Supporting Information

High-Performance Hollow Microspheres for UV Protection from Cinnamate-Functionalized Cellulose Nanocrystals and Inorganic Nanoparticles

Fangyuan Gea, Man-hin Kwoka*, and To Ngaia*

1 FTIR Spectra for Pristine CNCs and Cin-CNCs

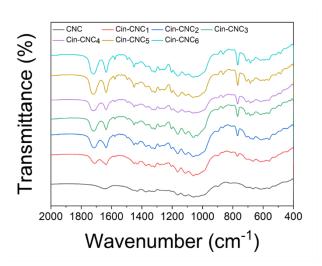


Figure S1. FTIR spectra of pristine CNCs and Cin-CNCs synthesized at varying weight ratios of CNCs to cinnamoyl chloride (1:1, 1:2, 1:3, 1:4, 1:5, and 1:6).

2. The calibration curve and UV absorbance of a blank CNC suspension and Cin-CNCs (4 \times 10⁻⁵ g·mL⁻¹)

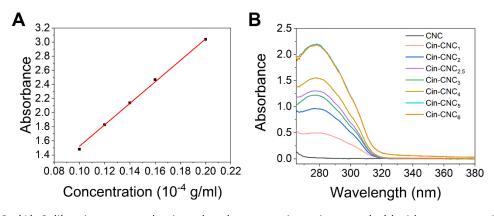


Figure S2. (A) Calibration curve plotting absorbance against cinnamoyl chloride concentration. (B) UV absorption spectra of CNCs and Cin-CNCs with varying grafting fractions.

3. Photostability of Hollow Microspheres

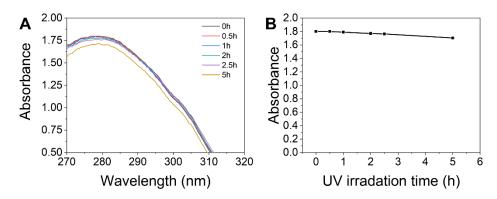


Figure S3. (A) Evolution of the UV absorption of Cin-CNCs/SiO₂ hollow microspheres irradiated at 365 nm for different durations. (B) Maximum absorbance of Cin-CNCs/SiO₂ hollow microspheres at 278 nm as a function of UV irradiation time.

4. Calculation of Grafting Fractions of Cinnamate Groups

Calibration curve derived from UV-visible spectroscopy:

$$y = 152257 \cdot x\#(1)$$

Thus,

$$A = 152257 \cdot c_{Cinnamoyl \, chloride} \# (2)$$

Where $c_{cinnamoyl\ chloride}$ is the concentration of cinnamoyl choride in DMF (solvent) in g·ml⁻¹. After the esterification reaction, the relative molecular mass of the actual cinnamate groups grafted onto CNCs is:

$$M_{Cin} = 147 - 17 = 130 \ g \cdot mol^{-1} \# (3)$$

Thus

$$A = 152257 \cdot c_{Cin} \cdot \frac{M_{Cinnamoyl chloride}}{M_{Cin}} = 193517 c_{Cin} \# (4)$$

Assuming that1g of CNC can provide x moles of reacting sites for grafting cinnamate groups.

Thus,

$$n_{reacting \ site} = x \cdot m_{CNC} \# (5)$$

Let φ be defined as the grafting fraction, which represents the ratio of the reacting sites where grafting occurs to the total reacting sites on the CNCs. The molar mass and mass of the grafted cinnamate groups can be calculated as follows:

$$n_{Cin} = \varphi \cdot n_{reacting \ site} = \varphi \cdot x \cdot m_{CNC} \# (6)$$

$$m_{Cin} = n_{Cin} \cdot M_{Cin} = 130 \cdot \varphi \cdot x \cdot m_{CNC} \# (7)$$

Thus, the total mass of Cin-CNCs in the dispersion used for testing is:

$$m_{Cin-CNC} = m_{Cin} + m_{CNC} = m_{Cin} + \frac{m_{Cin}}{130 \cdot \varphi \cdot x} = \left(1 + \frac{1}{130 \cdot \varphi \cdot x}\right) \cdot m_{Cin} \# (8)$$

Since the concentration of Cin-CNCs is $4 \times 10^{-5} \text{ g} \cdot \text{ml}^{-1}$,

$$m_{Cin-CNC} = c_{Cin-CNC} \cdot V_{sample} \# (9)$$

Thus

$$m_{Cin} = c_{Cin} \cdot V_{sample} = \frac{A}{193517} \cdot V_{sample} \# (10)$$

Dividing both sides of equation (8) by V_{sample} and substituting equation (10):

$$0.00004 = \left(1 + \frac{1}{130 \cdot \varphi \cdot x}\right) \cdot \frac{A}{193517} \# (11)$$

Substituting $\varphi=1$ into equation (11), where $A=A_{Cin-CNC}-A_{CNC}$, we obtain $x=0.003\ mol\cdot g^{-1}$.

Substituting the value x = 0.003 into equation (11), we can calculate the expression for ω :

$$\varphi = \frac{100(A_{Cin-CNC} - A_{CNC})}{302 - 39(A_{Cin-CNC} - A_{CNC})} \#(12)$$

5. Sample Information

Table S1. Sample information.

	Sample	Oil (1 ml)	Water (4 ml)	Grafting Fraction of Cin-CNCs
Effect of Cin-CNCs grafting fraction	A1	0.5 w.t % Aerosil R974	0.5 w.t % Cin- CNCs	0
	A2			0.17
	А3			0.36
	A4			0.47
	A5			0.51
	A6			0.63
	A7			1
Effect of SiO ₂ concentration	B1		0.5 w.t % Cin- CNCs	0.47
	B2	0.25 w.t % Aerosil R974		
	В3	0.5 w.t % Aerosil R974		
	B4	1 w.t % Aerosil R974		
Effect of Cin-CNCs concentration	B5	0.5 w.t % Aerosil R974		
	В3		0.5 w.t % Cin- CNCs	0.47

	В6		1 w.t % Cin- CNCs	
Cin-CNCs/ TiO ₂ hollow microspheres	C1	0.5 w.t % TX-85	0.5 w.t % Cin- CNCs	0
	C2			0.47

6. The Appearance Photos of Hollow Microspheres Dispersed in Water and Oil

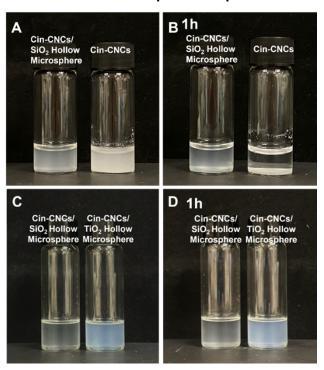


Figure S4. Appearance photographs of 1×10^{-3} g·mL⁻¹ Cin-CNCs/SiO₂ hollow microspheres and Cin-CNCs in water taken immediately after preparation (A) and after 1 hour (B). The grafting fraction of Cin-CNCs used is 0.47. Appearance photographs of 1×10^{-3} g·mL⁻¹ Cin-CNCs/SiO₂ hollow microspheres and Cin-CNCs/TiO₂ hollow microspheres in GTCC taken immediately after preparation (C) and after 1 hour (D). The grafting fraction of Cin-CNCs used is 0.47.

7. Sunscreen Formulations for SPF Testing

Table S2. Sunscreens formulation for SPF testing

	Ingredients	Concentration (w.t %)
Oil Phase	GTCC	37.75
	UV filter	5
	Cetiol 868	3.75
	Eutanol G	4.5

	PGPH	0.75
	Span 83	1.5
	EM 90	2.25
	water	35
Water Phase	glycerin	5
	butylene glycol	4
	phenoxyethanol	0.4
	1,2-Octanediol	0.1