YBa₂Cu₃O_{7-x} Film with Nanoscale Ba₂YNbO₆ + Ba₂YTaO₆ Inclusions for High Magnetic Field Applications

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Abstract - Structural and transport properties of YBa₂Cu₃O_{7-x} films obtained by pulsed laser deposition with incorporated Ba₂YTaO₆ and mixed Ba₂YTaO₆ and Ba₂YNbO₆ (Ba₂Y(Nb/Ta)O₆) double perovskite secondary phases are investigated in an extended temperature and magnetic field range. The effects of the different doping and the film growth kinetics on the microstructure were studied. The Ba₂YTaO₆ truncated nanosized columns are modified into continuous columns in case of mixed Ba₂Y(Nb/Ta)O₆ incorporation. High growth rates promote a peculiar microstructure characterized by the formation of Ba₂Y(Nb/Ta)O₆ splayed columns decorated by Y₂O₃ nanoparticles, very effective for flux pinning in a wide temperature and magnetic field range. Based on J_c measurements, the vortex pinning behaviour of Ba₂Y(Nb/Ta)O₆ films are discussed and compared with BaZrO₃ doped films showing the high potentiality of mixed Ba₂Y(Nb/Ta)O₆ inclusions in perspective of the applications of REBa₂Cu₃O_{7-x} coated conductors in a broad range of conditions.

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