Heterogeneous defect domains in h-WS₂

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Although intricate defects are inevitably generated during the synthesis of transition metal dichalcogenides by chemical vapor deposition (CVD), the related discussions are mostly limited to chalcogen vacancies.^[1-3] Here, we report the prevailing role of metal vacancies determining macroscopic material properties using single-crystalline а monolayer 2H-WS₂ grown by CVD. The hexagonal shape of the WS2 flake is segmented into alternating triangular domains without forming explicit defective grain boundaries: sulfur-vacancy (SV)-rich and tungsten-vacancy (WV)-rich domains. The WV-rich domain with deep-trap states^{[4-} ⁶] revealed an electron-dedoping effect, its electron mobility and and photoluminescence were lower by one order of magnitude than those of the SVrich domain with shallow-donor states.^[7] The vacancy-induced strain and doping effects in such domains were investigated by analyzing spectral changes via Raman spectroscopy and the core-level shift via scanning photoelectron microscopy. Our work sheds light on tailoring macroscopic physical properties of two-dimensional materials via native defect engineering.

References

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Figures



Figure 1: Schematic of heterogeneous defect domains in $h\text{-WS}_2$



Figure 2: Photoluminescence intensity mapping image of h-WS₂. Inset shows its optical image.