

Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Nanoscale.  
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## Supporting Information

### Plasmonic core-shell nano-heterostructures with temperature-dependent optical nonlinearity

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## 1. Ion distribution calculation

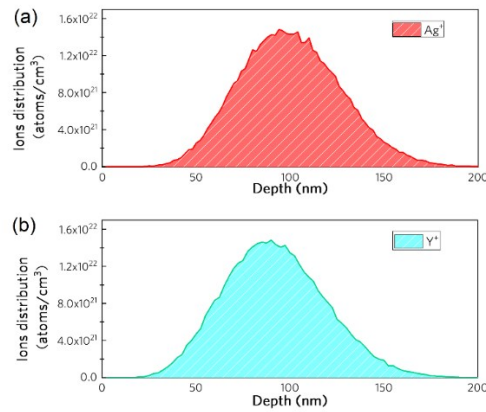


Fig. S1. SRIM simulation about  $\text{Ag}^+$  and  $\text{Y}^+$  ion distribution

Fig. S1 shows the calculated ion distribution of  $\text{Ag}^+$  and  $\text{Y}^+$  ions by SRIM. The implanted energies of  $\text{Ag}^+$  and  $\text{Y}^+$  ions are 200 keV and 150 keV, respectively. As shown, the maximum implanted depths of  $\text{Ag}^+$  and  $\text{Y}^+$  ion implantation are  $\sim 200$  nm, and the implanted ions are mainly distributed at the depth of  $\sim 95$  nm. According to the simulation results, it can be obtained that the implanted ions are distributed at similar region, which can promote the formation of core-shell nanostructures.

## 2. TEM characterizations

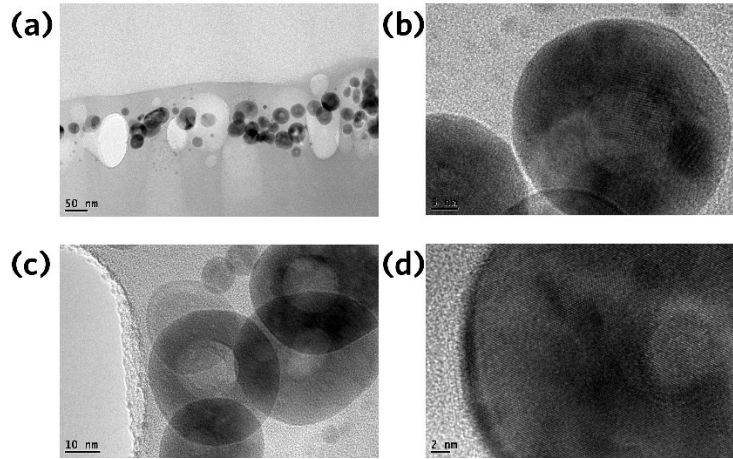


Fig. S2. TEM images of Y@Ag/AgY NPs

Fig. S2 shows the TEM images with wider range. As we can see, almost all the big NPs are core-shell structured. According to the statistics, the percent of the core-shell nanoparticles is  $\sim 80\%$ .

### 3. Dependence of optical intensity, temperature, and nonlinearity of Ag NPs embedded SiO<sub>2</sub>.

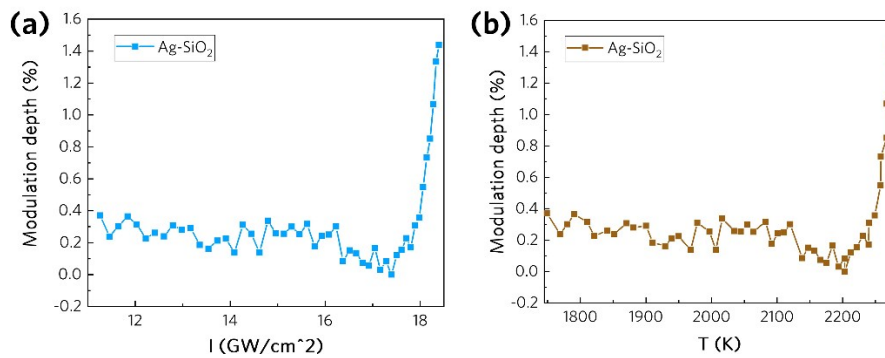


Fig.S3. (a) Dependence of optical intensity and modulation depth of Ag NPs embedded SiO<sub>2</sub>. (b) Dependence of temperature and modulation depth of Ag NPs embedded SiO<sub>2</sub>.

Based on the equations S1-S4, the dependence between laser intensity and value of  $Z$  laser intensity can be calculated.

$$I = E \cdot f / (\pi \cdot \omega(z)^2) \quad \text{Eq. S1}$$

$$\omega(z) = \omega_0 \cdot \sqrt{1 + \left(1 + \left(\frac{z}{z \cdot R}\right)\right)^2} \quad \text{Eq. S2}$$

$$z \cdot R = \frac{\pi \cdot \omega_0^2}{\lambda} \quad \text{Eq. S3}$$

$$\omega_0'^2 = \frac{\omega_0^2}{\left(1 - \frac{l}{F}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{F^2} \left(\frac{\pi \omega_0^2}{\lambda}\right)^2} \quad \text{Eq. S4}$$

#### 4. Comparison of nonlinearity of Y@Ag/AgY NPs and Ag NPs.

The nonlinear optical responses of Y@Ag/AgY NPs and Ag NPs are compared with the cited references [S1]. The modulation depths are ~85% and ~25% for Y@Ag/AgY and Ag NPs NPs. In addition, the saturation intensities are 5.7 GW/cm<sup>2</sup> and 1.4 GW/cm<sup>2</sup> for Y@Ag/AgY and Ag NPs NPs, respectively.

#### 5. Near-field distribution simulation.

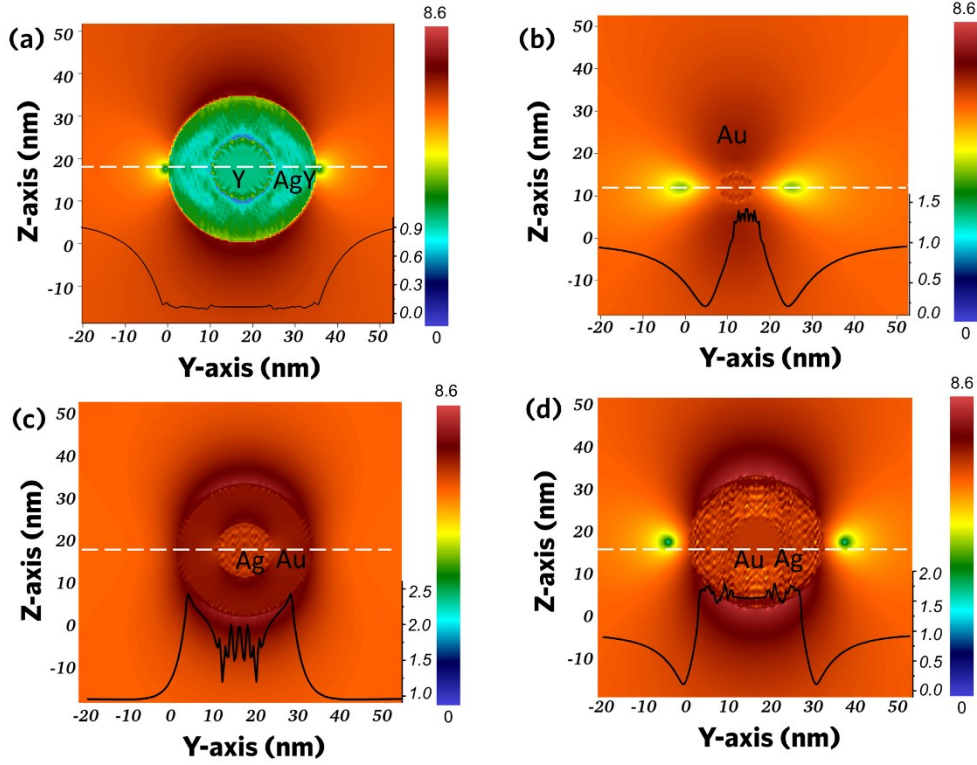


Fig. S4. Near-field distribution of (a) Y@AgY, (b) Au, (c) Ag@Au, and (d) Au@Ag core-shell NPs.

## 6. Calculation of near field intensity distribution by DDA

Based on the DDSCAT code, the near field intensity distribution is simulated by numerically solving Maxwell's equations using DDA. The number  $N$  of dipoles in target is set as many as 179309. In addition, the effective radiuses of core and shell in the software are calculated to be 7.5 nm and 17.5 nm by the equation:

$$a_{eff} = (3V / 4\pi)^{1/3} \quad \text{Eq. S5}$$

The error tolerance is as low as  $1 \times 10^{-5}$ , and the refractive index of  $\text{SiO}_2$  is 1.46.

## 7. Temperature calculation

The size effect and incident optical intensity dependence on temperature can be calculated by Comsol Multiphysics® 5.5a. The modules used in the calculation are

CAD import module and wave optics module. A core-shell structure in substrate and Ag nanosphere embedded in substrate were constructed, respectively. According to the TEM measurement, the diameters of core and whole core-shell structure were set to be 15 nm and 35 nm, respectively. The diameter of Ag nanosphere was set to be 27 nm. The materials of substrate and core were set to be SiO<sub>2</sub> and Y, which can be directly selected in the build-in system material libraries. AgY was set as the material of shell and the refractive index of AgY was calculated by WASP® before being imported to the Comsol Multiphysics®. After meshing, setting parametric sweep is necessary to calculate the different optical intensities and different sizes of the core-shell structure. The optical intensity sweep range is from 0 GW/cm<sup>2</sup> to 50 GW/cm<sup>2</sup> with the interval of 2 GW/cm<sup>2</sup>. The radius of core (r<sub>0</sub>) sweep range is from 3 nm to 12 nm with the interval of 1.2 nm. And the radius of core-shell structure is increased with the growth of core's size. The wavelength of incident laser is set to be 515 nm with the irradiation time of 25000 fs [50]. Finally, after investigation and calculation, the temperature under different optical intensities and sizes can be calculated.

## References

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