

Observation of Coulomb gap in the quantum spin Hall candidate single-layer $1T'$ -WTe₂

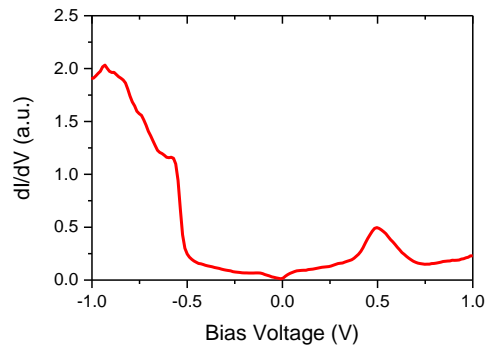
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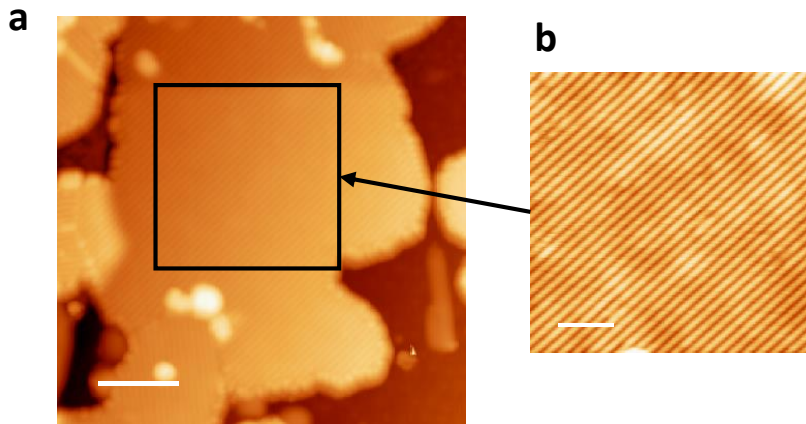
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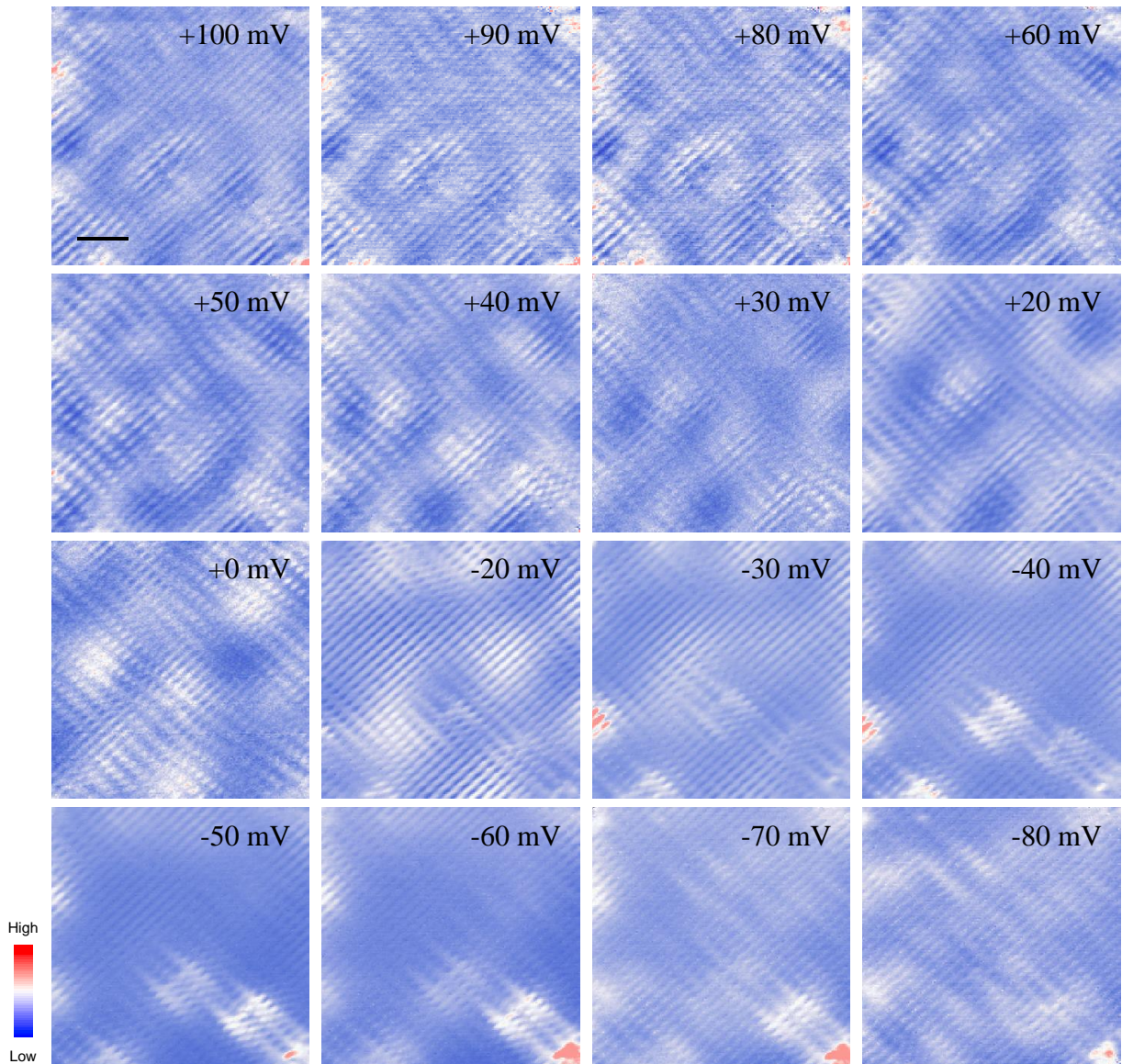
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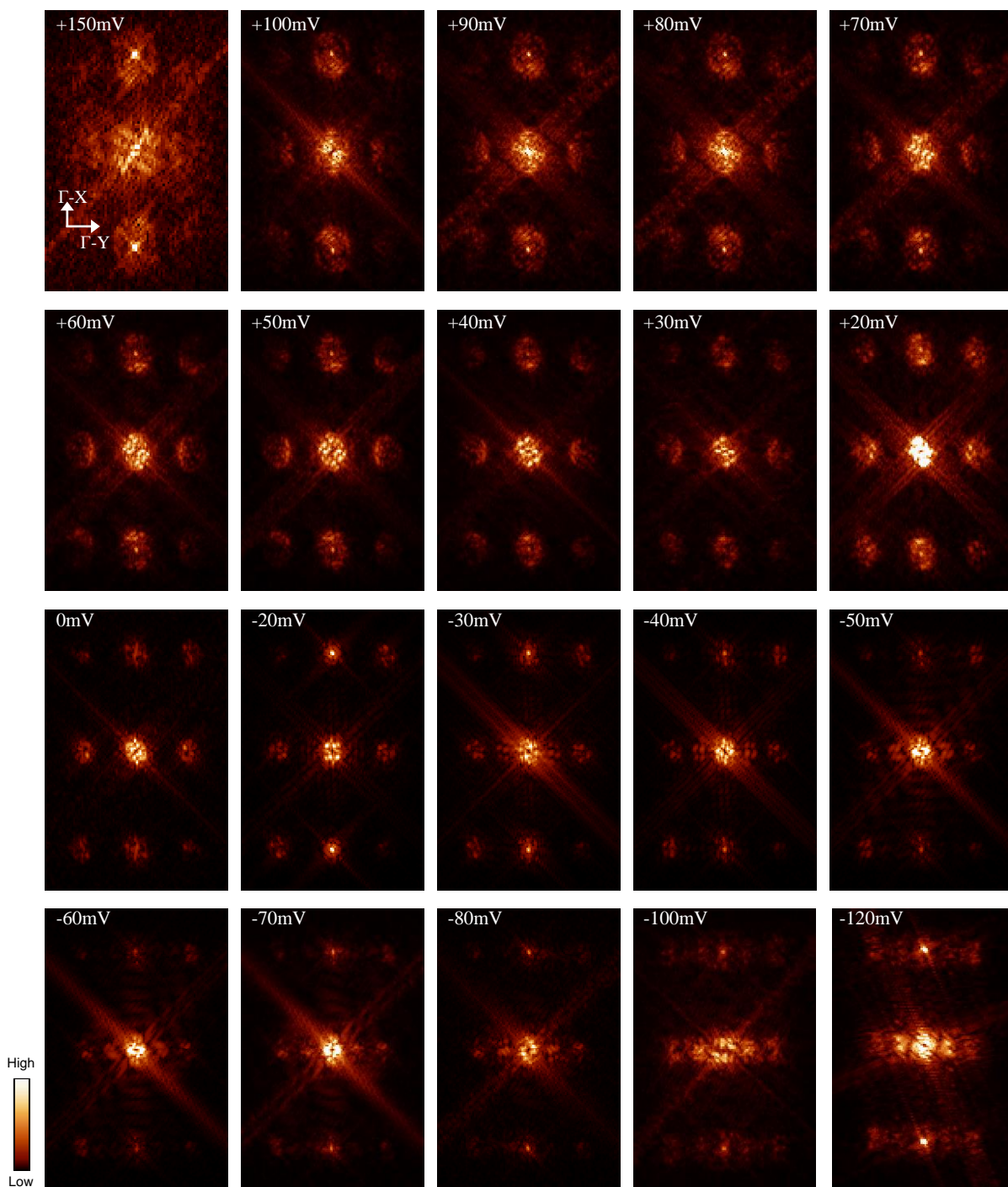
Supplementary Figure 1. dI/dV spectrum ($U = +500$ mV, $I_t = 200$ pA) taken on the single-layer $1T'$ -WTe₂ in the bias range from -1.0 V to +1.0 V.



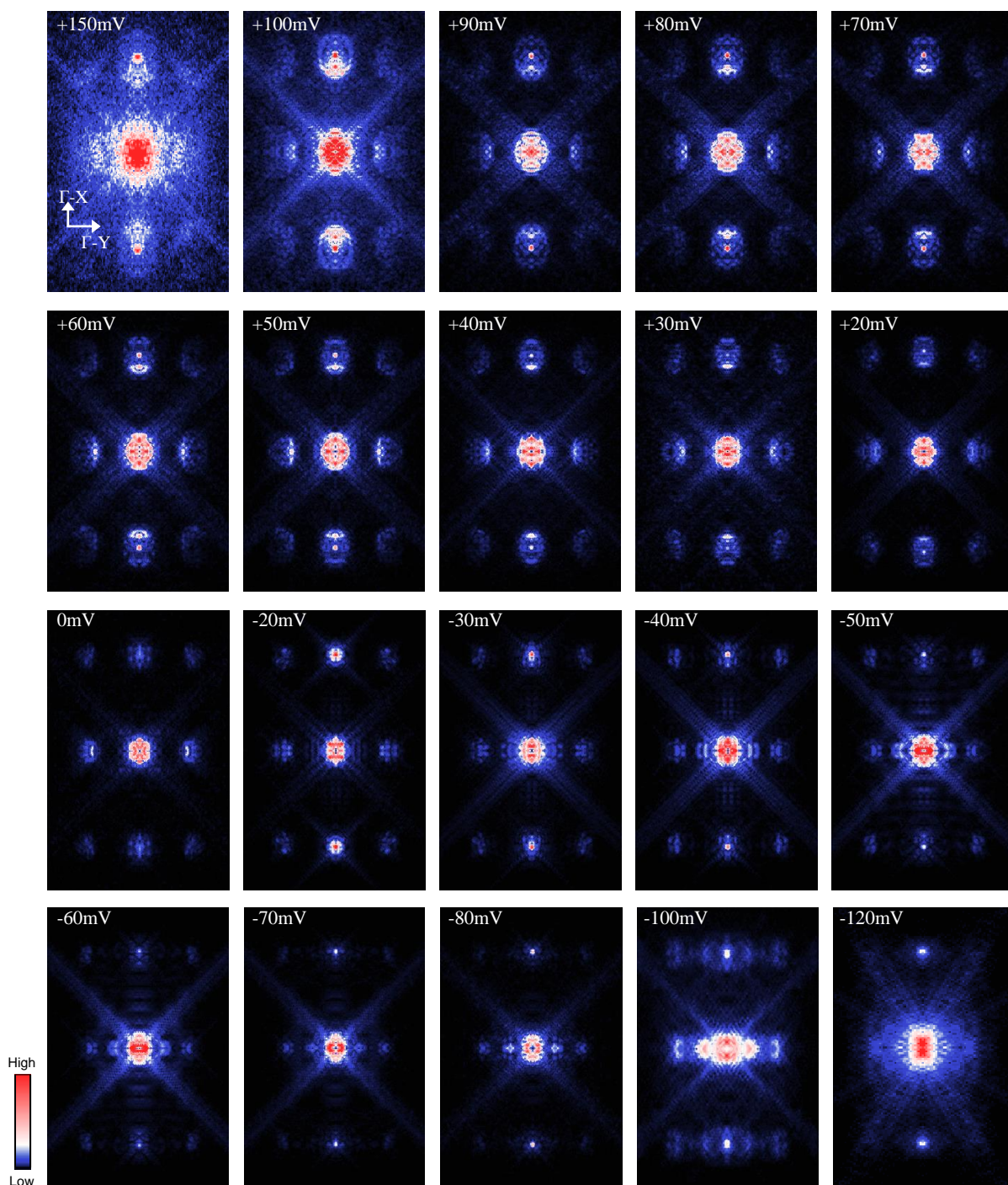
Supplementary Figure 2. STM topographic images of the monolayer $1T'$ -WTe₂ where dI/dV maps are taken. (a) STM image of the monolayer $1T'$ -WTe₂ island ($U = +1.0$ V, $I_t = 100$ pA). The scale bar is 8 nm. The black square frame marks the area where the dI/dV maps are taken. (b) Zoom in area as marked in (a) ($U = +0.2$ V, $I_t = 100$ pA). The scale bar corresponds to 3.6 nm.



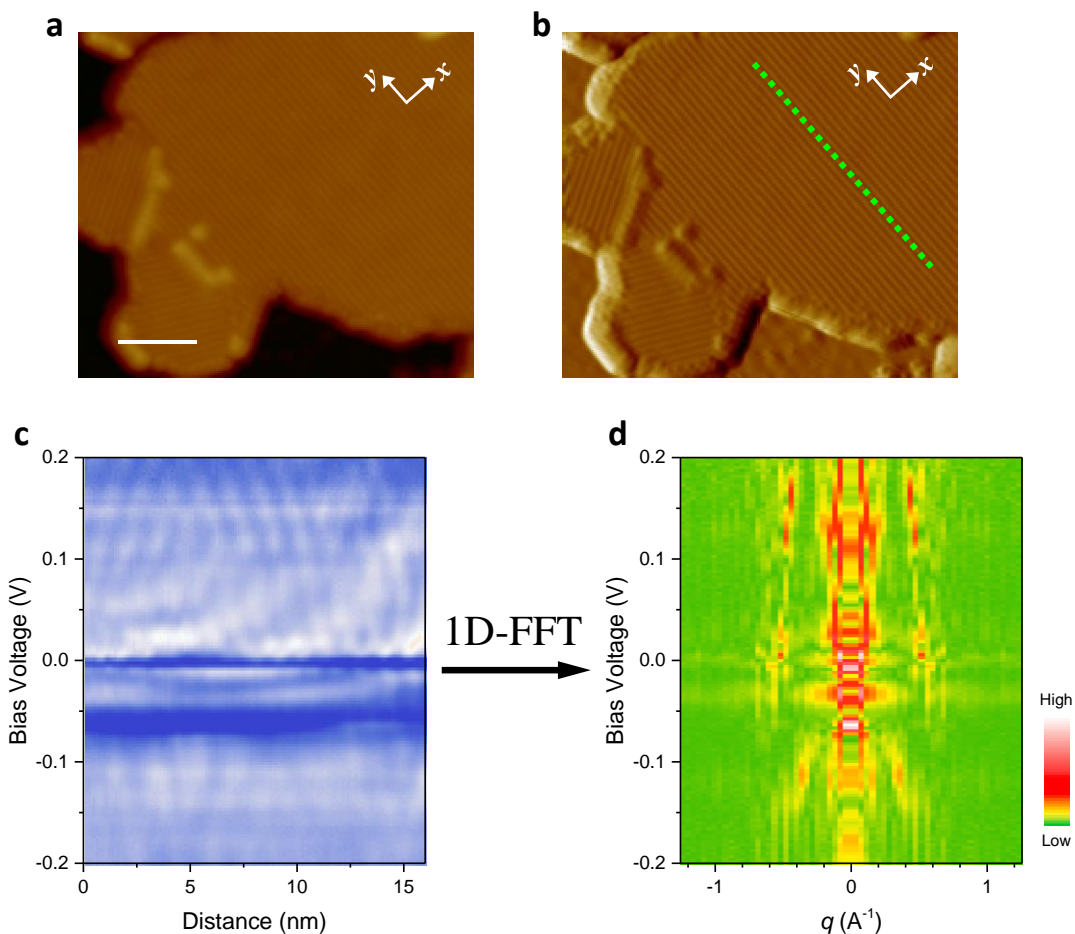
Supplementary Figure 3. The experimental dI/dV maps taken at various bias voltages on the region as marked in Supplementary Figure 2. The bias voltage is labeled in each image (each dI/dV map is taken at the bias as is labeled and $I_t = 100$ pA except for the map at 0 mV. The dI/dV map for 0 mV is taken at $U = +30$ mV and $I_t = 100$ pA. The scale bar corresponds to 3.6 nm.



Supplementary Figure 4. FFT images (without symmetrization process) showing the evolution of the QPI patterns with bias voltage. The bias voltage is labeled in each image.

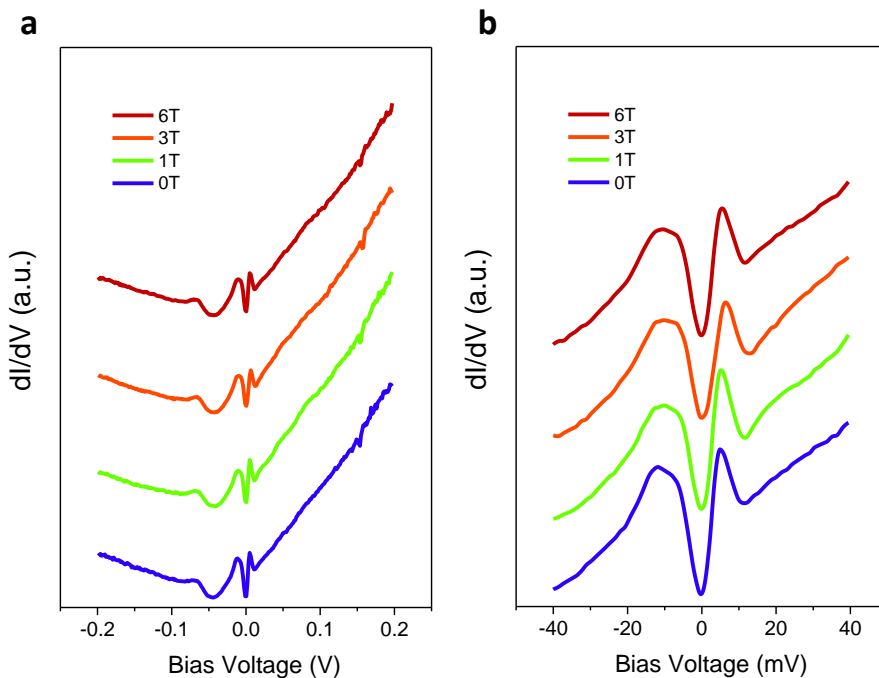


Supplementary Figure 5. FFT images showing the evolution of the QPI patterns with bias voltage. The bias voltage is labeled in each image. All the FFT images are symmetrized and drift-corrected.

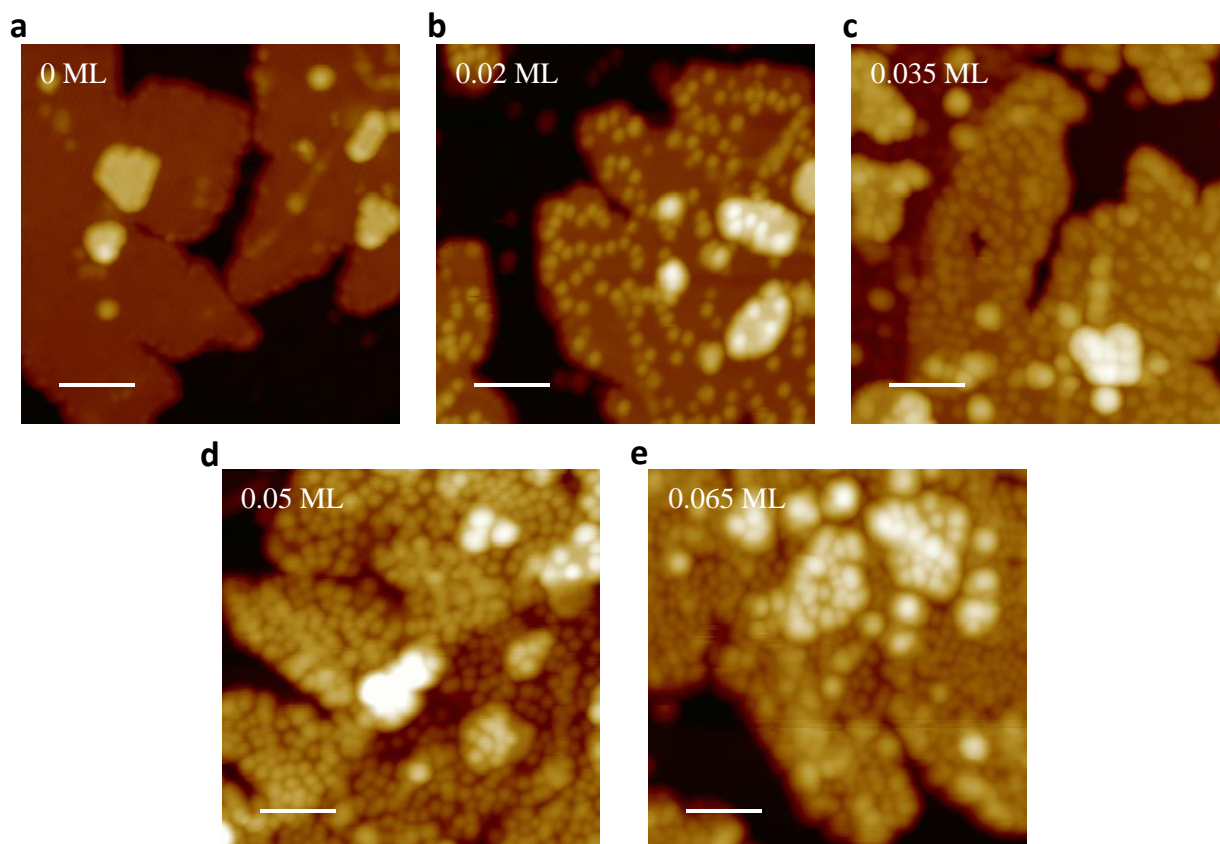


Supplementary Figure 6. Line-scan dI/dV spectra taken along the y-axis.

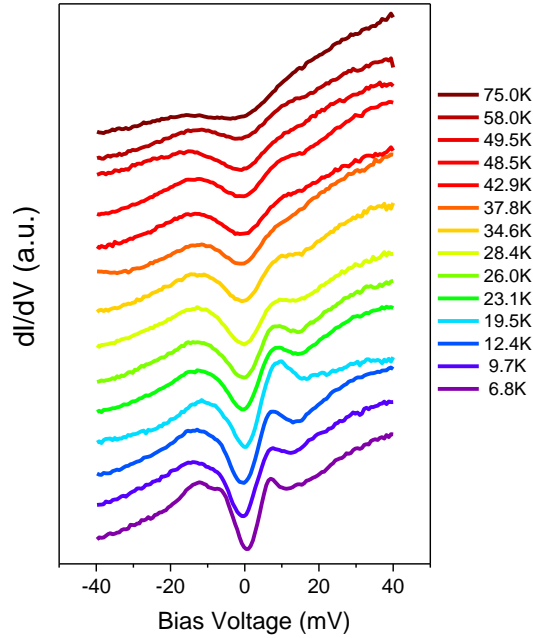
(a) STM topographic images ($U = +1.0$ V, $I_t = 100$ pA) of the area for the line-scan dI/dV spectroscopic measurement taken along the y-axis. The scale bar is 6.4 nm. (b) Differential images of (a) showing clearly the row direction. The green dotted line marks the positions where the line-scan dI/dV spectra are taken. (c) The corresponding dI/dV spectroscopic map ($U = +100$ mV, $I_t = 200$ pA) taken along the green line in (b). (d) The 1D FFT image of (c).



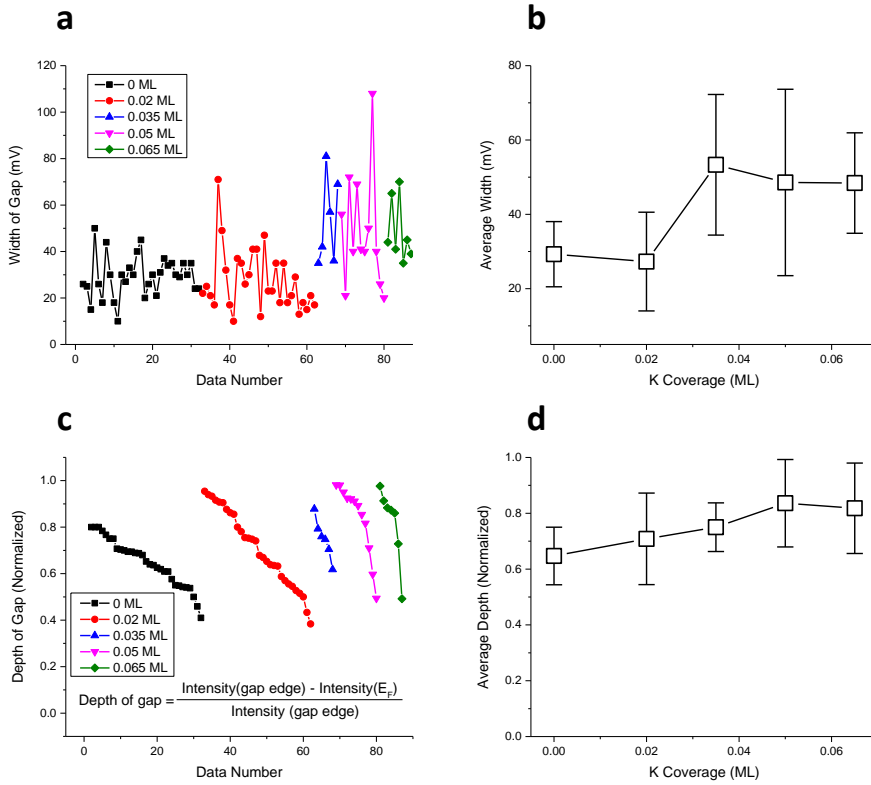
Supplementary Figure 7. Magnetic field dependence of dI/dV spectra. The dI/dV spectra are measured at a specific lattice site on the $1T'$ - WTe_2 terrace under the magnetic field up to 6 T. The magnetic field is applied perpendicular to the surface (along c axis). (a) Large energy scale dI/dV spectra ($U = +100$ mV, $I_t = 300$ pA) ; (b) Small energy scale dI/dV spectra ($U = +40$ mV, $I_t = 200$ pA).



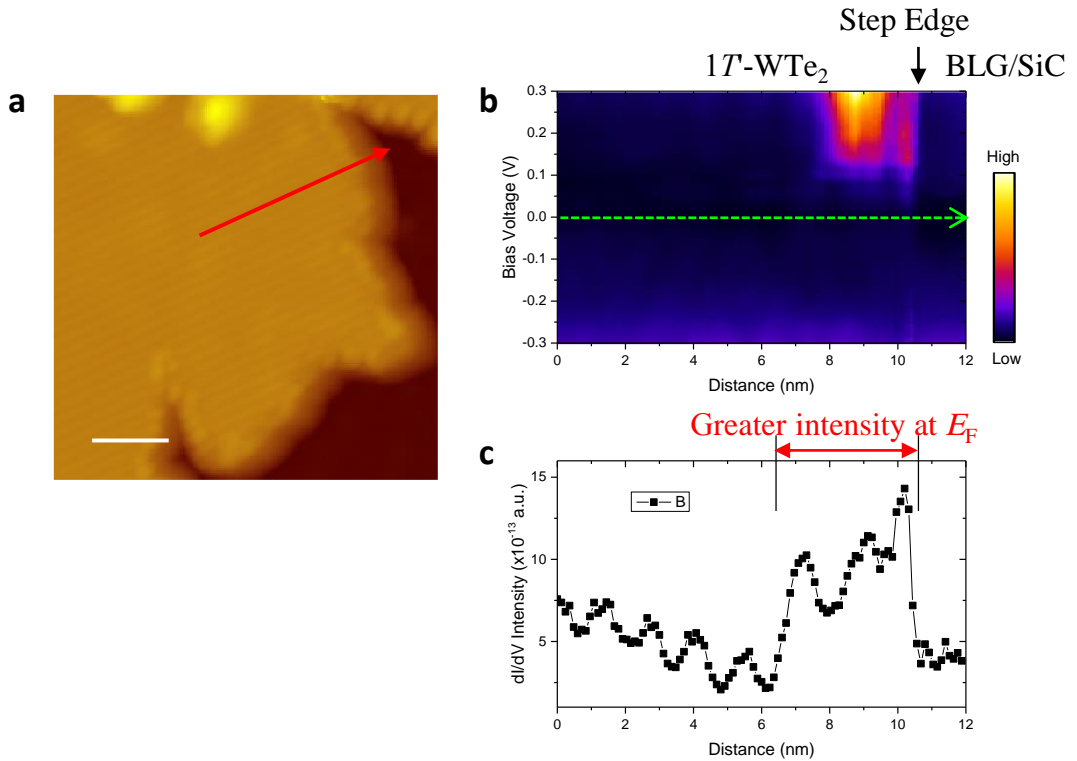
Supplementary Figure 8. Surface morphology of single layer $1T'$ - WTe_2 upon K deposition. (a) STM topographic image of the clean surface of $1T'$ - WTe_2 islands ($U = +2.0$ V, $I_t = 100$ pA). The scale bar is 8 nm. (b)~(e) STM topographic images ($U = +1.0$ V, $I_t = 100$ pA) of $1T'$ - WTe_2 islands after potassium deposition. The scale bar is 8 nm. The coverage of the potassium is labeled in each image.



Supplementary Figure 9. Evidence of the existence of the gap at Fermi level at elevated temperatures up to ~ 75 K. The dI/dV tunneling spectra ($U = +40$ mV, $I_t = 200$ pA) are taken at a specific lattice site on the $1T'$ -WTe₂ terrace. The gap shape at the Fermi level can be clearly identified at temperatures up to ~ 75 K.



Supplementary Figure 10. Statistical results of the gap width and depth at various K coverage. The depth is defined as $dI/dV(E_F) / dI/dV(\text{gap edge})$. (a) Measured gap width at various K coverage. Each dot represents a measured value on a dI/dV spectrum. The different colors mark the different K coverage. (b) Average width of the gap at various K coverage. The average gap width shows a trend to increase. (c) Measured gap depth at various K coverage. Each dot represents a calculated value on a dI/dV spectrum. The different colors mark the different K coverage. (d) Average depth of gap at various K coverage. The average gap depth shows a trend to decrease, meaning the gap becomes deeper.



Supplementary Figure 11. Characterization of the edge state at the $1T'$ - WTe_2 step edge. (a) STM image ($U = +1.0$ V, $I_t = 100$ pA) of the single-layer $1T'$ - WTe_2 island grown on Graphene/SiC substrate. The scale bar corresponds to 4 nm. (b) dI/dV spectra ($U = +200$ mV, $I_t = 200$ pA) taken along the red arrowed line in (a) and shown in 2D color mode. The x axis represent the location, and the y axis the Bias voltage. The dI/dV intensity is represented by the colored map. (c) The line-cut profile taken along the green arrowed line in (b) showing the location dependent dI/dV intensity at Fermi energy.