Magnonic band structure in a Co/Pd stripe domain system investigated by Brillouin light scattering and micromagnetic simulations

Chandrima Banerjee,¹ Pawel Gruszecki,² Jaroslaw W. Klos,² Olav Hellwig,³ Maciej Krawczyk,² and Anjan Barman^{1,*}

¹Department of Condensed Matter Physics and Material Sciences, S. N. Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences, Kolkata 700 106, India ²Faculty of Physics, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Umultowska 85, Poznan, 61-614, Poland

³Institute of Physics, Chemnitz University of Technology, Reichenhainer Straße 70, D-09107 Chemnitz, Germany

and Institute of Ion Beam Physics and Materials Research, Helmholtz-Zentrum Dresden-Rossendorf, 01328 Dresden, Germany

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By combining Brillouin light scattering and micromagnetic simulations, we studied the spin-wave (SW) dynamics of a Co/Pd thin film multilayer, which features a stripe domain structure at remanence. The periodic up and down domains are separated by corkscrew type domain walls. The existence of these domains causes a scattering of the otherwise bulk and surface SW modes, which form mode families, similar to a one-dimensional magnonic crystal. The dispersion relation and mode profiles of SWs are measured for the transferred wave vector parallel and perpendicular to the domain axis.

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I. INTRODUCTION

The possibility to use spin waves (SWs) to excite, transmit, store, and retrieve electric signals as well as to perform logical operations has fueled a new spectrum of research in wavebased signal processing technology [1-4]. Usually, magnonic crystals (MCs), i.e. arrays of microscopic magnetic stripes [5], dots [6], antidots [7], etched grooves or pits [8], periodic variations of the internal magnetic field [9], and saturation magnetization by ion implantation [10], are employed to control the flow of SWs. Magnetostatic surface SWs or the Damon-Eshbach (DE) SW modes, which propagate perpendicular to the in-plane (IP) magnetization direction, are promising in this context because of their large group velocities (v_{σ}) and low attenuation. Consequently, significant progress has been made toward the practical realization of magnonic devices in terms of the on-chip generation, directional channeling, detection, and manipulation of SWs. However, to realize the experimental geometry, a large magnetic field has to be applied to enforce the magnetization perpendicular to the SW propagation direction. This is a major obstacle to the implementation of a MC into a practical device. A way out is to use the Oersted field generated from an underlying current-carrying stripe [11,12], which is still plagued by the problem of the generation of waste heat which increases with increasing data processing speed. Moreover, the fabrication of periodic nanostructures involves high-precision electron-beam lithography which is very complex and expensive. An alternative approach to overcome these fundamental drawbacks is to take recourse to the spin dynamics in the remanent state, which is more suitable for nanoscale device applications, as it does not require any standby power once initialized.

In the literature, only few reports exist on the magnetization dynamics for systems with an inhomogeneous magnetization distribution containing domains and domain walls (DWs). Most commonly studied is a periodic or nonperiodic distribution of magnetic units of up and down domains (parallel, labyrinthine, bubblelike domains) [13–19], separated by negligibly thin, one-dimensional (1D) DWs. Such domains appear in magnetic thin films with a perpendicular anisotropy smaller than the demagnetizing energy if the film thickness is higher than a critical value t_c , which is, in turn, dependent on the perpendicular anisotropy constant, saturation magnetization, and the exchange constant. The morphology of the domains and consequently the spin dynamics are strongly affected by the field history, allowing for a broad range of tunability. Moreover, just recently, the topic of SW propagation within DWs, as ultra-narrow waveguides has been intensively studied by the magnonic community, however, mostly theoretically in magnetic systems with strong Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya interaction [20–23]. There are only a few examples of experimentally realized systems presenting SW propagation within DWs [24].

The study on the magnetic properties of stripe domain systems (array of parallel up and down domains) was pioneered by Kittel [25], where the formation of stripe domains was predicted for films thicker than the magnetic domain width. After that, a multitude of theoretical [26-27] and experimental [14,28-30] studies have been carried out in this direction for a broad variety of magnetic systems, where the evolution, morphology, and interaction between the stripe domains are addressed. Experimentally, the formation of a stripe domain structure is characterized as a function of film thickness, applied magnetic field, annealing temperature, film composition, etc., using magnetic force microscopy (MFM), magneto-optical Kerr effect (MOKE), x-ray diffraction, for NiFe [31,32], Co [33,34], CoFeSiB [35], FeSiB [36,37], FeCoAlON [38], FeCoZr [39], and FePd [40] films. Nevertheless, only few measurements have been reported so far on the dynamical properties of magnetization, which used ferromagnetic resonance (FMR) [40-42] and Brillouin light scattering (BLS) [14,43] techniques. The results reveal that the consecutive domains give rise to a periodically modulated internal magnetic field, which introduces a partial reflection of the propagating SW at the stripe domain boundaries. The feature of rotational magnetic anisotropy is also evidenced, which is associated with the reorientation of the stripes. These results triggered the possibility towards achieving reconfigurable magnetic properties by tailoring the intricate

^{*}abarman@bose.res.in

interaction between the consecutive stripes as well as the magnetocrystalline anisotropy in these systems.

In this paper, we aim at developing a combined understanding of the static and dynamic magnetic properties of the parallel stripe domain structure in Co/Pd multilayered systems. The study of magnetic multilayers with high perpendicular magnetic anisotropy (PMA) is motivated to a large extent by industrial importance of these films, e.g., in patterned magnetic media [44], spin transfer torque magnetoresistive random access memory (STT-MRAM) [45], and MCs [46]. In these systems, the interface anisotropy (because of the broken symmetry), combined with d-d hybridization at the ferromagnet/nonmagnet interfaces, is responsible for the onset of PMA, and consequently of a stripe domain structure, for film thickness greater than a critical value. Moreover, the proximity effect, along with the magnetic coupling between the layers, leads to magnetic properties unreachable to standard single-layer systems. These effects get further modified in the presence of stripe domains. In this context, a deep understanding of the magnetic coupling between the constitutive layers at larger stack thickness and the impact of stripe domains on the static and dynamic properties become of crucial interest. So far, the quasistatic properties of the domain structure have been investigated for FeNi/Co [47], FePd [7,48], Fe/Cu [49], Co/Cu/(Fe/Ni)/Cu(001) [50], and Co/Au [51] multilayers. However, the dynamic SW properties are still unexplored.

Here, we have investigated the static and dynamic magnetic properties in Co/Pd multilayers with stripe domains by using MFM, vibrating sample magnetometry (VSM), and BLS spectroscopy. Our first goal is to examine how this stable spin configuration manifests itself on the dynamic response. For that, the SWs were measured in saturated as well as in remanent state (i.e. in the presence of stripe domains) and their wave vector dispersions are analyzed and compared. We have further studied the evolution of the SW band structure by changing the relative orientation between the SW wave vector and the domains. Micromagnetic simulations are employed to calculate both eigenvalues (mode frequencies) and eigenvectors (mode profiles) of the SWs. The results proclaim that the SW propagation is similar to that in a 1D MC, which can be significantly reconfigured by varying the wave vector orientation. Furthermore, this system serves as a possible prototype for magnon-based data transfer devices, with the advantage of nonvolatile operation, energy efficient computing, ease of fabrication, and control on SW frequency and velocity.

II. EXPERIMENTAL DETAILS

The multilayered sample was deposited using dc magnetron sputtering and has the following structure: $Ta(15)/Pd(30)/[Co(10)/Pd(7)]_{25}/Pd(20)$, where the numbers denote the thickness in Ångströms. For deposition, we used a multisource confocal sputter-up geometry with a source/substrate distance of 0.1-0.15 m. During deposition, the substrate was rotated for uniformity at about 3 Hz and was kept at room temperature using a low argon pressure of 3 mTorr. Co was sputtered at 250 W with a deposition rate of 0.7 Å/s, and Pd was sputtered at 100 W with a deposition rate of

 ~ 2 Å/s. Given the low Ar pressure used during deposition, the film is relatively smooth, with sharply defined interfaces [52].

To obtain the aligned stripe domain structure, the saturating magnetic field was applied within the film plane {arbitrary direction, as the films are [111] out-of-plane (OOP) textured and IP isotropic } followed by an IP ac demagnetization (preferred alignment of the domains is along the applied field direction), i.e. the IP field is switched back and forth between positive and negative polarity starting above the saturation field strength down to about a few Oersted, where the field amplitude is reduced about 1% in each step. As a result, we obtain an aligned parallel magnetic stripe domain state similar to an array of artificial stripe wires, i.e. a MC. The magnetization curves (IP and perpendicular to the plane) were measured using VSM at room temperature. The domain images at the remanent state were recorded by MFM. Brillouin light scattering measurements in the 180° backscattered geometry were employed to investigate the wave vector dispersions of the thermal magnons. This technique relies on an inelastic light scattering process due to interaction between incident photons and magnons. Monochromatic laser light (wavelength $\lambda = 532$ nm) from a solid state laser was focused on the sample surface. As the laser beam is inelastically scattered from the magnons, due to conservation of momentum, the magnitude of the IP transferred wave vector q depends on the incidence angle of light θ according to: $q = (4\pi/\lambda) \sin \theta$. The direction of magnon wave vector q lies along the intersection of the scattering plane and the film plane. Cross polarizations between the incident and the scattered beams were adopted in order to minimize the phonon contribution to the scattered light. Subsequently, the frequencies of the scattered light are analyzed using a Sandercock-type six-pass tandem Fabry-Pérot interferometer (JRS Scientific Instruments) [53]. One set of measurements was carried out in the demagnetized state in the presence of the stripe domains for q parallel and perpendicular to the stripe axis. This was accomplished by rotating the sample around the film normal, i.e. varying the angle φ between q and stripe axis. In another measurement set, the sample was saturated applying a strong IP magnetic field (H = 3.5 kOe) and the wave vector dispersion was taken in the DE geometry $(q \perp H)$.

III. MICROMAGNETIC SIMULATIONS

To validate the experimental results and to understand the physical character of the resonant modes, we exploited micromagnetic simulations using MuMax3 [54]. Micromagnetic simulations primarily were used to relax the stable stripe domain pattern of the comparable lattice constant as obtained experimentally, to compute dispersion relations for the uniformly IP magnetized structure and the stripe domain pattern and, finally, to visualize resonant mode profiles. In micromagnetic simulations, we assumed effective homogeneous material parameters in the whole structure. The saturation magnetization and anisotropy constant were set to the values obtained from the VSM measurements. To fit micromagnetic simulations results with the BLS data, we had to assume an anisotropic exchange constant [55–57], with $A_{ex,IP} = 1.45 \times$ 10^{-6} erg/cm and $A_{ex,OOP} = 1.05 \times 10^{-6}$ erg/cm along the IP and OOP directions, respectively. Micromagnetic simulations

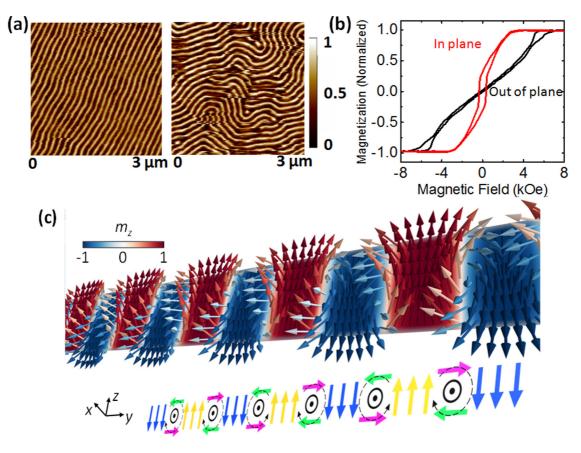


FIG. 1. (a) MFM image in the demagnetized state showing the parallel (left panel) and labyrinth (right panel) stripe domains of a Co/Pd multilayered system, obtained after IP and OOP ac demagnetization, respectively. (b) Magnetic hysteresis loops of the multilayer with IP and OOP applied magnetic fields. (c) The domain configuration (cross-sectional view) obtained from micromagnetic simulations. Arrows correspond to the magnetization vector, and colors spanning between blue and red correspond to the OOP component of the magnetization. The bottom panel schematically visualizes static magnetization with clockwise and anticlockwise DWs. The *x* and *z* axes are assumed to be parallel to DWs and multilayered system thickness, respectively.

were performed for the system of thickness $L_z = 42.5$ nm discretized with the unit cell of dimensions being much smaller than the exchange length or the width of DWs. The SW dispersion relation and resonant modes profiles were calculated according to Ref. [58]. Obtained results are presented in a form of color maps where color intensities correspond to the OOP component of the magnetization and relate to the intensities obtained in measurements. Resonant mode profiles are presented as a distribution of the amplitude and phase of the OOP dynamic magnetization component (m_z), a component to which BLS is sensitive to. A detailed description of micromagnetic simulations is provided in the Supplemental Material [59].

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The stripe domain patterns as measured by MFM in the demagnetized states are shown in Fig. 1(a). After IP ac demagnetization, we observe well-defined parallel stripe domains aligned along the IP demagnetization direction. The half period of the pattern is $A/2 \approx 60$ nm (A being the lattice constant), which is comparable to the thickness of the entire stack (42.5 nm). As mentioned in the introduction, the broken translational symmetry at the Co/Pd interfaces,

combined with the d-d hybridization is responsible for the PMA in this structure, which favors an OOP magnetization. The tendency of the magnetization to rotate OOP, however, is hindered by the presence of the magnetic charges on the surface of the film, which contributes to the magnetostatic energy (shape anisotropy). The competition between the PMA and the thin-film shape anisotropy leads to domains with up and down magnetization perpendicular to the film plane [30]. The features of stripe domain pattern depend on the respective thicknesses of the layers, the number of repetitions of the Co/Pd bilayer, and the amplitude of the anisotropy field. Basically, the magnetic domains occur when the gain in magnetostatic energy due to the domain structure is bigger than the energy required to form the DWs. A quality factor is defined, as given by $Q = \frac{K_u}{2\pi M_s^2}$, where K_u is OOP anisotropy energy density, while $M_{\rm S}$ is saturation magnetization. For a moderate value of the quality ratio $Q \leq 1$, a ground state with a stripe domain structure is favored.

The static magnetometry results for applied field along IP and OOP directions are shown in Fig. 1(b). The higher saturating field (\sim 7.5 kOe) observed in the OOP hysteresis loop suggests that the magnetization is primarily in the sample plane. The IP hysteresis loop marks two distinct magnetization phases: an IP component, which quickly

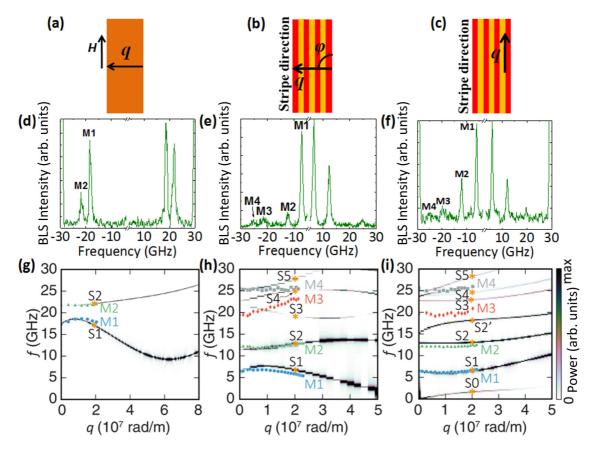


FIG. 2. (a)–(c) The measurement geometries for the saturated state, $\varphi = 90^{\circ}$ in (a) and (b), and $\varphi = 0^{\circ}$ in (c). (d)–(f) Corresponding typical BLS spectra at $q = 1.2 \times 10^7$ rad/m and (g)–(i) dispersion curves. Measured in BLS dispersions and modes are labeled with M and marked with the color points in (g)–(i). Simulation results are shown by the grayscale map, the orange stars labeled with S represent modes visualized in Fig. 3.

reverses at fields close to the coercive field, and a linear approach to saturation (starting at around $H \approx 1500$ Oe), due to the perpendicularly magnetized stripe domains, whose magnetization progressively rotates under the application of an IP magnetic field. The coercivity is approximately 0.7 kOe, and the remanent magnetization is around 30%, revealing that the magnetization vector is tilted w.r.t. the OOP direction. The magnetization reversal curve for OOP magnetic field, on the other hand, is characterized by domain nucleation, propagation, and annihilation characteristics of a labyrinth domain structure [15]. As discussed in Ref. [15], the parallel domains are robust and stable under small OOP field exposures up to about $\pm 3-4$ kOe, i.e., within the linear region of the OOP hysteresis loop. In this range, only the relative width of up versus down domains is altered by the OOP field, although the overall domain topology is preserved. Figure 1(a) (right panel) shows the MFM image taken after demagnetizing the film with a perpendicular applied field, which confirms the labyrinth domain formation. The saturation magnetization and the uniaxial anisotropy constant associated with the PMA were both estimated from the hysteresis curves as $M_s = 970 \text{ emu/cc}$ and $K_u = 1.9 \times 10^6 \text{ erg/cm}^3$ [60]. These values give a quality factor Q = 0.3.

We first describe the BLS measurements of the wave vector dispersion of thermal SWs after saturating the sample magnetization by applying an IP field H = 3.5 kOe. The

measurement geometry is shown in Fig. 2(a), where the transferred IP wave vector is perpendicular to the direction of magnetization, i.e. DE geometry. Figure 2(g) shows measured SW frequency peaks (solid symbols, labeled with M) as a function of q, together with a typical spectrum taken at $q = 1.2 \times 10^7$ rad/m [Fig. 2(d)]. We observed two dispersive modes where the mode M1 (M2) shows a maximum (minimum) at $q_g = 1 \times 10^7$ rad/m, leading to a frequency gap of 3 GHz.

To validate the experimental results and to understand the physical character of the resonant modes, we exploited micromagnetic simulations. The simulated mode frequency in dependence on the wave vector is presented by the grayscale map in Fig. 2(g) (marked with label S), which agrees well with the experimental results. Further, we investigated the physical nature of the modes. Figure 3(a) displays the corresponding power and phase maps of the SW modes at $q = 2 \times 10^7$ rad/m. The result reveals that the mode M1 (S1) extends across the volume of the sample, however, with increasing localization of the amplitude at the bottom surface of the film as the wave number increases. This points at the DE character of the mode, although with nonmonotonic dispersion. The former is also accorded by the marked Stokes/anti-Stokes asymmetry of the mode in the BLS spectrum, which can be reversed by simply reversing the direction of the magnetic field. We attribute this unusual nonmonotonicity to the PMA, as confirmed with the

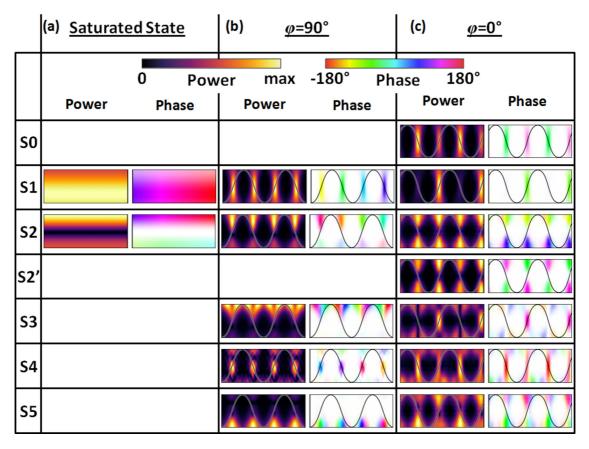


FIG. 3. The amplitude and phase maps of m_z for different SW modes (as marked with orange stars in Fig. 2) (a) calculated at $q = 2 \times 10^7$ rad/m for the saturated state, and domain structure with (b) $\varphi = 90^\circ$ and (c) $\varphi = 0^\circ$. The corresponding color scale is shown at the top of the figure. Dark solid lines in (b) and (c) correspond to the OOP component of the static magnetization at the top surface of the structure.

analytical model [61], which reproduces the BLS as well as the micromagnetic simulation dispersion relations. The mode M2 (S2) is a perpendicular standing SW (PSSW) excitation of the exchange character with the one nodal plane in the middle of the film [Fig. 3(a)].

In the next step, we investigated how the SW dynamics are modified in the presence of a stripe domain structure. Figure 1(c) presents the cross-sectional view of the simulated stripe domain structure, where the magnetic state is shown with the arrows and OOP component of the magnetization by a red-white-blue color map and arrow color. Clearly, it consists of basic up and down domains, with a spatial periodicity of about A = 100 nm, which is in reasonable agreement (slightly underestimated) with the experimental MFM images. These domains are separated by complex twisted DWs, as given by the not fully vertical arrows of colors different than saturated dark red and dark blue being present in the middle part of each domain, where the magnetization is exactly parallel to the z axis.

Note that the DW occupies a significant region in each spatial period so that the magnetization profile in each domain deviates from its rectangular shape. For the DWs, interestingly, two main features are evidenced as follows: (i) The magnetization profile in the DW depicts a Neel-wall-like character at the film surfaces, which eventually rotates towards the direction parallel to the DW axes when moved away from the surface (Bloch-wall-like) [see schematic representation of

domain structure in Fig. 1(c) (lower panel)]. (ii) At the same time, it evolves into a twisted pattern around the DW axis (corkscrew type) [62], which is clockwise or anticlockwise for alternate DWs [see Fig. 1(c)]. Consequently, the resultant magnetization inside the DW is directed IP along the DW axis. This spin configuration is different from the closure domain structure reported earlier for single-layered films. In fact, the spin structure is governed by the minimization of total energy, and as reported in Ref. [27], the dipolar interaction between consecutive domains is minimal when the magnetization vector stays in the DW plane. This is easily conceivable because the IP magnetic component of the wall should be in the same direction as the magnetic field that was applied during the formation of the stripes, which means in the IP ac demagnetization process, we align the IP components of the DWs rather than the perpendicular domains themselves.

In Figs. 2(h) and 2(i), we have plotted the resonant frequencies versus q at H = 0, for q perpendicular ($\varphi = 90^{\circ}$) and parallel ($\varphi = 0^{\circ}$) to the stripe domain axis, respectively. The solid symbols represent the measured values, while the simulated frequencies are shown by the color map. The typical BLS spectra [Figs. 2(e) and 2(f)] are characterized by the presence of four peaks, however, with different frequency versus wave number dependences for the orthogonal direction of q, which merge to the same frequencies as q approaches zero. The increase in the number of peaks as compared to the saturated state signals results from the periodical spin

texture. In the case of SW propagation across DWs, those magnetization nonuniformities are treated as regular scattering centers, which are provided by the domain boundaries, similar to the geometric magnetic boundaries of a lithographically patterned MC. In the case of SWs propagating parallel to the DWs, those inhomogeneities are treated as different channels defined by different magnetization orientation. In both cases, periodicity is crucial to collect strong enough BLS signal from the SW excitations. That is confirmed by BLS measurements of a labyrinthlike domain structure, where the recorded spectra are very noisy and almost wave vector independent (see Supplemental Material [59]).

For $\varphi = 90^{\circ}$, the corresponding SW frequencies exhibit pronounced dispersion with q, together with characteristic band gaps [Fig. 2(h)]. The width of the lower band gap is larger than the frequency gap observed for the saturated state [see Fig. 2(g)]. Good agreement between experimental and simulation results is visible for M1 (S1) and M2 (S2), whereas the frequency of S3 in simulations is shifted up with respect to BLS result M3. Simulations show also that the horizontal dispersion line M4, being related to the mode with two nodal lines across the thickness S4 [see Fig. 3(b)], is hybridized with the other dispersive mode S5. In BLS measurements, there is no indication for the hybridization. To explain those discrepancies, we note that the lattice constant of the stripe domains in micromagnetic simulations is 100 nm, while from MFM images, we got around A = 120 nm. Therefore, in the sample, the Brillouin zone boundary is at smaller wave number than in micromagnetic simulations. It means that M3 band, being a two-time folded-back M2 band to the first Brillouin zone, should be shifted down with respect to the frequency obtained in the simulations. Moreover, its next folding at q = 0should hybridize with the horizontal M4 band for very large wave numbers being above measured range. The analysis of the modes [see Fig. 3(b)] supports this explanation. Modes S2 and S3 have the same origin in PSSW with one nodal line, whereas horizontal S4 is the first band from another family of PSSWs with two nodal lines across the thickness.

Interestingly, in Fig. 2(h), the periodicity of the static magnetization configuration $\pi/A \approx 3.14 \times 10^7$ rad m⁻¹) is not visible in the dispersion, while the period $2\pi/A$ becomes clear whenever the dispersion is plotted in the extended range of q(see Supplemental Material [59]). This means that, for the z component of the SW amplitude, the periodicity is determined by the size of a single domain. However, if we introduce into the analysis an m_x component of the magnetization (parallel to the DWs), the periodicity of the dispersion relation will be determined by π/A (see Supplemental Material [59]). Moreover, there appeared a dispersion line at low frequency [S0 for $\varphi = 0^{\circ}$, see also Fig. 2(i)] with the linear slope approaching zero frequency when q goes to zero and the S1 branch for $\varphi = 90^{\circ}$ [Fig. 2(h)] decreasing to zero at $q = 2\pi/A$. This suggests that this is a Goldstone mode connected with the DW oscillations [63], which is further confirmed by the dynamic magnetization profiles (see Supplemental Material [59]). This also points at possible interactions between DW oscillations and SWs.

On the other hand, for $\varphi = 0^{\circ}$, the dispersion is repressed and all the modes exhibit similar frequency evolution [see Fig. 2(i)]. Very good agreement between BLS (M1, M2) and simulation (S1 and S2) results for the first two bands is found; also, the fourth band (M4 with S4) matches well, apart from the small wave numbers. The spatial distribution of the modulus of the dynamic magnetization, as will be discussed in the next paragraph, illustrates that the modes primarily reside in the DWs and at the top and bottom surfaces of the structure. This implies that, in absence of external magnetic fields, the IP magnetostatic field trapped in the direction of the DW axis actually acts as the driving field for the SW propagation. In that sense, the $\varphi = 90^{\circ}$ and $\varphi = 0^{\circ}$ cases can effectively be termed as the DE geometry and the backward volume magnetostatic SW geometry, although they have different physical origin than in homogeneously magnetized films.

The nature of the above SW excitations can be better understood by carefully looking at the relevant cross-sectional spin precession profiles, which are depicted in Figs. 3(b) and 3(c), for the two experimental geometries shown in Figs. 2(b) and 2(c), respectively. The solid black lines represent a static m_z component at the top surface of the domain structure, indicating the up and down domains for reference. For $\varphi = 90^{\circ}$ geometry [Fig. 3(b)], the amplitude of the SW modes are localized mainly in the DWs. This confirms that the SW modes investigated in BLS are primarily related to the IP component of the static magnetization. In particular, the mode profiles are characterized by one or more distinct nodal planes, which are indeed close to those reported earlier for 1D MC, prepared by periodic patterning of magnetic material [64,65]. The mode profiles for $\varphi = 0^{\circ}$ are similar to $\varphi = 90^{\circ}$, except that the amplitude is concentrated in alternate DWs, typical of backward volume modes in MCs [66]. These facts prove the equivalence of our stripe domain structure with the previous MCs.

Finally, we elucidate the salient magnetic properties of the Co/Pd multilayered system, as it evolves from the uniformly saturated state to the stripe domain configuration. One sees that the dispersion characteristics, magnonic bandgap width, and position are controllable by the external applied field and the orientation of the SW wave vector. In particular, the evolution of the SW modes and the mode profiles from the uniformly saturated state to the stripe domain state resemble the transformation of magnonic properties from unpatterned continuous thin films to a periodically patterned 1D MC. Essentially, the periodicity of the IP magnetization (inside the DW) promotes a periodic potential, which subsequently leads to a scattering of the SWs. Overall, once the domain structure is formed, this system does not require any external power for SW propagation and thereby can serve as a building block for the practical realization of energy efficient magnonic devices operating in the microwave frequency range.

V. CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, the quasistatic and dynamic magnetic properties of Co/Pd multilayered films characterized by magnetic stripe domains at remanence have been investigated both experimentally and using micromagnetic simulations. The signature of the stripe domains are clearly observed in the MFM and VSM results. The dynamical magnetic properties were analyzed by studying the wave vector dispersion of the SWs, by means of BLS technique. In the saturated state, two dispersive SW modes are observed, which are identified as the bulk mode and a surface mode of the system. Demagnetizing the film with an ac IP applied field gives rise to an anisotropic remanent state of parallel (rather than a labyrinth) stripe domains aligned along the demagnetization field direction. Micromagnetic simulations reveal the presence of corkscrew type twisted DWs, with its resultant magnetization directed along the DW axis. The spatial periodicity of this magnetization serves as a periodic potential for SW propagation, in a similar manner as for a laterally confined geometry, e.g., MCs. As a result, the number of SW modes increases in the BLS spectra, and the dispersion depends strongly on the IP angle φ due to the IP anisotropy induced by the parallel alignment of the stripe domains. Analysis of amplitude and phase maps of the resonant modes further illustrates that the dynamics of the system is dominated by the magnetization of periodic DWs, yielding mode profiles close to those of a 1D MC. Due to simple, uniform design, such structures are free from fabrication defects and structural nonuniformities, such as edge roughness. Finally, the observed tunability of the magnonic properties opens a new route towards low energy units for magnonic computing, such as microwave filters, splitters, and waveguide structures.

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