Spin-Based Interconnect Technology and Design

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Electron Spin as a Novel State Variable

Electron spin is one of the most widely investigated new state variables to overcome power limit or bring in new functionality.



[4] W.S. Zhao et al, Jour. App. Phys., 109, 2011.[5] S. Datta, et al., Applied Physics Letters, 2012.

Giant Spin Hall Current Controlled Logic^[5]



Novel Spin Wave Circuit Concept



Why Spintronics in IITC?

Any logic technology must be complemented by compatible interconnects.

Spintronic components are mostly metallic.

Spintronics can be embedded in BEOL to augment CMOS

The boundaries between interconnects and devices are blurred in some beyond CMOS spintronic logic.

Interconnect Challenge

Total Dynamic Power Breakdown @ 0.13µm





Local and global interconnects are both important in terms of power dissipation and speed.





Data from Intel, N. Magen et al., *SLIP Workshop*, 2004. Nagaraj NJ from Texas Instruments, SRC Interconnect Forum, Sept. 2006.

Computation and Communication

The boundary between devices and interconnects is blurring.



Hierarchy of Limits: Si Microelectronics

	Major Options	Example Key metrics
System	RISC, CISC,	Throughput (IPS), power density,
Circuit	Static CMOS, dynamic,	Noise margin, delay, variability,
Device	MOSFET Metallic wires	Delay, Energy per binary switching operation, standby power
Material	Si Al, Cu SiO2	Mobility, saturation velocity Resistivity Break down field
Fundamental	Speed of light, Laws of thermodynamic Atom size	Time of flight, Thermal noise

J. D. Meindl, *Science*, 2001. J.D. Meindl, *Proc. IEEE*, 1995.

Hierarchy of Limits: Beyond-CMOS Nanoelectronics

	Major Options	Example Key metrics
System	RISC, CISC, Nontraditional	Throughput (IPS), power density,
Circuit	Static CMOS, dynamic, majority gates, Neuromorphic Computing??	Error rate, delay, variability, power
Device	Thermionic FETs Tunnel FETs Magnetic/spintronic Nanomechanical switches??	Delay, Energy per binary switching operation, standby power
Material	Si, GaAs, Al, Cu, Carbon Nanotubes, Graphene, Other 2D materials, Ferromagnets, ???	Mobility, saturation velocity Resistivity, spin relaxation time,
Fundamental	Speed of light, Laws of thermodynamic Atom size	Time of flight, Thermal noise Spin magnetic moment of electron

State Variables



[1] B. Behin-Aein et al, Nature Nanotechnology, Feb. 2010.
[2] Currivan, Jean Anne, et al. "*Magnetics Letters*, (2012)
[3] [5] S. Datta, et al., Applied Physics Letters, 2012.

O

SHE Material

State Variables



Voltage Controlled

[1] Sharma, Nishtha, et al., Energy Efficient Electronic Systems (E3S), 2015 Fourth Berkeley Symposium on. IEEE, 2015.
[2] S. Dutta, et al., Nature Scientific Report, 5, Article number: 9861 (2015)



Drift-Diffusion Spin Devices/Interconnects



Non-Local Spin torque configuration provides nonreciprocity.

Channel material: Metals such as Cu, Al

B. Behin-Aein, et al., "Proposal for an allspin logic device with built-in memory," Nat. Nanotechnol., vol. 5, no. 4, pp. 266-270, 2010.



A tunnel barrier in a conventional spin torque device blocks electrons from moving back to the transmitting magnet.

Channel material: Cu, Al, Si

D. Datta, et al., "Voltage Asymmetry of Spin-Transfer Torques," IEEE Trans. Nanotechnol., vol. 11, no. 2, pp. 261-272, Mar. 2012.

Outline

- Introduction
- Spin Drift/Diffusion Devices and Interconnects
 - Materials
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Important Material Properties

 $P = RI^2$

Resistivity



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Scaling Metallic Wires



More scatterings at wire surfaces and grain boundaries.

Resistivity increases as cross-sectional dimensions scale.

[1] W. Steinhögl, et al., *Physical Rev. B*, Vol. 66, 075414 (2002).

Spin Transport Parameters in Metals

Grain-boundary (R) and sidewall (p) scatterings

Mayadas-Shatzkes Fuchs-Sondheimer

Effective resistivity & momentum relaxation time

Elliott-Yafet (EY) theory

Spin-relaxation time

$$\tau_s \propto \tau_p$$

Effect of scaling and size effects on effective MFP in metals



Spin Relaxation in Cu and Al



Size effects can lower spin diffusion length in narrow metallic wires substantially.

Sh. Rakheja et al., IEEE Trans. Electron Devices, Nov. 2013.

Calibration and Validation vs. Experiments

Copper							
Reference	Dimensions	$\rho(L.T.)$	$L_s^{net}(L.T.)$	ho(R.T.)	$L_s^{net}(R.T.)$	a^d	a^{ph}
		$(\mu\Omega \cdot cm)$	(nm)	$(\mu\Omega \cdot cm)$	(nm)		
S. Garzon, 2005 [18]	W/T = 100/54	3.44	546	5.76	148	4.0×10^{-4}	5.7×10^{-3}
E. Villamor, 2013 [19]	W/T = 200/70	1.63	863	-	-	7.1×10^{-4}	_
E. Villamor, 2013 [19]	W/T = 200/100	1.26	1020	_	-	8.5×10^{-4}	_
E. Villamor, 2013 [20]	W/T = 170/100	1.7	860	3.5	380	6.5×10^{-4}	10^{-3}
H. Zou, 2010 [21]	W/T = (150 - 200)/100	1.3	1000	3.38	400	8.3×10^{-4}	10^{-3}
F. Jedema, 2001 [22]	cross strip (50 nm thick)	1.41	1000	285	350	7.0×10^{-4}	1 8 10-3
F. Jedema, 2003 [23]	cross-surp (50 min unck)	1.41	1000	2.65	330	7.0X10	1.0×10
T. Kimura, 2006 [24], [25]	W/T = 100/80	1.14	1500	-	-	4.8×10^{-4}	_
T. Kimura, 2012 [26]	W/T = 200/100	2.5	1300	1.2	500	5.7×10^{-4}	10^{-3}
T. Kimura, 2008 [27]	W/T = 220/320	0.69	1000	2.35	400	2.9×10^{-3}	10^{-3}
H. Zou, 2012 [28]	W/T = 100/72	1.4	460	3.0	290	3.3×10^{-3}	5.4×10^{-4}

Sh. Rakheja et al., IEEE Trans. Electron Devices, Nov. 2013.

Spin Transport in Silicon





[1] D.B.M. Klaassen, Solid State Electronics, vol. 35, pp. 953-959, July 1992.

Spin relaxation in silicon



Summary of Spin Transport Parameters

Parameter	Cu (R=0.5, p=0.2)	Al (R=0.5, p=0.2)	Si (N _d = 1e18 cm ⁻³)
D _s (cm²/s)	18	22	7.5
μ _s (cm²/Vs)	4	2.8	275
ρ _{eff} (μΩ.cm)	18.7	12.5	2.79×10 ⁴
L _s (µm)	0.071	0.102	1.4

Width = 7.5 nm

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Spin Injection to Si: Methodology

The conducting electrons in F are modeled by majority and minority parabolic conduction bands.

The band bending at the Si interface is obtained by solving Poisson's equation under the Thomas-Fermi approximation.



S. Chang, et al., IEEE Trans. Magnetics (Si). S. Chang, et al., IEEE Trans. Electron Devices (Cu).

Spin Torque Devices and Circuits



Spin Drift-Diffusion in non-magnetic channel

Spin Transport in Non-Magnetic Channel



Spin Drift-Diffusion in non-magnetic channel

The x Component of the Spin Transport







The x Component of the Spin Transport

$$\frac{\partial s_x}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{q} \frac{\partial J_{s-x}}{\partial x} - \frac{s_x}{\tau_s}$$

$$s_x = \frac{C_Q V_{s-x}}{q}$$

$$\frac{\partial J_{s-x}}{\partial x} = \frac{\sigma}{D\tau_s} V_{s-x} + C_Q \frac{\partial V_{s-x}}{\partial t}$$

$$\mathbf{J}_{\mathbf{s},\mathbf{x}} \qquad \mathbf{J}_{\mathbf{c}} \mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{S}-\mathbf{x}} \\ \mathbf{\Delta}_{\mathbf{x}} \\ \mathbf{\Delta}_{\mathbf{x}} \\ \mathbf{\nabla}_{\mathbf{v}} \\ \mathbf{\nabla}_{\mathbf{s},\mathbf{x}} \\ \mathbf{\Delta}_{\mathbf{J}} \\ \mathbf{\Delta}_{\mathbf{s},\mathbf{x}} \\ \mathbf{\Delta}_{\mathbf{J}} \\ \mathbf{\Delta}_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{q}} \\ \mathbf{\nabla}_{\mathbf{s},\mathbf{x}} \\ \mathbf{\Delta}_{\mathbf{J}} \\ \mathbf{\Delta}_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{q}} \\ \mathbf{\nabla}_{\mathbf{s},\mathbf{x}} \\ \mathbf{\nabla}_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{\nabla}_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x$$

Complete Circuit: Non-Magnetic Metallic Channel



Magnet-Non Magnet Interface

$$\vec{I}_{S} = \begin{bmatrix} I_{C} \\ I_{S,x} \\ I_{S,y} \\ I_{S,z} \end{bmatrix} \qquad \vec{V}_{S} = \begin{bmatrix} V_{C} \\ V_{S,x} \\ V_{S,y} \\ V_{S,z} \end{bmatrix} \qquad \vec{I}_{s} = [G] \Delta \vec{V}_{S} \qquad \vec{G}_{\vec{m}} = \begin{bmatrix} g_{C,C} & g_{C,x} & g_{C,y} & g_{C,z} \\ g_{x,C} & g_{x,x} & g_{x,y} & g_{x,z} \\ g_{y,C} & g_{y,x} & g_{y,y} & g_{y,z} \\ g_{z,C} & g_{z,x} & g_{z,y} & g_{z,z} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{U}_{S,z-F} \qquad \vec{U}_{S,z-F} \qquad \vec{U}_{S,z-N} \qquad \vec{U}_{S,z-N} \qquad \vec{U}_{S,z-N} \qquad \vec{U}_{S,z-N} \qquad \vec{U}_{S,z-F} \qquad \vec{U}_{S,y} \qquad \vec{U}_{S,z-F} \qquad \vec{U}_{S,y} \qquad$$

 $\mathbf{g}_{\mathbf{y},\mathbf{z}}($

(s,z-F

s.z-N

S. Manipatruni, et al., IEEE Trans. Circuits and Systems, Dec. 2012.

 $\chi_{s,z-F}$

 $\mathbf{g}_{\mathbf{z},\mathbf{z}}($

Nanomagnet Dynamics

$$\frac{d\vec{m}}{dt} = -\gamma \mu_0 \left[\vec{m} \times \vec{H_{eff}}\right] + \alpha \left[\vec{m} \times \frac{d\vec{m}}{dt}\right] + \frac{\vec{I}_{S,\perp}}{qN_s}$$

$$N_{s}q(1+\alpha^{2})\frac{dm_{x}}{dt} = f(m_{x}, m_{y}, m_{z}, V_{S,x}, V_{S,y}, V_{S,z}, H_{eff,x}, H_{eff,y}, H_{eff,z})$$

$$N_{s}q(1+\alpha^{2})\frac{dm_{y}}{dt} = f(m_{x}, m_{y}, m_{z}, V_{S,x}, V_{S,y}, V_{S,z}, H_{eff,x}, H_{eff,y}, H_{eff,z})$$

$$N_{s}q(1+\alpha^{2})\frac{dm_{z}}{dt} = f(m_{x}, m_{y}, m_{z}, V_{S,x}, V_{S,y}, V_{S,z}, H_{eff,x}, H_{eff,y}, H_{eff,z})$$

$$\bigcap_{c}\frac{dV(t)}{dt} = i(t)$$

$$N_{s}q(1+\alpha^{2})\frac{m_{x}}{dt}$$



$$\mathbf{N_{s}q(1 + \alpha^{2})} \stackrel{\mathbf{M_{y}}}{=} \mathbf{f}\left(\vec{\mathbf{m}}, \vec{\mathbf{I}}_{s}, \vec{\mathbf{H}}_{eff}\right)$$
$$\mathbf{M_{s}q(1 + \alpha^{2})} \stackrel{\mathbf{M_{y}}}{=} \mathbf{g}\left(\vec{\mathbf{m}}, \vec{\mathbf{I}}_{s}, \vec{\mathbf{H}}_{eff}\right)$$

$$\mathbf{N_{s}q(1+\alpha^{2})} \stackrel{\mathbf{m_{z}}}{\longrightarrow} \mathbf{h}\left(\vec{\mathbf{m}},\vec{\mathbf{I}}_{s},\vec{\mathbf{H}}_{eff}\right)$$

Ph. Bonhomme, et all. IEEE Trans. Electron Devices, May 2014.

Nanomagnet Circuit: Validation



• Thermal Noise



Complete Circuit Model



Ph. Bonhomme, et all. IEEE Trans. Electron Devices, May 2014.

Delay and Energy-per-bit vs. Length



Size effects increase delay and energy in interconnects substantially.

Spin interconnects can be used only for very short lengths.

Comparing various Options @ Constant Delay



Conventional Spin Valve devices/interconnects are more energy efficient.

Metallic channels are better for shorter lengths and Si for longer lengths.

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Overview

It is very difficult to compete with CMOS in traditional Boolean circuits.

Need to search for non-traditional circuits where beyond-CMOS devices can perform well:

Cellular neural network is one possible candidate and was shown to provide better energy efficiency for specific tasks, such as the image processing, associative memory, and target tracking.

It can be implemented in a wide range of chargeand spin-based devices.

CNN Dynamic and Implementation

Illustrations of a CNN implemented with CMOS synapses and neurons

$$C\frac{dV(x_{ij})}{dt} = -\frac{V(x_{ij})}{R} + \sum_{kl \in S_{ij}} A_{kl,ij} f_{act}(V(x_{ij})) + \sum_{kl \in S_{ij}} B_{kl,ij} V(u_{kl}) + I_{ij},$$



CMOS Implementation with Opamp and OTA

A. Trivedi, et al., "Application of Silicon-Germanium Source Tunnel-FET to Enable Ultralow Power Cellular Neural Network-Based Associative Memory ", IEEE TED, vol. 61, No.11, 2015.

• Using All-spin logic device as the building block



• The output magnet switches slower as the input current decreases, acting as an integrator.

• Using All-spin logic device as the building block



- The output magnet is sensed by using two MTJs and one inverters.
- MTJs are matched to tolerate the process variation.

• Illustrations of a CNN implemented with magnetic synapses and neurons



• Other possible spin-torque transfer mechanisms to implement CNN are giant spin hall effect and domain wall motion.

C. Pan and A. Naeemi, arXiv:1604.04584v1

Noise Filtering

• Functional demonstration of a noise filtering application



• Thermal noise has been included in all simulations.

Associative Memory Application



• A magnetic synapse that has weight that is digitally programmable



• To program the magnets, an extra layer of fixed magnet is placed on top of the input magnets.

Energy-Delay Benchmarking

• Performance comparison between spintronic and CMOS CNNs



• For the spintronic CNN, an optimal driving supply voltage exists to minimize the energy for a given driving size.

C. Pan and A. Naeemi, arXiv:1604.04584v1

Area-Energy Trade-offs

• Energy per operation versus footprint area



• A larger driving size of the inverter reduces the energy dissipation at the cost of increasing the overall footprint area.

C. Pan and A. Naeemi, arXiv:1604.04584v1

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Recent Advancements: Spin Wave Excitation

d.c.

current

< Py(5nm) Pt(8nm)

disk

Au(150nm)

top electrodes



Probing laser light

HAM

Pd-Cu



Parametric excitation

R. Verba, et al. (a) MoO Fe substrate (GaAs) (c) IM, Δm_{*}



Recent Advancements: Spin Wave Logic



Issues not Considered/Addressed Before

- > Spinwave signals are weak and attenuate fast:
 - Very few stages can be cascaded.
 - Detection needs very sensitive sense amplifiers
 - Frequent signal conversion takes energy and area
- Unidirectional operation or Non-reciprocity
 - An ME cell generates spinwaves that propagate in both directions
 - Need to make sure input determines the output not the other way around.
- Nonvolatility
 - One attractive feature of spintronic/magnetic circuits is their non-volatility.
 - Spin waves are volatile but magnets are nonvolatile.
 - Need memory elements
- Crosstalk noise
 - Not been modeled/considered
 - May limit the density and bandwidth

Requirements

- 1. Electrical signals must be converted to spinewave signals
- 2. Many stages of logic are performed in the spinwave domain
- 3. Unidirectional signal propagation is guaranteed.
- 4. The end result is easily converted back to electrical signals.

Assumptions/Choices:

The spinwave logic complements CMOS circuits and is compatible with them.

Information is encoded in the phase of spin waves.

It is desired to have a non volatile spinwave logic.

For simplicity, start with an interconnect and copy/inverter logic functions.

Clocked Cascaded Spin Wave Devices



Basic Element



The Pz layer applies strain on the free FM to change the easy axis from in plane to out of plane.

Non-Volatile SWD (Spin Wave Devices)



S. Dutta, et al., Nature Scientific Report, 5, Article number: 9861 (2015)

Interface with CMOS





+ or - voltages applied to the pinned FM layer apply + or - spin currents to the free FM Need transducers to interface with CMOS



Charge to Spin (C-S) Transducer

- If no voltage is applied to the Pz layer (clock= 0), the easy axis of the magnet is in plane.
- Data is saved as +x (1) or -x (0) magnetic orientations.
- Once the voltage is applied to Pz layer (clock=1), the strain applied on the magnet shifts the easy axis to out of plane.
- > Depending on the original data (+x or -x) the generated spin wave has a phase of 0 or π .
- Once the clock goes back to zero, the easy axis goes back to in-plane but the magnet is momentarily in the meta stable.
- A spin current is used to push the magnet to either
 +x or -x directions and hence writing 1 or 0.





Charge to Spin (C-S) Converter





Clocked Cascaded Spin Wave Devices





Repeater or Inverter

- If no voltage is applied to the Pz layer (clock= 0), the easy axis of the magnet is in plane.
- Data is saved as +x (1) or -x (0) magnetic orientations.
- Once the voltage is applied to Pz layer (clock,1), the strain applied on the magnet shifts the easy axis to the out of plane.
- > Depending on the original data (+x or -x) the generated spin wave has a phase of 0 or π .
- Once the clock goes back to zero, the easy axis goes back to in-plane but the magnet is momentarily in the meta stable.
- The incoming spinwave pushes the magnet to either +x or -x directions and hence writing 1 or 0.





Clocking Scheme

- Need for clocking
 - sequential transmission of information from one stage to the next
 - non-reciprocity
- Rising edge of the clock represents information transmission while the falling edge represents the detection and storage of signal.



Single stage device operation

> Sensitivity of the scheme as a function of the damping coefficient a_{ME} of the ME cell and the propagation time of the spin wave T_P



Conclusions

Beyond-CMOS devices may provide an alternative to geometrical scaling.

Fast and accurate models at various levels of abstraction are needed.

Cross-layer co-design and optimization are essential.

Material-level:

- Size effects can substantially shorten spin diffusion length in metals.
- Doping concentration improves resistivity but lowers spin diffusion length.
- Electric field increases spin relaxation length in Si to tens of micron.

Device-Level:

- Tunnel barriers can provide non-reciprocity and address impedance mismatch.
- Many reinventions and breakthroughs are still needed.

Conclusions

Circuit-Level:

- It is very difficult to beat CMOS in conventional circuits.
- SPICE models provide an insightful and flexible tool for analyzing spintronic devices and circuits.
- Novel circuit concepts that take advantage of the novel devices are essential.
- Spin wave devices and circuits enable wave computing and may provide a fundamentally new way of computing.

More Reading

- Dutta, Sourav, Dmitri E. Nikonov, Sasikanth Manipatruni, Ian A. Young, and Azad Naeemi. "Phase-dependent deterministic switching of magnetoelectric spin wave detector in the presence of thermal noise via compensation of demagnetization." Applied Physics Letters 107, no. 19 (2015): 192404.
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More Reading

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