## **Supporting Information**

Kun Jiao <sup>a</sup>, Zixin Zhang <sup>a</sup>, Xiangyu Xu <sup>a</sup>, Zhi Lv <sup>a</sup>, Jiaqing Song <sup>a</sup>,\* Cong Lin <sup>b</sup>, Junliang

Sun<sup>b</sup>, Mingyuan He<sup>b</sup>, Hermann Gies<sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> State Key Laboratory of Chemical Resource Engineering, Beijing University of Chemical Technology, Beijing 100029, China

<sup>b</sup>College of Chemistry and Molecular Engineering, Peking University, Beijing 100871,

China

<sup>c</sup> Shanghai Key Laboratory of Green Chemistry and Chemical Processes, East China Normal University, Shanghai 200062, China

<sup>d</sup> Institute for Geology, Mineralogy, and Geophysics Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Bochum, Germany



Fig. S1a SEM images of samples with the same H<sub>2</sub>O/TO<sub>2</sub> ratio (=1.5) but different GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub> ratios at 130°C. The sample with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=9 has regular ITQ-17 morphology (rod-like morphology) and the crystal size is less than 2µm. The sample with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=15 has two morphologies (except for little impurity), meaning a mixture of ITQ-17 and BUCT-1. However, the samples with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=20-50 have large cuboid morphology (except for little impurity) and the crystal sizes of all these

samples are almost 5 µm.



Fig. S1b XRD patterns of samples with the same H<sub>2</sub>O/TO<sub>2</sub> ratio (=1.5) but different
GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub> ratios at 130°C. The sample with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=9 has typical ITQ-17 peaks.
The pattern of sample with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=15 is magnified to see clearly and there is a small peak at 2θ=6.78°, belonging to ITQ-17. The other four samples (with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=20-50) have typical patterns of BUCT-1 except for the obvious impurity

peaks (marked) of  $\alpha$ -quartz germanium oxide.



Fig. S2 XRD patterns of samples with the same  $H_2O/TO_2$  ratio (=1.5) but different  $GeO_2/SiO_2$  ratios at 140°C. The samples with  $GeO_2/SiO_2$ =9-25 all have ITQ-17 peaks before  $2\theta$ =10° (marked), though the first peak of sample with  $GeO_2/SiO_2$ =25 is very weak. The samples with  $GeO_2/SiO_2$ =25-50 all have BUCT-1 peaks at  $2\theta$ =9.17°,

which means they all contain BUCT-1 phase.



Fig. S3 XRD patterns of samples with the same  $H_2O/TO_2$  ratio (=1.5) but different  $GeO_2/SiO_2$  ratios at 150°C. The samples with  $GeO_2/SiO_2$ =9-20 all have pure ITQ-17 peaks and the samples with  $GeO_2/SiO_2$ =35-50 have pure BUCT-1 peaks. However, the sample with  $GeO_2/SiO_2$ =25 has characteristic peaks of both ITQ-17 and BUCT-1.



Fig. S4a SEM images of samples with the same  $H_2O/TO_2$  ratio (=1.5) but different GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub> ratios at 170°C. All the samples have rod-like morphology, so it's difficult to distinguish ITQ-17 from  $\alpha$ -quartz germanium oxide.



Fig. S4b XRD patterns of samples with the same  $H_2O/TO_2$  ratio (=1.5) but different GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub> ratios at 170°C. Even though all the samples have typical ITQ-17 peaks, only the sample with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=9 is pure. Moreover, the intensity of the  $\alpha$ -quartz germanium oxide impurity (marked) increases with the increase of GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub> ratio.



Fig. S5a SEM images of samples with the same  $H_2O/TO_2$  ratio (=1.5) but different

GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub> ratios at 180 °C. All the samples have rod-like morphology, so it's difficult to distinguish ITQ-17 from  $\alpha$ -quartz germanium oxide.



Fig. S5b XRD patterns of samples with the same H<sub>2</sub>O/TO<sub>2</sub> ratio (=1.5) but different GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub> ratios at 180°C. The samples with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=9-35 have typical ITQ-17 peaks but they also have the peaks of  $\alpha$ -quartz germanium oxide impurity (marked) and the intensity of the impurity increases with the increase of GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub> ratio. The sample with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=50 has pure  $\alpha$ -quartz type germanium oxide peaks.



Fig. S6 XRD patterns of samples with the same  $H_2O/TO_2$  ratio (=3) but different

 $GeO_2/SiO_2$  ratios at 120°C. The sample with  $GeO_2/SiO_2=9$  has typical ITQ-17 peaks. However, the other two samples (with  $GeO_2/SiO_2=15$  and 20) have BUCT-1 pattern.



The yield of the sample with  $GeO_2/SiO_2=25$  was too low to test.

Fig. S7a SEM images of samples with the same  $H_2O/TO_2$  ratio (=3) but different GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub> ratios at 130°C. Sample with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=9 and15 have regular pure ITQ-17 morphology (rod-like morphology) but the crystal size of the former (1 µm) is smaller than the latter (5 µm). For samples with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub> =20-50, they all have cuboid morphology for BUCT-1.



Fig. S7b XRD patterns of samples with the same H<sub>2</sub>O/TO<sub>2</sub> ratio (=3) but different
GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub> ratios at 130°C. The sample with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=9 and 15 have typical ITQ17 peaks. However, the other four samples (with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=20-50) have typical
BUCT-1 peaks. In addition, the impurity peaks of germanium oxide is too weak to be
distinguished for the samples with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=15 and 20.



Fig. S8 XRD patterns of samples with the same  $H_2O/TO_2$  ratio (=3) but different  $GeO_2/SiO_2$  ratios at 160°C. The samples with  $GeO_2/SiO_2$ =9-20 have typical ITQ-17 peaks. However, the samples with  $GeO_2/SiO_2$ =25-50 have peaks of both ITQ-17 and

BUCT-2, though their peaks at  $2\theta$ =6.8° and 9.4° (ITQ-17) are very weak. Besides, there are obvious impurity peaks of  $\alpha$ -quartz germanium oxide for samples with



Fig. S9a SEM images of samples with the same H<sub>2</sub>O/TO<sub>2</sub> ratio (=3) but different
GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub> ratios at 170°C. The samples with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=9 and 15 have typical ITQ-17 morphology (rod-like morphology) with α-quartz germanium oxide impurities.
The samples with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=20-35 have both rod-like and flake-like morphologies, belonging to ITQ-17 and BUCT-2 respectively, except for germanium oxide impurities. The sample with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=50 has the morphology of pure α-quartz

germanium oxide.



Fig. S9b XRD patterns of samples with the same H<sub>2</sub>O/TO<sub>2</sub> ratio (=3) but different
GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub> ratios at 170°C. The samples with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=9-15 have typical ITQ-17
peaks and the samples with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=25-50 have peaks of both ITQ-17 and BUCT2 (marked). However, except for the samples with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=9, the rest all have αquartz germanium oxide impurities (marked). Besides, the samples with

GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=50 is pure  $\alpha$ -quartz germanium oxide.



Fig. S10a SEM images of samples with the same  $H_2O/TO_2$  ratio (=3) but different

GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub> ratios at 180°C. The sample with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=9 has two morphologies of both rod-like and flake-like, belonging to ITQ-17 and BUCT-2 respectively. It also has impurities with cubic morphology for α-quartz germanium oxide and bird nest morphology for germanium oxide (argutite). The sample with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=15 has little ITQ-17 and lots of impurities with bird nest morphology. The rest samples all have

pure bird nest morphologies.



Fig. S10b XRD patterns of samples with the same  $H_2O/TO_2$  ratio (=3) but different  $GeO_2/SiO_2$  ratios at 180°C. The sample with  $GeO_2/SiO_2$ =9 has both ITQ-17 and BUCT-2 peaks, but the impurity peaks are hard to be distinguished. The sample with

GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=15 has very weak peaks of ITQ-17 (marked) but strong peaks of germanium oxide (argutite). What is interesting is that the sample with GeO<sub>2</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub>=15 has two kinds of germanium oxide peaks, though the  $\alpha$ -quartz type is very weak. The

rest of samples are all pure germanium oxide (argutite).