

## **Supporting Information**

for

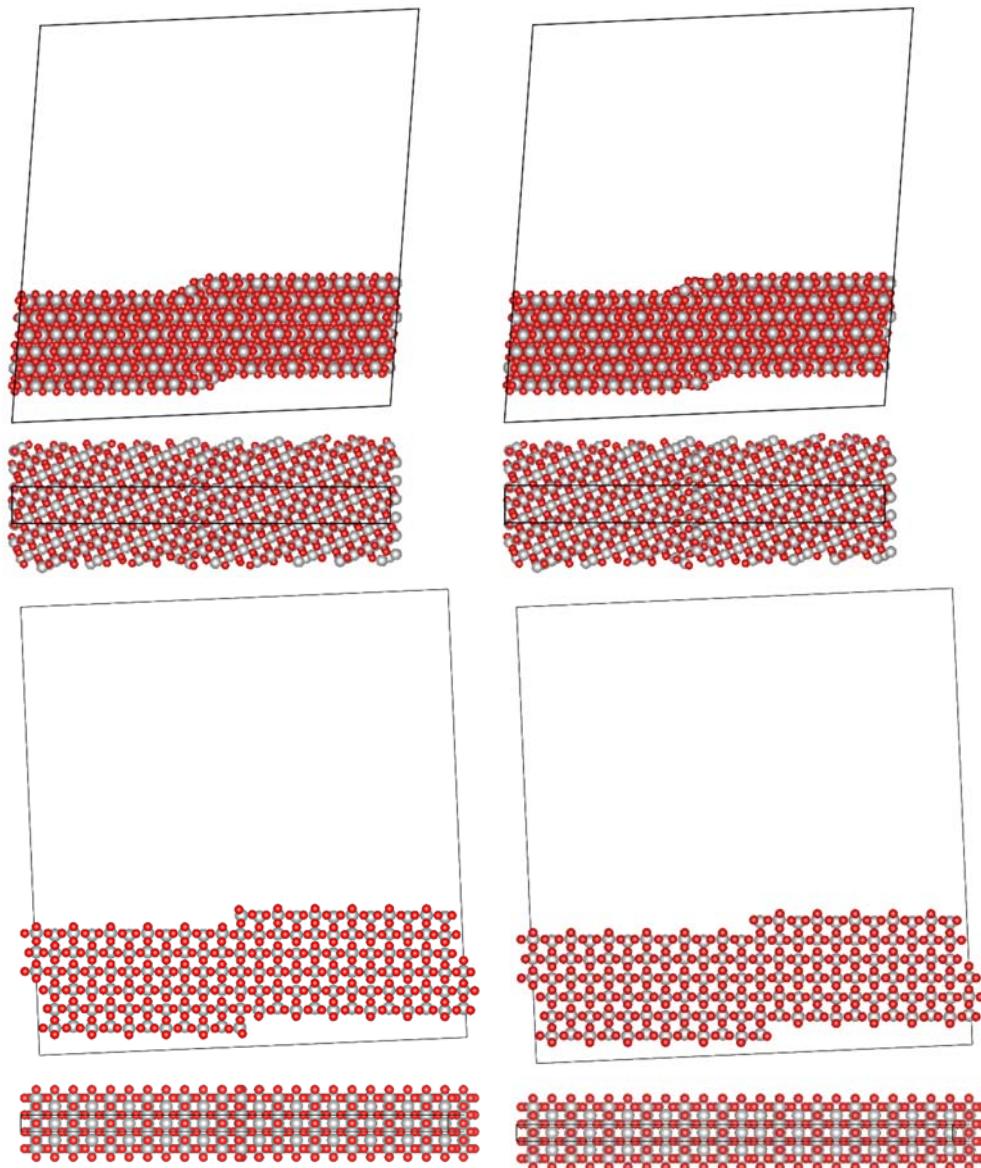
### **Imaging the surface potential at the steps on the rutile TiO<sub>2</sub>(110) surface by Kelvin probe force microscopy**

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### **Details of the DFT calculations**

DFT calculations were performed using VASP [1], with the standard PAW pseudopotential (4/6 electrons for Ti/O species), 400 eV plane wave cut-off, and the GGA+U [2] exchange–correlation approximation (U set to 2.5 eV). We use  $1 \times 6 \times 1 / 1 \times 4 \times 1$  k-point sampling of the Brillouin zone for the  $\langle 001 \rangle / \langle 1\bar{1}1 \rangle$  step configurations. To construct the different step configurations, we follow the calculations in [3,4]. We use a much larger  $\langle 1\bar{1}0 \rangle$  in-plane supercell size to converge the charge redistribution to be able to compare the  $\langle 1\bar{1}0 \rangle$  area for different step configurations. Top and side views of the supercells used are shown in Figure 1. We use a six-layer configuration with opposite step configurations to neglect interactions. We use roughly 50 Å separation in the  $z$ -direction.



**Figure 1:** DFT simulation supercells for the different step configurations. From top to bottom and left to right  $\langle 1\bar{1}1 \rangle_R$ , reduced  $\langle 1\bar{1}1 \rangle_R$ ,  $\langle 001 \rangle_O$ ,  $\langle 001 \rangle_{Ti}$

## References

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