

## Supplementary Materials for **Dislocation-driven growth of two-dimensional lateral quantum-well superlattices**

Wu Zhou, Yu-Yang Zhang, Jianyi Chen, Dongdong Li, Jiadong Zhou, Zheng Liu, Matthew F. Chisholm, Sokrates T. Pantelides, Kian Ping Loh

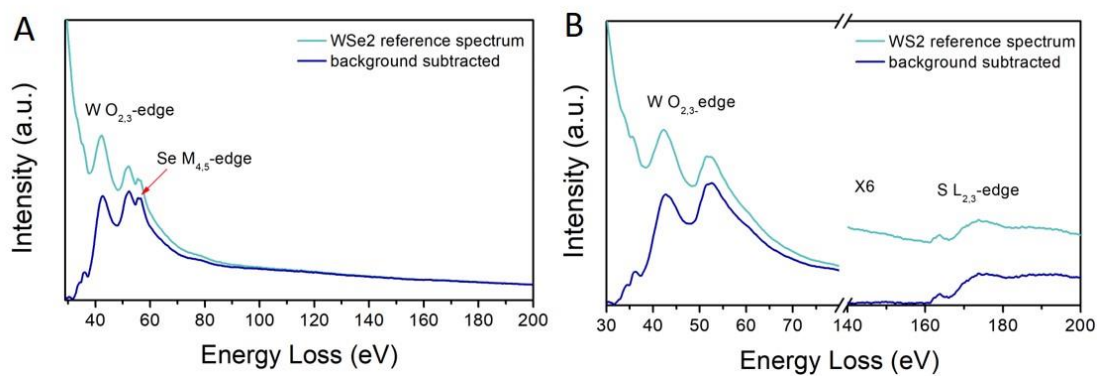
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### The PDF file includes:

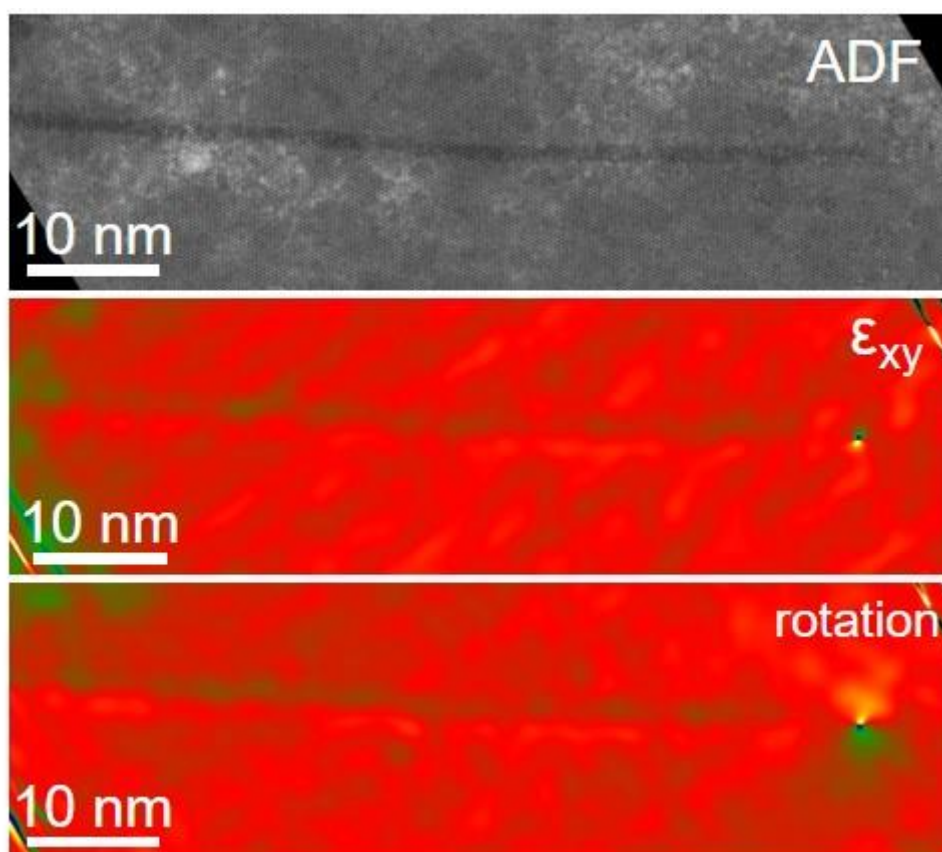
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- fig. S11. Dislocation climb and formation of nanosize kinks during the growth of quantum well.

**Other Supplementary Material for this manuscript includes the following:**  
(available at [advances.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/4/3/eaap9096/DC1](https://advances.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/4/3/eaap9096/DC1))

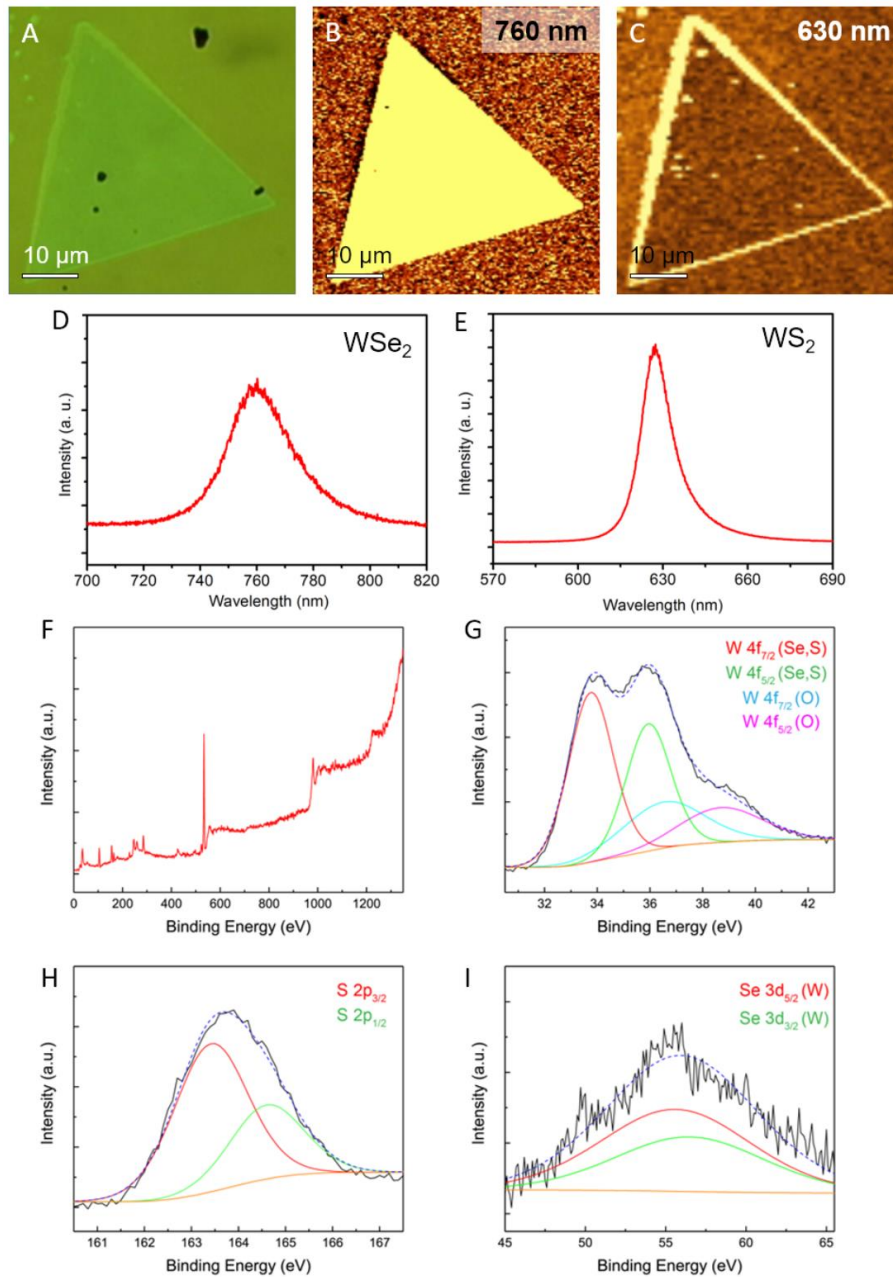
- movie S1 (.mp4 format). Scheme showing the dislocation climb and the corresponding quantum well growth process.



**fig. S1. Reference EELS spectra from pure WSe<sub>2</sub> and WS<sub>2</sub> monolayers.** Reference EELS spectra from pure WSe<sub>2</sub> (A) and WS<sub>2</sub> (B) monolayers.

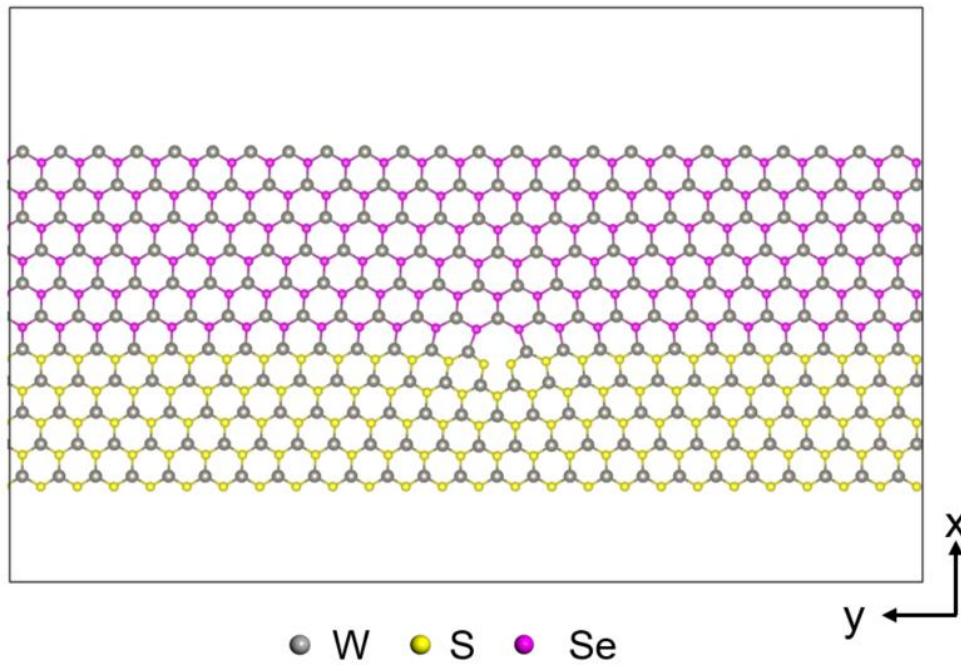


**fig. S2. STEM-ADF of the entire 65-nm-long WS<sub>2</sub> quantum well and the corresponding strain distribution around the quantum well.** The ADF image is the same as the one shown in Fig. 1F in the main text.

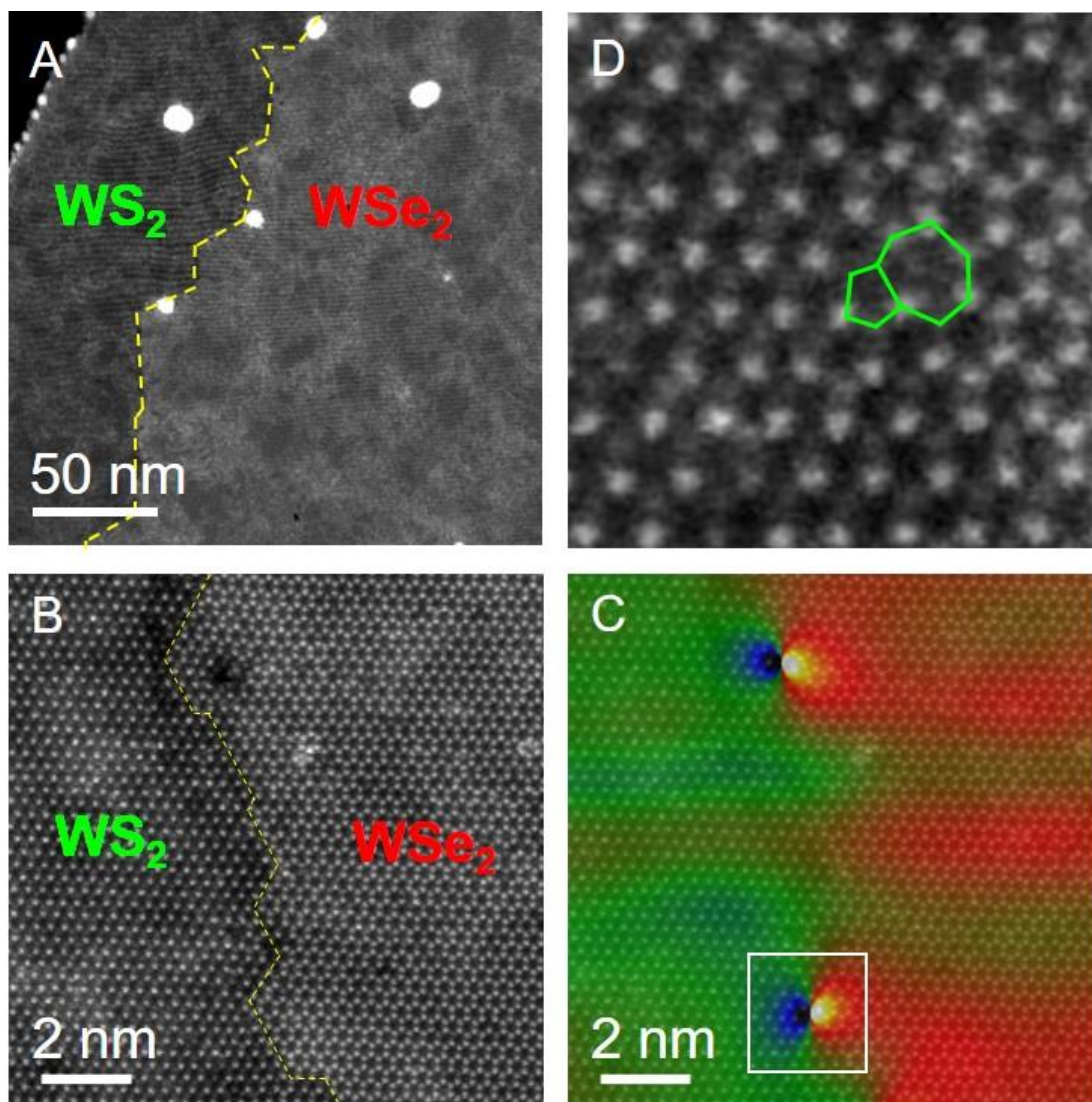


**fig. S3. Optical images and spectroscopy measurements of the WSe<sub>2</sub>/WS<sub>2</sub> lateral heterostructure.** (A) Optical image of a WSe<sub>2</sub>/WS<sub>2</sub> lateral heterostructure. (B) Photoluminescence (PL) intensity mapping at 760 nm showing the spatial distribution of the characteristic PL signals from WSe<sub>2</sub> monolayer. (C) PL intensity mapping at 630 nm showing the spatial distribution of the characteristic PL signals from WS<sub>2</sub> monolayer. (D and E) PL spectra of the WSe<sub>2</sub> core and WS<sub>2</sub> shell regions of the lateral heterostructure, respectively. (F-I) X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) analysis of the WSe<sub>2</sub>/WS<sub>2</sub> heterostructures showing (F) a full spectrum from 0 to 1380 eV, (G) W 4*f*, (H) S 2*p*, and (I) Se 3*d* core levels, respectively. Characteristic W 4*f*<sub>7/2</sub> and 4*f*<sub>5/2</sub> peaks locating at ~33.8 (red) and 36.0 eV (green),

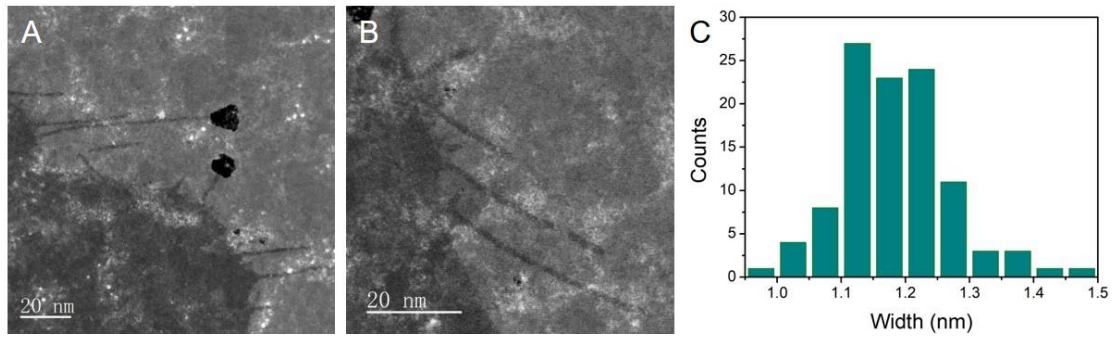
respectively, represent the  $W^{4+}$  states in  $WSe_2$  and/or  $WS_2$ . In addition, characteristic  $W 4f_{7/2}$  and  $4f_{5/2}$  peaks locating at  $\sim 36.7$  (cyan) and  $38.9$  eV (pink), respectively, were also observed, representing the  $W^{6+}$  states in  $WO_3$  precursor residuals. Characteristic  $Se 3d_{5/2}$  (red) and  $3d_{3/2}$  (green) peaks locating at  $\sim 55.3$  and  $56.2$  eV, respectively, represent the  $Se^{2-}$  states in  $WSe_2$ . Characteristic  $S 2p_{3/2}$  (red) and  $2p_{1/2}$  (green) peaks locating at  $\sim 163.5$  and  $164.7$  eV represent the  $S^{2-}$  states in  $WS_2$ .



**fig. S4. Atomic model of  $WSe_2/WS_2$  heterostructure.** Every 25 units of  $WS_2$  ( $79.53 \text{ \AA}$ ) match 24 units of  $WSe_2$  ( $79.56 \text{ \AA}$ ), resulting in a  $5|7$  dislocation to release the stress. Vacuum layer in the x- and z- directions is larger than  $15 \text{ \AA}$ .



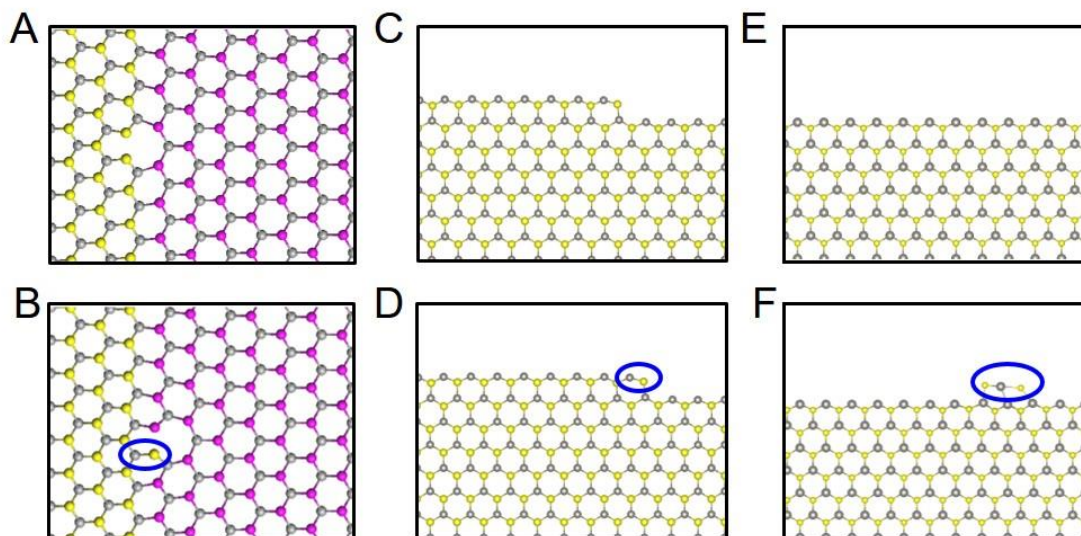
**fig. S5. Additional structural characterization data from the lateral WSe<sub>2</sub>/WS<sub>2</sub> heterointerface.** (A) Low magnification STEM-ADF image of the WSe<sub>2</sub>/WS<sub>2</sub> lateral interface without the formation of WS<sub>2</sub> quantum wells. The yellow dashed lines highlight the epitaxial interfaces. (B) Atomic-resolution STEM-ADF image of the WSe<sub>2</sub>/WS<sub>2</sub> lateral interface. (C) The corresponding strain distribution, overlaid onto the ADF image, showing the formation of misfit dislocations that are ~8 nm apart. (D) A magnified view of the misfit dislocation, composing of 5|7 member rings, from the region highlighted in (C).



**fig. S6. Additional low-magnification STEM-ADF images showing the formation of arrays of WS<sub>2</sub> quantum wells at the WSe<sub>2</sub>/WS<sub>2</sub> lateral interface, driven by dislocations.**

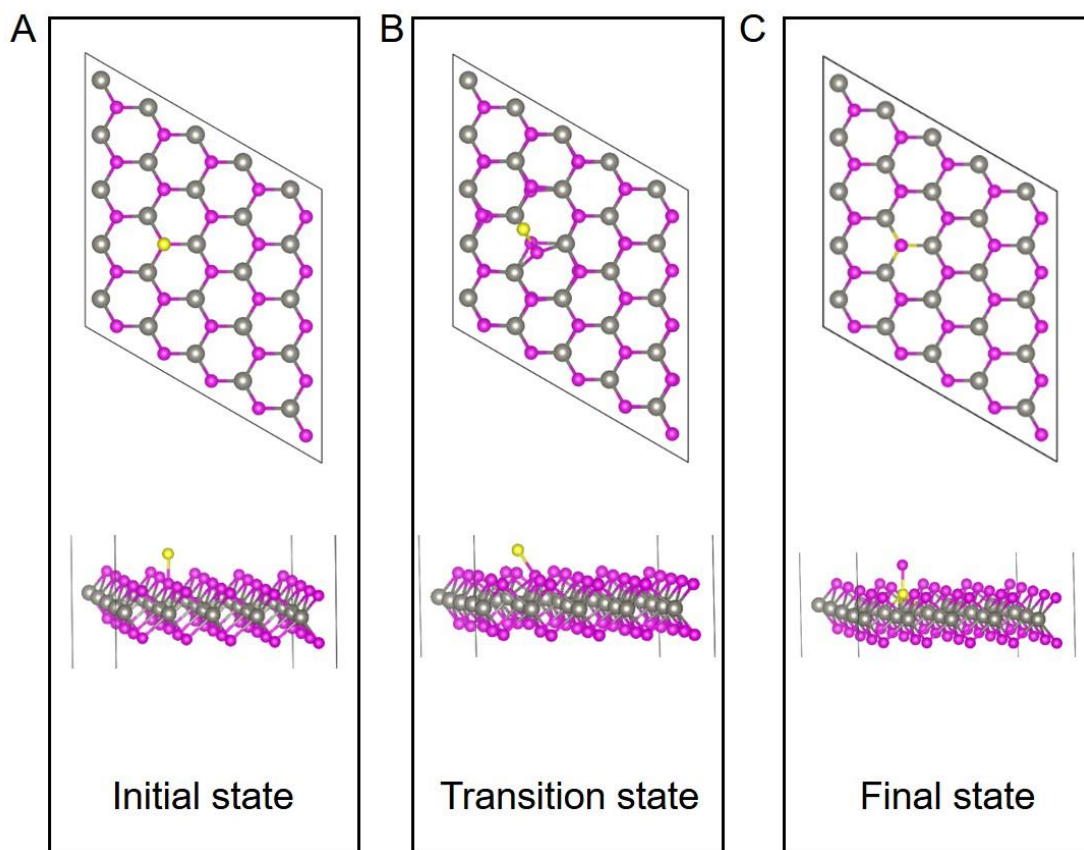
The brighter regions are WSe<sub>2</sub> while the WS<sub>2</sub> monolayer regions show lower image intensity.

(C) Width distribution of the WS<sub>2</sub> quantum wells. The average width of the WS<sub>2</sub> quantum wells in the WSe<sub>2</sub> monolayer is  $1.19 \pm 0.09$  nm, measured from 106 quantum wells.



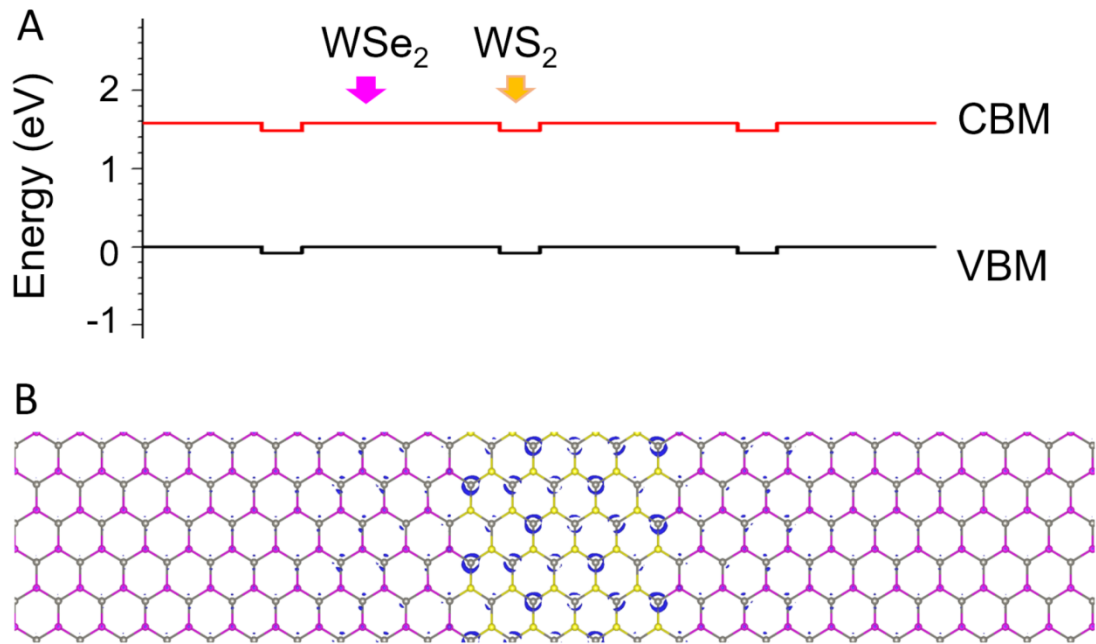
**fig. S7. Comparison between dislocation climb and extension of a WS<sub>2</sub> edge during the sample growth.** Atomic models of (A) WS<sub>2</sub>/WSe<sub>2</sub> interface with a 5|7 dislocation, (B) insertion of a W-S<sub>2</sub> unit resulting in a dislocation climb, (C) WS<sub>2</sub> island with a W-terminated zigzag step edge, (D) extension of the step edge due to the adsorption of a W-S<sub>2</sub> unit, (E) WS<sub>2</sub> island with a W-terminated zigzag straight edge, and (F) growth of WS<sub>2</sub> island due to the adsorption of a W-S<sub>2</sub> unit. Newly inserted/adsorbed W-S<sub>2</sub> units are highlighted by the blue circles.

During the second step of the heterostructure growth, *i.e.* growth of WS<sub>2</sub>, the source atoms (W and S) can either insert into a misfit dislocation core (dislocation climb) at the hetero-interface or attach to the fresh WS<sub>2</sub> edge (edge extension). We calculate the formation energy of this process. Formation energy  $E^f$  is defined as following:  $E^f = E(\text{new}) - E(\text{old}) - \mu_W - 2 \times \mu_S$ .  $E(\text{old})$  and  $E(\text{new})$  are the total energies before and after the insertion/adsorption, respectively.  $\mu_W$  and  $\mu_S$  are chemical potentials of W and S. Because the change of number of atoms are the same for insertion and adsorption, the choice of chemical potential does not affect the comparison of formation energy. For simplicity, we chose chemical potential from bulk materials.

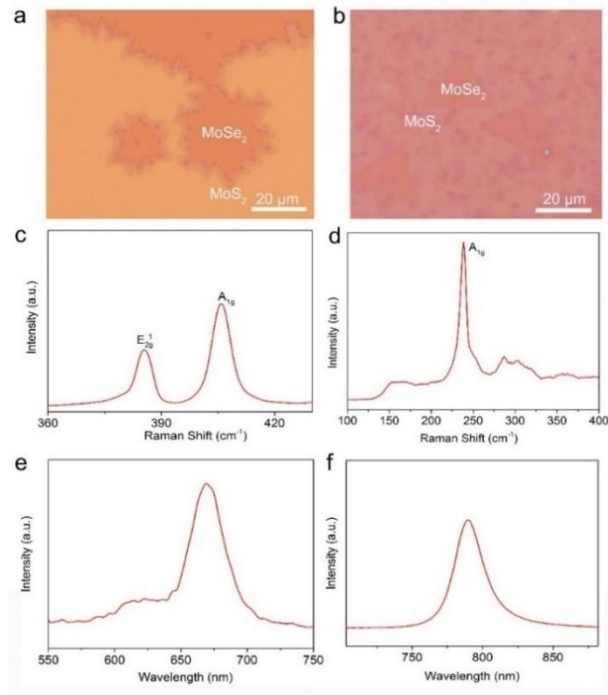


**fig. S8. Atomic models for the  $S_{Se}$  substitution barrier calculations.** (A) Optimized initial state, in which a S atom is on top of a Se atom. (B) Optimized transition state. (C) Optimized final state, in which Se atom is on top of a S atom. Top panels are top views and bottom panels are perspective views.

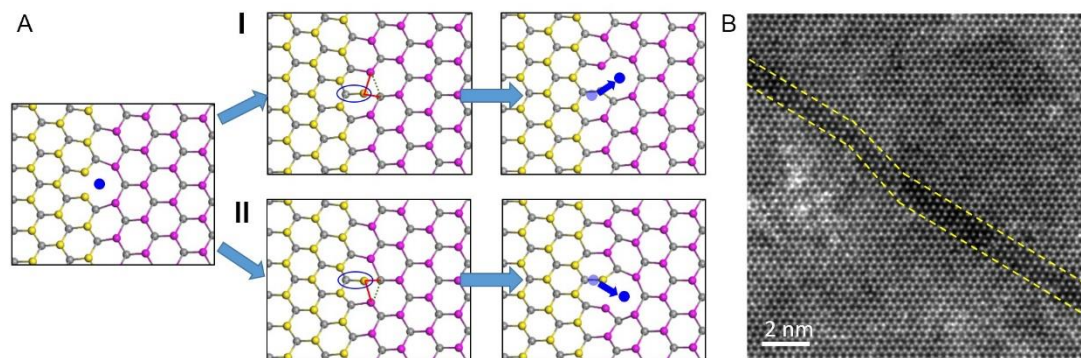




**fig. S9. Band structure of lateral WSe<sub>2</sub>/WS<sub>2</sub> superlattice.** (A) Energy band alignment for the WSe<sub>2</sub>/WS<sub>2</sub> superlattice calculated with PBE functional. Comparing with Fig. 4A, both HSE06 functional calculations and PBE functional calculations reveal a type-II band alignment. (B) Electron density difference between the system with an extra electron and the original charge neutral system, showing the modulation doping effect in a lateral WSe<sub>2</sub>/WS<sub>2</sub> superlattice. The iso-surface with a value of 0.0015 e/Å<sup>3</sup> is shown in blue color. The extra electron mainly accumulates in the WS<sub>2</sub> region due to a type-II band alignment.



**fig. S10. Optical images and spectroscopy measurements of the MoSe<sub>2</sub>/MoS<sub>2</sub> lateral heterostructure.** (A and B) Optical images of the MoSe<sub>2</sub>/MoS<sub>2</sub> lateral heterostructure with different shapes, with monolayer MoSe<sub>2</sub> as the core and monolayer MoS<sub>2</sub> as the shell. (C and E) Raman and photoluminescence (PL) spectra of the shell region of the lateral heterostructure, conforming the shell is MoS<sub>2</sub> monolayer. (D and F) Raman and PL spectra of the core region of the lateral heterostructure, conforming the core is MoSe<sub>2</sub> monolayer.



**fig. S11. Dislocation climb and formation of nanosize kinks during the growth of quantum well.** (A) Schematic of the dislocation climb. First a W-S<sub>2</sub> unit is inserted into the 5/7 dislocation core, followed by two types of bond reconfiguration **I** and **II**. The gray dashed lines illustrate the original bonds, while the red lines represent the new bonds. The blue circles highlight the inserted W-S<sub>2</sub> units. As a consequence of the bond reconfiguration, the dislocation climb has either a sidewise component (*i.e.* wiggling) upwards or downwards with respect to the armchair growth direction, as illustrated by the blue arrows where the blue dots highlight the positions of the new heptagons and the translucent dots represent the original positions of the heptagons. (B) STEM-ADF image showing the formation of a nano-size kink in the WS<sub>2</sub> quantum well. The formation of such kinks is due to the sidewise wiggling of dislocation climb during the growth of the quantum well.