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Prof. Jianping Wang, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Minnesota A particle with both a negative electric charge q = -e and a spin $\frac{1}{2}$ (magnetic moment m = \bigoplus_B)



The direction of a spin is usually controlled by a magnetic field or inter-electron interactions, but there are also on-going researches to find ways to control the spin using an electric field.

Normal Electronics



An electron as seen by an electronician

Normal electronics considers the manipulation of electrons by using their charge for storage and processing of information.



Application:

- 1. Logic gates
- 2. Random access memory

Disadvantages:

- 1. Volatility of the information
- 2. Large energy consumption
- 3. Limited storage density

Normal Electronics





第一只晶体管 1947,贝尔实验室 1956年诺贝尔物理奖 第一块微处理芯片 1971,Intel 4004

2300晶体管/3x4 mm²



William Bradford Shockley



John Bardeen



Walter Houser Brattain



Normal Magnetism

An electron as seen by a magnetician

A magnetician wants to develop materials in which the electron spins tend to align.



Ferromagnet 铁磁体

uniform magnetization



Electron magnetic moments ("spins")

Aligned by "exchange interaction"

> Bistable: Equivalent energy for "up" or "down" states



Magnetic Data Storage

A computer hard drive stores your data magnetically



Spin Electronics



Purpose of spin-electronics

Combine electronics and magnetism in order to develop new devices in which both charge and spin of an electron play an active role.

New fundamental physical questions New phenomena New devices and applications

自旋电子学







MRAM (Magnetic Random Access Memory) :Huge TMR





Giant Magnetoresistance (GMR, 巨磁电阻)



Baibich et al., Phys. Rev. Lett, 61, 2472 (1988).





Stuart Parkin, IBM



1951 mercury memory (UNIVAC) GMR Head on the HDD



Today 0.85"HDD, 4 GBytes, 12.5 MB/sec

Tunneling Magnetoresistance(TMR, 隧穿磁电阻)





主要研发公司: Motorola, Everspin, Infineon, SONY, Toshiba, Hitachi

Spin transfer torque (STT,自旋转移力矩)



GMR & TMR: Magnetization changes current

Can it be reversed?

Spin transfer torque: Current changes magnetization

Spin transfer torque



- Current is spin polarized as it passes through the pinned magnetic layer.
- If the net spin direction along M₁ is different from moments M₂ of free layer then there is a spin torque acting on the moments M₂
- M₂ rotates as current passes through it.

Spin torque applications



The critical current density (~10⁷A/cm²) is too high!



交换偏置自旋阀中的自旋转移力矩效应



 $Cu(20)/IrMn(10)/Co_{90}Fe_{10}(5)/Cu(6)/Co_{90}Fe_{10}$ (2.5)/Ru(0.45)/Cu(5)/Ta(2) (nm) Critical current densities: 2.2.10⁸ A/cm² (structure I); 1.8.10⁷ A/cm² (structure II).

The Ru cap layer effectively decreases the critical current densities.

纳米厚度金属钌层增强的自旋转移力矩



反对称自旋阀结构中STT临界电流密度的大幅度降低



Y.Jiang et al., Nature Materials, vol.3, 361(2004).

Structure III:

Ta(6)/Cu(50)/Co₉₀Fe₁₀(5)/Ru(6)/Co₉₀Fe₁₀(2.5)/Cu(6)/Co₉₀Fe₁₀(5)/IrMn(10)/Cu(5)/Ta(2) (nm)

反对称自旋阀结构中STT临界电流密度的大幅度降低





- 1. E. B. Myers *et al.,* Science **285**, 867 (1999).
- 2. J. A. Katine *et al.*, PRL **84**, 3149 (2000).
- F. J. Albert *et al.*, PRL **89**, 226802, (2002).
- 4. Y. Jiang *et al.*, PRL 92, 167204 (2004).
- 5. Y. Jiang *et al.*, Nat. Mater. 3, 361 (2004).
- G. D. Fuchs *et al.*, APL **85**, 1205 (2004).
- 7. M. Yamanouchi *et al.*, Nature **428**, 539 (2004).
- 8. H. Meng et al., APL, 88, 082504(2006).

论文被Nature及其子刊正面引用6次, 且被12篇综述文章正面引用。



IBM公司Thomas J. Watson研发 中心科学家Jonathon Sun博士在 《IBM器件研发》上发表综述文

Spin angular momentum transfer in currentperpendicular nanomagnetic junctions

J. Z. Sun

IBM J. RES. & DEV. VOL. 50 NO. 1 JANUARY 2006

One proposal for reducing the current required to switch a nanomagnet was presented by Berger [80]. Figure 15 illustrates the proposal. For a free nanomagnet sandwiched between two oppositely fixed magnetic polarizer layers, Berger predicted a sizable enhancement of the spin-transfer effect, and an approximately sixfold net reduction of the threshold current. Several recent experiments [81] seem to confirm the existence of this enhancement, although a quantitative comparison with model results has yet to be made.

 Y. Jiang, T. Nozaki, S. Abe, T. Ochiai, A. Hirohata, N. Tezuka, and K. Inomata, *Nature Mater.* 3, 361 (2004).



美国Carnegie Mellon大学 数据存储中心主任,国际 著名磁记录专家Jian-Gang Zhu(IEEE Fellow)教授发 表的综述文章

Magnetoresistive Random Access Memory: The Path to Competitiveness and Scalability

Memory devices with magnetoresistive properties have had limited commercial success but new spin torque driven magnetization switching designs may provide greatly expanded storage capacity.

By JIAN-GANG ZHU, Fellow IEEE

developing effort of STT-MRAM technology. Many schemes have bee suggested to reduce the Gilbert damping constant of a storage layer. Experimental studies have found that an Ru layer, or Ru-based composite layers, deposited on top of the storage layer, could lower switching current thresholds, and reduction of the Gilbert damping has been suggested to be the responsible mechanism [55].

[55] Y. Jiang *et al.*, "Substantial reduction of critical current for magnetization switching in an exchange-biased spin valve," *Nat. Mater.*, vol. 3, p. 361, 2004.

《Proceedings of the IEEE》

8 Emerging Research Devices

	TR	Sa	Inte	rnationa	al Tech	nnolog	y Roadm	nap for S	emicondu	ictors
		Stand- alone	Embed- ded	SRAM [A]	NOR	B] NAND	SONOS	FcRAM	MRAM	РСМ
Storage Mechanism			杤	F究	结	果衫	波写	$\overline{\lambda}$	ı	Reversibly changing amorphous and crystalline phases
Cell Elements						11.	I.L.			1TIR
Feature size F, nm	2005 2018		玉	尓半	÷븝	体	技オ	「临」	<u> </u>	90 18
Cell Area	2005	2	1072			2			•	7.2F ²
Read Time	2018	5F*	12F*	140 F ²	10 F ²	5 F*	5.5F ²	16F ²	16F ²	4.7F ²
	2005	<15 ns	<1 ns	70 ns	25 ns	12 ns	25 ns	<20 ns [F]	<0.5 ns	< 60 ns
W/E time	2005	<15 ns	1 ns	0.4 ns	1 μs/ 10 ms	1 ms/ 0.1 m				
	2018	<15 ns	0.2 ns	<0.1 ns	1 μs/ 10 ms	1 ms 0.1 m	自旋极	化电流	〔具有降	:低写入
Retention Time	2005	64 ms	64 ms	[C]	>10 y	> 10	中达力		+ 4h ±t 1	·/ ·/+ -/-
	2018	64 ms	64 ms	[C]	>10 y	> 10	电流学	欱 度 和	能 耗	り 俗 ノ
Write Cycles	2005	>3E16	>3E16	>3E16	>1E5	>1E5			11	• • • • • •
	2018	>3E16	>3E16	>3E16	>1E5	>1E5	IY.Jiai	ng et a		
Write	2005	2.5	2.5	1.2	12	15				
operating voltage (V)	2018	1.5	1.5	0.7	12	15	4.0-4.5	0.7 - 1	-	-3
Read operating voltage (V)	2005	2.5	2.5	1.2	2.5	2.5	2.5	0.9 - 3.3	1.	3
	2018	1.5	1.5	0.8	1.2	1.2	2.5	0.7 - 1		<3
Write energy (J/bit)	2005	1E-16	1E-16	7E-16	8E-15	8E-15	2E-15	2E-14	1	1E-10
	2018	4E-17	4E-17	2E-17	3E-15	3E-15	3E-16	4E-15	2	Not known
Comments								Destructive read-out	Spin-Larized Write has a potential to lower Write current density and energy [K]	

[K] Jiang, Y., T. Nozaki, S. Abe, T. Ochiai, A. Hirohata, N. Tezuka, K. Inomata. "Substantial reduction of critical current for magnetization switching in an exchange-biased spin valve", Nature Materials, 3 (2004) 361-364.

成果被至少10部外文专著正面引用



Spin transfer torque (STT)



Phys. Rev. B, 72, 064439 (2005).

Effect of the Ru thickness on STT



Structure IV:

Ta(2)/Cu(80)/Co₉₀Fe₁₀(5)/Ru(4.5)/Co₉₀Fe₁₀ (2.5)/Cu(6)/Co₉₀Fe₁₀(5)/IrMn(10)/Cu(5)/Ta (2) (nm)

Size:

 400.200 nm^2



Appl. Phys. Lett. 86, 192515(2005).

STT in SPVs with a low aspect ratio of 1





Structure: Ta/Cu/IrMn (10)/Co₉₀Fe₁₀ (5)/Cu (6)/Co₉₀Fe₁₀ (2.5) /Cu (5)/Ta (2) (nm)

Appl. Phys. Lett. 89, 122514(2006).

Current-induced domain wall motion



Micromagnetic simulations

Object Oriented MicroMagnetic Framework (OOMMF)

LLG equation with the STT contribution



 $u = JPg m_B / 2eM_s$

Where J is the current density and *P* is the current polarization. Electrons flowing toward the right means that u > 0.





>1. The critical current density increases with the decreases in both the width and thickness of nanowires due to the enhanced hard-axis anisotropy.

>2. While the thickness is fixed, the critical current density decreases with the decreasing width of nanowires due to the domination of reducing domain wall width.



垂直磁各向异性(PMA)薄膜







Hard disk drive (HDD) read head

Magnetic random access memory (MRAM)







и. L1₀-ordered CoPt (or FePt) alloys

III. Co-based multilayers

Strong PMA; Low thermal stability; *TbCoFe,GdCoFe and SmCo ,et al.*

Strong PMA; High thermal stability; High fabricate temperature.

Strong PMA; Low thermal stability; reduced spin polarization (SP) [Co/Ni]_n, [Co/Pt]_n and [Co/Pd]_n



SP value is a key factor to determine TMR ratio according to Julliere's model.

M. Julliere, Phys. Lett. A.54, 225(1975).

Half-metallic full-Heusler alloys



Courtesy of K. Inomata

PMA thin films

The Co₂FeAl thin film is always in-plane magnetized.



Magnetization curves for a Co_2FeAI film with a thickness of 30 nm. The magnetic field was aligned in the film (black lines) or perpendicular to the film (red lines).

Can full-Heusler alloy films be perpendicularly magnetized?

Tb-Co₂FeAl 薄膜



 $[x \text{ Tb}+(1-x) \text{ CFA}] (0 \le x \le 1)$

Appl. Phys. Lett. 96, 142505(2010).



Tb-CFA based CPP SPVs



Schematic of spin valve with TCFA as the free and reference layer.

Appl. Phys. Lett. 96, 142505(2010).



Pt/CFA/MgO 三层膜结构



Appl. Phys. Express, 4, 043006 (2011)





$d_{\rm CFA(200)}\approx 0.28~{\rm nm}$

Pt/CFA/MgO interface

B2-ordered structure in CFA after annealing.



- 3. Good thermal stability (even annealed at 400 $^{\circ}$ C)
- 4. The structure could be used as the bottom electrodes in MgO-based MTJs

300 °C annealed Ta (3)/Pt (10)/CFAS (2.5)/ MgO (1.0)/Pt (5) (nm)



Ta (3)/Pt (10)/CFAS (t_{CFAS})/ MgO (0.5)/Pt (5) (nm)



 $K_u \times t_{CFAS} = (K_v - 2\pi M_s^2) \times t_{CFAS} + K_s$, where K_v and K_s are bulk and interfacial anisotropy density, respectively.





The oxidation of Co at the CFAS/MgO interface is more important to PMA?

[CFAS (6 Å)/Pt (t Å)]_n中的反常霍尔效应





Appl. Phys. Express, 6, 113003(2013)

10 nm

50 nm



Background & motivations



Emergent interfacial phenomenon



Electric-field controlled magnetism - Future Memory



 $m_2 = \cos \varphi$



Zhao et al, Nature Mater 5, 823-829 (2006).



Martin et al, Appl. Phys. Lett. 91, 172513 (2007).



Chu et al, Nature Mater 7, 478-482 (2008).



Wu et al, Nature Mater 9, 756-761 (2010).

Multiferroic BST/BLFO/BST sandwich





(Ba,Sr)TiO₃/Bi(La, Fe)O₃/(Ba,Sr)TiO₃ structure



- "Fatigue-free" multiferroic properties.
- Enhanced ferroelectric loops.

Reduced concentration of oxygen vacancies due to the BST buffer layer.

Appl. Phys. Lett, 92, 062902 (2008).

KNNO/LSMO multiferroic heterostructure









$(K,Na)NdO_{3}/(La_{0.5}Sr_{0.5})MnO_{3}$ structure

Strong coupling between ferroelectric and ferromagnetic.

relaxor behavior in high temperature

"Giant Polarization" due to the field-assisted hopping conduction.

Appl. Phys. Lett, 95, 132905 (2009).



Bi-relaxor multiferroic behavior



BiFe_{0.5}Mn_{0.5}O₃/CaRuO₃ heterostructures

- Double-perovskite BiFe_{0.5}Mn_{0.5}O₃
- Fully epitaxial growth (RSM)
- Dielectric relaxor behavior in 400K.
- > PNRs and magnetic relaxor behavior in 140K.



Appl. Phys. Lett, 99, 062905 (2011).

Defects control in Co-doped BSZT films



Appl. Phys. Lett, 99, 232910 (2011).

(BaSr)TiO₃/(BiLa)FeO₃ multiferroic heterostructure





Lattice correlated



$$\frac{Fe^{2+} - V_0^{--} - Fe^{3+}}{V_0^{--}} \sim 0.39 - 0.47 \text{ eV}$$

Appl. Phys. Lett, 102, 232902(2013).

Electric-field-induced change of magnetoresistance

in multiferroic spin valves



Fig. 1. The schematic illustration of the multiferroic spin valve structure.

 V_E was applied to change the magnetization of BFO layer

Fig. 5. CoFe/Cu/CoFe spin valve structures based on BFO film.

(a) Magnetic hysteresis loops; and current-in-plane magnetoresistance measurements with (b) no applied voltage, (c) applying 0.5 V, and (d) applying -0.5 V at room temperature.

IEEE T. Magn. Vol. 47, No. 10, 2011.

Thanks for your attention !

