

## Supporting Information

for *Adv. Mater. Interfaces*, DOI: 10.1002/admi.202300060

Nanoscale Porosity of High Surface Area Gadolinium  
Oxide Nanofoam Obtained With Combustion Synthesis

*Roos M. de Boer, Xiaodan Chen, Daniel Cvejn, Kateřina  
Peterek Dědková, Marijn A. van Huis, and Rafael G.  
Mendes\**

## Supporting Information

### Nanoscale Porosity of High Surface Area Gadolinium Oxide Nanofoam Obtained with Combustion Synthesis

Roos M. de Boer<sup>1</sup>, Xiaodan Chen<sup>1</sup>, Daniel Cvejn<sup>2</sup>, Kateřina Peterek Dědková<sup>3,4</sup>, Marijn A. van Huis<sup>1,5</sup>,  
Rafael G. Mendes<sup>1,5,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Soft Condensed Matter, Debye Institute for Nanomaterials Science, Utrecht University, Princetonplein 5, 3584 CC Utrecht, The Netherlands*

<sup>2</sup> *ENET Centre, CEET, VŠB - Technical University of Ostrava, 17. listopadu 15, 708 33, Ostrava, Czech Republic*

<sup>3</sup> *Centre for Advanced Innovation Technologies, VŠB - Technical University of Ostrava, 17. listopadu 15, 708 33, Ostrava, Czech Republic*

<sup>4</sup> *Department of Mining Engineering and Safety, Faculty of Mining and Geology, VŠB - Technical University of Ostrava, 17. listopadu 15, 708 33, Ostrava, Czech Republic*

<sup>5</sup> *Electron Microscopy Centre, Utrecht University, Universiteitsweg 99, 3584 CG Utrecht, The Netherlands*

\*Corresponding author. E-mail: [r.g.mendes@uu.nl](mailto:r.g.mendes@uu.nl)

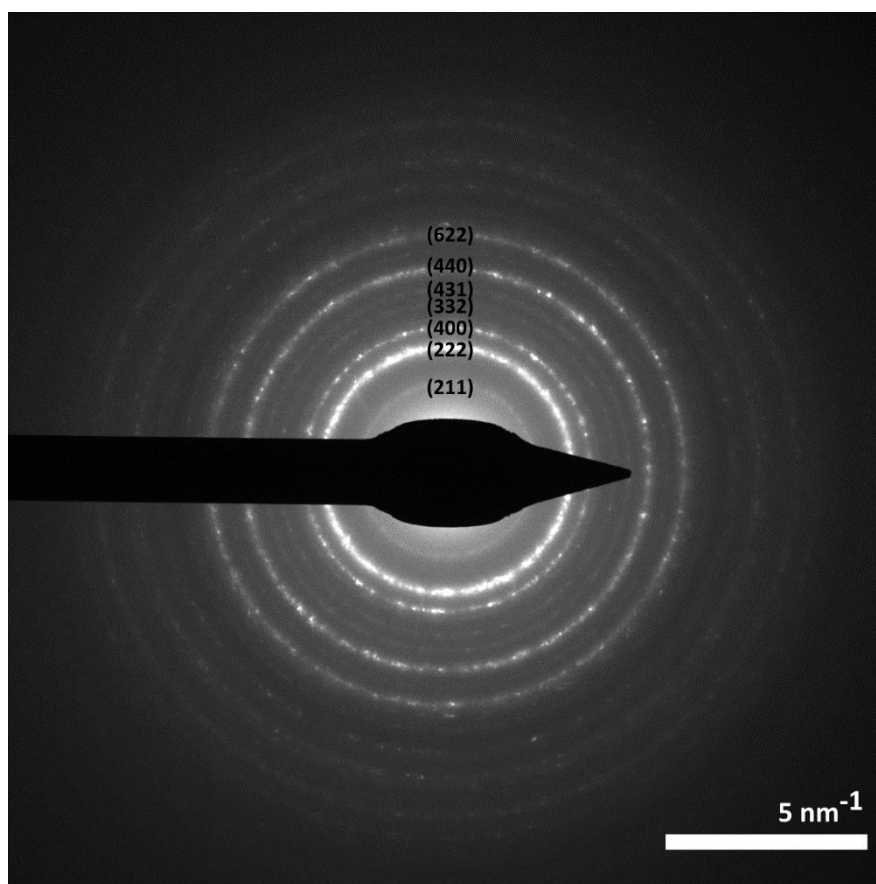


Figure S1: Indexed electron diffraction pattern indicating the cubic  $\text{Gd}_2\text{O}_3$  phase.

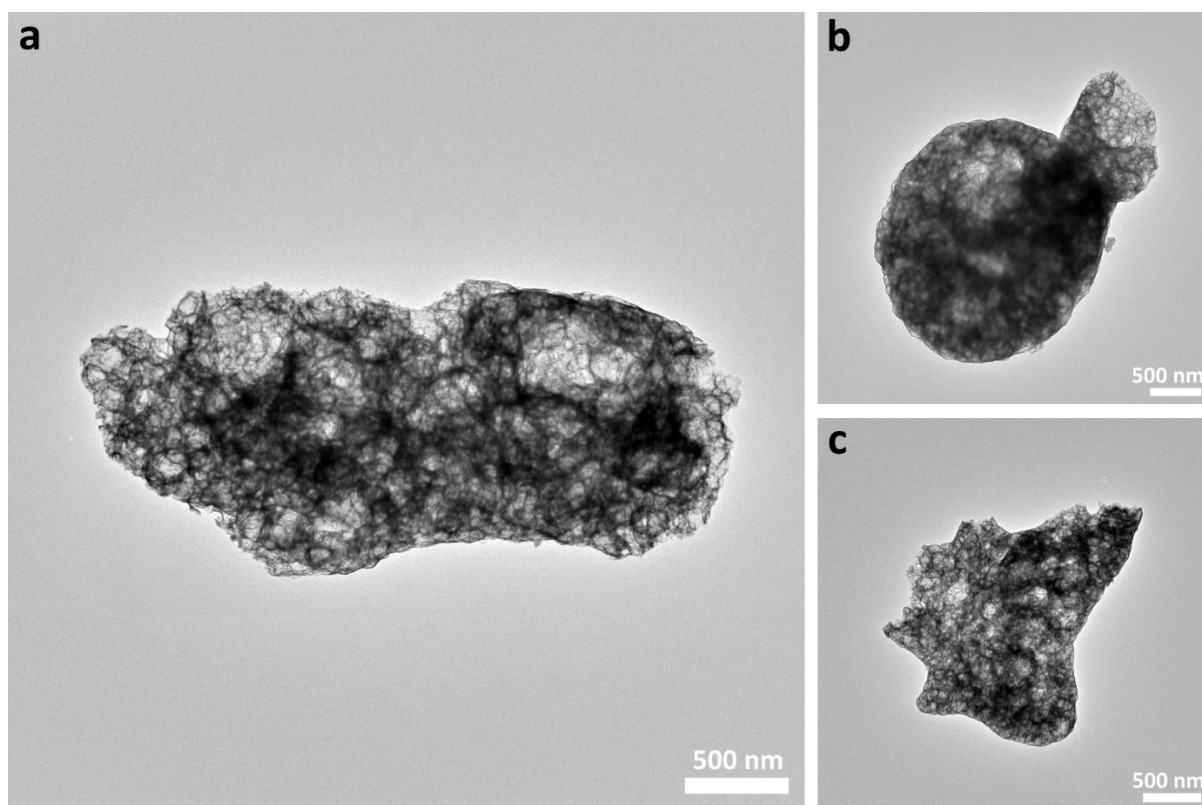


Figure S2: TEM images of different  $\text{Gd}_2\text{O}_3$  morphologies showing a cylindrical (a), spherical (b), and irregular structure (c).

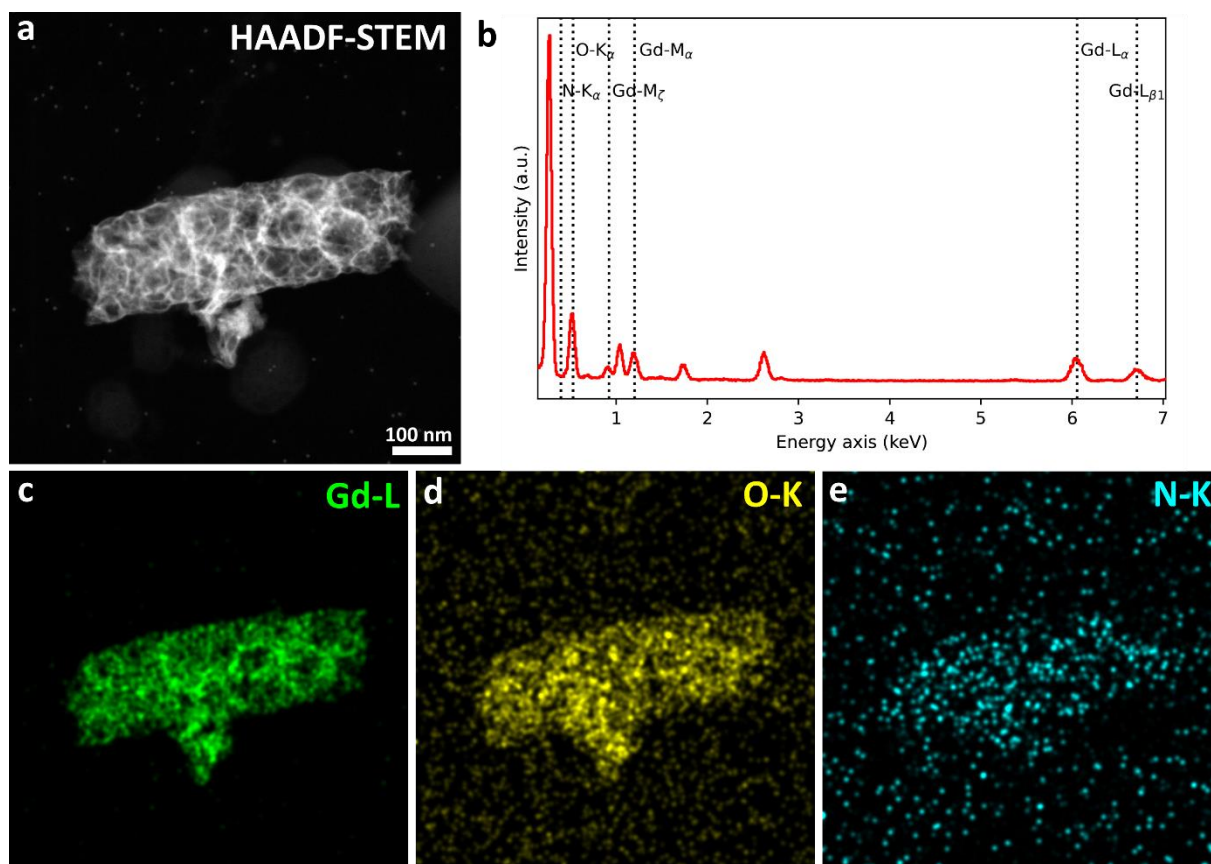


Figure S3: EDS analysis of the  $Gd_2O_3$  grain shown in the HAADF-STEM image (a). The EDS spectrum in (b) shows peaks corresponding to the elements Gd and O, and the absence of a N peak. Elemental maps shown in (c) and (d) indicate that Gd and O are uniformly presented throughout the sample, whereas (e) shows that the presence of N is negligible.

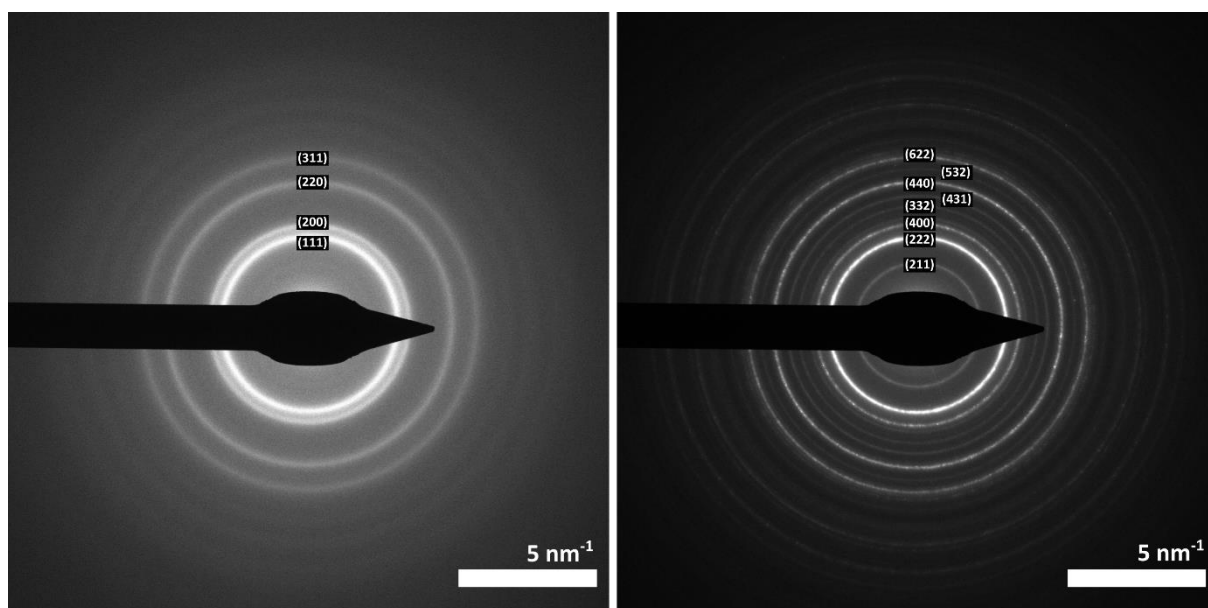
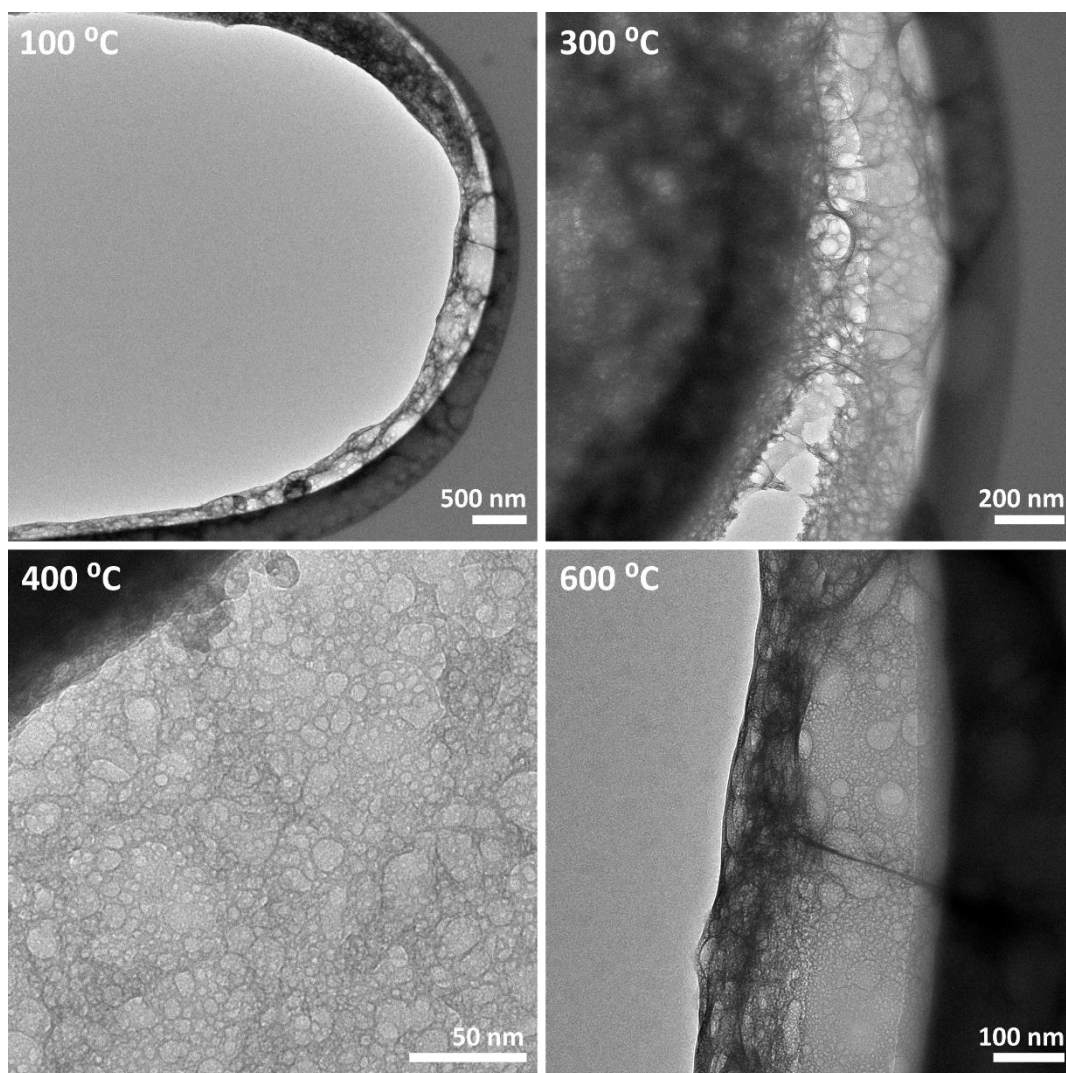


Figure S4: Indexed diffraction patterns of the in-situ heating to 600 °C corresponding to GdO (left) and the ex-situ heating to 900 °C corresponding to Gd<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (right).



*Figure S5: TEM images of Gd gel during in-situ heating to 600 °C.*

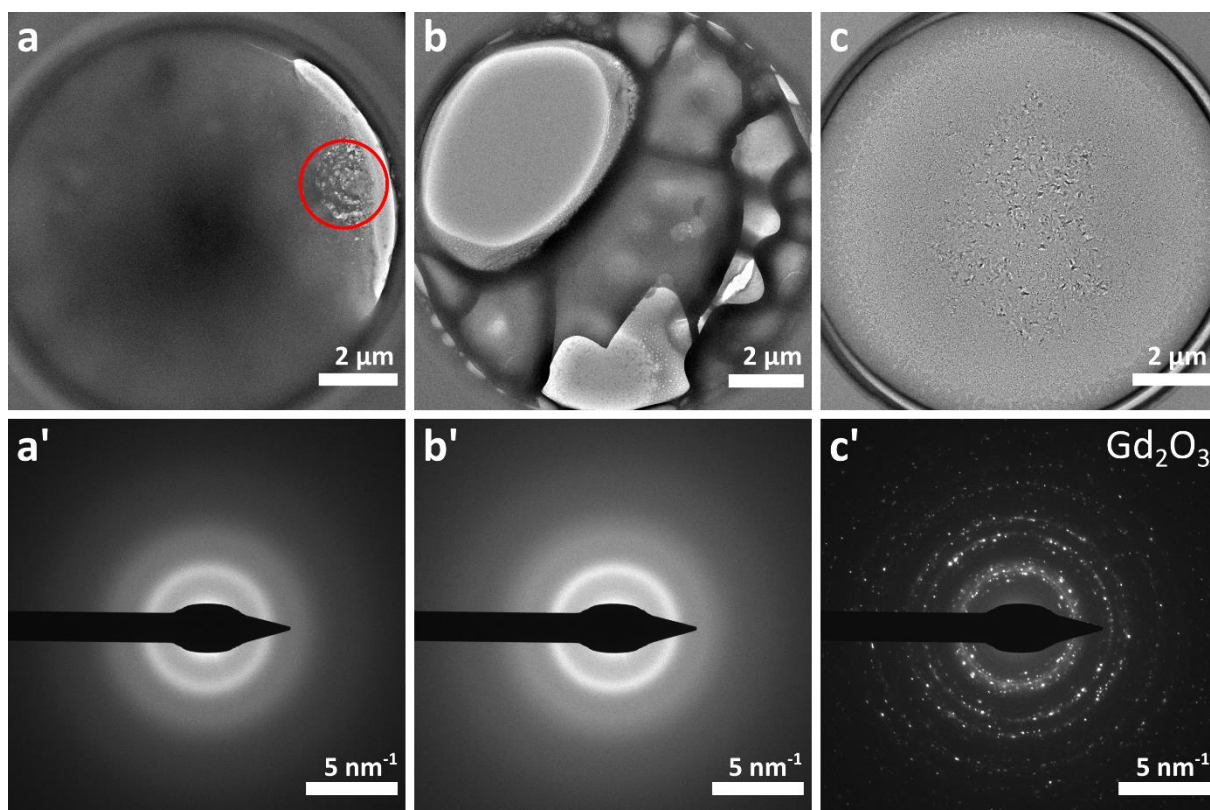
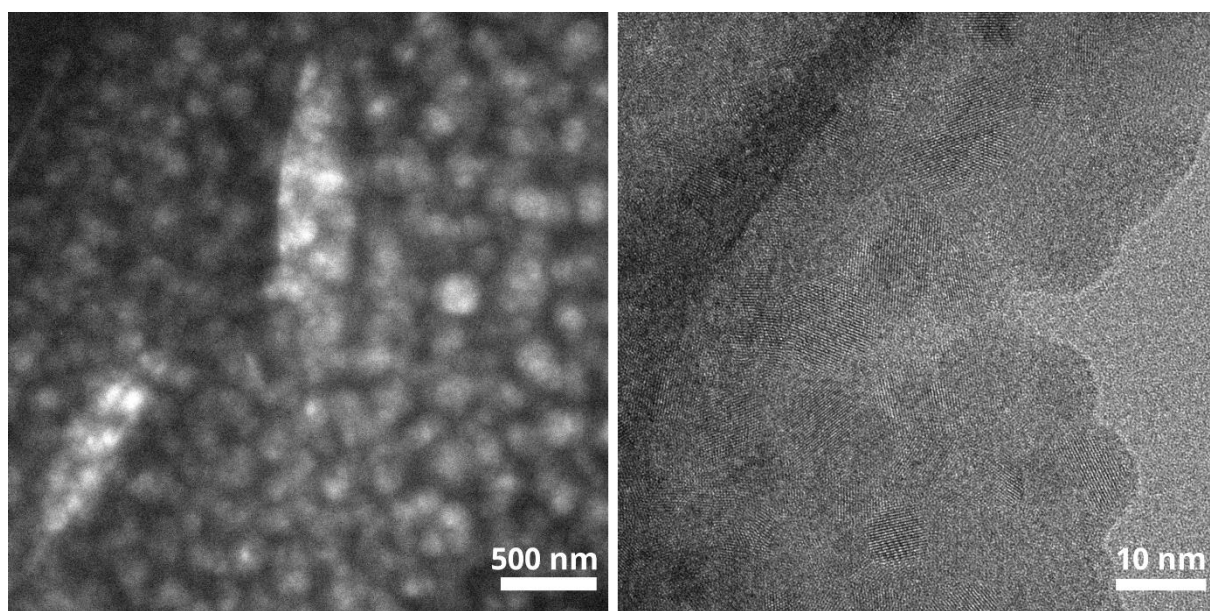


Figure S6: TEM window overview image of 600 °C in-situ sample after 6 weeks (a), 600 °C ex-situ sample after 6 weeks (b), and 900 °C ex-situ sample after 7 weeks (c) with corresponding diffraction patterns ('). The red circle indicates the area that abruptly changed when illuminated with the electron beam.





*Figure S7: TEM image of the precursor heated to 100 °C showing large scale porosity (left) and HRTEM image of the precursor heated to 900 °C, which is not showing small scale porosity (right).*

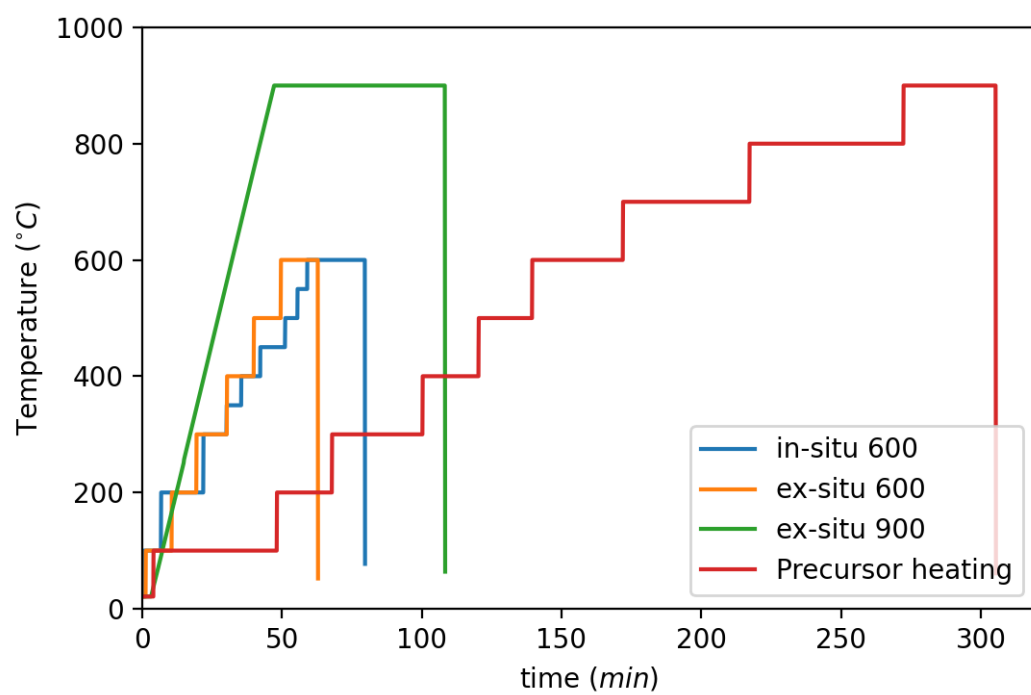


Figure S8: Heating profiles for the various in-situ and ex-situ experiments.

**Supporting Video 1:** Aligned tilt series of a large  $\text{Gd}_2\text{O}_3$  piece tilted from  $-73^\circ$  to  $80^\circ$  in TEM mode.

**Supporting Video 2:** Aligned tilt series of a large  $\text{Gd}_2\text{O}_3$  piece tilted from  $-73^\circ$  to  $80^\circ$  in STEM mode.

**Supporting Video 3:** Tomographic reconstruction of the large  $\text{Gd}_2\text{O}_3$  piece acquired in STEM mode made using the weighted back projection algorithm.

**Supporting Video 4:** Animation of the 3D reconstruction of the large  $\text{Gd}_2\text{O}_3$  piece, first showing the surface of the particle and then slicing through it.

**Supporting Video 5:** Aligned tilt series of a small  $\text{Gd}_2\text{O}_3$  piece tilted from  $-65^\circ$  to  $78^\circ$  in STEM mode.

**Supporting Video 6:** Tomographic reconstruction of the small  $\text{Gd}_2\text{O}_3$  piece acquired in STEM mode made using the weighted back projection algorithm.

**Supporting Video 7:** Animation of the 3D reconstruction of the small  $\text{Gd}_2\text{O}_3$  piece, first showing the surface of the particle and then slicing through it.