

# Surface states mediated spin-to-charge conversion in BiSb-based topological insulators probed by THz emission spectroscopy

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<sup>3</sup> Thales Research and Technology TRT-Fr (France)



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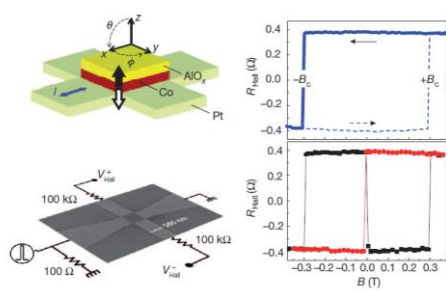


S-NEBULA  
Logo with a waveform

# General applications using spin-to-charge conversion

**Preamble on spintronics**

Switching Magnetization  
Spin-Transfer et Domain-wall motion

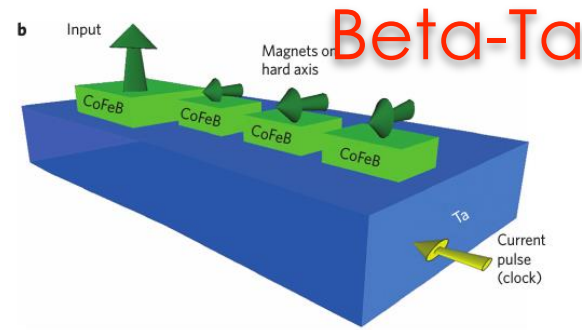


M. Miron *et al.*, Nature 476, 189 (2012)  
 L. Liu *et al.*, PRL, 109, 096602 (2012),  
 L. Liu *et al.*, Science 336, 6081 (2012)  
 M. Cubukcu *et al.*, APL: 104, 042406 (2014)

S. Emori *et al.*, Nat. Mat. 12, 611 (2013)  
 JC Rojas-sanchez *et al.*, APL (2016)

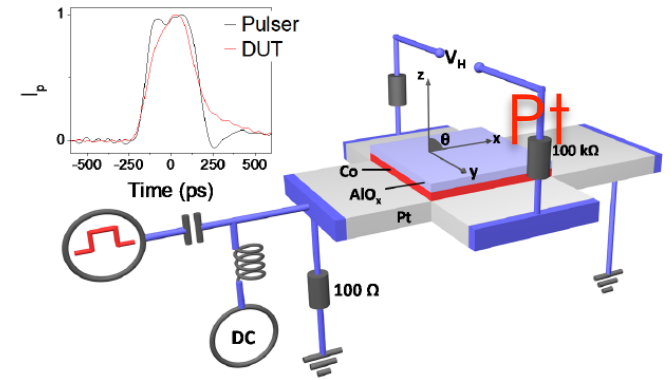
Pt, Beta-Ta *STT-FMR*

SHE Spin Torque based Clocking



D. Bhowmik *et al.*, Nnano, 241 (2013)

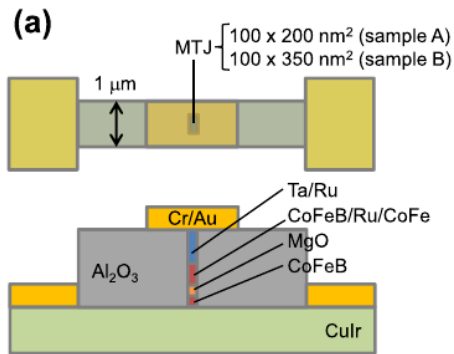
Ultra Fast Switching



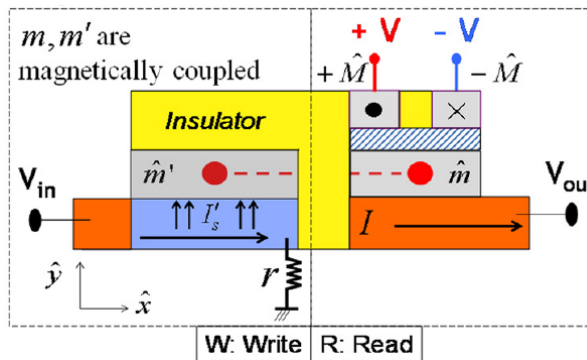
K. Garello *et al.*, arXiv: (2014)

Read/Write Heads using GSHE

SHE based MTJs

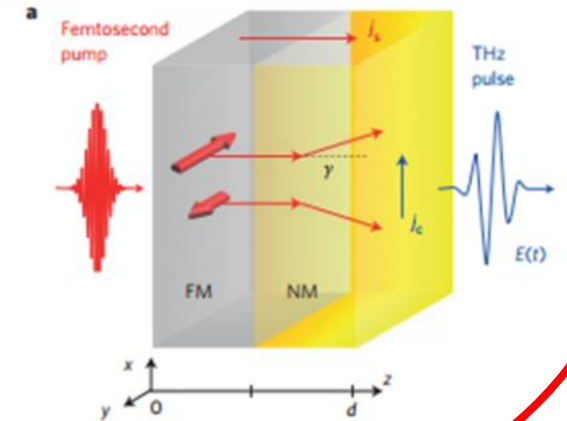


M. Yamanouchi *et al.*, APL102, 212408 (2013)



S. Datta *et al.*, APL101, 252411 (2012)

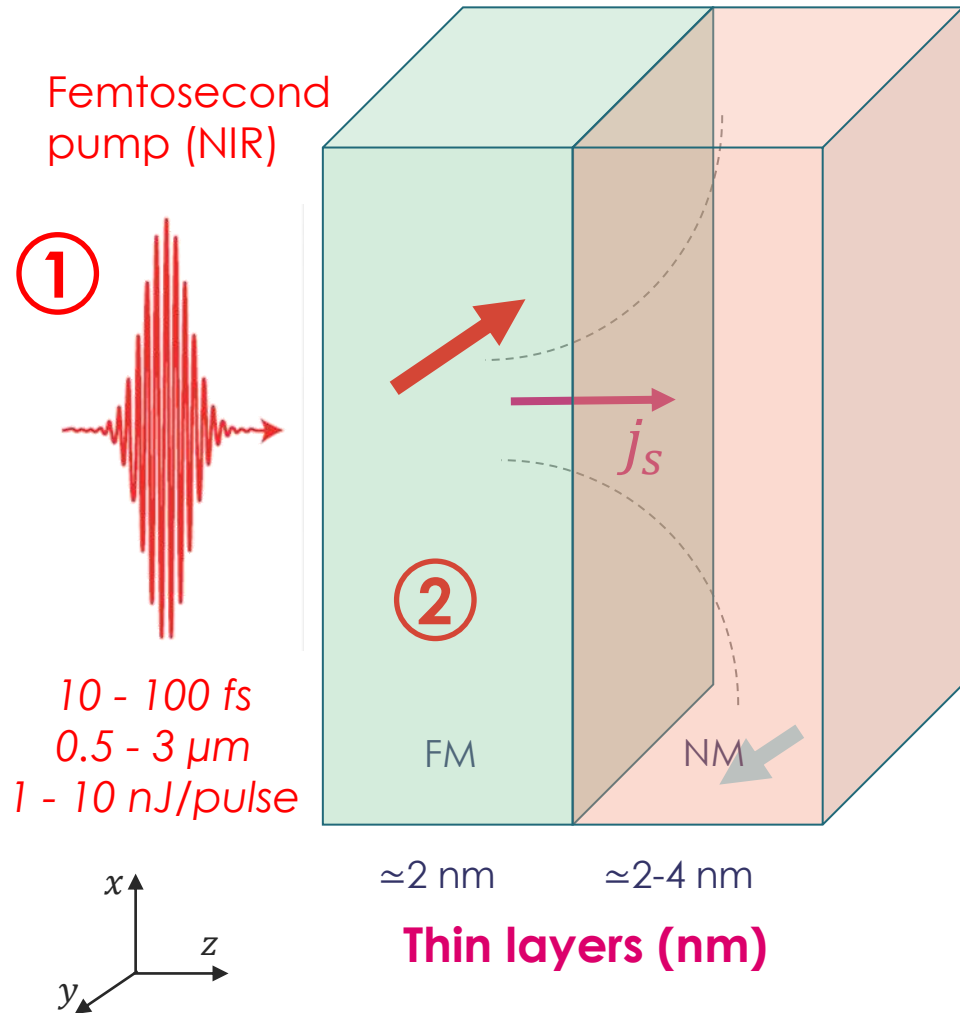
THz emission by fs laser excitation



M. Sharad *et al.*, arXiv: 1401.0015 (2013)

# Spintronic THz emitters : fundamentals of THz emission process

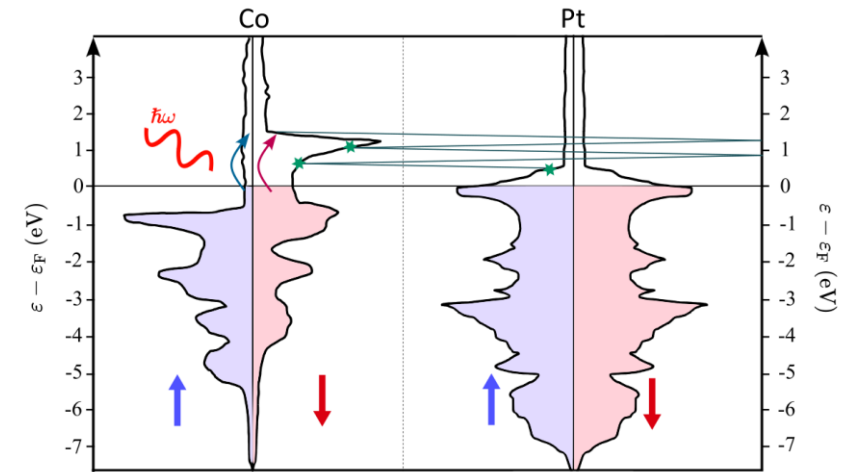
ferromagnet / non-magnetic material



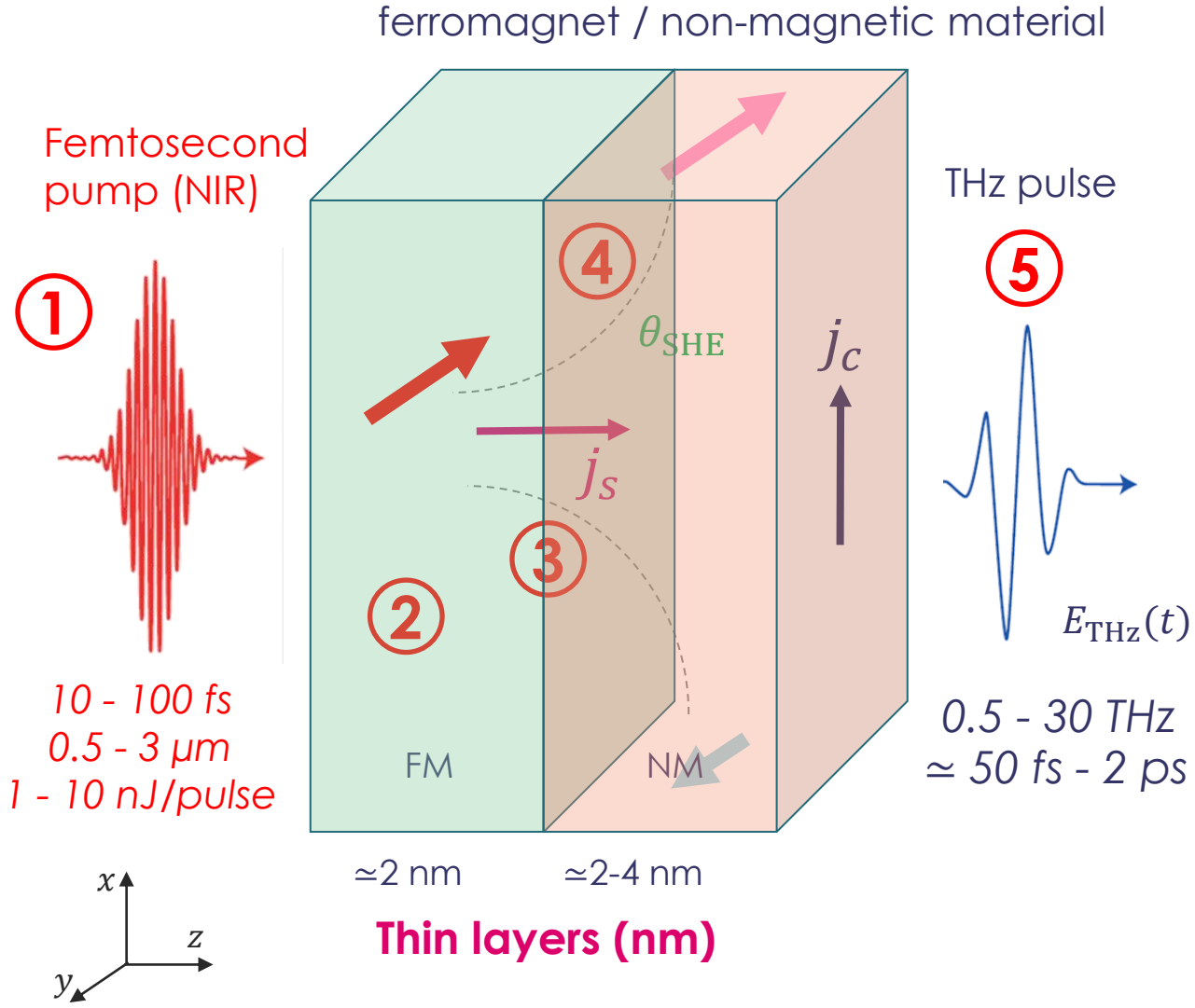
Adapted from T. Seifert *et al.*, *Nat. Phot.*, 10, 483-488 (2016)

① Laser-induced ultrafast demagnetisation

② Spin current generation



# Spintronic THz emitters : fundamentals of THz emission process



① Laser-induced ultrafast demagnetisation

② Spin current generation

③ Spin-selective transmission at the interface

④ Spin-to-charge conversion  
- Rashba-Edelstein at interfaces or surface states  
- Spin Hall effect in bulk

⑤ THz emission process

$$\theta_{\text{SHE}}^{\text{Pt}} \approx +5\%$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B}(t) = \mu_0 \mathbf{j}_c(t) + \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}$$

$$\mathbf{E}(t) \propto \frac{\partial \mathbf{j}_c(t)}{\partial t}$$

T. J. Huisman *et al.*, *Nat. Nanotech.*, 11, 455-458 (2016)

W. T. Lu *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. B*, 101, 014435 (2020)

E. Papaioannou, R. Beigang, *Nanophotonics*, 10(4), 1243-1257 (2020)

# Material engineering of spintronic THz emitters

## Magnetic reservoir

### 3d ferromagnets

T. Seifert *et al.*, *Nat. Phot.*, 10, 483-488 (2016)  
 T.-H. Dang *et al.*, *Appl. Phys. Rev.* 7, 041409 (2020)

Conventional magnetic reservoir

M. Fix *et al.*, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* 117, 132407 (2020)  
*Spin valves as magnetically switchable spintronic THz emitters*

Use of exchange bias for pinning

R. Schneider *et al.*, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* 115, 152401 (2019)  
*Spintronic GdFe/Pt THz emitters*

Use of FeGd alloy for magnetic compensation

### Heusler | Weyl semi-metals

R. Gupta *et al.*, *Adv. Optical Mater.*, 9, 2001987 (2021)  
 J. Hawecker, ER, *et al.*, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* 120, 122406 (2022)

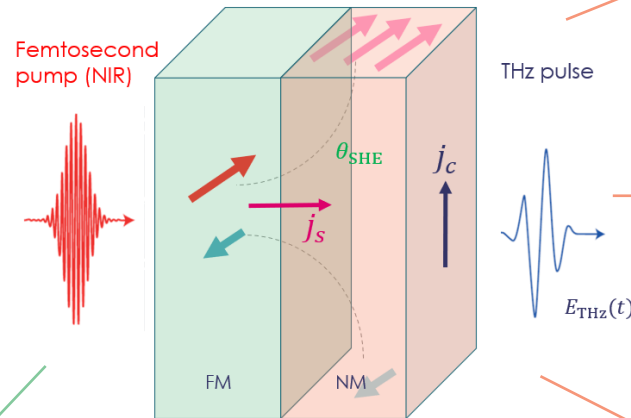
Enhanced spin-polarization near the Fermi level

### Antiferromagnets

H. Qiu *et al.*, *Nat. Phys.* 17, 388-394 (2021)  
 E. Rongione *et al.*, *Nat. Comm.* 14, 11818 (2023)

THz magnon modes set by the high exchange field  
 → Narrowband emitters

Enhancement paths explored in this work



## Wave engineering

### Antenna-coupling

M. Talara *et al.*, *Appl. Phys. Express*, 14, 4, 042008 (2021)

### Optical cavities

R. I. Herapath *et al.*, *Applied Physics Letters*, 6, (2019)  
 ER *et al.*, in preparation (2023)

## Spin-orbit converter

### 5d heavy metals

T. Seifert *et al.*, *Nat. Photon.*, 10, 483-488 (2016)  
 T.H. Dang, J. Hawecker, ER, *et al.*, *APR* 7, 041409 (2020)

Strong inverse spin Hall effect  
 THz spin-sink

### 2D materials (TMDC)

D. Khusyainov *et al.*, *Materials*, 14, 21, 6479 (2021)  
 L. Nádvořník *et al.*, *arXiv:2208.00846* (2022)

Avoiding THz absorption and NIR-active excitons

### Topological insulators

X. Wang *et al.*, *Adv. Mater.*, 30, 1802356 (2018)  
 M. Tong *et al.*, *Nano Letters*, 21 (1), 60-67 (2021)  
 E. Rongione *et al.*, *Adv. Optical Mater.*, 10, 2102061 (2022)

H. Park *et al.*, *Adv. Sci.* 9, 2200948 (2022)  
 E. Rongione *et al.*, *adv. Sci.* 2023, 2301124

Novel platform for interfacial SCC

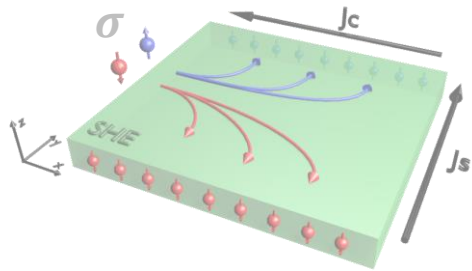
# Two different interconversion mechanisms for THz generation

## Inverse spin Hall effect

ISHE – BULK MECHANISM

Conversion on the bulk length-scale  
→ possible radiation and spin-current absorption

$$E_{\text{THZ}} \propto \frac{1}{2} (g_{\uparrow} + g_{\downarrow}) \sigma_{\text{SHE}} l_{\text{sf}} (\mathbf{j}_s \times \boldsymbol{\sigma})$$



Key parameter: spin Hall conductivity  $\theta_{\text{SHE}}^{\text{eff}}$

Material	Pt	Au:W	Au:Ta
$\sigma_{\text{SHE}}$ ( $\text{k}\Omega^{-1} \cdot \text{cm}^{-1}$ )	3.5	1.6	5
$l_{\text{sf}}$ (nm)	3	3	1.5

T. H. Dang, *ER et al.*, *Appl. Phys. Rev.*, **7**, 041409 (2020)

J. Hawecker, *ER et al.*, *Adv. Optical Mater.*, **9**, 2100412 (2021)

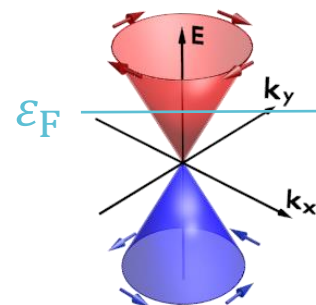
C. Rojas-Sanchez *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, **112**, 106602 (2014)

T. Wang *et al.*, *Sci. Rep.*, **7**, 1306 (2017)

## Inverse Rashba-Edelstein effect

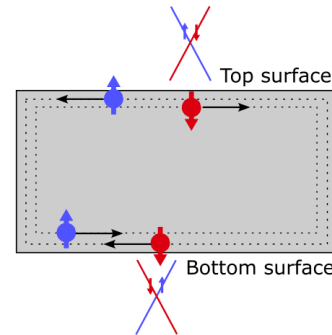
IREE – INTERFACIAL MECHANISM

Topological insulators (TI)  
Strong interfacial spin-orbit coupling



Topological surface states

Insulating bulk ( $\rho \approx 500 \mu\Omega \cdot \text{cm}$ )



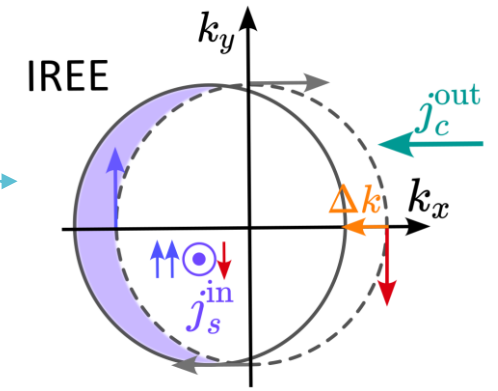
Ultrafast SCC with TI/FM

V. Sharma *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Materials* **5**, 124410 (2021)

H. Park *et al.*, *Adv. Sci.* **2022**, **9**, 2200948 (2022)

Fermi surface

$$j_c^{2D} = \lambda_{\text{IEE}} \cdot j_s^{3D}$$



Key parameter: Fermi velocity  $v_F$

Material	$\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_2\text{Se}$	$\alpha\text{-Sn}$	$\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$
$v_F$ ( $\times 10^5 \text{ m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ )	11.2	7.3	2.9
$\hbar v_F$ (eV.Å)	7.4	4.8	1.9

C.-F. Pai, *Nat. Mat.*, **17**, 755–757 (2018)

M. Tong *et al.*, *Nano Lett.*, **21**, 1, 60-67 (2021)

# THz emission from ISHE based metallic spintronic emitter Co/Pt

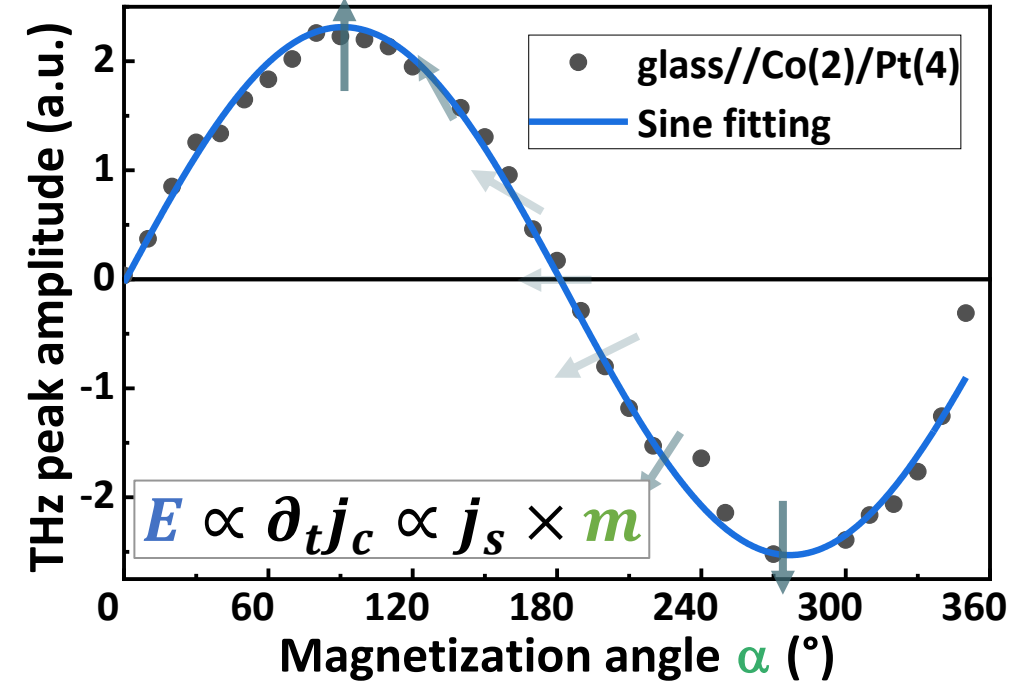
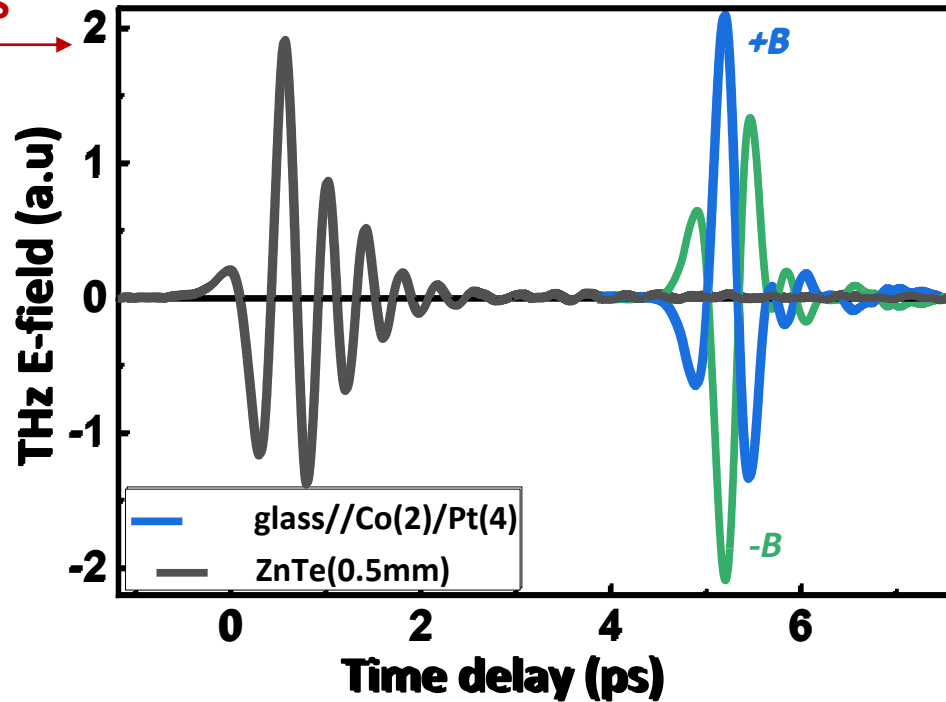
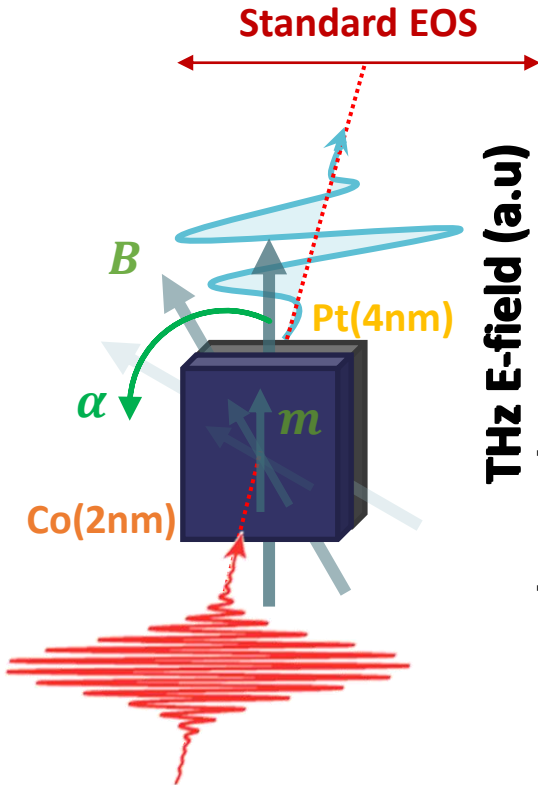
Characterization and properties of spintronic emitters

T. H. Dang, ER et al., Appl. Phys. Rev., 7, 041409 (2020)

Nanometer thin emitter

Large output field

In-plane magnetic field rotation



*Sine curve: signature of spin-to-charge conversion*  
*Maps dipolar emission with magnetic control*

Similar rules applies for the IREE emission type → interfacial magnetization  $m_{IF}$

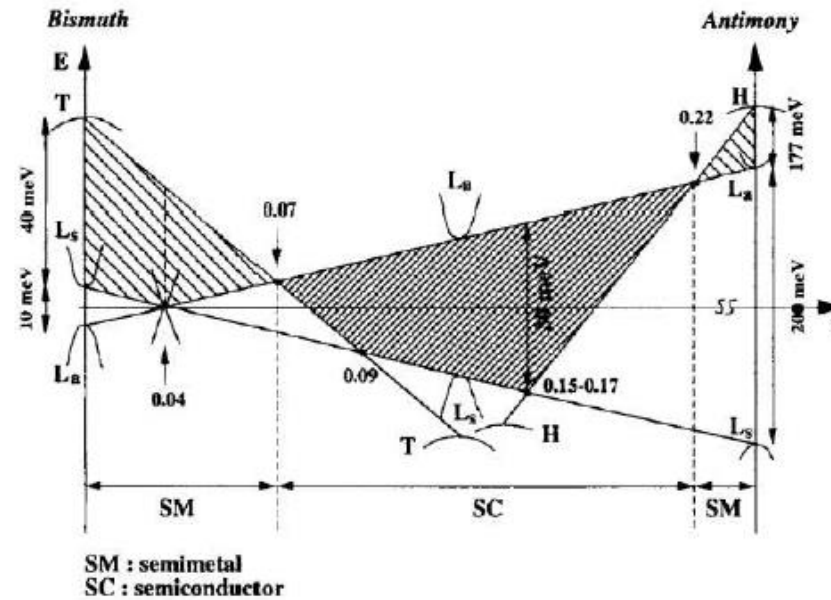
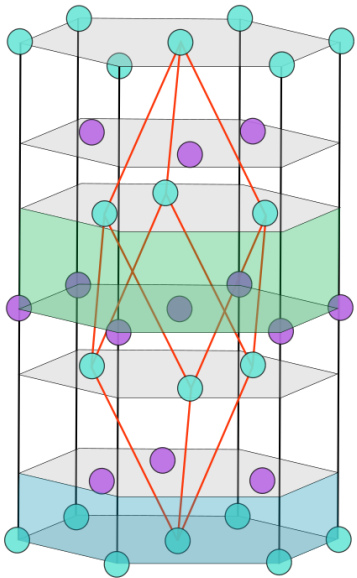
# Investigation of $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Sb}_x$ topological insulator

B. Lenoir et al., *Semiconductors and Semimetals*, Elsevier, 69:101–37 (2001)

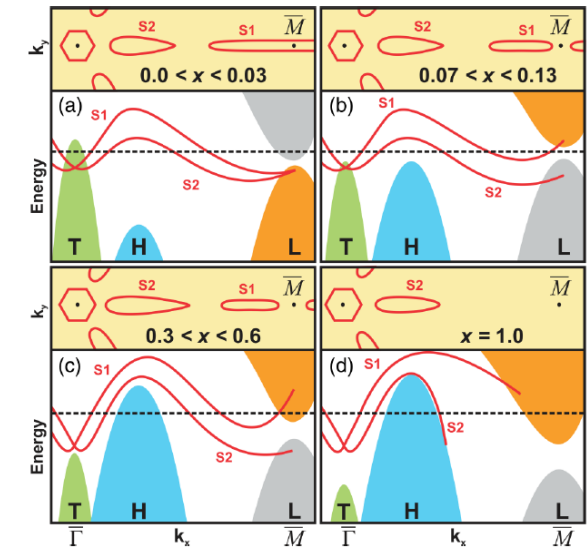
H. Benia et al., *Phys. Rev. B*, 91, 161406(R) (2015)

A topological insulator with stoichiometric control

Topological window:  
Strong expected SCC efficiency



B Lenoir et al., ICT'96, pages 1–13. IEEE, 1996.





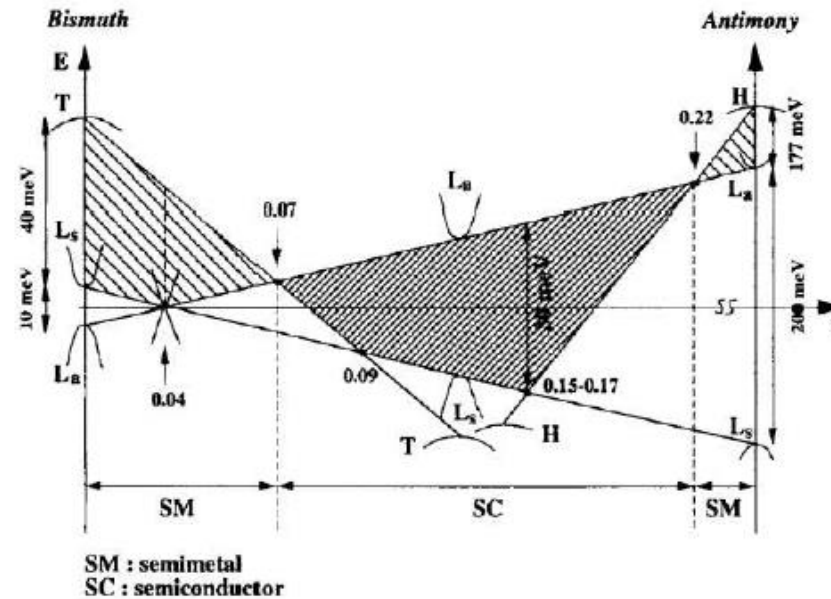
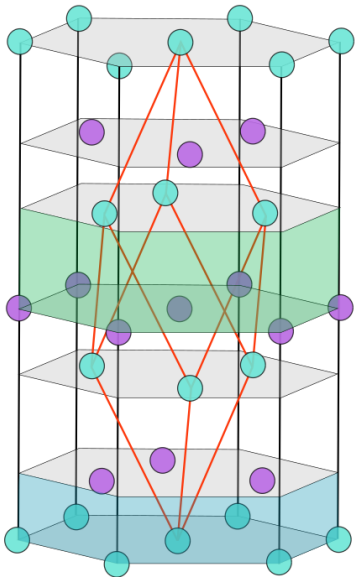
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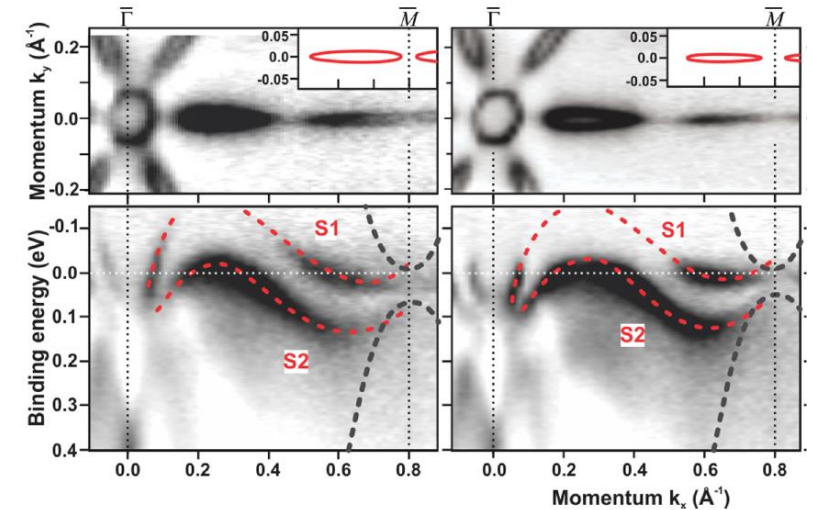
H. Benia et al., *Phys. Rev. B*, 91, 161406(R) (2015)

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Angular Resolved Photo-Emission Spectroscopy (ARPES)

# Bi<sub>1-x</sub>Sb<sub>x</sub> TI alloys as a template for spintronics devices

Check for updates

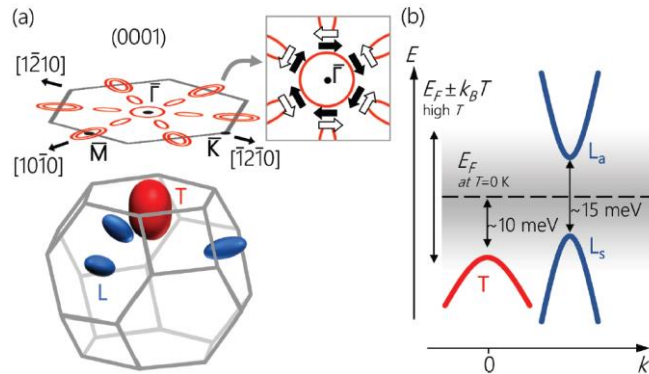
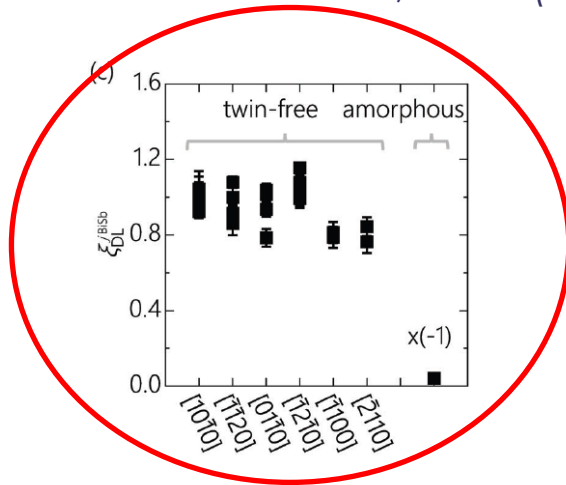
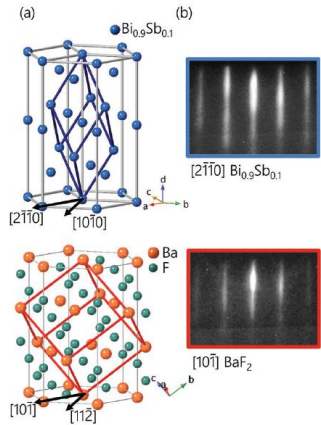
RESEARCH ARTICLE

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## Spin–Orbit Torques and Spin Hall Magnetoresistance Generated by Twin-Free and Amorphous Bi<sub>0.9</sub>Sb<sub>0.1</sub> Topological Insulator Films

Federico Binda,\* Stefano Fedel, Santos Francisco Alvarado, Paul Noël,  
and Pietro Gambardella\*

P. Gambardella et al.,  
ETH, Zurich (2023)



# Bi<sub>1-x</sub>Sb<sub>x</sub> TI alloys as a template for spintronics devices

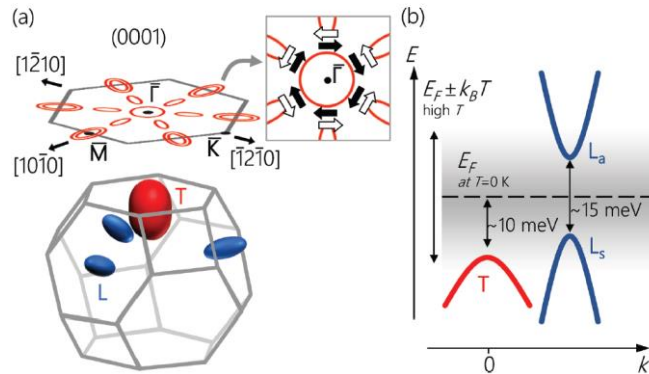
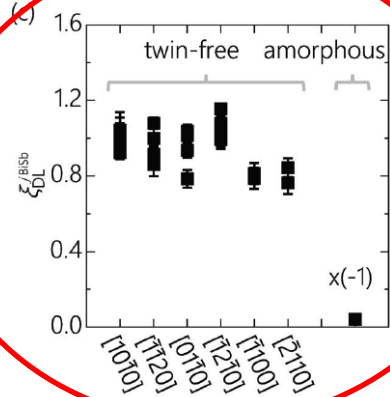
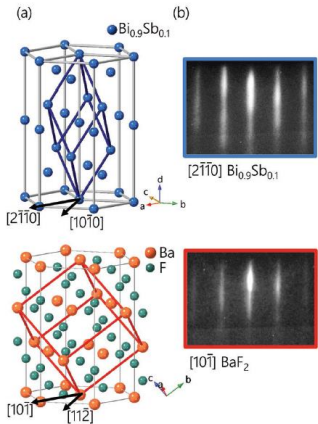
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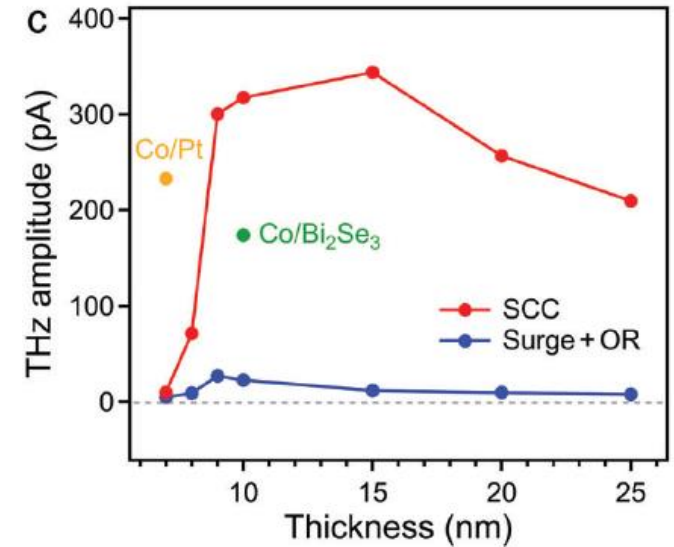
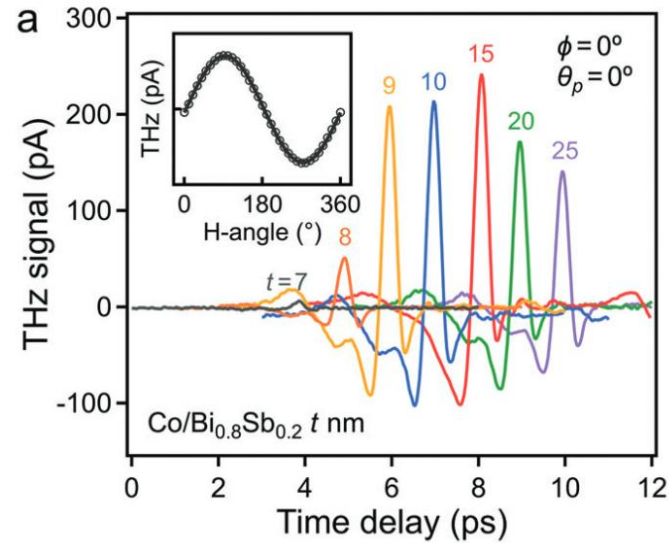
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Federico Binda,\* Stefano Fedel, Santos Francisco Alvarado, Paul Noël, and Pietro Gambardella\*

P. Gambardella,  
ETH, Zurich (2023)



## Recent studies for ultrafast spin-injection (THz emission)



S. Rho et al., *Adv. Funct. Mater.* 2023, 2300175 (2023)  
H. Park et al., *Adv. Sci.* 2022, 9, 2200948 (2022)  
V. Sharma et al., *Phys. Rev. Materials* 5, 124410 (2021)

# Bi<sub>1-x</sub>Sb<sub>x</sub> topological insulator : complex Fermi surface

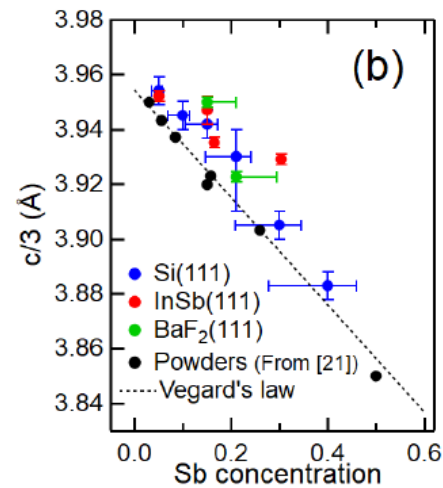
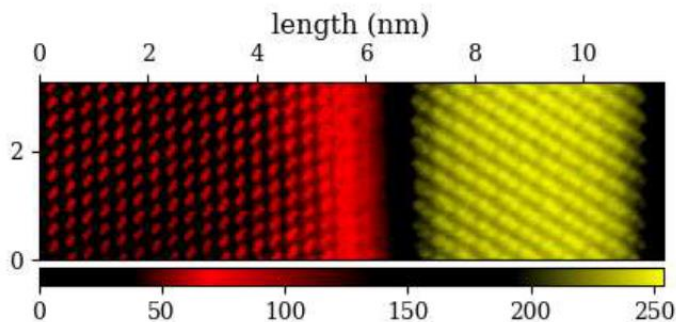
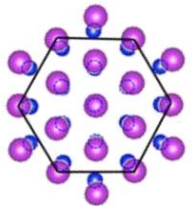
E. Rongione et al., *adv. Sci.* 2023, 2301124

## Gap increase by strain engineering and alloying composition | thickness

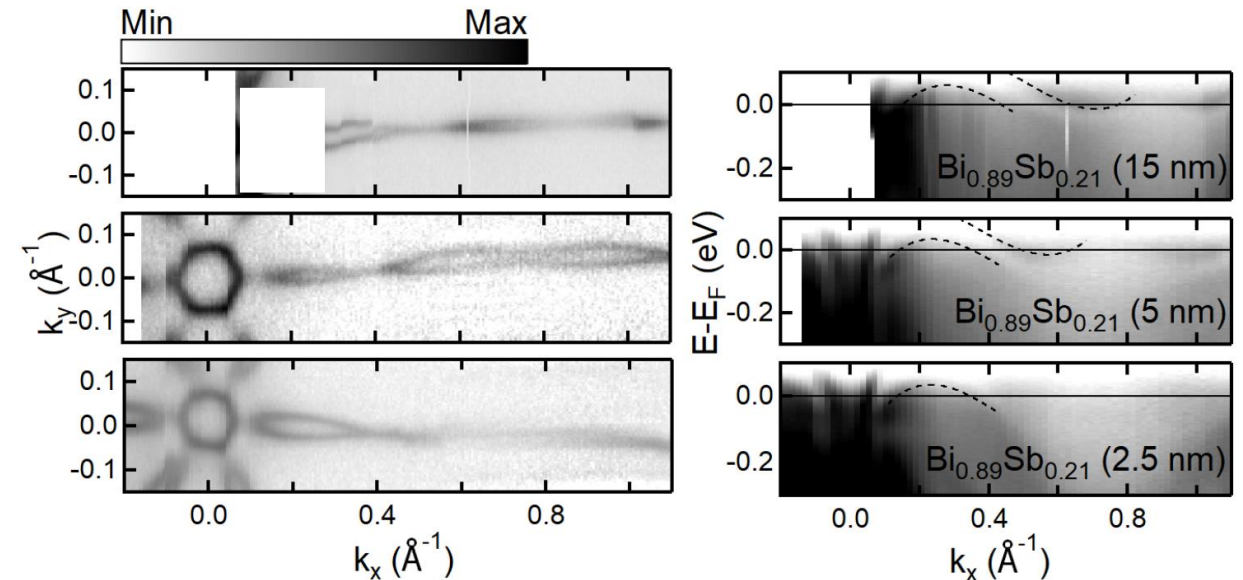
PHYSICAL REVIEW MATERIALS 6, 074204 (2022)

### Topological surface states in ultrathin Bi<sub>1-x</sub>Sb<sub>x</sub> layers

Laëtitia Baringthon,<sup>1,2,3</sup> Thi Huong Dang,<sup>1</sup> Henri Jaffrès,<sup>1</sup> Nicolas Reyren,<sup>1</sup> Jean-Marie George,<sup>1</sup> Martina Morassi,<sup>2</sup> Gilles Patriarche,<sup>2</sup> Aristide Lemaitre,<sup>2</sup> François Bertran,<sup>3</sup> and Patrick Le Fèvre<sup>3,\*</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Unité Mixte de Physique, CNRS, Thales, Université Paris-Saclay, 91767 Palaiseau, France  
<sup>2</sup>Université Paris-Saclay, CNRS, Centre de Nanosciences et de Nanotechnologies, 91120 Palaiseau, France  
<sup>3</sup>Synchrotron SOLEIL, Boîte Postale 48, L'Orme des Merisiers, Saint-Aubin, 91192 Gif-sur-Yvette, France



Recent report of the TSS down to 2.5 nm



Epitaxial Bi<sub>1-x</sub>Sb<sub>x</sub> (ARPES)

L. Baringthon et al., *Phys. Rev. Materials* 6, 074204 (2022)

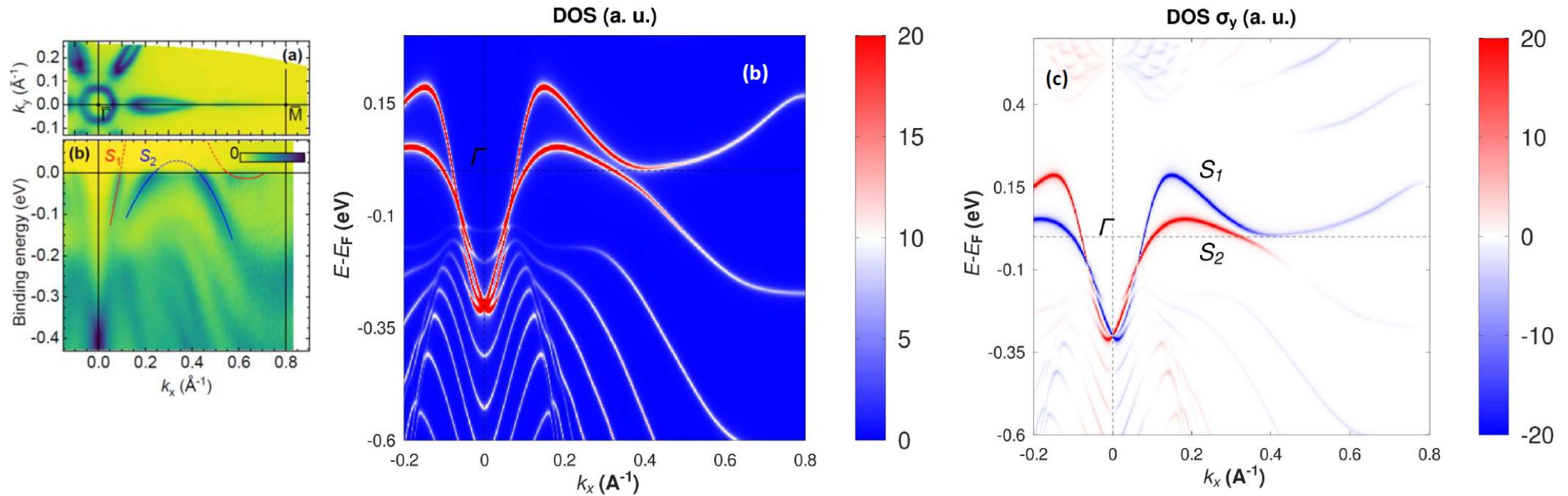
# Bi<sub>1-x</sub>Sb<sub>x</sub> topological insulator : Electronics Band structure

L. Baringthon et al., Phys. Rev. Materials 6, 074204 (2022)

Bi<sub>0.85</sub>Sb<sub>0.15</sub>(5nm)

## ARPES ELECTRONIC BAND STRUCTURE

sp<sup>3</sup> Tight-Binding modeling of BiSb



### Angular Resolved Photo-Emission Spectroscopy (ARPES)

Sweep concentration across the topological window  
Thickness variations: ultrathin Bi<sub>1-x</sub>Sb<sub>x</sub> (2.5 nm) mastered at SOLEIL

**Investigation of dynamical TI interconversion properties → THz emission spectroscopy**

# Bi<sub>1-x</sub>Sb<sub>x</sub> topological surface states and spin-texture

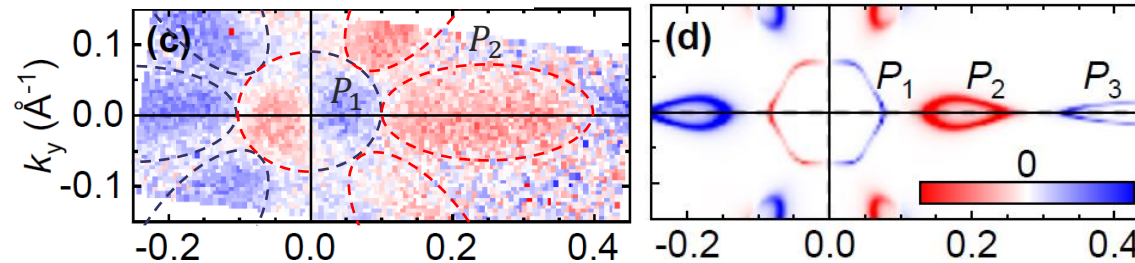
E. Rongione et al., adv. Sci. 2023, 2301124

## Spin-resolved ARPES

Measured by L. Baringthon, D. She, N. Reyren, J.-M. George and P. Le Fèvre (at SOLEIL synchrotron)

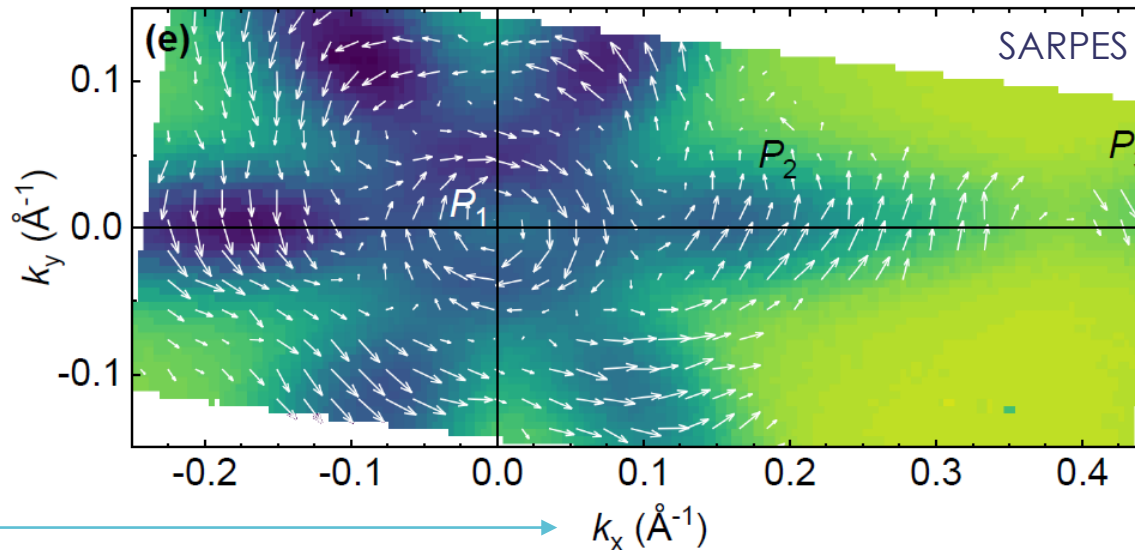
### SARPES experiments

Projection of the spin  $\sigma_y$   
Hexagonal spin-texture



### Spin-projected density of states

Opposed contours near  $\bar{\Gamma}$  and in the outward region

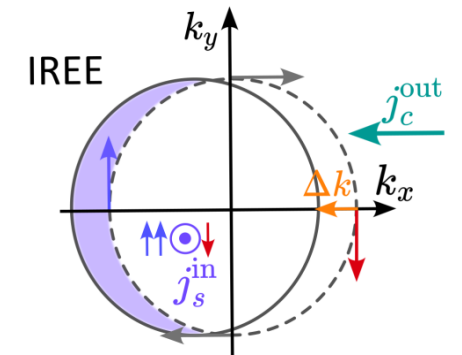


### Spin-momentum locking

$k_x \equiv \bar{\Gamma M}$  direction  $\rightarrow$   $k_x$  ( $\text{\AA}^{-1}$ )

### Tight-binding calculations

Projection of the spin  $\sigma_y$   
Rashba-contour  
Agreement with the experimental measurements



### Rashba-like TSS Fermi contour

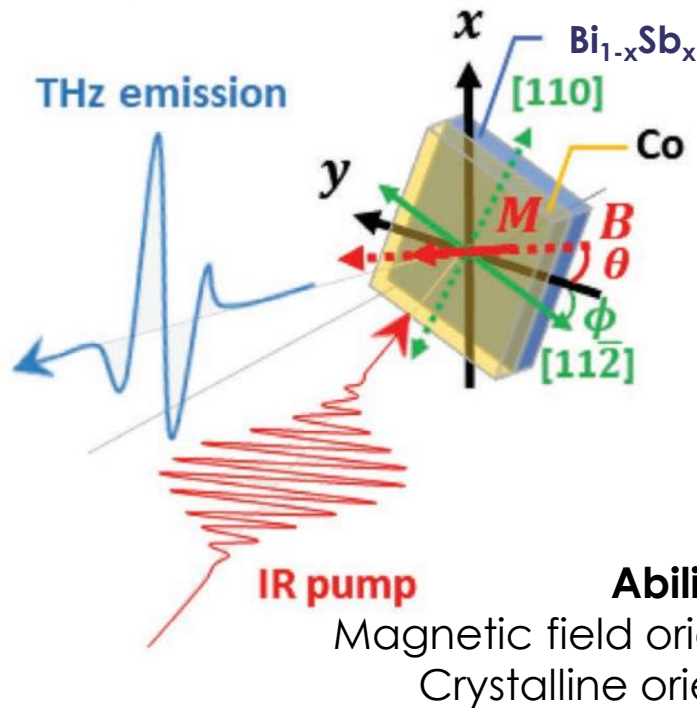
$\rightarrow$  Co deposition for SCC

**Bi<sub>1-x</sub>Sb<sub>x</sub> is a favorable playground for highly-efficient IREE  
Investigation of dynamical interconversion by THz emission spectroscopy**

# THz emission spectroscopy of Co | Bi<sub>1-x</sub>Sb<sub>x</sub> bilayers

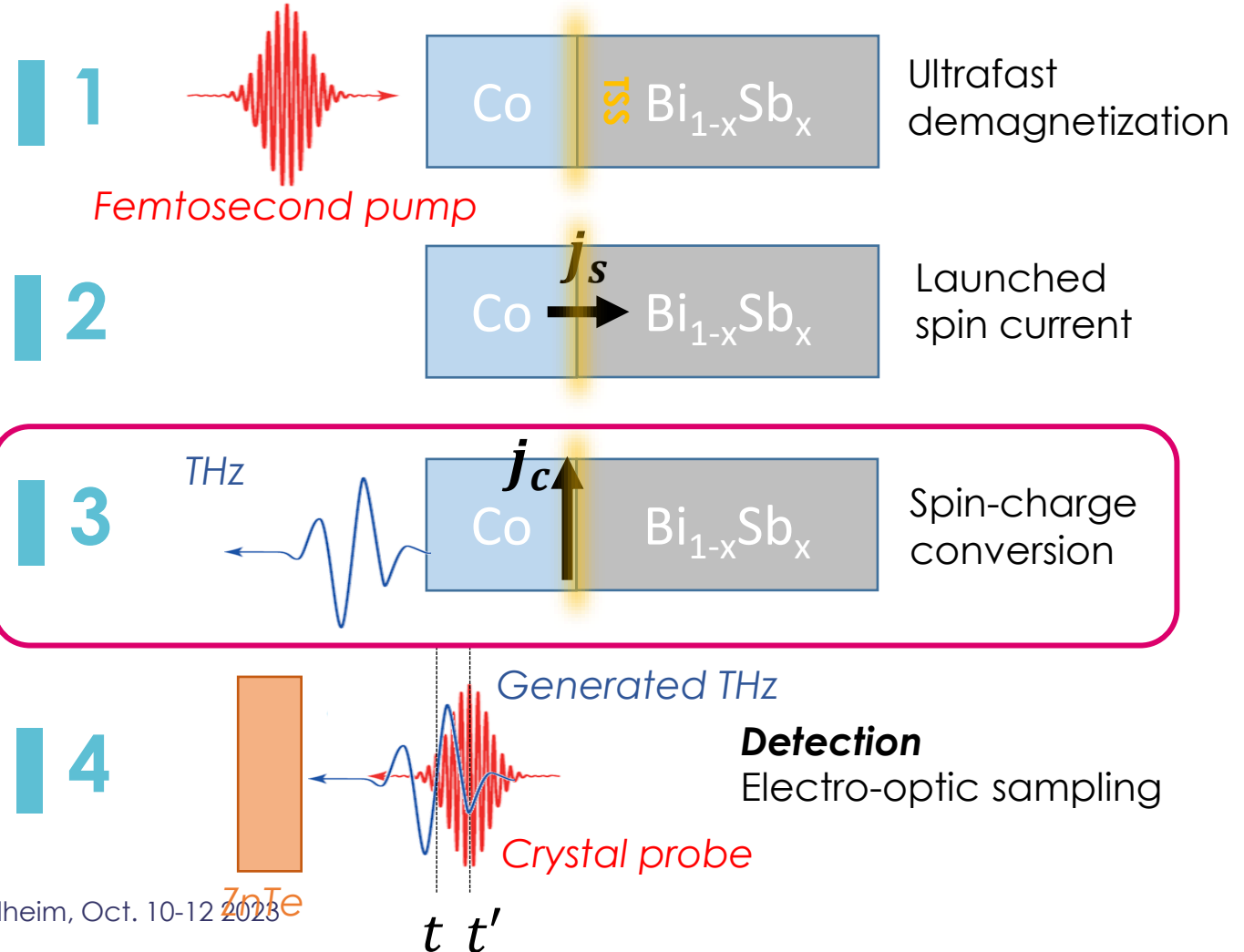
Our study: studying ultrafast spin-charge mechanisms of TI/FM

## Experimental setup



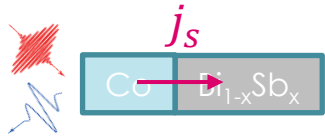
**THz spin-charge conversion mapped by THz emission spectroscopy**

## THz emission and detection process

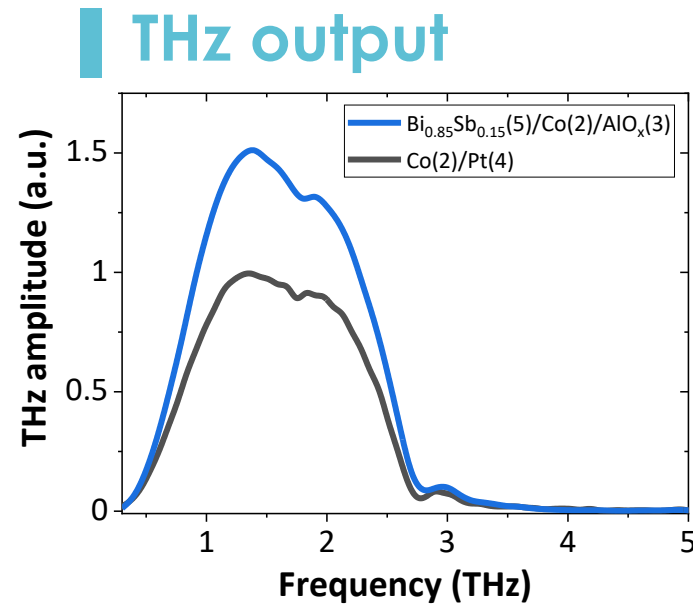
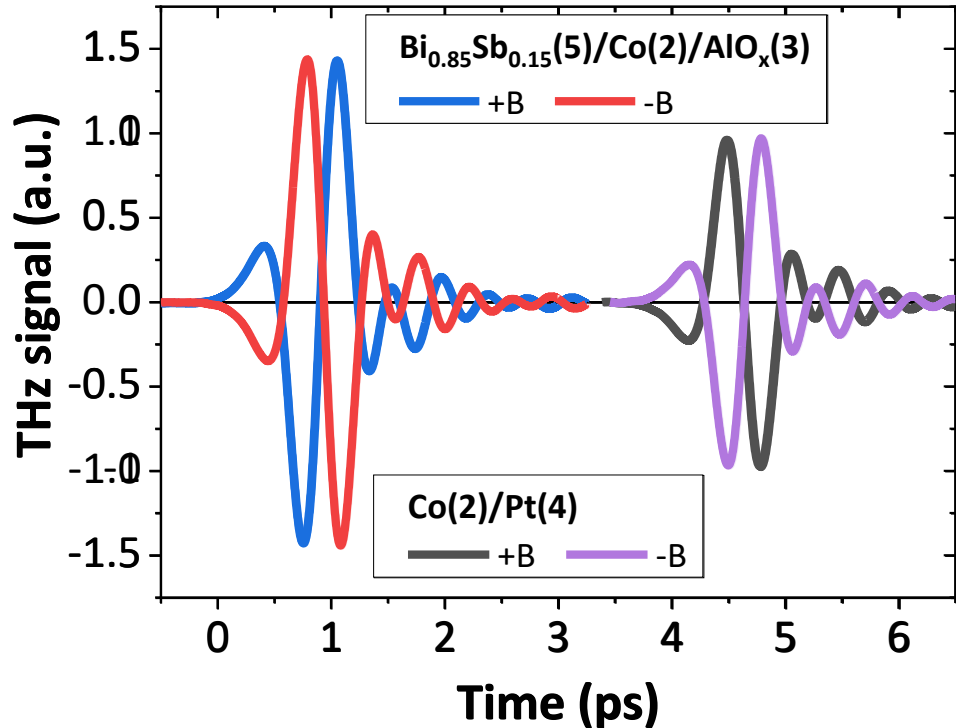


# THz emission features from $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Sb}_x/\text{Co}$

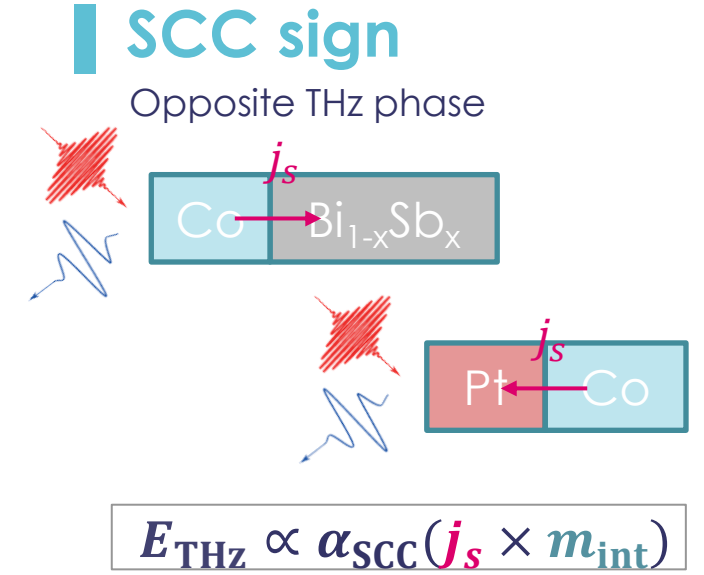
E. Rongione et al., adv. Sci. 2023, 2301124



How does the THz emission from TI/FM scale with Co/Pt reference?



THz amplitude enhancement x1.5  
THz power enhancement x2.25



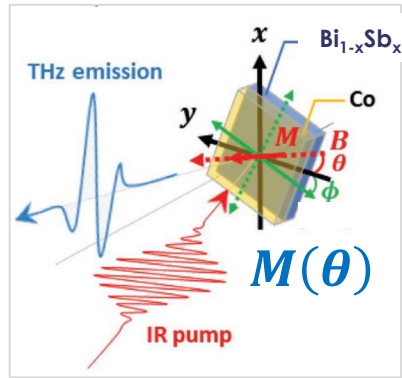
Sign of the interconversion in  $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Sb}_x/\text{Co}$  = sign of ISHE in Pt

**Where does this strong THz emission come from?**

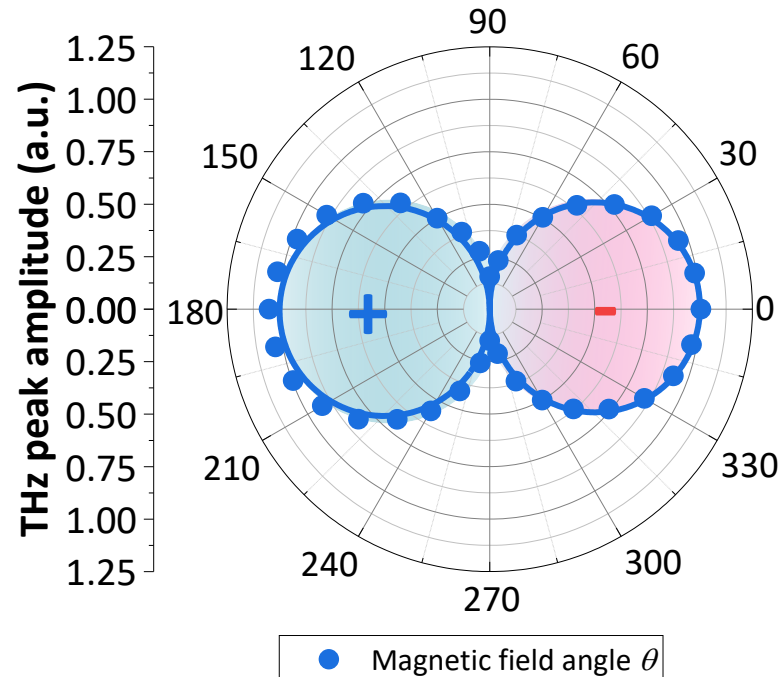


# Emission angular symmetries for Co | Bi<sub>1-x</sub>Sb<sub>x</sub>

E. Rongione et al., adv. Sci. 2023, 2301124

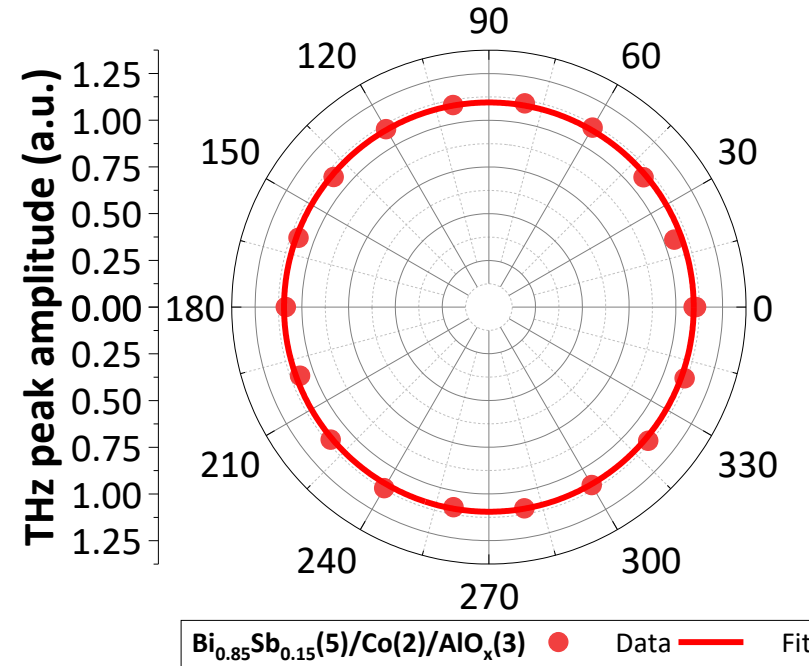


## Magnetic field dependence

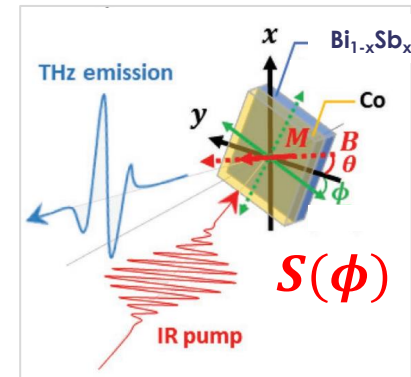


Uniaxial dependence → SCC-based emission

## Crystallographic orientation dependence



Isotropic emission → Proof of SCC

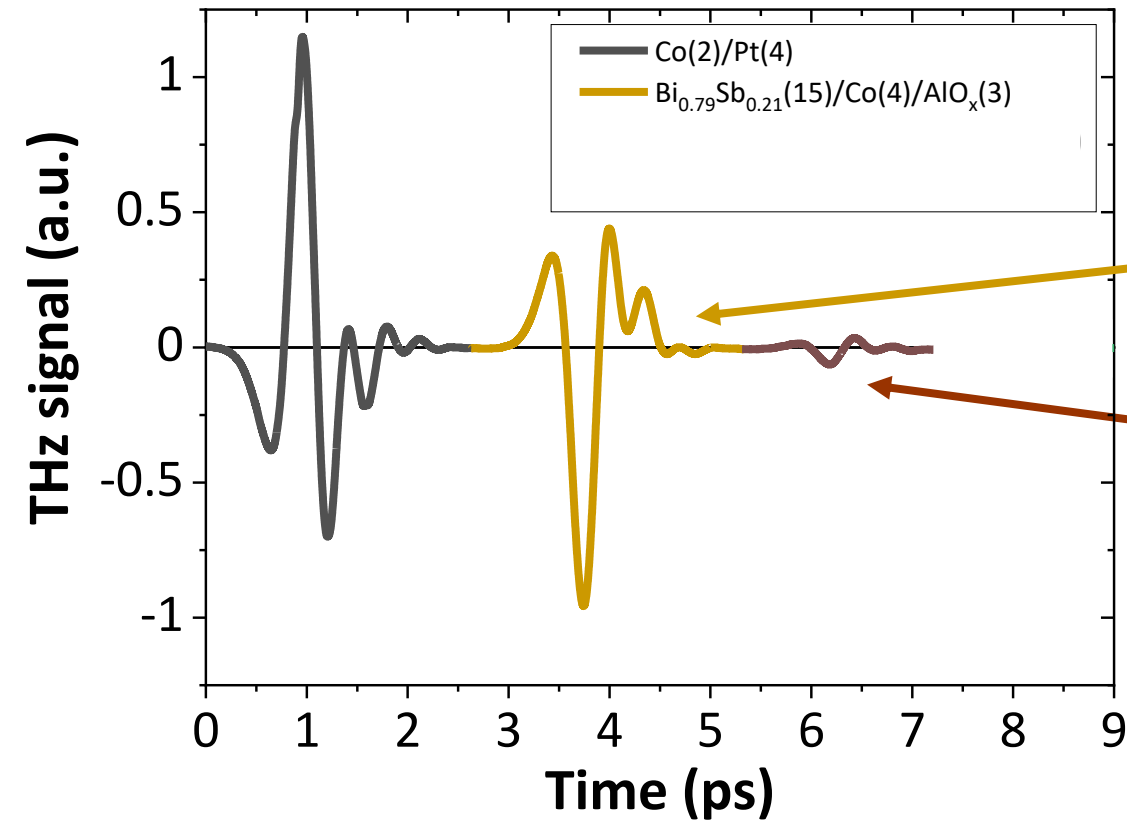


**THz emission arises from spin-charge conversion**



# Role of the $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Sb}_x/\text{Co}$ interface

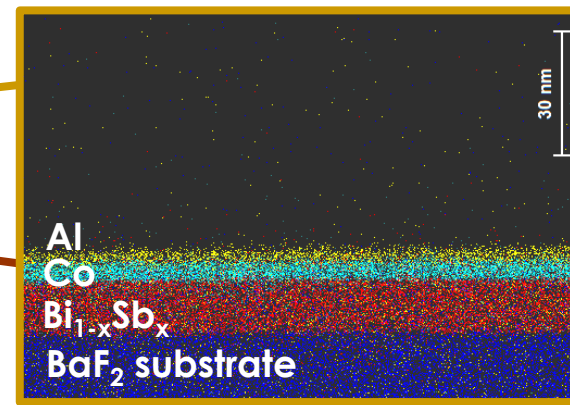
E. Rongione et al., adv. Sci. 2023, 2301124



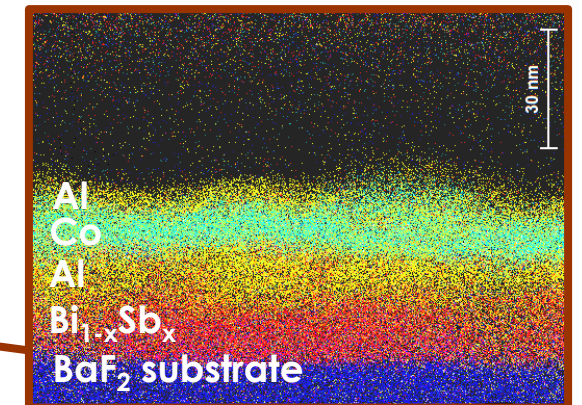
1) Interface is crucial  
 → Efficient spin-injection

$$E_{\text{THz}} \propto \alpha_{\text{SCC}} (\mathbf{j}_s \times \mathbf{m}_{\text{int}})$$

→ Inefficient spin-injection  
 → Destruction of the TSS



High interface quality



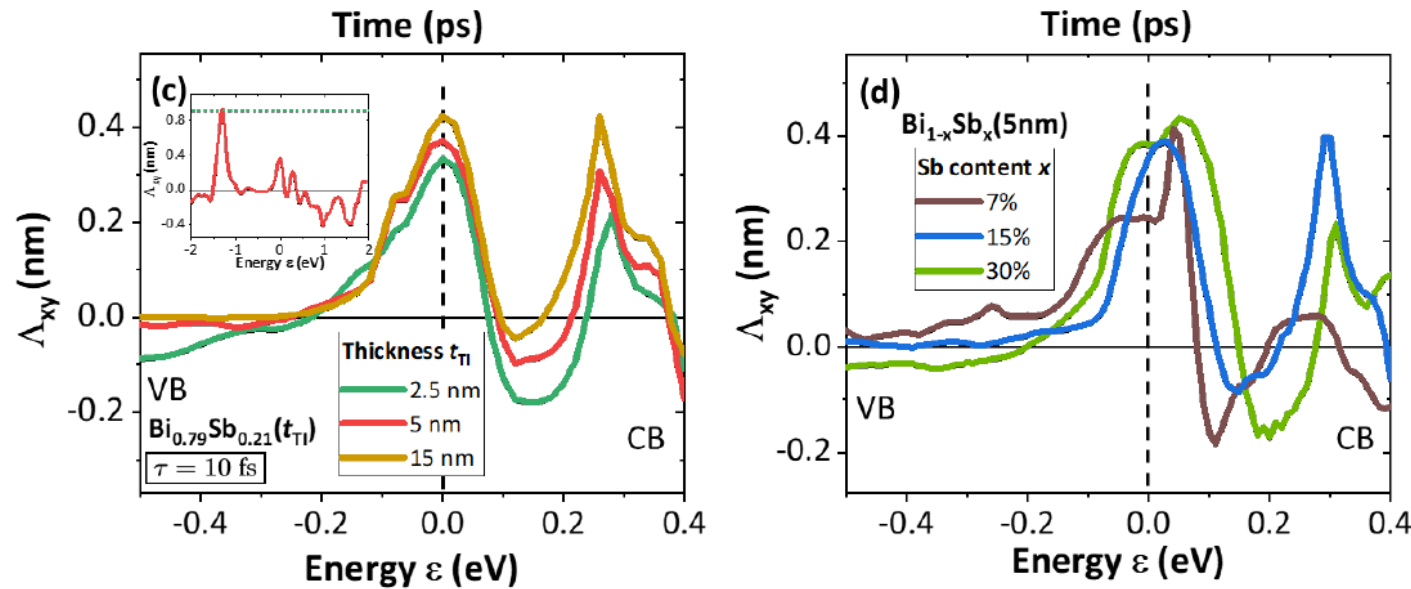
Al intermixing spacer

Transmission electron microscopy

2) Spin-injector is essential  
 → Negligible level of signal = non-magnetic contributions

**$\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Sb}_x/\text{Co}$  THz emission → interface-sensitive**  
**THz emission spectroscopy: efficient tool to investigate spin-injection at interfaces**

## Slab-TB framework



Typical spin relaxation time on TSS = 10 fs (from TB calculation)

## Inverse Rashba-Edelstein length

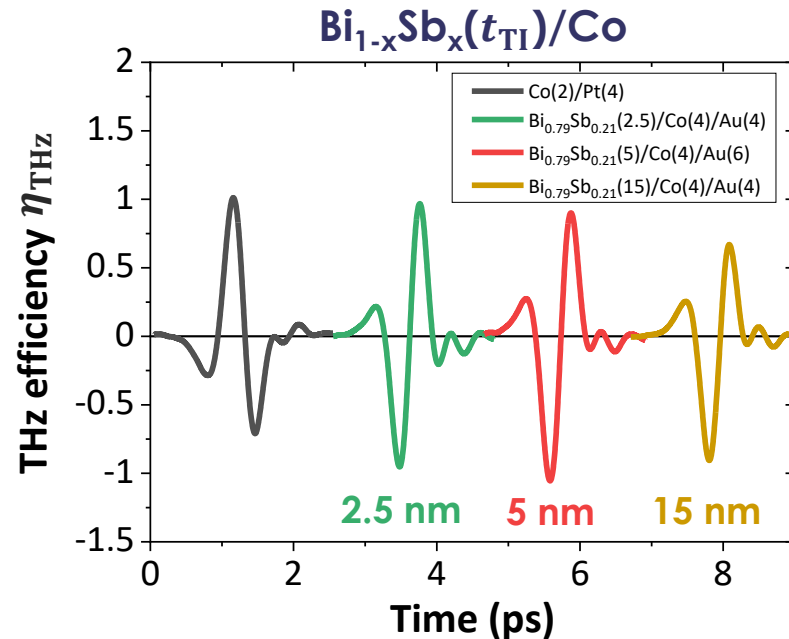
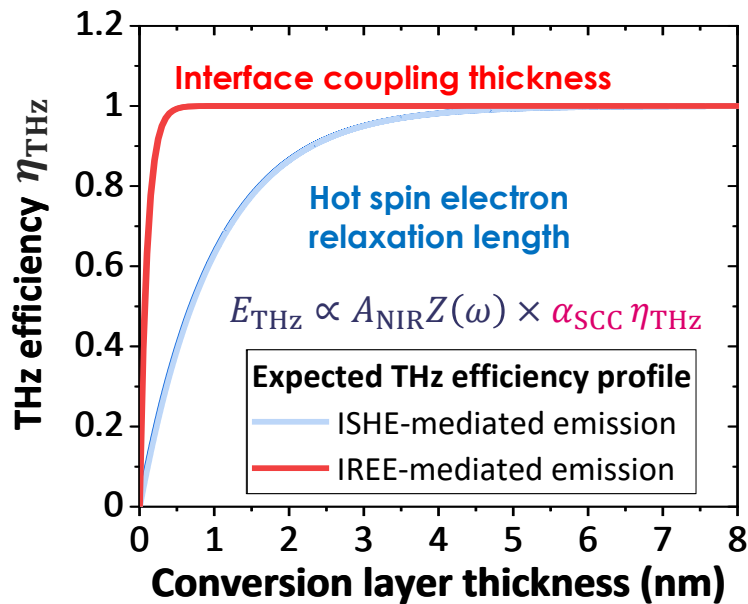
$$\Lambda_{xy}^{\text{IREE}} = \frac{\sum_{n,k} \left( \sigma_{nk}^y v_{nk}^x \tau_s \frac{\partial f_{nk}}{\partial \varepsilon} \right)}{\sum_{n,k} \left( \frac{\partial f_{nk}}{\partial \varepsilon} \right)}$$

# Bi<sub>1-x</sub>Sb<sub>x</sub> thickness dependence on the THz emission

E. Rongione et al., adv. Sci. 2023, 2301124

How to discriminate conversion mechanisms in TI/Co from THz emission?

## THz efficiency thickness dependence

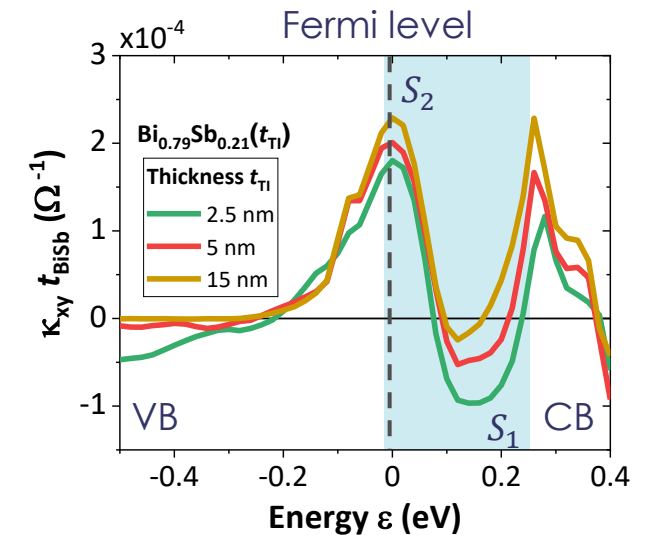


THz efficiency larger than metallic STE Co/Pt  
High thin film quality

## IREE efficiency

Sizeable THz signal at 2.5 nm

- Interfacial scenario for SCC
- Possible enhancement by TSS

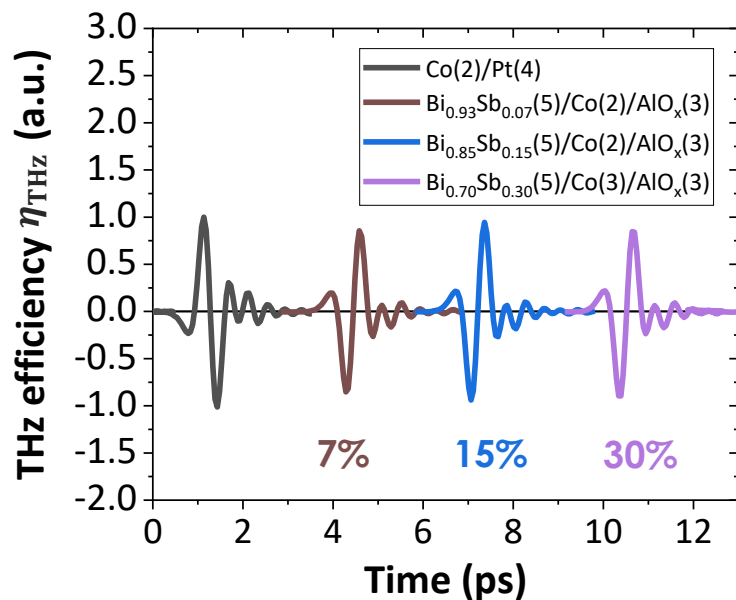


**Thickness-independent THz signal → Evidence for interfacial-mediated SCC scenario by TSS**

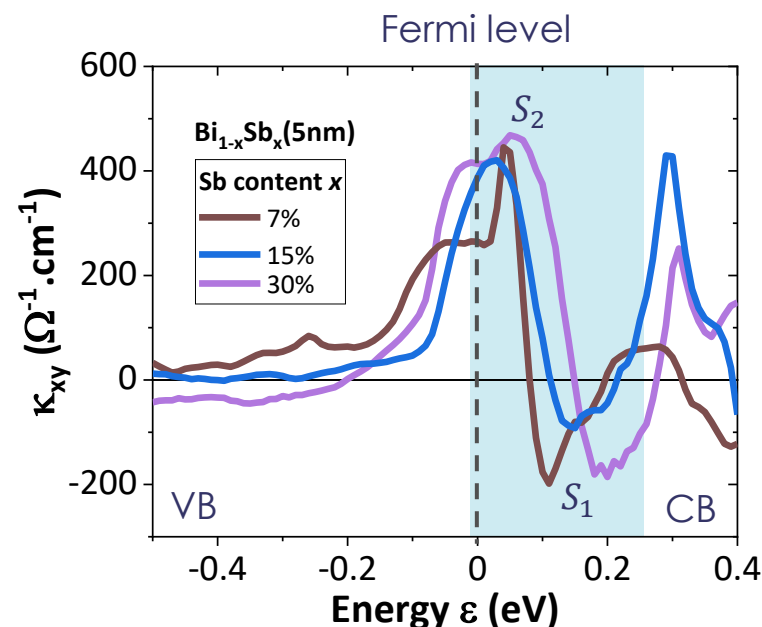
# Bi<sub>1-x</sub>Sb<sub>x</sub> alloy concentration dependence on the THz emission

E. Rongione *et al.*, *adv. Sci.* 2023, 2301124

## Experimental THz SCC



## IREE efficiency



## Role of the surface states

Topological character might not be necessary for IREE conversion

Only hybridized Rashba-like surface states

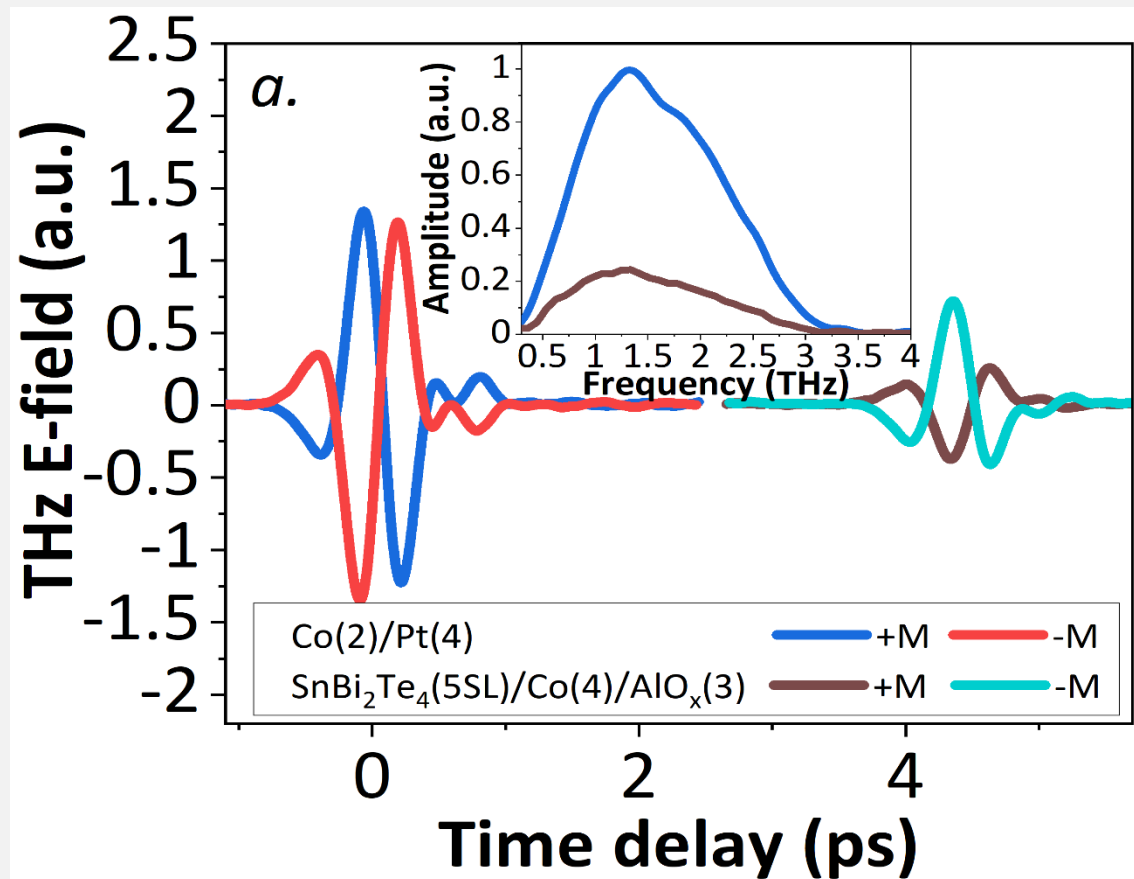
**Perspectives for integrated TI-based spintronic devices**

**THz SCC via hybridized Rashba-like surface states**

# Bi<sub>2</sub>SnTe<sub>4</sub> topological insulators probed by THz

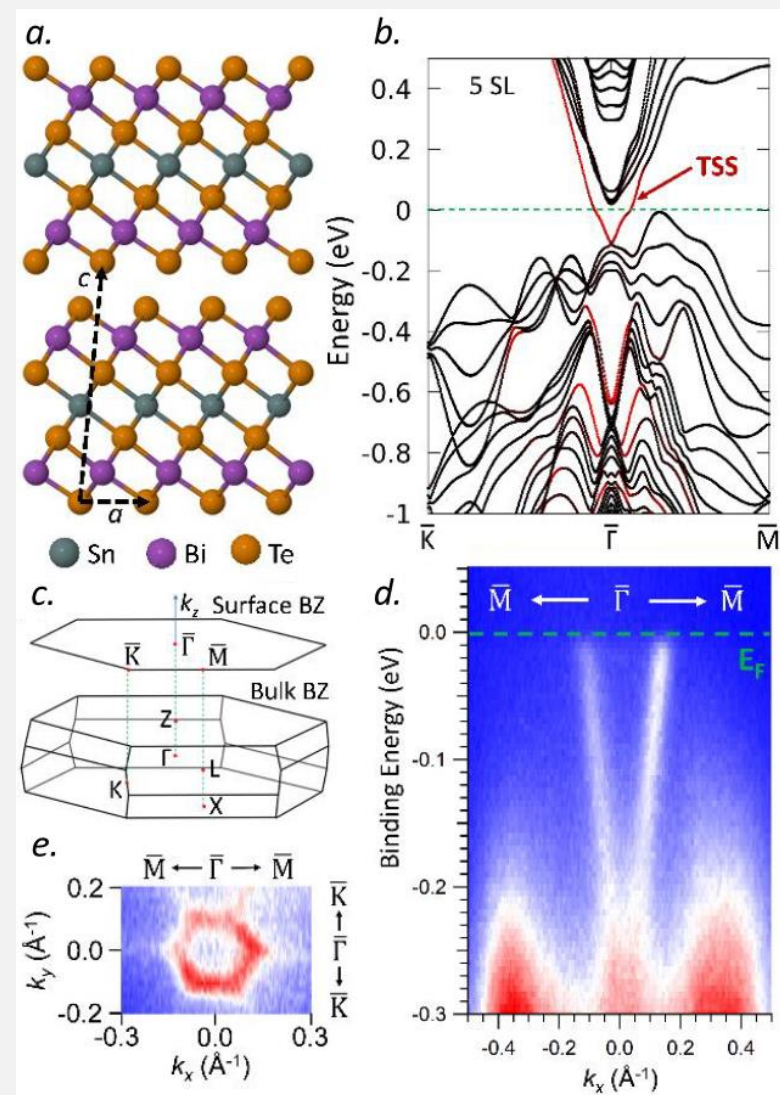
ER et al., Adv. Optical Mater., 10, 2102061 (2022)

Opposite phase on THz => BST and Pt has the same SHE sign



Si(HR)//Co(2)/Pt(4)

MBE2382: Si(111)/InAs(111)//BST(5SL)/Co(4)/Al(3)

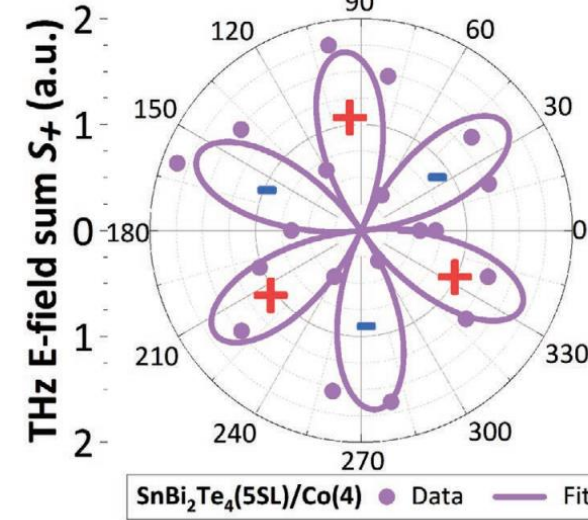
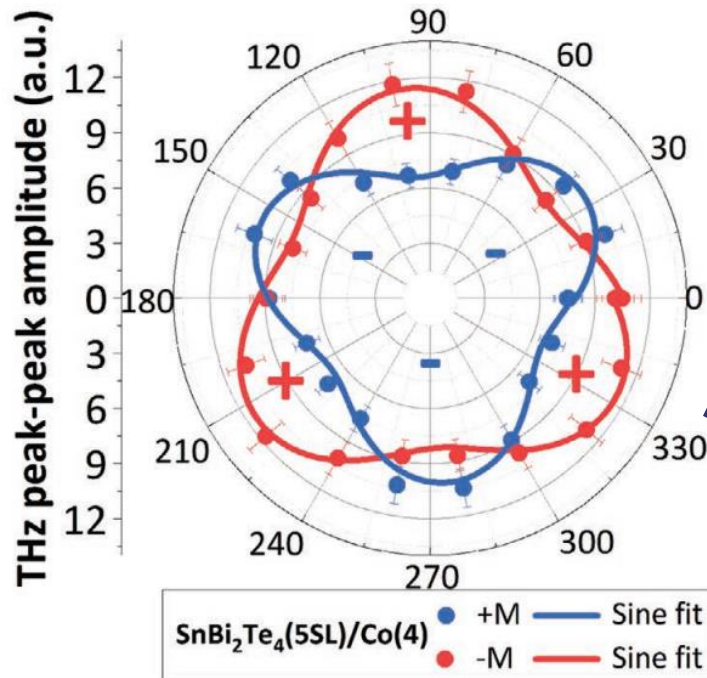


# Extraction of the emission symmetries for Co | SnBi<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>4</sub>

ER et al., Adv. Optical Mater., 10, 2102061 (2022)

Necessity to separate THz contributions

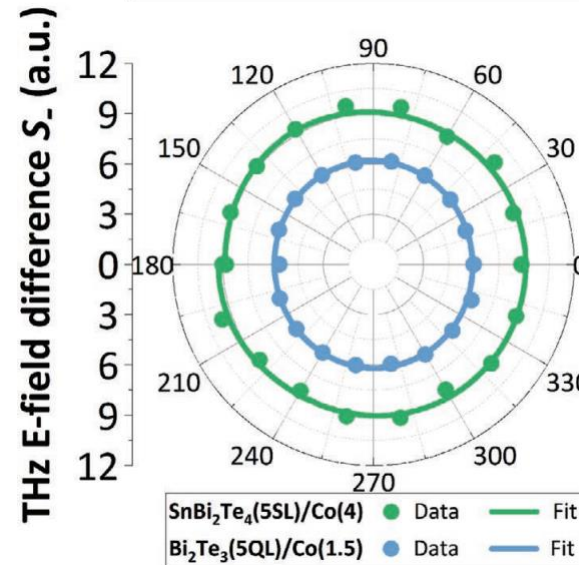
Measured azimuthal dependence



**Non-magnetic contributions**

$$S_+ = \frac{S(+M) + S(-M)}{2}$$

Typically 15-20% of the THz signal



**Magnetic contributions**

$$S_- = \frac{S(+M) - S(-M)}{2}$$

Stronger THz signal for SnBi<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>4</sub> compared to its parent material Bi<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>3</sub>

**Spin-charge related contribution: main component isotropic vs. crystalline orientation**

# Conclusion and perspectives

## THz spintronic emitters based on heavy-metal based heterostructures

Gapless broadband emission ; polarization tuned by magnetic field ; nm-thin passive emitters

## Impact of material properties and interfaces on THz emission

- THz emission spectroscopy: powerful tool to investigate spin-to-charge interconversion efficiency
- Key emission parameters → interface quality with  $g_{\uparrow} + g_{\downarrow}$  and spin Hall conductivity  $\sigma_{SHE}$

For more information about this work: T. H. Dang, ER et al., Appl. Phys. Rev., 7, 041409 (2020)  
J. Hawecker, ER et al., Adv. Optical Mater., 2100412 (2021)

## New type of emitters based on TI surface-states - Spectroscopy

- TI are interesting candidates for high power emitters due to strong interfacial conversion
- Isotropic conversion mapped by isotropic crystalline emission and thickness-independent emission
- Demonstration of strong THz emission :  $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Sb}_x | \text{Co}$
- Reliable technique to measure spin-charge interconversion

For more information about this work: L. Baringthon et al., Phys Rev Materials (2022)  
E. Rongione et al., Advanced Science 2023

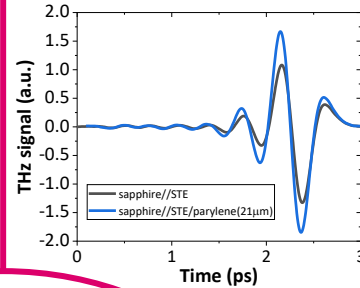
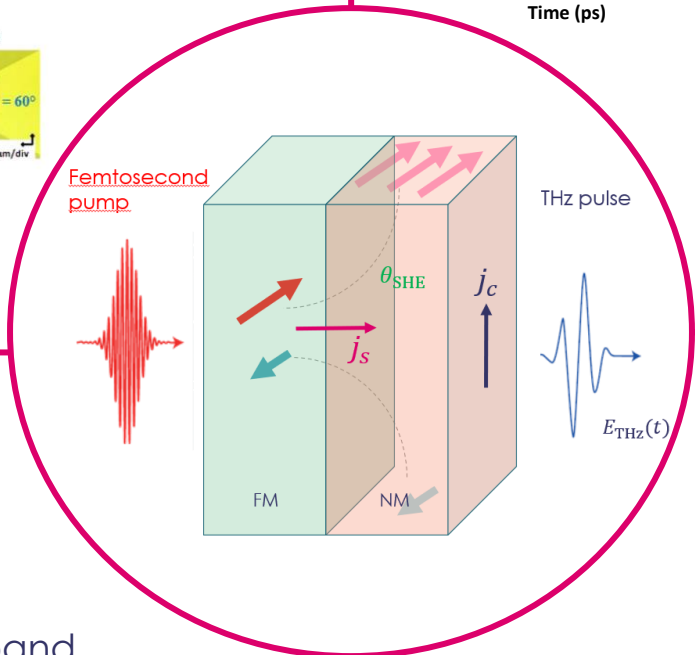
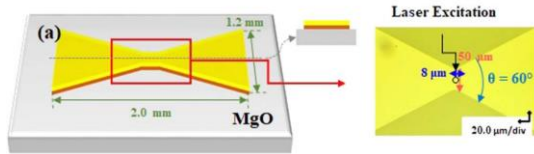
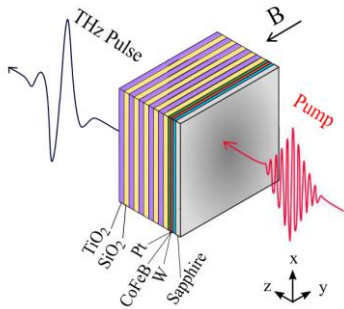


# Perspectives on THz spintronics

## THz engineering

R. I. Herapath *et al.*, Applied Physics Letters, 6, (2019)  
 M. Talara *et al.*, Appl. Phys. Express, 14, 4, 042008 (2021)  
 ER *et al.*, in preparation (2023)

cavities, antenna, anti-reflective coatings, etc.



## Heterostructure engineering

combining all enhancement tracks together

- spin-sink: x2.5 in power
- THz cavity (ARC): x2.6 in power
- NIR Bragg mirror: x4 in power
- THz antenna : x2 in amplitude

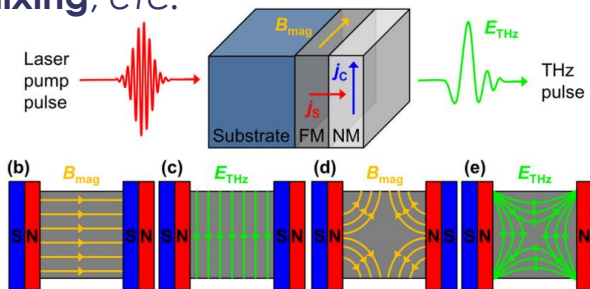
**Total : x25-50 enhancement in THz power**

*Medium term*

## Enhancing THz spintronics functionalities

M. T. Hibberd *et al.*, Appl. Phys. Lett., 114, 3, 031101 (2019)  
 O. Gueckstock *et al.*, Optica, 8, 7, 1013 (2021)  
 G. Lezier *et al.*, Appl. Phys. Lett., 120, 15, 152404 (2022)

Polarization control, THz modulation, narrowband emission, **spintronic photomixing**, etc.



## Ultrafast SCC Two-fold objectives

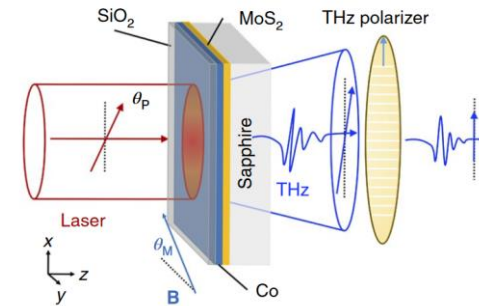
- Study the spin diffusion properties at the **very short timescales**
- Access to spin **interfaces**
- Find stronger SCC:

Pure interfacial systems: 2D materials

L. Cheng *et al.*, Nat. Phys., 15, 4, 347–351 (2019)

L. Nádvorník *et al.*, arXiv:2208.00846 (2022)

E. Rongione *et al.*, in preparation (2023)



# Spectroscopy tool in ultrafast magnetism

## Recent spectroscopy tool

Ultrafast demagnetization

E. Beaupaire *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 76, 22, 4250–4253 (1996)

Probing ultrafast spin transport

A. Melnikov *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 107, 7, 076601, (2011)

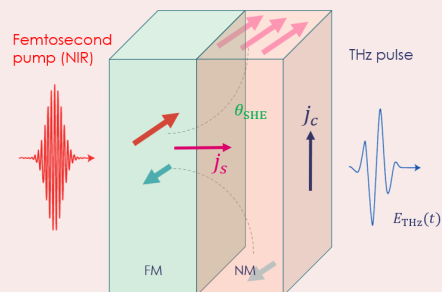
M. Battiato *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. B*, 86, 2, 024404, (2012)

T. Kampfrath *et al.*, *Nature Nanotech.*, 8, 4, 256–260 (2013)

ISHE + spin-transport  $\rightarrow$  towards THz emission

T. Seifert *et al.*, *Nat. Phot.*, 10, 483–488 (2016)

T. J. Huisman *et al.*, *Nat. Nanotech.*, 11, 455–458 (2016)

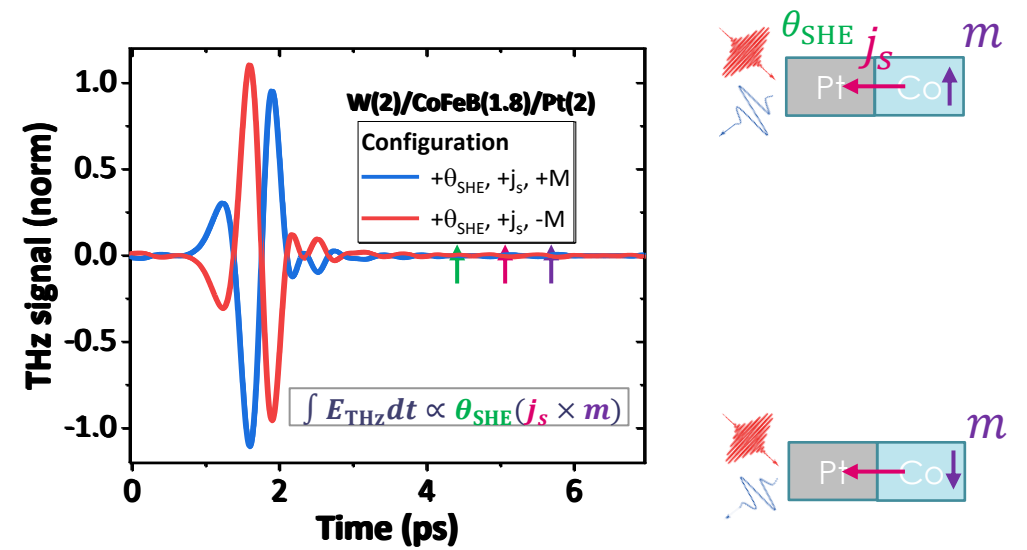


Recent reviews (2022)

C. Bull *et al.*, *APL Materials* 9, 090701 (2021)

T. Seifert *et al.*, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* 120, 180401 (2022)

## Link with spintronics



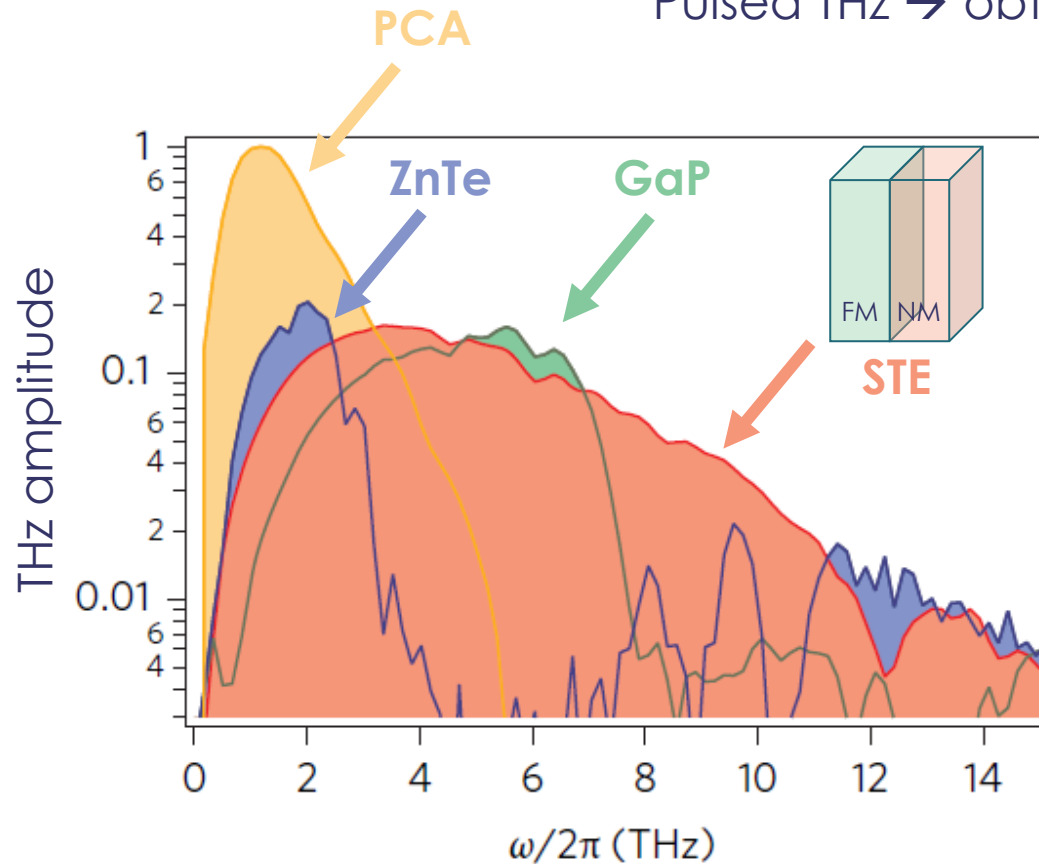
- Determination of the spin Hall angle  $\theta_{\text{SHE}}$
- Determination of the spin current sign  $j_s$
- Determination of the magnetization sign  $m$

Probe new interconversion mechanisms and THz functionalities

# State-of-the-art of pulsed THz sources

S. S. Dhillon *et al.*, *J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys.*, 50, 043001 (2017)  
M. Tonouchi, *Nature Photonics*, 1, 97–105, (2007)

Pulsed THz → obtained with ultrashort (fs) laser pump



## Photoconductive antennas

Optical-gap semiconductors  
Electron-hole recombination time

## Non-linear crystals

ZnTe, GaP, GaSe  
Limited by phonon absorptions

## Spintronic THz emitters

T. Seifert *et al.*, *Nat. Phot.*, 10, 483-488 (2016)

T. J. Huisman *et al.*, *Nat. Nanotech.*, 11, 455-458 (2016)

Gapless broadband THz generation (0.3-30 THz)

Polarization control by B-field

Pulsed emission → demonstrated

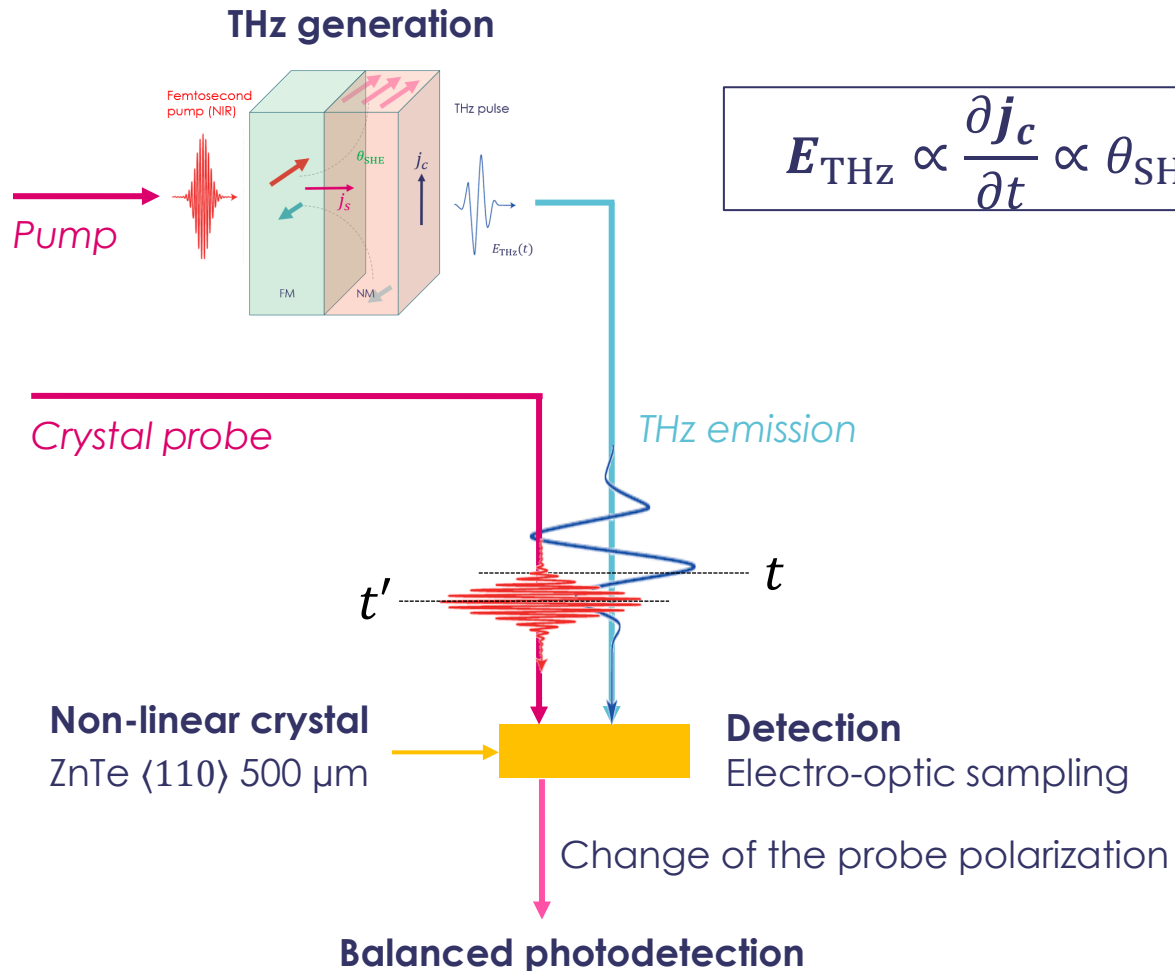
CW emission → preliminary results (IEMN)

**Spintronic THz emitters are technological-friendly THz sources:  
cheap, modulable and patternable sources**

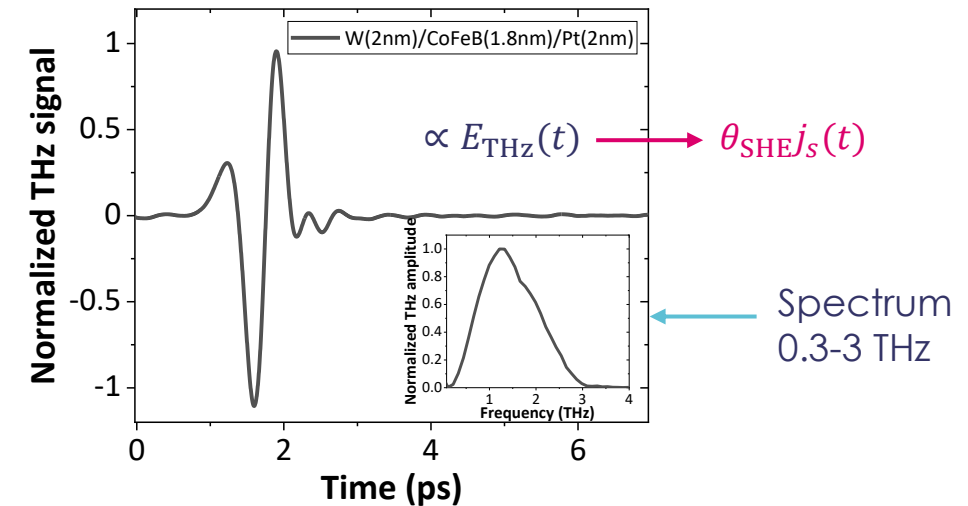
# THz spectroscopy of spin-injection and charge conversion

Collab. nano-THz team, S. Dhillon (LPENS)

## THz emission spectroscopy



## Time-resolved THz pulse



- Spectroscopy of sub-picosecond currents
- Access to the amplitude and phase  
→ Determination of the charge current sign and dynamics

**Access to fundamental relaxation times in spintronic THz emitters**

# Spectroscopy tool in ultrafast magnetism

## Recent spectroscopy tool

Ultrafast demagnetization

E. Beaurepaire *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett., 76, 22, 4250–4253 (1996)

Probing ultrafast spin transport

A. Melnikov *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett., 107, 7, 076601, (2011)

M. Battiato *et al.*, Phys. Rev. B, 86, 2, 024404, (2012)

T. Kampfrath *et al.*, Nature Nanotech., 8, 4, 256–260 (2013)

ISHE + spin-transport → towards THz emission

T. Seifert *et al.*, Nat. Phot., 10, 483–488 (2016)

T. J. Huisman *et al.*, Nat. Nanotech., 11, 455–458 (2016)

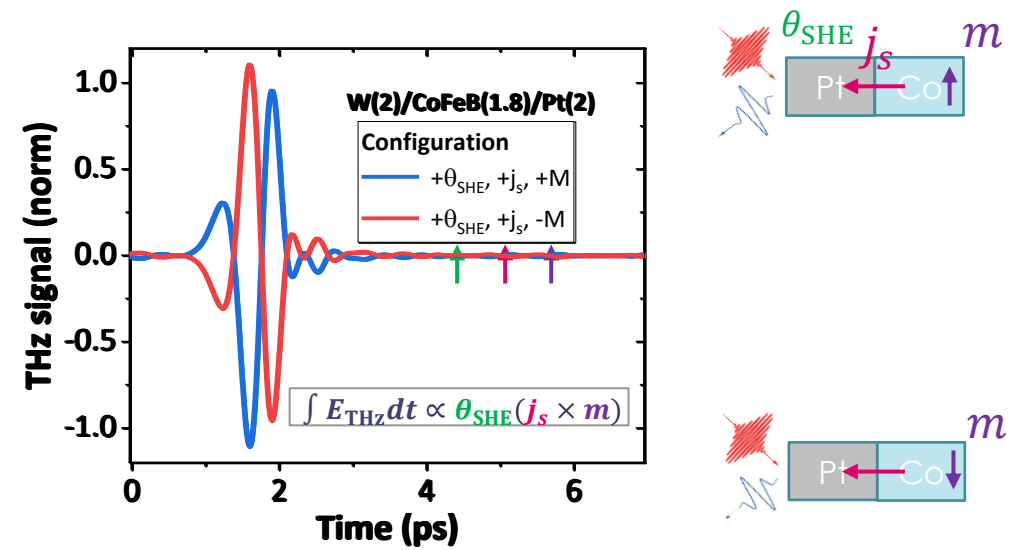
- Determination of the spin Hall angle  $\theta_{\text{SHE}}$

Recent reviews (2022)

C. Bull *et al.*, APL Materials 9, 090701 (2021)

T. Seifert *et al.*, Appl. Phys. Lett. 120, 180401 (2022)

## Link with spintronics



- Determination of the spin Hall angle  $\theta_{\text{SHE}}$
- Determination of the spin current sign  $j_s$
- Determination of the magnetization sign  $m$

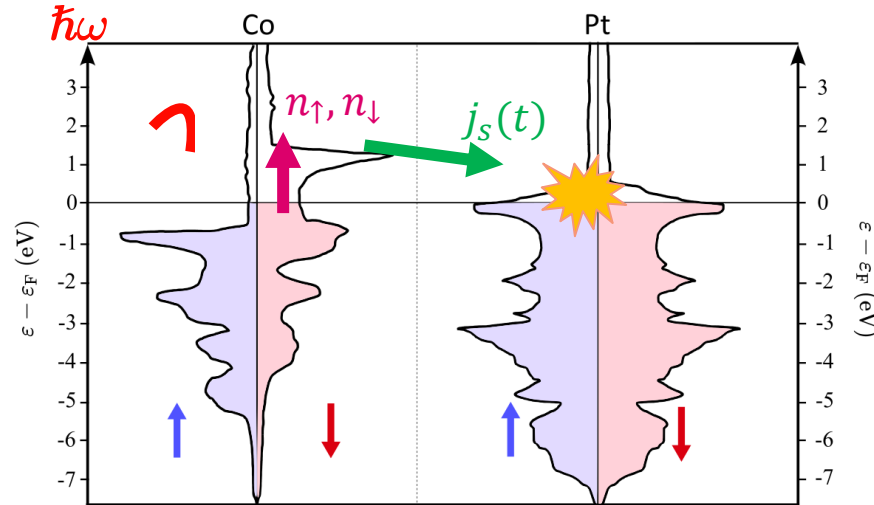
Probe new interconversion mechanisms and THz functionalities

# Outlook of the 3d/5d THz emitter optimization

T.H. Dang, J. Hawecker, ER et al., Appl. Phys. Rev. 7, 041409 (2020)

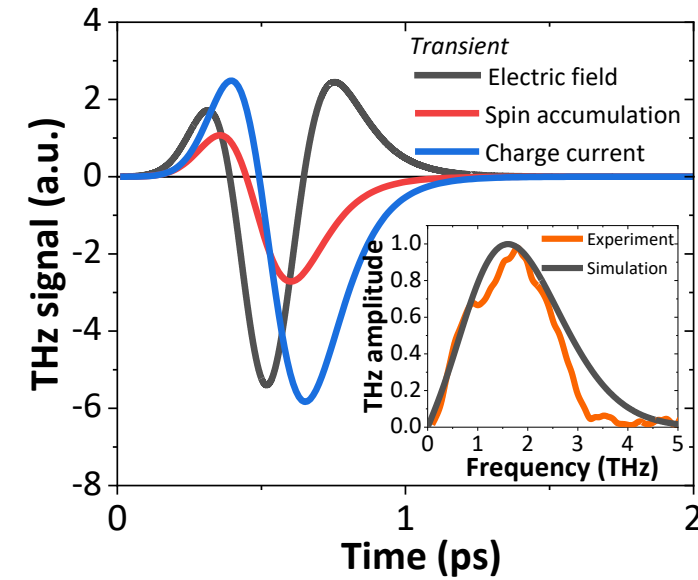
## Wave-diffusion model: an alternative to the superdiffusive model

Finite-difference time-domain method



- Spin-dependent pumping  $n_{\uparrow} \neq n_{\downarrow}$
- Hot electron spin diffusion  $l_{sf} \approx 2 - 3$  nm
- Spin relaxation  $\theta_{SHE} \approx 5\%$

## Modelling of the dynamical SCC-based THz pulse



**Dynamical spin-relaxation processes can be studied  
Engineering of multilayers and interfaces**

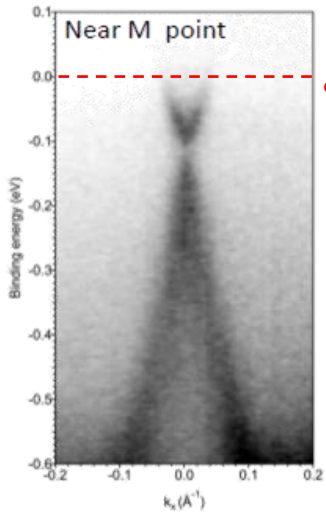
S. Kaltenborn et al., Phys. Rev. B 85, 235101 (2012)  
M. Battiato et al., Phys. Rev. B 86, 024404 (2012)  
R. Rouzegar et al., Phys. Rev. B 106, 144427 (2022)  
P. Barone, A. T. Dorado, and G. N. Papanicolaou, "Handbook of the Band Structure of Elemental Solids", Springer (2015)

# THz azimuthal conversion profile

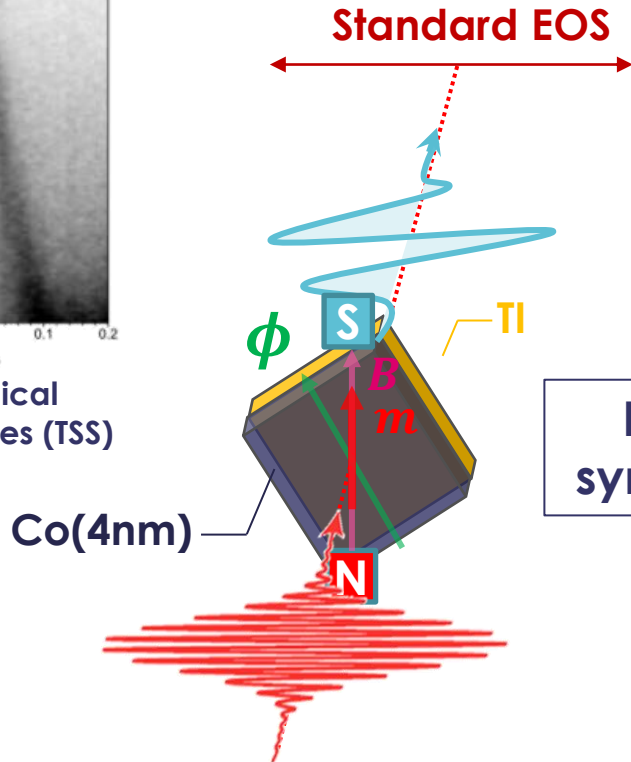
Angular resolved photoemission spectroscopy (ARPES)

ER et al., Adv. Optical Mater., 10, 2102061 (2022)

How to discriminate conversion mechanisms in TI/Co from THz emission?



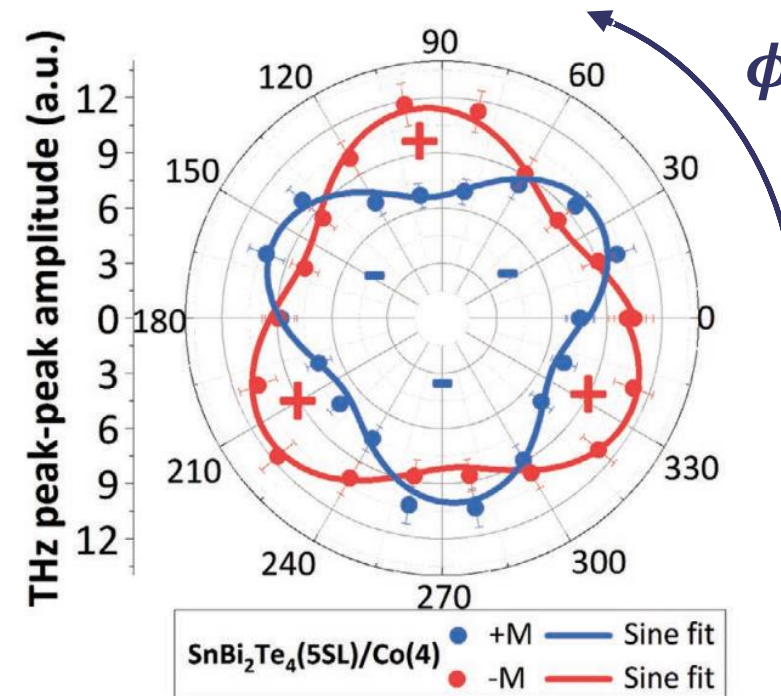
Topological surface states (TSS)



Femtosecond NIR pump

Interconversion symmetry mapping

Azimuthal crystalline dependence



Complex THz emission azimuthal dependence → where is the spin-charge process?

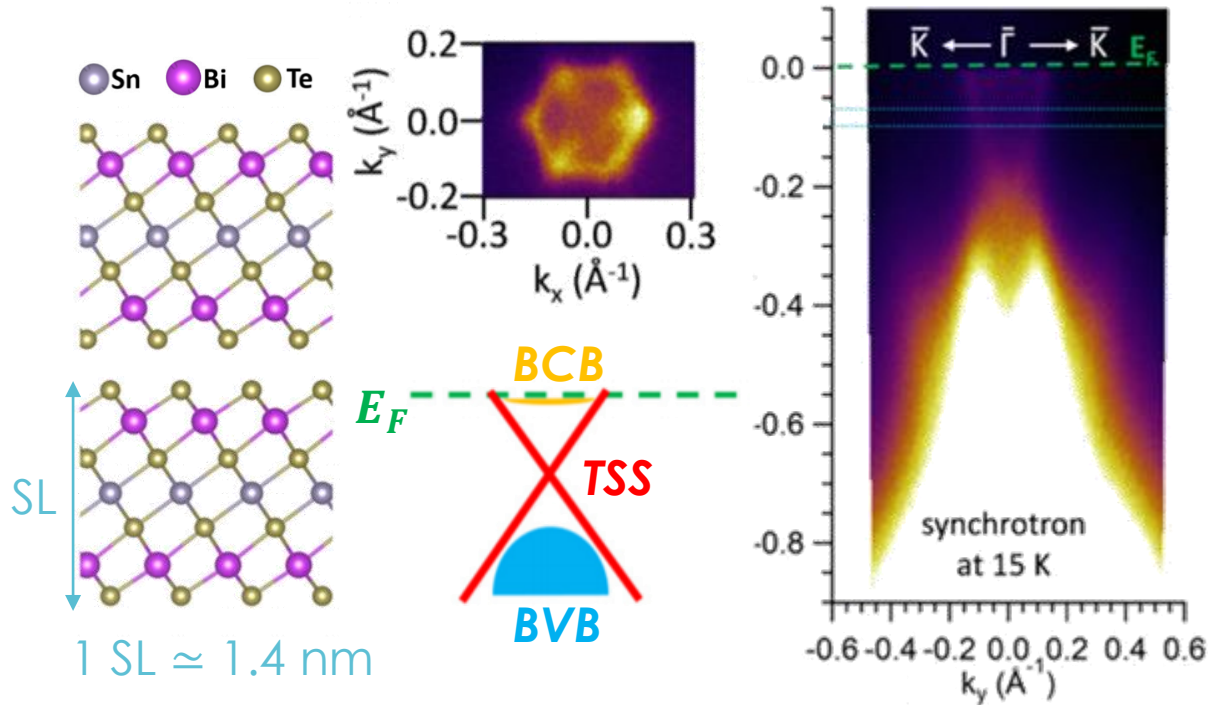
# Investigation of $\text{SnBi}_2\text{Te}_4$ and $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Sb}_x$ topological insulators

S. Fragkos *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Materials, 5, 014203 (2021)

H. Benia *et al.*, Phys. Rev. B, 91, 161406(R) (2015)

## $\text{SnBi}_2\text{Te}_4$

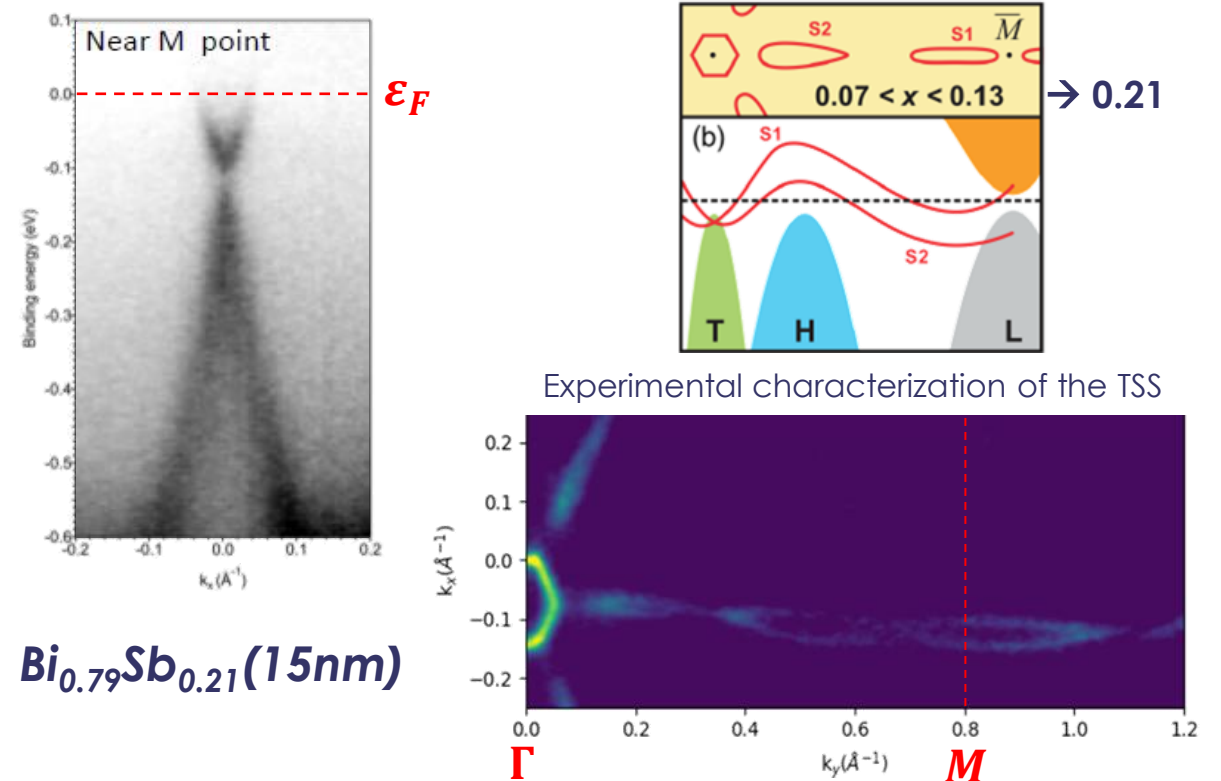
Band structure pinning at Fermi level  $\propto$  Bi/Sn ratio



MBE growth of  $\text{SnBi}_2\text{Te}_4$  made by S. Fragkos, A. Dimoulas team - INN (Greece)

## $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Sb}_x$

Angular Resolved Photo-Emission Spectroscopy (ARPES)



$\text{Bi}_{0.79}\text{Sb}_{0.21}$  (15nm)

MBE growth of BiSb made by L. Baringthon, P. Lefèvre team - SOLEIL (France)

Investigation of dynamical TI interconversion properties  $\rightarrow$  THz emission spectroscopy



# Investigation of $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Sb}_x$ topological insulator

L. Baringthon *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Materials* **6**, 074204 (2022)

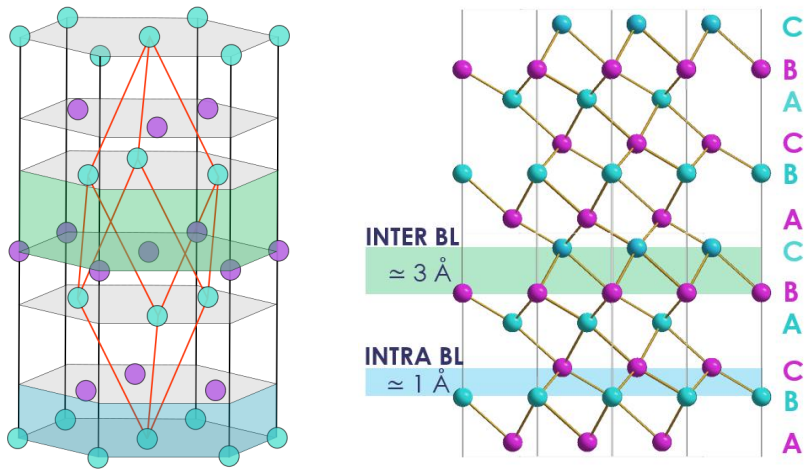
MBE growth of  $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Sb}_x$ : L. Baringthon, P. Le Fèvre's team - SOLEIL (France)

B. Lenoir *et al.*, *Semiconductors and Semimetals*, Elsevier, 69:101–37 (2001)

H. Benia *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. B*, **91**, 161406(R) (2015)

N. H. D. Khang *et al.*, *Nature Materials* **17**, 9, 808–13 (2018)

## A topological insulator with stoichiometric control

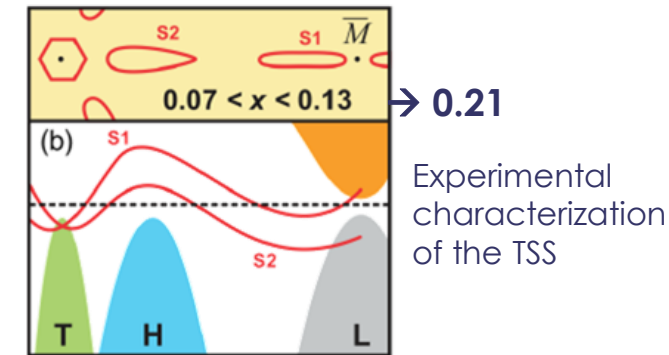
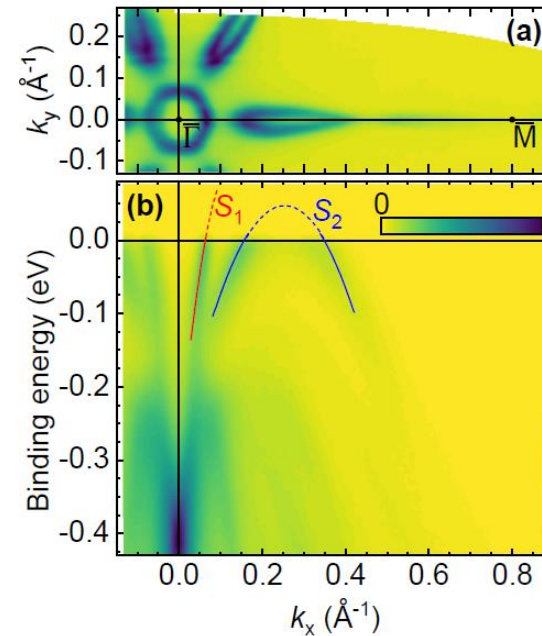


Hexagonal unit cell, with a bilayer structure (1 BL = 0.4 nm)

### Stoichiometric changes

- Tuning the inter (and intra) layers distances (strain)
- Modification of the hopping terms between neighbours
- Accounting in TB model (empirical Rashba surface terms)

## TSS mapping and strong SCC efficiency



**$\text{Bi}_{0.85}\text{Sb}_{0.15}$  (5nm)**

$\rho_{\text{BiSb}} \approx 400 \mu\Omega\cdot\text{cm}$

$\theta_{\text{SHE}}^{\text{BiSb}} \approx \times 52 (\equiv +5200\%)$

### Angular Resolved Photo-Emission Spectroscopy (ARPES)

Sweep concentration across the topological window

Thickness variations: ultrathin  $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Sb}_x$  (2.5 nm) mastered at SOLEIL