Magnetic Biosensors and Biomedical Devices

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Magnetic separation

neuroelectronics





biochips





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JACA 2013

1-Scalable magnetoresistive biochips for point of careLabelled targetsdiagnostics



1 a) magnetic labels

Particles typically used in bio-separation



Micromod, Germany http://www.micromod.de

Dynal Biotech, Norway http://www.invitrogen.com

ADVANTAGES

- •Non remanent magnetic moment (avoid clustering)
- High saturation moment (high signals)
- Small (avoid steric hindrance)
- Stable



Lowest fields to be detected For a 50nm FeOx particle: χ =0.7, H=1.2kA/m, d=0.2um



HOW TO DETECT THESE FIELDS?

Magneto encephalography, B 10fT (SQUIDS, SVs+SC FG) Magneto cardiography, B few pT

THE SPIN VALVE SENSOR



How to make a SV or MTJ sensor? 1-Control the magnetics of the thin free layer: Magnetic Energy of a semi-infinite thin film (w>>h,t)



B.D.Cullity(1972) Introduction to Magnetic Materials, A.W, MA

Theory Magnetic Recording, N.Bertram, p.172

Spin Valve or MTJ Sensor: biasing



Micromagnetic simulation for SV sensor



1-g) How to chose the best sensor? Noise spectrum



The Magnetic Tunnel Junction Top Lead Magnetization Field ins Current Word Line annealed @290°C 45 TMR= 40.0 % $R = 30k\Omega$ 40 $TMR = 2P_1P_2/1 + P_1P_2$ 35 30 $P = [D_{\uparrow}(\varepsilon_{\rm F}) - D_{\downarrow}(\varepsilon_{\rm F})] / [D_{\uparrow}(\varepsilon_{\rm F}) + D_{\downarrow}(\varepsilon_{\rm F})]$ [%] 25 20 20 Ρ % 15 $A=2x9\mu m^2$ 10 AI 15A. 60" oxid. CoFe 55 30eV O₂ beam 5 0 half metal 100 -40 80 -120 -80 0 40 120

Applied field [Oe]

Increasing sensitivity I AlO_x based Magnetic Tunnel Junction sensor transfer curve Ta30A/NiFe30A/MnIr60A/CoFe25A/Ru8A/CoFeB35A/AlOx10/CoFeB30/Ta30



See annex for microfab + transfer curve micromagnetics





TJ933 - [5 Ta / 25 CuN]x6 / 5 Ta / 5 Ru / 20 IrMn / 2 CoFe₃₀ / 0.85 Ru / 2.6 CoFe₄₀B₂₀ / MgO [22 kOhm um2] / 2

Matrix architecture - Scalability

• A 16x16 element matrix has been fabricated



Snip2Chip kick-off meeting

Slide 2/8

Integration of Magnetoresistive Biochips on a CMOS circuit.



Dec 2011

INESC-MN's 3rd generation MR biochip





- 24 sensing units:
 - 1 U-shaped spin-valve sensor (2.5 μ m × 80 μ m)
 - 1 U-shaped current line
 - $(l = 50 \ \mu m; w = 10 \ \mu m; s = 17 \ \mu m)$
- 1 single sensor (2.5 $\mu m \times 80 \ \mu m)$

- Higher dynamic range
 - Higher biological sensitivity
 - Need to focus labels in large areas (1000-2000 $\mu m^2)$

Appl.Phys.Lett., vol.87, pp.013901, 2005

8 mm

1-e) target arraying over immobilized probes:250nm beads and magnetically assysted hybridization



1-d) Spotting biological targets on the biosensing platform



1 μM Oligo solution, Cy5 labeled 200 pL droplets

Disposable biochip

Snip2Chip Lisbon meeting

INESC-MN

Biomolecular recognition experiments

Cystic Fibrosis Related DNA hybridization



Dynamic hybridization at work







POC Diagnostic Platform INESC MN INESC ID



• Reduced non-specific recognition.

non-complementary targets.



Application: Cell-free DNA as cancer biomarker?

- **Cell-free DNA:** DNA that can be found outside of cells in blood circulation. Results mainly from dying cells (apoptosis or necrosis)
- The cfDNA found in cancer patients is qualitatively different from what is found in healthy people:



Universal cancer biomarker in therapy follow-up?

Blood finger-prick

Plasma injected in the detection chip





Measurement of the chip





Also immuni assay biochips

Heterogeneous "sandwich-assay" concept



The signal obtained...



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1-j) Immunocromatographic tests: also a target for MR biochips





0.01

MAGNET

0.1

Concentration (% w/v)

1

Lateral Flow Membrane

<u>Labels the analyte</u> of interest with magnetic nanoparticules and captured by antibodies in the detection zone.

II)

No moving parts.....





Biosensors and Bioelectronics, 2012 Zaragossa, INESC MN

Detecting labelled cells in flow







10

5

15

-15

-10

-5

0

B(mT)



With C Fermon, and M Pannetier

APL 2009



Mgnetophoresis: using magnetic beads to separate biological entities

$$F_{mag} = \nabla (m.B)$$



MICROFLUIDICS PROCESS









The fluidic component is made of PDMS using a standard micro molding technique.

A master made of photoresist was patterned with UV lithography to define a counter mold of PDMS

Irreversible bonding between PDMS surface and the passivation surface of the chip: SiO2

This picture shows a perfectly sealed system without leaks and with laminar flow.





Wire bonding or packaging







Synaptic current monitoring with high Spatial resolution (with A.Sebastiao, IMM, V.Santos, ICVS)

Stimulation electrode

Recording electrode







INESC MN and IMM

Rat hippocampus

MAGNETRODES, FP7 (2013-2016)





INESC-MN, INL

Integration of Spin Valve Magnetoresistive Sensors in Micromachined Probe Needles Fabricated on SOI wafers

Characterization

Spin Valve Sensor MR=8.14%; Hc=4.1 Oe; Hf=17.8 Oe

Ta	5nm
IrMn	8nm
CoFe	2.3nm
Cu	2.2nm
CoFe	2.3nm
NiFe	3.5nm
Ta	5nm



INL

Results – MTJ response





INESC MN

Going to flexible probes for in vivo experiments

Pads size/pitch designed for Harwin 2-row, 40-way vertical connector



J.Gaspar, J.Noh, INL

Fabrication Process

• Encapsulated magnetic sensors/exposed Pt electrodes

Flexible PI probe (20-µm-thick)



Exposed Pt electrod Magnetic spin valve sensor

1. Magnetic sensor on polyimide



J.Gaspar, J.Noh, INL



Magnetoresistive Behavior



J.Gaspar, J.Noh, INL S.Cardoso, INESC MN Increasing sensitivity III: Hybrid MTJ+flux guide structures: towards pT detection at 1Hz



Goal: increase volume of free layer-reduce magnetic 1/f noise increase junction area-decrease barrier 1/f noise increase sensitivity: flux guides + MgO MTJ

Biomagsens Mid Term Review

INESC-MN



white mag noise

Appl. Phys.Lett., 91, 102504, August 2007

Biomagsens Mid Term Review

pT DC Magnetic Field Detection Hybrid SpinMEMS; DC to AC flux transformer

2006-2010, hybrid MR / thin film MEMS





2011-onwards, also bulk MEMS, INL and UC Berkeley/Davis



Magnetic Tweezer, DNA manipulation, DNA translocation



Optical µScope – Vertical Switch



52nd MMM Conference – Tampa FL November 2007

FA-05

28/38

nesc MN research group







www.inesc-mn.pt

Obrigado!



ANNEX 1

3 problems from the nanoelectronics course at IST-Lisbon

Problem 1

"Dimensioning a magnetic tweezer and a sensor to monitor DNA translocation using an restriction enzyme molecular motor" Consider Fig.1



- a) The Magnetic Tweezer. Calculate the force Fz that the 1um radius bead (susceptibility X=0.5, for H< 2kA/m) will be subject to, created by the field Bz caused by the current loop (I = 50mA, R=10um). The loop is placed on a oxide mesa, 5um thick. The bead attaches to a DNA strand, 2um long.
- b) Now redesign the magnetic tweezer using a thin, magnetized CoPt film, 100nm thick (Mr=400kA/m), placed on top of the 5um thick oxide. For the field calculation, consider only the magnet extremities at the border of the pit, and use a 2D approach (magnet width >> magnet thickness). Calculate the force created by this magnet on the bead. Hn = -(σ/2 π) (θ2-θ1); Ht= -(σ/2 π) ln (r2/r1) (see class, where σ is the magnetic surface charge M.n).
- c) Now the bead is magnetized by an AC field created by a current wire on the substrate (1 = 40mÅ sin 100 Hz t) Assuming the susceptibility given above, calculate the rms voltage in the magnetoresistive sensor created by the bead, at its initial separation. The magnetoresistive sensor is a spin valve, with a maximum MR=10%, a resistance per square R=200hm/sq, dimensions (6um by 2 um), with a DC bias current of 10mA, and a linear range of +-1kA/m. Calculate the spatial sensitivity (del V/del Z) around the initial bead position.

Problem 3: a biomolecular separation lab on chip platform (scheduled handing in time: October 16th 2012)

Fig.1 shows a top view of a microfluidic chamber used for biomolecular separation. The chamber is 14 um high, 10mm long and 3mm wide. Cells labeled with magnetic nanoparticles enter from the left bottom inlet, with a horizontal velocity of 1, 5 and 10 mm/s (fluid velocity) and are subject to the magnetic force created by a permanent magnet placed as indicated in the figure (Mr = 1100 kA/m, magnet dimensions 4x4mm2). Calculate the cell trajectory neglecting gravity and impulsion forces (only the Stokes force $F_{drag} = 6 \pi R \mu(v_{fluid} - v_{bead})$ and the magnetic force $F_b =$ grad (m.B) will affect the bead motion, where $R_b=1.0$ um, and $\mu = 0.001$ Pa s). Assume that the cell coated with magnetic nanoparticles acts as a macro moment with saturation magnetization Ms=57 kA/m, for H > 500 kA/m (magnetic susceptibility $\chi = 0.25$ for H < Hs = 500 kA/m), and moment m=MsVb. Calculate the bead trajectory for a bead that enters at the bottom for different horizontal fluid velocities of 1,5 and 10 mm/s.

Note: in practice assume that for a time intervals Δt the bead almost immediately reaches the terminal speed given where Fmag +F drag =0 and use this terminal speed to calculate the motion within this time interval. Take into account both horizontal and vertical field gradients created by the magnet on the bead. For the horizontal movement take also into account the magnetic force along x.



10 mm

Problem 4: A magnetoresistive based biochip for biomolecular recognition detection. (to be handed in Tuesday October 30th)

In a biomolecular recognition chip, probes are immobilized on a substrate, and labeled targets are arrayed over the probes, When complementarity exists between the probe and target, the target biomolecule becomes immobilized on the substrate, and the label can be detected by an integrated transducer. A magnetoresistive biochip uses a magnetoresistive detector to measure the fringe field coming from magnetic labels attached to biomolecular targets, that are specifically bound to immobilized probes. In this problem consider that target DNA is labeled with magnetic nanoparticles (magnetite based) with a diameter of 100nm and a magnetic susceptibility at low frequency (< 1 kHz) of 1. The labels are magnetized by a transverse AC field of 1kA/m (amplitude) at 800 Hz created by integrated Helmoltz coils. The label fringe field is detected with a linearized spin valve sensor with dimensions 2 μ m x 80 μ m, with MR = 10%, H_k^{eff} = 1.5kA/m, Rs= 1kOhm, Is=2mA. The spin valve sensor is passivated by a AlOx layer 400nm thick.

- a) Calculate the response of the sensor to a single bead fringe field, assuming the bead is placed over the center of the sensor. Assume the bead center to sensor free layer separation to be 400nm.
- b) Knowing that the sensor noise level at 800 Hz is 50nV/sqrt(Hz) calculate the minimum number of these labels that can be detected by this sensor. Assume that a frequency bandwidth of 100 Hz is used for the measurement, and that the beads are located approximately near the center line of the sensor (away from the edges).

 $\Delta V(SV) = MR .Rs. I. < Hs > / 2H_k^{eff}$



ANNEX II: The Spin Valve Sensor



 $\Delta V = \frac{1}{2} (\Delta R/R) \cdot I \cdot Rsq. (W/h) < 1 - \cos(\theta_f - \theta_p) >$

1-C.Tsang, R.E.Fontana, T.Lin, D.E.Heim, V.S.Speriosu, B.A.Gurney, and M.L.Williams, IEEE Trans.Magn., 30, 3801 (1994).

- 3- B.Dieny, V.S.Speriosu, S.S.Parkin, B.A.Gurney, D.R.Wilhoit, and D.Mauri, Phys.Rev.B, 43, 1297(1991).
- 4- D.E.Heim, R.E.Fontana, C.Tsang, V.S.Speriosu, B.A.Gurney, and M.L.Williams, IEEE Trans.Magn.., <u>30</u>, 316 (1994); P.P.Freitas, J.L.Leal, L.V.Melo, N.J.Oliveira, L.Rodrigues, and A.T.Sousa, Appl.Phys.Lett., <u>65</u>, 493 (1994);
- J.L.Leal, N.J.Oliveira, L.Rodrigues, A.T.Sousa, and P.P.Freitas, IEEE Trans.Magn., 30, 3031(1994).

Spin Valve sensors-magnetic response



SV materials



8%<MR<10% Hc < 2Oe Hf < 10 Oe Hex > 600 Oe(MnIr) > 1000 Oe (MnPt)

10%<MR<15% Hex > 3000 Oe

14%<MR<16(20)%

ANNEX 3: MR DEVICE MICROFABRICATION PROCES Current-perpendicular-to-plane (CPP) device fabrication



Microfabrication process

1) Deposition of the MTJ Stack



The complete stack is ~1800Å thick





3) Ion Beam Milling





Stop point is signaled by the transparency of the substrate

4) Resist Strip



Microstrip 2001 (Fuji) is used to remove the remaining photo-resist



~2 hours in a hot bath (65° C) + Ultrasounds

750μm x 50μm

At this point, the shape of what will become the bottom contact lead is defined.

5) 2nd. Lithography : Junction Pillar Definition



Minimum Junction Area : $1x1 \ \mu m^2$



Stop point must be after the barrier and before the substrate. Calibration samples are used to monitor the etching stop point.



6) Junction Pillar Etching



Early Etching Stage :

Large incident angle reduces shadow effects, but results in heavy redeposition

At the level of the barrier:

Shallow incident angle increases the etching in the sidewalls of the pillar, reducing the amount of redeposited material

Final oxidation step:

Any material deposited in the sidewalls of the junction is oxidized, becoming an insulator.

Critical Step #1 : Ion Milling of a NanoPillar Etch Stop Point Detection







visually in an optical microscope.

10) Top Lead Definition : Metal deposition + Lift-off

Al (3000Å) + TiWN₂ (150Å)







Up to 70,000 sensor devices in a 200mm diameter wafer



INESC-MN

Automatic Measurement Setup



Fully Automatic Measurement of magnetotransport properties :

- Resistance
- Magnetoresistance Transfer Curve
- Current-Voltage Characteristic
- MR Bias Voltage Dependence
- Breakdown Voltage
- Current Induced Switching

Integrated Data Analysis Software

6" Wafers measurement capability (2 or 4 contacts)

Probe Card



36 Kelvin Needles



Microfluidic process development:

ANNEX 4 - Macro mold (PMMA) Microfluidic PDMS processing



Milling machine



Consumables

- PDMS mold





Degasification step



Injection into the mold



Irreversible surface bonding - II



Pre-cleaning protocols (SiO2)

Machine	Plasma Conditions	Time	Contact Angle
LAM Rainbow	408 mW/cm², 275mTorr, 20 sccm O ₂ (oxygen plasma)	150 seconds	<5₽
UVO cleaner	28mW/cm², 5mm separation from the UV light (ozone plasma)	30min+2min exhaustion step	<5₽

Note: the contact angle for SiO2 not cleaned is 72.2 \pm 0.20







UVO Cleaner, Jelight