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Nanostructured ZnO/Pd-doped ZnO Composites for Energy Devices and Environment Remediation

Iqra Qayyum[1,2*], Manzar Zahra[1,3], Fazal Ur Rehman[1,2], Aoun Raza[1], Kanwal Batool[5], Sabeen Arshad[6] and Zeshan Zada[6]

[1]*Department of Chemistry, Lahore Garrison University, Lahore, Pakistan*

[2]*Department of Chemistry, University of Education, Lahore, Pakistan*

[3]*Department of Chemistry, Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan*

[4]*Department of Chemistry, Minhaj University, Lahore, Pakistan*

[5]*Department of Chemistry, The Government Sadiq College Women University, Bahawalpur, Pakistan*

[6]*Department of Physics, The Islamia College Peshawar, Peshawar, Pakistan*

Abstract

Nanostructured composites based on Zinc Oxide (ZnO) and Palladium-doped Zinc Oxide (Pd-doped ZnO) have shown significant potential for various energy devices and environmental remediation applications. This paper provides an overview of recent developments in the synthesis, characterization, and applications of these composites. The unique properties of ZnO and Pd-doped ZnO, combined with the advantages of nanostructured materials, offer enhanced performance and efficiency in energy conversion and environmental remediation processes. This paper discusses the key synthesis methods, structural characterization techniques, and applications of ZnO/Pd-doped ZnO composites, highlighting their role in energy devices and environmental remediation technologies. Additionally, challenges and future prospects for the utilization of these composites are presented.

Keywords: Nanostructured materials • Energy devices • Environmental remediation • Zinc oxide • Palladium

Introduction

Nanostructured materials have attracted significant attention due to their exceptional properties and potential applications in various fields. Among these materials, Zinc Oxide (ZnO) and its composites have shown great promise in the development of energy devices and environmental remediation techniques. The doping of ZnO with Palladium (Pd) further enhances its properties, opening up new avenues for advanced applications. In this paper, we review recent advancements in the synthesis and utilization of nanostructured ZnO/Pd-doped ZnO composites for energy devices and environment remediation [1].

Synthesis and characterization

Various synthesis methods have been employed to fabricate ZnO/Pd-doped ZnO composites, including sol-gel, hydrothermal, and co-precipitation techniques. The choice of synthesis method influences the morphology, size, and distribution of nanoparticles within the composite structure [2]. Structural characterization techniques, such as X-Ray Diffraction (XRD), Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM), Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM), and Energy-Dispersive X-Ray Spectroscopy (EDS), are used to analyze the morphology, crystal structure, and composition of the composites [3].

Description

Energy device applications

ZnO/Pd-doped ZnO composites have shown great potential in energy conversion and storage devices. In solar cells, ZnO serves as an electron transport layer, while Pd-doped ZnO acts as a hole-blocking layer, improving the charge transport and reducing recombination. Similarly, in lithium-ion batteries and supercapacitors, the incorporation of Pd-doped ZnO in ZnO composites enhances the electrochemical performance, leading to increased capacity, stability, and cycling efficiency [4].

***Address for Correspondence:** Iqra Qayyum, Department of Chemistry, Lahore Garrison University, Lahore, Pakistan; Tel: 923056576561, E-mail: chemistryresearch5@gmail.com*

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Environmental remediation applications

The unique properties of ZnO/Pd-doped ZnO composites make them ideal candidates for environmental remediation applications. These composites exhibit excellent photocatalytic activity, enabling the degradation of various organic pollutants in wastewater and air. Additionally, they possess strong adsorption capabilities for heavy metals, offering effective remediation of contaminated water sources. The utilization of ZnO/Pd-doped ZnO composites in advanced oxidation processes and wastewater treatment systems has shown promising results [5].

Challenges and future prospects

Despite the significant progress in the synthesis and applications of ZnO/Pd-doped ZnO composites, several challenges remain. The control over composition, morphology, and interfacial properties of the composites needs further improvement. Moreover, the scalability of synthesis methods and the long-term stability of these composites in harsh environmental conditions require attention. Future research should focus on addressing these challenges and exploring new applications, such as energy storage, catalysis, and sensors [6].

Conclusion

Nanostructured ZnO/Pd-doped ZnO composites exhibit remarkable potential for energy devices and environmental remediation applications. The unique combination of ZnO and Pd-doped ZnO properties, coupled with Nano structuring, enhances the performance and efficiency of these materials. Advances in synthesis techniques and characterization methods have contributed to the understanding of their structure-property relationships. As research progresses, these composites hold promise for addressing energy and environmental challenges, paving the way for sustainable technologies.

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