

# Dynamic control of optical response in layered metal Chalcogenide nanoplates

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## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**SI I.** Materials synthesis and device fabrication

**SI II.** Identification of materials by Raman spectroscopy

**SI III.** Characterization of the crystal structure of Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> nanoplates

**SI IV.** Numerical calculation of reflectivity based on Drude model

**SI V.** Numerical calculation of relative permittivity

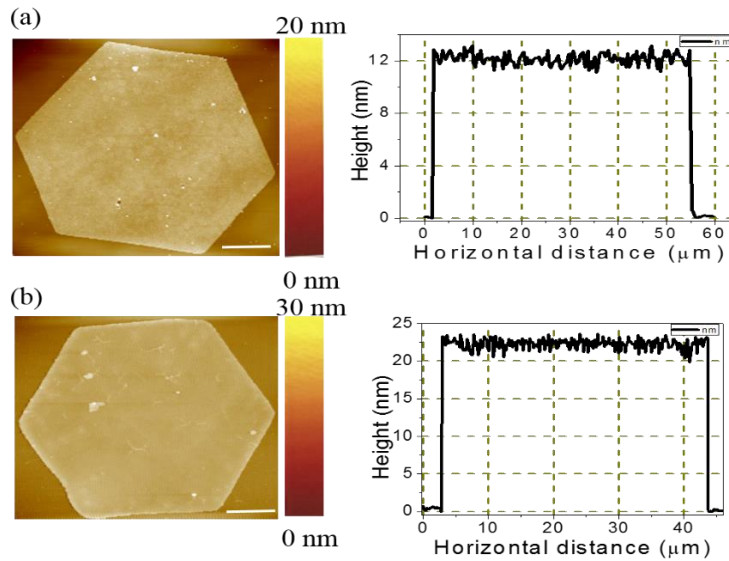
**SI VI.** Consistent results across multiple devices

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## SI I. Materials Synthesis and Device Fabrication

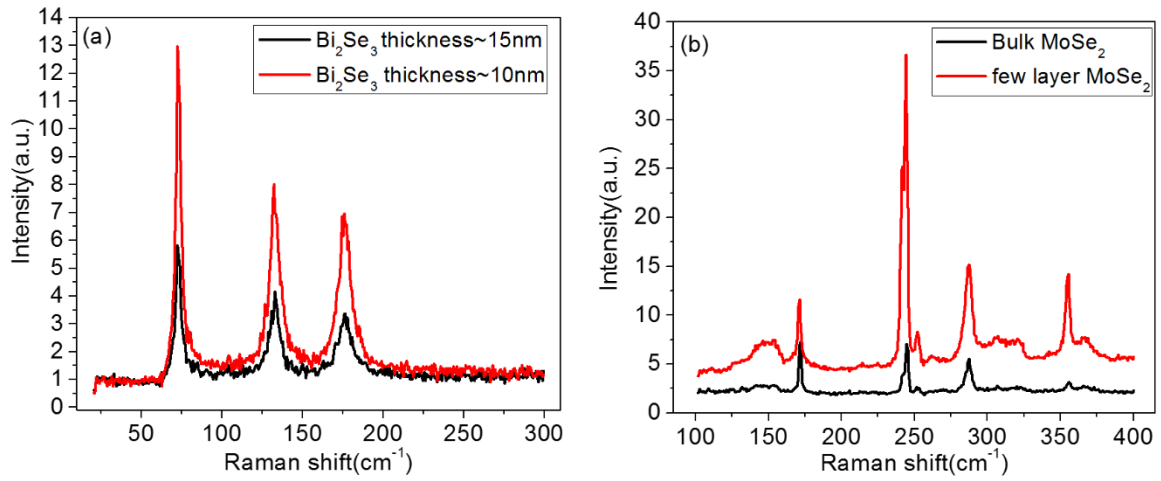
$\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$  single crystals were synthesized by solvothermal synthesis, the details of which were described in the main text. The other layered structure multilayer flakes were prepared using mechanical exfoliation. Experiments were performed on the layered structure nanomaterials using electrical devices fabricated on their surface. The devices were fabricated using conventional photolithography and e-beam deposition techniques, processes with micrometer scale accuracy. The thicknesses of the multiple samples were determined using optical and AFM imaging techniques. The device configurations of  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$  nanoplates and the other layered structure flakes measured in this study were typically  $50\text{ }\mu\text{m}$  wide and  $30\text{ }\mu\text{m}$  long. Reactive ion etching was performed prior to the deposition of gold electrodes. The electrodes were deposited by e-beam evaporation (5 nm Cr, 100 nm Au) patterned via standard photolithography procedures.



Supplementary **Figure S1**. Atomic force microscopy (AFM) image of the  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$  nanoplates. Line profile across the AFM image in (a) and (b), which shows a clear value of around 12 nm and 22 nm for the two nanoplate thickness. Scale bar,  $10\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ .

## SI II. Identification of Materials by Raman Spectroscopy

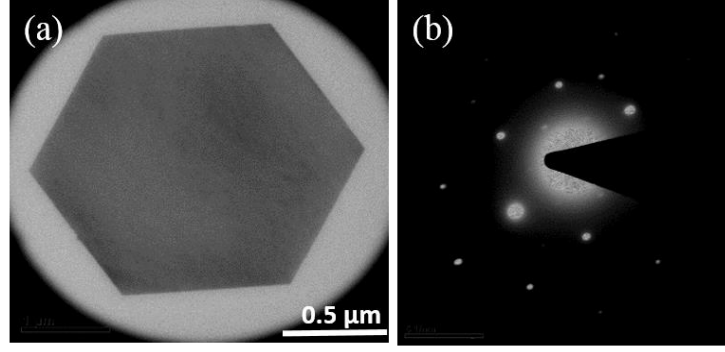
All of the studied layered structure materials were identified using a Micro-Raman spectrometer (LabRAM HR Evolution, HORIBA)) in the scattering configuration excited with laser wavelength  $\lambda = 473$  nm. A typical Raman spectrum consisting of different peaks is shown in Fig.S2, where the corresponding peak locations agree well with the reported Raman spectrum of  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$  nanoplates and  $\text{MoSe}_2$  [1-4].



Supplementary **Figure S2**. Raman spectra of few quintuple layer (FQL)  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$  nanoplates **(a)** and  $\text{MoSe}_2$  **(b)** in the  $10\text{-}450\text{ cm}^{-1}$  region. The corresponding peak locations are consistent with the reported Raman spectrum of  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$  nanoplates and  $\text{MoSe}_2$ .

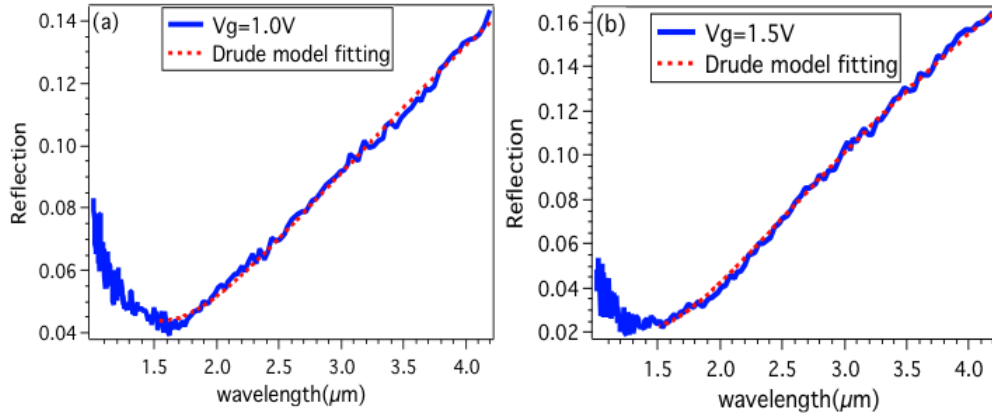
## SI III. Characterization of the Crystal Structure of $\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$ Nanoplates

To confirm the crystallinity of the  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$  nanoplates, we performed transmission electron microscopy (TEM). Fig.S3 **(a)** is a typical low magnification TEM image of the  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$  nanoplates. The electron diffraction results (shown in Fig. S3 **(b)**) demonstrates the single crystalline nature of the nanoplates [5].



Supplementary **Figure S3.** (a) TEM image and (b) electron diffraction pattern of a  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$  nanoplate.

#### **SI IV.** Numerical calculation of reflectivity based on Drude model



Supplementary **Figure S4.** Reflection spectra fitted with Drude model. Experimentally measured reflectance (blue) for a  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$  nanoplate with different ILG voltage and Numerical fitting (red) based on Drude model.

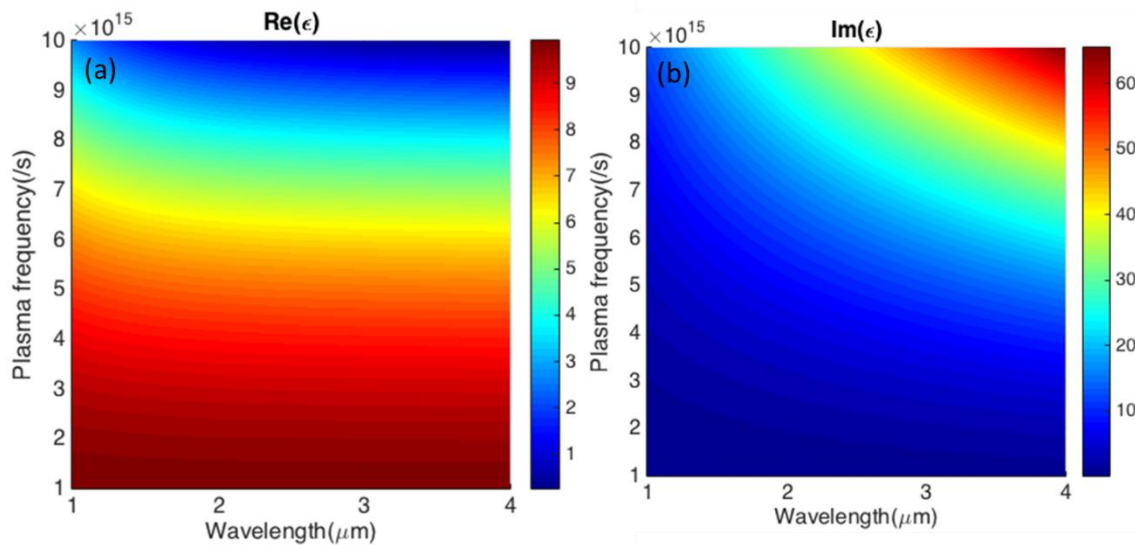
To better study the dynamic plasma frequency of  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$  nanoplates under ILG modulation, we applied the Drude model to our measured results and found that it perfectly fits with the experimental data (seen in Figure S4). The value of the plasma frequency can be obtained from the numerical fitting of each curve. For example, the plasma frequency reaches  $\omega_p = 3.12 \times 10^{15} / s$ , with best fit parameters  $\epsilon_\infty = 9.1$  and  $\Gamma = 2.1 \times 10^{14} / s$ , at the bias voltage

$V_G = 1.5V$ , which yields an extremely high free electron concentration on the order of  $10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ .

This level of electron concentration modulation is one of the great advantages of using the EDL with 2D material systems.

#### **SI V. Numerical calculation of relative permittivity**

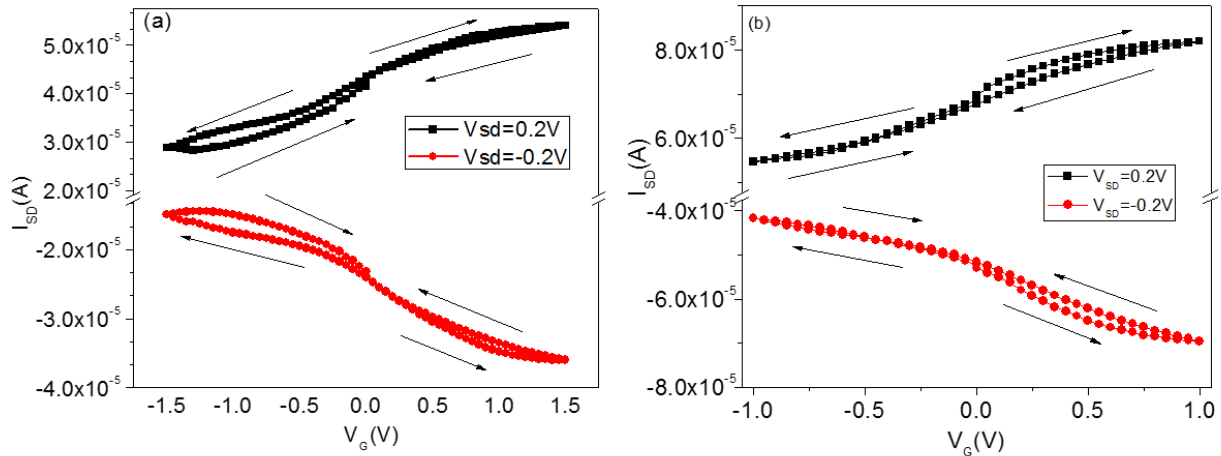
To better interpret the dynamic optical response of  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$  nanoplates under ILG modulation, we calculate the relative permittivity ( $\epsilon$ ) of  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$  under the bias of the ILG voltage. We found that at low frequency regions ( $\omega S \ll 1$ ),  $\text{Re}(\epsilon) \ll \text{Im}(\epsilon)$ , shown in Figure S5. We observe that  $\text{Re}(\epsilon)$  generally decreases with increasing plasma frequency, representative of the increasing free electron concentration. On the other hand,  $\text{Im}(\epsilon)$  shows the opposite trend with increasing plasma frequency. This is expected from the Drude model when the carrier density is extremely high. The dramatic change of  $\text{Im}(\epsilon)$  is primarily due to the huge free electron absorption, which comes from ILG modulation. Such behavior further identifies the increasing amount of free electrons induced by the ILG inside the materials.



Supplementary **Figure 5.** (a) Real part  $\text{Re}(\epsilon)$  and (b) imaginary part  $\text{Im}(\epsilon)$  of the relative permittivity as functions of the plasma frequency induced by the ILG modulation. The calculated  $\text{Im}(\epsilon)$  increases with the increasing plasma frequency at long wavelengths. The simulated parameters based on the experimental reflection spectra:  $\Gamma = 2.1 \times 10^{14} / \text{s}$ , plasma frequency range from  $\omega_p = 1.0 \times 10^{14} / \text{s}$  to  $\omega_p = 1.0 \times 10^{16} / \text{s}$ .

## SI VI. Consistent Results across Multiple Devices

Transport measurements were performed to confirm that the optical modulation in layered materials related to the electronic states modulated with EDLG were consistent across multiple devices. Similar transfer characteristics ( $I_{\text{DS}}-V_{\text{G}}$ ) of the  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$  nanoplates via the IL ([DEME]-[TFSI]) and ([EMIM]-[BF4]) gating effect are shown in S6 (a) and S6 (b), respectively.



Supplementary **Figure S6.** Transfer characteristics ( $I_{\text{DS}}-V_{\text{G}}$ ) of the  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$  nanoplates via IL (a) ([DEME]-[TFSI]) and (b) ([EMIM]-[BF4]) gating effect.

## Supplementary References

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