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Dynamic magnetization switching and spin wave excitations by voltage-induced torque¹

YOICHI SHIOTA, Graduate School of Engineering Science, Osaka University

The effect of electric fields on ultrathin ferromagnetic metal layer is one of the promising approaches for manipulating the spin direction with low-energy consumption, localization, and coherent behavior. Several experimental approaches to realize it have been investigated using ferromagnetic semiconductors [1], magnetostriction together with piezo-electric materials [2], multiferroic materials [3], and ultrathin ferromagnetic layer [4-9]. In this talk, we will present a dynamic control of spins by voltage-induced torque. We used the magnetic tunnel junctions with ultrathin ferromagnetic layer, which shows voltage-induced perpendicular magnetic anisotropy change. By applying the voltage to the junction, the magnetic easy-axis in the ultrathin ferromagnetic layer changes from in-plane to out-of-plane, which causes a precession of the spins. This precession resulted in a two-way toggle switching by determining an appropriate pulse length [8]. On the other hand, an application of rf-voltage causes an excitation of a uniform spin-wave [9]. Since the precession of spin associates with an oscillation in the resistance of the junction, the applied rf-signal is rectified and produces a dc-voltage. From the spectrum of the dc-voltage as a function of frequency, we could estimate the voltage-induced torque.

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