

Spin transport at the multiferroic altermagnet/heavy metal interfaces

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D. Kriegner¹, M. Hývl¹, M. Lammel⁵, K. K. Bestha², L. Šmejkal^{6,7,1}, J. Zelezny², A. U. B. Wolter², M. Scheufele^{8,9}, J. Fischer¹⁰,
M. Opel⁸, S. Geprägs⁸, M. Althammer⁸, B. Buechner^{2,11,12}, T. Jungwirth^{1,13}, L. Nadvornik³, S. T. B. Goennenwein⁵,
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9 Technical University of Munich, TUM School of Natural Sciences, Physics Department, Garching, Germany

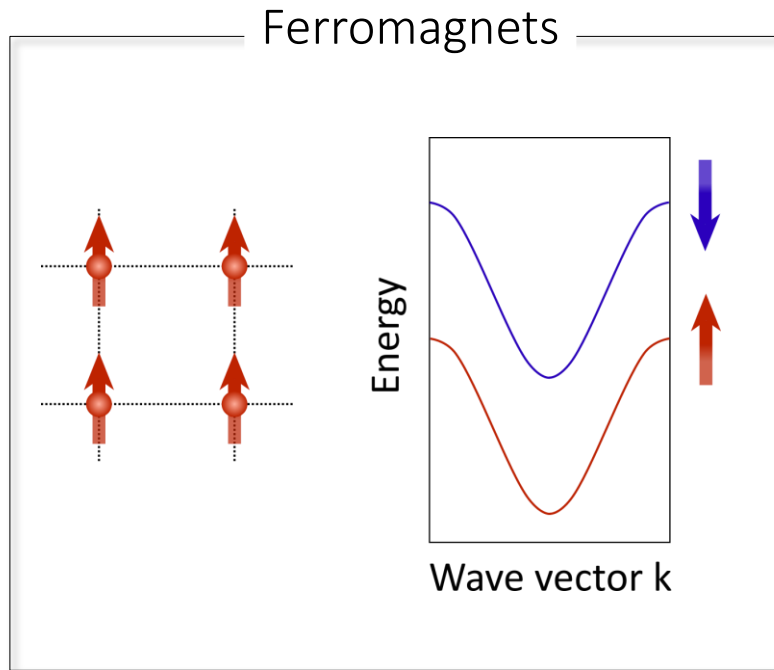
10 Université Grenoble Alpes, CEA, CNRS, Spintec, Grenoble, France

11 Institute of Solid State and Materials Physics and Wurzberg-Dresden Cluster of Excellence ct.qmat, TU Dresden, Dresden, Germany

12 Center for Transport and Devices, Technische Universität Dresden, 01069 Dresden, Germany

13 School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK

Classifying collinear magnets



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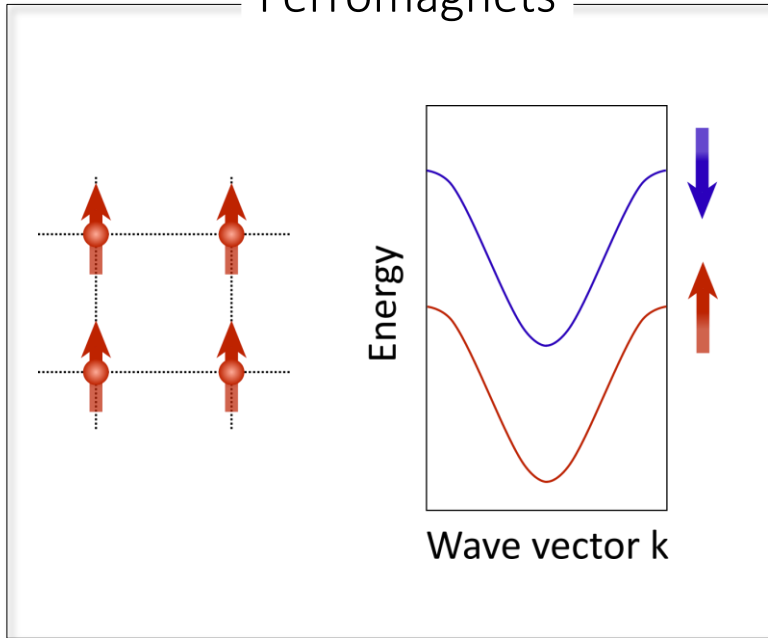
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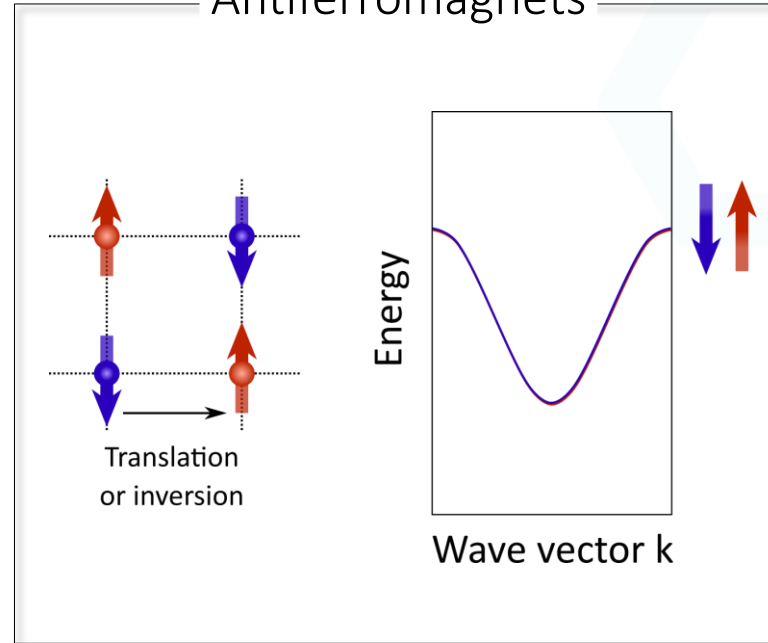
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Classifying collinear magnets

Ferromagnets



Antiferromagnets



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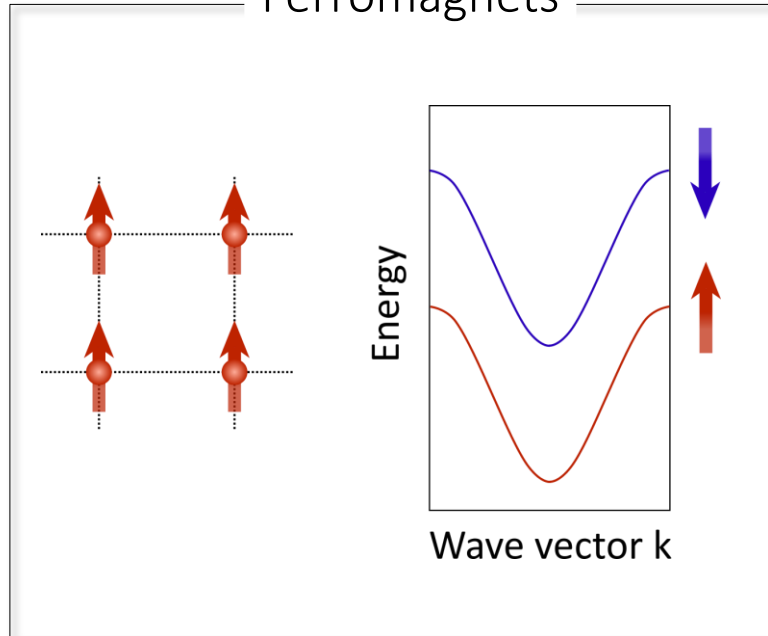
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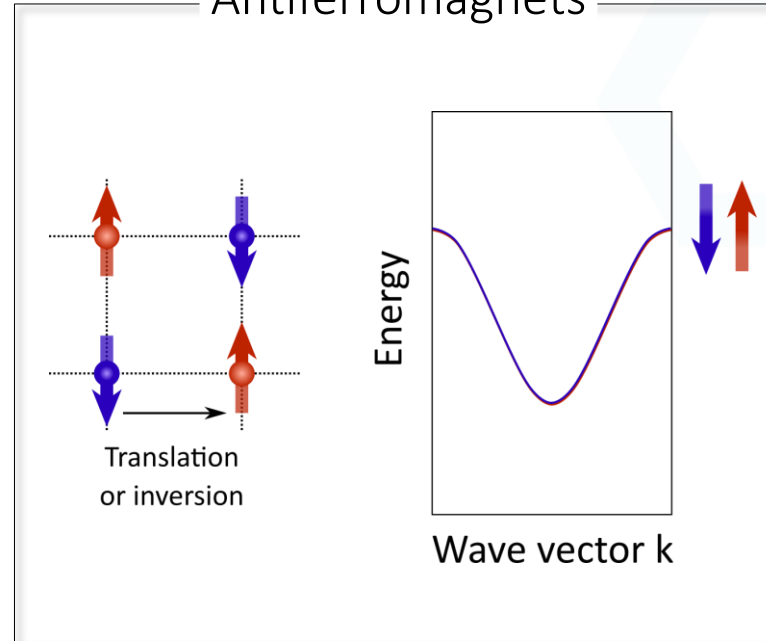
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Classifying collinear magnets

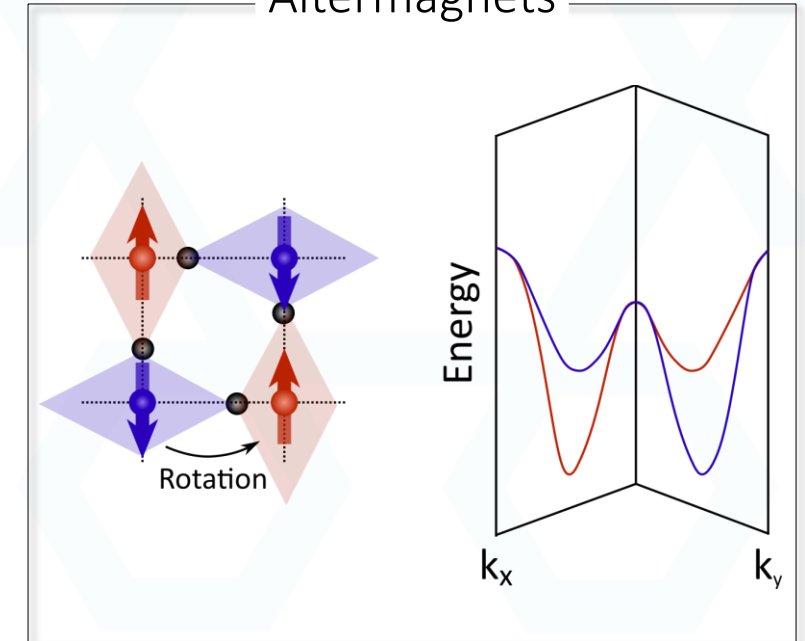
Ferromagnets



Antiferromagnets



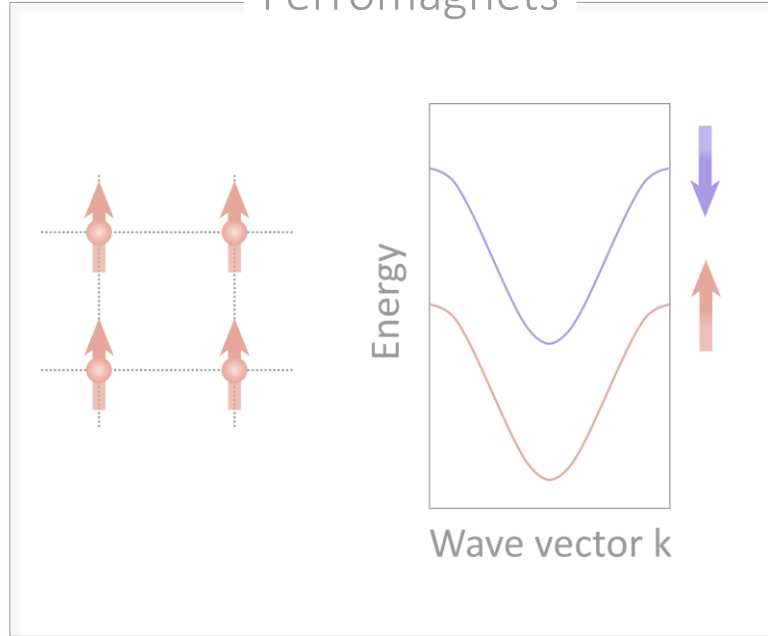
Altermagnets



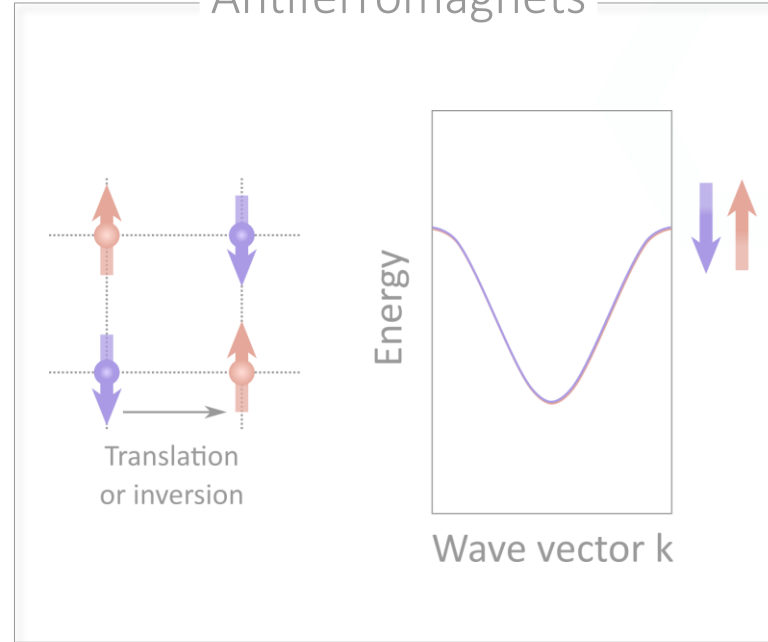
Phys. Rev. X **12**, 031042 (2022)
Phys. Rev. X **12**, 021016 (2022)

Classifying collinear magnets

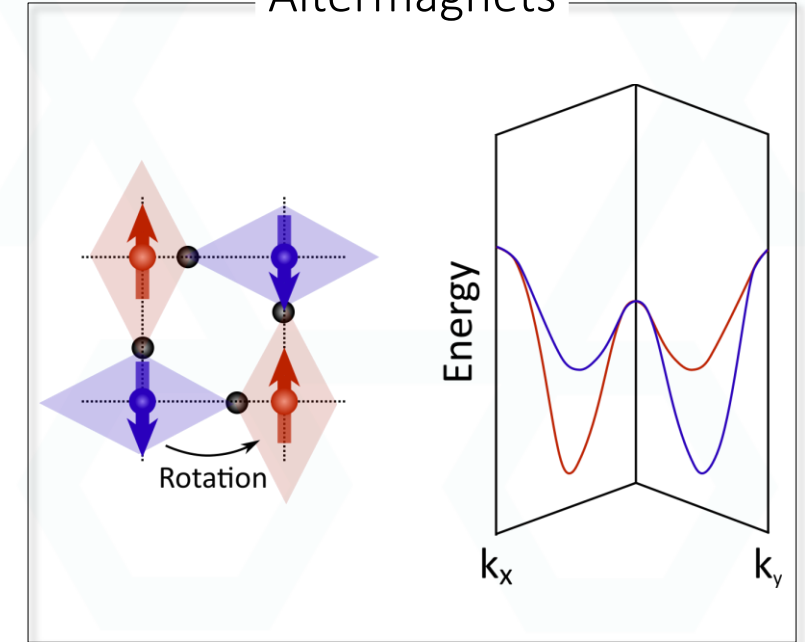
Ferromagnets



Antiferromagnets



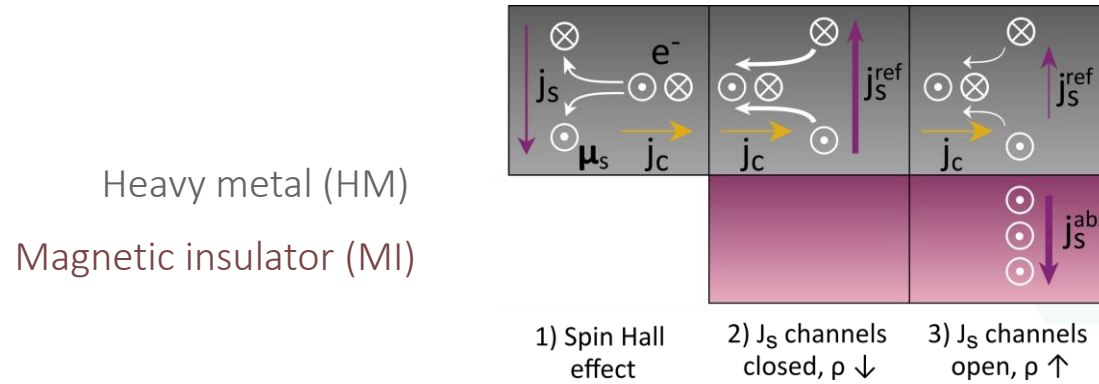
Altermagnets



Phys. Rev. X **12**, 031042 (2022)
Phys. Rev. X **12**, 021016 (2022)

Spin Hall Magnetoresistance

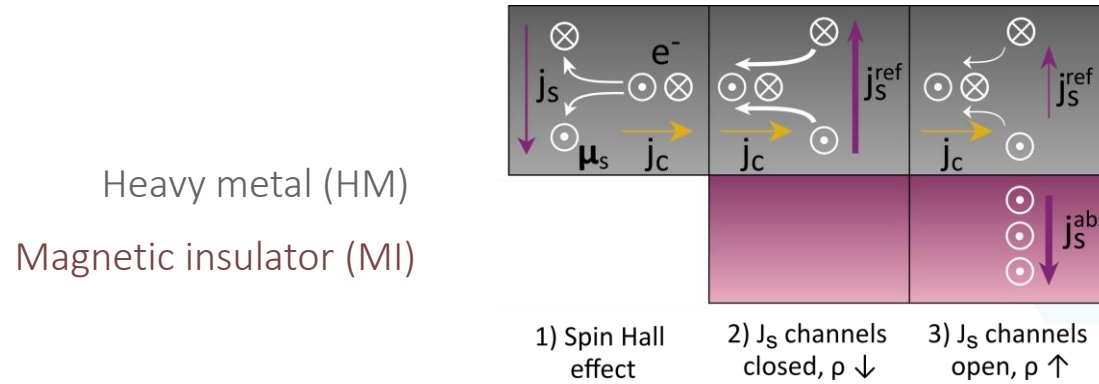
Magnetization of the MI layer modulates the resistivity of the NM layer



Spin Hall effect
+ inverse spin Hall effect
+ spin current channels

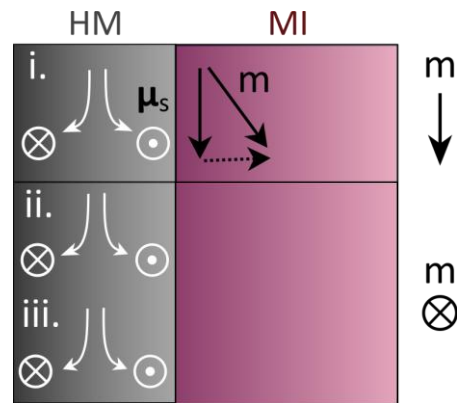
Spin Hall Magnetoresistance

Magnetization of the MI layer modulates the resistivity of the NM layer



Spin Hall effect
+ inverse spin Hall effect
+ spin current channels

Phys. Rev. B. 104, 024415 (2021)



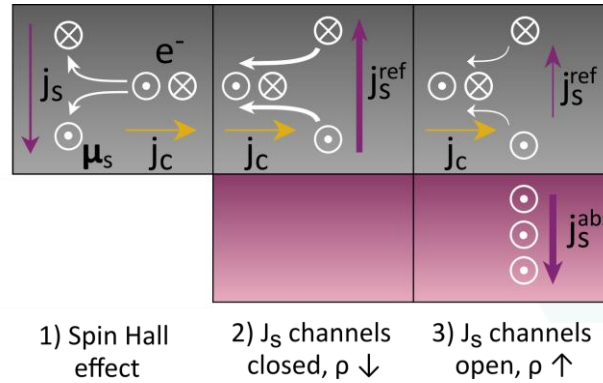
Transversal $\mathbf{m} \perp \boldsymbol{\sigma}$

i. Spin transfer torque

Spin Hall Magnetoresistance

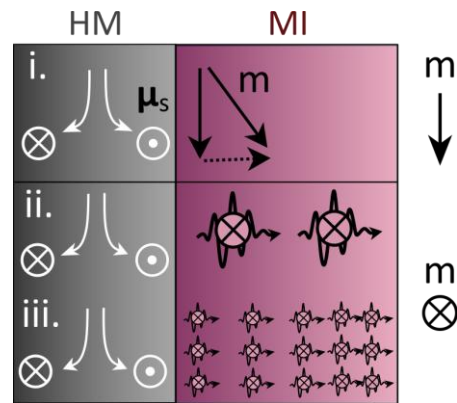
Magnetization of the MI layer modulates the resistivity of the NM layer

Heavy metal (HM)
Magnetic insulator (MI)



Spin Hall effect
+ inverse spin Hall effect
+ spin current channels

Phys. Rev. B. 104, 024415 (2021)



Transversal $\mathbf{m} \perp \boldsymbol{\sigma}$

i. Spin transfer torque

Longitudinal $\mathbf{m} \parallel \boldsymbol{\sigma}$

ii. Incoherent thermal magnon creation/annihilation
iii. Magnon capacitance/propagation

Spin Hall Magnetoresistance

PHYSICAL REVIEW B **102**, 094437 (2020)

Microscopic theory of spin Hall magnetoresistance

T. Kato¹, Y. Ohnuma² and M. Matsuo^{2,3,4,5}

¹Institute for Solid State Physics, The University of Tokyo, Kash

²Kavli Institute for Theoretical Sciences, University of Chinese Academy of

³CAS Center for Excellence in Topological Quantum Computation, University of Chinese

⁴RIKEN Center for Emergent Matter Science, Wako, Saitama

⁵Advanced Science Research Center, Japan Atomic Energy Agency,

Resolving Ultrafast Coherent and Incoherent Spin Torque Contributions via Terahertz Spin-Hall Magnetoresistance

Peter Kubaščík¹, Richard Schlitz², Oliver Gueckstock³, Oliver Franke³, Miina Leiviska⁴, Martin Borchert⁵, Gerhard Jakob⁶, Kamil Olejník⁴, Andrej Farkaš^{1,4}, Zdenek Kašpar^{1,4}, Jiří Jechumtál¹, Martin Bušina¹, Eva Schmoranzarová¹, Petr Němec¹, Yicheng Z. Wu^{7,8}, Georg Woltersdorf⁹, Mathias Kläui⁶, Piet W. Brouwer³, Sebastian T. B. Goennenwein², Tobias Kampfrath³, Lukáš Nádvořník^{1,*}

arXiv 2507.02498v2

PHYSICAL REVIEW B **104**, 024415 (2021)

Theory of spin-Hall magnetoresistance in the ac terahertz regime

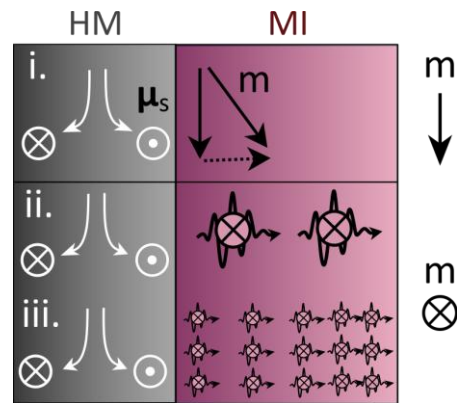
David A. Reiss¹, Tobias Kampfrath^{2,3} and Piet W. Brouwer¹

¹Physics Department, Freie Universität Berlin, Arnimallee 14, 14195 Berlin, Germany

²Chemistry, Fritz-Haber Institut, Faradayweg 4–6, 14195 Berlin, Germany

³il Chemistry, Fritz-Haber Institut, Faradayweg 4–6, 14195 Berlin, Germany

and more ...



Transversal $\mathbf{m} \perp \boldsymbol{\sigma}$

i. Spin transfer torque

Longitudinal $\mathbf{m} \parallel \boldsymbol{\sigma}$

ii. Incoherent thermal magnon creation/annihilation

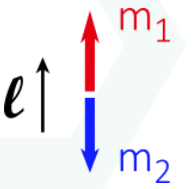
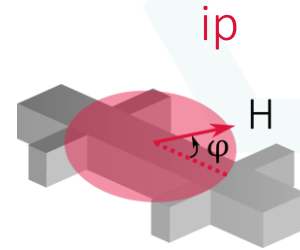
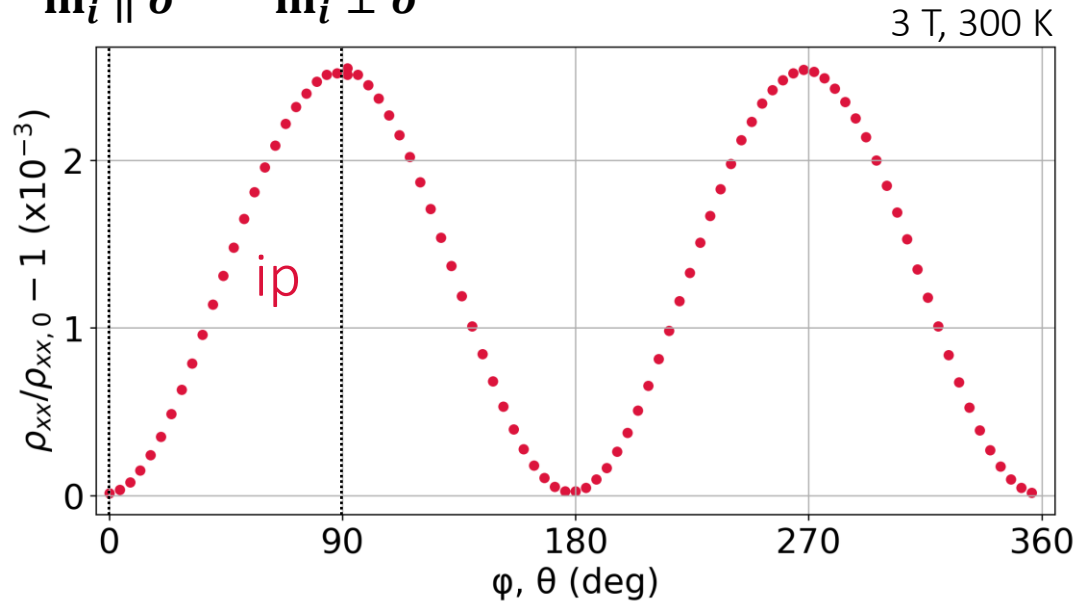
iii. Magnon capacitance/propagation

Phys. Rev. B. 104, 024415 (2021)

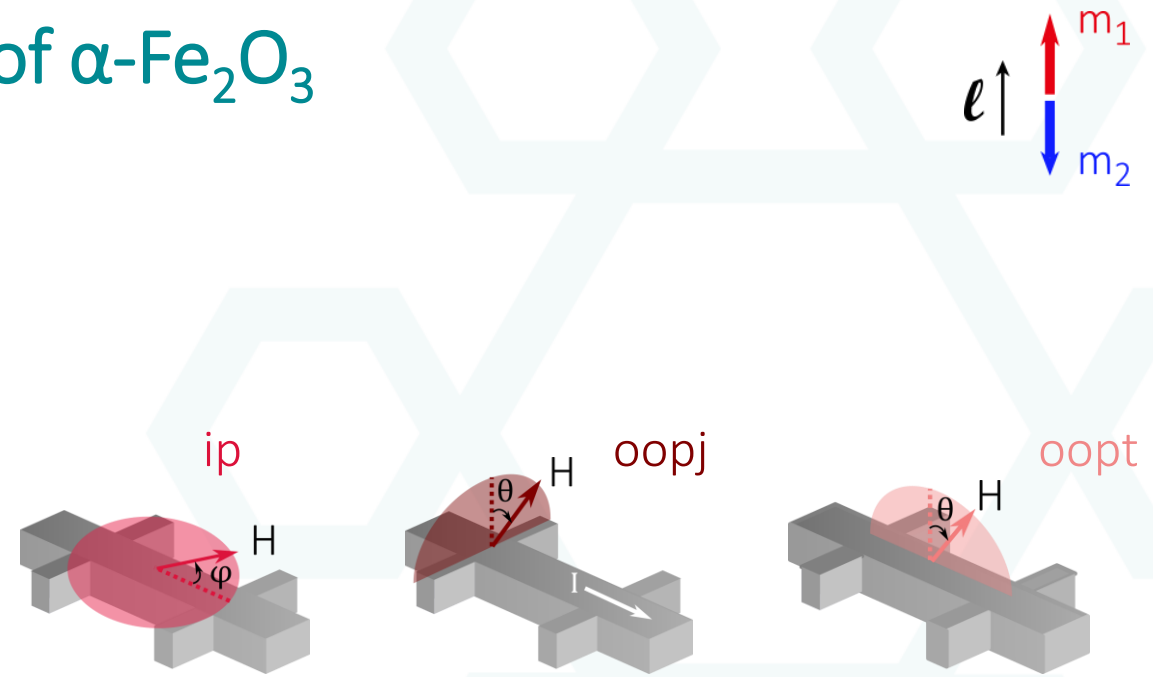
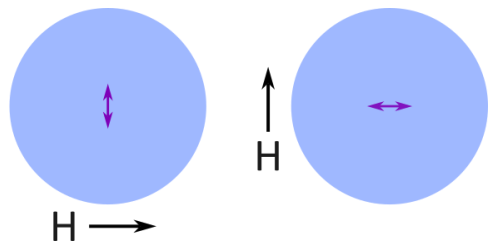
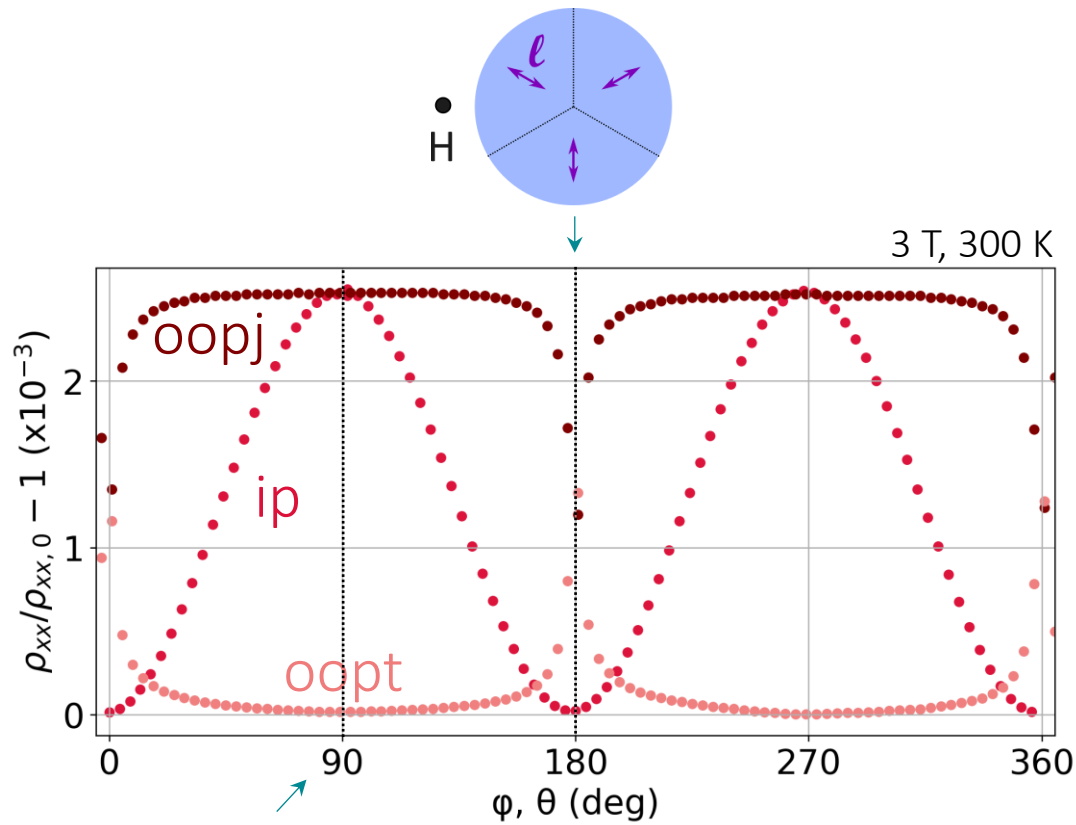
Spin Hall Magnetoresistance – example of $\alpha\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$

More spin
current
reflected
 $\mathbf{m}_i \parallel \sigma$

More spin
current
absorbed
 $\mathbf{m}_i \perp \sigma$



Spin Hall Magnetoresistance – example of $\alpha\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$



Out-of-plane scans reflect changes in domain population

Spin Hall Magnetoresistance in collinear magnets

	Order	t_{Pt} (nm)	Interface	Temperature (K)	SMR (10^{-4})	Ref
YIG/Pt	FI	2.5	<i>in situ</i>	300	16	PRB 87, 224401 (2013)
YIG/Pt	FI	6	<i>ex situ</i>	300	3.48	APL 110, 012403 (2017)
CoGe ₂ O ₄ /Pt	FI	2	<i>in situ</i>	300	6	APL 105, 142402 (2014)
GdIG/Pt	FI	5.5	<i>ex situ</i>	295	2.3	J. Phys.: Cond. Matt. 30, 035802 (2018)
NiO/Pt	AF	3.5	<i>in situ</i>	300	8	PRB 97, 014417 (2018)
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SrMnO ₃ /Pt	AF	7	-	300	3	PRB 90, 144431 (2014)
BiFeO ₃ /Pt	AF	5	<i>ex situ</i>	300	0.8	Chin. Phys. Lett. 40, 117402 (2023)
α -Fe ₂ O ₃ /Pt	AM	3	<i>in situ</i>	300	25	PRA 13, 014019 (2020)



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Spin Hall Magnetoresistance in collinear magnets

Altermagnet

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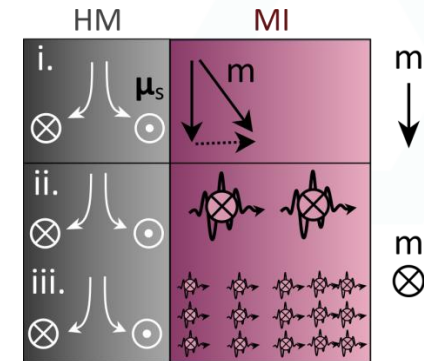
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Spin Hall Magnetoresistance in collinear magnets

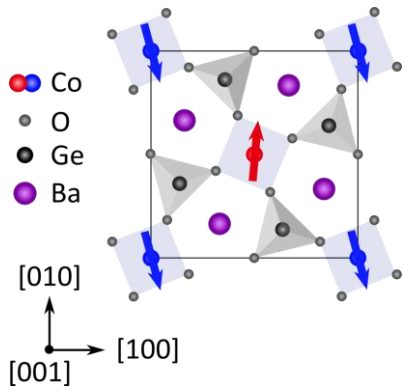
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Does the magnetic ordering of MI influence the SMR?

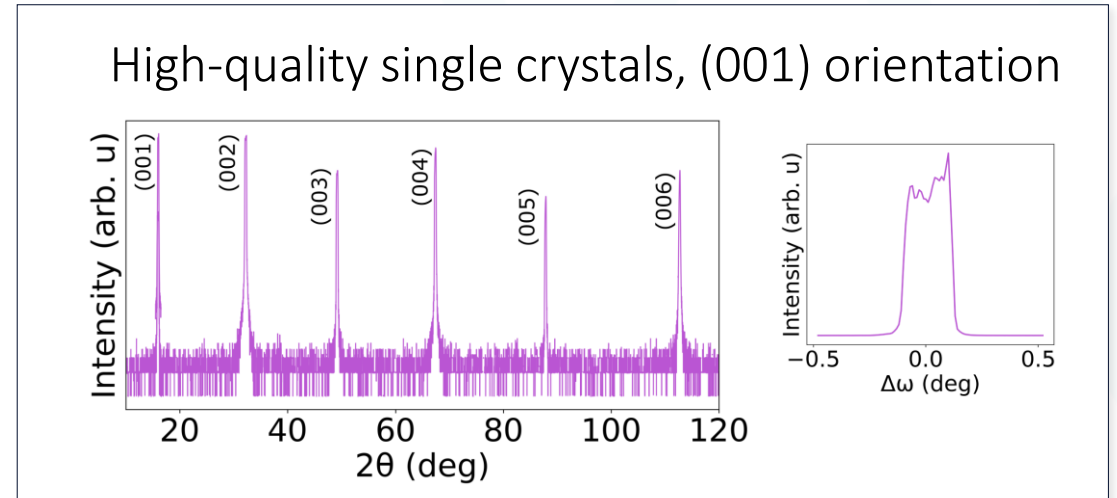
Suppression/enhancement of spin channels?



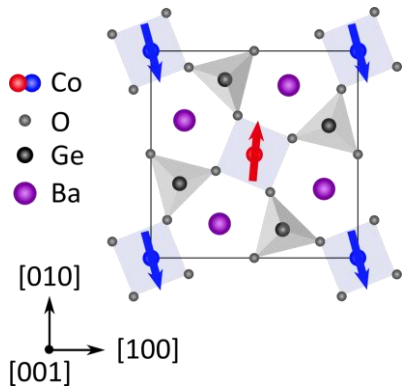
Bulk $\text{Ba}_2\text{CoGe}_2\text{O}_7$ as an altermagnetic candidate material



Multiferroic:
Ferroelectric
+ Altermagnetic

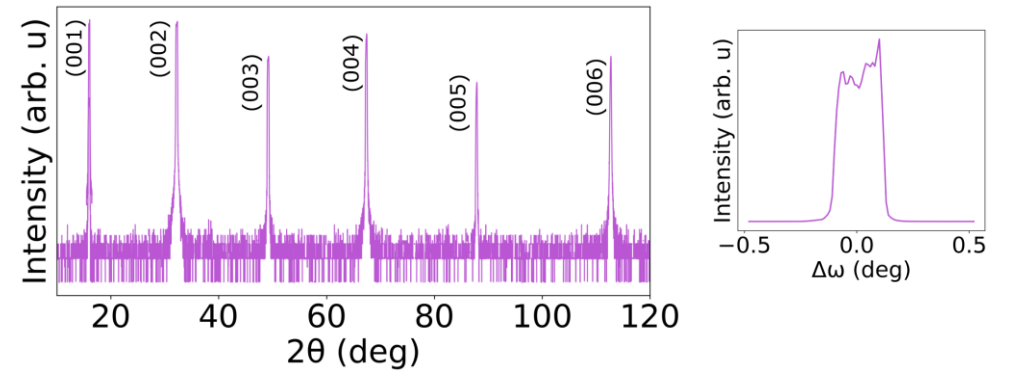


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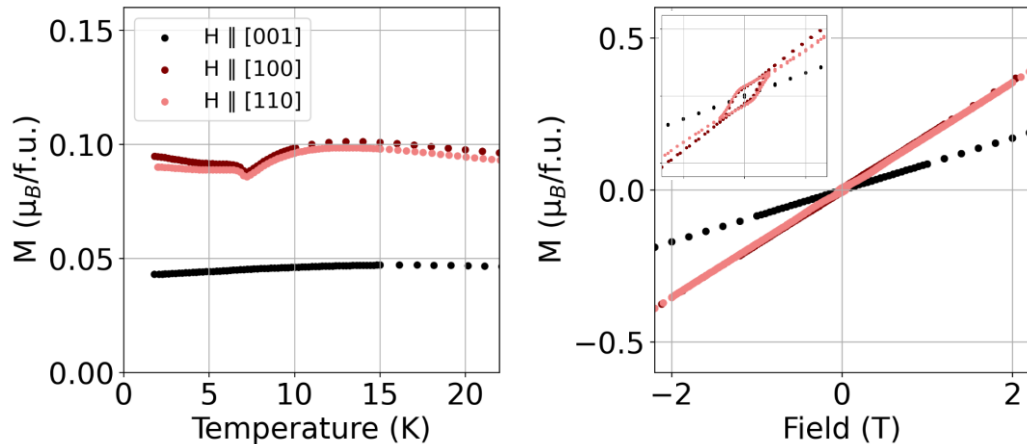


Multiferroic:
Ferroelectric
+ Altermagnetic

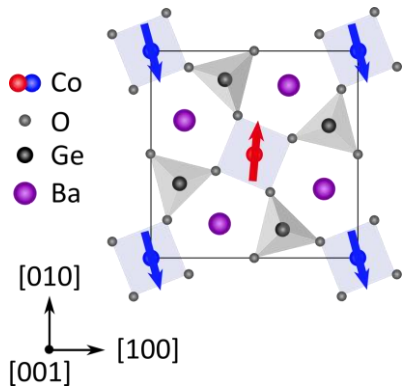
High-quality single crystals, (001) orientation



$T_N \sim 6.7$ K, small net moment in-plane due to canting

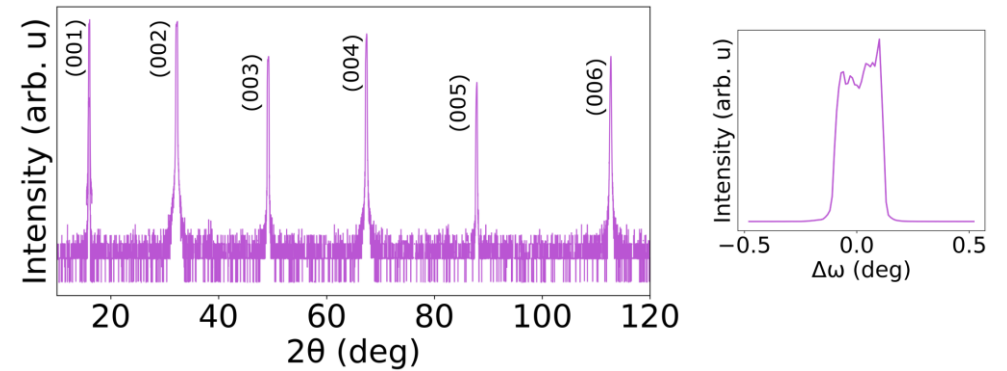


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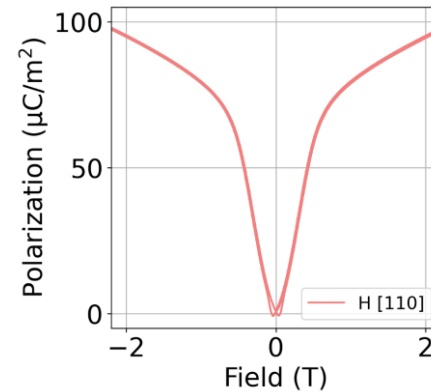
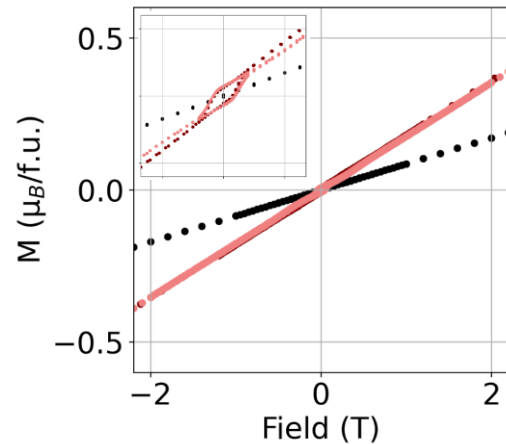
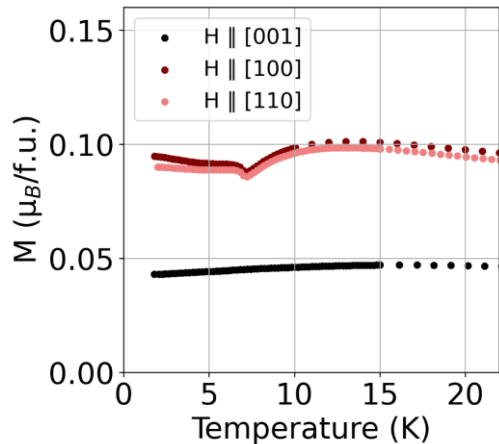


Multiferroic:
Ferroelectric
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High-quality single crystals, (001) orientation



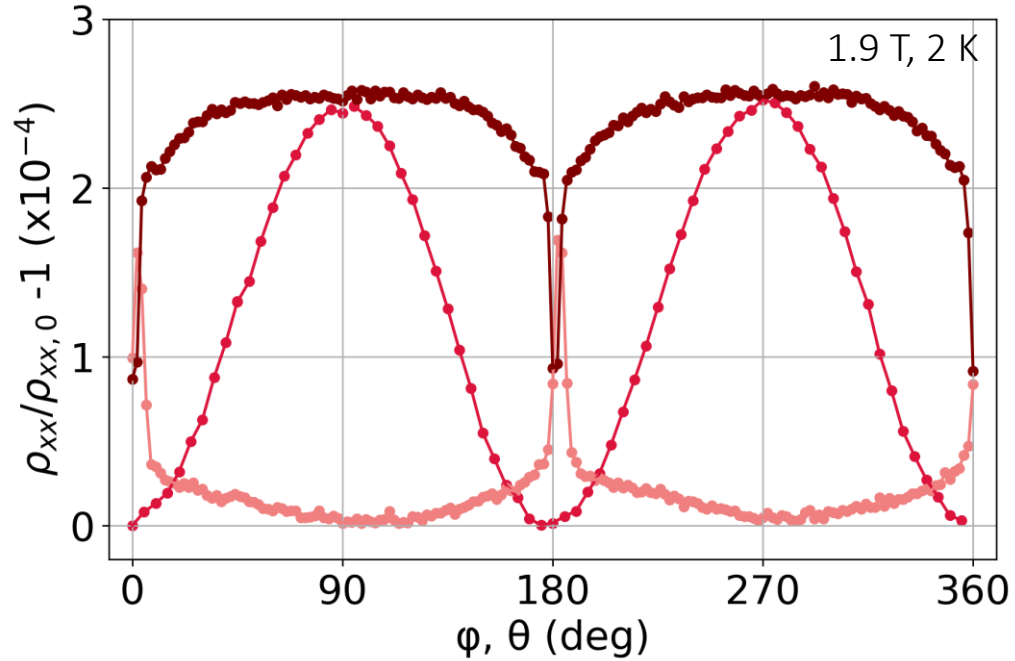
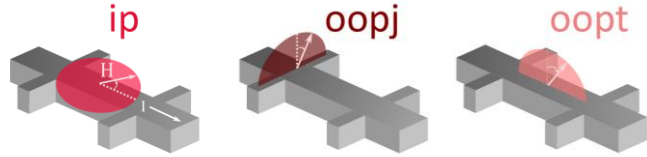
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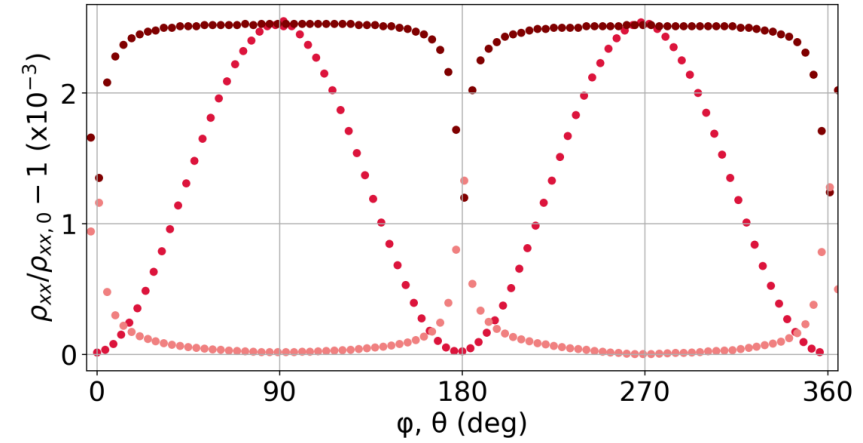
Finite polarization due to p-d hybridization between O^{2-} and Co^{2+} ions

PRL 105, 137202 (2010)

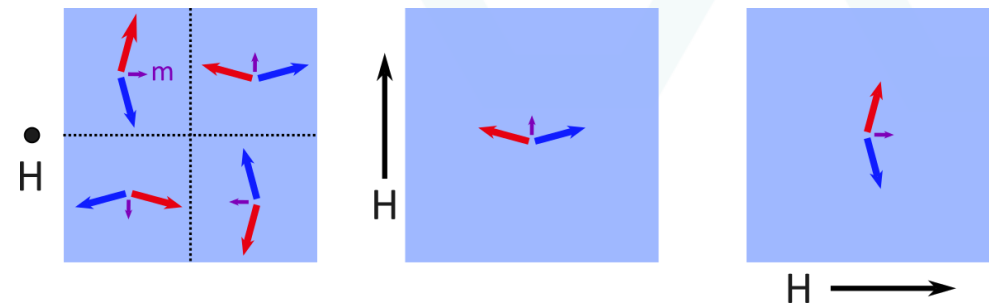
SMR in $\text{Ba}_2\text{CoGe}_2\text{O}_7$



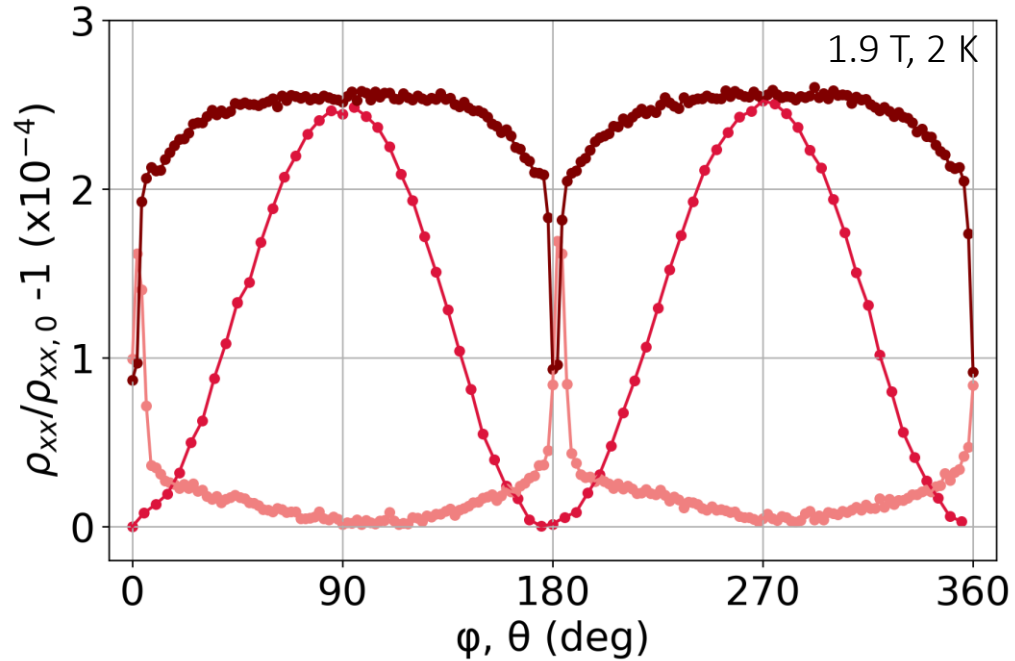
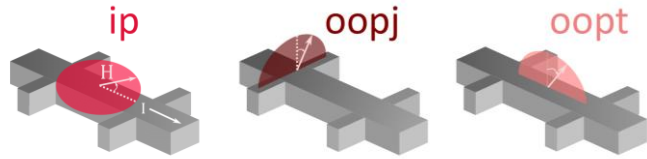
Recall $\alpha\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$!



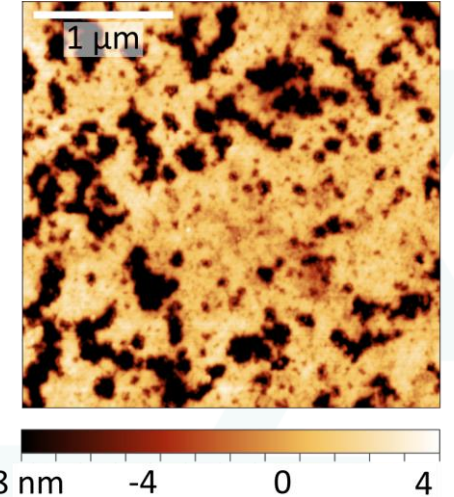
Qualitatively similar behavior



SMR in $\text{Ba}_2\text{CoGe}_2\text{O}_7$

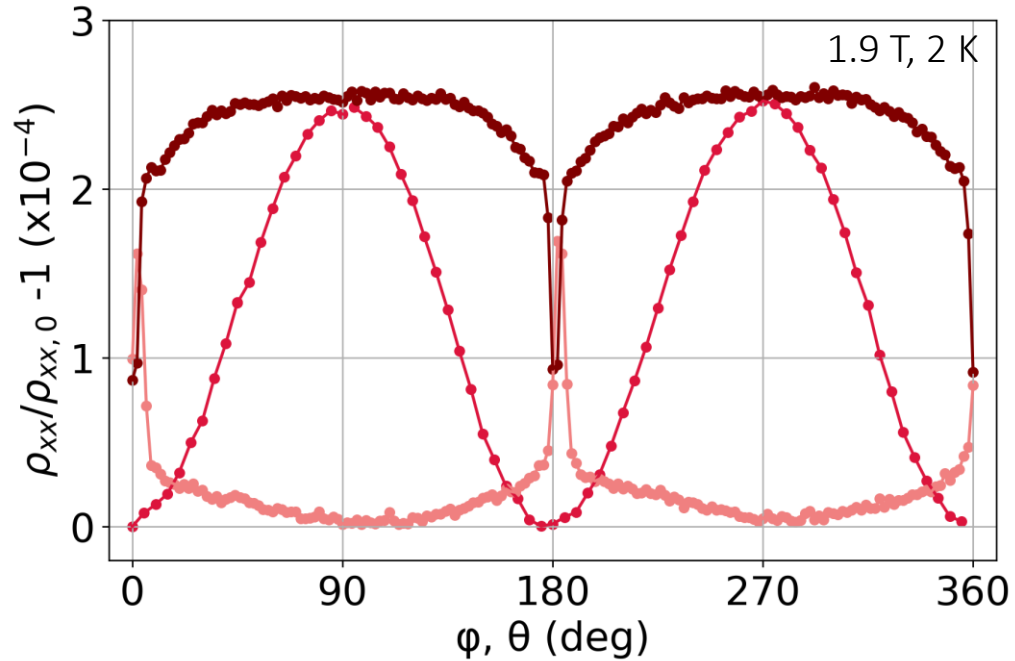
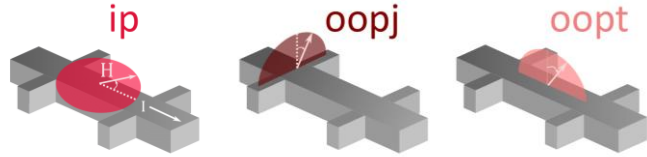


Surprisingly large amplitude!
 Non-optimal interface
 Non-optimal Pt thickness (~ 15 nm)
 Low temperature



	Order	t_{Pt} (nm)	Interface	Temperature (K)	SMR (10^{-4})	Ref
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NiO/Pt	AF	5	<i>ex situ</i>	300	2.7	APL 111, 052409 (2017)
SrMnO_3/Pt	AF	7	-	300	3	PRB 90, 144431 (2014)
BiFeO_3/Pt	AF	5	<i>ex situ</i>	300	0.8	Chin. Phys. Lett. 40, 117402 (2023)
$\alpha\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3/\text{Pt}$	AM	3	<i>in situ</i>	300	25	PRA 13, 014019 (2020)

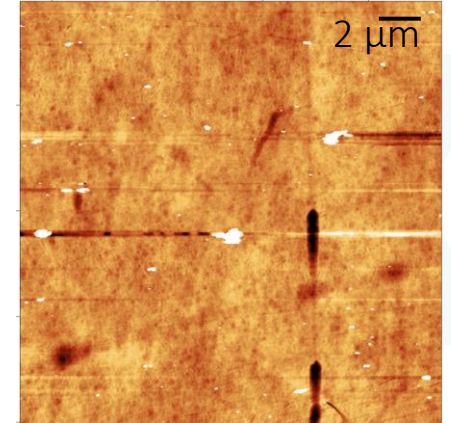
SMR in $\text{Ba}_2\text{CoGe}_2\text{O}_7$



Surprisingly large amplitude!
 Non-optimal interface
 Non-optimal Pt thickness (~15 nm)
 Low temperature



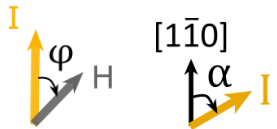
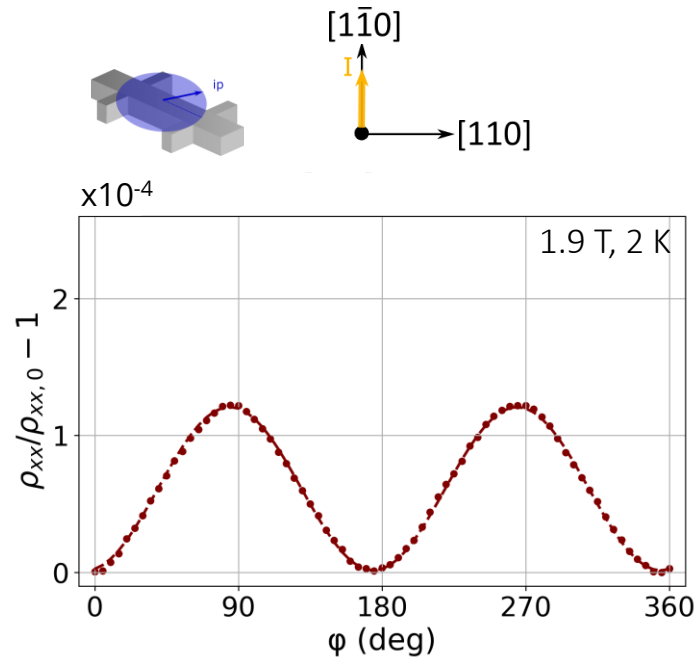
Update:
 Better surface quality + thinner Pt
 → SMR amplitude **doubled**



0 8 15 nm

	Order	t_{Pt} (nm)	Interface	Temperature (K)	SMR (10^{-4})	Ref
YIG/Pt	FI	2.5	<i>in situ</i>	300	16	PRB 87, 224401 (2013)
YIG/Pt	FI	6	<i>ex situ</i>	300	3.48	APL 110, 012403 (2017)
$\text{CoGe}_2\text{O}_4/\text{Pt}$	FI	2	<i>in situ</i>	300	6	APL 105, 142402 (2014)
GdIG/Pt	FI	5.5	<i>ex situ</i>	295	2.3	J. Phys.: Cond. Matt. 30, 035802 (2018)
NiO/Pt	AF	3.5	<i>in situ</i>	300	8	PRB 97, 014417 (2018)
NiO/Pt	AF	5	<i>ex situ</i>	300	2.7	APL 111, 052409 (2017)
SrMnO_3/Pt	AF	7	-	300	3	PRB 90, 144431 (2014)
BiFeO_3/Pt	AF	5	<i>ex situ</i>	300	0.8	Chin. Phys. Lett. 40, 117402 (2023)
$\alpha\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3/\text{Pt}$	AM	3	<i>in situ</i>	300	25	PRA 13, 014019 (2020)

SMR in $\text{Ba}_2\text{CoGe}_2\text{O}_7$ - anisotropy with current direction



M. Leiviskä *et al*, Phys. Rev. Materials **9**, 084403 (2025)



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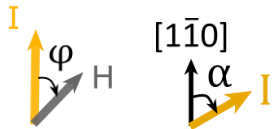
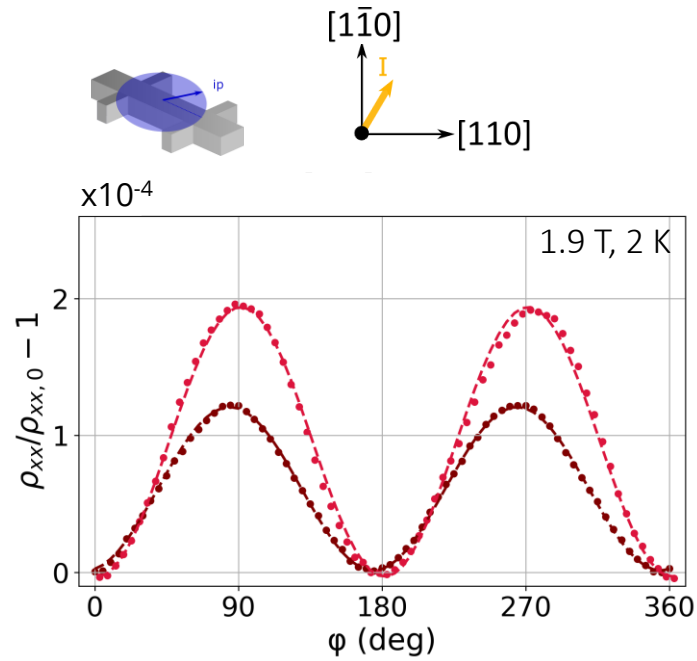
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SMR in $\text{Ba}_2\text{CoGe}_2\text{O}_7$ - anisotropy with current direction



M. Leiviskä *et al*, Phys. Rev. Materials **9**, 084403 (2025)



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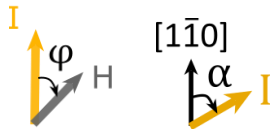
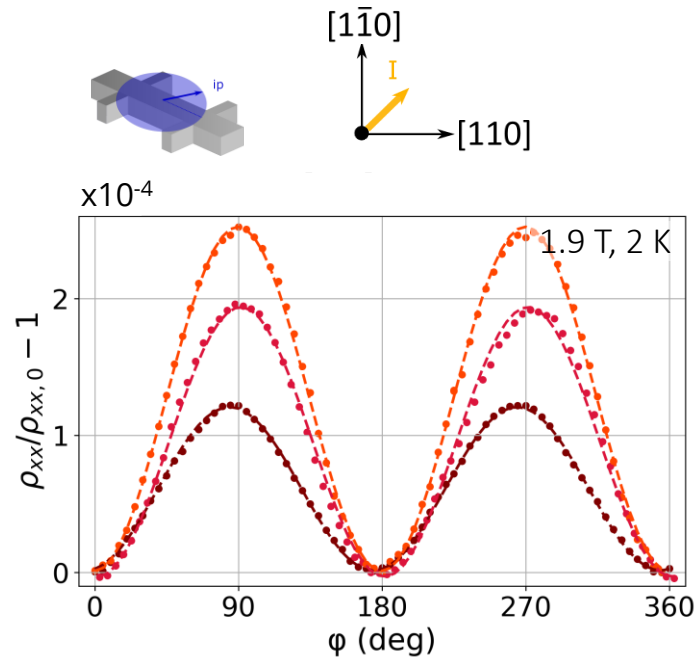
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State Physics

SMR in $\text{Ba}_2\text{CoGe}_2\text{O}_7$ - anisotropy with current direction



M. Leiviskä *et al*, Phys. Rev. Materials **9**, 084403 (2025)



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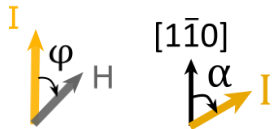
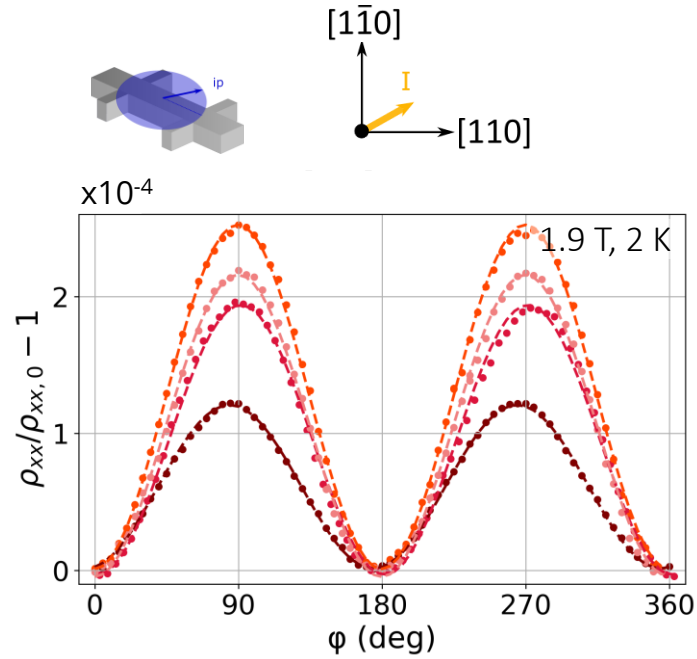
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SMR in $\text{Ba}_2\text{CoGe}_2\text{O}_7$ - anisotropy with current direction



M. Leiviskä *et al*, Phys. Rev. Materials **9**, 084403 (2025)



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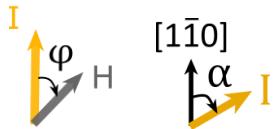
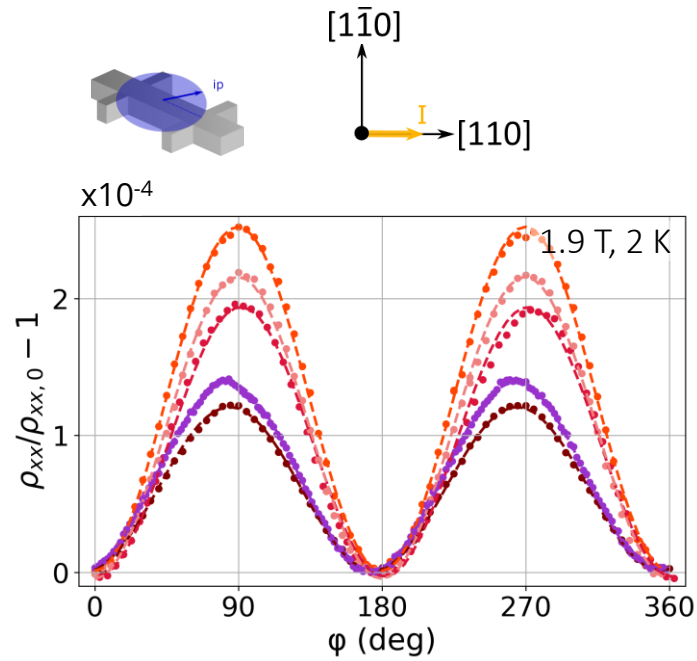
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SMR in $\text{Ba}_2\text{CoGe}_2\text{O}_7$ - anisotropy with current direction



M. Leiviskä *et al*, Phys. Rev. Materials **9**, 084403 (2025)



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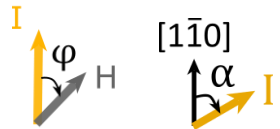
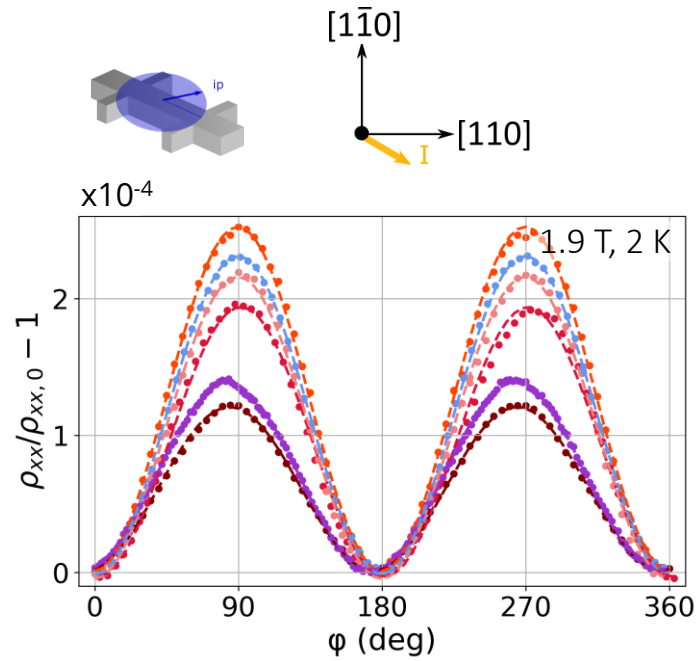
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SMR in $\text{Ba}_2\text{CoGe}_2\text{O}_7$ - anisotropy with current direction



M. Leiviskä *et al*, Phys. Rev. Materials **9**, 084403 (2025)



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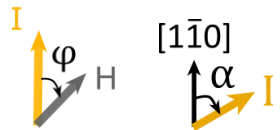
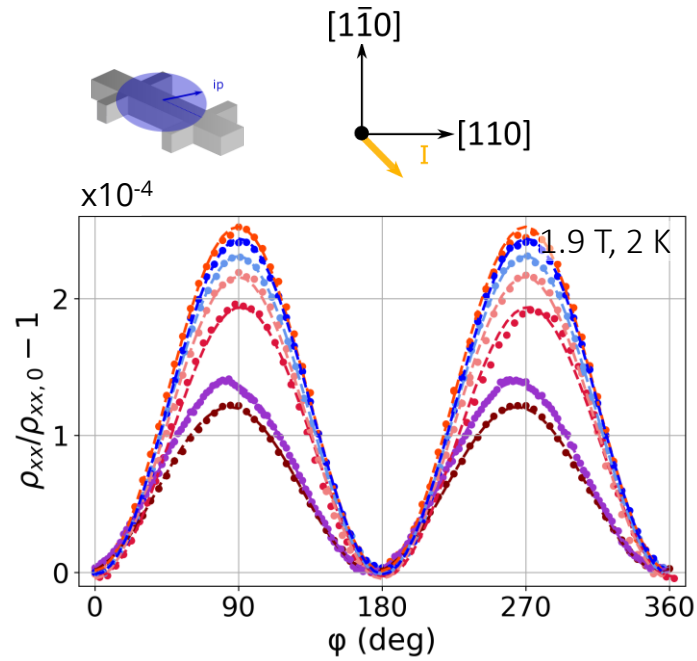
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SMR in $\text{Ba}_2\text{CoGe}_2\text{O}_7$ - anisotropy with current direction



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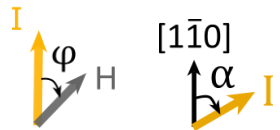
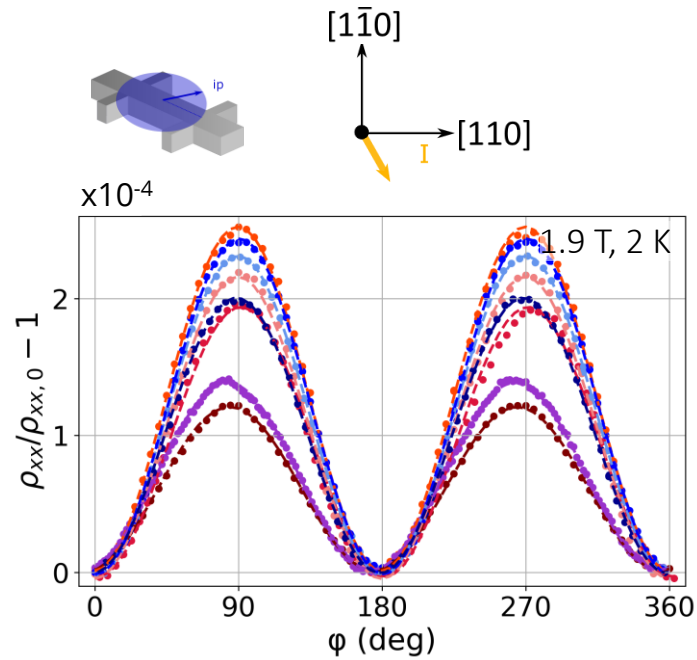
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SMR in $\text{Ba}_2\text{CoGe}_2\text{O}_7$ - anisotropy with current direction



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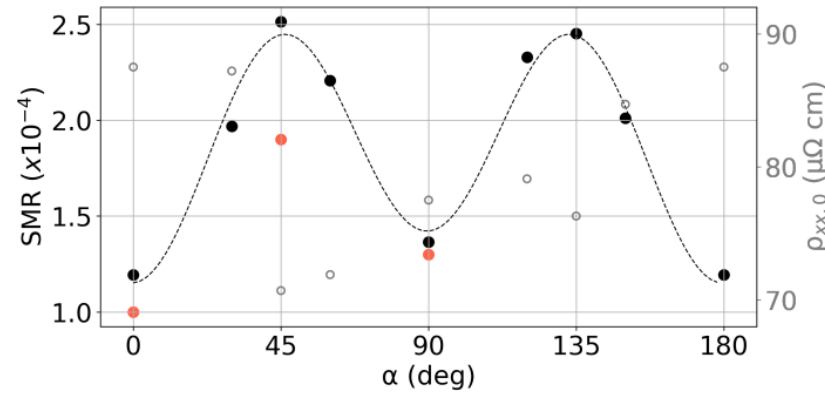
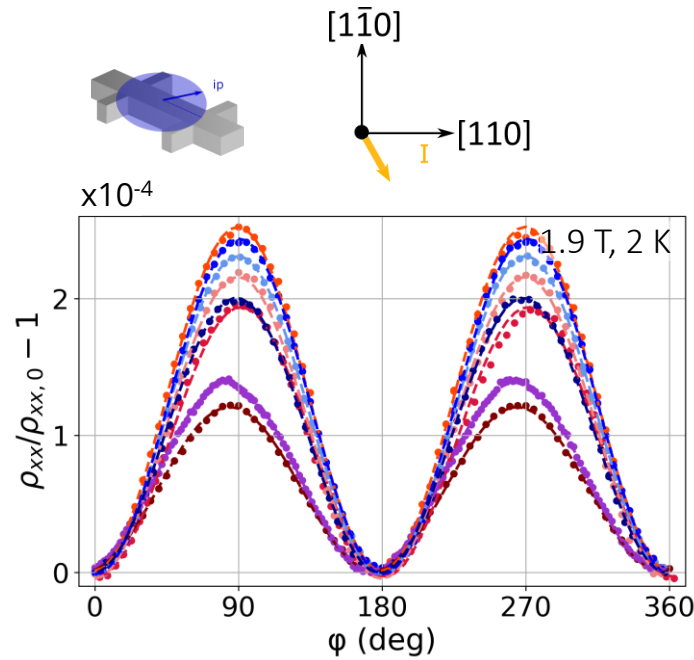
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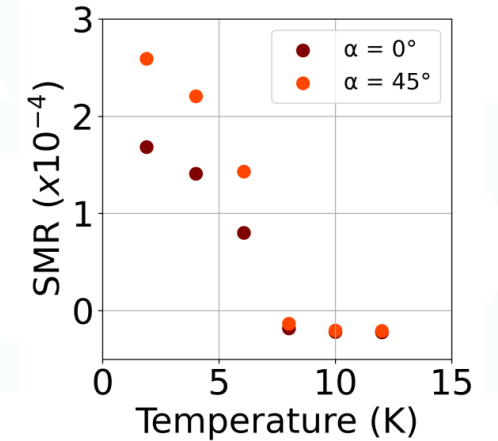
Division of Solid
State Physics

SMR in $\text{Ba}_2\text{CoGe}_2\text{O}_7$ - anisotropy with current direction

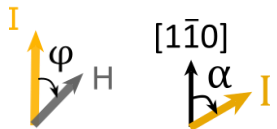
The SMR ratio is anisotropic with the current direction



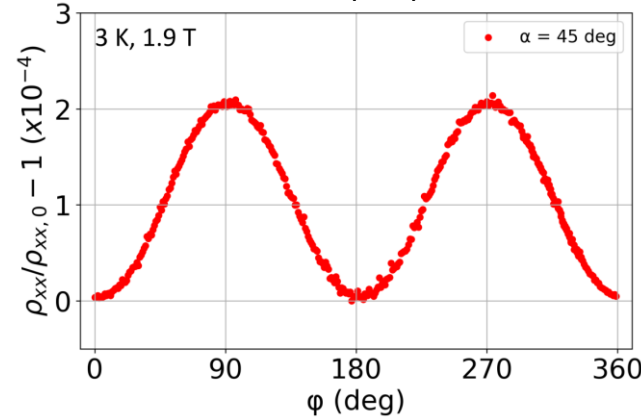
Does **not** correlate with device resistivity



Correlates with the **antiferromagnetic phase**



BCGO/Cu/Pt

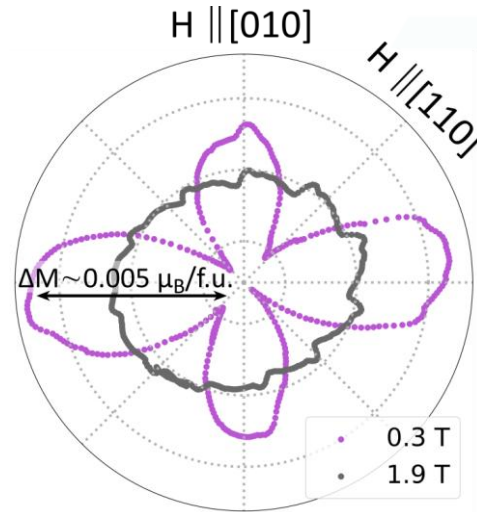
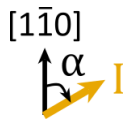
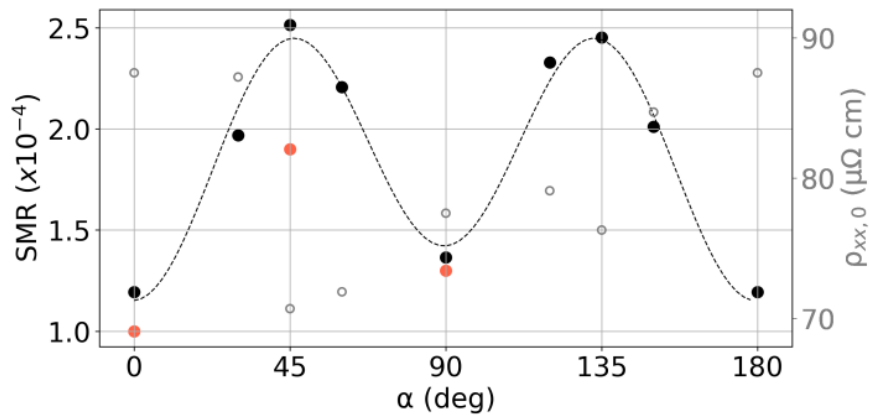


Not related to Pt proximity effect

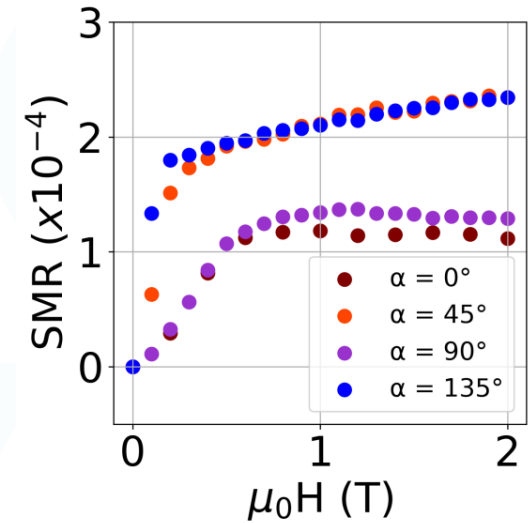
M. Leiviskä *et al*, Phys. Rev. Materials 9, 084403 (2025)

SMR in $\text{Ba}_2\text{CoGe}_2\text{O}_7$ - anisotropy with current direction

The SMR ratio is anisotropic with the current direction



Does **not** correlate with magnetocrystalline anisotropy



Likely **monodomain** state

M. Leiviskä *et al*, Phys. Rev. Materials **9**, 084403 (2025)



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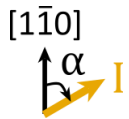
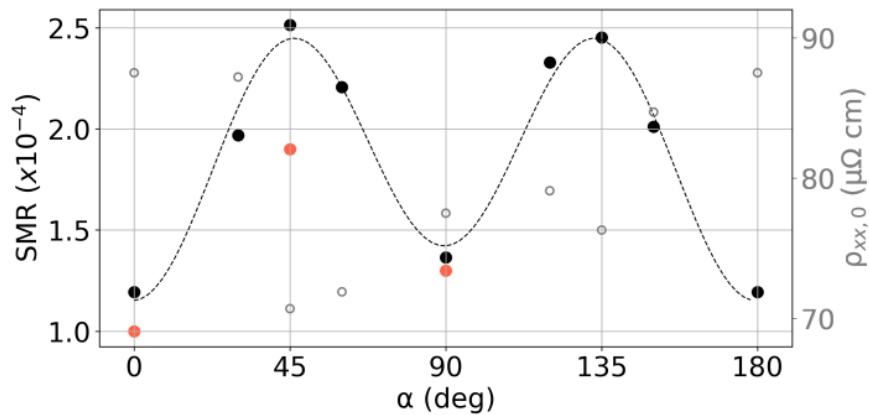
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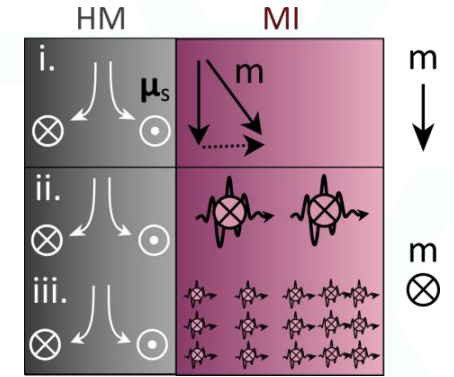
Division of Solid State Physics

SMR in $\text{Ba}_2\text{CoGe}_2\text{O}_7$ - anisotropy with current direction

The SMR ratio is anisotropic with the current direction



Intrinsic anisotropy of the spin current channels?



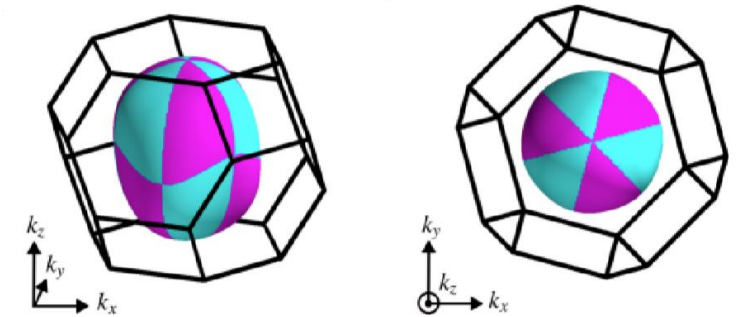
Anisotropic spin mixing conductance?

PHYSICAL REVIEW B **96**, 144434 (2017)

Crystal field effects on spin pumping

Adam B. Cahaya,¹ Alejandro O. Leon,¹ and Gerrit E. W. Bauer^{1,2,3}
¹Institute for Materials Research, Tohoku University, Sendai 980-8577, Japan
²WPI-AIMR & CSRN, Tohoku University, Sendai 980-8577, Japan
³Zernike Institute for Advanced Materials, Groningen University, The Netherlands
 (Received 7 September 2017; published 26 October 2017)

Anisotropic magnon dispersion?

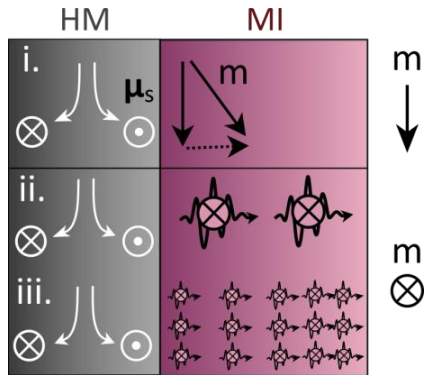


Example of $\alpha\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ - PRB 112, 064425 (2025)

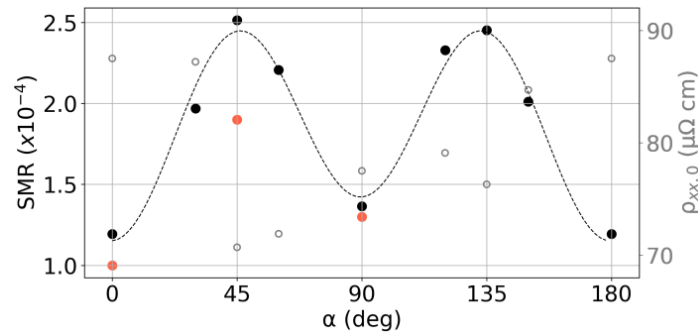
Relativistic vs. non-relativistic effects

SMR in $\text{Ba}_2\text{CoGe}_2\text{O}_7$ - anisotropy with current direction

Intrinsic anisotropy of the spin current channels?
 Spin mixing conductance?
 Magnon dispersion?

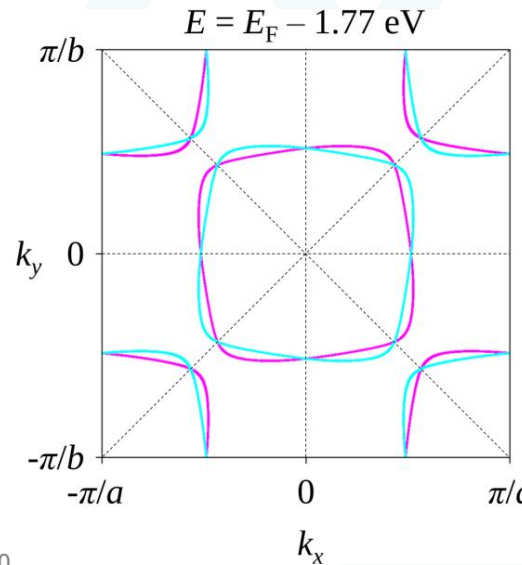


Symmetry matching?

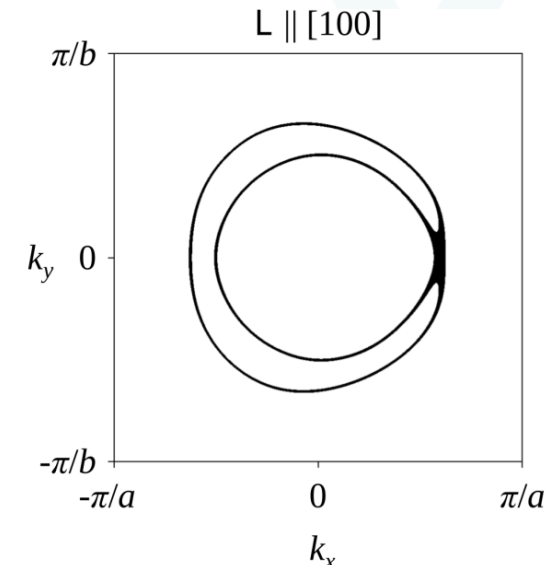


Looking for more clues:

i. Theory



Non-Relativistic

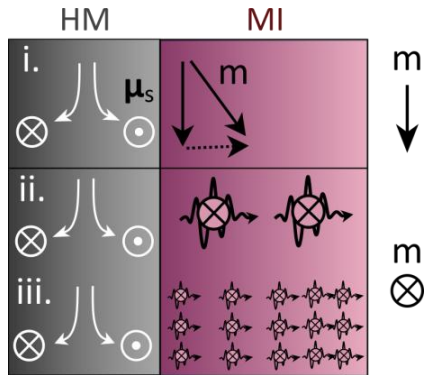


Relativistic

Kyohoon Ahn 

SMR in $\text{Ba}_2\text{CoGe}_2\text{O}_7$ - anisotropy with current direction

Intrinsic anisotropy of the spin current channels?
 Spin mixing conductance?
 Magnon dispersion?



Looking for more clues:

- i. Theory
- ii. Frequency-dependence

Lukas Nadvornik
 Peter Kubaščík



arXiv 2507.02498v2

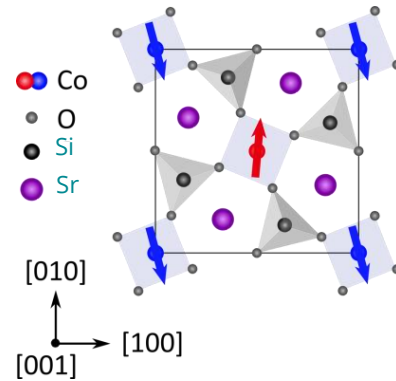
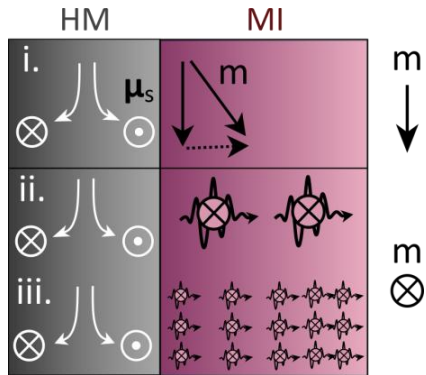
Resolving Ultrafast Coherent and Incoherent Spin Torque Contributions via Terahertz Spin-Hall Magnetoresistance

Peter Kubaščík¹, Richard Schlitz², Oliver Gueckstock³, Oliver Franke³, Miina Leiviska⁴, Martin Borchert⁵, Gerhard Jakob⁶, Kamil Olejník⁴, Andrej Farkaš^{1,4}, Zdenek Kašpar^{1,4}, Jiří Jechumtál¹, Martin Bušina¹, Eva Schmoranzarová¹, Petr Němec¹, Yicheng Z. Wu^{7,8}, Georg Woltersdorf⁹, Mathias Kläui⁶, Piet W. Brouwer³, Sebastian T. B. Goennenwein², Tobias Kampfrath³, Lukáš Nadvorník^{1,*}

Resolving the spin current channels with frequency-dependence?

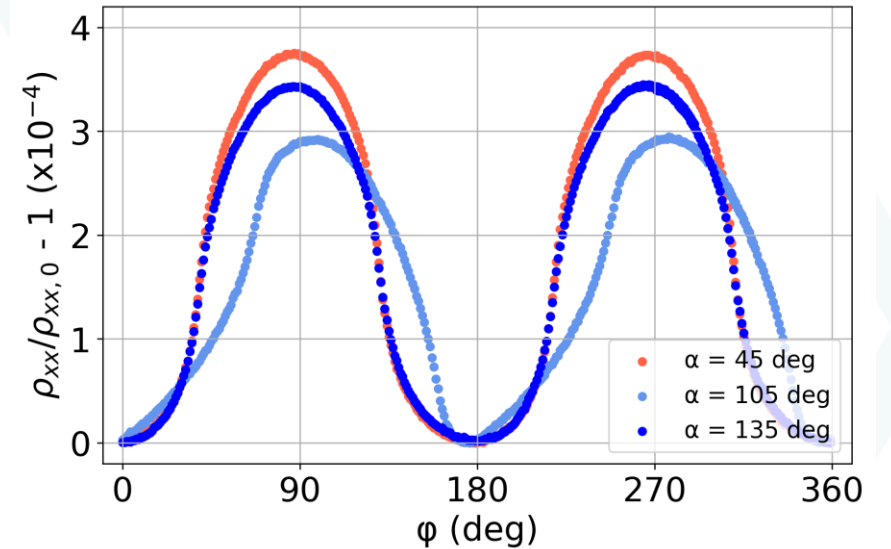
SMR in $\text{Ba}_2\text{CoGe}_2\text{O}_7$ - anisotropy with current direction

Intrinsic anisotropy of the spin current channels?
 Spin mixing conductance?
 Magnon dispersion?



Looking for more clues:

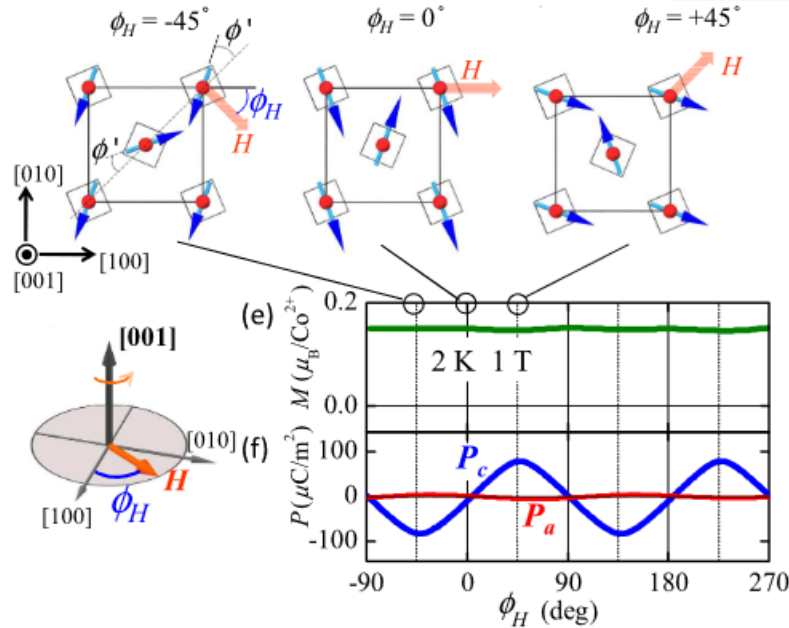
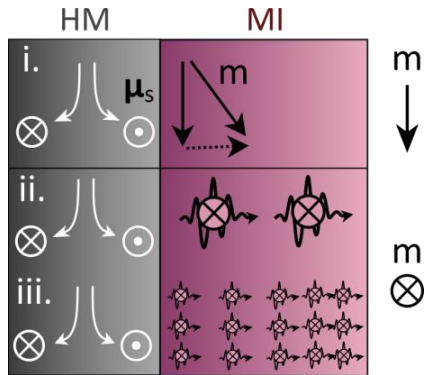
- i. Theory
- ii. Frequency-dependence
- iii. Universality?



Large, anisotropic SMR present also in the sister compound $\text{Sr}_2\text{CoSi}_2\text{O}_7$

SMR in $\text{Ba}_2\text{CoGe}_2\text{O}_7$ - anisotropy with current direction

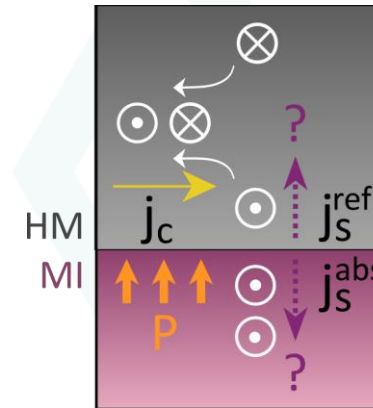
Intrinsic anisotropy of the spin current channels?
 Spin mixing conductance?
 Magnon dispersion?



Phys. Rev. Lett 105, 137202 (2010)

Looking for more clues:

- i. Theory
- ii. Frequency-dependence
- iii. Universality?
- iv. Polarization?



What is the effect of finite polarization?



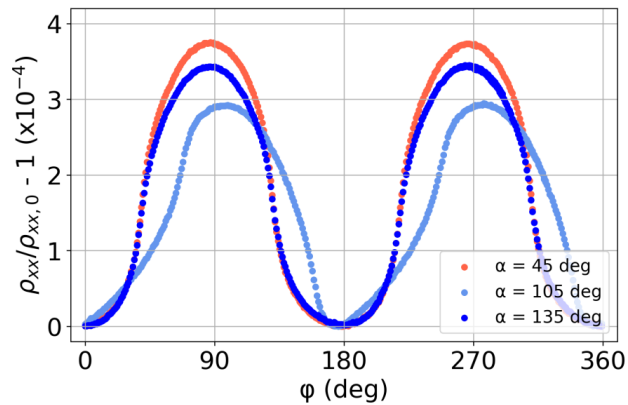
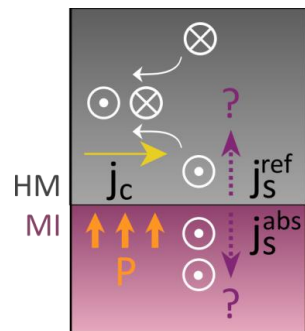
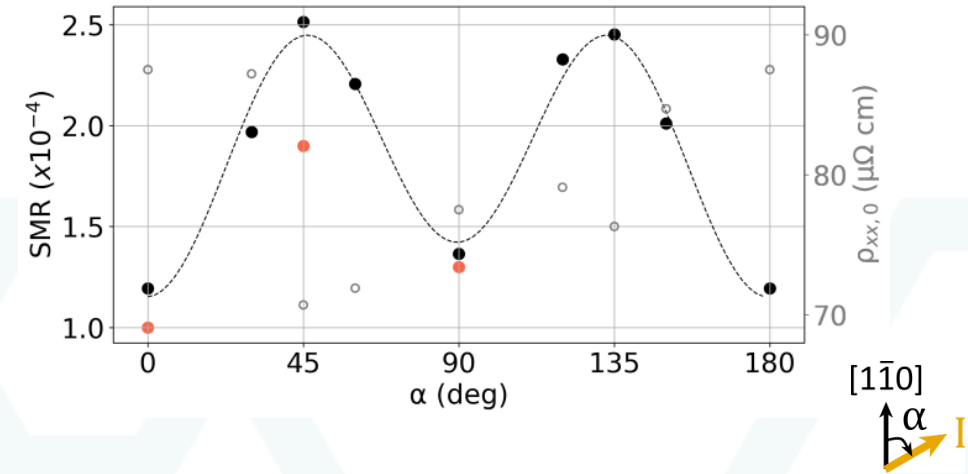
Conclusions

We observe sizable spin Hall magnetoresistance in multiferroic altermagnet/Pt heterostructures

→ Another example of large SMR in an altermagnet

The SMR amplitude is anisotropic with the crystal direction of the current

→ Attributed to intrinsic anisotropy of the spin current channels across the interface



Work in progress!

→ More theory, more materials, frequency dependence ...

Acknowledgments



Christoph Müller
Satya Prakash Bommanaboyena
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Zbynek Šobán
Kyo-Hoon Ahn
Dominik Kriegner
Helena Reichlova
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Tomas Jungwirth



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Lukas Nádvorník



Monika Scheufele
Matthias Opel
Stephan Geprägs
Matthias Althammer



Reza Firouzmandi
Kranthi Kumar Bestha
Vilmos Kocsis
Andy Thomas
Anja Wolter
Bernd Büchner



Olena Gomonay



Sebastian Sailer
Michaela Lammel
Sebastian Goennenwein



Johanna Fischer



Joseph Barker

Spin Hall Magnetoresistance at the Altermagnetic Insulator/Pt Interface

Dr. Miina Leiviskä¹,

R. Firouzmandi², K. Ahn¹, P. Kubaščík³, S. Sailer⁴, Z. Soban¹, S. Prakash Bommanaboyena¹, C. Müller¹, B. Gut⁴, K. Uhlířová⁴,
D. Kriegner¹, M. Hývl¹, M. Lammel⁵, K. K. Bestha², L. Šmejkal^{6,7,1}, J. Zelezny², A. U. B. Wolter², M. Scheufele^{8,9}, J. Fischer¹⁰,
M. Opel⁸, S. Geprägs⁸, M. Althammer⁸, B. Buechner^{2,11,12}, T. Jungwirth^{1,13}, L. Nadvornik³, S. T. B. Goennenwein⁵,
V. Kocsis², and H. Reichlova¹

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7 Max Planck Institute for Chemical Physics of Solids, Dresden, Germany

8 Walther-Meißner-Institut, Bayerische Akademie der Wissenschaften, 85748 Garching, Germany

9 Technical University of Munich, TUM School of Natural Sciences, Physics Department, Garching, Germany

10 Université Grenoble Alpes, CEA, CNRS, Spintec, Grenoble, France

11 Institute of Solid State and Materials Physics and Wurzberg-Dresden Cluster of Excellence ct.qmat, TU Dresden, Dresden, Germany

12 Center for Transport and Devices, Technische Universität Dresden, 01069 Dresden, Germany

13 School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK

Supplementary slides



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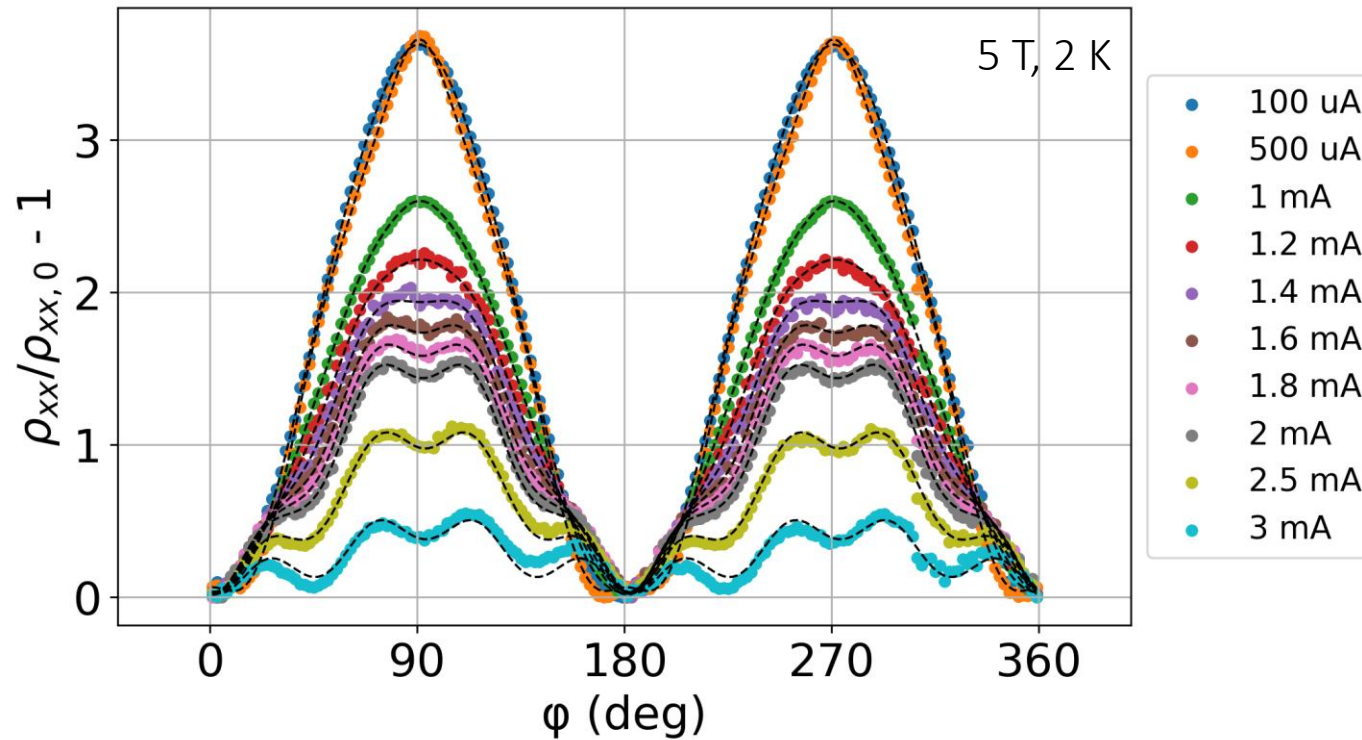
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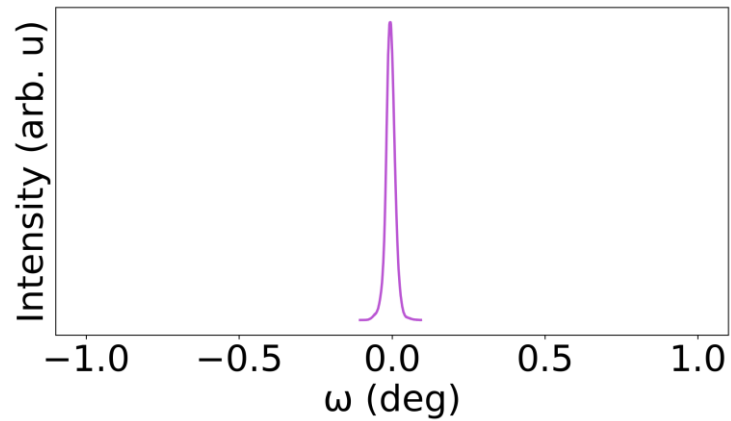
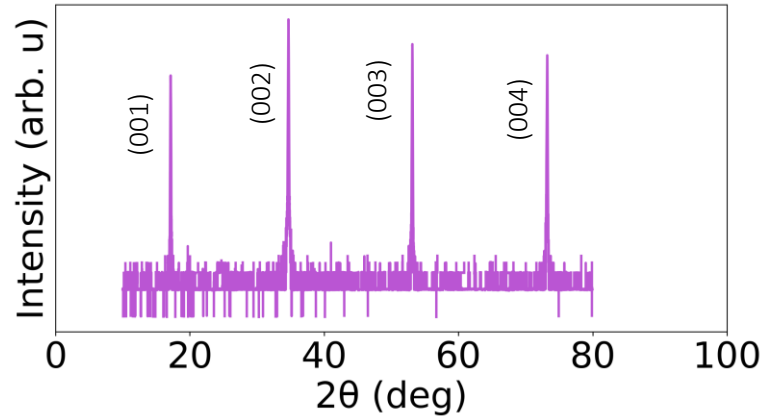
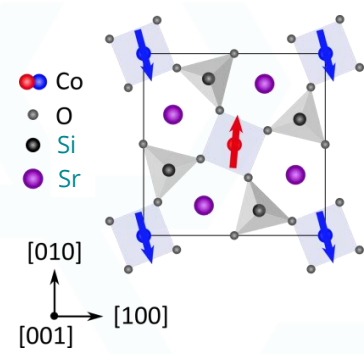
Bonus: Higher order harmonics in SMR?

Increasing magnetic field strength + increasing current density

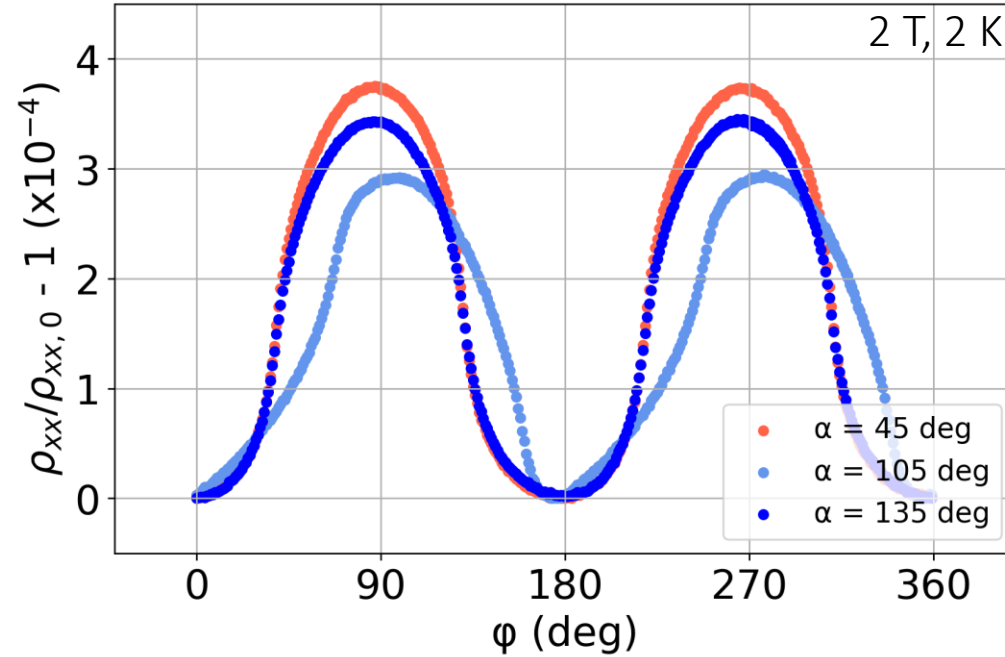


Non-linear effects? Origin?

Bonus: Sister compound $\text{Sr}_2\text{CoSi}_2\text{O}_7$



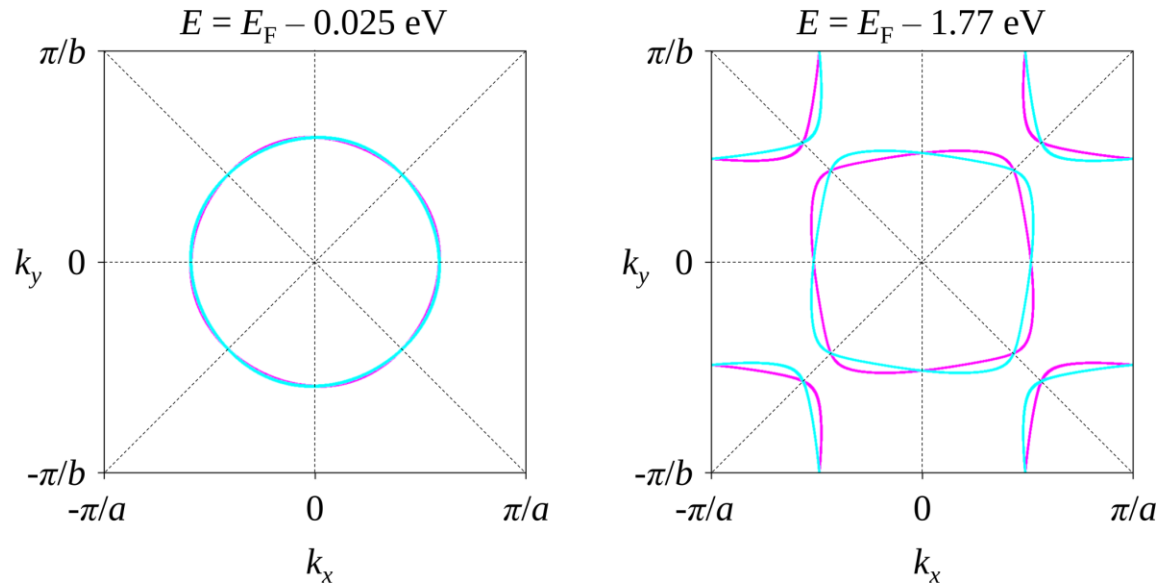
Better crystal quality,
better surface quality



Even larger SMR amplitude with same anisotropy as BCGO
Deviation from $\cos 2\phi$? \rightarrow Ongoing Master thesis

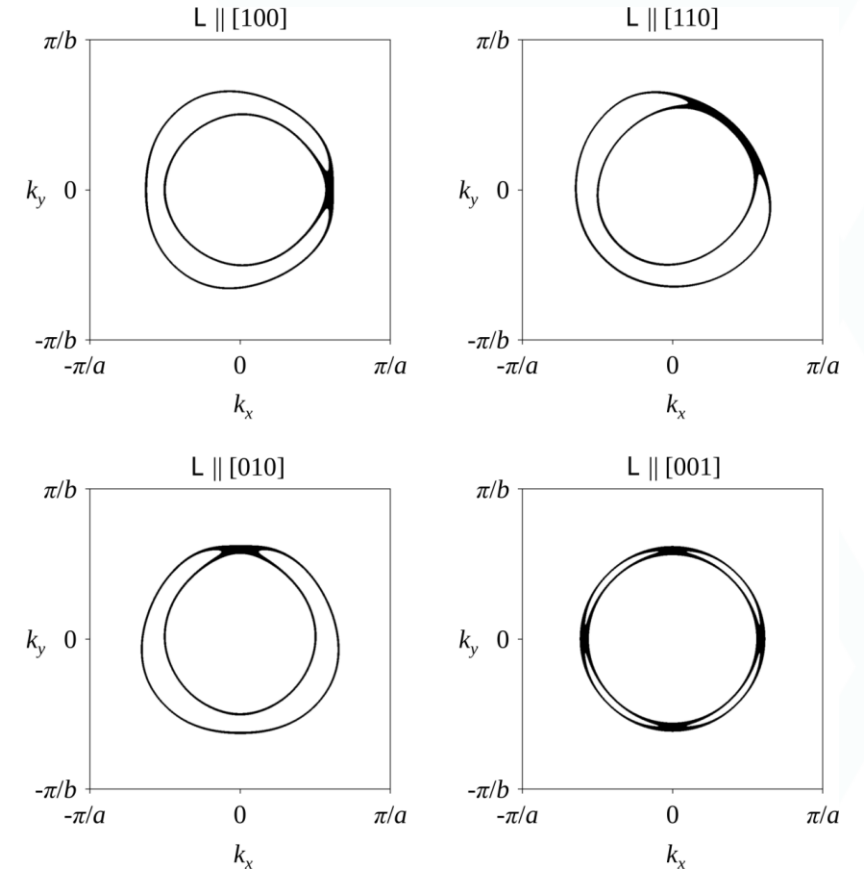
Band structure calculations on BCGO

Non-relativistic



Altermagnetic spin splitting is very small
Spin point group 14_2m^2m

Relativistic



$m_i \parallel \{110\} \rightarrow$ magnetic space group is $Cm'm2'$
 $m_i \parallel \{100\} \rightarrow$ magnetic space group is $P2_12_1'2'$