

# Synthesis and Characterization of copper oxide(II) nanoparticles prepared by hydrothermal process

**Mohammed Ajmi Abd**

*University of Tikrit, college of science, Dept of physics*

**Raad M.S Al-haddad**

*University of Baghdad, college of science, Dept of physics*

**Khalid Hamdi Razeg**

*University of Tikrit, College of Science, Dept of physics*

Mahmoodajmi22@gmail.com

---

**Keywords:** Hydrothermal process; Precursor; CuO Nanoparticle ;X-ray; FT-IR ; AFM ; UV technique.

---

## Abstract

Hydrothermal process was used to prepare CuO nanoparticles. CuO nanoparticles can be prepared without organic solvents, expensive raw materials by a hydrothermal method. XRD diffraction reveals that CuO nanoparticles have a monoclinic structure with particle size 20nm, and AFM analysis showed that the diameter of the Grain size is in a nanometer range. The analysis by FTIR spectra assure that the composition was CuO, and the features of vibrational types of Cu-O were fixed. also the optical properties was analysed with UV-vis showed that CuO nano particles have considerable a blue shift, which have a band gap equal to (4.9 eV), and this is because the effect of quantum confinement of prepared CuO nano particles.

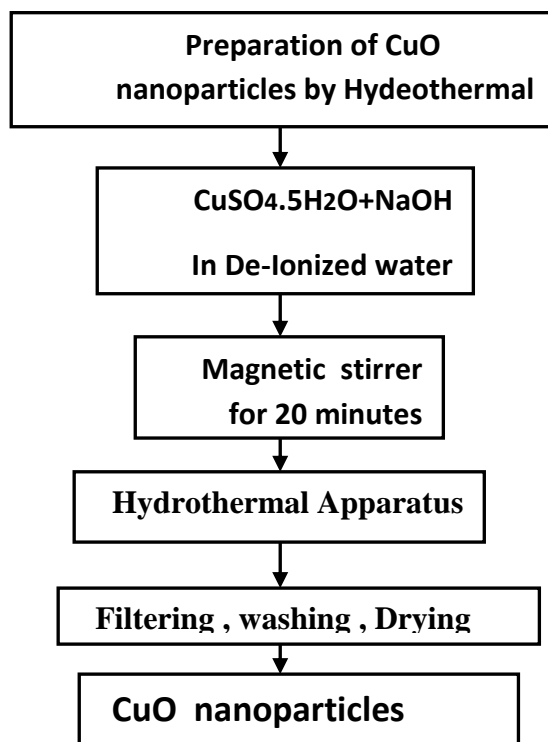
## 1- Introduction

The nano-materials have attractive at concern, because of different properties. New properties such as physical properties of nano materials, chemical properties, also thermodynamic which is expected to found in such p-type [1,2,3]. It is arising from the a great part of low coordinated atoms at the surface, and the confinement of the electrons to a small volume, respectively [4,5,6]. CuO is a semiconductor with type-p, and have a band gap of [1.8 – 2.5] eV. Copper oxide (II) is one of the most intensified studied metal oxide, because of its applications in many sectors, such as catalysis, solar cells, semiconductors, transistors and gas sensors [7,8,9].

CuO is known as cupric oxide, have attracted attention from scientists, because of its alone physical and chemical features, such as high electron communication features, also a high specific surface area, and high solar absorbency, All these properties are relative to its diversity of nanostructures [10,4,2]. There are many methods to the prepare CuO nanostructures including hydrothermal, thermal oxidation, electrochemical and solvothermal, simple hydrolysis, Microwave assisted, and sol-gel methods [11,12,7].

## 2- Experimental:

Hydrothermal method is a low and simple cost method to produce CuO nanostructures. Copper oxide nanoparticles were prepared by hydrothermal process. The preparation scheme started with dissolving 0.1M of Copper sulfate pentahydrate  $\text{CuSO}_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in distilled water to obtain blue solution, then 0.2 M of sodium hydroxide NaOH solution was added by dropwise respectively with vigorous stirring for 20 minutes, The pH value of the solution equal to 8. The resultant solution was transferred to the stainless steel (autoclave), and hydrothermal synthesis was carried out for about 160°C for 8h. The obtained black precipitate was filtered and cleaned with (washing by Ethanol then deionized water several times). The final product is dried at 70 °C for 2 h. fig 1 shows diagram to prepare CuO nanoparticles:



**Figure 1: Shows the diagram to synthesis of CuO nanoparticles by hydrothermal method**

### 3- RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

#### 3-1 XRD analysis

The X-ray diffraction was carried out on the prepared CuO nanoparticles with the ( Philips pw system ) by using(copper)  $\text{CuK}\alpha$  as a source of radiation which having a wavelength of 1.540  $\text{\AA}$ . The XRD shows that the prepared particles was a copper oxide and have a monoclinic structure, fig.2 depicts the XRD of CuO nanoparticles .

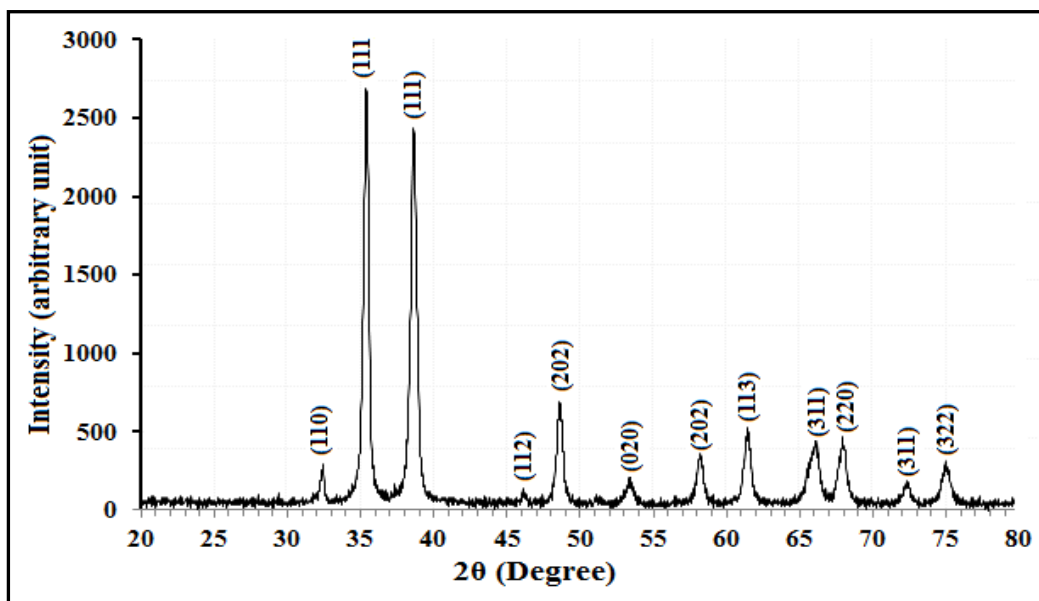


Figure2: XRD pattern of CuO nanoparticles with NaOH=0.2/0.1M.

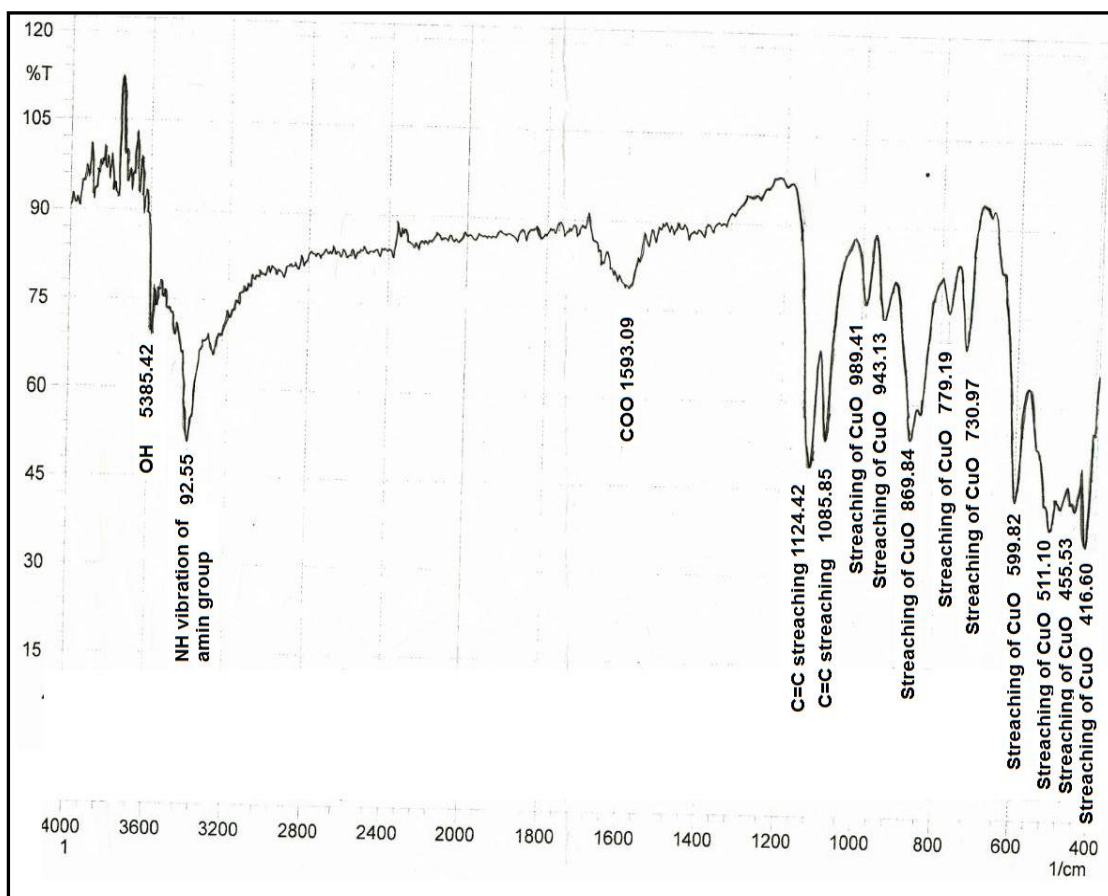
Also the crystallite size was found by using ( Debye Scherrer equation ):

$$d = K \lambda / \beta \cos\theta \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

d: represent the average of particle size (nm) and K: is (shape factor and equal to about 0.9) ,  $\lambda$  : is the wavelength in nanometer of the X-ray,  $\beta$ : represent a full width at half maximum (FWHM) of the diffraction angle, and  $\theta$  represent the Bragg diffraction angle of the  $2\theta$  peak. The average particle size was estimated to be ~20 nm.

### 3-2 FT-IR analysis

The FTIR Spectra was analysed by (470infrared –spectrophotometer shimadzu), and the results are shown in fig.2 This technique was used to determine a functional groups of prepare CuO nanoparticles oxide. The strong intensity peak at  $3585.42 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  assigned to alkyl (O-H) stretching for the deformation of the diethylamine ,  $3392.25 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  assigned to (N-H) vibration of amin group, weak band at  $1593.09 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  assigned to carboxylic group (COO) vibration, while the positioned at  $1124.24 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  revealed the presence of (C=C) stretching for alkyl. The characteristic peak of CuO positioned at  $989.41$  to  $416.60 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  [12,8,11].



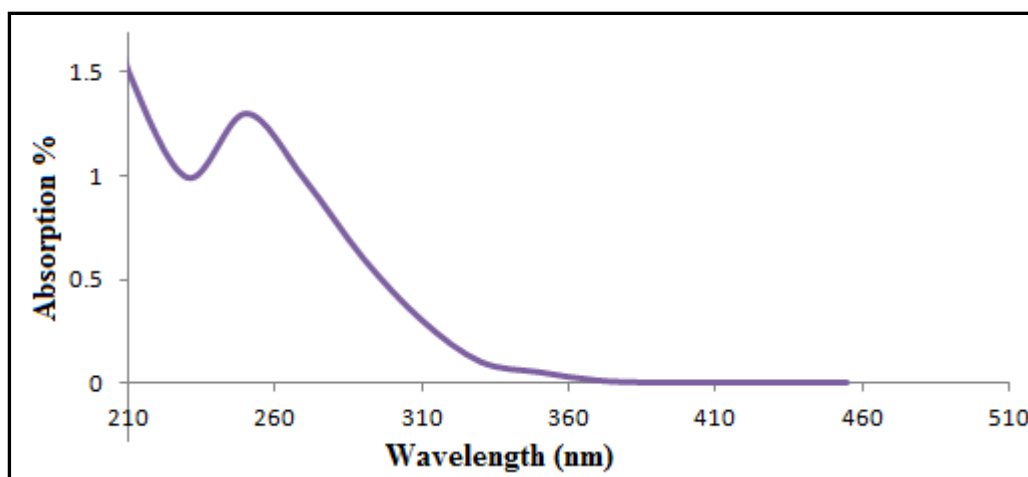
Figuer 3: FTIR analyzing of CuO nano particles.

**Table (1): show the FTIR values .**

<b>CuO (<math>cm^{-1}</math>)</b>	<b>Vibrational modes</b>
3585.42	OH
3392.25	NH vibration of amine Group
1593.09	COO
1124.42	C=C stretching
1085.85	C=C stretching
989.14	Stretching of CuO
943.13	Stretching of CuO
869.84	Stretching of CuO
779.19	Stretching of CuO
730.97	Stretching of CuO
599.82	Stretching of CuO
511.10	Stretching of CuO
445.53	Stretching of CuO
416.60	Stretching of CuO

**3-3 UV- Visible spectroscopy:**

Optical properties of the prepared CuO nanoparticles are researched by the Spectrum of the optical absorption with the (T90UV Spectrometer System). The absorption spectrum of CuO nanoparticles shows a sharp absorbance onset at 252 nm . Fig.3 shows spectrum of the optical absorption.

**Figuer4:** shows UV – Absorption spectra of CuO nano particles.

**3-4 Determination the(Eg) of synthesizing CuO nanoparticles .**

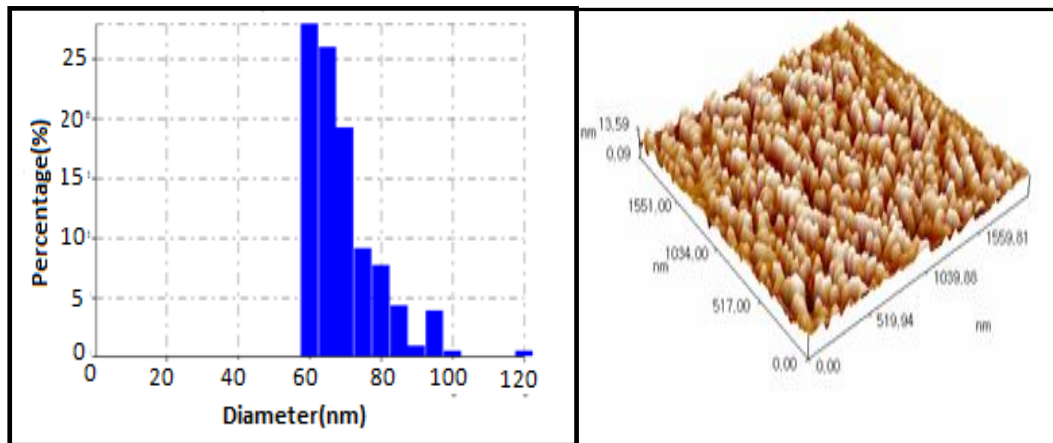
According to UV-V technique , by using the absorbance peak to find the band gap energy of synthesized CuO nano Particles with equation [8,12].

$$Eg = h\nu = hc / \lambda \dots\dots\dots 2$$

Where Eg represent the optical band gap and ( h ) is plank’s constant (h= 6.63×10<sup>-34</sup>J.S ) and, (ν) frequency of the emitted radiation . Using λ=252 nm , The band gap of nano CuO equal to be ( 4.9) eV, and this mean that the band gap is higher than the value (2.5) eV of bulk CuO ,this is due to the quantum size effect of the synthesized CuO nanoparticles [6,7].

**3-4 Atomic Force Microscope:**

Atomic force microscope used to study surface of the samples (SPM-AA 3000 USA )model. the average grain size of surface nanoparticles was measured , fig. 3 shows a typical surface AFM images, the average of diameter was (65) nm, and the maximum grain size distribution is located at 60nm. it is clear that the particle size is more bigger than in x-ray . also there is a bright and dark regions which is explain the difference in the roughness of nanoparticles.



**Figuer4: AFM images of CuO nano particles and distribution of particles with**

**4-Conclusions**

In our study CuO nano particles were synthesized successfully with a hydrothermal method. The phase structured confirmed by XRD analysis and have a monoclinic phase, also particle size were an (20nm). The blue shift of wavelength was obtained by UV-Visible, and it is equal to 250nm. AFM analysis shows that the average of diameter was 65nm. These particle sizes of obtained CuO nano particles can be used in such application ; anti bacterial applications , sensing gas.

**References:**

- 1-Vinay Kumar Jha , “ Synthesis of Nanosized copper oxide particles using hydrothermal treatment ”, *Nep. J. Integrated Sciences*, 2:42-46, (2012 )
- 2-Felix Bulcke, “Synthesis and characterization of copper oxide nanoparticles and investigation of their effects on the vitality and metabolism of astrocytes ”, Ph.D thesis, University of Melbourne, Australia, (2015).
- 3-Alison Christina Fernandez and Joe Jesudurai, “ Hydrothermal synthesis and characterization of copper oxide flower-like Nanostructures”, *Elixir Nanocomposite Materials* ,Vol 50 ,10541-10543,(2012).
- 4-Meryem Lamri Zeggar, “ Cupric Oxide thin films deposition for gas sensor application ”, Ph.D thesis , Uneversity Freres Mentouri Constantine, (2016).
- 5- Karim H. Hassan, Arrej A. Jarullah and Sally K. Saadi, “ Synthesis of Copper Oxide Nanoparticle as an Adsorbent for Removal of Cd (II) and Ni (II) Ions from Binary System ” ,*International Journal of Applied Environmental Sciences*, Volume 12, Number 11 ,pp. 1841-1861,(2017).
- 6- Gul Amin, “ ZnO and CuO Nanostructures : Low Temperature Growth ,Characterization, their Optoelectronic and Sensing Applications”, M.Sc.thesis, Linköping University, Sweden ,(2012).
- 7- V. Maria Vinosel , A. Persis Amaliya, S. Blessi, S. Pauline, “ Facile Synthesis of CuO Nano particles by Hydrothermal method and their application on anti bacterial activity ”, *International Research Journal of Engineering and Technology*, Volume: 04 Issue: 08 ,(2017).
- 8-K.Kannaki , P.S.Ramesh and D. Geetha, “Hydrothermal synthesis of CuO Nanostructure and Their Characterizations”, *International Journal of Scientific and Engineering Research*, Volume 3, Issue 9, (2012) .
- 9- Ahmed Zain elabdin, Gul Amin, Siama Zaman, Omer Nur, Jun Lu, Lars Hultman and Magnus Willander, “ CuO/ZnO Nanocorals synthesis via hydrothermal technique: growth mechanism and their application as Humidity Sensor”, *Journal of Materials Chemistry*, vol 22 ,11583-11590, (2012).
- 10-Hafsa Siddiqui, M. S. Qureshi, F. Z. Haque, “Structural and Optical Properties of CuO Nanocubes Prepared Through Simple Hydrothermal Route, International” *Journal of Scientific and Engineering Research*, Volume 5, Issue 3, ISSN 2229-5518, (2014).
- 11-Satoshi Horikoshi and Nick Serpone, “Introduction to Nanoparticles” , book ,First Edition, Wiley-VCH Verlag GmbH & Co.KGaA, (2013).
- 12- G. Varughese and others, “Characterisation and optical studies of copper oxide Nanostructure Doped with Lanthanum ions”, *Advances in Material science*, Vol. 14, No. 4, (2014).
- 13- Emil Roduner, “Size matters: why nanomaterials are different”, *The Royal society of chemistry*, Vol 35, pp 583-592, (2006).

#### الخلاصة:

تم استخدام طريقة الهدرجة الحرارية لتحضير جسيمات اوكسيد النحاس النانوية , يمكن تحضير جسيمات النحاس النانوية بدون استخدام المذيبات العضوية او مواد غالية الثمن باستخدام الهدرجة الحرارية. حيود الاشعة السينية أكد بان جسيمات النحاس النانوية ذات تركيب احادي الميل , مع حجم حبيبي 20nm , كما ان التحليل باستخدام مجهر القوة الذرية اوضح بأن قطر الحجم الحبيبي هو في ضمن المدى النانوي . التحليل بواسطة طيف ( FTIR ) اكدت لنا بأن التركيب هو اوكسيد النحاس كما ان خصائص نمط الاهتزاز لأوكسجين- نحاس تم تأكيده. تم دراسة الخواص البصرية باستخدام الطيف المرئي للاشعة فوق البنفسجية والتي اوضحت بأن جسيمات النحاس تمتلك انحراف باتجاه المنطقة المسماة (blue shift) , حيث تمتلك فجوة عالية طاقة (4.9eV) , وان هذا ربما يعود الى تأثير الحصر الكمي لجسيمات اوكسيد النحاس النانوية.

**الكلمات الدالة:**عملية مائية ؛ السلف؛ جسيم نانوي CuO ؛ FT-IR ؛ AFM. تقنية الأشعة فوق البنفسجية.