

Abstract Submitted  
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**First-Principles Studies of Heterostructures with Transition Metal Dichalcogenides.**<sup>1</sup> XIN-JUN WANG, University at Buffalo, PREDRAG LAZIC, Institute Rudjer Boskovic, ALEX MATOS-ABIAGUE, IGOR ZUTIC, University at Buffalo — We use first-principles calculations to study electronic properties of van der Waals (vdW) heterostructures with transition metal dichalcogenides (TMDs). Using a novel CellMatch procedure for optimizing the strain in vdW heterostructures [1], unit cells of a TMD and another material are combined in a relaxed common supercell of their vdW heterostructure. Our results are examined in TMD heterostructures with graphene and topological insulators, representing materials with a weak and strong spin-orbit coupling, respectively. We explore the possibility for tunable proximity effects [2,3] which may not be apparent from the individual vdW materials. [1] P. Lazic, *Comp. Phys. Commun.* 197, 324 (2015). [2] R. V. Gorbachev, J. C. W. Song, G. L. Yu, A. V. Kretinin, Y. F. Withers, A. M. Cao, V. Grigorieva, K. S. Novoselov, L. S. Levitov, and A. K. Geim, *Science* 346, 448 (2014). [3] P. Lazic, K. D. Belashchenko, and I. Zutic, *Phys. Rev. B* 93, 241401(R) (2016).

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