

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

# Advanced Nanosensors for Continuous Monitoring of Heavy Metals

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# Metal Polymer Nanocomposites

## ■ Applications

- ◆ Sensors

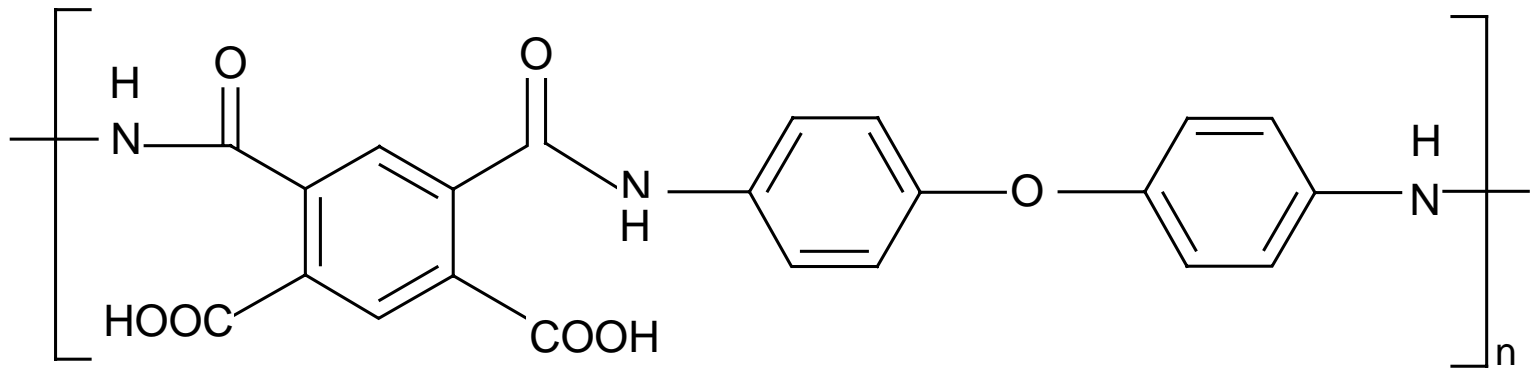
- ◆ Catalysis

- ◆ Nanoelectronics

  - ◆ Magnetic recording and information storage

  - ◆ MRI enhancement and medical diagnostics

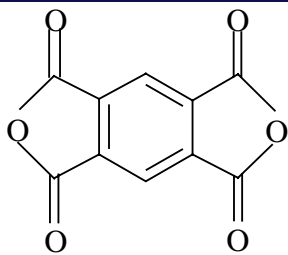
# Polyamic Acid



# Objectives

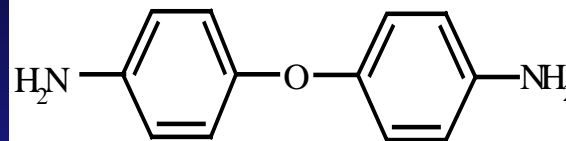
- To synthesize Au nanoparticles in organic medium using a short, simple and convenient method.
- To study the potential of the PAA-metal nanoparticle films for the analysis and removal of heavy metals from aqueous medium

# PAA Synthesis and Chemistry



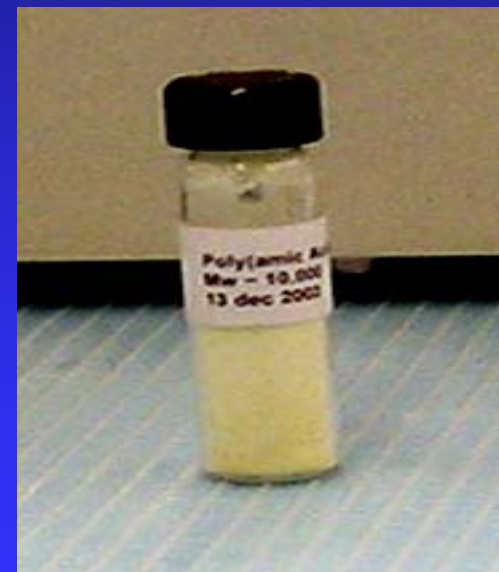
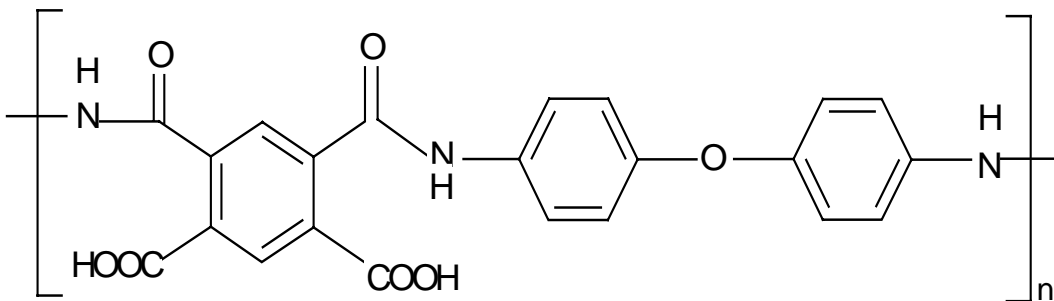
Pyromellitic dianhydride - PMDA

+



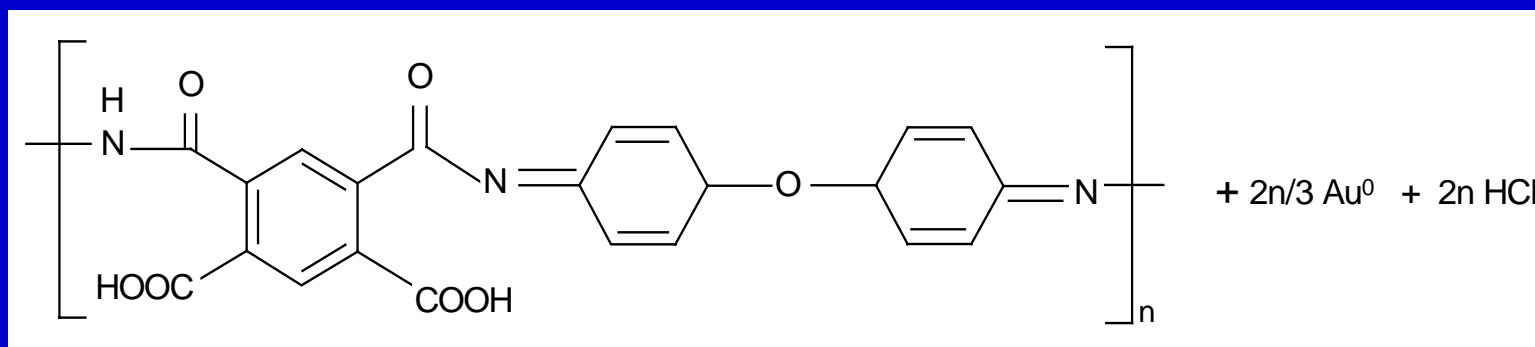
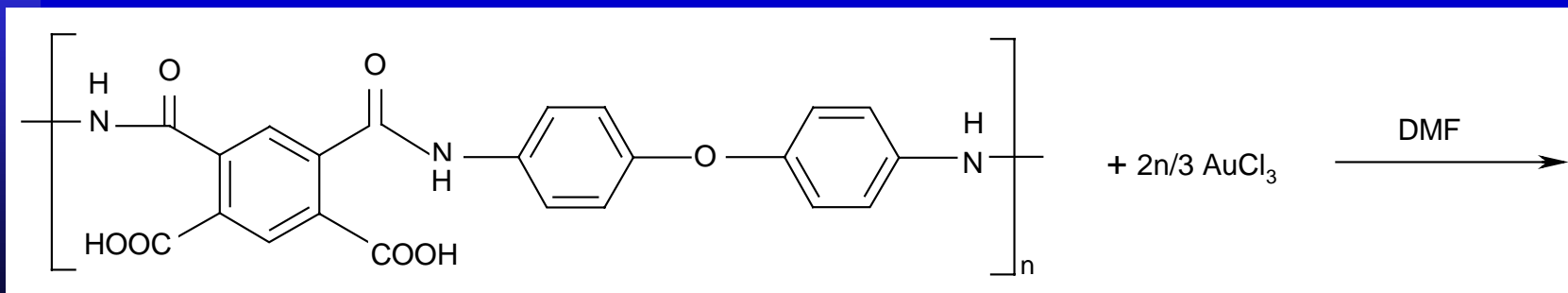
4,4'-Oxydianiline - ODA

MeCN, rt  
Stir, 1 hr, filter



Mw = 10,000 (by GPC)

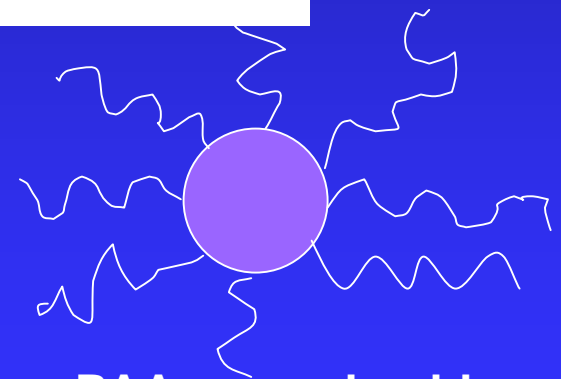
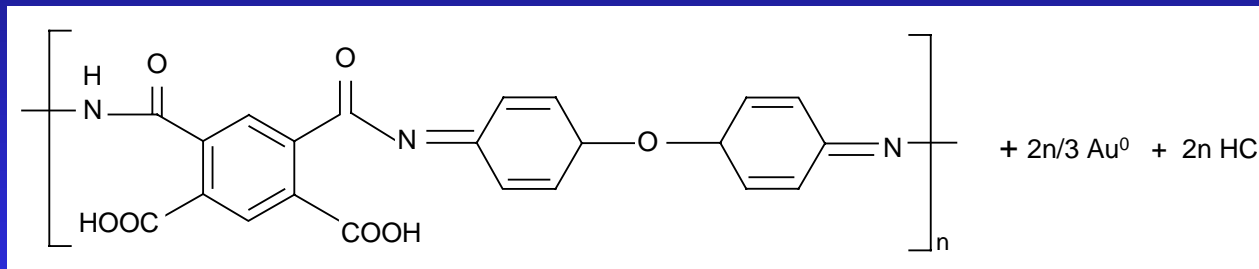
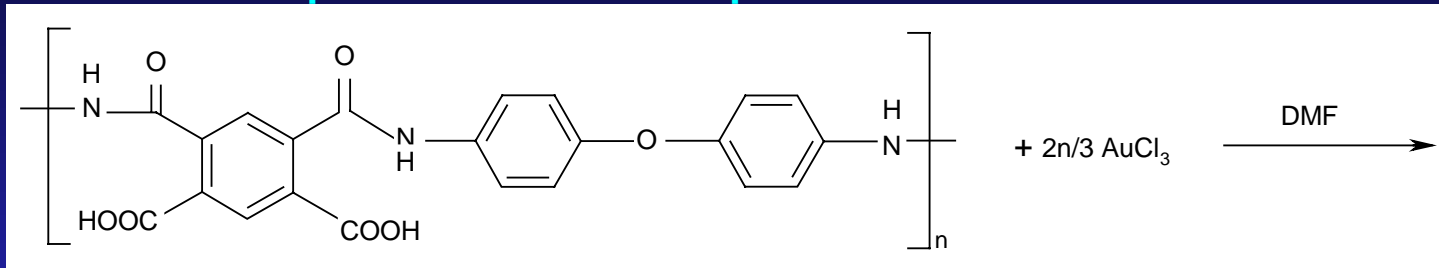
# One Pot Synthesis of Stable NPs



PAA-capped Gold nanoparticles-Single phase, stable and monodispersed

# Synthesis

PAA was dissolved in DMF and solid  $\text{AuCl}_3$  was added to it. The reaction was allowed to proceed at room temperature



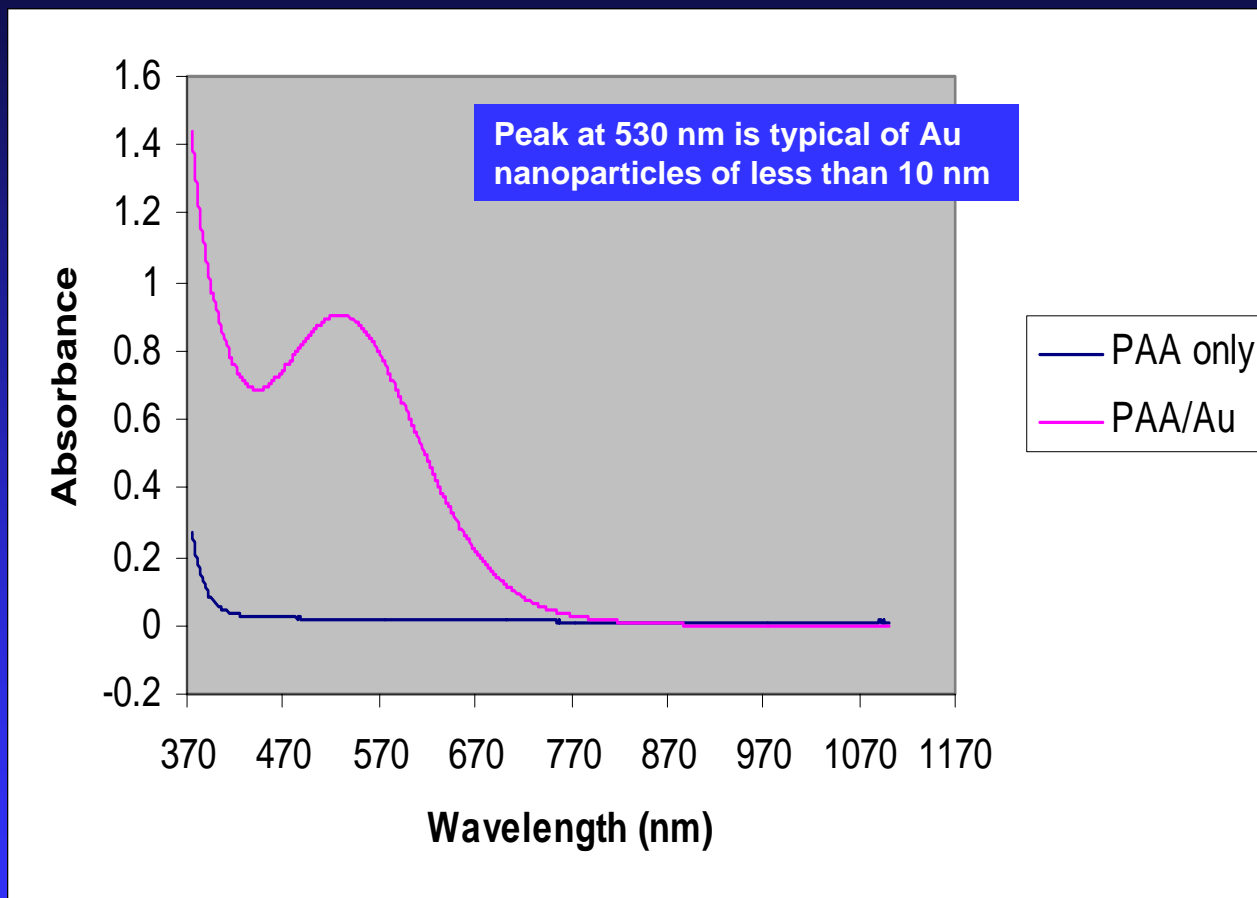
**PAA capped gold nanoparticles**



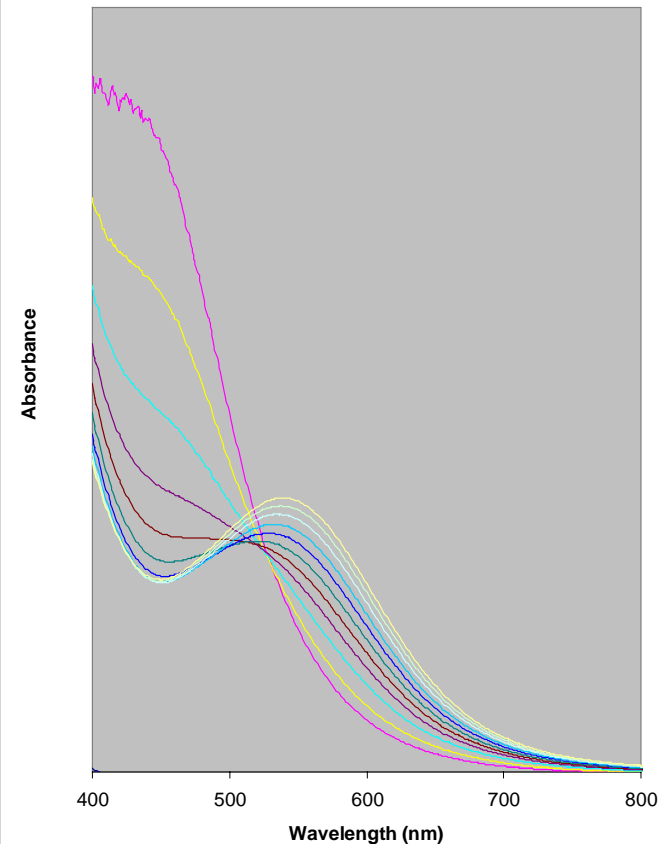
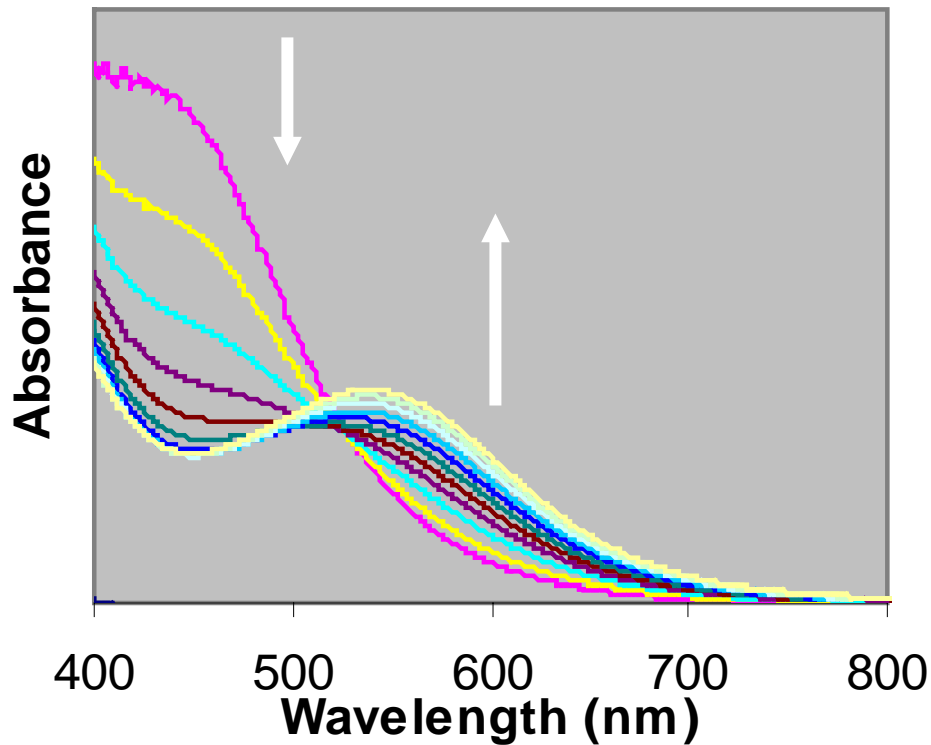
# Characterization

- UV/Visible Spectroscopy
- SEM
- TEM
- Electrochemical (conductivity, electroactivity)
- EDS (elemental composition)

# Absorption Spectrum



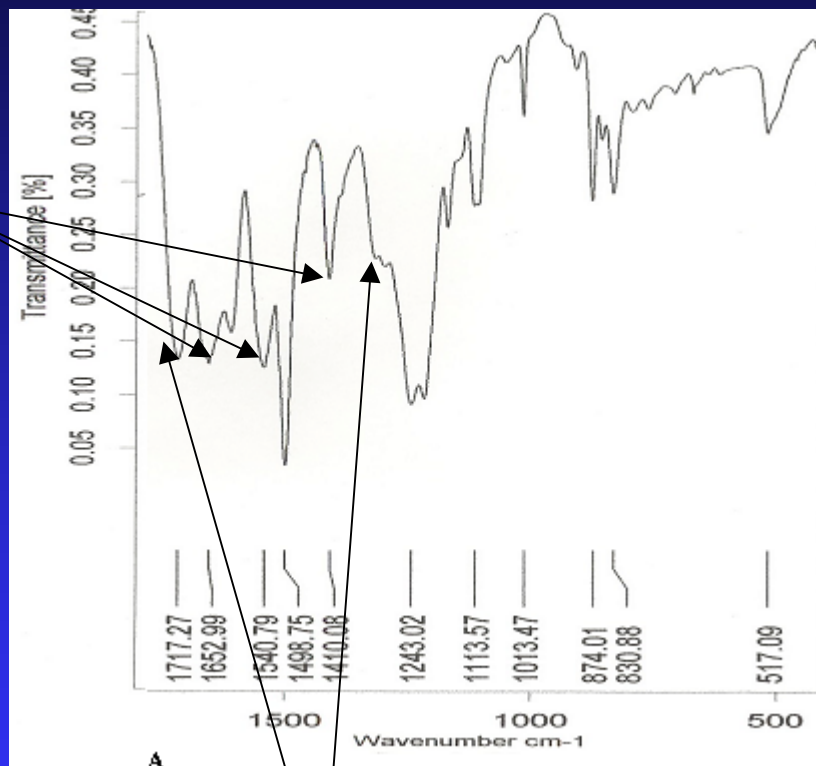
# Time-dependent Absorbance Spectra



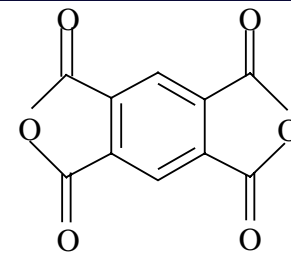
Time dependent UV-VIS spectrum after the addition of 1.5 mg  $\text{AuCl}_3$  to a 4 mL dimethylformamide solution containing 1 mg of PAA to form PAA-capped gold nanoparticles: a) 1 min b) 5 min c) 10 min d) 15 min e) 20 min f) 25 min g) 30 min h) 35 min i) 40 min j) 45 min k) 50 min.

# PAA Characterization Infrared

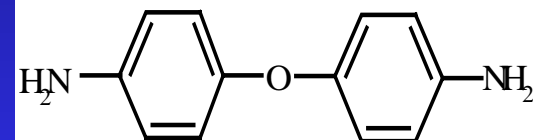
Amide Vibes



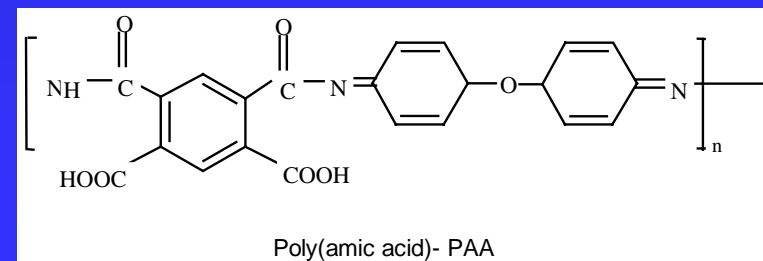
COOH Vibes



Pyromellitic dianhydride - PMDA

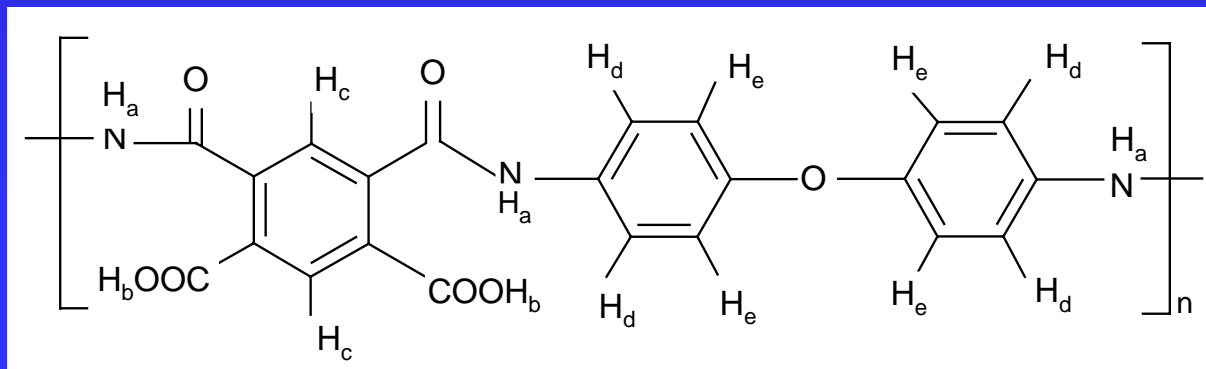
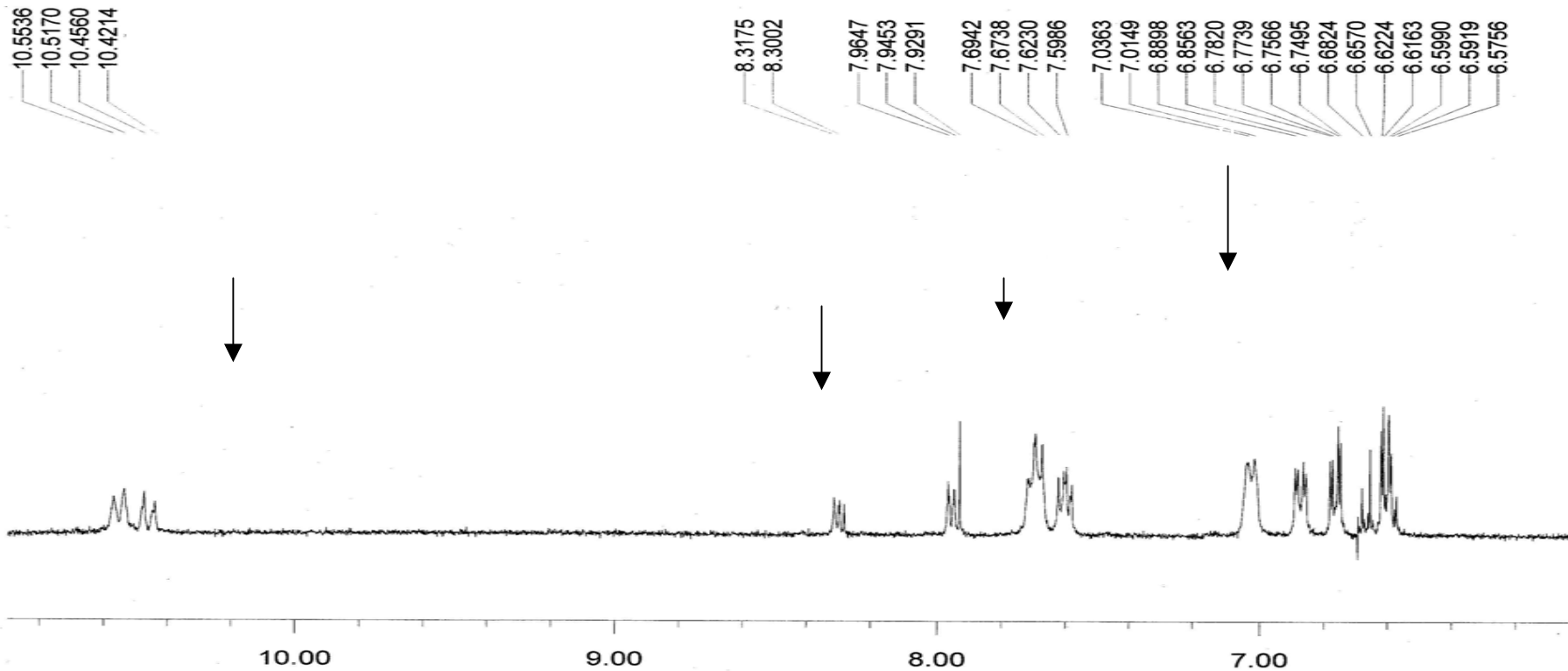


4,4'-Oxydianiline - ODA

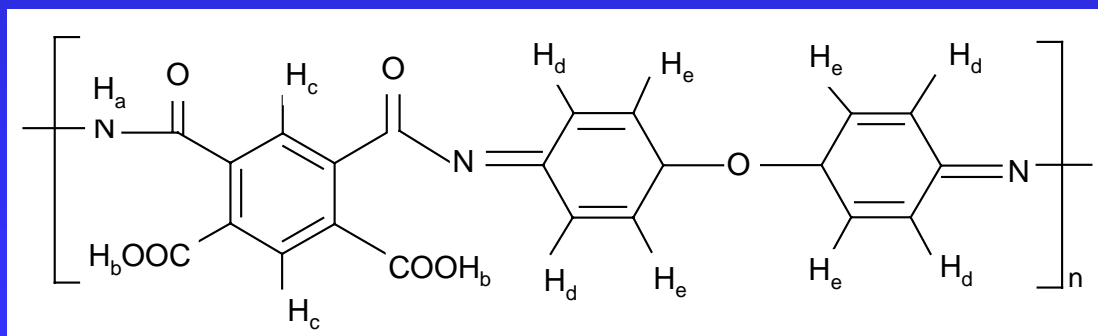
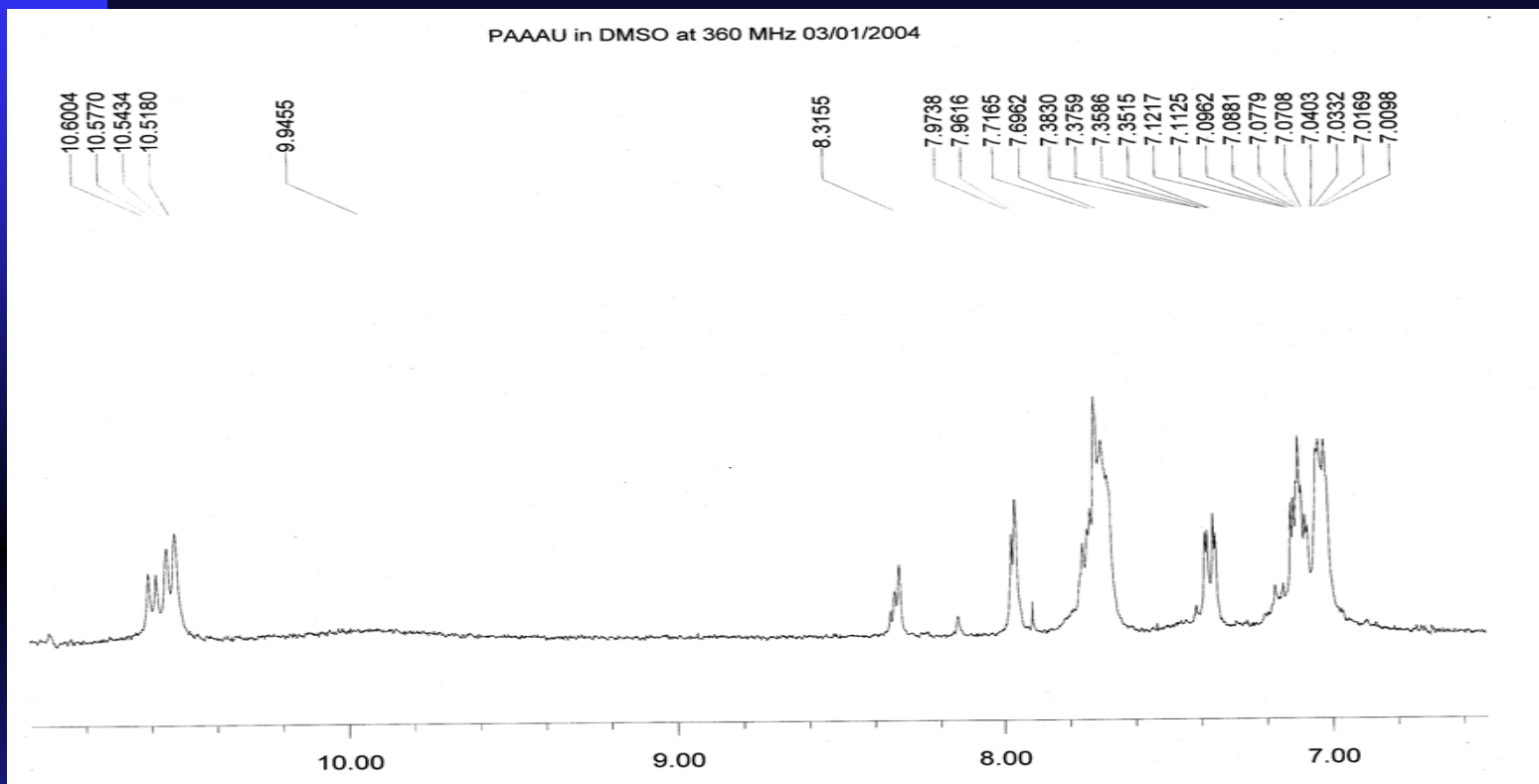


# $^1\text{H NMR}$ of PAA

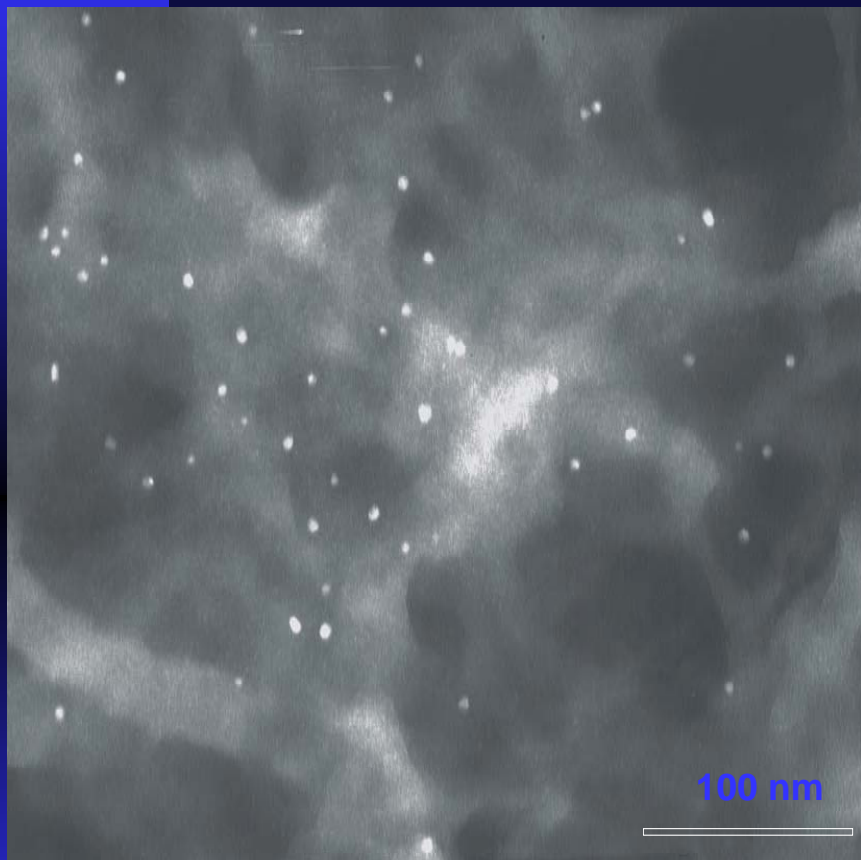
PAA in DMSO at 360 MHz 03/01/2004



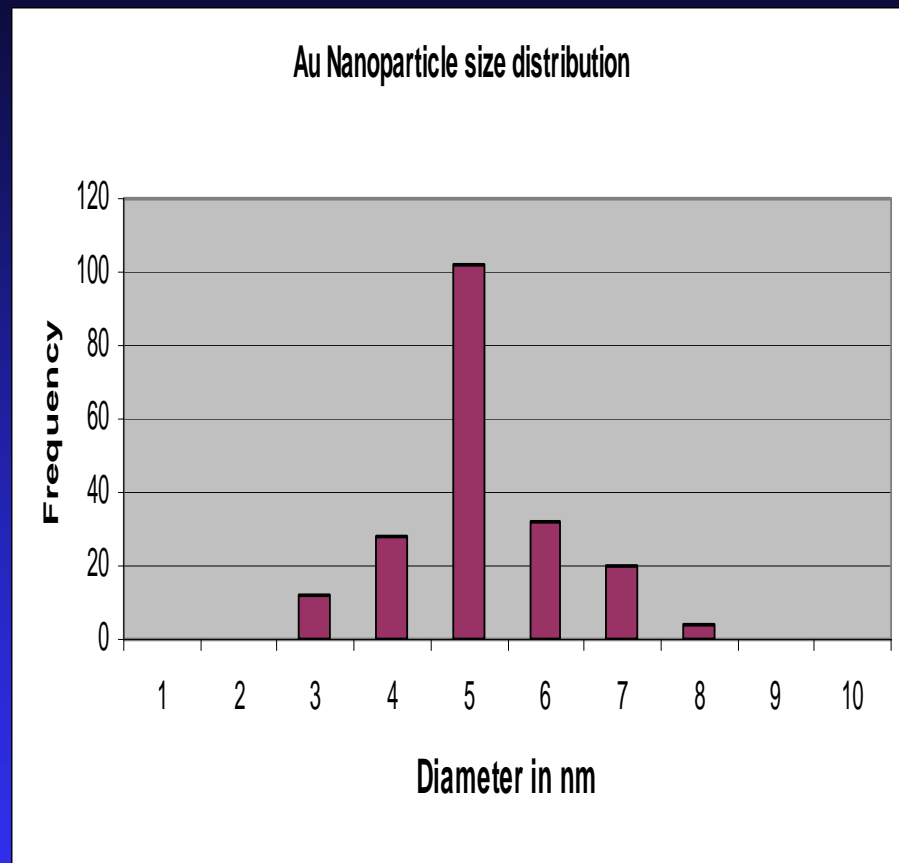
# NMR of PAA oxidized by Au Nanoparticles



# Particle Size and Distribution

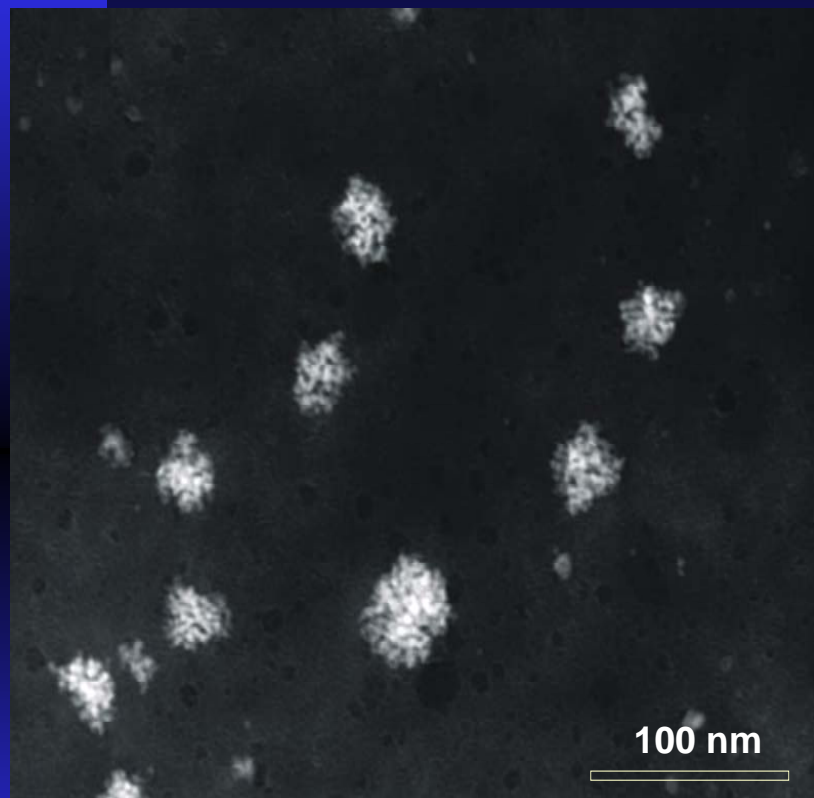


TEM of the well dispersed Au nanoparticles from reduction of 1.5 mg  $\text{AuCl}_3$  by 6mL of 0.16 mg/mL PAA in DMF

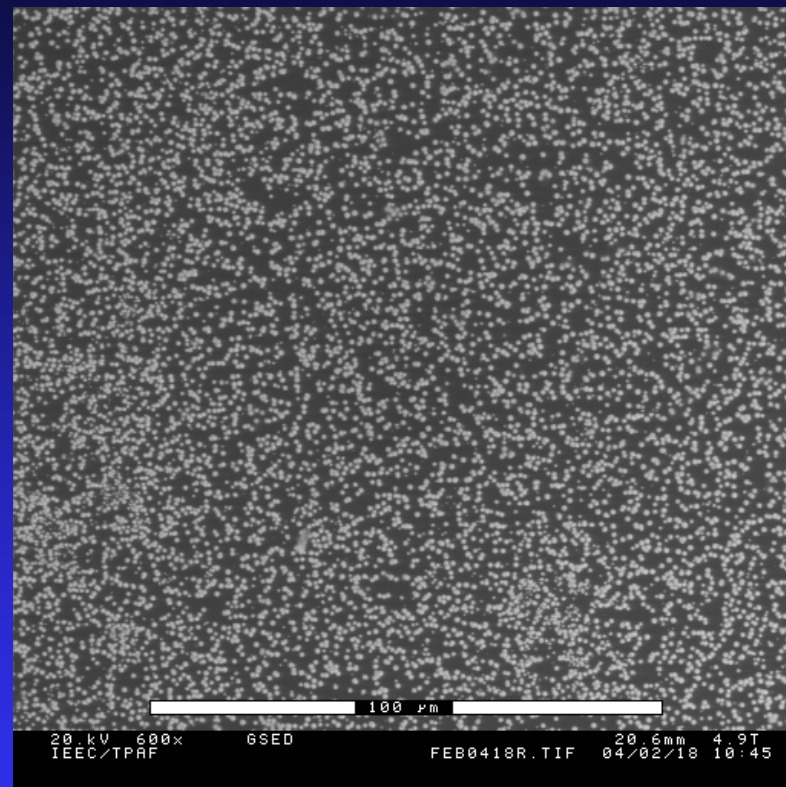


Average particle size:  $5.11 \pm 0.89$  nm (from 200 particles)

# TEM and SEM Images



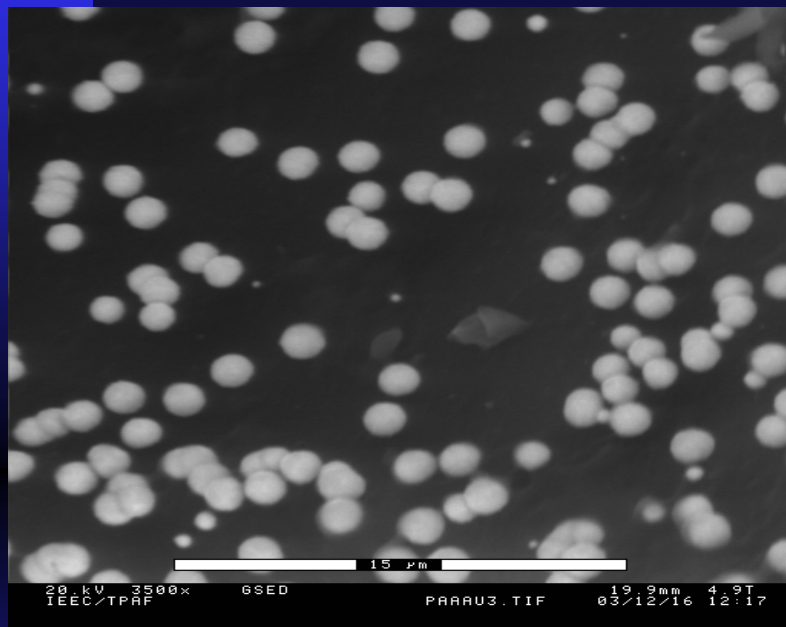
TEM of the Au nanoparticles agglomerates from reduction of 10 mg  $\text{AuCl}_3$  by 2 mL of 10 mg/mL PAA in DMF and diluted to 100 mL



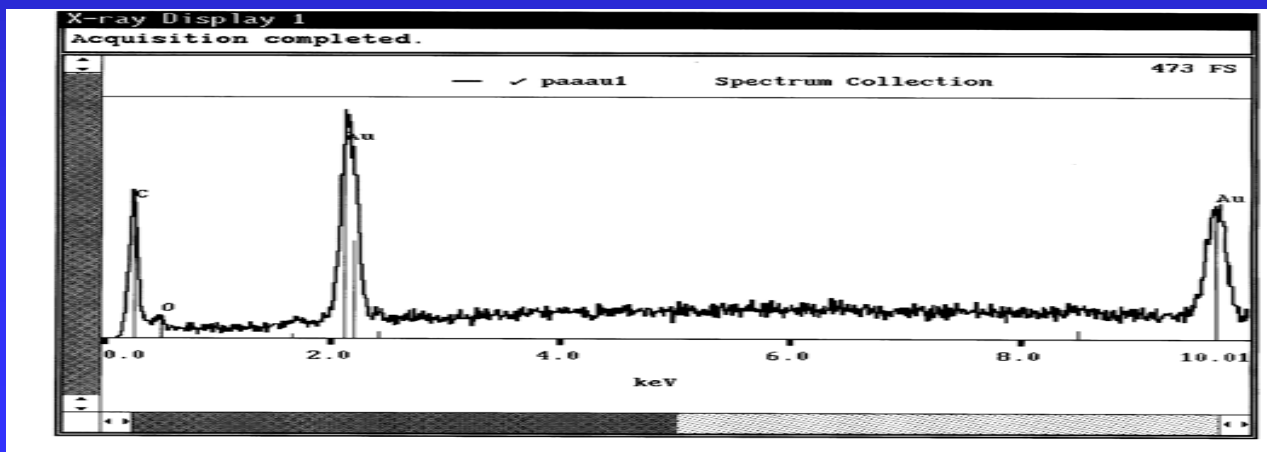
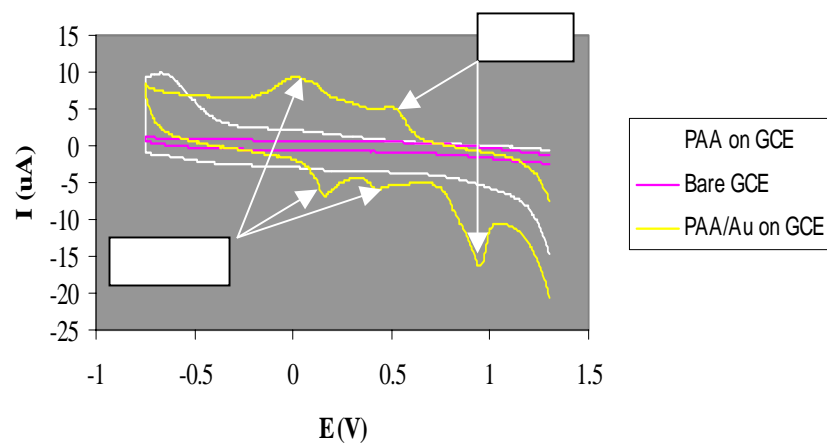
SEM Images of Au Nanoparticle agglomerates on PAA film deposited on GCE x 600



# SEM and Elemental Analysis

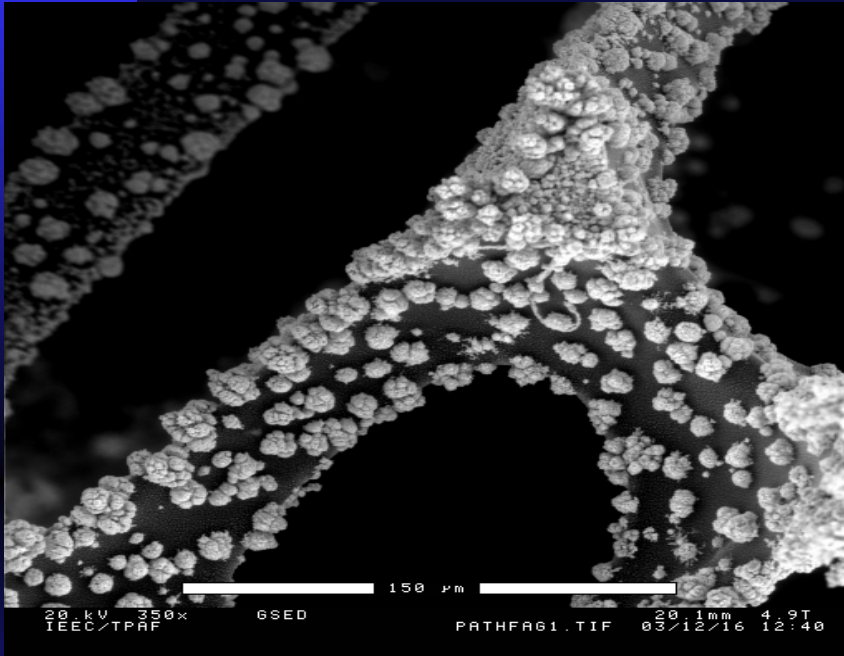


CV of PAA before and after Au incorporation .  
Medium: 0.1M PBS pH 6.19. Scan rate = 50 mV/s

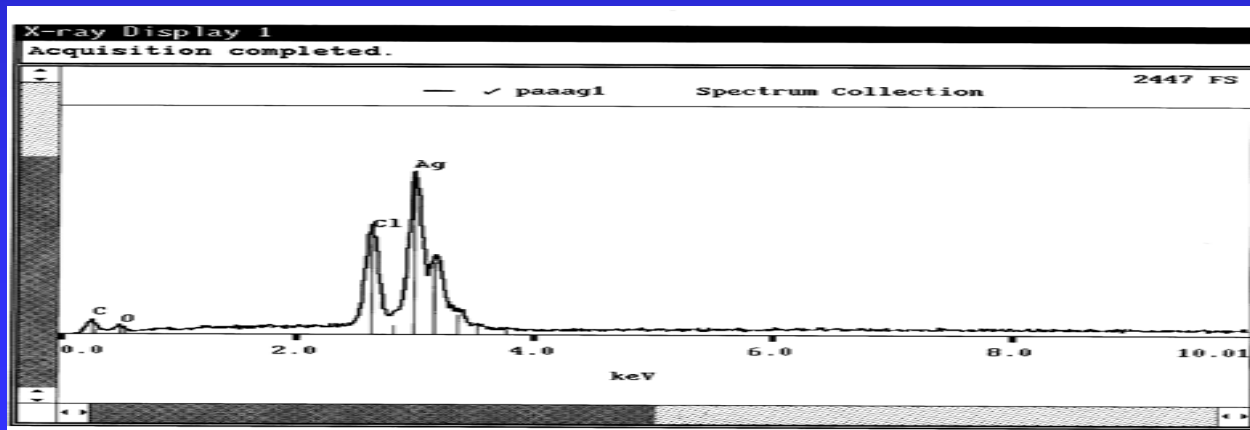
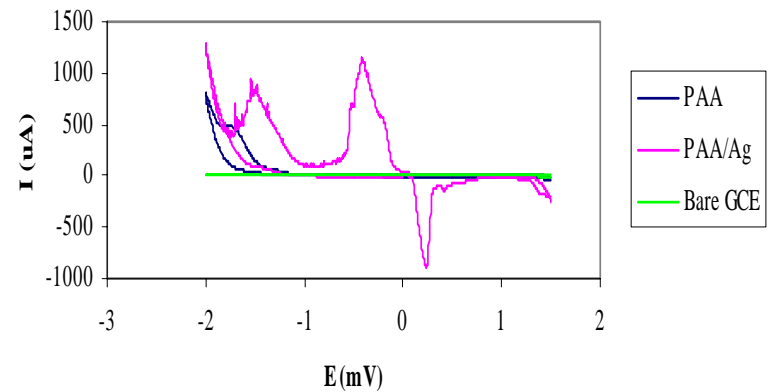


Energy dispersive spectrum of the Au Nanoparticles on PAA film deposited on GCE

# Ag Nanoparticles

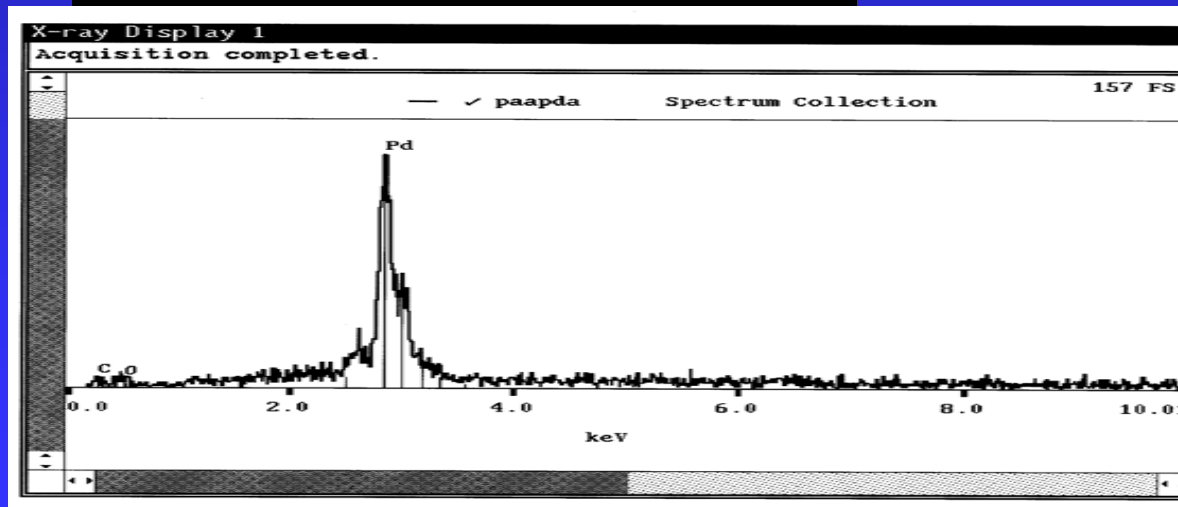


CV of PAA before and after Ag incorporation.  
Medium: 0.1 M PBS pH 6.19



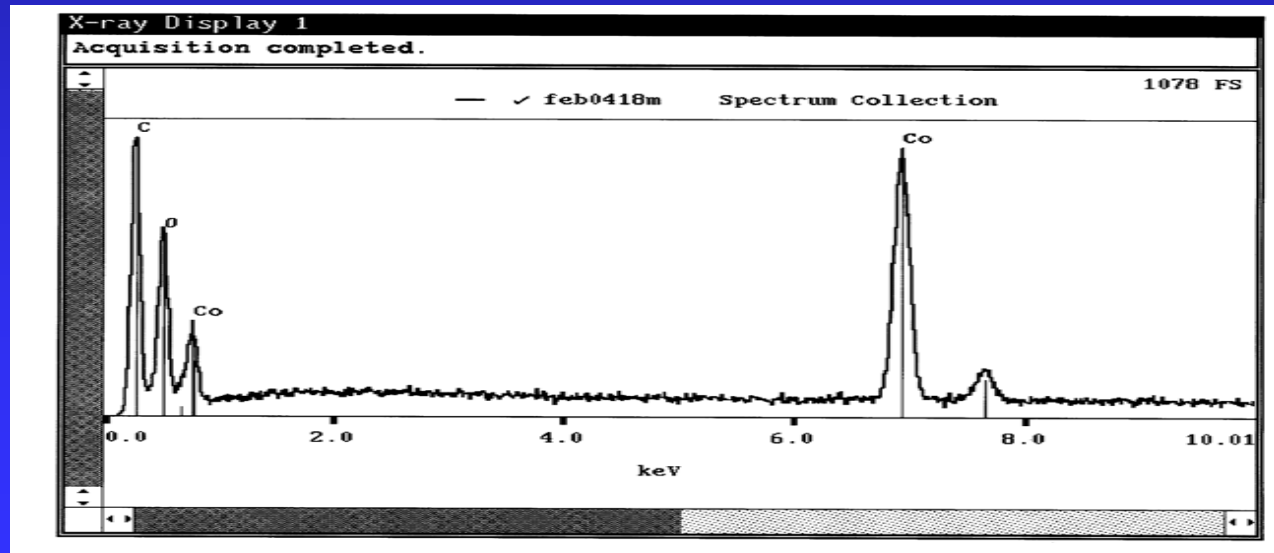
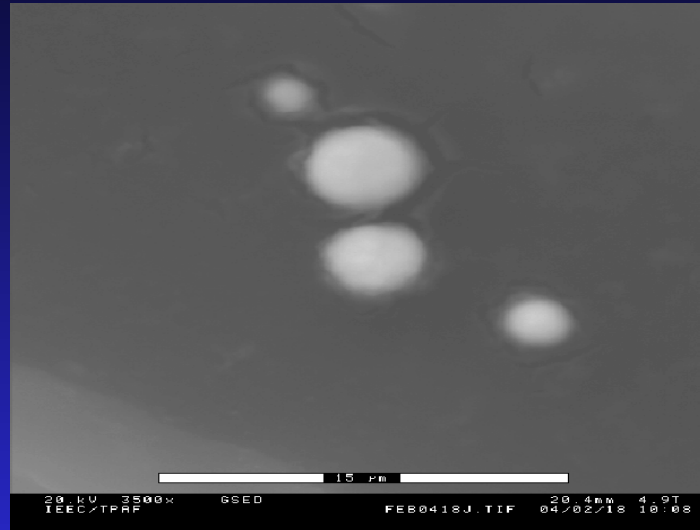
Energy dispersive spectrum of the Ag Nanoparticles on PAA film deposited on RVC

# Pd Nanoparticles



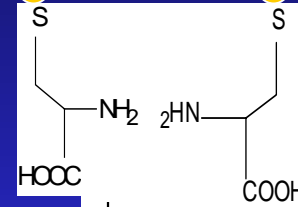
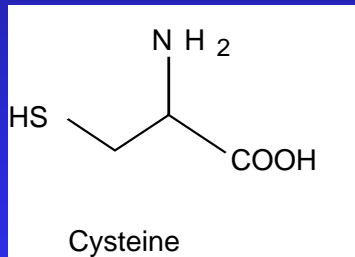
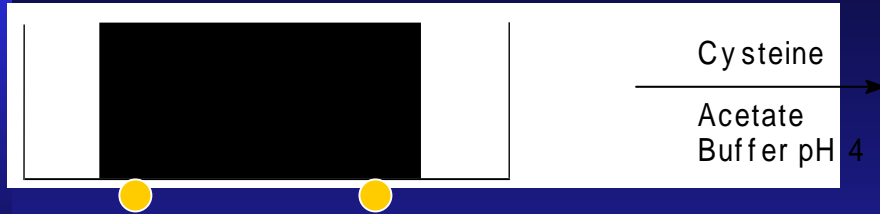
Energy dispersive spectrum of the Au Nanoparticles on PAA film deposited on GCE

# Co Nanoparticles

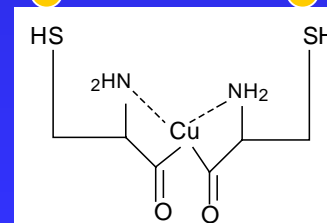


Energy dispersive spectrum of the Ag Nanoparticles on PAA film deposited on RVC

# Preliminary Environmental Application

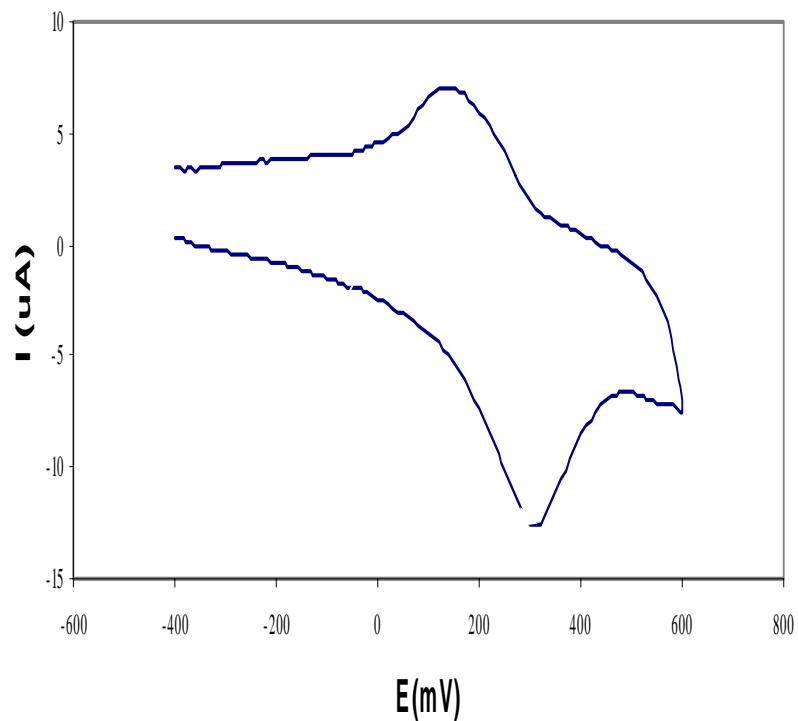


Cu<sup>2+</sup>

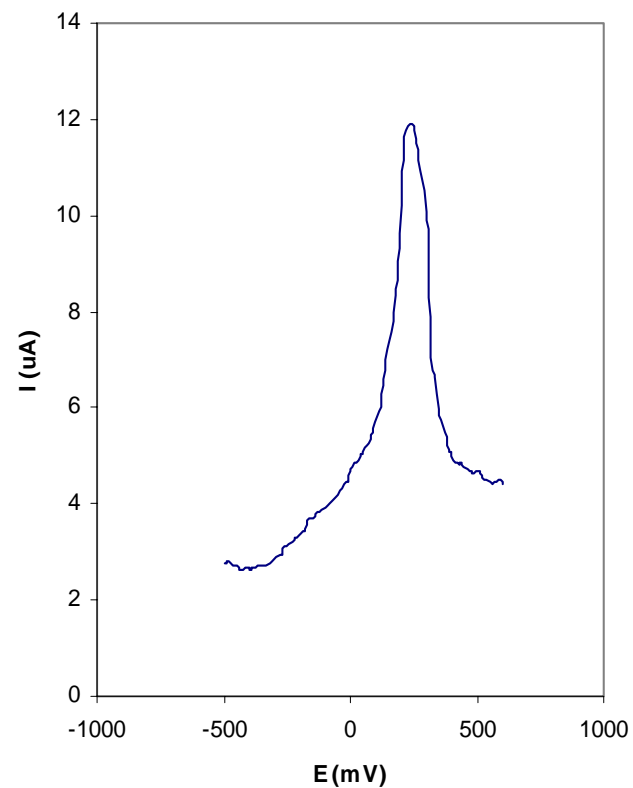


# Metal Sensing

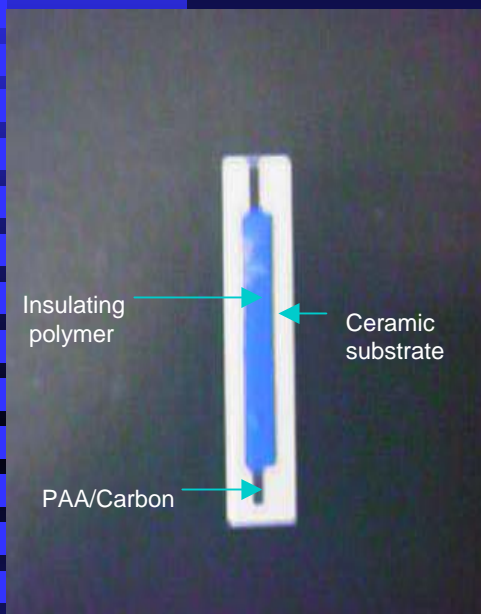
CV of PAA-Au-Cyst-Cu in Acet Buffer pH 4. Accumulation time = 20 min in 1ppm Cu in buffer. Scan Rate = 50 mV/s



DPASV of PAA-AuNP-Cys-Cu in acetate buffer pH 4. Accumulation time = 20 min in acetate buffer. Voltammetric conditions: reduction potential = -1 V, scan rate = 50 mV/s

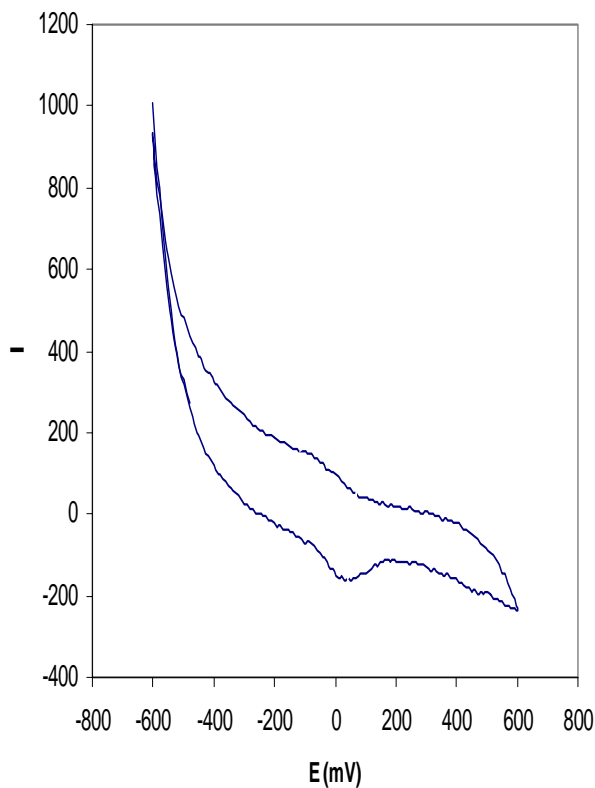


# Screen-Printed Electrodes

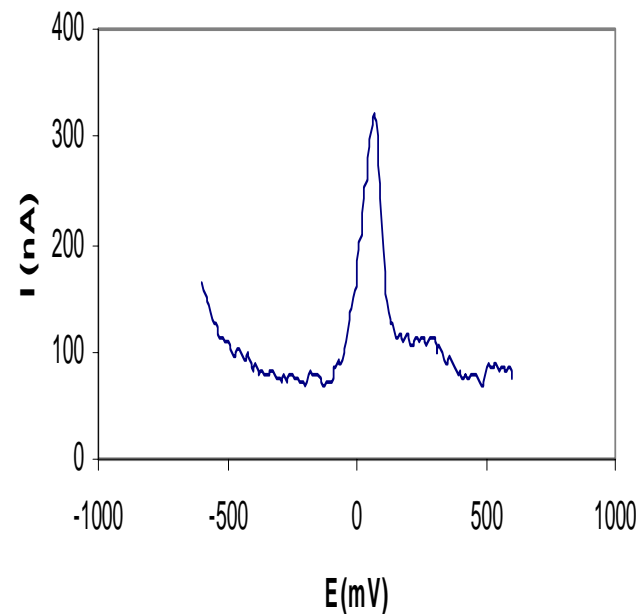


**PAA Modified  
Screen  
Printed  
Electrode**

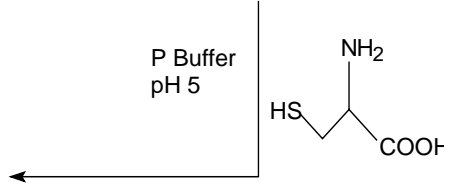
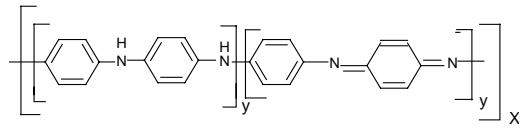
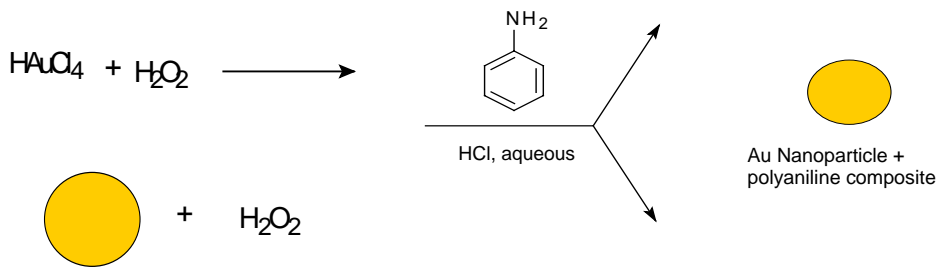
**SPE 6% PAA-Cyst-Cu (1ppm) in Acetate Buffer.  
Scan rate = 50 mV/s**



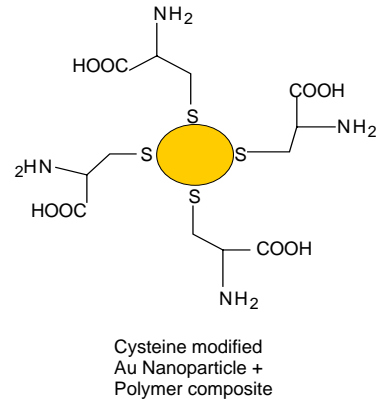
**DPASV of SPE 6% PAA-Cys- Cu (1ppm) in acetate  
buffer pH4. Acc time = 20 min in acetate buffer.  
Voltammetric conditions: reduction pot = -1V, scan  
rate = 50 mV/s**



# Selective Removal of Copper



Cu Removal ←

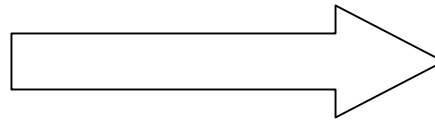
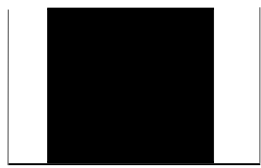
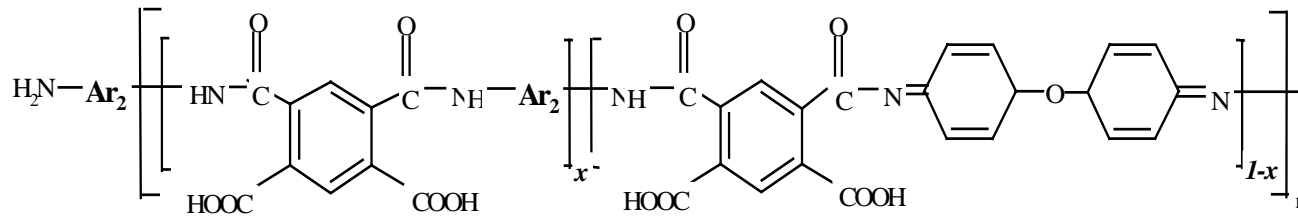




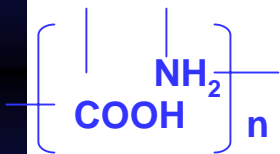
# Selective Removal of Copper

PGN oxidation	% Cu Removed	RSD	Other Metals removed	% Metal Removed
10s	34.72	10.46	Mn	34.45 ±13.35%
100s	75±4.1%	5.47%	Zn	14.75 ±13.45%
200s	83.9±16. 1	19.19%	Cu	99.1% ±40.3%
500s	99.7 ±0.3	0.003%		

# Biosensing Applications

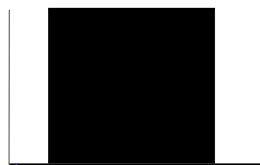


$^2\text{HN-PROTEINS}$



$^2\text{HN-ENZYMES}$

$\text{HOOC-ANTIBODIES}$



# Summary

- ◆ **Rapid, simple and convenient method of synthesizing Au nanoparticles in organic medium by the use of PAA which acts both as a reducing and a capping agent.**
- ◆ **The process takes about 30 min and the gold particles are stable and can be well dispersed or agglomerated depending on the concentration of the reactants.**
- ◆ **The potential of the PAA-metal nanoparticle films in the analysis and removal of heavy metals from aqueous medium is demonstrated**
- ◆ **Other metals salts of Co(II), Pd(II) and Ag(I) can also form metal nanoparticles on reduction with PAA and applied potential**
- ◆ **Preliminary applications for metal testing evaluated**

# Further Work

- Investigate the reduction of other metal salts with PAA
- Investigate the use of these metal nanoparticles in environmental and other applications

# Acknowledgements

**Bill Blackburn - Geology Department**

**Deborah Dittrich – Geology Department**

**Henry Eichelburger – Biology Department**

