Gold nanoclusters based dual-emission hollow TiO$_2$ microsphere for ratiometric optical thermometry

Chuanxi Wang,*a Yijun Huang,a Huihui Lin,a Zhenzhu Xu,a Jiapeng Wu,a Mark G. Humphreyb and Chi Zhang* a

$^a$China-Australia Joint Research Centre for Functional Molecular Materials, School of Chemical & Material Engineering, Jiangnan University, Wuxi 214122, P. R. China $^b$Research School of Chemistry, Australian National University, Canberra, ACT 0200, Australia

E-mail address: chizhang@jiangnan.edu.cn (C. Zhang); wangcx@jiangnan.edu.cn (C. X. Wang)

Fig S1. Photographs of resultant CDs in chloroform solution (a) and resultant CDs/TiO$_2$ hollow microspheres in aqueous solution (b).

Fig S2. The size distribution of (a) CDs, the average size was 2.5 nm; (b) AuNCs, the average size was 2.1 nm
Fig S3. SEM image of resultant CDs/TiO$_2$ hollow microspheres

Fig S4. Fluorescence spectra of (a) TiO$_2$ microspheres and (b) dual-emission fluorescent hollow microspheres at various concentrations.

Fig S5. X–ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) spectra show the binding energy of Au 4f (a) and C 1s (b) of dual-emission nanosensor.
**Fig S6.** The fluorescent stability of dual-emission fluorescent nanosensor: a, photo-stability of as-prepared nanosensor radiated by a 450 W Xe light at various time; b, the pH stability of nanosensor in various pH values; c, the metal stability of nanosensor in various metal ions with the concentration of 200 mM.

**Fig S7.** PL intensity upon the cyclic switching of dual-emission fluorescent nanosensor under alternating conditions between 20 °C and 60 °C.

**Fig S8.** a, Fluorescence emission spectra of dual-emission nanosensor for various temperatures in the range 20 °C to 45 °C (top to bottom) in the PBS solution (pH=7.4); b, the ratio of the intensity at 596 nm and 436 nm (I_{596}/I_{436}) is plotted versus temperature.