Electronic Supplementary Information

Au@ZnO hybrid nanostructures:

correlation between morphology

and optical response

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Figure S1. Intensity size distribution of unmodified Au NPs suspensions obtained by photo correlation spectroscopy.

Estimation of the mean crystallite size

The mean crystallite size of Au and ZnO materials was obtained by applying the Scherrer equation:

$$L = \frac{K \lambda}{FWHM \cos(\theta)}$$

where FWHM stands for the half width at half maximum of a certain diffraction peak in radians and L stands for the mean coherence length perpendicular to a given plane and. K stands for a dimensionless shape factor (the value 0.94 characteristic of spherical shape was employed in the current work), λ stands for the X-ray wavelength and θ is the Bragg angle.