Current-Induced Changes of the Magnetic Domain Structure of Iron Whiskers

R. Berthe, A. Birkner and U. Hartmann

Using the electronmicroscopic type II magnetic contrast the behavior of the Landau domain structure under the influence of an electric current is investigated. The specimens are carbon saturated single crystal <100> iron whiskers with 20 to 200 µm rectangular cross-section and residual resistance ratios (RRR) of about 300. Characteristic changes of the domain structure due to the selfmagnetic field of a current flowing in the direction of the long crystal axis are observed. Additionally, inductive magnetization measurements are performed in order to detect the behavior for a changing, current.