

## Facile synthesis of magnetic core-shell nanocomposites for MRI and CT bimodal imaging

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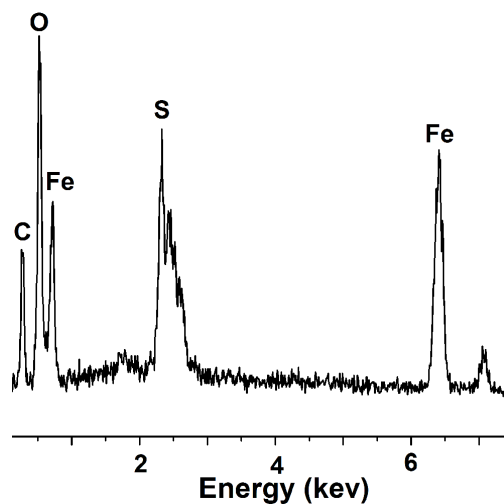


Fig. S1. EDS spectra of iron oxide@sulfur core-shell nanoparticles.

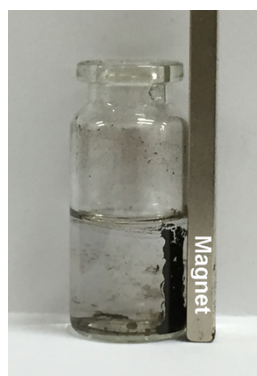


Fig. S2. A photograph was provided to show that the ION@Bi<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> core-shell nanocomposites can be easily attracted by a magnet.

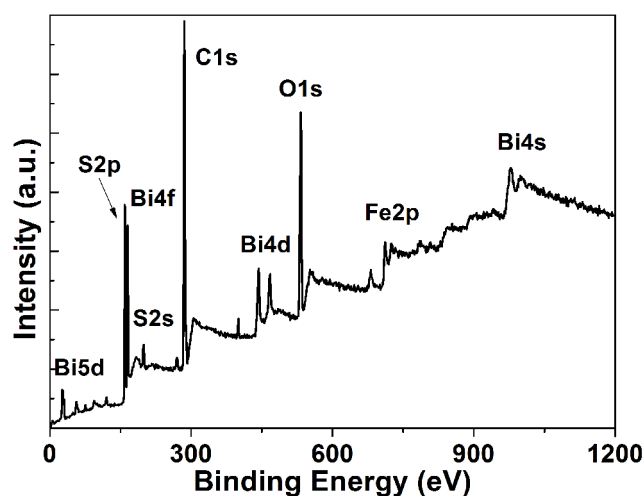
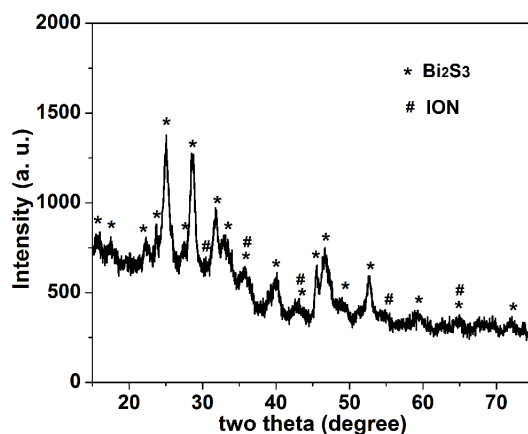
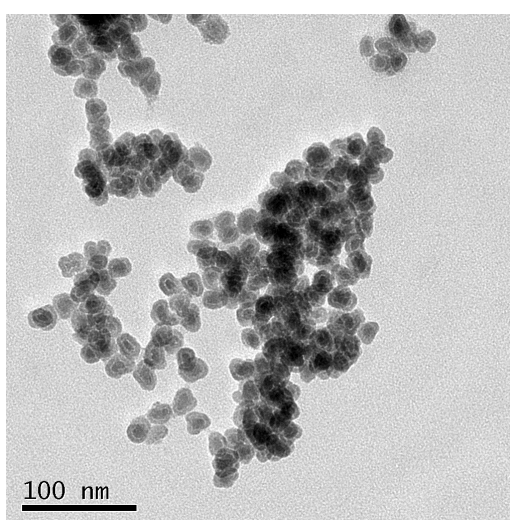


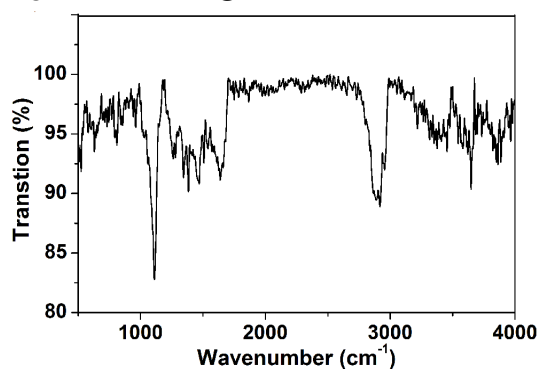
Fig. S3. XPS fully scanned spectrum of the prepared ION@Bi<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> core-shell nanocomposites.



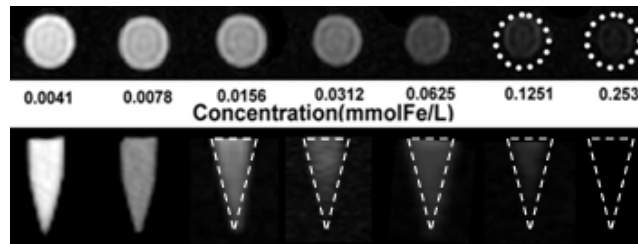
**Fig. S4.** XRD patterns of the as-synthesized ION@Bi<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> core-shell nanocomposites.



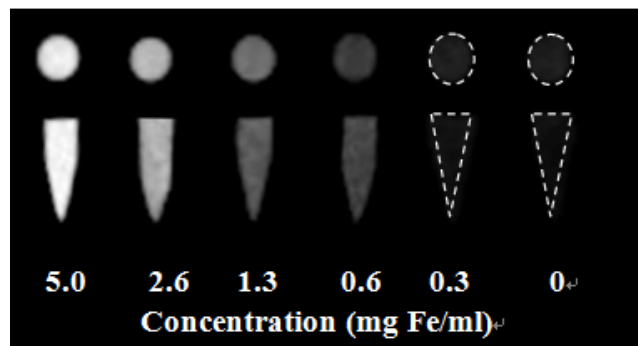
**Fig. S5.** TEM image of PEG-ION@Bi<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> core-shell nanocomposites in water.



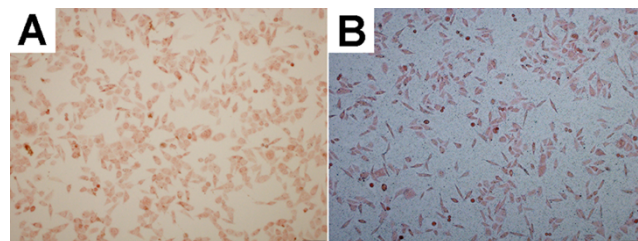
**Fig. S6.** FTIR spectrum of the as-synthesized PEG-ION@Bi<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> core-shell nanocomposites. The IR absorption bands around 2900 cm<sup>-1</sup> owing to the large amount of CH<sub>2</sub> groups in the PEG coating. Various additional peaks from 1000 to 1400 cm<sup>-1</sup> were likely due to stretching vibrations of the C-O bond in PEG.



**Fig. S7.** *In vitro* T<sub>2</sub>-weighted MRI images of ION@Bi<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> core-shell nanocomposites at different concentrations (top: transverse view, bottom: vertical view).



**Fig. S8.** *In vitro* CT images of ION@Bi<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> core-shell nanocomposites at different concentrations (top: transverse view, bottom: vertical view).



**Fig. S9.** Micrographs of Prussian blue stained HeLa cells with (A) control, (B) ION@Bi<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> nanocomposites.