

Development of strong and isotropic BaZrO_3 artificial pinning centers in YBCO films

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KANSAS

Outline of this talk

Introduction

- Effect of Interfacial strain on the self-assembly of artificial pinning centers (APCs)
- Quantitative explain, predict and control the pinning landscape

Development of strong 3D BZO APCs in YBCO

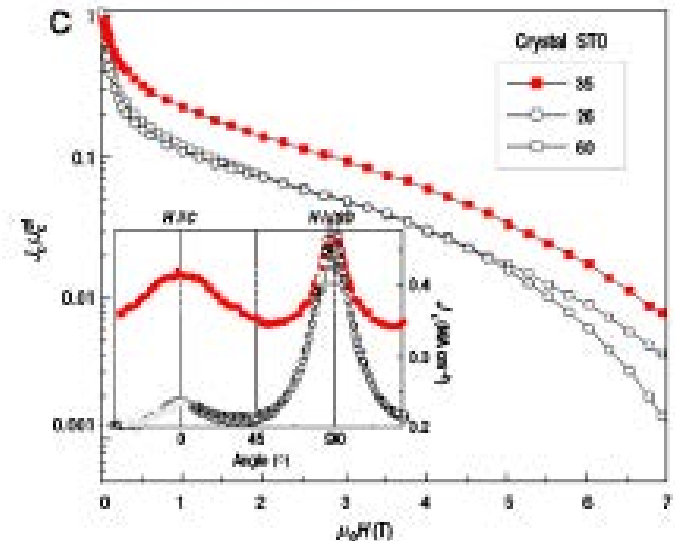
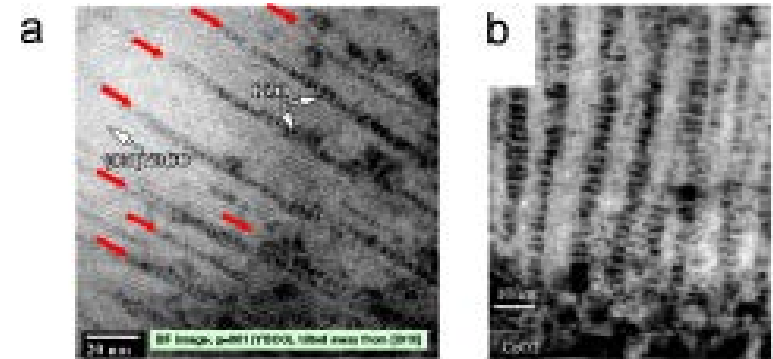
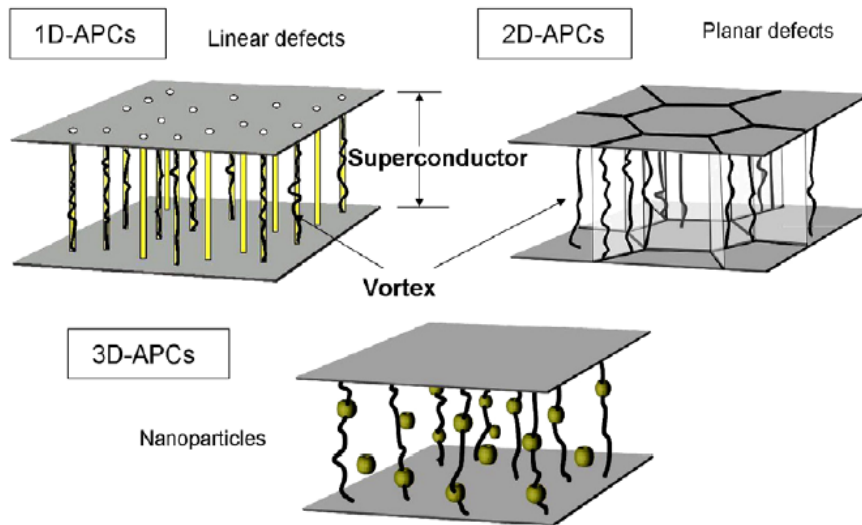
- Vicinal + BZO variable concentration
- Y_2O_3 + BZO variable concentration
- Low T growth BZO/YBCO + high-T post-anneal

Summery

Goal: strong and isotropic pinning

Artificial Pinning Centers (APCs) landscape

Exciting progress has been made in **strain mediated self-assembly** of APCs with different morphology

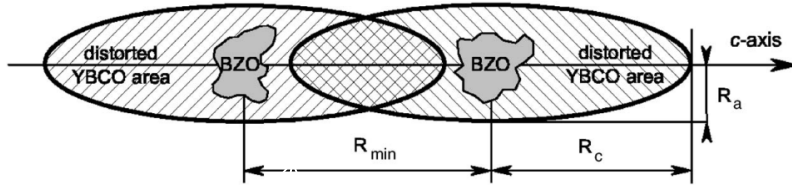


Matsumoto and Mele, topic review on *Artificial pinning center technology to enhance vortex pinning in YBCO coated conductors*, Supercond. Sci. Technol. 23 (2010) 014001;

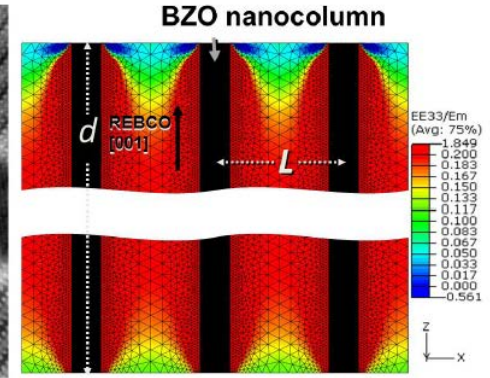
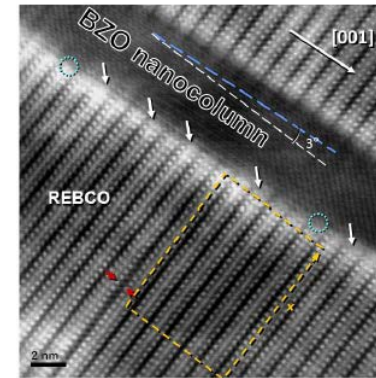
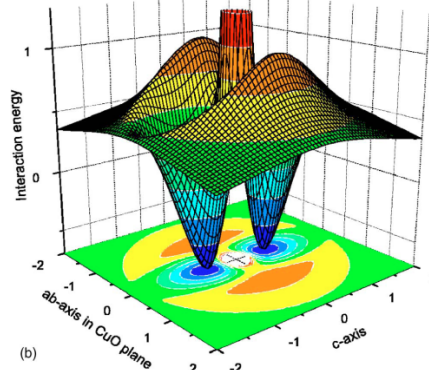
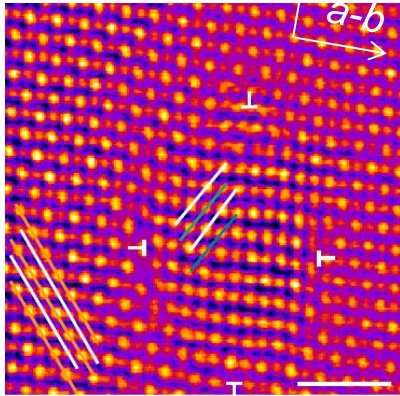
Obradors et al, topic review on Growth, nanostructure and vortex pinning in superconducting YBa₂Cu₃O₇ thin films based on trifluoroacetate solutions, Supercond. Sci. Technol. 25 (2012) 123001



Strain-mediated self-assembly of APCs in epitaxial YBCO matrix: **Interfacial Strain Effect**



Oxygen deficient column around the BZO/YBCO strained interface-semi-coherent



S. Kang, et al. *Supercond Sci Technol.* **18**, 1553 (2005).

M. Peurla, et al. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **75**, 184524 (2007).

C. Cantoni et al. *ACS Nano* **6**, 4783 (2011).

Two kinds of strained interfaces involved in self-assembly:

- Dopant/YBCO matrix interface (two different kinds may exist in double doping case)—local
- YBCO matrix/substrate interface—global



Understanding the Interplay of strains is important towards controlling APCs

Specific questions:

- **Morphology:** What impurity materials will form aligned nanorods (1D APCs) or nanosheets (2D APCs) and nanoparticles (3D APCs) in YBCO matrix?
- **Dimension:** What determines the dimension of the APCs?
- **Orientation:** What determines their orientations?
- **Strong and isotropic:** how to obtain 3D pinning landscape?

Approaches:

Modeling + fabrication + characterization

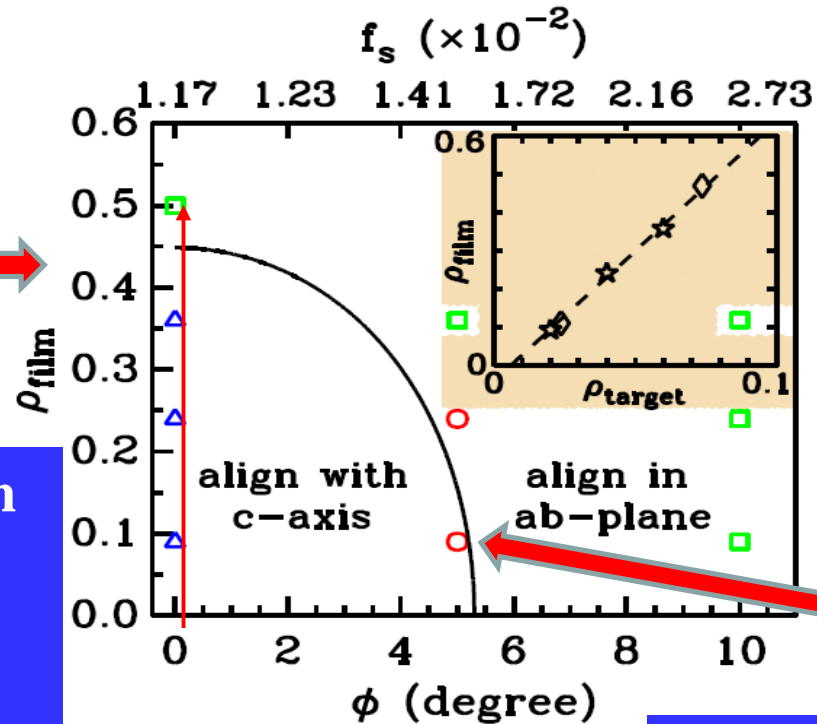


Correlating Effect of doping concentration and film/substrate strains on nanorod morphology

Switch of nanorod orientation



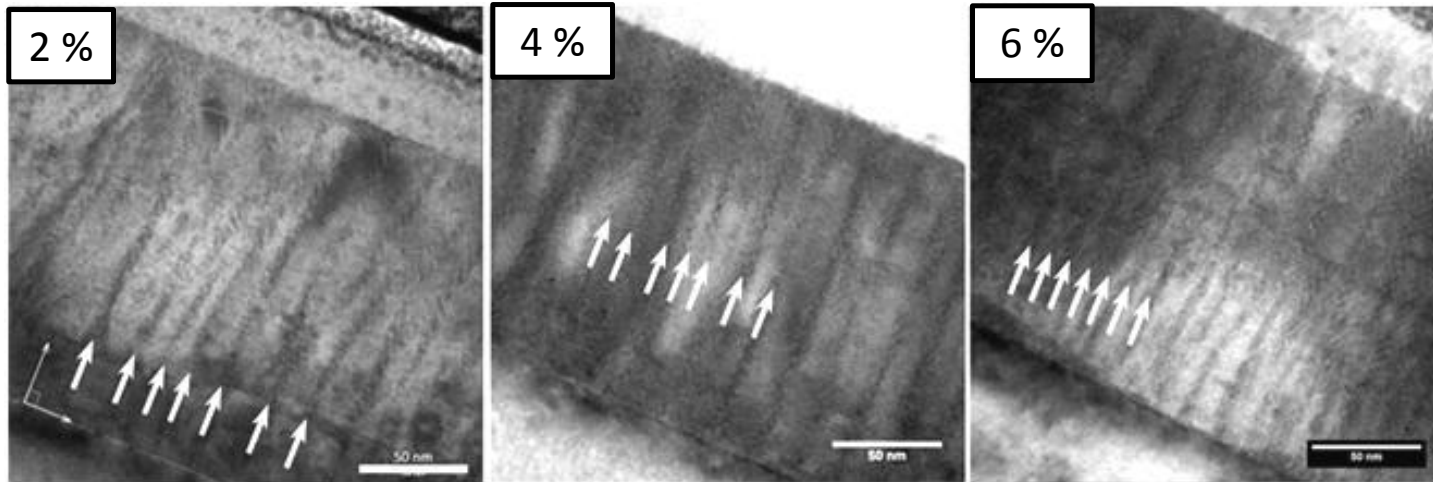
BZO nanorods switch from c-aligned to ab-aligned at 45% BZO vol. portion



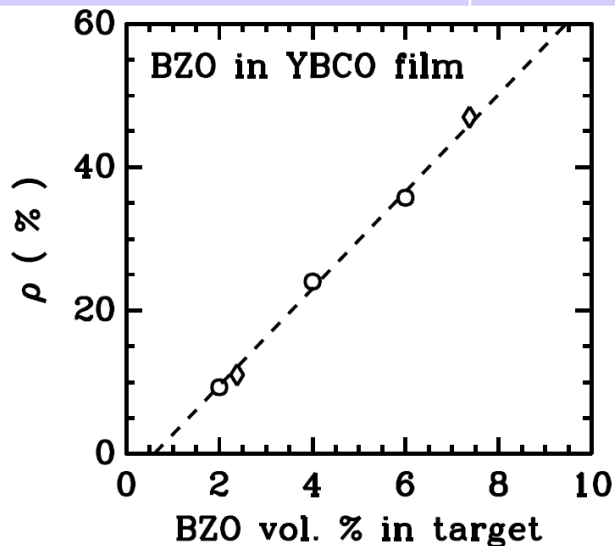
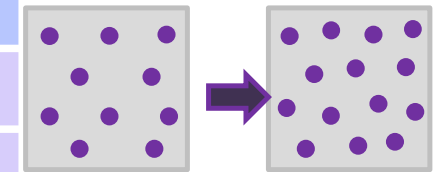
Switch of nanorod orientation

BZO nanorods switch from c-aligned to ab-aligned by introducing lattice mismatched substrates

F.J. Baca, et al, *Adv. Funct. Mat.* **23**, 4628, (2013); J. Wu, et al, *IEEE Trans. Applied Superconductivity* **25**, 1-5 (2015); J. Wu et al, *SUST* **28**, 125009 (2015). J. Shi and J.Z. Wu, *Philosophic Magazine* **92**, 2911 (2012); **92**, 4205 (2012).; J.Z. Wu, *Endless Quests -- Theory, Experiment and Application of Frontiers of Superconductivity*, Peking University Press (2015).



BZO vol. concentration	2%	4%	6%
Nanorod spacing (nm)	10.8 ± 3.2 nm	6.0 ± 2.7 nm	4.4 ± 0.7 nm
Nanorod diameter (nm)	5.2 ± 0.5 nm	5.8 ± 0.6 nm	5.9 ± 0.9 nm

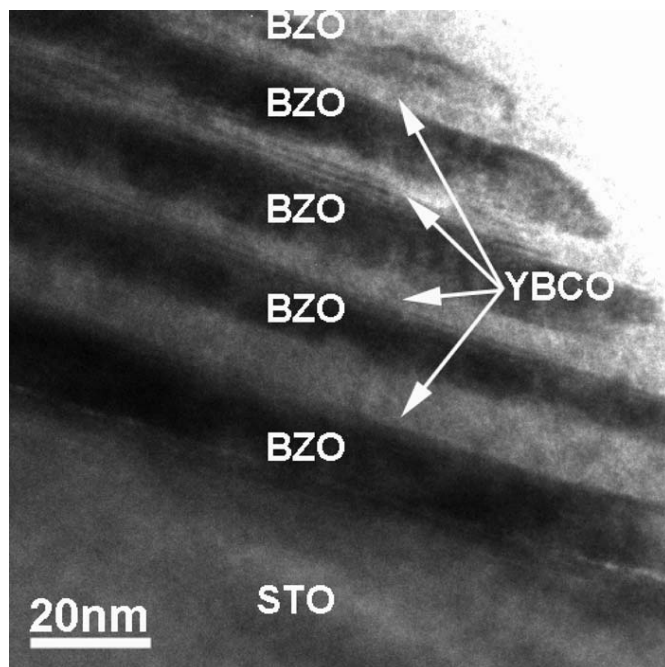


Overlap of the strained matrix around BZO nanorods occurs at around $\rho \sim 45\%$ volume portion

- Wu, Judy; Shi, Jack, Baca, Javier; Emergo, Rose; Wilt, Jamie; Haugan, Timothy, “Controlling BZO Nanostructure Orientation in YBCO Films for Three-Dimensional Pinning Landscape”, *Supercond. Sci. Technol*, **28**, 125009 (2015).

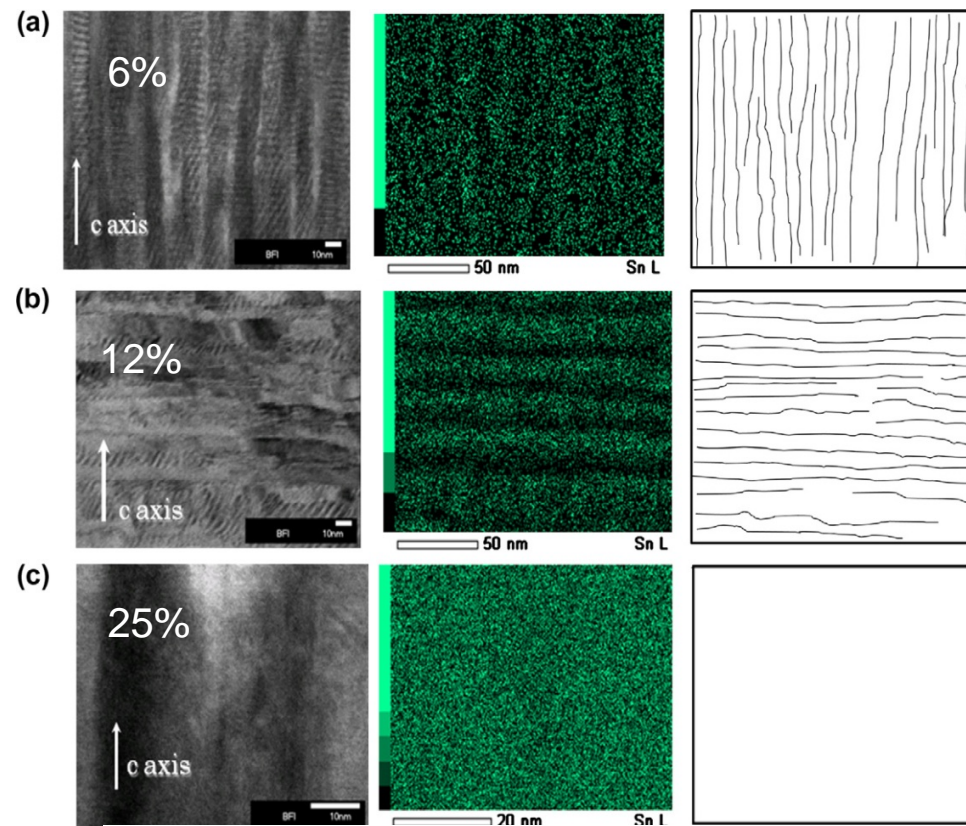
Alignment switch at higher doping levels (nonvicinal)

YBCO:BZO=50%:50%



H. Yang et al, APL 106, 093914 (2009)

BSO doping (Vol%) in YBCO



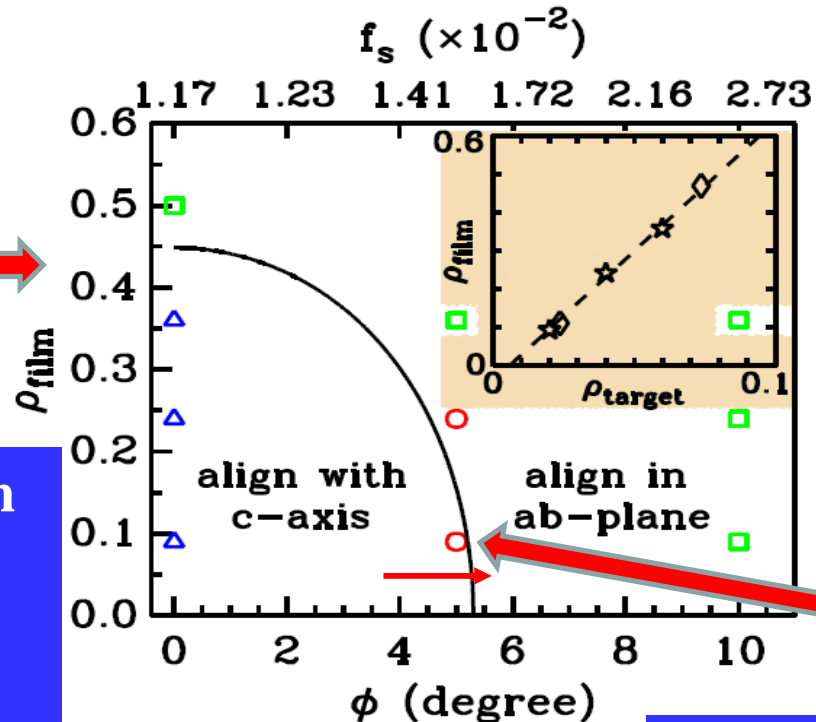
S. Nagao et al, Physica C 470, 1304 (2010)

A switch of BZO and BSO nanorods from c-align to ab-align occurs at large doping level



Correlating Effect of doping concentration and film/substrate strains on nanorod morphology

Switch of nanorod orientation



BZO nanorods switch from c-aligned to ab-aligned at 45% BZO vol. portion

Switch of nanorod orientation

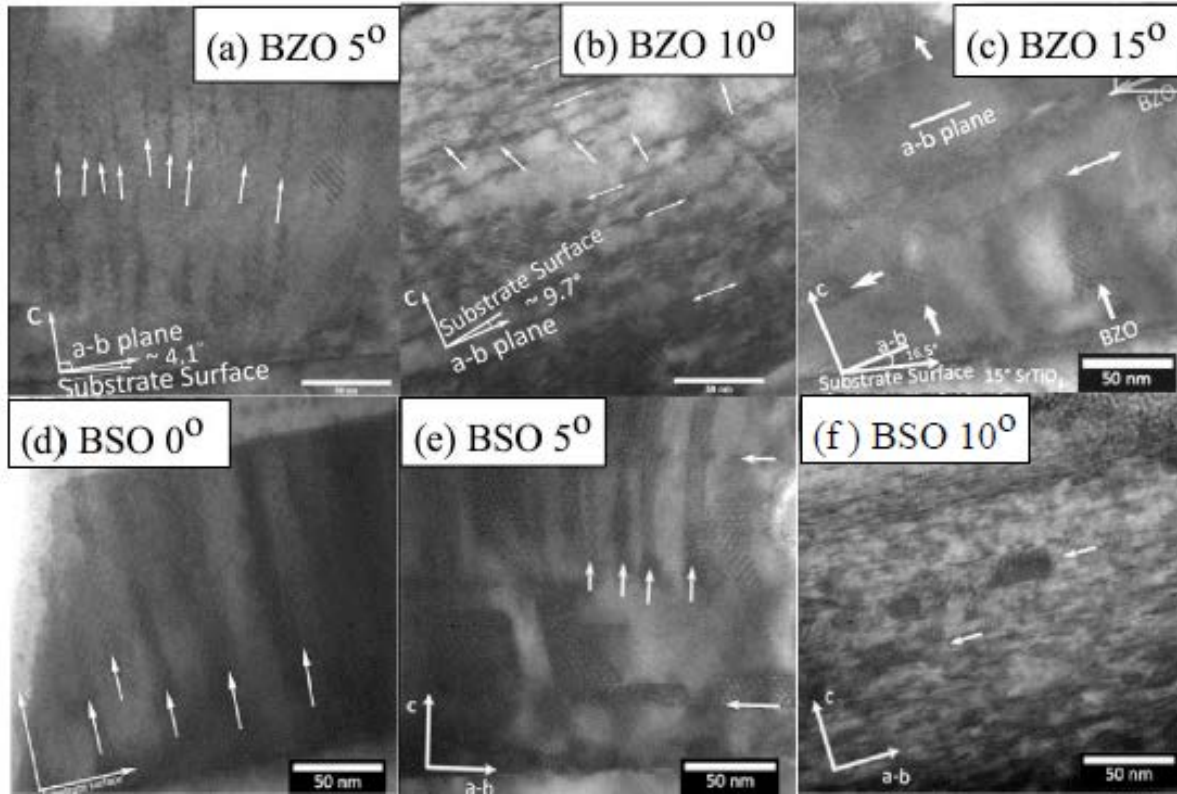
BZO nanorods switch from c-aligned to ab-aligned by introducing lattice mismatched substrates

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Local + Global strains: splay around c-axis and switch from c to ab orientation of BaZrO₃ and BaSnO₃ nanorods

2 vol%
BZO doping



4.5 vol%
BSO doping

Tensile strain
in c-axis

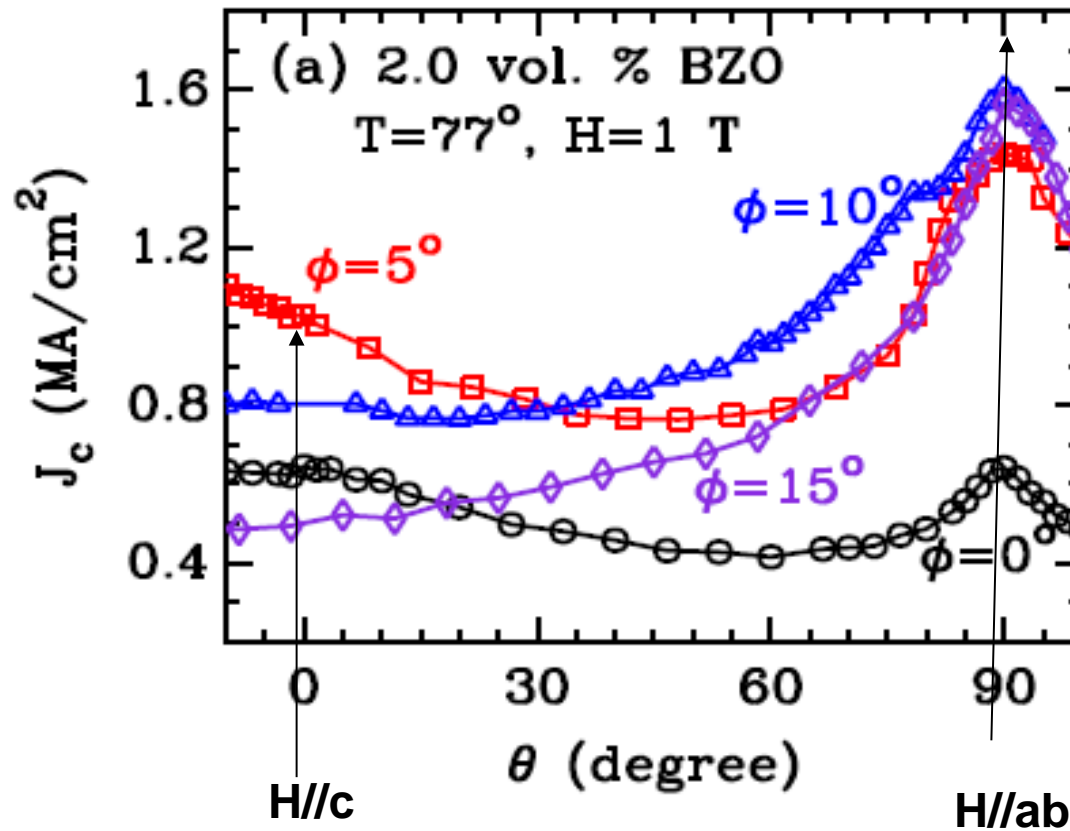
Transition zone with
mixed orientations
of APCs

Compressive
strain in c-axis

Baca et al. Appl. Phys. Lett. **94**, 102512 (2009); Emergo et al, SUST **23**, 115010 (2010); Wu et al, IEEE Applied Superconductivity 25 (3), 1-5 (2015). Wu et al, SUST 28, 125009(2015)



Enhancement of J_c in 3D BZO APC doped YBCO films



Overall enhanced J_c in all H directions in BZO doped YBCO possibly due to 1) reduced strain on YBCO; 2) mixed orientations of BZO APCs

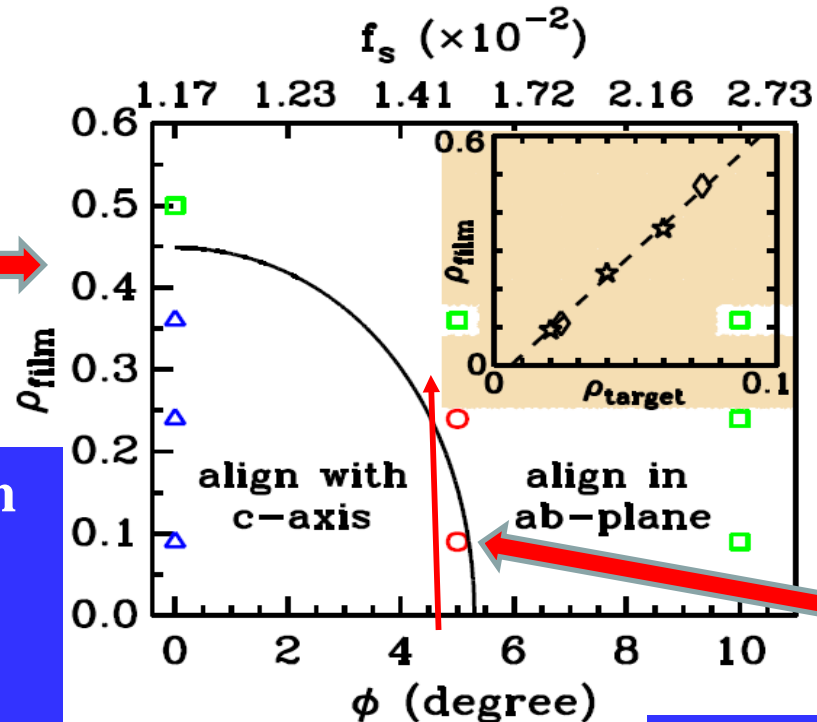


Correlating Effect of doping concentration and film/substrate strains on nanorod morphology

Switch of nanorod orientation



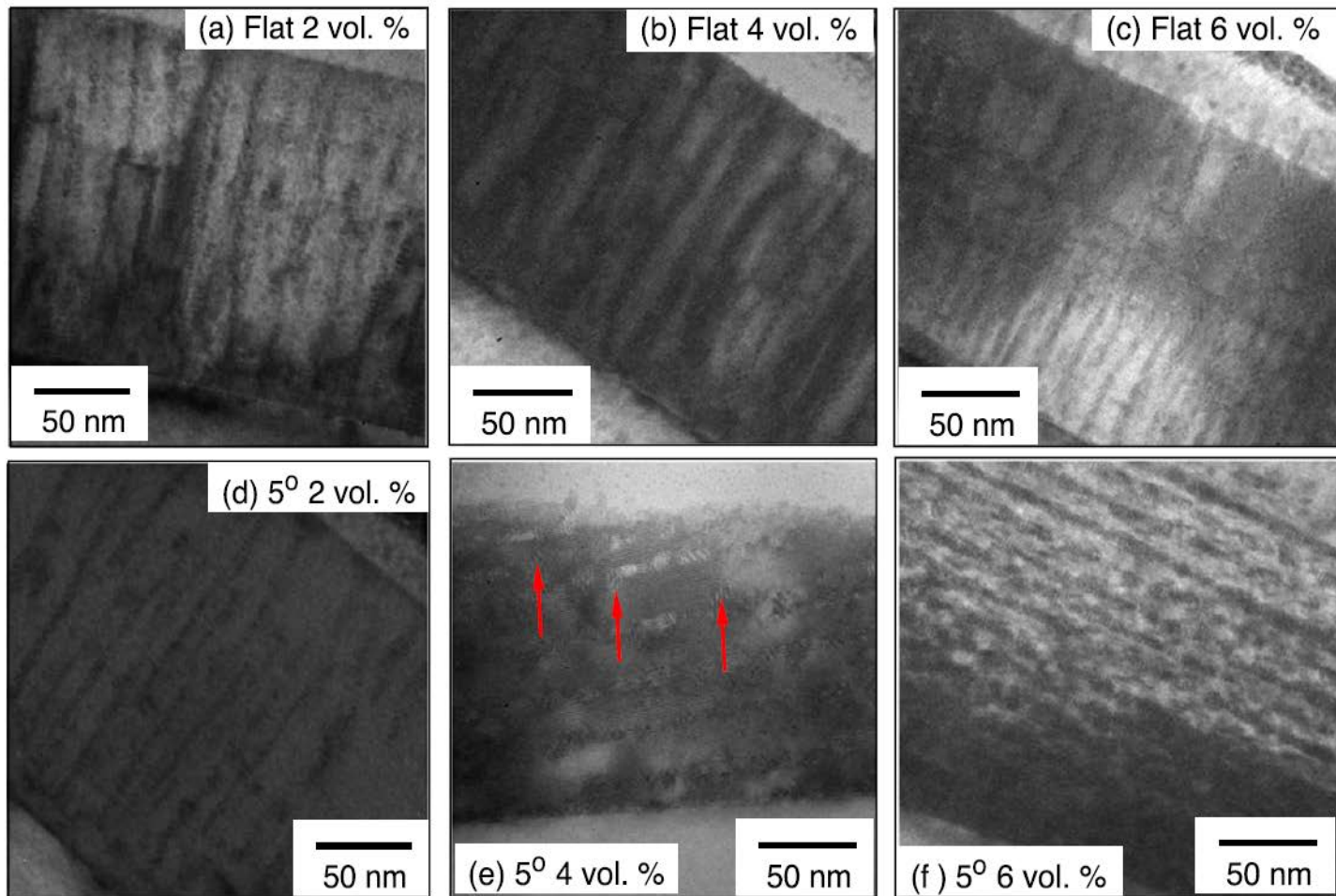
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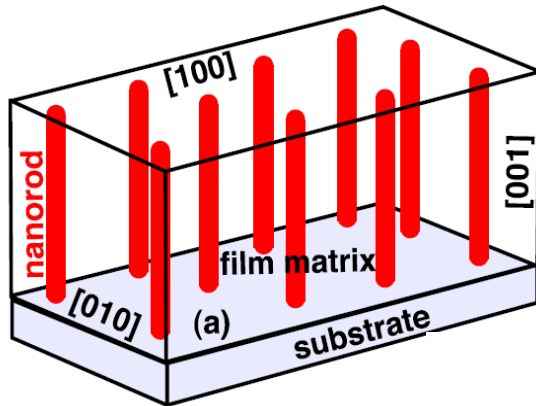


Global strain adds additional tuning parameter on nanorod morphology through interaction with the local strain field

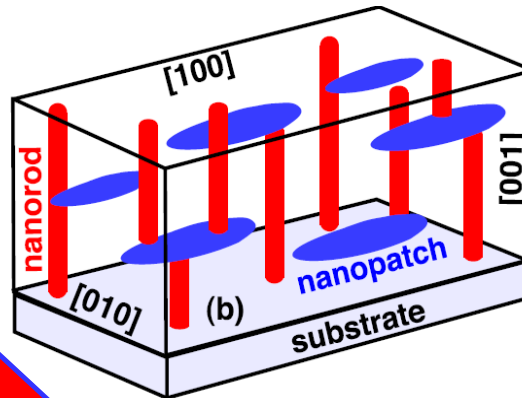
Wu et al, SUST 28, 125009(2015)



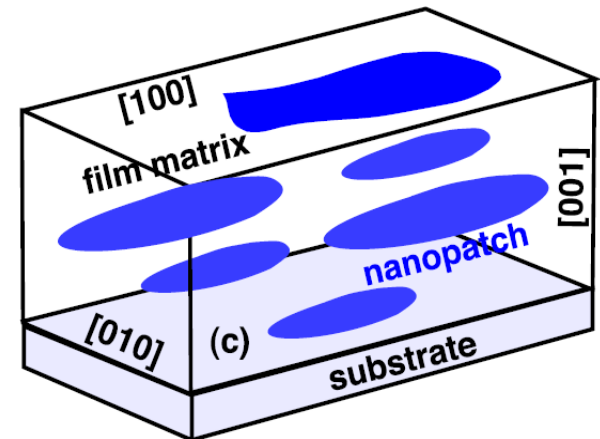
1D BZO APC



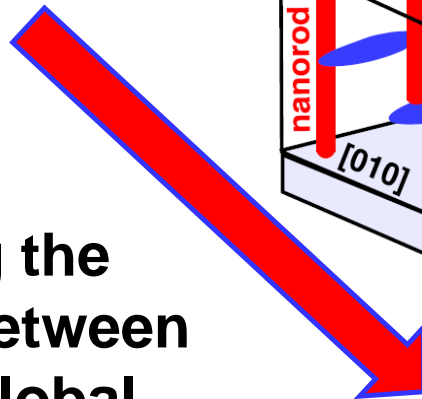
1D+2D BZO APC

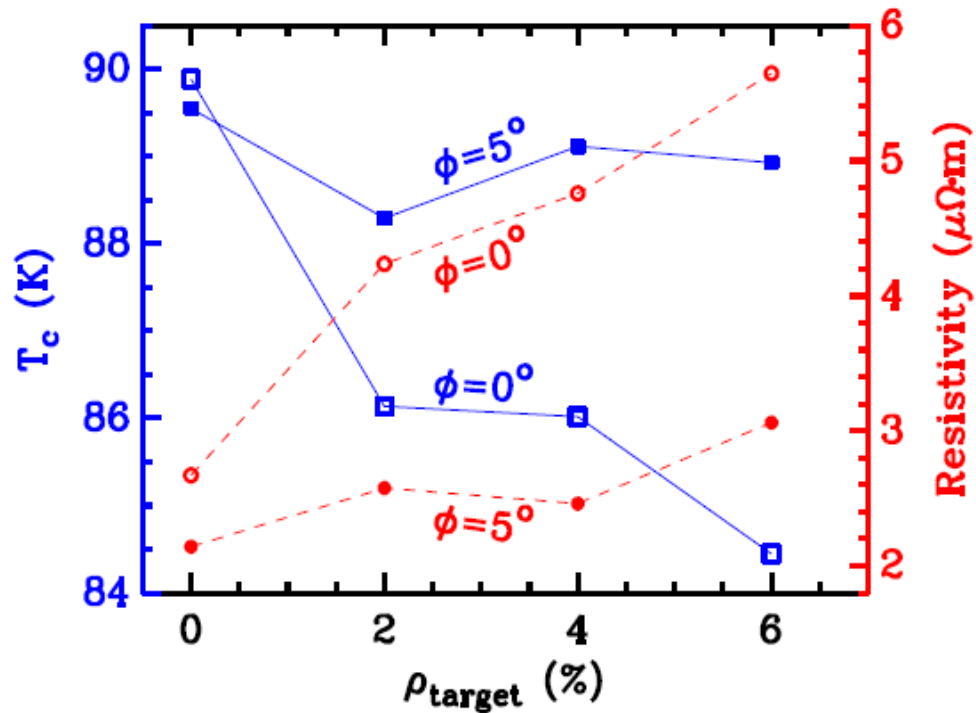


2D BZO APC

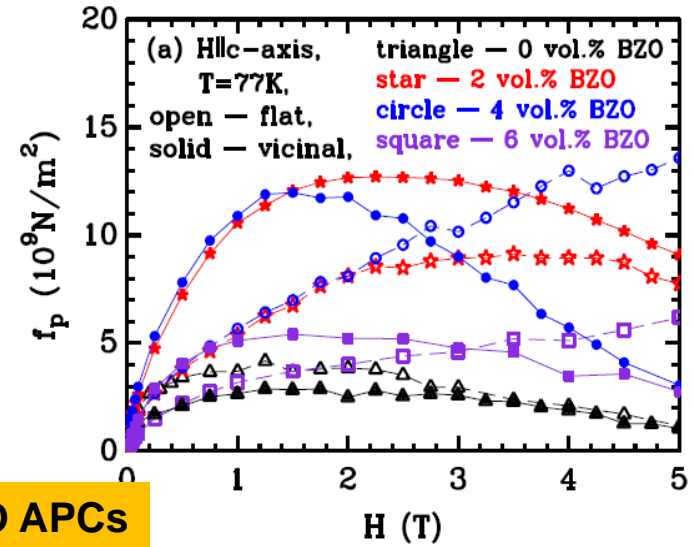
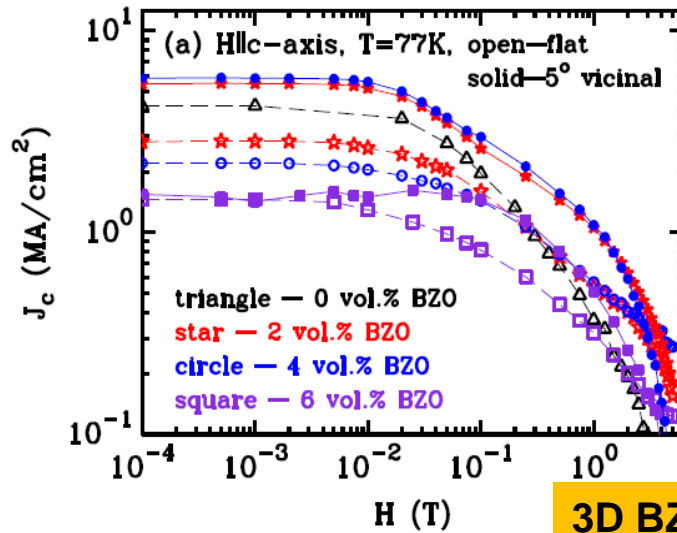


**Controlling the
interplay between
local and global
strains**

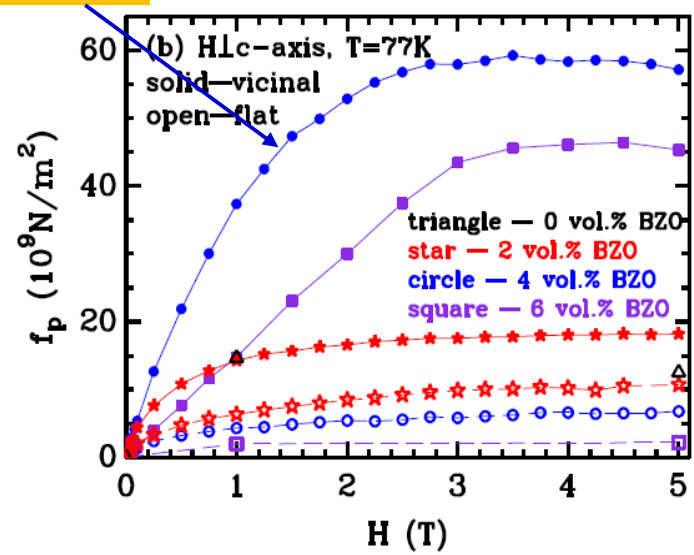
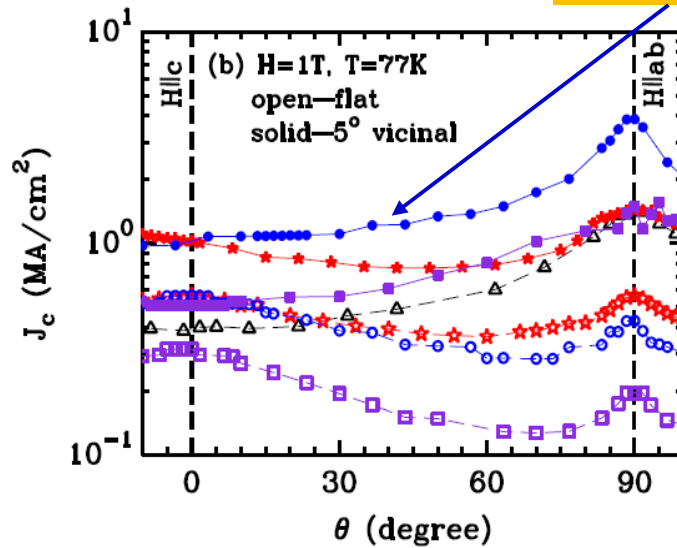




Much smaller reduction in T_c in vicinal samples indicates reduced strain on YBCO lattice—favorable to high J_c



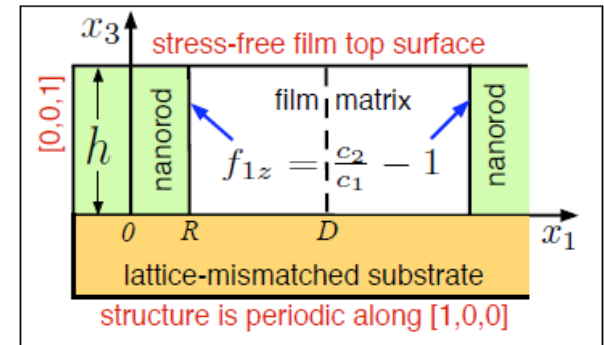
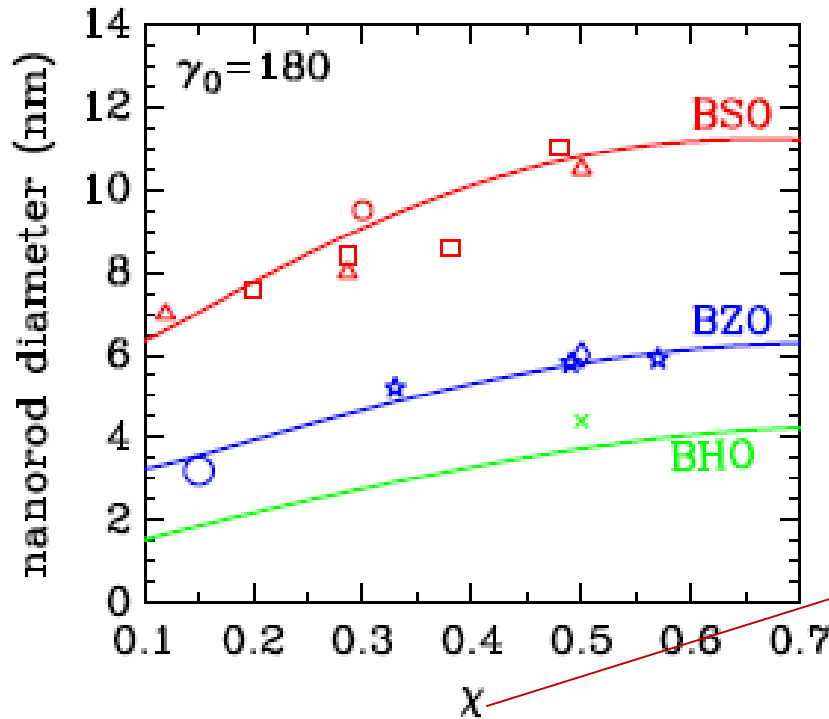
3D BZO APCs





Effect of APC concentration and growth temperature on the 1D APC diameter

2MOr1C-06
 Tomorrow
 10:15am



$$\chi = 2R / (D + 2R)$$

$\chi \propto \rho$ (doping concentration)

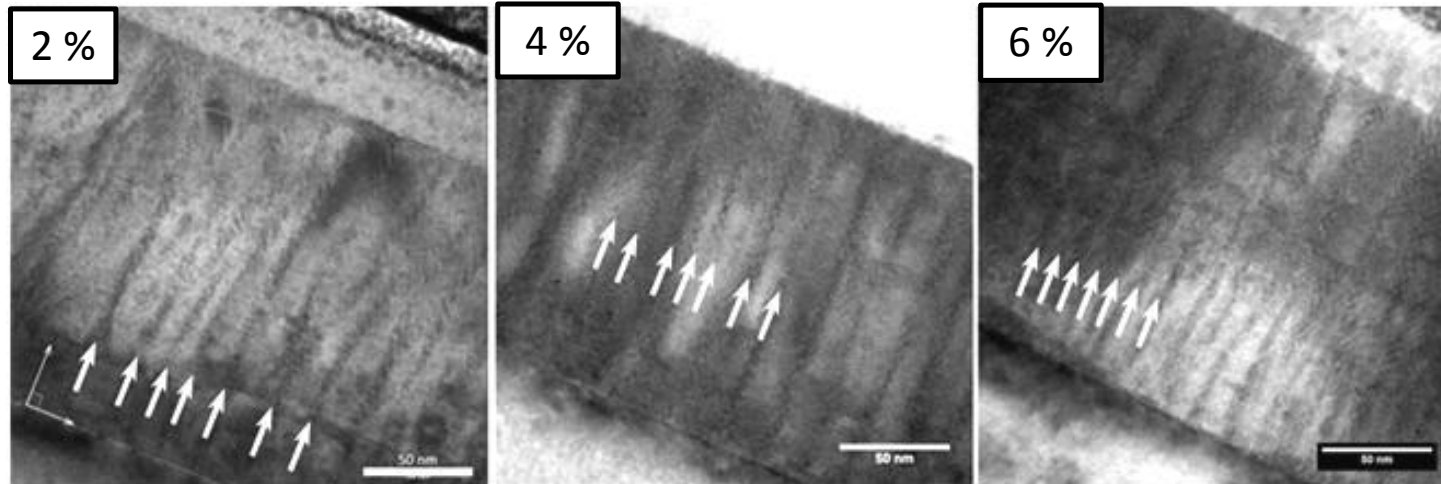
χ is the ratio of nanorod diameter to center-to-center distance.

triangle: Varanasi et al, (2008); **square:** Mele et al, (2009); **circle:** Baca, (2009). **large circle:** Goal et al, (2005); **star:** Wu et al, (2014); **diamond:** Selvamanickam et al, (2015). **cross:** Tobita et al, (2012).

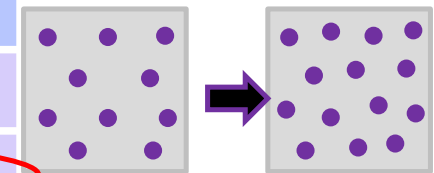
Wu, et al, *Supercond. Sci. Technol*, **27**, 044010 (2014); Shi and Wu, *JAP* **118**, 164301 (2015).

Diameter of Nanorods remains a constant

Increased nanorod density with increased dopant concentration



BZO vol. concentration	2%	4%	6%
Nanorod spacing (nm)	10.8 ± 3.2 nm	6.0 ± 2.7 nm	4.4 ± 0.7 nm
Nanorod diameter (nm)	5.2 ± 0.5 nm	5.8 ± 0.6 nm	5.9 ± 0.9 nm

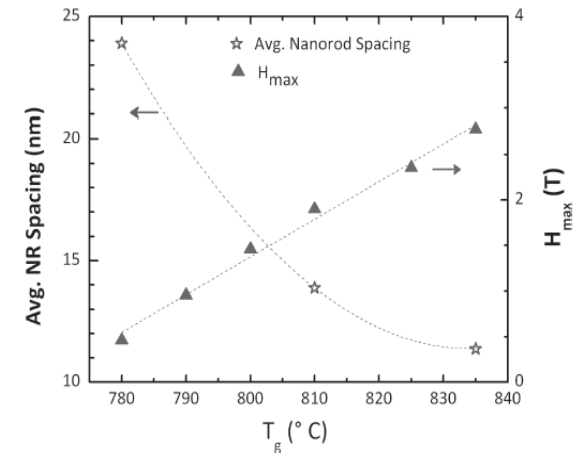
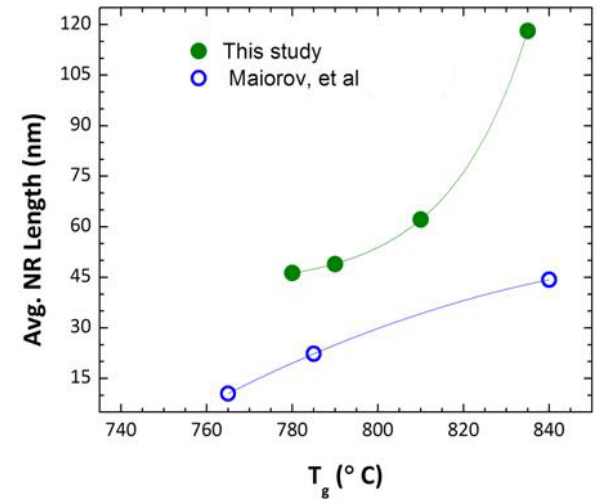
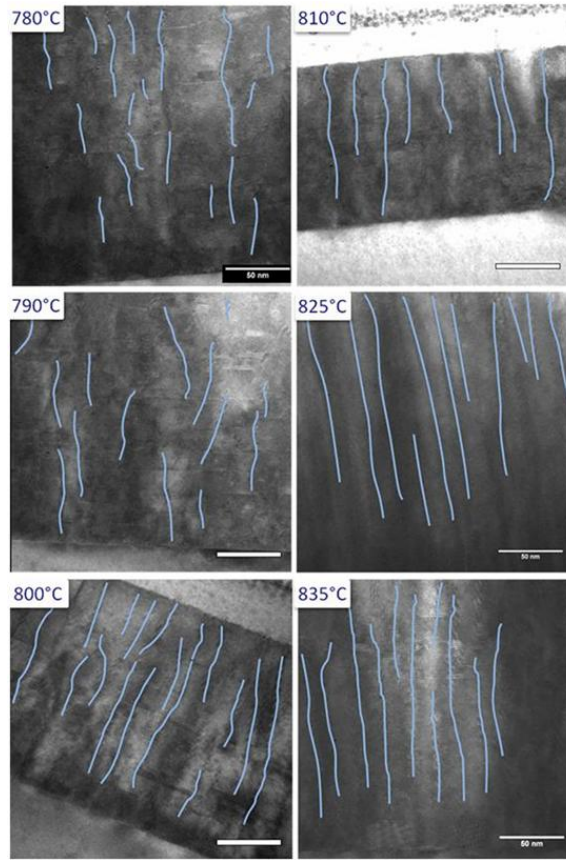
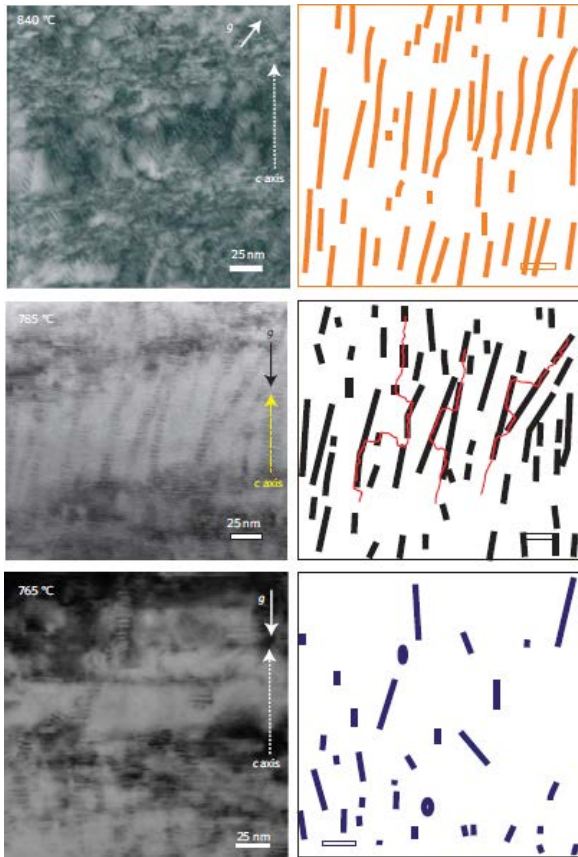


The diameter of the nanorod is determined by the semi-coherent “ultrathin” interface between the dopant and matrix and is almost a constant at low to moderate doping level

Temperature Effects in Nanorod Formation

2%BZO+5%Y₂O₃ doping

2% BZO doping



B. Maiorov, et al. *Nature Mat.* (2009).

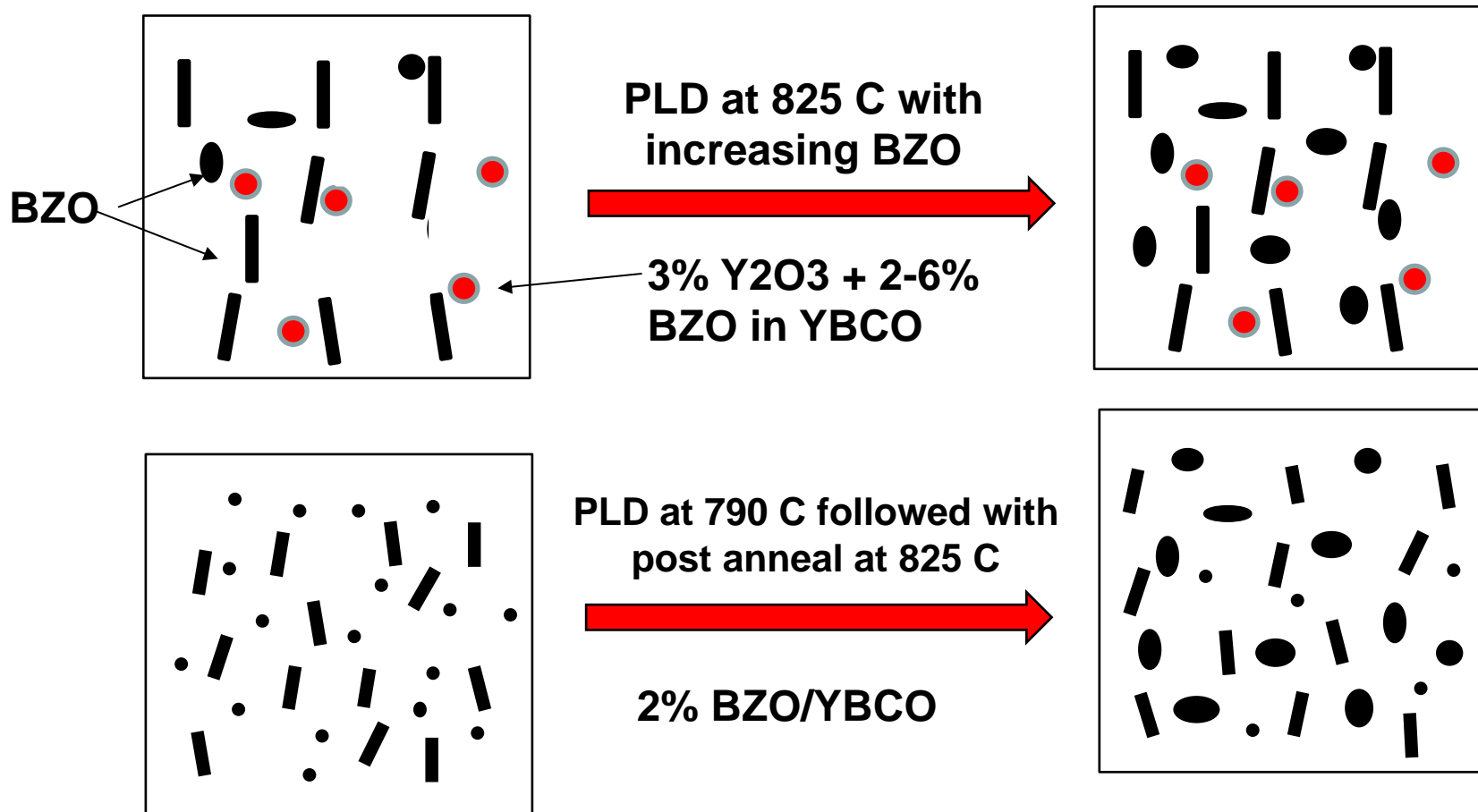
Baca et al, *Adv. Func. Mat.*, (2013)

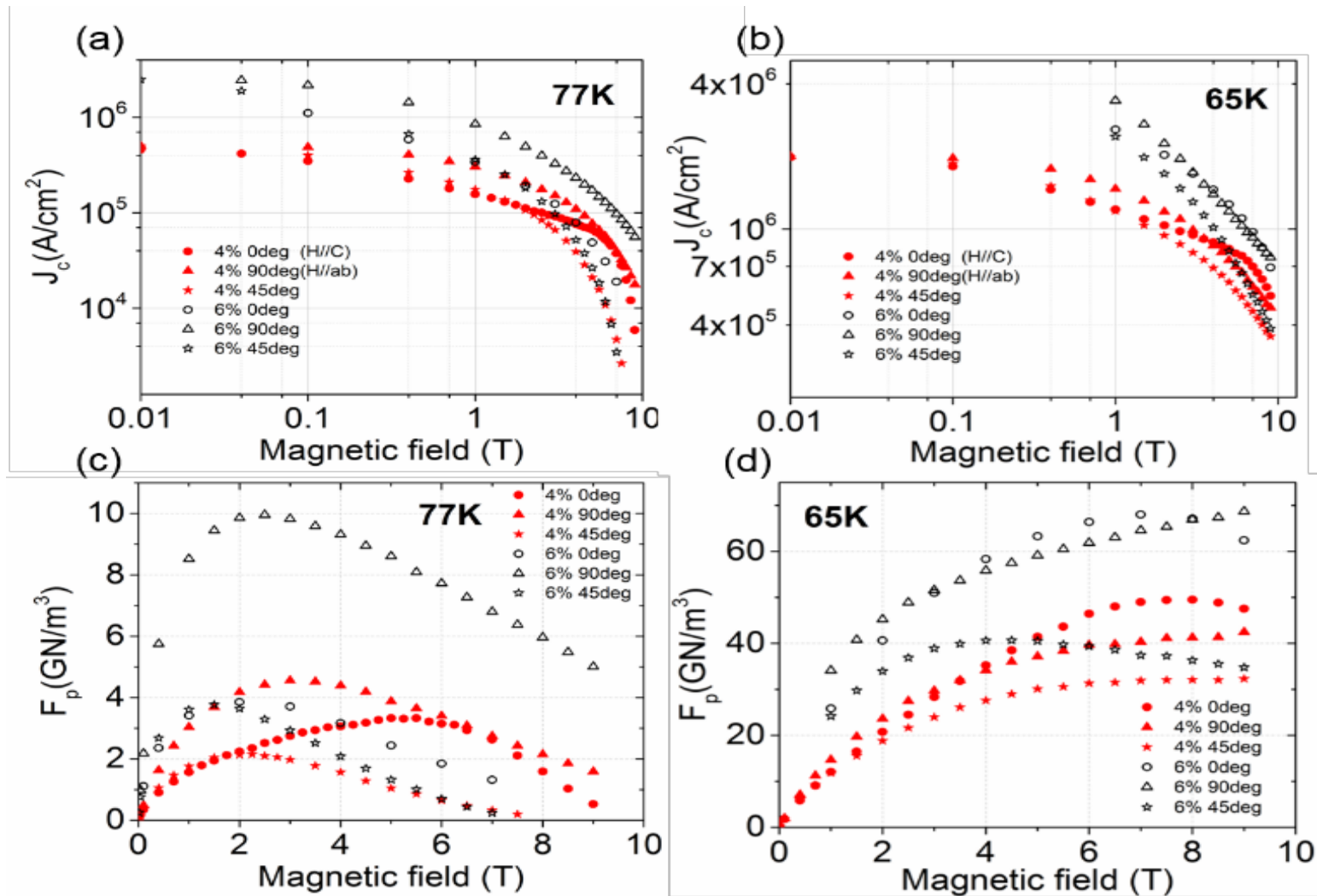
- Y₂O₃ hinders c-axis aligned BZO nanorods formation
- Large amount of small-size BZO APCs may not be even visible



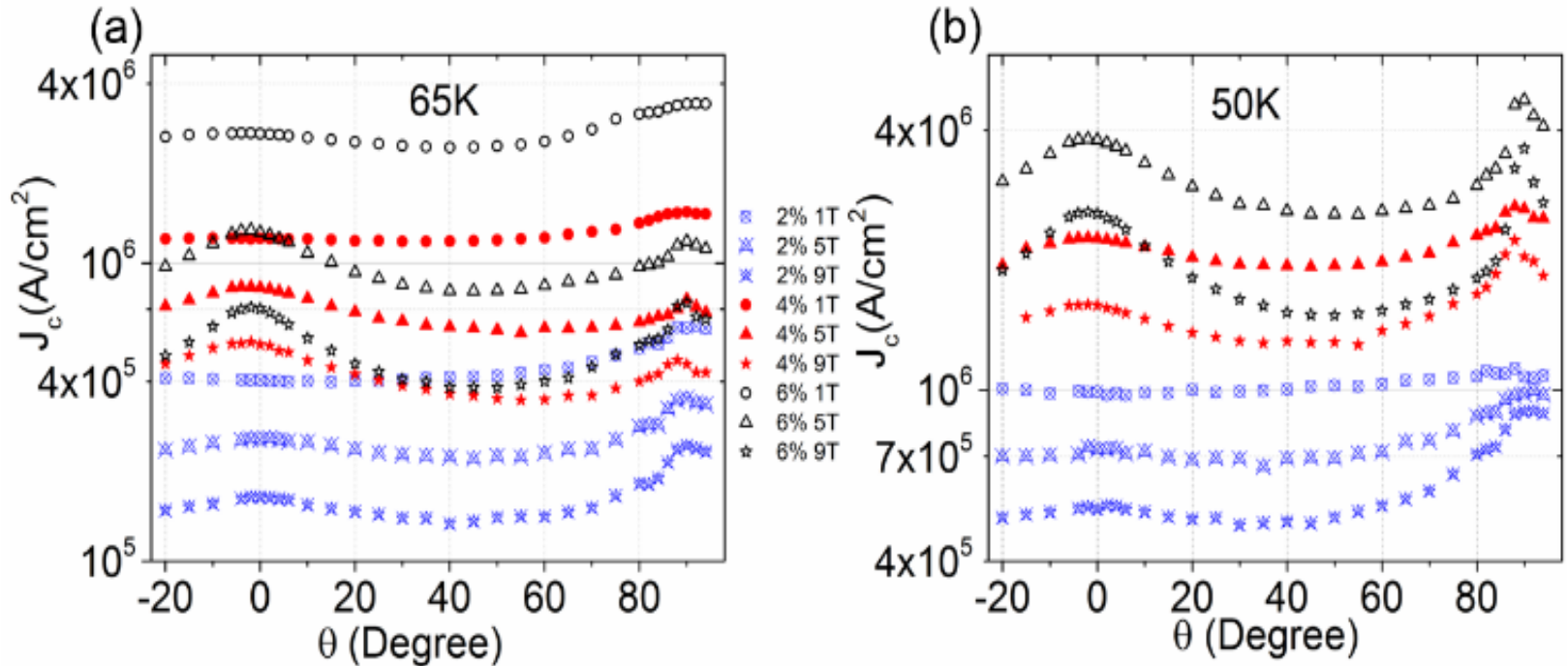
Two approaches to develop 3D BZO APCs:

- BZO+Y₂O₃/YBCO at high BZO concentration
- Low T growth BZO/YBCO + high-T post-anneal



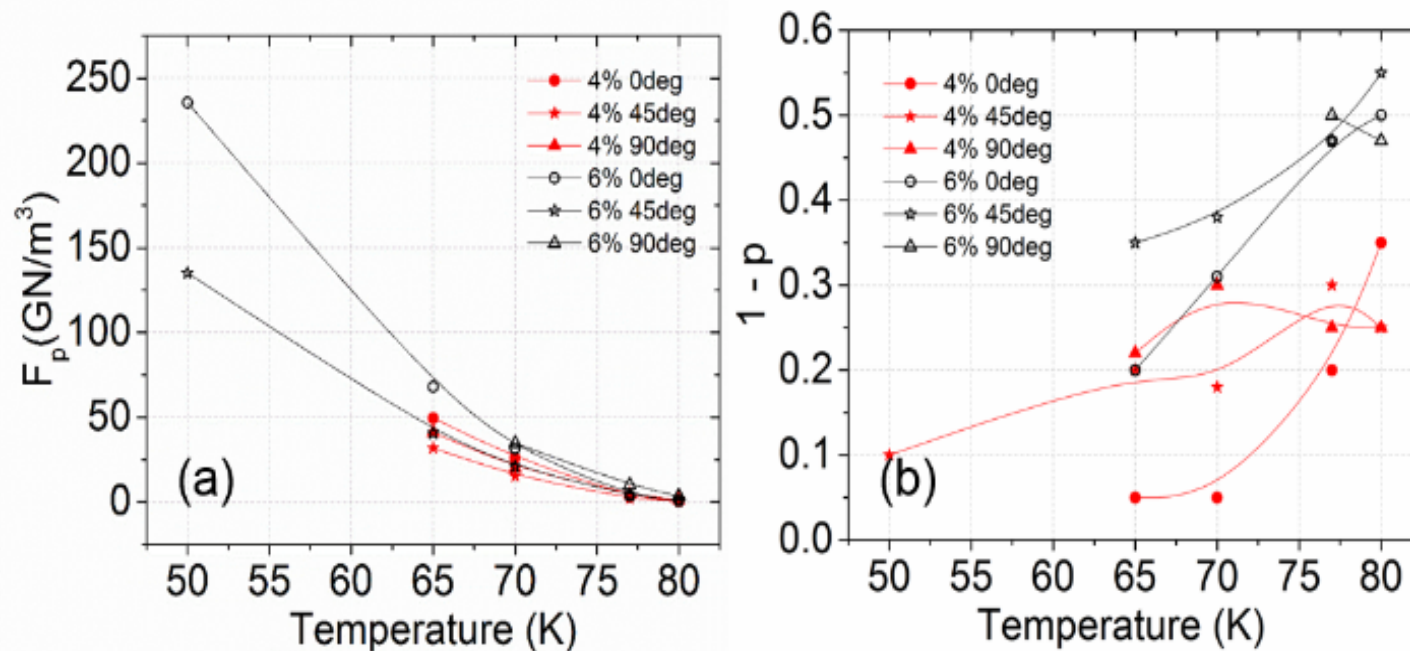


Significantly enhanced overall J_c and F_p in 6% BZO+Y2O3/YBCO samples



Much reduced J_c anisotropy observed in 6% BZO+Y2O3/YBCO samples

Chen et al, submitted

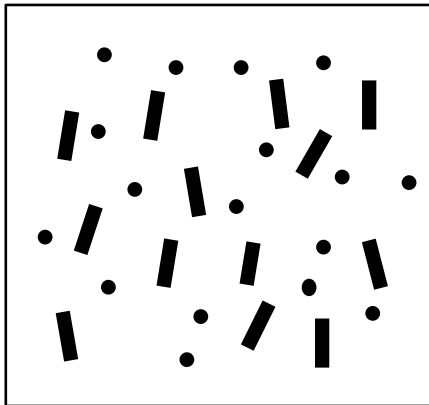
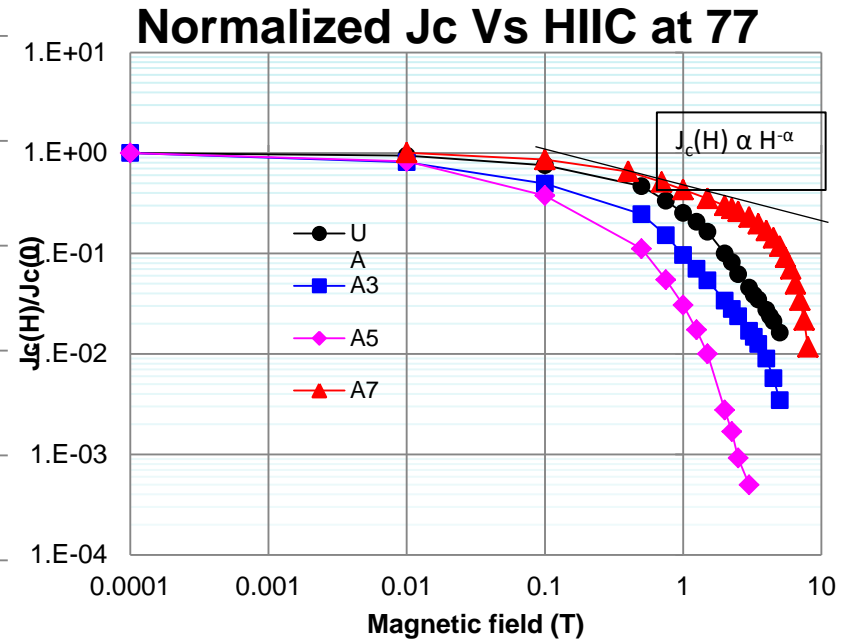
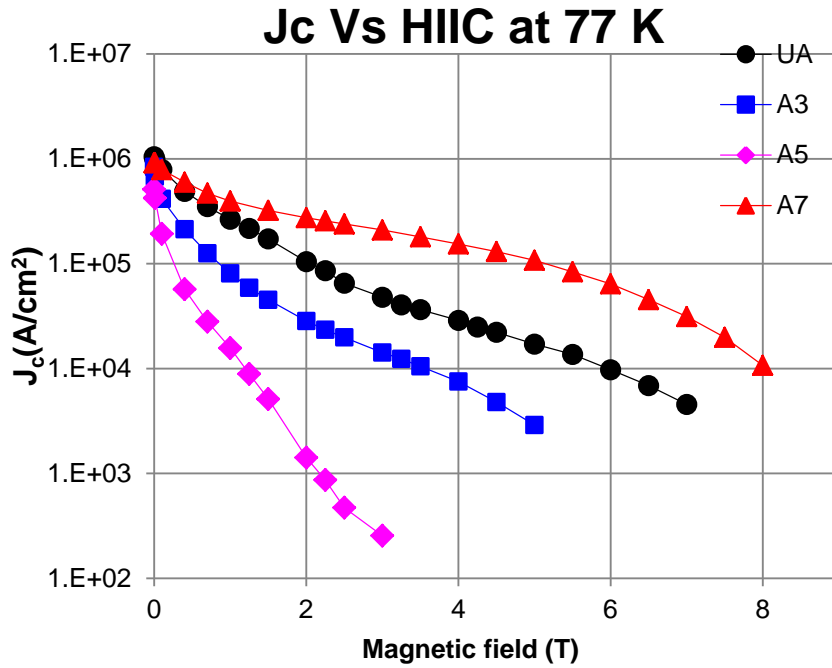


Fit the F_p (H) using the model by Dew-Hughes and Kramer, $1-P=\alpha$,

$$F_p(B) = F_{p0} \left(\frac{B}{B_{c2}} \right)^p \left(1 - \frac{B}{B_{c2}} \right)^q$$

Chen et al, submitted

Besides overall high F_p in 6% BZO+Y2O3, the low $1-P$ value at 45 deg orientation indicates 3D BZO APCs can be strong pins at low temperatures



PLD at 790 C followed with
post anneal at 825 C



2% BZO/YBCO

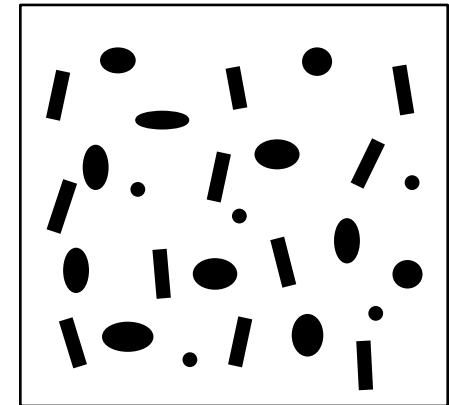
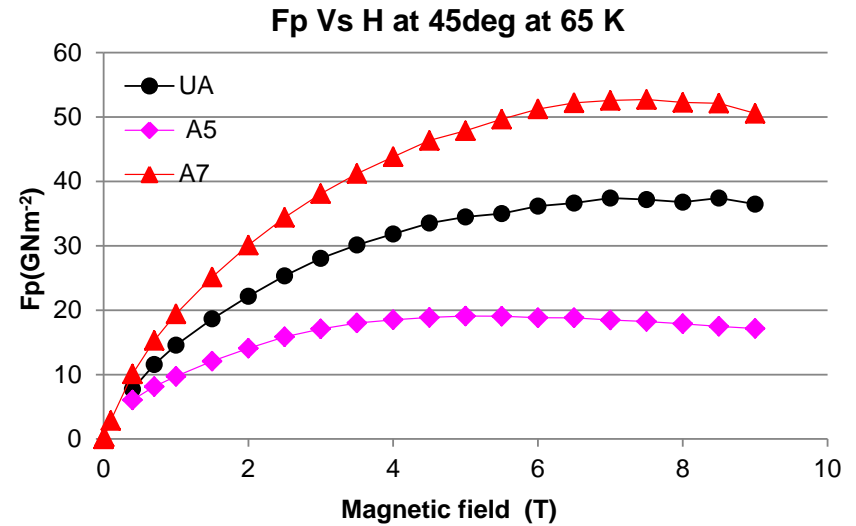
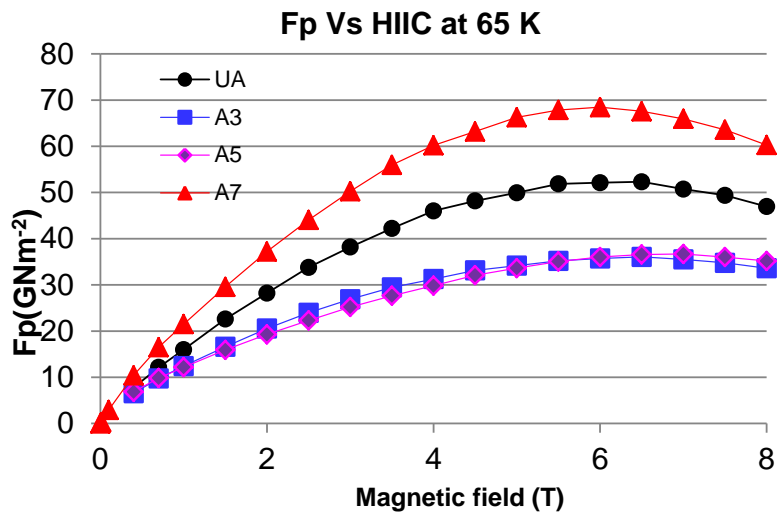
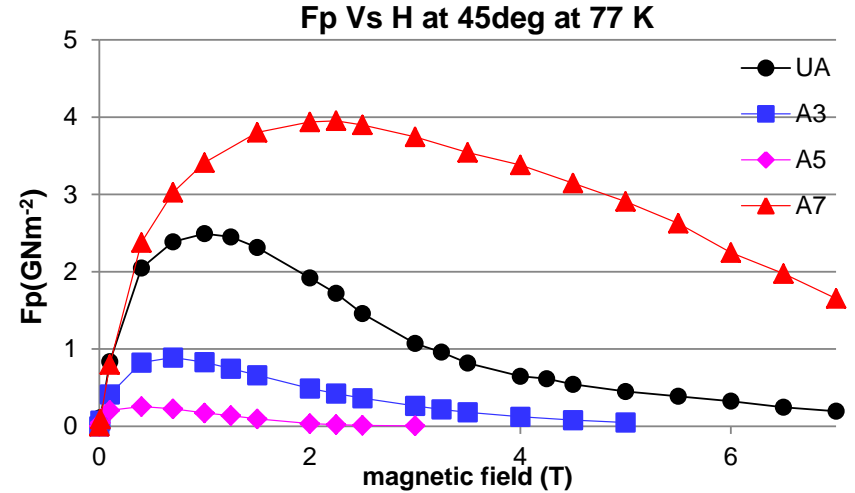
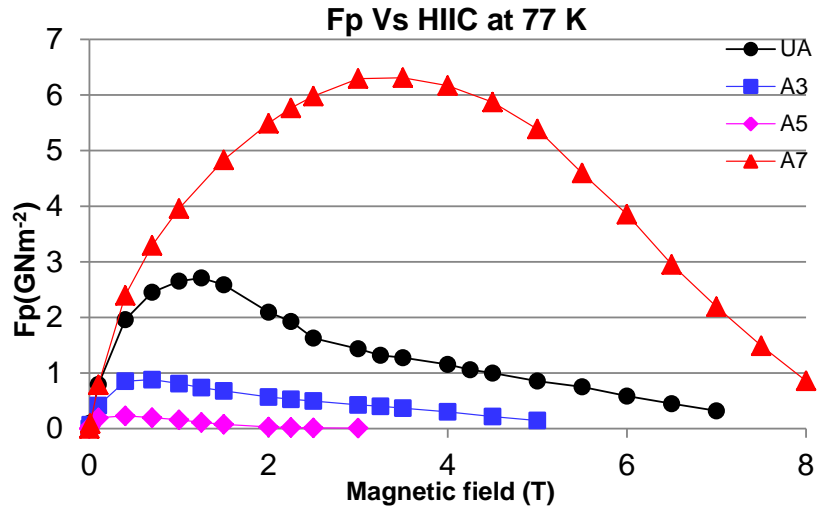




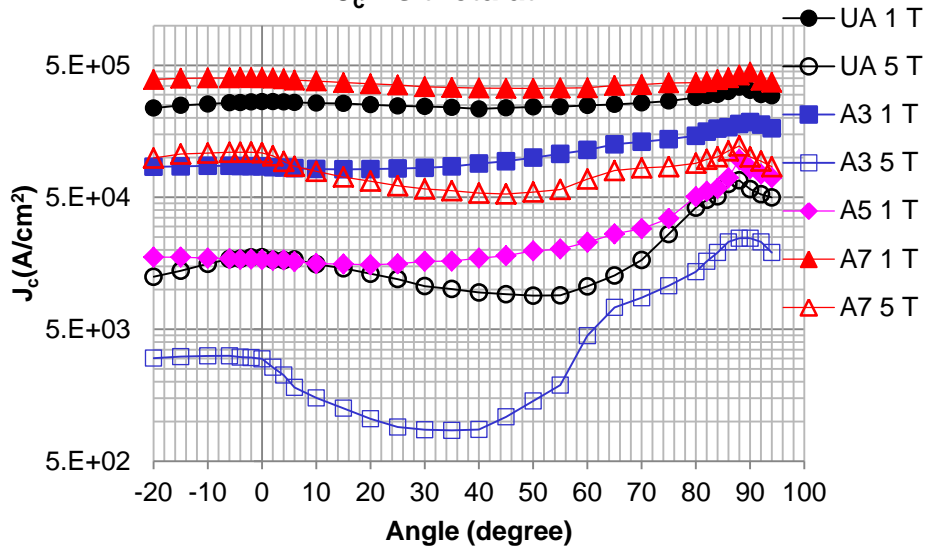
Figure 2 a,b,c,d



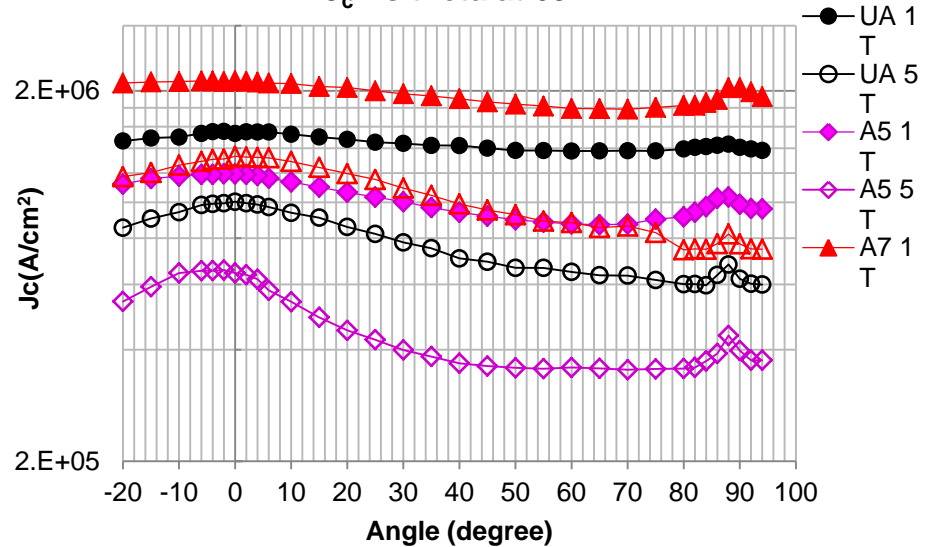
Post anneal at 825 C promotes growth of weak 0D BZO-APC to strong 3D BZO-APCs



J_c Vs theta at 77 K



J_c Vs theta at 65 K



Besides higher J_c and F_p values, strong 3D BZO-APCs also improve isotropic J_c

Gautum et al, preprint

Summary

Understanding the Interfacial strain (local and global) provides means to control APC's morphology, orientation and dimension:

- **Local** YBCO/dopant interfacial strain (lattice mismatch, elastic constants) determines the morphology and dimension of the APCs in the YBCO matrix film
- **Global** substrate/film interfacial strain add additional tuning to the APC landscape (nanorod alignment from c-aligned, to splayed, and to ab-aligned)
- **Controlling interplay** between local and global strains allows generation of strong and isotropic BZO APCs using three approaches:
 - Vicinal + BZO variable concentration
 - Y_2O_3 + BZO variable concentration
 - Low T growth BZO/YBCO + high-T post-anneal