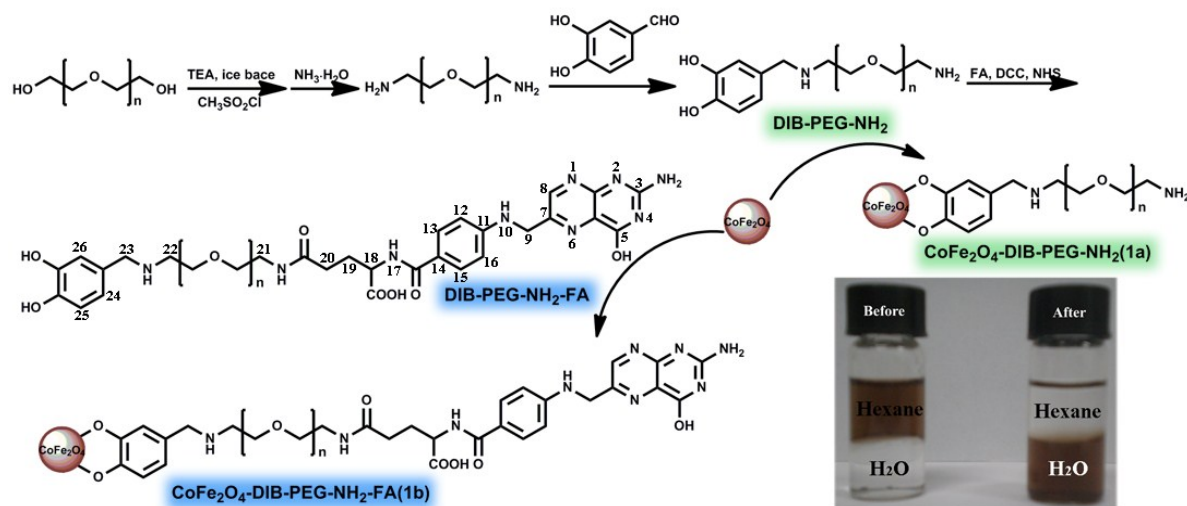


## Supporting Information

### A Simple Route to $\text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4$ Nanoparticles with Shape and Size Control and their Tunable Peroxidase-Like Activity

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**Scheme S1.** Synthesis of PEG-3, 4-dihydroxybenzylamine (DIB-PEG-NH<sub>2</sub>),  $\text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4$ -DIB-PEG-NH<sub>2</sub> (**1a**) and  $\text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4$ -DIB-PEG-NH<sub>2</sub>-FA (**1b**).

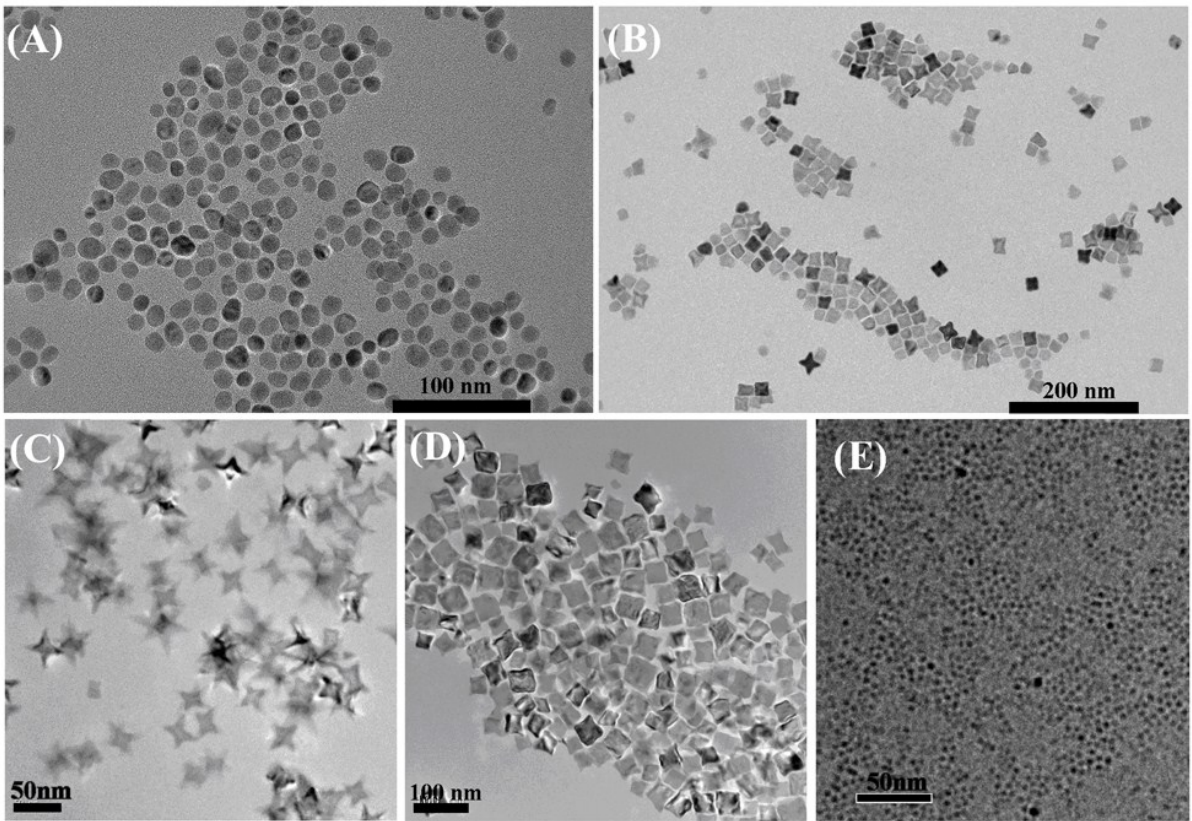


Figure S1. TEM image of  $\text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4$  nanoparticles. (A)  $\sim 13.8 \pm 4.6$  nm, (B)  $\sim 24.5 \pm 5.3$  nm, (C)  $\sim 32.1 \pm 4.2$  nm, (D)  $\sim 45.2 \pm 15.1$  nm and (E)  $\sim 4.1 \pm 0.3$  nm.

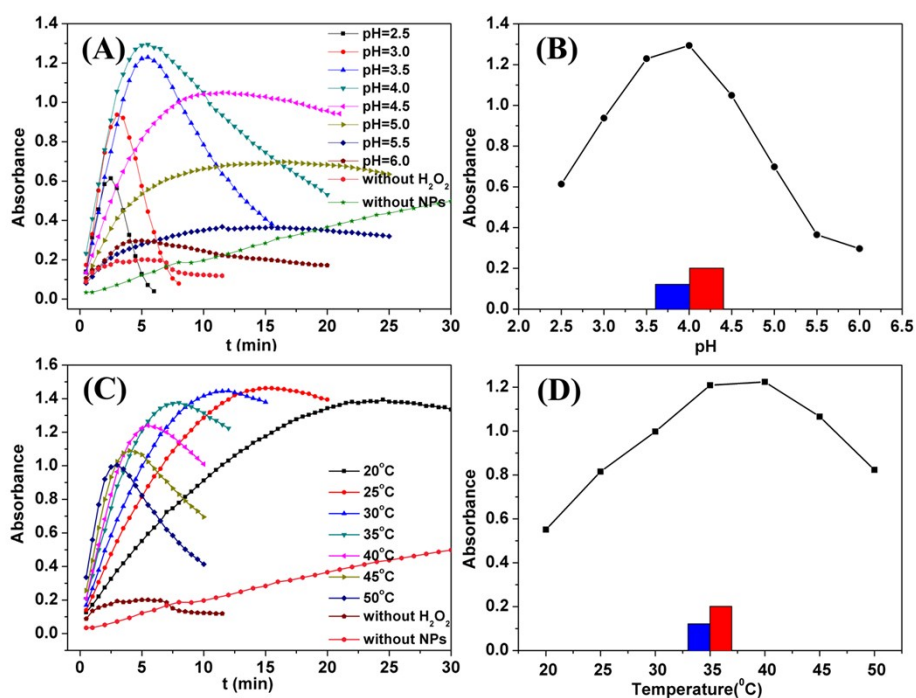


Figure S2. The catalytic activity of the  $\text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4$  NPs is dependent on pH, temperature and the concentration of substrate. In order to investigate the best experimental condition, we measured the peroxidase-like activity of  $\text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4$  NPs while (A) varying the pH from 2.5 to 6.0, (C) the temperature from 20 °C to 50 °C and compared the results over the same concentration of subsequent (B and D).

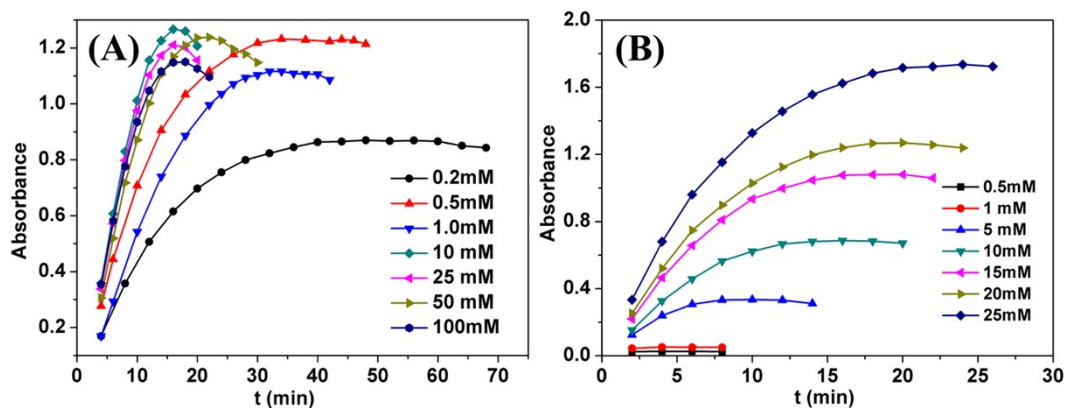


Figure S3. (A) The time-dependent UV absorbance curve of the HAc-NaAc solution (pH = 4.0) containing different concentration of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  and 1.5 mM TMB in the presence of an equal number of  $\text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4$  NPs. (B) The time-dependent UV absorbance curve of the HAc-NaAc solution (pH = 4.0) containing different concentration of TMB and 10 mM  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  in the presence of an equal number of  $\text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4$  NPs.

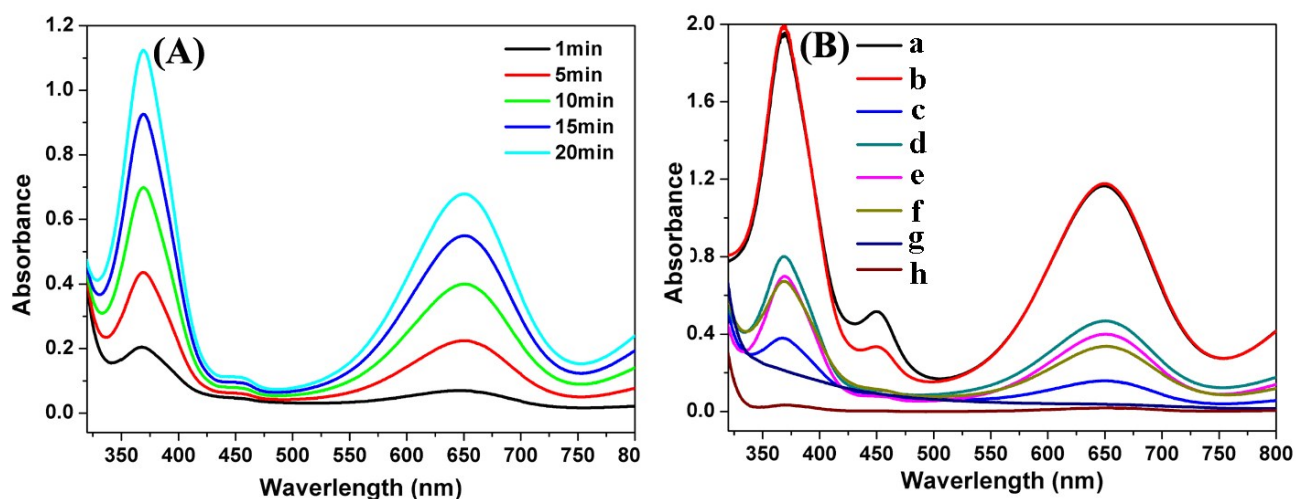


Figure S4. UV-vis spectra of the HAC-NaAc solution (pH = 4.0) containing 10 mM  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  and 1.5 mM TMB while (A) at different time, and (B) in the presence of different nanoparticles in 10 min (a.  $4.2 \pm 0.2$  nm  $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$ , b.  $4.1 \pm 0.3$  nm  $\text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4$ , c.  $13.8 \pm 4.6$  nm  $\text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4$ , d.  $24.5 \pm 5.3$  nm  $\text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4$ , e.  $32.1 \pm 4.2$  nm  $\text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4$ , f.  $\sim 45.2 \pm 15.1$  nm  $\text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4$ , g. without  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  and h. without NPs).

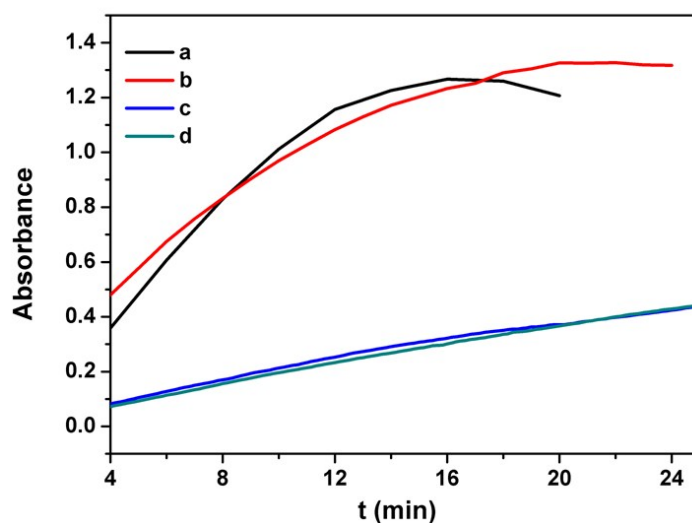


Figure S5. The time-dependent UV absorbance curve of the HAC-NaAc solution (pH = 4.0) containing 10.0 mM  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  and 1.5 mM TMB in the presence of an equal number of  $\text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4$  NPs (a.  $4.1 \pm 0.3$  nm  $\text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4$ , b.  $4.2 \pm 0.2$  nm  $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$ ) and iron ions leaching into solution (c. iron leaching from  $4.2 \pm 0.2$  nm  $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$  and d. iron leaching from  $4.1 \pm 0.3$  nm  $\text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4$ ). It demonstrated that  $\text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4$  activity does not result from iron leaching.

Table S1. Comparison of the Kinetic Parameters of Different NPs when changing the concentrations of  $H_2O_2$  (TMB as a substrate).  $K_m$  is the Michaelis constant,  $V_{max}$  is the maximal reaction rate.

CoFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	$K_m$ [mM]	$V_{max}$ [M/min]
4.1 ± 0.3 nm	0.00645	0.08258
13.8 ± 4.6 nm	0.05537	0.01586
24.5 ± 5.3 nm	0.01725	0.06163
32.1 ± 4.2 nm	0.02427	0.04052
45.2 ± 15.1 nm	0.03476	0.03881

Table S2. Comparison of the Kinetic Parameters of Different NPs when changing the concentrations of TMB.  $K_m$  is the Michaelis constant,  $V_{max}$  is the maximal reaction rate.

CoFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	$K_m$ [mM]	$V_{max}$ [M/min]
4.1 ± 0.3 nm	0.03551	0.50178
13.8 ± 4.6 nm	0.22769	0.02629
24.5 ± 5.3 nm	0.03934	0.07688
32.1 ± 4.2 nm	0.06607	0.05522
45.2 ± 15.1 nm	0.11073	0.06253

Table S3. Comparison of the Kinetic Parameters of HRP, Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (4 nm) and CoFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (4 nm) when changing the concentrations of  $H_2O_2$  (TMB as a substrate).  $K_m$  is the Michaelis constant.

Nanoparticles	$K_m$ [mM]
HRP	0.062
Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	0.0096
CoFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	0.0065