S1

## **Electronic Supplementary Material**

# Highly specific colorimetric detection based on aggregation of L-cysteine functionalized gold nanoparticles for cypermethrin in water samples

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#### Experiment

#### **De-aggregation process**

A 200 μL of fresh AuNPs@Cyst and 100 μL of 1 mM phosphate buffer (pH 7) were placed in a 1mL Eppendorf tube and mixed by vortex. Then, 200 μL of hydrolyzed cypermethrin (HCy) were added to the tube and mixed by vortex again. The mixture solution was left for 1 min and heated at 90 °C for 10 min.<sup>1</sup> The control solution was prepared in a similar way without heating. Besides, the blank solution was prepared by replacing HCy with methanol and without heating. Finally, the color change of the resulting solutions was photographed using a mobile phone camera and FE-TEM images were recorded on a field emission transmission electron microscope (FE-TEM) (Talos F200i, Thermo Scientific, Czech Republic).



**Fig. S1** Color and FE-TEM images of (A) AuNPs@Cyst without HCy (blank solution), (B) AuNPs@Cyst with HCy (aggregation) and (C) AuNPs@Cyst with HCy after heating at 90 °C for 10 min (de-aggregation). Magnitudes of FE-TEM were 120 kx, 190 kx and 390 kx, respectively.

### Reference

1 S. Mandal, A. Gole, N. Lala, R. Gonnade, V. Ganvir and M. Sastry, *Langmuir*, 2001, **17**, 6262–6268.