

Novel Frontiers in Magnetism SPM-Magnetic Force Microscopy

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Nanomagnetism and Magnetic Materials Group MFM Laboratory











February 2014, Novel Frontiers in Magnetism 10th

Longitudinal magnetic recording media

Increasing the storage density....

To decrease the bit size (minimum magnetic domain)



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Longitudinal magnetic recording media

Domain in longitudinal hard disk



The magnetization direction in every domain is marked by the arrows

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Domains in ferromagnetic materials



To increase the **density** it is necessary to increase the **anisotropy**. The development of **high resolution** techniques is **mandatory**.

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Longitudinal magnetic recording media

minimum magnetic domain)

Magnetic Domain-Wall Racetrack Memory Ensity....

S. S. P. Parkin et al. Science (2008) 320

Pulses of highly spin-polarized current move the entire pattern of DWs coherently along the length of the wire to read and write elements



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Magnetic Imaging

Technique	Signal	Sample preparation	Spatial resolution	Contrast	Materials	External field	Drawback
Magneto- Optical	Light polarization	Flat and Smooth surfaces	200nm	Walls and domains	K _{per} and K _{in-plane}	Available	Resolution
Bitter	Magnetic colloids distribution	None	100nm	Walls	High stray fields	Available (low speed)	Dirty Sample
SEMPA	Polarized S.E	HV cleaning	50nm	Domains	K _{per} and K _{in-plane}	Difficult	Cleanness
MFM	Charge density	None	20nm	Walls and domains	K _{per} and K _{in-plane}	Available	Tip-sample interaction
Lorentz ME	F _{lorentz}	UHV cleaning	~nm	Domains	K _{in-plane}	Difficult	Sample preparation
X-Ray Microscopy	Dicroism	Synchrotron	15 nm	Domains	K _{per} and K _{in-plane}	Available	Special Facility

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Importance of the characterization.....

Significant advances in Science require the development of new theories, new fabrication techniques, but also accurate characterization methods

It is important to use the appropriate methods!



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- 1. Scanning Probe Microscopies.
- 2. Fundaments of MFM. Measuring under standard conditions
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 - a. Variable Field MFM
 - b. HV-Low Temperature MFM
 - c. MFM probes
- 4. Developing new operation modes:
 - a. 3D modes
 - b. KPFM-MFM combination: Co nanostripes, Graphite, Graphene based hall sensor
 - c. Dissipation
- 5. Conclusions

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Comparing with other microscopes....

<u>Optical microscope</u>





Electron microscope



Microscopy	Researcher	Date	Probe	Range
Optical microscopy:	Galileo	1611	light	1mm-200nm
Electron microscopy	E. Runska	~1930	electrons	lmm-lnm
Scanning Probe Microscopy	G.Binnig, H.Rohrer	1981	Sharp tip	100µm- 0.1nm

Scanning Tunneling Microscopy





High vertical resolution High lateral resolution Spectroscopy

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Si(111)7x7



G. Binnig y H. Rohrer (1981) (Nobel Prize in 1986)

The cantilever and the Hook law



<u>Cantilever deflection. Detection system</u> → Laser beam reflexion



 $F_{\rm N}\,o\,F_{\rm L}\,$ detection



 F_{I}



SPM-Magnetic Force Microscopy

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Contact mode. Building maps...

When the tip is close to the sample, it start to scan the surface





SPM-Magnetic Force Microscopy

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Applications: contact/non contact

Contact mode

- Topography. Thin films, nanostructures,...
- Conductivity
- Friction
- Chemical process and growth in real time
- Mechanical properties (friction, adhesion, elastic and plastic properties).

Non-Contact mode

- Magnetic properties, electrostatic forces
- Force spectroscopy





Applications: contact/non contact

nature

Contact mode

- Topography. Thin films, nanostructures,...
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Surface Morphology and Nanostructures



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Applications: Friction



Higher constant force







Topography



Lateral force



Anisotropy in nanowires



SPM-Magnetic Force Microscopy

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Applications: Friction in thiol islands



Lateral force images of a typical freshly prepared C12 sample (left) and same area 244 h after preparation (right). The area covered by the upright configurations increases by about 12% from top to bottom images.

Color code: dark is lower lateral force, and bright is higher lateral force.

It is possible to distinguish two different thiol packing

C. Munuera, E. Barrena, and C. Ocal Langmuir, Vol. 21, No. 18, 2005

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Applications: Manipulación individual de átomos y moléculas





1989. Don Eigler from IBM was the first to manipulate atoms using the STM's tip. Xenon atoms onto Ni surface at 8K.

D.M. Eigler, E.K. Schweizer, Nature 344, 524-526 (1990).

Applications: Manipulación individual de átomos y moléculas



Tin symbol "written" with Sn atoms onto Ge surface by using the AFM tip. First example of manipulation at room temperature.

O. Custance, R. Perez & S. Morita, Nat. Nanotech. 4, 803 - 810 (2009)

Applications: Initial stages of plasticity in Au(111)



A. Asenjo et al. Phys. Rev. B, 73, 075431 (2006)

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Applications: Nanolithography

Local oxidation by using the AFM tip

A voltage is applied between the tip and the sample in order to create a water meniscus where the oxidation occurs.



R. García, ICMM-CSIC

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Applications: Local Reversal switching

Reversal switching in LSMO films for random access memories

- Buffer layer for $YBa_2Cu_3O_7$ coated conductors.
- •Magnetic Random Access Memory (MRAM) devices and magnetic sensors.
- •Non-volatile resistive random access memories (RRAM)





C. Moreno, C. Munuera, S. Valencia, F. Kronast, X. Obradors, and C. Ocal, Nano Lett., 2010, 10 (10), 3828-3835

LSMO film surface lithographed by locally applying a DC voltage with the C-SFM tip. By writing "circles" we can isolate conducting regions: only where V is applied, the transition occurs. By increasing voltage tip the modified region become more resistive until that the modification ring insolate the central region.

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Applications: Conductive-AFM

Tuning the conductance of single-walled carbon nanotubes by ion irradiation



C. Gómez-Navarro, P. J. De Pablo, J. Gómez-Herrero, B. Biel, F. J. Garcia-Vidal, A. Rubio & F. Flores, Nat. Mat. 4, 534 (2005) 10th February 2014, Novel Frontiers in Magnetism **SPM-Magnetic Force Microscopy**

Applications: contact/non contact

nature

Contact mode

- Topography. Thin films, nanostructures,...
- Conductivity
- Friction
- Chemical process and growth in real time
- Mechanical properties (friction, adhesion, elastic and plastic properties).

Non-Contact mode

- •Magnetic properties, electrostatic forces
- Force spectroscopy



Applications: Electrostatic interaction



B Pérez-García, J Abad, A Urbina, J Colchero and E Palacios-Lidón, Nanotechnology 19 (2008) 065709 10th February 2014, Novel Frontiers in Magnetism **SPM-Magnetic Force Microscopy**

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SPM - Magnetic Force Microscopy



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SPM-Operation modes: contact/non-contact

Assuming the main interaction is van der Waals, near the surface:

- attractive forces at long distances
- repulsive forces at short distances



Operation mode in MFM



 $m\ddot{z}(t) = -kz(t) - \gamma \dot{z}(t) + F_{exc}(t) + F_{int}(z(t), \dot{z}(t), \vec{E}, \vec{B})$

Only for small amplitudes $\begin{aligned} \int \Delta A &= \frac{A_0 Q}{2k} \frac{\partial F_z^{vdW}}{\partial z} \\ \Delta \omega &\propto \frac{\omega_0}{2k} \frac{\partial F_z^{mag}}{\partial z} \\ \end{aligned}$ PLL feedback

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Magnetic layer



MFM images interpretation

Assuming the tip-sample influence is negligible:

- •The MFM contrast is proportional to the magnetic pole density at the surface.
- Perpendicular anisotropy: Poles at the center of the domains.
- In-plane anisotropy: Poles at the domain walls



MFM contrast $\equiv \nabla M$

MFM images interpretation

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Pole density MFM Contrast Domains





Hard disk image. 10 μm x 10 μm



Cross-tie domain wall in FePt thin film



Dense stripe domains in FePt thin film.



3μmx3μm

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What are the applications? Why MFM?



•Low cost technique. XRCD ~10000 AFM

- •Lateral resolution better than 20nm
- •Additional information (3D topo,...)
- •To study individual elements

•Trouble-free sample preparation, also to check processes during fabrication



Physical methods

Chemical or electrochemical methods

Nanolithography

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CoCrPt thin films, perpendicular anisotropy



Image Size: 5µm×5µm

Stripe domains.

MFM images of 20-nm-thick **CoCrPt** film on a smooth substrate after an out of plane ac-demagnetization process

D. Navas et al. In preparation

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FePt thin films, slight out of plane anysotropy

FePt thin film 35 nm thick Irradiated by Cl²⁺ ions 4 MeV

VSM loops: In plane hysteresis loops







M. Jaafar, R. Sanz, M. Vázquez, A. Asenjo , J. Jensen ,K. Hjort, S. Flohrer, J. McCord and R. Schäfer, Phys. Stat. Sol. (a) 204 (6), 1724 (2007)

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Magnetic Nanowires Arrays

Anodic Alumina Membranes

HRSEM image

1.0

0.5

-0.5

∑ ⊻ ₩ — H paralelo diámetro 35nm

-3000 -2000 -1000

0 1000

Magnetic Field (Oe)

2000 3000

MFM image of an array of Ni nanowires embedded in AAM. Diameter: 35nm, interpore distance: 105nm.







M. Vázquez et al. Euro. Phys. J. B 40(4) (2004)

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Magnetic nanowires, 180nm in diameter

Ni nanowires:

Diameter: 180 nm, Lattice parameter: 480 nm, Lenght: 3.6 µm



Labyrinth distribution due to dipolar (and multipolar) interactions between nanowires. Images at different remanent states

J. Escrig, D. Altbir, M. Jaafar, D. Navas, A. Asenjo and M. Vázquez. Rev. B 75, 184429 (2007)

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Co nanostripes: from single to multidomain

Relationship between the domain structure and its aspect ratio Topography MFM



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Ni (111) Nanostructures

VORTEX

Lateral dimensions~500 nm; thickness~50nm; distance~800 nm





Energetic balance:

exchange enegy, magnetostatic, magnetocristalline, shape and induced anysotropy



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Ni (111) Nanostructures









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Smaller structures. LSMO nanoislands

LSMO/YSZ prepared by CSD methods. Ferromagnetic at RT (Tc=360K) X. Obradors' group, ICMAB-CSIC Slight changes in shape give different magnetic configuration



Special MFM probes

J. Zabaleta et al J. Appl. Phys, 111(2) 2012

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Smaller structures. LSMO nanoislands

LSMO/YSZ prepared by CSD methods. Ferromagnetic at RT (Tc=360K)

There is a relationship between the size and the magnetic configuration





J. Zabaleta et al J. Appl. Phys..111(2) 2012 ,

X. Obradors`s group ICMAB-CSIC

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Some challenges in MFM: measuring low moment-low coercivity nanoparticles

Iron oxide nanoparticles,10nm in diameter, prepared by co-precipitation. G. Pourroy's group, IPCMS –CNRS

Topography

MFM (z retrace=30nm)



Artifacts in MFM: unexpected repulsive interaction The origin: topography, electrostatic?

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To take into account...

Different interactions can produce changes in amplitude and frequency



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Some challenges in MFM



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Variable Field Magnetic Force Microscope



M Jaafar, J Gómez-Herrero, A Gil, P Ares, M Vázquez and A Asenjo, Ultramicroscopy (2009)

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MFM and magnetic field

Sample: FePd thin film high perpendicular anisotropy



Domain configuration depends on the previous magnetic story

Magnetization Reversal process at the nanoscale

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VFMFM in irradiated FePt

Maximum field 5mT



VSM in plane loops





5 mT



M. Jaafar, R. Sanz, M. Vázquez, A. Asenjo, J. Jensen, K. Hjort, S. Flohrer, J. McCord and R. Schäfer, Phys. Stat. Sol. (a) 204 (6), 1724 (2007)

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<u>SPM-Magnetic</u> Force Microscopy



VFMFM: Ni nanowires, 180nm in diameter



Reversal magnetization process of individual nanowires. Hysteresis loops of the sample

M Jaafar, J Gómez-Herrero, A Gil, P Ares, M Vázquez and A Asenjo, Ultramicroscopy (2009)

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Vortex configuration in Py dots

We can distinguish two regions: **core and external region.** The core, at the center of the dot, presents out-of-plane magnetization in up or down direction that determines the **polarity**. The external region where the magnetization flux, is parallel to the nanostructure sides, determines the **chirality**.



Reversal Magnetization process



When the magnetic field decreases a vortex nucleates in the extreme of the dot, at zero field is centered and it is annihilated when increasing the field in the opposite direction.

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Triangular nanostructures:

- Broken symmetry
- Four energetically equivalent states



M Jaafar et al. Nanotechnology 19 (2008) 285717 SPM-Magnetic Force Microscopy

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The reversal magnetization process depends on the chirality



M Jaafar et al. Nanotechnology 19 (2008) 285717 SPM-Magnetic Force Microscopy

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Chirality control by DC **in-plane** magnetic field





Polarity control by DC out of plane magnetic field



M. Jaafar et al. Phys. Rev. B, 81, 054439 (2010)

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SPM-Magnetic Force Microscopy

A. V. V. V.

A. A. A. A.

+X

Micromagnetic Simulations, Phase Diagram. O. Fesenko ICMM-CSIC



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Variable Temperature MFM: copper shield

Shielding the AFM with a cold trap screen to avoid water condensation.





-60°C



topo



Δf (retrace)



 $\Delta Vosc$ (retrace)







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Importance of the tips.

Home-made MFM probes by coating the commercial tips with a magnetic layer.



Ni triangules, side 500nm

M. Jaafar, A. Asenjo, M. Vázquez, IEEE Nano 7 (2008) 245

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High resolution / low sensitivity





0 50 100 150 X[nm]

Homemade Tip 20 nm Co

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Special MFM probes for soft materials

Vortex-Domain Walls on Co stripes





High resolution MFM images (up) and results of micromagnetic simulation (down) for vortex (a) and double vortex (b) DWs in nanostripe

Y. P. Ivanov, Ó. Iglesias-Freire, O. Chubykalo-Fesenko and A. Asenjo, PRB, B 87, 184410 (2013)

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VFMFM: 3D mode images.



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In situ hysteresis loops of MFM probes

New method to characterize the tips, faster and more precise





 $\frac{\partial F}{\partial z} \propto m_{tip} \, \times \, m_{sample}$

If m_{sample} does not change, the force gradient is proportional to the m_{tip} . From images at different magnetic fields we obtain m_{tip} versus H



M. Jaafar, J. Gómez-Herrero, A. Gil, P. Ares, M. Vázquez and A. Asenjo, Ultramicroscopy 109 (2009) 693

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VFMFM: In situ hysteresis loops of Co nanostripes

Single domain nanostripes НС the In the case of single domain figuration, we can obtain th images (b) ∩nm 1.5µm_(c) -350 Oe (d)mode 0 Oe Field 3D 300 Oe 140 Oe configuration, from the 3 Normalized Magnetic Contrast Normalized MFM contrast -2 -150 300 -300 450 150 450 -450 -300 -150 0 150 300 450 Field (Oe) Field M. Jaafar, O. Iglesias-Freire, L. Serrano-Ramón, M. R. Ibarra, J. M. de Teresa and A. Asenjo, BJ Nano 2 (2011) 552



SPM-Magnetic Force Microscopy

-300

-150

Field (Oe)

150

300

450

2

-450

VFMFM: In situ hysteresis loops of Co nanostripes

НО Н the In the case of single domain figuration, we can obtain the images 3D mode configuration, from the 3

Single domain nanostripes



M. Jaafar, O. Iglesias-Freire, L. Serrano-Ramón, M. R. Ibarra, J. M. de Teresa and A. Asenjo, BJ Nano 2 (2011) 552

In situ hysteresis loops of a single Py dot



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KPFM and MFM combination

Electrostatic Forces

e metallic tip!!!!!

Different materials, different work functions, $W_1 \neq W_2$

Impossible to compensate the electrostatic force contrast with a **fixed bias voltage**

A. Schwarz and R. Wiesendanger, Nanotoday, 3, 1-2 (2008) 28





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KPFM and MFM combination





M. Jaafar, O. Iglesias-Freire, L. Serrano-Ramón, M. R. Ibarra, J. M. De Teresa and A. Asenjo, BJNano., 2, 552-560 (2011) D. Martínez – Martín, M. Jaafar, J. Gómez – Herrero, R. Pérez and A. Asenjo, Phys. Rev. Lett. 105, 257203 (2010)

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KPFM and MFM combination

<u>Conanostripes/SiO₂ prepared by Focused Electron Beam</u>

Local deposition of materials using a focused electron beam in the presence of a gas precursor. The electron beam interacts with the gas molecules adsorbed at the substrate surface and decomposes them. As a consequence, the volatile fragments are evacuated in the vacuum system, while the rest is deposited.

Heterogeneous electrostatic interaction between tip and sample that can be interpreted as magnetic interaction



M. Jaafar, O. Iglesias-Freire, L. Serrano-Ramón, M. R. Ibarra, J. M. De Teresa and A. Asenjo, BJNano., 2011, 2, 552-560

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SPM-Magnetic Force Microscopy

Precursor

gas injection

Electron assisted dissociation

FEB – Induced Deposition

However the graphite is ...

Graphite levitating on a magnet





Controversial topic, different results and interpretations

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MFM in Graphite





graphite, a, Armchair direction with periodicity D.b, Zigzag direction with



Tip: Nanosensors PPP-MFMR Amplitude: more than 100nm!!! Retrace: 50nm!!!

> Disance to Disance to

Z= 50 nm

"Room-temperature ferromagnetism in **graphite** driven by two-dimensional networks of point defects"

Cervenka et al. Nature Physics 5, 840 (2009)

Ferromagnetic domains located in the grain boundaries

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Variable Field MFM measurements





Nothing changes

Amplitude, 7nm Retrace , 50nm

D. Martínez – Martín, M. Jaafar, J. Gómez – Herrero, R. Pérez and A. Asenjo, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 105, 257203 (2010)

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KPFM and MFM in Graphite

KPFM ON



The magnetic signal, if present, is lower than $16 \mu N/m$ predicted theoretically

D. Martínez – Martín, M. Jaafar, J. Gómez – Herrero, R. Pérez and A. Asenjo, Phys. Rev. Lett. 105, 257203 (2010)

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Device fabricated out of epitaxially grown graphene on SiC (0001) substrate



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Device fabricated out of epitaxially grown graphene on SiC (0001) substrate

The objective: To evaluate the magnetic field of MFM tips



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Device fabricated out of epitaxially grown graphene on SiC (0001) substrate The objective:

To evaluate the magnetic field of MFM tips

15.0 µr

We measure the hall voltage when the tip passes over every point of the device in order to obtain the **stray field of the tip** Olga Kazakova N

The tip interacts electrically with the substrate. Thus, the voltage measured is not related with the Hall effect but with the electrostatic force.

EFM image

Gc

3 Phase

Gd

0.0

 V^+

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Topography

SPM-Magnetic Force Microscopy

Lock-in amplitude

Hall voltage changes when the current direction changes.

The MFM tip's magnetization remains constant.



V. Panchal, O. Iglesias-Freire, A. Lartsev, R. Yakimova, A. Asenjo and O. Kazakova, IEEE Trans on Mag, 49 (2013) 3520 10th February 2014, Novel Frontiers in Magnetism **SPM-Magnetic Force Microscopy**

Hall voltage changes when the MFM tip's magnetization direction changes.

The Hall voltage depends on the tip stray field and on the tip oscillation's amplitude.



V. Panchal, O. Iglesias-Freire, A. Lartsev, R. Yakimova, A. Asenjo and O. Kazakova, IEEE Trans on Mag, 49 (2013) 3520 10th February 2014, Novel Frontiers in Magnetism **SPM-Magnetic Force Microscopy**



Tip-sample distance (nm)

V. Panchal, O. Iglesias-Freire, A. Lartsev, R. Yakimova, A. Asenjo and O. Kazakova, IEEE Trans on Mag, 49 (2013) 3520 10th February 2014, Novel Frontiers in Magnetism SPM-Magnetic Force Microscopy

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Dissipation in MFM



Dissipation of energy!!!!!



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Tips for mapping the magnetic field



A ring appears in one side when the **Py dot is saturated** under in-plane magnetic field.

Ó. Iglesias-Freire, J. Bates, Y. Miyahara, A. Asenjo and P. Grütter, Appl. Phys. Lett. 102, 022417 (2013) 10th February 2014, Novel Frontiers in Magnetism **SPM-Magnetic Force Microscopy**

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Conclusions



• **Special tips** are presented which allow to improve lateral resolution and to study soft magnetic samples.



• A novel method to precisely **quantify critical fields**.



• **KPFM/MFM** combination mode is useful to separate electrostatic and magnetic contrasts.



• KPFM /MFM combination allow us to give an upper bound for the magnetic signal in graphite 16 μ N/m (six times lower than the theoretical prediction).



• The **stray field of the MFM tips** can be measured by using a graphene based device and the KPFM/MFM combination .



- The **dissipation of energy**, a new way to gain information about magnetic behaviour with high resolution (less than 7nm).
 - HV-LT MFM (higher Q factor), single pass MFM

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APFM-MFM in

Graphite

Fe₃O₄ nanoparticles