

Electronic Supplementary Information

**A cheap and efficient catalyst with ultra high activity for reduction of
4-nitrophenol**

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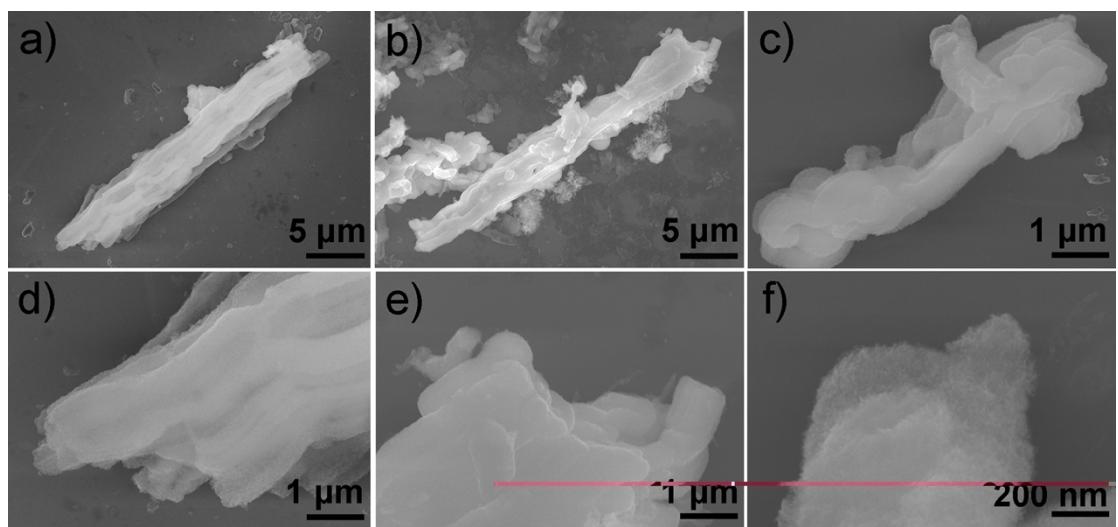


Fig. S1 a) Low-, d) high-magnification SEM images of SBA-15, b) Low-, e) high-magnification SEM images of NiSBA-15, c) Low-, f) high-magnification SEM images of Ni/SBA-15.

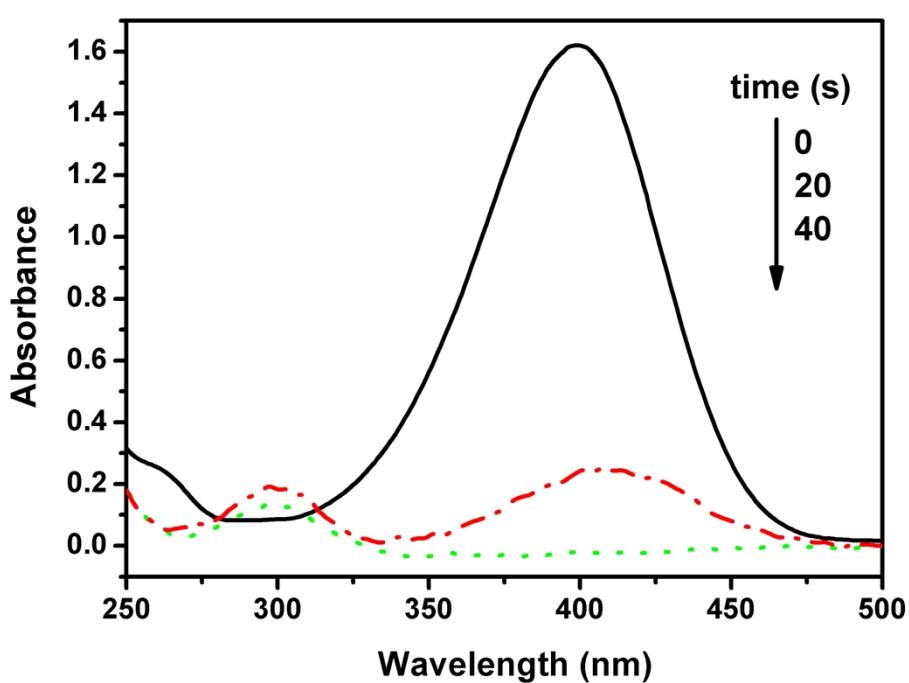


Fig. S2 UV-vis absorption spectra of successive reduction of 4-NP using 4 mg Ni/SBA-15 as catalyst.

Table S1 Comparison of the activity parameter κ of composite Ni catalysts and noble catalysts for the reduction of 4-nitrophenol

Catalyst	Type	$k (\times 10^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1})$	$\kappa (\text{s}^{-1} \text{ g}^{-1})$	References
Ni/SBA-15	nanocomposite	3.0	30	This work
Ni/p (AMPS)	nanocomposite	0.9	0.15	⁵⁴
Ni	nano particles	2.4	0.8	⁵⁵
RANEY® Ni	nano particles	0.32	0.11	⁵⁵
Ni@SiO ₂	nano particles	2.82	0.94	⁴²
RGO/Ni	nanocomposite	0.25	0.04	³⁷
Ni/Ag	core-shell	2.2	4.4	⁵⁵
Ni	prickly structure	0.7	1.4	⁵⁵
PVPh-Ni ₃ Co ₁	alloy nanochain	24.1	19	⁶
Au@SiO ₂	Core/shell	7	2.33	³²
Au-Fe ₃ O ₄	heterostructure	10.0	5.0	³⁵
Au@Cs	yolk-shell	6.0	3.0	⁵⁷
Fe ₃ O ₄ @SiO ₂ -Au	nanocomposite	14.2	28.4	⁵⁸
Au-Ag-C	bimetallic composite	6.46	6.46	⁵⁹

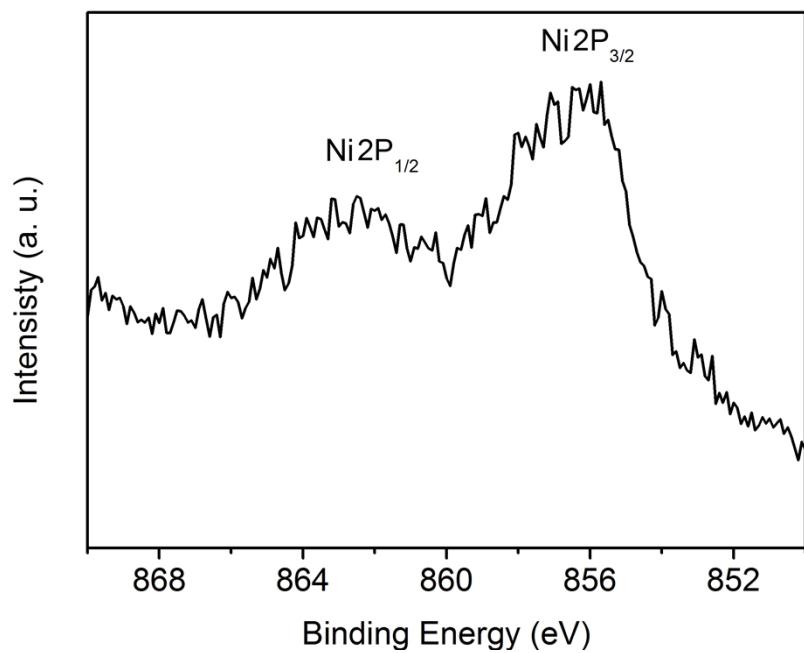


Fig. S3 XPS spectrm of Ni/SBA-15 sample.