

Department of Physics Colloquium

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Moiré magnetism in twisted two-dimensional magnets

Liuyan Zhao Physics Department, University of Michigan

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 (Crl₃) and progressive steps towards realizing moiré magnetism. Noting that bilayer Crl₃ is a layered antiferromagnet and that any homogeneous stacking of two bilayers necessarily produces zero magnetization, we have revealed, in twisted double bilayer Crl₃, 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, and finally comment on its spin wave excitations.