# Biomimetic Crystallization of Anisotropic Zinc Oxide Nanoparticles in the Homogeneous Phase: Shape Control by Surface Additives Applied under Thermodynamic or Kinetic Control

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### **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### <u>SI-1</u>

Temporal evolution of the anisotropy grade



#### <u>SI-2:</u>

## Influence of the chain length of organic acids CH<sub>3</sub>-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-COOH on ZnO anisotropy and particle size determined from PXRD data.

PXRD-data:



Particle-size:



### <u>SI-3</u>

# TEM micrograph of the ZnO nanoparticles obtained after crystallization in the presence of a PBD additive functionalized with the non interacting -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub> group.



### <u>SI-4</u>

FT-IR spectroscopy of the material obtained with PBD-COOH-97



FT-IR spectrum of the pure PBD-COOH-97 polymer as a reference (black).

FT-IR spectrum of the PBD-COOH-97/ ZnO composite (grey).

### <u>SI-5</u>

PXRD pattern of the ZnO material obtained in the presence of perchlorate ions.



The low intensity and significant width of the [002] signal confirms the plate-like morphology of the sample.

### <u>SI-6</u>

In-situ UV/Vis spectroscopy of ZnO formation in presence of  $\mathrm{Co}^{2+}$ 



UV/Vis spectrum of ZnO nanocrystals grown in the presence of  $Co^{2+}$  ions.





X-band EPR spectra of ZnO nanocrystals grown in the presence of  $Co^{2+}$ :

#### <u>SI-7</u>

Mechanism of the photocatalytic decomposition of Rhodamine B

[1] 2 ZnO + 
$$h_V$$
 → ZnO (e<sup>-</sup>) + ZnO (h<sup>+</sup>)  
[2.a] ZnO (h<sup>+</sup>) + RhB → RhB<sup>+</sup> + ZnO  
[2.b] ZnO (h<sup>+</sup>) + H<sub>2</sub>O → OH + H<sup>-</sup>  
[2.c] ZnO (e<sup>-</sup>) + O<sub>2</sub> → ZnO + O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>  
[2.d] ZnO (e<sup>-</sup>) + O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> + H<sup>+</sup> → HO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> + ZnO  
[2.d] HO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> + H<sup>+</sup> → H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>  
[2.e] ZnO (e<sup>-</sup>) + H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> → OH<sup>-</sup> + OH<sup>-</sup>  
[3] OH<sup>-</sup> + RhB → Rh → CO<sub>2</sub> + H<sub>2</sub>O

Qu, P.; Zhao, J.; Shen, T.; Hidaka, H. *Journal of Molecular Catalysis A: Chemical* **1998**, *129*, 257.