Supplementary Information

Hot electron induced NIR detection in CdS films

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1. A focused ion beam microscope was employed to deposit the platinum metal electrodes to carry out the photoconductivity measurements at shorter channel lengths

Supplementary Fig S1: Shows the Platinum electrodes deposited on CdS/glass substrate by using Focused ion beam induced metal deposition technique. Since the CdS was deposited on

insulating substrate glass, it was difficult to get the high resolution FESEM images. The area in between two pt electrodes was considered to estimate the responsivity.

2. The annealing temp 450° C , 700° C and Au nanoislands formation on CdS films

Figure S2 I A semi-continuous Au gold film was formed on CdS when annealing temp was set 450° C.

Figure S3I Nanoparticles or aggregates of Au were formed on CdS substrates when the annealing temp was 700° C.

Fig S4 I Band diagram of the Au nanoisland system. The schematics show the NIR light interacting with Au nanoisland, creating holes and electrons, and transfer of generated hot carriers in the CdS film.

Basically photons coupled into metallic (Au) nanoislands excite resonant plasmons and these plasmon decays into energetic hot electrons followed by the transfer of hot electrons over potential barrier into the adjacent semiconductor material (CdS) which can generate a substantial photocurrent in our Au nanoislands CdS system. The localized enhanced field at the interface due to generation plasmons facilitates the hot electron transfer and note that

metal Au nanoparticles are extremely stable and robust system and can absorb NIR light much more efficiently compared to semiconductor CdS

Figure S5 I

Fig S5: FESEM micrographs of the Device 1 and Device 2 (Au nanoislands formed on CdS thin films)

Device-1 Device-2

Fig S5_1: The Device_1 (left side) and Device_2 (right side) clear show the reproducibility of the data and its dependency on the wavelength and active area of photodetection.

Figure S6

Fig S6 I Electric field enhancement when Au nanoislands formed on CdS film. A. FESEM micrograph of the device film. B. C and D represent the electric field enhancement at the probe line 1,2 and 3 respectively.

Fig S7 I Shows the absorption of NIR light by gold random nanoislands.

Table1: Comparison of the device parameters

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Table 2: Device's active surface area and response time

