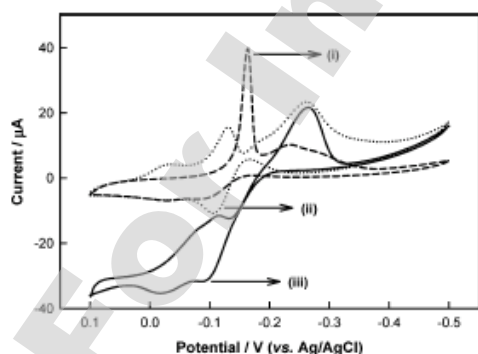


# Photoelectrocatalytic Oxidation of *o*-Phenols on Copper-Plated Screen-Printed Electrodes

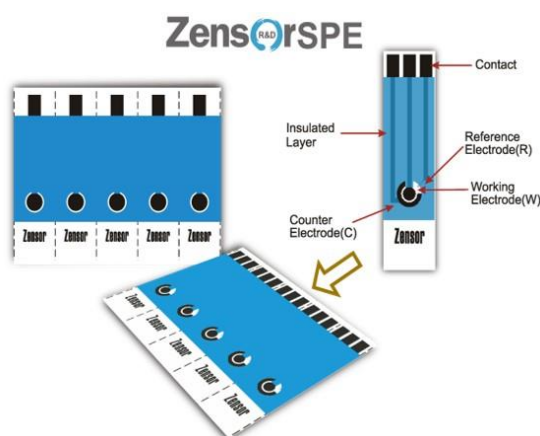
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A novel and sensitive detection method based on photoelectrocatalytic oxidation of *o*-diphenols was demonstrated on a copper-plated screen-printed carbon electrode (designated CuSPE) in pH 8 phosphate buffer solution. The *o*-diphenols can be detected amperometrically through electrochemical oxidation at a low applied potential of  $-0.1$  V versus Ag/AgCl, where the CuSPE is much less subject to interfering reactions. The mechanism that induces good selectivity of the CuSPE is explained in terms of the formation of a cyclic five-member complex intermediate ( $\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}-\text{o}$ -quinolate). A prototype homemade flow through cell design is described for incorporating the photoelectrode and light source. Electrode irradiation results in a large increase in anodic current. The oxidative photocurrents produced by irradiation increase with light intensity presumably because of the formation of semiconductor  $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}$ . The principle used in this study has an opportunity to extend into various research applications.



**Figure 3.** Cyclic voltammograms of the CuSPE in (i) blank pH 8 PBS without electrode irradiation, (ii) blank pH 8 PBS with electrode irradiation, and (iii) pH 8 PBS contained 2 mM CA with electrode irradiation. CV conditions: scan from +0.1 to  $-0.5$  V at a scan rate of 5 mV/s.





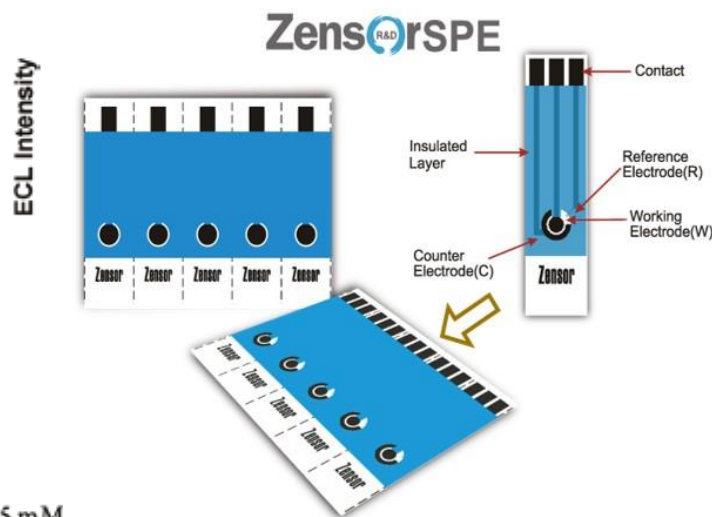
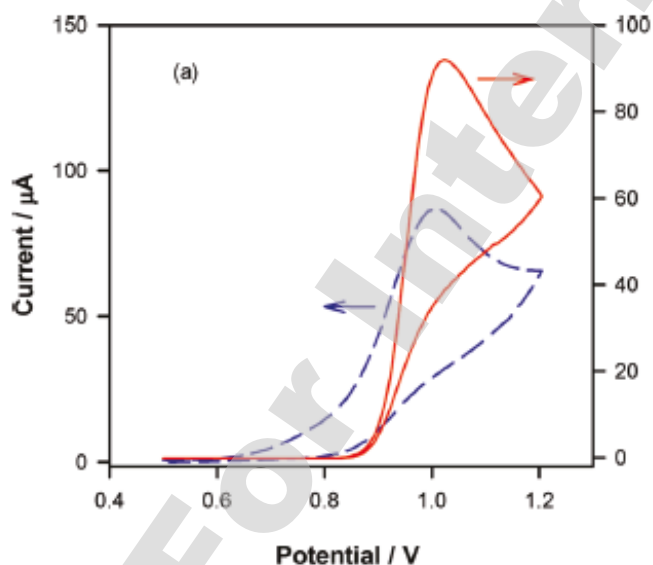
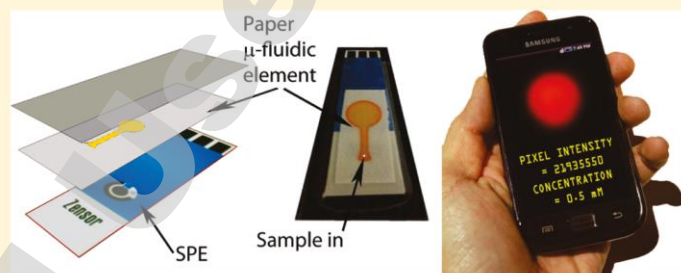
# Electrogenerated Chemiluminescence Detection in Paper-Based Microfluidic Sensors

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**ABSTRACT:** This paper describes the first approach at combining paper microfluidics with electrochemiluminescent (ECL) detection. Inkjet printing is used to produce paper microfluidic substrates which are combined with screen-printed electrodes (SPEs) to create simple, cheap, disposable sensors which can be read without a traditional photodetector. The sensing mechanism is based on the orange luminescence due to the ECL reaction of tris(2,2'-bipyridyl)ruthenium(II) ( $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$ ) with certain analytes. Using a conventional photodetector, 2-(dibutylamino)-ethanol (DBAE) and nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NADH) could be detected to levels of  $0.9 \mu\text{M}$  and  $72 \mu\text{M}$ , respectively. Significantly, a mobile camera phone can also be used to detect the luminescence from the sensors. By analyzing the red pixel intensity in digital images of the ECL emission, a calibration curve was constructed demonstrating that DBAE could be detected to levels of  $250 \mu\text{M}$  using the phone.



**Figure 3.** Typical sensor responses for (a) 5 mM DBAE and (b) 5 mM NADH in pH 7.5 0.1 M phosphate buffer. The voltammetric (current)





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# Surface-enhanced Raman scattering-active desert-rose-like Ag mesoparticles prepared using cyclic voltammetric methods†

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Desert-rose-like Ag mesoparticles were deposited on a screen-printed carbon electrode substrate through a cyclic voltammetric process in aqueous  $\text{AgNO}_3$  containing Au nanoparticles. The prepared mesoparticles were characterized using scanning electron microscopy, energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy, surface-assisted laser desorption/ionization mass spectrometry, X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy, and high-resolution X-ray diffractometry. In addition, the potential for applying these mesoparticles in surface-enhanced Raman scattering (SERS) was investigated. The prepared mesoparticles exhibited a more intense SERS signal (34.3 times) than did irregularly shaped Ag particles because of their extremely intense local electromagnetic fields. The enhancement factor of 4-mercaptobenzoic acid molecules on these mesoparticles was approximately  $10^5$ . Furthermore, SERS spectra of 4,4'-dimercapto-azobenzene, 5,5'-dithiobis-2-nitrobenzoic acid, and Cy3 dye modified DNA were obtained using these mesoparticles; moreover, hot spots for most of the enhanced SERS signals were easily obtained. The thermal stability and aging behaviour of the prepared Ag mesoparticles were higher than those of irregularly shaped Ag particles.

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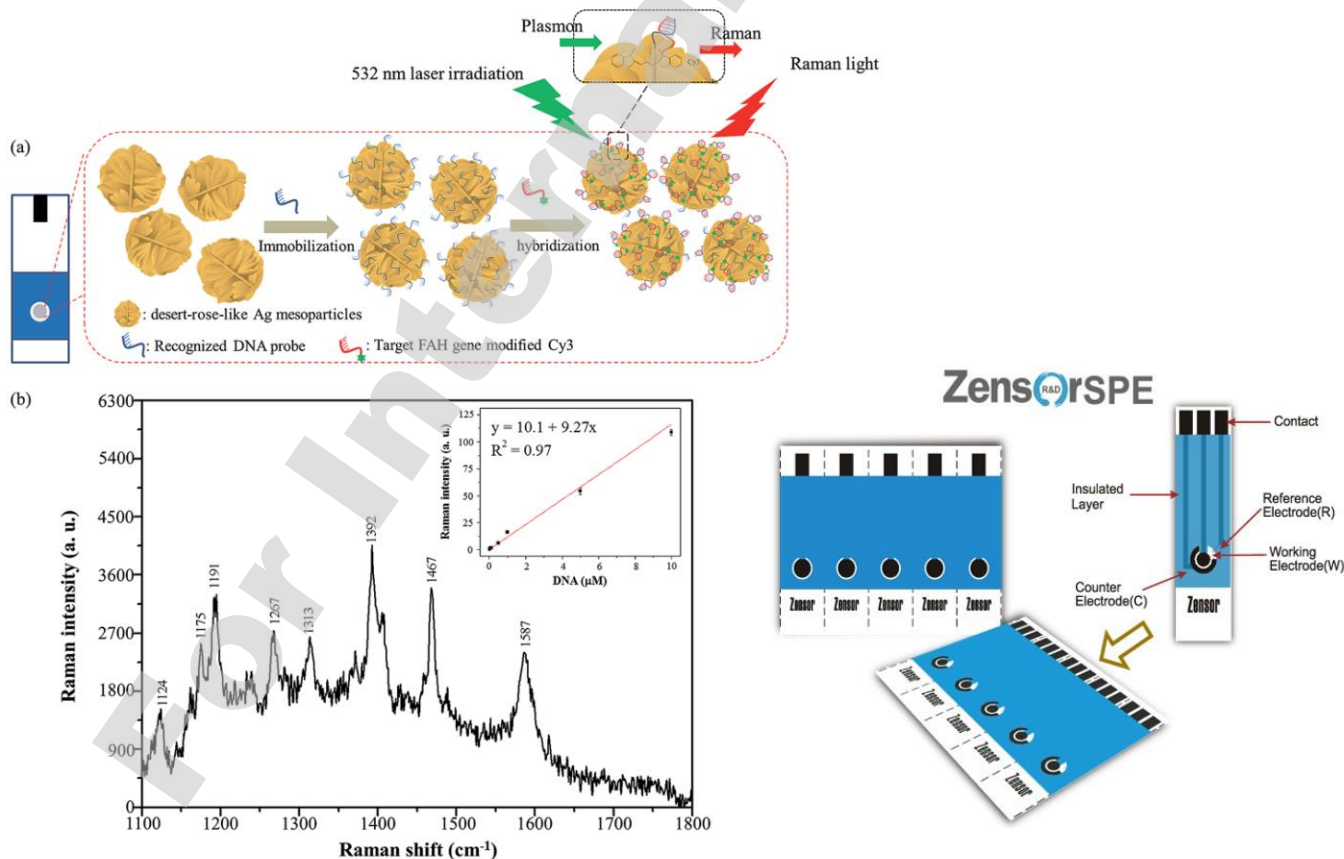
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Fig. 4 Demonstration of DNA sensing. (a) Schematic of DNA immobilization and hybridization on the desert-rose-like Ag mesoparticles. (b) Raman spectra of Cy3 obtained using a target single-stranded DNA (FAH gene) attached to the desert-rose-like Ag mesoparticles. Inset: plots of Raman signal intensity versus DNA concentration.