

**Supplementary information for**  
**Twist-angle dependent pseudo-magnetic fields in monolayer**  
**CrCl<sub>2</sub>/graphene heterostructures**

Zhengbo Cheng<sup>1#</sup>, Nanshu Liu<sup>2#</sup>, Jinghao Deng<sup>1</sup>, Hui Zhang<sup>1</sup>, Zemin Pan<sup>1</sup>, Chao Zhu<sup>1</sup>, Shuangzan  
Lu<sup>1,3</sup>, Yusong Bai<sup>1</sup>, Xiaoyu Lin<sup>1</sup>, Wei Ji<sup>2\*</sup>, Chendong Zhang<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*School of Physics and Technology, Wuhan University, Wuhan 430072, China*

<sup>2</sup>*Beijing Key Laboratory of Optoelectronic Functional Materials and Micro-Nano Devices, Department  
of Physics, Renmin University of China, Beijing 100872, China*

<sup>3</sup>*Hubei Jiufengshan Laboratory, Wuhan, 430074, China*

<sup>#</sup>*These authors contribute equally to this work.*

<sup>\*</sup>*Correspondence and requests for materials should be addressed to:*

[wji@ruc.edu.cn](mailto:wji@ruc.edu.cn) (W. J.), [cdzhang@whu.edu.cn](mailto:cdzhang@whu.edu.cn) (C.D. Z)

### Supporting note 1. The Landau level spacing is affected by the twist angle.

In graphene superlattices, the structure deformation results in a pseudo-vector potential  $\mathbf{A}$ , which is associated with shear deformation and can be expressed as follows:

$$A_x = c \frac{\beta \gamma_0}{d} (u_{xx} - u_{yy}),$$
$$A_y = -c \frac{2\beta \gamma_0}{d} u_{xy},$$

where  $d = 1.42 \text{ \AA}$  represents the equilibrium carbon-carbon distance,  $c \approx 1$  is a numerical factor dependent on the specific chemical bond model,  $\beta \approx 2$  denotes the electronic Grüneisen parameter,  $\gamma_0 = 3.2 \text{ eV}$  indicates the strength of first-neighbor interaction in the plane, and  $u_{ij}$  signifies the deformation tensor. The PMF is defined as  $\mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}$ , which can be approximated to be :

$$|\mathbf{B}| \approx \frac{\hbar c}{e} \left( \frac{2\beta}{3} \right) \frac{\bar{u}}{a_m d},$$

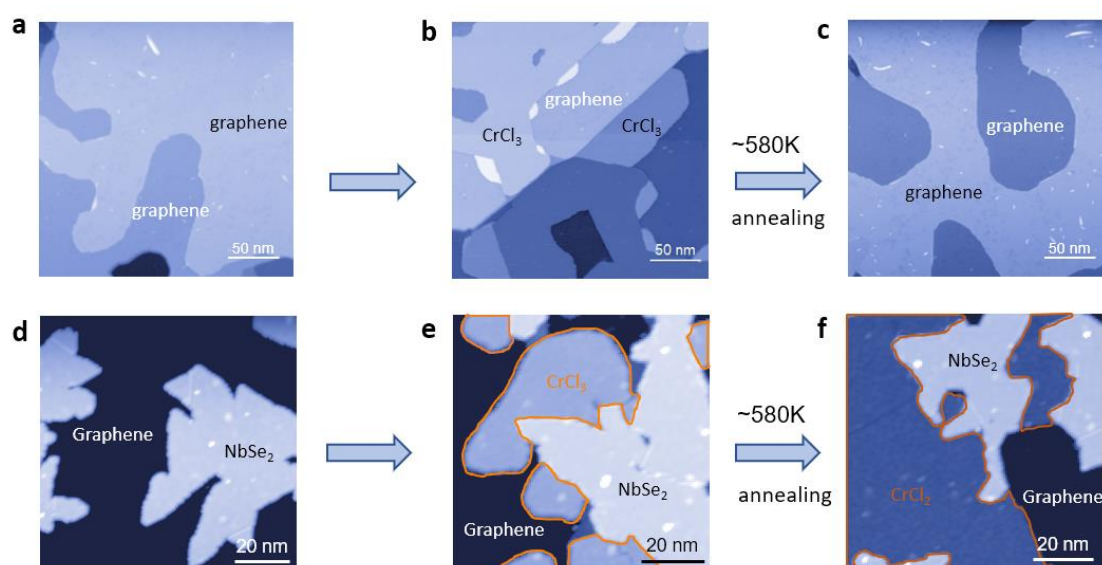
where  $a_m$  denotes the diameter of the strain region. The magnitude of the shear deformation,  $\bar{u}$ , can be computed based on the first neighbor inter-atomic distances in the deformed sample:

$$\bar{u} = \frac{\sqrt{3(d_3 - d_2)^2 + (d_2 + d_3 - 2d_1)^2}}{2d},$$

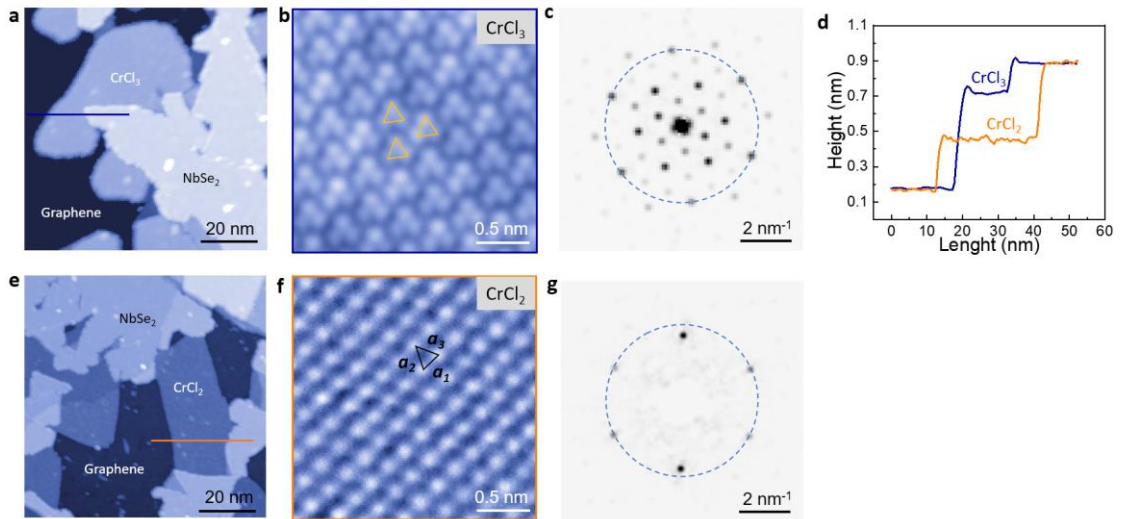
Here,  $d_1$ ,  $d_2$ , and  $d_3$  represent the first neighbor inter-atomic distances in the deformed lattice. Consequently, it can be concluded that PMFs fundamentally arise from lattice deformation.

According to the reference [*ACS Nano* **16**, 1471–1476 (2022)], in the moiré superlattice, the interlayer coupling varies with the twist angle, which subsequently affects the shear deformation resulting from the interlayer coupling. Additionally, as stated in Equation 1, the spacing of the Landau levels is related to the PMF. Consequently, as the rotation angle decreases and interlayer coupling increases, the shear deformation becomes more pronounced, leading to stronger induced PMFs and an increased distance between the Landau levels.

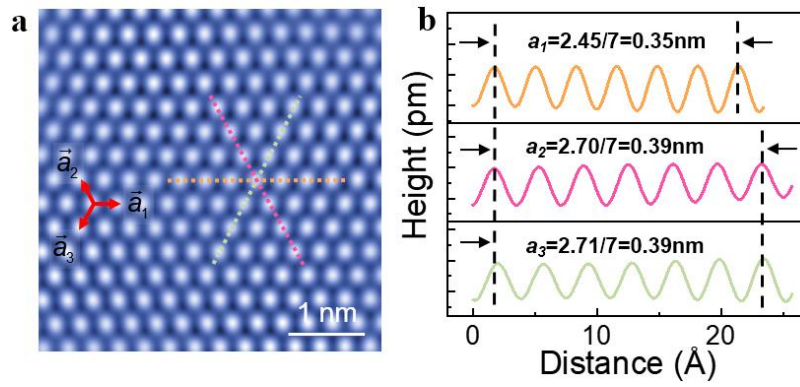
## Supplementary Figures



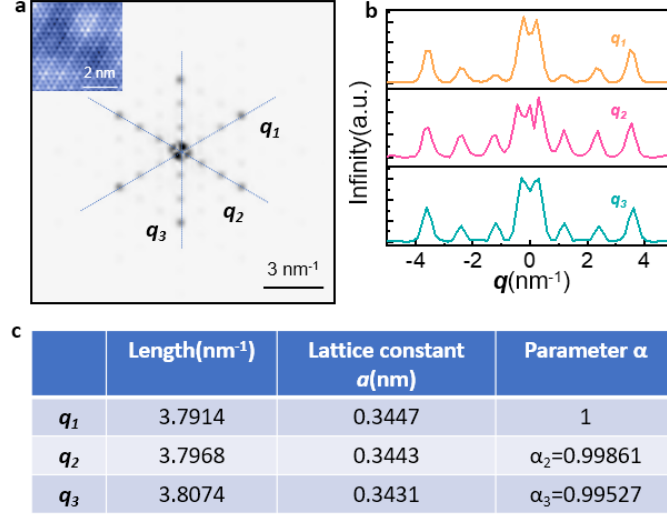
**Figure S1 | Fabrication of monolayer CrCl<sub>2</sub> on graphene.** **a-c**, Directly growth of CrCl<sub>2</sub> on graphene. **a**, STM morphology of graphene before growth. **b**, STM morphology after the growth of CrCl<sub>3</sub>. **c**, STM morphology after annealing. CrCl<sub>3</sub> on graphene was completely desorbed, while the formation of CrCl<sub>2</sub> was not detected. **d-f**, NbSe<sub>2</sub> was grown before CrCl<sub>2</sub> growth. **d**, STM morphology of NbSe<sub>2</sub> grown on graphene. **e**, STM morphology after the growth of CrCl<sub>3</sub>. **f**, STM morphology after annealing. CrCl<sub>3</sub> on graphene is decomposed into CrCl<sub>2</sub>. Scanning parameters for all images:  $V_{\text{bias}} = 1.5 \text{ V}$ ,  $I_t = 5 \text{ pA}$ .



**Figure S2 | Morphology and atomic structures of CrCl<sub>3</sub> and CrCl<sub>2</sub> films.** **a**, Morphology of CrCl<sub>3</sub>-NbSe<sub>2</sub> before annealing ( $V_{\text{bias}} = 1.5$  V,  $I_t = 5$  pA). **b**, Atomically resolved images of the monolayer CrCl<sub>3</sub> ( $V_{\text{Bias}} = 0.4$  V,  $I_t = 10$  pA). **c**, FFT of an atomic resolution image of the monolayer CrCl<sub>3</sub>. **d**, Line profile of CrCl<sub>3</sub>-NbSe<sub>2</sub> and CrCl<sub>2</sub>-NbSe<sub>2</sub> in (a) and (e). **e**, Morphology of CrCl<sub>3</sub>-NbSe<sub>2</sub> before annealing ( $V_{\text{bias}} = 1.5$  V,  $I_t = 5$  pA). **f**, Atomically resolved images of the monolayer CrCl<sub>2</sub> ( $V_{\text{Bias}} = 0.4$  V,  $I_t = 10$  pA). **g**, FFT of an atomic resolution image of the monolayer CrCl<sub>2</sub> lattice. The observed apparent height, morphology, and structural symmetry of the annealed film suggest that CrCl<sub>3</sub> decomposes into CrCl<sub>2</sub> during the annealing process.



**Figure S3 | Determining the lattice constant of CrCl<sub>2</sub> in real space.** **a**, Atomically resolved STM images of CrCl<sub>2</sub> lattices (FFT-filtered from Fig. 1b). **b**, Line profile of CrCl<sub>2</sub> in (a) along  $\vec{a}_1$ ,  $\vec{a}_2$  and  $\vec{a}_3$ .



**Figure S4 | Calibration of lattice distortion caused by nonlinearity of the STM scanner.** **a**, FFT of an atomic resolution image of the monolayer NbSe<sub>2</sub> lattice (insert), setpoint:  $V_{Bias} = 0.1V$ ,  $I_t = 50$  pA. **b**, Line profiles along  $q_1$ ,  $q_2$  and  $q_3$  directions marked in (a). **c**, Calibration of lattice constant with parameter  $\alpha$ .

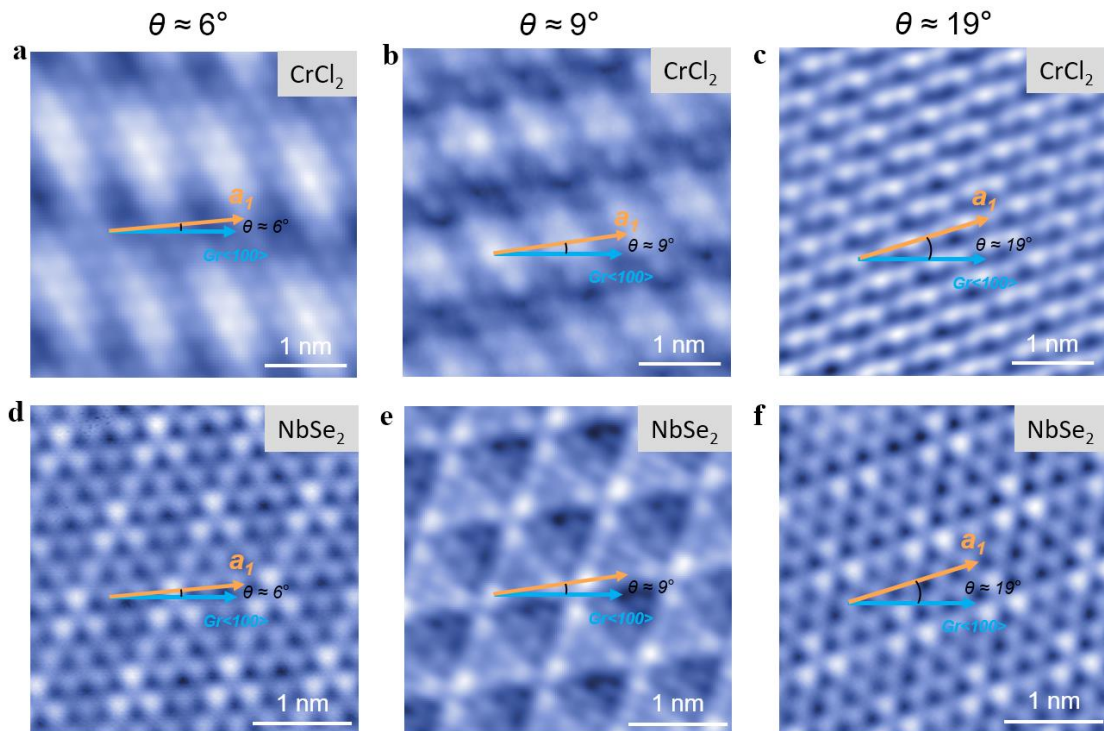
For a two-dimensional crystal lattice with the reciprocal lattice vectors ( $q_1, q_2, q_3$ ) of the Bravais lattice, its primitive lattice vectors are:

$$a_1 = 2\pi \frac{q_3 \times n}{q_1 \cdot (q_3 \times n)}$$

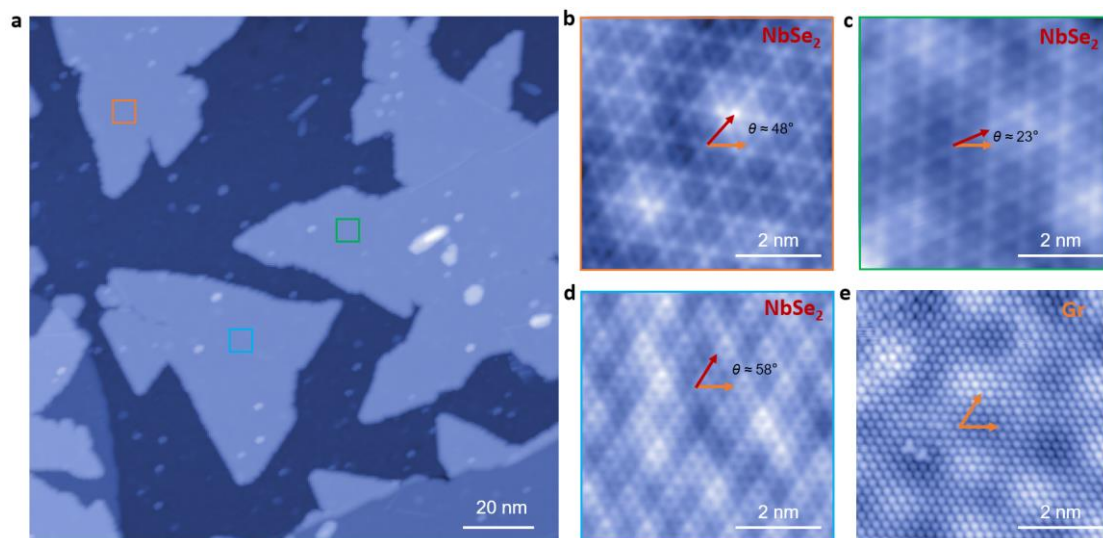
$$a_2 = 2\pi \frac{q_1 \times n}{q_2 \cdot (q_1 \times n)}$$

$$a_3 = 2\pi \frac{q_2 \times n}{q_3 \cdot (q_2 \times n)}$$

The vector  $n$  represents the normal vector of the two-dimensional plane. Combining the measurement results of the reciprocal vector in Fig. S3a with the equations provided above, the lattice constants are determined to be  $a_1 = 0.3447$ ,  $a_2 = 0.3443$ , and  $a_3 = 0.3431$  nm. Consequently, the parameter  $\alpha$  is obtained.

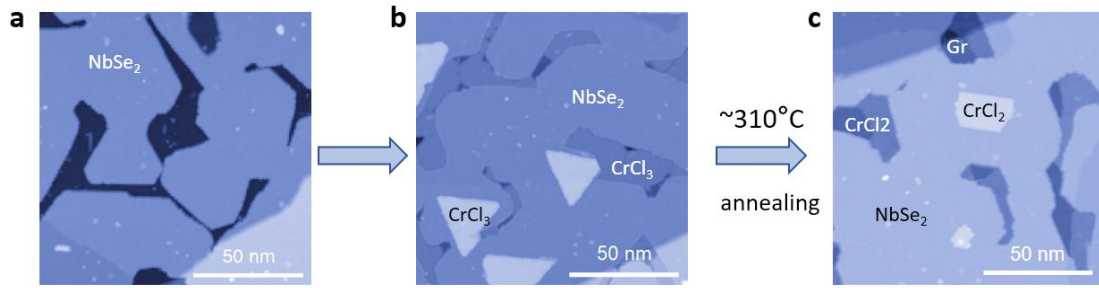


**Figure S5 | Monolayer CrCl<sub>2</sub> aligns in the same direction as NbSe<sub>2</sub>.** **a-c**, STM topography images showing the moiré superlattices of CrCl<sub>2</sub> with twist angles ( $V_{Bias} = 0.4V$ ,  $I_t = 10$  pA). **d-f**, STM topography images showing the NbSe<sub>2</sub> with twist angles. Monolayer CrCl<sub>2</sub> aligns in the same direction as NbSe<sub>2</sub> ( $V_{Bias} = 0.1V$ ,  $I_t = 50$  pA). It indicates that the direction of CrCl<sub>2</sub> is determined by NbSe<sub>2</sub>. In addition, NbSe<sub>2</sub> grown on graphene will have various rotation angles, which is consistent with the reference 33.

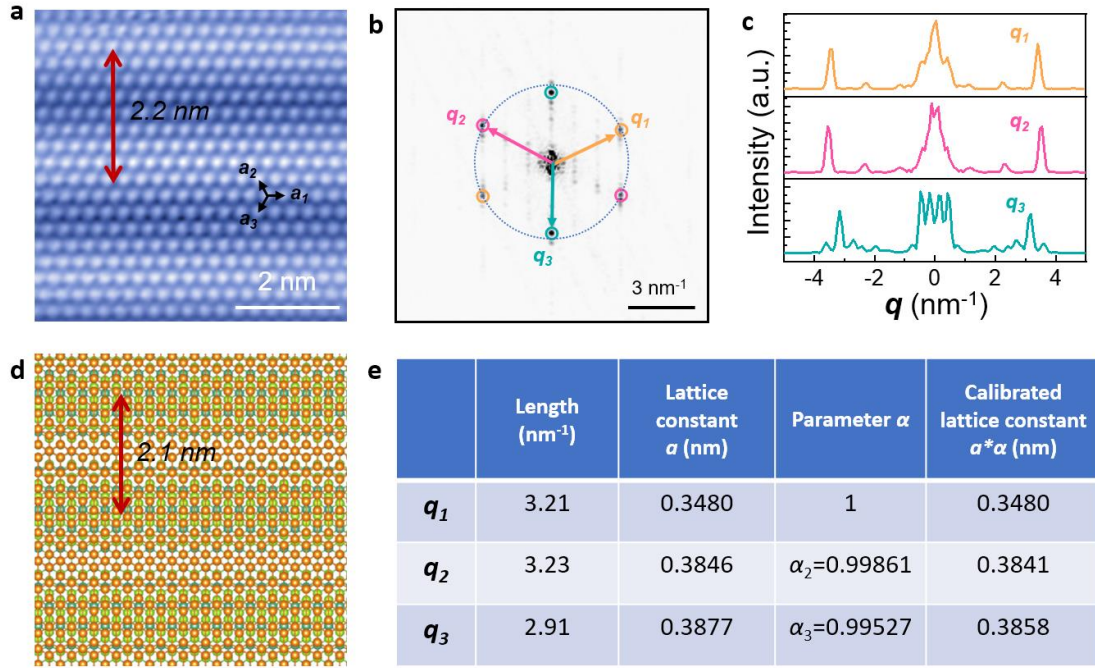


**Figure S6 | Rotational orientation of monolayer NbSe<sub>2</sub> on graphene.** **a**, STM morphology of NbSe<sub>2</sub> grown on graphene ( $V_{\text{bias}} = 1.5 \text{ V}$ ,  $I_t = 5 \text{ pA}$ ). **b-d**, Atomically resolved images of the monolayer NbSe<sub>2</sub> ( $V_{\text{Bias}} = 0.1 \text{ V}$ ,  $I_t = 50 \text{ pA}$ ). **e**, Atomically resolved images of the graphene ( $V_{\text{Bias}} = 0.1 \text{ V}$ ,  $I_t = 50 \text{ pA}$ ).

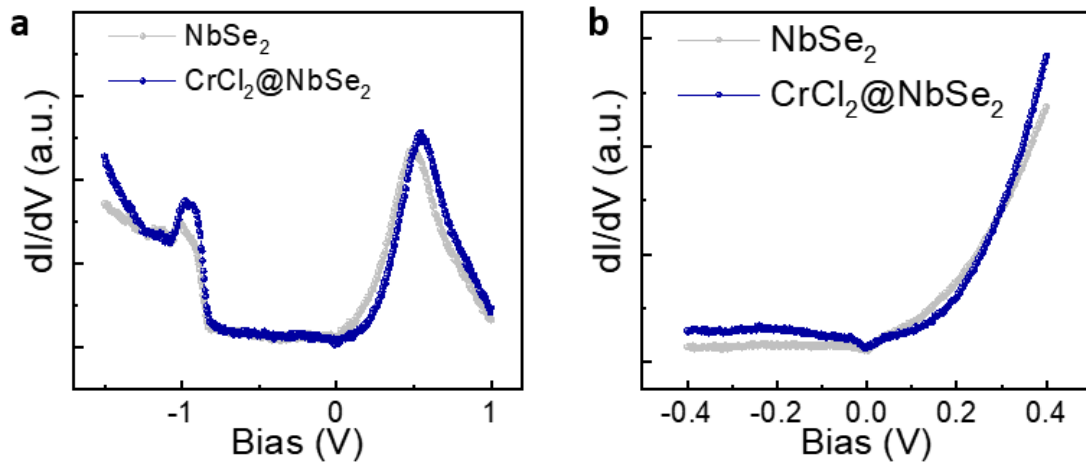




**Figure S7 | Monolayer CrCl<sub>2</sub> grown on monolayer NbSe<sub>2</sub>.** **a**, STM morphology of NbSe<sub>2</sub> grown on graphene. **b**, STM morphology after the growth of CrCl<sub>3</sub>. **c**, STM morphology after annealing. Scanning parameters for all images:  $V_{\text{bias}} = 1.5 \text{ V}$ ,  $I_t = 5 \text{ pA}$ . To identify the source of the conduction peak, we conducted a control experiment using NbSe<sub>2</sub> as the substrate, where CrCl<sub>2</sub> and NbSe<sub>2</sub> form a vertical heterojunction. To obtain CrCl<sub>2</sub> on the ML NbSe<sub>2</sub> substrate, we first grew NbSe<sub>2</sub> to a coverage of nearly one layer, followed by the deposition of CrCl<sub>3</sub>. After annealing, we successfully created a CrCl<sub>2</sub>/NbSe<sub>2</sub> vertical heterojunction on this control sample. The spectrum of CrCl<sub>2</sub> on NbSe<sub>2</sub> was subsequently measured from this sample.



**Figure S8 | Lattice constant of CrCl<sub>2</sub> on monolayer NbSe<sub>2</sub>.** **a**, Atomic resolution image of CrCl<sub>2</sub> lattice on monolayer NbSe<sub>2</sub> with stripy patterns, setpoint:  $V_{Bias} = 0.1$  V,  $I_t = 50$  pA. **b**, FFT of (a). **c**, Line profiles along the  $q_1$ ,  $q_2$  and  $q_3$  directions marked in (b). **d**, The schematic models of CrCl<sub>2</sub> lattice on monolayer NbSe<sub>2</sub> showing the stripy patterns are moiré patterns. **e**, Calibration of the lattice constant.



**Figure S9 |  $dI/dV$  curves of  $CrCl_2$  on  $NbSe_2$  and nearby  $NbSe_2$ .** **a**, The  $dI/dV$  curves taken on the  $CrCl_2$  and nearby  $NbSe_2$  regions, respectively. The measured  $dI/dV$  curve in the  $CrCl_2$  band gap is almost consistent with the  $dI/dV$  curve of the nearby  $NbSe_2$ , which further proves that we can measure the density of states of the  $NbSe_2$  underneath. **b**, The  $dI/dV$  curve within a small bias range around the Fermi level. Different from the measurement of  $CrCl_2$  on graphene, a series of peaks are not observed.