## Supporting Information

## Systematic Synthesis and Characterization of Single-Crystal Lanthanide Orthophosphate Nanowires

Yue-Ping Fang,<sup>†</sup> An-Wu Xu,<sup>\*,†</sup> Rui-Qi Song,<sup>†</sup> Hua-Xin Zhang,<sup>†</sup> Li-Ping You,<sup>§</sup> Jimmy C. Yu,<sup>‡</sup> Han-Qin

## Liu<sup>†</sup>

Contribution from <sup>†</sup>School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Zhongshan University, Guangzhou 510275, China <sup>‡</sup>Department of Chemistry, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin, New Territories, Hong

Kong, China

<sup>§</sup>Electron Microscopy Laboratory, Peking University, Beijing, 100084, China

Corresponding author: A. W. Xu, E-mail: cedc17@zsu.edu.cn



**Figure S1.** XRD patterns of the obtained hexagonal  $LnPO_4$  (Ln = La  $\rightarrow$  Dy, from bottom to top) nanowires.



**Figure S2.** XRD patterns of the as-synthesized tetragonal (Ho  $\rightarrow$  Lu, Y)PO<sub>4</sub> crystals.



**Figure S3.** TEM images of the obtained hexagonal  $NdPO_4$  (c), and  $EuPO_4$  (d) nanowires or nanorods. (e) SEM image of the obtained hexagonal DyPO<sub>4</sub> nanowires.



**Figure S4.** (a) TEM image of the obtained  $GdPO_4$  nanowires. (b) HRTEM image of a single nanowire with the clear lattice fringes of [001] with spacing d = 0.633 nm, and [100] with spacing 0.596 nm. Inset in (b) The corresponding electron diffraction shows a single crystal recorded from the [010] zone axis.



**Figure S5.** (a) Low-magnification TEM image of the obtained  $DyPO_4$  nanowires. (b) TEM image of a single nanowire. (c) HRTEM image of a single nanowire with the clear lattice fringes of [001] with spacing d = 0.627 nm, and [100] with spacing 0.585 nm. Inset in (b) The corresponding electron diffraction shows a single crystal recorded from the [010] zone axis.





**Figure S6.** EDS spectrum of the obtained  $GdPO_4$  nanowires (a) and  $DyPO_4$  nanowires (b). Cu peak raised from the TEM grid.





**Figure S7.** FTIR spectra of hexagonal  $LnPO_4$  (Ln = La  $\rightarrow$  Dy) nanowires/nanorods (a) and tetragonal (Ho  $\rightarrow$  Lu, Y)PO<sub>4</sub> particles (b).



**Figure S8.** The XPS spectra of the obtained hexagonal LaPO<sub>4</sub> nanowires. (a) Survey XPS spectrum. (b) La 3d. (c) P 2p. (d) O 1s.



**Figure S9.** XRD patterns of monoclinic  $LnPO_4$  (Ln = La  $\rightarrow$  Tb) products produced from as-made hexagonal  $LnPO_4$  nanowires/nanorods after calcination at 900 °C.



**Figure S10.** XRD patterns of tetragonal  $DyPO_4$ ,  $YPO_4$  and  $HoPO_4$  products obtained from as-prepared hexagonal  $DyPO_4$ , tetragonal  $YPO_4$  and  $HoPO_4$  samples after calcination at 900 °C.



**Figure S11.** TEM images of monoclinic  $LnPO_4$  nanowires/nanorods obtained by calcination of asmade corresponding products at 900 °C. (c)  $PrPO_4$ , (d)  $DyPO_4$ .