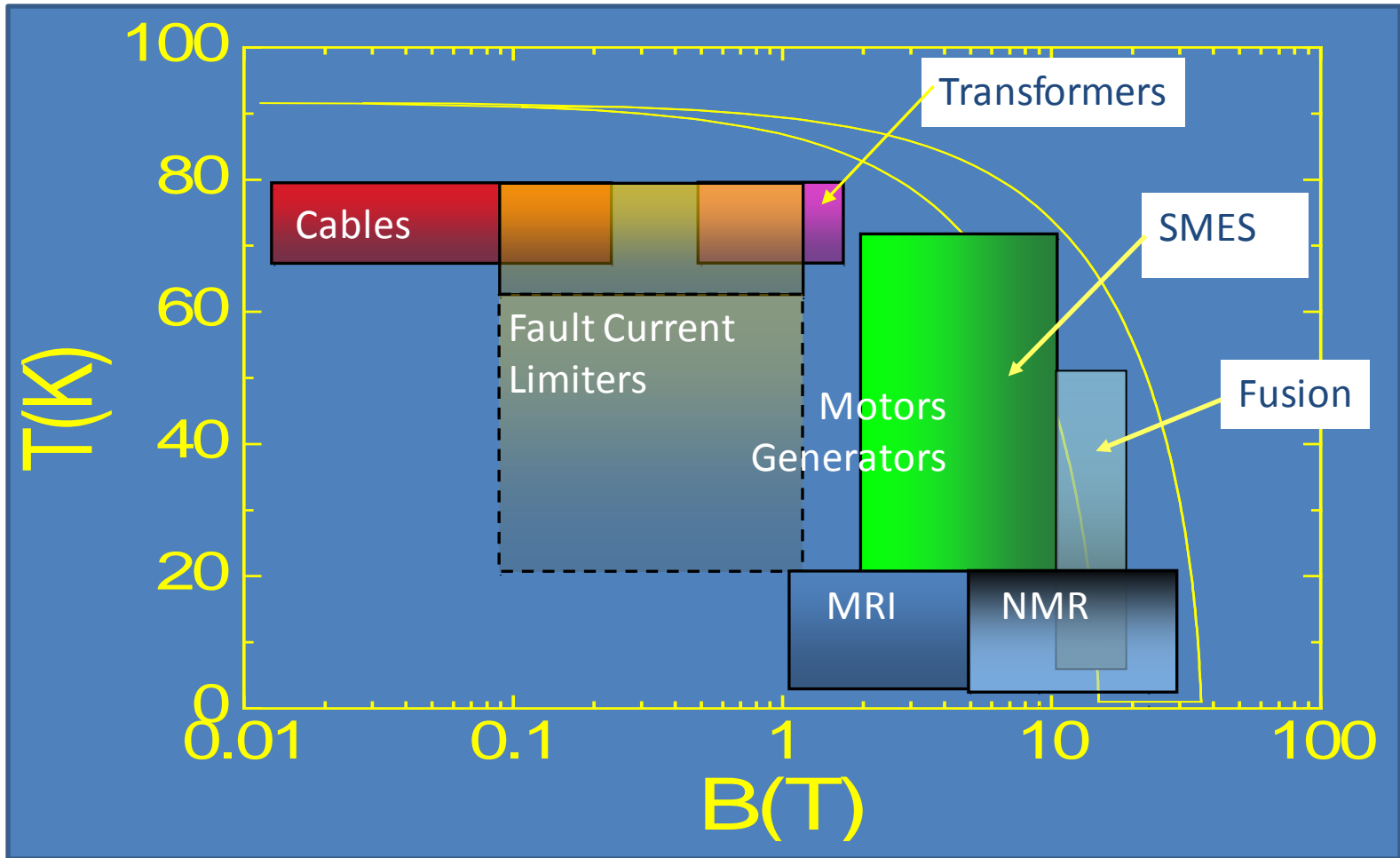


	Cables	Fault Current Limiters	Rotating Machines	Transformers	SMES	Total
Korea 	14	42	10	-	14	80
China 	13	19	11	-	13	56
Japan 	10	5	7	1	8	31
Europe 	6	21	14	5	4	50
US 	7	4	5	-	3	19
Others	2	8	3	1	2	16
Total	52	99	50	7	44	252

Within the past decade Korea has taken a leading role in Power Applications of Superconductivity.

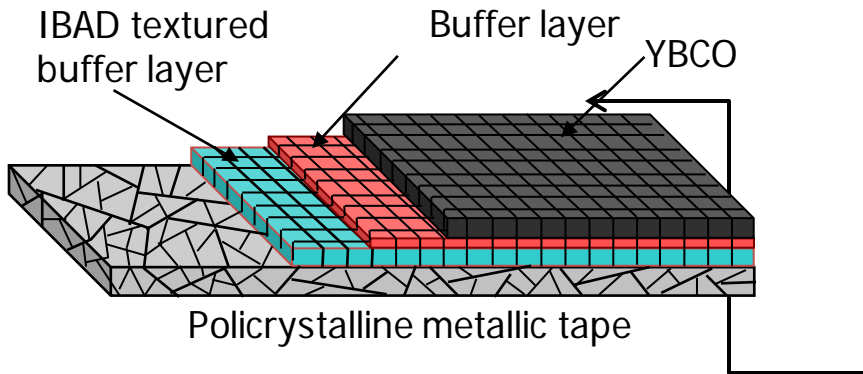
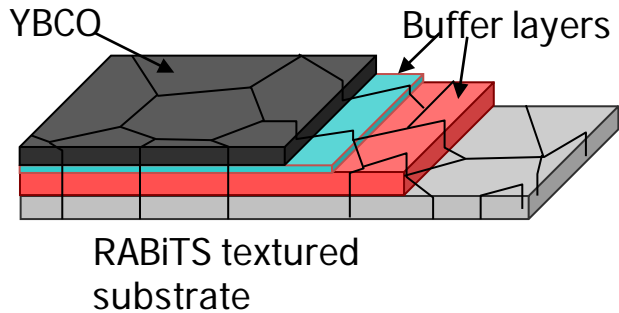
Superconductors: Enabling Power Applications

25 years after the discovery of HTS



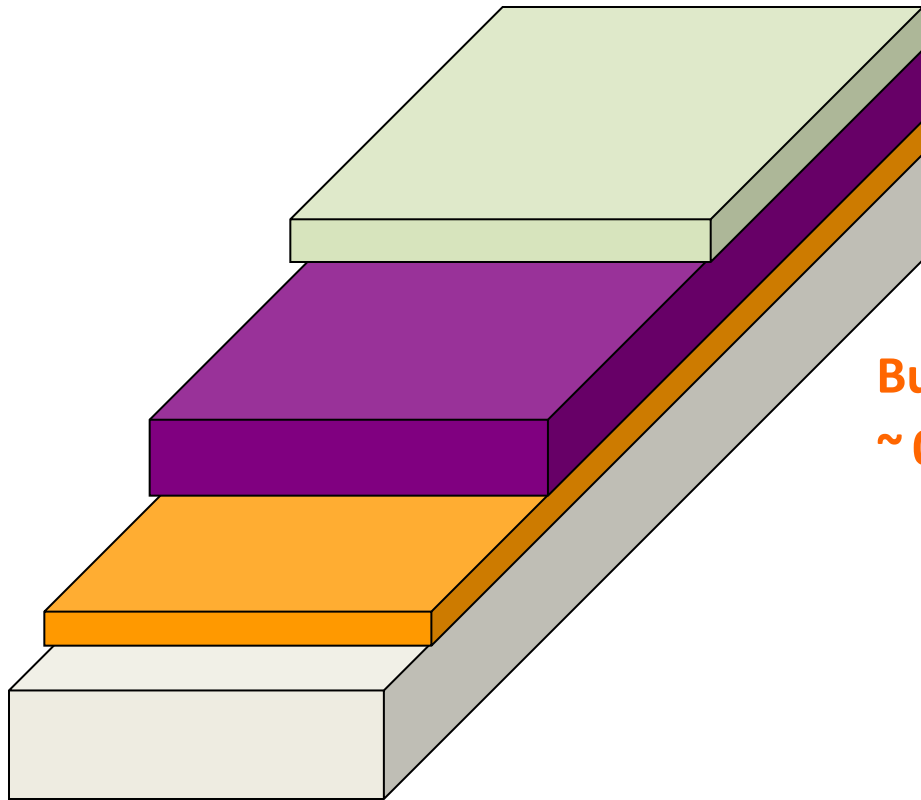
$YBa_2Cu_3O_{7-x}$ is the only material able to cover all the applications due to its high irreversibility line

YBCO COATED CONDUCTORS: EPITAXIAL ARCHITECTURE *due to its high anisotropic properties*



Nanostructure control on km length materials: very close to real power applications

YBCO COATED CONDUCTORS: EPITAXIAL ARCHITECTURE *due to its high anisotropic properties*



Cap layer : Ag

thickness $\approx 0.2 - 0.5 \mu\text{m}$

SC layer : YBCO

$\sim 1.0 - 2.0 \mu\text{m}$

Buffer layers : CeO_2 , YSZ, STO,...

$\sim 0.1 \mu\text{m}$

Metallic substrate: RABiTS Ni, SS-IBAD, thickness $\sim 80 \mu\text{m}$

Nanostructure control on km length materials: very close to real power applications

YBCO COATED CONDUCTORS: EPITAXIAL ARCHITECTURE *due to its high anisotropic properties*

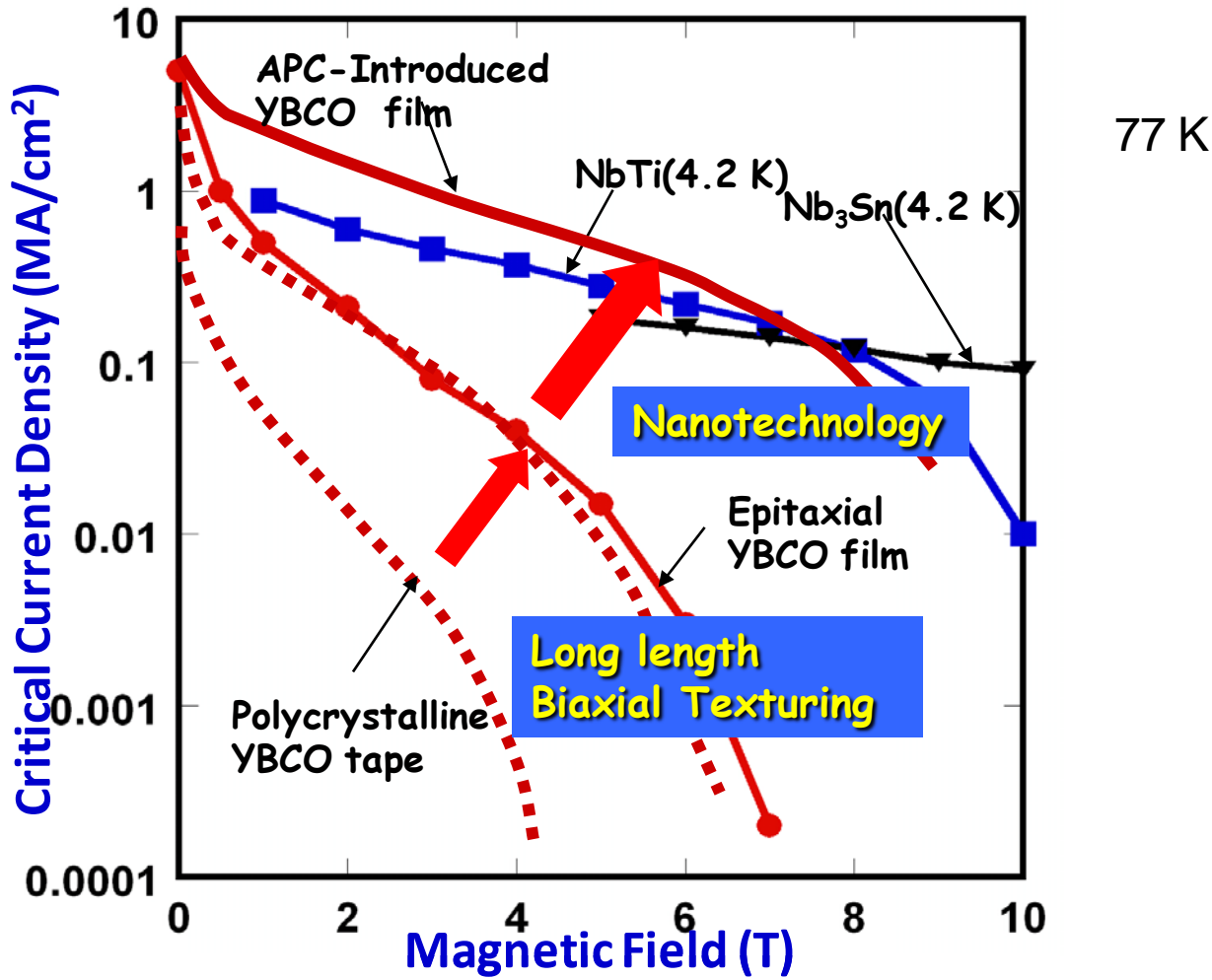


ICMAB



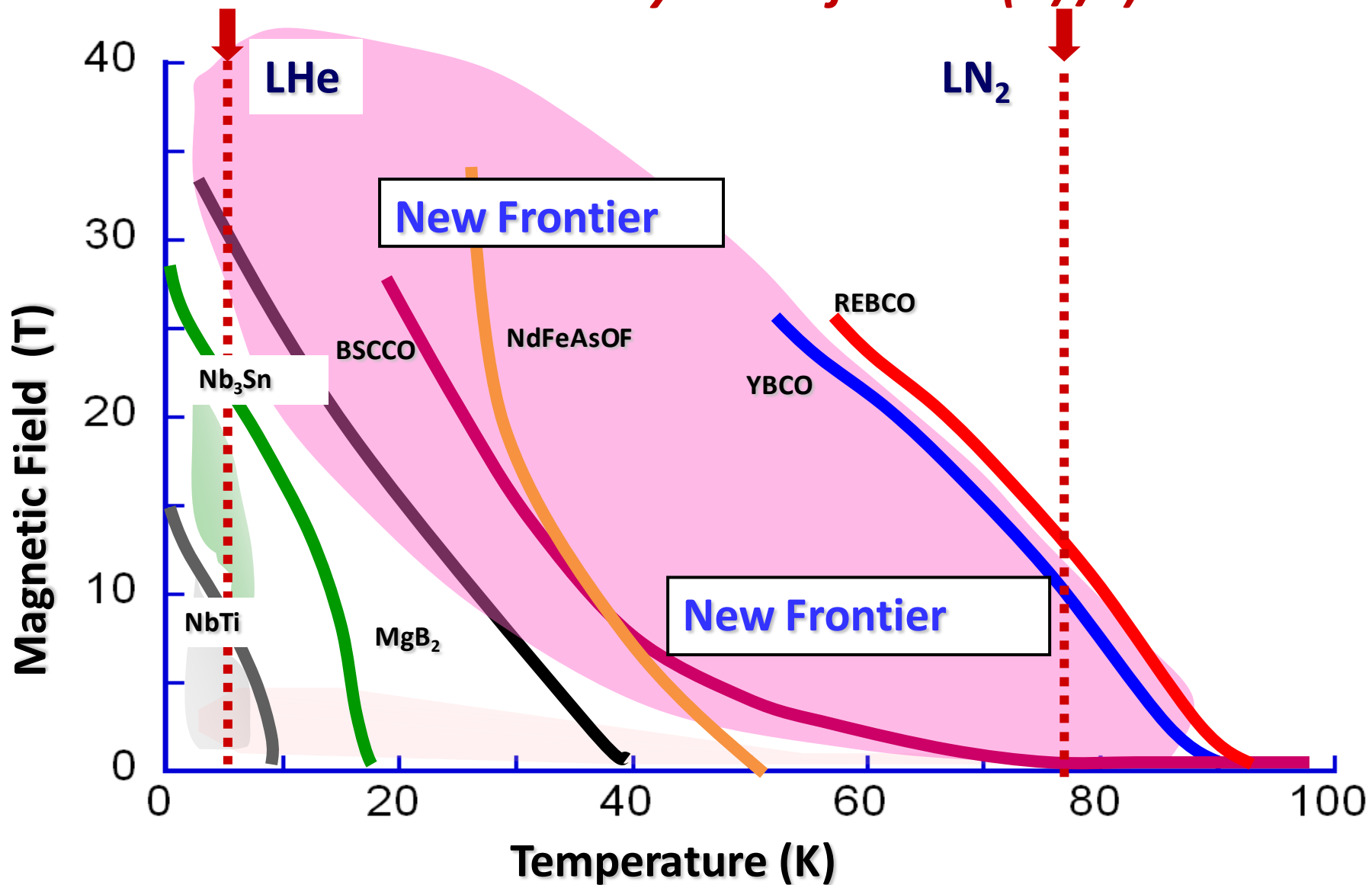
Nanostructure control on km length materials: very close to real power applications

Coated Conductors: the HTS materials for power applications. J_c breakthroughs

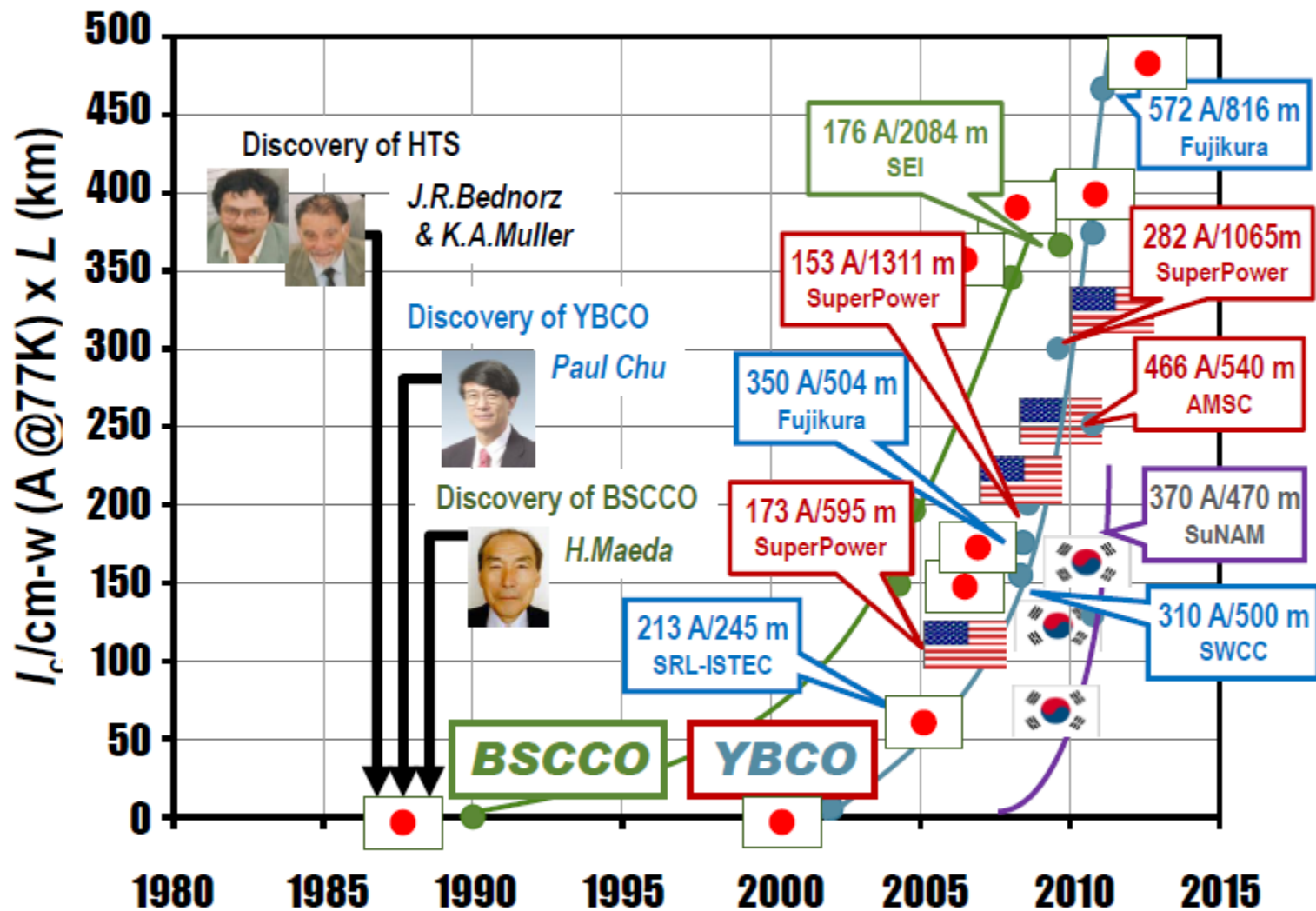


A new frontier for applications

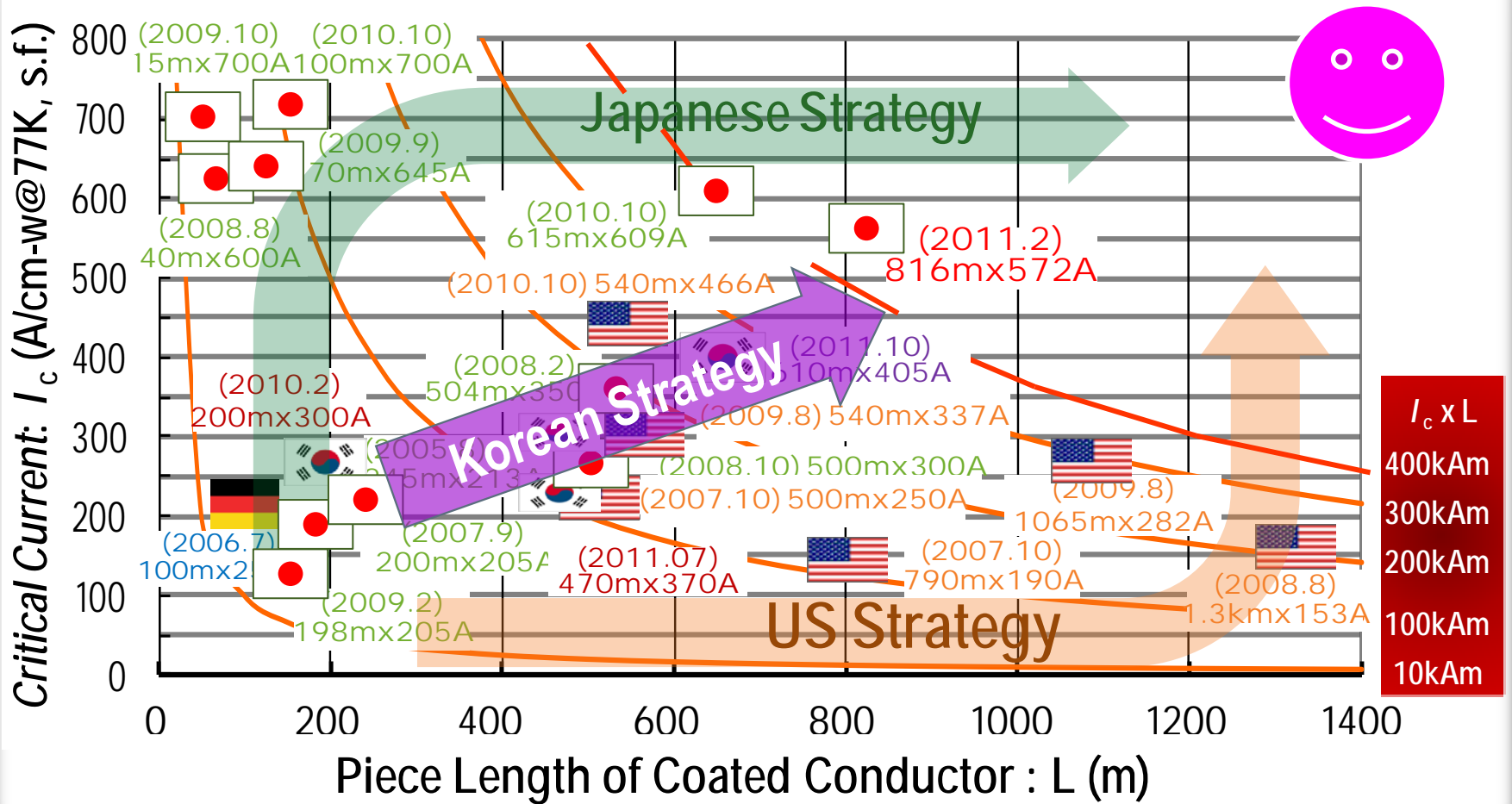
Irreversibility Line of YBCO ($H//c$)



Development of HTS conductors



Development of Coated Conductors





Coated Conductor research in Europe

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EUROTAPES: European development of Superconducting Tapes: integrating novel materials and architectures into cost effective processes for power applications and magnets (2012-2016)



European main SC activities



Moscow



eurotapes



European main SC activities



EUROTAPES

<http://www.eurotapes.eu/>

- 20 EU partners (9 countries)
- ~20 M€ (13.5 M€ - EU)
- 2012-2016



	Participant	Country
1 (Coord)	ICMAB- CSIC	ES
2	Bruker HTS GmbH	DE
3	Italian National agency ENEA	IT
4	Institute of Electrical Eng. Slovak	SK
5	La Farga la Cambra	ES
6	IFW Dresden	DE
7	Nexans SA	FR
8	Oxolutia, SL	ES
9	PerCoTech AG	DE
10	Technical University of Cluj-Napoca	RO
11	Vienna University of Technology	AT
12	Institute Neel	FR
13	University of Antwerp	BE
14	University of Cambridge	UK
15	University Autònoma de Barcelona	ES
16	University of Ghent	BE
17	Evico	DE
18	Nexans GmbH	DE
19	Leitat Technological Center	ES
20	Theva	DE

- New metallic substrates with **reduced ac –losses (non-magnetic RABiT)** and **lower cost ABAD templates** (SDP process)
- **Simplified architectures** and cost effective CC
- **Engineered nanocomposite CC (CSD, PLD)** for high fields (3-10T, 60K) and ultrahigh fields (>20T, 5K).
- **Eco-friendly chemical and colloidal solutions** for nanocomposite CC's
- **New round wire** low cost and low ac losses
- Multifilamentary **striated conductors** at low cost and low ac losses
- **High throughput processing** with high yield and performance
- Development of **in-situ monitoring tools** for process scalability
- **Demonstrate (+500 m) manufacturing**
- **Medium term decision**

Ag/Cu coating
CSD-YBCO
CSD-CeO ₂
CSD-PY/PE
Ni/Cu clad-RABiT™

Low cost

Ag/Cu coating
PLD/CSD-YBCO
PLD/CSD-CeO ₂ /PE
IBAD/ABAD-YSZ/TiN
Polycryst. SS/SDP

Medium cost

joint



Round wire
Small diameter



Round wire
Large diameter

EUROTAPES objectives



- New metallic substrates with reduced ac –losses (non-magnetic RABiT) and lower cost ABAD templates (SDP process)
- Simplified architectures and cost effective
- Engineered nanocomposite CC (CSD, PLD) for ultrahigh fields (>20T, 5K).
- Eco-friendly chemical and colloidal solutions
- New round wire low cost and low ac losses
- Multifilamentary striated conductors at low cost
- High throughput processing with high yield
- Development of in-situ monitoring tools for production
- Demonstrate (+500 m) manufacturing
- Medium term decision

Ag/Cu coating	Ag/Cu coating
CSD-YBCO	PLD/CSD-YBCO
CSD-CeO ₂	PLD/CSD-CeO ₂ /PE
CSD-PY/PE	IBAD/ABAD-YSZ/TiN
Ni/Cu clad-RABiT™	Polycryst. SS/SDP

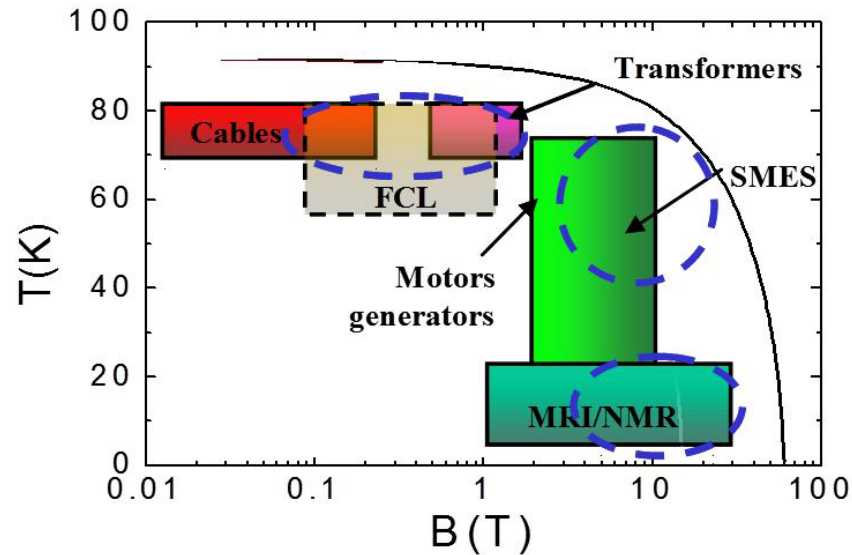
Low cost

Medium cost

joint



Round wire
Small diameter



TARGETS:

- **Pre-commercial cost:** 100 €/kAm
- **Length:** +500 m
- **Performance:**
 - For low fields ($B < 1$ T):
 I_c (77K, sf) > 400 A/cm-w
 - For ultrahigh fields ($B > 15$ T):
 I_c (5K, 15 T) > 1000 A/cm-w
 - For high fields ($B \sim 3-5$ T):
 F_p (60 K) > 100 GN/m³

Power applications: operating conditions, required lengths and fraction cost of CC

Application	Operating magnetic field (T)	Operating Temperature (K)	$I_c \times L$ (kA-m, per cm width)
Cables	0.01 – 0.1	70 – 77	40,000 to 2,500,000
Transformers	0.1	65 – 77	2,000 – 3,000
FCL	0.1	65 – 77	1,000 – 10,000
Generators	1 – 3	30 – 65	2,000 – 60,000
Motors	2 – 5	30 – 65	1,000 – 25,000
SMES/magnets	2 – 20	4 – 50	2,000 – 30,000

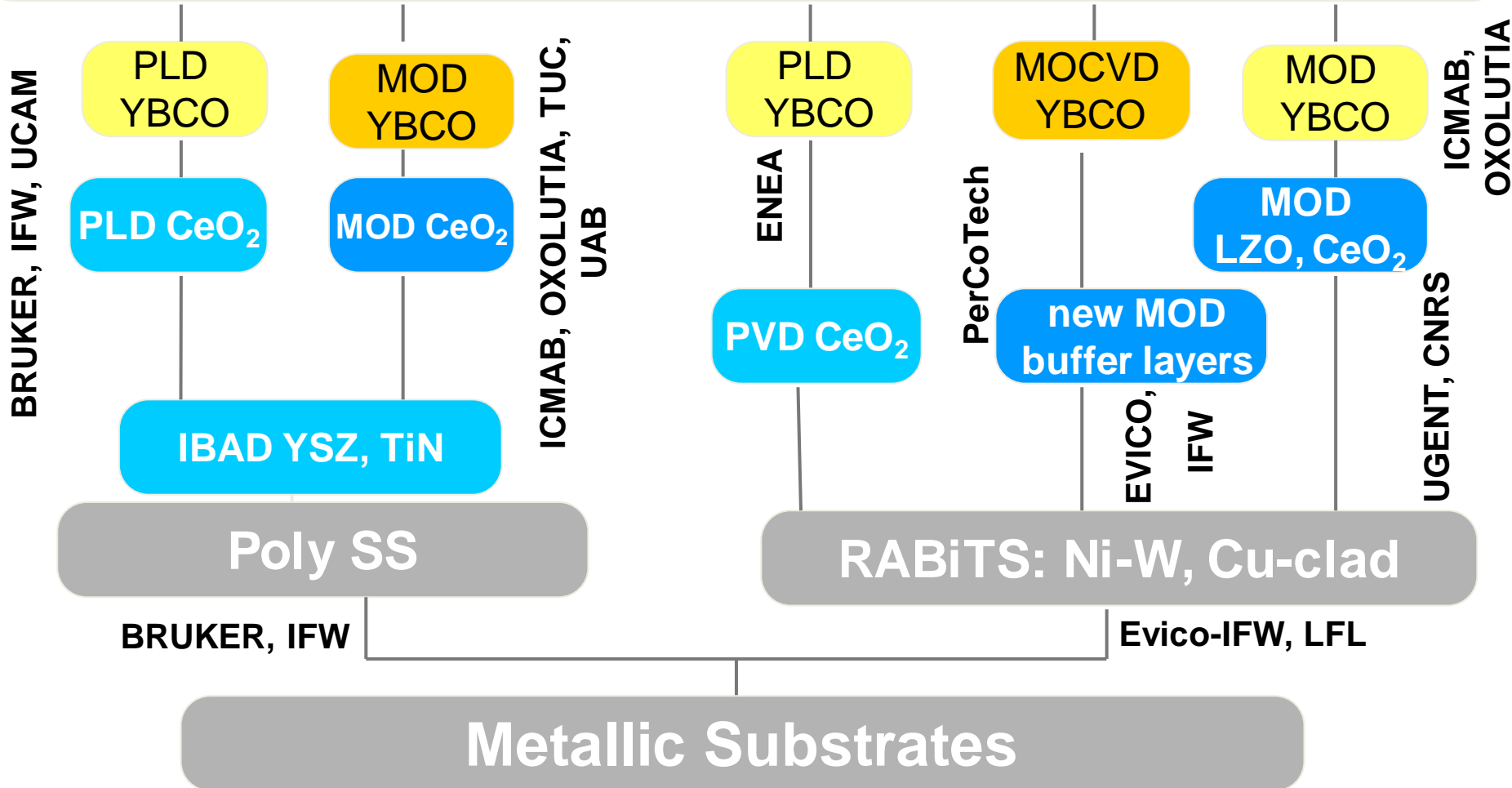
Application	Example	Fraction of HTS wire on total system costs
Magnet	NMR, MRI, Induction heater Fault current limiter	5-15 %
Rotating machines	Ship motor, Wind power generator, Hydro generator	10-30 %
Transmission/ Distribution	Cable (AC / DC), FCL (resistive / inductive type), Transformer	20-25 %



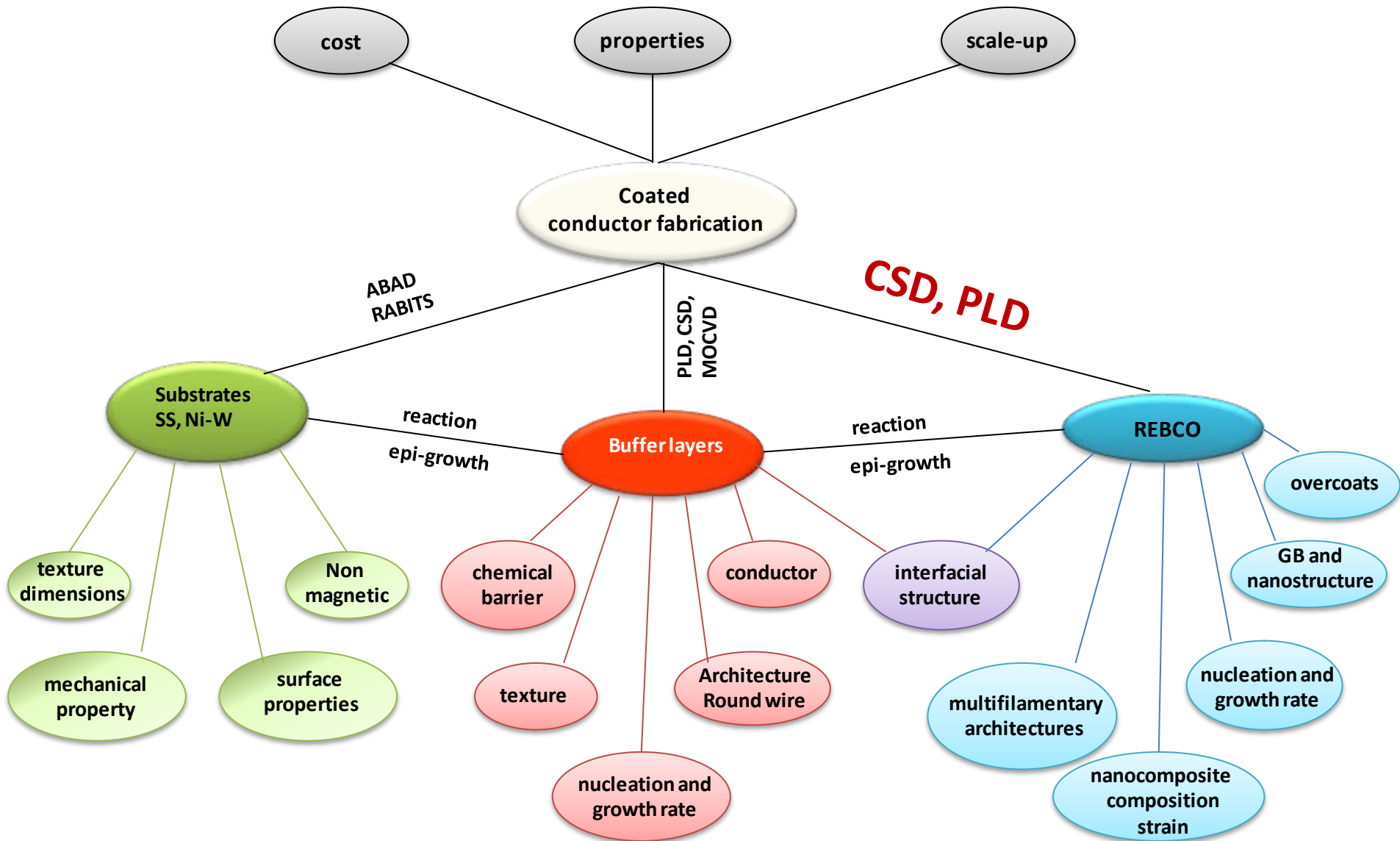
EUROTAPES EU project



YBCO layers and nanocomposites



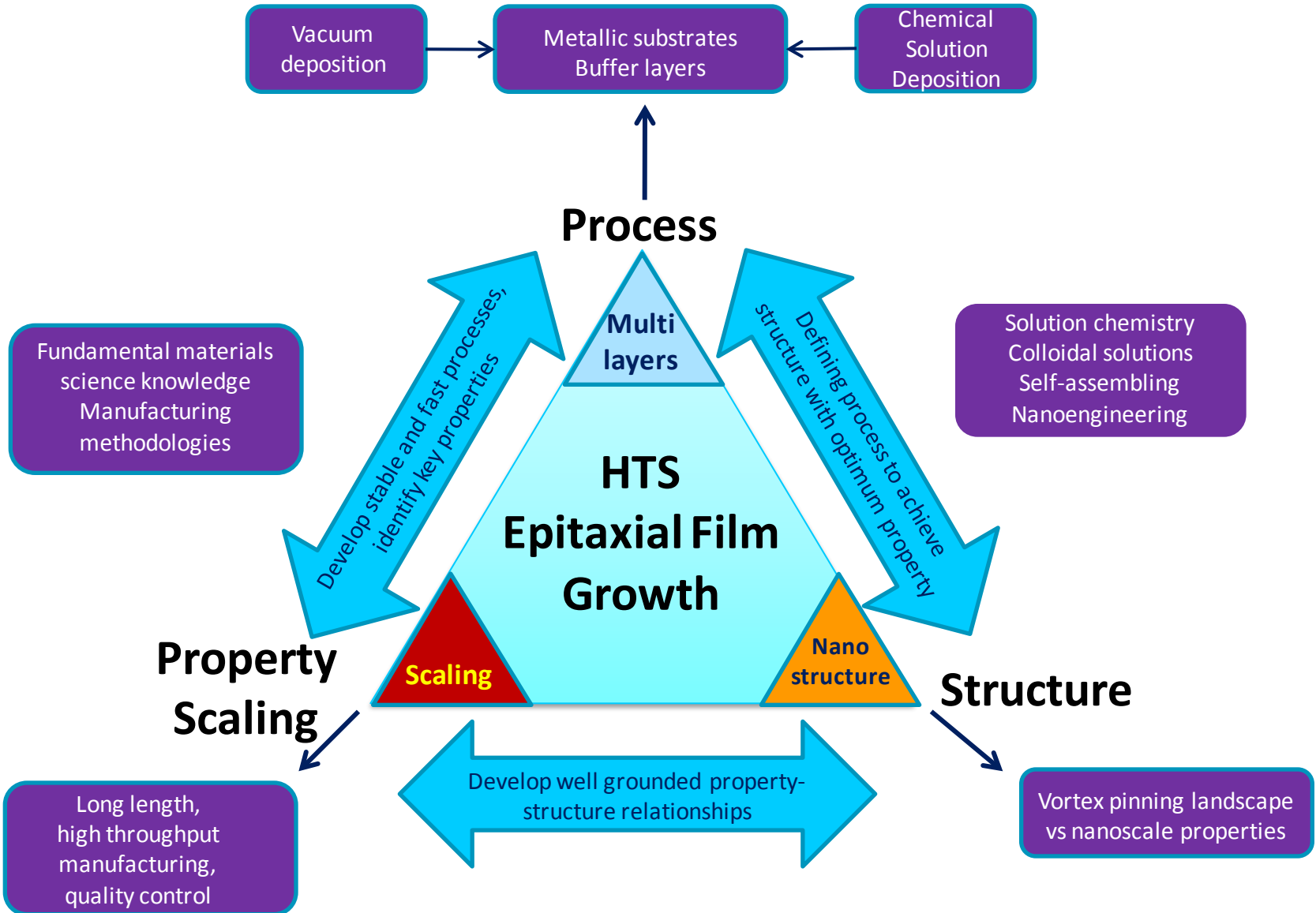
Advanced characterization and in-situ monitoring: TUWien, UAntwerpen, THEVA Striations, ac losses, round wire : UCAM, Bratislava, NEXANS



COATED CONDUCTORS ISSUES

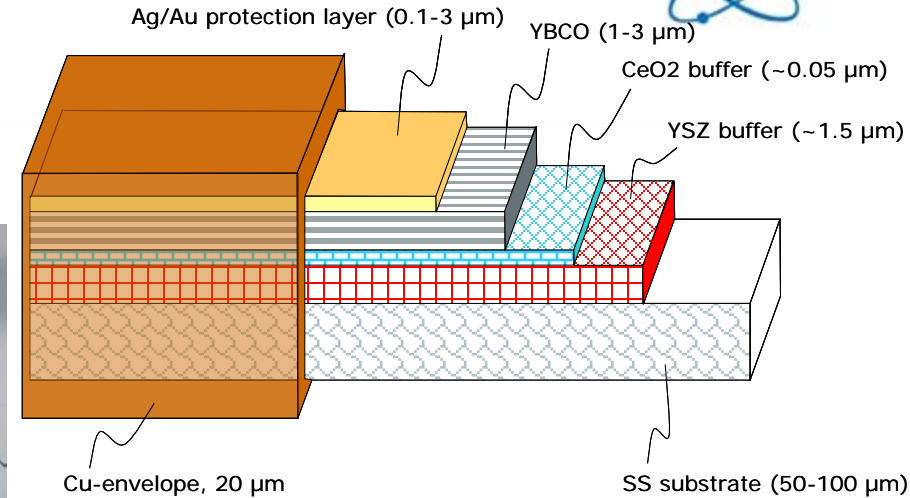


Material science - maximizing performance – Nanoscience
 high-throughput / high-yield / Low cost manufacturing processes



ABAD metallic substrates

ABAD 40mm, YSZ/SS
(4mm/12mm also available)



Targets:

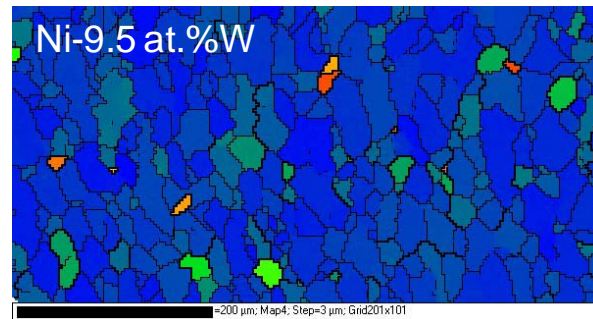
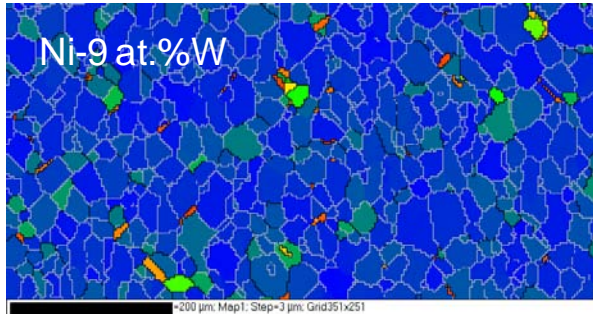
Substrate polishing 8 => 150 m/hour

ABAD width 4 => 35 m/hour
12 => 40 mm
length 100 => 500 m

To be investigated (within EUROTAPES) for cost reduction :
Solution Deposition Planarization (SDP) process to substitute mechanical polishing

Higher alloyed Ni-W tapes

Development of highly textured non-magnetic RABiTS tapes



YBCO coated conductor architecture grown by pulsed laser deposition on small samples (1 x 1 cm²)



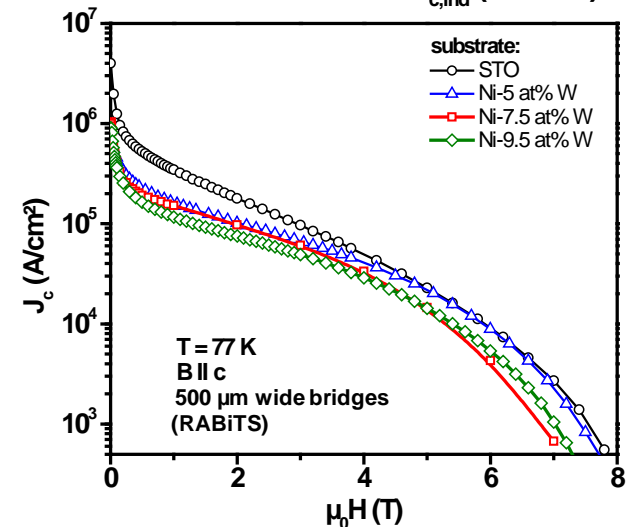
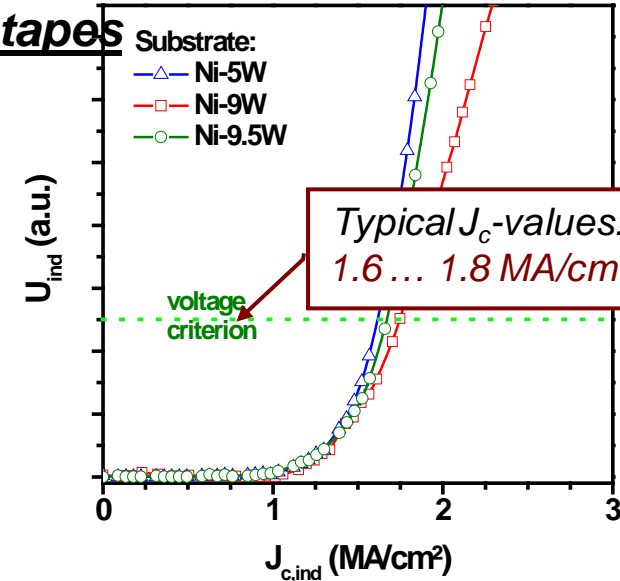
Fraction of cube texture: >95%

Deviation from (001)[100] cube texture:



0° 62°

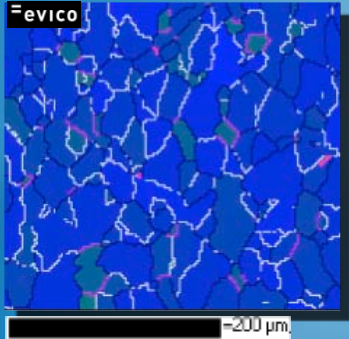
R. Hühne et al., *Supercond. Sci. Technol.* 23 (2010) 034015



The leading manufacturer of Ni-based highly cube textured substrates in Europe

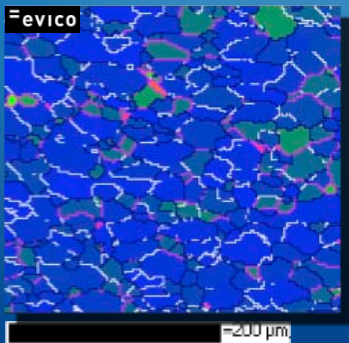
Available products:

Ni5at%W - evico STANDARD

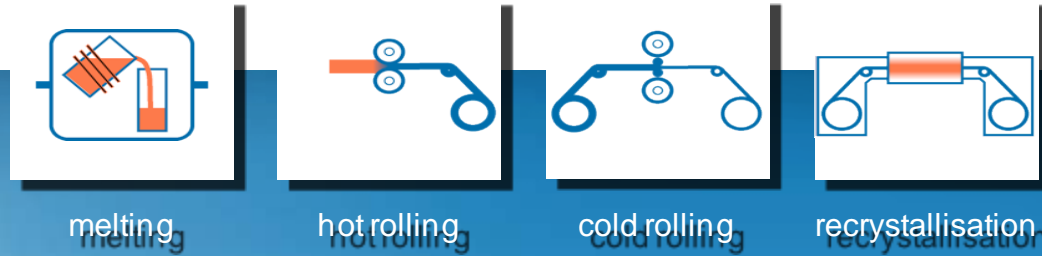


- ≡ > 98% cube texture fraction
- ≡ < 5 nm surface roughness
- ≡ high quality, stable process
- ≡ 80 μm thickness, 10 mm width, 10-250 m length

Ni7.5at%W - evico LOW AC LOSS



- ≡ > 96% cube texture fraction
- ≡ status: available, pilot production
- ≡ 80 μm thickness, 10 mm width, 1-100 m length



- ≡ **customized dimensions on request**
- ≡ **Ni9at%W - Research**
not available yet
> 94 % cube texture fraction
Status: transfer to production soon



Spin-off from IFW- Dresden (founded in 2004)
9 employees



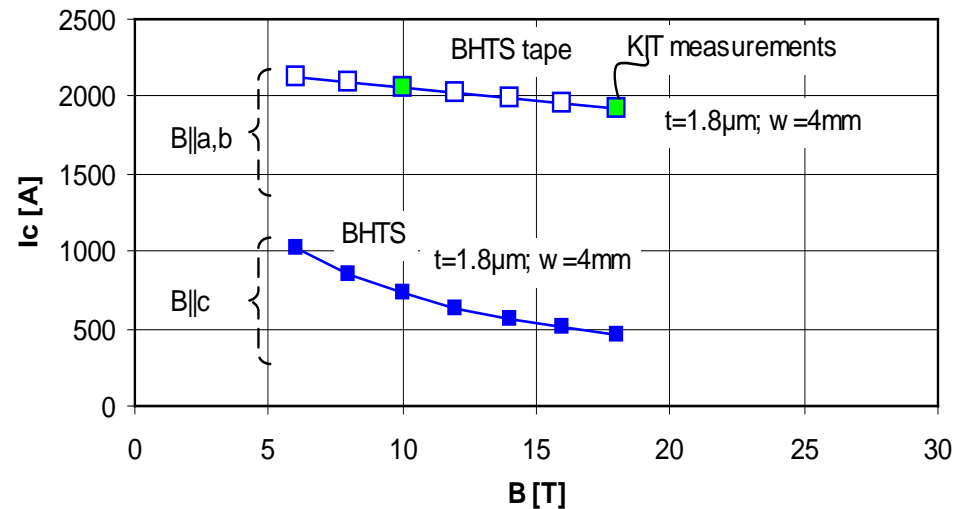
Multi plume HR-PLD for Large area HTS coated conductors



45m long, 4mm wide tape



- Efficiency of material transfer is about 2 times higher as was expected
- Pulse energy of 600mJ is sufficient for 8 beams
- This indicates further increase cost efficiency and throughput



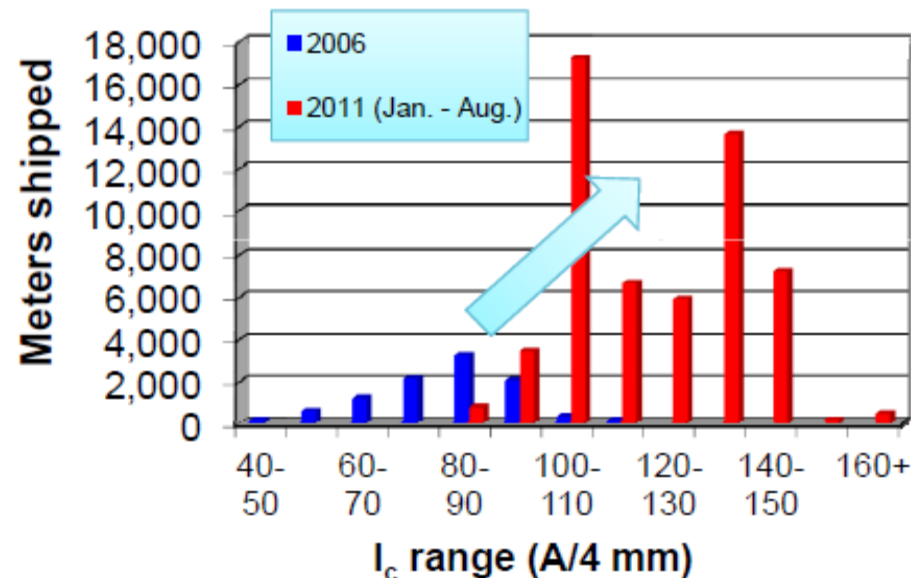
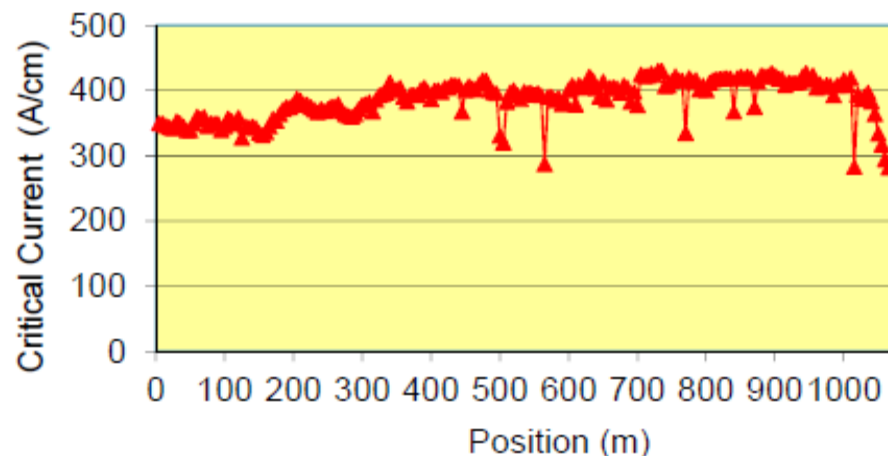
Highest I_c achieved in 6m long tape: **500 A/cm-w** at 77K, SF

Well-reproducible I_c : **250 A/cm-w** at 77K, SF

Successful scale up of IBAD-MOCVD based 2G HTS wires

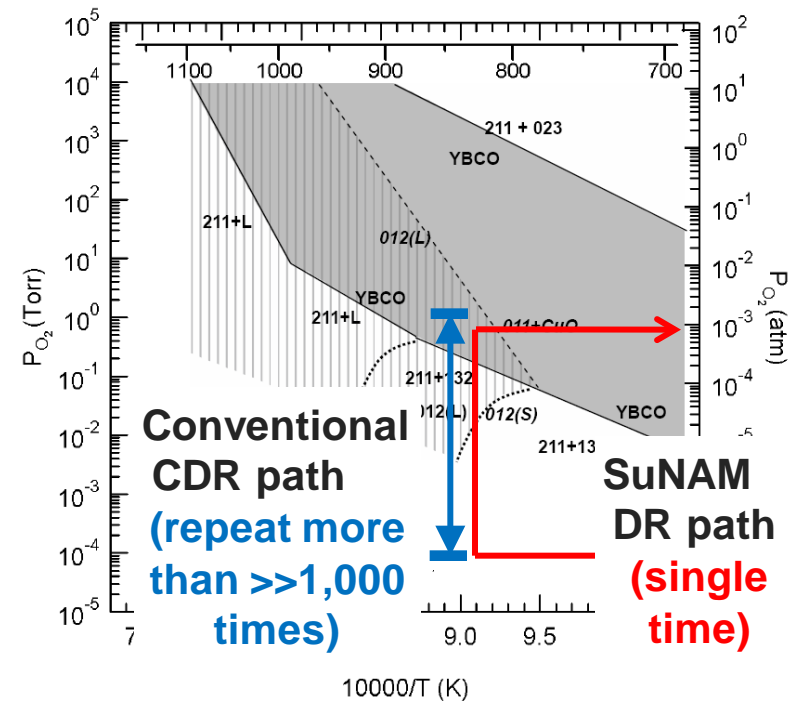
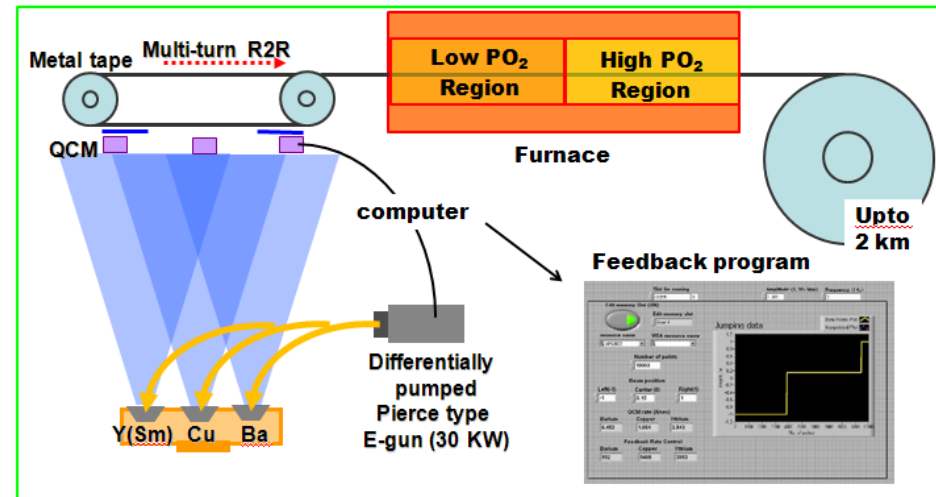
- 1,000 m 2G HTS wire first demonstrated in July 2008
1,400 m lengths are now routinely produced.
- High throughput processing ($\gg 100$ m/h* in IBAD & buffer processes, > 100 m/h* in other processes)

Metric	2006	2011
Total wire shipped (meters)	10,000	150,000 (projected for the year)
Average I_c (A/4 mm)	80	122
I_c range (A/4 mm)	40 – 118	80 - 165



New SuNAM RCE-DR process

- RCE-DR : Reactive Co-Evaporation by Deposition & Reaction (SuNAM, R2R)
- High rate co-evaporation at low temperature & pressure to the target thickness (> 1 μm) at once in deposition zone (6 ~ 10nm/s)
- **Fast (<< 30 sec.) conversion** from **amorphous glassy phase** to **superconducting phase** at high temperature and oxygen pressure in reaction zone
- **Simple, higher deposition rate & area, low system cost**
- **Easy to scale up :single path**

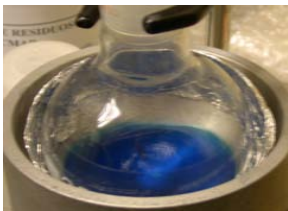


CSD: YBCO and nanocomposites

... a versatile, scalable and low cost methodology for growing nanostructured epitaxial films

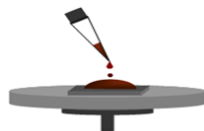
Precursor solution synthesis

Y, Ba, Cu metal-organic precursors



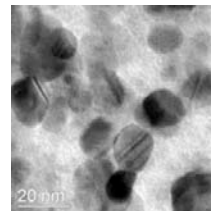
Solution deposition

Ink-jet Printing



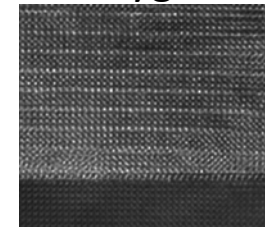
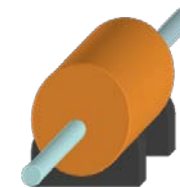
Pyrolysis

Removal organic precursors



Ex-situ Growth

Nucleation, crystallization and oxygenation



It is an ex-situ solution based growth method

X. Obradors, T. Puig et al, SUST (2012)

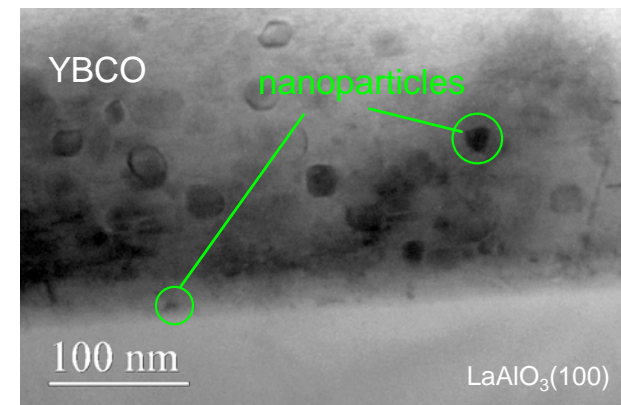
For Nanocomposites:

Addition of metal-organic salts (Zr, Ce, Ta, ...) in the TFA precursor solution : Spontaneous Np segregation within the epitaxial $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_7$ matrix : Y_2O_3 , BaZrO_3 , Ba_2YTaO_6 , BaCeO_3 , ... ($\epsilon = -2.7\%$, $+8.5\%$, $+8.7\%$, $+12.1\%$)

Key control of Nanoparticles size, shape, concentration, orientation and strain ...

Interfaces are the key issue for the performances achieved

Nature Materials (2007); Nature Materials (2012)



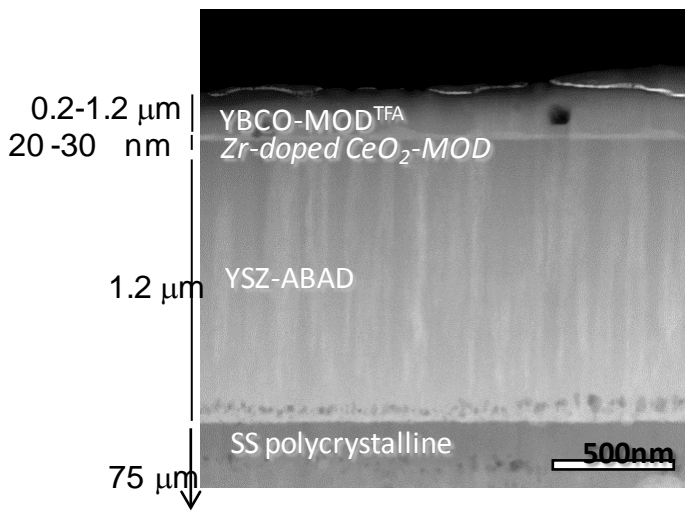
OXOLUTIA

www.oxolutia.com

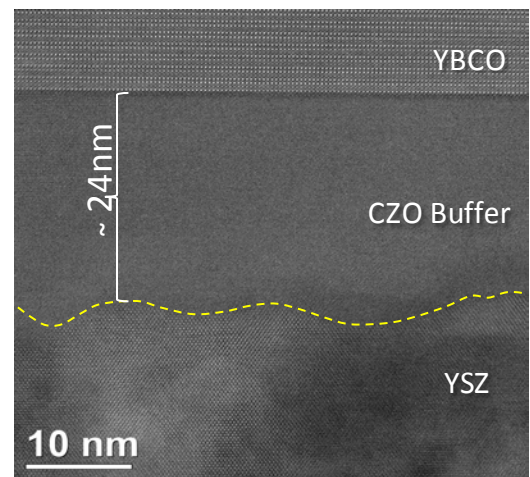
Technology-based spin-off company created from ICMAB-CSIC currently committed to scale-up **2G superconductor tapes by metalorganic decomposition (MOD)**.

5 employees

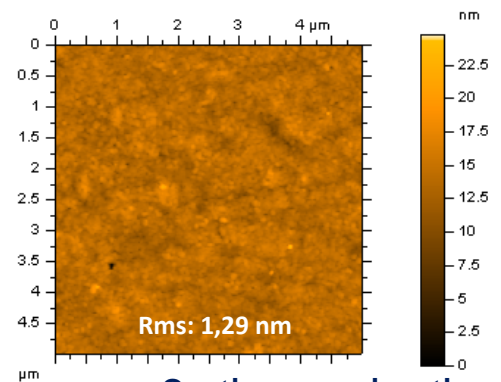
5 patents licenced by CSIC



OXOLUTIA

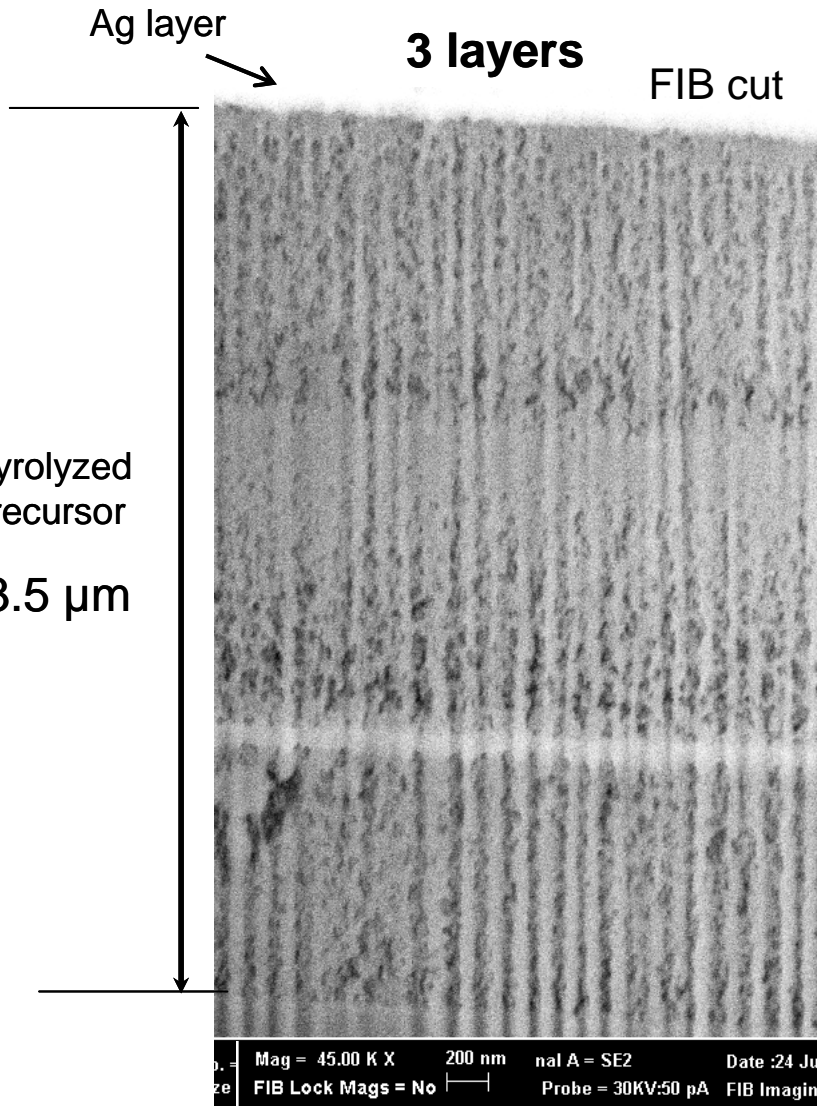


Buffer target 2013:
 Establish Zr-doped CeO₂ Ink Jet Deposition for continuous mode in 10 m pieces



New buffer process 8x time reduction with 70% surface planarity in tapes

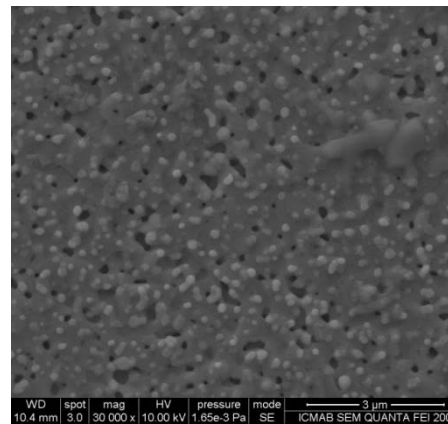
InkJet printed MOD YBCO layers



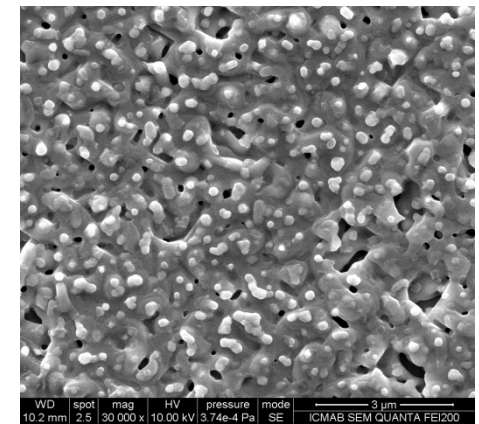
YBCO / CeO₂ / ^{ABAD}YSZ / SS

1 layers (300 nm)

3 layers (900 nm)



$J_c(sf,77K)=2 \text{ MA/cm}^2$



$J_c(sf,77K)=1.2 \text{ MA/cm}^2$

$I_c=108 \text{ A/cm-w}$

Target for high I_c (2013):

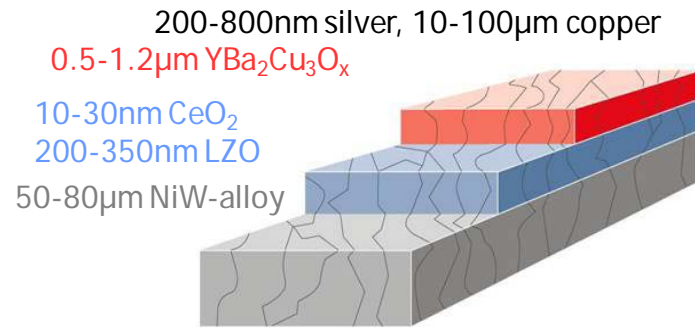
- Thickness (IJP) ~ 1.2 μm (two coats)
- J_c (77K, sf) ~ 2 MA/cm^2
- Growth rate > 1 nm/s (two module process)
- In continuous mode

YBCO/LAO

$J_c = 2.4 \text{ MA/cm}^2$ (800 nm), $I_c = 192 \text{ A/cm-w}$

$J_c = 1.2 \text{ MA/cm}^2$ (1.2 μm), $I_c = 144 \text{ A/cm-w}$

23 employees, BASF GmbH involved as cooperation partner



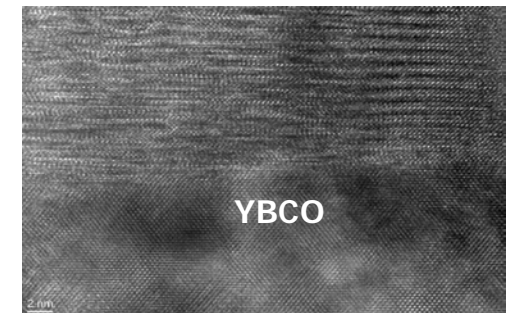
Ink-jet printing in continuous processing



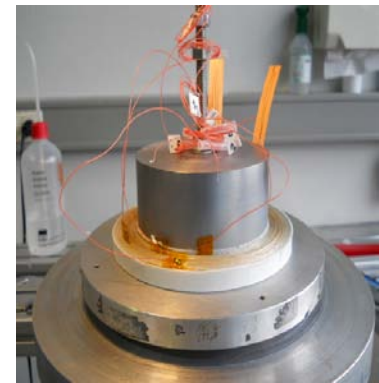
- CSD for all layers is considered to be the "most promising and most challenging process"
- Unique and protected CSD-multi-layer technology, IJP.
- Established industrial cooperations on metallic substrates (Thyssen Krupp), coating solutions (Honeywell) and insulation (Elektrisola)



universität **bonn**

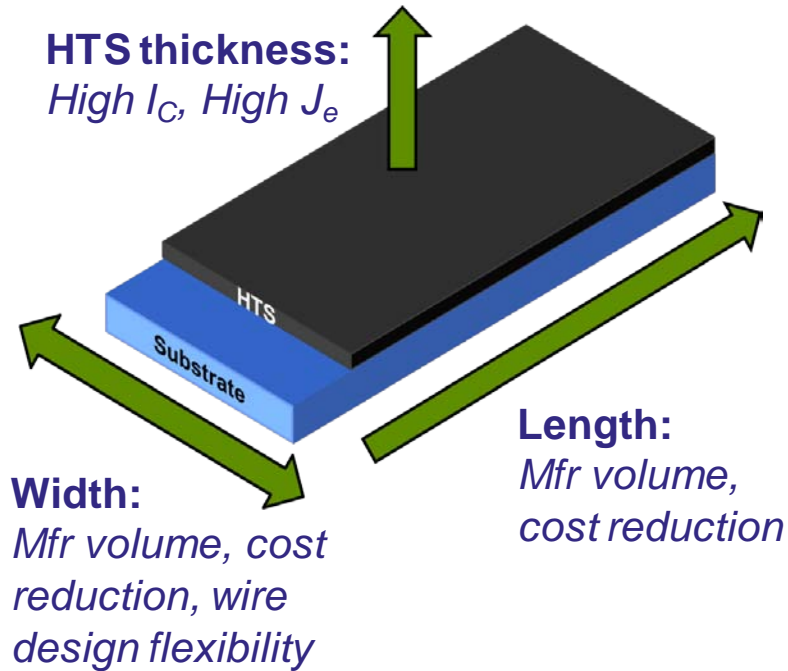


- ✓ **All samples continuously processed in minimum 10 m lengths**
- ✓ J_c (77K, sf) = 1.2 -1.8 MA/cm² for 1 μ m HTS
- ✓ 7mm wide slitted and stabilized sample, I_c /cm-w > 160A
- ✓ 100 m wound to coil with overall J_c = 1.4 MAcm²

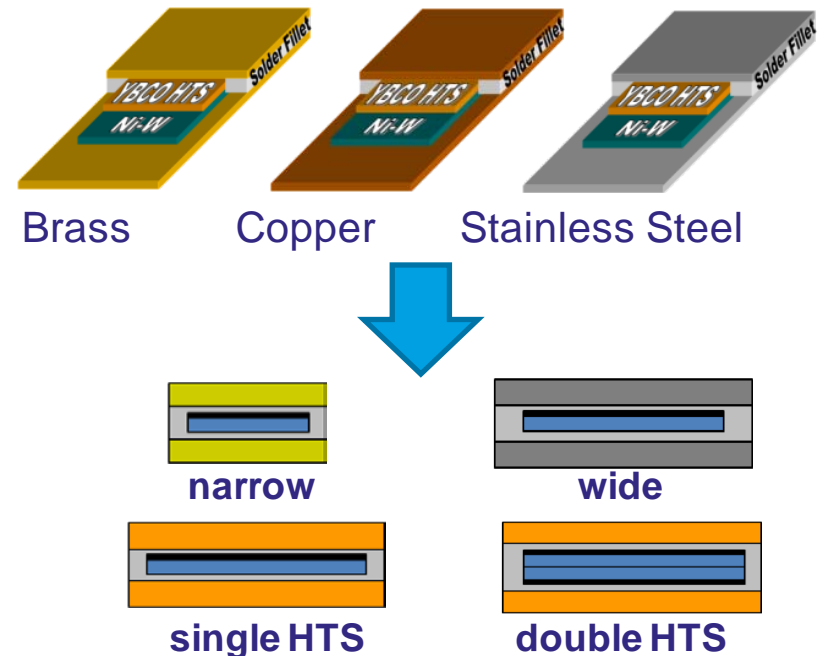


MOD/RABiTS™ HTS Wire Manufacturing Flexibility

HTS Strip: Scalable in 3 Dimensions



Application-Specific Lamination



MOD RABiTS HTS Strip

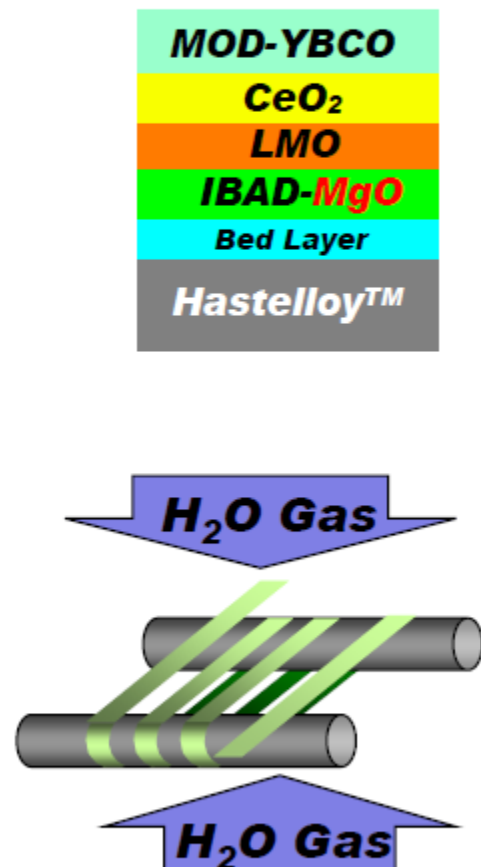
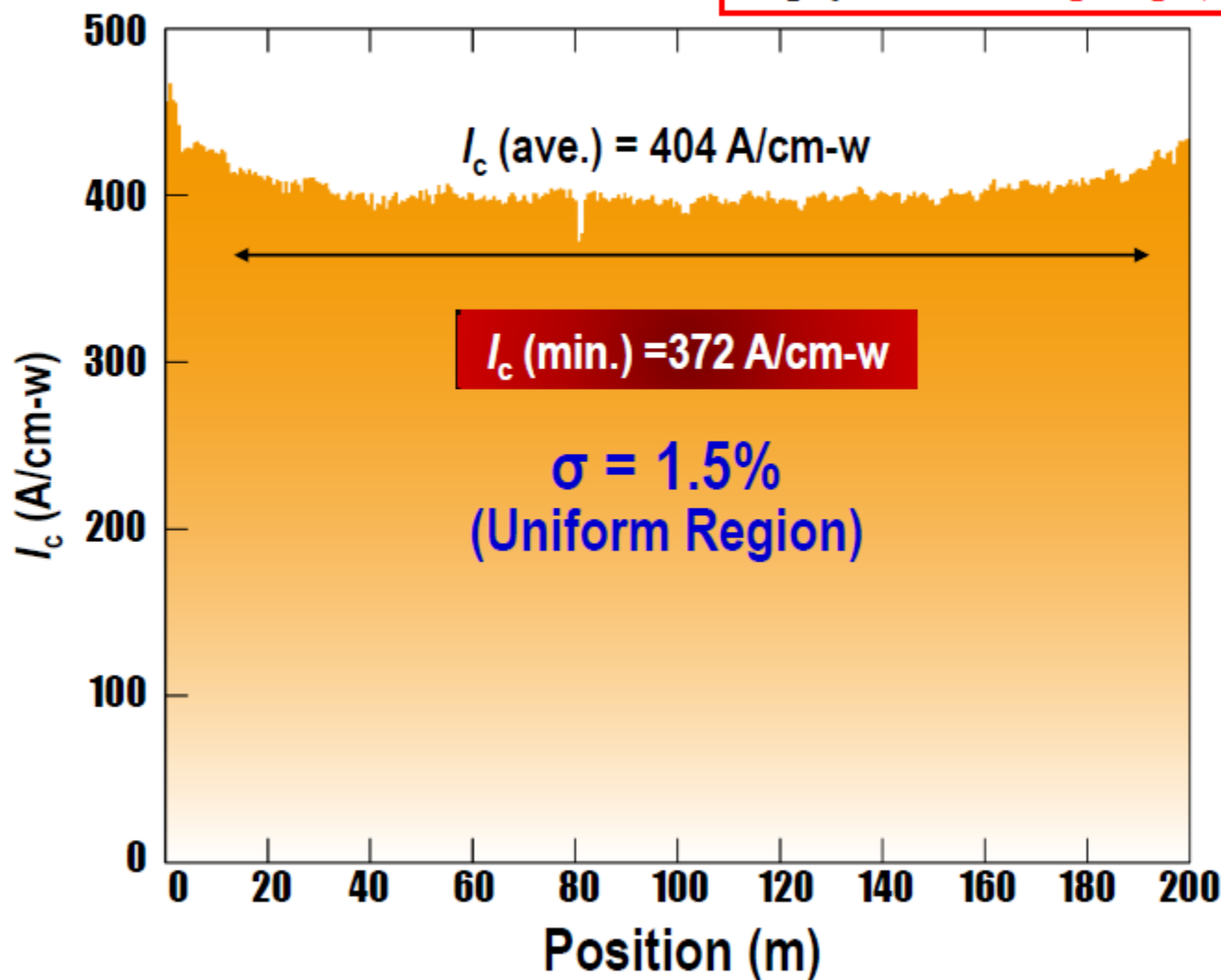
- Highly scalable process technology
- High I_C uniformity
- Able to slit to any width

Finished HTS Wire

- Tailored mechanical properties:
- Tailored normal electrical properties
- Multiple architecture options

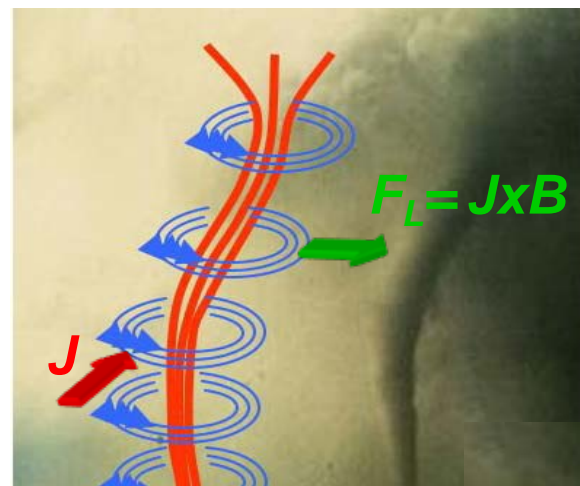
Low cost, high performance HTS wire optimized to meet application requirements

Lower Cost C.C. Fabrication by TFA-MOD



Vortex pinning in YBCO Nanocomposites

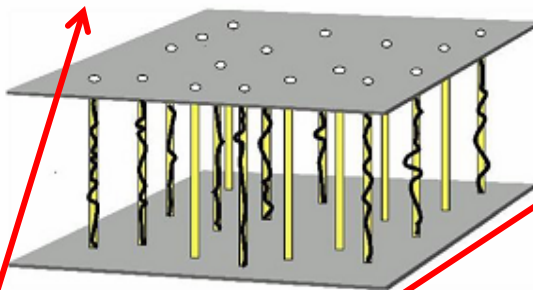
Nanoengineering is the path towards control of vortex pinning and enhance performances



Vortices need to be pinned in non-SC nano-regions

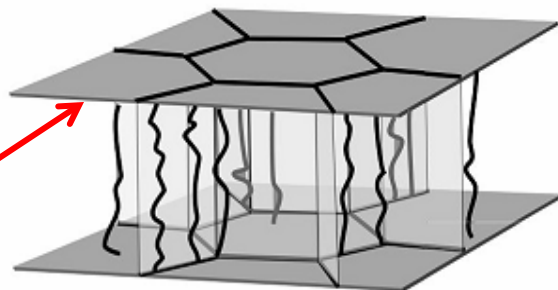
✓ 1D-APC

dislocation, columnar defect



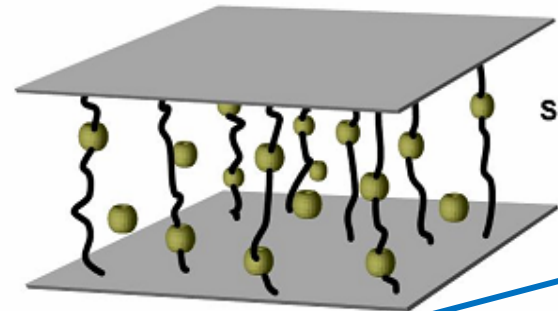
✓ 2D-APC

grain boundary, planar defect



✓ 3D-APC

fine precipitate, second phase
RE antisite clusters,
isotropic nano-strain



✓ 0D-APC

Oxygen vacancies, ...

Superconductor

Anisotropic and strong defects

Isotropic and strong defects

Isotropic and weak defects

Courtesy M. Matsumoto (adapted)

The role of interfaces in nanocomposites are the key issue

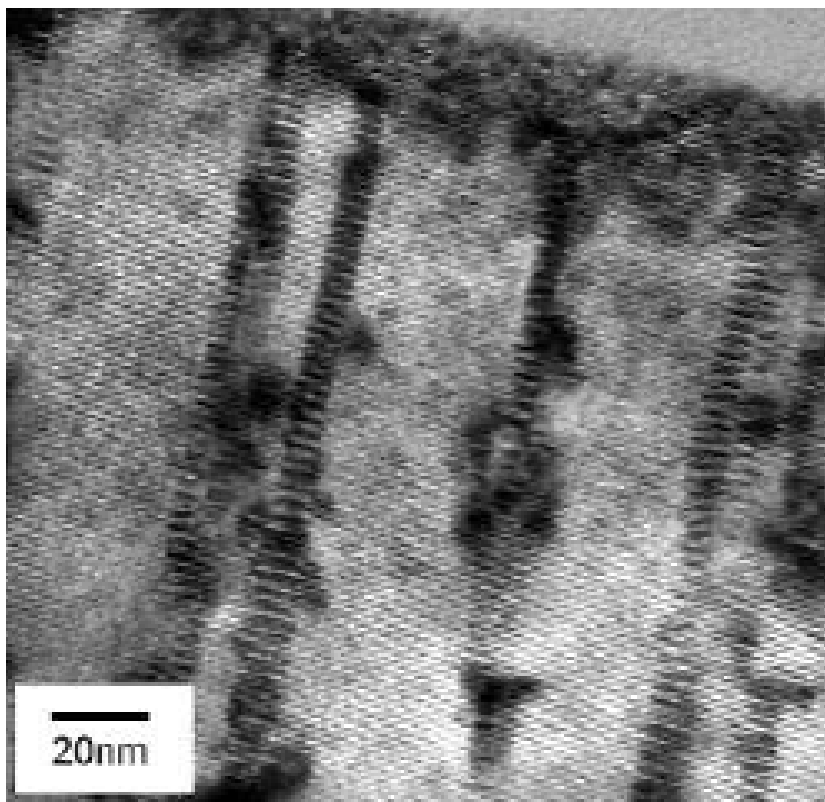
... but there always exists superposition of different contributions in a single material

Superconducting Nanocomposites

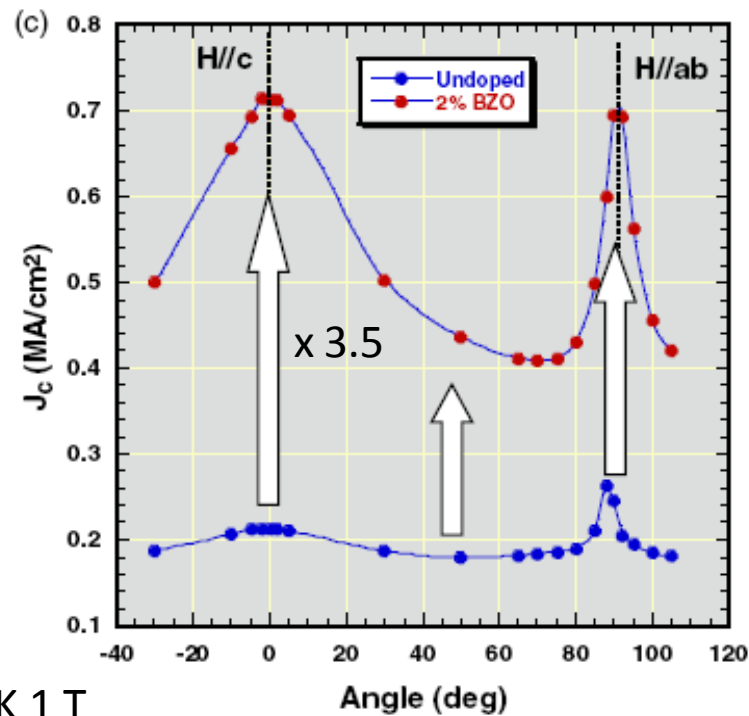
Interfaces and associated strains, defects, ... can be tuned and maximized and vortex pinning properties enhanced

YBa₂Cu₃O_{7-x} - BaZrO₃ nanocomposite by PLD

Epitaxial YBCO-BZO interfaces

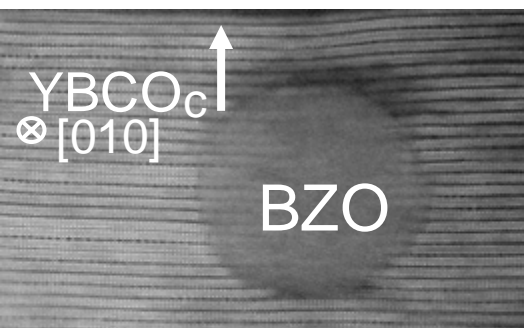
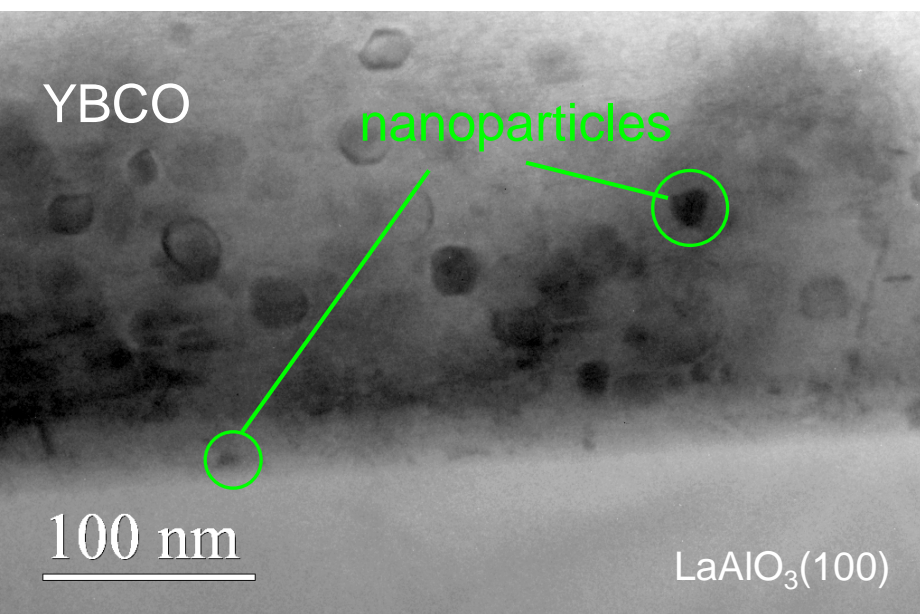


S. Kang, Science 311 (2006)



Huge increase of performances is achieved

Chemical solution HTS Nanocomposites

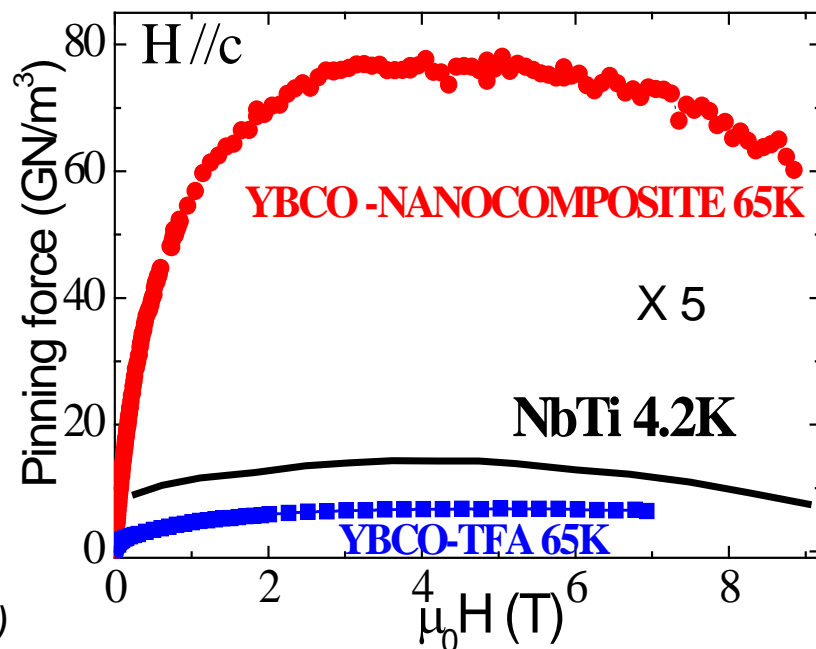
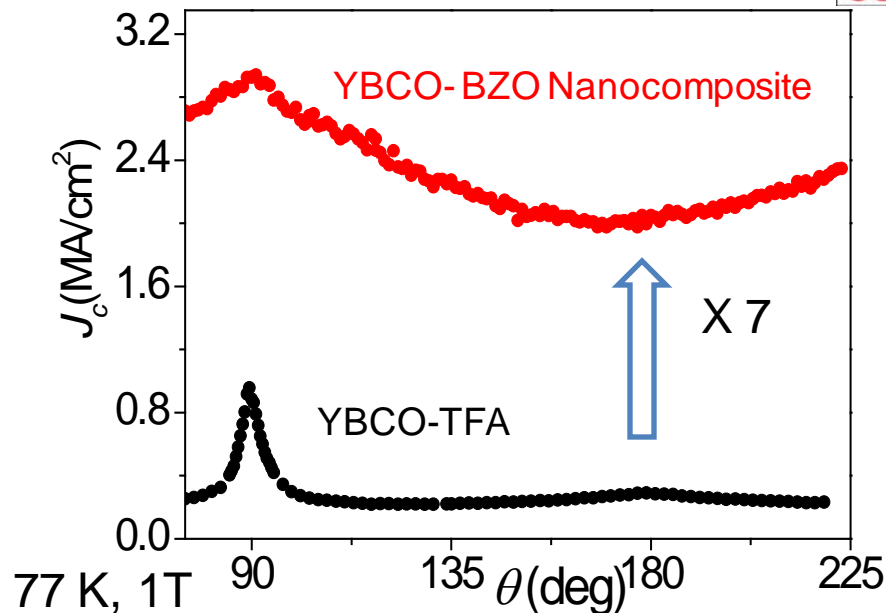


Incoherent YBCO-BZO interfaces

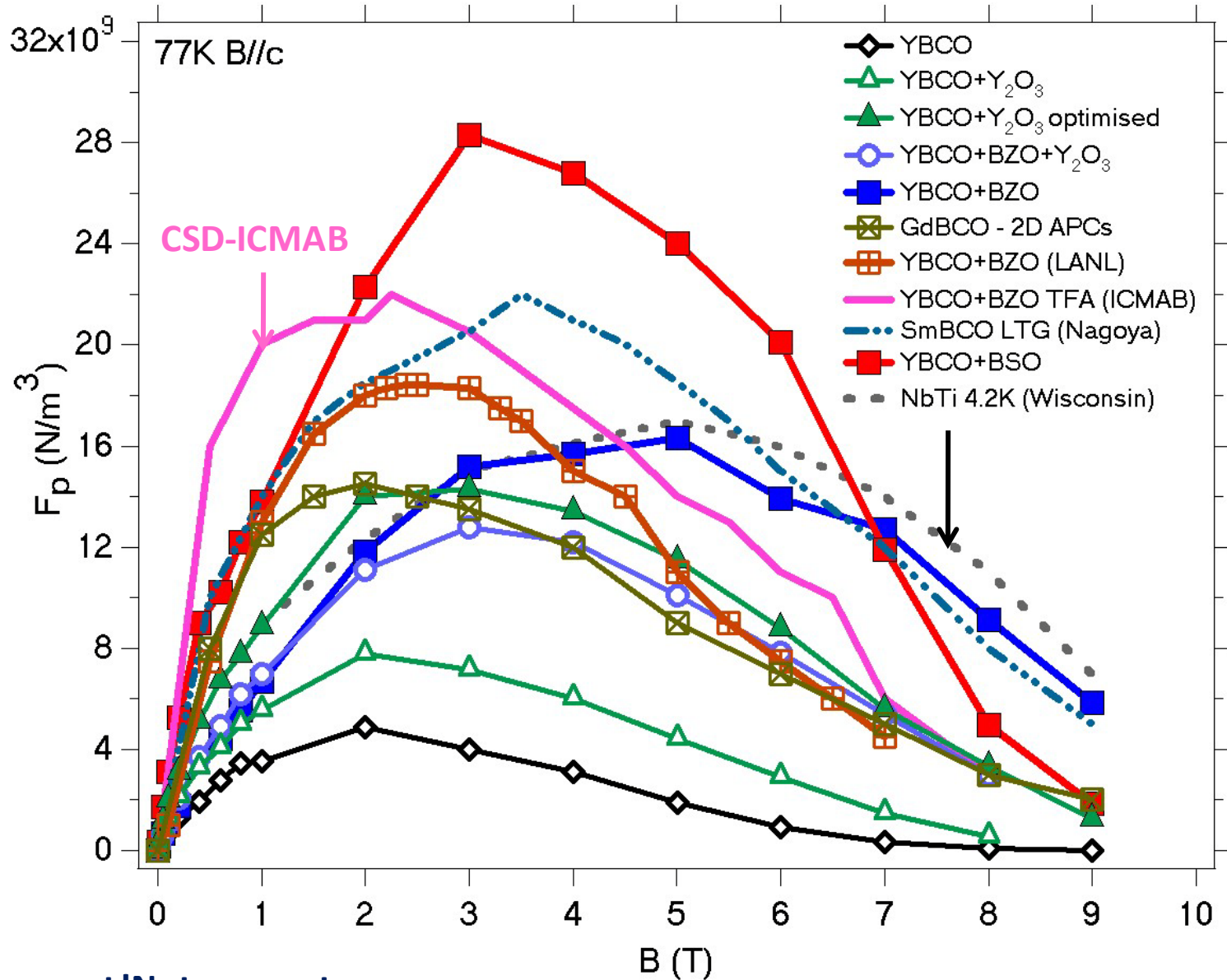
The highest isotropic performance ever found in any superconducting material

J. Gutiérrez ... T. Puig., *Nature Materials* (2007)

A. Llordés ... T. Puig., *Nature Materials*, 11, 329 (2012)



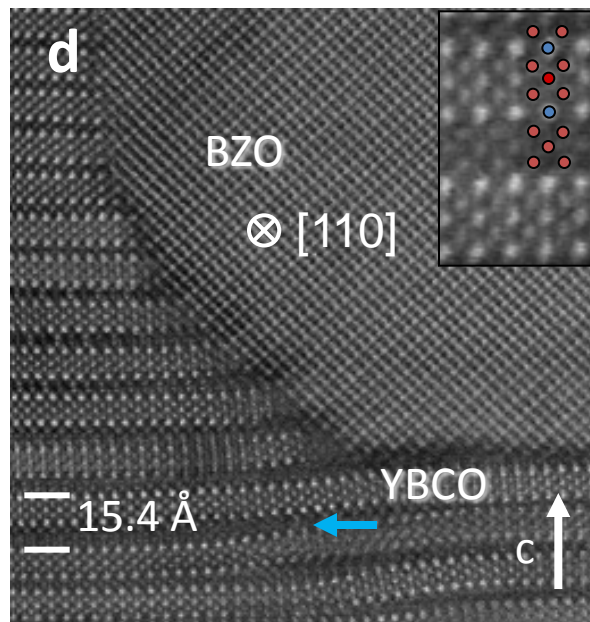
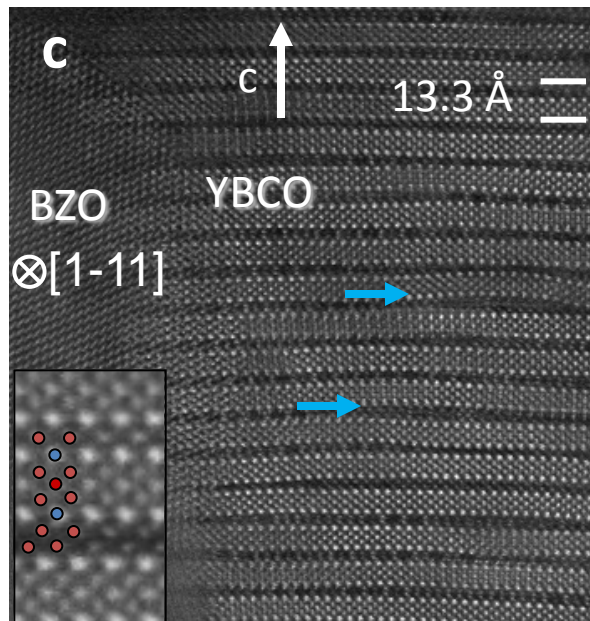
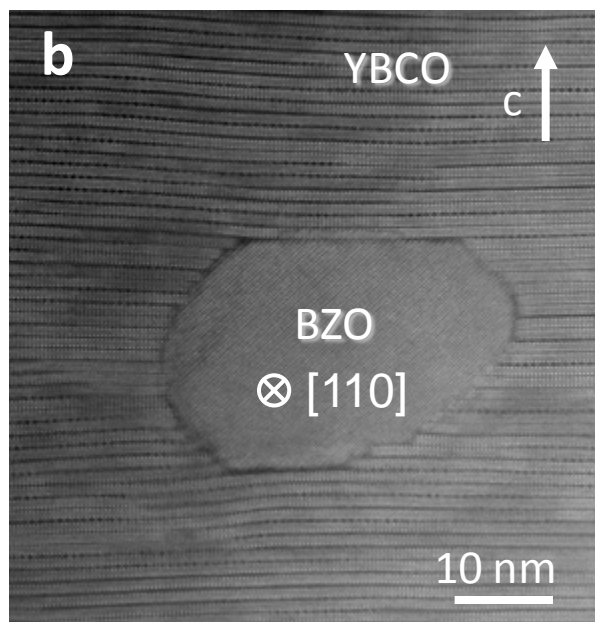
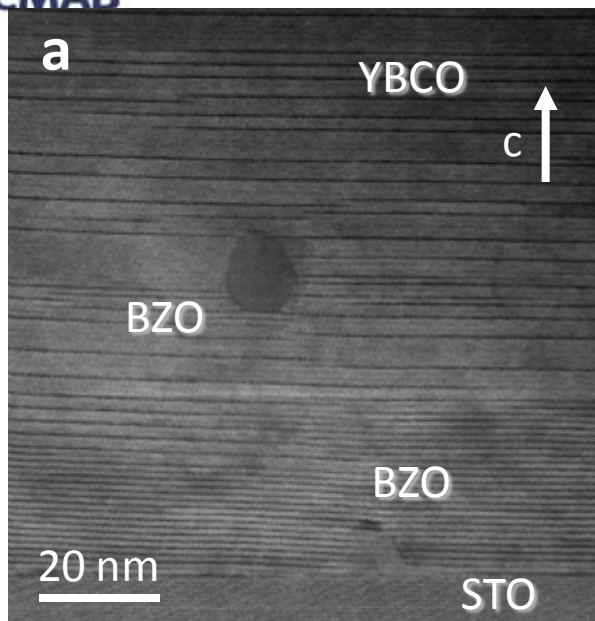
Pinning forces in YBCO Nanocomposites



Performances at IN_2 temperature overcomes
for the first time low T SC at $T = 5$ K

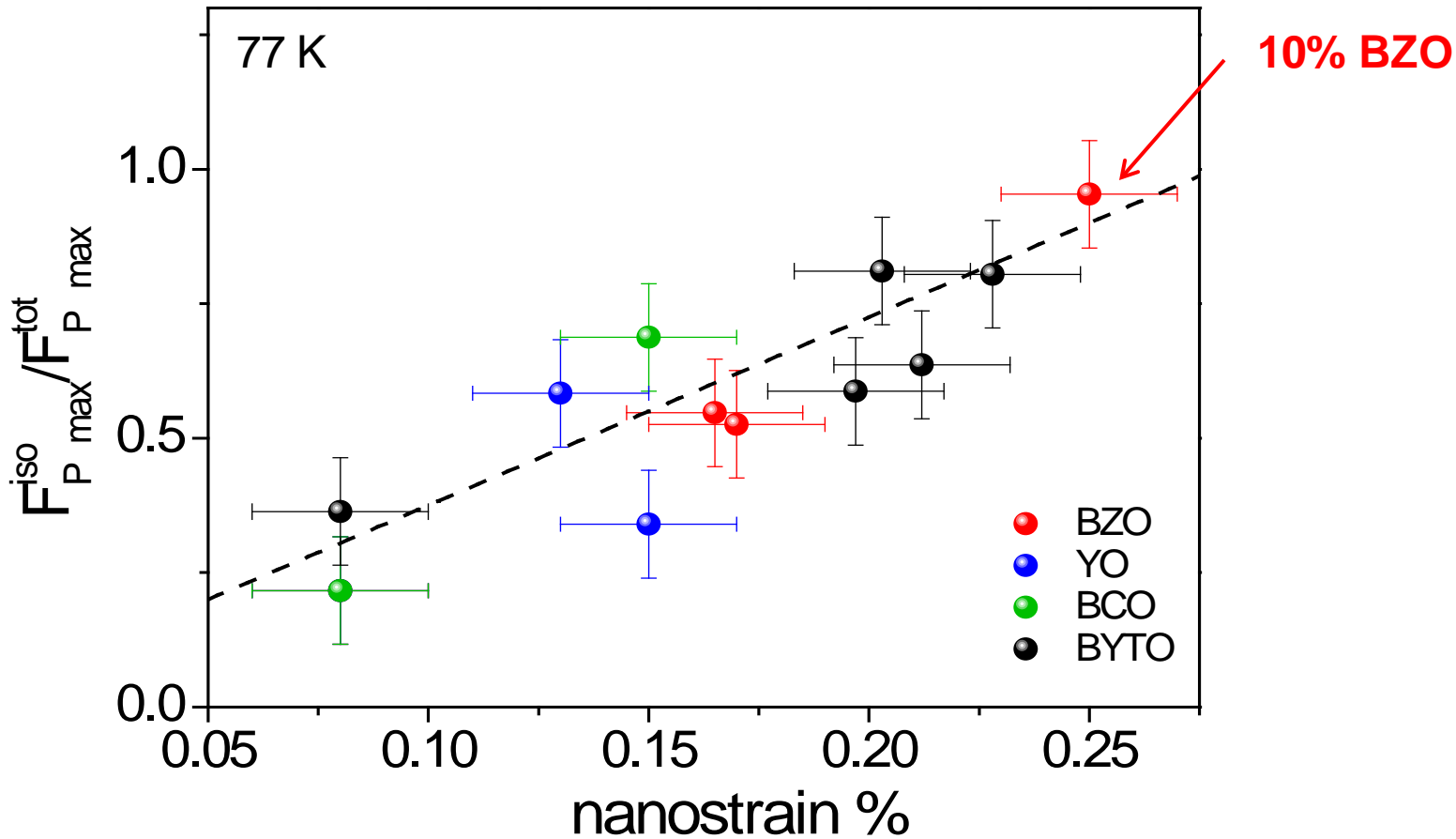
J. Gutiérrez ... T. Puig., Nature Materials (2007)

STEM-HAADF of YBCO-BZO nanocomposites



- High density of intergrowth layers: Double (Y248) and triple (Y125) chain intergrowths
- Highly misfit orientations (>15%) also induce high density of intergrowths
- Faceted BZO nanoparticles induce a strong bending of CuO_2 planes
- Double chain intergrowths extend tens to hundreds of nm. Triple chains are much shorter (few nm)
- Strong strains should be appearing due to the intercalation of intergrowths

Isotropic Pinning Force and Nanostrain

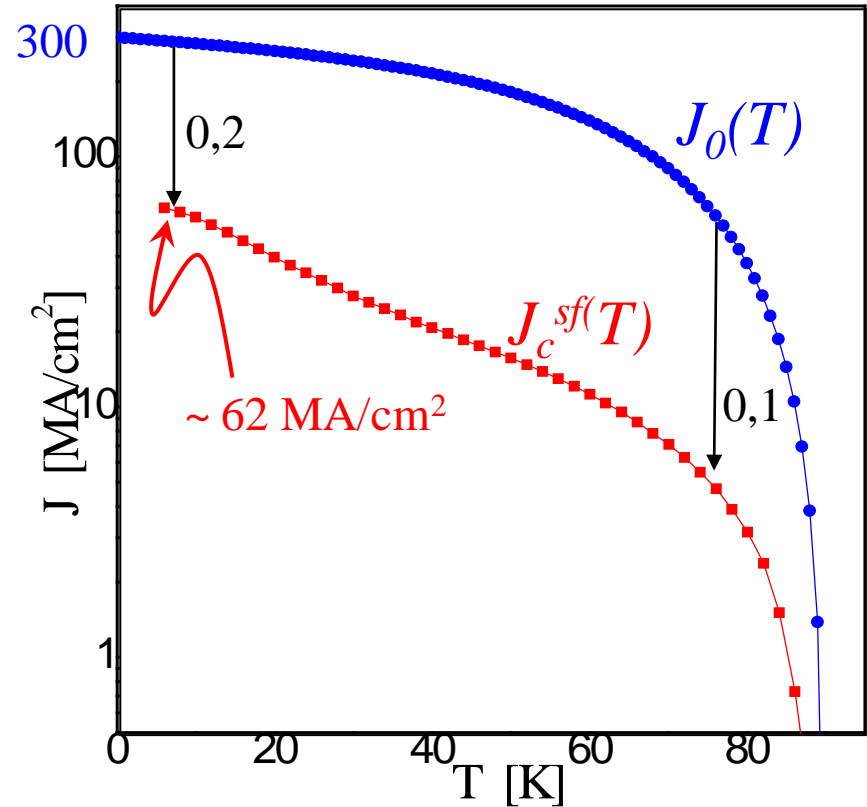


Local lattice strain controls the isotropic contribution to the pinning force responsible for the huge increase in superconducting performance of CSD-YBCO nanocomposites

Plenty of room for improvement for REBCO

For $T \rightarrow 0$, $J_c^{sf}/J_0 \sim 0.2$
 At 77 K, $J_c^{sf}/J_0 \sim 0.1$

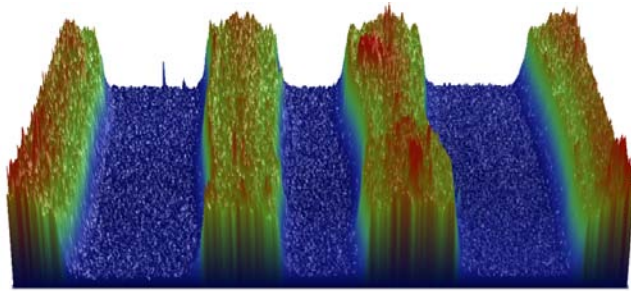
$J_c^{sf}(77\text{K}) < 6-7 \text{ MA/cm}^2$
 $J_0(77\text{K}) \sim 70 \text{ MA/cm}^2$



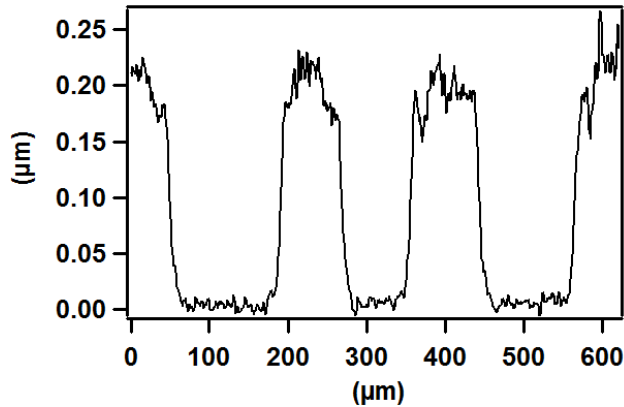
- Theoretical limit: depairing J_c for YBCO
- Practical processes to achieve these performances are required

YBCO Patterning by inkjet printing

Water based solutions



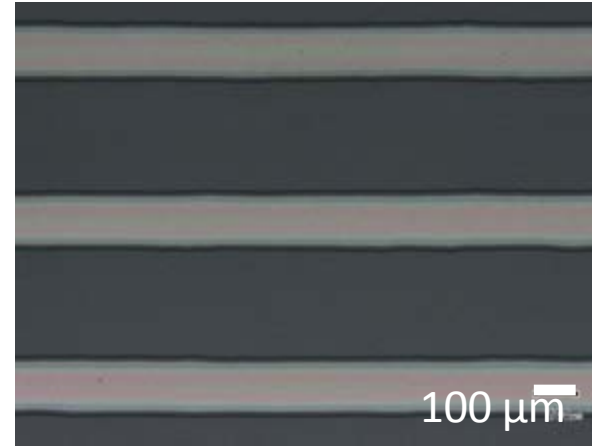
622.7 μm



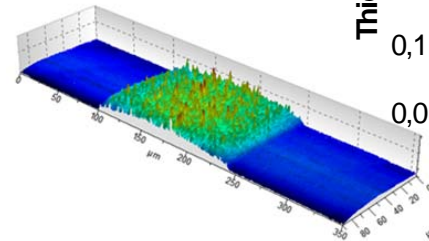
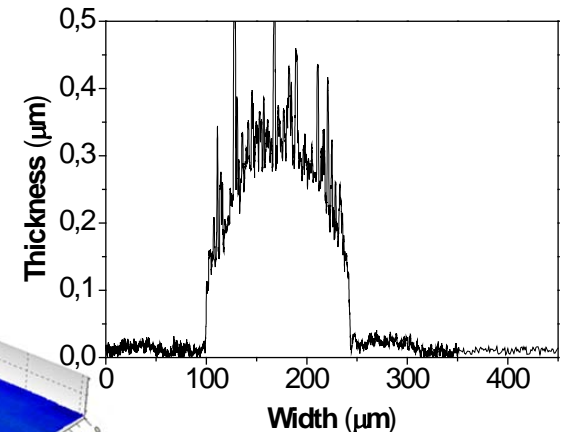
YBCO pattern after a 5 x fold printing sequence, without an intermediate drying step.

The homogeneous lines with average **thickness of 200 nm** at a **width of 200 μm**.

MOD based solutions



100 μm

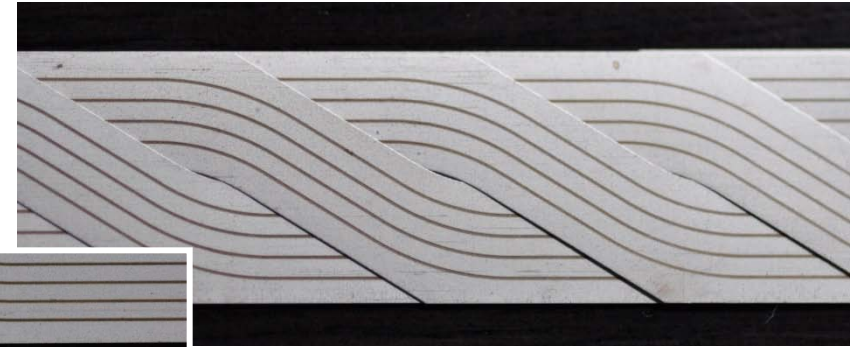
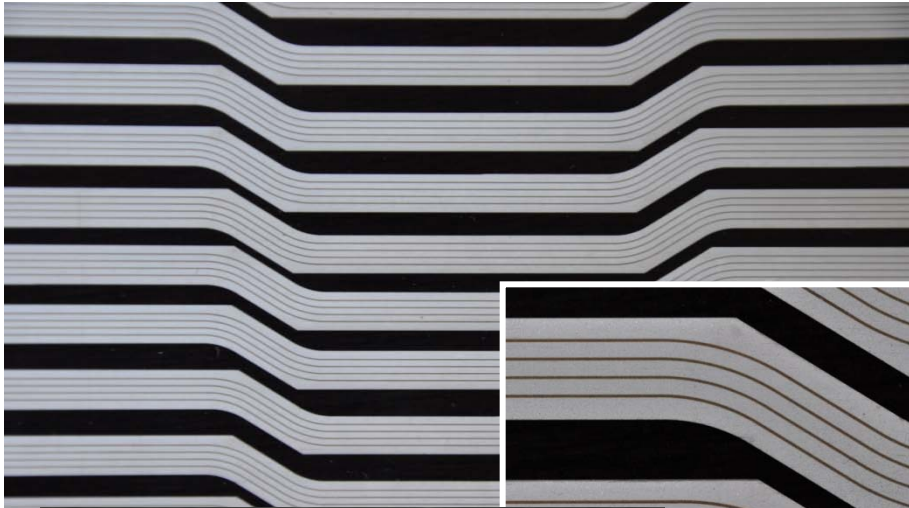


High homogeneity and uniformity along all track length. Tracks are **150 μm x 300 nm**. Similar J_c in all filaments

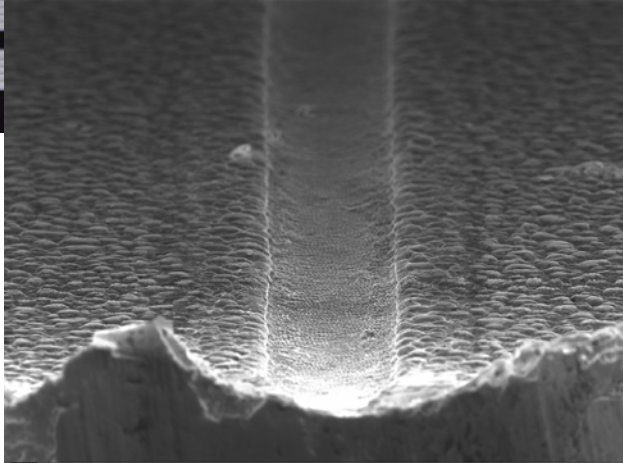
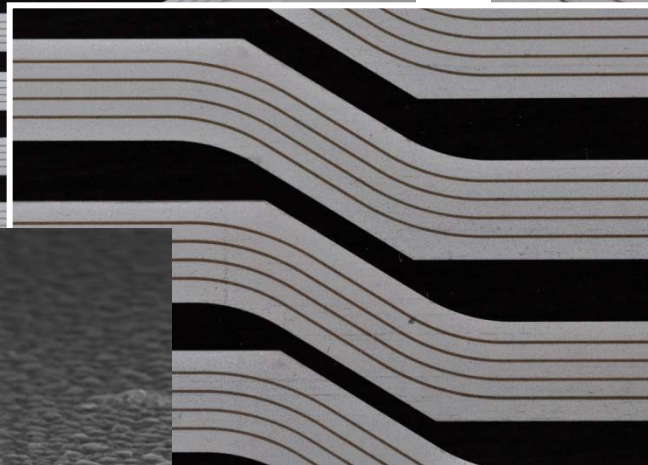
Striated strands in Roebel bars realized by laser grooving

picosec YAG-IR laser

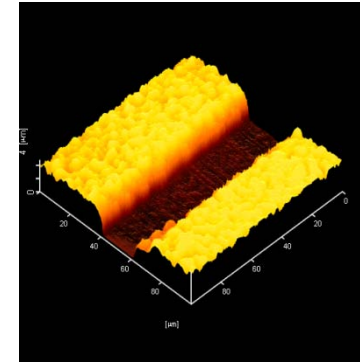
Effect on AC loss reduction seen, some interfilamentary coupling remaining



12 mm width, 5 fil., 25 micron groves

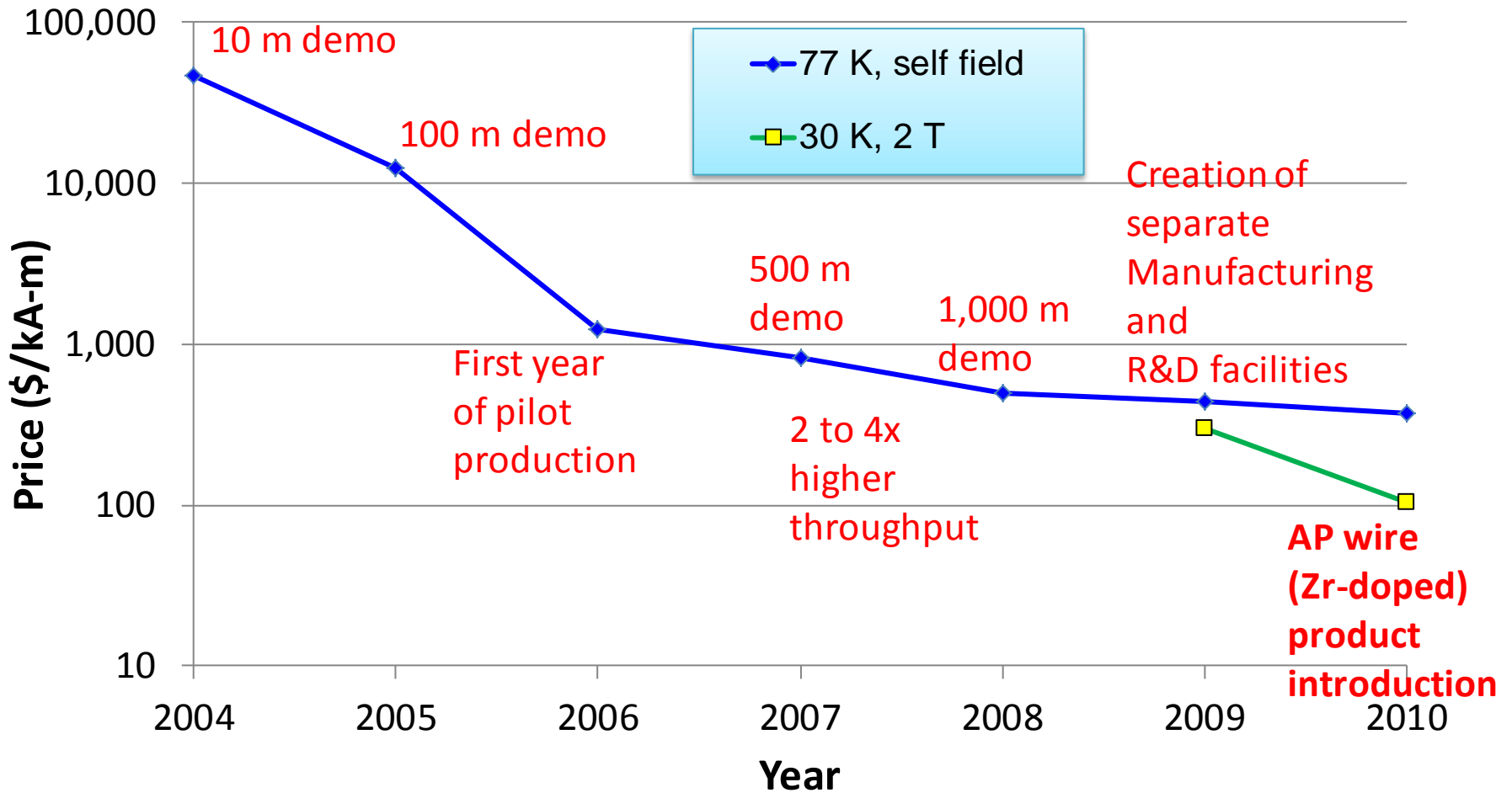


10µm Mag = 1.47 K X Signal A = InLens EHT = 20.00 kV Specimen 1 = 0 Da A. Jung / ITP
WD = 6 mm Aperture Size = 20.00 µm 2928 / 8065



Groove formation very reliable applying IR picosecond laser laser grooving

Rapidly decreasing price of 2G HTS wire through technology advancements



Wire price-performance improved by ~ 200% to ~ \$ 100/kA-m for 30 K, 2 T applications

Roadmap to driving down price

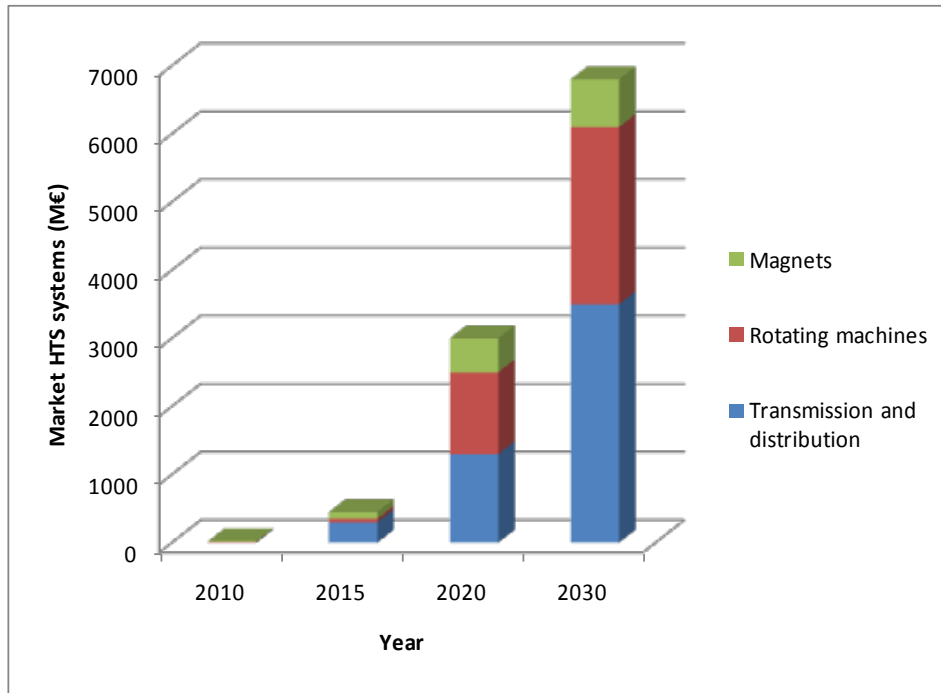
Improving manufacturing process and increasing in-field performance

Time	Performance at 77 K, zero field*	Lift Factor at device operating condition (30K, 2T)	Performance at device operating condition	Wire price (\$/m)	Wire price (\$/kA-m) at device operating condition
Now	100 A	2	200 A	\$ 45	\$225
2 years**	150 A	4	600 A	\$ 40	\$ 67
4 years**	200 A	6	1200 A	\$ 35	\$ 30

* Based 4mm width ** Projections

Improving wire performance is key to success

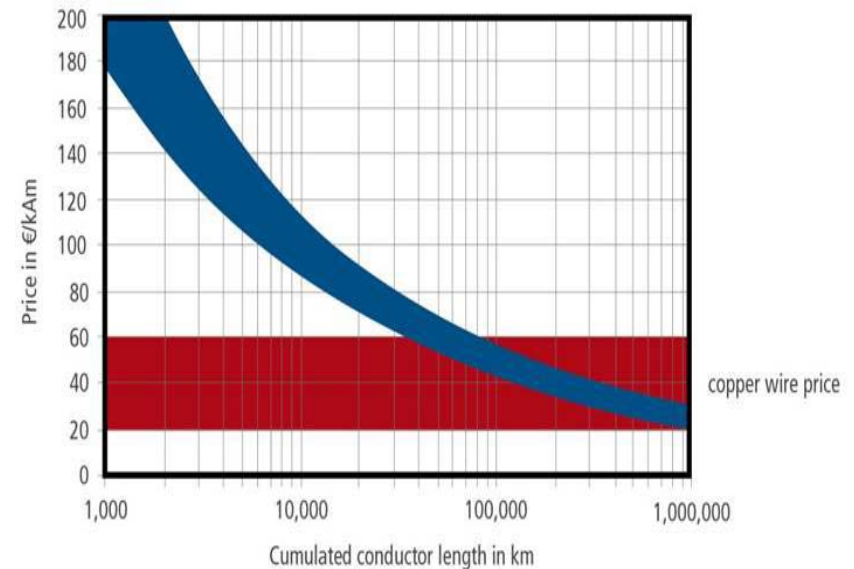
Power applications and CC's: expected market growth and cost decrease



Estimated world market evolution of SC systems









~ 6.5 bn € by 2030 (1.3 bn € in wires)

~ 1.500.000 km/year by 2030 (x 1000 present production)



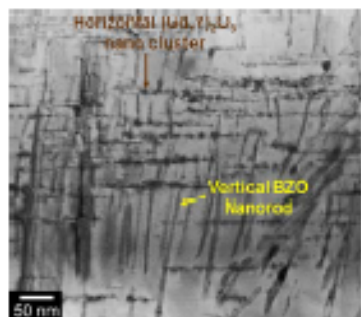
Estimated cost decrease of CC's with cumulated production

Propagation of R&D Results in M-PACC Project

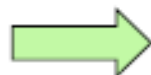
	2013	~	2015	~	2020 ~	
HTS - CC Technology REBCO, C.C. Fabrication Stacked Conductor for Large Current Low AC Loss Winding Tech. High Field Magnet Electric Power Grid (System) Cryogenics	Industry	Level Magnetic Field (Steel Making)		SMES for Voltage Dip Compensation		
		Magnetic Separation			NMR, MRI	
		Industrial DC magnet				
Fault Current Limiter		>MW Class Wind Generator			Heavy Ion Medical Accelerator	
Current Lead						
Transformer (Industry, Large Build.)						
Trans- portation	Ship Propulsion & Industrial Motor				MAGLEV	
		DC Feeder (Train)				
		Transformer (Train & Ship)				
Others	YBCO C.C. Industry Market penetration stage (several tens~several hundreds km/year)		Ultra long length DC Transmission Cable			
	Indoor Distribution Line			YBCO C.C. Industry Enterprising stage (~several thousands km/year)		

4X HTS conductor performance improvements targeted for high power wind generators

- Improved approaches to engineer nanoscale defects in coated conductors in ARPA-E funded program.
- New pilot MOCVD system set up in UH Energy Research Park to rapidly scale up new technology advances to long-length manufacturing.



Engineered nanoscale defects



4x improved wire manufacturing

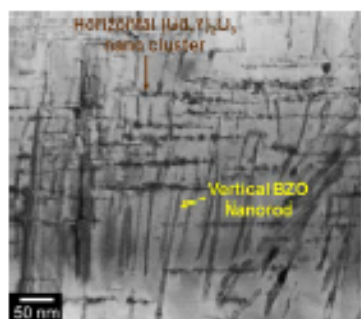


*High-power, Efficient
Wind Turbines*

- *Quadrupling superconductor Performance at 30 K, 2.5 T for commercialization of 10 MW wind generators*
- *Advances will also lead to high-performance HTS conductors for other high-field applications*

4X HTS conductor performance improvements targeted for high power wind generators

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Engineered nanoscale defects



High-power, Efficient

Metric	Now	End of project
Critical current at 30 K, 2.5 T (A/12 mm) (device operating condition)	750	~3000
Wire price at device operating condition (\$/kA-m)	144	36
Estimated HTS wire required for a 10 MW generator (m)	65,000	16,250
Estimated HTS wire cost for a 10 MW generator \$ (,000)	7,020	1,755



32 T User magnet



Goal:

- 32 T, 4.2 K, 32 mm cold bore
- 500 ppm in 10 mm DSV
- 1 hour to full field
- dilution refrigerator <20 mK
- 20 years of operation at NHMFL

Funding:

- \$2M grant from NSF
 - for LTS coils, cryostat, YBCO tape & other components
- Core grant for development of new technology
 - Cover grant shortfall
 - ~ \$8M total expected, ~ \$4M to date

Key Personnel

- Huub Weijers, NHMFL: Project lead
- Denis Markiewicz, NHMFL: Magnet Design
- David Larbalestier, NHMFL: co-PI, SC Materials
- Stephen Julian, Univ. of Toronto: co-PI, Science, potentially the first user

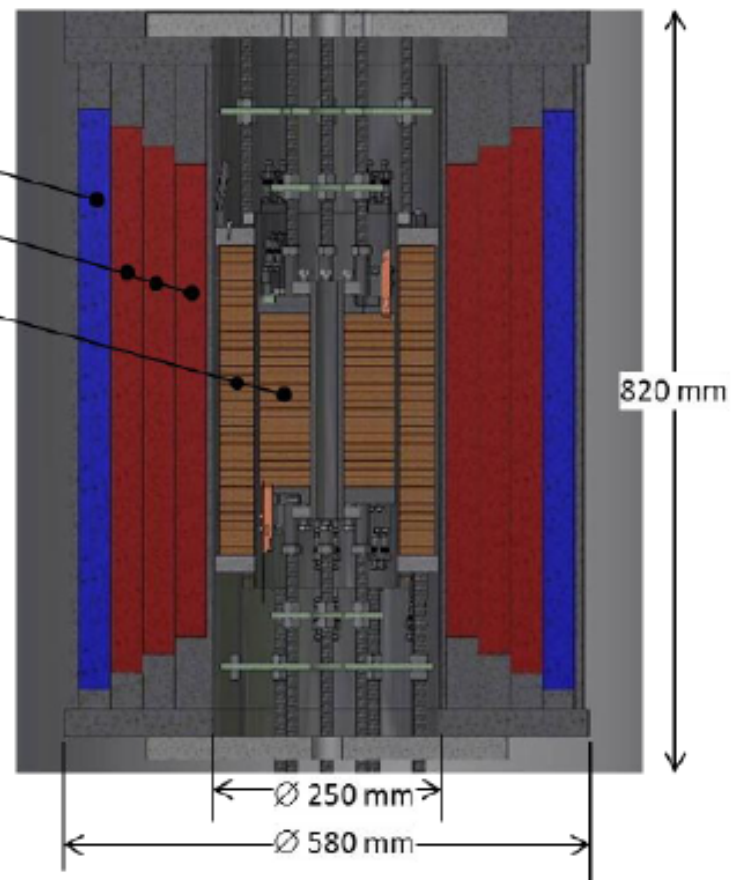
32 T coils:

NbTi

Nb₃Sn

YBCO

(inner and outer coil)



~600 H, 9 MJ



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32 T coils:

- NbTi
- Nb₃Sn
- YBCO
(inner and outer coil)



64.5 mm

~600 H, 9 MJ

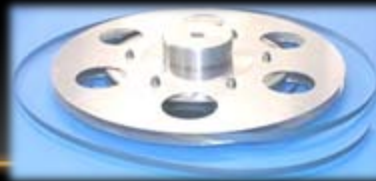
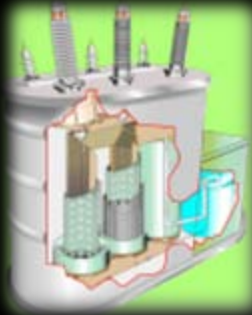
Road for Superconducting World by CC



Marketable

Applicable

Capable



Lower cost and higher performance of conductors is key for propagation!



Propagation

Marketable

Applicable

Capable

