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Existence of Ferromagnetism in Stacked Bilayers of Pd/C60¹ SIDDHARTHA GHOSH, SEFAATTIN TONGAY, ARTHUR F. HEBARD, Department of Physics, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611 USA, HASAN SAHIN, SALIM CIRACI, UNAM-Institute of Materials Science and Nanotechnology, Bilkent University, 06800 Ankara, Turkey — We report on an experimental and theoretical study of the magnetic properties of multilayer structures fabricated by alternating layers of sputter-deposited Pd and thermally-sublimated C_{60} . Auger Electron Spectroscopy and SEM techniques have been used to characterize samples for which magnetic measurements in a commercially available SQUID have been made. The magnetization measurement reveals ferromagnetism in the Pd/C_{60} system, which has Curie temperature T_C \sim 450K, modified Bloch coefficient P \sim 2.7 and a temperature-independent coercive field of 50 Oe. The observed ferromagnetism is surprising since both C_{60} and Pd are non-ferromagnetic in the non-interacting limit. Density functional theory (DFT) calculations show that while the C_{60} molecules are nonmagnetic unless polymerized, Pd films have a degenerate ground state that can become ferromagnetic with a weak perturbation. Though the calculated charge transfers of ~ 0.06 e between C₆₀ and Pd are not the cause of ferromagnetism, DFT shows that ferromagnetism can be associated with Pd clusters or an interaction of C_{60} molecules with sharp edges of the Pd thin film.

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