Designing pinning in coated conductors with a view to accelerator magnets

## J.L. MacManus-Driscoll



# Acknowledgments



This work was supported by EUROTAPES, a collaborative project funded by the European Commission's Seventh Framework Program (FP7/2007–2013) under Grant Agreement no. 280432.







Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development

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/mm<sup>2</sup> 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





# 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) @ B// c.

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)



57 La	58 Ce	59 Pr	Nd	Pm	62 Sm	Eu	Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	Er HV X	Tm	70 Yb
AC	90 Th 202.04	91 Pa 201.M	92 U 236.63	93 Np	Pu Pu	Am	Cm	97 Bk	98 Cf	99 Es	100 Fm	101 Md	102 No

Cu a

Y

Ba

0

#### $Ba(Zr, Hf, Sn)O_3 = Ba_2Y(Nb, Ta)O_6$ RE<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>



# 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
- 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)



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

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



d~20nm

Y/B .

x=0.05

r~4nm

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



11111111

20 nm

5 nm

(a)

(b)

(c)

(d)

(e)

## At 77K, BYNO and BYTO columns + RE<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> gives superior angular properties over a wide angular range



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



CAMBRIDGE



CAMBRIDGE WAMH

# 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



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



F. Rizzo er al., under review 2017

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): Nb2O5= 1512C , SnO2 =1630C, Ta2O5 =1872C , ZrO2 = 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  $Ta_2O_5$  high and DP ("poor kinetics")  $\rightarrow$  hence low mobility



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

CAMBRIDGE

#### 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*.

