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## **Supporting Information**

## Gold coated iron phosphide core-shell structures

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Figure S1. Representative SEM image of the CO-reduced particles, from 50  $\mu$ L of gold-decorated precursor.



**Figure S2.** TEM images of Fe<sub>2</sub>P-Au structures obtained using CO-reduction. The images shown represent the structures synthesized from 75  $\mu$ L (A-C), 100  $\mu$ L (D-F), and 125  $\mu$ L (G-I) of gold-decorated precursor solution. Note that in figures D and G, it appears as though some of the particles do not have a complete shell; this is believed to account for the shift back to higher wavelengths of the extinction maximum for the sample synthesized from 100  $\mu$ L of gold-decorated precursor (see Figure 6).



**Figure S3.** SEM/EDAX spectra for a representative particle obtained using the CO-reduction method with 100  $\mu$ L of gold-decorated precursor solution. Note: the Al and Cu signals come from the SEM support. FEI Quanta 400 ESEM FEG

Amount of decorated precursor (µL)	Length (nm)	Width (nm)	Shell Thickness (nm)	Aspect Ratio	λ <sub>max</sub> (nm)
25	$1089\pm88$	$323 \pm 42$	65	3.4	588
50	$1065 \pm 115$	$317 \pm 53$	62	3.4	555
75	$1011 \pm 90$	$279 \pm 38$	43	3.6	542
100	$1033 \pm 71$	$246 \pm 27$	27	4.2	555

**Table S1.** Summary of the sizing and solution extinction maxima for various sizes of Fe<sub>2</sub>P-Au core-shell structures synthesized via CO-reduction. The Au decorated-Fe<sub>2</sub>P particles had dimensions of  $1051 \pm 62 \times 193 \pm 22$  nm (aspect ratio: 5.4,  $\lambda_{max}$  365 nm).