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Magnetic Nanowires inside Carbon Nanotubes

Magnetic force microscopy sensors using ironfilled carbon nanotubes



Thomas Mühl







1. Introduction and motivation



Magnetic nanowires inside carbon nanotubes

- Chemical stability
- Mechanical stability (elastic modulus E ~ 0.1-1 TPa)
- High aspect ratio
- Easy handling
- Nanowire material: Fe, Co, Ni, Fe₃C ...

T. Mühl et al., J. Appl. Phys. 93, 7894 (2003)
A. Leonhardt et al., J. Appl. Phys. 98, 74315 (2005)
C. Müller, B. Büchner et al., J. Appl. Phys. 103, 34302 (2008)
F. Wolny, U. Weißker, T. Mühl et al., J. Appl. Phys. 104, 064908 (2008)



2. Preparation of filled CNTs by Chemical Vapor Deposition



<u>Heater 1:</u> Metallocene sublimation (180°C) <u>Heater 2:</u> Reaction temperature (800°C)



Metallocene: Only source of metal and carbon for the filled nanotubes

C. Müller, A. Leonhardt, B. Büchner et al., Carbon **44**, 1746 (2006) A. Leonhardt, S. Hampel, B. Büchner et al., Chem. Vap. Dep. **12**, 380 (2006)



2. Preparation of filled CNTs by Chemical Vapor Deposition





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3. Fe-filled vs. Fe₃C-filled carbon nanotubes



Cantilever magnetometry of a single Fe-filled CNT





Collaboration with Chris Hammel (Ohio State University)

> $m = 2 * 10^{-14} \text{ Am}^2$ $H_k = 0.992 \text{ T}$

$$H_{switching} = 0.220 T$$



4. Manipulation of Fe-filled carbon nanotubes

- The position of Fe nanowires inside CNTs can be tailored by electromigration experiments (application of voltage pulses).
- The direction of motion depends on the voltage polarity, i.e., back and forth motion is possible.



TEM picture sequence (application of 3.5 V pulses)

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 No degradation of the switch visible after ~60min



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4. Manipulation of Fe-filled carbon nanotubes



After local carbon removal (by e-beam assisted oxidation)



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5. Preparation of MFM probes using Fe-filled carbon nanotubes

Initial goal: direct growth of filled nanotube on cantilever tip But: many experiments failed; too many parameters, not controlable ...alternative solution?...

Procedure:

Production of Fe-CNTs by CVD on a silicon substrate Attach Fe-CNTs to cantilever tips via nanomanipulation and carbon contamination in the SEM







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5. Preparation of MFM probes using Fe-filled carbon nanotubes















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Advantage of CNT-MFM probe??

Conventional MFM probe



Advantage of CNT-MFM probe??

Conventional MFM probe





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Advantage of CNT-MFM probe??





Advantage of CNT-MFM probe??

Conventional MFM probe

Location and moment of the effective dipole / monopole depend on the stray field geometry of the sample





CNT MFM probe

+++

Location and moment of the effective monopole **do not** depend on the stray field geometry of the sample © ... Has to be proved by experiments



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Quantitative data analysis



Phase shift of the tip vibration due to the magnetic field (second derivative of the perpendicular stray field):

 $\Delta \phi$

Η,

q

$$\Phi \propto \int_{Fe-cylinder} -q \frac{\partial^2 H_z}{\partial z^2} dz$$

 $\propto -q \left(\left[\frac{\partial H_z}{\partial z} \right]_{z2} - \left[\frac{\partial H_z}{\partial z} \right]_{z1} \right)$

phase shift z component of the sample stray field magnetic monopole of the tip

(approx. for thin nanowire probes with constant magnetisation)

In case of a long nanowire probe : $\[\partial H\]$

$$\Delta \Phi \propto q \left[\frac{\partial H_z}{\partial z} \right]_{z1}$$

 \rightarrow quantitative measurements of the first derivative of the sample's stray field z-component

J. Lohau, S. Kirsch, J. Appl. Phys. **86**, 3410 (1999) Kebe, Carl, J. Appl. Phys. **95**, 775 (2004) A. Winkler, T. Mühl et al., J. Appl. Phys. **99**, 104905 (2006) F. Wolny, U. Weißker, T. Mühl et al., J. Appl. Phys. **104**, 064908 (2008)



Quantitative MFM probe analysis

Microstructured current carrying rings or lines (EBL) of defined geometry

 \rightarrow produce a well defined magnetic stray field

$$H_z \propto \frac{IR^2}{\left(z^2 + R^2\right)^{3/2}}$$



 \rightarrow MFM-scan of these rings with the Fe-CNT tip

 \rightarrow analysis of the image contrast as a function of the magnetic stray field and lift height allows the quantitative determination of the effective magnetic moments of the tip

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Outlook - Mechanical measurements



2.

Recently developed by M. Löffler (IFW Dresden):

New method using the bending of CNTs in external magnetic fields due to the Lorentz force.



<u>Outlook – magnetic resonance force microscopy</u>

Single electron spins already detected.

Detection of single nuclear spins requires ultrahigh gradient micromagnetic probe tips



Collaboration with Chris Hammel (Ohio State University)

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Thank you for your attention!