

MM 63: Symposium on Frontiers of Electronic Structure Theory: Focus on Topology and Transport

Time: Friday 9:30–12:15

Location: H1

Invited Talk MM 63.1 Fri 9:30 H1
Intrinsic Transport Coefficients and Momentum Space Berry Curvatures — ●ALLAN H MACDONALD — University of Texas at Austin, Austin TX, USA

The response of a conductor to a bias voltage is normally dominated by repopulation of states near the Fermi level. The transport steady state is fixed by a competition between acceleration in an electric field and disorder-induced scattering which attempts to restore equilibrium. This response of observables to a bias voltage is therefore extrinsic. There is however also response of states away from the Fermi level, which are polarized by the electric field. Provided that the typical band separation is larger than the finite life-time uncertainty in Bloch state energies this response is intrinsic, and for some observables it can be dominant. Intrinsic response coefficients are attractive targets for electronic structure theory because they are readily evaluated. Examples of responses to bias voltages that are sometimes dominantly intrinsic are the anomalous Hall conductivity of ferromagnetic or anti-ferromagnetic conductors, the spin-Hall conductivity of heavy metals, and current-induced torques in heavy-metal/ferromagnet systems. Intrinsic transport coefficients tend to be large in crystals with large momentum-space Berry curvatures, for example in crystals with topologically non-trivial electronic structure, and remain finite when a gap opens at the Fermi level to eliminate the Fermi surface. I will discuss some important examples of transport coefficients that are dominated by intrinsic contributions, mentioning as an important case the quantum anomalous Hall effect.

Invited Talk MM 63.2 Fri 10:00 H1
Berry phase linked spin-orbit torques in Ferromagnetic and Antiferromagnetic systems — ●JAIRO SINOVA — Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz, Staudingerweg 7, 55128 Mainz Germany

As current-driven torques are becoming more relevant in future MRAM technologies, in-plane current magnetization dynamics driven by the so called Rashba spin-orbit torques or through a combination of spin-Hall effect and spin-transfer torque has become more and more important. Understanding these torques is paramount to maximize their use. In recent experiments we have shown that in addition to the intrinsic SHE and STT effect there exists an intrinsic spin-orbit torque originating from the Berry phase of the spin-orbit coupled Bloch electrons analogous to the intrinsic spin Hall effect. This type of torques can be observed through SO-FMR driven experiments. We show this new type of torques in theory and experiments in GaMnAs and show that it can be of similar strength to the strong field-like torque. In addition, we extend these physics to a new type of order-parameter manipulation by currents by examining the combined effect of spin-orbit coupling and anti-ferromagnetic order. We show that in broken inversion symmetry anti-ferromagnets a current will induce a non-equilibrium Néel-order field that will act directly on the Néel order parameter, hence making the direct manipulation of anti-ferromagnets without auxiliary exchange biased coupling to other ferromagnets a new and exciting possibility. One of these type of Néel torques has been recently experimentally confirmed.

Invited Talk MM 63.3 Fri 10:30 H1
Transport in Topological Insulators and Topological Superconductors: In Search of Majorana Fermions — ●EWELINA HANKIEWICZ — Wuerzburg University

Topological insulators (TIs) have a bulk energy gap that separates the highest occupied band from the lowest unoccupied band and the metallic gapless states at the edge [1]. Similarly, topological superconductors (TSC) have gapless zero energy states protected by the particle-hole symmetry, which in some cases form Majorana bound states. Here, we focus on the proximity-induced superconductivity in TIs [2] as well as on unusual properties of TSC [3] showing that they both can pave a road to find a Majorana state.

Concerning proximity-induced superconductivity in TIs, we describe a novel superconducting quantum spin-Hall effect, which is protected against elastic backscattering by combined time-reversal and particle-

hole symmetry even in magnetic fields [2]. We discuss unusual transport properties of this effect and possible Majorana detection schemes.

Finally, we discuss new systems like TSC on the hexagonal lattices. We develop combined microscopic and macroscopic description of these materials that predicts realistic scanning tunneling microscopy signal in these superconductors [3]. Is there a way to measure Majorana state in these systems?

[1] G. Tkachov and E. M. Hankiewicz, Review in Phys. Status Solidi B 250, 215 (2013). [2] R. Reinthaler, G. Tkachov and E.M. Hankiewicz, Phys. Rev. B 92, 161303(R) (2015). [3] L. Elster, C. Platt, R. Thomale, W. Hanke, and E. M. Hankiewicz, Nature Comm. 6, 8232 (2015).

session break

Invited Talk MM 63.4 Fri 11:15 H1
Engineering Topological Quantum States: From 1D to 2D. — ●JELENA KLINOVAJA — University of Basel, Switzerland

I will discuss low-dimensional condensed matter systems, in which topological properties could be engineered per demand. Majorana fermions can emerge in hybrid systems with proximity pairing in which the usually weak Rashba spin-orbit interaction is replaced by magnetic textures. I will discuss candidate materials such as semiconducting nanowires [1] and atomic magnetic chains [2]. One further goal is to go beyond Majorana fermions and to identify systems that can host quasiparticles with more powerful non-Abelian statistics such as parafermions in double wires coupled by crossed Andreev reflections [3,4]. Next, I will focus on 'strip of stripes model' consisting of weakly coupled one-dimensional wires [5-7], where interaction effects in the wires can be treated non-perturbatively via bosonization. Such systems can exhibit the integer or fractional quantum Hall effect, spin Hall effect, and anomalous Hall effect.

[1] J. Klinovaja and D. Loss, Phys. Rev. B 86, 085408 (2012). [2] J. Klinovaja, P. Stano, A. Yazdani, and D. Loss, Phys. Rev. Lett. 111, 186805 (2013). [3] J. Klinovaja and D. Loss, Phys. Rev. B 90, 045118 (2014). [4] J. Klinovaja, A. Yacoby, and D. Loss, Phys. Rev. B 90, 155447 (2014). [5] J. Klinovaja and D. Loss, Phys. Rev. Lett. 111, 196401 (2013); J. Klinovaja and D. Loss, Eur. Phys. J. B 87, 171 (2014). [6] J. Klinovaja and Y. Tserkovnyak, Phys. Rev. B 90, 115426 (2014). [7] J. Klinovaja, Y. Tserkovnyak, and D. Loss, Phys. Rev. B 91, 085426 (2015).

Invited Talk MM 63.5 Fri 11:45 H1
Skyrmions – Topological magnetization solitons for future spintronics — ●STEFAN BLÜGEL — Peter Grünberg Institut and Institute for Advanced Simulation, Forschungszentrum Jülich and JARA, D-52425 Jülich, Germany

Ultrathin magnetic films and heterostructures provide a fantastic playground for the stabilization, manipulation and usage of chiral magnetic skyrmions – topological magnetization solitons – magnetic entities described by a micromagnetic energy functional with particle like properties that may open a new vista for spintronics. A crucial quantity for the chiral skyrmion formation is the Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya interaction (DMI), whose presence in thin films could be established in a concerted effort of first-principles theory and spin-polarized scanning tunneling microscopy. It could be shown that the spin-orbit interaction and the structure inversion-asymmetry in these systems result in a DMI that is strong enough to give rise to one- and two-dimensional lattices of chiral spin-textures, chiral domain walls and even single skyrmions. In retrospect, it is surprising how little is known about the DMI in these metallic systems. In this talk I give insight into the DMI, relating first-principles calculations to different models, discussing the transport properties of electrons *e.g.* the topological (THE) and anomalous (AHE) Hall effect in relation to the spin texture of a skyrmion, and discuss possibilities to tailor the magnetic interactions to enlarge the materials base to stabilize single skyrmions. – I acknowledge fruitful collaborations with D. Crum, J. Bouaziz, B. Dupé, S. Heinze, N. Kiselev, S. Lounis, Y. Mokrousov, A. Nandy, and B. Zimmermann.