Electronic Nematic States Tuned by Isoelectronic Substitution in Bulk FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$

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Isoelectronic substitution is an ideal tuning parameter to alter electronic states and correlations in iron-based superconductors. As this substitution takes place outside the conducting Fe planes, the electronic behaviour is less affected by the impurity scattering experimentally and relevant key electronic parameters can be accessed. In this short review, I present the experimental progress made in understanding the electronic behaviour of the nematic electronic superconductors, FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$. A direct signature of the nematic electronic state is in-plane anisotropic distortion of the Fermi surface triggered by orbital ordering effects and electronic interactions that result in multi-band shifts detected by ARPES. Upon sulphur substitution, the electronic correlations and the Fermi velocities decrease in the tetragonal phase. Quantum oscillations are observed for the whole series in ultra-high magnetic fields and show a complex spectra due to the presence of many small orbits. Effective masses associated to the largest orbit display non-divergent behaviour at the nematic end point ($x \sim 0.175(5)$), as opposed to critical spin-fluctuations in other iron pnictides. Magnetotransport behaviour has a strong deviation from the Fermi liquid behaviour and linear T resistivity is detected at low temperatures inside the nematic phase, where scattering from low energy spin-fluctuations are likely to be present. The superconductivity is not enhanced in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ and there are no divergent electronic correlations at the nematic end point. These manifestations indicate a strong coupling with the lattice in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ and a pairing mechanism likely promoted by spin fluctuations.

Keywords: electronic structure, nematicity, superconducitivity, quantum oscillations, magnetotransport

1 INTRODUCTION

Nematic electronic states have been suggested to play an important role in understanding the electronic behavior of high temperature superconductors like cuprates and iron-based superconductors, quantum Hall systems, and Sr$_3$Ru$_2$O$_7$ [1]. Often the nematic electronic state breaks the rotational symmetry of a tetragonal plane lattice from four-fold symmetric (C_4) down to two-fold symmetric (C_2) [1]. This symmetry breaking is expected to have a number of consequences on the electronic properties leading to a series of effects involving anisotropic single-particle properties, showing a distorted Fermi surface (that can be triggered like a Pomeranchuk instability in the presence of interactions [2]), anisotropic spin-fluctuation spectra, and anisotropic transport properties that can lead to non-Fermi-liquid behavior [3]. Theoretically, in the proximity to a nematic quantum critical point, the nematic fluctuations with wave-vector $q = 0$ can enhance the critical temperature by pairing through the exchange of nematic fluctuations in all symmetry channels [4, 5]. In real systems, the nematic electronic phase is intimately coupled with the

lattice. This coupling has significant consequences on the observed response, such as the presence of the tetragonal-to-orthorhombic structural transition at the same temperature where the nematic electronic order develops. This finite coupling of the electronic system with the lattice is expected to alter the response of the nematic critical fluctuations on superconductivity and the non-Fermi liquid power-law dependencies in transport [6–9].

Iron-based superconductors offer a unique playground to understand unconventional superconductivity and explore the normal competing electronic phases, such as nematic electronic phases and spin-density wave phases. Often the nematic and spin-density phases neighbor each other in the phase diagrams of iron-based superconductors, making it difficult to assess whether the spin or nematic fluctuations are the most relevant for stabilizing superconductivity [10]. A unique system, the chalcogenides FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$, provides an essential route to investigate the interplay between nematicity and superconductivity, in the absence of long-range magnetism. Furthermore, the isoelectronic substitution can access the experimental manifestations around a putative nematic critical point, undisturbed by the presence of a magnetic critical point, as found in other systems, like BaFe$_2$(As$_{1-x}$P$_x$)$_2$ [11]. The parent compound of this family, FeSe, displays a nematic electronic phase and a tetragonal-to-orthorhombic transition below 90 K [12] and no long range magnetic order was detected despite a rich spectrum of low and high-energy spin fluctuations [13–15].

The bulk superconductivity of FeSe has a relatively low critical temperature close to 9 K but it can be enhanced toward 40 K by applied external pressure [16, 17]. The nematic phase of FeSe is also suppressed at low pressures [16–19] before a new magnetic state is stabilized at high pressures [19, 20], that competes with the high-T_c phase [17]. Besides applied pressure, the bulk superconductivity of FeSe can be enhanced toward 40 K via the intercalation between the van der Waals layers of a molecular spacer [21], and by gating of thin flakes [22]. In a monolayer on FeSe, on a suitable substrate, the transition temperatures reach record values toward 65 K; a strong interfacial electron-phonon coupling and a charge transfer through the interface is proposed as a source for this two-dimensional high-T_c superconductivity [23, 24]. This effect is surprisingly absent in a monolayer of FeS [25] and in the absence of substrate in thin flakes of FeSe [26].

Isoelectronic substitution is a clean and efficient way to tune phase diagrams of iron-based superconductors, by gently suppressing the relevant electronic interactions and competing electronic phases with superconductivity, and to access quantum critical points [34]. For the FeSe family this is achieved by replacing elements with a similar number of electrons outside the Fe planes, using sulphur or tellurium ions on selenium ions sites. The availability of single crystals of these materials have allowed intense interest and study of their physical properties, summarized in recent reviews in Refs. 15, 35–37. Furthermore, by combining physical and chemical pressures, the relative position of the nematic electronic phase in relation to the spin-density wave phase can be varied and thus the influence of two competing electronic phases on superconductivity can be disentangled [38,

39]. The scope of this review is to summarize the recent experimental efforts in understanding the electronic behavior of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ that can provide a unique insight into the role played by the nematicity, Fermi surfaces, proximity to a putative nematic critical point and electronic correlations in relation to superconductivity in the absence of any long-range magnetic order.
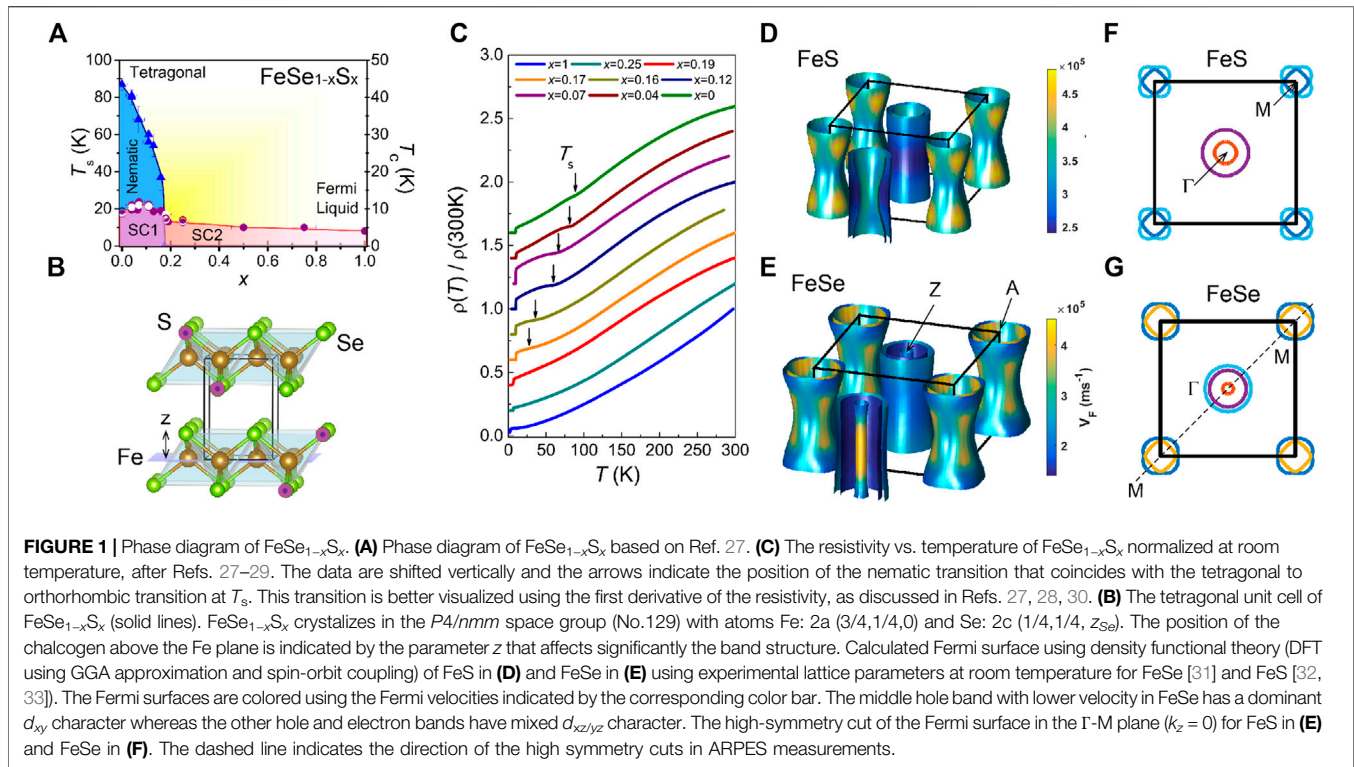
2 PHASE DIAGRAM OF FESE$_{1-x}$S$_X$

Figure 1A shows the phase diagram of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ as a function of isoelectronic substitution with sulphur obtained from transport measurements. The isoelectronic substitution achieved by replacing selenium ions for sulfur ions outside the Fe plane causes an positive internal chemical pressure as these ions have different ionic radii (S^{2-} is 1.70 Å compared with 1.87 Å for Se^{2-}) [40, 41]. The nematic electronic phase of FeSe, due to its finite coupling with the underlying lattice, triggers a structural transition from a tetragonal to an orthorhombic phase at T_s [12]. This transition gives rise to a well-defined anomaly in the transport measurements (**Figure 1C**) that helps to build the nematic phase diagram and to identify the expected position of each measured single crystal inside the nematic phase, as shown in **Figure 1A**.

The isoelectronic substitution with sulfur in FeSe leads to the efficient suppression of the nematic electronic state, similarly to the effect of applied pressure [42] (**Figure 1A**). In contrast to applied pressure, the nematic phase can be completely suppressed with sulfur substitution and no spin-density wave phase was detected for any available single crystals. The lowest detected value of T_s is about 25 K, followed by an abrupt drop at the nematic end point (NEP) which occurs close to $x \sim 0.175(5)$, [27, 29, 40, 43, 44]. Thus, FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ family is unique and permits the exploration of the nematic electronic phase transition in the vicinity of a putative nematic critical point.

Inside the nematic phase, the superconducting transition temperature displays a small dome reaching $T_c \sim 11$ K close to $x \sim 0.11$, varying from 8.7 (3) K for FeSe inside the nematic phase toward 6.5–5 K just outside it [29, 30, 44, 45]. For higher x values inside the tetragonal phase, the superconductivity hardly changes reaching only 4.5 (5) K toward FeS [32, 33]. The suppression of the nematic phase transition in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ coincides with a decrease in the superconducting transition temperature T_c close to NEP. STM studies have detected a rather abrupt change in the superconducting order parameter at the nematic phase boundaries, implying that different types of pairing may be operational inside (SC1) and outside the nematic phase (SC2), as shown in **Figure 1A** [30, 46]. Recently, it has been suggested theoretically that a topological transition associated with the creation of a Bogoliubov Fermi surface could occur as a function of x in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ [47, 48].

In order to understand in depth the electronic properties of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ a good knowledge of the exact composition and the sulfur variation in each batch is required. This can be challenging for techniques, like neutron-diffraction and muon spin rotation, that require a large mass of sample made of hundreds of small

FIGURE 1 | Phase diagram of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$. **(A)** Phase diagram of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ based on Ref. 27. **(C)** The resistivity vs. temperature of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ normalized at room temperature, after Refs. 27–29. The data are shifted vertically and the arrows indicate the position of the nematic transition that coincides with the tetragonal to orthorhombic transition at T_s. This transition is better visualized using the first derivative of the resistivity, as discussed in Refs. 27, 28, 30. **(B)** The tetragonal unit cell of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ (solid lines). FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ crystalizes in the $P4/nmm$ space group (No.129) with atoms Fe: 2a (3/4,1/4,0) and Se: 2c (1/4,1/4, z_{Se}). The position of the chalcogen above the Fe plane is indicated by the parameter z that affects significantly the band structure. Calculated Fermi surface using density functional theory (DFT using GGA approximation and spin-orbit coupling) of FeS in **(D)** and FeSe in **(E)** using experimental lattice parameters at room temperature for FeSe [31] and FeS [32, 33]). The Fermi surfaces are colored using the Fermi velocities indicated by the corresponding color bar. The middle hole band with lower velocity in FeSe has a dominant d_{xy} character whereas the other hole and electron bands have mixed $d_{xz/yz}$ character. The high-symmetry cut of the Fermi surface in the Γ-M plane ($k_z = 0$) for FeS in **(E)** and FeSe in **(F)**. The dashed line indicates the direction of the high symmetry cuts in ARPES measurements.

single crystals [49]. At room temperature FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ crystalizes in the $P4/nmm$ space group (No. 129), as shown in **Figure 1B**. The lattice parameters of FeSe are $a = 3.7651$ Å, $c = 5.5178$ Å, $z_{Se} = 0.2672$ [31] whereas FeS has a much smaller c axis ($a = 3.6802$ Å, $c = 5.0307$ Å, $z_S = 0.2523$) [32, 33]. The lattice parameters measured by X-ray diffraction for each crystal of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ can be used to determine the composition of each sample. Assuming the formation of a solid solution as a function of composition, the values of the lattice parameters at room temperature, p, (that can be a,b and c or $z_{Se/S}$) for a certain composition x can be estimated using an empirical Vegard's law $p_x = xp_S + (1-x) p_{Se}$

2.1 Single Crystal Growth

Single crystals of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ are normally grown by the KCl/AlCl$_3$ chemical vapor transport method from the FeSe end toward $x \sim 0.4$ [12, 29, 40, 43, 44, 50, 51]. The growth of higher concentrations and FeS was achieved using a hydrothermal reaction of iron powder with sulfide solution, which in general is a more invasive method and can lead to single crystals with higher concentration of impurities [29, 32, 33, 52]. Epitaxial thin films of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ with x < 0.43 were grown via pulsed laser deposition [53]. A potential anomaly was observed in the resistivity curves for films with large x, suggested to be linked to a magnetic transition [53], but these findings have not been yet confirmed in single crystals [44, 53]. The exact x composition for samples in each batch is normally checked using compositional analysis using energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDX) or electron-probe micro-analysis (EPMA) [12, 27, 44, 50, 53]. The nominal composition, x_{nom}, used during the growth process is

often smaller than the real composition x (by about 80%) and the higher the composition the larger degree of variation occurs within the same batch [44, 53]. For example, the phase diagrams of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ reported in Refs. 54, 55 uses the nominal values x_{nom}. Thus, the linear resistivity in 35T occurs *inside* the nematic phase, as the measured zero resistivity shows an anomaly at $T_s \sim 51$ K for a nominal composition $x_{nom} \sim 0.16$ that would correspond around $x \sim 0.13$ [28]. The residual resistivity ratio, defined as the ratio between room temperature resistivity and the resistivity at the onset of superconductivity, varies between 15 and 44 [27, 28] and it is often used as a proxy to assess the quality of each single crystal. In high magnetic field, quantum oscillations were observed for all composition of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ reflecting their high quality with large mean free path (up to ~350 Å) [27, 39]. For higher x composition, the mean free path decreases slightly and new hexagonal phases could be stabilized [27]. The superconductivity of Fe$_{1+\delta}$Se can also be destroyed by very small changes in its stoichiometry [31].

3 ELECTRONIC STRUCTURE OF FESE$_{1-x}$S$_X$

The main features of the electronic structure of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ can be understood by considering the two-dimensional square lattice of Fe ions, separated by Se/S atoms residing above and below the Fe layer, as shown in **Figure 1B**. Due to the strong bonding between the Fe-Fe and Fe-(Se/S) sites, an Fe atom can be placed inside the center of an almost perfect tetrahedron of Fe(Se/S)$_4$ that determines the electronic properties of these materials. Band structure calculations show that the Fermi surface of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ consists of well-separated hole pockets at the center of the

Brillouin zone and electron pockets at the zone corners that form quasi-two dimensional Fermi surfaces, as shown in **Figures 1D,E**. The position of the chalcogen ion in relation to the Fe plane, z, affects significantly the predicted number and the orbital character of the hole bands, FeSe having an additional middle hole band with d_{xy} character which is pushed below the Fermi level in FeS (**Figures 1D,E**). There are two predicted cylindrical electron bands which hardly change in shape across this series, similar to the isoelectronic series BaFe$_2$(As$_{1-x}$P$_x$)$_2$ [56]. The positive chemical pressure in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ results in a lattice contraction and the reduction of the c axis [41] and it would bring the Fe(Se/S) layers closer together, increasing the bandwidth and potentially leading to the suppression of the electronic correlations [29, 57]. As discussed below, DFT calculations provide essential guide to understand the origin of the observed Fermi surfaces of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$, but the size are smaller, the number of hole bands is reduced compared with calculations and the k_z dependence is changed.

4 ARPES STUDIES OF FESE$_{1-x}$S$_X$

ARPES is highly suited for the exploration of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ as these systems can be easily cleaved *in-situ* due to weak van der Waals bonds between the FeSe layers which also enable the development of devices of two-dimensional superconductors by mechanical exfoliation [22, 26]. Furthermore, ARPES studies can evaluate the role of orbital character on the nematic electronic states, as the matrix element effects affect the intensity of different bands with different orbital character. In certain conditions, ARPES spectra of iron-based superconductors does not show certain branches due to the underlying symmetry, in particular for the electron bands [59–61], as the intensity depends strongly on the polarisation of the incident beam as well as the incident photon energy. A representation of the orbital character of different pockets at high symmetry points is shown in **Figure 2H**.
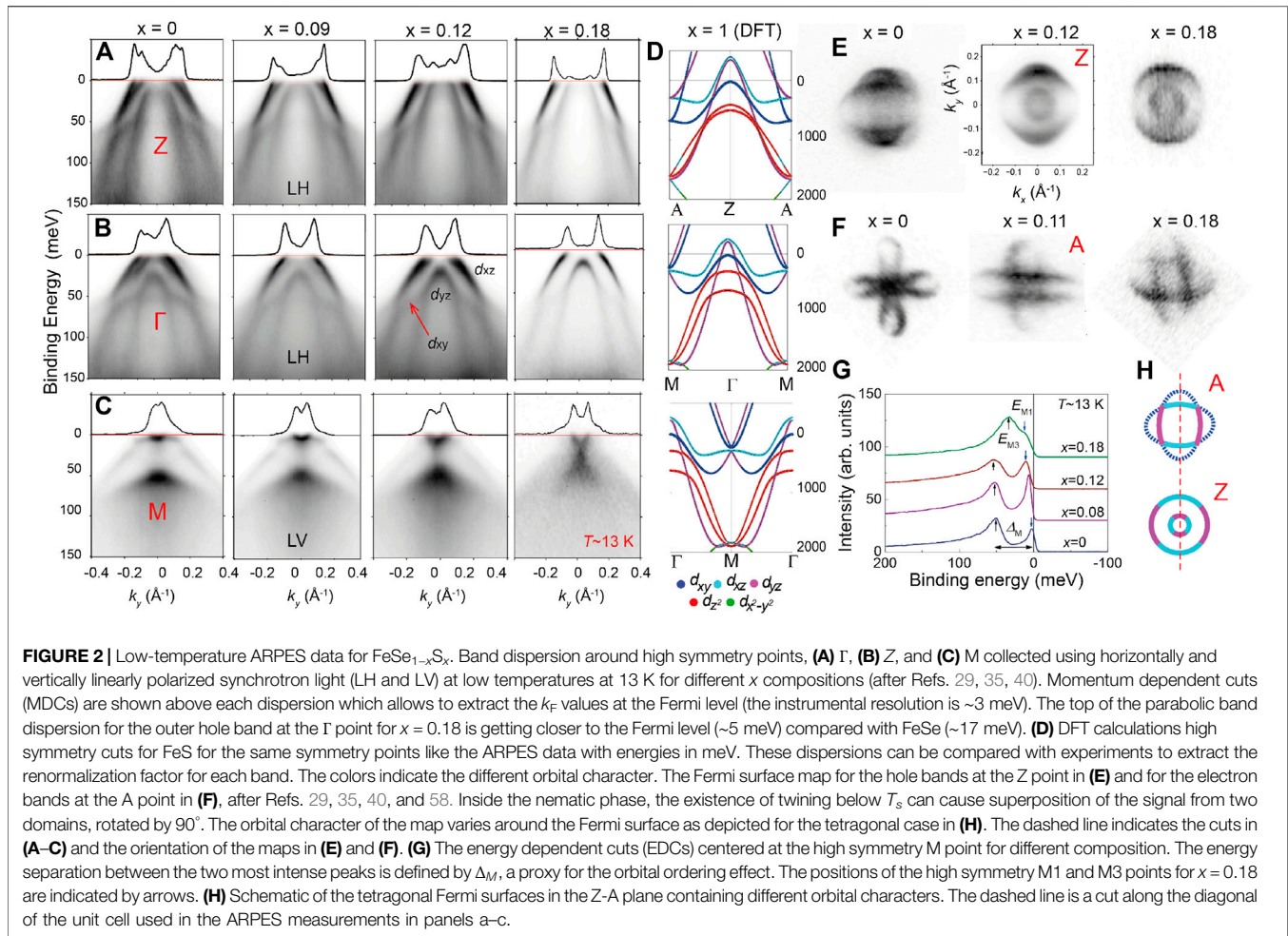
Extensive experimental ARPES studies on FeSe found that system has many relevant electronic ingredients for a multiband system [35, 59, 62–66]. The experimental Fermi surface of FeSe is unusually small having 2 electron pockets and a single hole pocket (instead of 3), a factor 5 smaller than that predictions of the band-structure calculations (**Figure 1E**). Such a small Fermi surface could be sensitive to topological changes in magnetic fields or under applied strain. To bring the DFT calculated Fermi surfaces in agreement with experiments, band shifts need to be applied in opposite direction for hole and electrons of more than 200 meV for FeSe [62] and less than 100 meV for FeS [67]. Band shifts also occur at high temperatures inside the tetragonal phase of FeSe and these effects are caused by higher energy interactions [68] as well as the changes in the chemical potential [69], as found in many iron-based superconductors [70]. Furthermore, like many other iron chalcogenides, FeSe exhibits strong orbitally-dependent electronic correlations due to the larger band renormalization factor ~7–9 of the d_{xy} band compared with ~3–4 for the $d_{xz/yz}$ band [62, 71]. These values are obtained by comparing the experimental band dispersion to those from DFT calculations

in the tetragonal phase, as shown in **Figure 1** [62, 71]. At high binding energies, ARPES spectra detected Hubbard-like bands suggesting the existence of incoherent many-body excitations originating from Fe $3d$ states, in addition to the renormalized quasiparticle bands near the Fermi level [63, 72]. Many high energy features of the observed ARPES data can be accounted for by considering the strong local Coulomb interactions on the spectral function via dynamical mean-field theory, including the formation of a Hubbard-like band [63, 72]. Another inherent challenge for ARPES studies inside the nematic phase is the likely presence of sample twinning (rotated by 90°), by cooling thorough the structural transition, and a lot of recent effort has been dedicated to address this issue by applying strain to FeSe [65, 66, 73].

4.1 Hole Pockets of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$

The evolution of the hole pockets of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ with x substitution for the two high symmetry points Z (at the top of the Brillouin zone) and Γ (at the center of the Brillouin zone) at low temperatures is shown in **Figures 2A,B**, respectively. The observed energy dispersions of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ are all renormalized and shifted, as compared to the DFT dispersions, leading to much smaller hole and electron pockets, as compared with calculations [62]. The renormalization values corresponding to the two main hole dispersions (with d_{xz}/d_{xz} orbital character) are around 3–4 and hardly change for any compositions inside the nematic phase toward $x \sim 0.180.18$, but they are reduced to a factor of ~1–2.3 for FeS, suggesting that the suppression of electronic correlations occurs from FeSe toward FeS [29, 57]. Additionally, the highly renormalized d_{xy} band, found at ~50 meV below the Fermi level, remains relatively unaffected across the nematic phase transition to $x \sim 0.18$ and it cannot be resolved for FeS due to the disorder effects [29]. The d_{xy} hole band is notoriously difficult to observe in experiments due to matrix element effects and being strongly incoherent in iron-chalcogenides [74] but its dispersion can be revealed due to band mixing caused by the spin-orbit coupling effects [29, 75]. As a function of x substitution, the Fermi velocities increase by ~10% inside the nematic phase but more significantly outside toward FeS, reflecting the suppression of electronic correlations, as shown in **Figure 4E**.

The ARPES studies at the two high symmetry points using different incident energies allows for the evaluation of the k_z hole dispersion of the cylindrical Fermi surfaces of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ and the sensitivity of the second inner hole band to any band shifts inside the nematic phase. The inner hole band, which forms a small 3D inner hole pocket around the Z point, is observed in the tetragonal phase of FeSe but it is pushed below the Fermi level inside the nematic phase [62]. With sulfur substitution, the inner hole band is shifted gradually up and it crosses the Fermi level only at the Z point from $x \sim 0.11$ [40] and grows in size at $x \sim 0.18$. The inner hole band does not cross the Fermi level at the Γ point for any compositions up to $x \sim 0.18$; however, it has been suggested that this pocket could grow in size and become a two-dimensional cylinder for FeS (**Figures 1D,E**) [29, 57, 67]. Interestingly, the Fermi surface of the tetragonal phase for $x \sim 0.18$ is very similar to the Fermi surface of FeSe at high temperature. Thus, there is a direct correspondence between
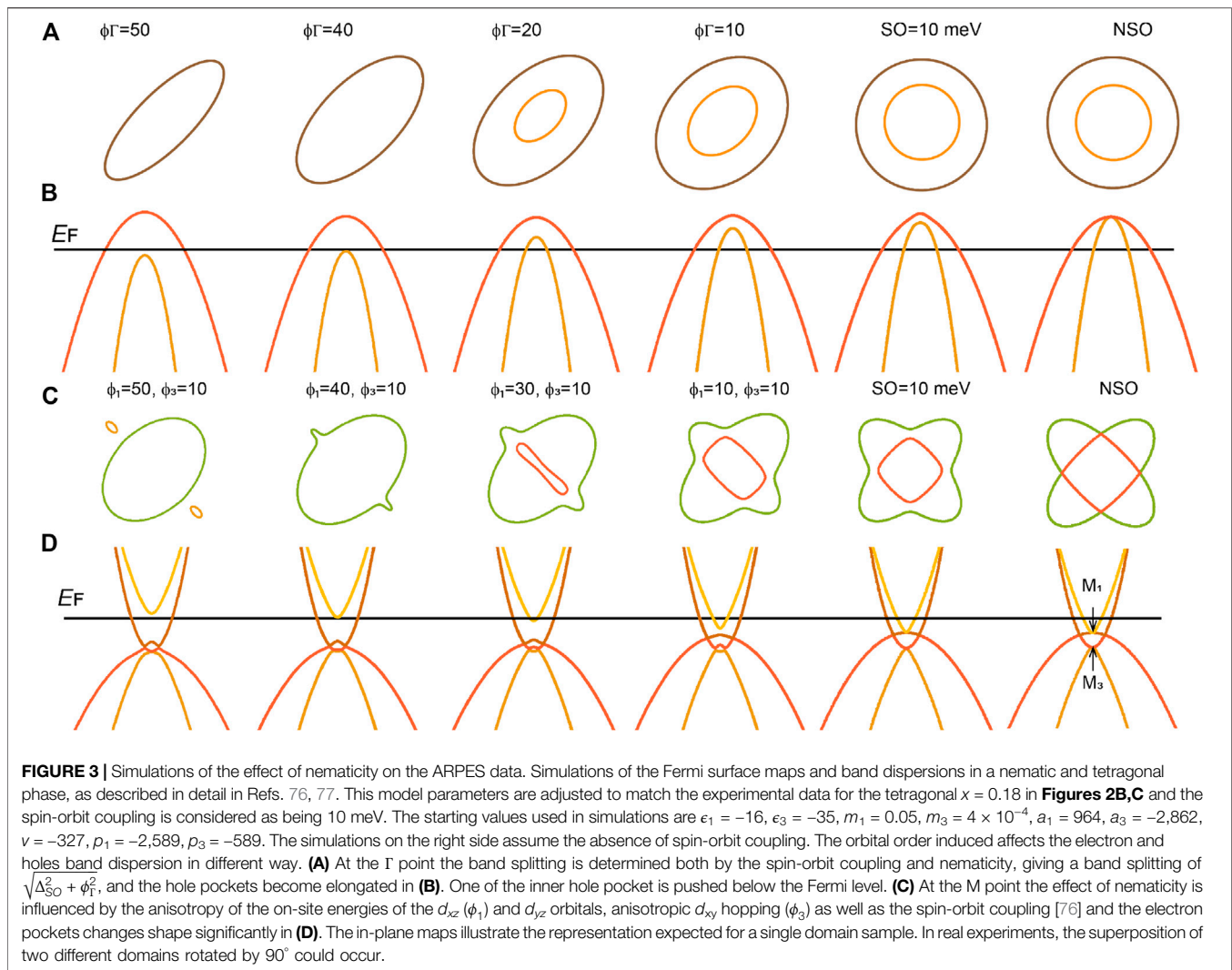
FIGURE 2 | Low-temperature ARPES data for FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$. Band dispersion around high symmetry points, **(A)** Γ, **(B)** Z, and **(C)** M collected using horizontally and vertically linearly polarized synchrotron light (LH and LV) at low temperatures at 13 K for different x compositions (after Refs. 29, 35, 40). Momentum dependent cuts (MDCs) are shown above each dispersion which allows to extract the k_F values at the Fermi level (the instrumental resolution is ~3 meV). The top of the parabolic band dispersion for the outer hole band at the Γ point for x = 0.18 is getting closer to the Fermi level (~5 meV) compared with FeSe (~17 meV). **(D)** DFT calculations high symmetry cuts for FeS for the same symmetry points like the ARPES data with energies in meV. These dispersions can be compared with experiments to extract the renormalization factor for each band. The colors indicate the different orbital character. The Fermi surface map for the hole bands at the Z point in **(E)** and for the electron bands at the A point in **(F)**, after Refs. 29, 35, 40, and 58. Inside the nematic phase, the existence of twining below T_s can cause superposition of the signal from two domains, rotated by 90˚. The orbital character of the map varies around the Fermi surface as depicted for the tetragonal case in **(H)**. The dashed line indicates the cuts in **(A–C)** and the orientation of the maps in **(E)** and **(F)**. **(G)** The energy dependent cuts (EDCs) centered at the high symmetry M point for different composition. The energy separation between the two most intense peaks is defined by Δ_M, a proxy for the orbital ordering effect. The positions of the high symmetry M1 and M3 points for x = 0.18 are indicated by arrows. **(H)** Schematic of the tetragonal Fermi surfaces in the Z-A plane containing different orbital characters. The dashed line is a cut along the diagonal of the unit cell used in the ARPES measurements in panels a–c.

the temperature and sulfur substitution in FeSe of the nematic electronic structure of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ [29, 40].

4.2 Simulations of the Effect of Nematicity on the Low-Energy Electronic Structure

To understand the effect of nematicity and the orbital effects at each high symmetry point, simulations based on a model developed in Refs. 76, 77 for a single domain sample are shown in **Figure 3**. The parameters for the simulations are adjusted to match the ARPES experimental data for x = 0.18 in **Figures 2B,C** [29] and the other variable are listed in **Figure 3**. In the tetragonal phase of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$, the hole Fermi surface are expected to be circular and C_4 symmetric, originating from the $d_{xz/yz}$ bands, as shown in **Figure 2E**. In the absence of nematicity the two hole dispersions at the center of the Brillouin zone are expected to be split only by the spin-orbit coupling [76], as shown in **Figure 3A**. Experimentally, the band separation gives a spin-orbit of Δ_{so} ~ 13(3) meV for FeSe in the tetragonal phase at high temperatures and for the tetragonal x ~ 0.18 at low temperatures [62, 63, 80]. As the nematic order is turned on, ϕ_Γ [76], the hole pocket is expected to become distorted and the splitting between the two hole band dispersions increases, as shown in **Figure 3**. In

addition, the increase in the orbital ordering effects moves the inner 3D hole pocket at the Z point completely below the Fermi level, as shown in **Figure 2** [40, 81]. Experimentally, at low temperature FeSe has only one quasi-two dimensional hole Fermi surface (compared with 3 predicted by the DFT calculations) with an elliptical in-plane area at the high symmetry points, as shown in **Figure 2E**. The signature of this nematic electronic phase can be induced by orbital-ordering effects and electronic interactions that can drive a Pomeranchuck instability of the Fermi surface [2]. Other scenarios have been addressed theoretically in detail in other works [82–86]. Since samples of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ inside the nematic phase can form twin domains rotated by 90˚ below T_s often ARPES experiments visualizes two superposed ellipses, as shown in **Figure 2E**, but only a single ellipse may be observed in detwinned measurements on FeSe [63, 64, 81]. As the orbital ordering is reduced with S substitution, the splitting between the inner d_{yz} bands and outer d_{yz} hole band dispersion is smaller and at low temperatures from x ~ 0.11, the inner hole band crosses the Fermi level at the Z point, leading to the formation of the small 3D hole pocket. Inside the nematic phase, the in-plane Fermi surfaces are highly anisotropic, indicated by the splitting of the two different k_F values (obtained from the MDC cuts of two

FIGURE 3 | Simulations of the effect of nematicity on the ARPES data. Simulations of the Fermi surface maps and band dispersions in a nematic and tetragonal phase, as described in detail in Refs. 76, 77. This model parameters are adjusted to match the experimental data for the tetragonal $x = 0.18$ in **Figures 2B,C** and the spin-orbit coupling is considered as being 10 meV. The starting values used in simulations are $\epsilon_1 = -16$, $\epsilon_3 = -35$, $m_1 = 0.05$, $m_3 = 4 \times 10^{-4}$, $a_1 = 964$, $a_3 = -2,862$, $v = -327$, $p_1 = -2,589$, $p_3 = -589$. The simulations on the right side assume the absence of spin-orbit coupling. The orbital order induced affects the electron and holes band dispersion in different way. **(A)** At the Γ point the band splitting is determined both by the spin-orbit coupling and nematicity, giving a band splitting of $\sqrt{\Delta_{SO}^2 + \phi_\Gamma^2}$, and the hole pockets become elongated in **(B)**. One of the inner hole pocket is pushed below the Fermi level. **(C)** At the M point the effect of nematicity is influenced by the anisotropy of the on-site energies of the d_{xz} (ϕ_1) and d_{yz} orbitals, anisotropic d_{xy} hopping (ϕ_3) as well as the spin-orbit coupling [76] and the electron pockets changes shape significantly in **(D)**. The in-plane maps illustrate the representation expected for a single domain sample. In real experiments, the superposition of two different domains rotated by 90° could occur.

different domains), as shown in **Figure 3**. With increasing x, in-plane Fermi surface becomes a circle for both hole pockets for the tetragonal $x \sim 0.18$ but the cylindrical hole Fermi surface has a strong k_z dependence [29].

4.3 Electron Pockets of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$

Whereas the behavior of the hole bands is well understood and consistent between different experimental reports, the behavior of the electron bands remains a highly debated subject. The $P4/nmm$ unit cell of tetragonal FeSe includes two Fe sites which are related by a glide symmetry [76] and ARPES measurements should detect electron bands emerging from two-crossed ellipses [58, 87], similar to other systems, such as LiFeAs or NaFeAs [80]. The electron pockets suffer a significant change inside the nematic phase and the relevance of different orbital contribution is still being debated. At the corner of the Brillouin zone (M and A point) in the tetragonal phase, there are two degenerate doublet states, M1 and M3, at the zone corner protected by the space-group symmetry, even when spin-orbit coupling is taken into account [76], as shown in **Figures 3C,D**. Therefore, any splitting

and shifts of the bands at M (or A) would reduce the crystal symmetry in the presence of the spin-orbit coupling. The nematic order can be triggered by the development of the anisotropy in the on-site energies of the d_{xz} and d_{yz} orbitals (ϕ_1 term) and anisotropic d_{xy} hopping (ϕ_3 term) [76]. The two-crossed ellipse, corresponding to the electron pockets (**Figure 2H**), are expected to have a finite splitting between the inner and outer orbits, due to the spin-orbit coupling in the tetragonal phase, as shown in **Figure 3C**. Inside the nematic phase, by increasing both the ϕ_1 and ϕ_3, the degeneracy at the M1 and M3 points are lifted and the bands split apart; this promotes the in-plane distortion of the Fermi surface along its longest axis (**Figures 3C,D**). Further increasing ϕ_1, which is related to orbital order induced by the increase orbital polarization of the d_{xz} vs. d_{yz} bands, the inner electron band is pushed up and eventually it can disappear; thus only a single electron pocket is present, as shown in **Figure 3D**. Furthermore, orbitally-induced shifts could shrink the electron pocket along one direction, transforming it into two small Fermi pockets, whereas along the other direction, the electron pocket is enlarged into a peanut shape [63, 88]. Indeed, at low

temperatures, the band giving rise to the inner electron pocket at the M point is very close to the Fermi level about 3 meV for FeSe (within experimental resolution of 3 meV). This proximity creates the conditions for a topological transition of the electron pocket into a peanut or Dirac-like crossing, under other perturbations, such as applied strain [65, 73], as found for thin films of FeSe under internal strain from the substrate [88].

Experimentally, in the tetragonal phase the inner electron band dispersions at M (or A) are expected to have d_{xz}/d_{yz} orbital character when probed along the diagonal of the Brillouin zone, as shown in **Figure 2H**. The outer electron band with d_{xy} orbital character is harder to observe due to matrix element effects and the incident energy used (**Figures 2C,J**). This behavior is detected for the tetragonal FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ with $x = 0.18$ shown in **Figure 2C**; [29] and FeSe above T_s [40, 58, 62]. In the nematic phase, the changes for the electron bands are drastic, with M1 point shifting up whereas the M3 shifts down, and additional splitting could take place around these two degenerate points, as shown in **Figure 2C**. The energy separation between the two intense features at the M point below T_s (EDC cuts), is defined by Δ_M which is ~50 meV for bulk FeSe [62, 64, 89]. This splitting is much larger than what would be expected from DFT calculations simply taking into account its small orthorhombic distortion (~5 meV) [62]. The elongated directions of the elliptical Fermi surfaces at the M point are rotated by 90° with respect to that at the Γ point due to the momentum-dependent sign-changing orbital polarization, where the d_{xz} band shifts upward at the Γ point but downward at the M point [81, 90]. Interestingly, 20 meV already separates the two doublets in the tetragonal phase at the M point, in the absence of nematicity, for the tetragonal system with $x = 0.18$ (see **Figure 2G**), and FeSe at high temperatures [63]. This implies that the energy scale of the nematic order could be smaller that 50 meV, as shown in **Figure 4A** [35].

A direct signature of the nematicity is the in-plane distortion of the Fermi surface. Inside the nematic phase for the electron pockets this can be related to the development of the orbital polarisation $\Delta n = n_{xz} - n_{yz}$. The orbitally dependent band shifts cause the inner sections of the electron pockets with d_{yz} orbital character to contract whereas the d_{xz} sections to expand, but forming a cross-shape due to effect of sample twinning, as shown in **Figure 1F**. The degree of anisotropy of the Fermi surface can be related to $(k_F - k_{F0})/k_{F0}$ [40]. where the k_F-vector is that corresponding to the inner d_{yz} portion of the electron pocket, and k_{F0} is the Fermi k-vector in the tetragonal phase for each compound. **Figure 4B** shows the evolution of the Fermi surface elongation with x substitution and indicates that the nematic phase is responsible for this in-plane distortions, which is completely suppressed in the tetragonal phase.

4.4 Comparison Between ARPES and QPI

The presence of both highly elongated and isotropic Fermi surfaces of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ is likely to significantly influence other measurements. Scanning tunneling microscopy (STM) studies shows highly anisotropic quasiparticle interference (QPI) patterns inside the nematic state, becoming isotropic in the tetragonal phase [46, 78]. The resulting QPI spectra exhibit electron-like and hole-like dispersions along different directions (q_a and q_b, respectively) corresponding to the intraband back-scatterings in the electron bands at the Brillouin zone corner and in the hole band at the zone center, respectively. Thus, the QPI spectra reflect the evolution of the scattering processes across the series FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$.

To clarify the qualitative relation between the QPI branches and the band structure, the scattering q vectors from the intraband backscattering can be compared with the Fermi wavevector extracted directly from ARPES dispersions at the Fermi level, as shown in **Figure 4C**. The Fermi momenta of FeSe of a distorted deformed Fermi cylinder can be estimated from the scattering vectors at zero energy ($q/2 \sim k_F$) to be ~0.05 and 0.08 Å^{-1} for the hole band and ~0.04 Å^{-1} for the electron band [37, 46]. On the other hand, the Fermi wavevector from ARPES for FeSe for the elliptical hole pocket at the Γ point varies between ~0.035 and 0.08 Å^{-1} [40, 62], but is larger at the Z point (~0.1 and 0.15 Å^{-1}), as shown in **Figure 4C**. These values are close to those from laser ARPES data (which are usually measured around 7 eV which corresponds to a k_z position closer to the Γ point), varying between 0.036 $\pi/a \sim 0.038$ and 0.11 $\pi/a \sim 0.092$ Å^{-1}. Thus, the resulting elongated hole ellipse of FeSe, with a high aspect ratio (~3), is one of the most anisotropic Fermi surfaces among all the iron-based superconductors [91].

A direct comparison between ARPES and QPI data on FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ suggest that the scattering vectors in QPI are likely to correspond to the in-plane Fermi vectors at the center of the Brillouin zone ($k_z = 0$). This is in agreement with the assignment of the scattering vectors in Ref. 78. They are less sensitive to k_z dependent scattering processes outside of this plane, despite recent theoretical suggestions for FeSe [92], as the k_F vectors at Z are much larger than the scattering vectors ($q/2$) extracted from QPI, as shown in **Figure 4C**. In the case of the electrons pockets, the QPI scattering vector is close to those of the small inner electron wave vector (~0.02(1) Å^{-1}) rather than to the long elongated axis of the ellipse (0.14 (1) Å^{-1}), found in ARPES [35, 58]. Furthermore, the estimated Fermi energies from the QPI dispersions, for the hole bands are of 10–20 meV [46], in good agreement with the top of the hole band at the Γ point of ~17 meV from ARPES [35, 62]. Laser ARPES data (measured away from a high-symmetry point) give slightly lower values of ~6.7 meV or 10 meV for the hole band [91, 93]. For the electron bands the Fermi energies of 5–10 meV from QPI are close to the 3–5 meV corresponding to the inner electron band dispersion [35, 63]. With increasing x, the bottom of the inner electron bands at the M point is pushed lower below the Fermi level from about 3 meV toward 15 meV for $x = 0.18$ [29, 95]. The outer hole band crossing at the Z point lies around 25 (3) meV from $x = 0$ to $x = 0.18$, but decrease more significantly for the hole point at the Γ point (**Figure 4D**). These shifts bring the cylindrical hole band into the regime to undergo a possible Lifshitz transition at the nematic end point, as suggested by quantum oscillations [27].

The evolution of the QPI scattering vectors along one direction performed in a single domain of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ have been associated to two scattering vectors along short elliptical axis in different

scattering planes: q_{h2} at $k_z = 0$ (Γ point) and q_{h1} at $k_z = \pi/c$ (Z-point) [46]. The QPI dispersion associated with the q_{h1} scattering vector at the Z-point was suggested to disappear close to $x \sim 0.1$, whereas q_{h2} increases toward $x \sim 0.25$, as shown in **Figure 4C**. However, there is no evidence for the disappearance of hole bands up to $x = 0.18$ in ARPES data at the Z point, as shown in **Figures 2A–C** and **Figure 4C**. An alternative explanation could invoke a scenario in which the two scattering vectors (q_{h1} and q_{h2}), would merge into a single value for a isotropic Fermi surface close to $x \sim 0.17$. Thus, for an isotropic system a single hole dispersion could be visible in the QPI and in that case the scattering vectors along orthogonal direction would be similar to those from ARPES at the Γ point. As QPI is less sensitive to k_z dependent scattering processes, the small 3D hole band at the Z point in **Figure 4C** is not detected [46]. Further experimental QPI experiments with cuts along different directions as well as theoretical work will be needed to reconcile quantitative features obtained from ARPES and QPI for FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$.

5 QUANTUM OSCILLATIONS IN HIGH MAGNETIC FIELDS

A powerful technique to access directly the Fermi surface of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ is via quantum oscillations in very high magnetic fields and at low temperatures below 1.5 K [27, 42, 62, 95]. Quantum oscillations originate from the oscillations in the density of states in the presence of the Landau quantization of a metallic system in an applied magnetic field. The quantum oscillations are periodic in $1/B$ and the frequency of these oscillations relates directly to extremal areas of the Fermi surface via Osanger relation ($F_i = \hbar/2\pi e \cdot A_{k_z,i}$ with frequencies in Tesla $\sim 10^{-16}$ (Å^{-2}) of the cross-section area of each orbit). For a slightly-warped cylindrical Fermi surface two frequencies would be observed at the center ($k_z = 0$) and the top of the Brillouin zone ($k_z = \pi/c$), and in the case of twinned crystals the cross section areas of different domains would coincide. Quantum oscillations are normally observed only in clean single crystals as the cyclotron energy which separates Landau levels needs to be larger than the broadening of the levels $\hbar/\tau$ due to scattering. Quantum oscillations have been observed for all x compositions of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ [27, 42, 67, 96]. The isoelectronic substitution result in relatively similar mean free paths (using the Dingle analysis for the maximum hole band orbit [98]), having values of $\ell \sim 277$ (35) Å for FeSe and $\ell \sim 283$ (20) Å for $x \sim 0.19$ [27]. Besides impurity scattering effects, the amplitude of the quantum oscillations is significantly suppressed for heavier quasiparticle masses as a result of the smearing of the Landau levels by the Fermi-Dirac distribution and often heavier masses cannot be observed.

5.1 Comparison Between ARPES and Quantum Oscillations

As compared with ARPES, quantum oscillations are insensitive to surface states and the signal is dominated by the bulk response thus giving an unambiguous probe of the bulk Fermi surface.

Furthermore, they have a much better k-space resolution of 10^3 of the area of the Brillouin zone that allows very accurate determination of the cross-section orbits on the Fermi surface, for a particular magnetic field orientation. However, the location of the orbits in the k-space is not easily known for multiband systems (**Figures 1D–G**) making the assignment of the potential frequencies for a multi-band system difficult. In these circumstances, the angular dependence of the observed orbits is used as a guide to assign the different orbits to Fermi surfaces as the minimum and maximum orbits will have different angular dependencies and it is expected that the cyclotron effective mass for the same band is likely to have similar values [42, 62]. Even in twinned samples, the quantum oscillations are likely to be unaffected as the cross-section areas originating from different domains would be the same, however, any differences only be noticeable at very high rotation angles where the quantum oscillation amplitude disappears. The experimental Fermi surface of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ could potentially have four different sheets, that could generate up to seven or eight extremal orbits at the high symmetry points due the strong k_z dependence, as shown in **Figure 5D**. In a system with many similar small orbits (with k_F values below 0.08 Å) the expected frequencies would be found below 200 T. A clear separation between individual small frequencies is hampered by the limited magnetic field window (20–45 T) caused by the presence of superconductivity and large upper critical field (<20 T) (**Figure 5A**. This low frequency region is also affected by extrinsic effects in a fast Fourier transform (**Figure 5C**, such as the $1/f$ noise and the peak created by a background polynomial, making any reliable assignment of the small frequencies difficult.

An interesting insight into the origin of the quantum oscillation amplitudes was provided by magnetotransport and Hall effect in ultra-high magnetic fields up to 90 T in FeSe [98]. By comparing the changes in the relative amplitudes of the quantum oscillations of the ρ_{xx} and ρ_{xy} components, and considering the positive sign of the high-field Hall signal at very low temperatures [98], the mobile carriers were assigned to the hole band (β and δ orbits) [42, 62, 96]. The frequencies of quantum oscillations assigned to the quasi-two dimensional hole cylinder of FeSe are 220 T for β orbit at the Γ point and 660 T for the δ orbit at the Z point, when magnetic field $B||c$. The cyclotron effective masses associated with these two orbits are around 4.5(5) m_e, in good agreement between different studies [35, 42, 62]. The estimated frequencies of the hole pockets using the k_F values from ARPES data (**Figure 4C**) are consistently smaller than those assigned in quantum oscillations (by ~ 150 T or 24% smaller for the δ orbit at the Z point and ~ 100 T or 50% smaller for the β orbit at the Γ point for FeSe). One obvious difference between the two techniques is related to sensitivity to surface states in ARPES, compared with bulk, that is normally probed by quantum oscillations. ARPES resolution, k_z dependence and the energy and momentum integrations is expected to affect the precise k_F values. Variation of the values for the top of the hole band at the Γ point of 6.7–15 meV is found between different reports for FeSe [62, 93], and this will affect the precise determination of the k_F values. On the other hand, the high frequency values from quantum oscillations have a much better agreement between
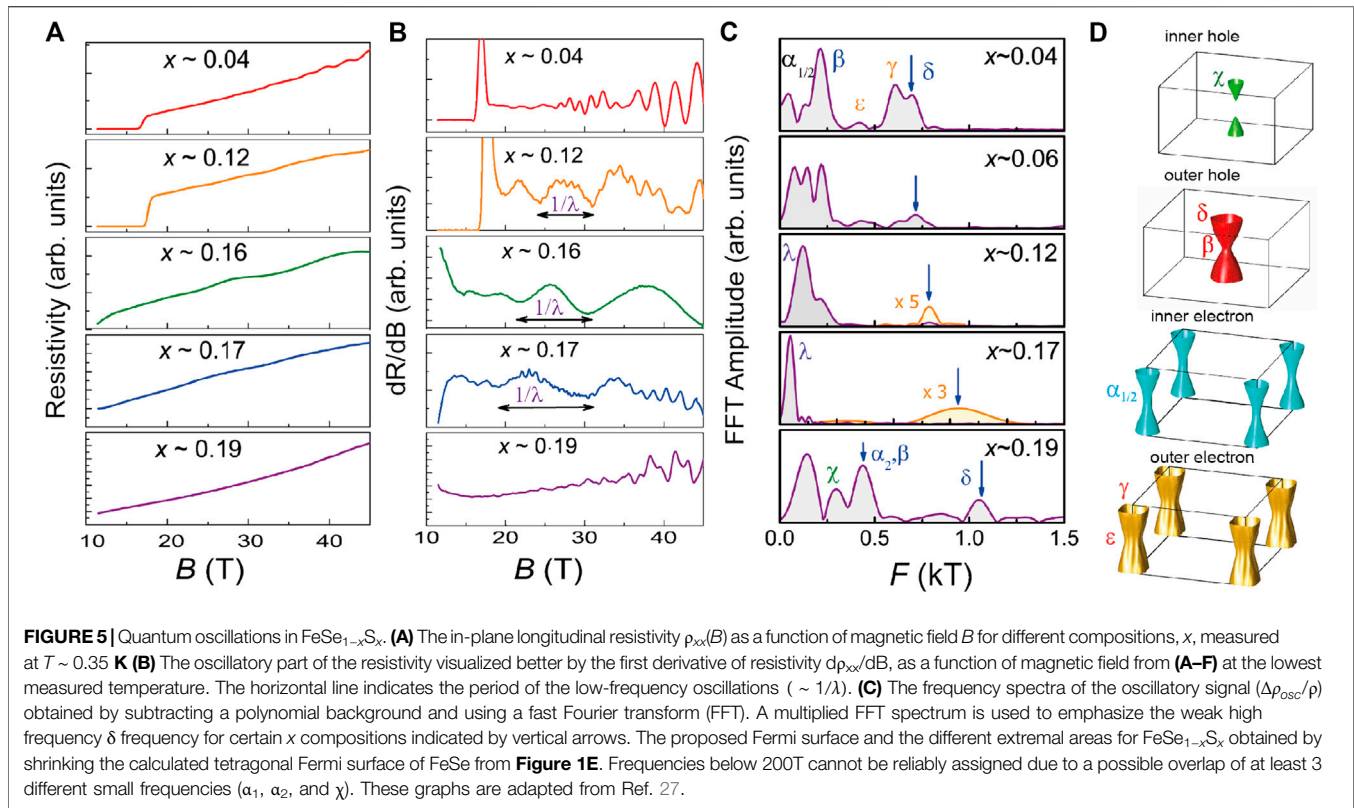
FIGURE 4 | Low temperature parameters extracted from APRES data of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$. **(A)** The variation of the low temperature splitting parameter, Δ_M, extracted from EDCs at the M point, with x substitution, shown in **Figure 1G**. A splitting of 20 meV is already present for the tetragonal $x = 0.18$ suggesting the effect of nematicity is less than Δ_M for $x = 0$ [29, 40]. **(B)** The relative distortion of the electron Fermi surface at the M point, $\Delta k_F/k_{F0}$, at T ~ 13 K in relation with the tetragonal phase k_{F0}, as a function of x substitution (after Ref. 40). **(C)** The variation of the Fermi k_F vector with x for the hole pockets extracted from the MDC cuts and assuming that the data arises from two superimposed ellipses. The value of the $q/2$ scattering vectors from QPI are compared with those from ARPES data, after Ref. 46. **(D)** The variation of the energy of the top or bottom of the bands at different high-symmetry points. **(E)** The Fermi velocities extracted form the slope of the energy dispersion as a function of momentum for the hole and the electron bands, after Refs. 29, 40. **(F)** The x variation of the superconducting gap, $|\Delta_{SC}|$, extracted for the hole band for FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ and the electron band for FeSe, after Refs. 46, 78. Another potential small gap of 0.39 meV (open square) was invoked from specific heat data for FeSe [79].

different reports [42, 62, 96]. Quantum oscillations are measured below 1 K in high magnetic field above 20 T whereas ARPES is measured in zero field above 10 K (~1 meV). As inner pockets of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ are small, magnetic field could induce additional spin-polarization of the Fermi surfaces in very high magnetic fields (3–4 meV). Another discrepancy between quantum oscillations and ARPES is related to the orbitally averaged effective masses that are larger for the outer electron bands (~7 m_e) compared with the hole bands (4.5 m_e) in quantum oscillations [42, 62]. In contrast, the Fermi velocities extracted from ARPES are larger at the A point (0.66 eV Å) compared with hole bands at the Z point (0.4–0.5 eV Å) [65]. However, the velocities in ARPES are extracted for only one of the highly symmetry direction and the values are not orbitally averaged (**Figure 2**).

Quantum oscillations in iron-based superconductors detect clearly electron Fermi surfaces with lighter effective masses in LaFePO [99], LiFe(As/P) [100] and BaFe$_2$As$_2$ [56]. These orbits originate from inner and outer quasi-two dimensional cylinders due to the finite spin-orbit coupling, as depicted for FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ in **Figure 3C**. In FeSe, the orbital differentiation is much more pronounced than in iron pnictides, as the d_{xy} band is involved in the formation of outer flower-shaped electron orbit (**Figure 2H**). This would lead to a much heavier orbitally averaged cyclotron mass of ~7 m_e, associated with the outer electron orbit around the A point (γ orbit of ~560 T) for FeSe, as shown in **Figure 6A** [42, 62]. Based on k_F values at the A point determined from ARPES with Fermi vector values of 0.03 (1) and 0.19 (1) Å^{-1} [65], the area

of a flower-shaped orbit would be ~350 T (or ~35% of γ orbit) whereas for a single ellipse pocket reaches only ~190 T, which is or ~66% smaller than the γ orbit from quantum oscillations. In ultra high magnetic fields, potential breakdown orbits could be generated by tunneling across the gaps created by the spin-orbit coupling, but the necessary magnetic fields are likely to be very large and the orbits would be smaller than that of the flower-shaped orbit [101]. The nematicity has a drastic effect on the electron bands and it can lead to highly elongated pockets with a very small inner electron band, as shown in **Figure 3C**. At 13 K, the inner band at the M point gets very close to the Fermi level within 3 meV for FeSe (within the experimental resolution). Thus, any small changes in the band positions relative to the chemical potential (1–2 meV) that could occur at low temperatures below 1.5 K and in high magnetic fields could potentially push the inner electron bands above the Fermi level at the M point and lead to single elliptical orbit or an elliptical pocket and two tiny electron pockets, as shown in **Figure 3C**.

Recent studies promotes the idea that FeSe would only have a single electron pocket in the corner of the Brillouin zone. For a *peanut*-like pocket at the A point [65] its area is almost a factor 3 smaller than the γ pocket in quantum oscillations, the change compensation of the system would be lost and the magnetotransport data of FeSe cannot be explained [98]. The proximity of the inner electron band to the Fermi level is highly sensitive to small energetic alterations within

FIGURE 5 | Quantum oscillations in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$. **(A)** The in-plane longitudinal resistivity $\rho_{xx}(B)$ as a function of magnetic field B for different compositions, x, measured at $T \sim 0.35$ K **(B)** The oscillatory part of the resistivity visualized better by the first derivative of resistivity dρ_{xx}/dB, as a function of magnetic field from **(A–F)** at the lowest measured temperature. The horizontal line indicates the period of the low-frequency oscillations ($\sim 1/\lambda$). **(C)** The frequency spectra of the oscillatory signal ($\Delta\rho_{osc}/\rho$) obtained by subtracting a polynomial background and using a fast Fourier transform (FFT). A multiplied FFT spectrum is used to emphasize the weak high frequency δ frequency for certain x compositions indicated by vertical arrows. The proposed Fermi surface and the different extremal areas for FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ obtained by shrinking the calculated tetragonal Fermi surface of FeSe from **Figure 1E**. Frequencies below 200T cannot be reliably assigned due to a possible overlap of at least 3 different small frequencies (α_1, α_2, and χ). These graphs are adapted from Ref. 27.

experimental resolution (~3 meV), any differences in Fe stoichiometry, surface effects or the possible changes that can occur under applied uniaxial stress, as found for thin films of FeSe under strain from a substrate [91]). Thus, different scenarios related to the fate and the number of the electron pockets (**Figure 3C**) need to be considered, besides other theoretical reasons [65, 66, 102–104].

Figure 5C show the complex fast Fourier spectra of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ due to the presence of multiple small Fermi surfaces areas. The signature associated with the inner electron band in quantum oscillations would be a peak in the Fast Fourier transform below 100 T. Previously, it was assumed that FeSe has a single cylindrical electron pocket, with areas varying between 50 T pocket for its minimum and 550 T (γ) for its maximum [42]. This variation would suggest a much more warped Fermi surface cylinder for the electron band (factor 10 between the two high symmetry areas), as compared with the hole band, for FeSe, in disagreement with the k_z dependence determined from ARPES studies [35, 62, 65]. The quantum oscillations spectra could assign the lowest frequency below 100 T to the inner quasi-two dimensional electron pocket, whereas γ and ϵ around 440 T could correspond to the outer electron band (**Figure 5D**) [35, 62]. A small inner electron pocket is not easy to observe using spectroscopic techniques, nor does it have a large contribution to the density of states, but it plays an important role in magnetotransport due to its high mobility [40]. With sulfur substitution for small $x < 0.09$, quantum oscillations show similar features to those of FeSe, as shown in **Figure 5C**. As the

nematic effects are progressively removed, the inner electron orbits would increase in size, reaching a value of 200 T in FeS [67].

5.2 Evolution of Fermi Surface Areas of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$

The overall evolution of the Fermi surface of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ implies that the majority of the cross-sectional areas expand as a function of chemical pressure, in particular the maximum orbits located at the top of the Brillouin zone, as shown in **Figure 6G** [27]. For the outer hole band (δ orbit), the increase in areas reflects the transition from an in-plane anisotropic to isotropic Fermi surface, as the ellipse transforms into a circle, and as the in-plane areas increase due to changes in the lattice parameters [29, 35, 40]. These trends are in contrast to the small Fermi surfaces observed under applied pressure in FeSe, suggested to result from Fermi surface reconstruction inside the spin-density phase [18]. However, the Fermi surfaces of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ are severely reduced in size compared with those predicted by DFT calculations (varying from a factor of 5 for FeSe toward a factor 3 for $x \sim 0.17$). This shrinking is an important consequence of strong orbitally-dependent inter- and intra-band electronic interactions, significantly large in iron chalcogenides [62, 105], but also found in many iron-based superconductors [56, 99]. These effects are suppressed once the bandwidth increases with sulfur substitution toward FeS [29] or with phosphorus substitution in BaFe$_2$(As$_x$P$_{1-x}$)$_2$, as shown in **Figures 6G,H** [56]. The largest orbit detected in FeS is almost a factor 2 larger than for $x \sim 0.19$ [67] but it is still a factor 2 smaller than that

predicted by band structure, and band-shifts of 0.1 eV are required to bring experiment in agreement with DFT calculations [67]. The Fermi energies estimated from quantum oscillations of FeS have significantly increased to 27–102 meV [67], compared with 3–18 meV estimated for FeSe [42].

Transport measurements in a multi-band system like FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ are normally dominated by the pockets with the highest mobility carriers in a parallel resistor model. The magnetoresistance at low temperatures shows a prominent low frequency oscillation from $x =$ 0.12 toward NEP (**Figures 5A,B**) [27]. Outside the nematic phase, the background magnetoresistance is almost quadratic in magnetic field and the dominant low-frequency oscillation has disappeared (**Figure 5**). This dominant low frequency is not detected at higher sulfur substitution or higher pressures beyond the nematic end point inside the tetragonal phase [27, 39]. In quantum oscillations, the disappearance of a frequency could be linked to a possible Liftshitz transition, which is a topological change of the Fermi surface in which the neck of a quasi-two dimensional is disconnected while the top of the cylinder expands such that the volume remains the same [107]. ARPES data indicate that a small inner 3D hole pocket centered at Z is expected to emerge from $x \sim 0.11$, as shown in **Figure 1**. This small 3D pocket is supposed to grow in size with x, rather than to disappear. However, in high magnetic fields, this 3D hole pocket could become heavily spin-polarized and, therefore, one of its polarized sheet could disappear at the nematic phase boundaries. Another scenario can rely on the strong increase in the interlayer warping as a function of chemical or applied pressure, as the conducting layers come closer together when c axis decreases. DFT calculations of FeSe and FeS show indeed that the hole bands are highly sensitive to the position of the chalcogen atom above the Fe plane [29, 58, 62]. ARPES studies for the tetragonal $x \sim 0.18$ suggest that the hole band at the Γ point is smaller compared with FeSe and the top of the band is about 5 meV above the Fermi level, as shown in **Figure 4D** [29, 35]. Thus, the orbit associated with the hole band at the Γ point could be a prime candidate for the observed disappearance of a significant frequency in quantum oscillations. Other scenarios could invoke magnetic field-induced Lifshitz transitions affecting the bands with very small Fermi energies, such as the inner hole and electron bands, that are comparable to the Zeeman energy (3–4 meV) [108]. Multi-band interference effects as well as oscillations of the chemical potential could be considered as other potential theoretical avenues to understand these effects in magnetic fields [109].

5.2 Electronic Correlations at a Putative Nematic Critical Point

The cyclotron-averaged effective masses of the quasiparticles for each extremal orbit can be extracted from the temperature dependence of the amplitude of the quantum oscillations [27, 110]. The quasiparticle masses associated with the largest hole orbit δ around the Z point increase slowly from 4.3(3) m_e toward a local maximum around $x < 0.11$ before the values continue to decrease outside the nematic phase to around 3.2 (5) m_e for $x \sim$ 0.19. In the end compound FeS, quantum oscillations have revealed very light effective masses ranging from 0.6–2.1 m_e [67, 95]. The overall trends shows that cyclotron masses are

larger inside the nematic phase of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ but they are getting lighter with the increasing bandwidth [57]. The reduction of the electronic correlations toward FeS is supported by the enhanced velocities from ARPES, shown in **Figure 4E** [29]. The effective mass of the prominent small frequency oscillation (λ) is small below 2 m_e. Due to its heavy mass and its possible proximity to the δ orbit, the γ orbit (with some orbitally averaged d_{xy} character) cannot be detected over the entire range but it is expected to follow similar trends to the hole bands effective mass (δ) and to the electronic contribution to the specific heat (**Figure 6A**) [27, 30].

The nematic state of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ is a correlated electronic state based on the quasiparticle effective masses. Interestingly, the electronic correlations assigned to the orbits with predominant d_{xz}/d_{yz} character (outer hole band, δ) follow similar trends as T_c, as shown in **Figures 6C,D**, suggesting that this quasi-two dimensional hole band is likely to play a dominant role in the pairing mechanism. The trends in the effective masses are in good agreement with those from specific heat studies on FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ that show a slight increase in the Sommerfeld coefficient (7–9 mJ/mol K) inside the nematic phase before being smoothly suppressed, without any enhancement at the nematic end point [30, 111, 112]. Additionally, the Fermi liquid behavior $A^{1/2}$ coefficient extracted from the low temperature resistivity measurement has the same trends like the cyclotron mass [28], as shown in **Figure 6**, and it decreases slowly in the tetragonal phase [52]. Note that these values of the $A^{1/2}$ coefficient agree with those reported in Ref. 54, once adjusted for the correct value of x based on the T_s of each sample, shown by the open triangle in **Figure 6B**.

To asses the nematic critical behavior in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$, it is worth emphasizing that the electronic correlations and the orbitally averaged cyclotron masses do not show any divergence close to NEP ($x \sim 0.175(5)$), as shown in **Figure 6C** [27]. Instead, the effective mass of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ reaches the largest value deep inside the nematic phase, where the superconductivity is the strongest and the low-energy spin-fluctuations are expected to be the largest [44]. The lack of divergent effective masses at NEP points toward a finite coupling of the electronic system with the underlying lattice that can suppressed the critical nematic fluctuations, except along certain directions in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ [6]. Nematic susceptibility as a function of chemical pressure suggest the possibility of having a nematic critical point in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ [43]. However, at low temperatures there are no divergent electronic correlation in any of the measured quantities in the vicinity of the nematic end point, suggesting an important role for the coupling of the electronic system with the lattice in this system [27, 28].

Signatures of quantum criticality caused by diverging spin fluctuations were detected in quantum oscillations in BaFe$_2$(As$_{1-x}$P$_x$)$_2$, by approaching the spin-density wave phase from the tetragonal phase. The cyclotron effective mass of the outer electron bands increases from 1.8 to 3.5 m_e over a large compositional range ($x = 0.4–1$) in the tetragonal phase, as shown in **Figure 6E** [56, 106]. This enhancement of the effective mass in BaFe$_2$(As$_{1-x}$P$_x$)$_2$ correlates directly with the strong increase in the superconducting transition temperature. The quantum oscillations frequencies originate from the lighter electron

bands in BaFe$_2$(As$_{1-x}$P$_x$)$_2$ and their frequencies get smaller as the system evolves from the metallic tetragonal phase toward the spin-density wave phase. These trends are similar to those expected for FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$. It is worth emphasizing that for both systems only the effective mass is reported, not the mass enhancement in relation to the band mass, due to the complexity involved in establishing the details of the correct band structure for the mixed isoelectronic systems. **Figure 6** compares the effective masses for the two isoelectronic systems and it suggests that the relevant interactions that enhance the effective masses in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ are the same that enhance superconductivity. These pairing interactions are strongest deep inside the nematic phase not at the nematic end point. Their origin could be the spin fluctuations in both systems and they are also likely to be responsible for the linear resistivity observed inside the nematic phase for FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ [28] and for BaFe$_2$(As$_{1-x}$P$_x$)$_2$ for $x \sim 0.33$ [114]. The superconductivity is strongly enhanced in the proximity of a magnetic critical point in BaFe$_2$(As$_{1-x}$P$_x$)$_2$, as opposed to the small abrupt drop in T_c at the nematic end point FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ (see **Figure 6D**). This suggests that a strong nematoelastic effect suppresses the critical nematic fluctuations and the superconducting mechanism has a non-nematic origin in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ [7].

5.3 THE NEMATIC SUSCEPTIBILITY OF FESE$_{1-x}$S$_X$

A direct measurement to test for the existence of an intrinsic nematic electronic state is the determination of the nematic susceptibility, that is the related to the in-plane resistivity anisotropy under a small amount of external strain [114]. These type of studies have established that the tetragonal-to-orthorhombic structural transition in iron pnictides is driven by the electronic instability of the system [114]. The Curie-Weiss behavior of nematic susceptibility near a nematic transition is expected to display a generic mean-field behavior. The nematic fluctuations of the nematic order parameter, which couple linearly to the orthorhombic distortion via the nematoelastic coupling, are expected to be suppressed but this may not be the case if the nematic fluctuations are driven by the spin fluctuations [116]. The nematic susceptibility of Ba(Fe$_{1-x}$Co$_x$)$_2$As$_2$ follows a Curie-Weiss dependence and the mean field nematic critical temperature closely tracks the actual structural transition temperature, being suppressed to zero at the optimal doping [114]. The divergence of the nematic susceptibility above T_s indicates the tendency toward an electronic nematic phase transition and the Weiss temperature indicates the strength of nematic fluctuations [114]. At a critical nematic point, the nematic susceptibility should diverge at zero temperature (in proportion to $1/T$) and power law behaviors in temperature and composition are expected [116].

Nematic susceptibility measurements for FeSe and FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ [43, 62], [117] indicate a large divergence above the T_s, similar to what was previously observed in Ba(Fe$_{1-x}$Co$_x$)$_2$As$_2$, but in the absence of magnetic order [114]. Nematic susceptibility of FeSe has an opposite sign to other pnictides [118], but similar to other
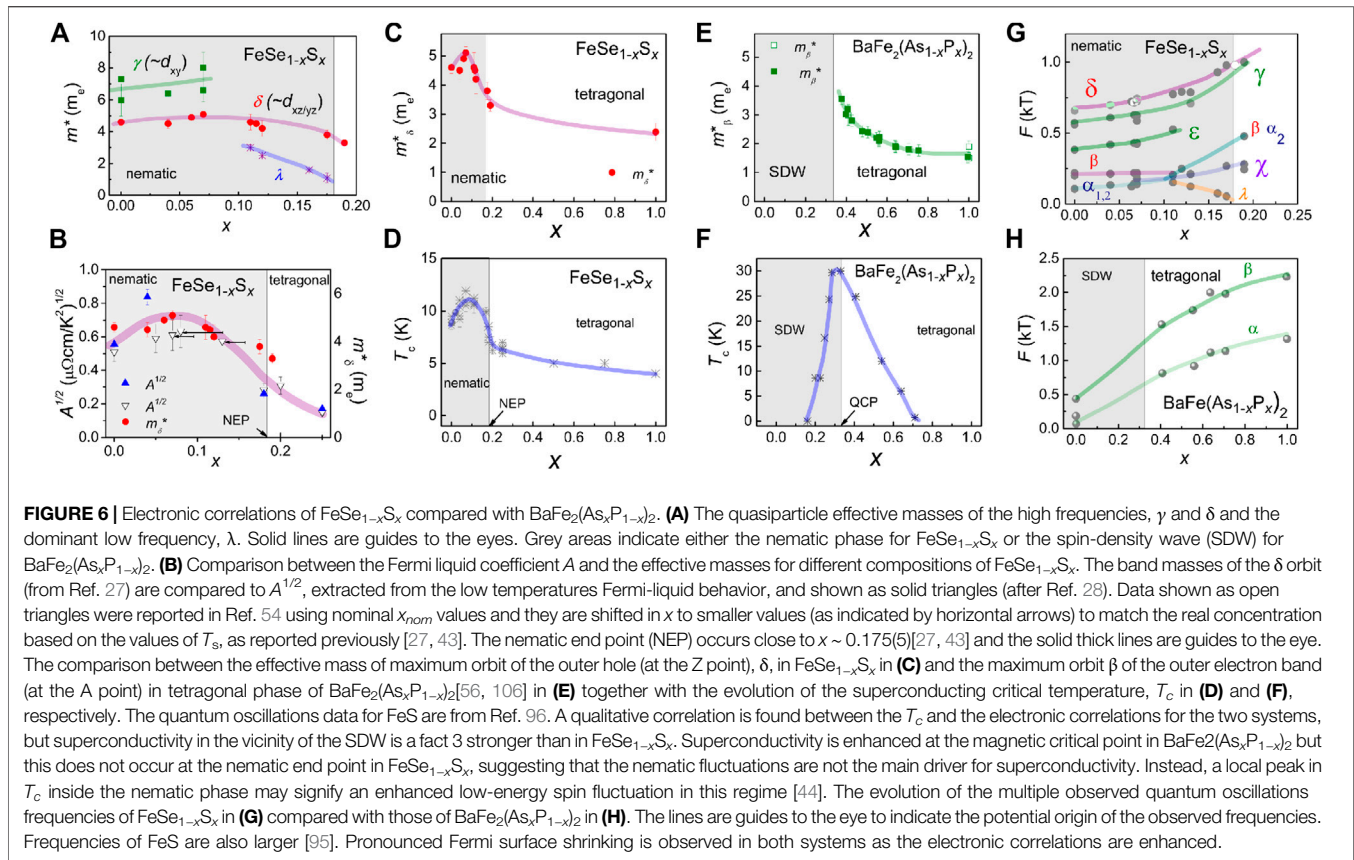
chalcogenides, like FeTe [75], as the resistance along the a (AFM) direction is larger than that along b axis (FM direction). A sign-change in the in-plane anisotropy could be induced by the different scattering rates by spin fluctuations corresponding to different Fermi velocities at the hot-spots for electron- and hole-doped pnictides [119]. In FeSe, despite the lack of long-range magnetic order, the anisotropy of the in-plane resistance below T_s follows qualitatively a model assuming that the electrons are mainly scattered by magnetic fluctuations [117, 120]. Elastoresistance measurements in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ superconductors found that the nematic transition temperature decreases with x [43], whereas the nematic fluctuations are strongly enhanced, similar to Ba(Fe$_{1-x}$Co$_x$)$_2$As$_2$. The observation of strong nematic fluctuations is consistent with the presence of a nematic quantum critical point, but this observation is insufficient to determine whether these fluctuations are driven by quantum criticality. Static Raman susceptibility studies show similar trends to the nematic susceptibility, and additionally it was suggested the possible stabilization of stripe quadrupole order in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ [121]. Future studies to establish a suitable power law of the nematic susceptibility are needed [116] in order to identify whether this point represent a critical point in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$. However, the lack of divergent electronic correlations in quantum oscillations or enhanced superconductivity at the nematic end point suggest a strong suppression of critical fluctuations in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$.

5.4 MAGNETOTRANSPORT BEHAVIOUR OF FESE$_{1-x}$S$_X$

In multi-band systems with different carrier mobilities, the magnetoresistivity components ρ_{xx} and ρ_{xy} have a complicated behavior in magnetic field. In the presence of a single dominant scattering time, the magnetoresistance is expected to follow Kohler's rule and a B^2 dependence [122]. In the tetragonal phase of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$, a quadratic dependence of the magnetoresistance is found up to 69 T both at high temperature above T_s or at low temperature outside the nematic phase boundaries for $x \geq 0.19$ [28]. On the other hand, inside the nematic phase of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$, Kohler's rule is violated and the magnetoresistance of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$, follows an unusual $B^{\sim1.55}$ power law in high magnetic fields [28]. Furthermore, scaling to a modified Kohler's rule as a function of the Hall angle was found in the vicinity of the nematic end point [123]. Another way to understand this complex behavior is to separate different components of magnetoresistance, as suggested in Ref. 55. The coefficient of one of the extracted component has the same temperature dependence as the resistivity slope in 34 T in FeSe (**Figure 7**), once adjusted for the correct compositions as Refs. 54, 55 uses the nominal sulfur concentration. Furthermore, other types of magnetoresistivity scaling found for BaFe$_2$(As$_{1-x}$P$_x$)$_2$ [125], are not found for FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ [28, 55], and these effects are likely to occur for samples with higher impurity scattering [55].

5.5 Highly Mobile Small Carriers in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ Beyond the Two-Band Model

A compensated two-carrier model can describe the behavior of the magnetoresistance and the Hall effect of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ in the
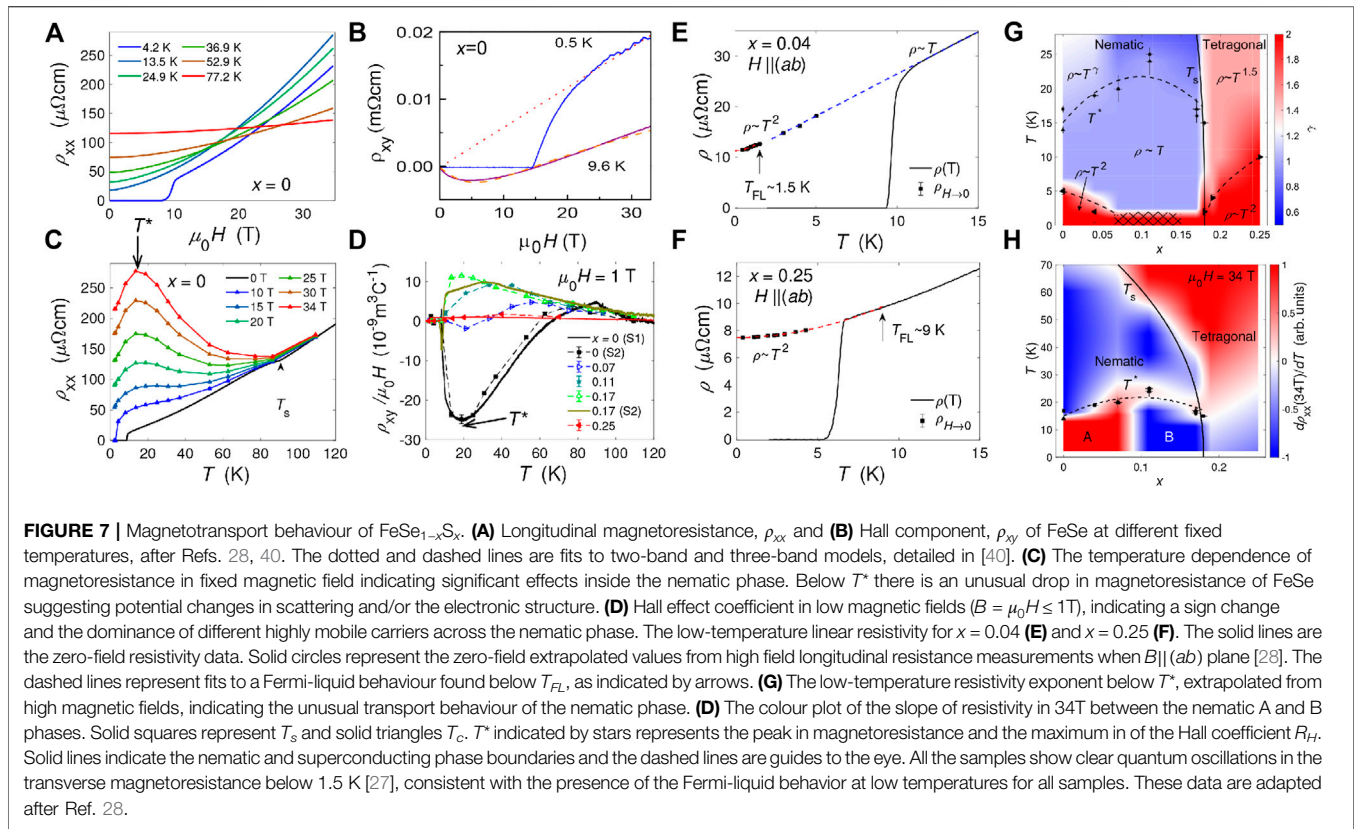
FIGURE 6 | Electronic correlations of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ compared with BaFe$_2$(As$_x$P$_{1-x}$)$_2$. **(A)** The quasiparticle effective masses of the high frequencies, γ and δ and the dominant low frequency, λ. Solid lines are guides to the eyes. Grey areas indicate either the nematic phase for FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ or the spin-density wave (SDW) for BaFe$_2$(As$_x$P$_{1-x}$)$_2$. **(B)** Comparison between the Fermi liquid coefficient A and the effective masses for different compositions of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$. The band masses of the δ orbit (from Ref. 27) are compared to $A^{1/2}$, extracted from the low temperatures Fermi-liquid behavior, and shown as solid triangles (after Ref. 28). Data shown as open triangles were reported in Ref. 54 using nominal x_{nom} values and they are shifted in x to smaller values (as indicated by horizontal arrows) to match the real concentration based on the values of T_s, as reported previously [27, 43]. The nematic end point (NEP) occurs close to x ~ 0.175(5)[27, 43] and the solid thick lines are guides to the eye. The comparison between the effective mass of maximum orbit of the outer hole (at the Z point), δ, in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ in **(C)** and the maximum orbit β of the outer electron band (at the A point) in tetragonal phase of BaFe$_2$(As$_x$P$_{1-x}$)$_2$[56, 106] in **(E)** together with the evolution of the superconducting critical temperature, T_c in **(D)** and **(F)**, respectively. The quantum oscillations data for FeS are from Ref. 96. A qualitative correlation is found between the T_c and the electronic correlations for the two systems, but superconductivity in the vicinity of the SDW is a fact 3 stronger than in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$. Superconductivity is enhanced at the magnetic critical point in BaFe2(As$_x$P$_{1-x}$)$_2$ but this does not occur at the nematic end point in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$, suggesting that the nematic fluctuations are not the main driver for superconductivity. Instead, a local peak in T_c inside the nematic phase may signify an enhanced low-energy spin fluctuation in this regime [44]. The evolution of the multiple observed quantum oscillations frequencies of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ in **(G)** compared with those of BaFe$_2$(As$_x$P$_{1-x}$)$_2$ in **(H)**. The lines are guides to the eye to indicate the potential origin of the observed frequencies. Frequencies of FeS are also larger [95]. Pronounced Fermi surface shrinking is observed in both systems as the electronic correlations are enhanced.

tetragonal phase [28, 98]. For a compensated metal, the sign of the Hall coefficient depends on the difference between the hole and electron carrier mobilities [98]. At high temperatures in the tetragonal phase, the Hall effect is linear and the Hall coefficient, $R_H = \rho_{xy}/B$, is close to zero as the hole and electron pockets have rather similar mobilities [98]. Inside the nematic phase, the Hall coefficient for FeSe, extrapolated in the low-field limit (below 1 T), is negative at low temperatures with a minimum around 20 K [29, 98]. These anomalies indicate that the magnetotransport behavior of FeSe cannot be described using a two-band compensated model, and an additional higher mobility charge carrier is required (with carrier concentration of 0.7×10^{20} cm^{-3}, a factor 5 smaller than the size of the largest band) [98, 125, 126]. This component would correspond to a Fermi surface of small volume that could be linked to the inner electron band with frequencies below 100 T and a light effective mass (~2 m_e) [27, 42, 62]. With increasing x, the Hall coefficient at low temperatures is positive for x ~ 0.11, suggesting the dominance of highly mobile hole carriers, as shown in **Figure 7D** [28]. This sign change occurs for the same composition at which the highly mobile 3D hole pocket center is detected in ARPES studies at the Z-point around x ~ 0.11, shown in **Figure 2** [40]. High mobility carriers have been suggested to dominate the magnetotransport behavior across the whole nematic phase of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ [126, 127], Furthermore, FeSe under pressure shows similar trends to the chemical pressure effect and the normal-state Hall resistivity changes

sign from negative to positive, showing dominant highly mobile hole carriers at high pressures [79].

The orbital order significantly affects band shifts for the electron bands and it can generate very small pockets, as shown in **Figure 3**. The presence of the small number of highly mobile carrier was suggested to be linked to the Dirac-like dispersions in the nematic phase on some sections of the electron pockets [125, 128]. Large orbital-dependent shifts of $\Delta_M \sim 70$ meV in FeSe thin films on SrTiO$_3$ have been found to generate Dirac-like dispersion around the M point [88], but these shifts are much larger than those of $\Delta_M \sim 50$ meV in bulk FeSe. Magnetotransport cannot distinguish whether there are two tiny electron-like pockets or one small electron pocket (**Figure 3C** for large ϕ_3 values), besides the almost compensated hole and electron bands in FeSe. It is clear that a two-band picture containing an single electron and hole pocket and assuming isotropic scattering fails to describe magnetotransport behavior of FeSe [98].

Significant changes in scattering could occur for a elongated nematic Fermi surface of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ [35, 62]. Two scattering wave-vectors are detected by STM [46] suggesting different scattering processes along certain directions of an elongated ellipse [9]. A flower-shaped electron orbit would have a strongly varying angular velocity [129] and the scattering rate could vary strongly due to the changes of the orbital character on various sections induced by spin fluctuations [117, 130]. Hall effect in iron-based superconductors is also affected by the spin

FIGURE 7 | Magnetotransport behaviour of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$. **(A)** Longitudinal magnetoresistance, ρ_{xx} and **(B)** Hall component, ρ_{xy} of FeSe at different fixed temperatures, after Refs. 28, 40. The dotted and dashed lines are fits to two-band and three-band models, detailed in [40]. **(C)** The temperature dependence of magnetoresistance in fixed magnetic field indicating significant effects inside the nematic phase. Below T^* there is an unusual drop in magnetoresistance of FeSe suggesting potential changes in scattering and/or the electronic structure. **(D)** Hall effect coefficient in low magnetic fields ($B = \mu_0 H \le 1$T), indicating a sign change and the dominance of different highly mobile carriers across the nematic phase. The low-temperature linear resistivity for $x = 0.04$ **(E)** and $x = 0.25$ **(F)**. The solid lines are the zero-field resistivity data. Solid circles represent the zero-field extrapolated values from high field longitudinal resistance measurements when $B||(ab)$ plane [28]. The dashed lines represent fits to a Fermi-liquid behaviour found below T_{FL}, as indicated by arrows. **(G)** The low-temperature resistivity exponent below T^*, extrapolated from high magnetic fields, indicating the unusual transport behaviour of the nematic phase. **(D)** The colour plot of the slope of resistivity in 34T between the nematic A and B phases. Solid squares represent T_s and solid triangles T_c. T^* indicated by stars represents the peak in magnetoresistance and the maximum in of the Hall coefficient R_H. Solid lines indicate the nematic and superconducting phase boundaries and the dashed lines are guides to the eye. All the samples show clear quantum oscillations in the transverse magnetoresistance below 1.5 K [27], consistent with the presence of the Fermi-liquid behavior at low temperatures for all samples. These data are adapted after Ref. 28.

fluctuations that induce mixing of the electron and hole currents [131]. All these effects could lead to highly anisotropic scattering rates in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ that are suppressed with x substitution. Indeed, in the tetragonal phase a single scattering process dominates the magnetotransport, as Kohler's rule is obeyed [28]. Further theoretical work is needed to understand transport and magnetotransport data of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$. Future models should account for anisotropic scattering and scattering of quasiparticles from the domain walls, when the nematic domain size (determined by the quenched disorder) is smaller than the normal state mean-free path [1].

FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ displays deviation from the Fermi liquid theory, expected for conventional metals, that affect the temperature and field dependencies of electron transport. The magnetoresistance of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ increases significantly once a system enters the nematic state and shows an unusual temperature dependence that varies strongly with x, as shown in **Figures 7A,B** for FeSe. The temperature dependence of the resistivity slope in 34 T in FeSe changes sign at a characteristic temperature, T^* below 14 K, and the Hall coefficient R_H display a negative maximum, as shown in **Figures 7B,D**. Interestingly, T^* seems to be the characteristic scale for low-energy spin fluctuations in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ [44, 132, 133]. Magnetostriction measurements in magnetic field for FeSe showed that the lattice distortion continues to increase down to T_c, different from BaFe$_2$As$_2$, where there is a intimate connection between the magnetic order and structural distortion [121]. With sulfur substitution, T^* shifts to a slightly higher temperature of ~20 K, and eventually

disappears in the tetragonal phase, as the low-energy spin fluctuations are completely suppressed [44, 134]. Changes in magnetotransport and in the resistivity slope occur from $x \sim 0.11$ (**Figure 7H**) in the presence of the additional highly mobile 3D band, labeled as the nematic B phase [28]. It is clear that magnetic field could affect scattering inside the nematic phase that could be still dominated by spin fluctuations and it can spin polarize the multi-band small Fermi-surface of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$. Further theoretical work will be required to explain the observed effects in magnetic fields and experimental studies in single domains crystals are needed to address the extrinsic scattering at the nematic domain boundaries.

5.6 Anomalous Transport Behavior

Linear resistivity at low temperatures is usually found near an antiferromagnetic critical point, such as in BaFe$_2$(As$_{1-x}$P$_x$) [11] and reflect scattering induced by critical spin-fluctuations [135]. FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ has a low temperature region with a linear resistivity across the whole nematic phase below T^* (using extrapolated in-plane high magnetic field data), as shown in **Figures 7E,G**. Low energy spin-fluctuations are present inside the nematic state in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ [44, 132, 134], and μSR studies place FeSe near an itinerant antiferromagnetic quantum critical point at very low temperatures [136]. This region with linear T resistivity below T^* occurs over a limited temperature regime and the Fermi-liquid behavior recovers below T_{FL} and all compositions show quantum oscillations (**Figures 7E–G**) [27]. Deviations from Fermi-liquid behavior were also reported for FeSe [11] and linear T resistivity

was detected in 35 T for $x_{nom} \sim 0.16$ with $T_s \sim 50$ K, which corresponds to $x \sim 0.13$ inside the nematic phase [37, 54]. Thus, all existing experimental transport data for FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ in high magnetic fields up to 45 T suggest that the low-temperature linear resistivity occurs inside the nematic phase, rather than at the nematic end point, and, as in the case of the electronic correlations and T_c, it is likely a manifestation of the spin fluctuation scattering mechanism inside the nematic phase FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$.

In the tetragonal phase of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ the resistivity exponent seem to vary with temperature [28, 52] and a resistivity with $T^{3/2}$ dependence is found over a large temperature range up to 120 K, in agreement with studies under pressure [39]. Theoretical models suggest that the exact temperature exponent of resistivity, in vicinity of nematic critical points is highly dependent on the presence of *cold spots* on different Fermi surfaces, due to the symmetry of the nematic order parameter [9, 137, 138] or due to the scattering from acoustic phonons [8] near the nematic end point. Near a Pomeranchuk instability the transport decay rate is linear in temperature everywhere on the Fermi surface except at cold spots on the Brillouin zone diagonal, leading to a resistivity proportional to $T^{3/2}$ for a clean 2D system or to a linear T dependence in the presence of impurities [137]. Furthermore, the scale at which the crossover to Fermi liquid behavior occurs at low temperatures depends on the strength of the coupling to the lattice [6], responsible for the lack of divergent critical fluctuation at the nematic end point in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ [27, 28, 39].

6 SUPERCONDUCTIVITY OF FESE$_{1-x}$S$_X$

The normal nematic electronic phase and the anomalous scattering of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ affects significantly its superconducting state. The gap structure of FeSe is two-fold symmetric, reaching small values on the major axis of the elliptical hole pocket and it is changing its sign between the hole and the small electron pocket [78, 139]. While nematicity is an intrinsic property of the bulk FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$, nematic fluctuations may not be the primary force driving the superconducting pairing [140], despite the fact that the relative orthorhombic distortion is reduced as the superconductivity increases in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ [111]. Neutron scattering have detected substantial stripe spin fluctuations that are enhanced abruptly inside the nematic phase and a sharp spin resonance develops in the superconducting state with an energy of ~4 meV, consistent with an electron-boson coupling mode [141]. By de-twinning crystals of FeSe via a BaFe$_2$As$_2$ substrate, the neutron diffraction spectra reveal that the spin fluctuations are highly anisotropic [13]. Theoretically, low-energy spin excitation were suggested to be stabilized by the frustrated magnetism among the local Fe moments [86, 142] or antiferroquadrupolar state in FeSe [143]. These low-energy spin-fluctuations are likely to provide the pairing channel in FeSe [144, 145] and this can manifest via nesting of d_{yz} sections of the hole and electron bands; the d_{xy} portions do not participate in pairing due to the orbital selective strong correlation effects [78, 146]. In this scenario, a maximum gap on the Fermi surface sections with d_{yz} character, and a small gap on sections with d_{xz} or d_{xy} character

would occur, similar to experiments [78, 147]. Most of the thermodynamic and thermal conductivity studies of bulk FeSe in the superconducting phase have been modeled by accounting for two different nodeless superconducting gaps [148, 149]. The presence of nodes in the superconducting gap of FeSe has also been suggested by other studies [113, 150, 151]. The multi-gap superconductivity is preserved as a function of chemical pressure in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ [112, 139], and tunneling experiments found that the vortex core anisotropy is strongly suppressed once Fermi surface becomes isotropic [151]. High-resolution thermal expansion showed a lack of coupling between the orthorhombic distortion and superconductivity in FeSe [12], whereas with increasing substitution toward $x \sim 0.15$ the effect seems to be the opposite [111]. The jump in specific heat ($\Delta C_{el}/\gamma_n T_c$) for different x varies slightly around 2, which is above the weak coupling limit of the BCS theory believed to be caused by the multi-band effects [112].

For isotropic isoelectronic iron-based superconductors, the height of pnictogen acts as a switch between high-T_c nodeless and low-T_c nodal pairings [152]. FeS, like other end member compounds, displays weak correlations and nodal superconductivity, similar to other systems like LaFePO and LiFeP [153–156], as the chalcogen position is closer to the iron planes compared to their isoelectronic sister-compounds, like LiFeAs. On the other hand for FeSe, there has been suggestions both of nodal and nodeless superconductivity [113, 157, 158, 159, 160]. Abrupt changes in the superconductivity occur at the nematic end point, potentially stabilized by different pairing channels inside and outside the nematic phase [30, 46]. There is no superconductivity enhancement at the nematic end point in FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$, suggesting the presence of a non-nematic pairing mechanism and/or the lack of divergent critical fluctuations, similar to the behavior of the quasiparticle effective masses [27, 39]. The coupling to the relevant lattice strain restrict the critical behavior only along certain high symmetry directions and this can affect the nematic critical fluctuations and do not enhance superconductivity [6, 7].

6.1 BCS-BEC Crossover of the Multiband FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$

FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ are multi-band systems with relatively small Fermi energies at low temperatures. There has been a lot of interest to asses whether these systems are candidates in the crossover regime between the BCS to the BEC state, expected for $\Delta_{SC}/E_F \leq 1$ [161, 162]. These effects have been suggested to occur in Fe$_{1+y}$Se$_x$Te$_{1-x}$, as the hole band as the Γ point is tuned at the Fermi level by Fe deficiency and Δ_{SC}/E_F varies 0.16 to 0.50 [163]. This ratio is also relevant for assessing the possibility of stabilization of a FFLO state in FeSe [164] and a good knowledge of the value of the superconducting gap and the Fermi energy of the multi-band and highly warped Fermi surfaces is needed. The amplitudes of the highly anisotropic superconducting gaps of FeSe around the hole pocket vary between $\Delta_{SC} \sim 2.5$ (or 2.3) (Γ point) from STM to 1.5 meV–3 meV from laser ARPES [94]. For the electron pocket (at the M point) the values of the gap vary between 3.5 and 1.5 meV

[46, 78] and another potential small gap of 0.39 meV was invoked from specific heat data [79] (**Figure 4F**). The top of the hole band (associated to the Fermi energy E_F) is k_z dependent having a value of 16 meV at Γ point and 25 meV at the Z point (**Figure 4D**) [35, 62], whereas laser ARPES reports values of 6.7–10 meV [91, 93]. Based on these values, $\Delta_{SC}/E_F \sim 0.1$–0.15 for the hole band at the Γ point in FeSe. This ratio will decrease using the parameters at Z point and the correct values of E_F need to take into account the strong k_z dependence of the cylindrical Fermi surface and the mass anisotropy for each pocket. As a function of x, the gap associated with the hole band remains relatively constant inside the nematic phase, but it is getting smaller toward 1.5 meV in the tetragonal phase (see **Figure 4F**) [46]. The top of hole band and the Γ is somewhat reduced toward 5 meV for $x \sim 0.18$ but increases slightly for the Z point at 26 meV; the bottom of the inner electron band is around $\sim$15 meV (see **Figure 4F**). The variation of these parameters will affect the estimates of Δ_{SC}/E_F and one needs to consider the multiple bands and gaps of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ together with the k_z dependence of the Fermi surface and the superconducting gap [93, 164]. Furthermore, the Fermi velocities increase with x pushing the system away from the BCS-BEC crossover regime, as not all the bands satisfy the crossover condition.

Another way to assess the proximity to the crossover is to check whether the size of the Cooper pair, given by the coherence length ξ_{ab}, is smaller than the mean inter-particle spacing $1/k_F$ and $\xi k_F \ll 1$ [15, 161]. Using the in-plane coherence length for FeSe of $\xi = 4.6$–5.7 nm [42, 45] and the values of $k_F \sim 0.038$–0.15 for the hole bands (**Figure 4**), it suggests that $\xi k_F \sim 1.75$–8.55 is large and the Cooper pairs are quite extended suggesting that the superconductivity of FeSe need to be understood considering its multi-band effects. Further aspects of the pairing mechanism of FeSe and other iron-chalcogenides are discussed in detail in recent reviews [15, 37].

7 CONCLUSION

FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ has opened an new area of exploration of the electronic nematic state and its role in the stabilization of the unconventional superconductivity. These systems are multi-band systems which are highly sensitive to orbitally-dependent electronic interactions that affect the evolution of the electronic structure with sulfur substitution. Fermi surface of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ are mainly quasi-two dimensional warped cylinders but an additional 3D hole pocket is present with increasing sulfur concentration from $x \sim 0.11$. The Fermi energies have a broad range, that generally increases with x substitution, but they are smaller for the inner electron and hole pockets, making them prone to electronic instabilities. The development of nematic electronic phase with strong anisotropic electronic structure influences the scattering and leads to unusual magnetoresistance inside the nematic phase. Linear resistivity and anomalous magnetotransport is detected inside the nematic phase and is likely to reflect the role played by the spin fluctuations in this regime. FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ show no signatures of enhanced T_c and divergent electronic correlations at the nematic end point, which are likely to be quenched by the finite coupling with the lattice. This coupling could also be the origin of the non-Fermi liquid behavior outside the nematic phase. The superconductivity of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ has a small enhancement inside the nematic phase and a somehow abrupt change at the nematic end point. This behavior is different from the isoelectronic family BaFe$_2$(As$_{1-x}$P$_x$)$_2$ where quantum critical fluctuations enhance both superconductivity and effective masses of the quasiparticles on approaching the spin-density phase and linear resistivity is found at the magnetic critical point. The study of FeSe$_{1-x}$S$_x$ compared with other isoelectronic iron-based superconductors emphasis the important role played by the magnetic rather than nematic fluctuations for enhancing superconductivity in iron-based superconductors.

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