# **Supplementary materials**

## A universal strategy for direct immobilization of intact

## bioactivity-conserved carbohydrates on gold nanoparticles

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#### Fig S1



**Fig. S1** The preparation process for immobilization of intact carbohydrates on GNP was characterized by SEM, with (A), (B), (C) and (D) corresponding to GNP-Tween 20, GNP-MUOH/MUA, GNP-mannose and GNP-mannose interacted with 100 nM Con A respectively; the error bar was 100 nm.



**Fig. S2** A standard concentration curve of mannose obtained by colorimetry anthrone/sulfuric acid method. The concentration of mannose is 0.05, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.6 mM, and the absorption at 620 nm was recorded.

#### Calculation of D-mannose density on GNP

First, assuming that mannose molecule takes on a cube structure, each side is 6 Å (CambridgeSoft., Ultra, version 9.0). When mannose molecules are tightly packed on the surface of gold nanoparticles, the maximal number of mannose molecules on one gold nanoparticle is 1.47  $\times 10^3$  (= 5.31  $\times 10^4$  Å<sup>2</sup> / 36 Å<sup>2</sup>, i.e. the surface area of one 13 nm GNP divided by that of each mannose molecule), corresponding to 2.44  $\times 10^{-12}$  nmol.

In the actual experiments of immobilization of mannose on gold nanoparticles, the mannose concentration is 55 mM before reaction, and 54.99013 mM after reaction through anthrone/sulfuric acid experiment. The change of the mannose concentration is  $\Delta C = 0.00987$  mM in the reaction process, so the number of immobilized mannose molecules is 5.94174 × 10<sup>18</sup> in terms of unit volume.

The concentration of gold nanoparticles is measured to be 15.42 nM. Therefore, the number of gold nanoparticles is  $9.28 \times 10^{15}$  (=  $15.42 \times 6.02 \times 10^{23} \times 10^{-9}$ ) per unit volume. So the number of combined with the mannose molecules immobilized on each gold nanoparticle is  $0.64 \times 10^{3}$  (=  $5.94174 \times 10^{18} / 9.28 \times 10^{15}$ ). Compared with the theoretical calculation results ( $1.47 \times 10^{3}$ ), the surface coverage, i.e. measured/theoretical, is 43.54% (=  $0.64 \times 10^{3} / 1.47 \times 10^{3} \times 100\%$ ).