Designing pinning in coated conductors with a view to accelerator magnets

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Leibniz-Institut für Festkörper- und Werkstoffforschung **Dresden**

REBCO excellent for generating high fields

- Today's REBCO CC is an amazing conductor for high field magnets
	- 40 T today, 3 all superconducting 26-27 T magnets demonstrated in K, J and USA, 32 T expected soon
	- No Insulation (NI) is allowing (small) magnets to operate at the 1000 A/mm² level safely
- 4 K magnets deliver "Pull" but can they deliver profitability?

David Larbalestier, 1PL Plenary Talk to the Applied Superconductivity Conference, Denver CO September 5, 2016 $39/55$

Bruker: Processing up-scaling: 602-609 m long tapes: Tapes have 'mixed' pinning centres

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In field properties at 4.2 K upto 31 T (without APC)

❏ Large variation $@$ B// ab-plane. Homogeneous and small slope at high field (> 15 T) ω B// □ c.

 \Box All the data were measured with 4 mm width tape.

I will discuss pinning developed with PLD but this is applicable also to physical vapour, e.g. e-beam, MOCVD

Choosing your pinning additions (perovskites based on Ba, rare earth oxides)

a

Y Ba O Cu

Ba(Zr,Hf,Sn)O₃ Ba₂Y(Nb,Ta)O₆ RE₂O₃

The different types of pinning centres in PVD-grown films

H Zhou et al, Sup Sci Tech, Vol 22, 2009 J Gazquez et al, Sup Sci Tech, Vol 25, 2012 Matsumoto et al, IEEE Trans. Appl. Supercon, 19 (3) 2009

Geometry, distribution, strain with matrix

- Chemistry of pinning addition (or combination of additions)
- % addition
- \triangleright Q. How do processing conditions (growth method, growth rate, growth temperature) influence above?
- A. Need to understand basic materials chemistry *and* nucleation and growth

Defect types and how they behave with *H* (~77K)

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Mixed defect structure can be engineered by playing with thermodynamics and kinetics

 $d - 20$ nm

 Y/B
column

 $r \sim 4$ nm

C.V. Varanasi et al, J Mater Res, Vol 23, No 12, 2008

 $\frac{\eta_{\ell\eta_{\ell}}}{\eta_{\ell}}$

 5_{nm}

 20_{nm}

 (a)

 (b)

 (c)

 (d)

 (e)

At 77K, BYNO and BYTO columns + $RE₂O₃$ gives superior angular properties over a wide angular range

Jc MA/cm2

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Good control of variety of pinning nanostructures for 77K optimisation on metal

WAMHTS, FP7-EuCARD2 project, Barcelona, 15-17 Feb. 2017

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Good control of variety of pinning nanostructures for 77K optimisation

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BYNTO behaves very well over a wide field regime. Up to 10K, 12T, the data looks very good, but still not studied at very high fields or 4K

500 nm thick films

ENEA, UCAM, KIT

F. Rizzo er al., under review 2017

Energy and Sustainable Economic Developmer

Kinetics of pinning addition growth most important for dimensional control. 4 important factors: Binary oxide m.p., complexity of phase, % addition, whether source is in film

Comparing Nb, Sn, Ta, Zr which form the perovskite pinning centres:

Lattice parameters similar (4.20-4.22 Å) as are ionic radiil (Nb being smallest (0.64 Å).

Melting points (°C): **Nb**2O5= 1512C , **Sn**O2 =1630C, **Ta**2O5 =1872C , **Zr**O2 = 2715C

Tantalate is the finest, since creating DP rather than SP is kinetically limiting.

For very high fields, we need dense, very fine, random NP

Tantalates ideal as m.p. of Ta₂O₅ high and DP ("poor kinetics") \rightarrow hence low mobility

High levels of Zr work well both for 77K and 4.2K A lot of other pinning additions should do so as well

Finally: **Cost of conductor very important**. **Need fast-grown conductors.** This can be done with liquid additions while still maintaining strong pinning

BYNO still self assembles in presence of liquid at very fast growth. An *additiona*l 'poor kinetics' phase needed for high field, low T

BYNO + liquid-in-epitaxy (LiE) processed YBCO. Good 77K performance at very high growth rates $(1 \mu m/min)$

Much work to be done for low T, high field applications. Most work has been done for 77K, but the regimes are very different.

- Pinning centre size and distribution influenced by their chemistry.
- Mix of random and correlated is good for most regimes of field and temperature below 77K and at high fields.
- Very fine nanostructures needed. This means high melting point binary precursors of the perovskite B-site ion. Otherwise, you need to grow too fast and that is detrimental to YBCO crystallinity.
- High performance, cost-effective conductors are essential. Strong pinning and reduced cost by fast liquid growth should be considered *together*.

