

SYNTHESIS, STRUCTURE, AND HYDROGEN STORAGE PROPERTIES OF H-RICH ALUMINUM-AMIDOBORANE COMPLEXES

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Materials based on a boron-nitrogen (B-N) bond, in particular, ammonia borane, metal amidoborane, hydrazine borane, metal hydrazinidoboranes, and metal borohydride ammoniates^[1] attracted significant attention as hydrogen storage materials because of their high gravimetric hydrogen densities. We pay more attention to aluminum-amidoborane complexes, given some encouraging properties for the first system studied, involving the unsubstituted amidoborane.^[2] Here we studied the synthesis, structure, and hydrogen storage properties of the Al-based terminal substituted amidoborane complexes Na[AlH(CH₃NHBH₃)₃] and Na[Al(CH₃NHBH₃)₄] obtained from NaAlH₄ and CH₃NH₂BH₃. As compared with unsubstituted Al-based amidoboranes (Na[Al(NH₂BH₃)₄]), Na[Al(CH₃NHBH₃)₄] is easier to obtain with lower energy input. However, large mass losses during the thermal decomposition of Na[Al(CH₃NHBH₃)₄], exceeding largely the hydrogen content of this complex hydride, indicates the loss of larger fragments, preventing the reversibility of H-desorption. Fortunately, Na[Al(CH₃NHBH₃)₄] + 12 NaH and Na[Al(CH₃NHBH₃)₄] + 6 NaNH₂ reactive hydride composites (RHCs) produce a large amount of high purity hydrogen at moderate temperatures. This gives hopes for the potential hydrogen reversibility in this and related Al-amidoborane systems.

References

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