

Supplementary Information

Cleaning Interfaces in Layered Materials Heterostructures

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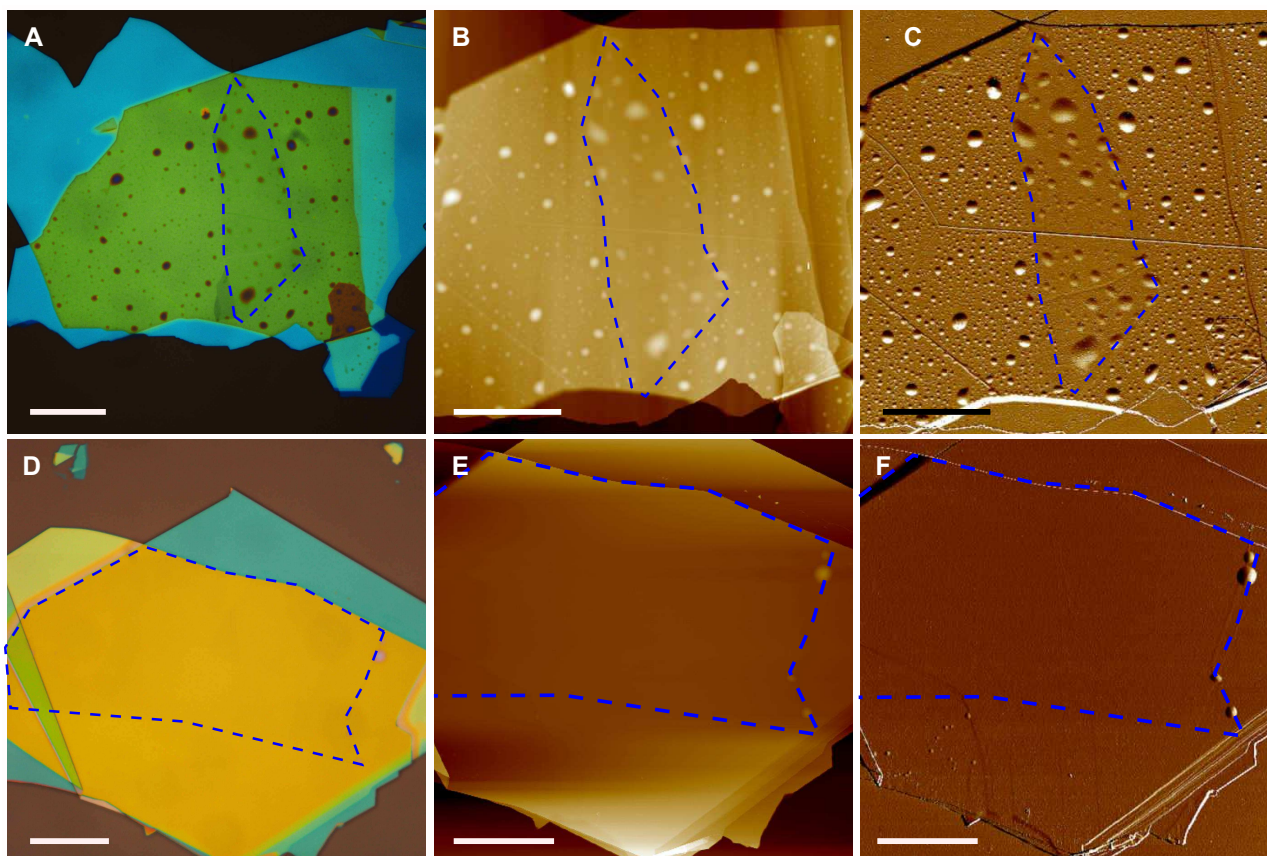
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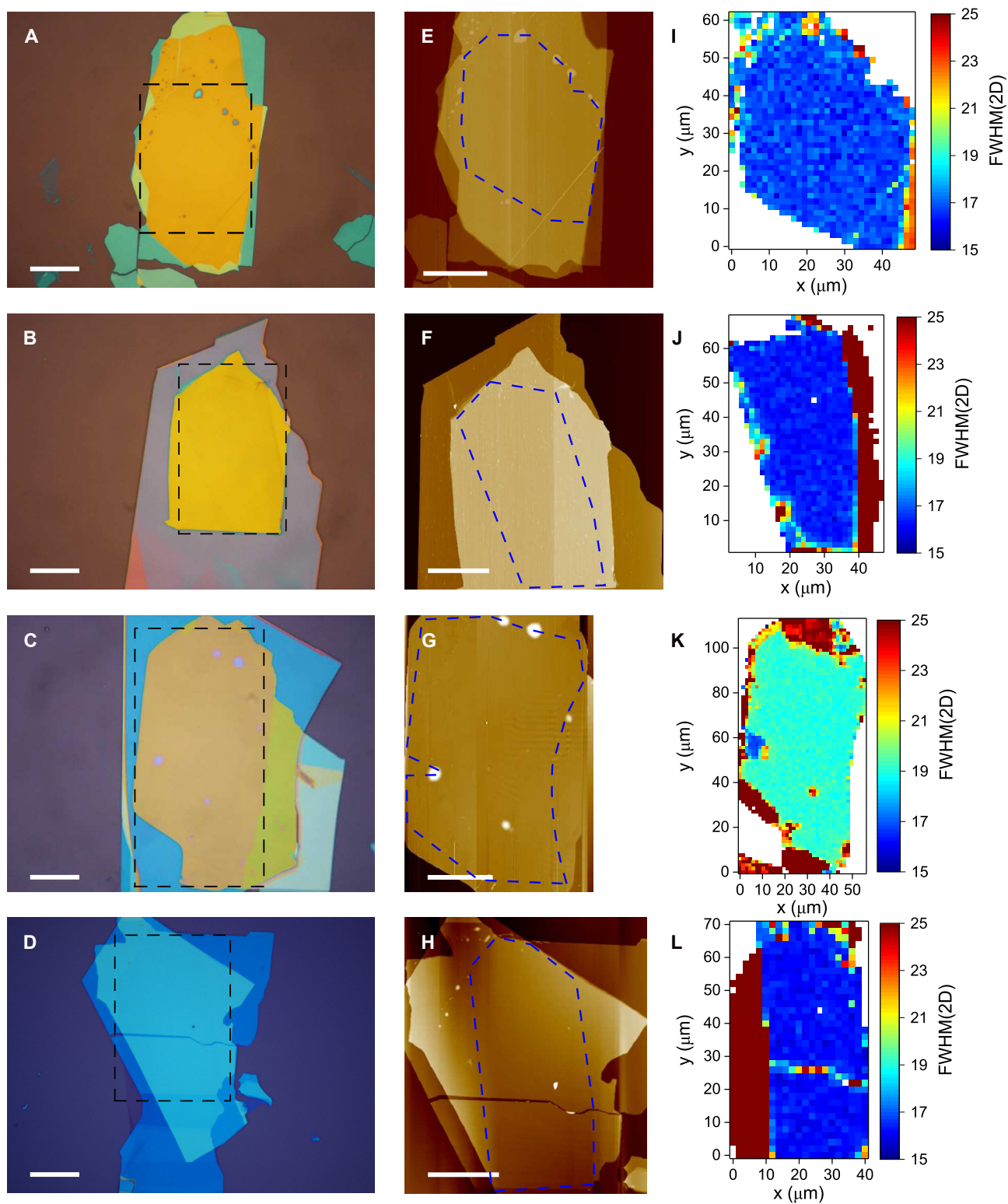
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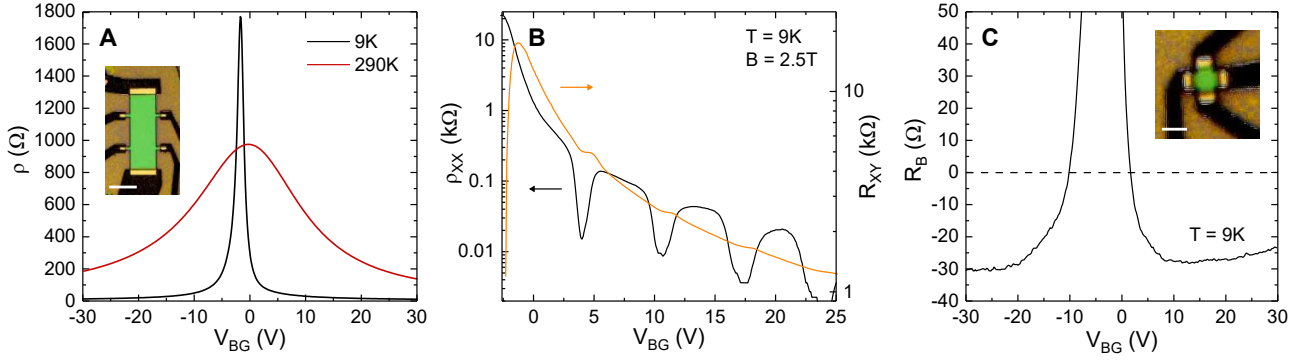
Supplementary Figures



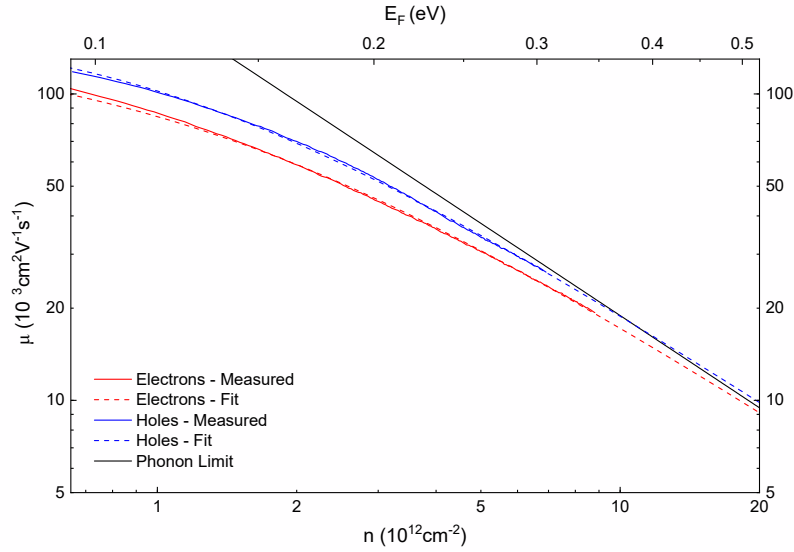
Supplementary Figure 1: Comparison of heterostructures with and without blister cleaning. a)-c) Optical false color, AFM topography, and AFM topography error images of a sample encapsulated without blister cleaning. d)-f) Optical false color, AFM topography, and AFM topography error images of a sample with blister cleaning (d and e are reproduced from Figure 2 in the main text). The blue dashed line represents the location of the SLG in the heterostructures. The reduction in blisters can clearly be observed in the error signal images (c and f).



Supplementary Figure 2: Optical images, AFM, and Raman Maps of different hBN/SLG/hBN heterostructures cleaned of blisters. a)-d): Optical images of five different samples consisting of SLG encapsulated in hBN, prepared using our blister cleaning method. The corresponding AFM scans and Raman maps of FWHM(2D) are shown in e)-h): and i)-l): respectively. The location of the Raman maps is marked by the dashed black rectangle in a)-d). The location of the SLG within the samples is marked by the dashed blue line in e)-h



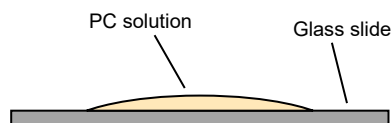
Supplementary Figure 3: Transport properties of bilayer graphene. Transport measurements of a Hall bar and Hall cross produced using bilayer graphene encapsulated in hBN, prepared using our blister cleaning method. a) Resistivity of the sample measured as a function of the back gate voltage at $T = 290\text{K}$ and $T = 9\text{K}$. An optical image of the Hall bar is shown in the inset of a). The scale bar is $10\mu\text{m}$. The Hall bar width is $9\mu\text{m}$. The capacitance of the back gate is $C \sim 6.15 \times 10^{-5}\text{F/m}^2$, extracted from a Hall measurement. The mobility reaches $\mu \sim 40\,000\text{cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$ at $T = 290\text{K}$ and $\mu \sim 500\,000\text{cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$ at $T = 9\text{K}$. b) Magnetotransport measurements performed on the Hall bar shown in A at $T = 9\text{K}$ and $B = 2.5\text{T}$. c) Bend resistance of a Hall cross with arm width $W = 1\mu\text{m}$, fabricated from the same heterostructure as the Hall bar in a, measured at $T = 9\text{K}$. An optical image of the Hall cross is shown in the inset. The scale bar is $1\mu\text{m}$. The negative bend resistance indicates $l_m > W$.



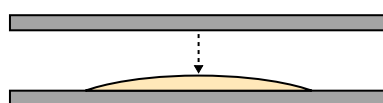
Supplementary Figure 4: Mobility as a function of charge carrier density for SLG encapsulated in hBN. The data corresponds to sample S16 in Supplementary Table 1. The data are fit using $\sigma^{-1} = (ne\mu_L + \sigma_0)^{-1} + \rho_s$, which for electrons(holes) yields $\mu_L = 214000(140700)\text{cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$ and $\rho_s = 30.3(32.1)\Omega$. The mobility limit resulting from electron-phonon scattering $\mu_{e-ph} = 1/(ne\rho_{e-ph})$ is calculated assuming $\rho_{e-ph} \sim 33\Omega$ following Ref.[1].

Prepare PC Film

1. Drop cast PC onto glass slide



2. Sandwich with second glass slide



3. Press to spread film between slides



4. Slide the glass slides apart

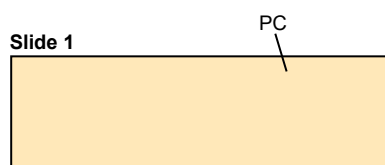


5. Leave to dry

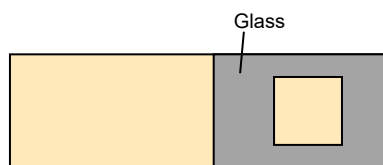


Transfer PC onto PDMS

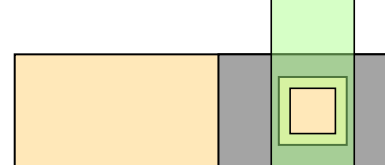
Slide 1



1. Glass slide with PC film

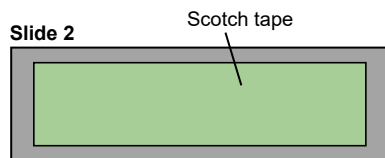


2. Remove PC with scalpel to produce $\sim 1 \times 1$ cm square

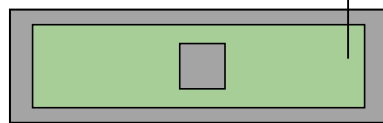


5. Place tape on PC square

Slide 2



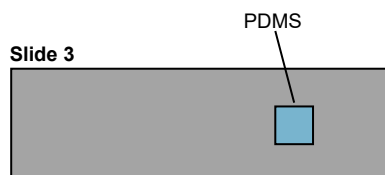
3. Place scotch tape onto glass slide



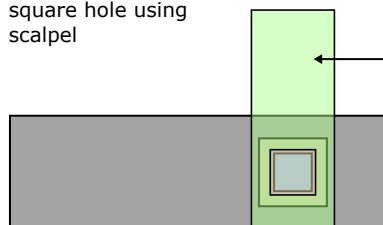
4. Cut $\sim 7 \times 7$ mm square hole using scalpel

7. Peel away tape with PC film suspended

Slide 3

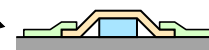


6. Mount $\sim 5 \times 5$ mm block of PDMS onto glass slide

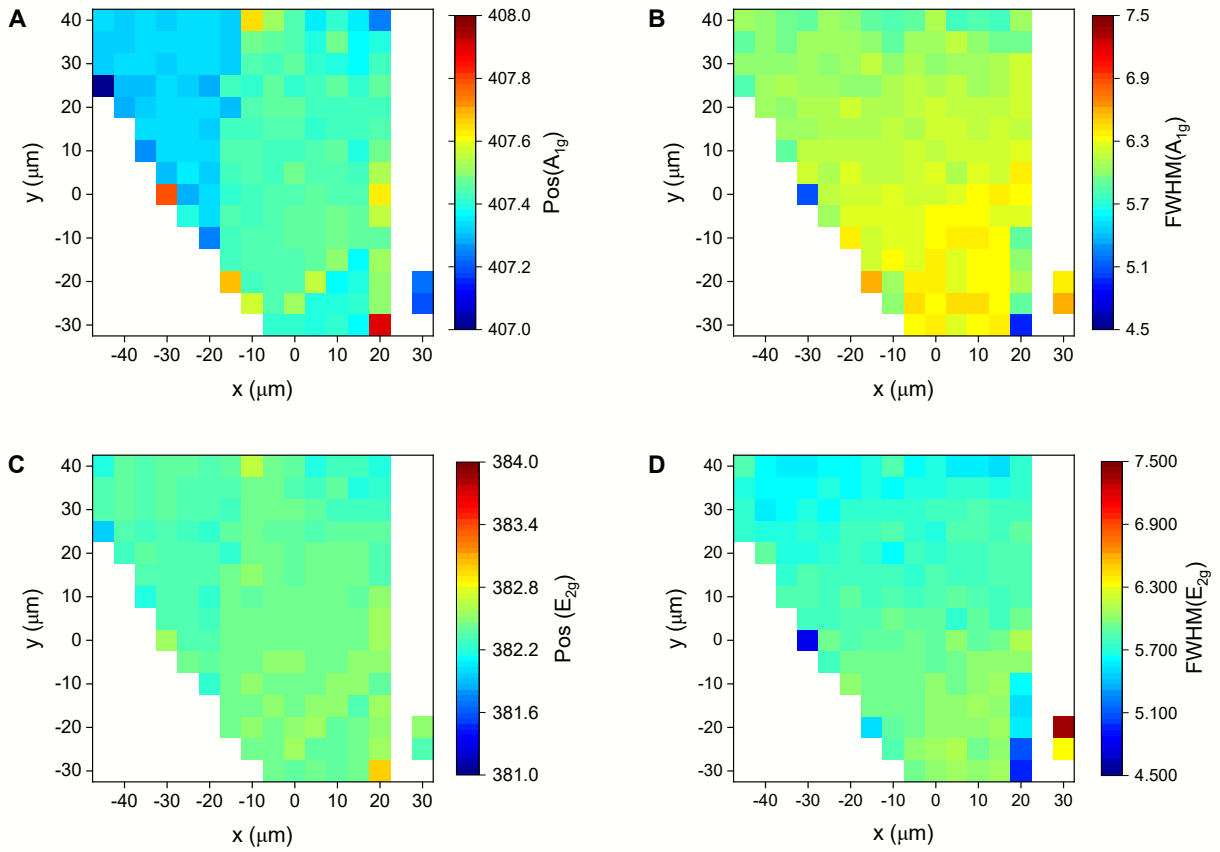


8. Place PC film onto PDMS block

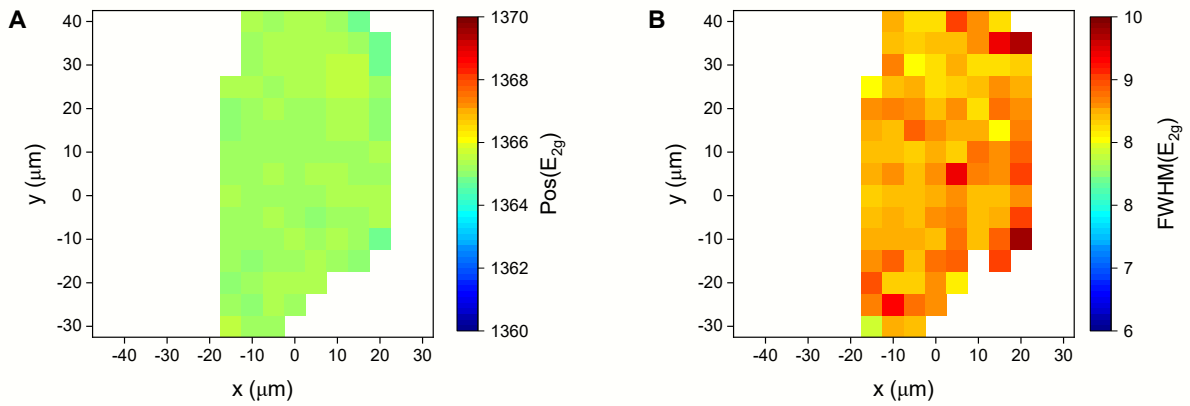
9. Remove excess tape with scalpel



Supplementary Figure 5: Preparation of the polycarbonate stamp. The polycarbonate (PC) solution is prepared by dissolving 5% by weight polycarbonate in chloroform. The method for preparing the transfer stamp is outlined in the above figure. The PC is drop cast onto a glass slide using a pipette (typically 10-20 drops), and a second slide is then used to sandwich and spread the solution between the two slides. The slides are immediately slid apart, and left to allow the chloroform to evaporate. Excess PC is then removed by a scalpel to define a $\sim 1 \times 1$ cm square of PC. A window is cut into a piece of scotch tape, which is then used to pick up the PC from the glass slide. The tape is then used to place the PC onto a block of PDMS, and excess tape is removed again using a scalpel. For the completed stamp, the PC is held in place on the PDMS by the scotch tape. During the final step of the cleaning process, where the PC is brought into contact with the Si + SiO₂ surface and the temperature is raised to 180°, the edges of the PC tear, releasing it from the scotch tape, allowing the stamp to be withdrawn while the PC remains on the Si + SiO₂ surface.



Supplementary Figure 6: Raman mapping of an hBN/SLG/MoS₂ sample, showing peaks associated with MoS₂. The sample is the same as that in Figures 3d-f in the main text. a) Pos(A_{1g}). b) FWHM(A_{1g}). c) Pos(E_{2g}). d) FWHM(E_{2g}).



Supplementary Figure 7: Raman mapping of an hBN/SLG/MoS₂ sample, showing peaks associated with hBN. The sample is the same as that in Figures 3d-f in the main text. a) Pos(E_{2g}). b) FWHM(E_{2g}).

Supplementary Table

Summary of the electrical transport and Raman measurements of encapsulated SLG Hall bars produced using the blister cleaning method

Sample				Raman						Transport	
Hall Bar	W	L	$t_{\text{b-hBN}}$	Pos(2D)	Pos(G)	FWHM(2D)	FWHM(G)	I(2D)/I(G)	A(2D)/A(G)	$\mu_{290\text{K}}$	$\mu_{9\text{K}}$
S1	24	21	156	2689.9	1582.0	17.3	12.8	9.4	12.7	180	1800
S2	18	18	156	2687.8	1580.8	16.5	14.5	12.3	14.0	170	1300
S3	7.5	7.5	176	2688.5	1581.1	16.8	14.8	17.0	19.3	160	1000
S4	17	16	117	2692.7	1583.3	18.5	11.0	3.4	5.6	–	–
S5	22	22	58	2693.1	1582.7	17.6	13.4	16.4	21.6	130	400
S6	16	22	93	2688.6	1581.2	17.9	12.4	6.5	9.4	180	950
S7*	9	11	147	2691.1	1582.2	17.2	13.4	8.6	11.0	150	1300
S8	18	18	62	2692.8	1582.8	17.3	14.3	9.1	10.9	180	–
S9	15	15	47	2690.6	1581.9	17.6	14.0	12.8	16.0	120	1800
S10	16	22	143	2690.9	1582.1	17.1	14.0	8.9	10.8	160	750
S11	12	13	71	2691.5	1582.0	17.4	12.5	14.6	20.2	180	800
S12	12	15	66	2690.8	1581.9	17.0	12.7	19.9	26.7	160	800
S13	10	11.5	93	2686.6	1580.4	17.6	12.5	7.3	10.3	140	970
S14*	3	4	119	2690.5	1582.1	20.1	12.9	4.8	7.6	165	200
S15*	2.5	4	16	2693.0	1582.5	17.7	13.2	10.4	13.9	125	390
S16	3	4	31	2692.6	1582.4	16.4	14.7	14.8	16.6	140	–
S17	8	7.75	2.7	2693.9	1583.4	17.0	12.2	7.4	8.5	60	–
S18	8	7.75	6	2693.5	1583.0	16.9	12.3	7.2	9.9	75	–

Supplementary Table 1: Data for eighteen different Hall bars (S1-S18). *denotes samples produced with graphene exposed to PMMA/Acetone/IPA before encapsulation. W : Hall bar channel width. L : Hall bar voltage probe arm separation. $t_{\text{b-hBN}}$: Thickness of the bottom hBN flake of the heterostructure (nm). Pos(2D): Position of the 2D peak (cm^{-1}). Pos(G): Position of the G peak (cm^{-1}). FWHM(2D): full width half maximum of the 2D peak (cm^{-1}). FWHM(G): Full width half maximum of the G peak (cm^{-1}). I(2D)/I(G): 2D to G peak intensity ratio. A(2D)/A(G): 2D to G peak area ratio. In the case Raman mapping has been performed on the sample (S1–S10) the Raman parameters are the average value mapped across the sample. For the other samples (S11–S18) the parameters are extracted from a single spectra taken at the center of the sample. $\mu_{290\text{K}}$: Mobility of the Hall bar measured at $T = 290\text{K}$ ($10^3\text{cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$). $\mu_{9\text{K}}$: Mobility of the Hall bar measured at $T = 9\text{K}$ ($10^3\text{cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$). The given values of μ are the peak values of $\mu(n)$ measured for each sample. When calculating the average RT $\mu \sim 160000\text{cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$ quoted in the main text we consider only samples S1–S16 where $t_{\text{b-hBN}} > 10\text{nm}$.

Supplementary References

- [1] Park, C. H. *et al.* Electron-Phonon Interactions and the Intrinsic Electrical Resistivity of Graphene. *Nano Letters* **14**, 1113-1119 (2014).