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# Evaluation of spin diffusion length and spin Hall angle of antiferromagnetic Weyl semimetal $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$ .

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Antiferromagnetic Weyl semimetal  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  has shown to generate strong intrinsic anomalous Hall effect (AHE) at room temperature, due to large momentum-space Berry curvature from the time-reversal symmetry breaking electronic bands of the Kagome planes. This prompts us to investigate intrinsic spin Hall effect, a transverse phenomenon with identical origin as the intrinsic AHE. We report inverse spin Hall effect experiments in *nanocrystalline*  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  nanowires at room temperature using spin absorption method which enables us to quantitatively derive both the spin diffusion length and the spin Hall angle in the same device. We observed clear absorption of the spin current in the  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  nanowires when kept in contact with the spin transport channel of a lateral spin-valve device. We estimate spin diffusion length  $\lambda_s(\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}) \sim 0.75 \pm 0.67$  nm from the comparison of spin signal of an identical reference lateral spin valve without  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  nanowire. From inverse spin Hall measurements, we evaluate spin Hall angle  $\theta_{SH} \sim 5.3 \pm 2.4$  % and spin Hall conductivity  $\sigma_{SH} \sim 46.99 \pm 20.63$  ( $\frac{\hbar}{e}$ )( $\Omega$  cm)<sup>-1</sup>. The estimated spin Hall conductivity agrees with both in sign and magnitude to the theoretically predicted intrinsic  $\sigma_{SH}^{int} \sim 36$ -96 ( $\hbar/e$ )( $\Omega$  cm)<sup>-1</sup>. We also observed anomalous Hall effect at room temperature in nano-Hall bars prepared at the same time as the spin Hall devices. Large anomalous Hall conductivity along with adequate spin Hall conductivity makes  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  a promising material for ultrafast and ultrahigh-density spintronics devices.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Next generation of ultra-fast and ultra-low-power spintronic devices will be ideally mass-less and dissipation-less. Therefore, antiferromagnetic materials with topological properties are most desirable for future spintronics devices. Antiferromagnetic materials are expected to overtake ferromagnetic materials in future spintronics devices due to their higher intrinsic excitation frequency in terahertz (THz) timescale, immunity against external field perturbations and zero net magnetization [1, 2]. Many antiferromagnetic materials have recently been found to exhibit either topologically protected massless Dirac or Weyl quasiparticles in their band structure or topologically non-trivial real-space spin textures. These exotic antiferromagnets have led to a new area of research called *topological antiferromagnetic spintronics* [3]. So far two antiferromagnets  $\text{CuMnAs}$  and  $\text{Mn}_2\text{Au}$  exhibiting current-induced Néel spin-orbit torque are the prime materials in antiferromagnetic spintronics which have already led to working devices [4–6]. Over the past years many other antiferromagnets like  $\text{SrMnBi}_2$ [7],  $\text{EuMnBi}_2$ [8],  $\text{BaFe}_2\text{As}_2$ [9],  $\text{YbMnBi}_2$ [10],  $\text{GdPtBi}$  [11, 12],  $\text{FeSe}$ [13],  $\text{NdSb}$ [14],  $\text{Eu}_2\text{Ir}_2\text{O}_7$ [15], etc., have emerged which may enrich topological antiferromagnetic spintronics further. Noncollinear antiferromagnet

$\text{Mn}_3X$  ( $X = \text{Ge}, \text{Sn}, \text{Ga}, \text{Ir}, \text{Rh}$  and  $\text{Pt}$ ) series have been attracting considerable interest lately due to accidental discovery of the large anomalous Hall effect (AHE) comparable in magnitude to that of ferromagnets [16–20]. Usually AHE is not realized in ordinary collinear antiferromagnets, however, recent theoretical and experimental investigations in chiral antiferromagnets reveal that a large AHE is possible for non-vanishing Berry phase which acts as a fictitious magnetic field in momentum space [16, 21].

Here we focus particularly on  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  which involve both Weyl physics [22, 23] and antiferromagnetism with large Néel temperature of  $T_N \sim 420$  K [24]. In  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  magneto-geometrical frustration in the Kagome lattice leads to non-collinear antiferromagnetic order causing Mn moments to lie in the  $ab$ -plane (Kagome-plane) with moments aligned at  $120^\circ$  with each other. This inverse triangular spin structure carries a very small net ferromagnetic moment of  $\sim 0.002 \mu_B/\text{Mn}$  atom, 1000 times smaller than ferromagnets[25]. The triangular spins can be rotated inside the  $ab$ -plane even with a very weak magnetic field due to small Kagome-plane magnetic anisotropy[26]. Large anomalous Hall conductivity up to  $\sigma_{xy}^{AHE} \approx 120$  ( $\Omega$  cm)<sup>-1</sup> has been observed in  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  which matches closely to the theoretically calculated  $\sigma_{xy}^{AHE}$  from the integration of Berry curvature over the Brillouin zone[17, 27]. Ab-initio band structure calculations [22, 23] and angle-resolved photoemission spectroscopy (ARPES) measurements [28] have revealed multiple type-2 Weyl points in the bulk band structure of  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$ . Fermi level has been found to be as close as  $\sim$

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5 meV to the nearest Weyl node with slightly extra Mn doping in  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$ [28]. Signatures of chiral anomaly such as negative longitudinal magnetoresistance and planar Hall effect has also been observed in  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$ [28]. Large thermal Hall[29], anomalous Nernst effect [29–31], topological Hall effect[32] and exotic magneto-optical Kerr effect[33] has also been detected in  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$ . Although initial studies on  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  was primarily focused on bulk single crystals, recently, high quality thin films of  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  showing the exchange-bias effect [34] and large anomalous Hall effect [35, 36] have been successfully fabricated and open up possibility for spintronics device applications.

Spin Hall effect and anomalous Hall effect are analogues phenomena both originating from the electronic and magnetic structure of the material. The intrinsic SHE is explained by the spin Berry curvature which is obtained from Kubo formula, similar to the AHE [37–40]. Therefore, chiral antiferromagnets are most promising materials for detecting large spin Hall effect [27, 41–43]. In direct spin Hall effect (DSHE) a charge current gives rise to a transverse spin current which generates spin accumulations with opposite spin polarization at the reverse sides of a material. Furthermore, a spin current can also induce a transverse charge current (voltage drop), in the reciprocal process called the inverse spin Hall effect (ISHE). The spin-to-charge current interconversion can be described by,  $\vec{J}_S = \frac{e}{\hbar}\theta_{SH}(\vec{J}_C \times \vec{s})$ , where  $\vec{J}_{S(C)}$  is the spin(charge) current,  $\hbar$  is the reduced Planck's constant,  $e$  is the electronic charge and  $\vec{s}$  denotes the direction of spin polarization. The conversion efficiency is characterized by the spin Hall angle,  $\theta_{SH}$ . Estimation of spin transport parameters like spin diffusion length ( $\lambda_s$ ), spin Hall angle ( $\theta_{SH}$ ) and spin Hall conductivity ( $\sigma_{SH}$ ) is indispensable for possible application of  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  in spin-orbitronics. Very recently, a strong SHE was experimentally discovered in another chiral antiferromagnetic compound  $\text{IrMn}_3$  and the spin Hall angle up to  $\sim 35\%$  was observed [44]. Theoretical calculations suggest spin Hall effect in  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  is strongly anisotropic and is maximized when charge current  $\vec{J}_C$  and spin current  $\vec{J}_S$  are inside the Kagome-plane[42]. Recently, Železný *et al.*[45] have predicted that spin current in noncollinear antiferromagnets possess spin components both longitudinal and transverse to the antiferromagnetic order parameter. Interestingly, these spin currents are odd under time reversal in contrast to spin Hall effect spin currents which are even. It is also expected that the transversal contribution of spin currents in noncollinear antiferromagnets can be greater than the spin Hall effect spin currents. These unconventional spin Hall effects in noncollinear antiferromagnets may open up new avenues in the understanding of spin Hall effect in antiferromagnets [43, 46].

In this paper we use spin absorption in lateral spin valves to study inverse spin Hall effect in nanocrystalline  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  nanowires. The spin absorption method allows us to extract the spin diffusion length ( $\lambda_s$ ) and spin Hall

angle ( $\theta_{SH}$ ) in the same device by changing measurement configuration. In these measurements the antiferromagnetic material is not in direct contact with the ferromagnetic spin current injector which avoids exchange-bias effect and make spin absorption method more reliable way to study spin Hall effect in antiferromagnetic material. We prepare a set of spin Hall device (SHD), reference lateral spin-valve and nano-Hall bar on the same substrate to test both Berry phase induced intrinsic anomalous Hall effect and spin Hall effect. We estimated  $\lambda_s$ ,  $\theta_{SH}$  and  $\sigma_{SH}$  of the nanocrystalline  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  nanowire at room temperature and found  $\sigma_{SH}$  comparable to theoretical predictions[27, 42, 43]. Large anomalous Hall conductivity along with moderate spin Hall conductivity adds further functionality to  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  for use in topological antiferromagnetic spintronics.

## II. EXPERIMENTAL DETAILS

Lateral spin-valve devices and nano-Hall bars were fabricated on  $\text{Si}/\text{SiO}_2(300\text{ nm})$  substrate using e-beam lithography in three steps. In the first step of e-beam lithography a pair of 100 nm wide and 30 nm thick Py nanowires with distance of 1  $\mu\text{m}$  were prepared by e-beam evaporation through a PMMA mask. The Py deposition was done in an UHV chamber with base pressure lower than  $5 \times 10^{-9}$  torr while substrate was kept at 10  $^\circ\text{C}$ . In the second step  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  nanowires were prepared using direct current (DC) magnetron sputtering. To avoid side walls in the nanowire MMA/PMMA bilayer was patterned by e-beam lithography to form a mask with undercut. Then  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  was deposited at room temperature using DC sputtering at rate  $\sim 0.2$  nm/s with 60 W of power and 0.3 Pa Ar gas pressure. We utilized 2 nm Ru seeding layer as a template to have smooth  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  surface. After lift-off the nanowires were annealed in vacuum to 500  $^\circ\text{C}$  for 1 hours to achieve stoichiometric  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$ . We successfully fabricated 11.5  $\mu\text{m}$  long, 50-70 nm thick and 150 nm wide nanowires which showed partly metallic electrical transport properties. Thinner nanowires showed semiconducting temperature dependence [see Appendix A]. Recently we have used similar post annealing process to achieve high quality  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  thin films [35]. The structural characterization of thin films prepared under similar sputtering conditions to the nanowire and nano-Hall bar were performed using x-ray diffractometer [see Appendix A]. In the third step 100 nm wide and 100 nm thick Cu was thermally evaporated at rate  $\sim 2\text{ \AA}/\text{s}$  in a separate UHV chamber with base pressure of  $\sim 1.2 \times 10^{-9}$  torr. The surfaces of Py and  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  nanowires were in-situ cleaned by Ar-ion milling for 40s before the Cu deposition. All the devices were capped with 2 nm  $\text{AlO}_x$  at the end to avoid oxidization. For comparative electrical and spin transport measurements one set of reference device, spin Hall device and nano-Hall bar were prepared together on the same substrate. Reference device and spin Hall devices are identical lateral spin valves

except the  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  nanowire was inserted in the middle of two Py electrodes in the later as shown in Fig. 2(a,b). Multiple devices were fabricated on the same substrate to check reproducibility. All the electrical transport measurements were done using lock-in technique (173 Hz) in a He-4 flow cryostat.

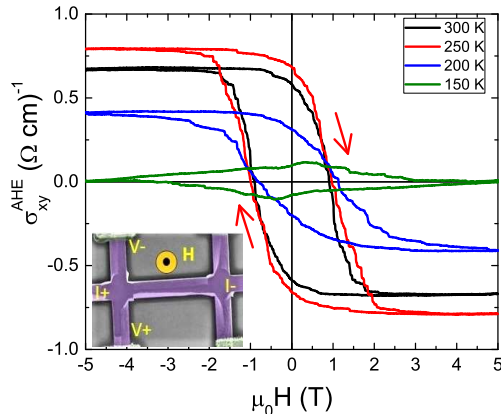


FIG. 1: Magnetic field dependence of the anomalous Hall conductivity ( $\sigma_{xy}^{AHE} = -\frac{\rho_{xy}}{\rho_{xx}}$ ) measured at various temperatures between 150 to 300 K. Inset shows SEM picture of a  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  nano-Hall bar (width = 500 nm, thickness = 70 nm, length = 3900 nm) with measurement configuration.

### III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Growth of  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  thin films on thermally oxidized Si substrate strongly depends on the deposition temperature and the choice of seed layer like Ta, Ru or Pt [34, 48]. For our experiments we choose Ru underlayer due to its smaller spin Hall angle ( $\theta_{SH} \approx 0.0056$ ) [49]. Nanocrystalline nanowires of  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  with Ru seed layer were deposited on thermally oxidized silicon substrate at room temperature and post annealed ex-situ at 500  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  for crystallization. Bulk  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  is known to possess different

magnetic structures depending on small alteration in the chemical composition and growth conditions [50]. The intrinsic AHE in  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  depends sensitively on the magnetic structure and is maximized in the inverse triangular spin arrangement [29, 51]. In order to confirm intrinsic origin of anomalous Hall effect we measure anomalous Hall conductivity ( $\sigma_{xy}^{AHE}$ ) in a nano-Hall bar prepared at the same time as the spin Hall devices. Fig. 1 shows magnetic field dependence of anomalous Hall conductivity,  $\sigma_{xy}^{AHE} = -\frac{\rho_{xy}^{AHE}}{\rho_{xx}^0}$ , at different temperatures after removal of the high-field linear background (ordinary Hall effect) from the measured data. Here anomalous Hall resistivity is defined as,  $\rho_{xy}^{AHE} = \frac{V_{xy}}{I}t$ , where  $V_{xy}$  is the Hall voltage,  $I$  is the applied current and  $t$  is the thickness of  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  nano-Hall bar. The anomalous Hall conductivity show clear hysteresis loops with a considerable jump from  $-0.6 (\Omega \text{ cm})^{-1}$  (for  $\sigma_{xy}^{AHE}(H : +5T \rightarrow 0T)$ ) to  $+0.6 (\Omega \text{ cm})^{-1}$  (for  $\sigma_{xy}^{AHE}(H : -5T \rightarrow 0T)$ ) at room temperature. The anomalous Hall conductivity in  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  changes its sign corresponding to the rotation of the Mn moments of the inverse triangular spin structure. The sign change in our nano-Hall bar occurs at field  $\sim 1$  T which is comparable to that of  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  polycrystalline thin film [35]. The higher switching field is related to polycrystalline nature of the  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  films. The anomalous Hall conductivity was found to increase up to 250 K and disappear below 150 K as temperature was lowered. Bulk  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  is known to undergo phase transition to an incommensurate spin spiral structure below 275 K which causes intrinsic contribution of anomalous Hall resistivity disappear below this temperature [51]. This transition temperature is quite sensitive to synthesis conditions which determine precise chemical composition (Mn:Sn ratio). The disappearance of AHE below 150 K in our nano-Hall bar is consistent with these observations in  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  samples [51] indicating the inverse triangular spin structure at room temperature. In our experiments we primarily focus on room temperature measurements where inverse triangular structure-induced Berry curvature seems to be the dominant contributor to AHE.

Figure 2(a) and (b) presents schematic of a spin Hall and reference lateral spin-valve device, respectively. First, we affirm the quality of  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  nanowire from temperature dependence of resistance measurement (see Appendix A). Ideal nanowire is expected to show metallic temperature dependence with resistivity  $\rho \approx 320 \mu\Omega \text{ cm}$  at room temperature as in bulk  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  [17]. Fig. 2(c) shows temperature dependence of the resistivity of a  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  nanowire in

the spin Hall device. The electrical resistivity exhibits a partly metallic behavior with resistivity  $\rho \approx 1133 \mu\Omega \text{ cm}$  at room temperature. Higher resistivity in the nanowire might be related to additional electron scattering from the surface as a consequence of reduced dimension [52]. Below 50 K an upturn in the resistivity was observed which is reminiscent of a spin-glass state. It is well known that in bulk  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  a cluster glass phase appears below

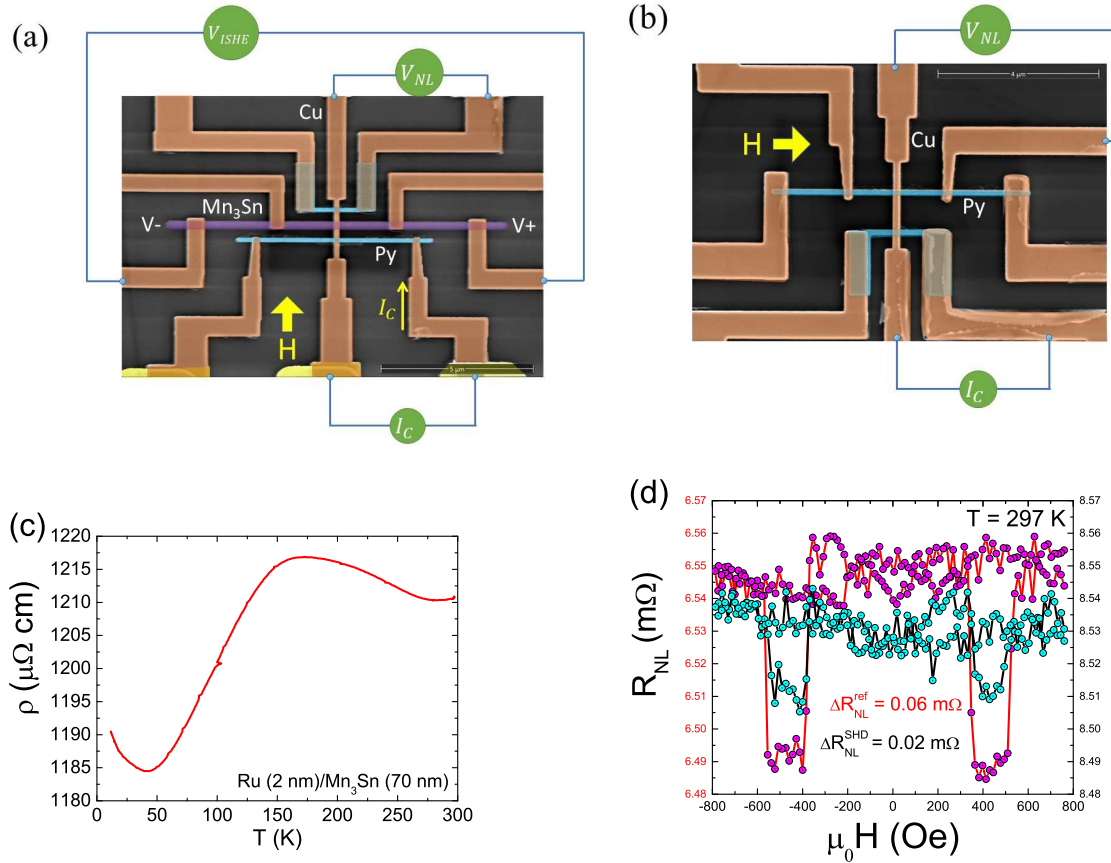


FIG. 2: Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) image of (a) spin Hall device (SHD) and (b) reference lateral spin valve device. The nonlocal and spin Hall measurement configuration are shown. In nonlocal measurement configuration magnetic field ( $H$ ) is applied inplane along the long easy axis of Py while in spin Hall measurement configuration  $H$  is directed perpendicular (inplane) to it. (c) Resistivity of Mn<sub>3</sub>Sn nanowire in the spin Hall device as a function of temperature. (d) Nonlocal resistance  $R_{NL}$  as a function of magnetic field for reference and spin Hall device measured at room temperature.

50 K due to spin canting towards  $c$ -axis [17, 51]. Although in bulk single crystals no resistivity up-turn is observed below 50 K, in nanocrystalline nanowires blocked spins at the surface can cause Kondo-like up-turn in the resistivity.

Next, we performed spin absorption experiments in the nonlocal measurement configuration as shown in Fig. 2(a,b). In nonlocal spin signal measurements, a nonequilibrium spin accumulation is created inside Cu spin transport channel by injecting spin polarized current from one Py electrode into the Cu channel. The accumulated spin inside Cu diffuses towards the second Py detector electrode creating pure spin current. The nonlocal resistance is defined as,  $R_{NL} = V_{NL}/I_C$ , where  $V_{NL}$  is the nonlocal voltage at the detector and  $I_C$  is the charge current through the injector. When the Mn<sub>3</sub>Sn nanowire is kept in contact with the Cu spin transport channel a part of the spin current is absorbed by it due to lower spin resistance of Mn<sub>3</sub>Sn compared to Cu. The spin resistance is a quantity equivalent of electrical resistance but for spin current and is defined as,  $R_S = \frac{\rho\lambda_s}{(1-p^2)A}$ ,

where  $\rho$  is the resistivity,  $\lambda_s$  is the spin diffusion length,  $p$  is the spin polarization and  $A$  is the area of cross-section of the spin transport channel. In order to estimate amount of spin current absorbed by the Mn<sub>3</sub>Sn nanowire, nonlocal resistance was measured both in the spin Hall device (Fig. 2(a)) and another reference lateral spin valve device (Fig. 2(b)). The spin signal  $\Delta R_{NL}$  is expressed as,  $\Delta R_{NL} = R_{NL}^{\uparrow\uparrow} - R_{NL}^{\uparrow\downarrow}$ , where  $R_{NL}^{\uparrow\uparrow}$  ( $R_{NL}^{\uparrow\downarrow}$ ) is the nonlocal resistance when both injector and detector Py are aligned parallel (antiparallel) to each other. Fig. 2(d) shows  $R_{NL}$  as a function of magnetic field for both spin Hall and reference lateral spin valve device at room temperature. Smaller  $\Delta R_{NL}$  was observed in the spin Hall device compared to the reference lateral spin valve suggesting spin current absorption by Mn<sub>3</sub>Sn nanowire. Similar spin current absorption was also observed at all temperature (see Supplementary material for measurement at 10 K)[47]. The spin resistance of Mn<sub>3</sub>Sn nanowire can be obtained from ratio of spin signals between spin Hall ( $\Delta R_{NL}^{SHD}$ ) and reference lateral spin valve ( $\Delta R_{NL}^{ref}$ ) device. Assuming one dimensional

spin diffusion and transparent interfaces the ratio of spin

signals can be expressed as [53, 54]

$$\frac{\Delta R_{NL}^{SHD}}{\Delta R_{NL}^{ref}} = \frac{[2Q_{Mn3Sn}[\sinh\left(\frac{L}{\lambda_s(Cu)}\right) + 2Q_{Py}e^{L/\lambda_s(Cu)} + 2Q_{Py}^2e^{L/\lambda_s(Cu)}]]}{\left[ \cosh\left(\frac{L}{\lambda_s(Cu)}\right) - \cosh\left(\frac{L-2d}{\lambda_s(Cu)}\right) + 2Q_{Py} \sinh\left(\frac{d}{\lambda_s(Cu)}\right) e^{(L-d)/\lambda_s(Cu)} + 2Q_{Mn3Sn} \sinh\left(\frac{L}{\lambda_s(Cu)}\right) + 4Q_{Py}Q_{Mn3Sn}e^{L/\lambda_s(Cu)} + 2Q_{Py} \sinh\left(\frac{L-d}{\lambda_s(Cu)}\right) e^{d/\lambda_s(Cu)} + 2Q_{Py}^2e^{L/\lambda_s(Cu)} + 4Q_{Py}^2Q_{Mn3Sn}e^{L/\lambda_s(Cu)} \right]} \quad (1)$$

Where  $Q_{Py(Mn3Sn)} = \frac{R_{Py(Mn3Sn)}}{R_{Cu}}$ , with  $R_{Cu} = \frac{\lambda_s(Cu)\rho_{Cu}}{w_{Cu}t_{Cu}}$ ,  $R_{Py} = \frac{\lambda_s(Py)\rho_{Py}}{w_{Py}w_{Cu}(1-p_{Py}^2)}$  and  $R_{Mn3Sn} = \frac{\lambda_s(Mn3Sn)\rho_{Mn3Sn}}{w_{Mn3Sn}w_{Cu}} \tanh\left(\frac{t_{Mn3Sn}}{\lambda_s(Mn3Sn)}\right)$  are the spin resistances of Cu, Py and Mn<sub>3</sub>Sn nanowires, respectively. Here  $\rho_i$ ,  $\lambda_s(i)$ ,  $p_i$ ,  $w_i$  and  $t_i$  are resistivity, spin diffusion length, spin polarization, width and thickness of corresponding nanowires, respectively ( $i = \text{Py, Cu and Mn}_3\text{Sn}$ ). Here  $L$  is the center-to-center distance between two Py electrodes and  $d$  is the distance of the Mn<sub>3</sub>Sn nanowire from injector Py electrode which was determined from SEM image of the device. The spin resistance values  $R_{Cu}$  and  $R_{Py}$  were taken from our previous work [55]. With measured value of the ratio  $\frac{\Delta R_{NL}^{SHD}}{\Delta R_{NL}^{ref}}$ , the spin resistance of Mn<sub>3</sub>Sn nanowire can be obtained by solving Eq. 1. Using  $\frac{\Delta R_{NL}^{SHD}}{\Delta R_{NL}^{ref}} = 0.33$ , we found  $R_{Mn3Sn} = 0.2056 \Omega$ . With resistivity of Mn<sub>3</sub>Sn nanowire  $\rho_{Mn3Sn} \approx 1133 \mu\Omega \text{ cm}$  we estimate spin diffusion length of Mn<sub>3</sub>Sn to be  $\lambda_s(Mn3Sn) \sim 0.75 \pm 0.67 \text{ nm}$  at room temperature. Recently, spin diffusion length has been measured in a variety of antiferromagnetic Mn alloys like IrMn, FeMn, PtMn and PdMn, etc., [56]. Spin diffusion length has been found to be quite short  $\lambda_s \sim 1 \text{ nm}$  in all these antiferromagnets. Our calculated spin diffusion length for Mn<sub>3</sub>Sn  $\lambda_s(Mn3Sn) \sim 0.75 \pm 0.67 \text{ nm}$  is consistent with these previous findings. Spin diffusion length also depends sensitively on the resistivity of the antiferromagnetic metal and can be further tuned with  $\rho_{Mn3Sn}$  of the nanowire [1].

After estimating spin resistance of Mn<sub>3</sub>Sn nanowire we switch the measurement configuration to the spin Hall measurement as shown in Fig. 2(a). In this measurement configuration magnetic field ( $H$ ) is applied perpendicular and inplane to the long easy-axis of the Py nanowire as spin current  $\vec{I}_S$ , charge current  $\vec{I}_C$  and spin polarization  $\vec{s}$  are mutually orthogonal to each other as enforced by the equation,  $\vec{I}_S = \frac{e}{\hbar}\theta_{SH}(\vec{I}_C \times \vec{s})$ . Fig. 3(b) shows two-terminal resistance ( $R-H$ ) of the Py nanowire as a function of magnetic field. This anisotropic magnetoresistance (AMR) or  $R-H$  measurement reflects magnetization direction of the Py with respect to applied magnetic field  $H$ . The resistance is minimum when the

magnetization of Py nanowire is aligned along the applied field direction. Due to shape anisotropy the magnetization of Py nanowire is aligned along the long easy-axis in zero magnetic field. From Fig. 3(b) Py nanowire can be seen to saturate along the hard axis when  $H > \pm 3000 \text{ Oe}$ .

Alike previous measurement, pure spin current is created inside Cu channel by injecting charge current  $I_C$  through one of the Py electrode which is partially absorbed by the Mn<sub>3</sub>Sn nanowire. Due to inverse spin Hall effect a charge current is produced inside the Mn<sub>3</sub>Sn nanowire orthogonal to both the spin current  $\vec{I}_S$  and spin polarization  $\vec{s}$  direction. In open circuit condition a voltage drop  $V_{ISHE}$  is generated along the Mn<sub>3</sub>Sn nanowire due to this charge current. The inverse spin Hall resistance is defined as,  $R_{ISHE} = V_{ISHE}/I_C$ , where  $I_C$  is the injected charge current through the Py electrode. When Py magnetization is switched with applied magnetic field the orientation of spin polarization changes causing opposite  $R_{ISHE}$  (or  $V_{ISHE}$ ). The difference of the two  $R_{ISHE}$  yields twice the inverse spin Hall effect signal  $2\Delta R_{ISHE}$ . Fig. 3(a) shows  $R_{ISHE}$  as a function of magnetic field at room temperature. The measurement was done with injector current  $I_C = 500 \mu\text{A}$ . The inverse spin Hall resistance can be seen to saturate above  $\pm 3000 \text{ Oe}$  when Py electrodes are aligned along the applied magnetic field. We found a small  $2\Delta R_{ISHE} = 0.025 \text{ m}\Omega$  from the difference between  $R_{ISHE}$  for the two spin polarization direction. The spin Hall resistivity can be calculated from the equation [53, 54, 57]

$$\rho_{SH} = -\frac{w_{Mn3Sn}}{x_{sh}} \left(\frac{I_C}{I_S}\right) \Delta R_{ISHE}. \quad (2)$$

Where  $x_{sh}$  is the shunting factor which takes into account the charge current in the Mn<sub>3</sub>Sn that is shunted through the more conductive Cu nanowire on top. The shunting factor  $x_{sh}$  can be calculated numerically using finite element method with COMSOL software (see Appendix B). Here  $\vec{I}_S$  is the effective spin current that contributes to the ISHE voltage in Mn<sub>3</sub>Sn and can be expressed as [53, 54]

$$\frac{\vec{I}_s}{I_c} = \frac{\lambda_s(Mn_3Sn)}{t_{Mn_3Sn}} \frac{(1 - e^{-t_{Mn_3Sn}/\lambda_s(Mn_3Sn)})^2}{(1 - e^{-2t_{Mn_3Sn}/\lambda_s(Mn_3Sn)})} \times \left[ 2\alpha_{Py} [Q_{Py} \sinh\left(\frac{L-d}{\lambda_s(Cu)}\right) + Q_{Py}^2 e^{\frac{L-d}{\lambda_s(Cu)}}] \right]$$

$$\left[ \cosh\left(\frac{L}{\lambda_s(Cu)}\right) - \cosh\left(\frac{L-2d}{\lambda_s(Cu)}\right) + 2Q_{Py} \sinh\left(\frac{d}{\lambda_s(Cu)}\right) e^{\frac{L-d}{\lambda_s(Cu)}} + 2Q_{Mn_3Sn} \sinh\left(\frac{L}{\lambda_s(Cu)}\right) + 4Q_{Py} Q_{Mn_3Sn} e^{\frac{L}{\lambda_s(Cu)}} + 2Q_{Py} e^{\frac{d}{\lambda_s(Cu)}} \sinh\left(\frac{L-d}{\lambda_s(Cu)}\right) + 2Q_{Py}^2 e^{\frac{L}{\lambda_s(Cu)}} + 4Q_{Py}^2 Q_{Mn_3Sn} e^{\frac{L}{\lambda_s(Cu)}} \right] \quad (3)$$

Using Eqs. 2 and 3, we found  $\rho_{SH} = -60.33 \pm 26.48 \mu\Omega \text{ cm}$ . The spin Hall angle given by the ratio of spin Hall resistivity against electrical resistivity can be calculated as,  $\theta_{SH} = -\frac{\rho_{SH}}{\rho_{Mn_3Sn}}$ , where  $\rho_{Mn_3Sn} = 1133 \mu\Omega \text{ cm}$  is resistivity of the  $Mn_3Sn$  nanowire[59]. We estimate  $\theta_{SH} = 0.053 \pm 0.024$  for our  $Mn_3Sn$  nanowire which is comparable to  $\theta_{SH}$  of 4d and 5d transition heavy metals determined by similar spin absorption method [57, 58]. The spin Hall resistivity is related to spin hall conductivity as,  $\sigma_{SH} \approx -\frac{\rho_{SH}}{\rho_{Mn_3Sn}^2}$ . We found  $\sigma_{SH} = 46.99 \pm 20.63 \left(\frac{\hbar}{e}\right) (\Omega \text{ cm})^{-1}$ . Recent theoretical investigations have predicted a positive sign of intrinsic spin Hall conductivity for  $Mn_3Sn$  and magnitude in the range  $\sigma_{SH}^{int} \sim 36-96 \left(\frac{\hbar}{e}\right) (\Omega \text{ cm})^{-1}$  [27, 42, 43]. Our estimated  $\sigma_{SH}$  is within the range of these theoretical predictions based on Berry curvature calculations. Recently, Mn-Sn alloy films has shown to exhibit a large spin Hall angle [60]. However, spin Hall angle was found to be negative in that case. Positive spin Hall angle observed in our case suggest measured inverse spin Hall signal does not originate from impurity phases. In Eq. 2, we assume that all the absorbed spin current is converted to electrical voltage via inverse spin Hall effect. However, there might be other sources of spin memory loss related to magnetization dynamics inside the antiferromagnet. It is quite challenging to estimate this exactly and is the main bottleneck of spin absorption method for antiferromagnetic material.

Nanowire used in this work are nanocrystalline and contain randomly oriented Kagome planes[see Appendix A]. As per theoretical predictions in order to observe large  $\sigma_{SH}$ , one should set the charge and spin currents inside the Kagome plane [42]. Our results are comparable to structurally similar material  $IrMn_3$  which also shows spin diffusion length less than 1 nm and spin Hall angle vary between  $\theta_{SH} = 3-12\%$  depending on the composition  $x$  of  $Ir_{1-x}Mn_x$  [44]. In  $IrMn_3$  spin Hall effect is believed to originate from two sources, (i) bulk spin-orbit coupling of  $IrMn_3$  and (ii) the triangular spin structure also gives rise to an intrinsic spin Hall effect that is large and strongly depends on the crystallographic orientation of the epitaxial film. Highly oriented  $Mn_3Sn$  nanowires may be needed in order to observe theoretically predicted odd spin currents related to inverse tri-

angular spin structure[45]. Recently, we have observed that the spin Hall angle in single crystal  $Mn_3Sn$  can be switched with the direction of the staggered moment in the inverse triangular spin structure [61].

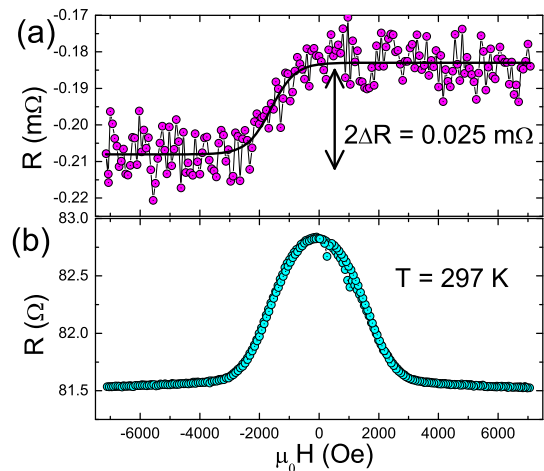


FIG. 3: (a) Magnetic field dependence of Inverse spin Hall resistance  $R_{ISHE}$  measured at room temperature. The inverse spin Hall resistance  $R_{ISHE}$  saturates above  $\pm 3000$  Oe when Py magnetization is aligned along applied magnetic field. The difference between positive and negative saturated  $R_{ISHE}$  is called inverse spin Hall signal  $2\Delta R_{ISHE}$ . (b) Anisotropic magnetoresistance (AMR) of the Py nanowire in the same device. The spin polarization direction  $\vec{s}$  of the spin current  $\vec{I}_s$  is determined by the magnetization direction of Py injector electrode.

#### IV. CONCLUSIONS

To summarize we have investigated inverse spin Hall effect in nanocrystalline  $Mn_3Sn$  nanowires by spin absorption method. We have estimated positive spin Hall angle  $\theta_{SH} \sim 5.3 \pm 2.4\%$ , spin diffusion length  $\lambda_s(Mn_3Sn) \sim 0.75 \pm 0.67$  nm and spin Hall conductivity  $\sigma_{SH} = 46.99 \pm 20.63 \left(\frac{\hbar}{e}\right) (\Omega \text{ cm})^{-1}$ . This  $\sigma_{SH}$  is quite close

to theoretically predicted intrinsic spin Hall conductivity of  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  suggesting intrinsic origin of spin Hall effect in our nanowires[27, 42, 43]. The spin Hall and anomalous Hall conductivity can be further improved by resistivity, strain[62] and chemical tuning[31] of the present  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  nanowire. These results are obtained in a nanocrystalline nanowire which may have random orientations of Kagome planes. Further structural characterization is required on the nanowires to understand detailed stoichiometry, spin structure and orientation of Kagome planes. With highly oriented nanowires it might be possible to investigate theoretically predicted novel odd spin currents resulting from the noncollinear magnetic structure. Reasonably large spin Hall conductivity of  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  comparable to other Mn-alloy based antiferromagnets [56] suggest it can be used as an efficient spin current detector in nanometer-sized antiferromagnetic devices. Inclusion of spin Hall effect further broadens great potential of  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  in the antiferromagnetic spintronic devices that could enable spin-based operations at the ultimate THz frequencies.

## Appendix A: Quality of $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$ nanowire

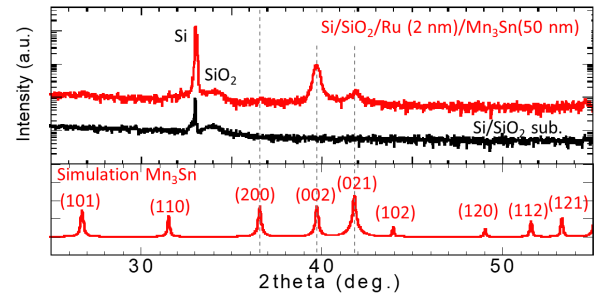


FIG. A1: X-ray diffraction scan of 50 nm  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  thin film with 2 nm Ru seed layer (red) and bare Si/SiO<sub>2</sub> substrate (black). Bottom panel shows simulated x-ray diffraction pattern of  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  with all possible peaks indexed.

For structural characterization  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  thin films were also fabricated under identical sputtering condition as nanowires. Note that thin films were annealed insitu while nanowires were annealed ex-situ after the lift-off process. Therefore, nanowires might be more disordered compared to thin films. Fig. A1 shows x-ray diffraction spectra of a 50 nm thick  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  film with 2 nm Ru seed layer. For comparison x-ray diffraction spectra of one bare Si/SiO<sub>2</sub> substrate without  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  film is also plotted. Bottom panel shows simulated x-ray diffraction spectra of the hexagonal  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  structure with all crystallographic directions indexed. Broad peaks corresponding to (002), (021) and (200) plane of  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Sn}$  were detected confirming polycrystalline nature of the films. A more intense (002) peak was observed suggesting preferential hexagonal (0001)-axis oriented texture of the films.

## Acknowledgments

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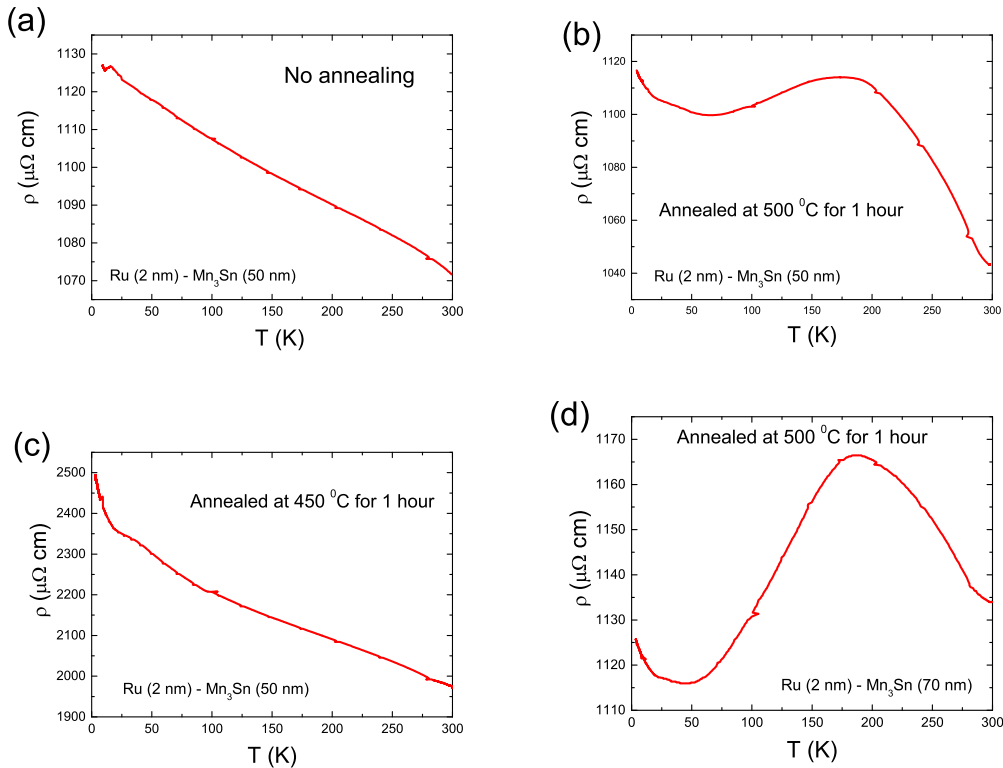


FIG. A2: (a) Temperature dependence of resistance of  $Mn_3Sn$  nanowire without post annealing. Nano-Hall-bar prepared together with this nanowire did not showed AHE at room temperature. (b,c,d) Temperature dependence of resistance of different type of nanowires obtained after annealing at  $450^\circ C$  and  $500^\circ C$  for 1 hour. Nano-Hall bars prepared together with these nanowires showed AHE at room temperature.

Fabrication of high-quality nanowires with thickness  $\sim 10$ - $50$  nm and width  $\sim 100$ - $200$  nm are experimentally quite challenging. In this manuscript we follow a bottom-up approach for device fabrication. The  $Mn_3Sn$  nanowires were deposited by DC sputtering method on MMA/PMMA mask prepared by e-beam lithography. Ideally thinner nanowires with thickness comparable to its' spin diffusion length are most suitable for spin-absorption experiments. In our experiments we used thick  $\sim 70$  nm nanowires as thinner ( $< 50$  nm) nanowires were found to show semiconducting-like  $R(T)$  probably due to oxidation in atmosphere. Many of the nanowires were found to be unstable and change from metallic to semiconducting  $R(T)$  during or soon after measurement. Note that  $R(T)$  shows average behavior of a  $11.5 \mu m$  long nanowire while spin-to-charge conversion happens only in a small part ( $0.1 \mu m$ ) below the Cu nanowire. In this manuscript we report one typical measurement on the nanowires which show partly metallic behavior as in Fig. A2(d). The nano-Hall bar prepared at the same time showed similar metallic  $R(T)$  (shown in Fig. S1[47]) and anomalous Hall effect at room temperature. We would like to emphasize that irrespective of metallic

or semiconducting  $R(T)$  all the nanowires showed inverse spin Hall effect (ISHE) signal at room temperature. We believe the ISHE signal at room temperature primarily originates from  $Mn_3Sn$  phase as Mn-Sn alloy phases have opposite sign of spin Hall angle.

## Appendix B: Shunting factor calculation

The spin Hall angle and spin Hall conductivity critically depends on the shunting factor  $x$ , which determines amount of charge current that is shunted back to Cu after spin-charge conversion in the spin Hall material. In order to estimate  $x$  we use a shunt device (as shown in Fig. B1) that was used previously in ref [63]. We use COMSOL AC/DC module to calculate current distribution in this shunt device. As  $x$  critically depends on the width of nanowires in the device, we measure exact dimension of the spin Hall device under consideration with SEM and found  $w_{Cu} = 165$  nm and  $w_{Mn_3Sn} = 256$  nm. The COMSOL simulation was done in a shunting device

with center-to-center distance  $L = 530$  nm,  $\rho_{Cu} = 3.72$   $\mu\Omega$  cm, and  $\rho_{Mn_3Sn} = 1133$   $\mu\Omega$  cm. The shunting factor  $x$  can be calculated using the equation [63, 64],

$$\frac{V_w}{V_{wo}} = \frac{L + 2w_{Cu}(x - 1)}{L + w_{Cu}(x - 1)} = \frac{40 + 66x}{73 + 33x} \quad (\text{B1})$$

In this simulation we ignore side shunting by reducing thickness of spin Hall material to 10 nm. Note that

Eq. B1 is valid only for shunting from top side and is inaccurate in presence of significant side shunting when thickness of spin Hall material is comparable to Cu thickness. From COMSOL simulation we found  $V_w = 0.4748$  V and  $V_{wo} = 0.8236$  V. Using Eq. B1 we found  $x = 0.04$  for our device. Fig. B2 shows variation of spin Hall angle and spin Hall conductivity with shunting factor  $x$  in the range 0.01 to 0.1.

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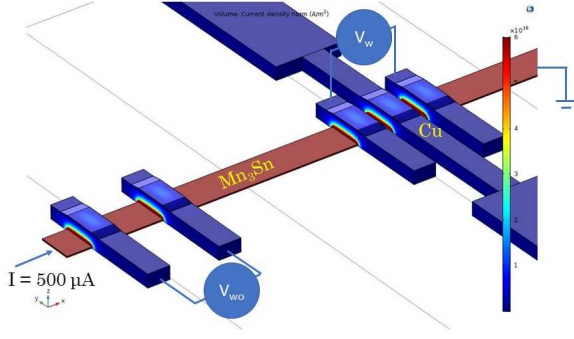


FIG. B1: COMSOL simulation result of current density in the shunt-device. To determine  $x$ ,  $I = 500 \mu A$  was passed through the  $Mn_3Sn$  nanowire and voltages  $V_w$  and  $V_{wo}$  was measured from the simulation.

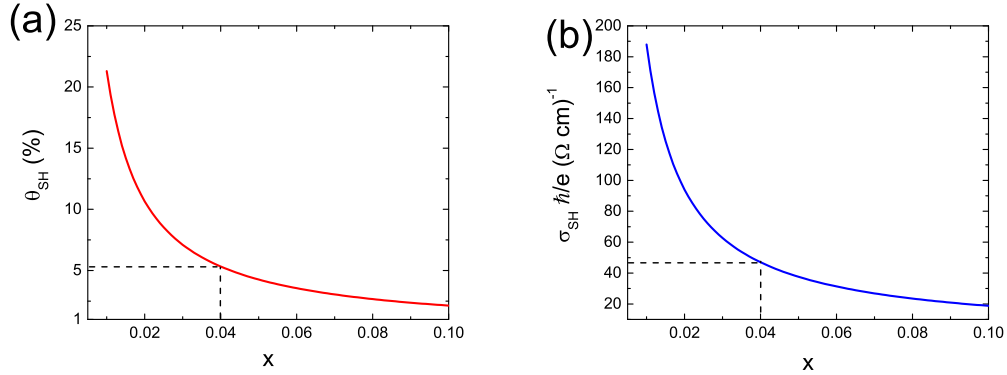


FIG. B2: Variation of (a) spin Hall angle  $\theta_{SH}$  and (b) spin Hall conductivity  $\sigma_{SH}$  with shunting factor  $x$  in the range 0.01 to 0.1. Note that  $x = 0.1$  is the maximum value of shunting factor reported [65] experimentally in these devices with resistivity of spin Hall material of the order of  $\sim 900 \mu\Omega cm$ .