Relativistic dynamical spin excitations of magnetic adatoms

M. dos Santos Dias,† B. Schweflinghaus, S. Blügel, and S. Lounis
Peter Grünberg Institut and Institute for Advanced Simulation, Forschungszentrum Jülich & JARA, D-52428 Jülich, Germany
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We present a first-principles theory of dynamical spin excitations in the presence of spin-orbit coupling. The broken global spin rotational invariance leads to a new sum rule. We explore the competition between the magnetic anisotropy energy and the external magnetic field, as well as the role of electron-hole excitations, through calculations for 3d-metal adatoms on the Cu(111) surface. The spin excitation resonance energy and lifetime display nontrivial behavior, establishing the strong impact of relativistic effects. We legitimate the use of the Landau-Lifshitz-Gilbert equation down to the atomic limit, but with parameters that differ from a stationary theory.

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I. INTRODUCTION

The understanding and design of new technologies based on magnetic materials, in the fields of spintronics and magnonics, begots and profits from quantitative theoretical approaches. Recently, the central role played by spin-orbit coupling (SOC) has been serendipitously revealed. It underlies many concepts for the generation, manipulation, and detection of spin currents [1], also at the nanoscale: spin dynamics, current-induced magnetization switching, and magnetic stability [2–4]. The energy gain in the spin excitation spectrum, from extended materials down to a single adatom, is the result of SOC being measurable, for instance, with ferromagnetic resonance (FMR) [5] or inelastic scanning tunneling spectroscopy (ISTS) [6–11]. Physical intuition suggests a connection between the gap and the magnetic anisotropy energy (MAE), while application of a dc external magnetic field (B\text{ext}) should lead to a gap change of gμB \delta V\text{ext} (Zeeman shift). Stoner (electron-hole) excitations, together with SOC, contribute to the spin dynamics, their impact on the energy gap, Zeeman shift, and excitation lifetime being expected but fairly unexplored.

Up to now, all ab initio studies on transverse dynamical spin excitations have neglected SOC. Furthermore, the addressed magnetic states are collinear (e.g., ferromagnetic), since the complexity, both theoretical and computational, increases dramatically in the general case: charge excitations, longitudinal, and transverse spin excitations may couple in a nontrivial manner (see discussion in Ref. [12]). From the tight-binding perspective, the work of Costa et al. [13] has proven invaluable in characterizing the impact of SOC on the spin-wave dispersion and lifetime, going beyond the adiabatic approximation [14]. Two kinds of theoretical approaches build upon first-principles electronic structure calculations. One type is based on many-body perturbation theory (MBPT) [15–17], constructing the noninteracting Green function (GF) from the density functional theory (DFT) eigenstates. The other type is based on time-dependent DFT (TDDFT) [18,19], and has been applied to bulk systems [16,17,20–23], thin films [24], and adatoms on surfaces [25–27], with pioneering work on SOC [28], but still not starting from a spin-polarized ground state [29]. Recently we provided a connection between MBPT and TDDFT to describe the interaction between electrons and spin excitations [30]; this link was also found for the theory of spin-fluctuation-mediated superconductivity [31].

Here we present a method for the calculation of dynamical magnetic response functions based on TDDFT and incorporating SOC. This new scheme is implemented within the Korringa-Kohn-Rostoker (KKR) GF approach [32]. Of interest is the ability to treat an external magnetic field (B\text{ext}) in any direction, to investigate nontrivial orientations of the magnetic moments, and the role of the MAE. We derive a magnetization sum rule that constrains the exchange and correlation (xc) kernel when SOC is present, which is essential for the theory and the calculations. By investigating 3d metal adatoms on the Cu(111) surface, with a focus on the experimentally studied Fe adatom [8], we demonstrate that the gap in the excitation spectrum is connected to the MAE through spin dynamics parameters, with electron-hole excitations taking center stage. We also show that, varying the orientation of B\text{ext}, the properties of the spin excitations, i.e., excitation energies, lifetimes, and g factors, are nontrivial and anisotropic, depending on the orientation of the magnetic moment.

Our paper is organized as follows. In Sec. II the formalism for the dynamical magnetic susceptibility is presented, as is the new magnetization sum rule that applies for the SOC case. Section III describes the computational details. The results for 3d adatoms on Cu(111) are discussed in Sec. IV, and the interplay between MAE and SOC is explained in Sec. V. Our conclusions are given in Sec. VI, while three Appendixes provide further details.

II. DYNAMICAL SUSCEPTIBILITY

We begin by seeking the change of the spin density matrix ⤅ \delta \rho = \delta n \sigma_0 + \delta \vec{\tau} \cdot \vec{\sigma} due to an external time-dependent potential of the same form \delta V\text{ext} = \delta V_0 \sigma_0 + \delta B\text{ext} \cdot \vec{\sigma}. In linear response,

\begin{equation}
\delta \rho(\vec{r} ; t) = \int d\vec{r}' dt' \langle \chi(\vec{r}, \vec{r}'; t - t') \cdot \delta V\text{ext}(\vec{r}'; t') \rangle,
\end{equation}

with \vec{\sigma} the vector of Pauli matrices and \sigma_0 the 2 × 2 unit matrix. Within TDDFT, after Fourier transforming in time, the full response function \chi is given in terms of the Kohn-Sham (KS)
response $\chi^{KS}$ and the Hartree-exchange-correlation (Hxc) kernel $K^{Hxc}$ through
\[ \chi(\omega) = [1 - \chi^{KS}(\omega) K^{Hxc}(\omega)]^{-1} \chi^{KS}(\omega), \]
(2)

(here and in the following spatial dependence and integrations are omitted for brevity). We add SOC [33] and spin and orbital Zeeman couplings to an external static field to the KS Hamiltonian, self-consistently,
\[ \mathcal{H}^{KS} = \mathcal{H}_0^{KS} + z \cdot \vec{B}^{xc} + \xi \cdot \vec{L} \cdot \vec{\sigma} + (\vec{L} + \vec{\sigma}) \cdot \vec{B}^{ext}. \]
(3)

The KS response is written in terms of the KS GF, $G(E) = (E - \mathcal{H}^{KS})^{-1}$, as
\[ \chi^{KS}_{\alpha\beta}(\omega) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \mathrm{Im} \left[ \int dE \ Tr [\sigma_{\alpha} G(E + \omega + i0) \sigma_{\beta} G(E) \right] \]
\[ + \sigma_{\alpha} \mu G(E) \sigma_{\beta} G(E - \omega - i0)], \]
(4)

with $\alpha, \beta = x, y, z$. The trace is over the spin components, and $2i \ Im (G(E) = G(E + i0) - G(E - i0))$. $K^{Hxc}(\omega)$ is the sum of the Hartree kernel $2/\vec{r} - \vec{f}''$ and of the xc kernel, which contains the many-body effects. In the adiabatic local spin density approximation (ALSDA), adopted in this work, the xc kernel is local in space and frequency independent, being a function(al) of the particle and spin densities only.

In the absence of SOC, the full response function decouples into a transverse and a longitudinal part. The former describes damped precessional motions of the magnetization, while excitations that change the magnitude of the charge or spin densities are in the latter. Global SU(2) invariance implies the existence of a Goldstone mode: the spin density is an eigenfunction of $\chi^{-1}(\omega = 0)$ with vanishing eigenvalue. This is of utmost importance in numerical calculations, as small inaccuracies in the KS susceptibility and in the xc kernel shift the Goldstone mode to a finite frequency, in the meV range [25,26], where the gap opened by SOC is expected. As an application of our method, we explore the spin excitation spectra of 3d adatoms on the Cu(111) surface.

The ground state properties and the dynamical spin excitation spectra are described separately.

A. Ground state properties

The adatom-projected local density of states for Cr, Mn, Fe, and Co adatoms on the Cu(111) surface is shown in Fig. 1, while ground state properties are listed in Table 1. The spin moment $m^s$ is maximum for Cr and Mn, and then decreases steadily for Fe and Co. The orbital moment $m^o$ is small for Cr and Mn, a consequence of the almost half-filled $d$ states, and large for Fe and Co, due to partial occupation of the minority $d$ states. As expected, Cr and Mn adatoms with nearly...
First we discuss the impact of SOC on the adatom-averaged KS susceptibility. The preferred orientation of the magnetic moments of Fe and Co is normal to the surface while Cr and Mn lie in-plane.

B. Dynamical spin excitations

Now we proceed to the calculations of the dynamical magnetic susceptibility. Equation (2) is solved using the full basis expansion of the GFs, but for discussion we define an adatom-averaged quantity, corresponding to the net response to a site-dependent TD external magnetic field:

$$\chi_{ap}(\omega) = \int d\vec{r} \int d\vec{r}' \chi_{ap}(\vec{r}, \vec{r}'; \omega).$$  \hspace{1cm} (9)

First we discuss the impact of SOC on the adatom-averaged KS susceptibility. $\chi_{KS}^{a}(\omega)$ is linear for small frequencies. Figure 2(a) shows Im $\chi_{KS}^{a}(\omega)$, describing spin-flip excitations between occupied and empty states (Stoner excitations). SOC is found to have a negligible impact on $\chi_{KS}^{a}(\omega)$ for the Cr and Mn adatoms, in line with their low orbital magnetic moments and MAEs. For Fe, SOC causes a noticeable change only on $\chi_{KS}^{a}(\omega = 0)$ (~0.2%), while for Co there is also an increase in the slope of Im $\chi_{KS}^{a}(\omega)$ by 12%.

Consider now the full response function. The longitudinal and transverse parts of the magnetic susceptibility are weakly coupled by SOC. The imaginary part of the dominant eigenvalue of $\chi(\omega)$ corresponds to the density of states of the main magnetic excitation, and is shown in Fig. 2(b) for all adatoms. Although the resonance energies ($B^{ext} = 0$) follow the trend of the adatoms’ MAE (Table 1), their positions are strongly shifted from what is expected from a simple approximation [dashed lines in Fig. 2(b); discussed in the following].

We characterize the main resonance in $\chi(\omega)$ through a simple model of the spin dynamics, the Landau-Lifshitz-Gilbert (LLG) equation [37], widely used for larger magnetic systems:

$$\frac{dm^*}{dt} = -\gamma \mathbf{m^*} \times \hat{B}^{eff} + \eta \frac{m^* \times dm^*}{m^*} , \quad \hat{B}^{eff} = -\frac{\partial E}{\partial m^*},$$  \hspace{1cm} (10)

with $m^*$ the spin moment, $m^*$ its length, $\gamma$ the gyromagnetic ratio (equal to $2\mu_B/\hbar$ for a free electron), and $\eta$ the damping parameter. We set $\hbar = 1$ and absorb $\mu_B$ in $\hat{B}^{eff}$, so $\gamma = 2$. As discussed by Kittel [38] and found from our calculations, the orbital moment mostly follows the spin moment $m^* \propto m^*$ so it is not considered independently.

Suppose $m^* = m^s \hat{e}_z$, in equilibrium, so $\hat{B}^{eff} = \hat{B}^{ext} \hat{e}_z$, and we linearize Eq. (10) adding a small time-dependent perturbation in the $xy$ plane. From Im $\chi_{+}(\omega)$ the resonance location $\omega_{max}$ is given by (Appendix C)

$$\omega_{max} = \frac{\gamma B^{ext}}{\sqrt{1 + \eta^2}}, \quad B^{ext} = \frac{2E_a}{m^s} + \left(1 + \frac{m^0}{m^s}\right) B^{ext},$$  \hspace{1cm} (11)

with a model energy of the form

$$E = -\frac{E_a}{(m^s)^2} (m^s \cdot \hat{e}_z)^2 - \frac{m^0}{m^s}, \quad \hat{B}^{ext}.$$

$$E = \frac{d\omega_{max}}{dB^{ext}} = \frac{\gamma}{\sqrt{1 + \eta^2}} \left(1 + \frac{m^0}{m^s}\right).$$  \hspace{1cm} (13)

A nonzero orbital moment (SOC) implies an effective $g \propto \gamma/1 + \eta^2$, which is the usual explanation for $g \neq 2$ found experimentally (for instance in FMR [5]). Damping renormalizes $g$ further by a factor $1/\sqrt{1 + \eta^2}$, so that a shift can be expected even without SOC ($m^0 = 0$). Lastly, the inverse of the full-width at half maximum (FWHM, $\Gamma$) of the spin excitation

| TABLE I. Spin ($m^s$) and orbital ($m^o$) moments for Cr, Mn, Fe, and Co adatoms on the Cu(111) surface, and MAE, see Eq. (8). All values for the easy axis configuration (in-plane for Cr and Mn, out-of-plane for Fe and Co). |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|                | Cr  | Mn  | Fe  | Co  |
| $m^s (\mu_B)$  | 4.07| 4.51| 3.23| 1.97|
| $m^o (\mu_B)$  | −0.02| 0.02| 0.55| 0.52|
| $E_a$ (meV)    | −0.29| −0.33| 4.96| 2.25|
TABLE II. Spin dynamics parameters for Cr, Mn, Fe, and Co adatoms on the Cu(111) surface, obtained by fitting the transverse susceptibility [Eq. (9)] to the LLG model. Equation (11) defines $\tilde{E}_a$. The $g$ factor [Eq. (13)] distinguishes $\tilde{m}$ . $B_{\text{ext}}^\text{max}$ or $(\tilde{m}^a + \tilde{m}^o)$. $B_{\text{ext}}^\text{max}$ couplings. $\tau$ for Mn is hard to extract, due to a very narrow spin excitation peak.

|          | Cr   | Mn   | Fe   | Co   |
|----------|------|------|------|------|
| $E_a$ (meV) | 0.14 | 0.02 | 4.51 | 1.37 |
| $\gamma$   | 1.63 | 1.74 | 1.73 | 2.36 |
| $\eta$     | 0.07 | 0.05 | 0.33 | 0.80 |
| $g$ (spin only) | 1.63 | 1.74 | 1.64 | 1.84 |
| $g$ (spin+orb) | 1.62 | 1.75 | 1.92 | 2.33 |
| $\tau$ (ps) | 22   | 1200 | 0.11 | 0.091 |

resonance can be used to estimate the corresponding lifetime $\tau \approx h/(2\Gamma)$. All model parameters are extracted by fitting the LLG form of $\chi_+ (\omega)$ given in Eq. (C4) to the first-principles data in Fig. 2(b), and are collected in Table II.

If we neglect dynamical corrections ($\gamma = 2, \eta = 0$), the MAE leads to a resonance at $4E_a/m^a$ (dashed lines in Fig. 2(b); $E_a$ is taken from Table I). The downward shift of the resonance energy is due to $\gamma \neq 2$ and an effective $E_a$ smaller than the force theorem estimate (see Table II). $\gamma \neq 2$ is determined by the electronic structure, as discussed in Refs. [9,25,26,39]. The discrepancy in $E_a$ may originate from the following: The value obtained from Eq. (8) is an energy difference between two orthogonal magnetic orientations, while the LLG model, see Eq. (10), suggests the dynamics depend on the variation of the energy around the equilibrium direction of the adatom spin. An alternative explanation would be the large DOS peak for Fe and Co at the Fermi energy: The MAE computed from Eq. (8) is sensitive to peak shifts between the two orientations, which may arise from the frozen potential approximation. The damping parameter $\eta$ plays a minor role for Cr and Mn adatoms, but reduces $g$ for Fe and Co by 5% and 22%, respectively. The spin excitation lifetimes are much shorter for the Fe and Co adatoms than for the Cr and Mn adatoms. This is due to the $1 / \omega_{\text{max}}$ scaling of the FWHM, and to the connection between $\eta$ and the slope of $\text{Im} \chi^\text{KS} (\omega)$ [Fig. 2(a)]. SOC enhances $\eta$ only for the Co adatom for the same reason [see discussion of Fig. 2(a) in the main text].

V. INTERPLAY BETWEEN MAGNETIC ANISOTROPY AND MAGNETIC FIELD

Next we focus on the effect of $\tilde{B}_{\text{ext}}^\text{max}$ on the spin excitations of the Fe adatom. First we apply the field parallel to the MAE easy axis, resulting in the linear Zeeman shift. $\omega_{\text{max}}$ is shown in Fig. 3(a) for the spin-only (squares) and spin+orbital (diamonds) Zeeman couplings, see Eq. (3). In the spin-only case $g = 1.70 (1.64$ using the LLG model, Table II). This does not depend on SOC and is related to details of the electronic structure [9]. When the orbital coupling is included, $g$ rises from 1.70 to 1.97, close to the factor $(1 + m^o)$ from Eq. (11). Using $m^o = 0.17$ and the data in Table II, $g = 1.92$ from the LLG model, in good agreement with the first-principles data. In Ref. [8] this system was studied by ISTS. The measured gap ($\sim 1$ meV) is lower than the one found in our calculations ($\sim 4.6$ meV), which may indicate we overestimated the MAE. The experimental $g$ value ($\sim 2.1$) is quite close to the one computed including spin and orbital Zeeman couplings ($g = 1.97$). The linewidth is proportional to the resonance energy [Fig. 3(b) (diamonds)], but the slope is larger in the experimental data.

When the field is applied perpendicular to the MAE easy axis, the equilibrium direction of the Fe spin moment progressively cant away from the surface normal, becoming parallel to $\tilde{B}_{\text{ext}}^\text{max}$(when $\omega_{\text{max}} \approx 0$). Figure 3(a) shows that $\omega_{\text{max}}$ slowly decreases for small $\tilde{B}_{\text{ext}}^\text{max}$, dipping near the critical field, beyond which it increases again, recovering the linear dependence on $\tilde{B}_{\text{ext}}^\text{max}$ for $\omega_{\text{max}} > 5$ meV. In this regime, $g = 1.81$ (spin Zeeman) or $g = 1.93$ (full Zeeman) differ from the values obtained in the previous linear case. This arises from the different values of $m^o, \gamma$, and $\eta$, making the spin dynamics anisotropic. The FWHM is still linear in $\omega_{\text{max}}$ [Fig. 3(b) (triangles)], but it does not extrapolate to zero as in the out-of-plane case. For the same $\omega_{\text{max}}$, the lifetime of the spin excitation strongly depends on the orientation of the spin moment. From Fig. 3(b), with $\omega_{\text{max}} \sim 4.6$ meV, $\tau \approx 110$ fs (out-of-plane) and $\tau \approx 85$ fs (in-plane), which is a 20% change.

VI. CONCLUSIONS

In this paper we presented a detailed first-principles analysis of the spin dynamics of magnetic adatoms, made possible by an extension of TDDFT to spin-polarized systems including SOC. We found an invaluable sum rule connecting the spin density to the xc splitting in the presence of SOC. The key spin dynamics parameters have been extracted from the dynamical magnetic susceptibility, including SOC and spin and orbital Zeeman terms, after mapping to the LLG model, thus legitimating its use down to the atomic limit. Deviations from standard assumptions in spin dynamics models have been found for
the MAE (different from the one computed by the force theorem), the gyromagnetic ratio ($\gamma \neq 2$, which may indicate spin pumping [40]), and the origin and role of the Gilbert damping $\eta$ (dominated by Stoner excitations, not by SOC). We also find a nontrivial behavior for $g$ and the spin excitation lifetime upon application of a magnetic field along the easy and hard axes of the magnetic anisotropy. The anisotropic nature of the spin dynamics was established, arising from SOC and $B^{\text{ext}}$.

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APPENDIX A: DERIVATION OF THE MAGNETIZATION SUM RULE FOR A NONSPIN-DIAGONAL HAMILTONIAN

We start from the Kohn-Sham Hamiltonian as given in Eq. (3) of the main text,

$$\mathcal{H}^{KS}(\vec{r}) = \mathcal{H}_0^{KS}\sigma_0 + B^x \cdot \vec{\sigma} + \xi \vec{L} \cdot \vec{\sigma} + (\vec{L} + \vec{\sigma}) \cdot \vec{B}^{\text{ext}},$$

(A1)

and the KS Green function $G(E) = (E - \mathcal{H}^{KS})^{-1}$, where the inverse abbreviates the solution of

$$\sum_{n} \left( E\delta_{ss'\ell} - \mathcal{H}^{KS}(\vec{r}\ell) \right) G_{n\ell}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) = \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}'),$$

(A2)

The summation is over spin components $s = \uparrow, \downarrow$. For a nonlocal Hamiltonian an integration over the intermediate real-space coordinates would also be present, and the remaining derivation is unaffected.

The $z$ component of the spin density is given by

$$m_{z}(\vec{r}) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im} \int dE (G_{\uparrow\uparrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}; E) - G_{\downarrow\downarrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}; E)).$$

(A3)

so we must solve for the diagonal (in spatial coordinates and spin labels) parts of the KS GF.

Expanding Eq. (A2) we find the following relations among the spin blocks:

$$(E - \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\uparrow\uparrow}(\vec{r})) G_{\uparrow\uparrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) = \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}') + \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\uparrow\uparrow}(\vec{r}) G_{\uparrow\uparrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E),$$

(A4a)

$$(E - \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\downarrow\downarrow}(\vec{r})) G_{\downarrow\downarrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) = 0 + \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\downarrow\downarrow}(\vec{r}) G_{\downarrow\downarrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E),$$

(A4b)

$$(E - \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\downarrow\uparrow}(\vec{r})) G_{\downarrow\uparrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) = \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}') + \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\downarrow\uparrow}(\vec{r}) G_{\downarrow\uparrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E),$$

(A4c)

$$(E - \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\uparrow\downarrow}(\vec{r})) G_{\uparrow\downarrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) = 0 + \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\uparrow\downarrow}(\vec{r}) G_{\uparrow\downarrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E).$$

(A4d)

Defining auxiliary GF blocks $\tilde{G}_{\uparrow\uparrow}(E) = (E - \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\uparrow\uparrow})^{-1}$ and $\tilde{G}_{\downarrow\downarrow}(E) = (E - \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\downarrow\downarrow})^{-1}$, solutions of

$$\begin{align*}
(E - \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\uparrow\uparrow}(\vec{r})) \tilde{G}_{\uparrow\uparrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) &= \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}'), \\
(E - \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\downarrow\downarrow}(\vec{r})) \tilde{G}_{\downarrow\downarrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) &= \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}'),
\end{align*}$$

(A5a)

the previous set of equations can be rewritten as follows:

$$\begin{align*}
G_{\uparrow\uparrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) &= \tilde{G}_{\uparrow\uparrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) + \int d\vec{r}_1 \tilde{G}_{\uparrow\uparrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}_1; E) \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\uparrow\uparrow}(\vec{r}_1) G_{\uparrow\uparrow}(\vec{r}_1,\vec{r}'; E), \\
G_{\downarrow\downarrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) &= 0 + \int d\vec{r}_1 \tilde{G}_{\downarrow\downarrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}_1; E) \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\downarrow\downarrow}(\vec{r}_1) G_{\downarrow\downarrow}(\vec{r}_1,\vec{r}'; E), \\
G_{\downarrow\uparrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) &= \tilde{G}_{\downarrow\uparrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) + \int d\vec{r}_1 \tilde{G}_{\downarrow\uparrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}_1; E) \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\downarrow\uparrow}(\vec{r}_1) G_{\uparrow\downarrow}(\vec{r}_1,\vec{r}'; E), \\
G_{\uparrow\downarrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) &= 0 + \int d\vec{r}_1 \tilde{G}_{\uparrow\downarrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}_1; E) \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\uparrow\downarrow}(\vec{r}_1) G_{\downarrow\uparrow}(\vec{r}_1,\vec{r}'; E).
\end{align*}$$

(A6a)

After using Eqs. (A6b) and (A6d) in Eqs. (A6a) and (A6c), respectively, we obtain

$$\begin{align*}
G_{\uparrow\uparrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) &= \tilde{G}_{\uparrow\uparrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) \\
&+ \int d\vec{r}_1 \tilde{G}_{\uparrow\uparrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}_1; E) \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\uparrow\uparrow}(\vec{r}_1) G_{\uparrow\downarrow}(\vec{r}_1,\vec{r}_2; E) \\
&\times \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\downarrow\uparrow}(\vec{r}_2) G_{\downarrow\downarrow}(\vec{r}_2,\vec{r}'; E), \\
G_{\downarrow\downarrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) &= \tilde{G}_{\downarrow\downarrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) \\
&+ \int d\vec{r}_1 \tilde{G}_{\downarrow\downarrow}(\vec{r},\vec{r}_1; E) \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\downarrow\downarrow}(\vec{r}_1) G_{\downarrow\uparrow}(\vec{r}_1,\vec{r}_2; E) \\
&\times \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\uparrow\downarrow}(\vec{r}_2) G_{\uparrow\downarrow}(\vec{r}_2,\vec{r}'; E),
\end{align*}$$

(A7a)

and the solution of these two equations can be represented in an abbreviated form as

$$\begin{align*}
G_{\uparrow\uparrow}(E) &= (E - \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\uparrow\uparrow} - \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\downarrow\downarrow} G_{\downarrow\downarrow}(E) \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\downarrow\downarrow})^{-1}, \\
G_{\downarrow\downarrow}(E) &= (E - \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\downarrow\downarrow} - \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\uparrow\uparrow} G_{\uparrow\uparrow}(E) \mathcal{H}^{KS}_{\uparrow\uparrow})^{-1}.
\end{align*}$$

(A8a)

Here the inverse operation is for the $(\vec{r},\vec{r}')$ dependence, as in Eq. (A5), the spin dependence was already solved for. By the following operator identity:

$$A^{-1} - B^{-1} = A^{-1}(B - A)B^{-1} = B^{-1}(B - A)A^{-1},$$

(A9)
the difference between the two GF blocks of interest is given by
\[ G_{1+}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) - G_{1-}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) = \int d\vec{r}_1 \int d\vec{r}_2 G_{1+}(\vec{r},\vec{r}_1; E) \Delta(\vec{r}_1,\vec{r}_2; E) G_{1-}(\vec{r}_2,\vec{r}'; E) \]
\[ = \int d\vec{r}_1 \int d\vec{r}_2 G_{1+}(\vec{r},\vec{r}_1; E) \Delta(\vec{r}_1,\vec{r}_2; E) G_{1-}(\vec{r}_2,\vec{r}'; E), \]  
(A10)
with the energy dependent splitting defined by
\[ \Delta(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) = (\mathcal{H}_{1+}^{KS}(\vec{r}) - \mathcal{H}_{1-}^{KS}(\vec{r}')) \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}') + \mathcal{H}_{1+}^{KS}(\vec{r}) \mathcal{G}_{1+}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) \mathcal{H}_{1-}^{KS}(\vec{r}') - \mathcal{H}_{1+}^{KS}(\vec{r}') \mathcal{G}_{1+}(\vec{r}',\vec{r}; E) \mathcal{H}_{1-}^{KS}(\vec{r}). \]  
(A11)
Now the concrete form of the splitting is given, making use of the terms in Eq. (A1). This is especially meaningful if the xc field points along the z direction and is responsible for most of the spin splitting:
\[ \Delta(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) = 2(B_{\text{KS}}^{\text{ext}}(\vec{r}) + \xi(\vec{r}) L_z + B_{\text{KS}}^{\text{ext}}(\vec{r}')) \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}') + (\xi(\vec{r}) L_z + B_{\text{KS}}^{\text{ext}}(\vec{r}')) \mathcal{G}_{1+}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E)(\xi(\vec{r}') L_z + B_{\text{KS}}^{\text{ext}}(\vec{r}')) \]
\[ - (\xi(\vec{r}) L_z + B_{\text{KS}}^{\text{ext}}(\vec{r}')) \mathcal{G}_{1+}(\vec{r}',\vec{r}; E)(\xi(\vec{r}') L_z + B_{\text{KS}}^{\text{ext}}(\vec{r}')), \]  
(A12)
with the combinations \( L_z = L_z \pm iL_y \) and \( B_{\text{KS}}^{\text{ext}} = B_{\text{KS}}^{\text{ext}} \pm iB_{\text{KS}}^{\text{ext}} \). Defining the spin flip KS susceptibilities as
\[ \chi_{\alpha}^{KS}(\vec{r}) = -i \int dE \left\{ e^{2iE} \text{Tr}[\sigma_\alpha G(E + \omega + i0) \sigma_\beta G(E)] + \sigma_\alpha \text{Im} G(E) \sigma_\beta \text{Im} G(E - \omega - i0) \right\}, \]  
(A13)
we arrive at the magnetization sum rule
\[ m_{z}(\vec{r}) = 2 \int d\vec{r}' \chi_{\alpha}^{KS}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; 0) B^{\text{ext}}(\vec{r}') + \Delta m_{z}(\vec{r}) \]
\[ = 2 \int d\vec{r}' \chi_{\alpha}^{KS}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; 0) B^{\text{ext}}(\vec{r}') + \Delta m_{z}(\vec{r}), \]  
(A16)
where the two equivalent variants follow from the two forms of the operator identity [Eq. (A9)], and the small correction \( \Delta m_{z}(\vec{r}) \) arises from the spin-orbit coupling and external magnetic field contributions to \( \Delta(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) \) (i.e., excluding the xc part).

APPENDIX B: KOHN-SHAM SUSCEPTIBILITY IN A BASIS DERIVED FROM KKR SCATTERING SOLUTIONS

In the atomic sphere approximation (ASA), the KKR GF has the form [32]
\[ G_{ij}(\vec{r},\vec{r}'; E) = \sum_{LL'} Y_{iL}(\vec{r}) G_{L,jL'}(r,r'; E) Y_{L'}(\vec{r}'), \]  
(B1)
APPENDIX C: DYNAMICAL MAGNETIC SUSCEPTIBILITY FROM THE LANDAU-LIFSHITZ-GILBERT EQUATION

The aim is to linearize the LLG equation,

\[
\frac{d\vec{m}}{dt} = -\gamma \vec{m} \times \mathbf{B}_{\text{eff}} + \frac{\eta}{m} \times \frac{d\vec{m}}{dt},
\]

with the effective field

\[
\mathbf{B}_{\text{eff}} = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{E}}{\partial \vec{m}} = B_{\text{eff}}^\text{st} \hat{e}_z + b_x(t) \hat{e}_x + b_y(t) \hat{e}_y,
\]

where \( B_{\text{eff}}^\text{st} \hat{e}_z \) is the static part, and \( b_x(t) \hat{e}_x + b_y(t) \hat{e}_y \) is the small time-dependent transverse part. Under these assumptions, the same applies to the magnetization,

\[
\vec{m}(t) = m_x(t) \hat{e}_x + m_y(t) \hat{e}_y + M_z \hat{e}_z,
\]

with \( m_x, m_y \ll M_z \).

After Fourier transforming \( \frac{d\vec{m}}{dt} \to -i\omega \), the dynamical transverse magnetic susceptibility can be extracted from the LLG equation as

\[
\chi_{++}(\omega) = \frac{M_z \omega_0 (1 + \eta^2)\omega_0 - \omega + i\eta\omega}{2B_{\text{eff}}^2 (\omega - \omega_0)^2 + (\eta\omega_0)^2}, \quad \omega_0 = \frac{\gamma B_{\text{eff}}^2}{1 + \eta^2}.
\]

This form can be used to fit the first-principles TDDFT data and extract all the parameters.

The resonance peak location is obtained from

\[
\frac{d}{d\omega} \text{Im} \chi_{++} = 0 \implies (\omega - \omega_0)^2 + (\eta\omega_0)^2 - 2\omega(\omega - \omega_0) = 0 \implies \omega_{\text{max}} = \frac{\gamma B_{\text{eff}}^2}{\sqrt{1 + \eta^2}},
\]

which is the result quoted in the main text.

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