

Fig.1 The typical ALD saturation curves showing the growth per cycle (GPC) as a function of (left) Mo precursor dose and (middle) H<sub>2</sub>S based plasma exposure (right) The linear relation between thickness and number of ALD cycles.



Fig. 2 (*left*) The cross sectional TEM image reveals the transition from in-plane growth to vertically standing structures at a growth temperature of 450°C. (*right*) Raman progression showing the increasing frequency difference value as a function of thickness and inset showing the strong PL signal corresponding to a monolayer of MoS<sub>2</sub> grown at 450°C.



Fig. 3 (*upper panels*) The HAADF images showing the nucleation of  $MoS_2$  on  $SiO_2/Si$  substrates as a function of number of ALD cycles and the variation of morphological structures. (*lower panel*) The formation of textured and vertically standing  $MoS_2$  nanostructures is supported by the electron diffraction patterns showing the bright rings corresponding to (002) and (006) crystal orientations.