

Light emitting gold and silver

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 $\mathrm{Au}_{25},\,\mathrm{Au}_{23},\,\mathrm{Au}_{22},\,\mathrm{Au}_{8}\,\text{and}\,\mathrm{Ag}_{4}$

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Faraday's gold preserved in Royal Institution. From the site, <u>http://www.rigb.org/rimain/heritage/faradaypage.jsp</u>











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With A. Ajayaghosh

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Monolayer Protected Metal Nanoparticles Monolayer Protected Clusters (MPCs)



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Molecular Clusters





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Optical absorption (extinction) spectrum of (a) 15 nm gold particles in aqueous solution (labeled Au@citrate). The spectrum of (b) 3 nm particles in toluene is also shown. See the broadening of the plasmon feature. The spectrum of (c) Au_{25} in water. In this, there is no plasmon excitation and all the features are due to molecular absorptions of the cluster.

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DNA Encapsulated Clusters



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Top and side view of [Au₂₅(SCH₃)₁₈]⁺

Theoretical Investigation of Optimized Structures of Thiolated Gold Cluster [Au₂₅(SCH₃)₁₈]⁺, Iwasa, T.; Nobusada, K. *J. Phys. Chem. C* **2007**, *111*, 45. How to make them?

Polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (PAGE)



Negishi, Y.; Nobusada, K.; and Tsukuda, T. Glutathione-Protected Gold Clusters Revisited: Bridging the Gap between Gold(I)-Thiolate Complexes and Thiolate-Protected Gold Nanocrystals. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2005**, *127*, 5261-70.

Gram scale synthesis



Synthesis: Au₂₅ clusters can be preferentially populated by dissociative excitation of larger precursors



Scheme showing the synthesis of $Au_{25}SG_{18}$ clusters





FTIR spectrum: The peak at 2526 cm⁻¹ of glutathione due to -SH stretching frequency is absent in IR spectrum of Au₂₅ suggesting the ligand binding on cluster surface.

1H NMR spectrum: There is one-to-one

correspondence between the two spectra, except that the β CH₂ resonance (labeled as C) disappears completely in the cluster which is expected as it is close to the cluster surface. All the observed resonances have been broadened in view of their faster relaxation and non-uniform distribution of ligands.



XPS spectrum



TEM image: The clusters are seen only faintly since the size is ~1 nm. Some of the individual clusters are shown by circles. There are also cluster aggregates which upon extended electron beam irradiation fuse to form bigger particles



Ligand Exchange of Au₂₅



Shibu et al. J. Phys. Chem. C 2008




















Au_8SG_8





Comparison of the optical absorption profiles of Au@MSA, Au_{25} and Au_8 .

Comparison of the photoluminescence profiles of the clusters with Au@MSA. Traces I and II are the excitation and emission spectra of Au_8 , respectively. Traces III and IV are the excitation and emission spectra of Au_{25} , respectively and trace V is the emission spectrum of Au@MSA.

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Optical absorption (black trace), Fluorescence excitation (green trace) and emission (red line) of the Au_8 cluster. Inset: photographs of PAGE band (A), Au_8 solution in water under normal light irradiation (B) and under uv light irradiation (C).







Fluorescence decay profile of Au_8 in water at 440 nm (excitation 364 nm) by fluorescence upconversion technique (IRF = 165 fs). Inset shows the fluorescence transient of the sample at 445 nm (excitation = 375 nm) in a longer time window of TCSPC (IRF = 70 ps) set-up.

Quantum Yield	
Au ₂₅	Au ₈
1.9x10 ⁻³	0.15



Au₂₅ to make other clusters



Schematic of the interfacial synthesis of red emitting clusters from Au₂₅SG₁₈.







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Comparison of the optical absorption spectra of $Au_{25}SG_{18}$ (black trace), red emitting cluster in aqueous (green trace) and organic layers (red trace).











PAGE image of Au₈SG₈ cluster

Organic soluble red emitting clusters



Water soluble red emitting clusters





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Reactivity and Applications of Molecular Clusters

Reactivity of Au₂₅



Optical absorption spectra of (A) $Au_{25}SG_{18}$ cluster, (B) after adding 50 µM AuCl₄⁻ ions to the cluster and (C) the synthesized Au(I)SG polymer. The scheme (inset) represents the dissociation of the $Au_{25}SG_{18}$ cluster. Optical absorption spectra showing the decrease in the intensity of $AuCl_4$ peak proving that gold ions added are used up and the small cluster is converting to $(Au-SG)_m$ polymer. Inset shows the progress of the reaction when Au^{3+} is added.



Optical spectra showing the reactivity of the cluster in the presence of various metal ions. (A) Immediately after adding metal ions and (B) after two days of incubation. Note that, the cluster is most stable in the presence of Cu²⁺.

Clusters for metal ion detection



Water soluble red emitting clusters where treated with various metal ions with a final Concentration of 25 ppm. The emission was shifted to lower wavelength in case of silver ions and quenched completely in case of copper ions. The emission was an altered in case of other ions.

Unpublished

FRET between Au₂₅ and Dansyl Chromophore



Approaches Used for the Functionalization of Dansyl Chromophore on the Au₂₅ Cluster.

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Functionlized clusters





Silver clusters

Size selected metal clusters

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Interfacial etching















Udaybhaskar Tumu and Pradeep, Submitted







Mrulula et al. J. Mater. Chem. CNR Rao Special issue 2009
Ongoing....

Quantum clusters and white light Applications in cell imaging Metal and molecular detection Crystallisation.....

To summarise....

Quantum clusters are made in gram quantities.

The optical properties in the visible region are largely due to the metal core. New clusters, $Au_8SG_{8,}Ag_4MSA_4$, Au_{22} , $Au_{23}SG_{17}$, etc. are synthesised. They show temperature dependent emission, metal ion sensing, FRET, etc. Interfacial synthesis offers new possibilities for quantum clusters. A variety of new properties are being explored.





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Thank you all