# Controllable spontaneous resolution in ultrasmall $\mathbf{C u}-\mathbf{A g}$ bimetallic cluster ion pairs from achiral components Jiao He, Cheng-Long Deng, Cun-Fa Sun, Xiao-Xiao Zhang, Ying Cui, Sheng-Hui Wu,* and Geng-Geng Luo* 

## Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

Fig. S1-S21 \& Table S1-S4

## Physical measurements

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR and ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}$ NMR spectra at room temperature were recorded on a Bruker Avance III 500 MHz NMR spectrometer and chemical shifts (in ppm) were referred to $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ( $\delta=7.26 \mathrm{ppm}$ ), as an internal standard. Mass spectra were recorded on an Agilent 6224 (Agilent Technologies, USA) ESI-TOF-MS spectrometer. Sample solutions are infused by a syringe pump at $4 \mu \mathrm{~L} / \mathrm{min}$. Data were acquired using the following settings: ESI capillary voltage was set at $3500 \mathrm{~V}(-)$ ion mode and fragmentor at 200 V . The liquid nebulizer was set to 15 psig and the nitrogen drying gas was set to a flow rate of $4 \mathrm{~L} / \mathrm{min}$. Drying gas temperature was maintained at 150 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. The data analyses of mass spectra were performed based on the isotope distribution patterns using Agilent Mass Hunter Workstation Data acquisition software (Version B.05.00). The reported $m / z$ values represent monoisotopic mass of the most abundant peak within the isotope pattern. UV-vis absorption spectra were recorded on a PerkinElmer Lambda 1050 UV-vis spectrophotometer. Energydispersive X-ray spectrum was measured using an Apreo S LoVac field emission scanning electron microscope (FESEM; ThermoFisher Ltd., America) equipped with a Bruker XFlash energy-dispersive X-ray (EDX; Bruker, German).

## Chemical reagents

$\mathrm{Cu}\left(\mathrm{CF}_{3} \mathrm{CO}_{2}\right)_{2} \cdot \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}, \mathrm{AgNO}_{3}$, Cyclohexanethiol (CySH), tert-butylthiol ( ${ }^{\text {t } \mathrm{BuSH} \text { ), }}$ Tetraphenyl phosphonium chloride $\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{4} \mathrm{Cl}\right)$, Methyl(triphenyl)phosphonium chloride $\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3} \mathrm{MeCl}\right)$, (Ethyl)triphenylphosphonium chloride $\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3} \mathrm{EtCl}\right)$, (1Propyl)triphenylphosphonium chloride $\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3} \mathrm{PrCl}\right)$ were purchased from Energy Chemical Reagent Co. Ltd. (Shanghai, China). Sodium borohydride $\left(\mathrm{NaBH}_{4}\right)$, triethylamine $\left(\mathrm{Et}_{3} \mathrm{~N}\right)$, dichloromethane $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}\right)$, methanol $(\mathrm{MeOH})$ and $n$-hexane were purchased from Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co. Ltd. (Shanghai, China). All chemicals and solvents for synthesis were used without further purification.

## Syntheses

The precursors $(\mathrm{CySAg})_{\mathrm{n}}$ and $\left({ }^{t} \mathrm{BuSAg}\right)_{\mathrm{n}}$ were prepared according to the
literature ${ }^{[S 1]}$.
Synthesis of $\left(\mathbf{P P h}_{4}\right)\left[\mathbf{C u}_{2} \mathbf{A g}_{\mathbf{3}}(\mathbf{S C y})_{6}\right](\mathbf{1}): 29.1 \mathrm{mg} \mathrm{Cu}\left(\mathrm{CF}_{3} \mathrm{CO}_{2}\right)_{2} \cdot \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ was dissolved in 1 mL methanol solution, and added to 1 mL methanol solution containing 23.2 mg $(\mathrm{CySAg})_{\mathrm{n}}$, resulting in a thick light green mixture. After stirring for $5 \mathrm{~min}, 37.5 \mathrm{mg}$ $\mathrm{PPh}_{4} \mathrm{Cl}$ in $2 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{CH} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ was added to the reaction solution for $10 \mathrm{~min} .66 \mu \mathrm{~L} \mathrm{CySH}$ was added, the reaction solution turned pale yellow. After $40 \mathrm{~min}, 1 \mathrm{~mL}$ ice-cold aqueous solution of $40 \mathrm{mg} \mathrm{NaBH}_{4}$ with $50 \mu \mathrm{LEt}_{3} \mathrm{~N}$ was added dropwise under vigorous stirring. Then, the color of the solution changed immediately from pale yellow to deep reddish brown. After aging at room temperature for 8 h , the organic phase was washed with distilled water several times to remove the organic phase, dissolved in dichloromethane and centrifuged at $8000 \mathrm{r} / \mathrm{min}$ for 3 min . By diffusing $n$-hexane to reddish brown solutions of dichloromethane and kept for single crystal growth at -18 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ in a freezer.

Synthesis of $\left(\mathbf{P P h}_{3} \mathbf{M e}\right)\left[\left(\mathbf{C u}_{2} \mathbf{A g}_{3} \mathbf{( S C y}\right)_{6}\right]$ (2): The synthesis procedure of $\mathbf{2}$ was identical to that of $\mathbf{1}$ except that $\mathrm{PPh}_{3} \mathrm{MeCl}$ was used instead of $\mathrm{PPh}_{4} \mathrm{Cl}$.

Synthesis of $\left(\mathbf{P P h}_{3} \mathbf{E t}\right)\left[\left(\mathbf{C u}_{2} \mathbf{A g}_{\mathbf{3}} \mathbf{( S C y}\right)_{6}\right]$ (3): The synthesis procedure of $\mathbf{3}$ was identical to that of $\mathbf{2}$ except that $\mathrm{PPh}_{3} \mathrm{EtCl}$ was used instead of $\mathrm{PPh}_{3} \mathrm{MeCl}$.

Synthesis of $\left(\mathbf{P P h}_{3} \mathbf{P r}\right)\left[\left(\mathbf{C u}_{2} \mathbf{A g}_{3}(\mathbf{S C y})_{6}\right]\right.$ (4): The synthesis procedure of $\mathbf{4}$ was identical to that of $\mathbf{2}$ except that $\mathrm{PPh}_{3} \mathrm{PrCl}$ was used instead of $\mathrm{PPh}_{3} \mathrm{MeCl}$.

Synthesis of $\left(\mathbf{P P h}_{4}\right)\left[\left(\mathbf{C u}_{2} \mathbf{A g}_{3}\left(\mathbf{S B u}^{1}\right)_{6}\right]\right.$ (5): The synthesis procedure of $\mathbf{5}$ was identical to that of $\mathbf{1}$ except that $\left({ }^{t} \mathrm{BuSAg}\right)_{\mathrm{n}}$ and ${ }^{t} \mathrm{BuSH}$ used instead of $(\mathrm{CySAg})_{\mathrm{n}}$ and CySH.

## Single-crystal X-ray structure determination

Single crystals of 1-5 with appropriate dimensions was chosen under an optical microscope and quickly coated with high vacuum grease (Dow Corning Corporation). Intensity diffraction data of was collected at 173 K on a Rigaku Oxford Diffraction XtaLAB system Synergy diffractometer equipped with a HyPix-6000HE area detector, using a $\mathrm{Cu} \mathrm{K} \alpha$ radiation $(\lambda=1.54184 \AA$ ) from PhotonJet micro-focus X-ray source. The
diffraction images were processed and scaled using the CrysAlisPro software. ${ }^{[52]}$ The structures were solved using the charge-flipping algorithm, as implemented in the program SUPERFLIP ${ }^{[33]}$ and refined by full-matrix least-squares techniques against $F_{0}{ }^{2}$ using the SHELXL program ${ }^{[54]}$ through the OLEX2 interface. ${ }^{[55]}$ Hydrogen atoms at carbon were placed in calculated positions and refined isotropically by using a riding model. Appropriate restraints or constraints were applied to the geometry and atomic displacement parameters of the atoms in the cluster. All structures were examined using the Addsym subroutine of PLATON ${ }^{[66]}$ to ensure that no additional symmetry could be applied to the models. CCDC Nos for $C-1$ : CCDC 2076947; $A-1$ : 2076948; 2: 2076939; 3: 2076933; 4: $2076940 ; 5: 2076941$.

## Computational methods

Full geometry optimizations of $\left[(C)-\mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{Ag}_{3}(\mathrm{SMe})_{6}\right]^{-}$and $\left[(A)-\mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{Ag}_{3}(\mathrm{SMe})_{6}\right]^{-}$were performed by density functional theory (DFT) calculations using the ORCA 4.0 version program package ${ }^{[57]}$ with the BP86 functional ${ }^{[58]}$ and the all-electron Def2-SVP set from EMSL Basis Set Exchange Library. ${ }^{[59]}$


Fig. S1 a) The ESI-MS spectra for $\mathbf{1}$ in the positive mode (the peaks A-D indicate the metal exchanging occurs in the $\left.\left[\mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{Ag}_{3}(\mathrm{SCy})_{6}\right]^{-}\right)$. b) The experimental and theoretical isotopic patterns of molecular ion peak $\mathrm{A}\left[\mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{Ag}_{3}(\mathrm{SCy})_{6}\right]^{-}$; c) peak $\mathrm{B}\left[\mathrm{Cu}_{3} \mathrm{Ag}_{2}(\mathrm{SCy})_{6}\right]^{-}$; d) peak $\mathrm{C}\left[\mathrm{Cu}_{4} \mathrm{Ag}_{1}(\mathrm{SCy})_{6}\right]^{-}$; and e) peak $\mathrm{D}\left[\mathrm{Cu}_{5}(\mathrm{SCy})_{6}\right]^{-}$.

Comment: The negative-ion ESI-MS of 1 showed four peaks centered at $m / z=$ 1441.024, 1097.041, 1053.059, 1009.098 (Fig. S1). The careful analysis on the highresolution mass data revealed that the peak at $m / z=1441.024$ corresponds to the molecular ion of $\left[\mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{Ag}_{3}(\mathrm{SCy})_{6}\right]^{-}$(calcd. 1440.923) whose isotopic pattern perfectly matched the simulation. The other three peaks could be assigned to the metalexchanging species $\left[\mathrm{Cu}_{3} \mathrm{Ag}_{2}(\mathrm{SCy})_{6}\right]^{-},\left[\mathrm{Cu}_{4} \mathrm{Ag}(\mathrm{SCy})_{6}\right]^{-}$, and $\left[\mathrm{Cu}_{5}(\mathrm{SCy})_{6}\right]^{-}$, respectively. Notably, the phenomenon of coinage-metal exchange in the alloy clusters has been described before. ${ }^{[510]}$


Fig. S2 a) SEM imaging of $\mathbf{1}$ used for mapping analyses. b) EDX spectrum of $\mathbf{1}$.

Comment: The metal composition of $\mathbf{1}$ was also probed by energy dispersive X-ray spectra (EDX) data (Fig. S2), showing the $\mathrm{Cu} / \mathrm{Ag}$ atomic ratio to be 2.3:2.7.


Fig. S3 Measured and simulated positive-ion ESI-MS spectrum of $\mathbf{1}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$.

Comment: We see a dominant peak in the positive-ion mode corresponding to the counter-cation $\mathrm{PPh}_{4}{ }^{+}$(Fig. S3).


Fig. S4 ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{1}$ in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ at room temperature. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $(500 \mathrm{MHz}$, $\left.\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right): \delta=7.95-7.99 \mathrm{ppm}\left(\mathrm{m}, 4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{PPh}_{4}\right), \delta=7.82-7.86 \mathrm{ppm}\left(\mathrm{m}, 8 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{PPh}_{4}\right), \delta=7.62-$ $7.66 \mathrm{ppm}\left(\mathrm{m}, 8 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{PPh}_{4}\right), \delta=2.72-2.81 \mathrm{ppm}(\mathrm{m}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CyS}), \delta=2.08-2.11 \mathrm{ppm}(\mathrm{m}, 12 \mathrm{H}$, $\mathrm{CyS}), \delta=1.62-1.58 \mathrm{ppm}(\mathrm{m}, 12 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CyS}), \delta=1.45-1.49 \mathrm{ppm}(\mathrm{m}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CyS}), \delta=1.25-$ $1.32 \mathrm{ppm}(\mathrm{m}, 12 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CyS}), \delta=1.13-1.23 \mathrm{ppm}(\mathrm{m}, 12 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CyS}), \delta=1.01-1.08 \mathrm{ppm}(\mathrm{m}, 6 \mathrm{H}$, $\mathrm{CyS}), \delta=7.26 \mathrm{ppm}\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right), \delta=1.61 \mathrm{ppm}\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)$.

Comment: The ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{1}$ recorded in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ is diamagnetic, precluding the presence of $\mathrm{Cu}^{2+}$, and displays clearly resolved signals, all of which can be unambiguously assigned (Fig. S4).


Fig. S5 ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{1}$ in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3} .{ }^{31} \mathrm{P}$ NMR $\left(200 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right): \delta=23.34 \mathrm{ppm}$ (s, $\mathrm{PPh}_{4}$ ).

Comment: ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{1}$ (Fig. S5) shows a single peak at $\delta=23.24 \mathrm{ppm}$ corresponding to $\mathrm{PPh}_{4}{ }^{+}$species.


Fig. S6 a) UV-vis absorbance spectra of $\mathbf{1}$ in the $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$. b) The time-dependent UVvis absorbance spectra of $\mathbf{1}\left(10^{-5} \mathrm{M}\right)$ in the $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ under ambient conditions.

Comment: The UV-vis absorption spectrum of $\mathbf{1}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ exhibits a combination of absorption features from their specific subunits of cationic $\mathrm{PPh}_{4}{ }^{+}$and anionic $\left[\mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{Ag}_{3}(\mathrm{SCy})_{6}\right]^{-}($Fig. S6a). 1 possesses good stability in solution, as evidenced by time-dependent absorption spectra showing no obvious change within 72 h (Fig. S6b).


Fig. S7 Single crystals of $C-1$ and $A-1$ under the microscope
(a)

(b)


Fig. S8 2D fingerprint plot analyses (including important $\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{H}$ contacts) of $\mathrm{C}-\mathbf{1}$ (a) and $A-1$ (b).


Fig. S9 The heterochiral packings in the racemic crystals $\mathbf{3}$ viewed down $a$. Different colors distinguish the two enantiomers $\left(\left[(A)-\mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{Ag}_{3}(\mathrm{SCy})_{6}\right]^{-}\right.$and $[(C)-$ $\left.\mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{Ag}_{3}(\mathrm{SCy})_{6}\right]^{-}$. All the H atoms, cations and solvents have been omitted for clarity.


Fig. S10 The heterochiral packings in the racemic crystals 5 viewed down $a$. Different colors distinguish the two enantiomers $\left(\left[(A)-\mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{Ag}_{3}\left(\mathrm{SBu}^{t}\right)_{6}\right]^{-}\right.$and $([(C)-$ $\left.\left.\mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{Ag}_{3}\left(\mathrm{SBu}^{t}\right)_{6}\right]^{-}\right)$. All the H atoms, cations and solvents have been omitted for
clarity.


Fig. S11 The thermal ellipsoids of the ORTEP diagram of $C-\mathbf{1}$.


Fig. S12 The thermal ellipsoids of the ORTEP diagram of $A-1$.


Fig. S13 The thermal ellipsoids of the ORTEP diagram of $\mathbf{2}$.


Fig. S14 The thermal ellipsoids of the ORTEP diagram of 3.


Fig. S15 The thermal ellipsoids of the ORTEP diagram of 4.



Fig. S16 The thermal ellipsoids of the ORTEP diagram of 5.


Fig. S17 a) SEM imaging of $\mathbf{2}$ used for mapping analyses. b) EDX spectrum of $\mathbf{2}$.

Comment: The metal composition of $\mathbf{2}$ was probed by SEM mapping and energy dispersive X-ray spectra (EDX) data (Fig. S17). The EDX result gave the $\mathrm{Cu} / \mathrm{Ag}$ atomic ratio to be 2.4:2.6.


Fig. S18 a) SEM imaging of $\mathbf{3}$ used for mapping analyses. b) EDX spectrum of $\mathbf{3}$.

Comment: The metal composition of $\mathbf{3}$ was probed by SEM mapping and energy dispersive X-ray spectra (EDX) data (Fig. S18). The EDX result gave the $\mathrm{Cu} / \mathrm{Ag}$ atomic ratio 2.2:2.8.


Fig. S19 a) SEM imaging of $\mathbf{4}$ used for mapping analyses. b) EDX spectrum of 4.

Comment: The metal composition of $\mathbf{4}$ was probed by SEM mapping and energy dispersive X-ray spectra (EDX) data (Fig. S19). The EDX result gave the $\mathrm{Cu} / \mathrm{Ag}$ atomic ratio to be 2.2:2.8 for 4 .


Fig. S20 a) SEM imaging of $\mathbf{5}$ used for mapping analyses. b) EDX spectrum of $\mathbf{5}$.

Comment: The metal composition of $\mathbf{5}$ was probed by SEM mapping and energy dispersive X-ray spectra (EDX) data (Fig. S20). The EDX result gave the $\mathrm{Cu} / \mathrm{Ag}$ atomic ratio to be 2.3:2.7.


Fig. S21 Energy profile of the transition state of enantiomeric cluster ([(C)$\left.\mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{Ag}_{3}(\mathrm{SMe})_{6}\right]^{-}$and $\left.\left[(A)-\mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{Ag}_{3}(\mathrm{SMe})_{6}\right]^{-}\right)$.

Comment: Let us note that in the reported thiolate-protected gold nanocluster $\mathrm{Au}_{38}\left(\mathrm{SCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Ph}\right)_{24}$, the chiral inversion of two gold cluster-based enantiomers proceeds via core reconstruction without breaking a $\mathrm{Au}-\mathrm{S}$ bond due to the low activation barrier ( $28.1 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ ). ${ }^{[\$ 11]}$ By comparison, theoretical calculations using the methylthiolate $\left(\mathrm{SCH}_{3}\right)$ to model the thiolate ligands in $\mathbf{1}$ indicate that the activation barrier for the racemization of $\left[\mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{Ag}_{3}(\mathrm{SMe})_{6}\right]^{-}$, as high as up to 55.6 $\mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ (Fig. S21). The energy profile of the transition state is high enough to lock each enantiomeric cluster $\left(\left[(C)-\mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{Ag}_{3}\left(\mathrm{SCH}_{3}\right)_{6}\right]^{-}\right.$and $\left.\left[(A)-\mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{Ag}_{3}\left(\mathrm{SCH}_{3}\right)_{6}\right]^{-}\right)$ into its geometry, which implies that the chemically improbable dissociation of all six thiolate ligands and interconversion of the enantiomer clusters is excluded.

Table S1 Crystallographic data and structure refinements results for $\boldsymbol{C - 1}$ and $\boldsymbol{A - 1}$

| Cluster complex | C-1 | $\boldsymbol{A - 1}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Empirical formula | $\mathrm{C}_{61} \mathrm{H}_{88} \mathrm{Ag}_{3} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{PS}_{6}$ | $\mathrm{C}_{61} \mathrm{H}_{88} \mathrm{Ag}_{3} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{PS}_{6}$ |
| Formula weight | 1566.23 | 1566.23 |
| Temperature/K | 190.00(10) | 190.00(10) |
| Crystal system | orthorhombic | orthorhombic |
| Space group | $P 2_{1} 2_{12} 2_{1}$ | $P 2_{1} 2_{1} 2_{1}$ |
| $\mathrm{a} / \AA$ | 13.7428(5) | 13.7242(3) |
| b/Å | 20.2094(8) | 20.2084(6) |
| c/ $\AA$ | 26.5743(13) | 26.4773(9) |
| $\alpha /{ }^{\circ}$ | 90 | 90 |
| $\beta /{ }^{\circ}$ | 90 | 90 |
| $\gamma /{ }^{\circ}$ | 90 | 90 |
| Volume/ $\AA^{3}$ | 7380.6(5) | 7343.3(4) |
| Z | 4 | 4 |
| $\rho_{\text {calc }} \mathrm{g} / \mathrm{cm}^{3}$ | 1.410 | 1.417 |
| $\mu / \mathrm{mm}^{-1}$ | 1.645 | 1.653 |
| F(000) | 3192.0 | 3192.0 |
| Crystal size/ $\mathrm{mm}^{3}$ | $0.33 \times 0.25 \times 0.2$ | $0.33 \times 0.25 \times 0.2$ |
| Radiation | Mo K $\alpha(\lambda=0.71073$ ) | Mo K $\alpha(\lambda=0.71073$ ) |
| $2 \theta$ range for data collection $/{ }^{\circ}$ | $4.264{ }^{\circ}$ to $58.784^{\circ}$ | $3.904{ }^{\circ}$ to $58.826^{\circ}$ |
| Index ranges | $\begin{aligned} & -15 \leq \mathrm{h} \leq 17,-25 \leq \mathrm{k} \leq 27, \\ & -35 \leq 1 \leq 20 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & -11 \leq \mathrm{h} \leq 18,-17 \leq \mathrm{k} \leq 26, \\ & -28 \leq 1 \leq 36 \end{aligned}$ |
| Reflections collected | 29526 | 28701 |
| Independent reflections | $\begin{aligned} & 16072\left[R_{\mathrm{int}}=0.0387,\right. \\ & \left.R_{\text {sigma }}=0.0809\right] \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 16024\left[R_{\mathrm{int}}=0.0393,\right. \\ & \left.R_{\text {sigma }}=0.0793\right] \end{aligned}$ |
| Data/restraints/parameters | 16072/42/676 | 16024/42/676 |
| Goodness-of-fit on $F^{2}$ | 1.012 | 0.993 |
| Final R indexes $[I>=2 \sigma$ (I)] | $\mathrm{R}_{1}=0.0586, \mathrm{wR}_{2}=0.1156$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{R}_{1}=0.0532, \quad \mathrm{wR}_{2}= \\ & 0.1200 \end{aligned}$ |
| Final R indexes [all data] | $\mathrm{R}_{1}=0.0779, \mathrm{wR}_{2}=0.1254$ | $\mathrm{R}_{1}=0.0803, \mathrm{wR}_{2}=0.1361$ |
| Flack parameter | -0.024(11) | -0.009(11) |

Table S2 Selected bond lengths for $C-\mathbf{1}$ and $A-\mathbf{1}$.

| C-1 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Atom-Atom | Bond length/ $\AA$ | Atom-Atom | Bond length/ $\AA$ |
| Ag1-Cu1 | 2.9015(13) | $\mathrm{Ag} 3-\mathrm{Cu} 2$ | 2.9909(12) |
| Ag3-S3 | 2.365(2) | Ag3-S5 | 2.353(2) |
| Cu1-S1 | 2.279(3) | Cu1-S2 | 2.243(2) |
| Cu1-S3 | 2.247(2) | Cu2-S4 | 2.254(2) |
| Cu2-S5 | 2.223(2) | Cu2-S6 | 2.250(2) |
| $\mathrm{Ag} 1-\mathrm{Ag} 2$ | $3.3100(11)$ | Ag1-Cu1 | 3.0161(13) |
| Ag1-Cu2 | 2.8936 (13) | Ag1-S1 | 2.323 (3) |
| Ag1-S4 | $2.342(2)$ | Ag2-Cu1 | 2.9644(13) |
| $\mathrm{Ag} 2-\mathrm{Cu} 2$ | 2.9980 (13) | Ag2-S2 | $2.356(2)$ |
| Ag2-S6 | 2.352(2) | Ag3-Cu1 | 2.9015(13) |
| $\boldsymbol{A - 1}$ |  |  |  |
| Atom-Atom | Bond length/ $\AA$ | Atom-Atom | Bond length/ $\AA$ |
| Ag1-Cu1 | 3.0100 (14) | Ag3-Cu2 | 2.9841(13) |
| Ag3-S3 | 2.360(3) | Ag3-S5 | 2.348 (3) |
| Cu1-S1 | 2.284(3) | $\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{S} 2$ | 2.243 (3) |
| Cu1-S3 | 2.240(2) | $\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{S} 4$ | 2.253(3) |
| $\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{S} 5$ | 2.219(2) | Cu 2 -S6 | 2.246(2) |
| $\mathrm{Ag} 1-\mathrm{Ag} 2$ | $3.3048(11)$ | Ag1-Cu1 | $3.0100(14)$ |
| Ag1-Cu2 | 2.8899(14) | Ag1-S1 | 2.323 (3) |
| Ag1-S4 | 2.338 (3) | Ag2-Cu1 | $2.9606(13)$ |
| $\mathrm{Ag} 2-\mathrm{Cu} 2$ | 2.9922(13) | Ag2-S2 | $2.353(3)$ |
| Ag2-S6 | $2.346(2)$ | Ag3-Cu1 | 2.8947(14) |

Table S3 Selected bond angles for $C-1$ and $A-\mathbf{1}$.

| C-1 |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Atom-Atom-Atom | Bond angle/ $^{\circ}$ | Atom-Atom-Atom | Bond angle/ |


| C7-S2-Ag2 | 107.1(3) | C7-S2-Cu1 | 111.7(3) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cu1-S3-Ag3 | 77.92(8) | C13-S3-Ag3 | 105.7(3) |
| C13-S3-Cu1 |  | $\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{S} 4-\mathrm{Ag} 1$ | 78.01(8) |
|  | 103.8(3) |  |  |
| C19-S4-Ag1 | 107.6(3) | C19-S4-Cu2 | 113.2(3) |
| Cu2-S5-Ag3 | 81.57(8) | C25-S5-Ag3 | 106.3(3) |
| C25-S5-Cu2 | 110.1(3) | Cu2-S6-Ag2 | 81.26(8) |
| C31-S6-Ag2 | 105.9(3) | C31-S6-Cu2 | 105.8(3) |
| A-1 |  |  |  |
| Atom-Atom-Atom | Bond angle/ ${ }^{\circ}$ | Atom-Atom-Atom | Bond angle/ ${ }^{\circ}$ |
| $\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{Ag} 1-\mathrm{Ag} 2$ | 55.68(3) | $\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{Ag} 1-\mathrm{Ag} 2$ | 57.30(3) |
| $\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{Ag} 1-\mathrm{Cu} 1$ | 96.33(4) | S1-Ag1-Ag2 | 88.06(7) |
| S1-Ag1-Cu1 | 48.64(7) | S1-Ag1-Cu2 | 142.79(7) |
| S1-Ag1-S4 | 167.41(10) | S4-Ag1-Ag2 | 102.98(7) |
| S4-Ag1-Cu1 | 143.39(7) | $\mathrm{S} 4-\mathrm{Ag} 1-\mathrm{Cu} 2$ | 49.70(7) |
| $\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{Ag} 2-\mathrm{Ag} 1$ | 57.11(3) | $\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{Ag} 2-\mathrm{Cu} 2$ | 95.22(4) |
| $\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{Ag} 2-\mathrm{Ag} 1$ | 54.36(3) | S2-Ag2-Ag1 | 101.33(6) |
| S2-Ag2-Cu1 | 48.28(6) | S2-Ag2-Cu2 | 141.49(6) |
| S6-Ag2-Ag1 | 86.60(6) | S6-Ag2-Cu1 | 141.05(7) |
| S6-Ag2-Cu2 | 47.90(6) | S6-Ag2-S2 | 170.46(8) |
| $\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{Ag} 3-\mathrm{Cu} 2$ | 96.80(4) | S3-Ag3-Cu1 | 49.19(6) |
| S3-Ag3-Cu2 | 141.92(7) | S5-Ag3-Cu1 | 141.13(6) |
| S5-Ag3-Cu2 | 47.36(6) | S5-Ag3-S3 | 169.66(8) |
| Ag2-Cu1-Ag1 | 67.21(3) | Ag3-Cu1-Ag1 | 70.67(3) |
| Ag3-Cu1-Ag2 | 74.15(3) | S1-Cu1-Ag1 | 49.77(7) |
| S1-Cu1-Ag2 | 97.73(7) | S1-Cu1-Ag3 | 116.54(8) |
| S1-Cu1-Ag1 | 113.68(7) | S2-Cu1-Ag2 | 51.54(7) |
| S2-Cu1-Ag3 | 109.43(8) | S3-Cu1-S2 | 130.30(10) |
| S2-Cu1-S1 | 112.51(9) | S3-Cu1-Ag1 | 103.07(8) |
| S3-Cu1-Ag2 | 125.06(8) | S3-Cu1-Ag3 | 52.86(7) |
| S3-Cu1-S1 | 116.68(10) | $\mathrm{Ag} 1-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{Ag} 2$ | 68.34(3) |
| Ag1-Cu2-Ag3 | 71.11(3) | Ag2-Cu1-Ag1 | 67.21(3) |
| S4-Cu2-Ag1 | 52.30(7) | $\mathrm{S} 4-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{Ag} 2$ | 115.60(8) |
| S4-Cu2-Ag3 | 105.58(7) | $\mathrm{S} 5-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{Ag} 1$ | 118.99(8) |


| S5-Cu2-Ag2 | $105.74(7)$ | $\mathrm{S} 5-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{Ag} 3$ | $51.10(7)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{S} 5-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{S} 4$ | $122.25(9)$ | $\mathrm{S} 5-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{S} 6$ | $123.91(10)$ |
| $\mathrm{S} 6-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{Ag} 1$ | $99.35(7)$ | $\mathrm{S} 6-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{Ag} 2$ | $50.79(7)$ |
| $\mathrm{S} 6-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{Ag} 3$ | $120.37(7)$ | $\mathrm{S} 6-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{S} 4$ | $113.40(9)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{S} 1-\mathrm{Ag} 1$ | $81.59(9)$ | $\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{S} 1-\mathrm{Ag} 1$ | $107.5(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{S} 1-\mathrm{Cu} 1$ | $104.4(4)$ | $\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{S} 2-\mathrm{Ag} 2$ | $80.17(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 7-\mathrm{S} 2-\mathrm{Ag} 2$ | $106.3(3)$ | $\mathrm{C} 7-\mathrm{S} 2-\mathrm{Cu} 1$ | $110.7(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{S} 3-\mathrm{Ag} 3$ | $77.95(8)$ | $\mathrm{C} 13-\mathrm{S} 3-\mathrm{Ag} 3$ | $105.7(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 13-\mathrm{S} 3-\mathrm{Cu} 1$ |  | $\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{S} 4-\mathrm{Ag} 1$ | $77.99(8)$ |
|  | $104.0(3)$ |  |  |
| $\mathrm{C} 19-\mathrm{S} 4-\mathrm{Ag} 1$ | $107.5(3)$ | $\mathrm{C} 19-\mathrm{S} 4-\mathrm{Cu} 2$ | $113.3(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{S} 5-\mathrm{Ag} 3$ | $81.54(8)$ | $\mathrm{C} 25-\mathrm{S} 5-\mathrm{Ag} 3$ | $106.9(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 25-\mathrm{S} 5-\mathrm{Cu} 2$ | $109.3(3)$ | $\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{S} 6-\mathrm{Ag} 2$ | $81.30(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 31-\mathrm{S} 6-\mathrm{Ag} 2$ | $105.6(3)$ | $\mathrm{C} 31-\mathrm{S} 6-\mathrm{Cu} 2$ | $106.0(3)$ |

Table S4 Crystallographic data and structure refinements results for 2-5

| Cluster complex | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Empirical formula | $\mathrm{C}_{57} \mathrm{H}_{88} \mathrm{Ag}_{3} \mathrm{Cl}_{4} \mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{PS}_{6}$ | $\mathrm{C}_{57} \mathrm{H}_{88} \mathrm{Ag}_{3} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{PS}_{6}$ | $\mathrm{C}_{58} \mathrm{H}_{88} \mathrm{Ag}_{3} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{PS}_{6}$ | $\mathrm{C}_{48} \mathrm{H}_{74} \mathrm{Ag}_{3} \mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{PS}_{6}$ |
| Formula weight | 1589.09 | 1518.19 | 1530.20 | 1325.09 |
| Temperature/K | 190.00(10) | 190.00(10) | 190.01(10) | 190.01(10) |
| Crystal system | triclinic | monoclinic | monoclinic | triclinic |
| Space group | $P^{\overline{1}}$ | $P 2_{1} / \mathrm{n}$ | $P 2_{1} / \mathrm{n}$ | $P^{1}$ |
| $\mathrm{a} / \AA$ | 13.8063(4) | 14.1108(5) | 14.0658(5) | 12.5420(7) |
| $\mathrm{b} / \AA$ | 14.8132(5) | 23.2804(12) | 23.5120 (11) | 12.5516(7) |
| c/Å | 18.4926(6) | 20.4826(10) | 20.5437(9) | 19.3067(10) |
| $\alpha /{ }^{\circ}$ | 74.687(3) | 90 | 90 | 103.801(4) |
| $\beta /{ }^{\circ}$ | 84.949(2) | 96.203(4) | 95.858(3) | 93.205(4) |
| $\gamma^{\prime}$ | 72.840(3) | 90 | 90 | 97.260(4) |
| Volume/ $\AA^{3}$ | 3485.2(2) | 6689.2(5) | 6758.6(5) | 2916.2(3) |
| Z | 2 | 4 | 4 | 2 |
| $\rho_{\text {calc }} \mathrm{g} / \mathrm{cm}^{3}$ | 1.514 | 1.508 | 1.504 | 1.509 |
| $\mu / \mathrm{mm} 1$ | 1.817 | 1.812 | 1.794 | 1.978 |
| F(000) | 1616.0 | 3096.0 | 3120.0 | 1344.0 |
| Crystal size/mm ${ }^{3}$ | $0.332 \times 0.205 \times 0.117$ | $0.481 \times 0.177 \times 0.148$ | $0.4 \times 0.3 \times 0.2$ | $0.37 \times 0.226 \times 0.168$ |
| Radiation | $\mathrm{MoK} \mathrm{K} \alpha(\lambda=0.71073)$ | Mo K $\alpha(\lambda=0.71073)$ | Mo K $\alpha(\lambda=0.71073)$ | Mo K $\alpha(\lambda=0.71073)$ |
| $2 \theta$ range for data collection/ ${ }^{\circ}$ | $3.82^{\circ}$ to $58.984^{\circ}$ | $4^{\circ}$ to $59.146^{\circ}$ | $3.996^{\circ}$ to $59.172^{\circ}$ | $4.452^{\circ}$ to $58.962^{\circ}$ |
| Index ranges | $\begin{aligned} & -18 \leq \mathrm{h} \leq 17,-19 \leq \mathrm{k} \\ & \leq 19,-24 \leq 1 \leq 25 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & -19 \leq \mathrm{h} \leq 18,-17 \leq \mathrm{k} \\ & \leq 31,-27 \leq 1 \leq 28 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & -17 \leq \mathrm{h} \leq 19,-28 \leq \mathrm{k} \\ & \leq 32,-26 \leq 1 \leq 25 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & -15 \leq \mathrm{h} \leq 16,-15 \leq \mathrm{k} \\ & \leq 16,-26 \leq 1 \leq 26 \end{aligned}$ |
| Reflections collected | 32492 | 38176 | 45165 | 27325 |
| Independent reflections | $\begin{aligned} & 16131\left[R_{\mathrm{int}}=0.0351,\right. \\ & \left.R_{\text {sigma }}=0.0676\right] \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 15726\left[R_{\mathrm{int}}=0.0394,\right. \\ & \left.R_{\text {sigma }}=0.0660\right] \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 15919\left[R_{\mathrm{int}}=0.0456\right. \\ & \left.R_{\text {sigma }}=0.0683\right] \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 13552\left[R_{\mathrm{int}}=0.0322\right. \\ & \left.R_{\text {sigma }}=0.0584\right] \end{aligned}$ |
| Data/restraints/parameters | 16131/90/656 | 15726/100/687 | 15919/33/650 | 13552/0/559 |
| Goodness-of-fit on $F^{2}$ | 1.023 | 1.031 | 1.022 | 1.037 |
| Final R indexes $[\mathrm{I}>=2 \sigma(\mathrm{I})]$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{R}_{1}=0.0569 \\ & \mathrm{wR}_{2}=0.1298 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{R}_{1}=0.0644 \\ & \mathrm{wR}_{2}=0.1593 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{R}_{1}=0.0625 \\ & \mathrm{wR}_{2}=0.1505 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{R}_{1}=0.0536 \\ & \mathrm{wR}_{2}=0.1415 \end{aligned}$ |
| Final R indexes [all data] | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{R}_{1}=0.0860 \\ & \mathrm{wR}_{2}=0.1464 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{R}_{1}=0.1028 \\ & \mathrm{wR}_{2}=0.1813 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{R}_{1}=0.1056 \\ & \mathrm{wR}_{2}=0.1751 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{R}_{1}=0.0753 \\ & \mathrm{wR}_{2}=0.1553 \end{aligned}$ |

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