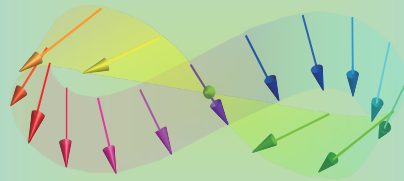


# Information Storage and Spintronics

## 13



Atsufumi Hirohata

Department of Electronic Engineering

THE UNIVERSITY of York

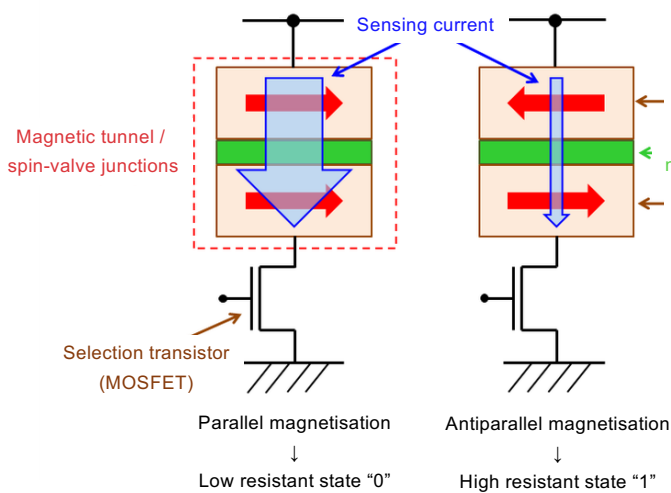


14:00 Monday, 14/November/2022 (SLB 101)

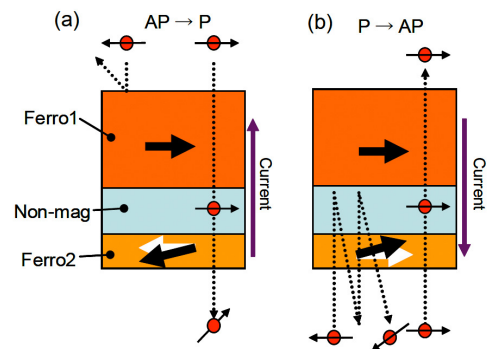


### Quick Review over the Last Lecture

MRAM read-out :



MRAM STT write-in :



\* <http://www.wikipedia.org/>;

\*\* M. Oogane and T. Miyazaki, "Magnetic Random Access Memory," in *Epitaxial Ferromagnetic Films and Spintronic Applications*, A. Hirohata and Y. Otani (Eds.) (Research Signpost, Kerala, 2009) p. 335;

\*\*\* <http://www.toshiba.co.jp/>

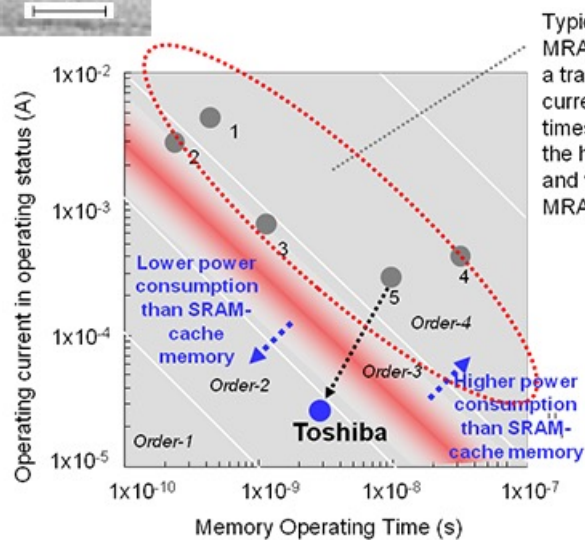
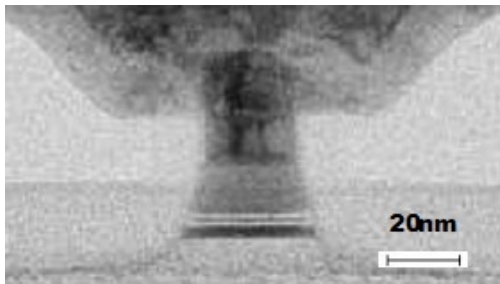
# 13 Spin-Transfer Torque

- Spin-transfer torque
- Gilbert damping

## Perpendicular MTJ



In 2007, Toshiba demonstrated STT operation with perpendicular magnetisation : \*



Typical operating range of STT-MRAM or MRAM. There has been a trade-off between operating current and memory operating times: the faster the performance the higher the power consumption and vice-versa. Toshiba's STT-MRAM overcomes this.

*Breakthrough!*

Power consumption is about one-tenth that of prior prototypes.

### Reported devices

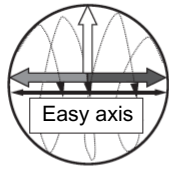
- 1 Spintech APL 2009
- 2 Univ. of Minnesota J. Phys. D 2012
- 3 IBM APL 2011
- 4 Spintech APL 2011
- 5 Toshiba IEDM 2008

\* <http://www.toshiba.co.jp/>

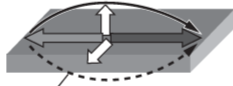


# Advantages of Perpendicular MTJ

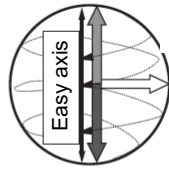
Energy barrier can be lowered using perpendicular magnetisation : \*



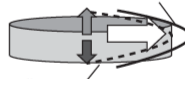
Magnetisation reversal by spin-transfer torque



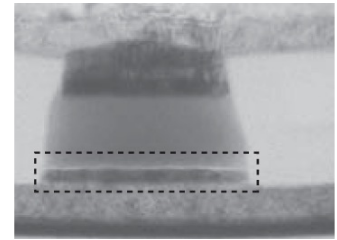
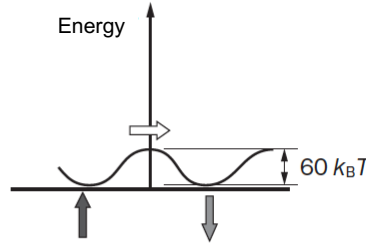
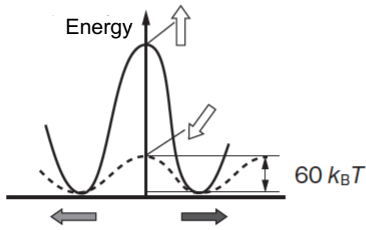
Magnetisation reversal by thermal fluctuation



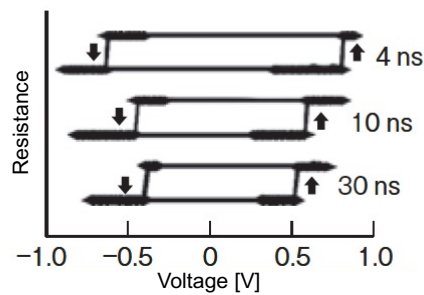
Magnetisation reversal by spin-transfer torque



Magnetisation reversal by thermal fluctuation



50-nm perpendicular MTJ

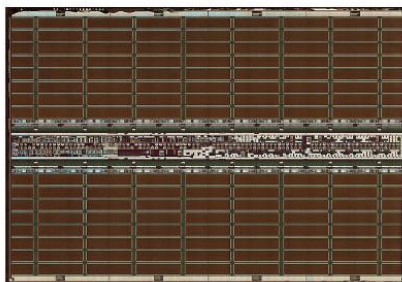
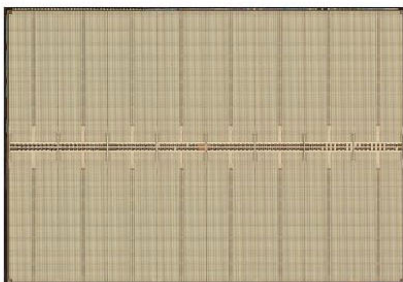


\* <http://www.toshiba.co.jp/>



# p-MRAM Products

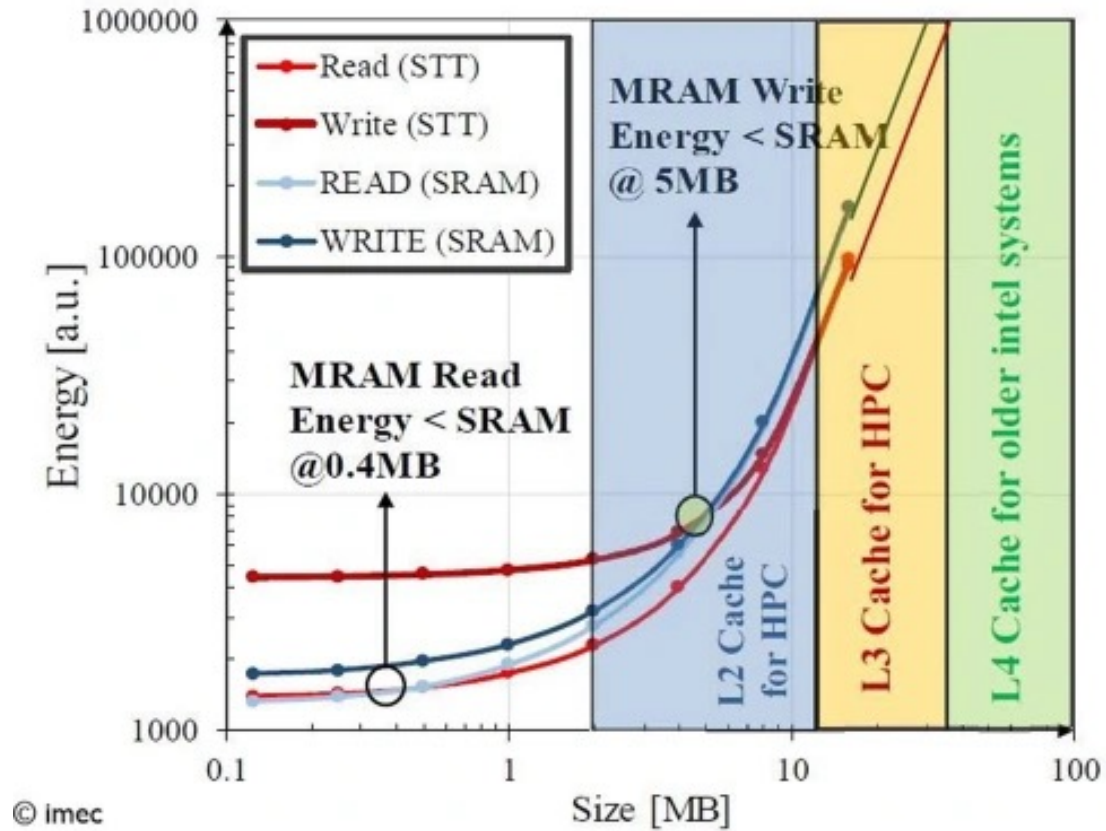
- ✓ Aupera Technologies AUP-AXL-M128 M.2 Module
- ✓ 256 Mb, pMTJ DDR3
- ✓ EMD3D256M08G1-150CBS1
- ✓ IBM FLASH System (FLASH Core)
- ✓ Standalone Product



\* <https://www.techinsights.com/blog/techinsights-memory-technology-update-iedm18>



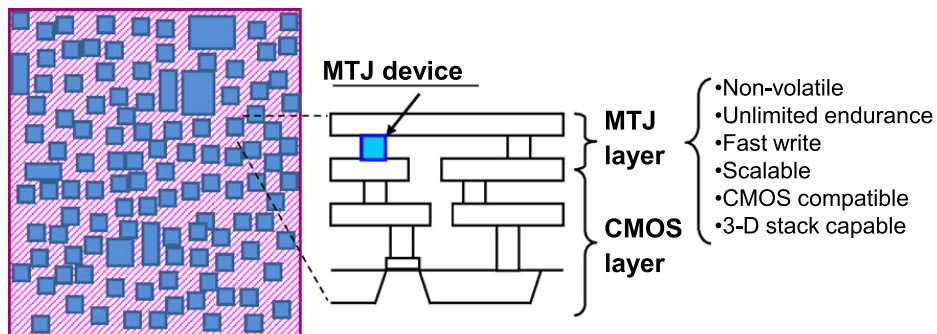
# Energy Consumption



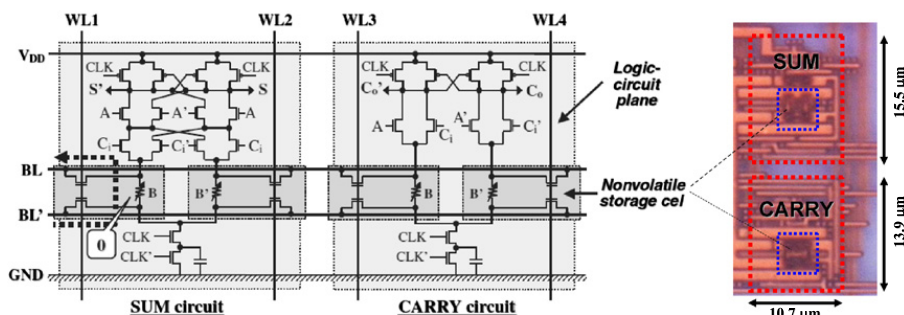
\* <https://www.eeweb.com/mram-technologies-from-space-applications-to-unified-cache-memory/>

## MRAM / Spin RAM Implementation

As a non-volatile universal memory, MRAM / Spin RAM can replace SRAM :



(a) Nonvolatile Logic-in-Memory Architecture

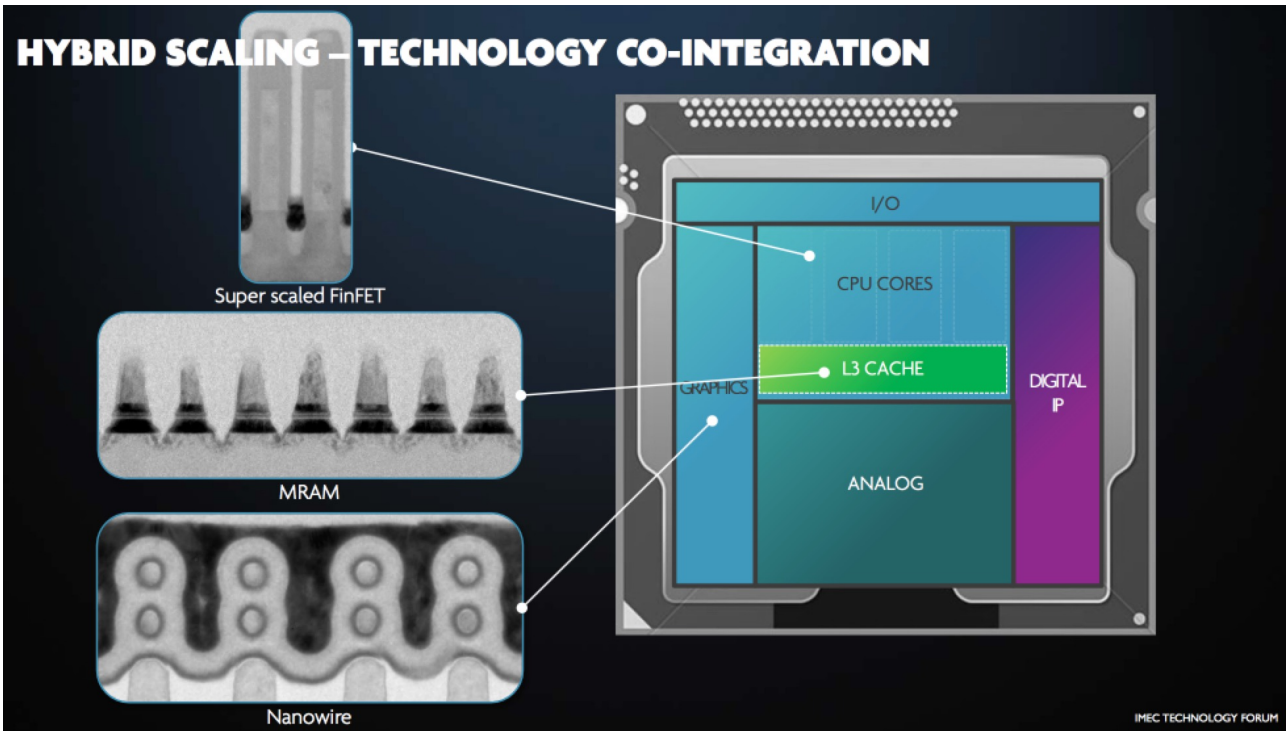


(b) Design example of nonvolatile full adder

\* T. Kawahara et al., *Microelectronics Reliability* **52**, 613 (2012).



# MRAM / Spin RAM and CPU Integration

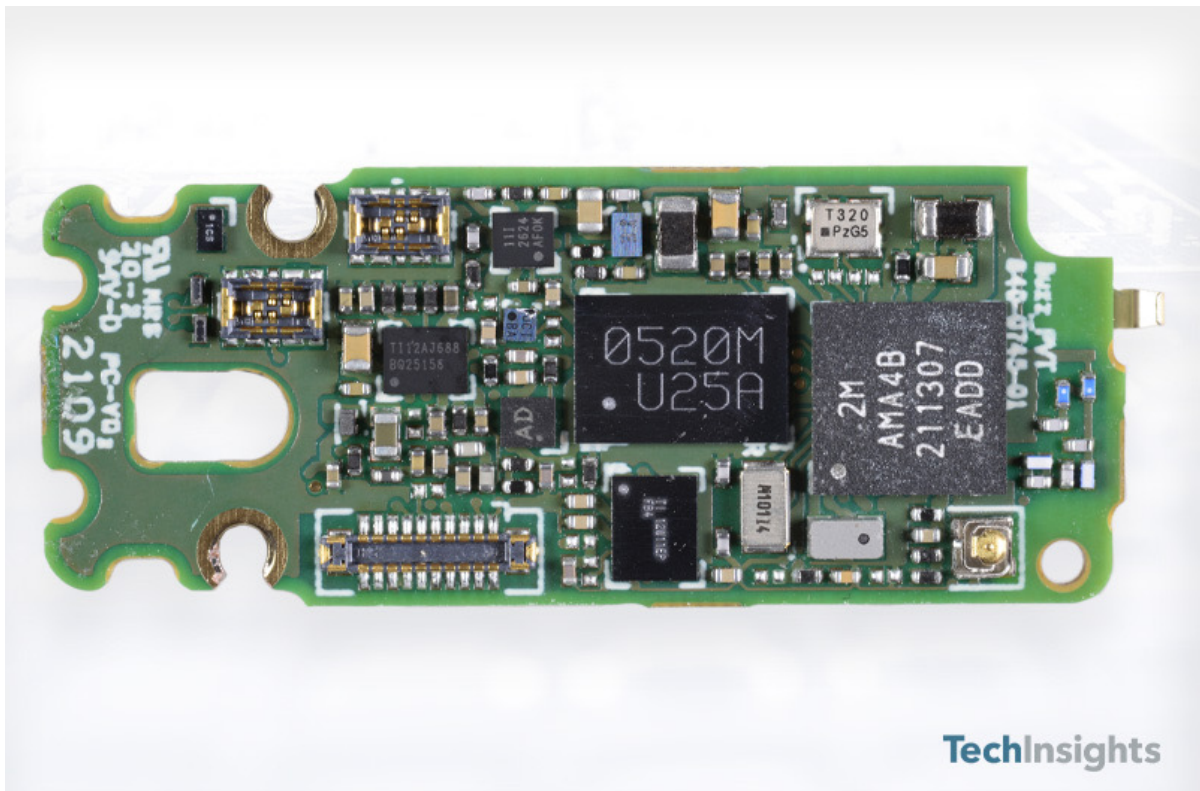


\* <http://electroiq.com/blog/2017/07/how-low-can-we-go/>



# Embedded MRAM Products

Ambiq Apollo4 Blue, which a new ARM Cortex-M4 SoC : \*



\* <https://semiengineering.com/will-the-fitbit-charge-5-outshine-the-fitbit-luxe/>



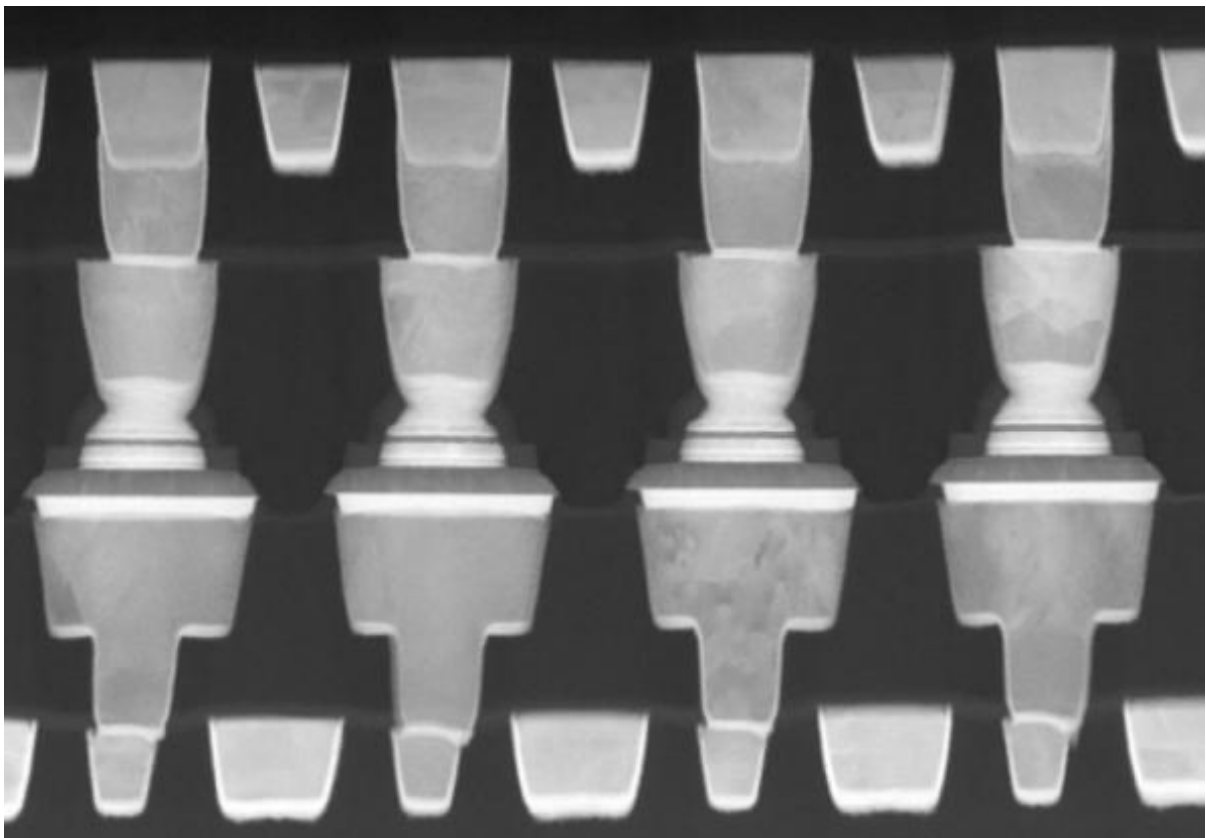
## Embedded MRAM



\* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DIKRpXRudL8>



## Intel embeds MRAM in FinFET process



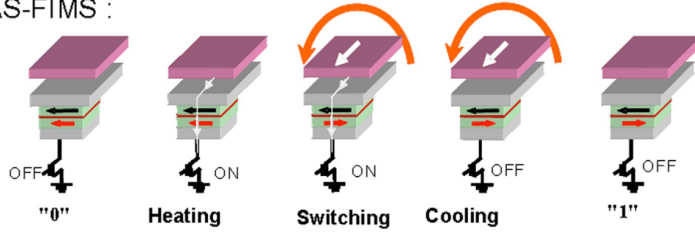
\* <http://www.eenewsanalogue.com/news/iedm-intel-embeds-mram-finfet-process/page/0/1>



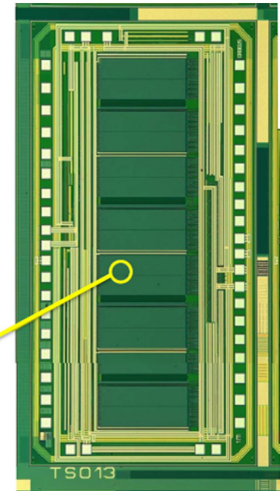
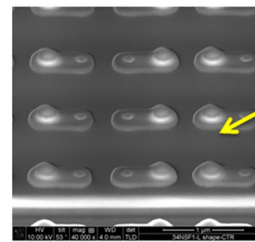
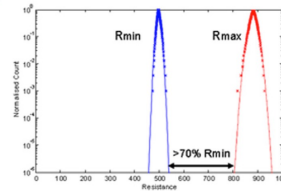
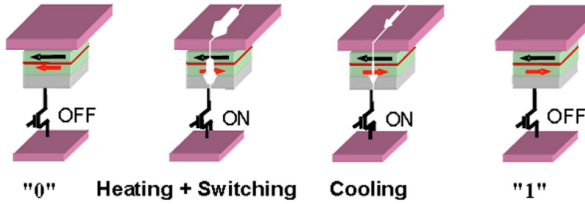
# Thermally Assisted (TA)-MRAM

Crocus demonstrated 1-Mbit MRAM with thermally assisted STT operation : \*

TAS-FIMS :



TAS-STT :

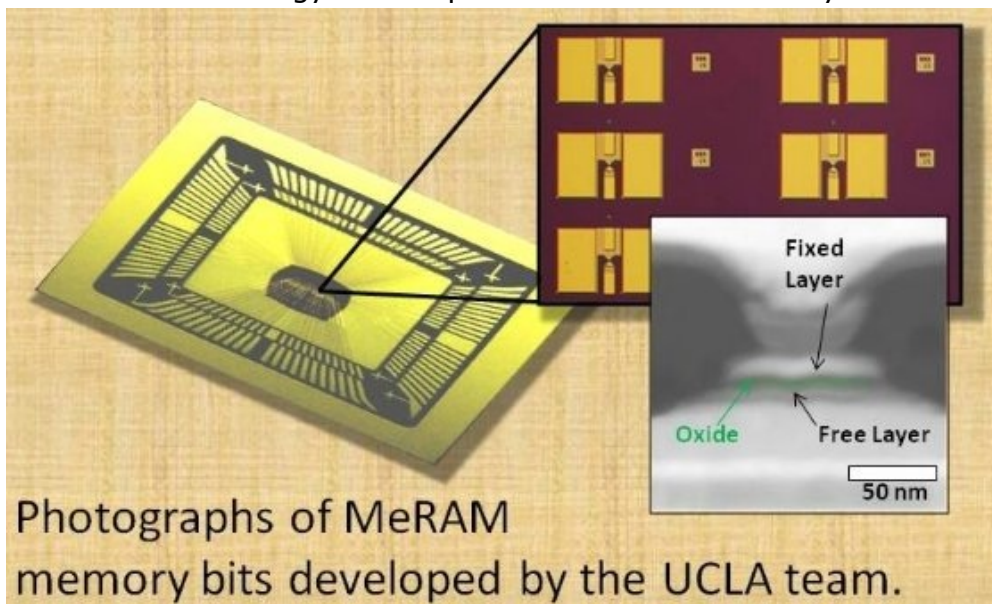


\* I. L. Prejbeanu et al., *J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys.* **46**, 074002 (2013).



# Reduced Energy Consumption

3-orders of reduction in energy consumption was demonstrated by UCLA team : \*



Photographs of MeRAM memory bits developed by the UCLA team.

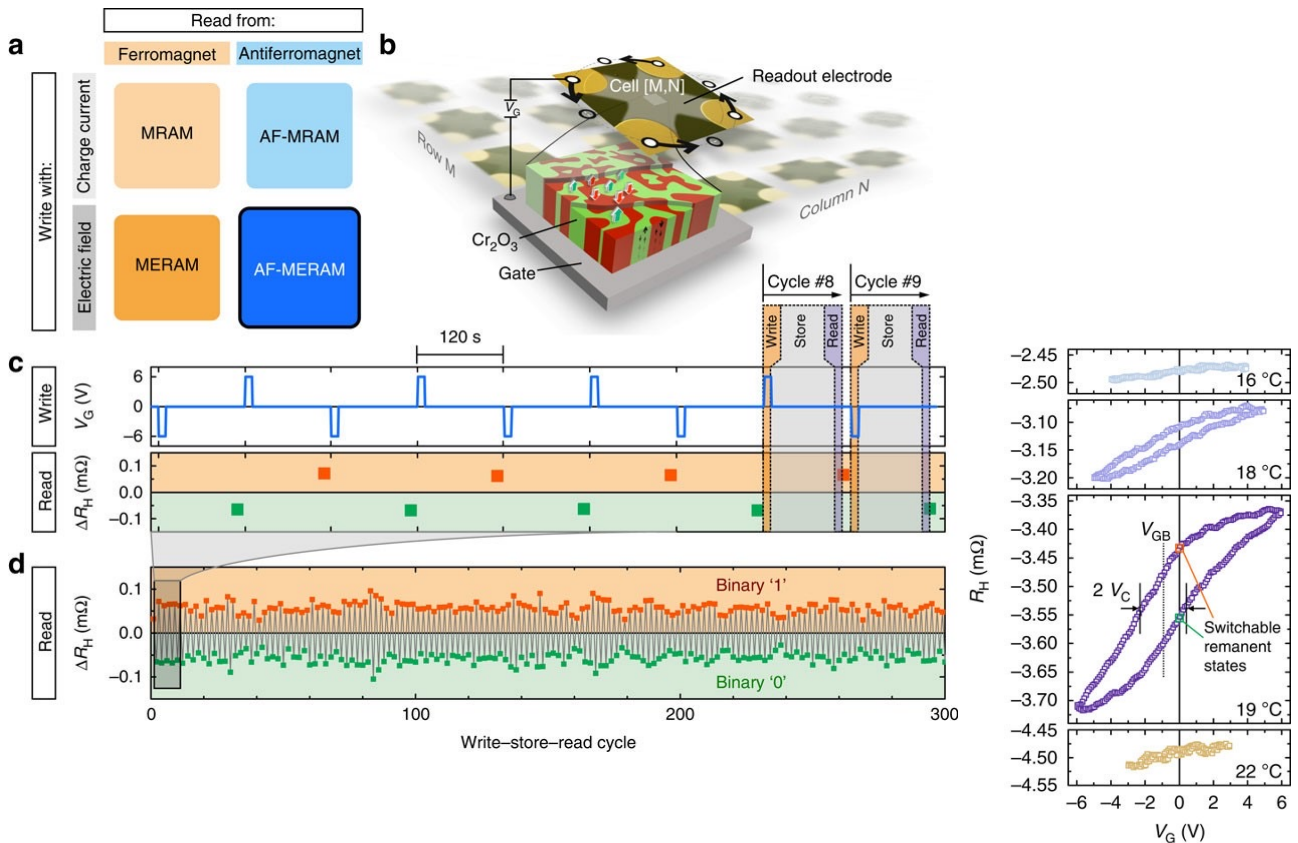
Voltage-induced magnetisation reversal was used.

\* <http://newsroom.ucla.edu/portal/ucla/ucla-engineers-have-developed-241538.aspx>





# Magnetolectric Random Access Memory (MeRAM)



\* T. Kosub et al., Nat. Commun. 8, 13985 (2017).



# MRAM Production

Home (/) > Manufacturing & Process Technology (/category-main-page-manufacturing/) > Four Foundries Back MRAM

MANUFACTURING & PROCESS TECHNOLOGY (CATEGORY-MAIN-PAGE-MANUFACTURING/)

## Four Foundries Back MRAM

53

155

Next-gen embedded memory technology ramps up in wake of flash scaling issues.

AUGUST 23RD, 2017 - BY: MARK LAPEDUS (HTTPS://SEMIENGINEERING.COM/AUTHOR/MARK-LAPEDUS/)

Four major foundries plan to offer MRAM as an embedded memory solution by this year or next, setting the stage for what finally could prove to be a game-changer for this next-generation memory technology.

GlobalFoundries, Samsung, TSMC and UMC plan to start offering spin-transfer torque magnetoresistive RAM (ST-MRAM or STT-MRAM) as an alternative or a replacement to NOR flash, possibly starting later this year. This represents a big shift in the market, because until now only Everspin has shipped MRAM (https://semiengineering.com/kc/knowledge\_center.php?kcid=95) for various applications, such as a battery-backed SRAM replacement, write-cache and others.

The next big opportunity for STT-MRAM is the embedded memory IP market. NOR flash, the traditional embedded memory, is running into an

### TECHNICAL PAPERS

**Machine Learning Based Prediction: Health Behavior On BP** (HTTPS://SEMIENGINEERING.COM/Machine-Learning-Based-Prediction-Health-Behavior-On-Bp/)

OCTOBER 12, 2018 BY TECHNICAL PAPER LINK

**Autonomous Vehicle Navigation In Rural Environments Without Detailed Prior Maps (MIT)** (HTTPS://SEMIENGINEERING.COM/Autonomous-Vehicle-Navigation-In-Rural-Environments-Without-Detailed-Prior-Maps-Mit/)

MAY 15, 2018 BY TECHNICAL PAPER LINK

**Silicon CMOS Architecture For A Spin-Based Quantum Computer** (HTTPS://SEMIENGINEERING.COM/Silicon-Cmos-Architecture-For-A-Spin-Based-Quantum-

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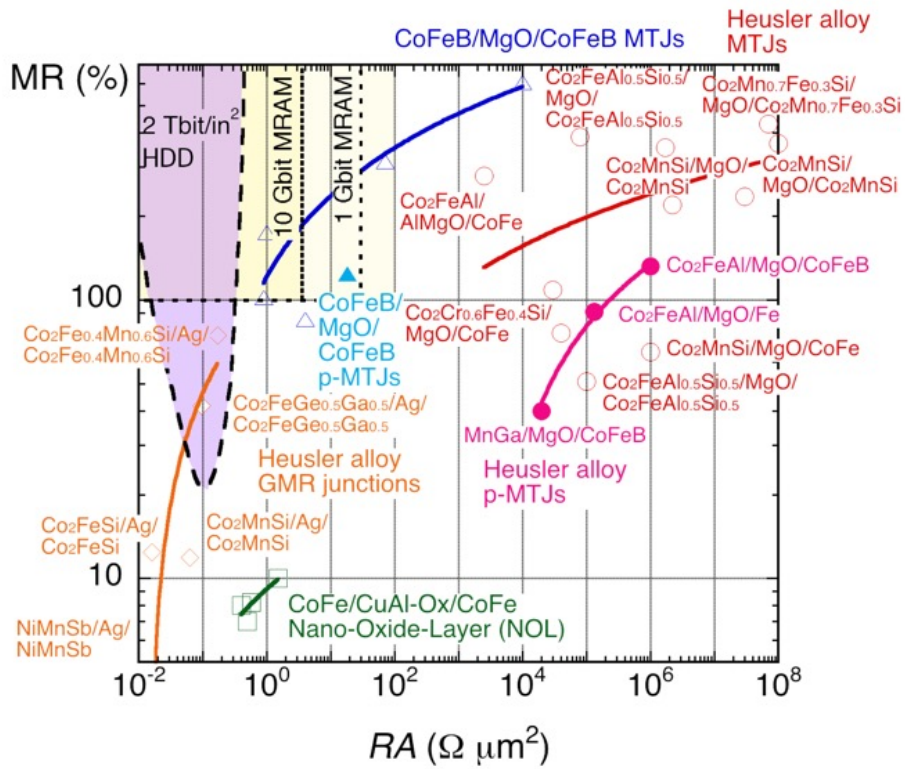
semi PI (http://www.semi.org/) (ht

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Email:



# MRAM Targets

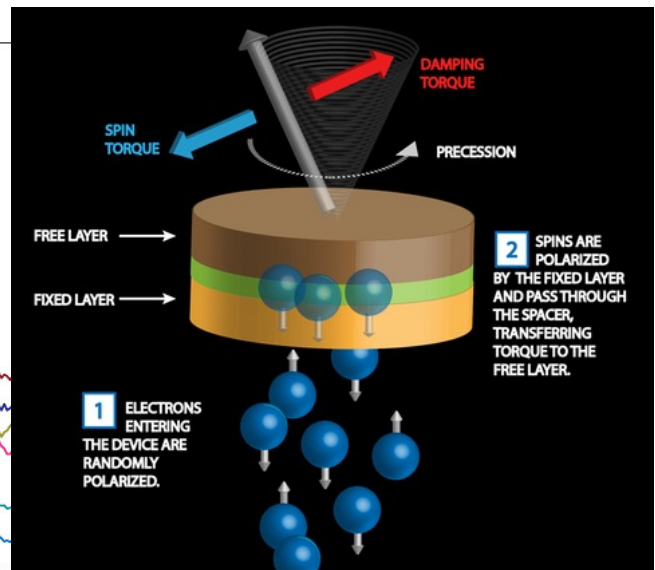
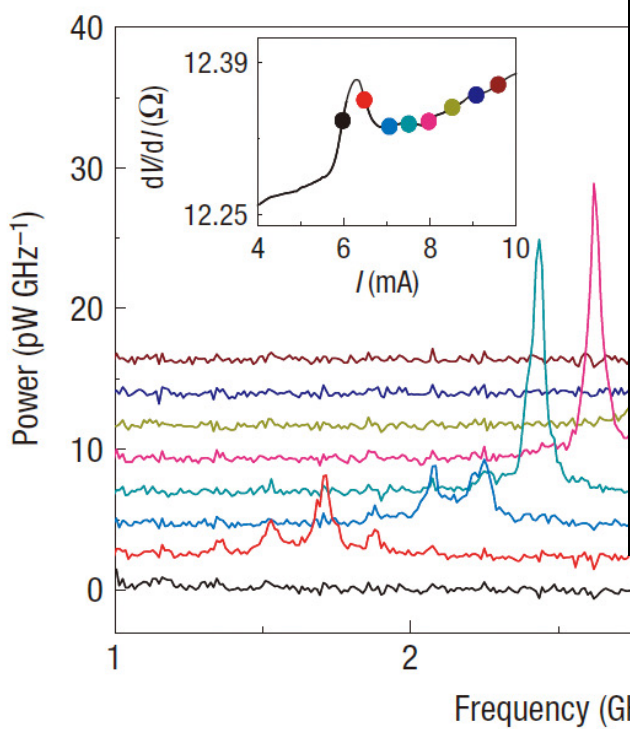


\* A. Hirohata et al., *J. Magn. Magn. Mater.* **509**, 166711 (2020).



# Spin Torque Oscillator

Magnetisation oscillates by spin-transfer torque : \*



\* O. Boulle et al., *Nature Phys.* **3**, 492 (2007);

\*\* <https://www.nist.gov/news-events/news/2013/04/unprecedented-view-spintronic-switching>.



# Spin-Transfer Torque

Landau-Lifschits-Gilbert equation : \*

$$\frac{\partial \vec{M}}{\partial t} = \boxed{-\gamma \vec{m} \times \vec{H}_{\text{eff}}} + \boxed{\alpha \vec{m} \times \frac{\partial \vec{m}}{\partial t}} - \boxed{\frac{\gamma}{d} \vec{m} \times (\vec{m} \times \Delta \vec{J}_S)}$$

where  $H_{\text{eff}}$  : an effective magnetic field,  $\gamma$  : the gyromagnetic ratio and  $\alpha$  : the Gilbert damping constant.

$$|\gamma| = \frac{g\mu_B}{h}$$

where  $g$  : Lange's  $g$ -factor,  $\mu_B$  : the Bohr magneton and  $h$  : the Planck constant.

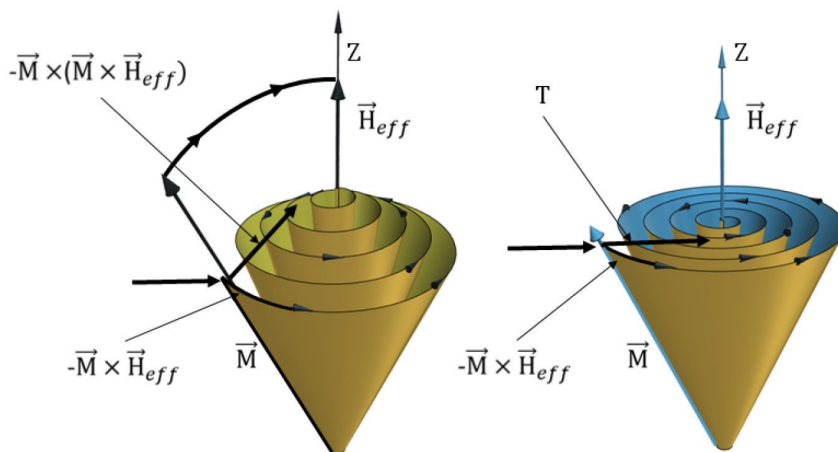
$$\alpha = \frac{|\gamma| \Delta H}{2\omega}$$

where  $\Delta H$  : the full width half maximum of a ferromagnetic resonance  $\omega$  : the resonant frequency.

\* A. Hirohata (Guest Editor), *J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys.* **44**, 380301 (2011).



# Advantages of MRAM / Spin RAM

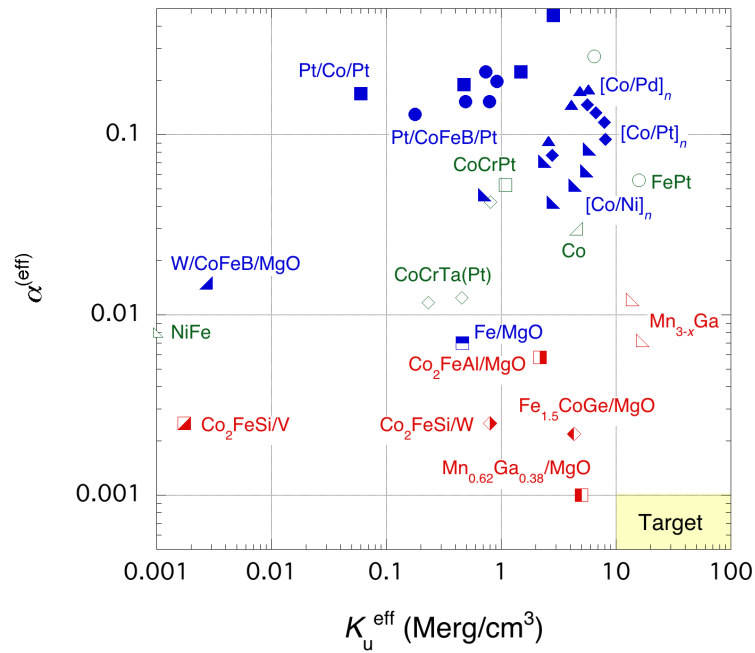


\* S Azzawi et al., *J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys.* **50**, 473001 (2017).



# Damping Constants

For faster magnetisation reversal in a data bit of MRAM, a low damping constant is required : \*



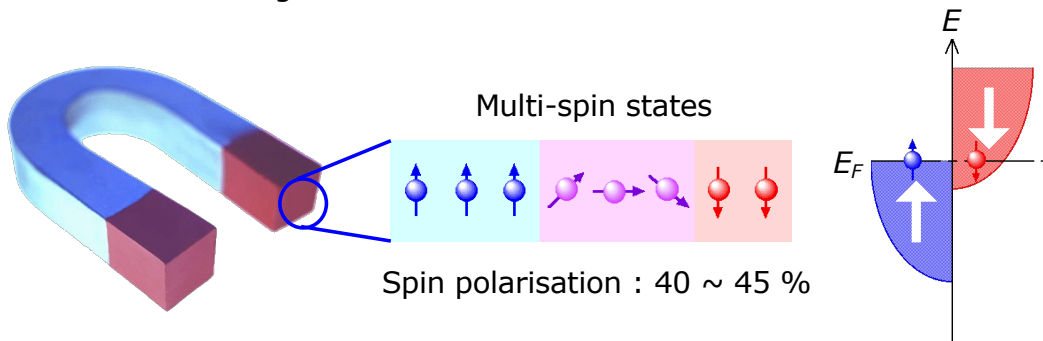
Theoretically, the damping constant  $\alpha$  , ensuring the to exhibit a small  $\alpha$  (<0.01).

\* A. Hirohata et al., *J. Magn. Magn. Mater.* **509**, 166711 (2020).

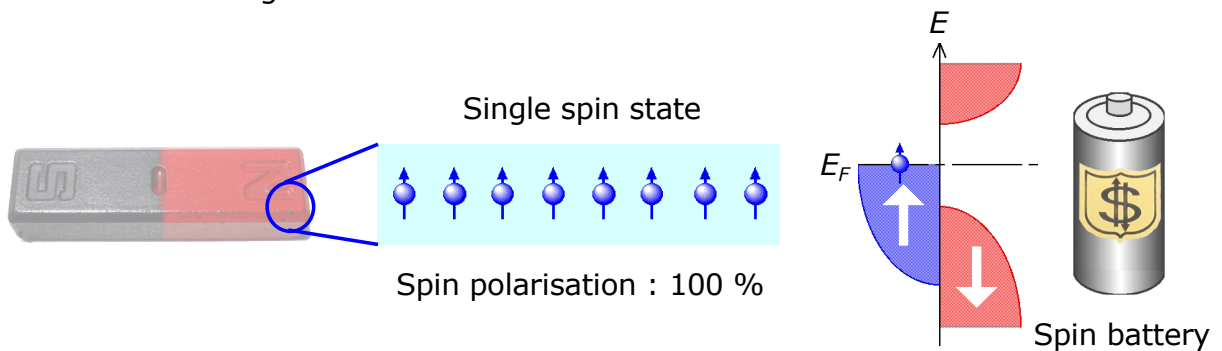


# Half-Metallic Ferromagnet

Conventional ferromagnet :



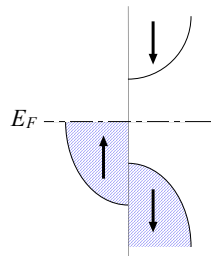
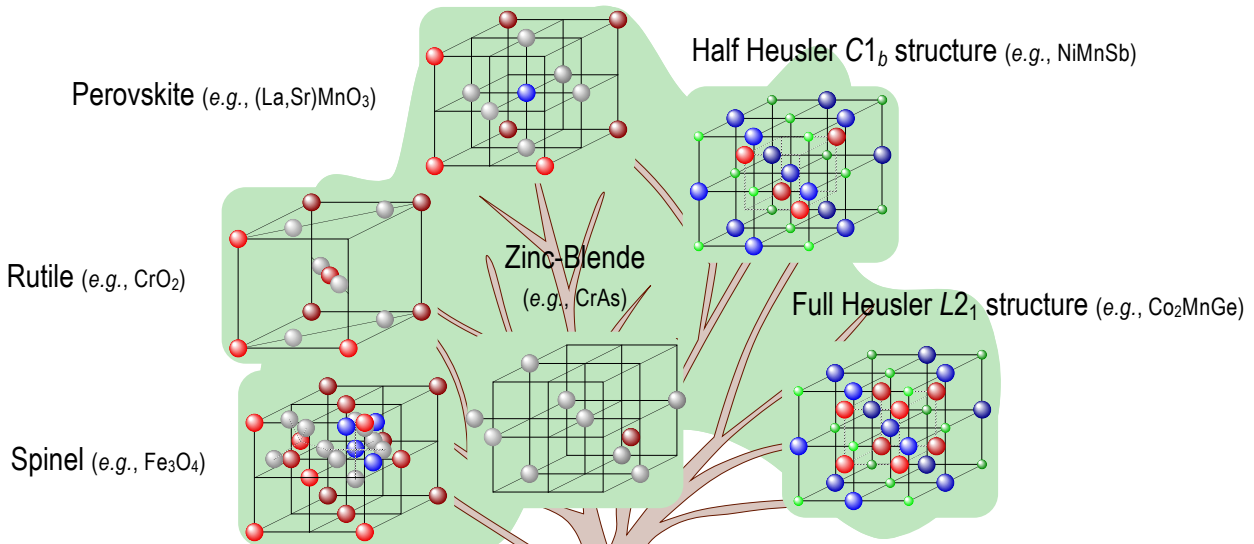
Half-metallic ferromagnet :



R. A. de Groot et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **50**, 2024 (1983).



# Half-Metallic Ferromagnets

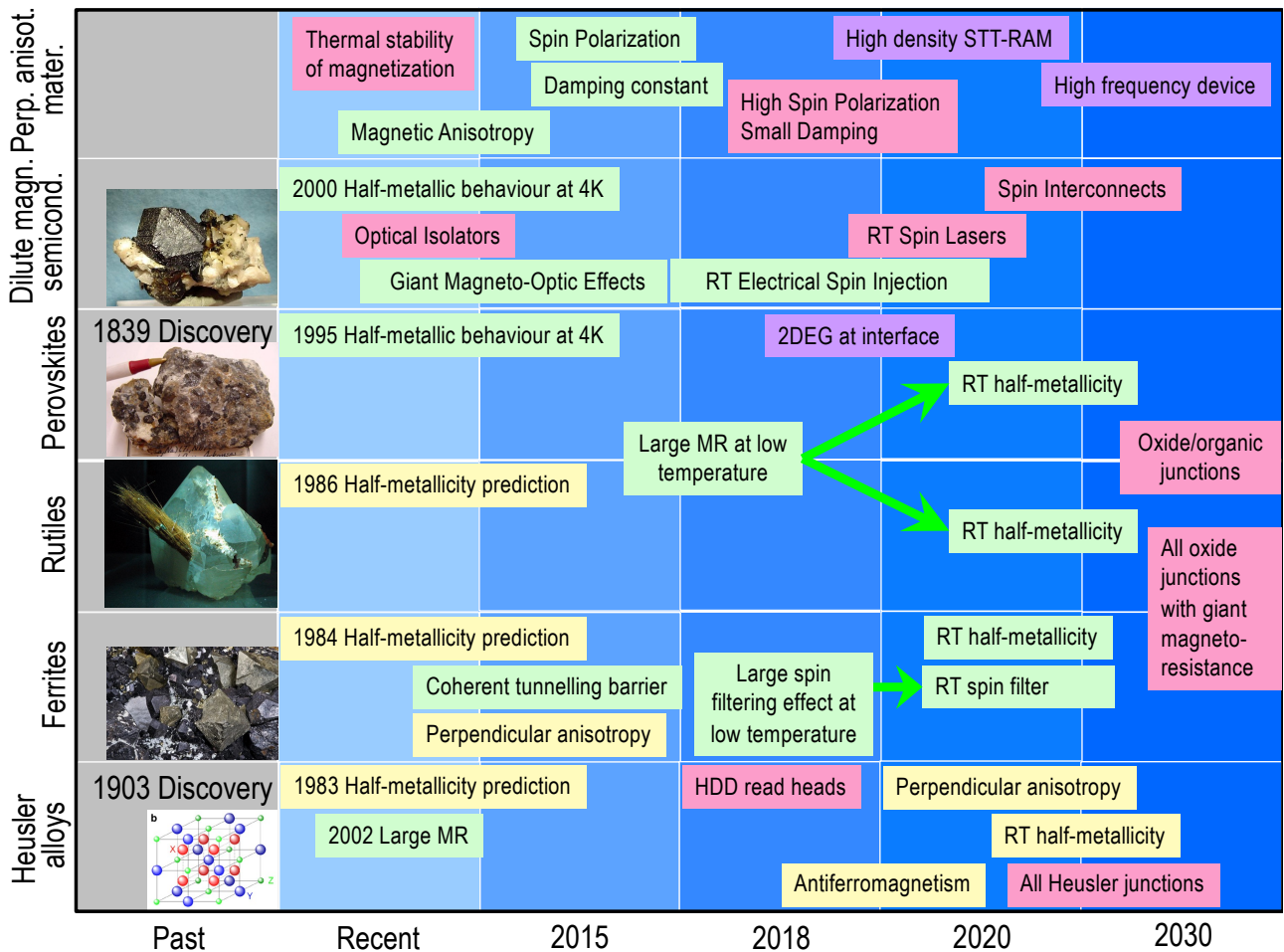


Conduction electrons at the  $E_F$  is.

Obstacles to realisation of HMF devices :

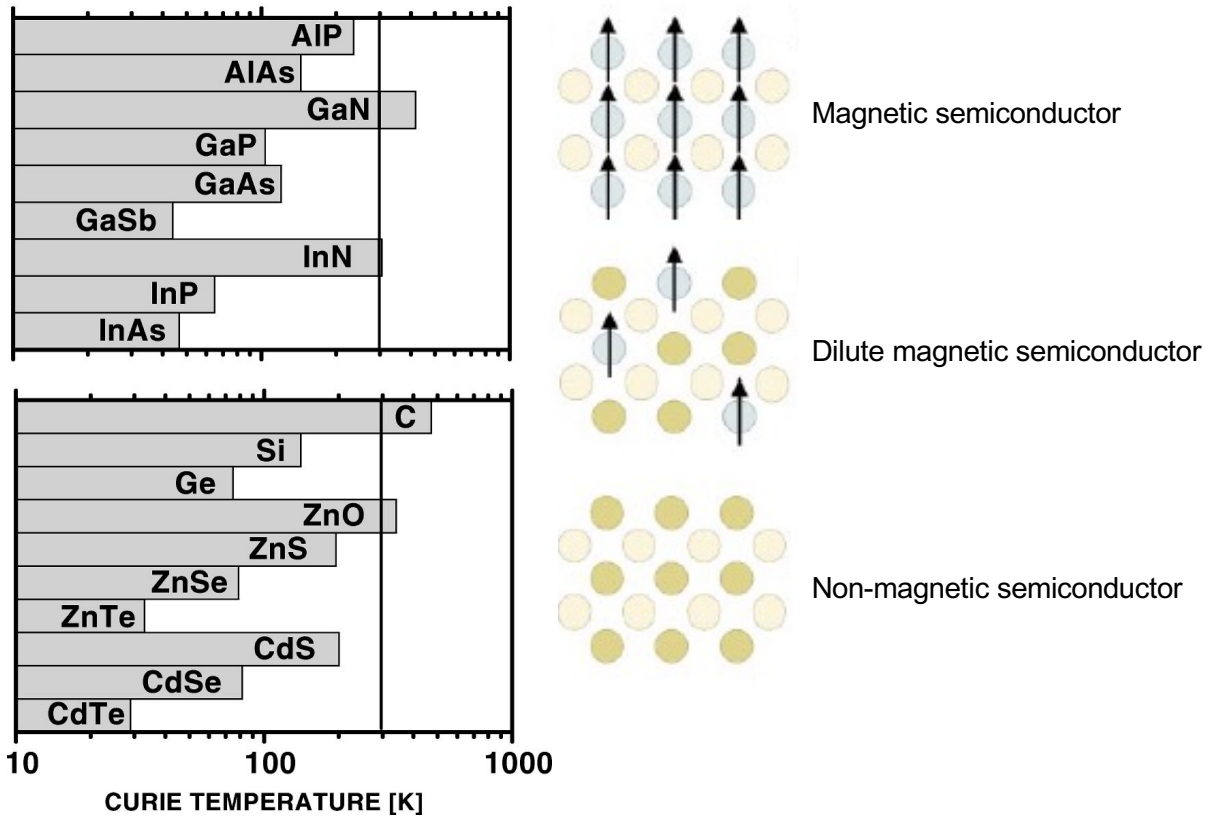
- Curie temperature below room temperature
- atomic disorder / unstable phases

\* R. A. de Groot et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 50, 2024 (1983).





# Dilute Magnetic Semiconductors

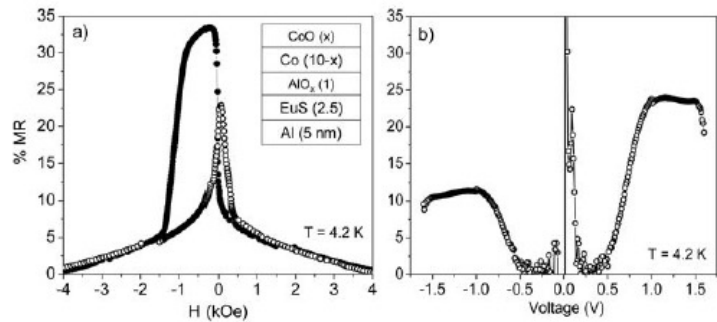
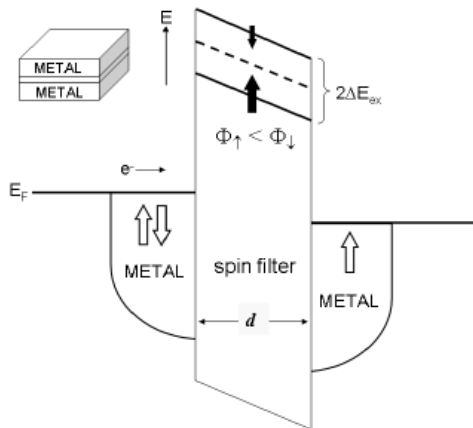


\* H. Munekata *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 63, 1849 (1989); H. Ohno, *Science* 281, 951 (1998);  
 \* T. Dietl *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. B* 63, 195205 (2001).



# Spin Filtering

Band splitting in a tunnel barrier can filter only one spin orientation :



| Material                         | Magnetic Behavior | T <sub>c</sub> (K) | Moment (μ <sub>B</sub> ) | Structure, a(nm) | E <sub>g</sub> (eV) | 2ΔE <sub>ex</sub> (eV) | P (%) | Spin Filter Reference |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-------|-----------------------|
| EuO                              | FM                | 69.3               | 7.0                      | Fcc, 0.514       | 1.12                | 0.54                   | 29    | Santos <sup>23</sup>  |
| EuS                              | FM                | 16.6               | 7.0                      | Fcc, 0.596       | 1.65                | 0.36                   | 86    | Moodera <sup>21</sup> |
| EuSe                             | AFM               | 4.6                | 7.0                      | Fcc, 0.619       | 1.80                |                        | 100   | Moodera <sup>22</sup> |
| BiMnO <sub>3</sub>               | FM                | 105                | 3.6                      | perovskite       |                     |                        | 22    | Gajek <sup>25</sup>   |
| NiFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> | ferri-M           | 850                | 2                        | spinel           | 1.2                 |                        | 22    | Lüders <sup>27</sup>  |
| CoFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> | ferri-M           | 796                | 3                        | spinel           | 0.80                |                        | 25    | Ramos <sup>28</sup>   |

\* J. S. Moodera *et al.*, *Epitaxial Ferromagnetic Films and Spintronic Applications*, A. Hirohata and Y. Otani (Eds.) (Research Signpost, Kerala, 2009) p. 111-143.



