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# **Chemically Tailored Growth of 2D Semiconductors via Hybrid Metal**−**Organic Chemical Vapor Deposition**

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**Cite This:** *ACS Nano* 2024, 18, [25414−25424](https://pubs.acs.org/action/showCitFormats?doi=10.1021/acsnano.4c02164&ref=pdf) **Read [Online](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164?ref=pdf) ACCESS** | **ILLE** [Metrics](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164?goto=articleMetrics&ref=pdf) & More | E Article [Recommendations](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164?goto=recommendations&?ref=pdf) | **G** Supporting [Information](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164?goto=supporting-info&ref=pdf) ABSTRACT: Two-dimensional (2D) semiconducting transition-Metal-precursors **DES** metal dichalcogenides (TMDCs) are an exciting platform for 77 Metal excitonic physics and next-generation electronics, creating a strong demand to understand their growth, doping, and heterostructures. Despite significant progress in solid-source (SS-) and metal−organic  $KOH$  in  $H_2O$ Hy-MOCVD chemical vapor deposition (MOCVD), further optimization is **Hy-MOCVD** necessary to grow highly crystalline 2D TMDCs with controlled doping. Here, we report a hybrid MOCVD growth method that Dopants combines liquid-phase metal precursor deposition and vapor-phase organo-chalcogen delivery to leverage the advantages of both MOCVD and SS-CVD. Using our hybrid approach, we demonstrate  $WS<sub>2</sub>$  growth with tunable morphologies—from separated single-Alloys

substrates, including sapphire,  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$ , and Au. These WS<sub>2</sub> films exhibit narrow neutral exciton photoluminescence line widths down to 27–28 meV and room-temperature mobility up to 34–36 cm<sup>2</sup> V<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>. Through simple modifications to the liquid precursor composition, we demonstrate the growth of V-doped WS<sub>2</sub>, Mo<sub>x</sub>W<sub>1-*x*</sub>S<sub>2</sub> alloys, and in-plane WS<sub>2</sub>−MoS<sub>2</sub> heterostructures. This work presents an efficient approach for addressing a variety of TMDC synthesis needs on a laboratory scale.

KEYWORDS: *metal*−*organic chemical vapor deposition, 2D semiconductor growth, transition-metal dichalcogenides, doping, alloy, WS2,*  $MoS<sub>2</sub>$ 

Two-dimensional (2D) semiconducting transition-metal dichalcogenides (TMDCs), such as monolayer  $MoS<sub>2</sub>$ ,  $WS<sub>2</sub>$ , and WSe<sub>2</sub>, have emerged as attractive candidates for nextgeneration electronics due to their atomic-scale thickness, tunable band structure, and excellent electronic properties. $1^{-3}$  $1^{-3}$  $1^{-3}$ In the past decade, demonstrations of high-performance 2D TMDC-based transistors, optoelectronics, and logical circuits have escalated demand for the accurately controlled large-area growth of high-quality pure and p-/n-type-doped 2D TMDC monolayers[.4](#page-8-0)<sup>−</sup>[12](#page-8-0) Solid source chemical vapor deposition (SS-CVD) has become a popular approach for growing 2D TMDCs in laboratory settings due to its low equipment cost, flexibility, and rapid growth, enabling efficient optimization. By using SS-CVD, a wide range of 2D TMDCs, such as  $\mathrm{MoS}_{2}^{\,13,14}$  $\mathrm{MoS}_{2}^{\,13,14}$  $\mathrm{MoS}_{2}^{\,13,14}$ WS2, [6](#page-8-0) V-doped WSe2, [9,10](#page-8-0) Fe-doped MoS2, [15](#page-8-0) and Mo*x*W1<sup>−</sup>*x*S2 alloys $^{16}$  $^{16}$  $^{16}$  have been successfully synthesized, and wafer-scale

crystal domains to continuous monolayer films-on a variety of

TMDC synthesis and device fabrication have been demonstrated.<sup>5,1</sup>

Heterostructures

However, further optimization for SS-CVD growth is necessary and challenging. For example, solid sources typically exhibit low sublimation rates and poor sublimation stability during the material growth process. The solid precursor is challenging to replenish midgrowth, resulting in variable stoichiometry in the reactor over time during each growth run. Small variations in the source amount and position modify the uniformity of the growth. These factors limit the tolerance

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Figure 1. Principles of Hy-MOCVD. Representative schematics of the growth setups and precursor supply time profiles for conventional SS-CVD, MOCVD, and Hy-MOCVD. The *y*-axis in the time profiles stands for the active concentrations of the transition metal (M) and chalcogen (X) species. The MOCVD growth time can vary widely due to differences in growth temperature, heating methods, growth promoters, and precursor flow rates employed by various groups (as summarized in [Table](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf) S2).

and controllability of SS-CVD.<sup>[18,19](#page-8-0)</sup> Moreover, although a specific SS-CVD strategy normally works well for an individual TMDC system, a universal method for multiple-material synthesis remains underdeveloped. Even though the situation has been improved by source supply strategies<sup>20,[21](#page-8-0)</sup> and adding promoters,[22](#page-9-0)−[24](#page-9-0) the design of state-of-the-art SS-CVD growth setups has also become increasingly complex—and, correspondingly, less accessible—for most laboratory research.

On the other hand, metal−organic CVD (MOCVD) has shown good reproducibility and large-area uniformity in 2D TMDC growth<sup>25</sup> at relatively low reaction temperatures (150− 320 °C)<sup>[26](#page-9-0)−[28](#page-9-0)</sup> and under accurate precursor control due to the use of vapor phase metal−organic metal (M-organic) and hydride or organic chalcogen  $(X$ -organic) precursors.<sup>[25](#page-9-0)</sup> However, to reduce carbon impurity incorporation, MOCVD often uses low precursor concentrations, resulting in slow growth rates of the 2D TMDCs. Moreover, each dopant metal−organic source requires a separate precursor supply line in the MOCVD system to avoid cross-contamination, which increases the system cost and complexity and hinders the exploration of substitutional doping. Alkali metal-based solid and gas phase growth promoters have been explored in MOCVD to increase the growth rate and decrease the nucleation density.[29](#page-9-0)−[31](#page-9-0) However, several potentially negative effects have been reported from alkali metal salts used in MOCVD, including disruption of epitaxy, the introduction of nanoscale particles, and degradation of optical and electronic properties.[32](#page-9-0) Consequently, further research and optimization are crucial to understanding the mechanisms and optimize the use of growth promoters in MOCVD. Despite the development of MOCVD strategies to enlarge the domain size,  $33$ enable epitaxy,  $34$  and reduce the growth temperature,  $26,27$  more accessible and efficient MOCVD growth and doping methods are still needed.

Here, we report a hybrid MOCVD (Hy-MOCVD) growth method that delivers metal precursors and growth promoters from the solution phase and metal−organic chalcogen precursors from the vapor phase, to combine the advantages of both MOCVD and SS-CVD and realize efficient growth of multiple types of 2D TMDCs. Aqueous Hy-MOCVD precursor delivery by both spin-coating and dip-coating produces  $WS_2$  monolayers with good controllability and uniformity. Hy-MOCVD grown  $WS_2$  exhibits typical domain sizes of tens of micrometers, good optical quality with room temperature neutral exciton peak width down to 27−28 meV, good electronic performance with electron mobility up to 34−  $36 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ V}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , and transistor on/off ratio of >10<sup>7</sup>. Hy-MOCVD also enables the growth of  $WS_2$  on diverse substrates, such as *c*-plane and *a*-plane sapphire,  $Si/SiO<sub>2</sub>$ , and sapphire/ Au. To illustrate the versatility of our Hy-MOCVD approach, we also demonstrate the facile growth of V-doped  $WS_2$ , Mo<sub>x</sub>W<sub>1−*x*</sub>S<sub>2</sub> alloys, and WS<sub>2</sub>−MoS<sub>2</sub> heterostructures without any modifications to the growth hardware. Compared with alkali metal-assisted MOCVD<sup>,[29](#page-9-0)−[32](#page-9-0)</sup> Hy-MOCVD not only yields similar benefits of increased grain size and suppressed multilayer nucleation but also provides an effective strategy for engineering the growth promoter concentration, transition metal dopants, alloy composition, and heterostructures of TMDCs on versatile substrates for a wide range of academic research.

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

In Figure 1, we compare the concepts and strengths of SS-CVD, MOCVD, and Hy-MOCVD. The Hy-MOCVD method employs both X-organic precursors used in MOCVD and inorganic transition metal precursors (M-inorganic) used in SS-CVD. As in MOCVD, the X-organic precursor was introduced into the Hy-MOCVD chamber in the vapor phase via a bubbler and a mass flow controller (see [Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf)

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Figure 2. Hy-MOCVD processes. (a) Schematics of the two paths to Hy-MOCVD: (I) spin-coating and (II) dip-coating. (b−e) Characterization of representative WS<sub>2</sub> film synthesized via spin-coating (Path I), consisting of (b) photograph of *c*-plane sapphire/WS<sub>2</sub> wafer, (c) contrast-enhanced optical microscope image, (d) AFM topography image, and (e) normalized photoluminescence (PL) spectra collected from 8 random spots on spin-coating Hy-MOCVD monolayer WS<sub>2</sub>, including overlaid Gaussian peaks fit to the narrowest spectrum. (f-i) Characterization of representative WS<sub>2</sub> synthesized via dip-coating (Path II), consisting of: (f) photograph, (g) optical micrograph, (h) AFM topography image, and (i) normalized PL spectra collected from 8 random spots, with overlaid fit to narrowest spectrum. Overlaid dashed lines in (f) highlight the dip-coated area on the edges of *c*-plane sapphire wafer.

[S1](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf) for the setup schematic of Hy-MOCVD). This ensures a stable chalcogen concentration throughout the entire growth process, which is necessary for stoichiometrically controlled growth. Precise combinations of the primary transition metal element(s), substitutional dopants, and any growth promoter species are more challenging to deliver due to their lower vapor pressure, yet these are also critical to the outcome of the growth process. $^{23,26}$  $^{23,26}$  $^{23,26}$  To overcome the uncontrolled flux of SS powders and the expense of metal−organic precursor delivery, M-inorganic precursors with growth promoter KOH were deposited onto the growth substrate by aqueous solution coating before Hy-MOCVD growth. This localized transition metal supply ensures a high concentration of reactive M species on the wafer surface during growth. Moreover, by mixing M-inorganic and KOH with other dopant sources[,8,9](#page-8-0)[,35,36](#page-9-0) Hy-MOCVD can be used for the growth of doped TMDCs and TMDC alloys with extreme precision via dilution.<sup>12,[36](#page-9-0)</sup> Summarizing these advantages ([Table](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf) S1), Hy-MOCVD combines the precise control over chalcogen stoichiometry found in MOCVD with the versatility and efficiency in switching or mixing transition metals and growth promoters offered by SS-CVD. In the following sections, we will demonstrate these advantages by using Hy-MOCVD to grow  $WS<sub>2</sub>$  and incorporate dopants, alloys, and heterostructures.

In the Hy-MOCVD growth of  $WS_2$ , diethyl sulfide (DES,  $(CH_3CH_2)_2S$  and ammonium metatungstate hydrate (AMT,  $(NH_4)_6H_2W_{12}O_{40}$ *<sup>* $\cdot$ *xH<sub>2</sub>O*) were used as the X-organic and M-</sup> inorganic precursors, respectively. Delivery of the metal solution to the substrate is flexible, and we explored two paths in this work: spin- and dip-coating (Figure 2a). In spincoating delivery, the starting solution of AMT and KOH in deionized (DI) water was spin coated onto a UV−ozonetreated wafer, and the water was removed by heating at 80 °C in air. The coated wafer was then transferred to the tube furnace MOCVD system and annealed in a DES vapor environment (0.05−0.12 sccm) at 775 °C for 2−6 h to conduct the growth. Photographs of a typical WS<sub>2</sub> on *c*-plane sapphire wafer after the growth show a uniform color across the wafer (Figure 2b). Optical microscopy images show

homogeneous coverage of  $WS_2$  triangular domains, typically ∼20 *μ*m in width, with sharp and straight edges (Figure 2c). Atomic force microscopy (AFM) shows the monolayer thickness and clean surface of Hy-MOCVD grown  $WS_2$ (Figures 2d and [S2](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf)). Typical photoluminescence (PL) spectra show strong and narrow neutral exciton peaks (A) at 2.01 eV with the narrowest full width at half-maximum (fwhm) of 28 meV (Figures 2e and [S3\)](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf), indicating the good quality of Hy-MOCVD grown  $\text{WS}_2$ .<sup>[37](#page-9-0),[38](#page-9-0)</sup> The lower-energy shoulder peak is attributed to the negatively charged exciton  $(A^{-})$ , consistent with the n-type electronic transport characteristics observed in Hy-MOCVD  $WS_2$  monolayers, as discussed in a later section.

In dip-coating delivery, the *c*-plane sapphire wafer edges were dipped into an aqueous solution of AMT and KOH. As with the spin-coating path, the dip-coated wafer was then dried in air at 80 °C, and annealed in DES. During the growth process, reactive species diffuse from the highly concentrated AMT + KOH sources at the sample edges, triggering the growth of  $WS_2$  on the uncoated center area of the wafer. Typical photos of the wafer show deeper color on the dipcoated edges and uniform light yellow-green in the center of the wafer (Figure 2f). An optical micrograph taken from the center of the wafer shows a continuous  $WS_2$  film with small multilayer islands (Figure 2g). AFM images acquired around a multilayer island show well-defined single-layer-height steps of the bilayer island and clear atomic steps and terraces of the *c*plane sapphire substrate visible through the monolayer, indicating the clean surface of the  $WS_2$  film (Figure 2h). PL spectra collected from continuous monolayer regions of these samples typically show A exciton peaks centered at 2.01 eV (with the narrowest fwhm of 27 meV), consistent with a goodquality monolayer film (Figures 2i and  $S3$ ).<sup>[37](#page-9-0)</sup> We have found that both spin-coating and dip-coating yield good-quality and consistent growth. Using X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS), we detected trace signatures for residual K following Hy-MOCVD growth on  $WS_2$  samples grown using both spincoating and dip-coating precursor delivery. We observe that this signal is removed during wet transfer processes [\(Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf) [S4a](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf)), which suggests that the residual K species are not incorporated within the  $WS_2$  lattice. Dip-coating Hy-MOCVD

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Figure 3. Morphology control and compatibility with other substrates. (a) Photo of Hy-MOCVD grown c-plane sapphire/WS<sub>2</sub> wafer, with a single edge dip-coated by precursor solution.  $(b-e)$  Contrast-enhanced optical images of sapphire/WS<sub>2</sub> taken from the locations highlighted by colored circles in (a). (f) WS<sub>2</sub> coverage versus position along the arrow in (a). Positions of (b−e) are highlighted with corresponding colors. (g−i) Contrast-enhanced zoom-in optical images of multilayer, continuous monolayer, and noncontinuous monolayer regions. *C* stands for the coverage extracted from the corresponding image. (j) Photo of Hy-MOCVD grown WS<sub>2</sub> on a  $2''$  *c*-plane sapphire wafer via dip-coating. (k) Optical image of Hy-MOCVD grown WS2 ribbons on annealed *a*-plane sapphire with 1**°** miscut angle toward *c*-plane. (l) Optical image of Hy-MOCVD WS<sub>2</sub> grown on Si/SiO<sub>2</sub> substrate. (m) Optical image of Hy-MOCVD grown WS<sub>2</sub> grown on sapphire/Au substrate. (n,o) Raman and PL spectra of  $WS_2$  grown on  $SiO_2$  and Au substrates, respectively.

can grow continuous monolayer  $WS_2$  on sapphire on demand over a long period up to 17 months, showcasing the excellent repeatability of Hy-MOCVD ([Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf) S5). To demonstrate that Hy-MOCVD can be broadly applied to other TMDCs, we grew monolayer  $MoS<sub>2</sub>$  and  $WSe<sub>2</sub>$  with dip-coating Hy-MOCVD ([Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf) S6).

Growth producing a well-defined compositional gradient can be valuable for exploratory synthesis. Dip-coating Hy-MOCVD can exploit the vapor-phase transport gradient to grow  $WS_2$ with different morphologies and high compatibility with different substrates. Figure 3a shows a photograph of the *c*plane sapphire wafer after Hy-MOCVD growth with only one edge coated with AMT + KOH solution. The  $WS_2$  coverage changes with increasing distance from the dip-coating boundary (Figure 3b−e), with a typical profile given by Figure 3f (extracted from binary thresholding of microscope images; coverage over 100% indicates multilayer islands over a continuous monolayer film). At higher magnification within these regions, we observed that  $WS_2$  grew as a continuous film with a high density of multilayer islands in the area close to the dip-coating boundary (Figure 3g). This converts to a continuous monolayer with a low density of multilayer islands in the center of the wafer (Figure 3h) and finally becomes isolated domains on the far end (Figure 3i). The high coverage region ( $>70\%$ ) of predominantly monolayer WS<sub>2</sub> extends to approximately 1 cm away from the dip-coating metal source region, which is typical of samples grown in this way. Ozone etching reveals the grain boundaries<sup>[39](#page-9-0)</sup> within the continuous  $WS_2$  regions [\(Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf) S7), and we observe that the average  $WS_2$ domain size varies from 3 to 30 *μ*m with increasing distance from the dip-coating boundary.

As shown in Figure 3j, dip-coating can be applied to enable Hy-MOCVD growth across a 2″ *c*-plane sapphire wafer. The coverage and uniformity near the wafer center were improved by dip-coating the wafer edge and placing two crossed AMT + KOH dip-coated W foil strips on the substrate. This setup increases the local flux of W-species near the wafer center. The uniformity of Hy-MOCVD growth across the 2″ sapphire wafer was evaluated by Raman mapping [\(Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf) S8), which demonstrated that the  $WS_2$  film grown on the bare sapphire area is primarily monolayer, with an average  $2LA + E'$  to  $A_1'$ peak distance of 65.4  $\pm$  0.8 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and exhibits a crystalline quality similar to SS-CVD, with an average  $A_1'$  peak width of  $5.0 \pm 0.5$  cm<sup>-1.[6](#page-8-0),[40](#page-9-0)</sup> The narrow distributions of both metrics confirm the uniformity of Hy-MOCVD  $WS_2$ .

Growth on multiple substrates is important for the laboratory-scale optimization and integration of TMDCs. Hy-MOCVD growth of  $WS_2$  on annealed *a*-plane sapphire substrates with 1° miscut angle toward the *c*-plane (Figure  $3k$ ) resulted in WS<sub>2</sub> ribbons oriented along the substrate  $\langle 1\overline{1}00 \rangle$  terrace edge direction (see [Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf) S9 for the AFM images). This morphology is consistent with previous observations of epitaxial growth of MoS<sub>2</sub> and WS<sub>2</sub> on aplane and vicinal *a*-plane sapphire via SS-CVD,<sup>[7](#page-8-0),[41](#page-9-0)</sup> which is attributed to the anisotropic growth induced by the 2-fold symmetry *a*-plane sapphire lattice. Polarization-resolved second-harmonic generation (SHG) reveals that the Hy-MOCVD grown  $WS_2$  ribbons exhibit predominantly two sets of epitaxial lattice orientations, with the  $WS_2$  armchair directions oriented parallel to either the ⟨1−100⟩ or ⟨0001⟩ directions of the *a*-plane sapphire [\(Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf) S10). However, this epitaxial behavior is different from the unidirectional epitaxial

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Figure 4. Electrical characteristics of monolayer WS<sub>2</sub> grown by Hy-MOCVD. (a) Schematic of a back-gated transistor based on Hy-MOCVD WS<sub>2</sub>. (b) False color SEM image of WS<sub>2</sub>-based TLM device. (c) Measured *I*<sub>D</sub> vs *V<sub>GS</sub>* curves for FETs of transferred Hy-MOCVD WS<sub>2</sub> with designed channel length  $L_{ch}$  of 100, 200, 300, 500, 700, and 1000 nm, from purple to yellow at  $V_{DS}$  = 1 V. Red and blue arrows represent the forward and backward  $V_{GS}$  sweeping directions, respectively. (d) Measured  $I_D$  vs  $V_{GS}$  curves for FETs of as-grown Hy-MOCVD WS<sub>2</sub> with designed channel length *L*<sub>ch</sub> of 200, 300, 500, 700, and 1000 nm (from blue to yellow). Red and blue arrows represent the forward and backward *V<sub>GS</sub>* sweeping directions, respectively. Histograms of measured (e) field-effect mobility and (f)  $I_{\text{max}}/I_{\text{min}}$  for FETs of transferred and as-grown Hy-MOCVD WS<sub>2</sub> (extracted from forward  $V_{GS}$  sweeps).

growth of  $MoS_2$  and  $WS_2$  on *a*-plane sapphire and vicinal *a*plane sapphire, which can be attributed to the difference between the substrate miscut angle, substrate annealing conditions, and growth chemistry. Previous studies have reported that the use of alkali metal salts can have an impact on epitaxial behavior as well. $32$  Our results suggest that Hy-MOCVD can realize van der Waals epitaxial growth of 2D TMDCs and can be used for understanding how precursors and alkali metal-based growth promoters modify epitaxy. Additionally, Hy-MOCVD is compatible with the growth of  $WS_2$  on standard thermally oxidized  $Si/SiO_2$  substrates and on Au thin films deposited on *c*-plane sapphire substrates [\(Figure](#page-3-0) [3](#page-3-0)l,m). Notably, the Raman out-of-plane mode  $(A_1)$  of WS<sub>2</sub> on Au exhibits a redshift of  $\sim$ 7 cm<sup>-1</sup>, shifting the peak center to 410 cm<sup>−</sup><sup>1</sup> , while the in-plane mode (E′) remains unaltered at  $\sim$ 354 cm<sup>-1</sup> compared to WS<sub>2</sub> grown on SiO<sub>2</sub> [\(Figure](#page-3-0) 3n). This observation aligns with the reported  $A_1'$  mode downshifting in exfoliated  $WS_2$  monolayer on Au and suggests a strong interaction between monolayer  $WS_2$  and  $Au<sup>42</sup>$  $Au<sup>42</sup>$  $Au<sup>42</sup>$  PL of  $WS_2$ grown on  $Si/SiO<sub>2</sub>$  confirms its high quality, whereas the quenched PL for  $WS_2$  grown on Au indicates nonradiative transition dominated recombination of excitons in the  $Au/WS_2$ stack ([Figure](#page-3-0) 30). Furthermore, Hy-MOCVD  $WS_2$  on different substrates exhibited an absence of Raman peaks within the 1300−1600 cm<sup>−</sup><sup>1</sup> range (see [Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf) S11 for the Raman spectra), indicating that the films are free of amorphous carbon. [Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf) S4b presents a comparison between C 1s corelevel spectra for Hy-MOCVD  $WS_2$  and those of the bare substrate, which confirms the absence of carbon deposition during the growth process.

To evaluate the electronic properties of Hy-MOCVD grown  $WS_2$ , we fabricated back-gated field-effect transistors (FETs) through two processes: by transferring the Hy-MOCVD monolayer  $WS_2$  from sapphire onto  $SiO_2$  (100 nm) on highly doped p++ Si and by using as-grown Hy-MOCVD monolayer  $WS<sub>2</sub>$  directly on similar substrates. FET channel regions (100 nm to 1  $\mu$ m) were defined by electron-beam lithography on  $WS_2$  triangular domains and contacted with  $Ni/Au$  electrodes to achieve transfer length method (TLM) structures (Figure 4a,b).<sup>[43](#page-9-0)</sup> Measured drain current vs back-gate voltage  $(I_D$  vs  $V_{GS}$ ) characteristics of such WS<sub>2</sub> FETs exhibit consistent ntype behavior across 10−17 devices for each channel length, illustrating the uniformity of Hy-MOCVD grown  $WS_2$  (Figure 4c,d).

The devices with transferred  $WS_2$  exhibit maximum electron mobility between 24 and 33  $\mathrm{cm^{2}\,V^{-1}\,s^{-1}}$  (this value is given as a range of two numbers, extracted from the forward and backward sweeps, due to the observed clockwise hysteresis), with an average value between 13 and 18  $\rm cm^2$   $\rm V^{-1}$   $\rm s^{-1}$  and median value between 13 and 19  $\rm cm^2\,V^{-1}\,s^{-1}.$  We see a notable average  $I_{\text{max}}/I_{\text{min}}$  ratio of 10<sup>7</sup> (Figure 4e,f). The shortest devices with a 100 nm channel length have a good on-state current density, reaching a maximum value of 88 *μ*A/*μ*m and an average of 65  $\mu$ A/ $\mu$ m at  $V_{DS} = 1$  V (see [Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf) S12a for the  $I_D$ versus channel length plot). These metrics surpass those of most SS-CVD and MOCVD-grown monolayer  $WS_2$ -based FETs with similar configurations, indicating the good quality of Hy-MOCVD  $WS_2$  [\(Table](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf) S3 for a device performance comparison). The contact resistance can lead to errors in the field-effect mobility estimate, especially in shorter channel length devices ([Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf) S12c shows field-effect mobility versus channel length). The device performance can potentially be improved by incorporating lower resistance contacts and high*κ* dielectric layers.[44](#page-9-0)−[47](#page-9-0) FET devices fabricated from Hy-MOCVD WS<sub>2</sub> grown directly on the Si/SiO<sub>2</sub> substrate exhibit improved field-effect mobility with a maximum between 34

<span id="page-5-0"></span>

Figure 5. Transition metal engineering of monolayer WS, using Hy-MOCVD. (a) Schematic of transition metal engineering of monolayer  $WS_2$  using Hy-MOCVD. (b) Lattice schematic of V-doped WS<sub>2</sub>. (c) Optical image of as-grown Hy-MOCVD V-doped WS<sub>2</sub> on Si/SiO<sub>2</sub> substrate with a nominal doping concentration of 3%. (d) Typical Raman spectra of V-doped WS<sub>2</sub> with different nominal doping ratios of 0, 0.3, 3, and 24%. (e) Measured  $I_D$  vs  $V_{GS}$  curves for monolayer undoped WS<sub>2</sub> and V-doped WS<sub>2</sub> FET devices with channel length of 500 nm and *V*<sub>DS</sub> = 1 V. (f) Lattice schematic of in-plane MoS<sub>2</sub>−Mo<sub>x</sub>W<sub>1−x</sub>S<sub>2</sub> heterostructure with a MoS<sub>2</sub> core and a Mo<sub>x</sub>W<sub>1−x</sub>S<sub>2</sub> alloy shell. (g) Optical image of Hy-MOCVD grown in-plane MoS<sub>2</sub>−Mo<sub>x</sub>W<sub>1-x</sub>S<sub>2</sub> heterostructure on *c*-plane sapphire substrate. MoS<sub>2</sub> core is circled with a white dashed line. (h) Typical Raman spectra of Mo*x*W1<sup>−</sup>*x*S2 alloy core (left) and shell (right) grown with different Mo/W mole ratios in the starting solution of Hy-MOCVD. (i) Core/shell width ratio versus Mo/W mole ratio of starting solution. (j) Lattice schematic of Hy-MOCVD grown WS<sub>2</sub>−MoS<sub>2</sub> in-plane heterostructure. (k) Optical image of Hy-MOCVD grown WS<sub>2</sub>−MoS<sub>2</sub> in-plane heterostructure. (1) Typical Raman spectra collected from the two sides of  $WS_2$ –MoS<sub>2</sub> in-plane heterostructure. (m) Raman spectra line scan along the arrow in (k).

and 36  $\rm cm^2~V^{-1}~s^{-1}$ , an average value of 19–21  $\rm cm^2~V^{-1}~s^{-1}$ , a median value of 20–22 cm<sup>2</sup> V<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> [\(Figure](#page-4-0) 4e), and less *I*<sub>D</sub> hysteresis for forward-to-backward *V*<sub>DS</sub> sweeps ([Figures](#page-4-0) 4c,d and [S12c](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf)−h). This suggests that the performance of Hy-MOCVD grown on sapphire substrates is limited by either transfer-induced damage (see broadened Raman and PL peaks of  $WS_2$  after the transfer in [Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf) S13) or a difference in crystal quality versus growth on  $Si/SiO<sub>2</sub>$  substrates.

Directly incorporating dopants into TMDCs and growing TMDC alloys and heterostructures from synthesis have sparked substantial interest. Hy-MOCVD enables convenient adjustment of the TMDC metal composition based on the precise addition of various water−soluble transition metal sources to the precursor solution (Figure 5a). V-doped  $WS_2$ monolayers with a nominal doping from 0.3 to 24%  $(V/(V +$ W) atom mole ratio in the precursor solution) were grown on  $Si/SiO<sub>2</sub>$  substrates (Figure 5b,c) by adding sodium metavanadate (NaVO<sub>3</sub>) into the AMT + KOH precursor solution. The emergence of a Raman mode at around 213  $cm^{-1}$  in nominal 24% V-doped  $WS_2$ , and the decrease of the 2LA(M) + E′ peak intensity with the increase of the nominal doping ratio, are consistent with previous  $V-WS<sub>2</sub>$  literature (see Figures 5d and [S14](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf) for nominal doping ratio dependence of 2LA + E′ peak intensity).<sup>[9](#page-8-0),[48](#page-9-0)</sup> The characteristic peak at 213 cm<sup>-1</sup> can be assigned to the multiphonon mode of  $E''(M) - TA(M)$ , suggesting that V is substitutionally incorporated into  $\text{WS}_2$ .<sup>[48](#page-9-0)</sup> Transistors fabricated using the 3% V-doped  $WS_2$  exhibit a threshold voltage shift of  $+23$  V compared with undoped  $WS_2$ devices (Figure 5e), on the  $100 \text{ nm }$  SiO<sub>2</sub> back-gate insulators. This is consistent with the expected p-type doping from substitutional V acceptors in the TMDC monolayer. $9,36$  $9,36$ Additional optimizations of doping concentration and FET metal contacts are needed to achieve a hole current. XPS characterization ([Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf) S15) shows the measured  $V/(V + W)$ 

atom ratio increasing monotonically with nominal doping concentration, accompanied by shifting of the W 4f and S 2p core levels toward lower binding energy as expected for a ptype dopant. We also demonstrated Re doping in Hy-MOCVD. Compared with pure  $WS_2$ , we found that the PL emission is evidently quenched in both V-doped and Re-doped  $WS<sub>2</sub>$  ([Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf) S16). These observations are consistent with previous reports of quenched PL in doped samples, including  $\rm V\text{-}WS_{2}$ , Re-WSe<sub>2</sub>, V-MoS<sub>2</sub>, and Re-MoS<sub>2,</sub>  $\rm S_1^{9,11,49}$  $\rm S_1^{9,11,49}$  $\rm S_1^{9,11,49}$  $\rm S_1^{9,11,49}$  $\rm S_1^{9,11,49}$  where the PL quenching can be attributed to the in-gap dopant statemediated exciton recombination and/or additional charge carriers.<sup>12[,49](#page-9-0)</sup>

Hy-MOCVD similarly enables alloy and heterostructure growth. We grew Mo*x*W1<sup>−</sup>*x*S2 alloys exhibiting an in-plane heterostructure with a core and a shell of different alloy compositions during a single-step dip-coating Hy-MOCVD growth [\(Figure](#page-5-0) 5f,g) by mixing ammonium molybdate  $((NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>6</sub>Mo<sub>7</sub>O<sub>2</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O)$  into the AMT + KOH solution. We provide additional confirmation of the core−shell compositional variation via fluorescence imaging of the  $MoS<sub>2</sub>$  and  $WS<sub>2</sub>$ PL emission on a transferred alloy sample in Figure [S17a,b](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf) and XPS characterization, which shows the coexistence and splitting of the Mo and W elemental electron core energy levels in the alloy core−shell sample (Figure [S17c,d](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf)). The Mo/ W molar ratio of the precursor solution influenced the Mo*x*W1<sup>−</sup>*x*S2 alloy core−shell dimension and alloy compositions, as illustrated in [Figure](#page-5-0) 5h,i. For example, a 2:1 Mo/W ratio yielded a  $MoS<sub>2</sub>$  core with a  $WS<sub>2</sub>$ -like alloy shell (i.e., an alloy closer in Raman signature to the signature of pure  $WS_2$ ), whereas the decrease to a 1:8 Mo/W ratio resulted in a  $MoS_{2}$ like core with a  $WS_2$  shell. The core−shell structure evidently results from differences in vapor-phase or on-surface transport kinetics for the W and Mo precursors.  $50,51$  $50,51$  $50,51$ 

In contrast, two sequential Hy-MOCVD growths of W followed by Mo precursors resulted in  $WS_2-MoS_2$  in-plane heterostructures [\(Figure](#page-5-0) 5j,k). Raman spectra collected from two sides of the  $WS_2$ −MoS<sub>2</sub> heterostructure show distinct  $MoS<sub>2</sub>$  and  $WS<sub>2</sub>$  peaks without significant alloying [\(Figure](#page-5-0) 51), and a Raman spectrum line scan shows a distinct interface between  $WS_2$  and  $MoS_2$  [\(Figure](#page-5-0) 5m). Multilayer  $MoS_2$ nucleation also occurred on top of  $WS_2$  and at the interface of the heterostructure. This shows the capabilities of Hy-MOCVD for growing  $WS_2-MoS_2$  heterostructures with different layer numbers and vertical stacking.

#### **CONCLUSIONS**

In summary, we have demonstrated that Hy-MOCVD provides an effective strategy for rapidly synthesizing TMDC monolayers with diverse transition metal dopants, alloy elements, and heterostructures, offering a versatile platform for exploring synthesis to realize enhanced and tailored electronic, optical, and magnetic properties in TMDC monolayers and heterostructures.

#### **EXPERIMENTAL METHODS**

**Material Growth and Transfer.** Hy-MOCVD commenced with the preparation of an initial aqueous solution comprising transition metal precursors and promoters. In the case of pure  $WS_2$  growth, 0.6 g of AMT and 0.05−0.1 g of KOH were dissolved in 30 mL of DI water. For V-doped  $WS_2$  growth, around 90 mg of  $NaVO_3$  was introduced into the 30 mL AMT + KOH solution to achieve 24% V/  $(V + W)$  atom mole ratio in the solution. Ultrasonication was employed to facilitate the dissolution of  $NaVO<sub>3</sub>$ . NaVO<sub>3</sub> was not fully

dissolved, and the cloudy solution was used for growing a  $24\%$  V-WS<sub>2</sub> sample. The cloudy solution was diluted multiple times to get 3 and 0.3%  $V/(V + W)$  atom mole ratio solutions. In these low  $V/(V + W)$ ratio solutions,  $NaVO<sub>3</sub>$  appeared to be fully dissolved. For Re-doped WS<sub>2</sub> growth, NH<sub>4</sub>ReO<sub>4</sub> was used as a Re source. For Mo<sub>x</sub>W<sub>1−*x*</sub>S<sub>2</sub> alloy growth,  $AMT + KOH$   $(0.6$  g +  $0.05$  g in 30 mL DI water) and ammonium molybdate + KOH (0.43 + 0.2 g in 30 mL DI water) solutions were made separately and mixed with different volume ratios from 2/1 to 1/8. For the growth of  $WS_2$ −MoS<sub>2</sub> heterostructures, twostep dip-coating Hy-MOCVD was used to grow  $WS_2$  and  $MoS_2$ sequentially. In the dip-coating path of Hy-MOCVD, the aqueous solution was dip-coated onto one or all edges of ozone-treated sapphire substrates, followed by  $N_2$  blow drying. For the dip-coating Hy-MOCVD growth on a 2 inch *c*-plane sapphire wafer, in addition to coating the wafer edge, two initial solution coated W foil strips were placed on the top of the wafer, forming a cross and sitting at its center. In the spin-coating path of Hy-MOCVD, 0.25 mL of 10−16 times diluted initial solution was spin-coated onto ozone-treated sapphire and  $Si/SiO<sub>2</sub>$  substrates at 1000 rpm for 1 min. When growing on  $Si/$  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  and sapphire/Au, no ozone was applied before dip-coating. For the growth of WS<sub>2</sub> on *a*-plane sapphire (Hefei Crystal Technical Material Co., Ltd., *a*-plane off *c*-plane 1.0  $\pm$  0.1°), the wafer was annealed in a muffle furnace at 1200 °C for 12 h in an ambient air environment. The *c*-plane sapphire wafers (Valley Design Corp., 28362-1) used in this paper were not annealed. The solution-coated substrates were baked on a hot plate at 80 °C for 1 min and quickly loaded into a MOCVD tube furnace. The tube was evacuated to <0.5 Torr and filled with a flowing mixture of 1600 sccm Ar and 10 sccm H2. The furnace temperature was ramped to 725−775 °C over 30 min. Changes to the growth temperature will modify the active concentration of the transition metal and growth promoter species on the substrate surface, and therefore, the composition of the precursor solution may need to be separately optimized for large changes in growth temperature. Subsequently, the  $H<sub>2</sub>$  flow was adjusted to 1 sccm, and 0.05−0.12 sccm of DES was introduced into the tube furnace. The substrates underwent annealing in this environment for 2−6 h to complete growth. Postgrowth, the DES flow was reduced to 0.025−0.1 sccm, and the furnace heating was discontinued. DES flow was closed when the furnace naturally cooled to 300 °C, and substrates were unloaded at room temperature.

 $WS_2$  grown on sapphire substrates was transferred onto  $Si/SiO_2$ substrates using a poly(methyl methacrylate) (PMMA)-assisted transfer method. The samples were spin-coated with PMMA and dried on a hot plate at 100 °C for 3 min.  $WS_2/PMMA$  was delaminated from the sapphire substrate by gradually dipping the substrate into DI water (the substrate was in an upward-facing position and angled at 30−60° relative to the water surface) and transferred onto the target substrate with  $SiO_2$  (100 nm) on Si, followed by drying on a hot plate at 100 °C for 5 min. The PMMA layer was removed by soaking it in acetone at 60 °C for 15 min.

**Device Fabrication and Analysis.** For the transferred devices shown in [Figure](#page-4-0) 4c, monolayer  $WS_2$  was grown on sapphire with dipcoating Hy-MOCVD and transferred off by using a PMMA-based transfer (as described above) onto 100 nm  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  on Si. For the devices fabricated on the  $Si/SiO<sub>2</sub>$  growth substrate, shown in [Figure](#page-4-0) 4d, dipcoating Hy-MOCVD monolayer  $WS_2$  was directly grown on  $SiO_2$ (100 nm) on p<sup>++</sup> Si ( $\leq$ 0.005  $\Omega$ ·cm) that also served as the back-gate. Alignment marks were first patterned on the direct-grown sample, such that discrete  $WS_2$  crystals could be identified. Devices were made on single crystalline  $WS_2$  triangles to avoid the existence of grain boundaries in the device channels. The measured devices were sampled randomly from within a  $5 \times 5$  mm<sup>2</sup> region on each chip. Electron-beam lithography was employed for each lithography step. Large probing pads  $(SiO<sub>2</sub>/Ti/Pt 10/2/20 nm)$  were first patterned and deposited by electron-beam evaporation via lift-off.  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  was used in the probing pad to limit the pad-to-substrate leakage.  $XeF_2$  was used for channel definition, and the contact region was patterned for lift-off. 15/30 nm Ni/Au contacts were electron-beam evaporated at  $\sim$ 10<sup>-8</sup> Torr, and a rate of 0.5 Å/s. 20/35 nm Ni/Au contacts were deposited for the nontransferred devices. The fabricated transistors

<span id="page-7-0"></span>were measured in a Janis ST-100 probe station at ∼10<sup>−</sup><sup>4</sup> Torr under vacuum using a Keithley 4200 semiconductor parameter analyzer.

For the undoped and the V-doped  $WS_2$  devices shown in [Figure](#page-5-0) 5e, the starting  $WS_2$  and V-WS<sub>2</sub> were grown on 100 nm  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  on Si with spin-coating Hy-MOCVD. Alignment marks were patterned to identify monolayer regions on both samples. Metal pads and channels were defined by e-beam lithography, as described above. For both the doped and undoped  $WS_2$ , Ru/Au (5/50 nm) were deposited via ebeam evaporation to investigate potential p-type transport from Vdoped WS<sub>2</sub>, based on previous reports of good p-type performance from Ru contacts. $42$  The devices were measured under vacuum as described above.

Threshold voltage was extracted at a constant current of 10 nA/  $\mu$ m.<sup>[52](#page-10-0)</sup> The field-effect mobility  $\mu_e = \max(g_m)/[C_{ox}V_{DS}(W_{ch}/L_{ch})]$ , was estimated using the maximum transconductance of forward and backward  $V_{GS}$  sweeps,  $g_m = dI_D/dV_{GS}$ , and the gate insulator capacitance per unit area is  $C_{ox} = \varepsilon_0 \kappa_{ox}/t_{ox}$ . The SiO<sub>2</sub> gate oxide thickness  $t_{ox} = 100$  nm, the oxide relative permittivity  $\kappa_{ox} = 3.9$ ,  $\varepsilon_0$  is the vacuum permittivity, and  $V_{DS} = 1$  V.  $W_{ch}$  and  $L_{ch}$  are channel width and length, respectively. The designed  $W_{ch}$  was 2.0  $\mu$ m. The final  $W_{ch}$  was measured via SEM to be 1.6  $\mu$ m for FETs of transferred  $\text{WS}_2$  and 2.0  $\mu\text{m}$  for FETs of as-grown  $\text{WS}_2$ . The final  $L_\text{ch}$  in the FETs of transferred  $WS_2$  were measured via SEM to be 72, 175, 261, 461, 650, and 973 nm, corresponding to the designed  $L_{ch}$  values of 100, 200, 300, 500, 700, and 1000 nm, respectively. The final *L*<sub>ch</sub> in the FETs of as-grown  $WS_2$  were measured via SEM to be 173, 275, 477, 681, and 993, corresponding to the designed  $L_{ch}$  values of 200, 300, 500, 700, and 1000 nm, respectively. The mobilities of the FETs were corrected with these measured  $W_{ch}$  and  $L_{ch}$  values.

**Material Characterizations.** AFM imaging was conducted utilizing a Bruker ICON AFM using the ScanAsyst topography imaging mode with a NSC19/Al-BS tip. Raman and PL spectra were acquired at room temperature with 532 nm laser excitation using a HORIBA Scientific LabRAM HR Evolution confocal microscope. Optical microscope imaging was performed using an Olympus BX-51 microscope in epi-reflection geometry. The optical microscope contrast for images in [Figures](#page-2-0) 2c,g and [3b](#page-3-0)−e,g−i,k were enhanced in the following way: after acquisition, we converted the color images to grayscale and increased the contrast and brightness to improve visibility of the  $WS_2$  on the transparent sapphire wafer. SHG was performed using a femtosecond laser (NKT Origami Onefive 10, 1030 nm, <200 fs) at room temperature. A 40× objective lens was used to excite the sample with an average power of 5−10 mW, and the signal was collected in reflective geometry by an EMCCD (Andor iXon Ultra) with an integration time of 100 ms at each polarization angle. XPS was performed using PHI VersaProbe 3.

#### **ASSOCIATED CONTENT**

#### $\bullet$  Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at [https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164?goto=supporting-info).

> Schematic of Hy-MOCVD setup, high magnification AFM of spin-coating grown  $WS_2$ , PL peak fitting results, XPS of potassium and carbon element, growth results over 17 months, optical images and Raman of  $MoS<sub>2</sub>$  and  $WSe<sub>2</sub>$ , continuous  $WS<sub>2</sub>$  monolayer domain size extraction, AFM of WS<sub>2</sub> grown on *a*-plane sapphire, SHG characterizations of WS<sub>2</sub> ribbons grown on *a*-plane sapphire, wide range Raman spectra of  $WS_2$  grown on sapphire and  $SiO_2$ ,  $L_{ch}$  vs  $I_D$ , mobility, hysteresis, and typical *I*<sub>D</sub> vs *V*<sub>GS</sub> hysteresis, PL, and Raman comparison between as-grown and transferred  $WS_{2}$ , and Raman 2LA + E′ peak intensity vs nominal doping concentration of V-doped  $WS_2$ , XPS of V-doped  $WS_2$ , PL of V-doped and Re-doped  $WS_2$ , XPS of alloy, tables of the comparison of growth metric, MOCVD growth parameters, and FET performance ([PDF\)](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164/suppl_file/nn4c02164_si_001.pdf)

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Complete contact information is available at: [https://pubs.acs.org/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acsnano.4c02164?ref=pdf)

**Author Contributions**<br><sup>V</sup>Z.Z. and L.H. contributed equally to this work. Z.Z. and L.H. developed the growth recipe under the supervision of A.J.M. and E.P. Z.Z. performed the material growth and characterizations. L.H. fabricated the devices and conducted the device measurements and analysis under the supervision of A.J.M. and E.P. M.H. developed the sapphire annealing recipe with J.D. under the supervision of A.J.M. M.H. performed SHG measurements with the help of J.H. under the supervision of T.F.H. Z.P. performed the XPS measurements. P.R. and G.Z.,

<span id="page-8-0"></span>Jr. built the MOCVD system under the supervision of A.J.M. Z.Z. and A.J.M. wrote the paper with input from L.H. All authors participated in discussions, reviewed, and approved the manuscript.

#### **Notes**

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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## **Supporting Information for "Chemically Tailored Growth of 2D Semiconductors**  *via* **Hybrid Metal-Organic Chemical Vapor Deposition"**

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**Figure S1.** Schematic of Hy-MOCVD setup. PC and MFC denote pressure controller and mass flow controller, respectively.



Figure S2. High magnification AFM image of spin-coating Hy-MOCVD WS<sub>2</sub> on *c*plane sapphire substrate. Arrows highlight the directions of steps visible in sapphire/WS<sub>2</sub> and sapphire regions.



**Figure S3.** Fitted A exciton PL peak position versus peak width of as-grown spincoating and dip-coating Hy-MOCVD WS<sub>2</sub>. The Hy-MOCVD WS<sub>2</sub> monolayers present narrow A peak width distribution close to the  $h$ -BN capped  $WS_2$ <sup>1</sup>.



**Figure S4**. (a) High-resolution XPS spectra for the K 2p core level on Hy-MOCVD, before and after transfer, for both spin-coating and dip-coating precursor delivery. (b) C 1s core level spectra comparing a bare sapphire wafer with Hy-MOCVD films grown from dip-coating and spin-coating precursor delivery, indicating the absence of additional carbon contamination from the Hy-MOCVD process (data points shown with accompanying Voight profile curve fits).



**Figure S5**. Optical images of dip-coating Hy-MOCVD grown monolayer WS<sub>2</sub> films on *c*-plane sapphire in 17 months. Scratch exposed substrate areas and bilayer islands on monolayer  $WS_2$  are indicated. The parameters for these growths are identical. AMT + KOH (0.6 g + 0.05 g in 30 ml DI water) solution, 0.05 sccm DES, 1600 sccm Ar, 1 sccm  $H_2$  and 775 °C growth temperature were used for the growth.



**Figure S6**. Optical images (a,c) and Raman spectra (b,d) of dip-coating Hy-MOCVD grown monolayer  $MoS<sub>2</sub>$  and  $WSe<sub>2</sub>$  films on *c*-plane sapphire substrates. The  $MoS<sub>2</sub>E'$ to  $A_1$ ' peak distance of 20 cm<sup>-1</sup> and the WSe<sub>2</sub> E'/ $A_1$ ' peak intensity ratio of 7 indicate the predominantly monolayer character of Hy-MOCVD grown  $MoS<sub>2</sub>$  and WSe<sub>2</sub>, respectively. Ammonium molybdate tetrahydrate and diisopropylselenium were used as Mo- and Se-sources for the Hy-MOCVD growth of MoS<sub>2</sub> and WSe<sub>2</sub>, respectively.



Figure S7. The domain size extraction of dip-coating Hy-MOCVD WS<sub>2</sub> continuous monolayer film on sapphire substrate. **(a)** Contrast enhanced optical images (top) and processed images of 7 min ozone etched WS<sup>2</sup> continuous monolayer films and domains on different positions 2-12 mm away from the dip-coating edge in dip-coating Hy-MOCVD. **(b)** Extracted domain areas versus position plot. **(c)** Equivalent domain size versus position plot. Particle analysis function in Image J was used to extract domain areas from processed images. The domain shape was assumed to be equilateral triangle for converting domain area to equivalent domain size (edge length of the equilateral triangle).



**Figure S8.** Raman map of Hy-MOCVD WS<sub>2</sub> on 2" sapphire wafer. (a) Photo of a 2" wafer on a grid paper. Red dashed circle highlights the  $WS_2$  growth area during the Hy-MOCVD growth. (b) Raman spectra of  $3\times3$  data points over  $40\times40 \mu m^2$  area within each square of the total 88 squares on the wafer. The squares in the W trip covered area are excluded. The maps of  $2LA + E'$  to  $A_1'$  peak distance (c) and  $A_1'$  peak width (f). The pixel intensities are the average values of the 9 spectra collected in each square. The red line and red dash line highlight the area of 2" wafer and non-dip-coated area. (d) and (g) show the average intensity and peak widths along the radius direction in (c) and (f), respectively. Note that the radial distance is calculated with respect to the grid coordinate, and therefore can exceed the 1" (25.4 mm) radius expected for a 2" (50.8 mm) diameter wafer. The error bars are standard deviations. (e) and (h) are histograms of the intensities in (c) and (f), respectively. Average values and standard deviations of all the pixels and the pixels in non-coated area are indicated. The peak positions and widths were extracted using Horiba LabSpec 6.



**Figure S9. (a)** AFM image of WS<sub>2</sub> ribbon grown on annealed *a*-plane sapphire wafer with terraces. **(b)** Zoomed in AFM image from the square in **(a)**. **(c)** Height line profile of sapphire wafer terraces along the white arrow in **(b)**. **(d)** Zoomed in AFM image from the square in **(a)**. **(e)** Height line profile of sapphire wafer terraces along the white arrow in **(d)**. **(a)** and **(b)** are flattened with NanoScope Analysis. **(d)** is flattened with Gwyddion.



**Figure S10. (a)** Contrast-enhanced optical image of Hy-MOCVD grown WS<sup>2</sup> ribbons on annealed *a*-plane sapphire. **(b-d)** Polarization-resolved SHG of the ribbons highlighted in **(a)**. The SHG signals are normalized based on their maximum intensities. The armchair orientations of the  $WS_2$  lattice within the ribbons are classified into three distinct groups: parallel (**b**), perpendicular (**c**), and randomly orientated (**d**) with respect to the long axis of the ribbon. **(e)** Schematic of  $WS_2$  ribbons grown on an *a*-plane sapphire substrate featuring consistent ribbon orientation but varying lattice orientations. The corners of the triangles denote the armchair directions of the  $WS_2$ lattice within the ribbon. Dashed lines indicate the terrace edge directions on the annealed *a*-plane sapphire.





**Figure S11.** Raman spectra of as-grown Hy-MOCVD  $WS_2$  on sapphire and  $SiO_2$ showing no amorphous carbon signal.

**Figure S12. (a,b)** On-state current ( $V_{DS} = 1$  V) vs. channel length of FETs for transferred and as-grown Hy-MOCVD WS2, respectively. **(c,d)** Estimated field-effect mobility vs. channel length of FETs for transferred and as-grown Hy-MOCVD WS2, respectively. **(e,f)** Hysteresis vs. channel length of FETs for transferred and as-grown

Hy-MOCVD WS<sub>2</sub>, respectively.  $(g,h)$  Repetitive  $I_D$  vs  $V_{GS}$  curves of FETs for transferred and as-grown Hy-MOCVD WS<sup>2</sup> showing typical clockwise hysteresis, respectively. FW and BW stand for forward and backward  $I_D$  vs  $V_{GS}$  curves, respectively.



**Figure S13. (a,b)** PL and Raman spectrum comparison between as-grown Hy-MOCVD WS<sub>2</sub> on sapphire, transferred Hy-MOCVD WS<sub>2</sub> on from sapphire onto Si/SiO<sub>2</sub>, and asgrown Hy-MOCVD WS<sub>2</sub> on Si/SiO<sub>2</sub>. "G. on Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>" refers to "As-grown WS<sub>2</sub> on sapphire". "T. on SiO<sub>2</sub>" is defined as "Transferred WS<sub>2</sub> from sapphire to SiO<sub>2</sub>". "G. on  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$ " is denoted as "As-grown WS<sub>2</sub> on  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$ ".



**Figure S14.** Raman 2LA+E' peak intensity versus nominal doping concentration plot Pure 0.3 3 30<br>Nominal doping concentration (%)<br>Figure S14. Raman 2LA+E' peak intensity versus nominal doping concentration plot<br>of Hy-MOCVD grown V-doped WS<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S15. XPS characterization of Hy-MOCVD V-doped WS<sub>2</sub> before and after transfer. (a-c) High resolution XPS spectra of W 4f, V 2p and S 2p core levels for Hy-MOCVD V-doped  $WS_2$  before transfer. (d-f) High resolution XPS spectra of W 4f, V 2p and S 2p core levels for Hy-MOCVD V-doped WS<sub>2</sub> after transfer. Black dashed lines in (a,c,d,f) connect the peak maxima for the undoped and 24%V samples to highlight the decreasing binding energy trend in W 4f and S 2p core levels. (g) Nominal  $V/(V+W)$  atom ratio in the precursor solution versus the ratio measured with XPS. The

measured XPS atomic ratio is calculated using the area of the  $V^{4+}$  component peak, because this is the expected chemical state for V substitution of  $W^{4+}$  in the WS<sub>2</sub> lattice. The samples were grown on *c*-plane sapphire for the pre-transfer measurements and transferred onto an  $Si/SiO<sub>2</sub>(100 nm)$  substrate for the post-transfer measurements. XPS peak fittings were completed on  $Cas(XPS)^2$  using the corrected relative sensitivity factors from the MultiPak XPS data processing software for the PHI VersaProbe 3 system. The residual standard deviations for V 2p fittings are in the range of 0.84~1.17. The W oxide states and  $V^{5+}$  states in pre-transfer samples can come from incomplete sulfurization of the W- and V- precursors. Their intensities are greatly reduced in the post-transfer samples, perhaps due to their water solubility or adhesion to the growth substrate.



**Figure S16.** Series of photoluminescence spectra for Hy-MOCVD-grown V-doped (a) and Re-doped (b)  $WS_2$  at room temperature. The samples were grown on sapphire and transferred to  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  substrates. The dopant concentration values are given as the nominal dopant concentration in the solution and were deposited *via* spin coating.



**Figure S17.** Characterization of  $Mo_xW_1$ <sub>x</sub>S<sub>2</sub> alloy samples. (a) Optical microscope image (aperture stop applied) of transferred  $Mo_xW_{1-x}S_2$  alloy grown with Mo/W mole ratio of  $\frac{1}{2}$  in the initial solution. (b) The fluorescence image of the transferred Mo<sub>x</sub>W<sub>1</sub>.  $_{x}S_{2}$  alloy in the same area of (a). (c-e) High-resolution XPS spectra of Mo 3d, W 4f and S 2p of as-grown  $Mo_xW_{1-x}S_2$  alloy sample. (f-g) High-resolution XPS spectra of W 4f and S 2p of as-grown pure  $WS_2$  sample. XPS peak fittings were completed on CasaXPS.<sup>2</sup>

<b>Metrics</b>	<b>SS-CVD</b>	<b>Hy-MOCVD</b>	<b>MOCVD</b>
Domain size	Non-epitaxial: $\bullet$ $<$ 100 $\mu$ m for isolated domains of $MoS23$ and $WS_2.4$ 2-5 $\mu$ m for continuous film of $MoS2$ . <sup>5,6</sup> 100s $\mu$ m for isolated domains of $MoS27$ on sapphire $(O_2 \text{ assisted})$ and $WS_2$ grown on Au foil <sup>8</sup> • Unidirectional epitaxy: 10-20 $\mu$ m for isolated domains of $MoS29,10$ and $WS_2.$ <sup>11</sup> (closed epitaxial) film)	$3 - 30$ for <sub>1</sub> $\mu$ m film continuous (Figure S7); ~100 $\mu$ m for <sub>1</sub> isolated domains (Figure 3i)	• No growth promoter: 100s nm for continuous film. <sup>12,13</sup> 20 $\mu$ m for isolated domians. <sup>14</sup> • Using growth promoter: 100s nm for continuous film. $15-17$ 1 $\mu$ m ~ 30 $\mu$ m for continuous film. <sup>18,19</sup> 60 $\mu$ m for isolated domains. <sup>20</sup> • Using water etchant: 100s nm ~ 15 $\mu$ m for isolated domains. $21$ • Using reverse flow: 120 $\mu$ m for isolated domains. <sup>22</sup> 100s nm for continuous film. <sup>23</sup>
Growth time	$\sim 0.5$ hours	$2 - 6$ hours (Figure 2 and 3)	minutes 30 10 hours (Table S2)
Repeatability	Conventional source delivery: Small variations of source and position amount modify the growth result dramatically. • Special oxide delivery: Improved consistency in oxygen assisted MoS <sub>2</sub> growth. <sup>6,24</sup>	Consistency between the growth over 17 months (Figure) S5)	Excellent repeatability (precisely controlled metal and chalcogen source deliveries).
Composition doping and control	Potential for large ratio metal/chalcogen variation for standard oxide delivery, $MoS2$ . <sup>25</sup>	Precisely controlled organochalcogen flow rate. Easy transition metal engineering for doping and alloying (Figure 5)	Each new precursor or dopant source requires either adding a new vapor- phase delivery line to the MOCVD system or swapping for an existing with potential for source, contamination and memory effects.

**Table S1**. Summary of the metrics of SS-CVD, Hy-MOCVD and MOCVD.



**Table S2.** Comparison of MOCVD growth parameters in literature.





Abbreviations:  $MX_2$  stands for the TMDC composition of M as the transition metal (Mo, W), and X as the chalcogen (S, Se); CW and HW refer to cold wall and hot wall, respectively;  $T_{\text{Gr}}$  refers to growth temperature;  $t_{\text{Gr}}$  denotes growth time; Ref. stands for Reference.

Table S3. Performance comparison between Hy-MOCVD WS<sub>2</sub> FET devices and

previous reports.





Abbreviations: Ref. stands for Reference; DG denotes Dual gate; - refers to no available data; *μ*<sup>e</sup> stands for field-effect electron mobility reported in the reference; *I*on denotes on-state current; *L*ch refers to channel length.

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