



Now in the 60th year

Nanoparticles with atomic precision

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InnoNano Research Pvt. Ltd.
InnoDI Water Technologies Pvt. Ltd.
VayuJAL Technologies Pvt. Ltd.
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Associate Editor

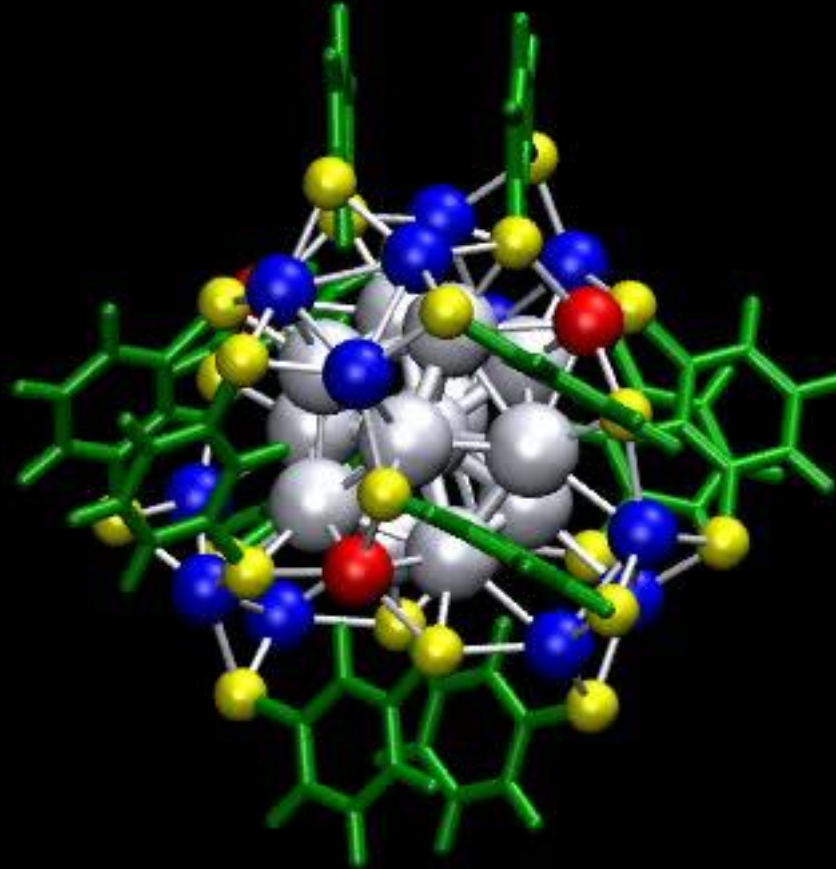
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Sustainable
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Clusters

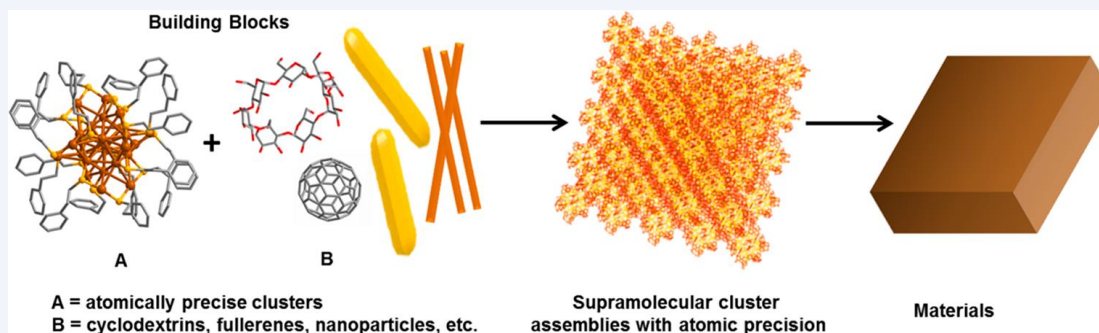


Science of nanomaterials has advanced tremendously in the recent past.

Approaching Materials with Atomic Precision Using Supramolecular Cluster Assemblies

Papri Chakraborty, Abhijit Nag, Amrita Chakraborty, and Thalappil Pradeep*

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



Contents

The subject area of clusters

New science in synthesis, properties

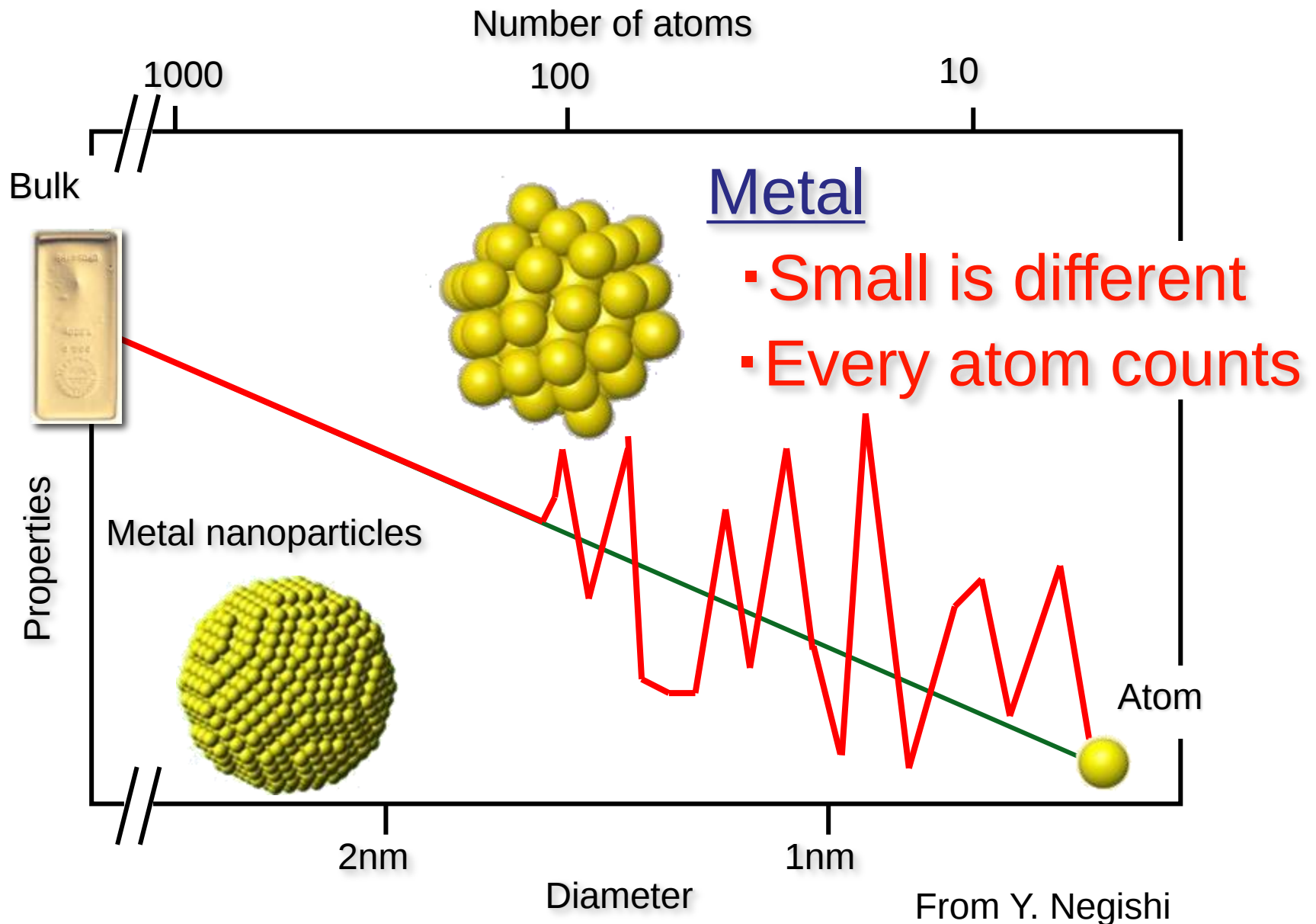
Reactions between clusters

Borromean structures of clusters

Supramolecular science of clusters

Applications

Future directions



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

Indranath Chakraborty[†] and Thalappil Pradeep^{*}

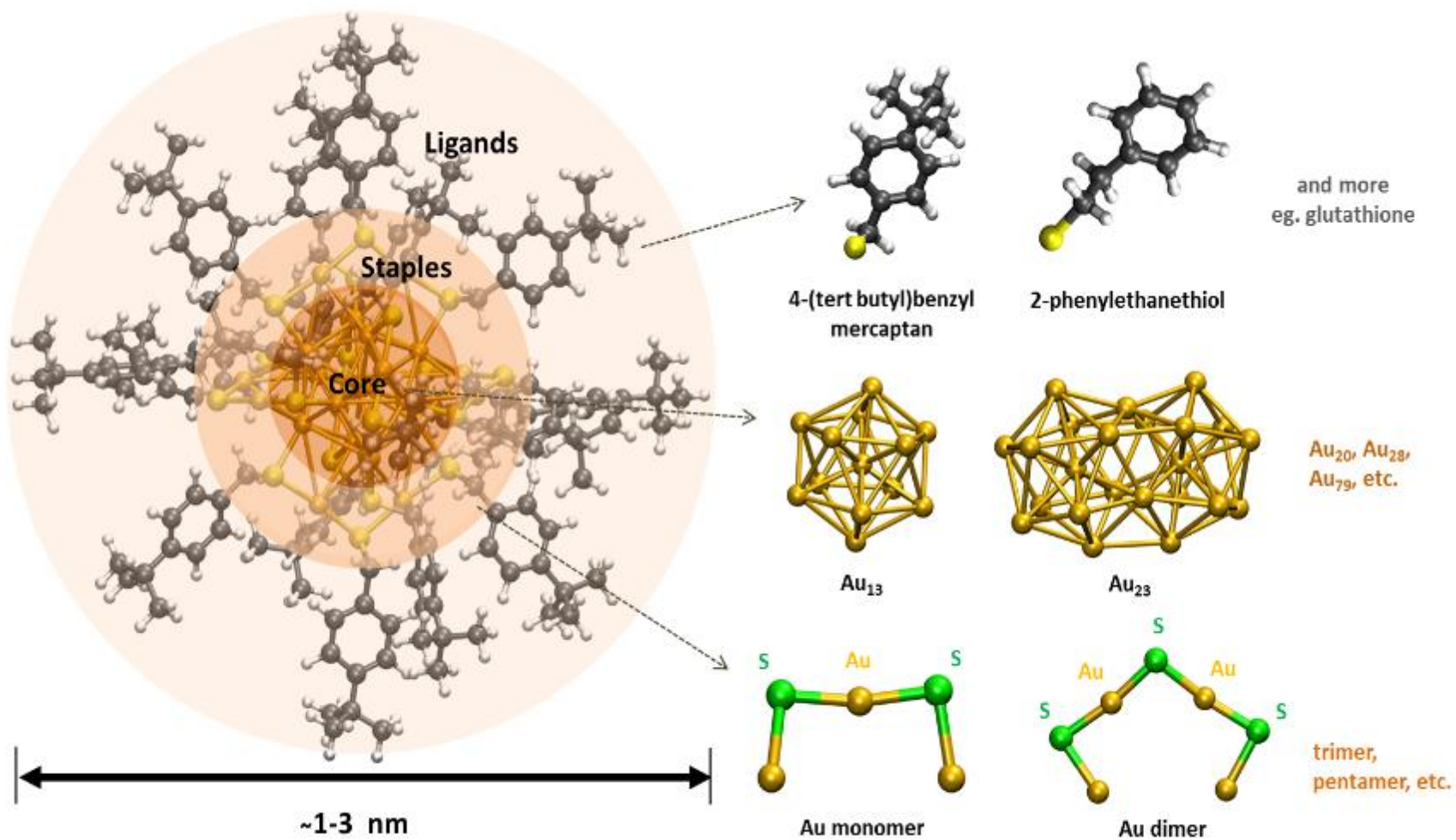
DST Unit of Nanoscience (DST UNS) and Thematic Unit of Excellence, Department of Chemistry, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai 600036, India

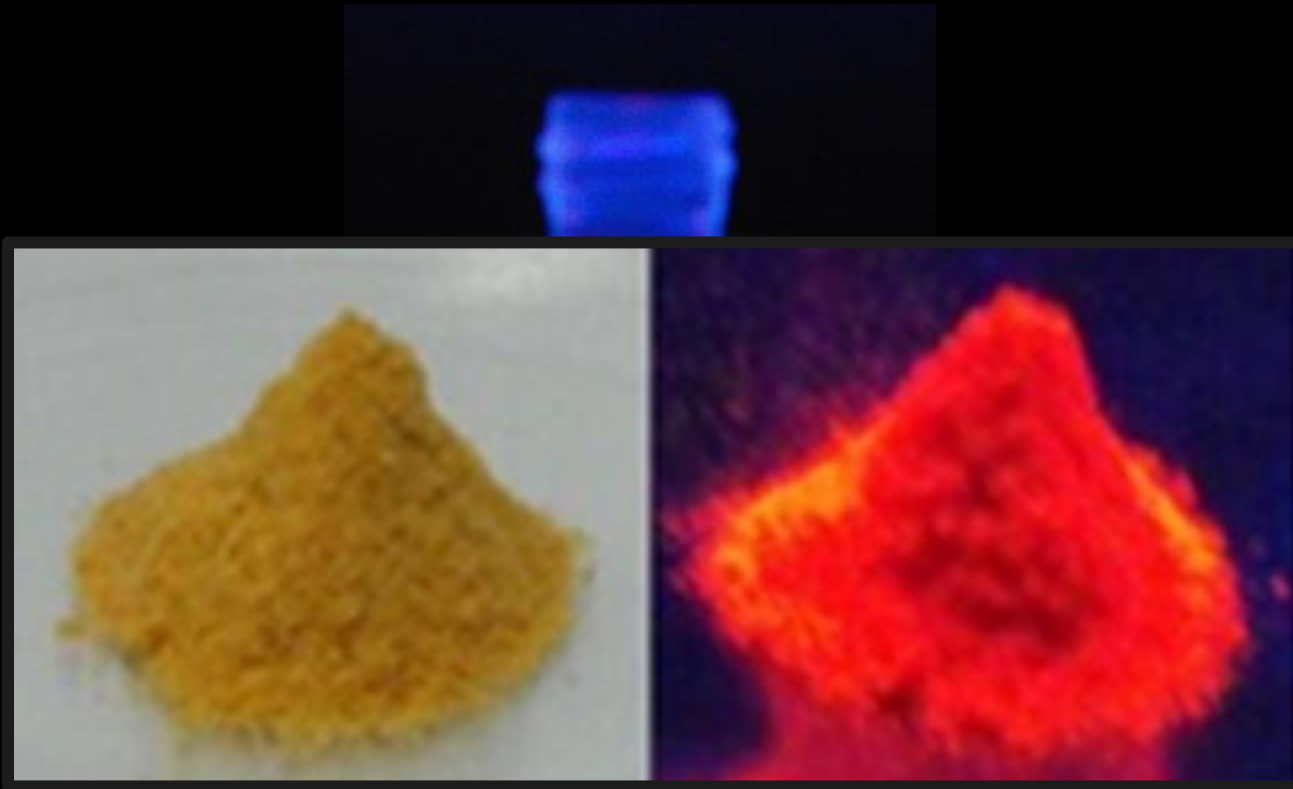
Supporting Information

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.

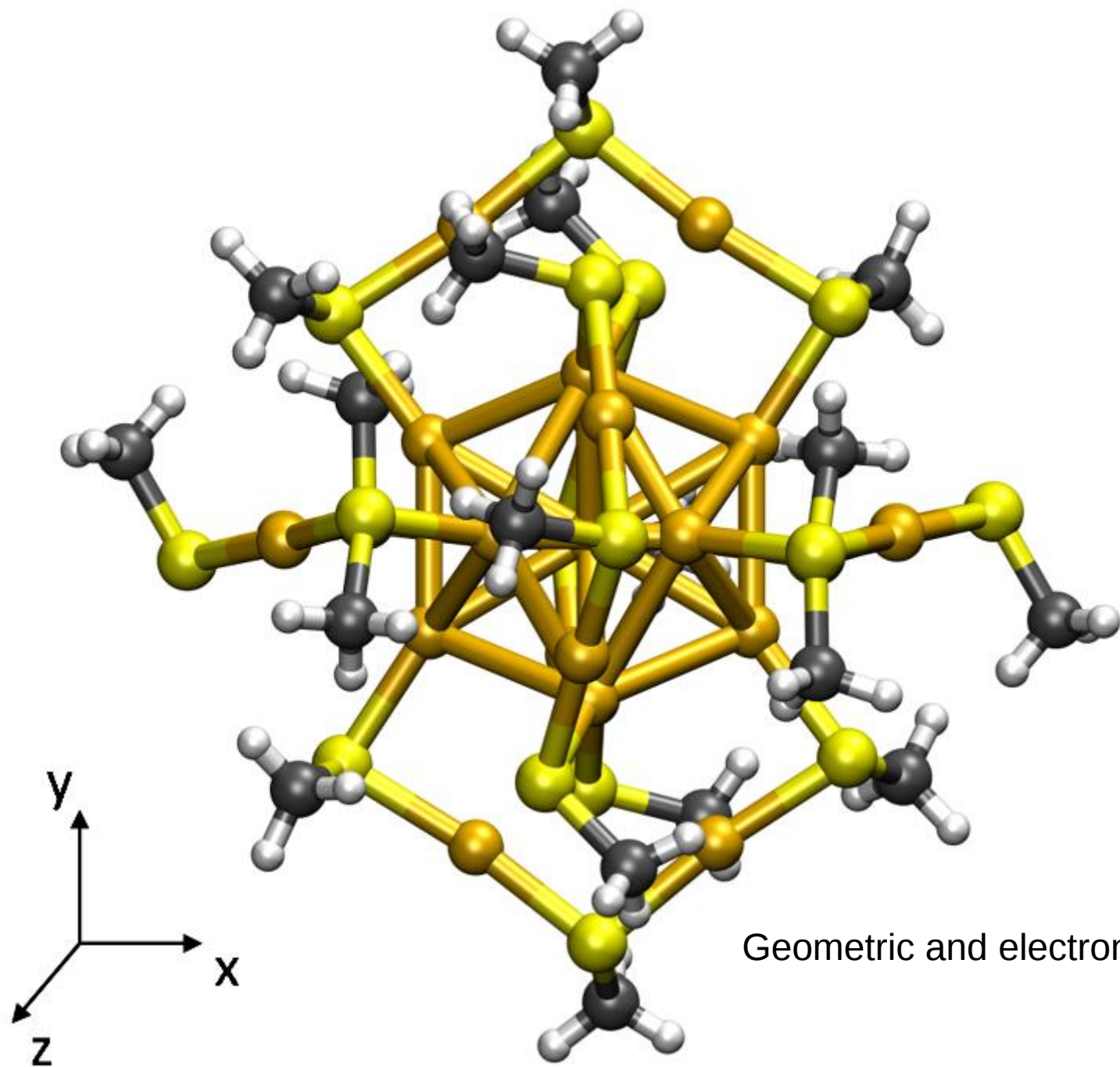


Also the pioneering work of R. W. Murray, Robert L. Whetten, Uzi Landman, Tatuya Tsukuda, Yuichi Negishi, Hannu Hakkinen, R. Jin, Nanfeng Zheng, Terry Bigioni, Osman Bakr, Kornberg, Jianping Xie, C. M. Aikens, Thomas Buerger, Amala Dass, A. W. Castleman Jr., H. Schmidbauer, ...

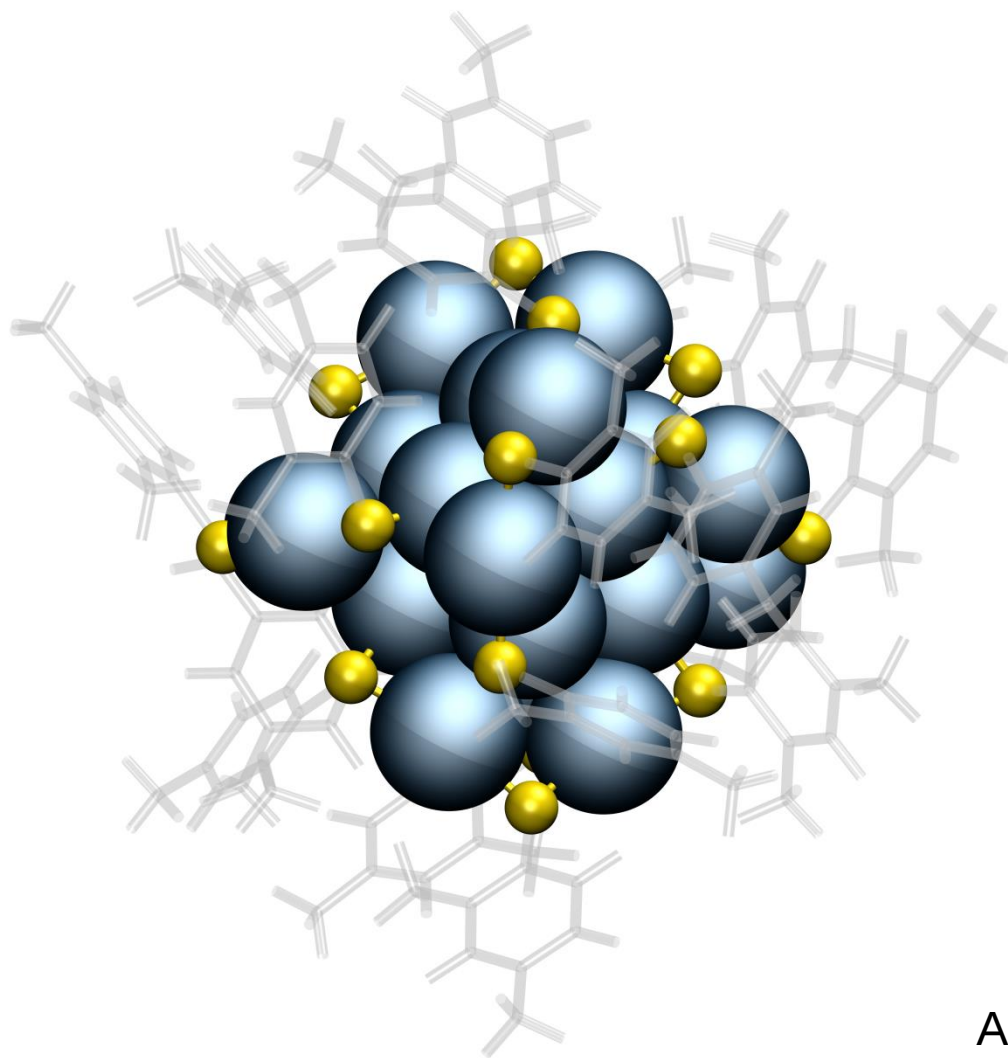




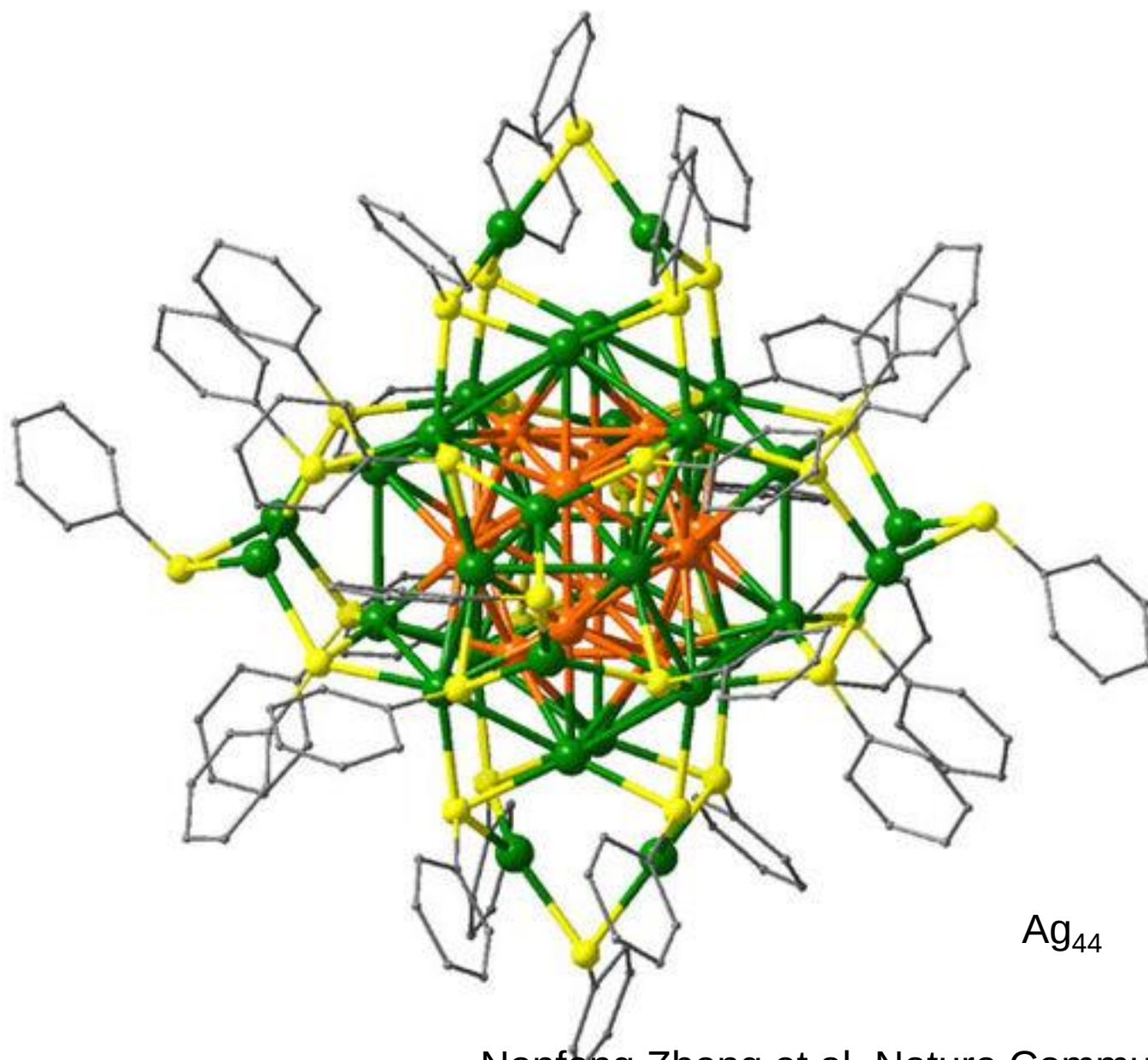
Shibhu, Habeeb, Uday, Kamalesh, Lourdu, Ammu, Ananya, Indranath, Atanu, Krishnadas, Shridevi, Papri, Esma, Debasmita, Abhijit, Amrita, Jyoti, Sugi, Bodi, Paulami,



Geometric and electronic shells



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

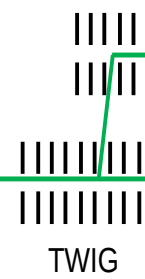
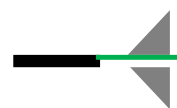


Nanfeng Zheng et al. Nature Communications, 2013
Terry Bigioni et al. Nature 2013

MS_3 32 (0.558) Cm (5:80)

$\text{Au}_{25}\text{PET}_{18}$

ESI source



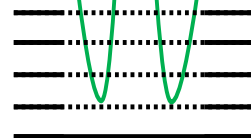
Quadrupole mass filter

Gate electrode

He

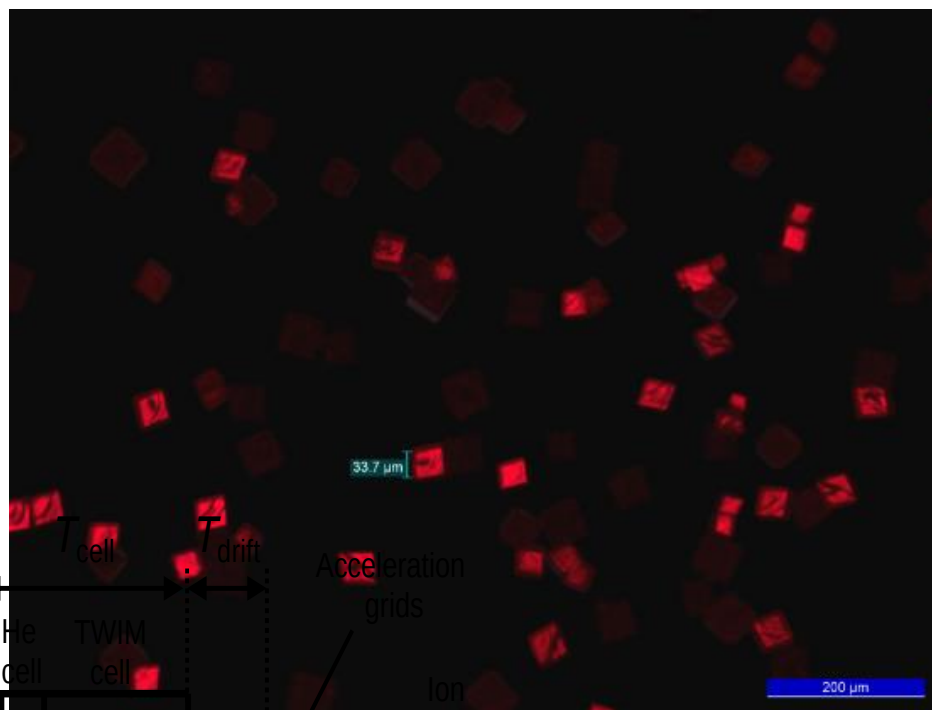
N₂

TOF-MS
with a reflectron

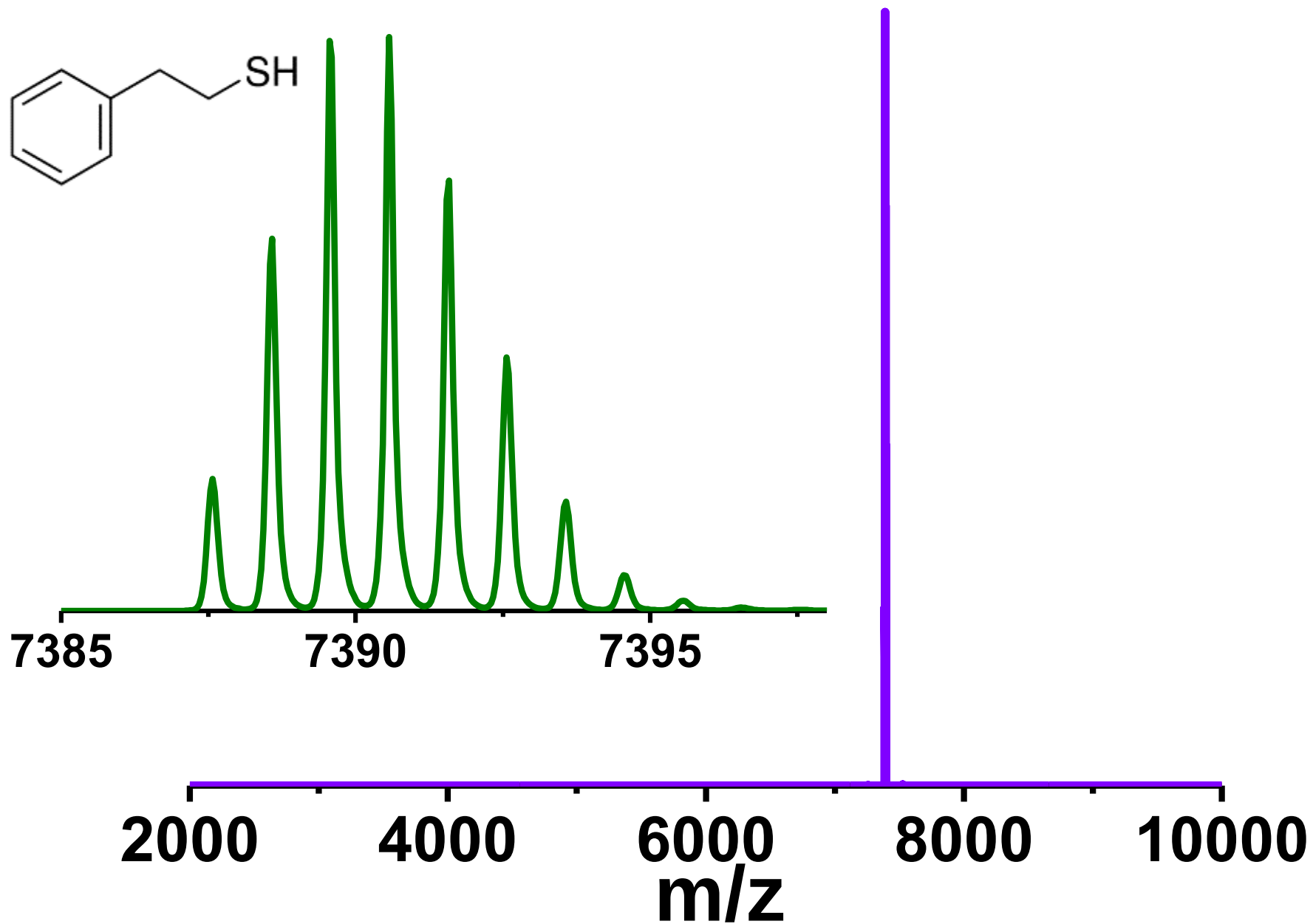
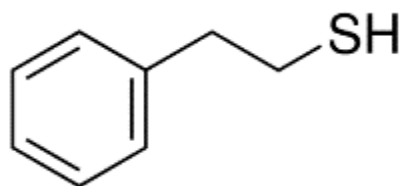


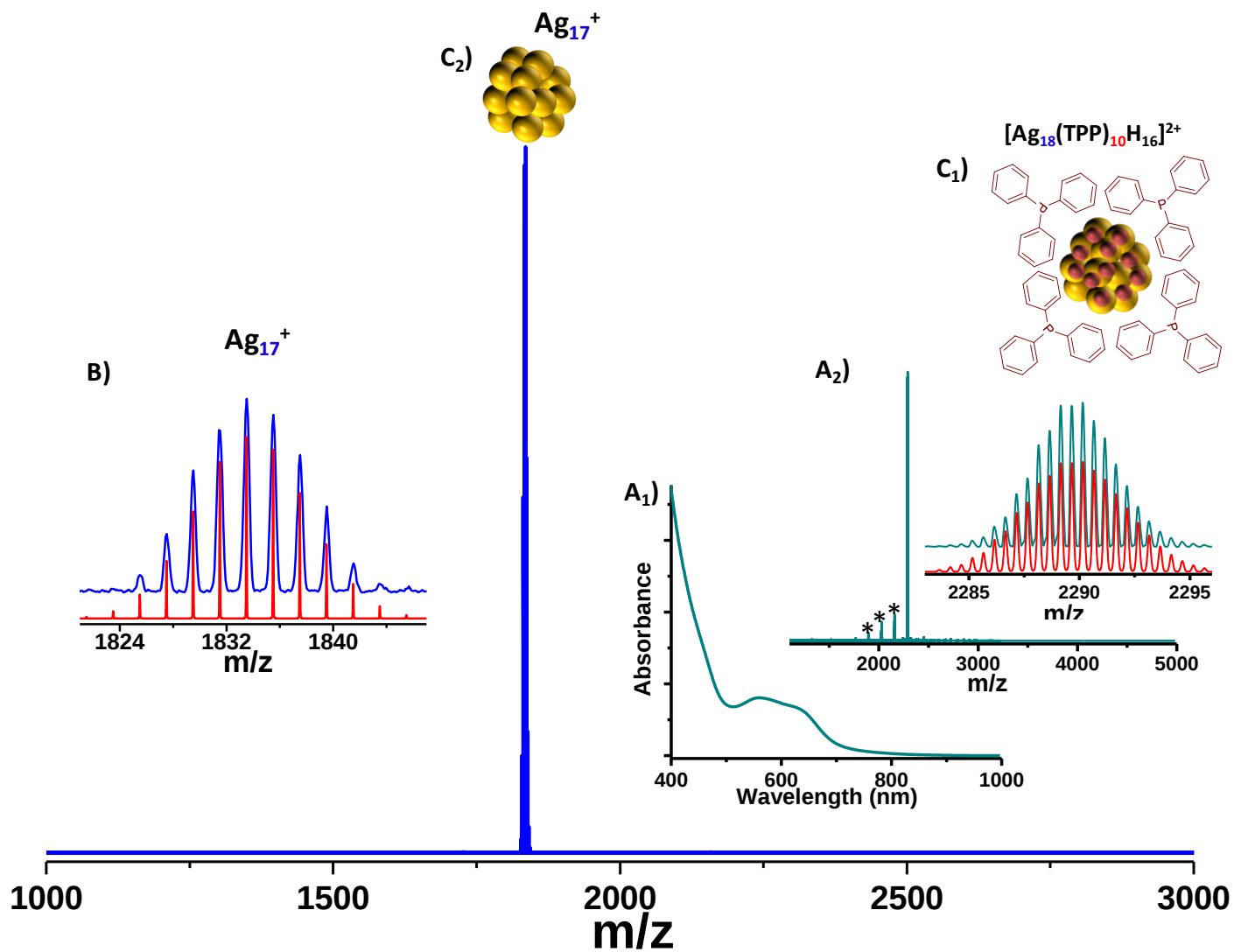
Acceleration grids

Ion detector



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





ADVANCED MATERIALS

Communication

Nanocrystal gold molecules*

Prof. Robert L. Whetten Joseph T. Khoury Dr. Marcos M. Alvarez Dr. Srihari Murthy
Igor Vezmar Prof. Z. L. Wang Prof. Peter W. Stephens Dr. Charles L. Cleveland Dr.
W. D. Luedtke Prof. Uzi Landman

First published: May 1996 <https://doi.org/10.1002/adma.19960080513> Cited by:
651

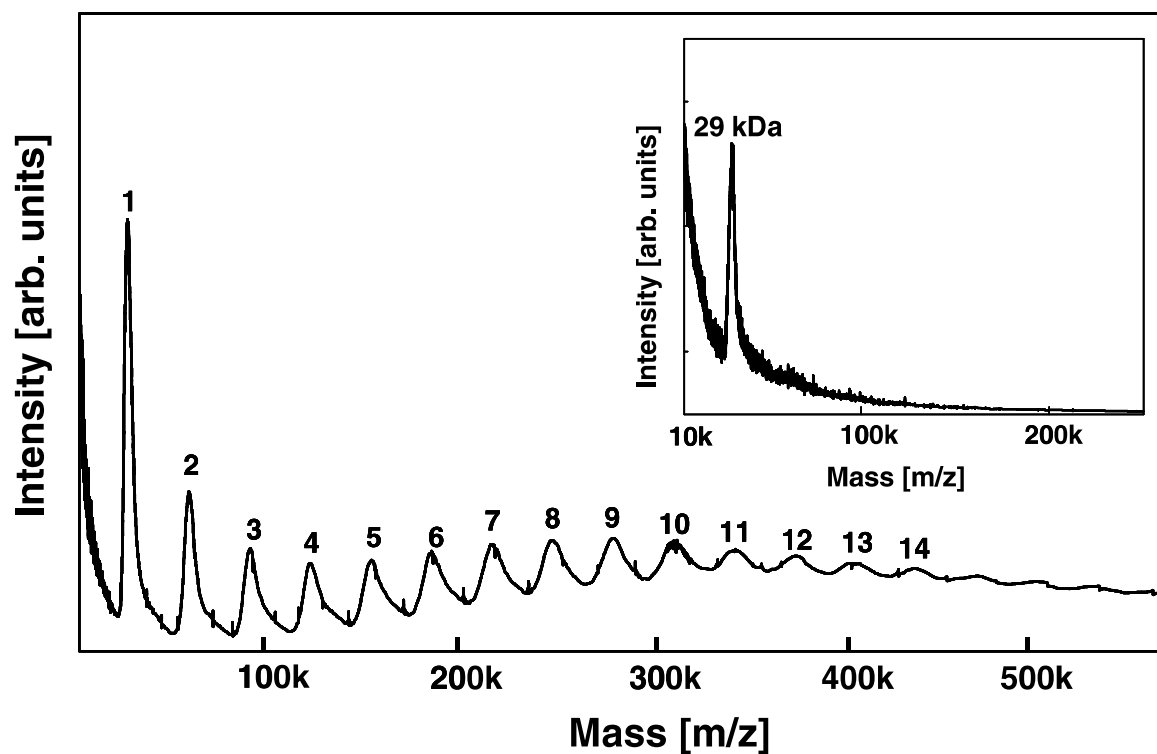
Gas phase aggregates of protected clusters

Jobin Cyriac, V.R. Rajeev Kumar, T. Pradeep *

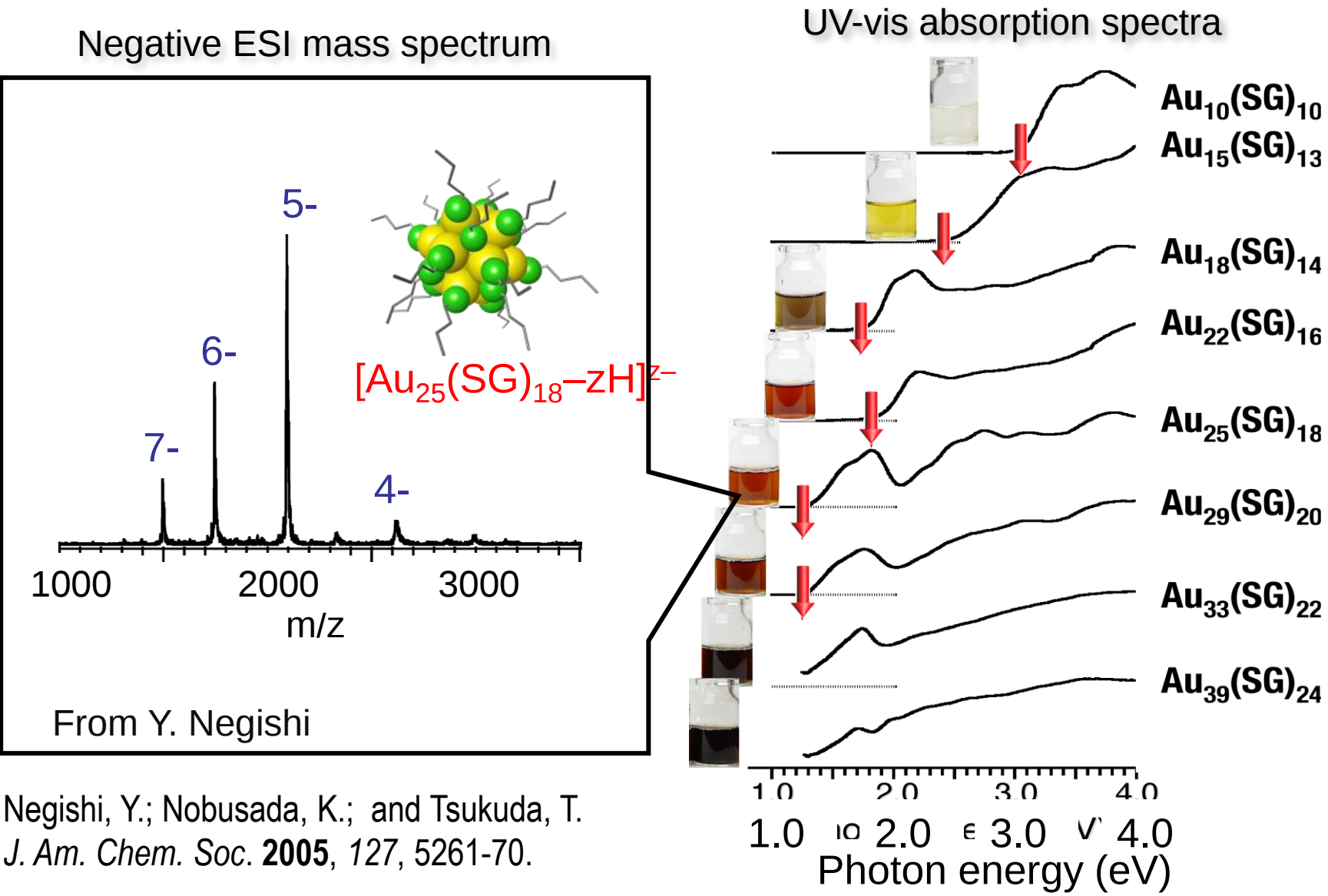
Department of Chemistry and Sophisticated Analytical Instrument Facility, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai 600 036, India

Received 30 January 2004; in final form 2 April 2004

Available online 27 April 2004



Systematic Isolation of Glutathione-Protected Gold clusters



Negishi, Y.; Nobusada, K.; and Tsukuda, T.
J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2005**, 127, 5261-70.

Structure of a Thiol Monolayer–Protected Gold Nanoparticle at 1.1 Å Resolution

Pablo D. Jadzinsky,^{1,2*} Guillermo Calero,^{1*} Christopher J. Ackerson,^{1†}
David A. Bushnell,¹ Roger D. Kornberg^{1‡}

Structural information on nanometer-sized gold particles has been limited, due in part to the problem of preparing homogeneous material. Here we report the crystallization and x-ray structure determination of a *p*-mercaptobenzoic acid (p-MBA)–protected gold nanoparticle, which comprises 102 gold atoms and 44 p-MBAs. The central gold atoms are packed in a Marks decahedron, surrounded by additional layers of gold atoms in unanticipated geometries. The p-MBAs interact not only with the gold but also with one another, forming a rigid surface layer. The particles are chiral, with the two enantiomers alternating in the crystal lattice. The discrete nature of the particle may be explained by the closing of a 58-electron shell.

Nanometer-size metal particles are of fundamental interest for their chemical and quantum electronic properties and of practical interest for many potential applications (1, 2). With the development of facile routes of synthesis (3), gold nanoparticles coated

with surface thiol layers have been studied in most detail. The particles are typically heterogeneous as synthesized, and though their size distribution may be narrowed by fractionation or other means (4–9), no atomically monodisperse preparation has been reported, and no atomic

structure has been obtained. Electron microscopy (EM) (10, 11), powder x-ray diffraction (PXRD) (12), and theoretical studies have led to the idea of Marks decahedral (MD) and truncated octahedral geometries of the metal core, with crystalline packing and {111} faces (13). According to this idea, discrete core sizes represent “magic numbers” of gold atoms, arising from closed geometric shells (14). Alternatives of amorphous (15), molten, or quasimolten (16) cores have also been proposed. The structure of the surface thiol layer is similarly obscure. The nature of the gold-sulfur interaction (17), the fate of the sulfhydryl proton (18), and the conformation of the organic moiety all remain to be determined. The thiols are

¹Department of Structural Biology, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, CA 94305, USA. ²Department of Applied Physics, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305, USA.

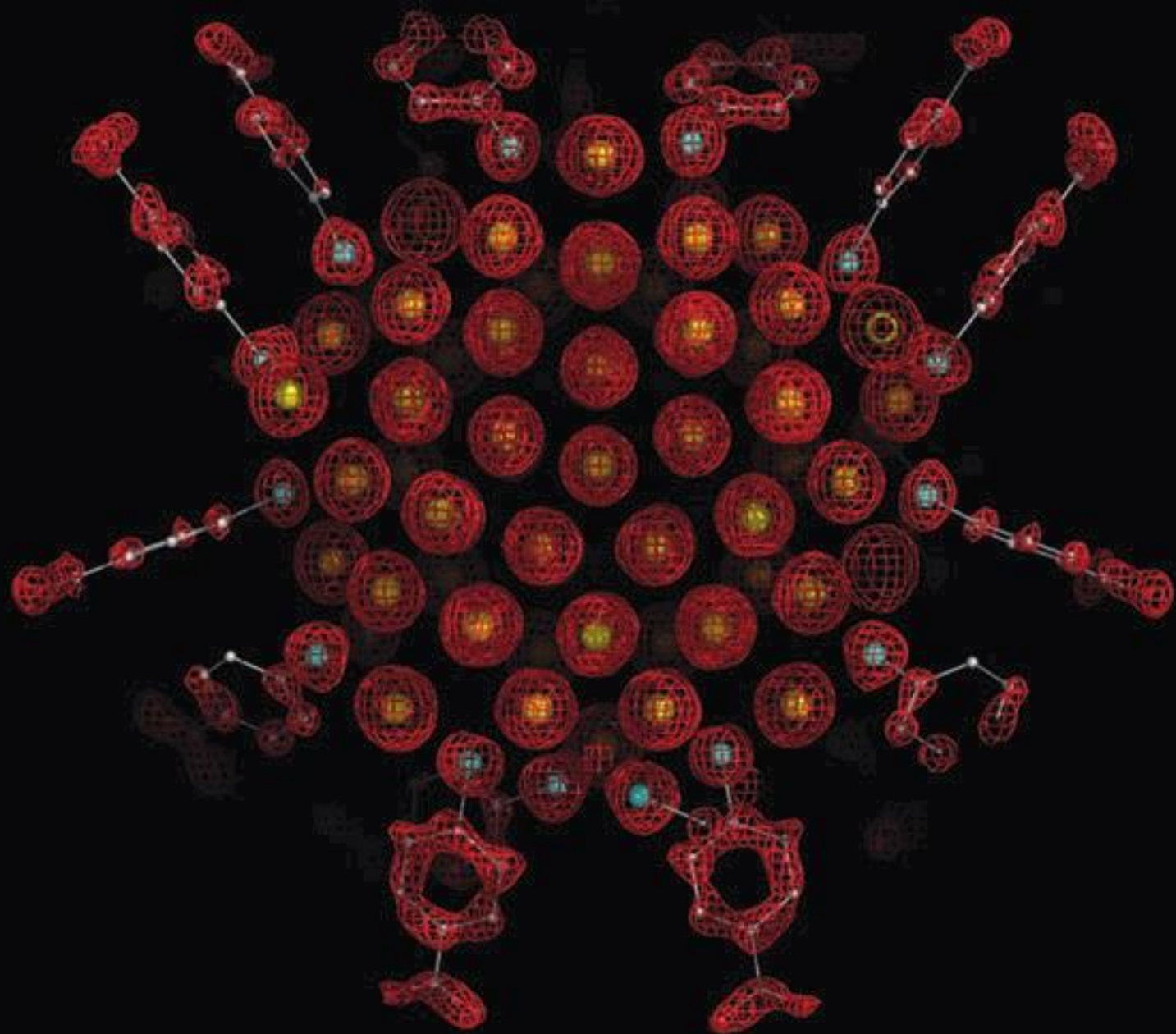
*These authors contributed equally to this work.

†Present address: Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309, USA.

‡Present address: Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309, USA.

‡To whom correspondence should be addressed. E-mail: kornberg@stanford.edu

A



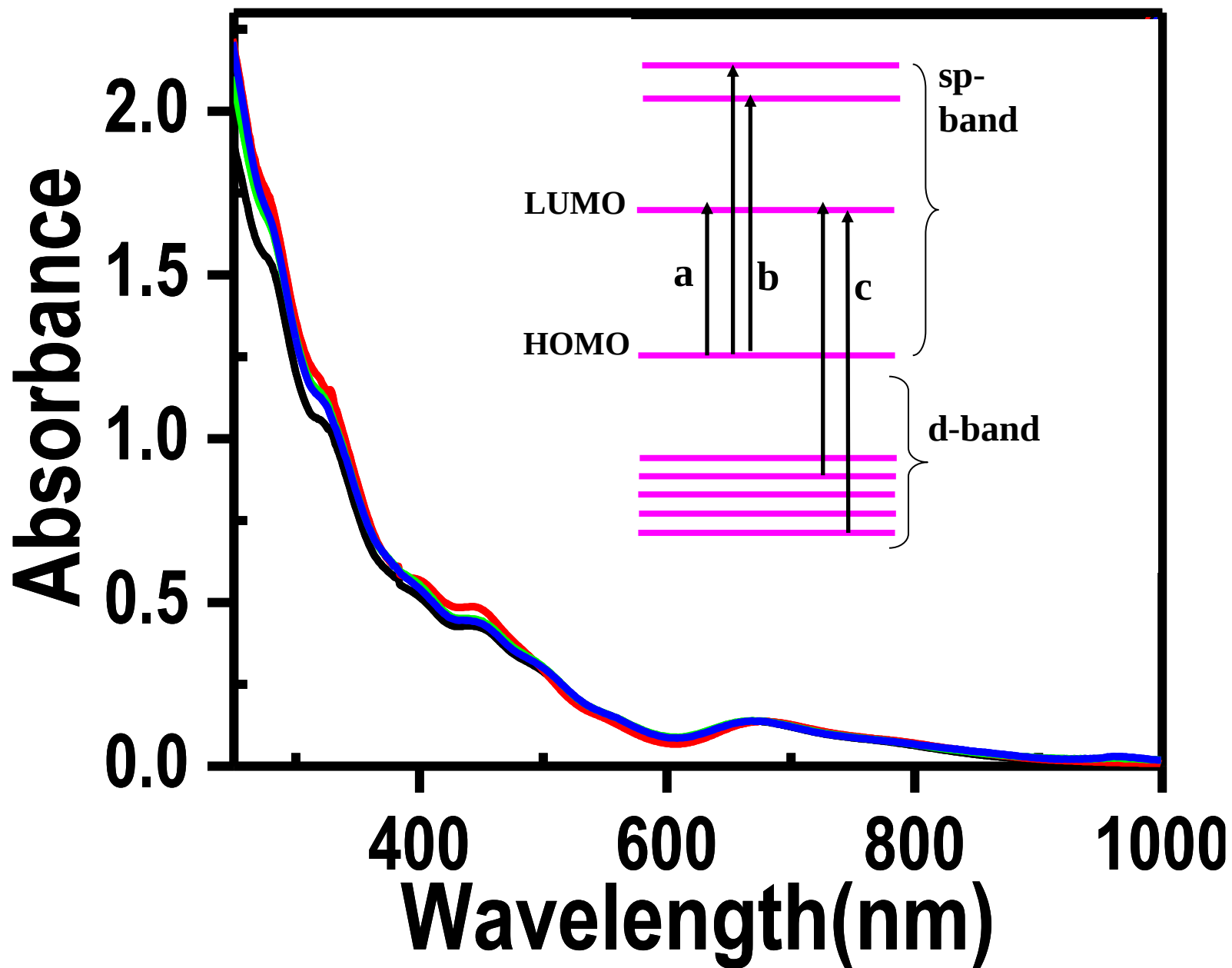


Synthesis: Au_{25} clusters can be preferentially populated by dissociative excitation of larger precursors

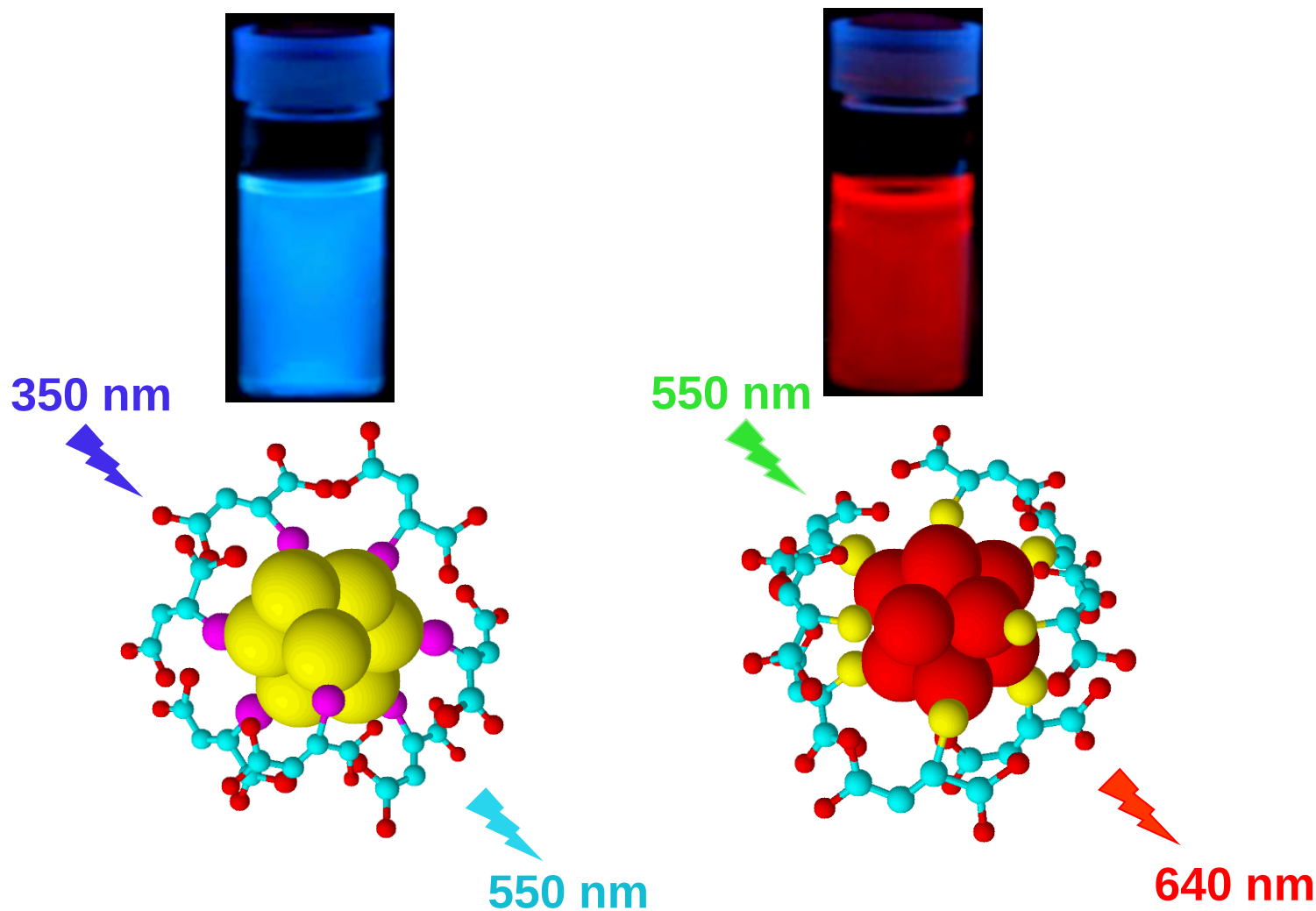
Direct synthesis from mixture of particles



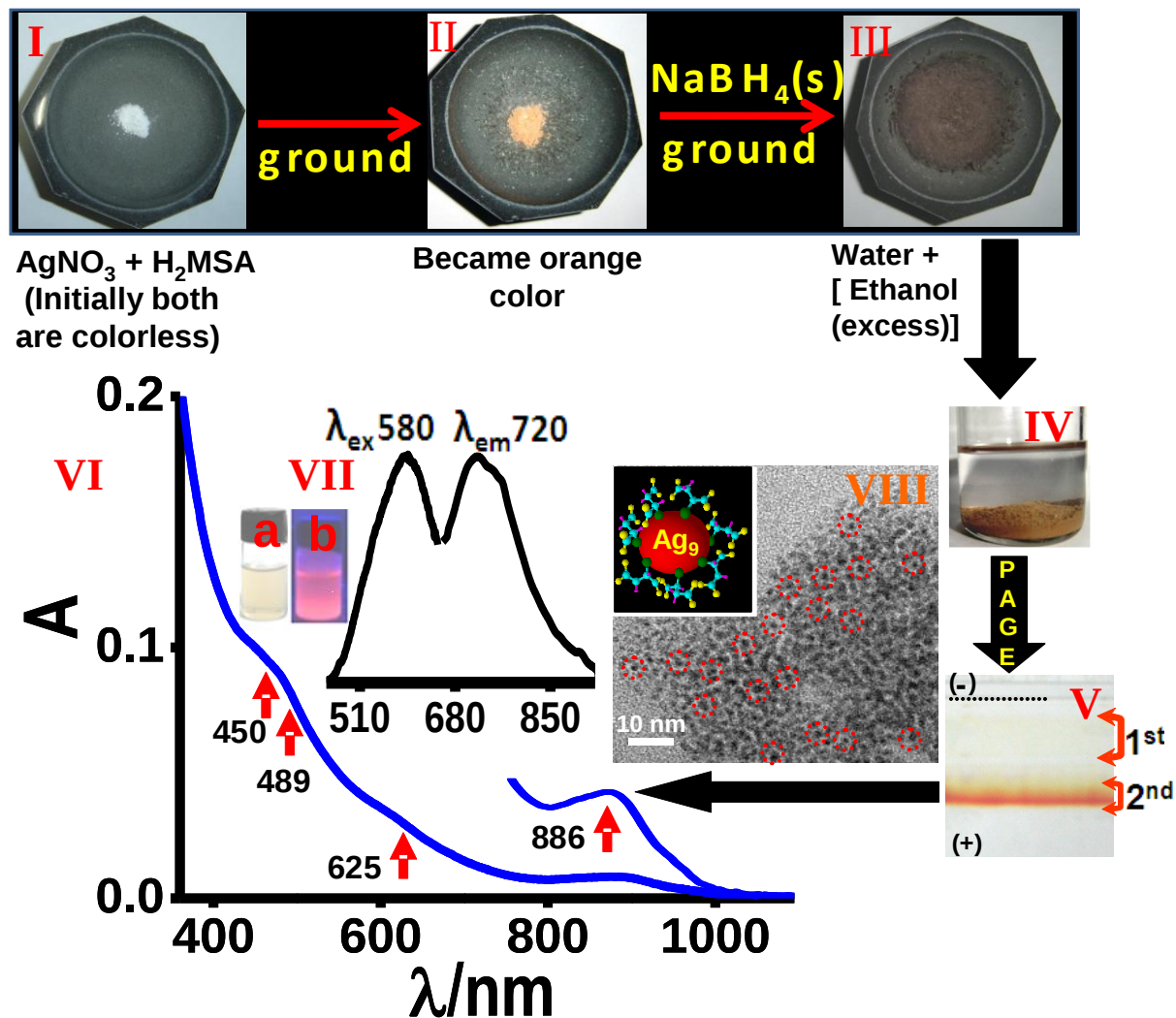
Scheme showing the synthesis of $\text{Au}_{25}\text{SG}_{18}$ clusters



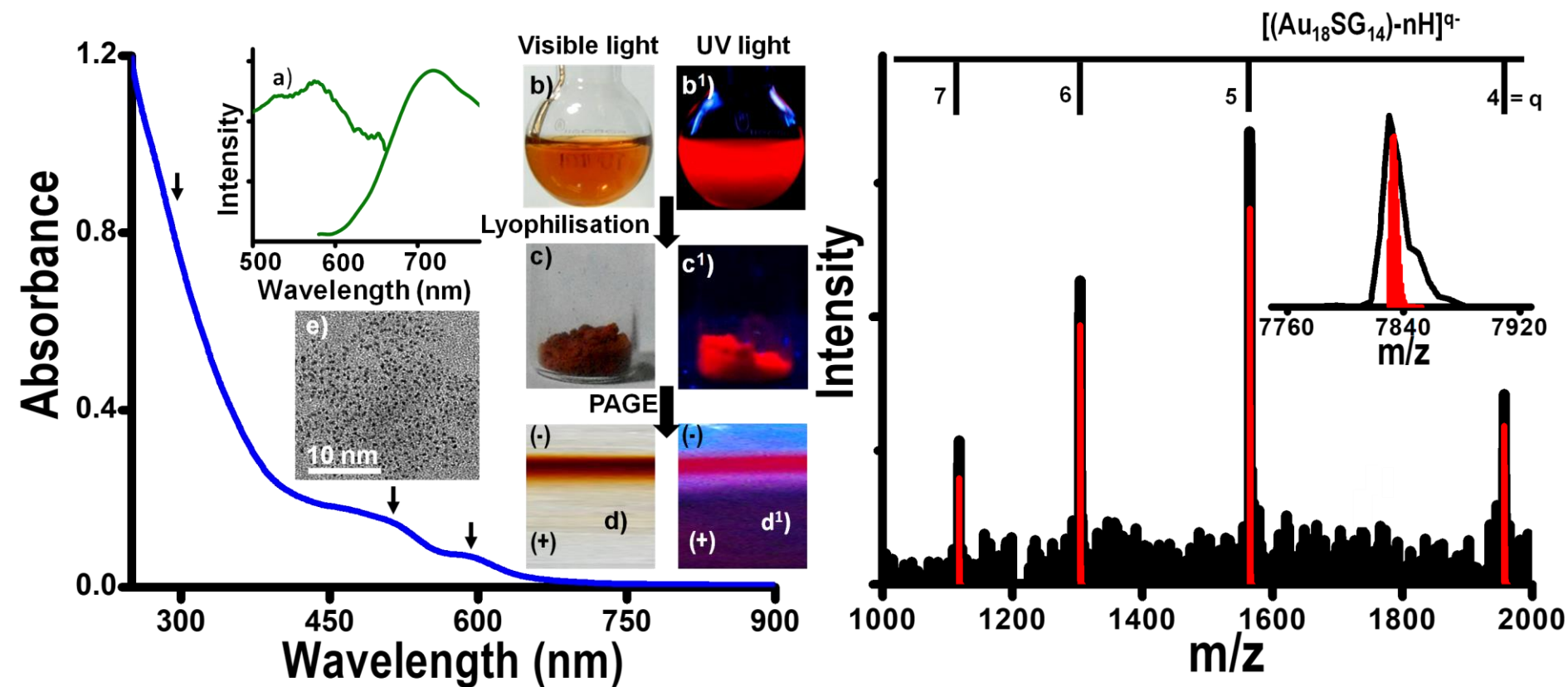
Silver clusters - interfacial etching



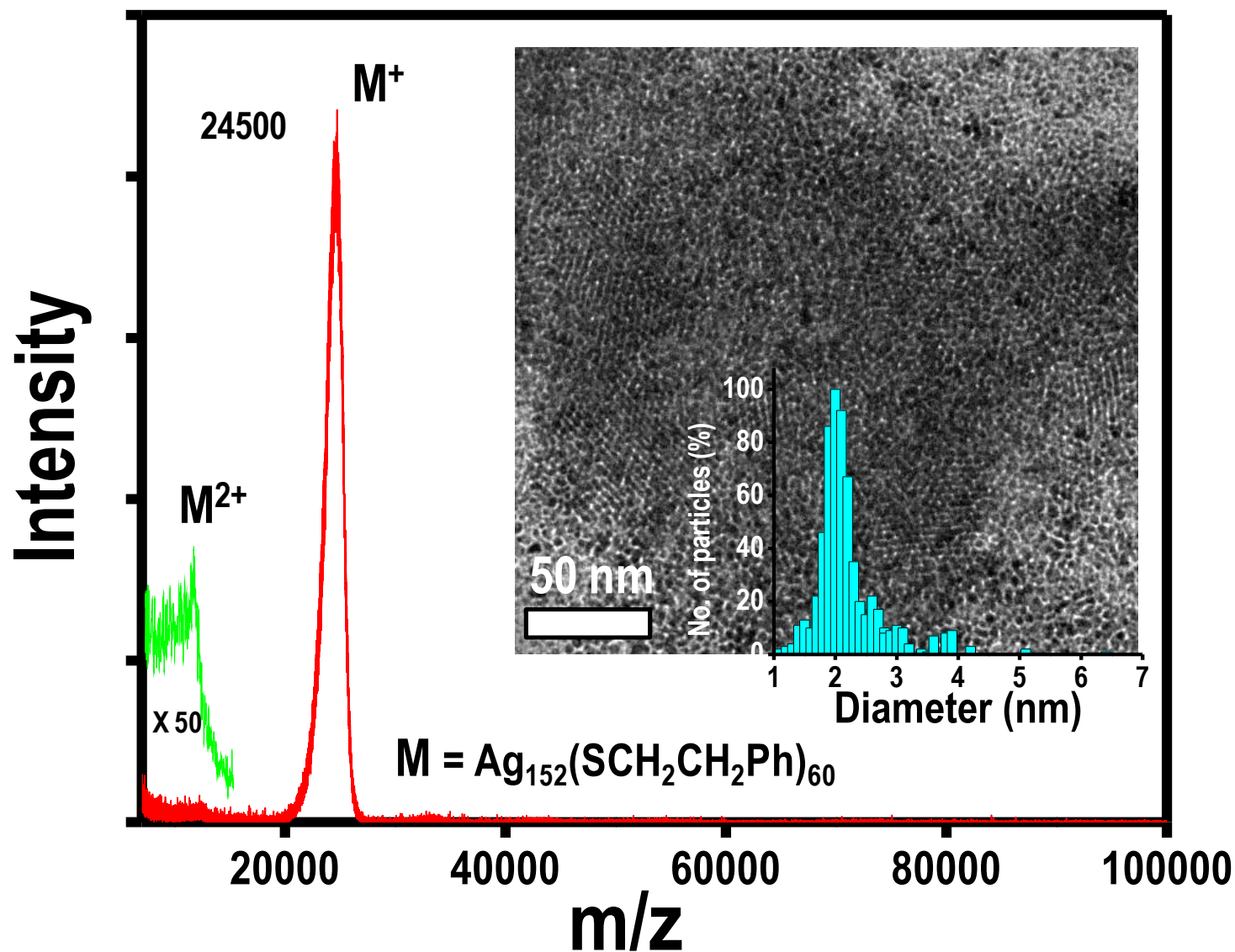
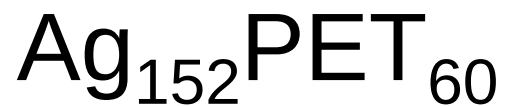
Ag₉MSA₇ - solid state synthesis

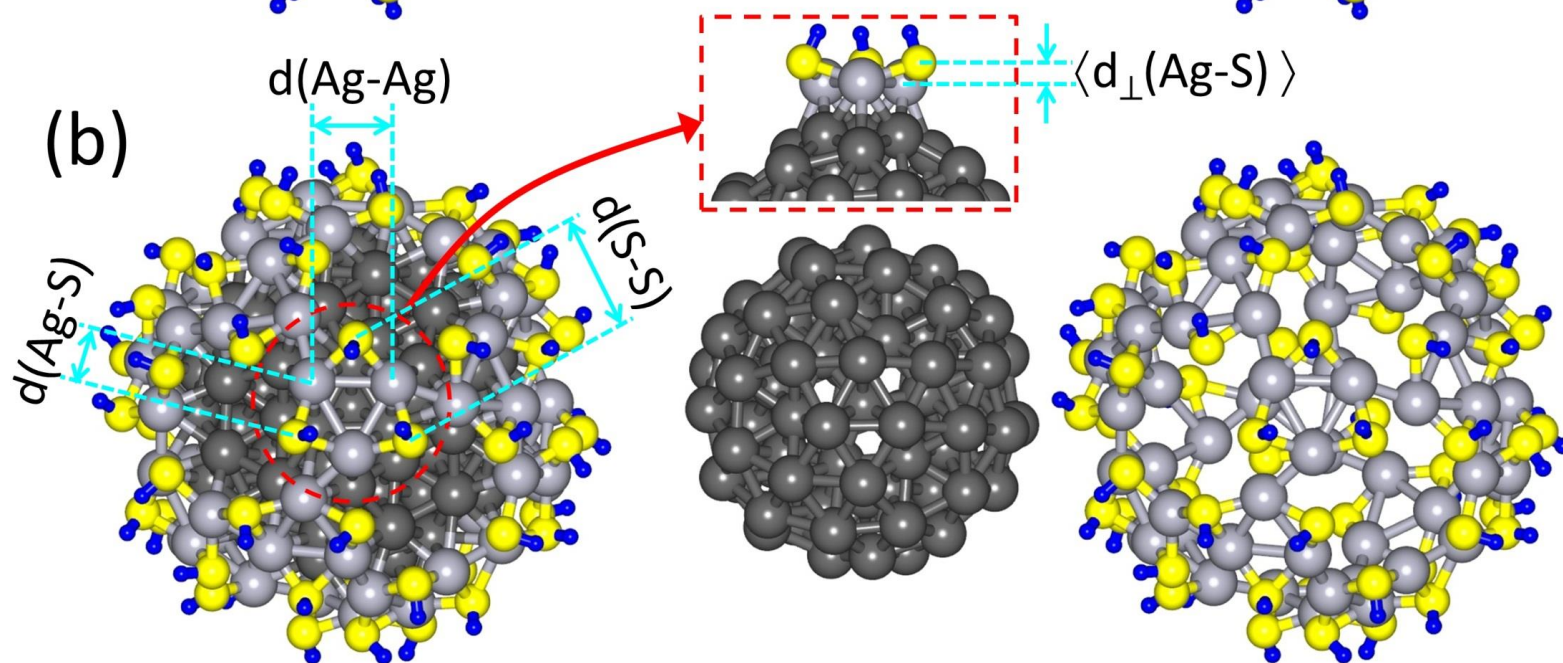
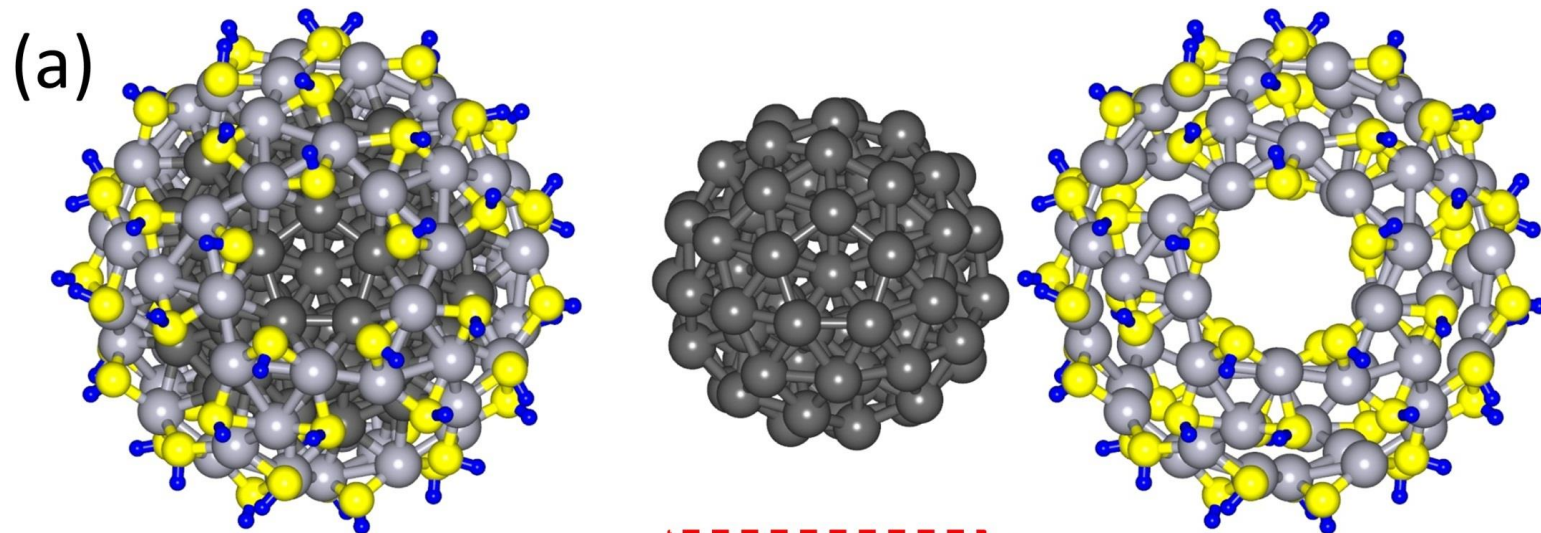


One step methods - $\text{Au}_{18}\text{SG}_{14}$

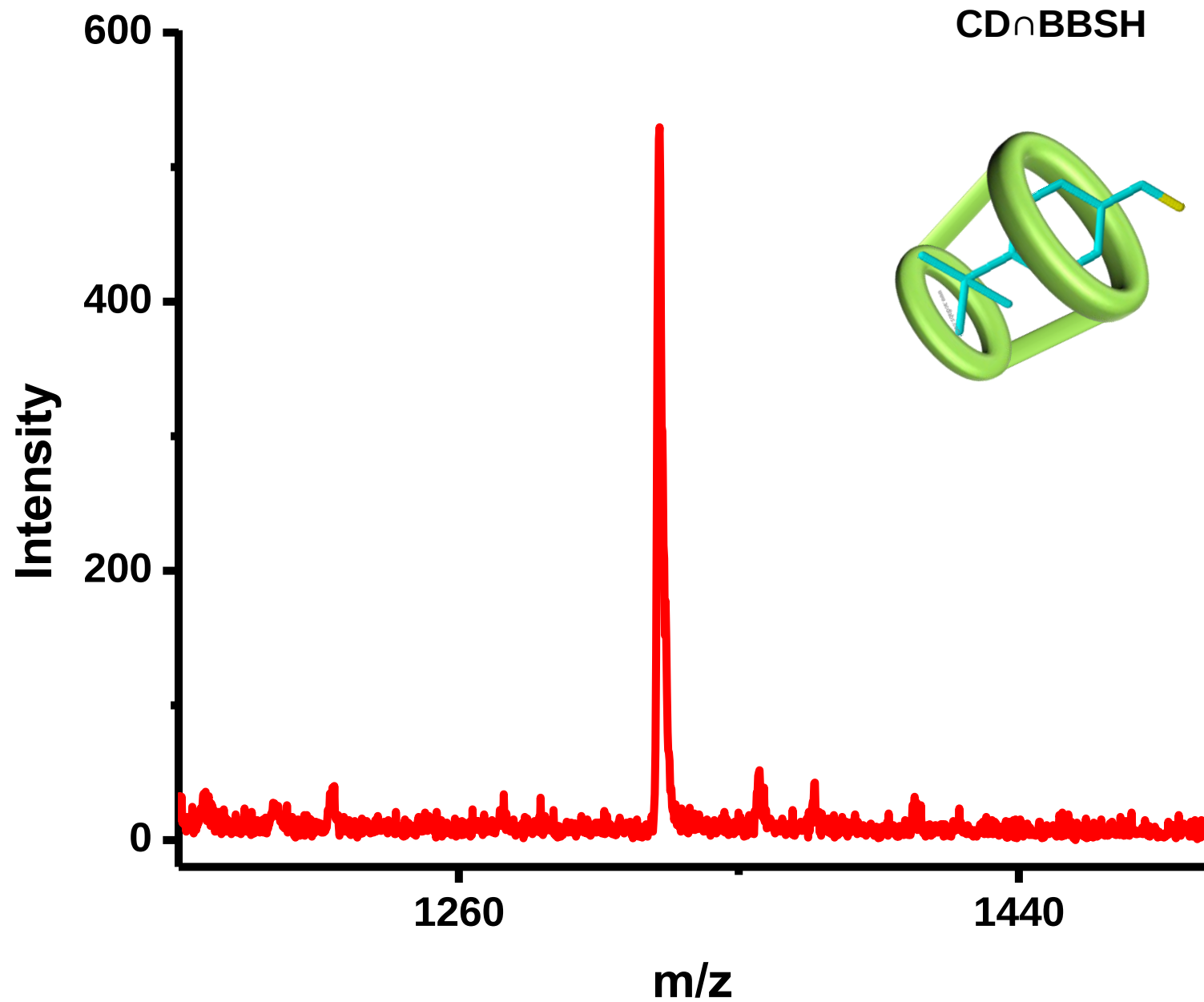


Slow reduction!

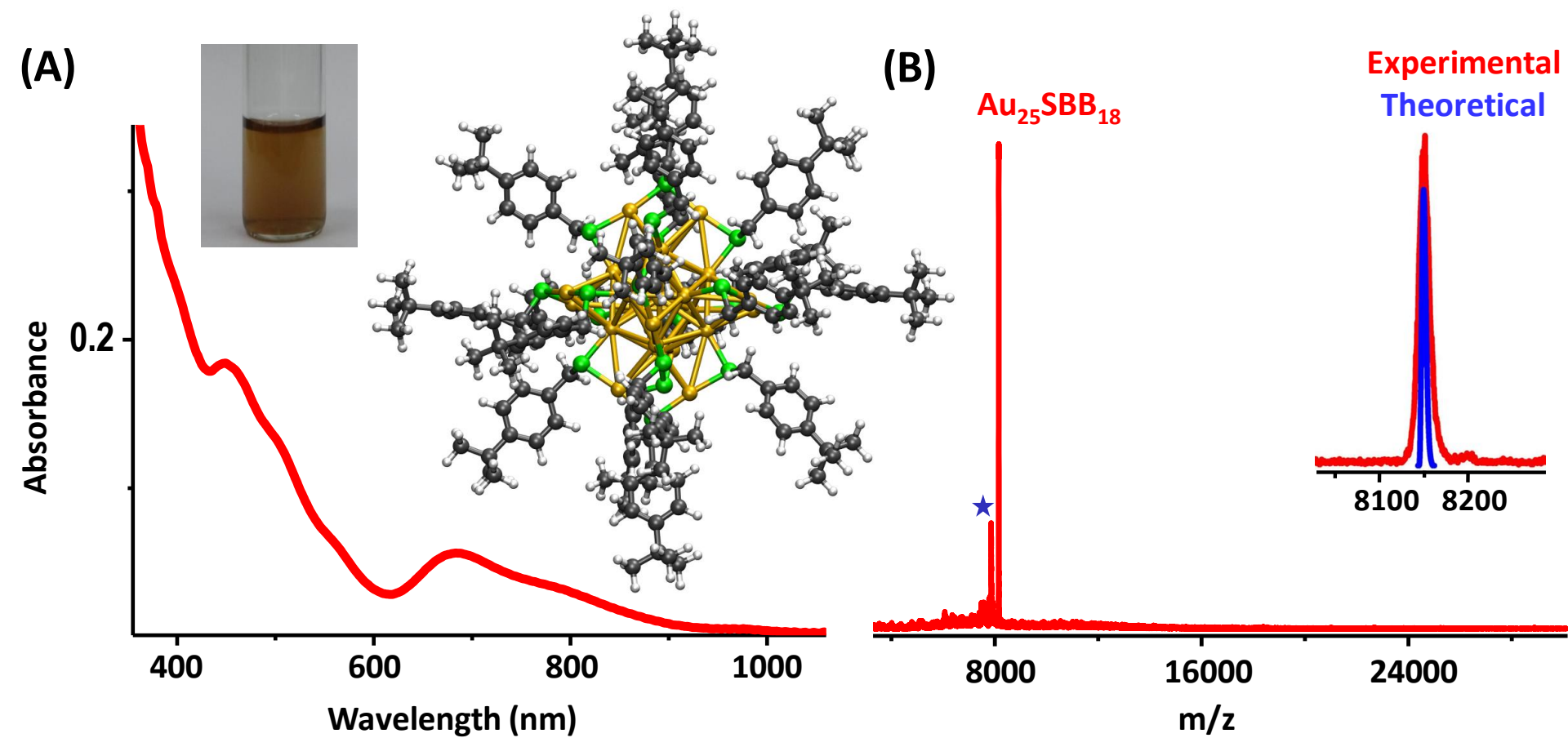




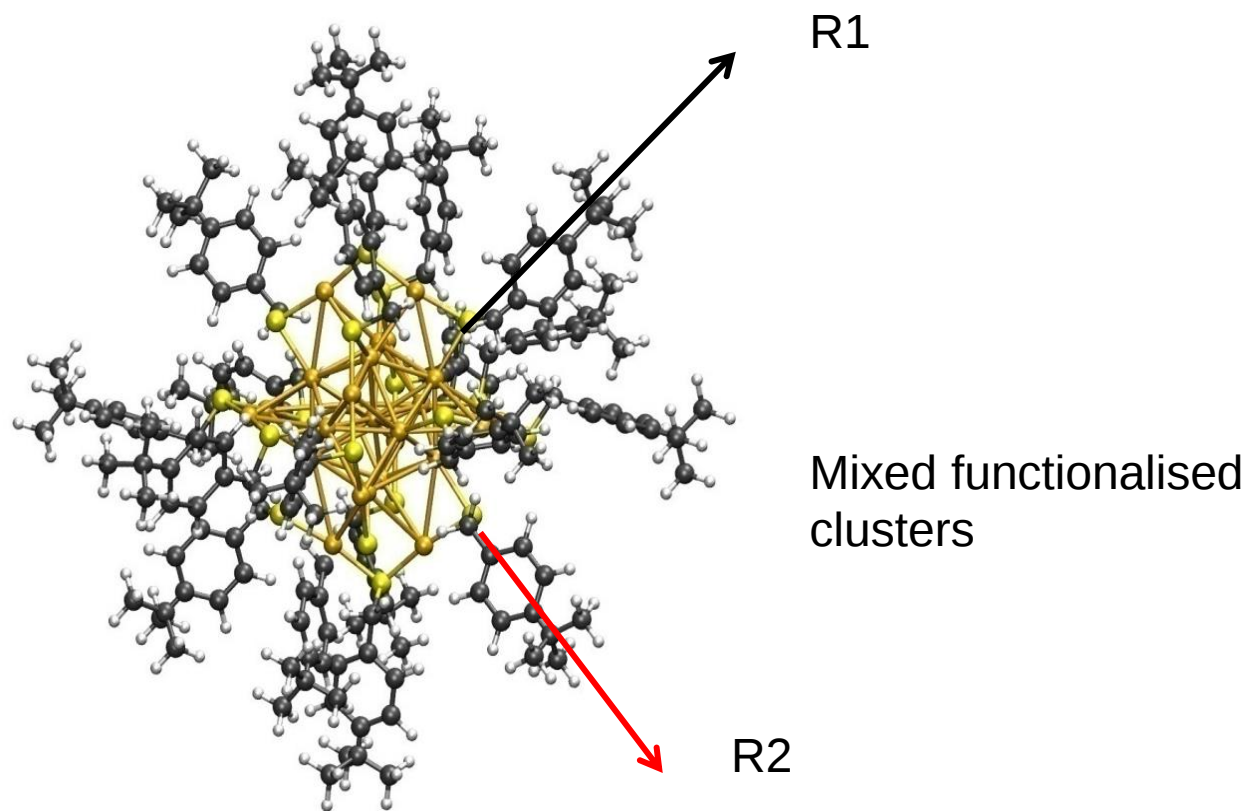
Positive mode MALDI MS of BBSH $\cap$ CD complex



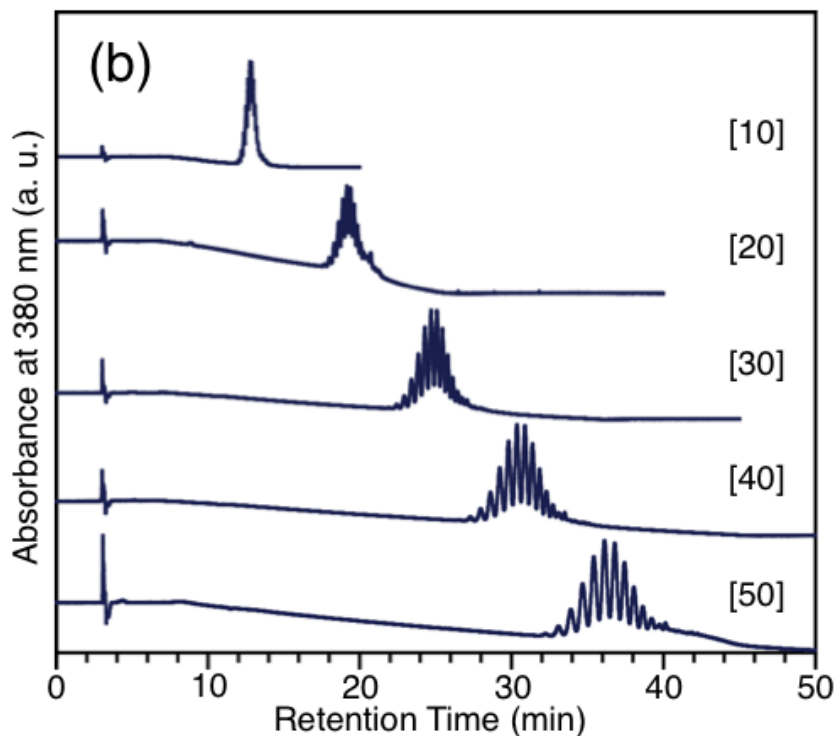
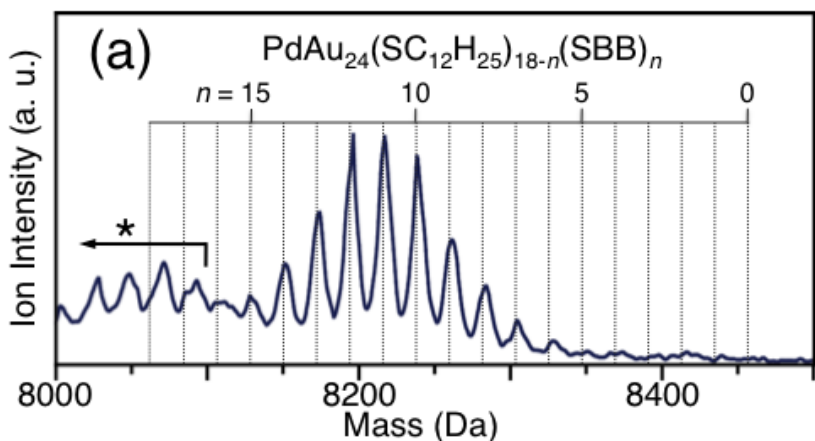
$\text{Au}_{25}\text{SBB}_{18}$



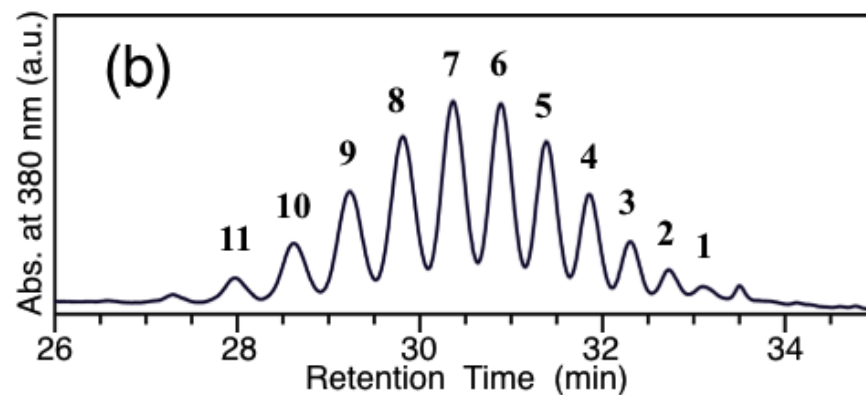
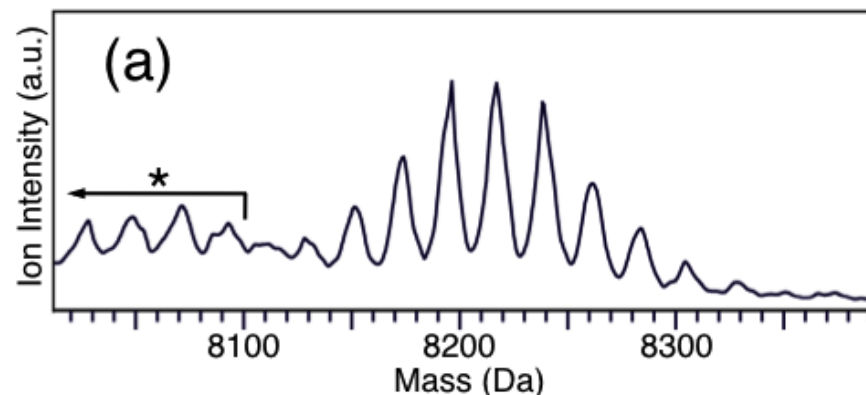
Substitution chemistry of clusters



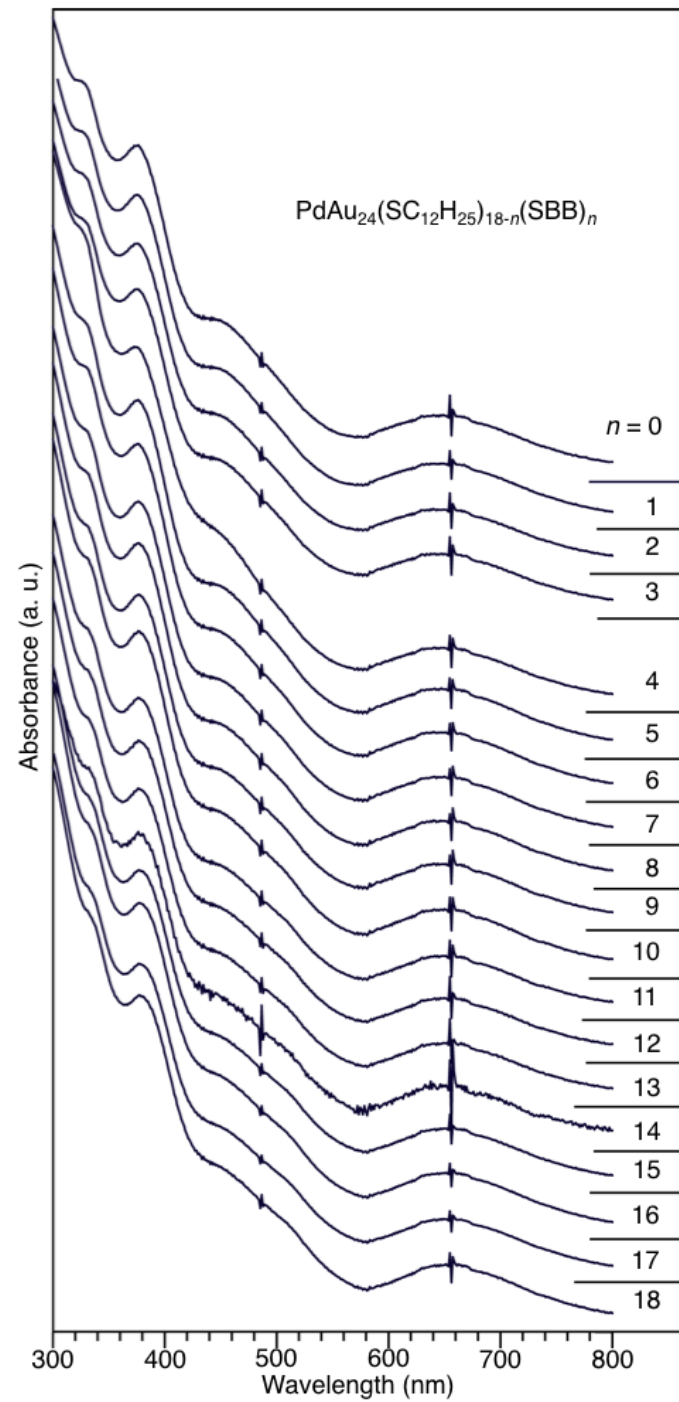
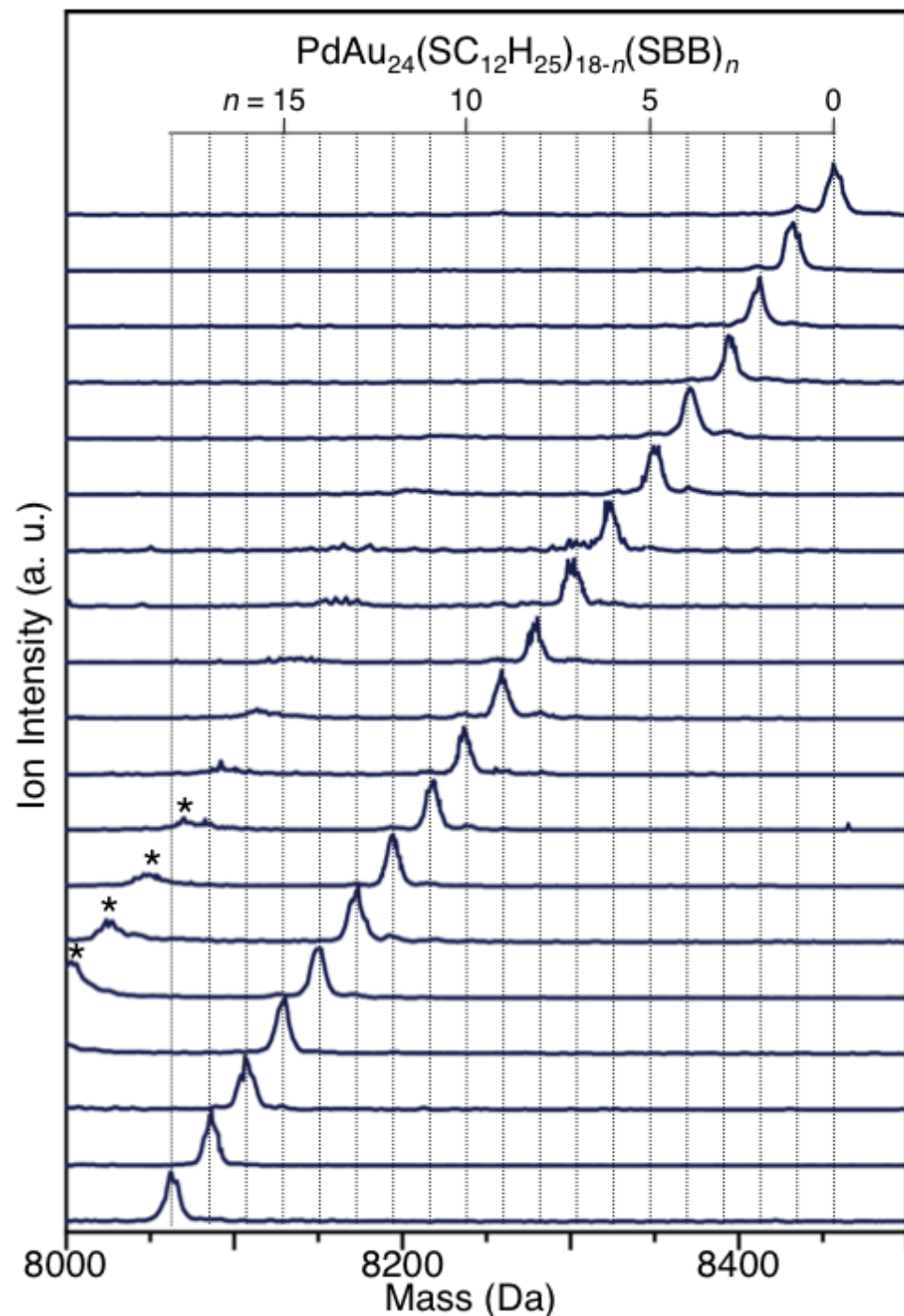
Separation of precise compositions of noble metal clusters protected with mixed ligands

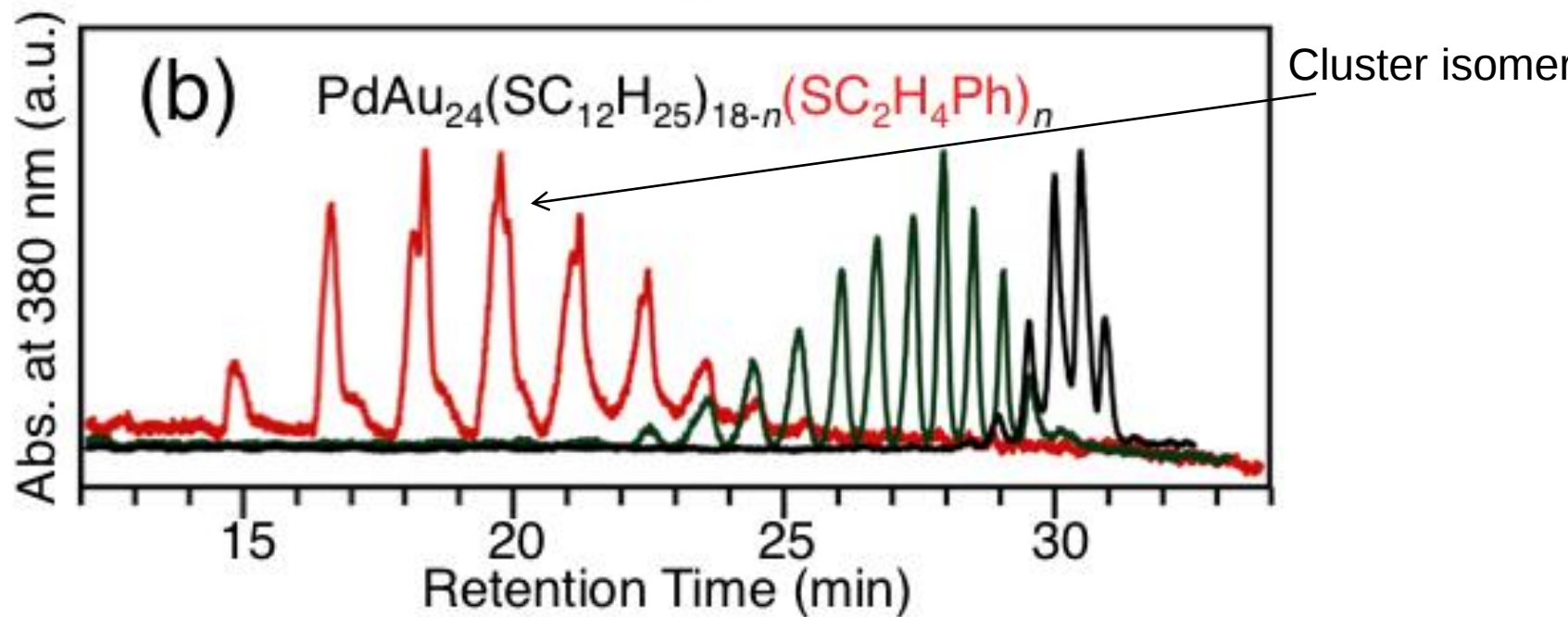
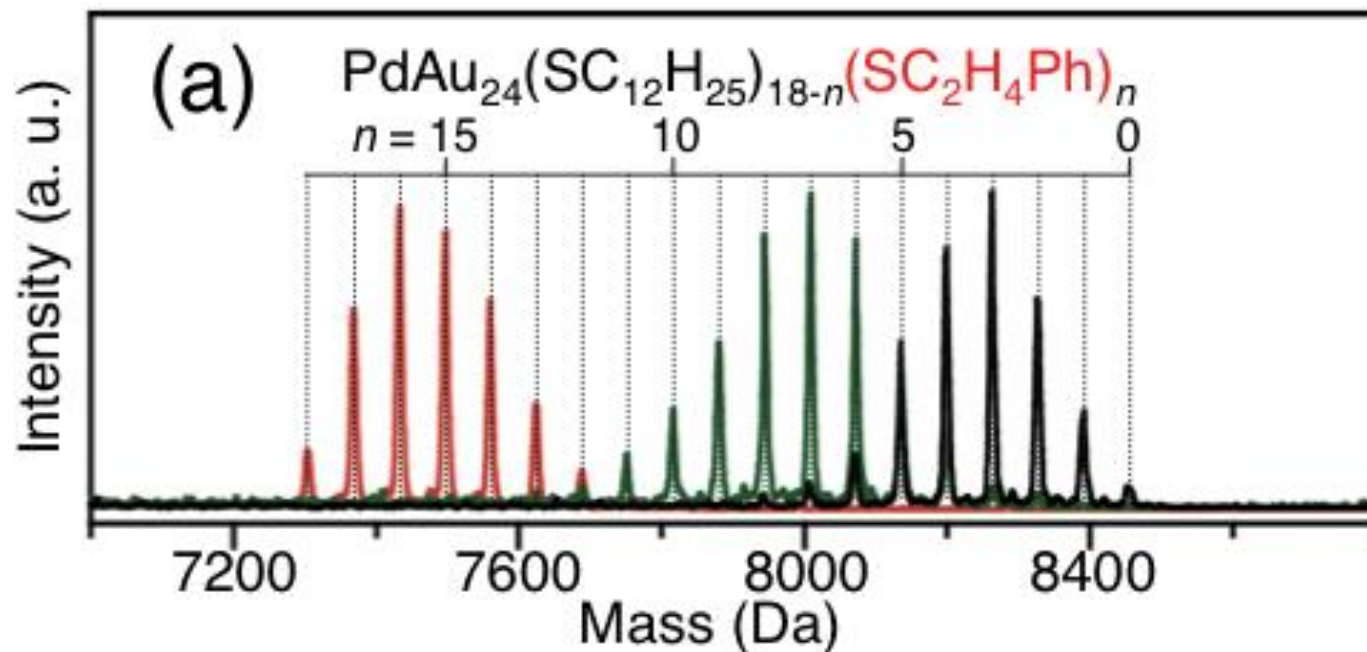


Ligand exchange chemistry –
Substitution chemistry

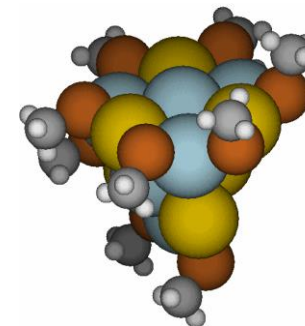


With Niihori and Negishi, Tokyo University of
Science

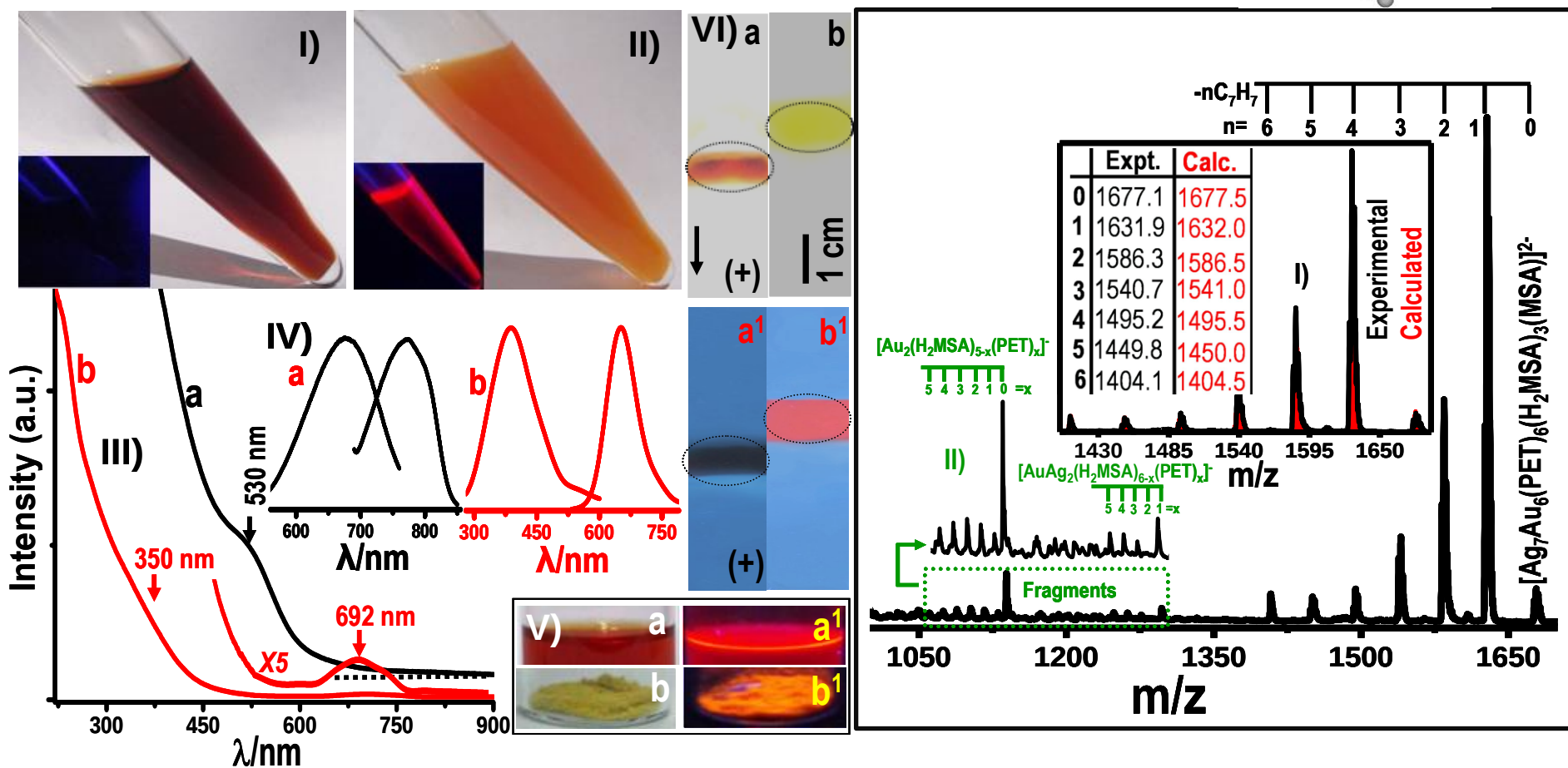




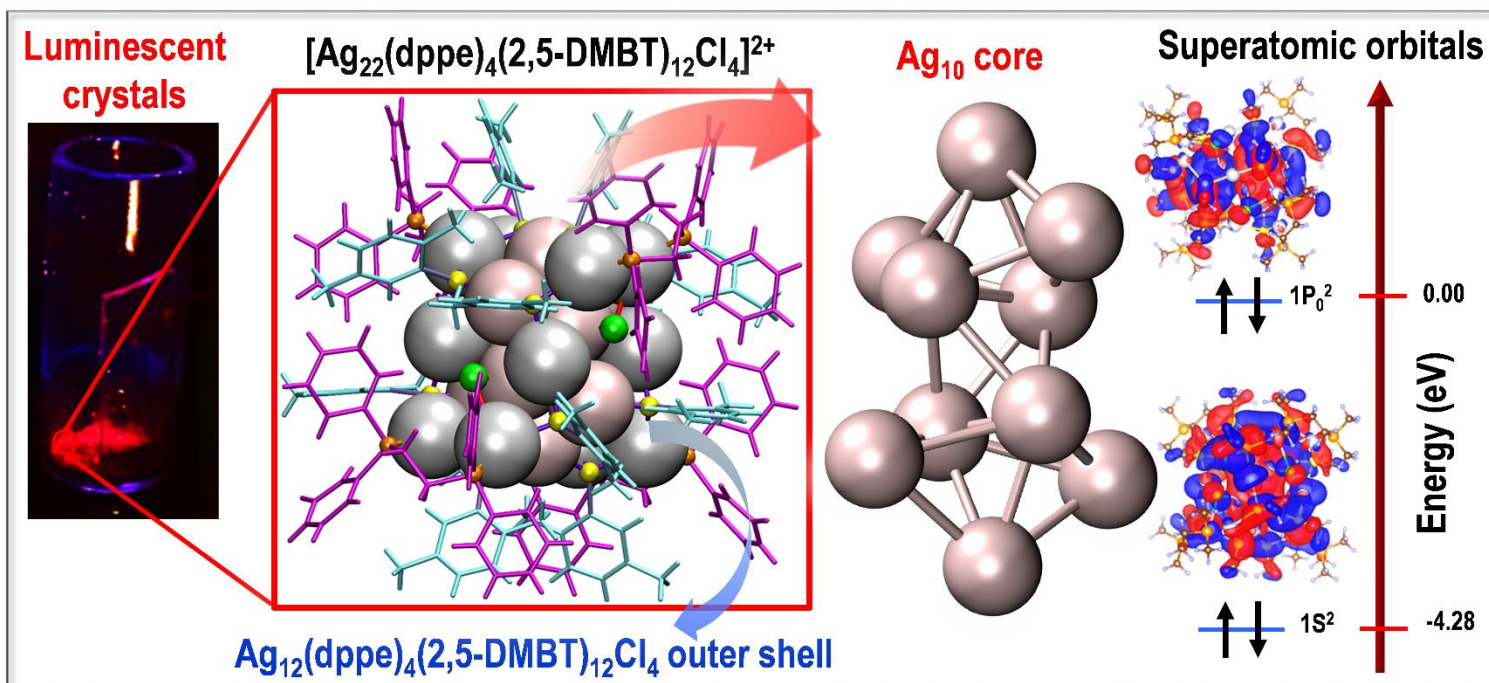
Cluster alloys

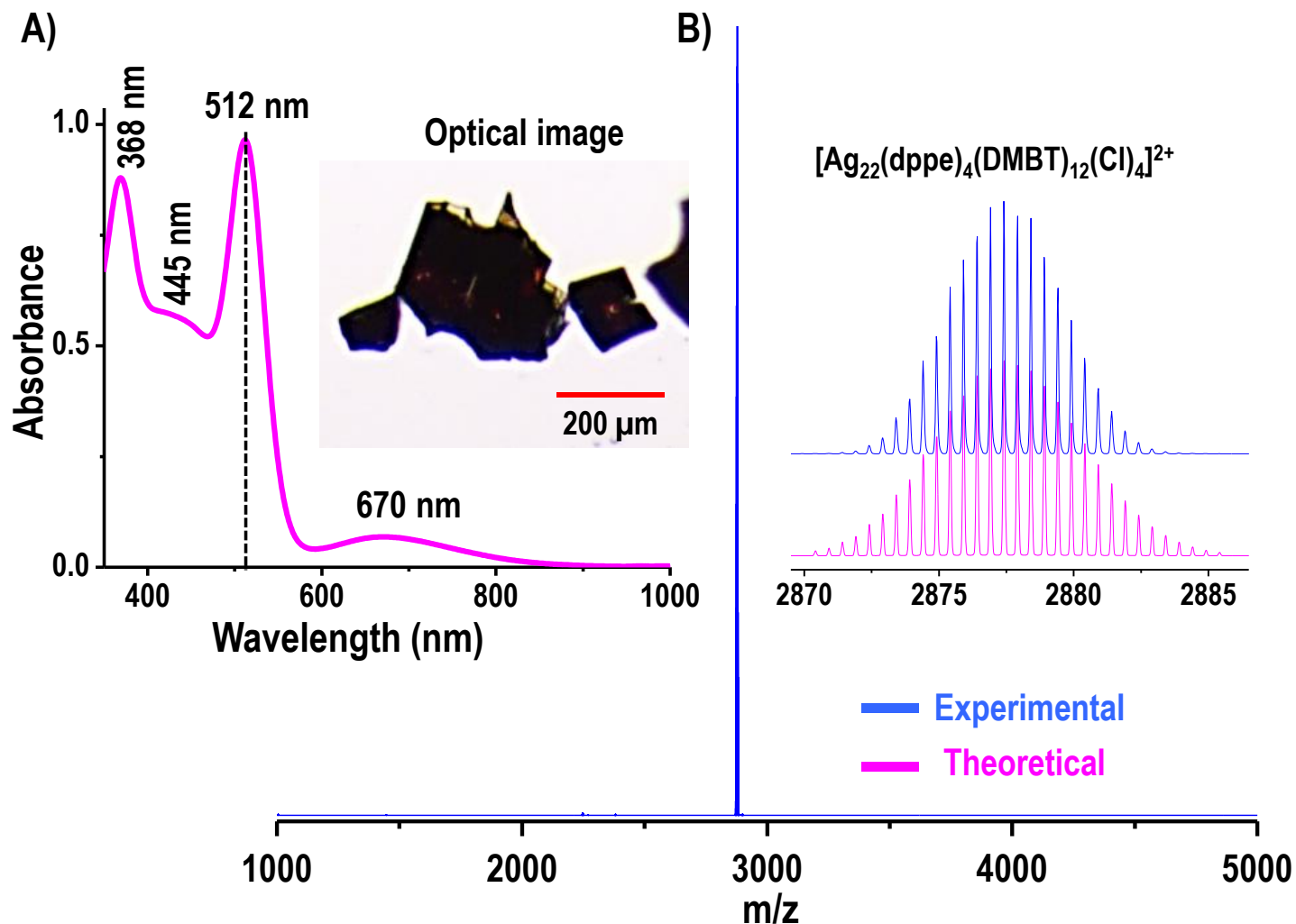


Ag₇Au₆ – 13 atom alloy cluster

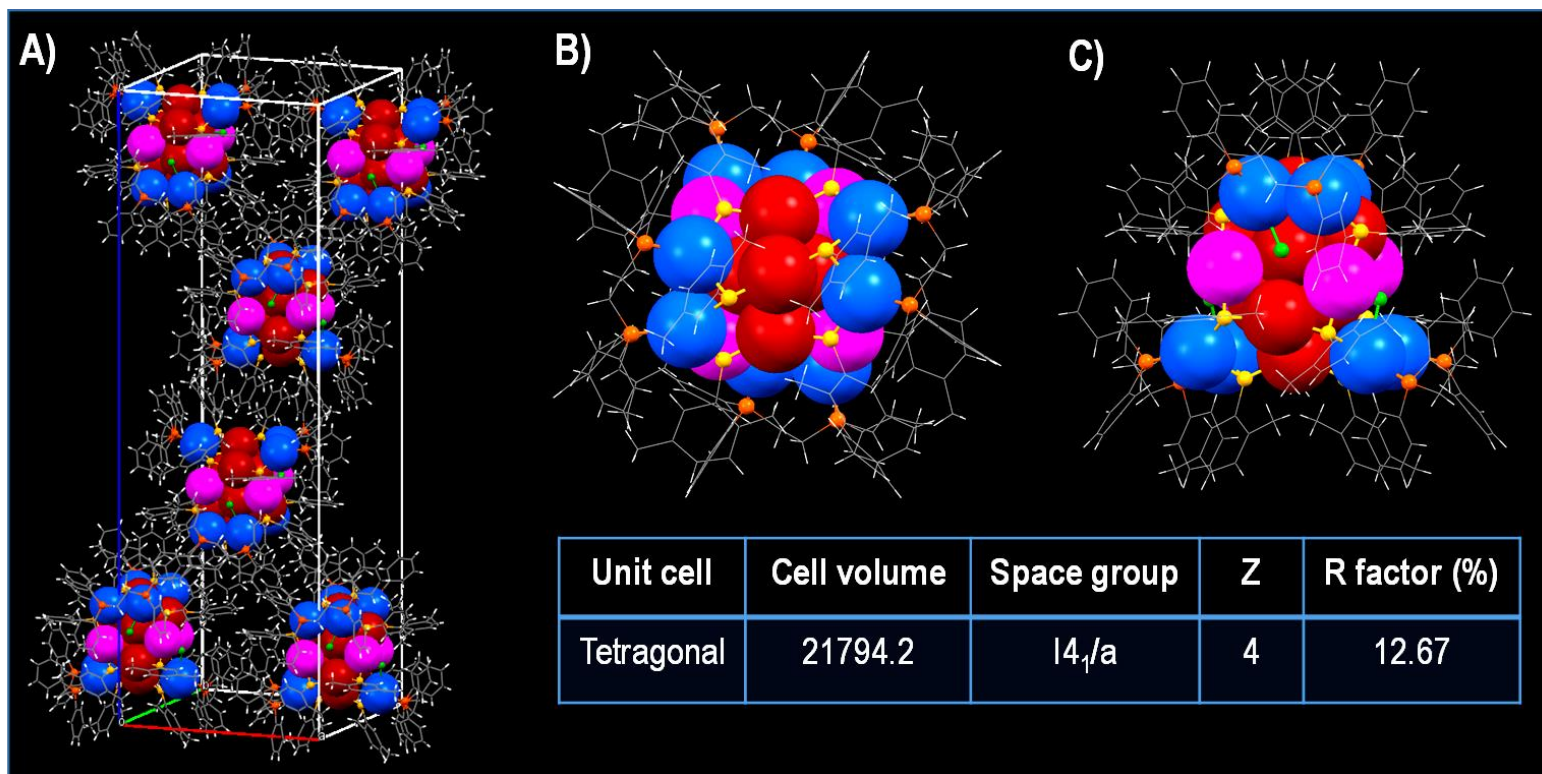


Ag₁₀ Core in an Ag₁₂ Shell: A Four-Electron Superatom

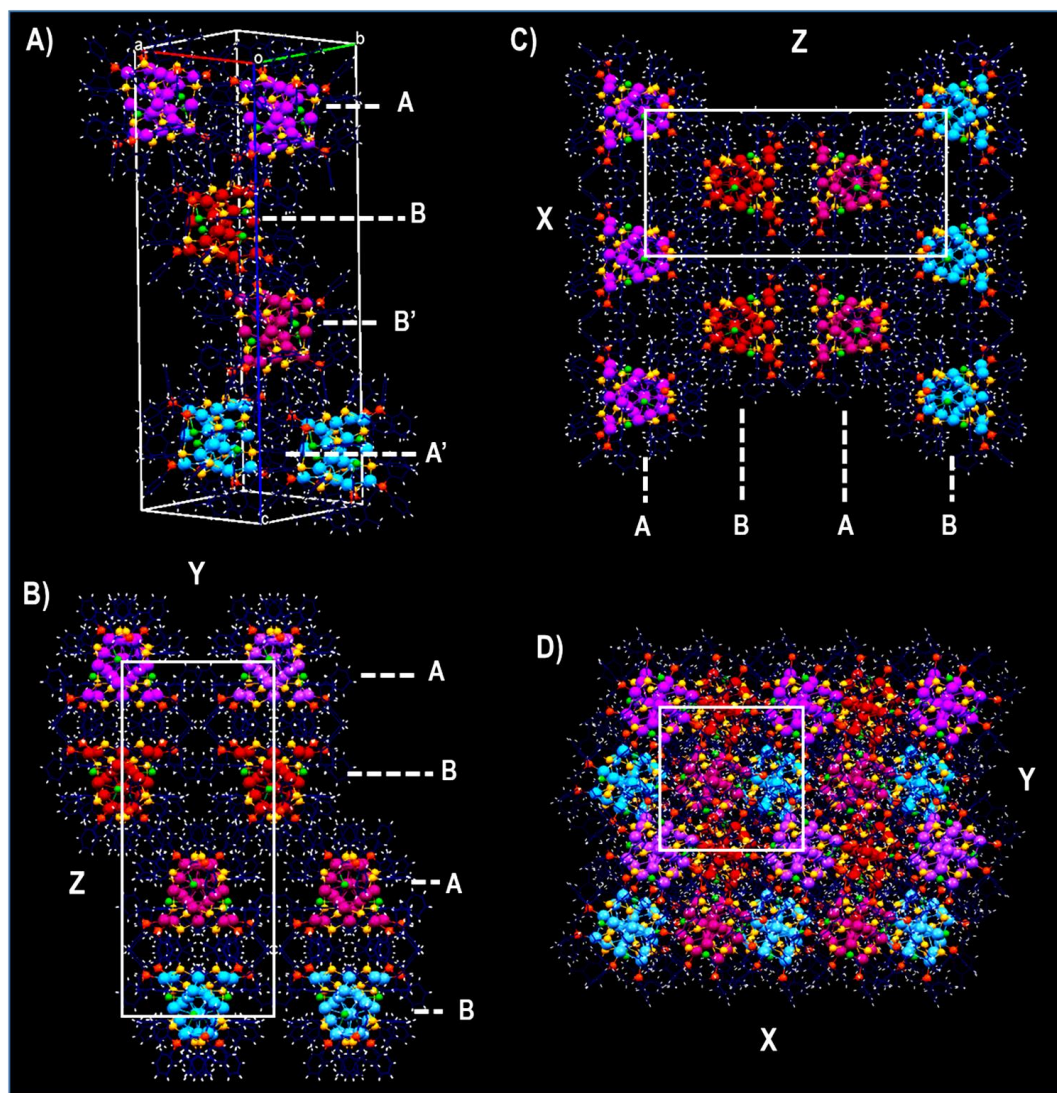




(A) Optical absorption spectrum of Ag_{22} . Inset: image of single crystals under a microscope. (B) HRESI MS of I which displays a peak at ~ 2876 m/z . Inset: Comparison of the theoretical and the experimental isotopic distributions of Ag_{22} .



The overall structure of Ag_{22} : A) Unit cell with a tetragonal arrangement; B) top view; C) side view. Labels: red, blue and pink = Ag, yellow = S, orange = P, green = Cl, gray = C and white = H.



Packing diagram of Ag_{22} : (A) Organization of clusters in a unit cell; (B) and (C) Packing diagrams along X and Y-axes, respectively display rectangular 2D lattice; (D) Packing diagram along Z-axis presents square 2D lattice.

Chemistry of clusters



Reactions of clusters

Reactions between clusters

Inter-cluster reactions



Article

pubs.acs.org/JACS

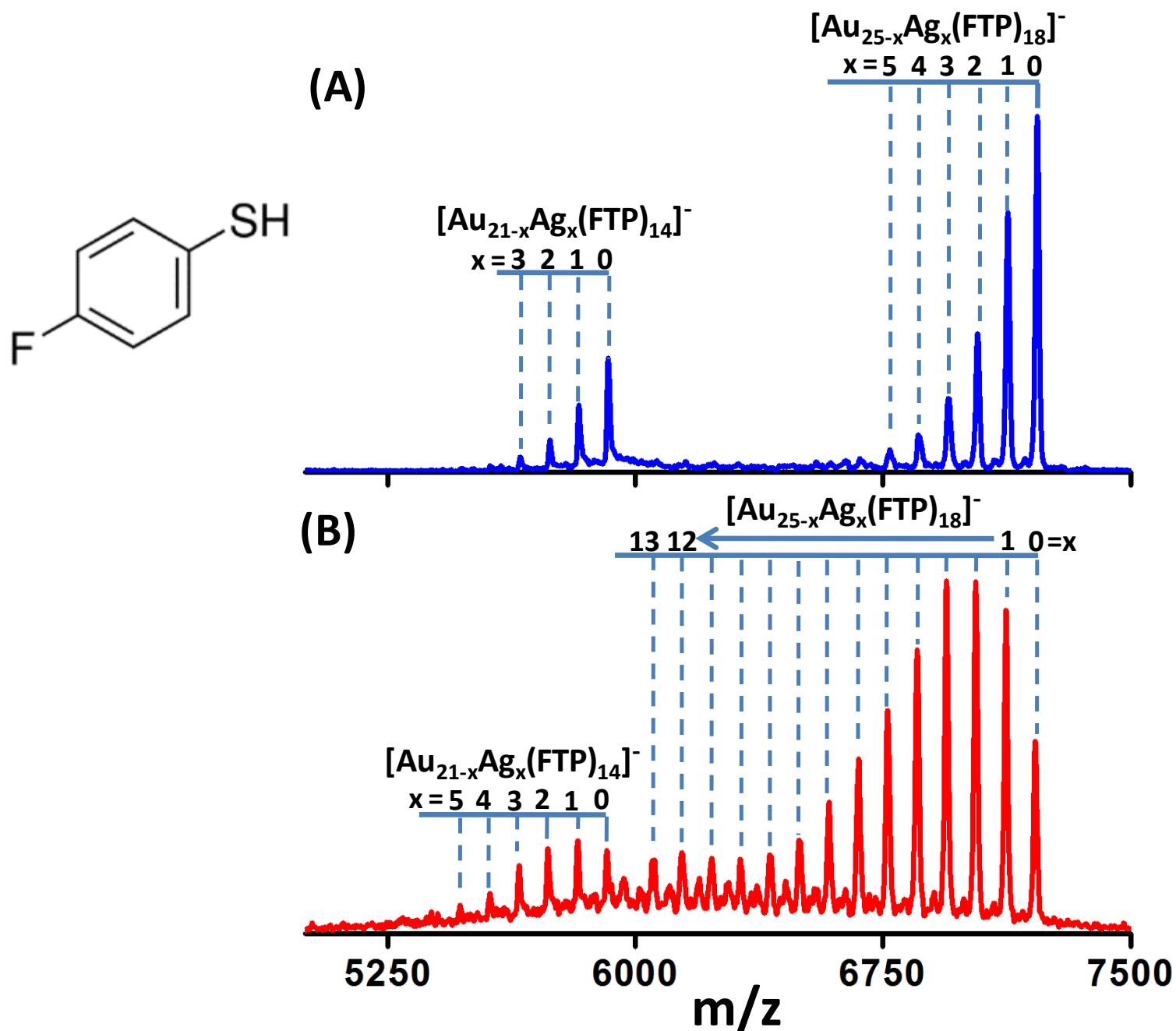
Intercluster Reactions between $\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SR})_{18}$ and $\text{Ag}_{44}(\text{SR})_{30}$

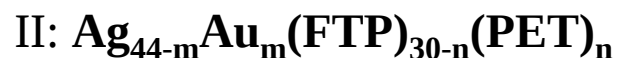
K. R. Krishnadas, Atanu Ghosh, Ananya Baksi, Indranath Chakraborty,[†] Ganapati Natarajan, and Thalappil Pradeep*

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







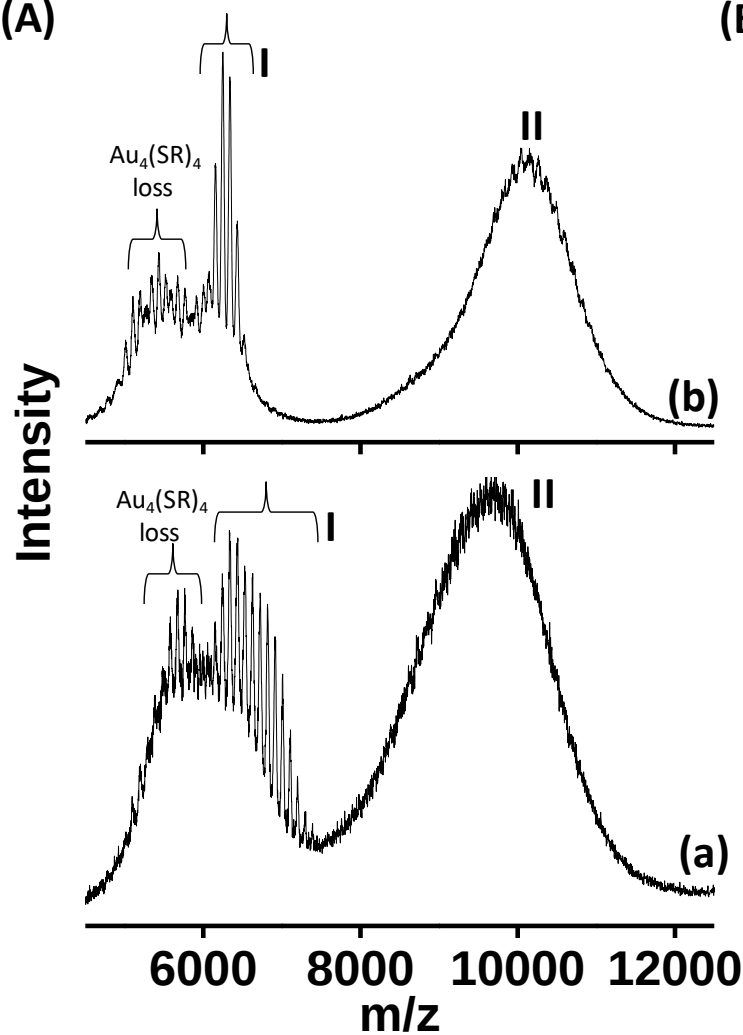
$M_{\text{Au}}: 197$

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

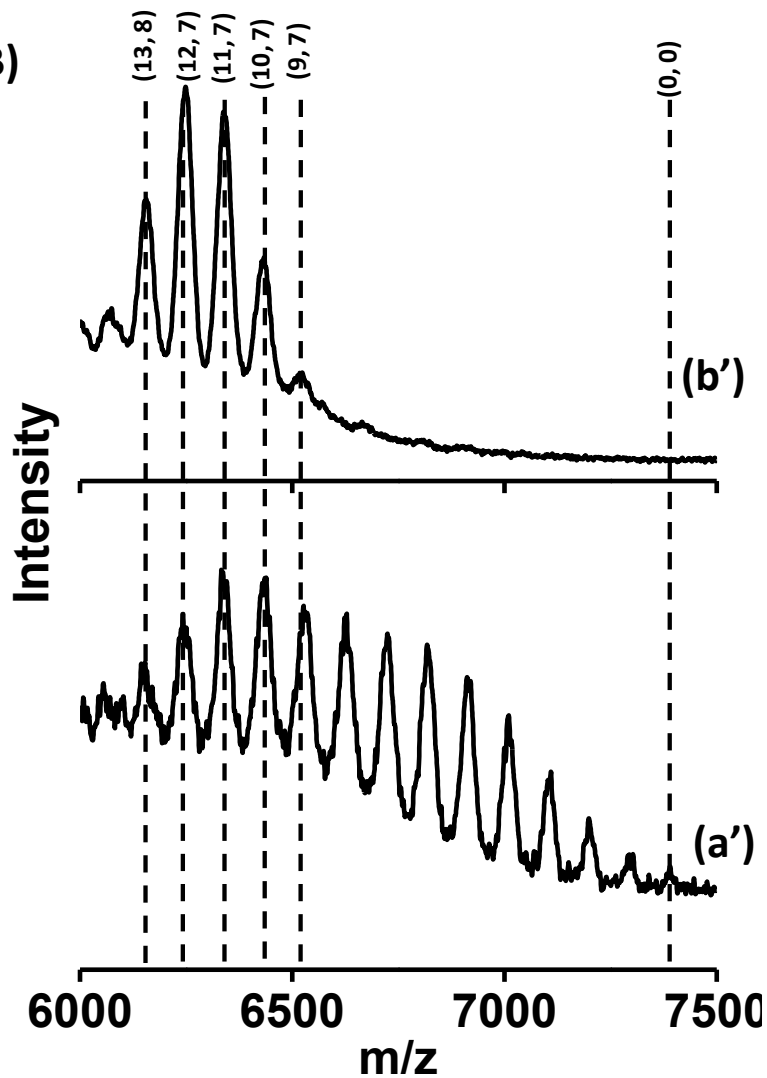
$M_{\text{PET}}: 137$

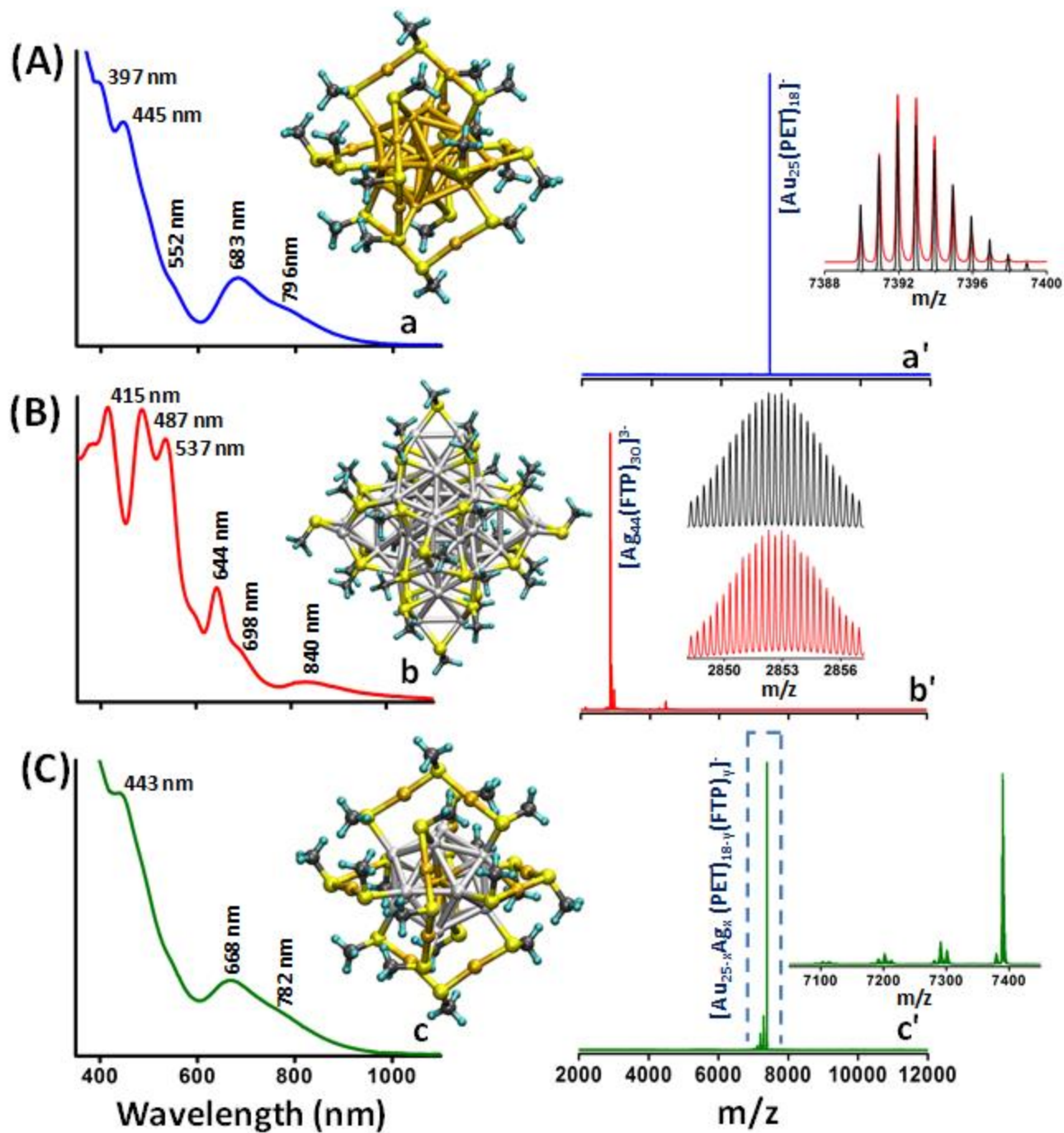
$M_{\text{FTP}}: 127$

(A)



(B)





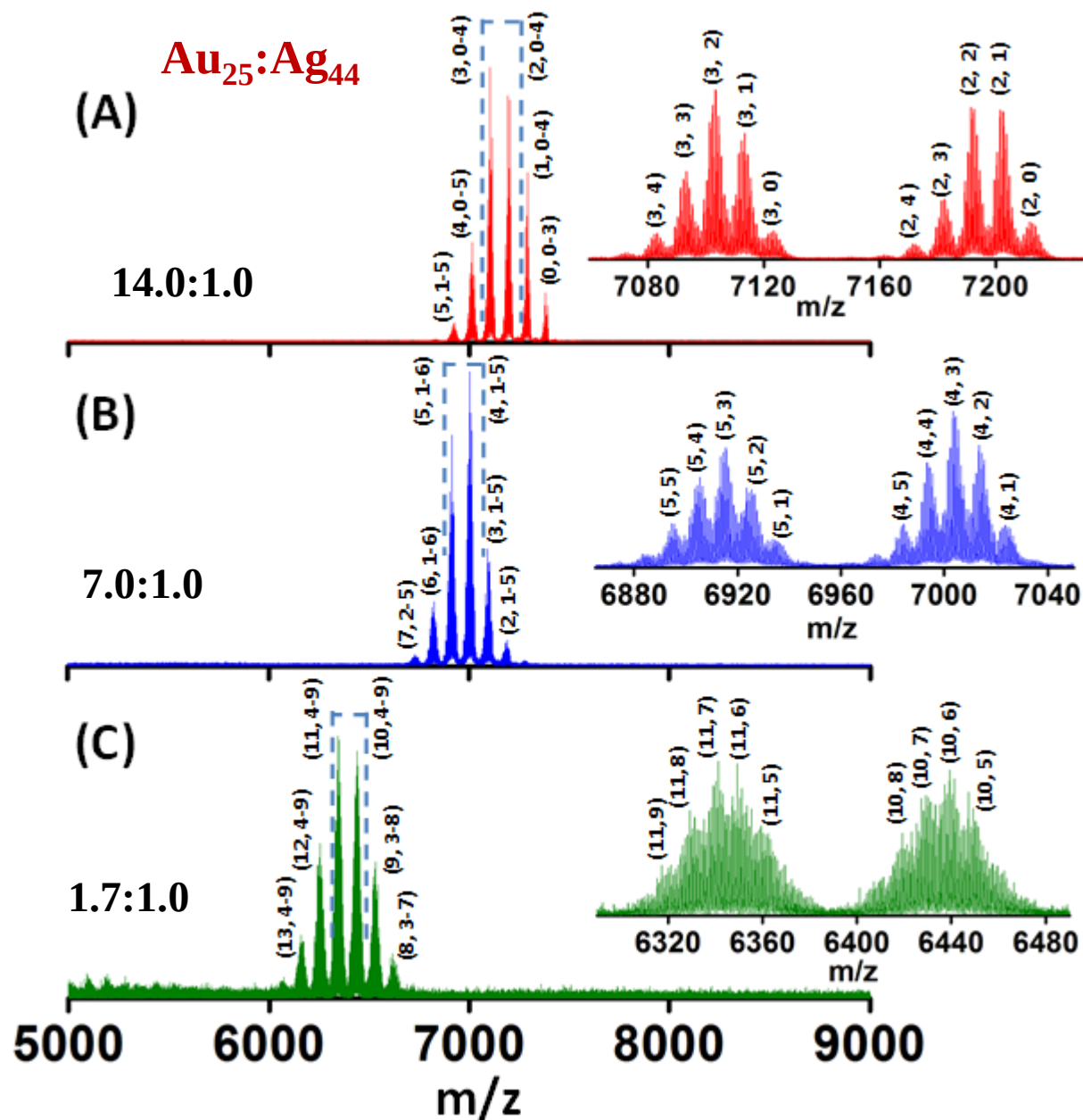


$M_{\text{Au}}: 197$

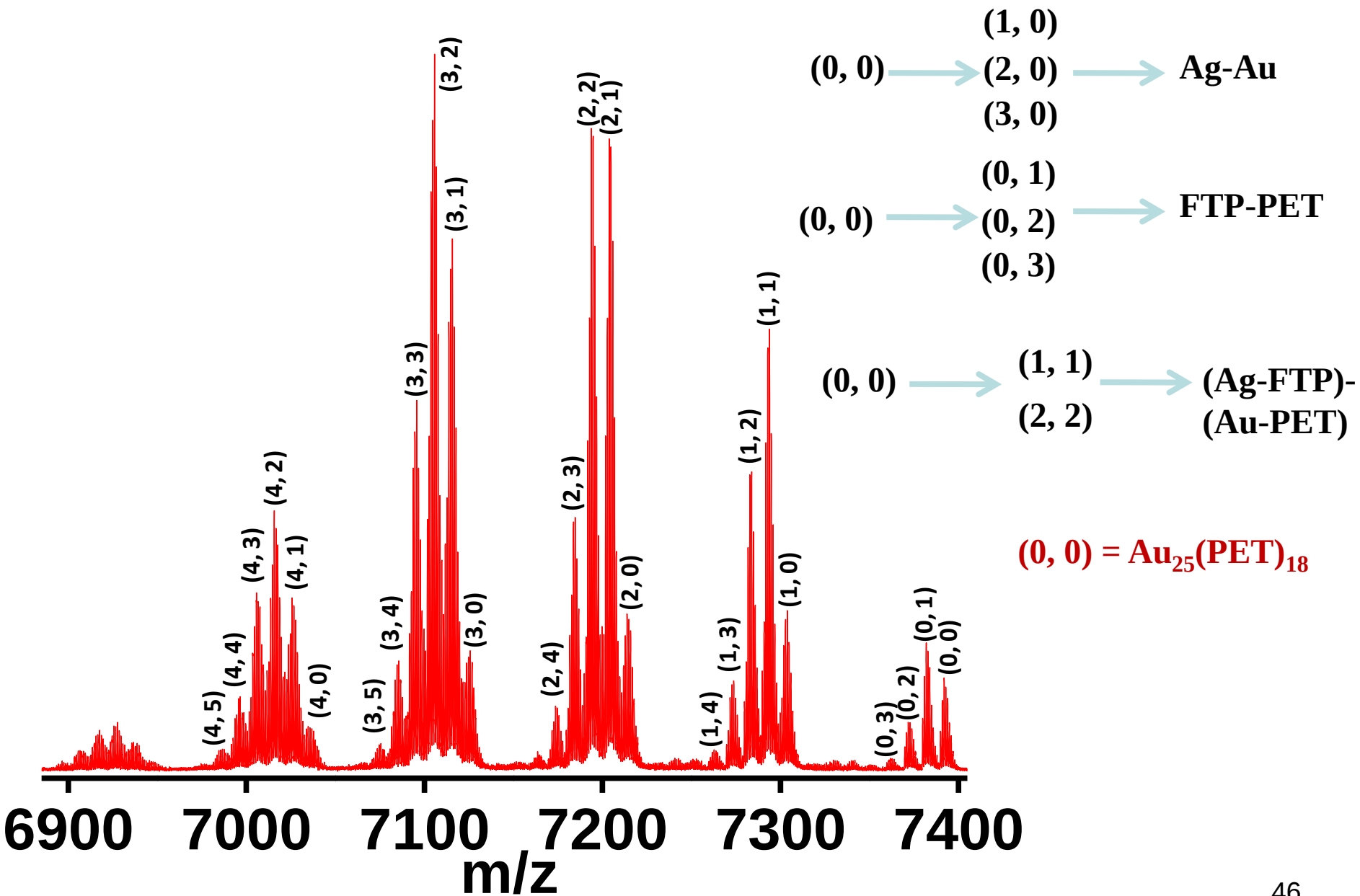
$M_{\text{Ag}}: 108$

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

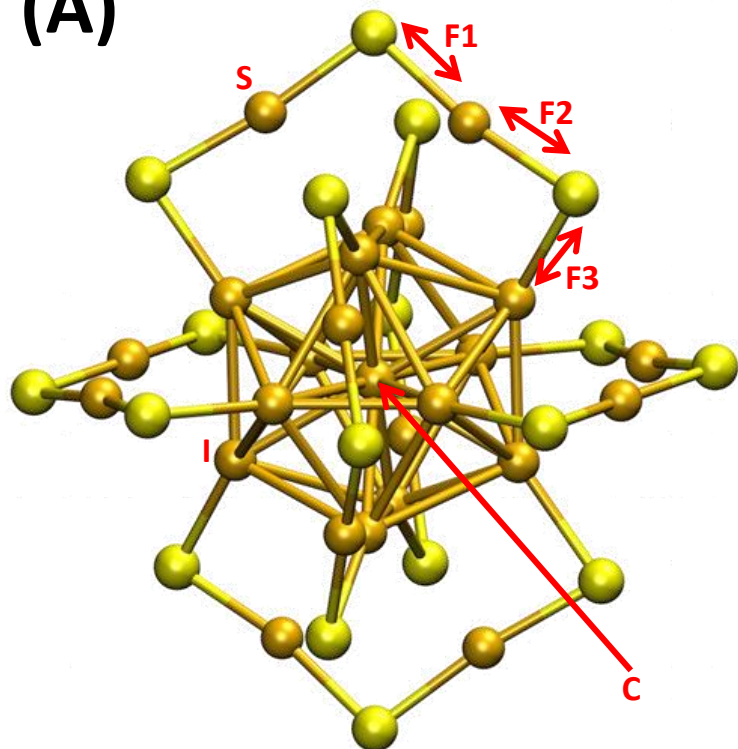
$M_{\text{FTP}}: 127$



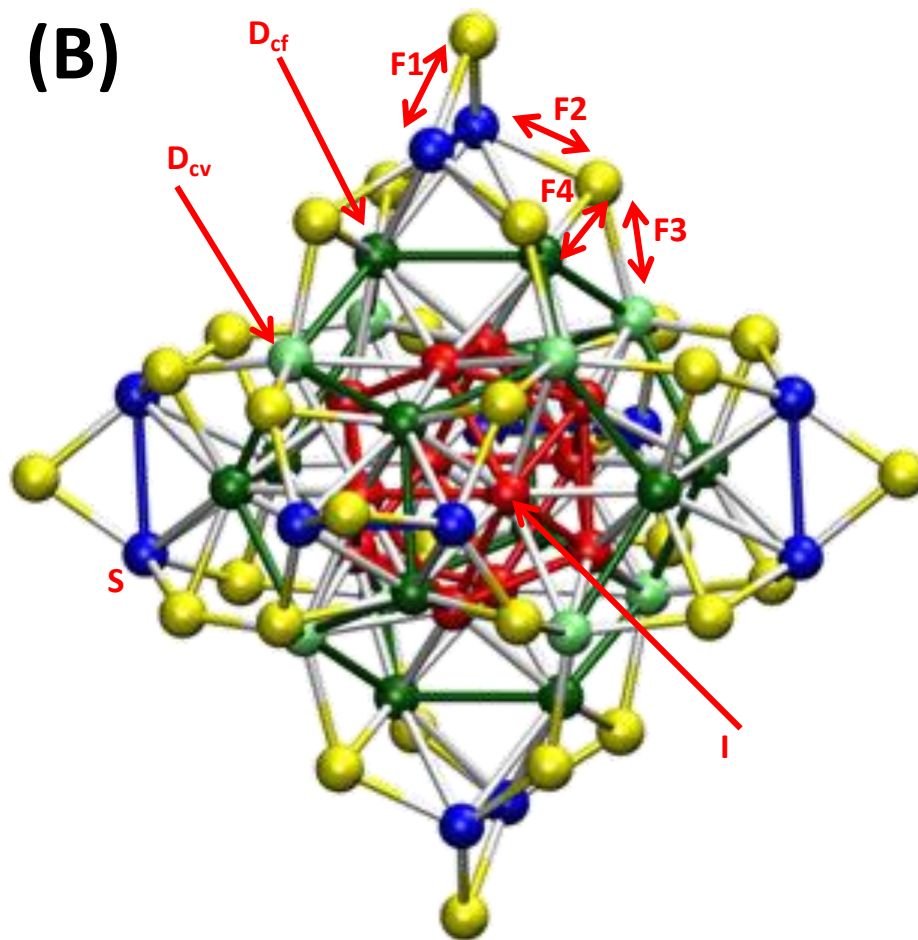
Au_{25-x}Ag_x(PET)_{18-y}(FTP)_y: A closer view



(A)



(B)



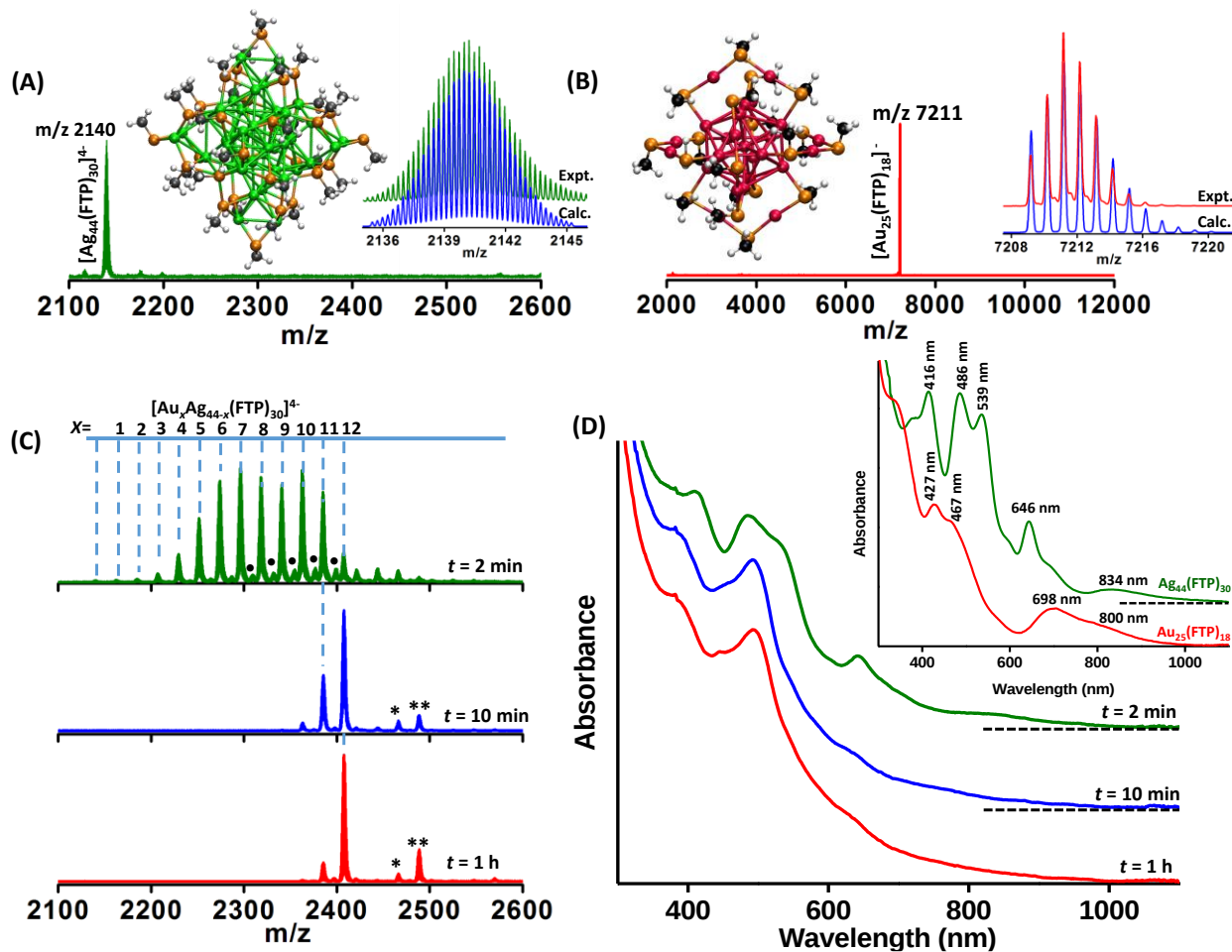
Energies for the substitution reaction of (A) Au in Ag₄₄(SR)₃₀, (B) Ag in Au₂₅(SR)₁₈ and (C) the overall reaction energies (in eV) as a function of their positions in product clusters, Au_xAg_{44-x}(SR)₃₀ and Au_{25-x}Ag_x(SR)₁₈ for x=1

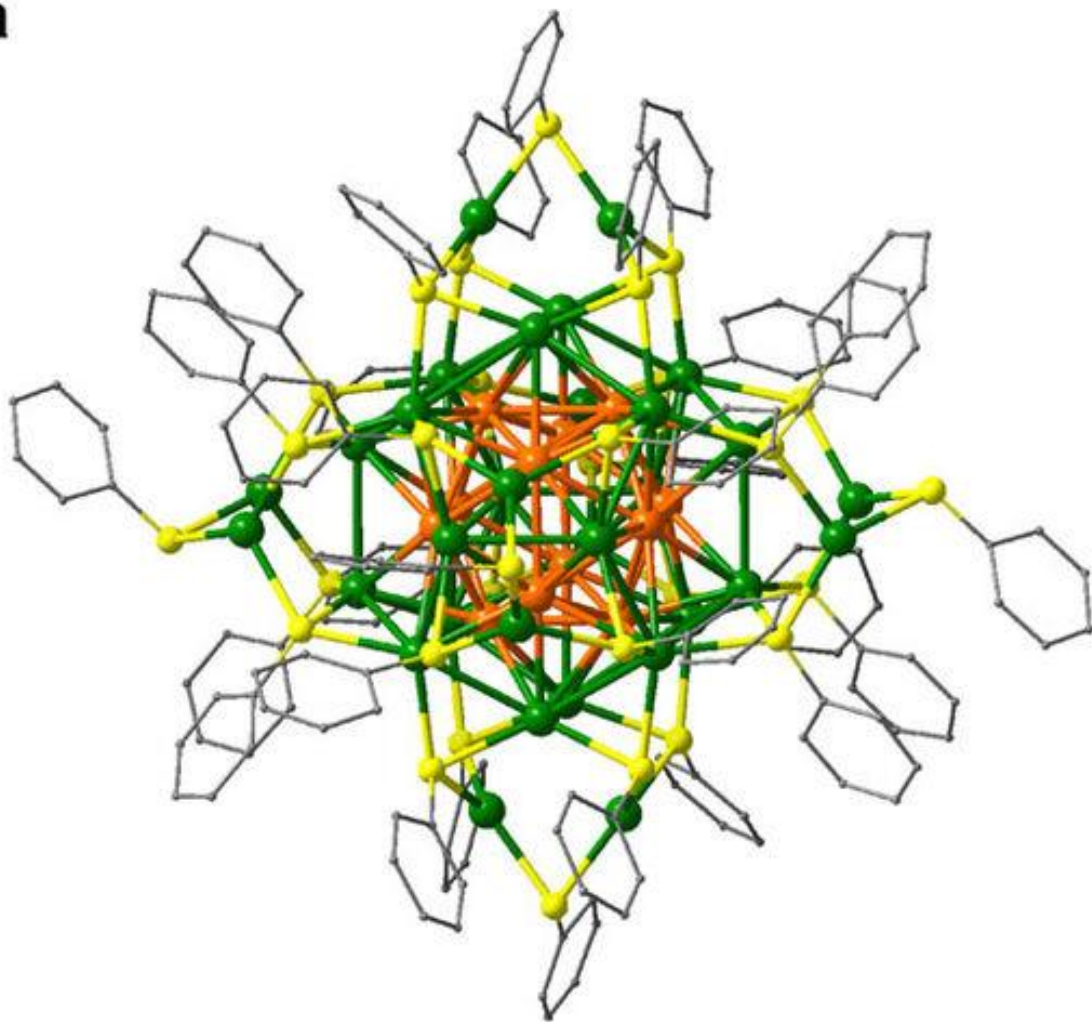
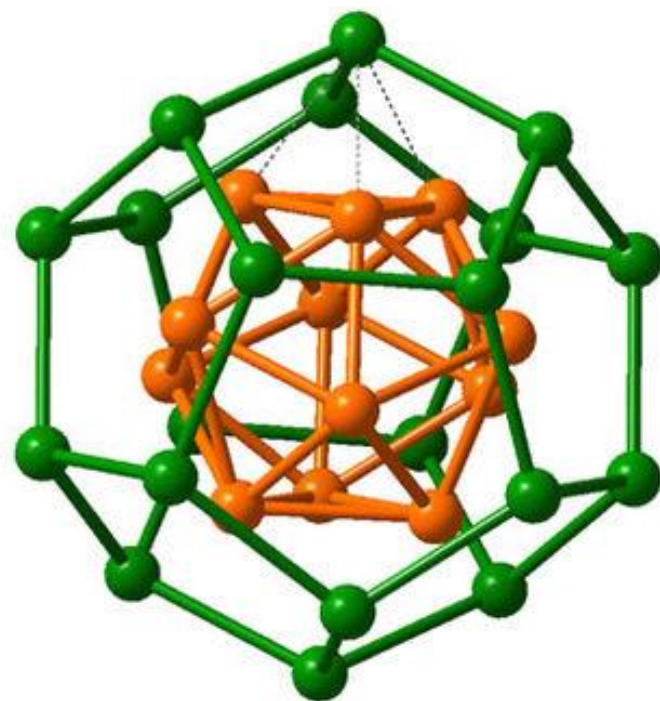
(A) Location of Au in Au _x Ag _{44-x} (SR) ₃₀		ΔE/eV
Icosahedron (I)		-0.72
Dodecahedron: cube vertex (D _{cv})		-0.14
Dodecahedron: cube face (D _{cf})		-0.32
Staples (S)		-0.48

(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

Shell closure in intercluster reactions



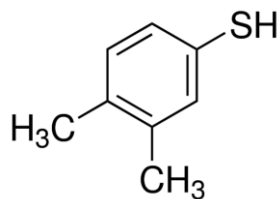
a**b**

Ag₂₅-Au₂₅ experiments

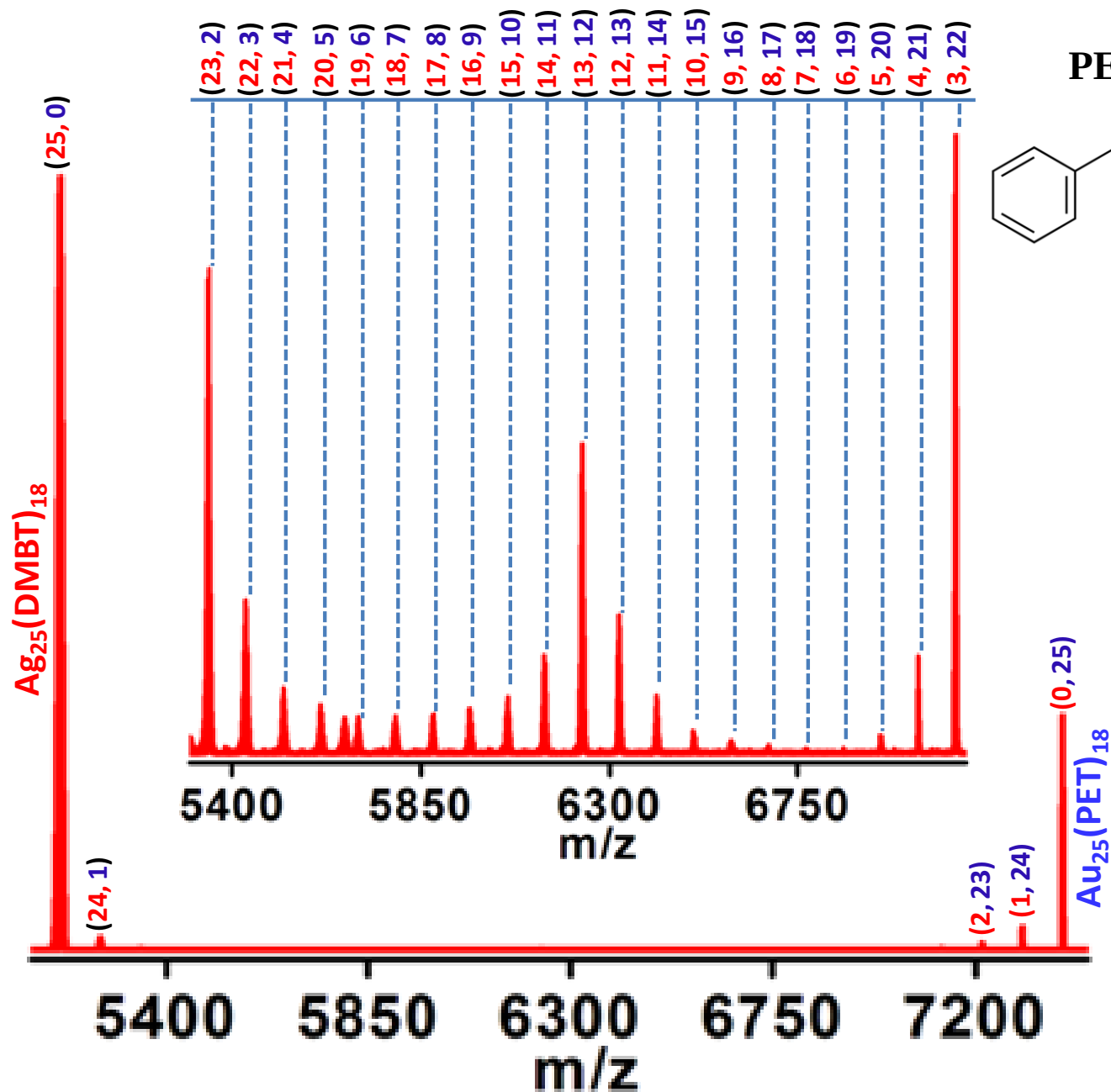
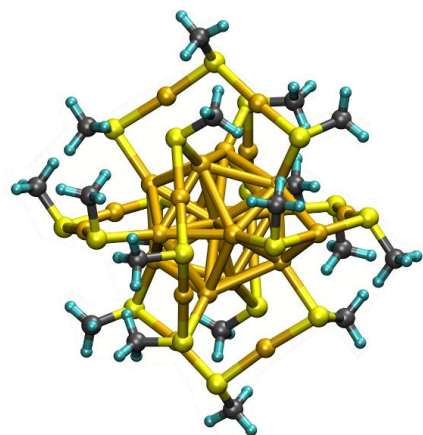
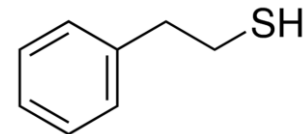
K. R. Krishnadas et al. Nature Commun. 2016

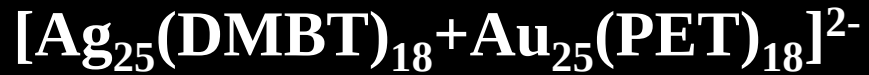
Reaction between $\text{Au}_{25}(\text{PET})_{18}$ and $\text{Ag}_{25}(\text{DMBT})_{18}$

DMBT

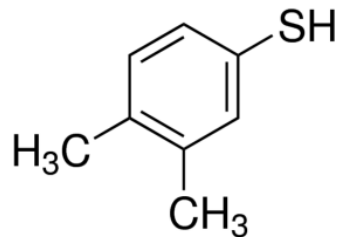


PET

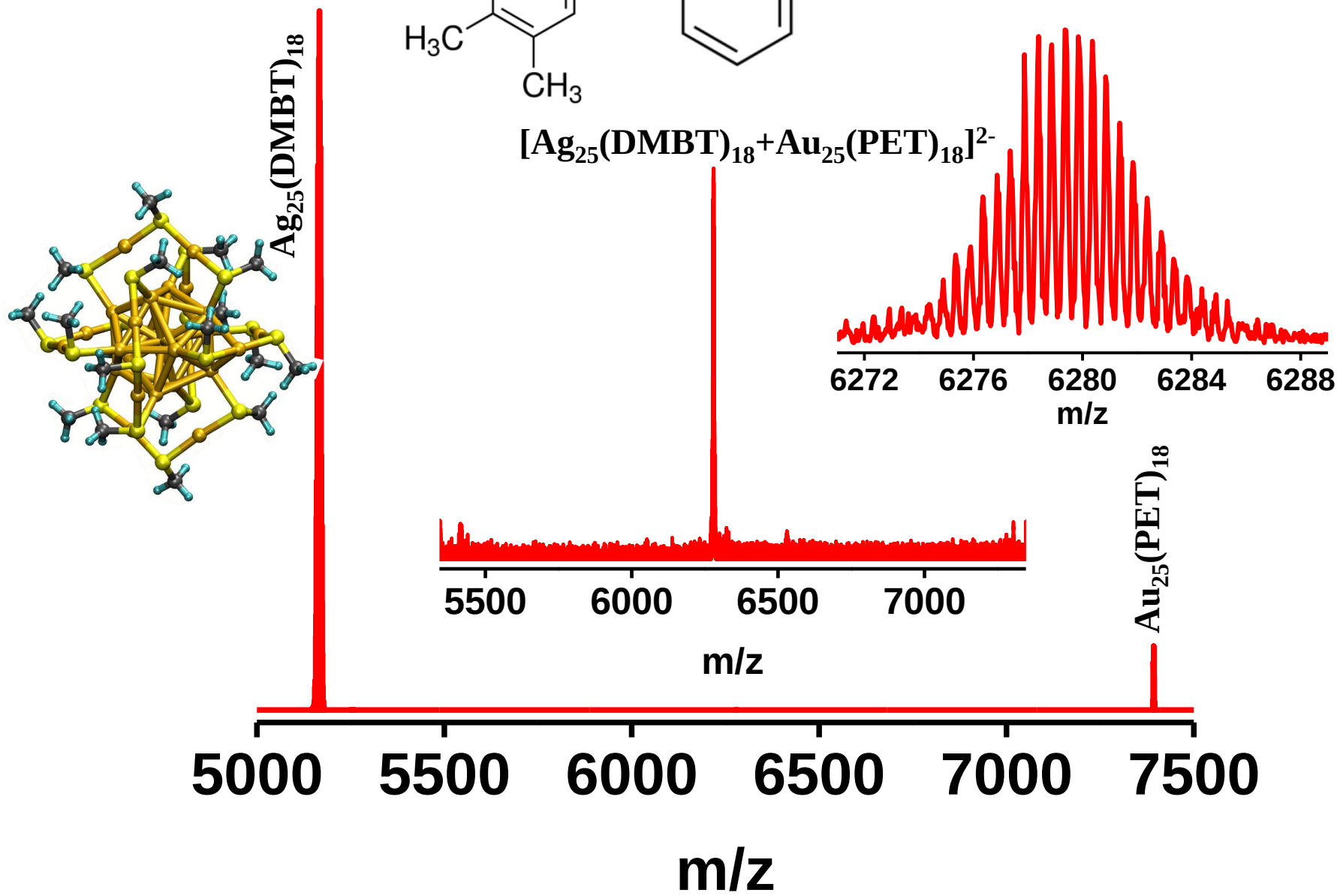
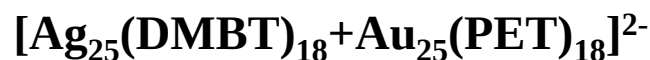
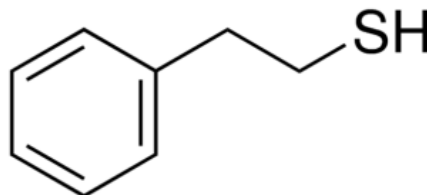




DMBT

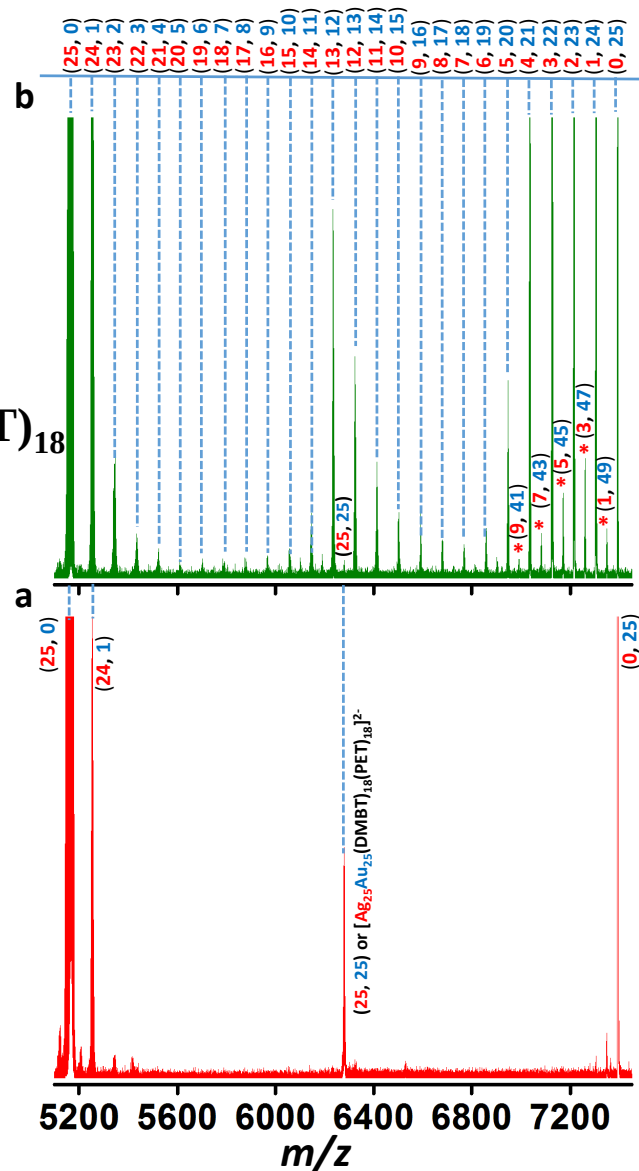


PET



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

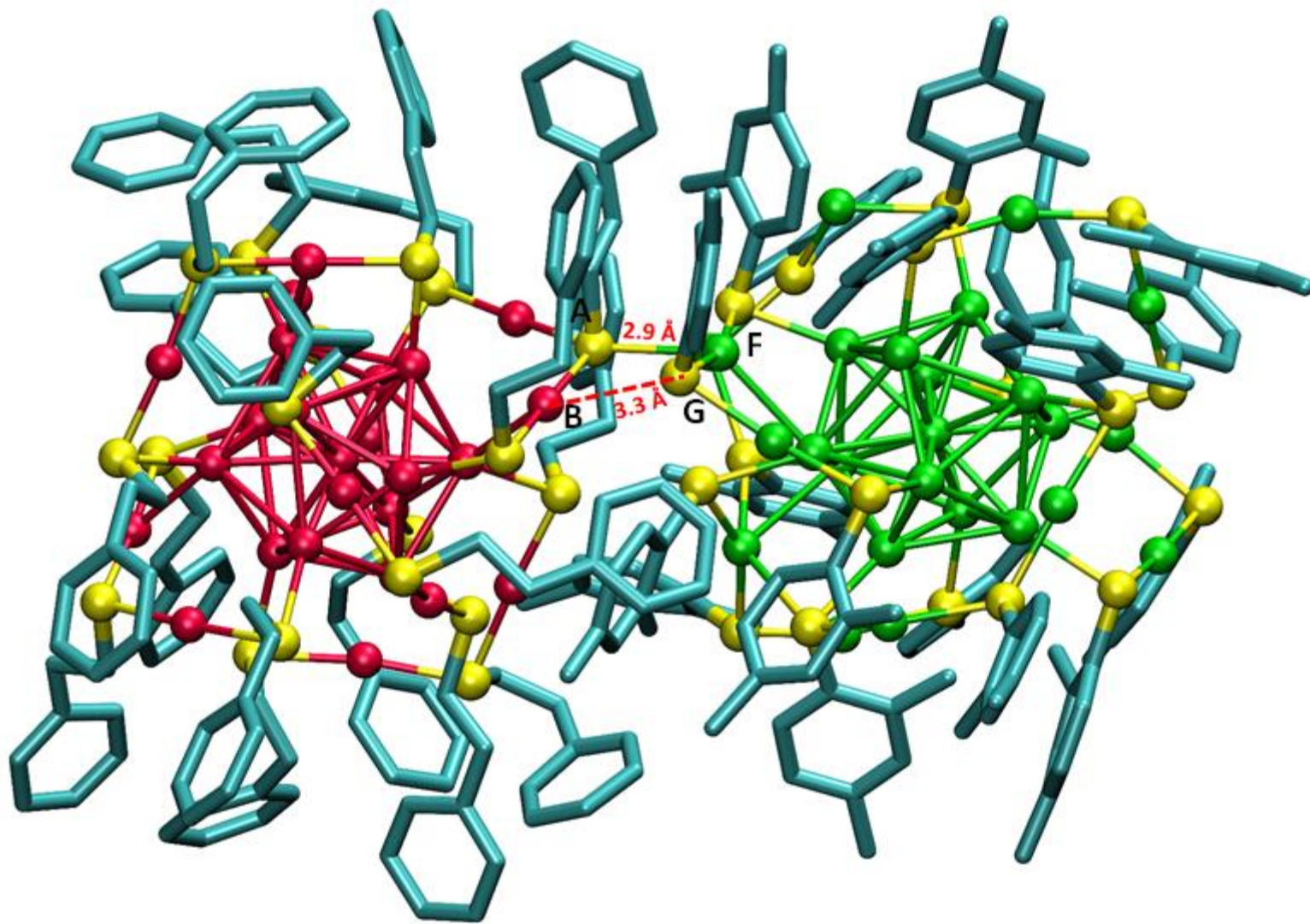
$\text{Ag}_{25}(\text{DMBT})_{18}:\text{Au}_{25}(\text{PET})_{18}$
 0.3:1.0

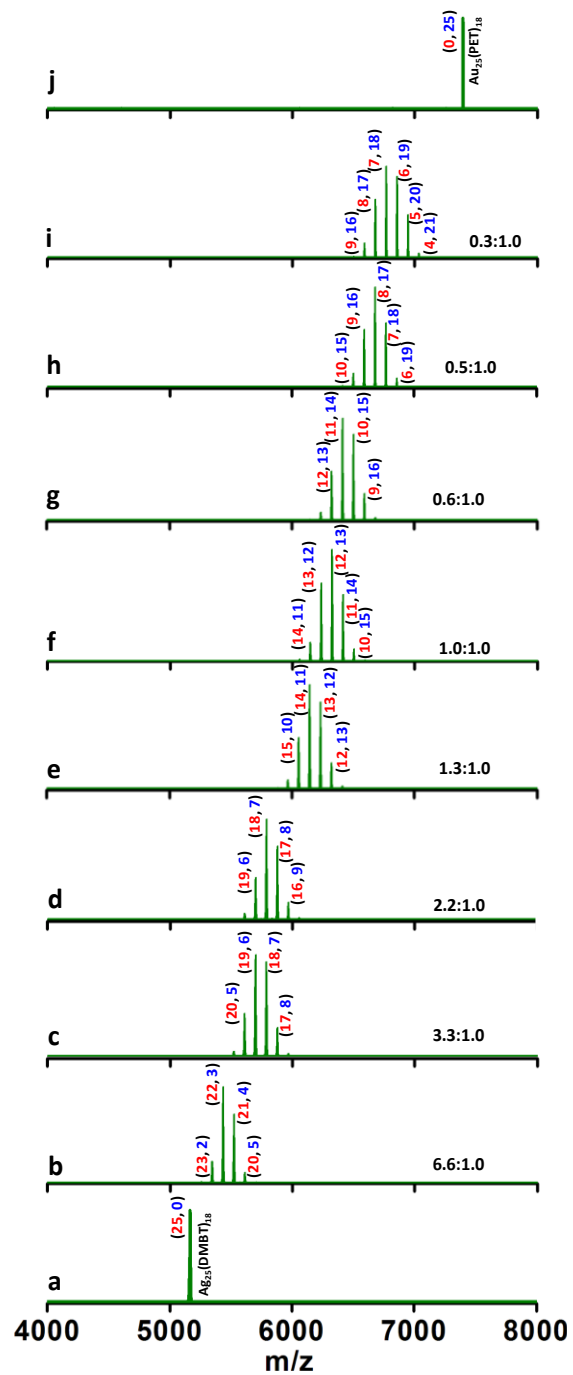


within 5 min

within 2 min

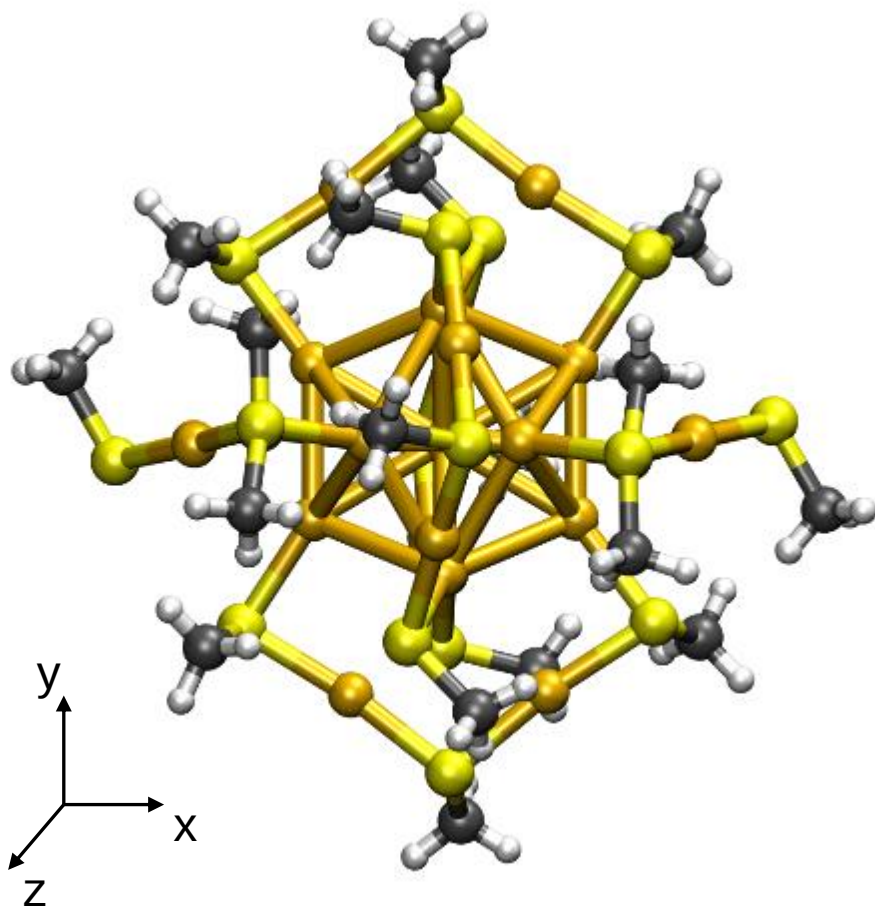
DFT-optimized structure of $[\text{Ag}_{25}\text{Au}_{25}(\text{DMBT})_{18}(\text{PET})_{18}]^{2-}$



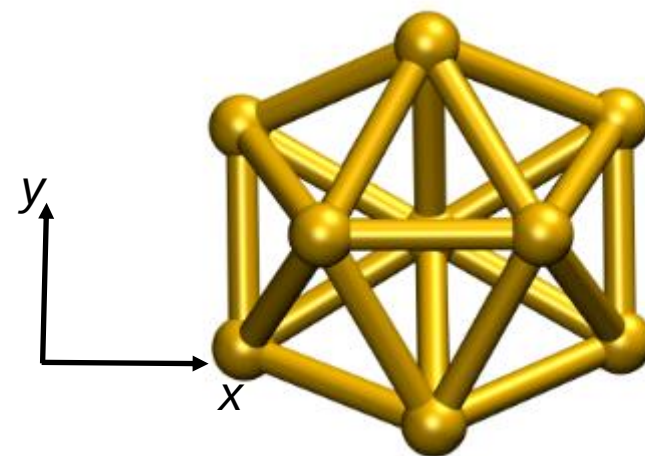
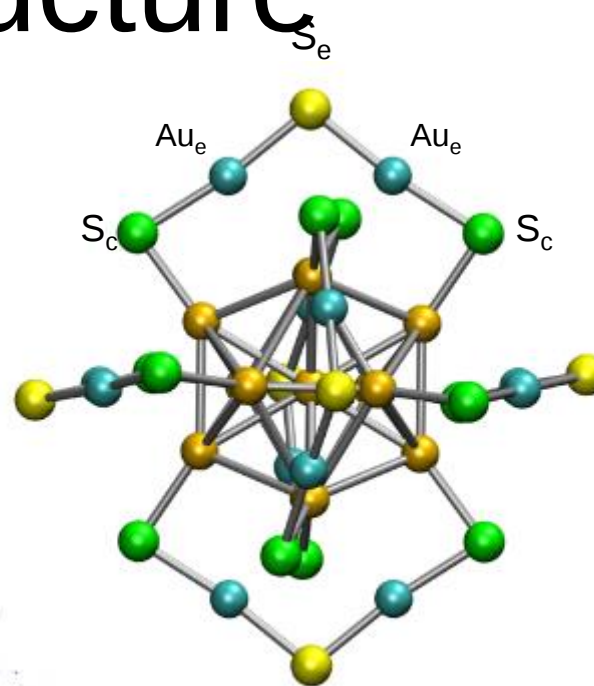


How do we comprehend this?

Ball and stick structure



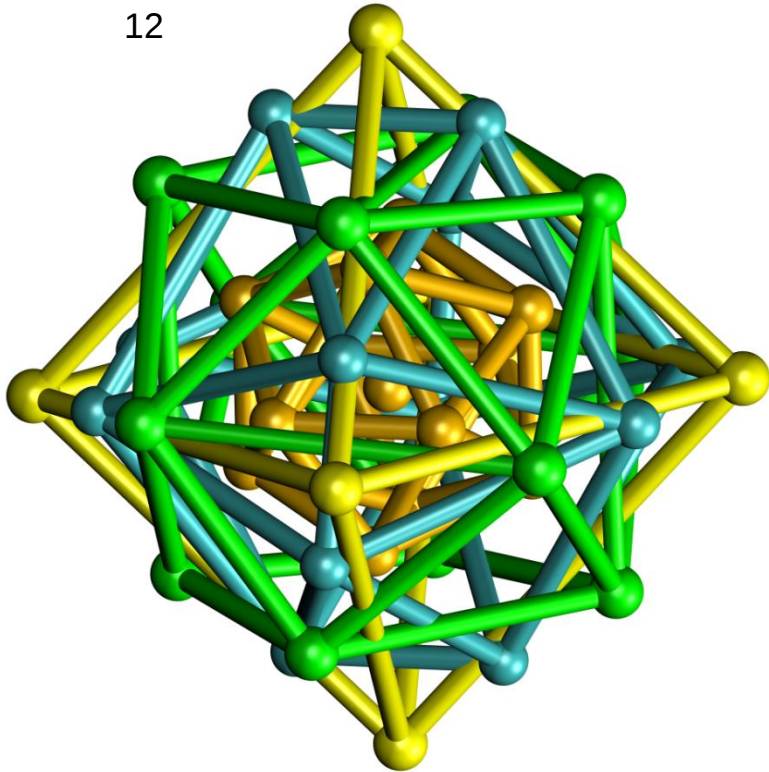
A view of gold methyl thiolate [25]aspicule ($\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SMe})_{18}$). Gold atoms colored gold, sulfur atoms by yellow, carbon dark gray, hydrogen atoms as white and (b) with the gold and sulfur atoms alone .



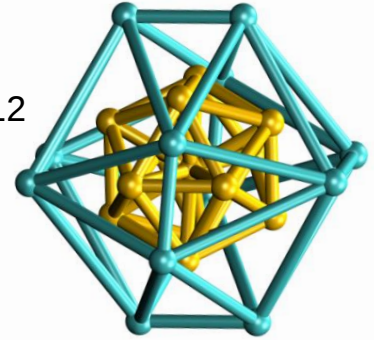
Shell Structure

(a) $\text{Au}@_{12}\text{Au}_{12}@_{12}\text{S}_6@\text{S}_{12}$

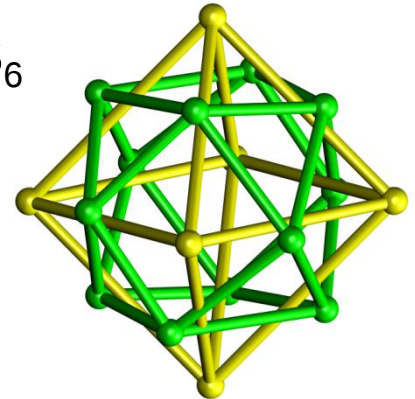
12



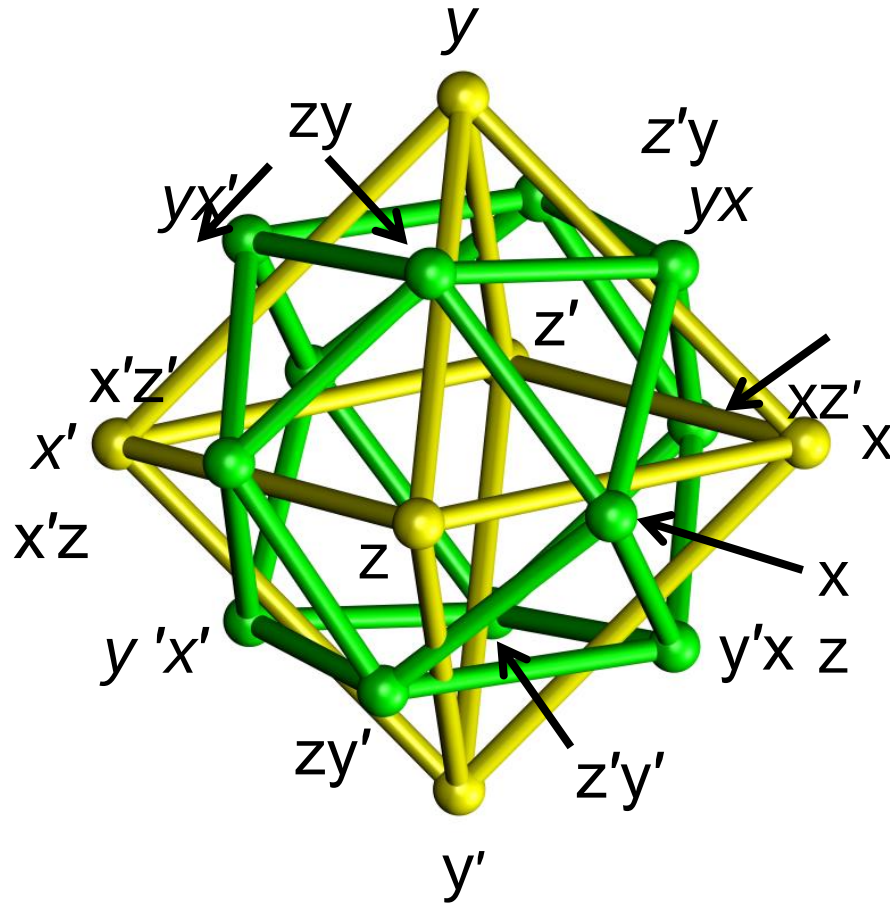
(b) $\text{Au}_{12} @ \text{Au}_{12}$



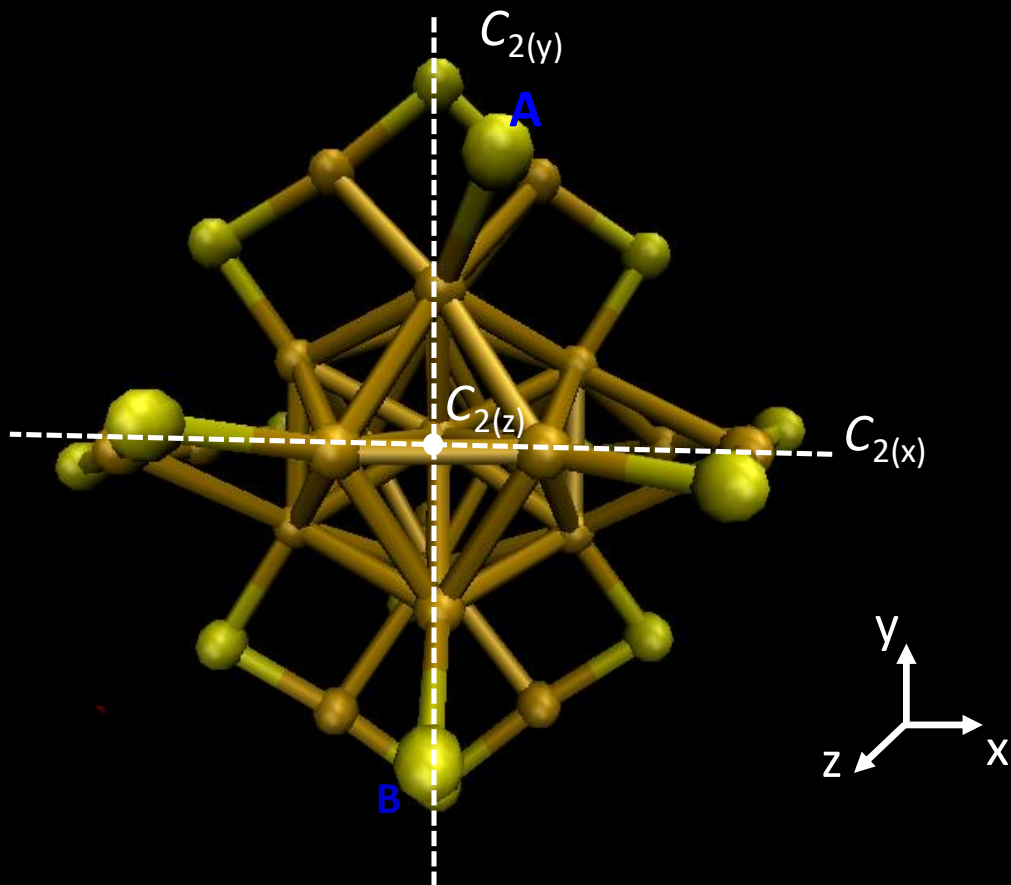
(c) $\text{S}_{12} @ \text{S}_6$



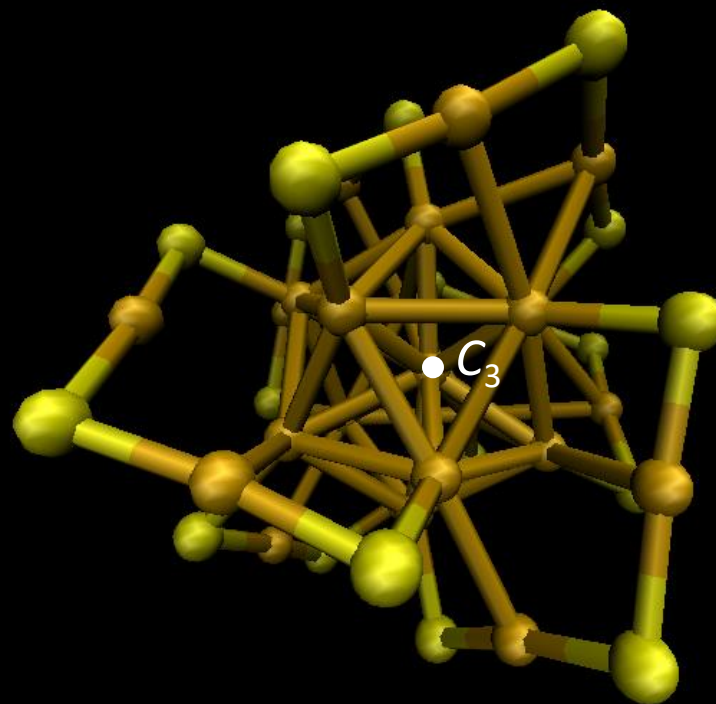
Terminologies

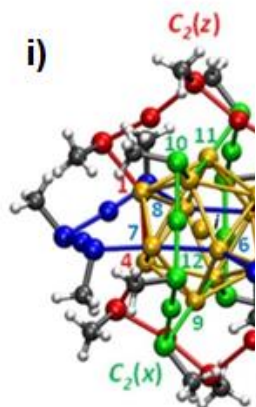


1) Edge projection

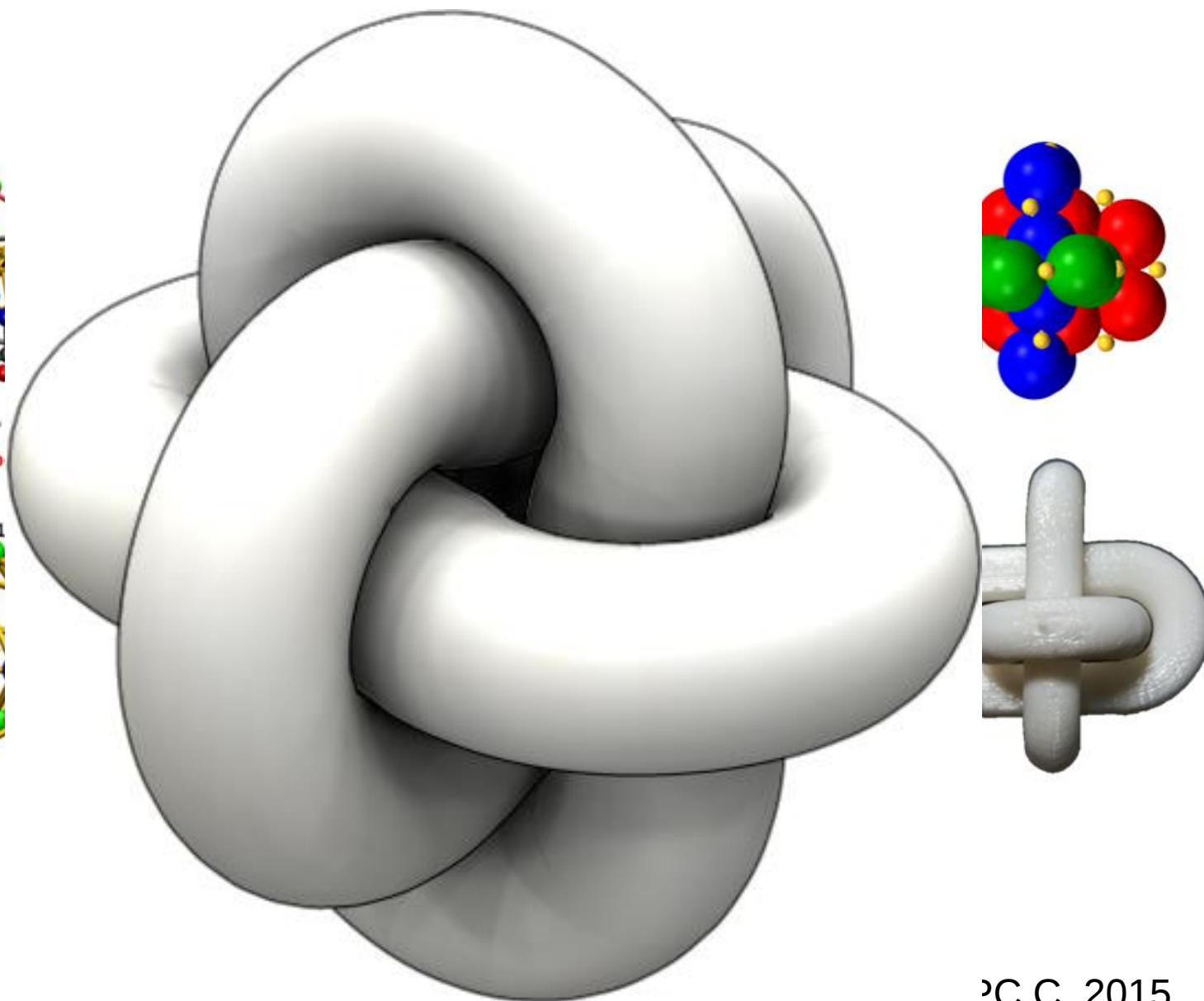
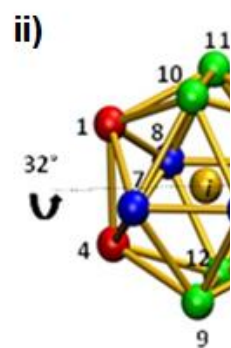


2) Face Projection





18(methylthiolato)-auro

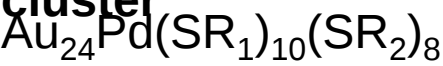


Aspicules

(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



isomer 1 (0)

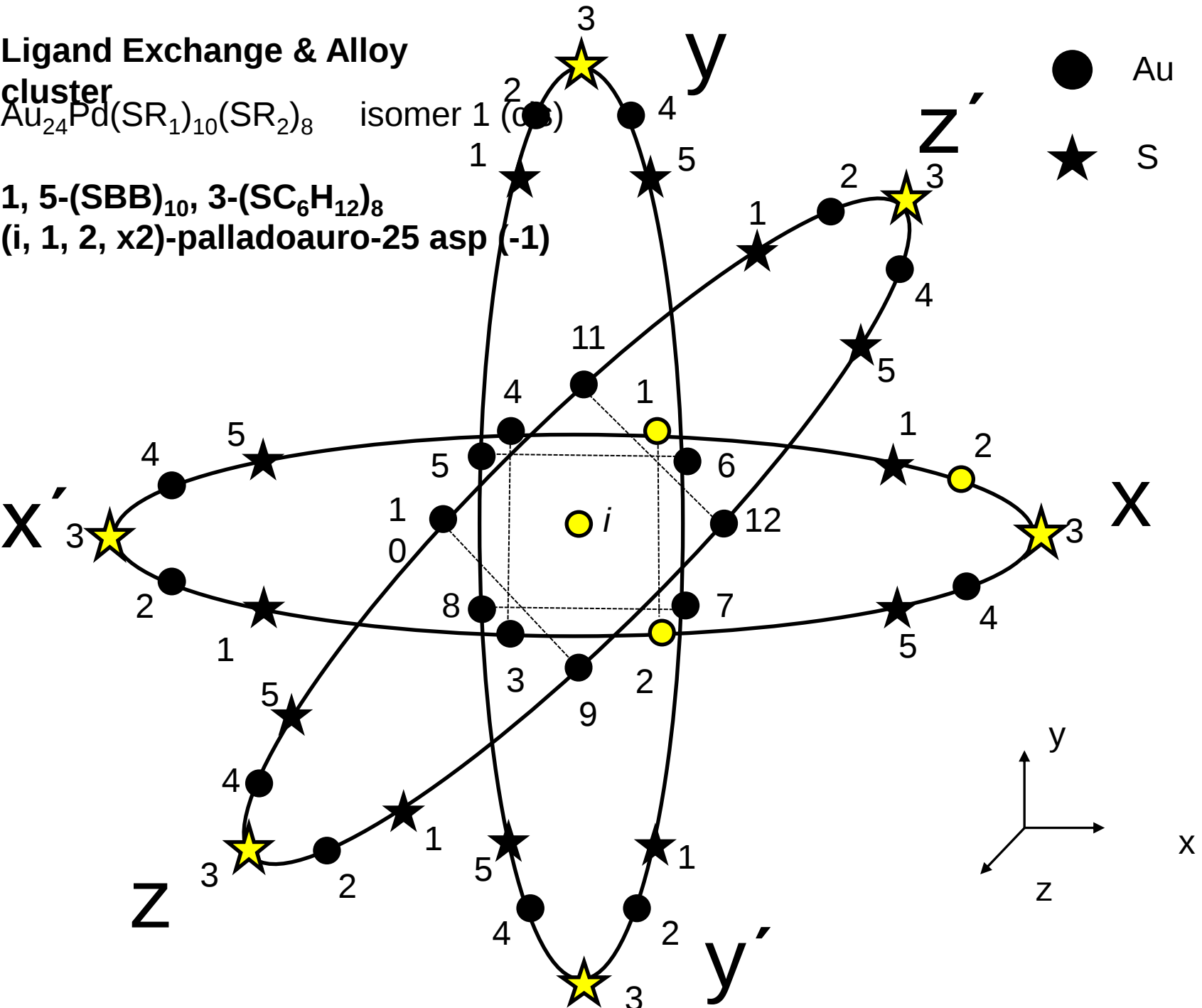
1, 5-(SBB)₁₀, 3-(SC₆H₁₂)₈
(i, 1, 2, x2)-palladoauro-25 asp (-1)

●

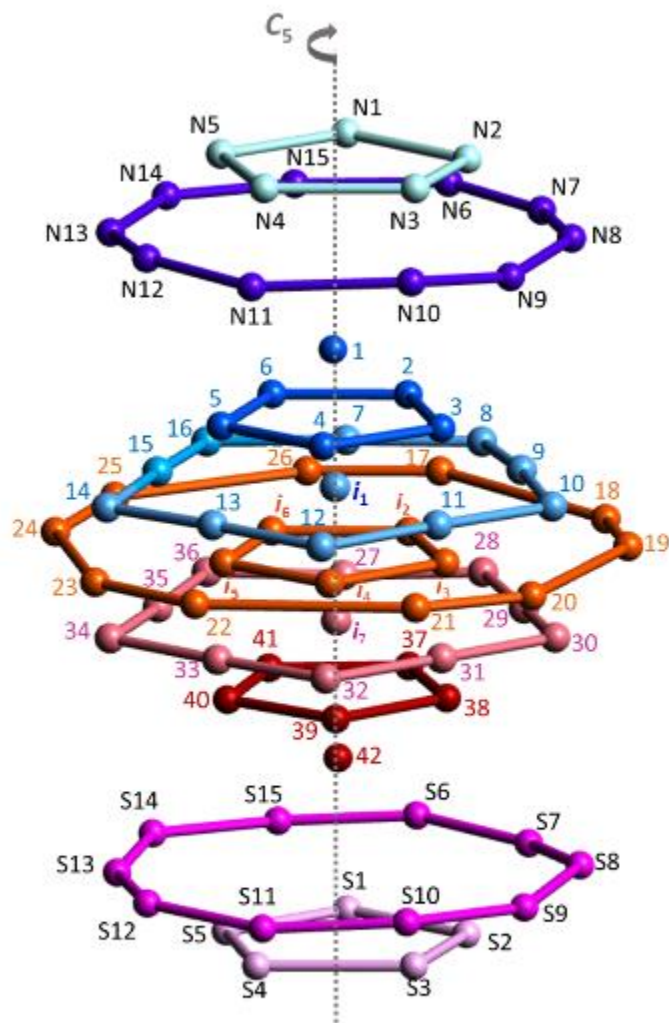
Au

★

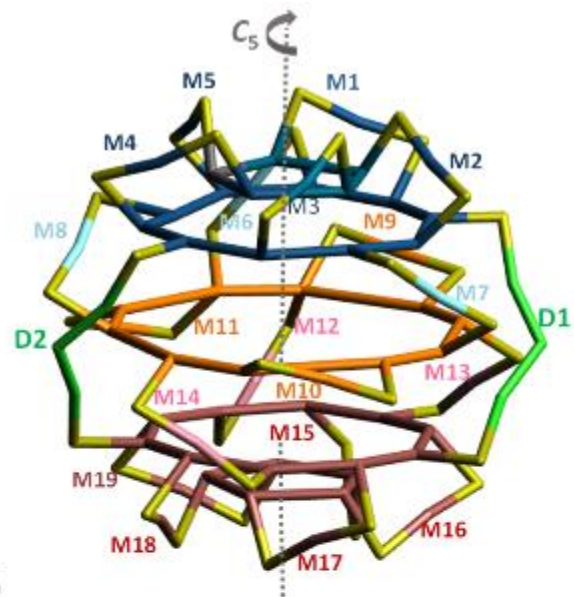
S



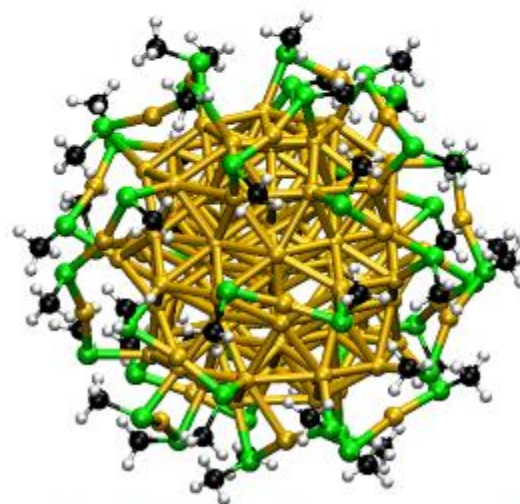
(A)



(B)



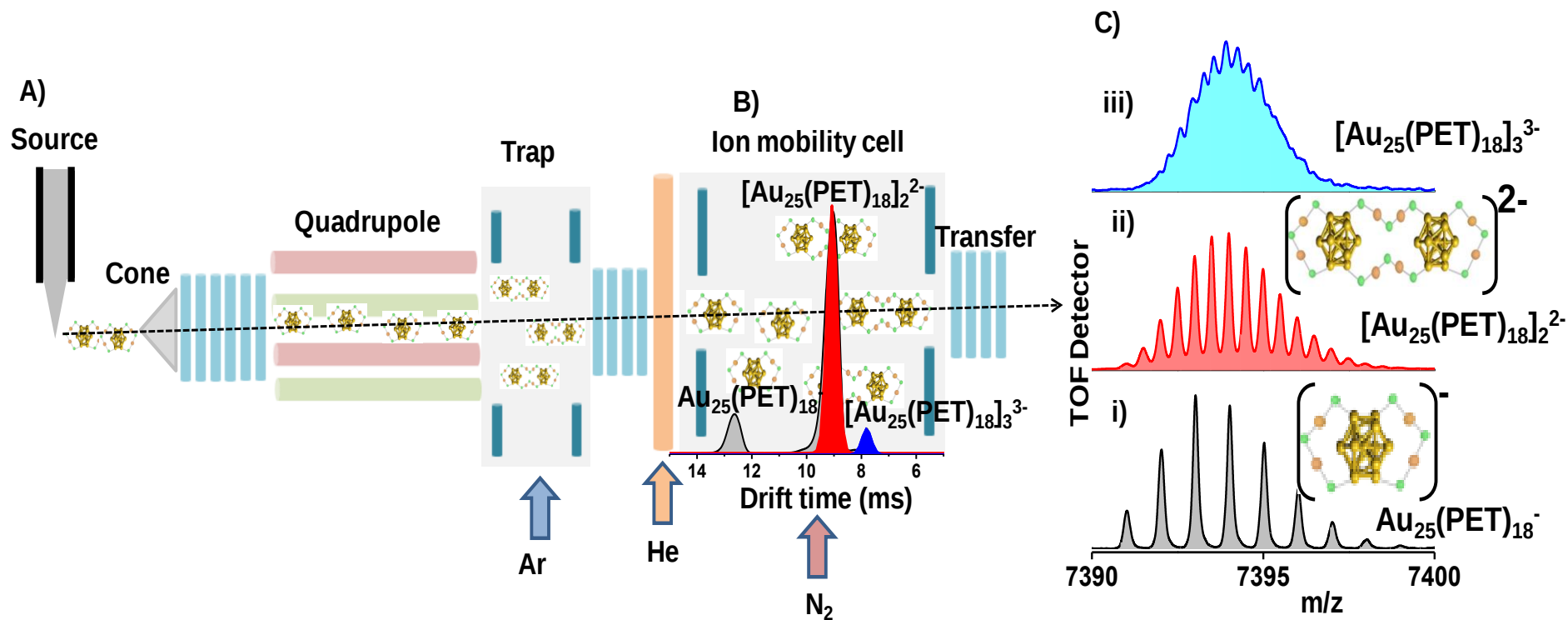
(C)



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

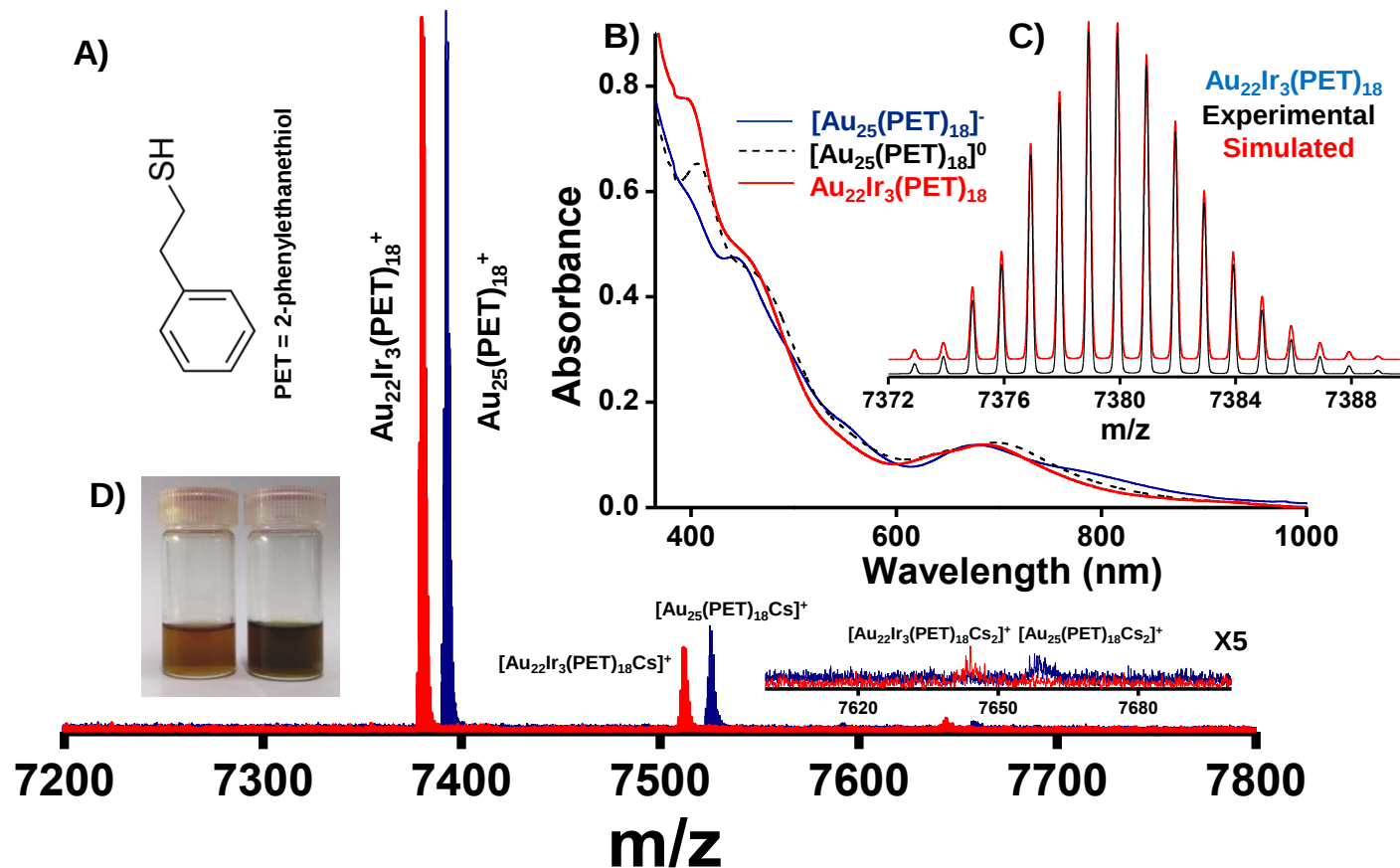
R-(SMe)₄₄-auro-102 aspicule(0) and L-(SMe)₄₄-auro-102 aspicule(0)

Cluster dimers

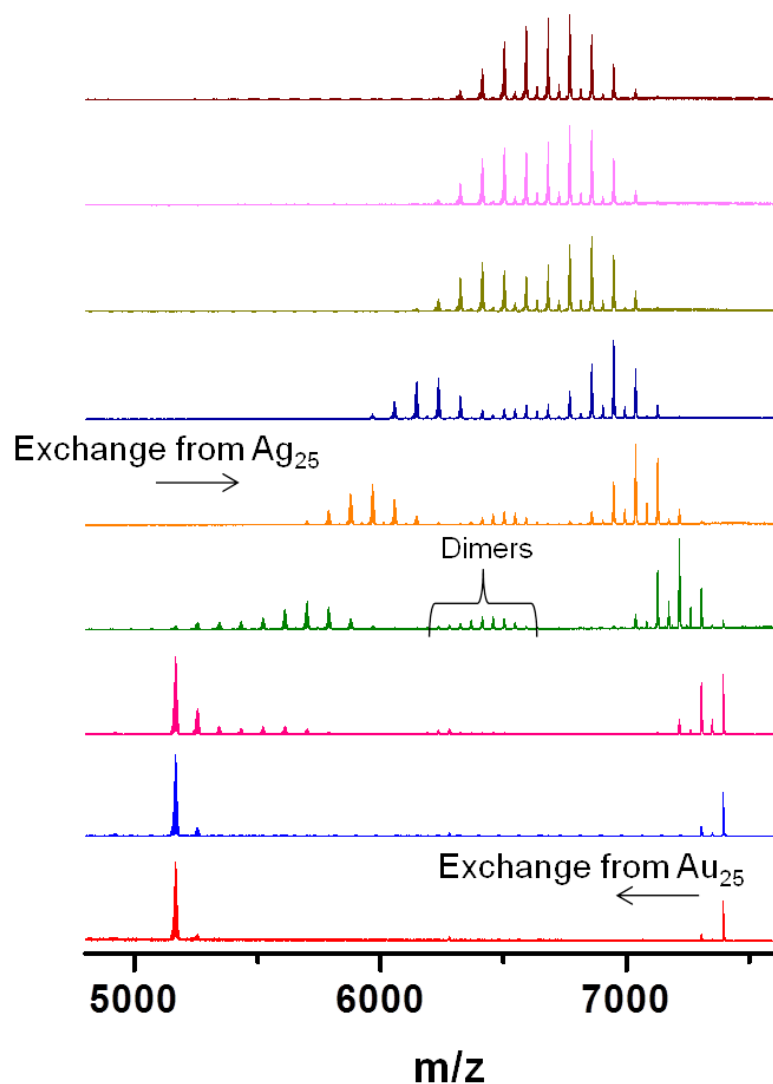


Ananya Bakshi et al. Chem. Commun. 2016

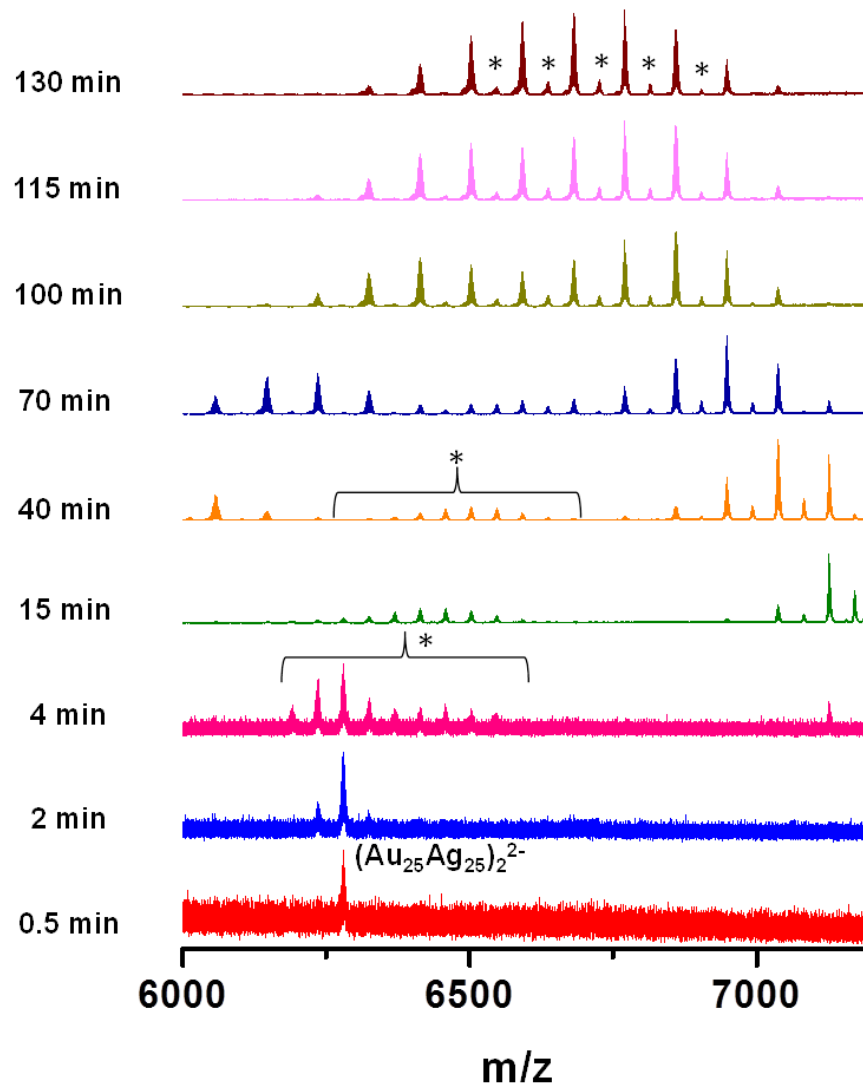
Precision alloys



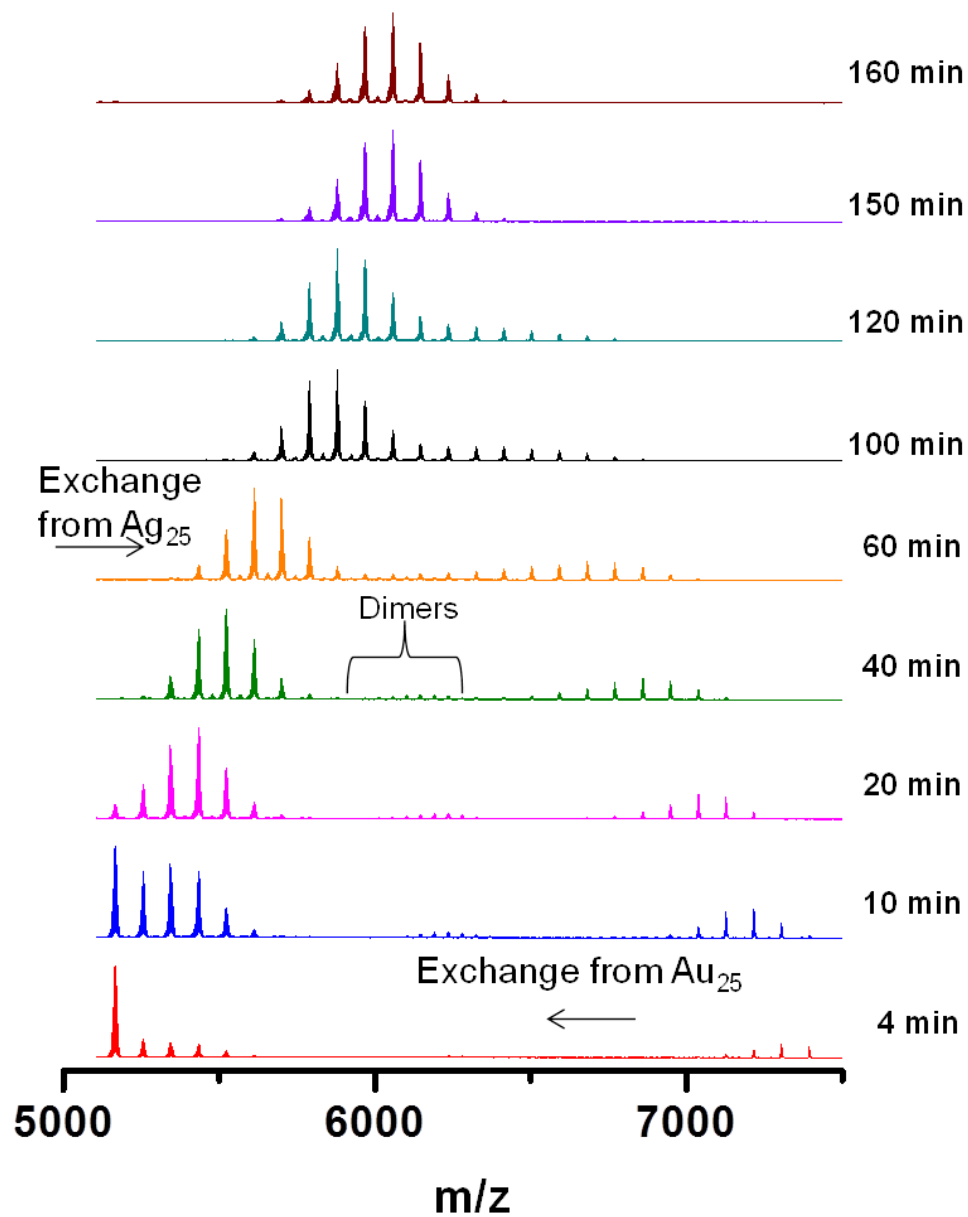
ESI MS of the reaction mixture



Expanded view of the dimers

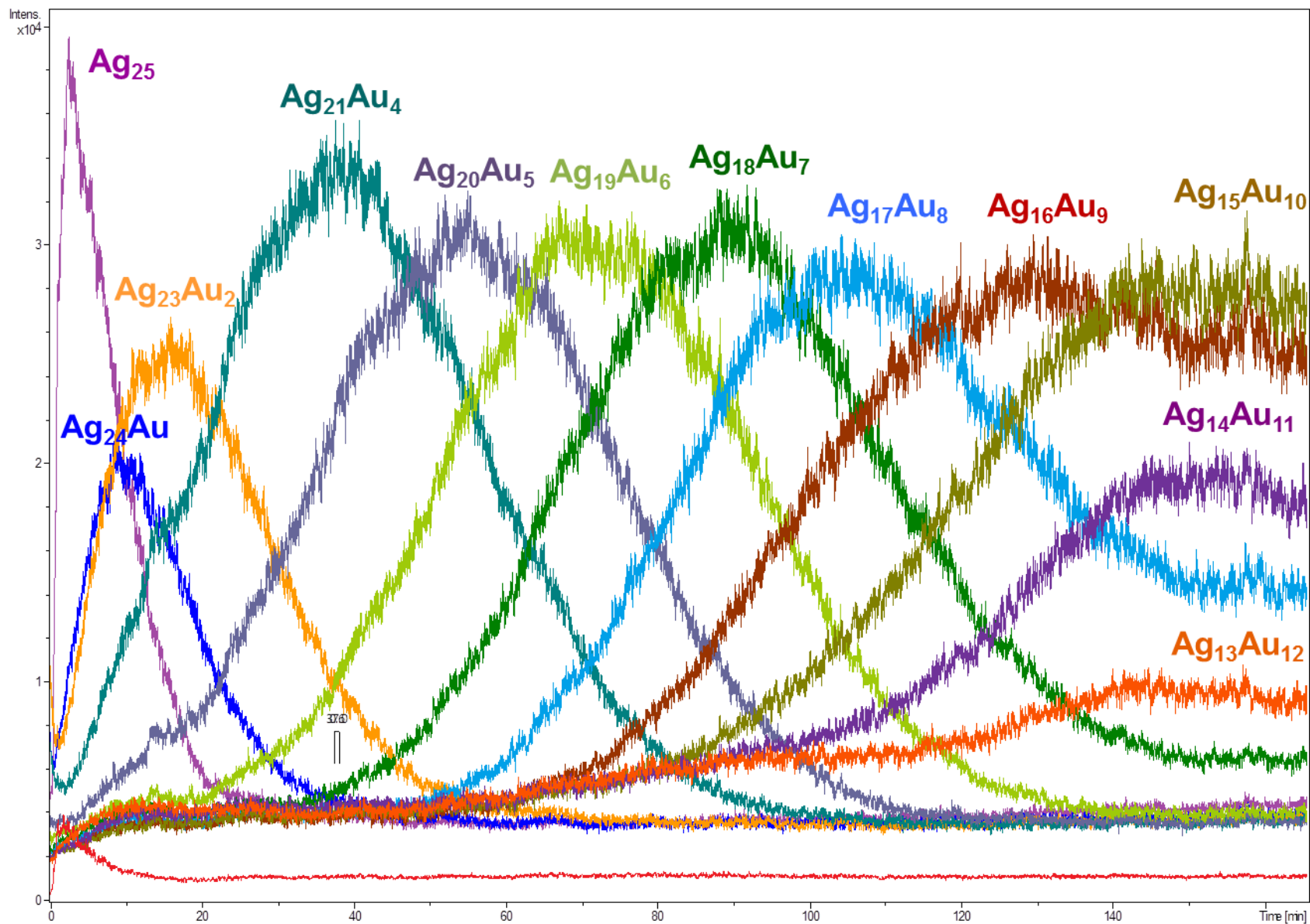


* peaks for the dimers (at higher time, the monomeric peaks due to Au-Ag exchange also arise). Au_{25} was kept in excess.



Molar ratio of two clusters= 1:1

Kinetics of the exchange (monitored on the Ag₂₅ side)



Cluster dynamics

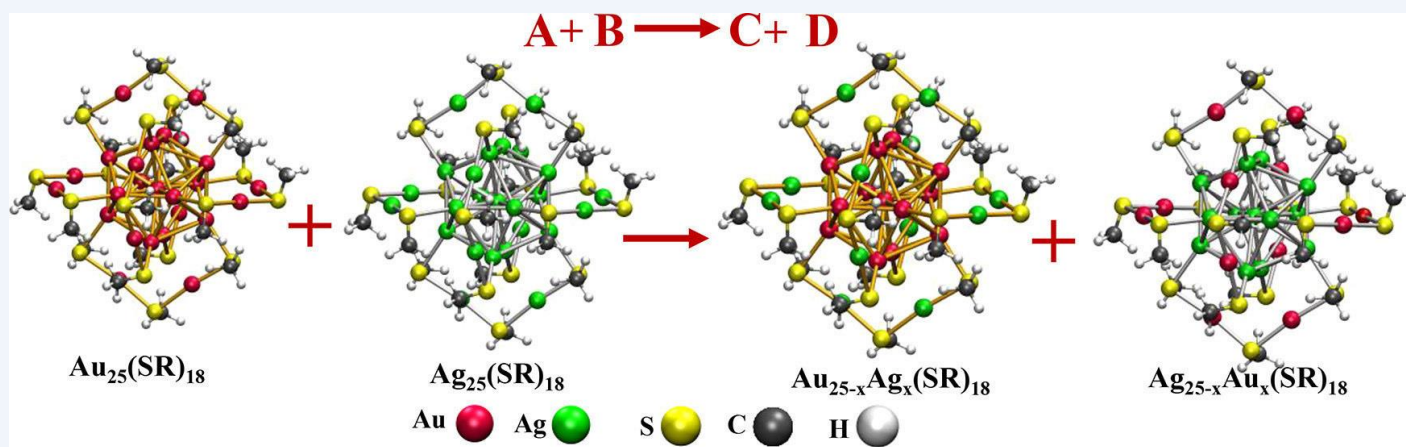


They are indeed molecules!

Interparticle Reactions: An Emerging Direction in Nanomaterials Chemistry

K. R. Krishnadas, Ananya Baksi,[†] Atanu Ghosh, Ganapati Natarajan, Anirban Som, and Thalappil Pradeep^{*ID}

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



CONSPECTUS: Nanoparticles exhibit a rich variety in terms of structure, composition, and properties. However, reactions between them remain largely unexplored. In this *Account*, we discuss an emerging aspect of nanomaterials chemistry, namely, interparticle reactions in solution phase, similar to reactions between molecules, involving atomically precise noble metal clusters.

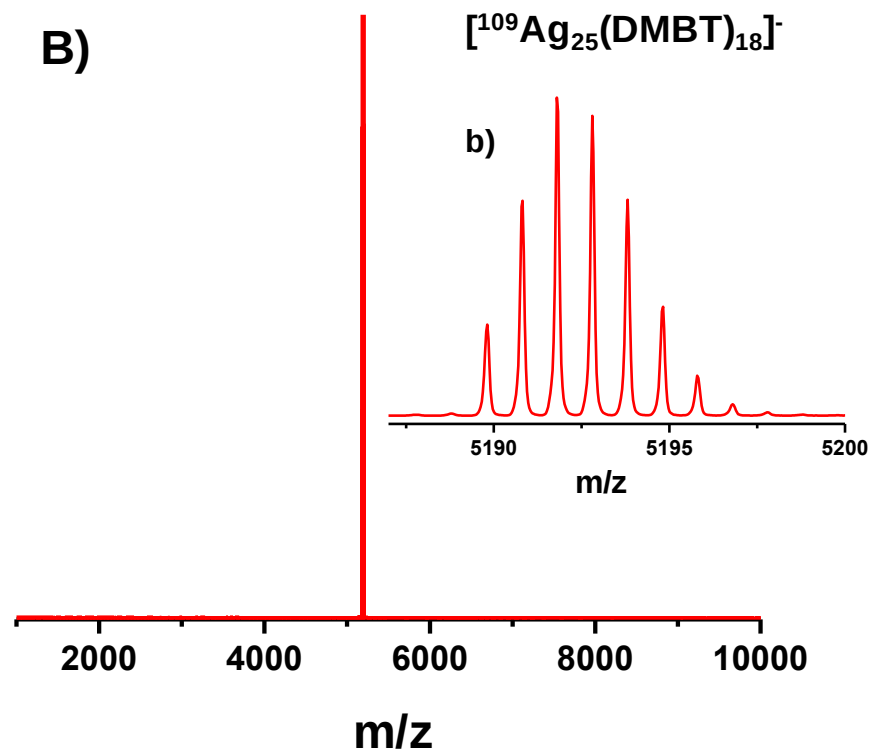
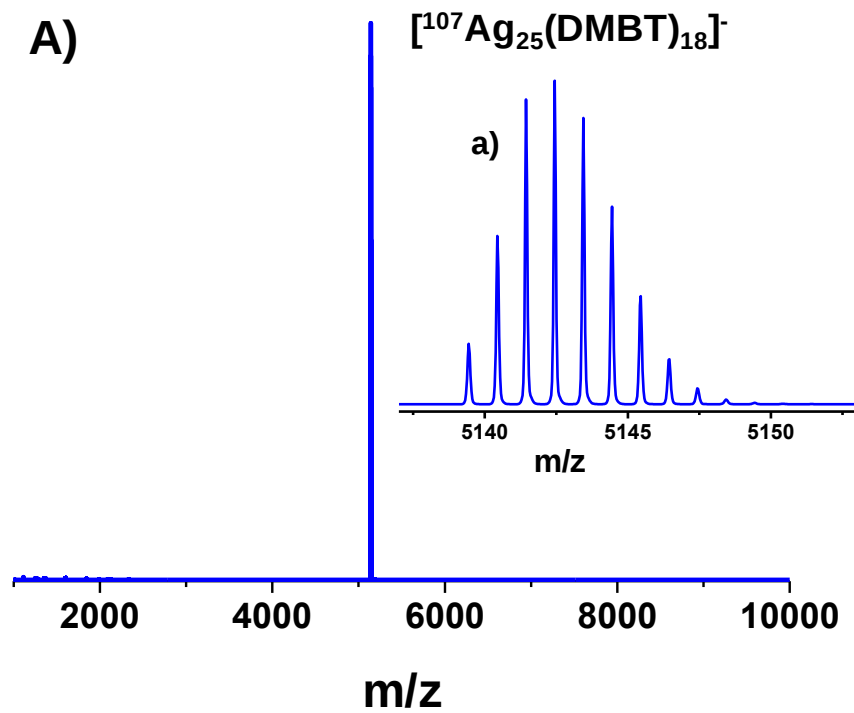
CONDENSED MATTER PHYSICS

Rapid isotopic exchange in nanoparticles

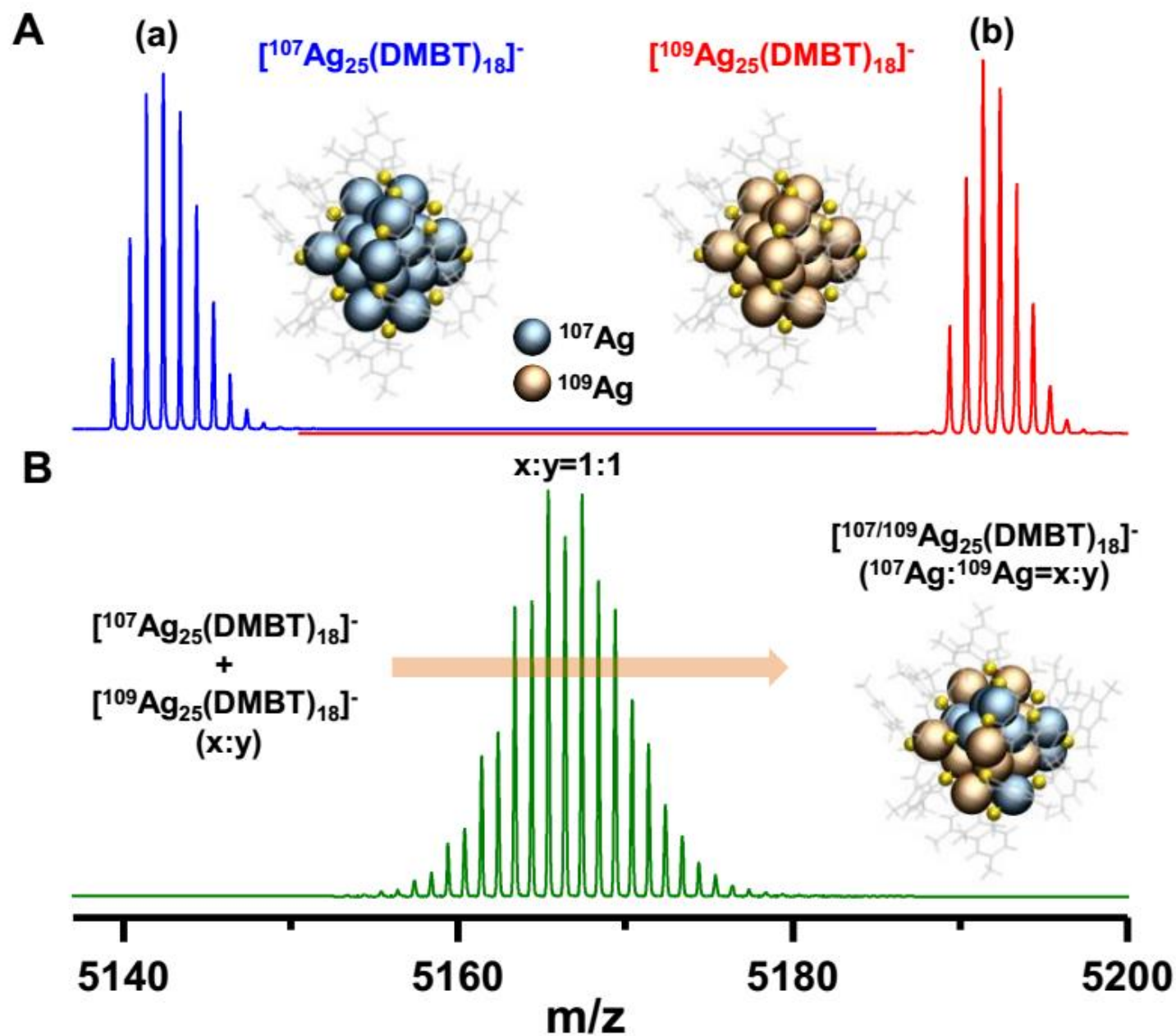
**Papri Chakraborty¹, Abhijit Nag¹, Ganapati Natarajan¹, Nayanika Bandyopadhyay¹,
Ganesan Paramasivam¹, Manoj Kumar Panwar¹, Jaydeb Chakrabarti², Thalappil Pradeep^{1*}**

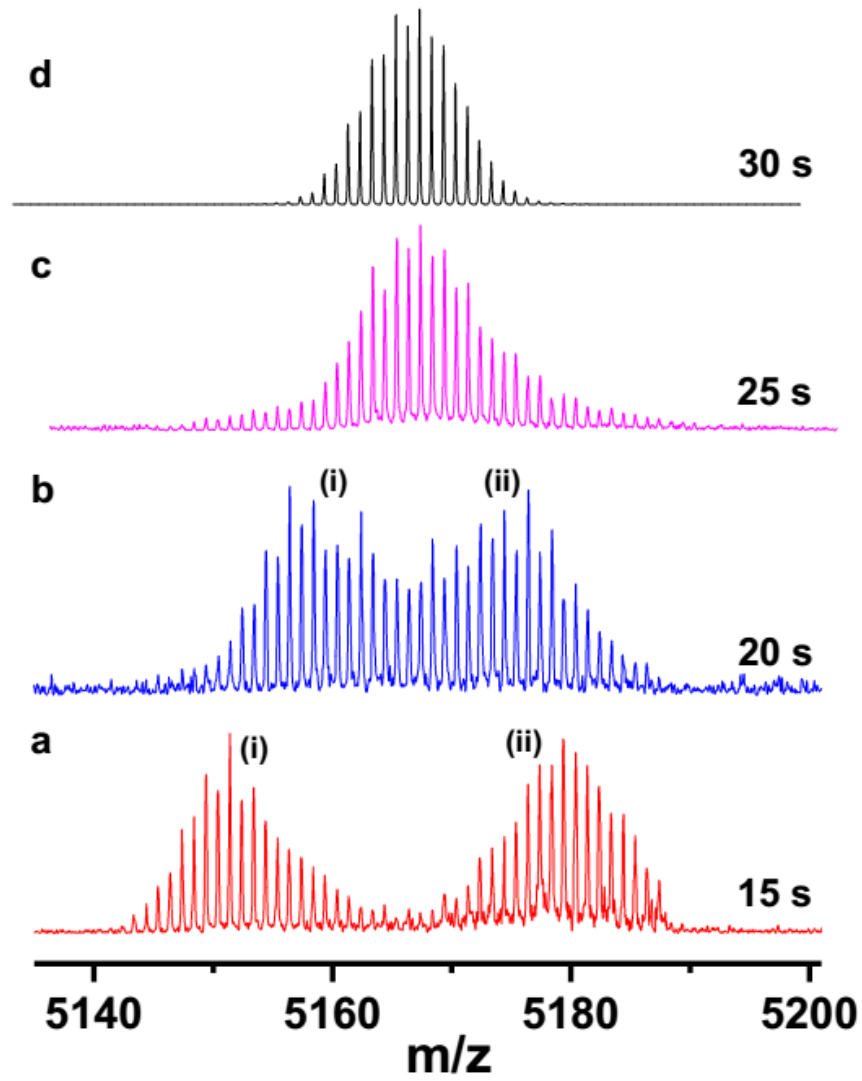
Rapid solution-state exchange dynamics in nanoscale pieces of matter is revealed, taking isotopically pure atomically precise clusters as examples. As two isotopically pure silver clusters made of ^{107}Ag and ^{109}Ag are mixed, an isotopically mixed cluster of the same entity results, similar to the formation of HDO, from H_2O and D_2O . This spontaneous process is driven by the entropy of mixing and involves events at multiple time scales.

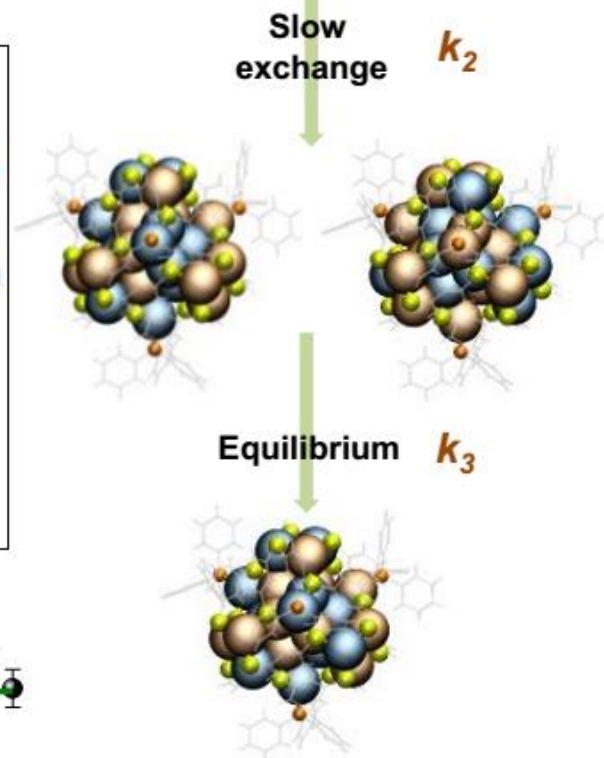
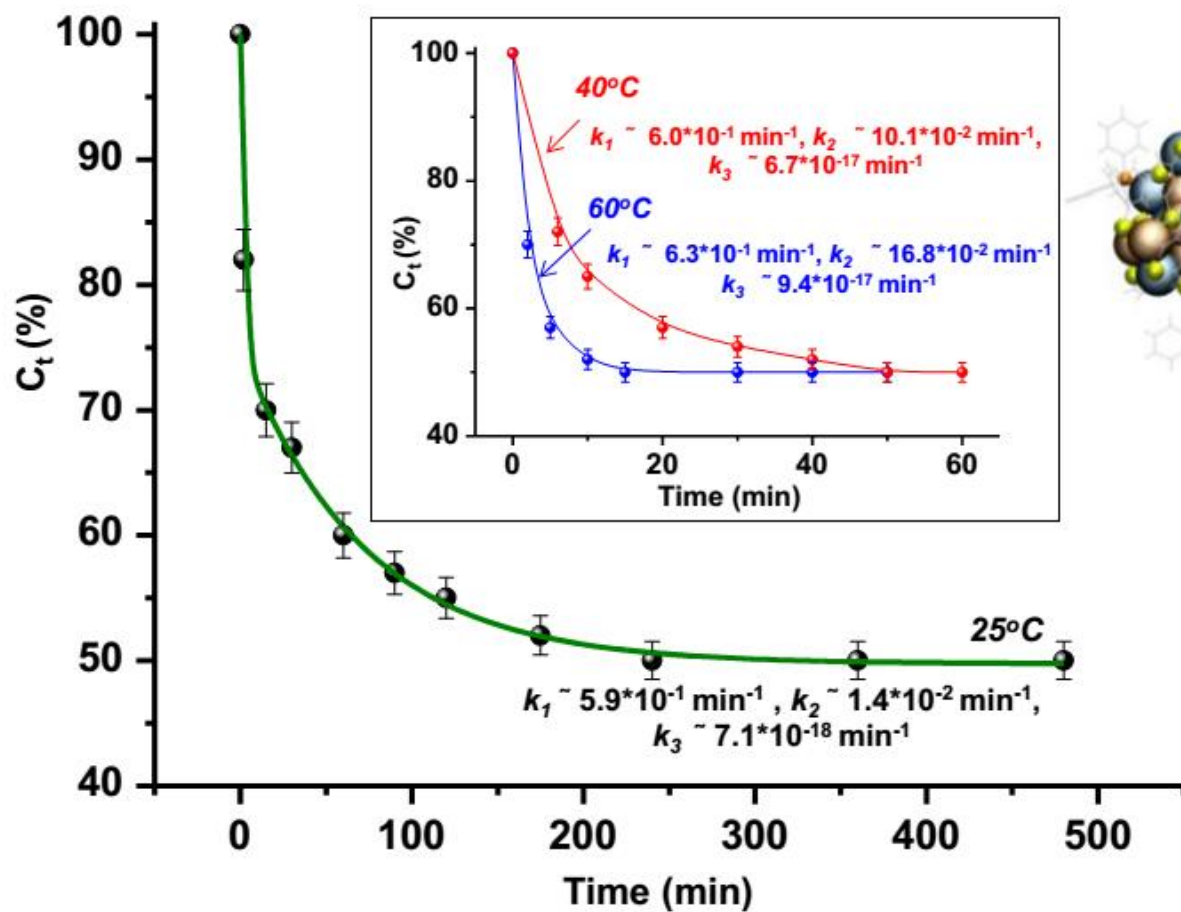
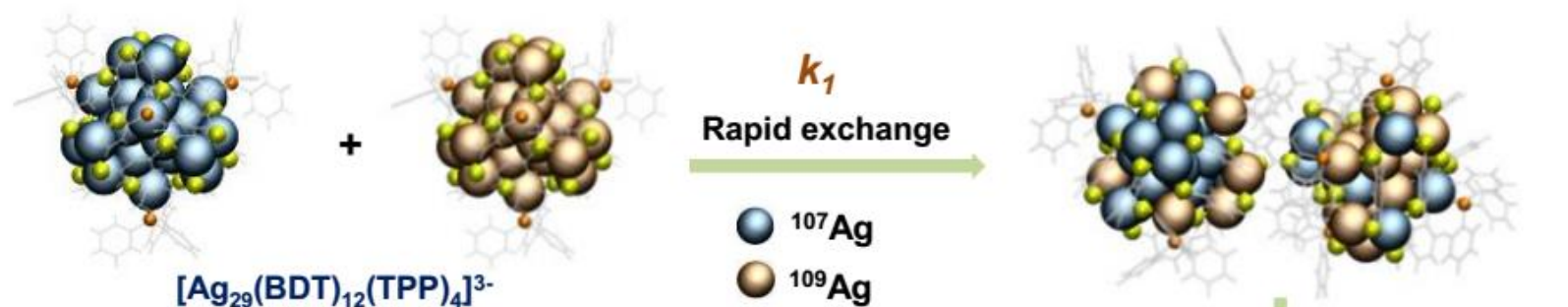
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ESI MS of **A)** $^{107}\text{Ag}_{25}(\text{DMBT})_{18}$ and **B)** $^{109}\text{Ag}_{25}(\text{DMBT})_{18}$. Insets shows the respective isotope patterns.







July XX, 2019 Volume XX, Number XX

CELEBRATING

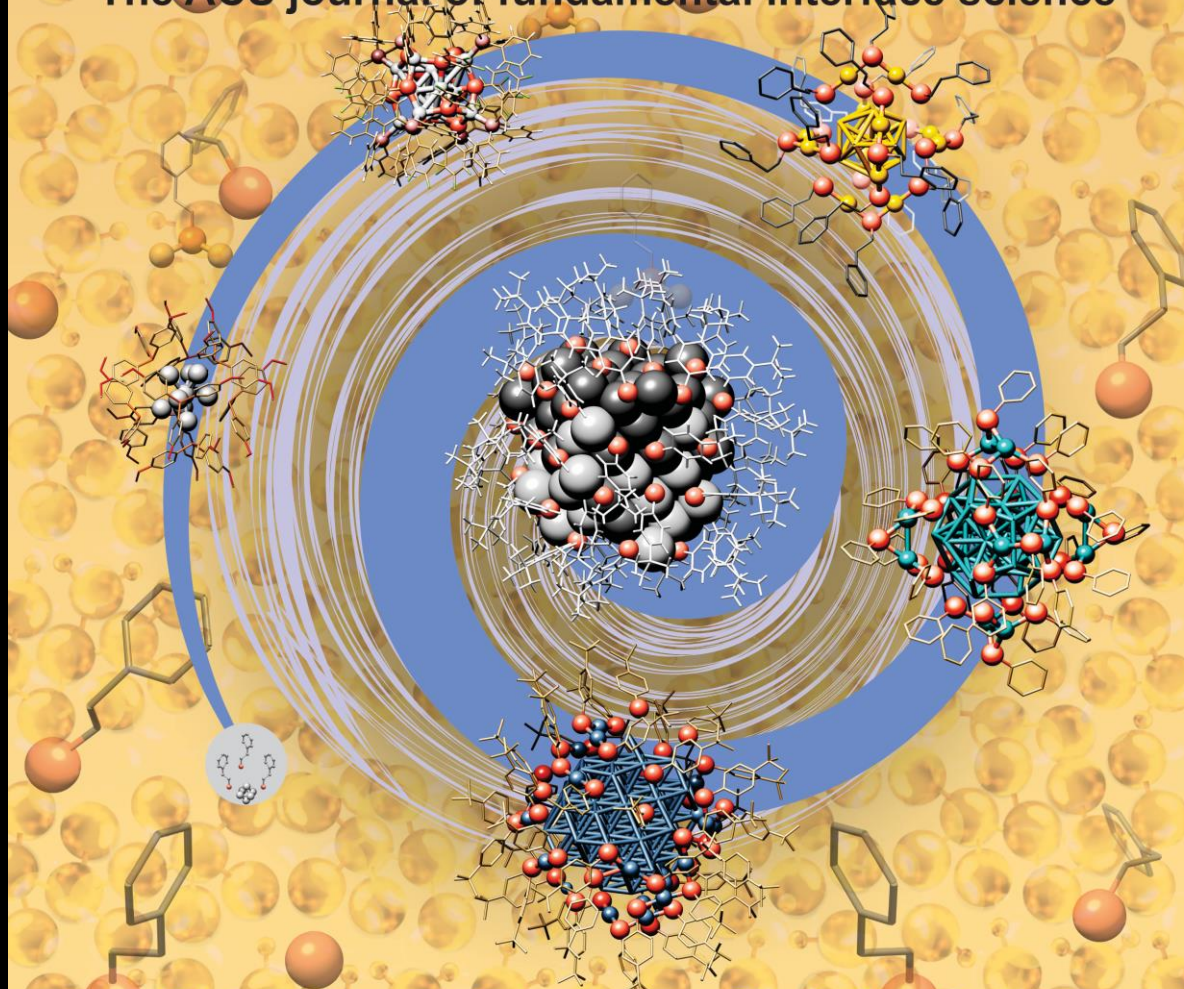
35

YEARS

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LANGMUIR

The ACS journal of fundamental interface science



**Metal-Ligand Interfaces: Evolution from
Aggregates to Precise Structures and Beyond**

To appear

Supramolecular chemistry

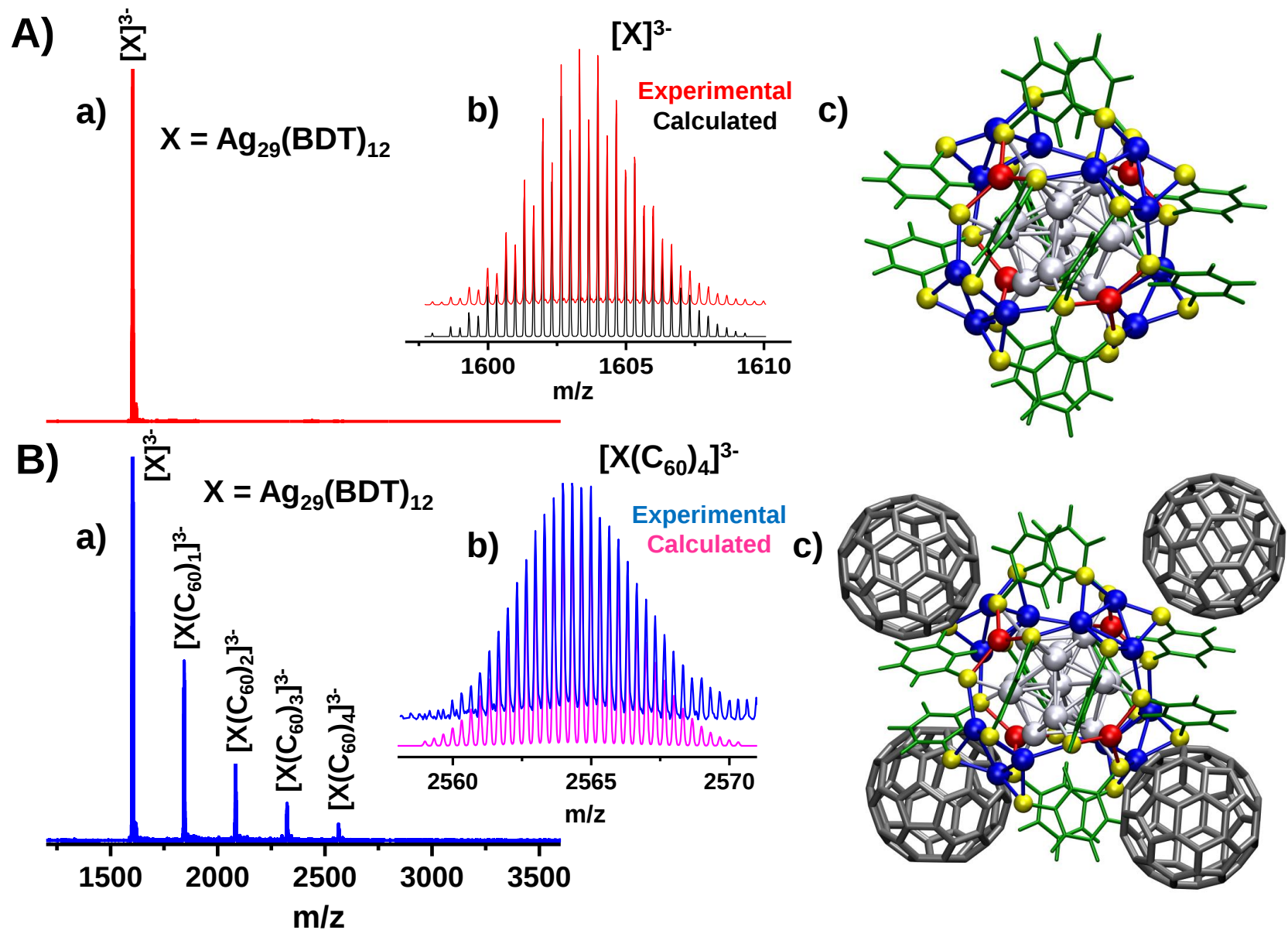


Figure 1. **A)** **(a)** Full range ESI MS, **(b)** experimental and calculated isotope patterns and **(c)** DFT optimized structure of $[Ag_{29}(BDT)_{12}]^{3-}$ cluster. **B)** **(a)** ESI MS of $[Ag_{29}(BDT)_{12}(C_{60})_n]^{3-}$ ($n=1-4$) complexes, **(b)** experimental and calculated isotope patterns of $[Ag_{29}(BDT)_{12}(C_{60})_4]^{3-}$ and **(c)** schematic of the possible structure of $[Ag_{29}(BDT)_{12}(C_{60})_4]^{3-}$.

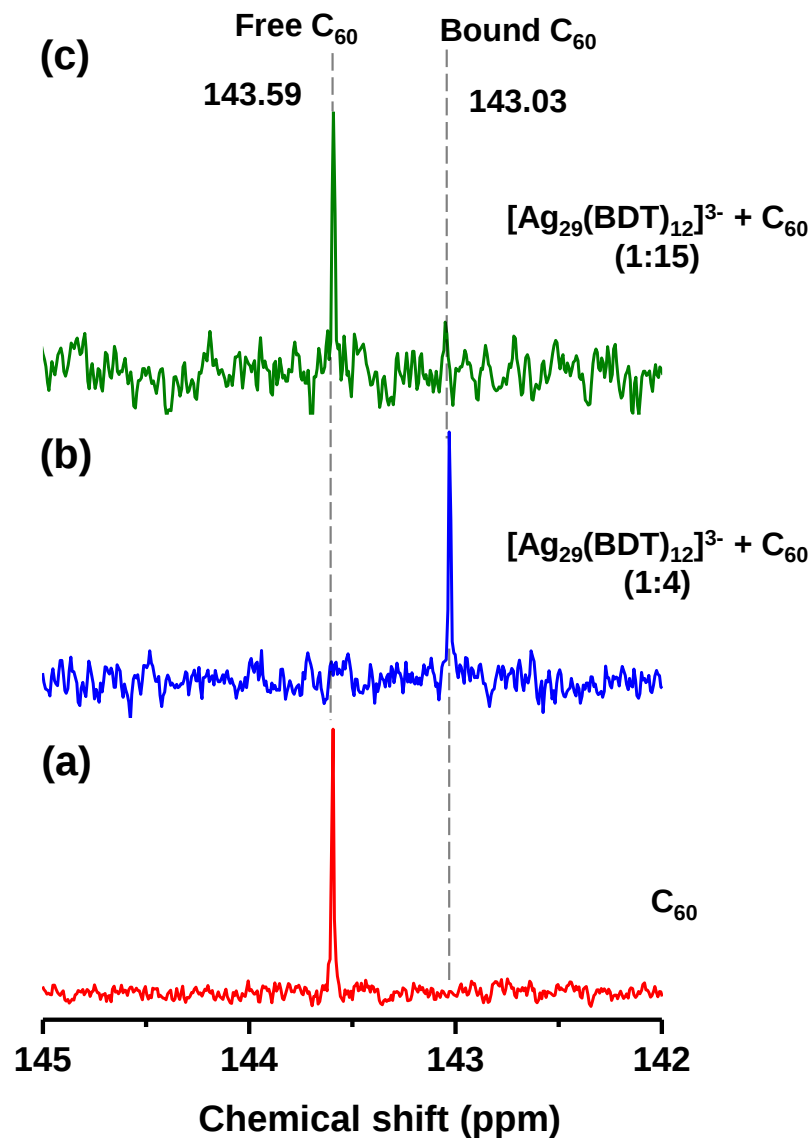
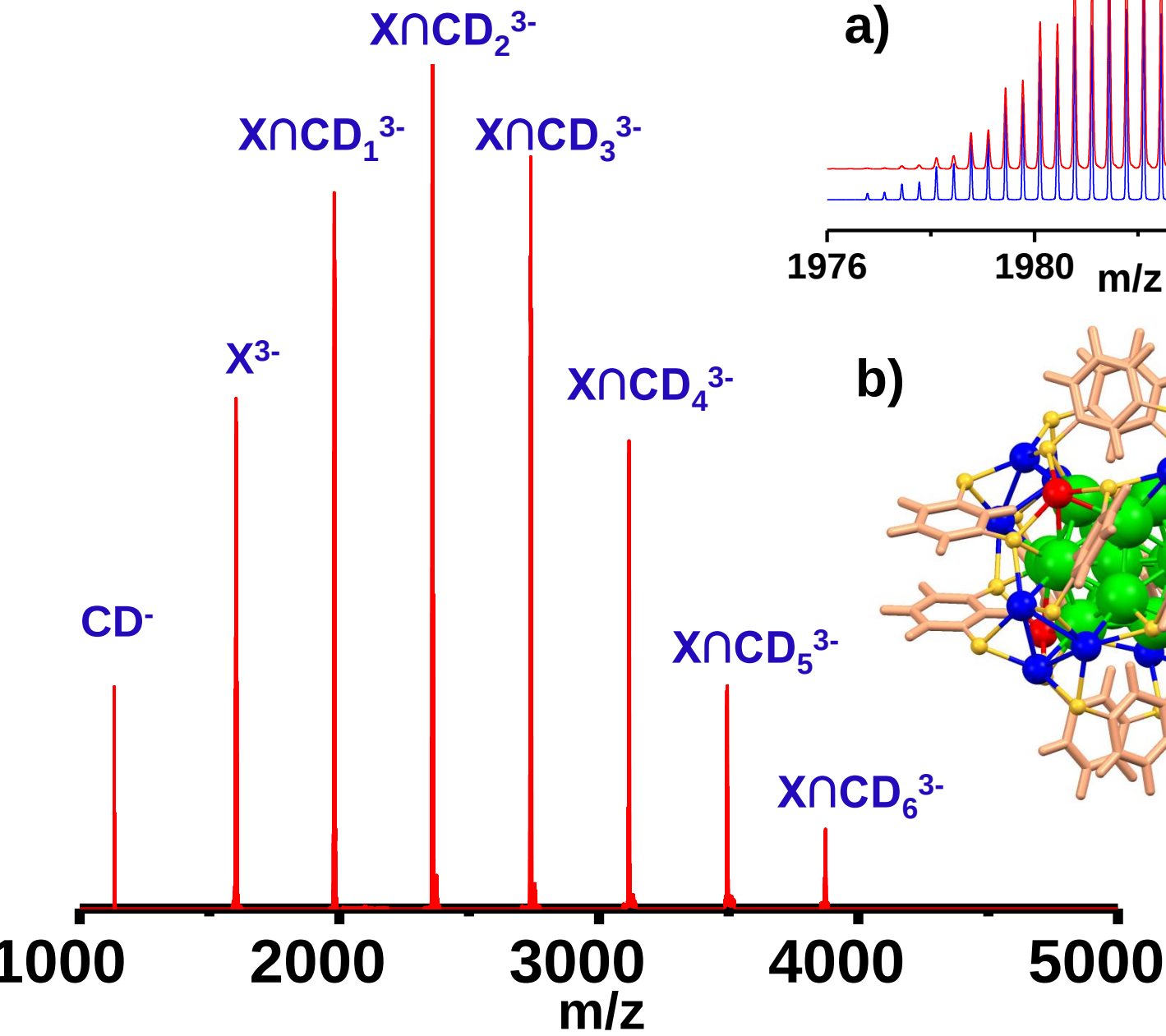


Figure 3. NMR of (a) C_{60} showing peak at 143.59 ppm, (b) the adducts at a cluster:fullerene molar ratio of 1:4 showing peak at 143.03 ppm for the C_{60} molecules in bound state and (c) the adducts at an excess concentration of C_{60} (cluster:fullerene molar ratio of 1:15) showing a predominant peak for free C_{60} (143.59 ppm) and a less intense peak for bound C_{60} (143.03 ppm).

Isomerism in supramolecular adducts

A)

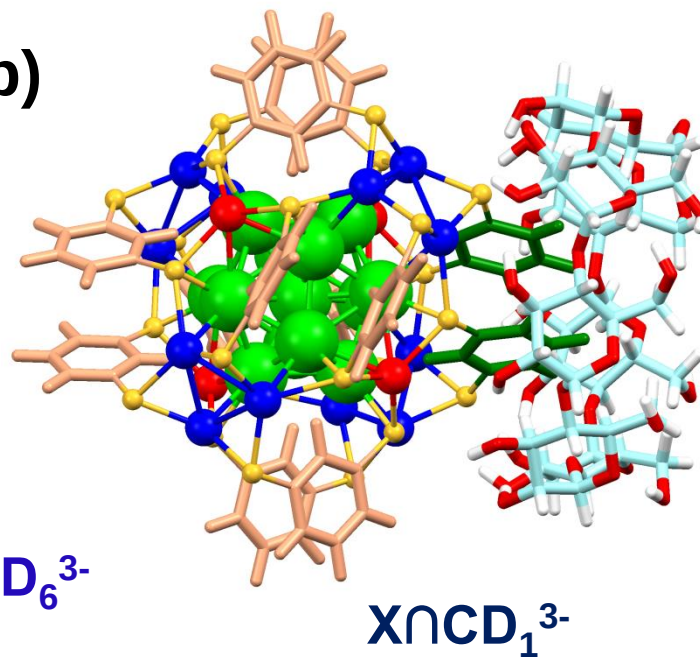
 $\text{Ag}_{29}\text{BDT}_{12} = \text{X}$ $\beta\text{-cyclodextrin} = \text{CD}$  XnCD_1^{3-}

a)

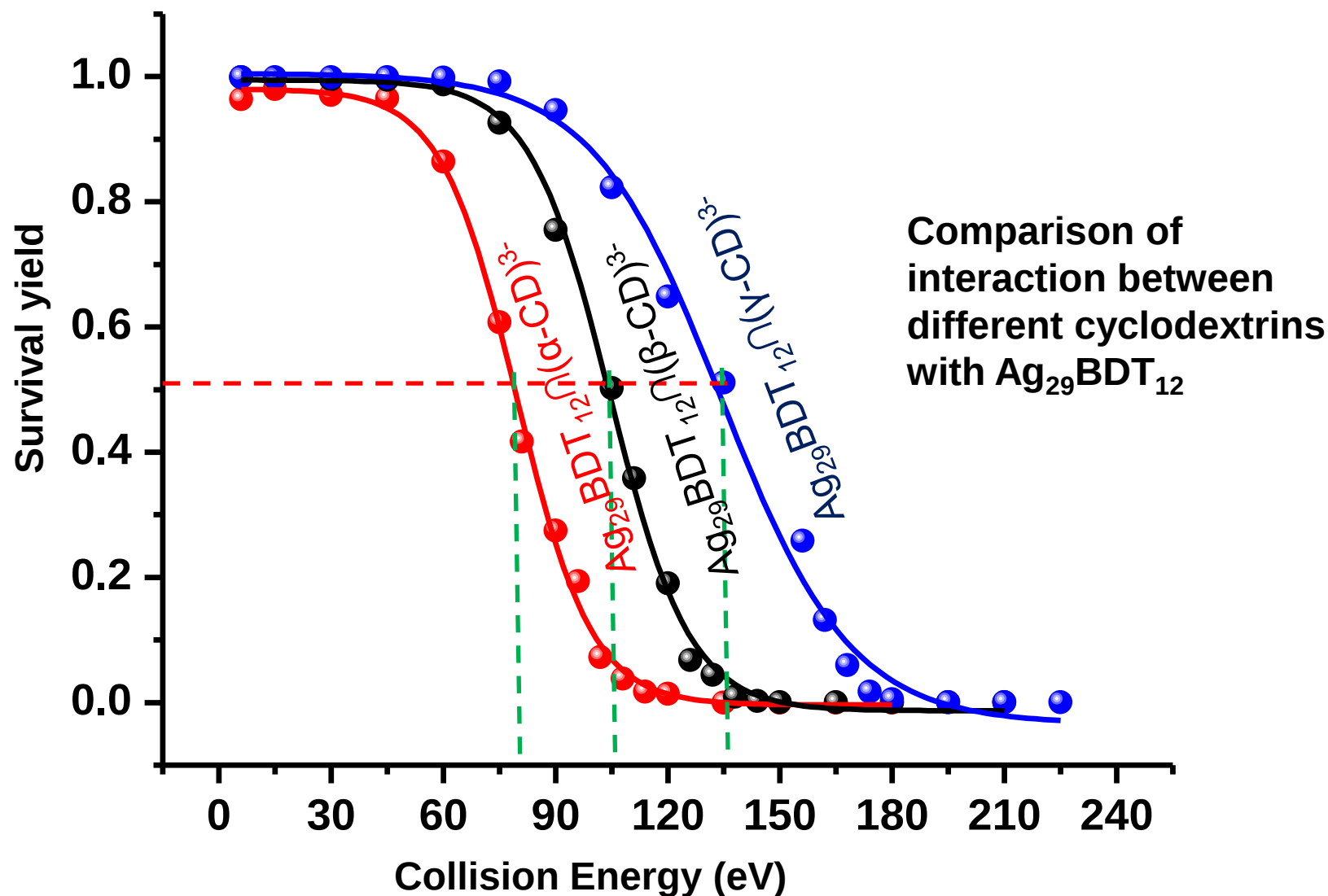
Calculated
Experimental

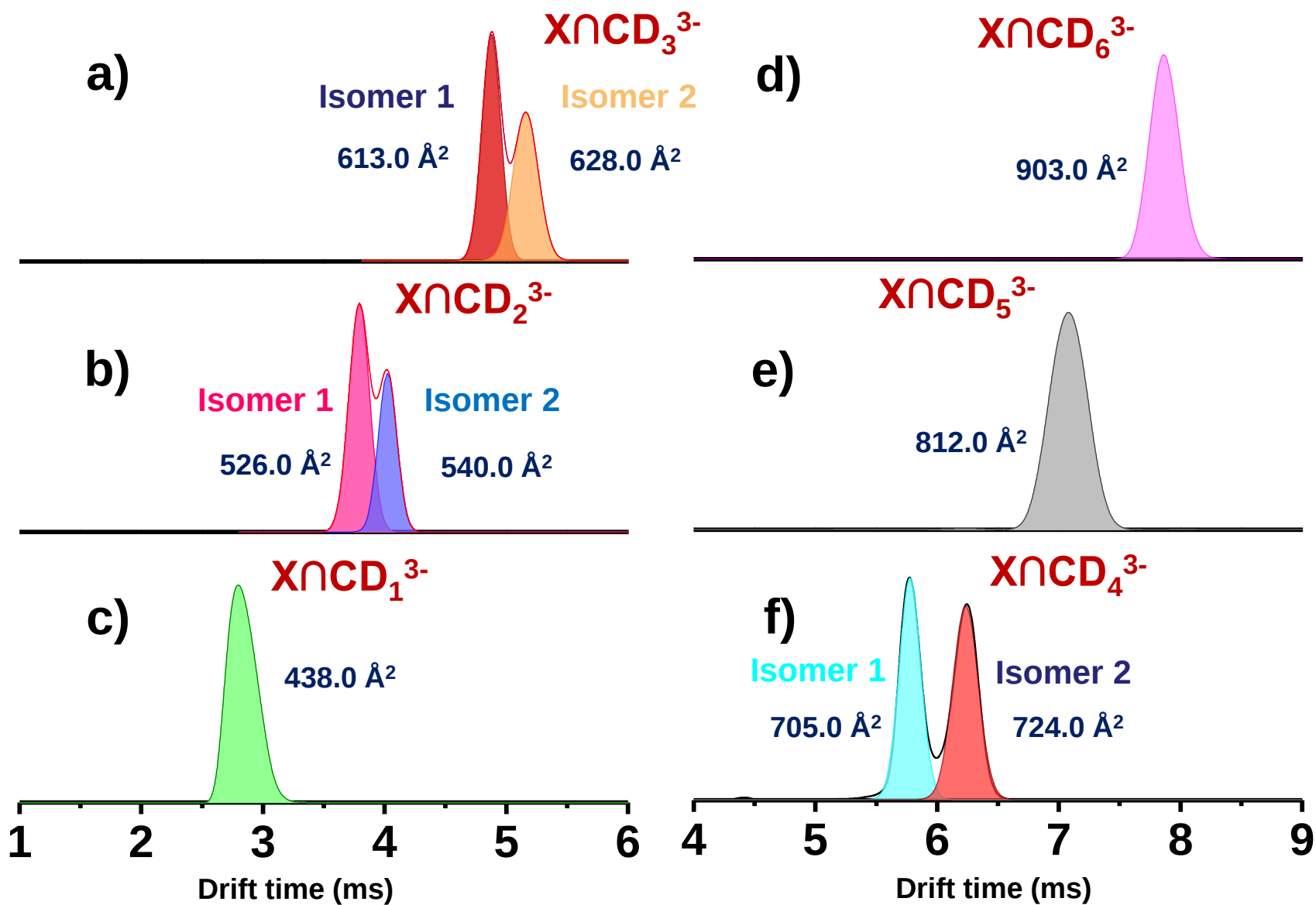
1976 1980 1984 1988 m/z

b)

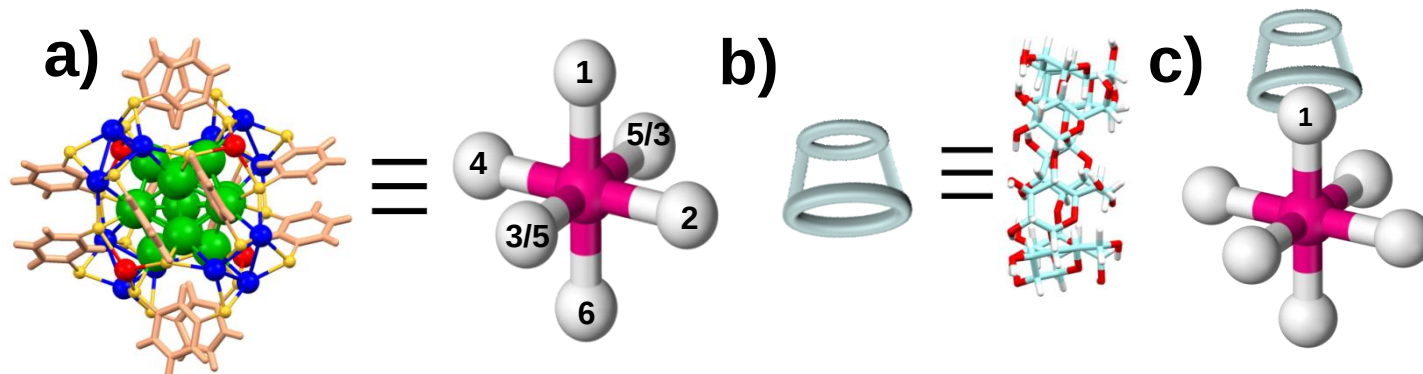


Energy Resolved Fragmentation of $\text{Ag}_{29}\text{BDT}_{12}\cap(\text{X-CD})^{3-}$

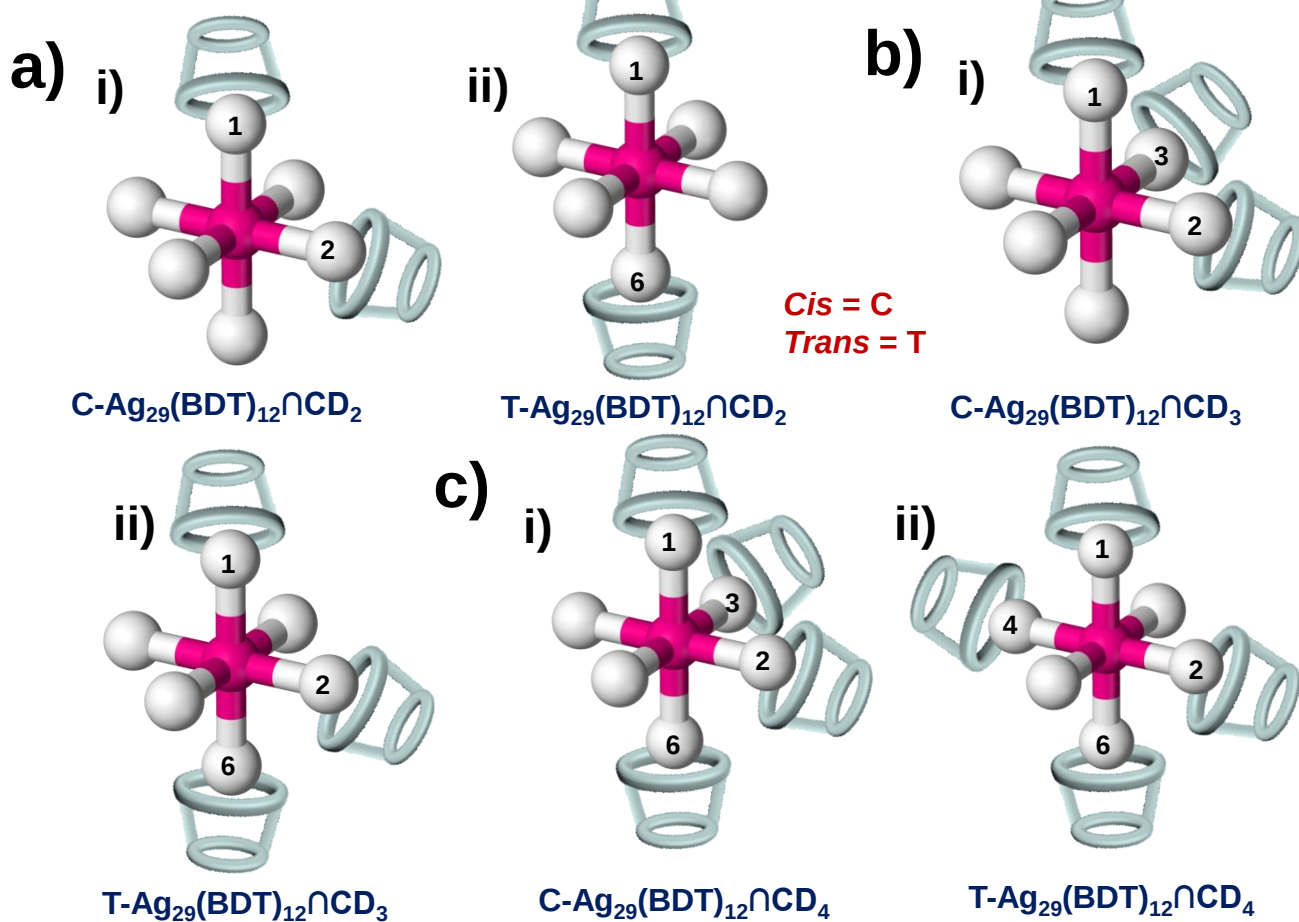




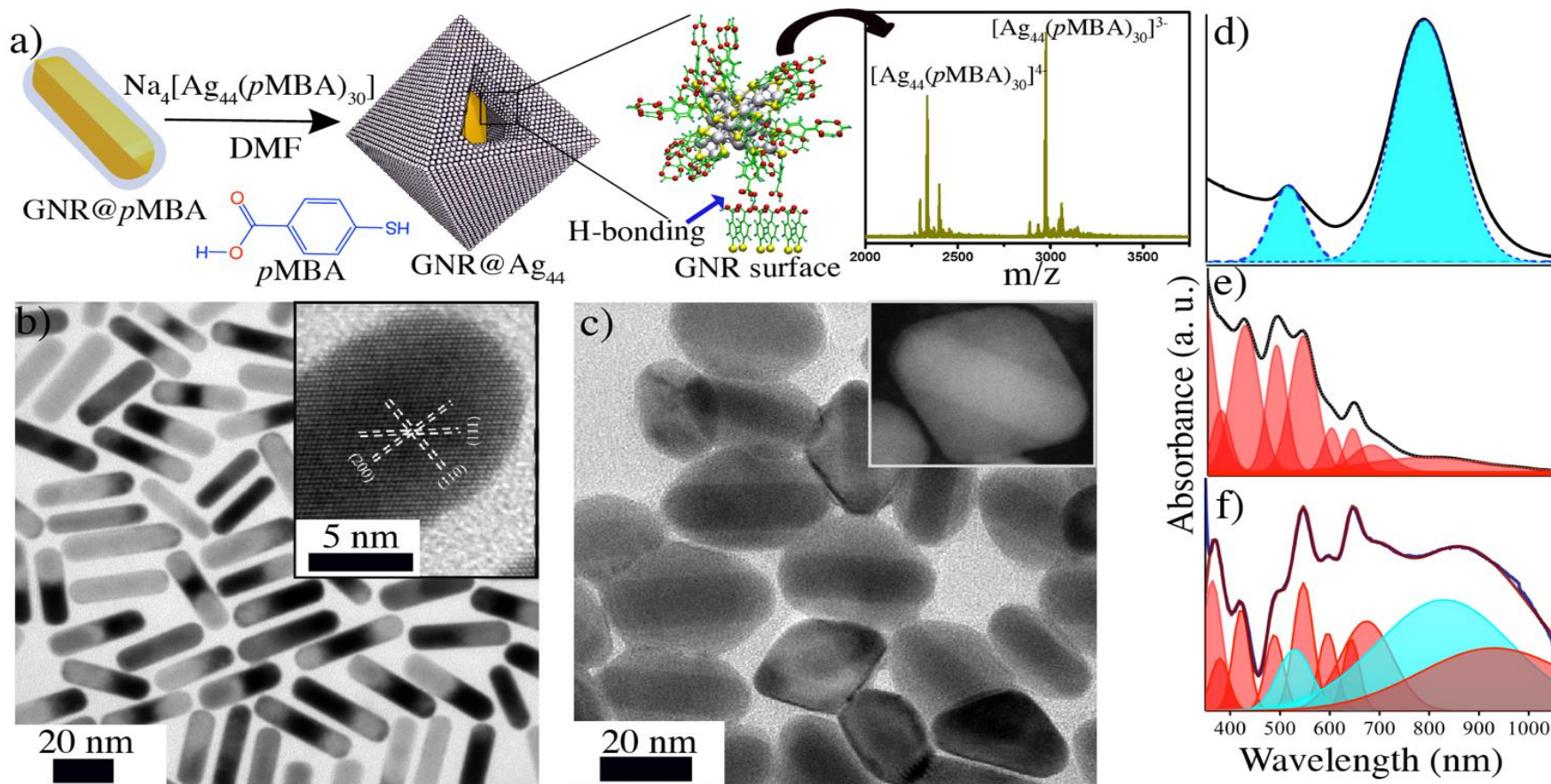
A)

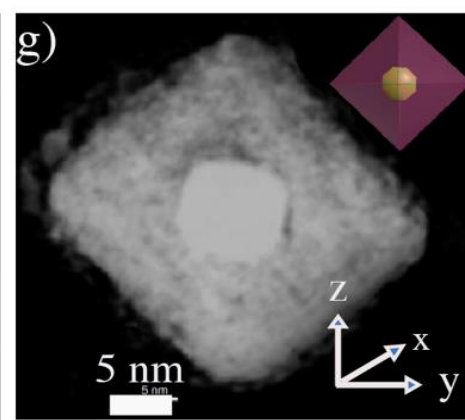
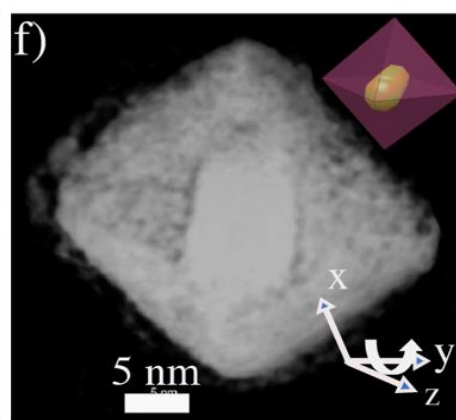
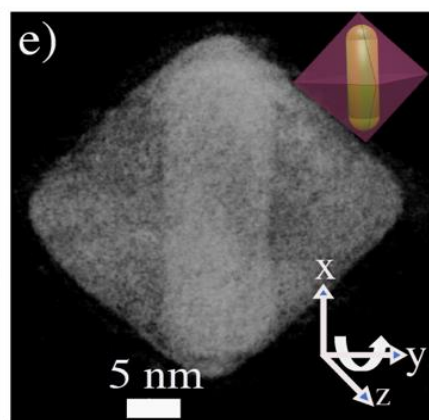
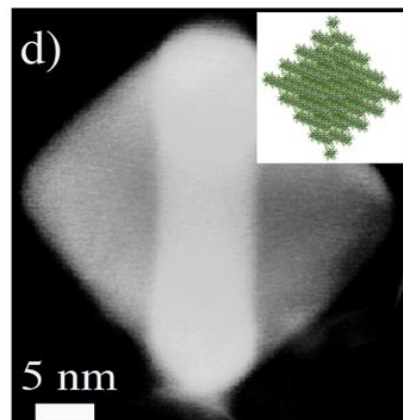
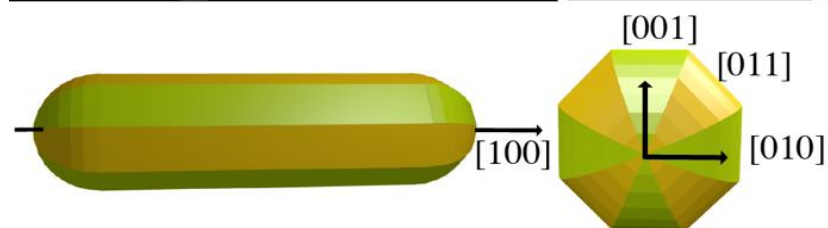
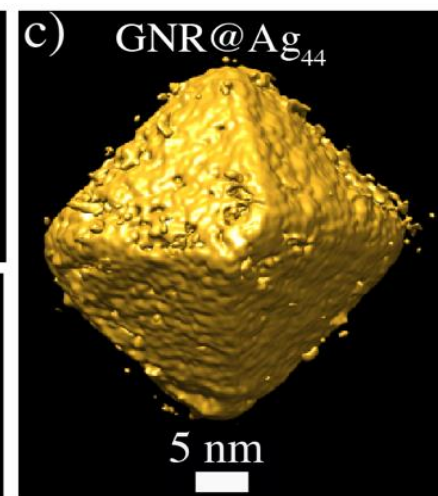
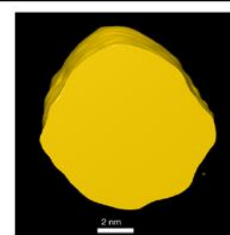
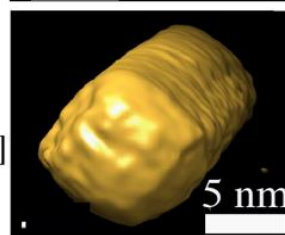
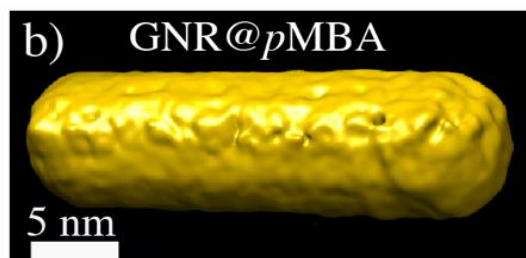
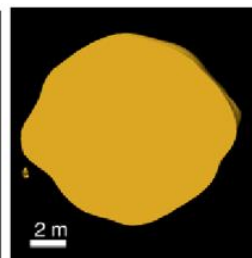
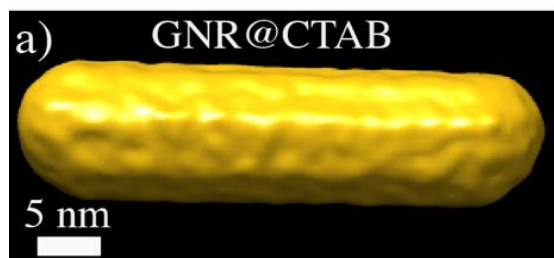


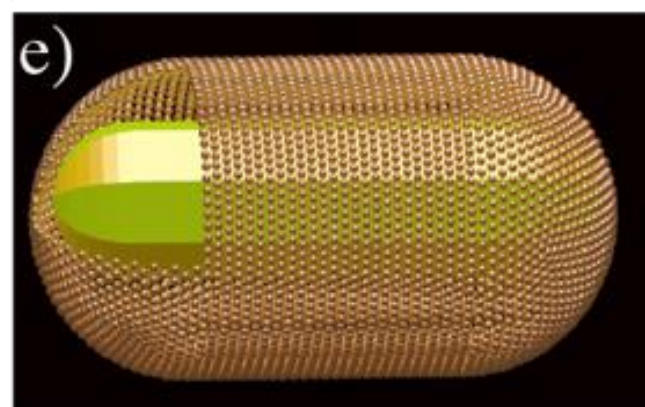
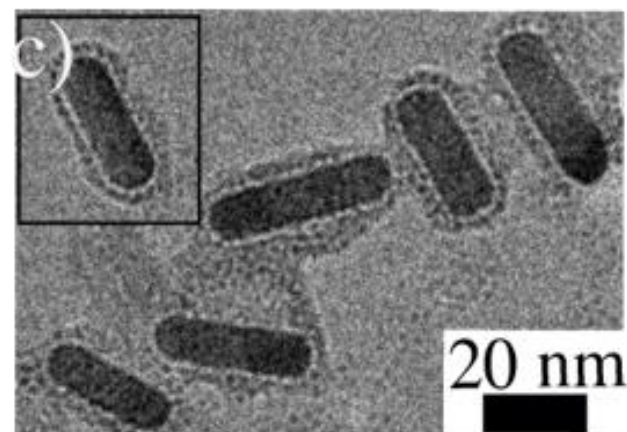
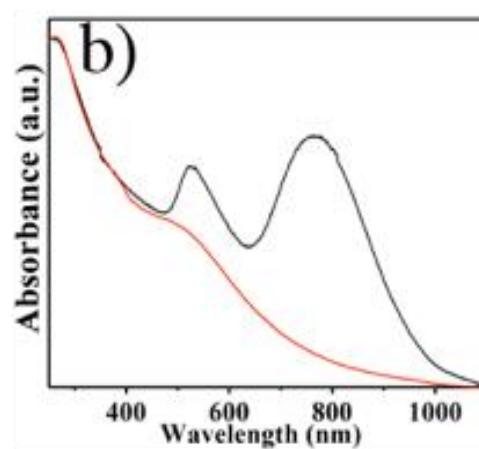
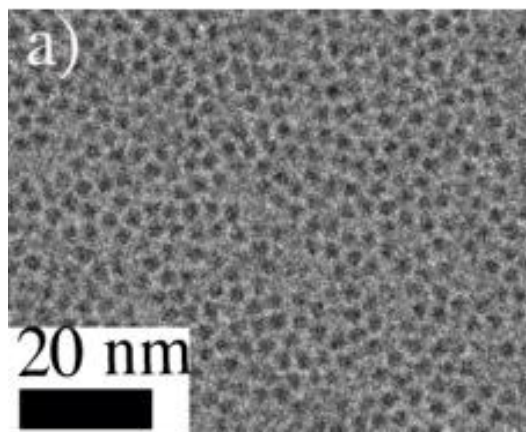
B)



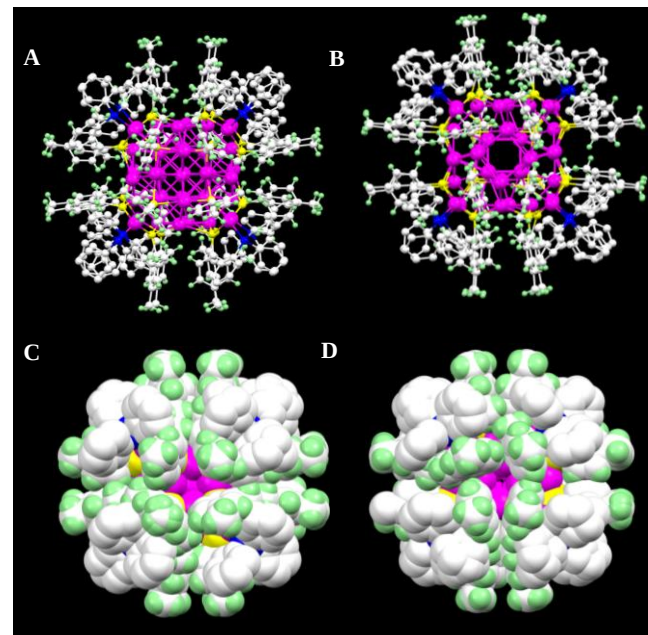
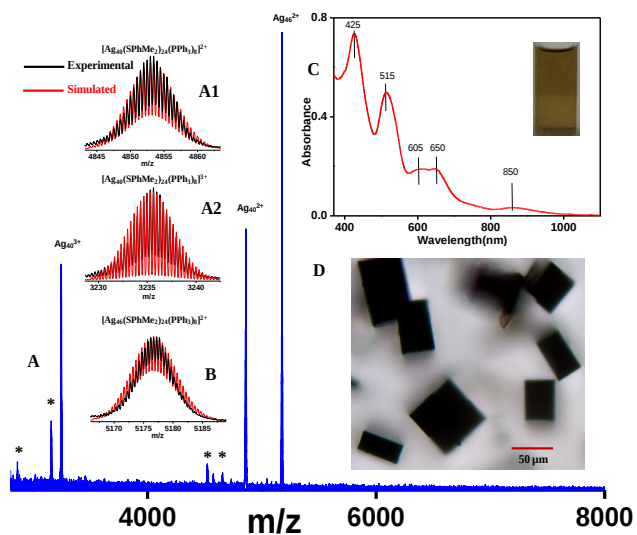
Assemblies and superstructures







Ag₄₀ and Ag₄₆ with the same shell

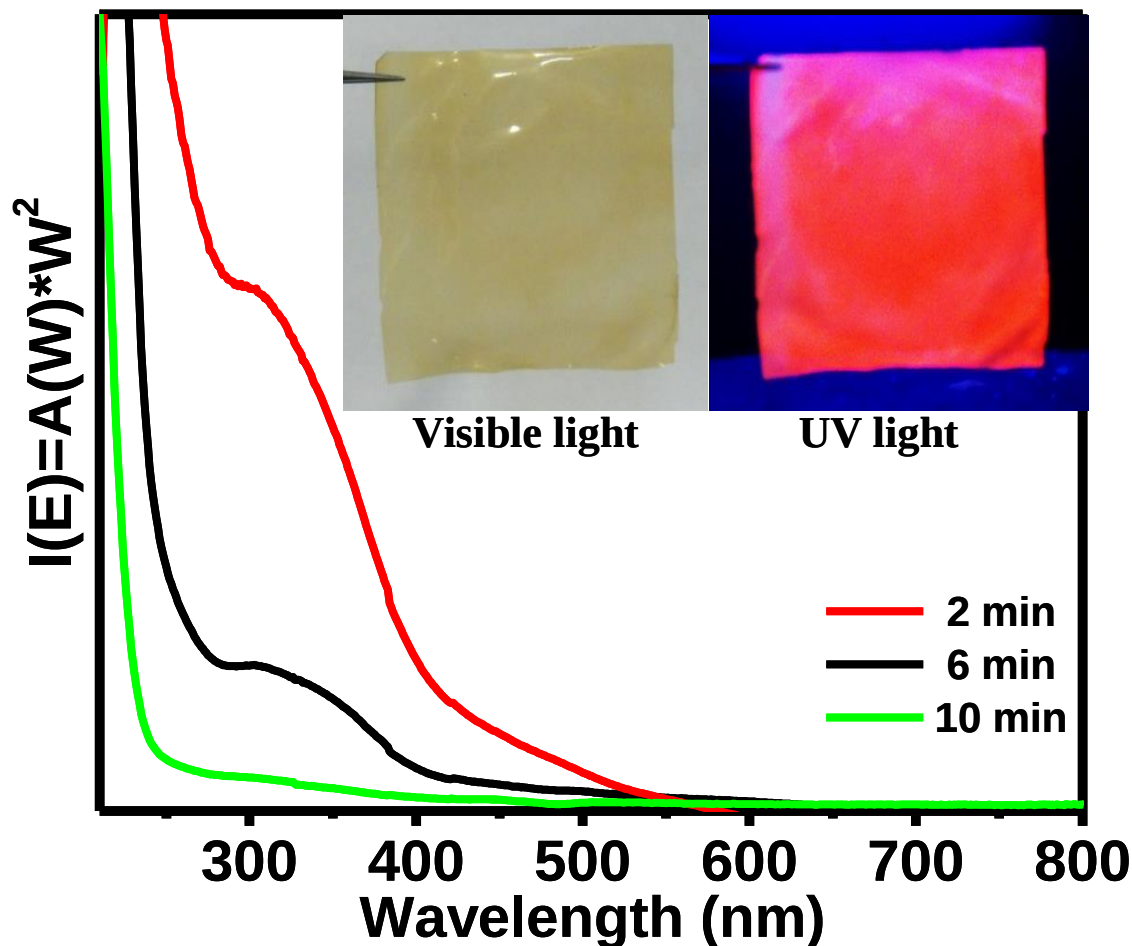


M. Bodiuzzaman, et. al. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2018**

Sensors

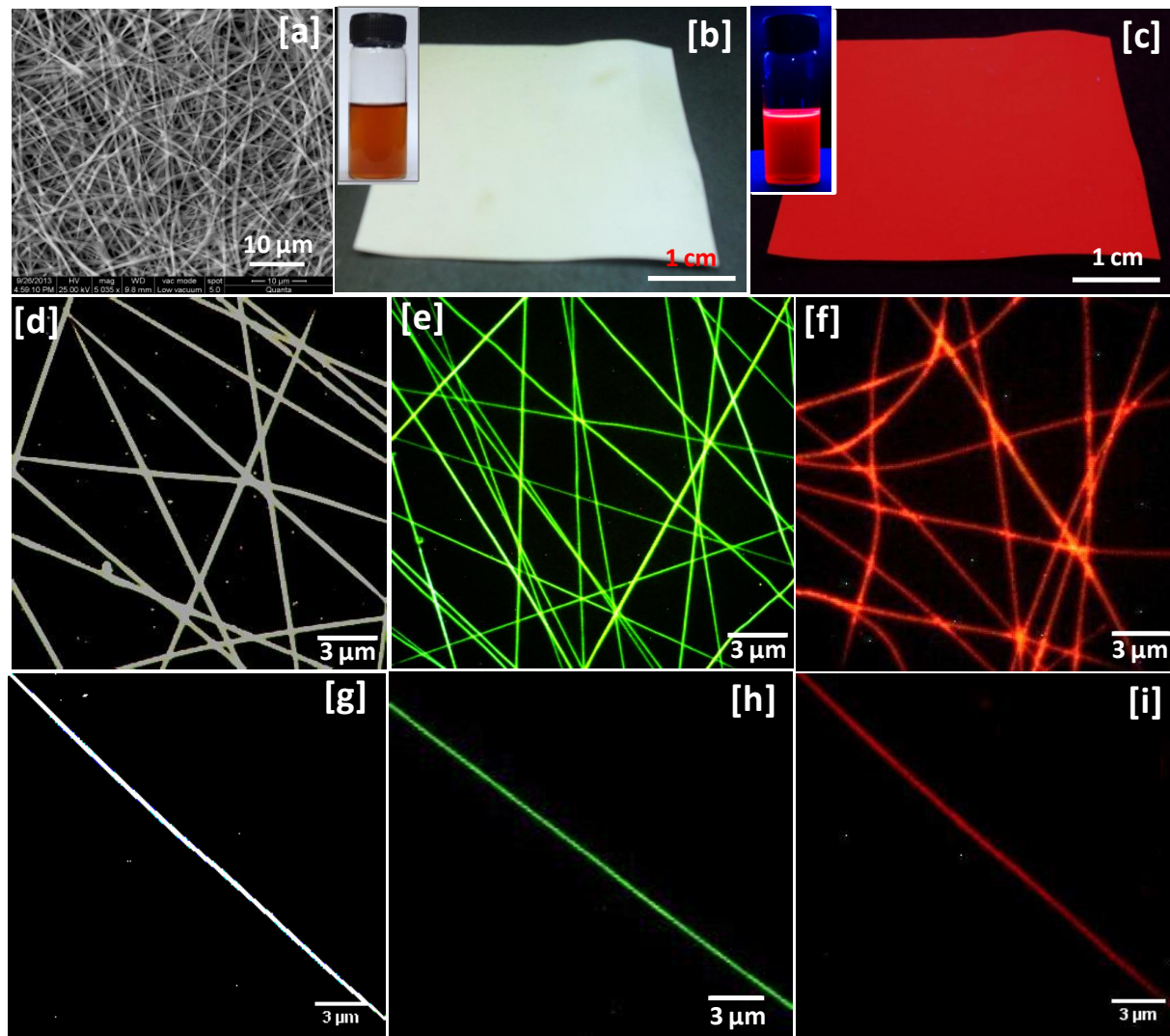
Quantum cluster based metal ion sensing paper

Large area uniform illumination using quantum cluster

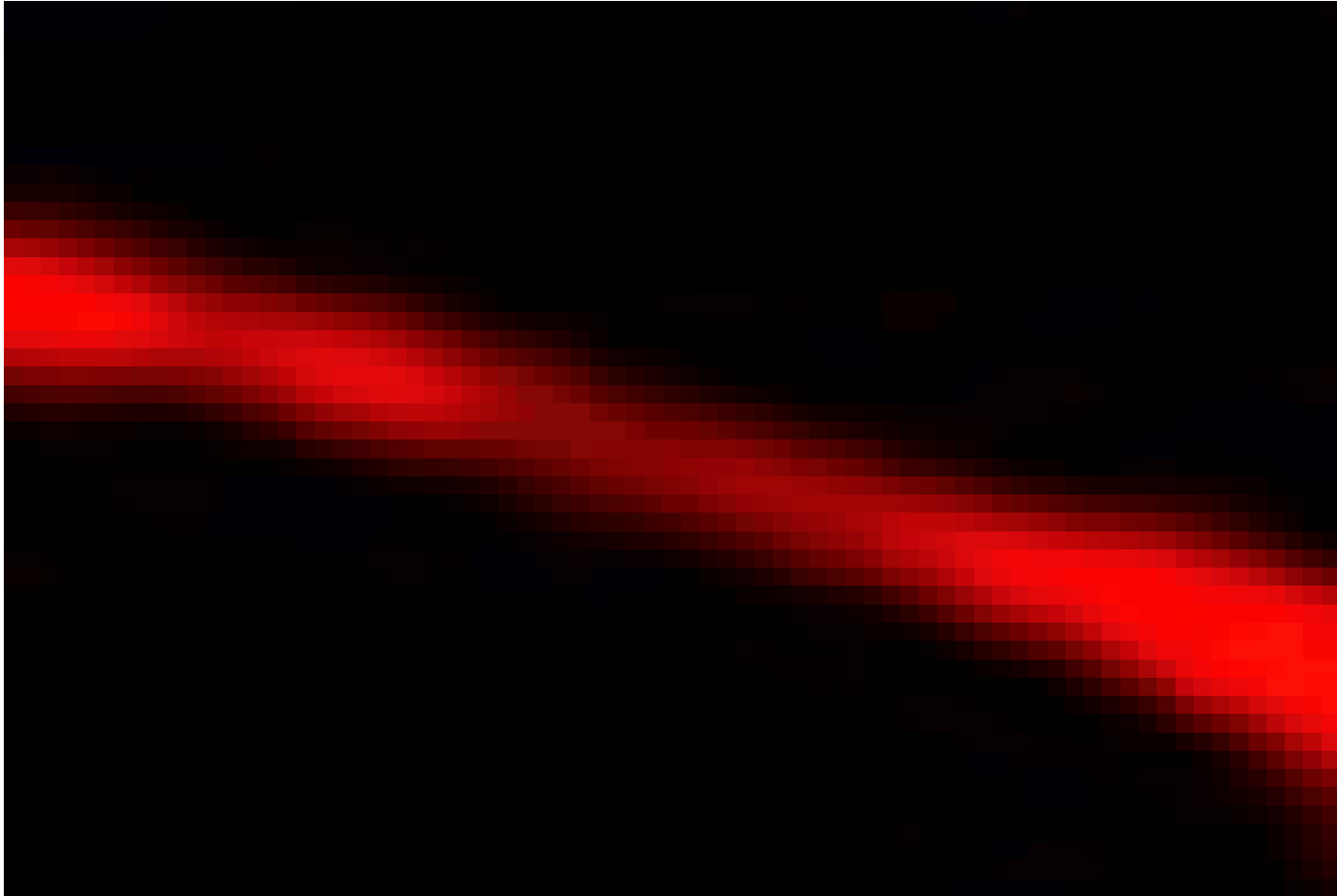


Decrease in the absorption of Au_{15} as a biofilm is dipped into the cluster solution. Inset: Free standing quantum cluster loaded film in visible light and UV light.

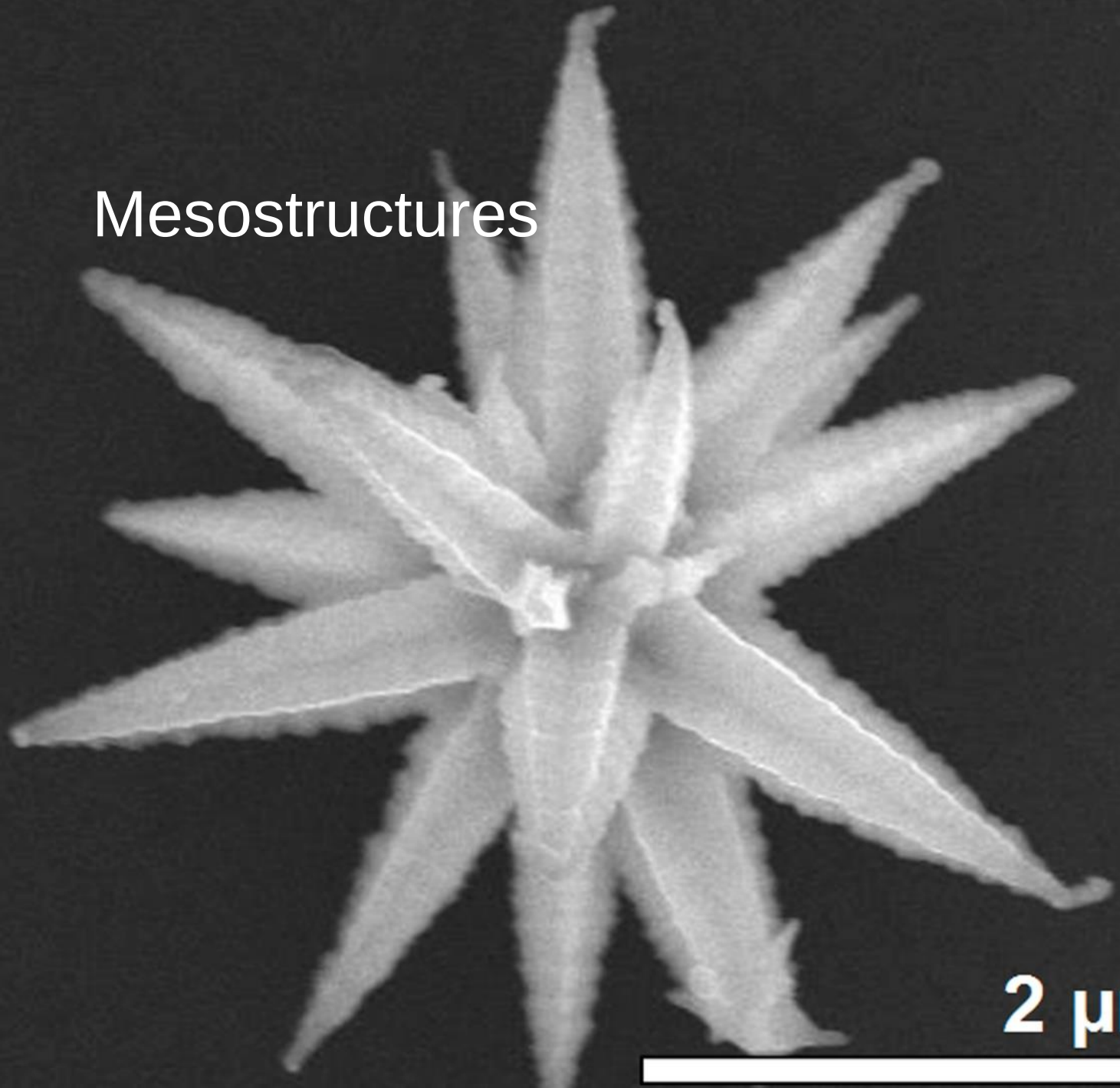
Approaching detection limits of tens of Hg^{2+}



Video of mercury quenching experiment using the nanofiber



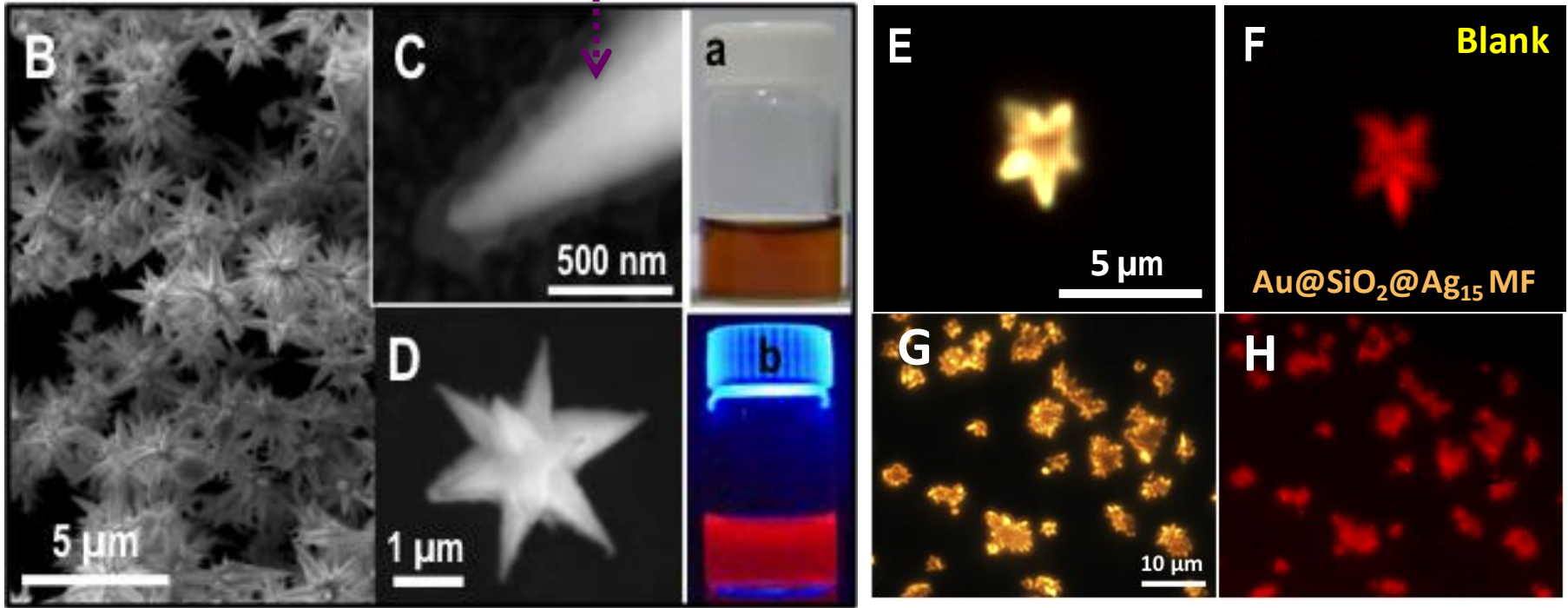
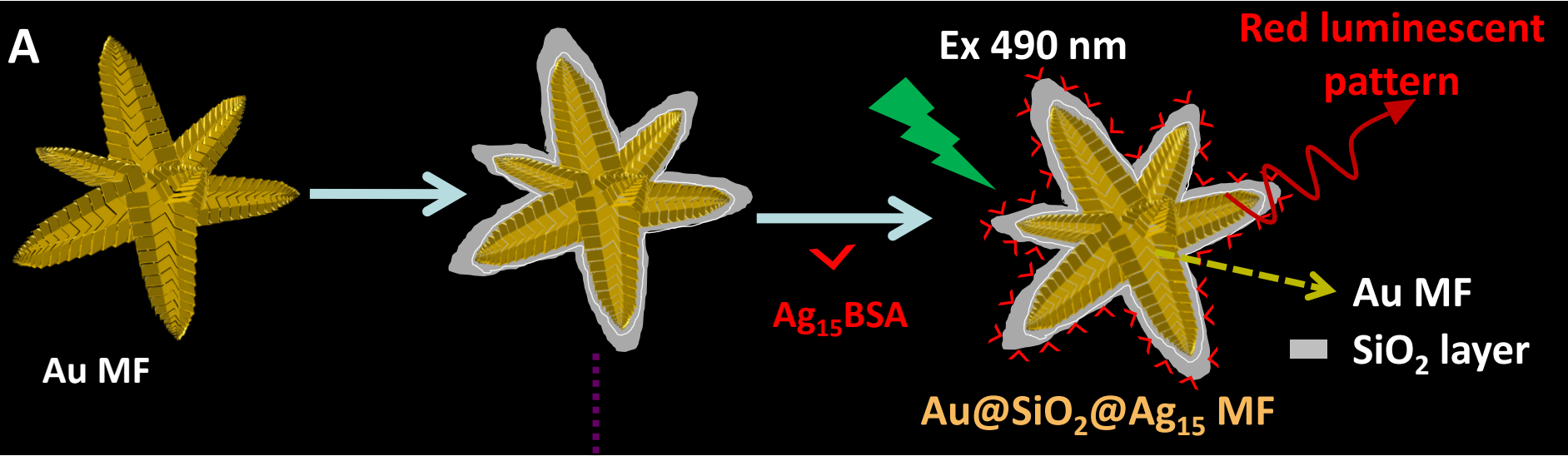
Mesostructures

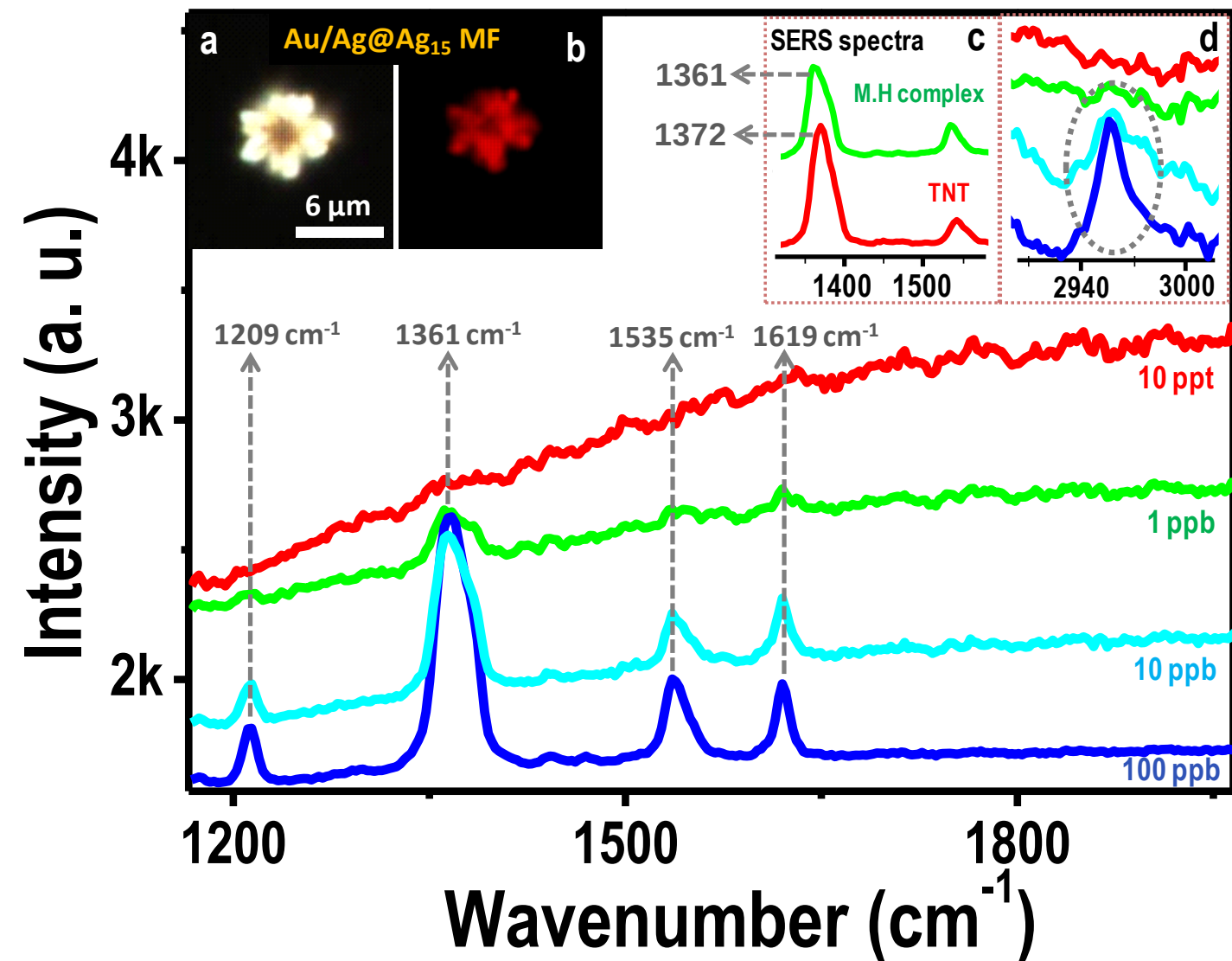


2 μm

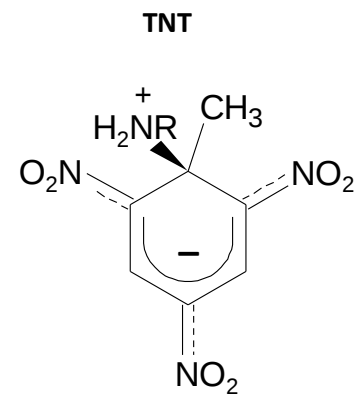


Designing a sensor





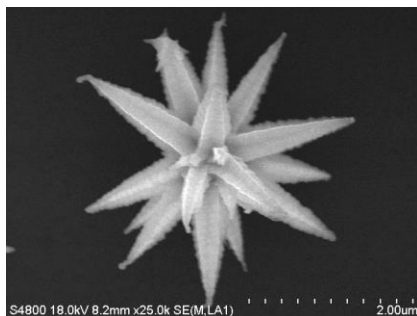
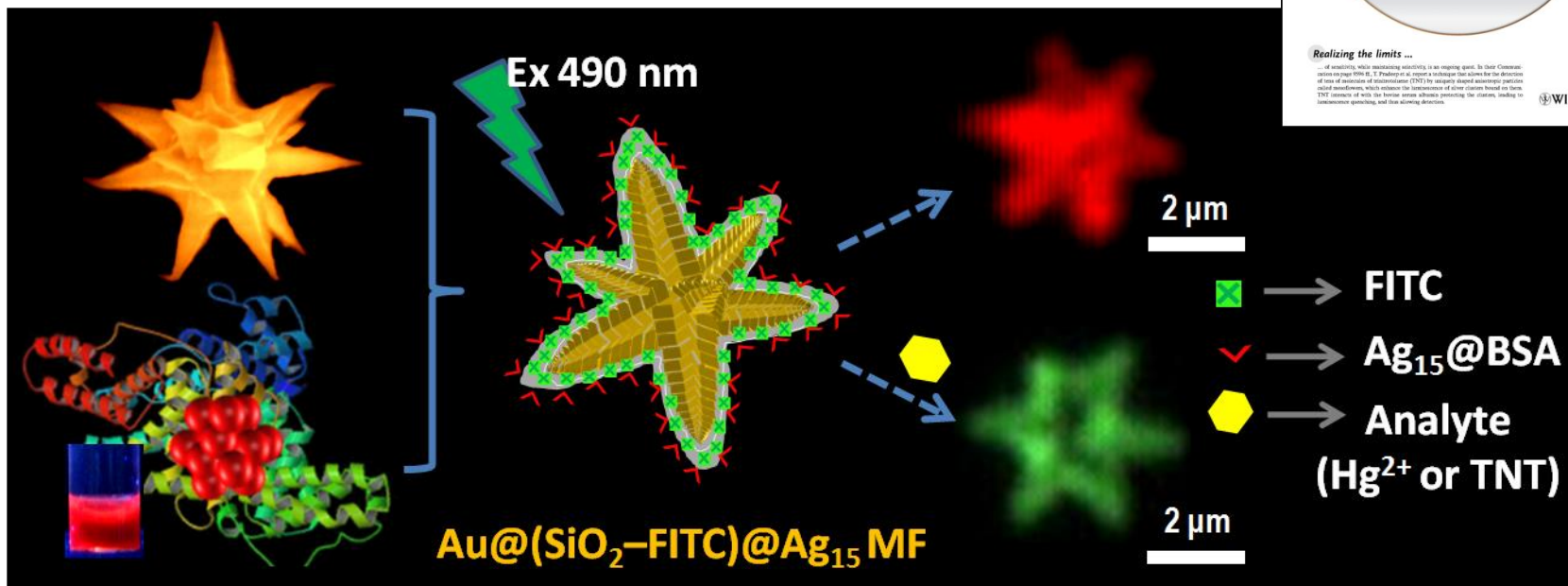
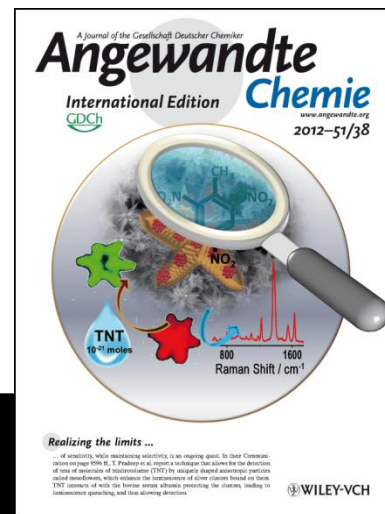
Meisenheimer complex



Meisenheimer complex is formed easily due to charge delocalization

Raman spectra showing the gradual evolution of TNT features as the concentration of TNT added to Au/Ag@Ag₁₅ MFs (a and b) increases. (c) Comparison of the symmetric and asymmetric NO₂ stretching bands in the SERS spectra of TNT before (black) and after Meisenheimer complex formation (gray). (d) The gradual appearance of a Raman band at 2960 cm⁻¹.

Sub-zeptomolar detection



Featured in:
The Hindu, Telegraph, Times of India, etc.
C&E News
and many others

Ammu Mathew, et al. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2012

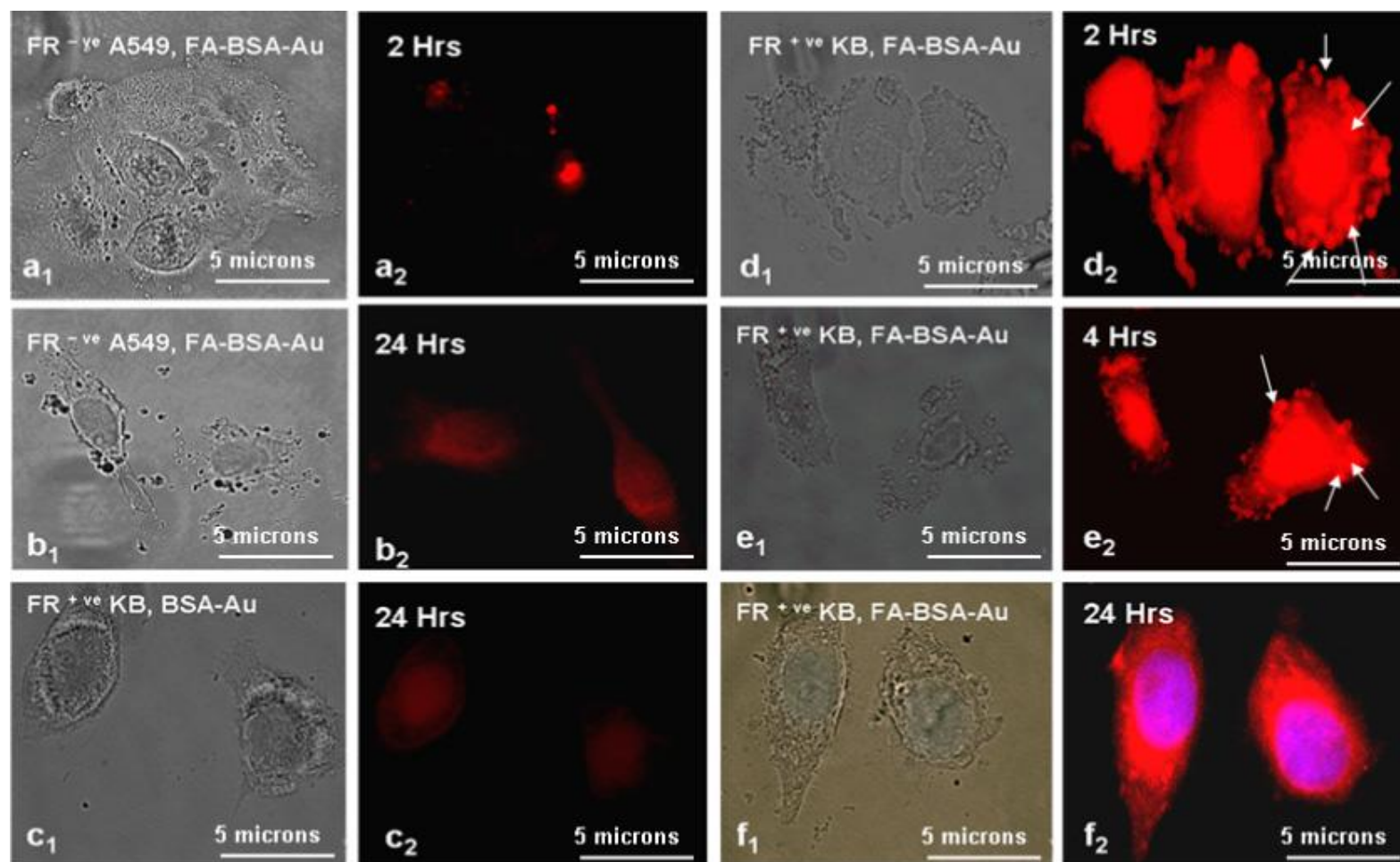


Figure 8. Fluorescent microscopic images showing interaction of Au-BSA-FA NCs with different types of cell lines: (a₁)–(a₂) FR^{−ve} lung carcinoma A549, (b₁)–(b₂) FR-depressed oral cell carcinoma, KB, (c₁)–(c₂) FR⁺ve KB cells with unconjugated Au clusters, (d₁)–(d₂) FR⁺ve KB cells with FA-conjugated Au clusters at 2 h, (e₁)–(e₂) 4 h and (f₁)–(f₂) 24 h of incubation.

Catalysis

Energy harvesting - Solar cells

Summary

- Atomically precise clusters is a new area of materials science
- Chemistry of these systems show new excitements
- Borromean ring diagram of clusters can be used to understand such reactions
- Their extremely fast solution state dynamics is a puzzle
- They show promising properties useful for applications
- Clusters are indeed molecules
- New materials are coming !

Clean water through advanced materials









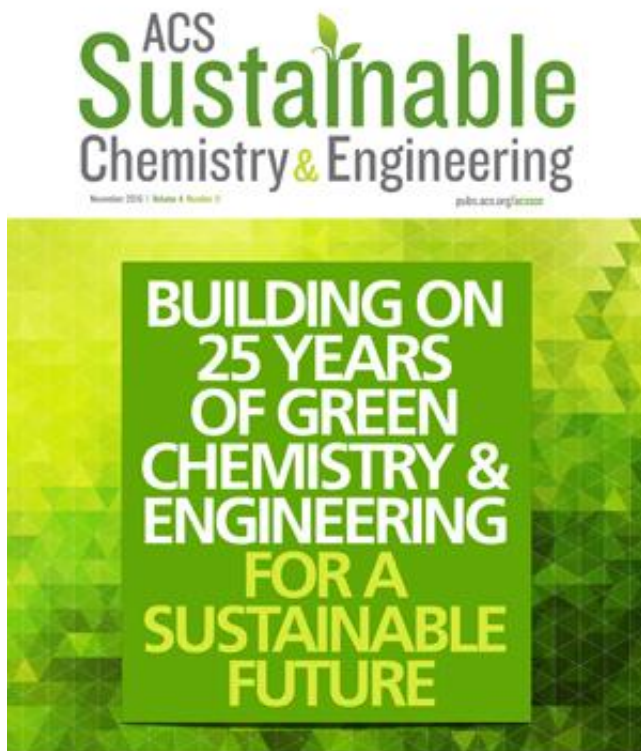




Department of Science and Technology

Thank you

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