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Ion Irradiation Effect on the In-Field Performance of MOD-REBCO Coated Conductors

C. B. Cai; N. ZHANG; Z. Y LIU; R. T. HUANG; Y. LI

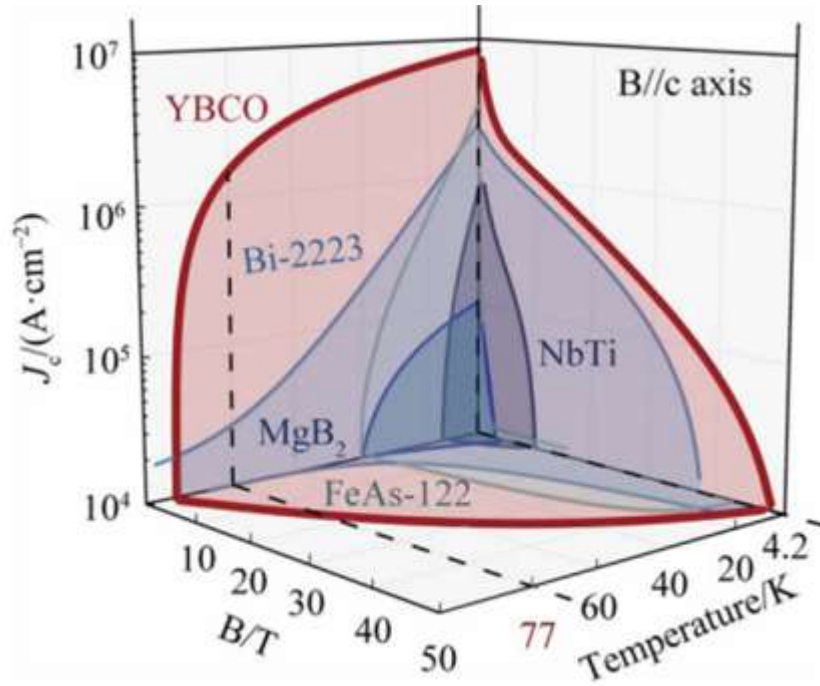
Shanghai Key Laboratory for High Temperature Superconductors,
Shanghai University

Shanghai Creative Superconductor Technologies Co., Ltd

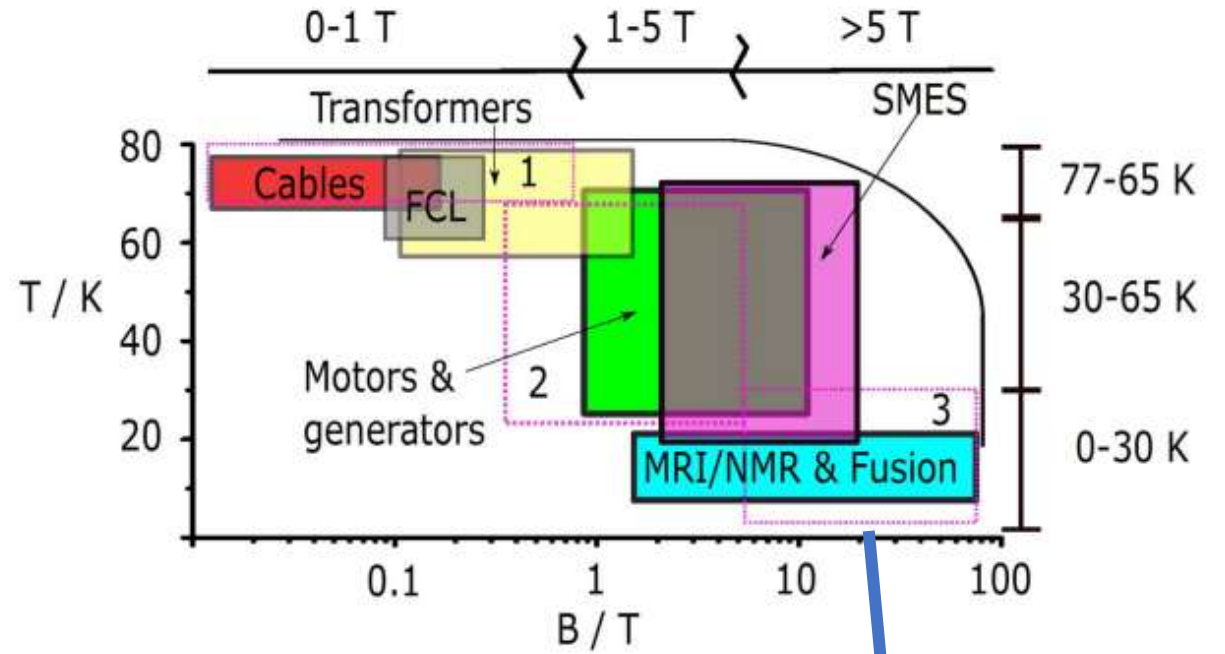
- **Research Background**
- **Research Contents**
- **Conclusion**

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Introduction



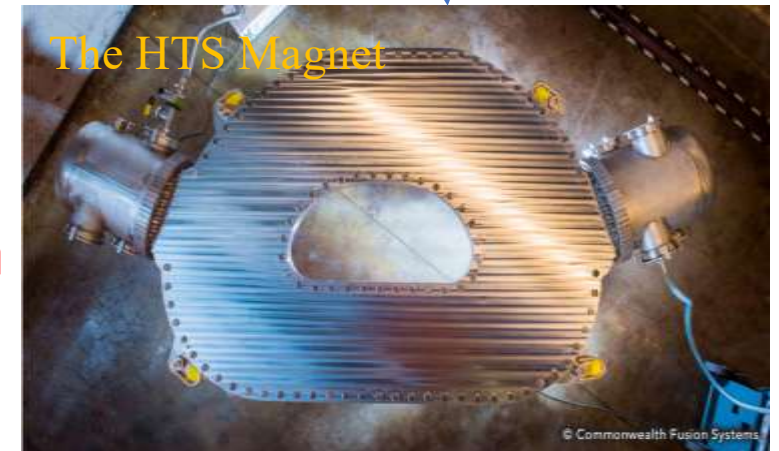
D.X. Wang., et al. ADV MANUF. 11.3 (2023): 523-540.



Characteristics of REBCO:

- High T_c
- High H_{irr}
- High J_c

**High research value
& Broad application
prospects**

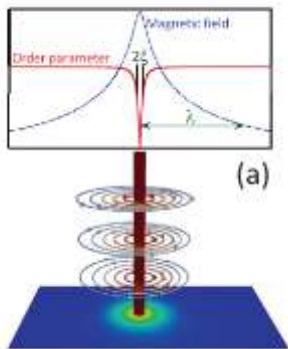


SPARC, MIT Plasma Science & Fusion Center

Defect Types VS. Methods for REBCO



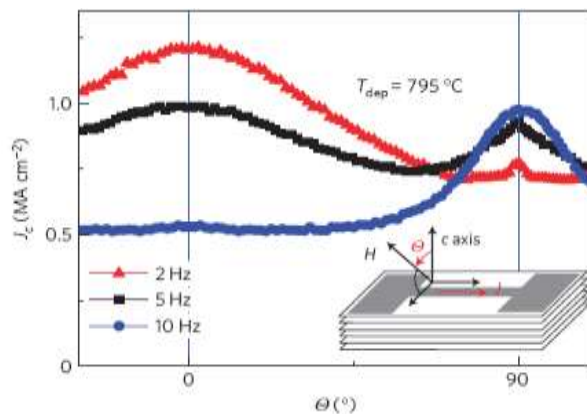
The size of magnetic core: 2ξ , $\sim 1-2$ nm



The effective flux pinning size : $> 2\xi$

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

Magnetic transport anisotropy:



APC can reduce the magnetic transport anisotropy

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

Defect types as flux pinning centers in REBCO film:

RCE-DR (e-beam)	CSD	RCE-CDR (thermal)	MOCVD	Standard-rate PLD
Ex situ	Ex situ	In situ	In situ	In situ

Intrinsic defects

- 0D point-like defects
- 2D columnar grain boundaries
- 2D stacking faults

Artificial pinning defects

- Extended 1D nanorods
- 3D nanoparticles

- Ion Irradiation
- Heterogeneous phase doping
- Element doping
- Substrate surface modification
-

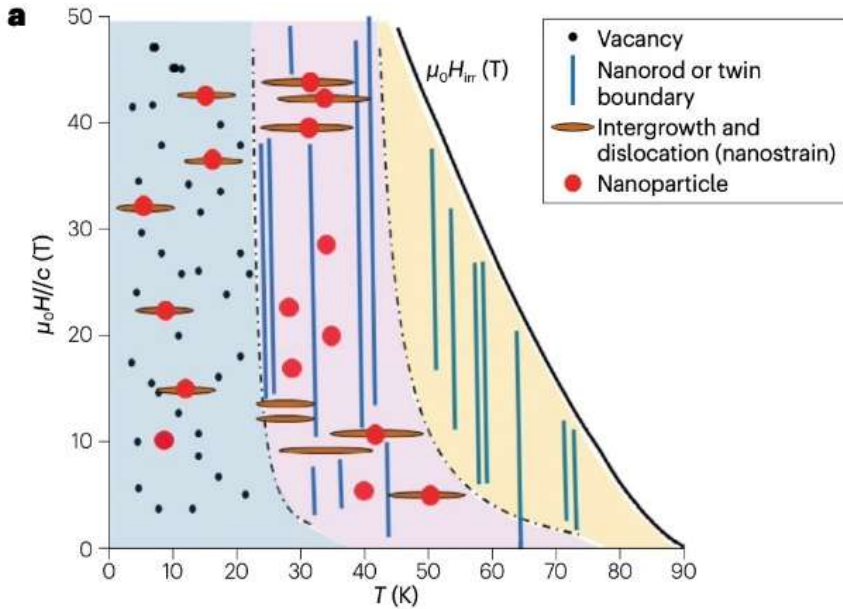
MacManus-Driscoll et al. Nat. Rev. Mater., 2021

Mixed pinning landscape

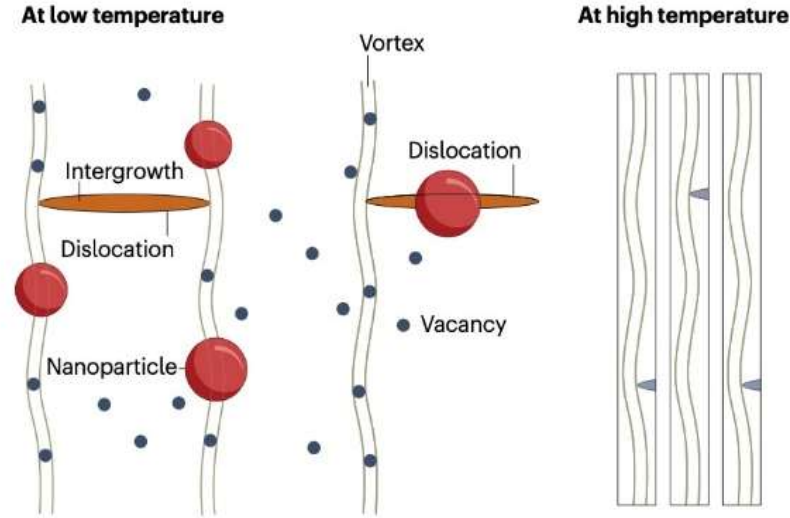


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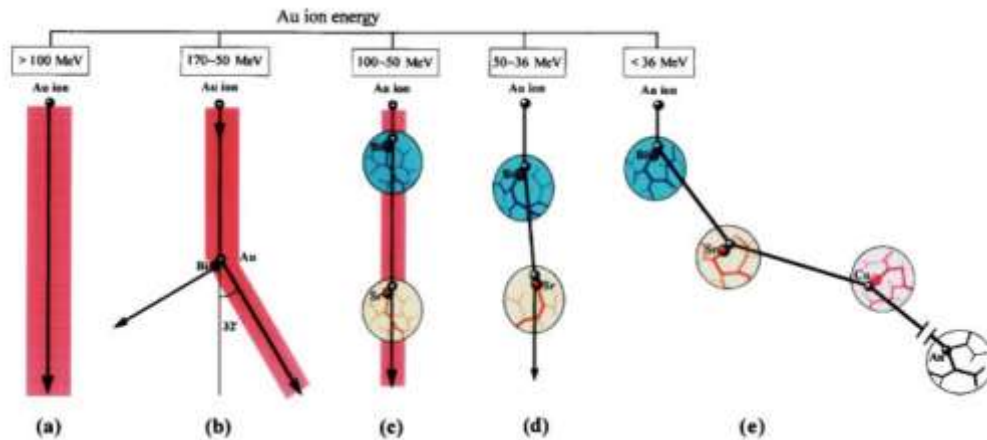


b Effective pinning landscape



a. H - T phase diagram, defects of different dimensions form different vortex states; b. effective pinning landscapes at high and low temperatures.

P Tuig, J Gutierrez, and X Obradors. "Nat. Rev. Phys. 6.2 (2024): 132-148.



D. X. Huang* and Y. Sasaki, et al. Phys. Rev. B. vol.57 No.21 (1998)

Defects of different dimensions can improve the in-field performance of REBCO in various temperature and magnetic field ranges.

Pro of ion irradiation:

- Easy to control the size and distribution of defects

Outline

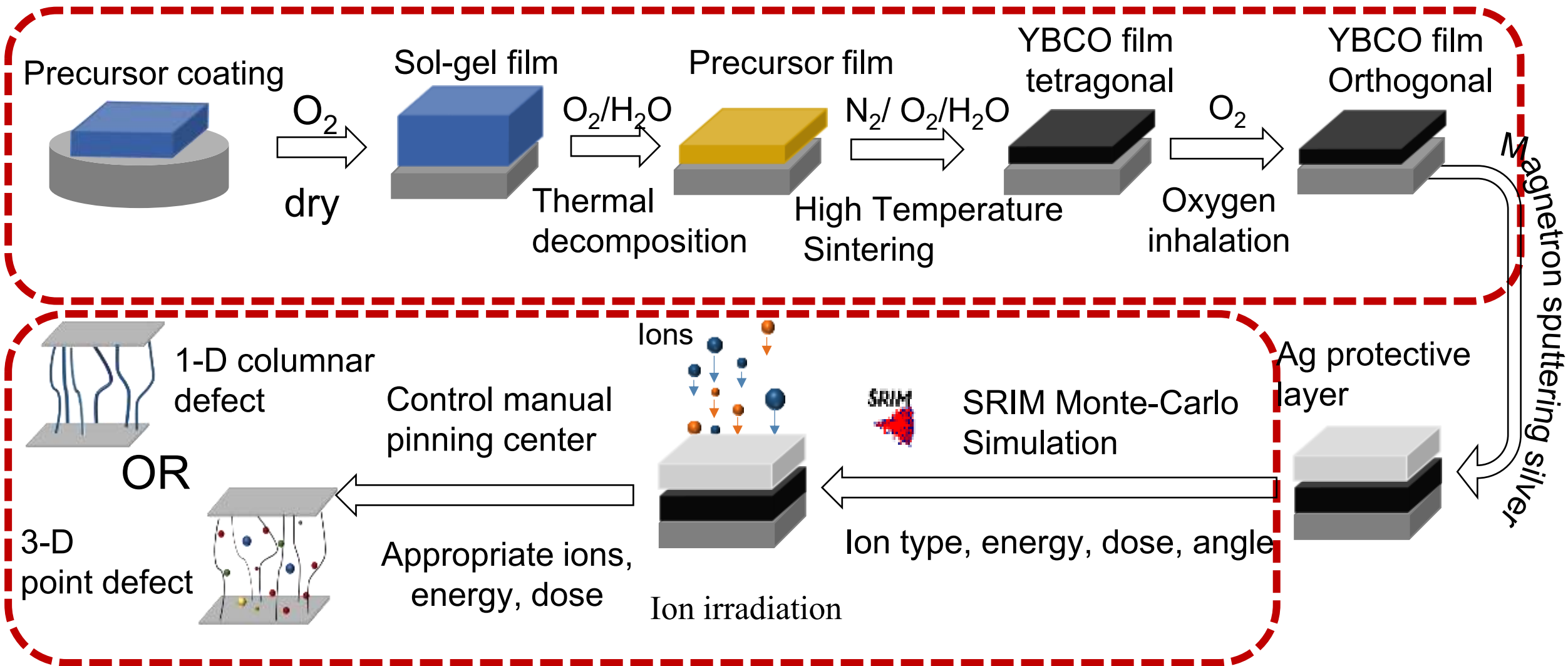


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The whole process: (Preparation for REBCO + Ion irradiation)



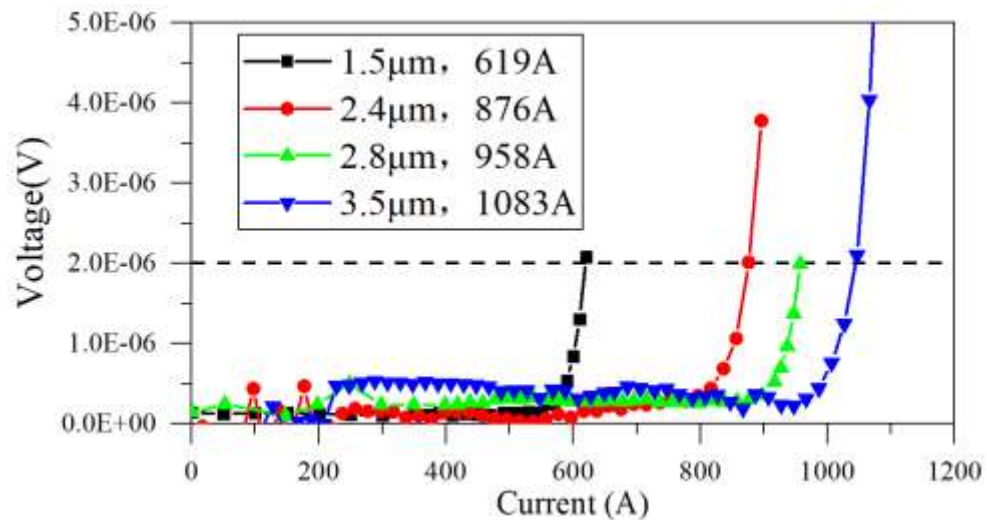
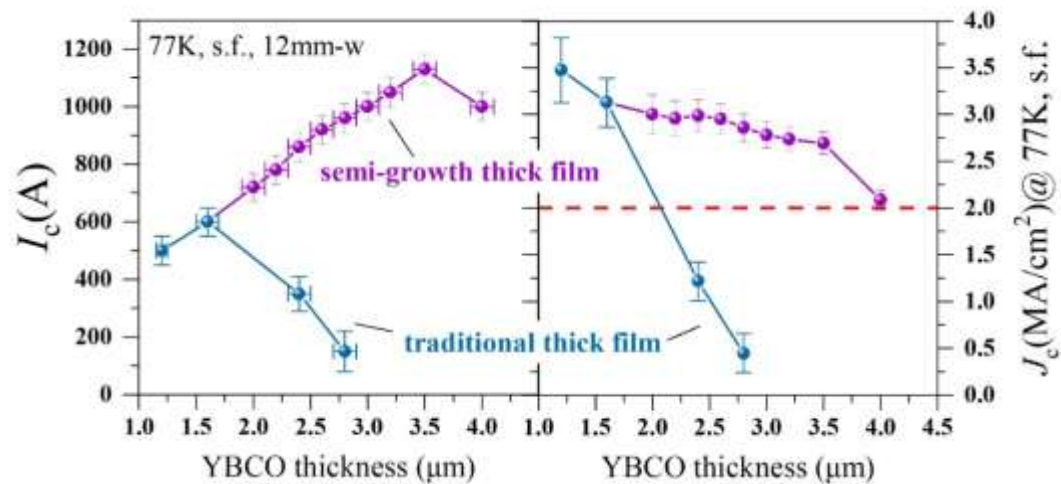
REBCO: thickening and nanocrystal



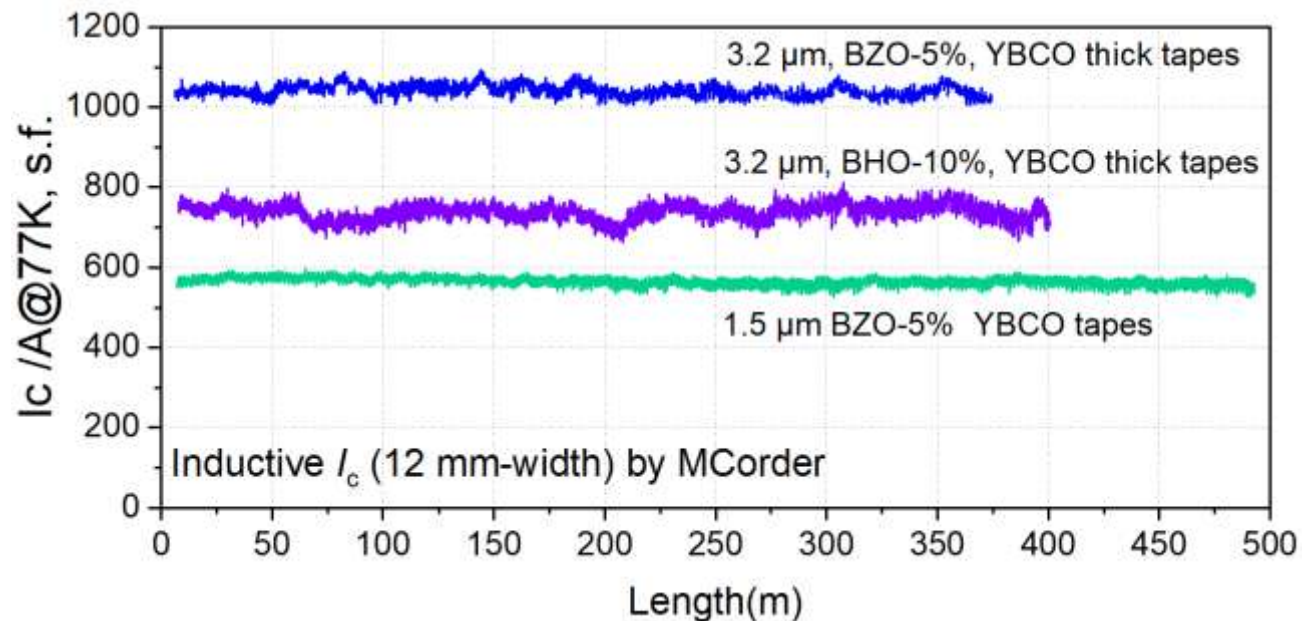
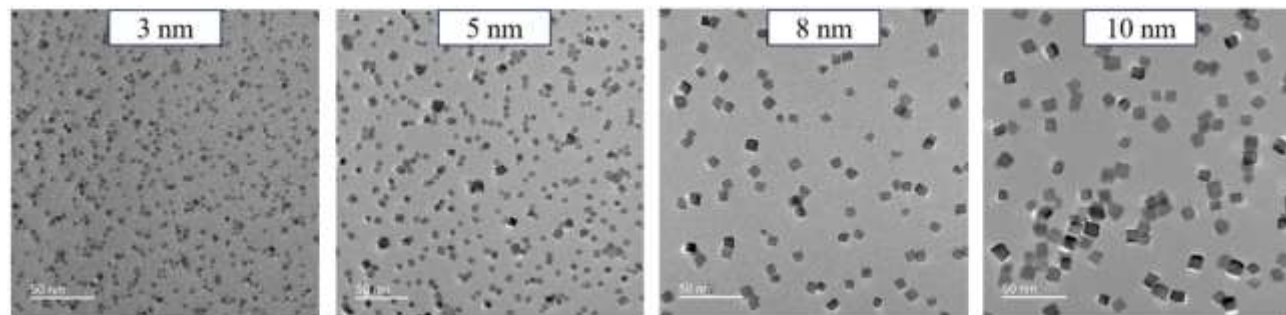
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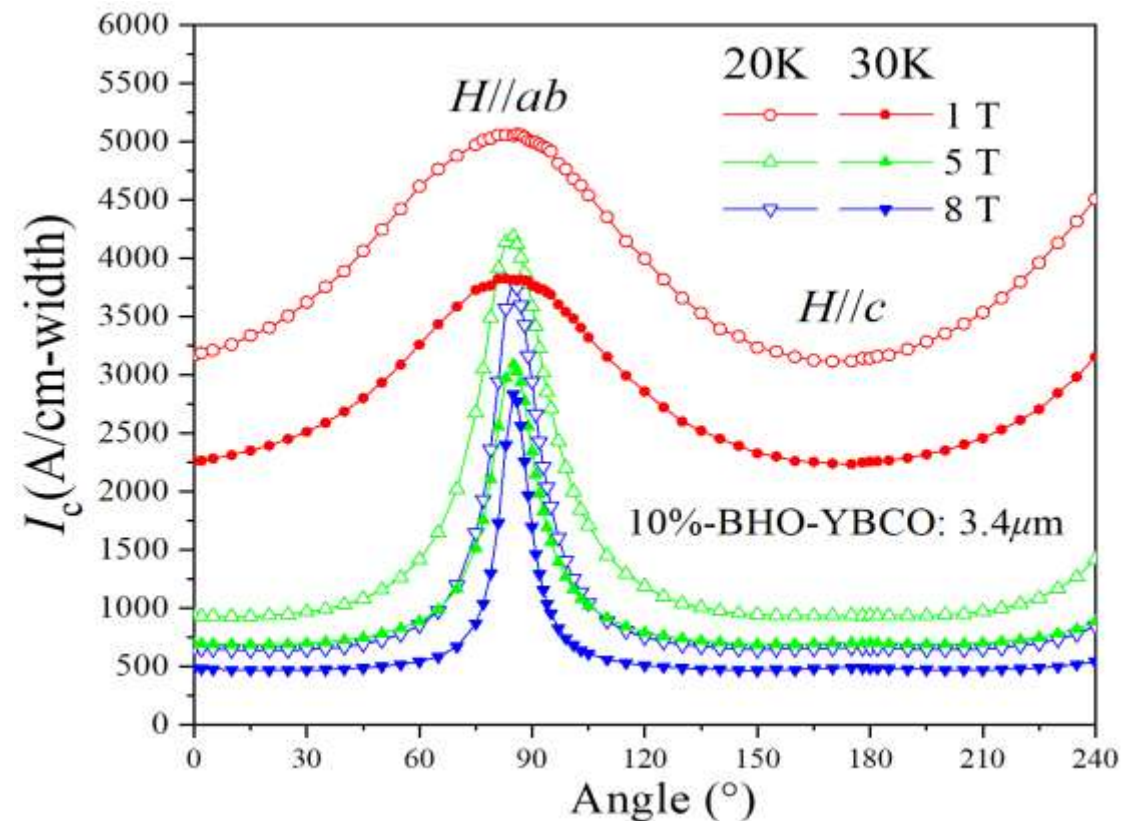
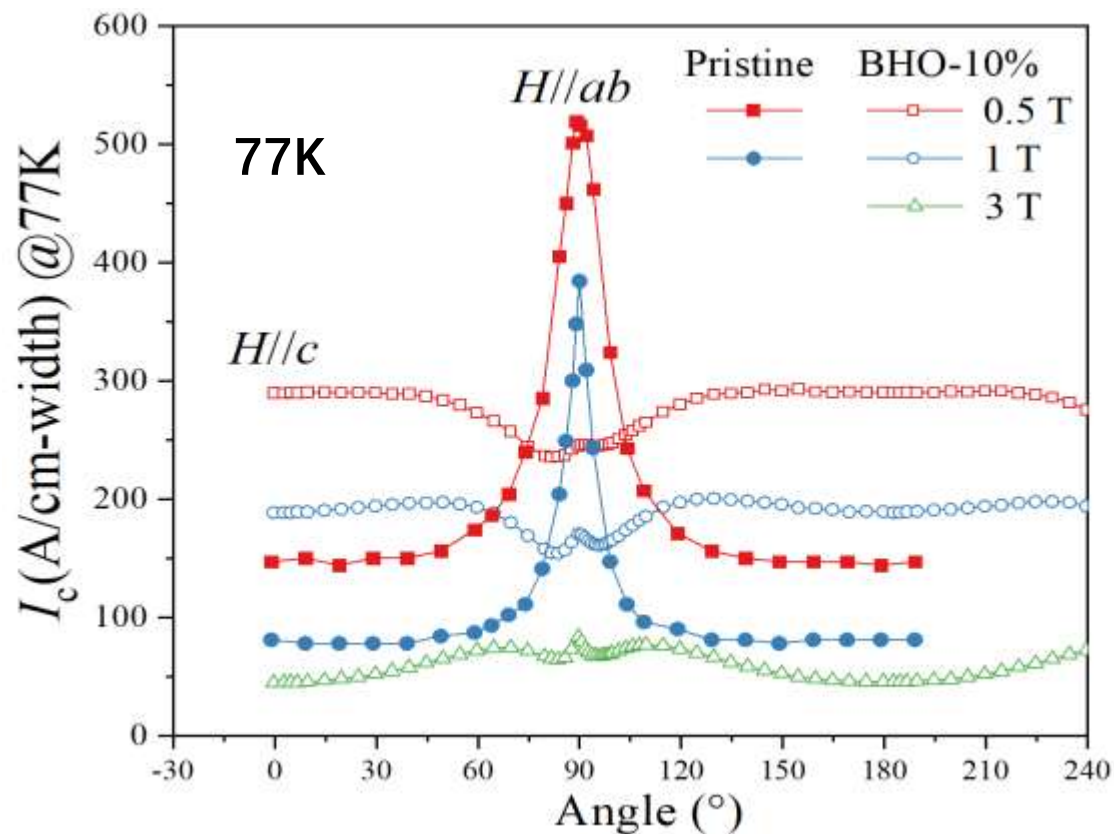
✓ Significantly improve the J_c of YBCO



Dispersion of BMO



- Measured by Robinson Research Institute, NZ

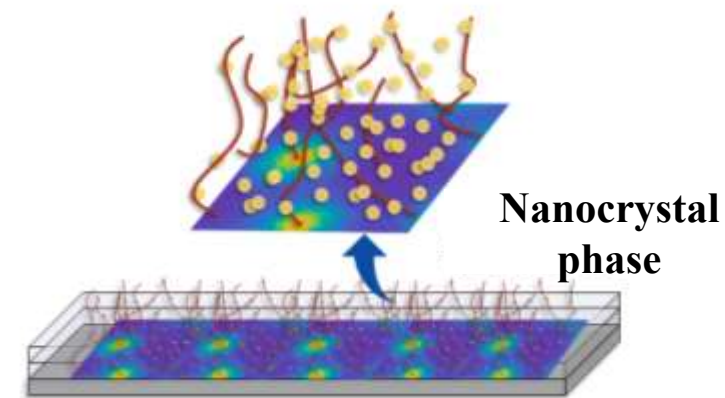
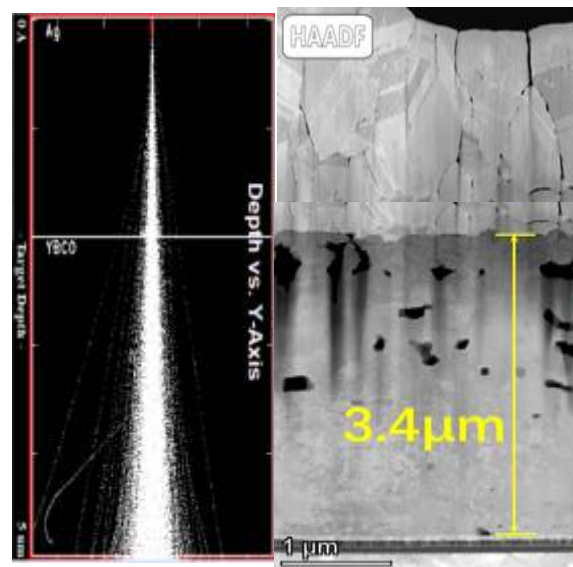
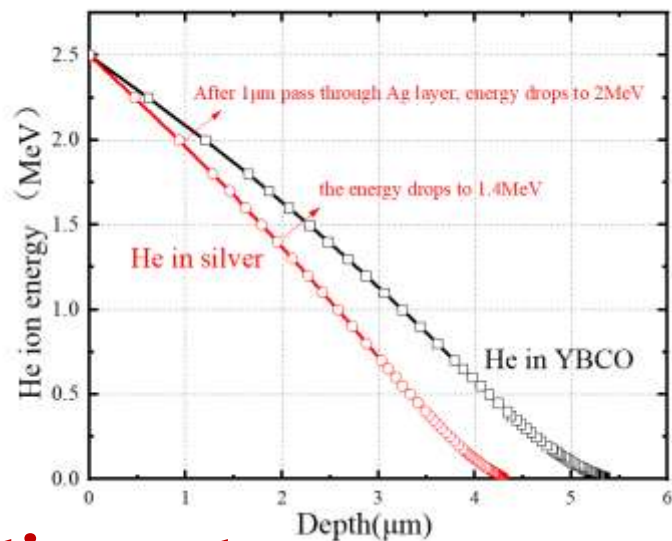


- ◆ Angular in-field I_c of BMO-added YBCO films at various high temperatures and low fields
- ◆ Competitive flux pinning effect between the intrinsic layers and the correlated 0D/3D pinning, both affected by effective vortex potential $U_{\text{eff}}(H, T)$
- ◆ depending on the applied temperatures and magnetic fields

Experimental parameters



SRIM Simulation:

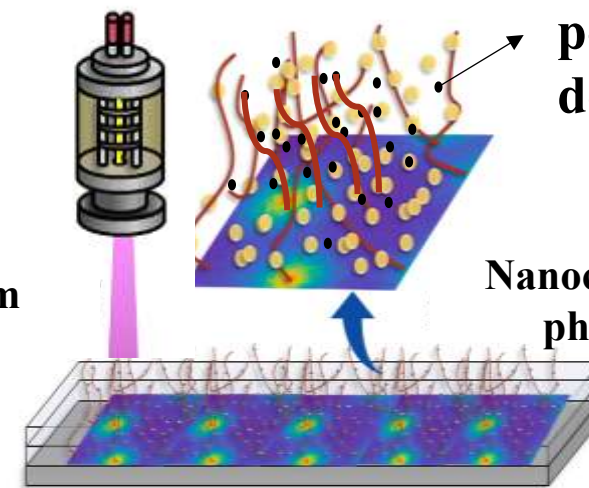


Ion Irradiation

Introducing point-like defects, etc.

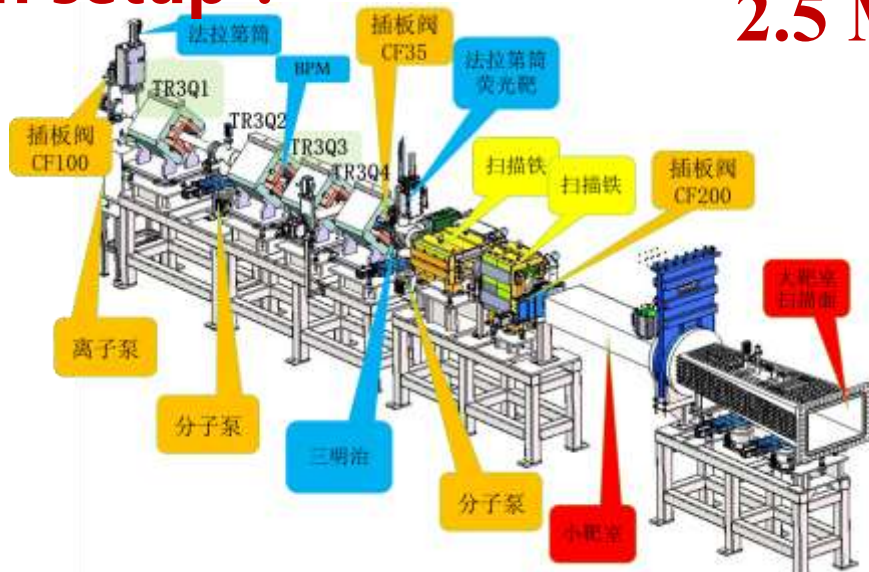
Ion beam

Nanocrystal phase

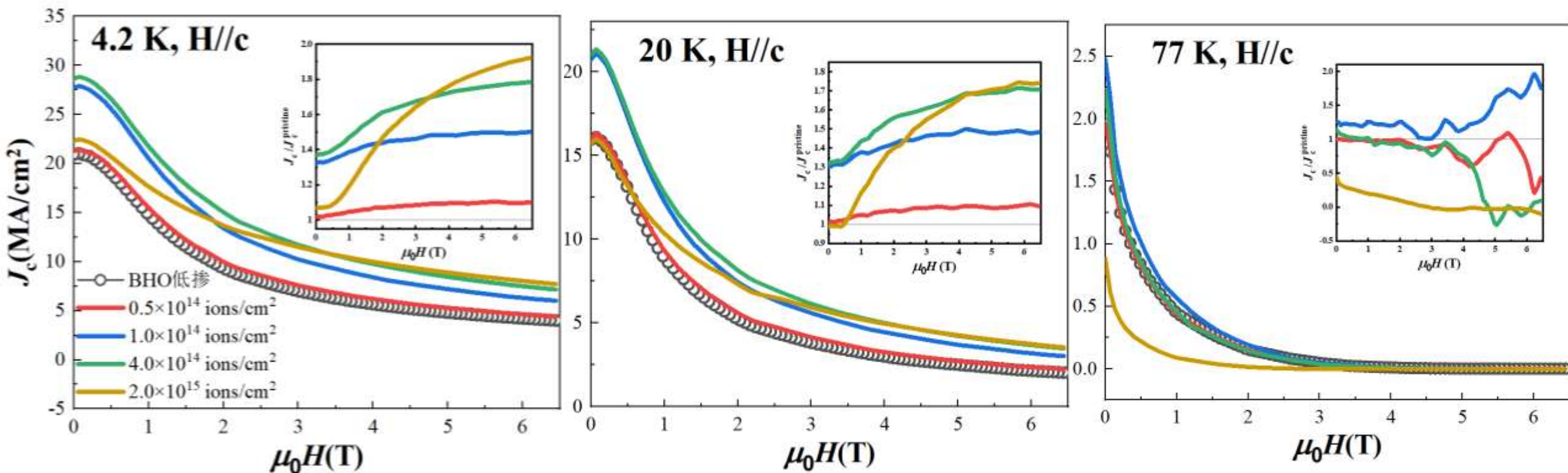


Irradiation setup :

2.5 MeV He



J_c Analysis of Low-doped BHO-YBCO



Experimental Parameters

Sample: low-doped BHO-YBCO

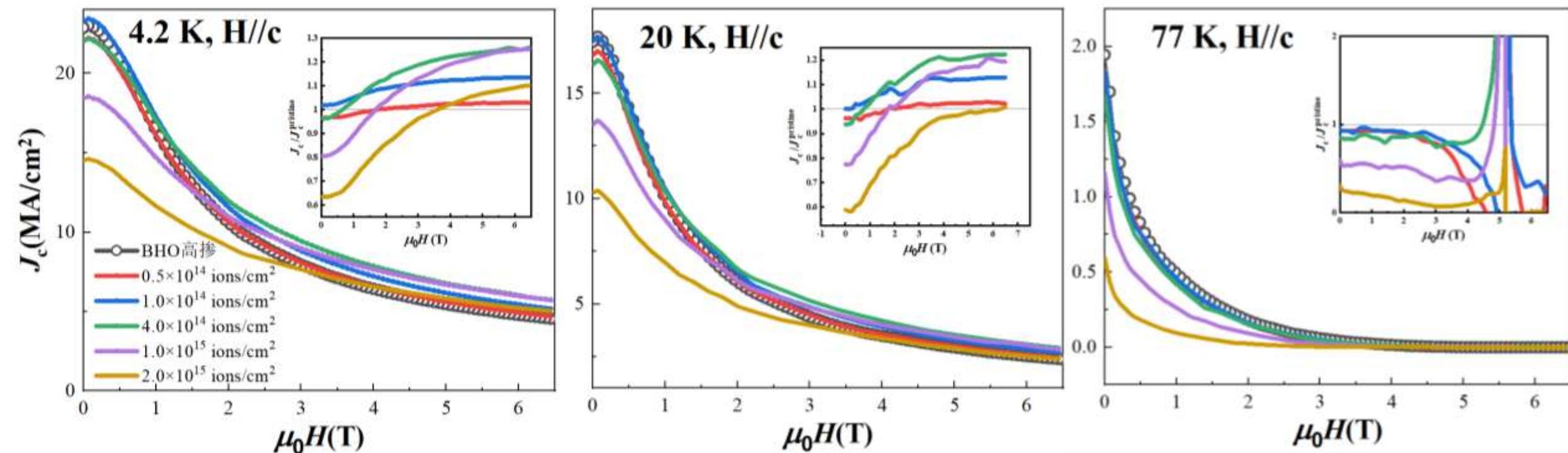
Ion type: He ion

Energy: 2.5 MeV

Dose: 5×10^{13} — 2×10^{15} ions/cm²

- At 4.2K and 20K, He irradiation can significantly improve the in-field performance of low-doped BHO-YBCO;
- While at 77K, He irradiation is not beneficial to improving the in-field performance.

J_c Analysis of High-doped BHO-YBCO



Experimental Parameters

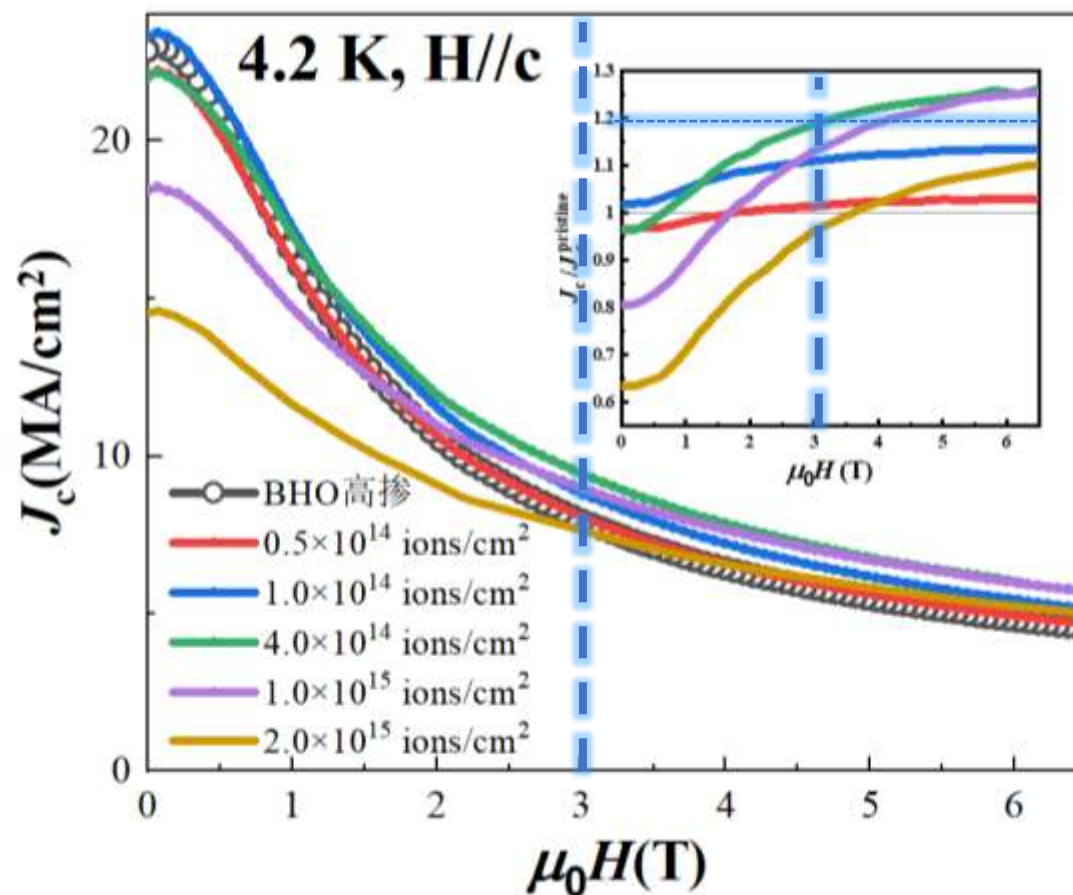
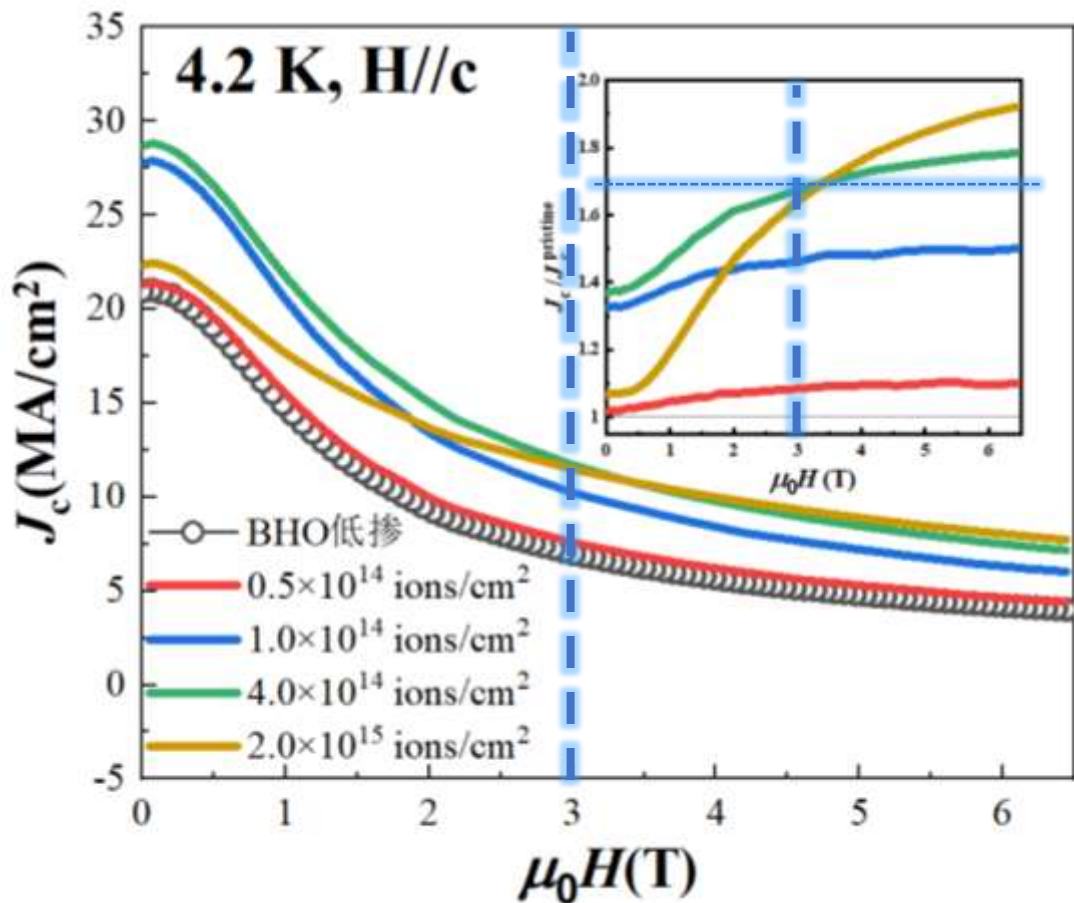
Sample: high-doped BHO-YBCO

Ion type: He ion

Energy: 2.5 MeV

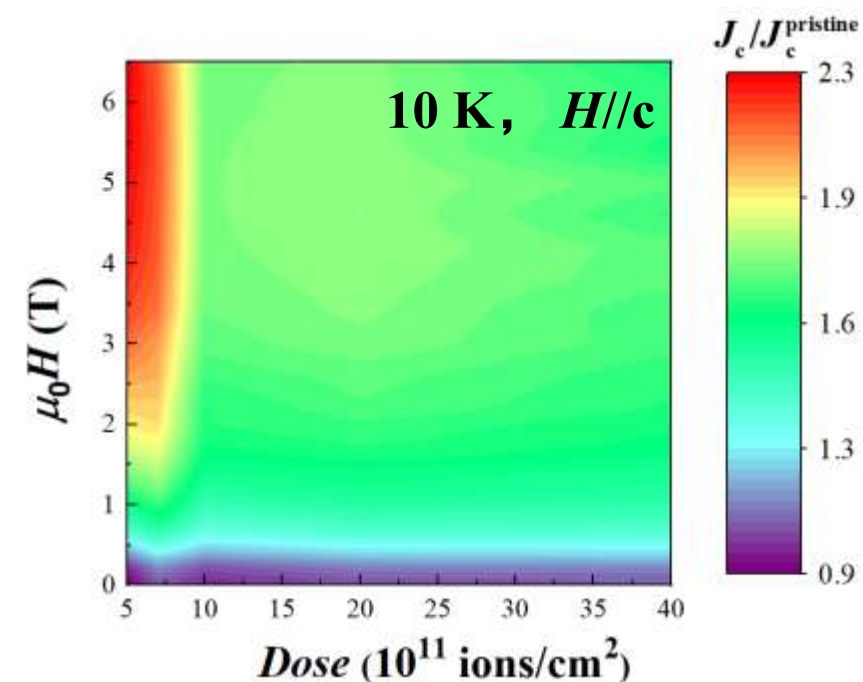
Dose: 5×10^{13} — 2×10^{15} ions/cm²

- At 4.2K and 20K, He irradiation can significantly improve the in-field performance of high-doped BHO-YBCO;
- While at 77K, He irradiation has no positive effect on the in-field performance.

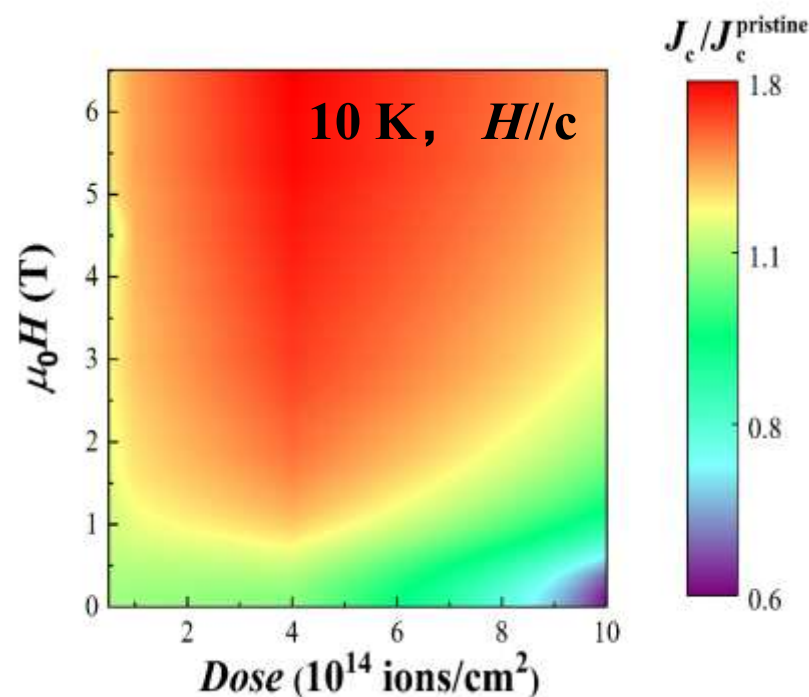


- At 4.2 K, 3 T, compared with the original sample, **He irradiation** can improve the J_c of **low-doped BHO-YBCO** by up to about **1.7 times**, while that of **high-doped BHO-YBCO** is only about **1.2 times**.

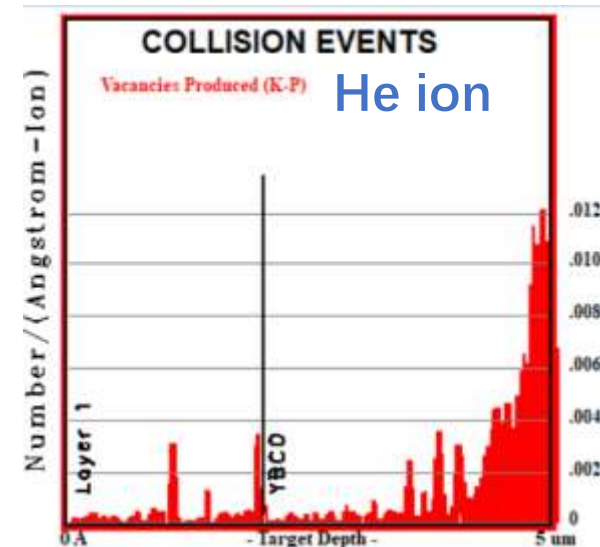
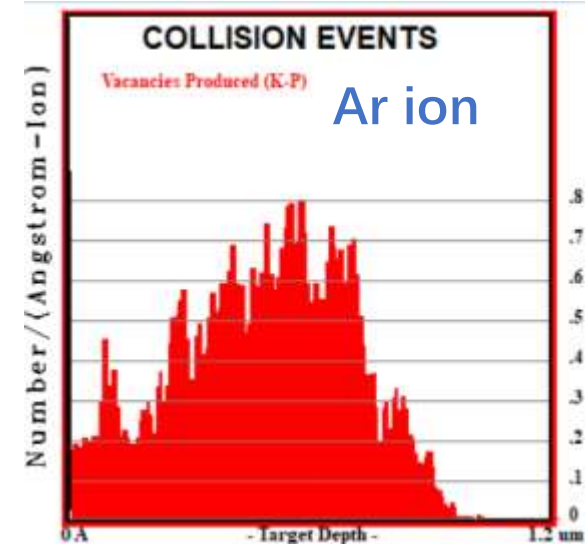
Ar ion irradiation



He ion irradiation



SRIM Simulation collision results :

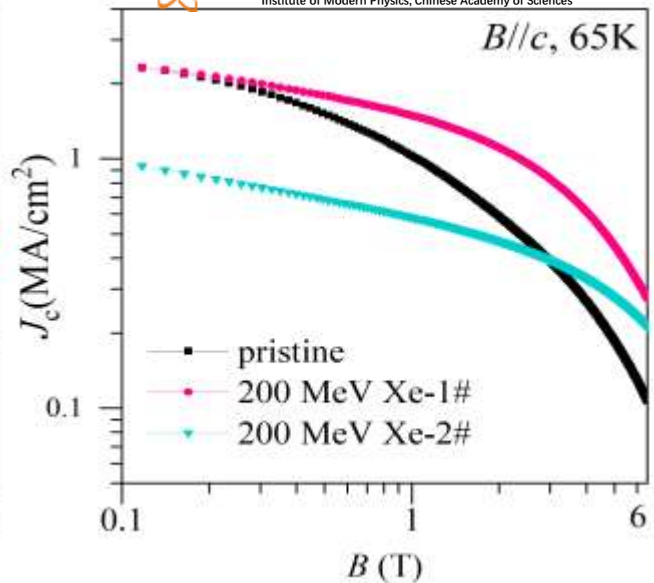
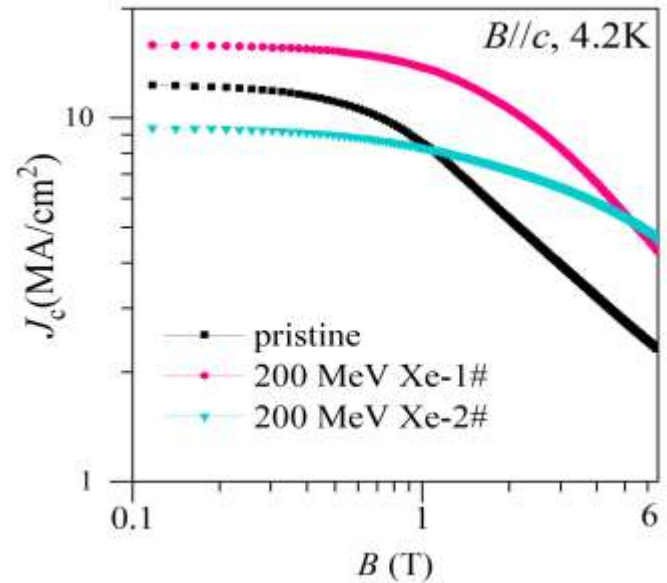
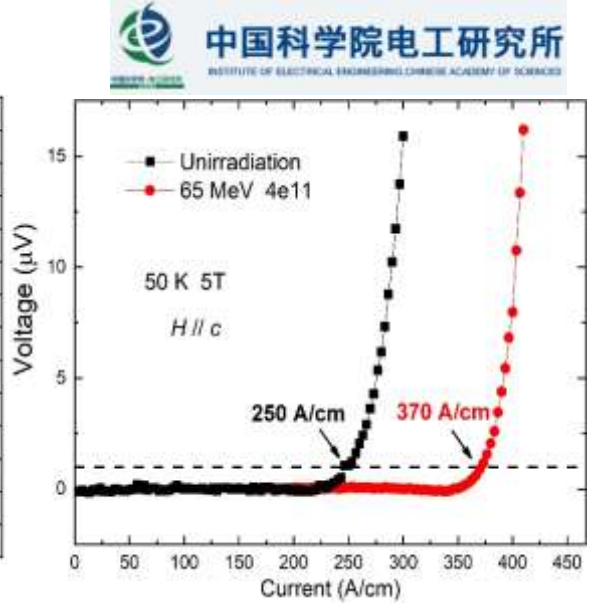
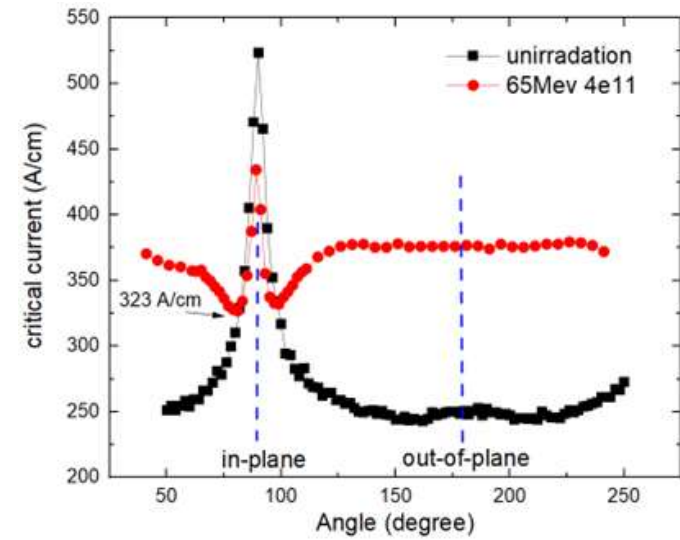
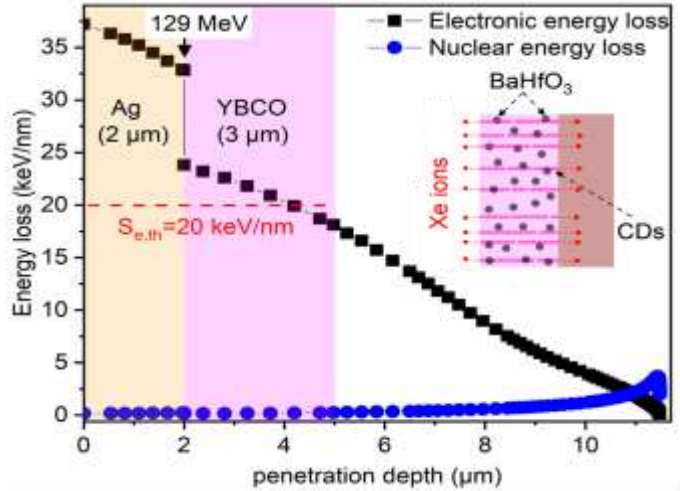
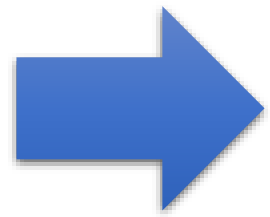
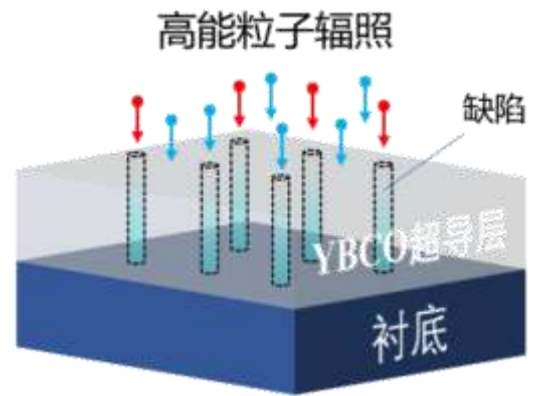


- ✓ Ar ion and He ion irradiation can significantly improve the in-field performance of YBCO at 10K ;
- ✓ The SRIM simulation collision results show that Ar ion irradiation produces more effective pinning centers than He ion irradiation.

Different energy irradiation effects of MOD REBCO



✓ Xe ion irradiation at different energies significantly improves the mid-temperature field performance of the MOD-REBCO.



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- He ion irradiation can effectively improve the J_c of BHO-doped-YBCO tapes at low temperature and high field;
- At **4.2 K, 3 T**, compared with the original sample, He irradiation is **more effective** in improving the J_c of **low-doped** BHO-YBCO, about **1.7 times**, while **high-doped** BHO-YBCO is only about **1.2 times**;
- Under the same irradiation dose, the effective utilization rate of irradiation defects in high-doped BHO-YBCO is low (because BHO has occupied most of the pinning sites);
- Different ion irradiation (He, Ar, Xe) has different degrees of improvement on the in-field performance of REBCO tapes.



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