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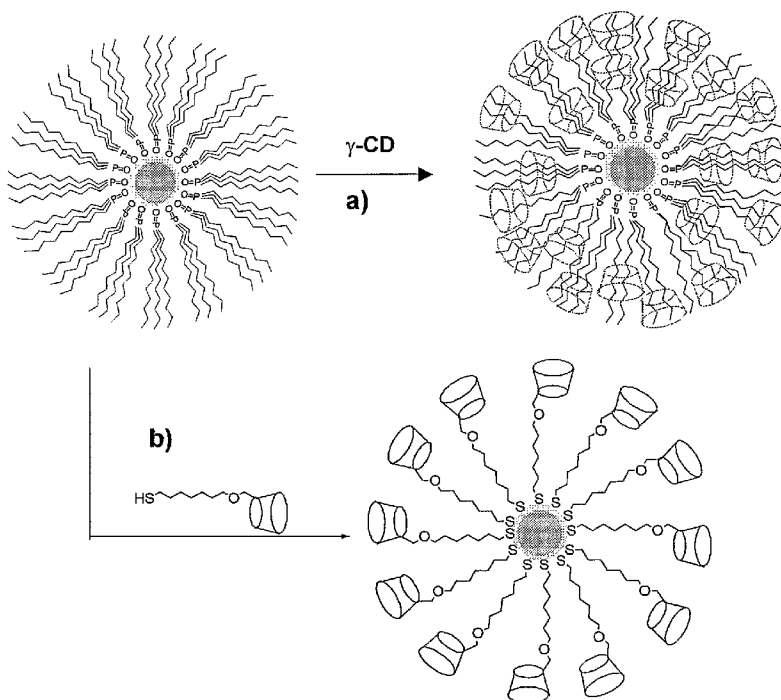
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(54) Title: WATER-SOLUBLE NANOCRYSTALS AND METHODS OF PREPARING THEM



(57) Abstract: Disclosed is a water soluble nanocrystal having a core comprising at least one metal M1 selected from an element of subgroup IIb, subgroup VIIa, subgroup VIIIa, subgroup Ib, subgroup IV, main group II or main group III of the periodic system of the elements (PSE), at least one element A selected from an element of the main group V or VI of the periodic system of the elements, wherein a capping reagent is attached to the surface of the core of the nanocrystal, and wherein the capping reagent forms a host guest complex with a water soluble host molecule. Also disclosed is a water soluble nanocrystal having a core comprising at least one metal M1 selected from an element of subgroup IIb, subgroup VIIa, subgroup VIIIa, subgroup Ib, subgroup IV, main group II or main group III of the periodic system of the elements (PSE), and at least one element A selected from an element of the main group V or VI of the periodic system of the elements, wherein a capping reagent is attached to the

surface of the core of the nanocrystal, and wherein the capping reagent is covalently linked to a water soluble host molecule. Also disclosed is a water soluble nanocrystal having a core comprising at least one metal M1 selected from an element of subgroup IIb, subgroup VIIa, subgroup VIIIa, subgroup Ib, subgroup IV, main group II or main group III of the periodic system of the elements (PSE), wherein a capping reagent is attached to the surface of the core of the nanocrystal, and wherein the capping reagent forms a host guest complex with a water soluble host molecule. Finally, compositions and uses of such nanocrystals are disclosed.

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