

Spin pumping at interfaces with ferro- and paramagnetic $\text{Fe}_{60}\text{Al}_{40}$ films acting as spin source and spin sink

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ABSTRACT

We present a study of spin pumping efficiency and determine the spin mixing conductance and spin diffusion length in thin bilayer films based on 3d transition metal alloy Fe₆₀Al₄₀. Due to its magnetostructural phase transition, Fe₆₀Al₄₀ can be utilized as a ferromagnetic (FM) or paramagnetic (PM) material at the same temperature depending on its structural order; thus a thin Fe₆₀Al₄₀ film can act as a spin source or a spin sink when interfaced with a paramagnet or a ferromagnet, respectively. Ferromagnetic resonance measurements were performed in a frequency range of 5–35 GHz on bilayer films composed of FM–Fe₆₀Al₄₀/Pd and PM–Fe₆₀Al₄₀/Ni₈₀Fe₂₀ (permalloy). The increase in damping with the thickness of the paramagnetic layer was interpreted as a result of spin pumping into the paramagnet. We determine the spin mixing conductance $g_{Pd}^{\uparrow\downarrow} = (3.8 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{18} \text{ m}^{-2}$ at the FM–Fe₆₀Al₄₀/Pd interface and the spin diffusion length $\lambda_{Pd} = 9.1 \pm 2.0 \text{ nm}$ in Pd. For the PM–Fe₆₀Al₄₀/permalloy interface, we find a spin mixing conductance $g_{FeAl}^{\uparrow\downarrow} = (2.1 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{18} \text{ m}^{-2}$ and a spin diffusion length $\lambda_{FeAl} = 11.9 \pm 0.2 \text{ nm}$ for PM–Fe₆₀Al₄₀. The demonstrated bi-functionality of the Fe₆₀Al₄₀ alloy in spin pumping structures may be promising for spintronic applications.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Electronic devices based on utilization of spin currents represent a new generation of energy-efficient technology for ultrafast data processing. So-called pure spin currents (i.e., without the associated flow of electric charge in the circuit) can be produced via spin pumping—a transfer of angular momentum from a ferromagnetic layer to a metallic para- or diamagnet (PM, DM), often referred to as “normal” or “non-magnetic” metal—by microwave excitation of magnetization precession in the ferromagnet (FM). The latter is called ferromagnetic resonance (FMR).^{1–5} Induced spin currents can be detected by the conversion to charge currents via the inverse spin Hall effect⁶ as well as via FMR.^{3,4,7–10} In the latter case, spin pumping is associated with the flow of spin angular

momentum, which increases the spin relaxation rate and enhances the effective damping in the FM film.^{3,4,9–13}

Characteristic quantities to estimate the spin pumping efficiency at FM/PM interfaces are the spin mixing conductance $g^{\uparrow\downarrow}$ and the spin diffusion length λ_{sd} . The former describes an interfacial dependent parameter of angular momentum transfer across the FM/PM interface. The latter describes the length scale of decay of the injected spin-current density into the adjacent non-ferromagnetic layer due to spin diffusion and relaxation.¹⁴

Both insulating [Y₃Fe₅O₁₂ (YIG), Tm₃Fe₅O₁₂ (TmIG)]^{15–17} and metallic ferromagnets (e.g., permalloy Py, Fe, Co, CoFeB, and FeRh)^{18–23} have been used as spin sources, whereas metals with strong spin-orbit coupling^{10,24–26} are usually used as spin-sink

layers. Important to note hybrid structures where both spin source and spin detector are made of ferromagnetic materials,^{27,28} e.g., a spin current was injected from YIG into Py via a thermal gradient.²⁹ The interfacial spin transport was investigated with various types of non-ferromagnetic layers—such as semiconductors,^{30,31} Rashba interfaces,³² and topological insulators.^{33–35} Recently, the focus has been extended to paramagnetic alloys,^{7,36,37} which joined the family of confirmed spin sink materials inducing spin-orbit torque.

Here, we utilize the magnetostructural phase transition in the 3d metal binary alloy $\text{Fe}_{60}\text{Al}_{40}$ (FeAl) whose magnetic properties can be tuned via the change of the structural order^{38–43} and investigate the dual role of a thin $\text{Fe}_{60}\text{Al}_{40}$ film as a spin source and a spin sink. $\text{Fe}_{60}\text{Al}_{40}$ alloy is known to form a B2-ordered intermetallic phase (CsCl-type) in thermal equilibrium,⁴⁴ which is paramagnetic at room temperature. Chemical disorder of the structure, i.e., formation of antisite defects, induces ferromagnetism associated with the increase in Fe–Fe nearest neighbors in an A2 structure and a lattice expansion.⁴²

Structural disorder can be achieved during the deposition of thin films at room temperature without subsequent annealing. *In situ* annealing of sputtered films leads to formation of B2-ordered state which is paramagnetic at room temperature. B2-FeAl can be “switched” to the ferromagnetic state using mechanical deformation,⁴⁵ ion irradiation,^{38,40} or fs laser pulses.⁴⁶ The laser-driven structural order–disorder transition allows for reversible writing and erasing of ferromagnetic regions in thin films.⁴⁶ Thus, taking advantage of the disorder-induced magnetization in FeAl, we address room temperature interfacial spin pumping in bilayer structures where, depending on its chemical structure, the FeAl thin film is implemented as ferromagnetic layer (spin source) or as paramagnetic layer (spin sink) and interfaced with two other metals commonly used for spin pumping experiments—Pd and permalloy $\text{Ni}_{80}\text{Fe}_{20}$. In the following, we define the ferromagnetic state of $\text{Fe}_{60}\text{Al}_{40}$ as spin source, emitting into an adjacent layer, and the paramagnetic state of $\text{Fe}_{60}\text{Al}_{40}$ as spin sink into which a spin current is pumped from a ferromagnetic material. We perform FMR measurements on a series of samples with different thickness of the PM layer, investigate an increase of the damping constant due to spin pumping, and

determine the spin mixing conductance and the spin diffusion length for FM– $\text{Fe}_{60}\text{Al}_{40}$ /Pd and PM– $\text{Fe}_{60}\text{Al}_{40}$ /Py bilayers.

II. EXPERIMENT

The polycrystalline $\text{Fe}_{60}\text{Al}_{40}$, Py, and Pd films were sputter-deposited from alloy and elemental targets, respectively, onto a Si(100) substrate with a 250-nm-thick amorphous SiO_2 buffer layer. The chamber base pressure was $p = 2 \times 10^{-9}$ mbar (2×10^{-9} hPa). The magnetron sputtering was performed at room temperature in argon atmosphere of 3×10^{-3} mbar. The $\text{Fe}_{60}\text{Al}_{40}$ thin films deposited at room temperature have a chemically disordered A2 structure, which is ferromagnetic. Post-annealing *in situ* at 500 °C for 1h leads to the chemically ordered, non-ferromagnetic B2 structural phase.⁴² Two sets of thin film bilayer samples have been investigated: (i) ferromagnetic 5-nm-thin A2- $\text{Fe}_{60}\text{Al}_{40}$ films capped with 2–10 nm Pd films, which were deposited at room temperature directly after FeAl deposition and (ii) 5-nm-thin Py films grown on top of an annealed paramagnetic B2- $\text{Fe}_{60}\text{Al}_{40}$ film of 5–20 nm thickness (see Fig. 1). In the latter case, the Py films have been deposited after *in situ* annealing of the FeAl films. Single 5-nm-thick FM A2-FeAl and Py films grown on Si/ SiO_2 were used as a reference.

The broadband FMR measurements were performed at room temperature in the frequency range of 5–35 GHz. The samples were placed flip-chip on the center of a coplanar waveguide (CPW) connected to a Vector Network Analyzer (VNA, Agilent). By applying a microwave excitation on the sample, the amplitude and phase of CPW transmission signal is detected, which is usually called the complex scattering parameter S_{21} . The S_{21} parameter was recorded at a fixed frequency as a function of the magnetic field applied in in-plane as well as out-of-plane direction. By fitting each spectrum with a complex Lorentzian function,⁴⁷ the resonance field positions B_{res} and the peak-to-peak linewidth ΔB_{pp} values were determined and analyzed in terms of g-factor, effective magnetization, and damping parameter. To resolve the spin pumping contribution, we determined the frequency-dependent linewidth measured in an out-of-plane magnetic field in order to exclude the non-linear contributions to the linewidth such as two-magnon scattering and

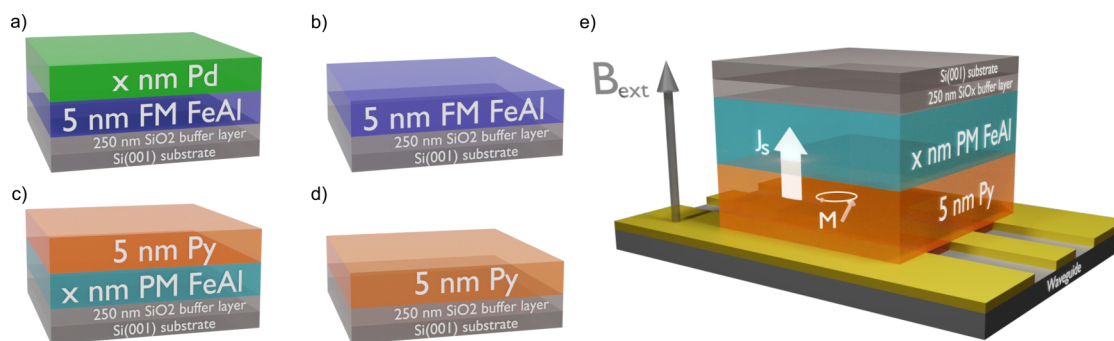


FIG. 1. Schematic representation of the investigated samples: (a) 5 nm thick ferromagnetic A2-disordered $\text{Fe}_{60}\text{Al}_{40}$ films capped with a Pd film of $x = 2$ –10 nm thickness; (b) uncapped 5 nm A2- $\text{Fe}_{60}\text{Al}_{40}$ reference sample; (c) 5 nm Py films grown on top of paramagnetic B2-ordered $\text{Fe}_{60}\text{Al}_{40}$ film of thickness $x = 5$ –20 nm; (d) 5 nm Py reference sample grown directly on Si/ SiO_x substrate; (e) schematic of the VNA-FMR setup showing the coplanar waveguide and thin film sample in an out-of-plane applied static magnetic field for measuring a transmitted signal S_{21} .

mosaicity.⁴⁸ The dissipation and related broadening of linewidth due to eddy currents was neglected since the film thickness was smaller than the skin depth at FMR frequencies.

Static magnetic properties have been investigated using a Quantum Design MPMS system by recording $M(H)$ hysteresis loops at room temperature, which were normalized with respect to the volume of the ferromagnetic film.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Figures 2(a) and 2(b) exemplary show out-of-plane FMR spectra measured at a frequency of 9.5 GHz for the two sample sets as sketched in Fig. 1. Figure 2(a) shows the spectrum of the uncapped as-grown 5 nm FM A2-FeAl film (blue line) and the one with 10 nm Pd cap layer (red). Figure 2(b) presents spectra of the single 5 nm Py film (blue) and a bilayer of 10 nm PM B2-FeAl/5 nm Py (red). One can observe an opposite shift of the resonance position and a change of the linewidth for the series based on FM and PM FeAl, which might be counterintuitive at the first glance but will be explained later on.

The resonance field as a function of the microwave frequency f in the out-of-plane geometry without cubic anisotropy is given by the Kittel equation^{49,50}

$$B_{res}^{\perp}(f) = \frac{2\pi f}{|\gamma|} + \mu_0 M_{eff}, \quad (1)$$

where $\gamma = (g\mu_B)/\hbar$ is the gyromagnetic ratio, g is the Landé g -factor, μ_B is the Bohr magneton, and \hbar is the reduced Planck constant. The effective magnetization is given by $\mu_0 M_{eff} = \mu_0 M_S - \mu_0 H_k$, where M_S is the saturation magnetization and $\mu_0 H_k = 2K_{2\perp}/M_S$ is the perpendicular anisotropy field with $K_{2\perp}$ being the perpendicular uniaxial magnetic anisotropy constant (often denoted as K_u). The g -factor and the effective magnetization values were extracted by fitting the

experimental frequency dependence of the resonance field B_{res} according to Eq. (1) for each sample. The damping parameter α was evaluated from the frequency dependence of the linewidth ΔB_{pp} using the experimentally determined g -factor and the following relation:

$$\Delta B_{pp}(f) = \frac{4\pi\alpha}{\sqrt{3}|\gamma|} f + \Delta B_0, \quad (2)$$

where ΔB_0 is the frequency-independent inhomogeneous broadening due to structural and magnetic inhomogeneities of the sample.

Using reference measurements of the FM layers only, i.e., without adjacent spin-sink layers, the intrinsic Gilbert damping α_{int} and the spin-pumping contribution can be separated.⁵¹ Thus, the total damping is given by^{10,25,52}

$$\alpha = \alpha_{int} + g\mu_B \frac{g^{\uparrow\downarrow}}{4\pi M_S t_{FM}} \left(1 - e^{-\frac{2t_{PM}}{\lambda_{PM}}}\right), \quad (3)$$

where $g^{\uparrow\downarrow}$ denotes the spin mixing conductance of the FM/PM interface, t_{FM} and t_{PM} are the FM's and PM's thickness, respectively, and λ_{PM} is the spin diffusion length of the PM. The term in brackets accounts for a partial backflow of spin current at the interface, which depends on the thickness and the spin diffusion length of the adjacent layer.¹⁰ We used the following values of saturation magnetization obtained from magnetometry at room temperature: $M_S = 650 \pm 70$ kA/m for 5 nm FM-Fe₆₀Al₄₀ and 690 ± 50 kA/m for 5 nm Py, similar to the ones reported earlier.^{53,54}

The reference measurements revealed intrinsic Gilbert damping parameters α_{int} of $(5.04 \pm 0.11) \times 10^{-3}$ for 5 nm FM-Fe₆₀Al₄₀ and $(8.53 \pm 0.15) \times 10^{-3}$ for the 5 nm Py thin film. The damping parameter of the thin Py layer is in good agreement with the previously reported values of 8.5×10^{-3} for 7 nm thickness.³¹

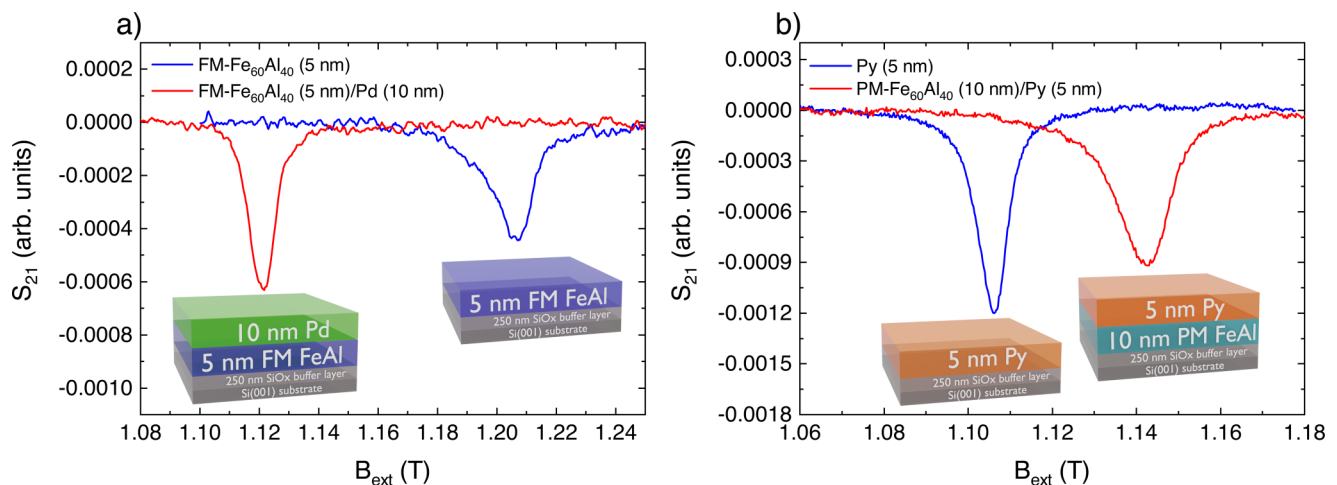


FIG. 2. (a) FMR spectra of the 5-nm-thick ferromagnetic A2-Fe₆₀Al₄₀ film: uncapped (blue) and capped with 10 nm Pd (red); (b) FMR spectra of 5-nm-thick Py films: single (blue) and bilayer with 10 nm paramagnetic B2-Fe₆₀Al₄₀ (red). All spectra were measured in the magnetic field applied in the out-of-plane direction at a frequency of 9.500 GHz and room temperature.

A. A2-disordered ferromagnetic $\text{Fe}_{60}\text{Al}_{40}$ as a spin source

First, spin pumping in the bilayer system FM-FeAl/Pd [Figs. 1(a) and 1(b)] was studied to determine the spin diffusion length of Pd and the spin mixing conductance at the interface with as-grown A2-FeAl. Figures 3(a) and 3(b) show the frequency dependence of the resonance field B_{res} and the linewidth ΔB_{pp} of the uncapped 5 nm thick FM-FeAl film and of the films capped with a 2, 3, 5, and 10 nm Pd layer. The g-factor and the effective magnetization [Figs. 3(c) and 3(d)] have been extracted by fitting the data according to Eq. (1). The g-factor of the single FM-FeAl film is 2.042 ± 0.002 , while for Pd-capped films it increases by 0.3% to 2.048 ± 0.002 , remaining independent of the Pd thickness within the error bar. This increase is related to the change in the ratio of the effective spin to orbital magnetic moment due to Pd capping.^{55,56} Also, the polarization of Pd at the interface may play a role—similarly to the observations in Fe/V superlattices.⁵⁷

This interpretation is supported by the observed decrease in the effective magnetization [Fig. 3(d)] most likely due to a change in the magneto-crystalline anisotropy.⁵⁸ Additionally, on the surface of non-capped FM-FeAl, a self-passivating oxide layer is formed, which affects the contribution of the surface anisotropy to the effective magnetization [Fig. 3(d)], seen as a shift of the resonance field for the uncapped film in Fig. 3(a). Based on the FMR and magnetometry data, we determined the anisotropy field

$2K_{21}/M_s$ of -61 ± 7 mT for uncapped 5 nm FM-FeAl films and 34 ± 4 mT for Pd-capped films, which is similar to the values reported in our previous work on 40 nm FM-FeAl films, where ferromagnetic ordering has been introduced via neon ion irradiation with the energy 17.5–30 keV.⁴⁰

The ferromagnetic resonance peak-to-peak linewidth ΔB_{pp} vs frequency [Fig. 3(b)] fitted accordingly to Eq. (2) reveals an inhomogeneous broadening of 6.1 ± 0.4 mT for the uncapped film and of 2.4 ± 0.5 mT for all capped films [Fig. 3(e)]. This explains why the linewidth of the uncapped FM-FeAl film in Fig. 2(a) was counterintuitively larger than the one with the spin sink on top. After subtraction of the inhomogeneous line broadening, an increase in the linear slope (corresponding to α) as a function of the capping layer thickness caused by the spin pumping can be seen. This increase in the Gilbert-like damping α is shown in Fig. 4 in detail. The spin mixing conductance $g_{Pd}^{\uparrow\downarrow} = (3.8 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{18} \text{ m}^{-2}$ of the FM- $\text{Fe}_{60}\text{Al}_{40}$ /Pd bilayer and the spin diffusion length $\lambda_{Pd} = 9.1 \pm 2$ nm of Pd was evaluated from the dependence of α as a function of Pd thickness t_{Pd} according to Eq. (3). The possible error in evaluation of saturation magnetization (passivating layer, inaccuracy in the evaluation of the FM layer volume) is accounted for by giving a larger error bar for $g_{Pd}^{\uparrow\downarrow}$.⁵⁹

The spin diffusion lengths of Pd reported in the literature, e.g., $\lambda_{Pd} = 8.6 \pm 1$ nm for $\text{Co}_{90}\text{Fe}_{10}(2)/\text{Pd}$ ⁶⁰ are within the error bar of our measurement. Previously reported values for the spin mixing

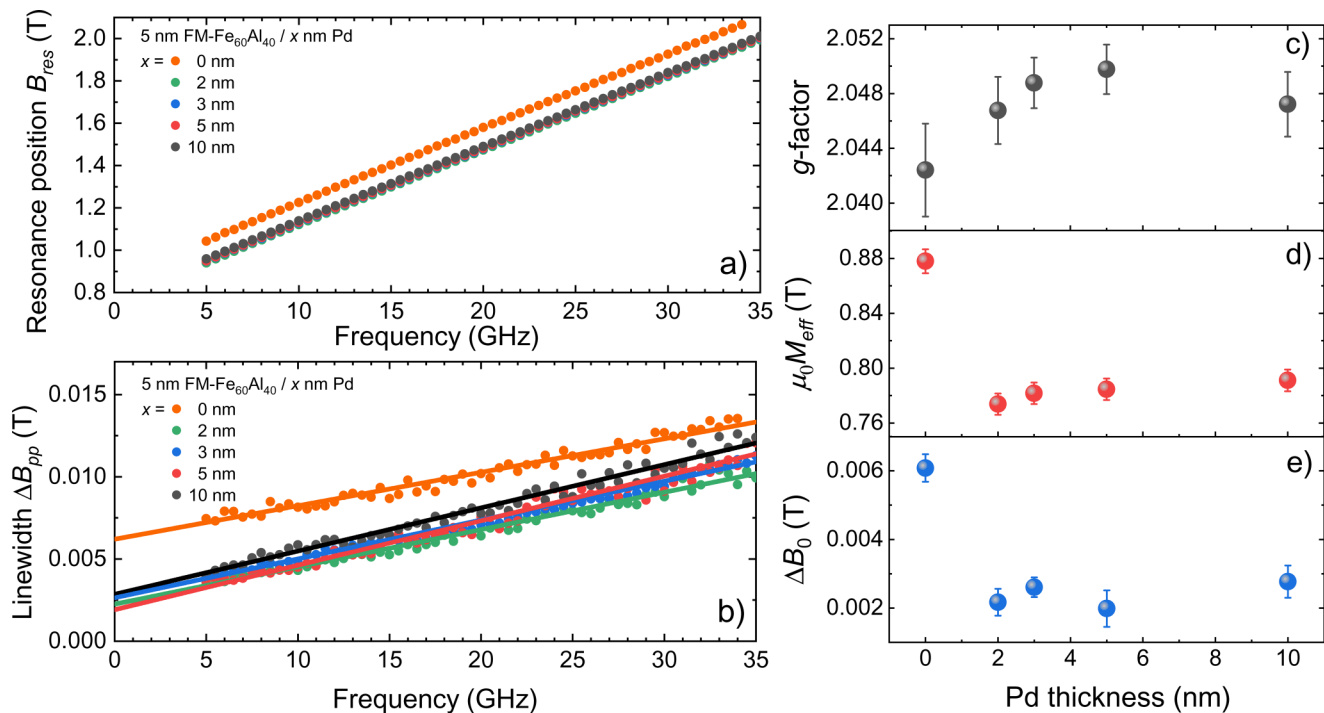


FIG. 3. (a) Resonance position as a function of frequency at room temperature, (b) frequency-dependent linewidth (symbols) and linear fit (solid line) according to Eq. (2) for different Pd thickness on top of the 5 nm FM $\text{A2-Fe}_{60}\text{Al}_{40}$ thin film, (c) g-factor, (d) effective magnetization $\mu_0 M_{\text{eff}}$, and (e) inhomogeneous broadening ΔB_0 of 5 nm FM $\text{A2-Fe}_{60}\text{Al}_{40}$ /Pd as a function of Pd layer thickness.

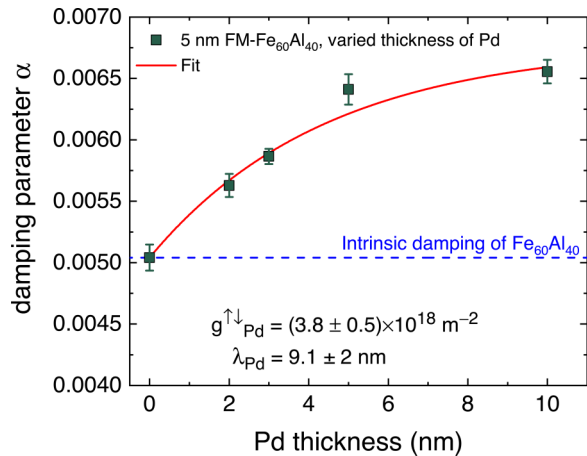


FIG. 4. Damping parameter α of 5 nm FM A2-Fe₆₀Al₄₀ films in dependence of the Pd capping layer thickness. The solid red line indicates the fit according to Eq. (3). The dashed blue line shows the intrinsic damping contribution of the ferromagnetic Fe₆₀Al₄₀ layer without capping.

conductance at Pd interfaces with different FM films are ranging significantly due to varying interface conditions like the crystallinity of the FM layer,⁶¹ the chemical composition,⁶⁰ and the morphology of the interface⁶² as well as due to varied detection methods.

The obtained spin mixing conductance of the FM–FeAl/Pd interface is comparable to the reported value for Fe/Pd.⁵² A broad variation within the published values of $g_{Pd}^{\uparrow\downarrow}$ in case of Fe/Pd as well as Py/Pd interfaces might also be ascribed to the alloying and the change of interface roughness in capped films. Our study shows that an A2-disordered FM–FeAl alloy can generate a spin pumping into an adjacent paramagnetic layer, which is confirmed by FMR and the determination of the spin-diffusion length of Pd.

B. B2-ordered paramagnetic Fe₆₀Al₄₀ as a spin sink

Our next step was to investigate spin pumping in thin film bilayers where Fe₆₀Al₄₀ is used in its B2-ordered paramagnetic state as a spin sink [Fig. 1(c)]. FMR measurements as described above were performed on the series of 5 nm thin Py films grown on top of the paramagnetic B2-FeAl films of varied thickness as summarized in Fig. 5. Based on the analysis of the resonance field and frequency [Fig. 5(a)] using Eqs. (1) and (2), the values of g -factor and M_{eff} of the Py films with and without PM–FeAl layer were found [Figs. 5(c) and 5(d)].

The g -factor for the single Py film grown directly on a Si/SiO_x substrate is $g = 2.098 \pm 0.001$, which is in good agreement with the value reported by Shaw *et al.*, who showed that the g -factor of Py for the out-of-plane geometry is decreasing with the reciprocal thickness, leading to a smaller g -factor than the bulk value of $g_{Py}^{bulk} = 2.109 \pm 0.003$.⁶³

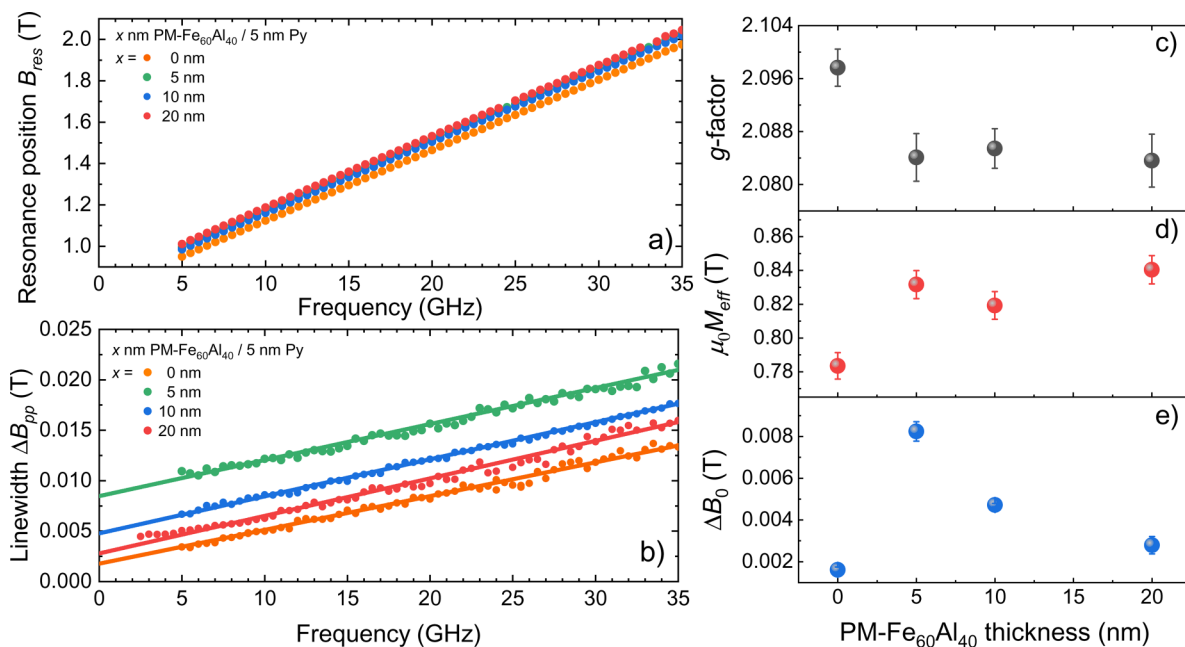


FIG. 5. (a) Resonance position as a function of frequency at room temperature, (b) frequency-dependent linewidth (symbols) of 5 nm Py and linear fit (solid line) according to Eq. (2) for different thickness of the underlying PM–Fe₆₀Al₄₀ layers, (c) g -factor, (d) effective magnetization $\mu_0 M_{eff}$, and (e) inhomogeneous broadening ΔB_0 as a function of the B2-ordered PM–Fe₆₀Al₄₀ underlayer thickness.

When a Py film is deposited on top of the B2-ordered PM-FeAl, the g-factor decreases to $g = 2.084 \pm 0.002$ and remains constant within the error bar for the presented FeAl layer thickness range [Fig. 5(c)]. In contrast, the effective magnetization of the Py film was found to be higher for the bilayer samples reaching the value of 0.83 ± 0.01 T while for single Py layer it was 0.78 ± 0.01 T. Both these values are reduced in comparison to the bulk permalloy saturation magnetization ($\mu_0 M_S^{\text{Py bulk}} = 1$ T) and obtained here for 5 nm Py film ($\mu_0 M_S^{\text{Py 5 nm}} = 0.867$ T), which implies a positive perpendicular magnetic anisotropy field $2K_{21}/M_s$ known for thin films.^{64,65} The perpendicular magnetic anisotropy is decreasing for the PM-FeAl/Py bilayer in comparison to single Py films, which is also consistent with a decrease in the g-factor. We assume this reversed effect of an adjacent PM layer on the g-factor [Fig. 5(c)] and effective magnetization [Fig. 5(d)] in contrast to the FM-FeAl/Pd bilayers [Figs. 3(c) and 3(d)] is due to the increase in the ratio of spin-to-orbital magnetic moment.

The analysis of the peak-to-peak linewidth ΔB_{pp} vs frequency [Fig. 5(b)] fitted to Eq. (2) reveals an inhomogeneous broadening of 1.6 ± 0.1 mT for the single 5 nm Py film grown on Si/SiO_x and 8.2 to 2.8 ± 0.5 mT for the 5 nm Py films grown on top of PM-FeAl, prominently decreasing with FeAl thickness [Fig. 5(e)], which might be associated with the improved surface roughness of the thicker films. After subtraction of the inhomogeneous broadening, the increase of the linear slope with increasing thickness of the PM-FeAl interfaced with the Py film is evident (Fig. 6). Both parameters $g_{\text{FeAl}}^{\uparrow\downarrow}$ of the PM B2-FeAl/Py interface and λ_{FeAl} of PM-FeAl were determined. According to Eq. (3), one obtains $g_{\text{FeAl}}^{\uparrow\downarrow} = (2.1 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{18} \text{ m}^{-2}$ and $\lambda_{\text{FeAl}} = 11.9 \pm 0.2$ nm.

When interfaced with Py, PM-Fe₆₀Al₄₀ exhibits an almost 31% larger spin diffusion length as compared to Pd, which is consistent with the smaller spin-orbit coupling in the PM-Fe₆₀Al₄₀ alloy. The spin mixing conductance of PM-FeAl/Py is smaller as

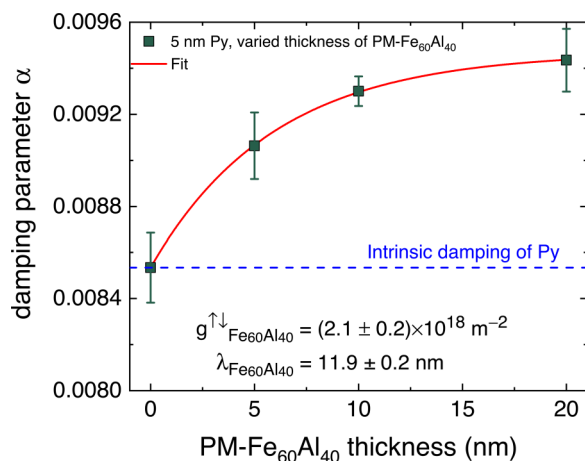


FIG. 6. Extracted damping parameter α of 5 nm Py films depending on the thickness of the PM-Fe₆₀Al₄₀ layer. The solid red line indicates the fit to Eq. (3). The dashed blue line shows the intrinsic damping contribution of the 5 nm Py thin film.

compared to the FM-FeAl/Pd interface. Since the formation of an interfacial oxide layer between PM-FeAl and Py during deposition is excluded, we attribute the determined value $g_{\text{FeAl}}^{\uparrow\downarrow}$ to intrinsic properties of the interface, as described above. A significant variation of the inhomogeneous broadening of the Py resonance line depending on the thickness of the underlying PM-FeAl layer might indicate a non-vanishing role of surface roughness, which in turn affects the transparency of the interface for the spin current.⁶² Currently, we conclude that the Fe₆₀Al₄₀ alloy in a paramagnetic B2-ordered state can be used as spin sink in spin pumping experiments.

Summarizing, spin pumping experiments performed on two sets of bilayer samples, i.e., FM-FeAl/Pd and PM-FeAl/Py with an identical chemical composition of Fe₆₀Al₄₀, demonstrate the bi-functionality of this alloy in spintronics and show that it can be used as a spin source and spin sink at room temperature depending on its structural order. Engineering an interface design, e.g., by combining FM-Fe₆₀Al₄₀ and PM-Fe₆₀Al₄₀ as a bilayer as well as laterally patterned nanostructures by ion-beam⁴¹ or laser irradiation,⁴⁶ might be a promising approach to generate pure spin currents via spin pumping.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

The spin pumping efficiency of the Fe₆₀Al₄₀ alloy in bilayer systems acting as a spin source and as a spin sink when formed in A2/B2 structural order has been studied using FMR. Fe₆₀Al₄₀ layers were prepared in the A2-disordered ferromagnetic state and in the B2-ordered paramagnetic state and interfaced with thin films of Pd and Py (Ni₈₀Fe₂₀), respectively. We determined the spin mixing conductance $g_{\text{Pd}}^{\uparrow\downarrow} = (3.8 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{18} \text{ m}^{-2}$ of the FM-Fe₆₀Al₄₀/Pd interface and the spin diffusion length $\lambda_{\text{Pd}} = 9.1 \pm 2$ nm in Pd as well as the spin mixing conductance $g_{\text{FeAl}}^{\uparrow\downarrow} = (2.1 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{18} \text{ m}^{-2}$ of the PM-Fe₆₀Al₄₀/Py interface and the spin diffusion length $\lambda_{\text{FeAl}} = 11.9 \pm 0.2$ nm in PM-Fe₆₀Al₄₀. The possibility to use Fe₆₀Al₄₀ thin films of the same chemical composition at room temperature as spin sink and spin source may add an additional degree of freedom in the design of spintronic and magnonic devices based on the generation, manipulation, and detection of pure spin currents.

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AUTHOR DECLARATIONS

Conflict of Interest

The authors have no conflicts to disclose.

Author Contributions

T. Strusch: Investigation (equal); Visualization (lead); Writing – original draft (lead); Writing – review & editing (equal). **K. Lenz:** Formal analysis (supporting); Investigation (supporting); Methodology (equal); Software (lead); Writing – review & editing (equal). **R. Meckenstock:** Writing – review & editing (equal). **R. Bali:** Writing – review & editing (equal). **J. Ehrler:** Methodology (equal). **J. Lindner:** Writing – review & editing (equal). **J. Fassbender:** Project administration (supporting). **M. Farle:** Supervision (equal); Writing – review & editing (equal). **K. Potzger:** Methodology (equal); Project administration (supporting); Writing – review & editing (equal). **A. Semisalova:** Funding acquisition (lead); Investigation (equal); Project administration (lead); Supervision (lead); Writing – original draft (equal); Writing – review & editing (equal).

DATA AVAILABILITY

The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

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