### Accepted Manuscript

Enhanced Sensitivity to Detection Nanomolar Level of Cu2+ Compared to Spectrophotometry Method by Functionalized Gold Nanoparticles: Design of Sensor Assisted by Exploiting Firstorder Data with Chemometrics



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PII: S1386-1425(17)30828-4

DOI: doi:10.1016/j.saa.2017.10.027

Reference: SAA 15533

To appear in: Spectrochimica Acta Part A: Molecular and Biomolecular

Spectroscopy

Received date: 10 June 2017

Revised date: 24 September 2017

Accepted

9 October 2017

date:

Please cite this article as: Zolaikha Rasouli, Raouf Ghavami, Enhanced Sensitivity to Detection Nanomolar Level of Cu2+ Compared to Spectrophotometry Method by Functionalized Gold Nanoparticles: Design of Sensor Assisted by Exploiting First-order Data with Chemometrics. The address for the corresponding author was captured as affiliation for all authors. Please check if appropriate. Saa(2017), doi:10.1016/j.saa.2017.10.027

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## **ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT**

Enhanced sensitivity to detection nanomolar level of  $Cu^{2+}$  compared to spectrophotometry method by functionalized gold nanoparticles: design of sensor assisted by exploiting first-order data with chemometrics

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#### Abstract

A simple, sensitive and efficient colorimetric assay platform for the determination of  $Cu^{2+}$  was proposed with the aim of developing sensitive detection based on the aggregation of AuNPs in presence of a histamine H2-receptor antagonist (famotidine, FAM) as recognition site. This study is the first to demonstrate that the molar extinction coefficients of the complexes formed by FAM and  $Cu^{2+}$  are very low (by analyzing the chemometrics methods on the first order data arising from different metal to ligand ratio method), leading to the undesirable sensitivity of FAM-based assays. To resolve the problem of low sensitivity, the colorimetry method based on the  $Cu^{2+}$ -induced aggregation of AuNPs functionalized with FAM was introduced. This procedure is accompanied by a color change from bright red to blue which can be observed with the naked eyes. Detection sensitivity obtained by the developed method increased about 100 fold compared with the spectrophotometry method. This sensor exhibited a good linear relation between the absorbance ratios at 670 to 520 nm ( $A_{670/520}$ ) and the concentration in the range 2-110 nM with LOD = 0.76 nM. The satisfactory analytical performance of the proposed sensor facilitates the development of simple and affordable UV-Vis chemosensors for environmental applications.

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