

The High Coercivity Fields in Chemically Bonded WSe₂/MoSe₂ Powders

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Abstract

- The dilute magnetic semiconductor (DMS) is one of the promising materials for spintronic applications. The basic idea is doping magnetic elements into a semiconductor host, thereby making a material possessing both semiconductor and magnetic feature.
- However, weak ferromagnetism and low coercivity field at room temperature; low Curie temperatures and intrinsic/extrinsic mechanism disputation limit its application potential.
- It is reported the bound edge defect would induce the ferromagnetism in 2D transition metal dichalcogenide, 2D TMDs single crystal. To increase the bound edge defect and enhance the ferromagnetism, the magnetism of chemically bonded WSe₂/MoSe₂ powder were studied.
- Our studies reveal the highest coercivity field at room temperature, and this characteristic originates from the chemical bonding-induced structure defect at WSe₂ and MoSe₂ interface.

Experiment method

The mixed WSe₂/MoSe₂ powder is a commercial product and was purchased from SixCarbon Technology. Co. (ShenZhen, China) The purchased WSe₂/MoSe₂ powder was vacuum-sealed in a glass tube with a pressure of 10⁻³ torr, and then further thermally annealed. The WSe₂/MoSe₂ powder was heated up to 1000°C by a rate of 2.7°C/min and maintained at 1000°C for 1 hour. After thermal annealing, it was naturally cooled down to room temperature.

Results and Discussions

- The X-ray diffraction spectrum of the WSe₂/MoSe₂ powder. The peak position is consistent with the database. The sharp peaks imply that the sample is highly crystallized.
- The top-right inset shows that SEM image in the backscattering emission image mode. The light area is the WSe₂, and the dark area is the MoSe₂, which confirmed by the energy dispersive spectroscopy mode in SEM. It shows the phases of WSe₂ and MoSe₂ are separated.
- The EPMA supports that W:Se = 1:2 in the light zone and Mo:Se = 1:2 in the dark zone, and MoSe₂:WSe₂ ≈ 1:1.
- (a,c) The M–H curves at temperatures for sample 1 and sample 2. They exhibit hysteresis loops at low magnetic fields and diamagnetism at high magnetic fields.
- (b,d) The M–H curves at temperature for sample 1 and sample 2; the diamagnetic contribution was subtracted.
- The extracted coercivity field of sample 1 is 2600 Oe at 5 K and 1300 Oe at 300 K. The extracted coercivity field of sample 2 is 2299 Oe at 5 K and 1100 Oe at 300 K.
- The saturation magnetization, M_S, as a function of temperature for two WSe₂/MoSe₂ powders.
- The temperature dependent coercivity fields of two WSe₂/MoSe₂ powders.
- The coercivity is orders higher than all reported values in 2D TMDs. Please Refer to the Table 1.
- The Raman spectrometer, a sensitive tool for detecting lattice bonding, was used to identify the chemical bonding at the interface between WSe₂ and MoSe₂.
- The WSe₂/MoSe₂ mix powder size is two order larger than the Raman laser spot. The Raman spectra might have detected the signal of only WSe₂, MoSe₂ or chemically bonded WSe₂/MoSe₂. The scan step is much smaller than the possible shift of the peaks.
- The peak of MoSe₂ is A_{1g} (242 cm⁻¹), and the peaks of WSe₂ are A_{1g} (250 cm⁻¹) and 2LA(M) (256 cm⁻¹) were labeled with dotted lines.
- The Raman shifts of two WSe₂/MoSe₂ powders in different zones. It exhibited the standard peaks of WSe₂ and MoSe₂.
- Red shifts of WSe₂ peaks and are shown in zone 5. It is the evidence of interface chemical bonding between WSe₂ and MoSe₂.
- To further identify the source of the observed ferromagnetism, another mixed WSe₂ and MoSe₂ powder from the same raw materials was prepared without 1000°C thermal annealing.
- (a) The SEM image in the backscattering emission imaging mode. The light area is the WSe₂ and the dark area is the MoSe₂. The sample was a mixture of WSe₂ and MoSe₂ flakes containing only one material within each flake.
- (b) The M–H curve shows the diamagnetism feature, and no hysteresis loops were detected.
- (c) The 242 cm⁻¹ for MoSe₂, and 250 cm⁻¹ and 256 cm⁻¹ for WSe₂, are shown in the Raman spectra. No mixed peaks or red-shifted peaks were observed.

Table 1

Material	Coercivity	Saturation Magnetization	Temperature	Treatment
WSe ₂ /MoSe ₂ powder	2695 Oe	0.0053 emu/g	5 K	interface
WSe ₂ /MoSe ₂ powder	2606 Oe	0.0017 emu/g	150 K	interface
WSe ₂ /MoSe ₂ powder	1324 Oe	0.0019 emu/g	300 K	interface
WSe ₂ /MoSe ₂ powder	2299 Oe	0.0087 emu/g	5 K	interface
WSe ₂ /MoSe ₂ powder	4100 Oe	0.0022 emu/g	50 K	interface
WSe ₂ /MoSe ₂ powder	4233 Oe	0.0020 emu/g	100 K	interface
WSe ₂ /MoSe ₂ powder	1600 Oe	0.0022 emu/g	200 K	interface
WSe ₂ /MoSe ₂ powder	1100 Oe	0.0015 emu/g	300 K	interface
WSe ₂ nanosheet	414 Oe	211 emu/cm ³	20 K	edge
WSe ₂ nanosheet	106 Oe	70 emu/cm ³	300 K	edge
WSe ₂ few-layer	578 Oe	0.078 emu/g	10 K	zigzag
WSe ₂ few-layer	200 Oe	0.0073 emu/g	300 K	zigzag
WSe ₂ nanosheet	1115 Oe	0.0046 emu/g	3 K	zigzag
WSe ₂ nanosheet	92 Oe	0.0052 emu/g	300 K	zigzag
WSe ₂ nanosheet	240 Oe	0.39 emu/g	10 K	zigzag and structure defect
WSe ₂ nanosheet	140 Oe	0.2 emu/g	300 K	zigzag and structure defect
WSe ₂ exfoliated nanosheet	400 Oe	0.004 emu/g	10 K	zigzag or vacancy
WSe ₂ exfoliated nanosheet	125 Oe	0.002 emu/g	300 K	zigzag or vacancy
WSe ₂ few-layer	295 Oe	0.098 emu/g	10 K	zigzag
WSe ₂ few-layer	130 Oe	0.009 emu/g	300 K	zigzag
WSe ₂ powder	~60 Oe	0.002 emu/g	300 K	vacancy
WSe ₂ nanoflake	293 Oe	3.67 emu/g	60 K	
WSe ₂ nanoflake	171 Oe	1.82 emu/g	300 K	
WSe ₂ nanoflake	967 Oe	7.59 emu/g	60 K	
WSe ₂ nanoflake	239 Oe	3.08 emu/g	300 K	
MoSe ₂ nanoflake	100 Oe	1.39 emu/g	300 K	zigzag
MoSe ₂ few-layer	435 Oe	0.013 emu/g	10 K	zigzag
MoSe ₂ few-layer	40 Oe	0.0026 emu/g	300 K	zigzag
MoSe ₂ nanoflowers	50 Oe	0.027 emu/g	300 K	thermal vacancy
MoSe ₂ nanoflowers	80 Oe	0.017 emu/g	300 K	thermal vacancy
MoSe ₂ nanoflowers	60 Oe	0.003 emu/g	300 K	thermal vacancy
MoSe ₂ nanosheet	150 Oe	1 emu/g	300 K	vacancy
MoSe ₂ 1T phase	150 Oe	12.5 emu/g	300 K	structure phase
MoSe ₂ nanosheets	50~200 Oe	0.1 emu/g	5 K	thermal vacancy
MoSe ₂ nanosheets	20~50 Oe	0.008 emu/g	300 K	thermal vacancy
MoSe ₂ film	260 Oe	0.00125 emu/cm ³	300 K	proton irradiation
MoSe ₂ film	700 Oe	0.0015 emu/cm ³	10 K	proton irradiation
MoSe ₂ film	276 Oe	0.0486 emu/g	300 K	web buckle-mediated strain
MoSe ₂ nanoparticles	20.8 Oe	0.1 emu/g	5 K	thermal vacancy
MoSe ₂ nanosheet	241.3 Oe	1.08 emu/g	10 K	zigzag and structure vacancy
MoSe ₂ nanosheet	~80 Oe	0.8 emu/g	300 K	zigzag and structure vacancy
MoSe ₂ single crystal bulk	400 Oe	0.004 emu/g	50 K	zigzag
MoSe ₂ single crystal bulk	100 Oe	0.0038 emu/g	300 K	zigzag
MoSe ₂ pyramid (films)	~200 Oe	3 emu/g	2 K	zigzag
MoSe ₂ pyramid (films)	~50 Oe	2.9 emu/g	300 K	zigzag
MoSe ₂ nanosheet	~55 Oe	0.01 emu/g	300 K	S vacancy and substitutional dopants
MoSe ₂ 1T phase	200 Oe	0.057 emu/g	5 K	electron beam formed defects
MoSe ₂ nanosheet	~200 Oe	0.0073 emu/g	300 K	un-paired Mo or edge
MoSe ₂ few-layer	517 Oe	0.019 emu/g	10 K	zigzag
MoSe ₂ few-layer	146 Oe	0.0043 emu/g	300 K	zigzag
MoSe ₂ nanoribbons	~250 Oe	0.032 emu/g	2 K	zigzag
MoSe ₂ nanoribbons	~250 Oe	0.026 emu/g	300 K	zigzag

our works

- A slight magnetic or transition element dopant might lead to strong ferromagnetism in 2D TMDs.
- Our energy dispersive spectroscopy, EDS, analysis supports that there were no un-avoided magnetic or transition elements in our system.
- The saturation magnetization was 0.001 emu/g. If this magnetism originated from Ni, Co or/and Fe, the magnetic elements would have reached a 0.01% atomic ratio, which is within the detectable range of the EMPA.
- Our EMPA, XPS and ICPM experiment showed no detectable magnetic elements in our samples.
- These support that the external element dopants are not the main mechanism of the observed ferromagnetism in WSe₂/MoSe₂ powder.

Conclusions:

- The magnetism of chemical bounded WSe₂/MoSe₂ powder was studied.
- The coercivity field reaches 2600 Oe at 5 K, 4233 Oe at 100 K and 1300 Oe at 300 K. These values are orders higher than all reported values in 2D TMDs. The physics mechanics behind is different from the widely reported vacancy and zigzag structure-induced ferromagnetism.
- A Raman spectrum reveals a red shift which supports the chemical bonding at the interface of WSe₂ and MoSe₂.
- The large coercivity field originates from the chemical bonding-induced structural distortion at the interface between WSe₂ and MoSe₂.