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Tunable magnetic exchange interactions in manganese-doped inverted core-shell ZnSe-CdSe nanocrystals¹ DAVID BUSSIAN, SCOTT CROOKER, MING YIN, Los Alamos National Lab, MARCIN BRYNDA, University of California-Davis, ALEXANDER EFROS, Naval Research Lab, VICTOR KLIMOV, Los Alamos National Lab — Magnetic doping of semiconductor nanostructures is pursued for applications in magnetic memory and spin-based electronics. A primary goal is to control interactions between carriers (electrons and holes) and the embedded magnetic atoms. We have demonstrated^{*} a tunable magnetic spd exchange interaction between electron-hole excitations and paramagnetic Mn^{2+} ions using 'inverted' core-shell nanocrystals composed of Mn²⁺-doped ZnSe cores overcoated with undoped shells of narrower-gap CdSe. Magnetic circular dichroism studies reveal giant Zeeman spin splittings of the band-edge exciton that are tunable in magnitude and sign. Effective exciton g-factors are controllably tuned from -200 to +30 at 1.6 K by increasing the CdSe shell thickness, demonstrating that strong quantum confinement and wavefunction engineering in heterostructured nanocrystals can be utilized to manipulate carrier- Mn^{2+} wavefunction overlaps and the sp-d exchange parameters themselves. *D. Bussian et al., Nature Materials, in press.

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> David Bussian Los Alamos National Lab

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