# High-Performance & High-Temperature Permanent Magnets

May 2007, Purdue University

高性能、高温永磁材料 2007年5月于普度大学



## **Magnetic Material Applications**



### **Air Force Applications and Requirements**

#### Applications

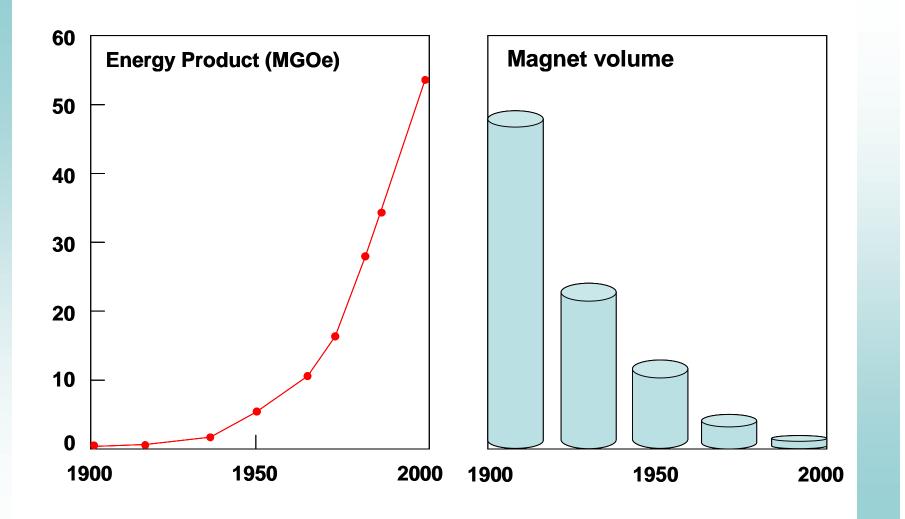
- Power system
- Control system
- Weapon

#### Requirements

- High performance: (BH)<sub>max</sub> > 50 MGOe
- High operating temperatures: up to ~450°C



# **Advance of Permanent Magnets**



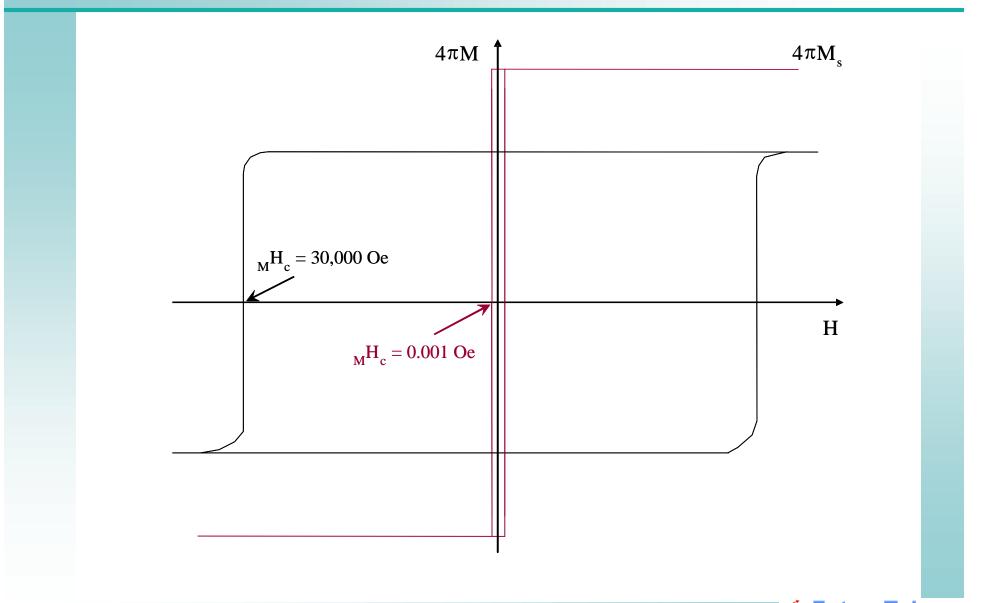
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## **Approach to Further Advance**

- Maximum energy product (BH)<sub>max</sub>
- Saturation magnetization:  $4\pi M_s$
- $\Box (BH)_{max} \propto (4\pi M_s)^2$
- Permanent magnet with highest  $4\pi M_s$  and  $(BH)_{max}$ 
  - Nd<sub>2</sub>Fe<sub>14</sub>B
  - $4\pi M_{\rm s} = 16 \ kG$
  - (BH)<sub>max</sub> ≈ 26 45 MGOe (commercial), 53 56 MGOe (lab)
- $\Box$  4 $\pi$ M<sub>s</sub> of soft magnetic materials
  - Fe: 22.5 kG
  - Fe-Co: 24.5 kG
- Approaches
  - Search for new compounds with  $4\pi M_s > 16 \text{ kG}$
  - Make composite Nd<sub>2</sub>Fe<sub>14</sub>B/Fe-Co magnets

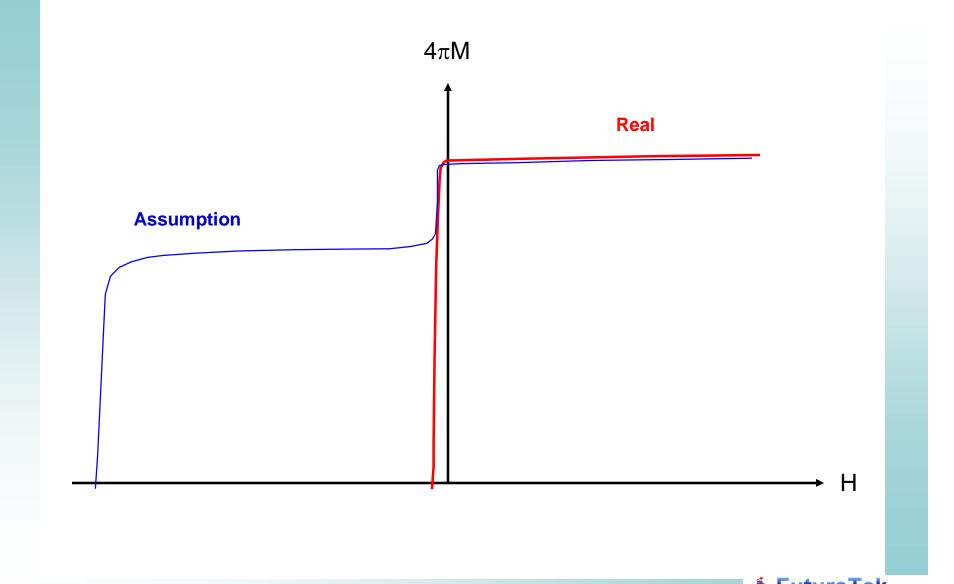


#### **Concept of Hard/Soft Composite Magnets**



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## **Conventional Composite** Nd<sub>2</sub>Fe<sub>14</sub>B/α-Fe Magnets





### **Previous Status of Nanocomposite** Nd<sub>2</sub>Fe<sub>14</sub>B/α-Fe Magnets

- □ In 1988, the Philips group obtained  $_{M}H_{c} = 3 \text{ kOe in}$ nanocomposite Nd<sub>2</sub>Fe<sub>14</sub>B/Fe<sub>3</sub>B alloy
- Worldwide extensive R&D had been followed in 1990s with expectation of (BH)<sub>max</sub> ~ 80 – 100 MGOe
- Two major technical difficulties in developing nanocomposite magnets
  - How to make a **bulk, fully dense** nanocomposite magnet?
  - How to make a high-performance **anisotropic** magnet?
- Status of nanocomposite magnets prior to UD/FutureTek's R&D
  - Only ribbons, thin films, or powders could be made
  - Only isotropic materials could be made with (BH)<sub>max</sub> = 10 20 MGOe
  - Bulk bonded magnets with  $(BH)_{max} = 5 10 MGOe$

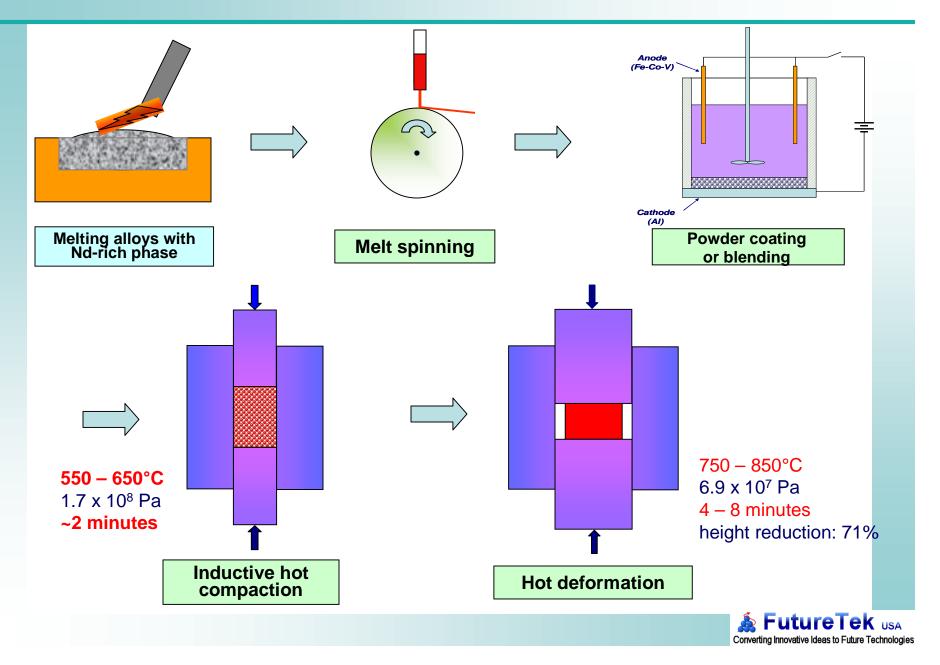


## **Innovative Approach**

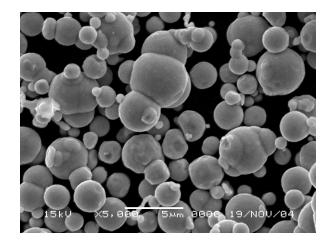
- Melting alloys with Nd-rich phase
- Melt spinning: amorphous Nd-Fe-B alloys
- Blending or coating Nd-Fe-B power with soft magnetic material powder, such as α-Fe or Fe-Co
- Rapid inductive hot compaction: to form a bulk isotropic magnets
- □ *Hot deformation*: to form anisotropic magnets

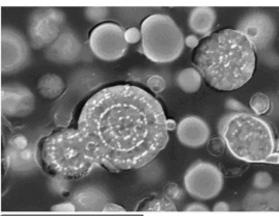


## **Approach and Process**



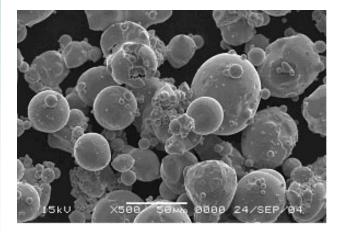
#### *α-Fe and Fe-Co Powder Particles*

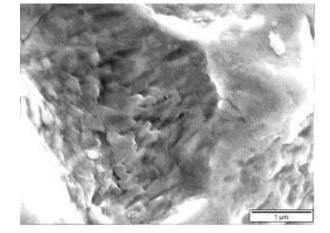




Bectron Image 1

α**-Fe** 3 – 5 microns

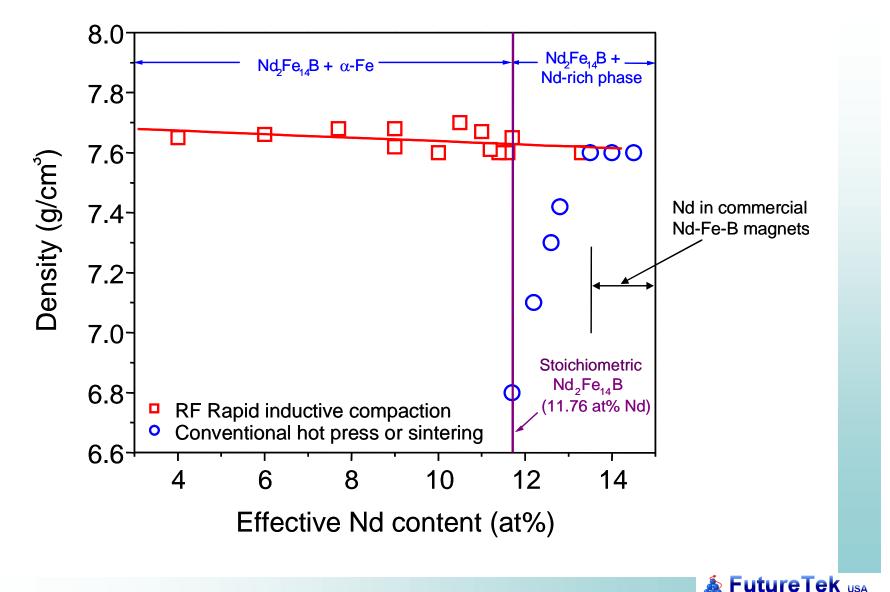




Fe-Co 20 – 50 microns

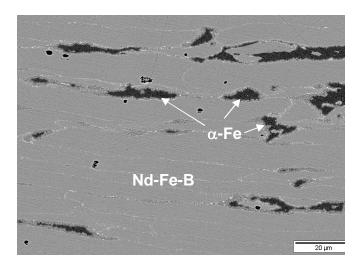


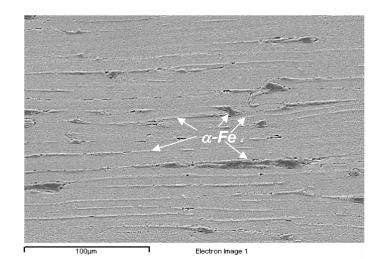
## **Comparison of Compactions**

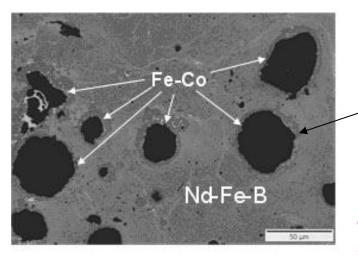


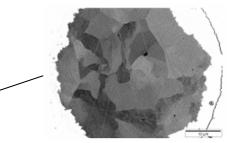
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### **Microstructures after Hot Deformation**





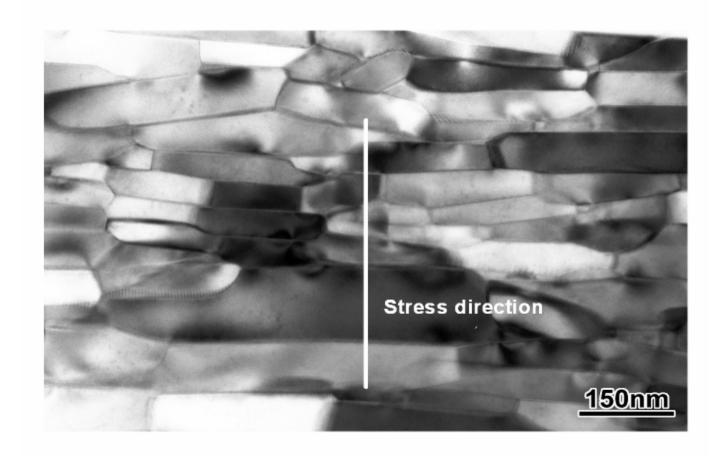




The soft phase is more than 1000 times as large as the upper size limit predicted by the current model of exchange coupling

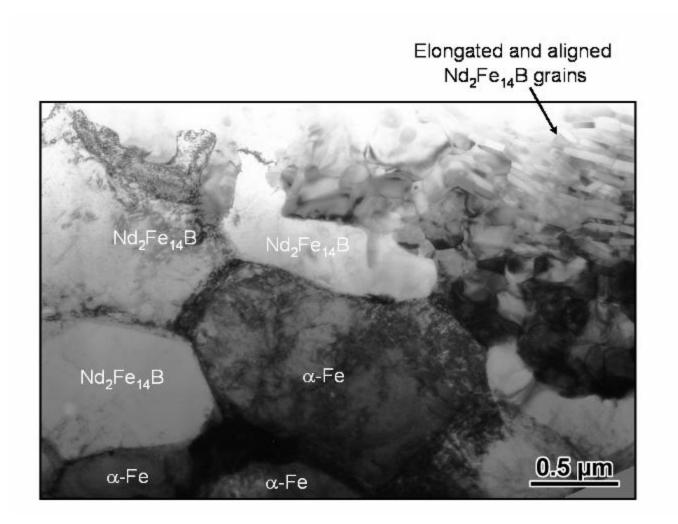


### TEM Micrograph of Matrix Phase of Nd<sub>13.5</sub>Fe<sub>80</sub>Ga<sub>0.5</sub>B<sub>6</sub>/α-Fe (95%/5%)



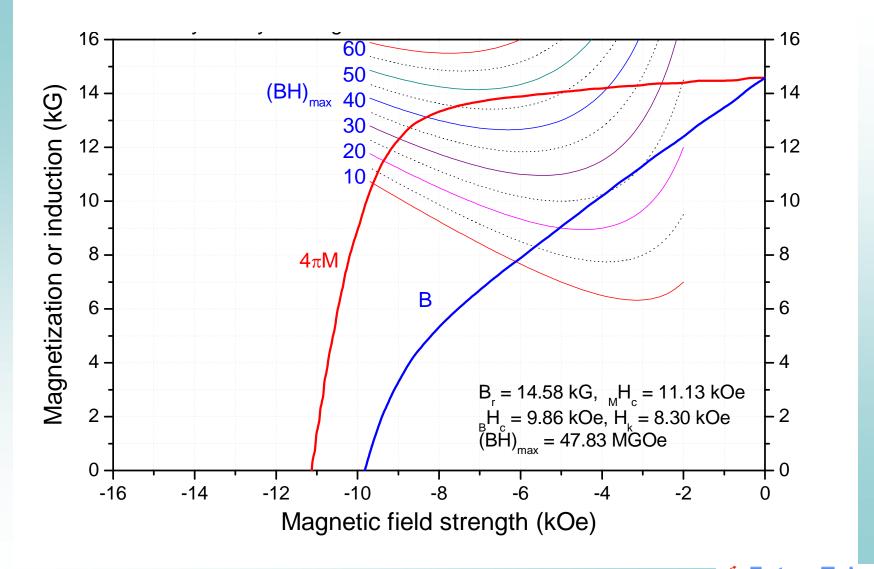


### TEM Micrograph of Hard/Soft Interface of Nd<sub>13.5</sub>Fe<sub>80</sub>Ga<sub>0.5</sub>B<sub>6</sub>/α-Fe (95%/5%)





### Magnetic Properties of a Nd<sub>13.5</sub>Fe<sub>80</sub>Ga<sub>0.5</sub>B<sub>6</sub>/α-Fe (95%/5%) Magnet prepared by Powder Blending



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# **Various Coating Techniques**

#### Sputtering and PLD

- Low deposition rate
- Low oxygen pickup

#### Chemical (electroless) coating

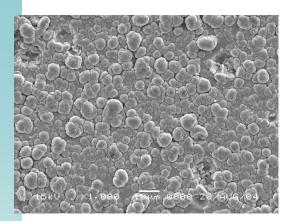
- Low deposition rate
- Low oxygen pickup
- Low cost

#### Electrolytic coating

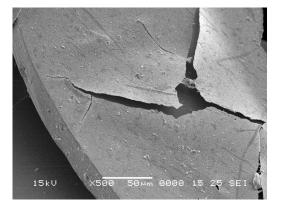
- High deposition rate
- High oxygen pickup

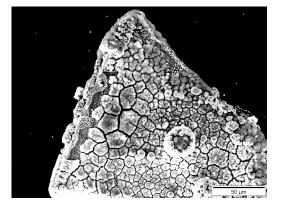


### **Microstructures of Coated Surfaces**

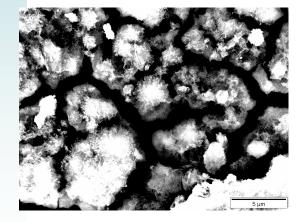


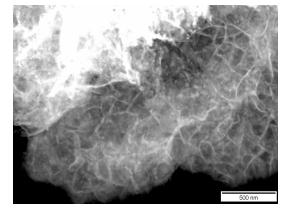
Sputtering for 20 hrs

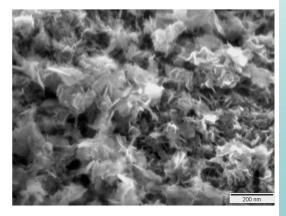




Electrolytic coating for 1 hr



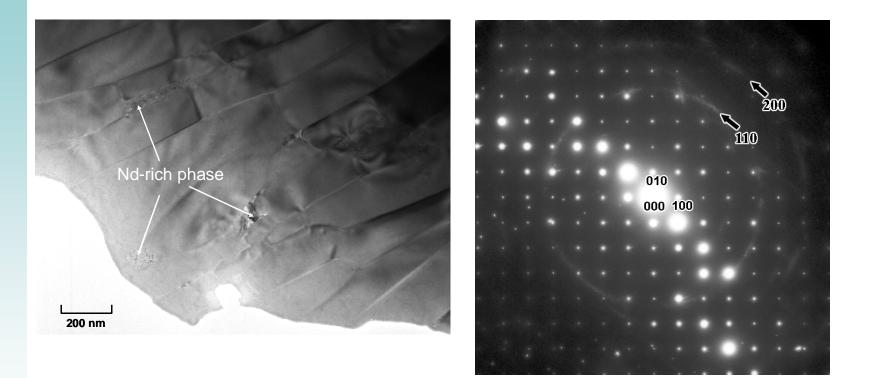




Electrolytic coating for 1 hr

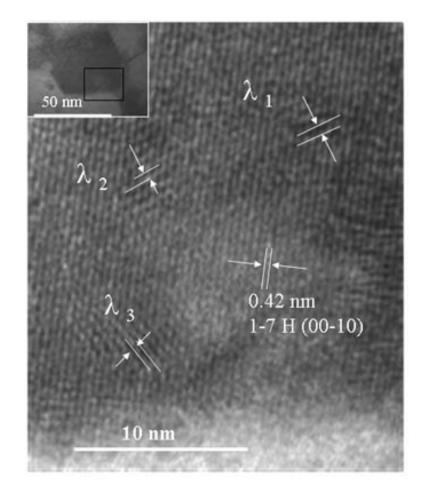


#### TEM Microstructures of a Composite Magnet Prepared by Electrolytic Coating



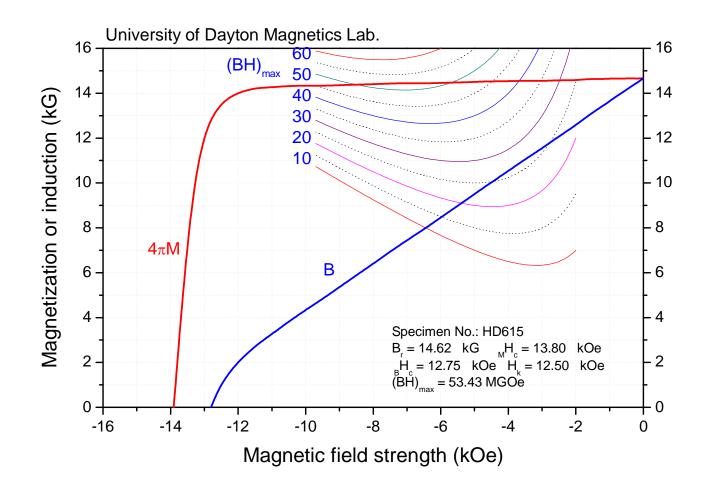


# Fine Structure within a Nanograin





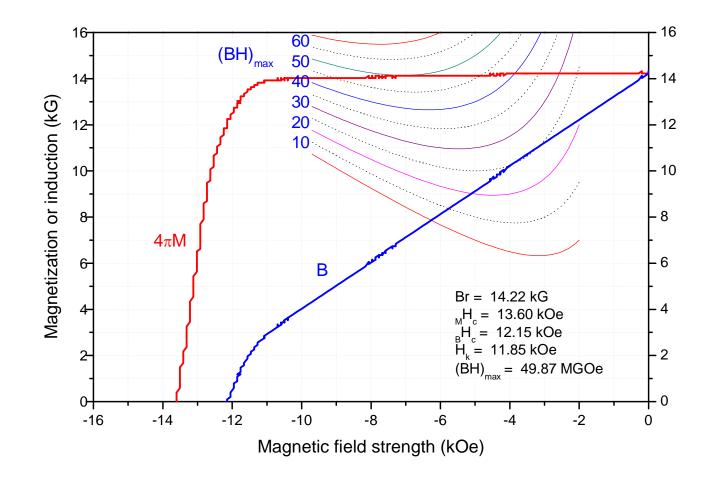
### Magnetic Properties of a Composite Magnet Prepared by Sputtering



 $Nd_{14}Fe_{79.5}Ga_{0.5}B_6/\alpha$ -Fe, DC sputtering for 20 hours, hot compacting at 630°C for 2 minutes, and die upsetting at 930°C for 4 minutes



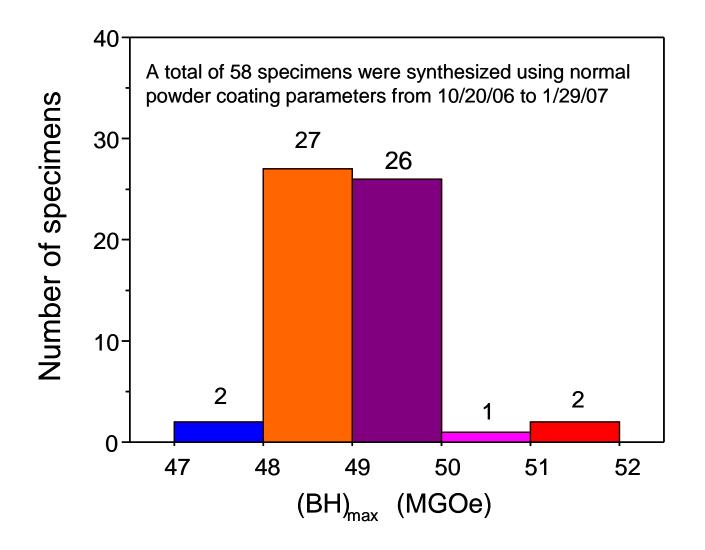
### Magnetic Properties of a Composite Magnet Prepared by Electrolytic Coating



 $FeSO_4/CoSO_4$  solution, I = 0.8 A, V = 15 - 22 volt, time = 20 m.



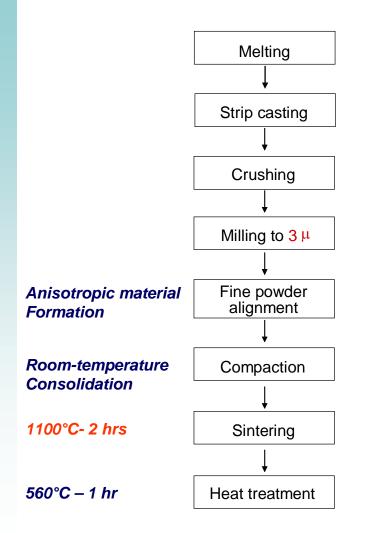
### (BH)<sub>max</sub> Distribution of Specimens Prepared by Electrolytic Coating



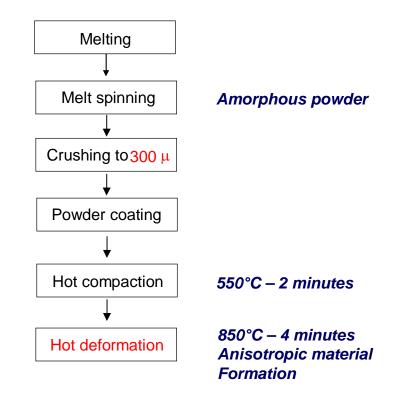
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## **Comparison of Processing**

**Conventional Nd-Fe-B** 



Nanocomposite Nd- Fe-B/α-Fe

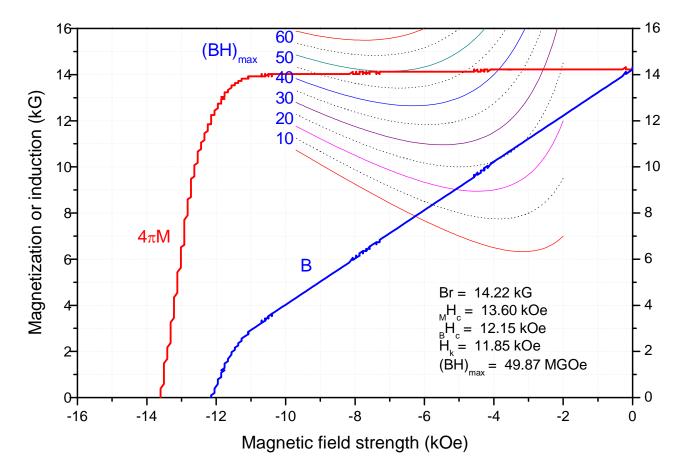


In the new process, the advantage of nanograin structure is fully utilized without the trouble of making and handling nanoparticles



#### Low <sub>M</sub>H<sub>c</sub> leads to Non-Linear B Curve

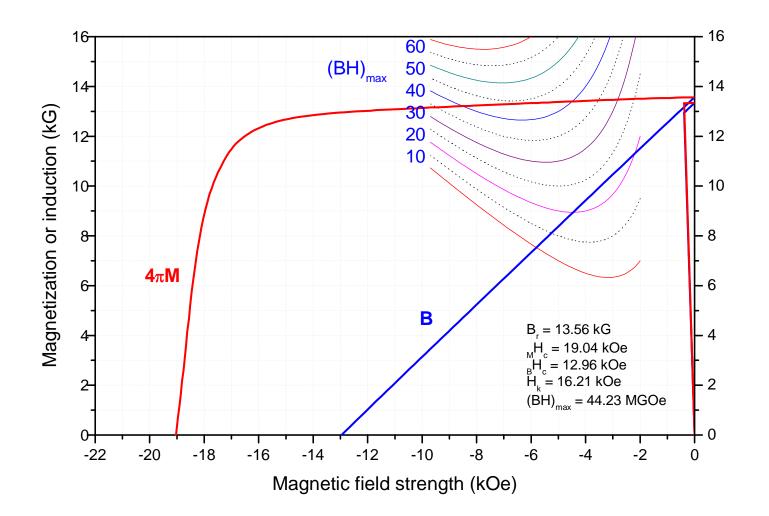
 $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{4}\pi\mathbf{M} + \mathbf{H}$ 



 $FeSO_4/CoSO_4$  solution, I = 0.8 A, V = 15 - 22 volt, time = 20 m.



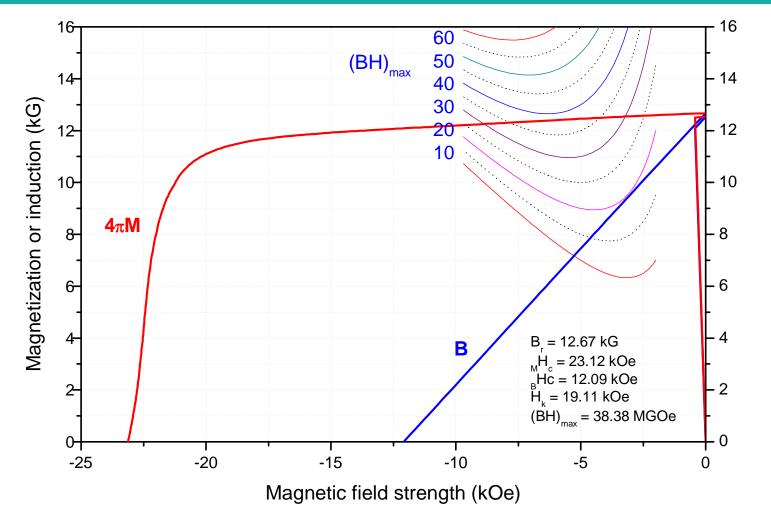
### Nanograin Composite magnets for Elevated Temperature Applications - 1



Operating temperature: up to 130°C



### Nanograin Composite Magnets for Elevated Temperature Applications - 2



Operating temperature: up to 180°C



# **Conclusions**

- Bulk, anisotropic, nanograin composite magnets have been successfully obtained
- □ Using **powder blending technique**,  $(BH)_{max} = ~40$  to ~ 50 MGOe has been accomplished
- Using powder coating (BH)<sub>max</sub> can reach ~45 to ~ 55 MGOe
- Better powder blending and powder coating techniques are yet to be developed
- Hot compaction and hot deformation parameters for coated and blended powders need optimized
- High-performance magnets for 450°C applications are to be developed



## **Acknowledgement**

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- Microstructure analyses were performed by Magnetics Lab., Wright-Patterson Air Force Base

