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Fabrication and Characteristics of Magnetic Tunnel Transistors Using the Amorphous n-Type Si Films

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Magnetic tunneling transistor (MTT) device using the amorphous n-type Si semiconductor film for base and collector consisting the [CoFe/NiFe](free layer) and Si(top layer) multilayers is used to study the spin-dependent hot electron magetocurrent (MC) and tunneling magnetoresistance (TMR) at room temperature, respectively. A large MC of more than 40.2% is observed at the emmitter-base bias voltage ($V_{\rm EB}$) of 0.62 V. The increasing emitter hot current and transfer ratio ($I_{\rm C}/I_{\rm E}$) as $V_{\rm EB}$ are due mainly to a rapid increase of the number of conduction band states in the Si collector. However, above the $V_{\rm EB}$ of 0.62 V, the rapid decrease of MC observed in amorphous Si-based MTT because of hot electron spin-dependent elastic scattering across CoFe/Si interfaces.

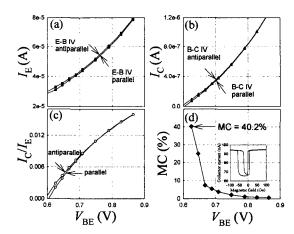


Fig. 1. The emitter-base bias voltage $(V_{\rm BE})$ dependence of (a) the emitter current $(I_{\rm E})$, (b) the collector current $(I_{\rm C})$, (c) the transfer ratio $(I_{\rm C}/I_{\rm E})$, and (d) the magnetocurrent (MC). Here the antiparallel and parallel alignments of the emitter and base magnetic moments are distincted. Collector current curve of an MTT as a function the applied magnetic field having a magnetocurrent of 40.2% at room temperature is shown in inset of (d).

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