Synthesis of Pd@Ni Foam as Multifunctional Catalyst Fabricated via Mussel-Inspired Surface Modification for H₂O₂ Sensor and 4-Nitrophenol reduction

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In this study, nickel (Ni) foam is used as supporting material for palladium (Pd) to make recyclable multifunctional catalyst with large surface area. Pd@Ni foam catalyst was fabricated via electroless plating of surface modified Ni foam. By using adhesive polydopamine (PDA) as surface modifying agent, a simple and novel method to fabricate Pd@Ni foam composite was developed. PDA-Ni foam and Pd@Ni foam composite with a PDA intermediate layer were characterized by X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS), field-emission scanning electron microscopy (FE-SEM), and X-ray diffraction (XRD). Fabricated catalyst was employed in 4-nitrophenol (4-NPh) reduction reaction which is essential for chemical synthesis and removal of toxic aromatic pollutant. It was also applied to the electrode for H2O2 sensor which is widely investigated in biology, environmental monitoring, and food production.