

Project Objective

To look beyond current SOA metal-based spintronics to the exciting possibilities offered by FS nanospintronics devices which can realize the full potential of spintronics as they offer integration of magnetic and semiconducting properties allowing for a combination of information processing and storage functionalities. Research in this field is also leading to discoveries of new effects and functionalities that have been overlooked by conventional spintronics but whose exploitation will have major impact in the information technology industry...

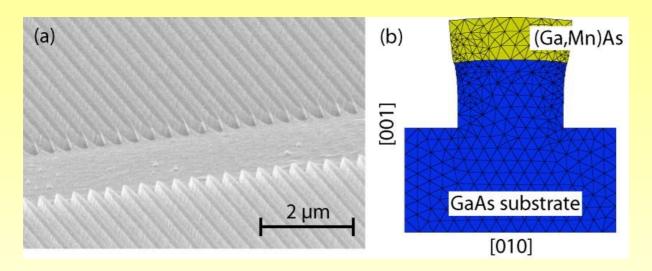


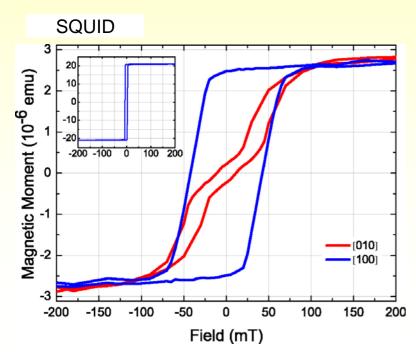
Working Structure

- -Writing of information into, and manipulation of information with, the magnetic state of devices.
- -Electrical information retrieval and manipulation.
- -High frequency operation
- -Theory, modelling and device integration/implementation schemes.
- -Review and assessment of commercialisation potential



Writing 1: Shape anisotropy

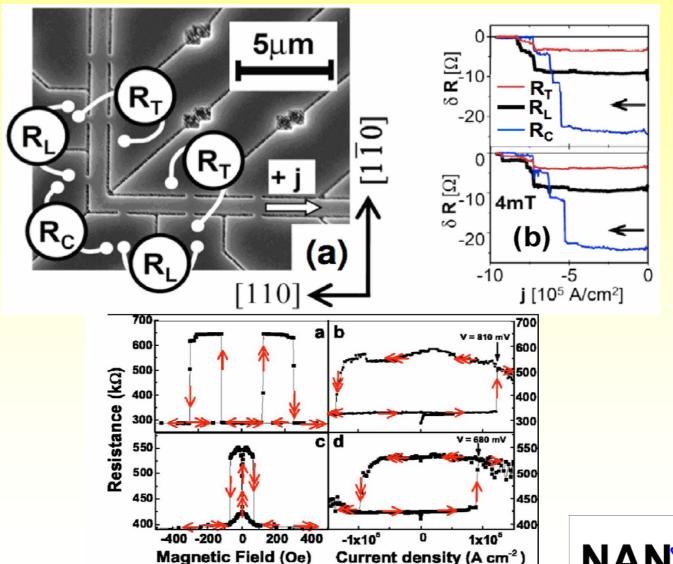






Writing 2: CI-MS & CI-DW Motion

Swithing currents of order 10⁵ in lateral and vertical geometry.



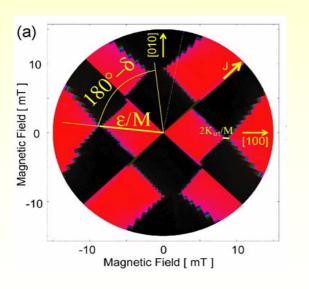


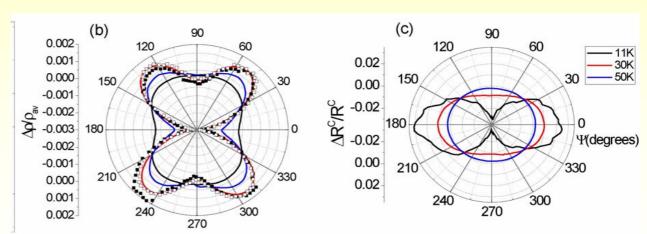
Reading: Fingerprints & Corbino's

Resistance is a well defined (and now well understood) function of:

-Angles between current, crystal, and magnetization.

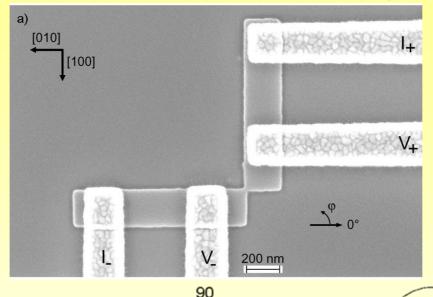
And can thus serve as direct read-out mechanism.

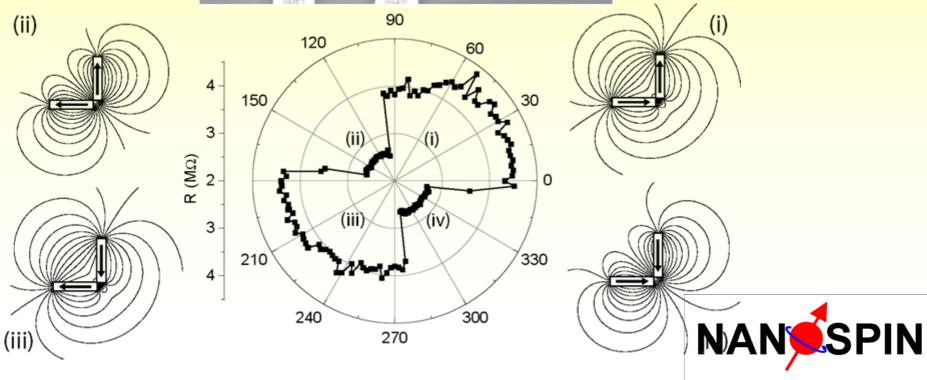




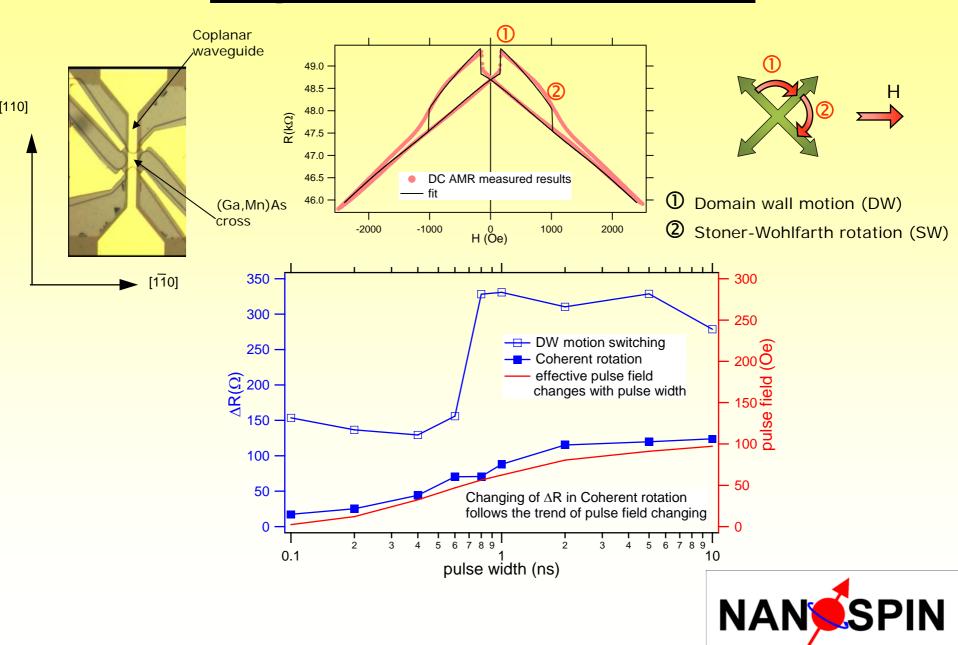


Non-volatile memory element





High speed operation



Materials issue and prospects

- -Focus on device concepts, to complement world wide materials efforts
- -Portability to other materials (including metals in some cases). Many effects previously overlooked have indeed now been seen in metal structures.
- -Consortium members hold IP rights on over a dozen device concepts, many have already been partially commercialized.
- -Medium term commercial interest:
 - -Novel functionalities.
 - -Integratability (avoid interconnect between storage and manipulation)
 - -Power conservation (Vampire consumption becoming critical).
 - -Niche markets (weight, certain extreme environments, etc).
- -Long term interest:
 - -Truly novel phenomena.
 - -Full quantum information.

Various industrial players remain interested in both aspects.