Geometrical contributions to the exchange constants: Free electrons with spin-orbit interaction

Frank Freimuth,* Stefan Blügel, and Yuriy Mokrousov

Peter Grünberg Institut and Institute for Advanced Simulation, Forschungszentrum Jülich and JARA, 52425 Jülich, Germany

(Received 30 January 2017; revised manuscript received 6 April 2017; published 25 May 2017)

Using thermal quantum field theory, we derive an expression for the exchange constant that resembles Fukuyama’s formula for orbital magnetic susceptibility (OMS). Guided by this formal analogy between the exchange constant and OMS, we identify a contribution to the exchange constant that arises from the geometrical properties of the band structure in mixed phase space. We compute the exchange constants for free electrons and show that the geometrical contribution is generally important. Our formalism allows us to study the exchange constants in the presence of spin-orbit interaction. Thereby, we find sizable differences between the exchange constants of helical and cycloidal spin spirals. Furthermore, we discuss how to calculate the exchange constants based on a gauge-field approach in the case of the Rashba model with an additional exchange splitting, and we show that the exchange constants obtained from this gauge-field approach are in perfect agreement with those obtained from the quantum field theoretical method.

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevB.95.184428

I. INTRODUCTION

While the Berry phase has been shown to be important for spin dynamics [1–3], less attention has been paid to geometrical aspects in the exchange constants. Recently, it has been shown that the Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya interaction (DMI), i.e., the asymmetric exchange, can be computed from a Berry phase approach, in which the geometrical properties of the electronic structure in mixed phase space play a key role [4–7]. DMI describes the linear change of the free energy with gradients in the magnetization direction. The effect of such noncollinear magnetic textures on conduction electrons can be accounted for by effective magnetic potentials [8,9]. Since orbital magnetism leads to a linear change of the free energy when an external magnetic field is applied, several formal analogies exist between the modern theory of orbital magnetization [10] and the Berry-phase approach to DMI [4,6], because the latter captures the free-energy change linear in an effective magnetic potential generated by the noncollinear magnetic texture.

Similarly, the (symmetric) exchange constants describe the quadratic change of the free energy with gradients in the magnetization direction, while the orbital magnetic susceptibility (OMS) captures the quadratic change of the free energy with an applied magnetic field [11]. Therefore, it is natural to suspect formal analogies between the theories of OMS on the one hand and exchange constants on the other hand, which we will investigate in detail in this paper. For this purpose, we use thermal quantum field theory in order to express the exchange constants in terms of torque operators, velocity operators, and the Green’s functions of a collinear ferromagnet, and we obtain a formula that resembles Fukuyama’s result for OMS [11,12].

Recently, geometrical contributions to OMS have been identified and shown to be generally significant and sometimes even dominant [13,14]. These contributions arise from the reciprocal-space Berry curvature and quantum metric, which describe geometrical properties of the electronic structure. We will show that, as a consequence of the formal analogies between OMS and exchange, similar geometrical contributions to the exchange constants can be identified, which arise from the Berry curvature and the quantum metric in mixed phase space as well as from the quantum metric in real space. To achieve this, we rewrite our Fukuyama-type formula for the exchange constant in terms of these geometrical properties.

Both the Fukuyama-type formula as well as the geometrical expression allow us to obtain the exchange constants directly from the electronic structure. Compared to the frozen spin-spiral approach [15,16], such a formulation has the advantage that it becomes easier to investigate the relationship to spintronic and spincaloritronic effects. For example, the Berry phase theory of DMI allows us to relate DMI to the spin-orbit torque [4], to ground-state spin currents [7], and to ground-state energy currents, which need to be subtracted in order to extract the inverse thermal spin-orbit torque [6]. Similarly, torques due to the exchange interaction need to be considered in the theory of thermally induced spin-orbit torque [17], and a Green’s function expression of exchange is well suited for this purpose.

For the calculation of exchange constants in realistic materials, powerful techniques exist already. Besides the frozen spin-spiral approach [15,16,18,19], the method of infinitesimal rotations of magnetic moments and the Lichtenstein formula are popular [20–22]. In this work, we focus on free electrons. However, the extension of the Fukuyama-type approach to calculations of exchange constants in realistic materials within the framework of first-principles density-functional theory has promising practical and technical perspectives. For example, a Fukuyama-type formula for the exchange constants might be an attractive alternative when spin-orbit interaction (SOI) is present, because in this case the frozen spin-spiral approach cannot be used and one needs to resort to supercell methods or use multiple scattering theory [22], which cannot be combined easily with all available density-functional theory codes. Similarly, for the first-principles simulation of the current-induced motion of domain walls and skyrmions, which involves complicated effects such as chiral damping [23,24] and nonadiabatic torque [25], and for the calculation of electronic transport properties—such as the topological

*Author to whom all correspondence should be addressed: f.freimuth@fz-juelich.de
Hall effect [26]—in these noncollinear magnetic textures, an approach that specifies the response to applied electric currents in terms of a coefficient matrix that is expanded in orders of the magnetization gradients is desirable. Since exchange constants are well known for many materials, their calculation from a Fukuyama-type expression can be used for code-testing with the goal to extend the method to the mentioned spintronics effects.

This paper is structured as follows: In Sec. II A we briefly review the derivation of Fukuyama’s formula for OMS, which serves as a basis to derive a Fukuyama-type expression for the exchange constants in Sec. II B. In Sec. III A we discuss how to express OMS in terms of reciprocal-space curvatures and quantum metrics, which sets the stage to express the exchange constants in terms of mixed phase-space curvatures and quantum metrics in Sec. III B. In Sec. IV we show that—despite the spin-orbit interaction—the exchange constants can be obtained easily from a gauge-field approach, thereby demonstrating the validity of the Fukuyama-type approach agree with those of the gauge-field approach that specifies the response to applied electric currents in terms of a coefficient matrix that is expanded in orders of the spatially oscillating vector potential

\[ A(x) = \frac{B_0}{q} \sin(q x) \hat{e}_y \]

with corresponding magnetic field

\[ B(x) = \mathbf{V} \times A(x) = B_0 \cos(q x) \hat{e}_z, \]

where \( \hat{e}_y \) and \( \hat{e}_z \) are unit vectors in the y and z directions, respectively. At the final stage of the calculation, the limit \( q \to 0 \) will be taken. According to Eq. (1), this spatially oscillating magnetic field induces a spatially oscillating orbital magnetization. The interaction between this induced orbital magnetization and the magnetic field modifies the free-energy density by the amount

\[ \delta F = -\frac{1}{2} \langle \delta M_{\text{orb}} \cdot B \rangle = -\frac{1}{2 \mu_0} \chi^{zz}(B^2 B^2) \]

where \( \langle \cdots \rangle \) denotes spatial averaging. The expression for \( \chi^{zz} \) can be found by determining \( \delta F \) from thermal quantum field theory and equating the result with Eq. (8).

The free energy is obtained from the partition function \( \Xi \) as

\[ F = -\frac{1}{\beta} \ln \Xi. \]

The modification of \( \Xi \) due to the applied magnetic field \( B(x) \) is determined from perturbation theory. For example, the contribution from second-order perturbation theory is given by

\[ \Xi^{(2)} = \frac{1}{2 \hbar^2} \int_0^{\hbar \beta} \int_0^{\hbar \beta} d \tau_1 d \tau_2 \text{Tr}[e^{-\beta H} T_\tau \delta H_i(\tau_1) \delta H_j(\tau_2)] \]

where \( \Xi^{(0)} \) is the partition function of the unperturbed system, \( T_\tau \) is the time-ordering operator, \( H \) is the unperturbed Hamiltonian, and \( \delta H_i(\tau) = e^{\tau H} \delta H e^{-\tau H} / \hbar \) denotes the perturbation in the interaction picture.
Minimal coupling leads to two perturbation terms, 
\[ \delta H^{(1)} = \frac{e}{2} [\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{A}(x) + \mathbf{A}(x) \cdot \mathbf{v}] \]  
(11)
and 
\[ \delta H^{(2)} = \frac{e^2}{2m_e} \mathbf{A}^2(x) = \frac{e^2 B_0^2}{2m_e \omega^2} \sin^2(qx) \]
\[ = \frac{e^2 B_0^2}{4m_e \omega^2} [1 - \cos(2qx)], \]  
(12)
where \( e > 0 \) is the elementary positive charge and \( m_e \) is the electron mass. To determine the free-energy change, we need to find the modification of the free-energy density \( \delta F \) that arises from the perturbations \( \delta H^{(1)} \) and \( \delta H^{(2)} \) and that is second order in \( B_0 \). Thus, we need to perform second-order perturbation theory with respect to \( \delta F \) and first-order perturbation theory with respect to \( \delta H^{(2)} \).

In second quantization, the perturbation \( \delta H^{(1)} \) is given by 
\[ \delta H^{(1)} = \frac{e B_0}{4i q} \times \sum_{km} \left\{ \left[ |u_{k,n}| \left| v_{k,m}^\gamma \right. \right] - \left[ |u_{k,n}| \left| v_{k,m}^\gamma \right. \right] \right\} c_{kn}^\dagger c_{kn}^\gamma \]  
(13)
where \( k_+ = k + q/2 \) and \( k_- = k - q/2 \) and \( q = q \hat{e}_z \), \( |u_{kn} \rangle \) denotes the eigenfunctions of the unperturbed Hamiltonian \( H_k \), such that \( H_k |u_{kn} \rangle = \hat{E}_{kn} |u_{kn} \rangle \), where \( \hat{E}_{kn} \) is the band energy. \( c_{kn}^\gamma \) and \( c_{kn} \) are annihilation operators of an electron in band \( n \) at \( k \)-point \( k \), respectively. Second-order perturbation theory with respect to \( \delta H^{(1)} \) modifies the free-energy density by the amount 
\[ \delta F = \frac{e^2 B_0^2}{8q^2 \beta \hbar^2} \int \frac{d^4k}{(2\pi)^d} \sum_p \text{Tr} \left[ G_k^{\hat{M}}(i \xi) v_k^{\gamma} G_k^{\hat{M}}(i \xi) v_k^\gamma \right]. \]  
(14)
When the trace in Eq. (14) is Taylor-expanded in \( q \), the zeroth-order term leads to a contribution to \( \delta F \) that diverges like \( q^{-2} \) in the limit \( q \to 0 \). This divergent term cancels out with the contribution from the piece \( e^2 B_0^2/(4m_e q^2) \) in \( \delta H^{(2)} \). The oscillating piece \( -e^2 B_0^2 \cos(2qx)/(4m_e q^2) \) in \( \delta H^{(2)} \) averages out in first-order perturbation theory. The \( q \)-quadratic term from the Taylor expansion of the trace in Eq. (14) yields the free-energy change 
\[ \delta F = \frac{-e^2 B_0^2}{8q^2 \beta \hbar^2} \int \frac{d^4k}{(2\pi)^d} \sum_p \text{Tr} \left[ \frac{\partial G_k^{\hat{M}}(i \xi)}{\partial k^x} v_k^\gamma \frac{\partial G_k^{\hat{M}}(i \xi)}{\partial k^x} v_k^\gamma \right]. \]  
(15)
With the help of Eq. (8), we obtain the susceptibility 
\[ \chi^{\gamma} = \frac{e^2 \mu_0}{2 \beta \hbar^2} \int \frac{d^4k}{(2\pi)^d} \sum_p \text{Tr} \left[ \frac{\partial G_k^{\hat{M}}(i \xi)}{\partial k^x} v_k^\gamma \frac{\partial G_k^{\hat{M}}(i \xi)}{\partial k^x} v_k^\gamma \right]. \]  
(16)
Employing the relation 
\[ \frac{\partial G_k^{\hat{M}}(i \xi)}{\partial k^x} = G_k^{\hat{M}}(i \xi) v_k^\gamma G_k^{\hat{M}}(i \xi), \]  
(17)
one finally obtains Eq. (2).

For completeness, we mention that it has been shown that Eq. (2) needs to be modified for the calculation of OMS from tight-binding models [27,28]. We do not discuss these modifications here.

### B. Exchange constants

To derive an expression for the exchange constant, we consider the case in which the magnetization performs small sinusoidal oscillations around the \( z \) direction as a function of the \( x \) coordinate:
\[ \hat{\mathbf{n}}(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \eta \sin(qx) \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \]  
(18)
where \( \hat{\mathbf{n}}(x) \) is a normalized vector that describes the magnetization direction and \( \eta \) controls the amplitude of the oscillations. As a result of these oscillations, the free-energy density changes by the amount 
\[ \delta F = \delta f^{xx} \left( \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{n}^\gamma}{\partial x} \right]^2 \right) \]  
(19)
where \( \delta f^{xx} \) is an exchange constant and \( \delta f^{yy} \) may differ from \( \delta f^{xx} \) in the presence of SOI. In the following, we use thermal quantum field theory in order to obtain expressions for the free-energy change \( \delta F \) that arises from spatial oscillations of the magnetization direction as given by Eq. (18). We will then use Eq. (19) to obtain \( \delta f^{yy} \). To simplify the notation, we will focus on the component \( \delta f^{xx} \). The generalization to the other exchange constants, such as \( \delta f^{yy} \), is obvious.

We consider the Hamiltonian of a collinear ferromagnet with magnetization pointing in the \( z \) direction, given by 
\[ H(r) = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e} \mathbf{\Delta} + V(r) + \mu_B \sigma^z \Omega^{xx}(r) \]
\[ + \frac{1}{2e \hbar^2} \mu_B \sigma \cdot [\nabla V(r) \times \mathbf{v}]. \]  
(22)
The kinetic energy is described by the first term. The second term is a scalar potential. The third term describes the exchange interaction, where \( \mu_B \) is the Bohr magneton, \( \sigma = (\sigma^x, \sigma^y, \sigma^z) \) is the vector of Pauli spin matrices, and \( \Omega^{xx}(r) \) is the exchange field. The last term is the spin-orbit interaction. When the magnetization direction is not collinear but spatially oscillating according to Eq. (18), the corresponding Hamiltonian
is $H' = H + \delta H^{(1)} + \delta H^{(2)}$, with

$$
\delta H^{(1)} = \mu_0 \sigma^x \Omega^{xc}(r) \eta \sin(qx) = T^x \eta \sin(qx)
$$

and

$$
\delta H^{(2)} = -\frac{1}{2} \mu_0 \sigma^x \Omega^{xc}(r) \eta^2 \sin^2(qx)
$$

$$
= -\frac{1}{2} \mu_0 \sigma^x \Omega^{xc}(r) \eta^2 [1 - \cos(2qx)],
$$

where $T = -\mu_0 \sigma \times \hat{e} \Omega^{xc}$ is the torque operator and $T^x$ is its $y$ component. According to Eq. (19), we need to find the modification of the free energy that is quadratic in $\eta$. Therefore, we need to perform second-order perturbation theory with $\delta H^{(1)}$ and first-order perturbation theory with $\delta H^{(2)}$.

The perturbation $\delta H^{(1)}$ can be written in second quantization in the form

$$
\delta H^{(1)} = \frac{\eta}{2i} \sum_{k,m} \langle \{ u_{k,n} | T^x | u_{k,m} \} \rangle c_{k,n}^c c_{k,m}^c
$$

$$
- \langle \{ u_{k,n} | T^y | u_{k,m} \} \rangle c_{k,n}^c c_{k,m}^c.
$$

In second-order perturbation theory with respect to $\delta H^{(1)}$, the free energy is modified by the amount

$$
\delta F = \frac{\eta^2}{4 \beta \hbar^2} \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_p \text{Tr} \left[ G_p^M(i\epsilon_p) T^x G_p^M(i\epsilon_p) T^x \right].
$$

The zeroth-order term in the Taylor expansion of $\delta F$ with respect to $q$ cancels out with the contribution from the piece $-1/2 \mu_0 \sigma^x \Omega^{xc}(r) \eta^2$ from $\delta H^{(2)}$ only when SOI is not included. This is an interesting difference from the case of the orbital magnetic susceptibility discussed below Eq. (14), where the corresponding cancellation happens always. This difference is due to the fact that the magnetic anisotropy energy gives rise to a contribution to $\delta F$ that in leading order is proportional to $n_\uparrow^2$ at the zeroth order in $q$. The oscillating piece $1/2 \mu_0 \sigma^x \Omega^{xc}(r) \eta^2 \cos(2qx)$ from $\delta H^{(2)}$ averages out in first-order perturbation theory. To obtain the exchange constant $\delta f^{xx}$, we need the $q$-quadratic term from the Taylor expansion of $\delta F$, which is given by

$$
\delta F = -\frac{\eta^2 g^2}{8 \beta \hbar^2} \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_p \text{Tr} \left[ \frac{\partial G_k^M(i\epsilon_p)}{\partial k^x} T^x \frac{\partial G_k^M(i\epsilon_p)}{\partial k^x} T^x \right].
$$

Using Eqs. (17) and (19), we find the following expression for the exchange constant:

$$
\delta f^{xx} = \frac{-1}{4 \beta \hbar^2} \sum_p \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} \text{Tr} \left[ G_k^M(i\epsilon_p) T^x G_k^M(i\epsilon_p) \nu_k^x \nu_k^x T^x G_k^M(i\epsilon_p) \nu_k^x \right],
$$

which strongly resembles the Fukuyama formula for OMS, Eq. (2). Apart from the prefactor, Eq. (28) differs from Eq. (2) by the replacement of the velocity operator $\nu_k^x$ by the torque operator $T^x$.

The summation over Matsubara points can be expressed in terms of an energy integration along the real energy axis yielding

$$
\delta f^{xx} = \frac{1}{4 \pi \hbar^2} \int d\epsilon \frac{1}{f(\epsilon)} \frac{d^4 k}{(2\pi)^3} \text{Tr} \left[ G_k^R(\epsilon) T^x G_k^R(\epsilon) \nu_k^x \nu_k^x T^x G_k^R(\epsilon) \nu_k^x \right].
$$

The unit of the exchange constant as given by Eq. (28) or Eq. (29) is energy times length when $d = 1$, energy when $d = 2$, and energy per length when $d = 3$. Consequently, the unit of the free-energy density as given by Eq. (19) is energy per area when $d = 2$, and energy per volume when $d = 3$.

We have mentioned in the previous section that the Fukuyama formula for OMS needs to be modified for tight-binding models [27,28]. We expect similar modifications to be necessary when exchange constants are computed from tight-binding models, but we leave the discussion of these modifications for future work.

### III. CURVATURES, QUANTUM METRICS, MOMENTS, AND POLARIZATIONS

#### A. Orbital magnetic susceptibility

As discussed by Ogata et al. in [12], one can express the velocity operators and Green’s functions in Eq. (2) in the representation of Bloch eigenfunctions such that

$$
\chi^{zz} = \frac{\mu_0 \sigma^2 \hbar^2}{2\beta} \sum_{nm\ell r} \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} [ \nu_{k,n}^v v_{k,n^r} v_{k,n'}^v v_{k,n'}^{v^r} ]
$$

$$
\times \sum_p \frac{1}{\epsilon_p - \epsilon_{k,n}} \frac{1}{\epsilon_{k,n'}} \frac{1}{\epsilon_{k,n^r}} \frac{1}{\epsilon_{k,n'}} - \frac{1}{\epsilon_{k,l}} \frac{1}{\epsilon_{k,l^r}} - \frac{1}{\epsilon_{k,l'}} \frac{1}{\epsilon_{k,l'}^r},
$$

where $\nu_{k,n^r} = \langle u_{k,n} | v_k | u_{k,n^r} \rangle$ denotes the matrix elements of the velocity operator, $\epsilon_{k,n}$ is the energy of band $n$ at $k$-point $k$, and $|u_{k,n}\rangle$ is the corresponding eigenstate of $H_k$, i.e., $H_k |u_{k,n}\rangle = \epsilon_{k,n} |u_{k,n}\rangle$. The summations over Matsubara points can be carried out with the help of partial fraction decomposition and with the identity

$$
\frac{1}{\beta} \sum_p \frac{1}{|\epsilon_p - \epsilon_{k,n}|^m} = (m - 1)! \frac{f^{(m-1)}(\epsilon_{k,n})}{\hbar},
$$

where $f^{(m-1)}$ is the $(m - 1)$th derivative of the Fermi function. For example, when $n = n' = l = l'$ in Eq. (30) one uses Eq. (31) with $m = 4$, which leads to a contribution with the third derivative of the Fermi function. To rewrite high derivatives of the Fermi function in terms of lower derivatives, one employs integration by parts and the relation

$$
v_{k,n} f^{(m+1)}(\epsilon_{k,n}) = \frac{1}{\hbar} \frac{\partial f^{(m)}}{\partial k},
$$

where we defined $v_{k,n} = v_{k,n^r}$. Thereby, one can achieve that only the first derivative of the Fermi function occurs. The resulting expression for the orbital magnetic susceptibility can
be written as
\[ 
\chi_{zz}^{zz} = \mu_0 \frac{e^2}{\hbar^2} \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_n \left[ \frac{1}{12} f'_{kn} (a_{kn}^x a_{kn}^{xy} - a_{kn}^{xy} a_{kn}^x) 
\right. 
\left. - f'_{kn} m_{kn}^z m_{kn}^z - \frac{\hbar^2}{4m_e} f_{kn} \left( g_{kn}^{xx} + g_{kn}^{yy} \right) + \frac{3}{2} f_{kn} \Omega_{kn}^z m_{kn}^z, \right]
\]
where
\[ 
\Omega_{kn} = \left[ \sum_{\alpha=\pm 1} \left( \frac{\partial u_{kn}}{\partial k^+} \right) \right] \left( \frac{\partial u_{kn}}{\partial k^\alpha} \right) \left( \frac{\partial u_{kn}}{\partial k^\alpha} \right).
\]

The twist-torque moment of wave packets is described by [4]
\[ 
A_{kn}^{ij} = -i \frac{\hbar}{\varepsilon_{kn} - \varepsilon_{km}} \left( m_{kn}^z \right)_{ij}. \]

B. Exchange constants

As discussed in Sec. III A, the Fukuyama formula for the orbital magnetic susceptibility, Eq. (2), can be expressed in terms of geometrical properties such as the \( k \)-space Berry curvature and the quantum metric, and several other single-band properties, such as the orbital magnetic moment and the \( k \)-space polarization. The expression for the exchange constants, Eq. (28), has the same structure as Eq. (2) and can be obtained by replacing two velocity operators in Eq. (2) by torque operators. This formal similarity suggests that Eq. (28) can be expressed in terms of Berry curvatures and quantum metrics in mixed phase space. For this purpose, we define the mixed Berry curvature [5]
\[ 
B_{kn}^{ij} = -2 \text{Im} \left( \frac{\partial u_{kn}}{\partial H} \right) \left. \frac{\partial u_{kn}}{\partial k^i} \right|_{k^j}, \]
where \( k \)-derivatives are mixed with \( H \)-derivatives. Similarly, we define the mixed quantum metric
\[ 
\omega_{kn}^{ij} = \text{Re} \left[ \frac{\partial u_{kn}}{\partial k^i} \right] \left( 1 - |u_{kn}|^2 \right) \left. \frac{\partial u_{kn}}{\partial k^j} \right|_{k^j}. \]

Additionally, we define the quantum metric in magnetization space
\[ 
\omega_{kn}^{ij} = \text{Re} \left[ \frac{\partial u_{kn}}{\partial k^i} \right] \left( 1 - |u_{kn}|^2 \right) \left. \frac{\partial u_{kn}}{\partial k^j} \right|_{k^j}. \]

The twist-torque moment of wave packets is described by [4]
\[ 
A_{kn}^{ij} = -\text{Im} \left( \frac{\partial u_{kn}}{\partial k^i} \right) \left. \frac{\partial u_{kn}}{\partial k^j} \right|_{k^j}, \]
and
\[ 
\tilde{A}_{kn}^{ij} = \frac{\hbar}{\varepsilon_{kn} - \varepsilon_{km}} \left( m_{kn}^z \right)_{ij}. \]

In Appendix A, we explain how the derivatives with respect to magnetization direction are related to matrix elements of the torque operator.
In terms of the mixed phase-space quantities Eqs. (40)–(45), the exchange constant can be written as

$$\mathcal{L}^{xx} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \sum_n \left[ \frac{1}{24} \langle f''_{\pm} \mathcal{T}_{kn} \mathcal{T}_{kn} \alpha_{kn}^{xx} + \alpha_{kn}^{xx} \alpha_{kn}^{yy} \rangle + \frac{1}{2} f_{kn} AKn^{x} A_{kn}^{x} + \frac{1}{3} f_{kn} h_{kn} \frac{\hbar^2}{m_e} - \frac{5}{6} f_{kn} AKn^{x} B_{kn}^{x}, - \frac{1}{6} f_{kn} AKn^{x} \delta_{kn} + \frac{1}{6} f_{kn} AKn^{x} g_{kn}^{xx} + \alpha_{kn}^{xx} + \alpha_{kn}^{xx} \alpha_{kn}^{yy} \rangle, \right]$$

with

$$\mathcal{L}^{xx}_{pol} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \sum_n \left[ \frac{\hbar^2}{3} f_{kn} v_{kn}^{x} \mathcal{T}_{kn}^{y} \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{A^{x}_{kn}}{E_{kn} - E_{km}} \alpha^{x}_{km}, - \frac{1}{6} f_{kn} v_{kn}^{x} \mathcal{T}_{kn}^{y} \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{A^{x}_{kn}}{E_{kn} - E_{km}} \alpha^{x}_{km}, - \frac{1}{3} f_{kn} \sum_{m \neq n} \left[ \alpha^{x}_{kn}, \alpha^{x}_{km}, \alpha^{x}_{km} \right] \right]$$

and

$$\mathcal{L}^{xx}_{inter} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \sum_n \left[ \frac{\hbar^2}{3} f_{kn} v_{kn}^{x} \mathcal{T}_{kn}^{y} \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{A^{x}_{kn}}{E_{kn} - E_{km}} \alpha^{x}_{km}, - \frac{1}{6} f_{kn} v_{kn}^{x} \mathcal{T}_{kn}^{y} \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{A^{x}_{kn}}{E_{kn} - E_{km}} \alpha^{x}_{km}, - \frac{1}{3} f_{kn} \sum_{m \neq n} \left[ \alpha^{x}_{kn}, \alpha^{x}_{km}, \alpha^{x}_{km} \right] \right].$$

which contains the term $f_{kn}^{xx} \mathcal{T}_{kn}^{y} \alpha_{kn}^{xx}$ found also in the first line of Eq. (33).

Line 2 and the first two terms in line 3 in Eq. (46) correspond to lines 2 and 3 in Eq. (33), where the twist torque moment $A^{x}_{kn}$ replaces the orbital moment $m_{kn}^x$, the $k$-space quantum metric $\delta_{kn}^{xx}$ is replaced by the magnetization-space quantum metric $\delta_{kn}^{xx}$, the mixed Berry curvature replaces the $k$-space Berry curvature, and the off-diagonal elements of the inverse effective mass, $\alpha_{kn}^{xx}$, and of the $k$-space quantum metric, $\delta_{kn}^{xx}$, are replaced by their mixed phase-space counterparts.

The contribution $\mathcal{L}^{xx}_{pol}$ defined in Eq. (47) corresponds to lines 4, 5, 6, and 7 in Eq. (33), which describe the $k$-space polarization energy. The contribution $\mathcal{L}^{xx}_{inter}$ defined in Eq. (48) corresponds to the last line in Eq. (33) and is the only term that contains interband couplings explicitly.

Several terms in Eq. (46) are zero when SOI is not included in the Hamiltonian: The mixed phase-space analog of the inverse effective mass, $\alpha_{kn}^{xx}$, is zero without SOI, because the band energy does not depend on the magnetization direction when SOI is absent. Additionally, $T^{y}_{kn} = 0, A_{kn}^{xx} = 0, \delta_{kn}^{xx} = 0, and G^{yy}_{kn} = 0 in the absence of SOI. Thus, when SOI is absent, the exchange constants are given by the considerably simpler expression

$$\mathcal{L}^{xx} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \sum_n \left[ \frac{\hbar^2}{3} f_{kn} v_{kn}^{x} \mathcal{T}_{kn}^{y} \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{A^{x}_{kn}}{E_{kn} - E_{km}} \alpha^{x}_{km}, - \frac{1}{6} f_{kn} \frac{\hbar^2}{m_e} - \frac{1}{6} f_{kn} AKn^{x} B_{kn}^{x}, - \frac{1}{3} f_{kn} \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{A^{x}_{kn}}{E_{kn} - E_{km}} \alpha^{x}_{km}, \right].$$

Equation (46) differs substantially in structure from Eq. (33), while the corresponding Fukuyama-type expressions, Eqs. (2) and (28), are very similar structurally. The structural differences between Eqs. (46) and (33) arise because there is no integration over the magnetization direction, only a Brillouin zone integration, and therefore the
In Appendix B, we discuss how to evaluate Eq. (51) analytically for spin systems.

The last term in the second line and the first two terms in the third line in Eq. (46) are the geometrical contribution to the exchange constants. It consists of three terms:

\[
\begin{align*}
\mathcal{A}_{\text{geo}1}^{xx} &= -\frac{5}{6} \int \frac{d^2k}{(2\pi)^2} \sum_{n} f_{kn} A_{kn}^{xx} B_{kn}^{xx}, \\
\mathcal{A}_{\text{geo}2}^{xx} &= \frac{1}{6} \int \frac{d^2k}{(2\pi)^2} \sum_{n} f_{kn} \mathcal{A}_{kn}^{xx} \sigma_{kn}^{xx}, \\
\mathcal{A}_{\text{geo}3}^{xx} &= \frac{1}{6} \int \frac{d^2k}{(2\pi)^2} \sum_{n} f_{kn} \mathcal{G}_{kn}^{xx} G_{kn}^{xx}. 
\end{align*}
\]

In the case of the topological Hall effect, the gauge-field approach has been developed for systems without SOI [8]. In the general case, it is difficult to apply the gauge-field approach to magnetic systems with SOI. However, under certain conditions the exchange constants can be obtained from a gauge-field approach even in the presence of SOI. We demonstrate this in the following. We will show that the exchange constants calculated based on the gauge-field approach agree with those given by Eq. (28). This will prove the accuracy of Eq. (28).

We consider the Rashba model with an additional exchange splitting (see Ref. [33] for a recent review on the Rashba model),

\[
H = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e} \Delta - i\alpha(\nabla \times \hat{e}_z) \cdot \sigma + \frac{\Delta V}{2} \sigma \cdot \hat{n}_c(r).
\]

The exchange interaction describing the noncollinear spin-spiral in Eq. (55) can be transformed into an effective exchange interaction of a collinear magnet with the help of the unitary transformation

\[
U(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \left(\frac{q_x x}{2}\right) & -\sin \left(\frac{q_x x}{2}\right) \\ \sin \left(\frac{q_x x}{2}\right) & \cos \left(\frac{q_x x}{2}\right) \end{pmatrix}
\]

such that [8]

\[
U^\dagger(x) \Delta V \sigma \cdot \hat{n}_c(r) U(x) = \frac{\Delta V}{2} \sigma_z.
\]

The kinetic energy in Eq. (55) transforms under this unitary transformation as follows [8]:

\[
-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e} U^\dagger \Delta U
\]

\[
= -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( U \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial U}{\partial r} \right)
\]

\[
= -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e} \left( \Delta + 2U \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + U^\dagger \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial x^2} \right). 
\]

The derivatives of \(U\) with respect to the \(x\) coordinate are

\[
\frac{\partial U(x)}{\partial x} = \frac{q}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -\sin \left(\frac{q_x x}{2}\right) & -\cos \left(\frac{q_x x}{2}\right) \\ \cos \left(\frac{q_x x}{2}\right) & -\sin \left(\frac{q_x x}{2}\right) \end{pmatrix}
\]

and

\[
\frac{\partial^2 U(x)}{\partial x^2} = -\frac{q^2}{4} U(x)
\]
and we have
\[
(U(x))^\dagger \frac{\partial U(x)}{\partial x} = \frac{q}{2}\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{q}{2i}\sigma_y
\] (62)
such that the kinetic energy transforms as
\[
-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e} \Delta U = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e} \left( \Delta - iq\sigma_y \frac{\partial}{\partial x} - \frac{q^2}{4} \right).
\] (63)
Next, we need to find out how the Rashba SOI transforms under \(U\). We have
\[
(U(x))^\dagger \sigma_y \frac{\partial U(x)}{\partial x} = -i\frac{q}{2}
\] (65)
and
\[
(U(x))^\dagger \sigma_z U(x) = \sigma_y
\] (66)
and thus
\[
-\frac{[U(x)]^\dagger}{i} \left[ \frac{\alpha}{\sigma_y} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right] U(x) = -[U(x)]^\dagger \alpha \sigma_y U(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial x}
\] (67)
However,
\[
(U(x))^\dagger \sigma_z U(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 2\cos^2\left(\frac{qk}{2}\right) - 1 & -2\cos\left(\frac{qk}{2}\right) \sin\left(\frac{qk}{2}\right) \\ -2\cos\left(\frac{qk}{2}\right) \sin\left(\frac{qk}{2}\right) & -2\cos^2\left(\frac{qk}{2}\right) + 1 \end{pmatrix}
\] (68)
depends on the \(x\) coordinate, and consequently the application of the \(U\) transformation to Eq. (55) transforms the \(x\) dependence of the exchange interaction into an \(x\) dependence of SOI, and no simplification is achieved by this transformation.

Therefore, consider now the one-dimensional version of the Rashba model with an additional exchange splitting,
\[
H = \frac{-\hbar^2}{2m_e} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + i\alpha \sigma_y \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \Delta V \frac{\sigma_z}{2} \cdot \hat{n}_c(r).
\] (69)
The one-dimensional Rashba model can be used to describe spin-split bands in one-dimensional atomic chains on surfaces [34]. Application of the \(U\) transformation to Eq. (69) yields
\[
\tilde{H} = \tilde{U}(x)^\dagger H U(x) = \frac{-\hbar^2}{2m_e} \left[ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} - iq\sigma_y \frac{\partial}{\partial x} - \frac{q^2}{4} \right] \nonumber \\
+ \frac{\Delta V}{2}\sigma_z - \alpha \sigma_y \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{\alpha q}{2} 
\] (70)
and the corresponding crystal-field representation of the Hamiltonian is given by
\[
\tilde{H}_{tc} = \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e} \left[ k^2 - qk_x \sigma_y + \frac{q^2}{4} \right] \\
+ \frac{\Delta V}{2}\sigma_z - \alpha \sigma_y \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{\alpha q}{2}.
\] (71)
Since the \(U\) transformation preserves the eigenvalues, the Hamiltonian \(\tilde{H}_{tc}\) has the same spectrum as Eq. (69). However, \(\tilde{H}_{tc}\) is position-independent and thus it is straightforward to determine its eigenvalues, while the original Hamiltonian in Eq. (69) is more difficult to deal with due to the position dependence of the exchange term for the cycloidal spin-spiral.

The reason why the \(U\) transformation can be used to simplify Eq. (69) into \(\tilde{H}_{tc}\) lies in the spin-rotation symmetry of Eq. (69): The Hamiltonian is invariant under the simultaneous rotation of the spin operator and the magnetization direction \(\hat{n}_c\) around the \(y\) axis. In contrast, the Hamiltonian of the two-dimensional Rashba model, Eq. (55), does not exhibit this symmetry when \(\alpha \neq 0\).

The Hamiltonian Eq. (70) can be rewritten in the form
\[
H = \frac{1}{2m}(p_x + e A^{eff})^2 - m\alpha^2 \frac{\sigma_z}{2},
\] (72)
where \(p_x = -i\hbar \partial / \partial x\) is the \(x\) component of the momentum operator and
\[
A^{eff} = -\frac{m}{e\hbar} \left( \alpha + \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} q \right) \sigma_y
\] (73)
can be considered as an effective magnetic vector potential, which is why we refer to this method as the gauge-field approach.

The free-energy density \(F_q\) of the one-dimensional Rashba model with exchange splitting, Eq. (69), can be obtained from
\[
F_q = -\frac{1}{\beta} \int \frac{dk_x}{2\pi} \sum_n \ln[1 + e^{-\beta (E_{k,n} + \alpha q^2 / 4)}],
\] (74)
where \(E_{k,n}\) denotes the \(n\)th eigenvalue of \(\tilde{H}_{tc}\), at the \(k\)-point \(k_x\) and spin-spiral wave number \(q\). Equating \(F_q\) and the phenomenological expression for the free energy
\[
F_q = F_0 + D^{xx} q^2 + \alpha'^{xx} q^2
\] (75)
allows us to determine the DMI coefficient and the exchange parameter as follows:
\[
D^{xx} = \frac{F_q - F_{-q}}{2q}
\] (76)
and
\[
\alpha'^{xx} = \frac{F_q + F_{-q} - 2F_0}{2q^2}.
\] (77)
In Sec. V A we will compare the exchange constant \(\alpha'^{xx}\) obtained from Eq. (77) to the one given by Eq. (28), and we will find perfect agreement between these two rather different approaches. Additionally, we will show in Sec. V A that the DMI coefficient \(D^{xx}\) obtained from Eq. (76) is in perfect agreement with the one given by the Berry-phase theory of DMI [4–7], which in the one-dimensional case runs
\[
D^{xx} = \int \frac{dk_x}{2\pi} \sum_n \left[f_{kn} A_n^{xx} + \frac{1}{\beta} \ln[1 + e^{-\beta(\epsilon_{k,n} - \mu)}]B_n^{xx}\right].
\] (78)

A. Two-dimensional electron gas without SOI

Due to Eq. (68), the \(U\) transformation does not lead to simplifications in the case of the two-dimensional Rashba
model Eq. (55) when $\alpha \neq 0$. However, in the case of $\alpha = 0$ the $U$ transformation leads to a simplification of Eq. (55):

$$\hat{H} = [U(x)]^\dagger H U(x)$$

$$= -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e} \left[ \Delta - iq \sigma_x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} - \frac{q^2}{4} \right] + \frac{\Delta V}{2} \sigma_z, \quad (79)$$

with corresponding crystal momentum representation

$$\hat{H}_k = \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e} \left[ k^2 - qk_x \sigma_x + \frac{q^2}{4} \right] + \frac{\Delta V}{2} \sigma_z. \quad (80)$$

Since $\hat{H}_k$ is position-independent, its eigenvalues $\xi_{k,q,n}$ can be determined easily. The free-energy density is then obtained from

$$F_q = -\frac{1}{\beta} \int \frac{d^2 k}{(2\pi)^2} \sum_n \ln[1 + e^{-\beta(\xi_{k,q,n} - \mu_1)}] \quad (81)$$

and Eq. (77) can be used to determine the exchange constant $\alpha^{xx}$. 

V. EXCHANGE CONSTANTS IN MODEL SYSTEMS

A. One-dimensional Rashba model

In the presence of SOI, both the exchange constant $\alpha^{ij}$ as obtained from Eq. (28) and the DMI constant $D^{ij}$ as obtained from Eq. (78) may depend on the magnetization direction $\hat{n}$. However, as we explained in the discussion below Eq. (69), rotations in spin-space around the $y$ axis are a symmetry operation of the one-dimensional Rashba model. Since we consider the special case of a cycloidal spin-spiral, Eq. (56), which describes a magnetization that rotates around the $y$ axis as one moves along the spin-spiral, $\alpha^{ij}$ and $D^{ij}$ are constant along this spin-spiral. This allows us to compare the values of $\alpha^{ij}$ and $D^{ij}$ obtained for $\hat{n}$ in the $z$ direction to the values obtained from the gauge-field approach in this particular case, while in a general case a spin-spiral calculation will correspond to an $\hat{n}$-integration of $\hat{n}$-dependent $\alpha^{ij}$ and $D^{ij}$.

In Fig. 1 we show the exchange constant $\alpha^{xx}$ as well as the DMI coefficient for the one-dimensional Rashba model, Eq. (69), as a function of the Fermi energy. The parameters used in the model are $\Delta V = 1$ eV and $\alpha = 2$ eV $\AA$ and we set the temperature in the Fermi functions to $k_B T = 25$ meV. Two approaches are compared: The dashed lines show the results obtained from Eqs. (77) and (76) within the gauge-field approach, where we used a small spin-spiral vector of $q = 0.006$ $\AA^{-1}$ (we checked that making $q$ smaller does not affect the results). The solid line in Fig. 1(a) is obtained from the Fukuyama-type expression Eq. (28) for the exchange constant. The solid line in Fig. 1(b) is obtained from the Berry-phase theory of DMI, Eq. (78). The results from the different methods are in perfect agreement, which shows in particular that Eq. (28) can be used for calculating exchange constants even in the presence of SOI. The exchange constant becomes negative when the Fermi energy is close to $\pm 0.5$ eV, i.e., close to the band minima [see Fig. 1(c)]. Negative exchange constants imply that the ferromagnetic state is unstable and that a spin-spiral state will form. With increasing Fermi energy, the effect of Rashba SOI on the Fermi surface becomes smaller and smaller. At very high Fermi energy, the Fermi surfaces

![FIG. 1. (a) Exchange constant $\alpha^{xx}$ and (b) DMI constant $D^{xx}$ in the one-dimensional Rashba model Eq. (69) as a function of Fermi energy for the model parameters $\Delta V = 1$ eV and $\alpha = 2$ eV $\AA$. Results obtained from the gauge-field approach (dashed lines) agree, respectively, to the exchange constant from the Fukuyama-type approach and to the DMI constant from the Berry-phase approach (solid lines). (c) Band structure of the one-dimensional Rashba model.](184428-9)
constant of a cycloidal spin-spiral and \( A^{xy}_\text{geo} \) is that of a helical spin-spiral. In the absence of SOI, rotations in spin-space leave the spectrum of the Hamiltonian invariant and therefore \( A^{xx} = A^{xy} \). For \( \alpha \neq 0 \), \( A^{xx} \) and \( A^{xy} \) differ from each other and the difference becomes large with increasing \( \alpha \). The three geometrical contributions as defined in Eqs. (52)–(54) are shown in Fig. 2 as well. The mixed Berry curvature and the mixed quantum metric are zero without SOI and therefore we expect that \( A^{xx}_\text{geo1} \) and \( A^{xy}_\text{geo1} \), which depend on the mixed Berry curvature and the mixed quantum metric, differ between cycloidal and helical spin-spirals, which is indeed the case: While \( A^{xx}_\text{geo1} \) increases strongly with \( \alpha \), \( A^{xy}_\text{geo1} \) is zero, and while \( A^{xx}_\text{geo3} \) is zero, \( A^{xy}_\text{geo3} \) becomes negative with increasing \( \alpha \). In contrast, \( A^{xx}_\text{geo2} \) and \( A^{xy}_\text{geo2} \) are very similar, because they only involve the quantum metric in real space as well as the inverse effective mass in \( k \)-space. Generally, the geometrical contribution cannot be neglected and is of the same order of magnitude as the total exchange constant.

The expressions Eq. (46), Eq. (47), and Eq. (48) contain both Fermi surface and Fermi sea terms. The exchange constant does not vanish in band insulators due to the Fermi sea terms and exhibits a plateau in the gap. To illustrate this, we show in Fig. 3 the exchange constant of the one-dimensional Rashba model with model parameters \( \alpha = 20 \text{ eV Å} \) and \( \Delta V = 1 \text{ eV} \). The corresponding exchange constant exhibits a plateau in the gap.

![FIG. 2. (a) Exchange constant \( A^{xx} \) and (b) \( A^{xy} \) in the one-dimensional Rashba model Eq. (69) as a function of the Rashba parameter \( \alpha \). The Fermi energy is set to zero and \( \Delta V = 1 \text{ eV} \). Solid lines: complete exchange constants. The geometrical contributions \( A^{xx}_\text{geo1} \) (dashed), \( A^{xy}_\text{geo2} \) (dotted), and \( A^{xy}_\text{geo3} \) (dashed-dotted) as defined in Eqs. (52)–(54) are shown as well.

![FIG. 3. (a) Band energy of the one-dimensional Rashba model Eq. (69) with model parameters \( \alpha = 20 \text{ eV Å} \) and \( \Delta V = 1 \text{ eV} \). (b) The corresponding exchange constant exhibits a plateau between \(-0.3 \) and \( 0.3 \text{ eV} \) due to the gap of the band structure in (a).]

B. Rashba model in two dimensions

When the Rashba parameter \( \alpha \) is zero, the exchange constant of the two-dimensional Rashba model can be obtained from the gauge-field approach as discussed in Sec. IV A. We checked that the gauge-field approach and Eq. (28) yield identical results in this case.

We now turn to the case with \( \alpha > 0 \), where we use the model parameters \( \alpha = 2 \text{ eV Å} \) and \( \Delta V = 1 \text{ eV} \). In Fig. 4 we show the exchange constants \( A^{xx} \) and \( A^{xy} \) as obtained from Eq. (28) as a function of the Fermi energy, as well as the geometrical contributions \( A^{xx}_\text{geo1} \), \( A^{xy}_\text{geo2} \), and \( A^{xy}_\text{geo3} \) as defined in Eqs. (52)–(54). We rediscover several properties that we discussed already in the one-dimensional Rashba model: The
Eqs. (52)–(54) are shown as well. A complete exchange constants. The geometrical contributions dimensional Rashba model Eq. (55) as a function of the Fermi energy. Even in the presence of spin-orbit interaction, where we find in free electron model systems. Our formalism can be used exchange constants that we find to be generally important

Thereby we identify several geometrical contributions to the Berry curvatures and quantum metrics in mixed phase space. We compare this formula to Fukuyama’s result for the Green’s operators of a collinear ferromagnet. Thus, it allows us to sizable differences between the exchange constants of helical and cycloidal spin spirals in the Rashba model.

APPENDIX A: FROM TORQUE-OPERATOR EXPRESSIONS TO CURVATURES AND GEOMETRICAL QUANTITIES

In this appendix, we discuss how to express matrix elements of the torque operator in terms of derivatives with respect to the magnetization direction. For this purpose, we use that the Hamiltonian

\[ H(r) = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e} \Delta + V(r) + \mu_B \sigma \cdot \hat{n} \Omega^\text{sc}(r) + \frac{1}{2e\hbar^2} \mu_B \sigma \cdot [\nabla V(r) \times \nu] \]

(A1)

is dependent on the magnetization direction \( \hat{n} \) through the exchange interaction \( \mu_B \sigma \cdot \hat{n} \Omega^\text{sc}(r) \). The derivative of \( H \) with respect to magnetization direction \( \hat{n} \) can be expressed in terms of the torque operator:

\[ \hat{n} \times \frac{\partial H}{\partial \hat{n}} = \mu_B \hat{n} \times \sigma \Omega^\text{sc}(r) = -\mu_B \sigma \times \Omega^\text{sc}(r) = \mathcal{T}(r). \]

(A2)

Thus, when the magnetization points in the \( z \) direction, i.e., when \( \hat{n} = \hat{e}_z \), the Cartesian components of \( \mathcal{T} \) are given by

\[ T_x = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial \hat{n}_z}, \quad T_y = \frac{\partial H}{\partial \hat{n}_z}. \]

(A3)

Using

\[ \frac{\partial |u_{kn}\rangle}{\partial k^x} = \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{|u_{km}\rangle \langle u_{kn}|}{\mathcal{E}_n - \mathcal{E}_m} |u_{kn}\rangle + i \alpha_{kn} |u_{kn}\rangle \]

\[ = \hbar \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{|u_{km}\rangle \langle u_{kn}| U^\text{in}(k) |u_{kn}\rangle}{\mathcal{E}_n - \mathcal{E}_m} + i \alpha_{kn} |u_{kn}\rangle \]

(A4)

and

\[ \frac{\partial |u_{kn}\rangle}{\partial \hat{n}_x} = \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{|u_{km}\rangle \langle u_{kn}| \hat{n}_x |u_{kn}\rangle}{\mathcal{E}_n - \mathcal{E}_m} + i \beta_{kn} |u_{kn}\rangle \]

\[ = \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{|u_{km}\rangle \langle u_{kn}| T^x |u_{kn}\rangle}{\mathcal{E}_n - \mathcal{E}_m} + i \beta_{kn} |u_{kn}\rangle. \]

(A5)

where the phases \( \alpha_{kn} \) and \( \beta_{kn} \) determine the gauge, \( H(k) = e^{-ik \cdot r} H e^{ik \cdot r} \) is the Hamiltonian in crystal momentum representation, and \( u_{kn}(r) = e^{-ik \cdot r} \psi_{kn}(r) \) is the lattice periodic part of the Bloch function \( \psi_{kn}(r) \), we can express the mixed Berry curvature in terms of the torque operator and the velocity operator as follows:

\[ \mathcal{B}^x_{kn} = 2 \text{Im} \left( \frac{\partial |u_{kn}\rangle}{\partial \hat{n}_x} \frac{\partial |u_{kn}\rangle}{\partial k^x} \right) \]

\[ = -2 \hbar \text{Im} \sum_{m \neq n} \langle \psi_{kn} | T^x | \psi_{kn} \rangle \langle \psi_{kn} | \psi_{kn} | v^x \rangle |\psi_{kn}\rangle \]

\[ \left( \mathcal{E}_n - \mathcal{E}_m \right)^2. \]

(A6)

FIG. 4. (a) Exchange constant \( \xi_x \) and (b) \( \xi_y \) in the two-dimensional Rashba model Eq. (55) as a function of the Fermi energy. The model parameters are \( \alpha = 2 \text{ eV Å} \) and \( \Delta V = 1 \text{ eV} \). Solid lines: complete exchange constants. The geometrical contributions \( \xi_{geo1} \) (dashed), \( \xi_{geo2} \) (dotted), and \( \xi_{geo3} \) (dashed-dotted) as defined in Eqs. (52)–(54) are shown as well.

VI. SUMMARY

We derive a formula that expresses the exchange constants in terms of Green’s functions, velocity operators, and torque operators of a collinear ferromagnet. Thus, it allows us to access the exchange constants directly from the electronic structure information without the need for spin-spiral calculations. We compare this formula to Fukuyama’s result for orbital magnetic susceptibility, and we find strong formal similarities between these two theories. We rewrite the Green’s function expression for the exchange constant in terms of Berry curvatures and quantum metrics in mixed phase space. Thereby we identify several geometrical contributions to the exchange constants that we find to be generally important in free electron model systems. Our formalism can be used even in the presence of spin-orbit interaction, where we find sizable differences between the exchange constants of helical and cycloidal spin spirals in the Rashba model.
Similarly, we obtain an expression for the mixed quantum metric in terms of the torque operator and the velocity operator:

$$G_{kn}^{xx} = \text{Re} \left[ \frac{\partial (\bar{u}_{kn})}{\partial \bar{H}^x} [1 - |\bar{u}_{kn}|^2] \frac{\partial |\bar{u}_{kn}|}{\partial k^x} \right]$$

$$= \hbar \text{Re} \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{\langle \psi_{km} | T^x | \psi_{kn} \rangle \langle \psi_{km} | v^x | \psi_{kn} \rangle}{(E_{km} - E_{kn})^2}. \quad (A7)$$

The quantum metric in magnetization space can be written as

$$\tilde{g}_{kn}^{xx} = \text{Re} \left[ \frac{\partial (\bar{u}_{kn})}{\partial \bar{H}^x} [1 - |\bar{u}_{kn}|^2] \frac{\partial |\bar{u}_{kn}|}{\partial k^x} \right]$$

$$= \text{Re} \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{\langle \psi_{km} | T^x | \psi_{kn} \rangle \langle \psi_{km} | v^x | \psi_{kn} \rangle}{(E_{km} - E_{kn})^2}. \quad (A8)$$

The twist-torque moment of wave packets is given by

$$A_{kn}^{xx} = -i \langle \bar{u}_{kn} | \frac{\partial |\bar{u}_{kn}|}{\partial \bar{H}^x} \rangle$$

$$= \text{Im} \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{\langle \psi_{km} | T^x | \psi_{kn} \rangle \langle \psi_{km} | v^x | \psi_{kn} \rangle}{(E_{km} - E_{kn})}. \quad (A9)$$

The interband Berry connection in magnetization space can be written as

$$\tilde{A}_{kmn} = \text{Im} \left[ \langle \bar{u}_{kn} | \frac{\partial |\bar{u}_{kn}|}{\partial \bar{H}^x} \rangle \right]$$

$$= \text{Im} \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{\langle \psi_{km} | T^x | \psi_{kn} \rangle |\bar{u}_{kn}|}{E_{kn} - E_{km}}. \quad (A10)$$

The mixed phase-space analog of the inverse effective-mass tensor can be expressed in terms of the torque operator as

$$\tilde{\bar{g}}_{kn}^{xx} = \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{E}_{kn}}{\partial k^x \partial \bar{H}^x}$$

$$= 2\hbar \text{Re} \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{\langle \psi_{km} | T^x | \psi_{kn} \rangle \langle \psi_{km} | v^x | \psi_{kn} \rangle}{(E_{km} - E_{kn})^2}. \quad (A11)$$

**APPENDIX B: ANALYTICAL EXPRESSIONS WHEN SOI IS NOT INCLUDED**

In the following, we derive analytical expressions for the case when SOI is not included in the Hamiltonian. In such a case, one can show that

$$T^\gamma = \frac{i}{2} [H, \sigma^\gamma]. \quad (B1)$$

Inserting this identity into Eq. (A8), one obtains the result

$$\tilde{g}_{kn}^{xx} = \frac{1}{4}. \quad (B2)$$

Inserting this result into Eq. (53), we get

$$\sigma_{geo2}^{xx} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{24 \tau m_\tau} N, \quad (B3)$$

where

$$N = \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \sum_n f_{kn} \quad (B4)$$

is the electron density. In the case $d = 2$, we have

$$N = \frac{m \tilde{E}_F}{\pi \hbar^2} \quad (B5)$$

if both majority and minority bands are occupied. If only the majority band is occupied, we have instead

$$N = \frac{m}{2\pi \hbar^2} \left[ \tilde{E}_F + \frac{\Delta V}{2} \right]. \quad (B6)$$

$\sigma_{geo2}^{xx}$ is the second term in Eq. (51). Similarly, the first term in Eq. (51) evaluates to

$$\int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \sum_n \frac{1}{3} f_{kn} g_{km} \frac{\hbar^2}{m_e} = \frac{1}{12 \pi} \tilde{E}_F. \quad (B7)$$

The third term in Eq. (51) can be written as

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{6} \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \sum_n f_{kn} v_{kn}^x \frac{\partial u_{kn}}{\partial \bar{H}^x} \left[ v_{kn}^x + v_{kn}^y \right] \frac{\partial u_{kn}}{\partial \bar{H}^y}$$

$$= -\frac{\hbar^2}{12} \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \sum_n f_{kn} v_{kn}^x. \quad (B8)$$

When $d = 2$, this becomes

$$-\frac{\hbar^4}{48 \pi m^2} \int k^3 dk \sum_n \delta \left( \tilde{E}_F - \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} - \frac{\Delta V}{2} s_{kn} \right), \quad (B9)$$

where $s_{kn} = \pm 1$ denotes the spin (+1 for minority spin). When only the majority band is occupied, this is equal to

$$\frac{1}{24 \pi} \left[ \tilde{E}_F + \Delta V \right]. \quad (B10)$$

and when both minority and majority bands are occupied, it is equal to

$$\frac{1}{12 \pi} \tilde{E}_F. \quad (B11)$$

The interband Berry connection in magnetization space becomes

$$A_{kmn} = \frac{1}{2} \langle \bar{u}_{kn} | \sigma^\gamma | \bar{u}_{kn} \rangle. \quad (B12)$$

Consequently, the fourth term in Eq. (51) can be written as

$$\frac{\hbar^2}{3} \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \sum_n f_{kn} v_{kn}^x \frac{\tilde{A}_{kmn}^x \tilde{A}_{kmn}^y}{E_{kn} - E_{km}}$$

$$= \frac{\hbar^2}{24 \Delta V} \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \sum_n f_{kn} s_{kn} \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{m^2}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{24 \pi} \tilde{E}_F, \quad (B13)$$

where the last line holds only in the case $d = 2$ when both majority and minority bands are occupied. When only the majority band is occupied, we obtain in the case $d = 2$ for the fourth term

$$-\frac{1}{96 \pi} \left[ \tilde{E}_F + \frac{\Delta V}{2} \right] - \frac{1}{48 \pi} \Delta V \left[ \tilde{E}_F + \frac{\Delta V}{2} \right]. \quad (B14)$$
The fifth term in Eq. (51) vanishes for the two-band model systems considered in this work. For two-band models, the sixth term in Eq. (51) is simply twice the fourth term. The seventh term in Eq. (51) vanishes for the two-band model systems studied in this work.

Summing up all terms, we obtain zero when both majority and minority bands are occupied. When only the majority band is occupied, we obtain

\[ \varphi^{xx} = \frac{1}{32\pi} \left[ \frac{\varepsilon_F + \Delta V}{2} \right] - \frac{3}{48\pi} \frac{\varepsilon_F}{\Delta V} \left[ \frac{\varepsilon_F + \Delta V}{2} \right] \]  

(B15)

in the case \( d = 2 \).

[1] Q. Niu and L. Kleinman, Phys. Rev. Lett. 80, 2205 (1998).
[2] Q. Niu, X. Wang, L. Kleinman, W.-M. Liu, D. M. C. Nicholson, and G. M. Stocks, Phys. Rev. Lett. 83, 207 (1999).
[3] Z. Qian and G. Vignale, Phys. Rev. Lett. 88, 056404 (2002).
[4] F. Freimuth, S. Blügel, and Y. Mokrousov, J. Phys. Condens. Matter 26, 104202 (2014).
[5] F. Freimuth, R. Bamler, Y. Mokrousov, and A. Rosch, Phys. Rev. B 88, 214409 (2013).
[6] F. Freimuth, S. Blügel, and Y. Mokrousov, J. Phys. Condens. Matter 28, 316001 (2016).
[7] F. Freimuth, S. Blügel, and Y. Mokrousov, arXiv:1610.06541.
[8] P. Bruno, V. K. Dugaev, and M. Taillefer, Phys. Rev. Lett. 93, 096806 (2004).
[9] T. Fujita, M. B. A. Jalil, S. G. Tan, and S. Murakami, J. Appl. Phys. 110, 121301 (2011).
[10] R. Resta, J. Phys. Condens. Matter 22, 123201 (2010).
[11] H. Fukuyama, Prog. Theor. Phys. 45, 704 (1971).
[12] M. Ogata and H. Fukuyama, J. Phys. Soc. Jpn. 84, 124708 (2015).
[13] Y. Gao, S. A. Yang, and Q. Niu, Phys. Rev. B 91, 214405 (2015).
[14] F. Piéchon, A. Raoux, J.-N. Fuchs, and G. Montambaux, Phys. Rev. B 94, 134423 (2016).
[15] S. V. Halilov, H. Eschrig, A. Y. Perlov, and P. M. Oppeneer, Phys. Rev. B 58, 293 (1998).
[16] P. Kurz, F. Förster, L. Nordström, G. Bihlmayer, and S. Blügel, Phys. Rev. B 69, 024415 (2004).
[17] H. Kohno, Y. Hiraoka, M. Hatami, and G. E. W. Bauer, Phys. Rev. B 94, 104417 (2016).
[18] E. Şaşoğlu, L. M. Sandratskii, P. Bruno, and I. Galanakis, Phys. Rev. B 72, 184415 (2005).
[19] M. Ležačić, P. Mavropoulos, G. Bihlmayer, and S. Blügel, Phys. Rev. B 88, 134403 (2013).
[20] A. Liechtenstein, M. Katsnelson, V. Antropov, and V. Gubanov, J. Magn. Magn. Mater. 67, 65 (1987).
[21] L. Bergqvist, O. Eriksson, J. Kudrnovský, V. Drchal, P. Kozhavyi, and I. Turek, Phys. Rev. Lett. 93, 137202 (2004).
[22] H. Ebert and S. Mankovsky, Phys. Rev. B 79, 045209 (2009).
[23] E. Jué, C. K. Safeer, M. Drouard, A. Lopez, P. Balint, L. Budzilovich, O. Boulle, S. Auffret, A. Schuhl, A. Manchon et al., Nat. Mater. 15, 272 (2015).
[24] C. A. Akosa, I. M. Miron, G. Gaudin, and A. Manchon, Phys. Rev. B 93, 214429 (2016).
[25] K. Gilmore, I. Garate, A. H. MacDonald, and M. D. Stiles, Phys. Rev. B 84, 224412 (2011).
[26] C. Franz, F. Freimuth, A. Bauer, R. Ritz, C. Schnarr, C. Duvinage, T. Adams, S. Blügel, A. Rosch, Y. Mokrousov et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 112, 186601 (2014).
[27] A. Raoux, F. Piéchon, J.-N. Fuchs, and G. Montambaux, Phys. Rev. B 91, 085120 (2015).
[28] G. Gómez-Santos and T. Stauber, Phys. Rev. Lett. 106, 045504 (2011).
[29] G. Sundaram and Q. Niu, Phys. Rev. B 59, 14915 (1999).
[30] D. Xiao, J. Shi, and Q. Niu, Phys. Rev. Lett. 95, 137204 (2005).
[31] J. Anandan and Y. Aharonov, Phys. Rev. Lett. 65, 1697 (1990).
[32] T. Neupert, C. Chamon, and C. Mudry, Phys. Rev. B 87, 245103 (2013).
[33] A. Manchon, H. C. Koo, J. Nitta, S. M. Frolov, and R. A. Duine, Nat. Mater. 14, 871 (2015).
[34] I. Barke, F. Zheng, T. K. Rügheimer, and F. J. Himpsel, Phys. Rev. Lett. 97, 226405 (2006).
[35] T. Kikuchi, T. Koretsune, R. Arita, and G. Tatara, Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 247201 (2016).