Magnetism-induced second-order nonlinear optical responses in multiferroic BiFeO₃

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Nonlinear optical (NLO) responses of noncentrosymmetric nonmagnets have drawn a lot of attention in the past decades because of their significance in materials characterization, green energy, and device applications. On the other hand, magnetism not only can break the inversion symmetry in centrosymmetric crystals but also introduce additional NLO phenomena in noncentrosymmetric materials, thus enabling the magnetic field control of light-matter interactions. However, the magnetism-induced NLO responses have rarely been studied so far. In this paper, we study the magnetism-induced NLO responses of multiferroic bismuth ferrite (BiFeO₃) based on density-functional-theory calculations. First, we find that the calculated magnetism-induced second-harmonic generation (SHG) susceptibilities are large and the SHG intensity is tunable with the reversal of magnetization. In particular, the interference between crystallographic SHG and magnetically induced SHG components results in a strong magnetic contrast of the SHG signal of $\sim 440\%$ at SHG photon energy of 4.82 eV, thus enabling a magnetic control of the SHG in multiferroic BiFeO₃. Also, because of the sensitivity of the SHG signal to the direction of the Néel vector, the SHG can be utilized to detect the reversal of the Néel vector in the AFM materials, which is an important issue for AFM spintronics. Second, the calculated bulk photovoltaic effects (BPVE) in BiFeO3 are also strong, being larger than some well-known NLO compounds such as BaTiO3, GaAs, CdS, and CdSe. Finally, we analyze the origins of the prominent features in the NLO response spectra in terms of the calculated quantum geometric quantities. Our interesting findings suggest that the magnetism-driven NLO responses in BiFeO₃ are significant, anisotropic, and tunable and that understanding the magnetism-driven components of both SHG and BPVE is essential for their applications in, e.g., multiferroic-based photovoltaic devices and second-harmonic generation.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Strong second-order nonlinear optical (NLO) responses could be produced by materials lacking inversion (P) symmetry under intense optical fields [1,2]. Second-harmonic generation (SHG) [3,4] and bulk photovoltaic effect (BPVE) [5-9] are two well-known examples of second-order NLO responses. SHG, a specific instance of sum-frequency generation in noncentrosymmetric crystals, is widely used as a tool for symmetry characterization and frequency doublers [2]. Since the 1960s, the SHG has been studied extensively in bulk semiconductors [10-17], and more recently also in onedimensional [18–20] and two-dimensional [21–28] materials. However, the study of magnetism-induced SHG elements has only received attention lately (see, e.g., Refs. [29-31] and references therein). These magnetism-induced SHG can be used as a tool to probe surface and interface magnetization. This could also be used to manipulate the SHG by a magnetic field, as shown recently by Toyoda et al. [32], where stronger SOC enhances the SHG contribution by the magnetic order. This results in comparable magnitudes for both crystalline

and magnetic SHGs, leading to novel phenomena such as magnetic switching of SHG [32].

Another intriguing second-order NLO response is the generation of dc photocurrents, commonly known as the bulk photovoltaic effect or photogalvanic effect. It emerges from the inversion-asymmetric transition of electron position or velocity during the optical excitation, and the resulting dc photocurrents are, respectively, called the shift current and the injection current [33]. In nonmagnetic systems, shift currents are produced by linearly polarized light, while injection currents are produced by circularly polarized light, and often called linear shift and circular injection currents. However, linearly (circularly) polarized light can produce injection (shift) currents as well as shift (injection) currents due to timereversal (T) symmetry breaking in magnetic systems [34]. For instance, in PT-symmetric systems, only the linear injection and circular shift current responses appear. Nonetheless, when both T and PT symmetries are broken, all four responses, namely, linear (circular) shift and linear (circular) injection currents can appear. LiNbO₃ [5], BaTiO₃ [6,35], and PbTiO₃ [35] are the first few well-known examples of ferroelectric oxides in which BPVE has been extensively investigated. Recently, there has been a resurgence of interest in studying the bulk photovoltaic response in magnetic systems (see, e.g.,

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Refs. [26,34,36] and references therein). A few examples include the PT-symmetric antiferromagnetic (AFM) bilayer CrI₃ [26,37] and MnBi₂Te₄ [38,39], AFM Dirac semimetal MnGeO₃ [34], as well as ferromagnetic Weyl semimetal PrGeAl (neither T nor PT symmetry) [34]. In these topological semimetals, the divergent behavior of shift and injection current conductivities at low frequencies has been attributed to the corresponding divergence in the quantum geometric quantities [34]. Furthermore, the circular photogalvanic current can be utilized to measure the topological charge (i.e., Chern number) of Weyl or higher-order nodes by optical means [40-42]. Thus, second-order dc photocurrents can serve as a novel and effective tool for experimentally investigating the quantum geometry in materials [34,43]. Additionally, magnetism-induced circular shift and linear injection current can be used to distinguish between different magnetic phases since they are directly connected with the magnetic point group of the crystal, carrying unique features for various magnetic structures (symmetries) [44]. Also, by tuning the material close to the magnetic phase transition (e.g., by applying a large electric field), one can break certain symmetries present in the crystal, which can give rise to new BPVE tensor elements or change the magnitude (sign) of already existing responses. As a result, a critical enhancement of certain responses can be expected. It is important to note that large bulk photovoltaic materials could also be used in cutting-edge solar-cell designs [45-47].

In recent years, ferroelectric materials have become a popular choice for investigating second-order NLO responses because of its noncentrosymmetric structure. Bismuth ferrite (BiFeO₃) is one of the most extensively researched multiferroics because it is one of the few compounds that exhibit magnetic order and ferroelectricity in the same phase at ambient temperature. It belongs to the class of Type I multiferroics where the coexisting orders come from independent mechanisms [48]. For instance, at T < 1093 K, BiFeO₃ becomes ferroelectric, and only at far lower temperatures (below 643 K), it becomes antiferromagnetic (G-type AFM structure). This clearly suggests that the mechanisms governing magnetism and ferroelectricity are totally distinct from one another. Also, it possesses a large spontaneous ferroelectric polarization of 90–100 μ C/cm² along the [111] direction [49]. Compared with many typical ferroelectric oxides (band gap \approx 3.5 eV), BiFeO₃ has a relatively narrow direct optical band gap of about 2.74 eV which lies in the visible spectrum [50]. As a result, it receives considerable interest as a promising material for ferroelectric-based photovoltaic devices [51,52].

In 2008, large optical SHG coefficients in thin films of BiFeO₃ were measured by Kumar *et al.* [53]. Later, Ju *et al.* performed the GGA + U calculations of the linear dielectric function and second-harmonic generation in BiFeO₃ [54]. However, Ju *et al.* used a formalism which is valid for nonmagnetic materials only and they did not consider the effect of relativistic spin-orbit coupling (SOC). Consequently, magnetism-induced SHG components studied in this paper, would not appear in their GGA + U calculations [54]. Recently, Xu *et al.* reported a magnetoelectric coupling in BiFeO₃ films probed by external magnetic fields and wide temperature-range SHG, showing the ability of the magnetic field to control the nonlinear polarization caused by light [55]. It would be important to investigate the magnetism-induced

SHG components, which have been overlooked so far, because they could give rise to a number of novel phenomena such as switching of the SHG by a magnetic field (see, e.g., Ref. [32] and references therein).

Bulk crystals of BiFeO₃ have also been found to have a switchable-diode effect and a visible-light photovoltaic effect [56]. Yang et al. [57] reported the photovoltaic effect in BiFeO₃ thin films with external quantum efficiencies up to \sim 10%. Subsequently, above-bandgap voltages at ferroelectric domain walls in BiFeO₃ thin films were observed [51,58]. Seidel et al. studied the BPVE in ferroelectric BiFeO₃ thin films with periodic domain structures and found out that ferroelectric domain walls act as current sources [59]. Moreover, in BiFeO₃ thin films, it is found that the bulk photovoltaic tensor coefficient β_{22} is approximately five orders of magnitude larger than that of other conventional ferroelectric materials in the visible range of the solar spectrum [60]. Alexe *et al.* studied the anomalous photovoltaic effect in BiFeO3 single crystals and their results have shown that the external quantum efficiency can be further enhanced by up to seven orders of magnitude using a nanoscale top electrode [61]. Using first-principles calculation, Young et al. investigated the nonmagnetic linear shift current tensor elements of BiFeO₃ [62]. Very recently, Knoche et al. [63] experimentally studied the circular BPVE in epitaxially grown BiFeO₃ thin films with stripe-domain pattern. Nevertheless, the magnetism-induced bulk photovoltaic effect, namely, circular shift current and linear injection current, have not been investigated so far in BiFeO₃. Additionally, there is currently a lack of theoretical study on circular injection current in BiFeO₃.

In this paper, therefore, we present a systematic study of both structural and magnetic SHG and BPVE tensor elements of multiferroic BiFeO₃ by performing ab initio density functional theory calculations. The rest of this paper is organized as follows. In Sec. II, we present the crystal structure of BiFeO₃ along with the computational details for calculating the magnetism-induced SHG susceptibility and bulk photovoltaic effect. The main results are presented in Secs. III and IV. In Sec. III, we first present magnetism-induced SHG, and then show the tunability in the SHG intensity with the reversal of magnetization direction. Calculated magnetisminduced bulk photovoltaic responses are presented in Sec. IV. In Sec. IV, we also present the calculated quantum geometric quantities to understand the features in these bulk photovoltaic spectra. Furthermore, in the Supplemental Material, we present the calculated crystallographic NLO properties (i.e., the *i*-type SHG susceptibilities, linear shift current and circular injection current conductivities), as well as a derivation of the magnetic SHG formula [Eqs. (1)–(3)] used in the present study. Finally, the conclusions drawn from this work are summarized in Sec. V.

II. THEORY AND COMPUTATIONAL DETAILS

BiFeO₃ has a polar structure with trigonal space group R3c at room temperature (see Fig. 1). Figures 1(a) and 1(b) show the rhombohedral primitive unit cell and the hexagonal conventional unit cell of BiFeO₃, respectively. Such a polar structure results from the counter-rotations of nearby oxygen octahedra about the threefold [111] axis, making the



FIG. 1. Crystal and magnetic structure of BiFeO₃. (a) Rhombohedral primitive unit cell. (b) Hexagonal conventional unit cell showing the G-type AFM configuration, with magnetic moments on Fe atoms denoted by black arrows. The solid blue lines denote the rhombohedral primitive unit cell. (c) The corresponding Brillouin zone.

spontaneous polarization along the [111] direction feasible [49]. Also, along this threefold axis, Bi, Fe and O atoms are displaced from each other. It is well-known that Fe atoms in BiFeO₃ form a *G*-type antiferromagnetic ordering as shown in Figs. 1(a) and 1(b). Note that [111] direction in the primitive unit cell corresponds to the [001] direction (*z* direction) in the hexagonal conventional unit cell. The experimentally determined atomic positions and lattice constants [64] are used in the present study.

Our self-consistent electronic structure calculations are based on the density functional theory with the generalized gradient approximation (GGA) [65]. The accurate projector augmented-wave method [66], as implemented in the Vienna Ab Initio Simulation Package (VASP) [67,68], is used. To better describe the on-site Coulomb interaction among the Fe 3d electrons, we adopt the Dudarev's GGA + U scheme [69]. Previous studies suggest that effective U should be between 4 and 6 eV [54,62]. Thus we use $U_{\text{eff}} = 5 \text{ eV}$ here. The valence electronic configurations of Bi, Fe, and O adopted here are $5d^{10}6s^26p^3$, $3p^63d^74s^1$, and $2s^22p^4$, respectively. Unlike the previous study [54], the SOC is included in the present work because it causes the magnetism-induced NLO responses. A large plane wave energy cutoff of 500 eV is used throughout. In the self-consistent electronic structure calculations, a Γ -centered k-point mesh of 10 \times 10 \times 10 is used in the Brillouin zone integration by the tetrahedron method [70,71]. The calculated band gap of 2.40 eV is indirect. Nevertheless, the direct band gap of 2.43 eV is only slightly larger than the indirect one and agrees quite well with the experimental direct optical band gap of 2.74 eV [50].

We then calculate the nonlinear optical responses from the calculated relativistic band structures within the linear response formalism with the independent-particle approximation. Using the length gauge formalism, Aversa and Sipe presented a general formalism for nonlinear optical response calculations [72]. Subsequently, by taking the timereversal symmetry and also the symmetry under permutation of the indices into account, Rashkeev *et al.* [73] derived a numerical calculation friendly formula for the SHG susceptibility $\chi^{(2)}$ of nonmagnetic materials. Following Rashkeev *et al.* [73], here we extend this formalism to include the magnetic systems [see note 3 of the Supplemental Material (SM) [74] for derivation]. The SHG susceptibility $\chi^{(2)}_{abc}(-2\omega; \omega, \omega)$ for a magnetic material can be written as

$$\chi_{abc}^{(2)}(-2\omega;\omega,\omega) = \chi_{abc,e}^{(2)}(-2\omega;\omega,\omega) + \chi_{abc,i}^{(2)}(-2\omega;\omega,\omega),$$
(1)

where

$$\chi_{abc,e}^{(2)} = \frac{-e^3}{2\varepsilon_0\hbar^2} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_{nml} \frac{r_{nm}^a (r_{ml}^b r_{ln}^c + r_{ml}^c r_{ln}^b)}{\omega_{ln} - \omega_{ml}} \\ \times \left[\frac{2f_{nm}}{\omega_{mn} - 2\omega} + \frac{f_{ln}}{\omega_{ln} - \omega} + \frac{f_{ml}}{\omega_{ml} - \omega} \right], \quad (2)$$

is the contribution of the purely interband processes, and

$$\chi_{abc,i}^{(2)} = \frac{-ie^3}{2\varepsilon_0 \hbar^2} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_{nm} f_{nm} \bigg[\frac{2r_{nm}^a (r_{mn;c}^b + r_{mn;b}^c)}{\omega_{mn}(\omega_{mn} - 2\omega)} \\ + \frac{r_{nm;c}^a r_{mn}^b + r_{nm;b}^a r_{mn}^c}{\omega_{mn}(\omega_{mn} - \omega)} + \frac{r_{nm}^a (r_{mn}^b \Delta_{mn}^c + r_{mn}^c \Delta_{mn}^b)}{\omega_{mn}^2} \\ \times \bigg(\frac{1}{\omega_{mn} - \omega} - \frac{4}{\omega_{mn} - 2\omega} \bigg) - \frac{r_{m;a}^b r_{mn}^c + r_{nm;a}^c r_{mn}^b}{2\omega_{mn}(\omega_{mn} - \omega)} \\ + \frac{\Delta_{mn}^a (r_{mm}^b r_{mn}^c + r_{mm}^c r_{mn}^b)}{4\omega_{mn}^2 (\omega_{mn} - \omega)} \bigg],$$
(3)

is the contribution of the mixed interband and intraband processes. Here a, b, and c denote Cartesian directions. Also, we assume here that e > 0 and the electron charge is -e. The only difference between the magnetic and nonmagnetic systems is the last term in Eq. (3) which vanishes in the presence of time-reversal symmetry. Here r_{nm}^a and $r_{nm;b}^a$ are the *a* component of the interband position matrix element and its generalized momentum derivative, respectively. Δ_{nm}^{a} is the difference between the electronic velocities at the bands nand *m*. $f_{nm} = f(\varepsilon_{nk}) - f(\varepsilon_{mk})$ is the difference of the Fermi distribution functions. $\omega_{nm} = (\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \varepsilon_{m\mathbf{k}})/\hbar$ where $\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}$ is the *n*th band energy at the **k** point, and ε_0 is the vacuum permittivity. We notice that this formula has also been derived independently earlier by Chen et al. [30] except the sign of the last term in Eq. (3) is opposite. In the present calculations, we replace ω by $(\omega + i\frac{\eta}{\hbar})$ where η is a fixed smearing parameter and we use $\eta = 0.04$ eV.

The nonzero elements of the SHG susceptibility tensor of a magnetic material are usually divided into two types, namely, nonmagnetic *i* type $[\chi^{(i)}]$ due to the structural asymmetry and magnetic *c* type $[\chi^{(c)}]$ due to the broken time-reversal symmetry (i.e., magnetism) [29],

$$\chi_{abc}^{(2)} = \chi_{abc}^{(i)} + \chi_{abc}^{(c)}.$$
 (4)

Since the time-reversal operation is equivalent to reversing the magnetization, here we simply obtain $\chi_{abc}^{(i)}$ and $\chi_{abc}^{(c)}$, re-

TABLE I. Nonzero symmetry elements of the SHG susceptibility and BPVE tensors for BiFeO₃. $\chi_{abc}^{(i)}$ and $\chi_{abc}^{(c)}$ are *i*-type and *c*-type SHG susceptibilities, respectively. $\sigma_{abc}^{sh,L}$ ($\sigma_{abc}^{sh,C}$) is linear (circular) shift current conductivity whereas $\eta_{abc}^{inj,L}$ ($\eta_{abc}^{inj,L}$) is linear (circular) injection current susceptibility, respectively. Here $\chi_{abc}^{(a)}$, $\sigma_{abc}^{sh,L}$, and $\eta_{abc}^{inj,C}$ are due to structural asymmetry, whereas $\chi_{abc}^{(c)}$, $\sigma_{abc}^{sh,C}$, and $\eta_{abc}^{inj,L}$ are due to magnetism. Also, note that both the crystallographic and magnetic point group of BiFeO₃ is 3*m*.

$\chi^{(i)}_{abc}$	$\chi^{(c)}_{abc}$	$\sigma^{{ m sh},L}_{abc}$	$\sigma^{\mathrm{sh},C}_{abc}$	$\eta_{abc}^{\mathrm{inj},L}$	$\eta^{\mathrm{inj},C}_{abc}$
xxz = yyz	xxz = yyz	xxz = yyz	xxz = yyz = -xzx = -yzy	xxz = yyz	xxz = yyz = -xzx = -yzy
xxy = yxx = -yyy	xxy = yxx = -yyy	xxy = yxx = -yyy		xxy = yxx = -yyy	
zxx = zyy	zxx = zyy	zxx = zyy		zxx = zyy	
ZZZ	ZZZ	ZZZ		ZZZ	

spectively, as the symmetrized and antisymmetrized parts of $\chi^{(2)}_{abc}$ with respect to the reversal of magnetization direction. We note that below the midband gap, the SHG susceptibility is purely real. Thus, the imaginary part of both *i*-type and *c*-type SHG is zero below half of the band gap. Furthermore, due to their antisymmetric nature, the real part of *c*-type SHG elements should also be zero. As a result, only the real part of *i*-type SHG persists below the midband gap. Interestingly, we note that *i*-type SHG is independent of magnetization direction whereas *c*-type SHG changes sign when the magnetization direction is reversed. This formalism was recently applied to calculate the SHG spectra of ferrimagnetic Eu₂MnSi₂O₇ and the results nicely explained the observed magnetic-field switching of SHG [32].

Another interesting second-order nonlinear optical response in a noncentrosymmetric material is the generation of dc photocurrents [33,34,76-78]. The dc photocurrent density along the *a* axis is given by [33,34,76-78]

$$J_a(0) = \sum_{bc} \sigma_{abc}(0;\omega,-\omega) E_b(\omega) E_c(-\omega), \qquad (5)$$

where E_b and E_c are the applied optical electric fields. The photocurrent conductivity $\sigma_{abc}(0; \omega, -\omega)$ is a third-rank tensor which contains two main contributions, namely, shift current and injection current [33,76], i.e., $\sigma_{abc} = \sigma_{abc}^{sh} + \sigma_{abc}^{inj}$. Here σ_{abc}^{sh} and σ_{abc}^{inj} are the shift and injection current conductivities, respectively. Also, $\sigma_{abc}^{inj} = \tau \eta_{abc}$ where τ and η_{abc} are the relaxation time of photoexcited carriers and injection current susceptibility, respectively. Note that σ_{abc}^{sh} does not depend on τ . Within the length gauge formalism, the shift current conductivity (σ_{abc}) and injection current susceptibility (η_{abc}) for a magnetic material can be written as [34]

$$\sigma_{abc} = \frac{-i\pi e^3}{\hbar^2} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_{nm} f_{nm} \left(r^c_{nm} r^b_{mn;a} - r^c_{nm;a} r^b_{mn} \right) \\ \times \delta(\omega_{mn} - \omega), \tag{6}$$

and

$$\eta_{abc} = \frac{-2\pi e^3}{\hbar^2} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_{nm} f_{nm} \Delta^a_{mn} r^c_{nm} r^b_{mn} \delta(\omega_{mn} - \omega).$$
(7)

Since a large number of k points are required to get accurate nonlinear optical responses (SHG and BPVE), we use the efficient Wannier function interpolation scheme [77,79] based on the maximally localized Wannier functions (ML-WFs) [80] as implemented in the WANNIER90 package [81]. Total 68 MLWFs per unit cell of Bi p, Fe d, and O p orbitals

are constructed by fitting to the GGA + U+SOC band structure. The calculated Wannier interpolated band structure is identical to that from the *ab initio* calculation, as can be seen in Fig. S1 in the SM [74]. The SHG susceptibility, shift current conductivity, injection current susceptibility, and quantum geometric quantities are then evaluated by taking a dense *k* mesh of $100 \times 100 \times 100$. However, for the group velocity difference, a denser *k* mesh of $300 \times 300 \times 300$ is used. Test calculations using several different sets of *k* meshes show that these calculated spectra converge within a few percentages.

III. SECOND-HARMONIC GENERATION

The SHG susceptibility of a material is a third-rank tensor $[\chi_{abc}^{(2)}; a, b, c = x, y, z]$, and thus has 27 tensor elements. However, since BiFeO₃ has a trigonal structure with crystallographic point group 3*m*, it has only four independent nonzero elements, namely, $\chi_{xxy}^{(2)}, \chi_{xxz}^{(2)}, \chi_{zxx}^{(2)}, and \chi_{zzz}^{(2)}$ [82]. Other nonzero elements are related to these four elements by $\chi_{xxy}^{(2)} = \chi_{yxx}^{(2)} = -\chi_{yyy}^{(2)}, \chi_{xzz}^{(2)} = \chi_{yyz}^{(2)}, and \chi_{zxz}^{(2)} = \chi_{zyy}^{(2)}$ (see Table I). These are called *i*-type SHG susceptibility tensor and are denoted as $\chi_{xxy}^{(i)}, \chi_{xtz}^{(i)}, \chi_{zxx}^{(i)}$ and $\chi_{zzz}^{(i)}$. Interestingly, the magnetic point group of *G*-type AFM BiFeO₃ is also 3*m*. Thus, as for the *i*-type SHG tensor, there are four independent nonzero elements for the *c*-type SHG tensor, namely, $\chi_{xxy}^{(c)}, \chi_{xtz}^{(c)}, \chi_{ztx}^{(c)}, and \chi_{zzz}^{(c)}$ (Table I) [82]. Here we focus on the magnetism-induced *c*-type SHG susceptibilities and we present the *i*-type SHG susceptibilities in the Supplemental Material note 1 of the SM [74].

A. Magnetism-induced second-harmonic generation

Figure 2 shows the real and imaginary parts of the *c*-type SHG susceptibilities. As discussed before, the real and imaginary parts of c-type SHG elements are zero below the half of the band gap (~ 1.2 eV). As the photon energy increases above the midband gap, both the real and imaginary parts start to oscillate between positive and negative values as compared with the corresponding *i*-type SHG elements (see Fig. 2 and Fig. S3 in the SM [74]). The absolute values of *c*-type SHG susceptibilities are shown in Fig. 3. Clearly, two prominent peaks appear in the c-type SHG susceptibility spectra that are close in magnitude. The calculated values of these SHG susceptibilities are 53 (51), 58 (54), 123 (110), and 183 (182) pm/V for I (II) prominent peaks corresponding to $\chi^{(2)}_{xxy}$, $\chi^{(2)}_{xxz}$, $\chi^{(2)}_{zxx}$ and $\chi^{(2)}_{zzz}$, respectively, at 2.55 (2.10), 2.86 (3.08), 3.14 (2.73), and 3.32 (3.54) eV. Similarly to *i*-type SHG susceptibility, the largest magnitude is for $\chi^{(2)}_{ZZZ}$ [183 (pm/V)] among all c-type SHG susceptibilities. We note that the c-type SHG



FIG. 2. Real (Re) and imaginary (Im) parts of the four independent nonzero *c*-type SHG susceptibility elements (a) $\chi_{xxy}^{(2)}$, (b) $\chi_{xxz}^{(2)}$, (c) $\chi_{zxx}^{(2)}$, and (d) $\chi_{zzz}^{(2)}$.

susceptibility in BiFeO₃ is about one order of magnitude smaller than that of the corresponding *i*-type SHG elements. This is because in BiFeO₃, the heavy Bi atom predominantly contributes to bands located 8 eV below or 5 eV above the top of the valence band. Therefore, the optical transitions are dominated by the Fe *d* and O *p* orbitals, both of which exhibit a much smaller SOC strength compared to that of the Bi atom (see Fig. S2 in the SM [74]).

In order to understand the origin of the prominent features in the calculated *c*-type $\chi^{(2)}$ spectra, we plot the modulus of the imaginary part as well as the absolute values of *c*-type SHG susceptibilities and compare them with the absorptive (imaginary) part of the dielectric function $\varepsilon(\omega)$ in Fig. 3. First, we can divide the whole SHG spectra into two re-



FIG. 3. Absolute values of nonzero *c*-type SHG susceptibility elements (a) $\chi^{(2)}_{xxy}$, (b) $\chi^{(2)}_{xxz}$, (c) $\chi^{(2)}_{zxx}$, and (d) $\chi^{(2)}_{zzz}$; as well as (e) and (f) imaginary part of the dielectric function (ε'') of BiFeO₃.



FIG. 4. Absolute values of nonzero SHG susceptibility elements (a) $\chi_{xxy}^{(2)}$, (b) $\chi_{xzz}^{(2)}$, (c) $\chi_{zxx}^{(2)}$, and (d) $\chi_{zzz}^{(2)}$ as a function of SHG photon energy for magnetization directions parallel (red spectra) and antiparallel (blue spectra) to the *z* axis, respectively. In (a), the black dashed lines marked as I, II, III, and IV correspond to 2.9, 3.42, 4.26, and 4.82 eV, respectively.

gions: the first region is in between midband gap and the absorption edge, corresponding to double-photon (2ω) resonance whereas the second region (above absorption edge) is a mix of both single-photon (ω) and double-photon resonances. Nonetheless, because of the magnetic origin of the *c*-type SHG susceptibility, there is no direct correlation between the *c*-type SHG elements and the imaginary part of the optical dielectric function (ε'') (see Fig. 3). Figure 3 shows that only a few comparable peaks of the *c*-type SHG susceptibilities are visible. Thus, we can conclude that, in comparison to *i*-type SHG, the link between *c*-type SHG susceptibility and the optical dielectric function is weaker.

B. Magnetization-direction tunable SHG pattern

Because BiFeO₃ is an antiferromagnet, it has no net magnetization. So here the term magnetization means staggered magnetization (i.e., the Néel vector), which is the normalized difference of the unit vectors of the sublattice magnetizations. Recent studies [83-86] have shown the electrical detection and reversal of the orientation of the Néel vector in antiferromagnetic materials, which makes them promising candidates for more reliable, quick and dense spintronic devices. Figure 4 depicts the absolute values of nonzero SHG susceptibilities as a function of SHG photon energy for magnetization directions parallel (red spectra) and antiparallel (blue spectra) to the zaxis, respectively. It is evident that when magnetization direction is reversed, the spectra significantly differ. For instance, the absolute value of $\chi^{(2)}_{xxy}$ changes from 135 to 224 (pm/V), and 69 to 146 (pm/V) at SHG photon energy of 4.26 and 4.82 eV, respectively [label III and IV; Fig. 4(a)]. However, for $\chi^{(2)}_{xxz}$ and $\chi^{(2)}_{7zz}$, it is less pronounced for most of the considered SHG photon energy range [see Figs. 4(b) and 4(d)]. Since the SHG intensity is proportional to the square of the absolute value of SHG susceptibility, i.e., $I(2\omega) \propto |\chi^{(2)}_{abc}(2\omega)|^2$, changes in SHG intensity are more prominent on magnetization reversal, as discussed in detail below. In Fig. 4(a), the black dashed lines labeled I, II, III and IV correspond to



FIG. 5. Calculated in-plane polarization-resolved SHG pattern $|\chi_{\parallel}(\theta)|^2$ of BiFeO₃ as a function of azimuthal polarization for normal incidence at SHG photon energy of (a) 2.9 eV, (b) 3.42 eV, (c) 4.26 eV, and (d) 4.82 eV. Note that the red and blue spectra are for magnetization direction parallel and antiparallel to the *z* axis, respectively.

Figs. 5(a)–5(d) as well as Figs. 8(a)–8(d), respectively, since these polarization-resolved SHG patterns depend solely on $\chi_{xxy}^{(2)}$ [see Eqs. (12) and (14)].

Here we present the polarization-resolved SHG response of BiFeO₃. Polarization-resolved SHG is a well-known characterization technique for probing the different magnetic symmetries in solids. The photoinduced nonlinear polarization can be expressed as

$$P_a(2\omega) = \varepsilon_0 \Big[\chi_{abc}^{(i)} + \chi_{abc}^{(c)}(\hat{M}) \Big] E_b(\omega) E_c(\omega), \tag{8}$$

where $E(\omega)$ is the electric field of the incident light and \hat{M} is the magnetization unit vector. As mentioned earlier, $\chi^{(2)}_{abc}$ consists of *i*-type $[\chi^{(i)}_{abc}]$ and *c*-type $[\chi^{(c)}_{abc}]$ SHG. Furthermore, unlike $\chi^{(i)}_{abc}$, which is unaffected by the magnetization direction, $\chi^{(c)}_{abc}$ depends on the magnetization direction (\hat{M}) and changes sign when \hat{M} is reversed. Thus, the interference between these two contributions on the reversal of magnetization direction direction results in a large change in the SHG intensity which is defined as

$$I(2\omega) \propto P^2(2\omega) \propto \left|\chi_{abc}^{(2)}\right|^2 \propto \left|\chi_{abc}^{(i)} \pm \chi_{abc}^{(c)}\right|^2, \qquad (9)$$

where plus sign (+) corresponds to the positive magnetization direction whereas minus sign (-) represents the reversal of it.

We investigate the polarization-resolved SHG intensity for all three directions (i.e., x, y and z direction) of incident light. For normal incidence (i.e., along z direction), the incident light polarization is in the x-y plane. An azimuthal angle θ with respect to a reference direction, in this case the xdirection, can be used to describe the polarization direction of the incident light. Following the R3c symmetry of BiFeO₃, the response of in-plane (P_x or P_y) and out-of-plane (P_z) SHG polarization for normal incidence can be written as

$$P_{x} = 2\chi_{xxy}^{(2)}E_{x}E_{y}$$

$$P_{y} = \chi_{yxx}^{(2)}E_{x}^{2} + \chi_{yyy}^{(2)}E_{y}^{2}$$

$$P_{z} = \chi_{zxx}^{(2)}E_{x}^{2} + \chi_{zyy}^{(2)}E_{y}^{2},$$
(10)

where E_x and E_y are the Cartesian components of the electric field of the incident light. The generated in-plane second harmonic light polarization direction can be either parallel or perpendicular to the polarization direction of the incident light. Then the parallel (P_{\parallel}) and perpendicular (P_{\perp}) components of the in-plane SHG polarization is defined as

$$P_{\parallel} = P_x \cos\theta + P_y \sin\theta$$
$$P_{\perp} = -P_x \sin\theta + P_y \cos\theta, \qquad (11)$$

where θ is the azimuthal rotation angle. By taking into account the symmetry-imposed shape of SHG susceptibility tensor (see Table I) and substituting them into Eqs. (10) and (11), the SHG susceptibilities can be reduced to

$$\chi_{\parallel} = \chi_{xxy}^{(2)} \sin 3\theta$$

$$\chi_{\perp} = \chi_{xxy}^{(2)} \cos 3\theta$$

$$\chi_{out} = \chi_{zxx}^{(2)}.$$
(12)

Here χ_{\parallel} (χ_{\perp}) are parallel (perpendicular) components of inplane SHG susceptibilities whereas χ_{out} is the out-of-plane SHG susceptibility. Then the SHG intensity would be proportional to $|\chi(\theta)|^2$.

Similarly, for light propagation along *x* and *y* direction, the polarization-resolved SHG susceptibilities can be written as

$$\chi_{\parallel} = -\chi_{xxy}^{(2)} \cos^{3}\theta + (2\chi_{xxz}^{(2)} + \chi_{zxx}^{(2)}) \sin\theta \cos^{2}\theta + \chi_{zzz}^{(2)} \sin^{3}\theta$$

$$\chi_{\perp} = \chi_{xxy}^{(2)} \sin\theta \cos^{2}\theta + (-2\chi_{xxz}^{(2)} + \chi_{zzz}^{(2)}) \sin^{2}\theta \cos\theta$$

$$+ \chi_{zxx}^{(2)} \cos^{3}\theta$$

$$\chi_{out} = 0,$$
(13)

and

$$\chi_{\parallel} = \left(2\chi_{xxz}^{(2)} + \chi_{zxx}^{(2)}\right)\sin^{2}\theta\cos\theta + \chi_{zzz}^{(2)}\cos^{3}\theta$$
$$\chi_{\perp} = \left(2\chi_{xxz}^{(2)} - \chi_{zzz}^{(2)}\right)\sin\theta\cos^{2}\theta - \chi_{zxx}^{(2)}\sin^{3}\theta$$
$$\chi_{out} = \chi_{xxy}^{(2)}\sin^{2}\theta, \qquad (14)$$

respectively. θ is the azimuthal angle with respect to y(z) direction for incident light along x(y) direction, respectively.

Figure 5 shows the parallel component of the calculated in-plane SHG intensity ($\propto |\chi_{\parallel}(\theta)|^2$) as a function of azimuthal polarization for normal incidence. First, we notice that it exhibit a sixfold symmetry due to the $\sin 3\theta$ term. This is because of the threefold rotation symmetry in the x-y plane. Second, at SHG photon energy of 4.82 eV, we found a large change of 440% in the SHG intensity with the reversal of the magnetization direction [see Fig. 5(d)]. Also, from Figs. 5(a)-5(c), at SHG photon energy of 2.9, 3.42, and 4.26 eV, the corresponding change in the SHG intensity is 196%, 321%, and 273%, respectively, when the magnetization direction is reversed. We also notice that the relative change in the SHG intensity on magnetization reversal is independent of azimuthal angle θ . Furthermore, the perpendicular component of the in-plane SHG intensity $[\propto |\chi_{\perp}(\theta)|^2]$ has a 30° rotation with respect to parallel component of the in-plane SHG intensity. Finally,



FIG. 6. Calculated in-plane polarization-resolved SHG pattern [(a) and (b)] $|\chi_{\parallel}(\theta)|^2$, and [(c) and (d)] $|\chi_{\perp}(\theta)|^2$ of BiFeO₃ as a function of azimuthal polarization for incident light along *x* direction at SHG photon energy of (a) 4.22 eV, (b) 4.7 eV, (c) 2.7 eV, and (d) 3.6 eV. Note that the red and blue spectra are for magnetization direction parallel and antiparallel to the *z* axis, respectively.

for the out-of-plane SHG intensity ($\propto |\chi_{out}|^2$), both the SHG intensity as well as its relative change are independent of θ .

For the incident light along the *x* direction, the out-ofplane SHG intensity vanishes. The parallel [perpendicular] component of the in-plane SHG intensity for light propagation along the *x* and *y* direction are shown in Figs. 6(a) and 6(b) [Figs. 6(c) and 6(d)] and Figs. 7(a) and 7(b) [Figs. 7(c) and 7(d)], respectively. Unlike the in-plane SHG intensity for



FIG. 7. Calculated in-plane polarization-resolved SHG pattern [(a) and (b)] $|\chi_{\parallel}(\theta)|^2$, and [(c) and (d)] $|\chi_{\perp}(\theta)|^2$ of BiFeO₃ as a function of azimuthal polarization for incident light along *y* direction at SHG photon energy of (a) 3.0 eV, (b) 3.92 eV, (c) 2.72 eV, and (d) 3.6 eV. Note that the red and blue spectra are for magnetization direction parallel and antiparallel to the *z* axis, respectively.



FIG. 8. Calculated out-of-plane polarization-resolved SHG pattern $|\chi_{out}(\theta)|^2$ of BiFeO₃ as a function of azimuthal polarization for incident light along *y* direction at SHG photon energy of (a) 2.9 eV, (b) 3.42 eV, (c) 4.26 eV, and (d) 4.82 eV. Note that the red and blue spectra are for magnetization direction parallel and antiparallel to the *z* axis, respectively.

normal incidence, here we find that both the in-plane SHG intensity as well as its relative change depends on θ . For instance, in the vicinity of azimuthal angle π (or 2π), we find a maximum of 326% of SHG intensity change on magnetization reversal at SHG photon energy of 3.6 eV [see Fig. 6(d)]. For the light propagation along the y direction, the maximum change in the in-plane SHG intensity goes up to 313% (for $\theta = \pi/2$ or $3\pi/2$) when the magnetization is reversed [see Fig. 7(d)]. On the reversal of magnetization direction, the relative change in the out-of-plane SHG intensity for incident light along the y direction follows the same relation as that of in-plane SHG intensity for normal incidence however it possess a two-lobed SHG pattern (see Figs. 5 and 8). Interestingly, for incident light along x (or y) direction, the parallel in-plane SHG intensity has two-lobed SHG pattern while the perpendicular component features a distorted butterfly-like pattern (see Figs. 6 and 7).

Thus, we find large magnetic contrast of the SHG signal of up to 440% for SHG photon energy below 5 eV that results from the interference between $\chi^{(i)}_{abc}$ and $\chi^{(c)}_{abc}$. This suggests that the amplitude (or intensity) of SHG can be tuned via either electric or magnetic field. Also, since the SHG signal responds sensitively to the reversal of the Néel vector, it may be used to detect the Néel vector reversal in antiferromagnetic materials, which is essential for antiferromagnetic spintronics. Additionally, we show that the SHG susceptibilities are also strongly anisotropic in both shape and magnitude for different incident light directions.

IV. MAGNETISM-INDUCED CIRCULAR SHIFT AND LINEAR INJECTION CURRENT

As mentioned before, due to the breaking of both inversion and time-reversal symmetries, antiferromagnetic BiFeO₃



FIG. 9. (a) Circular shift current conductivity $(\sigma_{xxz}^{\text{sh},C})$, (b) metric connection $(-\Pi_{xxz})$, (c) real part of optical conductivity $(\sigma_{xx}$ and $\sigma_{zz})$, and (d) joint density of states (JDOS) of BiFeO₃. In the metric connection unit, uc denotes unit cell.

possess all four types of BPVE, namely, linear and circular shift current conductivity as well as linear and circular injection current susceptibility (Table I). Like SHG susceptibility $\chi^{(2)}_{abc}$, both shift current conductivity (σ_{abc}) and injection current susceptibility (η_{abc}) are also a third-rank tensor, thus having 27 tensor elements. However, because of the symmetry restrictions, only a few tensor elements are nonzero. In particular, Table I shows that circular shift current conductivity and injection current susceptibility of BiFeO3 have only one independent nonzero element (i.e., $\sigma_{xxz}^{\text{sh},C}$ and $\eta_{xxz}^{\text{inj},C}$), while linear shift current conductivity and injection current susceptibility have four inequivalent nonzero elements. Since the bulk photovoltaic effect of the crystallographic origin have been extensively studied before [51, 56-62], here we focus on the magnetism-induced circular shift and linear injection current. Nevertheless, we present the results for the crystallographic linear shift and circular injection current in the Supplemental Material note 2 of the SM [74].

Magnetism-induced circular shift current conductivity $(\sigma_{xxz}^{\text{sh},C})$ spectrum of BiFeO₃ is shown in Fig. 9(a). Its visible spectral peak is at 2.70 eV for the negative maximum and 3.15 eV for the positive maximum, both of identical amplitude, i.e., 4 (μ A/V²). The largest positive (negative) maximum, however, is 7 (–8) (μ A/V²) at 3.64 (5.84) eV. Nevertheless, this largest negative maximum of $\sigma_{xxz}^{\text{sh},C}$ is nearly ~3 times smaller than the corresponding negative maximum of $\sigma_{xxz}^{\text{sh},L}$ (see Fig. 9(a) and Fig. S5(a) in the SM [74]). This



FIG. 10. [(a) and (b)] Linear injection current susceptibility $(\eta_{abc}^{\text{inj},L})$, [(c)–(e)] quantum metric (g_{bc}) , and (f) group velocity difference $(-\Delta^a)$ of BiFeO₃. In quantum metric and group velocity difference unit, uc denotes unit cell.

shows that magnetism-induced $\sigma_{abc}^{sh,C}$ is smaller in magnitude compared with its nonmagnetic counterpart ($\sigma_{abc}^{sh,L}$) in BiFeO₃. The four spectra of linear injection current susceptibilities

The four spectra of linear injection current susceptibilities $(\eta_{abc}^{inj,L})$ are shown in Figs. 10(a) and 10(b). Figures 10(a) and 10(b) indicate that $\eta_{xxy}^{inj,L}$ and $\eta_{zzz}^{inj,L}$ have the largest negative and positive maximum of $-12 \times 10^8 \text{ A/V}^2\text{s}$ and $\sim 9 \times 10^8 \text{ A/V}^2\text{s}$ at 2.83 and 2.75 eV, respectively, in the visible photon energy range. $\eta_{xxy}^{inj,L}$ also has a positive maximum of $\sim 9 \times 10^8 \text{ A/V}^2\text{s}$ at 4.09 eV [see Fig. 10(a)]. Moreover, $\eta_{zxx}^{inj,L}$ has a peak value of $\sim 6 \times 10^8 \text{ A/V}^2\text{s}$ and $-8 \times 10^8 \text{ A/V}^2\text{s}$ at 4.94 eV, respectively. Figure 10(a) shows that $\eta_{xxz}^{inj,L}$ also has a positive maximum of $8 \times 10^8 \text{ A/V}^2\text{s}$ at 4.94 eV. $\eta_{zzz}^{inj,L}$ has a broad positive peak of $20 \times 10^8 \text{ A/V}^2\text{s}$ at 3.90 eV [Fig. 10(b)]. As $\hbar\omega$ increases, it decreases sharply, alters sign at 4.06 eV and then reaches to a largest negative maximum of $-26 \times 10^8 \text{ A/V}^2\text{s}$ at 4.45 eV. In addition, $\eta_{zzz}^{inj,L}$ also has a large injection current susceptibility of $43 \times 10^8 \text{ A/V}^2\text{s}$ at 5.85 eV [see Fig. 10(b)].

Furthermore, we notice that the positive maxima of $\eta_{zzz}^{inj,L}$ is two times larger than $\eta_{xxz}^{inj,C}$ (see Fig. 10(b) and Fig. S6(a) in the SM [74]). Here it is important to note that, the positive maxima of $\eta_{zzz}^{inj,L}$ occur at a higher photon energy (5.85 eV) compared to $\eta_{xxz}^{inj,C}$ (~4 eV). In the vicinity of 4 eV, both $\eta_{zzz}^{inj,L}$ and $\eta_{xxz}^{inj,L}$ spectra have approximately the same magnitude. Note that $\eta_{abc}^{inj,L}$ is purely due to magnetism. Also, in comparison to $\eta_{xxz}^{inj,L}$ of CdS, the linear injection current susceptibility $\eta_{zzz}^{inj,L}$ of BiFeO₃ is an order of magnitude larger. Furthermore, similar to *c*-type SHG, both the circular shift current conductivity and linear injection current susceptibility are sensitive to the staggered magnetization (i.e., the Néel vector) direction and change sign when its direction is reversed. Therefore, BiFeO₃ could be a promising material for multiferroic-based photovoltaic devices.

Interestingly, shift and injection current conductivities have recently been found to be related to the Hermitian connection and quantum geometric tensor of the electronic states, respectively [34,42,43]. Specifically, circular and linear shift current conductivities correspond to the real (metric connection) and imaginary (symplectic connection) parts of the Hermitian connection, respectively (see the SM [74] for details). Linear and circular injection current conductivities are associated with the real (quantum metric) and imaginary (Berry curvature) parts of the quantum geometric tensor, respectively. Therefore, to help understand the origins of the calculated photocurrent conductivities, here we also display in Fig. 9(b) the photon energy-resolved metric connection $(-\Pi_{abc})$ (see Eq. (S11) in the SM [74]). Indeed, Fig. 9 shows that the $-\Pi_{xxz}$ spectrum looks very similar to the $\sigma_{xxz}^{sh,C}$ spectrum. In particular, the first small positive peak at 2.53 eV in $\sigma_{xxz}^{sh,C}$ corresponds to a positive peak in the $-\Pi_{xxz}$ spectrum. Similarly, the negative peak of $\sigma_{xxz}^{sh,C}$ at 2.7 eV has a corresponding peak in the $-\Pi_{xxz}$ spectrum. Thus, this demonstrates that all peaks (dips) in the $\sigma_{xxz}^{sh,C}$ spectrum originate from the corresponding peaks in the metric connection spectra. Furthermore, since the magnetism-induced linear injection current can be viewed as the product of group velocity difference and quantum metric [see Eq. (7)], we present the photon energy-resolved spectra of quantum metric (g_{bc}) and group velocity difference $(-\Delta^a)$ (see Eqs. (S13) and (S15) in the SM [74]) in Figs. 10(c)-10(e) and 10(f), respectively. We find that the two peaks of $\eta_{xxy}^{inj,L}$ at 3.06 and 5.69 eV have corresponding peaks in the $-\Delta^x$ spectrum [see Figs. 10(a) and 10(f)]. For $\eta_{xxz}^{inj,L}$, the first broad positive peak around 2.7 eV has a corresponding peak in g_{rz} [see Figs. 10(a) and 10(d)], while the two negative peaks at approximately 2.9 and 3.28 eV can be attributed to the corresponding negative peaks in $-\Delta^x$ spectrum [see Figs. 10(a) and 10(f)]. Similarly, the three positive peaks of $\eta_{zxx}^{inj,L}$ at 2.74, 3.99, and 4.75 eV have corresponding peaks in the grr spectrum

[see Figs. 10(a) and 10(e)]. It also has a negative peak at 5.62 eV, corresponding to the negative peak in $-\Delta^z$ spectrum [see Figs. 10(a) and 10(f)]. Furthermore, the first positive peak of $\eta_{zzz}^{inj,L}$ has a corresponding peak in g_{zz} near 2.75 eV [see Figs. 10(b) and 10(e)]. Also, at around 4 eV, both $\eta_{zzz}^{inj,L}$ and g_{zz} spectra have a positive peak. Thus, we can conclude that the peaks in the $\eta_{abc}^{inj,L}$ spectrum can be traced back to the prominent features in the quantum geometric quantities g_{bc} and Δ^a .

V. CONCLUSIONS

In summary, we have systematically studied the magnetism-induced nonlinear optical responses in bismuth ferrite using first-principles DFT calculations. Interestingly, we find that BiFeO₃ possess large nonlinear optical responses. particular, the calculated magnetism-induced SHG In susceptibilities are large and the SHG intensity is tunable with magnetization (i.e., the Néel vector) reversal. At SHG photon energy close to 5 eV, we notice a significant magnetic contrast of the SHG signal of up to 440% that results from the interference between crystallographic *i*-type SHG and magnetically induced *c*-type SHG. This suggests that either electric or magnetic field can be used to tune the amplitude of SHG. Because of their sensitivity to the Néel vector reversal, these SHG signals can be utilized to detect it in antiferromagnetic materials, which is necessary for antiferromagnetic spintronics. Additionally, we show that the calculated SHG susceptibilities are also strongly anisotropic in both shape and magnitude for different incident light directions. In terms of single-photon and double-photon resonances, the salient characteristics in the spectra of $\chi^{(2)}$ are also successfully associated with the features in the linear optical dielectric function $\varepsilon(\omega)$. Furthermore, the calculated bulk photovoltaic responses of BiFeO3 are also prominent and significantly larger than some of the popular NLO compounds (e.g., GaAs, CdS, CdSe, and BaTiO₃). Also, we have explained the origin of these pronounced peaks by comparing our calculated BPVE spectra with the corresponding quantum geometric quantities. These interesting findings thus indicate that the magnetism-induced NLO responses of BiFeO₃ are pronounced in magnitude, anisotropic as well as tunable. We believe that this work would stimulate further experimental and theoretical studies of magnetism-induced nonlinear optical responses in multiferroics.

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