

# Supplementary Material

## Methionine capped gold nanoclusters as a fluorescence-enhanced probe for cadmium( II ) sensing

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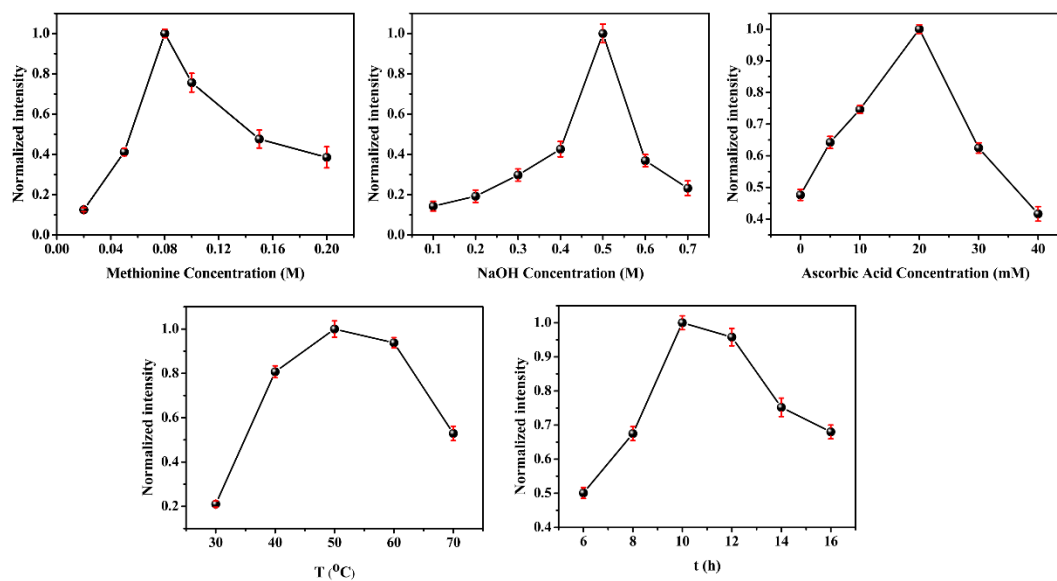
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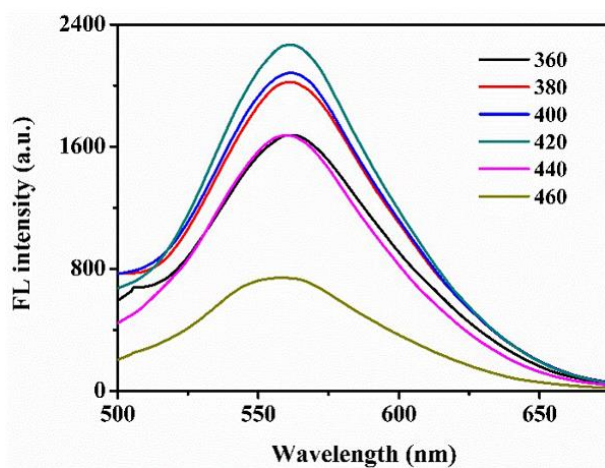
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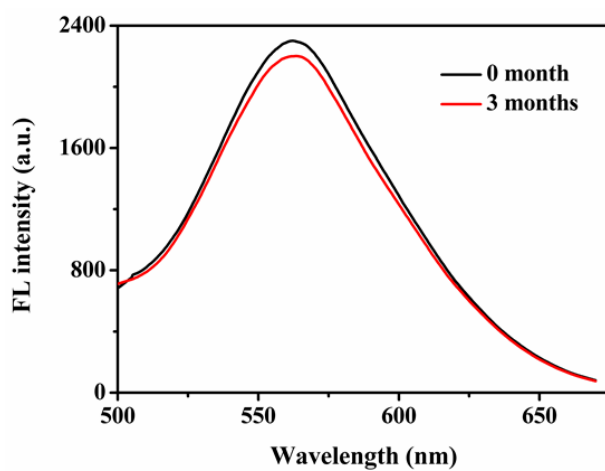
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**Figure S1.** Optimization of synthesized conditions of Au NCs



**Figure S2.** Emission spectra of fluorescent Au NCs prepared in a typical synthesis with different excitation wavelengths.



**Figure S3.** The fluorescence spectra of Met-Au NCs storing in dark at 4°C before and after three months.

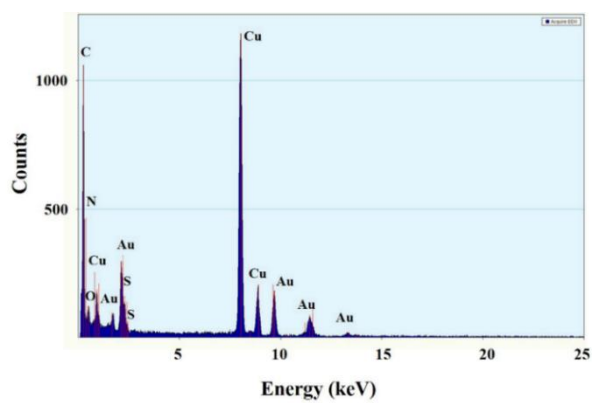


Figure S4. EDX spectrum for as-prepared Au NCs.

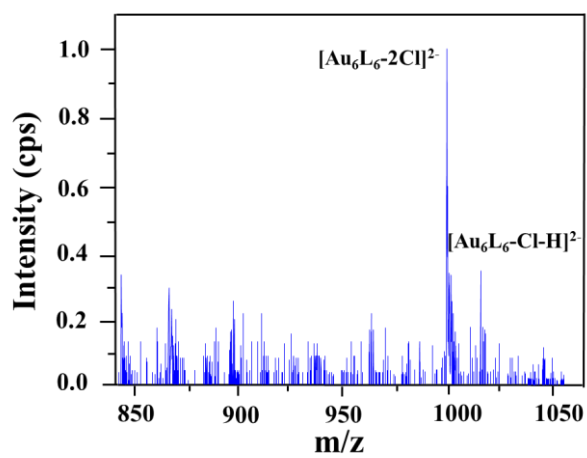


Figure S5. ESI mass spectra (negative mode) of as-synthesized Au NCs

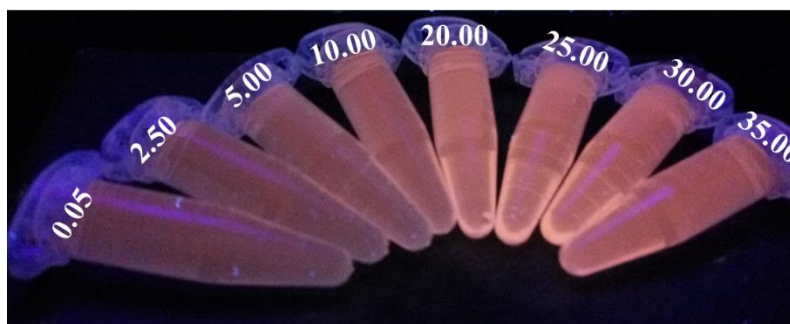
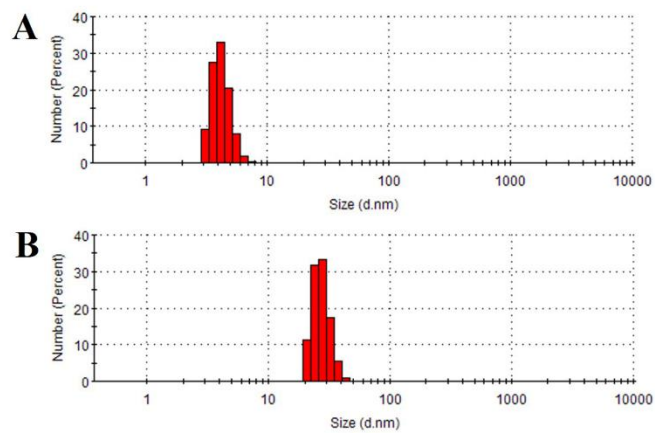


Figure S6. The color change of Au NCs under UV irradiation when exposed to different concentration of  $\text{Cd}^{2+}$  ions.



**Figure S7.** Hydrodynamic diameter measured using DLS of Au NCs (A) and Au NCs in the presence of 50  $\mu\text{M}$   $\text{Cd}^{2+}$  (B) at neutral pH.

**Table S1.** Quantification Results of EDX from Au NCs.

	Element	Weight%	Atomic%	Uncert%	Detector Correction	K-Factor
Au NCs	N(K)	1.08	7.22	0.24	0.28	3.466
	O(K)	6.08	35.33	0.32	0.51	1.889
	S(K)	5.64	16.34	0.25	0.93	1.021
	Au(k)	87.17	41.10	1.33	0.99	4.256

**Table S2.** Comparison of this method with other reported approaches for the detection of Cd<sup>2+</sup> using different optical systems.

Probe	LOD (M)	Linear range (M)	Time	Reals samples	Reference
Colorimetric (Ag NPs)	1.30×10 <sup>-7</sup>	2.27×10 <sup>-7</sup> -3.18×10 <sup>-6</sup>	10 min	Water	[1]
Aptamer probe (Cd-2-2)	4.0×10 <sup>-8</sup>	0-1.0×10 <sup>-6</sup>	30 min	-	[2]
Organic dyes (NHQ)	2.165×10 <sup>-7</sup>	0-6×10 <sup>-6</sup>	-	-	[3]
Organic dyes (PD)	3.20×10 <sup>-8</sup>	0-2.5×10 <sup>-6</sup>	10 min	Cells	[4]
QDs (SiO <sub>2</sub> -S-Zn-CdS)	1.0×10 <sup>-7</sup>	3.0×10 <sup>-7</sup> -2.6×10 <sup>-5</sup>	7 min	solanum nigrum L	[5]
QDs (Ag <sub>2</sub> S)	5.46×10 <sup>-7</sup>	1.0×10 <sup>-6</sup> -4.0×10 <sup>-5</sup>	2 min	Water	[6]
NCs (BSA-Au/Ni))	1.75×10 <sup>-9</sup>	5.0×10 <sup>-9</sup> -1.0×10 <sup>-6</sup>	10 min	serum	[7]
NCs (GSH-Au)	2.40×10 <sup>-8</sup>	0-1.4×10 <sup>-6</sup>	-	Water	[8]
NCs (Met-Au)	1.23×10 <sup>-8</sup>	5×10 <sup>-8</sup> -3.5×10 <sup>-5</sup>	1 min	Water, Milk	This work

## References

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