Conversion between spin and charge currents by Rashba or Topological Insulator interfaces and perspective for low power spintronic devices

1) Introduction to spin-orbitronics.

2) Conversion between charge and spin current with Rashba or TI Interfaces.3) Potential of TI for applications

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Conversion between spin and charge currents by Rashba or Topological Insulator interfaces at Room Temp. and perspective for low power spintronic devices

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2D Interface- induced skyrmions and chiral domain walls



2D Graphene + spin-orbit

3D Spin Hall effect

J_c J_s

2D

Oxide

interfaces

THALES

CNIS

Spin-orbitronics

2D Edelstein-type effects at Rashba and topological insulator interfaces





Bulk materials

3D charge current \rightarrow 3D spin current conversion by Spin Hall Effect (SHE) and 3D spin current \rightarrow 3D charge current by Inverse SHE (ISHE)





→ Yield of conversion between charge and spin current Spin hall angle $\theta_{SHE} = \frac{spin current density}{charge current density}$ (dimensionless)

Switching of nanomagnet by the spin current J_S injected by the SHE in an adjacent SO layer



Bulk materials

3D charge current \rightarrow 3D spin current conversion by Spin Hall Effect (SHE) and 3D spin current \rightarrow 3D charge current by Inverse SHE (ISHE)



Spin/charge conversion by Rashba interfaces and topological insulators



Spin/charge conversion by Rashba interfaces and topological insulators









Rojas-Sanchez, AF et al, Nat.Com. 013, Shen et al, PRL014



Rojas-Sanchez et al, PRL 116, 096602 (2016), Culcer, Physica012



Inverse Edelstein effect (IEE) in spin pumping experiments

- Bi/Ag interface* (J-C. Rojas-Sanchez, AF et al, Nature Communications, 4, 2944, 2013)

Other examples presented today:

topological 2DEG: α -Sn and

LAO/STO interface

* Before Bi/Ag, first observed in n-GaAs-AlGaAs QW, Ganichev et al, Nature 417, 153, 2002









(A/m)

J-C. Rojas-Sánchez et al. $\lambda_{IEE}^{Bi/Ag} = \frac{\alpha_R \tau}{1}$ Nature Comm. 2013

(Similar results by K. Shen, R. Raimondi et al, PRL. 2014)

Other results on Bi/Ag: Nomura et al, APL 2015



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J-C. Rojas-Sánchez et al. Nature Comm. 2013 (Similar results by K. Shen, R. Raimondi et al, PRL. 2014)

More recent results on Bi/Ag, Sb/Ag..



W. Zhang et al. JAP 117, 17C727 (2015)

 $\lambda_{IEE}(Ag/Bi) \simeq 0.1$ nm $>_I \lambda_{IEE}(Ag/Sb) \simeq 0.03$ nm 0.1nm

Sisasa et al, 2015, λ_{IEE} (Cu/Bi) derived from LSV is small and its sign changes with T

Spin to charge current conversion at Ag/IrO₂ (Fujiwara, Otani et al, Nat Comm. 2013,DOI: 10.1038/ncomms3893)and Cu/Bi₂O₃ interfaces (Karube, Otani et al, App.Phys. Expr. 9,033001)

Zhang et al (PRL 2015), Jungfleisch et al (ArXiv 1500.0141): measurement of charge to spin conversion (direct EE) at Bi/Ag interface

Spin to charge conversion by Dirac cone states with helical spin polarization of α -Sn



First stage : ARPES in α -Sn(30ML) + Fe or α Sn(30ML)+Ag



Room temperature

Rojas-Sanchez et al, PRL 116, 096602 (2016)

First stage : ARPES in α -Sn(30ML) + Fe or α Sn(30ML)+Ag



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Relaxation time au of out-of-equilibrium distribution in topological states



Relaxation time au of out-of-equilibrium distribution in topological states



ARPES intensity mapping in (k_x, k_y) plane (low resolution)

> Rojas-Sanchez et al, PRL 116, 096602 (2016)

Dots correspond to maximum intensity in E=cst scans

Relaxation time τ of out of equilibrium states in Rashba or TI 2DEGs

internal

1) Ulta-fast time-resolved ARPES (ex:Bi_{2.2}Te₃ Hajlaoui et al, Nat. Comm. 2013)

au in the ps range (ballistic length in the μ m range)

2) Spin pumping au in the fs range*

(ballistic lenght in the nm range)

 K_{v} Additional relaxation of the spin+momentum accumulation by spin-flip scattering from 2D states to 3D metal k_{x} k_{v}

Additional relaxation by spin-flip scattering from 2DEG to metal

IEE (or EE) would more efficient (λ_{IEE} longer) without proximity of the Rashba or TI states with a metal, i.e with interface with an insulating ferromagnet (YIG, etc) or a tunnel interface

*The fs range is also the typical lifetime of QW states at the Fe/Ag interface QW, Ogawa et al, PRL 88

LAO/STO system : large Ic production and gate effect



CNRS/Thales lab.

Perspective for exploiting the conversion between spin and charge by TI in low-power spintronic devices (Room Temp.), assessment of the advantage of TI

1) Charge to spin conversion: SHE already used in SOT-RAMS, Rashba and TI already proposed by INTEL, advantage of TI for spin-orbic logic (Manipatruni et al)



Perspective for exploiting the conversion between spin and charge by TI in low-power spintronic devices (Room Temp.), assessment of the advantage of TI

2) Perspective for spin to charge conversion with TI,

first exemple: spin battery,

Microwave-driven ferromagnet–topological-insulator heterostructures: The prospect for giant spin battery effect and quantized charge pump devices

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FIG. 1: (Color online) The proposed heterostructures consist of a 2D topological insulator (TI) attached to two normal metal (NM) electrodes where the ferromagnetic insulator (FI) with precessing magnetization (with cone angle θ) under the FMR conditions induces via the proximity effect a timedependent exchange field $\Delta \neq 0$ in the TI region underneath. In the absence of any applied bias voltage, these devices pump pure spin current into the NM electrodes in setup (a) or both charge and spin current in setup (b). Perspective for exploiting the conversion between spin and charge by TI in low-power spintronic devices (Room Temp.), assessment of the advantage of TI

2) Perspective for spin to charge conversion with TI,

second exemple: conversion of heat flow into electrical power



FIG. 1. A schematic view of the spin Seebeck power generator based on the ISHE. A bilayer of ferromagnetic insulator and normal metal with a low interface heat conductance pumps a spin current J_s into N. Then J_s is converted into a transverse charge current J_c by means of the ISHE.

Inverse spin Hall effect (ISHE) vs inverse Edelstein effect (IEE) WITH

3D layers **Interfaces and 2DEGs** Spin-to-charge conversion by « bulk » spin-orbit Spin-to-charge conversion achieved through effect through inverse spin hall effect (ISHE) inverse (Rashba-) Edelstein effect (IEE) $\begin{array}{c}
 J_{s}^{3D} \\
 (A/m^{2}) \\
 ISHE: \quad j_{c}^{3D} = \Theta_{SHE} \quad j_{s}^{3D} \\
 ISHE: \quad j_{c}^{2D} = \Theta_{SHE} \quad j_{s}^{3D} \\
 IEE: \quad j_{c}^{2D} = \lambda_{IEE} \quad j_{s}^{2D} \\
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 IEE: \quad j_{c}^{2D}$ $J_c^{2D} \Longrightarrow$ 2DEG ISHE: $J_c^{2D} = \int j_c^{3D} dz = \Theta_{SHE} l_{sf} th(t/2l_{sf}) j_s^{3D}$ reachesits maximum $J_c^{2D} = \Theta_{SHE} l_{sf} j_s^{3D}$ for $t >> l_{sf}$ which corresponds to an Inverse Edelstein Effect with, at the most, an effective $\lambda_{IEE}^* = \Theta_{SHE} l_{sf}$

Inverse spin Hall effect (ISHE) vs inverse Edelstein effect (IEE) WITH

3D layers Interfaces and 2DEGs Spin-to-charge conversion by « bulk » spin-orbit Spin-to-charge conversion achieved through effect through inverse spin hall effect (ISHE) inverse (Rashba-) Edelstein effect (IEE) $iSHE: j_{c}^{3D} = \Theta_{SHE} j_{s}^{3D}$ (A/m^{2}) (A/m^{2}) (A/m^{2}) $(A/m) \qquad (A/m^2)$ $IEE: \quad j_c^{2D} = \lambda_{IFF} \quad j_s^{3D}$ $J_c^{2D} \Longrightarrow$ 2DEG Maximum charge current induced ISHE: $J_c^{2D} = \int j_c^{3D} dz = \Theta_{SHE} l_{sf} th(t/2l_{sf}) j_s^{3D}$ by ISHE characterized by the effective conversion length reachesits maximum $J_c^{2D} = \Theta_{SHE} l_{sf} j_s^{3D}$ for $t >> l_{sf}$ $\lambda^*_{SHE} = \Theta_{SHE} I_{sf}$ which corresponds to an Inverse Edelstein Effect to be compared to with, at the most, an effective $\lambda_{IEE}^* = \Theta_{SHE} l_{sf}$ $\boldsymbol{\lambda}_{IFF}$ from ISHE to IEE the gain in current is at least $\lambda_{IEE} / \lambda_{SHE}^*$

Compared spin to charge conversion yield of TI (α-Sn) and ISHE (Pt and W)

1) Gain in charge current J_c for the same injected spin current density j_s from SHE in Pt or W (for t >> I_{sf}) to α -Sn (taken as an example of TI, λ =2.1nm)

- Gain from Pt (θ_{SHE} = 0.056^{*}, I_{sf} = 3.4nm^{*}) to α -Sn: $J_{C}(\alpha$ -Sn)/ $J_{C}(Pt)$ =11.03

(Pt would be as efficient as α-Sn if its SH-angle was 62% instead of 5.6%)

- Gain from $W(\theta_{SHE} = 0.33^{**}, I_{sf} = 1.4nm^{***})$ to α -Sn: $J_C(\alpha$ -Sn)/ $J_C(W) = 4.5$ or from W with $\theta_{SHE} = 0.19^{***}, I_{sf} = 1.4nm^{***}$ to α -Sn: $J_C(\alpha$ -Sn)/ $J_C(Pt) = 7.9$

(W would be as efficient as α -Sn if its SH-angle was 150% instead of 19-33%)

Compared spin to charge conversion yield of TI (α-Sn) and ISHE (Pt and W)

2) Gain in electrical power P_C for the same injected spin current density ,

with $P_C = R_{\Box} J_C^2$

Optimal condition: $R_{\Box} \simeq 4k\Omega$ for α -Sn surface 2DEG between insulating materials

and $R_{\Box} = \rho/t$ for the SHE metal layer (Pt, W) of optimal t = I_{sf})

- Gain from Pt (θ_{SHE} = 0.056, I_{sf} = 3.4nm, resistivity = 17 µΩcm) to α-Sn

 $P_{C}(\alpha-Sn)/P_{C}(Pt) \sim 10^{4}$

-Gain from **W** ($\theta_{SHE} = 0.19-33$, $I_{sf} = 1.4$ nm, resistivity =160 µΩcm)) to α-Sn

 $P_{C}(\alpha-Sn)/P_{C}(W) \sim 10^{3}$



1) Gain in ejected 3D spin current density J_s for the same 2D charge current density j_c in metal layer or 2D topological states between SHE with Pt or W (for t $\simeq I_{sf}$) and $(Bi_{1-x}Sb_x)Te_3$ ($q_{ICS} \simeq 1nm^{-1}$)

- Gain from Pt ($\theta_{SHE} = 0.056$, $I_{sf} = 3.4$ nm) to α -Sn: $j_{S}(BiSbTe)/j_{S}(Pt) = 61$
- Gain from W ($\theta_{SHE} = 0.33$, $I_{sf} = 1.4$ nm) to α -Sn: $j_{S}(BiSbTe)/j_{S}(Pt) = 4.2$

or with $\theta_{SHE} = 0.19$, $I_{sf} = 1.4$ nm: $j_{S}(BiSbTe) / j_{S}(Pt) = 7.4$



1) Gain in ejected 3D spin current density J_s for the same 2D charge current density j_c in metal layer or 2D topological states between SHE with Pt or W (for t $\simeq I_{sf}$) and (Bi_{1-x}Sb_x)Te₃ (q_{ICS} $\simeq 1$ nm⁻¹)

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or with $\theta_{SHE} = 0.19$, $I_{sf} = 1.4$ nm: $j_{S}(BiSbTe) / j_{S}(Pt) = 7.4$

Remark: simple calculations lead to $q_{ICS} = 1/v_F \tau$ and $\lambda_{IEE} = 1/v_F \tau = v_F \tau$ but τ has not exactly the same meaning in q_{ICS} and λ_{IEE} Summary Spin-charge conversion in spintronics -Spin-Orbit in 2D system (Rashba, TI, LAO/STO) more efficient than in 3D (SHE) for spin-charge conversion

- TI can work at RT (as well as Rashba interfaces)

 TI more efficient if topological 2DEG protected by interface with insulator (ex: LAO/STO)

 Other TI-based devices: spin-filtering p-n junctions, high-speed opto-spintronics, thermo-

Thanks to all my coworkers

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etc

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Topological α-Sn surface states versus film thickness and strain

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The theoretical prediction that gray tin represents a strong topological insulator under strain [L. Fu and C.L. Kane, Phys. Rev. B 76, 045302 (2007)] is proven for biaxially strained α -Sn layers with varying thickness by means of a generalized density functional theory with a nonlocal exchange-correlation potential that widely simulates quasiparticle bands and a tight-binding method including intra- and interatomic spin-orbit interaction.



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The theoretical prediction that gray tin represents a strong topological insulator under strain [L. Fu and C.L. Kane, Phys. Rev. B 76, 045302 (2007)] is proven for biaxially strained α -Sn layers with varying thickness by means of a generalized density functional theory with a nonlocal exchange-correlation potential that widely simulates quasiparticle bands and a tight-binding method including intra- and interatomic spin-orbit interaction.



They are localized near the slab surfaces. Apart from atomic oscillations in Fig. 2(c) the envelope shows a localization near the surface and an exponential decay into the bulk region of the slab with a decay constant of about 10.1 A°. As consequence the overlap of envelope functions belonging to opposite surfaces of the slab with 40 ML is negligibly small.

