



# Advance in Artificial Pinning of MOD-REBCO Superconducting Coated Conductors

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# Collaboration & Acknowledgement



- **Y.M. Lu, M.J. Li, Y.Q. Guo, X.M. Yin et al., @Shanghai Key Laboratory of High Temperature Superconductors, Shanghai University**
- **Y.J. Zhang, Y. Li, Q. Lu et al., @Shanghai Creative Superconductor Technologies Co., Ltd (SCSC)**
- **X. Z. Zhang, X. H. Zong et al., @ Shanghai Electric Cable Research Institute / Shanghai International Superconductor Technologies Co., Ltd**



上海大学  
Shanghai University



1

**Methods of introducing artificial pinning centers in HTS**

2

**Technical route and performance of MOD tapes in SCSC**

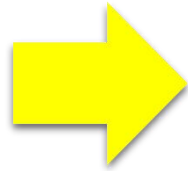
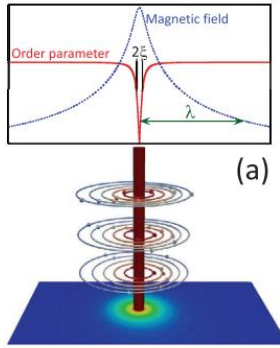
3

**Recent progress of artificial flux pinning in MOD-REBCO**



# Defect types VS. film preparation methods

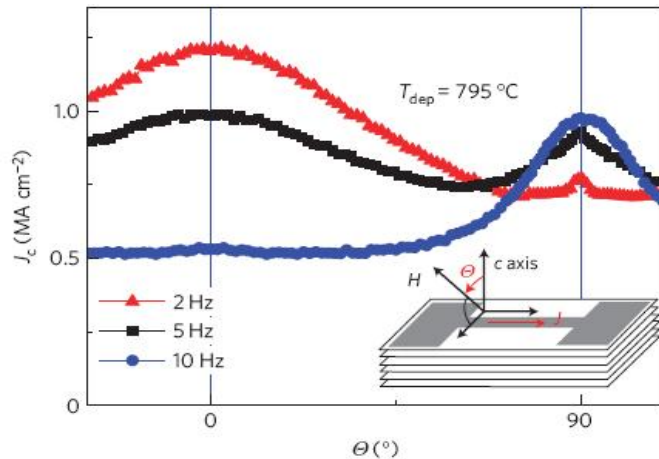
Magnetic Flux Core Size:  $2\xi \sim 1-2 \text{ nm}$



Effective Flux Pinning Center Dimension: **around  $2\xi$**

WK Kwok et al., Rep. Prog. Phys. 79, 116501(2016)

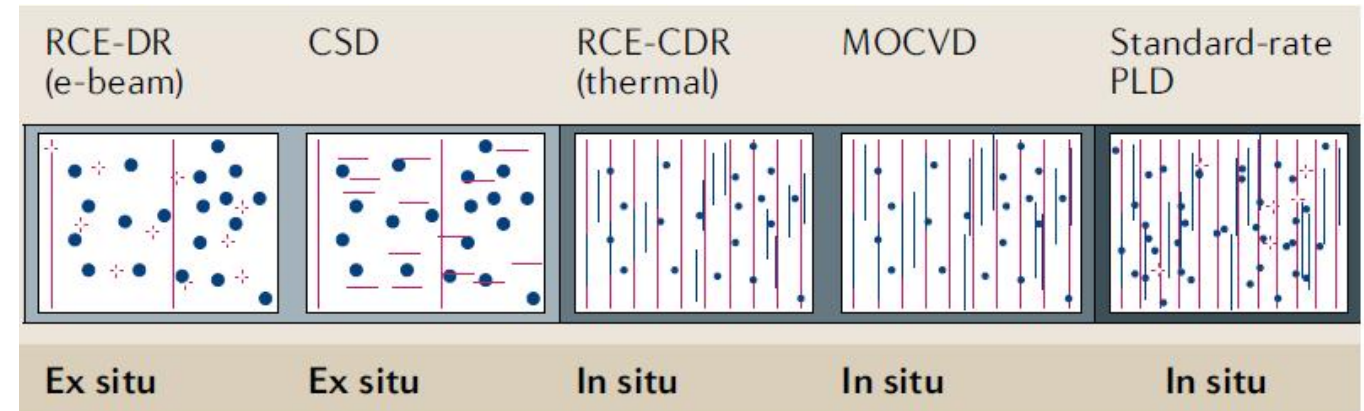
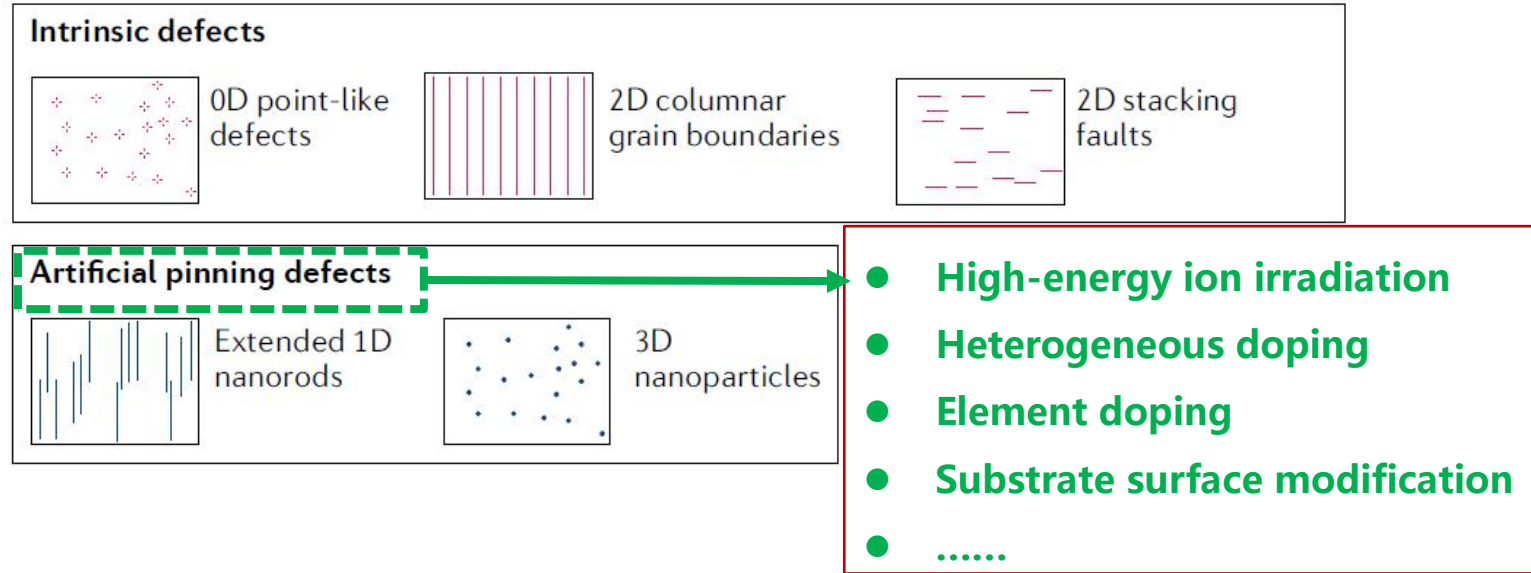
Magnetic transport anisotropy:



APC reduces the anisotropy

B. Maiorov et al., Nat. Mater. 8, 398 (2009)

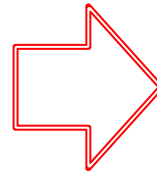
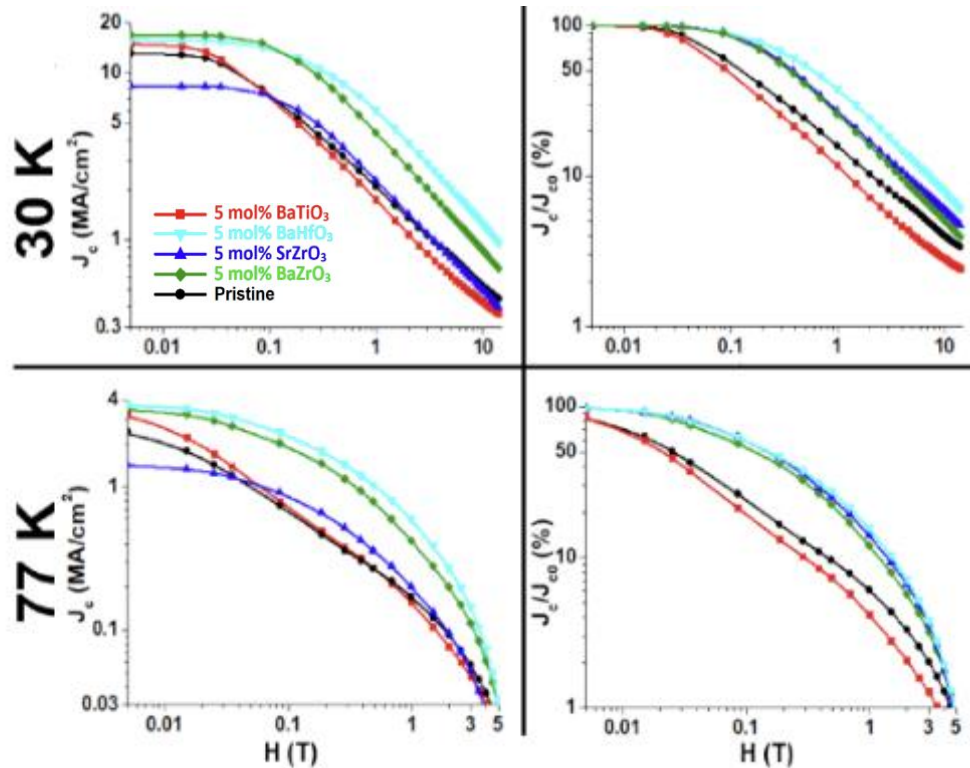
Defect types as flux pinning centers in REBCO film:



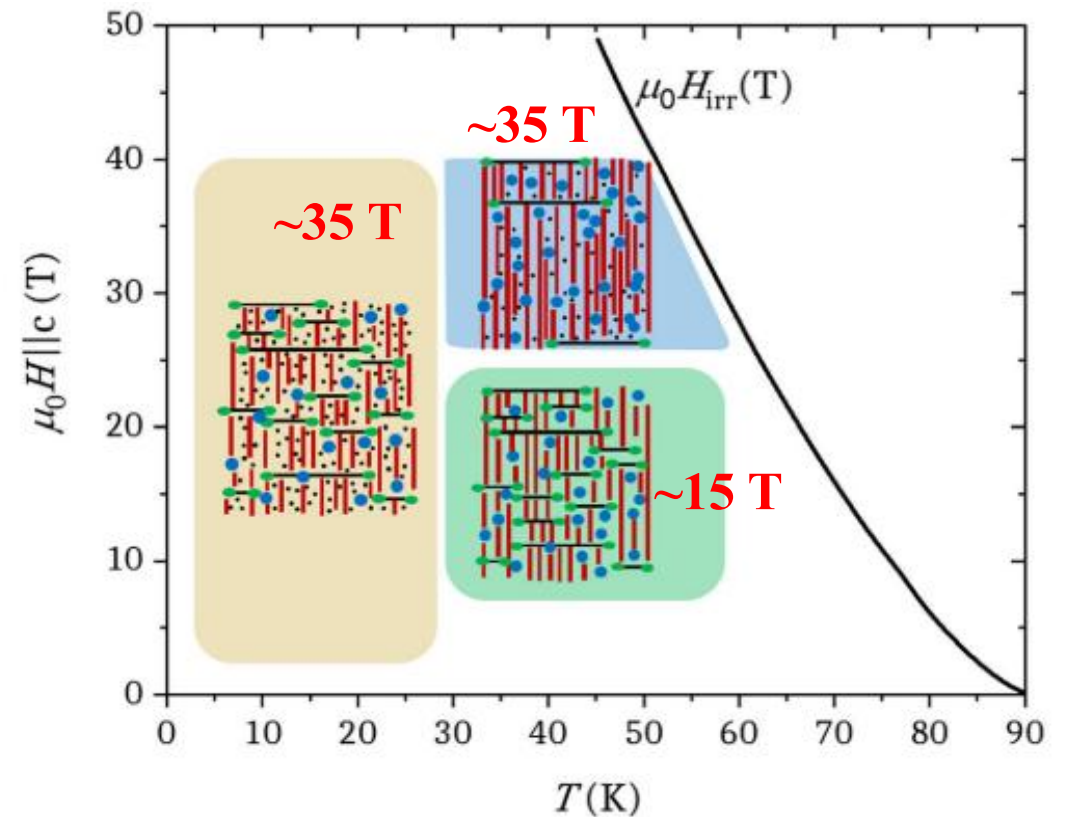
MacManus- Driscoll et al., Nat. Rev. Mater., 6, 587-604(2021)

# In-field performance VS. Application

- BMO<sub>3</sub> nanocrystal technology: size control, highly dispersive
- Significant improvement of In-field  $J_c$



- **Mixed landscape in REBCO:** small size defects result in strong pinning at high field, meaning the great advantage of nanocrystal addition in MOD route;



Ziliang Li, Sci Rep 9, 5828 (2019)

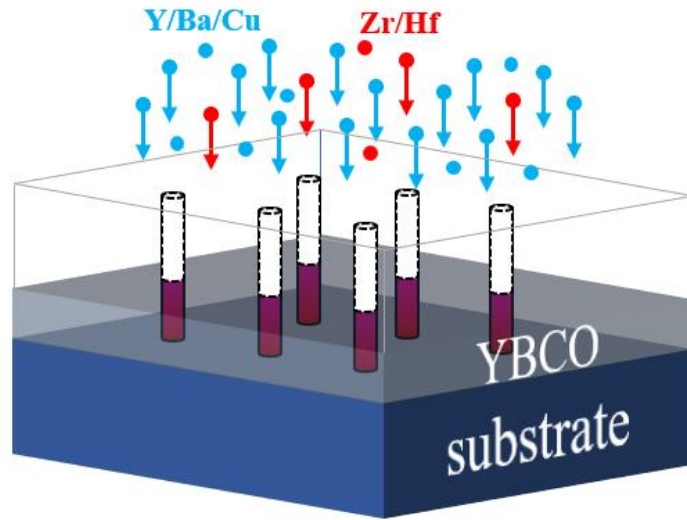
J Díez-Sierra et al., ACS Appl. Nano Mater. 3, 5542–5553(2020)

Soler, L., Nat Commun 11, 344 (2020)

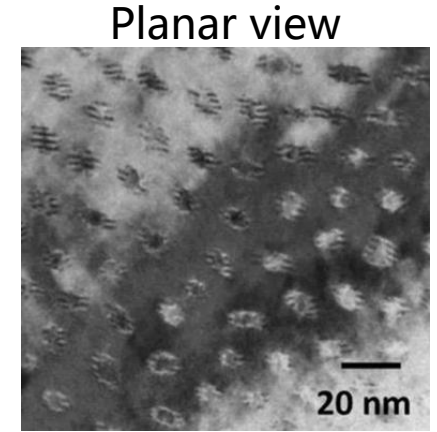
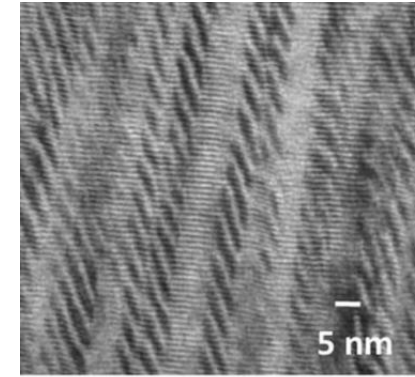
2022, VallèsF et al., Commun. Mater. 3, 45(2022)



# Introduction of APCs: **doping—*in-situ***



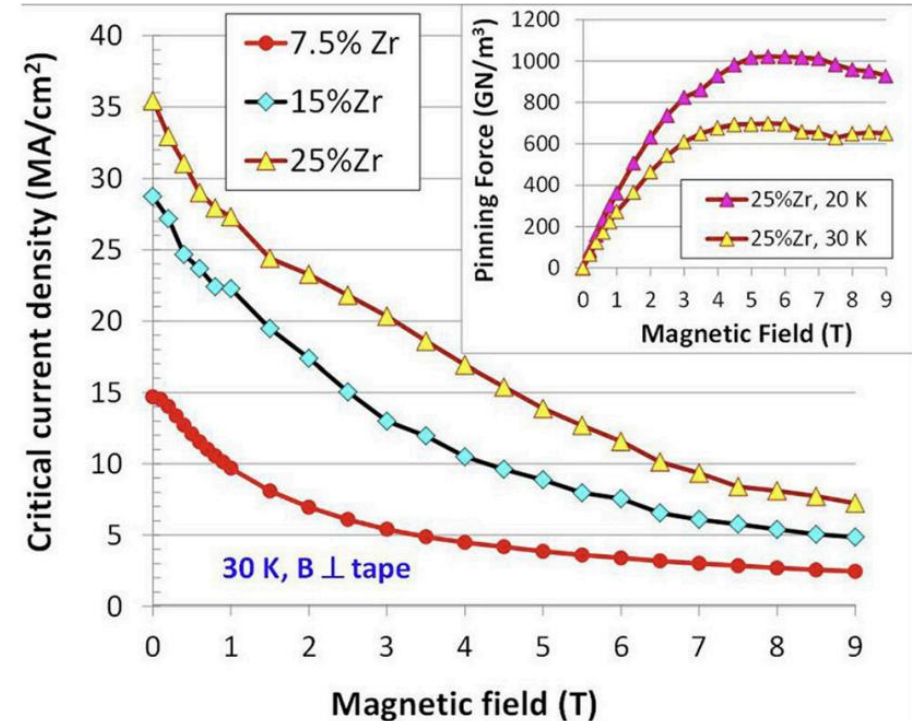
Controllable defects with size and morphology



◆ **Secondary phase columnar growth of *in-situ* PLD & MOCVD film**

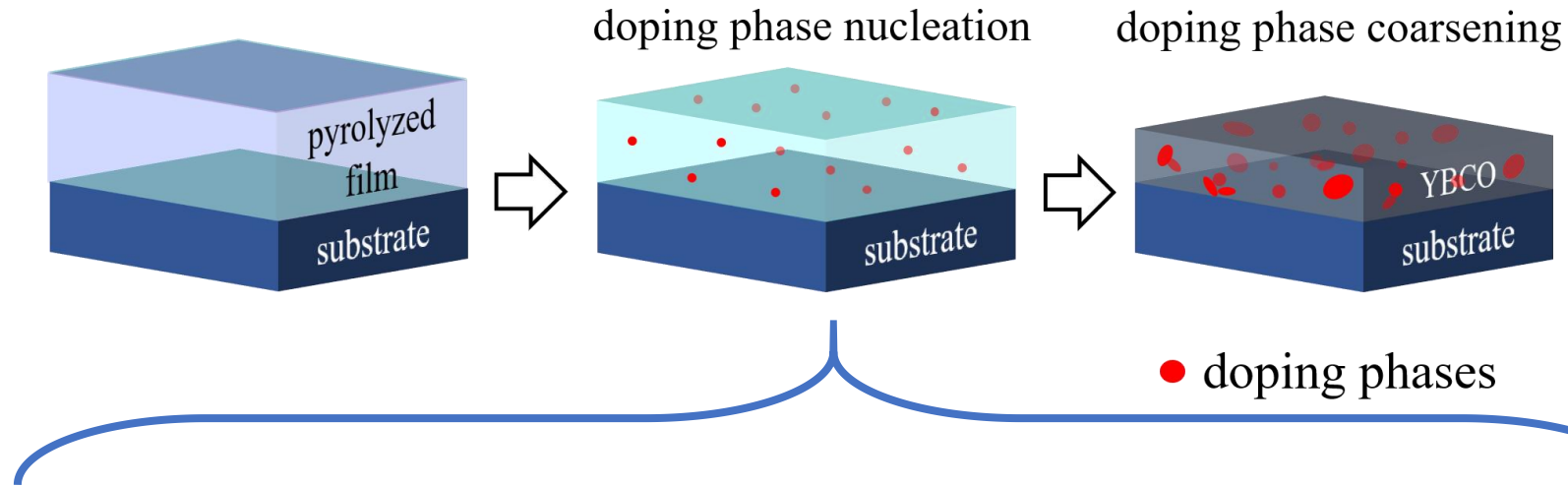
**Common columnar secondary phases: perovskite structural type oxides**

- BaZrO<sub>3</sub>、BaHfO<sub>3</sub>、BaSnO<sub>3</sub>、BaY(Nb,Ta)O<sub>5</sub>

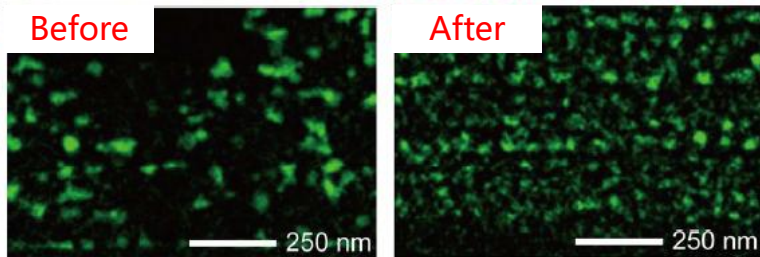


# Introduction of APCs: **doping**—*ex-situ*

□ Doping Zr/Hf/Mn/Sn element etc. : large size and uneven distribution

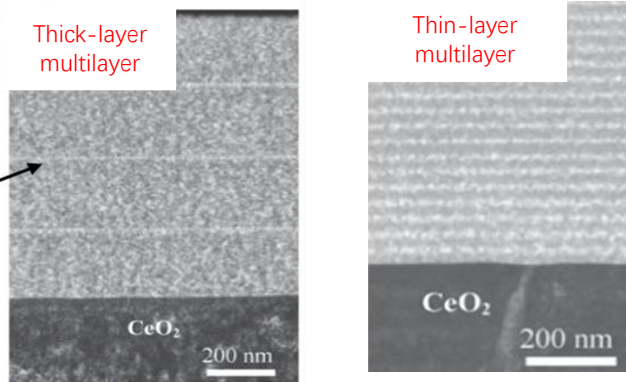


Medium temperature treatment before high Temperature crystallization

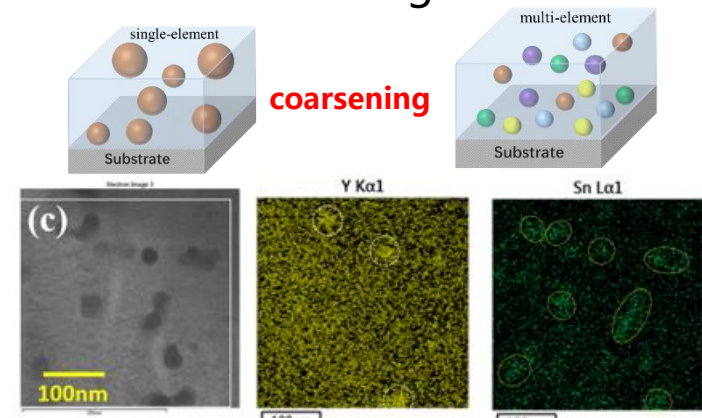


Copper-rich layer

Ultrathin-layer methods:  
Refine secondary phase particles



Multi-element doping to avoid coarsening

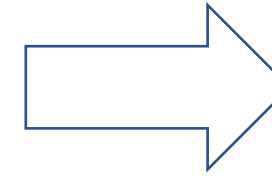


# Introduction of APCs: ion irradiation

Ion irradiation

- Columnar defects
- Controllable density and orientation

$E_i$ : energy  
 $M_i$ : mass  
 $\Phi$ : dose  
 $\Theta$ : injection angle



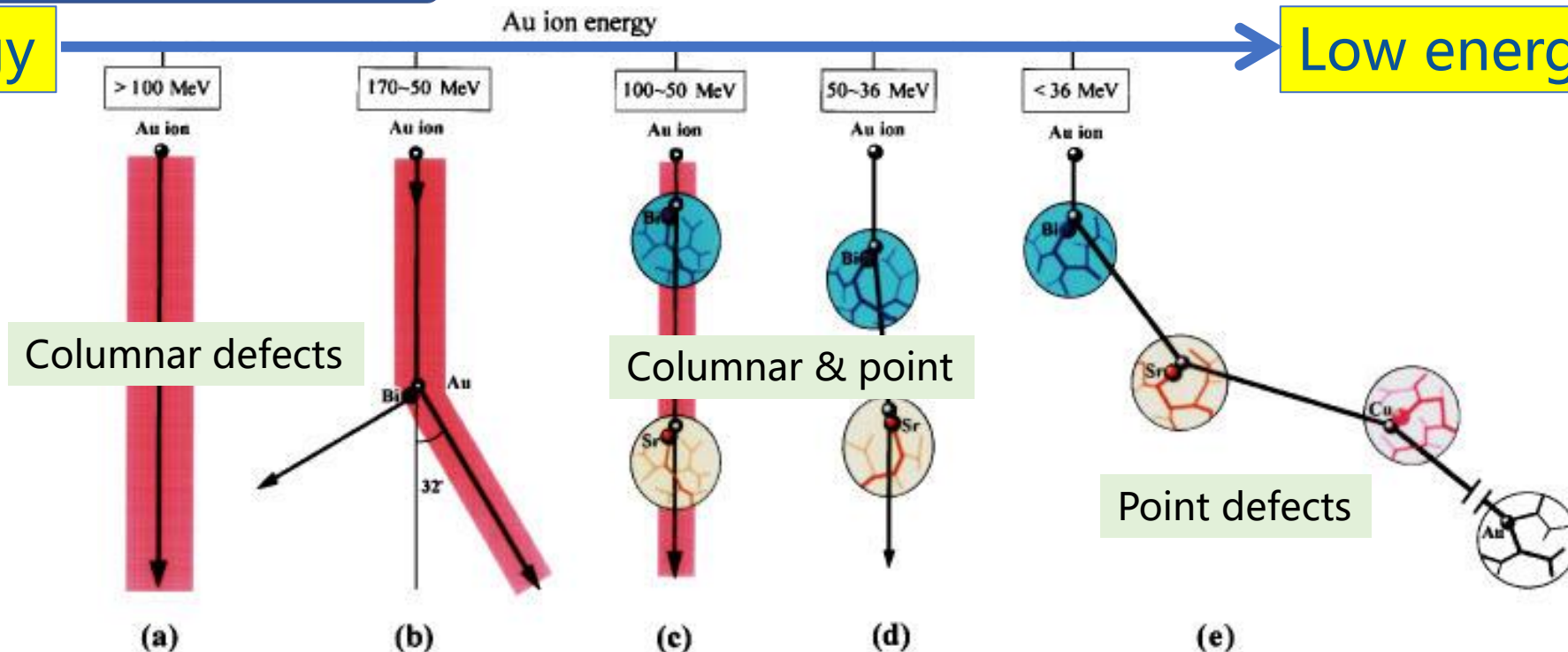
- Defect size
- Defect shape
- Defect density
- Defect orientation

## Mechanism of ion irradiation

230 MeV Au-irradiated  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Sr}_2\text{CaCu}_2\text{O}_x$  as an example:

High energy

Low energy





1

Methods of introducing artificial pinning centers in HTS

2

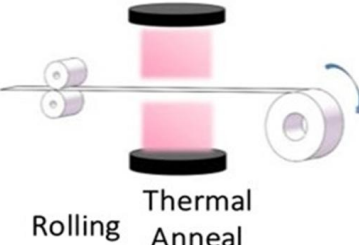


**Technical route and performance of MOD tapes in SCSC**

3

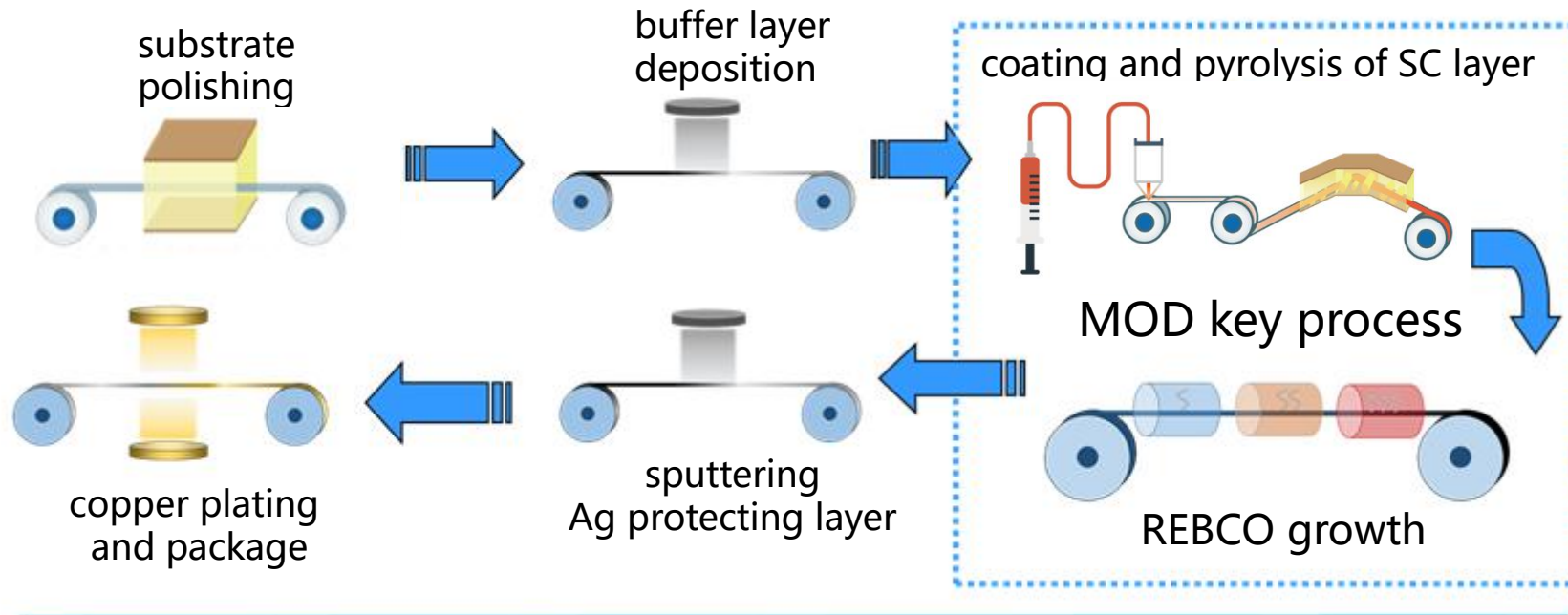
Recent progress of artificial flux pinning in MOD-REBCO



# SCSC: an unique technical route!

| Metal Substrate  | Buffer Layer<br>(texture building)           | HTS Layer<br>(epitaxial growth) |                | Typical Company  |
|--|--|---------------------------------|----------------|--|
| <p>RABiTS工艺</p>  | <p>Epi-CeO/ YSZ<br/>or LZO</p>               | <p>Ex-Situ</p>                  | <p>MOD</p>     | <p>AMSC,<br/>d-NANO</p>  |
| <p>IBAD工艺</p>   | <p>LMO/<br/>epi-MgO/<br/><b>IBAD-MgO</b></p> |                                 | <p>In-Situ</p> | <p><b>SCSC (  )</b></p> |
|  |  | <p>RCE</p>                      |                | <p>Fujikura, SST, SuperOX,<br/>Bruker</p>  |
|  |  | <p>MOCVD</p>                    |                | <p>SuperPower, SAMRI</p>   |

# SCSC: industrial production lines



## Low-cost MOD route

- No high vacuum
- Easy control of composition
- 100% utilization of solution
- Wider tapes & thicker HTS layer
- Large scale production

- Substrate polish
- Texture formation of buffer layers
- Coating and growth of HTS layer
- Slitting & Package



# Latest developed MOD production lines with higher yield



**MOD-HTS process(1):  
Coating and Low-temperature pyrolysis**

**MOD-HTS process(2):  
High-temperature crystallization**

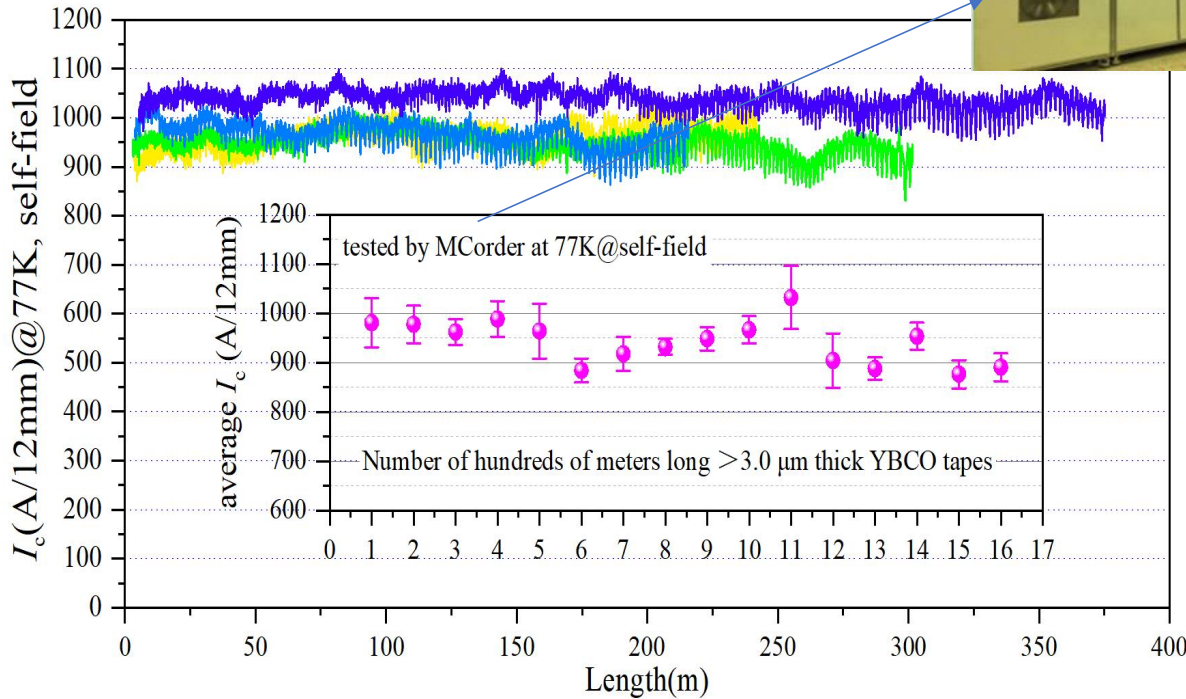
- Wider tapes of **20-40 mm**; **Double lanes** designed;
- Multiple production yields up to **400 km/year** reached.





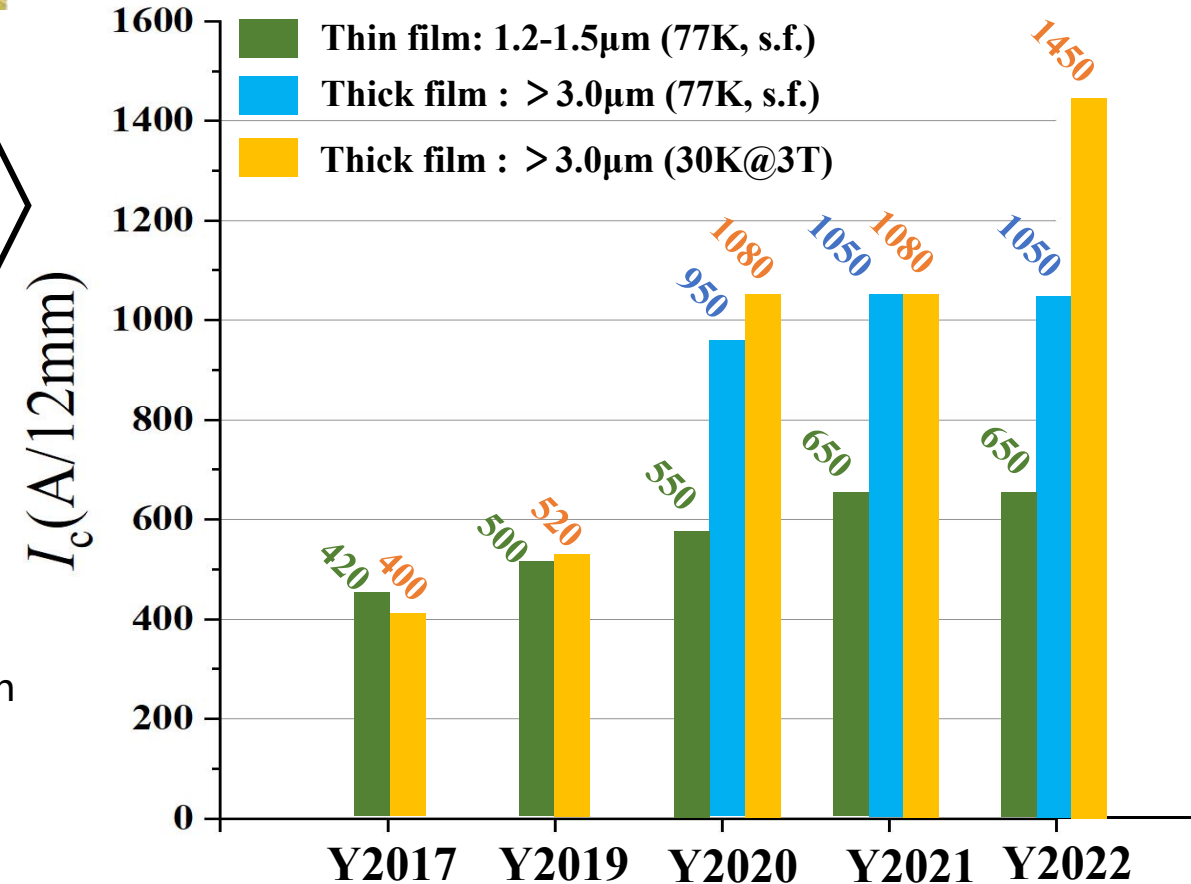
# A hundred-meter thick film long tape

- ✓ Stable preparation of  $>3\mu\text{m}$  BHO-YBCO thick film long tape



- ✓ BMO-added REBCO tape, 4mm-width:

- 30K@3T : 450-500A
- 4.2K@20T : 280-300A

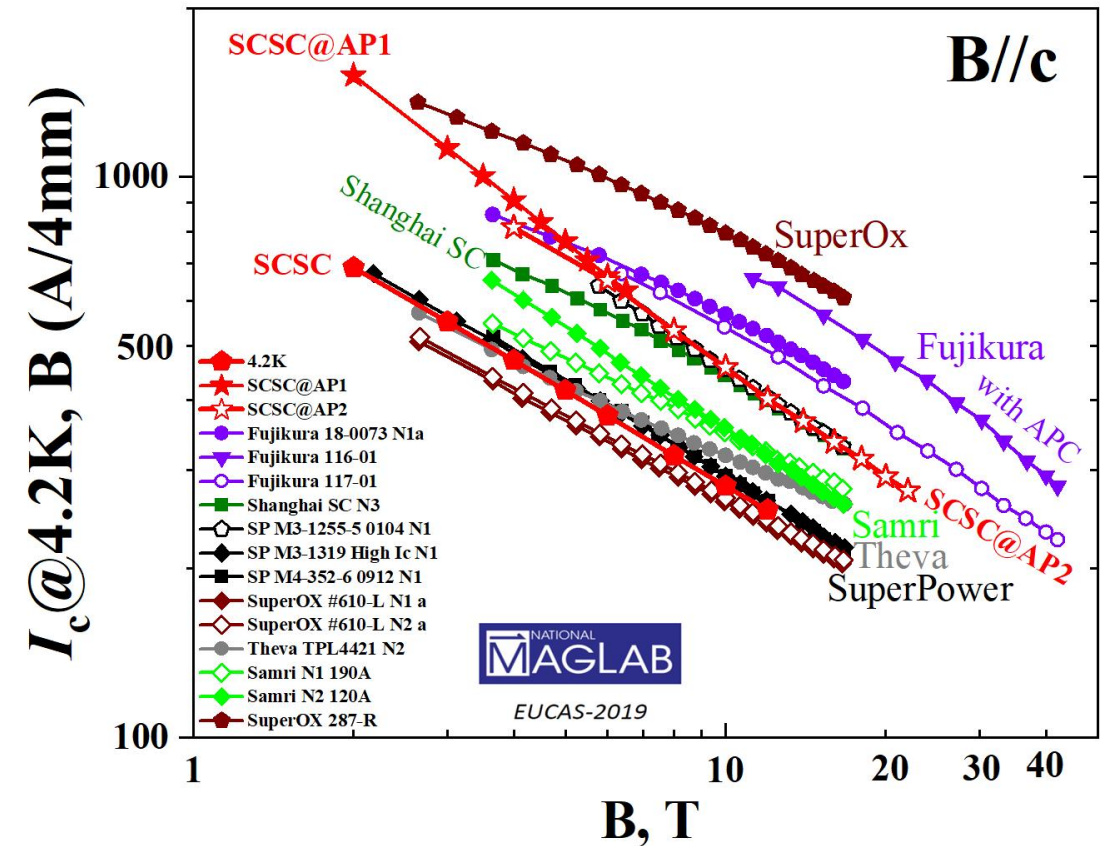
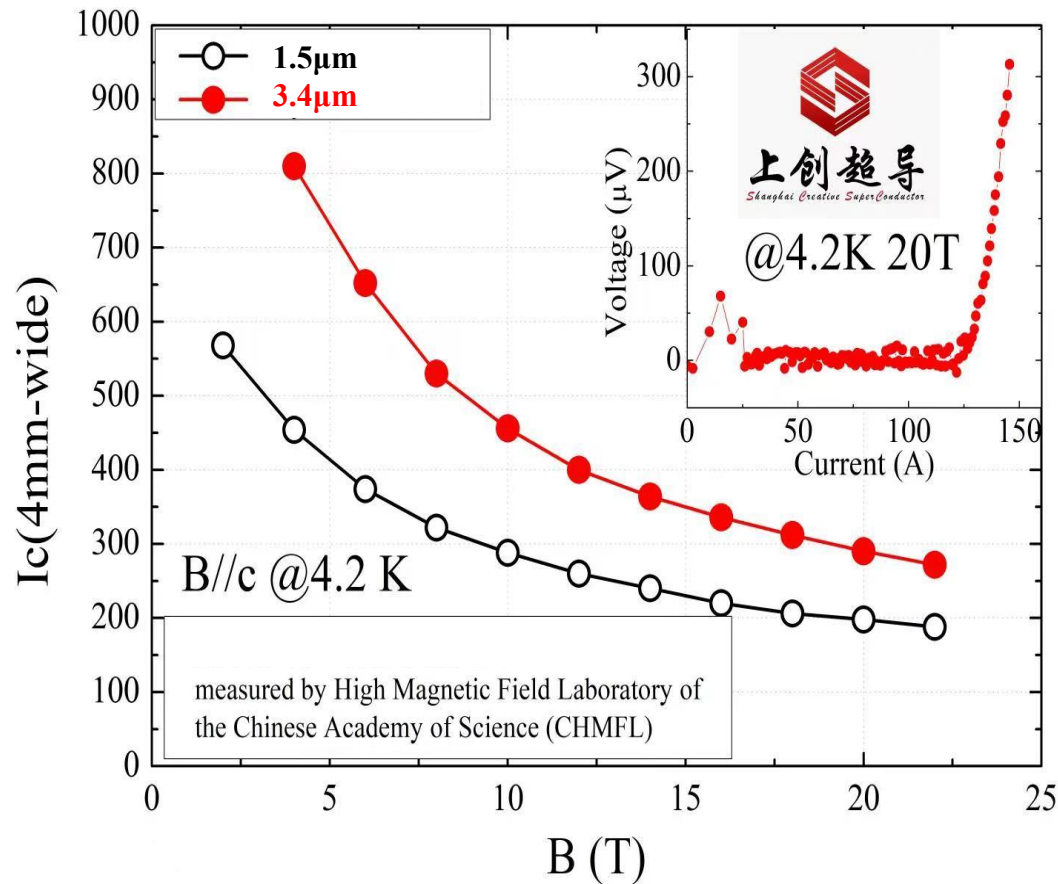


- The  $I_c(77\text{K}, \text{self-field})$  increased from 550A to  $>1000\text{A}(12\text{mm})$  with increased thickness;
- The in-field performance of MOD-YBCO improved with APCs.

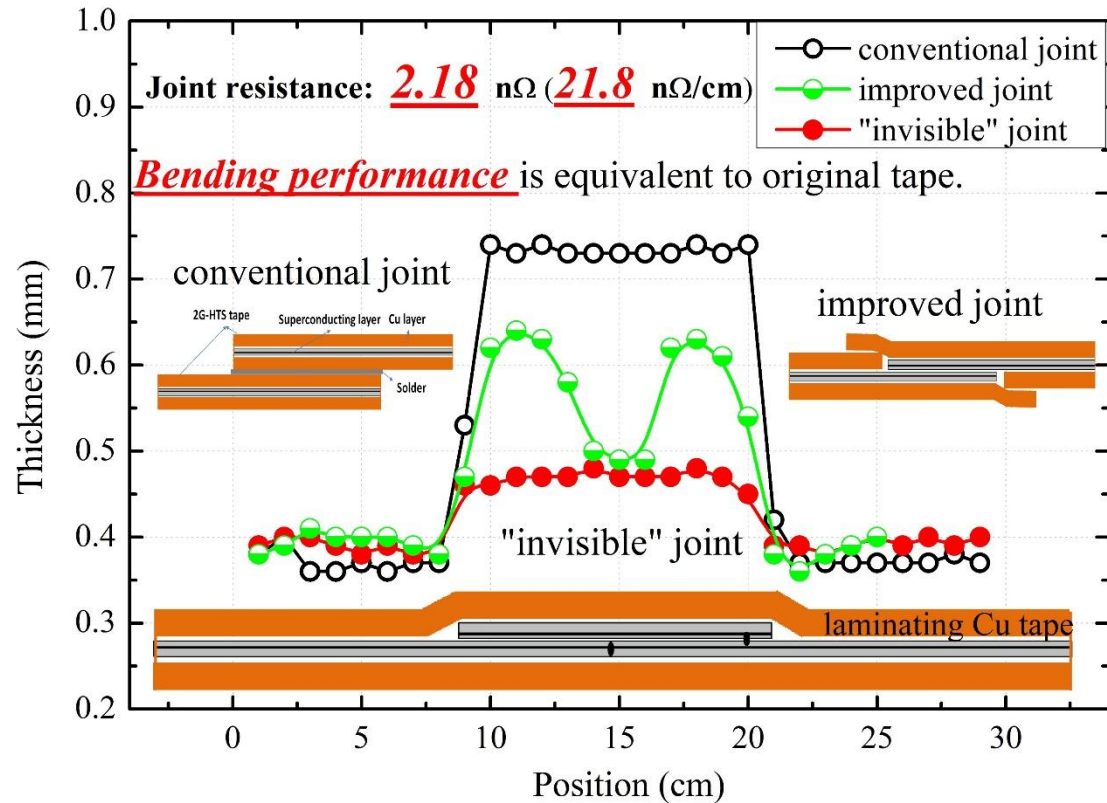


# Performance of commercial MOD-YBCO tapes @SCSC

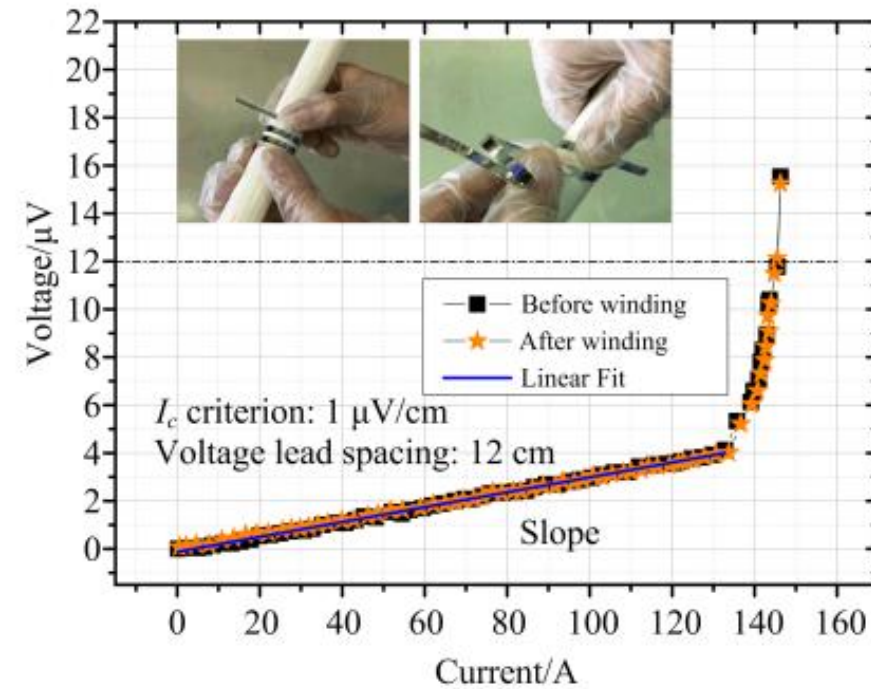
Higher in-field performance of 4mm-width long MOD-YBCO tape  
 (> 200m), **30K@3T : 450-500A; 4.2K@20T : 280-300A**



# Excellent mechanical performance of tape joint



Diameter: 30 mm



- ① Thickness of Improved joint and "invisible" joint decrease 15-20% and 35-40%, respectively.
- ② Improved joint and "invisible" joint : Excellent winging performance.



1

Methods of introducing artificial pinning centers in HTS

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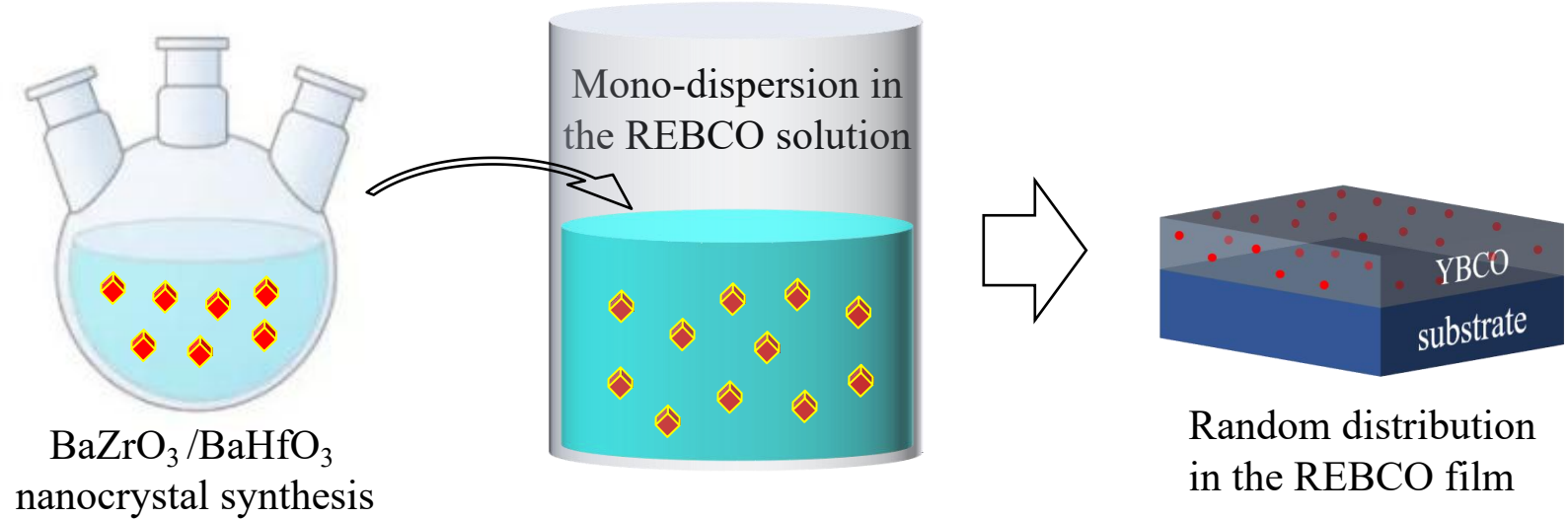
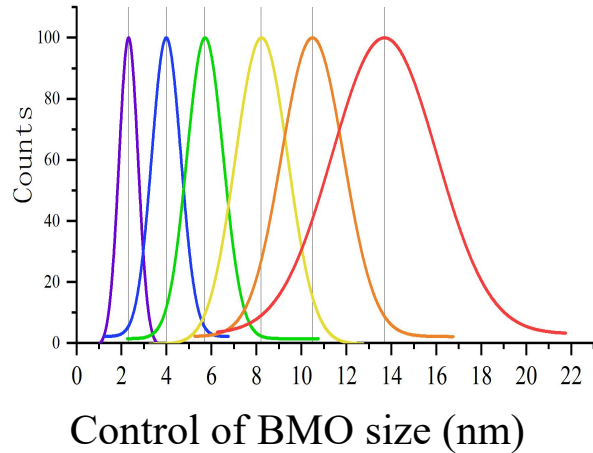
Technical route and performance of MOD tapes in SCSC

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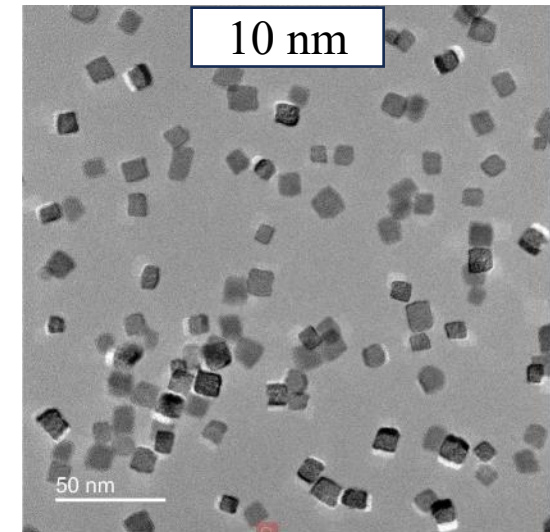
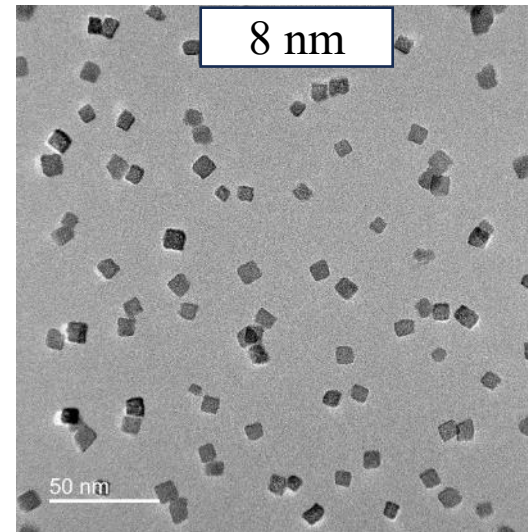
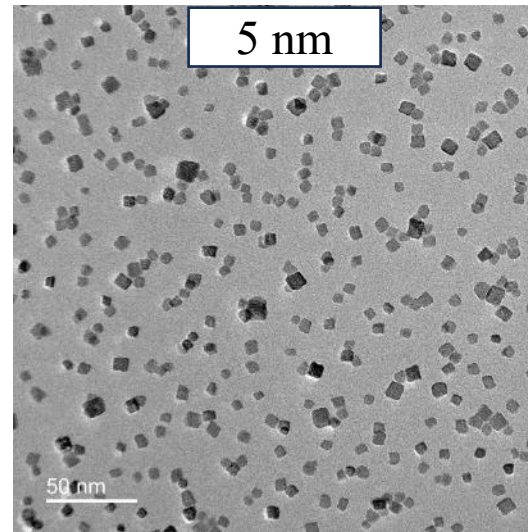
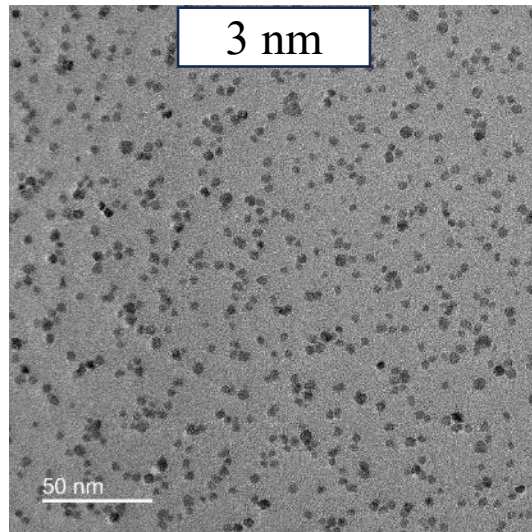
**Recent progress of artificial flux pinning in MOD-REBCO**



# Controllable size of BMO nanocrystals

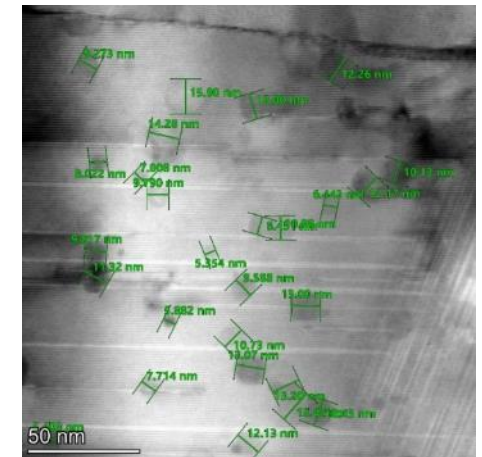
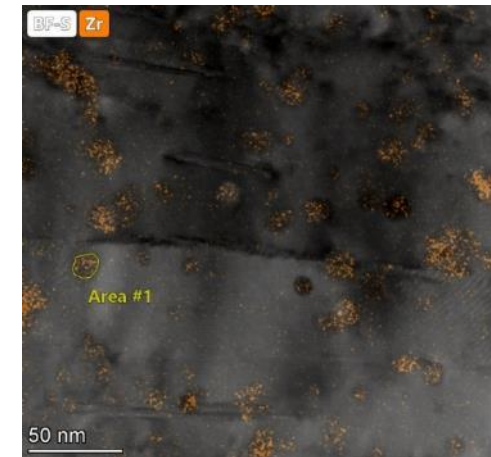
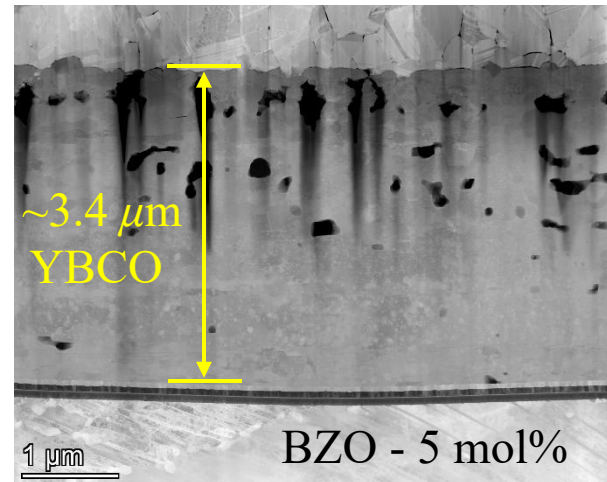
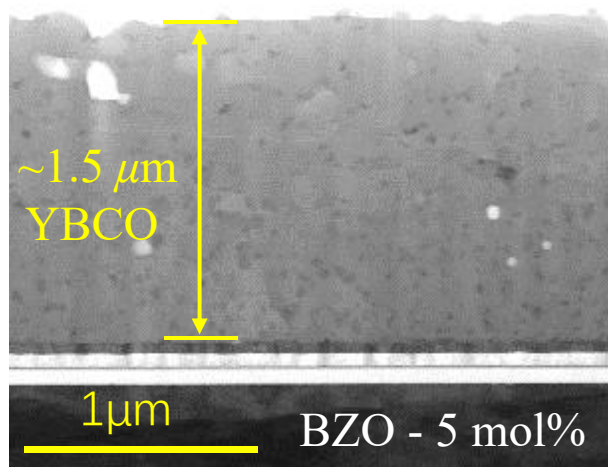


## Nanocrystal addition route: highly control of BMO size and distribution

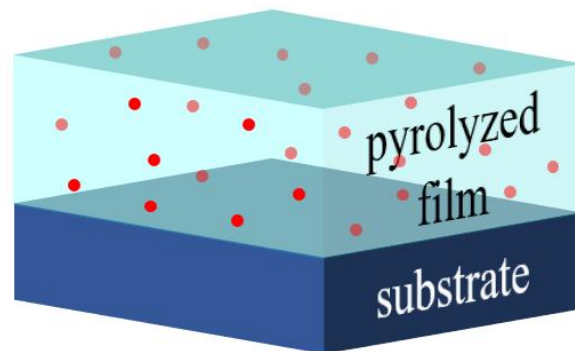


# BMO nanocrystals in REBCO film

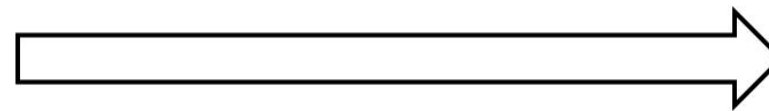
- ✓ Identical benefits of highly control of BMO size and distribution to both the REBCO films with thicknesses of 1.5  $\mu\text{m}$  and 3.4  $\mu\text{m}$



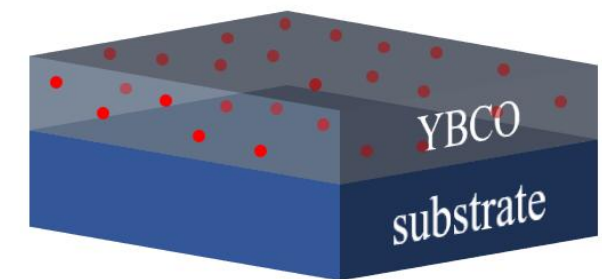
BZO: 8-12 nm



without  
coarsening and agglomeration



● doping phases

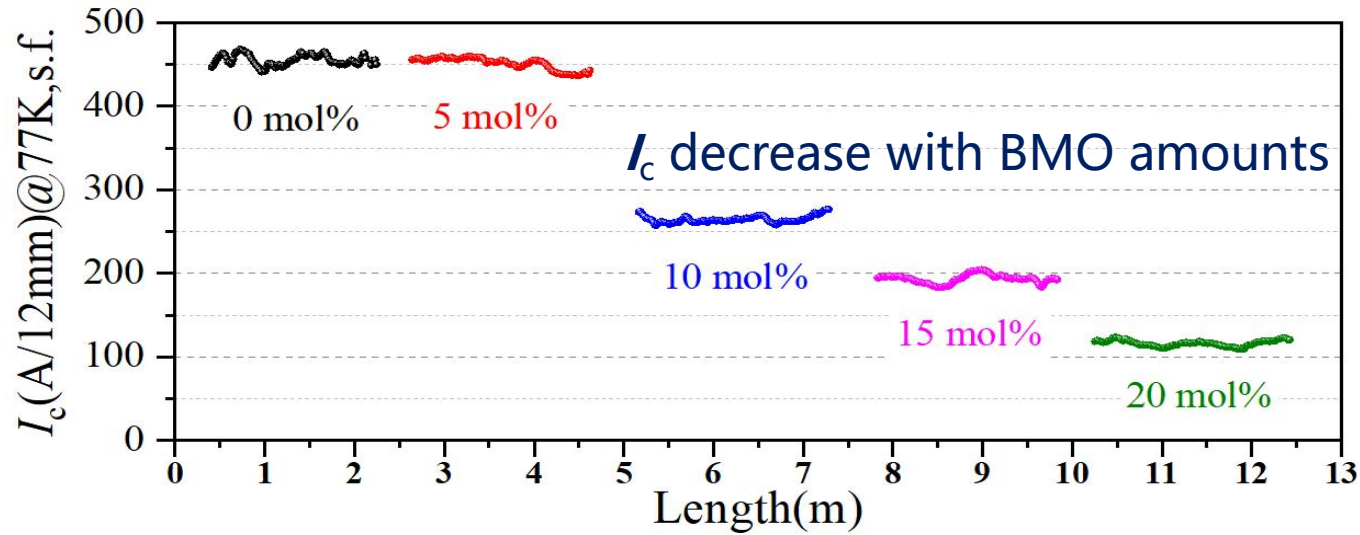




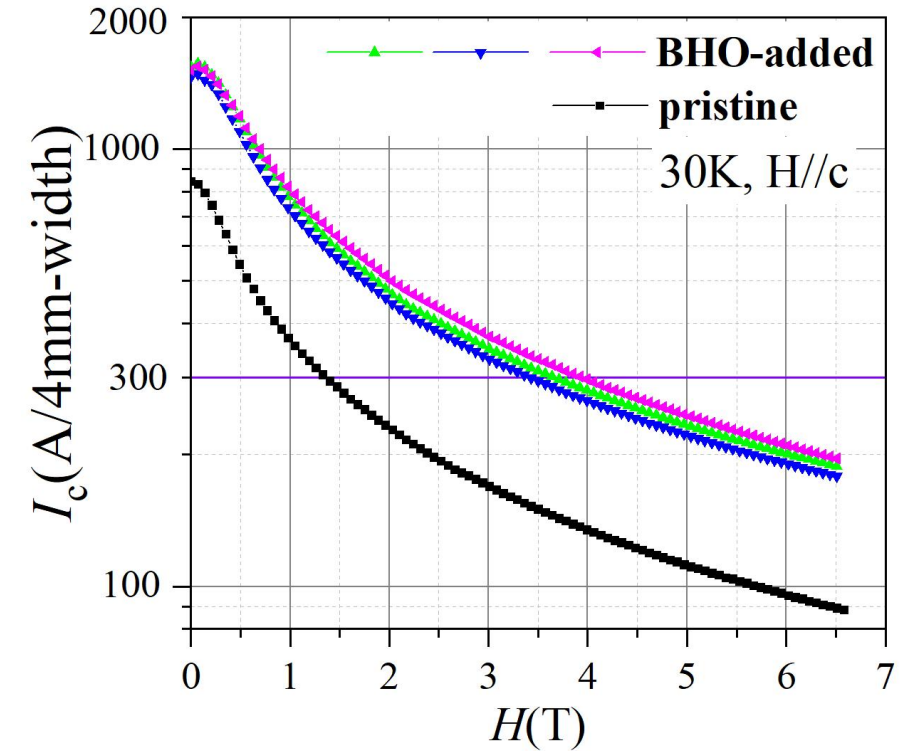
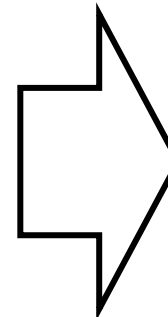
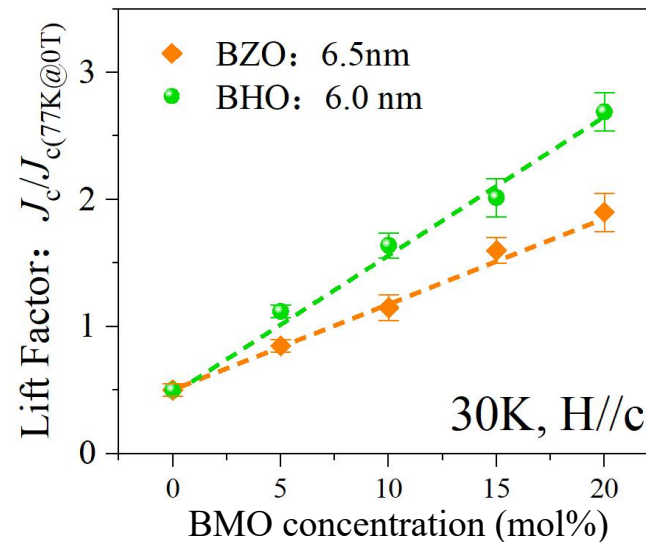
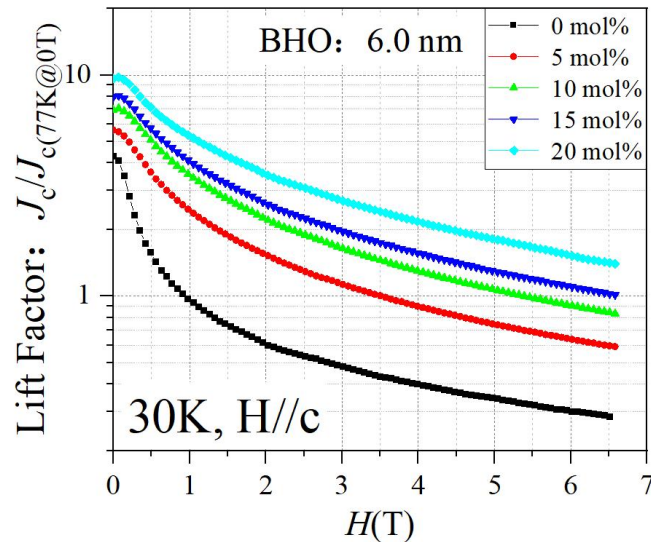


# Performance of BMO-REBCO

□  $I_c$  characteristic after BMO nanocrystal addition

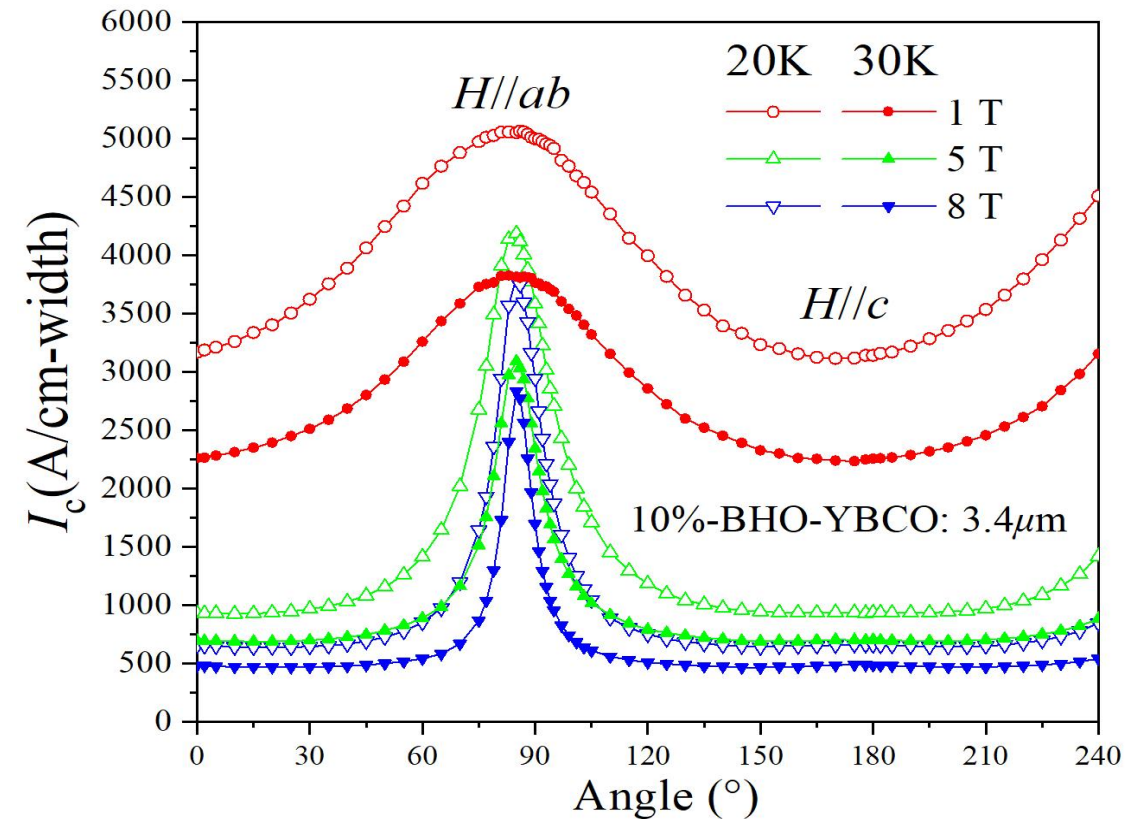
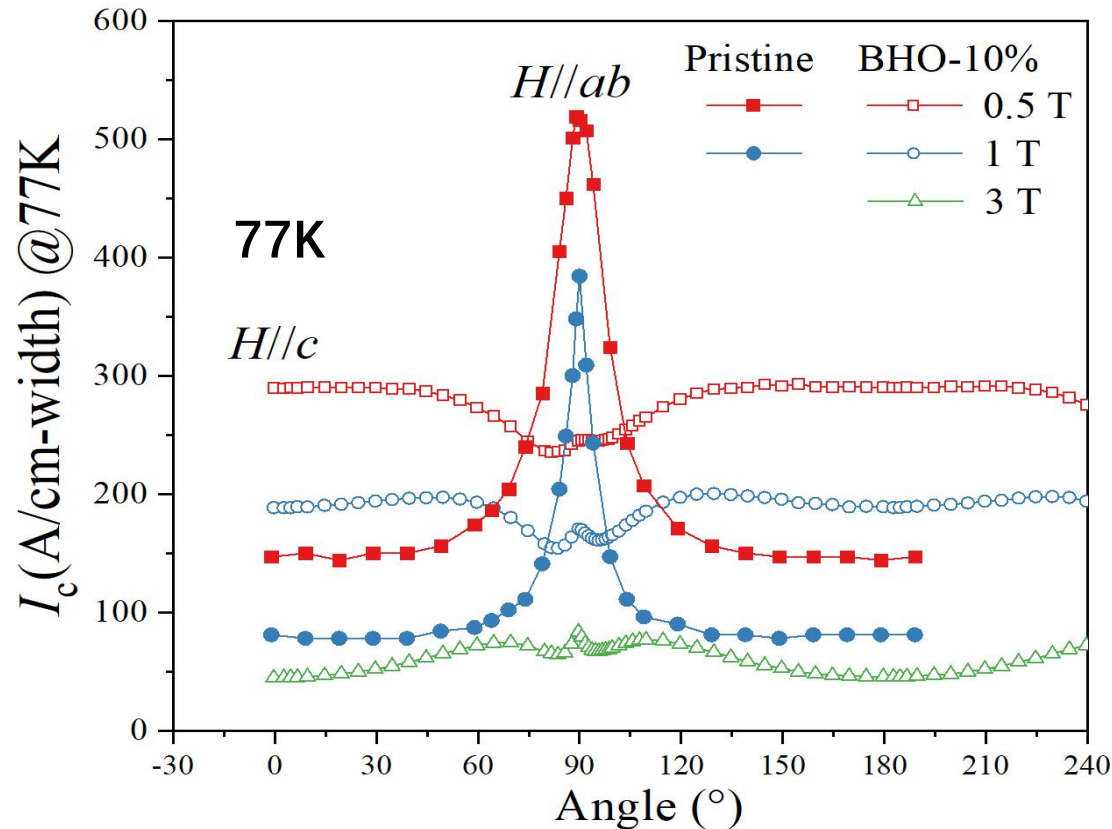


□ significant improvement of In-field  $I_c$  (higher lift factor of BHO than BZO)





# Anisotropic behavior with BMO additions



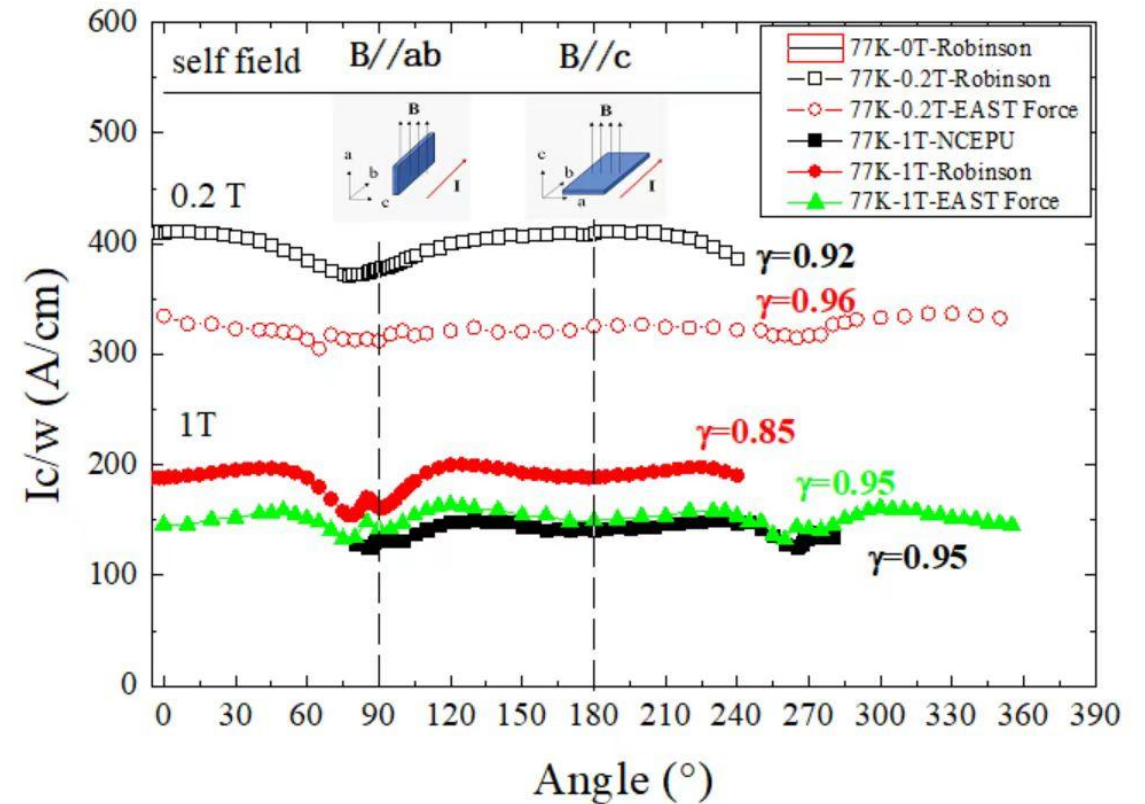
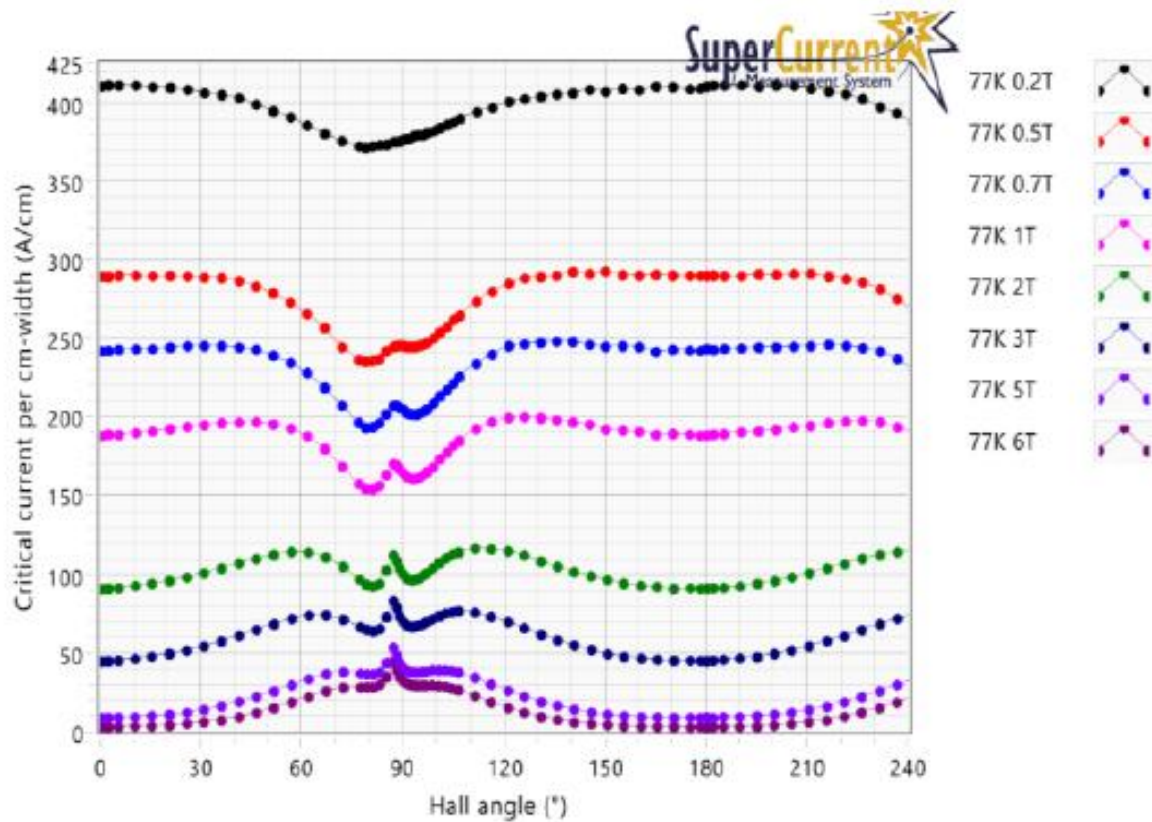
The properties of BMO-added YBCO films  
at high temperatures and low fields :  $I_c > I_{ab}$





# Anisotropic behavior with BMO additions

High T & Low T (77K, <2T) :  $J_c^{ab} / J_c^c < 1$



\* Measured by Robinson Research Institute (open), North China Electric Power University (NCEPU) (half open) and EAST FORCE superconducting (closed).

# Thermal fluctuation **VS.** flux vortex

**Thermal fluctuation intensity—  
temperature range in which  
fluctuations become stronger under 0T**

Ginzburg number  $Gi$ :

$$Gi = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\gamma k_B T_c}{H_{c0}^2 \xi_0^3} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{8\pi^2 \gamma \lambda_0^2 k_B T_c}{\Phi_0^2 \xi_0} \right)^2$$

$$Gi = 0.0325 (\gamma \kappa \lambda_0(\text{cm}) T_c(\text{K}))^2$$

$Gi \sim 10^{-2}$  cuprates

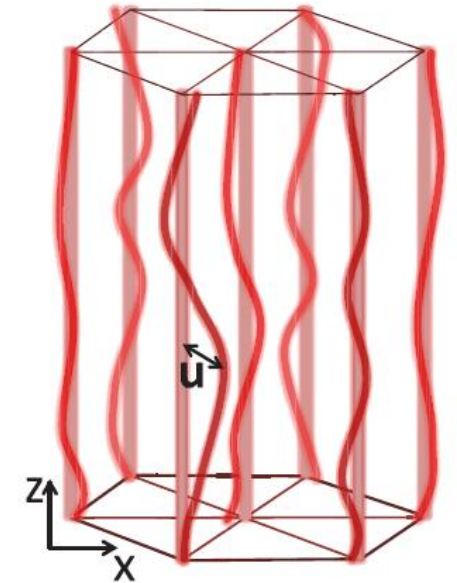
$Gi < 10^{-7}$  low- $T_c$

$Gi \sim 10^{-4} \sim 10^{-3}$  iron-based

**The flux vortex displacement  
(deformation)— the effect of  
fluctuations on the vortex line**

**Thermal fluctuation  
in HTS:**

- High  $T_c$
- Small  $\xi$
- High anisotropy
- Low supercurrent density



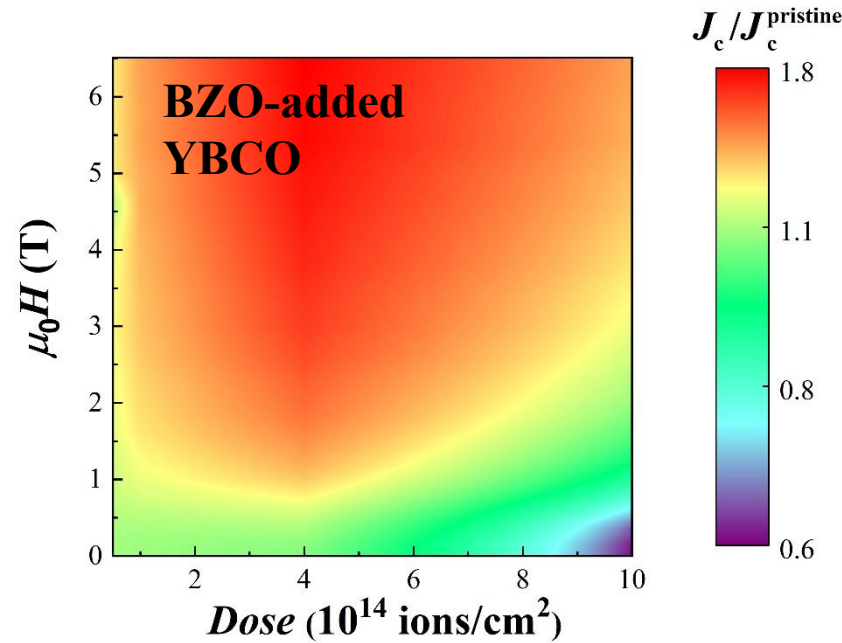
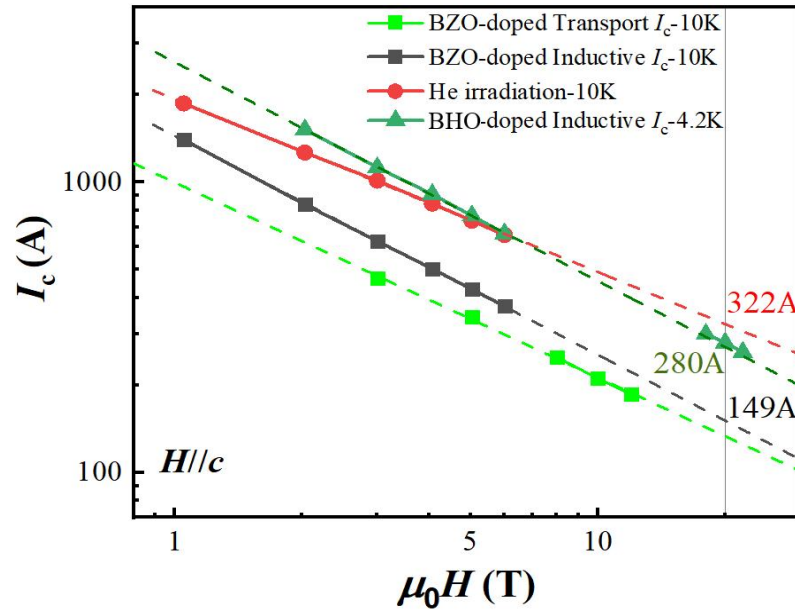
$$u(z) = u_0 \cos(k_z z) \text{ with } \lambda^{-1} \ll k_z \ll \xi^{-1}$$



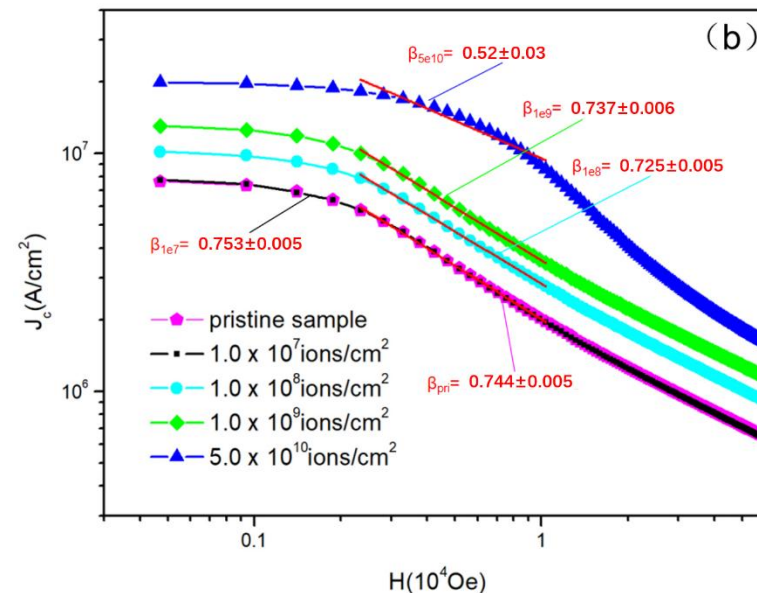
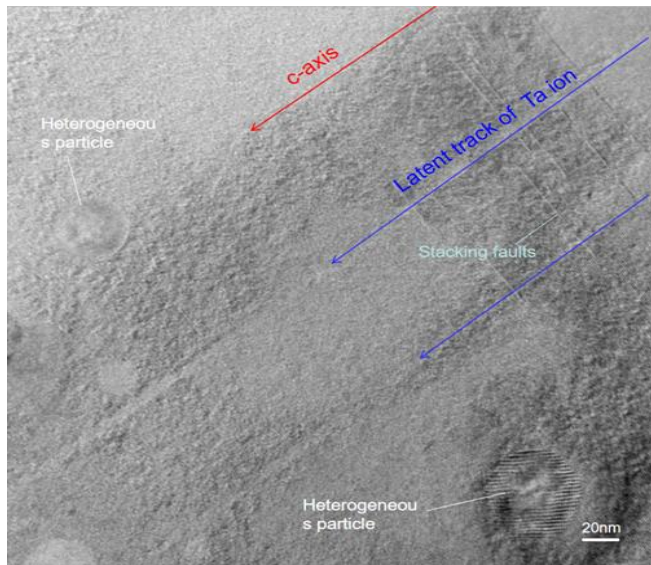




# APCs introduced by ion radiation



- ◆ Yu Gu, Chuanbing Cai et al, Chinese Science Bulletin66(31), 3965-3972 (2021)
- Yu Gu, Chuanbing Cai et al, J. Appl. Phys. 130, 085304 (2021).



Thanks for the support from Institute of Modern Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences and Shanghai Institute of Applied Technology.



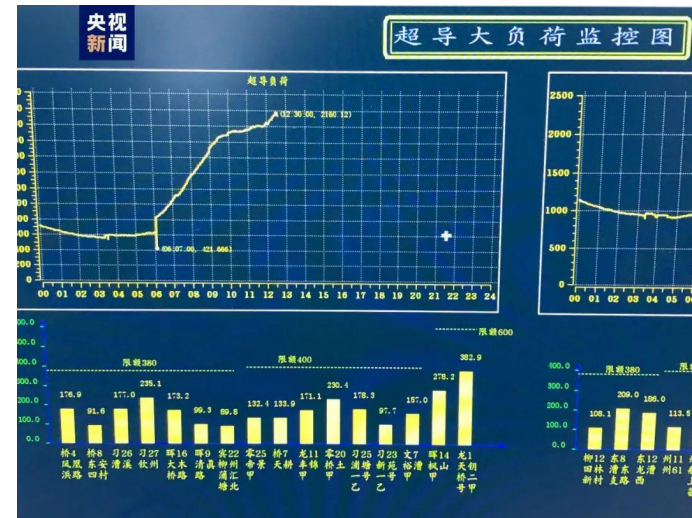


# Shanghai km-class HTS cable demonstration project

## 1.2-km 35 kilovolt superconducting power cable transmission line

- Length: **1.2 km**
- Loading Current: **2.2 kA**
- Loading Voltage: **35 kV**
- HTS Materials: **2G tapes from SCSC & SST**
- Cable Structure: **Three-phase integrated**
- Total area: **Save 70% of underground pipe gallery space**

**Km-class HTS cable demonstration project:** the first three-core integrated HTS cable supplying the power to Xujiahui, Shanghai, downtown of the metropolis in the world.



2G-HTS cable

# Conclusions



EUCAS2023  
Bologna, Italy  
3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> September



上创超导  
Shanghai Creative Superconductor

- ◆ **Industrial MOD product line** built up in SCSC producing commercial tapes as long as 400m with  $I_c$  (77k, s.f) more than 300A/4mm, 1000A/12mm, thanks to HTS layer thickness up to **3  $\mu\text{m}$  via innovative MOD processing;**
- ◆ Artificial flux pinning techniques including BZO/BHO nanocrystal addition as well as ion irradiation, resulting in higher in-field performance for present MOD tapes (4mm-width): **30K@3T : 450-500A; 4.2K@20T : 280-300A;**
- ◆ **Km-class HTS cable demonstration project:** The world's first 35 kV kilometer-class superconducting transmission demonstration project has been operating at full capacity.





# Thanks a lot for your attentions!



Welcome to visit and cooperate with SHU and SCSC

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