Tutorial on Spintronics and Its Device Applications



Atsufumi Hirohata









Similar to Moore's law :

Areal density in a hard disc drive (HDD) doubles every 36 months. (~ 1992) After giant magnetoresistance (GMR) implementation,

it doubles less than every 20 months. (1992 \sim)





Nobel Prize in Physics 2007



Published online 9 October 2007 | Nature | doi:10.1038/449643a

The physics prize inside the iPod

Giant magnetoresistance secures Nobel.

Geoff Brumfiel (/news/author/Geoff+Brumfiel/index.html)

Two researchers who discovered an effect that has dramatically shrunk the size of magnetic storage devices have won the 2007 Nobel Prize in Physics.

Albert Fert of the University of Paris-South in France and Peter Grünberg of Jülich Research Centre in Germany split the prize for their 1988 discovery of an effect called giant magnetoresistance (GMR). The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced the award on 9 October in Stockholm.

The effect has been heralded as one of the first major applications of the fields of nanotechnology and 'spintronics'

"I am so proud and so happy," Fert said in a press conference via telephone from France. "Science is something marvellous."

At the heart of GMR are the spins of electrons, which generate a magnetic field and can be aligned either up or down. An electron can easily pass through a material whose electrons are similarly aligned, but will encounter resistance when it passes through one with electrons aligned in the opposite direction



Spin doctors: Peter Grünberg (left) and Albert Fert.

physicsworld.com

NEWS

Oct 9, 2007

Nobel prize recognizes GMR pioneers

The 2007 Nobel Prize in Physics has been awarded jointly to Albert Fert of the Université Paris-Sud in France and Peter Grünberg of the Forschungszentrum Jülich in Germany "for Technologists the discovery of giant magnetoresistance". Their discovery, which both physicists made independently in 1988, led to a dramatic rise in the amount of data that can be stored on computer hard-disk drives. Fert and Grünberg share prize money totalling 10 million Swedish krone (about \$1.5m).



The Nobel Prize in Physics 2007

"for the discovery of Giant Magnetoresistance"



Effect that Revolutionized Hard Drives Nets a Nobel varied by a few percent.

If you work at a computer, play video games, or listen to music on an iPod, you've benefited directly from the efforts of the winners of the 2007 Nobel Prize in Physics. Albert Fert of France's national research agency, CNRS, in Orsay, France, and Peter Grünberg of the Jülich Research Center in Germany independently discovered an effect known as giant magnetoresistance (GMR) that fueled a dramatic increase in the capacity of computer hard drives. The discovery also laid the cornerstone of a new field known as spintronics, in which researchers try to exploit the fact that electrons spin like little tops to make novel devices.

NOBEL PRIZES

"It's a physics discovery that has had real consequences," says Robert Buhrman, an applied physicist at

ity. "Without i not be able le life around drive." the discovery hers knew that etic field to a iron or nickel conductivity. t would flow rallel to the h the material ed and more ffect to make " that sensed e magnetized er hard drive.

In 1988, Grünberg and Fert found that they could greatly increase the change in resistance if they made layer-cake films with layers of iron separated by layers of nonmagnetic chromium only a few atoms thick. If two adjacent iron lavers are magnetized in the same direction, then electrons spinning in one direction will pass along the film readily, whereas electrons spinning in the other direction will not. If, however, the iron lavers are magnetized in opposite directions, then all electrons run into greater resistance, regardless of how they are spin-

ning. That makes a GMR film an extremely sensitive magnetic field detector. As a result, all the bits and hardware in a disk drive can be made much smaller.



agnetoresis-Thanks for the memories. Physicists Albert Fert (left) and Peter Grünberg independent the resistance discovered an effect that vastly increased the capacity of computer drives

The basic quantum mechanical concepts behind GMR were understood in the 1970s, but at the time technology was not available to exploit them, Fert says, "I put this idea in the fridge," he says. "Then in the 1980s, it became possible to fabricate these materials." Grünberg could not be reached for comment when Science went to press.

Although Fert and Grünberg discovered the effect, Stuart Parkin of IBM's Almaden Research Center in San Jose, California, did much of the work to make GMR technologically useful. Stuart Wolf, a physicist at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, says he was surprised that Parkin was not honored as well. But Tony Bland of the University of Cambridge, U.K., says that the Nobel

committee apparently distinguished between the discovery and its cultivation. "This is properly a physics prize for a truly extraordinary and novel effect."

The advent of GMR helped launch the emerging field of spintronics, Wolf says. "This particular discovery seemed to crystallize a lot of people's interest in working in this area," he says. Their efforts may someday lead to myriad other devices, such as computer memory that can hold information even when it loses power and microchips that exploit spin to perform computations.

-ADRIAN CHO With reporting by Daniel Clery.

www.sciencemag.org SCIENCE VOL 318 12 OCTOBER 2007 Published by AAAS



50 % resistance change at 4.2 K

V

* M. N. Baibich et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 61, 2472 (1988); P. Grünberg et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 57, 2442 (1986).

HDD in Cloud

In this lecture theatre,







20 Tablet PCs = 1/4 Cloud server 71 % (2016, UK)

3 Cloud servers used

Google 1 TB max. / person = 2.5 Cloud servers





By taking advantages from both magnetism and semiconductor physics,



Magnetism

Semiconductor physics

- Atomically smooth surface / interface X Depletion layer (µm ~ nm)
- ✓ Spin diffusion length (~ nm)
- ✓ Low resistivity $(10^{-7} \sim 10^{-8} \Omega^{\bullet}m)$
- Spin polarisation
- Magnetically anisotropic

- **X** Spin diffusion length ($\sim \mu m$)
- ✓ Variable resistivity $(10^{-5} \sim 10^8 \,\Omega \cdot m)$
- Doping (atomic engineering)
- X Isotropic



Conventional Electronics





<u>____</u>

Generation of Spin-Polarised Electrons





Interlayer exchange coupling model :

RKKY-like oscillation *

Two current model :

3d ferromagnets (FM) carry up spin current down spin current independently with different scattering rates at the FM layers the FM / NM interfaces. **

Current orientation :

Current in the plane (CIP) Current perpendicular to the plane (CPP)









 $N(E_F)$





* K. B. Hathaway, Ultrathin Magnetic Structures II, B. Heinrich and J. A. C. Bland (Eds.) (Springer, Berlin, 1994), p. 45-72;
** J. Mathon, Spin Electronics, M. Ziese and M. J. Thornton (Eds.) (Springer, Berlin, 2001), p. 71-88.



For > 2 Tb/in² recording :

Larger GMR ratios and smaller resistance-area product (RA) are required.



* A. Hirohata et al., Appl. Phys. A 111, 423 (2013).

Jullière's model :



Atom 2

3d

4p

r



Theoretical Models for TMR

Free electron models :

Juliere's model :

$$\begin{cases} G^{p} \propto a_{1}a_{2} + (1 - a_{1})(1 - a_{2}) \\ G^{a} \propto a_{1}(1 - a_{2}) + (1 - a_{1})a_{2} \\ \\ \frac{R^{a} - R^{p}}{R^{p}} = \frac{2P_{1}P_{2}}{1 - P_{1}P_{2}} \end{cases}$$



Slonczewski's model * :

spin split free electron band

 \rightarrow for large energy gap in a barrier, spin polarization :

$$P = \frac{N_{\uparrow}(E_F) - N_{\downarrow}(E_F)}{N_{\uparrow}(E_F) + N_{\downarrow}(E_F)}$$

WKB approximation **

Transfer Hamiltonian approach Ab initio calculations

> J. C. Slonczewski, *Phys. Rev. B* **39**, 6995 (1989); ** W. F. Brinkman *et al.*, *J. Appl. Phys.* **41**, 1915 (1970).



Conventional amorphous barriers : *



- Disorder at the interface :
- FM over-oxidation
- lattice defects

Disorder at the interface :

- FM over-oxidation
- lattice defects
- island growth of the barrier

Epitaxial (oriented) barriers : *



* After S. Yuasa et al., 28th Annual Conference on Magnetics, Sep. 21-24, 2004 (Okinawa, Japan).



Recent progress in TMR ratios :



** S. S. P. Parkin, 1st Int'l Sch. on Spintronics and Quantum Info. Tech., May 13-15, 2001 (Maui, HI, USA).





Required writing currents for several techniques dependent upon cell size :



MRAM cell size (µm)

* S. Nakamura, Y. Saito and H. Morise, Toshiba Rev. 61, 40 (2006).



	Spin RAM	MRAM	FLASH		DRAM		FeRAM	SRAM
Rules	32 nm	90 nm	32 nm	90 nm	45 nm	90 nm		90 nm
Non-volatility	Y	Y	Y	Y	Ν	N	Y	Ν
Read time	\sim 1 ns	300 ns (GMR) <60 ns (TMR)	10–50 ns	10–50 ns	10 ns	10 ns	100–200 ns	1.1 ns
Write time	$\sim 1 \text{ ns}$	<10 ns	0.1-100 ms	0.1-100 ms	10 ns	10 ns	$\sim 100 \mathrm{ns}$	1.1 ns
Repetition	>1015	>1015	>10 ⁶	>106	>1015	>1015	10 ⁹ -10 ¹²	>1015
Cell size	$0.01 \mu m^2$ 5 Gb cm ⁻² *	$0.25 \mu m^2$ 256 Mb cm ⁻²	$0.02 \mu \text{m}^2$ 2.5 Gb cm ⁻² *	$0.1 \mu \text{m}^2$ $512 \text{Mb} \text{cm}^{-2}$		$\begin{array}{c} 0.25\mu{\rm m}^2\\ 256{\rm Mbcm^{-2}} \end{array}$		1–1.3 μm ² 64 Mb cm ⁻²
Cell density	6 F ²	27 F ²		4 F ²	6 F ²	8 F ²	8 F ²	92 F ²
Chip capacity		>1 Gb		>1 Gb			<10 Mb	
Program energy per bit		120 pJ	10 nJ	30–120 nJ		5 pJ + refresh		5 pJ
Soft error hardness		Y		Y		Y	Y	Ν
Process cost		RT process		Lower bit cost			HT process	

Note: * represents target values.

Latest Spin RAM





* News from EverSpin, IBM and Toshiba.



As a non-volatile universal memory, MRAM / Spin RAM can replace SRAM :



(a) Nonvolatile Logic-in-Memory Architecture



* T. Kawahara et al., Microelectronics Reliability 52, 613 (2012).







MRAM for SRAM / DRAM Replacement



* https://forums.xilinx.com/t5/Xcell-Daily-Blog/Everspin-s-new-MRAM-based-nvNITRO-NVMe-card-delivers-Optane/ba-p/785194



Magnetic sensor supply chain and key players*

(Source: Magnetic Sensor Market and Technologies 2017 report, Yole Développement, November 2017)



*Non-exhaustive list of the magnetic sensor supply chain and its key players



MRAM Applications

















Magnetisation oscillates by spin-transfer torque : *



* O. Boulle *et al.*, *Nature Phys.* **3**, 492 (2007); ** https://www.nist.gov/news-events/news/2013/04/unprecedented-view-spintronic-switching.



<u>_</u>____



* Z. Bai et al., Spin 2, 1230006 (2012).



Spin Filtering

Band splitting in a tunnel barrier can filter only one spin orientation :



Material	Magnetic Behavior	Тс (К)	Moment (µB)	Structure, a(nm)	Eg (eV)	2∆E _{ex} (eV)	P (%)	Spin Filter Reference
EuO	FM	69.3	7.0	Fcc, 0.514	1.12	0.54	29	Santos ²³
EuS	FM	16.6	7.0	Fcc, 0.596	1.65	0.36	86	Moodera ²¹
EuSe	AFM	4.6	7.0	Fcc, 0.619	1.80		100	Moodera ²²
BiMnO ₃	FM	105	3.6	perovskite			22	Gajek ²⁰
NiFe ₂ O ₄	ferri-M	850	2	spinel	1.2		22	Lüders ²⁷
CoFe ₂ O ₄	ferri-M	796	3	spinel	0.80		25	Ramos ²⁸

* J. S. Moodera *et al.*, *Epitaxial Ferromagnetic Films and Spintronic Applications*, A. Hirohata and Y. Otani (Eds.) (Research Signpost, Kerala, 2009) p. 111-143.



Rebranding ...

REVIEW

Spintronics: A Spin-Based Electronics Vision for the Future

S. A. Wolf,^{1,2*} D. D. Awschalom,³ R. A. Buhrman,⁴ J. M. Daughton,⁵ S. von Molnár,⁶ M. L. Roukes,⁷ A. Y. Chtchelkanova,⁸ D. M. Treger⁸

This review describes a new paradigm of electronics based on the spin degree of freedom of the electron. Either adding the spin degree of freedom to conventional charge-based electronic devices or using the spin alone has the potential advantages of nonvolatility, increased data processing speed, decreased electric power consumption, and increased integration densities compared with conventional semiconductor devices. To successfully incorporate spins into existing semiconductor technology, one has to resolve technical issues such as efficient injection, transport, control and manipulation, and detection of spin polarization as well as spin-polarized currents. Recent advances in new materials engineering hold the promise of realizing spintronic devices, efforts in new materials fabrication, issues in spin transport, and optical spin manipulation.

Until recently, the spin of the electron was ignored in mainstream charge-based electronics. A technology has emerged called spintronics (spin transport electronics or spinbased electronics), where it is not the electron charge but the electron spin that carries information, and this offers opportunities for a

¹Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), 3701 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22203, USA. ²Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC 20375, USA. ³University of California, Department of Physics, Santa Barbara, CA 93106, USA. ⁴Cornell University, Applied and Engineering Physics, 211 Clark Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853, USA. ⁵NVE, 11409 Valley View Road, Eden Prairie, MN 55344, USA. ⁶Florida State University, MARTECH, 406 Keen Building, Tallahassee, FL 32306, USA. ⁷California Institute of Technology, Department of Physics, MS-114-36, Pasadena, CA 91125, USA. ⁸Strategic Analysis, 3601 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 500, Arlington, VA 22201, USA.

*To whom correspondence should be addressed. Email: swolf@darpa.mil new generation of devices combining standard microelectronics with spin-dependent effects that arise from the interaction between spin of the carrier and the magnetic properties of the material.

Traditional approaches to using spin are based on the alignment of a spin (either "up" or "down") relative to a reference (an applied magnetic field or magnetization orientation of the ferromagnetic film). Device operations then proceed with some quantity (electrical current) that depends in a predictable way on the degree of alignment. Adding the spin degree of freedom to conventional semiconductor chargebased electronics or using the spin degree of freedom alone will add substantially more capability and performance to electronic products. The advantages of these new devices would be nonvolatility, increased data processing speed, decreased electric power consumption, and increased integration densities

compared with conventional semiconductor devices.

Major challenges in this field of spintronics that are addressed by experiment and theory include the optimization of electron spin lifetimes, the detection of spin coherence in nanoscale structures, transport of spin-polarized carriers across relevant length scales and heterointerfaces, and the manipulation of both electron and nuclear spins on sufficiently fast time scales. In response, recent experiments suggest that the storage time of quantum information encoded in electron spins may be extended through their strong interplay with nuclear spins in the solid state. Moreover, optical methods for spin injection, detection, and manipulation have been developed that exploit the ability to precisely engineer the coupling between electron spin and optical photons. It is envisioned that the merging of electronics, photonics, and magnetics will ultimately lead to new spin-based multifunctional devices such as spin-FET (field effect transistor), spin-LED (light-emitting diode), spin RTD (resonant tunneling device), optical switches operating at terahertz frequency, modulators, encoders, decoders, and quantum bits for quantum computation and communication. The success of these ventures depends on a deeper understanding of fundamental spin interactions in solid state materials as well as the roles of dimensionality, defects, and semiconductor band structure in modifying these dynamics. If we can understand and control the spin



X







- For fast operation spin transfer torque (STT) will be used to move the walls.
- This requires a narrow track, possibly down to 100 nm, so that the STT dominates the Lorentz field.





* A. Yamaguchi *et al.*, *Science* **97**, 077205 (2004).



- Racetrack memory has been originally proposed by Parkin of IBM.*
- The principle is to use domain walls (DWs) as a shift register or storage system.
- This can lead to a new storage architecture.
- Racetrack systems may be cheaper to fabricate than MRAM for low cost storage.
- The vertical orientation is impractical due to the demagnetising effects.





<u>____</u>

Dilute magnetic semiconductor (GaMnAs) : *



* H. Ohno et al., Nature 408, 944 (2000).



Ferromagnetic metal (Co) : *

-1

-2L -15

-10

-5

5

0

H(Oe)

10

15



-1

-2 L -15

-10

-5



0

H (Oe)

5

10

15




Spin-polarised currents can be introduced by electromagnetic wave : *





Spin Hall Effect

Spin Hall / inverse spin Hall / anomalous spin Hall effects etc. : *





Edwin Herbert Hall (1855-1938)

* C.-Z. Chang and M. Li, J. Phys.: Condens. Matter 28, 123002 (2016).

X

MOKE detection of spins generated by the spin Hall effect : *





 $\rm Co_{0.8}Fe_{0.2}$ / $\rm Al_2O_3$ / Al nanowires : *





^{*} S. O. Valenzuela and M. Tinkham, Nature 442, 176 (2006).



CoFeB / MgO / CoFeB nanopillar on Ta : *



^{*} L. Liu et al., Science 336, 555 (2012).



Spin Seebeck Effect



* K. Uchida *et al.*, *Nature* **455**, 778 (2008); ** K Uchida *et al.*, *J. Phys.: Condens. Matter* **26**, 343202 (2014).



Spin Seebeck Effect









Persistent current :

induced by a magnetic flux threading a mesoscopic ring

- \rightarrow Aharonov-Bohm effect *
 - The persistent current oscillates with the flux.

induced by a magnetic field rotating slowly in time **

- → Berry (geometrical) phase
 - Non-uniform external magnetic fields are required.
 - Spin-polarised persistent current can be generated.









* Y. Aharonov and D. Bohm, *Phys. Rev.* 115, 485 (1959); A. Tonomura *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 56, 792 (1986); ** D. Loss and P. M. Goldbart, *Phys. Rev. B* 45, 13544 (1992).





- The Einstein de Haas effect describes the rotation of a magnetised body due to the conservation of angular momentum, by the application of a magnetic field.*
- The Barnett effect describes the inverse effect, where a body exhibits an increased magnetisation due to mechanical rotation.**
- The coupling between rotation and magnetisation and magnetisation and spin currents is well established.
- In 2011 Matsuo *et al.* proposed a new method for the direct generation of a *spin current* via mechanical rotation.***

$$J_S = 2enR\eta_{SO}\frac{\hbar 2\pi f}{2\epsilon_F}\omega_C$$

- $J_{\rm S}$ = spin current density
- *e* = electron charge
- *n* = electron density
- R = radius of rotation
- η_{SO} = spin orbit coupling strength, 0.59
- *f* = frequency
- ε_F = Fermi energy
- $\omega_c = qB/m$ for electron wave packet



* A. Einstein and W. J. de Haas, *KNAW Proc.* 18, 696 (1915);
 ** S. J. Barnett, *Phys. Rev.* 6, 239 (1915);
 *** M. Matsuo *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 106, 076601 (2011).



- In a similar vein, one can observe the Barnett field in a rotating body observing a shift in the NMR.
- The nuclear g factor dependence of the NMR shift is observed to measure the Barnett field.*
- The presence of a spin current may be detected by the magneto-optical Kerr effect (MOKE).
- This allows for direct probing of the conduction electrons.



Schematic of the NMR measurement setup for the Barnett effect [6]



Spin Transport - Spin-pol'd electrons / holes \rightarrow SC \rightarrow Circ.-pol'd photons

Spin LED structure	Fe	GaAs QV AIGaAs			
Structures	Spin polarisation	Refs.			
Spin-polarised <i>electron</i> injection :					
300 nm BeMgZnSe + BeMnZnSe / 100 nm <i>n</i> -AlGaAs / 15 nm <i>i</i> -GaAs QW / / <i>p</i> -GaAs	~ 42% @ <5 K	R. Fiederling <i>et al.</i> , <i>Nature</i> 402 , 787 (1999).			
360 nm CdMnTe / 1400 nm CdTe	~ 30% @ 5 K	M. Oestreich et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. 74, 1251 (1999).			
n-ZnMnSe / AlGaAs / 10-15 nm GaAs QW / AlGaAs	~ 83% @ 4.5 K	B. T. Jonker <i>et al.</i> , <i>Phys. Rev. B</i> 62 , 8180 (2000); <i>Appl. Phys. Lett.</i> 81 , 265 (2002).			
20 nm Fe / GaAs / InGaAs QW / GaAs	~ 2% @ 25 K	H. J. Zhu et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 87, 016601 (2001).			
12.5 nm <mark>Fe</mark> / AlGaAs / <mark>GaAs QW</mark> / GaAs	~ 13% @ 4.5 K ~ 8% @ 240 K	A. T. Hanbicki <i>et al., Appl. Phys. Lett.</i> 80 , 1240 (2002).			
8 nm NiFe + 2 nm CoFe / 1.4 nm AIO_x / 15 nm AIGaAs / 100 nm GaAs QW / GaAs	>9.2% @ 80 K	V. F. Motsnyi et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. 81, 265 (2002).			
20 nm (Co, Fe & NiFe) / 2 nm Al ₂ O ₃ / 50 nm <i>n</i> -AlGaAs / 50 nm si-AlGaAs / 20 nm si-GaAs QW / / GaAs	0.8%, 0.5% & 0.2% @ RT	T. Manago et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. 81, 694 (2002).			
Spin-polarised <i>hole</i> injection :					
300 nm <i>p</i> -GaMnAs / 20-220 nm GaAs / 10 nm InGaAs QW	~ 1% @ <31 K	Y. Ohno <i>et al.</i> , <i>Nature</i> 402 , 790 (1999).			

Photoexcitation :

Electrons spin-polarised by introducing circularly polarised light



Circularly polarised electroluminescence (EL) :

Circularly polarised light generated by spin-polarised electrons at a quantum well (QW)







Spin polarisation $\boldsymbol{\propto}$ asymmetry in spin transport effect :

 $A = (I^{n} - I^{0}) / (I^{n} + I^{0})$

A decreases with increasing photon energy.

 \propto spin polarisation in GaAs



* D. T. Pierce et al., Phys. Lett. **51A**, 465 (1975); A.Hirohata et al., Phys. Rev. B **63**, 104425 (2001).

Spin Electronics with Optical Methods



* A. Hirohata, "Optically induced and detected spin current," in S. Maekawa et al. (Eds.) Spin Current (Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2012) pp. 49-64.





Development of nano-spintronic devices : *



* A. Hirohata and K. Takanashi, *J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys.* **47**, 1930001 (2014).



Major Spin-Polarised Three-Terminal Devices

	Spin FET	Spin LED	Spin RTD	Coulomb blockade
	Schottky Gate	GaMnAs (p) GaAs spacer (i) InGaAs (i) GaAs buffer (n) GaAs substrate (n)	2DEG BeTe BeTe Mn-ions △E(Zeeman) U(up) U(up) U(down) U(down)	width (w) thickness (t) length (1)
Input	Spin-polarised electrons / holes	Spin-polarised electrons / holes	Spin-polarised electrons / holes	Spin-polarised electrons
Source	Ferromagnets (FM)	Dilute magnetic semiconductors (DMS)	Double tunnel barriers	Ferromagnets (FM)
Gate	Bias voltage	Bias voltage	Bias voltage	Bias voltage
Drain	Ferromagnets (FM)	Quantum wells (QW)	Quantum wells (QW)	Ferromagnets (FM)
Output	Electrical signals - Spin-polarised electrons / holes	Circularly polarised electroluminescence (EL)	Circularly polarised electroluminescence (EL)	Electrical signals
Notes		Low temperatureHigh magnetic field	• Low temperature	• Low temperature
Refs.	S. Datta and B. Das, <i>Appl.</i> <i>Phys. Lett.</i> 56 , 665 (1990).	Y. Ohno <i>et al., Natur</i> e 402 , 790 (1999).	T. Gruber <i>et al., Appl. Phys.</i> <i>Lett.</i> 78 , 1101 (2001).	K. Yakushiji <i>et al., Appl.</i> <i>Phys. Lett.</i> 78 , 515 (2001).

Nano-Spintronic Devices



* A. Hirohata and K. Takanashi, J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys. 47, 1930001 (2014).



Spin-Polarised Field Effect Transistor

- Spin transistor was originally proposed by Datta and Das.
- Fe/GaAs is one of the leading systems for obtaining efficient spinpolarised injection into a semiconductor (SC). **
- GaAs has long carrier spin lifetimes and large spin diffusion lengths.
- Fe is an ideal injector as it has:
 - high Curie temperature
 - Iow coercivity
 - good lattice matching with GaAs
- The intrinsic Schottky barrier that forms at the Fe/SC interface overcomes the limitations due to the conductivity mismatch.





* S. Datta and S. Das, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* 56, 665 (1990);
 ** G. Wastlbauer and J. A. C. Bland, *Adv. Phys.* 54, 137 (2005); D. Hagele *et al.*, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* 73, 1580 (1998);
 J. M. Kikkawa and D.D. Awschalom, *Nature* 397,139 (1999); E. I. Rashba, *Phys. Rev. B* 62, R16267 (2000).

Spin Transport - Spin-pol'd electrons \rightarrow SC \rightarrow Spin-pol'd electrons

Spin FET structures :





> 100 μ m spin diffusion length : *



* J. M. Kikkawa and D. D. Awschalom, Phys. Rev. Lett. 80, 4313 (1998).

- Experimental studies have shown that spin injection can be achieved leading to a majority spin accumulation.
- Spin injection / extraction has been observed using both optical * and electrical ** techniques.
- A bias dependant polarisation inversion has been observed, the origin of which remains unknown.
- Knowledge of the mechanism(s) responsible for the polarisation inversion required for the development of future devices.



* S.A. Crooker *et al.*, *Science* **309**, 2191 (2005); ** X. Lou *et al.*, *Nature Phys.* **3**, 197 (2007).

- There are two promising candidates to explain the polarisation inversion:
 - Tunnelling through interface resonance states (IRS). *
 - Tunnelling from bound states in the semiconductor. **
- It has been shown that the contribution arising from bound states can be varied through control of the doping profile.
- The strength and position of IRS is sensitive to the atomic interface structure. *



* S Honda *et al.*, *J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys.* **43**, 135002 (2010); ** H. Dery and L.J. Sham, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **98**, 046602 (2007).



- There are several proposals for the interface structure of Fe / GaAs (001) films.
- Calculations suggest that the abrupt interface is energetically favourable for As-terminated surfaces (often used to limit diffusion).
- Previous calculations predict that minority carrier interface states lie
 0.3 eV below the top of the Schottky barrier.
 - - These are yet to be observed experimentally.
- Calculations are yet to be performed for inter-atomic spacings measured experimentally.



* T. J. Zega *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **96**, 196101 (2006);

** J. M. LeBau et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. 93, 121909 (2008).



- There have been two previous reports on experimental observations of the Fe/GaAs interface. *,**
- The two studies reported different interfacial structures.
- Both reports did not observed the abrupt interface.
- Experimental values for the Schottky barrier height range from 0.2 to 0.8 eV. ***, ****





* T. J. Zega *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **96**,196101 (2006);
** J. M. LeBau *et al.*, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **93**, 121909 (2008);
*** H. Kurebayashi *et al.*, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **91**, 102114 (2007);
**** B. T. Jonker *et al.*, *J. Appl. Phys.* **81**, 4362 (1997).



- The figure shows an unfiltered HAADF-STEM image the Fe / GaAs interface.
- Two different interfacial structures are observed.
 - > Abrupt (first report) **
 - Partially mixed (as reported previously)*
- Analysis of the intensity profiles (z-contrast) taken across the interfaces suggest that Fe is responsible for the partially mixing.
- From the areas observed the film is ~ 95% abrupt.



* L. R. Fleet *et al.*, *IEEE Trans. Magn.*, **47**, 2756 (2011); ** L. R. Fleet *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. B* **87**, 024401 (2012).





* L. R. Fleet et al., Phys. Rev. B 87, 024401 (2012).



• No spin polarisation reversal induced by a bias voltage.

 \rightarrow Agrees with calculations.



Gate operation in a NiFe / InGaAs / NiFe spin FET : *

Ku



^{*} H. C. Koo et al., Science 325, 1515 (2009).



FM / SC Interfaces :

Ohmic contacts :

• Diffusive process : 100 % spin polarisation in FM is crucial.

→ DMS, Heusler compounds and half-metallic FM as FM G. Schmidt *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. B* **62**, R4790 (2000).

Schottky / tunnel barrier contacts :

• Ballistic process : R _{SC} << R _{tunnel}

E. I. Rashba, *Phys. Rev. B* **62**, 16267 (2000).

P. Mavropoulos et al., Phys. Rev. B 66, 024416 (2002).

Spin coherence length :

• Spin life time : electrons >> holes M. E. Flatté and G. Vignale, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **78**, 1273 (2001).

Spin modulation :

- Spin orientation \propto gate voltage

A. Bournel et al., Mater. Sci. Forum 297, 205 (1999).





Ballistic spin injection into Si : *



* B. T. Jonker et al., Nature Phys. 3, 542 (2007).


All-metallic transistors : *



* M. Johnson and R. H. Silsbee, Phys. Rev. Lett. 56, 1790 (1985), Phys. Rev. B 37, 5312 (1988).



Lateral spin-valve structures with Co / Al / Co nano-wires : *



* F. J. Jedema et al., Nature 410, 345 (2001).



Spin injection into Ag : *



Increase by one order of magnitude.

Interfacial control : **



Increase spin injection efficiency by insulator insertion (ballistic injection).

Increase spin detection efficeincy by insulator insertion (spin voltage). by Ohmic contact (spin current).

* R. Godfrey and M. Johnson, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **96**, 136601 (2006); ** S. Takahashi and S. Maekawa, *Phys. Rev. B* **67**, 052409 (2003).

Spin Valve / Magnetic Tunnel Transistors

Spin valve transistor : *

Magnetic tunnel transistor : **



Combining semiconductor with GMR / TMR devices :

 \rightarrow First step towards all metal devices

* R. Sato and K. Mizushima, Appl. Phys. Lett. 79, 1157 (2001); D. J. Monsma et al., Science 281, 407 (1998);
 ** S. S. P. Parkin, 1st Int'l Sch. on Spintronics and Quantum Info. Tech., May 13-15, 2001 (Maui, HI, USA).



Magnetoresistance in a multi-wall (MW) CNT :



* K. Tsukagoshi et al., Nature 401, 572 (1999).



Spin transport in graphene at room temperature :





* M. Ohishi et al., Jpn. J. Appl. Phys. 46, L605 (2007).



Development of nano-spintronic devices : *



* A. Hirohata and K. Takanashi, J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys. 47, 1930001 (2014).

Two Categories for Spintronic Devices





70 nm GaMnAs / GaAs (001) : *



* C. Gould et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 93, 117203 (2004).



Similar spin-current generation can be achieved with an antiferromagnet : *



** T. Jungwirth et al., Nature Nanotechnol. 11, 231 (2016).



* After https://www.slideshare.net/algerien1970/electrical-transport-and-magnetic-interactions-in-3d-and-5d-transition-metal-oxides.



Spin Wave

Spin wave (magnon) : *



Analogous to phonon, quantised crystalline lattice.









* https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pWQ3r-2Xjeo ** A. V. Chumak *et al.*, *Nature Phys.* **11**, 453 (2015).



Y₃Fe₅O₁₂

Spin-polarised currents can be introduced by electromagnetic wave : *



4.73

H (kOe)

2.5

H (kOe)

2.7

-0.5

4.75

Spin Wave Logics

Magnonics : *

K





Dzaloshinskii-Moriya interactions (DMI) between canted spins : *





* I. Dzyaloshinskii, *J. Phys. Chem. Solids* **4**, 241 (1958); T. Moriya, *Phys. Rev.* **120**, 91 (1960); ** A. Fert *et al.*, *Nature Nanotechnol.* **8**,152 (2013).



500 \times 40 \times 0.4 nm³ Co stripes with DMI of 1.4 meV per atom : *



* A. Fert *et al.*, *Nature Nanotechnol.* **8**,152 (2013); ** N. Romming *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **114**, 177203 (2015).







Topological Insulators





* J. A. Waugh et al., npj Quantum Mater. 1, 16025 (2016).

Spin-orbitronics : *

Ku,





Development of nano-spintronic devices : *



* A. Hirohata and K. Takanashi, *J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys.* **47**, 1930001 (2014).









Half-Metallic Ferromagnets





Dilute Magnetic Semiconductors



* T. Dietl et al., Phys. Rev. B 63, 195205 (2001).



Roadmap on Heusler Alloys

Devices			HDD read heads	All Heu	usler junctions
		~ 100 % GMR at RT			
Properties	2002 Large MR			~ 1000 % TMR at RT	
			RT exchange bias		1
Fundamentals	1983 Half-metallicity prediction			RT half-metallicity	
		Antiferromagnetism	/ ferrimagnetism	Perpendicular anisotropy	
1903 Discovery					
Past	Recent	2015	2018	2020	2030



Summary

In spintronics, the following contributions need to be considered :

- Spin-current generation e.g., spin injection, electric fields, spin Hall, spin Seebeck, ...
- Stray fields

e.g., spin injector design, edge/surface roughness, ...

- Volume effects

 e.g., epitaxial/poly, edge/surface roughness, activation volume, ...
- Interfacial effects

 e.g., spin Hall effects, skyrmions, DMI, exchange bias, ...
- Operation temperatures

e.g., Curie temperature, Néel temperature, ...

• Time dependency

e.g., damping, spin wave, spin pumping, interfacial relaxation, ...

Transport

e.g., ballistic, diffusive (Ohmic), hot electrons, ...

• Media

e.g., semiconductor, non-magnetic metal, organic material, ...



Spintronics is one of the most exciting subject in nano-electronics :





Group Members





Atsufumi Hirohata

Department of Electronic Engineering University of York +44 (0)1904 32 3245 atsufumi.hirohata@york.ac.uk

york spintronics







Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council





