## ELECTRONIC SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATIONS (ESI †)

## The intriguing role of L-cysteine on the modulation of chiroplasmonic properties of chiral gold nano-arrows

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Fig. SI.1 Schematic representation of the synthesis by seeding process a) formation of nanorods seeds and b) their further growth to form nano-arrows.



Fig. SI.2 Monocristalline gold nanorods obtained by seeding process with CTAB and hydroquinone. a) TEM image, b) schematic representation and c) HRTEM image and the corresponding calculated FFT.



Fig. SI.3 UV-visible spectra of the elongated seeds (straight line) and of the nanoarrows in absence of cysteine (dash-point line).



Fig. SI.4 TEM images (a), UV-visible absorption (b) and CD (c) spectra corresponding to nanoparticles obtained at 0 (black), 0.1 (red), 0.91 (dark blue), 2.7 (green), 4.6 (violet), 5.5 (orange), 7.3 (light blue) and  $9.1 \,\mu \text{mol} \text{L}^{-1}$  of cysteine. d) Plot of the intensity of the first band of the corresponding CD signal.



Fig. SI.5 Raman spectra for nano-arrows obtained a) in the absence of cysteine and with a concentration of b)  $0.9 \mu \text{mol} \text{L}^{-1}$ , c)  $2.7 \mu \text{mol} \text{L}^{-1}$  and d)  $9.1 \mu \text{mol} \text{L}^{-1}$ .



Fig. SI.6 Circular dichroism spectra obtained at a)  $0.9 \mu \text{mol} \text{L}^{-1}$ , b)  $2.7 \mu \text{mol} \text{L}^{-1}$  and c)  $9.1 \mu \text{mol} \text{L}^{-1}$  with L-cysteine (straight line) and D-cysteine (dashed line)



Fig. SI.7 a) schematic growth of nanoarrows from nanorods, b) SEM-FEG image of achiral nanoarrows obtained in absence of cysteine, c) HRTEM image and d) FFT calculated in the overall HRTEM image



Fig. SI.8 Description of the nano-arrows and their volume and surface determinations.



Fig. SI.9 TEM images of nanoarrows synthesized in absence of cysteine and keep after synthesis for 12 h in a)  $0.9 \mu \text{molL}^{-1}$ , b)  $2.7 \mu \text{molL}^{-1}$  and c)  $9.1 \mu \text{molL}^{-1}$  of L-cysteine. d) the corresponding circular dichroism spectra. Raman spectra before (black) and after functionalization (red) in presence of e)  $0.9 \mu \text{molL}^{-1}$  and f)  $9.1 \mu \text{molL}^{-1}$  of cysteine. Green curves correspond to the Raman spectra of arrows growth in presence of cysteine (see Figure SI.5)



Fig. SI.10 UV-visible spectra monitored during the 240 min of reaction for a)  $0.9 \mu \text{mol} L^{-1}$  and b)  $9.1 \mu \text{mol} L^{-1}$  of L-cysteine. c) Plotted positions of the longitudinal-LSPR during the growth for  $0.9 \mu \text{mol} L^{-1}$  (red) and  $9.1 \mu \text{mol} L^{-1}$  (green) of L-cysteine.



Fig. SI.11 : TEM images of extracted nanoparticles obtained in presence of  $0.9 \,\mu$ molL<sup>-1</sup> (labeled  $a_x$ ) and  $9.1 \,\mu$ molL<sup>-1</sup> of cysteine (labeled  $b_x$ ) at different time of reaction of  $10 \,\text{min}$  (x=1),  $30 \,\text{min}$  (x=2),  $60 \,\text{min}$  (x=3) and  $120 \,\text{min}$  (x=4).



Fig. SI.12 CD spectra and TEM images of gold nanoparticles obtained in the presence of a)  $0.9 \mu \text{mol} \text{L}^{-1}$  (blue), b)  $2.7 \mu \text{mol} \text{L}^{-1}$  (red) and c)  $9.1 \mu \text{mol} \text{L}^{-1}$  (green) of glutathione. The scale bare corresponds to 50 nm.



Fig. SI.13 Theoretical CD spectrum of the bare  ${\rm Au}_{64}$  cluster.