

**Supporting Information for:**

**Highly tunable layered exciton in bilayer WS<sub>2</sub>:**

**linear quantum confined Stark effect versus**

**electrostatic doping**

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# S1. Stark shift calculation of the excitons in bilayer TMD:

The bilayer Hamiltonian (H) with an inter-layer potential difference of  $2U$  for  $\text{WS}_2$  can be written as<sup>1,2</sup>

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} \Delta - U & at_i(\nu_z k_x + ik_y) & 0 & 0 \\ at_i(\nu_z k_x - ik_y) & -\nu_z s_z \lambda - U & 0 & t_\perp \\ 0 & 0 & \Delta + U & at_i(\nu_z k_x - ik_y) \\ 0 & t_\perp & at_i(\nu_z k_x + ik_y) & \nu_z s_z \lambda + U \end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$

where  $\Delta$  is the bandgap,  $a$  is the lattice constant,  $t_i$  is the nearest-neighbour intralayer hopping,  $\lambda$  is the spin-valley coupling for holes in monolayer,  $t_\perp$  is the interlayer hopping for holes,  $\nu_z$  is the valley degree of freedom, and  $s_z$  is spin degree of freedom ( $\pm 1$ ). Material parameters are obtained from ref.<sup>1</sup>

An exciton state ( $|\Psi\rangle_{\vec{Q}}$ ) in an exciton band  $n$  with center of mass momentum  $\vec{Q}$  in reciprocal space can be written as<sup>3</sup>

$$|\Psi\rangle_{\vec{Q}} = \sum_{v,c,\vec{k}} A_{v,c,\vec{Q}}^n(\vec{k}) \left| v, \vec{k} \right\rangle \left| c, \vec{k} + \vec{Q} \right\rangle \quad (2)$$

$A_{v,c,\vec{Q}}^n(\vec{k})$  can be obtained from the solution of the Bethe-Salpeter (BS) equation<sup>3</sup>

$$\left\langle v, c, \vec{k}, \vec{Q} \right| H \left| v', c', \vec{k}', \vec{Q} \right\rangle = \delta_{vv'} \delta_{cc'} \delta_{\vec{k}\vec{k}'} (\varepsilon_{(\vec{k}+\vec{Q})c} - \varepsilon_{\vec{k}v}) - (\Xi - \Lambda)_{vv'}^{cc'}(\vec{k}, \vec{k}', \vec{Q}), \quad (3)$$

Here  $\varepsilon$  is the eigenvalue obtained by diagonalizing the quasiparticle Hamiltonian described above.  $\Xi$  and  $\Lambda$  are the direct and exchange term in the two-particle matrix elements. We take  $\Lambda = 0$  for excitons with  $Q = 0$ .

To obtain the Stark effect, the above equation is solved for different  $U$ , and the corre-

sponding exciton energy eigenvalues at  $Q = 0$  are calculated. The corresponding vertical field ( $\xi$ ) is calculated as

$$\xi = 2U/t_0, \tag{4}$$

where  $t_0$  is the physical separation between two Tungsten layers ( $6.3\text{\AA}$ ).

## S2. Raman characterization of bilayer $\text{WS}_2$

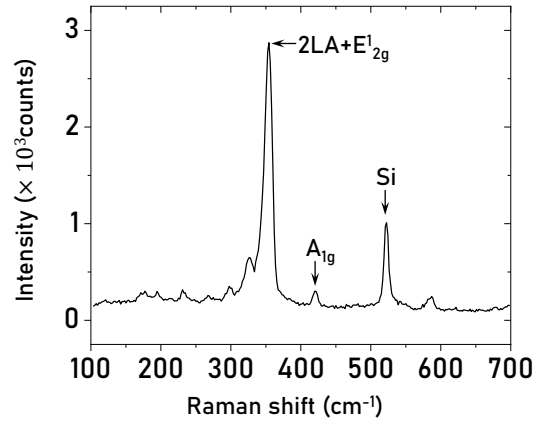


Figure S1: **Raman characterization of bilayer  $\text{WS}_2$ .** Room temperature Raman spectra for bilayer  $\text{WS}_2$  (S1). Different Raman modes are marked in the figure.

### S3. Calculation of reflectance with transfer matrix method:

The reflectance of the stacks is obtained by calculating the reflection from multiple layer dielectric formalism. For an N layer system the incident electric field ( $\mathcal{E}$ ) can be written as<sup>4</sup>

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{E}_1^+ \\ \mathcal{E}_1^- \end{bmatrix} = \mathcal{R} \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{E}_{(N+2)}^+ \\ \mathcal{E}_{(N+2)}^- \end{bmatrix} \quad (5)$$

where  $\mathcal{E}_j^+$ ,  $\mathcal{E}_j^-$  are the incoming and outgoing electric field from the  $j^{th}$  surface

$$\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}_1 \mathcal{R}_2 \dots \mathcal{R}_{N+1} \quad (6)$$

and, under normal incidence,

$$\mathcal{R}_j = \frac{1}{\tau_j} \begin{bmatrix} \exp(i\delta_j) & \rho_j \exp(i\delta_j) \\ \rho_j \exp(-i\delta_j) & \exp(-i\delta_j) \end{bmatrix} \quad (7)$$

$$\delta_1 = 0, \delta_j = k_j t_j = (2\pi/\lambda) \tilde{n}_j t_j \quad (8)$$

$$\tau_j = \frac{2\tilde{n}_j}{\tilde{n}_j + \tilde{n}_{j+1}}, \rho_j = \frac{\tilde{n}_j - \tilde{n}_{j+1}}{\tilde{n}_j + \tilde{n}_{j+1}} \quad (9)$$

Here  $\tau$  is the transmission coefficient,  $\rho$  is the reflection coefficient and  $\tilde{n}$  is the complex refractive index of the individual layers with thickness  $t$ . Further  $\tilde{n}$  defined as  $\tilde{n}=n-i\kappa$  with  $\kappa$  is the extinction coefficient of the material.

The reflection from the stack is defined by  $R = |\mathcal{E}_1^- / \mathcal{E}_1^+|^2$ , which is calculated for the stacks with ( $R_{on}$ ) and without ( $R_{off}$ ) the bilayer  $\text{WS}_2$  layer. Complex refractive index ( $\tilde{n}$ ) of graphite, Si and  $\text{SiO}_2$  with wavelength dispersion are taken from literature,<sup>5,6</sup>  $\kappa$  of hBN is assumed to be zero with  $n$  of 1.85.<sup>7</sup> The  $\tilde{n}$  value for  $\text{WS}_2$  is obtained from the Lorentzian oscillator model described in the main text. To fit the differential reflectance spectra ( $\frac{\Delta R}{R}$ ) obtained from the experiment, we further calculate  $\frac{\Delta R}{R} = \frac{R_{on} - R_{off}}{R_{off}}$ .

## S4. Gate leakage current

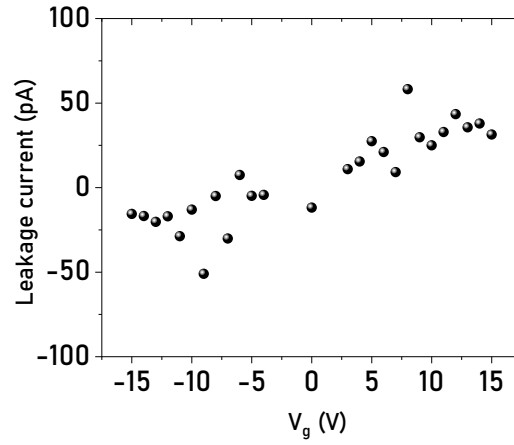


Figure S2: **Gate leakage current for sample S2.** Measured gate leakage current for the experimental range of applied gate voltage for the sample S2.

## S5. Field dependent reflectance spectra for device configuration S2-F

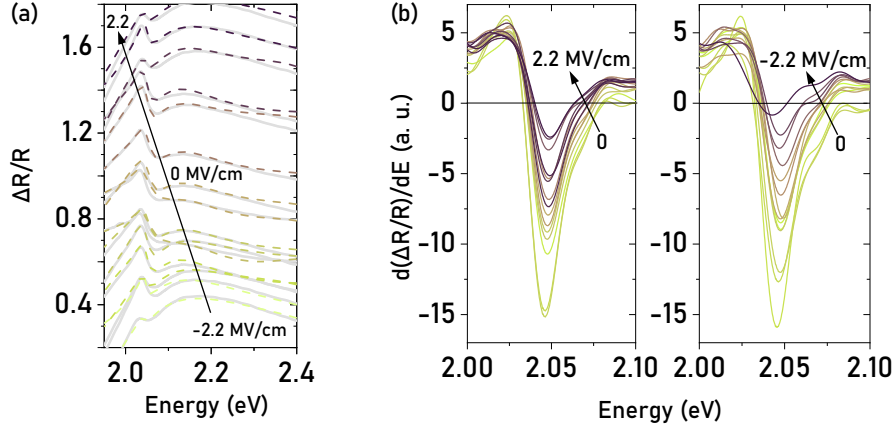


Figure S3: **Field dependent reflectance spectra for device configuration S2-F.** (a) Field dependent differential reflectance for the device configuration S2-F. (b) First derivative of the differential reflectance of bilayer  $\text{WS}_2$  with the applied vertical field (in  $\text{MVcm}^{-1}$ ), measured at 4.2 K. The left and the right panels show the positive and negative electric field, respectively.

## S6. Temperature dependent reflectance spectra for sample S3

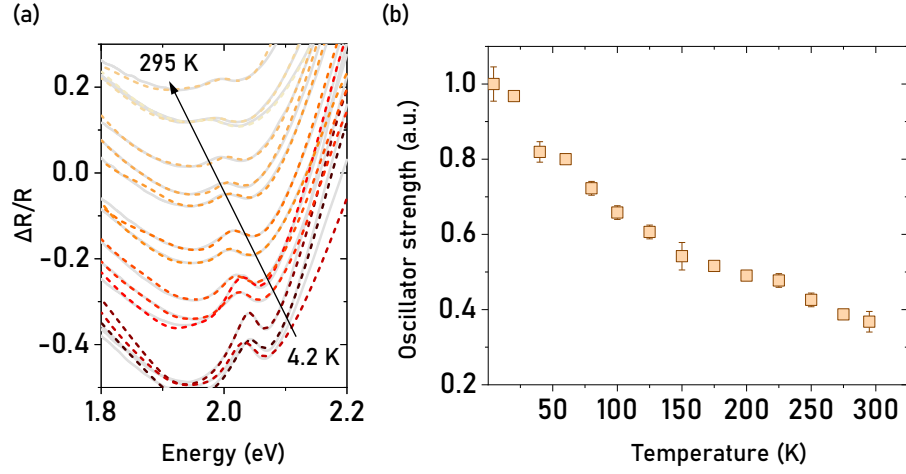


Figure S4: **Temperature dependent reflectance spectra for sample S3.** (a) Temperature dependent differential reflectance for the sample S3. Here the bilayer  $\text{WS}_2$  is directly sitting on few layer graphene enhancing the fast nonradiative processes. (b) Normalized oscillator strength of the exciton extracted from the fitting across the temperature range.



## S7. Gate dependent reflectance spectra for device configuration S2-D

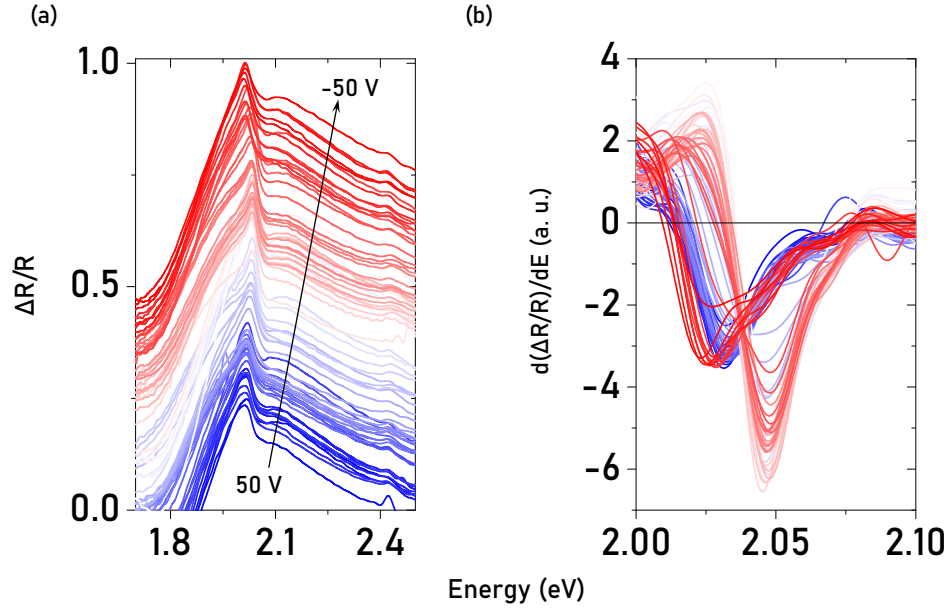


Figure S5: **Gate dependent reflectance spectra for device configuration S2-D.** (a) Gate dependent differential reflectance spectra for the device configuration S2-D showing the electrostatic doping and the transfer of oscillator strength from exciton to trion at higher gate voltage. (b) First derivative of the reflectance spectra in the same voltage range.

## S8. Optical images of the stacks

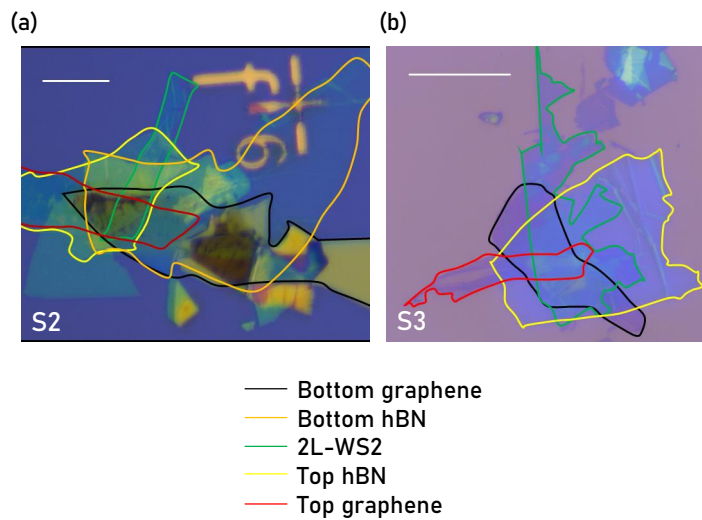


Figure S6: **Optical images of the stacks in sample S2 and S3.** (a-b) Optical image of the complete stacks of sample S2 and S3. The different layer boundaries are marked with different colors. The scale bar is 20  $\mu\text{m}$ .

## References

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