

## Supporting Information

### Reversible Transformation between Au<sub>14</sub>Ag<sub>8</sub> and Au<sub>14</sub>Ag<sub>4</sub> Nanoclusters

Peiyao Pan,<sup>a,b,‡</sup> Chuanjun Zhou,<sup>a,b,‡</sup> Hao Li,<sup>a,b</sup> Chen Zhu,<sup>a,b</sup> Cheng Chen,<sup>c</sup> Xi Kang,<sup>a,b,\*</sup> Manzhou Zhu<sup>a,b,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Chemistry and Centre for Atomic Engineering of Advanced Materials, Anhui Province Key Laboratory of Chemistry for Inorganic/Organic Hybrid Functionalized Materials, Anhui University, Hefei 230601, P. R. China.

<sup>b</sup>Key Laboratory of Structure and Functional Regulation of Hybrid Materials, Anhui University, Ministry of Education, Hefei 230601, P. R. China.

<sup>c</sup>Institutes of Physical Science and Information Technology, Anhui University, Hefei, Anhui 230601, P. R. China.

<sup>‡</sup>These authors contributed equally to this work.

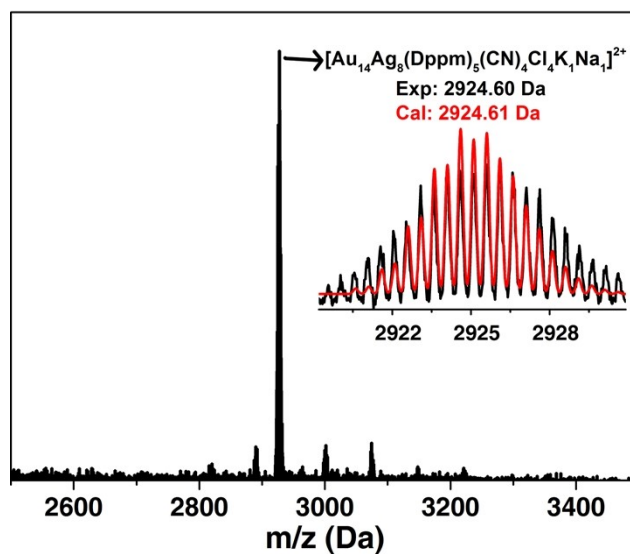
\*E-mails of corresponding authors: kangxi\_chem@ahu.edu.cn (X.K.); z mz@ahu.edu.cn (M.Z.).

Notes: The authors declare no competing financial interest.

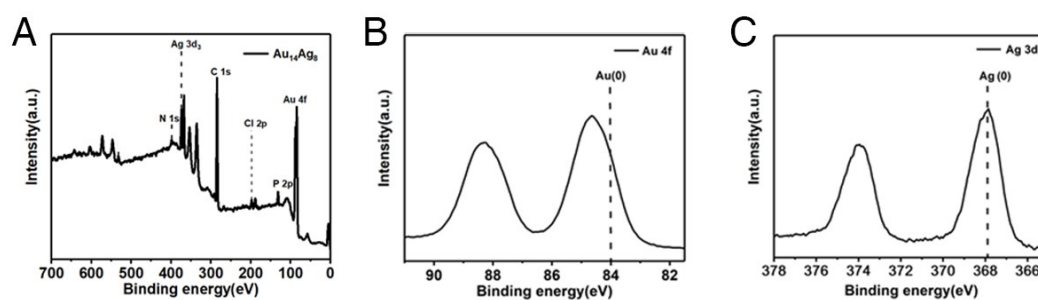
*This Supporting Information includes:*

Figures S1-S11

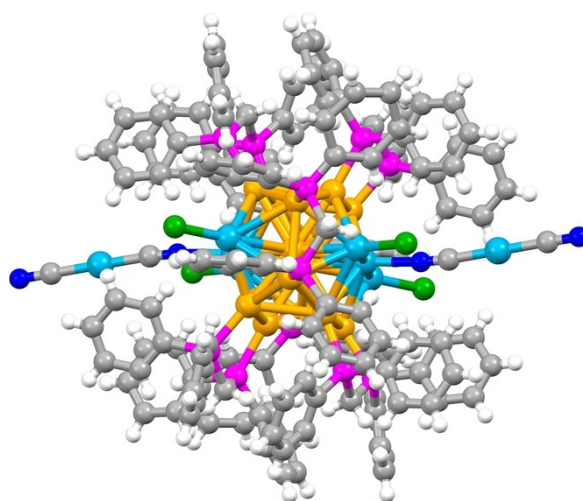
Tables S1-S3



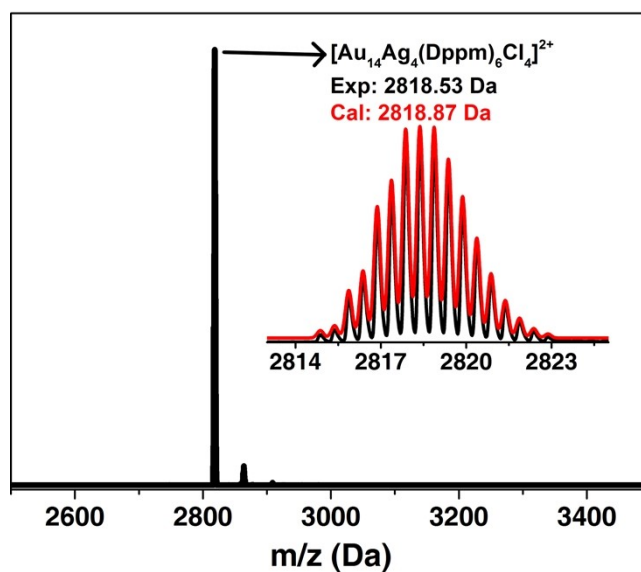
**Fig. S1** ESI-MS result of the  $\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_8(\text{Dppm})_6(\text{CN})_4\text{Cl}_4$  nanocluster in the positive mode. Inset: the experimental (black line) and the calculated isotope (red line) patterns. As determined by the mass spectrometry, the valence state of the nanocluster is +2, i.e.,  $[\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_8(\text{Dppm})_6(\text{CN})_4\text{Cl}_4\text{K}_1\text{Na}_1]^{2+}$ .



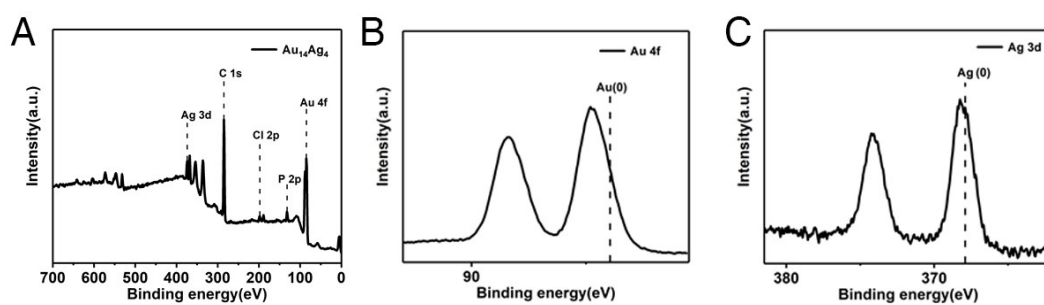
**Fig. S2** XPS results of the  $\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_8(\text{Dppm})_6(\text{CN})_4\text{Cl}_4$  nanocluster. (A) Full spectrum; (B) Au 4f spectrum; (C) Ag 3d spectrum.



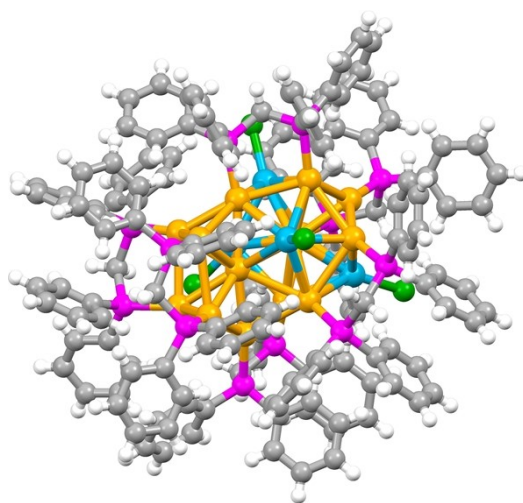
**Fig. S3** Overall structure of the  $\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_8(\text{Dppm})_6(\text{CN})_4\text{Cl}_4$  nanocluster.



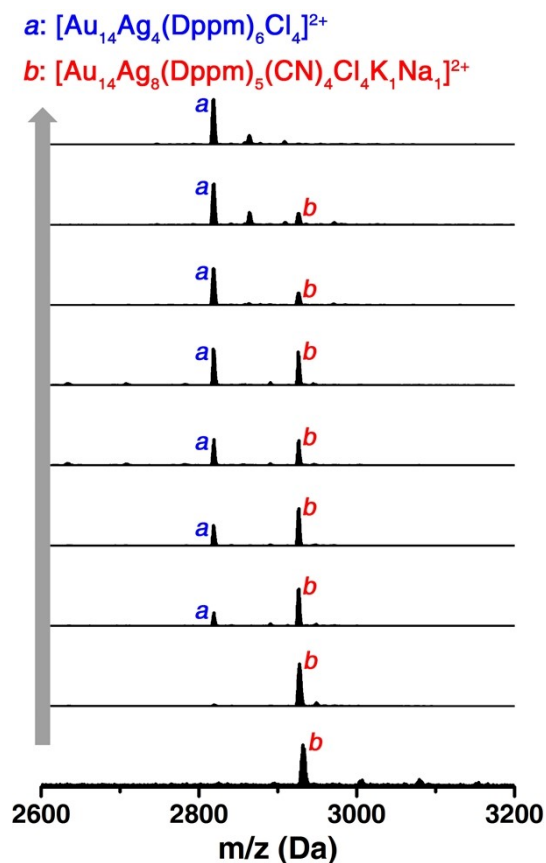
**Fig. S4** ESI-MS result of the  $\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_4(\text{Dppm})_6\text{Cl}_4$  nanocluster in the positive mode. Inset: the experimental (black line) and the calculated isotope (red line) patterns. As determined by the mass spectrometry, the valence state of the nanocluster is +2, i.e.,  $[\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_4(\text{Dppm})_6\text{Cl}_4]^{2+}$ .



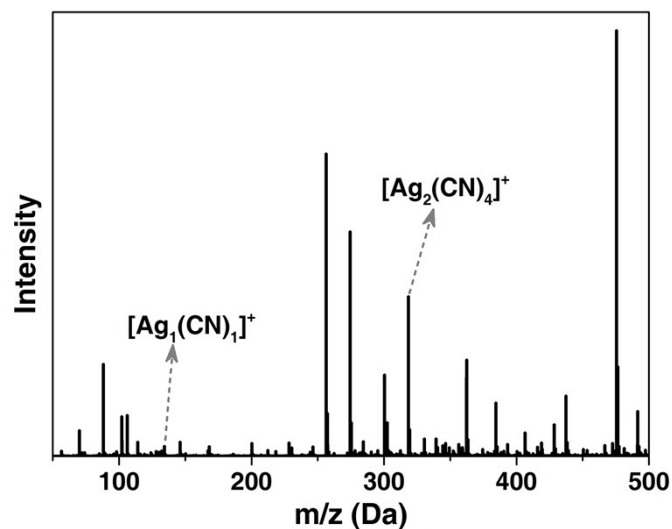
**Fig. S5** XPS results of the  $\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_4(\text{Dppm})_6\text{Cl}_4$  nanocluster. (A) Full spectrum; (B) Au 4f spectrum; (C) Ag 3d spectrum.



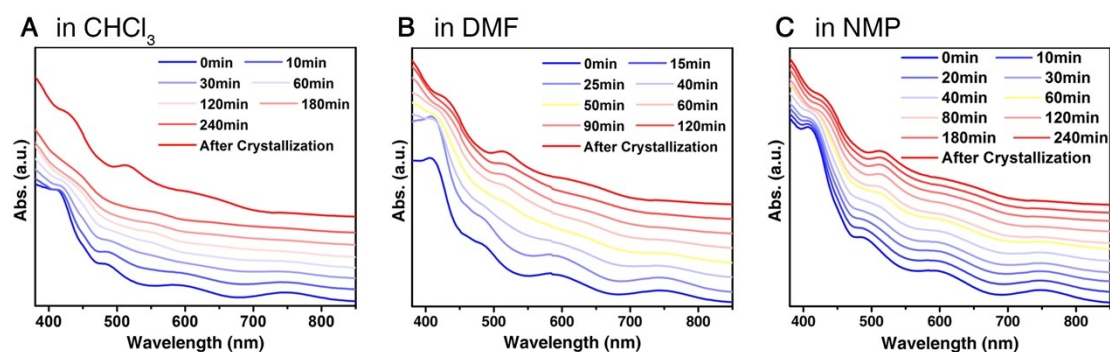
**Fig. S6** Overall structure of the  $\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_4(\text{Dppm})_6\text{Cl}_4$  nanocluster.



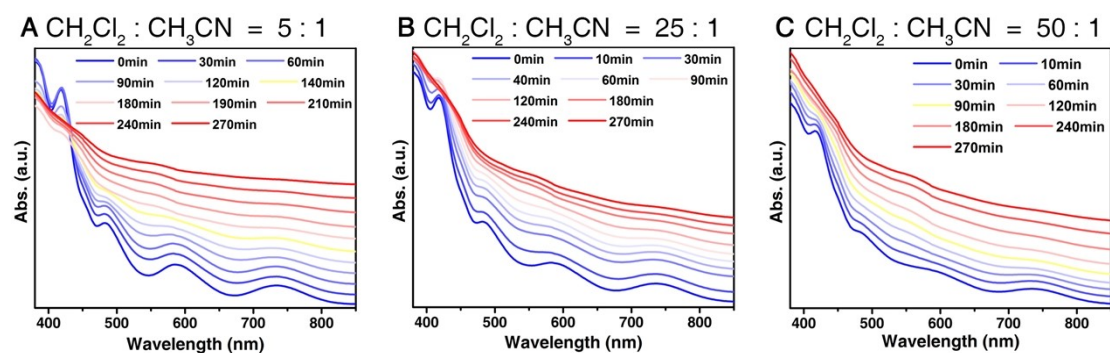
**Fig. S7** ESI-MS results of the nanocluster transformation from  $\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_8(\text{Dppm})_6(\text{CN})_4\text{Cl}_4$  to  $\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_4(\text{Dppm})_6\text{Cl}_4$ . *a*: mass signal of  $[\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_4(\text{Dppm})_6\text{Cl}_4]^{2+}$ ; *b*: mass signal of  $[\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_8(\text{Dppm})_5(\text{CN})_4\text{Cl}_4\text{K}_1\text{Na}_1]^{2+}$ .



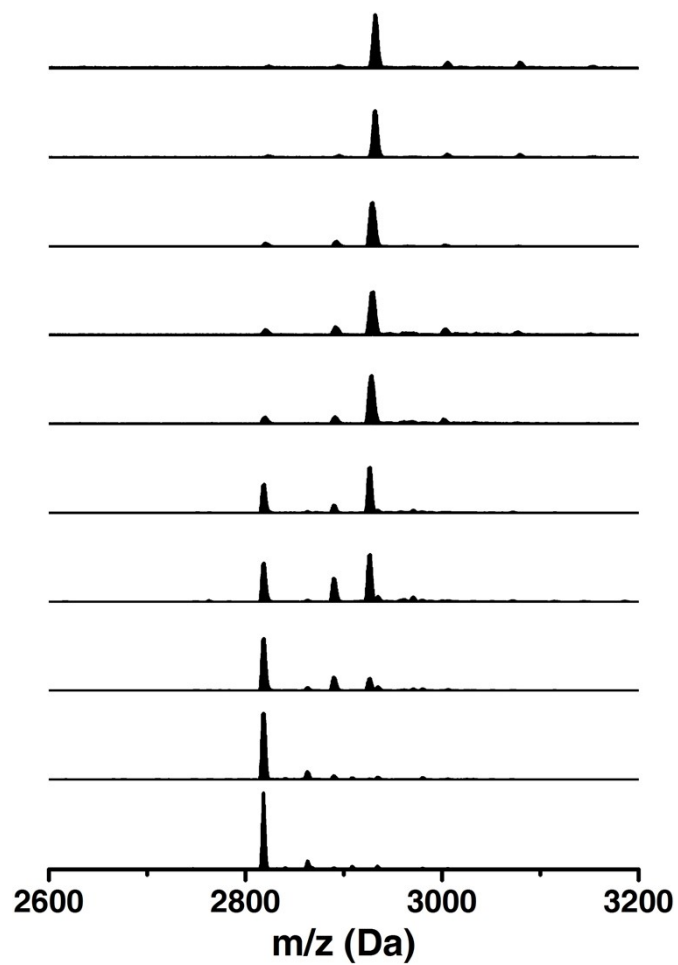
**Fig. S8** ESI-MS results of the transformation from  $\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_8(\text{Dppm})_6(\text{CN})_4\text{Cl}_4$  to  $\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_4(\text{Dppm})_6\text{Cl}_4$  to detect the eliminated species along with the cluster transformation. Two special mass peaks (i.e., 132.90 and 319.82 Da) in the range from 50 to 500 Da were observed, corresponding to  $[\text{Ag}_1(\text{CN})_1]^+$  and  $[\text{Ag}_2(\text{CN})_4]^+$ , respectively.



**Fig. S9** Time-dependent optical absorptions for the nanocluster transformation from  $\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_8(\text{Dppm})_6(\text{CN})_4\text{Cl}_4$  to  $\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_4(\text{Dppm})_6\text{Cl}_4$  in (A)  $\text{CHCl}_3$ , (B) DMF, and (C) NMP.



**Fig. S10** Time-dependent optical absorptions for the nanocluster transformation from  $\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_8(\text{Dppm})_6(\text{CN})_4\text{Cl}_4$  to  $\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_4(\text{Dppm})_6\text{Cl}_4$  in different mixed solvents including (A)  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2:\text{CH}_3\text{CN} = 5:1$ , (B)  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2:\text{CH}_3\text{CN} = 25:1$ , and (C)  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2:\text{CH}_3\text{CN} = 50:1$ .



**Fig. S11** ESI-MS results of the nanocluster transformation from  $\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_4(\text{Dppm})_6\text{Cl}_4$  to  $\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_8(\text{Dppm})_6(\text{CN})_4\text{Cl}_4$ . *a*: mass signal of  $[\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_4(\text{Dppm})_6\text{Cl}_4]^{2+}$ ; *b*: mass signal of  $[\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_8(\text{Dppm})_5(\text{CN})_4\text{Cl}_4\text{K}_1\text{Na}_1]^{2+}$ ; *c*: mass signal of  $[\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_6(\text{Dppm})_6\text{Cl}_2]^{2+}$ .

**Table S1.** Atom ratio of Au and Ag in  $\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_8(\text{Dppm})_6(\text{CN})_4\text{Cl}_4$  and  $\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_4(\text{Dppm})_6\text{Cl}_4$  nanoclusters. Atom ratios of Au and Ag in both nanoclusters were calculated from X-ray photoelectric spectroscopy (XPS).

$\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_8(\text{Dppm})_6(\text{CN})_4\text{Cl}_4$	Au atom	Ag atom
XPS Experiment Ratio	62.85%	37.15%
Theoretical Ratio	63.64%	36.36%

$\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_4(\text{Dppm})_6\text{Cl}_4$	Au atom	Ag atom
XPS Experiment Ratio	77.15%	22.85%
Theoretical Ratio	77.78%	22.22%

**Table S2.** Crystal data and structure refinement for the  $\text{Au}_{14}\text{Ag}_4(\text{Dppm})_6\text{Cl}_4$  nanocluster. CCDC number is 2094995.

Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	$P 2_1/n$
a/Å	16.4329(2)
b/Å	56.1369(8)
c/Å	18.7093(3)
$\alpha/^\circ$	90
$\beta/^\circ$	99.7170(10)
$\gamma/^\circ$	90
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	17011.6(4)
Z	4
$\rho_{\text{calc}}/\text{cm}^3$	2.229
$\mu/\text{mm}^{-1}$	27.910
F(000)	10432
Radiation	CuK $\alpha$ ( $\lambda = 1.54186$ )
Index ranges	$-6 \leq h \leq 18, -64 \leq k \leq 59, -21 \leq l \leq 20$
Final R indexes [ $ I  \geq 2\sigma(I)$ ]	R1 = 0.0706, wR2 = 0.1936
Final R indexes [all data]	R1 = 0.0816, wR2 = 0.2095

**Table S3.** Crystal data and structure refinement for the Au<sub>14</sub>Ag<sub>8</sub>(Dppm)<sub>6</sub>(CN)<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub> nanocluster. CCDC number is 2094999.

Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> / <i>c</i>
<i>a</i> /Å	17.3969(5)
<i>b</i> /Å	23.5948(4)
<i>c</i> /Å	23.5308(5)
$\alpha$ /°	90
$\beta$ /°	90.862(2)
$\gamma$ /°	90
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	9657.7(4)
<i>Z</i>	2
$\rho$ calg/cm <sup>3</sup>	2.123
$\mu$ /mm <sup>-1</sup>	27.508
F(000)	5628
Radiation	CuK $\alpha$ ( $\lambda$ = 1.54186)
Index ranges	-20 $\leq$ <i>h</i> $\leq$ 19, -27 $\leq$ <i>k</i> $\leq$ 22, -27 $\leq$ <i>l</i> $\leq$ 19
Final R indexes [ <i>I</i> $\geq$ 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> )]	R1 = 0.0927, wR2 = 0.2556
Final R indexes [all data]	R1 = 0.1217, wR2 = 0.2844

Three Level B Alerts exist, resulting from the disorder of peripheral ligands of the nanocluster. However, the structure and the composition of this nanocluster are correct since several supplementary approaches, including ESI-MS and XPS, have been performed to confirm the crystal structure of the Au<sub>14</sub>Ag<sub>8</sub>(Dppm)<sub>6</sub>(CN)<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub> nanocluster.