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Strong Reduction of T_cSuppression by Magnetic Field in $YBa_2Cu_3O_{7+x}$ Films with Dispersed Nanoparticles E. CIMPOIASU, J. D. FELDMANN, U. S. Naval Academy, C. V. VARANASI, T. J. HAUGAN, P. N. BARNES, G. A. LEVIN, Air Force Research Laboratory — Improvements in the critical current density J_c in applied magnetic fields are of great importance for applications of the $YBa_2Cu_3O_{7-x}$ coated conductors. Nanosize inclusions have shown to be effective in increasing J_c , but the precise physical mechanisms of their action remains elusive. A broader range of experiments is needed in order to elucidate the physics of this phenomenon. Here we discuss the magnetic field H- and temperature T-dependence of the resistivity of thin films in the normal state and near T_c . Pure YBCO films will be compared with those that contain either dispersed Y_2O_3 nanoparticles or BaSnO₃ nanorods. The resistance of highly c-axis oriented YBCO films was measured by the Montgomery method in the range 20 K < T <300 K and in fields up to 9 T. The films with inclusions show a much sharper and less broadened in-field transition (smaller T_c suppression by field) than pure YBCO. This correlates well with increased J_c measured by conventional methods and indicates increased pinning strength at all temperatures. In order to further identify the signatures of the nano-inclusions, the samples were annealed in air at 420 deg C. The changes induced by the annealing will be discussed. This work was partially supported by AFOSR and the AFRL Propulsion Directorate.

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