Fabrication of environmentally friendly QD-polymer nanocomposites with improved optical properties using amphiphilic polymer ligands

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Quantum dots (QDs) have attracted attentions to be the next-generation material in lightemitting devices (LEDs). To apply QD to LEDs, polymers such as polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS) or polymethylmethacrylate (PMMA) are chosen as a QD matrix. In the QDpolymer nanocomposite, however, optical properties of QD decrease because of aggregation and FRET. Besides, most of high performing QDs are composed with environmentally harmful component such as Cd, Pb. To solve these problems, we present the environmentally friendly QD-polymer nanocomposite showing enhanced optical properties compared to conventional QD/PDMS nanocomposites. We fabricated nanocomposite by encapsulating QD with polystyrene-co-maleic anhydride(PSMA) followed by crosslinking QD-PSMA with PDMS to produce nanocomposite. Nanocomposite was fabricated by ring opening reaction between anhydride in PSMA and diamines of aminopropyl-terminated PDMS. By analyzing optical and thermal properties, we observed great potential of environmentally friendly QD polymer nanocomposites in application to LEDs.