

Spintronic Interface design

(スピントロニクス・インターフェース・デザイン)

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Spin Theory Group

Topics

0. Introduction on spintronics

1. First-Principles Study on magneto-crystalline anisotropy of Fe/MgO(001) and Fe/MgAl₂O₄(001)

K. Masuda and Y. Miura, PRB **98**, 224421 (2018).

2. First-Principles Study on magnetic damping of Fe/MgO(001)

Y. Miura, in preparation

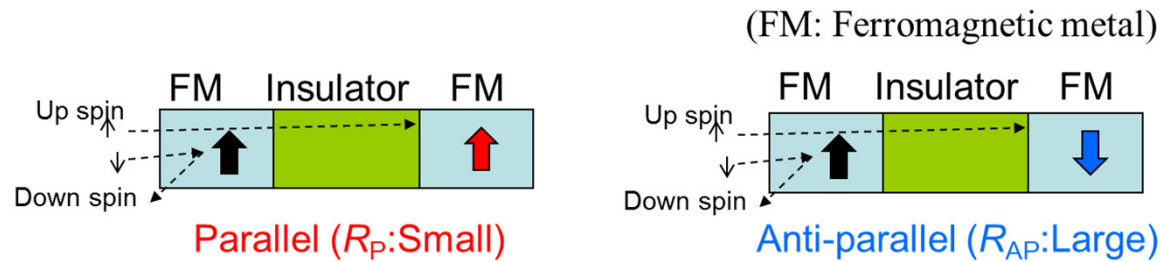
3. First-Principles Study on magneto Seebeck Effect in magnetic tunnel junctions

K. Yamamoto, K. Masuda, K. Uchida, Y. Miura

arXiv:1912.01207

Introduction

Magnetic tunnel junction (MTJs)

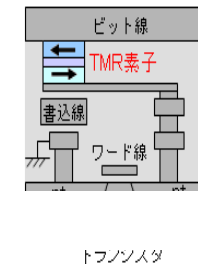
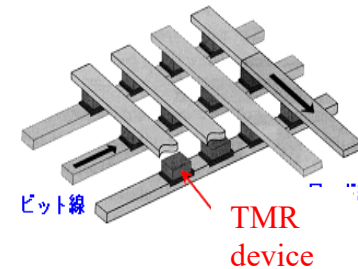


Tunneling magnetoresistance (TMR)

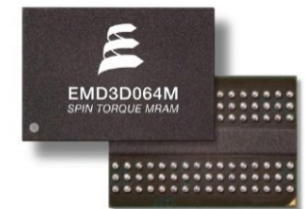
$$\text{TMR ratio} = \frac{R_{AP} - R_P}{R_{AP}}$$

Magnetoresistive Random Access Memory (MRAM)

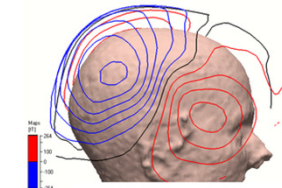
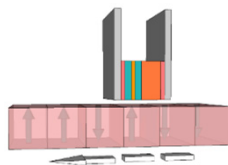
- Non volatile memory
- Fast writing speed (10~50ns)
- Low electricity consumption (~30μW)
- Long endurance (10 years)



Everspin
64Mbit MRAM



Magnetic censer



Earth's magnetic field censer • current censer for car • biomagnetic censer

HDD read-out-head

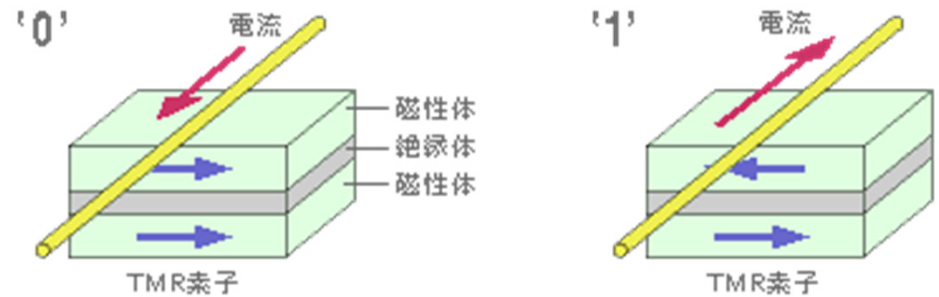
Corresponding to SQUID

Magnetization reversal in MTJs

1. Magnetic field by current

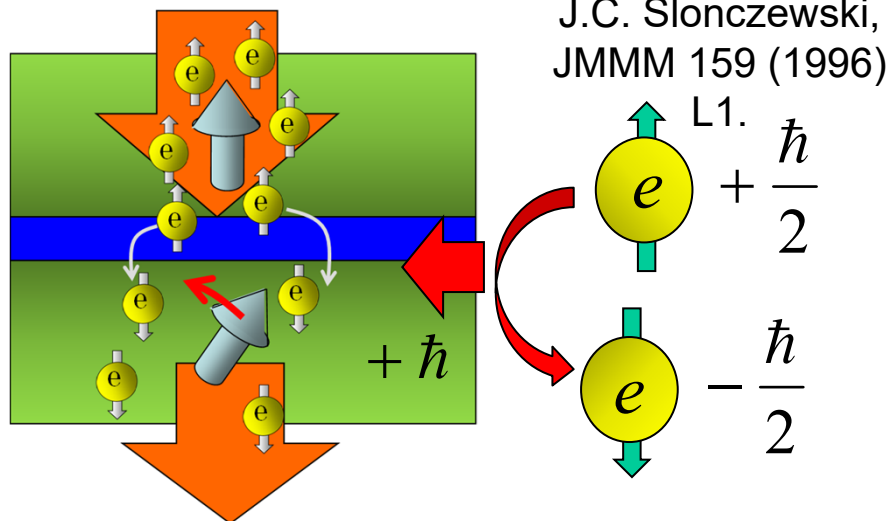
- problem:
- complicate circuit.
 - current $\propto 1/\text{device-size}$

Effects of demagnetizing field increase the critical current for writing with decreasing size of device

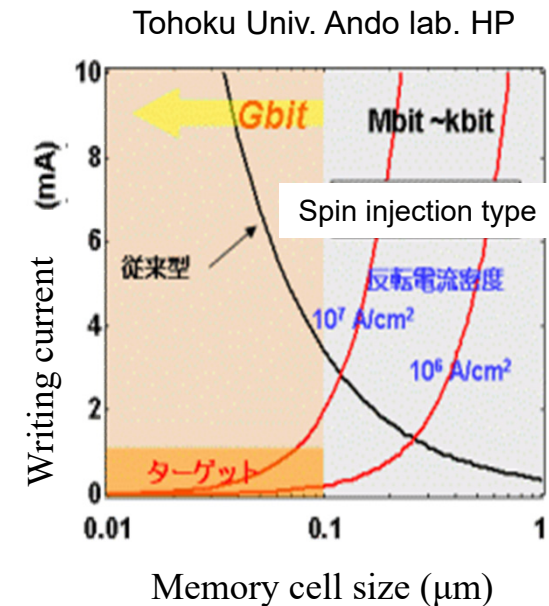


2. Spin transfer torque (STT)

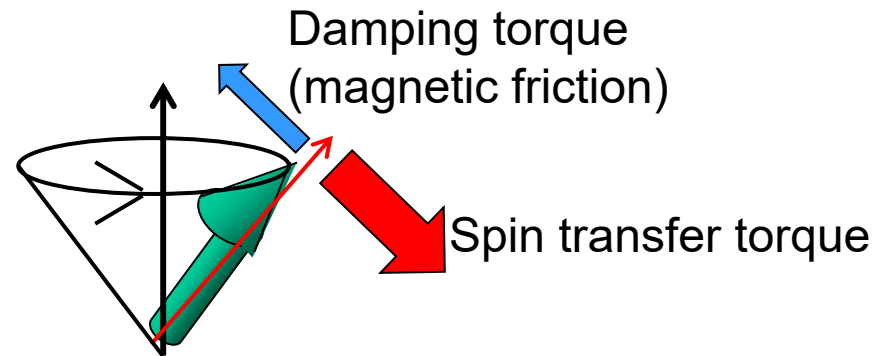
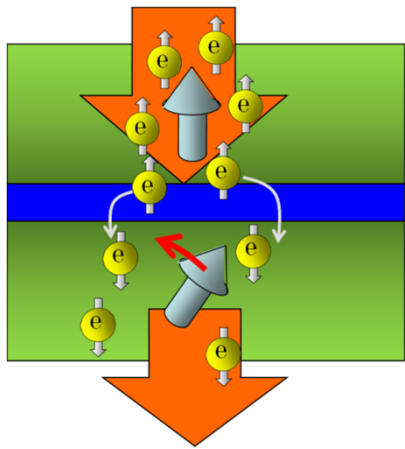
The spin flip of conductive electron give the torque to the local spin moment due to the angular momentum conservation



- simple circuit
- current $\propto \text{device-size}$



Magnetization reversal by spin transfer torque (STT)



Reduction of critical current density (J_{c0}) α : Magnetic damping constant
 $(10^7 \text{ A/cm}^2 \Rightarrow 10^5 \text{ A/cm}^2)$

$$J_{c0} \propto \alpha M_S [H_{\text{anti}} \pm 4\pi M_S] t / P$$

J.C. Slonczewski, JMMM 159 (1996) L1.

$H_{\text{anti}} \pm 4\pi M_S$: Effective anisotropy field
 M_S : Saturation Magnetization
 P : Spin polarization
 t : Thickness of FM layer

1. High spin polarization (P)
2. Low damping constant (α)
3. Perpendicular magnetic anisotropy (PMA) $H_{\text{anti}} - 4\pi M_S$

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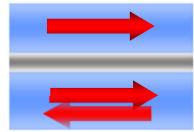
arXiv:1912.01207

Thermal stability of magnetization in MTJs

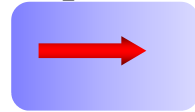
To achieve ultra high density MRAM

In-plane MTJ

Side view



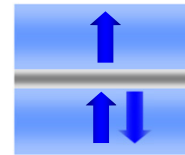
Top view



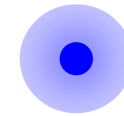
Aspect ratio >2

Perpendicular MTJ

Side view



Top view



For 10 year's
write endurance



Thermal stability factor

$$\frac{K_u V}{k_B T} \geq 60$$

K_u : uniaxial magnetic anisotropy

Large K_u is required with decreasing volume
towards scaling down of device dimensions

Examples of Perpendicular MTJ

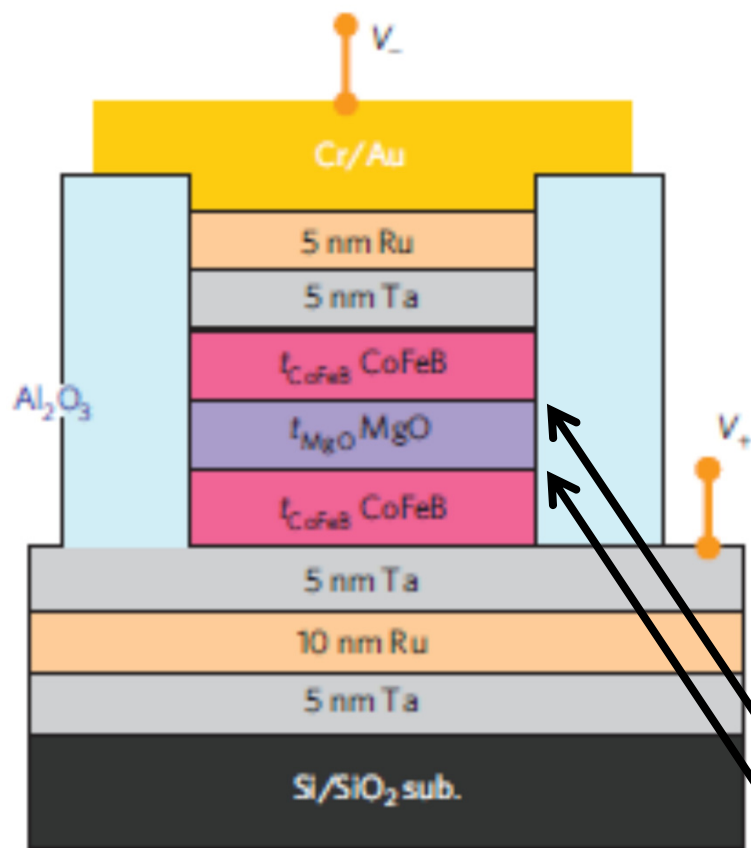
Using $L1_0$ -type FePt, CoPt, CoFePd alloys and its multilayered structures

- [1] M. Yoshikawa, *et al.*, IEEE Trans. Magn. vol.44 2573 (2008). (Toshiba)
- [2] K. Yakushiji, *et al.*, APEX vol. 3 053003 (2010). (AIST)
- [3] K. Mizunuma *et al.*, APEX vol. 4 023002 (2011). (Tohoku)

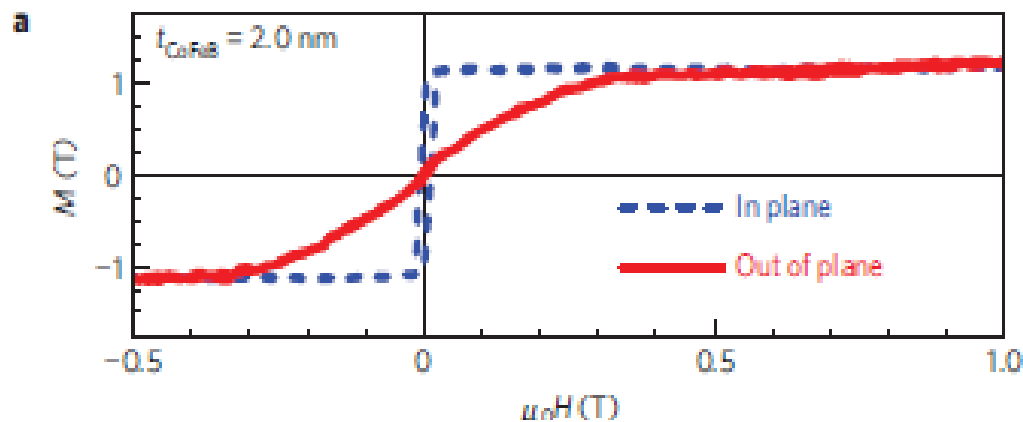
Interfacial Perpendicular Magnetic Anisotropy (PMA) for MgO

S. Ikeda, *et al.*, Nature Materials **9**, 721 (2010).

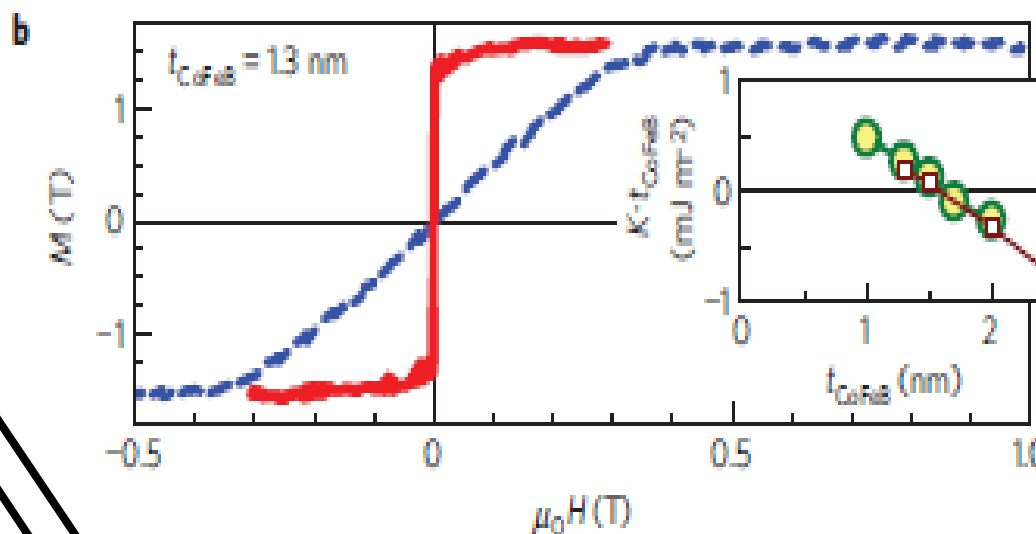
• CoFeB/MgO/CoFeB(001)



In-plane magnetization ($t_{\text{CoFeB}}=2.0\text{nm}$)



Perpendicular magnetization ($t_{\text{CoFeB}} < 1.3\text{nm}$)



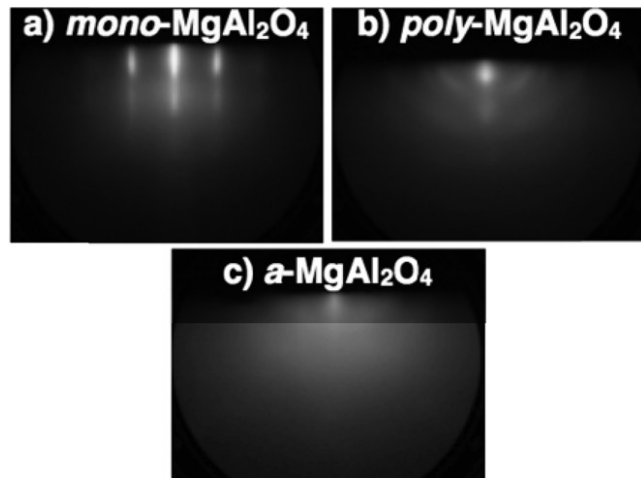
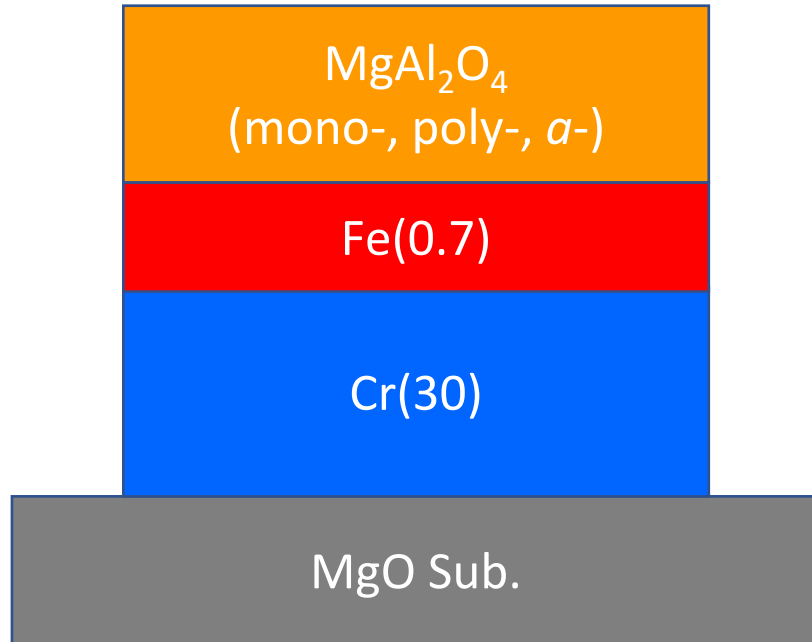
TMR ratio of 120% at 300K

Interfacial perpendicular MCA of Fe/MgO(001), which is $K_i=1.30\text{ mJ/m}^2$

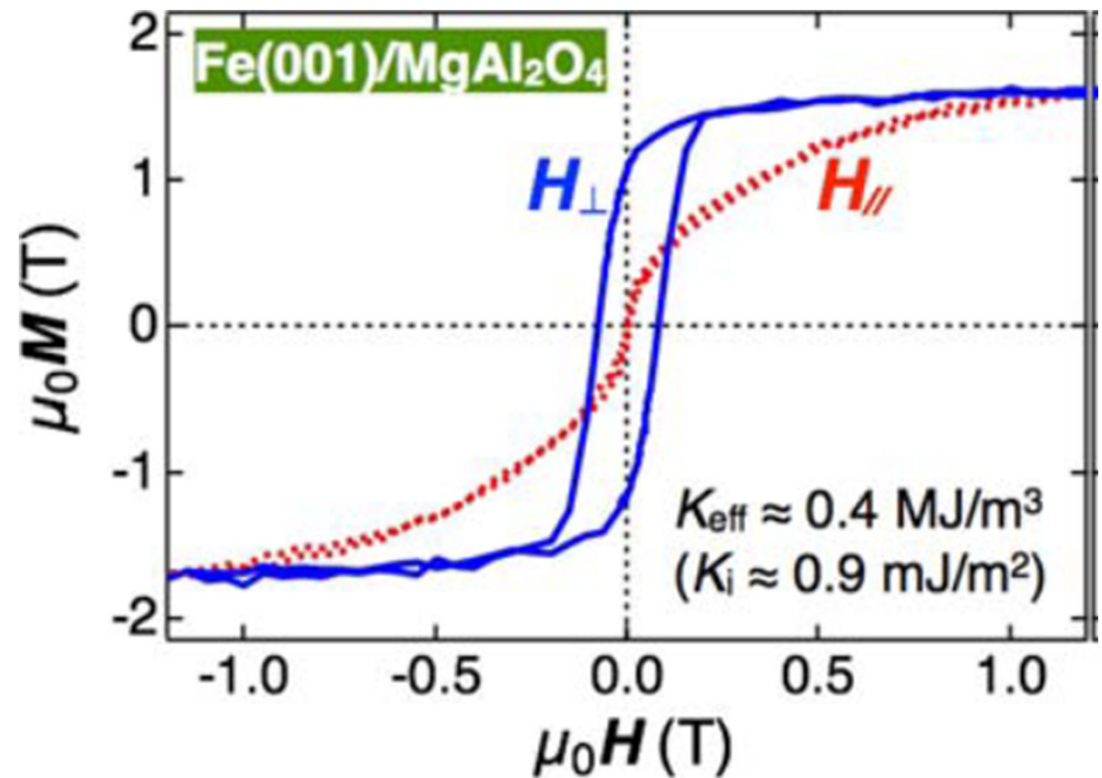
Interfacial Perpendicular Magnetic Anisotropy(PMA) for MgAl₂O₄(MAO)

Multilayer structure

Annealed @350-450°C



Lattice mismatch between
bcc-Fe and MgAl₂O₄ is 0.2%.



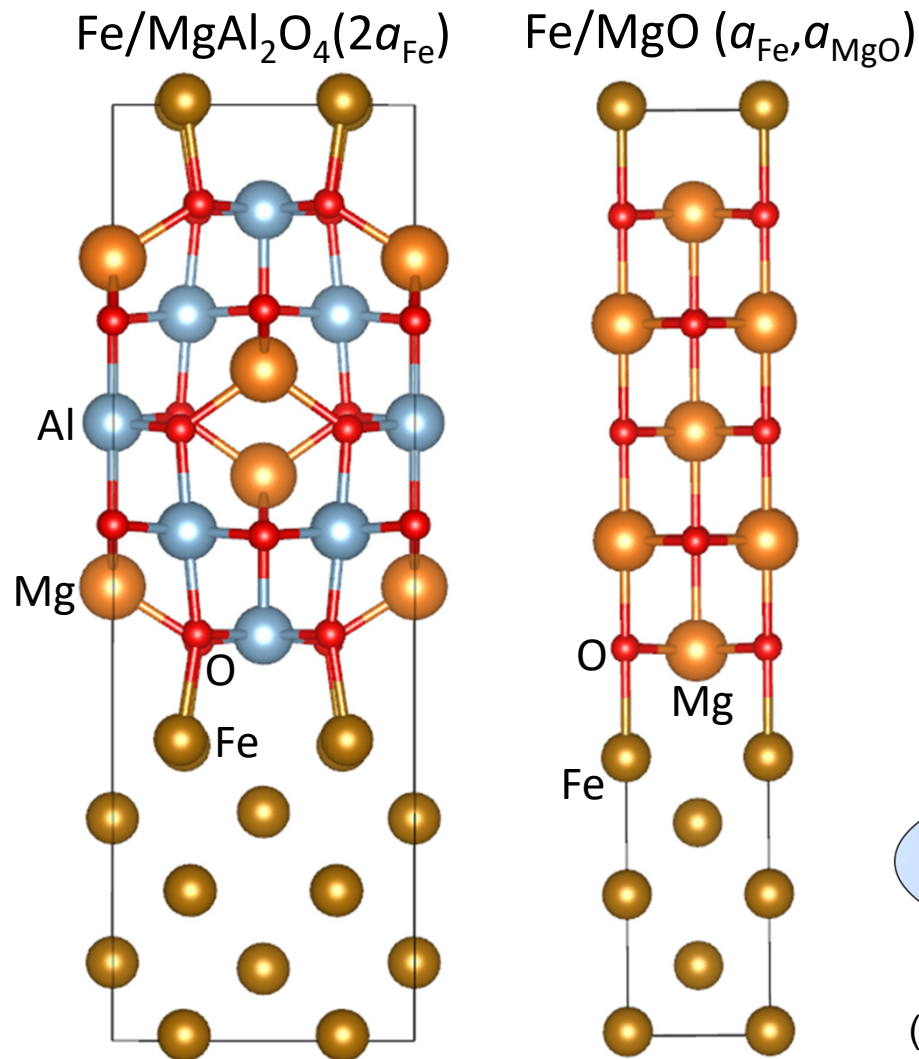
J. Koo, *et.al.*, Phys. status solidi RRL **8**, 841 (2014).

Ki of Fe/MgO(001) is 1.4mJ/m²,

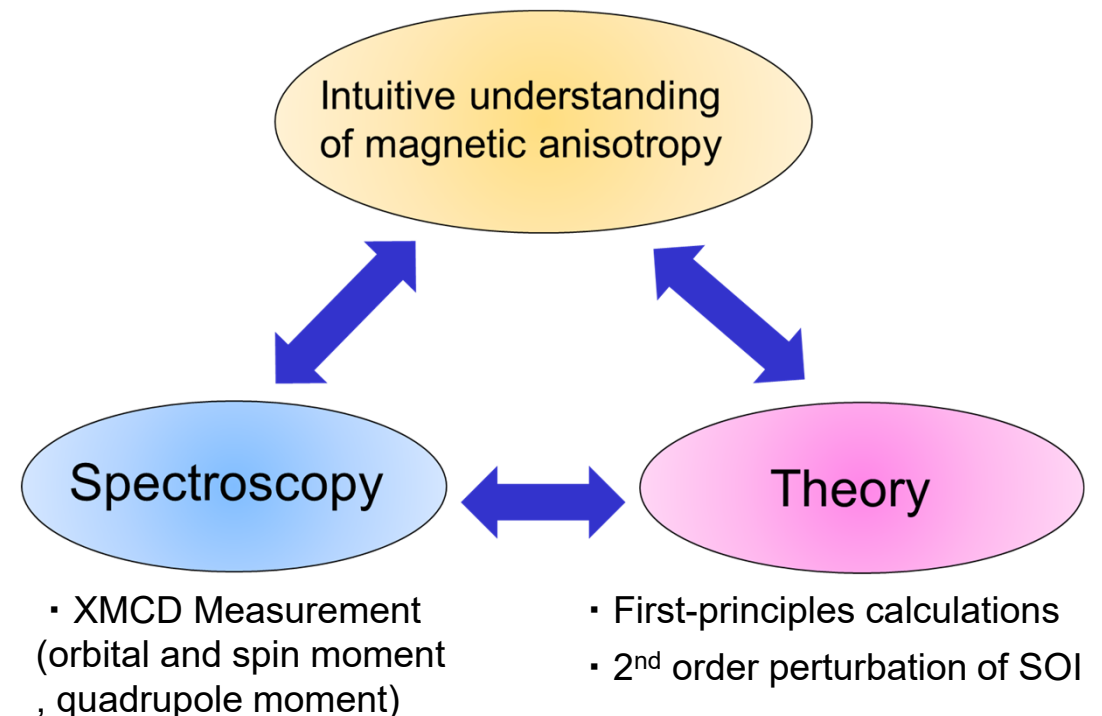
J. W. Koo, *et al.*, Appl. Phys. Lett. 103, 192401 (2013).

Purpose of this work

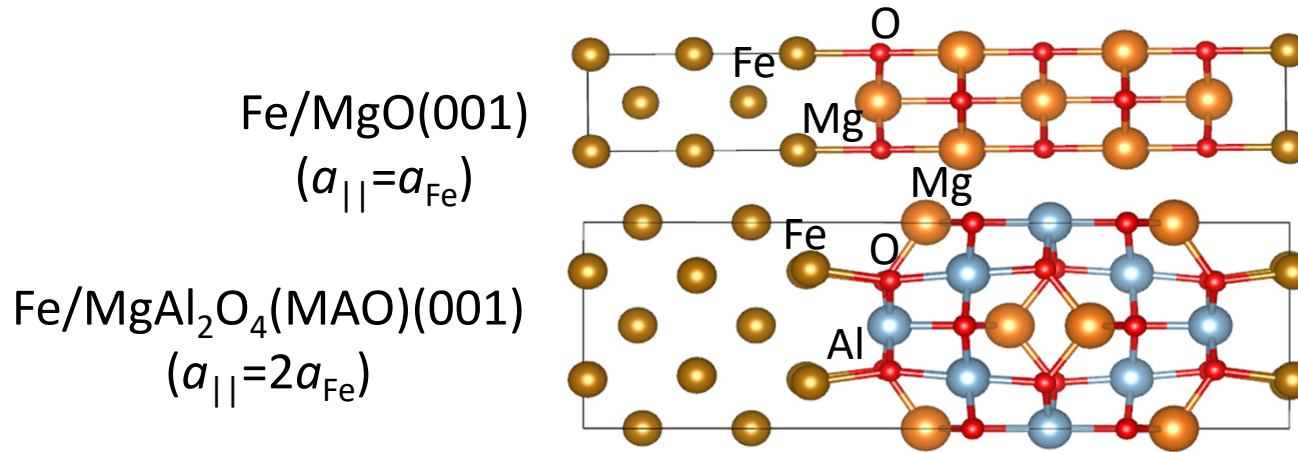
We study interfacial magnetocrystalline anisotropy (MAE) in Fe/MgAl₂O₄ and Fe/MgO by means of first-principles calculations based on density functional theory.



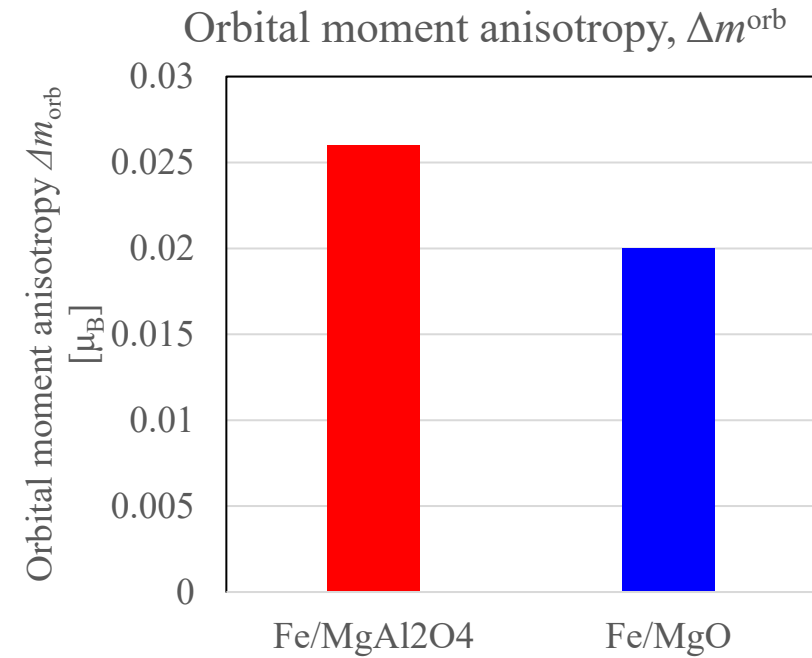
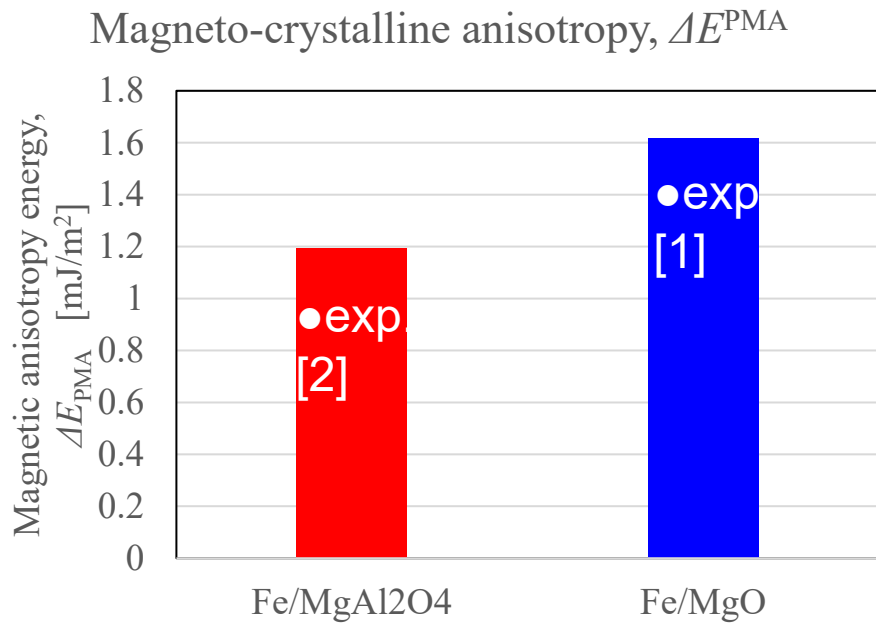
• origin of interfacial perpendicular magnetocrystalline anisotropy (PMA)



PMA energy for Fe/MgAl₂O₄(MAO) and Fe/MgO



K. Masuda and Y. Miura,
PRB **98**, 224421 (2018).



[1] J. W. Koo, *et al.*, Appl. Phys. Lett. 103, 192401 (2013).

[2] J. W. Koo, *et al.*, Phys. status solidi RRL **8**, 841 (2014).

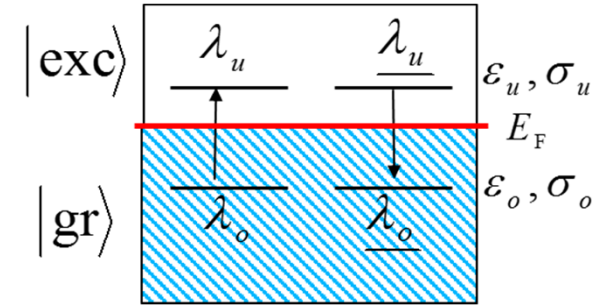
$$\Delta E^{PMA} \approx \frac{\xi}{4\mu_B} (\Delta m^{orb}) + \frac{21}{2\mu_B} \frac{\xi^2}{\Delta E_{ex}} (\Delta m^T)$$

Second order perturbation of spin-orbit interaction (SOI)

P. Bruno, PRB **39**, 865 (1989).
G. Laan, JPCM **10**, 3239 (1998).

$$\delta E = - \sum_{\text{exc}} \frac{|\langle \text{exc} | H^{\text{SO}} | \text{gr} \rangle|^2}{\epsilon_{\text{exc}} - \epsilon_{\text{gr}}} \quad H^{\text{SO}} = \xi \vec{L} \cdot \vec{S}$$

$$|\text{gr}(\text{exc})\rangle = \sum_{\mu, \sigma} c_{i, \mu, \sigma} |i, \mu\rangle$$



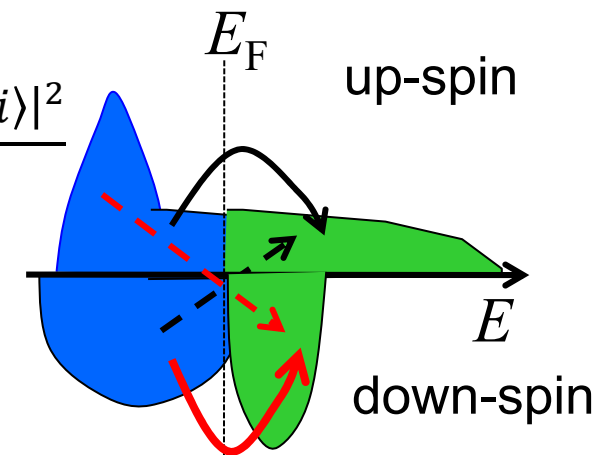
μ : local atomic orbital index
 i, j : index of atomic position

Perpendicular magneto-crystalline anisotropy (PMA) energy

$$\Delta E^{\text{PMA}} = \delta E[\text{in-plane}] - \delta E[\text{perpendicular}]$$

$$\Delta E^{\text{PMA}}(i) = \sum_{\sigma, \sigma'} (-1)^{\delta_{\sigma' \sigma}} \xi_i^2 \sum_{o, u} \frac{|\langle o, \sigma' | L_z | u, \sigma, i \rangle|^2 - |\langle o, \sigma' | L_x | u, \sigma, i \rangle|^2}{\epsilon_{u, \sigma'} - \epsilon_{o, \sigma}}$$

$$= \underline{\Delta E_{\uparrow \Rightarrow \uparrow}^{\text{PMA}}(i)} + \underline{\Delta E_{\downarrow \Rightarrow \downarrow}^{\text{PMA}}(i)} + \underline{\Delta E_{\uparrow \Rightarrow \downarrow}^{\text{PMA}}(i)} + \underline{\Delta E_{\downarrow \Rightarrow \uparrow}^{\text{PMA}}(i)}$$



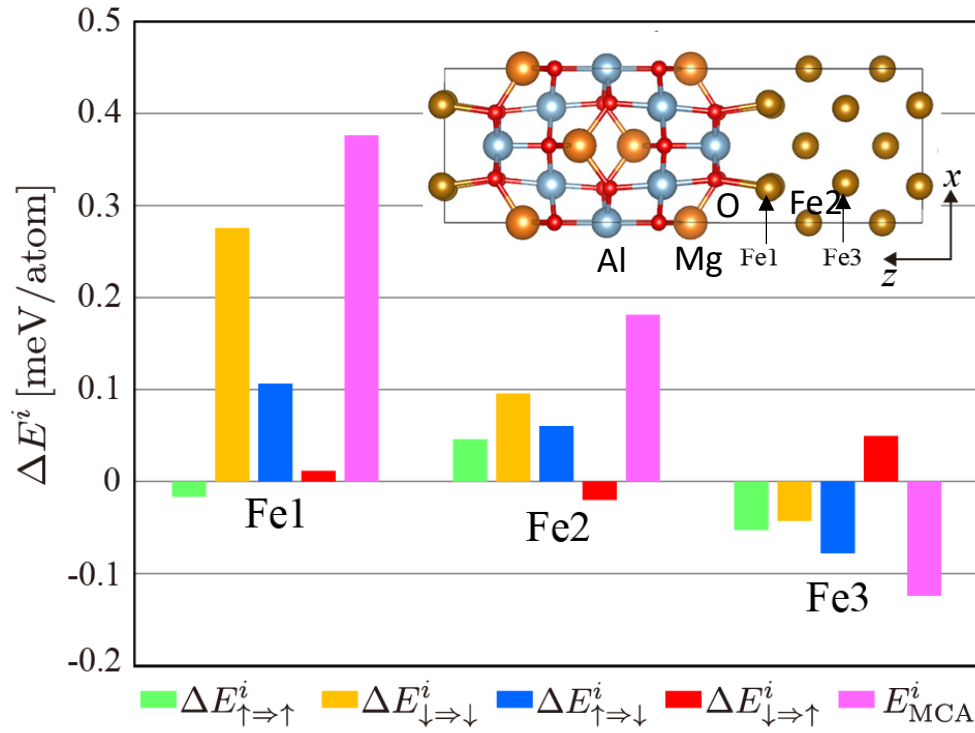
Orbital moment

$$\langle L^z \rangle = 4\xi_i \sum_{o, u} \frac{|\langle o, \uparrow | L_z | u, \uparrow, i \rangle|^2 - |\langle o, \downarrow | L_z | u, \sigma, i \rangle|^2}{\epsilon_{u, \sigma'} - \epsilon_{o, \sigma}}$$

Spin-decomposed PMA energy of Fe/MgAl₂O₄(MAO) and Fe/MgO

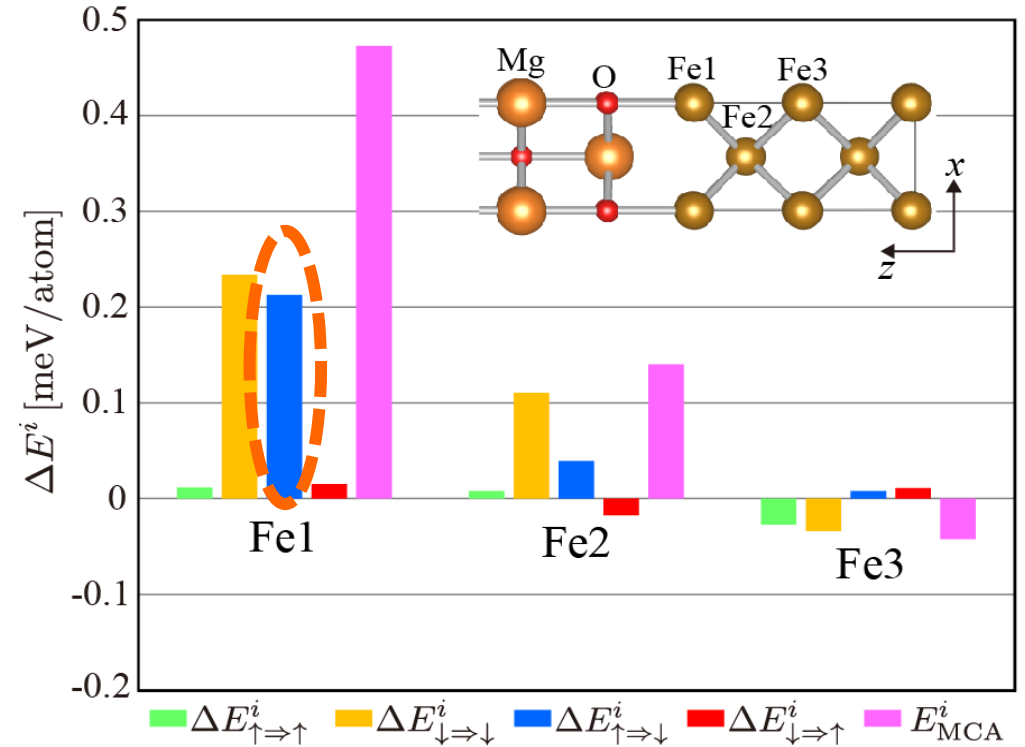
Fe/MgAl₂O₄(MAO) $a=a_{\text{Fe}}$

$\Delta E^{\text{PMA}}=1.2[\text{mJ/m}^2]$



Fe/MgO $a=a_{\text{Fe}}$

$\Delta E^{\text{PMA}}=1.6[\text{mJ/m}^2]$

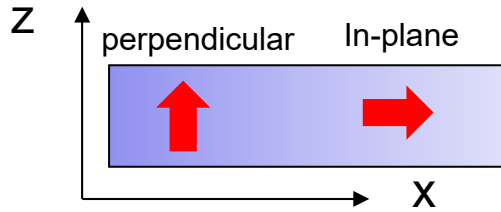


- Interfacial Fe mainly contributes to PMA
- Spin conservation term $\Delta E_{\downarrow \Rightarrow \downarrow}^{\text{PMA}}(i)$ mainly contributes to PMA.
- For Fe/MgO, the spin flip term $\Delta E_{\uparrow \Rightarrow \downarrow}^{\text{PMA}}(i)$ also contributes to PMA.

Spin conserving term and spin flip term in magnetic anisotropy

Spin conserving term

$$\Delta E_{\downarrow \Rightarrow \downarrow}^{\text{PMA}}(i) = \underbrace{+\xi_i^2 \sum_{o,u} \frac{|\langle u, \downarrow | L_z | o, \downarrow, i \rangle|^2}{\epsilon_{u,\downarrow} - \epsilon_{o,\downarrow}}}_{\text{red underline}} - \underbrace{\xi_i^2 \sum_{o,u} \frac{|\langle u, \downarrow | L_x | o, \downarrow, i \rangle|^2}{\epsilon_{u,\downarrow} - \epsilon_{o,\downarrow}}}_{\text{blue underline}}$$

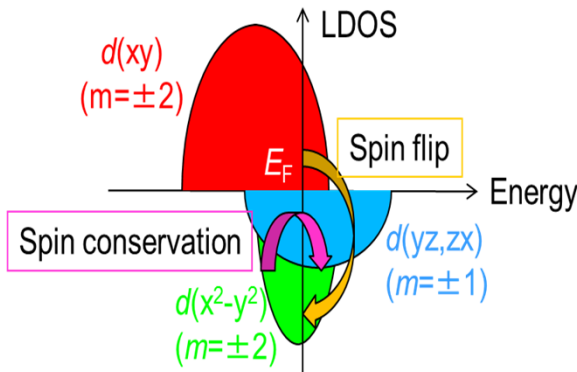


$$L_z Y_l^m = m Y_l^m$$

Contributed to PMA energy, if there are d orbitals with the same magnetic quantum number m exist around E_F .

$$L_x Y_l^m \propto Y_l^{m\pm 1}$$

Contributed to PMA energy, if there are d orbitals with m and $m \pm 1$ exist around E_F .



$$\langle zx, \downarrow | L_z | yz, \downarrow \rangle = 1$$

$$\langle x^2 - y^2, \downarrow | L_z | xy, \downarrow \rangle = 2$$

$$\langle xy, \downarrow | L_x | zx, \downarrow \rangle = 1$$

$$\langle x^2 - y^2, \downarrow | L_x | zx, \downarrow \rangle = 1$$

$$\langle 3z^2 - r^2, \downarrow | L_x | yz, \downarrow \rangle = \sqrt{3}$$

Spin flip term

$$\Delta E_{\downarrow \Rightarrow \uparrow}^{\text{PMA}}(i) = \underbrace{-\xi_i^2 \sum_{o,u} \frac{|\langle u, \uparrow | L_z | o, \downarrow, i \rangle|^2}{\epsilon_{u,\uparrow} - \epsilon_{o,\downarrow}}}_{\text{red underline}} + \underbrace{\xi_i^2 \sum_{o,u} \frac{|\langle u, \uparrow | L_x | o, \downarrow, i \rangle|^2}{\epsilon_{u,\uparrow} - \epsilon_{o,\downarrow}}}_{\text{blue underline}}$$

2nd order perturbation energy

G. der Laan, JPCM 10, 3239 (1998).

$$\delta E \approx \underbrace{-\frac{1}{4} \xi \hat{\mathbf{S}} \cdot [\langle \mathbf{L}_{\downarrow} \rangle - \langle \mathbf{L}_{\uparrow} \rangle]}_{\text{Orbital moment term (Spin-conserving term)}} + \underbrace{\frac{\xi^2}{\Delta E_{\text{ex}}} \left[\frac{21}{2} \hat{\mathbf{S}} \cdot \langle \mathbf{T} \rangle + 2 \langle (L_{\zeta} S_{\zeta})^2 \rangle \right]}_{\text{Magnetic dipole term (Spin-flip and spin-conserving term)}}$$

Orbital moment term
(Spin-conserving term)

Magnetic dipole term
(Spin-flip and spin-conserving term)

Intuitive understanding of magneto-crystalline anisotropy

P. Bruno, PRB **39**, 865 (1989).
G. Laan, JPCM **10**, 3239 (1998).

$$\Delta E^{\text{PMA}} \approx \frac{\xi}{4\mu_B} (\Delta m^{\text{orb}}) + \frac{21}{2\mu_B} \frac{\xi^2}{\Delta E_{\text{ex}}} (\Delta m^T)$$

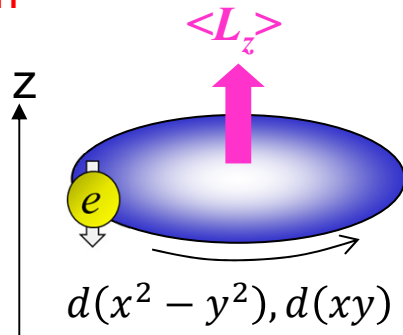
Orbital moment term Magnetic dipole term

$$\Delta m^{\text{orb}} = \langle L^z \rangle - \langle L^x \rangle$$

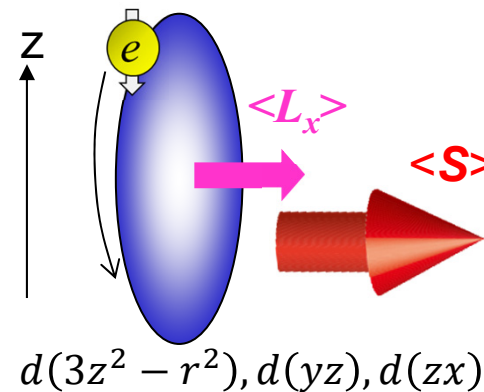
$$\Delta m^T = \langle T^z \rangle - \langle T^x \rangle$$

Orbital moment term

$$H^{\text{SO}} = -\xi \vec{L} \cdot \vec{S}$$



Perpendicular magnetic anisotropy



In-plane magnetic anisotropy

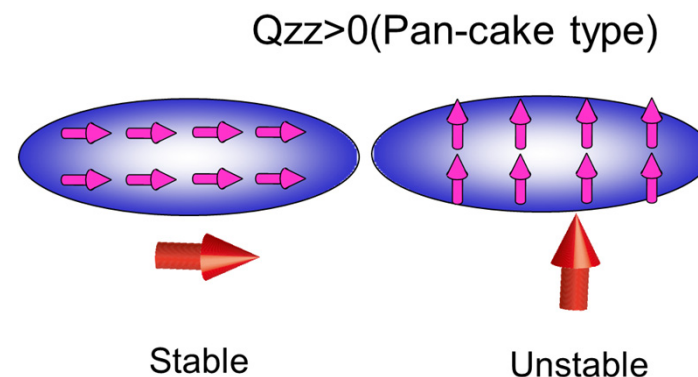
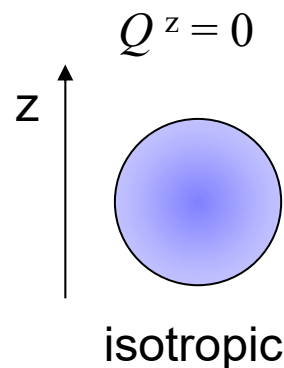
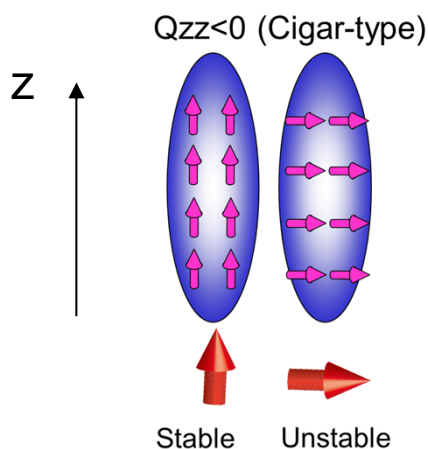
Magnetic dipole term $T \Rightarrow$ Quadrupole moment of spin density

$$\vec{T} \approx -\frac{2}{7} \mathbf{Q} \hat{S} \quad \Rightarrow \quad T^z \approx -\frac{2}{7} \sum_{i=1}^5 Q_i^z S^i$$

Q: Quadrupole moment of spin density

$Q^z < 0$ ($T^z > 0$) \Rightarrow Prolate distribution

$Q^z > 0$ ($T^z < 0$) \Rightarrow Oblate distribution



Perpendicular magnetic anisotropy

In-plane magnetic anisotropy

Magnetic dipole term of Fe/MgAl₂O₄ and Fe/MgO

$$m^T = T^z \approx -\frac{2}{7} \left(-16m^{3z^2-r^2} - 8m^{zx} - 8m^{yz} + 16m^{xy} + 16m^{x^2-y^2} \right)$$

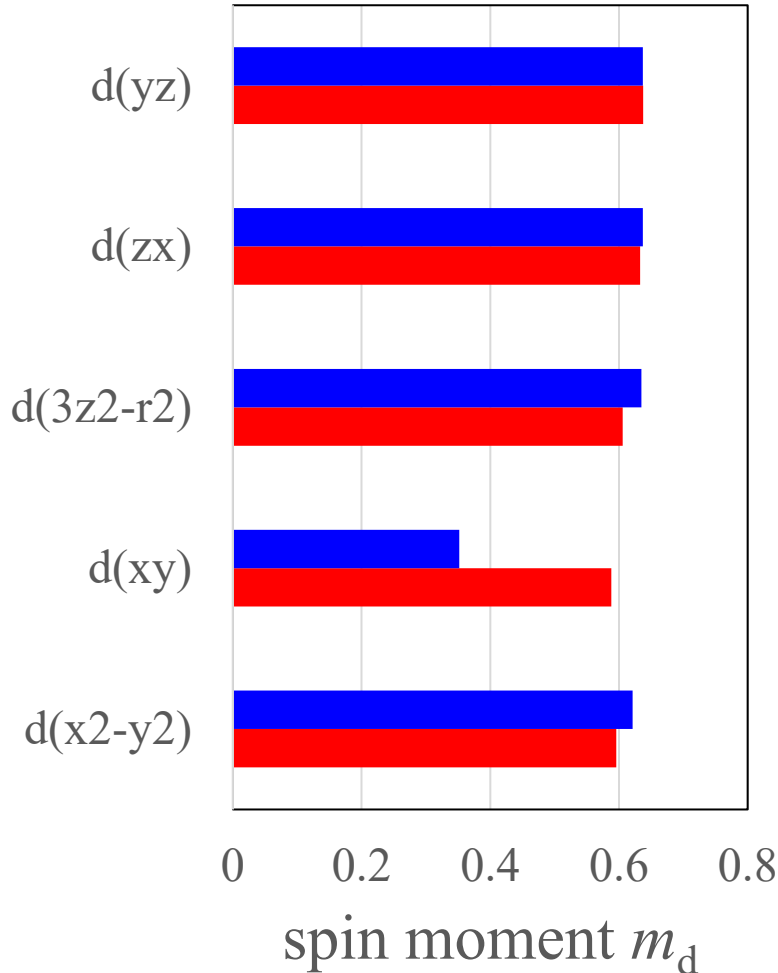
J. Stöhr and H. König, PRL **75**, 3748 (1995).

Quadrupole distribution of *d* orbitals

Orbital <i>i</i>	$\alpha = x, y \text{ or } z$ $4(7Q_\alpha^i)$
<i>d_{yz}</i>	
<i>d_{xz}</i>	
<i>d_{3z^2-r^2}</i>	
<i>d_{xy}</i>	
<i>d_{x^2-y^2}</i>	

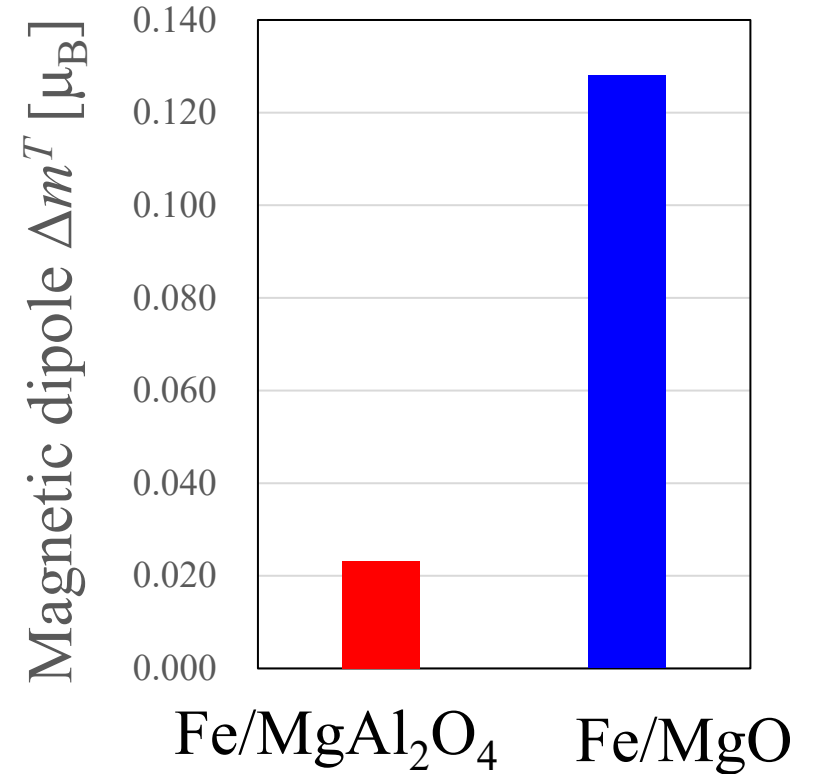
Spin moment of each *d* orbital for interfacial Fe

■ Fe/MgO ■ Fe/MgAl₂O₄



$$\Delta m^T = \frac{3}{2} \langle T^z \rangle$$

Magnetic dipole term, Δm^T

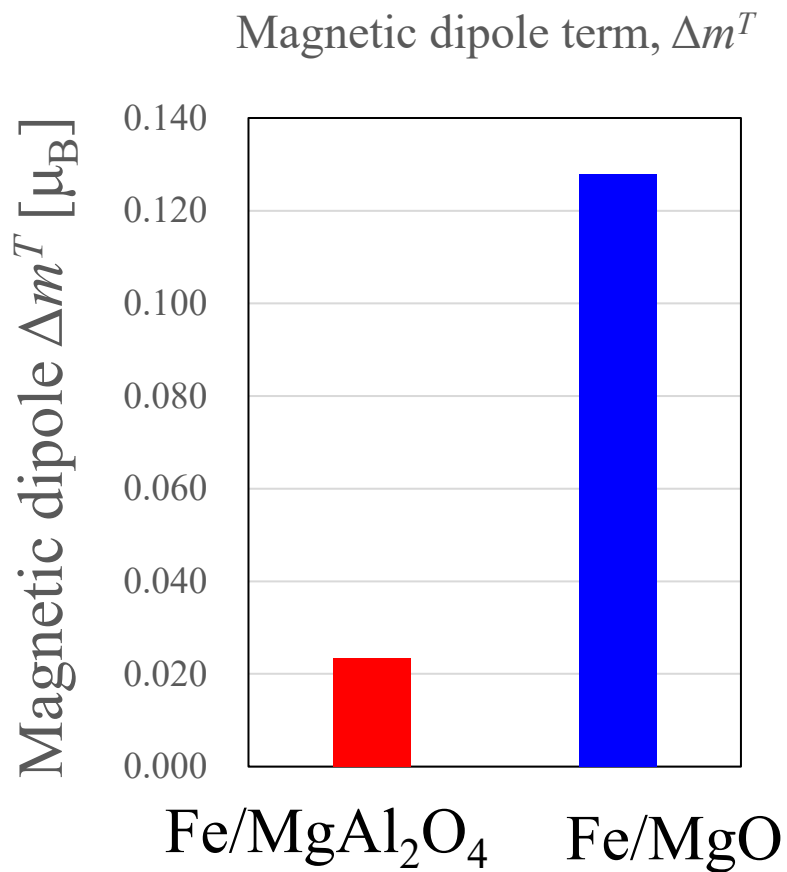


Magnetic dipole term of Fe/MgAl₂O₄ and Fe/MgO

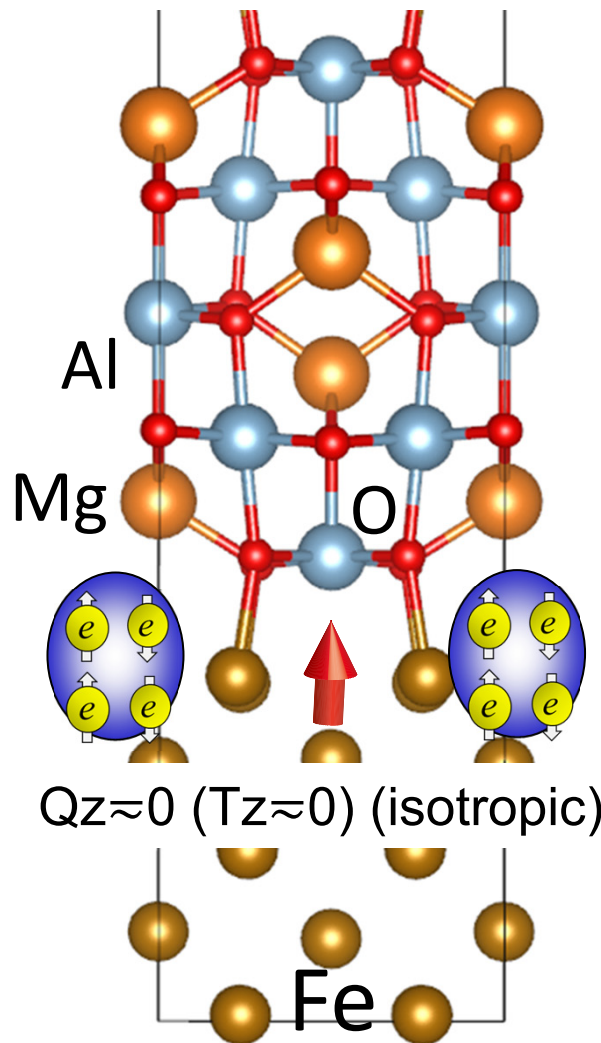
$$\langle T^z \rangle \approx -\frac{2}{7} \sum_{i=1}^5 Q_i^z S^i = -\frac{2}{7} (-16m^{3z^2-r^2} - 8m^{zx} - 8m^{yz} + 16m^{xy} + 16m^{x^2-y^2})/16$$

J. Stöhr and H. König, PRL **75**, 3748 (1995).

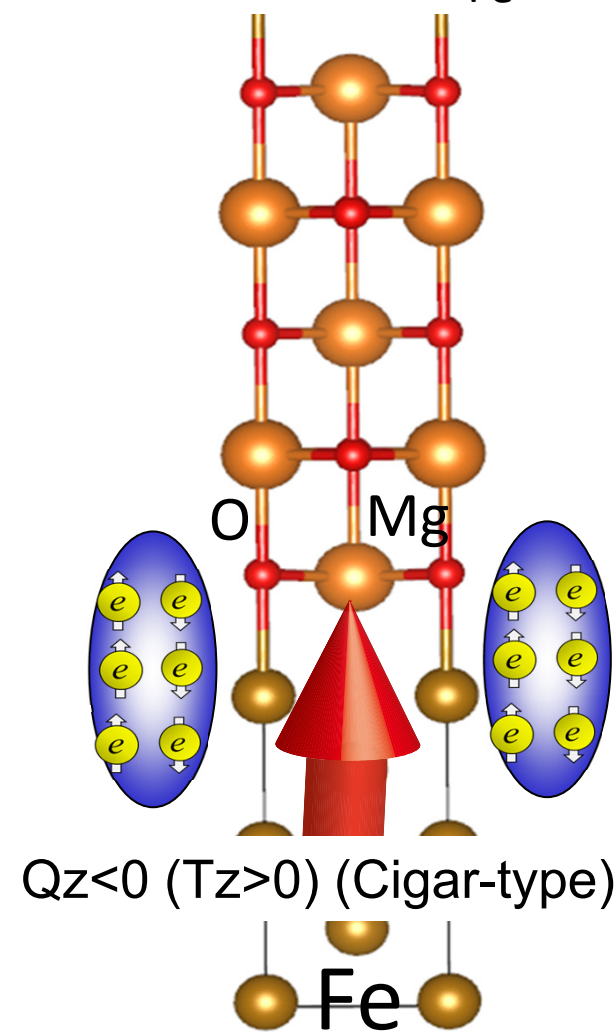
$$\Delta m^T = \frac{3}{2} \langle T^z \rangle$$



Fe/MgAl₂O₄ (a_{Fe})



Fe/MgO (a_{Fe})



Summary of the second topic

- Fe/MgAl₂O₄(001) show **PMA**, which is slightly **smaller than that of Fe/MgO(001)**.
- For Fe/MgO(001), **not only spin conservation term $\Delta E_{\downarrow \Rightarrow \downarrow}$ but also spin-flip term $\Delta E_{\uparrow \Rightarrow \downarrow}$ contributes to PMA**, resulting in larger PMA than that of Fe/MgAl₂O₄.
- **Cigar type quadrupole moment additionally increases the PMA of Fe/MgO**, but not for Fe/MgAl₂O₄(MAO).



The quadrupole moment of spin-density is essential to understand the magneto-crystalline anisotropy especially for ferromagnetic interfaces.

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K. Masuda and Y. Miura, PRB **98**, 224421 (2018).

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K. Yamamoto, K. Masuda, K. Uchida, Y. Miura

arXiv:1912.01207

Voltage-driven dynamic switching in MTJ

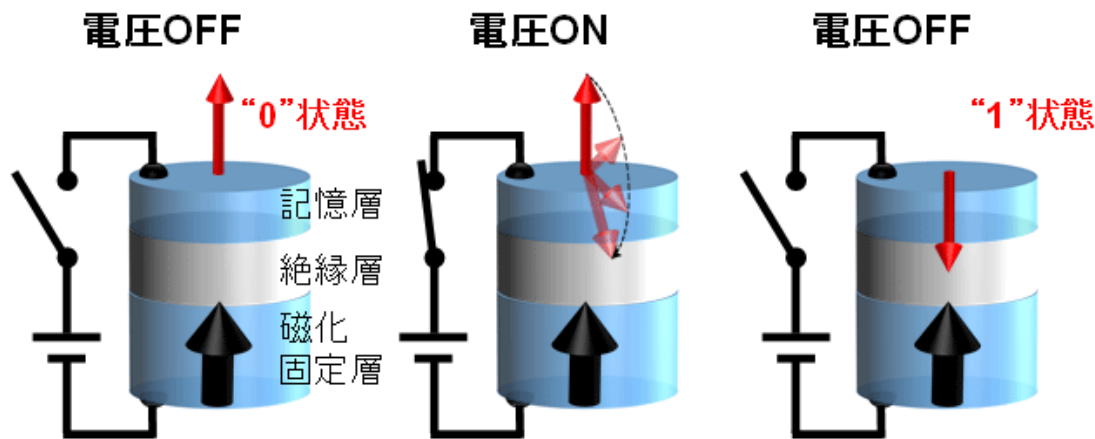
Applied Physics Express 9, 013001 (2016)

<http://doi.org/10.7567/APEX.9.013001>



Evaluation of write error rate for voltage-driven dynamic magnetization switching in magnetic tunnel junctions with perpendicular magnetization

Yoichi Shiota*, Takayuki Nozaki, Shingo Tamaru, Kay Yakushiji, Hitoshi Kubota, Akio Fukushima, Shinji Yuasa, and Yoshishige Suzuki

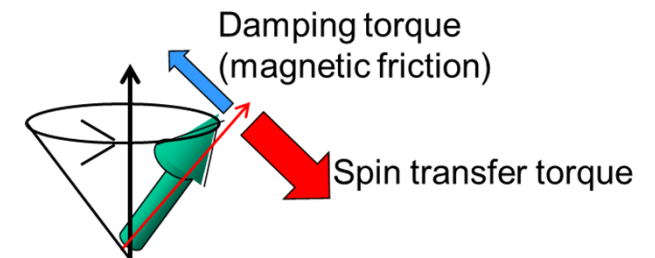


From website of Sahashi's ImPACT project in JST

Pulsed bias voltage changes PMA of interface of FM layer and promote the precession motion of the magnetization.

➡ By removing the voltage with a proper pulse duration, such as a half precession period, magnetization switching can be achieved.

➡ Basically, no current flow



Write Error Rate (WER)

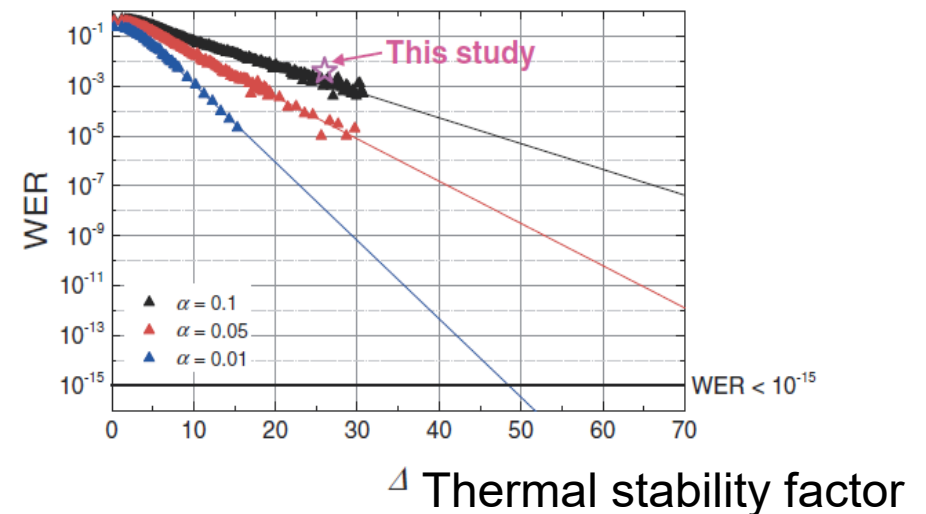


Fig. 4. Calculated WER as a function of Δ for fixed tilted magnetization angle and half precession period τ_{pulse} for various damping constants.

Large K_u and Small damping α can reduce the WER

Experiments electric field effects of PMA and magnetic damping

APPLIED PHYSICS LETTERS **105**, 052415 (2014)



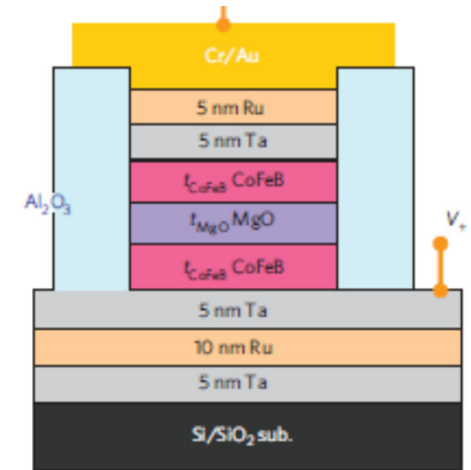
Electric-field effects on magnetic anisotropy and damping constant in Ta/CoFeB/MgO investigated by ferromagnetic resonance

A. Okada,¹ S. Kanai,¹ M. Yamanouchi,^{1,2} S. Ikeda,^{1,2} F. Matsukura,^{3,2,a)} and H. Ohno^{1,2,3}

¹Laboratory for Nanoelectronics and Spintronics, Research Institute of Electrical Communication, Tohoku University, 2-1-1 Katahira, Aoba-ku, Sendai 980-8577, Japan

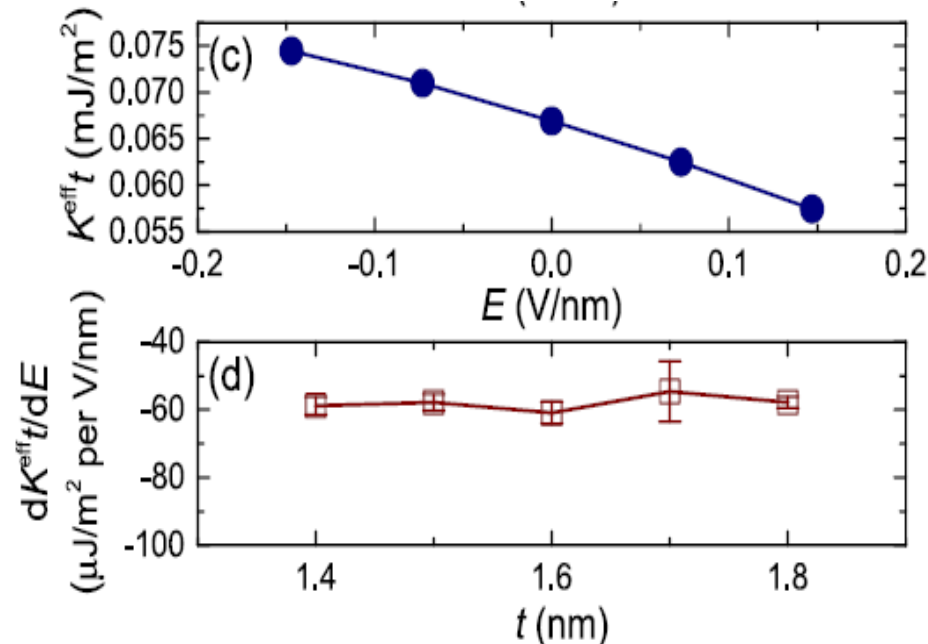
²Center for Spintronics Integrated Systems, Tohoku University, 2-1-1 Katahira, Aoba-ku, Sendai 980-8577, Japan

³WPI-Advanced Institute for Materials Research (WPI-AIMR), Tohoku University, 2-1-1 Katahira, Aoba-ku, Sendai 980-8577, Japan



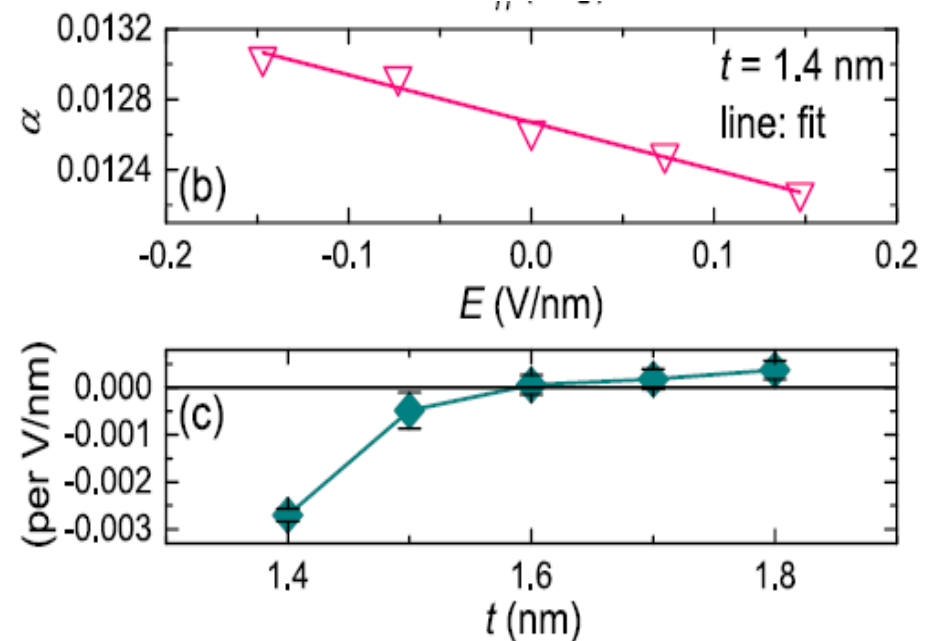
-21% of magnetic damping α is changed by 1V/nm EF for $t=1.4$ nm

Magnetic anisotropy change by EF



EF dependence is insensitive to thickness of FM layer

Magnetic damping change by EF

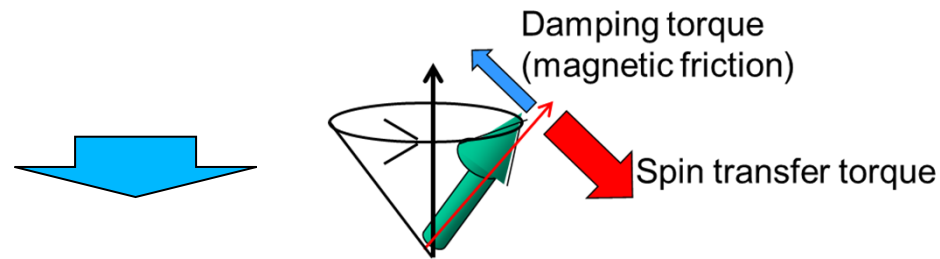


Large thickness dependence of FM layer

Purpose of this work

If PMA and magnetic damping can be simultaneously reduced by applied voltage, we can drastically reduce power consumption and write error rate in magnetization reversal of MRAM.

Voltage dependence of magnetic damping is hardly investigated.



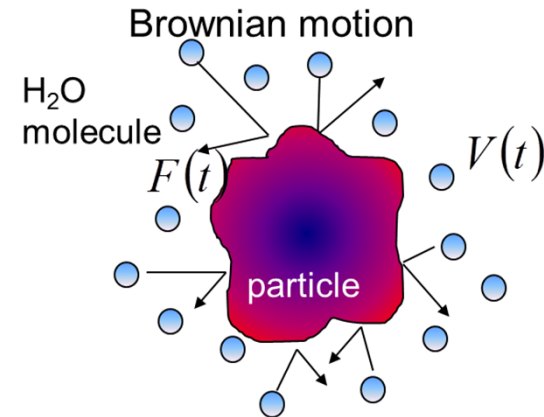
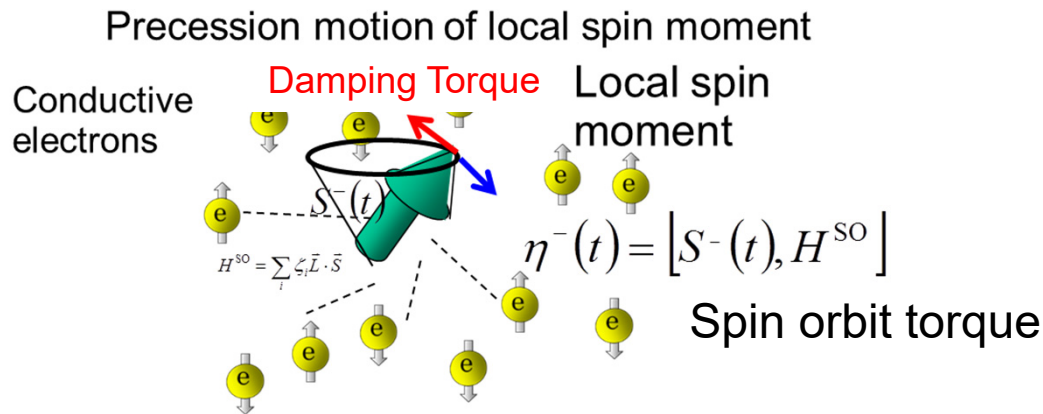
This work investigates the voltage dependence of magnetic damping and magnetic anisotropy of Fe/MgO interface based on the first-principles calculation.

Origin of Magnetic Damping α

- Electronic system
- Phonon
- Atomic disorder
- Other extrinsic factors

Kambersky's torque correlation model

V. Kambersky, Czechoslovak Journal of Physics B **26**, 1366 (1976).



Generalized Langevin equation for magnetization dynamics

$$\frac{dS^-(t)}{dt} = \underbrace{-i\Omega S^-(t)}_{\text{Precession-term}} - \underbrace{i\eta^-(t)}_{\text{Spin-torque term from SOI}} - \underbrace{\int_0^t P^{-1} \langle [\eta^-(t'), \eta^+] \rangle_0 S^-(t) dt'}_{\text{Damping-term}}$$

Magnetic susceptibility

$$\chi^+(\omega) = -\frac{\mu_0 (g\mu_B)^2}{\hbar V} \frac{P}{\omega + i0 - (\Omega - \Delta) - P^{-1} F(\omega + i0)}$$

Green function of Torque operator

$$F(\omega + i0) = -i \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \langle [\eta^-(t), \eta^+] \rangle_0 \theta(t) e^{i(\omega + i0)t} dt$$

Magnetic susceptibility from LLG equation

$$\chi^+(\omega) = -\frac{\gamma M_s}{\omega - \gamma H_{eff} + i\alpha\omega}$$

Magnetic damping constant (comparing macroscopic formula)

$$\alpha = -\lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} \frac{\gamma}{\hbar \mu_0 V M_s} \text{Im} \left[\frac{1}{\omega} F(\omega + i0) \right]$$

First-principles calculation of damping constant

V. Kambersky, Czechoslovak Journal of Physics B **26**, 1366 (1976).

$$\alpha = \frac{g^2 \mu_0 \mu_B^2}{\pi \hbar V \gamma M_S} \sum_{\vec{k}} \sum_{nm} \left| \Gamma_{nm}^-(\vec{k}) \right|^2 \frac{\delta}{(E_F - E_{n\vec{k}})^2 + \delta^2} \frac{\delta}{(E_F - E_{m\vec{k}})^2 + \delta^2}$$

$$\gamma = \mu_0 g \mu_B / \hbar$$

Matrix elements of torque operator

$$\Gamma_{nm}^-(\vec{k}) = \langle n, \vec{k} | \zeta [S^-, H^{SO}] | m, \vec{k} \rangle$$

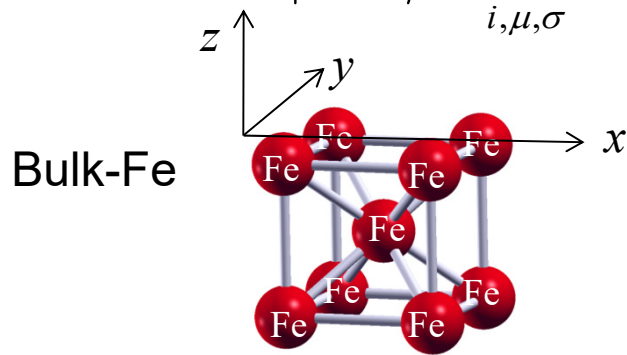
Eigenstates at each
k-point and band

$$H_{SO} = \xi \vec{L} \cdot \vec{S} \quad \text{Spin-orbit interaction}$$

$$|m, \vec{k}\rangle = \sum_{i, \mu, \sigma} c_{i\mu}^{\vec{k}m\sigma} |i\mu\rangle$$

matrix elements of torque operator
based on the local atomic orbital

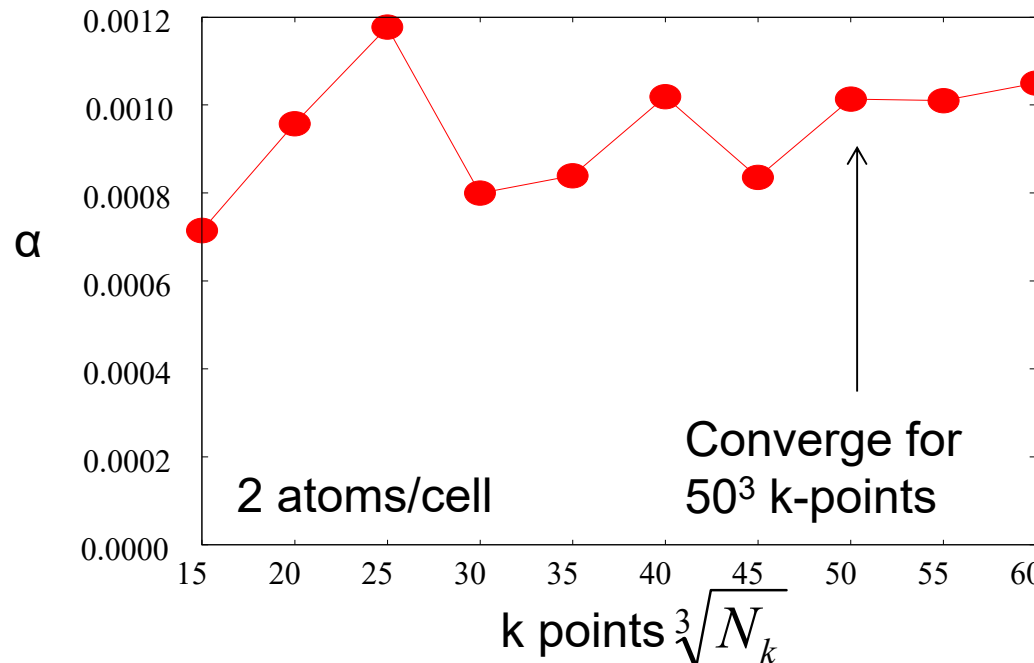
VASP code



$\alpha=0.0011$ (this work)

$\alpha=0.0013$ (by Gilmore)

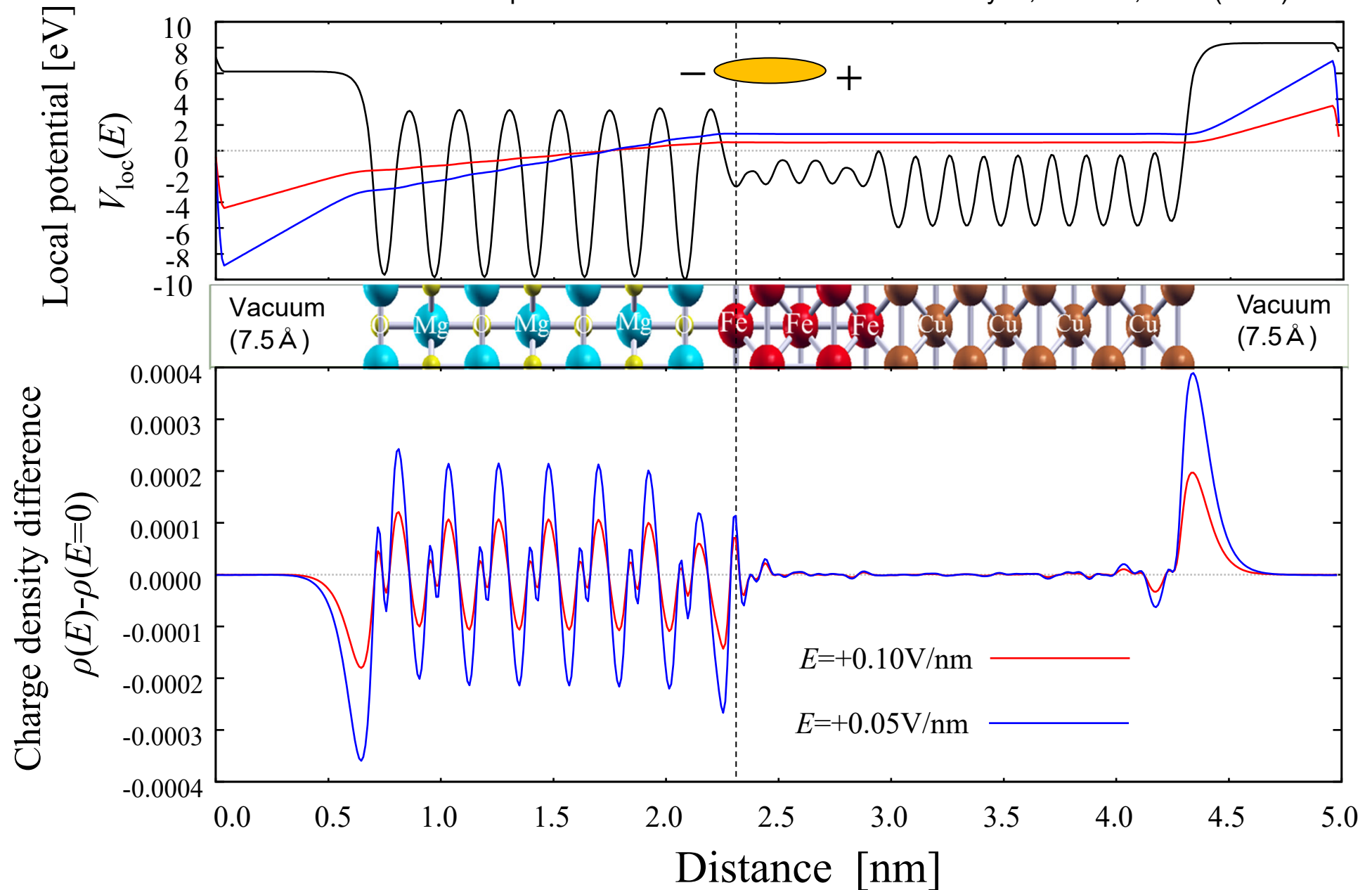
K. Gilmore, PRL **99**, 027204 (2007)



\Rightarrow For
Fe/MgO(001)
interface, I
considered
50x50 k-points.

Potential and charge for model system

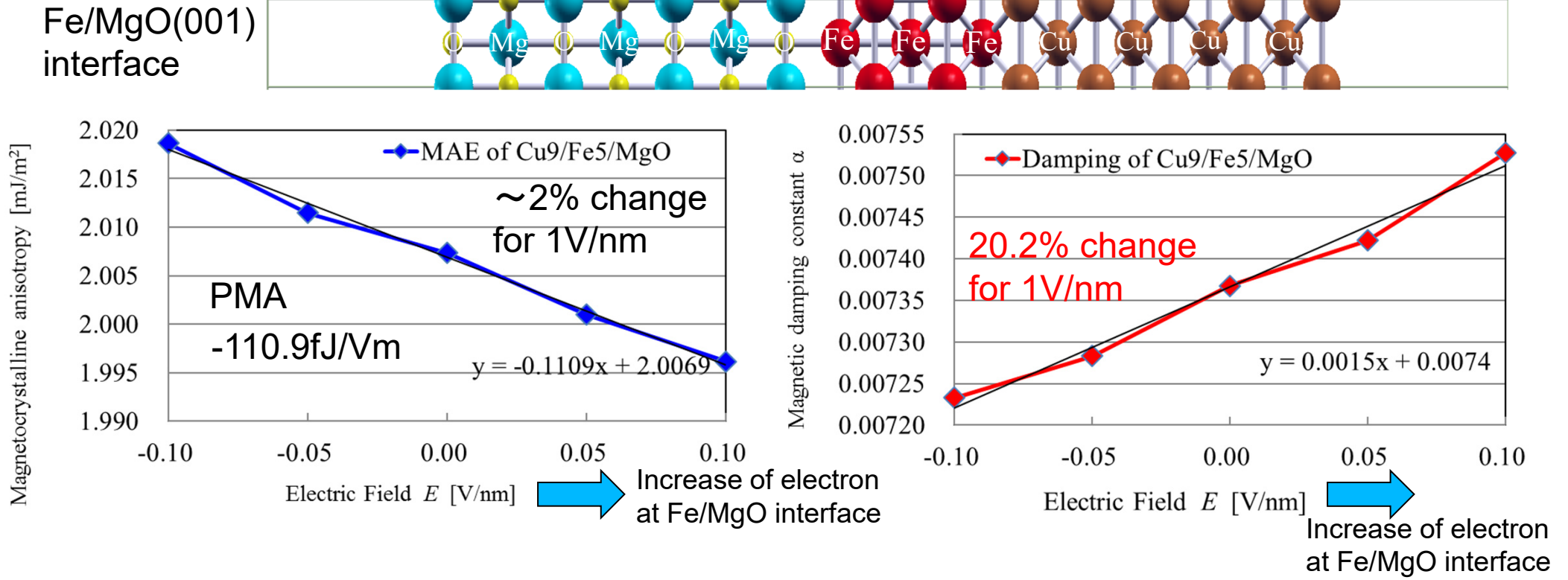
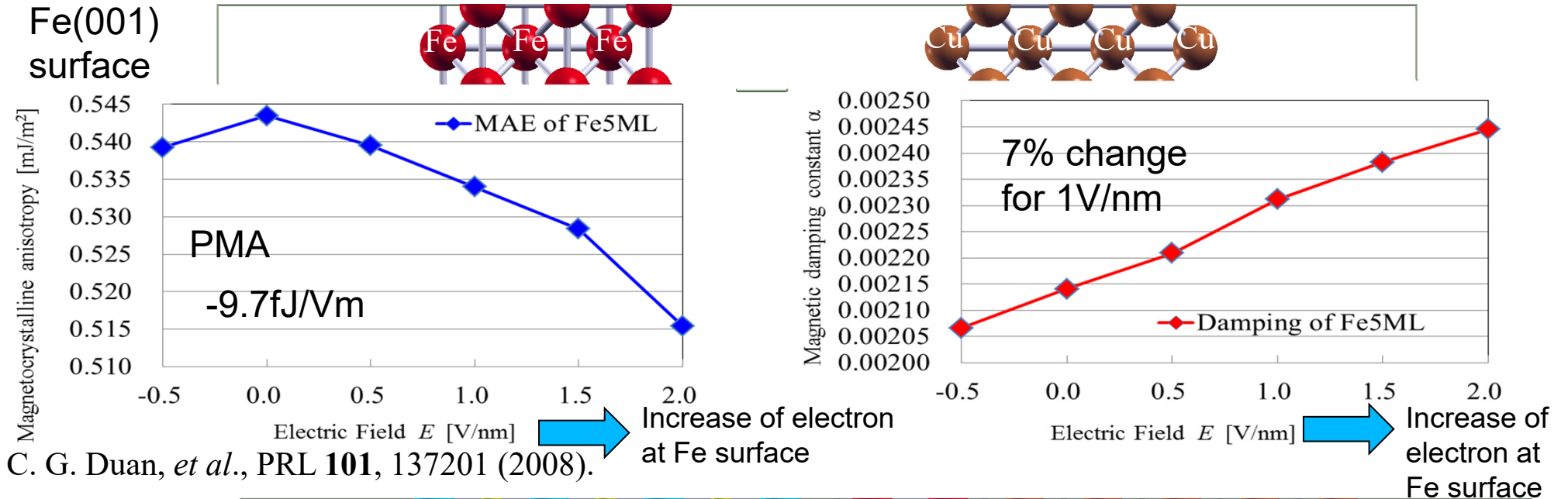
Dipole correction \Rightarrow G. Makov and M. C. Payne, PRB **51**, 4014 (1995).



$E > 0$: Increase of electron accumulation at Fe/MgO interface

$E < 0$: Decrease of electron accumulation at Fe/MgO interface

Voltage dependence of PMA and damping α of Fe surface and Fe/MgO interface



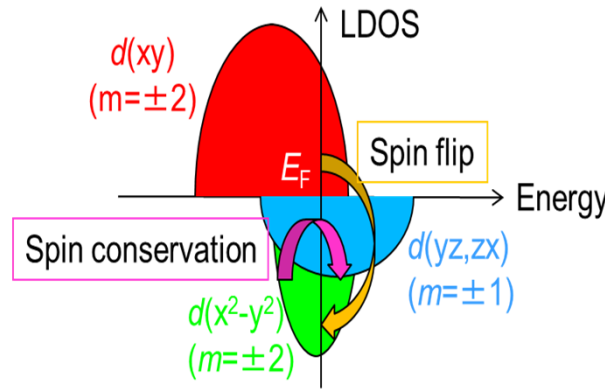
Decomposition of magnetic damping α

Torque operator $\Gamma^- = [S^-, H^{SO}] = \zeta (S^z L^- - S^- L^z)$

Spin conservation (Orbital deexcitation) term

$$\langle u^\sigma | L^- | o^\sigma \rangle$$

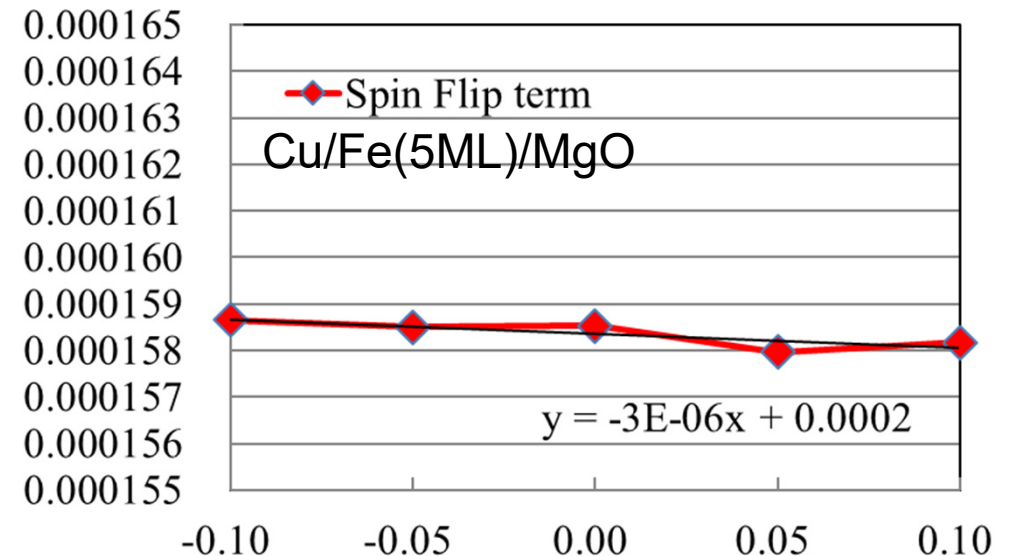
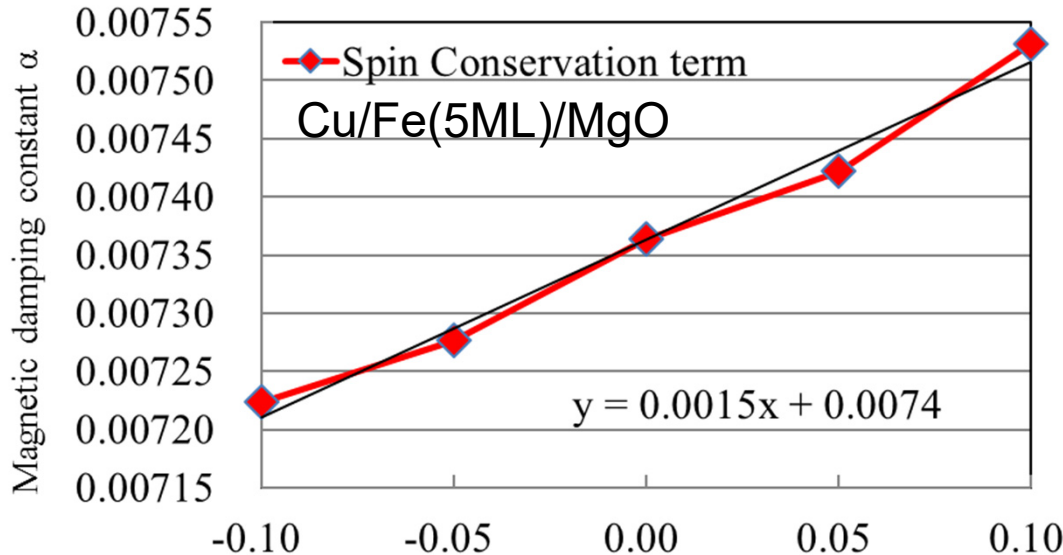
The matrix elements are non-zero for atomic orbitals between different magnetic quantum number, such as $d(yz, zx) - d(z^2)$, $d(yz, zx) - d(x^2 - y^2)$, $d(yz, zx) - d(xy)$



Spin flip (Orbital conservation) term

$$\langle u^{-\sigma} | L_z | o^\sigma \rangle$$

The matrix elements are non-zero for atomic orbitals between same magnetic quantum number, such as $d(yz) - d(zx)$, $d(x^2 - y^2) - d(xy)$

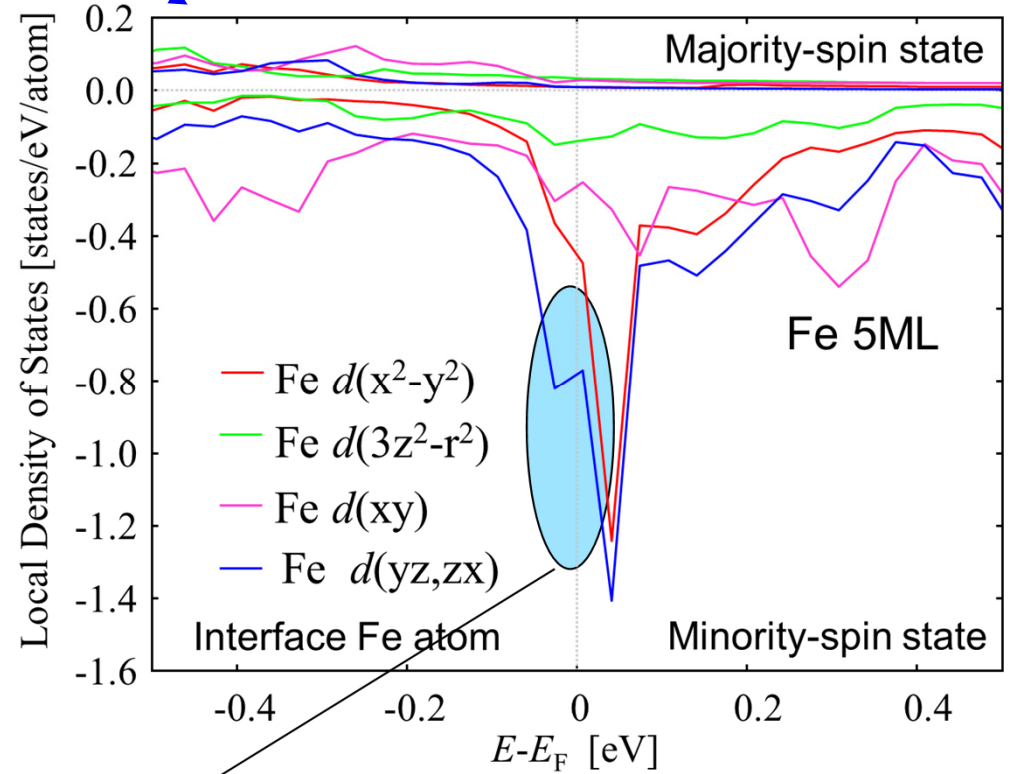
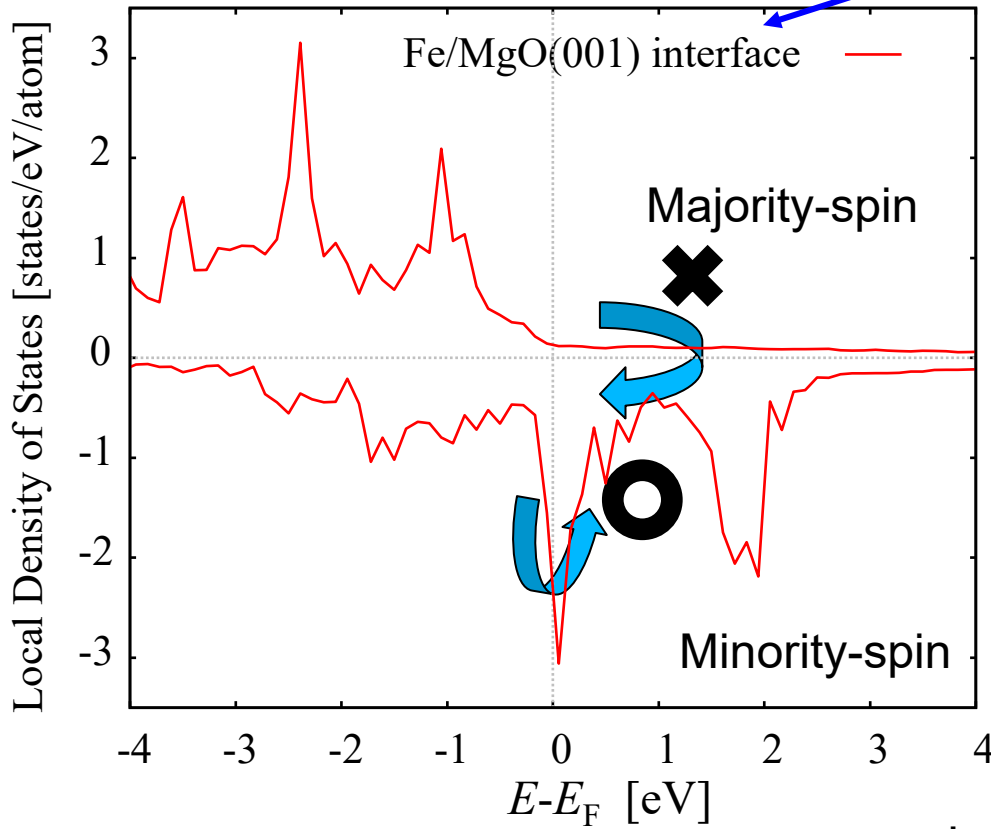
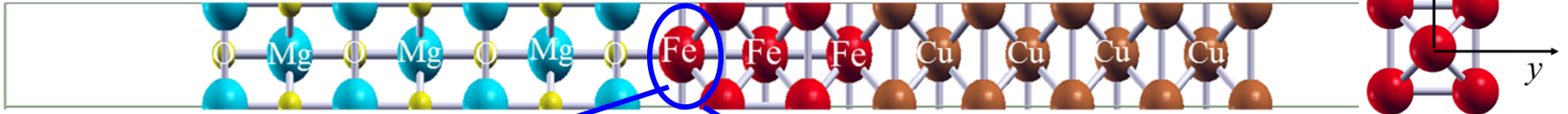


Electric Field E [V/nm] \rightarrow Increase of electron at Fe/MgO interface

Electric Field E [V/nm]

Origin of electric field dependence

Fe/MgO(001) interface



Second order perturbation of SOI

D. Wang, et al., PRB **47**, 14932 (1993).

$$E_{\text{PMA}} \propto (\xi)^2 \sum_{o,u,k} \frac{|\langle o, k, \downarrow | L_z | u, k, \downarrow \rangle|^2 - |\langle o, k, \downarrow | L_x | u, k, \downarrow \rangle|^2}{\varepsilon_{u,k}^{\downarrow} - \varepsilon_{o,k}^{\downarrow}}$$

$$L_x = \frac{1}{2} (L^- + L^+)$$

Large matrix element of $\langle d(x^2 - y^2) | L^- | d(yz, zx) \rangle$

Increase damping with increasing EF

The $\langle d(x^2 - y^2) | L^- | d(yz) \rangle$ increase the damping, but decrease the PMA. \Rightarrow opposite EF dependence

Summary of the second topic

First principles study on voltage control of magnetic anisotropy (VCMA) and magnetic damping in Fe/MgO interface

- For Fe/MgO(001) surface, the magnetic damping increases with increasing the electron accumulation at interface (positive EF).

(20% of damping constant α can be changed by $EF=1$ [V/nm] for Fe/MgO(001))

- It is opposite to that of PMA (perpendicular magnetic anisotropy).

- The voltage dependence of magnetic damping of Fe/MgO(001) can be attributed to the spin conservation term.

Topics

0. Introduction on spintronics

1. First-Principles Study on magneto-crystalline anisotropy of Fe/MgO(001) and Fe/MgAl₂O₄(001)

K. Masuda and Y. Miura, PRB **98**, 224421 (2018).

2. First-Principles Study on magnetic damping of Fe/MgO(001)

Y. Miura, in preparation

3. First-Principles Study on magneto Seebeck Effect in magnetic tunnel junctions

K. Yamamoto, K. Masuda, K. Uchida, Y. Miura

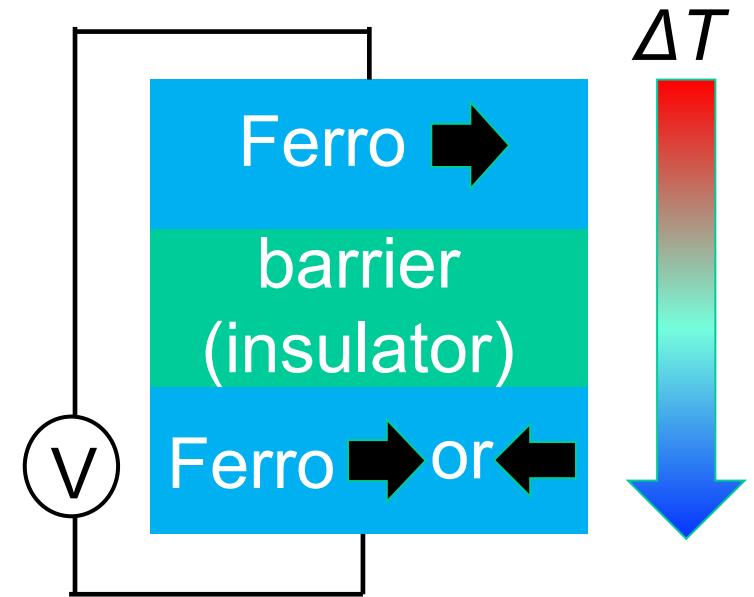
arXiv:1912.01207

Seebeck effect in MTJs

Seebeck coefficient: $S = \left(\frac{V}{\Delta T} \right)_{I=0}$

Spin caloritronics

Application



The change of Seebeck coefficients in parallel and anti-parallel magnetization
⇒ Tunneling Magneto-Seebeck (TMS) effect

- Thermal readout of MRAM B. Geisler, P. Kratzer PRB. **92**, 144418 (2015).
- Thermal spin torque transfer X. Jia *et al.*, PRL. **107**, 176603 (2011).

Previous theoretical and experimental researches

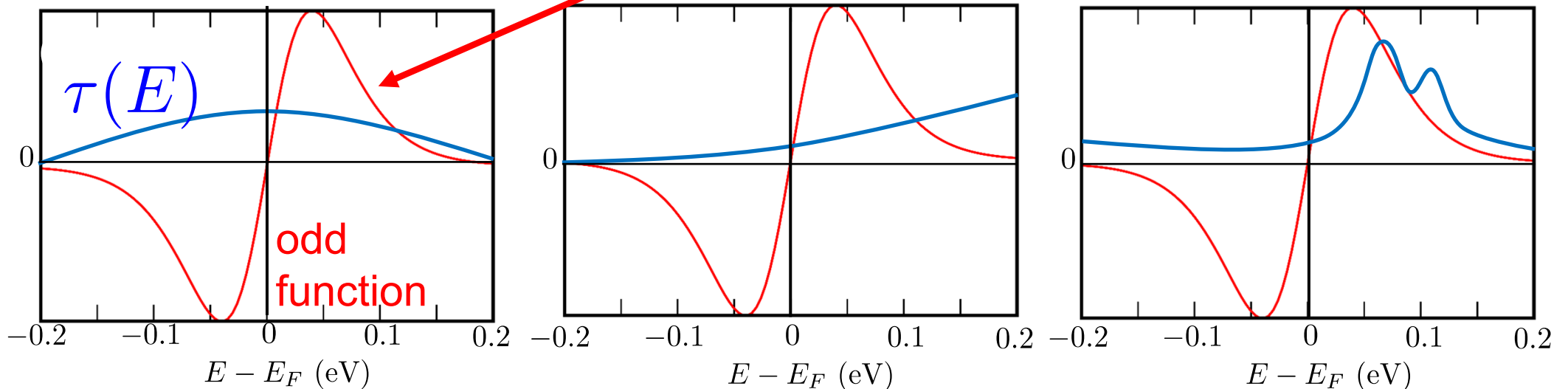
- barrier: MgO, MgAl₂O₄
- electrode: Fe, FeCo, CoFeB, Heusler, etc...

First experiment: M. Walter *et al.*, Nat. Mater. **10**, 742 : Liebing *et al.*, PRL **107**, 177201 (2011).

Review: T. Kuschel *et al.*, J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys. **52**, 133001 (2019).

Enhancement of Seebeck effect

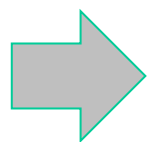
$$S = \left(\frac{V}{\Delta T} \right)_{I=0} = -\frac{L_{12}}{TL_{11}} = -\frac{\int \tau(E) (E - E_F) \left(-\frac{df}{dE} \right) dE}{eT \int \tau(E) \left(-\frac{df}{dE} \right) dE}$$



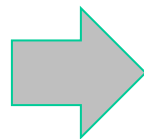
Symmetric $\tau(E)$

weak asymmetric $\tau(E)$

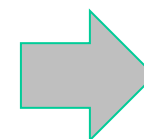
strong asymmetric $\tau(E)$



$S = 0$



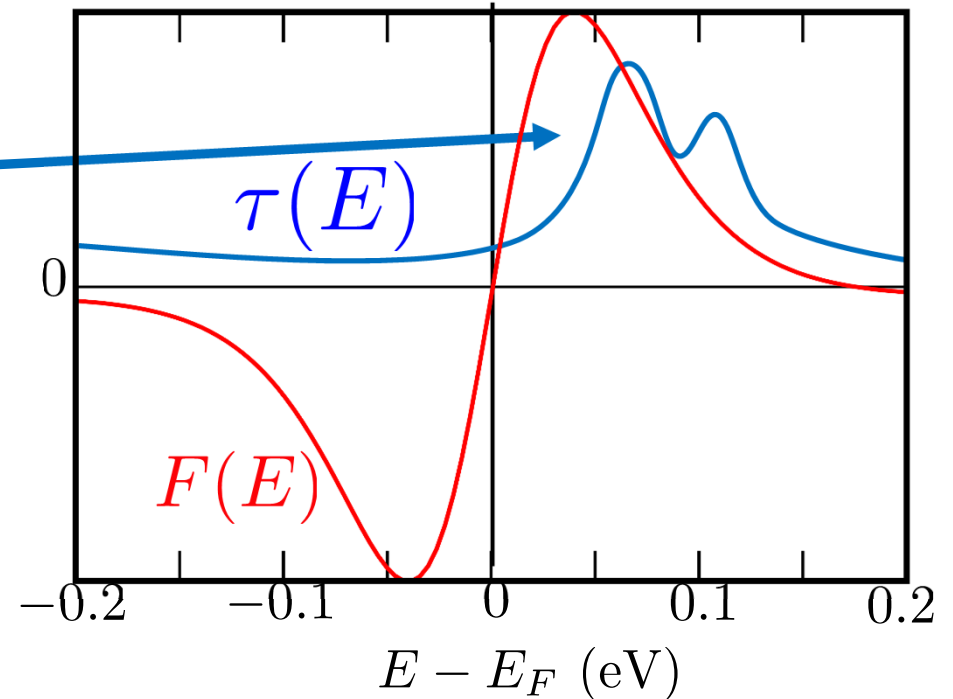
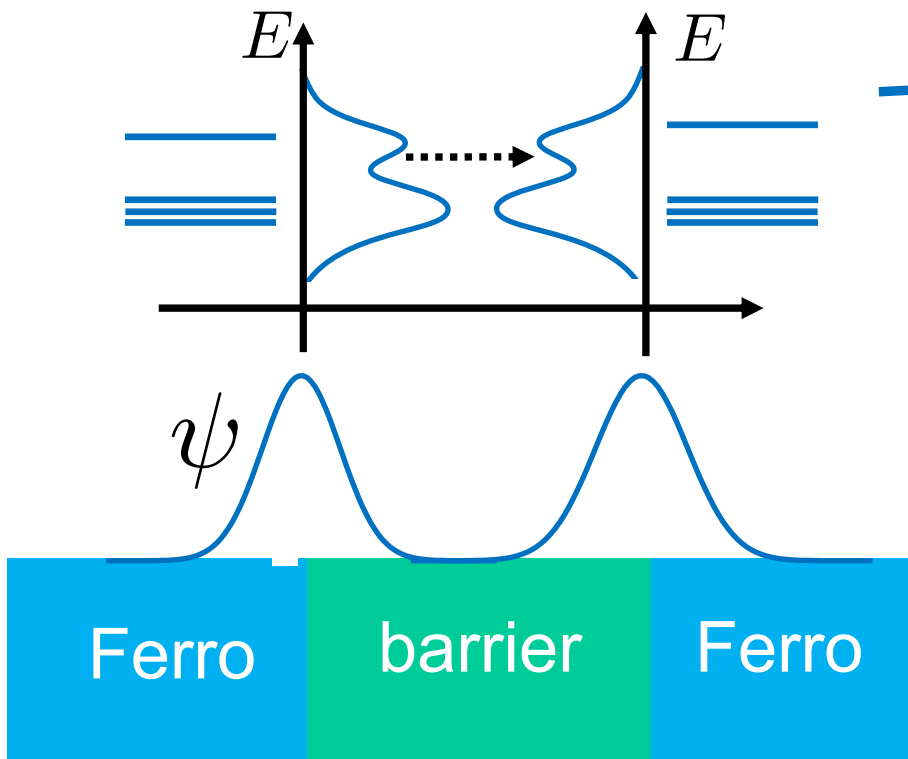
small S



large S

Interface resonant tunneling

Interface resonant tunneling



Interface resonant tunneling

→ asymmetric peak

→ large Seebeck coefficient

Fe/MgO/Fe MTJ is known to have interface resonant tunneling

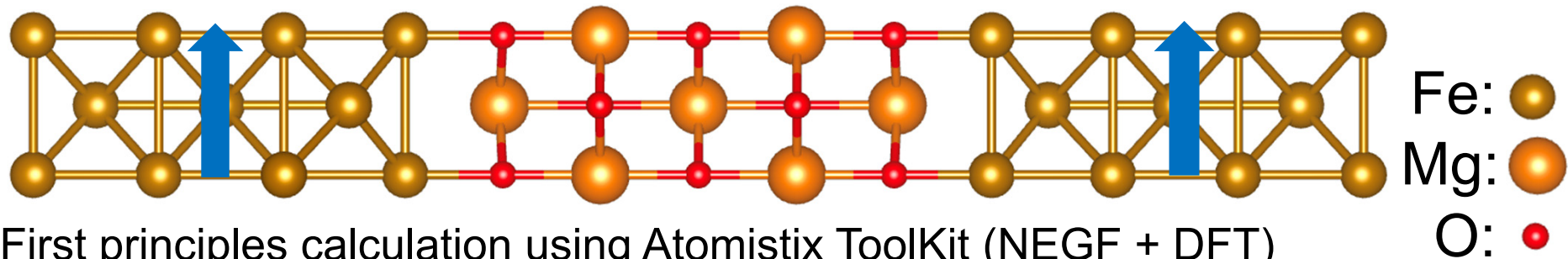
W. H. Butler *et al.*, PRB **63**, 056614(2001).

J. Mathon, A. Umerski, PRB **63**, 220403 (2001).

Purpose of this work

To clarify the effects of structural parameters on the interface resonant tunneling and the Seebeck effects of MTJs.

Fe(7ML)/MgO(*n*ML)/Fe(7ML) MTJ in parallel magnetization



First principles calculation using Atomistix ToolKit (NEGF + DFT)
Atomic positions perpendicular to the plane are fully relaxed.

Changing structural parameters of MTJs

1: The MgO barrier thickness (3ML ~ 12ML)

2: **In-plane lattice distortion**

$$a = a_{\text{Fe}} \doteq 2.87 \text{ \AA}$$

Compressive in-plane lattice distortion

$$a = a_{\text{MgO}} / \sqrt{2} \doteq 2.978 \text{ \AA}$$

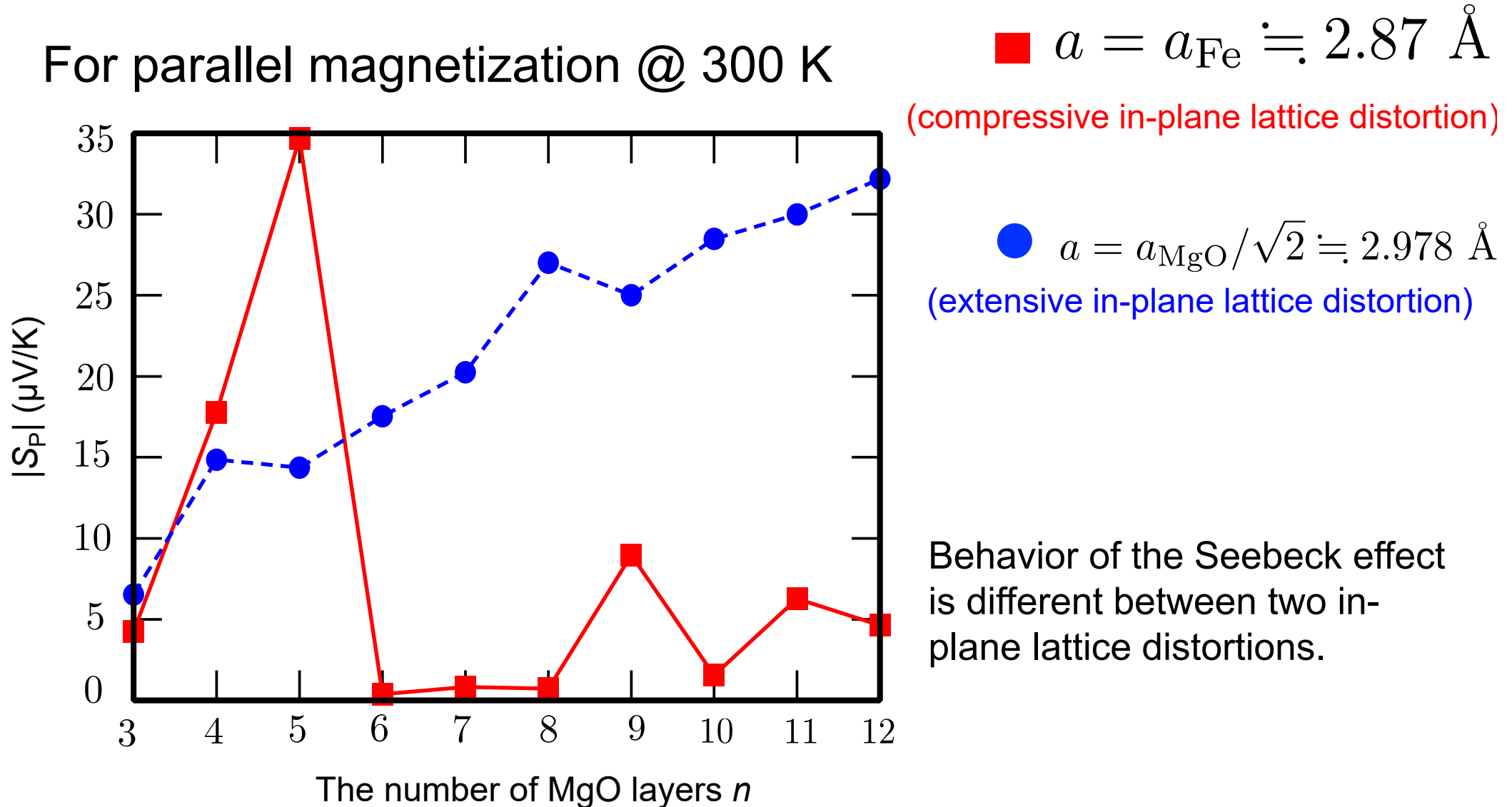
Extensive in-plane lattice distortion

➡ Increase of perpendicular atomic distance

➡ decrease of perpendicular atomic distance

Seebeck coefficient of Fe(7ML)/MgO(n ML)/Fe(7ML)

For parallel magnetization @ 300 K

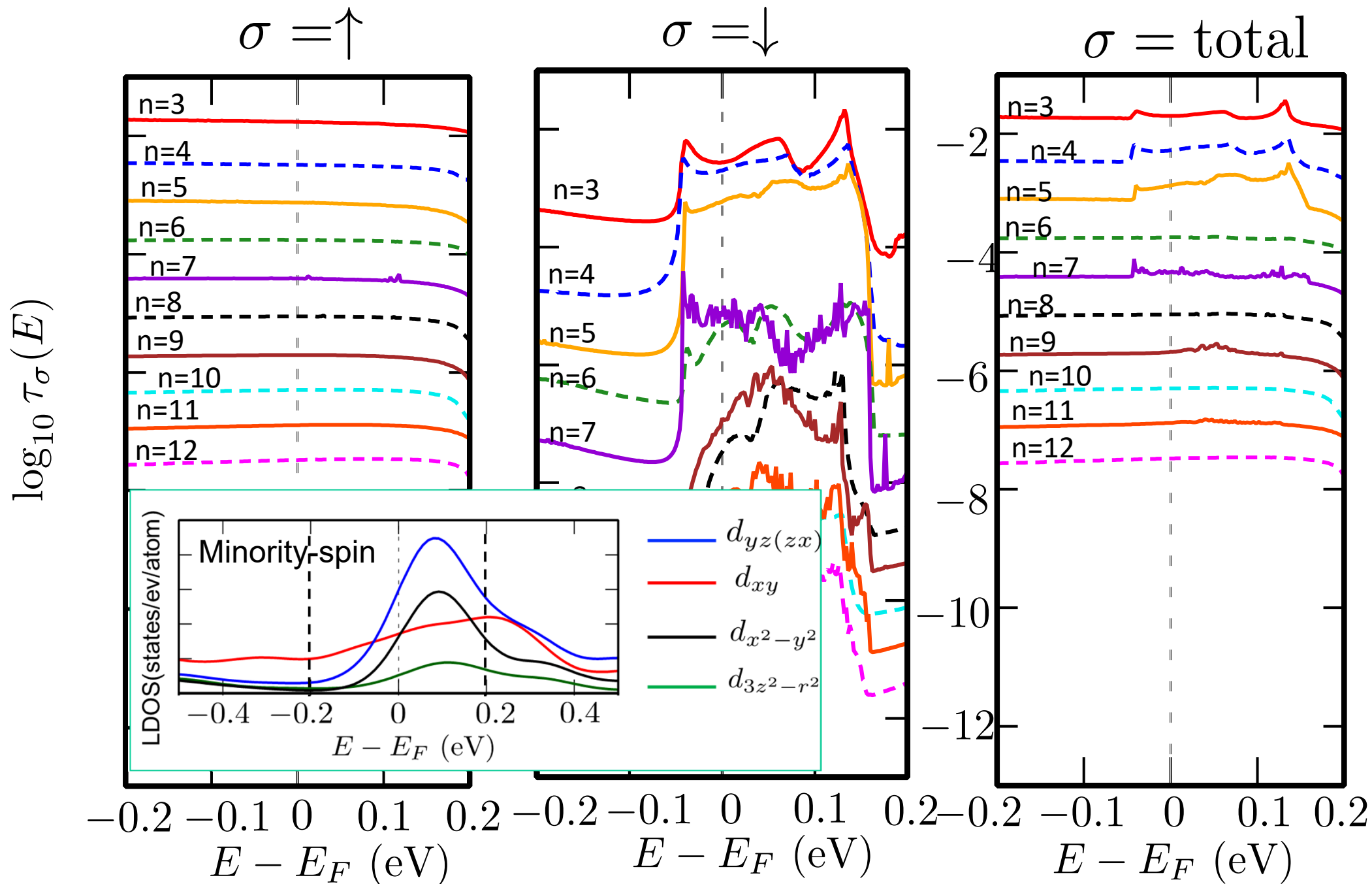


Fe(7ML)/MgO(*n*ML)/Fe(7ML)

Compressive in-plane lattice distortion

parallel magnetization configuration

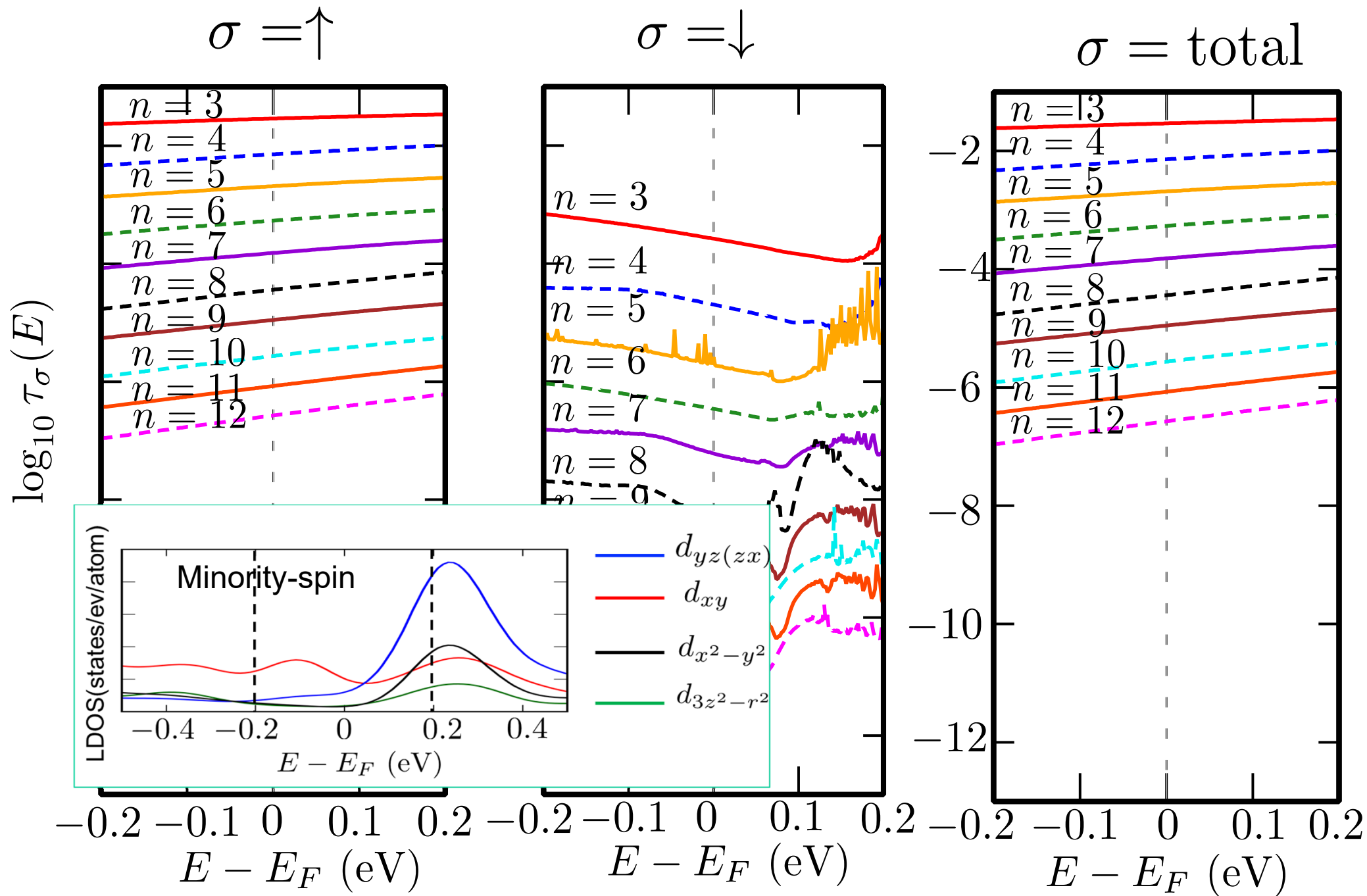
$$a = a_{\text{Fe}} \doteq 2.87 \text{ \AA}$$



Fe(7ML)/MgO(nML)/Fe(7ML)

Extensive in-plane lattice distortion

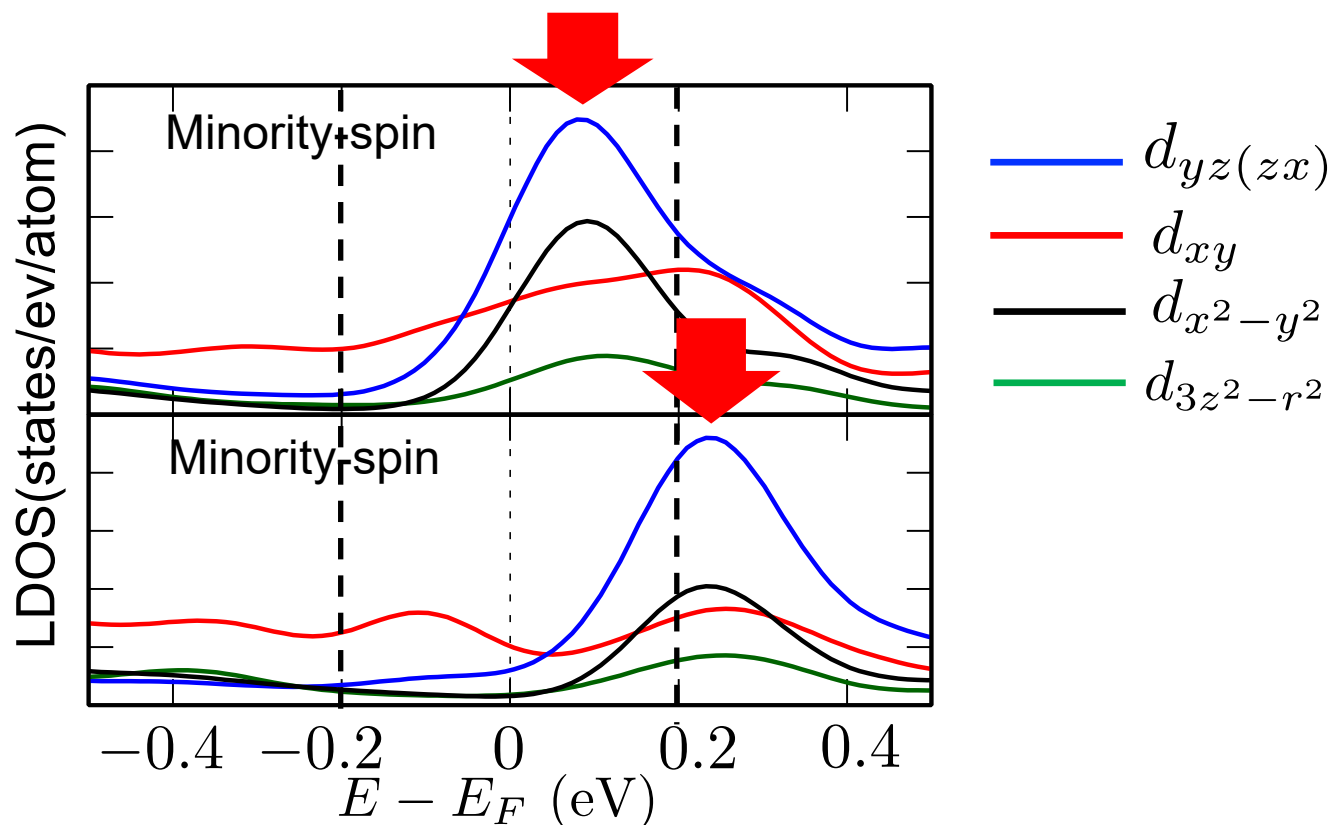
parallel magnetization configuration $a = a_{\text{MgO}}/\sqrt{2} \doteq 2.978 \text{ \AA}$



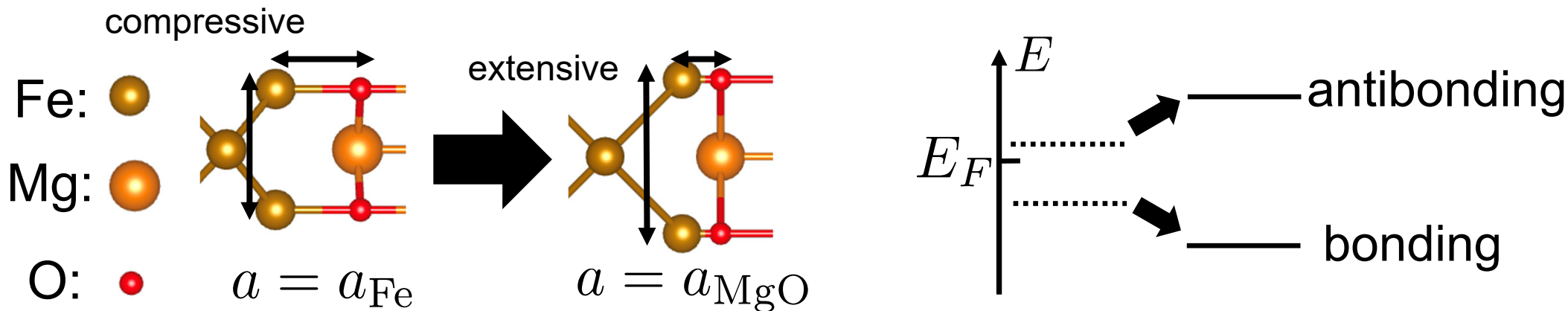
Why interface resonant states shift by in-plane distortion?

$a = a_{\text{Fe}} \doteq 2.87 \text{ \AA}$
Compressive in-plane
lattice distortion

$a = a_{\text{MgO}}/\sqrt{2} \doteq 2.978 \text{ \AA}$
Extensive in-plane
lattice distortion



These interfacial states are mainly composed of antibonding states of interfacial Fe $d(yz, zx)$.



Power factor* (Conductance/A · Seebeck²) of Fe(7ML)/MgO(nML)/Fe(7ML)

Characterized output electric power, $S^2 \cdot G/A$

For parallel magnetization @ 300 K

■ $a = a_{\text{Fe}} \doteq 2.87 \text{ \AA}$
(compressive in-plane lattice distortion)

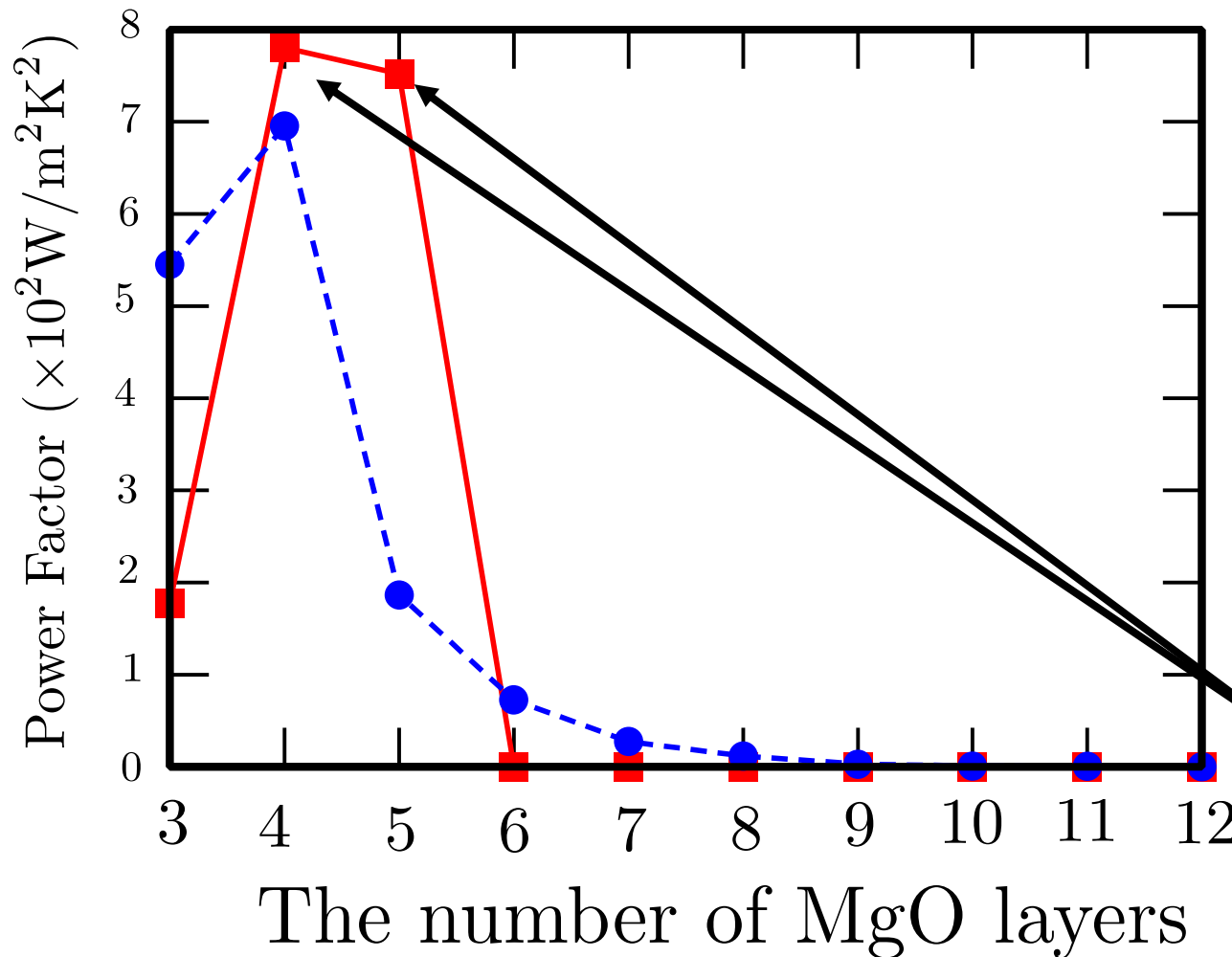
● $a = a_{\text{MgO}}/\sqrt{2} \doteq 2.978 \text{ \AA}$
(extensive in-plane lattice distortion)

Effect of the interface resonance is large at:

$$a = a_{\text{Fe}}$$

$$n = 4, 5$$

(1nm)



Summary of the Third topic

- Ab-initio calculation of the Seebeck coefficient in MTJ
- **Interface resonant tunneling** in Fe/MgO(n ML)/Fe enhances the Seebeck coefficient **with 1 nm MgO thickness ($n=4,5$) and the compressive in-plane lattice distortion ($a=a_{\text{Fe}}$)**
- **Control of MgO thickness and in-plane lattice distortion is significant to enhance the Seebeck coefficient and power factor**