## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

## Water-Assisted Growth of Large-Sized Single Crystal Hexagonal

## **Boron Nitride Grains**

Lifeng Wang,<sup>a,b</sup> Bin Wu,<sup>a\*</sup> Hongtao Liu,<sup>a</sup> Li Huang,<sup>a</sup> Yongtao Li,<sup>a</sup> Wei Guo,<sup>a</sup> Xin Chen,<sup>a</sup> Peng Peng,<sup>a</sup> Lei Fu,<sup>a</sup> Yunchang Yang,<sup>a</sup> PingAn Hu,<sup>b\*</sup> Yunqi Liu<sup>a\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Beijing National Laboratory for Molecular Sciences, Key Laboratory of Organic Solids, Institute of Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Science, Beijing 100190, P.R. China
E-mail: wubin@iccas.ac.cn; liuyq@iccas.ac.cn
<sup>b</sup> Key Lab of Microsystem and Microstructure, Ministry of Education, Harbin Institute of Technology,

Harbin 150080, P. R. China

E-mail: hupa@hit.edu.cn

Figure	Growth	Belt heating	Ar (sccm)	$H_2 + water$	Growth time
	Temperature (°C)	temperature(°C)		vapor (sccm)	(min)
2a	1140	70	20	3 + 0	50
2b	1140	70	20	0 + 3	50
2c	1140	70	20	0 + 10	50
2d	1140	70	20	0 + 20	50

Table S1 Growth conditions of h-BN with different amount of water vapor

Figure	Etching Temperature	Ar (sccm)	Ar + water vapor (sccm)	H <sub>2</sub> (sccm)	H <sub>2</sub> + water vapor (sccm)
	(°C)				
S3a	1000	20	20	0	0
S3b	1000	20	20	0	0
S3c	1000	0	0	3	3
S3d	1000	0	0	3	3

Table S2 Etching conditions of h-BN domains with different Ar,  $\mathrm{H}_2$  and water vapor.

Table S3 Shape evolution of h-BN domains with different  $Ar:H_2$  flow ratio.

Figure	Growth	Belt heating	Ar (sccm)	$H_2$ + water	Growth time
_	Temperature (°C)	temperature(°C)		vapor (sccm)	(min)
3a and 3e	1140	70	20	3	60
3b and 3f	1140	70	100	3	60
3c and 3g	1140	70	200	3	60
3d and 3h	1140	70	400	3	60



Fig. S1 (a) Optical image of triangular h-BN domains on Cu foil. (b) Optical image of h-BN film on Cu

foil. (c) and (d) Optical images of h-BN transferred onto SiO<sub>2</sub>/Si substrate.



Fig. S2 (a) Size distribution of h-BN domains as a function of the amount of water vapor. (b) Nucleation density of h-BN in a  $20 \times 20 \ \mu m^2$  area as a function of the amount of water vapor. These data are obtained based on the experimental conditions of Fig. 2.



Fig. S3 Typical SEM images of a series of etched h-BN patterns under different etching conditions. (a) Ar gas. (b) Ar gas and water vapor. (c)  $H_2$  gas. (b)  $H_2$  gas and water vapor.



Fig. S4 The corresponding B (KLL) and N (KLL) Auger electron maps for h-BN film, respectively.



**Fig. S5** A STM current image (a) and the corresponding Fourier transform image (b) of monolayer h-BN on Cu surface, showing the typical h-BN lattice structure with lattice constant of 0.253 nm.



**Fig. S6** A typical TEM image of a hexagonal h-BN on holey carbon grid and SAED patterns recorded on different locations labeled in TEM image.



**Fig. S7** (a) A typical optical image of a graphene/h-BN/SiO<sub>2</sub>/Si FET device showing hexagonal graphene flake and Au electrodes. Channel length and width are also indicated in the image