Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Recent Work

Title

Soft X-ray Imaging of Vortex Dynamics in Trilayer Pattered Magnetic Elements

Permalink

https://escholarship.org/uc/item/4944p352

Authors

Lai, Brooke Mesler Kim, Dong-Hyun Fischer, Peter

Publication Date

2009-04-13

Soft X-ray Imaging of Vortex Dynamics in Trilayer Pattered Magnetic Elements

B. Mesler, D.-H. Kim, P. Fischer

Soft X-ray microscopy provides element specific magnetic imaging with a spatial resolution down to 15nm. At XM-1, the full-field soft X-ray microscope at the Advanced Light Source in Berkeley, a stroboscopic pump and probe setup has been developed to study fast magnetization dynamics in ferromagnetic elements with a time resolution of 70ps which is set by the width of the X-ray pulses from the synchrotron. Previous studies of patterned permalloy elements have revealed complex magnetization dynamics. Results obtained with a 2µm x 4µm x 45nm rectangular permalloy sample exhibiting a seven domain Landau pattern reveal dynamics up to several nsec after the exciting magnetic field pulse. Domain wall motion, a gyrotropic vortex motion, and a coupling between vortices in the rectangular geometry are observed. On going studies of patterned trilayer elements, composed of magnetic permalloy and cobalt layers separated by a copper spacer layer, will probe the dynamics of the trilayer system. Of particular interest is observing how the coupling between the magnetic layers affects the vortex dynamics.

This work was supported by the Director, Office of Science, Office of Basic Energy Sciences, of the U.S. Department of Energy under Contract No. DE-AC02-05CH11231.