Preparation of Poly(aniline-co-p-phenylenediamine)/Fe₃O₄ Hybrid Nanocomposite: Electrical and Magnetic Properties

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Conjugated conducting copolymer poly(aniline–co–p-phenylenediamine) [poly(Ani–co–pPD)] and surface modified iron oxide (Fe $_3$ O $_4$) hybrid nancomposites were prepared by ultrasonically–assisted in situ chemical oxidative polymerization. It was found that the aggregation of Fe $_3$ O $_4$ nanoparticles could be reduced under ultrasonic irradiation. Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) confirmed that the Fe $_3$ O $_4$ nanoparticles were well dispersed in the copolymer matrix. The incorporation of Fe $_3$ O $_4$ in the nanocomposite was endorsed by Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FT–IR). Surface characterizations of hybrid nanocomposites were described by X–ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS). UV–visible spectra of the diluted colloid dispersion of nanocomposite particles were similar to those of the neat copolymer. The composites were also confirmed by TGA and XRD. Room–temperature conductivities of nanocomposites increase with an increasing fraction of Fe $_3$ O $_4$. Magnetic property of nanocomposites indicated that the composites are superparamagnetic. (Regional Technology Innovation Program (RT104–01–04) of MOCIE)