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#### FIELD OF INTEREST

"Treatment of all matters in which the dominant factors are the fundamental developments, design, and certain applications of magnetic devices. This includes consideration of materials and components as used therein, standardization of definitions, nomenclature, symbols, and operating characteristics; and exchange of information as by technical papers, conference sessions, and demonstrations."

TMRC

**Education:** 

Achievement Award

Awards

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**IEEE Transactions on Magnetics** 

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#### **PUBLICATIONS**

**Society Newsletter** 

**IEEE Magnetics Letters** 



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#### **ACTIVITIES/OUTREACH**



MMM/Intermag (joint w/ AIP)

Graduate Student Summer Schools

**Best Student Presentation at Intermag** 

Shinji Yuasa, "Magnetoresistance and spin

George C. Hadjipanayis, "Science and Technology

of Modern Permanent Magnet Materials"

Masahiro Yamaguchi, "Soft Magnetic Thin Film

torque in magnetic tunnel junctions"

**Distinguished Lecturers 2012** 

**Gerrit Bauer, "Spin Caloritronics"** 

**Applications at Radio Frequencies**"



















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Science and Technology Of Modern Permanent Magnet Materials George C. Hadjipanayis **Department of Physics & Astronomy** University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware, USA hadji@udel.edu

Work supported by DOE, ARPA-E and NSF

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## Outline

- > Brief Introduction to Magnetism
- >Impact on Applications
  - Wind Mill / Electric Car/ Energy Storage
- ➤ (BH)<sub>m</sub> Figure of Merit of Permanent Magnets
- Historical Magnet Development: Dramatic progress in last 100 yrs Interplay Between Theory and Experiment

**Challenges/Problems: Current Problems with Rare Earths** 

- Drive Towards RE-lean and Higher (BH)<sub>m</sub>: Anisotropic Nanocomposites
- ✓ Bottom-up Approach: Nanoparticles/Nanoflakes
- **Dy Challenge: Used in PM Motors for EV/HEV**
- Non-Rare Earth Magnets
- ✓ Fe-Co-X Change Cubic Symmetry
- ✓ New Compounds
- ✓ New Government-funded Programs

## The Magic of Magnets

- Magnets are currently being used in many industrial applications including electric, electronic and automobile industries, communications, information technologies and automatic control engineering.
- Magnets have played a key role in the development of our modern technology.
- ✤ Today, magnets are an integral part of our life.

### Magnets are Everywhere

Not only in the family notes and signs or decorations you stick on your refrigerator.











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## Magnets are Everywhere

First of all, most of electricity is generated using magnets







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## The Unsung Hero of Modern Technology



Motors used in cars, airplanes and everywhere!!



Magnetic Cranes



Magnetic Levitation Train (v>250mph)



**MRI** 







Roller Coaster in Six Flags in Southern CA(v>100mph)

And many, many more.....

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#### Automotive Devices Using Magnets and Magnetic Materials



Cooling Fan Motor Crankshaft Position Sensor Emission Control Vent Motors Fuel Pump Motor Idle Speed Control Starter Motor Throttle Position Sensor

Antenna Lift Motor Headlight Door Motors Headlight Aiming Motors Mirror Positioning Motos Windshield Wash Pump Motor Windshield Wiper Motor

Transmission Shift Sensor

magnets are used in more than 30 places.



### A Magnetic Perpetual Motion Machine



The US patent office was issuing patents for magnetic perpetual motion machines as late as the 1970's!

### Permanent Magnets in Electric Motors & Generators

The single most important application for permanent magnet materials is in electric motors and power generators.



Alnico magnet

Permanent magnet stator for a dc motor: Size and weight decrease substantially.



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## Applications of Permanent Magnets

#### The strength of permanent magnets (PMs) is the most important parameter that affects the power density and energy efficiency of countless devices.



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## Origin of Magnetism



## Magnetic Domains-Domain Walls

The magnetic moments of ferromagnetic materials are arranged in magnetic domains to reduce the large demagnetization energy due to the large stray fields.





- ♦ Inside each domain the moments are parallel to each other; however, the direction of different domains is random, so in the absence of a magnetic field the net moment is zero.
- The boundaries between the different domains are known as domain walls.
- The magnetic moments can be aligned by the application of a magnetic field.

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## Hysteresis Loops M(H) & B(H)



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## Soft and Hard Magnetic Materials



**Soft Materials: Co, Ni, Fe, NiFe (permalloy)** 

• large Ms ( $4\pi M_s^{Fe} \sim 22 \text{ kG}$ ), low Hc, (narrow loop and therefore, low losses)

• Used where a high magnetic induction and low losses are required such as transformers and biomedical applications.



Hard Materials: Sm-Co, Nd-Fe-B, CoPt, FePt, etc.

- large Ms ( $4\pi M_s^{Nd-Fe-B} \sim 16 \text{ kG}$ ),
- High Hc (> 6 kOe), (wide loop)
- Used where a high remanence is required such as permanent magnets and magnetic recording

### Strength of a Permanent Magnet: Energy Product (BH)<sub>m</sub>



$$H_{
m ag} \sim \sqrt{rac{V_{
m m}(B_{
m m}|H_{
m m})}{V_{
m ag}}}$$

$$(BH)_{\rm m} \sim H^2_{\rm ag} V_{\rm ag} / V_{\rm m}$$

The higher the  $(BH)_m$  the smaller the  $V_m!$ 



## Permanent Magnet Characteristics

♦ Permanent magnets are characterized by:

- A high remanence to produce a large magnetic induction(need texture/alignment obtained by powder metallurgy).
- ★ A high H<sub>c</sub> (H<sub>c</sub> ≥ M<sub>r</sub>/2) to avoid easy demagnetization (need high K and proper microstructure).
- ✤ A high T<sub>c</sub> to resist thermal demagnetization.

 $(BH)_{\rm m} = (4 \pi M_{\rm s}/2)^2$ 

144 MGOe for Fe-Co

- Current high performance permanent magnets are based on Fe(Co)-rich rare-earth alloys:
  - Fe(Co) provides the high magnetization and high Curie temperature.
  - Rare earth metals, such as Sm, Nd, Pr, provide the high anisotropy.

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## Magnetic Anisotropy and Coercivity

**Materials for permanent magnets** must have a large magnetic anisotropy and the proper microstructure that causes the high coercivity.

♦ Magnetic anisotropy is usually caused either by large crystal electric fields (spin orbit coupling), known as magnetocrystalline anisotropy (RE-TM, CoPt) or by the sample shape, shape anisotropy, H<sub>d</sub>= - NM. Magnetocrystalline

Shape anisotropy



 $\bigcirc -\bigcirc -\bigcirc -\bigcirc -\bigcirc -\bigcirc -$ 

**Spin-orbit coupling** 

N = 0N = 1

 $\diamond$  To "convert" the magnetic anisotropy into  $H_c$  the material must have the proper microstructure, which either inhibits the nucleation of reversed domains (nucleation magnets, Nd-Fe-B) or propagation of domain walls (domain wall pinning magnets, Sm(Co,Fe,Cu,Zr),).

Easy axis of magnetization **C-axis for hcp Co.** 



#### L.C. Cullity, "Introduction to Magnetic Materials"

## Modern Fabrication of Permanent Magnets



**Thick Film Magnets (MEMS)** 

#### **Isotropic Magnets: Melt-spun**



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## Fabrication of Permanent Magnets



### **Early fabrication of magnets**

- ♦ Need a large remanence M<sub>r</sub> (high degree of texture/alignment)
- Need a high H<sub>c</sub> (large K, proper microstructure which is induced by ANNEALING).

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### Coercivity of Small Particles

Stoner & Wohlfarth : Coherent Magnetization Rotation



## How to Induce Coercivity in Real Materials

In bulk materials, defects control coercivity.  $\Rightarrow$  Nucleation of Reversed Domains: *Brown's Paradox*,  $H_c << H_A = 2K/M_s$ nucleation occurs at weak links with lower K and large N<sub>ef</sub>

 $H_c = \alpha_K \frac{2K}{M_s} - N_{eff} M_s \qquad (\alpha_K \text{ depends on deficiencies in K and N}_{eff} \text{ on stray fields at edges}) \text{ Kronmüller,1991}$ 

Typical nucleation-type magnets: Nd-Fe-B, SmCo<sub>5</sub>

◇ In these magnets the domain walls move easily inside the grains. Nucleation usually occurs at the low anisotropy intergranular phases. MUST DEVELOP THE PROPER MICROSTRUCTURE.

 $\diamond$  The initial curve is steep and H<sub>c</sub> increases with H until saturation.





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## Origin of Coercivity in Real Matrerials



### **Development of Permanent Magnets**



- ♦ In the last 100 years, the strength of the magnets  $[(BH)_{max} \text{ and } H_c]$  increased dramatically (by a factor of 100).
- **♦** This is the result of an interplay between theory and experiment.

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## High Performance Magnets: Nd-Fe-B Magnets



Our Discovery (Kollmorgen) of R-Fe-B Phase Hadjipanayis et.al. APL, 43, 797 (1983)

ONR proposal (Grant N00014-81-C-0752):
 Investigation of as-cast Fe-light rare earth alloys for permanent magnets

 Objective: Search for metastable phases in Pr(Nd)-Fe based alloys prepared by meltspinning.

- ♦ Nd<sub>2</sub>Fe<sub>14</sub>B has a tetragonal structure with 68 atoms per unit cell is with *a*=0.88 nm and *c*=1.22 nm.
- ♦ K=5x10<sup>7</sup> ergs/cc,  $4\pi M_s \sim 16 \text{ kG}$ ,  $(BH)_m$ =57 MGOe
- Three groups were involved in the initial discovery of 2:14:1 phase; GM (J. Croat), Kollmorgen (G.Hadjipanayis) Sumitomo Metals (M. Sagawa).



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## High Performance Permanent Magnet Materials

- ♦ All of these materials have one thing in common: their hard magnetic properties arise from the fundamental properties of their major constituent compound.
- ♦ The  $(BH)_{max}$  limits set by the intrinsic properties of these compounds have been reached  $(BH)_{max} = (4 \pi M_s/2)^2$

Fundamental magnetic properties of hard magnetic compounds						
Compound	Saturation magnetization	Anisotropy field	Curie temperature	Theoretical (BH) <sub>max</sub>		
Nd <sub>2</sub> Fe <sub>14</sub> B	16.0 kG	67 kOe	312 °C	64.0 MGOe (57 MGOe)		
Sm <sub>2</sub> Fe <sub>17</sub> N <sub>2.3</sub>	15.4 kG	140 kOe	476 °C	59.3 MGOe ( <mark>47 MGOe</mark> )		
Sm <sub>2</sub> Co <sub>17</sub>	12.5 kG	65 kOe	920 °C	39.1 MGOe ( <mark>33 MGOe</mark> )		
SmCo <sub>5</sub>	11 kG	≤ 440 kOe	681 °C	30.2 MGOe (25 MGOe)		
PrCo <sub>5</sub>	12.3 kG	≥ <b>145 kOe</b>	620 °C	37.8 MGOe		

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Probability exists for discovery of new anisotropic compounds, possibly with less RE content ; but search is extremely difficult.

♦A new concept of high performance RE-lean exchange-coupled nanocomposite magnets was proposed in the early 90s but has not yet materialized.

**Non-RE magnets** remain a possibility but a focused and concerted effort is needed (97% of rare earths produced in China!).

China Dominates Magnet Materials



Rare Earth pure metals: about 97%

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### China Dominates Magnet Materials



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## Rare Earth Deposits



### Supply and Availability of Nd and Dy



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# **Critical Elements**



Critical elements chosen by the American Physical Society (APS)–Materials Research Society (MRS) energy-critical element study panel<sup>1</sup> and by the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Energy Policy.<sup>3,4</sup> Selection criteria differed in the two studies, leading to 29 elements for the APS–MRS and 14 elements for the U.S. Department of Energy.

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### Nanocomposite Magnets: Next Generation of Magnets?

- Consist of a fine mixture of exchange-coupled soft and hard phases. The soft phase provides the high magnetization and the hard phase the high coercivity. RE Lean!
- For optimum exchange coupling, the size of soft is D<sub>s</sub>=2 δ<sup>h</sup><sub>w</sub> (10 nm for Nd-Fe-B). Kneller et.al., IEEE Trans. Magn., 1991)
- Exchange coupling leads to an enhanced remanence and therefore higher (BH)<sub>m</sub>. According to models, Skomski&Coey 1993, (BH)<sub>m</sub> can reach values over 100 MGOe!



## Anisotropic Nanocomposite Magnets: Challenges



- All top-down approaches so far failed to fabricate a nanocomposite magnet with the predicted properties.
- ♦ It is difficult to obtain fully aligned nanocomposites consisting of nano soft and hard phases with optimum properties.

## Our DOE ARPA-E Project



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### Project Objectives and Expected Impact

- The main objective is to develop/discover materials with magnetic properties significantly better than those of Nd-Fe-B.
- This must allow us to synthesize the next generation high energy permanent magnets with potential energy products exceeding 100 MGOe, about two times greater than those of the best available Nd-Fe-B magnets.
  - The new nanocomposite magnets not only will contain a significantly lower amount of RE (RE-Lean Magnets) but will also allow the development of smaller, lighter and much more energy efficient devices.
  - The project will also allow us to educate the next generation of scientists and engineers in this important and critical and revive the R&D efforts on PM in USA.

## Our Current ARPA-E Projects



## Fabrication of Nanocomposites from Nanoparticles

#### Concept of a "Bottom-Up" Approach



♦ Particles must be single crystals with coercivity > 10 kOe for the hard and  $J_s$ >20 kG for the soft phase.

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#### Fabrication of Nanocomposite Magnets from Core/Shell Elements

- **Exchange-coupled composite magnets can be also built by coating the high-coercivity particles with the high-magnetization particles.**
- **This approach** will assure a uniform distribution of the high-magnetization soft magnetic phase in the consolidated magnets.



Soth RE-Co nanoparticles and nanoflakes (with their large specific surface) may serve as the core hard magnetic particles.

## Fabrication of Nanocomposites from Nanoparticles

Synthesis of RE-TM Nanoparticles by Surfactant-Assisted Ball Milling

**Surfactants allow milling proceed without simultaneous cold welding.** 

Low-energy milling in heptane



Low-energy milling in heptane with small amount oleic acid added



**Technique can be easily scaled up and it can yield anisotropic powder.** 

## Fabrication of Nanocomposites from Nanoparticles

#### Synthesis of RE-TM Nanoparticles by Surfactant-Assisted Ball Milling



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### Synthesis of Hard Magnetic Sm-Co Nanoparticles

![](_page_42_Figure_1.jpeg)

### Square Nd-Fe-B Particles

![](_page_43_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Figure_2.jpeg)

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- ♦ A strong dependence of coercivity on particle size is observed.
- The reason for this behaviour could be attributed to thermal effects and to a reduced magnetocrystalline anisotropy because of surface effects.
- ♦ Highest coercivity obtained at RT is 4 kOe.
- Ongoing research is focused on the fabrication of larger particles.

#### Anisotropic SmCo<sub>5</sub> Nanoflakes via Single Surfactant-Assisted HEBM

![](_page_44_Figure_1.jpeg)

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#### Sm-Co and Nd-Fe-B Nanoparticles by Mechanochemical Synthesis

**♦**Chemical reactions activated by the high levels of mechanical energy occur at the surfaces/interfaces of the nanometer-sized grains which are continuously regenerated during milling. This allows reduction/diffusion to proceed <u>at low temperatures</u>.

For the first time we produced high H<sub>c</sub> Nd-Fe-B nanopaticles with this technique!

Sm-Co

![](_page_45_Figure_4.jpeg)

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### Fe(Co) Nanoparticles with High Magnetization

- ♦ The University of Delaware group (Prof. K.M. Unruh) used reduction in the presence of citrate ions to produce Fe particles smaller than 30 nm with  $M_s > 175$  emu/g which are assembled into in ≈100 nm aggregates.
- A 4 nm passivation layer surrounding the aggregates makes them air-stable without diluting the  $M_{\rm s}$ .

 $Fe_{50}Co_{50}^{\circ}$  nanoparticles with a surfactant shell

![](_page_46_Picture_4.jpeg)

# Spherical aggregates of Fe nanoparticles and surface passivation layer

![](_page_46_Picture_6.jpeg)

♦ The Northeastern University group (Prof. V.G. Harris) used a modified polyol reaction method to produce Fe-Co (≈ Fe<sub>50</sub>Co<sub>50</sub>) particles 20 - 25 nm with  $M_s \approx 200$ emu/g.

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### Hard Cubes in Soft Matrix

### **Micromagnetics: Monte Carlo (Chui)**

$$U = U_d + U_{ex} + U_{an} + U_m, \qquad (5)$$

$$U_{an} = -\sum_{\mathbf{R}_a} K_a (S_a^z)^2, \quad U_m = -\sum_{\mathbf{R}_a} M_a S_a^z H^z \qquad (6)$$

$$U_d = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{R}_a, \mathbf{R}_b}' V_d(\mathbf{R}_{ab}), \qquad (1)$$

$$V_{ex}(\mathbf{R}_{ab}) = -J_{ab} \left(\mathbf{S}_a \cdot \mathbf{S}_b\right) \delta_{\mathbf{R}_b, \mathbf{R}_a + \mathbf{d}} \qquad (4)$$

$$V_d(\mathbf{R}_{ab}) = g_{ab} \left(\frac{(\mathbf{S}_a \cdot \mathbf{S}_b)}{R_{ab}^3} - \frac{3(\mathbf{S}_a \cdot \mathbf{R}_{ab})(\mathbf{S}_b \cdot \mathbf{R}_{ab})}{R_{ab}^5}\right)$$

$$(2)$$

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#### Theoretical Modeling-Monte Carlo (Chui, UD)

![](_page_48_Figure_1.jpeg)

At the soft/hard interface div **M** is not zero ( $M_s$  Fe-Co,=24kG,  $M_s$  Sm-Co =11 kG) and this leads to free poles at the interfaces.

♦Preliminary data indicate that magnetostatic coupling leads to enhancement of thermal fluctuations that lead to a decrease of remanence at high T.

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#### M<sub>r</sub> and (BH)<sub>m</sub> Versus the Amount of Soft Phase (Chui, UD)

![](_page_49_Figure_1.jpeg)

M<sub>r</sub> and therefore (BH)<sub>m</sub> do not increase drastically with the addition of soft phase.
 We are currently examining the case of a graded interface.

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### SmCo<sub>5</sub>/ $\alpha$ -Fe Core-Shell Nanocomposite Magnets

![](_page_50_Figure_1.jpeg)

↔ Fukunaga predicted a drastic increase in (*BH*)<sub>max</sub> of SmCo<sub>5</sub>/α-Fe as a function of α-Fe fraction.

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## Ongoing Projects at the University of Delaware

![](_page_51_Figure_1.jpeg)

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#### Dy Problem: Motors for HEV Contain Nd-Dy-Fe-B Magnets

**♦ Electrical motors for the drive-train of HEVs and EVs are required to have a high starting torque and a constant-power over a wide range of speeds.** 

♦At the present, there requirements are best met by the Interior Permanent Magnet Synchronous Motors (IPMSMs) in which powerful permanent magnets (almost exclusively Nd-Dy-Fe-B) are embedded deep into the rotor.

![](_page_52_Figure_3.jpeg)

Y. Matsuura. J. Magn. Magn. Mater. 303 (2006).

![](_page_52_Picture_5.jpeg)

- ♦ In the IPMSM design, the permanent magnets are subjected to strong demagnetizing fields and moderately high temperatures.
- ♦ Thus, the magnets must have a high coercivity and an operating temperature of at least 200 °C. This is presently done with Dy-containing Nd-Dy-Fe-B magnets.
- Dy is among the most scarce REs!

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### Permanent Magnets for HV and EV

![](_page_53_Figure_1.jpeg)

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#### Ways to Increase H<sub>c</sub> of Nd-Fe-B Magnets with Less or no Dy

![](_page_54_Figure_1.jpeg)

- use finer powders
- modify sintering parameters
- ♦ Control intergranular structure
  - by proper annealing
  - **\*** by proper composition adjustments
- Concentrate Dy on surface of Nd-Fe-B grains
  - internally
  - externally

![](_page_54_Figure_10.jpeg)

![](_page_54_Figure_11.jpeg)

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## Superior Rare Earth-Free Magnets?

- **Since late 1960s nearly all the R&D efforts were focused on perfecting the RE magnets.**
- **♦** RE-free hard magnetic compounds exist: FePt, CoPt, MnBi, MnAl, Zr<sub>2</sub>Co<sub>11</sub>, ε -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>
- **\diamond** Even the Alnico-type magnets still have a room for improvement; their theoretical  $(BH)_{max}$  is 36-49 MGOe and they have excellent temperature stability!

Compound	Structure	Saturation magnetization	Curie temperature (°C)	Anisotropy constant K <sub>1</sub> (MJ/m <sup>3</sup> )	(BH) <sub>m</sub> (MGOe)
Со	hexagonal	17.6 kG	1115	0.53	
FePt	tetragonal	14.3 kG	477	6.6	
CoPt	tetragonal	10.0 kG	567	4.9	
Co <sub>3</sub> Pt	hexagonal	13.8 kG	727	2.0	
MnAl	tetragonal	6.2 kG	377	1.7	9.6
MnBi	hexagonal	7.8 kG	357	1.2	15.2
BaFe <sub>12</sub> O <sub>19</sub>	hexagonal	4.8 kG	450	0.33	2.2
Zr <sub>2</sub> Co <sub>11</sub>	orthorhombic(?)	≈70 emu/g	500	? (H <sub>A</sub> = 34 kOe)	14
ε-Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	orthorhombic	≈16 emu/g	?	? (H <sub>c</sub> = 23.4 kOe)	
Alnico	Cubic (shape)	12-14			36-49
SmCo <sub>5</sub>	hexagonal	11.4 kG	681	17.0	
Nd <sub>2</sub> Fe <sub>14</sub> B	tetragonal	16.0 kG	312	5.0	

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## New Projects on Non-Rare Earth Magnets

#### ♦ DOE REACT Program

Ce-Based Magnets (Ames Lab)
Exchange-Spring Magnets (Argonne)
Iron-Nitride (Case-western, Univ. Minessota)
Mn-Al Magnets (Dartmouth)
Mn-Based Magnets (Pacific Northwest National Lab)
L1<sub>0</sub> Fe-Ni (Northeastern Univ.)
C-Based Magnets (Virginia Commonwealth Univ.)
Rare Earth Nanostructured Magnets (Univ. Alabama)

#### ♦ EU REFREEPERMAG

Greece (Niarchos), Austria , France, Germany, Spain, Sweden, USA

## Superior Rare Earth-Free Magnets?

- **Since the late 1960s nearly all the R&D efforts were focused on perfecting the RE magnets.**
- ♦ A comprehensive and concerted effort is needed to search for rare earth free magnets.
- ♦ Such program needs to include scientists and engineers with a wide expertise from materials design (theory), phase diagrams, design of microstructures, applied magnetics and fabrication techniques (combinatorial approach).

![](_page_57_Figure_4.jpeg)

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# Conclusions

### ♦ In the Age of Exploration

Magnets in compasses guided Columbus to the "New" world.

### ♦ In the Age of Electricity

Magnets in telephones and telegraphs, and in motors, generators, and transformers guided us into our modern, high-tech world.

### Today

Hidden magnets far more powerful than those available to Columbus or Alexander Graham Bell guide the latest devices of our Information and Green Energy Age.

> -- James Livingston Driving Force, Harvard U. Press,1996

### Acknowledgments

**Researchers:** 

Alexander M. Gabay Cui Baozhi Wanfeng Li Liyun Zheng

#### Students:

Nilay Gunduz-Akdogan

#### **Collaborators:**

EEC (Jinfang Liu, Melania Marinescu) Demokritos, Greece (Niarchos, Tzitzios) University of Nebraska (Dave Sellmyer)

## High Performance Magnets: Sm-Co Magnets

![](_page_60_Figure_1.jpeg)

SmCo<sub>5</sub>, K= 1x10<sup>8</sup>erg/cc,  $4\pi M_s \sim 10$  kG, (BH)=25MGOe Sm<sub>2</sub>Co<sub>17</sub>, K=4x10<sup>7</sup> erg/cc,  $4\pi M_s \sim 12$  kG,(BH)=30MGOe NUCLEATION-TYPE Magnet

![](_page_60_Figure_3.jpeg)

**\diamond** The parent SmCo<sub>5</sub> (1:5) structure is hexagonal.

- ♦ If extra Co atoms are added, pairs of them replace the larger Sm atoms as the so-called "dumbbells". Random replacement does not change the lattice symmetry leading to the off-stoichiometric 1:5 structure, sometimes called the "1:7" structure.

JOURNAL OF APPLIED PHYSICS VOLUME 38, NUMBER 3 1 A Family of New Cobalt-Base Permanent Magnet Materials K. STRNAT, G. HOFFER, J. OLSON, AND W. OSTERTAG Air Force Materials Laboratory, Dayton, Okio AND

J. J. BECKER General Electric Research and Development Center, Schenectady, New York

The magnetocrystalline anisotropy of several intermetallic phases of the type RCo<sub>6</sub> (R = Y, Ce, Pr, Sm, Y-rich and Ce-rich mischmetals) has been investigated, and it is concluded that these alloys are promising candidates for fine-particle permanent magnets. They have extremely high uniaxial anisotropy (K = 5.4 to  $7.7 \times 10^7$  erg/cm<sup>3</sup>), single easy axis, high saturation ( $B_s = 8500$  to  $11\,200$  G) and Curie point ( $t_s = 464^\circ$  to  $747^\circ$ C). Approximate upper limits for the possible energy product lie between 18 and 31.3 MGOe. Experimentally, coercive forces of over 8000 Oce and ( $BH_{max} = 5.1$  MGOe have been observed in SmCo<sub>8</sub> merely ground at room temperature. Grinding of YCo<sub>8</sub> and (Ce-MM)Co<sub>8</sub> produces an increase of  $_MH_e$  to 2200 and 2700 Oe, respectively, followed by a decrease.

![](_page_60_Picture_10.jpeg)

1 MARCH 1967

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## High Performance Magnets: Sm<sub>2</sub>Fe<sub>17</sub>N<sub>x</sub>

Nitrogen enters the 2:17 structure interstitially, expanding the unit cell by 6%; a=8.54 Å, c=12.43 Å for Sm<sub>2</sub>Fe<sub>17</sub> and a=8.73 Å and c=12.64 Å for Sm<sub>2</sub>Fe<sub>17</sub>N<sub>3</sub>.

![](_page_61_Figure_2.jpeg)

- ♦ The expansion in the lattice leads to an increase in Curie temperature (from 389 K to 749 K) and changes the anisotropy from planar to uniaxial with K=8.6x10<sup>7</sup> erg/cc and J<sub>s</sub>=1.54 T.
- ♦ Material is unstable above 500 C.
- ♦ Material was discovered by Coey in 1990.

### Magnetization Reversal in Real Materials

![](_page_62_Figure_1.jpeg)

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## Permanent Magnet Materials Sales by Type

![](_page_63_Figure_1.jpeg)

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