

Dynamic Nuclear Spin Polarization Induced by the Edelstein Effect at Bi(111) SurfacesZijian Jiang, V. Soghomonian, and J. J. Heremans^{*}*Department of Physics, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia 24061, USA* (Received 9 June 2019; revised 7 July 2020; accepted 11 August 2020; published 3 September 2020)

Nuclear spin polarization induced by hyperfine interaction and mainly the Edelstein effect due to strong spin-orbit interaction, is investigated by quantum transport in Bi(111) thin film samples. The Bi(111) films are deposited on mica by van der Waals epitaxial growth. The Bi(111) films show micrometer-sized triangular islands with 0.39 nm step height, corresponding to the Bi(111) bilayer height. At low temperatures a high current density is applied to generate a nonequilibrium carrier spin polarization by mainly the Edelstein effect at the Bi(111) surface, which then induces dynamic nuclear polarization by hyperfine interaction. Comparative quantum magnetotransport antilocalization measurements indicate a suppression of antilocalization by the in-plane Overhauser field from the nuclear polarization and allow a quantification of the Overhauser field. Hence nuclear polarization was both achieved and quantified by a purely electronic transport-based approach.

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Spatial inversion symmetry exists in the Bi bulk but is broken normal to the surface, leading to strong Rashba-like spin-orbit interaction (SOI) due to the asymmetry of the surface-confinement potential for the two-dimensional (2D) surface states supported at the Bi(111) surface [1–3]. The Rashba parameter can reach ≈ 0.5 eV Å, substantially larger than in, e.g., InSb heterostructures [4,5]. Bi thin films further show a high carrier mobility and a long mean free path [6]. The Bi (111) surface states have therefore been of recent interest [7,8]. The Edelstein effect generates a nonequilibrium carrier spin polarization (CP) in materials with SOI in response to an applied electric field or a current density \mathbf{j} , with the spin polarization direction normal to \mathbf{j} and the surface normal [9–12]. The Edelstein effect has its origin in spin-momentum locking due to SOI. The effect can be pronounced at surfaces and interfaces with strong SOI, such as the Ag/Bi(111) [13,14] and Cu/Bi(111) [15] interfaces. Given the strong SOI at the Bi(111) surface, an in-plane \mathbf{j} in a Bi thin film is expected to generate a nonequilibrium in-plane CP. As explained in Ref. [16], here the Edelstein effect appears as the main contributor to the CP, likely augmented by contributions from the Bi spin Hall effect [13,14]. Hyperfine interaction (HI) can by dynamic nuclear polarization (DNP) transfer the CP to a nonequilibrium in-plane nuclear spin polarization (NP). The present work shows such CP-induced DNP, an example of the interplay between strong SOI, HI, and the Edelstein effect. The work also demonstrates that the effect of NP on quantum-coherent transport allows for a quantification of the polarization. The work is reminiscent of recent experiments where CP from the Edelstein effect generates a spin-transfer torque on magnetic moments [30], compared to this work where HI effectively mediates a spin-transfer torque on the nuclear spins. DNP from CP resulting from spin injection was

previously predicted [31] and the interplay between NP and CP from spin injection, mediated by HI, was studied in Fe/GaAs [17]. Another study used Faraday rotation to study DNP from current-induced NP in InGaAs [18]. The present experiments however differ from the latter [18] by using quantum magnetotransport measurements to quantify the DNP in an all-electrical setup, and by showing that the relatively higher carrier density in the Bi(111) surface states compared to semiconductors [17–20] allows DNP without application of an external magnetic field, relying only on the effective electronic field created by CP.

HI refers to the coupling of carrier spins to the nuclear spins by an energy term $A\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{J}$, where A represents the hyperfine coupling constant [21,22], \mathbf{I} the nuclear spin, and \mathbf{J} the total carrier angular momentum. Two mechanisms contribute to HI [22,32,33], Fermi contact interaction (dominant when carrier and nuclear orbitals overlap [34]) and dipolar interaction [22,32]. HI can be more pronounced for heavy atoms featuring atomic parameters with higher energy scales [21,33], and for nuclei with large I . Both effects play a role strengthening HI for Bi, with $I = 9/2$. Further, electrons in Bi have a substantial s -orbital component at the Fermi energy, $\sim 10\%$, increasing the contact term and HI. The strong SOI in Bi may also enhance HI. Quantitative information on the strength of HI in semimetallic Bi is lacking. Yet experiments have studied the interaction between Bi donors in Si and the Si s -like conduction band carriers [23,24,33], concluding $A = 6.1$ μeV . The Knight shift in Bi₂Se₃ shows $A = 27$ μeV [21]. Such values for A indicate that consequential HI is expected in semimetallic Bi as well as in Bi compounds. HI can lead to DNP where spin polarization is transferred from the carriers to the nuclei [35,36] and CP then generates NP. With NP established, the carriers

experience HI as an effective in-plane magnetic field having the same effect as an external Zeeman field, the Overhauser field B_{OH} [16,22,36,37]. Similarly, via HI the electronic CP results in an in-plane effective magnetic field B_e experienced by the nuclei [16,20]. For DNP to occur, the dipole-dipole interaction field B_L between neighboring nuclei ($B_L \approx 0.024$ mT [16]) needs to be overcome by a nuclear Zeeman energy preventing a rapid T_2 relaxation of NP [16,17,19,20]. B_L can be overcome by a sufficiently large B_e [20]. In semiconductor experiments B_e is low due to the low carrier density, and overcoming the decay of NP then requires an external magnetic field $> B_L$ [17–20]. In contrast, the present work shows that the higher carrier density in the Bi(111) surface states provides a $B_e \gg B_L$ so that DNP can occur without an in-plane external magnetic field, and in fact application of an in-plane field keeps results unchanged [16].

B_{OH} and the NP are here quantified by the antilocalization (AL) quantum coherence corrections to the conductance of the Bi(111) surface states, caused by quantum interference between backscattered time-reversed carrier trajectories under SOI. At low temperatures T , the AL corrections lead to a resistance R with a specific dependence on an external magnetic field B_{\perp} normal to the surface [25,38,39]. The magnetoresistance [MR, $R(B_{\perp})$] due to AL is determined by three characteristic times [38,39]: the elastic scattering time τ_0 as deduced from the areal surface state density N_S and mobility μ , the SOI spin decoherence time τ_{SO} , and the quantum phase decoherence time τ_{ϕ} . Here $\tau_{\text{SO}}^{-1} \propto \Delta_{\text{SO}}^2$ where Δ_{SO} denotes the SOI splitting at the Fermi wave vector. The times are experimentally determined by quantitative fitting of the MR data to the AL theory developed by Iordanskii, Lyanda-Geller, and Pikus (ILP) [26] appropriate for the Bi(111) 2D surface states with Rashba-like SOI [16]. The influence of magnetization on AL in ferromagnetic materials has been theoretically studied [40]. We expect similar effects due to NP, supported by the theoretical treatment of B_{OH} as an effective in-plane magnetic field B_{\parallel} [41,42]. Specifically, B_{\parallel} generates an effective Zeeman splitting which aligns the carrier spins and hence suppresses the Cooperon in the spin singlet channel and thereby inhibits AL [40]. The inhibition of AL is visible in the data as an increase in τ_{SO} with increasing B_{\parallel} . Further, AL is a sensitive probe of quantum and spin coherence [38], and is sensitive to the time-reversal symmetry (TRS) breaking due to B_{\parallel} [40,43,44]. The breaking of TRS due to the interplay of Zeeman splitting and SOI results in a quantifiable decrease in τ_{ϕ} [43] with increasing B_{\parallel} , also visible in the data. Identifying $B_{\parallel} = B_{\text{OH}}$, we thus use AL as a sensitive probe of DNP and HI which allows a quantification of B_{OH} .

An optimized van der Waals epitaxy (vdWE) [27] was used to grow the Bi(111) films on mica substrates, resulting in large grain sizes with the trigonal axis perpendicular to the film plane [16]. vdWE is particularly suited to the

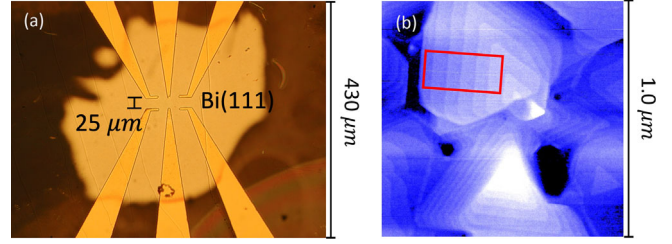


FIG. 1. (a) Optical micrograph of the 40 nm thick Bi film sample grown on mica by van der Waals epitaxy, with lithographic Au contacts. The diameter of the sample is $\sim 350 \mu\text{m}$; distance between contacts $\sim 25 \mu\text{m}$. (b) AFM micrograph of a $1 \mu\text{m} \times 1 \mu\text{m}$ region of the Bi film clearly illustrates layered growth. Step analysis in the red boxed region indicates a step height of 0.391 ± 0.015 nm, as expected for 1.0 BL_{111} .

unstrained growth of weakly bonding materials such as Bi [28,29]. The 40 nm thick Bi(111) was deposited through a shadowmask, yielding samples of diameter $\sim 350 \mu\text{m}$. Au contacts were photolithographically patterned after film deposition [Fig. 1(a)]. Atomic force microscopy indicated a layered step surface with triangular terraces [Fig. 1(b)] and showed a step height between adjacent terraces of 0.391 ± 0.015 nm, corresponding to one Bi(111) bilayer height ($\text{BL}_{111} = 0.39$ nm) [16].

The AL and transport coefficient characterization were carried out by magnetotransport in a ^3He immersion cryostat down to $T = 0.39$ K, using standard 4-contact ac lock-in techniques with current of $2 \mu\text{A}$ rms under applied B_{\perp} . To develop DNP a high dc polarization current, $I_p = 0.5$ mA to 1.5 mA, $\mathbf{j} \sim 6.25 \times 10^7$ A/m 2 to 1.9×10^8 A/m 2 , was applied at $T = 0.39$ K between a pair of contacts for variable polarization durations t_p from 10 to 120 min. I_p was removed after the DNP step, letting the NP and B_{OH} decay slowly with a spin-lattice relaxation time T_1 characteristic of the nuclear decoherence [45,46]. The slow decay allowed time for the subsequent observation of DNP from AL measurements. For AL measurements the voltage was measured over the same contacts to which I_p was applied and hence over the path of which B_{OH} develops, as depicted in Fig. 2. For the AL data it is sufficient to sweep B_{\perp} over ~ 0.2 T, achievable in as little as ~ 15 min, of the order of the expected T_1 [47,48]. Experiments were also performed with different delay times t_{delay} , from 15 to 40 min, inserted between removing I_p and performing the AL measurement, to characterize the decay in B_{OH} and estimate T_1 .

N_S and μ were determined from magnetotransport at 0.39 K, indicating predominantly n -type surface carrier contribution. We determine $N_S = 1.95 \times 10^{15} \text{ m}^{-2}$, $\mu = 1.00 \text{ m}^2/\text{Vs}$, $\tau_0 = 0.0856$ ps and mean free path $l_0 = v_f \tau_0 = 20.4$ nm, where v_f is the Fermi velocity derived from N_S . As appropriate for surface states we use the 2D diffusion constant D calculated as $D = \frac{1}{2} v_f^2 \tau_0$, at $T = 0.39$ K yielding $D = 0.00243 \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$. AL results in a

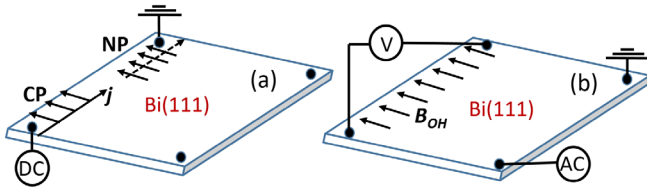


FIG. 2. Schematic of the Edelstein-induced DNP and AL setup for Bi(111) surface states. (a) A high dc current density \mathbf{j} in the Bi film sample induces a nonequilibrium carrier spin polarization by mainly the Edelstein effect. The surface-state carrier spins are oriented perpendicular to \mathbf{j} , and induce an in-plane surface nuclear spin polarization via DNP, resulting in in-plane Overhauser field B_{OH} . (b) After \mathbf{j} is removed and while B_{OH} slowly decays, AL measurements are carried out.

characteristic positive quantum correction in $R(B_{\perp})$ at $B_{\perp} \lesssim 0.04$ T, expressed as a small correction to the 2D conductivity $\sigma_2(B)$. We define $\Delta\sigma_2(B_{\perp}) = \sigma_2(B_{\perp}) - \sigma_2(B_{\perp} = 0)$ and $\Delta R(B_{\perp}) = R(B_{\perp}) - R_0$ where $R_0 = R(B_{\perp} = 0)$. Since $\Delta R(B_{\perp}) \ll R_0$, we have $\Delta\sigma_2(B_{\perp})/\sigma_2(B_{\perp} = 0) \approx -\Delta R(B_{\perp})/R_0$, allowing fits to $\Delta\sigma_2(B_{\perp})$ from the experimental MR. To fit the data the ILP theory [26] is applied, including only the Rashba SOI term (details in Ref. [16]). Since τ_0 merely produces a shift in $\Delta\sigma_2(B_{\perp})$, τ_{ϕ} and τ_{SO} are the only two free fitting parameters. The fits are performed for AL obtained after different t_p and t_{delay} under different I_p . From the fits, we find the dependences on t_p , t_{delay} and I_p of τ_{SO} and τ_{ϕ} . From the latter the dependences of B_{OH} are determined.

Figure 3 depicts representative MR of the Bi film sample at $T = 0.39$ K before and after DNP using variable I_p ranging from 0.5 mA to 1.5 mA and t_p ranging from 0 (before DNP) to 120 min (at $t_{delay} = 0$). The positive MR characteristic of AL is observed both before and after DNP. The negative of $\Delta\sigma_2(B_{\perp})$ [reproducing $\Delta R(B_{\perp})$] at low B_{\perp}

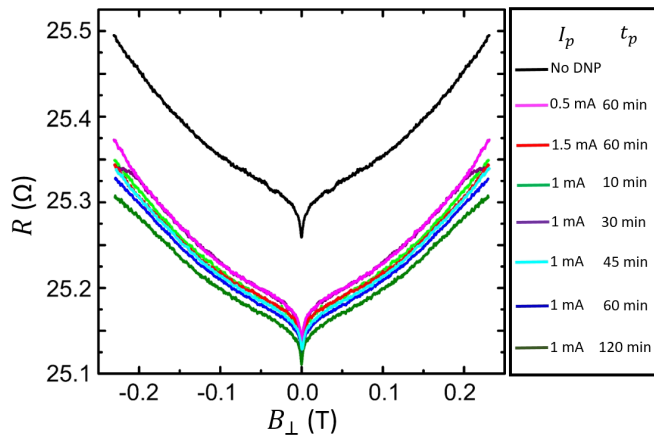


FIG. 3. AL magnetoresistance at $T = 0.39$ K before (indicated as No DNP) and after DNP with variable I_p and variable t_p ($t_{delay} = 0$; traces not offset). After DNP a widening of $R(B_{\perp})$ vs B_{\perp} for $B_{\perp} \neq 0$ is evident.

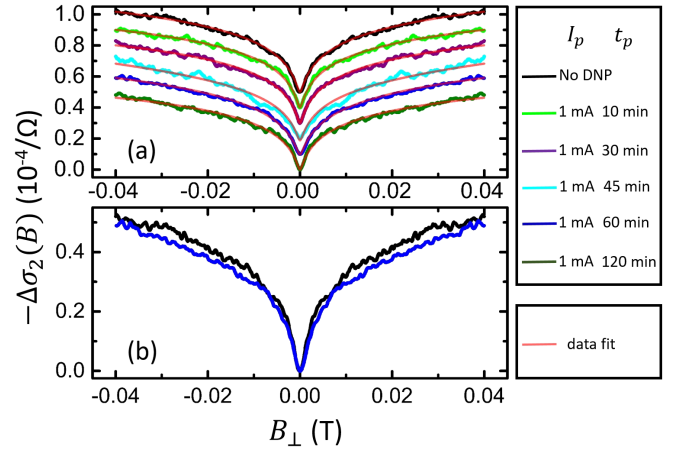


FIG. 4. 2D conductivity corrections due to AL at $T = 0.39$ K and at low B_{\perp} ($t_{delay} = 0$): (a) under variable t_p with $I_p = 1$ mA. The red traces indicate fits to the AL theory [26]. Data are offset for clarity; (b) before DNP (black trace) and after DNP (blue trace) with $t_p = 60$ min and $I_p = 1$ mA (traces not offset). The widening of the trace after DNP indicates a partial suppression of AL by B_{OH} .

is displayed in Fig. 4(a) for variable t_p when $I_p = 1$ mA (at $t_{delay} = 0$). Best fits to the ILP theory [16,26] overlay the data in Fig. 4(a) in red and indicate that the theory excellently captures the AL in the Bi(111) surface states and will allow reliable extraction of values for τ_{SO} and τ_{ϕ} . The traces for $R(B_{\perp})$ (Fig. 3) and for $-\Delta\sigma_2(B_{\perp})$ [Fig. 4(a)] show a widening vs B_{\perp} for $B_{\perp} \neq 0$ after DNP, characteristic of an increase in τ_{SO} (decreasing effect of SOI) and a decrease in τ_{ϕ} as confirmed below. The widening shows a dependence on I_p and t_p , with long $t_p = 120$ min at $I_p = 1$ mA resulting in the largest effect. The dependence on t_p and I_p suggests DNP and hence B_{OH} play a role in changing τ_{SO} and τ_{ϕ} . The widening of the minimum in $-\Delta\sigma_2(B_{\perp})$ is further illustrated in Fig. 4(b) where the black trace represents $-\Delta\sigma_2(B_{\perp})$ before DNP and the blue trace after DNP with $t_p = 60$ min and $I_p = 1$ mA (at $t_{delay} = 0$). Before we present quantitative data on τ_{SO} and τ_{ϕ} , we note that the AL results after DNP are qualitatively consistent with the existence of in-plane B_{OH} . Phenomenologically, after removing I_p , B_{OH} persists and generates an effective Zeeman energy $g_{\parallel}^* \mu_B B_{OH}$, where g_{\parallel}^* denotes the in-plane g factor (for Bi(111) surface states, $g_{\parallel}^* \approx 33$ [8]) and μ_B denotes the Bohr magneton. B_{OH} partially aligns the carrier spins and suppresses the spin phase shift due to SOI and thereby weakens AL [40,43,49]. The effect leads to a widening of the characteristic sharp minimum in $\Delta R(B_{\perp})$ vs B_{\perp} and is quantified by a lengthening of τ_{SO} . Further, B_{OH} results in a spin-induced TRS breaking [42,43,49], leading to a decrease in τ_{ϕ} . While it is not in the scope of this experimental study to modify the ILP theory to include HI, future theoretical studies

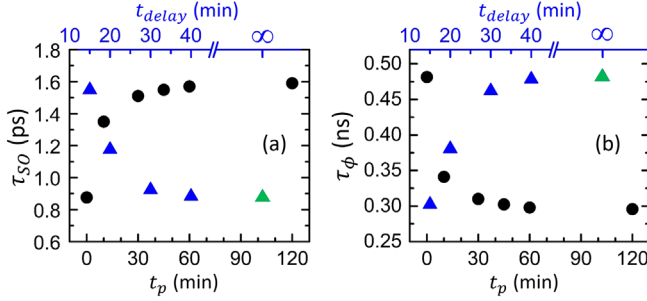


FIG. 5. (a) Spin-orbit decoherence times τ_{SO} and (b) quantum phase decoherence times τ_ϕ at $T = 0.39$ K and $I_p = 1$ mA, vs DNP duration t_p ($t_{delay} = 0$) (black circles) and vs t_{delay} ($t_p = 60$ min) (blue triangles). Data without DNP stand in for $t_p = 0$ and for $t_{delay} \rightarrow \infty$ (green triangles).

specific to the influence of HI and NP on AL may help refine quantitative aspects of the experiments, as was performed for ferromagnetic order [40] and for Zeeman interaction [42].

The dependences of τ_{SO} and τ_ϕ on t_p at fixed $I_p = 1$ mA with $t_{delay} = 0$ are presented in Figs. 5(a) and 5(b). The value of τ_{SO} increases with increasing t_p [Fig. 5(a)], indicative of the influence of the in-plane B_{OH} . A phenomenological understanding was presented above. Theoretical studies of the combined influence of SOI and B_{\parallel} on an inhomogeneous interfacial spin distribution [50] show that even a weak B_{\parallel} results in a decrease of the spin density proportional to $1/(2\pi D\tau_{SO})$, relating an increase in τ_{SO} to the influence of $B_{\parallel} = B_{OH}$. Figure 5(b) shows a decrease of τ_ϕ with increasing t_p , and similar to Fig. 5(a) manifests a saturation at higher t_p . The decrease of τ_ϕ with increasing t_p is indicative of the interplay of the effective Zeeman energy and SOI [42,43], predicted to result in a quadratic dependence of τ_ϕ on B_{\parallel} [43]:

$$\frac{\tau_\phi(B_{\parallel})}{\tau_\phi(B_{\parallel} = 0)} = \frac{1}{1 + cB_{\parallel}^2}, \quad (1)$$

where $c = \tau_\phi(B_{\parallel} = 0)\tau_{SO}(B_{\parallel} = 0)(g_{\parallel}^*\mu_B/\hbar)^2$. The estimated average value of $B_{OH} = B_{\parallel}$ can be calculated from the data using Eq. (1). Figures 5(a) and 5(b) depict the dependences of τ_{SO} and τ_ϕ on t_{delay} at $I_p = 1$ mA and $t_p = 60$ min ($-\Delta\sigma_2(B_{\perp})$ in Ref. [16]). With increasing t_{delay} , τ_{SO} decreases and τ_ϕ increases to their values without DNP, consistent with a decay in B_{OH} . Figure 6 shows the average B_{OH} calculated from τ_ϕ in Fig. 5(b). Since the AL measurement (sweeping over $B_{\perp} \sim 0.2$ T after removing I_p and waiting t_{delay}) spans ~ 15 min, by estimated average B_{OH} is meant the value after averaging over these ~ 15 min. Current spreading between the current contacts over the sample geometry during DNP will likely lead to nonuniform DNP, and B_{OH} hence encompasses spatial averaging

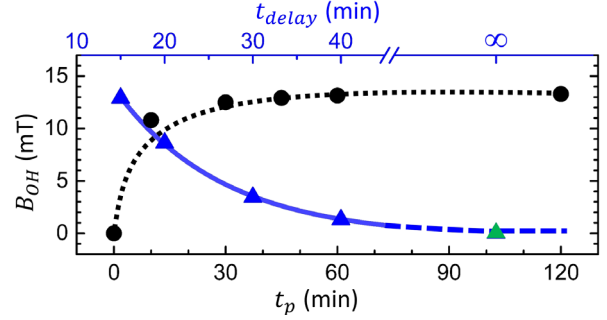


FIG. 6. Overhauser field B_{OH} at $T = 0.39$ K and $I_p = 1$ mA, vs DNP duration t_p ($t_{delay} = 0$) (black circles) and vs t_{delay} ($t_p = 60$ min) (blue triangles). Data without DNP stand in for $t_p = 0$ and for $t_{delay} \rightarrow \infty$ (green triangle). The black dotted line is a guide to the eye. The blue line is an exponential fit yielding $T_1 = 11.4$ min.

as well. To minimize handling of the data, the averaging effects are not accounted for in Fig. 6 but should be kept in mind. In Fig. 6 the average B_{OH} increases with increasing t_p , and saturates at about 13 mT. An exponential fit showed that the increase towards saturation occurs with a characteristic time $T_1 e = 6 \dots 11$ min, with $T_1 e$ characterizing the expected nuclear spin alignment by DNP [20]. In Fig. 6, the average B_{OH} decays exponentially with increasing t_{delay} , with spin-lattice relaxation time $T_1 = 11.4$ min. The value $T_1 = 11.4$ min is of the order of expected values [47,48]. B_{OH} depends on the average nuclear spin I_{av} after NP, as $B_{OH} = AI_{av}/(g_{\parallel}^*\mu_B)$ [16,20,51], and I_{av} follows a Brillouin function in the average carrier spin S_{av} after CP [16,20]. Using values of $A = 6.1 \mu\text{eV}$ to $27 \mu\text{eV}$ [21,23,24,33] we find that $B_{OH} = 13$ mT is reached for $S_{av} = 0.37$ if $A = 6.1 \mu\text{eV}$ and for $S_{av} = 0.20$ if $A = 27 \mu\text{eV}$ [16]. Since we do not expect full NP ($S_{av} = \frac{1}{2}$) and B_{OH} involves averages described above, the saturation value of 13 mT is consistent with the knowledge of A in Bi and with plausible values of S_{av} . For $B_{OH} = 13$ mT and in this range of A it is calculated that $B_e \gg B_L$, consistent with the observation of DNP without external magnetic field [16]. Also, the dependence of B_{OH} on I_p strongly resembles the expected Brillouin function [16], strengthening the consistency between expectations and data. The saturation value $B_{OH} = 13$ mT and the dependences on t_p , t_{delay} and I_p firmly suggest that the CP due mainly to the Edelstein effect was transferred by HI to the Bi nuclei, demonstrating Edelstein-induced DNP and its measurement by quantum transport.

In conclusion, Bi(111) thin films were deposited by van der Waals epitaxy on mica substrates. Using antilocalization quantum-coherent transport measurements on the Bi (111) surface states to detect in-plane magnetic fields, quantitative evidence was obtained for a transfer of carrier spin polarization to Bi nuclear spin polarization by hyperfine interaction. The carrier spin polarization was obtained via mainly the Edelstein effect in the Bi(111) surface states.

The experiments verify the existence of Edelstein-induced dynamic nuclear polarization, in an example of interaction between spin-orbit interaction and hyperfine interaction via the nuclear spin bath, with possible applications in nuclear spintronics and to polarize nuclei to mitigate spin decoherence via HI in quantum devices. The experiments also show that antilocalization forms a sensitive probe for hyperfine interaction and nuclear polarization.

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Supplemental Material

Dynamic nuclear spin polarization induced by Edelstein effect at Bi(111) surfaces

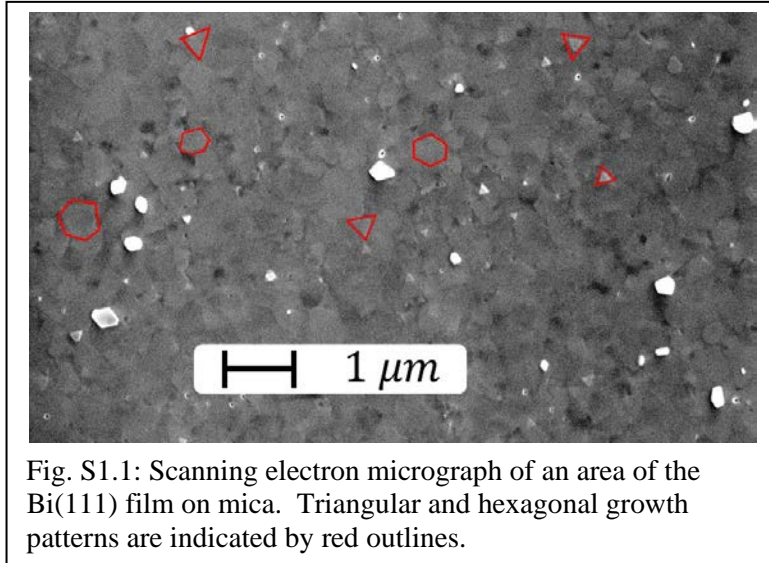
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S1: Van der Waals shadowmask epitaxy of Bi(111) thin films

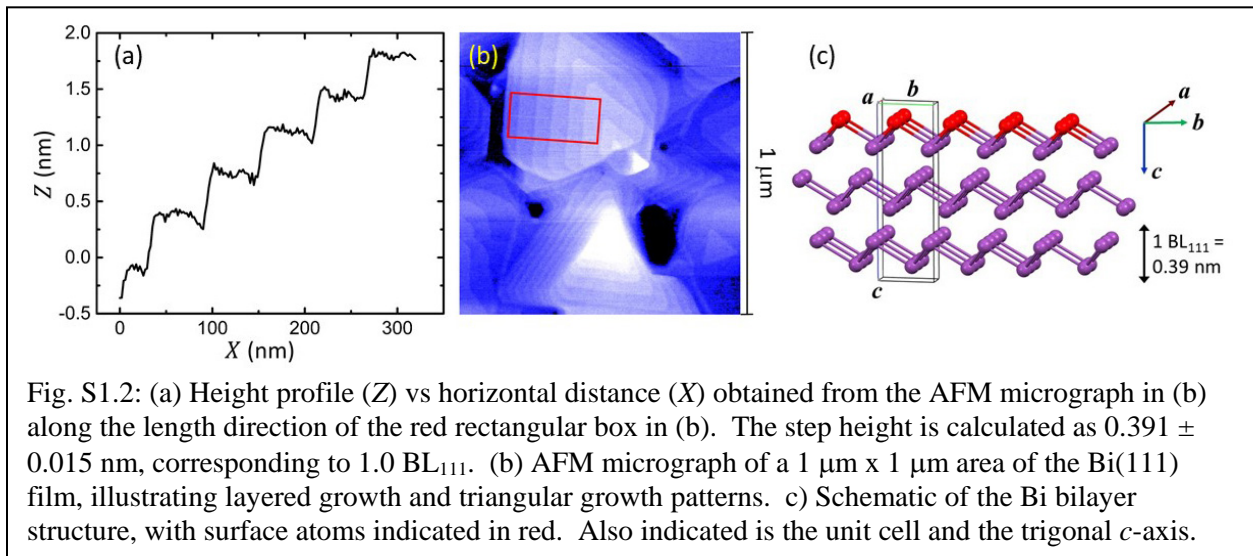
High quality Bi thin film growth is challenging [1]. In the present work an optimized van der Waals epitaxy (vdWE) [2-4] is used, adaptable to growth of various 2D materials. Unlike conventional Stranski-Krastanov epitaxial growth where the bonding or interaction between the substrate and epilayer is often covalent or ionic, in vdWE the interaction is non-bonding and hence weak. vdWE is a choice when the substrate and/or the epilayer possess a van der Waals surface without dangling bonds, realized in 2D materials with naturally completely terminated surfaces, such as graphene and mica [2-4]. Epilayers of Sb, Ge and Ge/Sb on mica exhibit high crystalline quality [3,4], leading to mica as the substrate for the present Bi thin film growth. As the interaction between the deposited Bi layer and mica is weak, when the epitaxial Bi layer is deposited on the lattice-mismatched mica substrate (monoclinic, $a_{mica} = 519$ pm, $b_{mica} = 904$ pm), it at the outset grows unstrained, with a lattice constant of $a_{Bi} = 454$ pm, the bulk lattice constant of Bi in a plane normal to the trigonal axis. The Bi films in this work grow by vdWE from the coalescence of isolated three-dimensional triangular islands, where each island grows layer-by-layer with a step height of 0.39 nm corresponding to one Bi(111) bilayer height ($BL_{111} = 0.39$ nm), as detailed below.

The Bi films grow on mica with the trigonal axis (c -axis) perpendicular to the mica ab surface, yielding a Bi(111) surface. Onto a freshly cleaved mica substrate, high-purity (99.999 %) Bi was thermally evaporated at a base pressure of 10^{-8} Torr at room temperature. To remove absorbed surface water, the mica substrate was preheated at 250 °C for at least 24 hr under ultra-high vacuum before Bi deposition [2]. An Al shadowmask with apertures of diameters ~ 350 μ m was placed on the mica surface. A 40 nm thick layer of Bi (~ 100 BL_{111}) was deposited through the apertures at a rate of 0.35 BL_{111} /min [5]. The deposition rate and film thickness were monitored by a quartz microbalance monitor to within an accuracy of < 5 %. After deposition, the film samples were annealed at 95 ± 5 °C for 1 hr and then left in the chamber to cool before venting with dry nitrogen. On the resulting shadowmasked Bi film samples of diameter ~ 350 μ m, photolithographically patterned Au was applied as contacts with a representative distance of 25 μ m between two contacts (main text Fig. 1a).

As depicted in Fig. S1.1, scanning electron microscopy (SEM) of a representative area indicates large-scale uniformity and large grain size up to ~ 1 μ m, with few defects. The SEM micrograph also shows characteristic triangular or hexagonal growth patterns (highlighted in red contours), corroborating the rhombohedral crystal structure of Bi thin films with the trigonal axis (c -axis) perpendicular to the mica surface. The triangular growth patterns are also apparent in the AFM micrograph in main text Fig. 1b, repeated here (Fig. S1.2b).



Atomic force microscopy (AFM) clearly indicated a layered step surface with triangular terraces (main text Fig. 1b, Fig. S1.2b). As shown in Fig. S1.2a, the step height between adjacent terraces is measured to be 0.391 ± 0.015 nm, corresponding to 1.0 BL_{111} . Figure S1.2c depicts the Bi structure, highlighting the Bi(111) bilayers, the trigonal axis c , and a unit cell. Over a $1 \mu\text{m} \times 1 \mu\text{m}$, AFM measurements reveal that the root mean square roughness of the film was 1.53 nm. Compared to the sample thickness of 40 nm, the roughness measurement implies that the Bi film sample features a flat high-quality surface.



S2: Role of the Edelstein effect in charge-current to spin conversion

Because ferromagnetic materials are absent in the experiments, and because Bi surfaces and interfaces are known to show strong Rashba-like spin-orbit interaction (SOI) [6,7] and the Edelstein effect [8,9,10], the latter effect stands out as a main contributor to the non-equilibrium carrier spin polarization. Yet the spin Hall effect in the bulk of the Bi film can also contribute to the carrier spin polarization [8,9]. The following points reinforce those views.

SOI is absent in bulk Bi due to the existence of inversion symmetry in the bulk. Yet in bulk Bi the spin Hall effect can lead to a bulk carrier spin polarization similar in its effects to the interfacial carrier spin polarization induced by the Edelstein effect [8,9], and both the spin Hall effect and the Edelstein effect likely contribute to generating the carrier spin polarization. We note however that in this work the Bi is not interfaced with a magnetic material, of which the exchange interaction competes with the interfacial SOI, suppressing or disturbing the interfacial Rashba-like SOI and leading to a reduced Edelstein effect [8]. In the absence of such suppression, and given the known strong Rashba-like SOI at Bi surfaces and interfaces, it is likely that the Edelstein effect is a main contributor to the carrier spin polarization, supplemented however by contributions from the Bi spin Hall effect.

A lateral spin accumulation at the edges of the device is in principle possible. But, the geometry does not have well-defined edges as it is not a lithographically prepared Bi mesa but a Bi flake with contacts on top. And, the antilocalization (AL) measurements sample not only the carrier population at the device edges but average the signal over the entire plane within which the current spreads. Hence under lateral spin accumulation the AL measurement would only return a diluted signal.

The Edelstein effect emerges as the main contributor to the dynamic nuclear polarization signature. Both top and bottom Bi interfaces are expected to show an Edelstein effect. While our experiments cannot differentiate between dynamic nuclear polarization signatures from top and bottom interfaces, the top interface of the Bi film is expected to be less disordered, and hence contribute more to transport signatures such as the present dynamic nuclear polarization signature.

S3: Analysis of antilocalization data

We performed quantitative analysis of the AL data using the theory of Iordanskii, Lyanda-Geller, and Pikus (ILP) [11], Eq. 13. This theory was used because it takes into account Rashba-like SOI due to spatial symmetry breaking normal to the surface containing the two-dimensional surface states [12] (SOI is absent in bulk Bi due to inversion symmetry). In Ref. [11], we set $\Omega_3 = 0$ (no cubic Rashba and Dresselhaus terms), and obtain the quantum correction to the 2D conductivity:

$$\sigma_2(B_\perp) = -\frac{e^2}{4\pi^2\hbar} \left\{ \frac{1}{a_0} + \frac{2a_0+1+\frac{H_{SO}}{B_\perp}}{a_1(a_0+\frac{H_{SO}}{B_\perp})-\frac{2H_{SO}}{B_\perp}} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{3}{n} - \frac{3a_n^2+\frac{2a_nH_{SO}}{B_\perp}-\frac{2(2n+1)H_{SO}}{B_\perp}}{(a_n+\frac{H_{SO}}{B_\perp})a_{n-1}a_{n+1}-\frac{2H_{SO}}{B_\perp}[(2n+1)a_{n-1}]} \right) + 2\ln \frac{H_0}{B_\perp} + \Psi \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{H_\phi}{B_\perp} \right) + 3C \right\}, \text{ where } a_n = n + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{H_\phi}{B_\perp} + \frac{H_{SO}}{B_\perp}, H_\alpha = \frac{\hbar}{4eD\tau_\alpha} \text{ with } \alpha = 0, \text{ or } \phi, \text{ or } S.$$

Here τ_0 denotes the elastic scattering time, τ_ϕ the quantum phase decoherence time, τ_{SO} the SOI spin decoherence time, and the H_α denote characteristic magnetic fields, while Ψ is the digamma function. The 2D diffusion constant $D = 0.00243 \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$ and $\tau_0 = 0.0856 \text{ ps}$ are obtained from conventional longitudinal and Hall resistance measurements (as explained in the main text; values at $T = 0.39 \text{ K}$). In two dimensions as appropriate for surface states we have $D = \frac{1}{2} v_f^2 \tau_0$, where v_f denotes the Fermi velocity. Therefore τ_ϕ and τ_{SO} are the only two remaining free fitting parameters.

To approximate the sum $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{3}{n} - \frac{3a_n^2 + \frac{2a_n H_{SO}}{B_\perp} - 1 - \frac{2(2n+1)H_{SO}}{B_\perp}}{\left(a_n + \frac{H_{SO}}{B_\perp}\right)a_{n-1}a_{n+1} - \frac{2H_{SO}}{B_\perp}[(2n+1)a_{n-1}]}\right)$, we set the upper limit of n to 30000, which is sufficient as tests showed.

The ILP approach is suitable for the regime where $\Omega \tau_0 < 1$, with Ω representing the spin precession frequency due to SOI. The SOI energy splitting at the Fermi wavevector is expressed as $\Delta_{SO} = \hbar \Omega$ (note that in [11], $\Omega_1 = \frac{1}{2} \Omega$). An approach by Golub *et al.* [13] is in theory more appropriate than the ILP approach if $\Omega \tau_0 > 1$. The Golub approach was developed as a refinement of ILP for cases where SOI is strong (high Ω) or mobility is high (long τ_0 , e.g. for ballistic transport or as appropriate for III-V semiconductors). We obtain values for Ω from the expression $1/\tau_{SO} = \frac{1}{2} \Omega^2 \tau_0$ [12] using τ_{SO} from the main text. With $\tau_0 = 0.0856 \text{ ps}$, taking $\tau_{SO} \approx 1 \text{ ps}$ (main text Fig. 5(a)), we find $\Omega \tau_0 = (2\tau_0/\tau_{SO})^{1/2} \approx 0.4 < 1$. Hence the use of the ILP approach is justified. While SOI in the present Bi surface states is strong (high Ω), the carrier mobility is lower than in e.g. III-V semiconductors (shorter τ_0), rendering ILP a satisfactory formalism.

The ILP analysis should be restricted to magnetic fields B_\perp below the characteristic field $H_0 = \hbar / (4eD\tau_0) = \hbar / (2e l_0^2)$, where $l_0 = v_f \tau_0$ denotes the mean free path. With $l_0 = 20.4 \text{ nm}$, we find $H_0 = 0.79 \text{ T}$, well above the range $-0.04 \text{ T} < B_\perp < 0.04 \text{ T}$ we use for the analysis. The magnetoresistance (MR) data was obtained in each case with B_\perp ranging over $\pm 0.2 \text{ T}$, while the ILP fitting was performed only over the subrange $\pm 0.04 \text{ T}$. The wider experimental range $\pm 0.2 \text{ T}$ was used out of caution, to ascertain that the sample's behavior had not changed in unaccountable ways that would indicate a lack of continuity in the data series, even though this did slow down the measurements. The fitting range was restricted to $\pm 0.04 \text{ T}$ to make sure no other MR phenomena, such as the almost inevitable geometrical MR, would contaminate the analysis. Yet for the ILP fitting it is important to capture the characteristic sharp dip in $R(B_\perp)$ at $B_\perp \approx 0$, as well as the gradual lessening of dR/dB_\perp at higher B_\perp . The range $\pm 0.04 \text{ T}$ proved optimal to avoid other MR phenomena as well as to capture AL features necessary for the ILP fit, and amply satisfies the criterion $B_\perp < H_0$.

S4: Effective hyperfine fields

The nonequilibrium nuclear spin polarization (NP) in this work, and hence the effective nuclear Overhauser magnetic field \mathbf{B}_{OH} experienced by the electrons, result from the generation of a nonequilibrium electron spin polarization. Yet for dynamic nuclear spin polarization (DNP) to occur, the dipole-dipole interaction field B_L between neighboring nuclei needs to be overcome (B_L is typically a fraction of mT). Unless overcome by a nuclear Zeeman energy, this interaction will lead to a rapid relaxation of the nonequilibrium nuclear spin, with a relaxation time $T_2 \sim 0.1 \text{ ms}$ [14-16]. The characteristic time for development of the NP by hyperfine interaction with

electrons is denoted $T1e$. Since $T1e \gg T2$, the NP can be ignored unless B_L responsible for the $T2$ relaxation is overcome by an actual or effective magnetic field B_{eff} experienced by the nuclei, requiring $B_{eff} \gg B_L$ [14-16]. Further, given B_{eff} , the nuclear spin system is effectively isolated from the lattice because the nuclear spin-lattice relaxation is characterized by a time $T1 \gg T2$ (the isolation of the nuclear spin system from the lattice allows the definition of a nuclear spin temperature, as distinct from lattice temperature or electron temperature) [16]. The average nuclear spin after polarization is given by I_{av} :

$$I_{av} = I B_I(x), \quad x = I \ln\left[\frac{(1+2S_{av})}{(1-2S_{av})} \frac{(1+2S_{th})}{(1-2S_{th})}\right],$$

$$S_{th} = (1/2) \tanh[(\mu_B g_{\parallel} B) / (2k_B T)]$$

where $I = 9/2$ is the Bi nuclear spin, and $B_I(x)$ is the Brillouin function for I [16]. S_{av} is the average electron spin after electron spin polarization, S_{th} is the equilibrium value of the average electron spin at $B = B_{OH}$ and temperature T , μ_B is the Bohr magneton and g_{\parallel} the in-plane g -factor ($g_{\parallel} \approx 33$ for Bi(111) surface states [5]). S_{av} is limited by $S_{th} < S_{av} < 1/2$. At the value $B_{OH} = 13$ mT obtained from the experiments and at $T = 0.39$ K, we find $S_{th} = 0.177$. I_{av} is colinear with S_{av} . We note that for the limits $S_{av} \rightarrow S_{th}$ we have $I_{av} \rightarrow 0$, and for $S_{av} \rightarrow 1/2$ we have $I_{av} \rightarrow I = 9/2$.

An estimate of B_L can be obtained [16] from the dipole expression $B_L = (\mu_0 / 4\pi) (\mu_I / a^3)$, where μ_I denotes the nuclear magnetic moment with $\mu_I = I \mu_N$ (with μ_N the nuclear magneton and $I = 9/2$), a denotes the interatomic distance in Bi and μ_0 the permeability of vacuum. Using $a \approx a_{Bi} = 454$ pm, the bulk lattice constant of Bi in a plane normal to the trigonal axis, we find $B_L \approx 0.024$ mT.

The hyperfine interaction is experienced by the electrons as an in-plane B_{OH} yielding an effective Zeeman energy, described by $g_{\parallel} \mu_B B_{OH} = A I_{av}$, where A denotes the hyperfine coupling constant [17,18]. B_{OH} is colinear with I_{av} . In case of Fermi contact interaction, A can be expressed as [16]:

$$A = (4/3) \mu_N \mu_B \mu_0 \eta N,$$

where η denotes the squared Bloch wave function amplitude at the site of the nucleus and N the volume density of nuclei in the material. In Bi, experiments have concluded $A \approx 6.1 \mu\text{eV} \dots 27 \mu\text{eV}$ [17,19-21]. We note that η can be large ($\eta \approx 10^3 \dots 2 \times 10^4$) because the electron density has a sharp maximum at the nucleus. In Bi, $N = 2.82 \times 10^{27}$ nuclei/m³. For $A \approx 6.1 \mu\text{eV} \dots 27 \mu\text{eV}$ we find $\eta \approx 4.41 \times 10^3 \dots 1.95 \times 10^4$, within the range of expectations. We rewrite:

$$B_{OH} = A I_{av} / (g_{\parallel} \mu_B) = (4/3) \mu_N \mu_0 \eta N I_{av} / g_{\parallel}.$$

Similarly, spin-polarized electrons result via hyperfine interaction in an in-plane magnetic field B_e experienced by the nuclei, expressed as [16]:

$$B_e = - (4/3) \mu_B \mu_0 \eta n_e S_{av},$$

where n_e denotes the electron density (here estimated for the Bi(111) surface states). We hence have:

$$B_e = - (A S_{av} / \mu_N) (n_e/N),$$

which can be compared to $B_{OH} = A I_{av} / (g_{\parallel} \mu_B)$. B_e is colinear with S_{av} . Hence, S_{av} , I_{av} , B_{OH} and B_e are all colinear. It was found experimentally that if the field B_e generated by spin-polarized electrons is sufficiently large, then B_e functions as a B_{eff} surmounting dephasing by B_L , and

allows for DNP [16]. In experiments on semiconductors, where the carrier density is low, typically we have $n_e/N \ll 1$, and the effect of B_e is negligible ($B_e < B_L$). In semiconductors, application of a small external magnetic field is hence necessary to obtain NP [14-16,22]. However, in semimetals such as Bi, carrier densities are substantially higher and n_e/N is larger. As we will see, this results in $B_e \gg B_L$, allowing DNP to occur. The areal electron surface state density $N_S = 1.95 \times 10^{15} \text{ m}^{-2}$, as determined from magnetotransport at $T = 0.39 \text{ K}$. Assuming the surface states are localized in the top Bi bilayer (an approximation) of thickness 0.39 nm , we obtain $n_e \approx 5.00 \times 10^{24} \text{ m}^{-3}$. This yields $n_e/N \approx 1.8 \times 10^{-3}$.

Values for I_{av} , B_{OH} and B_e depend on values for A and/or S_{av} . A is only known within a range from the literature, while S_{av} is in the experiment not independently determined. The interaction between the spin-polarized electron current and the nuclei is also subject to nonuniformity due to current spreading. Yet, we show below that the ranges $6.1 \mu\text{eV} < A < 27 \mu\text{eV}$ and $S_{th} < S_{av} < 1/2$ yield B_{OH} values compatible with $B_{OH} \approx 13 \text{ mT}$ obtained in the experiments, and that $B_e \gg B_L \approx 0.024 \text{ mT}$ in all cases. Figure S4.1 shows B_{OH} plotted vs S_{av} ($S_{th} = 0.177 < S_{av} < 0.40$) for $A = 6.1 \mu\text{eV}$ and $A = 27 \mu\text{eV}$, with $S_{th} = 0.177$, where the level $B_{OH} = 13 \text{ mT}$ is indicated. Figure S4.2 shows B_e plotted vs S_{av} ($S_{th} = 0.177 < S_{av} < 0.4$) for $A = 6.1 \mu\text{eV}$ and $A = 27 \mu\text{eV}$.

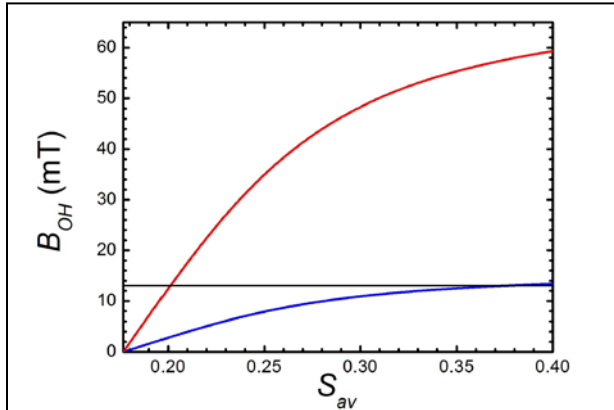


Fig. S4.1: Calculated B_{OH} vs S_{av} for $A = 6.1 \mu\text{eV}$ (blue) and $A = 27 \mu\text{eV}$ (red), with $B_{OH} = 13 \text{ mT}$ indicated as a black line. At $A = 6.1 \mu\text{eV}$, $B_{OH} = 13 \text{ mT}$ is reached at $S_{av} = 0.37$. At $A = 27 \mu\text{eV}$, $B_{OH} = 13 \text{ mT}$ is reached at $S_{av} = 0.20$.

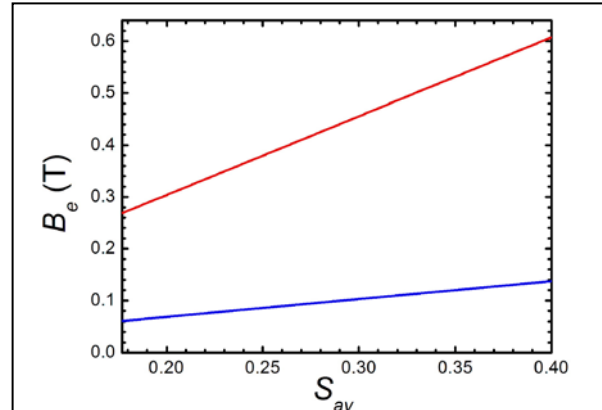


Fig. S4.2: Calculated B_e vs S_{av} for $A = 6.1 \mu\text{eV}$ (blue) and $A = 27 \mu\text{eV}$ (red). At $A = 6.1 \mu\text{eV}$, $S_{av} = 0.37$ yields $B_e = 0.129 \text{ T}$. At $A = 27 \mu\text{eV}$, $S_{av} = 0.20$, yields $B_e = 0.305 \text{ T}$. In both cases, $B_e \gg B_L$.

Figures S4.1 and S4.2 show that at $A = 6.1 \mu\text{eV}$, we have $B_{OH} = 13 \text{ mT}$ for $S_{av} = 0.37$, yielding $B_e = 0.129 \text{ T}$. At $A = 27 \mu\text{eV}$, we have $B_{OH} = 13 \text{ mT}$ for $S_{av} = 0.20$, yielding $B_e = 0.305 \text{ T}$. Both values for S_{av} are realistic, and in both cases $B_e \gg B_L \approx 0.024 \text{ mT}$. In Fig. S4.3 we have plotted B_e vs A assuming $S_{th} = 0.177$ and $B_{OH} = 13 \text{ mT}$, showing that all values of A result in $B_e \gg B_L$.

The calculations hence show that in the experiments the field B_e generated by spin-polarized electrons is amply sufficiently large to surmount dephasing by B_L , and to allow for DNP. The observed $B_{OH} = 13 \text{ mT}$ is also consistent with the present knowledge of A in Bi.

As a test, we performed DNP measurements with an external in-plane magnetic field B_{\parallel} applied during the nuclear polarization, with $B_{\parallel} = 0.1$ T and 1.0 T ($B_{\parallel} \approx B_e$ while $B_{\parallel} \gg B_L$). B_{\parallel} was applied in-plane and normal to the average current density direction of I_p , hence colinear with the expected S_{av} , I_{av} , B_{OH} and B_e . The in-plane field measurements were performed at $T = 1.30$ K, the lowest T in the system allowing in-plane fields, and are depicted in Fig. S4.4. The figure contains the AL MR (negative of conductivity correction $\Delta\sigma_2$) plotted as $-\Delta\sigma_2(B_{\perp})$ vs B_{\perp} , where B_{\perp} denotes the magnetic applied normally to the surface. Figure S4.4 contains a comparison MR trace where no DNP was performed, three MR traces with DNP under $I_p = 1$ mA applied for $t_p = 60$ min, and two data fits. The salient point is that no viable difference was detected between the MR traces with DNP for $B_{\parallel} = 0$, $B_{\parallel} = 0.1$ T and $B_{\parallel} = 1.0$ T; the identical data fitting to these three traces bears this out. However, the 3 MR traces with DNP and its fit differ from the MR trace without DNP and its fit, in the expected manner. Hence, application of B_{\parallel} does not change the DNP process. The reason lies in the fact that the nuclear spin relaxation due to B_L is already amply suppressed by $B_e \gg B_L$ and hence application of B_{\parallel} does not measurably add additional suppression.

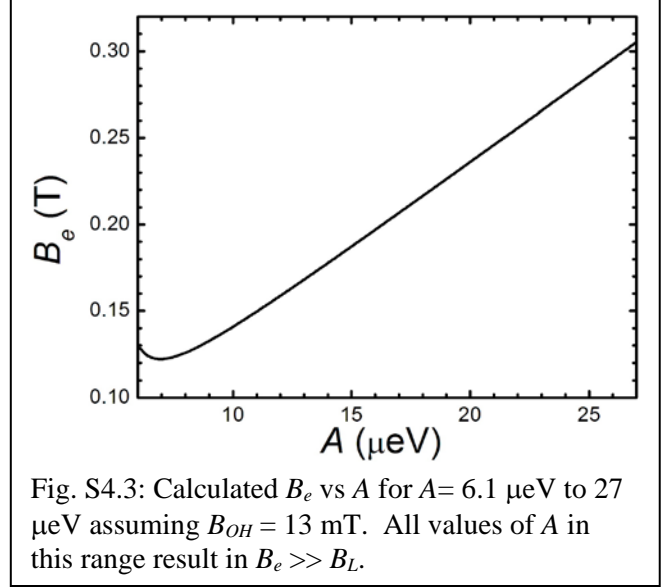


Fig. S4.3: Calculated B_e vs A for $A = 6.1$ μeV to 27 μeV assuming $B_{OH} = 13$ mT. All values of A in this range result in $B_e \gg B_L$.

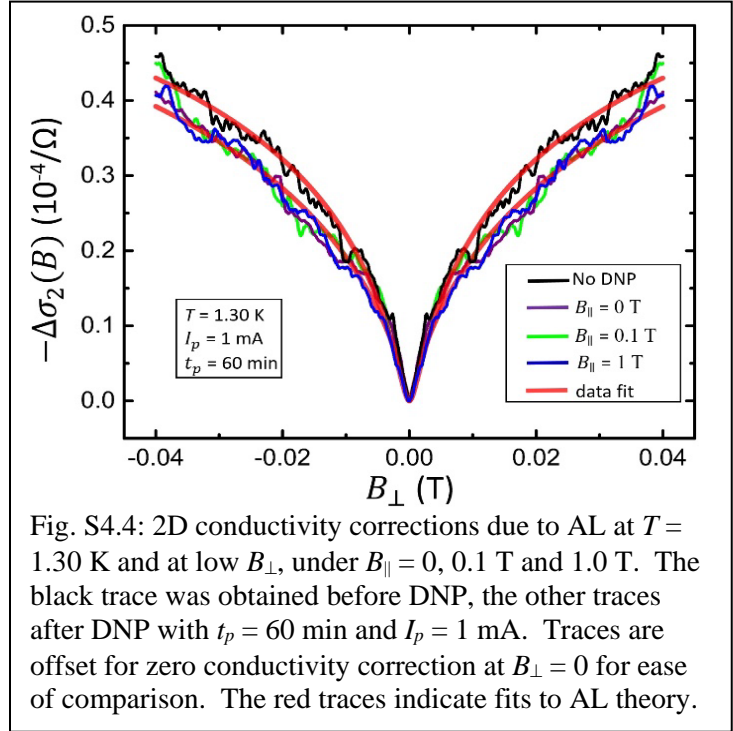
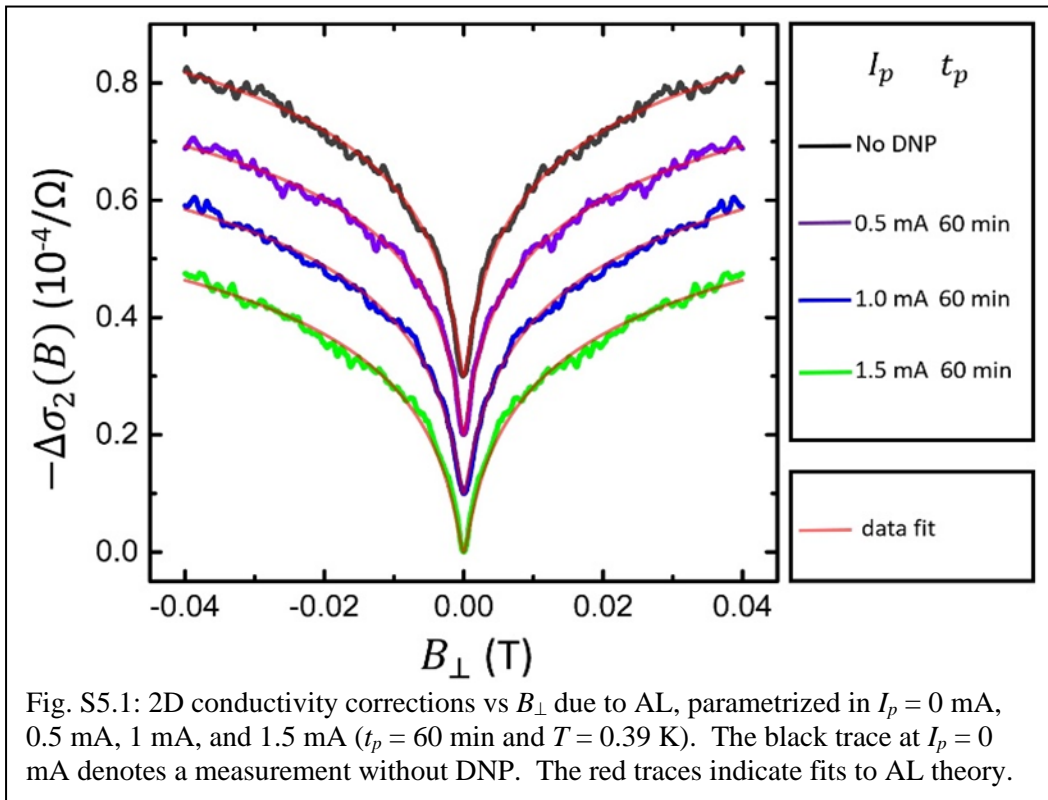


Fig. S4.4: 2D conductivity corrections due to AL at $T = 1.30$ K and at low B_{\perp} , under $B_{\parallel} = 0$, 0.1 T and 1.0 T. The black trace was obtained before DNP, the other traces after DNP with $t_p = 60$ min and $I_p = 1$ mA. Traces are offset for zero conductivity correction at $B_{\perp} = 0$ for ease of comparison. The red traces indicate fits to AL theory.

The data in Fig. S4.4 was obtained at $T = 1.30$ K to accommodate the in-plane magnetic fields. The AL data fit under DNP results in: $\tau_{\phi} = 0.118$ ns, $\tau_{SO} = 1.35$ ps, $B_{OH} = 12.65$ mT. We note that the B_{OH} at $T = 1.30$ K is lower than its saturation value of 13 mT at 0.39 K (main text). We attribute this to the influence of thermal broadening of the AL MR at the higher T , expressed in a lowering of τ_{ϕ} for rising T as expected. It should not be interpreted as a drop in B_{OH} with rising T . The characterization of DNP by the AL method requires low T so that the thermal lowering of τ_{ϕ} does not obscure the lowering of τ_{ϕ} due to B_{OH} .

S5: Dependence on polarization current, and conversion efficiency

The in-plane Overhauser field B_{OH} shows a dependence on the DC polarization current I_p , as we show in this section. DNP experiments were performed with $I_p = 0.5$ mA, 1 mA, and 1.5 mA at fixed polarization duration $t_p = 60$ min, at $T = 0.39$ K. $I_p \geq 2$ mA was not used, because with $I_p = 2$ mA a momentary small rise of T by about 10 mK was observed for about 15 s after applying I_p , and hence it could not be fully ascertained that sample heating was negligible. Figure S5.1 depicts AL MR (negative of conductivity correction $\Delta\sigma_2$) plotted as $-\Delta\sigma_2(B_\perp)$ vs B_\perp , where B_\perp denotes the magnetic applied normally to the surface, parametrized in $I_p = 0$ mA (no DNP), 0.5 mA, 1 mA, and 1.5 mA ($t_p = 60$ min). The data at $I_p = 0$ mA denotes a measurement without DNP. Best fits to the ILP theory [11] are indicated as red lines and allow reliable extraction of values for τ_{SO} and τ_ϕ .



The dependences of τ_{SO} and τ_ϕ on I_p at $T = 0.39$ K are presented in Fig. S5.2. The value of τ_{SO} increases sublinearly with increasing I_p , while the value of τ_ϕ decreases with increasing I_p . Both are due to increased influence of B_{OH} after using higher I_p . The decrease in τ_ϕ is directly linked to higher B_{OH} with higher I_p .

The estimated average value of B_{OH} was calculated from τ_ϕ using Eq. 1 (main text) and plotted vs I_p in Fig. S5.3. B_{OH} increases sublinearly with I_p but does not saturate for $I_p \leq 1.5$ mA. The results in Fig. S5.3 are consistent with increasing I_p leading to increasing nuclear polarization, as expected. Figure S5.3 shows that B_{OH} vs I_p strongly resembles a Brillouin function shape, which can be understood from the discussion in Supplemental S4.

We denoted S_{av} the average electron spin polarization due to the Edelstein effect (Supplemental S4). S_{av} is due to charge-current to spin conversion via the Edelstein effect and S_{av} is expected to depend linearly on I_p with a proportionality constant describing the charge-current to spin

conversion efficiency, $S_{av} = \alpha I_p$. Then, since B_{OH} vs S_{av} follows a Brillouin function, it is expected that B_{OH} vs I_p also follows a Brillouin function. However, a qualitative predictive model linking B_{OH} and I_p depends on either knowledge of a specific value for the hyperfine constant A or of the proportionality constant α . The latter

will in our samples not only depend on the intrinsic charge-current to spin conversion efficiency of the Edelstein effect, but will also depend on sample geometry due to current spreading. As explained, the calculated B_{OH} reflects a spatial averaging due to current spreading over the sample geometry between the two current contacts, which likely results in non-uniform DNP. The hyperfine constant A is from the literature only known within a range, $A \approx 6.1 \mu\text{eV} \dots 27 \mu\text{eV}$ [17,19-21].

For every given B_{OH} (given I_p) we can calculate a range of S_{av} depending on A . From this range of S_{av} we can then also only obtain a range of α and not a specific value. Given the uncertainty in A and the spatially non-uniform DNP, a precise analysis of charge-current to spin conversion efficiency and of α would hence be conjectural. Yet, the resemblance to the expected Brillouin function shows a strong consistency between the theoretical expectations and our results.

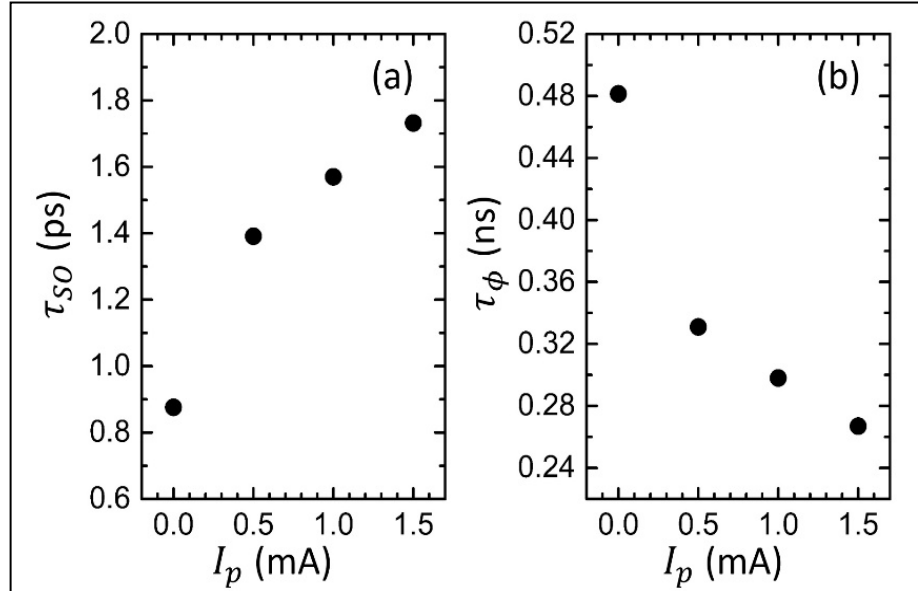


Fig. S5.2: (a) Spin-orbit decoherence times τ_{SO} and (b) quantum phase decoherence times τ_ϕ ($t_p = 60$ min and $T = 0.39$ K), plotted vs different polarization currents I_p . The data without DNP is indicated as $I_p = 0$.

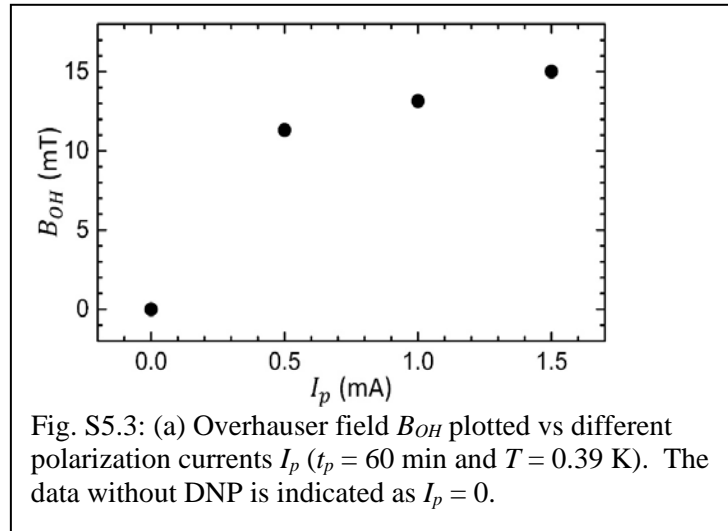
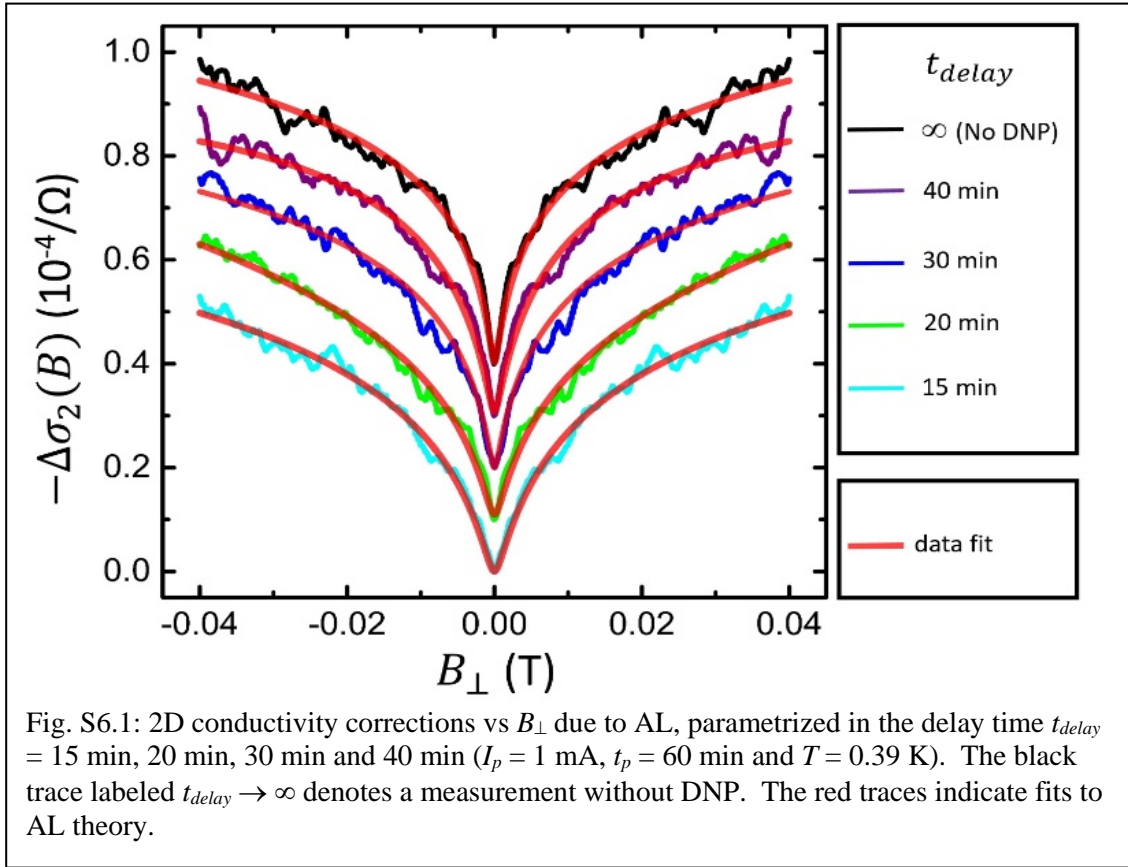


Fig. S5.3: (a) Overhauser field B_{OH} plotted vs different polarization currents I_p ($t_p = 60$ min and $T = 0.39$ K). The data without DNP is indicated as $I_p = 0$.

S6: Dependence on delay time: magnetoresistance data

Figure S6.1 contains the AL MR as the negative of the 2D conductivity correction $\Delta\sigma$ plotted as $-\Delta\sigma_2(B_\perp)$ vs B_\perp , with B_\perp the magnetic applied normally to the surface, parametrized in the delay time $t_{delay} = 15$ min, 20 min, 30 min and 40 min. The data labeled $t_{delay} \rightarrow \infty$ denotes a measurement without DNP (returning to a state where nuclear polarization has decayed). The data was obtained at $I_p = 1$ mA, $t_p = 60$ min and $T = 0.39$ K. Best fits to the AL theory [11] are indicated as red lines and allow for determination of values for τ_{SO} and τ_ϕ . The dependences on t_{delay} of τ_{SO} , τ_ϕ and B_{OH} are presented and discussed in the main text.



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