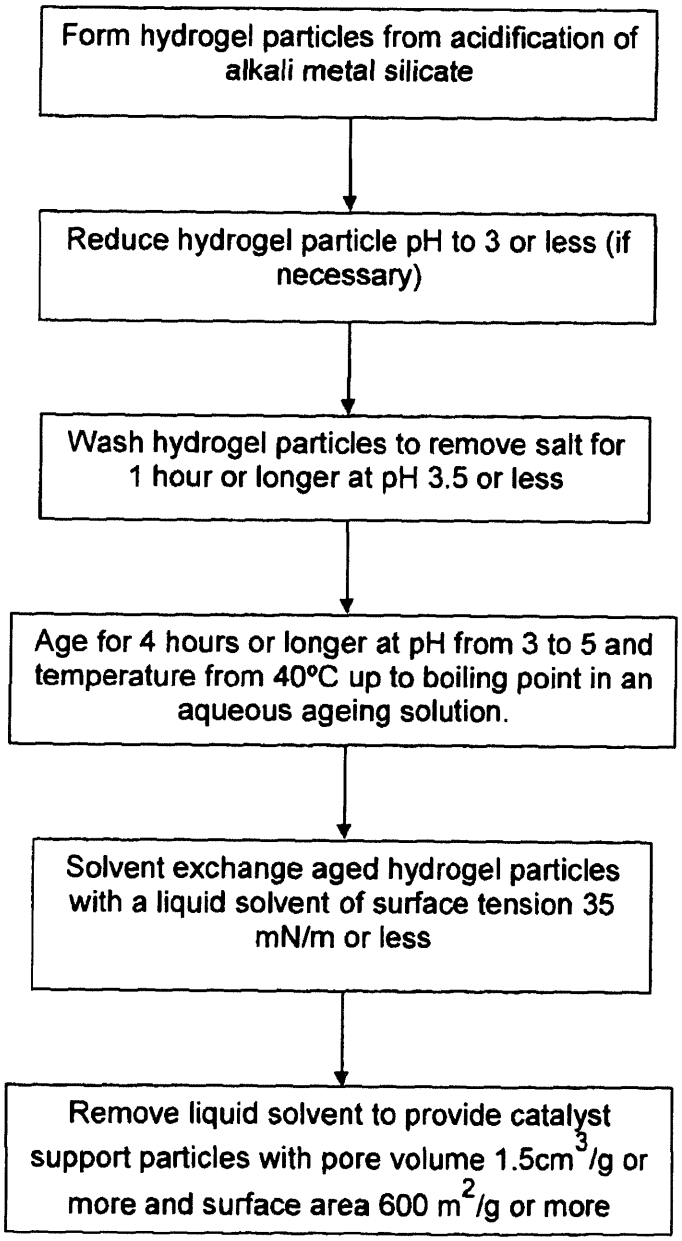
Figure 1


Form hydrogel particles from acidification of alkali metal silicate
Reduce hydrogel particle pH to 3 or less (if necessary)
Wash hydrogel particles to remove salt for 1 hour or longer at pH 3.5 or less
Age for 4 hours or longer at pH from 3 to 5 and temperature from 40°C up to boiling point in an aqueous ageing solution.
Solvent exchange aged hydrogel particles with a liquid solvent of surface tension 35 mN/m or less
Remove liquid solvent to provide catalyst support particles with pore volume 1.5cm3/g or more and surface area 600 m2/g or more