Electronic Supplementary Information

Sheetlike Gold nanostructures/Graphene Oxide Composites *via* a One-Pot Green Fabrication Protocol and Their Interesting Two-

Stage Catalytic Behaviors

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Fig. S1 EDX elemental analysis of our Au/GO nanocomposites.



Fig. S2 The typical SEM image of the samples fabricated without the involvement of GO nanosheets.



Fig. S3 The UV-vis spectra of our Au/GO nanocomposites.



Fig. S4 The reduction of 4–nitrophenol (4–NP) by $NaBH_4$ monitored by real–time UV–vis spectra. The reaction was conducted without the use of catalysts.



Fig. S5 The catalytic reduction of 4–nitrophenol (4–NP) by NaBH₄ monitored by real–time UV–vis spectra. The reaction was conducted in the presence of our Au nanoplates/GO nanocomposites.



Fig. S6 The real-time UV-vis spectra (a), the catalytic performance (b) and the corresponding kinetic linear simulation curve (c) of our catalysts towards the reduction of 4–NP, wherein the Au/GO nanocomposites have been reduced by NaBH₄ firstly.



Fig. S7 The SEM (a) and HRTEM (b) images of our Au/GO catalysts after their catalytic uses.