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a. REPORT UU	b. ABSTRACT UU	c. THIS PAGE UU			19b. TELEPHONE NUMBER 519-888-4567

# RPPR Final Report

## as of 25-May-2021

Agency Code: 21XD

Proposal Number: 75117ELII

Agreement Number: W911NF-19-1-0267

### INVESTIGATOR(S):

**Name:** Adam Wei Tsen  
**Email:** awtsen@uwaterloo.ca  
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**Principal:** Y

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DUNS Number: 208488833

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**Report Date:** 05-Apr-2021

Date Received: 20-Apr-2021

**Final Report** for Period Beginning 06-May-2019 and Ending 05-Jan-2021

**Title:** Route to Quantum Anomalous Hall Effect Using Magnetic Van der Waals Heterostructures

**Begin Performance Period:** 06-May-2019

**End Performance Period:** 05-Jan-2021

**Report Term:** 0-Other

Submitted By: Adam Tsen

Email: awtsen@uwaterloo.ca

Phone: (519) 888-4567x30375

**Distribution Statement:** 1-Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

**STEM Degrees:** 0

**STEM Participants:** 4

**Major Goals:** The goals of this project are to 1) understand the nature of magnetism in the chromium trihalide family of layered magnetic insulators ( $\text{CrX}_3$ ,  $X = \text{I, Br, Cl}$ ), and 2) interface them with intrinsically doped topological insulators in order to realize the quantum anomalous Hall effect, potentially at elevated temperatures.

**Accomplishments:** A number of significant discoveries were made shedding light on the nature of 2D magnetism in the chromium trihalides and demonstrating novel spintronic behavior in their device heterostructures.

1) We demonstrated a giant tunnel magnetoresistance in graphene/ $\text{CrX}_3$ /graphene heterostructures that is tunable with sample thickness, bias, and temperature [Nano Letters 19, 5739-5745 (2019)].

2) At high bias, we demonstrated robust memristive switching in graphene/ $\text{CrI}_3$ /graphene heterostructures with the unique property of being tunable with magnetic field [Advanced Materials 32, 1905433 (2020)].

3) Using terahertz Raman spectroscopy, we observed low energy magnon modes in  $\text{CrI}_3$  that are coupled with the interlayer magnetic ordering. Surface layers were further observed to be antiferromagnetically coupled, in contrast with the ferromagnetic bulk [Physical Review X 10, 011075 (2020)].

4) We observed excitons of unique polaronic character in  $\text{CrI}_3$  that are further tied to magnetic ordering at low temperature. This suggests strong coupling between the lattice, charge, and spin degrees of freedom [Nature Communications 11, 4780 (2020)].

5) Using polarized Raman spectroscopy, we observed phonon modes that are coupled to the interlayer magnetic order in ultrathin  $\text{CrI}_3$ , demonstrating rich spin-phonon physics in 2D magnets [Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 117, 24664-24669 (2020)].

Additional findings were made on other 2D systems showing novel electronic and/or spintronic behavior.

6) We used scanning photocurrent microscopy to image charge density wave transitions in ultrathin 1T-TaS<sub>2</sub> and demonstrated how to drive them electrically and reversibly for memristor applications [Nano Letters 20, 7200-7206 (2020)].

7) By taking advantage of the strong nonlinear susceptibility in Weyl semimetal candidates Td-MoTe<sub>2</sub> and WTe<sub>2</sub>, we discovered the largest Hall response yet observed in any material [Nature Communications 12, 2049 (2021)].

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**Training Opportunities:** Four graduate students (Archana Tiwari, Tarun Patel, Shazhou Zhong, and Fangzhou Yin) were trained in the following areas during this project: nanofabrication, cryogenics, magnetotransport measurements, and optoelectronic measurements.

**Results Dissemination:** The following technical talks relevant to the project were delivered.

“Tunneling Probe of Two-Dimensional Magnetism,” Graphene 2020, Oct. 22, 2020

“Tunneling Probe of Two-Dimensional Magnetism,” Department of Physics Colloquium, California State University, Long Beach, Oct. 5, 2020

“Giant Nonlinear Anomalous Hall Effect,” Spin Phenomena Interdisciplinary Center: 2D van der Waals Spin Systems Conference, Mainz, Germany, Aug. 5, 2020

“Tunneling Probe of Two-Dimensional Magnetism,” Regroupement Quebecois sur les Materiaux de Point Seminar, Ecole Polytechnique de Montreal, Mar. 9, 2020

“Tunneling Probe of Two-Dimensional Magnetism,” Department of Physics and Astronomy Condensed Matter Seminar, University of California, Riverside, Feb. 6, 2020

“Tunneling Probe of Two-Dimensional Magnetism,” Department of Physics and Astronomy Condensed Matter Seminar, University of California, Irvine, Feb. 5, 2020

“Tunneling Probe of Two-Dimensional Magnetism,” School of Mathematics and Physics Seminar, Queen’s University UK, Jan. 22, 2020

“Tunneling Probe of Two-Dimensional Magnetism,” Stewart Blusson Quantum Matter Institute Condensed Matter Seminar, University of British Columbia, Oct. 24, 2019

“Tunneling Probe of Two-Dimensional Magnetism,” Material Research Science and Engineering Center Seminar, Columbia University, Sept 17, 2019

“Two-Dimensional Magnetism and Spintronics,” UW Quantum Materials Workshop, University of Waterloo, July 26, 2019

“Two-Dimensional Magnetism and Spintronics,” UW-HKUST Workshop: Emerging Quantum Technologies in Solid-State and Atomic Systems, University of Waterloo, July 23, 2019

“Two-Dimensional Magnetism and Spintronics,” Department of Physics Condensed Matter Seminar, University of Virginia, May 30, 2019

**Honors and Awards:** Nothing to Report

**Protocol Activity Status:**

**Technology Transfer:** Nothing to Report

### **PARTICIPANTS:**

**Participant Type:** PD/PI

**Participant:** Adam Wei Tsen

**Person Months Worked:** 1.00

Project Contribution:

National Academy Member: N

**Funding Support:**

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as of 25-May-2021

**Participant Type:** Graduate Student (research assistant)  
**Participant:** Archana Tiwari  
**Person Months Worked:** 3.00  
Project Contribution:  
National Academy Member: N  
**Funding Support:**

**Participant Type:** Graduate Student (research assistant)  
**Participant:** Tarun Patel  
**Person Months Worked:** 3.00  
Project Contribution:  
National Academy Member: N  
**Funding Support:**

**Participant Type:** Graduate Student (research assistant)  
**Participant:** Shazhou Zhong  
**Person Months Worked:** 3.00  
Project Contribution:  
National Academy Member: N  
**Funding Support:**

**Participant Type:** Graduate Student (research assistant)  
**Participant:** Fangzhou Yin  
**Person Months Worked:** 3.00  
Project Contribution:  
National Academy Member: N  
**Funding Support:**

**ARTICLES:**

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**Journal:** Nature Communications  
Publication Identifier Type: DOI  
Volume: 12 Issue: 1  
Date Submitted: 4/20/21 12:00AM  
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Peer Reviewed: Y  
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First Page #:  
Date Published: 4/1/21 8:00AM

**Article Title:** Giant c-axis nonlinear anomalous Hall effect in Td-MoTe<sub>2</sub> and WTe<sub>2</sub>  
**Authors:** Archana Tiwari, Fangchu Chen, Shazhou Zhong, Elizabeth Drueke, Jahyun Koo, Austin Kaczmarek, Co  
**Keywords:** anomalous Hall effect, Weyl semimetal

**Abstract:** While the anomalous Hall effect can manifest even without an external magnetic field, time reversal symmetry is nonetheless still broken by the internal magnetization of the sample. Recently, it has been shown that certain materials without an inversion center allow for a nonlinear type of anomalous Hall effect whilst retaining time reversal symmetry. The effect may arise from either Berry curvature or through various asymmetric scattering mechanisms. Here, we report the observation of an extremely large c-axis nonlinear anomalous Hall effect in the non-centrosymmetric Td phase of MoTe<sub>2</sub> and WTe<sub>2</sub> without intrinsic magnetic order. We find that the effect is dominated by skew-scattering at higher temperatures combined with another scattering process active at low temperatures. Application of higher bias yields an extremely large Hall ratio of  $E_y/E_x = 2.47$  and corresponding anomalous Hall conductivity of order  $8 \times 10^7$  S/m.

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Acknowledged Federal Support: Y

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## as of 25-May-2021

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**Journal:** Nano Letters

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Publication Identifier: 10.1021/acs.nanolett.0c02537

Volume: 20

Issue: 10

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Date Submitted: 4/20/21 12:00AM

Date Published: 9/1/20 4:00AM

Publication Location:

**Article Title:** Photocurrent Imaging of Multi-Memristive Charge Density Wave Switching in Two-Dimensional 1T-TaS

**Authors:** Tarun Patel, Junichi Okamoto, Tina Dekker, Bowen Yang, Jingjing Gao, Xuan Luo, Wenjian Lu, Yuping

**Keywords:** charge density waves, memristors, scanning photocurrent microscopy

**Abstract:** Transport studies of atomically thin 1T-TaS<sub>2</sub> have demonstrated the presence of intermediate resistance states across the nearly commensurate (NC) to commensurate (C) charge density wave (CDW) transition, which can be further switched electrically. While this presents exciting opportunities for memristor applications, the switching mechanism could be potentially attributed to the formation of inhomogeneous C and NC domains. Here, we present combined electrical driving and photocurrent imaging of ultrathin 1T-TaS<sub>2</sub> in a heterostructure geometry. While micron-sized CDW domains are seen upon cooling, electrically driven transitions are largely uniform, indicating that the latter likely induces true metastable CDW states, which we then explain by a free energy analysis. Additionally, we are able to perform repeatable and bidirectional switching across the intermediate states without changing sample temperature, demonstrating that atomically thin 1T-TaS<sub>2</sub> can be further used as a robust and re

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**Journal:** Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences

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Publication Identifier: 10.1073/pnas.2012980117

Volume: 117

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Date Submitted: 4/20/21 12:00AM

Date Published: 10/1/20 4:00AM

Publication Location:

**Article Title:** Tunable layered-magnetism–assisted magneto-Raman effect in a two-dimensional magnet CrI<sub>3</sub>

**Authors:** Wencan Jin, Zhipeng Ye, Xiangpeng Luo, Bowen Yang, Gaihua Ye, Fangzhou Yin, Hyun Ho Kim, Laura

**Keywords:** two-dimensional layered magnetism, magneto-Raman effect, Raman spectroscopy

**Abstract:** We used a combination of polarized Raman spectroscopy experiment and model magnetism–phonon coupling calculations to study the rich magneto-Raman effect in the two-dimensional (2D) magnet CrI<sub>3</sub>. We reveal a layered-magnetism–assisted phonon scattering mechanism below the magnetic onset temperature, whose Raman excitation breaks time-reversal symmetry, has an antisymmetric Raman tensor, and follows the magnetic phase transitions across critical magnetic fields, on top of the presence of the conventional phonon scattering with symmetric Raman tensors in N-layer CrI<sub>3</sub>. We resolve in data and by calculations that the first-order Ag phonon of the monolayer splits into an N-fold multiplet in N-layer CrI<sub>3</sub> due to the interlayer coupling (N<sup>2</sup>) and that the phonons within the multiplet show distinct magnetic field dependence because of their different layered-magnetism–phonon coupling. We further find that such a layered-magnetism–phonon coupled Raman scattering mechanism extends beyond first-order

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Publication Identifier: 10.1002/adma.201905433

Volume: 32

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Date Submitted: 4/20/21 12:00AM

Date Published: 10/1/19 4:00AM

Publication Location:

**Article Title:** Magneto-Memristive Switching in a 2D Layer Antiferromagnet

**Authors:** Hyun Ho Kim, Shengwei Jiang, Bowen Yang, Shazhou Zhong, Shangjie Tian, Chenghe Li, Hechang Lei

**Keywords:** 2D magnetism, chromium triiodide, memristive switching, van der Waals heterostructures

**Abstract:** Memristive devices whose resistance can be hysteretically switched by electric field or current are intensely pursued both for fundamental interest as well as potential applications in neuromorphic computing and phase-change memory. When the underlying material exhibits additional charge or spin order, the resistive states can be directly coupled, further allowing electrical control of the collective phases. The observation of abrupt, memristive switching of tunneling current in nanoscale junctions of ultrathin CrI<sub>3</sub>, a natural layer antiferromagnet, is reported here. The coupling to spin order enables both tuning of the resistance hysteresis by magnetic field and electric-field switching of magnetization even in multilayer samples.

**Distribution Statement:** 1-Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

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Volume: 19

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First Page #: 5739

Date Submitted: 4/20/21 12:00AM

Date Published: 7/1/19 4:00AM

Publication Location:

**Article Title:** Tailored Tunnel Magnetoresistance Response in Three Ultrathin Chromium Trihalides

**Authors:** Hyun Ho Kim, Bowen Yang, Shangjie Tian, Chenghe Li, Guo-Xing Miao, Hechang Lei, Adam W. Tsen

**Keywords:** 2D magnetism, chromium trihalides, tunnel magnetoresistance, van der Waals heterostructures

**Abstract:** Materials that demonstrate large magnetoresistance have attracted significant interest for many decades. Extremely large tunnel magnetoresistance (TMR) has been reported by several groups across ultrathin CrI<sub>3</sub> by exploiting the weak antiferromagnetic coupling between adjacent layers. Here, we report a comparative study of TMR in all three chromium trihalides (CrX<sub>3</sub>, X = Cl, Br, or I) in the two-dimensional limit. As the materials exhibit different transition temperatures and interlayer magnetic ordering in the ground state, tunneling measurements allow for an easy determination of the field-temperature phase diagram for the three systems. By changing sample thickness and biasing conditions, we then demonstrate how to maximize and further tailor the TMR response at different temperatures for each material. In particular, near the magnetic transition temperature, TMR is nonsaturating up to the highest fields measured for all three compounds owing to the large, field-induced exchange coupling.

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Acknowledged Federal Support: Y

**RPPR Final Report**  
as of 25-May-2021

**Partners**

,

Prof. Guoxing Miao, University of Waterloo, Canada Prof. Liuyan Zhao, University of Michigan--Ann Arbor, USAProf

I certify that the information in the report is complete and accurate:

Signature: Adam Wei Tsen

Signature Date: 4/20/21 5:52PM

## **Major Goals:**

The goals of this project are to 1) understand the nature of magnetism in the chromium trihalide family of layered magnetic insulators ( $\text{CrX}_3$ ,  $X = \text{I, Br, Cl}$ ), and 2) interface them with intrinsically doped topological insulators in order to realize the quantum anomalous Hall effect, potentially at elevated temperatures.

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- “Tunneling Probe of Two-Dimensional Magnetism,” Department of Physics and Astronomy Condensed Matter Seminar, University of California, Riverside, Feb. 6, 2020
- “Tunneling Probe of Two-Dimensional Magnetism,” Department of Physics and Astronomy Condensed Matter Seminar, University of California, Irvine, Feb. 5, 2020
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**Other Collaborators:**

We collaborated with the following PI's during the course of this project.

Prof. Guoxing Miao, University of Waterloo, Canada

Prof. Liuyan Zhao, University of Michigan--Ann Arbor, USA

Prof. Rui He, Texas Tech University, USA

Prof. Kin Fai Mak, Cornell University, USA

Prof. Jie Shan, Cornell University, USA

Prof. Binghai Yan, Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel

Prof. Hechang Lei, Renmin University of China, China

Prof. Yuping Sun, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China