Aluminum Borate Nanowires from the Pyrolysis of Polyaminoborane Precursors

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Supporting Information

Page S3.	Figure S1: TGA thermograms of polyaminoboranes 1 and 2 (20 \rightarrow 1000 °C, 10 °C/min, N ₂).
	Figure S2: SEM and TEM images from pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N_2) of 2 on Si-wafer.
Page S4.	Figure S3: XRD pattern of h-BN nanostructures grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C, N_2) of 2 on Si-wafer.
	Figure S4: SEM-EDX analysis of amorphous BN-containing nanostructures from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C, N_2) of 2 on Si-wafer.
Page S5.	Figure S5: SEM image from pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C, N ₂) of 1 on stainless steel foil.
	Figure S6: SEM image from pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C, N ₂) of 1 on nickel foil.
	Figure S7: SEM-EDX analysis from pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C, N ₂) of 1 stainless-steel foil.
Page S6.	Figure S8: SEM-EDX analysis from pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C, N ₂) of 1 on nickel foil.
	Figure S9: SEM-EDX analysis of amorphous B and N-containing nanostructures from pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 $^{\circ}$ C, N ₂) of 1 on rhodium foil.
	Figure S10: SEM-EDX analysis of spherical B and N-containing nanostructures from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C, N_2) of $H_3N \cdot BH_3$ on rhodium foil.
Page S7.	Figure S10: TEM-EDX analysis of Al_5BO_9 nanowires grown by pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C, N_2) of 1 on sapphire with defects.
	Figure S12: WDS analysis of Al_5BO_9 nanowires grown by pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N_2) of 1 on sapphire with defects.
Page S8.	Figure S13: XRD pattern of Al_5BO_9 nanowires grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C, N_2) of a (1:1 by mass) mixture of Al_2O_3 powder and 1 .
	Figure S14: HRTEM image of Al_5BO_9 nanowires grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N_2) of a (1:1 by mass) mixture of Al_2O_3 powder and 1 .
Page S9.	Figure S15: SEM-EDX analysis of Al_5BO_9 nanowires grown from pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C, N ₂) of a (1:1 by mass) mixture of Al_2O_3 powder and 1 .
	Figure S16: WDS analysis of Al_3BO_9 nanowires grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N_2) of a (1:1 by mass) mixture of Al_2O_3 powder and 1 .
	Figure S17: TEM-EDX analysis of the amorphous coating (see Figure 5c) of the Al_5BO_9 nanowires grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N_2) of a (1:1 by mass) mixture of Al_2O_3 powder and 1 .

Page S10.Figure S18: XRD pattern of Al5BO9 nanowires grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C,
N2) of a (1:1 by mass) mixture of AlN powder and 1.

Figure S19: SEM-EDX measurement of Al_5BO_9 nanowires grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C, N_2) of a (1:1 by mass) mixture of AlN powder and **1**.

Page S11.Figure S20: WDS measurements of Al_5BO_9 nanowires grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at
1000 °C, N₂) of a (1:1 by mass) mixture of AlN powder and 1.

Figure S21: SEM image from pyrolysis (2 h, at 1300 °C, N_2) of 2 on annealed sapphire wafer.

Page S12.Figure S22: XRD pattern of Al_5BO_9 nanowires grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1300 °C,
N2) of 2 on annealed sapphire wafer.

Figure S23: SEM-EDX analysis of Al_5BO_9 nanowires grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1300 °C, N_2) of **2** on annealed sapphire wafer.



Figure S1: TGA thermograms of polyaminoboranes 1 (a) and 2 (b) from 20 to 1000 $^{\circ}$ C with a heating rate of 10 $^{\circ}$ C/min under flow of N₂.



Figure S2: Electron microscopy images of BN-containing micro- and nano-scale structures grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N_2) of polyaminoborane 2 on a Si-wafer: (a) SEM image, (b) TEM image.



Figure S3: XRD analysis of h-BN structures grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N₂) of **2** on Si-wafer (blue), compared to blank Si-wafer (red). The two peaks at $2\theta = 27.8$ and $2\theta = 40.9^{\circ}$ were indexed to the (0 0 2) and (1 0 0) lattice planes of h-BN (ICSD: 168892).



Figure S4: SEM-EDX analysis of amorphous BN-containing nanostructures grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N_2) of **2** on Si-wafer.



Figure S5: (a-c) SEM images from pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N₂) of **1** on stainless steel foil (composition Fe:Cr:Ni; 70:19:11 wt%).



Figure S6: SEM image from pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N₂) of 1 on nickel foil (99%).



Figure S7: SEM-EDX analysis of the product from pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N_2) of **1** on stainless-steel foil (composition Fe:Cr:Ni; 70:19:11 wt%).



Figure S8: SEM-EDX analysis of the product from pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N_2) of **1** on nickel foil (99%).



Figure S9: SEM-EDX analysis of amorphous B and N-containing nanostructures grown from pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N₂) of **1** on rhodium foil.



Figure S10: SEM-EDX analysis of spherical B and N-containing nanostructures grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N_2) of $H_3N \cdot BH_3$ on rhodium foil.



Figure S11: TEM-EDX analysis of Al_5BO_9 nanowires grown by pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N_2) of 1 on sapphire with defects.



Figure S12: WDS analysis of Al_5BO_9 nanowires grown by pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N_2) of **1** on sapphire with defects. (*left*: B; *middle*: shows lack of N; *right*: Al)



Figure S13: XRD pattern of Al_5BO_9 nanowires grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N_2) of a (1:1 by mass) mixture of Al_2O_3 powder and **1**. The peaks at $2\theta = 16.7$, 17.0, 20.4, 26.7 and 33.7° were indexed to the (0 2 1), (1 1 0), (1 1 1), (1 3 1) and (1 3 2) planes of the orthorhombic phase of Al_5BO_9 (ICSD: 039013).



Figure S14: High resolution transmission electron microscope image of Al_5BO_9 nanowires grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N₂) of a (1:1 by mass) mixture of Al_2O_3 powder and **1**. The lattice fringes reveal d-spacings of 0.44 nm and 0.54 nm, which were indexed to the (1 1 1) and (1 2 0) planes of Al_5BO_9 (ICSD: 039013), respectively.



Figure S15: SEM-EDX analysis of Al_5BO_9 nanowires grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N₂) of a (1:1 by mass) mixture of Al_2O_3 powder and **1**.



Figure S16: WDS analysis of Al_5BO_9 nanowires grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N_2) of a (1:1 by mass) mixture of Al_2O_3 powder and 1. (*left*: B; *middle*: shows lack of N; *right*: Al)



Figure S17: TEM-EDX analysis (two spots measured on same sample) focusing mainly on the coating (see Figure 5c) of the Al_5BO_9 nanowires grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N₂) of a (1:1 by mass) mixture of Al_2O_3 powder and 1.



Figure S18: XRD analysis of Al₅BO₉ nanowires grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N₂) of a (1:1 by mass) mixture of AlN powder and **1**. The peaks at $2\theta = 16.7$, 17.0, 20.4, 26.7 and 33.7° were indexed to the (0 2 1), (1 1 0), (1 1 1), (1 3 1) and (1 3 2) planes of the orthorhombic phase of Al₅BO₉ (ICSD: 039013).



Figure S19: SEM-EDX analysis of Al_5BO_9 nanowires grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N₂) of a (1:1 by mass) mixture of AlN powder and **1**.



Figure S20: WDS analysis of Al₅BO₉ nanowires grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1000 °C under flow of N₂) of a (1:1 by mass) mixture of AlN powder and **1**. (*left*: B; *middle*: N; *right*: Al).



Figure S21: SEM images from Al_5BO_9 nanostructures grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1300 °C under flow of N_2) of **2** on annealed sapphire wafer.



Figure S22: XRD pattern of Al₅BO₉ nanowires grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1300 °C under flow of N₂) of **2** on annealed sapphire wafer (red), compared to blank annealed sapphire wafer (blue). The peaks at $2\theta = 16.7$, 17.0, 26.7 and 33.7° were indexed to the (0 2 1), (1 1 0), (1 3 1) and (1 3 2) planes of the orthorhombic phase of Al₅BO₉ (ICSD: 039013).



Figure S23: SEM-EDX analysis of Al_5BO_9 nanowires grown from the pyrolysis (2 h, at 1300 °C under flow of N_2) of **2** on annealed sapphire wafer.