

Colloquium Announcement

"Magnetic Switching: Spin Torque Effects"

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I will describe the theory of magnetic switching, using animated simulations. Recently a new effect, the "spin torque" resulting from passing a current from one ferromagnet into another ferromagnet with a different magnetization direction. It was recently shown that this can cause the switching of one of the ferromagnets, if it is very small. This has potential applications in magnetic random access memory (MRAM).

Spin torque has also been shown to produce spontaneous gigahertz oscillations, suggesting possible applications to nanoscale oscillators. I

will show some visualizations and simulations
(bama.ua.edu/~visscher/beta) of switching and oscillations.

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Thursday, November 30, 2006

12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Campbell Hall 274

Refreshments served at 12:00 p.m. in CH 361

1300 University Boulevard

For further information, please contact the
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