

# EuS/Al bilayers for future superconducting spintronics

Elia Strambini

NEST, Istituto Nanoscienze-CNR & Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa, Italy

SPICE workshop

Exotic New States in Superconducting Devices:  
The Age of the Interface

Mainz, Germany

27 Sept 2017



# Collaboration

- **Giorgio De Simoni, F. Giazotto**

NEST Istituto Nanoscienze-CNR and Scuola Normale Superiore, I-56127  
Pisa, Italy

- **F. S. Bergeret, Vitaly N. Golovach**

CFM-MPC, CSIC-UPV/EHU, San Sebastian, Spain

- **Jagadeesh Moodera**

MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139, USA.

# Outline

- Motivations
  - Why we study EuS/Al bilayers
- Experimental results
  - Single EuS/Al bilayer
    - Tunneling spectroscopy of EuS/Al
    - Interplay between the EuS domains and Al superconductivity
  - Double EuS/Al bilayer
    - The absolute Spin valve
    - Towards the superconducting magnetic RAM
- Conclusions and perspectives

# Motivations

- Magnetism & Superconductivity  
(The age of the interface) --> EuS/Al

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## EuS:

- High Curie temperature
- Strong exchange field
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LETTER

doi:10.1038/nature17635

## A high-temperature ferromagnetic topological insulating phase by proximity coupling

Ferhat Katmis<sup>1,2,3\*</sup>, Valeria Lauter<sup>4\*</sup>, Flavio S. Nogueira<sup>5,6</sup>, Badih A. Assa<sup>7,8</sup>, Michelle E. Jamer<sup>7</sup>, Peng Wei<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Biswarup Satpati<sup>9</sup>, John W. Freeland<sup>10</sup>, Ilya Eremin<sup>9</sup>, Don Heiman<sup>7</sup>, Pablo Jarillo-Herrero<sup>1</sup> & Jagadeesh S. Moodera<sup>1,2,3</sup>

nature  
materials

LETTERS

PUBLISHED ONLINE: 28 MARCH 2016 | DOI: 10.1038/NMAT4603

## Strong interfacial exchange field in the graphene/EuS heterostructure

Peng Wei<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Sunwoo Lee<sup>3,4</sup>, Florian Lemaitre<sup>3,5†</sup>, Lucas Pini<sup>3,5†</sup>, Davide Cutaia<sup>3,6</sup>, Wujoon Cha<sup>7</sup>, Ferhat Katmis<sup>1,2</sup>, Yu Zhu<sup>3</sup>, Donald Heiman<sup>8</sup>, James Hone<sup>7</sup>, Jagadeesh S. Moodera<sup>1,2</sup> and Ching-Tzu Chen<sup>3\*</sup>

# Motivations

- Magnetism & Superconductivity  
(The age of the interface) --> EuS/Al

## EuS:

- High Curie temperature
- Strong exchange field
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- Applications

- Hybrid systems (integration of magnetic fields to engineer exotic state)
- Spin-resolved tunneling spectroscopy
- Huge thermoelectric effect and heat valves
- Superconducting logical switching elements
- Spin polarized-current, spintronics

# Motivations

- Magnetism & Superconductivity

PRL 112, 057001 (2014)      PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS      week ending  
7 FEBRUARY 2014

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**Predicted Very Large Thermoelectric Effect in Ferromagnet-Superconductor Junctions  
in the Presence of a Spin-Splitting Magnetic Field**

A. Ozaeta,<sup>1</sup> P. Virtanen,<sup>2</sup> F. S. Bergeret,<sup>1,3,4</sup> and T. T. Heikkilä<sup>2,5</sup>

... strong exchange field

- PRL 116, 097001 (2016)      PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS      week ending  
4 MARCH 2016

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**Observation of Thermoelectric Currents in High-Field Superconductor-Ferromagnet  
Tunnel Junctions**

S. Kolenda, M. J. Wolf,<sup>\*</sup> and D. Beckmann<sup>†</sup>

- Appl

- Hybrid systems (integration of magnetic fields to engineer exotic state)
- Spin-resolved tunneling spectroscopy
- Huge thermoelectric effect and heat valves
- Superconducting logical switching elements
- Spin polarized-current, spintronics



# Motivations

- Magnetism & Superconductivity

Journal Pre-proof

APPLIED PHYSICS LETTERS **102**, 132603 (2013)



## Phase-tunable colossal magnetothermal resistance in ferromagnetic Josephson valves

F. Giazotto<sup>1,a)</sup> and F. S. Bergeret<sup>2,3,4,b)</sup>

- Strong exchange field
- High quality interfaces with Al

nature  
physics

REVIEW ARTICLES

PUBLISHED ONLINE: 2 APRIL 2015 | DOI: 10.1038/NPHYS3242

## Superconducting spintronics

Jacob Linder<sup>1\*</sup> and Jason W. A. Robinson<sup>2\*</sup>

- Applications

- Hybrid systems (integration of magnetic fields to engineer exotic state)
- Spin-resolved tunneling spectroscopy
- Huge thermoelectric effect and heat valves
- Superconducting logical switching elements
- Spin polarized-current, spintronics

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- Why we study EuS/Al bilayers

- Experimental results

- Single EuS/Al bilayer

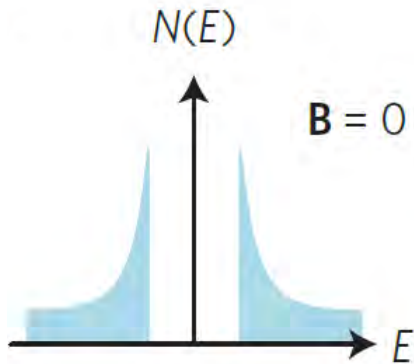
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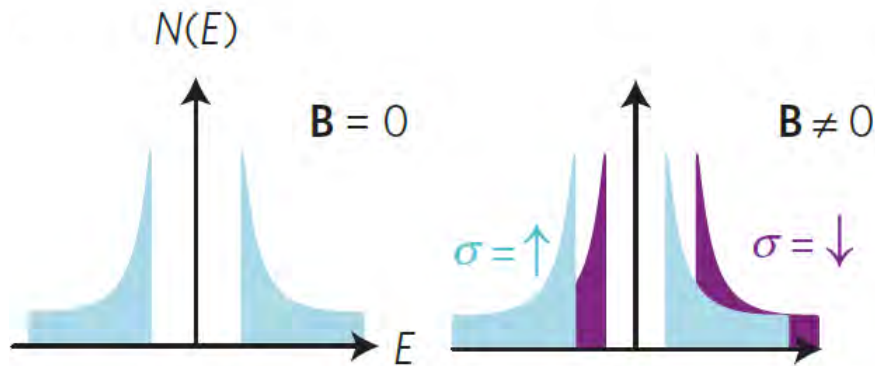
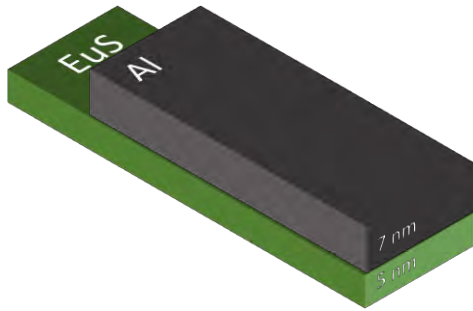
- Conclusions

# Measuring the induced magnetism



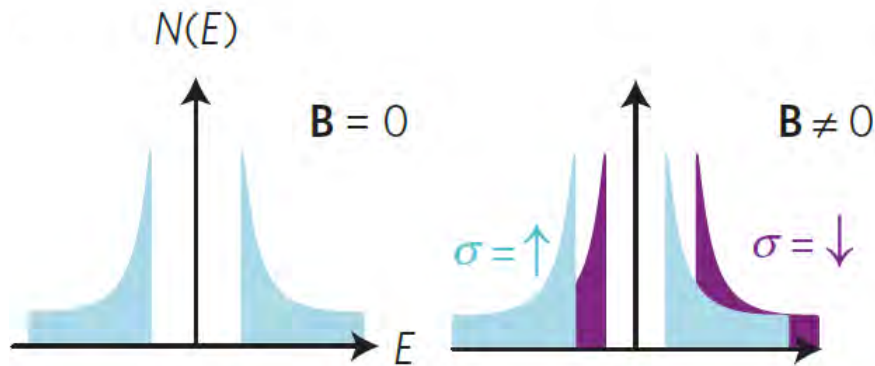
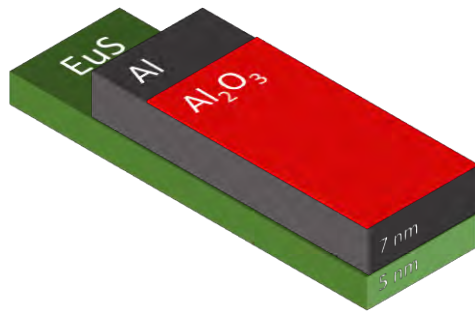
J. Linder and J. W. A. Robinson, "Superconducting spintronics,"  
*Nat Phys*, **11**, 307–315, (2015)

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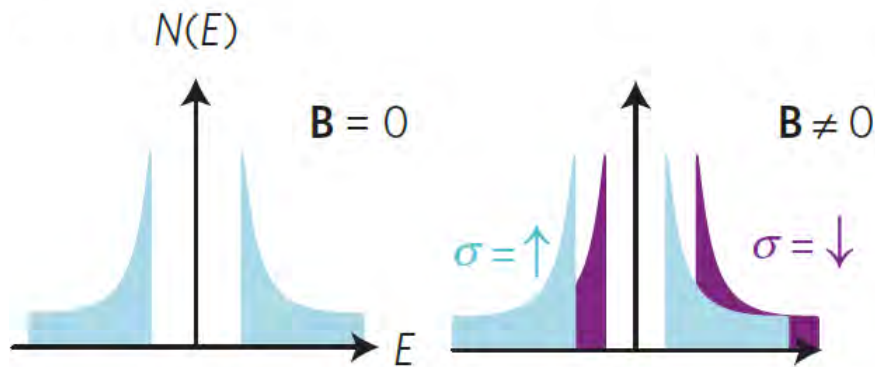
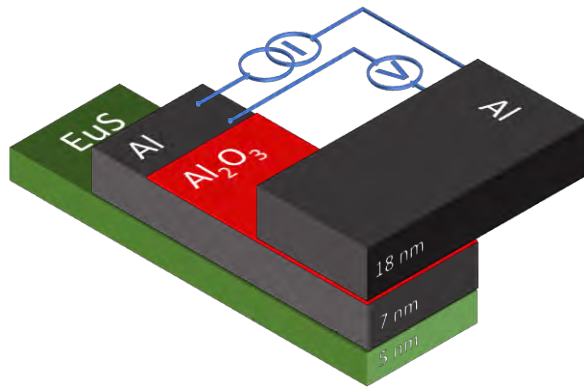
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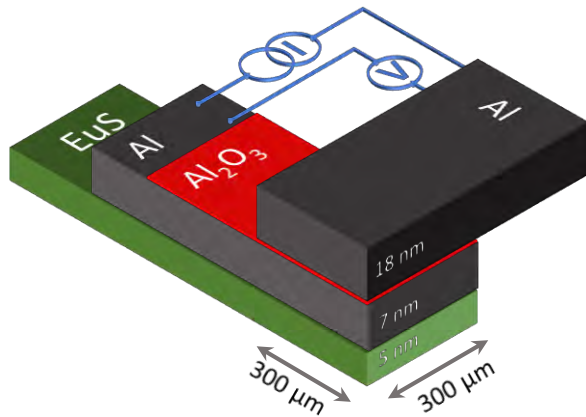
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# Tunneling Spectroscopy

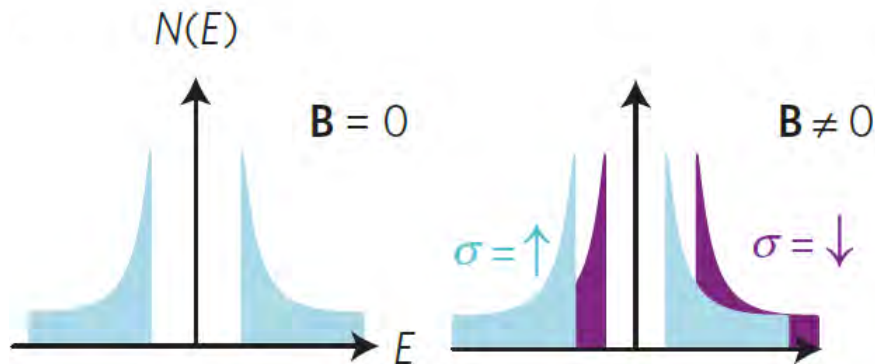


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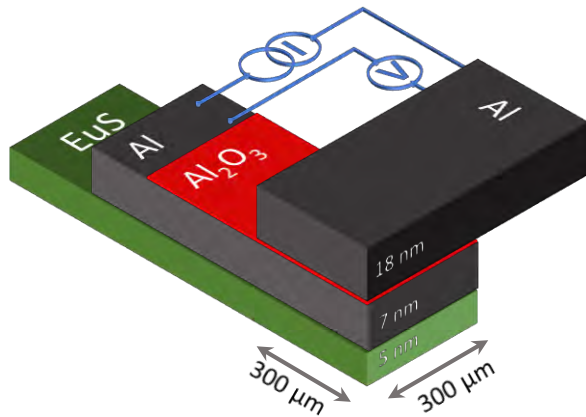


$$\frac{dI}{dV}(V) = \frac{1}{eR_T} \frac{d}{dV} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dE \text{DoS}_{Al}(E + eV) \text{DoS}_{EUS/Al}(E) (f(E) - f(E + eV))$$

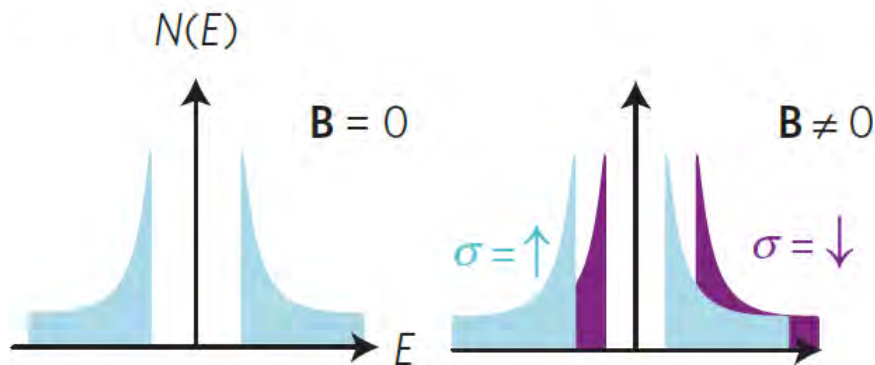


J. Linder and J. W. A. Robinson, "Superconducting spintronics,"  
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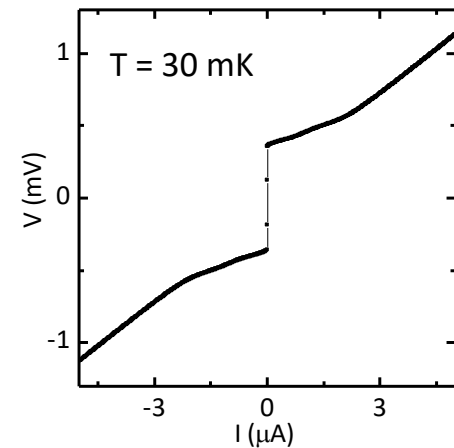
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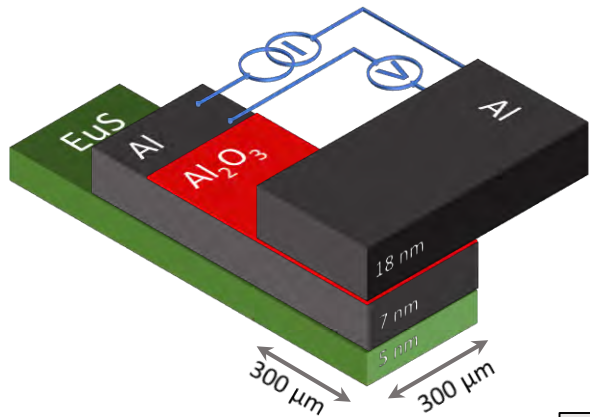


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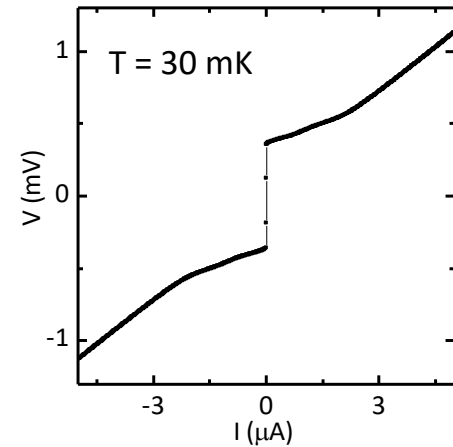
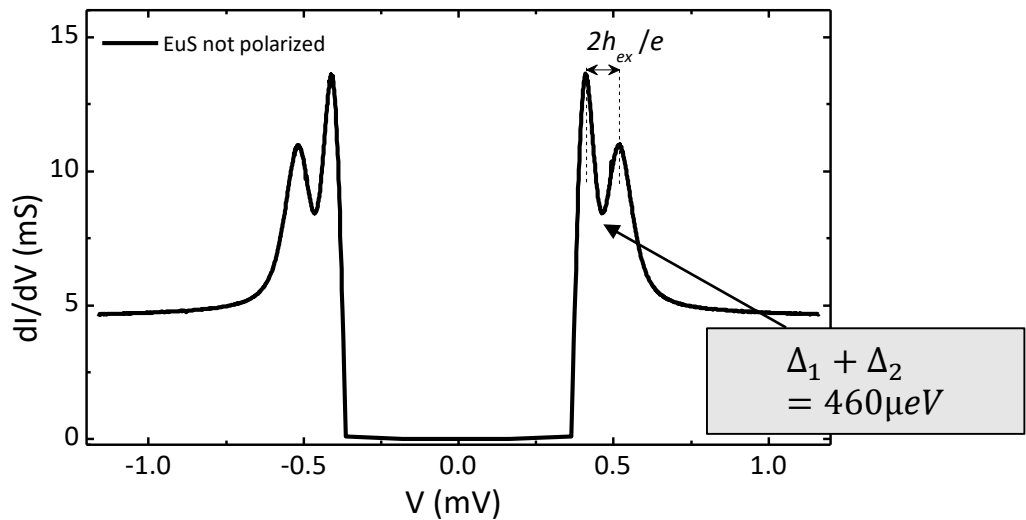
# Unpolarized state



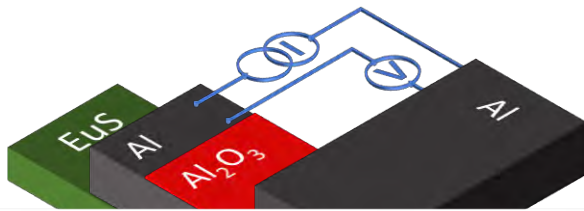
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$$eV_{peaks} \cong \pm(\Delta_1 + \Delta_2) \pm h_{ex}$$

$$2\mu_B B_{ex} = 110 \mu eV \rightarrow B_{ex} \sim 1 T$$



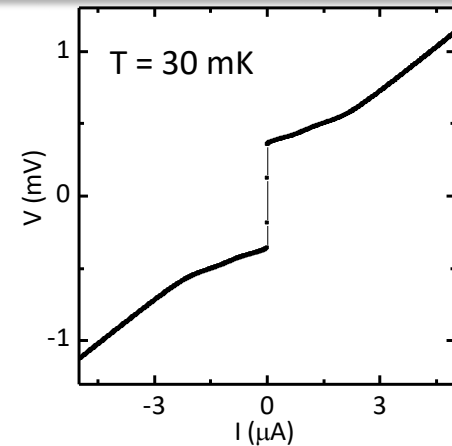
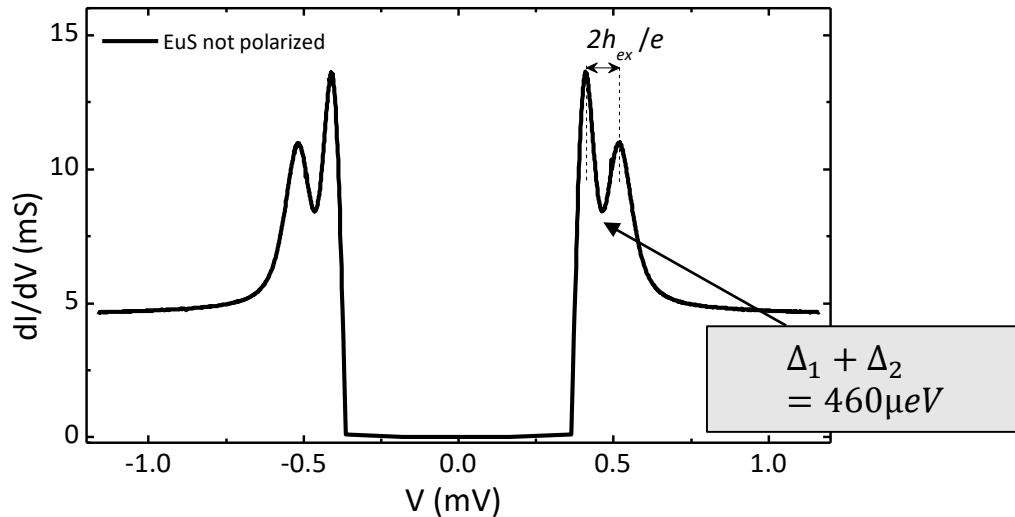
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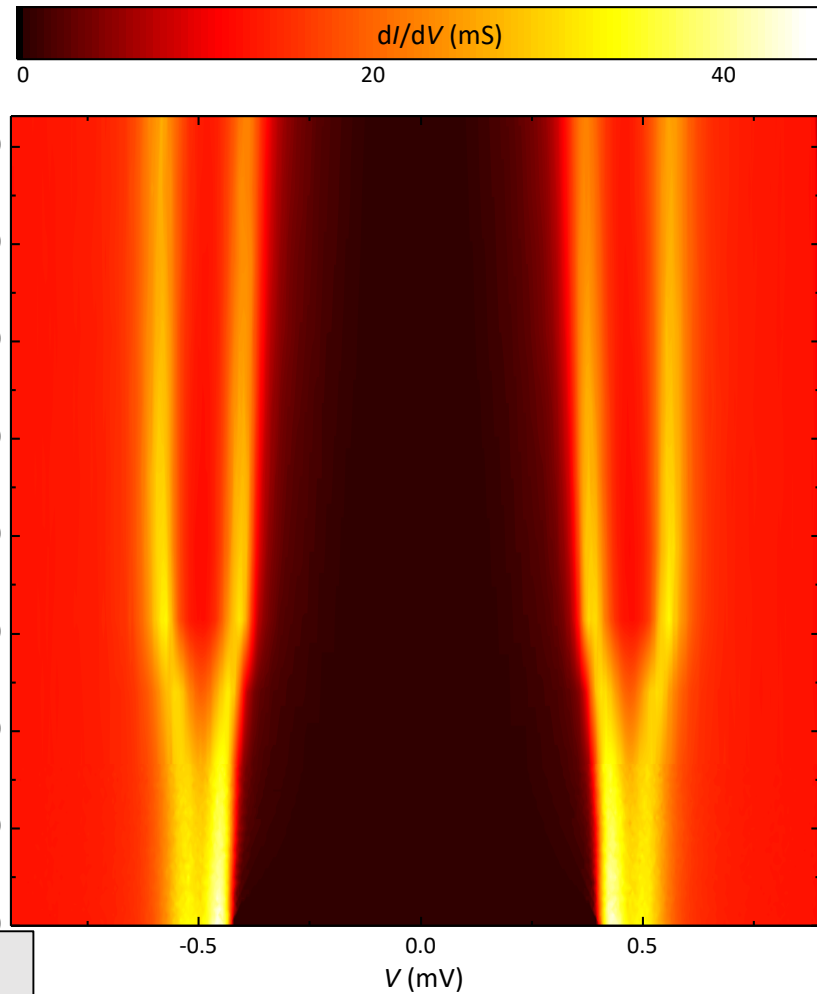
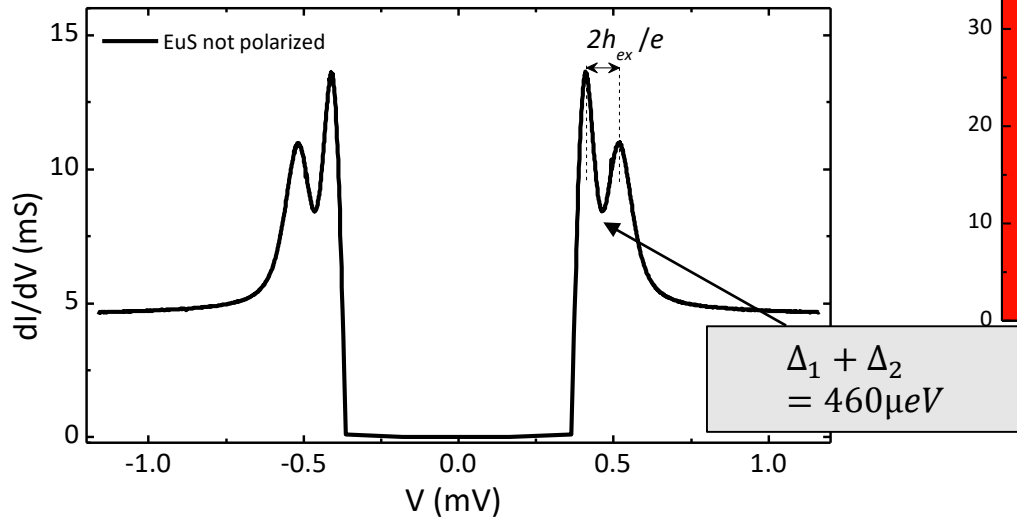
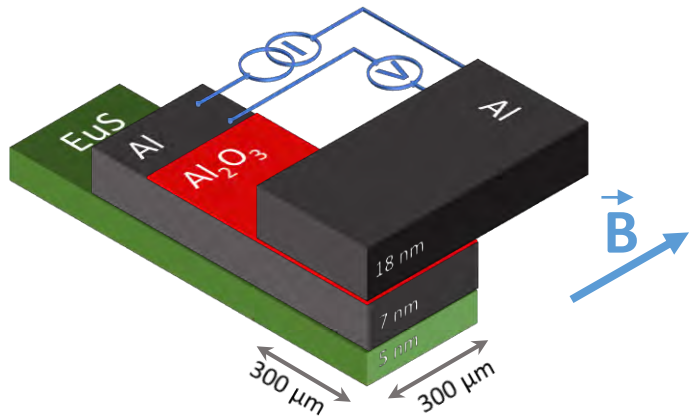
$$\frac{dI}{dV}(V) = \frac{1}{eR_T} \frac{d}{dV} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dE \text{DoS}_{Al}(E + eV) \text{DoS}_{EuS/Al}(E) (f(E) - f(E + eV))$$

- Peaks are resolved also in the unmagnetized state
- Inner peaks are higher than outer ones

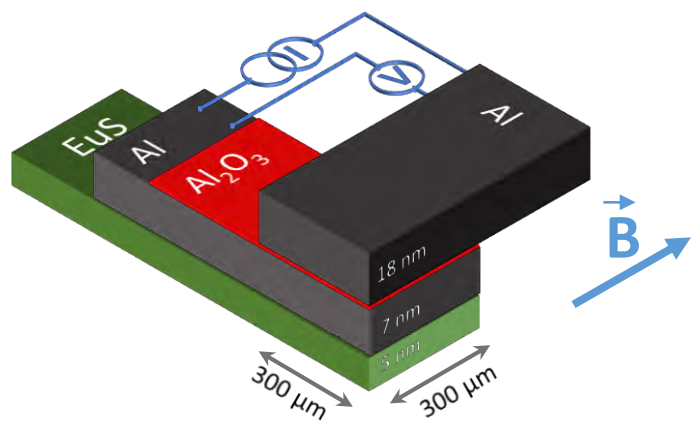
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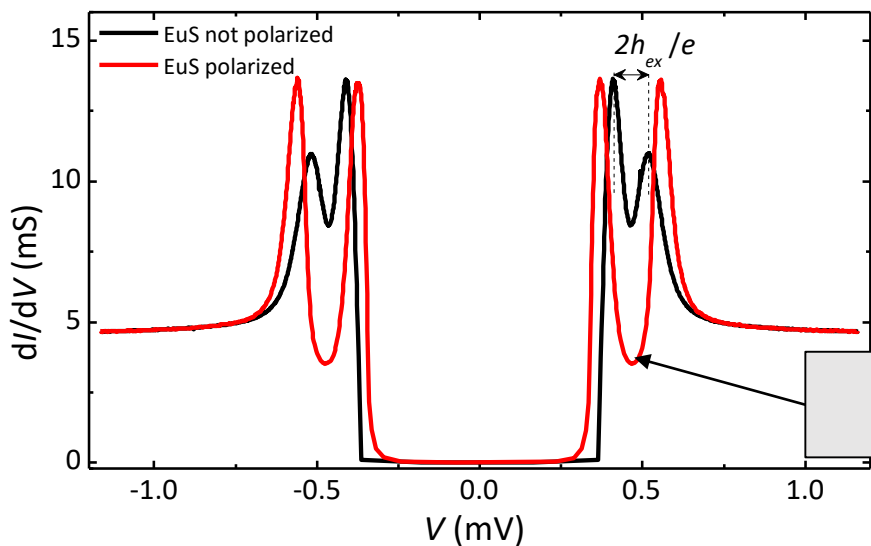
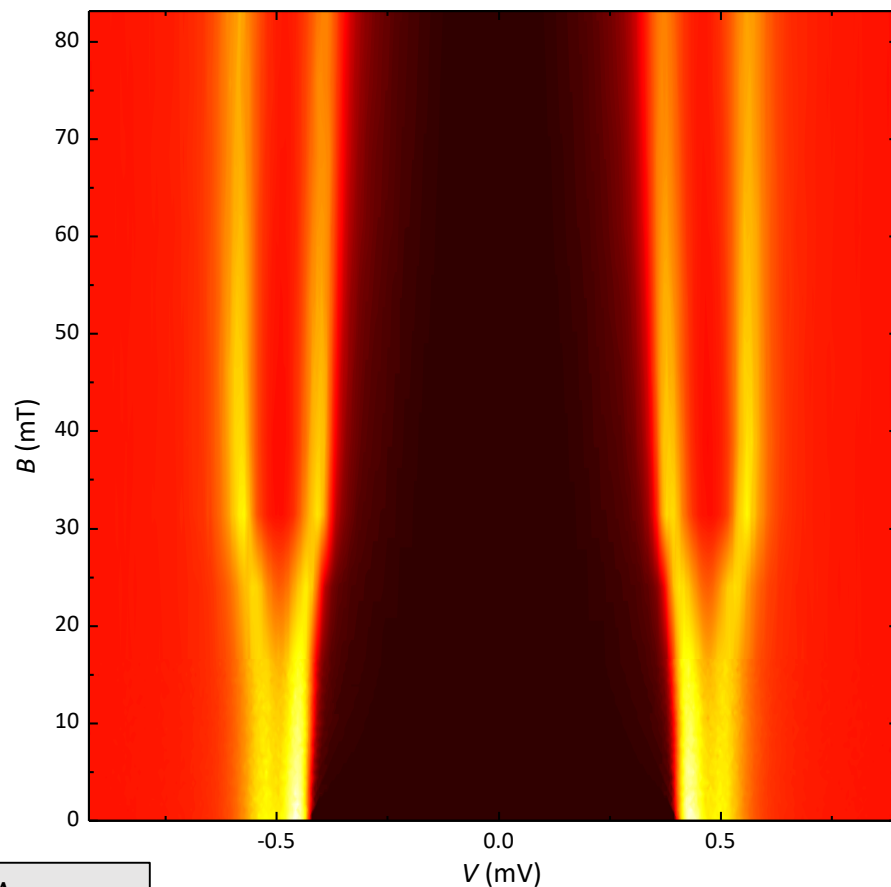
# First Magnetization



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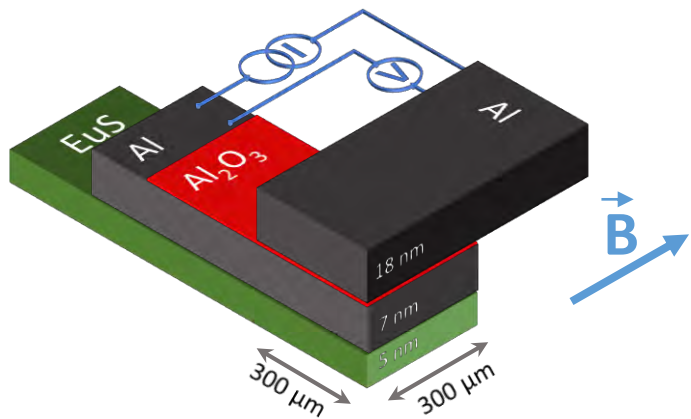


$$2\mu_B B_{ex} = 190 \mu\text{eV} \rightarrow B_{ex} \sim 1.6 \text{ T}$$

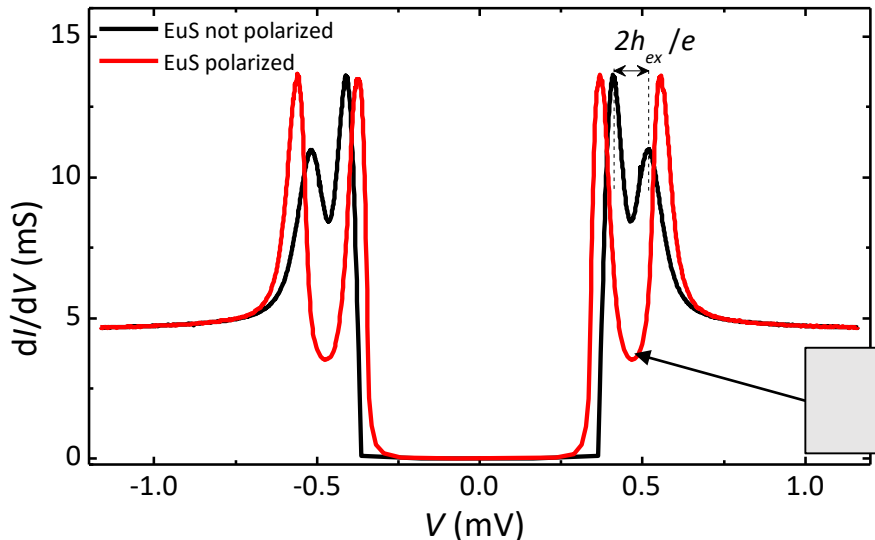


$$\Delta_1 + \Delta_2 = 460 \mu\text{eV}$$

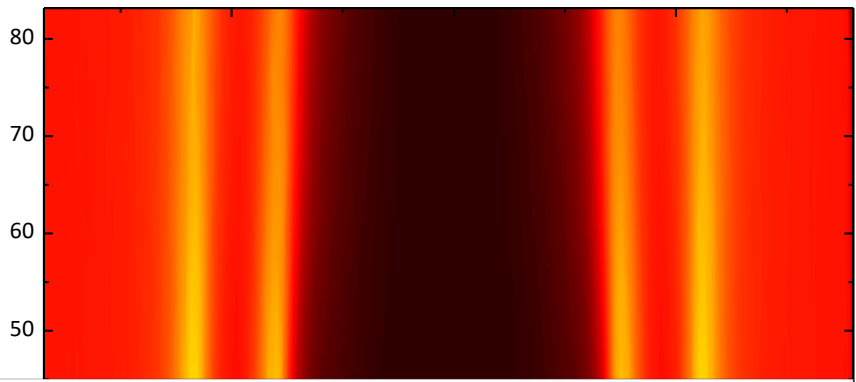
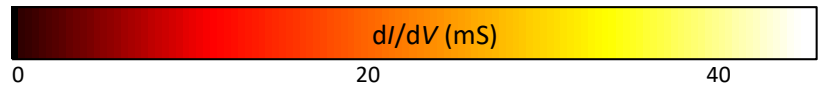
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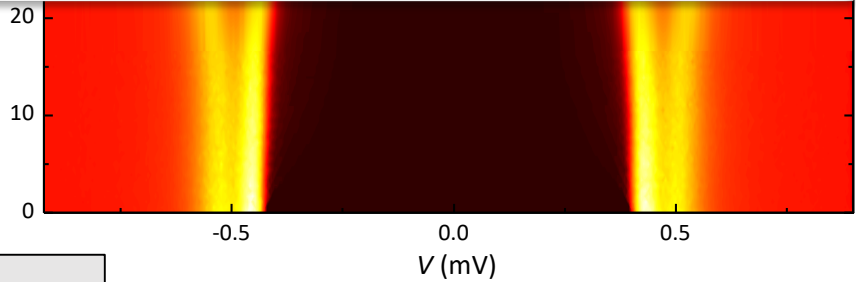
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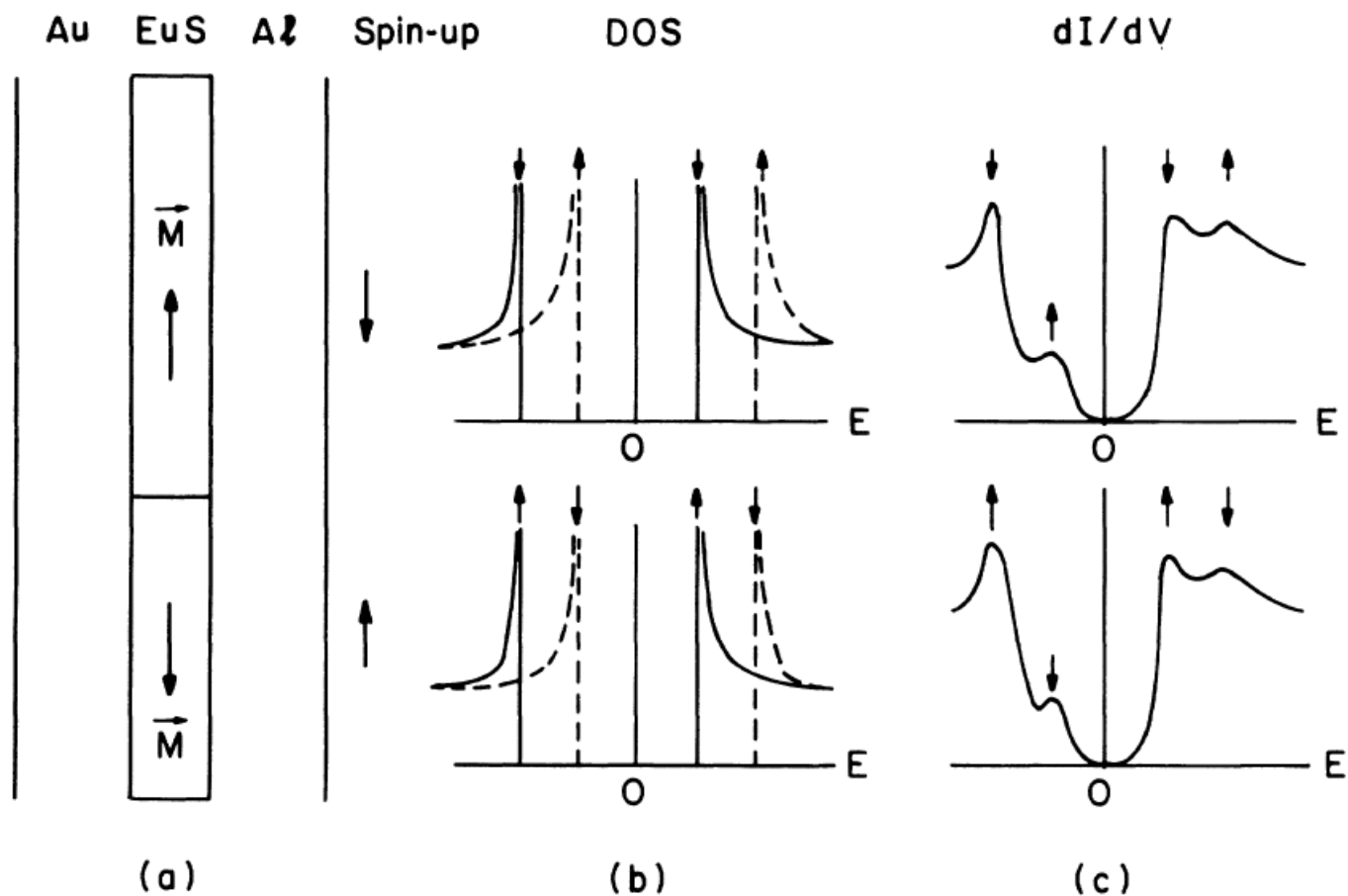
$$\Delta_1 + \Delta_2 = 460 \mu eV$$



- Position is affected
- Shape is reconstructed

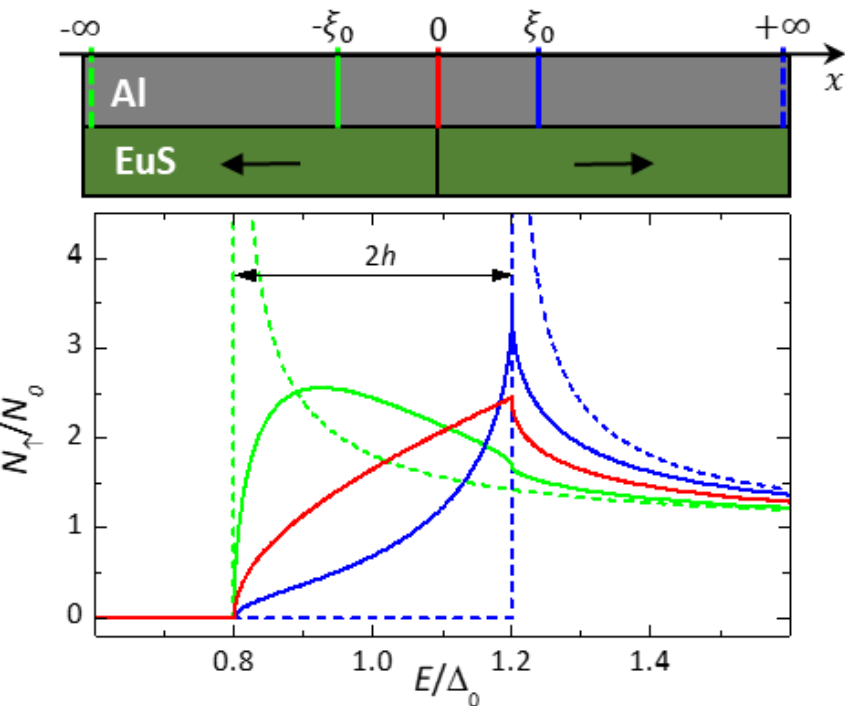


# Theoretical Model (Role of Domains)

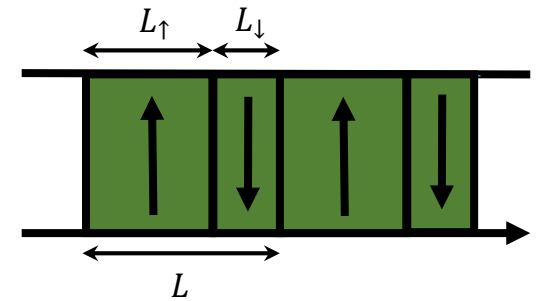
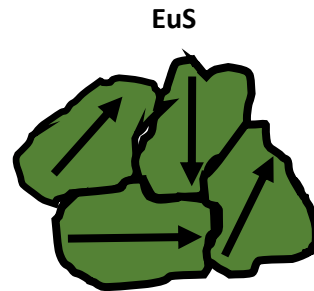


X. Hao, J. S. Moodera, and R. Meservey, "Spin-filter effect of ferromagnetic europium sulfide tunnel barriers," *Phys. Rev. B*, **42**, 8235 (1990)

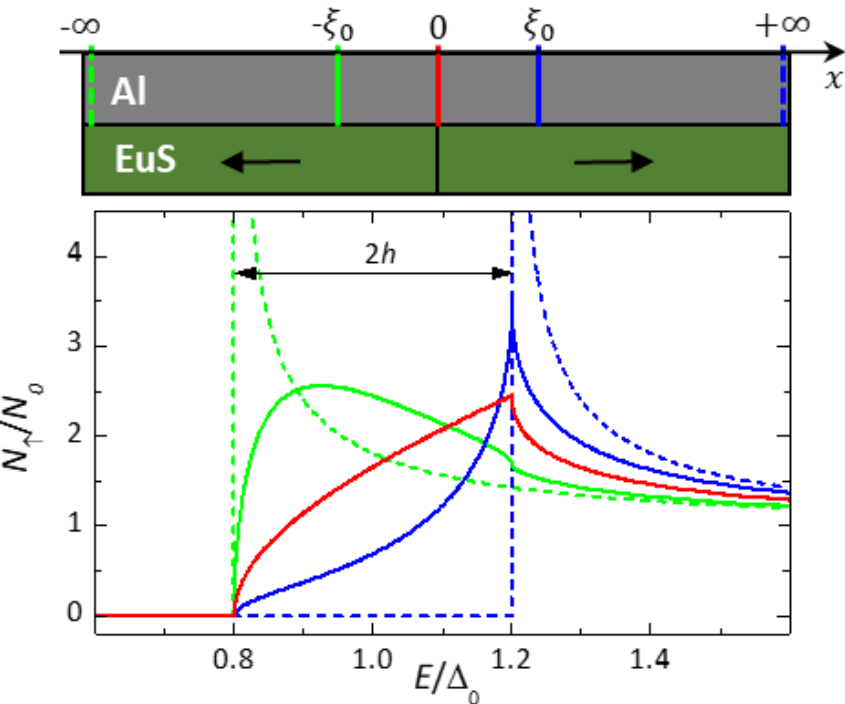
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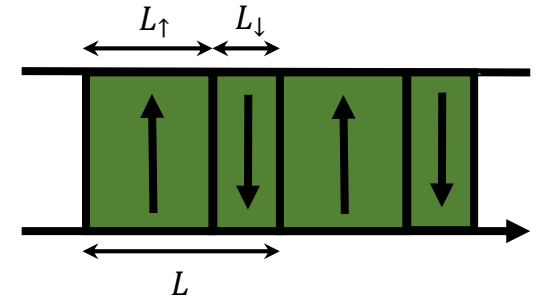
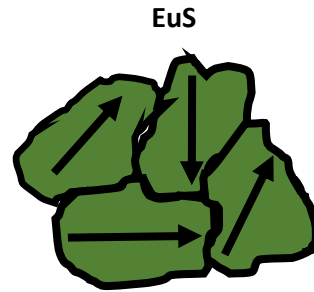


$$L_{\uparrow} = L_{\downarrow} \text{ ( Non Polarized )}$$

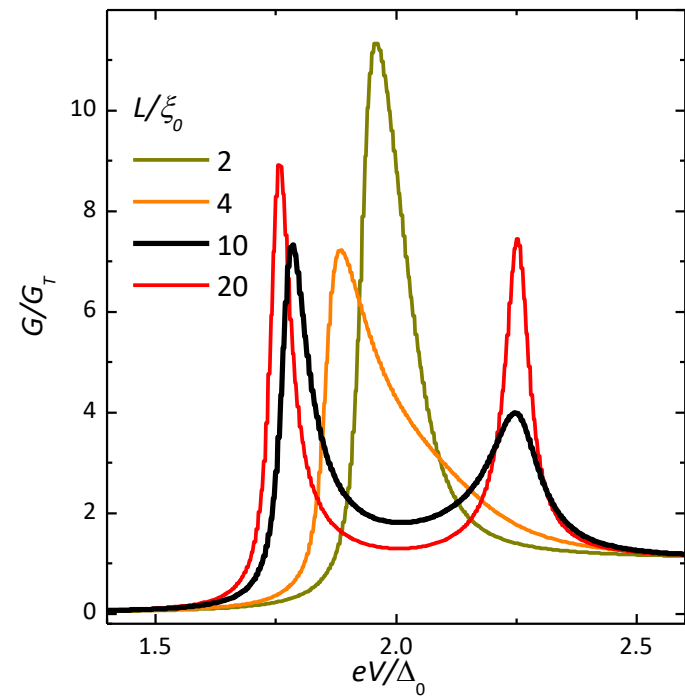
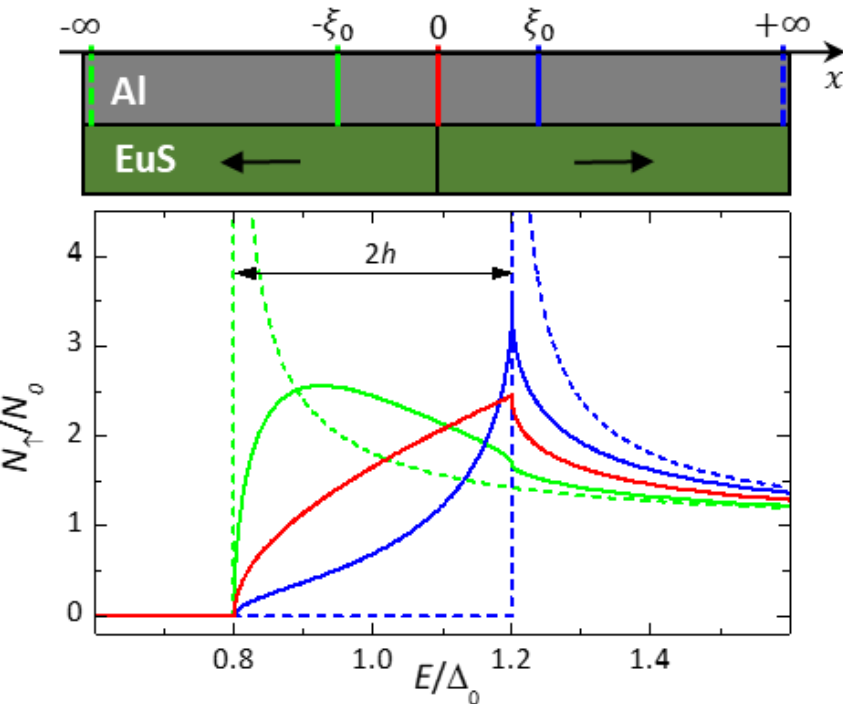




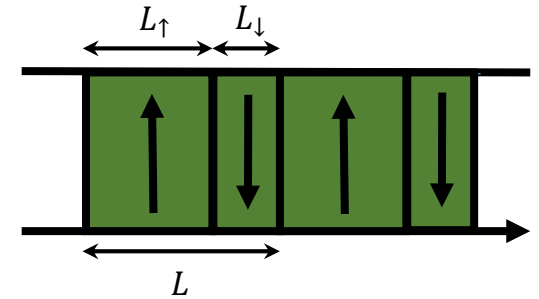
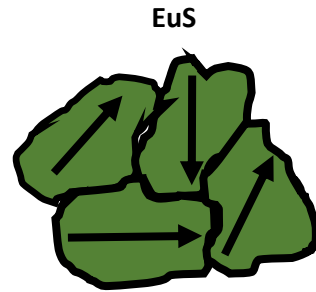
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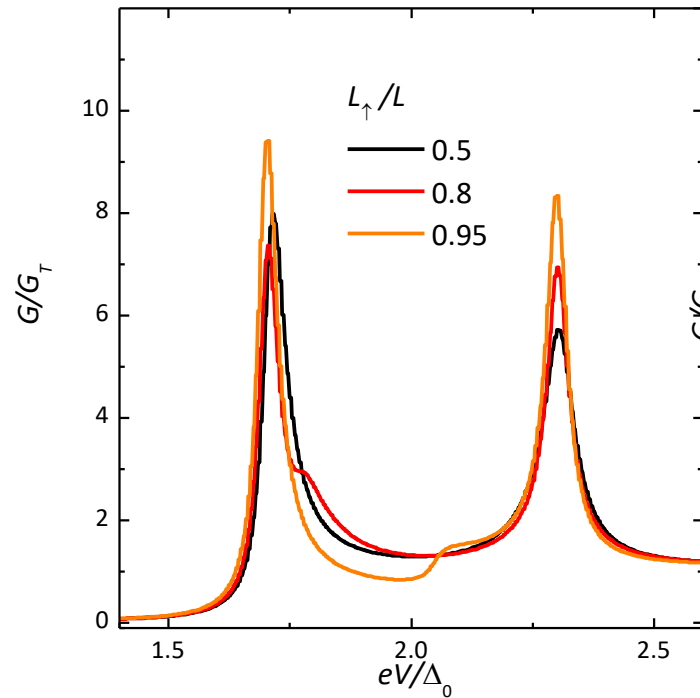
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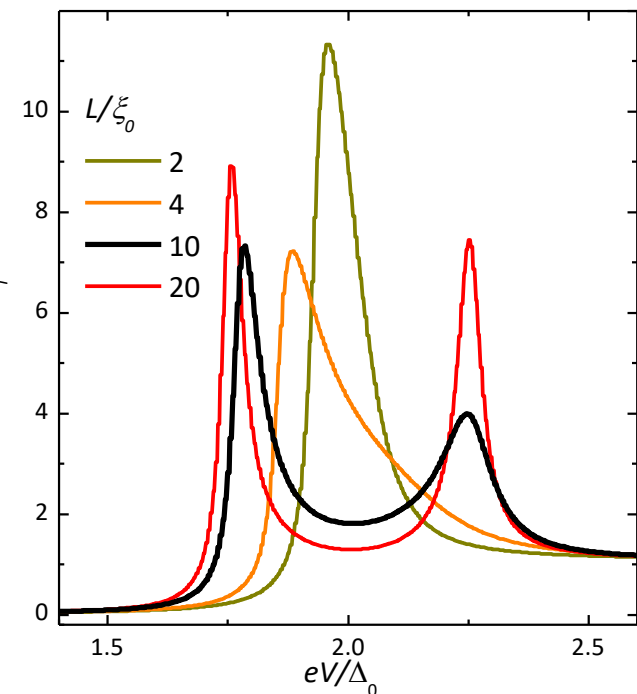
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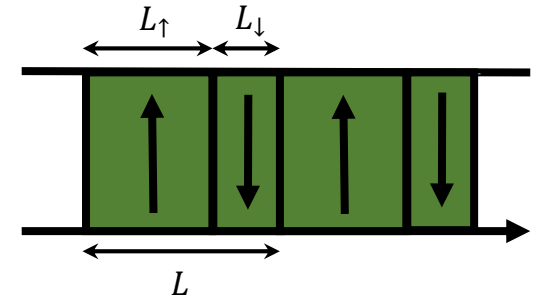
$L_{\uparrow} \neq L_{\downarrow}$  (Polarized)



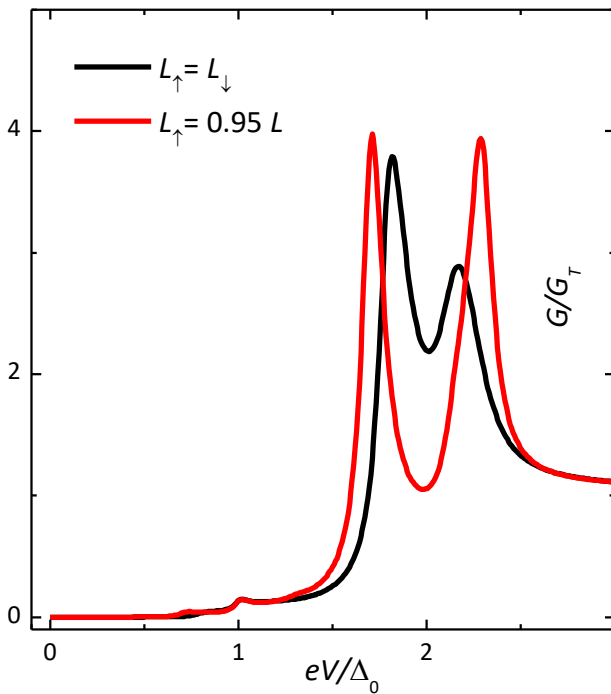
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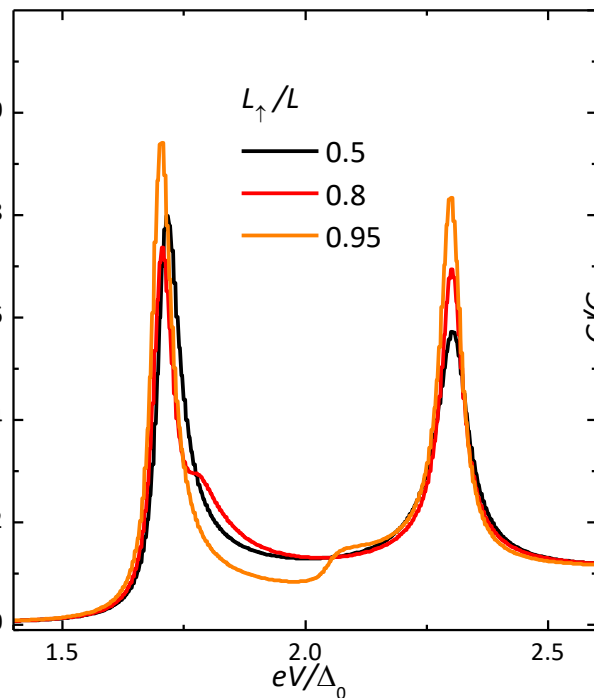
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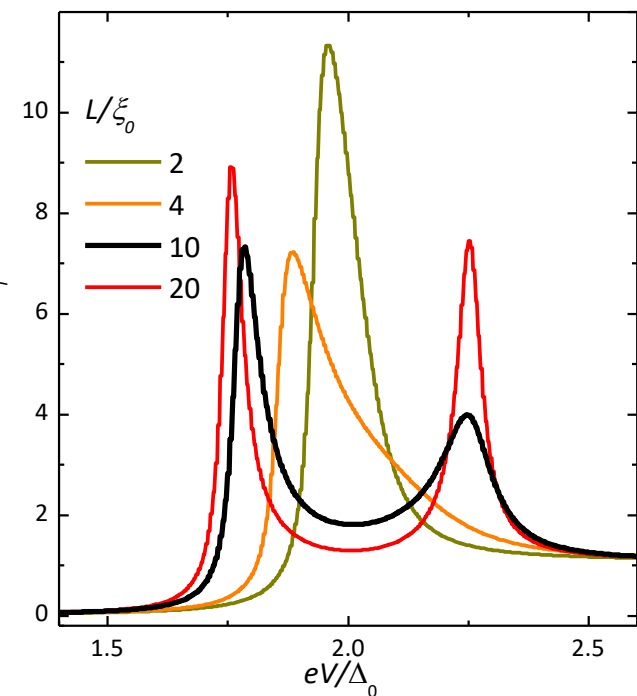
Different distributions



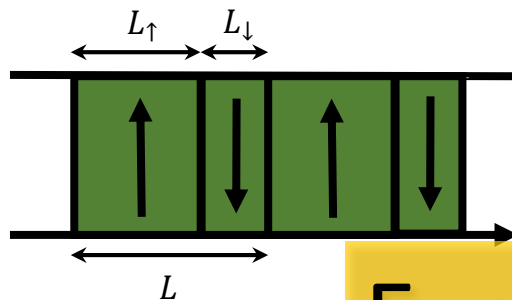
$L_{\uparrow} \neq L_{\downarrow}$  ( Polarized )



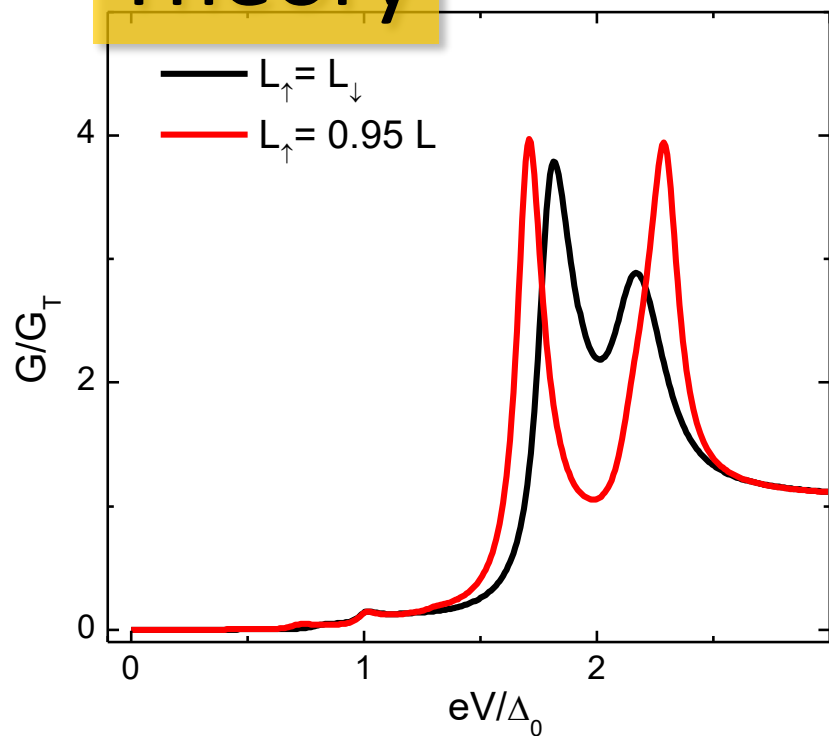
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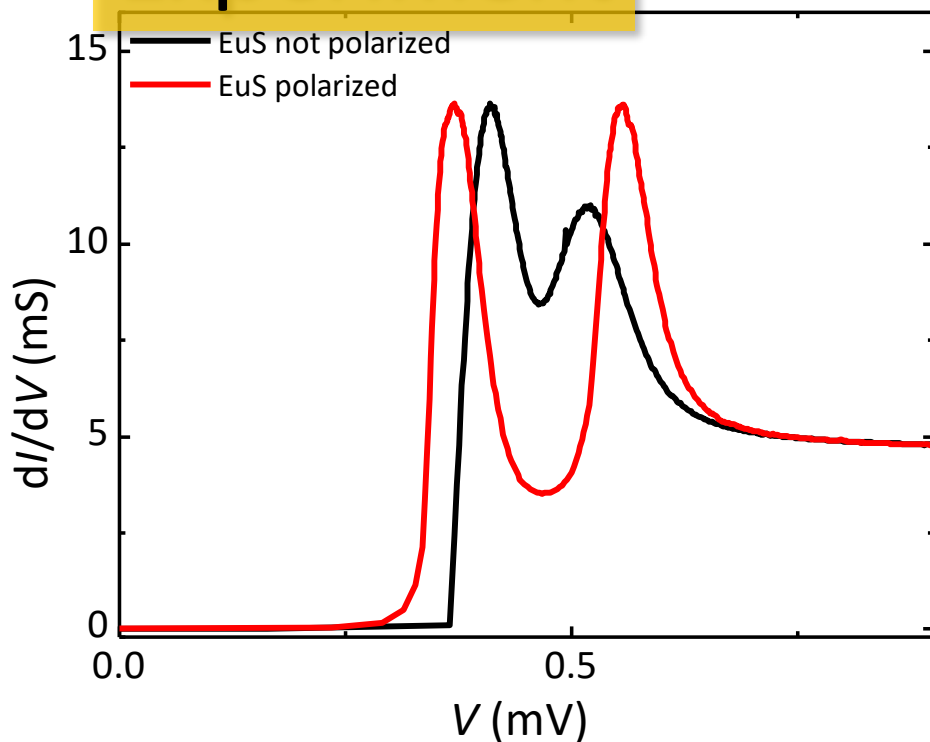
# Theoretical Model (Role of Domains)



## Theory



## Experiment



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# Absolute Spin valve

## Absolute Spin-Valve Effect with Superconducting Proximity Structures

Daniel Huertas-Hernando,<sup>1</sup> Yu. V. Nazarov,<sup>1</sup> and W. Belzig<sup>2</sup>

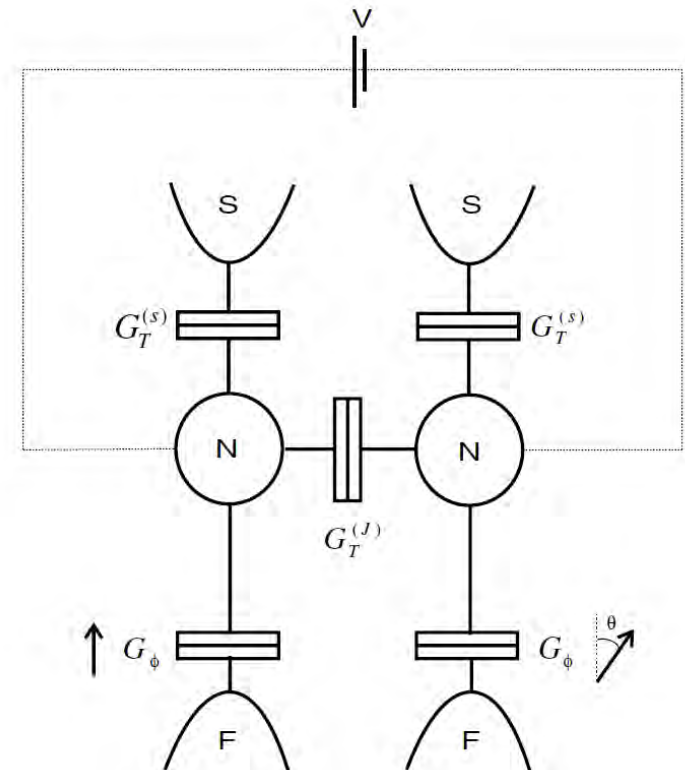
<sup>1</sup>*Department of Applied Physics and Delft Institute of Microelectronics and Submicronotechnology, Delft University of Technology, Lorentzweg 1, 2628 CJ Delft, The Netherlands*

<sup>2</sup>*Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Basel, Klingelbergstrasse 82, 4056 Basel, Switzerland*  
(Received 16 July 2001; published 11 January 2002)

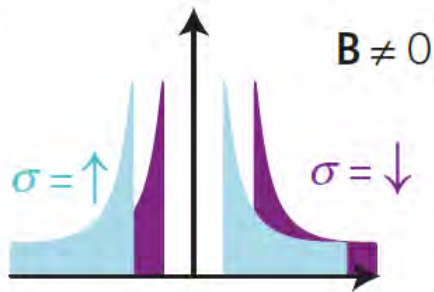
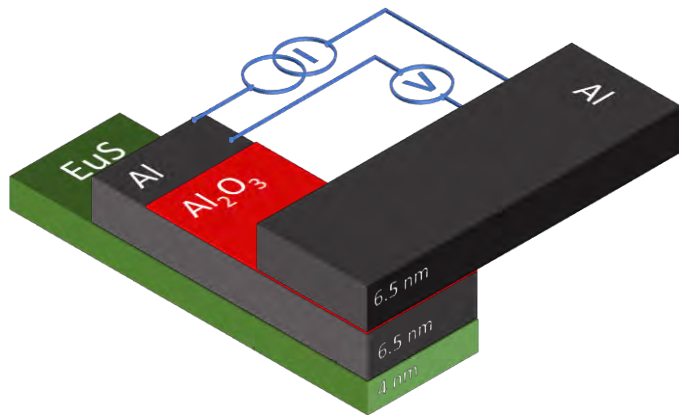
We investigate spin-dependent transport in hybrid superconductor–normal-metal–ferromagnet structures under conditions of the proximity effect. We demonstrate the feasibility of the absolute spin-valve effect for a certain interval of voltages in a system consisting of two coupled trilayer structures. Our results are also valid for noncollinear magnetic configurations of the ferromagnets.

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.88.047003

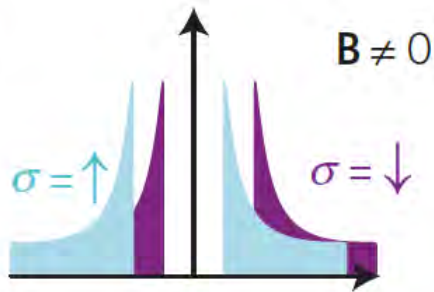
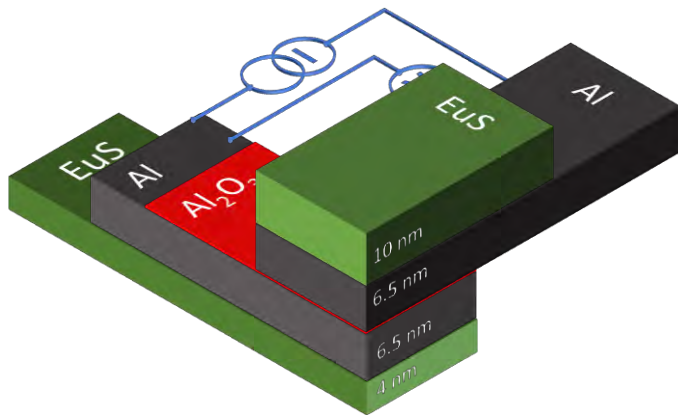
PACS numbers: 74.50.+r, 72.10.-d, 74.80.Dn



# Absolute Spin valve

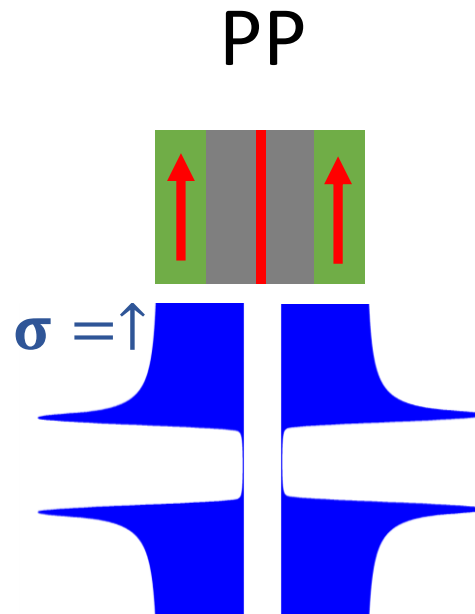
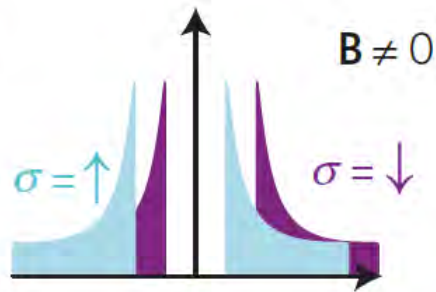
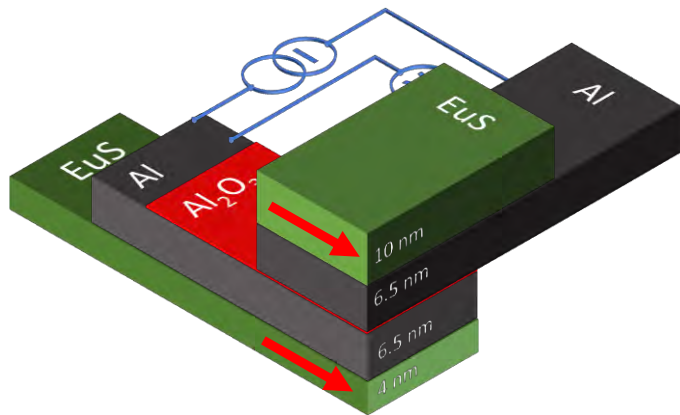


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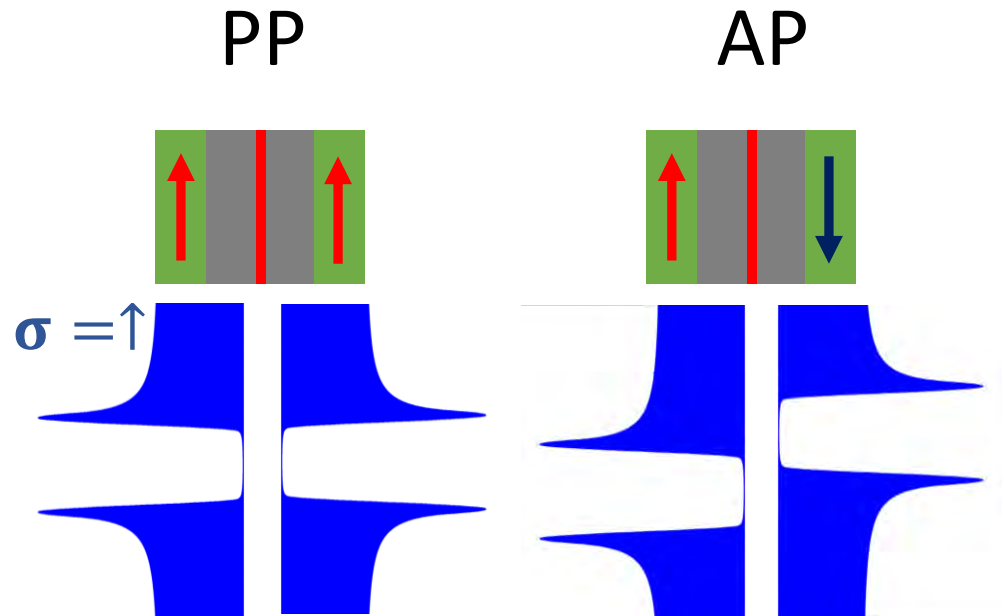
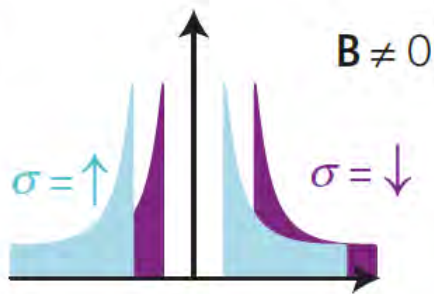
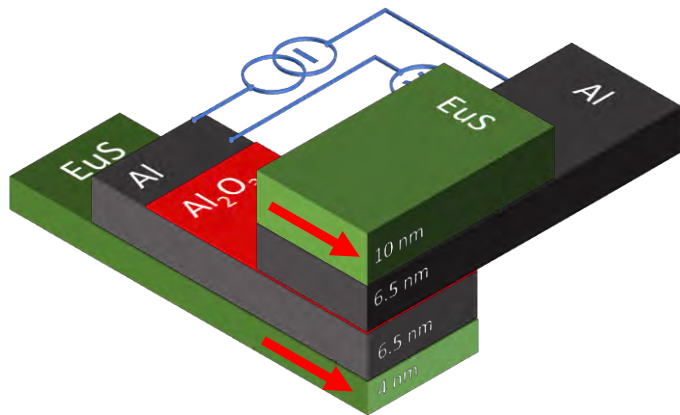




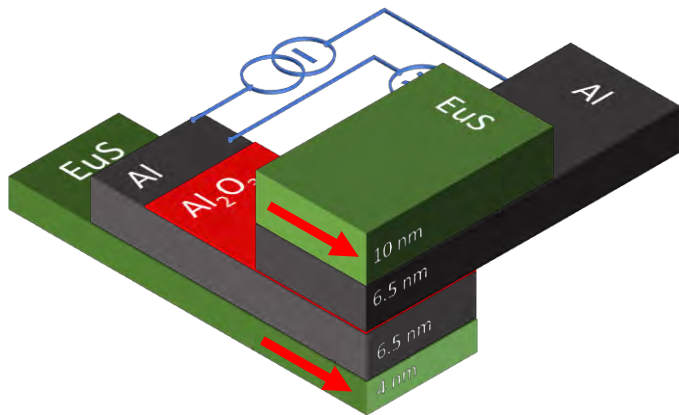
# Absolute Spin valve



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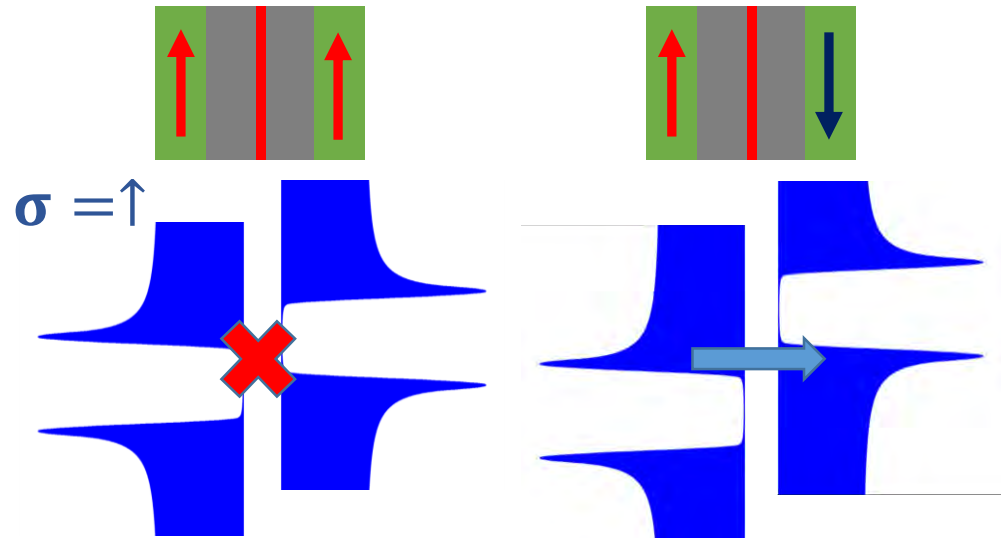
# Absolute Spin valve



$$2\Delta > eV_{bias} > 2\Delta - 2h_{ex}$$

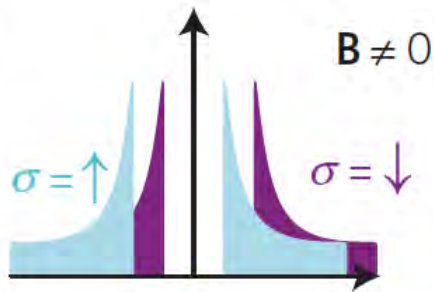
PP

AP

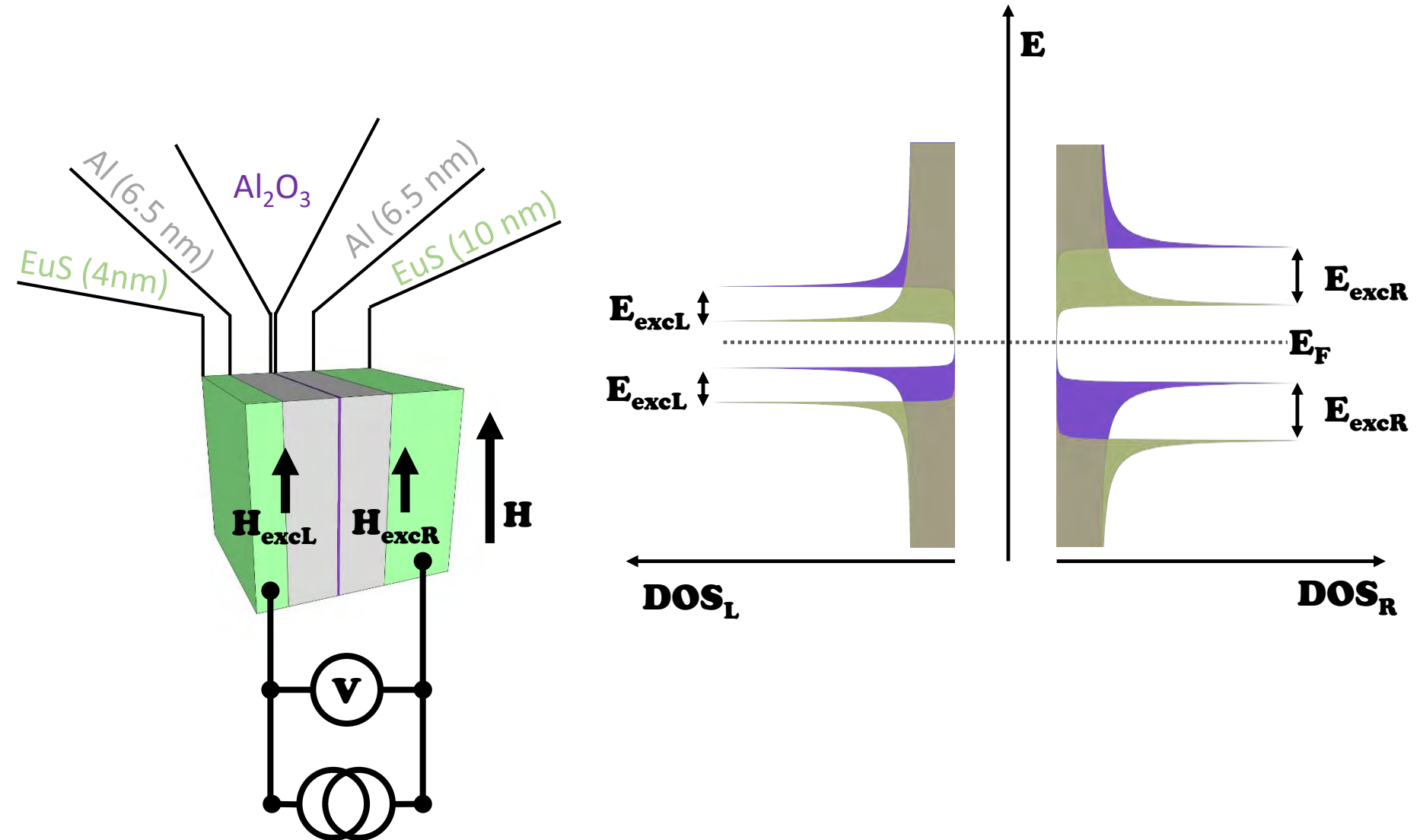


Closed

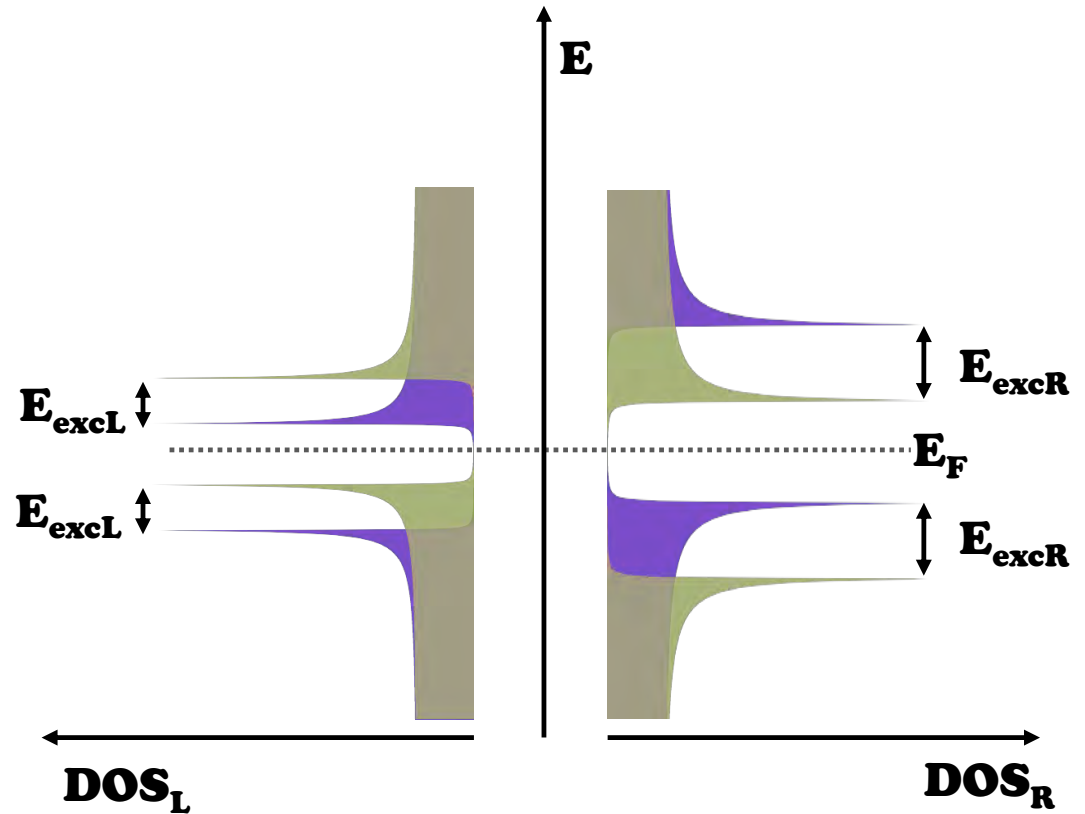
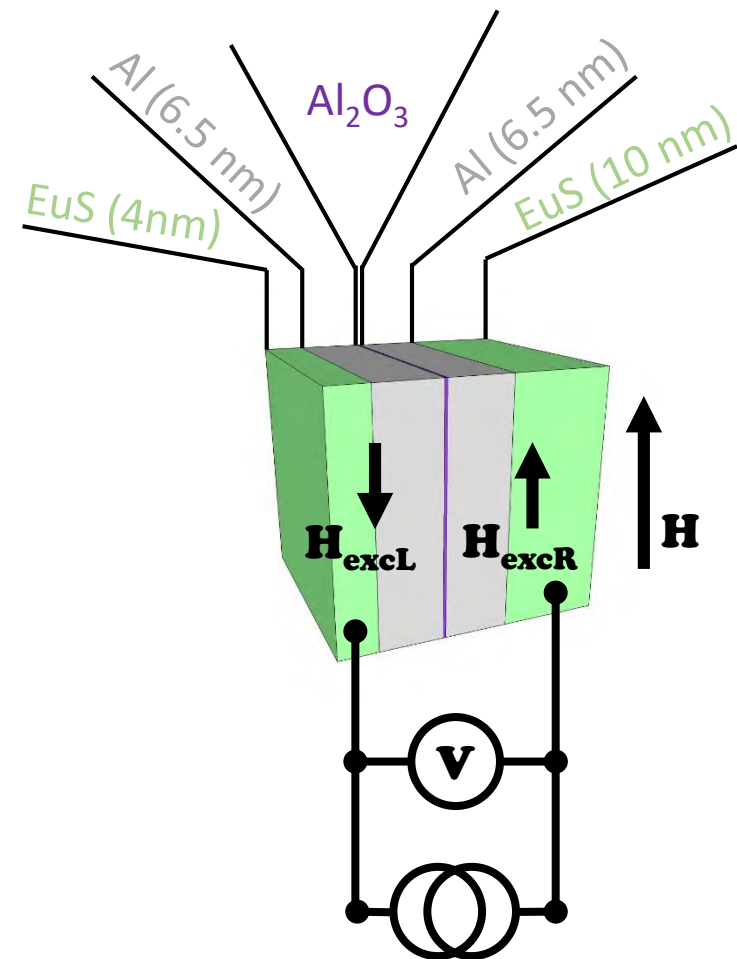
Open



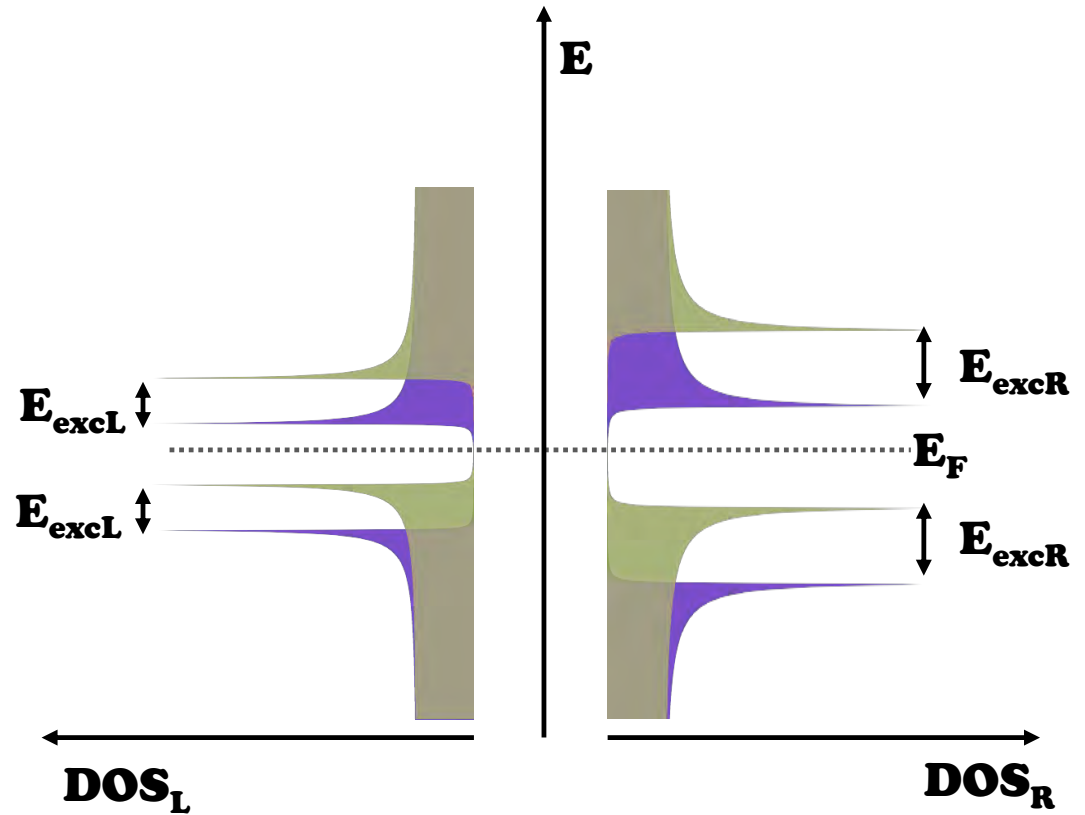
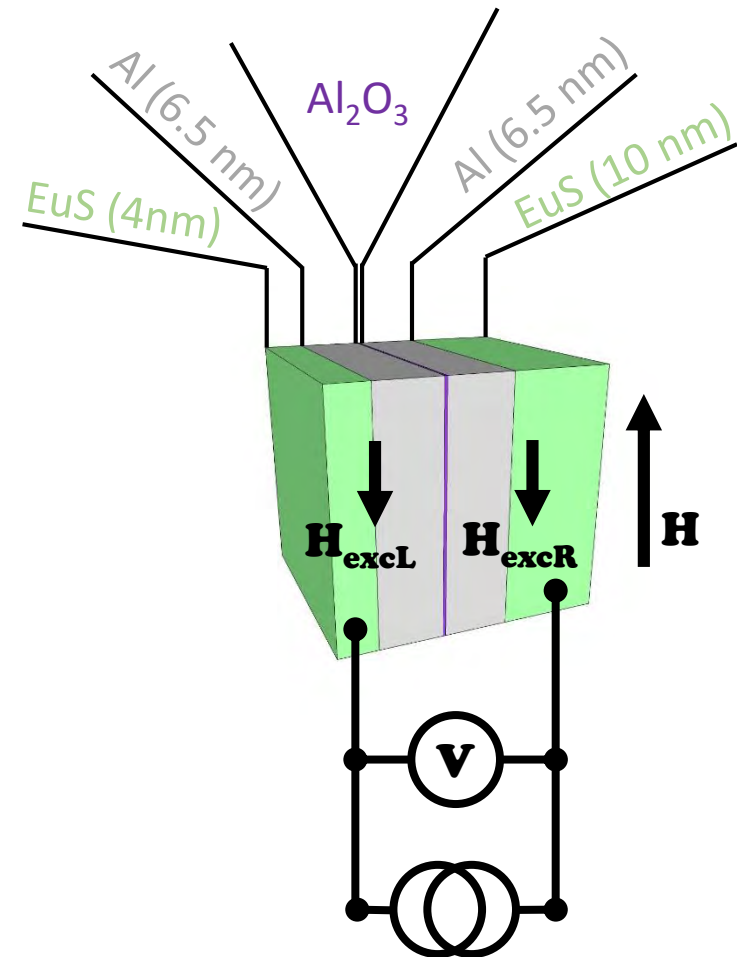
# Absolute spin valve



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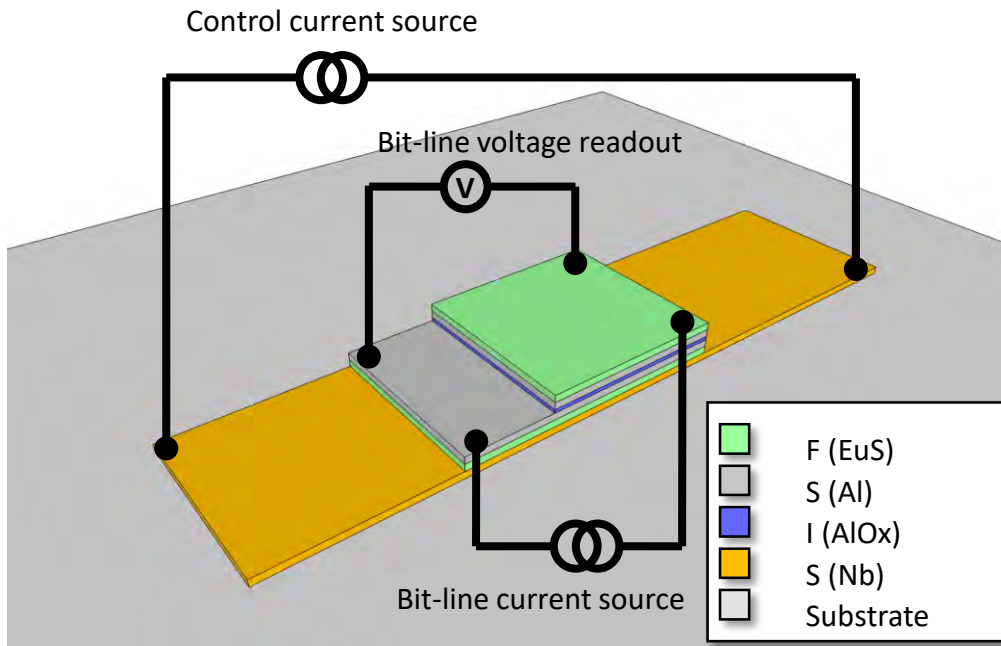
# Absolute spin valve



# Conclusions and perspectives

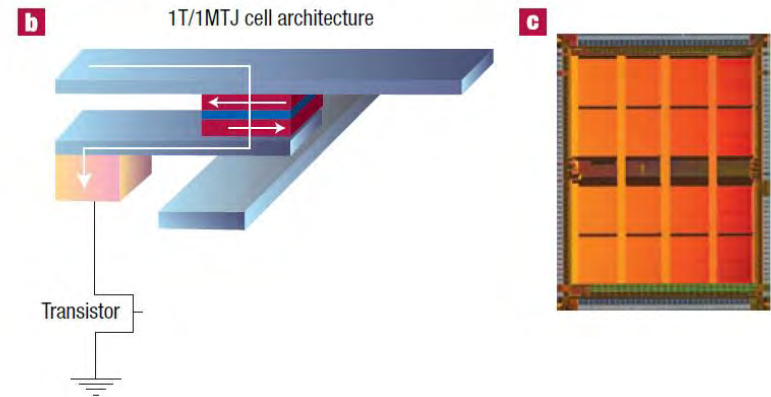
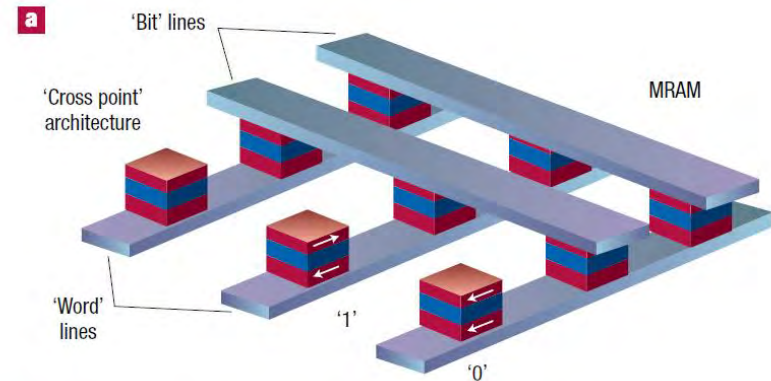
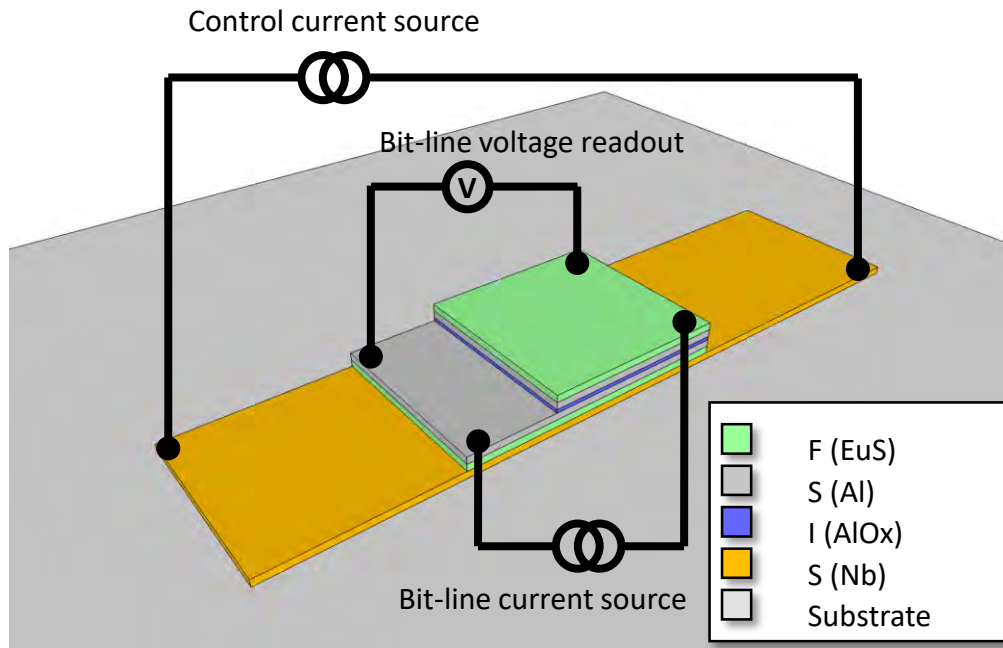
- Role of magnetic domains
  - Tunneling spectroscopy experiment
  - Theoretical model
- The superconducting ASV
  - Demonstration and performance
  - Large scale superconducting RAM?

# Conclusions and perspectives





# Conclusions and perspectives

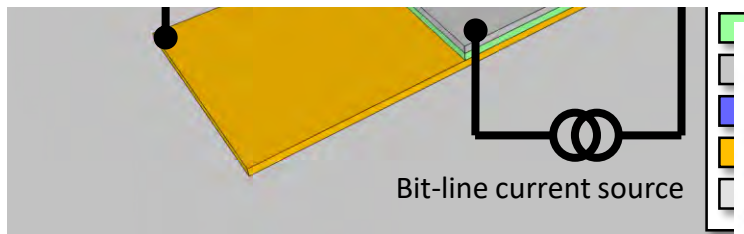


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*Nat Mater*, **6**, 813, (2007).

# Conclusions and perspectives

## Energy-Efficient Superconducting Computing—Power Budgets and Requirements

D. Scott Holmes, *Senior Member, IEEE*, Andrew L. Ripple, and Marc A. Manheimer



Superconducting memories seem most promising for register and cache memory on the processor chip where speed is extremely important. Significant improvements in physical density and energy efficiency will be required even for these applications.

CMOS memories designed and fabricated to operate at 4 K can be integrated with SFQ circuits. Hybrid Josephson-CMOS memories up to 64 Kibit have been developed and tested [40], [41]. While these are larger and denser than purely superconducting memories built to date, the power and energy dissipation is too large to serve in an exascale superconducting computer.

The search for more suitable memories has begun and some concepts are promising, however none have been demonstrated.

# Thank you

- Acknowledgements:

- V. N. Golovach,
- F. S. Bergeret,
- J. S. Moodera,
- G. De Simoni,
- F. Giazotto

E. Strambini, V. N. Golovach, G. De Simoni, J. S. Moodera, F. S. Bergeret, and F. Giazotto,  
“Revealing the magnetic proximity effect in EuS/Al bilayers through superconducting tunneling spectroscopy,”  
Phys. Rev. Mat. **00**, 004400 (2017)

G. De Simoni, E. Strambini, J. S. Moodera, F. S. Bergeret, and F. Giazotto,  
«Superconducting absolute spin valve”, in preparation

Patent UIBM, “Elemento logico a superconduttori”, filing number 102017000095994, prior. date 24 August 2017



Marie Skłodowska-Curie  
Actions

**Acknowledgement:**

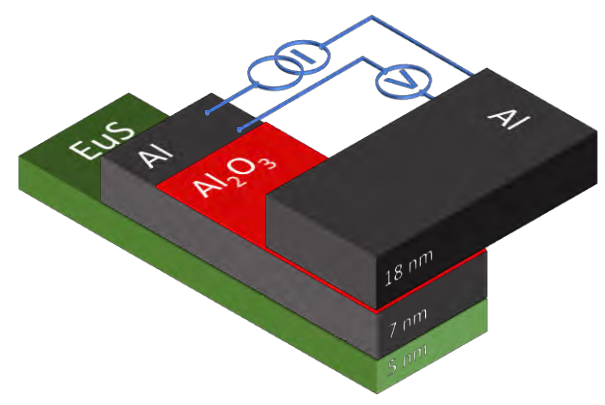
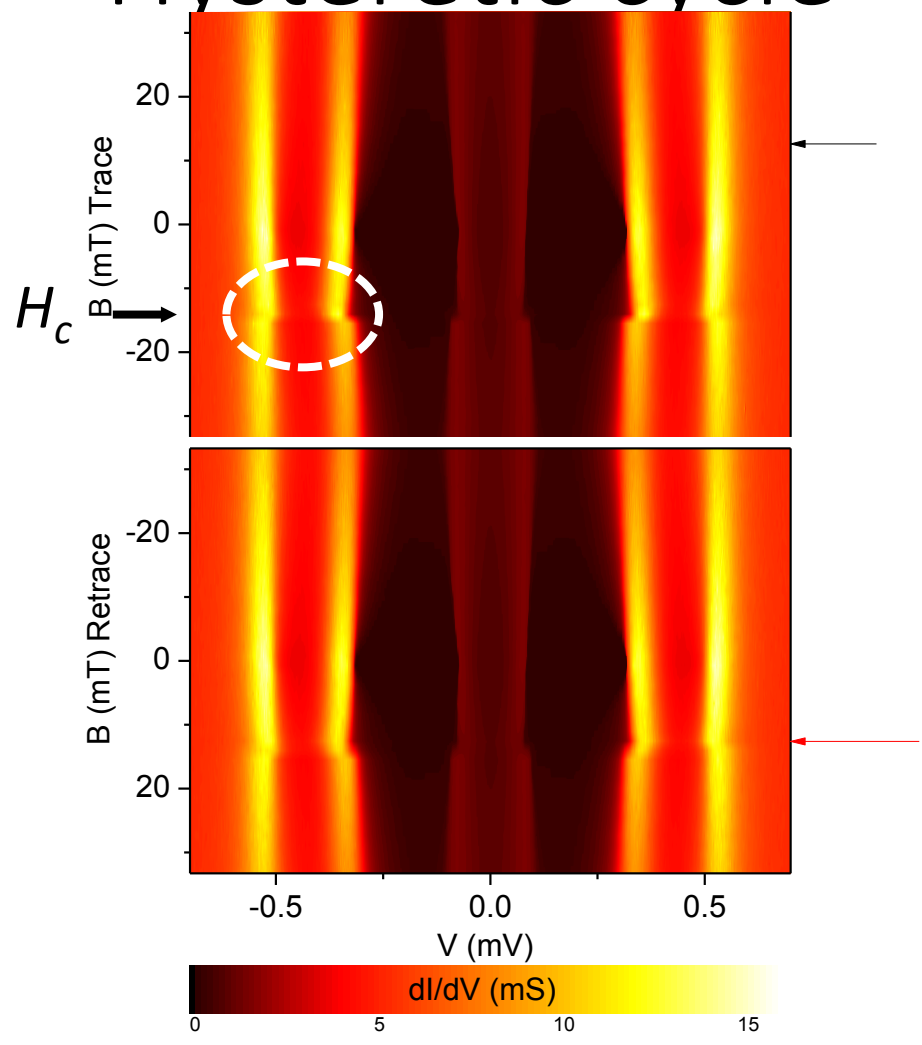
Marie Curie Individual Fellowship No. 660532-**SuperMag**  
ERC consolidator grant No. 615187-**COMANCHE**



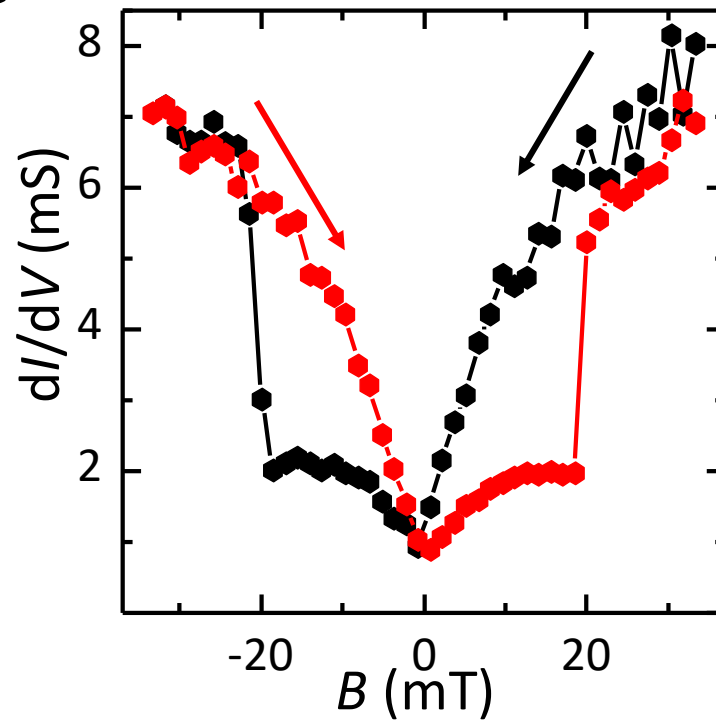
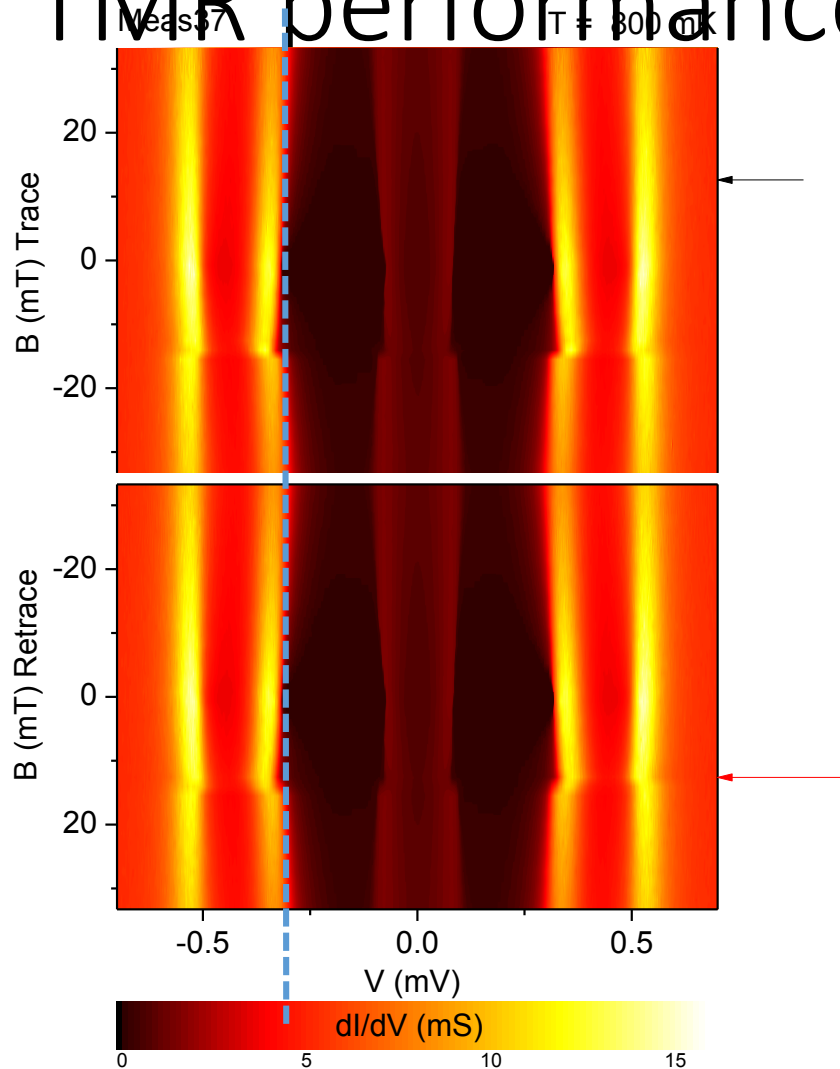




# Hysteretic cycle

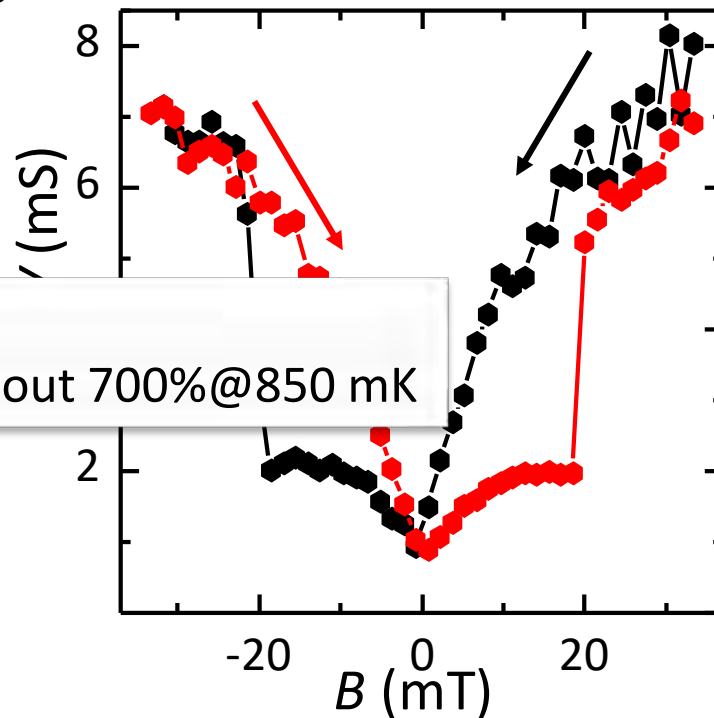
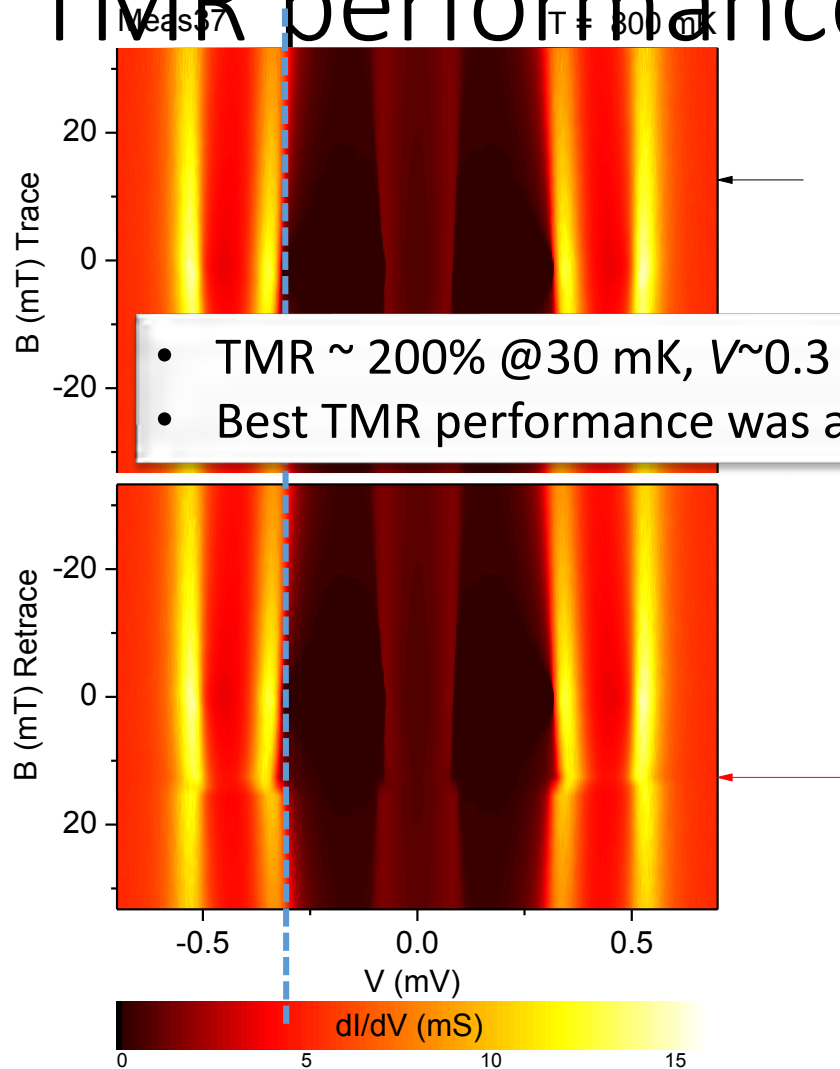


# TMR performance



$$\text{TMR} = \frac{\frac{dI}{dV}(\text{Trace})}{\frac{dI}{dV}(\text{Retrace})} - 1$$

# TMR performance

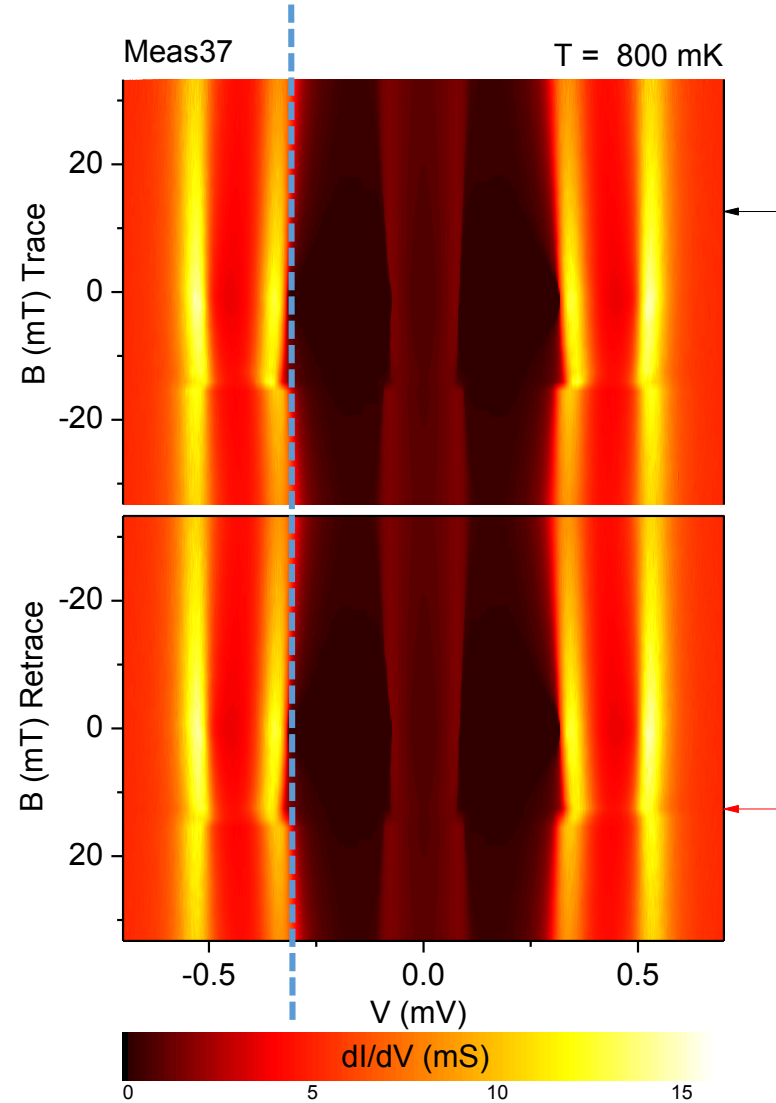
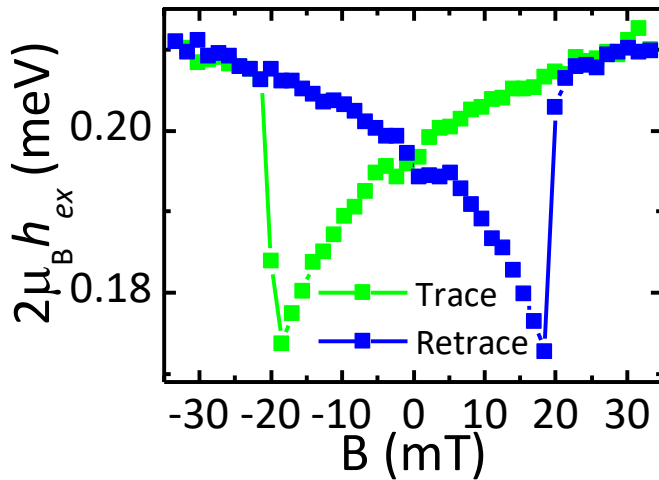
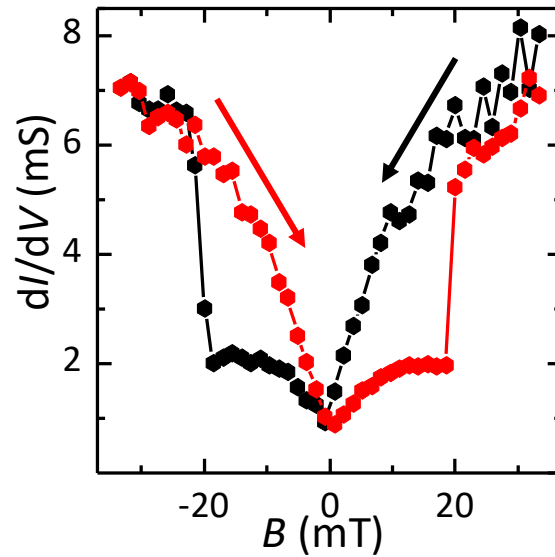
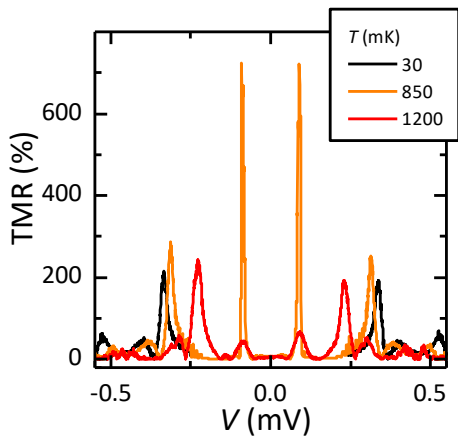


$$\text{TMR} = \frac{\frac{dI}{dV}(\text{Trace})}{\frac{dI}{dV}(\text{Retrace})} - 1$$

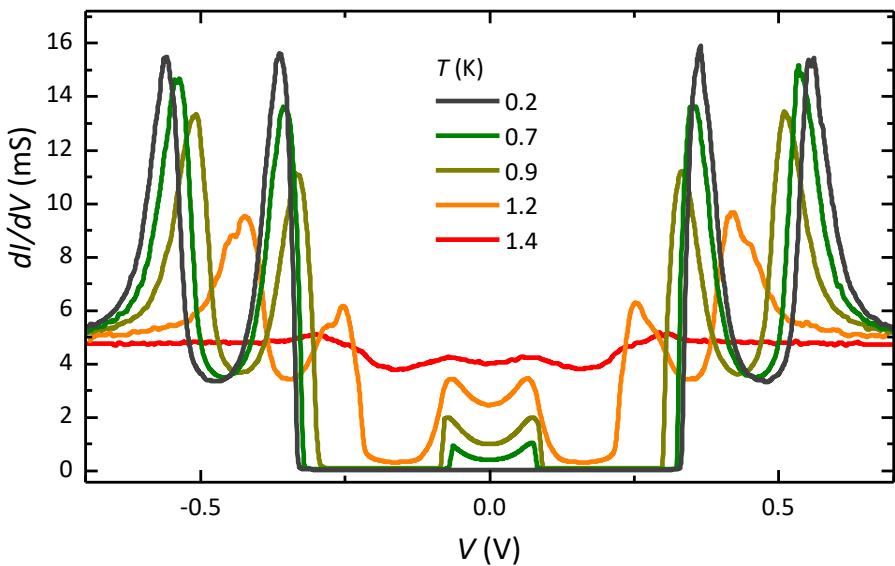


# Giant TMR

$$\text{TMR} = \frac{\frac{dI}{dV}(\text{Trace})}{\frac{dI}{dV}(\text{Retrace})} - 1$$



# Temperature Evolution



$$eV_{peaks} \cong (\Delta_1 - \Delta_2) \pm h_{ex}$$

