

Pressure-Tuned Intralayer Exchange in Superlattice-Like MnBi_2Te_4 / $(\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3)_n$ Topological Insulators

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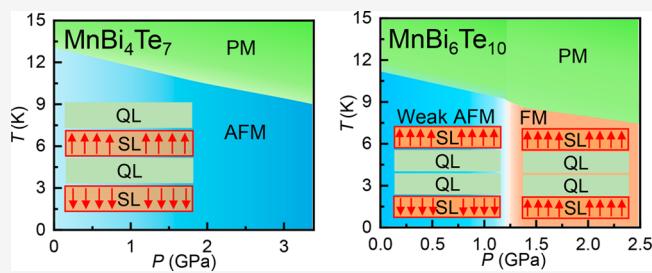
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ABSTRACT: The magnetic structures of $\text{MnBi}_2\text{Te}_4(\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3)_n$ can be manipulated by tuning the interlayer coupling via the number of Bi_2Te_3 spacer layers n , while the intralayer ferromagnetic (FM) exchange coupling is considered too robust to control. By applying hydrostatic pressure up to 3.5 GPa, we discover opposite responses of magnetic properties for $n = 1$ and 2. MnBi_4Te_7 stays at A-type antiferromagnetic (AFM) phase with a decreasing Néel temperature and an increasing saturation field. In sharp contrast, $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ experiences a phase transition from A-type AFM to a quasi-two-dimensional FM state with a suppressed saturation field under pressure. First-principles calculations reveal the essential role of intralayer exchange coupling from lattice compression in determining these magnetic properties. Such magnetic phase transition is also observed in 20% Sb-doped $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ because of the in-plane lattice compression.

KEYWORDS: magnetic topological insulator, hydrostatic pressure, quasi-two-dimensional ferromagnetic state, first-principles calculations, intralayer exchange coupling



In magnetic topological insulators (MTI), the interplay between magnetic order in real space and the topological electronic structure in momentum space gives rise to many novel topological matters and emergent quantum phenomena, such as Weyl Fermions, quantum anomalous Hall effect (QAHE), axion insulator phase, and chiral Majorana modes.^{1–6} A prototypical example is the layered intrinsic MTI MnBi_2Te_4 with the local moments of Mn atoms ferromagnetic (FM) aligned within one layer while adopting an A-type antiferromagnetic (AFM) order along the stacking direction.^{7–12} By manipulating the magnetic order in few-layer MnBi_2Te_4 using film thickness and magnetic field, various topological phases have been experimentally realized, including zero-field QAHE and tunable axion insulator and other high-order Chern insulator phases.^{13–19}

In the family of $\text{MnBi}_2\text{Te}_4(\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3)_n$, the interplay of magnetism and topology can be further enriched by inserting n layers of nonmagnetic topological insulator (TI) Bi_2Te_3 into the van der Waals layered MTI MnBi_2Te_4 .^{20–32} Such heterostructure engineering of the nonmagnetic TI and MTI building blocks not only reveals termination-dependent surface states and hybridization between different building blocks²⁵ but also effectively tunes the interlayer exchange coupling (IEC) between the neighboring magnetic layers, leading to new topological phases associated with different magnetic phases.^{27,30,31} For $n = 1$, the transport and magnetism study of

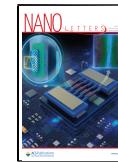
MnBi_4Te_7 shows an A-type AFM state right below Néel temperature (T_N) and a competing magnetic order of FM state at an even lower temperature ($T \sim 1$ K).²² As n goes to 2, with a further weakened interlayer coupling between the magnetic layers, $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ keeps a relatively weak A-type AFM ground-state behavior, with enhanced hysteresis loops in the magnetization curves below 6 K.²⁹ Such magnetic behaviors could be associated with the competition between the weak interlayer exchange coupling and other magnetic interactions.^{22,32} Despite the complicated magnetism, a quasi-two-dimensional (2D) ferromagnet is proposed to dominate the magnetic properties at large n ($n \geq 3$) with a vanishing interlayer coupling.^{30,31} On the other hand, the intralayer exchange coupling is typically considered as robust FM and thus difficult to manipulate by experimentally accessible “knobs”.

As a clean, nonintrusive, reversible, and continuous structure tuning technique, hydrostatic pressure is usually utilized to

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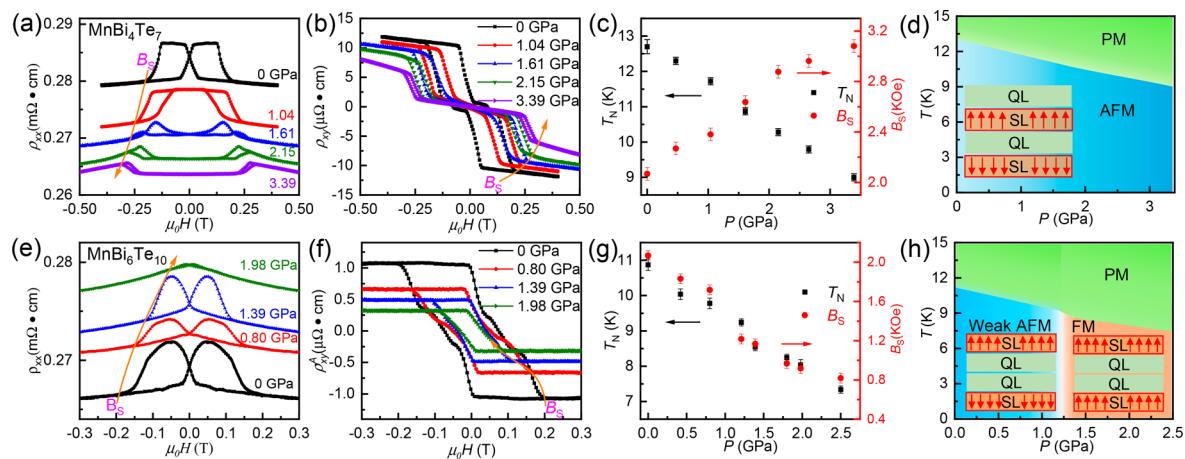


Figure 1. Pressure tuned magnetism of MnBi_4Te_7 and $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$. (a,b) Field dependence of the magneto-resistivity ρ_{xx} (a) and the Hall resistivity ρ_{xy} (b) of MnBi_4Te_7 at $T = 2 \text{ K}$ under different pressure from 0 to 3.39 GPa. The curves of magneto-resistivity at zero pressure are shifted for clarity. (e,f) Field dependence of ρ_{xx} and the anomalous Hall resistivity ρ_{xy}^A of $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ at $T = 2 \text{ K}$ under different pressure. An FM phase occurs for $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ at 1.98 GPa. The orange curved arrows mark the change of saturation field as pressure increases. The evolution of magnetic phase transition temperature (black square) and saturation field (red dot) with pressure are summarized for MnBi_4Te_7 (c) and $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ (g). The magnetic ordering temperature decreases for both crystals as increasing pressure, while the saturation field responds differently. (d) and (h) are the schematic phase diagrams of MnBi_4Te_7 and $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$, respectively. SL and QL represent the MnBi_2Te_4 septuple layer and the Bi_2Te_3 quintuple layer.

modify the interlayer coupling strength by adjusting the interlayer separation in van der Waals structures.^{33–36} In this work, by applying hydrostatic pressure up to 3.5 GPa, we found in $\text{MnBi}_2\text{Te}_4(\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3)_n$ ($n = 1$ and 2) distinct evolution of magnetic properties originated from the manipulation of intralayer exchange coupling. In contrast to the increasing saturation field in MnBi_4Te_7 ($n = 1$), the saturation field of $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ ($n = 2$) decreases by half to about 0.1 T at high pressure. In particular, an FM-like hysteresis of anomalous Hall resistivity and magnetic susceptibility emerges at 1.98 GPa, where the kinks or plateaus associated with AFM state between the polarized FM states vanish completely, suggesting the formation of FM domains. Our first-principles calculation shows that although the interlayer exchange coupling increases with pressure for both $n = 1$ and 2, hydrostatic pressure reduces the intralayer FM exchange coupling by evoking the competition between the AFM-preferred direct exchange and FM-preferred superexchange coupling within the MnBi_2Te_4 layer. Considering the nearly vanishing interlayer coupling in $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ (about 0.01 meV, one order less compared with MnBi_4Te_7), the weakening of the intralayer FM exchange coupling will enhance the effect of fluctuation, including magnetic domains, thermal fluctuation, and other magnetic perturbations. The reduced intralayer magnetization can in turn decrease the interlayer exchange coupling strength (IEC $\propto m_s$) in pressurized $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$, and effectively decouple the adjacent magnetic layers, leading to a magnetic phase transition from weak A-type AFM to quasi-2D-FM state. A similar FM state is also observed in Sb-doped $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ with comparable in-plane lattice compression, providing additional evidence that reduced intralayer FM coupling can decouple the magnetic layers in weakly interlayer coupled MTI. Our results first reveal the delicate role of intralayer exchange coupling in the complex magnetic properties in MTI/TI heterostructures with a variable number of nonmagnetic layers.

The single crystals were grown by flux method and first characterized by single-crystal XRD on both the top and bottom surfaces (Figure S1). Subsequent screening using

magnetic and magneto-transport measurements at ambient pressure was operated before applying high pressure (Figure S2 and S3). The measurement details under high pressure are described in the Supporting Information.

Figure 1a,b present the horizontal and Hall resistivity of MnBi_4Te_7 at various pressure at $T = 2 \text{ K}$. As pressure increases gradually to 3.39 GPa, the saturation field B_s increases from 2.07 to 3.08 kOe, and the hysteresis loops are strongly inhibited, indicating enhanced AFM interlayer exchange coupling. However, with increasing pressure, we observe a monotonic decrease of Néel temperature from 12.7 to 9 K, directly contrasting to what could be expected at an enhanced AFM interlayer exchange coupling.

Figure 1e,g show the pressure-tuned transport behavior of $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$. At ambient pressure, the weakened kinks around zero moment in the hysteresis loop mark the reduced interlayer AFM exchange coupling in $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ as n increases. Similar to MnBi_4Te_7 , the magnetic phase transition temperature of $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ also decreases with increasing pressure. However, as pressure increases, the saturation field of $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ gradually decreases from 0.2 to 0.08 T (Figure 1g). The responses to pressure of both the saturation field and magnetic ordering temperature of $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ are reversible, as shown in Figure S4d. The changes are inconsistent with the expected enhanced AFM interlayer coupling with compression along the c -axis. Note that the magnetic ordering temperature of MnBi_4Te_7 (~13 K),^{22,24} $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ (~11 K),^{27–29} and $\text{MnBi}_8\text{Te}_{13}$ (~10.5 K)^{30,31} are close to that of monolayer MnBi_2Te_4 (~12 K),¹⁴ the decreased magnetic ordering temperature could be related to the lattice compression within the magnetic septuple layer, since hydrostatic pressure simultaneously compresses the in-plane and out-of-plane lattice parameters.

Moreover, a relatively pure FM state emerges at pressure above 1.39 GPa, evidenced by a butterfly-shaped magneto-resistance and disappeared kinks associated with the weak AFM states in anomalous Hall resistance curves. Since no structural phase transitions are expected under pressure below

6 GPa in Bi_2Te_3 , MnBi_2Te_4 , and MnBi_4Te_7 single crystals,^{37–39} it is quite counterintuitive that an FM state emerges as the pressure-induced compression along c -axis will strengthen the AFM interlayer exchange coupling.

To confirm the magnetic phase transition in $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$, we applied the magnetic susceptibility and magnetization measurements under high pressure using a precalibrated Hall sensor. Measurement details are described in the Supporting Information. Figure 2 shows the temperature dependence of

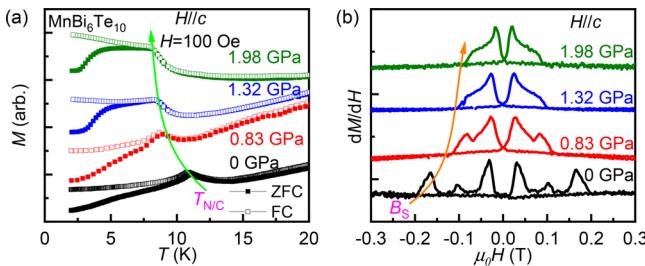


Figure 2. Magnetic susceptibility measurements of $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ under pressure. (a) Temperature dependence of zero-field-cooled (ZFC) and field-cooled (FC) magnetic susceptibility of $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ measured by Hall sensor method at different pressures under an applied magnetic field of 100 Oe along c -axis. (b) Isothermal magnetization of $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ at 2 K at various pressure with magnetic field along c -axis. The curves are shifted for clarity. The green and orange curved arrows mark the evolution of magnetic ordering temperature and saturation field with increasing pressure, respectively.

the magnetic susceptibility and the magnetization curves of $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ under different pressure with $H \parallel c$. The $M-T$ curve at ambient pressure measured by our method shows bifurcation of the zero-field cooling (ZFC) and field cooling (FC) at T_N , which matches well with the $M-T$ curves directly measured by VSM, see Figure S8b. As pressure increases, the ZFC curve changes from a sharp cusp-like shape to a flat dome with increasing FC susceptibility below the magnetic phase transition temperature. The number of peaks on $dM/dH-H$ curve reduces to 2 at 1.98 GPa, marking the spin changes between up and down two states, see Figure 2b. Magnetization measurements show that the sample goes back to its original AFM behavior after releasing the pressure (Figure S5). Based on the experimental observations in both the magneto-transport and magnetization measurements, we conclude that an FM phase transition indeed occurs in $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ as pressure increases.

The magnetic ground states of the layered $\text{MnBi}_2\text{Te}_4(\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3)_n$ compounds are the results of both interlayer and intralayer exchange coupling. While the interlayer coupling is dictated by the superexchange between Mn-3d orbitals in adjacent layers mediated by the p orbitals of Bi and Te atoms in between, the intralayer coupling is determined by the competition between the superexchange and direct exchange, as shown in Figure 3a. The former is between two adjacent Mn atoms mediated by a Te atom with a calculated Mn–Te–Mn bond angle of about 95°. Thus, the superexchange coupling prefers FM state according to the Goodenough–Kanamori–Anderson (GKA) rule.^{40,41} The latter prefers AFM coupling because the direct FM hopping between Mn atoms is forbidden for Mn^{2+} high-spin state (d^5). Because of the large Mn–Mn distance (about 4.4 Å), the direct exchange coupling is much smaller than the super-

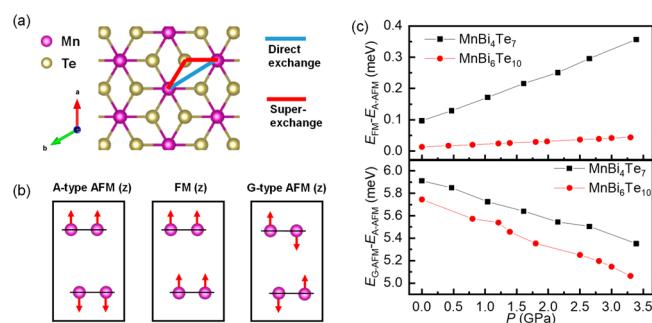


Figure 3. (a) Schematic of the stacking of Mn and its adjacent Te layers with top view, showing the intralayer exchange coupling within a magnetic layer of MnBi_2Te_4 . The intralayer coupling is determined by the competition of the direct exchange coupling between two adjacent Mn atoms (blue) and the superexchange coupling mediated by Te atoms (red). (b) Schematics of the magnetic configurations for A-AFM, FM, and G-AFM phases. The red arrows represent the direction of the magnetic moments. (c) Top panel: the energy difference between FM and A-AFM phases for MnBi_4Te_7 and $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ at different pressure; bottom panel: the energy difference between G-AFM and A-AFM phases for MnBi_4Te_7 and $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ as pressure changes.

exchange. Therefore, the intralayer FM state is dominant in $\text{MnBi}_2\text{Te}_4(\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3)_n$.

To understand the different magnetic behaviors of MnBi_4Te_7 and $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ under pressure, we employ the Heisenberg model to study the interlayer and intralayer exchange coupling parameters in these materials (details can be found in the Supporting Information). Our simulation uses three different magnetic configurations: G-type AFM, A-type AFM, and FM (Figure 3b) to evaluate the strength of the interlayer and intralayer couplings, which can be expressed by the total energy difference $E_{\text{FM}} - E_{\text{A-AFM}}$ and $E_{\text{G-AFM}} - E_{\text{A-AFM}}$, respectively. Our calculation shows that the hydrostatic pressure causes the lattice to shrink both along and perpendicular to the stacking direction (Figure S9). However, hydrostatic pressure monotonically increases the strength of interlayer exchange coupling but decreases the strength of intralayer coupling by about 10% (Figure 3c). The weakened intralayer coupling can be explained by the competition between direct exchange and superexchange. In our calculation, when the pressure increases to 3 GPa, both the Mn–Te bond length and the distance between Mn atoms decrease by about 2%, while the Mn–Te–Mn bond angles are almost unchanged. Thus, the AFM-preferred direct exchange, which has a higher power of correlation to the distance ($\sim d_{\text{Mn-Mn}}^{-5}$),^{42,43} will increase much more than superexchange. Considering the decreasing intralayer FM coupling, the effects of fluctuations, including magnetic domains, thermal fluctuations, and other magnetic perturbations, become more pronounced as pressure increases. The combined effect will reduce intralayer magnetization, causing a decreased magnetic transition temperature and anomalous Hall resistivity for both MnBi_4Te_7 and $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ in Figure 1.

The distinct behavior of B_s and magnetic ground state for different $\text{MnBi}_2\text{Te}_4(\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3)_n$ under pressure can thus be understood by investigating the change of interlayer and intralayer exchange coupling for different numbers of Bi_2Te_3 spacing layers n . The intralayer magnetization decreases similarly for MnBi_4Te_7 ($n = 1$) and $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ ($n = 2$), as DFT calculation shows weakened intralayer FM coupling with

increasing pressure (Figure 3c). The decreased total magnetic moment (m_s) from one magnetic septuple layer leads to a negative contribution to the interlayer exchange coupling (IEC $\propto m_s$).^{33,44} Such a reduced intralayer magnetization effect will not be captured by the DFT calculated change of interlayer coupling because DFT calculation considers a perfect unit cell with certain magnetic configurations at zero temperature. Considering that the DFT calculated interlayer coupling is on the order of 10^{-1} meV for MnBi_4Te_7 and 10^{-2} meV for $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$, the reduced intralayer magnetization could play a more significant role in effectively reducing the interlayer coupling in $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ than MnBi_4Te_7 . For pressurized MnBi_4Te_7 , the experimentally increased B_s and strongly suppressed hysteresis loops under high pressure indicate enhanced interlayer AFM coupling. However, for pressurized $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$, B_s decreases over pressure, and a quasi-2D FM state emerges after the weak AFM kinks disappear around 1.5 GPa, consistent with our scenario of reduced and eventually decoupled magnetic layers due to reduced intralayer FM coupling. Coincidentally, the saturation field of the pressure-induced FM phase in $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ is also comparable to what was observed in the FM axion insulator $\text{MnBi}_8\text{Te}_{13}$.^{30,31} To confirm whether the lattice compression alters the topological nature of the band structure, we have performed theoretical calculations, and the details are listed in the Supporting Information (Figure S10 and Table S1). Under 0 and 2 GPa, both MnBi_4Te_7 and $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ exhibit robust topological nontrivial phases. Therefore, an FM topological state is expected in $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ when pressure tunes its magnetic phase to FM.

To further validate our understanding of the competing intralayer exchange coupling, we investigated the magnetic properties of Sb-doped $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$, where the in-plane lattice constants are effectively reduced while the interlayer distance (c -axis lattice parameter) stays almost unchanged.^{45–49} Compared with the pressurized case, since there is little lattice change along c -axis to enhance the interlayer coupling, the Sb-doped samples would enter the FM phase at a smaller intralayer lattice compression. We target 20% Sb-doped $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ sample, as the in-plane lattice constant change is near but slightly lower than that of the pressurized $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ near the phase transition from AFM to quasi-2D-FM state. The Sb-doped $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ crystals are prepared by replacing the Bi component with a molar ratio 1/4 of Sb to Bi in the original recipe. The actual composition is found to be $\text{Mn}_{0.77}\text{Sb}_{1.46}\text{Bi}_{4.54}\text{Te}_{9.54}$ by EDX, determined from the average of 18 randomly selected spots on three samples. The actual Sb concentration is about 1.2 times the nominal ratio, similar to Sb-doped MnBi_4Te_7 .⁴⁸ Powder and single-crystal XRD results (Figure S11) show a 0.65% contraction of the in-plane lattice constant, while the out-of-plane lattice component stays around $101.985(8)\text{\AA}$ (with a negligible increase of 0.07%). Interestingly, Figure 4a shows a large bifurcation of ZFC and FC curves at a magnetic ordering temperature of 11.3 K, which is similar to the FM behavior of $\text{MnBi}_8\text{Te}_{13}$ ^{30,31} and pressurized $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ at 1.98 GPa (Figure 2a), but in contrast with the sharp cusp AFM feature of the parent compound.^{27–29} Moreover, the magnetic susceptibility of Sb-doped $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ is one order larger than that of the parent. The magnetization curves with H/ab and H/c at different temperatures in Figure 4b also reveal a similar FM hysteresis loop as observed in the anomalous Hall effect of the parent at 1.98 GPa.

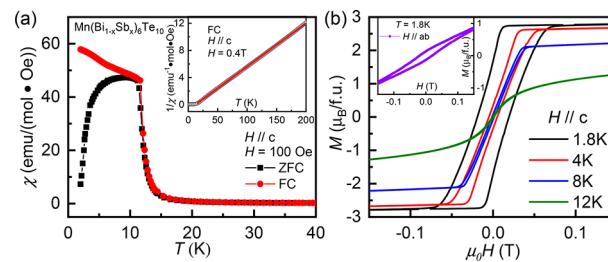


Figure 4. Temperature dependence of ZFC and FC magnetic susceptibility of Sb-doped $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ with an applied magnetic field of 100 Oe along the c -axis. The inset shows the temperature-dependent field cooled inverse susceptibility at $H = 0.4\text{T}$ for H/c , and the red line is the fitting result of Curie–Weiss law. (b) Isothermal magnetization curves of the Sb-doped $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ below 15 K for H/c and H/ab (the inset). The FM loops show no kinks or plateaus associated with AFM states up to the magnetic ordering temperature of 11.3 K.

The observation of such an FM state in Sb-doped $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ strongly supports our scenario that reduced intralayer FM coupling due to in-plane lattice compression can trigger the AFM to quasi-2D-FM phase transition in $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$, similar to the pressurized case. It is worth noting that Sb doping may also promote Mn^{Sb} antisite defects since the electronegativity and ionic size of Sb are closer to Mn than that of Bi. The exchange coupling between the original Mn and Mn occupied on Bi/Sb site within MnBi_2Te_4 layer is reported to be ferrimagnetic coupling,^{46,48,50} which can also affect the magnetism. Considering the migration of Mn and other defects, the competition between intralayer and interlayer coupling can be more complicated, leading to complex magnetic phase transitions observed in MnSb_2Te_4 and heavily Sb-doped MnBi_4Te_7 .^{48–50} However, in our case, the Sb component is relatively small. The density of $\text{Mn}^{\text{Sb/Bi}}$ antisite defects is comparable to the parent (1% ~ 2.1%) on the second atomic layer of the three terminations (Table S2), revealed by the scanning tunneling microscope images (Figure S13). We believe that the ferrimagnetic coupling induced by Sb doping does not play a dominant role in changing the magnetic properties. Unlike the coexistence of AFM and FM phases in Sb-doped MnBi_4Te_7 for a much higher doping level $x \sim 0.48$,⁴⁸ both the $M-T$ and $M-H$ curves of our 20% Sb-doped $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ show no signature of AFM phase. In addition, comparing with the reported ferrimagnetic behaviors in MnSb_2Te_4 ^{46,47,50} and the heavily Sb-doped MnBi_4Te_7 (83%),⁴⁸ our 20% Sb-doped $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ shows a linear $1/\chi \sim T$ curve at paramagnetic state. The higher FC magnetic susceptibility ($58 \text{ emu mol}^{-1} \text{ Oe}^{-1}$) and saturation moment at 2 K ($2.84 \mu_B/\text{Mn}$) are both close to those of the FM $\text{MnBi}_8\text{Te}_{13}$ ($3.1 \mu_B/\text{Mn}$).^{30,31} Therefore, the successful realization of quasi-2D-FM state in Sb-doped $\text{MnBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ provides additional evidence that the intralayer coupling plays an important role in the magnetism of weakly coupled magnetic topological insulator heterostructures.

In summary, we have systematically studied the magnetic and magneto-transport properties of $\text{MnBi}_2\text{Te}_4(\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3)_n$ for $n = 1$ and 2 under hydrostatic pressure up to 3.5 GPa. For $n = 1$, the saturation field increases, and the Néel temperature decreases as increasing pressure due to an enhanced interlayer AFM coupling competing combined with a weakened intralayer FM coupling. For $n = 2$, the interlayer AFM coupling is weak enough, so that as pressure increases, the

decreased intralayer FM exchange coupling can effectively reduce the interlayer exchange coupling, resulting in a magnetic phase transition from A-type AFM to a quasi-2D FM state at around 1.5 GPa. Our results show that the intralayer exchange coupling plays a significant role in determining the magnetic properties of weakly coupled $MnBi_2Te_4(Bi_2Te_3)_n$. The intralayer exchange coupling can be delicately tuned by lattice engineering, such as pressure and chemical substitution. We show that an intrinsic FM state can be realized in both pressurized $MnBi_6Te_{10}$ and Sb-doped $MnBi_6Te_{10}$. Our results shed light on the intriguing magnetism in the family of $MnBi_2Te_4(Bi_2Te_3)_n$ and open up opportunities for the realization of various topological phases determined by their magnetic phases.

METHODS

The single crystals were grown by flux method and confirmed by X-ray diffraction. Subsequent screening using magnetic and magneto-transport measurements were performed at physical property measurement system (PPMS). Hydrostatic pressure was applied by a self-clamped BeCu-NiCrAl double-wall piston–cylinder cell with a maximum pressure of 3.5 GPa, using Daphne 7373 oil as a pressure transmitting medium. The real Sb doping ratio was measured by energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDX). The scanning tunneling microscope (STM) measurements were performed on *in situ* cleaved surfaces of $Mn(Bi_{1-x}Sb_x)_6Te_{10}$ using commercial STM (Unisoku USM 1300) operating at 77K.

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.nanolett.1c01874>.

Single crystal growth method and structure characterization of $MnBi_4Te_7$ and $MnBi_6Te_{10}$; Magnetic and transport properties of the crystals at ambient pressure; Measurement details of the magneto-transport properties under high pressure; Magnetic susceptibility and magnetization of $MnBi_6Te_{10}$ under high pressure measured by precalibrated Hall sensor; DFT calculation method; Calculated lattice compression and topological properties under pressure for both $MnBi_4Te_7$ and $MnBi_6Te_{10}$; Crystal structure and magnetic properties of 20% Sb-doped $MnBi_6Te_{10}$; Defect statistics of $Mn(Bi_{1-x}Sb_x)_6Te_{10}$ ($x = 0$ and 0.2) measured by scanning tunneling microscope (PDF)

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Author Contributions

¹J.S. and Y.L. contributed equally. Y.Z. and Q.L. are responsible for the project. M.Z., X.M. and R.L. performed the single crystal growth and XRD characterization. J.S. performed the whole magnetic and transport measurements at different pressures with J.L. and Y.S. F.J. and W.W. performed the magnetic measurement at ambient pressure. Y.L. performed the DFT calculations with the help from M.G. X.W. and K.W. performed the STM measurements. J.S., Y.L., C.L., Q.L., and Y.Z. analyzed the data. J.S., Y.L., Q.L., and Y.Z. wrote the paper, and all authors participated in the discussions of the results.

Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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