Ising domain wall networks from intertwined CDWs in single-layer TiSe₂

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Acknowledgements

Experiments



Theory



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Ramon y Cajal Fellowship RYC2021-031639-I





W. Wan et al, arXiv:2411.05725 (2024)

MNG and F. de Juan, in preparation











Translations represented by sign change \rightarrow Real order parameter $\phi(x)$!

$$\phi(x+a) = e^{iQa}\phi(x) = e^{i\pi}\phi(x) = -\phi(x)$$

 $Q_{I} = Q + \delta$





Bulk TiSe₂: example of CDW with N=2



Castro-Neto, Nature (2016)

ICDW state and DWs may play an important role in the emergence of SC

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1<u>0 nm</u>

Out-of-plane ICDW

In-plane ICDW, CCDW domain

Domains in Cu doped bulk samples. CDW OPs?

Kogar, PRL (2017), Novello PRL (2017), Yan PRL (2017), Spera PRB (2019), Pasztor PRR (2019)...

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Domains in Cu doped bulk samples. CDW OPs? Role of disorder in domain formation?

Kogar, PRL (2017), Novello PRL (2017), Yan PRL (2017), Spera PRB (2019), Pasztor PRR (2019)...

Monolayer TiSe₂ (Ugeda's lab)



Single-crystal domains of hundreds of nm Density of defects below 10¹² cm⁻²

Small electron doping (charge transfer from substrate?)





CDW in small scales: 2x2 triple-Q $\vec{Q}_n = \vec{G}_n/2 = \vec{M}_n$









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 $\rho_{2\times 2}(\vec{x}) = 2\Re \sum \left[A_n^M(\vec{x}) e^{-i\vec{M}_n\vec{x}} + A_n^{M'}(\vec{x}) e^{-i\vec{M}_n'\vec{x}} \right]$



$\rho_{2\times 2}(\vec{x}) = 2\Re \sum_{n} \left[A_n^M(\vec{x}) e^{-i\vec{M}_n \vec{x}} + A_n^{M'}(\vec{x}) e^{-i\vec{M}_n' \vec{x}} \right]$ CDW in small scales: 2x2 triple-Q $\vec{Q}_n = \vec{G}_n/2 = \vec{M}_n$

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Extract CDW order parameters: $\Delta_n(x)$ and $\phi_n(x)$

Measured by STM

Implement Lawler-Fujita to extract with well defined phases ${\cal A}_n^q$

$$M_1^- \text{ (primary)} \to \Delta_n = \Im A_n^{M'}$$
$$M_1^+ \text{ (secondary)} \to \phi_n = f(\Re A_n^M, \Im A_n^M, \Re A_n^{M'})$$

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Reconstructed with extracted Δ_n and ϕ_n

CCDW state

4 choices for the propeller center in the CDW unit cell & chirality:

8 degenerate CCDW ground states

$$\vec{\Delta}(\vec{x}) = (\Delta_1(\vec{x}), \Delta_2(\vec{x}), \Delta_3(\vec{x}))$$

 $\Delta_1 \Delta_2 \Delta_3 < 0 \quad \Delta_1 \Delta_2 \Delta_3 > 0$

CDW over large scales: NC-CDW phase

Highly inhomogeneous 2x2 CDW with LR ordering of domains & FT same as for single domain \rightarrow NC phase

Modulation of λ ~20 nm, 1D stripes (not previously believed 2D network)

CDW over large scales: NC-CDW phase

FFT

Highly inhomogeneous 2x2 CDW with LR ordering of domains & FT same as for single domain \rightarrow NC phase

Modulation of λ ~20 nm, 1D stripes (not previously believed 2D network)

Three types of 'super-domains' with $\vec{q}_{\rm NC}~$ roughly parallel to \vec{Q}_n

Intertwinned CDW order parameters

 $ec{q}_{
m NC}\simec{Q}_2$ super-domain

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 $\Delta_1 \sim \sin(\vec{q}_{\rm NC}\vec{x}) + c\sin(3\vec{q}_{\rm NC}\vec{x})$ $\Delta_2 \sim \sin(2\vec{q}_{\rm NC}\vec{x})$ $\Delta_3 \sim \cos(\vec{q}_{\rm NC}\vec{x}) - c\cos(3\vec{q}_{\rm NC}\vec{x})$ $\phi_n \propto -\Delta_n$

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'ABCD' pattern: four CCDW states with

 $\Delta_1 \Delta_2 \Delta_3 < 0$

NC-CDW state

8 degenerate CCDW ground states

$$\vec{\Delta}(\vec{x}) = (\Delta_1(\vec{x}), \Delta_2(\vec{x}), \Delta_3(\vec{x}))$$

A
$$(- - -)$$
A' $(+ + +)$ B $(- + +)$ B' $(+ - -)$ C $(+ - +)$ C' $(- + -)$ D $(+ + -)$ D' $(- - +)$

 $\Delta_1 \Delta_2 \Delta_3 < 0 \quad \Delta_1 \Delta_2 \Delta_3 > 0$

Sign changes of OPs shift center of the CDW by one atomic unit cell: e.g. B to C translation by $\alpha_{\rm 3}$

Nematic 1x1 component

$$\rho_{2\times 2}(\vec{x}) = 2\Re \sum_{n} \left[A_n^M(\vec{x}) e^{-i\vec{M}_n \vec{x}} + A_n^{M'}(\vec{x}) e^{-i\vec{M}_n' \vec{x}} \right]$$
$$\rho_{1\times 1}(\vec{x}) = 2\Re \sum_{n} A_n^G(\vec{x}) e^{-i\vec{G}_n \vec{x}}$$

$$(N_x, N_y) = \Im(\frac{-\sqrt{3}}{2}(A_2^G - A_3^G), A_1^G - A_2^G/2 - A_3^G/2),$$

0.08

Vanishes T>Tc & selects axis T<Tc Strongest in the domain walls where CDW is weakest

Ginzburg-Landau theory of coupled Δ_n (primary) and ϕ_n (secondary)

$$\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}_{\rm CCDW} + \mathcal{F}_{\partial}^{\Delta} + \mathcal{F}_{\partial}^{\Delta\phi} + \mathcal{F}_{N}$$

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• ϕ_n crucial (harmonic content generated by cubic terms):

 $\mathcal{F}_{\text{CCDW}} = \sum_{n} \left[a_{\Delta} \Delta_{n}^{2} + c_{\Delta} \Delta_{n}^{4} + a_{\phi} \phi_{n}^{2} + b_{\phi} \phi_{1} \phi_{2} \phi_{3} + c_{\phi} \phi_{n}^{4} + b_{\Delta\phi} \phi_{n} \Delta_{n+1} \Delta_{n+2} \right]$

 $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}_{\rm CCDW} + \mathcal{F}_{\partial}^{\Delta} + \mathcal{F}_{\partial}^{\Delta\phi} + \mathcal{F}_{N}$

- ϕ_n crucial (harmonic content generated by cubic terms): $\mathcal{F}_{CCDW} = \sum_n \left[a_\Delta \Delta_n^2 + c_\Delta \Delta_n^4 + a_\phi \phi_n^2 + b_\phi \phi_1 \phi_2 \phi_3 + c_\phi \phi_n^4 + b_{\Delta\phi} \phi_n \Delta_{n+1} \Delta_{n+2} \right]$
- Derivative terms driving I-CDW (no dephasing so not McMillan term):

 $\mathcal{F}_{\partial}^{\Delta(I)} = \sum_{n} \Delta_n \left(d_1^{\Delta} \partial_x^2 + d_3^{\Delta} \partial_x^4 \right) \Delta_n \text{ with } d_1^{\Delta}, d_3^{\Delta} > 0$

$$\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}_{\rm CCDW} + \mathcal{F}_{\partial}^{\Delta} + \mathcal{F}_{\partial}^{\Delta\phi} + \mathcal{F}_{N}$$

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• Alternation of nematic direction component in consecutive domain wall

$$\mathcal{F}_N = a_N \left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \left(\Delta_2^2 - \Delta_3^2 \right), \Delta_1^2 - \frac{1}{2} \left(\Delta_2^2 + \Delta_3^2 \right) \right) \cdot (N_x, N_y)$$

Conclusions

W. Wan et al, arXiv:2411.05725 (2024) MNG and F. de Juan, *in preparation*

- NC-CDW in monolayer TiSe₂: coupled Δ_n (primary) and ϕ_n (secondary) with Ising DWs
- Identified minimal GL terms: (i) secondary OP crucial (ii) nematic component at DWs
- Outlook: Revisit bulk! Chirality? Implications for SC?

Minimize F by expanding the OPs in harmonics

$$\phi_i(x) = \sum_n \phi_{i,n} e^{in\eta x}$$
$$\Delta_i(x) = \sum_n \Delta_{i,n} e^{in\eta x}$$
$$N_j^G(x) = \sum_n N_{j,n}^G e^{in\eta x}$$

JOURNAL OF THE PHYSICAL SOCIETY OF JAPAN, Vol. 43, No. 6, DECEMBER, 1977

Domain-like Incommensurate Charge-Density-Wave States and the First-Order Incommensurate-Commensurate Transitions in Layered Tantalum Dichalcogenides. I. 1T-Polytype

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(Received July 5, 1977)

