



Now in the 58th year

Reactions between nanoparticles

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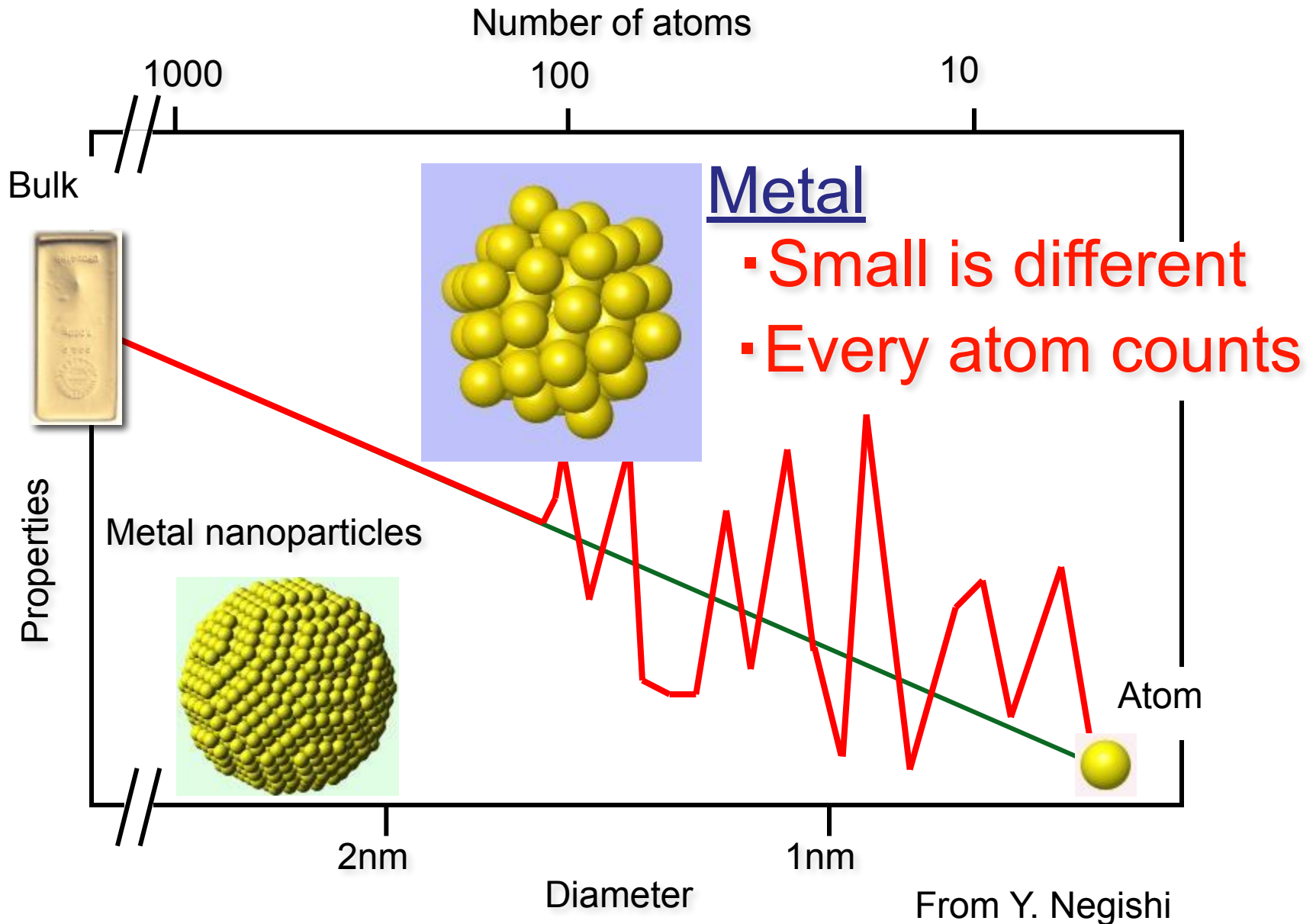


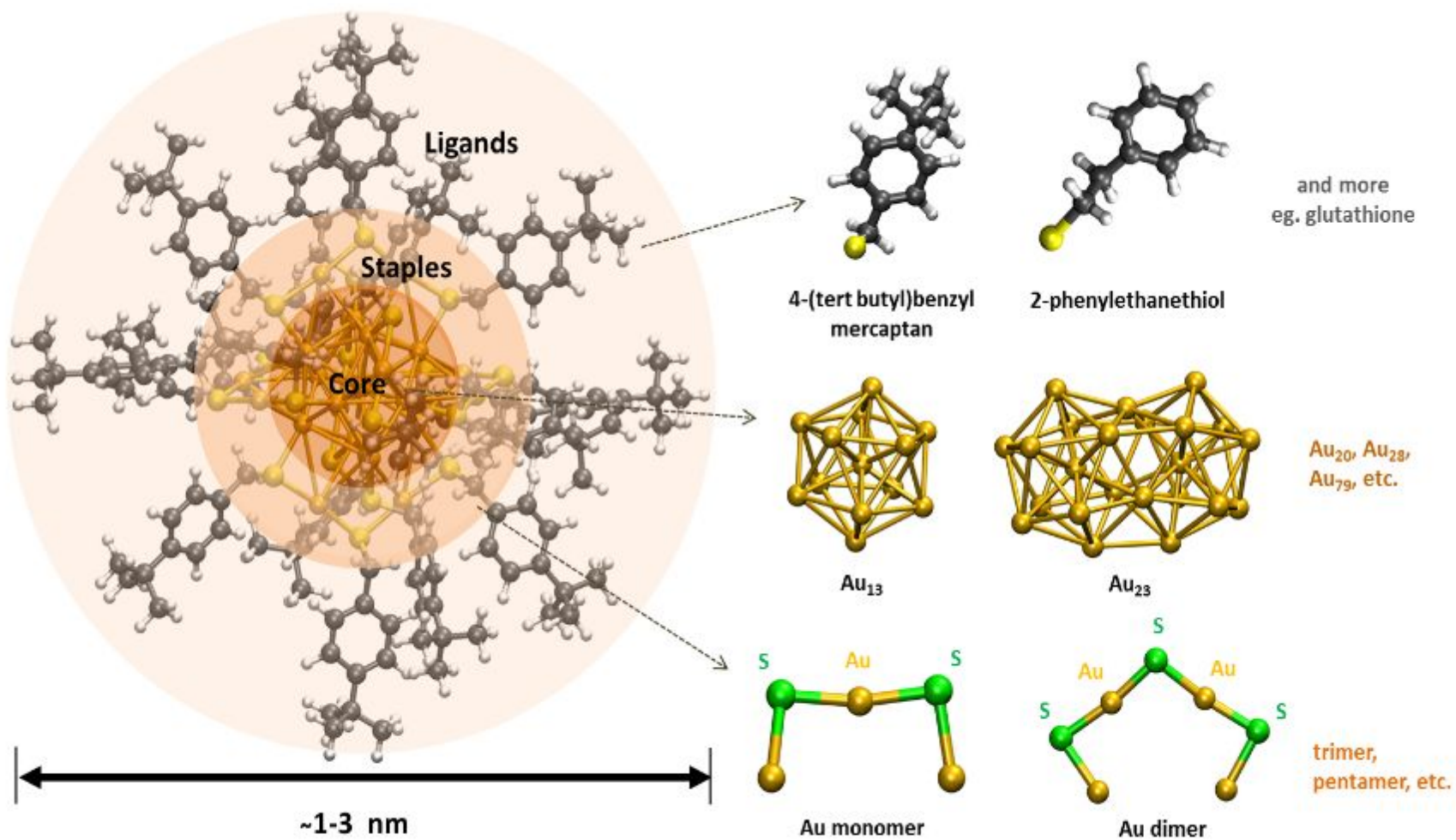
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Atomically Precise Clusters of Noble Metals: Emerging Link between Atoms and Nanoparticles

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DST Unit of Nanoscience (DST UNS) and Thematic Unit of Excellence, Department of Chemistry, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai 600036, India

Supporting Information

ABSTRACT: Atomically precise pieces of matter of nanometer dimensions composed of noble metals are new categories of materials with many unusual properties. Over 100 molecules of this kind with formulas such as $\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SR})_{18}$, $\text{Au}_{38}(\text{SR})_{24}$, and $\text{Au}_{102}(\text{SR})_{44}$ as well as $\text{Ag}_{25}(\text{SR})_{18}$, $\text{Ag}_{29}(\text{S}_2\text{R})_{12}$, and $\text{Ag}_{44}(\text{SR})_{30}$ (often with a few counterions to compensate charges) are known now. They can be made reproducibly with robust synthetic protocols, resulting in colored solutions, yielding powders or diffractable crystals. They are distinctly different from nanoparticles in their spectroscopic properties such as optical absorption and emission, showing well-defined features, just like molecules. They show isotopically resolved molecular ion peaks in mass spectra and provide diverse information when examined through multiple instrumental methods. Most important of these properties is luminescence, often in the visible–near-infrared window, useful in biological applications. Luminescence in the visible region, especially by clusters protected with proteins, with a large Stokes shift, has been used for various sensing applications, down to a few tens of molecules/ions, in air and water. Catalytic properties of clusters, especially oxidation of organic substrates, have been examined. Materials science of these systems presents numerous possibilities and is fast evolving. Computational insights have given reasons for their stability and unusual properties. The molecular nature of these materials is unequivocally manifested in a few recent studies such as intercluster reactions forming precise clusters. These systems manifest properties of the core, of the ligand shell, as well as that of the integrated system. They are better described as protected molecules or *aspicules*, where *aspis* means shield and *cules* refers to molecules, implying that they are “shielded molecules”. In order to understand their diverse properties, a nomenclature has been introduced with which it is possible to draw their structures with positional labels on paper, with some training. Research in this area is captured here, based on the publications available up to December 2016.



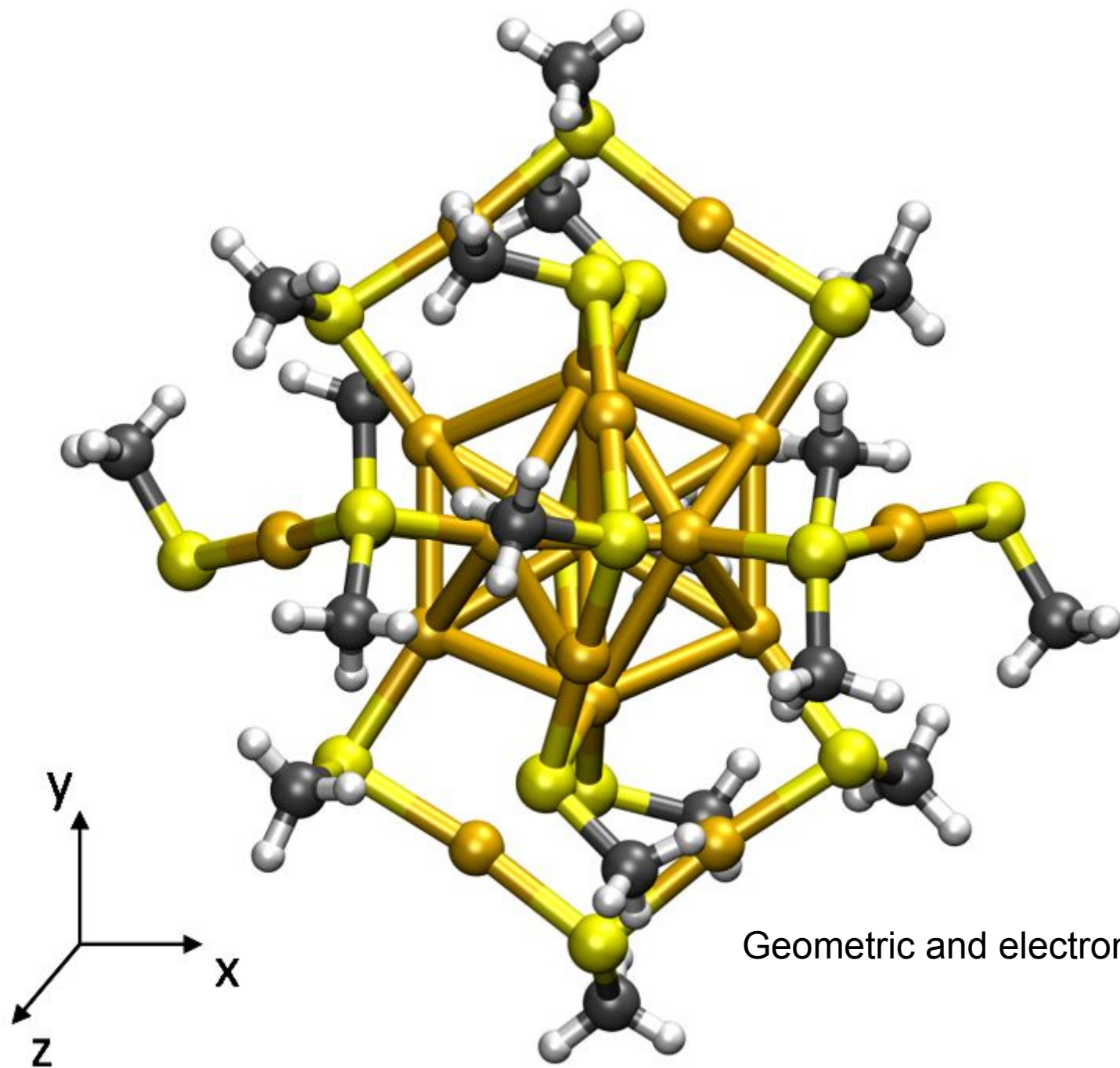
Also the pioneering work of R. W. Murray, Robert L. Whetten, Uzi Landman, Tatuya Tsukuda, Yuichi Negishi, Hannu Hakkinen, R. Jin, Nanfeng Zheng, Terry Bigioni, Osman Bakr, Kornberg, Jianping Xie, C. M. Aikens, Thomas Buerger, Amala Dass, A. W. Castleman Jr., H. Schmidbauer, ...

Chemistry of clusters

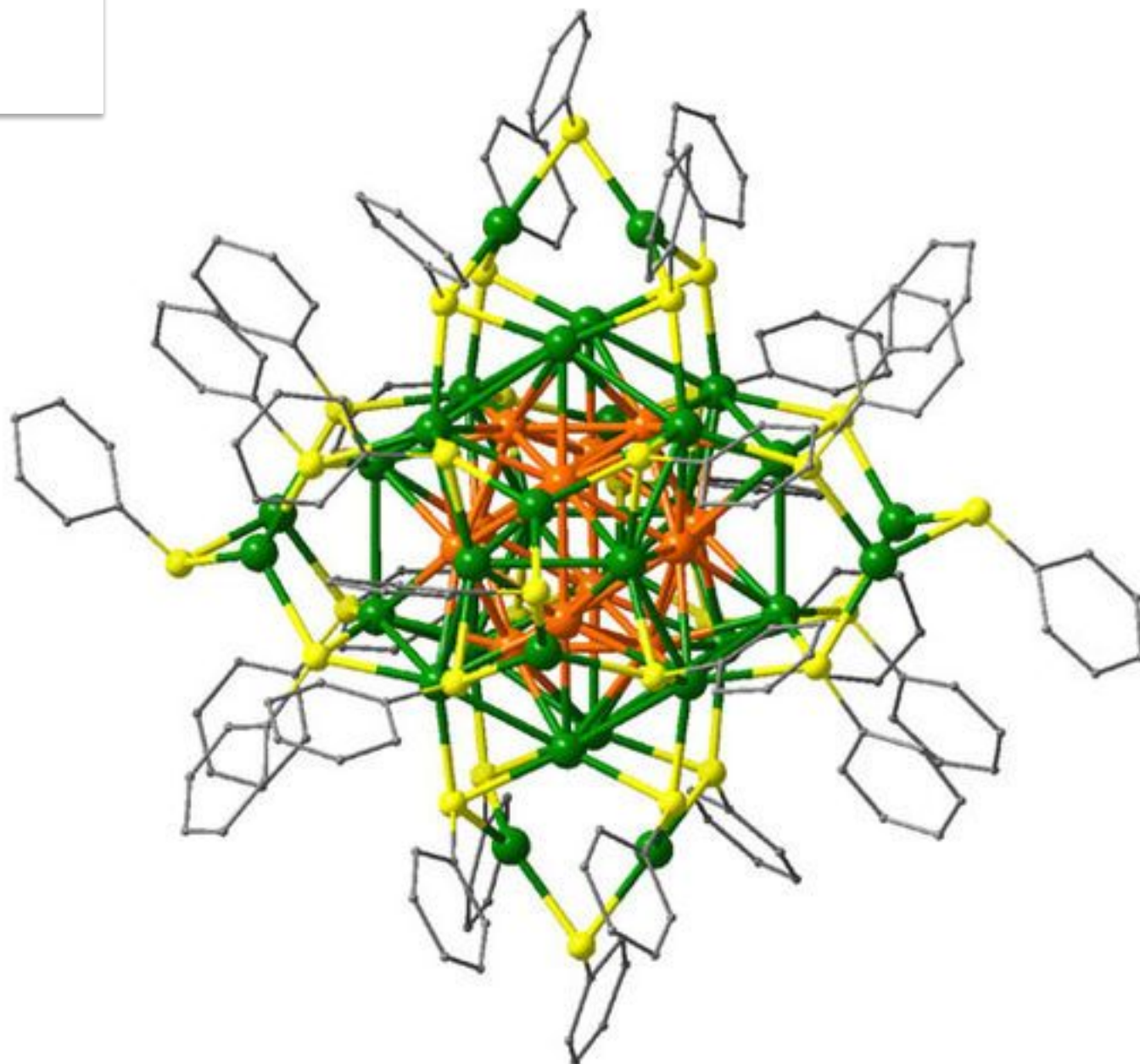


Reactions of clusters

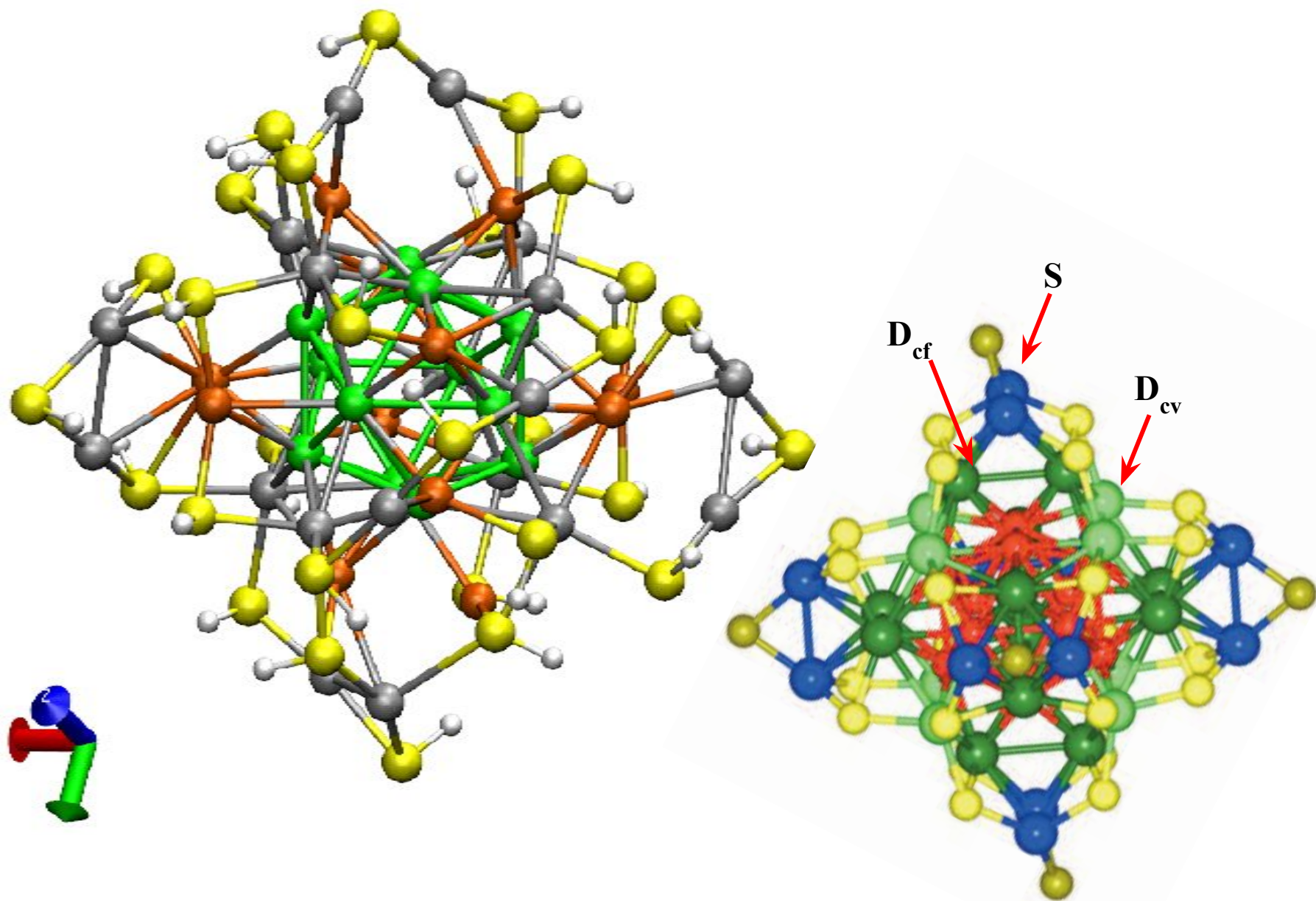
Reactions between clusters



Geometric and electronic shells



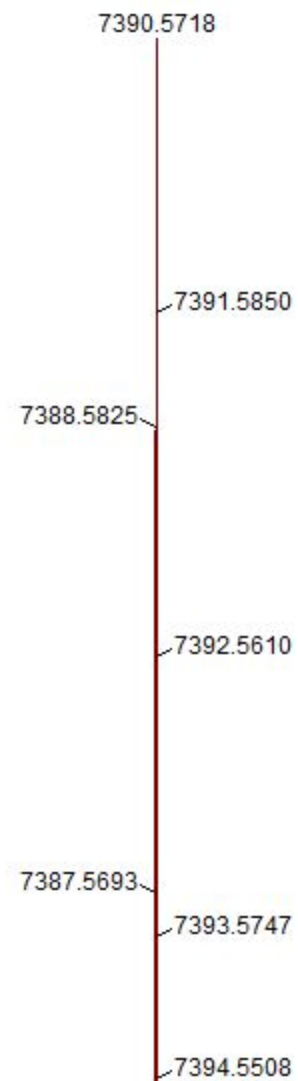
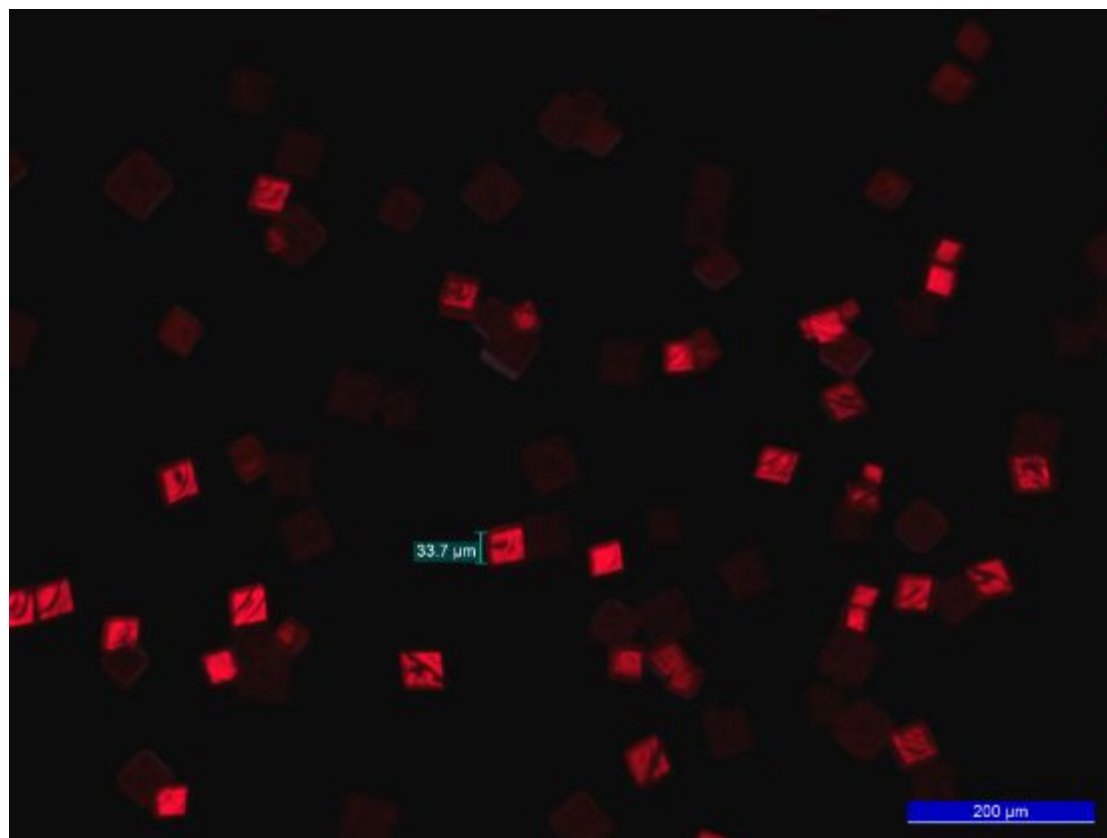
Nanfeng Zheng et al. Nature Communications, 2013



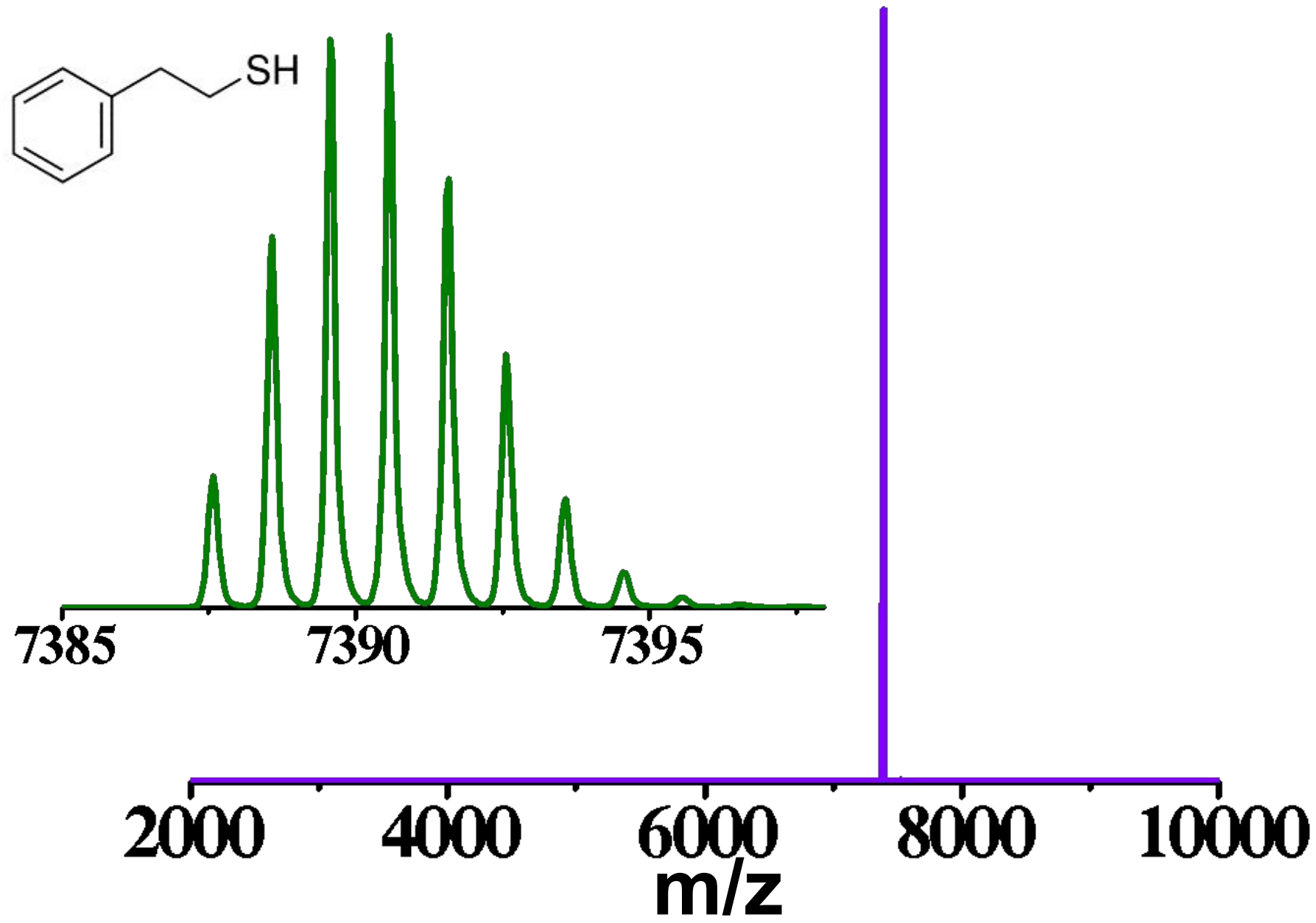
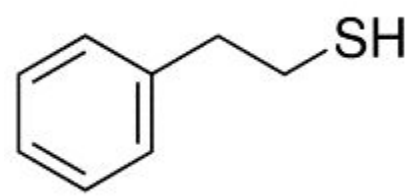
$\text{Ag}_{44}\text{SR}_{30}$ – Nanfeng Zheng and Terry Bigioni - papers in 2013

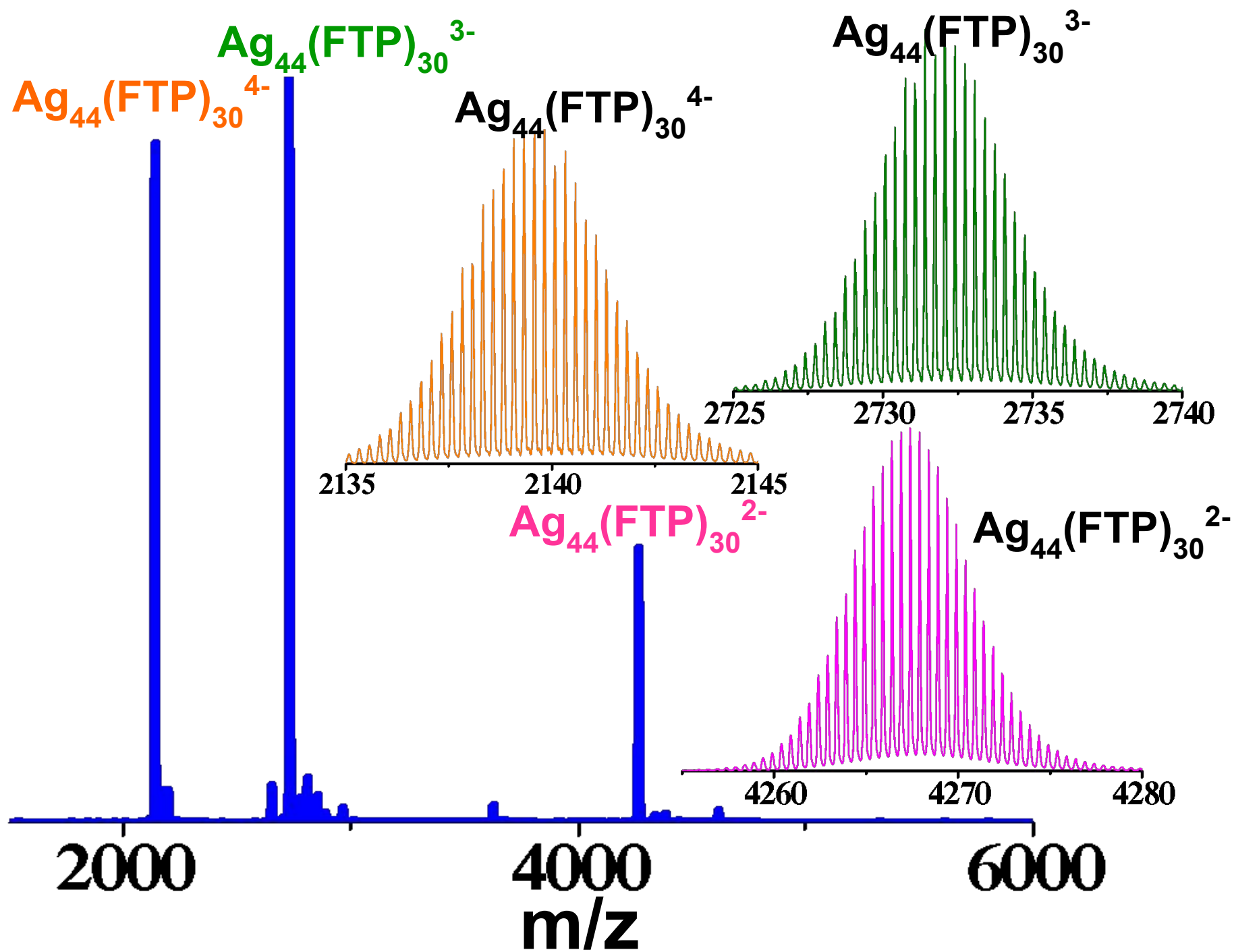
MS_3 32 (0.558) Cm (5:80)

Au₂₅PET₁₈



$\text{Au}_{25}(\text{PET})_{18}^-$





Inter-cluster reactions



Article

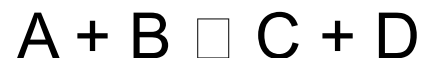
pubs.acs.org/JACS

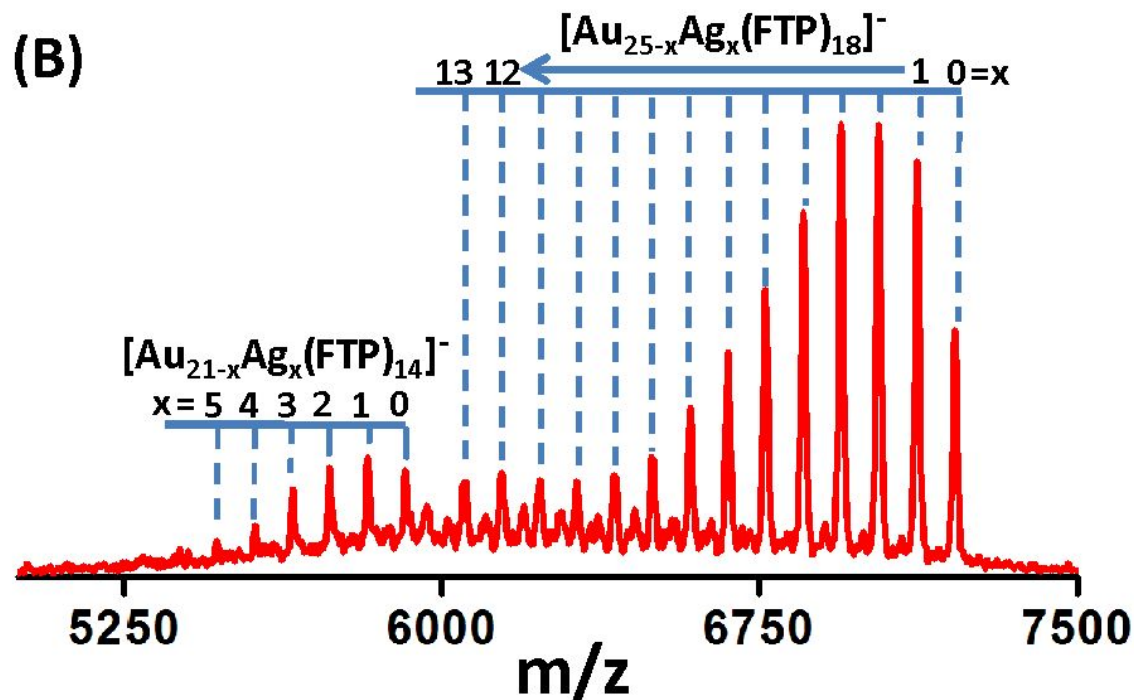
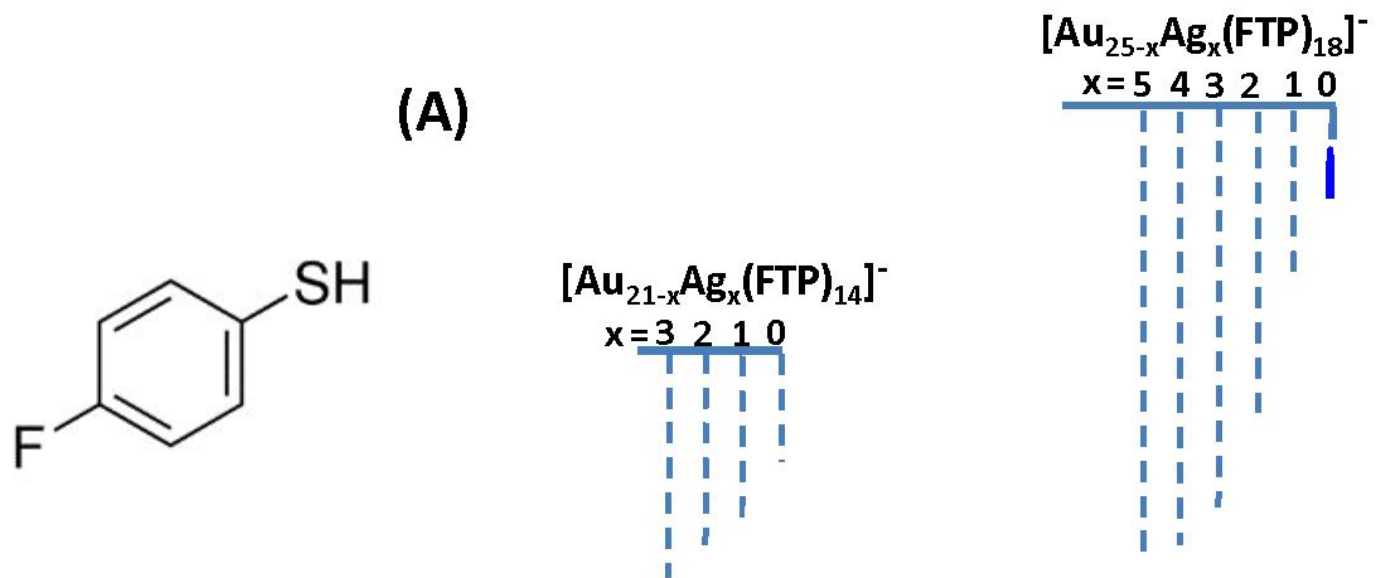
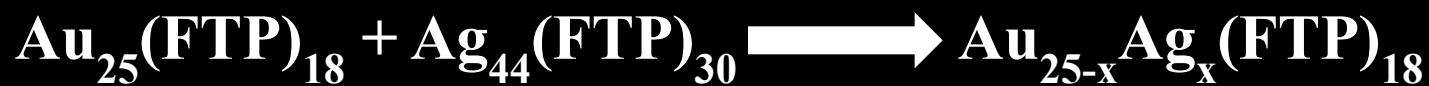
Intercluster Reactions between $\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SR})_{18}$ and $\text{Ag}_{44}(\text{SR})_{30}$

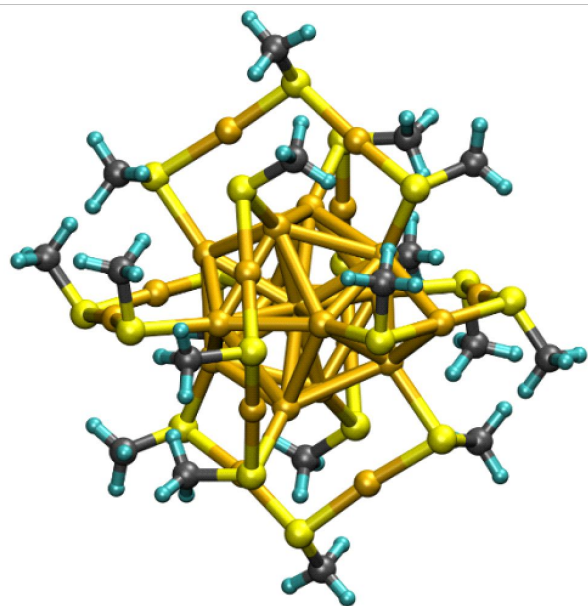
K. R. Krishnadas, Atanu Ghosh, Ananya Baksi, Indranath Chakraborty,[†] Ganapati Natarajan, and Thalappil Pradeep*

DST Unit of Nanoscience (DST UNS) and Thematic Unit of Excellence, Department of Chemistry, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai, 600 036, India

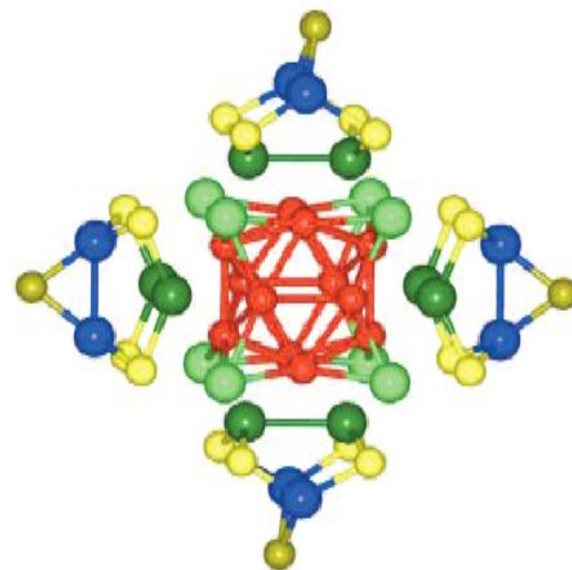
 Supporting Information







**Ag-Au
FTP-PET
(Ag-FTP)-(Au-PET)**





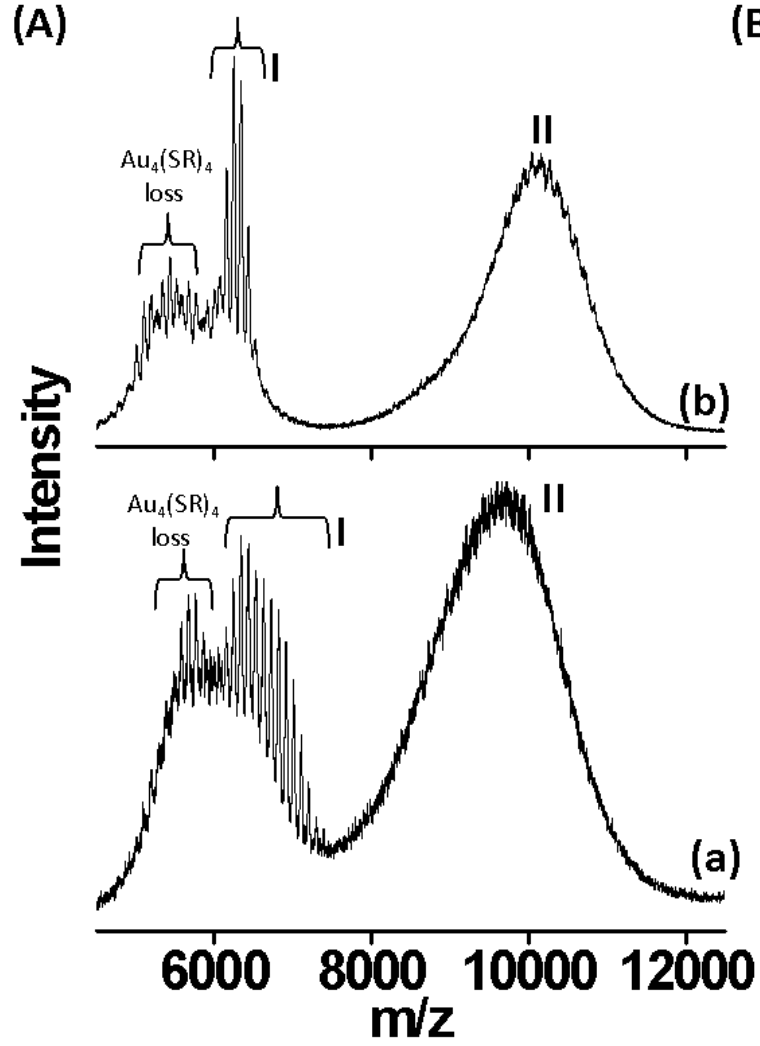
$M_{\text{Au}}: 197$

$M_{\text{Ag}}: 108$

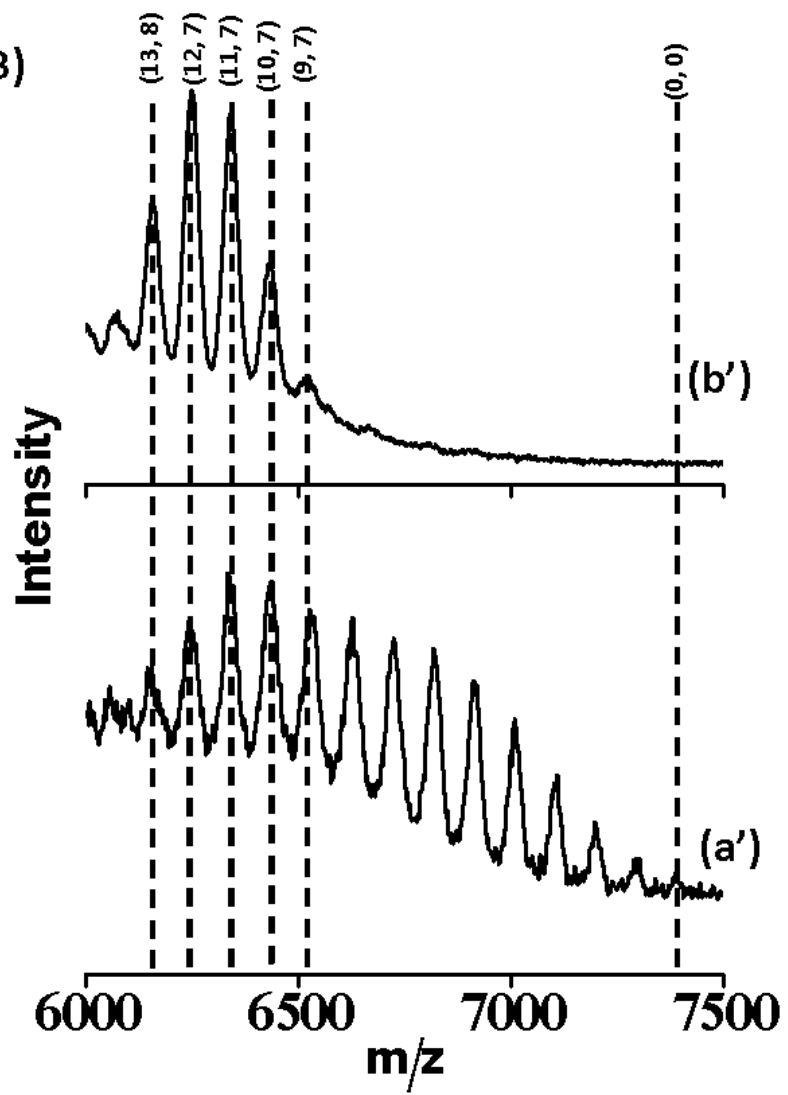
$M_{\text{PET}}: 137$

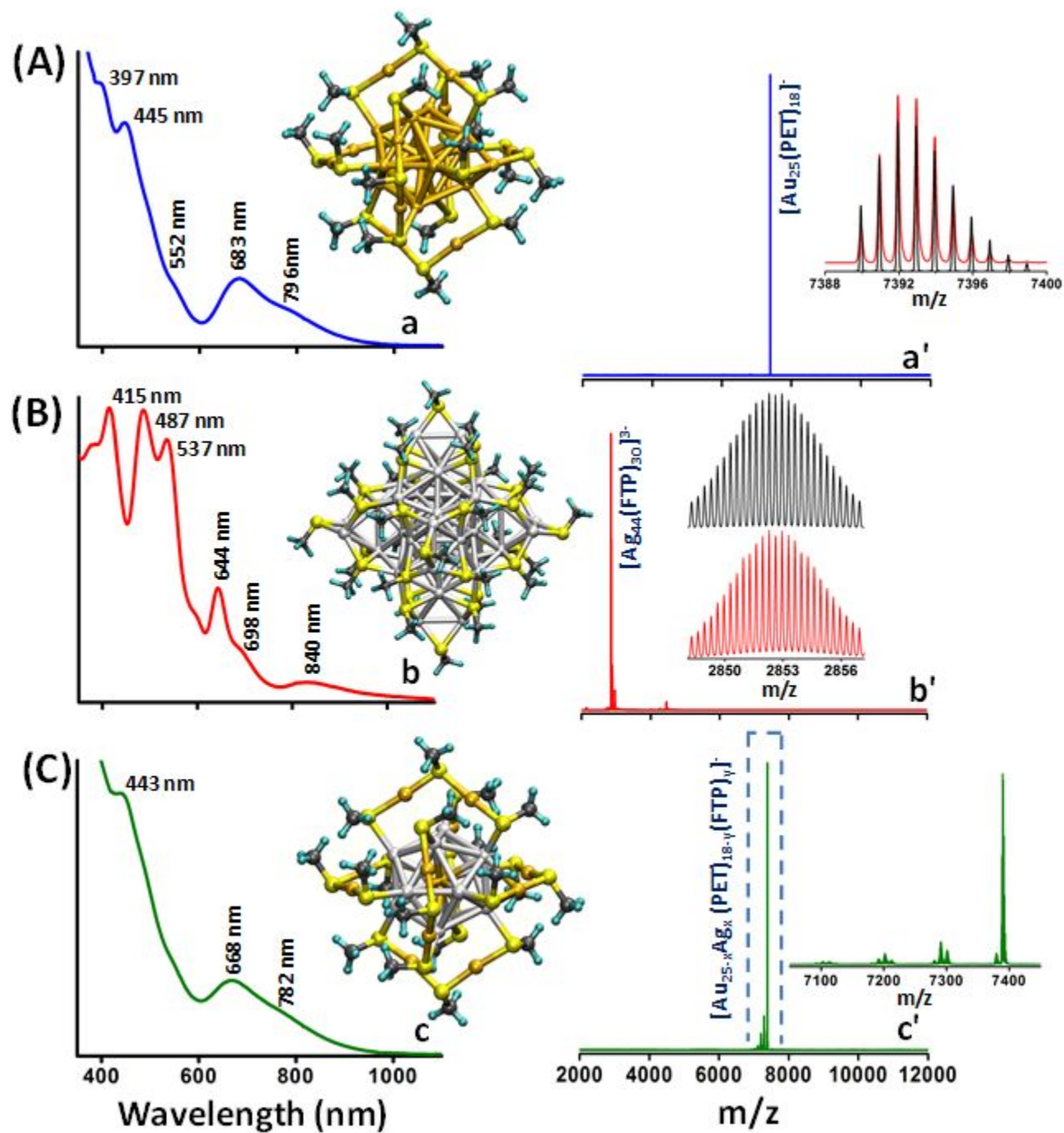
$M_{\text{FTP}}: 127$

(A)



(B)





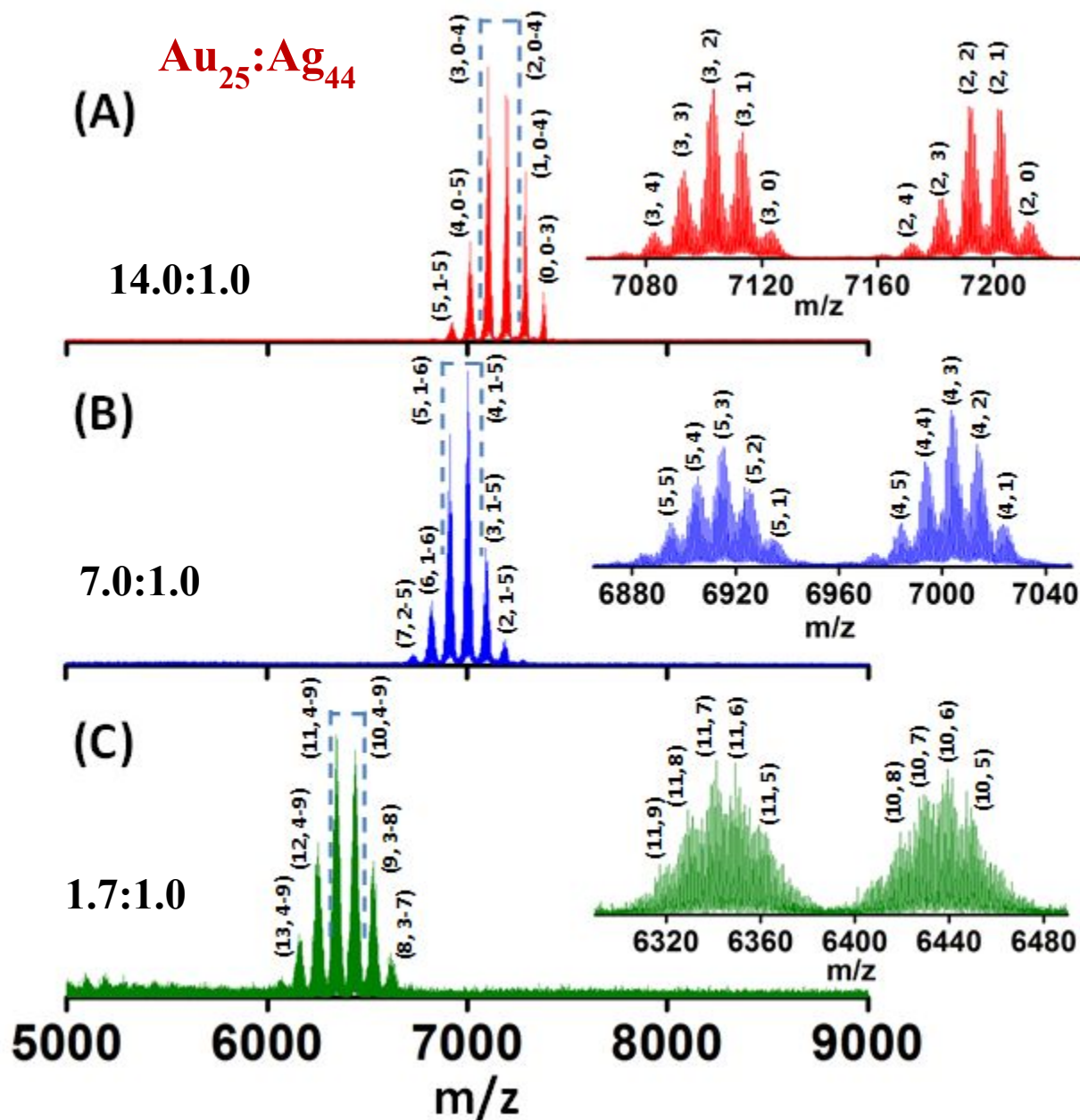


$M_{\text{Au}}: 197$

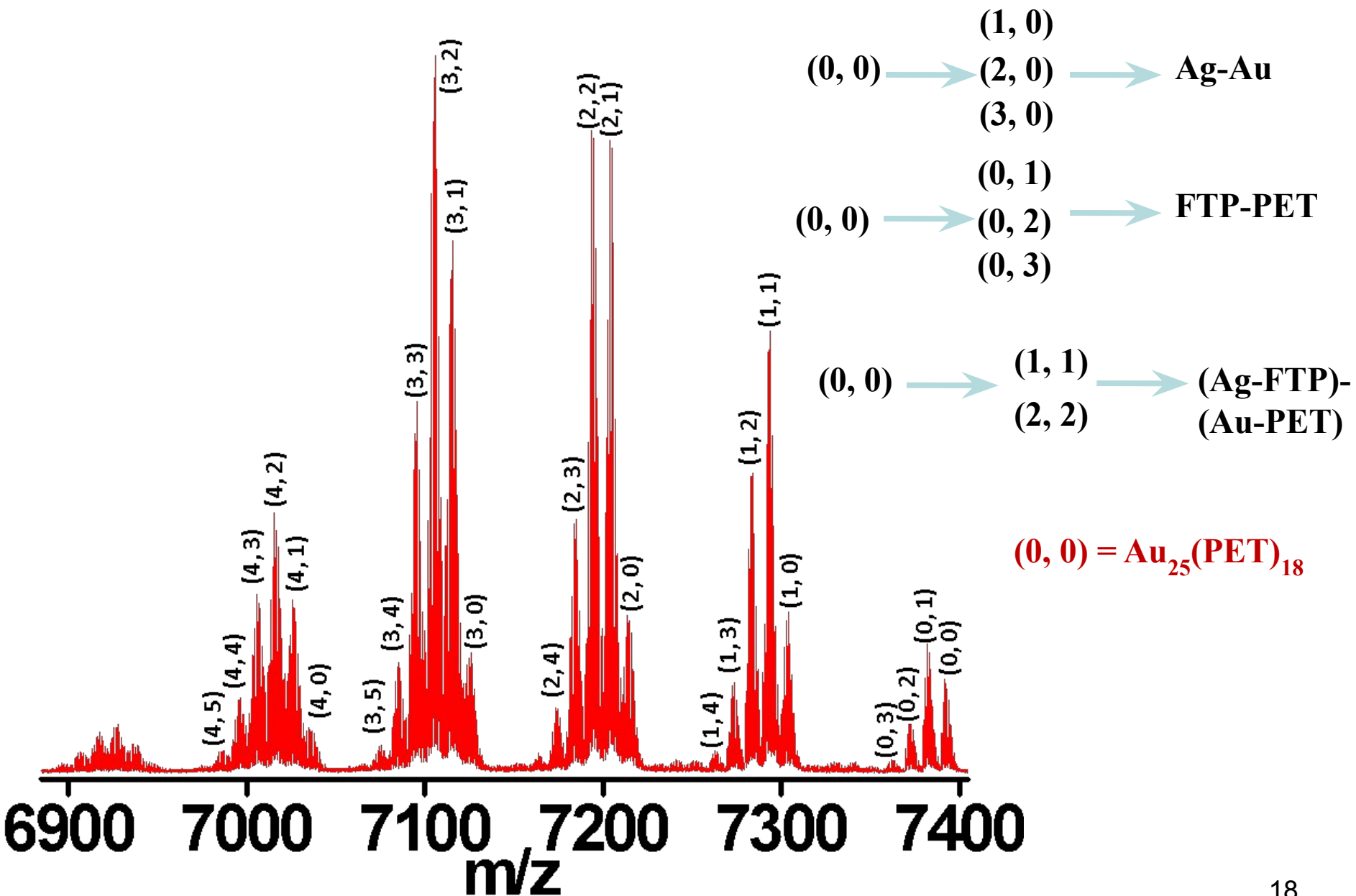
$M_{\text{Ag}}: 108$

$M_{\text{PET}}: 137$

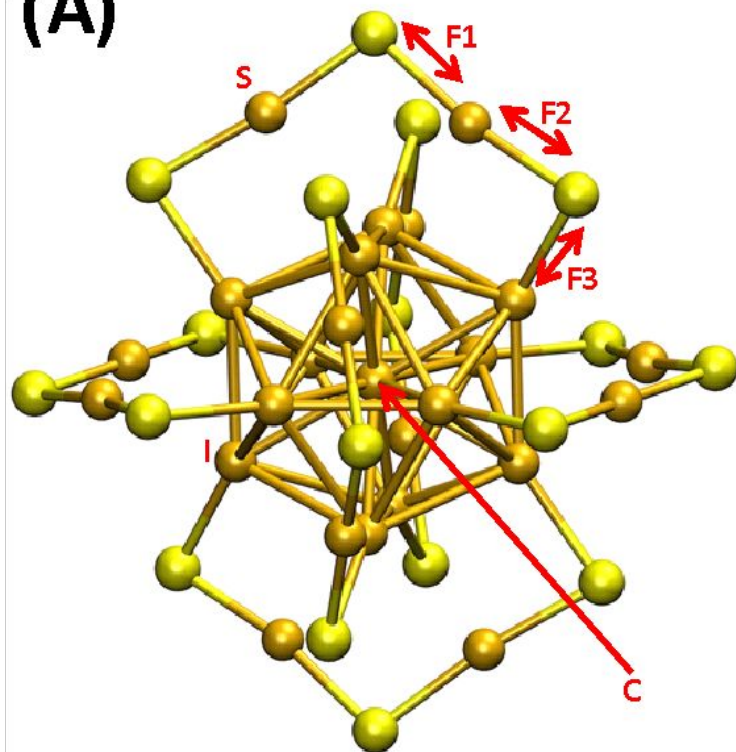
$M_{\text{FTP}}: 127$



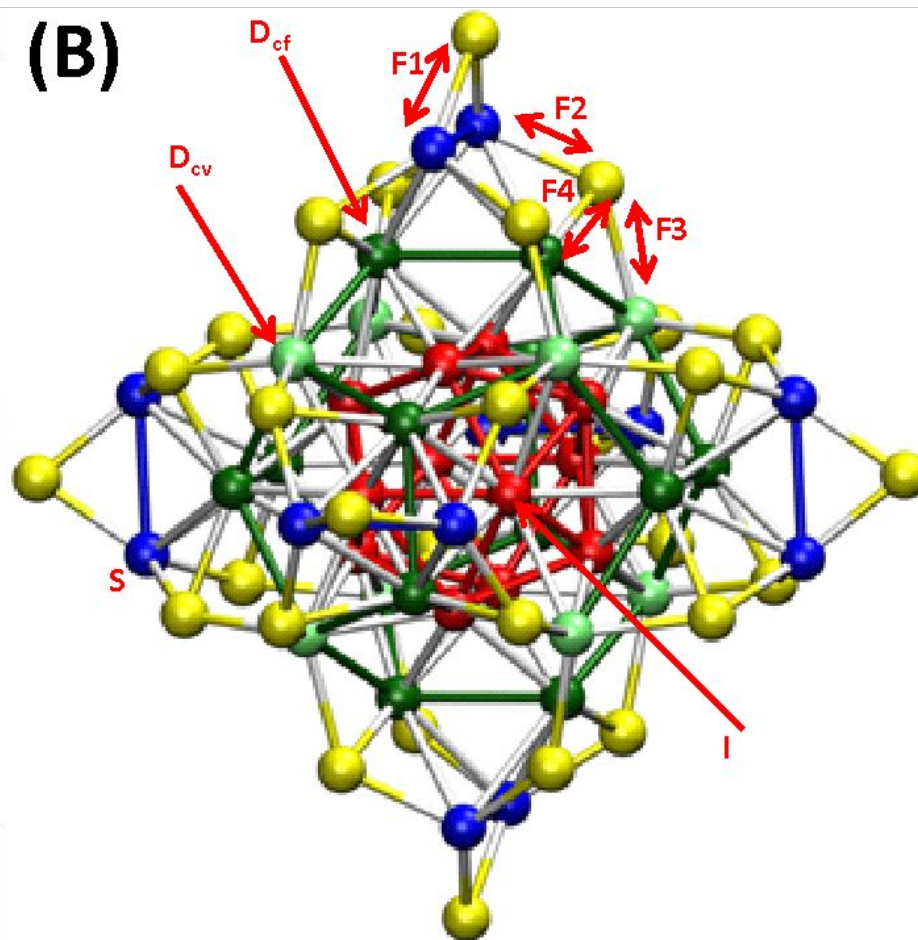
$\text{Au}_{25-x}\text{Ag}_x(\text{PET})_{18-y}(\text{FTP})_y$: A closer view



(A)



(B)



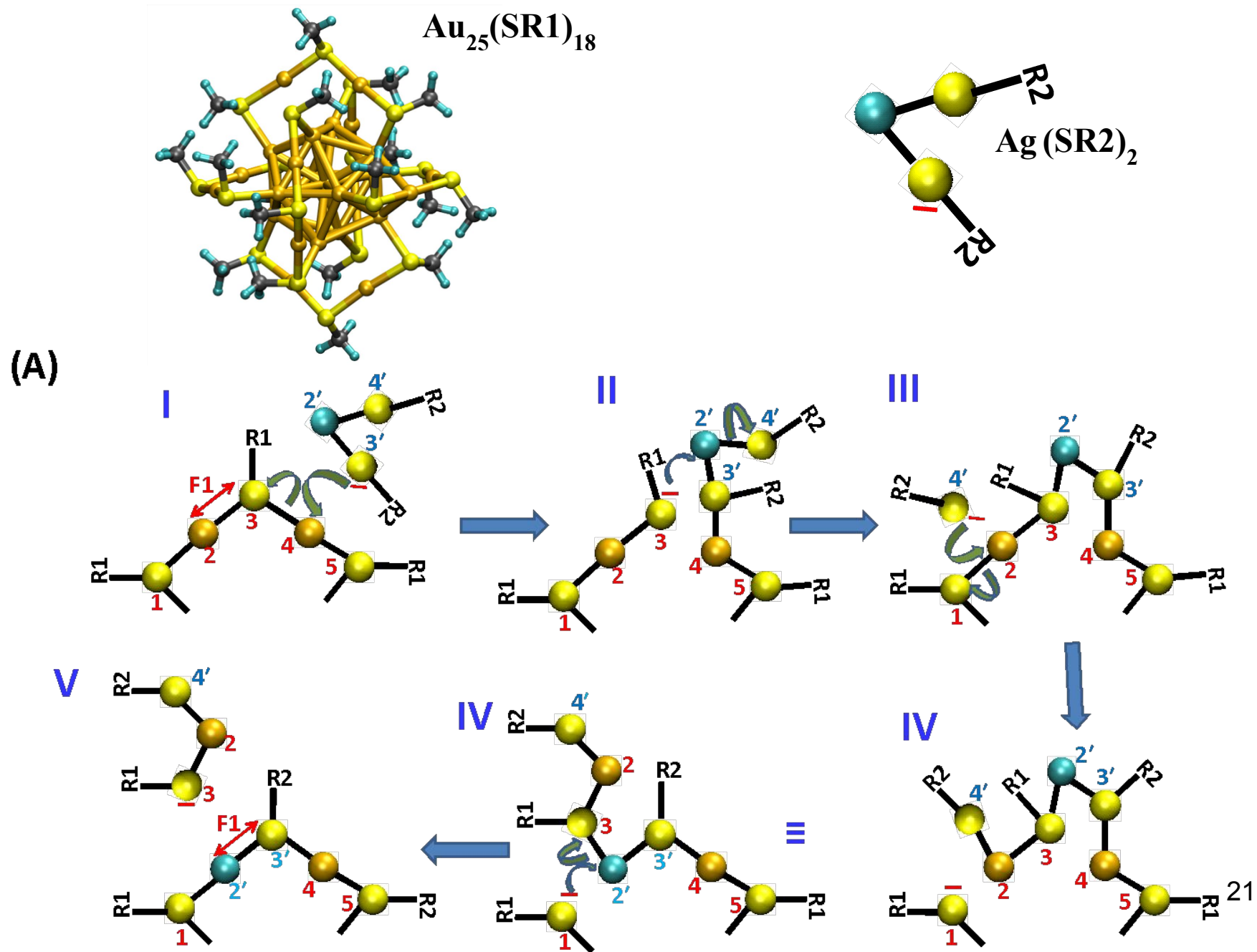
Energies for the substitution reaction of (A) Au in Ag₄₄(SR)₃₀, (B) Ag in Au₂₅(SR)₁₈ and (C) the overall reaction energies (in eV) as a function of their positions in product clusters, Au_xAg_{44-x}(SR)₃₀ and Au_{25-x}Ag_x(SR)₁₈ for x=1

(A) Location of Au in Au _x Ag _{44-x} (SR) ₃₀		ΔE/eV	
Icosahedron (I)		-0.72	
Dodecahedron: cube vertex (D _{cv})		-0.14	
Dodecahedron: cube face (D _{cf})		-0.32	
Staples (S)		-0.48	

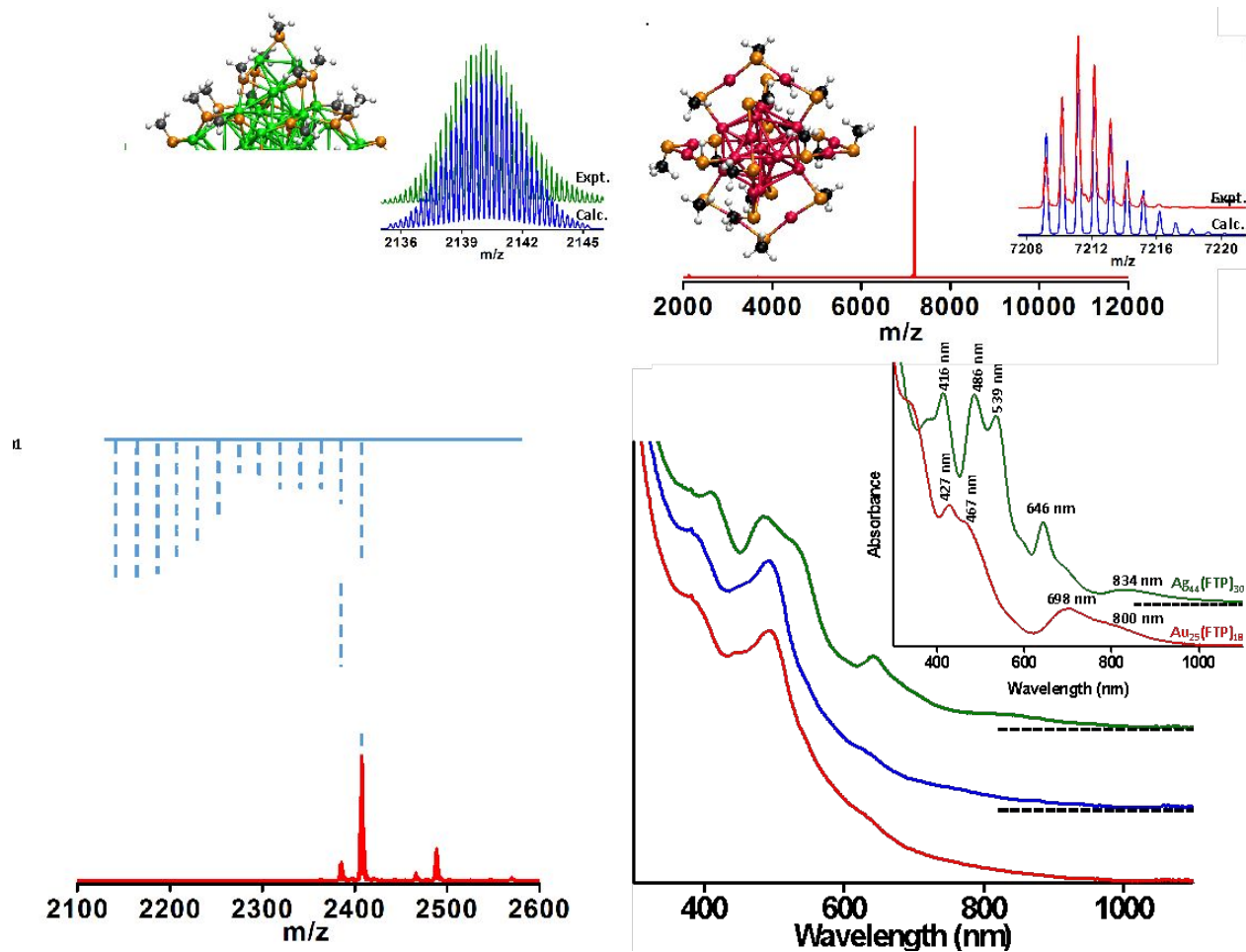
(B) Location of Ag in Au _{25-x} Ag _x (SR) ₁₈		ΔE/eV	
Central atom (C)		+0.71	
Icosahedron (I)		+0.23	
Staples (S)		+0.44	

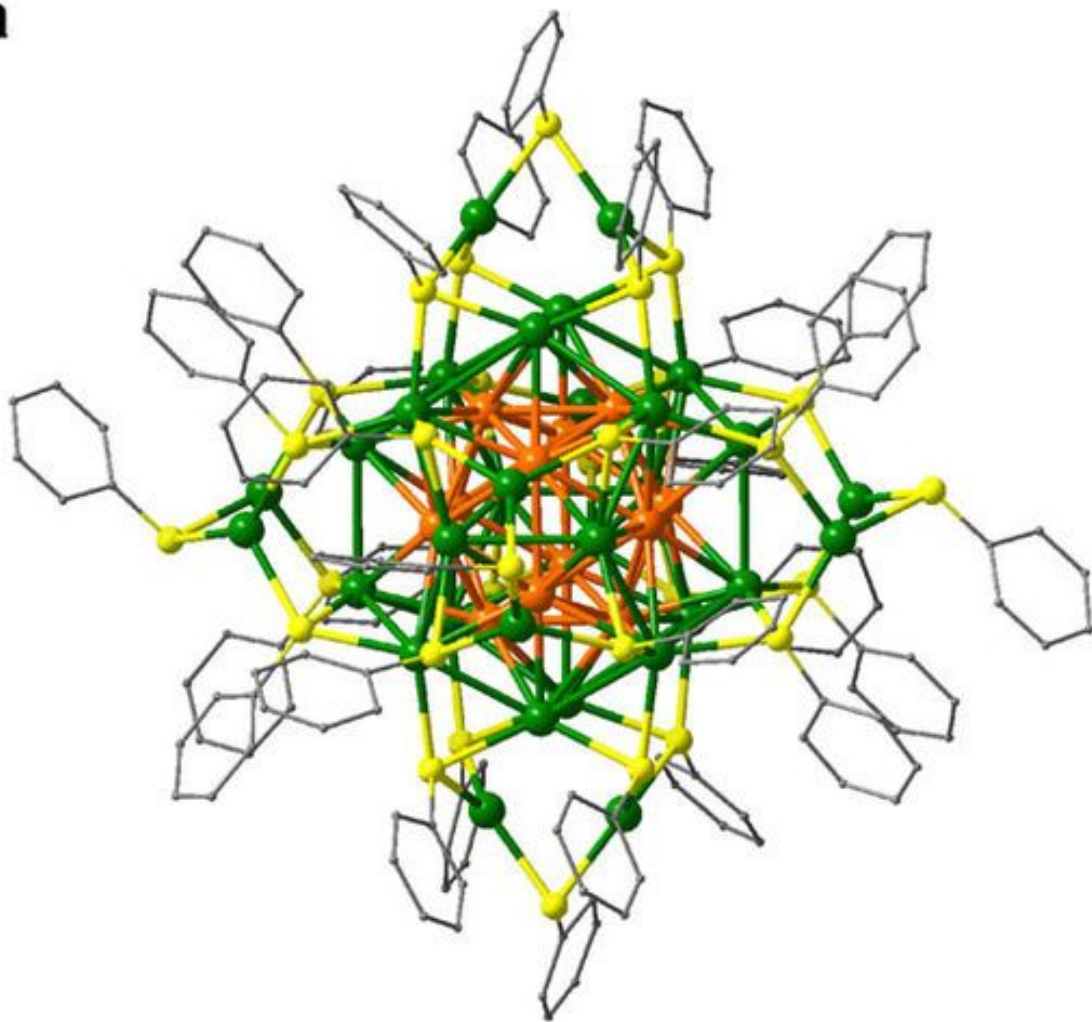
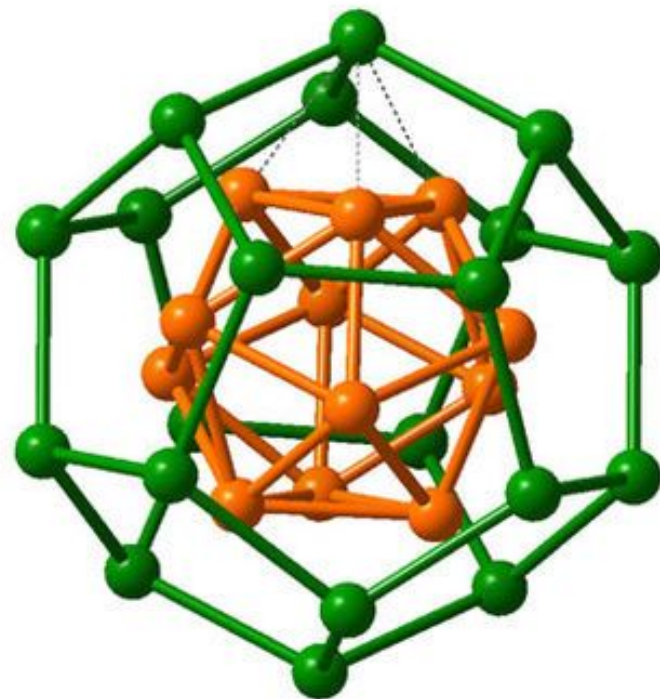
(C)		Locations of Au in Au _x Ag _{44-x} (SR) ₃₀			
Location of Ag in Au _{25-x} Ag _x (SR) ₁₈		I	D _{cv}	D _{cf}	S
C		-0.015	+0.564	+0.388	+0.226
I		-0.486	+0.093	-0.083	-0.245
S		-0.276	+0.303	+0.127	-0.035

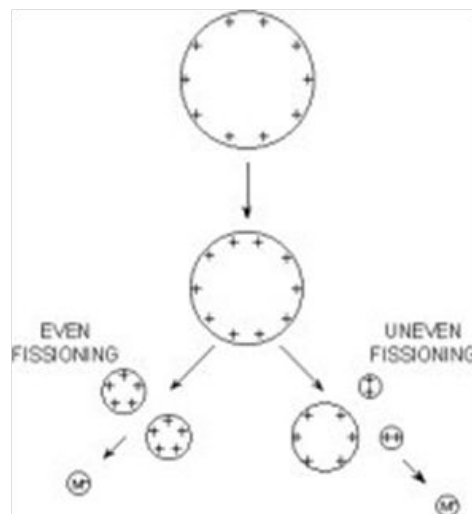
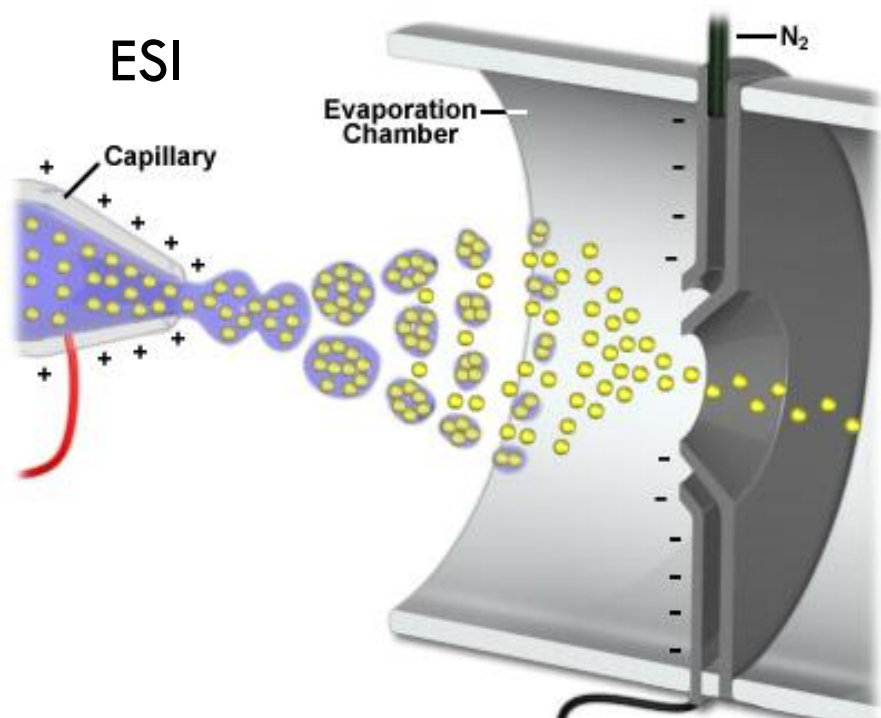
Schematic of the reaction mechanism for Ag-SR/Au-SR substitution



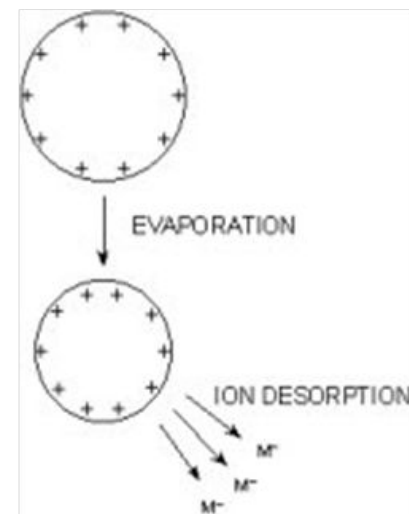
Shell closure in intercluster reactions



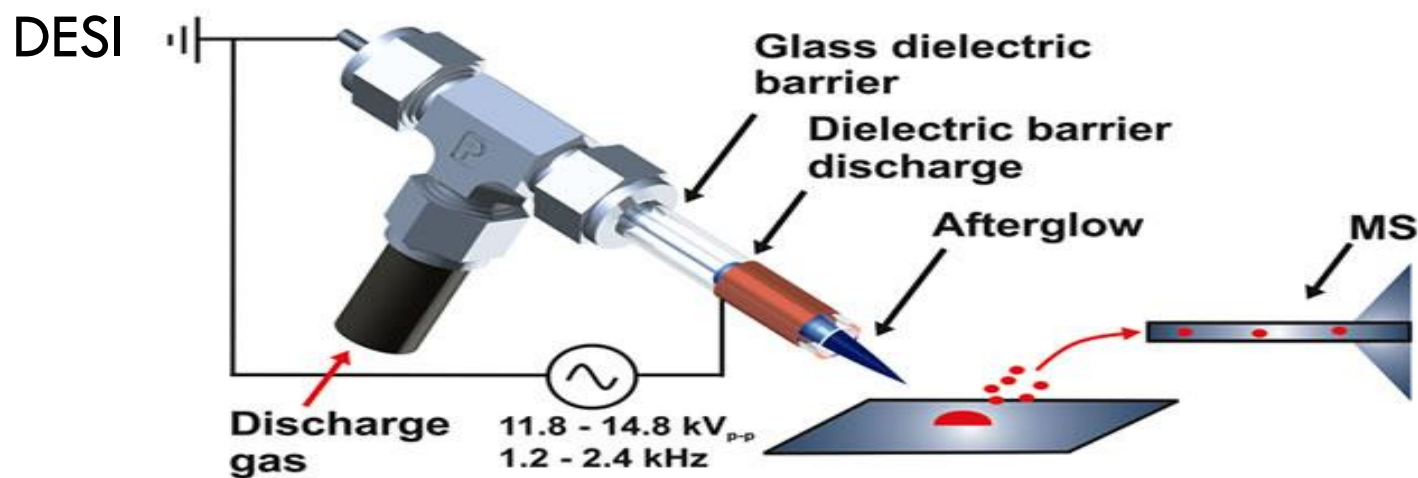
a**b**

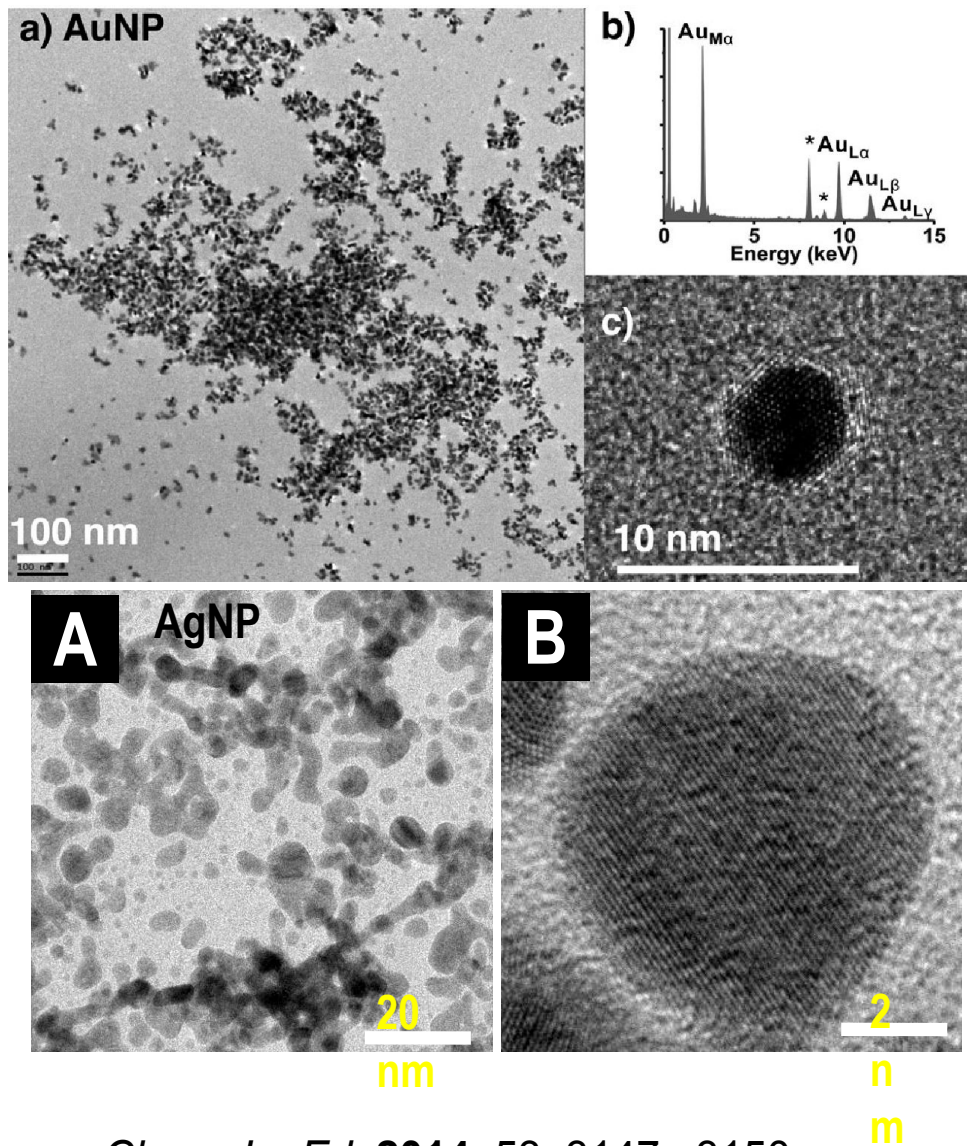
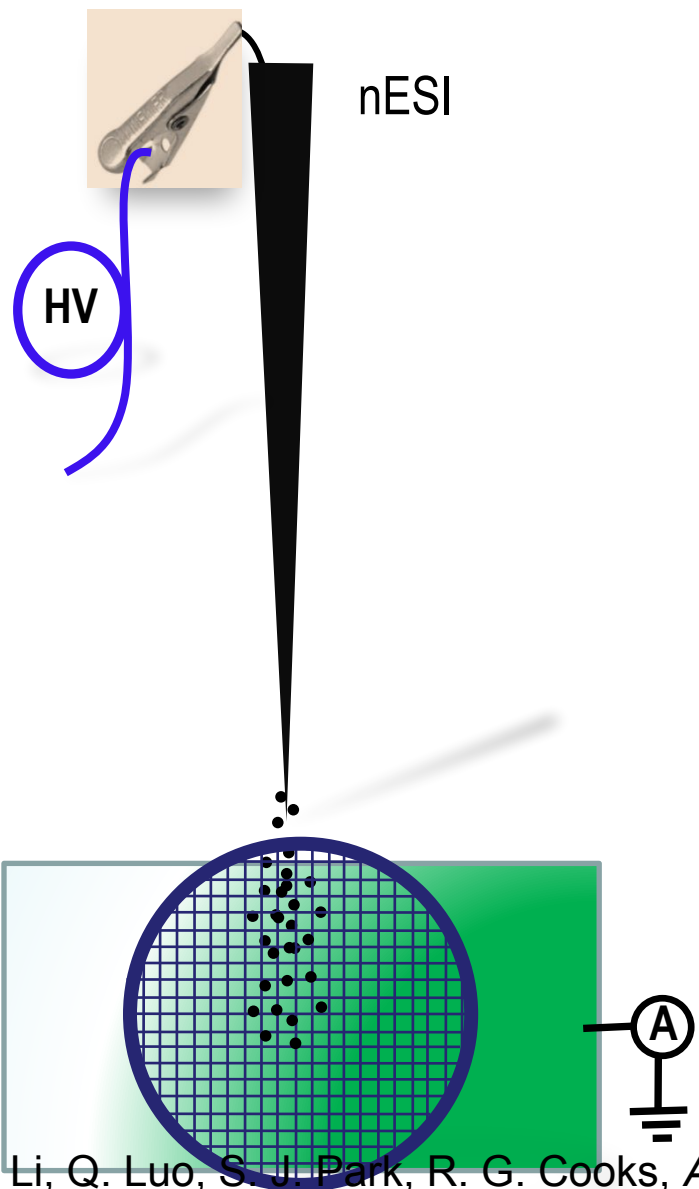


Charge Residue Model



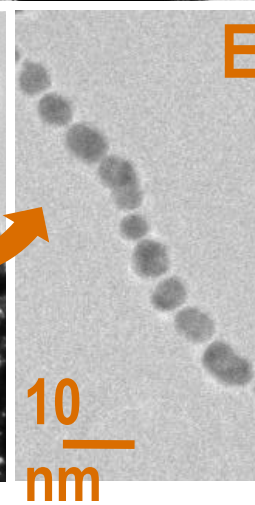
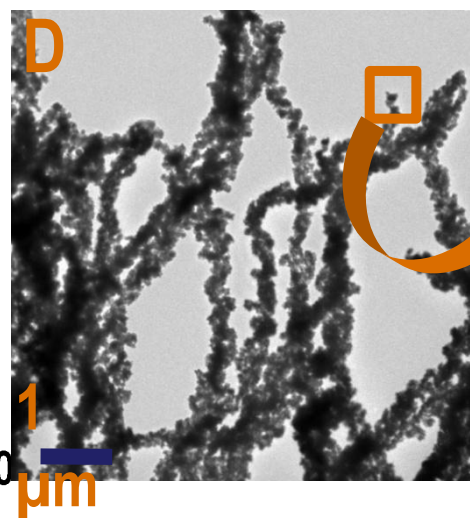
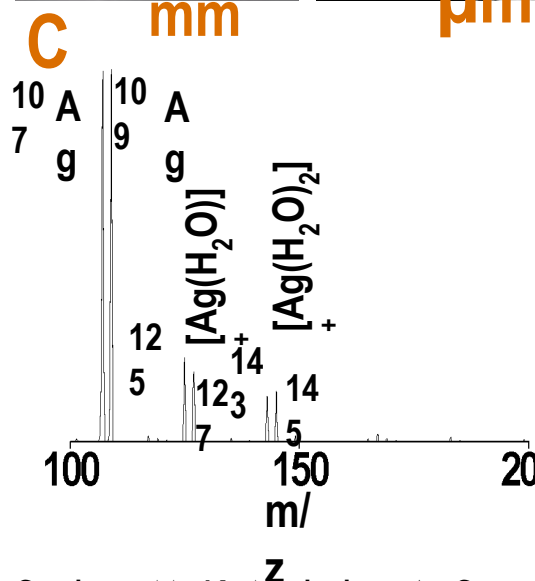
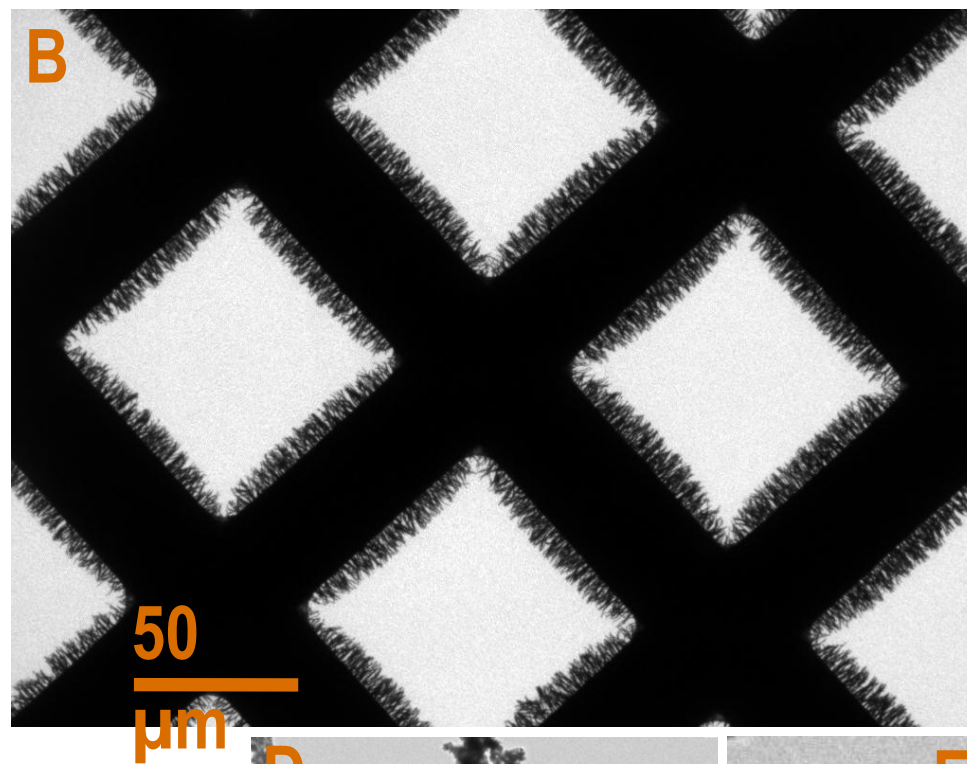
Ion Desorption Model





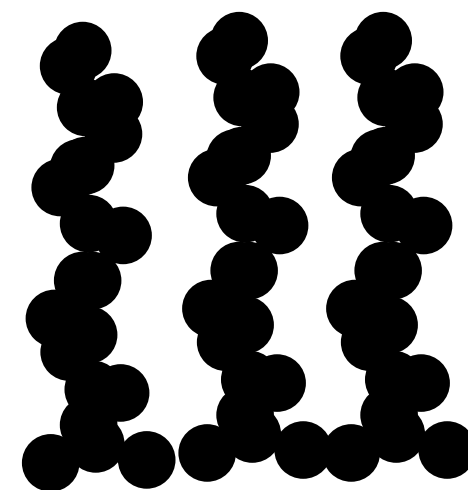
A. Li, Q. Luo, S. J. Park, R. G. Cooks, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2014**, 53, 3147–3150.

A. Li, Z. Baird, S. Bag, D. Sarkar, A. Prabhath, T. Pradeep, R. G. Cooks, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2014**, 53, 12528–12531.



Single
building block

Nanobristle/
Nanobraid



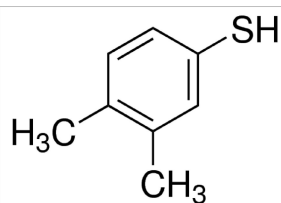
Nanobrush

Ag₂₅-Au₂₅ experiments

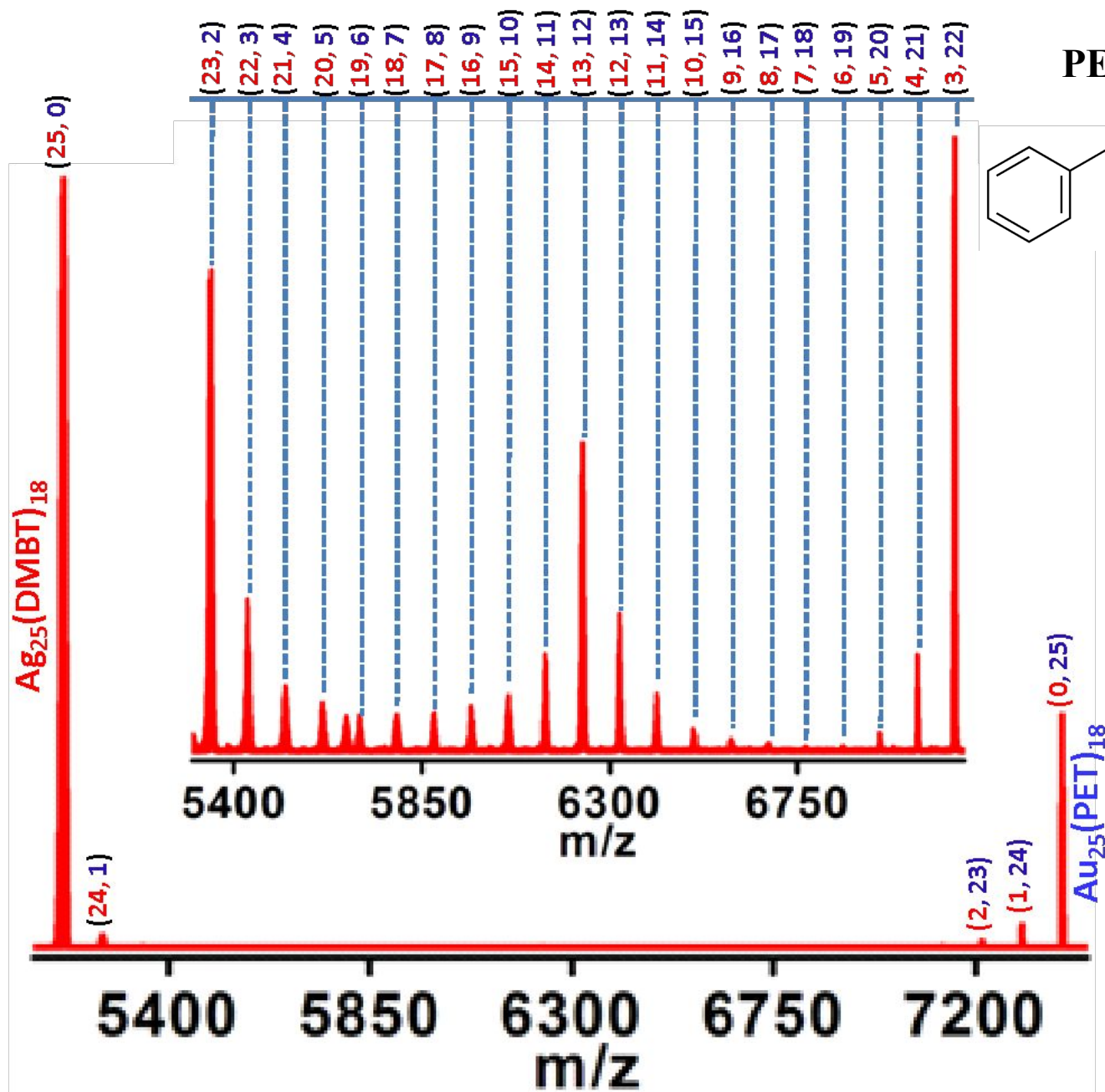
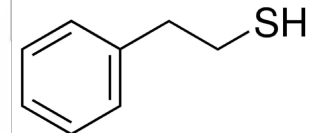
K. R. Krishnadas et al. Nature Commun. 2016

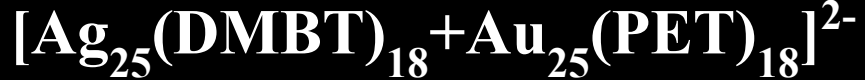
Reaction between $\text{Au}_{25}(\text{PET})_{18}$ and $\text{Ag}_{25}(\text{DMBT})_{18}$

DMBT

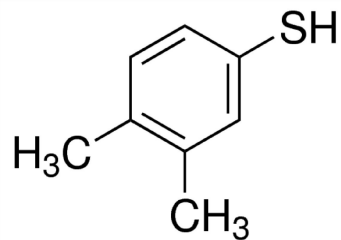


PET

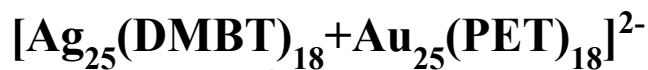
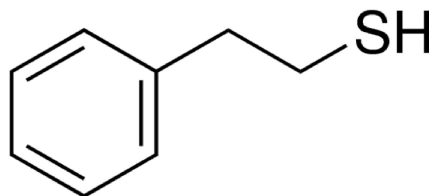




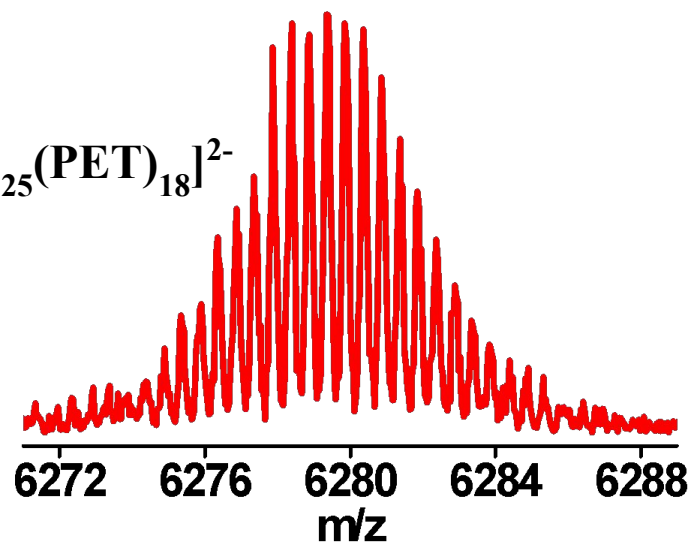
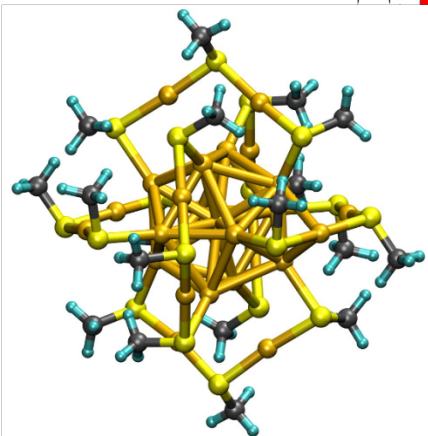
DMBT



PET



DMBT)₁₈



5500 6000 6500 7000

m/z

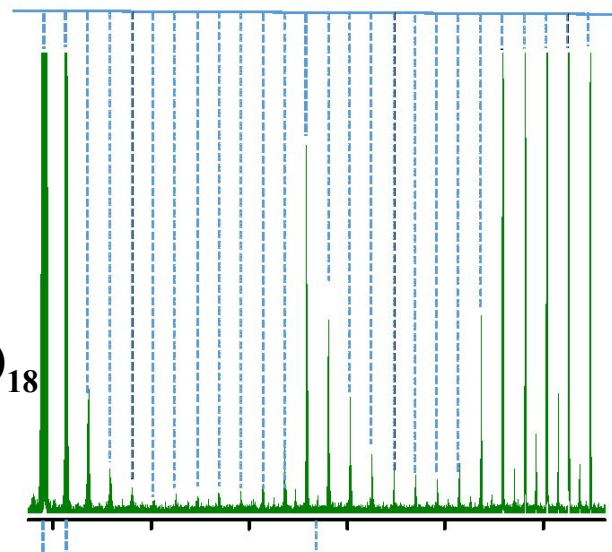
Au₂₅(PET)₁₈

5000 5500 6000 6500 7000 7500

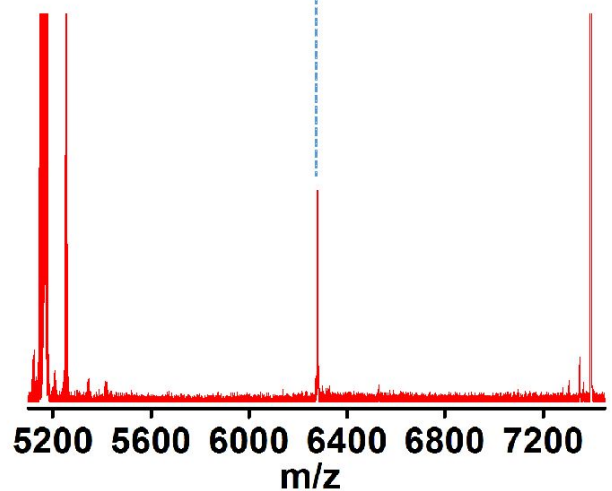
m/z

Evolution of alloy clusters from the dianionic adduct, $[\text{Ag}_{25}\text{Au}_{25}(\text{DMBT})_{18}(\text{PET})_{18}]^{2-}$

$\text{Ag}_{25}(\text{DMBT})_{18}:\text{Au}_{25}(\text{PET})_{18}$
0.3:1.0

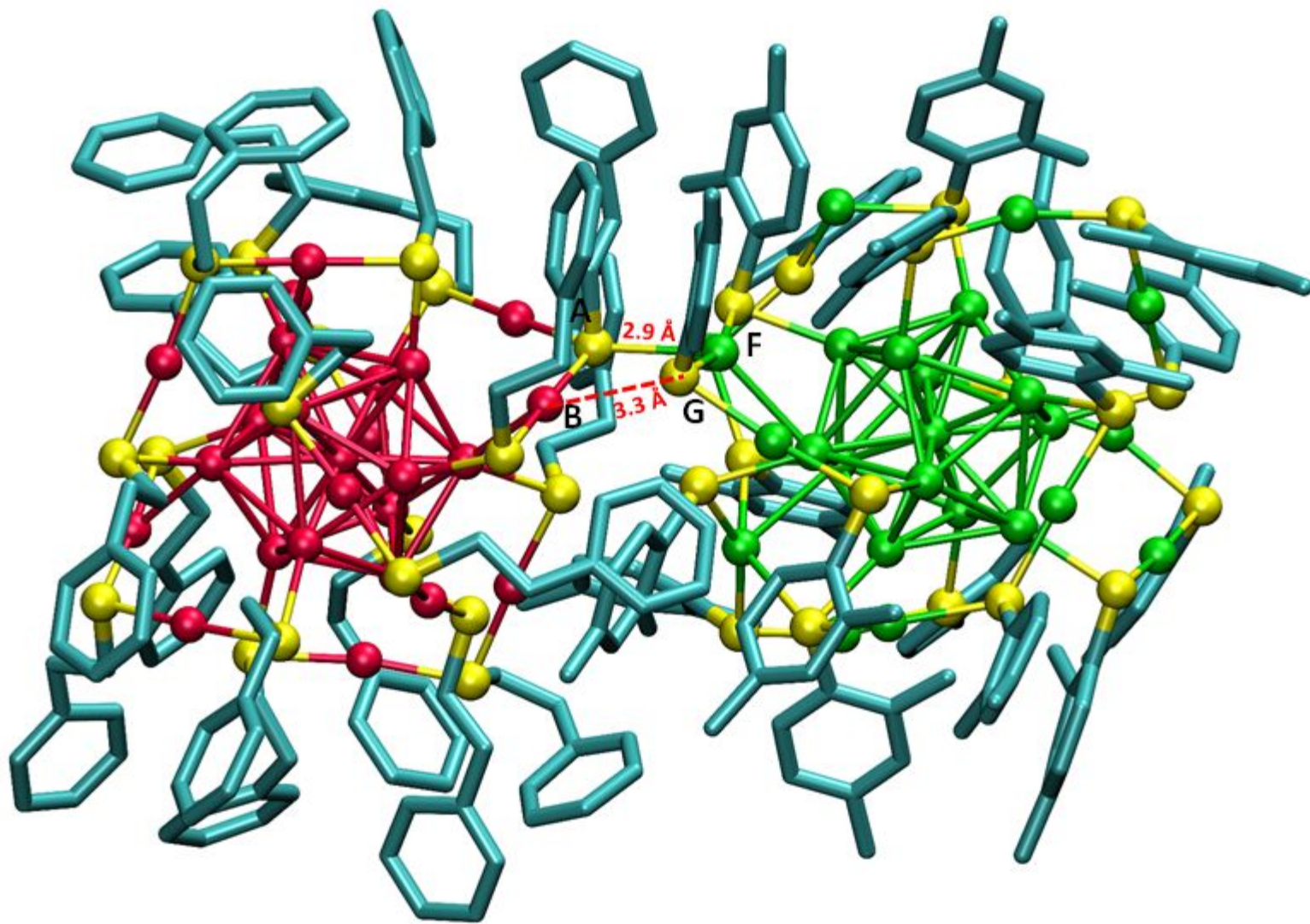


within 5 min



within 2 min

DFT-optimized structure of $[\text{Ag}_{25}\text{Au}_{25}(\text{DMBT})_{18}(\text{PET})_{18}]^{2-}$



Formation of Ag-rich or Au-rich $\text{Ag}_m\text{Au}_n(\text{SR})_{18}$ ($m+n=25$) clusters

Ag-rich

$\text{Ag}_{25}:\text{Au}_{25}$

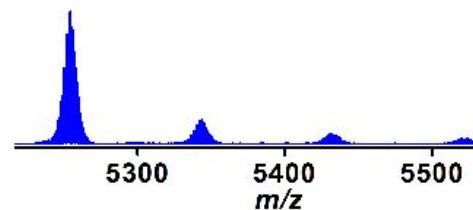
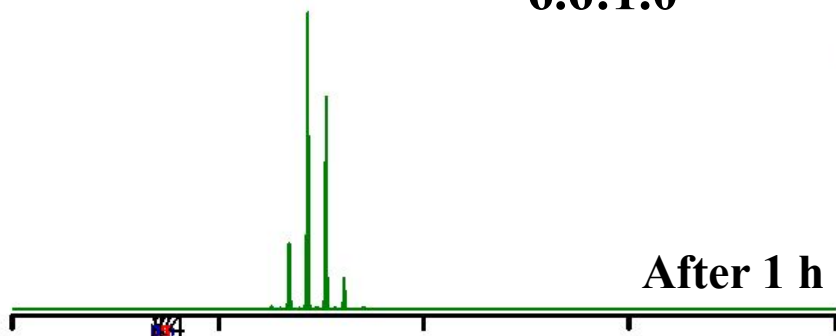
6.6:1.0

$\text{Ag}_{25}:\text{Au}_{25}$

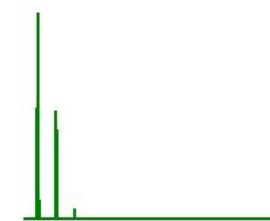
0.3:1.0

Au-rich

After 1 h

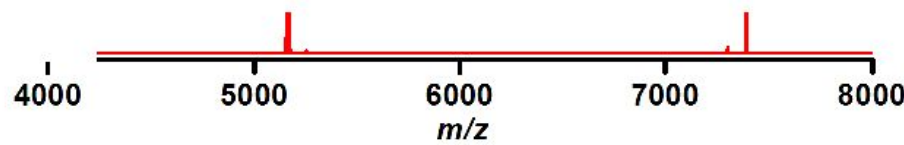
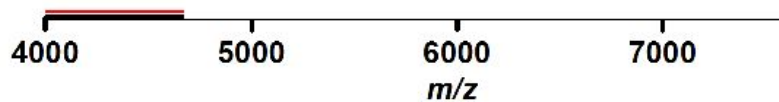
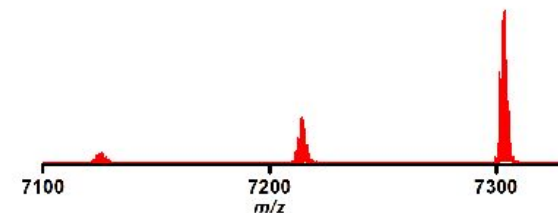
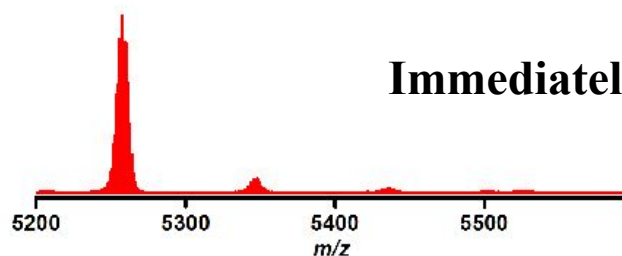


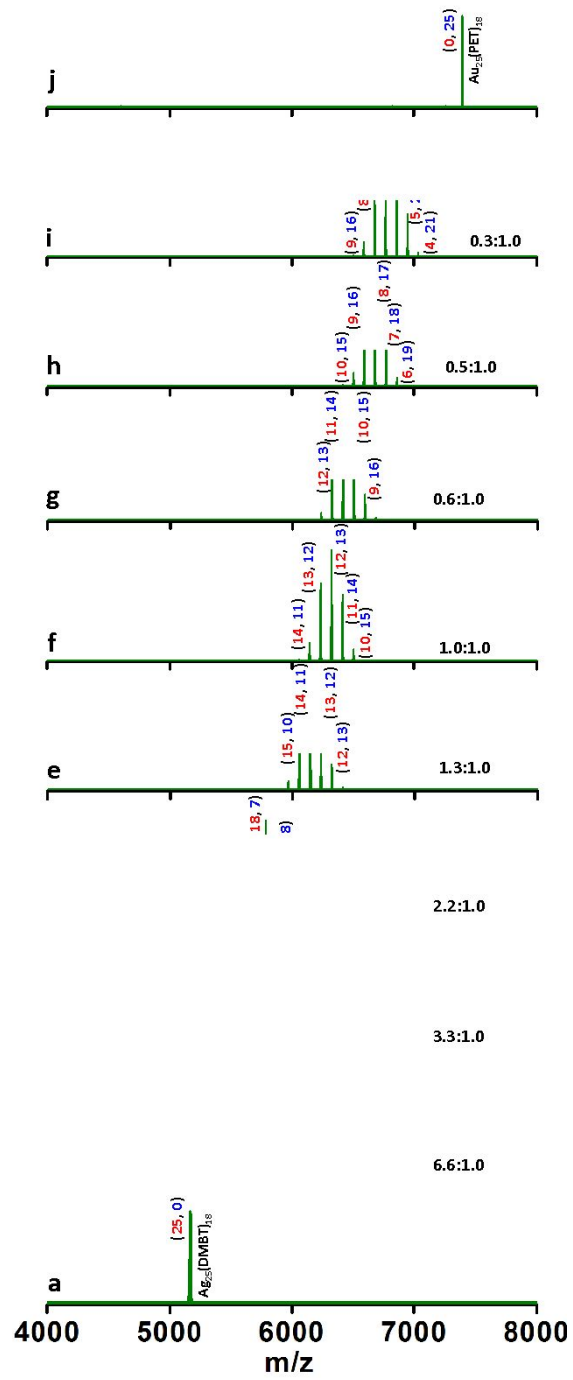
7000 8000



After 10 min

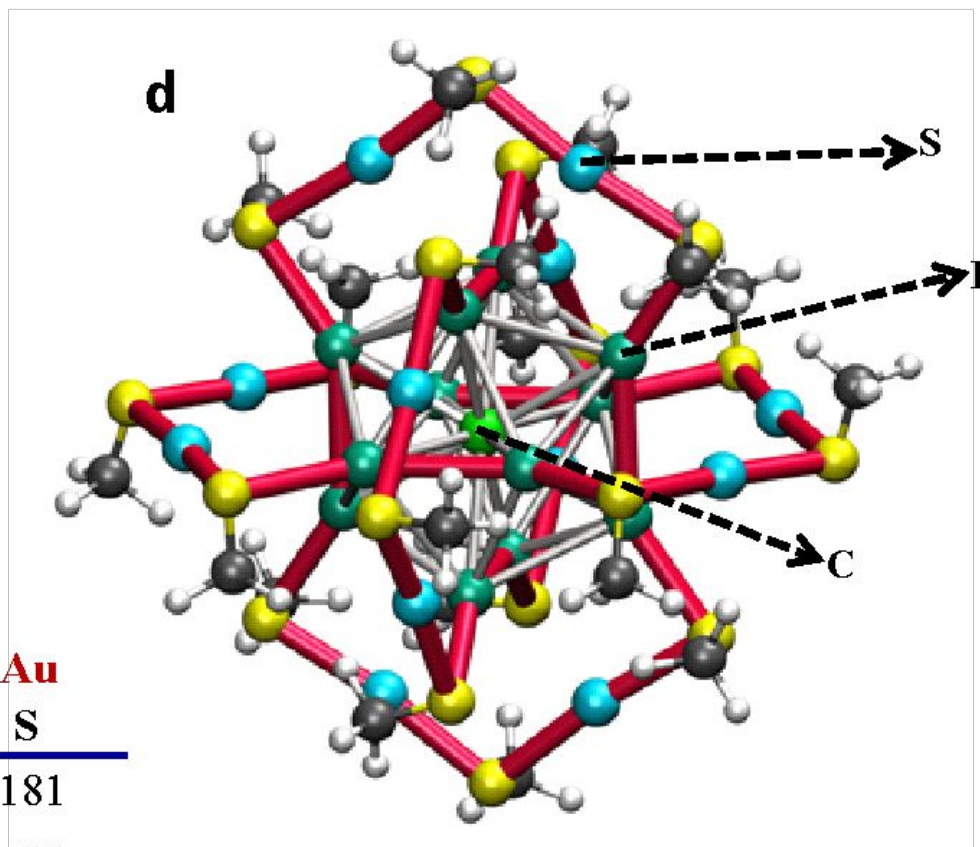
Immediately





Calculated energies for the substitution reaction (ΔE_s) of Au in $\text{Ag}_{25}(\text{DMBT})_{18}$ (a), Ag in $\text{Au}_{25}(\text{PET})_{18}$ (b) and the overall reaction energies (c), in meV, as a function of their positions in the product clusters, $\text{Ag}_{24}\text{Au}_1(\text{DMBT})_{18}$ and $\text{Au}_{24}\text{Ag}_1(\text{PET})_{18}$.

a	Location of Au in Ag₂₄Au(DMBT)₁₈	ΔE_s/meV		
	Centre of icosahedron (C)	-904		
	Icosahedron (I)	-540		
	Staple (S)	-578		
b	Location of Ag in Au₂₄Ag(PET)₁₈	ΔE_s/meV		
	Centre of icosahedron (C)	+396		
	Icosahedron (I)	-44		
	Staple (S)	+224		
c	Location of Ag in Au₂₄Ag	Location of Au in Ag₂₄Au		
		C	I	S
	C	-507	-143	-181
	I	-948	-584	-622
	S	-679	-315	-354

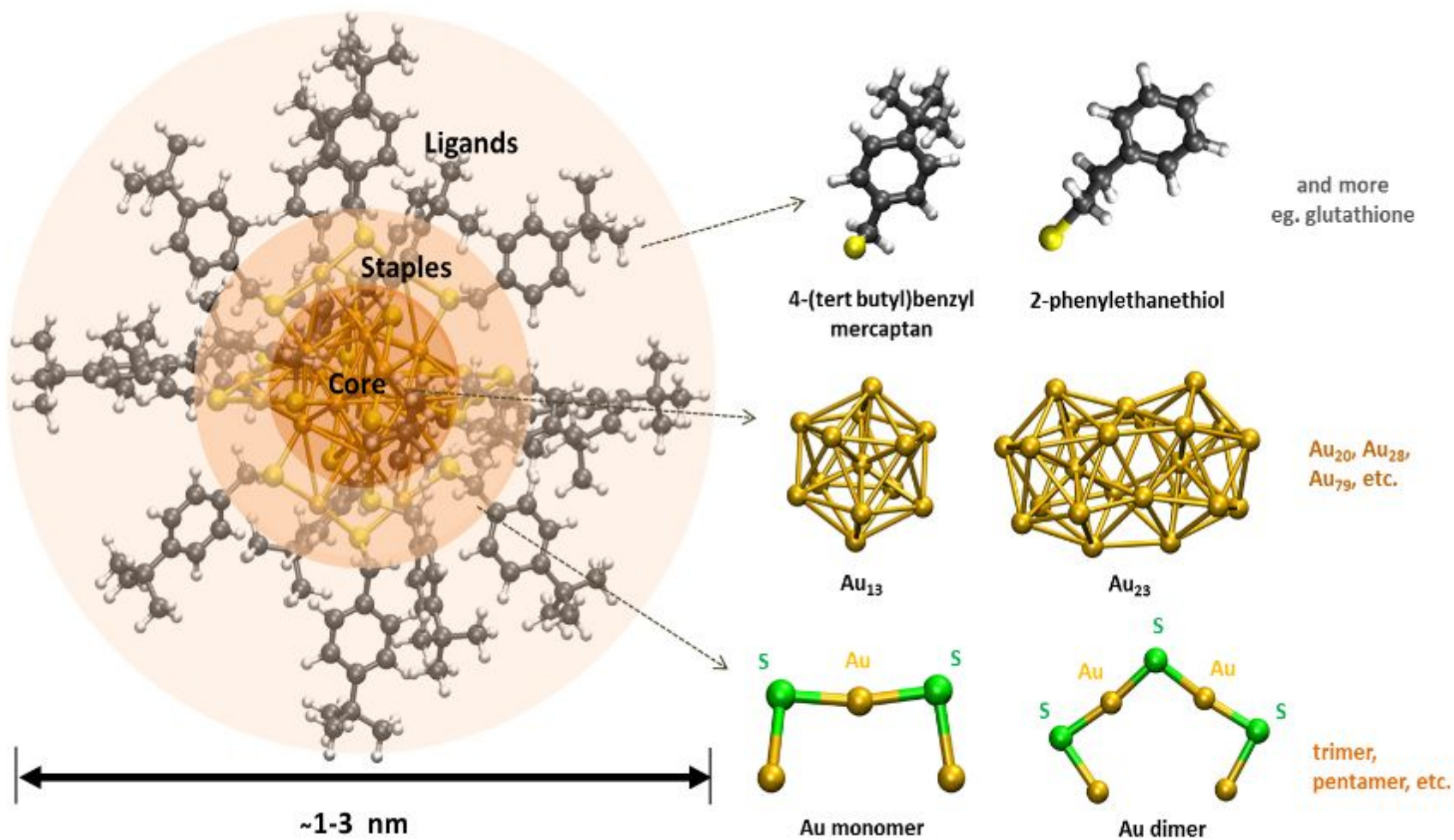


How do we comprehend this?

Structure and name

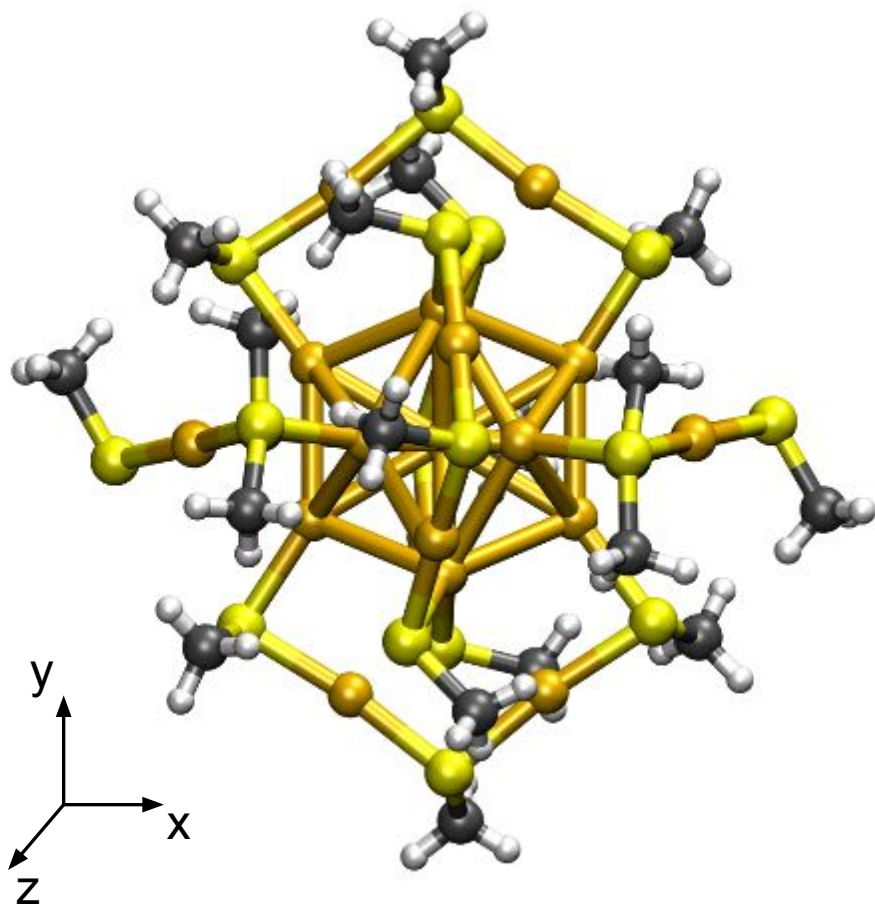
- Current names
 - $\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SR})_{18}$, $\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SR})_{18}$, $\text{Au}@R$, or just Au_{25}
 - $\text{Au}_{25-m}\text{Pd}_m(\text{SR1})_{18-n}(\text{SR2})_n$
- Complexity: eg. Isomers and chirality
- => **Nomenclature**
 - Organic, inorganic, etc.
 - Fullerenes
 - Boranes

What are these materials?

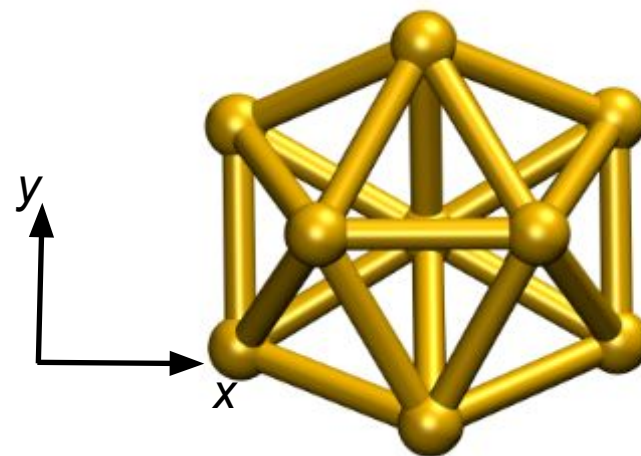
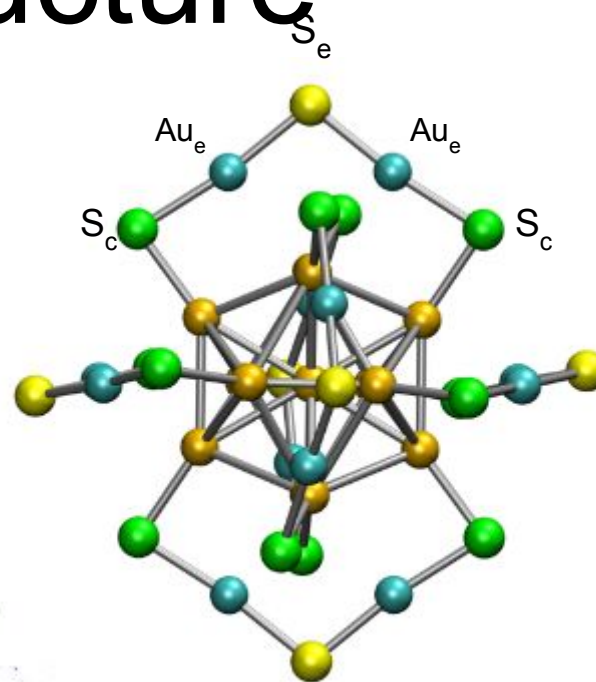


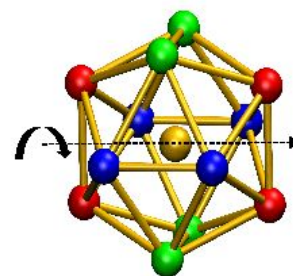
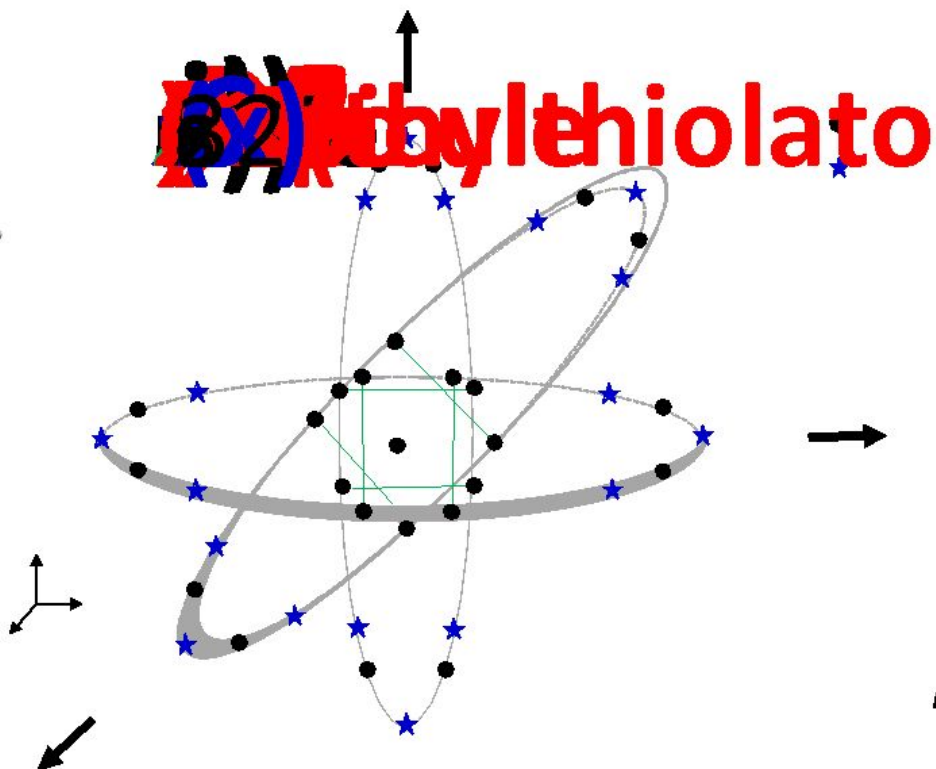
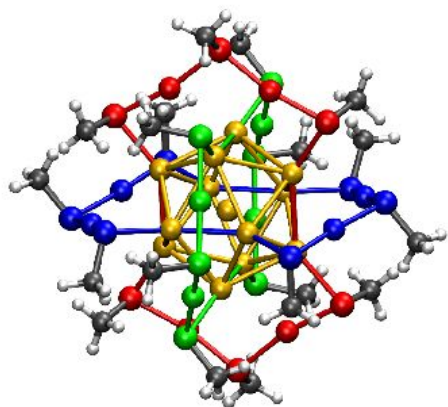
Aspicules

Ball and stick structure



A view of gold methyl thiolate [25]aspicule ($\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SMe})_{18}$). Gold atoms colored gold, sulfur atoms by yellow, carbon dark gray, hydrogen atoms as white and (b) with the gold and sulfur atoms alone .





18(methylthiolato)-auro-25
aspicule(1-)

(D1-3,D2-3)-di(2-phenylethylthiolato),16(methylthiolato)-auro-25 aspicule(1-)

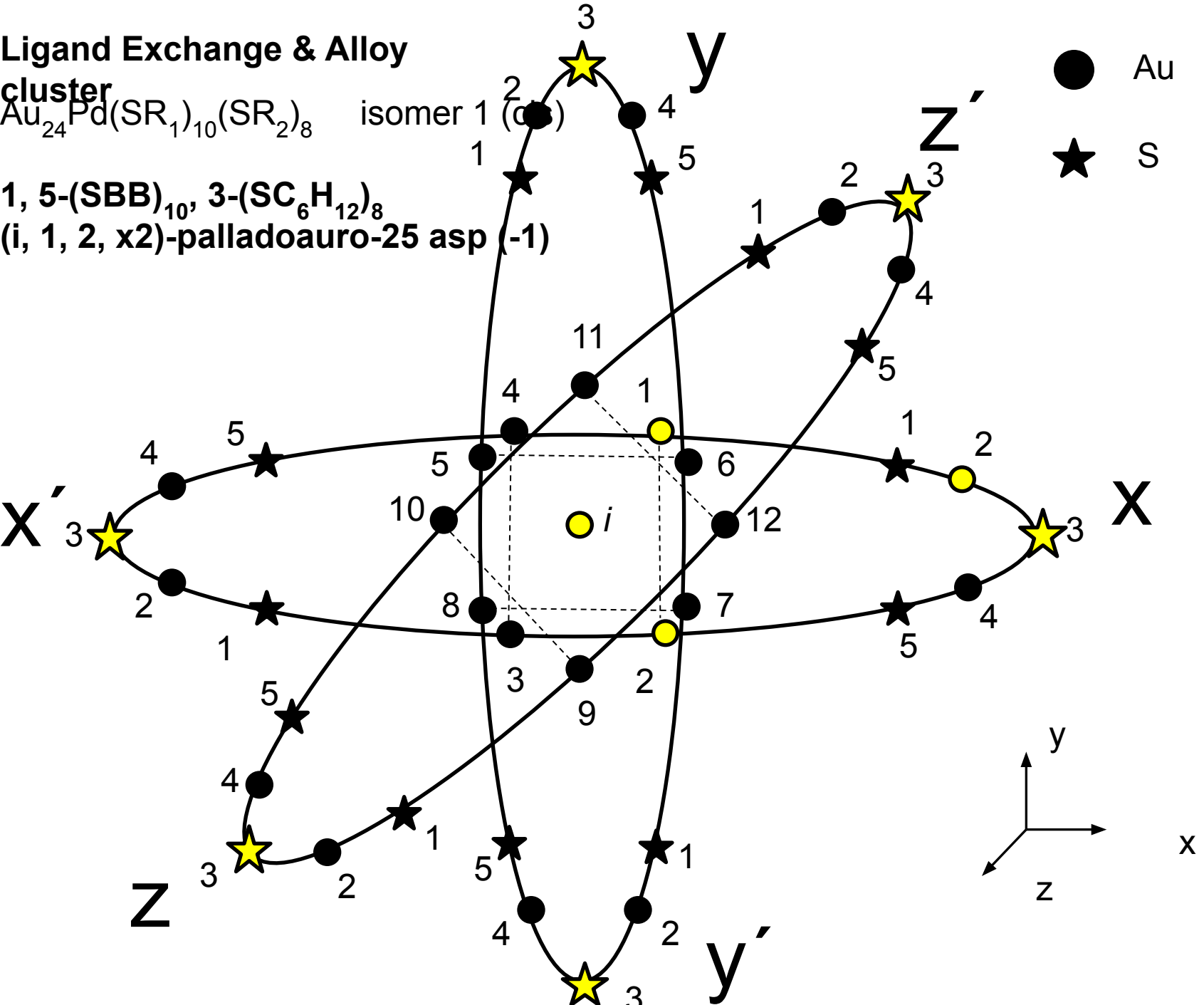
(D1-3,D2-3)-(PET)₂, (SMe)₁₆-auro-25 aspicule(1-)

Ligand Exchange & Alloy
cluster

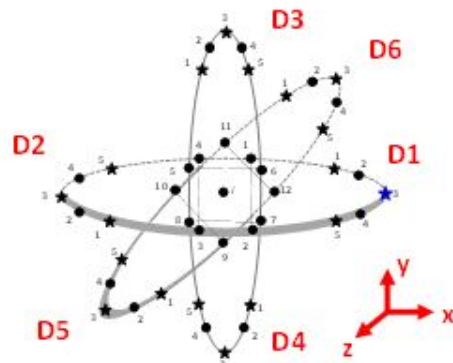
$\text{Au}_{24}\text{Pd}(\text{SR}_1)_{10}(\text{SR}_2)_8$ isomer 1 (c)

1, 5-(SBB) $_{10}$, 3-(SC $_6\text{H}_{12}$) $_8$
(i, 1, 2, x2)-palladoauro-25 asp (-1)

● Au
★ S

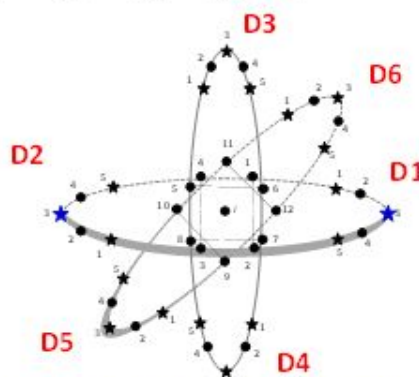


(a) $\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SMe})_{17}(\text{PET})_1$



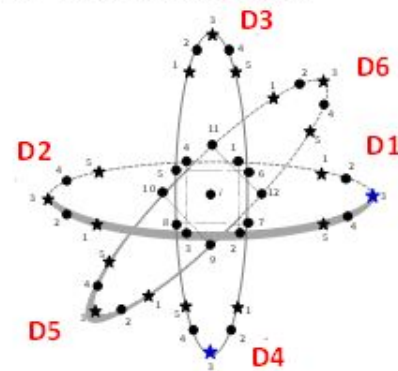
$(\text{D1-3})-(\text{PET})_1, (\text{SMe})_{17}$ -auro-25
aspicule (1-)

(b) $\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SMe})_{16}(\text{PET})_2$ (*trans*)



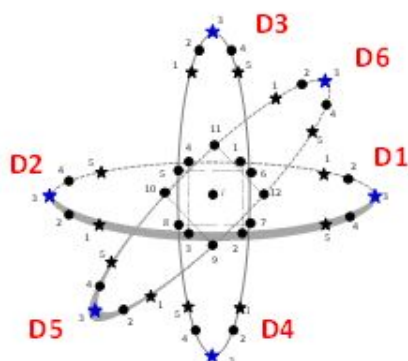
trans-(D1-3, D2-3)-(PET)₂, (SMe)₁₆-auro-25
aspicule (1-)

(c) $\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SMe})_{16}(\text{PET})_2$ (*cis*)



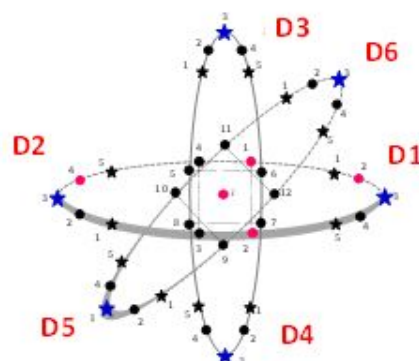
cis-(D1-3, D4-3)-(PET)₂, (SMe)₁₆-auro-25
aspicule (1-)

(d) $\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SMe})_{12}(\text{PET})_6$



$([\text{D1-D6}]_3)-(\text{PET})_6, (\text{SMe})_{12}$ -auro-25
aspicule (1-)

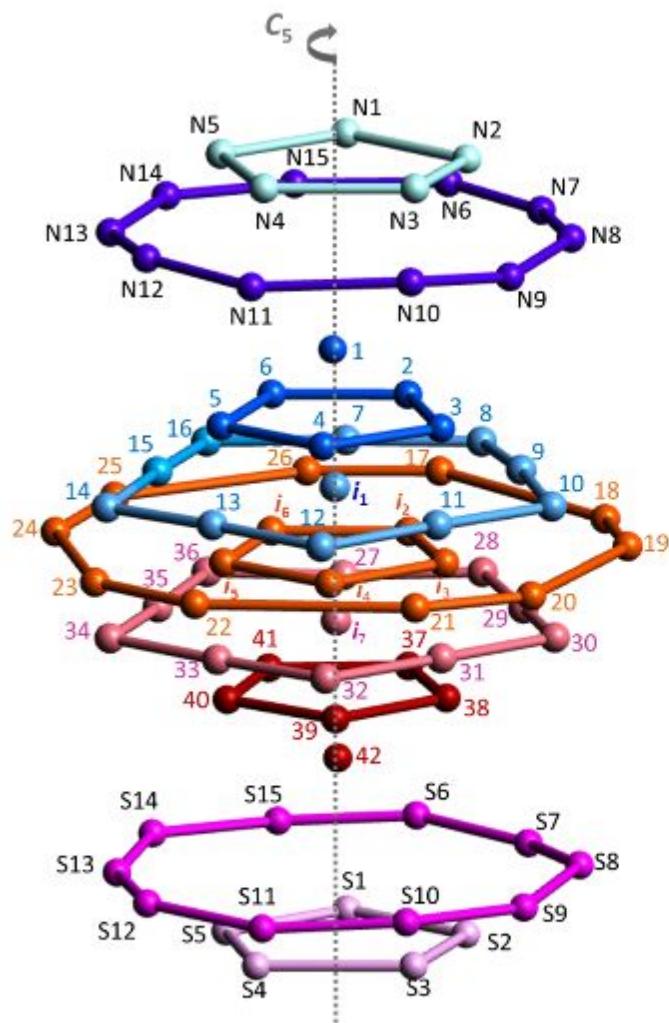
(e) $\text{Au}_{20}\text{Pd}_5(\text{SMe})_{12}(\text{PET})_6$



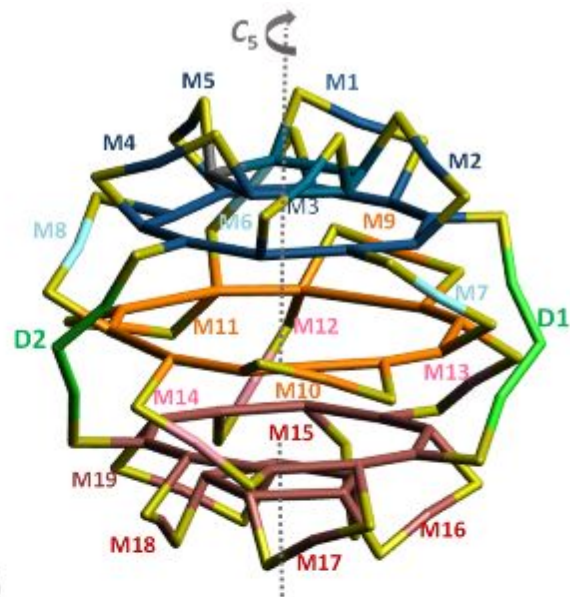
$([\text{D1-D6}]_3)-(\text{PET})_6, (\text{SMe})_{12}$ -(*i*, 1, 2, D1-2, D2-4)-
pentapalladoauro-25 aspicule (1-)



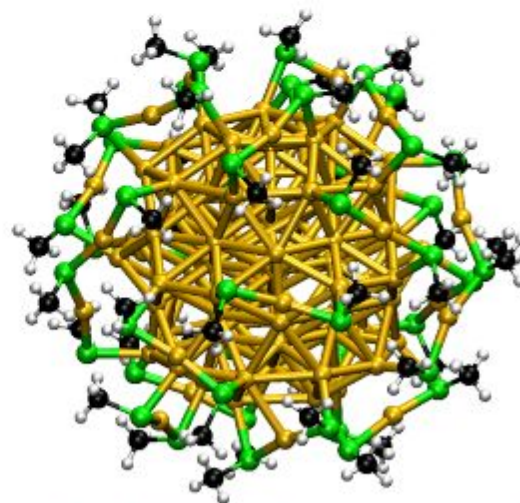
(A)



(B)

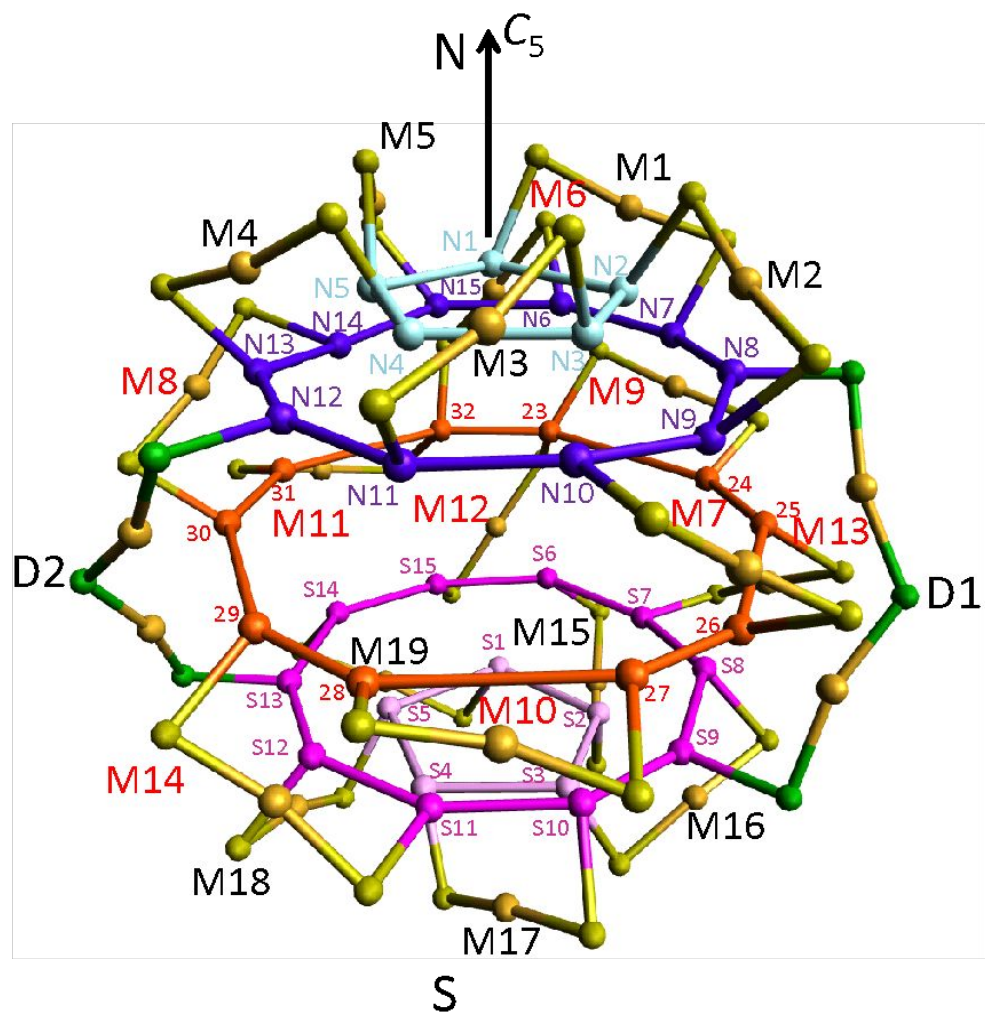


(C)



R-44(methylthiolato)-auro-102 aspicule(0)

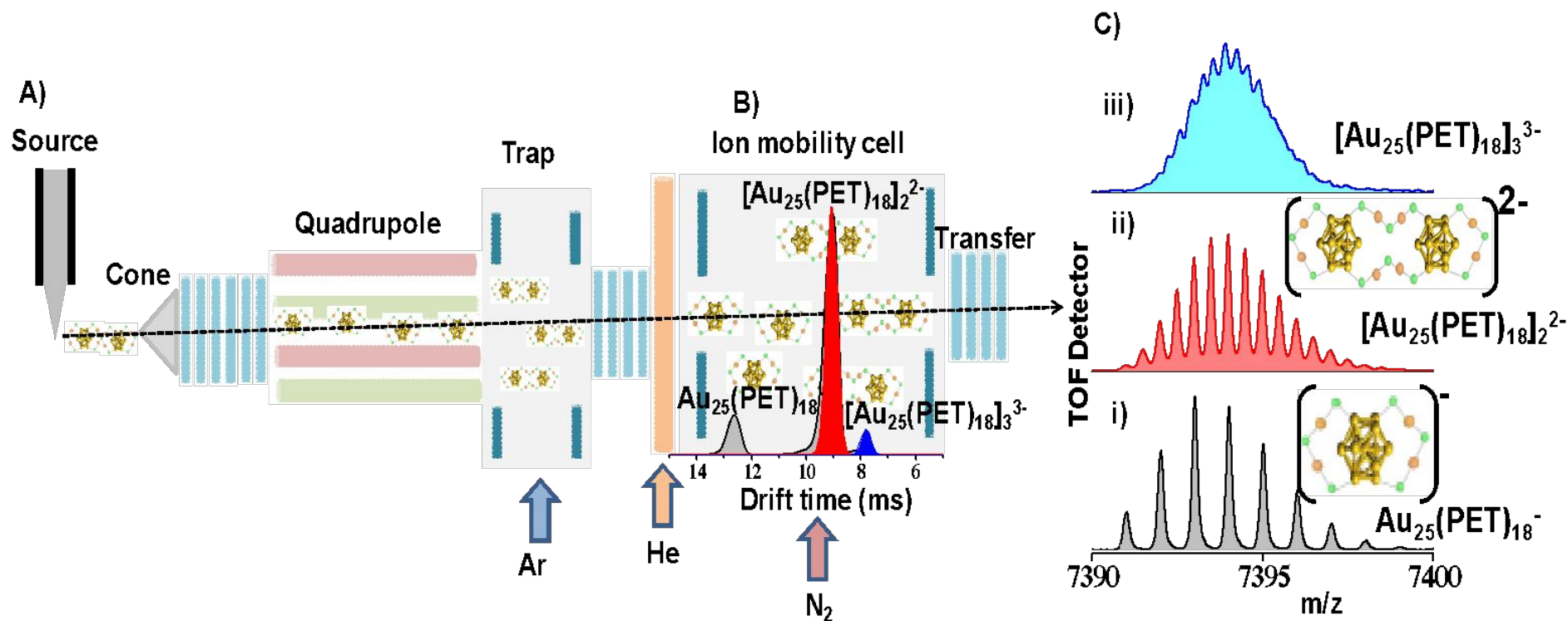
R-(SMe)₄₄-auro-102 aspicule(0) and L-(SMe)₄₄-auro-102 aspicule(0)



Compact aspicule structural names for Au₂₅, Au₃₈ and Au₁₀₂ aspicules and one modification of each.

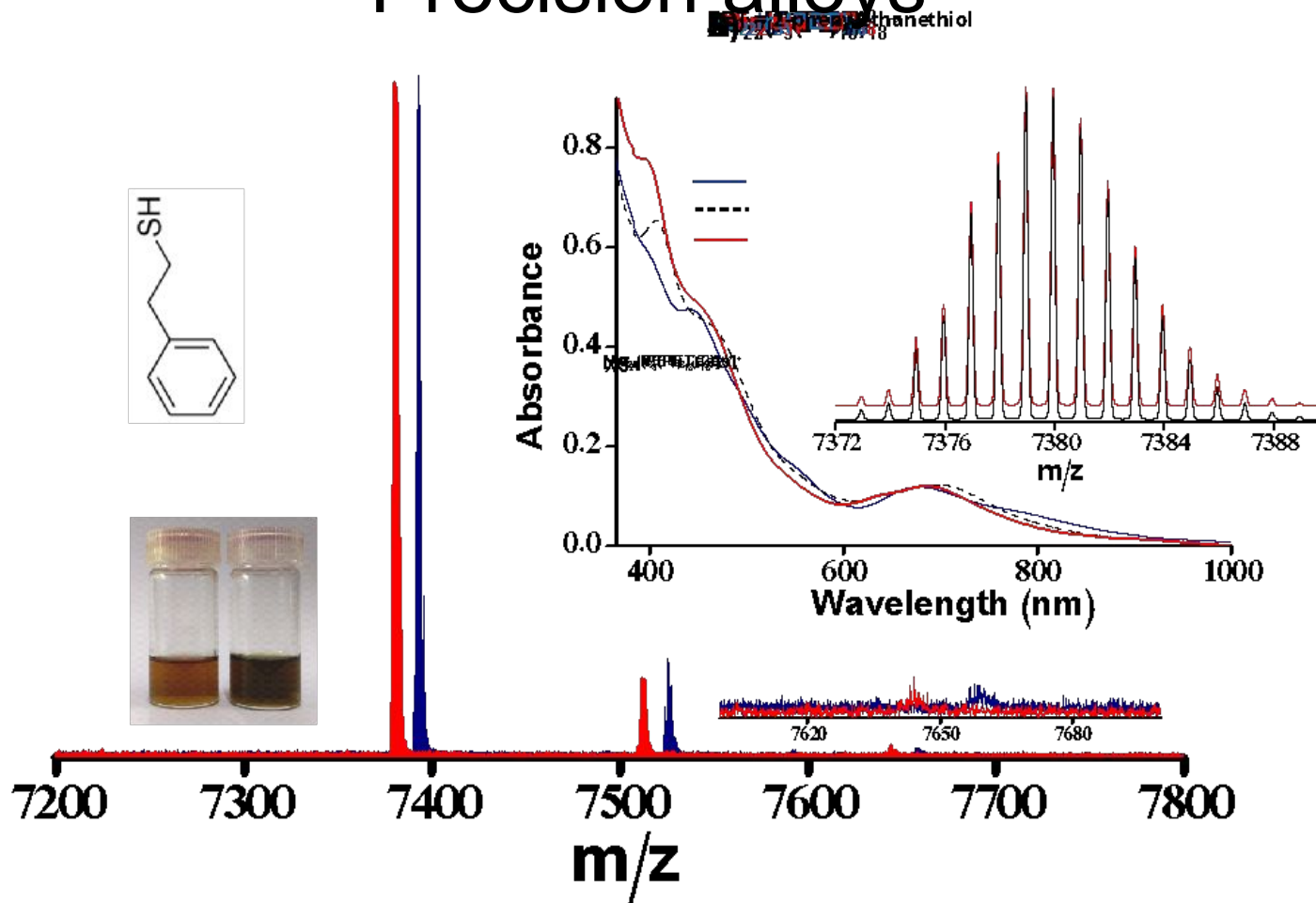
Formula Name/substituent positions	Compact Aspicule Structural Name	Aspicule name
Au ₂₅ (SMe) ₁₈	[D1-D6]-[1, 3, 5-Me-Au ₂ S ₃] ₆ <i>I-i</i> -auro-25 aspicule (1-)	(SMe) ₁₈ auro-25 (1-)
Au ₂₃ Pd ₂ (SMe) ₁₆ (SPET) ₂ Two Pd in the core. Two PET at the bridging ligands	D1, D2-[1, 3, 5-Me-AuPdS ₃] ₂ , [D3-D6]-[1,3,5-Me-Au ₂ S ₃] ₄ <i>I-(i, 2)</i> -dipalladoauro-25 aspicule (1-)	(D1-3, D2-3)-(SPET) ₂ , (SMe) ₁₆ (<i>i, 2</i>)-dipalladoauro-25 (1-)
Au ₃₈ (SMe) ₂₄	[D1-D6]-[1, 3, 5-Me-Au ₂ S ₃] ₆ , [M1-M3]-[1, 3-Me-AuS ₂] ₂ <i>BI-(i, i₂)</i> -auro-38 aspicule (0)	(SMe) ₂₄ (<i>i, i₂</i>)-auro-38 aspicule (0)
Au ₃₆ Pd ₂ (SMe) ₂₂ (SPET) ₂ Two Pd atoms in interstitials. Two PET ligands in dimer staples	D1, D2- [3-PET, 1,5-Me-Au ₂ S ₃] ₂ , [D3-D6]-[1, 3, 5-Me-Au ₂ S ₃] ₄ , [M1-M3]-[1, 3 -Me-AuS ₂] ₃ <i>BI-(i, i₂)</i> -dipalladoauro-38 aspicule (0)	(D1-3, D2-3, M1-1, M2-3)-(SPET) ₄ , (SMe) ₂₀ (<i>i, i₂</i>)-dipalladoauro-38 aspicule (0)
Au ₁₀₂ (SMe) ₄₄	[M1-M19]-[1, 3-Me-AuS ₂] ₁₉ , D1, D2-[1, 3-Me-Au ₂ S ₃] ₂ <i>MD₄₉@(N-RID₁₅, S-RID₁₅)</i> -auro-102 aspicule (0)	(SMe) ₄₄ auro-102 aspicule (0)
Au ₁₀₀ Pd ₂ (SMe) ₄₀ (SPET) ₄ Two Pd atoms in the MD core. Two PET ligands at bridging ligands of the dimer staples and two on differnt monomer staples.	M1-[1-PET, 3-Me-AuS ₂], M2-[3-PET, 1-Me-AuS ₂], [M3-M19]-[1,3-Me-AuS ₂] ₁₇ , D1, D2-[3-PET, 1, 5-Me-Au ₂ S ₃] ₂ <i>MD₄₉@(N-RID₁₅, S-RID₁₅)</i> -(1, 49)-dipalladoauro-102 aspicule (0)	(D1-3, D2-3, M1-1, M2-3)-(SPET) ₄ , (SMe) ₄₀ (1,49)-dipalladoauro-102 aspicule (0)

Cluster dimers



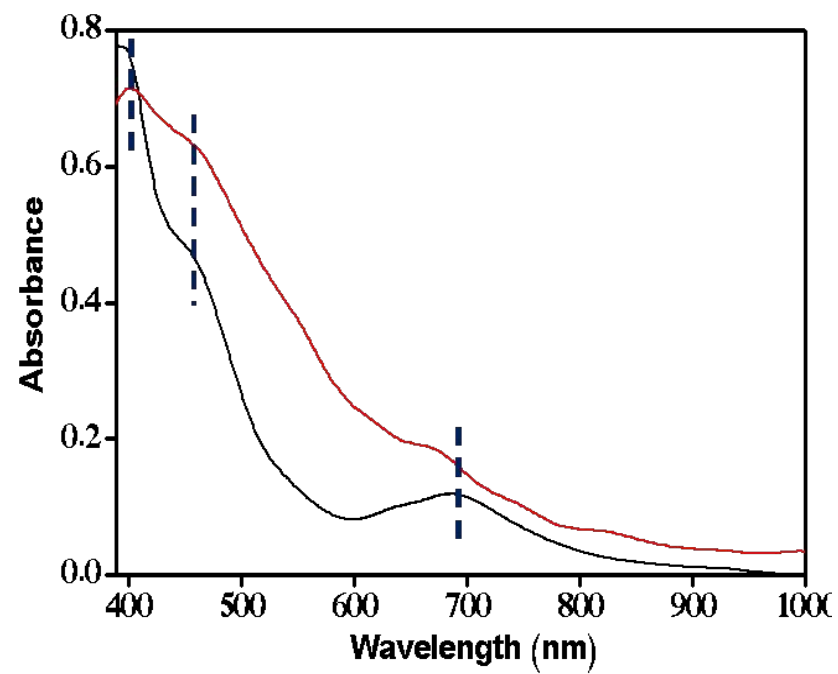
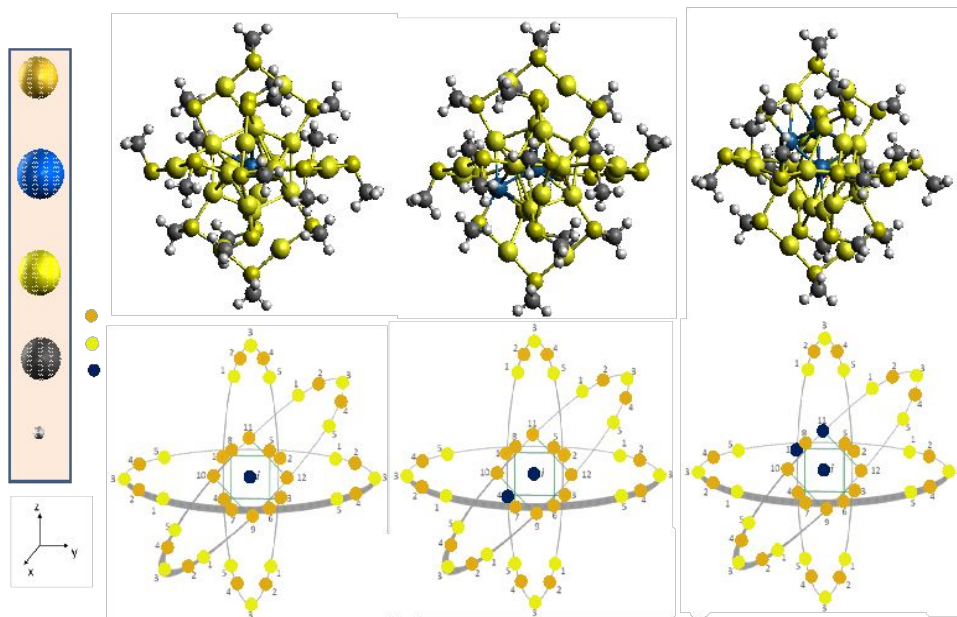
Ananya Bakshi et al. Chem. Commun. 2016

Precision alloys



Shridevi Bhat et. al. J. Phys. Chem. Lett. (2017)

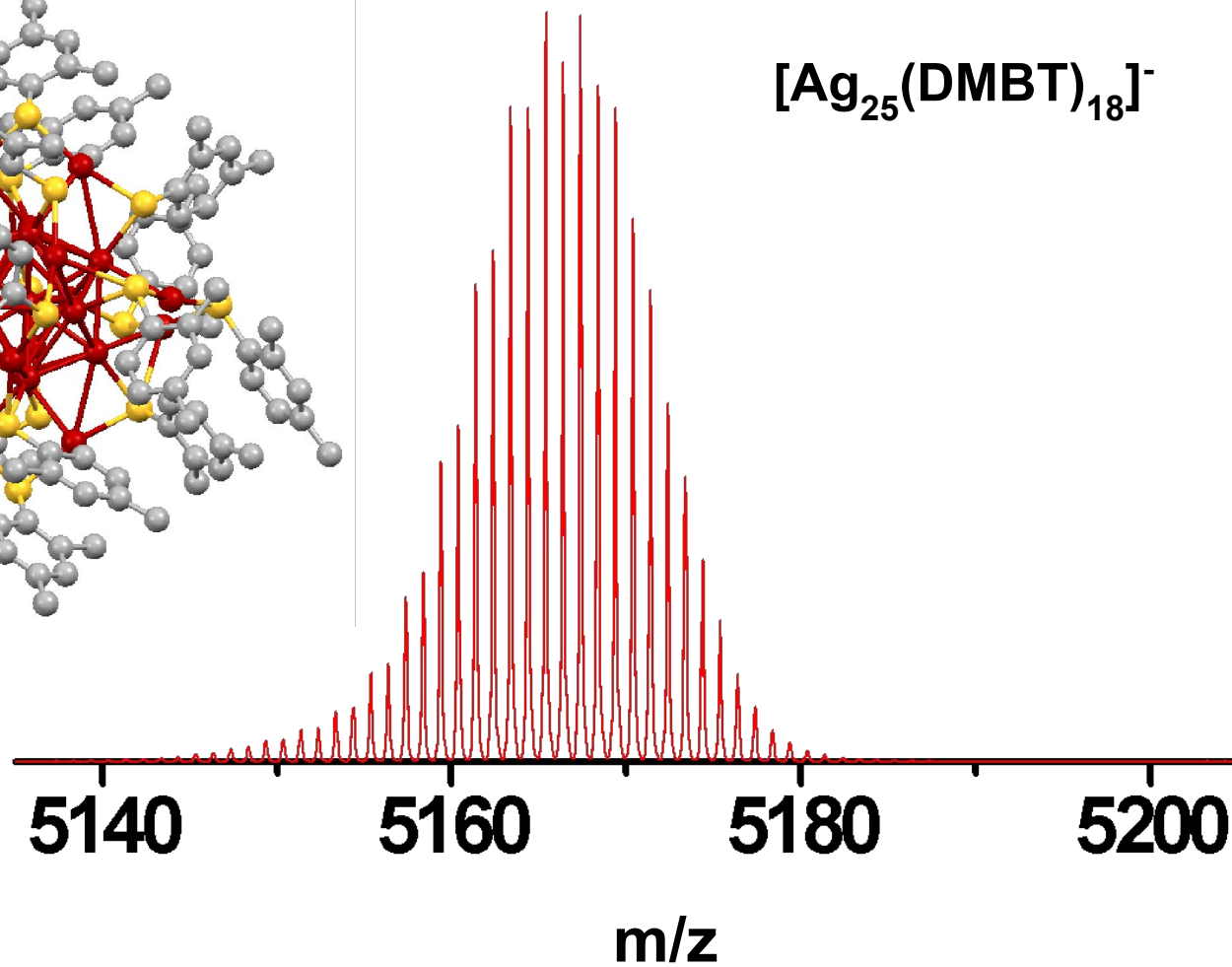
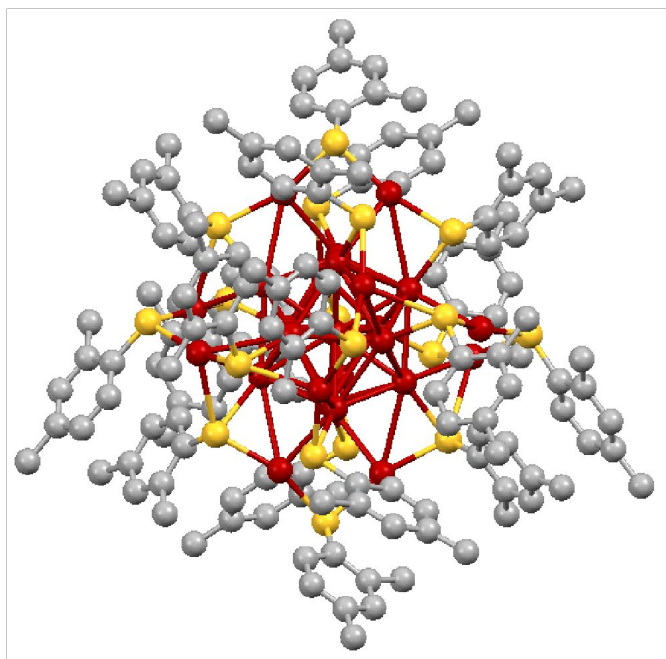
~~Copyrighted~~ ~~Copyrighted~~

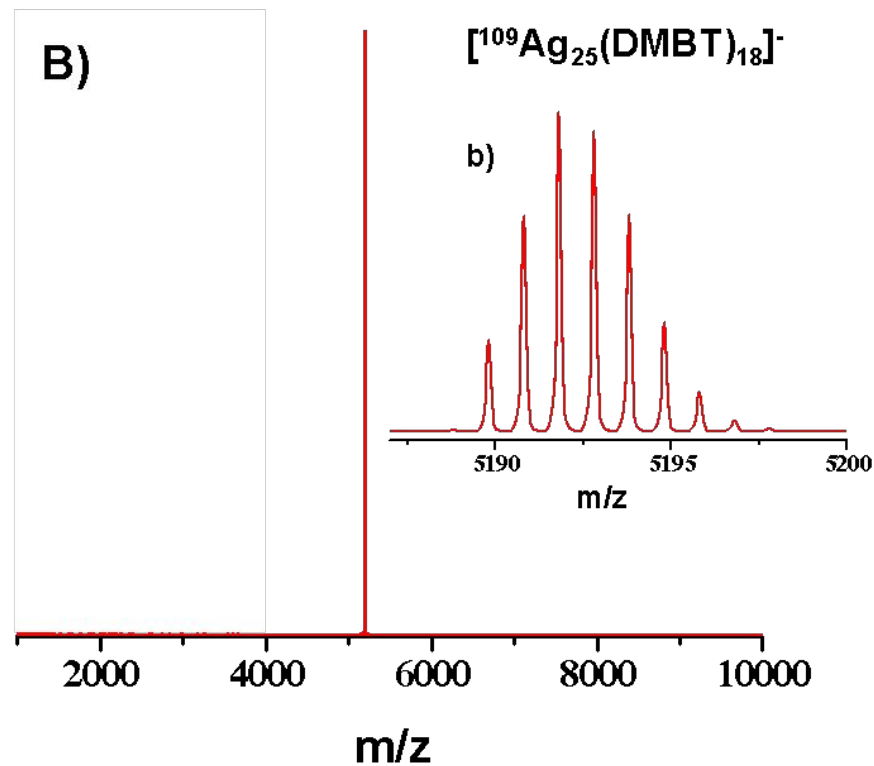
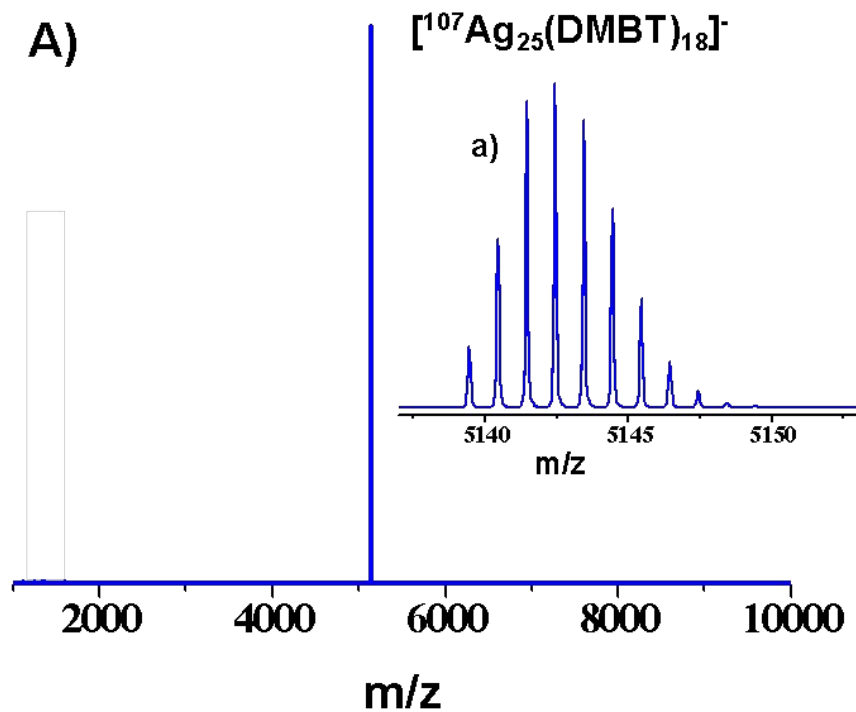


Cluster dynamics



They are indeed molecules!





ESI MS of **A)** $^{107}\text{Ag}_{25}(\text{DMBT})_{18}$ and **B)** $^{109}\text{Ag}_{25}(\text{DMBT})_{18}$. Insets show the respective isotope patterns.

$[^{107}\text{Ag}_{25}(\text{DMBT})_{18}]^{-}$

Reactant

$[^{109}\text{Ag}_{25}(\text{DMBT})_{18}]^{-}$

Reactant

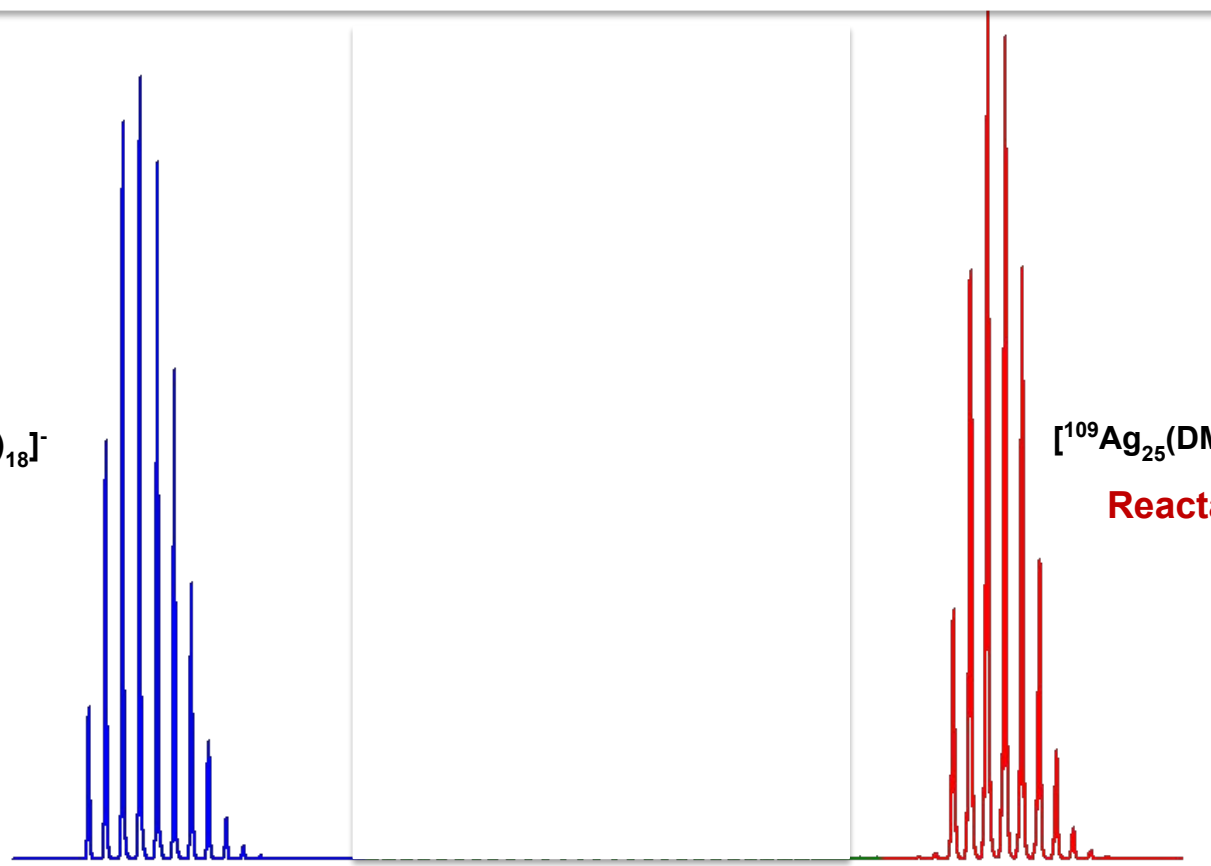
5140

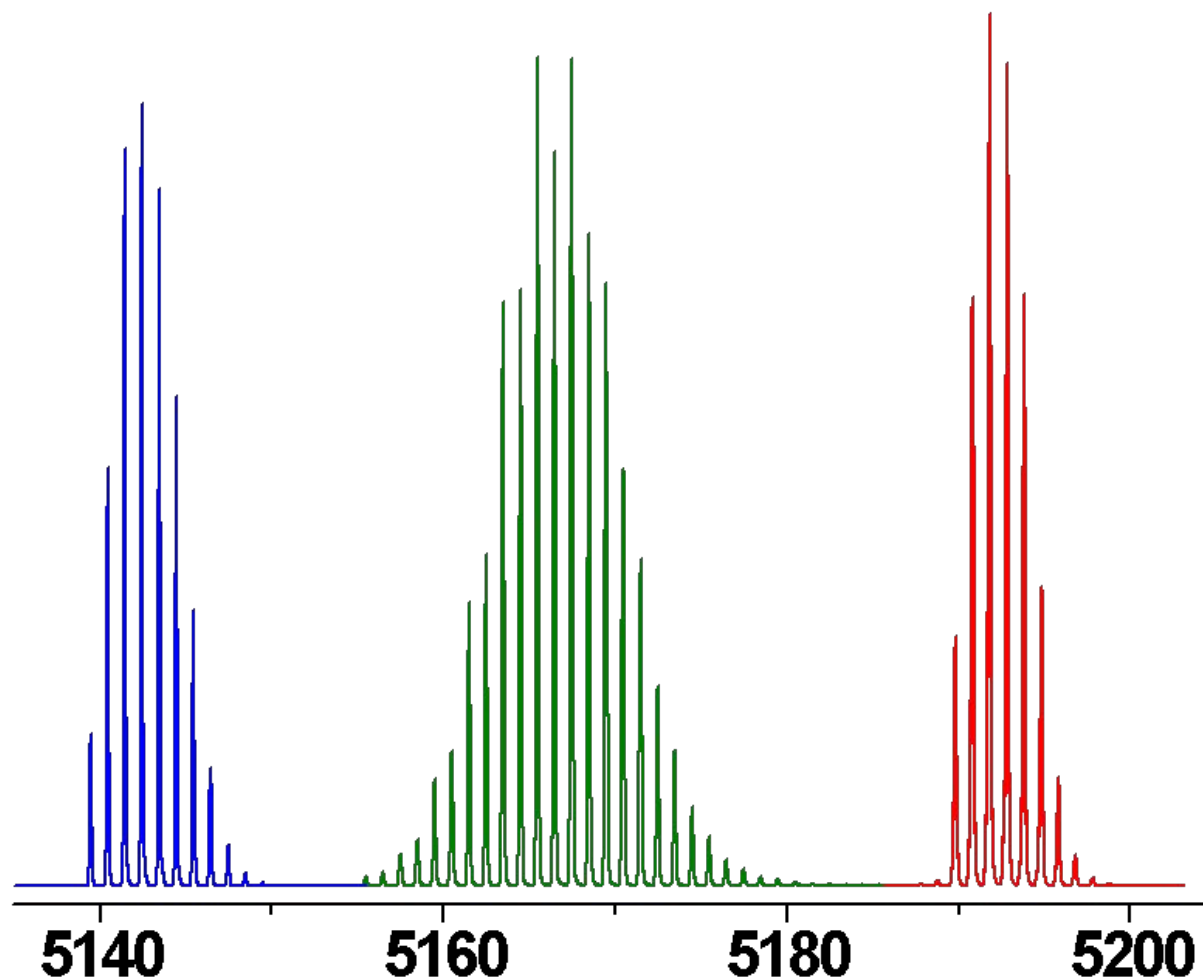
5160

5180

5200

m/z

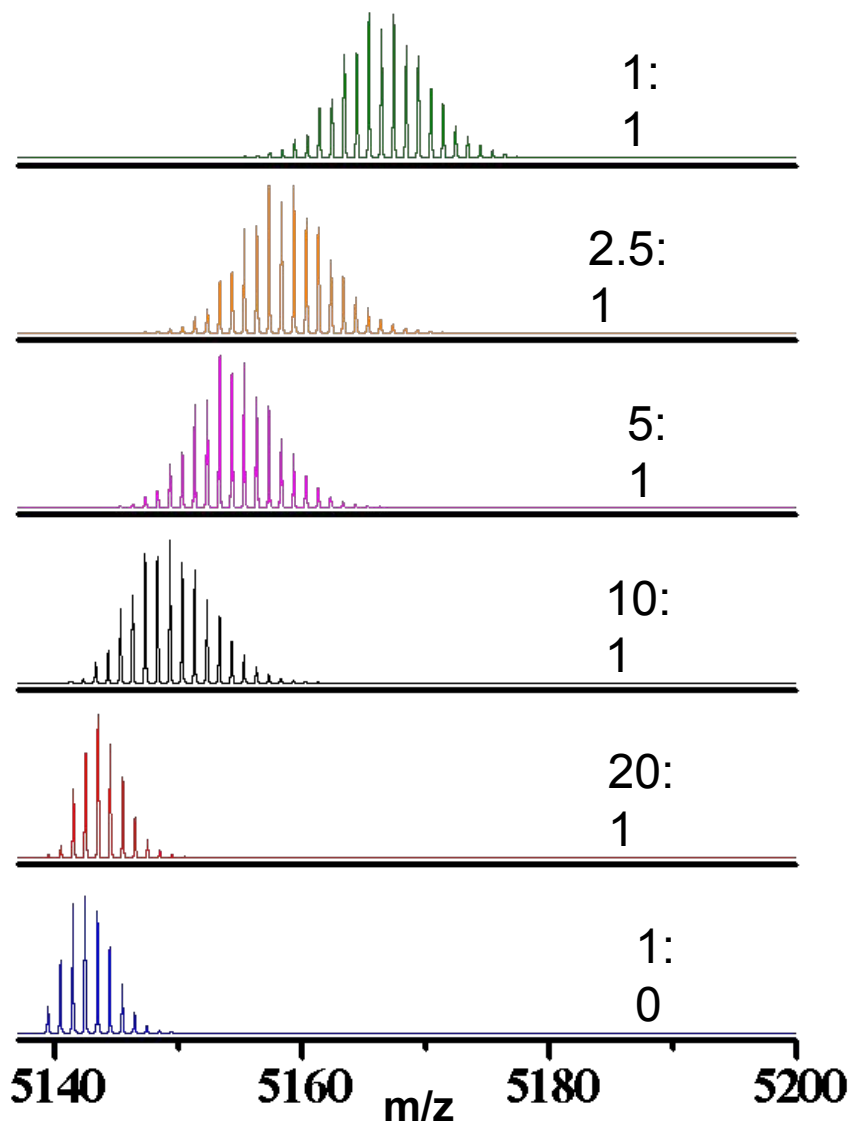




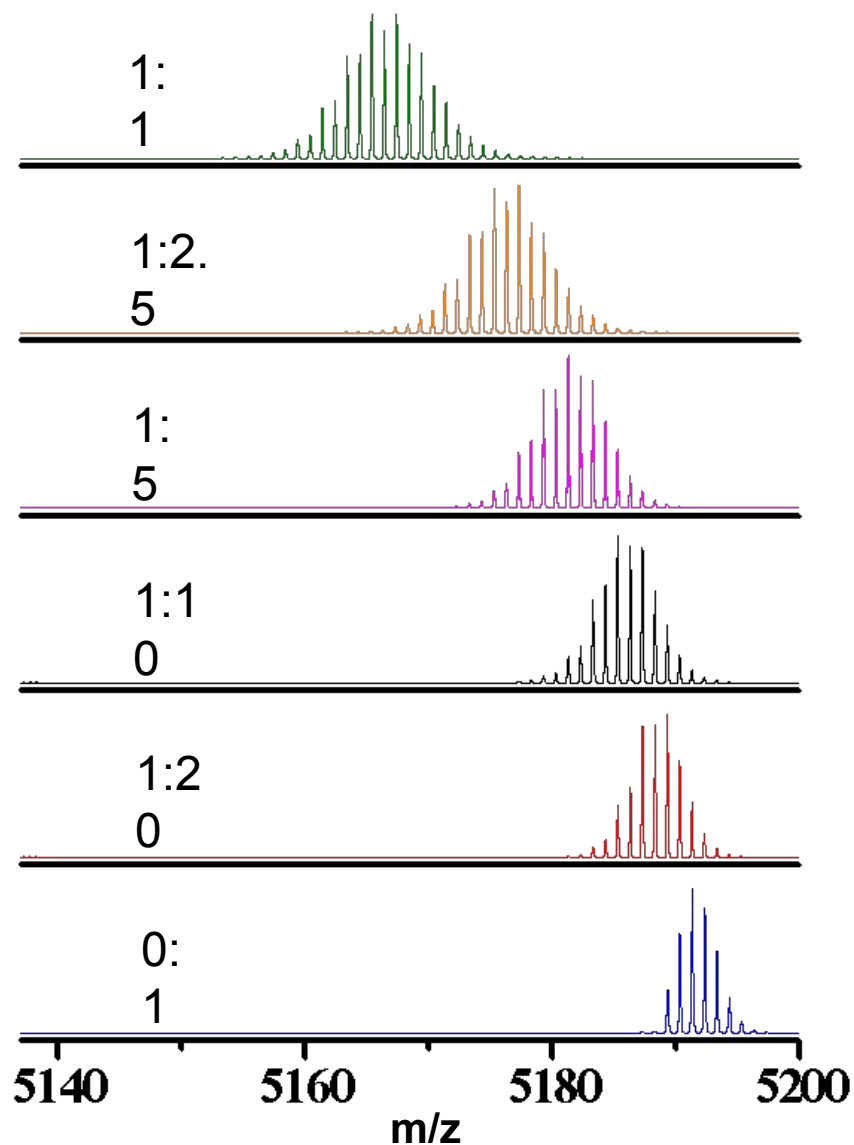
ESI showing the reaction product formed instantly on mixing the two isotopically pure clusters in 1:1 molar ratio. Reaction is instantaneous, no intermediates were detected at room temperature.

Papri Chakraborty et al. Unpublished.

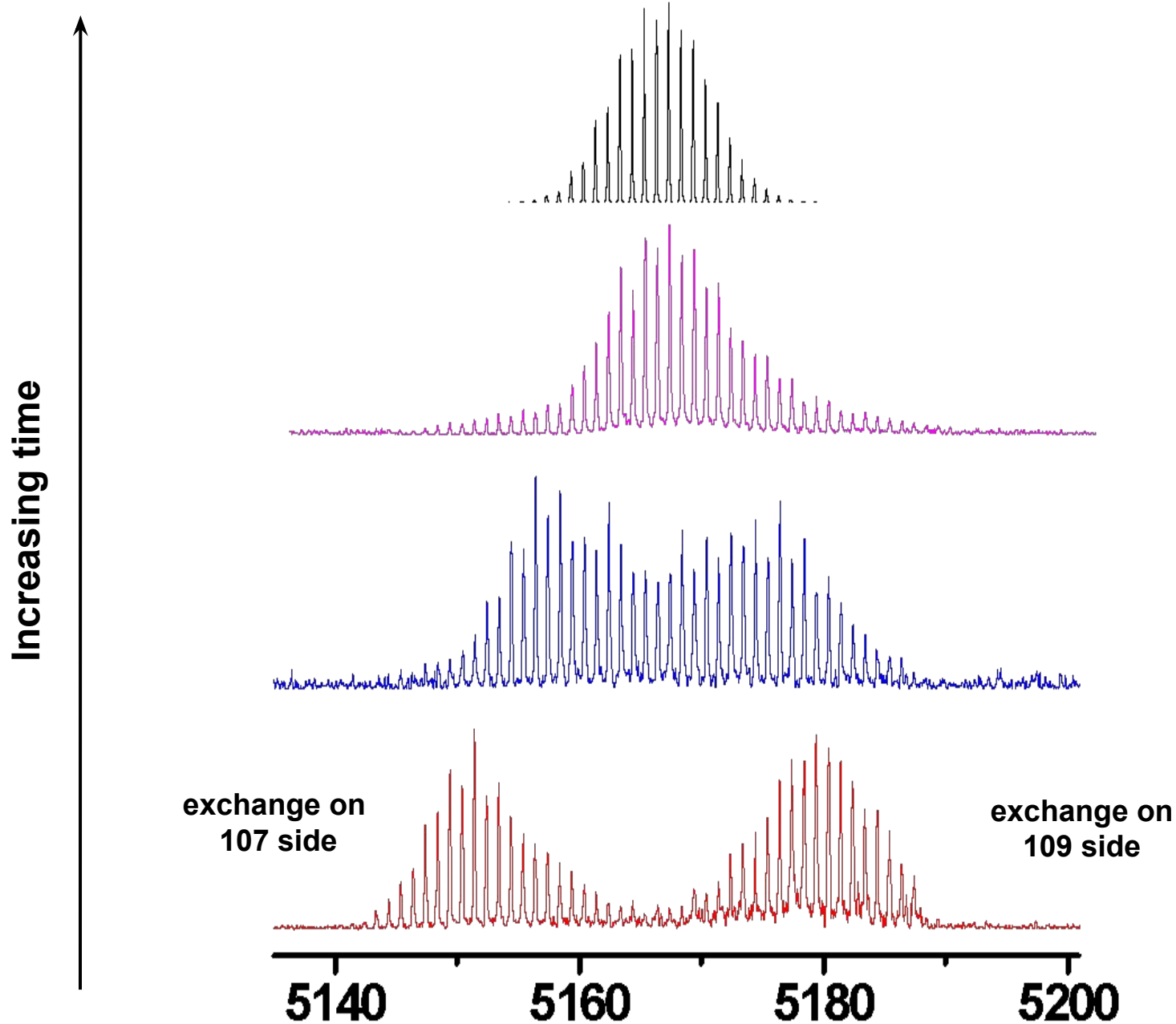
A)



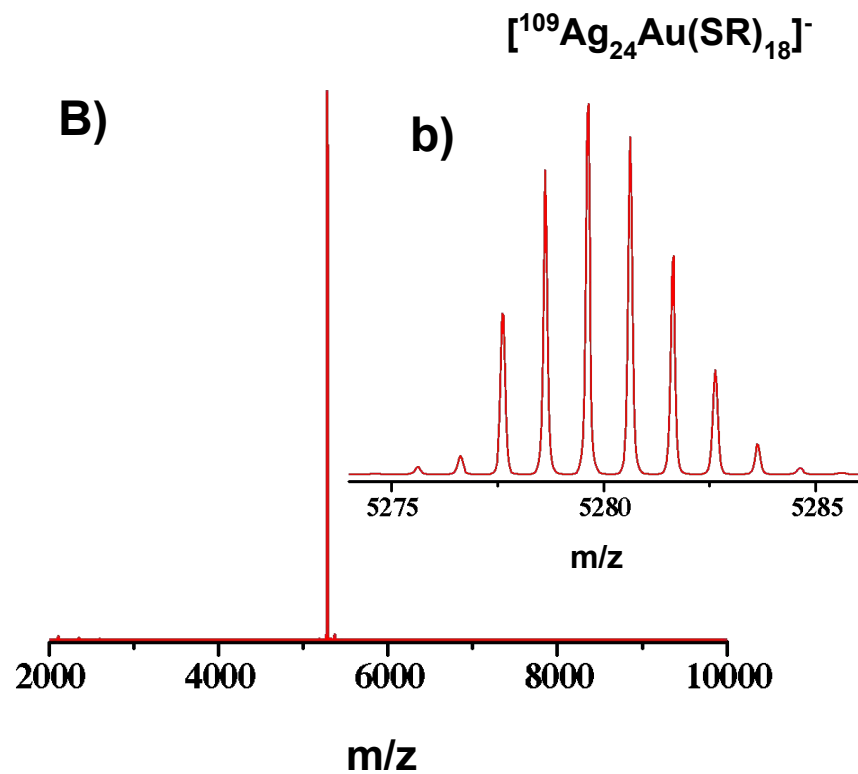
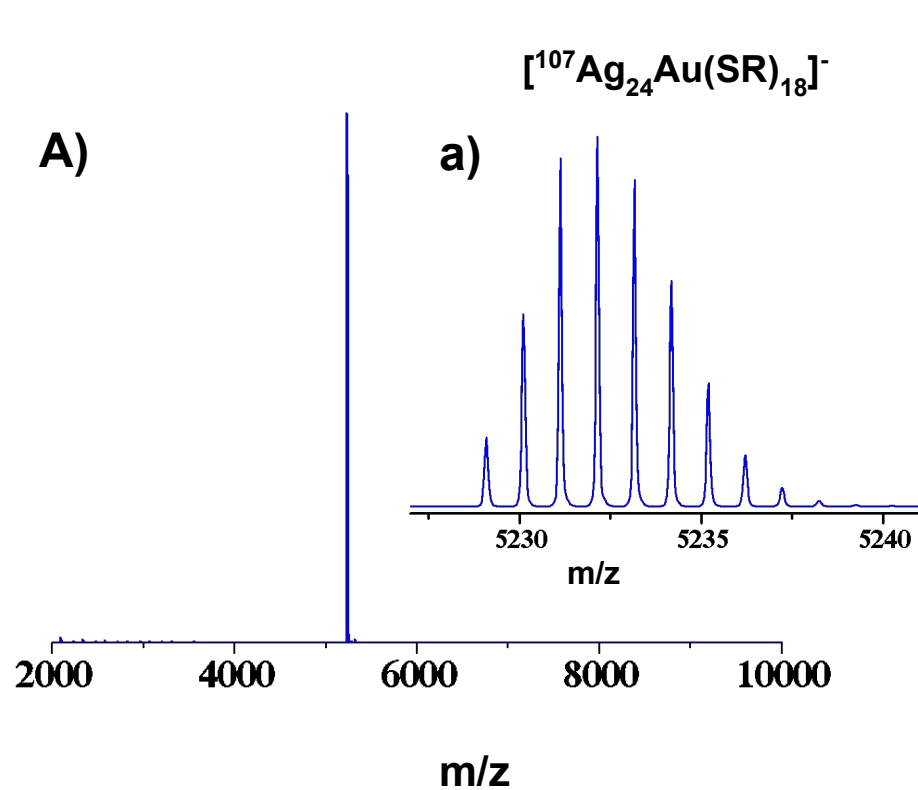
B)



Reaction between the two isotopically pure clusters by controlling the molar ratio, $^{107}\text{Ag}_{25}(\text{DMBT})_{18} : ^{109}\text{Ag}_{25}(\text{DMBT})_{18}$ molar ratio is indicated in the figure.



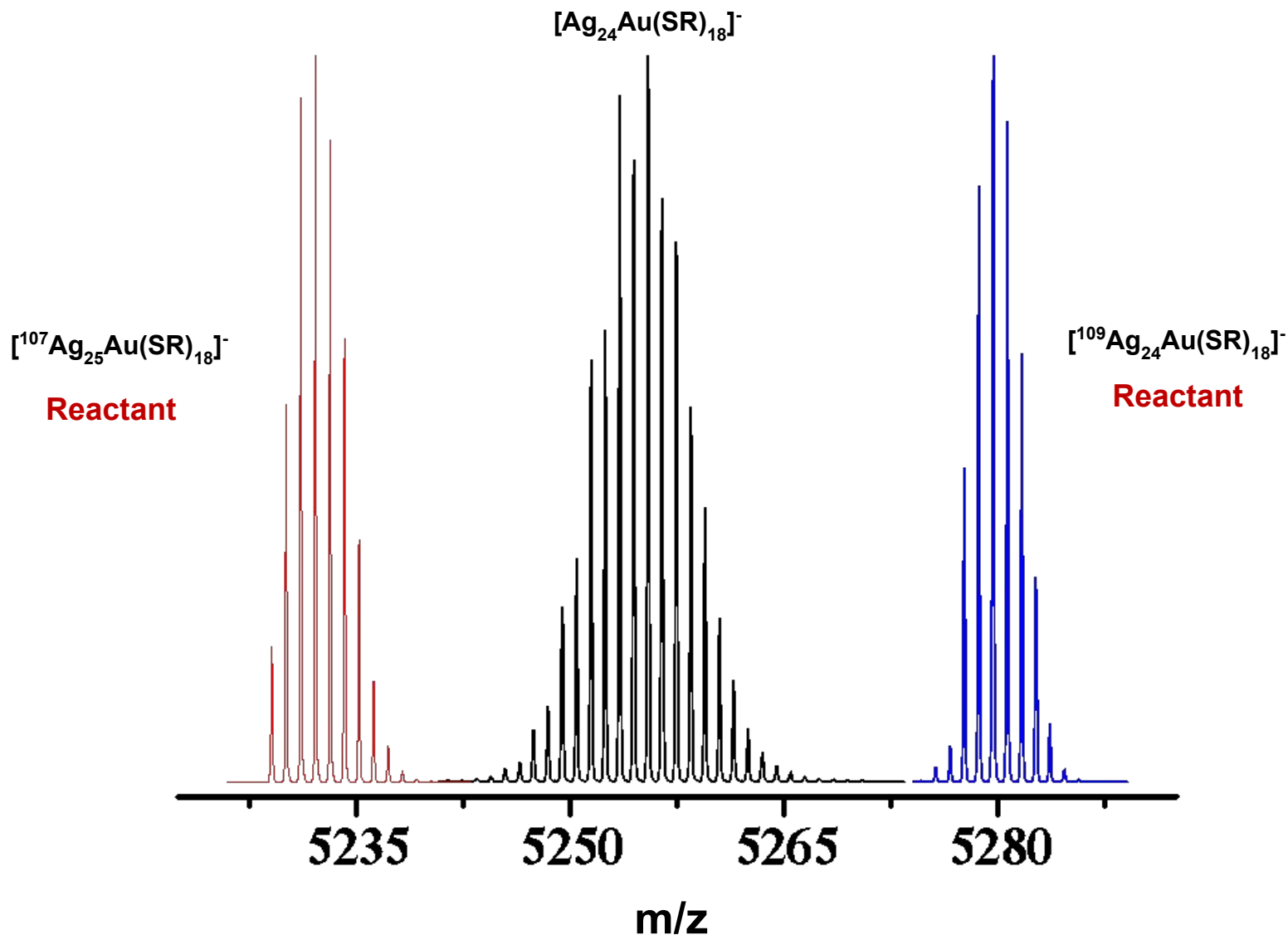
Reaction at 1:1 molar ratio of the two clusters at low temperature. Mixture comes towards natural abundance within 2-3 mins.



ESI MS of **A)** $^{107}\text{Ag}_{24}\text{Au}(\text{SR})_{18}$ and **B)** $^{109}\text{Ag}_{24}\text{Au}(\text{SR})_{18}$. Insets shows the respective isotope patterns.

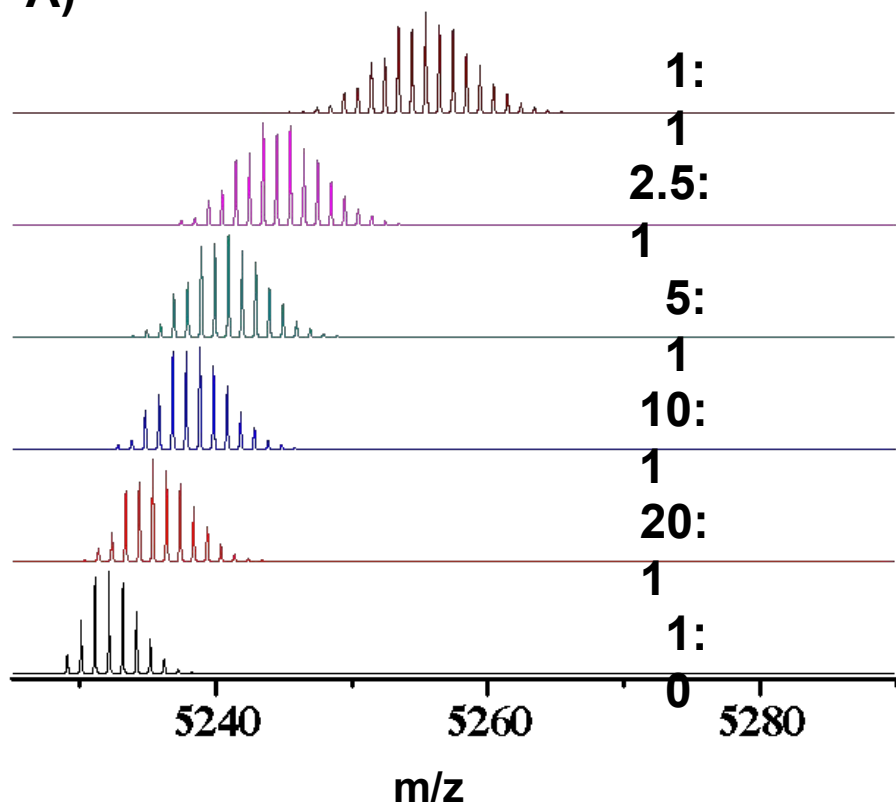
Product

(formed instantly on mixing the reactants in 1:1 molar ratio at room temperature)

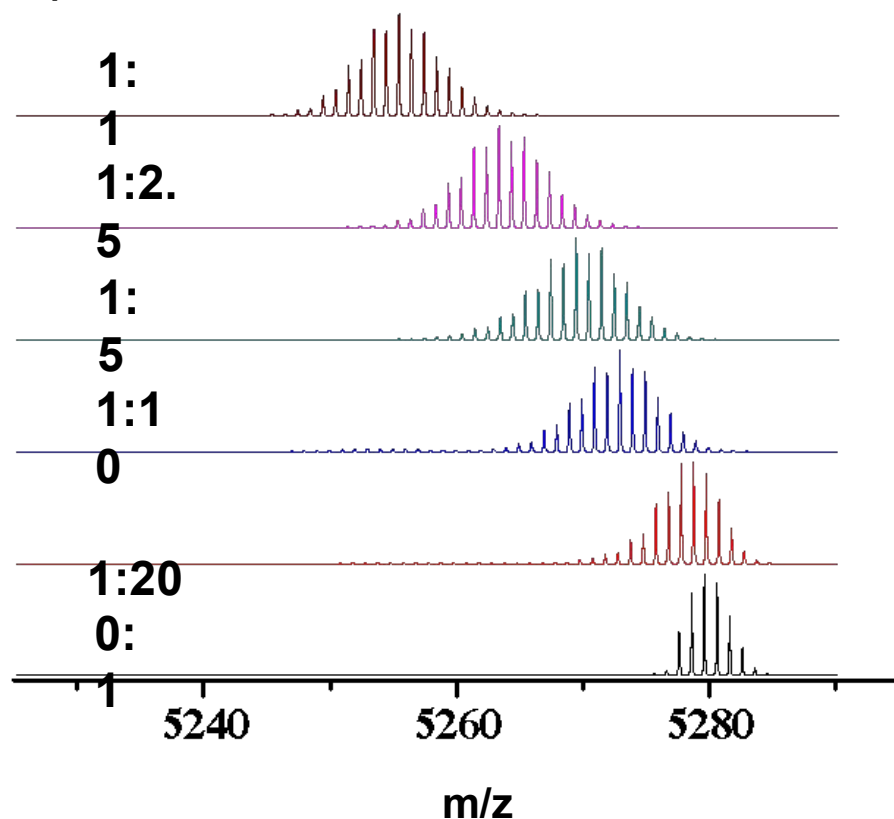


ESI showing the reaction product formed instantly on mixing the two isotopically pure clusters in 1:1 molar ratio. Reaction is instantaneous, no intermediates were detected at room temperature.

A)

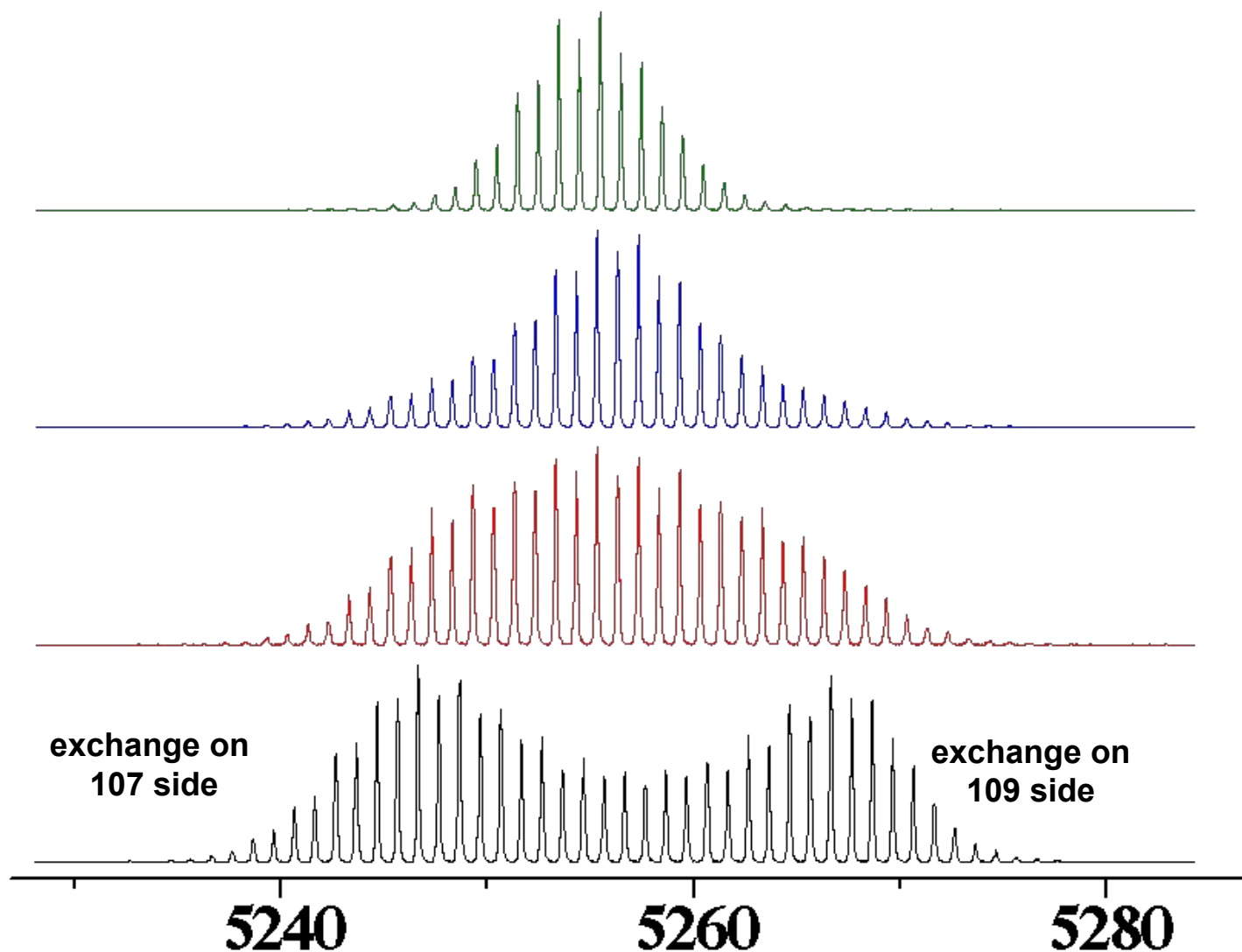


B)



Reaction between the two isotopically pure clusters by controlling the molar ratio, $^{107}\text{Ag}_{24}\text{Au}(\text{SR})_{18} : ^{109}\text{Ag}_{24}\text{Au}(\text{SR})_{18}$ molar ratio is indicated in the figure.

Increasing time



Reaction at 1:1 molar ratio of the two clusters at low temperature. Mixture comes towards natural abundance within 2-3 mins.

Summary

- Reactions between atomically precise nanoparticles
- Borromean ring diagram of clusters can be used to understand such reactions
- Their extremely fast solution state dynamics is a puzzle
- Clusters are indeed molecules

Acknowledgements

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Atanu Ghosh
Ananya Baksi
Gana Natarajan

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Shridevi Bhat, Madhuri Jash, Debasmita Ghosh, Papri Chabraborty,
Amrita Chakraborty, Esma Khatun, ...

Excellence

Niels
Bohr



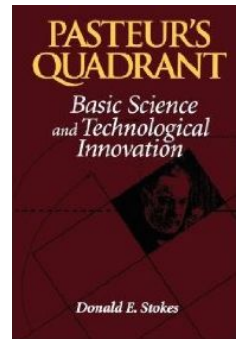
Louis
Pasteur



Thomas
Edison



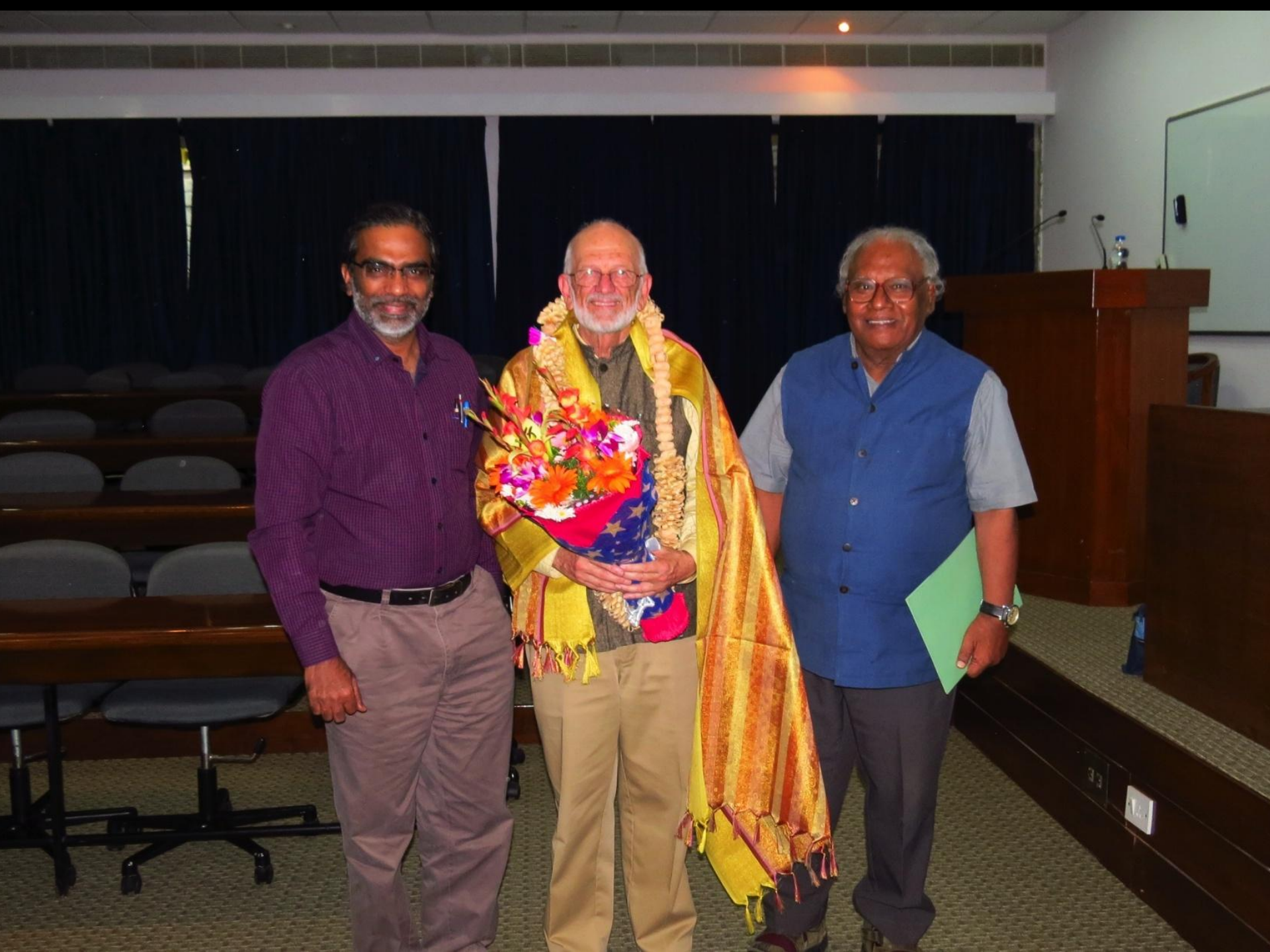
Relevance





synthetic granular
stable point-of-use

















Department of Science and Technology

Thank you

