Topological insulators go 3D

➡ bulk-boundary correspondence



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Advanced Solid-State Physics, WS 24/25 Topological insulators go 3D

Kane-Mele model



First model of a topological insulator: Kane and Mele (2005) Topological invariant (\mathbb{Z}_2): Fu and Kane (2007) Extension to 3D: Fu, Kane, and Mele (2007)

Image from Phys. Rev. Research 2, 033071 (2020)

Chiral (helical) states



Chiral / helical indicates the unique propagation direction

Image credit: Freepik

Trio of Hall effects



Science 340, 153 (2013)

Spin-orbit coupling



Phys. Rev. B 92, 035135 (2015)

Choosing the right material



Science 314, 1757 (2006)

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Realistic theoretical proposal: quantum well



Science 314, 1757 (2006); Phys. Today 63(1), 33 (2010)

Experimental realization



Science 318, 767 (2007); Phys. Today 63(1), 33 (2010)

Observation of the Dirac cone



now at room temperature!

Nature 460, 1101 (2009)

Tuning of the Fermi level



Dosing Bi₂Se₃ with NO₂ (1L indicates the dosage)

Nature 460, 1101 (2009)

Observation of edge states

imaging of step edge on the surface



local conductivity measured by scanning tunneling spectroscopy



Material: Bi₄Br₄

Nature Mater. 21, 1111 (2022)

Edge states at room temperature



Material: Bi₄Br₄



Nature Mater. 21, 1111 (2022)

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Spin texture of the Dirac cone



Nature Comm. 7, 13143 (2026); arXiv:0909.0921; Emergent Transport Properties of Magnetic Topological Insulator Heterostructures (2020)

Spin-momentum locking



Nature Comm. 8, 2141 (2017) and Nature Nanotech. 9, 218 (2014)

Magnetic topological insulator: Chern insulator



Sci. Advances 6, eaaz 35 95 (2020)

Magnetic topological insulator: Chern insulator



Sci. Advances 6, eaaz3595 (2020)