

# Heat-driven spin torque in metals and insulators

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# Group

## Post-docs

- Sylvain Bréchet,
- *Christian Caspers*,
- Marcin Bialek
- Dongyoung Yoon
- Alexandros Dimitriades

theory  
*sub-THz resonance in antiferromagnets*  
(Prof. Wojciech Knap, Warsaw)  
dynamic nuclear polarization (DNP)  
TeraHertz components, simulations

## Present and recent grad students

- *Arndt von Bieren*
- *Antonio Vetro*
- Sa Tu
- *Ping Che*
- Murari Soundararajan
- Felix Blumenschein

*Nernst imaging*  
*FMR under heat current*  
sub-THz resonance in antiferromagnets  
*FMR under heat current*  
dynamic nuclear polarization (DNP)  
spin-dependent transport in electrolytes

## Collaborations

- Haiming Yu (Beijing), Bi Lei (Chengdu)
- *J. Barnas, J. Dubowik, T. Stobiecki (Poznan, Krakow)*
- K. Niesch (Hamburg), D. Gruendler (Munich),
- Swiss Plasma Research Center : SPC
- Alonso-Vante (Poitiers), A.M. Haider (Delhi)

Swiss funding : *NSF + CTI*

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China/Switzerland : SSSTC

*Poland/Switzerland : Nanospin*

# Funding

# Why heat can drive a spin torque ?

- Metals :
  - 3-current model
  - Experimental : switching of spin valves
- Insulators :
  - Thermodynamic approach
  - Variational principle
  - Experimental : time-resolved and continuous wave
- Propects

# Heat-driven spin torque in **metals**

# Three-current model

$$\begin{pmatrix} j_Q/T \\ j_\uparrow \\ j_\downarrow \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} L_{ss} & L_{s\uparrow} & L_{s\downarrow} \\ L_{\uparrow s} & L_{\uparrow\uparrow} & L_{\uparrow\downarrow} \\ L_{\downarrow s} & L_{\downarrow\uparrow} & L_{\downarrow\downarrow} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nabla T \\ \nabla\mu_\uparrow \\ \nabla\mu_\downarrow \end{pmatrix}$$

$$j = j_\uparrow + j_\downarrow \quad \text{spin current : } j_s = j_\uparrow - j_\downarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma &= \sigma_\uparrow + \sigma_\downarrow & \epsilon &= \frac{\sigma_\uparrow \epsilon_\uparrow + \sigma_\downarrow \epsilon_\downarrow}{\sigma_\uparrow + \sigma_\downarrow} & \epsilon_p &= \frac{\sigma_\uparrow \epsilon_\uparrow - \sigma_\downarrow \epsilon_\downarrow}{\sigma_\uparrow - \sigma_\downarrow} \\ \sigma_p &= \sigma_\uparrow - \sigma_\downarrow \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} j_Q/T \\ j \\ j_s \end{pmatrix} = - \begin{pmatrix} \kappa & q\sigma\epsilon & q\sigma_p\epsilon_p \\ \sigma\epsilon & \sigma & \sigma_p \\ \sigma_p\epsilon_p & \sigma_p & \sigma \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nabla T \\ \nabla V \\ \nabla(\Delta\mu)/q \end{pmatrix}$$

# Heat-driven spin current over long distances !

spin-dependent conductivity

$$\sigma_{\pm} = \frac{\sigma}{2}(1 \pm \beta)$$

spin-dependent thermopower

$$\varepsilon_{\pm} = \varepsilon(1 \pm \eta)$$

far from an interface, and without charge current :

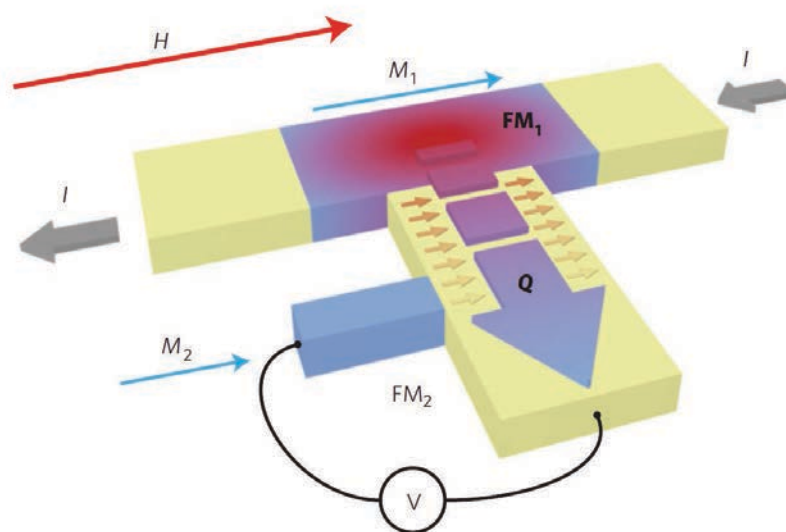
Spin current at long distances :

$$j_s = -\sigma (\eta - \beta) \epsilon \nabla T$$

# Thermally driven spin injection from a ferromagnet into a non-magnetic metal

A. Slachter<sup>\*</sup>, F. L. Bakker, J-P. Adam and B. J. van Wees

$$\begin{pmatrix} J_{\uparrow} \\ J_{\downarrow} \\ Q \end{pmatrix} = - \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{\uparrow} & 0 & \sigma_{\uparrow} S_{\uparrow} \\ 0 & \sigma_{\downarrow} & \sigma_{\downarrow} S_{\downarrow} \\ \sigma_{\uparrow} \Pi_{\uparrow} & \sigma_{\downarrow} \Pi_{\downarrow} & k \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \nabla \mu_{\uparrow} / e \\ \nabla \mu_{\downarrow} / e \\ \nabla T \end{pmatrix}$$



**Experimental evidence :**

magnetization switching

in metallic spin valves

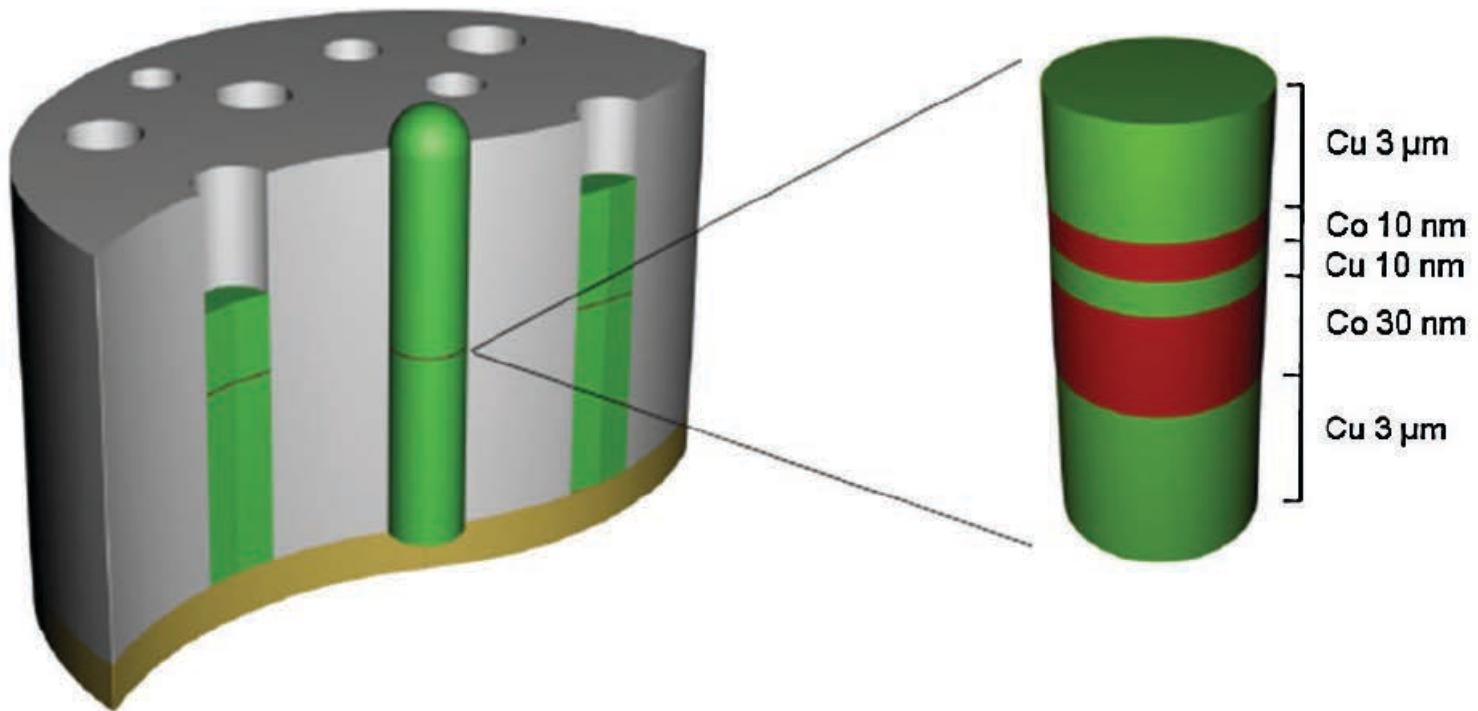


## Evidence for Thermal Spin-Transfer Torque

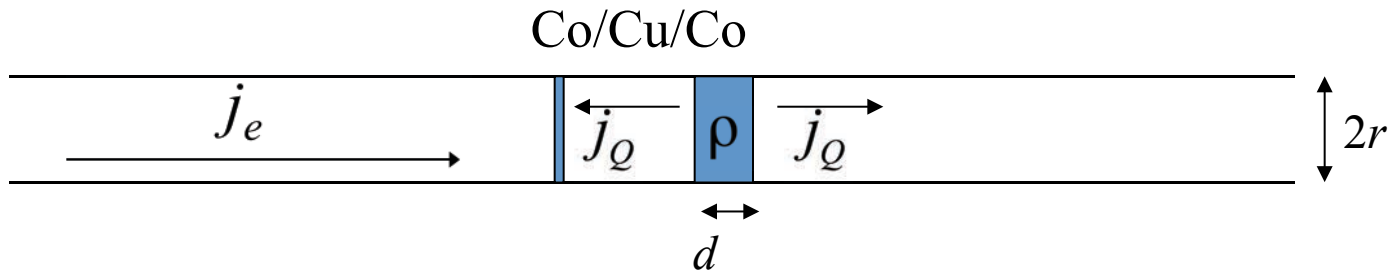
Haiming Yu,<sup>1,2</sup> S. Granville,<sup>1</sup> D. P. Yu,<sup>2</sup> and J.-Ph. Ansermet<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, IPMC, Station 3, CH-1015 Lausanne-EPFL, Switzerland*

<sup>2</sup>*State Key Laboratory for Mesoscopic Physics, School of Physics, Peking University, Beijing 100871, People's Republic of China*

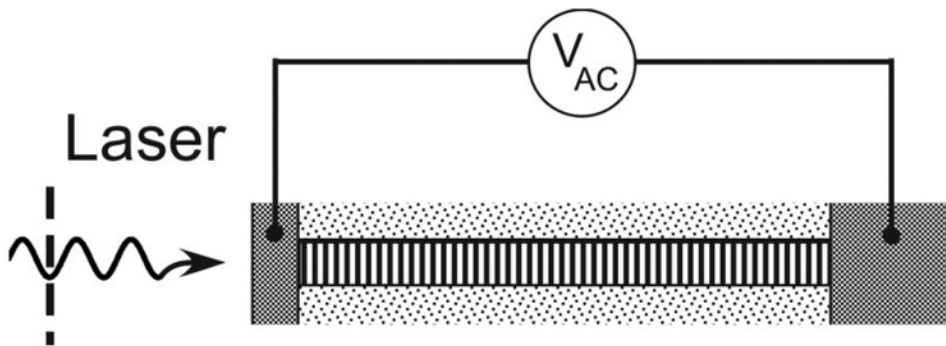


# Large heat current, small temperature change



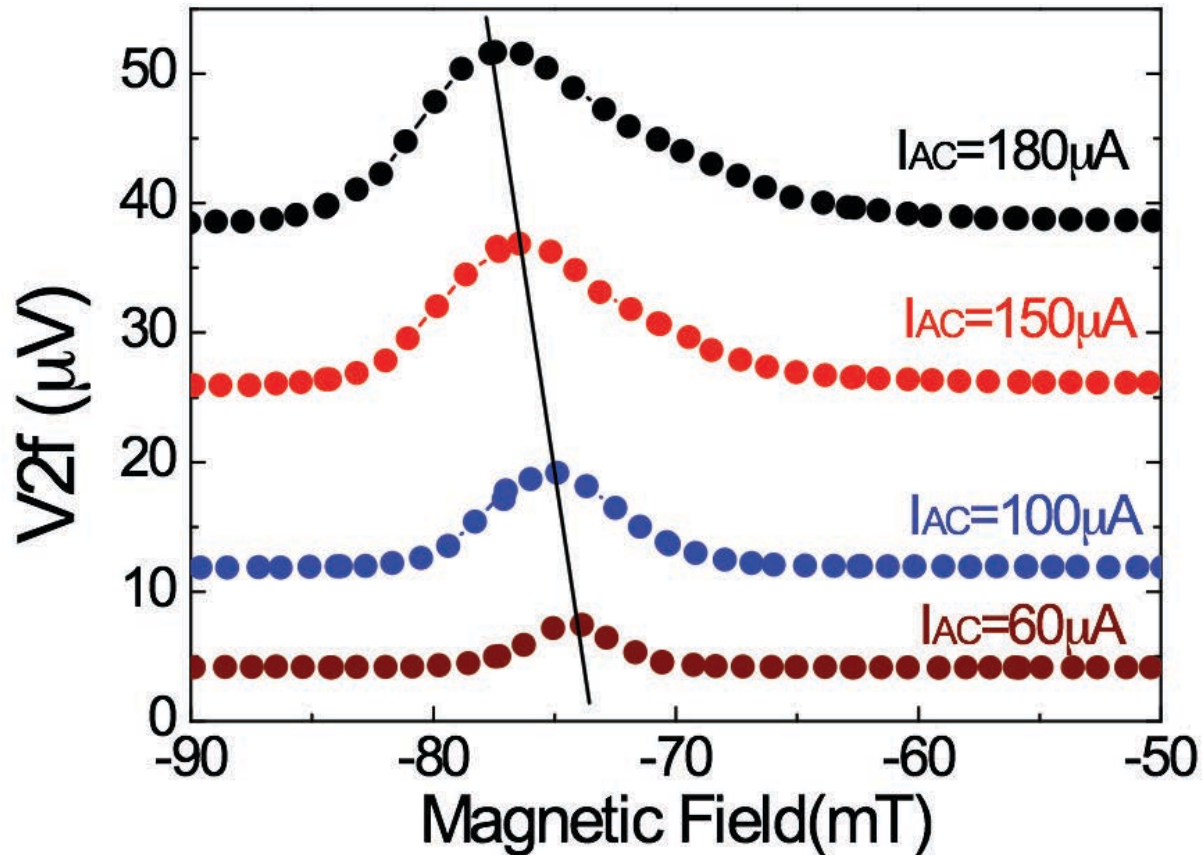
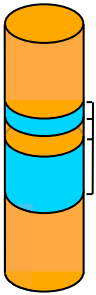
$$\nabla T \approx 10'000 \text{ K /cm}$$

$$\Delta T < 1\text{K}$$



$$\nabla T \approx 10^4 \text{ K cm}^{-1}$$

# Effect of heat-driven spin current on switching



NB : reversible, no minor loop if field cycled over small range

$I_{DC} \approx 0.1 \text{mA}$

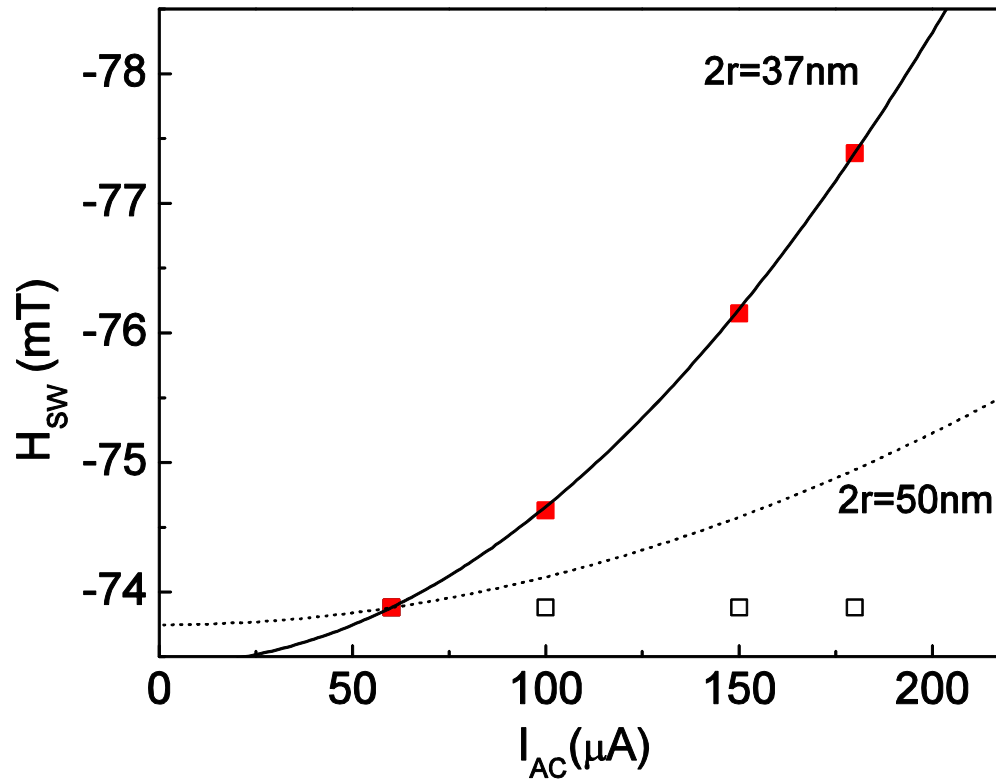
# Heat-driven spin torque

First heat-driven spin prediction : [M. Hatami, G. E. W. Bauer, Q. Zhang, and P. J. Kelly, Phys. Rev. Lett. 2007](#)

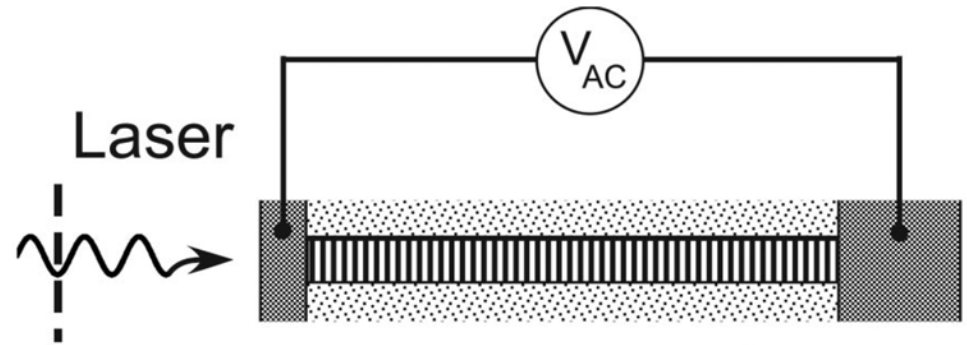
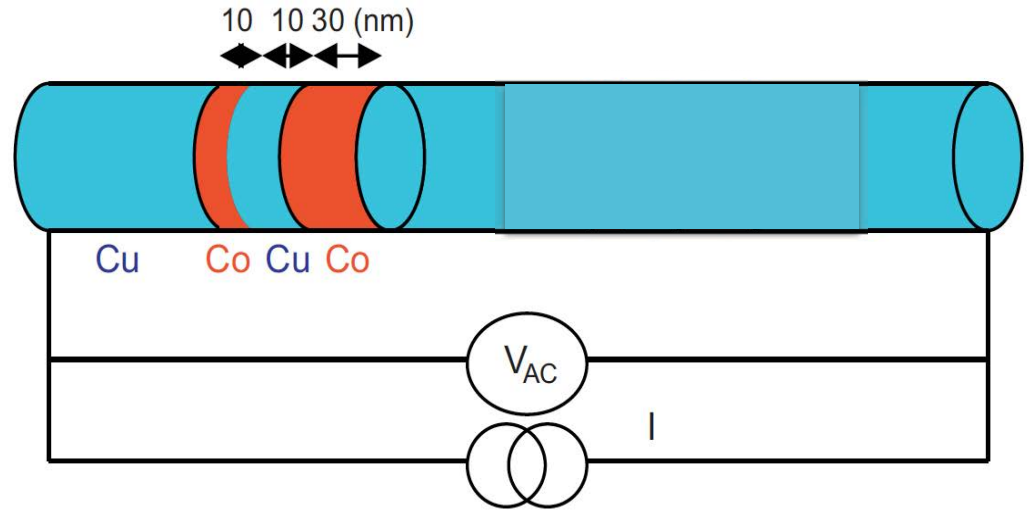
3-current model :

$$\dot{j}_s = -\sigma_p (\nabla V - \epsilon_p \nabla T)$$

$$\frac{\Delta H_{heat}}{\Delta H_{charge}} = \frac{\tau_{heat}}{\tau_{STT}} = \frac{\epsilon_p \nabla T}{\nabla V}$$

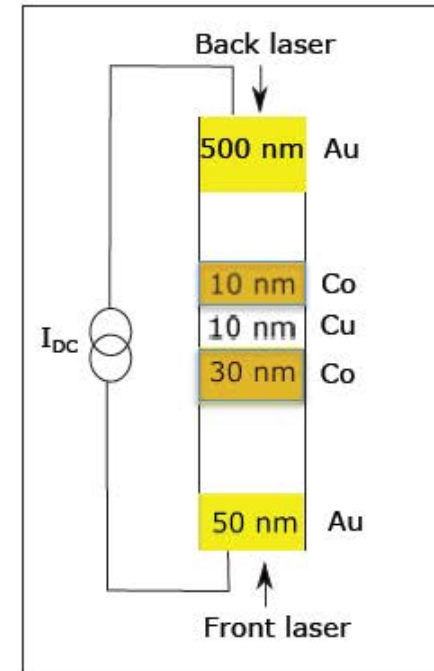
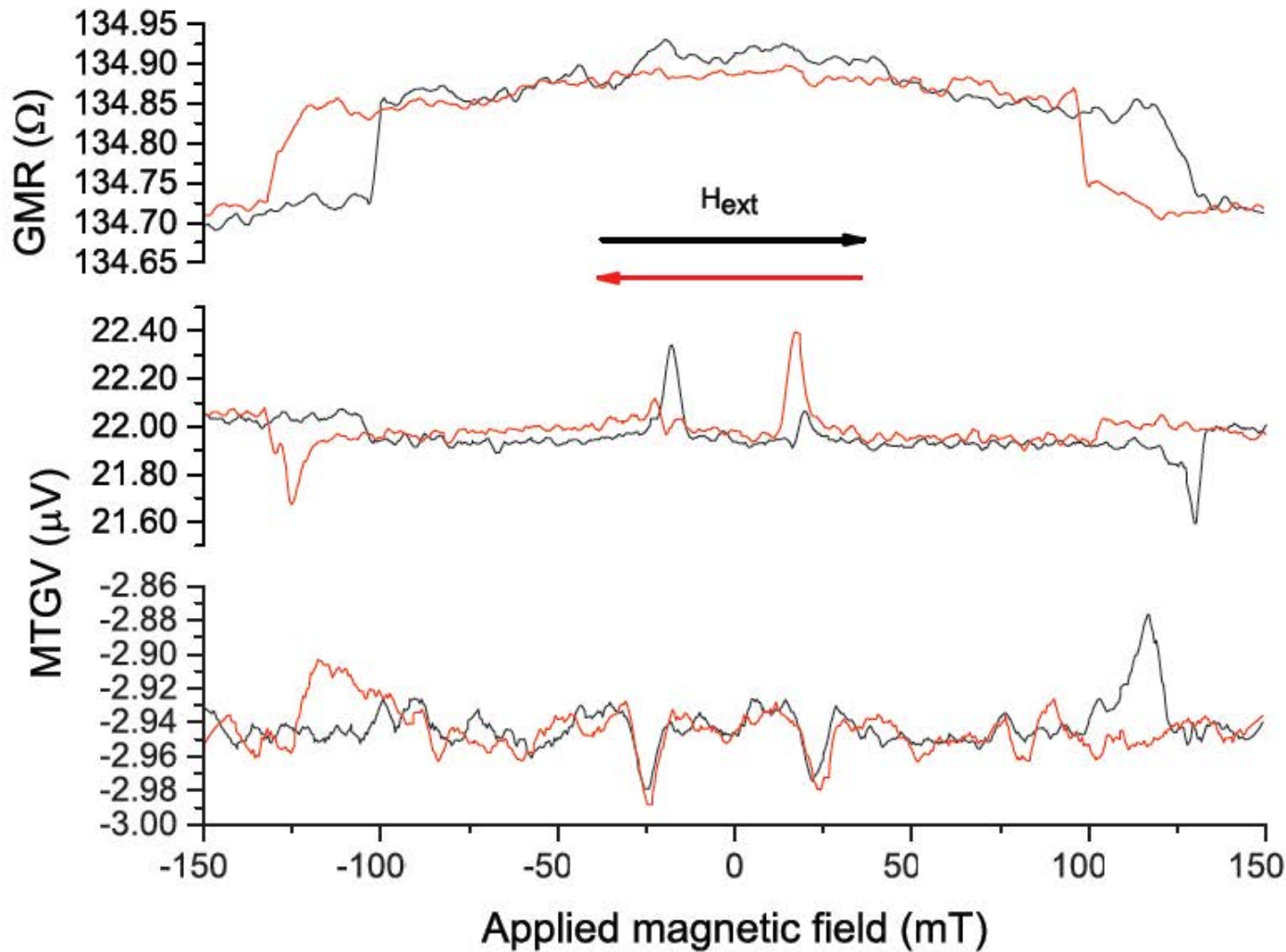


# Co/Cu spin valves in a nanowire

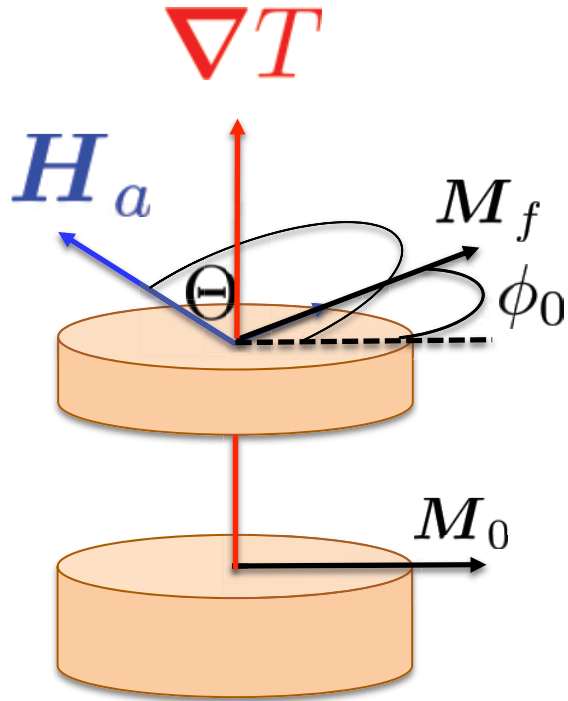


$$\nabla T \approx 10^4 K cm^{-1}$$

# Heat-driven spin torque

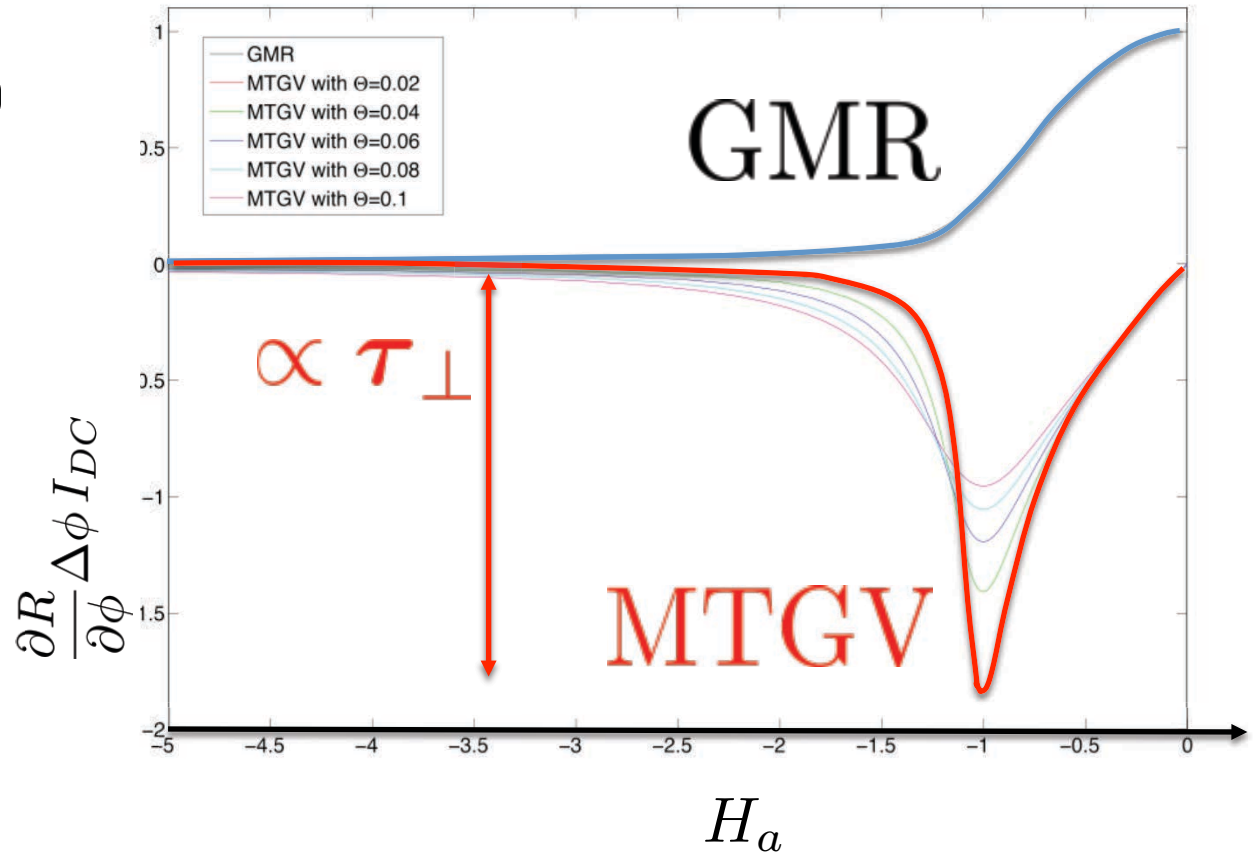


Landau-Lifshitz,  
linear response to torque

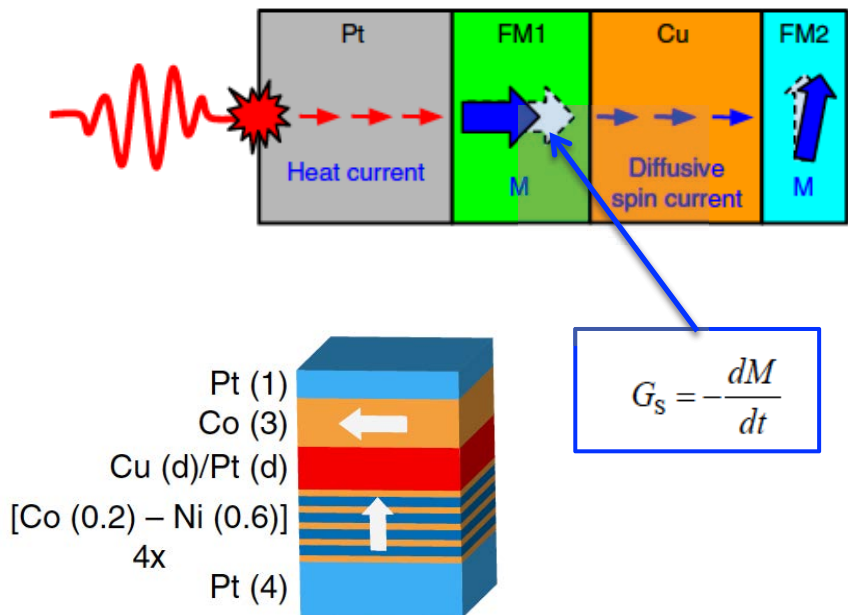


$$\Delta\phi = \frac{1}{\mu_0 M_s d} \frac{\tau_{\perp}}{H_{\parallel} \cos(2\phi_0) + H_{app} \cos(\Theta - \phi_0)}$$

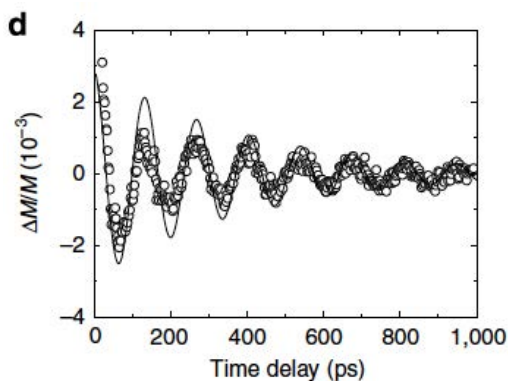
$$(H_{\parallel} \sin \phi_0 \cos \phi_0 - H_{app} \sin(\Theta - \phi_0) = 0)$$



## Spin current generated by thermally driven ultrafast demagnetization

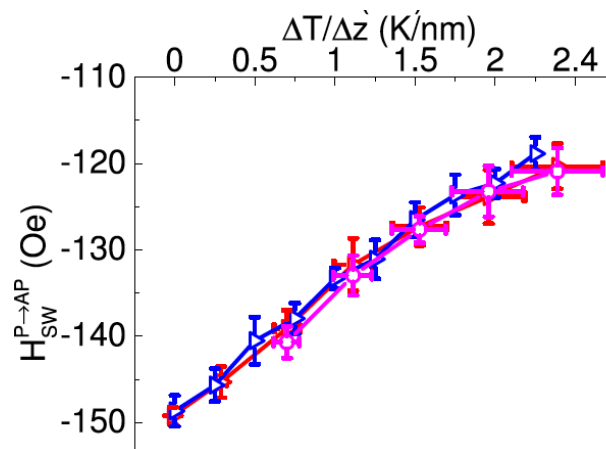
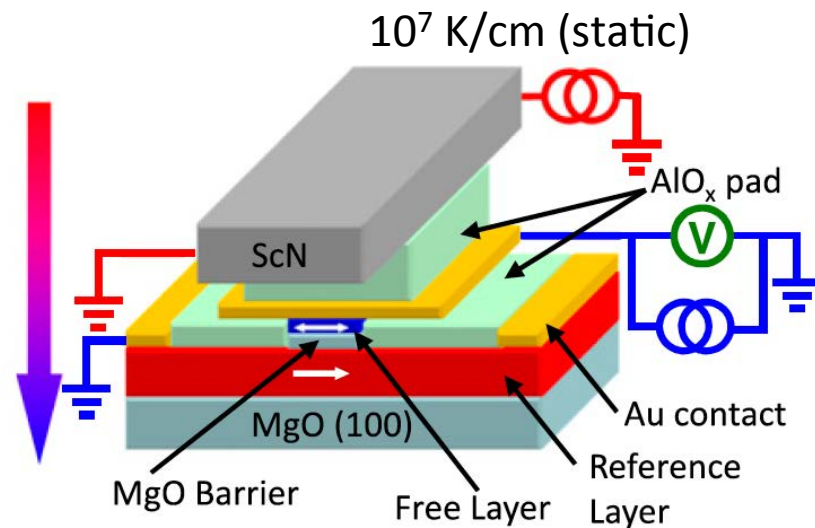


Koopmans et al., Nat. Comm 2014



Cahill et al., Nat. Comm 2014

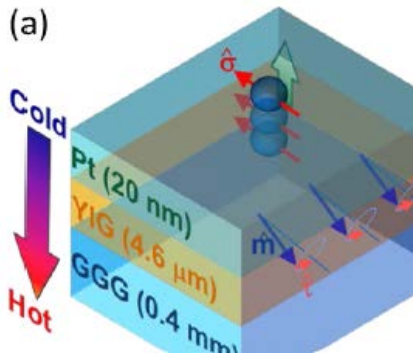
## Spin torque generated by heat across magnetic tunnel junctions



S.S.P. Parkin et al., PNAS 2015

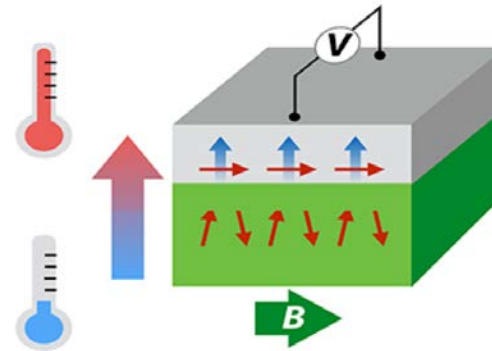


Does a heat current  
couple to  
magnetization dynamics  
  
**in insulator ?**



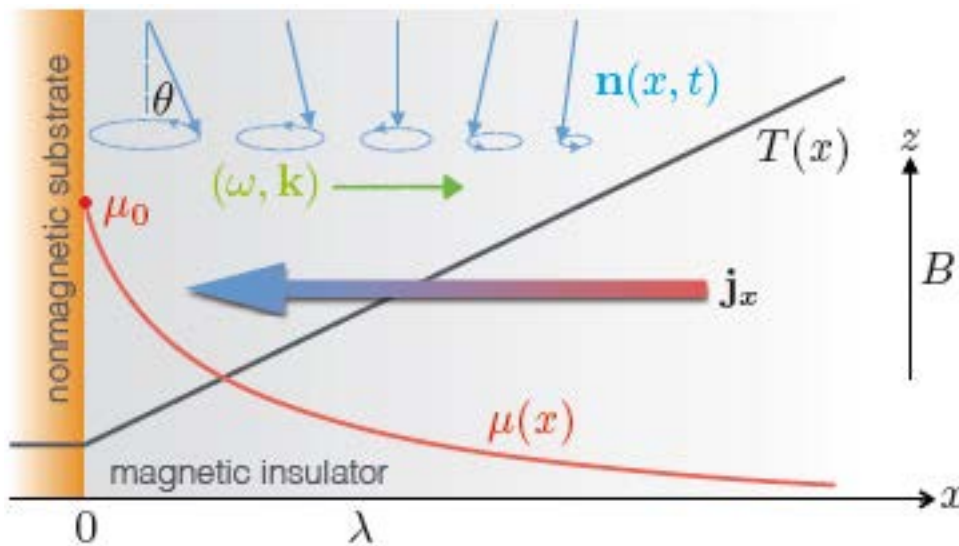
### Interfacial effect

Lu, Sun, Jantz, Wu, PRL 2012



### Antiferromagnets

Seki *et al.*, PRL 2015



### Theory magnons in insulators

Tserkovniak *et al.*

PRB2016 +arXiv 2016

[arXiv:1604.03706](https://arxiv.org/abs/1604.03706) [pdf, other]

## Magnon spin transport driven by the magnon chemical potential in a magnetic insulator

Ludo J. Cornelissen, Kevin J.H. Peters, Rembert A. Duine, Gerrit E.W. Bauer, Bart J. van Wees

Subjects: Mesoscale and Nanoscale Physics (cond-mat.mes-hall)

# Thermodynamics of Irreversible processes with electromagnetic fields

entropy production

$$\rho_s = \frac{1}{T} \mathbf{j}_s (-\nabla T) + \frac{1}{T} \sum_A \mathbf{j}_A (-\nabla \mu_A - q_A \nabla V + m_A \nabla B)$$

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generalized 'force'  $\mathbf{F}_A$

Onsager matrix :

$$\mathbf{j}_s = L_{ss} (\nabla T) + L_{sA} \mathbf{F}_A$$

$$\mathbf{j}_A = L_{As} (\nabla T) + L_{AA} \mathbf{F}_A$$

# Electric and Magnetic Seebeck effects

Zero current  $\Rightarrow$

$$0 = L_{As} (\nabla T) + L_{AA} (-\nabla \mu_A - q_A \nabla V + m_A \nabla B)$$



Cross effect :  $-\nabla V$  with  $-\nabla T$  : the Seebeck effect  
Cross effect :  $B$  field with  $-\nabla T$

# The magnetic Seebeck effect

$$m_A \nabla B = L_{AA}^{-1} L_{As} \nabla T$$

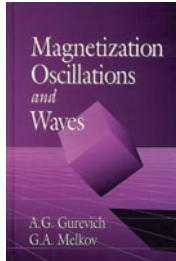
vectorial calculus  $\rightarrow$

$$B_{ind} = \epsilon \times \nabla T$$
$$\epsilon = -\lambda n_A k_B (\nabla \times M)^{-1}$$

To be determined by other means ...

# Reconsidering the derivation of the LL equation

Bréchet, Ansermet, Europhys Lett. Oct 2015



$$\text{equilibrium : } \delta \int_V u dV = 0 \quad u(\mathbf{M}, \nabla \times \mathbf{M})$$

$$\mathbf{B}_{eff} = \frac{\delta u}{\delta \mathbf{M}} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{M}} + \nabla \times \frac{\partial u}{\partial (\nabla \times \mathbf{M})} \quad \mathbf{B}_{HST}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{m}} = \gamma (\mathbf{m} \times \mathbf{B}_0 + \mathbf{M}_S \times \mathbf{b}) + \frac{\alpha}{M_S} \mathbf{M}_S \times \dot{\mathbf{m}} \quad + \gamma \mathbf{M}_S \times \mathbf{B}_{HST}$$

$$\frac{\partial (\nabla \times \mathbf{m})}{\partial u} = \nabla \times \frac{\partial \mathbf{m}}{\partial u} = \nabla \times \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{m}} \right)^{-1} \quad \mathbf{b} = \chi^{-1} \mathbf{m}$$

$$\mathbf{B}_{HST} = -\mu_0 \hat{\mathbf{z}} \cdot \nabla^{-1} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (\chi^{-1} \mathbf{m}) \right) \quad \chi \propto M_S (T(z))$$

# Heat-driven (vectorial) spin current

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}_{HST} = \frac{k_T}{M_S^2} \mathbf{M} \times (\mathbf{M} \times \mathbf{j}_s)$$

with the spin current :

$$\mathbf{j}_s = \frac{\mu_0 M_S}{k} \mathbf{m}_k$$

# Heat-driven (tensorial) spin current

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}_{HST} = -\mu_0 \mathbf{k}_T \cdot \mathbf{j}_s$$

with the spin current :

$$\mathbf{j}_s = \mathbf{M}_S \times \nabla^{-1} \mathbf{m}$$

spin wave spin current :  $\mathbf{j}_s = \mathbf{M} \times \nabla \mathbf{M}$

(see Saitoh, Ando, in *Concepts in Spin Electronics* Maekawa Ed. 2012)



# Experimental evidence for heat-driven spin torques in insulators

PRL **111**, 087205 (2013)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

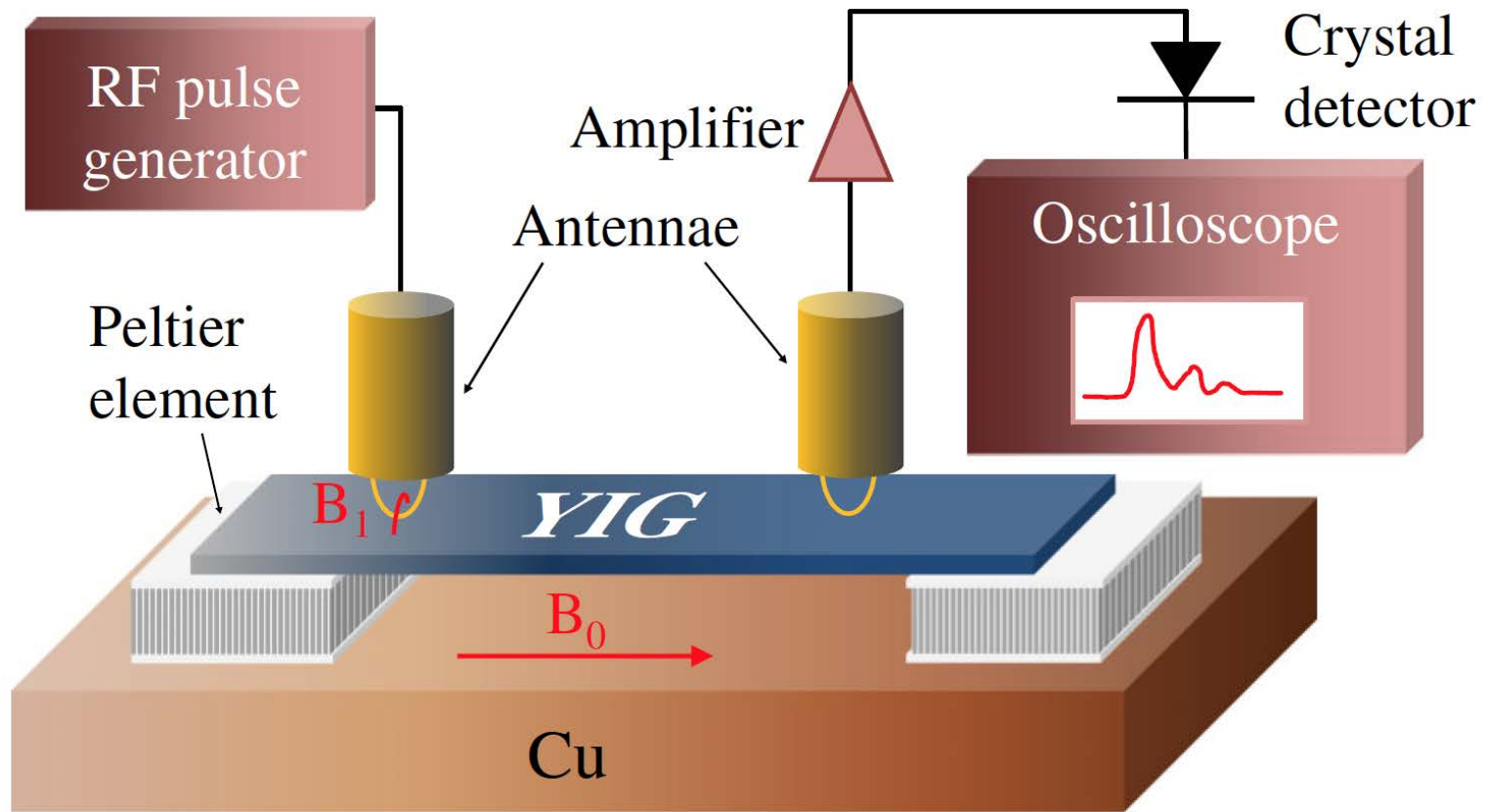
week ending  
23 AUGUST 2013



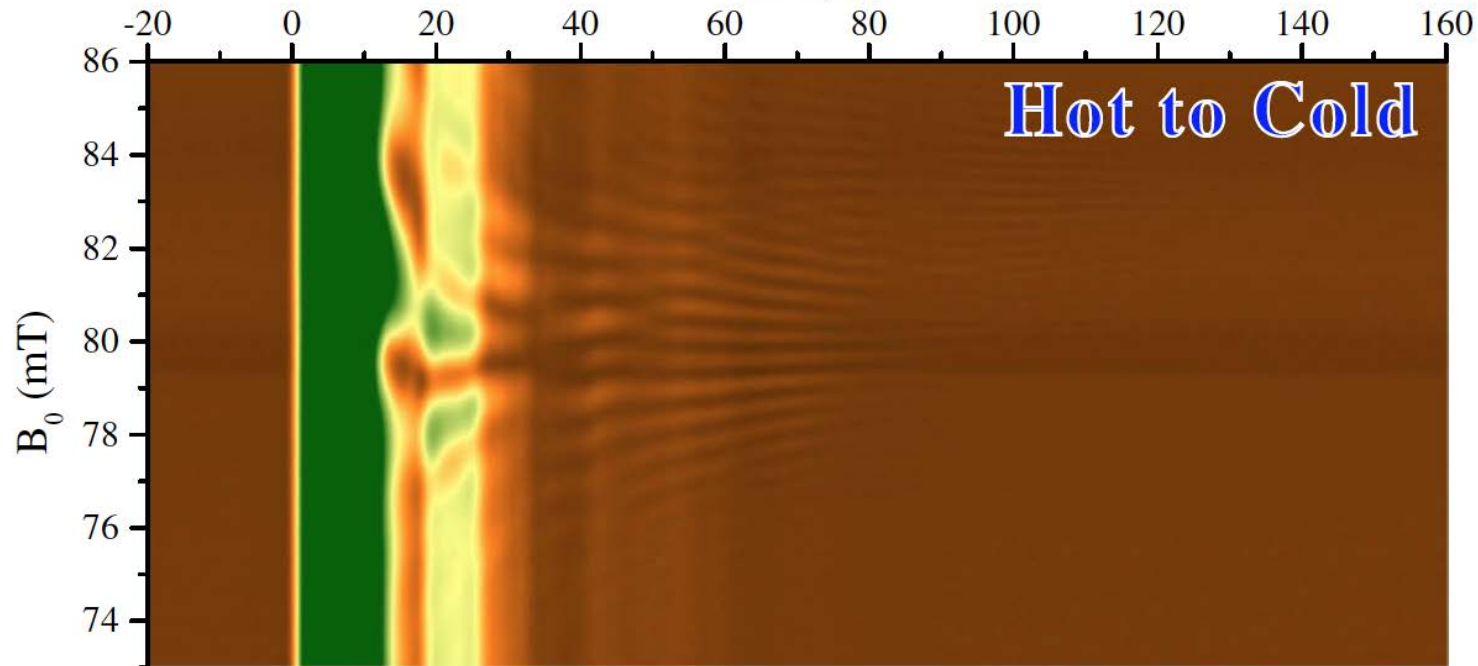
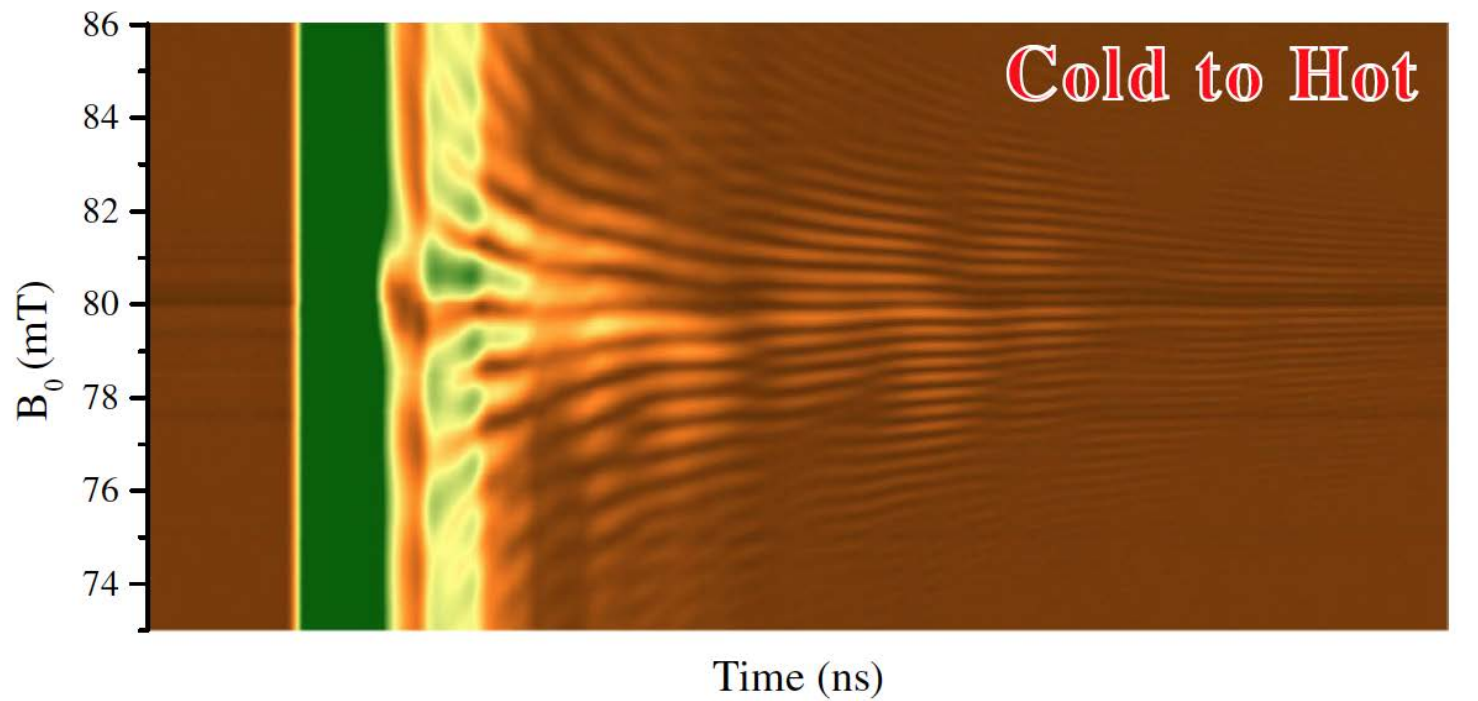
## **Evidence for a Magnetic Seebeck Effect**

Sylvain D. Brechet,<sup>1,\*</sup> Francesco A. Vetro,<sup>1</sup> Elisa Papa,<sup>1</sup> Stewart E. Barnes,<sup>2</sup> and Jean-Philippe Ansermet<sup>1</sup>

# Time resolved FMR with temperature gradient



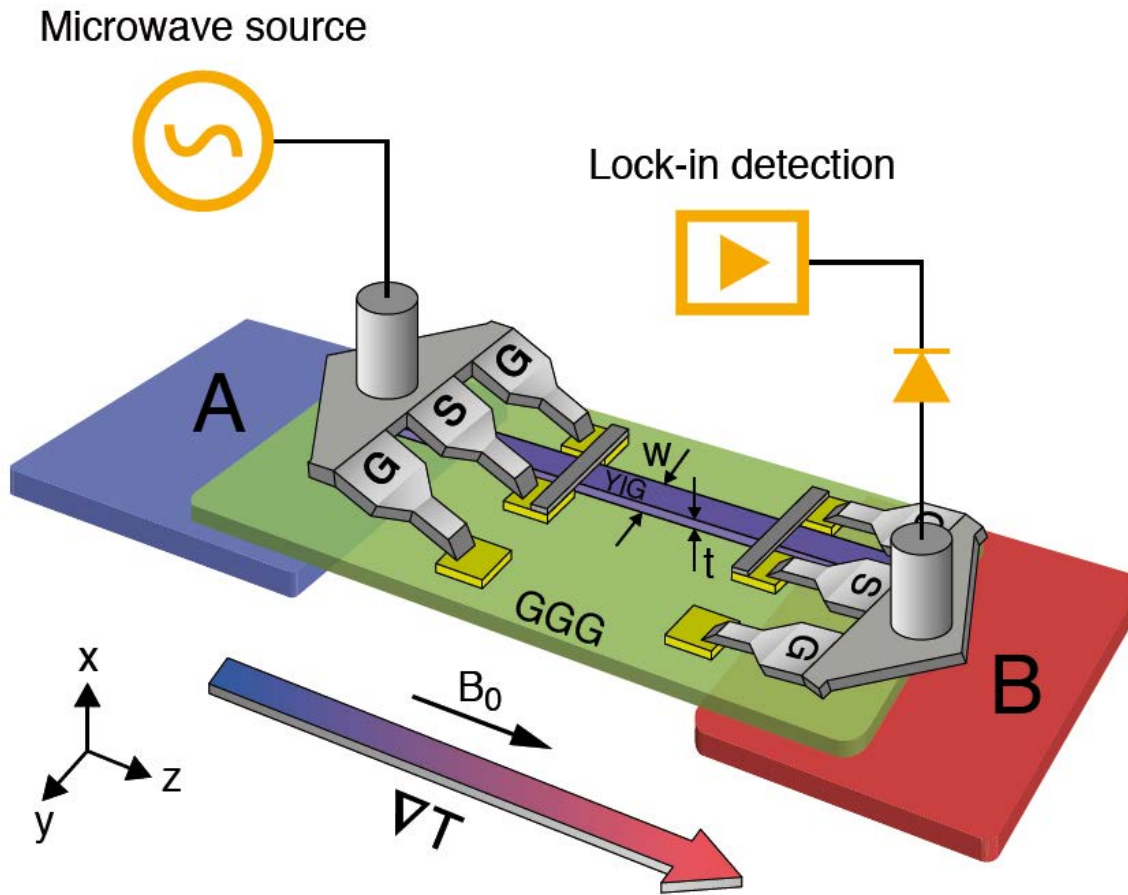
- YIG : 50 micron thick, on sapphire substrate, 7 mm long
- two Peltier elements, on heat-sinking block



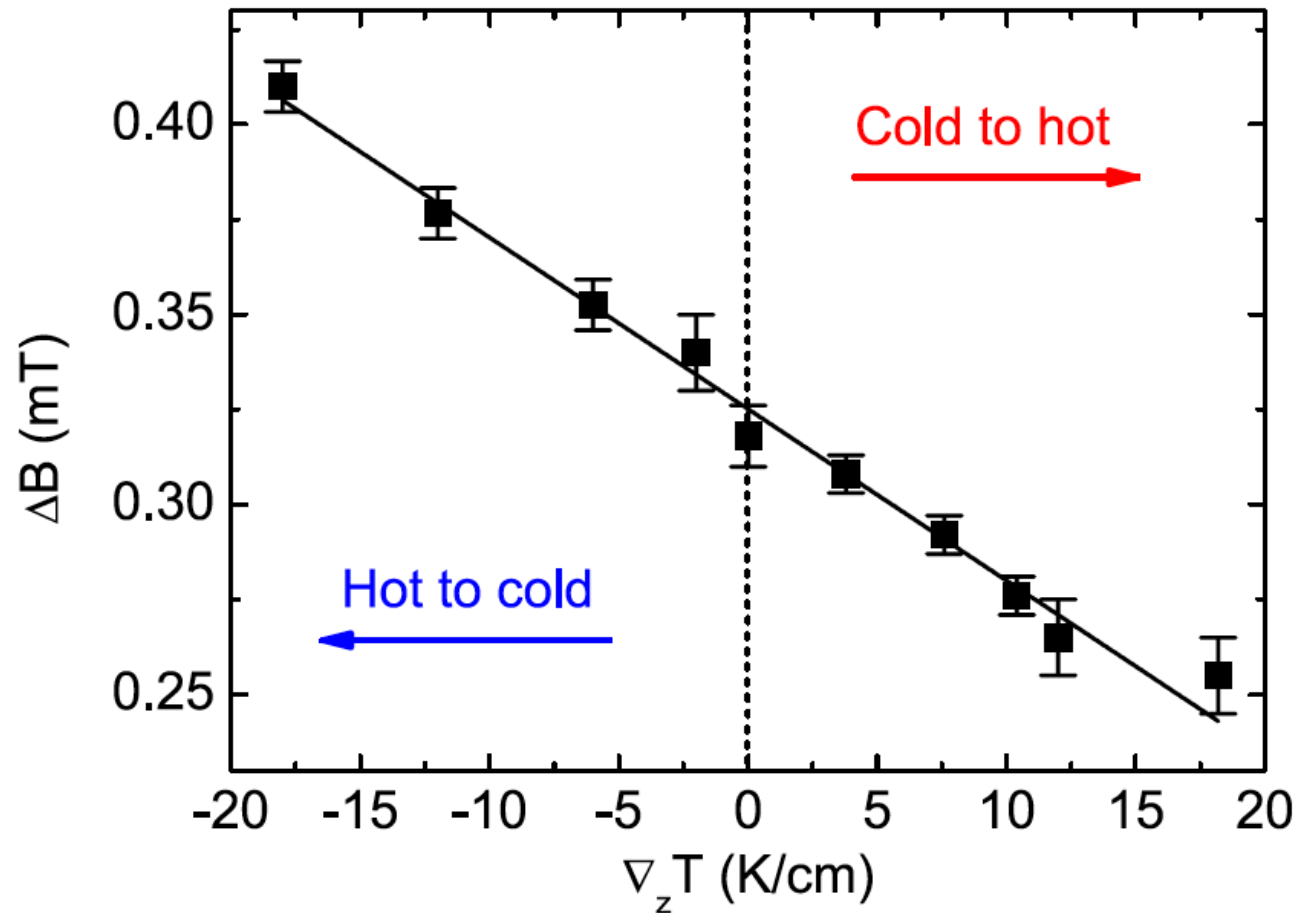
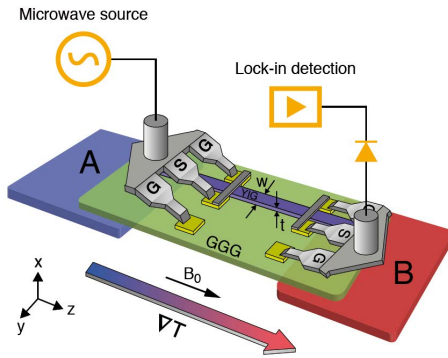
S. Brechet,  
JPA et al.,  
PRL 2013

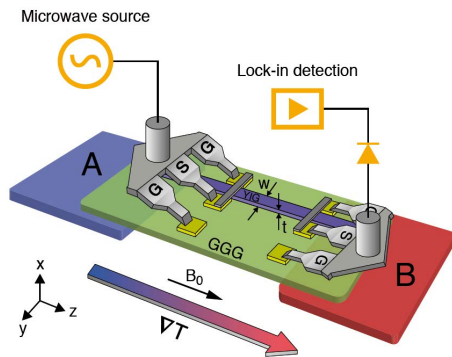
# Recent results

# Continuous wave

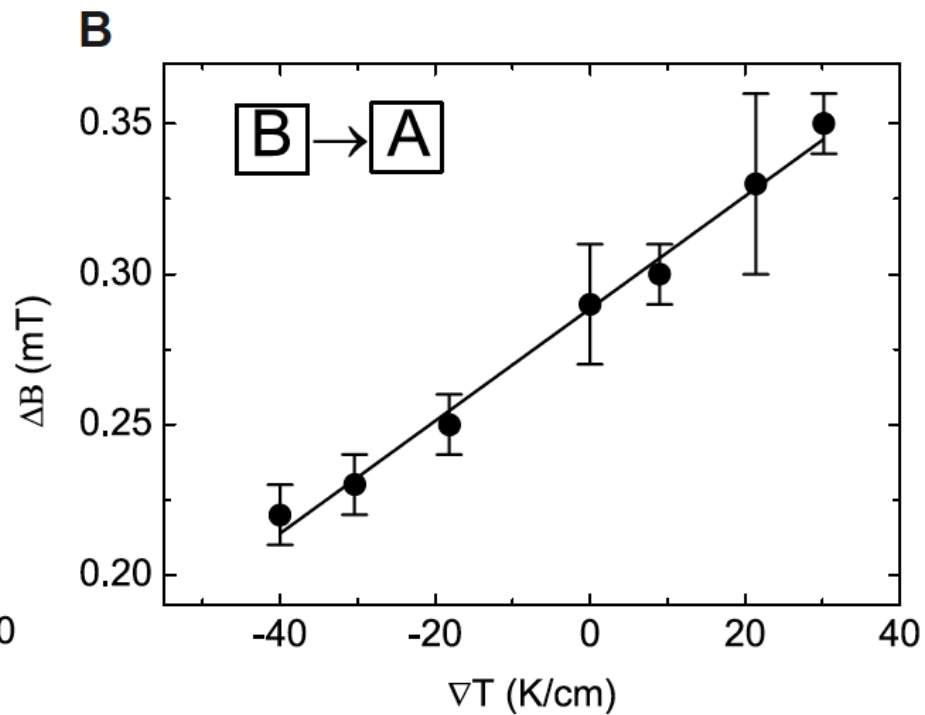
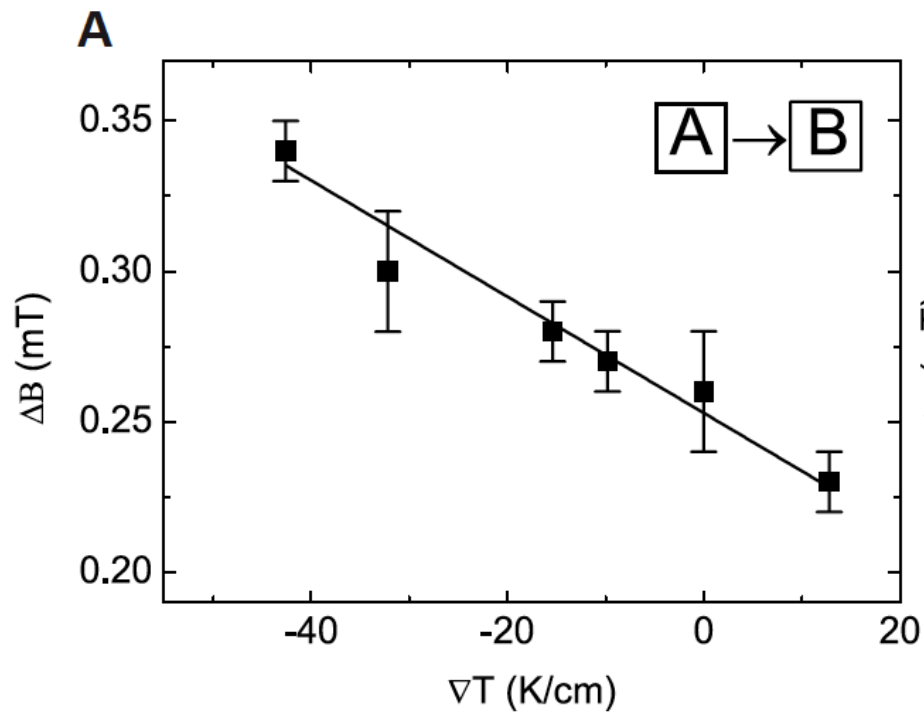


# Line width proportional to temperature gradient



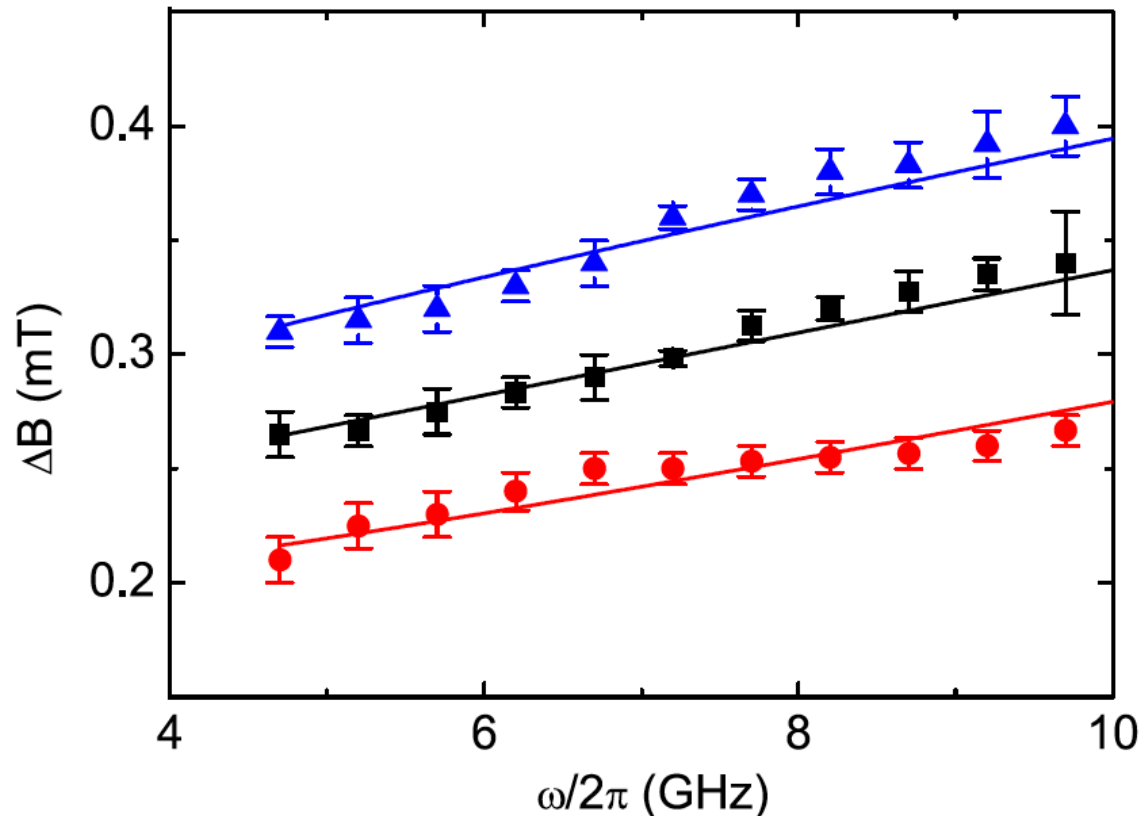


# Propagation direction is essential !



# Fit with no adjustable parameter !

$$\Delta B = \Delta B_0 + \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \alpha \left| \frac{\omega_K}{\gamma} \right| - \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \left| \frac{\omega_K - \omega_0}{\gamma} \right| \left| \frac{1}{M_S} \frac{dM_S}{dT} \right| \frac{1}{k} \nabla_z T$$

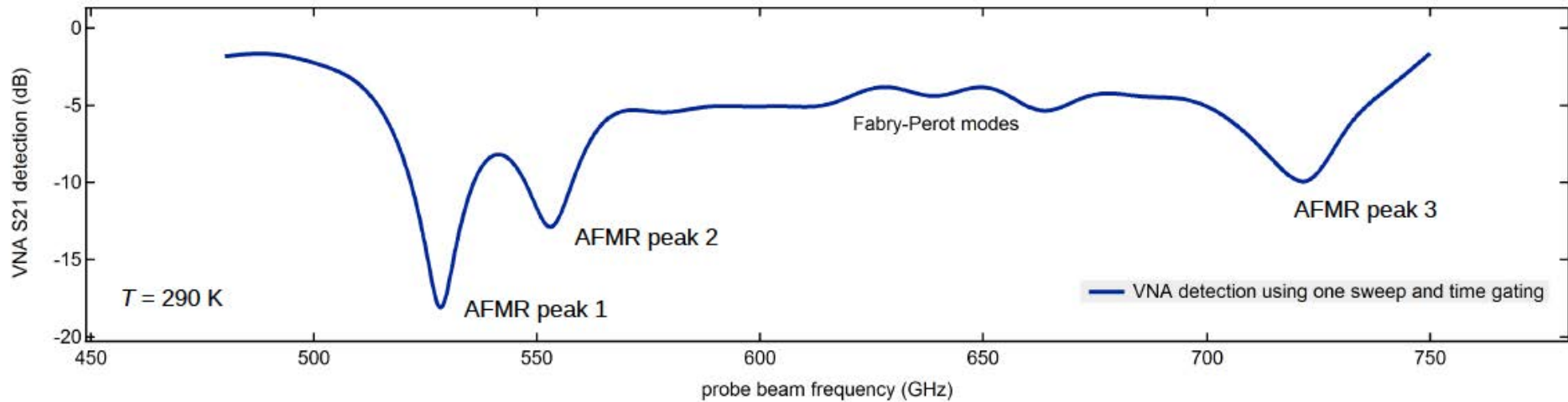
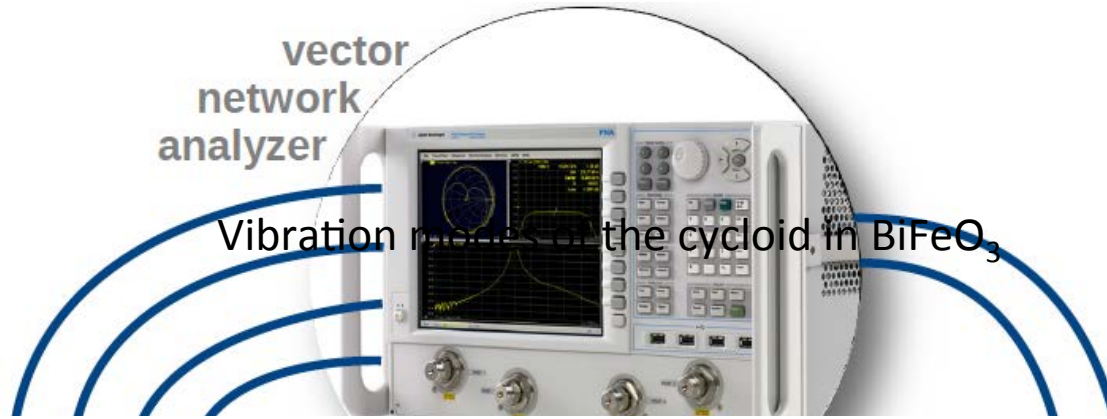




Prospects ?

**Spintronics with Antiferromagnets**

# Sub-THz dynamics in antiferromagnets

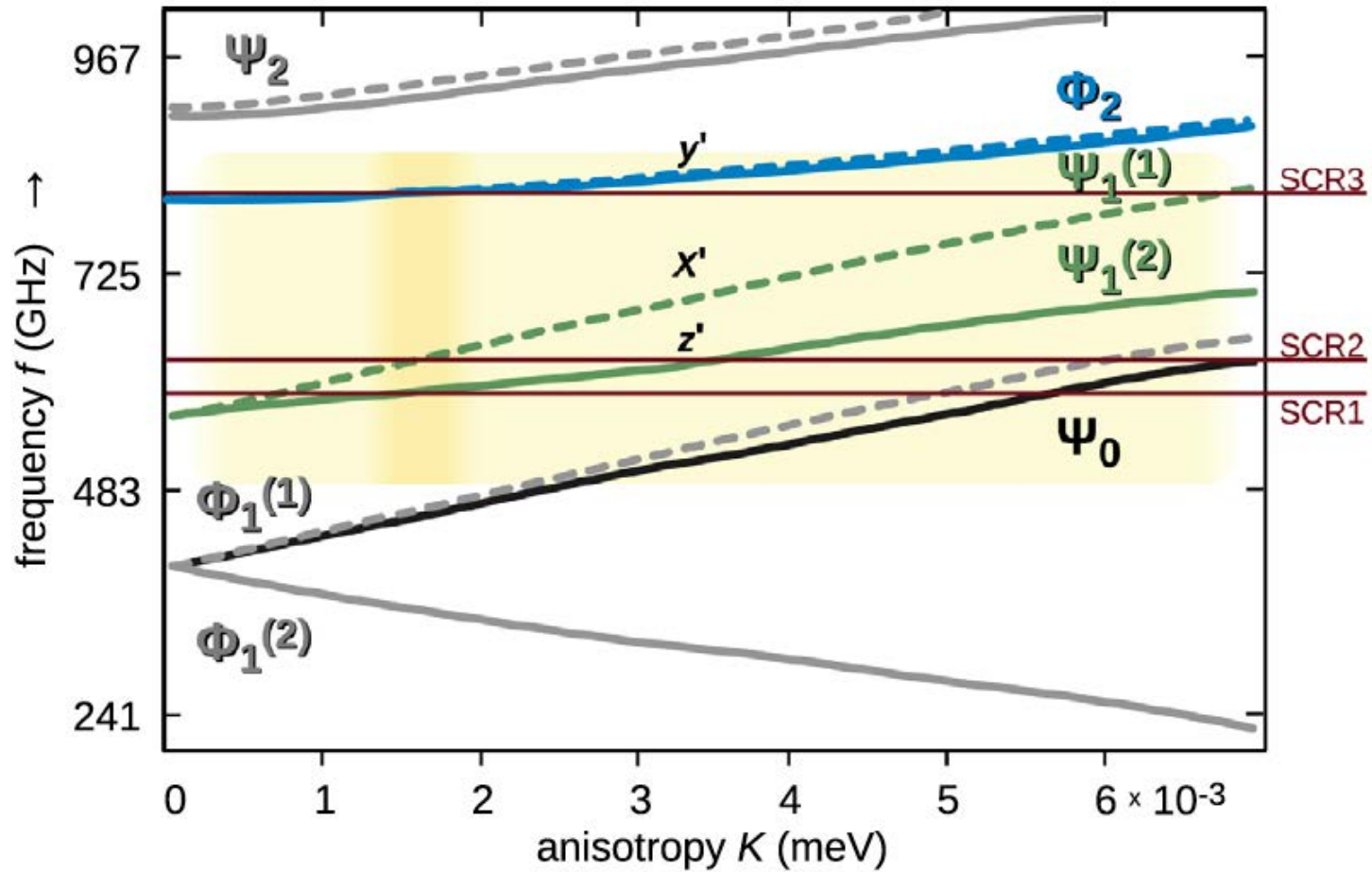


TX RX

RX

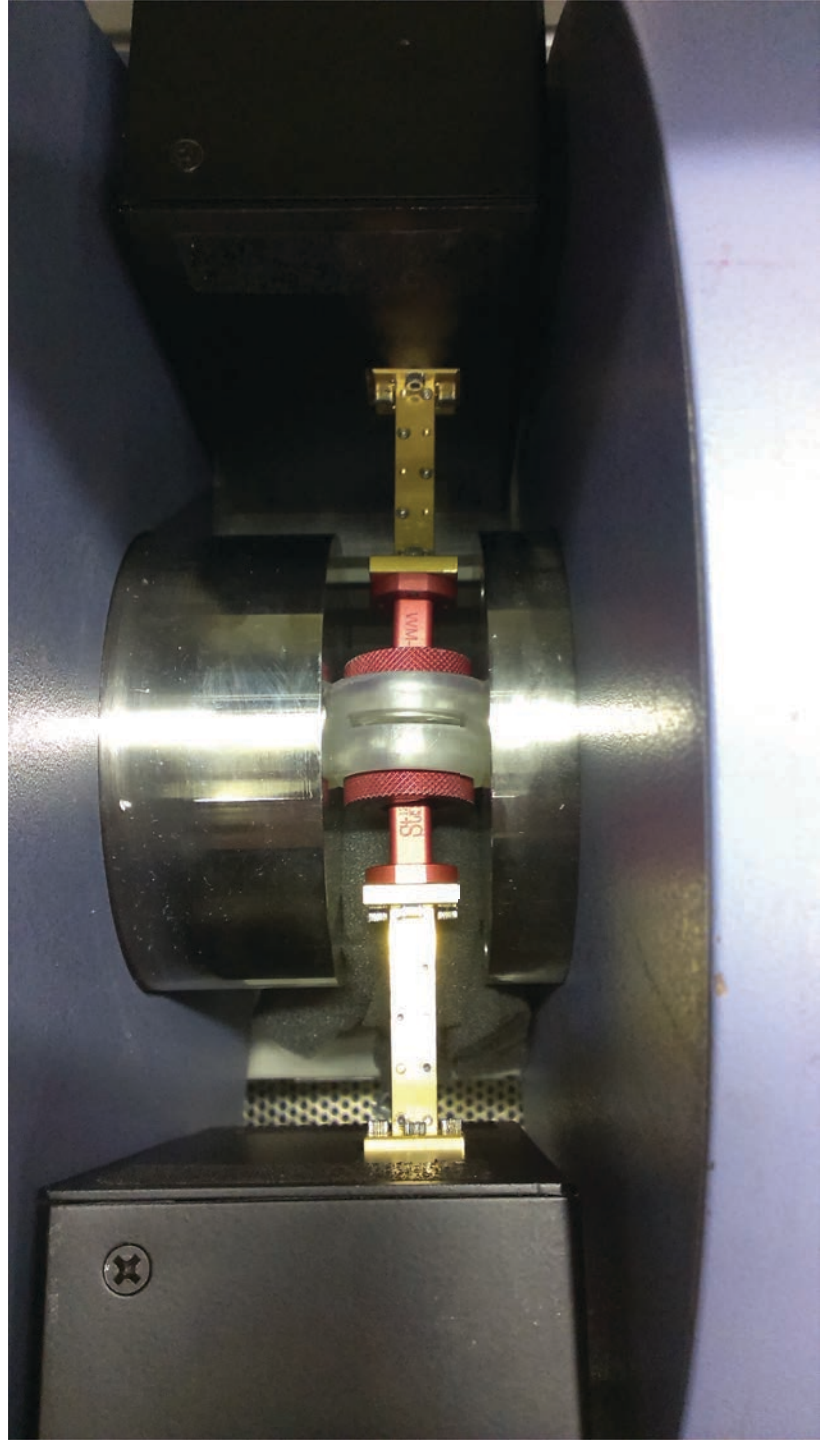
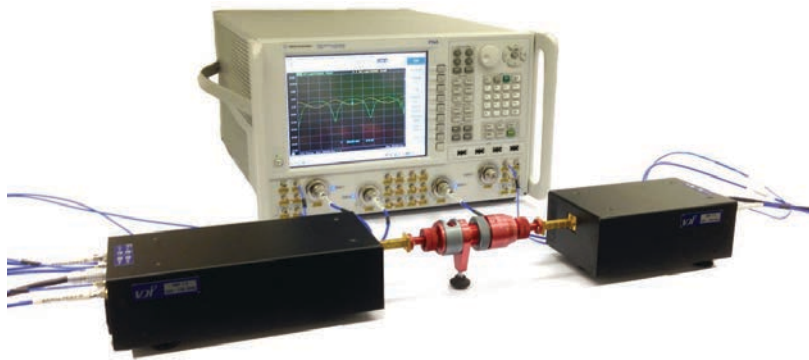
vacuum cryostat,  
Swissto12 MCK,  
or free space

# Resonance of the cycloid in BiFeO<sub>3</sub>

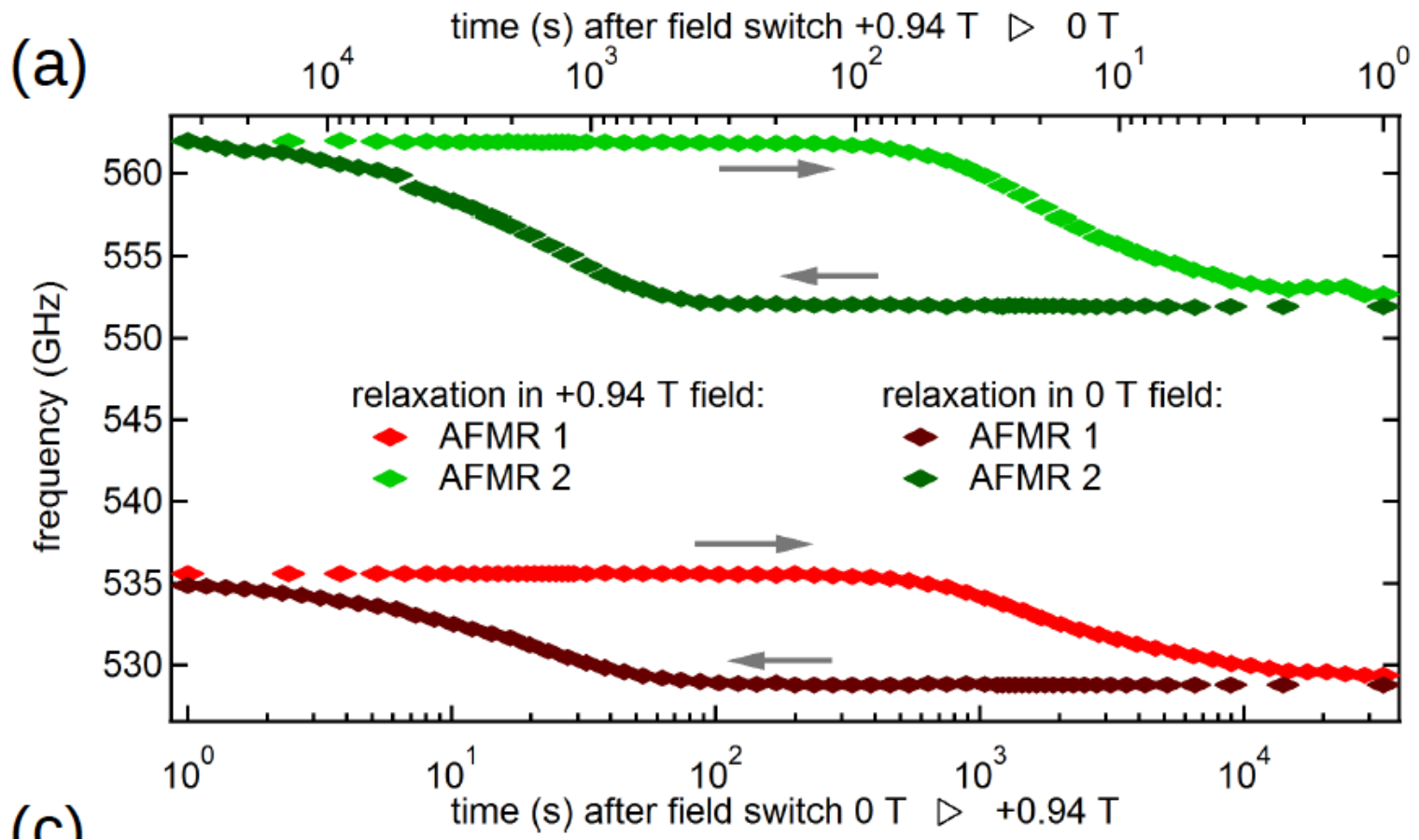


Vector Network Analyzer

For magnetic resonance



# Magnetic After-Effect seen in the cylcoid resonances of BFO !



# Heat-driven spin torques

## over large distances ?

**in metals :**

the **Seebeck effect** depends on spin  
implies  
a spin current over large distances

$$\mathbf{j}_s = -\sigma (\eta - \beta) \epsilon \nabla T$$

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}_{STT} \propto \mathbf{M} \times (\mathbf{M} \times \mathbf{j}_s)$$

**in insulators :**

the **magnetic Seebeck effect**  
implies  
a **heat-driven spin current**

$$\mathbf{j}_s = \frac{\mu_0 M_S}{k} \mathbf{m}_k$$

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}_{HST} \propto \partial_z T \mathbf{M} \times (\mathbf{M} \times \mathbf{j}_s)$$

