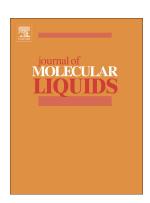
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Optical and structural properties of oxidation resistant colloidal bismuth/gold nanocomposite: An efficient nanoparticles based contrast agent for X-ray computed tomography



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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Optical and Structural Properties of Oxidation Resistant Colloidal Bismuth/Gold

Nanocomposite: An Efficient Nanoparticles Based Contrast Agent for X-ray Computed

Tomography

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Abstract

Optical and biomedical applications of bismuth-based nanostructures could be limited due to

the particle oxidation in aqueous media. To overcome this limitation, a two-step process

including Nd:YAG pulsed laser ablation of bismuth and chemical reaction for shell formation

have been developed to fabricate Bi/Au nanoparticles. The nanoparticles have been extensively

characterized by various method including transmission electron microscopy, scanning

electron microscopy, energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy, X-ray diffraction, optical

extinction and MNPBEM simulation package using boundary element method. The prepared

bismuth nanoparticles by laser ablation in toluene demonstrate a narrow size distribution with

mean size of 40 nm and gold shell were synthesized on Bi core with 7 nm thickness. In optical

transmission, the wavelength of maximum absorption peak due to surface plasmon resonance

was at 562 nm for gold thickness between 5 to 7 nm. MNPBEM simulation results predict the

trends of the experimental observation including the spherical shape and shell thickness.

Oxidation resistance of nanoparticles was studied via optical extinction spectroscopy.

Oxidation resistance is one of the important factors in efficiency of nanoparticles in aqueous

solution as CT contrast agents Finally, Bi/Au composite nanoparticles demonstrated higher x-

ray attenuation in comparison with commercial iodine molecule.

Keywords: Bi/Au composite; optical properties; oxidation resistant; CT contrast agent.

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