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# Rashba and Dresselhaus Couplings in Halide Perovskites: Accomplishments and Opportunities for Spintronics and Spin-Orbitronics

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8 **Rashba and Dresselhaus Couplings in Halide**  
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11 **Perovskites: Accomplishments and Opportunities**  
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14 **for Spintronics and Spin-orbitronics**  
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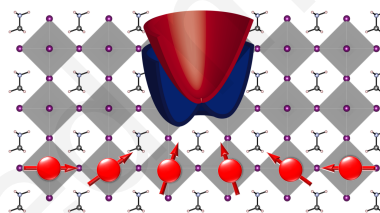
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## Abstract

In halide hybrid organic-inorganic perovskites (HOP), spin-orbit coupling (SOC) presents a well-documented large influence on band structure. However, SOC may also present more exotic effects, such as Rashba and Dresselhaus couplings. In this perspective, we start by recalling the main features of this effect and what makes HOP materials ideal candidates for the generation and tuning of spin-states. Then, we detail the main spectroscopy techniques able to characterize these effects and their application to HOP. Finally, we discuss potential applications in spintronics and in spin-orbitronics in those non-magnetic systems, that would complete the skill set of HOP and perpetuate its ride on the crest of the wave of popularity started with optoelectronics and photovoltaics.

## Graphical TOC Entry



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4 The continuous success of halide hybrid organic-inorganic perovskites (HOP) as solar cell  
5 active materials follows several paths. The main activity after 2012 consisted in the search for  
6 improvement of the power conversion efficiency (PCE) in typical laboratory configuration (small  
7 area, controlled environment). It led to an unprecedented growth of the PCE that has repeatedly  
8 reached record values over 22%.<sup>1,2</sup> Meanwhile, another branch of HOP studies have been focused  
9 on improving the stability of those cells unfortunately sensitive to light and moisture.<sup>3,4</sup> Opting for  
10 various mixtures of halide and cations,<sup>2</sup> various forms, *e.g.* layered HOP,<sup>5-7</sup> or by encapsulating  
11 the materials, the stability went from few hours to several thousands hours. Encouraged by these  
12 breakthroughs, a third path has pushed the area of high performance solar cells from less than  
13 1 cm<sup>2</sup> up to 50 cm<sup>2</sup> with a PCE of 12.6%,<sup>8</sup> bringing the perovskite solar cells even closer to  
14 commercial use.  
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26 A common point to all these record HOP materials is the presence of lead. Even though a  
27 large effort has been and still is dedicated to the search for efficient lead-free HOP materials,<sup>9,10</sup>  
28 their current record PCE remains around 6.4%.<sup>11</sup> It is certainly unfortunate for solar cells because  
29 of the known toxicity of lead,<sup>12</sup> even though solutions have early been proposed,<sup>13,14</sup> however,  
30 due to the large spin-orbit coupling (SOC) exhibited by Pb, it represents a great opportunity for  
31 optoelectronics, spintronics and spin-orbitronics applications where undesired heavy elements can  
32 find a place (*e.g.* arsenic, cadmium).  
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40 The first identified effect of SOC in HOP materials has been a surprising giant splitting of  
41 conduction bands,<sup>15,16</sup> instead of the usual valence band splitting observed in classical semicon-  
42 ductors.<sup>17</sup> It has a strong influence on the band gap energy as well as on the effective masses and  
43 the oscillator strength of the optical transitions at the band gap. The change of the symmetry of  
44 the bottom of the conduction band with SOC has also more subtle effects, such as a change of the  
45 selection rules for the allowed collision processes, either Auger-like effects<sup>18</sup> or electron-phonon  
46 processes.<sup>19</sup> In addition, Bychkov-Rashba (a.k.a. Rashba) and Dresselhaus couplings, related to  
47 the interplay between time-reversal symmetry and the lack of spatial inversion symmetry,<sup>20-23</sup>  
48 have been predicted as early as 2013 in HOP materials by computational investigations based on  
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3 X-ray structures.<sup>24–30</sup> It has recently been demonstrated experimentally by angle-resolved photoe-  
4 mission spectroscopy (ARPES) on a single crystal of methylammonium lead bromide compound  
5 ( $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbBr}_3$ ),<sup>31</sup> exhibiting a coupling of the same order of magnitude than the record set by  
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10 BiTeI.<sup>32,33</sup>

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12 Several groups working in the field of halide perovskites contributed significantly in the last  
13 years toward a better understanding of their optoelectronic properties. However, various lattice in-  
14 stabilities and symmetry breaking are observed experimentally in this new class of semiconductors,  
15 affecting the overall performances of devices. These instabilities strongly depend on the chemical  
16 composition of the pure materials and alloys, as well as the device architecture and growth proce-  
17 dure. Among these instabilities, the importance of local or extended inversion symmetry breaking  
18 leading in turn to Rashba-Dresselhaus effects is still a matter of debate and deserve deeper experi-  
19 mental investigations.  
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28 In this perspective, we start by a brief recall of the main features of Rashba and Dresselhaus  
29 couplings as well as of the ways to characterize the effects both experimentally and computation-  
30 ally. We can then focus on the state-of-the-art in HOP as well as the remaining challenges in the  
31 characterization or design of the couplings in those materials. We then inspect the possible impact  
32 on photovoltaic performances. Finally, we raise the question of future applications in spintronic  
33 and spin-orbitronic devices.  
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## 42 **Main features of Rashba and Dresselhaus couplings and occurrences in HOP**

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44 A system presenting a large SOC and a lack of centrosymmetry experiences an effective magnetic  
45 field that drives a spin splitting (Figure 1-a and -b) and can lead to spin polarization even in non-  
46 magnetic materials.<sup>22</sup> This phenomenon has been first described by Dresselhaus in zinc-blende  
47 semiconductors,<sup>20</sup> then by Rashba in wurtzite structures.<sup>34</sup> Bychkov and Rashba later generalized  
48 the observation to quasi-2 dimensional systems.<sup>21</sup> Recently, Zhang *et al.* have shown that spin  
49 splitting can still occurs in crystals presenting centrosymmetric bulk groups, if the site point groups  
50 do not have inversion symmetry (e.g. NaCaBi).<sup>35</sup>  
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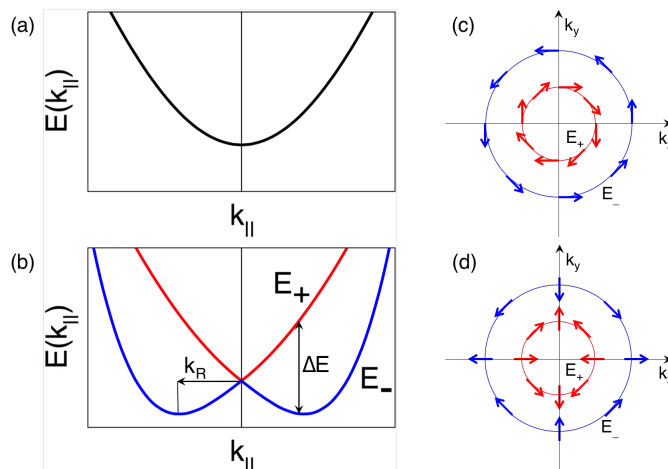


Figure 1: Schematic representation of the effect of SOC in the absence of centrosymmetry. (a) Band dispersion in the absence of SOC (b) Same including SOC. Degenerated bands now split into inner ( $E_+$ ) and outer ( $E_-$ ) branches. Typical spin textures in the case of (c) pure Rashba, and (d) pure Dresselhaus couplings.

The strength of the effect is characterized by a parameter  $\alpha$ , ratio between the amplitude of the band splitting and the corresponding displacement away from the high symmetry point,  $\alpha = \Delta E / 2k_R$ .

The main difference between both effects lies in the origin of the non-centrosymmetry. In the case of the Rashba effect, the asymmetry is a site inversion asymmetry (SIA), whereas the Dresselhaus effect is related to the space group of the crystal, and is often described as a bulk inversion asymmetry (BIA). Both effects can be observed separately or simultaneously and lead to typical spin textures (Figure 1-c and -d).<sup>22</sup> A more detailed and more mathematical description of the Rashba and Dresselhaus couplings is given for instance in references 22, 29, 35, 36 and references herein. These effects have been investigated at length in classical semiconductors, either in the form of heterostructures or in the case of quantum wells. Later, examples from bulk layered materials have also exhibited large splitting, so have metal and topological insulator surfaces. These observations have already been recalled in several review articles.<sup>23,36–43</sup>

Lead- and tin-based HOP possess a natural talent for Rashba and Dresselhaus couplings with a large SOC induced by  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Sn}^{2+}$  ions and a diverse zoology of crystal structures, including many deprived of centrosymmetry. It should be pointed out, that all the reported structures for lead,

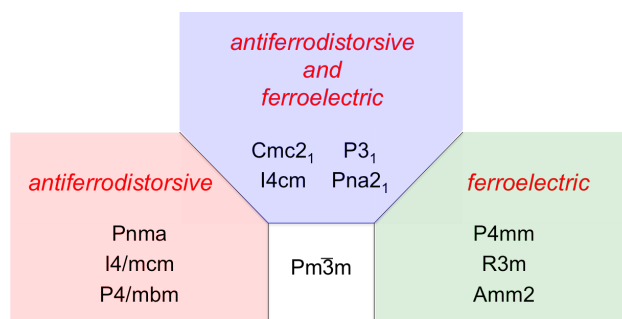


Figure 2: A few structural phase transitions observed in halide perovskites starting from the reference cubic phase  $Pm\bar{3}m$ .

tin or germanium halide perovskites are non-magnetic leading to a time-reversal symmetry of the electronic band structure. For that reason, possible spintronic applications of halide perovskites belong to the field of spin-orbitronics.<sup>41</sup> However, thanks to the giant SOC found in lead and tin compounds, large spin effects can be expected as soon as inversion symmetry can be broken.<sup>24</sup> The variety of structures can be described starting from the reference phase<sup>9,44</sup>  $Pm\bar{3}m$ , observed as the high temperature phase of several HOP.<sup>45–48</sup> From this highly symmetrical structure, different phase transitions can occur being antiferrodistorsive, ferroelectric or antiferrodistorsive and ferroelectric (Figure 2). If the centrosymmetrical groups  $Pnma$  and  $I4/mcm$  have been proposed as low and room temperature structures of the notorious  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$ ,<sup>49</sup> the same compound has been refined as well in the polar  $P4mm$  group.<sup>9,50</sup> However, the existence of a polar structure in  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$  seems to contradict the classical criterion on the Goldschmidt's tolerance factor ( $t > 1$ ) for the existence of ferroelectric phases in perovskite materials.<sup>51–53</sup> More ferroelectric structures have been proposed for various metal, cation or halogen, among which one can find simple examples in  $Amm2$ ,  $R3m$  or  $Cmc2_1$ .<sup>27,47,50,54–56</sup> For 3D materials containing Ge, the tolerance factor is more compatible with the onset of a polar distortion, and a sizable SOC may also be present, especially with the contribution of heavy halogen atoms.<sup>57</sup> More complex cases may correspond to combinations of both antiferrodistortions and ferroelectric behavior. More, due to the inherent instability of the halide perovskite lattice in most cases, local symmetry breaking may be spread in the material, at the boundaries between grains or at the surfaces.

The wealth of HOP structures available from crystallographic databases has motivated nu-

merous computational investigations that have been the first to propose the potential occurrence of Rashba and/or Dresselhaus splitting in this class of materials.<sup>7,24–27,29,30,58</sup> The computational approach, whether it relies on density functional theory (DFT) [with or without hybrid functionals](#),<sup>29,59</sup> [GW approximation](#),<sup>60</sup> or semi-empirical modeling (*e.g.*  $\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{p}$  or tight-binding), constitutes a precious tool, combined with symmetry analysis, in the characterization of SOC-induced spin splittings. Not only is it possible to draw the dispersion of bands and thus, the band splitting away from a high symmetry point ([Figure 1-a and -b](#)), one can also plot the corresponding in-plane spin texture ([Figure 1-c and -d](#)) around the forbidden band and characterize the band splitting as a Rashba, a Dresselhaus, or a mixed Rashba/Dresselhaus splitting. In the latter case, it is then possible to assess the relative strength of both. This has, for instance, been performed in the case of  $\text{CH}(\text{NH}_2)_2\text{SnI}_3$  where Rashba and Dresselhaus effects have been evaluated to  $\alpha_R = 0.50 \text{ eV} \cdot \text{\AA}$  and  $\alpha_D = 2.59 \text{ eV} \cdot \text{\AA}$ , respectively.<sup>27,29</sup>

Many  $\alpha$  values have been predicted on various materials. Outside of structural configurations arising from molecular dynamics (MD) calculations (*vide infra*), the record for a structure deduced directly from the refinement of diffraction data, is held by the  $P4mm$  structure of  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$  with a pure Rashba coupling and a parameter  $\alpha$  larger than  $3.70 \text{ eV} \cdot \text{\AA}$  for both the valence and conduction bands.<sup>29</sup> Before 2016, the largest value ever measured for SOC-induced couplings was  $\alpha = 3.80 \text{ eV} \cdot \text{\AA}$  for  $\text{BiTeI}$ <sup>32,33</sup> and  $\alpha = 3.05 \text{ eV} \cdot \text{\AA}$  for  $\text{Bi/Ag}(111)$ .<sup>61</sup>

However, one should be careful with those values as they strongly rely on the choice made for the starting symmetry of the crystal structure, whose determination by X-ray diffraction is not always unequivocal. HOP present an additional difficulty for periodic DFT calculations. Indeed, the orientations of organic cations, *e.g.* ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$  affect significantly the polarization and therefore the amplitude of the splitting and they are known to undergo fast reorientations at room temperature.<sup>30</sup> Therefore, the initial choice on the organization of organic cations impose an important bias on the results. A way around this technical issue is to substitute the dipolar cation by an inorganic cation such as  $\text{Na}^+$  or  $\text{Cs}^+$ . Such a strategy has been shown to preserve the band structure near the Fermi level. Snapshots of local polar structures extracted from MD simulations or



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4 local structure minimizations may support the idea of dynamical Rashba-Dresselhaus effects. The  
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6 underlying assumption is that the crystallographic structures deduced by using classical diffrac-  
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8 tion techniques result from time averaging and do not necessarily lead to the correct prediction for  
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10 carrier relaxation or recombination processes.

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12 Among the examples of HOP expected to show a Rashba or Dresselhaus splitting, a peculiar  
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14 example can be found in layered perovskites.<sup>7,62,63</sup> Indeed, these systems are, in many ways, very  
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16 similar to the heterostructures in which the Rashba and Dresselhaus effects are commonly found.  
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18 In addition many examples of layered HOP are ferroelectrics. Therefore, those structures have  
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20 the potential to exhibit large splittings. Indeed, several compounds belong to polar groups and  
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22 have been scrutinized.<sup>7,29,56,64,65</sup> One should notice that the above examples have a symmetry axis  
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24 perpendicular to the staking direction. As a consequence, the Rashba effect is incomplete, *i.e.*  
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26 the band splitting occur in only one direction of the Brillouin zone.<sup>7,29</sup> Surprisingly, in the large  
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28 collection of layered structures, to the best of our knowledge, none presents an absence of inversion  
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30 symmetry and a  $C_2$  axis (or higher order) in the stacking direction. **Let us note that because the**  
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32 **perovskite layers in layered structures can be non-centrosymmetric, those systems are promising**  
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34 **structures where the *hidden spin polarization* proposed by Zhang *et al.* could be observed.<sup>35</sup>**

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36 Manifestations of spin effects in HOP are not limited to theoretical work. In 2015, a first study  
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38 using pump-probe setups with circularly polarized light on thin films of  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$  presented  
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40 evidence for spin lifetime of about 7 ps.<sup>66</sup> But the first direct evidence of Rashba splitting has been  
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42 revealed by Niesner and coworkers who performed angle-resolved photoemission spectroscopy  
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44 (ARPES) on single crystals of  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbBr}_3$ .<sup>31</sup> ARPES is the most direct method to obtain in-  
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46 formation about the dispersion of the top valence bands.<sup>67</sup> This is performed by measuring the  
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48 kinetic energy and the exit angle of electrons emitted following a UV photoexcitation (Figure 3-a).  
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50 In addition, spin-resolved measurements can lead to the description of spin textures.<sup>32,67,68</sup> This  
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52 straightforward technique requires however a clean single crystal sample.

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54 Measurements on  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbBr}_3$  have been performed above and below the orthorhombic/cubic  
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56 transition on cleaved crystals of 5 mm, exposing the (001) surface.<sup>31</sup> Surprisingly, at both tempera-  
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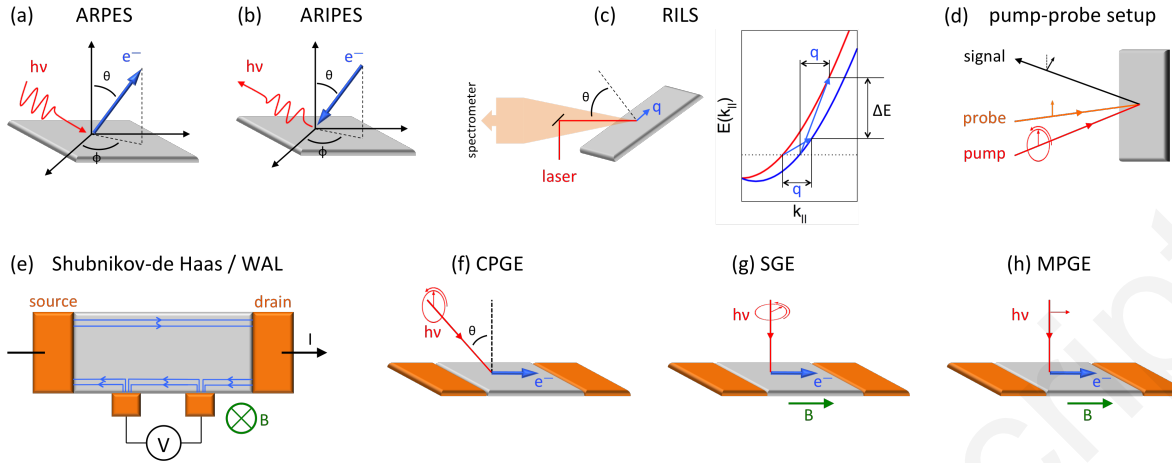


Figure 3: Schematic representation of the experimental setup of (a) ARPES and (b) ARIPES. (c) Schematic representation of RILS experiment in quasi-backscattering geometry (left) and spin-flip intrasubband transitions leading to a signal with two peaks shifted by  $\Delta E$  (right). The dotted line marks the position of the Fermi energy. (d) Setup for pump-probe experiments with a circularly polarized pump signal and a linearly polarized probe signal. Rashba and Dresselhaus effects are quantified by applying an additional external field being either electric or magnetic. (e) Scheme of a Hall bar for Shubnikov-de Haas or WAL studies. Oscillations in the resistivity due to edge states are monitored with respect to the amplitude of the transverse magnetic field  $\mathbf{B}$  and for various gate voltages. Schemes of (f) CPGE, (g) SGE, and (h) MPGE. Photogalvanic effects rely on the spin-to-charge conversion allowed by the Rashba-Edelstein effect.

tures, a large splitting is observed with Rashba parameter  $\alpha$  of  $7 \pm 1 \text{ eV} \cdot \text{\AA}$  and  $11 \pm 4 \text{ eV} \cdot \text{\AA}$  whereas bulk materials are expected to exhibit centrosymmetric  $Pnma$  and  $Pm\bar{3}m$  structures, respectively.

This is a well-known drawback of ARPES measurements: it is surface-sensitive. In this case, the loss of translational symmetry imposed by the presence of a surface solely can lead to a symmetry breaking sufficient to explain the occurrence of Rashba spin splitting in these centrosymmetric groups as for instance in the case of metallic surfaces.<sup>36</sup> One should also keep in mind that HOP are rather soft materials and tend to reorganize themselves with low energy costs. In particular, scanning tunneling microscopy (STM) performed on single crystals of  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbBr}_3$  has shown the presence of two surface reconstructions, which might lead to surface polar domains and therefore an enhanced splitting.<sup>69,70</sup> Another possible explanation may rely on the strong anharmonicity of the perovskite bulk lattice, leading to large atomic motions and a dynamical effect related to polar symmetry breaking. Even all caveats taken into account, this first experimental evidence for Rashba splitting remains an important motivating force as the measured amplitude of the coupling is much larger than the previous record set by  $\text{BiTeI}$  using the same approach. Over the years,

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4 many spectroscopies apart from ARPES and computational approaches have been developed to  
5 assess SOC-induced splittings for surfaces and heterostructures, and are waiting to be applied to  
6 HOP. In the following, we recall some of the main spectroscopies used to unravel the presence of  
7 Rashba and Dresselhaus effects.  
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### 10 11 12 13 **Characterization of Rashba and Dresselhaus couplings** 14

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16 ARPES is extremely powerful to describe valence states. However, HOP are characterized by a  
17 strong SOC mostly effective in the conduction bands.<sup>16</sup> Therefore, angle-resolved inverse pho-  
18 toemission spectroscopy (ARIPES) would describe the part of the band structure where SOC is  
19 the most effective. In ARIPES, a beam of electron with fixed kinetic energy is used to emit pho-  
20 tons that are detected at a fixed angle. The reciprocal space is probed by modifying the incidence  
21 angle of the electrons (Figure 3-b).<sup>71-73</sup> As a more accurate alternative, one would turn to time-  
22 resolved-ARPES (trARPES) experiments, in which circularly-polarized pump pulses are used to  
23 access excited states.<sup>74</sup> Chemical engineering of the Rashba-Dresselhaus effects and SOC is pos-  
24 sible through metal substitution (Pb, Sn, Ge). The ARIPES technique may provide a nice solution  
25 to probe the induced changes in the conduction band. More, the general character of the optical  
26 transition (direct versus indirect) still deserves further investigations.  
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39 In the 1990s, Jusserand and coworkers have shown that resonant inelastic light scattering  
40 (RILS) could be used to probe not only the SOC and asymmetry-induced spin splittings but also to  
41 assess the relative strength of Rashba and Dresselhaus effects.<sup>75,76</sup> Measurements are performed  
42 in quasi-backscattering geometry (Figure 3-c) with crossed linear polarizations of the laser and  
43 scattered light (depolarized geometry). It relies on the spin-flip intrasubbands transitions between  
44 the inner and outer branches (Figure 3-c).<sup>77</sup> Thanks to the scattering angle  $\Theta$ , a wave vector  $\mathbf{q}$  can  
45 be transferred parallel to the plane of the sample. In the presence of a spin splitting, it leads to a  
46 double peak feature related to the energy splitting at the Fermi level. Interestingly, by acting on  
47 the  $n$  or  $p$  doping of the sample, it has been possible to probe the splitting either in the valence or  
48 conduction band.<sup>75-78</sup>  
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However, such measurements require the Raman spectra to be conducted at very low temperature ( $T \approx 5$  K). In those conditions, HOP exhibit a stable exciton. For instance, in  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$ , the binding energy of the exciton at low temperature is found to be around 50 meV.<sup>79</sup> The interplay of the exciton with the Raman signal makes the interpretation of spectra even more delicate. Such measurements require a careful tuning of the excitation energy to avoid anomalous resonance effects occurring due to the strong resonance with excitons.<sup>80</sup>

Pump-probe optical measurements have proven to be an effective tool to investigate the spin properties of semiconductors. The absorption of circularly polarized photons initiates a population of spin-polarized, *e.g.* along  $z$ , holes or electrons. **Their evolution is probed by a delayed linearly polarized pulse (Figure 3-d). The measurements therefore provide information on the longitudinal relaxation time.**<sup>81</sup>

An important feature of both Rashba and Dresselhaus effects is that the combination of time-reversal symmetry, SOC and the lack of inversion symmetry produces a spinor splitting,<sup>24</sup> but not pure spin states.<sup>29</sup> The spin continuously processes as for example in the case of a spin-valve after spin injection.<sup>29</sup> In the usual asymmetric 2D electron gases, *e.g.* quantum wells, the dominant mechanism for spin relaxation is thus the spin precession driven by the effective magnetic field generated by the spin splitting, *i.e.* the D'yakonov, Perel' and Kachorovskii (DPK) mechanism,<sup>82,83</sup> with phase changes associated to carrier scattering events as in GaAs. More, the Rashba effect in bulk HOP is linear and is thus expected to play a similar role as the Dresselhaus effect, when they are both allowed by symmetry. Additional spin relaxation mechanisms may be important for HOP,<sup>84</sup> among them the Elliott-Yafett (EY) mechanism present in centrosymmetric semiconductors like Si.<sup>85,86</sup> In HOP, in the absence of the Rashba-Dresselhaus effects, the SOC does not split the spin-up/down states in the valence band, but the coupling with other states may nevertheless induce spin flipping as observed in the conduction band of Si. It will be of course necessary to gauge the respective importance of DPK and EY spin relaxation mechanisms in HOP. Finally let us mention the Bir-Aronov-Pikus (BAP) mechanism,<sup>87</sup> observed for electrons in heavily p-doped classical semiconductors and related to spin-flipping associated to enhanced exchange interaction

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3 between electron and holes. The same situation due to reverse band ordering should affect the  
4 spins of non-equilibrium holes by exchange interactions with electrons in heavily n-doped HOP.  
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6 However a strong carrier doping is only observed up to now of the p-type in tin compounds.  
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10 Several flavors of the pump-probe setup have been proposed to address specifically the case  
11 of Rashba and Dresselhaus effects occurring either separately or simultaneously. The working  
12 principle of those approaches is to modify the splitting through an external stimulus being a static  
13 electric field,<sup>88,89</sup> a transverse static magnetic field (Hanle effect)<sup>90,91</sup> or in transmission with an  
14 oscillating magnetic field (time-resolved Faraday rotation).<sup>92</sup> All these alternatives are possible in  
15 HOP, since external electric and magnetic fields have already been applied with success on HOP  
16 to investigate various effects such as the influence on excitons.  
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24 A different set of experiments rely not solely on optical activities but also on the transport  
25 properties of the sample. The original inspections of the asymmetry induced spin splitting were  
26 performed through the analysis of the beating pattern of Shubnikov-de Haas oscillations observed  
27 thanks to a Hall bar setups (Figure 3-e).<sup>93,94</sup> However, this approach is not deprived of ambigu-  
28 ities because of inhomogeneities in the concentration of carriers or of the occupation of multiple  
29 subbands.  
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36 An alternative path, using the same setup, is to take advantage of the weak antilocalization  
37 (WAL) phenomenon. At low temperature and for weak magnetic fields applied perpendicularly  
38 to the 2D gas, a magnetoresistance occurs, caused by the weak localization of electrons as a con-  
39 sequence of constructive interferences. The latter are suppressed by the precession of spins due  
40 to spin-orbit coupling leading to a weak antilocalization and a positive magnetoresistance.<sup>95</sup> By  
41 varying the value of the magnetic field and the gate voltage, it is then possible to determine the  
42 strength of Rashba and Dresselhaus effects. This strategy has been used with success on various  
43 heterostructures.<sup>95-98</sup> Its applicability to HOP will rely probably on the the growth of clean single  
44 crystal samples with well-defined facets, as well as a better understanding of the surface defects  
45 and reconstructions.  
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56 Another set of experiments giving access to the Rashba and Dresselhaus effects is based on the  
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4 Rashba-Edelstein and inverse-Rashba-Edelstein effects, *i.e.* the charge-to-spin and spin-to-charge  
5 conversions.<sup>99,100</sup> Let us mention here the circular photogalvanic effect (CPGE), the spin-galvanic  
6 effect (SGE) and the magneto-gyrotropic photogalvanic effect (MPGE). The CPGE (Figure 3-  
7 f) uses a circularly polarized light to generate an unbalanced occupation in momentum space  
8 of the excited carriers because of the band splitting and spin textures induced by the Rashba  
9 and/or Dresselhaus effects.<sup>101–103</sup> In the SGE (Figure 3-g), the electric current is caused by the  
10 out-of-equilibrium spin polarization of the system. It can be created either by the injection of  
11 a spin-current or by optical excitation.<sup>103–106</sup> Both methods have been used in InAs and GaAs  
12 heterostructures to determine the relative amplitude of Rashba and Dresselhaus effects.<sup>105</sup> The  
13 MPGE uses a normal incident light excitation in addition to an in-plane magnetic field to generate  
14 the photocurrent (Figure 3-h).<sup>107,108</sup>

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26 The application of photogalvanic effects to HOP has been theoretically examined by Li and  
27 Haney based on DFT calculations and drift-diffusion equations.<sup>109,110</sup> One should note they used  
28 a structure exhibiting a ferroelectricity that is not predicted experimentally from the known crys-  
29 tallographic structures. Their investigations show that the generation of photo or spin currents are  
30 is of similar efficiency than with classical semiconductors and therefore CPGE, SGE and MPGE  
31 are promising tools to study the asymmetry-induced band splitting in HOP. Such an effect was  
32 observed in  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$  as reported in a recent work from Niesner and coworkers.<sup>111</sup> It opens a  
33 new perspective for experimental developments along this line.

### 44 **Effect on carrier lifetime**

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47 Avoiding carrier recombination and thus enhancing carrier lifetime, while preserving efficient  
48 electron-hole separation after light excitation, is a key factor for optimal photovoltaic perfor-  
49 mances, especially reaching very high open circuit voltages ( $V_{oc}$ ).<sup>112</sup> When a Rashba or Dressel-  
50 haus effect is observed on the valence and/or conduction band one can expect effect on the lifetime  
51 of the carriers. Indeed, it has been proposed that the band splitting resulting of these effects would  
52 enhance the lifetime of charge carriers because of spin-forbidden transitions<sup>113</sup> and the resulting  
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3 indirect band gap.<sup>114,115</sup>  
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5 The Rashba-Dresselhaus effect was proposed initially for hybrid perovskites on the basis of  
6 refined crystallographic structures exhibiting an interplay between lack of inversion symmetry,  
7 a strong SOC and time reversal symmetry.<sup>24–29</sup> More recently, it was proposed that the cen-  
8 trosymmetry breaking may rather occur on a local scale through dynamical fluctuations of the  
9 structure.<sup>30,113–116</sup> Hence, the Rashba-induced mechanism preventing carrier recombination is  
10 suspected to occurs also in structures with centrosymmetry, *e.g.* the room-temperature phase of  
11  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$ . These theoretical propositions are based on the Born-Oppenheimer approximation  
12 and electronic band dispersions computed within a classical Brillouin zone representation for snap-  
13 shots of local structures obtained by DFT-based molecular dynamics and structural minimizations.  
14 These dynamical effects are expected to have a direct impact on the effective carrier lifetime and  
15 mobility, and in a schematic picture are related to the coexistence of an indirect and a direct op-  
16 tical transitions. The Born-Oppenheimer approximation is justified on account of the observed  
17 timescales for the corresponding structural fluctuations, but more detailed atomistic simulations  
18 should address in the future the local nature of the lattice distortions and their impact on the local  
19 electronic density, as well as the anharmonicity of atomic motions and their impact on the carrier  
20 processes.<sup>115</sup> This would help discussing properly the propositions related to dynamical Rashba  
21 effects with more classical propositions dealing with localizations of carriers on shallow defect  
22 states.<sup>117</sup>  
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#### 44 **Applications in spintronics and spin-orbitronics**

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46 Systems ruled by Rashba and Dresselhaus effects have been used to design devices able to (i)  
47 generate a spin-current, (ii) detect a spin-current, and (iii) modulate a spin-current.<sup>41,42</sup> The gen-  
48 eration of a pure spin-current, *i.e.* the transport of spins but not of charges, known as the spin  
49 Hall effect (SHE) has been extensively studied.<sup>106,118</sup> In addition to the extrinsic mechanism, an  
50 intrinsic mechanism rely on the charge-to-spin conversion allowed by the Rashba-Edelstein ef-  
51 fect.<sup>99,119</sup> In the case of a Rashba coupling, spins are oriented perpendicularly to the momentum.  
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When an electric field is applied, *e.g.* along  $x$ , the Fermi surface is displaced and electrons experienced a modified effective magnetic field which tilts the spins, creating a spin-current along  $y$  (Figure 4-a). The SHE has been one of the main target of spintronics, with the notable realization of a all-semiconductor SHE transistor.<sup>120</sup> The practical realization of similar devices in HOP will depend on the quality and processability of crystal samples, as well as the stability of the spinor-states. Deep analyses of the possible spin relaxation mechanisms mentioned before are thus required. The reciprocal mechanism that converts spin-current into charge-current is known as the

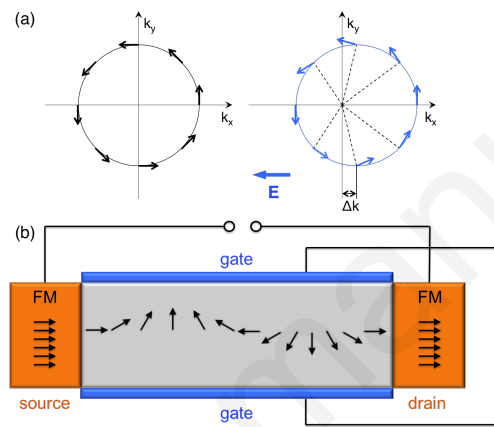


Figure 4: (a) Scheme of the Rashba-Edelstein effect. In the presence of a Rashba coupling, spins are oriented perpendicularly to the momentum (left). When an electric field is applied along  $x$  (right), the Fermi surface is displaced by  $\Delta k$  and spins tilt, creating a spin current along  $y$ . (b) Scheme of a Datta-Das spin-FET. The gate voltage controls the precession of spins between the source and the drain by tuning the amplitude of the Rashba coupling.

inverse Rashba-Edelstein effect<sup>100</sup> and is responsible for the SGE (Figure 3-g). The injection of a spin-current generates a charge current that can be detected. This phenomenon completes the toolbox necessary for spintronic devices (from charge to spin back to charge). It has recently been achieved using perovskite oxides.<sup>121</sup>

Because, Rashba and Dresselhaus couplings are sensitive to external electric fields, they can be used to manipulate spins. It has been proposed to use the electric control of spins to build a Stern-Gerlach spin-filter without ferromagnetic materials.<sup>122</sup> An important contribution has been delivered by Datta and Das, who proposed to use this property to built a spin field effect transistor (spin-FET, Figure 4-b).<sup>123</sup> Because spins precess under the influence of the effective magnetic



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field induced by the Rashba/Dresselhaus effects, and because their amplitude can be tuned by a gate voltage, one can control the pace of the spin precession and finally control the orientation of the spin when it reaches drain.<sup>124</sup> The electric control over Rashba effect in the case of HOP has been proposed based on computational investigations.<sup>29,30</sup> In the low-temperature centrosymmetric *Pnma* phase the Rashba coupling is naturally null, but a gate voltage of 1.25 V leads to a weak coupling around  $\alpha = 0.1 \text{ eV}\cdot\text{\AA}$  enough to contrast with the absence of spin precession when the gate voltage is not applied.<sup>29</sup> Leppert and coworkers predicted that in the *P4mm* phase, a coupling of nearly  $1 \text{ eV}\cdot\text{\AA}$  could be obtained with a feasible gate voltage of 4 V over a 200 nm thick thin film.<sup>30</sup> A limiting factor for the design of spin-FET is the spin relaxation that should allow the spin to travel from one end to the other of the device. At the time we are writing this perspective, only one measurement of spin lifetime has been reported. Pump-probe experiments have been performed on polycrystalline thin films resulting in a spin relaxation lifetime of around 7 ps for electrons and nearly 1 ps for holes.<sup>66</sup> As suggested by the authors, improvement over the quality of the sample would greatly affect these figures. Let us conclude on the possibility to manipulate individual spins, not with magnetic fields, but with gigahertz electric fields. Setups have been designed in architectures of GaAs/AlGaAs and InAs ruled by a Rashba and Dresselhaus couplings.<sup>125,126</sup> The electric field can initialize a state, manipulate and read it. Therefore, a fully electrical manipulation of spin qubits is achieved. This possibility would require for example further investigations of spin-effects in HOP nanostructures. Available information on this topic are indeed scarce up to now in the available literature.

### Conclusion and perspectives

In this perspective, we have recalled the main features of spin-orbit effects in non-centrosymmetric structures, *a.k.a.* Rashba and Dresselhaus effects, and explained why the observation and the engineering of these effects could be particularly attractive in HOP. After several computational works predicting the occurrence of such effects in HOP, not only has clear experimental evidence been provided, but  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbBr}_3$  now detains the record for highest Rashba parameter ever measured.

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3 This first experimental result and the recent progress in HOP crystal growth should greatly mo-  
4 tivate complementary experimental works, whether for the characterization of couplings or their  
5 exploitation for devices. After having raised the interest of optoelectronics and microelectronics  
6 30 years ago, and being the rising star of photovoltaics, HOP could be on the verge of making its  
7 great entrance in spintronics and spin-orbitronics.  
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