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14. ABSTRACT

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RPPR Final Report

as of 18-Oct-2021

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Proposal Number: 71928MSYIP

Agreement Number: W911NF-18-1-0364

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Report Date: 14-Oct-2021

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Final Report for Period Beginning 19-Jul-2018 and Ending 14-Jul-2021

Title: Enabling Gigantic Antiferromagnetic Spin Caloritronic Effects through Spin Heat Accumulation

Begin Performance Period: 19-Jul-2018

End Performance Period: 14-Jul-2021

Report Term: 0-Other

Submitted By: Richard Wilson

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Distribution Statement: 1-Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

STEM Degrees: 2

STEM Participants: 4

Major Goals: Our project had four major goals. (1) Develop pump/probe methodologies capable of quantifying spin-polarized heat transfer in magnetic heterostructures on picosecond time scales. (2) Understand how electron-phonon interactions govern transport in magnetic metals. (3) Discover how magnetic properties, especially antiferromagnetic exchange interactions, affect spin caloritronic transport properties. (4) Quantify the interfacial spin Seebeck effect in a metal/antiferromagnetic insulator system.

Accomplishments: (1) We developed a pump/probe method capable of independently measuring a metal's electron temperatures, phonon temperatures, and magnetic moment. Our method works by monitoring temperature and magnetism-induced changes in optical properties at wavelengths between 400 and 1000 nm. (2) We used our new pump/probe methodology to explore how composition-induced changes in electronic band structure enable novel magnetic and thermal transport properties in FeCo alloys. We discovered that CoFe alloys have remarkable composition-dependent thermal transport properties. We did not observe evidence that heat-currents are spin-polarized (spin heat accumulation). However, we were able to identify how composition, band structure, and electron-phonon interactions give rise to unique thermal and magnetic properties. (3) We measured the interfacial spin-Seebeck effect in Au/rare-earth iron garnet bilayers. We discovered that the magnitude of the spin Seebeck effect in an Au/iron-garnet system is enhanced by a factor of three by replacing Yttrium with Thulium or Terbium. Replacing Yttrium with Thulium or Terbium modifies the antiferromagnetic exchange interaction between the two antiferromagnetically coupled Fe sublattices in the iron-garnet. By performing wavelength-dependent pump/probe measurements, we discovered that the spin Seebeck effect causes ultrafast demagnetization of the iron garnet layer. In addition to spin Seebeck effect measurements, we also characterized the thermal interface conductance of a large number of spin-caloritronic material systems. The conductance is an important property for interpreting spin caloritronic experiments, but prior to our study, there were few reports of its value for spin caloritronic material systems. (4) We performed spin Seebeck effect measurements of the following metal/antiferromagnetic trilayers: Au/Cu/Cr₂O₃ (1120) and Au/Cu/Cr₂O₃ (1000). To understand the effect of surface morphology, we prepared a series of samples with different thermal histories and different interfacial roughness. Despite a magnetic moment that is orders of magnitude lower than that of the iron-garnets, we observe an interfacial spin Seebeck effect in Au/Cu/Cr₂O₃ that is comparable magnitude as the Au/iron-garnet systems. In the presence of a ~1.25 T field, Au/Cr₂O₃ has an electron-magnon interface conductance of ~0.5 MW/(m²-K). For comparison, we observe an electron-magnon conductance in Au/YIG of ~1 MW/(m²-K).

Training Opportunities: Nothing to Report

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Results Dissemination: Our results have been reported in scientific journals such as Physical Review Materials, Communications Physics, Review of Scientific Instruments, and Nature Electronics. We presented our findings in contributed and invited talks at MRS and APS.

Honors and Awards: Nothing to Report

Protocol Activity Status:

Technology Transfer: Nothing to Report

PARTICIPANTS:

Participant Type: PD/PI

Participant: Richard Brian Wilson

Person Months Worked: 4.00

Funding Support:

Project Contribution:

National Academy Member: N

Participant Type: Graduate Student (research assistant)

Participant: Frank Angeles

Person Months Worked: 3.00

Funding Support:

Project Contribution:

National Academy Member: N

Participant Type: Postdoctoral (scholar, fellow or other postdoctoral position)

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Person Months Worked: 15.00

Funding Support:

Project Contribution:

National Academy Member: N

Participant Type: Graduate Student (research assistant)

Participant: Michael Gomez

Person Months Worked: 10.00

Funding Support:

Project Contribution:

National Academy Member: N

Participant Type: Graduate Student (research assistant)

Participant: Ramya Mohan

Person Months Worked: 7.00

Funding Support:

Project Contribution:

National Academy Member: N

Participant Type: Postdoctoral (scholar, fellow or other postdoctoral position)

Participant: Bhartendu Satywali

Person Months Worked: 2.00

Funding Support:

Project Contribution:

National Academy Member: N

RPPR Final Report
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Authors: Michael Gomez

Acknowledged Federal Support: **N**

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Title: Influence of Structural and Compositional Heterogeneities on Nanoscale Thermal Transport and Magnetization Dynamics

Authors: Ramya Mohan

Acknowledged Federal Support: **Y**

Partners

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Jon Gorchon, University of Lorraine, Nancy France. Jing Shi, University of California Riverside, CA, United States.C

I certify that the information in the report is complete and accurate:

Signature: Richard Brian Wilson

Signature Date: 10/14/21 10:54PM

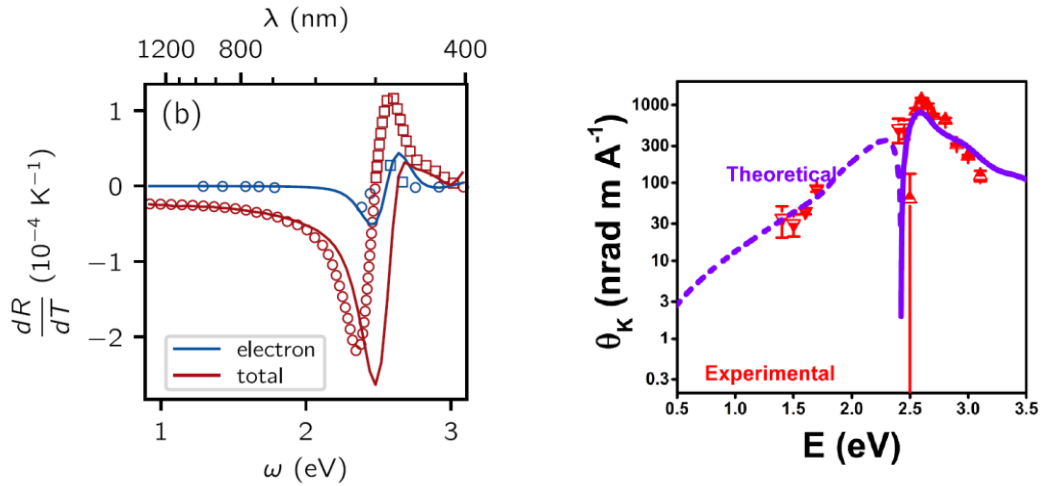


Fig. 1. Experimental measurements of how Au's optical properties vs. wavelength depend on electron temperature (blue circles in left panel), phonon temperature (red circles in left panel), and magnetism (red triangles right panel).

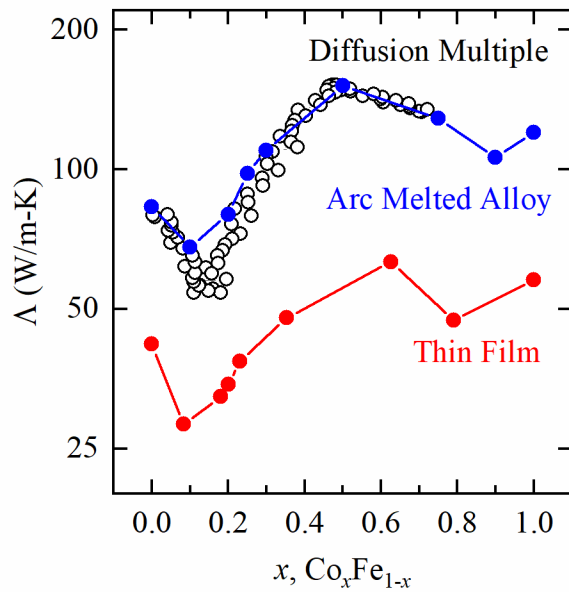


Fig. 2. Thermal conductivity of CoFe alloys. To explore how spin-polarized heat currents depend on electron-phonon interactions, we studied thermal transport as a function of composition. The band-structure at the Fermi-level in CoFe alloys, and therefore electron-phonon interaction strengths, depends strongly on composition. We did not find evidence of spin-heat accumulation. However, surprisingly, we did observe that transport is unimpeded by compositional disorder provided the alloys is more than 50% Fe.

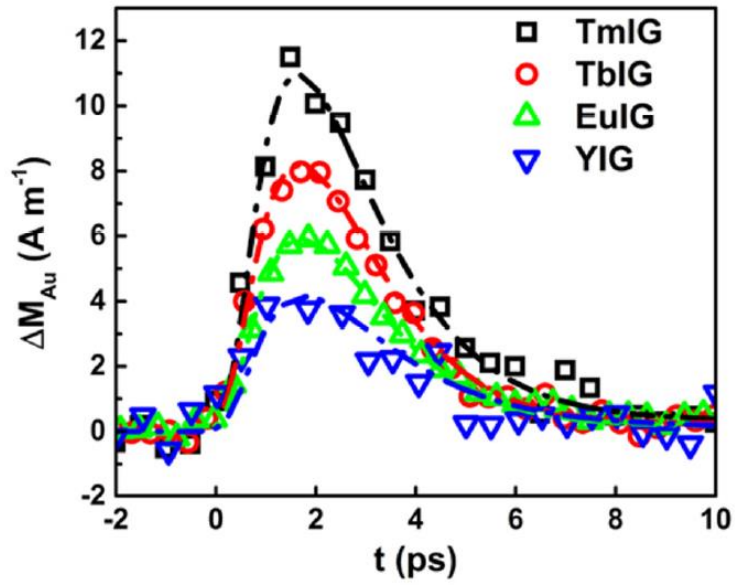


Fig. 3. Transient magnetic moment of Au following ultrafast heating of Au/iron-garnet bilayers. The spin Seebeck effect is 2 and 3x larger in TbIG and TmIG than YIG due to changes in the antiferromagnetic exchange interaction.

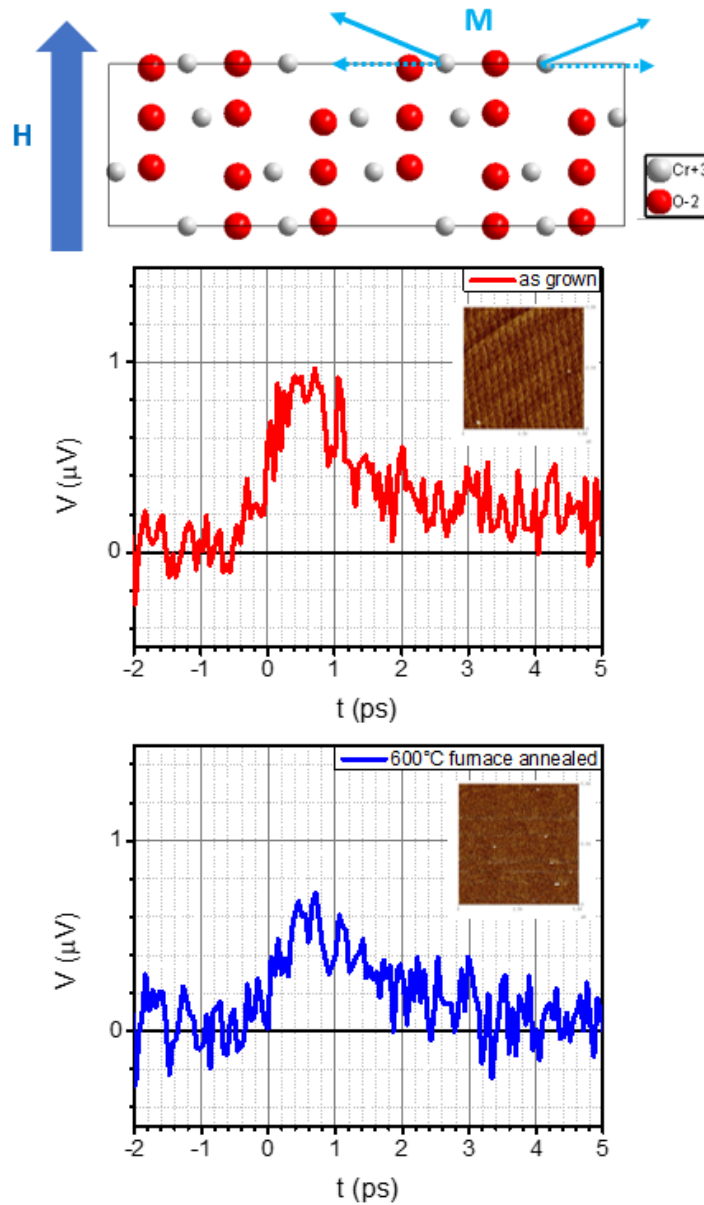


Fig. 4. Antiferromagnetic Spin Seebeck effect measurements of Au/Cu/Cr₂O₃. In these experiments, we applied an external field of 1.25 Tesla to cant the magnetic moment of the antiferromagnetic sublattices in the out-of-plane direction. We use a picosecond laser to heat the Au/Cu layers. We then monitor an optical signal vs. time-delay. The optical signal is proportional to the magnetic moment of the Au layer. The amplitude of the signal depends on the magnitude of the spin Seebeck effect. The spin Seebeck effect induced signal in Au/Cu/Cr₂O₃ is comparable to what we observe in the Au/iron-garnet systems (Fig. 3), despite Cr₂O₃ being antiferromagnetic. We observe that an increase in interfacial roughness leads to a decrease in the spin Seebeck effect.