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## **ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT**

Electrical characterization of top-gated molybdenum disulfide field-effect-transistors with high-

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Pavel Bolshakov<sup>(1)\*</sup>, Peng Zhao<sup>(1)</sup>, Angelica Azcatl<sup>(1)</sup>, Paul K. Hurley<sup>(2)</sup>, Robert M. Wallace<sup>(1)</sup>, and Chadwin D. Young<sup>(1)</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Materials Science and Engineering, The University of Texas at Dallas,

800 West Campbell Road, Richardson, Texas 75080, USA

<sup>2</sup>*Tyndall National Institute, University College Cork,* 

Lee Maltings Complex, Dyke Parade, Mardyke, Cork, Ireland

\*Corresponding author, pavel.bolshakov@utdallas.edu

#### Abstract

High quality HfO<sub>2</sub> and Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> substrates are fabricated in order to study their impact on top-gate MoS<sub>2</sub> transistors. Compared with top-gate MoS<sub>2</sub> FETs on a SiO<sub>2</sub> substrate, the field effect mobility decreased for devices on HfO<sub>2</sub> substrates but substantially increased for devices on Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> substrates, possibly due to substrate surface roughness. A forming gas anneal is found to enhance device performance due to a reduction in charge trap density of the high-k substrates. The major improvements in device performance are ascribed to the forming gas anneal. Top-gate devices built upon Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> substrates exhibit a near-ideal subthreshold swing (SS) of ~69 mV/dec and a ~10× increase in field effect mobility, indicating a positive influence on top-gate device performance even without any backside bias.

Keywords: MoS<sub>2</sub>; top-gated transistor; HfO<sub>2</sub>; Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>; high-k; substrate;

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