

Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

Green Synthesis of Bio-Compatible Carboxylate-Functionalized Carbon Layer of 4 to 26 nm Thickness on Gold Plasmonic Nanoparticles

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Table S1. Summarized experimental details and product annotations

| Sample Annotation | Au@Citrate Volume (ml) | Buffer (ml) | Glucose 0.2M (ml) | ddH ₂ O (ml) | Resulting Thickness (nm) | StD (nm) |
|-------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| Au@C_4nm | 10 | 0.1 | 0.25 | 2.15 | 4.11 | 0.99 |
| Au@C_6nm | 10 | 0.1 | 0.5 | 1.9 | 6.76 | 1.25 |
| Au@C_8nm | 10 | 0.1 | 0.75 | 1.65 | 8.53 | 1.65 |
| Au@C_9nm | 10 | 0.1 | 1 | 1.4 | 9.61 | 1.81 |
| Au@C_13nm | 10 | 0.1 | 1.25 | 1.15 | 13.49 | 2.54 |
| Au@C_14nm | 10 | 0.1 | 1.5 | 0.9 | 13.87 | 2.10 |
| Au@C_26nm | 10 | 0.1 | 2.5 | 0 | 26.24 | 3.20 |
| Fructose* | 10 | 0.1 | 0.25 | 2.15 | 3.86 | 0.71 |
| Sucrose** | 10 | 0.1 | 0.25 | 2.15 | 6.83 | 1.20 |

*Fructose used instead of glucose as the carbon source at the same concentration

**Sucrose used instead of glucose as the carbon source at the same concentration.

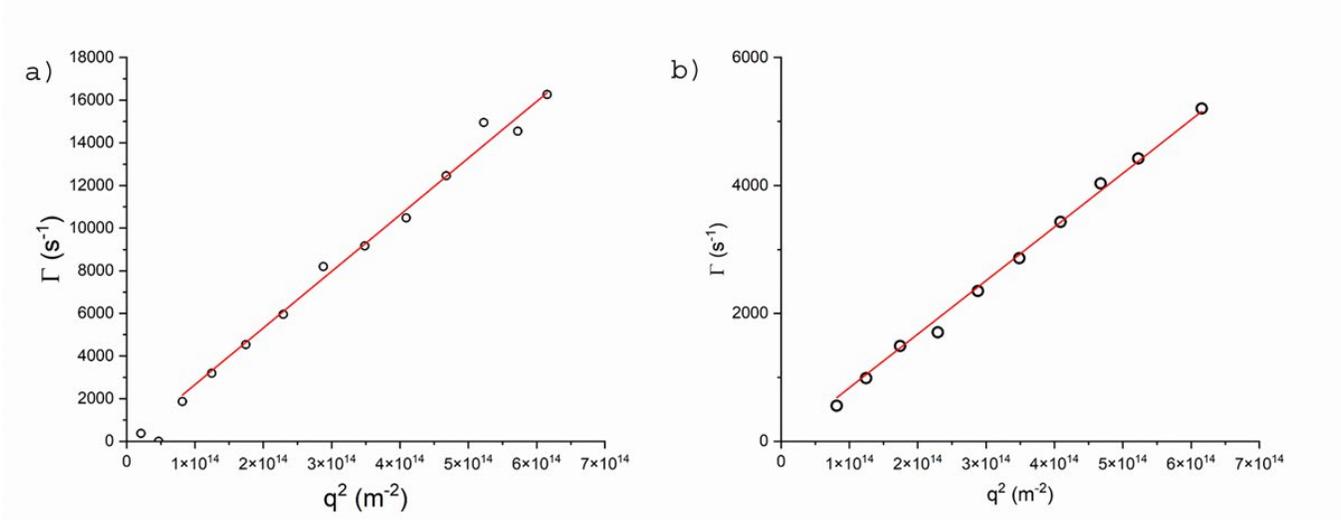


Figure S1. DLS measurements of a) Au NPs and b) Au@C_10 nm.

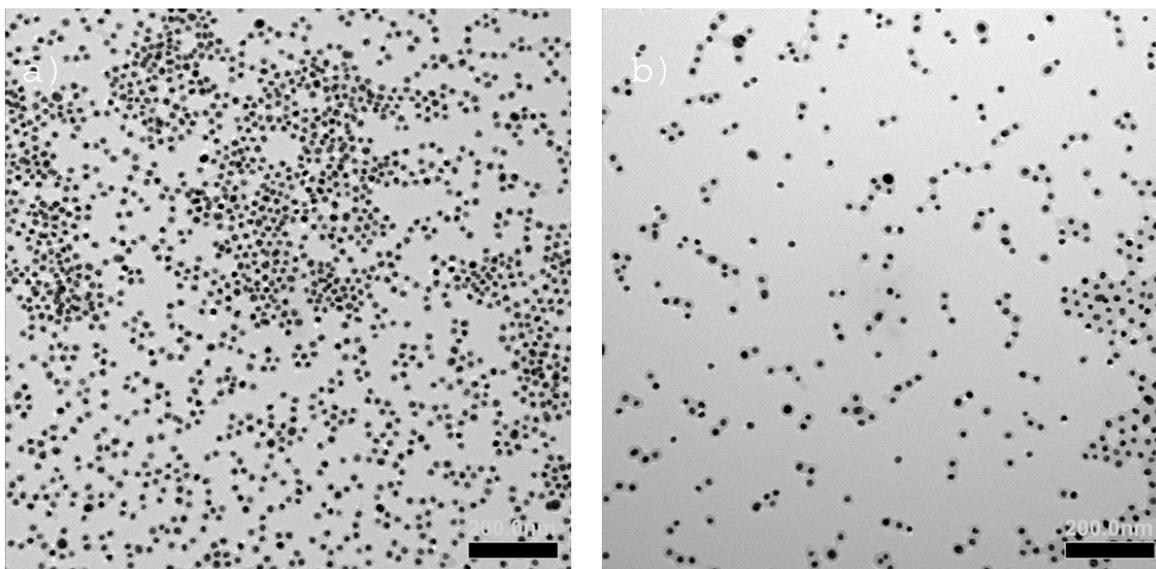


Figure S2. Low Mag TEM image of Au coated with carbonized a) fructose (~ 4 nm carbon layer) and b) sucrose (~ 7 nm carbon layer) (see Table S1 for the precise values)

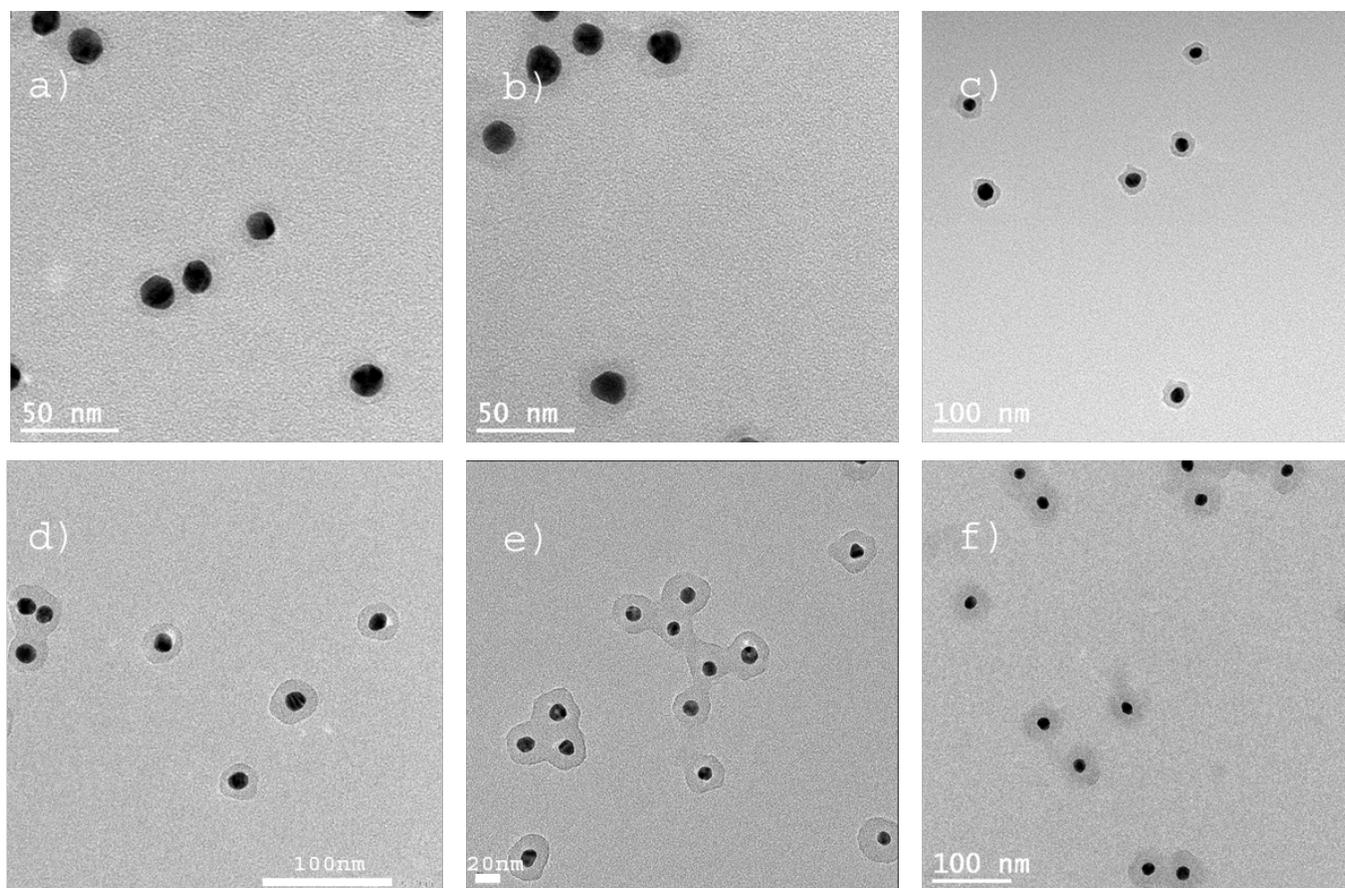


Figure S3. TEM images of Au@C from glucose with varying carbon coating thicknesses a) Au@C_4 nm, b) Au@C_7 nm, c) Au@C_8 nm, d) Au@C_10 nm, e) Au@C_13 nm, f) Au@C_14 nm.

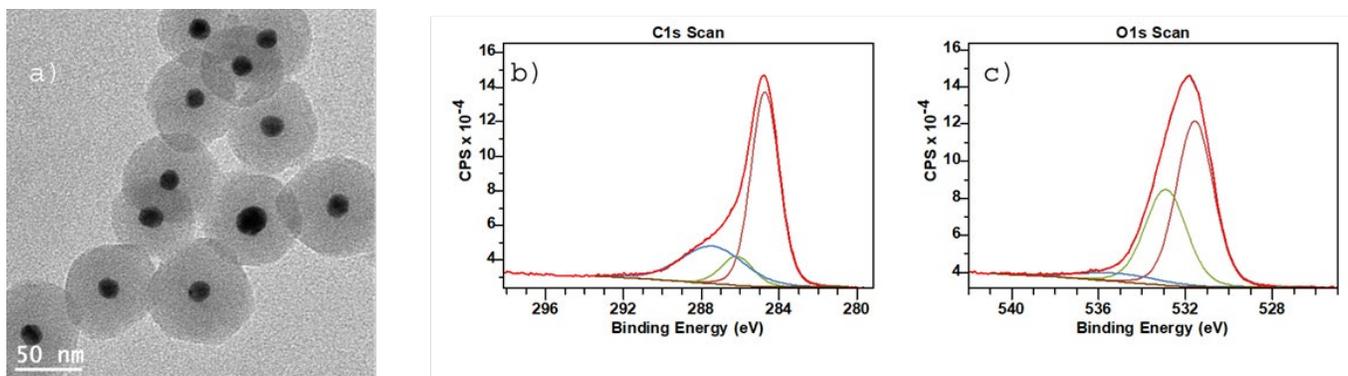


Figure S4. a) TEM image of Au@C_26 nm, XPS spectra of the same Au@C_26 nm for b) C1s and c) O1s orbitals.

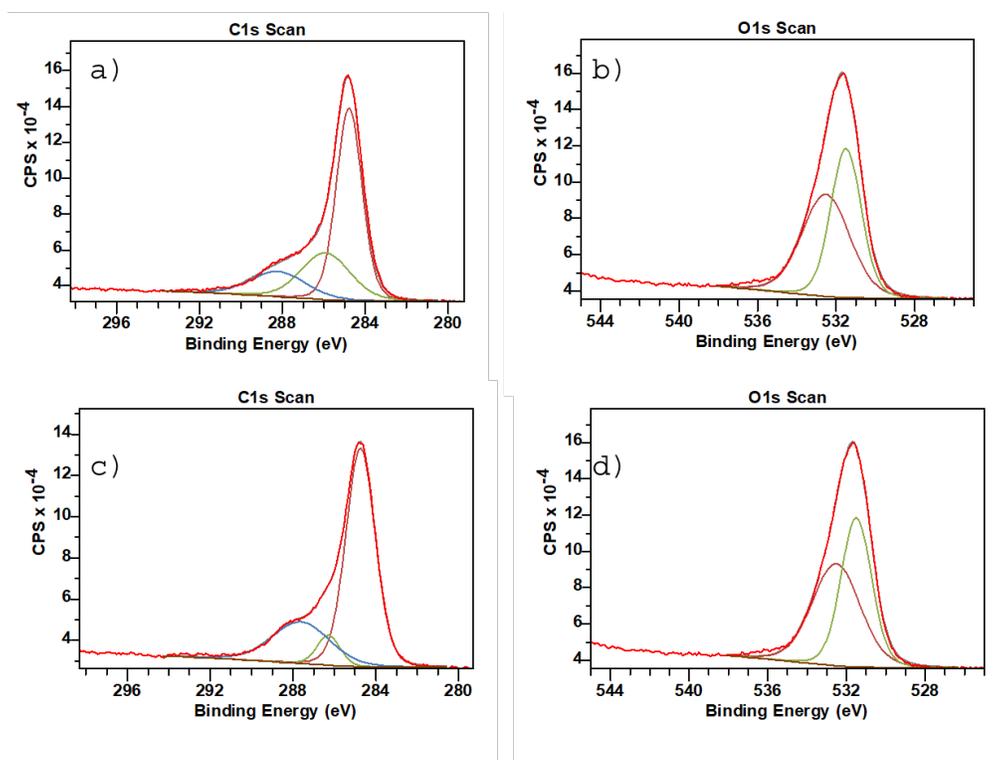


Figure S5. XPS spectra of Au@C_8 nm for a) C1s and b) O1s orbitals and for Au@C_13 nm carbon coating for c) C1s and d) O1s orbitals.

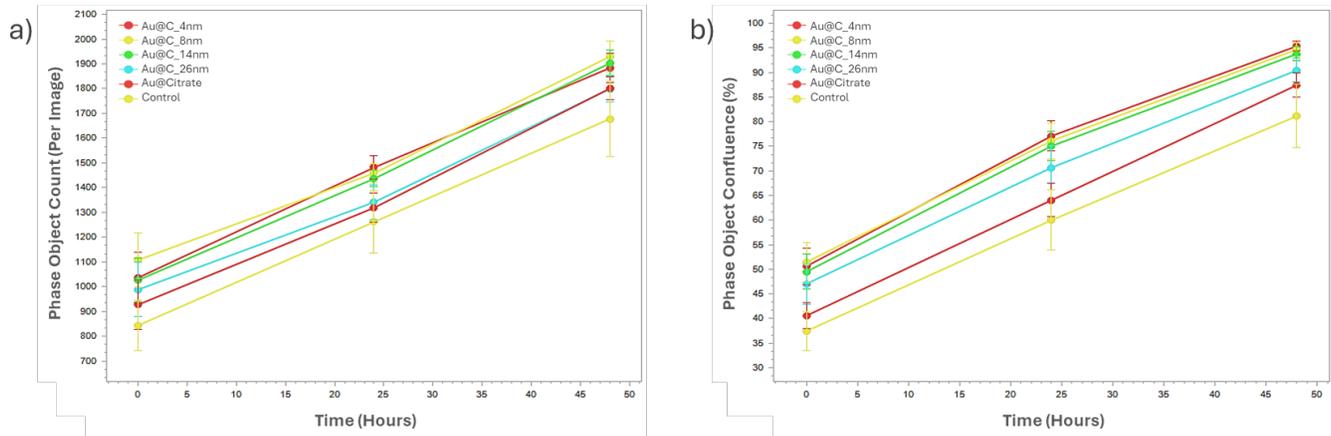


Figure S6: Numerical analysis of the phase-contrast images of SH-SY5Y cells, either untreated, incubated with Au NPs, or with Au@C_4 nm ,Au@C_8 nm ,Au@C_13.87 nm Au@C_26 nm, acquired at 0, 24, and 48 h. a) Phase object counts per image. b) Phase object confluence in percentage.