

Abstract Submitted  
for the TSF17 Meeting of  
The American Physical Society

**Superconductivity in Ta-doped Zr<sub>5</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub> System** VARUN ANAND, SHENG LI, XIAOYUAN LIU, BING LV, The University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, Texas, THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS TEAM — Inspired by the discovery of first superconductor Zr<sub>5</sub>Sb<sub>3</sub> in the large hexagonal Mn<sub>5</sub>Si<sub>3</sub>-type compounds, we have carried out systematical doping studies in the Ta-doped Zr<sub>5-x</sub>Ta<sub>x</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub> ( $0 \leq x \leq 5$ ) system. X-ray diffraction analysis has shown a clear phase transition from hexagonal Mn<sub>5</sub>Si<sub>3</sub>-type structure to tetragonal W<sub>5</sub>Si<sub>3</sub>-type structure occurring when  $x > 3$ . Superconductivity up to 4.5K is observed, on the other hand, when Ta doping level is  $0.5 \leq x \leq 2$ . The superconductivity is further demonstrated from both magnetic and electrical resistivity measurements with type-II superconductors and upper critical field  $\sim 5000$  Oe. The detailed synthesis and characterizations will be presented and discussed.

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Date submitted: 20 Sep 2017

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