

## Supporting information

### Large-area synthesis of monolayer WS<sub>2</sub> and its ambient-sensitive photo-detecting performance

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#### Supporting Figure S1

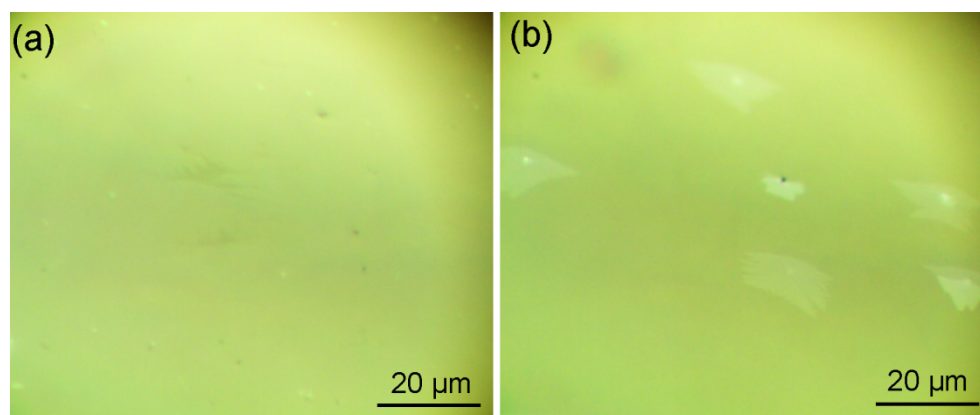


Figure S1. Optical microscopy images of as-grown monolayer WS<sub>2</sub> film and flakes on sapphire substrates with (a) and without seeding (b).

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## Supporting Figure S2

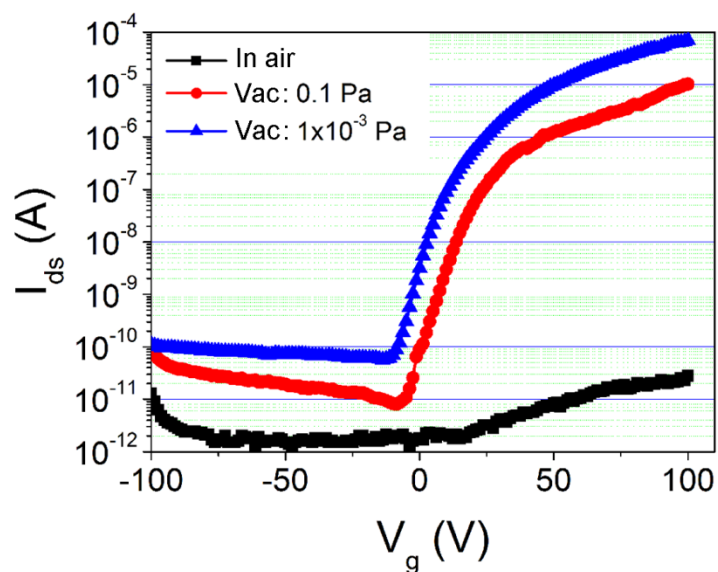


Figure S2. Transport characteristics ( $I_{ds}$ - $V_g$ ) in air and in vacuum. The drain-source voltage ( $V_{ds}$ ) is 20 V.

## Supporting Table S1.

Table S1. FET performance in different pressures.

Measure	Mobility	ON/OFF ratio	Sub-threshold Swing
Environment	( $\text{cm}^2/\text{V}\cdot\text{s}$ )		(V/decade)
In air	$1.87 \times 10^{-7}$	10	50
Vacuum of 0.1Pa	0.21	$10^6$	6.6
Vacuum of $1 \times 10^{-3}$ Pa	0.91	$10^6$	4.9

## Supporting Table S2

Table S2. Summary of the literature reports on the electrical transport and photoresponse performance of atomically thin WS<sub>2</sub> crystals.

Sample	Contact electrode	L/W (μm)	Mobility (cm <sup>2</sup> /V·s)	On/Off ratio	R	Response time	Ref.
WS <sub>2</sub> nanoflakes (exfoliated)	Ti/Au	20/15	12	10	5.7 A/W (633 nm)	<20ms	1
Single layer WS <sub>2</sub> (exfoliated)	Ti/Au	6.8/2.5	~1-2 (10 hours High temperature annealing in 10 <sup>-4</sup> Pa vacuum )	10 <sup>6</sup>	N/A	N/A	2
Multilayer layer WS <sub>2</sub> (exfoliated)	Au	5/2	234	10 <sup>8</sup>	N/A	N/A	3
Single layer WS <sub>2</sub>	Ni/Au	6.5/4	9.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	4
Single layer WS <sub>2</sub> (CVD-grown)	Ti/Au	1/(N/A)	0.01 (in air)	10 <sup>5</sup>	N/A	N/A	5
Few layer films (CVD-grown)	Ti/Au	50/500	N/A	N/A	21.2 μA/W (647 nm)	~5.3ms (in air)	6
Multilayer WS <sub>2</sub> (CVD-grown)	Ti/Au	2.5/2.0	N/A	10 <sup>5</sup>	N/A	N/A	7
Monolayer WS <sub>2</sub> (CVD-grown)	Al	30/230	0.91 (1×10 <sup>-3</sup> Pa)	10 <sup>6</sup>	18.8 mA/W (532 nm, 1×10 <sup>-3</sup> Pa)	<4.5ms (in air)	This work

## References

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