

## Supplementary Information for

# “Quantum Interference between Dark-excitons and Zone-edged Acoustic Phonons in Few-layer WS<sub>2</sub>”

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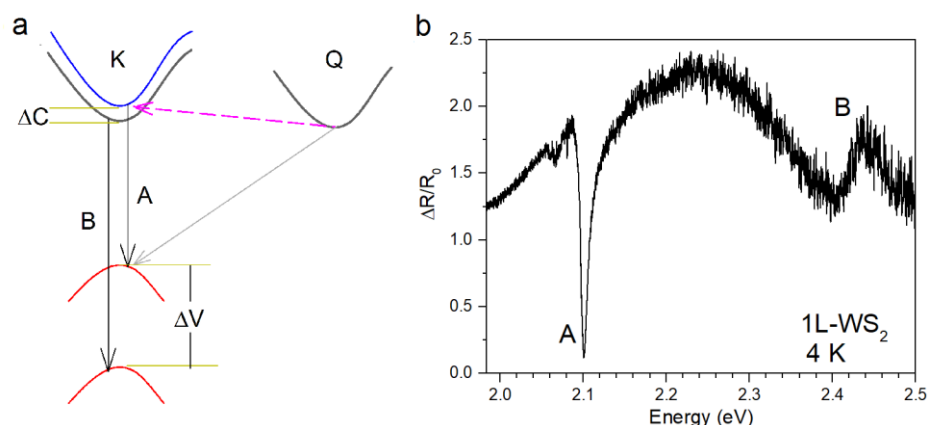
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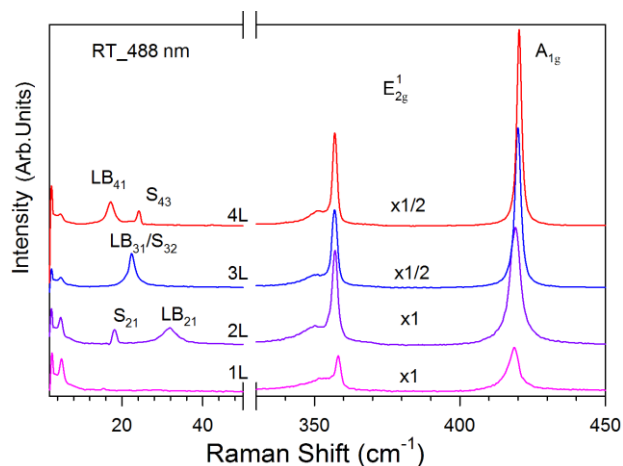
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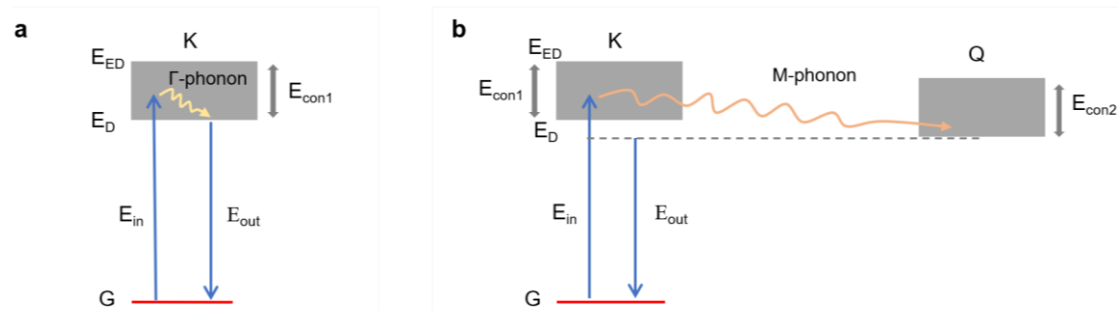
## Section I, Supplementary Figures and Discussions



**Supplementary Fig. S1 | The valance band splitting induced A and B excitons.** **a**, The physical picture for valence band splitting induced A and B excitons transition. **b**, Reflectance contrast spectrum of 1L-WS<sub>2</sub> at 4 K.

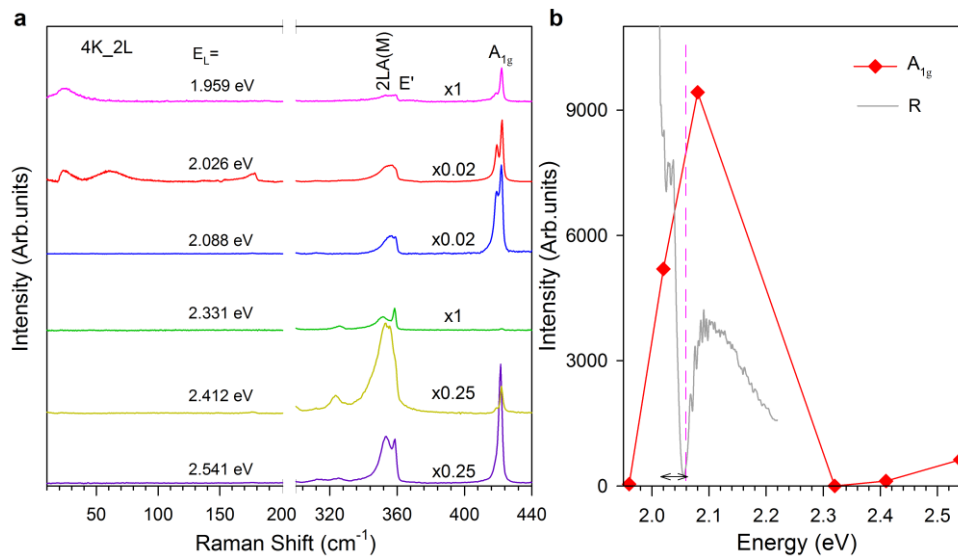


**Supplementary Fig. S2 | Determining the layer number of WS<sub>2</sub> via ultralow frequency Raman spectroscopy.** The Raman spectra of 1-4L WS<sub>2</sub> range from 5 cm<sup>-1</sup> to 450 cm<sup>-1</sup> at room temperature (RT). The frequencies of shear (S) modes and layer breathing (LB) modes are strictly dependent on the layer numbers of WS<sub>2</sub>. The excitation wavelength is 488 nm here.

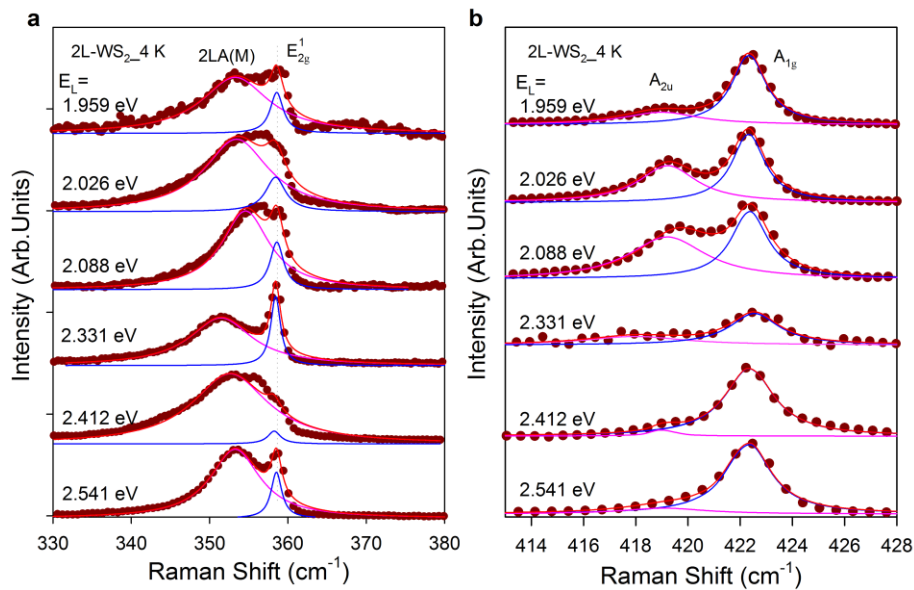


**Supplementary Fig. S3 | Schematics of resonance-induced quantum interference processes.**  $\Gamma$  point phonon-involved intravalley scattering (a) and M point phonon-involved intervalley scattering (b).

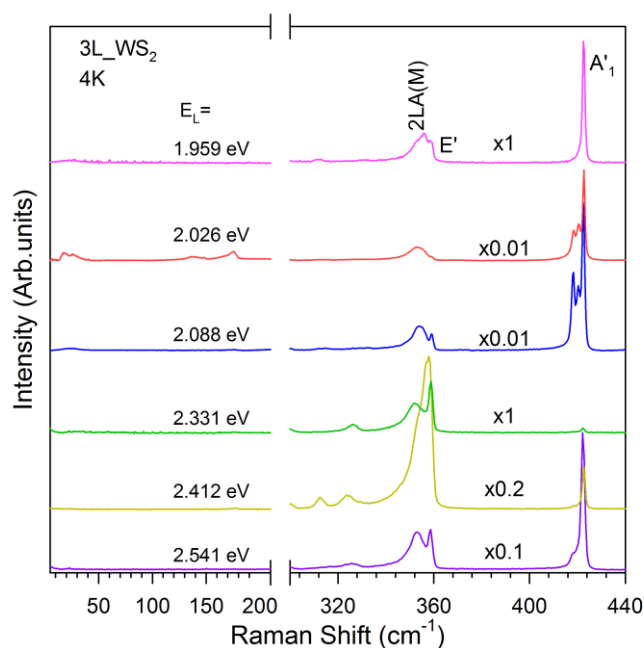
We can understand the quantum interference process as below. For Stokes Raman scattering, the relationship between incident light ( $E_{in}$ ), scattering light ( $E_s$ ), and phonon ( $E_{ph}$ ) is  $\omega_{in} = \omega_s + \omega_{ph}$ . Meanwhile, for simplicity, the relationship between exciton-accumulated dark level ( $E_{ED}$ ), pure dark level ( $E_D$ ), and continuum bandwidth formed by dark excitons ( $E_{con}$ ) is  $E_{ED} = E_D + E_{con}$ . Here the formation of the continuum states is a result of the accumulation of dark exciton both at K and Q valley thanks to their long lifetime feature when considering the time scale of exciton-phonon interactions and density of states in two-dimensional (2D) system, as discussed in the main text. We should note that there are no continuum states below the  $E_D$ . For resonant Raman scattering in our case, the energy of incident light ( $E_{in}$ ) (scattering light ( $E_s$ )) is in resonance with the exciton state  $E_{ED}$  ( $E_D$ ) instead of  $E_{ph}$ . As a result, here the Fano resonance arises from phonons and the continuum ( $E_{con}$ ) state of the dark exciton, as shown in Fig. S3.



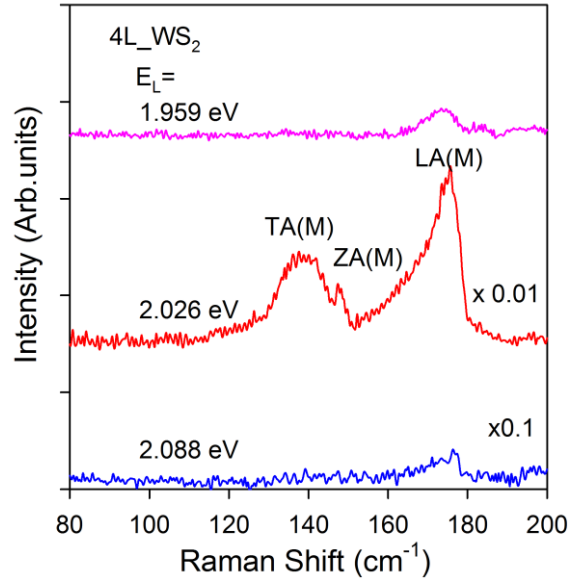
**Supplementary Fig. S4 | Excitation energy dependence of Raman spectra of 2L WS<sub>2</sub>.** **a**, The full Raman spectra of 2L-WS<sub>2</sub> range from 5 cm<sup>-1</sup> to 440 cm<sup>-1</sup> at 4 K. **b**, The integrated intensity of  $A_{1g}$  mode as a function of excitation energies. The inset gray solid line shows the reflection spectrum of 2L-WS<sub>2</sub>.



**Supplementary Fig. S5 | Excitation energy dependence of Raman spectra of 2L WS<sub>2</sub>.** The Lorentzian fitting results 2LA(M), E<sub>2g</sub><sup>1</sup> mode (a) and A<sub>1g</sub> mode (b) of 2L-WS<sub>2</sub> with different excitation wavelengths. The A<sub>1g</sub> mode shows a clear Davydov splitting when excitation energies are close to A exciton.



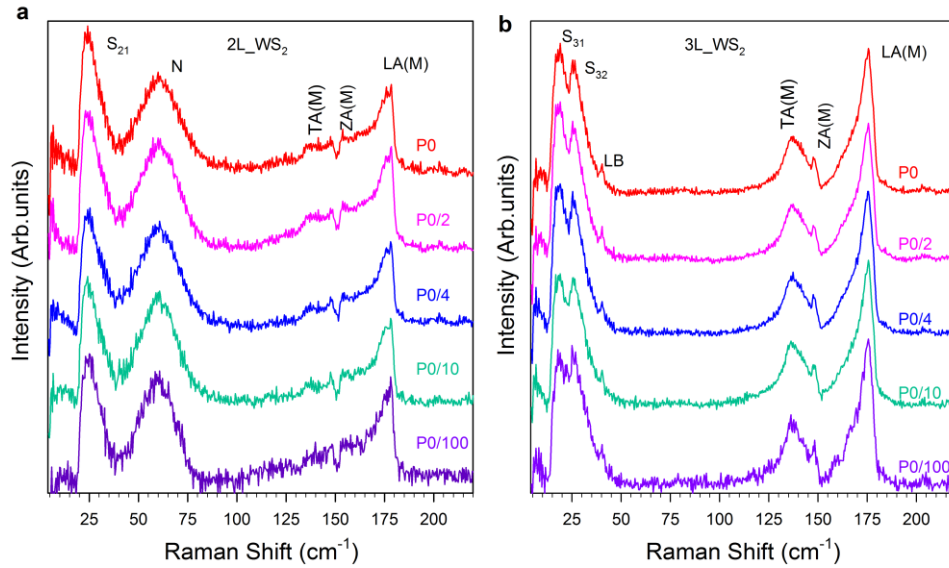
**Supplementary Fig. S6 | Excitation energy dependence of Raman spectra of 3L WS<sub>2</sub>.** The full Raman spectra of 3L-WS<sub>2</sub> range from 5 cm<sup>-1</sup> to 440 cm<sup>-1</sup> at 4 K.



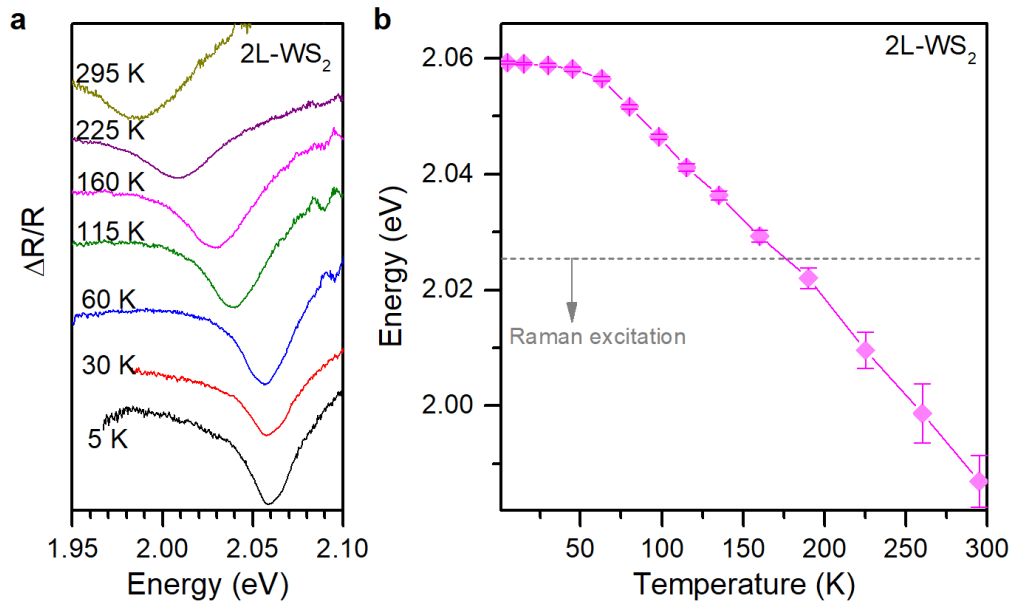
**Supplementary Fig. S7 | Excitation energy dependence of Raman spectra of 4L WS<sub>2</sub> at 4 K.**

By fitting and analyzing the high-frequency Raman spectra of few-layer WS<sub>2</sub>, we found that there are no obvious peak broadening or asymmetry lineshape for 2LA(M),  $E'(E_{2g}^1)$  and  $A'_{1g}$  ( $A'_1$ ) modes, as shown in Fig. S4 to S7. It suggests that there are no Fano resonance for  $E'(E_{2g}^1)$  and  $A'_{1g}$  ( $A'_1$ ) phonon modes (the optical phonon modes at  $\Gamma$  point). The vibration of these modes is the relative motion inside the primitive cell atoms. Usually, the treatment of the interactions between electrons and these phonon modes should employ the polaron-related theory, different from this work's physical picture. Probably this is why we do not observe the quantum interference phenomenon for high frequency optical branch phonon modes.

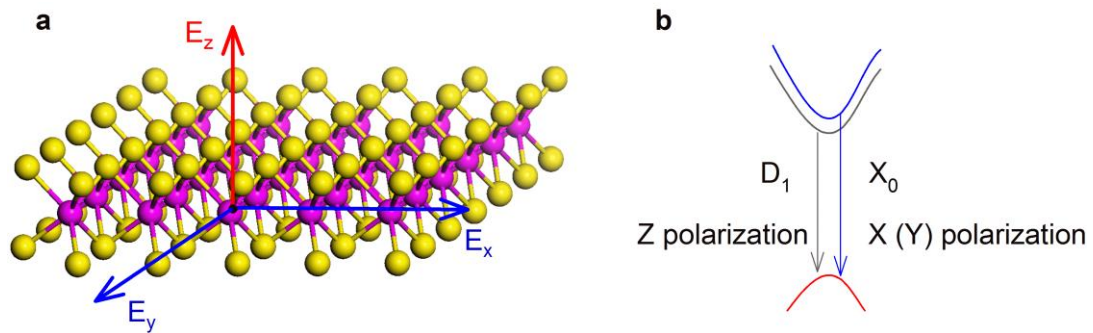
We note that the energy of 594 nm excitation (2.09 eV) wavelength is slightly higher than the  $X_0$  in few-layer WS<sub>2</sub>. In that case, the high-frequency  $A_{1g}$  mode is greatly enhanced, implying that the out-of-plane  $A_{1g}$  mode strongly couples to the bright A excitons. This can be understood that the propagation (polarization) direction of bright A exciton is out-of-plane (in-plane), which can effectively couple with out-of-plane  $A_{1g}$  phonons.



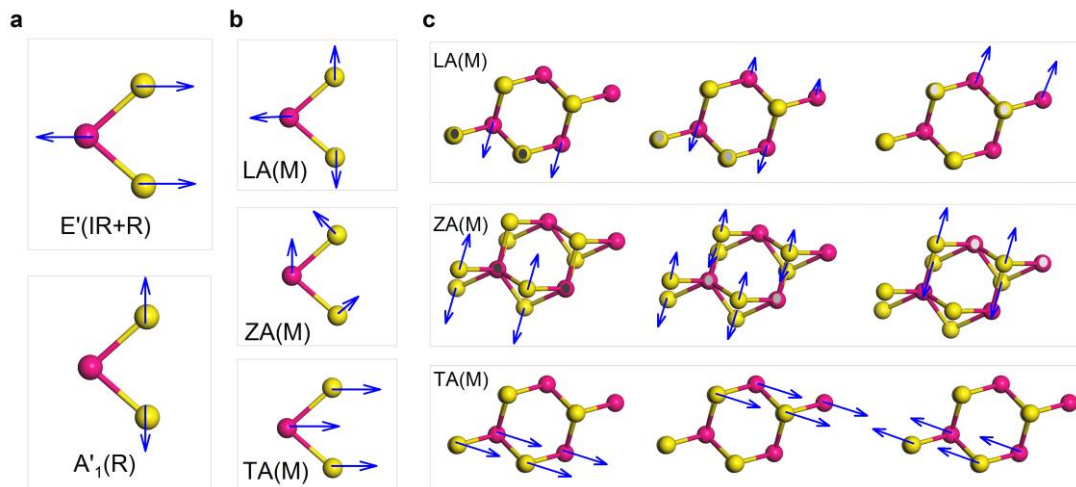
**Supplementary Fig. S8 | Excitation power dependence of Raman spectra of 2L and 3L WS<sub>2</sub>.** **a** Power-dependent Raman spectra of LA(M) and TA(M) phonon modes in 2L- and 3L WS<sub>2</sub> at 4 K, respectively. Here the intensities are normalized to the LA(M) modes. The laser power P0 is around 0.6 mW. The Fano profile almost keeps unchanged, and the intensity increases linearly with laser power, implying these processes correspond to first-order Raman scattering.



**Supplementary Fig. S9 | Temperature dependence of reflectance spectra of 2L WS<sub>2</sub>.** **a**, The temperature dependence of reflectance contrast spectra of 2L WS<sub>2</sub>. **b**, The bright A exciton energies as a function of temperature. The dotted gray line indicates the 612 nm laser for Raman excitation in the Fig. 4 in main text.



**Supplementary Fig. S10 | Schematic of bright and dark exciton polarization. a,** Side of the monolayer WS<sub>2</sub> with E<sub>x</sub>, E<sub>y</sub> and E<sub>z</sub> axis. **b,** The polarization direction of bright (X<sub>0</sub>) and dark (D<sub>1</sub>) A exciton.



**Supplementary Fig. S11 | Schematic of vibration way of phonon modes. a,b,** Side view of the schematic of vibration way of  $E'$  and  $A'_1$  modes, as well as the vibration way of LA (M), ZA(M) and TA(M) modes. **c,** Detailed evolution of vibration schematic of LA (M), ZA(M) and TA(M) modes.

## Section II, Supplementary table

**Table 1 |** The fitting parameters  $q$  with the fitting errors of Fano profile of phonon modes in 2L and 3L-WS<sub>2</sub> at 4 K.

	Shear mode	ZA(M)	LA(M)
2L-WS <sub>2</sub>	$2.9 \pm 0.3$	$-0.14 \pm 0.03$	$-3.2 \pm 0.2$
3L-WS <sub>2</sub>	$2.6 \pm 0.2$	$-3.1 \pm 0.4$	$-4 \pm 0.2$

### Section III, Symmetry Analysis of phonon modes and excitons

#### Phonon modes at $\Gamma$ point and M point:

For the shear (S) modes at  $\Gamma$  point, the phonon symmetry is  $E_{2g}^2$ . The corresponding Raman tensor is doubly degenerate.

$$R(E_{2g}^2): \begin{pmatrix} 0 & d & 0 \\ d & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} d & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -d & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

For the layer breathing (LB) modes at  $\Gamma$  point, the phonon symmetry is  $A'_1$  (or  $A_{1g}$ ).

$$R(A_{1g}): \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b \end{pmatrix}$$

The symmetry of M-point in the Brillouin zone is  $D_{2h}$ . There are four symmetries  $A_g$ ,  $B_{1g}$ ,  $B_{2g}$ ,  $B_{3g}$ . The symmetry for LA(M) phonon is  $A_g$ , for TA(M) is  $B_{1g}$ , for ZA(M) is  $B_{3g}$ . The corresponding Raman tensors are

$$R(A_g) = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c \end{pmatrix}, \quad R(B_{1g}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & d & 0 \\ d & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad R(B_{3g}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & f \\ 0 & f & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Under the resonant excitation with dark A exciton, the Raman selection rules are determined by the exciton-phonon interaction, rather than by the Raman tensor of phonon modes [1], as a result, these Raman inactive modes also can be observed.

#### Exciton symmetry:

The exciton symmetry is composed of symmetry of the envelop function (internal orbital symmetry) and the electron (conduction band) and hole (valence band) symmetry. The representation can be given by  $\Gamma = \Gamma_{env} \otimes \Gamma_c \otimes \Gamma_v^*$  [2]. Here we only need to consider the symmetry of  $1s$  state in our case.

For bright A exciton, the symmetry is  $\Gamma^{1s} = \Gamma_{11} \otimes \Gamma_7^* = \Gamma_2$  in  $C_{3h}$  symmetry at K point. The polarization of bright A exciton is in-plane (X or Y polarization) [2-4].

For dark A exciton, the symmetry is  $\Gamma^{1s} = \Gamma_9 \otimes \Gamma_7^* = \Gamma_9 \otimes \Gamma_8 = \Gamma_4$  in  $C_{3h}$  symmetry at K point. The polarization of dark A exciton is out-of-plane (Z



polarization, corresponding to a z-dipole transition), which is in-plane dipole transition forbidden for normal incidence configuration [2-4]. We should note that the dark A exciton is slightly mixed with bright A exciton, which could be brightened by a large in-plane magnetic field [5-7].

For dark B exciton, the symmetry is  $\Gamma^{1s} = \Gamma_{11} \otimes \Gamma_8^* = \Gamma_{11} \otimes \Gamma_7 = \Gamma_6$  in  $C_{3h}$  symmetry at K point. Thus the dark B excitons have strictly zero oscillator strength. Meanwhile, the dark B exciton state is the upper band one (Fig. S1). The forming of a continuum state by exciton population is more difficult than that for the dark A exciton. As a result, under such resonance excitation conditions, the Fano resonance of shear modes basically vanishes, and the Fano resonance of zone-edged acoustic modes at the M point is greatly weakened.

For the dark exciton with finite momentum, the electron at Q valley holds  $\sigma$  symmetry while the hole at K valley holds a  $C_{3h}$  symmetry. The dark excitons are momentum forbidden.

### **The resonance situation with dark B excitons**

We note that a weak Fano intensity of ZA(M) and LA(M) can be resolved with 514 nm excitation. This result can be understood by considering that this excitation energy is close to B exciton. Hence, the scattering picture that we mentioned above (see Fig. S1) results in the observed ZA(M) and LA(M). However, the nature of dark B exciton states (upper band and zero oscillator strength [3] and the above optical bandgap excitation significantly weaken such process.

## References

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