Supplementary Information

Tunable Optical Activities in Chiral Transition Metal Oxide Nanoparticles

Shuyu Xiao,^a Jiechun Liang,^b Junzi Li,^a Jiaji Cheng,^{*c} Xi Zhu^{*b} and Tingchao He^{*a}

^aKey Laboratory of Optoelectronic Devices and Systems of Ministry of Education and Guangdong Province, College of Physics and Optoelectronic Engineering, Shenzhen University, Shenzhen 518060, China. Email: <u>tche@szu.edu.cn</u>

^bSchool of Science and Engineering, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Shenzhen 518172, China. Email: <u>zhuxi@cuhk.edu.cn</u>

^cCountry Key Laboratory of Green Preparation and Application for Functional Materials, Ministry of Education, School of Materials Science and Engineering, Hubei University, Wuhan 430062, China. Email: <u>jiajicheng@hubu.edu.cn</u>



Figure S1. a) UV-visible absorption spectra and (b) CD spectra of MoO_3 , MoO_{3-x} , MoO_2 and Co_3O_4 nanoparticles (NPs) without use of chiral ligands. During the synthesis of MoO_{3-x} , MoO_2 and Co_3O_4 NPs, sodium borohydride was used as a reducing agent.



Figure S2. The theoretically calculated UV-vis absorption spectra (Left column) and ECD (Right column) using TD-DFT for (a) L-/D-Cys-Mo, (b) L-/D-His-Mo, (c) L-/D-Cys-Co and (d) L-/D-His-Co in zwitterionic state.



Figure S3. The electronic transitions of (a) L-/D-Cys-Mo; (b) L-/D-His-Mo; (c) L-/D-Cys-Co and (d) L-/D-His-Co. The metal represents Mo or Co atom. S/N represents S atom in cysteine and N atom in histidine, and both of them are connected directly to the metal atoms.

In Figure S3, the involved orbitals are lined up according to the eigenvalues, i.e. energy. The different colors represent different molecular orbitals. Black, purple and red colors represent the s, p, and d orbitals of the metal atoms. Blue and green colors represent the s and p orbitals of the atoms that connect the ligand molecules and metal atoms. Gray color represent other orbitals of ligand molecules. The transition at the same wavelength is contributed by different orbital transitions. The thickness of the arrow represents the probability that the transition will occur.



Figure S4. The theoretically calculated circular polarization spectrum of D-Cys-Co using GW approximation and GW+SOC methods, respectively. The x-axis (photon energy) is adjusted to match the wavelengths in CD spectra.



Figure S5. SHG signals of achiral MoO_3 , MoO_{3-x} , MoO_2 and Co_3O_4 NPs excited at 800 nm.