Magnetic properties of [NiFe/Au/Co/Au] multilayers

magnetostatic coupling and giant magnetoresistance

Zakopane 2009

Maciej Urbaniak, Feliks Stobiecki, Bogdan Szymański Institute of Molecular Physics, Polish Academy of Sciences

Magnetic properties of [NiFe/Au/Co/Au] multilayers

magnetostatic coupling and giant magnetoresistance

Cooperation between:

Institute of Molecular Physics, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poznań, Poland

Prof. A. Ehresmann Department of Physics, University of Kassel, Kassel, Germany

Prof. M. Kopcewicz Institute of Electronic Materials Technology, Warszawa, Poland

Prof. A. Maziewski Laboratory of Magnetism, Faculty of Physics, University of Białystok, Poland Magnetic properties of [NiFe/Au/Co/Au] multilayers

- Introduction
- Magnetic properties
- Giant magnetoresistance
- Magnetostatic coupling
- Magnetic patterning
 - Conclusions



Substrate: naturally oxidized Si(100)

t_{Co(CoFe)}=0.2-1.5 nm

t_{NiFe}=0.5-4 nm

t_{Au}=1.5-3 nm

Magnetron sputtering



Substrate: naturally oxidized Si(100)

t_{Co(CoFe)}=0.2-1.5 nm

t_{NiFe}=0.5-4 nm

t_{Au}=1.5-3 nm

Magnetron sputtering





Target: NiFe, Au, Co Substrate: Si(100), glass, adhesive tape

Magnetron sputtering

Targetnegative potential



Target:

NiFe, Au, Co

Substrate:

Si(100), glass, adhesive tape



Magnetron sputtering

Targetnegative potential



 $[Ni_{80}Fe_{20}(2 \text{ nm})/Au(1.9 \text{ nm})/Co(t_{Co})/Au(1.9 \text{ nm})]_{10}$ Cu K α 0.154nm



"the profile for MLs with N = 3 shows all features typical of profiles for large *N*."

[Ni₈₀Fe₂₀(2 nm)/Au(3 nm)/Co(0.8)/Au(3 nm)]_N

Cu Kα 0.154nm

B. Szymański et al., Acta. Phys. Polon. 113, 205 (2008)



- •Small field range of hysteresis with field applied perpendicularly is characteristic of systems with **stripe domains**.
- •In both field configurations NiFe and Co layers reverse quasi independently.

[Ni₈₀Fe₂₀(2 nm)/Au(1.9 nm)/Co(0.8 nm)/Au(1.9 nm)]₁₀





Shape anisotropy:

Reversal of NiFe only

$$K_u = \frac{1}{2} \mu_0 (M_S^{NiFe})^2$$

$$\cos(\varphi) = \frac{H}{M_s}$$





An easy axis of the Co layers is perpendicular to surface of multilayer.



In the first approximation Co and NiFe layers can be thougt of as uncoupled.

M(H) dependence of the NiFe/Au/Co structureis then an arithmetic sum of the M(H)dependencies of Co and NiFe layers.



 $[Ni_{80}Fe_{20}(2 \text{ nm})/Au(1.9 \text{ nm})/Co(0.6 \text{ nm})/Au(1.9 \text{ nm})]_{10}$ $[Co(0.6 \text{ nm})/Au(4.4 \text{ nm})]_{15}$

NiFe sublayers do not considerably influence the reversal of Co sublayers.

Stripe domains

 $K_{\rm eff}$ strongly depends on $t_{\rm Co}$



$$K_{eff} = \frac{2K_{1s}}{t_{Co}} + K_{1v} - \frac{1}{2}\mu_0 (M_S^{Co})^2$$

Stripe domains



$$K_{eff} = \frac{2K_{1s}}{t_{Co}} + K_{1v} - \frac{1}{2}\mu_0 (M_S^{Co})^2$$

Stripe domains





$$K_{eff} = \frac{2K_{1s}}{t_{Co}} + K_{1v} - \frac{1}{2}\mu_0 (M_S^{Co})^2$$



Magnetic Force Microscopy confirms the presence of the stripe domain structure characteristic for systems with perpendicular anisotropy.



AC demagnetization 5x5µm²



spatial period 400-1000 nm

Spatial period of the stripe domain structure depends strongly on the thicknesses of Co and Au sublayers.

[Ni₈₀Fe₂₀*(2 nm)/Au(2.4 nm)/Co(1.2 nm)/Au(2.4 nm)]₁₀

* with ⁵⁷Fe

Stripe domains



Division into the magnetic stripe domains increases the magnetic induction within the layer and leads to the decrease of magnetostatic energy: $E_{magn} = -\vec{B}\cdot\vec{M}$





T_{Curie}: Fe 1044 K Co 1388 K Ni 627 K NiFe 660 K



T_{Curie}: Fe 1044 K Co 1388 K Ni 627 K NiFe 660 K







Below Curie temperature the resistance of ferromagnetic materials decreases below that of non-ferromagnetic metals.

I.A.Campbell, A.Fert, in "Ferromagnetic Materials" 1982







R.E. Camley, J. Barnaś, PRL 63, 664 (1989)

Nobel 2007 (Fert, Grünberg)





FIG. 2. Relative change in resistance vs the cosine of the relative angle between the magnetizations of the two NiFe layers of Si/(60-Å NiFe)/(26-Å Cu)/(30-Å NiFe)/(60-Å FeMn)/ (20-Å Ag). Inset shows the orientation of the current J, exchange field H_{ex}, applied field H, and magnetizations M_1 and M_2 .

$\Delta R \propto \cos(\varphi)$

B. Dieny et al., Phys. Rev. B, 43 (1991) 1297

Nobel 2007 (Fert, Grünberg)



 $2\Delta R/(R_0 - \Delta R) = 1 \div 100 \%$

Co/Au, NiFe/Au, NiFe/Cu, Fe/Au,.....

 $R = R_{-} \Delta R \cos(\varphi)$



Broad linearity range in *R*(*H*) dependence:

-magnetic layer magnetized along hard axis

-no hysteresis in linear range

[Ni₈₀Fe₂₀(2 nm)/Au(1.9 nm)/Co(1 nm)/Au(1.9 nm)]₁₀



There is a local minimum of resistance in the R(H) dependence.

The nucleation field (creation of the domain structure) and the annihilation field (saturation of Co layers) are visible both in R(H) and M(H) dependencies.









P#(B . 0

(a)

(b)

B., =0

P. (B.O.

B, •0

P

Anisotropic magnetoresistance





н

resistance of the system depends on **the angle** between the measuring current and the local magnetic moment

Grundlagen der Magnetoelektronik, Rudolf Gross, Achim Marx, Garching, Oktober 2000 http://www.wmi.badw-muenchen.de/teaching/Lecturenotes/



Anisotropic magnetoresistance to small to account for the observed local minima of resistance.

[Ni₈₀Fe₂₀(2 nm)/Au(1.9 nm)/Co(1nm)/Au(1.9 nm)]₁₀



 $[Ni_{80}Fe_{20}(2 \text{ nm})/Au(1.9 \text{ nm})/Co(t_{co})/Au(1.9 \text{ nm})]_{10}$
Interlayer coupling in magnetic multilayers

 coupling through magnetic bridging

magnetostatic coupling





X

×

• Ruderman-Kittel-Kasuya-Yosida like coupling







*t*_{Co}=0.6 nm **10 Co layers**

Magnetic fields that originate from the stripe domain structure in $[NiFe/Au/Co/Au]_{N}$ multilayers are of the order of 0.1 T.



Magnetic field of the stack of the infinite "stripe domains" (from Biot-Savart law). Domain width=100, thickness=1, multilayer period=7.



photoemission electron microscopy (PEEM) + X ray magnetic circular dichroism (XMCD)



-Cu(001)/Ni/Cu/Co -Cu – wedge (1ML/10m) -electron beam evaporation -Ni – perpendicular anisotropy -field of Ni DW in Co: 250Oe

W. Kuch, L. I. Chelaru, K. Fukumoko, F. Porrati, F. Offi, M. Kotsugi, J. Kirchner, Phys. Rev. B 67, 214403 (2003)



$$\cos(\varphi_{\uparrow}) = \frac{H_{appl} + H_{d}}{M_{S}^{Co}}$$

$$\cos(\varphi_{\downarrow}) = \frac{H_{appl} - H_{d}}{M_{S}^{Co}}$$





$$r = [(x_n - x_q)^{\mathsf{r}} + (z_n - z_q)^{\mathsf{r}} + (z_n - z_q)^{\mathsf{r}}]^{\mathsf{r}/\mathsf{r}}$$

$$\phi_m^{(i)} = \frac{\mathsf{r}}{\mathfrak{t}\pi} \frac{(\vec{\mu} \vec{r})}{r^{\mathsf{r}}}$$

$$\vec{H} = -\vec{\nabla} \phi$$

$$\phi_m = \frac{\mathsf{r}}{\mathfrak{t}\pi} \int d\tau (\vec{M} \nabla_q r^{-\mathsf{r}})$$

$$(\vec{M} \nabla_q r^{-\mathsf{r}}) = \nabla_q (r^{-\mathsf{r}} \vec{M}) - \frac{\mathsf{r}}{r} \nabla_q \vec{M}$$

$$\phi_m = \frac{\mathsf{r}}{\mathfrak{t}\pi} (-\int d\tau \frac{\nabla_q \vec{M}}{r} + \oint dS \frac{\vec{n} \vec{M}}{r})$$

r

r

"Magnetic charges" present within the volume of the magnetized body And on its outer boundaries are the sources of magnetic field.



A single cell contains MANY atoms.

Continuous approximation - the magnetization is a continuous function of the position.

Micromagnetic simulation



 H_{eff} = "exchange energy"+"anisotropy energy" +"external field"+"own field"

Magnetostatic interactions between cells have of a long-range character.

J. E. Milat, M. J. Donahue Handbook of Magnetism and Advanced Magnetic Materials, John Wiley & Sons 2007



- •symulation of remanent state
- starting configuration-stripe domains in Co sublayers
- starting configurationmonodomain state in NiFe sublayers

*Simulation with free oommf package from NIST; $(1\times1 \ \mu\text{m}^2)\times55$ nm; Co domains 200 nm wide; α =0.5; regular mesh with cell size of (5x0.5x50nm³); stiffness: Co: 30e-12 J/m, NiFe: 13e-12 J/m

H=0

	↑ ≢	1 ±	1 =	1 =	1 ±	1 =	1 =	1 E	/ E	⇒ =	->≱ =	N E	¥ ŧ	₹	ŧ	ŧ	¥ ≢	ŧ	ŧ	¥ ≢	ŧ	
	→	7		4	7	7	7	7	7	+ ≯	+ ₩	→ \\	7	Ţ	¥.	4	4	- -	_ ∓	_ ∓	_ ∓	
ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	Ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	‡	ŧ	≣	≣	≣	ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	#	*	1	N.	4	4	¥	¥	¥	¥	¥	¥	
ŧ	ŧ	≣	Ŧ	≣	Ŧ	Ŧ	Ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	≣	≣	≣	ŧ	ŧ	Ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	≣	ŧ	≣	
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	A	3	*	N.	A.	¥	- ¥	¥	- ¥	- ¥-	- 🗍	¥	- ¥-	S
ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	圭	ŧ	Ŧ	圭	書	圭	ŧ	≣	≣	ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	Ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	es S
	Î	Î	Î	1	1	Ť	1	1	1	4	*	X	¥	¥	¥	¥	¥	¥	¥	¥	¥	Ĕ
I II	Ŧ	Ŧ	Ħ	Ŧ	Ŧ	Ŧ	Ŧ	Ŧ	Ħ	ŧ	ŧ	Ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	₹.	ŧ	<u></u>	3	1	ŧ	X
	_Î	Î	Î	Î	Î	Î	1	- N		*	*		¥	¥	¥	¥	¥	¥	¥	¥		j -
I ₹	Ħ	Ħ	1	Ŧ	Ŧ	Ŧ	Ŧ	Ŧ	Ŧ	≣	ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	Ŧ	1	ŧ	1	3	1 1	1	ст (
	Î	Î	Î	Î	Î	Î	<u></u>	<u> </u>	Ň	*	-	K	1	¥	¥	¥	¥	¥	¥	¥	¥	
Į	Ħ	Ħ	M	THE REAL	Ŧ	Ŧ	Ŧ		≣	≣	≣	₹	Ŧ	3	3	3	3	1	3	=	≣	
	Î	Ţ	Ţ	Ţ	Ţ	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>		*	#	K	1	¥	¥	ŧ	¥	¥	¥	¥	¥	
3	HHH .	HTT .	11	Ħ	THE A	M	THE	Ħ	Ħ	≣	≣	₹	3	₹.	3	1	3	3	3	3	3	
	Ţ	Ţ	Ţ	Ţ	Ţ	Ţ.	1			*	#	K	1	1	×.	ŧ	¥	¥	¥	¥	¥	
			EAAA	5×××				-	≣	≣	₹	₹	Ŧ	-	1	1997	1	4444	111	Ŧ	-	7
[<u> </u>	<u> </u>	1	1	f	-	-	<u> </u>	A	t	F	4	4	+	+	+	+	ŧ	+	+	+	/

 $[Co(1nm)/Au(1.5nm)/Ni_{80}Fe_{20}(2 nm)/Au(1.5 nm)]_{9}/Co(1nm)$

*Simulation with free oommf package from NIST; $(1 \times 1 \ \mu m^2) \times 55 \text{nm}$; Co domains 200 nm wide; $\alpha = 0.5$; regular mesh with cell size of $(5 \times 0.5 \times 50 \text{nm}^3)$; stiffness: Co: 30e-12 J/m, NiFe: 13e-12 J/m



 $\Delta R \propto \cos(\varphi)$

H=0



 $\Delta R \propto \cos(\varphi)$

H=0



Magnetostatic interactions between Co and NiFe layers lead to the decrease of the average cosine of the angle between magnetic moments of neighboring sublayers \Rightarrow resistance decrease.



[Co(1nm)/spacer(1nm)/NiFe(1nm)/spacer(1nm)]₄/Co(1nm)

*Simulation with free oommf package from NIST (M.J. Donahue and D.G. Porter); α =0.5;regular mesh with cell size of (5×**20000**×1nm³); stiffness: Co: 30e-12 J/m, NiFe: 13e-12 J/m



[Co(1nm)/spacer(1nm)/NiFe(1nm)/spacer(1nm)]₄/Co(1nm)

No attempts were made to exactly mirror the M(H) dependence ,i.e. , nucleation and annihilation fields.

Micromagnetic simulation



Micromagnetic simulation



Magnetostatic interactions between Co and NiFe layers lead to the spatial replication of the z-component of magnetic moment of Co sublayers in NiFe sublayers \Rightarrow resistance decrease.

Micromagnetic simulation





The GMR(H) dependence was calculated as proportional to an average cosine of the angle between magnetic moment direction of juxtaposed NiFe and Co cells.

Giant magnetoresistance dependencies of NiFe/Au/Co/Au multilayers can be approximated from micromagnetic simulations.

The GMR(H) dependence was calculated as proportional to an average cosine of the angle between magnetic moment direction of juxtaposed NiFe and Co cells.

Giant magnetoresistance dependencies of NiFe/Au/Co/Au multilayers can be approximated from micromagnetic simulations.

Without magnetostatic coupling between Co and NiFe layers there are no local minima of resistance.

The strength of coupling between sublayers with perpendicular and in-plane anisotropy (depth of resistance minimum) depends on thicknesses of all types of sublayerslayers and on the number of repetitions.

Micromag

Micromagnetic simulation

Magnetostatic coupling

OOMMF simulation with changing perpendicular anisotropy of CoFe sublayers.

from top to bottom:

 $K_{U} = 0.7 \times 10^{6} \text{J/m}^{3}$, $K_{U} = 1 \times 10^{6} \text{J/m}^{3}$ and $K_{U} = 1.15 \times 10^{6} \text{J/m}^{3}$.

[Co₈₃Fe₁₇(1.2 nm)/Au(2.2 nm)/Co(0.8 nm)/Au(2.2 nm)]₁₀

Mössbauer spectroscopy

Conversion electron Mössbauer spectroscopy (CEMS) ⁵⁷Co source ⁵⁷Fe 95.3 at.%

Relative intensities of the hyperfine lines vary with the angle φ between the incident γ -ray and the magnetic moment.

Mössbauer spectroscopy

 $\frac{\left[N_{80}Fe_{20}(3.2 \text{ nm})/Au(2.4 \text{ nm})/Co(0.8 \text{ nm})/Au(2.4 \text{ nm})\right]_{10}}{\left[N_{80}Fe_{20}(2.6 \text{ nm})/Co(0.6 \text{ nm})/Au(2.4 \text{ nm})/Co(0.8 \text{ nm})/Au(2.4 \text{ nm})\right]_{10}}{\left[Co(0.6 \text{ nm})/N_{80}Fe_{20}(2.6 \text{ nm})/Au(2.4 \text{ nm})/Co(0.8 \text{ nm})/Au(2.4 \text{ nm})\right]_{10}}$

$$R = R_{\cdot} - (R_{\cdot} - R_{min}) \cos(\varphi_{Co-NiFe})$$

Resistance measurements allow the determination of the average cosine of the angle between magnetic moments of **Co** and **NiFe** layers.

[Ni₈₀Fe₂₀(2 nm)/Au(2.4 nm)/Co(1.2 nm)/Au(2.4 nm)]₁₀

The magnetostatic fields of the Co domains cause the deflection of the magnetic moments of the NiFe layers. The deflection is stronger if the effective easy-plane anisotropy of NiFe layers is weaker.

 $[X/Au(2.4 nm)/Co(0.8 nm)/Au(2.4 nm)]_{10}$ $[Ni_{80}Fe_{20}(2 nm)/Au(2.4 nm)/Co/Au(2.4 nm)]_{10}$

*

SXRMS at BESSY – measurement of the intensity of a reflected X-ray versus the external magnetic field (θ -2 θ geometry).

Sampling depth ~ 10 nm

Circularly polarized light

λ≈1.4 nm

interaction with core electrons

photon energy tuned to absorption edge ☆

elemental selectivity

ALICE diffractometer at the undulator beamline UE56/2-PGM2 at BESSY II (Berlin) *graphics source:ssrl slac stanford edu/stoh

*graphics source:ssrl.slac.stanford.edu/stohr/xmcd.htm see ssrl.slac.stanford.edu/stohr/X-Rays_and_Magnetism.ppt

[Ni₈₀Fe₂₀(2 nm)/Au(2 nm)/Co(0.8 nm)/Au(2 nm)]₁₀

[Ni₈₀Fe₂₀(2 nm)/Au(2 nm)/Co(0.8 nm)/Au(2 nm)]₁₀

ALICE diffractometer at the undulator beamline UE56/2-PGM2 at BESSY II (Berlin)

[Ni₈₀Fe₂₀(2 nm)/Au(2 nm)/Co(1.1 nm)/Au(2 nm)]₁₀

$$M/M_{s} \propto [\Upsilon I(H) - I^{+} - I^{-}]/(I^{+} - I^{-})$$

[Ni₈₀Fe₂₀(2 nm)/Au(2 nm)/Co(1.1 nm)/Au(2 nm)]₁₀

SXRMS signal from **NiFe layers** shows fields characteristic for Co layers reversal: -creation of the stripe domain structure (H_c) -annihilation field of domain structure (H_a)

[Ni₈₀Fe₂₀(2 nm)/Au(2 nm)/Co(1.1 nm)/Au(2 nm)]₁₀

XMCD-PEEM

Sincrotrone Trieste **ELETTRA** S.C.p.A. di interesse nazionale

*graphics from: ssrl.slac.stanford.edu/stohr/xmcd.htm

 σ^{R}

Experimental confirmation of the replication of the Co stripe domains in the perpendicular component of NiFe sublayers magnetization.

[Ni₈₀Fe₂₀(2 nm)/Au(2 nm)/Co(0.8 nm)/Au(2 nm)]₁₀/Ni₈₀Fe₂₀(2 nm)

after in-plane ex-situ magnetazing in 0.7T


Sincrotrone Trieste **ELETTRA** S.C.p.A. di interesse nazionale



Experimental confirmation of the replication of the Co stripe domains in the perpendicular component of NiFe sublayers magnetization.





Magnetooptical Kerr effect observation of magnetic structurization caused by ion bombardment: 10keV He⁺ non-topological patterning

$Si(100)/buffer/Ni_{80}Fe_{20}-2nm/Au-3nm/Co wedge/Au-3nm$

*P. Kuświk et al., ACTA PHYSICA POLONICA A 113, 651 (2008)



Si(100)/buffer/Ni₈₀Fe₂₀-2nm/Au-3nm/Co wedge/Au-3nm

*P. Kuświk et al., ACTA PHYSICA POLONICA A 113, 651 (2008)



Si(100)/buffer/Ni₈₀Fe₂₀-2nm/Au-3nm/Co wedge/Au-3nm

*P. Kuświk et al., ACTA PHYSICA POLONICA A 113, 651 (2008)



[Co1(0.6 nm)/Au(4 nm)/Co2(1 nm)/Au(4 nm)]₄

*together with Ehresmann AG, Kassel (www.physik.uni-kassel.de/ehresmann)



*together with Ehresmann AG, Kassel (www.physik.uni-kassel.de/ehresmann)



The resistance measurements confirm the observation inferred from the M(H) measurements: the IB led to the switching of the EA direction in the 1 nm thick Co layers while the 0.6 nm thick layers preserved the perpendicular effective anisotropy.

[Co1(0.6 nm)/Au(4 nm)/Co2(1 nm)/Au(4 nm)]₄



Fig. 1. The preparation process of monolayerd masks: application of latex beads onto water surface (a); consolidation of particles (b); and liftoff of ordered monolayer (c). The 1×1 cm² silicon wafer covered with monolayer built from 496 nm PSlatex beads: most of the surface does not contain any grain boundaries, which is represented as a monochrome light interference color (d).

Magnetic patterning



***W. Glapka, P. Kuświk** *et al., ACTA PHYSICA POLONICA A* **115**, 348 (2009)

polystyrene nanospheres (diameter 470 nm) were deposited on the multilayer surfaces via a self-assembly process realized by a dip coating.

J. Rybczyński et al. Colloids and Surfaces A: Physicochem. Eng. Aspects 219, 1 (2003)

Magnetic patterning



$[Ni_{80}Fe_{20}(2 \text{ nm})/Au(3 \text{ nm})/Co(wedge)/Au(3 \text{ nm})]_{10}$



***W. Glapka, P. Kuświk** *et al., ACTA PHYSICA POLONICA A* **115**, 348 (2009)

Magnetic patterning



- $F_{\parallel}/Au/F_{\perp}/Au$ MIs represent new type of spin-valves
- Magnetostatic coupling influences magnetic reversal of $F_{\rm II}/{\rm Au}/{\rm F}_{\rm L}$ MIs
- $F_{\parallel}/Au/F_{\perp}$ MIs are suitable for a non-topological magnetic patterning

Zakopane 2009

Magnetic properties of [NiFe/Au/Co/Au] Multilayers - magnetostatic coupling and giant magnetoresistance

Thank you for your attention