Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Analytical Methods.

## **Supporting Information**

## Synthesis of highly fluorescent Cu/Au bimetallic nanoclusters and their application in a temperature sensor and fluorescent probes for Chromium(III) lons

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Scheme S1 A schematic representation of Cr<sup>3+</sup> detection.



Fig. S1 The fluorescence spectra of the Cu NCs (black line and blue line) with excitation at 400 nm and emission at 470 nm, and Cu/Au BNCs (red line and green line) with excitation at 380 nm and emission at 450 nm.



Fig. S2 The fluorescence spectra of GSH- Cu/Au BNCs solution at different Cu<sup>2+</sup>/GSH/Au<sup>3+</sup> molar ratios 1:4:3, 1:4:4 and 1:4:5.



Fig. S3 The fluorescence spectra of Cu/Au BNCs at different stirring times.



Fig. S4 Fluorescence spectra of the Cu/Au BNCs with time ranging from 0 to 50 day.

The Cu/Au BNCs are deposited on the copper network of carbon support membrane. Therefore, the content of Cu in energy spectrum (EDS) analysis is high.

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element	line type	k factor	k factor type	absorption correction	wt%	wt% Sigma
С	K line	2.781		1.00	44.08	0.23
Cu	K line	1.230		1.00	54.75	0.23
Au	L line	2.243		1.00	1.17	0.10
total:					100.00	

Fig. S5 EDS image of Cu/Au BNCs (Each sample was deposited on the carbon support membrane copper net for testing).



Fig. S6 Fluorescence intensities of Cu/Au BNCs upon 20°C to 70°C (black spots) and restore the initial temperature (red spots).



Fig. S7 TEM image of the Cu/Au BNCs detection of Cr<sup>3+</sup> (left) and grey green sediment Chromium hydroxide (right).



**Fig. S8** The fluorescence spectra of the Cu/Au BNCs in presence of various metal ions mixtures (including:  $Zn^{2+}$ ,  $Cr^{3+}$ ,  $Co^{2+}$ ,  $Pb^{2+}$ ,  $Ni^{2+}$ ,  $Cu^{2+}$ ,  $Mn^{2+}$ ,  $Cd^{2+}$ , red line) and the Cu/Au BNCs upon the addition of  $Cr^{3+}$  (blue line).