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Tunneling conductance measurements in layered magnetic CrBr₃ multilayer with and without ferromagnetic contact

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Changes in stacking order and spin configuration can cause dramatic modifications in the electronic properties of 2D magnetic multilayers and their heterostructures. Here, by utilizing tunneling conductance measurements, we demonstrate stacking-dependent interlayer magnetism in CrBr₃ multilayers and tunnelling spin-filtering effect in Fe₃GeTe₂/CrBr₃ heterostructures. First, we observe that the interlayer coupling of CrBr₃ multilayers depends on the stacking order and can be either ferromagnetic or antiferromagnetic. Temperature and magnetic field dependent conductance data revealed their magnetic phase diagrams successfully. Second, with the exfoliated Fe₃GeTe₂ crystal acting as one ferromagnetic contact and the thin ferromagnetic CrBr₃ layers acting as tunnel barrier, we realized the tunnelling spin-valve structure, which exhibits low (high) states of conductance when the two FMs are magnetized in the antiparallel (parallel) configuration. Our work reveals the rich behaviour of atomically thin layered magnetic materials, which can be used to control 2D magnetism and engineer spintronic vdW heterostructures.