

Supplementary data

# **Synthesis of ZnS/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/TaSe<sub>2</sub> core/shell nanowires using thin Ta metal film precursor**

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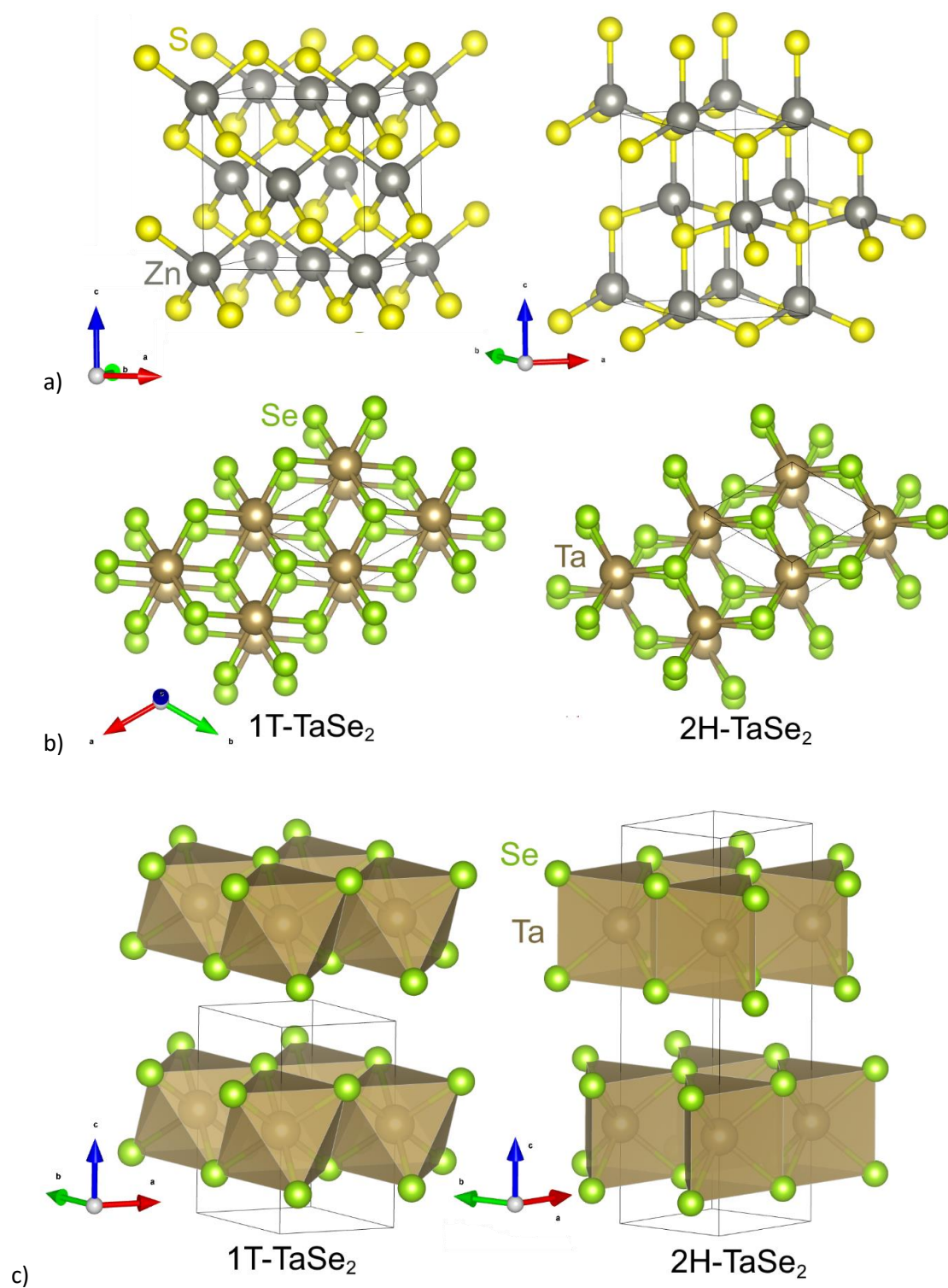
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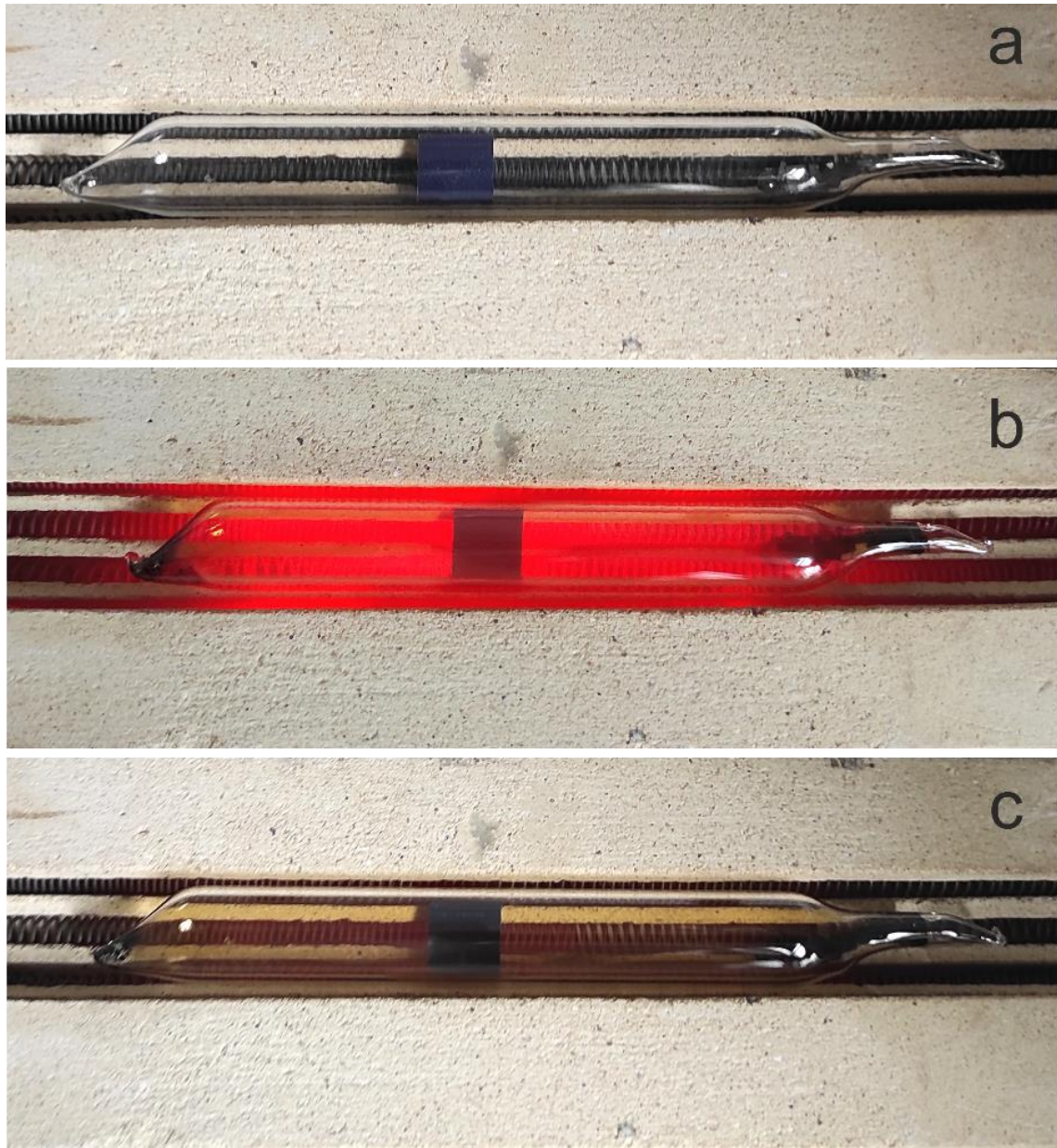
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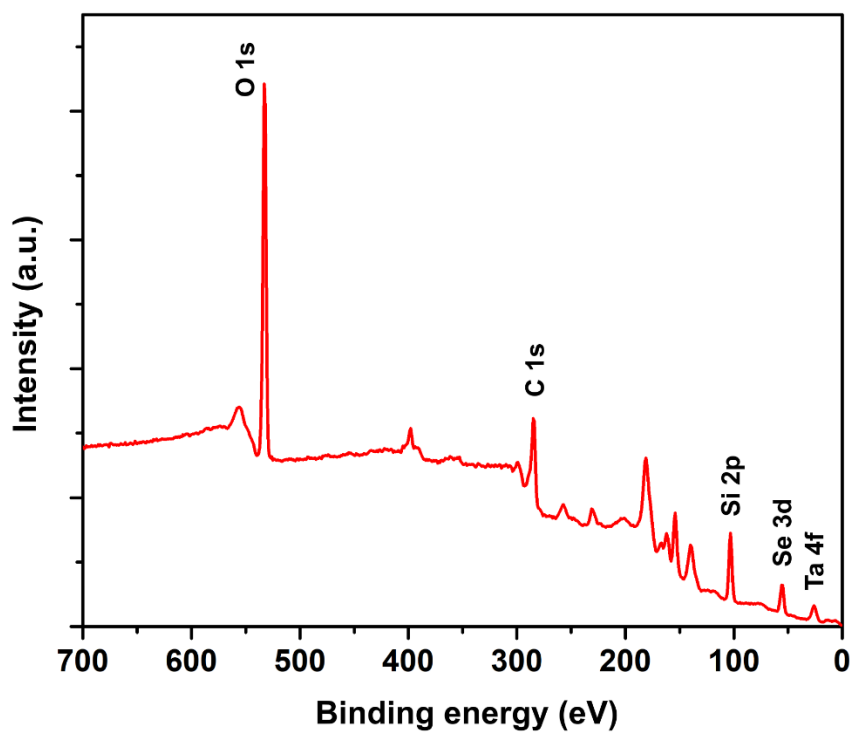
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**Figure S1.** Visual representation of crystal structure of ZnS zincblende (a, left panel) and wurtzite (a, right panel), as well as 1T-TaSe<sub>2</sub> and 2H-TaSe<sub>2</sub> (top view in (b) and side view in (c)). Atomic environment of Se atoms around Ta is shown in (c) for better explanation. Unit cell for each structure is shown with black polyhedral. 1T-TaSe<sub>2</sub> has a trigonal  $D_{3d}$  space group symmetry, where each Ta atom is octahedrally coordinated by six Se atoms. 2H-TaSe<sub>2</sub> is a more stable phase and has a  $D_{6h}$  space-group symmetry, where each Ta atom is coordinated by six Se atoms in a trigonal prismatic arrangement. For 1T-TaSe<sub>2</sub> cells is doubled in z--direction for better comparison between both phases of TaSe<sub>2</sub>.

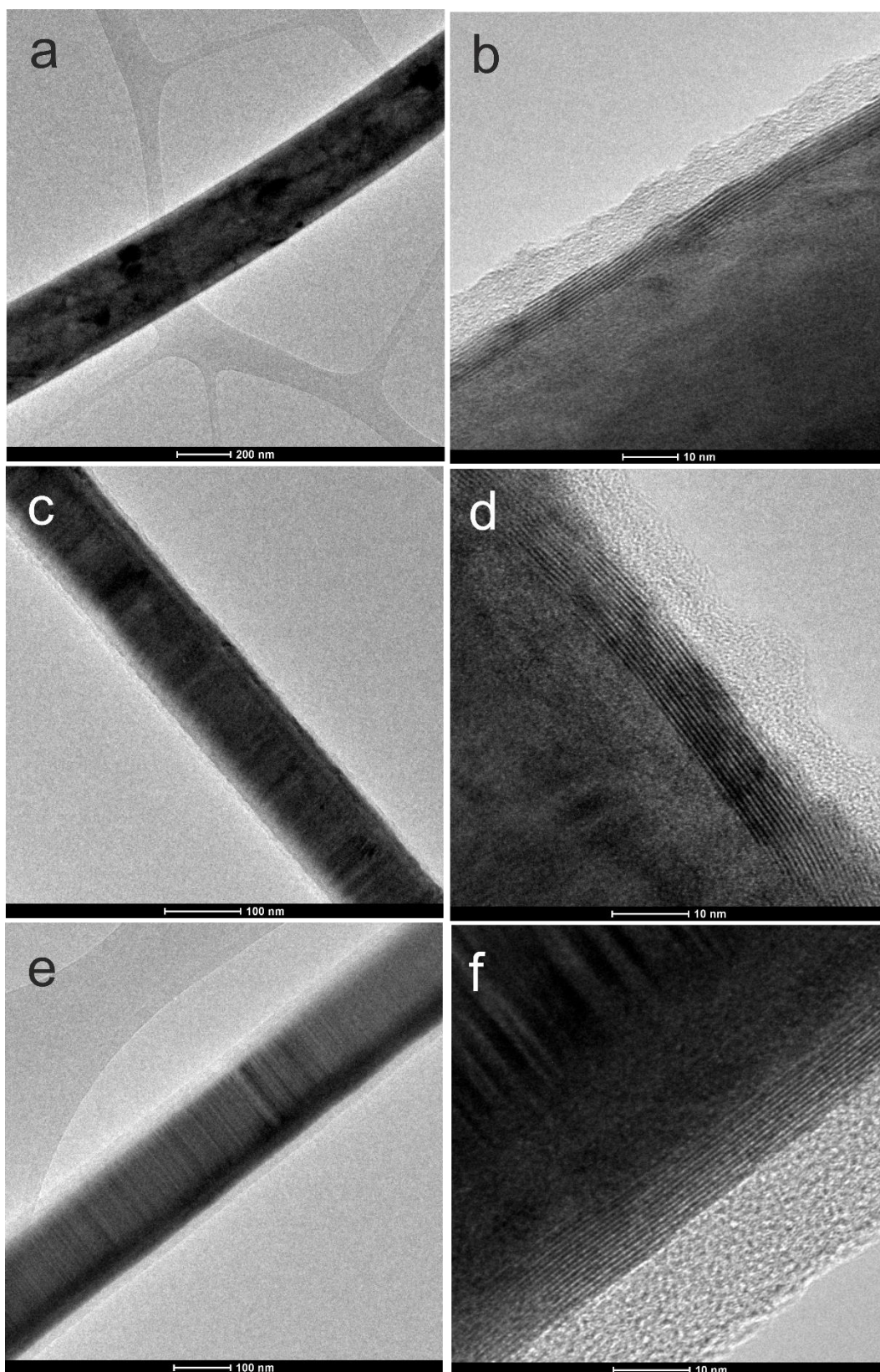


**Figure S2.** Selenization of Ta thin film and ZnS/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/TaSe<sub>2</sub> NWs on Si/SiO<sub>2</sub> substrate in quartz ampoule. Images before ampoule heating (a), during ampoule heating (b), during cooling (c).

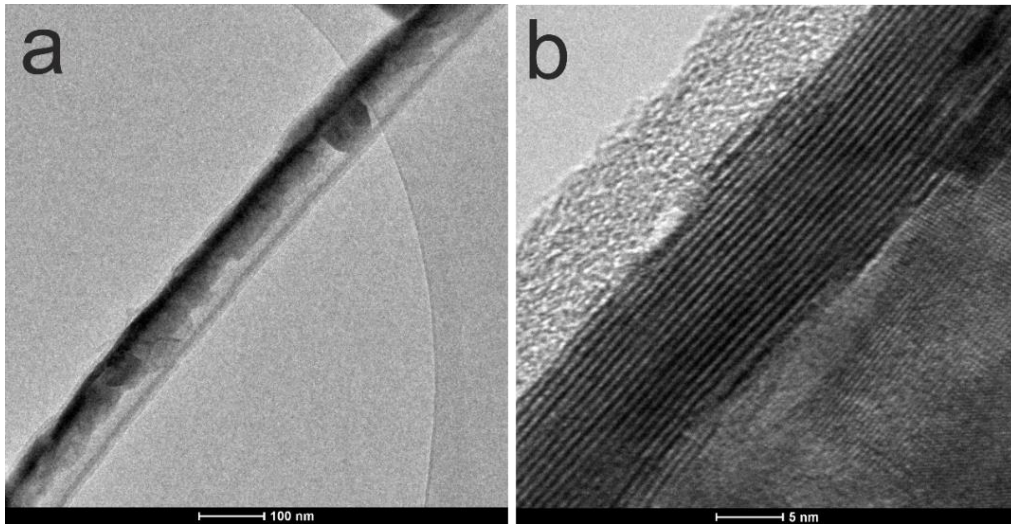


**Figure S3.** XPS survey scan for ZnS/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/TaSe<sub>2</sub> NWs on Si/SiO<sub>2</sub> substrate. The characteristic peaks of all elements present on the sample surface are marked correspondingly.





**Figure S4.** TEM images of ZnS/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/TaSe<sub>2</sub> NWs at low (a, c, e) and high (b, d, f) magnifications.



**Figure S5.** TEM images of ZnO/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/TaSe<sub>2</sub> NWs at low (a) and high (b) magnifications. ZnO NW core was sublimated and TaSe<sub>2</sub> shell cover Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> empty “tube”.