

Measurement of Current Polarization by Doppler-Shifted Spin Waves

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GOAL

To develop methods for measuring the spin polarization of current in ferromagnetic metals, which is a pivotal parameter for spin-based future electronics.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Designed and fabricated devices to measure spin wave propagation at sub-micrometer wavelengths in current-carrying ferromagnetic metals.

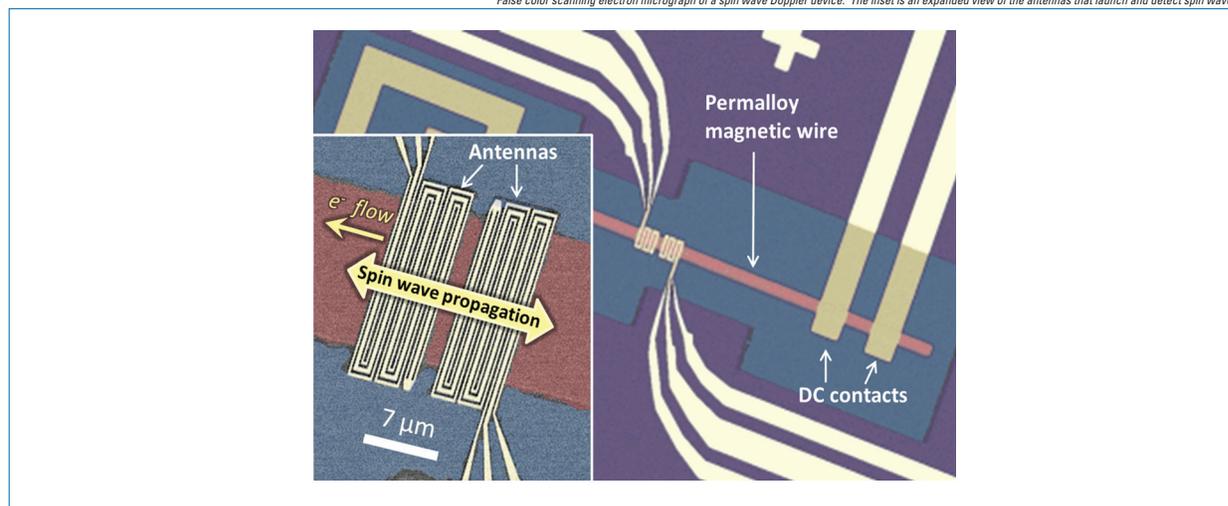
Measured current polarization in $\text{Ni}_{80}\text{Fe}_{20}$ (Permalloy) with two times the precision of existing measurements and provided the first measurements of temperature dependence in current polarization.

Measured nearly complete polarization (0.95 ± 0.05) in $(\text{CoFe})_{0.2}\text{Ge}_{0.2}$ alloy.

KEY NANOFAB PROCESS

Electron beam lithography.

False color scanning electron micrograph of a spin wave Doppler device. The inset is an expanded view of the antennas that launch and detect spin waves.



REFERENCES

Enhanced magnetization drift velocity and current polarization in $(\text{CoFe})_{1-x}\text{Ge}_x$ alloys, M. Zhu, B. D. Soe, R. D. McMichael, M. J. Carey, S. Maat, and J. R. Childress, *Applied Physics Letters* **98**, 072510 (2011).

Temperature dependence of magnetization drift velocity and current polarization in $\text{Ni}_{80}\text{Fe}_{20}$ by Spin-Wave Doppler Measurements, M. Zhu, C. L. Dennis, and R. D. McMichael, *Physical Review B* **81**, 140407 (2010).