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Henri-Jean Drouhin
Jean-Eric Wegrowe
Manijeh Razeghi
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The CID Number appears on each page of the manuscript. The complete citation is used on the first page, and an abbreviated version on subsequent pages. Numbers in the index correspond to the last two digits of the six-digit CID Number.

Contents

vii	<i>Authors</i>
xi	<i>Conference Committee</i>
xv	<i>Introduction</i>

SPIN LASER

9167 03	Polarization dynamics in spin-polarized vertical-cavity surface-emitting lasers (Invited Paper) [9167-2]
---------	---

SPIN COHERENCE IN QUANTUM DOTS

9167 05	Applications of femtosecond pulse engineering in the control of excitons in quantum dots (Invited Paper) [9167-4]
9167 07	Room-temperature initialization, dynamics, and measurement of coherent electron spins in strongly confined quantum dots (Invited Paper) [9167-6]
9167 08	Epitaxial growth of CdMnTe quantum dots directly on Si(111) (Invited Paper) [9167-7]

OPTICAL PUMPING I

9167 09	Determination of spin diffusion length in Germanium by optical and electrical spin injection (Invited Paper) [9167-8]
9167 0A	Optical orientation of electron spins in GaAs L-valleys (Invited Paper) [9167-9]
9167 0C	Spin-dependent transport as a consequence of Pauli blockade in a degenerate electron gas (Invited Paper) [9167-11]

SPIN COHERENCE II

9167 0D	Spin-orbit interaction and spin coherence in narrow-gap semiconductor and semimetal wires (Invited Paper) [9167-12]
---------	--

SPIN PHOTONICS

9167 0H	Spin-resolved study of direct band-gap recombination in bulk Ge (Invited Paper) [9167-16]
9167 0I	Photonic spin Hall effect for precision metrology (Invited Paper) [9167-17]

9167 OJ **The charge-magnet paradoxes of classical electrodynamics (Invited Paper) [9167-18]**

SPIN COHERENCE AND MAGNETIC POLARONS

9167 OK **Individual cobalt and manganese ions in semiconductor quantum dots and photonic structures (Invited Paper) [9167-19]**

9167 OL **Conventional versus unconventional magnetic polarons: ZnMnTe/ZnSe and ZnTe/ZnMnSe quantum dots (Invited Paper) [9167-21]**

OPTICAL PUMPING II

9167 OM **Direct observation of non-thermal influence in the process of photo-induced ferromagnetic resonance in (Ga,Mn)As (Invited Paper) [9167-22]**

9167 ON **Modeling optically pumped NMR and spin polarization in GaAs/AlGaAs quantum wells (Invited Paper) [9167-23]**

9167 OO **Experimental measurements of optically pumped NMR (OPNMR) and spin polarization in bulk GaAs and GaAs/AlGaAs quantum wells (Invited Paper) [9167-24]**

MULTIFERROICS, HALF METALS, AND OXIDES

9167 OS **Magneto-optical investigation of Fe/CoO/Fe(001) trilayers (Invited Paper) [9167-28]**

9167 OT **Static and dynamic magnetic property of MBE-grown Co₂FeAl films (Invited Paper) [9167-29]**

9167 OU **Ultra-low-energy straintronics using multiferroic composites (Invited Paper) [9167-30]**

HELICAL ORDER AND ORGANICS

9167 13 **Direct observation of a highly spin-polarized organic spinterface at room temperature (Invited Paper) [9167-39]**

MAGNETOOPTICS AND LANDÉ FACTOR

9167 18 **Time resolved magneto-optical studies of InAsP ternary alloys (Invited Paper) [9167-44]**

MAGNETIC RAM I

9167 1B **Status and outlook of STT-MRAM development (Invited Paper) [9167-47]**

MAGNETIC RAM AND LOGIC DEVICES

- 9167 1H **Time resolved transport studies of magnetization reversal in orthogonal spin transfer magnetic tunnel junction devices (Invited Paper)** [9167-53]
- 9167 1J **High-performance computing based on spin-diode logic (Invited Paper)** [9167-55]

SPIN CALORIC TRANSPORT I

- 9167 1M **Anomalous spin and charge Seebeck effect in a quantum well with spin orbit interaction (Invited Paper)** [9167-58]

SPIN CALORIC TRANSPORT II

- 9167 1O **Spin-Hall effects: from the two-channel model to Dyakonov-Perel equations (Invited Paper)** [9167-60]

SPIN-ORBIT COUPLING

- 9167 21 **Spin control and manipulation in (111) GaAs quantum wells (Invited Paper)** [9167-73]
- 9167 23 **Spin injection and spin-orbit coupling in low-dimensional semiconductor nanostructures (Invited Paper)** [9167-75]

SPIN PUMPING I

- 9167 29 **Spin pumping and inverse spin Hall effect in platinum and other 5d metals: the essential role of spin-memory loss and spin-current discontinuities at interfaces (Invited Paper)** [9167-81]

ULTRAFAST OPTICAL CONTROL AND TOPOLOGICAL INSULATORS I

- 9167 2C **Attempting nanolocalization of all-optical switching through nano-holes in an Al-mask (Invited Paper)** [9167-84]
- 9167 2D **Ultrafast spin dynamics in metallic layers and strongly correlated oxides (Invited Paper)** [9167-85]
- 9167 2E **Weak localization and weak anti-localization in topological insulators (Invited Paper)** [9167-86]

SPIN PUMPING II

- 9167 2H **Three-magnon splitting controlled by temperature (Invited Paper)** [9167-89]

- 9167 2J **Dual-frequency ferromagnetic resonance to measure spin current coupling in multilayers
(Invited Paper)** [9167-91]

SPIN PUMPING AND SPIN NOISE

- 9167 2R **Spin noise spectroscopy in semiconductors: from a billion down to single spins
(Invited Paper)** [9167-99]

Author Index

Numbers in the index correspond to the last two digits of the six-digit citation identifier (CID) article numbering system used in Proceedings of SPIE. The first four digits reflect the volume number. Base 36 numbering is employed for the last two digits and indicates the order of articles within the volume. Numbers start with 00, 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 0A, 0B...0Z, followed by 10-1Z, 20-2Z, etc.

Adur, Rohan, 2J	Drouhin, H.-J., 1O
Alouani, M., 13	Du, Chunhui, 2J
Amand, Thierry, 0A	Duò, L., 0S
Ando, Kazuya, 2H	Dürr, H. A., 2C
Arabski, J., 13	Fan, W. C., 0L
Attané, J.-P., 29	Ferreira, Sukarno O., 08
Balocchi, Andrea, 0A	Finazzi, M., 0S
Barate, Philippe, 0A	Freisem, Sabine, 05
Barman, B., 0L	Friedman, Joseph S., 1J
Beaurepaire, E., 13	Fumani, Ahmad K., 07
Bekaert, J., 1B	Gambarelli, S., 29
Berezovsky, Jesse, 07	Gamouras, Angela, 05
Berski, F., 2R	George, J.-M., 29
Bertacco, Riccardo, 09, 13	Gerhardt, Nils C., 03
Berti, G., 0S	Gerster, Thomas, 23
Bertoli, Stefano, 09	Giorgioni, Anna, 0H
Bertran, F., 13	Graves, C. E., 2C
Bianchi, Massimiliano, 09	Grilli, Emanuele, 0H
Biermann, K., 21	Grützmacher, Detlev, 23
Borghs, G., 0D	Guzzi, Mario, 0H
Boschini, Fabio, 2D	Hall, Kimberley C., 05
Boukari, S., 13	Hammel, P. Chris, 2J
Bowen, M., 13	Hardtdegen, Hilde, 23
Bowers, C. R., 0N	Hayes, Sophia E., 0N, 0O
Brambilla, A., 0S	Hedayat, Hamoon, 2D
Bringer, Andreas, 23	Heedt, Sebastian, 23
Brookes, N. B., 13	Heremans, J. J., 0D
Bussetti, Gi., 0S	Hernández-Mínguez, A., 21
Cadiz, F., 0C	Hey, R., 21
Calloni, A., 0S	Hoffmann, M. C., 2C
Cantoni, Matteo, 09, 0S, 13	Hofmann, Martin R., 03
Capps, Jeremy, 1M	Höpfner, Henning, 03
Carpene, Ettore, 2D	Hübner, J., 2R
Carrère, Hélène, 0A	Huo, Yan, 0T
Cartwright, A. N., 0L	Ibrahim, F., 13
Cerullo, Giulio, 09	Isella, Giovanni, 0H
Chaves-O'Flynn, Gabriel, 1H	Jaafar, A., 13
Chen, Shizhen, 0I	Jaffrès, H., 29
Chou, W. C., 0L	Jamet, M., 29
Ciccacci, F., 0S	Javid, S., 13
Coseman, S., 1B	Joly, L., 13
Dahbashi, R., 2R	Kallaher, R. L., 0D
Dallera, Claudia, 2D	Kappler, J.-P., 13
De Cesari, Sebastiano, 0H	Kar, G. S., 1B
Demarina, Natalia, 23	Kardasz, Bartek, 1H
Deppe, Dennis G., 05	Kent, Andrew D., 1H
Deranlot, C., 29	Kettemann, Stefan, 23
Dilcher, Eric, 05	Khodaparast, G. A., 18
Djegloul, F., 13	Kimel, A. V., 2C

Kirilyuk, A., 2C
 Kuhn, H., 2R
 Kuhns, P. L., 0N
 Lacour, D., 1O
 Laczkowski, P., 29
 Lage, Marielle H. M. B., 08
 Le Fèvre, P., 13
 Lindemann, Markus, 03
 Liu, T.-M., 2C
 Liu, Yachao, 0I
 Lonnemann, J., 2R
 Lu, Hai-Zhou, 2E
 Luo, Hailu, 0I
 Madon, B., 1O
 Magill, B. A., 18
 Malachias, Angelo S., 08
 Manolescu, Andrei, 1M
 Mansuripur, Masud, 0J
 Manuilov, Sergei A., 2J
 Manzoni, Cristian, 09
 Marangoni, Marco, 09
 Marie, Xavier, 0A
 Marinescu, D. C., 1M
 Mathew, Reuble, 05
 Matsuda, Takashi, 0M
 Matsuura, Saki, 2H
 Mattana, R., 13
 McCarthy, L. A., 0N
 McCombe, B. D., 0L
 McGill, S. A., 0N, 18
 Meeker, M. A., 18
 Merrit, T. R., 18
 Mertens, S., 1B
 Min, T., 1B
 Miyamachi, T., 13
 Munekata, Hiro, 0M
 Murphy, J. R., 0L
 Nie, Shuaihua, 0T
 Nishibayashi, Kazuhiro, 0M
 Nishimura, K., 1B
 Oestreich, M., 2R
 Ohresser, P., 13
 Okuyama, H., 1B
 Oszwaldowski, R., 0L
 Pacuski, Wojciech, 0K
 Paget, D., 0C
 Palmstrøm, C. J., 18
 Petrou, A., 0L
 Petukhov, A., 0L
 Pezzoli, Fabio, 0H
 Picone, A., 0S
 Pientka, J. M., 0L
 Pinarbasi, Mustafa, 1H
 Puppini, Ezio, 2D
 Qiao, Shuang, 0T
 Querlioz, Damien, 1J
 Radisic, D., 1B
 Ramachandran, Ajan P., 05
 Rasing, Th., 2C
 Reid, A. H., 2C
 Renucci, Pierre, 0A
 Reyes, A. R., 0N
 Reyren, N., 29
 Rinaldi, Christian, 09, 13
 Riva, M., 0S
 Rojas-Sánchez, J.-C., 29
 Rowe, A. C. H., 0C
 Roy, Kuntal, 0U
 Rudolph, M., 0D
 Saha, Dipta, 0N, 0O
 Sahakian, Alan V., 1J
 Sanders, Gary D., 0N, 0O
 Santos, M. B., 0D
 Santos, P. V., 21
 Savero, W., 29
 Savoini, M., 2C
 Schäpers, Thomas, 23
 Scheurer, F., 13
 Schubert, Jürgen, 23
 Scrace, T., 0L
 Seino, T., 1B
 Sellers, I. R., 0L
 Seneor, P., 13
 Sesti, Erika L., 0N, 0O
 Shen, Shun-Qing, 2E
 Shi Yang, Hong Yi, 05
 Sladek, Kamil, 23
 Sordan, Roman, 09
 Souriau, L., 1B
 Stanton, Christopher J., 0N, 0O
 Stöhr, J., 2C
 Swerts, J., 1B
 Taleb-Ibrahimi, A., 13
 Tashiro, Takaharu, 2H
 Thakur, P., 13
 Tokarski, J. T., III, 0N
 Tsai, Y., 0L
 Tsukamoto, A., 2C
 Tsunekawa, K., 1B
 Urbaszek, Bernhard, 0A
 Van Roy, W., 0D
 Vavassori, P., 0S
 Vila, L., 29
 Wang, Hailong, 2J
 Wang, T., 2C
 Watts, Steve, 1H
 Weber, W., 13
 Wegrowe, J.-E., 1O
 Wehrmann, Isabel, 23
 Wen, Shuangchun, 0I
 Wenk, Paul, 23
 Wessels, Bruce W., 1J
 Wheeler, Dustin D., 0O
 Wiegand, J., 2R
 Wolf, Georg, 1H
 Wolf, Michael, 07
 Wood, R., 0N
 Wu, Yizheng, 0T
 Wulfschkel, W., 13

Xu, K., 1B
Yang, C. S., 0L
Yang, Fengyuan, 2J
Zhang, Tiantian, 0A
Zhang, Xinhui, 0T
Zhao, Jianhua, 0T
Zhou, Xinxing, 0I
Zutic, I., 0L

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- 2b Spin Coherence II
Kimberley C. Hall, Dalhousie University (Canada)
- 3a Spin Photonics
Sophia E. Hayes, Washington University in St. Louis (United States)
- 3b Spin Coherence and Magnetic Polarons
Benedict Murdin, University of Surrey (United Kingdom)
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- 4b Multiferroics, Half Metals, and Oxides
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- 5 Skyrmions
Wolfgang Weber, Institut de Physique et Chimie des Matériaux de Strasbourg (France)
- 6 Helical Order and Organics
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Luc Thomas, Headway Technologies, Inc. (United States)

- 9 Magnetic RAM II
Hideo Ohno, Tohoku University (Japan)
- 10 Magnetic RAM and Logic Devices
Hiroaki Yoda, Toshiba Corporation (Japan)
- 11 Spin Caloric Transport I
Jean-Eric Wegrowe, Ecole Polytechnique (France)
- 12 Spin Caloric Transport II
Sadamichi Maekawa, Japan Atomic Energy Agency (Japan)
- 13 Spin Transfer and Spin-Orbit Interaction
Sadamichi Maekawa, Japan Atomic Energy Agency (Japan)
- 14 Spin Transfer and Domain Walls
Ingrid Mertig, Martin-Luther Universität Halle-Wittenberg (Germany)
- 15a Spin-Orbit Coupling
Giti A. Khodaparast, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (United States)
- 15b Optical and Electrical Control
Ewelina Hankiewicz, Julius-Maximilians- Universität Würzburg (Germany)
- 16a Spin Pumping I
Yuichiro Ando, Osaka University (Japan)
- 16b Ultrafast Optical Control and Topological Insulators I
Peter Stano, RIKEN (Japan)
- 17a Spin Pumping II
Antonio Azevedo, Universidade Federal de Pernambuco (Brazil)
- 17b Topological Insulators and Majorana Fermions
Fabio Pezzoli, Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca (Italy)
- 18a Spin Pumping and Spin Noise
Olivier Klein, Commissariat à l'Énergie Atomique (France)
- 18b Graphene and Chalcogenides
Connie H. Li, U.S. Naval Research Laboratory (United States)

Introduction

The seventh edition of the Spintronics symposium of the SPIE conference gathered more than one hundred speakers in San Diego from Sunday to Thursday, 17–21 August 2014.

In line with the previous editions, the Spintronics symposium held in the framework of the Optics+Photonics conference covered most of the hot topics in Spintronics. The conference was also an invaluable opportunity for informal and extremely stimulating discussions between experts and networking in a friendly atmosphere, witnessing for the dynamism of our field of research. These proceedings do not include a full overview of the presentations, but they report a significant part (about 33%) of important results presented at the meeting. The symposium concerns fundamental results in experimental and theoretical physics, and also technological developments. During the last year, we have felt that the MRAM technology is really coming to market, and may have a strong impact on the future of data storage and processing; therefore, we had three focused sessions (8-11) with the participation of key industrial partners, and a key-note opening by Hideo Ohno (Tohoku University). The state of the art in domain wall manipulation and application was presented by S. S. P. Parkin in a keynote lecture. Besides, the program shows the growing importance of the studies and developments about optical manipulation and detection of spins, with a whole session (1) devoted to spin laser, a session on spin photonics (3A), a session based on magnetooptics (7), and two sessions related to optical pumping (2A and 4A).

The symposium was divided into 26 oral sessions plus one poster session that covered: Low-dimensional systems (sessions 2B and 3B), multiferroics, half-metals, oxides, and skyrmions (sessions 4B and 5), helical order and organic semiconductors (session 6), domain walls (session 14), spin caloric transport (sessions 11 and 12), spin transfer and spin-orbit interaction (sessions 13 and 15A), optical and electrical control (session 15B), spin pumping (sessions 16A, 17A, and 18A), topological insulators and Majorana fermions (sessions 16B and 17B), and graphene and chalcogenides (session 18B).

If new fields are emerging (Majorana fermions and helical order), the traditional topics of spintronics remain very active (spin injection, spin dynamics, spin transfer, spin Hall effect, spin-Hall effects, spin pumping etc). Moreover, this 7th edition of the symposium has shown that there are still exciting debates related to Spin Caloritronics. This topic triggered many open discussions on the possible interpretation of experimental data.

Finally, we are grateful to SPIE, to the Program Committee members who did tremendous work, and to all speakers and authors for their active participation: they have made this conference a great success.

Jean-Eric Wegrowe
Henri-Jean Drouhin
Manijeh Razeghi