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PII: S0021-9797(17)30946-3

DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jcis.2017.08.041

Reference: YJCIS 22688

To appear in: Journal of Colloid and Interface Science

Received Date: 2 July 2017 Revised Date: 11 August 2017 Accepted Date: 14 August 2017



Please cite this article as: M-T. Liu, L-X. Chen, D-N. Li, A-J. Wang, Q-L. Zhang, J-J. Feng, One-pot controlled synthesis of AuPd@Pd core-shell nanocrystals with enhanced electrocatalytic performances for formic acid oxidation and glycerol oxidation, *Journal of Colloid and Interface Science* (2017), doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jcis.2017.08.041

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## ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

# One-pot controlled synthesis of AuPd@Pd core-shell nanocrystals with enhanced electrocatalytic performances for formic acid oxidation and glycerol oxidation

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#### **Abstract**

In this work, AuPd@Pd core-shell nanocrystals (AuPd@Pd NCs) were fabricated by a one-pot co-reduction approach, where theophylline-7-acetic acid (TAA) acted as a new structure-directing agent. The crystal structure and composition were mainly characterized by scanning electron microscopy (SEM), transmission electron microscopy (TEM), high-angle annular dark-field scanning transmission electron microscopy (HAADF-STEM), X-ray diffraction (XRD), together with X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS). The growth mechanism of AuPd@Pd NCs was investigated in detail. The obtained AuPd@Pd NCs exhibited superior catalytic characters for formic acid oxidation reaction (FAOR) and glycerol oxidation reaction (GOR) in contrast with commercial Pd black in alkaline media.

**Keywords:** Core-shell nanocrystals; Theophylline-7-acetic acid; Formic acid oxidation; Glycerol oxidation

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