

Supplementary material for High-frequency Hall effect and Transverse Electric galvanomagnetic waves in current-biased 2d electron systems

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1 On absorption of circularly polarized light by 2DES and its chirality

Here we examine the problem of a circularly polarized light incident on a 2DES with tensor-valued conductivity $\hat{\sigma}$ (Fig. 1). The polarization (right or left) of incident radiation is encoded in parameter p . The straightforward solution of Maxwell's equations with corresponding boundary conditions leads us to the following values for the magnitudes of reflection and transmission coefficients:

$$t_+ = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Sigma_{xx} + \Sigma_{yy} + 2 + ip(\Sigma_{yx} - \Sigma_{xy})}{(\Sigma_{xx} + 1)(\Sigma_{yy} + 1) - \Sigma_{xy}\Sigma_{yx}}; \quad (1)$$

$$t_- = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Sigma_{yy} - \Sigma_{xx} - ip(\Sigma_{xy} + \Sigma_{yx})}{(\Sigma_{xx} + 1)(\Sigma_{yy} + 1) - \Sigma_{xy}\Sigma_{yx}}; \quad (2)$$

$$r_+ = t_-; \quad r_- = t_+ - 1. \quad (3)$$

The absorption coefficient α is given by

$$\alpha = 1 - |r_+|^2 - |r_-|^2 - |t_+|^2 - |t_-|^2. \quad (4)$$

We are interested in polarization-sensitive terms, so we examine each of the modulus-squared terms in the above equation:

$$|r_+|^2 = |t_-|^2 \propto p^2 \left(\Sigma''_{xy} + \Sigma''_{yx} \right)^2 + \left(\Sigma''_{yy} - \Sigma''_{xx} \right)^2; \quad (5)$$

$$|t_+|^2 \propto \left[2 - p \left(\Sigma''_{yx} - \Sigma''_{xy} \right) \right]^2 + \left(\Sigma''_{xx} + \Sigma''_{yy} + 2 \right)^2; \quad (6)$$

$$|r_-|^2 \propto \left[\Sigma''_{xx}\Sigma''_{yy} - \Sigma''_{xy}\Sigma''_{yx} - p \left(\Sigma''_{yx} - \Sigma''_{xy} \right) \right]^2 + \left(\frac{\Sigma''_{xx} + \Sigma''_{yy}}{2} \right)^2, \quad (7)$$

where the imaginary part of any quantity χ is denoted as χ'' .

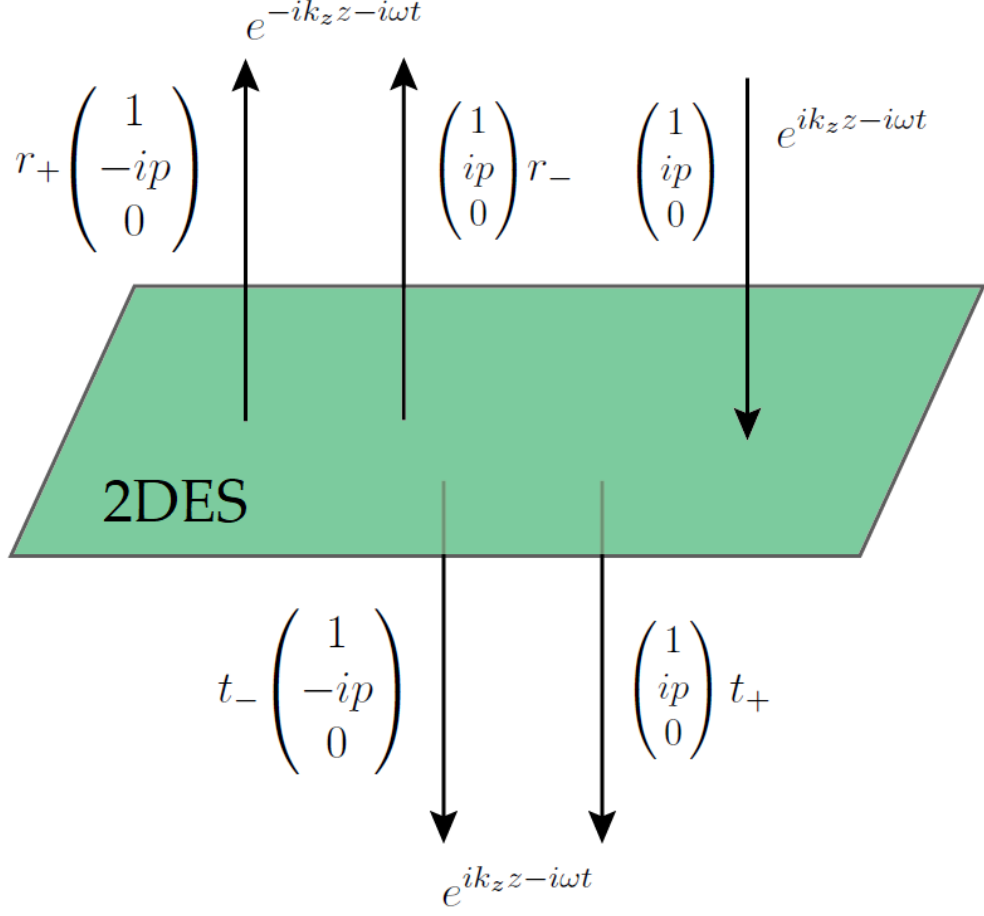


Figure 1: Schematic drawing of a circularly polarized wave incident on a 2DES in vacuum. The 2DES is characterized by a conductivity tensor $\hat{\sigma}$.

Thus, we conclude that the absorption coefficient contains the following polarization-sensitive term:

$$-p \left(\Sigma''_{yx} - \Sigma''_{xy} \right) \frac{1 + \Sigma''_{xx} \Sigma''_{yy} - \Sigma''_{xy} \Sigma''_{yx}}{|(\Sigma''_{xx} + 1)(\Sigma''_{yy} + 1) - \Sigma''_{xy} \Sigma''_{yx}|^2} \in \alpha. \quad (8)$$

From this we conclude that a 2DES with non-symmetric conductivity tensor ($\Sigma_{xy} \neq \Sigma_{yx}$) absorbs light dependent on its polarization, i.e. such a system is *chiral*. This is a usual situation for 2DESs in external magnetic field, but obviously cannot be attributed to 2DESs with homogeneously drifting carriers.

2 Solution to dispersion relation $\det\hat{M}_2 = 0$ when drift and wave vector are not parallel

After tedious algebra one can obtain the general form of the dispersion relation $\det\hat{M}_2 = 0$ (Eq. (16) of the main text)

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_{xx}\Sigma_{yy} + i\Sigma_{xx} \left(-\frac{\sin^2 \alpha}{\kappa_z} + \kappa_z \cos^2 \alpha \right) + i\Sigma_{yy} \left(-\frac{\cos^2 \alpha}{\kappa_z} + \kappa_z \sin^2 \alpha \right) - \\ - \Sigma_{xy}\Sigma_{yx} + (\Sigma_{xy} + \Sigma_{yx}) \frac{i\kappa^2}{2\kappa_z} \sin 2\alpha + 1 = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

This equation can be simplified in the quasistatic limit ($\kappa_z \simeq \kappa$) to

$$1 - \frac{\Sigma_0^2}{(1 + i/\omega\tau - \kappa\beta \cos \alpha)^2} + \Sigma_0 \frac{(\kappa\beta)^2(3 + \cos 4\alpha)/4 - \kappa^2 + 1 - 2\kappa\beta \cos^3 \alpha}{\kappa(1 - \kappa\beta \cos \alpha)(1 + i/\omega\tau - \kappa\beta \cos \alpha)} = 0, \quad (10)$$

where $\beta = u_0/c$. This equation can be solved analytically with respect to κ . In the most relevant limit $\beta \ll 1$, $\kappa \gg \omega$, Σ_0 (or $u_0 \ll c$, $kc \gg \omega, \omega_{2d}$) we come to

$$1 - \frac{\Sigma_0^2}{(1 + i/\omega\tau - \kappa\beta \cos \alpha)^2} - \frac{\kappa\Sigma_0}{(1 - \kappa\beta \cos \alpha)(1 + i/\omega\tau - \kappa\beta \cos \alpha)} = 0. \quad (11)$$

This is a cubic equation with respect to ω and can be solved analytically. One of its roots gives the dispersion (21) of the main text.