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**Supporting information for article:**

**Real-Time Tracking of the Self-Assembled Growth of 3D Ge  
Quantum Dot Lattice in Alumina Matrix**

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### S1. Characterization of the multilayer stack parameters from X-ray reflectivity

The X-ray reflectivity (XRR) can be effectively implemented to determine the multilayer period, interface roughness and layer thicknesses. The experimental and fitted XRR curves for the Ge/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> multilayers deposited at 300°C and room temperature (RT) are shown in Fig. S1(a) and Fig. S1(b), respectively. The fitted bilayer thicknesses for 300°C and RT are  $3.87 \pm 0.02$  nm and  $3.98 \pm 0.04$  nm, respectively. The larger interface roughness of the sample deposited at 300°C (0.42 nm for Ge and 0.22 nm for Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) when compared to that deposited at RT (0.32 nm for Ge and 0.18 nm for Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) suggests the formation of Ge QDs as confirmed by GISAXS.

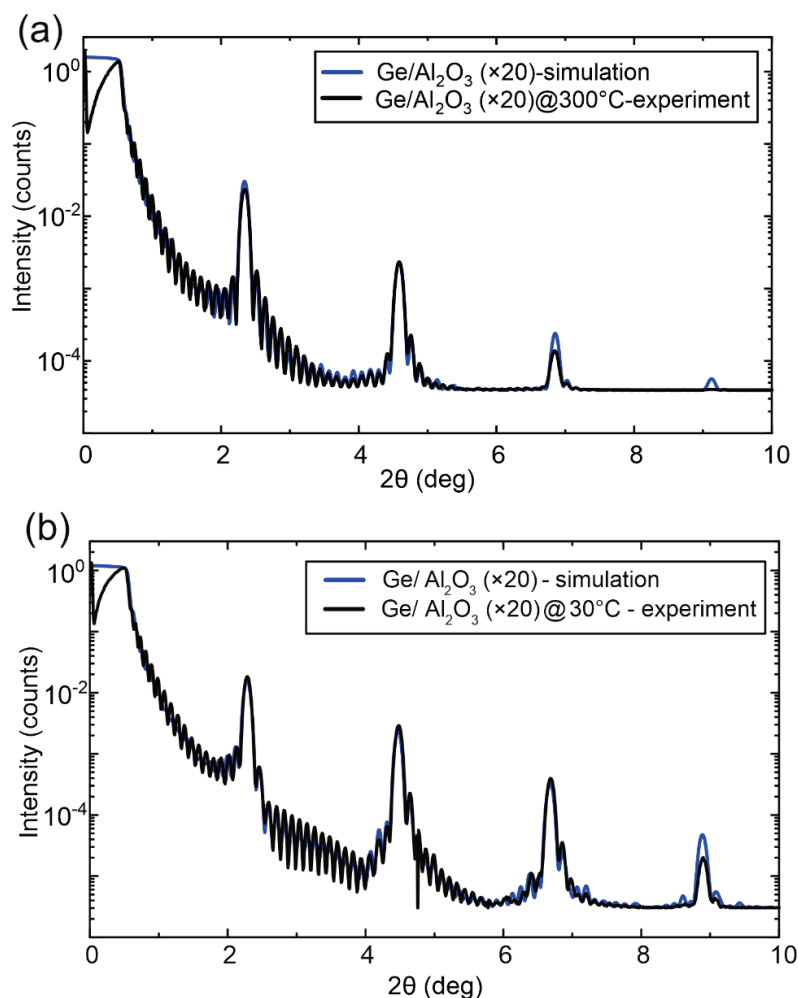


Figure S1 XRR curves of the samples deposited (a) at 300°C and (b) at RT and their fits.