

# Thursday Afternoon, September 25, 2025

## 2D Materials

### Room 208 W - Session 2D+AQS+MI+NS+QS+TF-ThA

#### 2D Materials: Magnets and Topological Phenomena

Moderators: Rafik Addou, The University of Texas at Dallas, Zhurun Ji, MIT

2:15pm **2D+AQS+MI+NS+QS+TF-ThA-1 Non-Local Transport from Magnetic Topological Superconductivity in 2D Fe-Chalcogenides, Kenneth Burch**, Boston College **INVITED**

Magneto-Chiral topological superconductivity is a rare phase long pursued for error-free quantum computation. Its 1D chiral modes possess topologically protected long-range coherence well beyond that of the Cooper pairs, which could be fruitful for quantum transduction and low-temperature spin transport. While evidence for such modes is mounting, unambiguous signatures, such as non-local transport via co-tunneling, remain elusive. I will describe our realization of 1D chiral hinge modes mediating the direct tunneling of electrons from source to drain in FeTe<sub>0.55</sub>Se<sub>0.45</sub>. Specifically, I will discuss our evidence that the non-local tunneling signatures are decoherence-free and emerge from this material's combination of surface magnetism, bulk topology, and superconductivity. Time remaining, I will discuss how these advances can be used for Majorana Circuits and future efforts in cryogenic spintronics

2:45pm **2D+AQS+MI+NS+QS+TF-ThA-3 Integer and Fractional Chern Insulators in moiré MoTe<sub>2</sub>, Yihang Zeng**, Purdue University **INVITED**

The fractional Chern insulator (FCI), a lattice analogue of the renowned fractional quantum Hall state, was theorized to exist without external magnetic field. FCI provides a pathway towards novel topologically ordered quantum phases that are useful for decoherence-free quantum computation. Two-dimensional (2D) moiré materials, featuring strong correlation, non-trivial band topology and unparalleled tunability, stands as an ideal platform for realizing FCI. In this talk, I will first present our innovative optoelectronic detection method, which is capable of detecting the chemical potential in arbitrary 2D materials. Employing this new technique, we successfully observed an FCI and integer Chern insulator in the zero magnetic field limit in MoTe<sub>2</sub>-based moiré materials. We further study the FCI and ferromagnetism as a function of twist angle.

3:15pm **2D+AQS+MI+NS+QS+TF-ThA-5 Conducting Scanned Probe Investigations of the Bismuthine Termination of Intrinsic Topological Superlattice Bi<sub>2</sub>-Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>, Lakshan Don Manuwelge Don, Mysidia Leff, Md. Sakauat Hasan Sakib**, Miami University; **Seth Shields**, The Ohio State University; **Joseph Corbett**, Miami University

Topological materials, characterized by symmetry-protected electronic states and robust surface conduction, represent a frontier in quantum materials research. Their non-trivial band topology enables dissipationless edge states, spin-momentum locking, and resilience to disorder, making them strong candidates for spin-orbit torque devices, magnetic field sensors, and polarized light detectors, to name a few. These properties have positioned topological materials as important material of interest as development of scalable quantum technologies grows.

In this study, we explore the atomic and electronic properties of the bismuthine-terminated topological semimetal Bi<sub>2</sub>-Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> using scanning tunneling microscopy (STM) and conductive atomic force microscopy (C-AFM). Bi<sub>2</sub>-Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> is an intrinsic superlattice material s comprised of a Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> quintuple layer (QL) slab and a 2D Bismuthine (Bi<sub>2</sub>) layer separated by a van der Waals gaps. The topological surface state on the 001 orientation depends on the terminating layer, with two distinct possible topologically protected surface states.

The unique step heights between the Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> QL and Bismuthine layer enable termination characterization through careful step height analysis. Atomically resolved STM measurements on a Bismuthine terminated step reveal a distinct honeycomb lattice, while scanning tunneling spectroscopy (STS) captures a Dirac cone in local density of states centered at the Fermi level, in excellent agreement with angle-resolved photoemission spectroscopy (ARPES).

Using C-AFM under ambient conditions, we investigate force-dependent I-V spectroscopy. Utilizing step height analysis, we find a bismuthine terminated step and perform point spectroscopy. At low applied forces, differential conductance (dI/dV) spectra reveal a Dirac cone, mirroring STM results and confirming the presence of topologically protected surface states even under ambient conditions! As mechanical force increases, we observe a transition in transport behavior, from quantum tunneling to Ohmic conduction. Additionally, a voltage and force-dependent crossover from direct tunneling to Fowler-Nordheim tunneling is identified.

Our findings revealing the atomic structure and Dirac cone of the bismuthine termination in the topological semimetal Bi<sub>2</sub>-Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>. Interestingly these feature are observable even under ambient condition. We find no degradation with time, freshly grown sample versus those that have sat for months give the same results.

3:30pm **2D+AQS+MI+NS+QS+TF-ThA-6 Local Spectroscopy Study of Gate-controlled Energy Gap in Monolayer 1T'-WTe<sub>2</sub>, Tiancong Zhu**, Purdue University; **Zehao He**, University of California at Berkeley; **Michal Papaj**, University of Houston; **Samuel Stolz**, Department of Physics, University of California, Berkeley; **Tianye Wang**, **Canxun Zhang**, **Yan-Qi Wang**, **Joel Moore**, **Zi Qiang Qiu**, **Feng Wang**, **Michael Crommie**, University of California at Berkeley

The interplay between strong correlation and topology can lead to intriguing quantum phases of matter. In monolayer 1T'-WTe<sub>2</sub>, the non-trivial topology gives rise to the quantum spin Hall insulator (QSHI) phase, characterized by helical 1D edge states surrounding the insulating 2D bulk. While experimental evidences support quantized conductance through the 1D helical edge states, the nature of the insulating bulk, whether attributed to spin-orbit coupling or strong correlation, remains under debate. Here, we employ scanning tunneling microscopy and spectroscopy (STM/S) on gate-tunable 1T'-WTe<sub>2</sub> devices to shed light on this problem. Our samples are fabricated using a combination of molecular beam epitaxy (MBE) and van der Waals (vdW) stacking technique, which allows us to synthesize high-quality monolayer 1T'-WTe<sub>2</sub> films on a gate tunable graphene field effective transistor supported by hBN. Gate-dependent STS reveals a substantial energy gap in 1T'-WTe<sub>2</sub> at its charge neutrality, which diminishes when the Fermi level is tuned into either the conduction or valence band. STS across the sample edges shows that the edge states persist at all gate voltages, while Fourier transform-STM measurement in the bulk further shows the evolution of the bulk band structure at different carrier densities. We will compare our experimental data with existing theoretical models, such as the SOC-induced gap and the proposed excitonic insulator phase, and suggest future experimental directions to further elucidate the origin of the energy gap.

3:45pm **2D+AQS+MI+NS+QS+TF-ThA-7 Exploring Moiré Magnetism in Twisted Two-Dimensional Magnets, Liuyan Zhao**, University of Michigan **INVITED**

Moiré superlattice emerges from the interference between two mismatched atomic lattices, and it has led to tremendous success in designing and tailoring the electronic states in two-dimensional (2D) homo- and hetero-structures. Yet, the power of moiré superlattice in controlling the spin degree of freedom and thus modifying the magnetic states is much less explored. Only very recently after the development of 2D magnet research, there have been a few experimental attempts in realizing moiré magnetism in twisted 2D magnet homo-structures. In this talk, I will show our recent effort in studying magnetic phases in twisted double bilayer chromium triiodide (CrI<sub>3</sub>) and progressive steps towards realizing moiré magnetism. Noting that bilayer CrI<sub>3</sub> is a layered antiferromagnet and that any homogeneous stacking of two bilayers necessarily produces zero magnetization, we have revealed, in twisted double bilayer CrI<sub>3</sub>, an unexpected net magnetization showing up at intermediate twist angles and its accompanied noncollinear spin textures. I will show the optical spectroscopy signatures of this twist-induced magnetic phase, then discuss its dependence on twist angle, external magnetic field, and temperature.

4:15pm **2D+AQS+MI+NS+QS+TF-ThA-9 High-Efficiency Optoelectronic Training of Two-Dimensional Magnets, Ti Xie, Jierui Liang**, University of Maryland College Park; **Dhritiman Bhattacharya**, Georgetown University; **Hasitha Suriya Arachchige**, University of Tennessee, Knoxville; **Victor Yakovenko**, University of Maryland College Park; **David Mandrus**, University of Tennessee, Knoxville; **Zi Qiang Qiu**, University of California at Berkeley; **Kai Liu**, Georgetown University; **Cheng Gong**, University of Maryland College Park

A magnetic material, while dressed with different spin configurations, can host a variety of emergent phenomena such as chiral domain walls, skyrmions, and Majorana fermions. Traditional preparation of various spin textures in magnetic films by transforming an already established spin pattern demands intensive energy to cause spin flipping or domain wall motion. In contrast, engineering the phase transition kinetics potentially opens up new avenues to achieve desired spin configurations. The two-dimensional (2D) layered magnets, owing to the ultra-thinness, allow the magnetism control by various external stimuli, among which optical approaches promise non-destructive manipulation, both locally and globally. In this talk, I will introduce how we demonstrated a low-power

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optical control of 2D magnets. By perturbing the phase transition kinetics, we found that optically excited electrons are multiple orders of magnitudes more effective than electrostatically doped electrons in influencing magnetic domains. Our low-power optical operation paves the new avenue to efficiently engineer 2D spin textures for a plethora of emergent quantum phenomena.

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