

Ultrasensitive sandwich-like electrochemical biosensor based on core-shell Pt@CeO₂ as signal tags and double molecular recognition for cerebral dopamine detection

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ABSTRACT

In this report, 4-mercaptophenylboronic acid (MBA) and dithiobis (succinimidyl propionate) (DSP) were used as DA molecular recognizer, which bounded onto the prepared Pt@CeO₂ nanomaterial and the electrode surface. A sandwich-like electrochemical biosensor was constructed for sensitive detection of dopamine (DA) based on double molecular recognition and Pt@CeO₂ (MBA-DSP- Pt@CeO₂) as an electrochemical probe for signal amplification. It is worth noting that the diol and amine groups of DA were reacted by the boronic acid of MBA and the succinimide residue of DSP, respectively. This sandwich-like double molecular interaction can efficiently and accurately identify DA. The uniform Pt@CeO₂ multicore@shell nanospheres as signal tags and signal amplifiers in electrochemical biosensor were synthesized by hydrothermal, which has excellent catalytic activity for H₂O₂. Interestingly, more oxygen vacancies were produced in the lattice structure of CeO₂ doped with Pt, so that the catalytic and redox performance of the obtained Pt@CeO₂ was much better than that of pure CeO₂, thus greatly improving the performance of the proposed sensor. The proposed electrochemical biosensor provided a wide detection range of 2–180 nM and a low detection limit (0.71 nM) by the electrochemical measurement. And it also showed ultra-high sensitivity, accuracy and broad application prospect, which developed a new research method for early clinical diagnosis.

1. Introduction

Dopamine (DA) is a neurotransmitter that is mainly responsible for the brain's lust, sensation, excitement and happiness messages, and is also associated with addiction [1]. Both smoking and drug use can increase the production of dopamine, making addicts happy and excited. Lack of dopamine can make people lose the ability to control their muscles. The normal concentration of dopamine in human blood is 0.2–0.4 µg/mL. When the DA concentration in human plasma is too low, it will cause many diseases, such as: Parkinson's disease [2–4], heart failure, schizophrenia [5,6], abnormal thyroid hormone content,

neuromuscular disorders and other diseases. Obviously, the content of DA is closely related to some diseases of human body. Rapid and sensitive detection of DA content has important application value for physiological function research and clinical diagnosis. Over the past 30 years, a variety of analytical methods, such as electrochemical luminescence [7–10], liquid chromatography [11,12], fluorescence [13–15], have been developed for DA detection. However, these methods can't meet the requirement for the rapid and in situ analysis of DA due to time-consuming, complicated sample preparation and complicated instruments. The electrochemical biosensors have received extensive attention due to their advantages such as low-cost, simple process, fast

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response and high sensitivity [16].

In the case of utilizing electrochemical biosensors, many methods have been made to enhance the sensitivity of electrochemical biosensor for the signal amplification [17]. Nanomaterials [18,19] are considered to improve the efficacy because of their morphology, surface properties and composition, and become one of the commonly used and effective markers for signal amplification [20–22] because of catalytic substrates to promote electron transfer. Metal oxides have a wide range of applications in biosensor owing to its low cost [23], stability, especially unique electrical and catalytic properties [24], which make it a promising material for the manufacture of redox pairs for electrochemical biosensors. Cerium dioxide (CeO_2) plays a vital role in biosensor, due to its outstanding catalytic performance [25], high surface oxygen mobility, anti-inflammatory [26], superior bio-compatibility and high adsorption capability [27]. More importantly, the biological characteristics [28] and unique catalytic properties [29] of CeO_2 nanoparticles are a result of their variable oxidation state and allow the reversible $\text{Ce}^{4+} \leftrightarrow \text{Ce}^{3+}$. However, the redox signal of CeO_2 detected in neutral mild buffer solutions is too weak to be used as a biosensor probe. To enhance the catalytic performance of cerium dioxide. One promising strategy is the integration of Pt catalysts onto strongly interacting CeO_2 . After the introduction of dopants, the oxygen vacancy formation energy can be decreased, resulting in the generation of extra oxygen vacancies [30,31]. Therefore, Pt@CeO_2 [32] has better catalytic properties and improved the catalytic efficiency of H_2O_2 [33], which can further increase the detection signal toward the DA.

While the advantages of biosensors are obvious, the selectivity of some previous sensors for biomolecules containing the same diol is still limited [34]. With the purpose of improving this deficiency, a sandwich-like sensor is developed via bimolecular double recognition, which superbly improved the sensitivity of DA detection. First of all, the substrate of electrodeposited gold nanoparticles binds 4-mercaptophenylboronic acid (MBA) and dithiobis (succinimidyl propionate) (DSP) through Au–S bonds [35], which can promote electron transfer, achieve the improvement of electrode surface conductivity and provide plentiful sites for capture DA molecules. Meanwhile, Pt@CeO_2 nanomaterial also binds MBA and DSP, which can not only identify DA but also be used as the signal tags for signal amplification. In this sensor, both MBA and DSP specifically bind to DA through chemical bonds. Therefore, the combination of bimolecular recognition and sandwich sensors can detect DA with higher sensitivity and selectivity at the nanometer level. The chemical structure diagram of the chemical reaction of dopamine with MBA and DSP was shown in Fig. S1 of the Supporting Material.

In this study, an ultrasensitive electrochemical sandwich-like biosensor was fabricated for detection of DA based on MBA and DSP double molecular recognition. As shown in Scheme 1, Pt@CeO_2 was modified with MBA and DSP to form MBA-DSP- Pt@CeO_2 probe. At the same time, MBA and DSP were also combined on the glassy carbon electrode modified gold nanoparticles [34] by electrodeposition through

Au–S bond. In the presence of target DA, boronic acid in MBA formed stable boronated complexes with diols of DA, while the amine-reactive succinimidyl residue in DSP reacted with the amine groups of DA. These two molecules were modified on both sides of the sensor, which interacted with diols and amine functional groups of DA, respectively, doubly recognized DA with high specificity [36]. Since Pt was doped into CeO_2 lattice structure, endowing Pt@CeO_2 with a superior catalytic activity. As a result, the electrochemical signal was largely amplified in the presence of H_2O_2 due to the high catalytic activity of Pt@CeO_2 toward H_2O_2 . The Pt@CeO_2 current signal was used to reflect the concentration of DA. Most importantly, the proposed biosensor provides a feasible method for DA detection by bimolecular recognition, which shows a promising platform for clinical application.

2. Experimental

2.1. Materials and apparatus

The materials and apparatus are described in the Supplementary Material.

2.2. Preparation of Pt@CeO_2 core-shell nanospheres

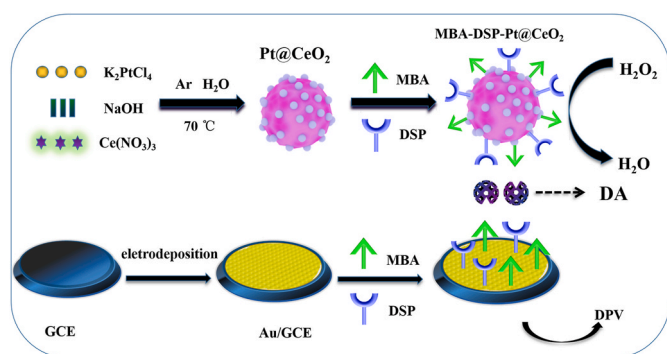
The whole synthetic process was performed under Ar gas protection. An aliquot of 1 mL of 0.1 M $\text{Ce}(\text{NO}_3)_3$ was added to 10 mL of H_2O , and then Ar gas was bubbled into the solution for 10 min. Then, 1 mL of 0.2 M NaOH aqueous solution was rapidly added, followed immediately by the quick addition of 1 mL of 0.01 M K_2PtCl_4 . The solution was heated at 70 °C for 1 h. After being cooled to room temperature, the sample was purified by centrifugation to remove the residual K_2PtCl_4 solution, which remained in the supernatant solution [37]. Finally, the as-obtained samples were directly dried at 80 °C overnight.

2.3. Preparation of MBA-DSP- Pt@CeO_2 probe

Modification of Pt@CeO_2 was performed at room temperature by mixing 6 mL of the as-prepared Pt@CeO_2 with 20 μL of aqueous solution of 1 mM MBA and 2 mM DSP, and then placed the mixed solution on a shaker overnight.

2.4. Fabrication of the sensor

The whole preparation process of the sensor was shown in Scheme 1. Typically, this process could be summarized in five steps: (1) Treatment of bare electrodes. The bare GCE was polished with an alumina slurry. Thereafter, the bare GCE was subjected to ultrasonic treatment in methanol and ultrapure water, followed by electrochemical pretreatment, and potential cycling was performed in a solution of potassium ferricyanide solution, ranging from -0.2 to $+0.6$ V. The scan rate was 100 mV/s until a stable cyclic voltammogram was observed. Finally, the bare GCE was rinsed with a large amount of ultrapure water and dried. (2) Electrochemical deposition of gold nanoparticles. The treated GCE was placed in a 1% HAuCl_4 solution with a deposition potential of -0.2 V and a deposition time of 60 s (3) An aliquot of 10 μL of 2 mM MBA and 10 μL of 4 mM DSP were dropped on the surface of the electrode treated in the step (2), and reacted at room temperature for 6 h; (4) Adding a certain concentration of dopamine solution to the surface of the prepared electrode in the step (3), and standing at room temperature for 5 min, the electrode was cleaned by ultrapure water; (5) 20 μL of MBA-DSP- Pt@CeO_2 nanoparticle composite was added dropwise to the surface of the electrode treated in step (4), and left at room temperature for 5 min, and the electrode was washed with ultrapure water. The electrode was dipped into pH 7.4 0.01 M PBS buffer solution containing 1 mM hydrogen peroxide. CV and differential pulse voltammetry (DPV) measurements were conducted from -0.5 to $+0.2$ V with the scan rate of 50 mV/s.



Scheme 1. Schematic of sandwich-like electrochemical biosensor for detection of DA.

2.5. Simulated sample preparation

5 mM ascorbic acid, 5 mM glucose, 500 nM 3,4-dihydroxyphenylacetic acid, 20 nM epinephrine, 20 nM norepinephrine, 5 mM Lactate were added to 0.01 M PBS buffer solution. A certain amount of DA was added to the above solution for detection.

3. Results and discussions

3.1. Characterization of materials

To verify the shape and formation of Pt@CeO₂, the morphologies of Pt@CeO₂ nanocomposites were characterized by SEM. As shown in Fig. 1A, the Pt@CeO₂ showed uniform-size nanospheres and a rough surface of the nanosphere was observed from the SEM image. The EDS mapping images (Fig. 1B) revealed the occurrence of homogeneous distributions of Ce, Pt and O. Moreover, the element peaks of Ce, Pt and O, in energy dispersive spectroscopy (EDS) analysis (Fig. 1C) confirmed the formation of Pt@CeO₂ nanocomposites. Further, TEM was applied to investigate their morphologies (Fig. 1D), the characteristic of TEM were consistent with the corresponding SEM image and the size of Pt@CeO₂ nanocomposites about 72 nm.

The composition and electronic structure of the Pt@CeO₂ NPs was further confirmed to the analysis of Pt_{4f}, Ce_{3d} and O_{1s} by x-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS). XPS spectra of the resulting Pt@CeO₂ showed significant Pt_{4f} signals corresponding to the binding energy of Pt. In Fig. 2A, the major peaks at 72.8 eV and 76.2 eV can be assigned to the 4f_{7/2} and 4f_{5/2} Pt metal states. The Ce (3d_{3/2}, 3d_{5/2}) peaks at 882.6 eV and 898.3 eV with characteristic sites (marked in Fig. 2B) correspond to CeO₂ with Ce in the +4 oxidation state. And as shown in Fig. 2C, the O (1s) peak is observed at 285 eV in the as-prepared sample, which

corresponds to CeO₂. These results supported the conclusion that Pt@CeO₂ hybrid nanomaterials had been successfully synthesized. To verify the formation of Pt@CeO₂, an X-ray diffraction (XRD) technique was conducted. As shown in Fig. 2D, the synthesized Pt@CeO₂ displays sharp diffraction peaks in XRD patterns, which are highly consistent with the simulated data from the single crystal, implying good purity and high crystallinity. No characteristic peaks from other impurities are detected, indicating the high purity of the as-synthesized Pt@CeO₂ nanospheres.

3.2. Verification of the sensing strategy

The immobilization of MBA and DSP on the Pt@CeO₂ was confirmed by the Infrared spectra (IR) analysis. As shown in Fig. 3A, the stretching vibration of the infrared spectra at B (1500 cm⁻¹) and D (2849 cm⁻¹) is caused by the C=C and C-H of the benzene ring, which proves the existence of the benzene ring. The peak value at A (705 cm⁻¹) belongs to the stretching vibration of C-S. The stretching vibration of the infrared spectra at C (1718 cm⁻¹) and E (3489 cm⁻¹) is caused by the C=O and O-H of the benzene ring, which proves the existence of the carbonyl and hydroxyl groups. These characteristics indicate that MBA and DSP molecules are successfully modified at the surface of Pt@CeO₂ nanoparticles.

Signal amplification is critical for a sandwich-type electrochemical bioanalysis. In order to investigate the signal amplification effect of Pt doped CeO₂ composite nanomaterials on the detection of dopamine, three differently labeled probes were prepared: CeO₂-bound MBA-DSP, PtNPs-bound MBA-DSP and Pt@CeO₂ combined MBA-DSP. During the measurement process, the same concentration of DA was dropped on the modified electrode of the same batch, and then variously labeled probes were used to detect dopamine by cyclic voltammetry. This judgment was

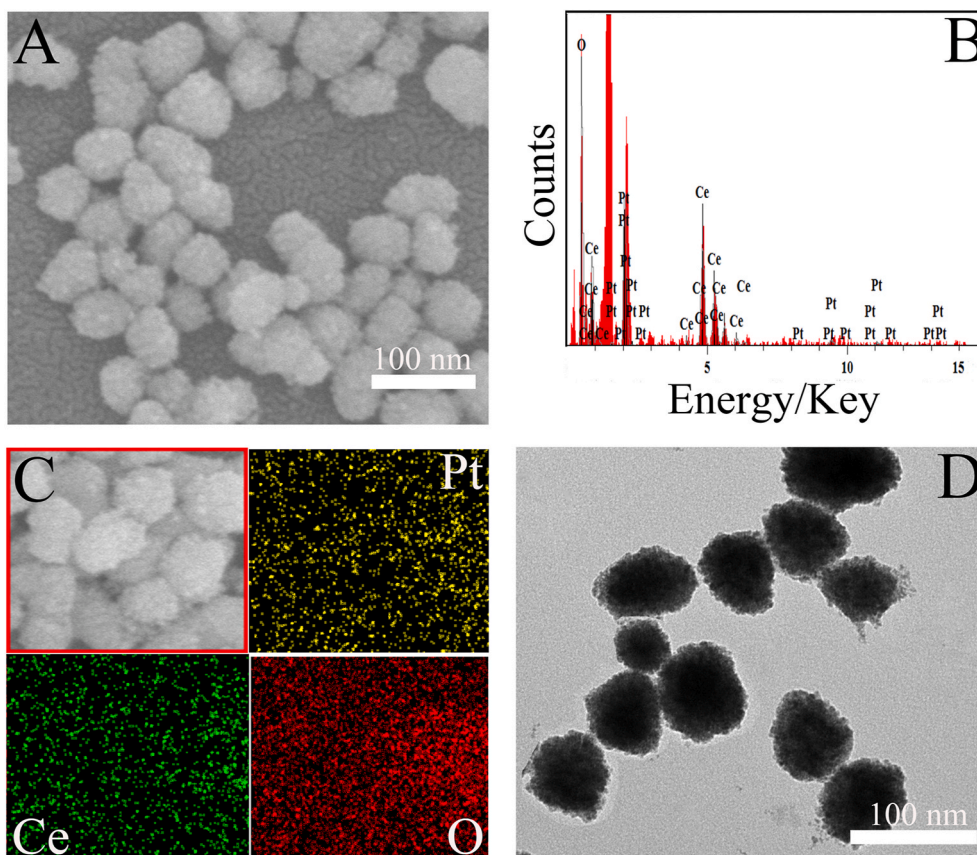


Fig. 1. SEM image of the Pt@CeO₂ (A), EDS patterns of the Pt@CeO₂ nanospheres (B), EDS mapping images of Pt (yellow), Ce (green), and O (red) (C), TEM image of the Pt@CeO₂ (D). (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the Web version of this article.)

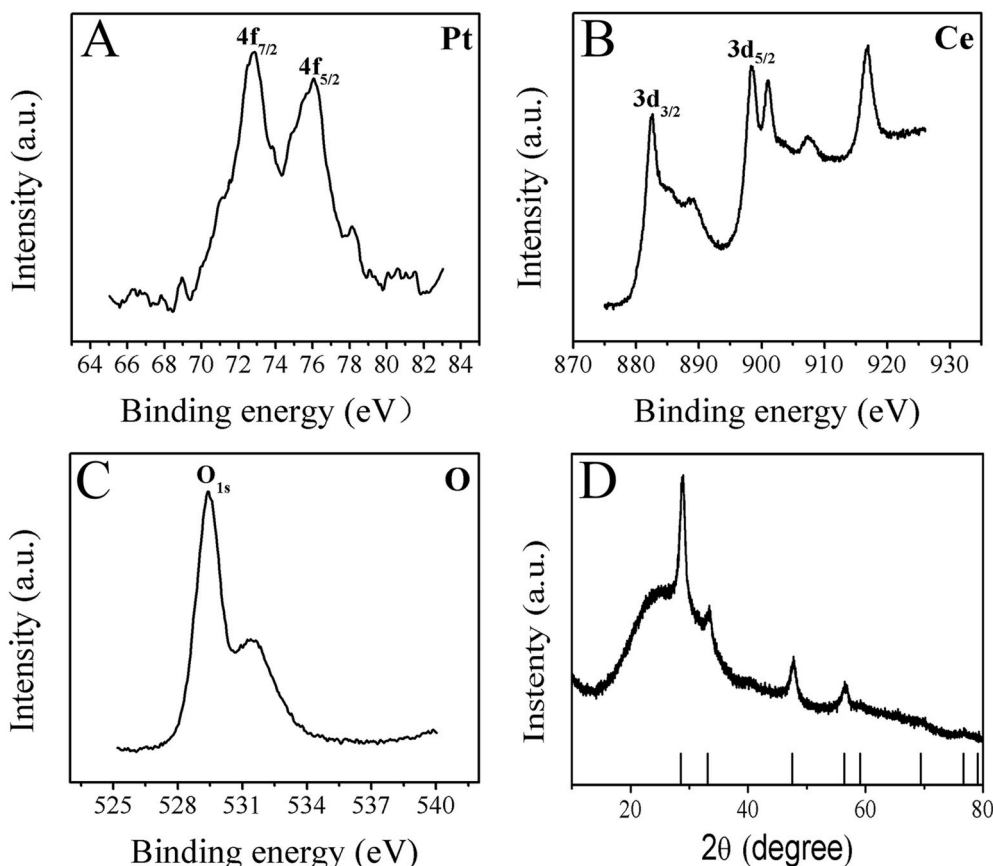


Fig. 2. XPS spectra of (A) element Pt; (B) element Ce; (C) element O. (D) XRD patterns of Pt@CeO₂ nanospheres.

based on the change in amperage of the sensor with different probes. As shown in Fig. 3B, Pt@CeO₂-MBA-DSP exhibited much greater current than those obtained at other two labeled probes. The reason is that doping Pt in the lattice of CeO₂ increases the oxygen vacancy, which the Pt@CeO₂ has better redox ability. Therefore, the Pt@CeO₂-MBA-DSP probe was chosen for the following experiments.

In order to study the effect of double connection between MBA and DSP on the detection of dopamine, a set of comparative experiment was carried out, (a) MBA-DSP was modified on AuNPs/GCE and Pt@CeO₂ respectively, (b) MBA was modified on AuNPs/GCE, DSP was connected with Pt@CeO₂, (c) DSP was modified on AuNPs/GCE, MBA was connected with Pt@CeO₂. During the measurement process, the same concentration of DA was dripped to the different modified electrodes, and then decorated with DSP-Pt@CeO₂, MBA-Pt@CeO₂ and MBA-DSP-Pt@CeO₂ respectively. The change of the current signal of DPV was used to judge the influence of different sensors connected by MBA and DSP on the detection of dopamine. As shown in Fig. 3C, the response of DPV modified with both MBA and DSP on both sides of the sensor was larger than that of single MBA or DSP respectively. Therefore, the co-modification of MBA and DSP was more superior than that of the single modification of MBA or DSP, and the signal was strong. So, MBA and DSP were chosen to modify the electrode and the Pt@CeO₂ for the next experiments.

Different ratios of MBA and DSP were anchored to the Pt@CeO₂ nanocomposites and the modified electrode for 60 nM dopamine detection. As shown in Fig. 3D, the optimum concentration ratio of MBA to DSP is 1/2.

3.3. Effect of experimental conditions

In the prepared sandwich sensor, the pH of the detection solution and the concentration of H₂O₂ influenced the electrochemical signal. The pH

of the detection solution will affect the activity of dopamine. Since H₂O₂ catalyzed oxidation by Pt@CeO₂ can accelerate electron transfer from Ce³⁺ to Ce⁴⁺, H₂O₂ concentration played an important role on performance of signal amplification. As shown in Fig. S1A and Fig. S1B, it was obvious that the pH 7.4 PBS buffer solution and 1 mM H₂O₂ were the best choice for this biosensor. (Detailed description of Fig. S2A and Fig. S2B see the Supplementary Material).

3.4. Electrochemical behavior of the biosensor

The properties of the electrode at each step are investigated by CV (+0.6 to −0.2 V with the scan rate of 50 mV/s). CV measurements were constructed in 5.0 mM of [Fe(CN)₆]^{3−/4−} solution containing 0.1 M KCl. The experimental results were shown in Fig. 4A. The bare GCE (Fig. 4A curve a) had a good redox peak in [Fe(CN)₆]^{3−/4−} solution. When AuNPs was electrodeposited on the electrode surface (Au/GCE, Fig. 4A curve b), the redox peak current increased obviously, which proved that AuNPs had good conductivity and large surface area. After the MBA and DSP were fixed on the surface of Au/GCE, the peak current was decreased (Fig. 4A curve c). The reason was that the modification of organic molecules reduced the electrode surface area and hindered [Fe(CN)₆]^{3−/4−} from reaching the electrode surface, thus reducing the peak current. Then continued to load DA on the electrode surface, the peak current continued to decrease (Fig. 4A curve d). When Pt@CeO₂ was introduced into the electrode surface, it affected the redox of Fe²⁺ and Fe³⁺, increased the steric hindrance, and showed the decrease of peak current and the increase of redox potential difference on the CV diagram (Fig. 4A curve e).

Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) is an effective tool to characterize the interface characteristics of the modified electrode. Fig. 4B showed the AC impedance diagrams of different modified electrodes in 5.0 mM of [Fe(CN)₆]^{3−/4−} solution containing 0.1 M KCl. The

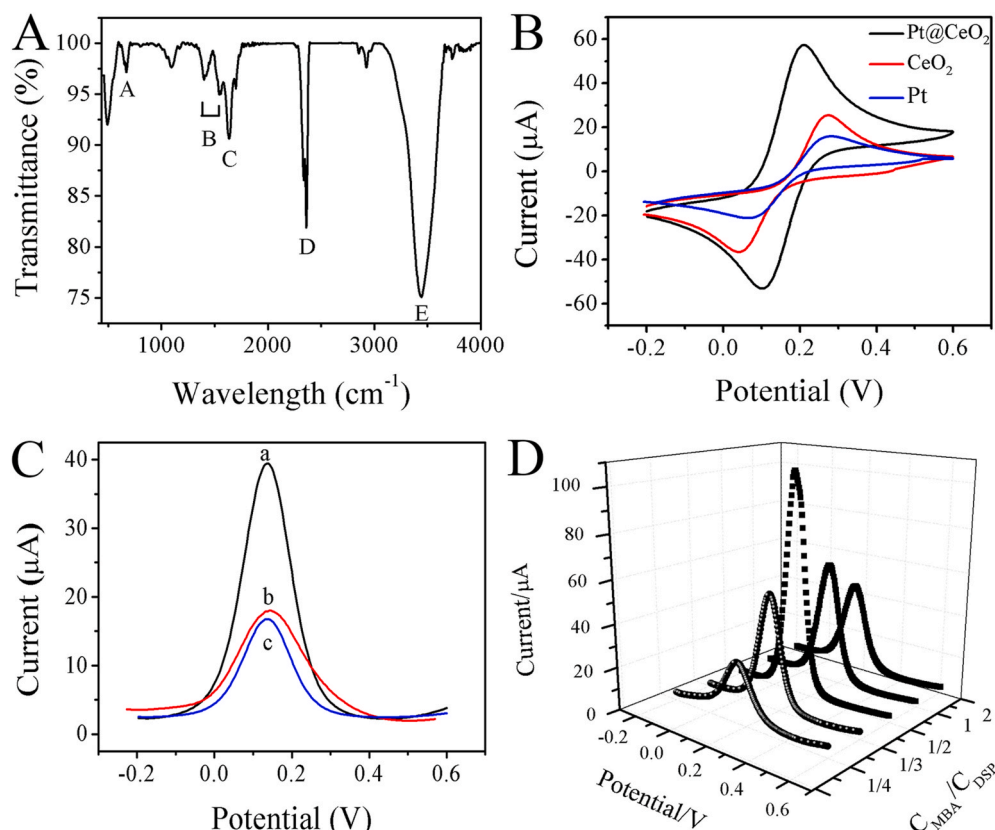


Fig. 3. (A) IR spectra of the MBA-DSP-Pt@CeO₂ probe. (B) CV of the various probe nanomaterials Pt@CeO₂, CeO₂, and Pt modified to probe. (C) Signal intensity variation of the Pt@CeO₂ functionalized by different concentration ratios of MBA and DSP toward the addition of 160 nM DA. (D) DPV response of the MBA and DSP modified the sensor separately or jointly.

charge-transfer resistance (R_{et}) was significantly different in the impedance diagrams of different modified electrodes. The bare GCE has a smaller resistance (R_{et}) to show a semicircle (Fig. 4B curve a). However, the R_{et} value decreased significantly after the electrodeposition of AuNPs on GCE (Fig. 4B curve b), indicating that the conductivity of AuNPs accelerated the electron transfer on the electrode surface to a certain extent. When MBA and DSP were fixed to the Au/GCE surface, the R_{et} value increased (Fig. 4B curve c). As a small organic molecule modified on the electrode, DA could hinder the electron exchange between the redox probe and the electrode and further increase the R_{et} (Fig. 4B curve d). After modified the MBA-DSP- Pt@CeO₂ probe on the electrode, the R_{et} value also increased (Fig. 4B curve e), indicating that the MBA-DSP- Pt@CeO₂ probe successfully connected to the surface of the DA modified electrode. The equivalent circuit provided the value of the cambium on the electrode surface (Supplementary Material Table S1). According to the experimental results, it could be seen that the change of R_{et} value was consistent with that of CV current, indicating that the sensor was successfully designed.

3.5. Analytical performance

Under optimized experimental conditions (see Fig. S1 and Supplementary Material Fig. S1), the electrochemical detection of DA was carried out by the DPV method on the biosensor. The glassy carbon electrode modified with MBA-DSP-AuNPs was dripped with different concentrations of DA, and finally dripped with the same concentration of MBA-DSP-Pt@CeO₂ at room temperature for 5 min and washed thoroughly with secondary water. DPV experiments were carried out in pH 7.4 0.01 M PBS buffer solution containing 1 mM hydrogen peroxide (pulse width, 50 ms; amplitude, 50 mV; sample width, 16.7 ms; pulse period, 200 ms). The result was shown in Fig. 4C, the change of response

current increased with the increase of DA concentration. It could be seen from the working curve (Fig. 4D) that there was a good linear relationship between the change of response current and the concentration of analyte in the range of 2–180 nM concentration of DA. The current signal was proportional to the concentration of DA. The biosensor exhibited a linear detection range from 2 nM to 180 nM and the limit of detection ($S/N = 3$) of 0.71 nM. As shown in Fig. 4D, the linear equation was $I = 8.7619 + 0.5489C$ ($R^2 = 0.9936$) which verified the conclusion drawn from the DPV experiment. The result revealed that the proposed biosensor could provide a wide detection range and an ultrasensitive detection limit toward DA. The detection limit is better than most of the reported research results for quantitative determination of DA (Table S2). These results confirmed enhanced signal amplification effects from the Pt@CeO₂ composites.

3.6. Stability, reproducibility and selectivity of the DA biosensor

The stability is an important parameter to evaluate the characteristics of biosensor. The proposed sensing electrodes were fabricated in the same conditions and stored at room temperature (0, 10, 30, 60, 90 days). The results showed that the current response remained at 89.7% of its original response within 90 days (Fig. 5A). Therefore, the prepared biosensor had satisfactory stability for the detection of DA.

As shown in Fig. 5B, there were no obvious changes for during five consecutive DPV scans, indicating that the repeatability of Pt@CeO₂ signals were exciting. The reproducibility of the sensor was studied as follows. The reproducibility was assessed toward the same concentration of DA solution (160 nM). The experimental data indicated that the relative standard deviation (RSD) values of intra-assays biosensor with five parallel determinations were 3.2%, whereas the RSD values of the inter-assays biosensor with five biosensors were 4.8%. The results

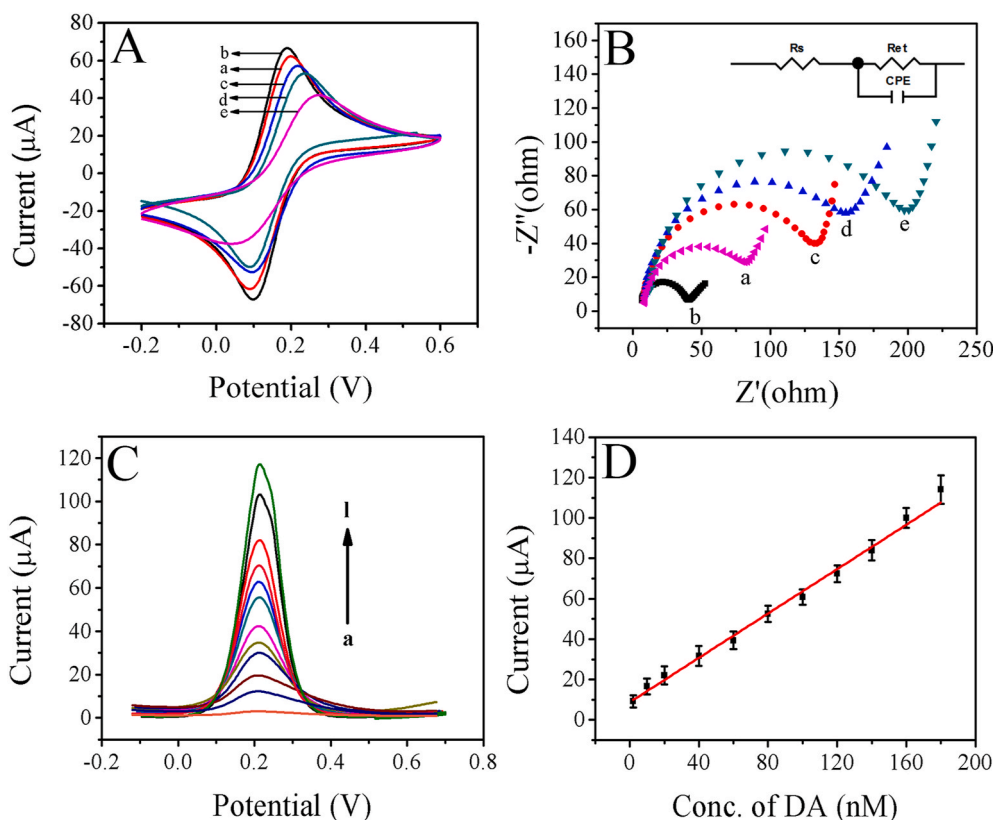


Fig. 4. (A) CV and (B) EIS of (a) bare GCE, (b) Au-GCE, (c) MBA-DSP/Au-GCE, (d) MBA-DSP-Pt@CeO₂, (e) MBA-DSP-Pt@CeO₂/MBA-DSP-Pt@CeO₂ in 5.0 mM of [Fe(CN)₆]^{3-/4-} solution containing 0.1 M KCl. (C) DPV responses to different DA concentrations (a–l: 0, 2, 10, 20, 40, 60, 80, 100, 120, 140, 160, 180 nM) in 0.01 M PBS solution containing 1 mM H₂O₂. (D) Calibration curves for analysis DA.

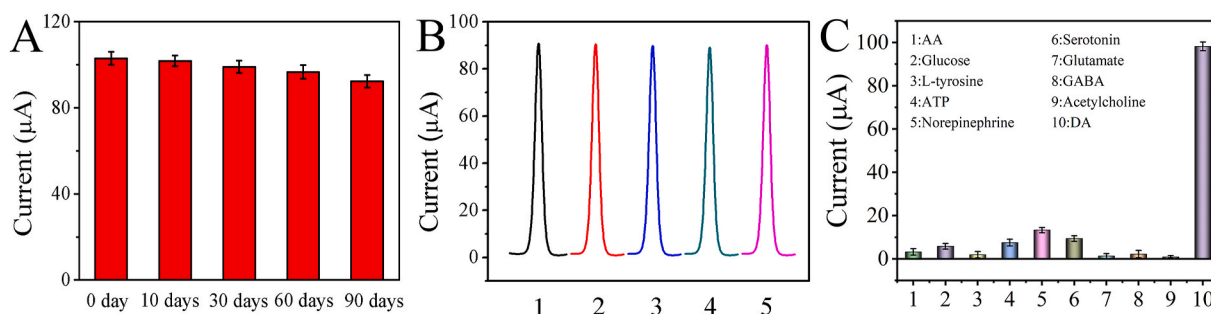


Fig. 5. (A) The storage stability of the biosensor at room temperature. (B) DPV responses of the biosensor for five-time continuous DPV scanning. (C) Selectivity investigation of the proposed sensor for AA, glucose, L-tyrosine, ATP, Norepinephrine, Serotonin, Glutamate, Gamma-Aminobutyric acid (GABA), Acetylcholine, DA in 0.01 M PBS solution containing 1 mM H₂O₂.

demonstrated a good reproducibility of the sensor.

Specificity is significant for the property of the sensor. The complexity of human brain systems brings a huge challenge to the detection of DA. The selectivity of the sensor is studied by comparing the interferers that are common in the brain, such as AA, glucose, L-tyrosine, ATP, Norepinephrine, Serotonin, Glutamate, Gamma-Aminobutyric acid (GABA), Acetylcholine. It could be seen from Fig. 5C that the strongest current signal was observed in the presence of 160 nM of DA. While the response current remained unchanged when tenfold higher concentrations of interfering substances. Compared to target molecule, low responses of the above compounds were observed, thus suggesting high selectivity of the present method.

3.7. Real sample analysis

In order to verify the reliability of the sensor in practical application, the content of DA in the simulated environment of the brain system was continuously monitored. The recovery experiment was carried with the standard addition method. Meanwhile, high-performance liquid chromatography with an electrochemical detector (HPLC-EC) was also employed to determine the simulated samples. As shown in Table 1, the recovery rate of standard addition recovery experiment was between 88.72% and 108.5% within the acceptable range. Meanwhile, the results obtained with the proposed method were in agreement with those obtained by the HPLC-EC, indicating that the sensor had a certain practical value in clinical diagnosis.

Table 1

DA concentration in real samples tested by the developed biosensor.

Sample	Added (nM)	Found (nM)	Recovery %	HPLC-EC (nM)
1	20	17.82	89.1	18.54
2	30	27.47	91.56	29.03
3	40	42.12	105.3	39.91
4	50	44.36	88.72	45.93
5	60	65.08	108.5	63.76

4. Conclusions

In summary, a low-cost, easy to use, high selectivity sandwich-like biosensor was successfully developed for ultrasensitive detection of DA based on double molecular recognition. This biosensor has many positive features: first, the MBA-DSP-Pt@CeO₂ probe can interact with diols and amine functional groups in DA to realize the double recognition of DA. Second, Pt@CeO₂ nanomaterial as a catalyst could catalyze the reduction of H₂O₂ for signal amplification. Third, this method is simple and the requirements for technology and instruments are low. Moreover, compared to other biosensors, the biosensor has better reproducibility, specificity, stability and lower detection limit, which providing a promising platform for point-of-care testing in clinical applications. Nevertheless, the designed biosensor cannot detect multiple analytes simultaneously. In order to break through this limitation, we will find a considerable method that can detect multiple targets on the analysis equipment at the same time in our future work.

Credit author statement

Cuiping Fu, Conceptualization, Methodology, Data curation, Writing - original draft. Yina Sun, Resources, Visualization, Data curation. Chuan Huang, Investigation, Formal analysis. Fangfang Wang, Resources, Visualization. Na Li, Resources, Visualization., Lina Zhang, Writing-Reviewing and Editing, Resources. Shenguang Ge, Conceptualization, Supervision, Funding acquisition. Jinghua Yu, Funding acquisition, Project administration.

Declaration of competing interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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Appendix A. Supplementary data

Supplementary data to this article can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.talanta.2020.121719>.

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