

Field-induced topological Hall effect in the noncoplanar triangular antiferromagnetic geometry of Mn_3Sn

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Noncollinear triangular antiferromagnets with a coplanar spin arrangement and vanishing net magnetic moment can exhibit a large anomalous Hall effect owing to their nonvanishing momentum space Berry curvature. Here we show the existence of a large field-induced topological Hall effect in the noncoplanar triangular antiferromagnetic geometry of Mn_3Sn . A detailed magnetic and Hall effect measurements demonstrate the presence of three distinct Hall contributions: a high-temperature anomalous Hall effect, a low-temperature topological Hall effect, and an intermediate-temperature region with coexistence of both the effects. The origin of the observed topological Hall effect is attributed to the scalar spin chirality induced real-space Berry curvature that appears when the system goes from a trivial noncoplanar triangular spin alignment to a topologically protected nontrivial spin texture like skyrmions by application of magnetic field at low temperatures.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Over the past few years, the inclusion of topology in condensed-matter research has uncovered many exotic states of matter, such as topological insulators [1,2], topological superconductors [2], topological Weyl or Dirac fermions [3], and nontrivial magnetic structures like skyrmions [4–8]. The interplay between the topology and symmetry in some of these materials has led to several transport phenomena like anomalous Hall effect (AHE) [9–11] and topological Hall effect (THE) [6,12–18]. Recent theoretical models have demystified their perplexing origin by invoking the Berry phase concept [19], which helps in the understanding of recent experimental realization of large AHE in triangular antiferromagnets Mn_3Ge and Mn_3Sn [9,10], frustrated magnetic system $\text{Pr}_2\text{Ir}_2\text{O}_7$ [20], and $\text{Nd}_2\text{Mo}_2\text{O}_7$ spin ice [21]. The Berry phase is a topological property of Bloch states and can be defined as a finite geometric phase obtained by the electron's wave function when it is adiabatically time evolved in systems with broken time-reversal symmetry [19]. With electric field as the driving perturbation, where Berry curvature acts like a fictitious emergent magnetic field in K space, the conduction electrons acquire an anomalous velocity even in zero magnetic field that accounts for the observation of AHE in several magnetic and nonmagnetic systems [19,22,23].

Topologically nontrivial spin structures having spatial variation in local magnetic moments driven either by geometrical frustration or by Dzyaloshinsky-Moriya interaction give rise to a different type of Hall effect, termed as topological Hall effect [23,24]. The very origin of THE can be attributed to the scalar spin chirality $\chi_{ijk} = \mathbf{S}_i \cdot (\mathbf{S}_j \times \mathbf{S}_k)$, defined as the scalar product corresponds to the solid angle Ω subtended by the three spins \mathbf{S}_i , \mathbf{S}_j , and \mathbf{S}_k on the unit sphere, which breaks

the time-reversal symmetry and gives the real-space Berry curvature. It should be noted that the net scalar spin chirality in many noncollinear and noncoplanar systems vanishes due to the structural symmetry of the lattices, thereby eliminating the net topological field with the rare exception to special spin structures like kagome, pyrochlore, four-sublattice ordered triangular lattice, and skyrmion lattice phases [23,25]. The THE originating from the nonzero topological winding of spin textures, such as skyrmions, has been observed in the bulk and thin films of the B20 noncentrosymmetric helimagnets MnSi , FeGe , and MnGe [12–18]. In these systems the Hall effect corresponds to the Berry curvature in real space and can be understood by the strong-coupling regime where the length scale of the spin texture is sufficiently longer than the lattice constant. Although the topological spin vortices, skyrmions, have been mostly found in noncentrosymmetric bulk materials [26] and chiral thin films [27], there exist a few theoretical elucidations of their realization in frustrated centrosymmetric materials [28–30]. Hence, the report of topological phenomena pertaining to frustrated centrosymmetric material is still elusive. Chirality driven THE has also been observed in different noncollinear 120° spin structures, such as PdCrO_2 and $\text{Fe}_{1.3}\text{Sb}$ [25,31], and noncoplanar antiferromagnetic structure Mn_5Si_3 [32]. Observation of spin chirality induced THE in a triangular lattice magnet $\text{Fe}_{1.3}\text{Sb}$ where Dzyaloshinsky-Moriya (DM) interaction modifies the spin structure in the spin clusters associated with interstitial-Fe spins at low temperature is very interesting [25]. Thus, the motivation of finding topological phenomena associated with the noncoplanar spin ordering in frustrated kagome lattice antiferromagnets triggered our attention towards readdressing the chiral antiferromagnet Mn_3Sn .

The Ni_3Sn -type Mn_3Sn that crystallizes in a DO_{19} hexagonal structure with space group $P6_3/mmc$, exhibits a chiral 120° triangular antiferromagnetic ordering with Néel temperature of about 420 K [10,33–36]. The hexagonal unit cell of

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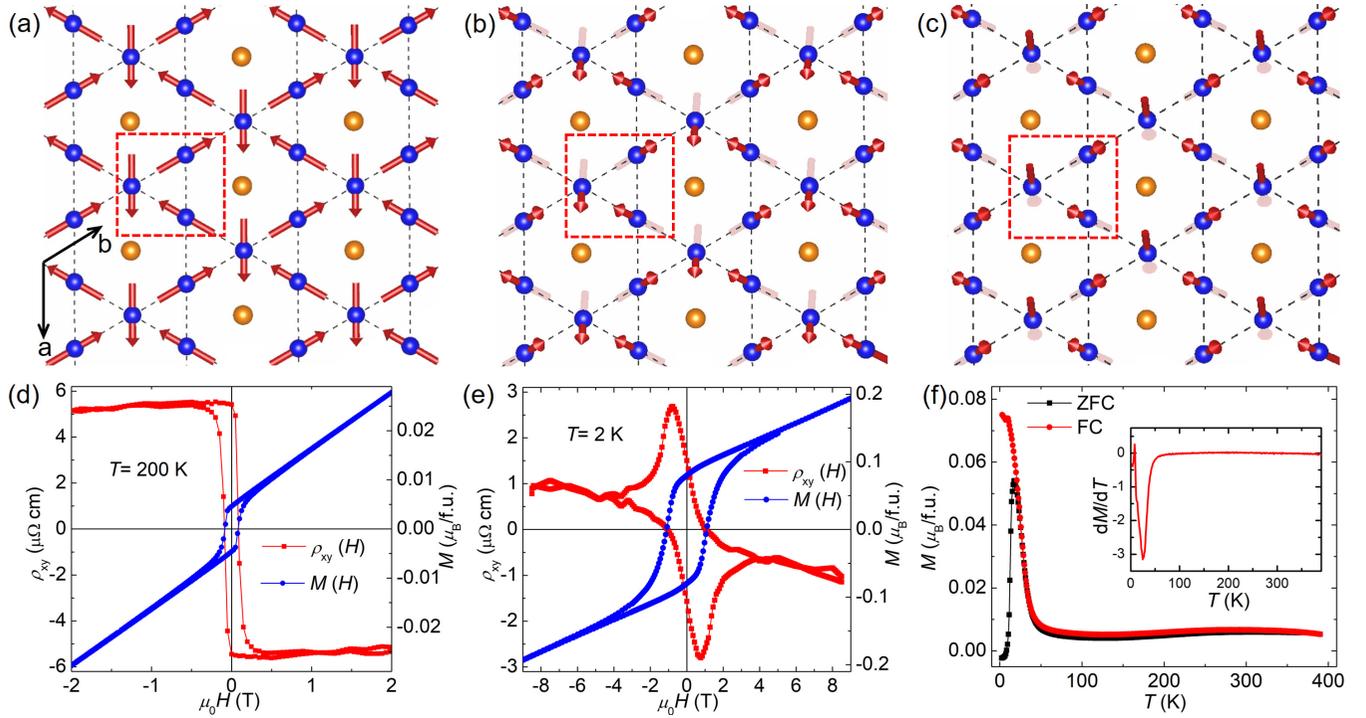


FIG. 1. Atomic arrangement of Mn (blue balls) and Sn (yellow balls) in a single c plane of the hexagonal crystal structure of Mn_3Sn . The magnetic moments of Mn atoms are represented by cylindrical arrows. (a) The 120° triangular antiferromagnetic spin alignment of the Mn atoms where all the Mn moments lie in the c plane. (b) All-out configuration, a slight tilting of the whole spin triangle along the c axis. (c) Two-out-one-in configuration, two Mn moments of the spin triangle tilt along the positive c axis, whereas one Mn-moment tilts towards the negative c direction. In all cases a single spin triangle is shown inside a dashed box. Field dependence of Hall resistivity (ρ_{xy} , left axis) and magnetization (M , right axis) measured at (d) 200 K and (e) 2 K. (f) Temperature dependence of magnetization measured in a field of 0.1 T in zero field cooled (ZFC) and field cooled (FC) modes. The inset shows the first derivative of the FC curve.

Mn_3Sn consists of two sets of Mn triangles stacked along the c -axis where the Mn atoms form a kagome structure in the c plane and Sn sits at the center of the hexagon [Fig. 1(a)]. Although the neutron-diffraction studies by various groups have confirmed the 120° triangular spin configuration [33,35], the exact orientation of the spin plane and the origin of a weak ferromagnetic behavior are conflicting. The polarized neutron-diffraction study [34] performed by Tomiyoshi and Yamaguchi confirmed the existence of an inverse triangular spin structure in the basal plane as depicted in Fig. 1(a). In this structure a small canting of the Mn spins towards their respective easy axes deforms the 120° spin triangle resulting in the observed weak ferromagnetism. It has been also proposed that Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya interaction (DMI) with DMI vector parallel to the c axis is necessary to stabilize as well as freely rotate the spin structure in the c plane [34,35].

The triangular spin structure of Mn_3Sn has led to the observation of different transport phenomena, such as large AHE and large anomalous Nernst effect (ANE), and large magneto-optical Kerr effect (MOKE) [10,37,38]. Despite the observation of these fascinating properties at room temperature, little attention has been paid towards the magnetic ordering at low temperatures. Mn_3Sn develops a large spontaneous magnetic moment below 50 K [36,39,40]. Neutron-diffraction studies on single crystal Mn_3Sn at low temperatures have suggested a similar triangular antiferromagnetic spin structure with a slight tilting of the spins from the c plane towards the

c axis [40]. Two different spin canting scenarios have been suggested: (i) all three spins in a triangle tilt towards the positive c direction as depicted in Fig. 1(b) and/or (ii) two spins move upwards and the third spin tilts downwards from the c plane [Fig. 1(c)] [40]. In the present study we focus on magnetic and transport measurements to explore the finding of a large topological Hall effect at temperatures below 30 K in polycrystalline Mn_3Sn .

II. RESULT AND DISCUSSIONS

Polycrystalline ingots of Mn_3Sn were prepared using arc-melting technique. Details of sample preparation and characterization are provided in the Supplemental Material [41]. The AHE and the magnetic hysteresis loop measured at 200 K for the present polycrystalline Mn_3Sn sample is depicted in Fig. 1(d). A spontaneous anomalous Hall resistivity ρ_{xy} of about $5.5 \mu\Omega \text{ cm}$ and spontaneous magnetization of about $0.005 \mu_B/\text{f.u.}$ are found at 200 K, showing an excellent match with that reported for the single-crystalline Mn_3Sn [10]. $\rho_{xy}(H)$ data measured at higher temperatures [41] also exhibit a similar trend as reported earlier [10]. As shown in Fig. 1(e), the spontaneous magnetization (M_S) increases by nearly 20 times to $0.1 \mu_B/\text{f.u.}$ with a large coercive field (H_C) of 1 T when measured at 2 K, thus corroborating the previous neutron-diffraction study that suggests a small canting of Mn moment along the c direction [40]. We have also calculated

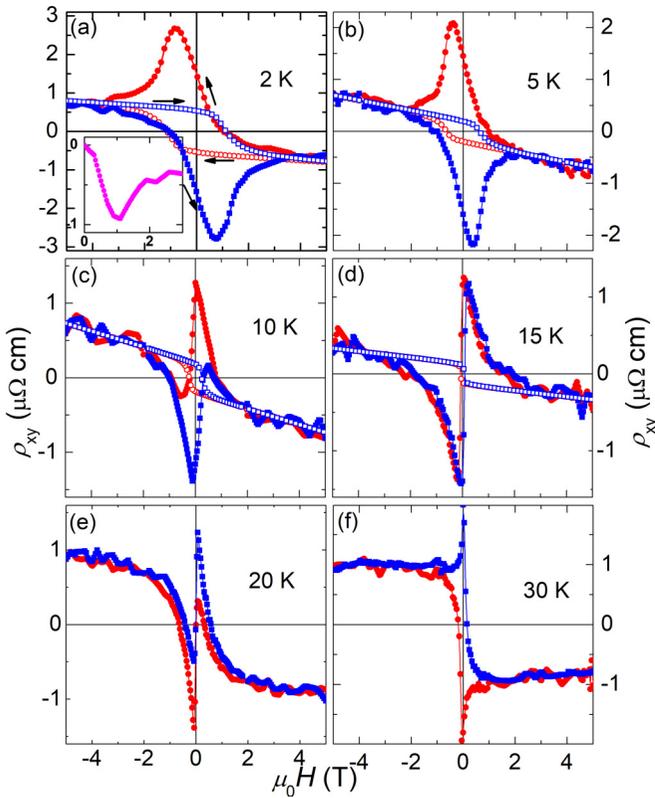


FIG. 2. Field dependence of Hall resistivity [$\rho_{xy}(H)$] measured at different temperatures. The filled circles represent ρ_{xy} data measured from +5 T to -5 T, whereas, ρ_{xy} data from -5 to +5 T are plotted with filled squares. The calculated ρ_{xy} curves for $T = 2$ -15 K are represented by open circles and squares. The inset of (a) represents the virgin curve of $\rho_{xy}(H)$ at 2 K.

the tilting angle from the saturation magnetization data at 2 K. The tilting angle for the first case, where all three spins of the triangle move upwards from c plane to c axis [Fig. 1(b)], is estimated to be 2.2° . Similarly, we also get a tilting angle of 6.5° for the alternative spin structure where only two spins move upwards while the third spin tilts downwards from the c plane [see Fig. 1(c)]. The above obtained tilting angles are also a perfect match with the earlier report [40].

The temperature dependence of magnetization $M(T)$ curves measured in zero-field-cooled (ZFC) and field-cooled (FC) modes are depicted in Fig. 1(f). FC magnetization exhibits a sharp rise below 50 K. A large irreversibility between the ZFC and FC curves below $T \leq 25$ K indicates a large out-of-plane magnetic anisotropy. Most importantly, the $\rho_{xy}(H)$ curve measured at 2 K displays a distinct behavior in comparison to that measured above 50 K. In the following, we will mostly concentrate on the Hall resistivity measurements below 50 K to explore the origin of such peculiar $\rho_{xy}(H)$ behavior.

The field dependence of Hall resistivity measured at fixed temperatures in the range 2-30 K are plotted in Figs. 2(a)-2(f). As it can be seen from Fig. 2(a), the ρ_{xy} measured at 2 K exhibits a positive maxima of $2.7 \mu\Omega \text{ cm}$ for field of about -0.8 T when the field is swept from +5 T to -5 T and a negative maximum in the opposite direction. A saturation behavior in the ρ_{xy} data is found for fields above

± 3.5 T with $\rho_{xy} = 0.75 \mu\Omega \text{ cm}$ at ± 5 T. A similar kind of field dependency of the ρ_{xy} data is observed at $T = 5$ K. A further increase in temperature to 10 K significantly modifies the ρ_{xy} behavior, where it suddenly falls to a negative value after increasing to a maximum at zero field when the field is swept from +5 T to -5 T. The ρ_{xy} attains a negative value of nearly one-sixth of the positive maxima before it again increases to positive saturation. At 15 K, the magnitude of positive maxima and negative maxima of ρ_{xy} around zero field is almost the same. However, the positive maximum of ρ_{xy} reduces drastically and the negative maximum increases to a large value when the field is changed from +5 T to -5 T at 20 K. Finally, at 30 K the ρ_{xy} curve measured in +5 T to -5 T stays negative up to zero field where it shows a negative peak before changing its sign to a positive value in the negative field. In all the cases, the observation of the peak/hump kind of behavior is only observed when the field is swept from positive maximum to negative maximum or vice versa. The observation of peak/hump in the ρ_{xy} data resembles the topological Hall effect behavior that appears with the application of the magnetic field. This field-induced effect can be seen from the virgin ρ_{xy} curve plotted in the inset of Fig. 2(a), where the peak/hump only appears with the application of a magnetic field of nearly 1 T.

Figure 3 depicts the field dependence of magnetization $M(H)$ curves measured at different temperatures for Mn_3Sn . Contrary to the Hall measurements, no anomaly is found in the $M(H)$ measurements. As expected the coercive field drastically changes from nearly 1 T at 2 K to few Oe's at $T = 30$ K. The change in the coercive field is also accompanied by a sharp change in the spontaneous magnetization. This indicates that indeed Mn_3Sn undergoes a spin reorientation transition from noncoplanar geometry with a substantial moment along the c axis to coplanar antiferromagnetic geometry with all spins lying in the c plane. For the comparison between the observed coercive field and the presence of a substantial difference between the ZFC-FC thermomagnetic curve, we have plotted the FC-ZFC magnetization difference (ΔM) and coercive field (H_C) in Fig. 3(b). It can be clearly seen that the ΔM value remains almost zero down to a temperature of 25 K and sharply increases to $0.08 \mu_B/\text{f.u.}$ below 25 K. Furthermore, the H_C also follows the same pattern with a steep increase of coercivity below 25 K. The observation of a large coercivity of 1 T at 2 K indicates the presence of large magnetic anisotropy as evident from the $M(T)$ curve in Fig. 1(f). We have also performed the quantitative estimation of the anisotropy energy from the $M(H)$ loops measured at 2 and 50 K. The estimated value of the anisotropy energy constant K_U at 2 K is about $2 \times 10^5 \text{ J m}^{-3}$. With increasing temperature, K_U decreases by one order of magnitude to about $K_U = 3 \times 10^4 \text{ J m}^{-3}$ at 50 K. The spontaneous magnetization plotted in the inset of Fig. 3(b) mimics the temperature dependence behavior of FC magnetization shown in Fig. 1(f).

Since the low-temperature $M(H)$ isotherms do not exhibit any kind of peculiar behavior, the observed unusual behavior in the ρ_{xy} data can be understood in terms of unequal contribution from the noncoplanar and coplanar spin textures to the Hall resistivity at different temperatures. It can be mentioned here that the AHE originating from the triangular coplanar spin structure exhibits a negative saturation value in

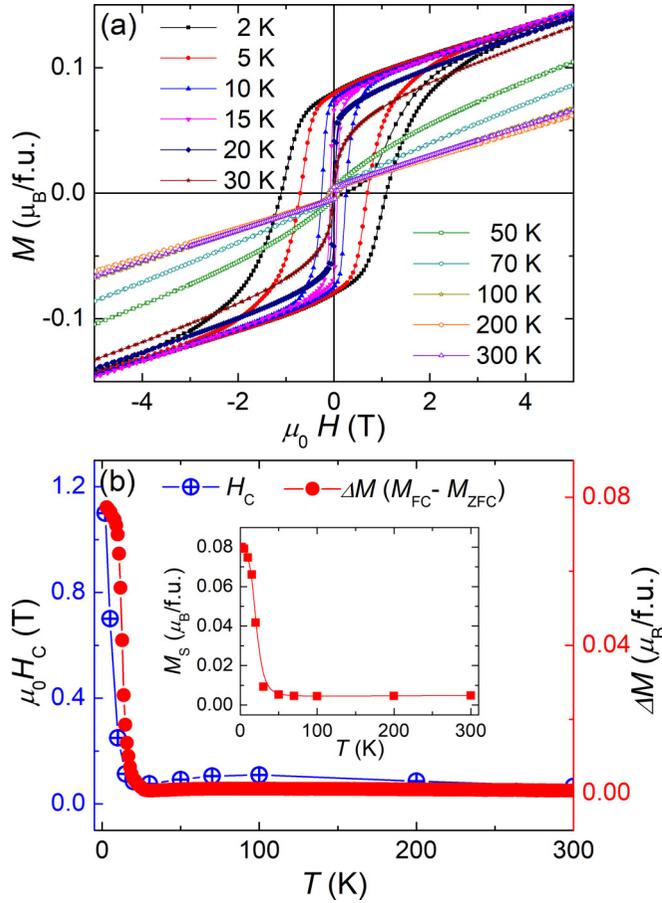


FIG. 3. (a) Field dependence of magnetization [$M(H)$] loops measured at different temperatures. (b) Variation of coercive field (H_C , left Y axis) and ΔM ($M_{FC} - M_{ZFC}$, right Y axis) with temperatures. The inset shows the temperature dependence of spontaneous magnetization (M_S) derived from the $M(H)$ isotherms.

positive field and vice versa for $T \geq 50$ K, where the AHE changes its sign with the magnetization due to reversal of spin chirality of the spin triangle [10,41]. For $T \leq 5$ K, the ρ_{xy} curves change sign independent of the magnetization loop, whereas, ρ_{xy} changes its sign thrice when the field is swept from +5 T to -5 T for $10 \text{ K} \leq T \leq 20$ K. In the latter case the first sign change of ρ_{xy} curve does not follow the magnetization sign reversal, whereas the second change of sign around zero field appears at the magnetization switching. Hence for $T \leq 20$ K, the first sign reversal originates from the field-induced topological Hall effect where the electrons scatter in the opposite direction to that of anomalous Hall signal at high fields. The second sign change corresponds to the spontaneous AHE originating from the field-independent triangular antiferromagnetic spin structure. Finally, the ρ_{xy} data display a single sign reversal along with the magnetization loop with a peak kind of behavior around zero field for $T = 30$ K. The above observations suggest that at low temperatures ($T \leq 5$ K) the Hall signal consists of only a noncoplanar component, whereas it is the combination of noncoplanar and coplanar at intermediate temperatures ($10 \text{ K} \leq T \leq 20$ K) before transferring to the coplanar one at higher temperatures. For $T \leq 15$ K, the high field ($H > 3$ T)

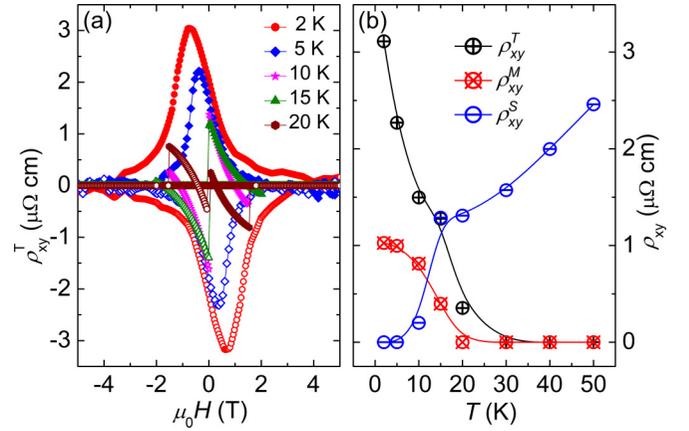


FIG. 4. (a) Field dependence of topological Hall resistivity ρ_{xy}^T at different temperatures. The closed and open symbols represent ρ_{xy} from +5 T to -5 T and -5 T to +5 T, respectively. (b) Maximum value of different components of ρ_{xy} with temperature. ρ_{xy}^M and ρ_{xy}^S are saturated anomalous Hall resistivity scaling with magnetization and spontaneous anomalous Hall resistivity from the coplanar triangular antiferromagnetic structure, respectively.

AHE arises from the net uncompensated magnetic moment as the ρ_{xy} scales with the magnetization, i.e., ρ_{xy} weakens with decreasing magnetization. The high-field AHE for $T \geq 20$ K mostly comes from the coplanar triangular antiferromagnetic spin structure where the field-induced noncoplanar effect is minimal.

As it is seen from Fig. 2, the observed ρ_{xy} behavior can be explained in terms of different Hall components originating from the coplanar and noncoplanar spin structures. The topological Hall contribution extracted from the total ρ_{xy} is plotted in Fig. 4(a). At $T = 2$ and 5 K, the ρ_{xy} data do not consist of the Hall contribution from the momentum space Berry curvature emerging from the coplanar triangular antiferromagnetic structure. Hence the total Hall contribution can be expressed as $\rho_{xy} = \rho_N + \rho_{AH}^M + \rho_{xy}^T$, where ρ_N and ρ_{xy}^T are normal and topological Hall resistivities, respectively [12–14]. ρ_{AH}^M is the anomalous Hall resistivity proportional to the magnetization in Mn_3Sn . Using the relation that the normal Hall resistivity is proportional to the applied magnetic field and ρ_{xy}^M is proportional to the magnetization, the ρ_{xy} curve excluding the topological Hall contribution is calculated and depicted by open symbols in Figs. 2(a) and 2(b). It can be mentioned here that the present system exhibits a conductivity of the order $10^4 \Omega^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ with almost zero magnetoresistance [41]. Thus any anomalous Hall contribution originating from the scattering dependent mechanism, which usually dominates in highly conductive systems ($\geq 10^6 \Omega^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$), can be safely ruled out in our sample [19]. ρ_{xy}^T can be calculated by subtracting the calculated ρ_{xy} data same above comment applies here from the measured Hall data, as shown in Fig. 4(a). However, for $T = 10$ and 15 K the calculated ρ_{xy} curves shown in Figs. 2(c) and 2(d), respectively, cannot be used to extract ρ_{xy}^T . This is due to the fact that the low-field ρ_{xy} data consist of both the spontaneous anomalous Hall component ρ_{xy}^S evolving from the coplanar triangular structure and the topological Hall component. The ρ_{xy}^T at these temperatures was extracted by

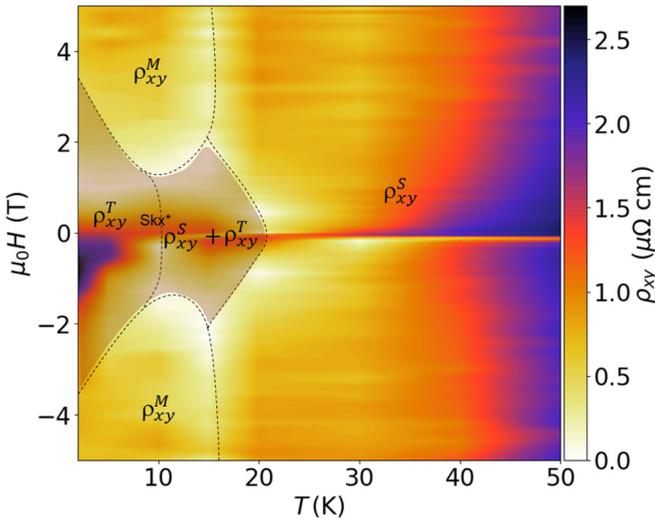


FIG. 5. H - T phase diagram showing contribution from different Hall effects. For the present purpose the ρ_{xy} measurements with field sweep from +5 T to -5 T is utilized. Color code represents the magnitude of ρ_{xy} as depicted by scale bar on the right margin. The boundary between different phases are shown by dotted lines. The shaded region marked with Skx^* represents the possible skyrmion phase.

fitting an exponential function to the field-induced part as shown in the Supplemental Material [41]. As the saturation magnetization decreases the ρ_{xy}^M component ceases to almost zero for $T = 20$ and 30 K and ρ_{xy}^S dominates at all fields. Figure 4(b) shows the temperature dependence of various Hall components. It is clear that the ρ_{xy}^S at any field dominates over all other contributions at temperatures above 20 K.

A H - T phase diagram derived from the field dependence of ρ_{xy} measurements at different temperatures is displayed in Fig. 5. As discussed above, the maximum contribution of the THE can be found in a small pocket for temperatures less than 10 K and fields between 0 and -2 T, whereas a mixed THE and spontaneous Hall effect is observed between 10 and 20 K. The observed THE, which appears due to the real-space Berry curvature, can be attributed to the formation of nontrivial nanoscale magnetic domains like skyrmions at low temperatures having noncoplanar spin structure. Since the magnitude of topological Hall voltage is directly proportional to skyrmion density/size, a rough estimation of the size of skyrmion from the relation $\rho_{xy}^T = PR_0B_{\text{eff}}$, where P is the conduction electron-spin polarization, B_{eff} is the effective (fictitious) magnetic field, and R_0 is the normal Hall coefficient [12,16,42], results in a skyrmion diameter of about 1 nm [41].

The present finding of large topological Hall effect in the noncoplanar magnetic state is in consistent with the recent finding of similar kind of field-induced giant topological Hall effect in a frustrated centrosymmetric magnets Gd_2PdSi_3 and $Gd_3Ru_4Al_{12}$ with triangular lattice [43,44]. The THE below 20 K in Gd_2PdSi_3 and $Gd_3Ru_4Al_{12}$ has been attributed to the signature of a skyrmionic state with spin modulation length of about 2 nm [43,44]. Different mechanisms governing the formation of skyrmions can result in a different size of

the skyrmionic spin structure. The skyrmion formation due to frustrated exchange interaction can lead to atomic-sized skyrmions of size $a_{sk} \sim 1$ nm [8]. These skyrmions exhibit a highly degenerate ground state and have both vorticity as well as helicity degrees of freedom [8]. In general, the smaller sized skyrmions of size 1 nm can squeeze the emergent magnetic flux and produces approximately 4000 T of effective magnetic field which promises robust storage density while the experimental realization of reading and writing possibilities is still elusive [16].

Our observation of a large effective magnetic field ($B_{\text{eff}} \sim 3500$ T, which corresponds to a skyrmion size of ~ 1 nm in the frustrated centrosymmetric Mn_3Sn at low temperatures, strongly matches the above predictions and paves the way towards the realization of skyrmion texture in frustrated magnetic systems. Previous theoretical works have already demonstrated the realization of metastable multiple periodic states of skyrmions in frustrated centrosymmetric triangular and kagome lattices with easy axis magnetic anisotropy, threefold/sixfold degenerate symmetry axis, and by considering the next-nearest-neighbor interactions [28–30]. Frustrated magnetic systems with competing interactions can result in different complex spin structures whose topological nature can be quantified by a geometrical parameter called scalar spin chirality [20,21]. Unconventional electromagnetic responses in the form of large unusual Hall effect can also appear in topologically nontrivial spin structure hosting frustrated magnetic materials showing strong electron-electron correlation [28]. Mn_3Sn turns out to be a rare example of metallic material exhibiting strong correlation among Mn $3d$ electrons as observed from the angle-resolved photoemission spectroscopy (ARPES) and density functional theory (DFT) calculations [45]. Hence the strong electron-electron correlation along with the easy axis magnetic anisotropy in the frustrated kagome lattice magnet Mn_3Sn may lead to a transition from topologically trivial magnetic phase to a topologically nontrivial one at low temperatures ($T < 20$ K). This may lead to nonzero scalar spin chirality which results in the appearance of large topological Hall effect at low temperatures with the proliferation of more topological entities below 10 K.

As mentioned in the Introduction the triangular lattice compounds Mn_5Si_3 and $Fe_{1.3}Sb$ also exhibit THE which is attributed to the scalar spin chirality due to the noncollinear spin ordering [25,32]. However, it is to be noted that in the case of Mn_5Si_3 the topological Hall effect is observed in a temperature region where there is a modification of crystal structure from centrosymmetric hexagonal to a non-centrosymmetric orthorhombic one. The authors attribute the observed effect to the presence of complex noncollinear spin texture at low temperatures. In the case for $Fe_{1.3}Sb$ the DM interaction modifies the triangular spin structure of the spin clusters associated with the interstitial Fe spins to generate finite scalar spin chirality as well as the topological Hall effect. The observed THE in $Fe_{1.3}Sb$ is explained with invoking a local inversion symmetry breaking between the interstitial Fe spin and triangularly ordered Fe spins. Although a hexagonal Mn_3Sn crystal structure is stabilized only in the off-stoichiometric composition, the excess Mn atoms replace some of the Sn atoms instead of going to the interstitial position, as reported in earlier studies [34,46,47]. In addition,

it is highly unlikely that this small fraction of excess Mn atoms will show a magnetic ordering that will affect the whole spin texture. Thus, the presence of a similar spin state in Mn_3Sn to that of $\text{Fe}_{1.3}\text{Sb}$, which consists of about 33% of excess Fe to that of about 1.5% of extra Mn in case of $\text{Mn}_{3.05}\text{Sn}_{0.95}$, is highly unexpected.

Also, at low temperatures Mn_3Sn shows a large magnetic ordering behavior with a coercivity of 1 T and spontaneous moment of $0.1\mu_B/\text{f.u.}$ in contrast to the complete antiferromagnetic behavior of Mn_5Si_3 and $\text{Fe}_{1.3}\text{Sb}$ with almost zero spontaneous magnetization. The observed topological Hall resistivity exhibits completely different behavior with distinct bumps/peaks on top of AHE and significant hysteresis in Mn_3Sn as compared to Mn_5Si_3 and $\text{Fe}_{1.3}\text{Sb}$ where only a curvaturelike deviation occurs in the linear Hall behavior with no hysteresis. Again, the low-temperature polarized neutron-diffraction measurement in Mn_3Sn does not propose any modification in the triangular spin structure [14]. According to the earlier reports, for a triangular lattice with 120° spin order, the spin chirality cancels out and the topological contribution to the Hall resistivity is usually not expected [25,48,49]. Thus, there may not be any finite scalar spin chirality originating from the noncollinear/noncoplanar spin structure in Mn_3Sn at low temperature. Therefore, it is most likely that the observed THE in Mn_3Sn comes from the presence of field-induced nontrivial spin structure like skyrmions.

III. SUMMARY

In summary, we have demonstrated the existence of a large topological Hall effect in the noncoplanar triangular

antiferromagnetic geometry of the frustrated kagome lattice system Mn_3Sn . The presence of noncoplanar magnetic structure with large uniaxial magnetic anisotropy at low temperatures is established from the magnetic measurements that exhibit a nonzero spontaneous magnetization and a large coercive field below 20 K. The observation of field-induced large topological Hall effect indicates that the application of magnetic field transforms the trivial noncollinear spin texture to a topologically protected nontrivial spin state. At very high fields the spin texture again transforms to a trivial state. We have also established a H - T phase diagram that shows the existence of various components of Hall effects at different magnetic fields and temperatures. The origin of the present THE is attributed to the presence of topologically protected spin structures like skyrmions with size as small as 1 nm and emergent magnetic field of ~ 3500 T. The small size of the present nontrivial magnetic structures is well within the size of skyrmion texture expected in frustrated magnetic systems predicted by theory. The present work is an important step towards the understanding of low-temperature magnetic states of Mn_3Sn that will motivate further study in similar systems.

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