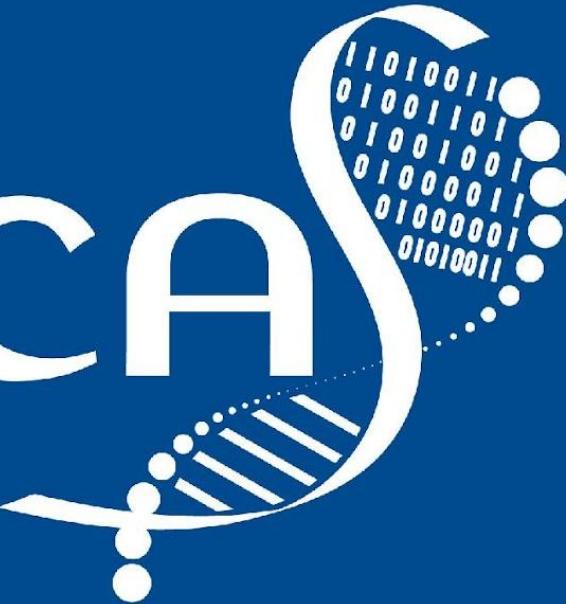


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# A Colorimetric Sensor for Detection of Aluminum (III) using Gold Nanoparticles

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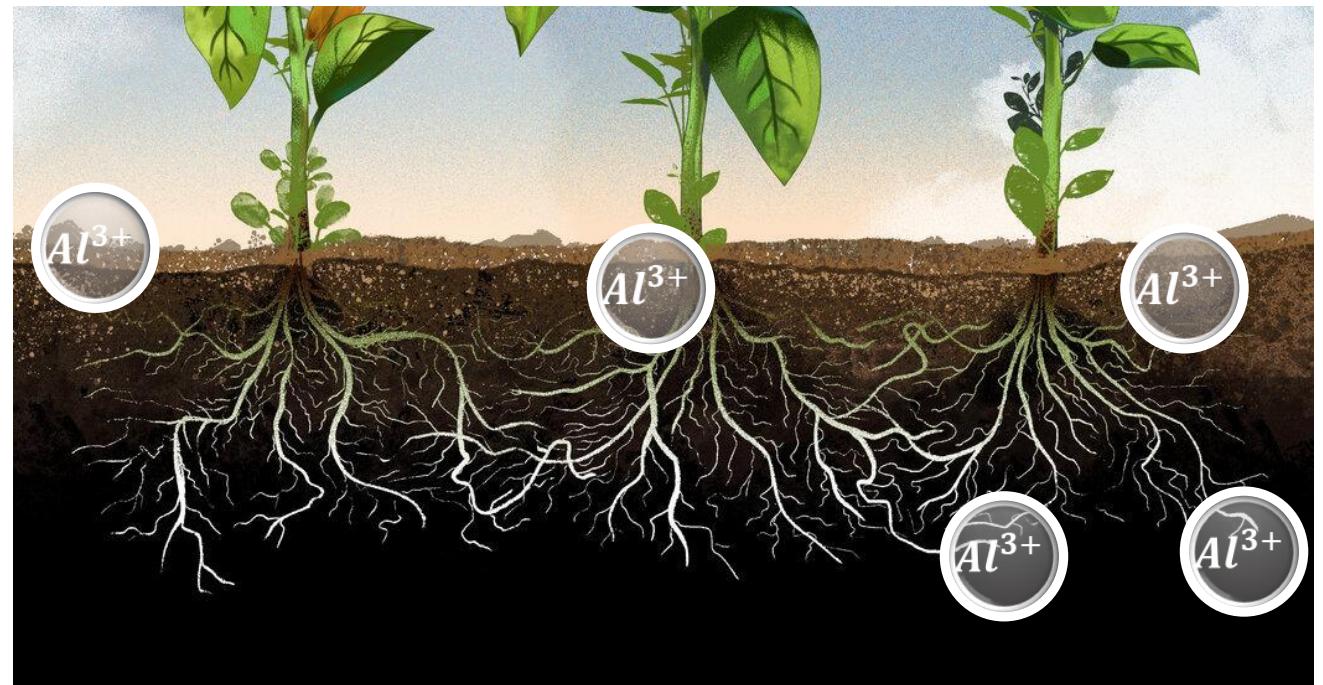
# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Experimental section
- 3 Sensitive colorimetric assay using AuNPs
- 4 Conclusions
- 5 Acknowledgment



## Introduction: Aluminum toxicity in plants

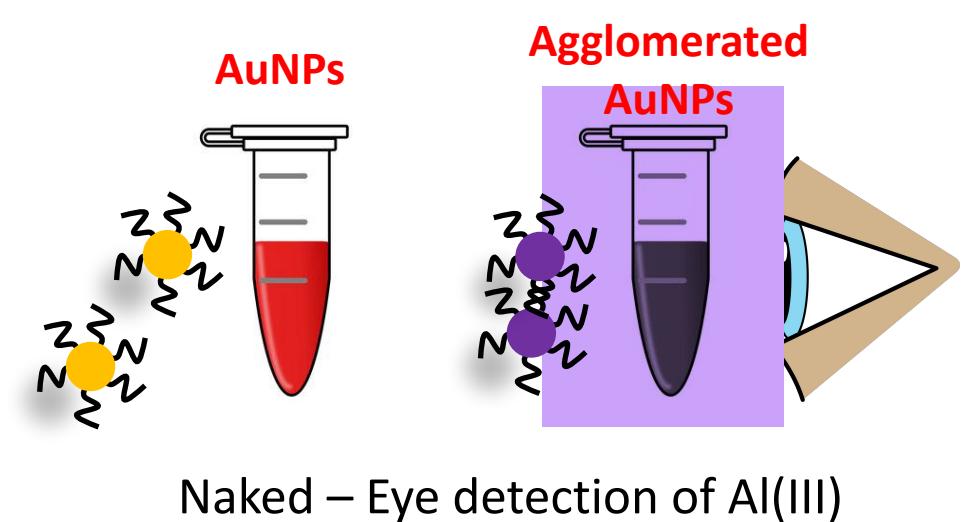
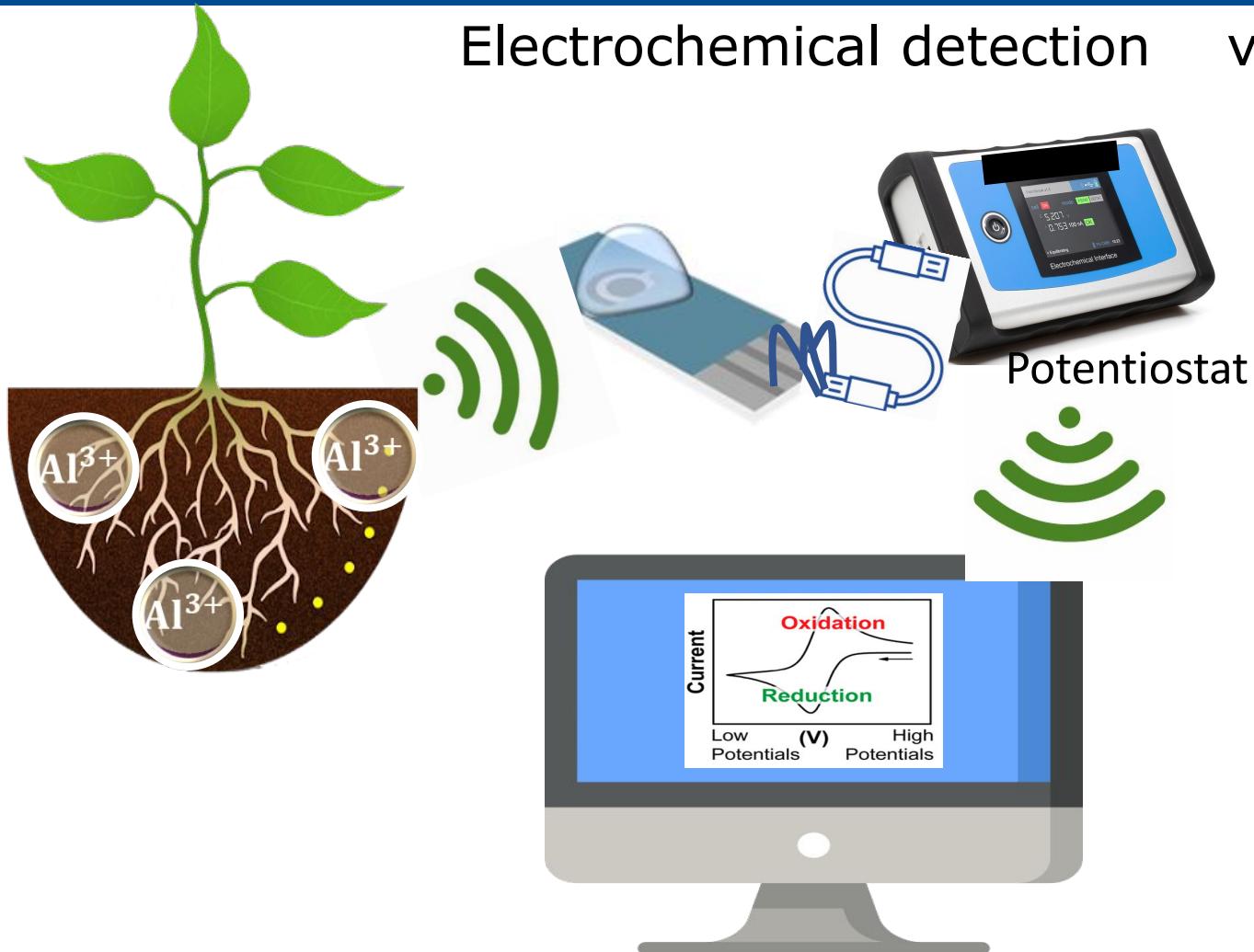
- Root growth inhibition
- Inhibition of the absorption of water and nutrients
- Lipid peroxidation
- Modification of the cytoskeleton
- Inhibition of cell division.



Colombia is a country of low fertility. This is due to the fact that 85% of the territory has acidic soils, 57% with high aluminum content and 98% with phosphorus deficiency. *Instituto Geográfico Agustín Codazzi (IGAC)*

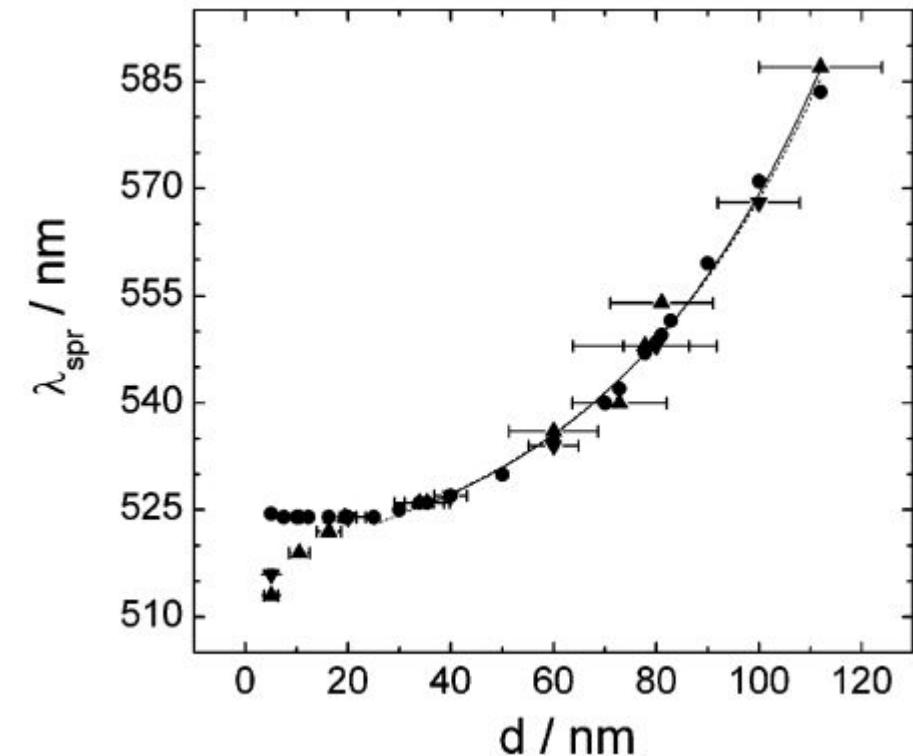
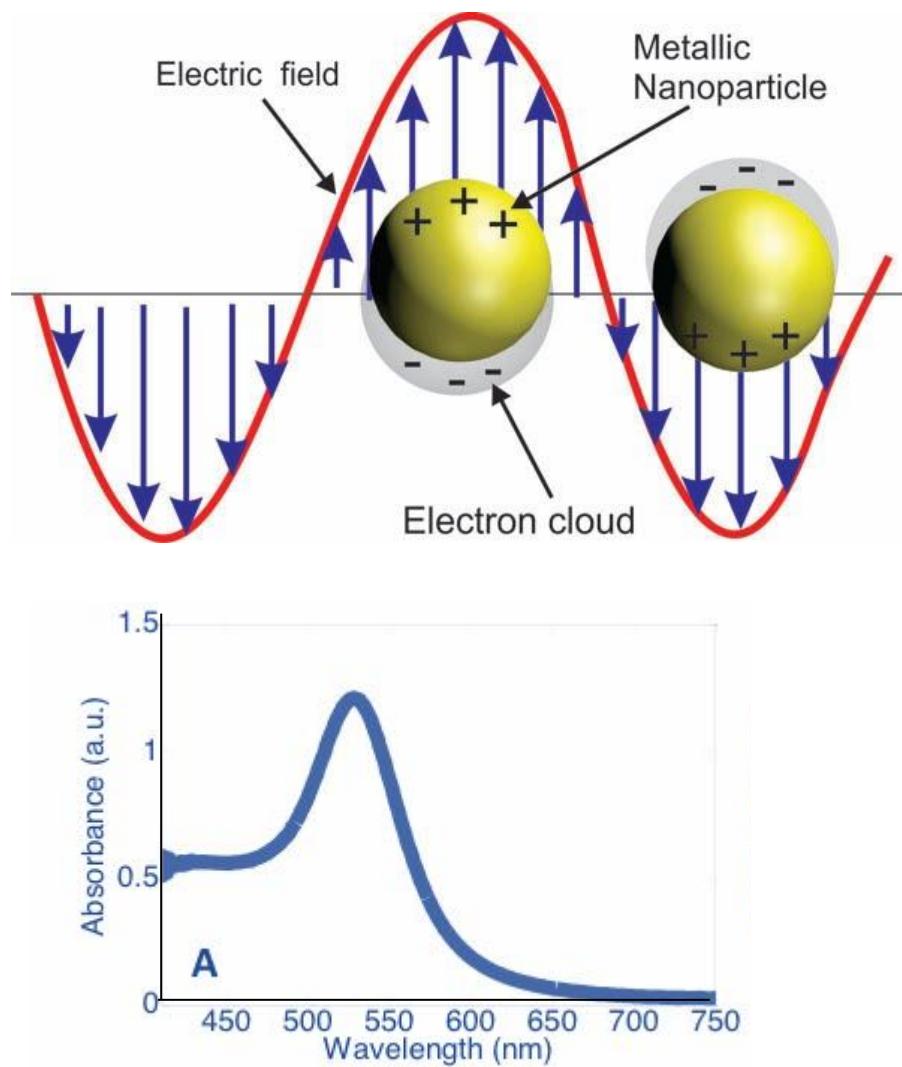
## Introduction: Aluminum (III) detection

### Electrochemical detection vs Colorimetric sensor



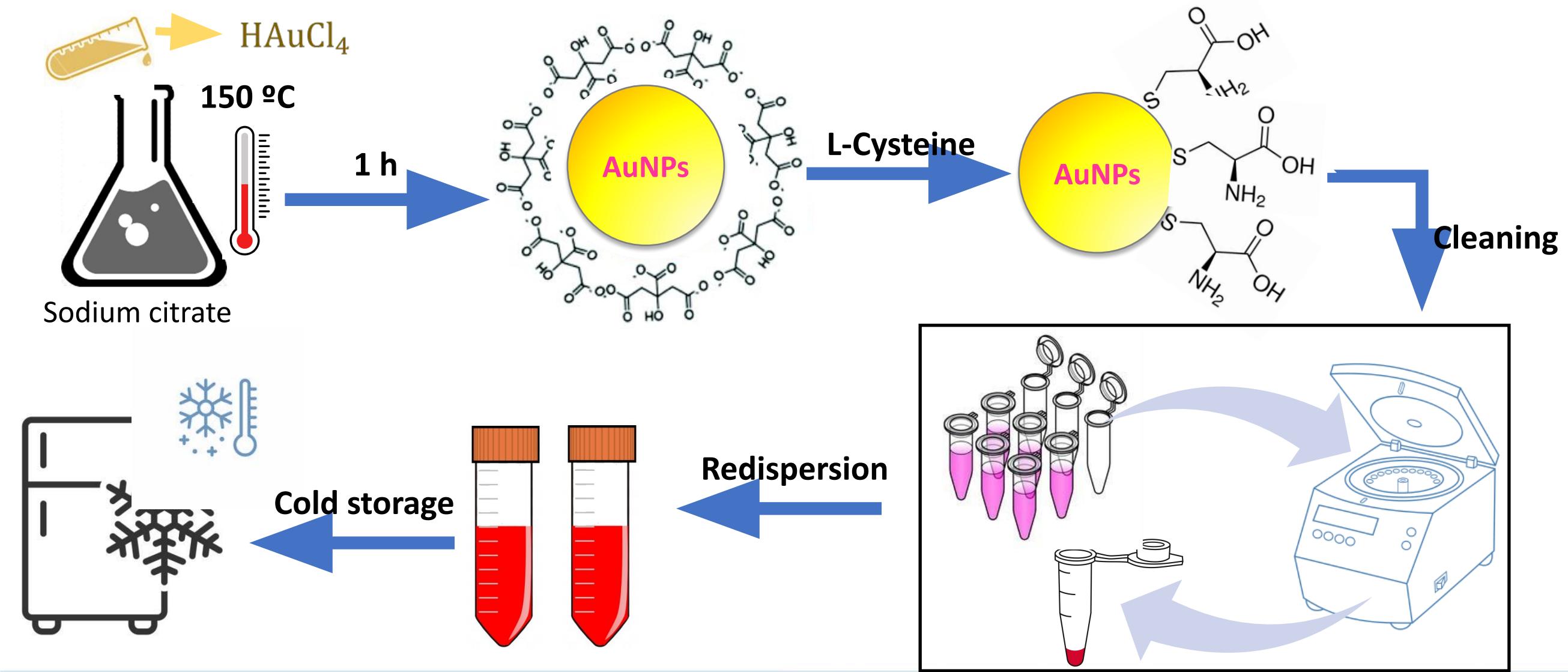
Naked – Eye detection of Al(III)

## Introduction: Surface Plasmon Resonance (SPR) effect of AuNPs



$$d = \frac{\ln \left( \frac{\lambda_{spr} - \lambda_0}{L_1} \right)}{L_2}$$

## Experimental: synthesis of L-Cysteine-AuNPs

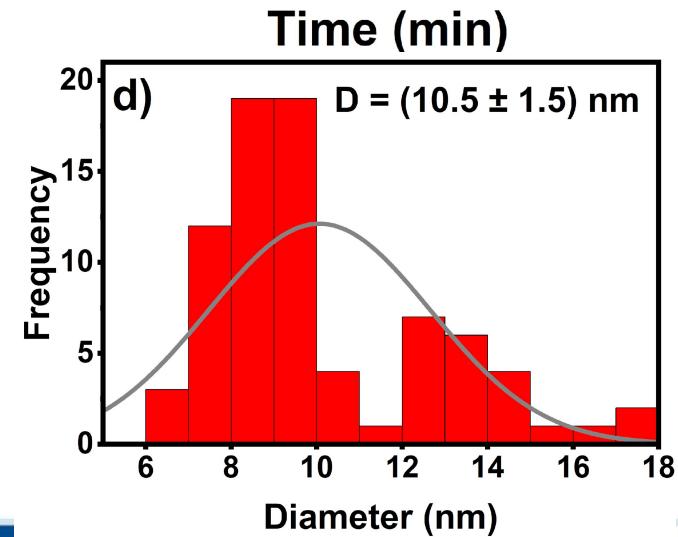
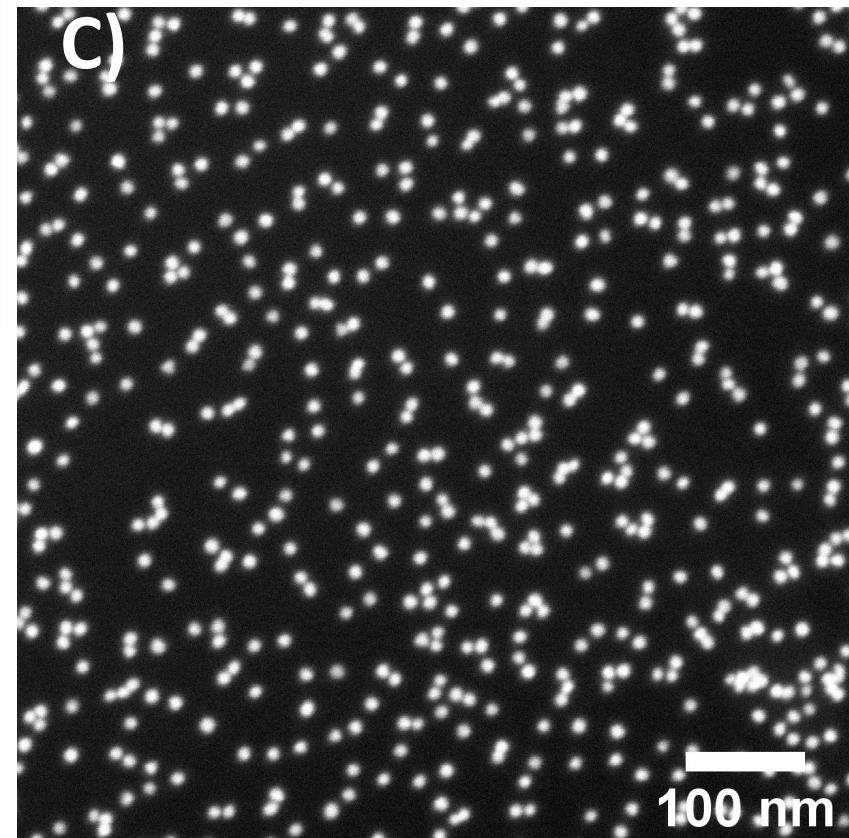
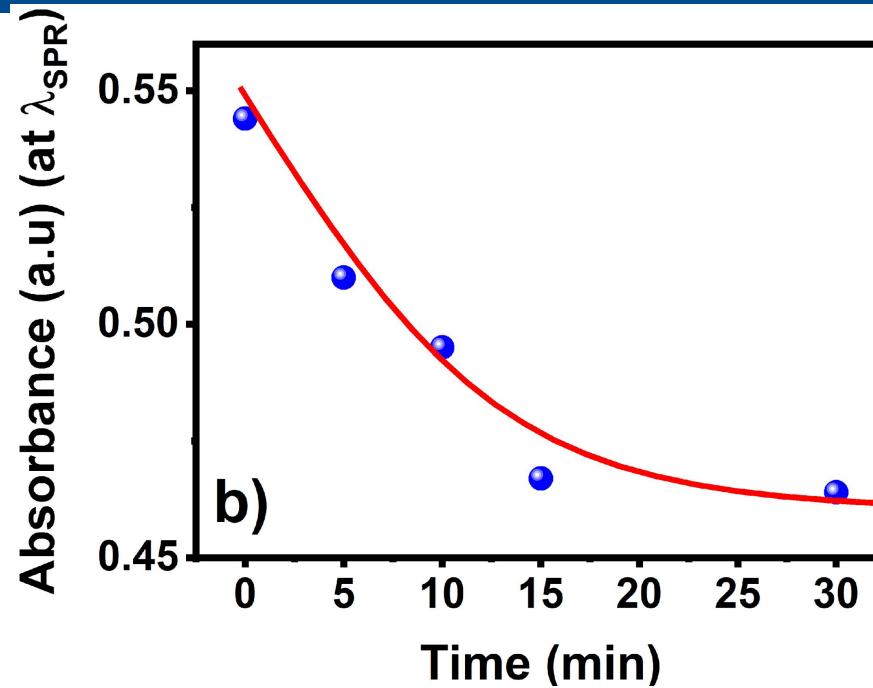
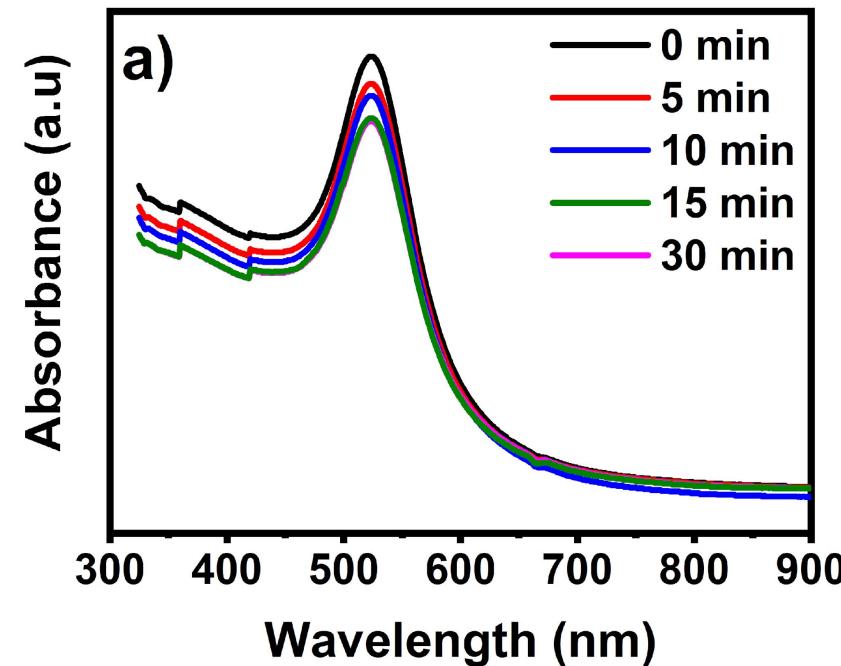


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## Experimental: AuNPs Characterization



(a) UV-vis spectra of as-synthesized L-Cysteine AuNPs;  
(b) Absorbance at  $\lambda_{SPR}$  vs functionalized time; (c) SEM image of 10 nm L-Cysteine functionalized AuNPs; (d) size distribution



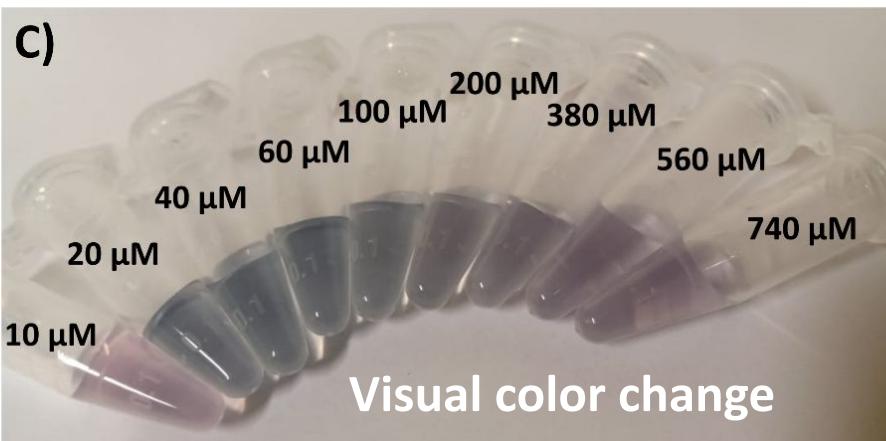
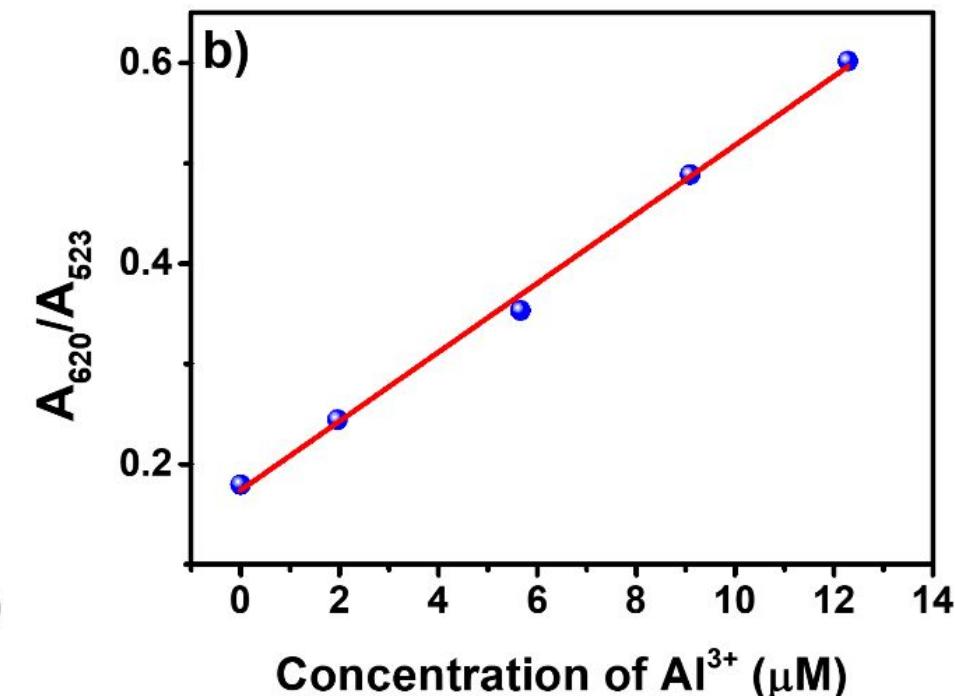
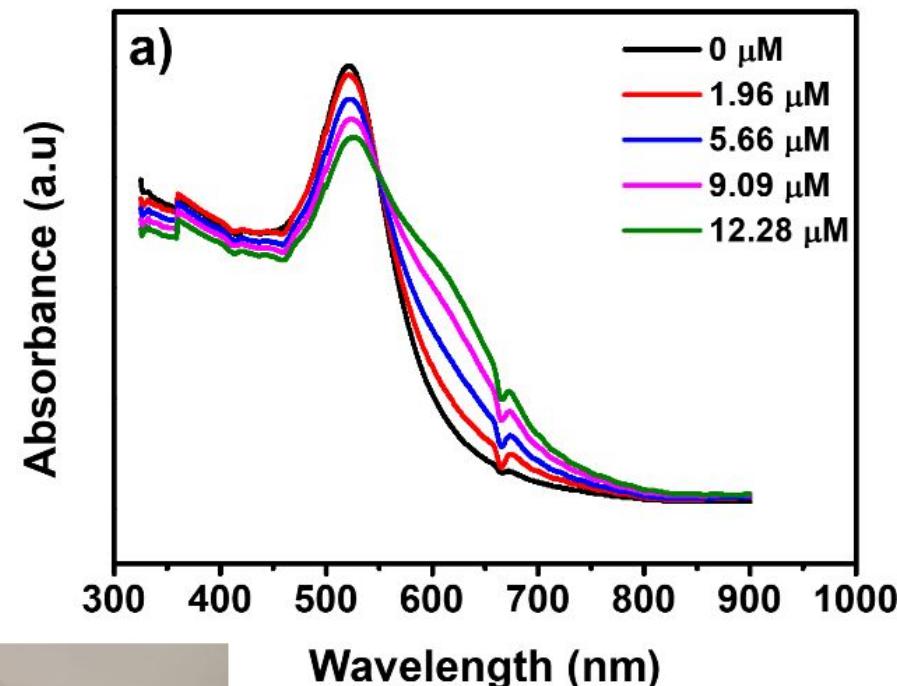
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## Experimental: Colorimetric sensor

L-Cysteine  
functionalized AuNPs



The limit of detection (LOD) was found to be 25 nM, which is much lower than the level (37.5  $\mu\text{M}$ ) of irrigation water defined by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

(a) Surface plasmon resonance absorption change of L-cysteine functionalized AuNPs in the presence of different concentrations of  $\text{Al}^{3+}$ . (b) Absorbance ratio ( $A_{620}$  nm/ $A_{523}$  nm) of L-Cysteine functionalized AuNPs in the presence of metal ions.

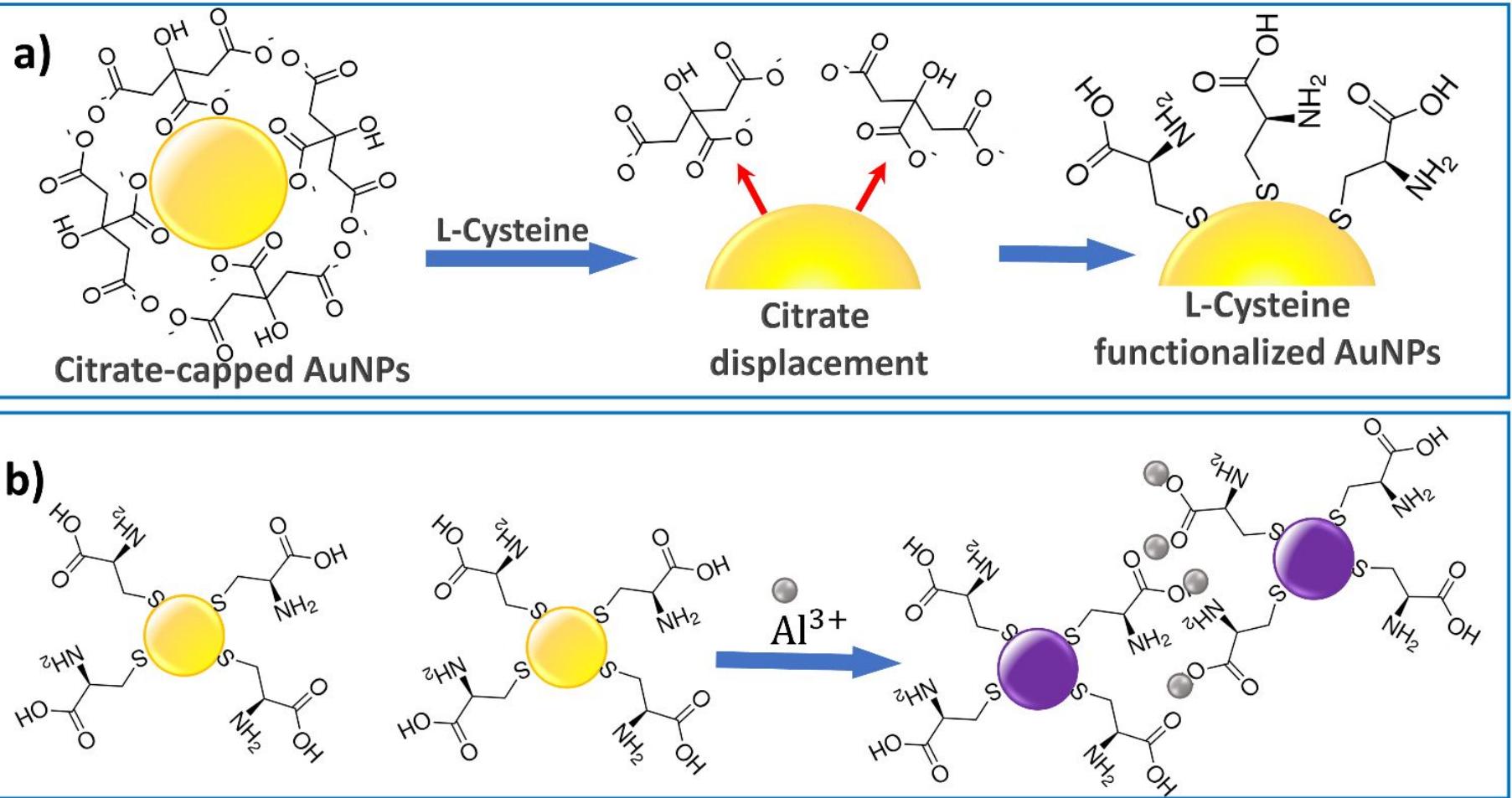


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## Experimental: Mechanism of detection



When the solution containing  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  ions is added to the nanoparticle solution, an agglomeration process of the nanoparticles occurs due to binding with chelating ligands, yielding a substantial red-to-purple color change

Schematic representation of (a) synthesis and functionalization of AuNPs and (b) the NPs agglomeration as a mechanism of detection of  $\text{Al}^{3+}$



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# Conclusions

In this work, a simple, fast and sensitive colorimetric sensor for determination of  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  ions has been developed. The presence of  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  can be monitored by the colorimetric response of the L-Cysteine functionalized AuNPs. It was evidenced that  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  induced agglomeration of AuNPs, resulting in a color change from red to purple and a corresponding SPR absorption shift from 512 nm to 620 nm.

The detection limit (LOD) for  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  was found to be 25 nM, which is much lower than the level (37.5  $\mu\text{M}$ ) of irrigation water defined by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).



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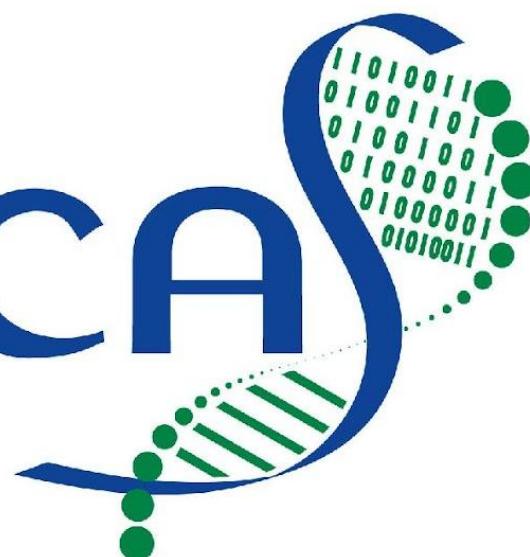


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ómica  
Gracias

A stylized blue DNA double helix is positioned next to the word 'Gracias'. The right side of the helix is open, revealing a cluster of green circles and binary code (0s and 1s) floating in space.

Genómica

Nanosensores

Metabolómica

Fenómica

In-silico

Seguridad Alimentaria

Sostenibilidad productiva

Fortalecimiento Institucional



Aliados



International Center for Tropical Agriculture  
Since 1967 Science to cultivate change



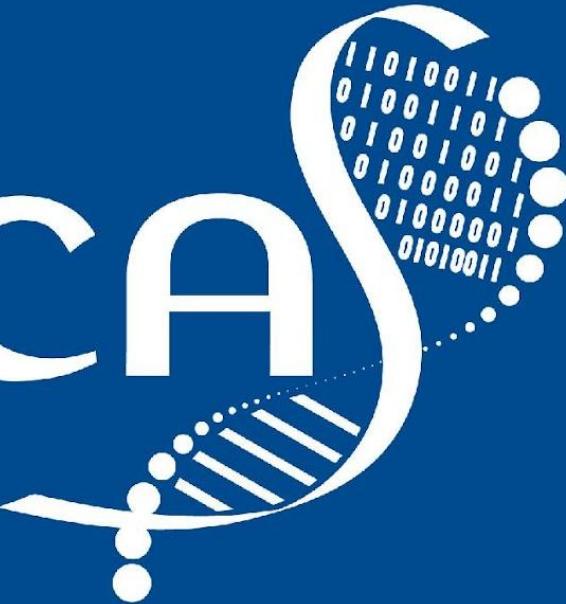
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