



# Superconductivity and its applications

## Lecture 8



## **Carmine SENATORE**







## Previously, in lecture 7

	<i>T<sub>c</sub></i> [K]	<i>B</i> <sub><i>c</i>2</sub> [T]
NbTi	9.8	10.5
Nb <sub>3</sub> Sn	18.0	30+
MgB <sub>2</sub>	39.0	10-60

Alloy Easy to produce in multifilamentary wires Wires does not need reaction heat treatment

Intermetallic compounds Three different fabrication technologies Wires must be reacted after fabrication

#### Key parameter for J<sub>c</sub> optimization

**NbTi**  $\rightarrow \alpha$ -Ti precipitates acts as pinning centers

 $Nb_{3}Sn \rightarrow Grain morphology (pinning) and composition/doping (B<sub>c2</sub>)$ 

 $MgB_2 \rightarrow Doping (B_{c2})$  and connectivity (densification)

## **Previously, in lecture 7**

*MgB*<sub>2</sub> *wires: fabrication by powder metallurgy* 



Monofilamentary wire

## **Previously, in lecture 7** Relevant HTS families



### A quick introduction to the HTS phase diagram



#### Band (Bloch-Wilson) insulator



### HTS are copper oxides The undoped parent compounds are antiferromagnetic Mott insulators

### A quick introduction to the HTS phase diagram



Hole doping p

Only one electron per site but the strong Coulomb repulsion between the electrons impedes their flow

On the top of that the antiferromagnetic interaction

### A quick introduction to the HTS phase diagram



## Layered structure and Anisotropy



Charge carriers have effective masses that depend on the crystallographic orientation

 $\frac{m_c}{m_{ab}}$  ranges between 50 and 10'000 in cuprates

The superconductor lengths depend on the carrier mass:  $\xi \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}}$  and  $\lambda \propto \sqrt{m}$ 

## Anisotropy of the critical fields B<sub>c1</sub> and B<sub>c2</sub>



#### The superconductor anisotropy parameter

m	m <sub>c</sub>	$\lambda_{c}$	ξab		Bi2212	Bi2223	Y123
$\gamma = \sqrt{2}$	m <sub>ab</sub> =	$=\frac{1}{\lambda_{ab}}=$	$=\frac{\xi_c}{\xi_c}$	γ	~150	~30	~7



## The BiSrCaCuO (BSCCO) family

	Bi2201	<b>Bi2212</b>	Bi2223
<i>a</i> [Å]	5.362	5.415	5.413
<i>b</i> [Å]	5.374	5.421	5.421
<i>c</i> [Å]	24.622	30.880	37.010
# of adiacent CuO <sub>2</sub> planes	1	2	3
<i>T<sub>c</sub></i> [K]	15	91	110
<i>B</i> <sub>c2</sub> <sup>//ab</sup> [Τ]	<b>15-20</b>	>100	>100
Anisotropy γ	>150	150	30
$\gamma$	$=\sqrt{\frac{m_c}{m_{ab}}}=$	$\frac{B_{c1}^{ab}}{B_{c1}^c} = \frac{B_{c2}^c}{B_{c2}^{ab}}$	



These 2 parameters are correlated





## **Bi2223 conductor technology** Powder-in-Tube fabrication process (PIT)

Hikata et al., Jap. J. App. Phys. <u>28</u> (1989) 82



## **Bi2223 conductor technology** Precursor powders preparation

- 1. Mixture of  $CuC_2O_4 \cdot 2.5H_2O$ ,  $Bi_2(C_2O_4)+H_2O$ ,  $PbC_2O_4$ ,  $CaC_2O_4 \cdot H_2O$  and  $SrC_2O_4 \cdot 2.5H_2O$
- 2. Repeated calcinations to decompose oxalates and eliminate carbon and water (thermal treatment in air at 300-500°C for 1 to 5 hours)
- 3. Multiple steps of hand grinding and reaction at 700-800°C in air

1, 2 and 3 are necessary to eliminate the carbon impurities, obtain Bi2212 (!) as main phase and limit the grain size to about 2-5  $\mu$ m

The result is a mixture of Bi2212 (75-80%), Bi2201 (~5%), Ca<sub>2</sub>PbO<sub>4</sub> (10%) and CuO

Overall composition close to Bi<sub>2</sub>Sr<sub>2</sub>Ca<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>10</sub>

## Bi2223 conductor technology

#### Ag is permeable to $O_2$





Platelet-like Bi2212 grains are aligned with parallel c-axis (texturing) during the wire-to-tape (rolling) deformation

**Reaction** also leads to the  $CO_2$  formation in the filaments  $\Rightarrow$  bubbles  $\Rightarrow$  de-densification



## Bi2223 conductor technology

#### Ag is permeable to $O_2$





## Bi2223 tapes: evolution of I<sub>c</sub> vs. year (77K, self-field)





## Bi2223 tapes: engineering critical current density J<sub>e</sub>



#### http://fs.magnet.fsu.edu/~lee/plot/plot.htm

**Bi2212 conductor technology** 

Heine et al., APL <u>55</u> (1989) 2441 Enomoto et al., Jap. J. App. Phys. <u>29</u> (1990) L447



AEC

CF

### **Bi2212 conductor technology**

Heine et al., APL <u>55</u> (1989) 2441 Enomoto et al., Jap. J. App. Phys. <u>29</u> (1990) L447



### **Bi2212 conductors are multifilamentary** *round* **wires**

## Bi2212 Powder-In-Tube round wires: Some facts

Ag







- The intrinsic anisotropy of Bi2212 is higher compared to Bi2223
- However, it is not necessary to deform the Bi2212 conductors to flat tapes in order to get high J<sub>c</sub>

0.8 mm Filling factor is ~25-30%



- Melting and recrystallization during the heat treatment determines a gradual rotation of the c-axis of grains around the wire axis
- The advantage is that Bi2212 conductors do not have preferential orientation with respect to the magnetic field
- The disadvantage is that Bi2212 can usefully operate only up to ~20K, while Bi2223 can operate at 77K, s.f.

## **Bi2212: Powder-In-Tube round wires** Filament structure



Large bubbles form on melting and holding at T<sub>max</sub> during the heat treatment



Bubbles can be partially filled on resolidification and Bi2212 reformation, but many voids remain



F. Kametani et al., SuST 24 (2011) 075009

### How do we get high J<sub>c</sub> in Bi2212 wires ? The "secret" of its recent success

#### **OVERPRESSURE (up to 100 bar) during the heat treatment prevents** the formation of bubbles

To increase the current carrying cross section

Larbalestier et al., Nat. Mat. <u>13</u> (2014) 375



## **Bi2212: reaction in overpressure (OP)** Enhancement of J<sub>c</sub>: 2500 A/mm<sup>2</sup> at 20 T and 4.2 K



Reaction in OP is very effective to reduce porosity and thus raise J<sub>c</sub>

#### **Related papers:**

D. Larbalestier et al., Nat. Mat. <u>13</u> (2014) 375 J. Jiang et al., IEEE TAS 23 (2013) 6400206 J. Jiang et al., SuST 24 (2011) 082001



## $YBCO - Y123 - YBa_2Cu_3O_{7-x}$ : Some facts



- Discovered by C. P. Chu soon after Bednorz&Müller LaBaCuO
- 1st material with T<sub>c</sub> > 77K
- SC @ 92K not only with Y, but with many RE

	Y123	
<i>a</i> [Å]	3.8227	
<i>b</i> [Å]	3.8872	
<i>c</i> [Å]	11.680	
# of adjacent CuO <sub>2</sub> planes	2	
<i>T<sub>c</sub></i> [K]	92	
B <sub>c2</sub> <sup>//ab</sup> [T]	>100	
anisotropy γ	7-8	$\gamma = \sqrt{\frac{m_c}{m_c}} =$
		$\mathbf{N} \boldsymbol{m}_{ab}$

 $B_{c2}^{ab}$ 

$$\frac{b}{a} \approx 1.001$$
 in BSCCO, whereas  $\frac{b}{a} \approx 1.02$  in YBCO

## **Bibliography**

Rogalla & Kes 100 Years of Superconductivity Chapter 11 Section 4 (Bi2223 & Bi2212)

Fosshein & Sudbø Superconductivity: Physics and Applications Chapter 2

Papers cited in the slides