## Supporting information for

## The Effect of Particle Size on the Optical and Electronic Properties of Magnesium Oxide Nanoparticles

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**Table S1** Occupied (–IP) and unoccupied (–EA) edge states, fundamental gap ( $\Delta_F$ ), optical gap ( $\Delta_O$ ) and exciton binding energy (EBE) values of (MgO)<sub>32</sub> as calculated using BSE/ $G_0W_0$ (AC)/def2-TZVPP and BSE/evGW(AC)/def2-TZVPP starting from PBE rather than B3LYP orbitals. The geometry used was that obtained using B3LYP/def2-TZVPP.

MgO		G	E		evGW@PBE					
	-IP	-EA	$\Delta_{\rm F}$	$\Delta_{\rm O}$	EBE	-IP	-EA	$\Delta_{\rm F}$	$\Delta_{\rm O}$	EBE
32 (4:4:4)	-7.018	-0.610	6.41	3.312	3.10	-8.226	-0.245	7.98	4.815	3.17

**Table S2** Occupied (–IP) and unoccupied (–EA) edge states, fundamental gap ( $\Delta_F$ ), optical gap ( $\Delta_O$ ) and exciton binding energy (EBE) values of (MgO)<sub>18</sub> as calculated by the different method combinations and the def2-TZVPP basis-set.

MgO			$G_0 W_0$			evGW				
	-IP	-EA	$\Delta_{\rm F}$	$\Delta_{\rm O}$	EBE	-IP	-EA	$\Delta_{\rm F}$	$\Delta_{\rm O}$	EBE
18 (3:3:3)	-6.807	-0.892	5.92	3.434	2.48	-7.481	-0.670	6.81	4.299	2.51

**Table S3** Occupied (–IP) and unoccupied (–EA) edge states, fundamental gap ( $\Delta_F$ ), optical gap ( $\Delta_O$ ) and exciton binding energy (EBE) values of the alternative structure for (MgO)<sub>27</sub> as calculated by the different method combinations and the def2-SVP basisset.

MgO	$G_0W_0$				evGW					
	-IP	-EA	$\Delta_{\rm F}$	$\Delta_{\rm O}$	EBE	-IP	-EA	$\Delta_{\rm F}$	$\Delta_{\rm O}$	EBE
27 (5:3:3)	-6.925	-0.385	6.54	3.653	2.89	-7.563	-0.159	7.40	4.482	2.92

**Table S4** Occupied (–IP) and unoccupied (–EA) edge states, fundamental gap ( $\Delta_F$ ), optical gap ( $\Delta_O$ ) and exciton binding energy (EBE) values of (CaO)<sub>32</sub> and (SrO)<sub>32</sub> cubes predicted using BSE/ $G_0W_0$ (AC)/def2-TZVPP and BSE/evGW(AC)/def2-TZVPP starting from PBE rather than B3LYP orbitals. The geometry used was that obtained using B3LYP/def2-TZVPP.

	$G_0 W_0$					evGW				
	–IP	-EA	$\Delta_{ m F}$	$\Delta_{\rm O}$	EBE	-IP	-EA	$\Delta_{\rm F}$	$\Delta_{\rm O}$	EBE
CaO (4:4:4)	-5.545	-0.151	5.39	2.432	2.96	-6.562	0.114	6.68	3.929	2.75
SrO (4:4:4)	-5.051	-0.200	4.85	2.293*	2.56	-6.069	0.061	6.13	3.510*	2.62

The lowest excited-state for  $(SrO)_{32}$  as calculated using BSE/ $G_0W_0(AC)/def2$ -TZVPP and BSE/evGW(AC)/def2-TZVPP is symmetry forbidden. The 2.293 and 3.510 eV excitations, respectively, are the lowest optically allowed excitations, second lowest overall. The lowest BSE/ $G_0W_0(AC)/def2$ -TZVPP and BSE/evGW(AC)/def2-TZVPP excitation belongs to the A irrep for  $T_d$  and has an excitation energy of 2.277 eV and an EBE value of 2.57 eV and an excitation energy of 3.493 eV and an EBE value of 2.64 eV, respectively.



**Fig. S1** Leading occupied (A) and unoccupied (B) natural transition orbitals for the lowest excitation of  $(CaO)_{32}$ . As the calculation was performed using the  $D_2$  instead of the  $T_d$  point group, the triply degenerate  $T_2$  excited state is described as a triplet of excited states of B1, B2 and B3 symmetry, the natural transition orbitals of only one is shown here.