

# Helicity-Resolved Vibrational Coupling in Twist $WS_2/WSe_2$ Heterostructures

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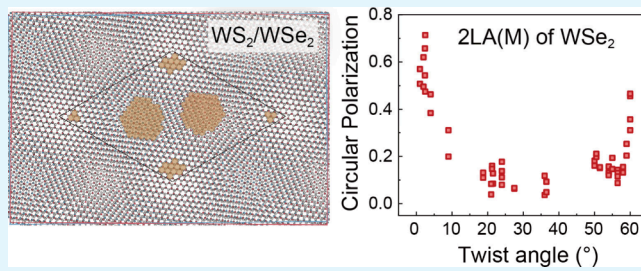
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**ABSTRACT:** Helicity-resolved Raman spectra can provide an intricate view into lattice structural details. Through the analysis of peak positions, intensities, and circular polarized Raman signals, a wealth of information about chiral structure arrangement within the moiré superlattice, interlayer interaction strength, polarizability change in chemical bond, and beyond can be unveiled. However, the relationship between the circular polarization of high-frequency Raman and twist angle is still not clear. Here, we utilize helicity-resolved Raman spectroscopy to explore the interlayer interactions and the effect of the moiré superlattice in  $WS_2/WSe_2$  heterostructures. For the out-of-plane Raman mode  $A_{1g}$  of  $WS_2$  ( $A_{1g}$  and  ${}^1E_{2g}$  of  $WSe_2$ ), its intensity is significantly enhanced (suppressed) in  $WS_2/WSe_2$  heterostructures when  $\theta$  is less than  $10^\circ$  or greater than  $50^\circ$ . This observation could be attributed to the large polarizability changes in both W–S and W–Se covalent bonds. The circular polarization of 2LA(M) in  $WSe_2$  of the  $WS_2/WSe_2$  heterostructure ( $\theta < 10^\circ$  or  $\theta > 50^\circ$ ) is significantly enhanced compared to that of 2LA(M) in the monolayer  $WSe_2$ . We deduce that the circular polarization of the Raman mode correlates with the proportion of high-symmetry area within a supercell of the moiré lattice. Our findings improve the understanding of twist-angle-modulated Raman modes in TMD heterostructures.

**KEYWORDS:** moiré superlattice,  $WS_2/WSe_2$ , heterostructures, Raman, circular polarization, twist-angle



## 1. INTRODUCTION

The moiré patterns formed in van der Waals heterostructures are of great interest in the study of semiconductor optoelectronic devices with valley or spin selection capabilities.<sup>1–3</sup> The period of the moiré pattern depends on the lattice constant mismatch and the stacking angle between the two layers of materials.<sup>4–6</sup> When the period of the moiré pattern is much larger than the individual lattice constant, people have given it a new name, called the moiré superlattice. The periodic potential field resulting from the periodic variations is termed the moiré potential. Especially, the moiré potential in transition metal dichalcogenide (TMD) heterostructures is predicted to have a depth greater than 100 meV.<sup>2,7</sup> Much efforts have been put in exploring the moiré superlattice engineered or moiré potential manipulated optical<sup>1–3,8,9</sup> and electronic properties.<sup>9–13</sup> For example, Van Hove singularities,<sup>14</sup> tunable insulating states,<sup>10,15</sup> and zero-resistances<sup>13,16</sup> states have been observed in twisted bilayer graphene. The interlayer excitons in heterostructures of TMDs exhibit alternative optical selection rules manipulated by the moiré superlattice.<sup>3,17</sup> What's more, moiré phonons, modulated by the moiré superlattice, have been observed in twisted  $MoS_2$  bilayer.<sup>18</sup>

In twisted heterostructure, the interlayer coupling between the monolayers can lead to new peaks, energy shift, splitting

etc., due to the breaking of the symmetry.<sup>4,19–26</sup> For example, the appearance of low-frequency shear modes or layer breathing modes are often related to the interlayer interactions.<sup>27–31</sup> The changes in those high-frequency optical phonon modes are associated with the variation in the overall lattice vibration characteristics.<sup>4,27,28</sup> Therefore, by investigating the variations of these Raman modes at different stacking angles, one can get a glimpse into the interlayer interactions and lattice properties of layered materials. Early study reveals that the out-of-plane modes of  $WSe_2$  ( ${}^1B_{2g}$ ,  $\sim 309\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and  $MoSe_2$  ( ${}^1B_{2g}$ ,  $\sim 353\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) are sensitive to the interlayer coupling and can show up in all the twist angle  $MoSe_2/WSe_2$  heterostructures.<sup>4,32,33</sup> The shear mode (layer breathing) is enhanced (disappeared) in  $MoSe_2/WSe_2$  heterostructures with small twist angles ( $< 5^\circ$  or  $> 55^\circ$ ). In the  $MoS_2$ /graphene heterostructure, the in-plane and out-of-plane Raman mode of  $MoS_2$  can provide information about the in-plane strain and interfacial contact, respectively.<sup>20</sup> In the twisted  $MoS_2$  bilayer,

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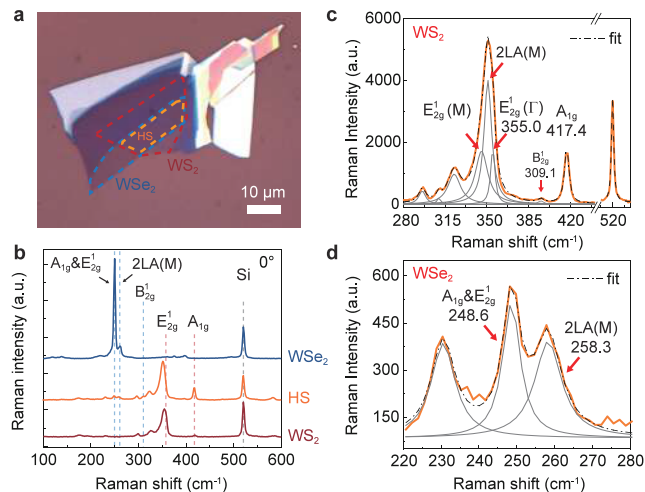


some folded optical and acoustic phonons were observed, which are also called moiré phonons, and their relationship with the twist angle was revealed.<sup>18</sup> Subsequently, several studies have reported the enhancement of Raman modes associated with interlayer coupling or novel moiré phonon phenomena.<sup>34–38</sup> By helicity-resolved Raman spectroscopy, it is revealed that the out-of-plane  $A_{1g}$  Raman mode of monolayer and multilayer TMDs maintains the same polarization with the excitation laser, while the in-plane  $^1E_{2g}$  Raman mode exhibits the opposite polarization.<sup>39,40</sup> However, the evolution of Raman circular polarization in TMD heterostructures as a function of twist angle remains ambiguous.<sup>19,21,33,35,41</sup>

In this work, we carry nonpolarized and circular-polarized Raman characterization in  $WS_2/WSe_2$  heterostructures and obtain the correlation between the Raman intensities, circular polarization, and the stacking angles. The intensity and position of the out-of-plane Raman mode of monolayers are more susceptible to interlayer coupling than that of the in-plane mode. The intensity of out-of-plane Raman mode for  $WS_2$  and  $WSe_2$  exhibit opposite variation with respect to the twist-angle. This can be attributed to the larger polarizability changes in both W–S and W–Se covalent bonds, resulting in significant variations in their intensities. Interestingly, the peak intensity of the second-order longitudinal acoustic (2LA) phonons of  $WSe_2$  at M points of the Brillouin zone is also quenched in heterostructure for small twist angle and exhibits a variation pattern centered around  $30^\circ$ . Furthermore, the circular polarization of the 2LA(M) mode reaches its maximum in heterostructures with small twist-angles and exhibits a symmetric variation centered around  $30^\circ$ . We conclude that this variation in Raman circular polarization with stacking angle arises from the changes in the area of high-symmetry lattice domains within the moiré pattern, in which the different high-symmetry structures contribute to different circular-polarized Raman spectra. The room-temperature modulation of the moiré superlattice in circular-polarized Raman properties deepens our understanding of interlayer vibration coupling and provides new schemes for engineering electron–phonon coupling.<sup>16,42–46</sup>

## 2. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

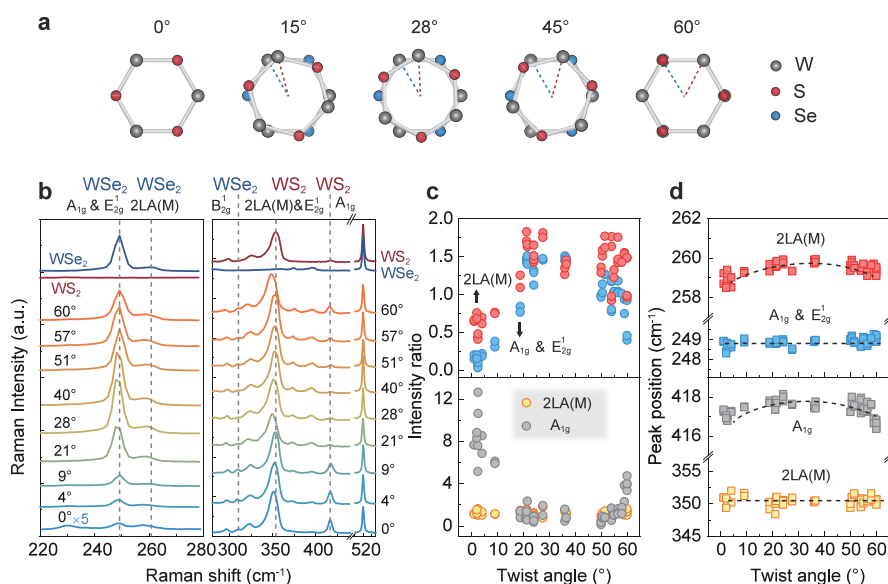
The  $WS_2/WSe_2$  heterostructures were fabricated through dry mechanical transfer, and the twist angle was determined using polarization-resolved second harmonic characterization<sup>47</sup> (Figures S1–S3). Figure 1a shows an optical image of the  $WS_2/WSe_2$  heterostructure with a  $0^\circ$  twist angle. All the Raman signals were excited by a continuous-wave 532 nm laser and dispersed by an 1800 lines/mm grating (see Methods). The nonpolarization resolved Raman spectra of the  $0^\circ$   $WS_2/WSe_2$  heterostructure are shown in Figure 1b. Some typical Raman modes can be identified and marked out by comparing with the Raman modes in the monolayer, including the in-plane ( $^1E_{2g}$ ), out-of-plane ( $A_{1g}$ ,  $^1B_{2g}$ , and 2LA(M) peak. In comparison to the monolayers, the 2LA(M) mode and  $A_{1g}$  and  $^1E_{2g}$  modes (degenerate) of  $WSe_2$  are significantly suppressed in the heterostructure, while the  $A_{1g}$  mode of  $WS_2$  is enhanced in the heterostructure. To further resolve each peak, we used convoluted Lorentzian and Gaussian line shapes to fit the Raman spectra of the heterostructure, as shown in Figure 1c and 1d. The peak position of the  $^1E_{2g}(M)$ , 2LA(M),  $^1E_{2g}(\Gamma)$ , and  $A_{1g}$  mode originated from  $WS_2$  are found to  $346.7\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $352.6\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $355.0\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , and  $417.4\text{ cm}^{-1}$  on the hetero-



**Figure 1.** (a) Optical image of a  $WS_2/WSe_2$  heterostructure (HS) with a  $0^\circ$  twist angle. The  $WS_2$  monolayer,  $WSe_2$  monolayer, and the heterostructure are outlined by red, blue, and orange dashed lines, respectively. Scale bar:  $10\ \mu\text{m}$ . (b) Raman spectra of the  $WS_2$  monolayer,  $WSe_2$  monolayer, and the  $WS_2/WSe_2$  heterostructure with a  $0^\circ$  twist angle. Some typical Raman modes are indicated by dash lines. (c) and (d) show the fitting results of the Raman spectra from the heterostructure.

structure, in comparison with  $345.2\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $351.9\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $356.7\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , and  $417.2\text{ cm}^{-1}$  on monolayer  $WS_2$ .<sup>48,49</sup> The peak position of the  $^1E_{2g}$  and  $A_{1g}$  and 2LA(M) mode of  $WSe_2$  in heterostructure is  $248.6$  and  $258.3\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , slightly different from  $248.9$  and  $261.1\text{ cm}^{-1}$  on monolayer  $WSe_2$ .<sup>4</sup> Raman mode ( $^1B_{2g}$ ) of multilayer  $WSe_2$  materials shows up at  $309\text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the heterostructures.

To investigate the influence of the moiré superlattice effect on Raman spectra, we conducted twist-angle-dependent Raman spectroscopic characterization on  $WS_2/WSe_2$  heterostructures. Figure 2a shows the top view of  $WS_2/WSe_2$  with different twist angles. Since both the hexagonal unit cell of  $WS_2$  and  $WSe_2$  layer are formed by covalent bonding of W atoms and S (Se) atoms, the  $WS_2$  and  $WSe_2$  lattices are aligned by  $0^\circ$ . The twist angle ( $\theta$ ) is defined as the angle between the lines connecting the upper layer W atoms and lower layer W atoms to the hexagonal center. The twist-angle-dependent Raman spectra are shown in Figure 2b. Obviously, the  $A_{1g}$  and  $^1E_{2g}$  mode of  $WSe_2$  and the  $A_{1g}$  mode of  $WS_2$  exhibit pronounced intensity variations dependent on twist angle. Specifically, the intensity of the  $A_{1g}$  and  $^1E_{2g}$  mode in  $WSe_2$  exhibits a notable decrease in heterostructures at  $0^\circ$  or  $60^\circ$ , whereas the  $A_{1g}$  mode in  $WS_2$  shows a noticeable enhancement under similar conditions. And the  $A_{1g}$  and  $^1E_{2g}$  mode in  $WSe_2$  is almost diminish in the  $0^\circ$  heterostructure. For out-of-plane Raman modes of  $WS_2$  and  $WSe_2$ , the direction of atomic vibrations aligns with the direction of interlayer interactions. In the case of small-angle stacking ( $<10^\circ$  or  $>50^\circ$ ), the enhanced interlayer coupling increases the change in polarizability of both W–S and W–Se bonds, leading to a significant change in their intensities. A novel Raman mode at approximately  $309\text{ cm}^{-1}$  emerges consistently across all the  $WS_2/WSe_2$  heterostructure, which is attributed to an out-of-plane Raman mode ( $^1B_{2g}$ ) in multilayer  $WSe_2$  materials.<sup>4</sup> This observation strongly suggests robust interlayer coupling within our samples. According to our statistics, the moiré superlattice influences the intensity, peak position, and line width of the high-



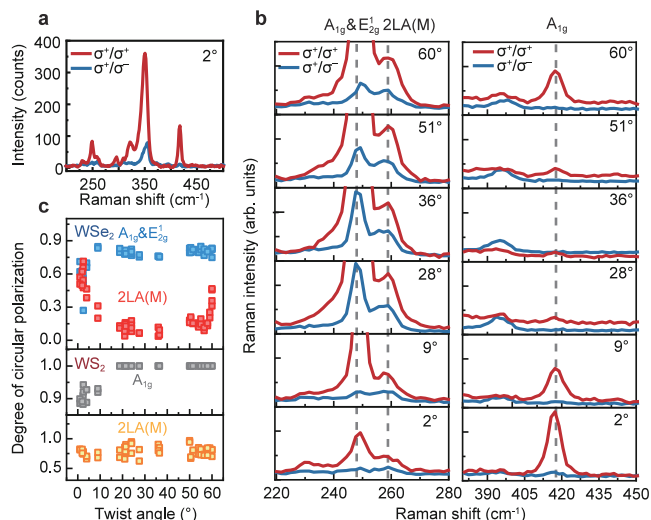
**Figure 2.** (a) Top view of  $\text{WS}_2/\text{WSe}_2$  heterostructure with various twist angles ( $0^\circ$ ,  $15^\circ$ ,  $28^\circ$ ,  $45^\circ$ , and  $60^\circ$ ). The red and blue dotted lines connect the centers to the W atom of  $\text{WS}_2$  (Top) and  $\text{WSe}_2$  (bottom) layer, respectively. And the angle between the two lines is defined as the twist angle. (b) The twist-angle-dependent Raman spectra of the  $\text{WS}_2/\text{WSe}_2$  heterostructure. The dashed lines label the Raman modes investigated. The Raman spectra taken from the  $\text{WSe}_2$  (blue) and  $\text{WS}_2$  (red) monolayers are also included for comparison. For clarity, the curves are vertically shifted and their order are intentionally altered to avoid overlap. (c) The relationship between the Raman enhancement ratio and the stacking angle. The ratio is defined as the peak intensity in the heterostructure to the peak intensity of the corresponding monolayer. (d) The twist-angle-dependent Raman peak positions. The black dash lines are plotted for eye guidance.

frequency Raman modes. Figure 2c shows the twist-angle-dependent Raman enhanced ratio, which is defined as the Raman intensity in the heterostructure to that in the corresponding monolayer. Both the  $A_{1g}$  and  ${}^1E_{2g}$  and 2LA(M) mode of  $\text{WSe}_2$  is suppressed in heterostructures with small twist angles ( $<10^\circ$  or  $>50^\circ$ ). However, the out-of-plane  $A_{1g}$  mode of  $\text{WS}_2$  is significantly enhanced in heterostructures with small twist angles. The Raman intensity of 2LA(M) and  ${}^1E_{2g}(\Gamma)$  phonon modes of  $\text{WS}_2$  do not exhibit a modulation pattern influenced by the twist-angles, as shown in Figure 2c and Figure S4c. For the  ${}^1E_{2g}(\text{M})$  of  $\text{WS}_2$  at  $345\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , its intensity is enhanced as the twist angle approaches  $0^\circ$  or  $60^\circ$  (Figure S4c). The twist-angle-dependent peak positions are depicted in Figure 2d and Figure S4b. The 2LA(M) mode of  $\text{WSe}_2$  and the  $A_{1g}$  mode of  $\text{WS}_2$  exhibit variations dependent on the twist-angle. As the twist angle approaches  $0^\circ$  or  $60^\circ$ , these peaks shift to lower Raman frequencies introduced by the decreased interlayer distance. In contrast, the peak position of the  $A_{1g}$  and  ${}^1E_{2g}$  modes of  $\text{WSe}_2$ , as well as the 2LA(M) of  $\text{WS}_2$ , do not exhibit twist-angle modulated patterns. The analysis of the line width of  $A_{1g}$  of  $\text{WS}_2$ ,  $A_{1g}$  and  ${}^1E_{2g}$ , and 2LA(M) of  $\text{WSe}_2$  with respect to the stacking angle are also presented in Figure S4. As the angle approaches  $0^\circ$  or  $60^\circ$ , the line widths of these peaks gradually increase in a twist-angle-sensitive manner. The broadening of peak widths may be attributed to enhanced interlayer coupling, which increases electron–phonon interactions and consequently enhances phonon scattering, leading to the broadening of the peaks sensitive to twist angles. Interestingly, the line width of  ${}^1E_{2g}(\text{M})$ , 2LA(M), and  ${}^1E_{2g}(\Gamma)$  of  $\text{WS}_2$  decreased as the stacking angle approached  $0^\circ$  or  $60^\circ$ . More analyses of Raman modes at around  $309\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $320\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , and  $395\text{ cm}^{-1}$  are shown in Figure S5. Above all, the out-of-plane Raman mode is more susceptible to interlayer coupling compared to in-plane modes in positions, peaks, and intensities. Similar phonon

modes of this kind are commonly observed in low-frequency Raman spectra.<sup>18,50</sup> Note that these Raman properties are independent of both the stacking order of  $\text{WS}_2$  and  $\text{WSe}_2$  and the linear polarization of the excitation. Figure S6 shows the Raman spectra dependent on the twist angle of the  $\text{WSe}_2/\text{WS}_2$  ( $\text{WSe}_2$  on top of the  $\text{WS}_2$ ) heterostructure. The Raman spectra excited under horizontal and vertical linear polarization are shown in Figure S7.

To delve deeper into the Raman properties modulated by the moiré superlattice, we performed helicity-resolved Raman characterization of these heterostructures. Figure 3a depicts helicity-resolved Raman spectra of a  $2^\circ$  heterostructure excited by a right circularly polarized ( $\sigma^+$ ) 532 nm continuous laser and collected with  $\sigma^+$  or  $\sigma^-$  signals. The circular-polarized Raman spectra of monolayer  $\text{MoS}_2$ ,  $\text{WS}_2$ , and  $\text{WSe}_2$  can be found in Figure S9, which shows that different Raman modes have different degrees of circular polarization  $\text{CP} = \frac{I(\sigma^+) - I(\sigma^-)}{I(\sigma^+) + I(\sigma^-)}$ , where  $I(\sigma^+)$  and  $I(\sigma^-)$  are the right-handed or left-handed Raman intensity. Figure 3b presents the twist-angle-dependent circularly polarized  $A_{1g}$  and  ${}^1E_{2g}$  and 2LA(M) modes of  $\text{WSe}_2$  and the  $A_{1g}$  mode of  $\text{WS}_2$ , which is obviously twist-angle-dependent in nonpolarized Raman characterization. The CP statistics for these Raman modes are displayed in Figure 3c. Differing from the significant changes in Raman peak intensity and position, the CP values of both the  $A_{1g}$  and  ${}^1E_{2g}$  mode of  $\text{WSe}_2$  and the  $A_{1g}$  mode of  $\text{WS}_2$  in the heterostructures remain relatively stable at around 0.76 and 1.0. These values closely resemble their corresponding CP values in monolayers  $\text{WSe}_2$  (0.66) and  $\text{WS}_2$  (1.0) (Figure S9). Neither of them exhibit moiré superlattice modulated symmetry patterns, except for a reduction when the twist angle is close to  $0^\circ$ . This circular polarization value aligns with the selection rules dictated by their Raman tensors.<sup>39,40</sup> For the  $A_{1g}$  mode in multilayer or the  $A'1$  mode in monolayer TMDs, the Raman tensor ( $R$ ) is





**Figure 3.** (a) Circularly polarized Raman spectra of a  $2^\circ$   $\text{WS}_2/\text{WSe}_2$  heterostructure under a  $\sigma^+$  polarized laser at 532 nm. (b) The circular polarized Raman spectra with various twist angles. The left panel displays the  $A_{1g}$  and  ${}^1E_{2g}$  and 2LA(M) Raman modes of the  $\text{WSe}_2$  layer in  $\text{WS}_2/\text{WSe}_2$  heterostructures. The right panel shows the  $A_{1g}$  Raman mode of the  $\text{WS}_2$  layer in the heterostructures. (c) The twist-angle-dependent circular polarization of select Raman modes of the heterostructures.

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b \end{bmatrix}$$

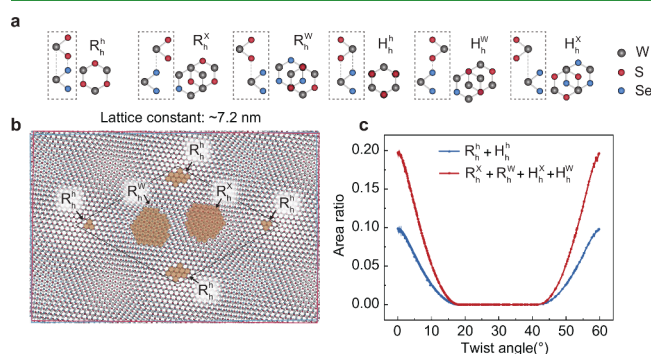
. For the  $\sigma^+/\sigma^+$  configuration, both the excitation ( $\sigma_e$ ) and detection ( $\sigma_d$ ) are right-handed circular polarization  $\sigma_e = \sigma_d = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ i \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\sigma_e^* R \sigma_d = a$ . For the opposite  $\sigma^+/\sigma^-$

configuration,  $\sigma_e = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ i \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\sigma_d = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -i \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\sigma_e^* R \sigma_d = 0$ .

Thereby, the CP values of  $A_{1g}$  of  $\text{WS}_2$  remain around 1 in both monolayers and heterostructures. For the  $E_{2g}$  (multilayer)/ $E'$  (monolayer), the  $\sigma_e^* R \sigma_d$  is zero (nonzero) for the  $\sigma^+/\sigma^+$  ( $\sigma^+/\sigma^-$ ) settings. For the  $A_{1g}$  and  ${}^1E_{2g}$  mode of  $\text{WSe}_2$ , its CP values in both monolayer and heterostructure are slightly less than 1, which could stem from the partial degeneracy of the  $A_{1g}$  and  ${}^1E_{2g}$  modes, resulting in a CP value slightly below 1. The CP of the 2LA(M) modes of  $\text{WS}_2$  also consistently remain at approximately 0.78 in all the heterostructures with various twist-angle, which is slightly smaller than the CP value of 0.86 observed in the corresponding monolayer  $\text{WS}_2$ . However, it is worth noting that the CP of the second order 2LA(M) mode of  $\text{WSe}_2$  exhibits a symmetry variation centered around  $30^\circ$ . It is significantly enhanced in the  $\text{WS}_2/\text{WSe}_2$  heterostructures near  $0^\circ$  or  $60^\circ$  and decreased as the twist angle gets close to  $30^\circ$ , while the CP of the 2LA(M) mode in monolayer  $\text{WSe}_2$  is nearly zero (Figure S9). The twist-angle-modulated CP value of Raman mode was not found to be not related to the valley-selective properties of monolayer excitons and interlayer excitons. Further discussions can be found in Figure S10.

In principle, the CP of  $A_{1g}$  and  $E_{2g}$  in monolayer and bilayer TMDs should exhibit a similar behavior, owing to their shared Raman tensors. In the heterostructure moiré superlattice, these Raman modes should maintain consistent CP though there might be some overall shifts in the magnitude due to the

varying strength of interlayer coupling or the changed bond length between the heterostructure. For example, in our experiments, the CP of both the  $A_{1g}$  and  ${}^1E_{2g}$  mode of  $\text{WSe}_2$ , as well as the  $A_{1g}$  modes of  $\text{WS}_2$ , are close to the corresponding CP values of monolayers (Figure S9). And the slight decrease in CP observed in nearly  $0^\circ$  heterostructures can be attributed to the enhanced out-of-plane vibration resulting from the enlarged AA stacking area in nearly  $0^\circ$  heterostructure. Similar decreased circular polarization of the  $A_{1g}$  mode of  $\text{WS}_2$  has also been observed in  $\text{WS}_2/\text{MoSe}_2$  heterostructures (Figure S11). However, concerning the 2LA(M) mode of  $\text{WSe}_2$  in the heterostructure, its CP value remains around 0.15 in  $\text{WS}_2/\text{WSe}_2$  heterostructures with  $10^\circ < \theta < 50^\circ$ , which is close to its value (0.16) in monolayer  $\text{WSe}_2$ . We attribute this to the weak interlayer coupling, which causes the heterostructure to manifest monolayer properties. Subsequently, the CP value increases to around 0.6 as the twist angle varies from  $10^\circ$  to  $0^\circ$  or  $50^\circ$  to  $60^\circ$ . We attribute this increased CP of the 2LA(M) mode to the increased area of the high-symmetry lattice structure in the heterostructure. Figure 4a depicts the side view



**Figure 4.** (a) Side view (left) and top view (right) of the high symmetry sites in the moiré superlattice. (b) The moiré superlattice formed in a  $1^\circ$   $\text{WS}_2/\text{WSe}_2$  heterostructures with high-symmetry sites marked by the brown shade. (c) The area ratio as a function of twist angle. The ratio is obtained by dividing the high-symmetry area by the area of unit cell in the moiré superlattice, as indicated by the rhombus in (b).

(dotted rectangle) and top view of the high symmetry structure in moiré superlattice,  $R^{hh}$  ( $H^{hh}$ ) refers to R-type (H-type), where the hexagon center (h) of  $\text{WS}_2$  layer aligns the hexagon center (h) of  $\text{WSe}_2$  layer. And  $R^{Xh}$  and  $R^{Wh}$  can be comprehended in the same way, where the W stands for a W atom and X stands for S or Se atoms. Figure 4b illustrates a typical moiré superlattice in a  $\text{WS}_2/\text{WSe}_2$  heterostructure with a  $1^\circ$  twist-angle, while the specific sites depicted in Figure 4a are shaded in a brown color. We constructed the unrelaxed periodic unit cell in  $\text{WS}_2/\text{WSe}_2$  heterostructure under a certain twist angle and calculated the area of all the specific sites. The lattice constant of  $\text{WS}_2$  ( $\text{WSe}_2$ ) is 3.181 Å (3.315 Å). The periodic structure was constructed by hexagons in the  $\text{WSe}_2$  layer. A hexagon is aligned by straight lines connecting centers of each atom in  $\text{WSe}_2$  layer, and a hexagon can be counted as high-symmetry area, for example,  $R^{hh}$  structure, as long as it satisfies that all six atoms on the vertex deviate no more than 0.6 Å on the two-dimensional plane from the corresponding atoms in the other layer. Other high-symmetry area can also be calculated based on this method. According to previous calculated chiral phonon modes of twisted bilayer  $\text{WSe}_2$ , the chirality of both flat acoustic and optical phonon is enhanced

when the twist angle increases from  $50^\circ$  to  $60^\circ$ .<sup>34</sup> And the calculations also unveil that the different lattice structures in the moiré lattice contribute different chirality.<sup>36</sup> Therefore, we attribute the twist-angle-dependent behaviors of the CP value of the 2LA(M) mode of  $\text{WSe}_2$  in the  $\text{WS}_2/\text{WSe}_2$  heterostructures to the variation in the area of the high-symmetry lattice structures as the twist angle changes. The correlation between the fraction of high-symmetry lattice area in the moiré superlattice and twist angle is illustrated in Figure 4c, following a pattern centered around  $30^\circ$ . The correspondence between the calculation and experiment is qualitative. More calculations are required to conclude quantitative results, for example, which symmetrical sites contribute to  $\sigma^+$  or  $\sigma^-$  Raman vibration mode and the second order Raman transition process in a moiré superlattice, and so on.

### 3. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, we explored the twist-angle-dependent Raman spectra of  $\text{WS}_2/\text{WSe}_2$  heterostructures. The  $A_{1g}$  modes are more susceptible to variation of twist-angle. In the non-polarized Raman characterization, both the intensity and position of the out-of-plane Raman mode of  $\text{WSe}_2$  and  $\text{WS}_2$  exhibit an obviously twist-angle-dependent pattern. Their intensity dependence on with the twist-angles is opposite. For the out-of-plane Raman mode  $A_{1g}$  of  $\text{WS}_2$  ( $A_{1g}$  and  ${}^1E_{2g}$  of  $\text{WSe}_2$ ), its intensity becomes stronger (weaker) when  $\theta < 10^\circ$  or  $\theta > 50^\circ$ . We attribute the large amplitude changes in the out-of-plane mode of  $\text{WS}_2$  and  $\text{WSe}_2$  in the heterostructures to significant variations in the polarizability of W–S and W–Se chemical bonds in the aligned or antialigned heterostructures. Interestingly, in the circular-polarized Raman characterization, the CP of 2LA(M) mode of  $\text{WSe}_2$  in the heterostructures also exhibits a twist-angle-dependent pattern. We speculate that the dependence of CP on the twist angle is positively correlated with the area ratio of high-symmetry lattice sites in the moiré superlattice. These results can deepen the understanding of interlayer interaction in TMD heterostructures, and the effect of moiré superlattice on the pristine Raman modes in the original lattice.

### 4. METHODS

**Sample Preparation.** All of the heterostructures were fabricated using a standard dry transfer method under a microscope. The polymer used in the transfer process is PVA (poly(vinyl alcohol)). Then the heterostructures were annealed at  $300^\circ\text{C}$  for 3 h. More details about the stacking can be found in reference.<sup>47</sup>

**Raman Characterization.** Both the nonpolarized and circular-polarized Raman spectra were excited using a 532 nm continuous laser. The signals were collected through a 100 $\times$  objective (NA = 0.9), dispersed by a 1800 lines/mm grating, and analyzed using a Raman spectrometer (Renishaw inVia). A quarter-wave plate of 532 nm is placed in front of the microscope. More details about the optical setup can be found in Figure S8.

### ■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

#### SI Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acsami.4c06488>.

Polar plot SHG intensity for  $\text{WS}_2/\text{WSe}_2$ ; twist-angle-dependent Raman shift, intensity ratio, and line width of  ${}^1E_{2g}(M)$ , 2LA(M),  ${}^1E_{2g}(\Gamma)$  of  $\text{WS}_2$ ,  $309\text{ cm}^{-1}$  ( ${}^1B_{2g}$  of  $\text{WSe}_2$ ),  $320\text{ cm}^{-1}$  ( $\text{WS}_2$ ), and  $395\text{ cm}^{-1}$  ( $\text{WSe}_2$ ) in  $\text{WS}_2/\text{WSe}_2$  heterostructures; twist-angle-dependent Raman

spectra of the  $\text{WSe}_2/\text{WS}_2$  heterostructures (top:  $\text{WSe}_2$ , bottom:  $\text{WS}_2$ ); twist-angle-modulated Raman peaks and intensities of  $\text{WS}_2/\text{WSe}_2$  excited under horizontal linear polarization and vertical linear polarization; optical path diagram; helicity-resolved Raman spectra of monolayer TMDs and  $\text{WS}_2/\text{MoSe}_2$  heterostructures; helicity-resolved PL spectra of monolayer  $\text{WS}_2$ ,  $\text{WSe}_2$ , and  $\text{WS}_2/\text{WSe}_2$  heterostructures (PDF)

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#### Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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