

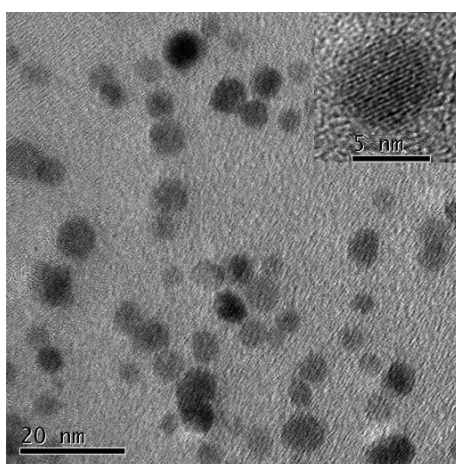
Electronic Supplementary Information for:

## Facile synthesis of zinc ferrite nanoparticles as non-lanthanide $T_1$ MRI contrast agents

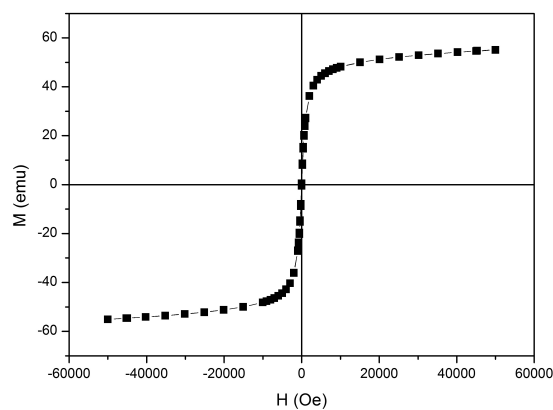
Jiaqi Wan,<sup>a,b</sup> Xuehui Jiang,<sup>a</sup> Hui Li<sup>b</sup> and Kezheng Chen\*<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> College of Materials Science and Engineering, Qingdao University of Science and Technology, Qingdao 266042, China. E-mail: kchen@qust.edu.cn

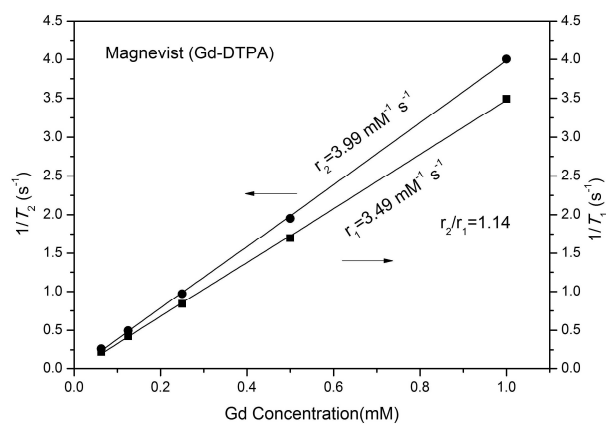
<sup>b</sup> State Key Laboratory of Metastable Materials Science and Technology, Yanshan University, Qinhuangdao 066004, China. E-mail: wjiaq@qust.edu.cn



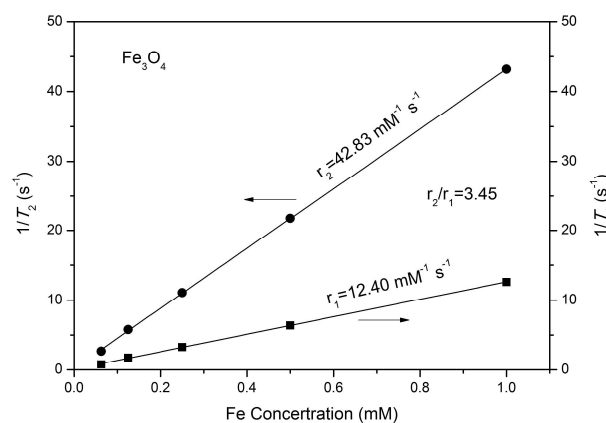
**Fig. S1** TEM images of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> nanoparticles, insert is the HRTEM images.



**Fig. S2** Magnetization curves of the Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> nanoparticles at 300 K.



**Fig. S3** The relaxation rates ( $1/T_1$ ,  $1/T_2$ ) plotting against the Gd concentration for Magnevist at 1.41 T.



**Fig. S4** The relaxation rates ( $1/T_1$ ,  $1/T_2$ ) plotting against the iron concentration for the aqueous solution of the  $Fe_3O_4$  nanoparticles at 1.41 T.