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Electrical Spin Injection and Detection in Mn₅Ge₃/Ge/Mn₅Ge₃ Nanowire Transistors¹ JIANSHI TANG, CHIU-YEN WANG, KANG L. WANG, Device Research Laboratory, Department of Electrical Engineering, University of California, Los Angeles, California, 90095, USA, LIH-JUANN CHEN, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, National Tsing Hua University, Hsinchu, Taiwan, 30013, Republic of China — We report the electrical spin injection and detection in Ge nanowire transistors with single-crystalline Mn_5Ge_3 as the ferromagnetic source/drain contacts. The magnetoresistance (MR) of the $Mn_5Ge_3/Ge/Mn_5Ge_3$ nanowire transistor was found to be largely affected by the applied bias. Specifically, negative and hysteretic MR curves were observed under a large current bias from 2 K up to 50 K, clearly indicating successful spin injection into the Ge nanowire. In addition, the MR amplitude was found to exponentially decay with the Ge channel length. The fitting of MR further revealed a spin diffusion length of about 480 nm and a spin lifetime exceeding 244 ps at 10 K in p-type Ge nanowires, which are much larger than those reported for bulk p-type Ge. Our study of the spin transport in the Ge nanowire transistor points to a possible realization of spin-based transistors, and it may also open up new opportunities to create novel nanowire-based spintronic devices.

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