Supporting Information

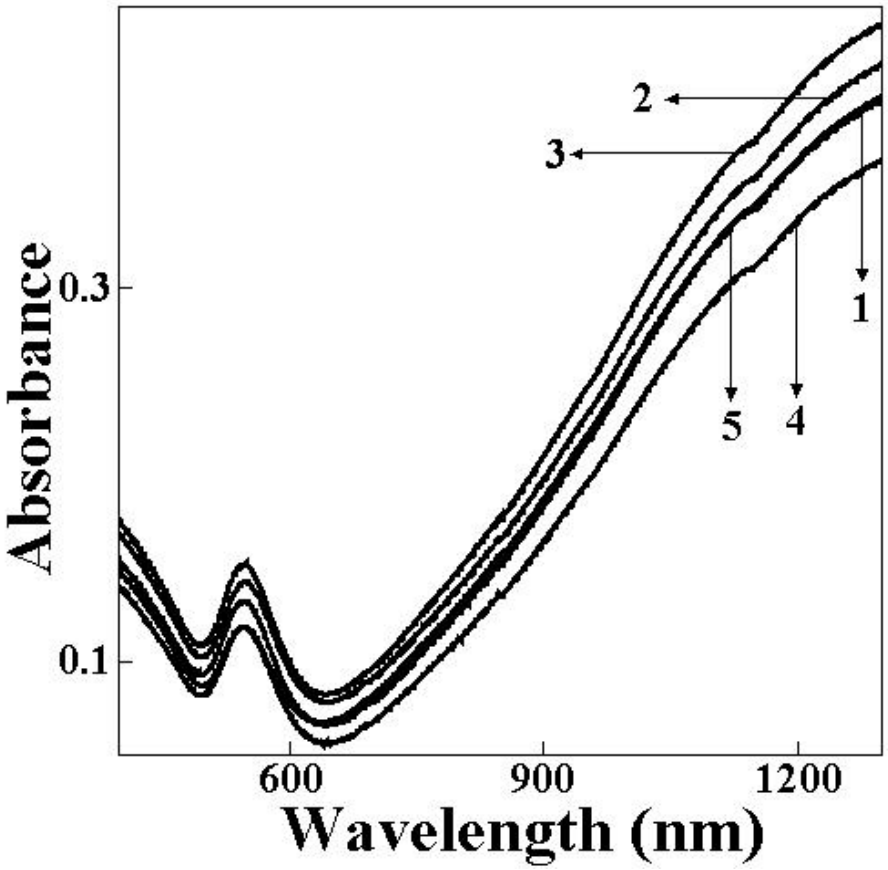

Figure S1. UV-vis-NIR spectra of the gold nanotriangles treated with Hg^{2+} ions of varying concentrations for 10 min; curve 1-5 correspond respectively to purified triangle control, control with 10^{-3} M, 10^{-6} M, 10^{-9} M and 10^{-12} M concentration of Hg^{2+} ions in the absence of reducing agent.

Supporting Information

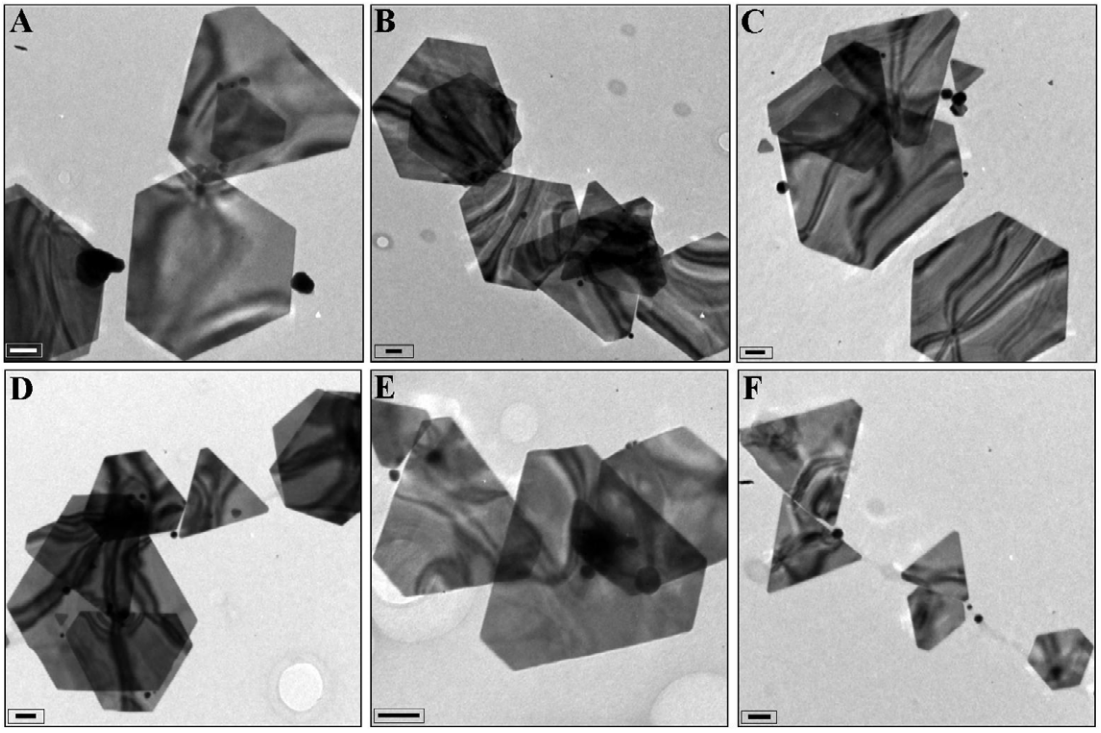

Figure S2. TEM images of purified gold nanotriangles exposed to varying concentrations of mercury in absence of the reducing agent. A) 10^{-3} M concentration of Hg^{2+} ions B) 10^{-6} M concentration of Hg^{2+} ions C) 10^{-9} M concentration of Hg^{2+} ions D) 10^{-12} M concentration of Hg^{2+} ions E) 10^{-15} M concentration of Hg^{2+} ions F) 10^{-18} M concentration of Hg^{2+} ions. All scale bars correspond to 100 nm.

Supporting Information

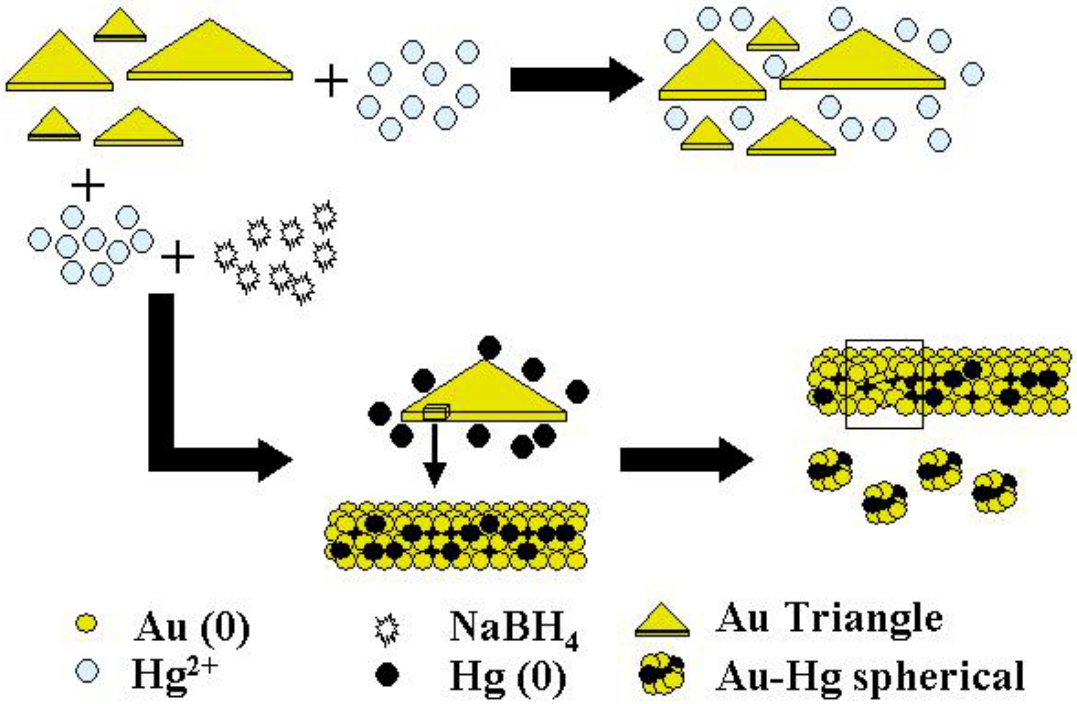

Fig S3. Schematic showing the probable events occurring during the process of amalgamation of gold nanotriangles. The area enclosed by rectangle in lower part of the scheme shows the site of damage of gold nanotriangles due to breaking off of amalgamated gold na