

Spin transport in a conventional superconductor

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University of Cambridge



K.R. Jeon, J.W.A. Robinson, M.
Blamire



H. Kurebayashi



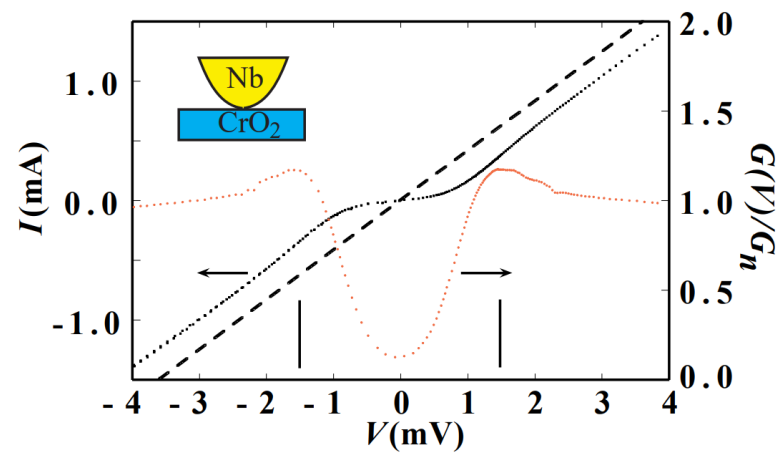
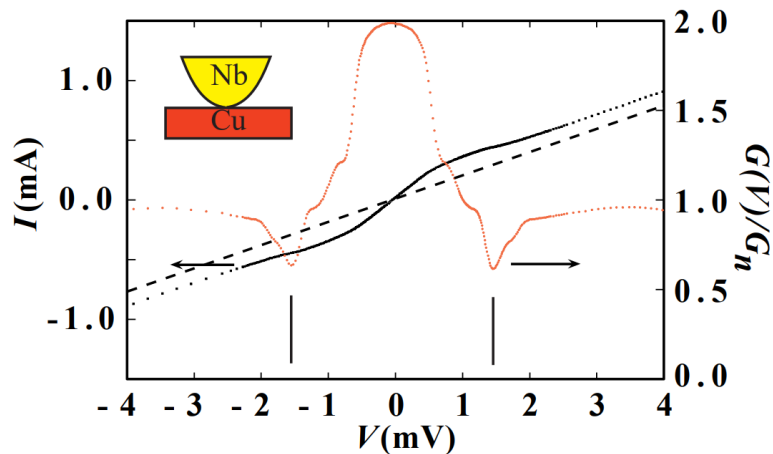
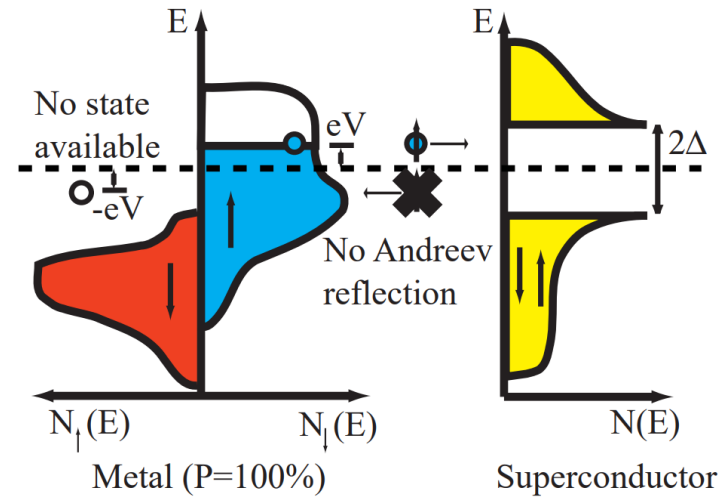
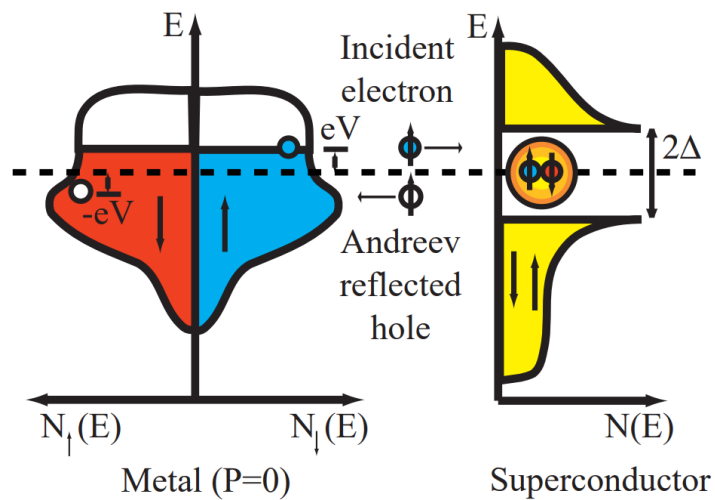
L.F. Cohen



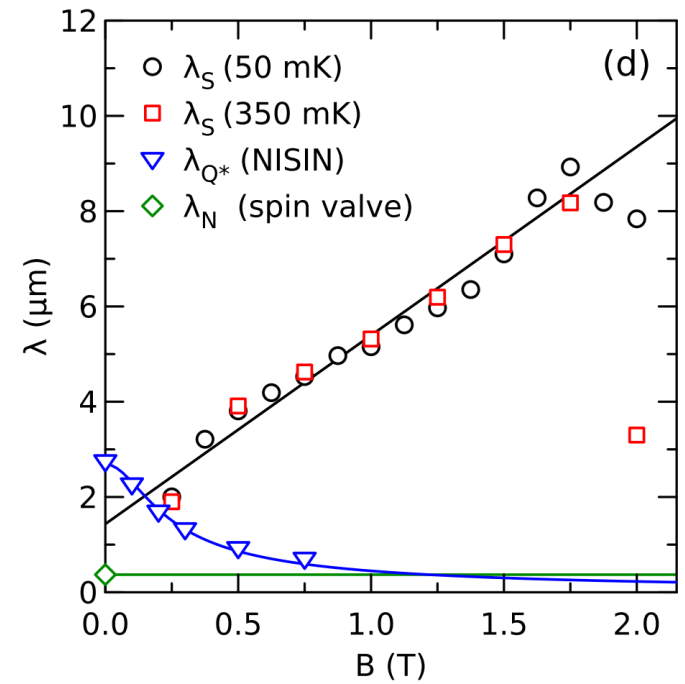
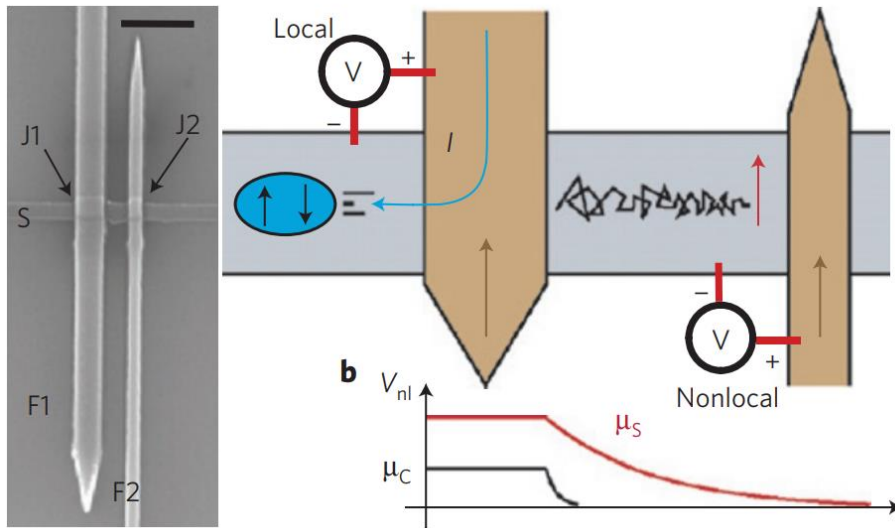
X. Montiel,
M. Eschrig



Spin transport BELOW the superconducting gap

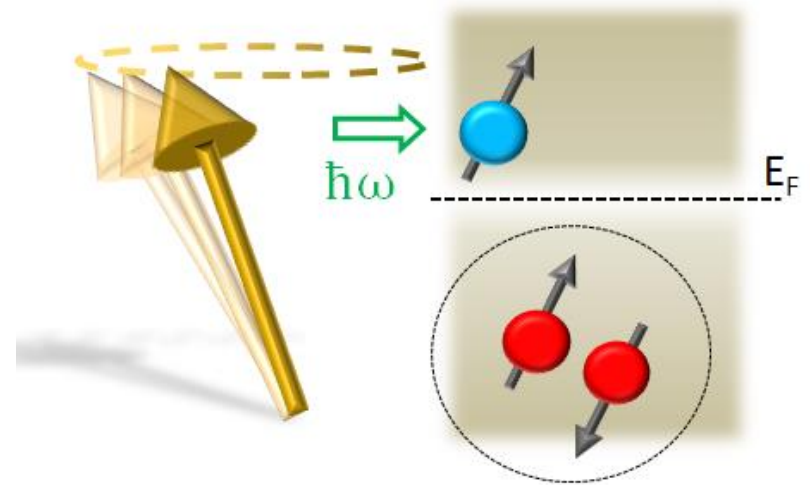
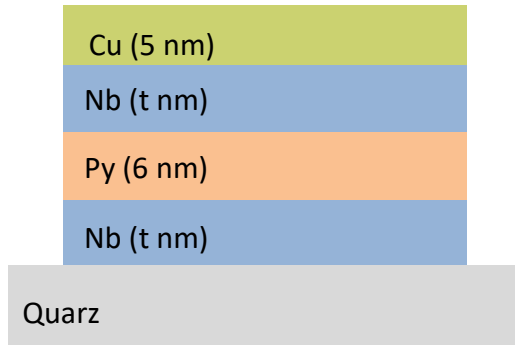


Spin transport ABOVE the superconducting gap



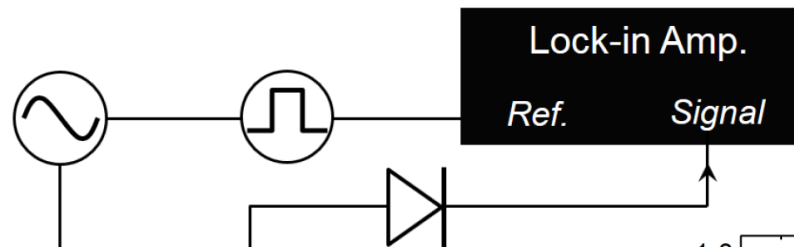
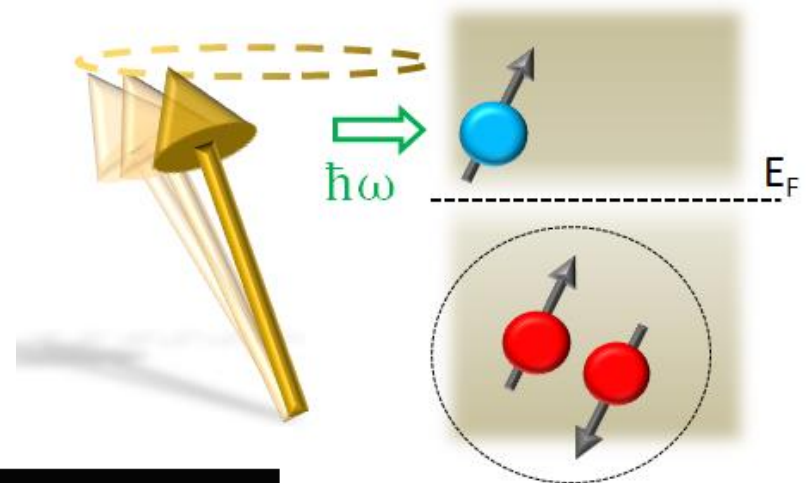
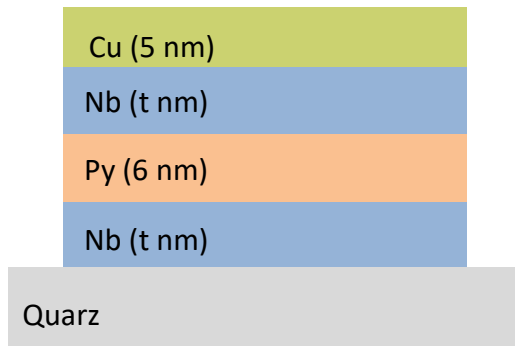
We measure spin-pumping in a superconductor

Layout 1



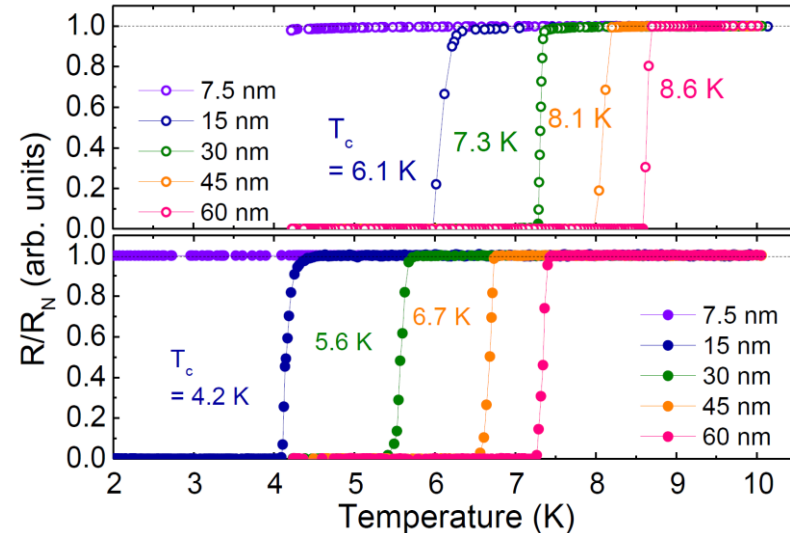
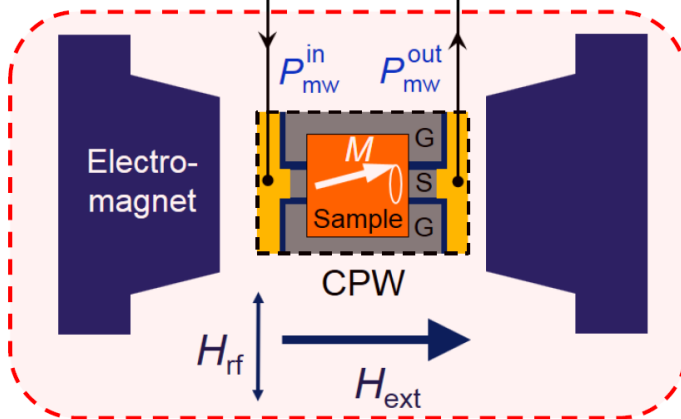
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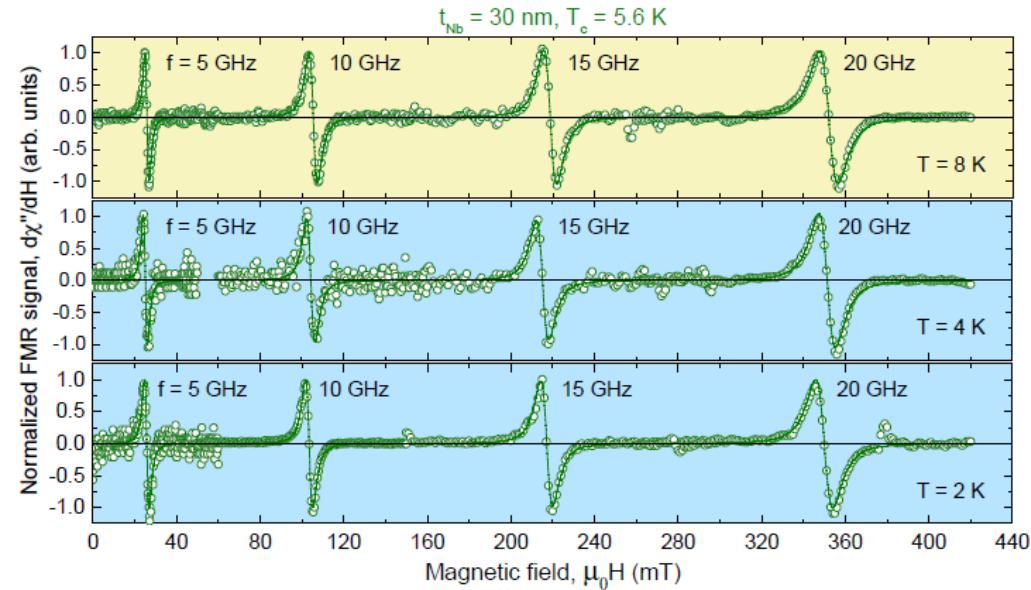


Vector field cryostat

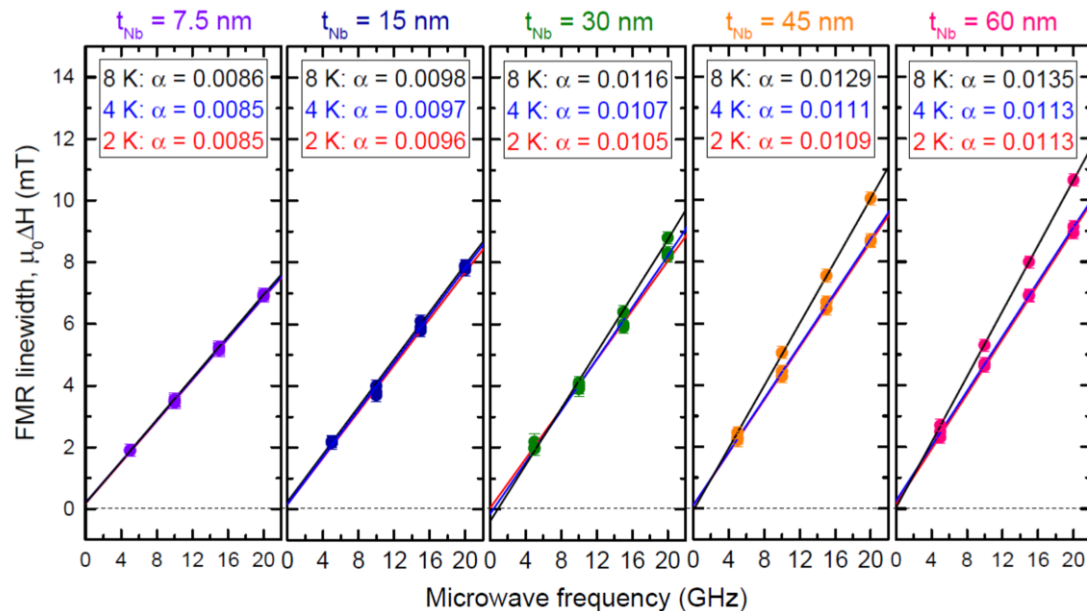
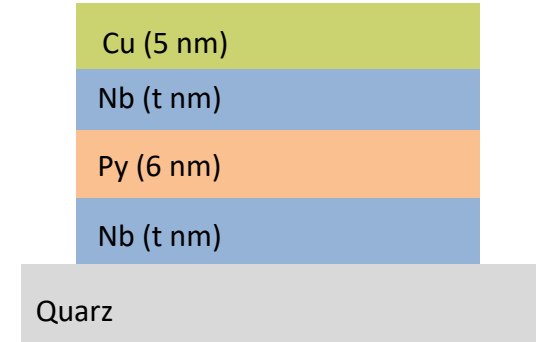
($2 \leq T \leq 300$ K,
 $0 \leq B_{ext} \leq 1.3$ T)



We estimate the spin through Nb from the FMR linewidth

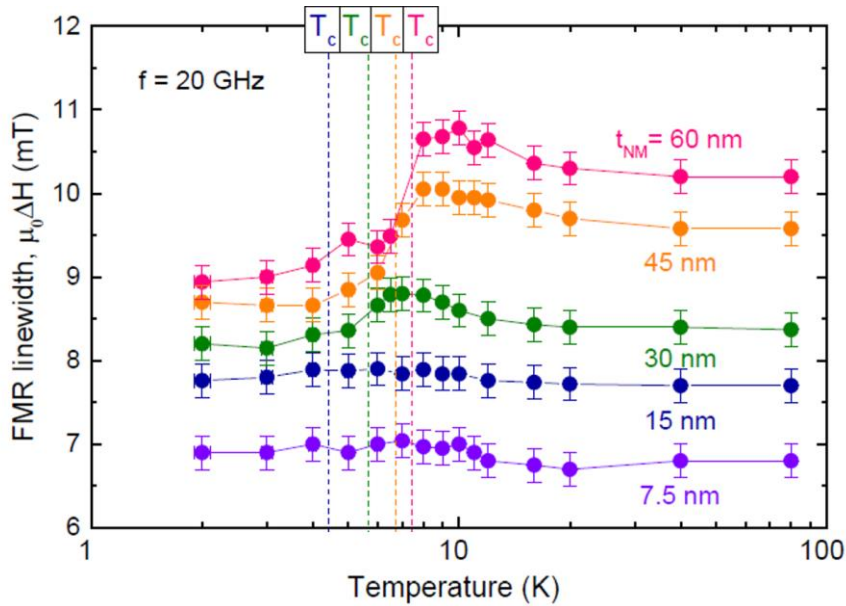


Layout 1

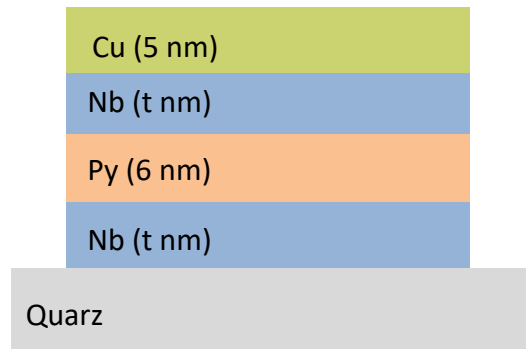


$$\mu_0 \Delta H(f) = \mu_0 \Delta H_0 + \frac{4\pi\alpha f}{\sqrt{3}\gamma}$$

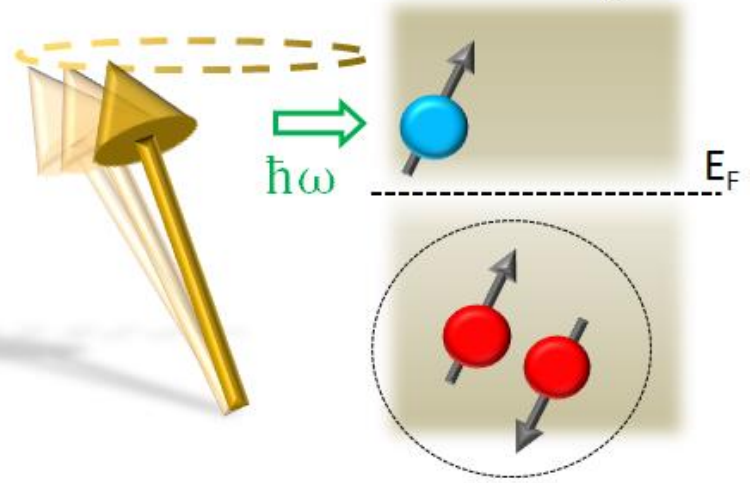
Damping has a sharp decrease below T_c



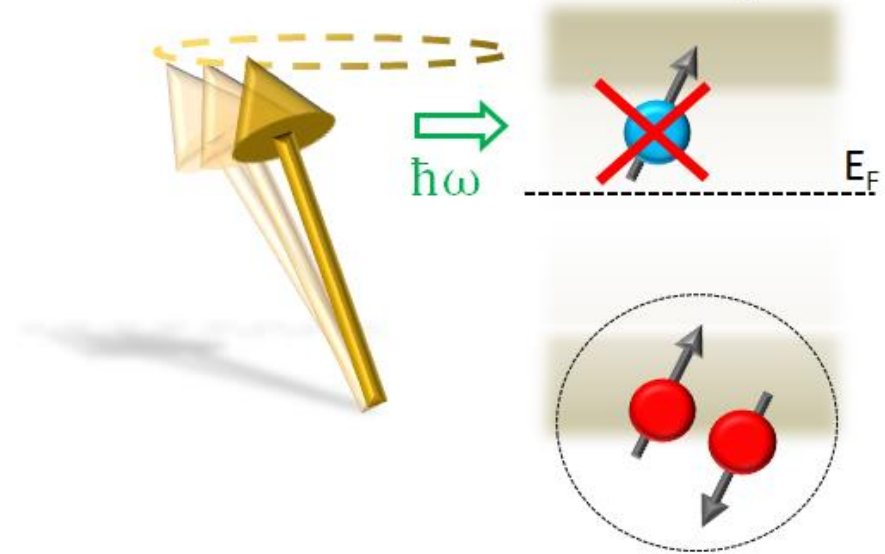
Layout 1



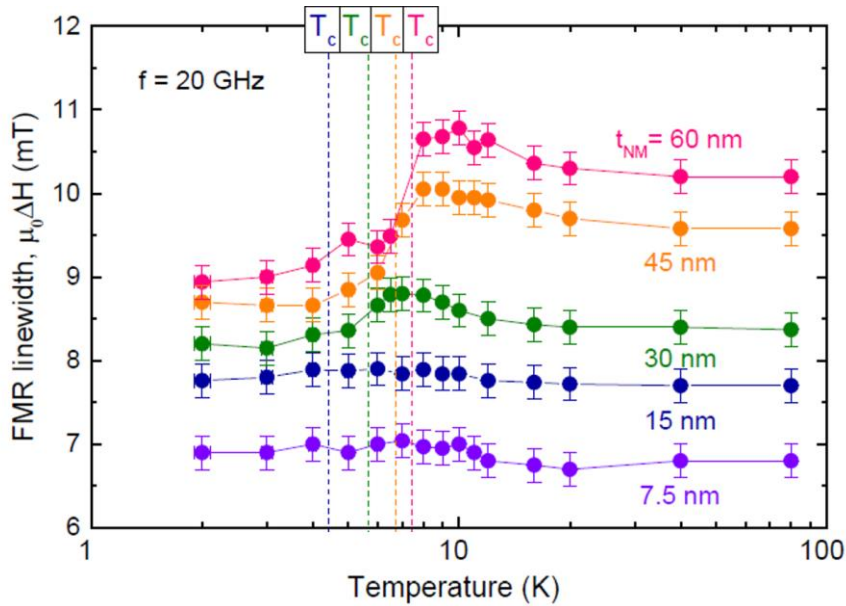
$T \geq T_c$



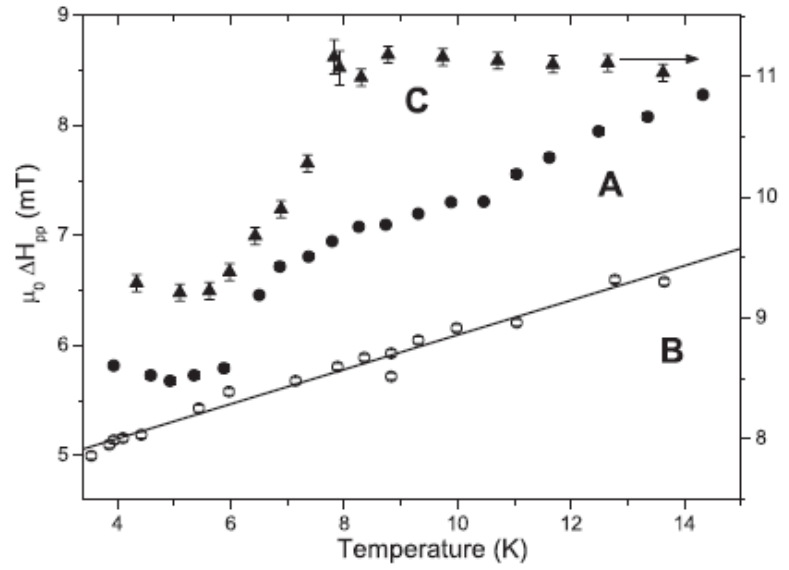
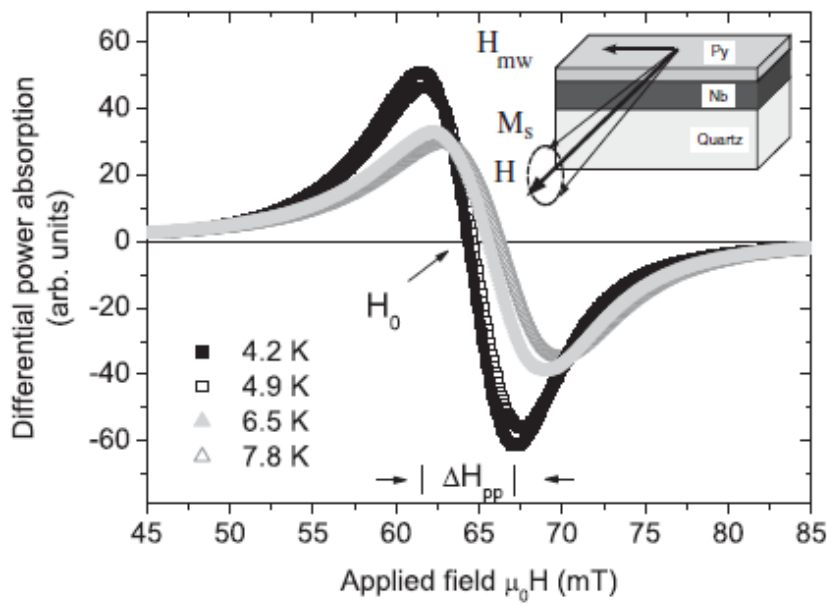
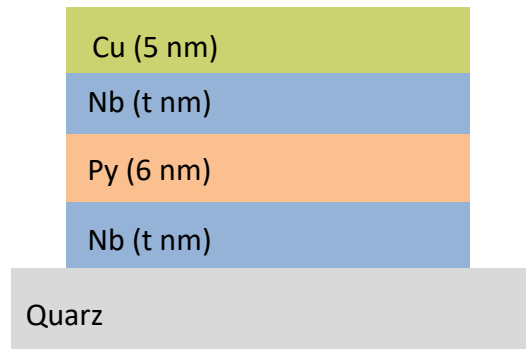
$T < T_c$



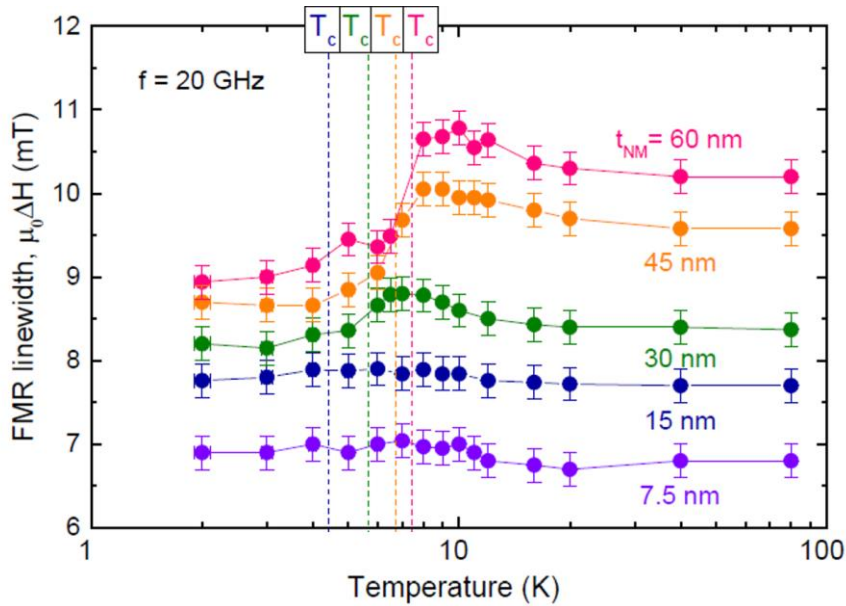
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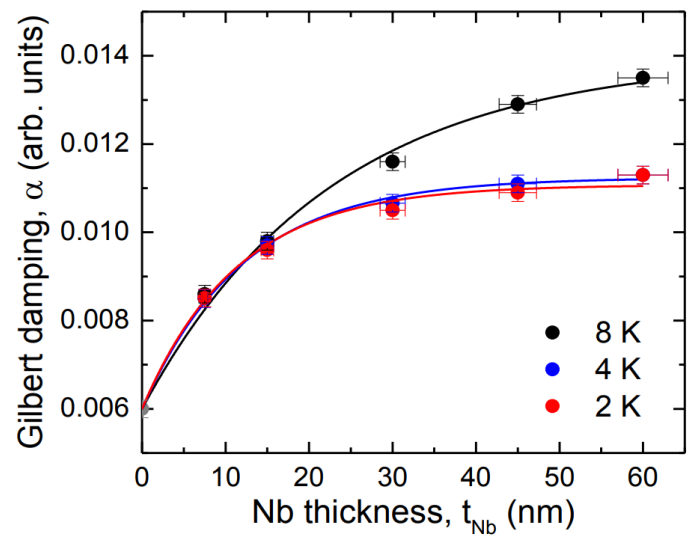
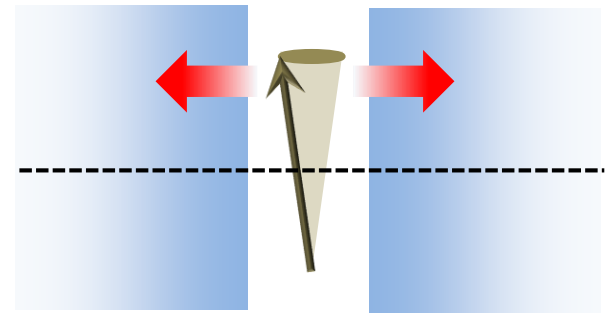
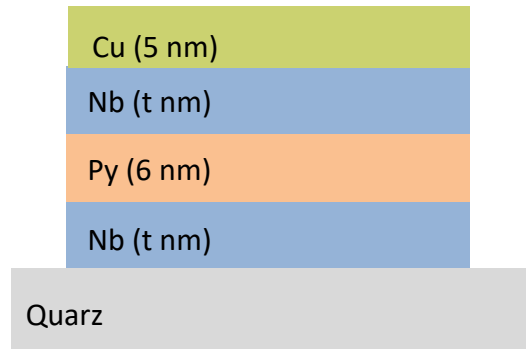
Layout 1



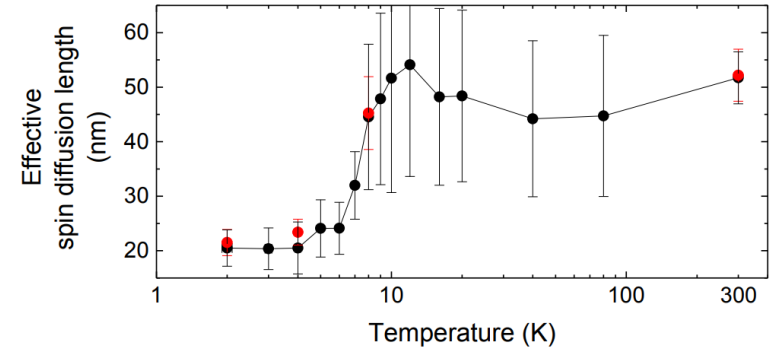
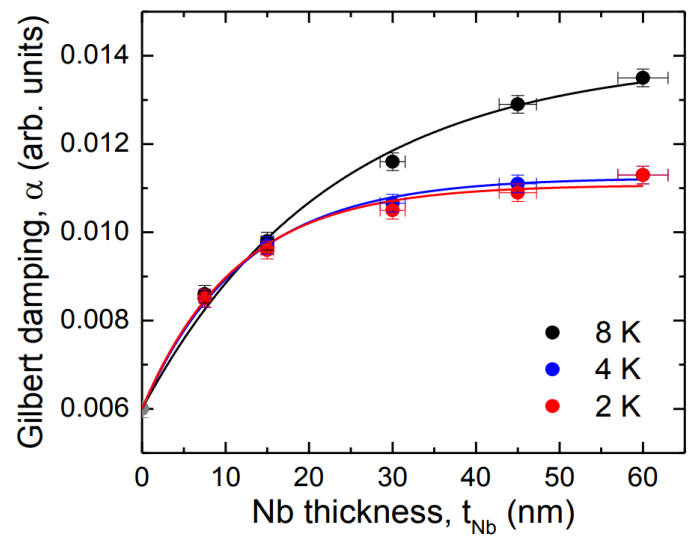
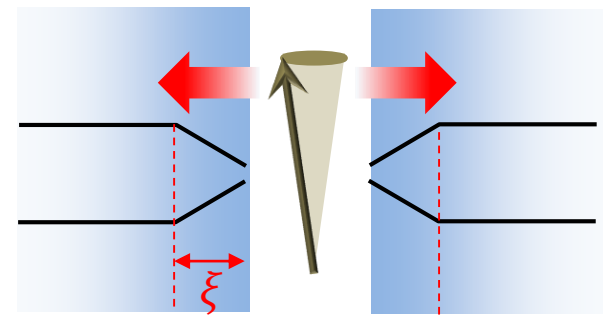
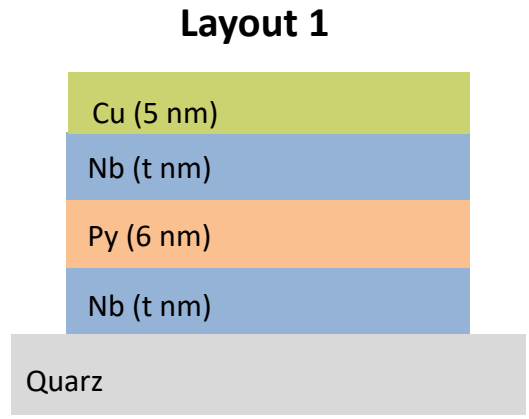
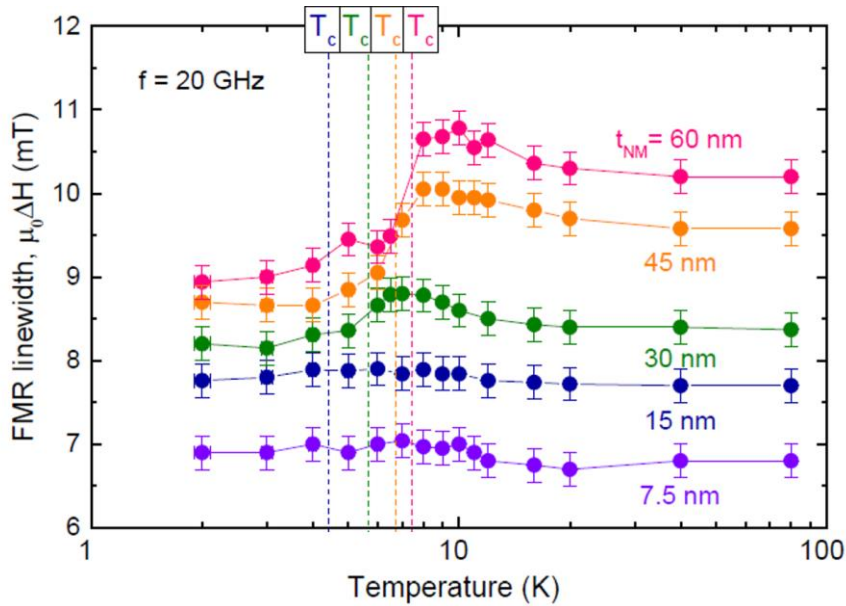
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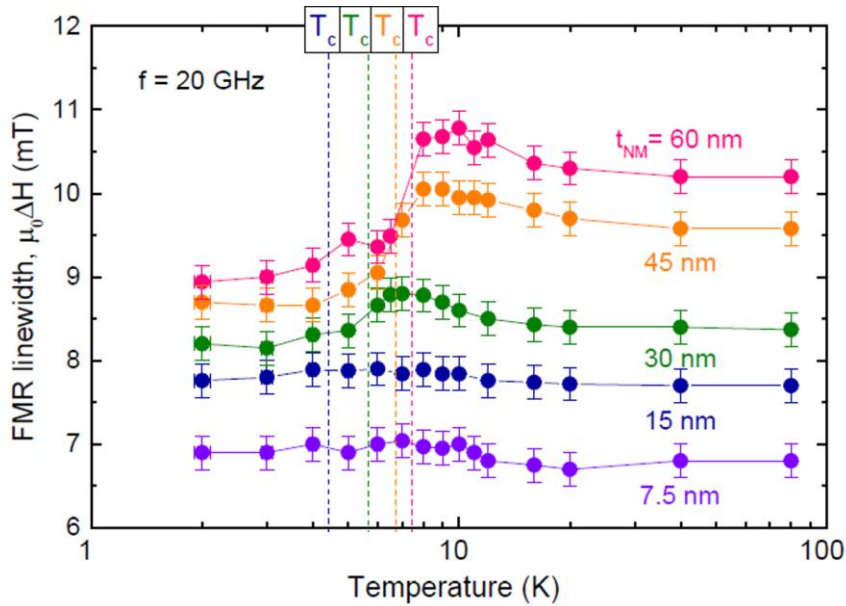
Layout 1



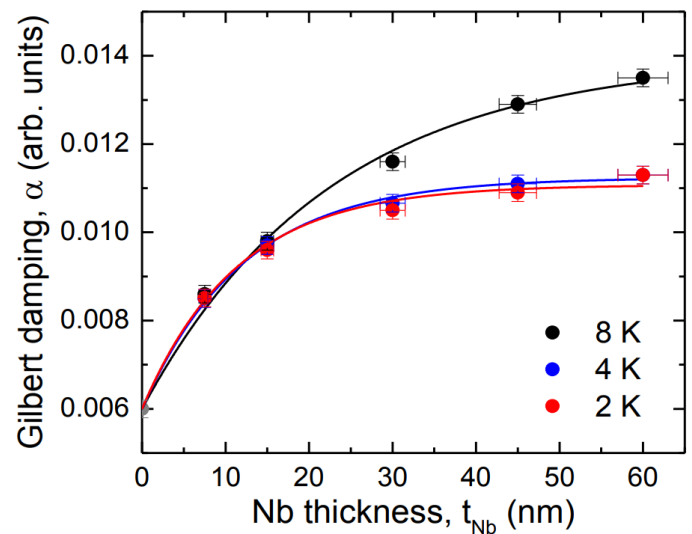
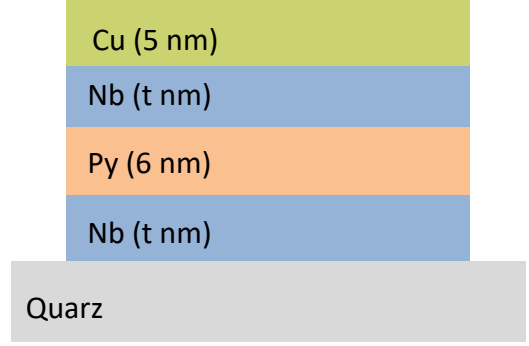
Damping has a sharp decrease below T_c



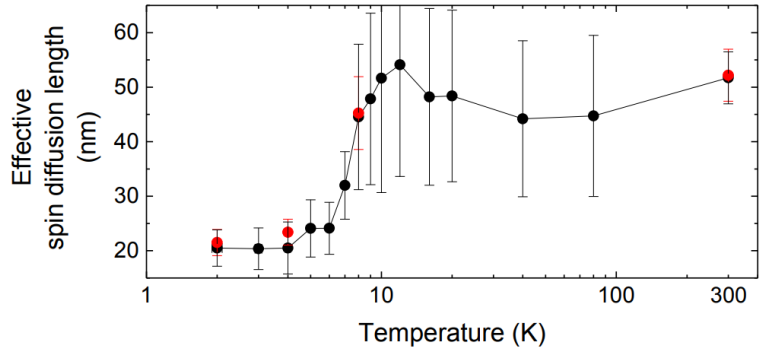
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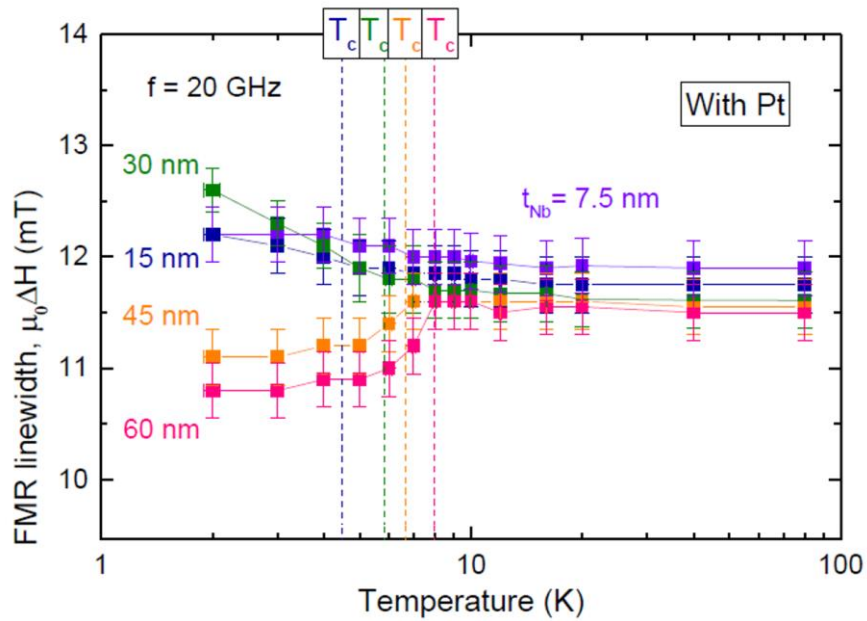
Layout 1



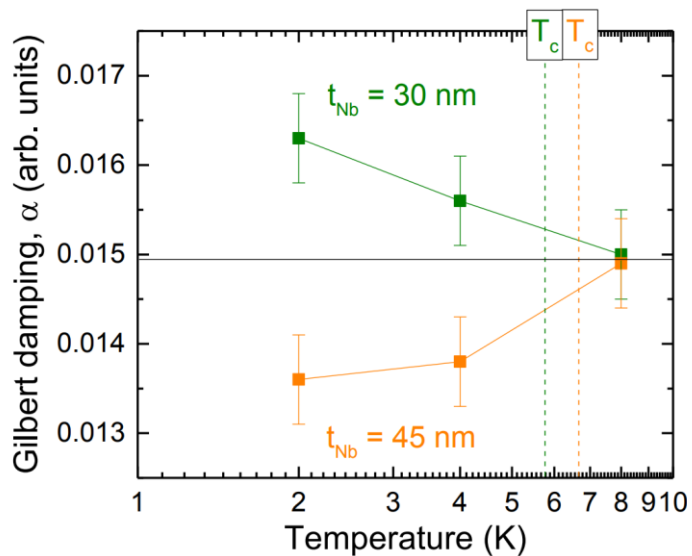
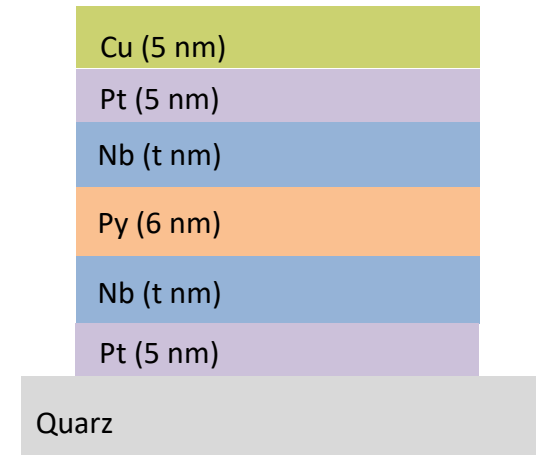
$$l_{QP}^S = \sqrt{D \left(\frac{1}{\tau_{AR}} + \frac{1}{\tau_s} \right)^{-1}} \sim 20 \text{ nm}$$



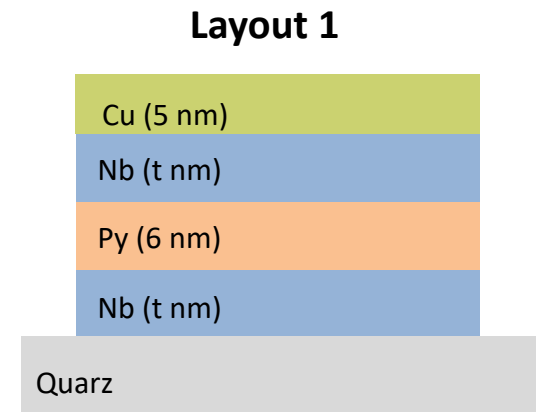
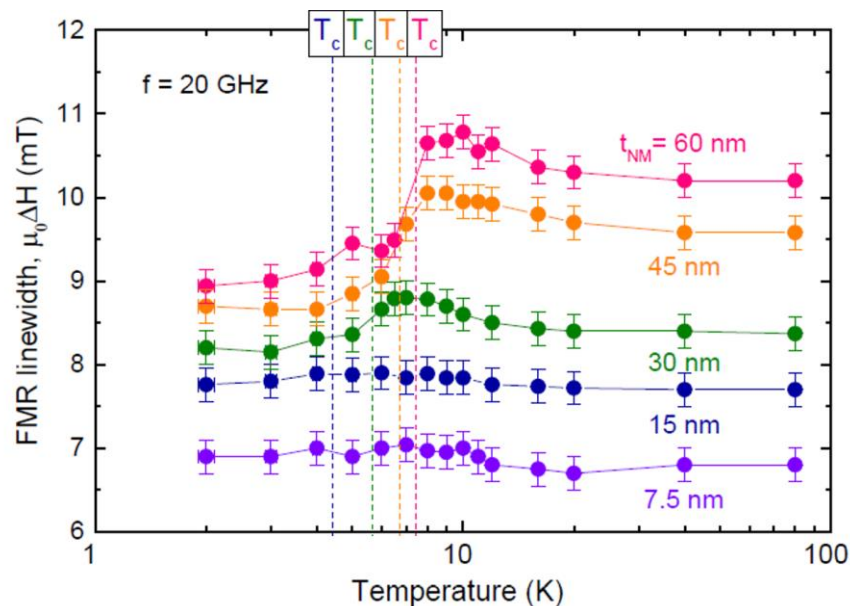
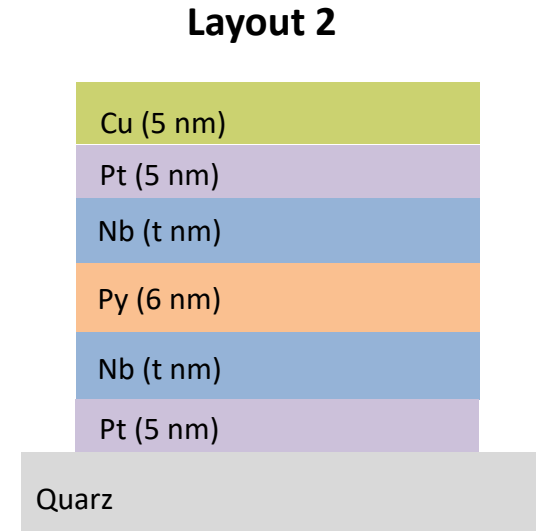
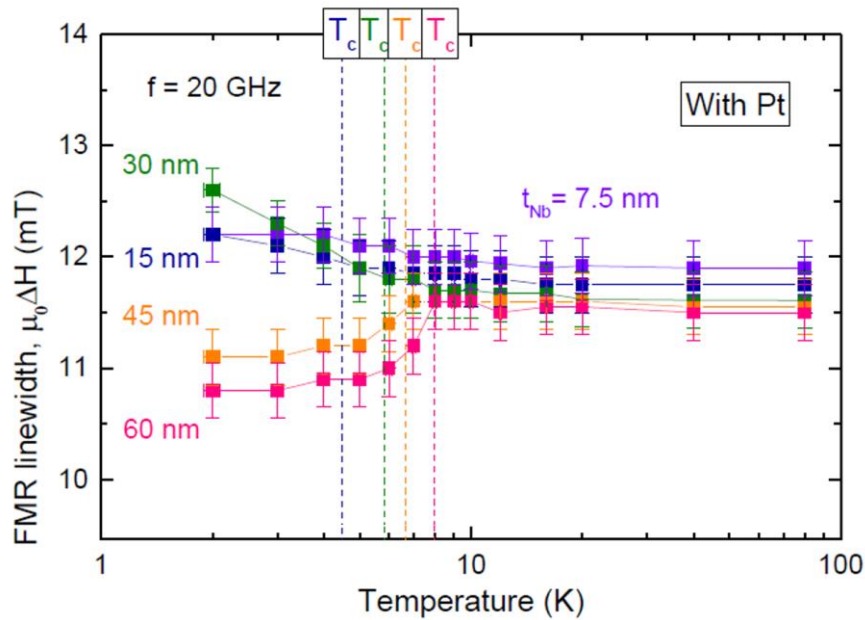
An unusual behavior is observed in the presence of Pt



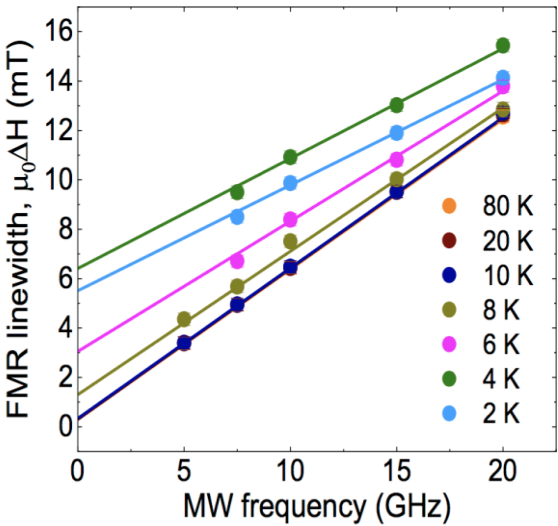
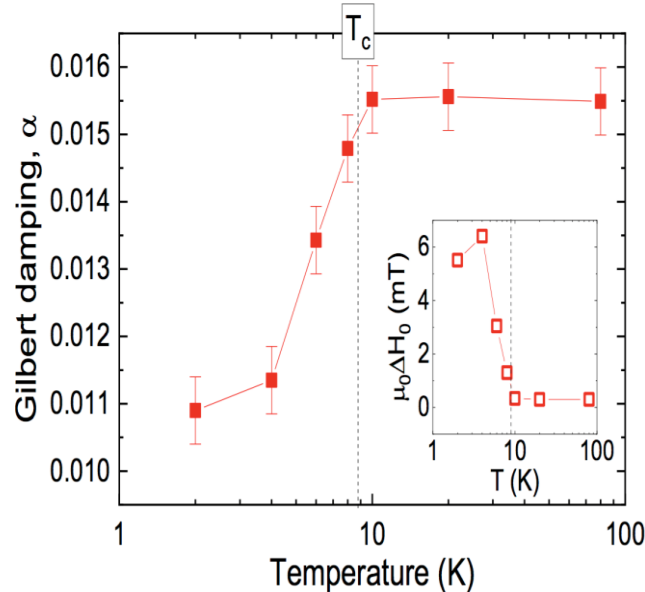
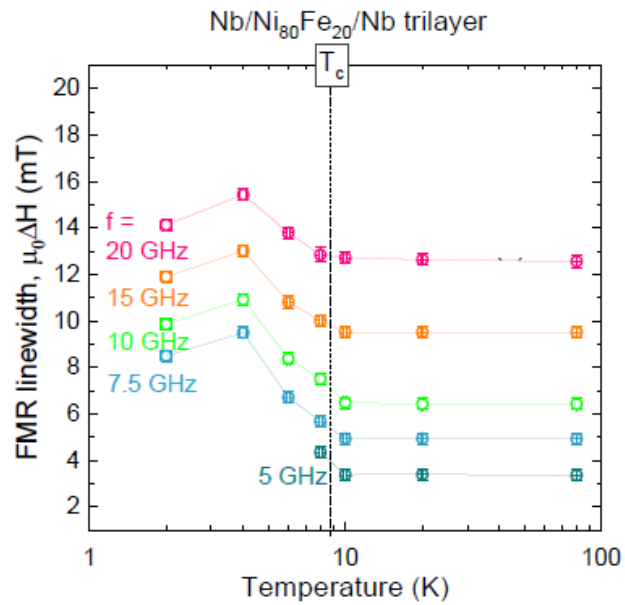
Layout 2



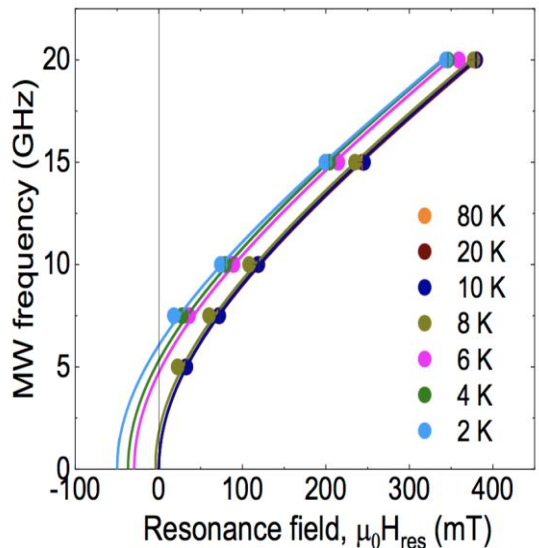
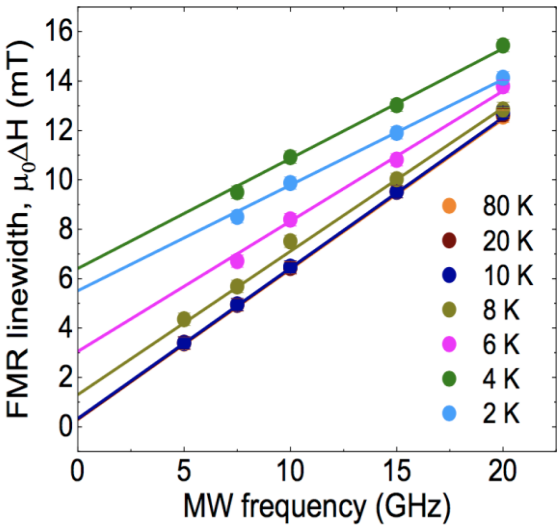
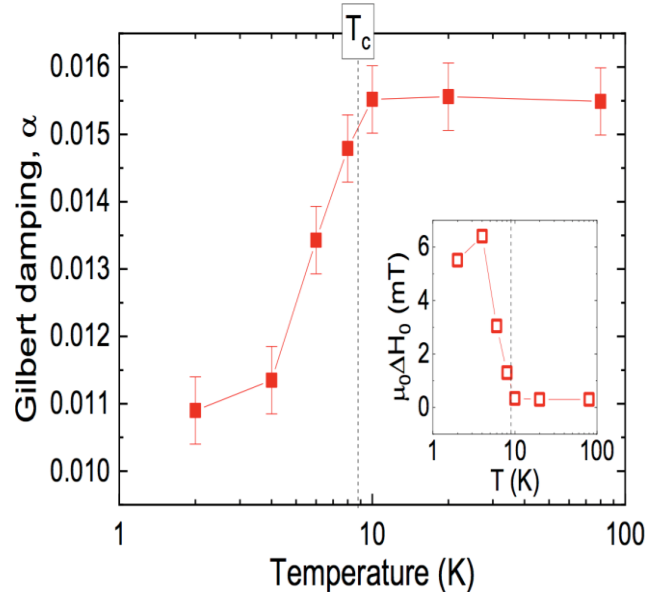
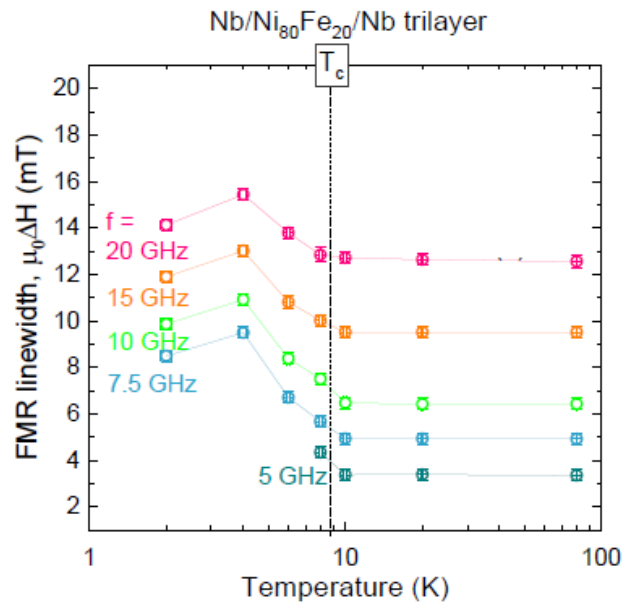
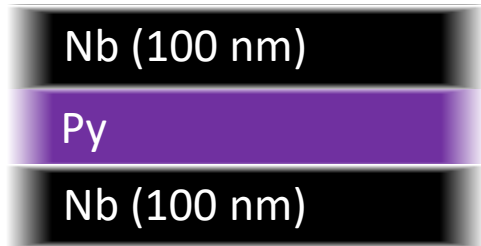
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Meissner screening

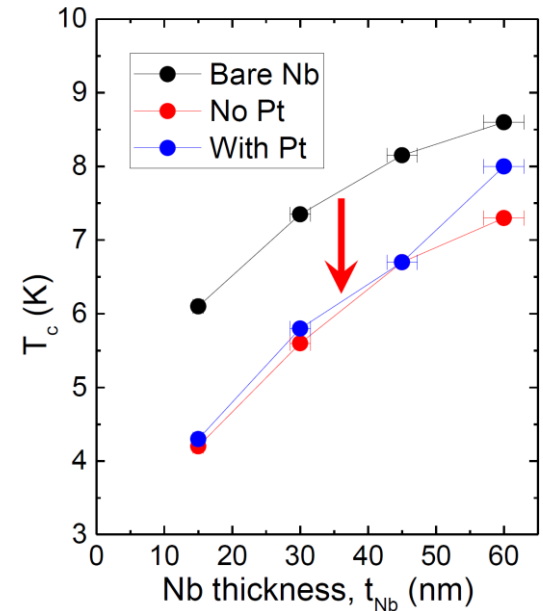
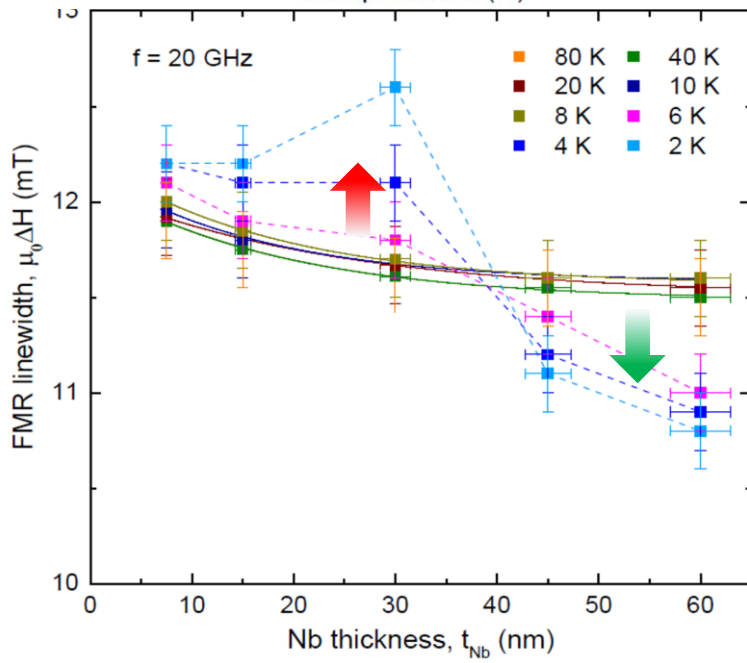
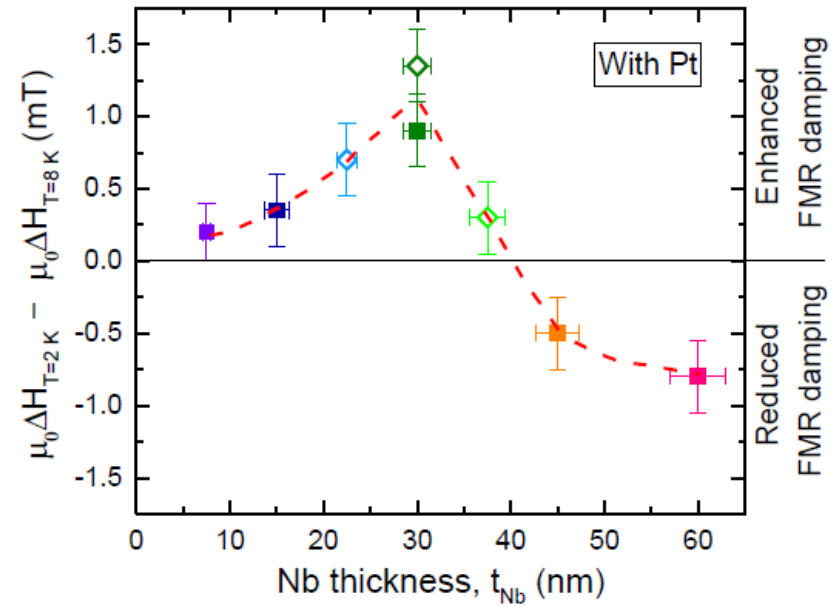
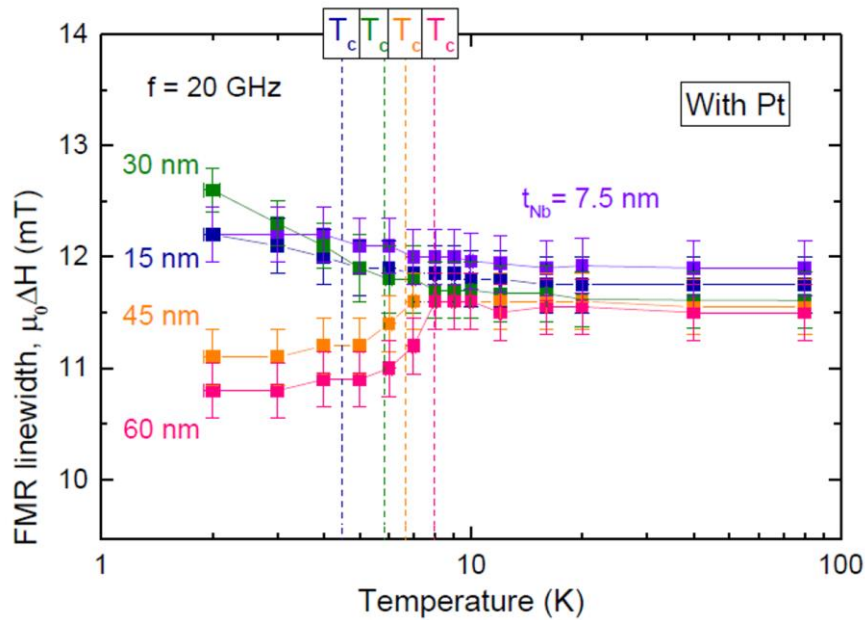


Meissner screening

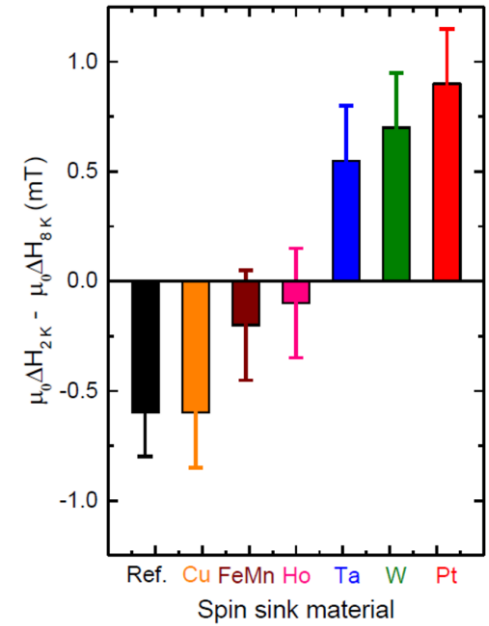
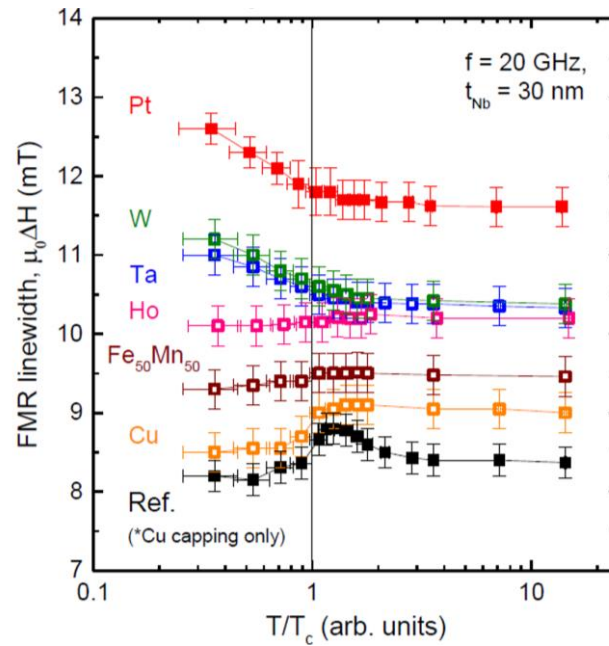
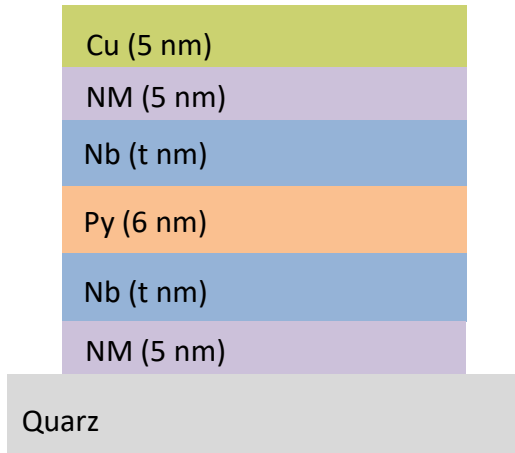


$$f = \frac{\gamma}{2\pi} \sqrt{\mu_0(H_{res} + M_{eff} + \Delta H) \cdot \mu_0(H_{res} + \Delta H)}$$

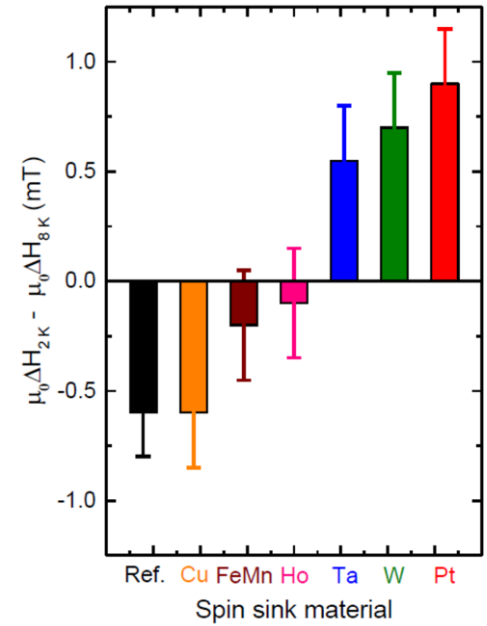
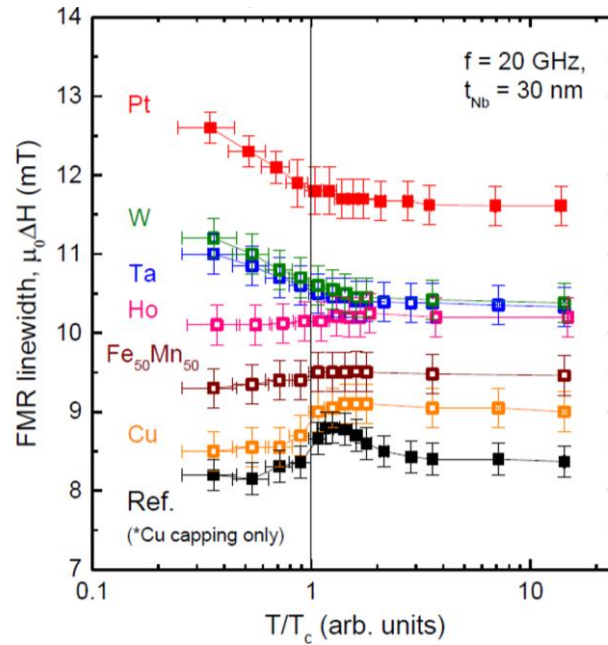
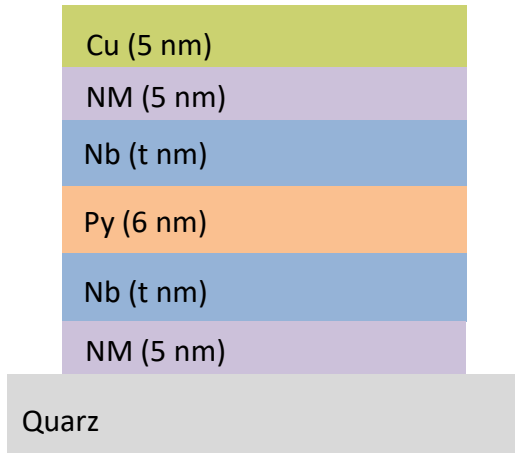
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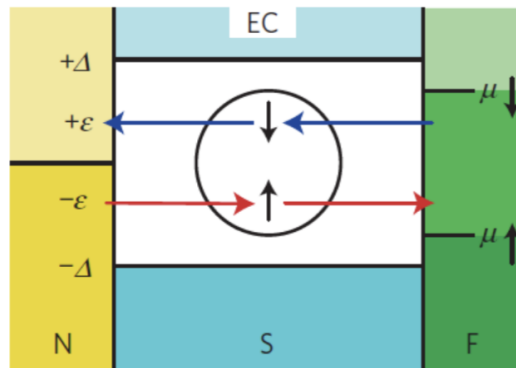
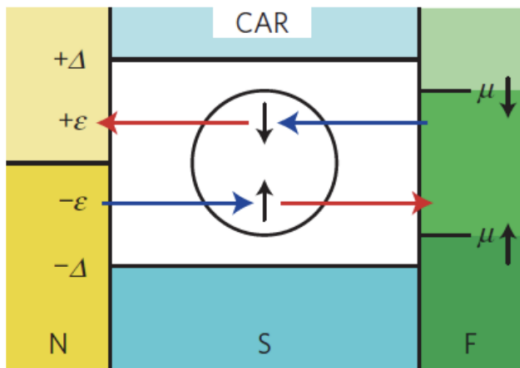
We substitute Pt with different metals



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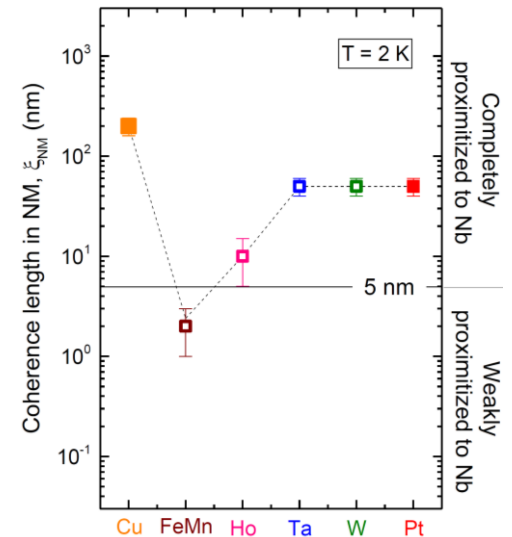


Quasiparticles-mediated spin-transfer



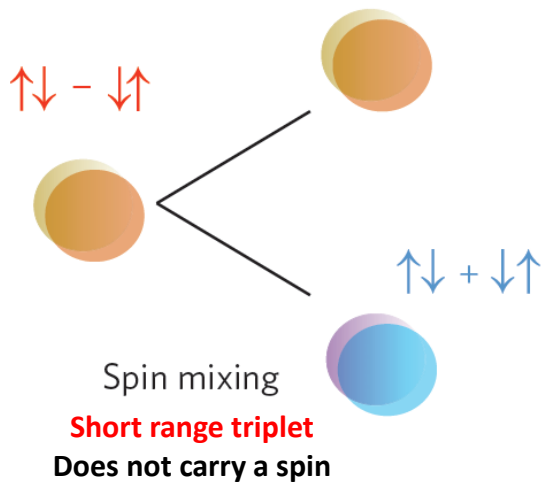
[Nature Phys. 12, 57 \(2015\)](#)

[Nature Phys. 9, 84 \(2013\)](#)

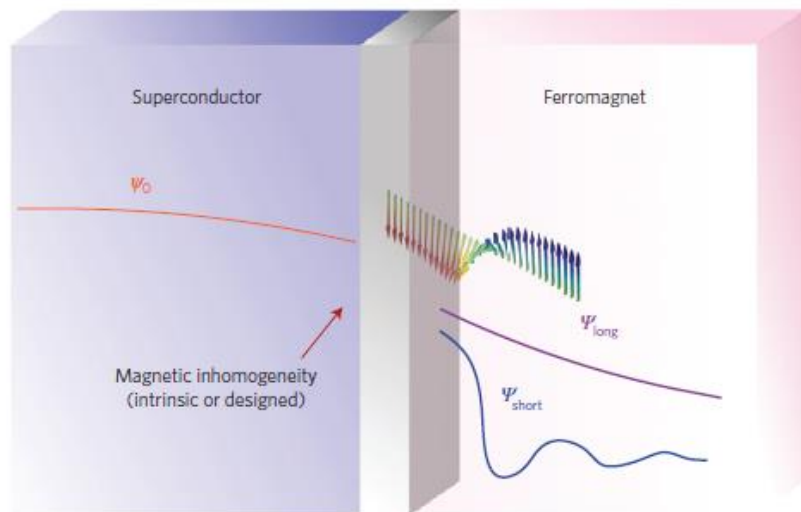


The role of Cooper pairs in mediating spin transport in Nb

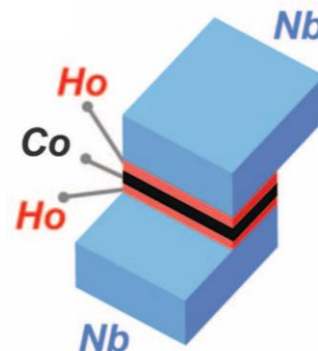
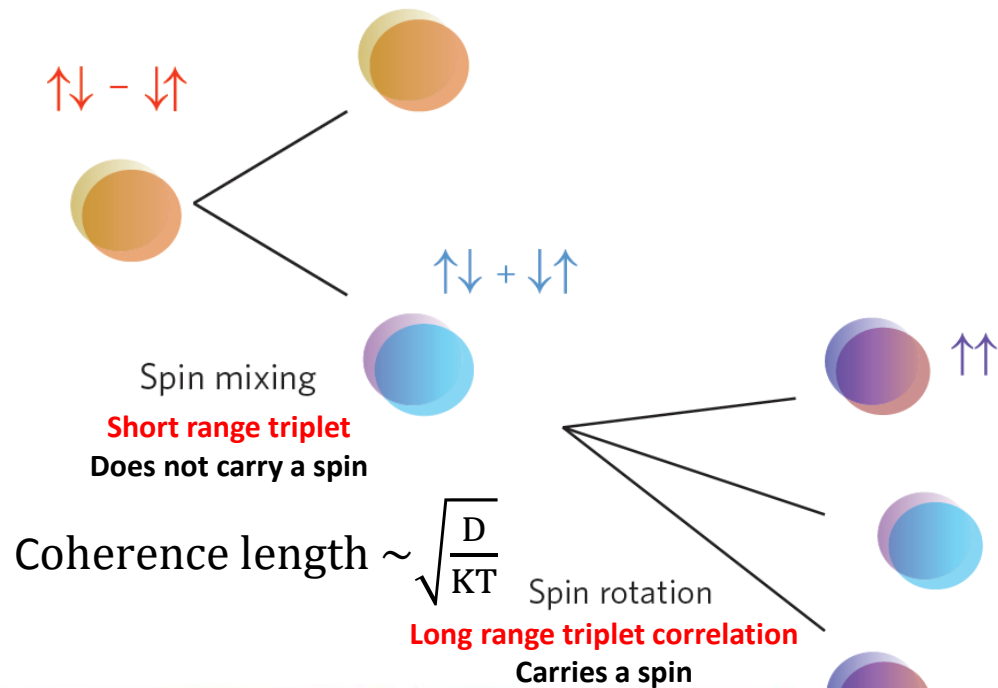
[Nature Physics 11, 307\(2015\)](#)



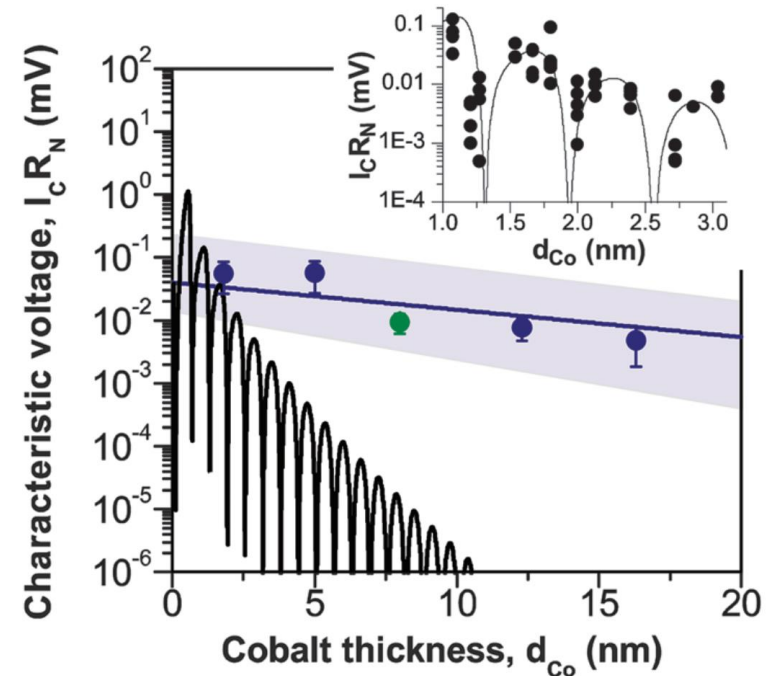
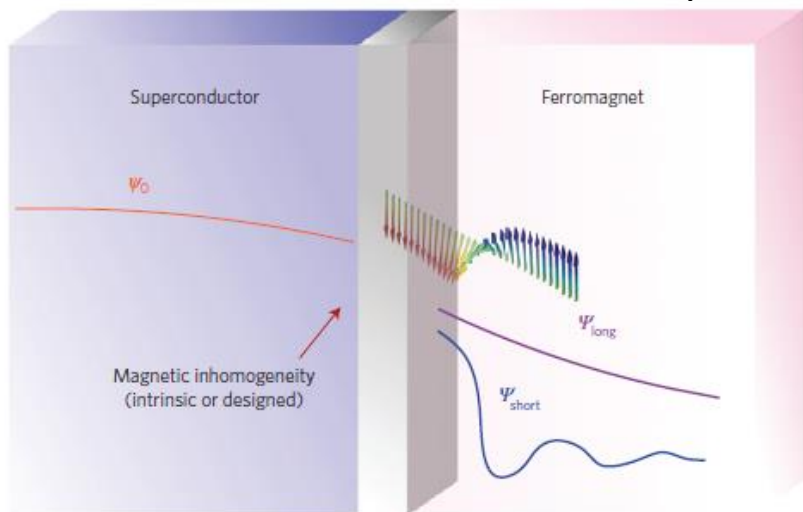
$$\text{Coherence length} \sim \sqrt{\frac{D}{h_{\text{ex}}}}$$



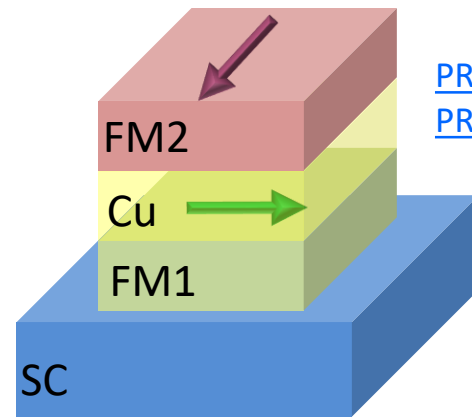
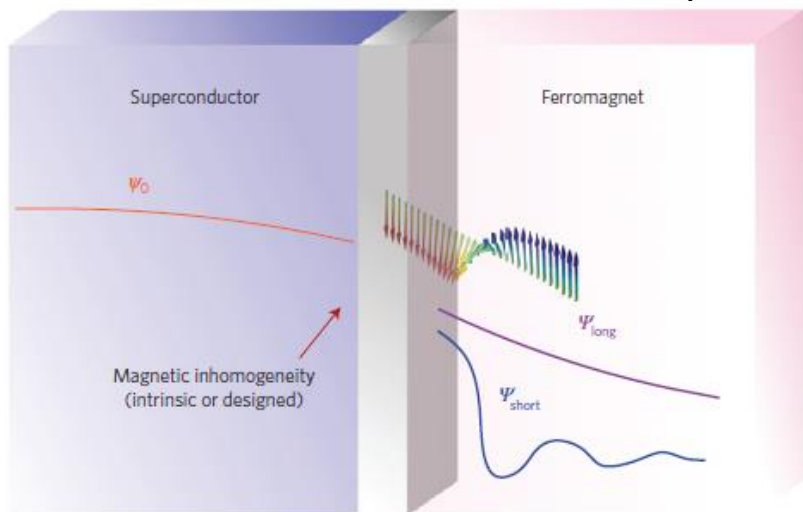
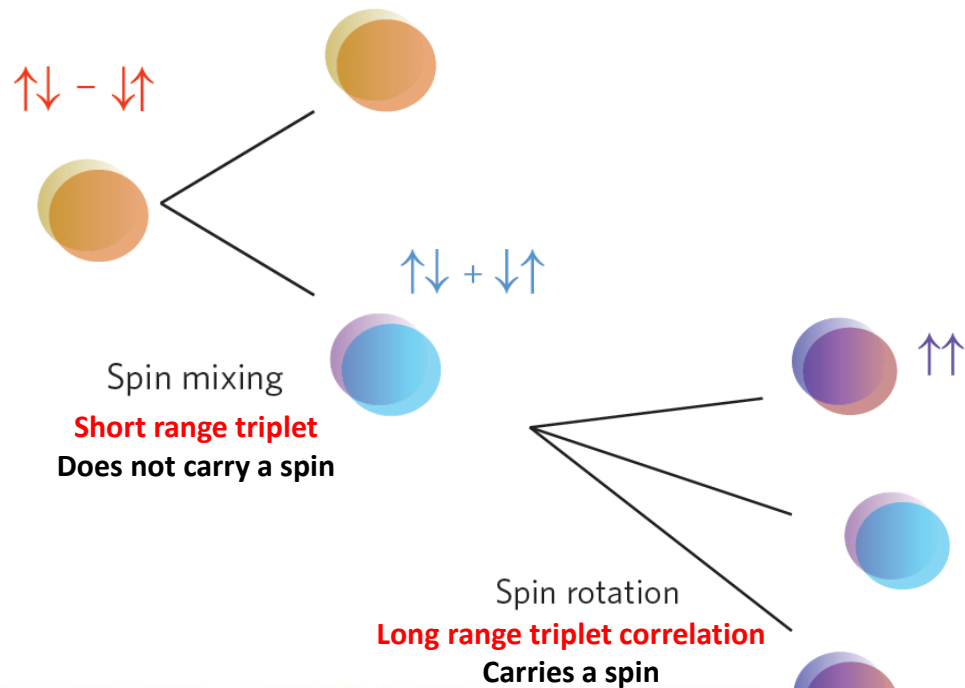
The Long-range triplet condensate



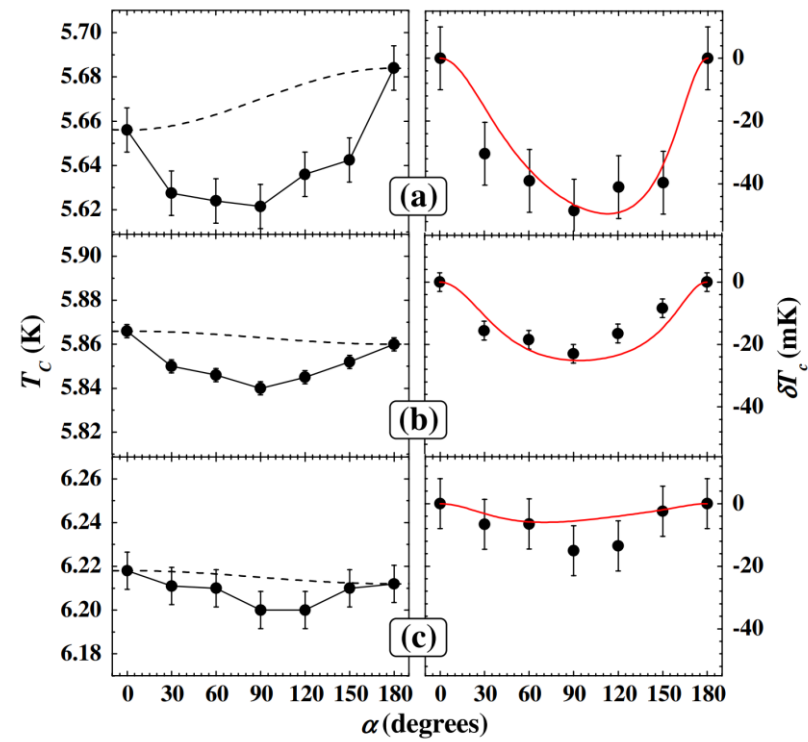
- [Science 329, 59 \(2010\)](#)
- [PRB 89, 104505 \(2014\)](#)
- [PRB 82, 060505 \(2010\)](#)
- [PRL 104, 137002 \(2010\)](#)
- [PRL 108, 127002 \(2012\)](#)



The Long-range triplet condensate



[PRL 109, 057005 \(2012\)](#)
[PRB 89, 140508 \(2014\)](#)

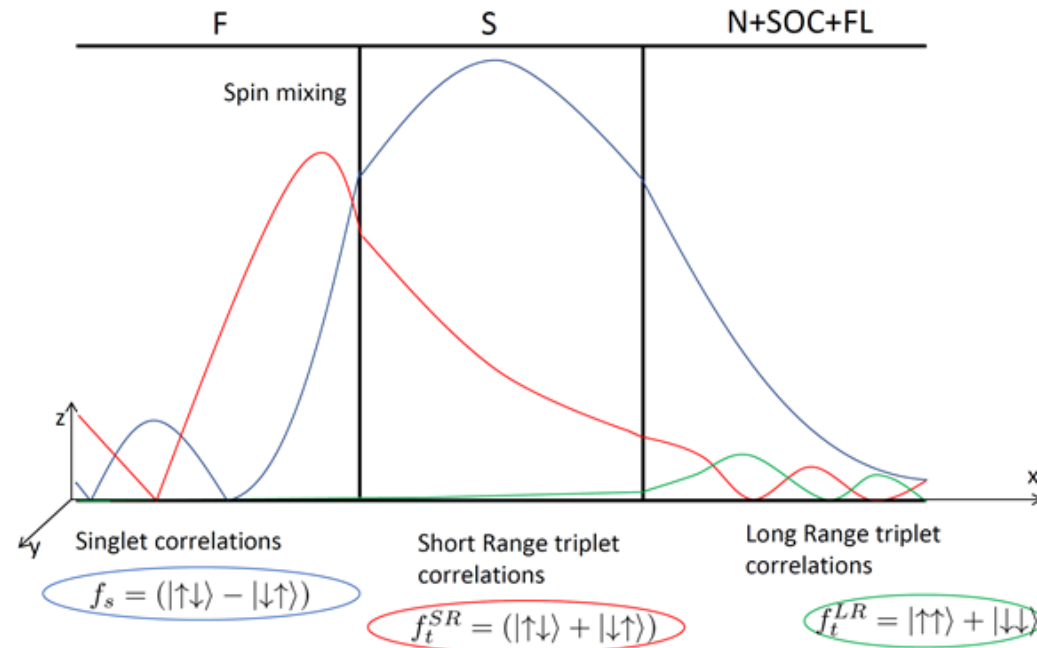


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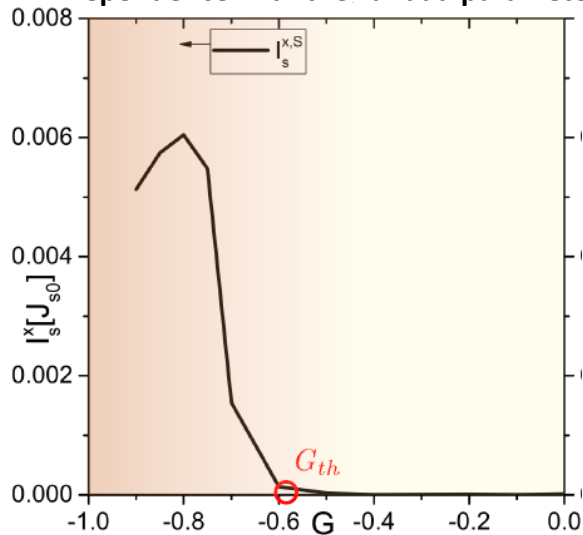
[Montiel, Eschrig, Phys. Rev. B 98, 104513 \(2018\)](#)
[PRB 89, 134517 \(2014\)](#)

Pt, Ta, W have two characteristics:

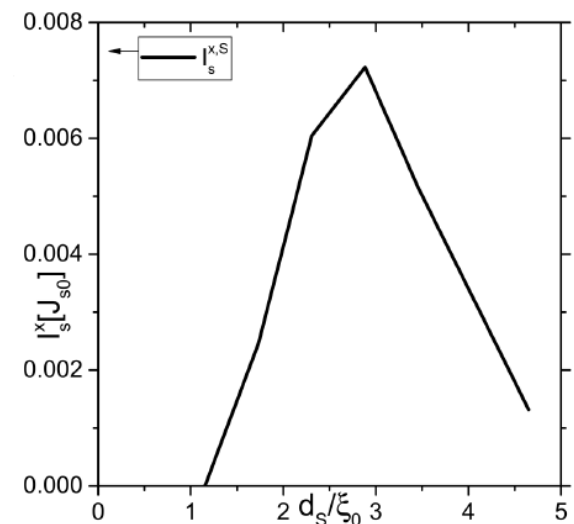
- Spin-orbit coupled
- Close to a paramagnetic instability



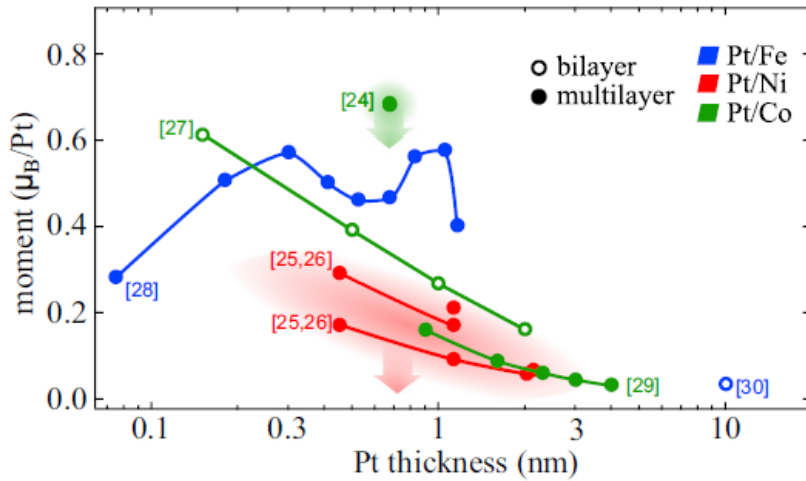
Dependence with the Landau parameter



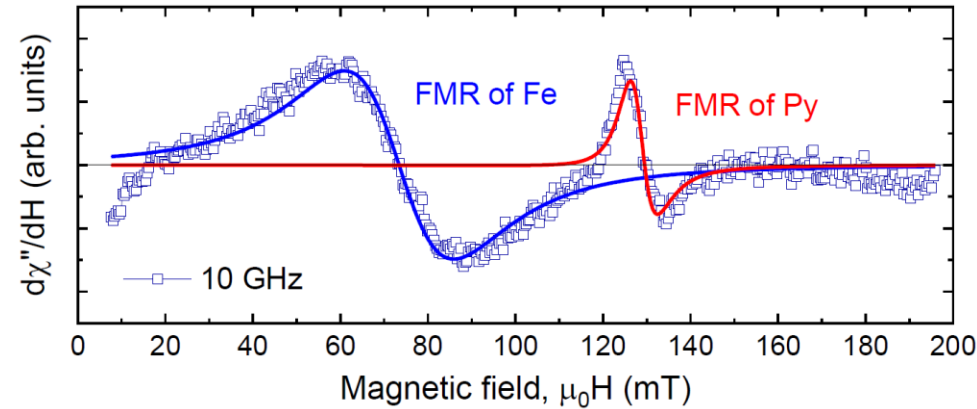
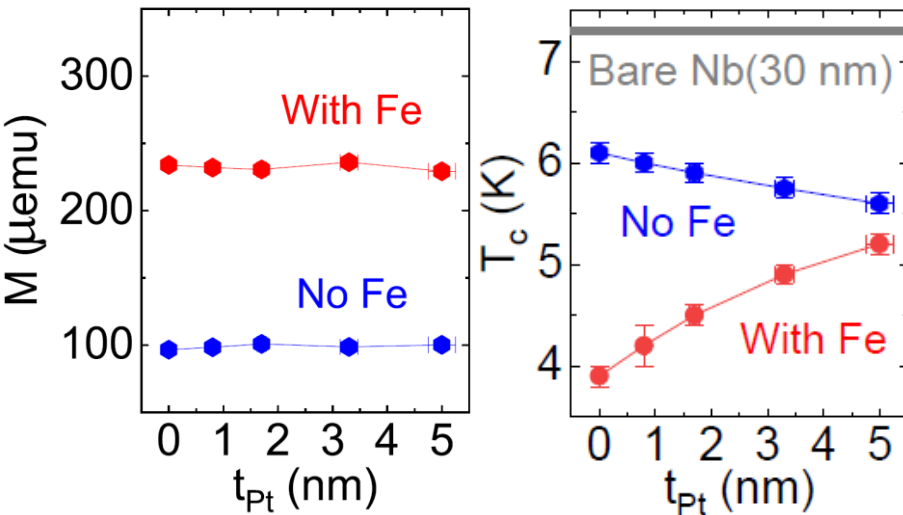
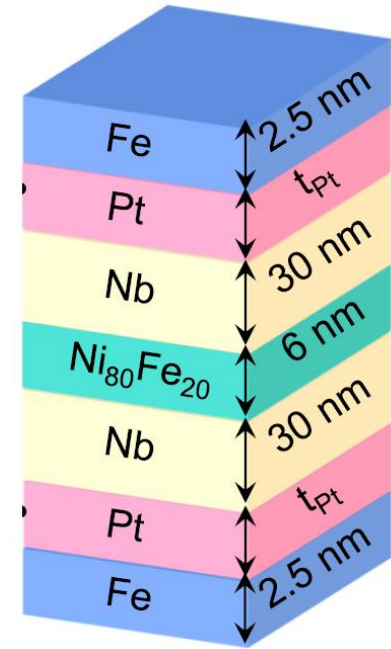
Dependence with the SC thickness



The role of the exchange in Pt

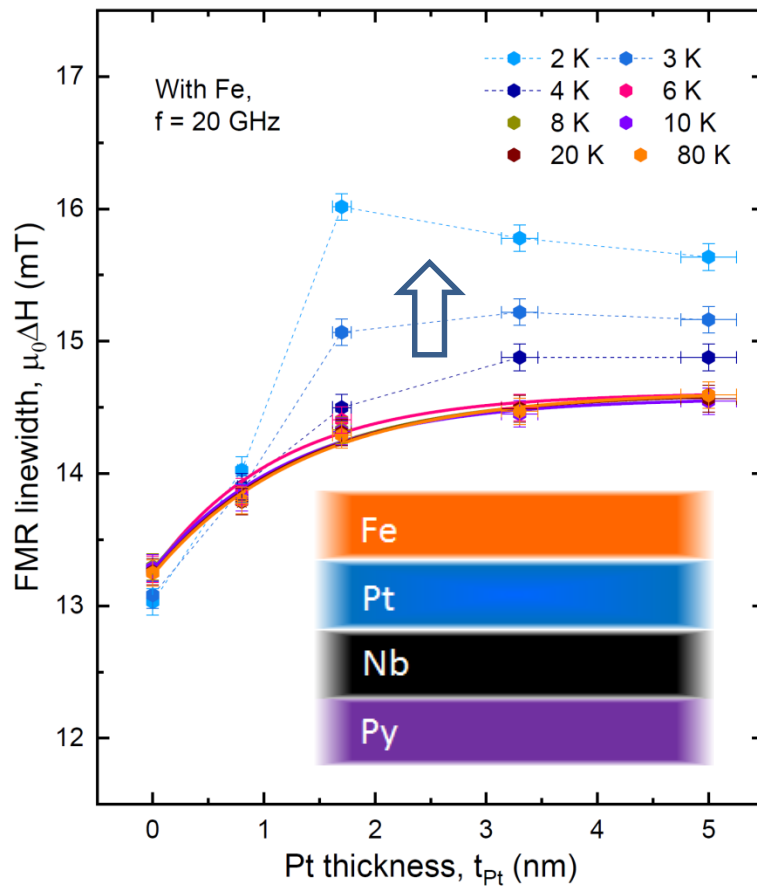
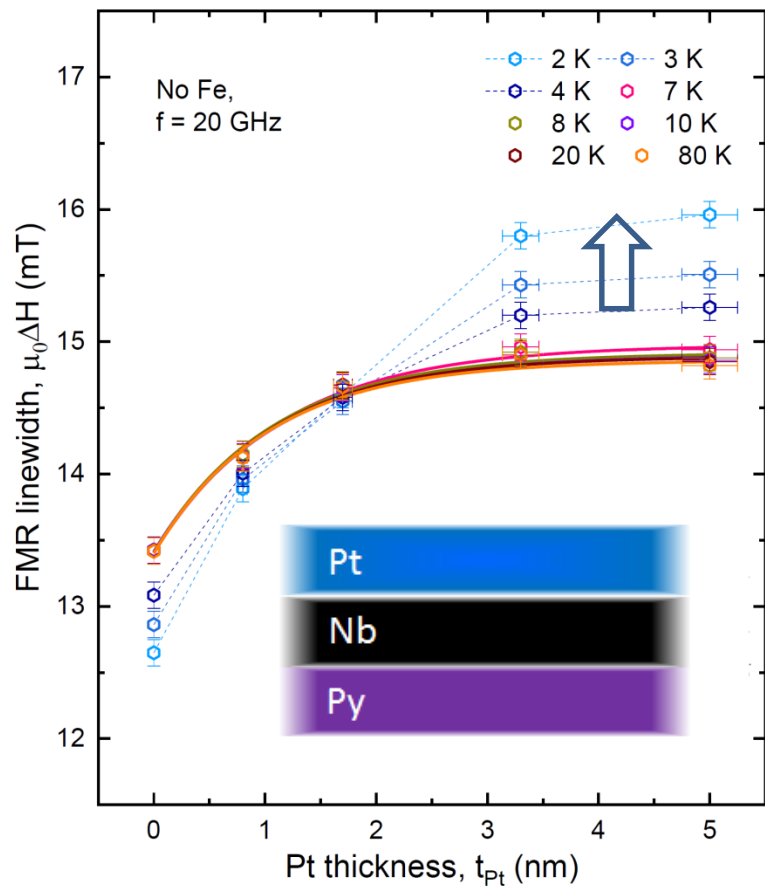


[PRB 93, 214440 \(2016\)](#)



[Phys. Rev. B 99, 024507 \(2019\)](#)

The role of the exchange in Pt



Abrikosov vortex nucleation in an OP field

Phys. Rev. B 99, 144503 (2019)

$$[A_K, [A_K, h^a \sigma^a]] \sim$$

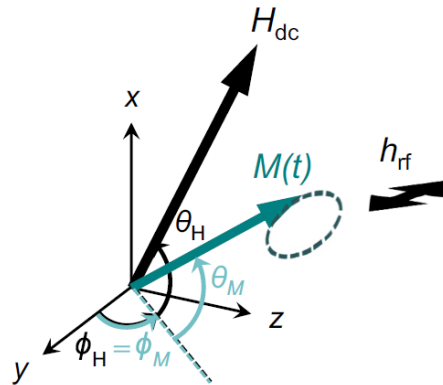
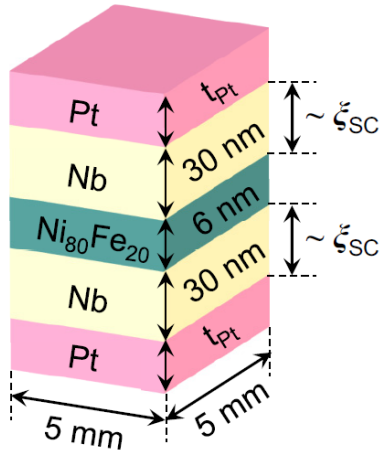
$$A_x = 0$$

$$A_y = -\beta_D \sigma^y + \alpha_R \sigma^z$$

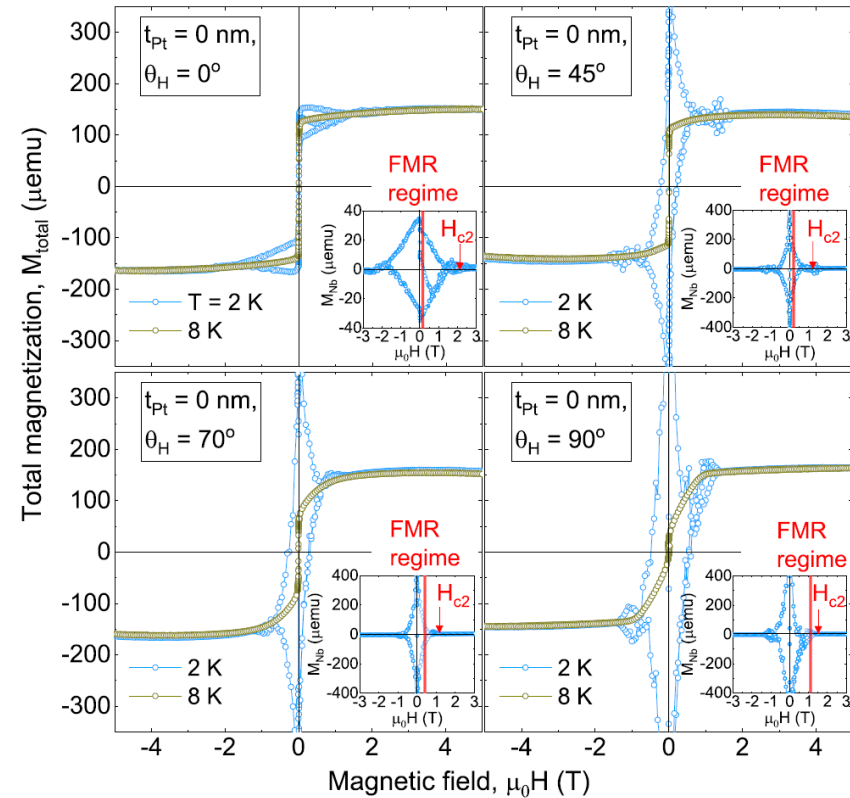
$$A_z = \beta_D \sigma^z - \alpha_R \sigma^y$$

$$\sim \alpha^2 (h^a \sigma^a + h^x \sigma^x)$$

PRB 89, 134517 (2014)

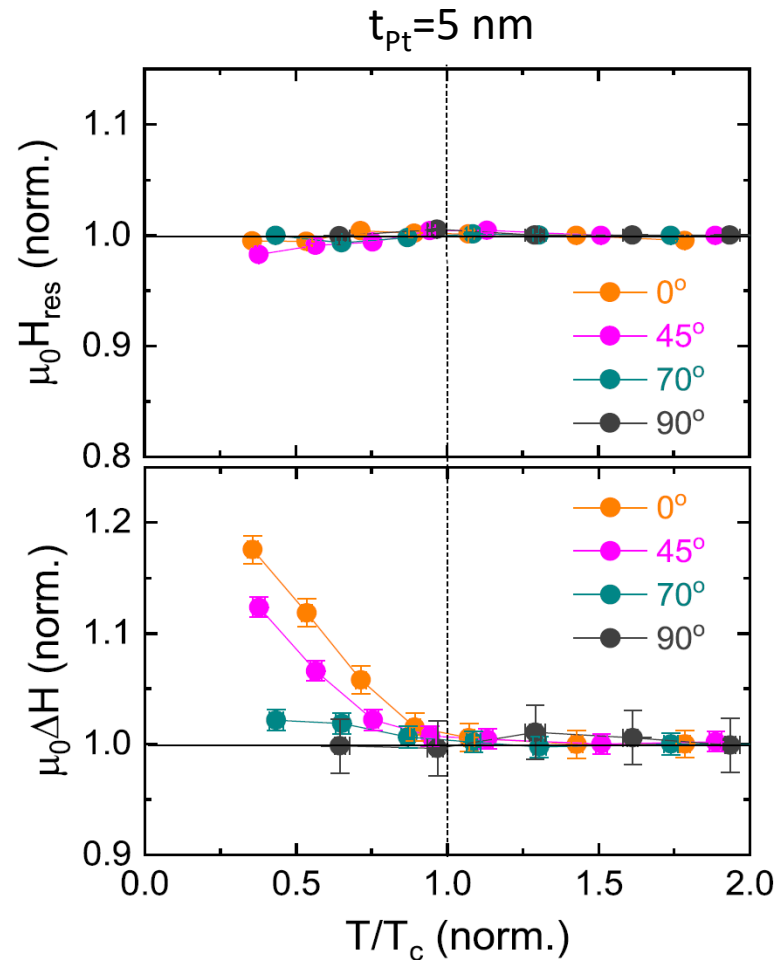
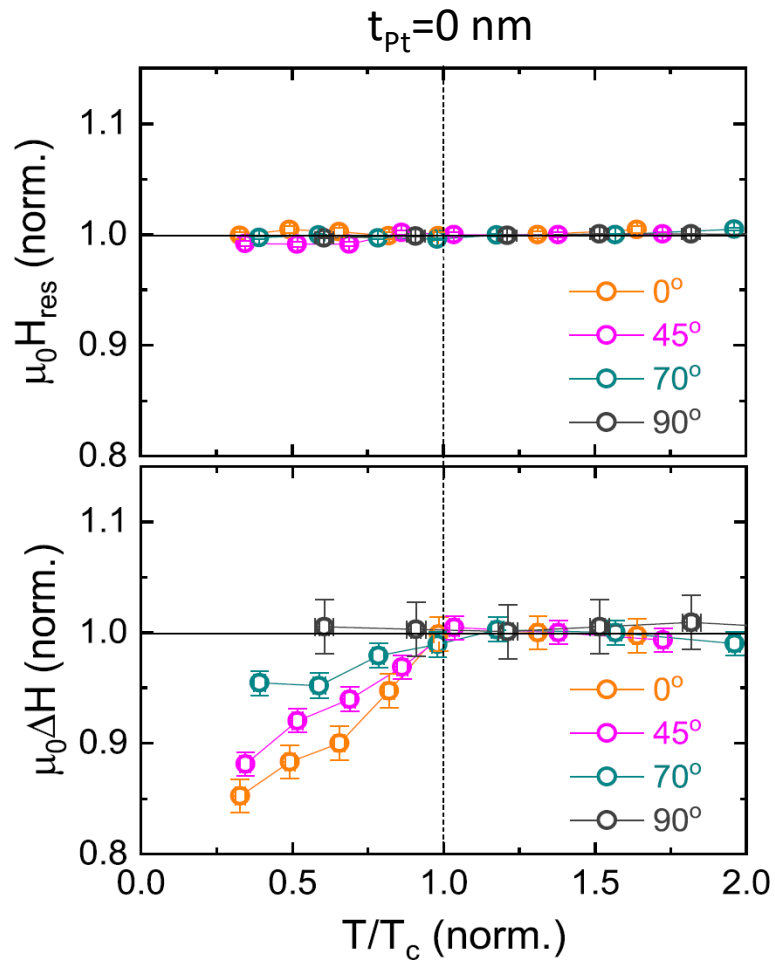


$$V_{SC}^{mea} \sim 1 - \frac{H_{res}(\theta_H)}{H_{c2}(\theta_H)}$$



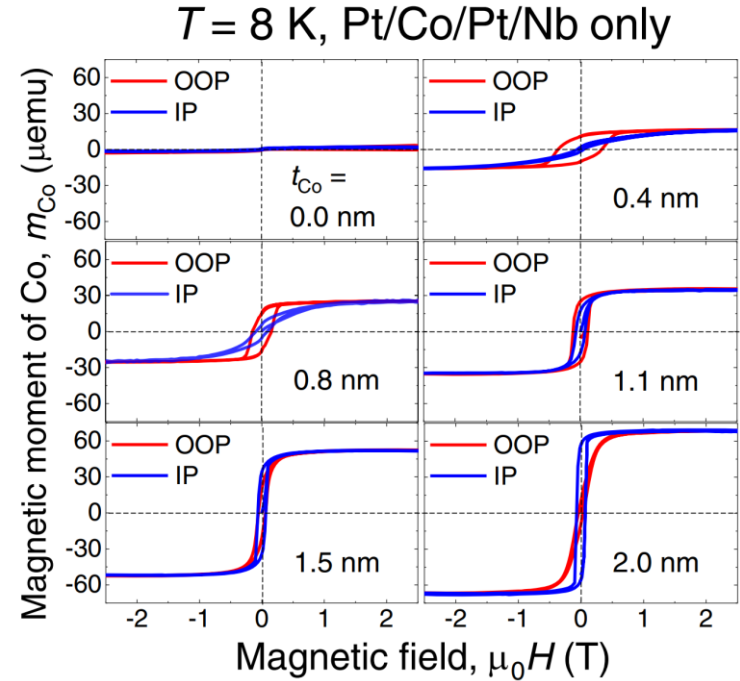
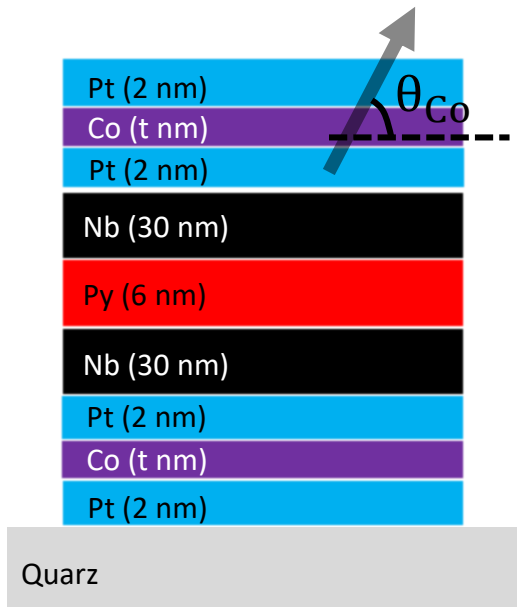
θ_H	No Pt			With Pt		
	V_{SC}^{cal} [%]	V_{SC}^{mea} [%]	2Δ [meV]	V_{SC}^{cal} [%]	V_{SC}^{mea} [%]	2Δ [meV]
0°	100	95 ± 2	1.65	100	94 ± 2	1.51
45°	96	91 ± 3	1.57	95	90 ± 3	1.42
70°	86	72 ± 5	1.14	84	70 ± 4	1.12
90°	37	20 ± 8	0.81	30	19 ± 6	0.72

Abrikosov vortex nucleation in an OP field



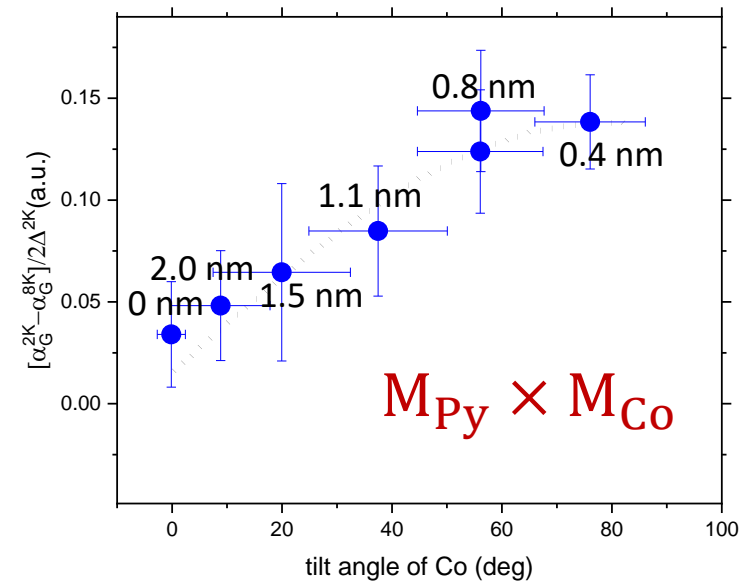
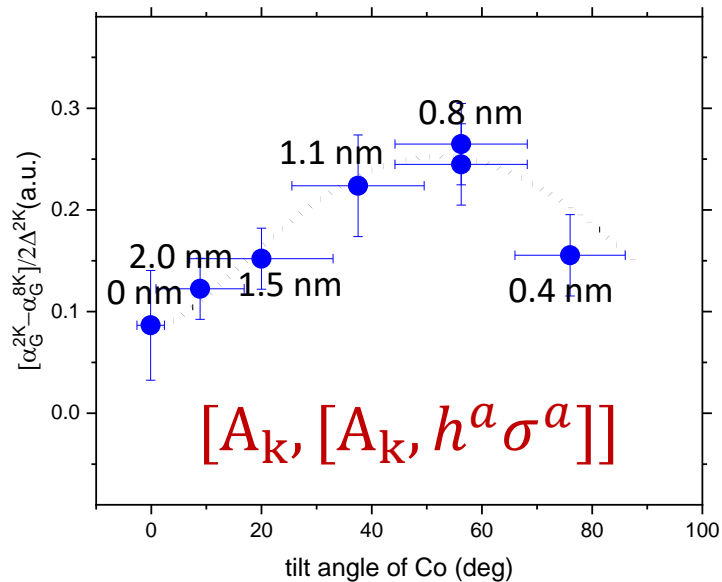
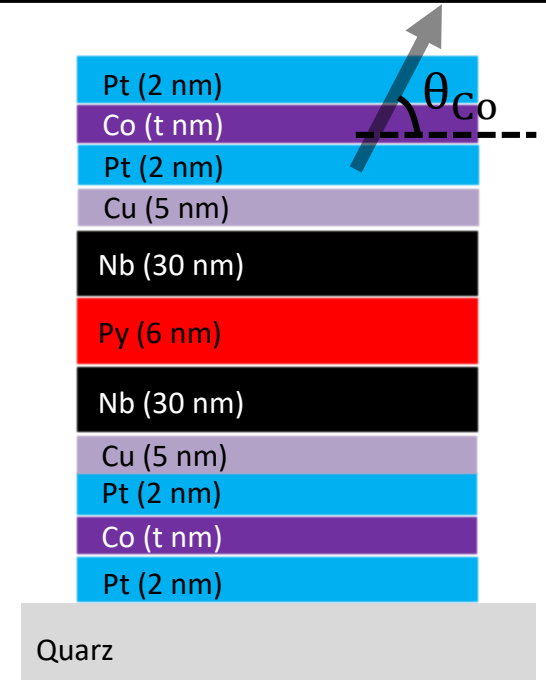
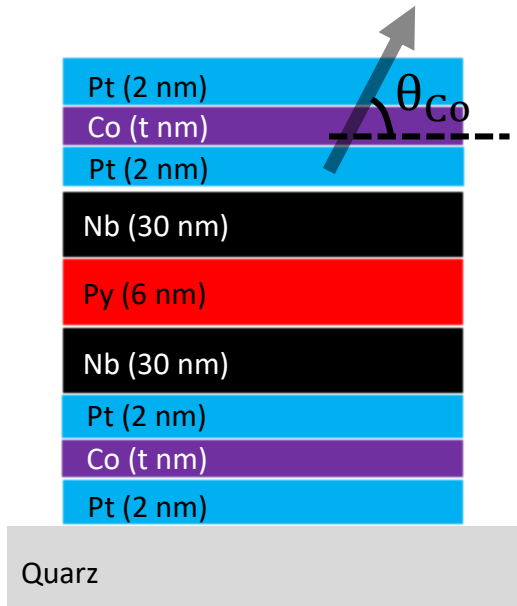
Angular dependence is in agreement with Rashba SOC

[Phys. Rev. X 10, 031020 \(2020\)](#)

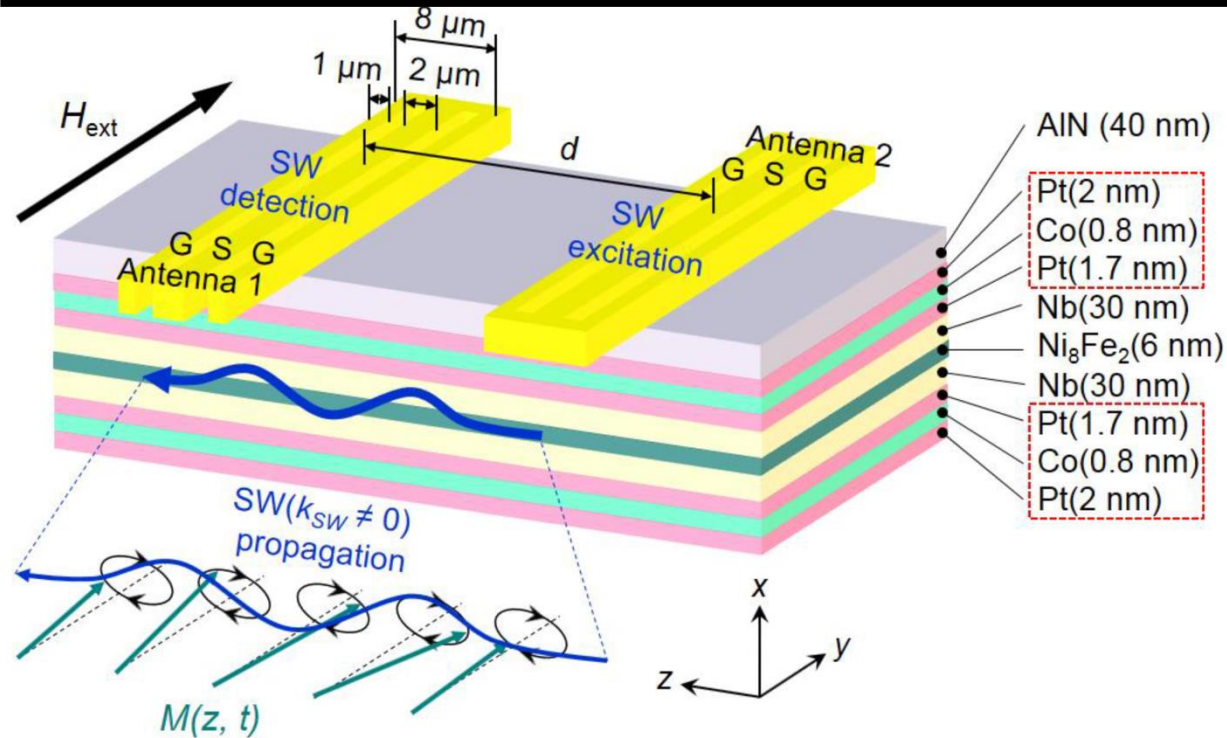


Angular dependence is in agreement with Rashba SOC

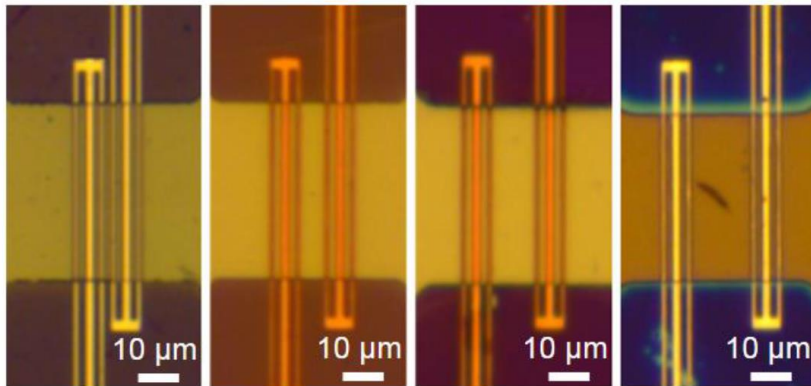
[Phys. Rev. X 10, 031020 \(2020\)](#)



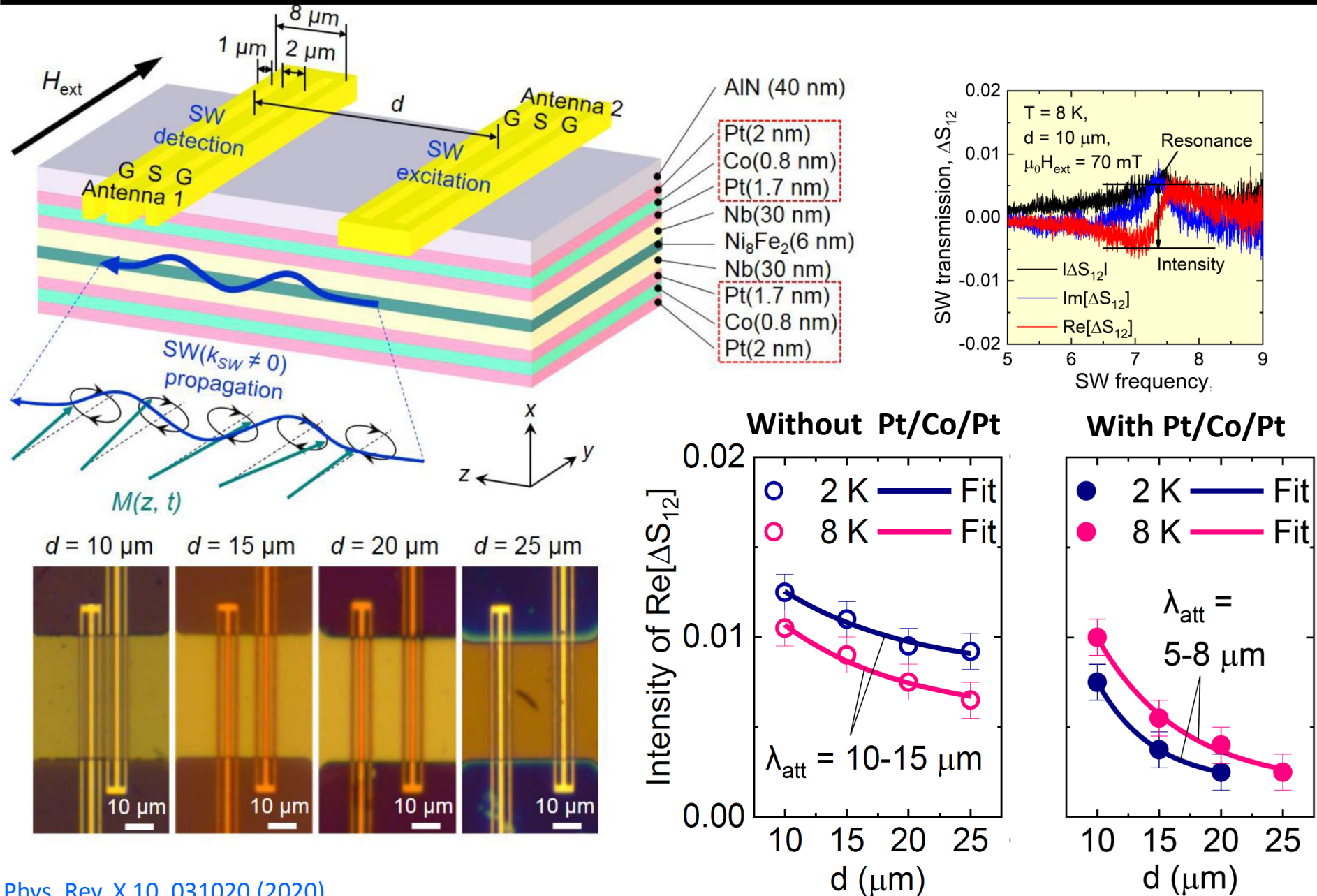
Tunable spin-wave propagation by the triplet CPs



$d = 10 \mu\text{m}$ $d = 15 \mu\text{m}$ $d = 20 \mu\text{m}$ $d = 25 \mu\text{m}$



Tunable spin-wave propagation by the triplet CPs



Conclusions

- Pure spin is efficiently pumped in superconducting Nb when it is interfaced by a heavy metal
- The spin pumping efficiency is increased when the Pt internal exchange field is increased by proximity to a ferromagnet
- The angular dependence of the effect points towards Rashba SOC for generating long-range equal spin states

Nature Materials **17**, 499 (2018)

Phys. Rev. Appl., **11**, 014061 (2019)

Phys. Rev. B **99**, 024507 (2019)

Phys. Rev. X **10**, 031020 (2020)

Phys. Rev. B **99**, 144503 (2019)

