

## Supplementary Information

### Synthesis of double-shell hollow magnetic Au-loaded ellipsoids as highly active and recoverable nanoreactors

Jiasheng Fang, Yiwei Zhang\*, Yuming Zhou\*, Shuo Zhao, Chao Zhang, Mengqiu

Huang, Yan Gao, Chenghan Yang

School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Southeast University, Jiangsu  
Optoelectronic Functional Materials and Engineering Laboratory, Nanjing 211189, P.  
R. China.

\* Corresponding authors.

E-mail: zhangchem@seu.edu.cn; ymzhou@seu.edu.cn.

Tel: +86 25 52090617; Fax: +86 25 52090617.

## **Figure Captions**

**Fig. S1** TEM of Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> ellipsoids.

**Fig. S2** Magnified TEM of Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>@CeO<sub>2</sub>@H-SiO<sub>2</sub> (a) and Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>@TiO<sub>2</sub>@H-SiO<sub>2</sub> (b).

**Fig. S3** TEM (a) and HRTEM (b) of cracked Fe@CeO<sub>2</sub>-Au@H-SiO<sub>2</sub>.

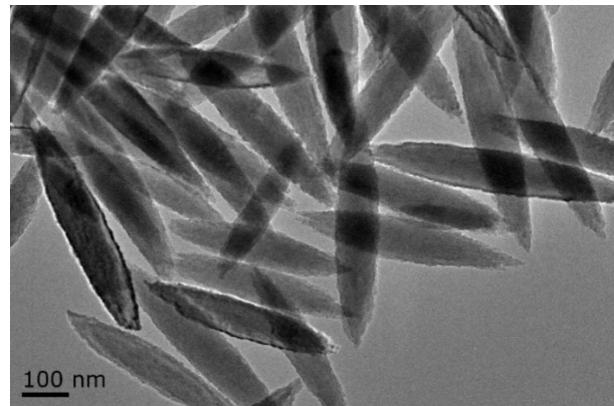
**Fig. S4** FTIR pattern of Au(en)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>3</sub> compounds.

**Fig. S5** (a) UV-vis spectra of 4-NP before (black line) and after (red line) adding NaBH<sub>4</sub> and 4-AP (blue line) solution; (b) UV-vis spectra for the reduction of 4-NP by NaBH<sub>4</sub> without catalysts at 0 h and 24 h; (c) Reduction process of 4-NP catalyzed by catalysts: (1) pure 4-NP solution, (2) 4-NP solution with NaBH<sub>4</sub>, (3) complete conversion of 4-NP into 4-AP over catalysts.

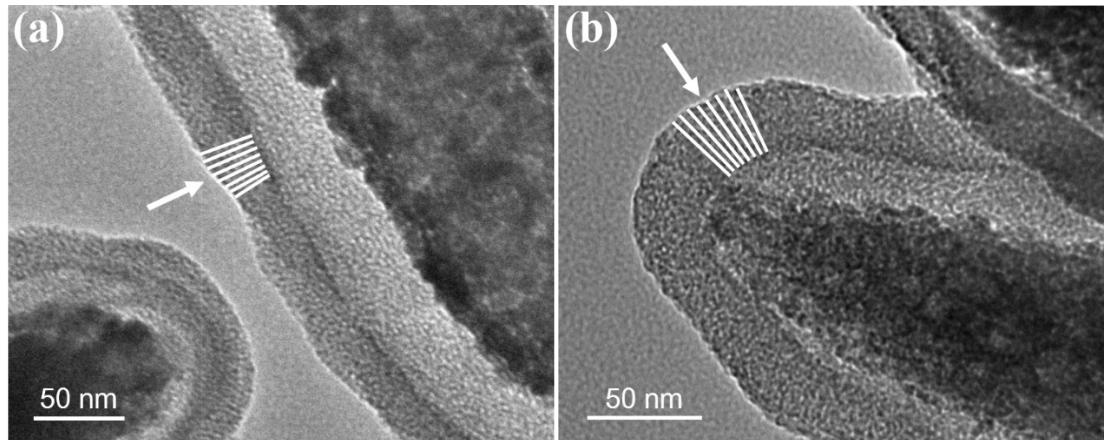
**Fig. S6** TEM and EDS analysis of Fe@CeO<sub>2</sub>-Au (a, c) and Fe@TiO<sub>2</sub>-Au (b, d).

**Fig. S7** TEM (a) and EDS analysis (b) of Fe@SiO<sub>2</sub>-Au@H-SiO<sub>2</sub>.

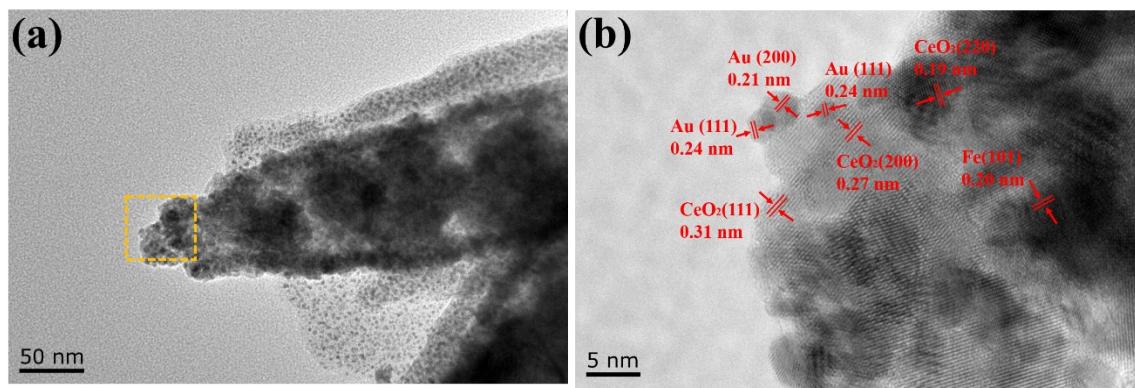
**Table S1 Comparison of Au-loaded nanocatalysts for the reduction of 4-NP**



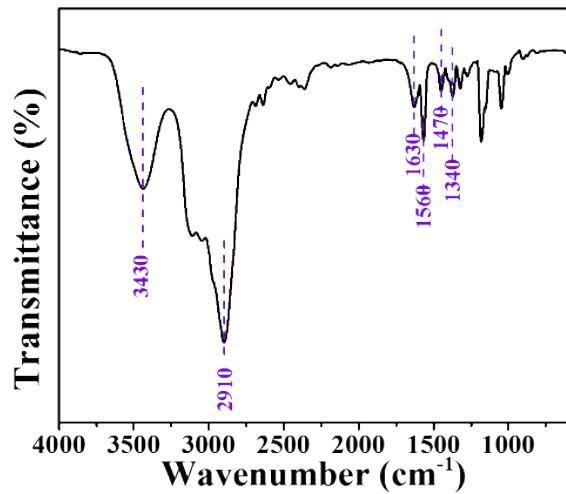
**Fig. S1** TEM of  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  ellipsoids.



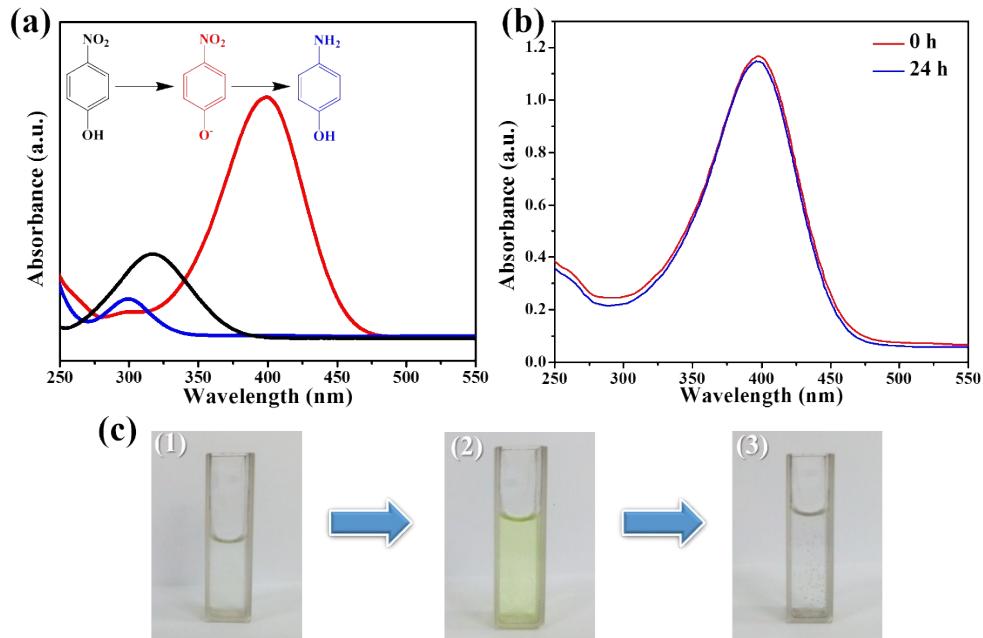
**Fig. S2** Magnified TEM of  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3@\text{CeO}_2@\text{H-SiO}_2$  (a) and  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3@\text{TiO}_2@\text{H-SiO}_2$  (b).



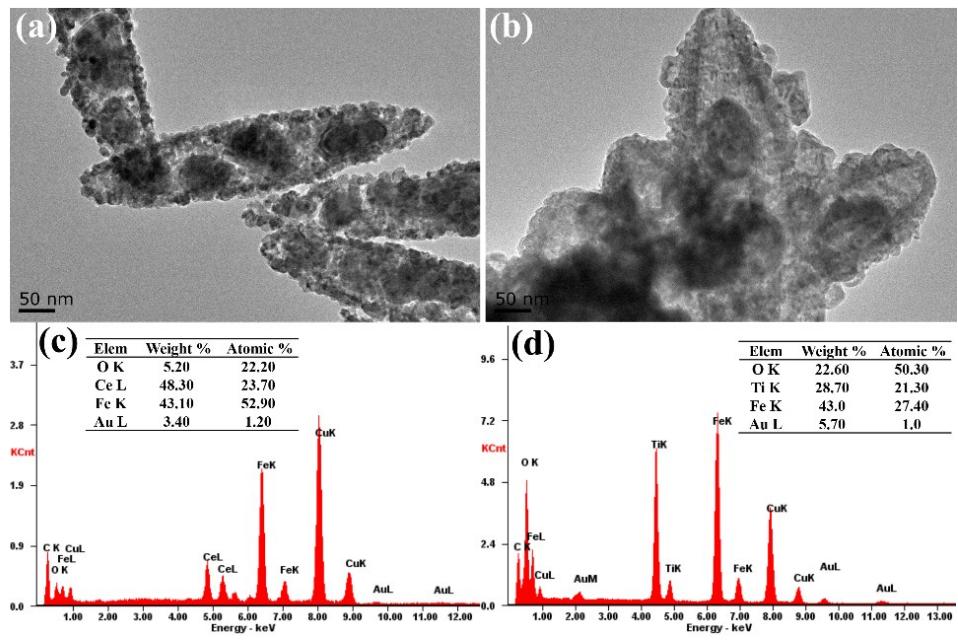
**Fig. S3** TEM (a) and HRTEM (b) of cracked  $\text{Fe}@\text{CeO}_2\text{-Au}@\text{H-SiO}_2$ .



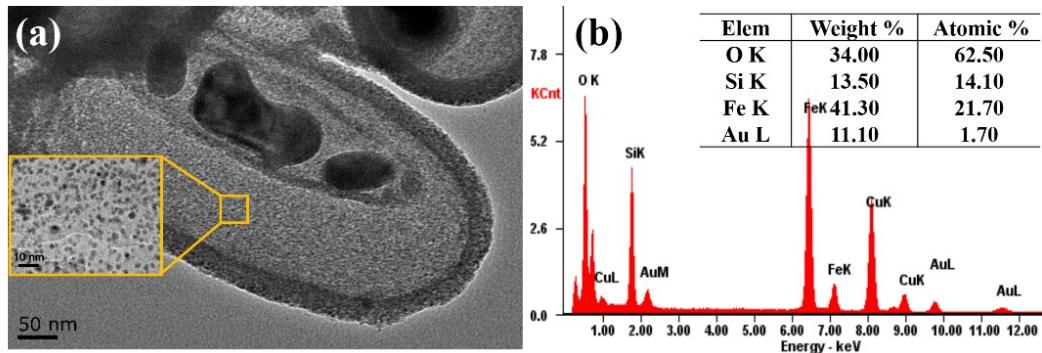
**Fig. S4** FTIR pattern of  $\text{Au}(\text{en})_2\text{Cl}_3$  compounds.



**Fig. S5** (a) UV-vis spectra of 4-NP before (black line) and after (red line) adding  $\text{NaBH}_4$  and 4-AP (blue line) solution; (b) UV-vis spectra for the reduction of 4-NP by  $\text{NaBH}_4$  without catalysts at 0 h and 24 h; (c) Reduction process of 4-NP catalyzed by catalysts: (1) pure 4-NP solution, (2) 4-NP solution with  $\text{NaBH}_4$ , (3) complete conversion of 4-NP into 4-AP over catalysts.



**Fig. S6** TEM and EDS analysis of Fe@CeO<sub>2</sub>-Au (a, c) and Fe@TiO<sub>2</sub>-Au (b, d).



**Fig. S7** TEM (a) and EDS analysis (b) of Fe@SiO<sub>2</sub>-Au@H-SiO<sub>2</sub>.

**Table S1 Comparison of Au-loaded nanocatalysts for the reduction of 4-NP**

Sample	$k$ (s <sup>-1</sup> )	$k_{\text{nor}} (k/m)$ (s <sup>-1</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	Ref.
Fe@CeO <sub>2</sub> -Au@H-SiO <sub>2</sub>	$10.92 \times 10^{-3}$	242.67	This work
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> @CeO <sub>2</sub> -Au@H-SiO <sub>2</sub>	$8.02 \times 10^{-3}$	178.22	This work
Fe@CeO <sub>2</sub> -Au	$6.34 \times 10^{-3}$	140.89	This work
Fe@TiO <sub>2</sub> -Au@H-SiO <sub>2</sub>	$9.85 \times 10^{-3}$	218.89	This work
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> @TiO <sub>2</sub> -Au@H-SiO <sub>2</sub>	$7.62 \times 10^{-3}$	169.33	This work
Fe@TiO <sub>2</sub> -Au	$6.03 \times 10^{-3}$	134.0	This work
Fe@SiO <sub>2</sub> -Au@H-SiO <sub>2</sub>	$8.27 \times 10^{-3}$	183.78	This work
Au-Pt/SiO <sub>2</sub> /Fe ellipsoid	$2.70 \times 10^{-2}$	108	1

Au/rGO aerogel	$3.16 \times 10^{-2}$	63.17	2
Au-MOF	$6.64 \times 10^{-2}$	13.28	3
Au/P(OEGMA- <i>co</i> -MQ)-GO	$8.67 \times 10^{-3}$	96.30	4
Au/cubical $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	33.3	5
Au/TiO <sub>2</sub> sphere	$1.32 \times 10^{-4}$	38.8	6
Au/PDA- $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$	$5.50 \times 10^{-3}$	110	7
Au/PDA-graphene	$5.83 \times 10^{-3}$	3.0	8
Au/graphene hydrogel	$3.17 \times 10^{-2}$	31.7	9
Au-Sn/SiO <sub>2</sub> /Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	$2.86 \times 10^{-2}$	5.71	10
Au/TiO <sub>2</sub> nanofiber	$4.07 \times 10^{-3}$	40.67	11
Hollow tubular C/Au/TiO <sub>2</sub> /SiO <sub>2</sub>	$5.51 \times 10^{-3}$	10.2	12
Au/Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	$1.05 \times 10^{-2}$	5.25	13
Au-Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /graphene sheet	$1.14 \times 10^{-2}$	2.86	14
CeO <sub>2</sub> /Au/SiO <sub>2</sub>	$1.28 \times 10^{-2}$	51.3	15
Au/PMMA	$7.90 \times 10^{-3}$	2.26	16

## References:

- 1 Z.W. Zhang, Y.M. Zhou, Y.W. Zhang, S.J. Zhou, S.M. Xiang, X.L. Sheng, P. Jiang, *J. Mater. Chem. A*, 2015, **3**, 4642-4651.
- 2 X. Cao, S. Yan, F. Hu, J. Wang, Y. Wan, B. Sun, Z. Xiao, *RSC Adv.*, 2016, **6**, 64028-64038.
- 3 B. Gole, U. Sanyal, P.S. Mukherjee, *Chem. Commun.*, 2015, **51**, 4872-4875.
- 4 Y. Song, J. Lu, B. Liu, C. Lu, *RSC Adv.*, 2016, **6**, 64937-64945.
- 5 Y. Yang, Y. Mao, B. Wang, X. Meng, J. Han, C. Wang, H. Yang, *RSC Adv.*, 2016, **6**, 32430-32433.
- 6 T.C. Damato, C.C.S. de Oliveira, R.A. Ando, P.H.C. Camargo, *Langmuir*, 2013, **29**, 1642-1649.
- 7 T. Zeng, X.L. Zhang, H.Y. Niu, Y.R. Ma, W.H. Li, Y.Q. Cai, *Appl. Catal., B.*, 2013, **134-135**, 26-33.
- 8 J. Luo, N. Zhang, R. Liu, X. Liu, *RSC Adv.*, 2014, **4**, 64816-64824.

- 9 J. Li, C.Y. Liu, Y. Liu, *J. Mater. Chem.*, 2012, **22**, 8426-8430.
- 10 J. Zheng, Y. Dong, W. Wang, Y. Ma, J. Hu, X. Chen, *Nanoscale*, 2013, **5**, 4894-4901.
- 11 Y. Hao, X. Shao, B. Li, L. Hu, T. Wang, *Mat. Sci. Semicon. Proc.*, 2015, **40**, 621-630.
- 12 S.M. Xiang, Y.M. Zhou, Y.W. Zhang, Z.W. Zhang, X.L. Sheng, S.J. Zhou, Z.B. Yang, *Dalton Trans.*, 2014, **43**, 11039-11047.
- 13 F.H. Lin, R.A. Doong, *J. Phys. Chem. C*, 2011, **115**, 6591-6598.
- 14 Y. Wang, H. Li, J.J. Zhang, X.Y. Yan, Z.X. Chen, *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.*, 2016, **18**, 615-623.
- 15 Y.M. Xu, Y.W. Zhang, Y.M. Zhou, Z.W. Zhang, S.M. Xiang, X.L. Sheng, Q.L. Wang, C. Zhang, *RSC Adv*, 2015, **5**, 34549-34556.
- 16 K. Kuroda, T. Ishida, M. Haruta, *J. Mol. Catal. A-Chem.*, 2009, **298**, 7-11.