## Supporting Information

# Surfactant-controlled composition and crystal structure of manganese(II) sulfide nanocrystals prepared by solvothermal synthesis 

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## Additional TEM images and ED patterns of MnO and MnS nanocrystals

## Morphology of MnO and MnS Nanocrystals

Being an in-depth discussion of NC morphology outside the scope of this paper, we limit ourselves to a brief summary of the size and shape of the MnO and MnS NC obtained using stearic acid (StAC) as a precursor. Morphological data are collected in Table S1 (TEM images of selected samples can be found in Figure 1 of the main text). MnO NCs prepared from $\mathrm{Mn}_{2}(\mathrm{CO})_{10}$ have octahedral shape and size in the $10-20 \mathrm{~nm}$ range with dispersity $15-22 \%$. Manganese monooleate gave somewhat larger and more disperse (15-27\%) MnO NCs with shape similar to the MnO case.

MnO NCs usually have spherical or octahedral shape. Size and dispersity depend on the precursor. MnO NCs prepared from $\mathrm{Mn}_{2}(\mathrm{CO})_{10}$ have size in the $10-20 \mathrm{~nm}$ range with dispersity $15-$ 22\%. Manganese monooleate gave somewhat larger and more disperse (15-27\%) MnO NCs. Size and dispersity further increased when manganese dioleate $\left(\mathrm{MnOl}_{2}\right)$ was used and even further when the precursor was manganese distearate $\left(\mathrm{MnSt}_{2}\right)$.

The size of $\alpha-\mathrm{MnS}$ NCs was in the $10-65 \mathrm{~nm}$ range, with dispersity $15-35 \%$, as already observed [A. Puglisi; S. Mondini; S. Cenedese; A. M. Ferretti; N. Santo; A. Ponti, Chem. Mater. 2010, 22, 2804-2813]. In most cases, $\alpha$-MnS NCs display spherical or octahedral shape.

In general, considering that no effort was spent to optimize the synthetic conditions, the NCs size dispersion is acceptable and a remarkable shape uniformity was achieved.

Finally, it is noteworthy that manganese dicarboxylate precursors yielded multipodal MnO NCs when $\mathrm{S} / \mathrm{Mn}$ < 1:1 was used. $\mathrm{MnOl}_{2}$ resulted in multipodal NCs comprising up to 6 oval lobes (form factor $=1.6$ ). When $\mathrm{MnSt}_{2}$ was used, multipodal NCs (rods, T 's, crosses) had more elongated branches (form factor $=3.6$ ) with constant width and jagged edges. The analysis of MnO multipodes will be deferred to future publications.

Table S1: Properties of NCs synthesized by the thermal decomposition of a manganese precursor in octadecene containing varying amounts of sulfur (S) and stearic acid (L).

| Precursor | S/Mn | $\mathrm{L} / \mathrm{Mn}^{\text {a }}$ | NC type | Shape ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | Median diameter $(\mathrm{nm})^{\mathrm{c}}$ | Diameter std. dev. (nm) ${ }^{\text {c }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{Mn}_{2}(\mathrm{CO})_{10}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1:1 | 1:1 | MnO / $\alpha$-MnS | octahedron | 12 | 1.7 |
|  |  | 2:1 | MnO | octahedron | 12 | 1.4 |
|  |  | 3:1 | MnO | octahedron | 17 | 3.1 |
|  | 2:1 | 2:1 | $\mathrm{MnO} / \alpha-\mathrm{MnS}$ | octahedron | 10 | 1.8 |
|  |  | 3:1 | MnO | octahedron | 12 | 1.8 |
|  |  | 4:1 | $\alpha-\mathrm{MnS}$ | octahedron | 23 | 3.8 |
|  |  |  |  | sphere | 8 | 1.2 |
|  | 4:1 | 2:1 | $\alpha-\mathrm{MnS}$ | sphere | 40 | 8.9 |
|  |  | 3:1 | $\alpha-\mathrm{MnS}$ | sphere | 28 | 3.3 |
| $\mathrm{Mn}(\mathrm{OH}) \mathrm{Ol}^{\text {d }}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 0:5 | 1:1 | MnO | IRC | $63 \times 10$ | $31.4 \times 5.8$ |
|  |  | 4:1 | MnO | octahedron | 25 | 6.7 |
|  | 1.7:1 | 0.6:1 | $\alpha-\mathrm{MnS}$ | sphere | 14 | 2.3 |
|  | 2:1 | 0:1 | $\alpha-\mathrm{MnS}$ | sphere | 17.5 | 2.3 |
|  | 2.3:1 | 0.6:1 | $\alpha-\mathrm{MnS}$ | sphere | 14.7 | 2.7 |
|  |  | 1:1 | MnO / $\alpha$-MnS | sphere | 20 | 4.9 |
|  |  |  |  | octahedron | 25 | 6 |
|  | 3:1 | 0:1 | $\alpha$-MnS | sphere | 18 | 2.4 |
|  | 4:1 | 0:1 | $\alpha-\mathrm{MnS}$ | sphere | 16 | 2.8 |
| $\mathrm{MnOl}_{2}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 0:1 | 3:1 | MnO | spheroidal | 6 | 1.8 |
|  |  | 4:1 | MnO | octahedron | 72 | 19 |
|  | 0.5:1 | 0:1 | MnO | IRC | 45 | 12.2 |
|  |  | 1:1 | MnO | octahedron | 46 | 7.2 |
|  |  | 2:1 | MnO | quasisphere | 20 | 2.8 |
|  |  | 3:1 | MnO | 4-flower | 54 | 12.8 |
|  |  |  |  | octahedron | 53 | 12.3 |
|  |  |  |  | T-shape | $53 \times 47$ | $12.3 \times 12.2$ |
|  |  | 4:1 | MnO | crosses | 80 | 16.4 |
|  |  |  |  | T-shape | $82 \times 56$ | $16.1 \times 16.1$ |
|  |  |  |  | 6-flower | 77 | 16 |
|  |  | 6:1 | MnO | sphere | 23 | 18 |
|  |  |  |  | T-shape | $71 \times 43$ | $22.5 \times 22.3$ |
|  |  |  |  | flower-like | 71 | 19.1 |
|  |  | 7:1 | MnO | quasisphere | $34 \times 21$ | $10.6 \times 10.5$ |
|  |  | 8:1 | MnO | sphere | 12 | 2.8 |
|  | 2:1 | 0:1 | $\alpha-\mathrm{MnS}$ | sphere | 19 | 2.5 |
|  |  | 1:1 | $\mathrm{MnO} / \alpha-\mathrm{MnS}$ | sphere | 24 | 2.0 |
|  | 3:1 | 0:1 | $\alpha-\mathrm{MnS}$ | sphere | 21.6 | 2.9 |


|  |  | 1:1 | $\mathrm{MnO} / \alpha-\mathrm{MnS}$ | sphere | 7 | 0.7 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | sphere | 22 | 6.9 |
|  |  |  |  | octahedron | 21.5 | 4.3 |
|  | 4:1 | 0:1 | $\alpha-\mathrm{MnS}$ | sphere | 21.5 | 3.6 |
|  |  | 1:1 | $\alpha-\mathrm{MnS}$ | sphere | 21.9 | 3.0 |
| MnSt2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 0:5 | 0:1 | MnO | IRC | 55 | 9.2 |
|  |  | 0:8 | MnO | crosses | 98 | 28.4 |
|  |  |  |  | T-shape | $105 \times 60$ | $27.4 \times 27.2$ |
|  |  |  |  | rod | 114 | 28.2 |
|  |  | 1:1 | MnO | crosses | 80 | 24.3 |
|  |  |  |  | T-shape | $79 \times 45$ | $24.5 \times 24.4$ |
|  |  |  |  | rod | 73 | 21.7 |
|  |  | 2:1 | MnO | quasisphere | 39 | 24.0 |
|  |  |  |  | T-shape | $81 \times 63$ | $24.8 \times 24.7$ |
|  |  |  |  | rod | 81 | 25.2 |
|  |  | 3:1 | MnO | IRC | 25 | 5.9 |
|  |  | 4:1 | MnO | crosses | 78 | 24 |
|  |  |  |  | T-shape | $75 \times 75$ | $23.6 \times 23.6$ |
|  |  |  |  | rod | 73 | 23.6 |
|  | 2:1 | 0:1 | $\alpha$-MnS | quasisphere | 65 | 9.9 |
|  |  |  |  | IRC | $12 \times 8$ | $4 \times 2$ |
|  |  | 1:1 | $\alpha-\mathrm{MnS}$ | quasisphere | 7 | 1.2 |
|  |  | 4:1 | $\mathrm{MnO} / \alpha-\mathrm{MnS}$ | ellipse | $31 \times 23$ | $4 \times 3$ |
|  | 4:1 | 0:1 | $\alpha-\mathrm{MnS}$ | octahedron | 29 | 8.7 |

${ }^{a}$ For $\mathrm{Mn}_{2}(\mathrm{CO})_{10}$ and $\mathrm{MnSt}_{2}, \mathrm{~L}=$ stearic acid; for $\mathrm{Mn}(\mathrm{OH}) \mathrm{Ol}$ and $\mathrm{MnOl}_{2}, \mathrm{~L}=$ oleic acid.
${ }^{\mathrm{b}}$ IRC $=$ irregular, rounded, convex shape; quasi-sphere $=$ shape very close to spherical.
${ }^{\text {c Both maximum and minimum values are shown for anisotropic shapes. }}$
${ }^{\mathrm{d}}$ Data are in part taken from A. Puglisi; S. Mondini; S. Cenedese; A. M. Ferretti; N. Santo; A. Ponti,
Chem. Mater. 2010, 22, 2804-2813.

TEM images and ED patterns of NCs prepared by thermal decomposition of manganese(II) distearate $\left(\mathrm{MnSt}_{2}\right)$ in the presence of sulfur ( S ) and different surfactants $(\mathrm{L})$ with $\mathbf{S} / \mathbf{M n}=\mathbf{2}$ and $L / M n=4$. See Table 1 in the main text.

$\mathrm{L}=$ DdAm; outcome: $\boldsymbol{\gamma}$-MnS NCs.

$\mathrm{L}=$ HdAm; outcome: $\gamma$-MnS NCs.

$\mathrm{L}=$ OdAm; outcome: $\gamma$-MnS NCs.

$\mathrm{L}=$ OlAm; outcome: $\gamma-\mathrm{MnS}$ NCs.

$\mathrm{L}=$ OlAm + DdTh; outcome: $\gamma-\mathrm{MnS}$ NCs.

$\mathrm{L}=$ none; outcome: $\alpha$-MnS NCs.

$\mathrm{L}=$ OlAlc; outcome: $\alpha$-MnS NCs.

$\mathrm{L}=\mathrm{DdTh}$; outcome: $\alpha-\mathrm{MnS}$ NCs.

$\mathrm{L}=\mathrm{StAc}$; outcome: $\alpha-\mathrm{MnS}$ NCs.

$\mathrm{L}=\mathrm{DdTh}$; outcome: $\alpha$-MnS NCs.

TEM images and ED patterns of NCs prepared by thermal decomposition of manganese decacarbonyl $\left[\mathrm{Mn}_{2}(\mathrm{CO})_{10}\right.$ ] in the presence of sulfur ( S ) and different amine surfactants ( L ) with $S / M n=2$ and $L / M n=4$. See. Table 2 in the main text.

$\mathrm{L}=$ OlAm; outcome: $\alpha$-MnS NCs.

$\mathrm{L}=$ DdAm; outcome: $\alpha$-MnS NCs.


L = HdAm; outcome: $\alpha-\mathrm{MnS}$ NCs.

$\mathrm{L}=$ OdAm; outcome: $\alpha$-MnS NCs.

TEM images and ED patterns of NCs prepared by thermal decomposition of manganese decacarbonyl $\left[\mathrm{Mn}_{2}(\mathrm{CO})_{10}\right]$ in the presence of sulfur $(\mathrm{S})$ and a mixture of carboxylic acid ( $\mathrm{L}_{\text {acid }}$ ) and amine ( $\mathrm{L}_{\text {amine }}$ ) surfactants with $\mathrm{S} / \mathrm{Mn}=2, \mathrm{~L}_{\text {acid }} / \mathrm{Mn}=2$ and $\mathrm{L}_{\text {amine }} / \mathrm{Mn}=4$. See Table 3 in the main text.

$\mathrm{L}_{\text {amine }}=$ OlAm, $\mathrm{L}_{\text {acid }}=$ StAc; outcome: $\gamma-\mathrm{MnS}$ NCs.


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$\mathrm{L}_{\text {amine }}=$ OdAm, $\mathrm{L}_{\text {acid }}=$ StAc; outcome: $\boldsymbol{\gamma}$-MnS NCs.



[^0]:    $\mathrm{L}_{\text {amine }}=$ DdAm, $\mathrm{L}_{\text {acid }}=$ StAc; outcome: $\boldsymbol{\gamma}$-MnS NCs.

