

## Effect of Cu intercalation on humidity sensing properties of Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> topological insulator single crystals

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### Supplementary Information

**Table 1:** Structural parameters obtained from a Rietveld refinement of room temperature powder x-ray patterns shown in Fig. 3.

Sample	Atom	X	Y	Z	Occupancy
Bi <sub>2</sub> Se <sub>3</sub>	Bi	0	0	0.40276	0.09211
$a=b=4.141\pm 0.003\text{\AA}$	Se1	0	0	0	0.08892
$c=28.665\pm 0.002\text{\AA}$	Se2	0	0	0.20841	0.18040
Cu <sub>0.13</sub> Bi <sub>2</sub> Se <sub>3</sub>	Bi	0	0	0.40142	0.08779
$a=b=4.141\pm 0.002\text{\AA}$	Se1	0	0	0	0.03658
$c=28.713\pm 0.003\text{\AA}$	Se2	0	0	0.20091	0.08305
Cu <sub>0.25</sub> Bi <sub>2</sub> Se <sub>3</sub>	Bi	0	0	0.40089	0.08478
$a=b=4.141\pm 0.004\text{\AA}$	Se1	0	0	0	0.01031
$c=28.734\pm 0.003\text{\AA}$	Se2	0	0	0.20024	0.02358

**Table 2:** Hysteresis values of pure and Cu intercalated  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$  ( $\text{Cu}_0\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$ ,  $\text{Cu}_{0.13}\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$  and  $\text{Cu}_{0.25}\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$ ) at different levels of %RH.

<b>RH%</b>	<b><math>\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3</math></b>	<b><math>\text{Cu}_{0.13}\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3</math></b>	<b><math>\text{Cu}_{0.25}\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3</math></b>
<b>8</b>	0.00177	0.00021	0.00050
<b>33</b>	0.00188	0.00966	0.00117
<b>43</b>	0.00212	0.00318	0.00133
<b>52</b>	0.00070	0.00546	0.00104
<b>63</b>	0.00377	0.00028	0.00084
<b>75</b>	0.00396	0.00693	0.00079
<b>86</b>	0.00115	0.00481	0.00048
<b>97</b>	0.00041	0.00021	0.00023

**Table 3:** Freundlich adsorption isotherm model results, including adsorption capacity ( $k$ ), adsorption strength ( $\alpha$ ), and  $R^2$  values vs. the experimental data for humidity sensing using  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$ ,  $\text{Cu}_{0.13}\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$  and  $\text{Cu}_{0.25}\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$ .

<b>Sample</b>	<b>Low RH Regime</b>			<b>High RH Regime</b>		
	<b><math>k</math></b>	<b><math>\alpha</math></b>	<b><math>R^2</math></b>	<b><math>k</math></b>	<b><math>\alpha</math></b>	<b><math>R^2</math></b>
<b><math>\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3</math></b>	<b>1.03±0.06</b>	<b>1.72±0.14</b>	<b>0.96</b>	<b>1.32±0.27</b>	<b>0.40±0.04</b>	<b>0.97</b>
<b><math>\text{Cu}_{0.13}\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3</math></b>	<b>2.31±0.29</b>	<b>1.22±0.16</b>	<b>0.87</b>	<b>1.46±0.31</b>	<b>0.66±0.09</b>	<b>0.92</b>
<b><math>\text{Cu}_{0.25}\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3</math></b>	<b>4.3±0.19</b>	<b>0.91±0.08</b>	<b>0.92</b>	<b>3.03±0.16</b>	<b>0.87±0.02</b>	<b>0.95</b>

**Table 4:** Comparative analysis of Cu intercalated Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> TI humidity sensor in terms of linear range, sensitivity, response and recovery time with available literatures.

Material	Linear Range (%)	Sensitivity	Response/ Recovery Time (s)	Reference
ZnO nanowires	25 to 90	184	NA	1
MoS <sub>2</sub> film	13.3 to 83.5	16.08(p-type) 89.66(n-type)	55s/288s(p-type) 174s/345s(n-type)	2
SnO <sub>2</sub> :Sn composite thin film	11 to 95	265	80s/140s	3
CuO nanowires	20 to 90	12.72%	NA	4
Porous titania ceramics	11 to 95	~10 <sup>4</sup>	32s/131s	5
ZnO nanosheets	12 to 96	220	600s/3s	6
Sn-doped ZnO nanorod Arrays	40 to 90	3.41	230s/30s	7
ZnO nanorods	33 to 95	61.23	NA	8
SnO <sub>2</sub> Nanowire	5 to 85	32	120s/20s	9
WS <sub>2</sub> /WSe <sub>2</sub> Nanohybrids	40 to 80	57	40s/65s	10
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> /SiO <sub>2</sub> composites	11 to 95	10 <sup>4</sup>	20s/40s	11
WS <sub>2</sub> nanosheets	40 to 80	37.5	13s/17s	12
NiO–SnO <sub>2</sub> nanofibers	0 to 100	83	22s/44s	13
Polyaniline/WS <sub>2</sub> composite	10 to 97	88.46	56s/70s	14
rGO/MoS <sub>2</sub> hybrid composites	10 to 90	49	17s/474s	15
Single crystalline ZnO nanowire	10 to 90	88	60s/3s	16
Co doped mesoporous TiO <sub>2</sub>	9 to 90	10 <sup>5</sup>	24s/400s	17

WS <sub>2</sub> /GO Nanohybrids	40 to 80	0.044/%RH	25s/29s	18
TiO <sub>2</sub> nanotubes	11 to 95	~57	100s/190s	19
TiO <sub>2</sub> nanowires /Nafion	12 to 97	>1000	<120s/<120s	20
TiO <sub>2</sub> thin film	11 to 97	~10 <sup>2</sup>	10s/176s	21
ZnO nanocrystals	5 to 85	150	50s/6s	22
graphene/TiO <sub>2</sub> composites	12 to 90	10 <sup>2</sup>	128s/68s	23
WO <sub>3</sub> -SnO <sub>2</sub> nanospheres	35 to 98	16.2	8s/29s	24
MoS <sub>2</sub> Thin Film	25 to 40	5.5	250s/250s	25
MoS <sub>2</sub> Nanosheets	10 to 60	~3	9s/17s	26
WS <sub>2</sub> spherical nanoparticle	11 to 97	469	12s/13s	27
VS <sub>2</sub> nanosheets	0 to 100	~325	40s/50s	28
SnSe nanorods	11-97	~100	68/149s	29
Zn <sub>1-x</sub> Ni <sub>x</sub> O nanostructures	33-97	152	27/3 s	30
CoFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> nanoparticles	8-97	~590	25/2.6 s	31
Cu <sub>x</sub> Bi <sub>2</sub> Se <sub>3</sub>	8-97	849	24 s/25 s	<i>This work</i>

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