

Hard and soft x-ray reflectivity studies of (NiFe/Au/Co/Au)₁₀ magnetic multilayers

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Sputter deposited (Ni₈₀Fe₂₀ 2nm/Au 2.2nm/Co t_{Co} /Au 2.2nm)₁₀ multilayers (MLs) with t_{Co} in the 0.4 ÷ 1.2 nm thickness range were investigated using hard x-ray diffraction and soft x-ray resonant magnetic scattering (SXRMS). SXRMS combines the element specificity of magnetic circular dichroism with conventional specular reflectivity. Specular reflectivity curves were measured with standard, unpolarized Cu K_α radiation (photon energy 8040 eV) and circularly polarized synchrotron radiation tuned to Co L₃ (778.4 eV) and Ni L₃ (853 eV) absorption edges. Structural properties (chemical periodicity and roughness) of the MLs were determined from reflectivity curve of the hard x-ray. Comparison of reflectivity dependence versus scattering vector q measured at different photon energies have shown: (i) different shapes of satellite Bragg peaks, (ii) small difference in their position, (iii) different ranges of q for appearance of Kiessig fringes. Analysis of soft x-ray reflectivity measured as a function of magnetic field allowed us to determine magnetization reversal of Co and NiFe layers separately.

9.7 cm

13.4 cm

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