

## Supporting Information

### Gold nanodendrites on graphene oxide nanosheets for oxygen reduction reaction

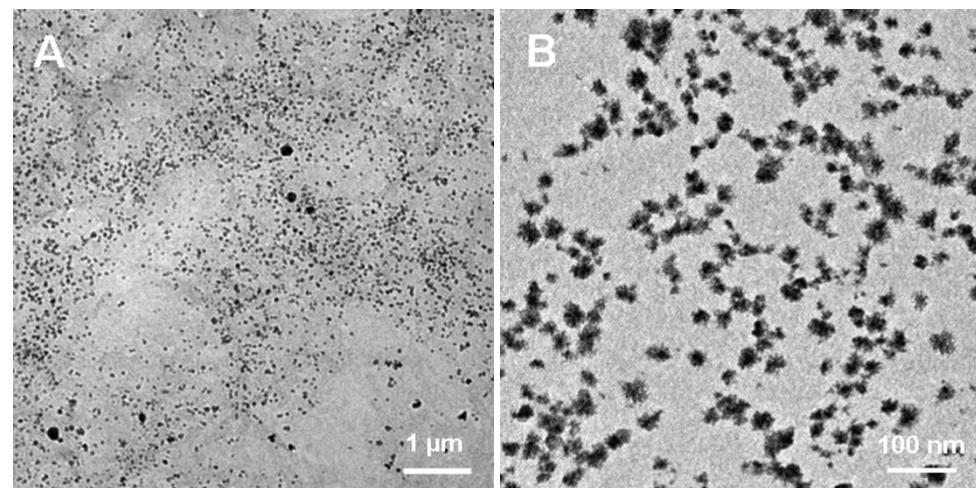
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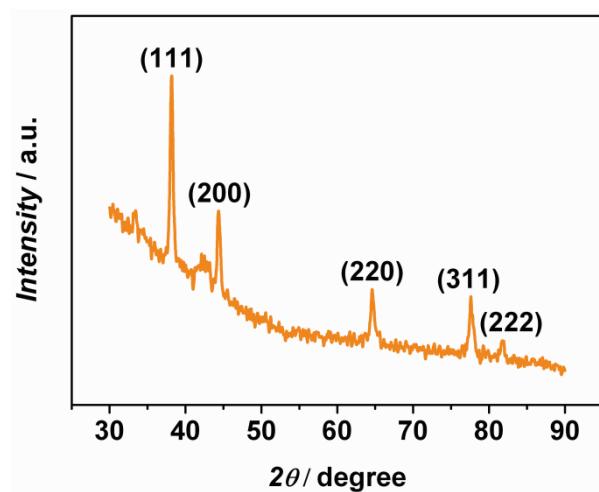
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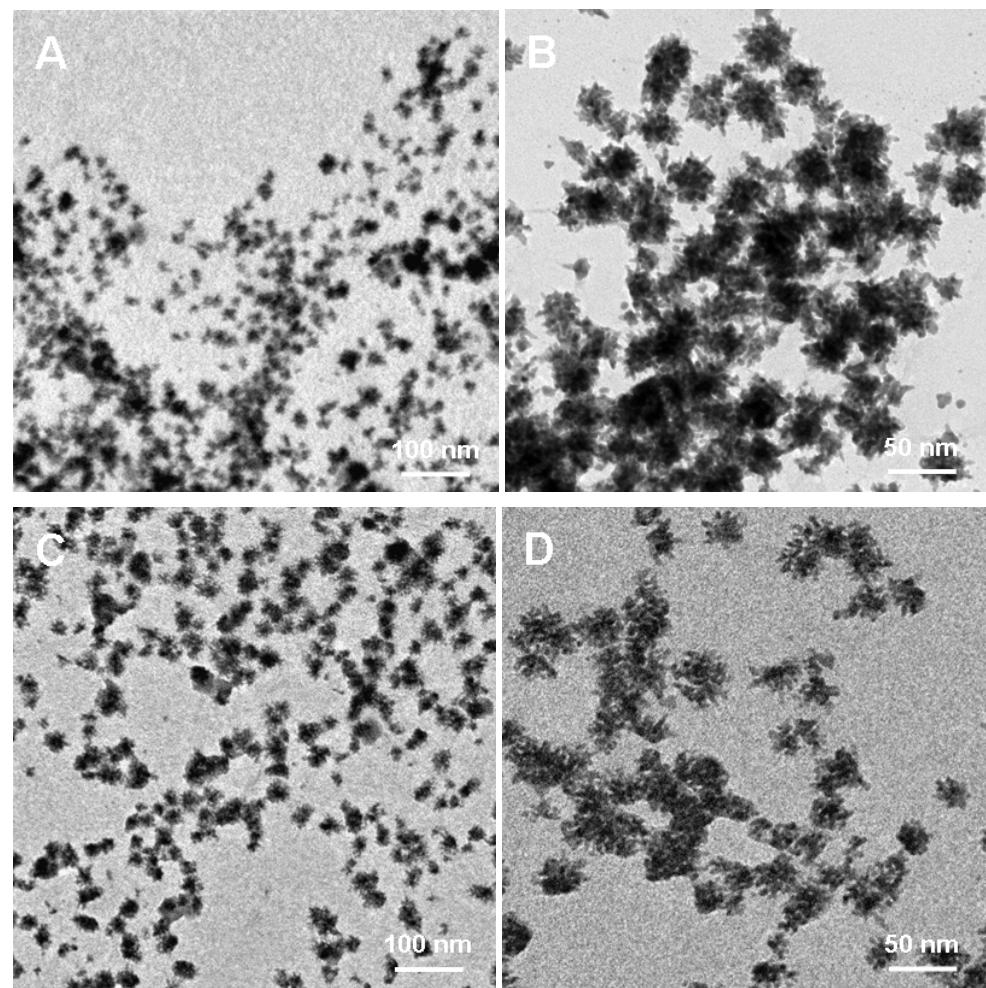
**Fig. S1** The photographs of color evolution of AuNDs–GO during different synthesis steps.



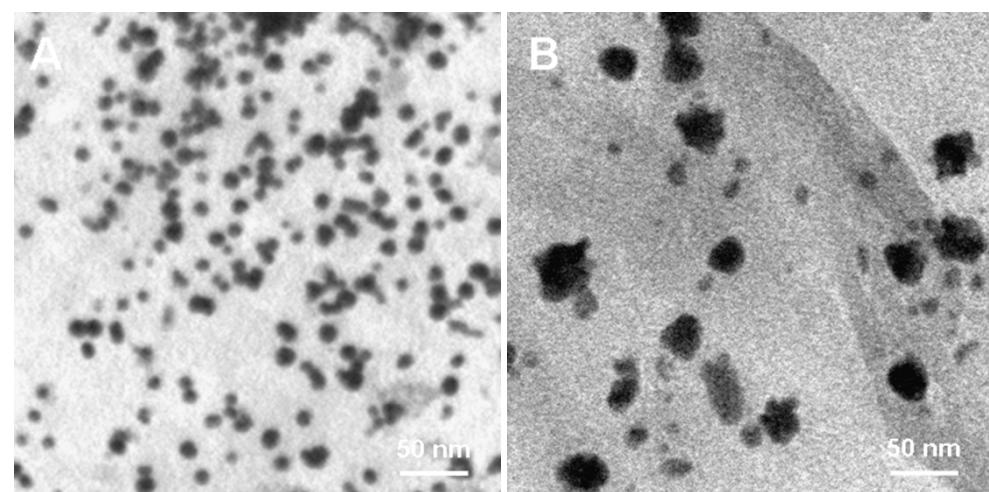
**Fig. S2** (A, B) TEM images of the as-synthesized AuNDs–GO, showing AuNDs synthesized on GO nanosheets.



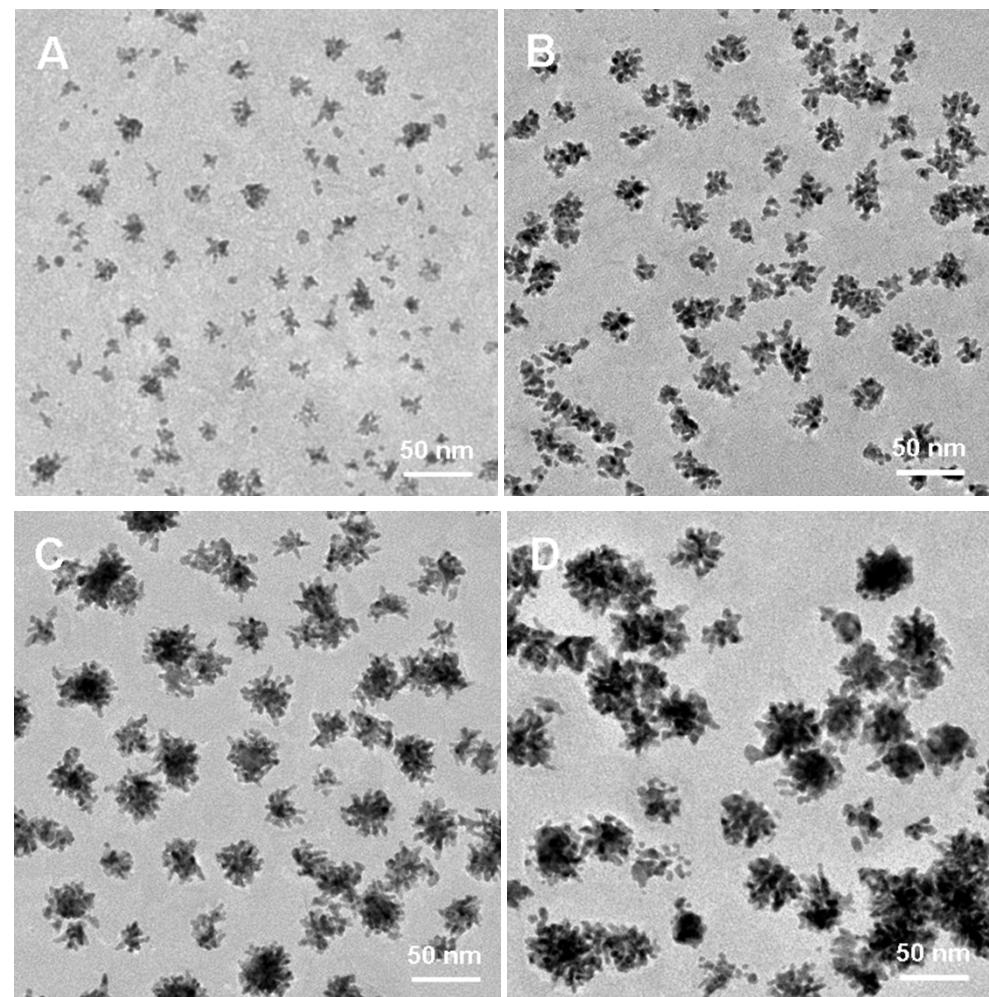
**Fig. S3** X-ray diffraction (XRD) patterns of AuNDs on GO nanosheets. The observed diffraction peaks can be indexed to the (111), (200), (220), (311) and (222) reflections of metal with face-centered-cubic (*fcc*) structure.



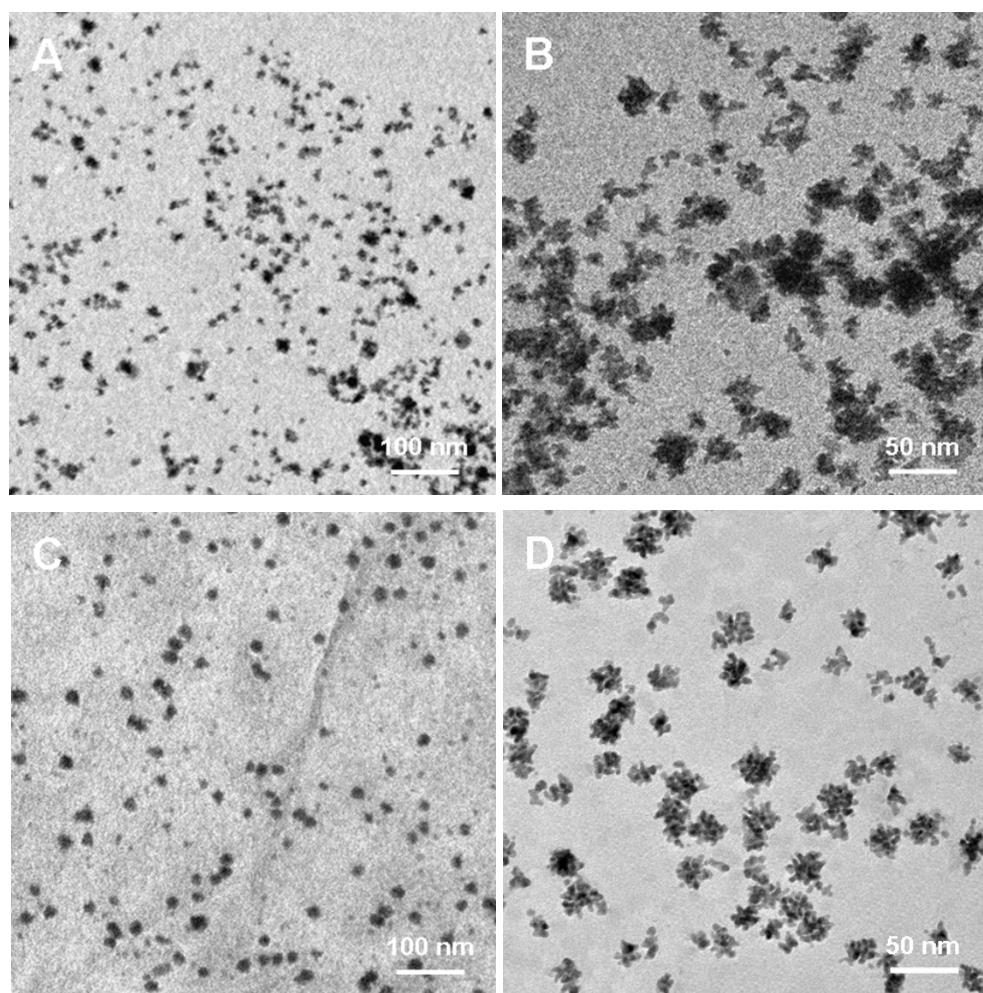
**Fig. S4** TEM images of the as-synthesized AuNDs–GO after the heat annealing process at 200 °C for one hour (A, B) and the dispersion in aqueous solution for one month (C, D).



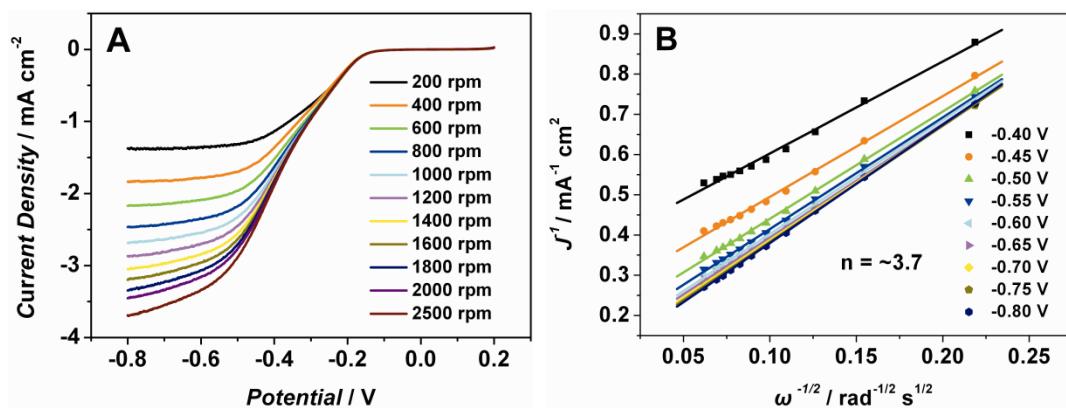
**Fig. S5** TEM images of (A) Au nanoparticles on GO nanosheets by using sodium borohydride ( $\text{NaBH}_4$ ) as a strong reducing agent and (B) Au nanostructures on graphene nanosheets by replacing GO with pristine graphene.



**Fig. S6** TEM images of the as-synthesized AuNDs–GO at different initial Au precursor concentrations: 1  $\times$  10<sup>-4</sup> M (A), 2  $\times$  10<sup>-4</sup> M (B), 5  $\times$  10<sup>-4</sup> M (C), and 1  $\times$  10<sup>-3</sup> M (D), respectively.



**Fig. S7** TEM images of the as-synthesized AuNDs–GO at different initial GO concentrations:  $0.5 \text{ mg mL}^{-1}$  (A, B) and  $0.05 \text{ mg mL}^{-1}$  (C, D), respectively.



**Fig. S8** (A) Rotating disk electrode (RDE) voltammograms of AuNDs–GO in oxygen-saturated  $0.1 \text{ M KOH}$  with various rotation rates. Scan rate:  $10 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$ . (B) The corresponding Koutecky–Levich plots ( $J^{-1}$  versus  $\omega^{-1/2}$ ) of AuNDs–GO derived from RDE voltammograms at different potentials.