

## Supplementary information

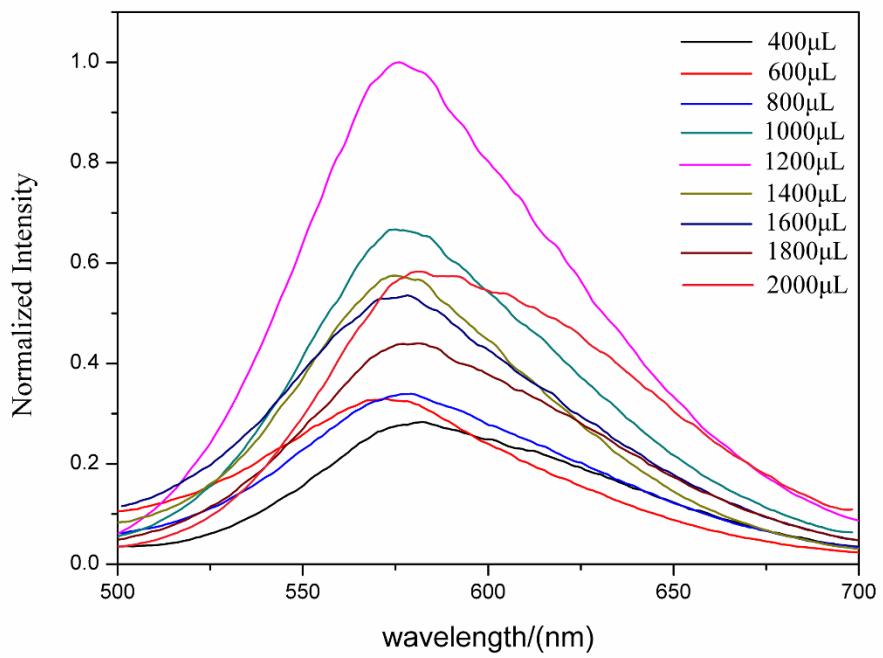
### **A novel glutathione-stabilized silver-gold nano-alloy/Cu<sup>2+</sup> combination as a fluorescent switch probe for L-histidine**

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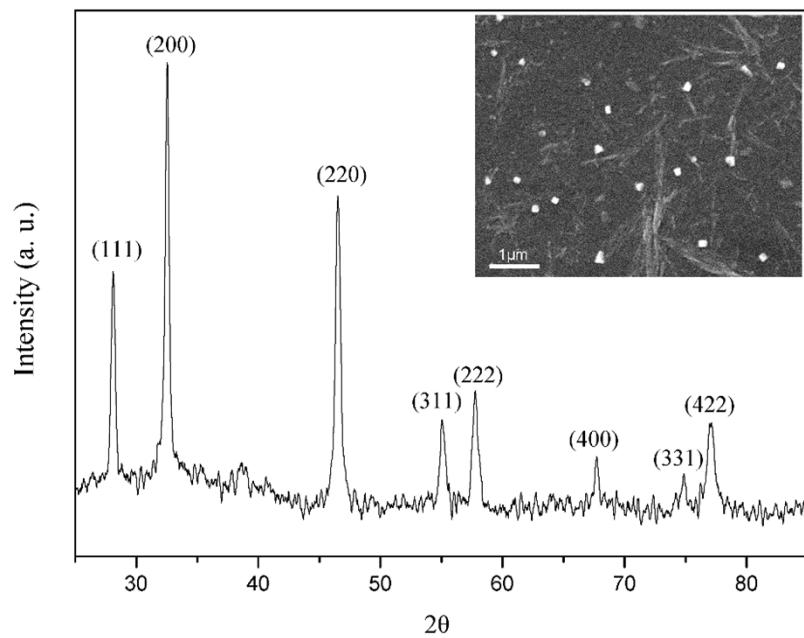
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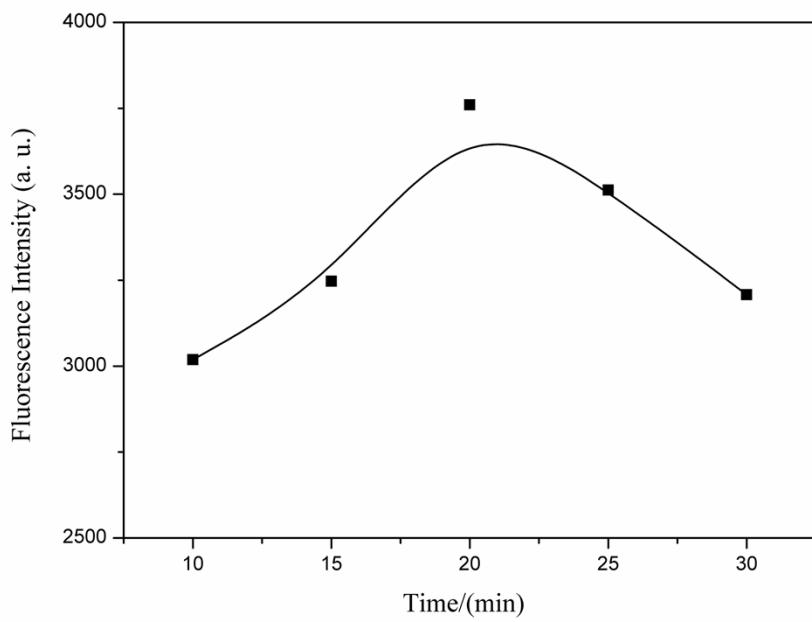
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**Fig. S1** Fluorescence response of GSH-AgAuNAs with different amount of HAuCl<sub>4</sub>, showing the optimized addition amount (1.2 mL) of HAuCl<sub>4</sub>.



**Fig. S2** XRD pattern and SEM image of AgCl.



**Fig. S3** Fluorescence response of different interaction time. The concentration of L-histidine and Cu<sup>2+</sup> was 15 μM and 10μM respectively. All experiments were carried out under pH7.40 with PBS buffer (10 mM).

**Table S1** Comparison of our proposed fluorescence probe with other assays for determination of L-histidine.

Method	Linear range ( $\mu\text{M}$ )	Detection limit ( $\mu\text{M}$ )	Ref.
Indicator-displacement assay	2-30	0.4	1
DNA/ligand/ion-based ensemble	0-4.4	0.01	2
Spectrophotometry	5-30	5.0	3
Fluorescence	5-30	5	4
<b>GSH-AgAuNAs/Cu<sup>2+</sup></b>	<b>2-40</b>	<b>1.19</b>	<b>This work</b>

## References

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- 3 D. R. Bae, W. S. Han, J. M. Lim, S. W. Kang, J. Y. Lee, D. M. Kang and J. H. Jung, *Langmuir*, 2010, **26**, 2181-2185.
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