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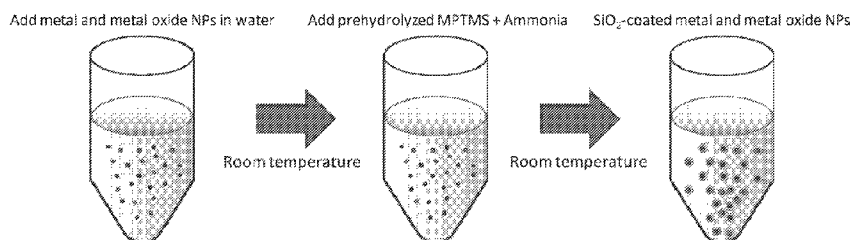
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- (54) **Title: SILICA COATING ON NANOPARTICLES**

[Fig. 1]



- (57) **Abstract:** This invention relates to a method for synthesizing a SiO₂-coated nanoparticle, the method comprising the step of reacting a hydroxyl-functionalised silane with a nanoparticle in a substantially aqueous phase under conditions to induce silanization of the nanoparticle. The method enables silanization of the nanoparticle in aqueous phase that is substantially free of organic solvents.

