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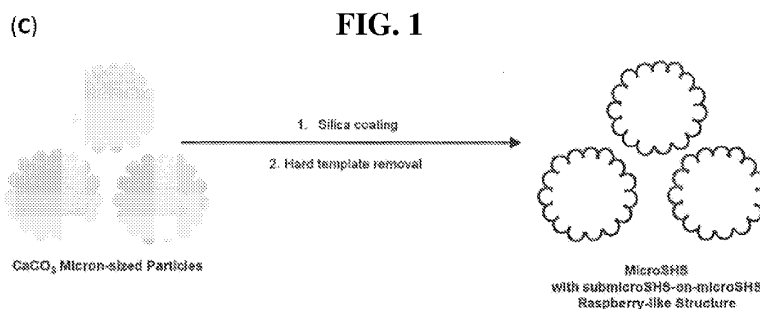
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(54) **Title:** MICRON-SIZED SILICA HOLLOW SPHERES WITH RASPBERRY-LIKE STRUCTURES AND A LOW-COST METHOD FOR PREPARATION THEREOF



(57) **Abstract:** A method of producing hollow inorganic microparticles each having a raspberry-like structure is disclosed herein. The method includes forming a suspension comprising hierarchical microparticles directly from mixing of aqueous reactants, wherein the aqueous reactants are aqueous solutions each containing a reactant for forming the hierarchical microparticles, wherein the hierarchical microparticles comprise CaCO₃ vaterite particles, adding a base, adding a silica precursor, wherein the base is added prior to adding the silica precursor, and removing the hierarchical microparticles with an acid to obtain the hollow inorganic microparticles each having the raspberry-like structure. A hollow inorganic microparticle having a raspberry-like structure produced according to the method is also disclosed herein.



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