

Extremely high excitonic g-factors in MoWSe₂ alloy monolayers

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Monolayers (MLs) of semiconducting transition metal dichalcogenides (S-TMDs), e.g. MoSe₂ and WSe₂, are direct bandgap semiconductors characterized by very interesting optical and electronic properties. S-TMD alloys have emerged as materials with tunable electronic structures and valley polarizations [1].

In this work, we investigate magneto-optical properties of excitonic complexes in Mo_xW_{1-x}Se₂ MLs encapsulated in hexagonal BN (hBN) with different ratios of Mo and W atoms and compare the results with those achieved for WSe₂ and MoSe₂ MLs. Under applied magnetic fields, the neutral exciton resonances in S-TMD MLs split into two circularly polarized components as a result of the Zeeman effect. The energy separation of the σ^{\pm} components in the B_{\perp} field, $\Delta E(B_{\perp}) = E\sigma^{+} - E\sigma^{-}$ can be expressed as $\Delta E(B_{\perp}) = g\mu_B B_{\perp}$ [2], where g denotes the effective g-factor of the neutral exciton and μ_B is the Bohr magneton. Using low-temperature photoluminescence (PL) experiments carried out in external out-of-plane magnetic fields up to 30 T, we extract the g-factors of the neutral (X) and charged (T) excitons presented in Fig. 1(a).

Although the measured g-factors for trions in Mo_xW_{1-x}Se₂ MLs vary from around -3.5 to almost -5 and are thus comparable to those of MoSe₂ and WSe₂ MLs, the g-factors for the X transitions change gradually from about -4 for MoSe₂, to about -6 when the Mo concentration is $\sim 70\%$, to about -7 when it reaches $\sim 50\%$, and even up to about -10 for Mo concentrations of $\sim 20\%$, to then go back to -4 in WSe₂. This striking tunability of the g-factor is verified by first-principles calculations of the band structures and angular momenta of MoSe₂ and WSe₂ MLs and their alloys. The calculated values of the g-factors (Fig. 1 (b)) show a trend similar to the experimental ones, and also reveal an additional increase and decrease under application of the compressive or tensile biaxial strains, respectively. Our studies indicate that the alloying of S-TMD MLs is an efficient mechanism to enhance the g-factors of neutral excitons, up to values that have only been observed for interlayer excitons in TMDs heterostructures (HSs) with nearly 0° or 60° twist angles so far [3]. Due to the much simpler fabrication process of MLs compared to TMD HSs with specific twist angles, alloy MLs open new avenues as potential candidates for valleytronic and quantum devices [4].

References

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