

# Supporting information

## Phase control for indium oxide nanoparticles

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## Reported indium oxide synthesis

Main solvent	T / °C	Pressure / MPa	Phase	Ref
H <sub>2</sub> O	380	30	c-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1
H <sub>2</sub> O	400	24.1	c-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	2
H <sub>2</sub> O	450	24	c-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	3

**Table S1.** Previously reported flow synthesis.

Main solvent	T / °C	Time / h	Phase	Additive	Ref
Acetophenone	200	48	c-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>		4
Butanone	200	48	c-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>		4
Benzyl alcohol	200	48	c-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>		4
Benzyl amine	200	48	c-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>		4
Ethanol	RT-180	1-16	Amorp./ In(OH) <sub>3</sub> / InOOH /c-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	PVP, CTAB, octane, H <sub>2</sub> O	5
Ethanol	100-220	1-792	Amorp./ In(OH) <sub>3</sub> / InOOH /c-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	NH <sub>3</sub> , NaOH	6
Ethylenediamine	220	24	InOOH	H <sub>2</sub> O	7
Ethylenediamine	180	24	In(OH) <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O	7
DMF	150	24	In(OH) <sub>3</sub> / InOOH/ c-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O	8
PEG-400	210	24	InOOH/ c-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O, HMDA	9

**Table S2.** Previously reported autoclave synthesis.

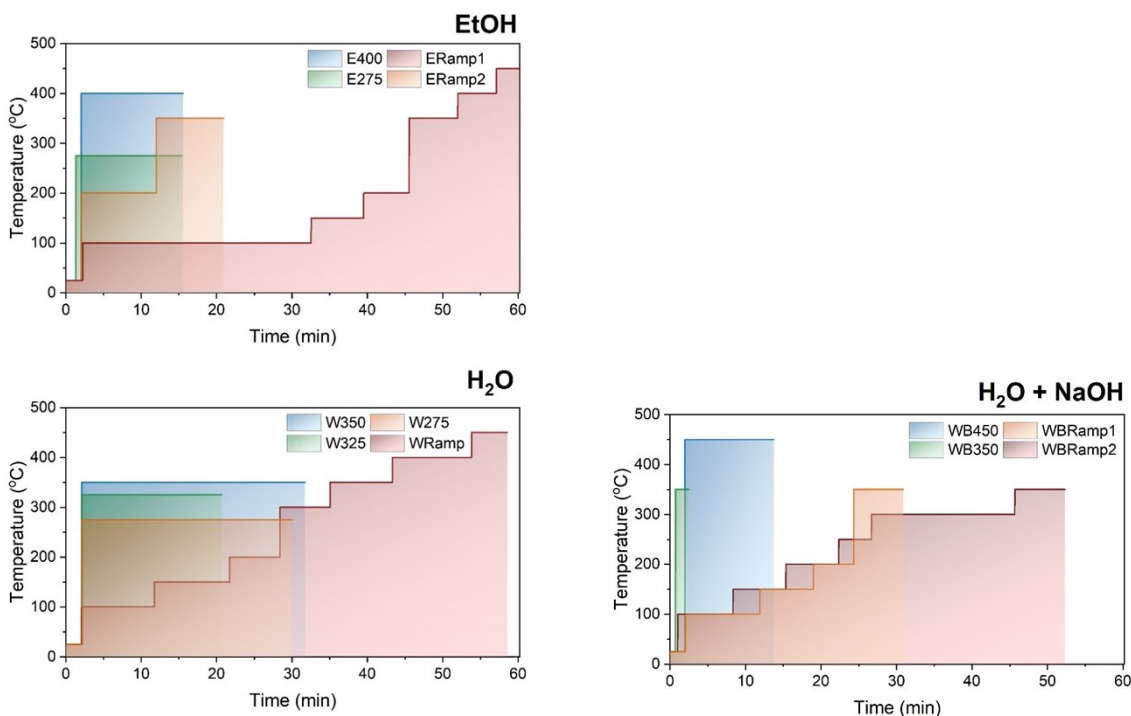
Main solvent	Additive	Phase	Calcination temp. / °C	Calcined to	Ref
H <sub>2</sub> O	Urea	Amorp., In(OH) <sub>3</sub>			10
H <sub>2</sub> O	Urea	Amorp.	250	h-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	11
H <sub>2</sub> O	KI	In(OH) <sub>3</sub>	250	h-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	11
H <sub>2</sub> O	KCl	In(OH) <sub>3</sub>	250	c-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	11
H <sub>2</sub> O	NH <sub>3</sub>	In(OH) <sub>3</sub>	240	c-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	12
H <sub>2</sub> O	NH <sub>3</sub>	In(OH) <sub>3</sub>	250-500	c-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	13
Methanol	NH <sub>3</sub>	In(OH) <sub>3</sub>	250-500	h-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	13
Methanol	NaOH	InOOH	300-500	c-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	14
EtOH	NaOH	InOOH	300-500	h-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> - c-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	14

**Table S3.** Previously reported synthesis at low temperature (RT-95 °C) by precipitation.

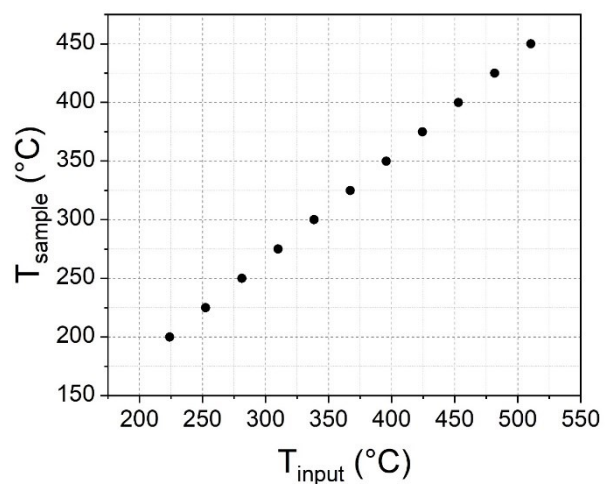
## Experimental conditions and calibrations

Name	Solvent	Sample temperature / °C	Set temperatures / °C
E400	Ethanol	400	450
E275	Ethanol	275	280
ERamp1	Ethanol	100, 150, 200, 350, 400, 450	110, 175, 230, 400, 450, 500
ERamp2	Ethanol	200, 350	230, 400
W350	Water	350	400
W325	Water	325	350
W275	Water	275	300
WRamp	Water	100, 150, 200, 300, 350, 400, 450	110, 175, 230, 350, 400, 450, 500
WB450	Water + NaOH	450	464
WB350	Water + NaOH	350	360
WB450	Water + NaOH	100, 150, 200, 350	100, 152, 204, 360
WB450	Water + NaOH	100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350	96, 151, 206, 261, 316, 371, 426

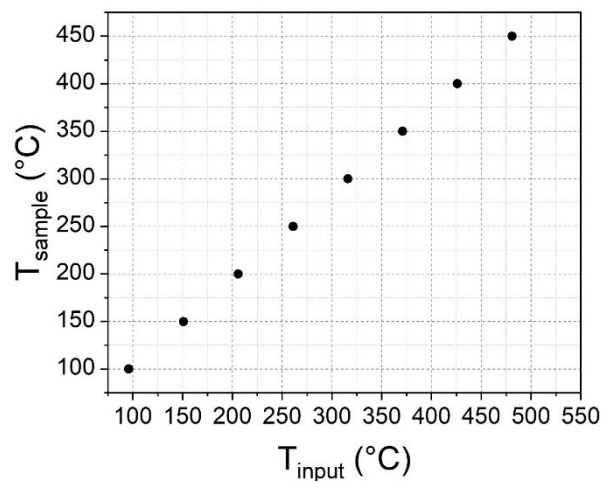
**Table S4.** Names, solvents and temperature of the *in situ* experiments. The experiments were conducted at three different beamtimes. For each a temperature calibration was done using a thermocouple to measure the temperature in the capillary at the beam position ( $T_{\text{sample}}$ ). The correlation between the set temperature of the heater ( $T_{\text{set}}$ ) and actual temperature for the three beamtimes are shown in Figure S2-4.



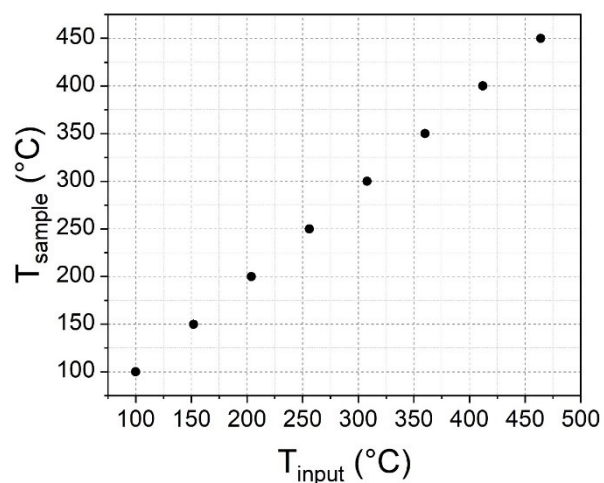
**Figure S1.** Temperature profiles of all *in situ* solvothermal synthesis.



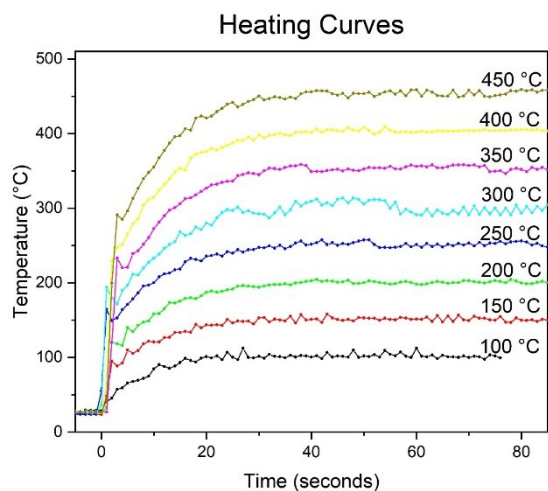
**Figure S2.** Temperature calibration used for E400, ERamp1, Eramp2, W275, W325, W350 and WRamp.



**Figure S3.** Temperature calibration for WBRamp2.



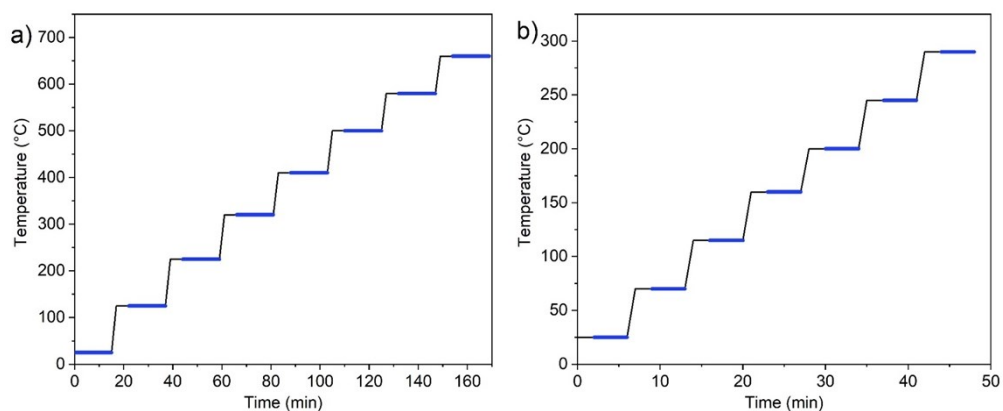
**Figure S4.** Temperature calibration for E275, WB450, WB350 and RRamp1.



**Figure S5.** The heating rate for direct heating for E275, WB450, WB350 and RRamp1. The ramps for the experiments during other beamtimes are similar.

Concentration	Solvent	Temperatures / °C
0.01 M	Water	200, 325, 350, 375, 400, 425, 450
0.01 M	Ethanol	200, 250, 325, 350, 375, 400, 425, 450
0.1 M, 0.5 M, 1.0 M	Ethanol	350

**Table S5.** Conditions for the 18 samples synthesized by flow



**Figure S6.** Heating profiles for the *in situ* calcination experiments. The blue intervals mark the measurement time. a) For InOOH synthesized in flow: Heating rate of 50 °C/min, 5 min temperature stabilization and 15 min exposure. b) For In(OH)<sub>3</sub> synthesized in autoclave: Heating rate of 50 °C/min, 2 min temperature stabilization and 2x2 min exposure. These were summed when no transformations occurred.

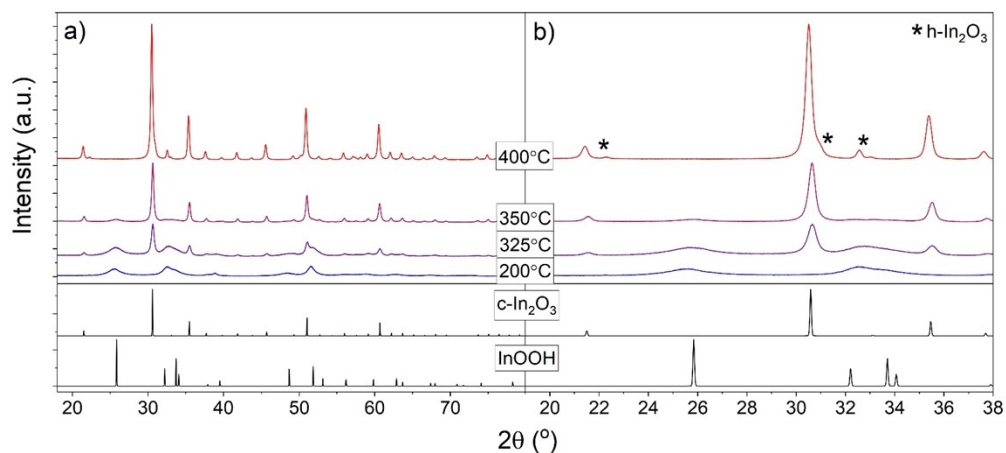
### Supporting Information Experimental

Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) was conducted for the phase pure InOOH sample synthesized by flow synthesis at 325 °C. Images were acquired in bright field on a TALOS F200A with a TEIN lens system, X-FEG electron source and Ceta 16M Camera. The samples were placed on a Cu grid after dispersion in ethanol (99% purity).

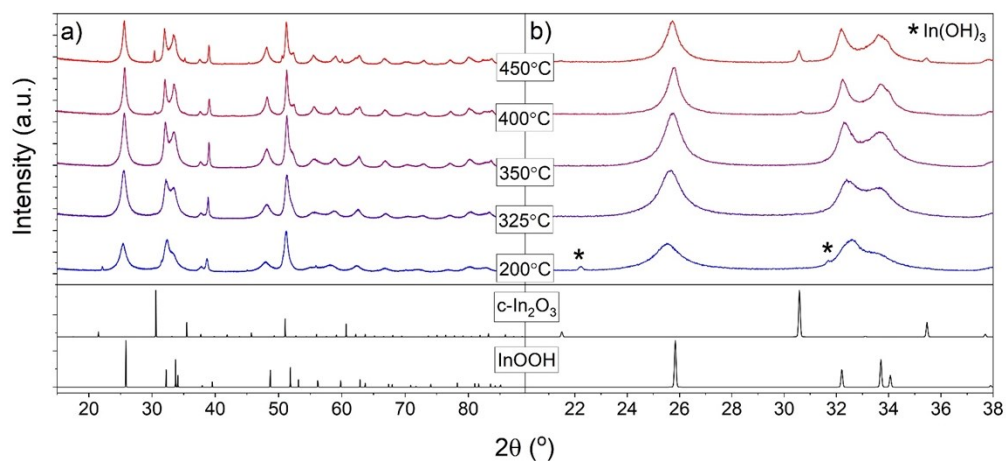
Total scattering (TS) data was collected for the phase pure InOOH sample synthesized by flow synthesis at 325 °C. The conditions were the same as for the *in situ* experiments, except the sample was packed in a Kapton capillary with a diameter of 0.7 mm. Data analysis of the TS data was performed as described in the main article, with the background was scattering from a kapton capillary and  $q_{\max}=23.5 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$ .

TS data was also collected for samples made by adding 4 M aqueous NaOH to 1 M aqueous In(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> solutions. The samples had different ratio of In<sup>3+</sup> to OH<sup>-</sup> given by  $r = [\text{OH}^-]/[\text{In}^{3+}]$ . The samples had ratios of  $r = 0.6, 0.8, 1, 2, 3$  and 4. Samples were contained in 1.0 mm Kapton capillaries, and data were collected for 2-5 min per sample. Data transformation was done with background measurements of water added an identical amount of NaOH as the sample. The transformation parameters deviating from the *in situ* data are  $q_{\min} = 0.78 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$  and  $q_{\max} = 19\text{-}22 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$ . The PDFs were refined with the phase In(OH)<sub>3</sub>, using only the parameters scale factor and size.

## Phase identification and extracted parameters



**Figure S7.** Selected diffractograms of samples synthesized by flow synthesis with ethanol as solvent. a) Full diffractograms, b) Zoom in showing the minor phases.



**Figure S8.** Selected diffractograms samples synthesized by flow synthesis with water as solvent. a) Full diffractograms, b) Zoom in showing the minor phases.

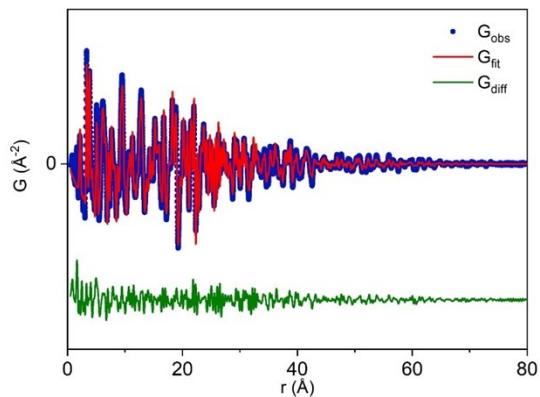
	c-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>			h-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>				InOOH					In(OH) <sub>3</sub>			R <sub>w</sub>
	Scale	a	Size	Scale	a	c	Size	Scale	a	b	c	Size	Scale	a	Size	
E400	0.470	10.114	107.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.275
E275	0.249	10.004	81.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.210
ERamp1	-	-	-	0.507	5.478	14.505	500 <sup>^</sup>	0.0149	5.255*	4.57*	3.27*	70.7	-	-	-	0.275
ERamp2	0.530	10.078	129.8	-	-	-	-	0.0313	5.060	4.827	3.426	39.6	-	-	-	0.237
W350	0.668	10.258	79.23	-	-	-	-	9.45E-4	5.30*	4.67*	3.30*	50 <sup>^</sup>	-	-	-	0.233
W325	0.217	10.22	78.5	-	-	-	-	0.0125	5.30*	4.67*	3.30*	50 <sup>^</sup>	-	-	-	0.268
W275	0.581	10.233	78.22	-	-	-	-	0.0521	5.30*	4.67*	3.30*	96.3	-	-	-	0.265
WRamp	0.219	10.24	93.6	0.135	5.547	14.68	100.7	0.145	5.327*	4.64*	3.31*	199	-	-	-	0.320
WB450	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.162	5.209	4.520	3.234	69.93	0.00	7.81*	12.7*	0.321
WB350	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.194	5.197	4.519	3.232	115.5	0.014	7.74*	32.3*	0.318
WBRamp1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.240	5.178	4.517	3.233	128.7	0.015	7.75*	20 <sup>^</sup>	0.275

**Table S6.** Refined parameters from PDF analysis for the last frame for each *in situ* solvothermal experiment. \*Parameter was fixed at this value, which was obtained from refinement of a frame with a higher signal. <sup>^</sup>These sizes were fixed as not enough signal as present to refine them at similar conditions.

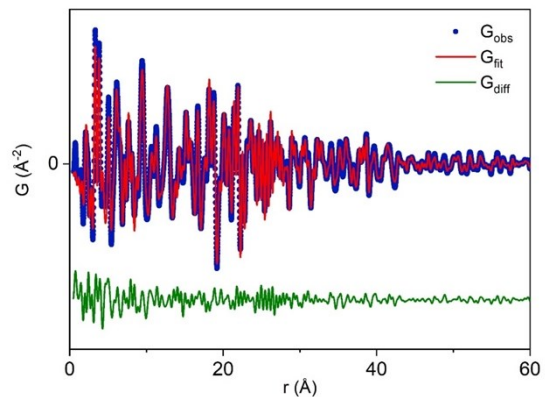
	InOOH					In(OH) <sub>3</sub>							
	Scale	a	b	c	Y	Scale	a	I <sub>G</sub>	R <sub>p</sub>	R <sub>wp</sub>	R <sub>exp</sub>	χ <sup>2</sup>	
WBRamp2	2.85E-6	5.276	4.578	3.281	0.0657	9.44E-9	8.001*	0.0335	14.7	14.6	14.83	0.971	

**Table S7.** Refined parameters from Rietveld refinement for the last frame in the *in situ* solvothermal experiment WBRamp2. \*Parameter was fixed at this value, which was obtained from refinement of a frame with a higher signal.

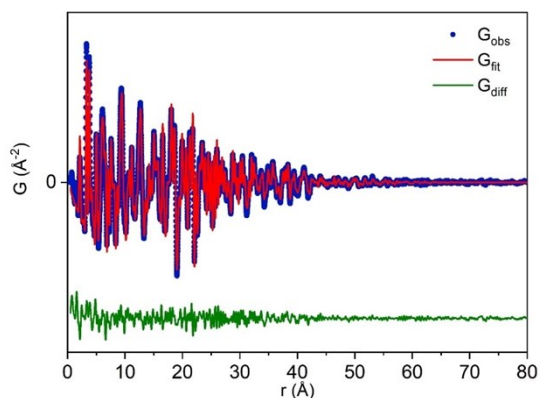




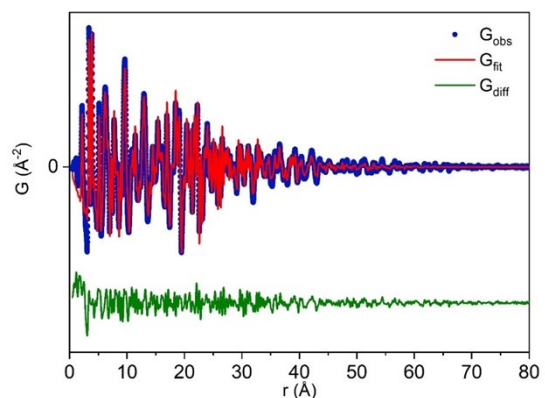
**Figure S9.** PDF analysis using phase pure c-In<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> of the last frame for experiment E400.



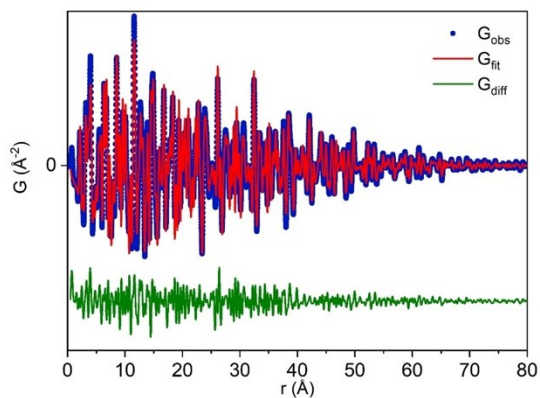
**Figure S12.** PDF analysis of the last frame for experiment ERamp2 using c-In<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and a limited amount of InOOH.



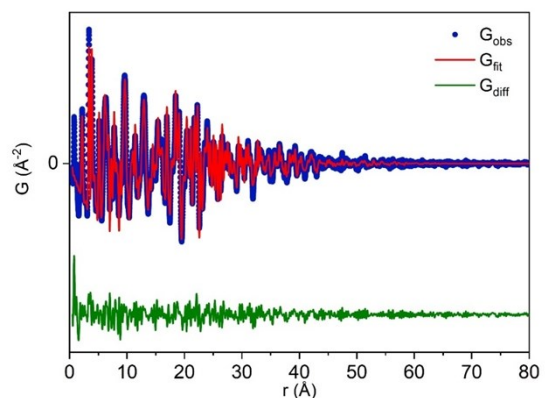
**Figure S10.** PDF analysis of the last frame for experiment E275 using phase pure c-In<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.



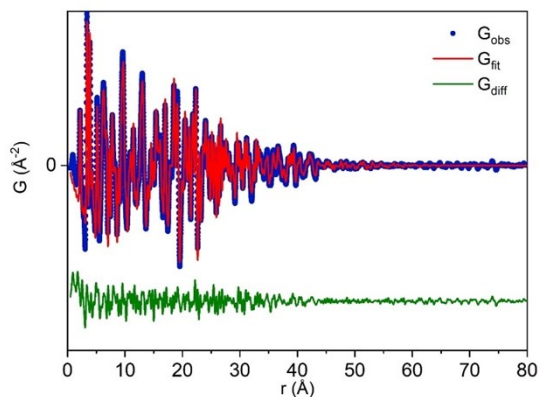
**Figure S13.** PDF analysis of the last frame for experiment W275 using c-In<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and a limited amount of InOOH.



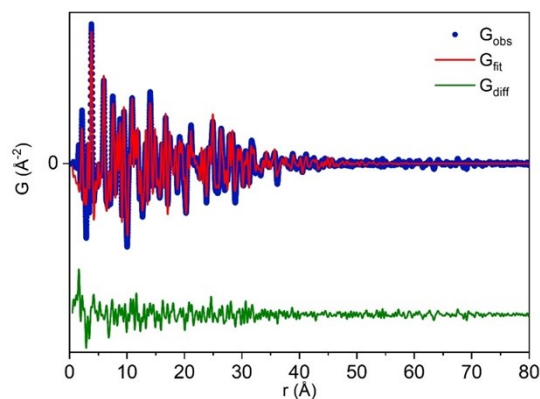
**Figure S11.** PDF analysis of the last frame for experiment ERamp1 using h-In<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and a limited amount of InOOH.



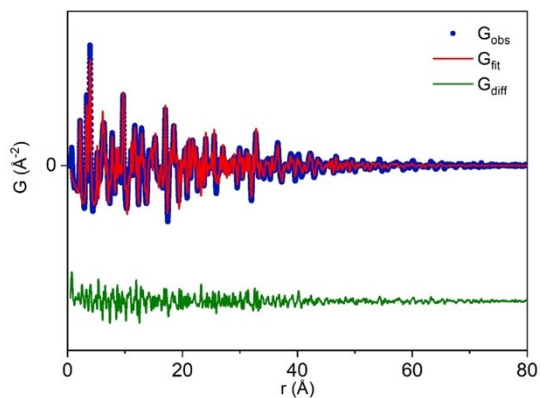
**Figure S14.** PDF analysis of the last frame for experiment W325 using c-In<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and a limited amount of InOOH.



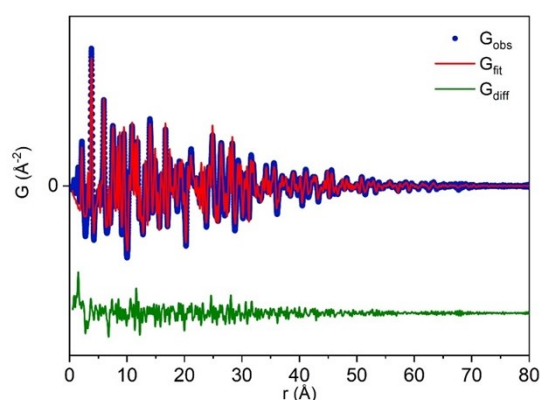
**Figure S15.** PDF analysis of the last frame for experiment W350 using c-In<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and a miniscule amount of InOOH.



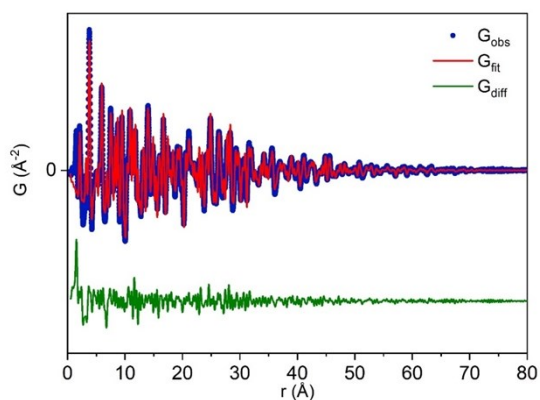
**Figure S18.** PDF analysis of the last frame for experiment WB450 using InOOH and a miniscule amount of In(OH)<sub>3</sub>.



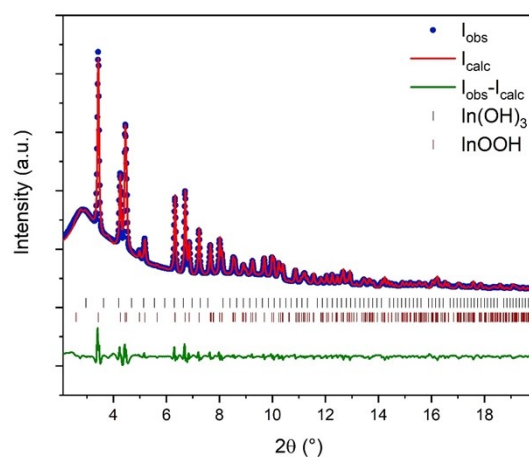
**Figure S16.** PDF analysis of the last frame for experiment WRamp using a mixture of c-In<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, h-In<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and InOOH.



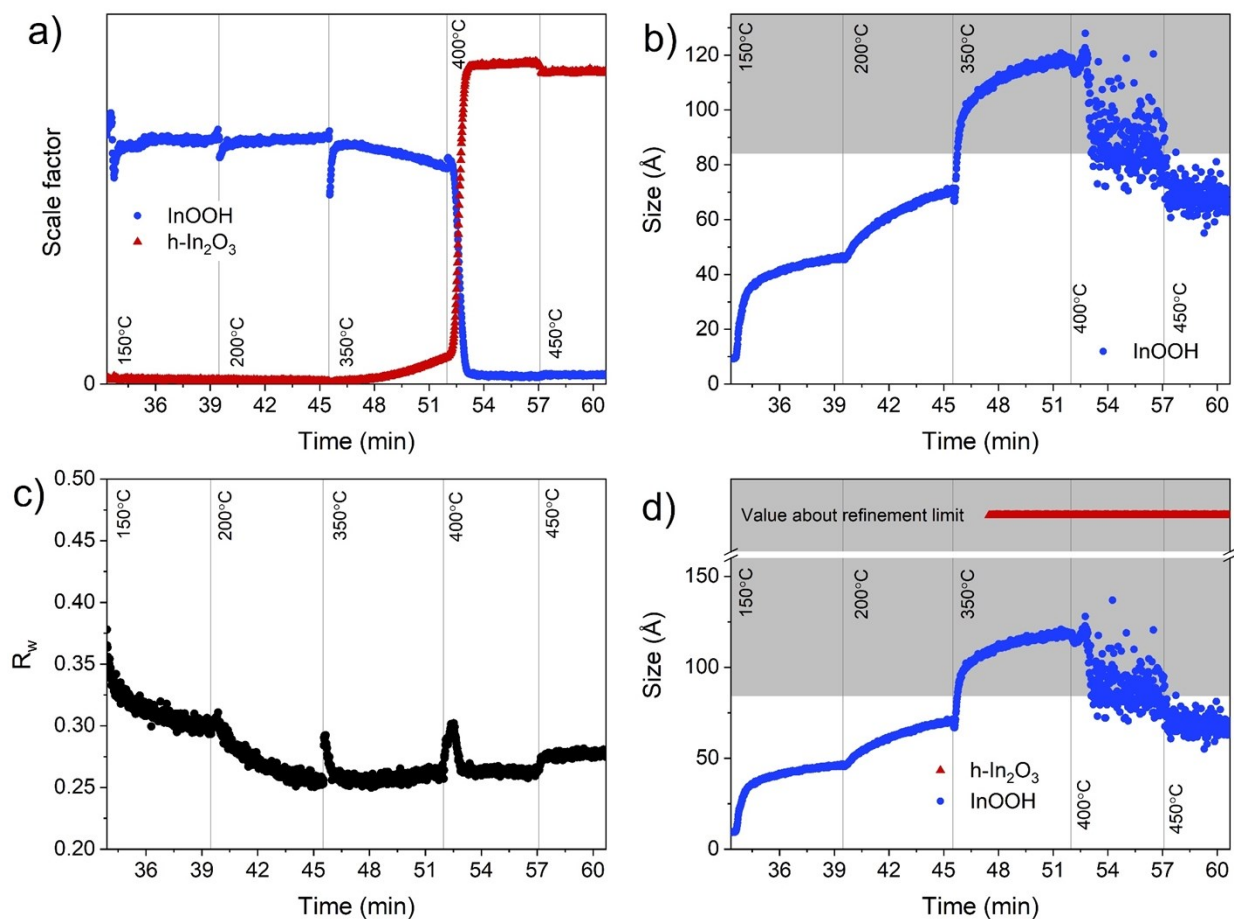
**Figure S19.** PDF analysis of the last frame for experiment WBRamp1 using InOOH and a miniscule amount of In(OH)<sub>3</sub>.



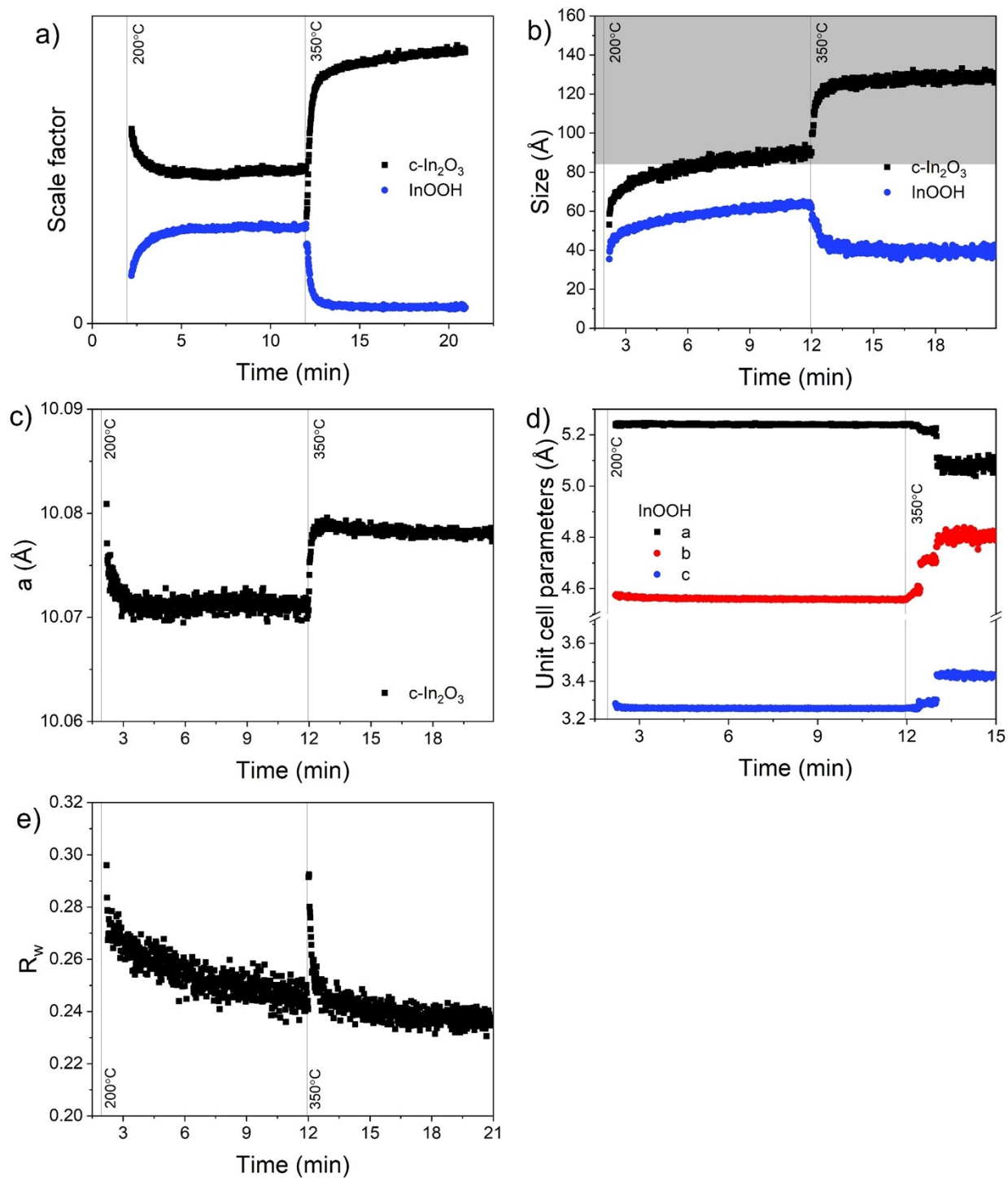
**Figure S17.** PDF analysis of the last frame for experiment WB350 using InOOH and a miniscule amount of In(OH)<sub>3</sub>.



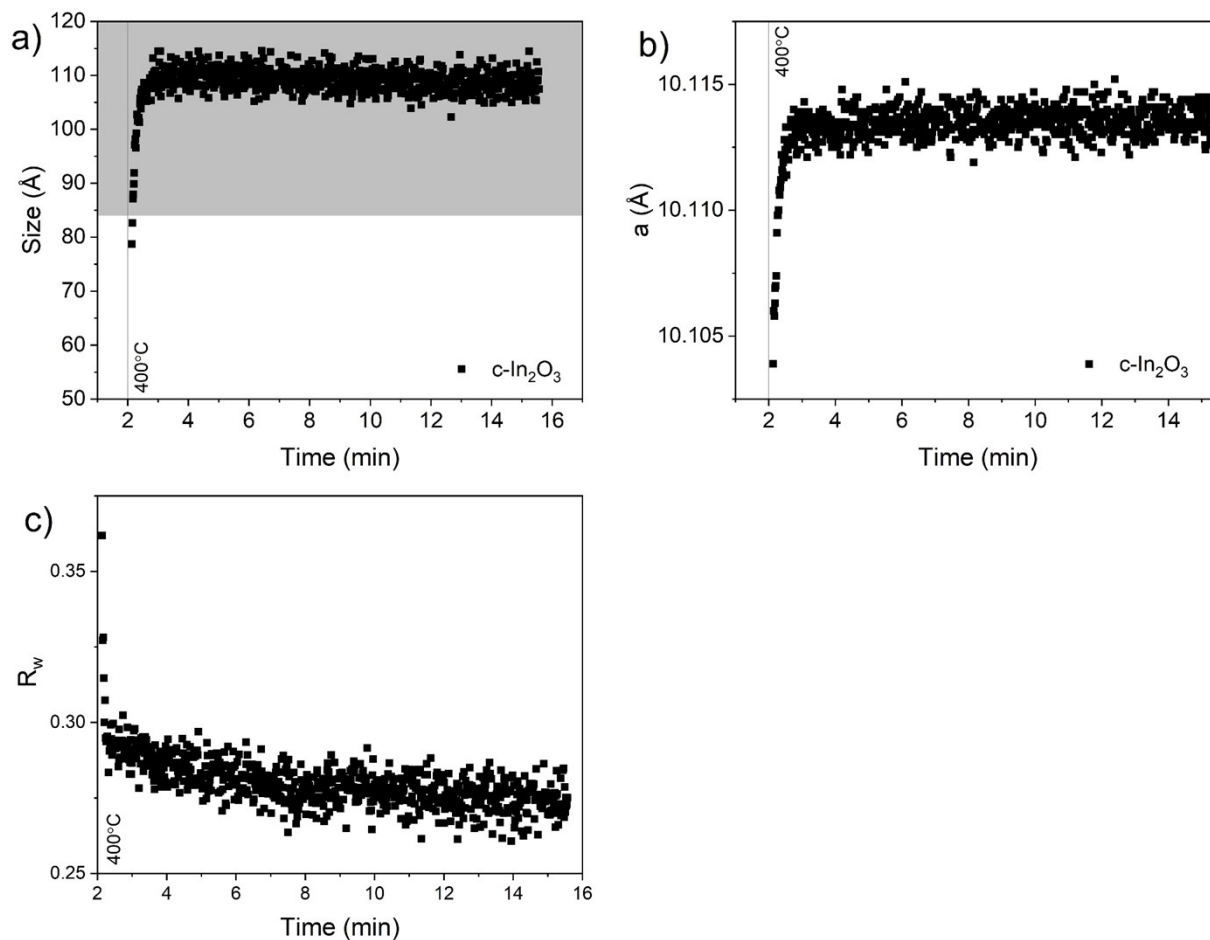
**Figure S20.** Rietveld fit of the last frame for experiment WBRamp2 using InOOH and a miniscule amount of In(OH)<sub>3</sub>.



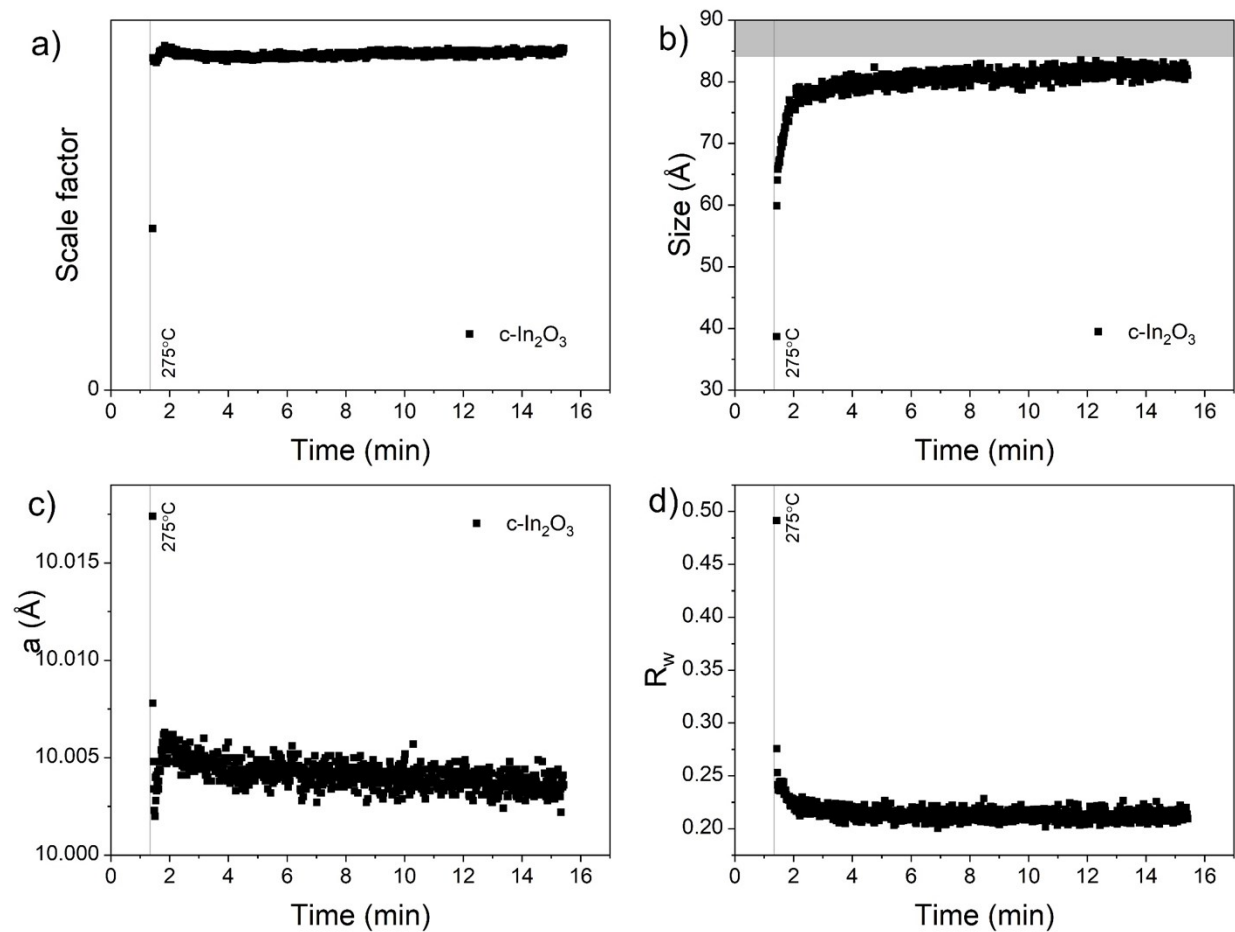
**Figure S21.** Extracted parameters from PDF analysis of ERamp1 (Solvent: Ethanol, Heating: Ramp with steps at 100, 150, 200, 350, 400 and 450 °C). a) Scale factors. b) Size for InOOH. c) R-value. d) The used size of h-In<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> in the refinement compared to the extracted InOOH sizes. The size of the formed h-In<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> was attempted refined, but the sizes were too large to reliably refine throughout the experiment. (The grey area marks the approximate resolution limit, as defined by Sommer *et al.*<sup>15</sup> as where the  $Q_{\text{damp}}$  and size functions intersect. For the  $Q_{\text{damp}}=0.0349$  as used here, the resolution limit is 84 Å)



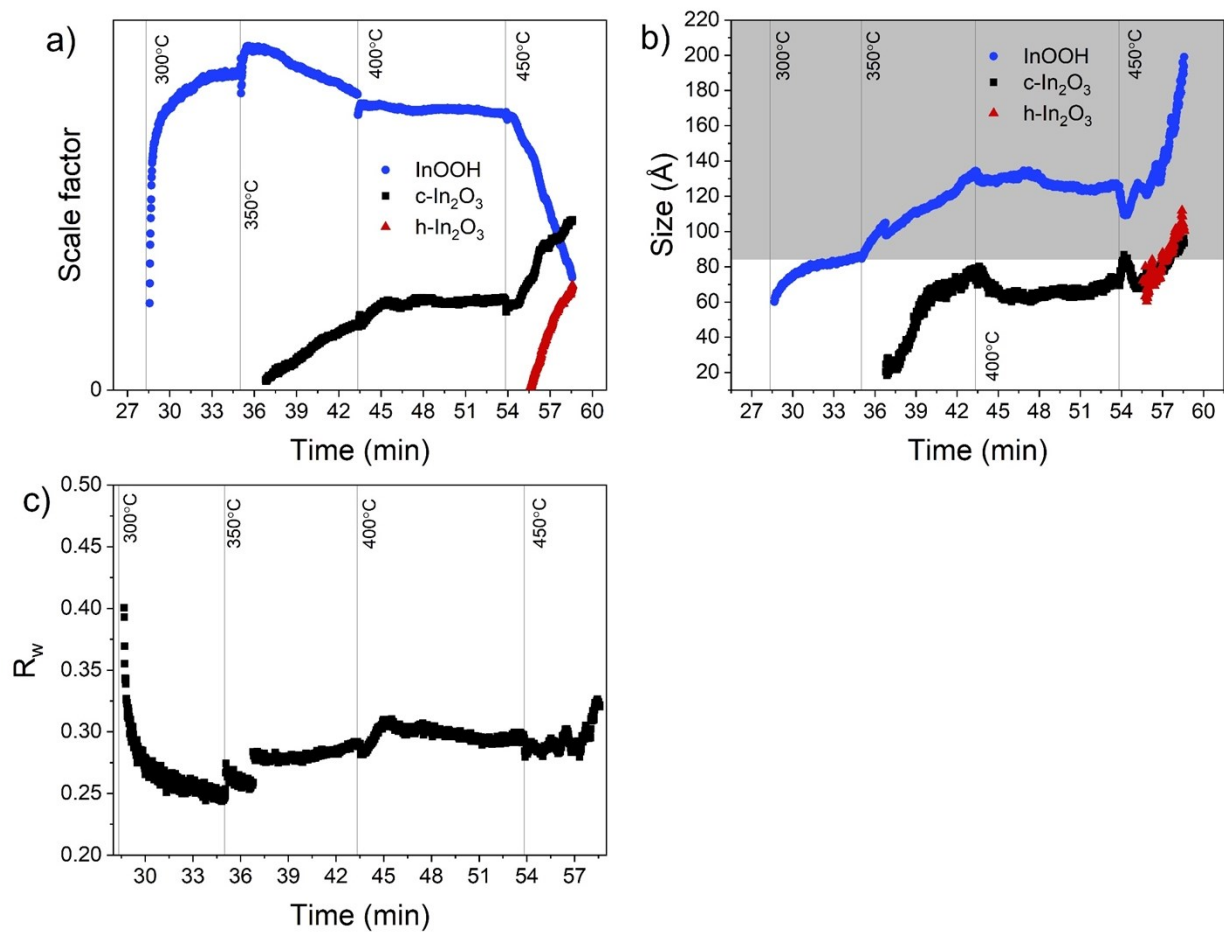
**Figure S22.** Extracted parameters from PDF analysis of ERamp2 (Solvent: Ethanol, Heating: Ramp with steps at 200 and 350 °C). a) Scale factors. b) Sizes (The grey area marks the approximate resolution limit, as defined by Sommer *et al.*<sup>15</sup> as where the  $Q_{\text{damp}}$  and size functions intersect. For the  $Q_{\text{damp}}=0.0349$  as used here, the resolution limit is 84 Å). c) Unit cell parameter,  $a$ , for  $c\text{-In}_2\text{O}_3$ . d) Unit cell parameters,  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$ , for InOOH. e)  $R$ -value.



**Figure S23.** Extracted parameters from PDF analysis of experiment E400 (Solvent: Ethanol, Heating: Direct to  $400^\circ\text{C}$ ). a) Size (The grey area marks the approximate resolution limit, as defined by Sommer *et al.*<sup>15</sup> as where the  $Q_{\text{damp}}$  and size functions intersect. For the  $Q_{\text{damp}}=0.0349$  as used here, the resolution limit is  $84\text{ \AA}$ ). b) Unit cell parameter, a. c) R-value.

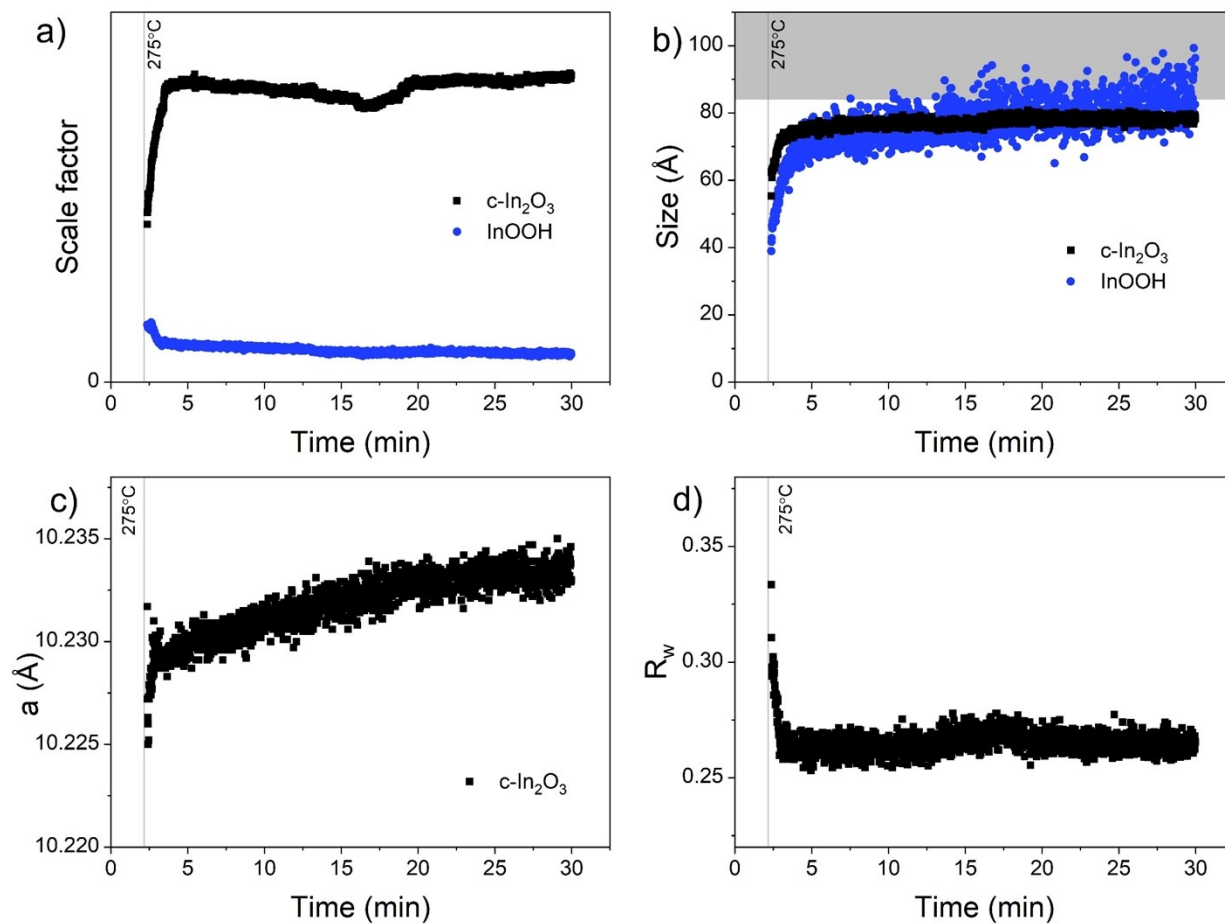


**Figure S24.** Extracted parameters from PDF analysis of experiment E275 (Solvent: Ethanol, Heating: Direct to 275 °C). a) Scale factor. b) Size (The grey area marks the approximate resolution limit, as defined by Sommer *et al.*<sup>15</sup> as where the  $Q_{\text{damp}}$  and size functions intersect. For the  $Q_{\text{damp}}=0.0349$  as used here, the resolution limit is 84  $\text{\AA}$ ). c) Unit cell parameter, a. d) R-value.



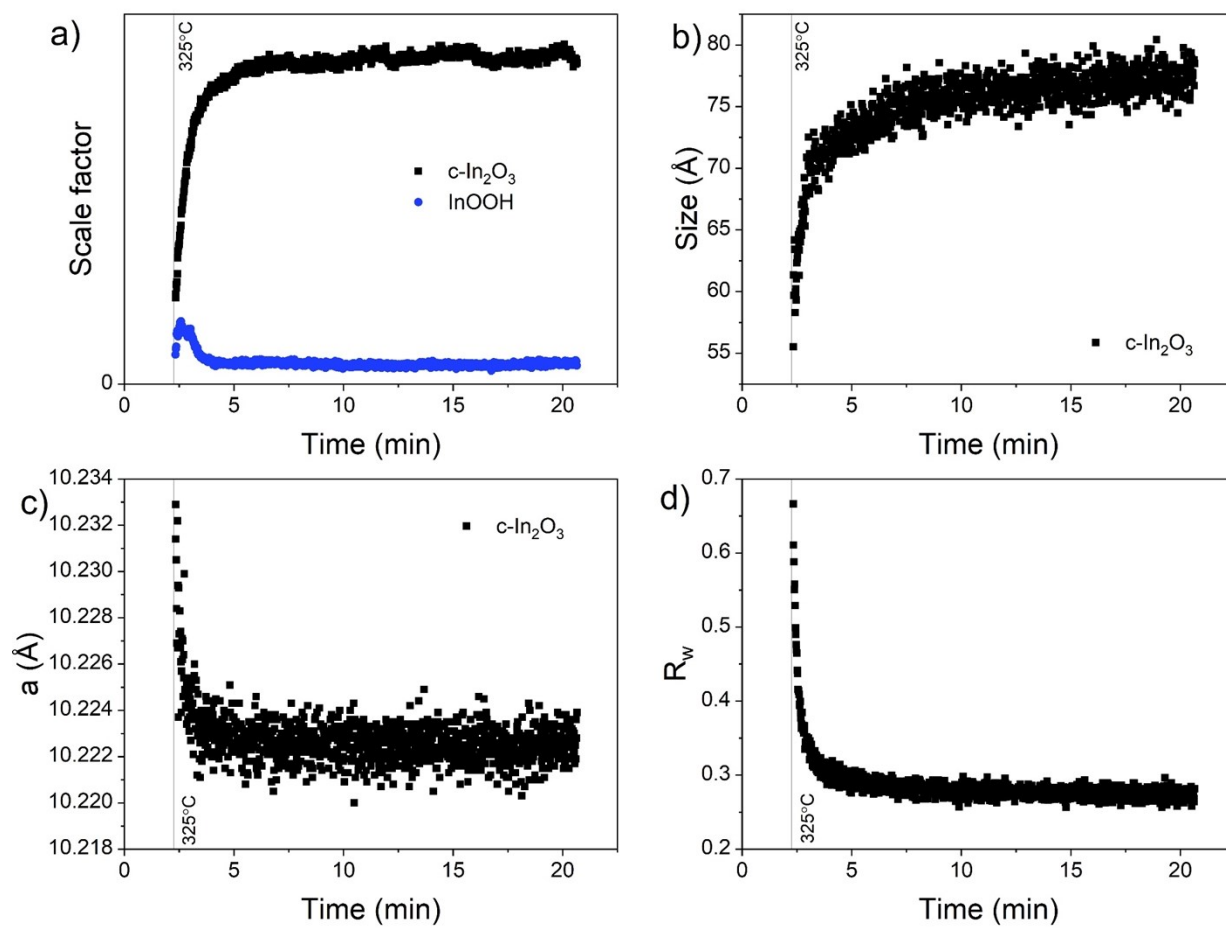
**Figure S25.** Extracted parameters from PDF analysis of WRamp (Solvent: Water, Heating: Ramp with steps at 100, 150, 200, 300, 350, 400 and 450 °C). a) Scale factors. b) Sizes. (The grey area marks the approximate resolution limit, as defined by Sommer *et al.*<sup>15</sup> as where the  $Q_{\text{damp}}$  and size functions intersect. For the  $Q_{\text{damp}}=0.0349$  as used here, the resolution limit is 84 Å). c) R-value.



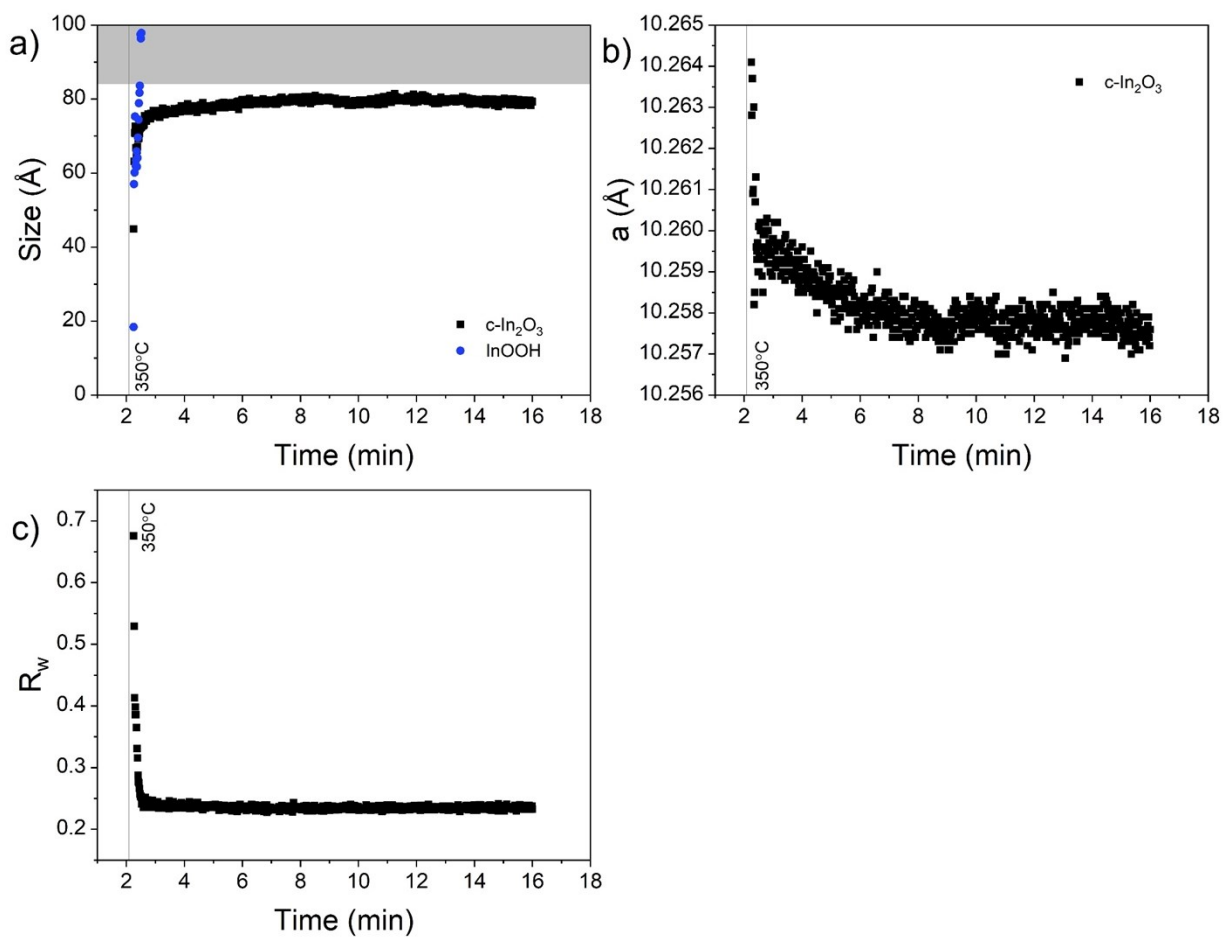


**Figure S26.** Extracted parameters from PDF analysis of W275 (Solvent: Water, Heating: Direct to 275 °C). a) Scale factors. b) Sizes (The grey area marks the approximate resolution limit, as defined by Sommer *et al.*<sup>15</sup> as where the  $Q_{\text{damp}}$  and size functions intersect. For the  $Q_{\text{damp}}=0.0349$  as used here, the resolution limit is 84 Å). c) Unit cell parameter, a. d) R-value.

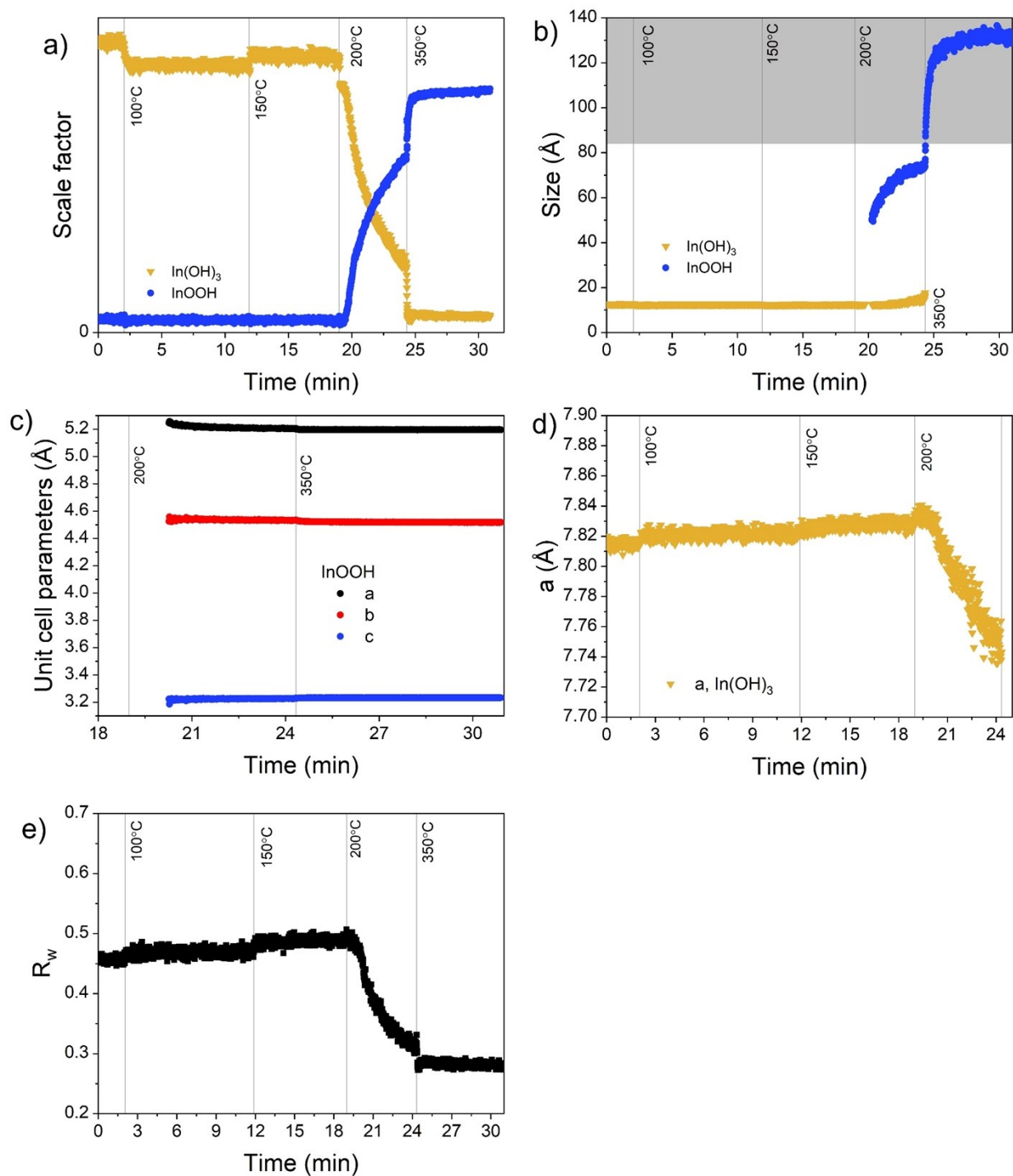




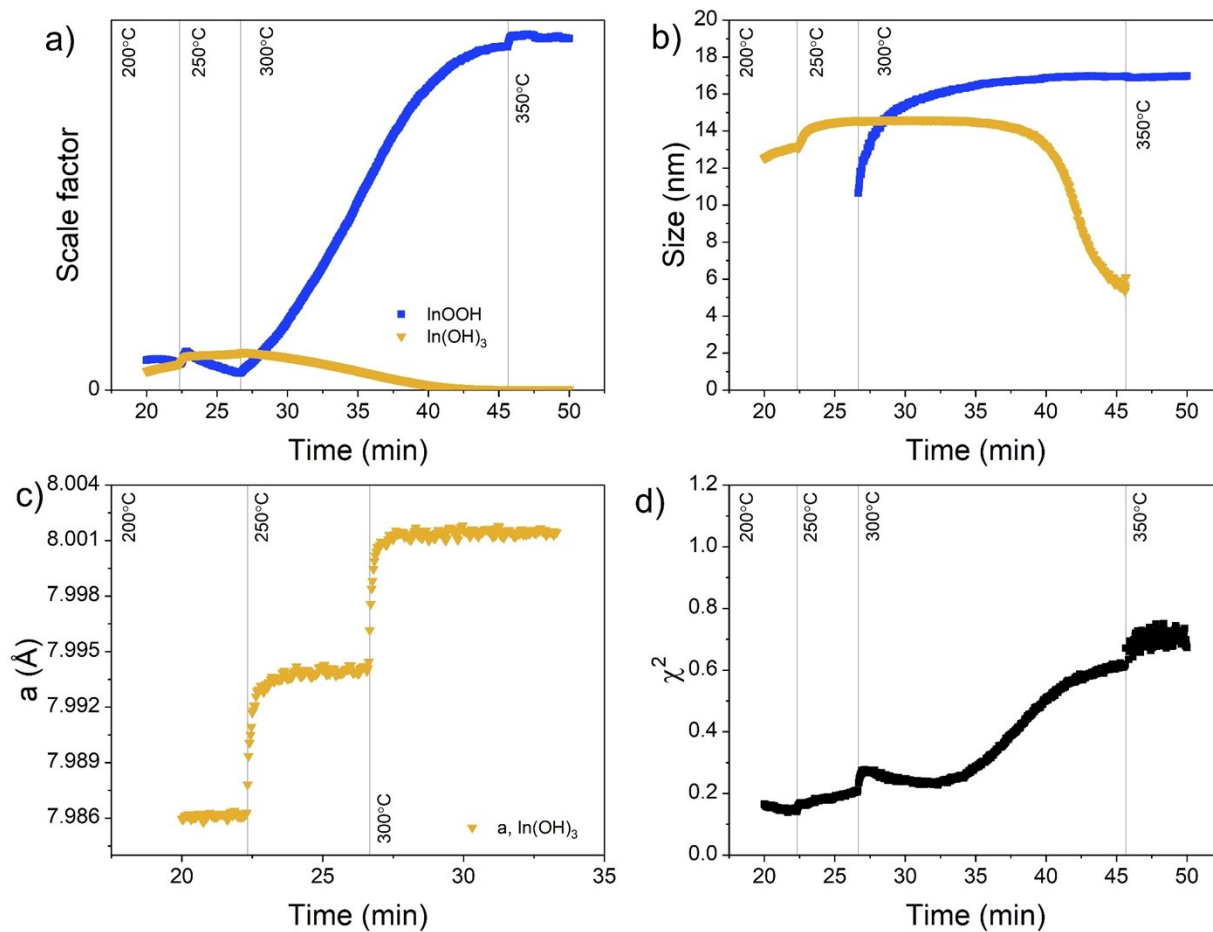
**Figure S27.** Extracted parameters from PDF analysis of W325 (Solvent: Water, Heating: Direct to 325 °C). a) Scale factors. b) Sizes. c) Unit cell parameter, a. d) R-value.



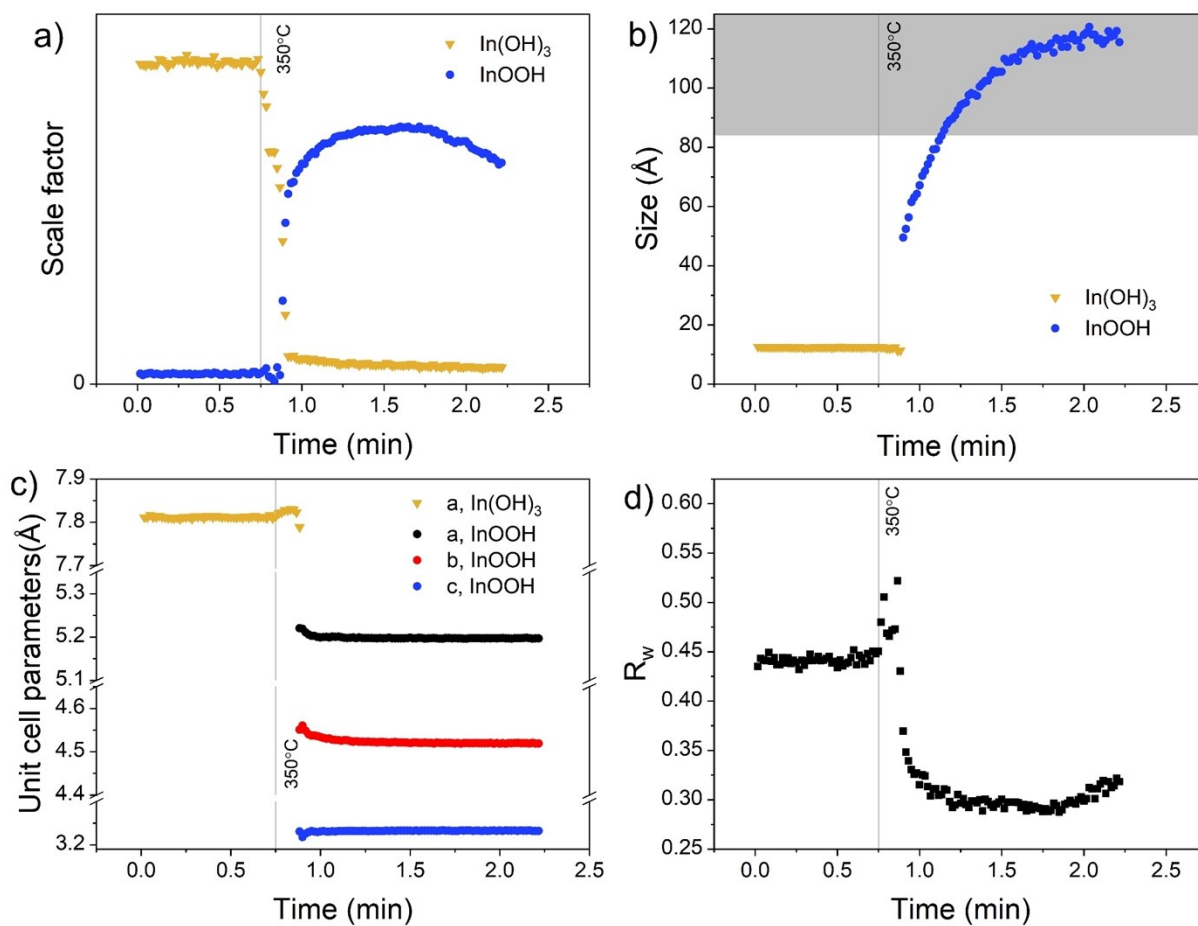
**Figure S28.** Extracted parameters from PDF analysis of W350 (Solvent: Water, Heating: Direct to 350 °C). a) Size (The grey area marks the approximate resolution limit, as defined by Sommer *et al.*<sup>15</sup> as where the  $Q_{\text{damp}}$  and size functions intersect. For the  $Q_{\text{damp}}=0.0349$  as used here, the resolution limit is 84 Å). b) Unit cell parameter, a. c) R-value.



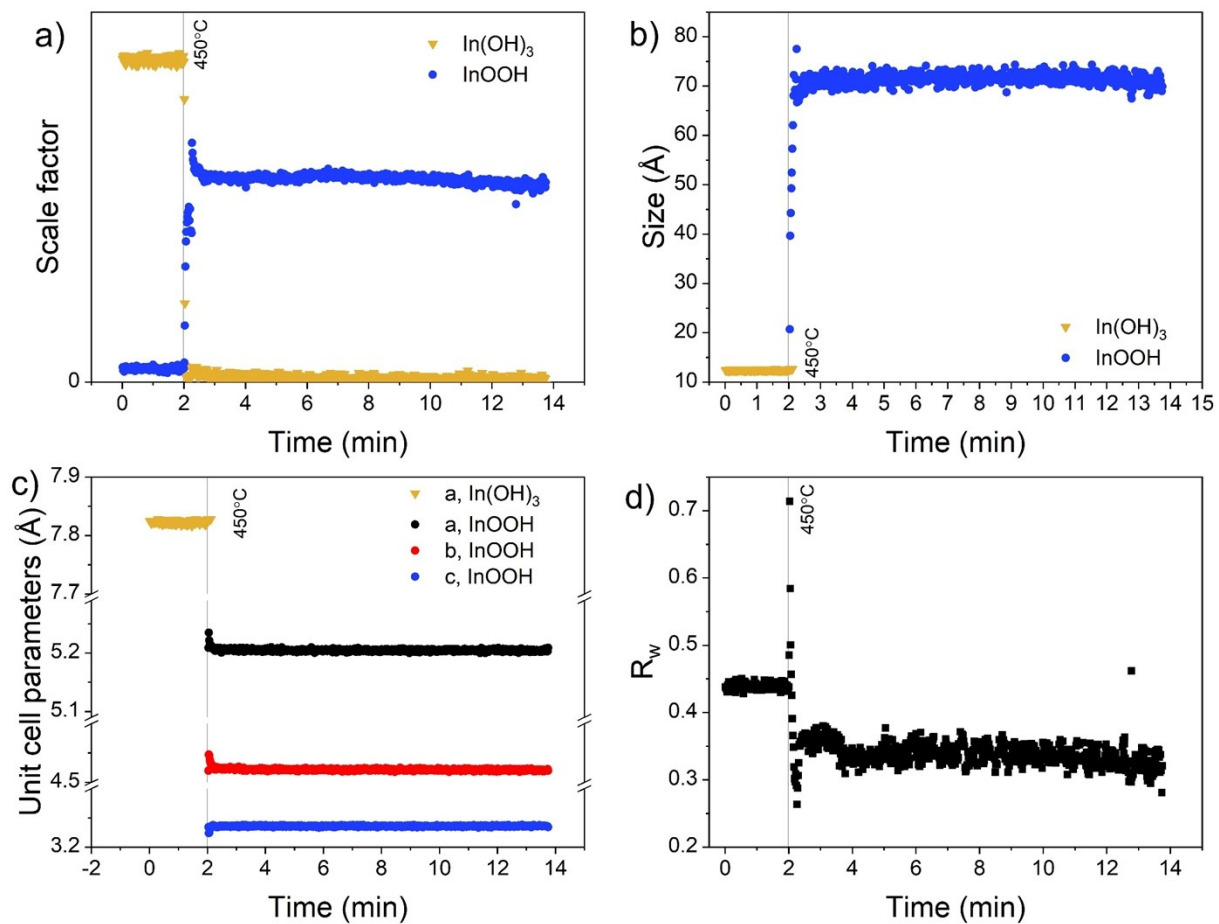
**Figure S29.** Extracted parameters from PDF analysis of WBRamp1 (Solvent: Water with added NaOH, Heating: Ramp with steps at 100, 150, 200 and 350 °C). a) Scale factors. b) Sizes (The grey area marks the approximate resolution limit, as defined by Sommer *et al.*<sup>15</sup> as where the  $Q_{\text{damp}}$  and size functions intersect. For the  $Q_{\text{damp}}=0.0349$  as used here, the resolution limit is 84 Å). c) Unit cell parameters for  $\text{InOOH}$ . d) Unit cell parameters for  $\text{In}(\text{OH})_3$ . e)  $R$ -value.



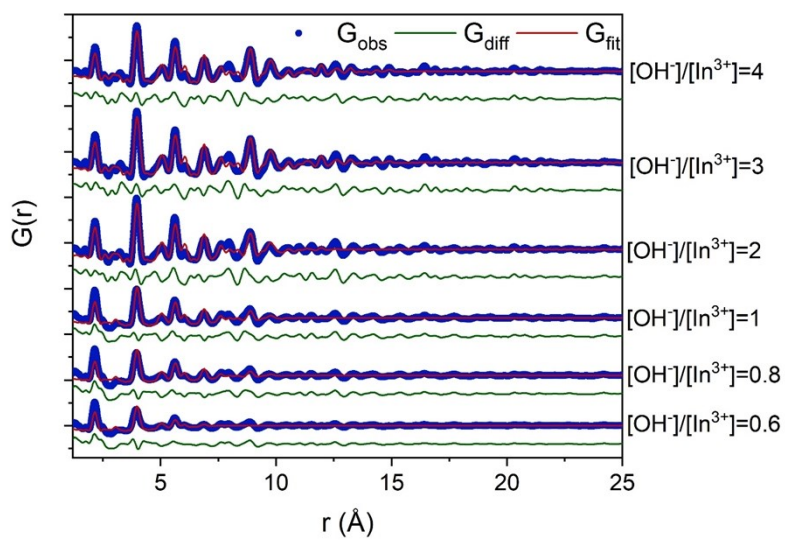
**Figure S30.** Extracted parameters from Rietveld refinement of WBRamp2 (Solvent: Water with added NaOH, Heating: Ramp with steps at 100, 150, 200, 250, 300 and 350 °C). a) Extracted scale factors. b) Extracted sizes. c) Unit cell parameters. d)  $\chi^2$ -value.



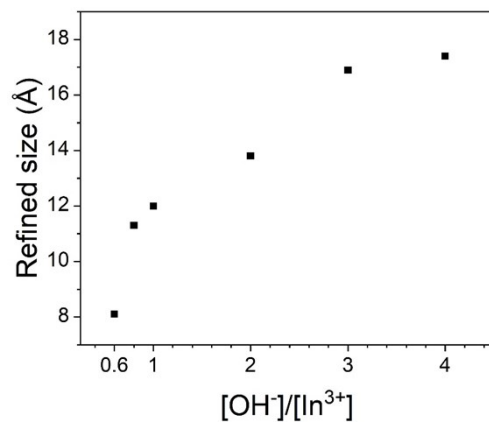
**Figure S31.** Extracted parameters from PDF analysis of WB350 (Solvent: Water with added NaOH, Heating: Direct to 350 °C). a) Scale factors. b) Sizes (The grey area marks the approximate resolution limit, as defined by Sommer *et al.*<sup>15</sup> as where the  $Q_{\text{damp}}$  and size functions intersect. For the  $Q_{\text{damp}}=0.0349$  as used here, the resolution limit is 84 Å). c) Unit cell parameters. d) R-value.



**Figure S32.** Extracted parameters from PDF analysis of WB450 (Solvent: Water with added NaOH, Heating: Direct to 450 °C). a) Scale factors. b) Sizes. c) Unit cell parameters. d)  $R_w$ -value.



**Figure S33.** PDF analysis of solutions of  $\text{In}^{3+}$  with added NaOH in different ratios.

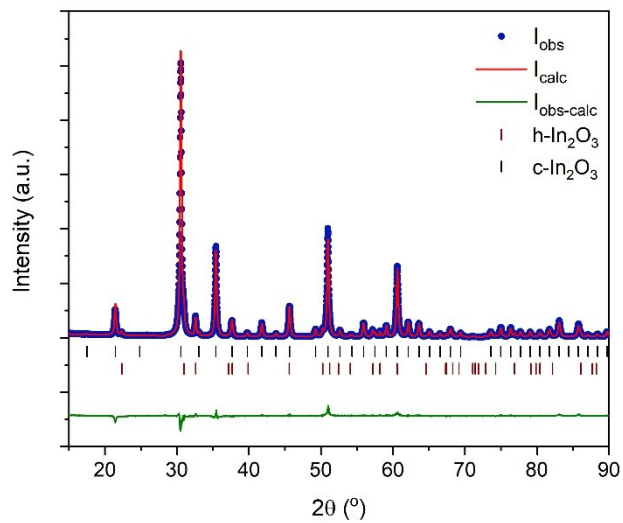


**Figure S34.** Extracted sizes from the PDF analysis of solutions of  $\text{In}^{3+}$  with added NaOH in different ratios.

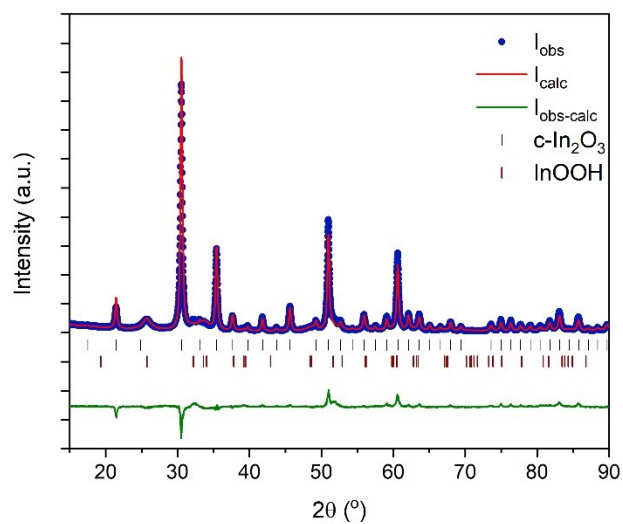
Concentration /M	Solvent	Temperature /°C	c-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>			InOOH				h-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>			In(OH) <sub>3</sub>			Rp	Rwp	Re	chi	
			Scale	a	Y	ig	Scale	a	b	c	Y	Scale	a	c	Y					Scale
0.01	H <sub>2</sub> O	325															22.8	28.7	5.65	25.82
0.01	H <sub>2</sub> O	350															23.9	29.1	5.36	29.49
0.01	H <sub>2</sub> O	375															24.4	28.9	6.18	21.82
0.01	H <sub>2</sub> O	400	1.51E-06	10.1093	0.23358					0.02557	5.28095	4.57819	3.26355	0.62965			26.4	29.9	6.59	20.55
0.01	H <sub>2</sub> O	425	2.91E-06	10.1093	0.23358					0.0221	5.28199	4.57589	3.26177	0.6675			27.3	30.8	7.16	18.58
0.01	H <sub>2</sub> O	450	4.40E-04	10.1174	0.13088					0.02436	5.28531	4.57767	3.2656	0.67928			26.8	30.8	6.67	21.27
0.01	H <sub>2</sub> O	200								0.02823	5.34807	4.59664	3.24281	1.31229					6.28	29.26
0.01	EtOH	325	9.21E-05	10.105	0.38947	0.00944				0.04066	5.26 (F)	4.59 (F)	3.27 (F)	1.96661			14.1	18.1	4.32	18.21
0.01	EtOH	350	1.41E-04	10.1252	0.24093	0.01381				0.00827	5.26 (F)	4.59 (F)	3.27 (F)	1.32275			13.6	15.7	5.43	8.376
0.01	EtOH	375	2.63E-04	10.1236	0.18855	0.01291														
0.01	EtOH	400	2.62E-04	10.1223	0.18479	0.01819														
0.01	EtOH	425	2.61E-04	10.1237	0.18214	0.02267														
0.01	EtOH	450	2.17E-04	10.1263	0.17592	0.02476														
0.01	EtOH	200	1.83E-07	10.0682 (F)	0.31927 (F)	0.02008 (F)	0.03398													
0.01	EtOH	250	9.24E-06	10.0682	0.31927	0.02008	0.05123													
0.1	EtOH	350	1.31E-04	10.132	0.27587	0.00636	0.0028													
0.5	EtOH	350	9.74E-05	10.1334	0.23671	0.01436	0.00216													
1	EtOH	350	9.58E-05	10.1351	0.20315	0.0092	0.00127													

**Table S8.** Extracted values of all parameters refined during Rietveld refinement for flow synthesized samples.

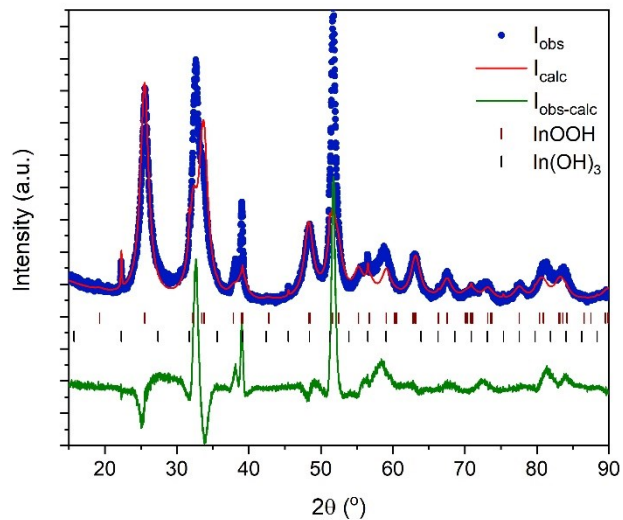




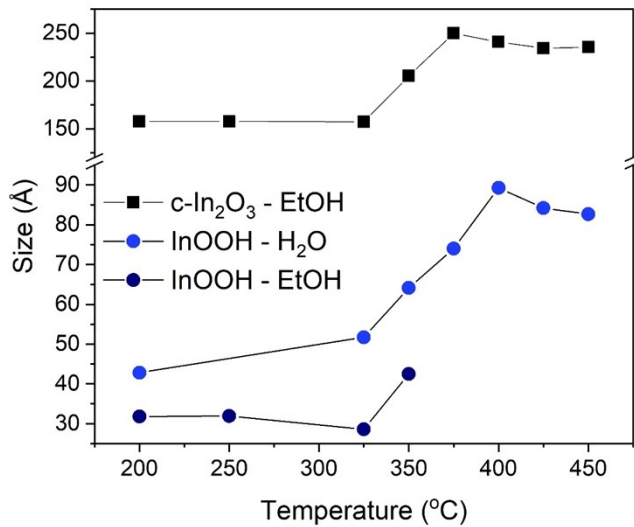
**Figure S35.** Rietveld refinement with  $c\text{-In}_2\text{O}_3$  and  $h\text{-In}_2\text{O}_3$  for the sample synthesized by flow at 375 °C in ethanol.



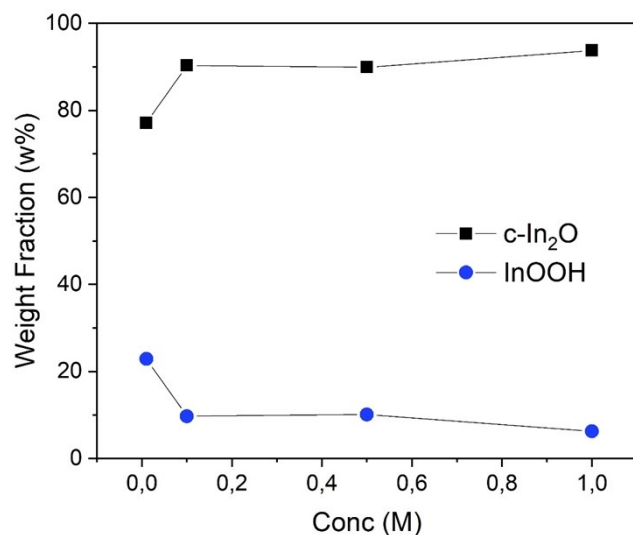
**Figure S36.** Rietveld refinement with  $c\text{-In}_2\text{O}_3$  and  $\text{InOOH}$  for the sample synthesized by flow at 350 °C in ethanol.



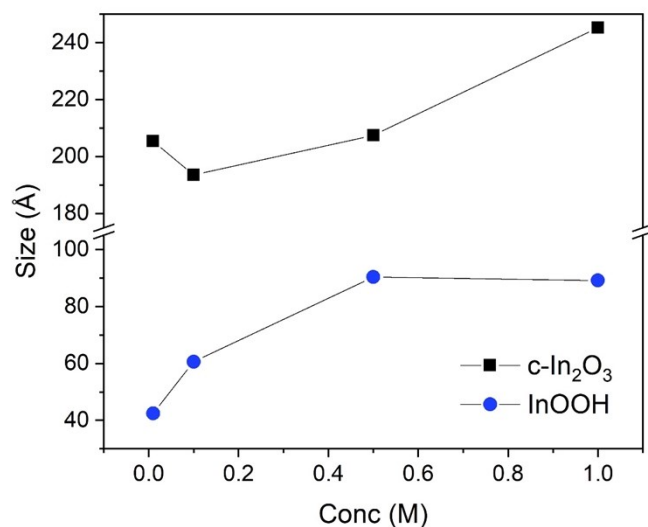
**Figure S37.** Rietveld refinement with  $In(OH)_3$  and  $InOOH$  for the sample synthesized by flow at 200 °C in water.



**Figure S38.** Refined crystallite sizes for the flow samples. The uncertainties are smaller than the symbols and are provided by the FullProf software.



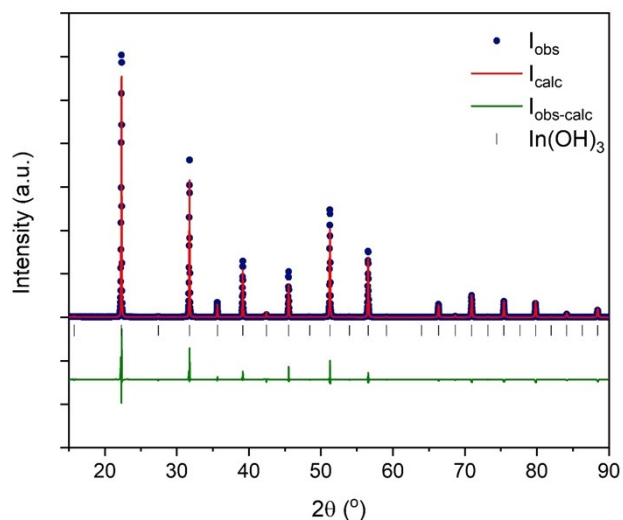
**Figure S39.** Extracted weight fractions for the concentration series synthesized by flow at a temperature of 350 °C. The uncertainties are smaller than the symbols and are provided by the FullProf software.



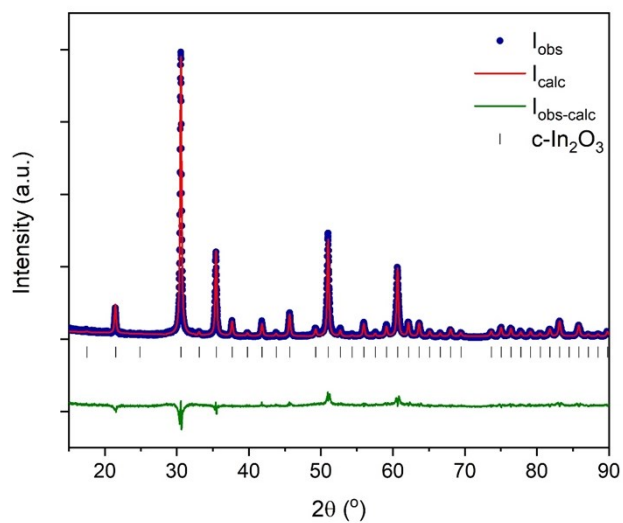
**Figure S40.** Extracted crystallite sizes for the concentration series synthesized by flow at a temperature of 350 °C. The uncertainties are smaller than the symbols and are provided by the FullProf software.

Sample	Preparation	In(OH) <sub>3</sub>				c-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>				Rp	Rwp	Re	chi
		Scale	a	X	Ig	Scale	a	Y	Ig				
In(OH) <sub>3</sub>	As synthesized in autoclave	6.275E-4	7.96456	5.22429E-2	5.54839E-3					17.9	23.2	4.31	29.0
c-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	After STA to 380 °C					0.18253E-04	10.12006	0.180499	0.11154E-1	23.9	24.7	10.53	5.49

**Table S9.** Values from Rietveld refinement of PXRD data of the autoclave synthesized In(OH)<sub>3</sub> as well as the resulting product after STA to 380 °C.



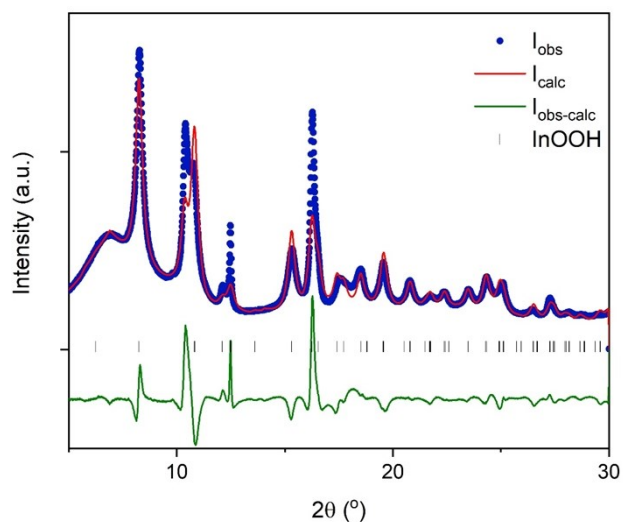
**Figure S41.** Rietveld refinement of PXRD for the autoclave synthesized In(OH)<sub>3</sub>. The size broadening is not possible to refine as it is smaller than the instrumental broadening (size >100 nm).



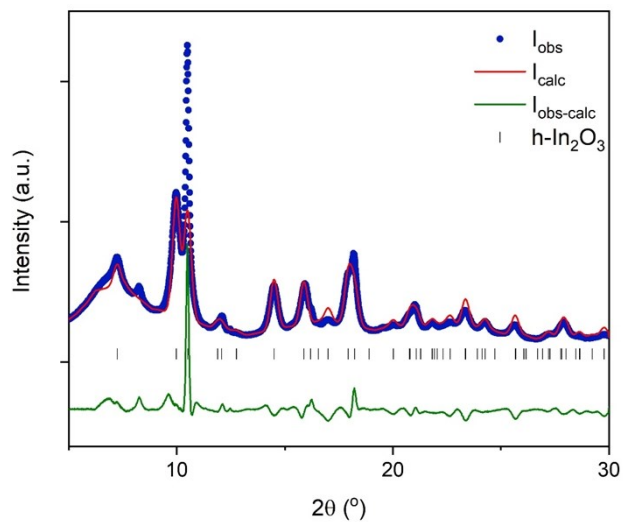
**Figure S42.** Rietveld refinement of PXRD of the In(OH)<sub>3</sub> sample after calcination at 380 °C with a c-In<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> phase. The refined size is 26 nm.

Temperature / °C	InOOH					h-In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>				Ig	Rp	Rwp	Re	chi
	Scale	a	b	c	Y	Scale	a	c	Y					
320	1.221E-3	5.31329	4.59572	3.2452	0.37812						18.9	26.0	4.17	38.8
410						2.698E-05	5.46636	14.4891	0.020817	0.144866	35.6	36.1	5.06	51.1

**Table S10.** Values from Rietveld refinement of PXRD data from the *in situ* calcination of InOOH. The diffractograms from which the values are extracted are the ones just before and after the observed transformation.



**Figure S43.** Rietveld refinement of InOOH at 320 °C during the *in situ* calcination experiment, with an isotropic size model. The refined size is 4.8 nm.



**Figure S44.** Rietveld refinement of h-In<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> at 410 °C during the *in situ* calcination experiment, with an isotropic size model. The refined size is 6.7 nm.

## Refinement of flow synthesized InOOH

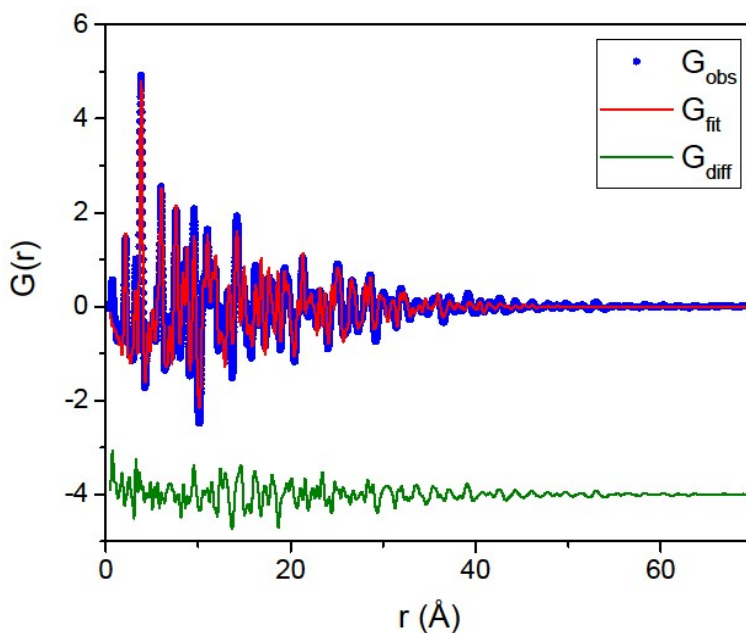
As observed in Figure S37 and S40 the Rietveld refinements of InOOH-rich samples synthesized by flow with water as solvent have high residuals in contrast to the InOOH samples synthesized during *in situ* solvothermal experiments (Figure S20).

A phase pure InOOH sample (synthesized in flow at 325 °C with water as solvent) was further investigated. Using TS and PDF analysis a satisfactory fit was obtained (Figure S45), confirming that the atomic structure is InOOH. On the contrary, PXRD data measured both in house and at synchrotron both result in unsatisfactory fits. Both of the datasets have matching relative peak intensities and widths (Figure S46). This suggest the PXRD data are representative for the sample. The higher quality synchrotron data was used to test numerous models (Table S11). To confirm the unit cell parameters, a Le Bail refinement was employed. Using an anisotropic size model with 3 spherical harmonics both peak positions and the peak shapes are well described. Rietveld refinement using the anisotropic size model still had substantial undescribed intensity. A refinement including preferred orientation was observed to further improve the fit (Figure S45), while a large residual was still observed. Refinement of other parameters such as the atomic sites, occupancy and thermal motion of indium was also attempted without yielding better descriptions of the data.

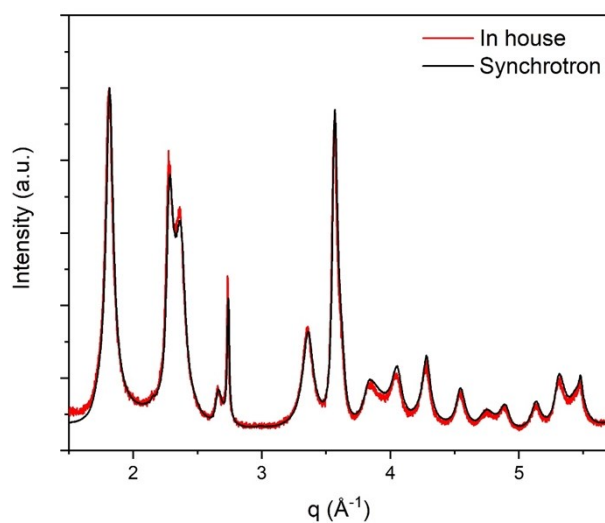
TEM images of the sample show highly agglomerated small crystallites, which are slightly elongated and possibly plate like (Figure S48). As the PXRD patterns are similar when measured with a flat sample holder (in house/Bragg-Brentano geometry) and spinning capillary (synchrotron/Debye-Scherrer geometry) a high degree of preferred orientation is not expected in the system (Figure S46).

As preferred orientation and anisotropic size broadening cannot fully described data we suggest that defects in the structure might also contribute to the unexplained intensities.

High residuals are also observed when refining h-In<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> calcined from InOOH as observed in Figure S44. In Figure S49 the measured diffractograms of InOOH and h-In<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> originating from InOOH are compared to reference diffractograms. These clearly show that the relative intensities in both cases does not match the references. This indicate that the effect, which cannot be modelled for InOOH, is transferred into h-In<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>. This observation correspond well with the proposed transformation mechanism from InOOH to h-In<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S45.** PDF analysis of the InOOH sample synthesized by flow with water as solvent and a temperature of 325 °C.

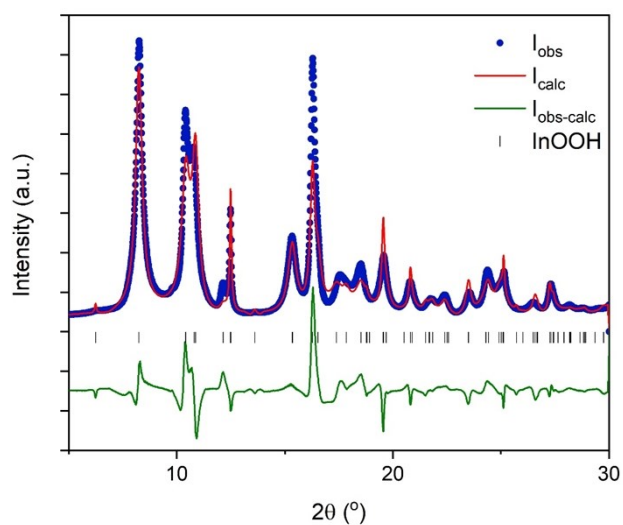


**Figure S46.** Comparison of PXRD of the InOOH sample measured in house and at Spring8 synchrotron.

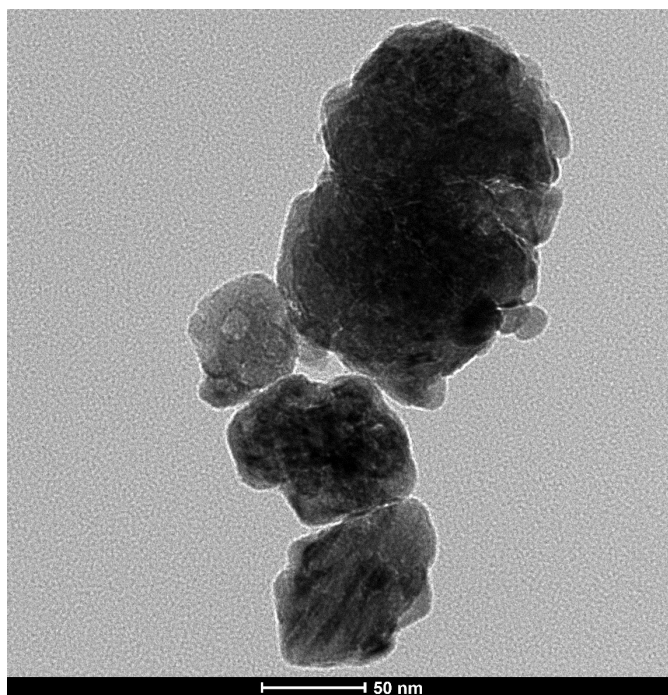
Model	Method	Rp	Rwp	Re	chi
Isotropic size	Rietveld	19.8	26.1	1.5	302
3 Spherical harmonics	Rietveld	18.9	24.8	1.49	275.5
3 Spherical harmonics and Preferred orientation	Rietveld	18.4	23.0	1.52	228.4
Isotropic size	Le Bail	12.6	15.7	1.5	108.9
3 Spherical harmonics	Le Bail	9.43	12.6	1.39	82.62

**Table S11.** R-values for the different models refined against the PXRD data

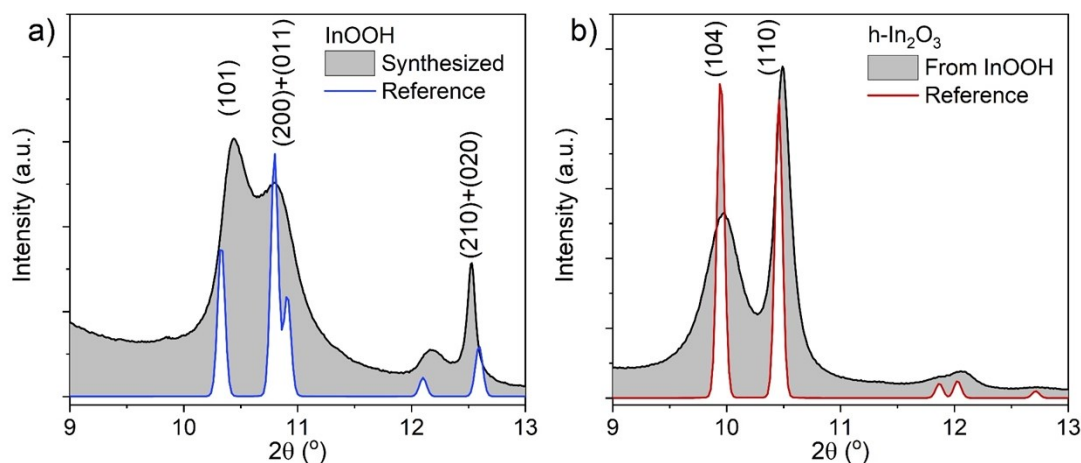




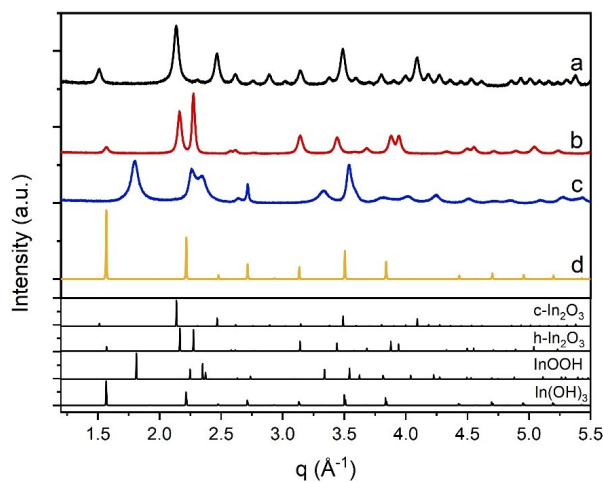
**Figure S47.** Rietveld refinement of InOOH sample with size broadening modelled by 3 spherical harmonics and preferred orientation modelled by the March-Dollase Numeric Multiaxial Function with [101] and [010]. The model is not satisfactory, but shown as it is the best obtained fit to the data.



**Figure S48.** TEM image of the InOOH sample synthesized by flow with water as solvent and a temperature of 325 °C. The image is considered representative of the observed particles



**Figure S49.** Comparison of the measured PXRD data to diffractograms calculated from reference systems.<sup>16,17</sup>



**Figure S50.** PXRD of phase pure synthesis products. a)  $c\text{-In}_2\text{O}_3$  synthesized by continuous flow synthesis at  $450^\circ\text{C}$  with ethanol as solvent. b)  $h\text{-In}_2\text{O}_3$  synthesized by calcination of dry  $\text{InOOH}$  powder at  $600^\circ\text{C}$ . c)  $\text{InOOH}$  synthesized by continuous flow synthesis at  $325^\circ\text{C}$  with water as solvent. d)  $\text{In}(\text{OH})_3$  synthesized in autoclave at  $140^\circ\text{C}$  with water as solvent and addition of  $\text{NaOH}$ .

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