

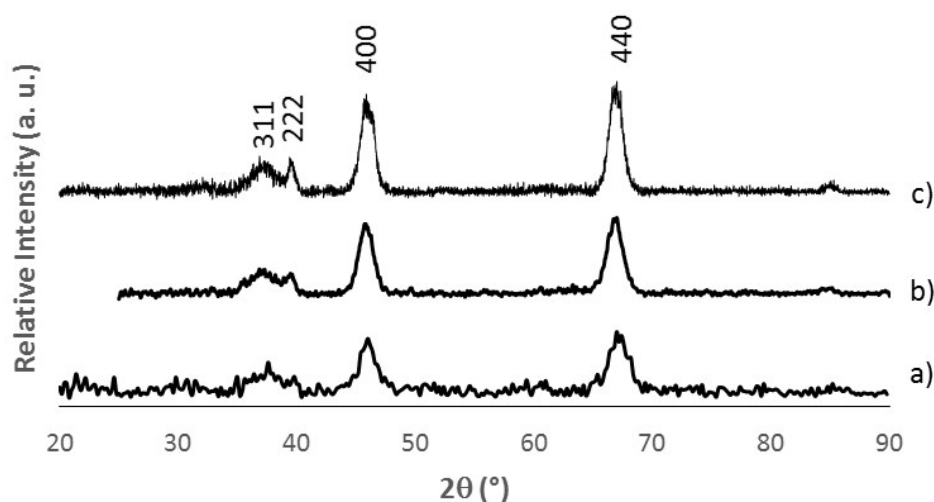
## $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> nanorods with tuneable dimensions – mechanistic understanding of the hydrothermal synthesis

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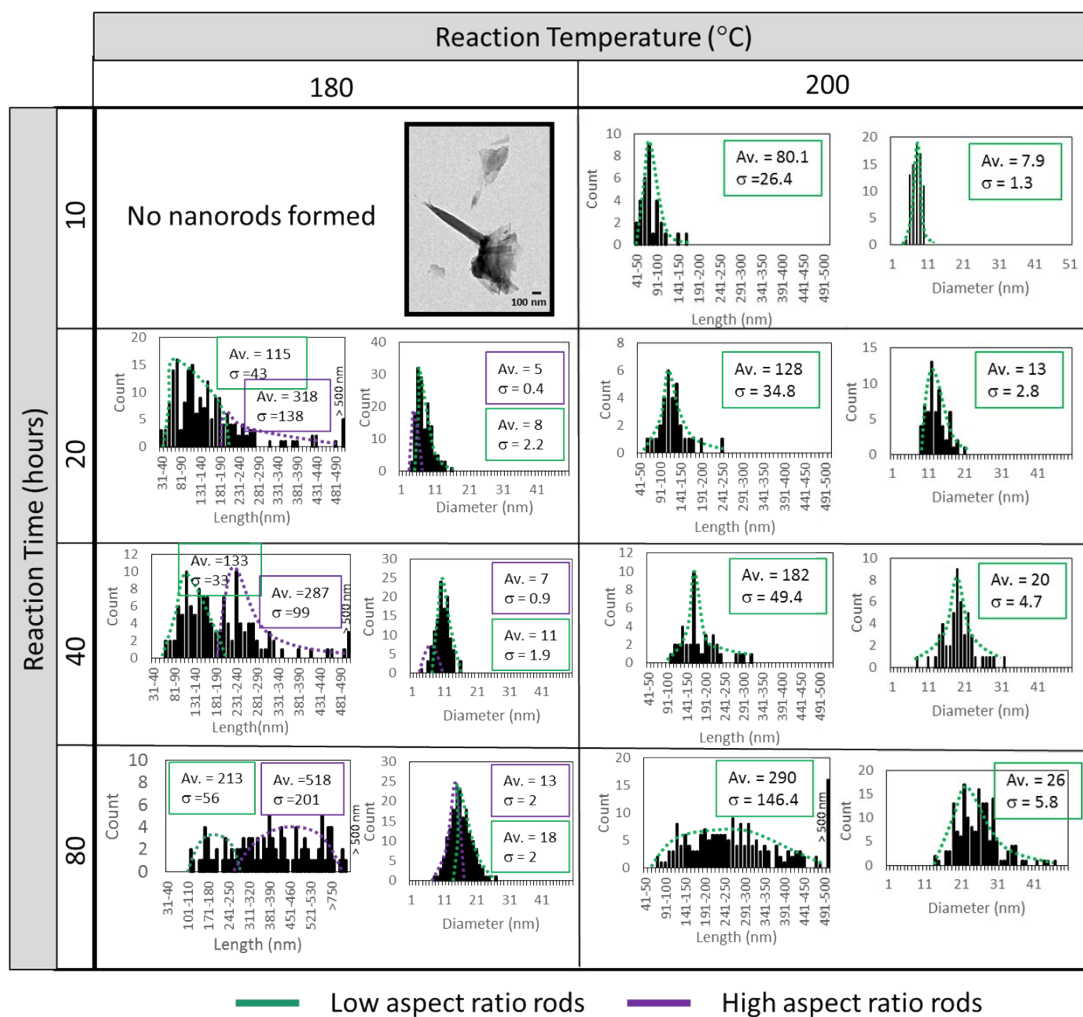
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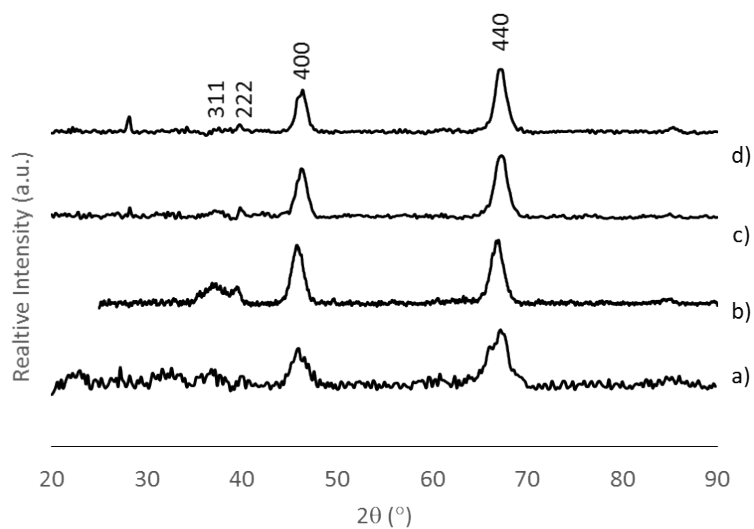
The supplementary information herein contains powder X-ray diffraction patterns, length and diameter size histograms calculated from TEM micrographs and N<sub>2</sub> adsorption-desorption isotherms of  $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> materials discussed in the main article.



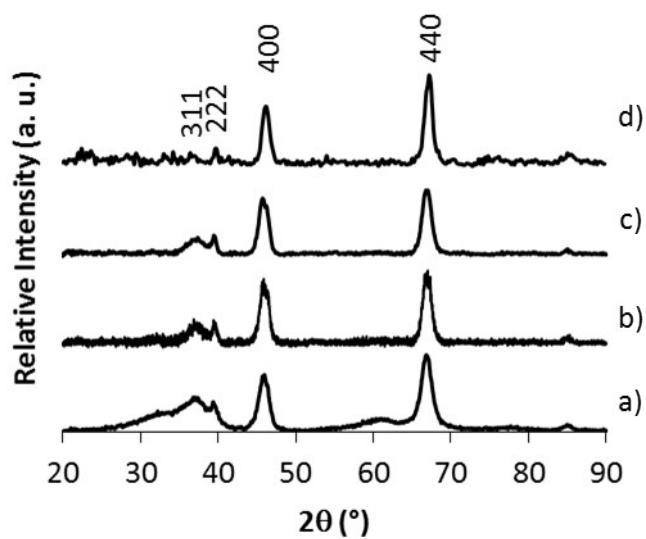
**Figure S1. Powder XRD pattern for  $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> rods synthesised with 1 M NaOH (0.77 NaOH:Al molar ratio) for 20 hours at a) 170 °C b) 180 °C and c) 200 °C. (JCPDS Card No. 10-0425)**



**Figure S2. Length and diameter size distributions obtained from analysis of TEM micrographs of  $\gamma$ - $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  nanorods synthesised at different time (10-80 hours) and temperatures (180 °C and 200 °C) with 1M NaOH (0.77 NaOH:Al molar ratio).**

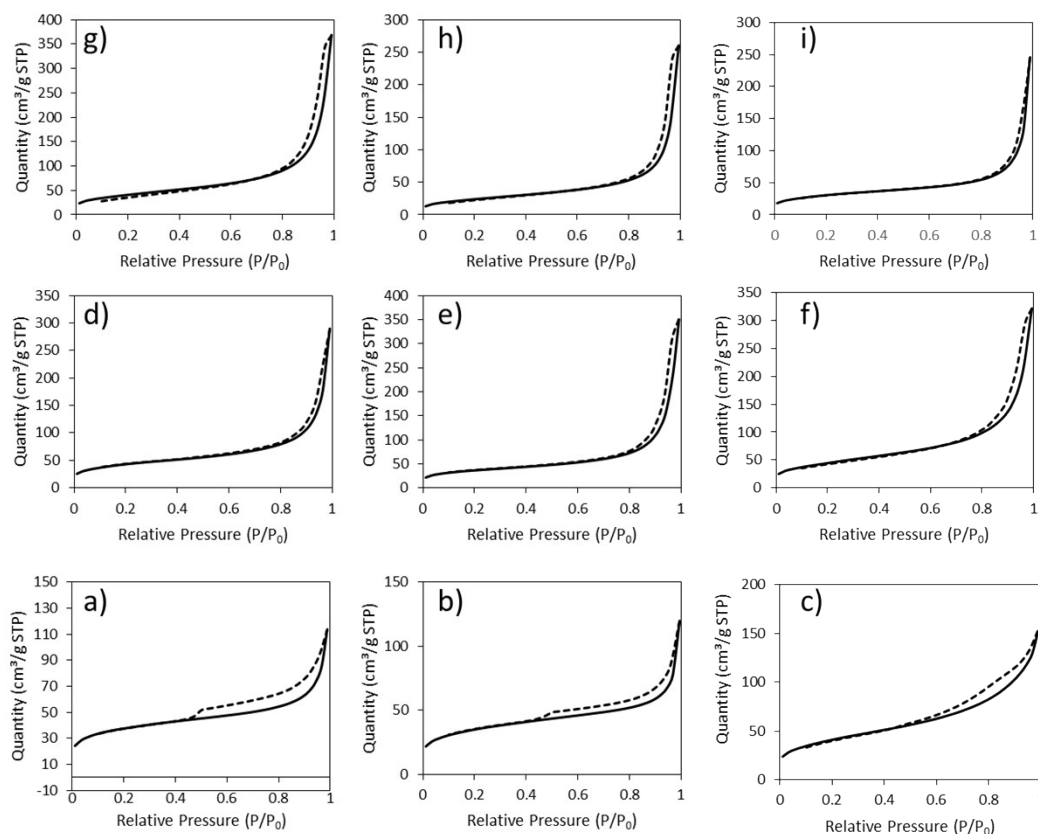


**Figure S3.** Powder XRD pattern for  $\gamma$ - $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  rods synthesised with 1 M NaOH (0.77 NaOH:Al molar ratio) at 180 °C for a) 10 hours b) 20 hours c) 40 hours and d) 80 hours. (JCPDS Card No. 10-0425)



**Figure S4.** Powder XRD pattern for  $\gamma$ - $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  rods synthesised with 1 M NaOH (0.77 NaOH:Al molar ratio) at 200 °C for a) 10 hours b) 20 hours c) 40 hours and d) 80 hours. (JCPDS Card No. 10-0425)

## Supplementary Information



**Figure S5. N<sub>2</sub> adsorption-desorption isotherms at -196 °C of  $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> synthesised with 1 M NaOH (0.77 NaOH:Al molar ratio) at a) 170 °C for 20 hours, b) 180 °C for 10 hours, c) 180 °C for 20 hours, d) 180 °C for 40 hours, e) 180 °C for 80 hours, f) 200 °C for 10 hours, g) 200 °C for 20 hours, h) 200 °C for 40 hours and i) 200 °C for 80 hours. Adsorption shown by the solid line and desorption is represented by the dashed line.**