## **Supporting information:**

## Ultrathin Nanosheets of CrSiTe<sub>3</sub>: A Semiconducting Two-Dimensional Ferromagnetic Material

Ming-Wei Lin<sup>1†</sup>, Houlong L. Zhuang<sup>1†</sup>, Jiaqiang Yan<sup>2,3</sup>, Thomas Zac Ward<sup>3</sup>, Alexander A. Puretzky<sup>1</sup>, Christopher M. Rouleau<sup>1</sup>, Zeng Gai<sup>1</sup>, Liangbo Liang<sup>4</sup>, Vincent Meunier<sup>4</sup>, Bobby Sumpter<sup>1</sup>, Panchapakesan Ganesh<sup>1</sup>, Paul R. C. Kent<sup>1</sup>, David B. Geohegan<sup>1</sup>, David G. Mandrus<sup>2,3</sup>, Kai Xiao<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Center for Nanophase Materials Sciences, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN 37831, USA. <sup>2</sup>Department of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996, USA. <sup>3</sup>Materials Science and Technology Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN 37831, USA.

<sup>4</sup>Department of Physics, Applied Physics, and Astronomy, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, New York 12180, USA.

\*To whom correspondence should be addressed: E-mail: <u>xiaok@ornl.gov</u>

<sup>†</sup>These authors contributed equally to this work.



Figure S1. The U-dependent of (a) in-plane lattice constants of FM and Neel-AFM monolayer CrSiTe<sub>3</sub>; (b) energy difference between FM and Neel-AFM monolayer CrSiTe<sub>3</sub>; (c) spin-up (blue) and spin-down (red) bandgaps of FM monolayer.



Figure S2. The Raman spectra determined from first principles simulation both in bulk (a) and in monolayer (b) of  $CrSiTe_3$  are shown. Z(XX)-Z and Z(XY)-Z denote that the incident and scattering lights are in parallel and in perpendicular polarization configurations, respectively.



Figure S3. The resistivity as a function of temperature for  $CrSiTe_3$  FET devices at  $V_{bg} = 0$  V with various thicknesses denoted as (a) 8.5 nm, (b) 20.0 nm, (c) 36 nm, and (d) 125 nm shows the clear change of resistivity which indicate the possible FM-AFM phase change at those temperatures. (e) The transition temperatures for different thickness of flakes show that transition temperature  $T_c$  generally increased as decreasing thickness.



Figure S4.  $2 \times 2$  supercell of single-layer CrSiTe<sub>3</sub> with (a) FM, (b) Neel, (c) strip, and (d) zigzag AFM spin textures. Only Cr atoms are shown. (e) and (f) show the energy differences of the AFM configurations with reference to the ground state FM one, which confirm the FM structure is the ground state.

The following is the detail of computing  $J_1$ ,  $J_2$ , and  $J_3$ .

Followed by the notation in Ref [6], we have the following energies for single-layer CrSiTe<sub>3</sub> with the FM order and the so-called Néel, zigzag, and stripy AFM order.  $F_{-} = F_{-} + (3L + 6L + 3L)S^{2}$ 

$$E_{FM} - E_0 + (3J_1 + 0J_2 + 3J_3)S$$

$$E_{NEEL-AFM} = E_0 + (-3J_1 + 6J_2 - 3J_3)S^2$$

$$E_{Zigzag-AFM} = E_0 + (J_1 - 2J_2 - 3J_3)S^2$$

$$E_{Stripy-AFM} = E_0 + (-J_1 - 2J_2 + 3J_3)S^2$$

Here,  $E_0$  is the energy of the spin-nonpolarzied configuration. Thus,  $E_{\text{NEEL-AFM}} - E_{\text{FM}} = (-6J_1 - 6J_3)S^2 = 0.1193 \text{ eV}$   $E_{\text{Zigzag-AFM}} - E_{\text{FM}} = (-2J_1 - 8J_2 - 6J_3)S^2 = 0.0337 \text{ eV}$   $E_{\text{Stripy-AFM}} - E_{\text{FM}} = (-4J_1 - 8J_2)S^2 = 0.0867 \text{ eV}$ Therefore,  $J_1$ ,  $J_2$ , and  $J_3$  as -2.39 meV, 0.00 meV, and +0.18 meV, respectively.