Supplementary Material

Interface and interaction of graphene layers on SiC($000^{\overline{1}}$) covered with TiC(111) intercalation

Lu Wang,^{*a*} Qiang Wang, *^a Jianmei Huang,^{*a*} Wei-qi Li,^{*b*} Guang-hui Chen,^{*c*} and Yanhui

Yang*a

^a School of Chemistry and Molecular Engineering, Institute of Advanced Synthesis

(IAS), Nanjing Tech University, Nanjing 211816, P. R. China

^b Department of Physics, Harbin Institute of Technology, Harbin 150001, P. R. China

^c Department of Chemistry, Shantou University, Guangdong, Shantou, 515063, P. R. China

To whom correspondence should be addressed:

Email: wangqiang@njtech.edu.cn

Email: <u>yhyang@njtech.edu.cn</u>

Table S1. Total energy (eV) of 1L-TiC/SiC, 2L-TiC/SiC, and 3L-TiC/SiC with the (a, b, c) C/C-, (d, e) C/Ti/C-, and (f) C/Ti-terminated interfaces.

System	а	b	с	d	e	f
1L-TiC/SiC	-274.34	-273.87	-273.53	-273.21	-273.10	-272.51
2L-TiC/SiC	-284.32	-284.09	-282.13	-	-	-
3L-TiC/SiC	-295.99	-295.83	-	-	-	-



Fig. S1 Valence electron density for 1L-TiC/SiC: with (a, b, c) C/C-, (d, e) C/Ti/C-, and (f) C/Ti-terminated interfacial configurations.



Fig. S2 Optimal structures of monolayer graphene adsorbed on (a, b) 1L-TiC/SiC, (c) 2L-TiC/SiC, and (d, e) 3L-TiC/SiC substrates. There are two stable configurations of graphene on $TiC(111)/SiC(000^{-1})$ surfaces: (i) Ti-center-site (A site) and (ii) Ti-bridge-site staking (B site). Green, blue, gray, and yellow spheres represent graphene C atoms, Ti, C, and Si atoms in the $TiC(111)/SiC(000^{-1})$ substrate, respectively. The unit cell is highlighted by grey solid lines.



Fig. S3 Optimal structures of bilayer graphene adsorbed on (a, b) 1L-TiC/SiC, (c) 2L-TiC/SiC, and (d, e) 3L-TiC/SiC substrates. Green, blue, gray, and yellow spheres represent graphene C atoms, Ti, C, and Si atoms in the TiC(111)/SiC(000¹) substrate, respectively. The unit cell is highlighted by grey solid lines.



Fig. S4 Optimal structures of trilayer graphene adsorbed on (a, b) 1L-TiC/SiC, (c) 2L-TiC/SiC, and (d, e) 3L-TiC/SiC substrates. Green, blue, gray, and yellow spheres represent graphene C atoms, Ti, C, and Si atoms in the $TiC(111)/SiC(000^{-1})$ substrate, respectively. The unit cell is highlighted by grey solid lines.



Fig. S5 Charge density difference plots of monolayer graphene on (a, b) 1L-TiC/SiC, (c) 2L-TiC/SiC, and (d, e) 3L-TiC/SiC substrates. The charge density difference refers to the variance between the total charge density of graphene/TiC(111)/SiC(000 $\overline{1}$) systems and the sum of the charge density of the separated graphene and TiC(111)/SiC(000 $\overline{1}$). The geometric structures of separated graphene and TiC(111)/SiC(000 $\overline{1}$) were kept the same as those in graphene–TiC(111)/SiC(000 $\overline{1}$) systems. The red and green color regions mark the depletion and accumulation of electronic charges, respectively. The top views show the charge density difference at interface of the graphene/TiC(111)/SiC(000 $\overline{1}$) systems.



Fig. S6 Charge density difference plots of bilayer graphene on (a, b) 1L-TiC/SiC, (c) 2L-TiC/SiC, and (d, e) 3L-TiC/SiC substrates. The red and green color regions mark the depletion and accumulation of electronic charges, respectively. The top views show the charge density difference at interface of the graphene/TiC(111)/SiC(000¹) systems.



Fig. S7 Charge density difference plots of trlayer graphene on (a, b) 1L-TiC/SiC, (c) 2L-TiC/SiC, and (d, e) 3L-TiC/SiC substrates. The red and green color regions mark the depletion and accumulation of electronic charges, respectively. The top views show the charge density difference at interface of the graphene/TiC(111)/SiC(000 $\overline{1}$) systems.



Fig. S8 The PDOS of bilayer graphene on (a, b) 1L-TiC/SiC with the Ti-center and Ti-bridge site stacking, (c) 2L-TiC/SiC, and (d, e) 3L-TiC/SiC with the Ti-center and Ti-bridge site stacking. The dash lines indicate the Fermi level, which is taken as zero.