

Analytical and Bioanalytical chemistry

Electronic Supplementary Material

**Silver and Gold nanoparticles as multi-chromatic lateral flow assay probes
for the detection of food allergens**

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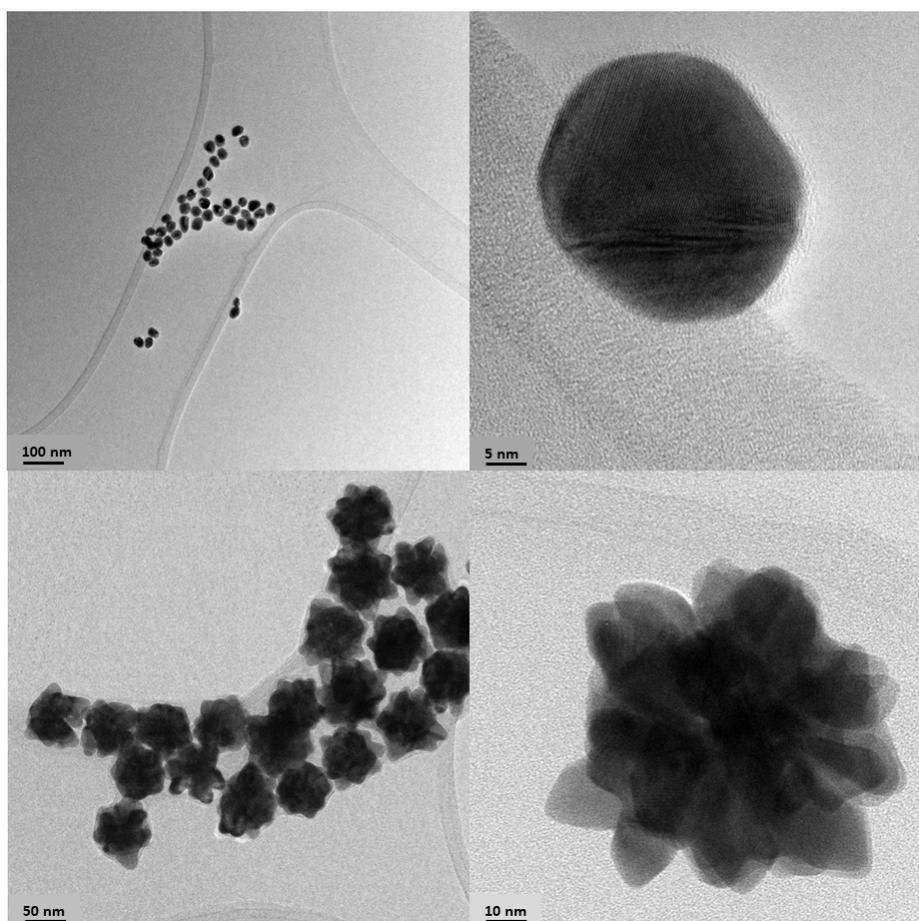


Fig. S1 TEM images of spherical gold nanoparticles obtained through the citrate reduction method (up) and non-spherical gold nanoparticles (bottom) prepared according to the gold-seeds mediated approach described in [12]. On the right, HR-TEM images of the NPs

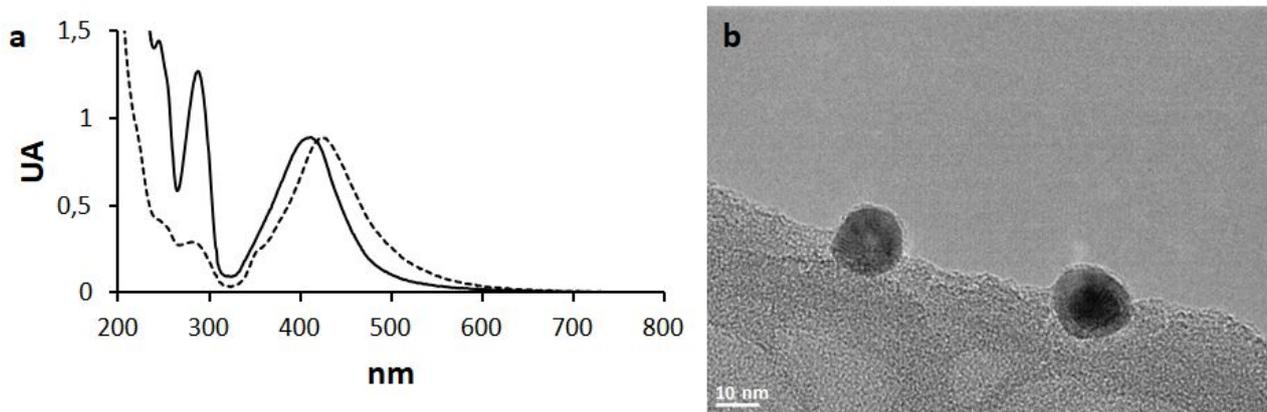


Fig. S2 UV-vis (solid line, a) and TEM at 195000x magnification (b) of AgNPs prepared by the one-step seed-mediated approach. The UV-vis spectrum of the Y-AgNPs-Ab probe is also shown (dotted line, a) and the red shift of the SPR maximum was considered as a confirmation of successful AgNP conjugation to antibodies

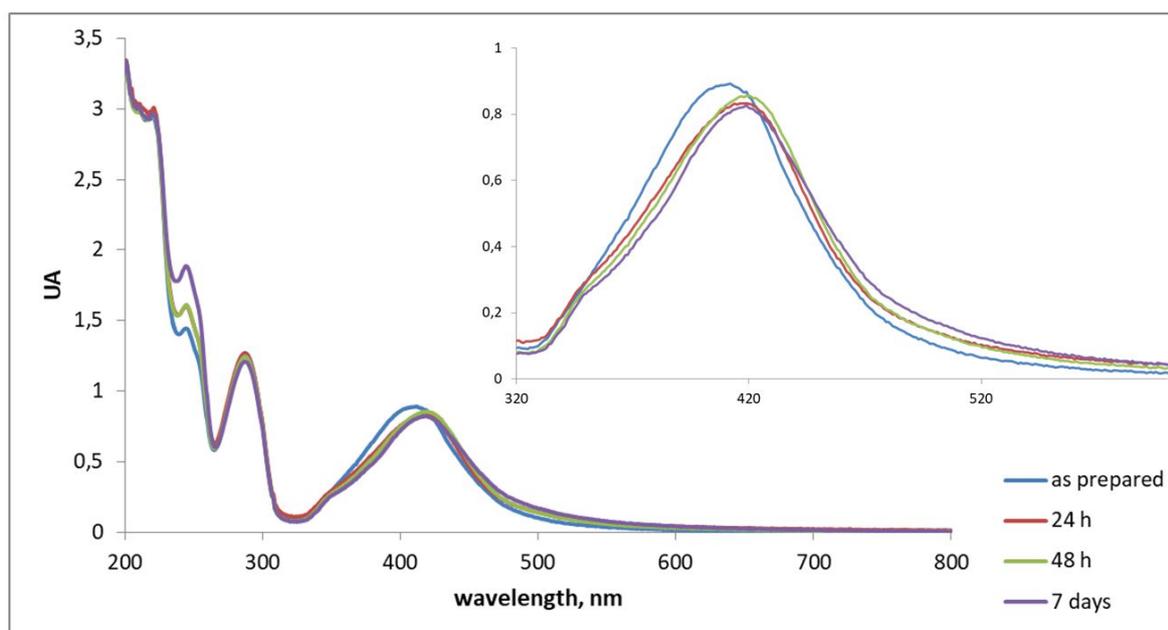


Fig. S3 Stability of the SPR band of Y-AgNPs over time. UV-vis spectra of Y-AgNPs were recorded on the synthesis day and after 1, 2, and 7 days of storage at 4°C. The inset shows the SPR band of the Y-AgNPs centered at 420 nm

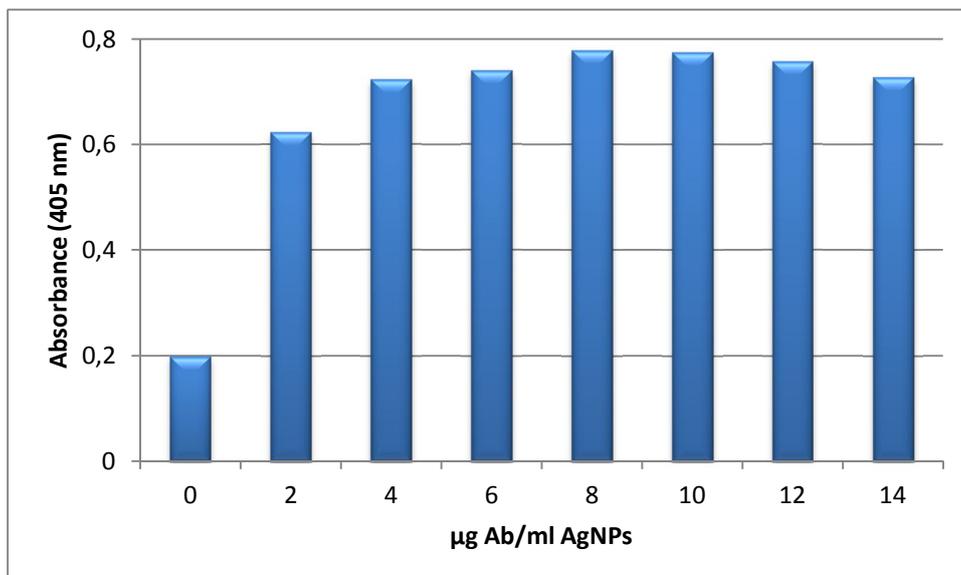


Fig. S4 The optimal antibody amount of antibodies (Ab) for stabilizing Y-AgNP suspension. Uncapped Y-AgNPs aggregated and the SPR band at around 420 nm decreased, while those covered by a layer of antibodies showed a persistent yellow color. The optimal amount of antibody was established as the one providing the highest optical density, as measured by a microtitre plate reader equipped with a 405 nm filter

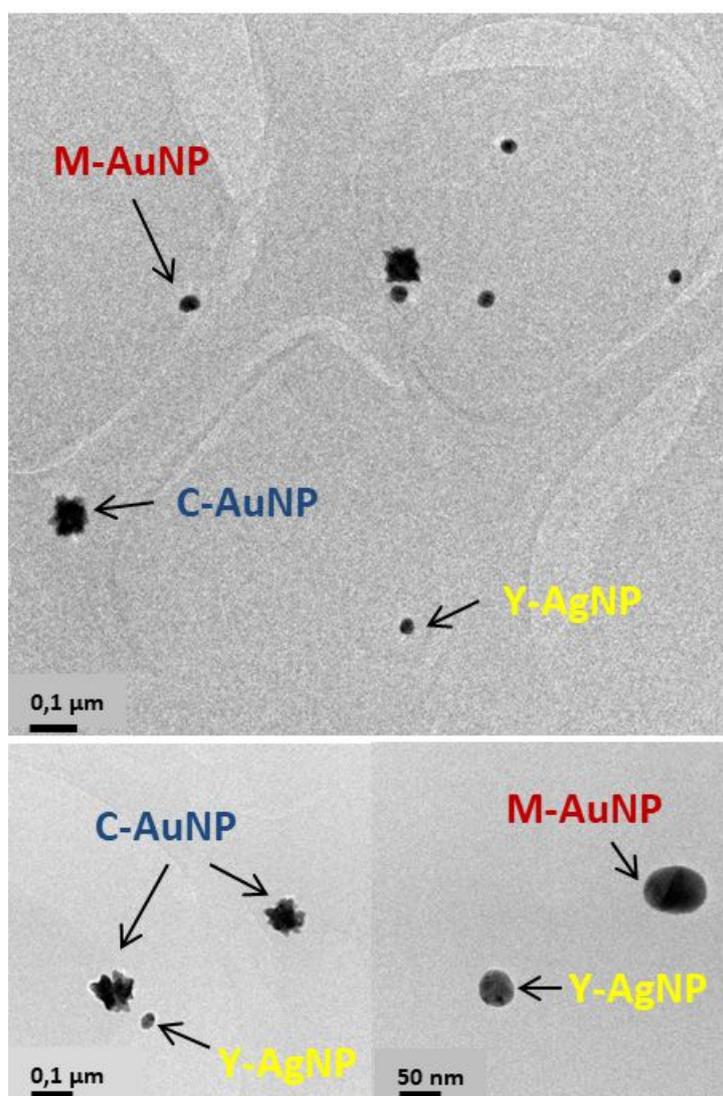


Fig. S5 TEM images of the mix containing the three nanoparticles conjugated to antibodies: a) no interaction occurred among metal NPs (15000x), b) no-spherical (blue) and spherical (red) gold nanoparticles (30000x), and c) spherical (red) gold nanoparticles and silver (yellow) nanoparticles (100000x)