

A bimetallic $\text{Ag}_{15}\text{Cu}_{12}(\text{S-c-C}_6\text{H}_{11})_{18}(\text{CH}_3\text{COO})_3$ nanocluster featuring an irregular Ag_{12} kernel

Zhenzhen Lin,^{a,b} Ting Zhang,^{a,b} Cao Fang,^{a,b} Shan Jin,^{b,c} Chang Xu,^a Daqiao Hu,^{*a,b} and Manzhou Zhu^{*a,b}

^aDepartment 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, Anhui, People's Republic of China.

^bKey Laboratory of Structure and Functional Regulation of Hybrid Materials, Anhui University, Ministry of Education, Hefei, Anhui, People's Republic of China.

^cInstitutes of Physical Science and Information Technology, Anhui University, Hefei, Anhui, People's Republic of China.

*E-mail: hudaqiao@ahu.edu.cn (D. H.); z mz@ahu.edu.cn (M. Z.)

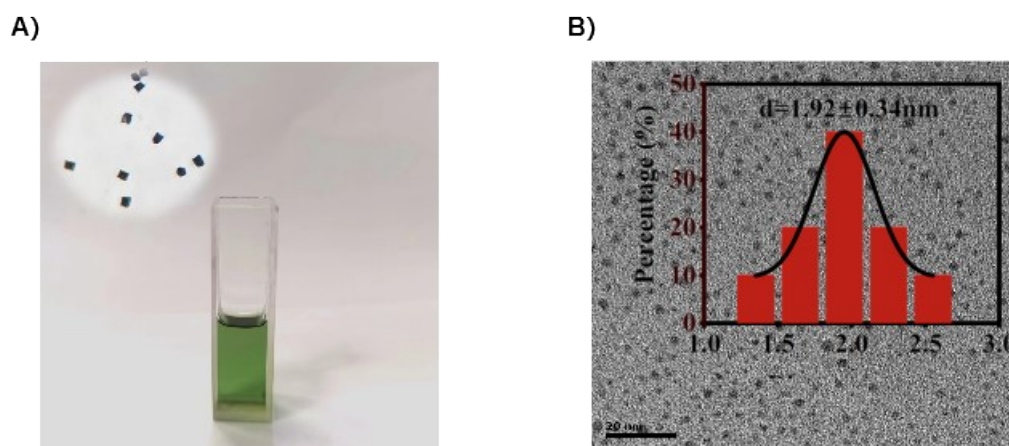


Fig. S1 The photos of (A) $\text{Ag}_{15}\text{Cu}_{12}$ cluster dissolved in dichloromethane and crystals (insert of A). (B) Representative TEM images of $\text{Ag}_{15}\text{Cu}_{12}$. Insert of (B) the corresponding histogram of $\text{Ag}_{15}\text{Cu}_{12}$ nanocluster.

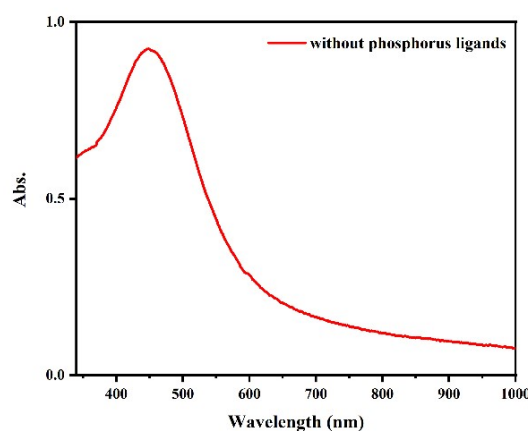


Fig. S2 The UV-vis spectrum of product synthesized without phosphorus ligands during the synthesis process.

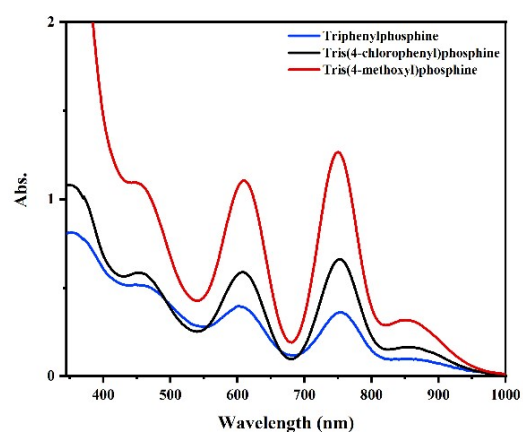


Fig. S3 The UV-Vis spectra of crude product synthesized via adding phosphine ligands with different substituting group.

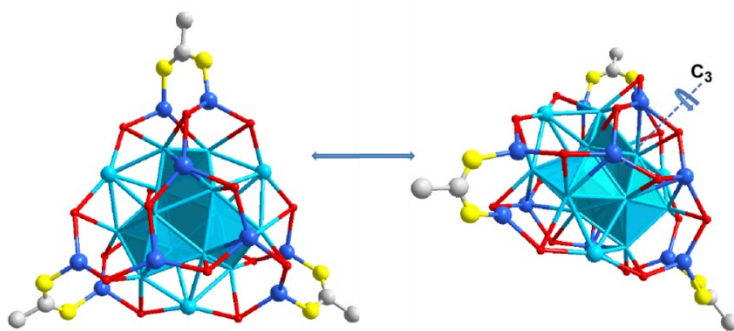


Fig. S4 Illustration of the C_3 axial symmetry in $Ag_{15}Cu_{12}$. For clarity, hydrogen atoms and a part of carbon atoms are omitted. Color labels: sky blue = Ag; blue = Cu; red = S; yellow = O; and gray = C. All hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

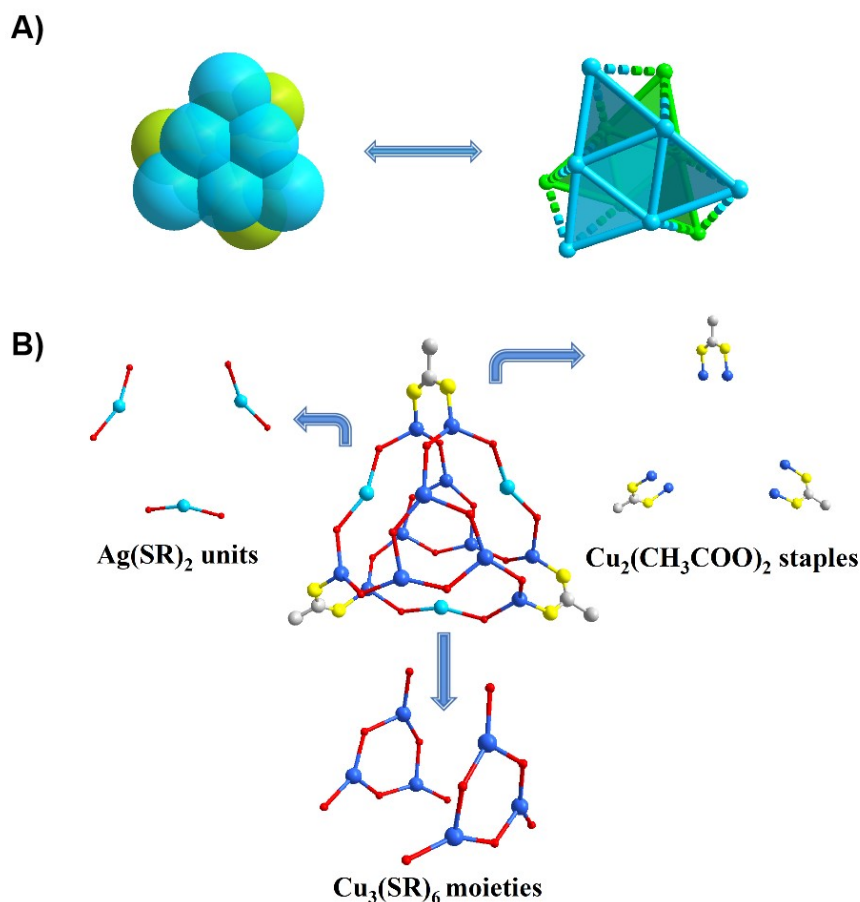


Fig. S5 Detailed structure analysis of (A) Ag_{12} core, two Ag_6 facets are cross interconnected in a slightly angular twist. (B) $\text{Ag}_3\text{Cu}_{12}(\text{SR})_{18}(\text{CH}_3\text{COO})_3$ shell, two $\text{Cu}_3(\text{SR})_6$ moieties, three monomeric $[-\text{SR}-\text{Ag}-\text{SR}-]$ units and three $\text{Cu}_2(\text{CH}_3\text{COO})_2$ staples. Color labels: sky blue and light green = Ag, blue = Cu; red = S; yellow = O; and gray = C. All hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

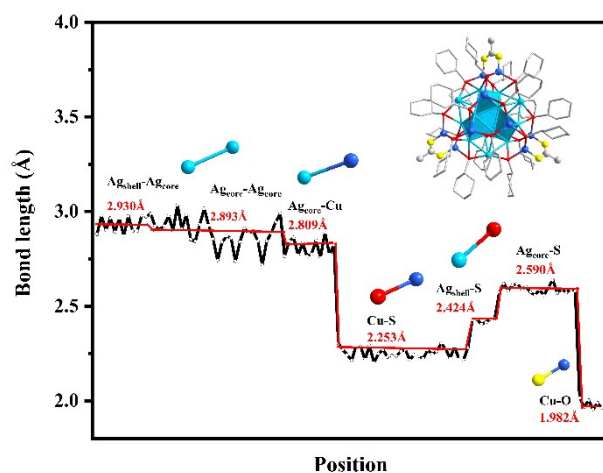


Fig. S6 Bond lengths of the $\text{Ag}_{15}\text{Cu}_{12}$ nanocluster. Color label: sky blue = Ag; blue = Cu; red = S; yellow = O; and gray = C.

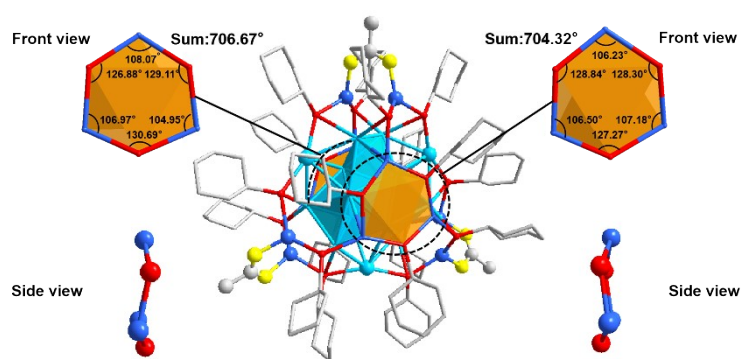


Fig. S7 The detailed angles in the $\text{Cu}_3(\text{SR})_3$ structures of $\text{Ag}_{15}\text{Cu}_{12}$ nanocluster. Color labels: sky blue = Ag; blue = Cu; red = S; yellow = O; and gray = C.

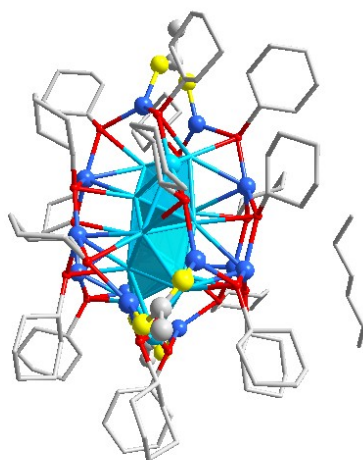


Fig. S8 The entire structure of $\text{Ag}_{15}\text{Cu}_{12}$ nanocluster with one hexane solvent molecule around. Color labels: sky blue = Ag; blue = Cu; red = S; yellow = O; and gray = C.

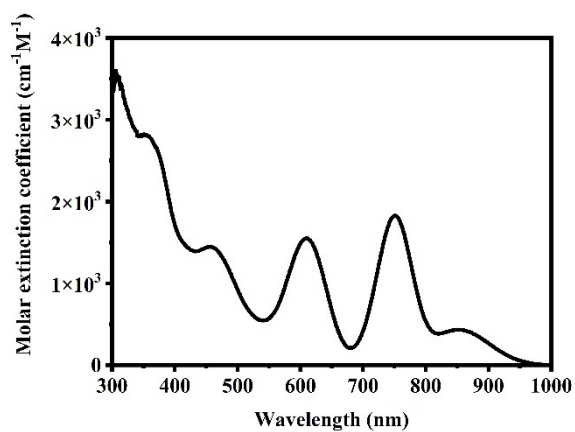


Fig. S9 Molar extinction coefficients of $\text{Ag}_{15}\text{Cu}_{12}$.

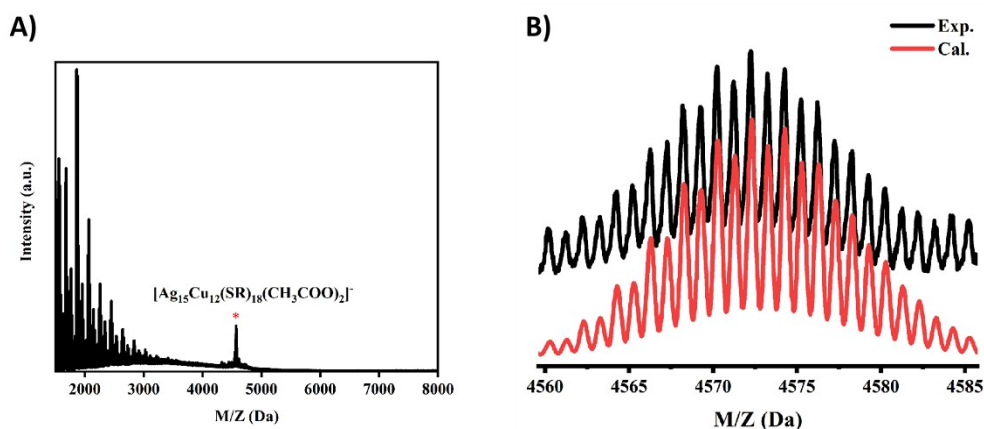


Fig.S10 (A) ESI mass spectrum in full width and (B) matching of isotope patterns between the experimental and simulated spectra of $\text{Ag}_{15}\text{Cu}_{12}$.

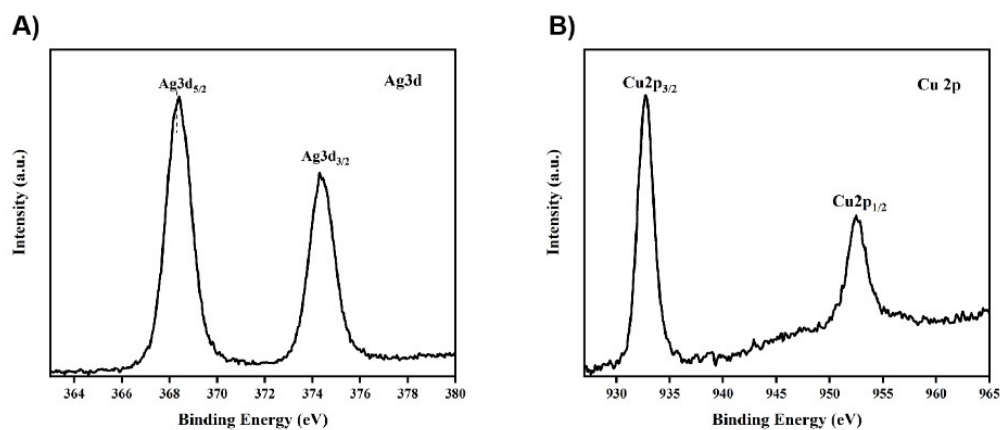


Fig.S11 (A) The High-resolution XPS spectra of Ag 3d of $\text{Ag}_{15}\text{Cu}_{12}$. (B) The High-resolution XPS spectra of Cu 2p of $\text{Ag}_{15}\text{Cu}_{12}$.

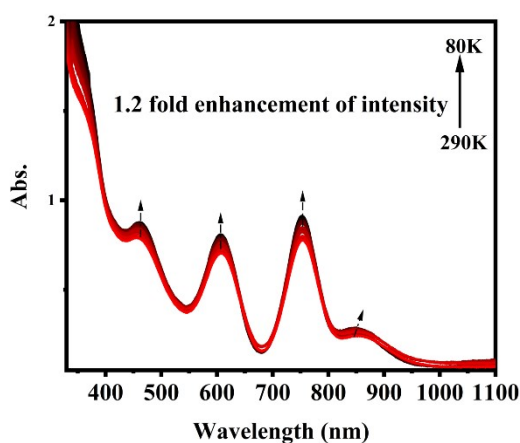


Fig.S12 Temperature-dependent UV-vis absorption of $\text{Ag}_{15}\text{Cu}_{12}$ in CH_2Cl_2 .

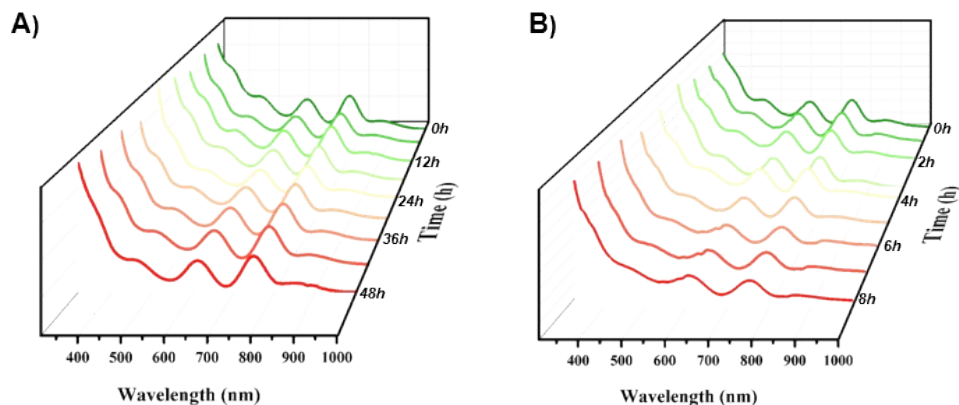


Fig.S13 Time-dependent UV-vis spectra (A) UV-vis spectra at room temperature (dissolved in CH_2Cl_2), and (B) at 45°C (dissolved in CHCl_3).

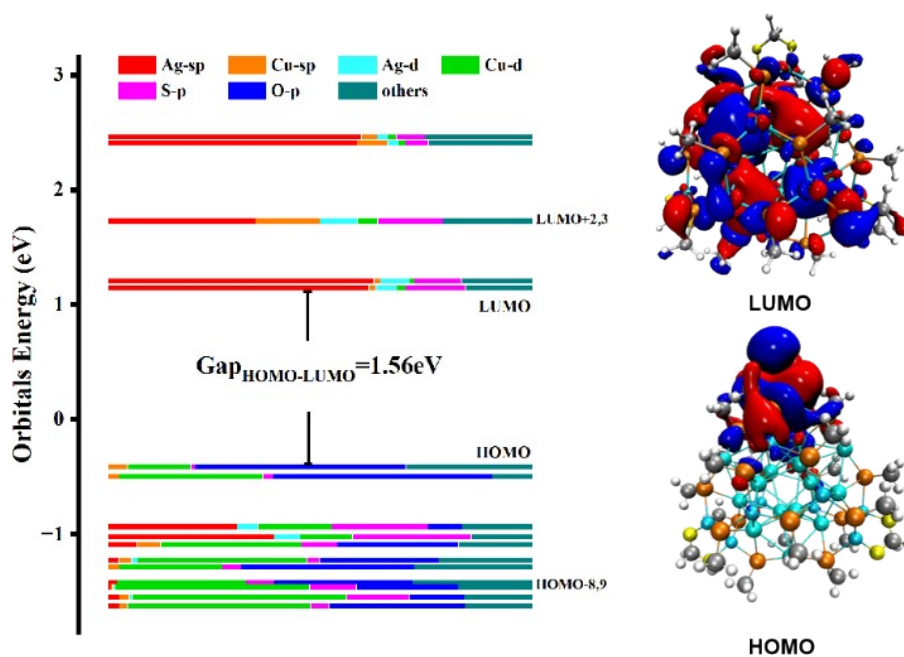


Fig.S14 Kohn-Sham (KS) orbital energy levels and the electron density profile of the HOMO and LUMO of $\text{Ag}_{15}\text{Cu}_{12}$. Color labels: sky blue = Ag; lake blue = Cu; orange = S; yellow = O; and gray = C.

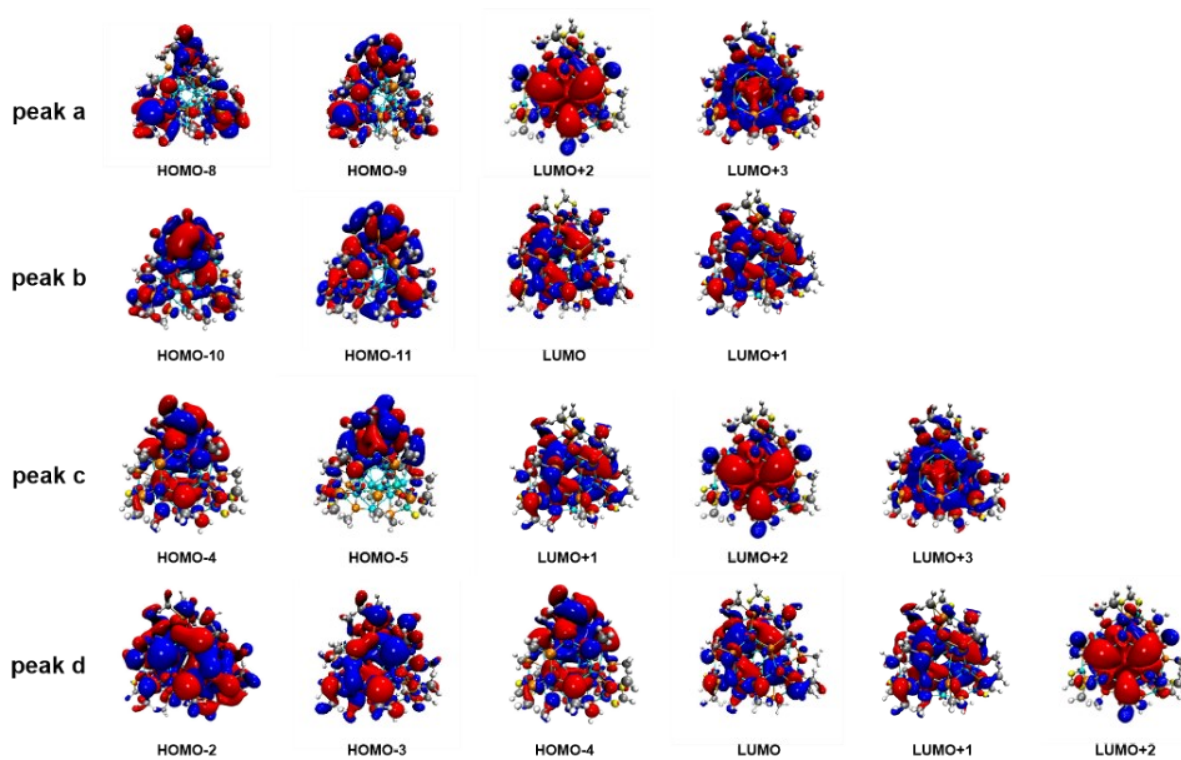


Fig.S15 Transition involved frontier molecular orbitals of $\text{Ag}_{15}\text{Cu}_{12}^{\text{T}}$.

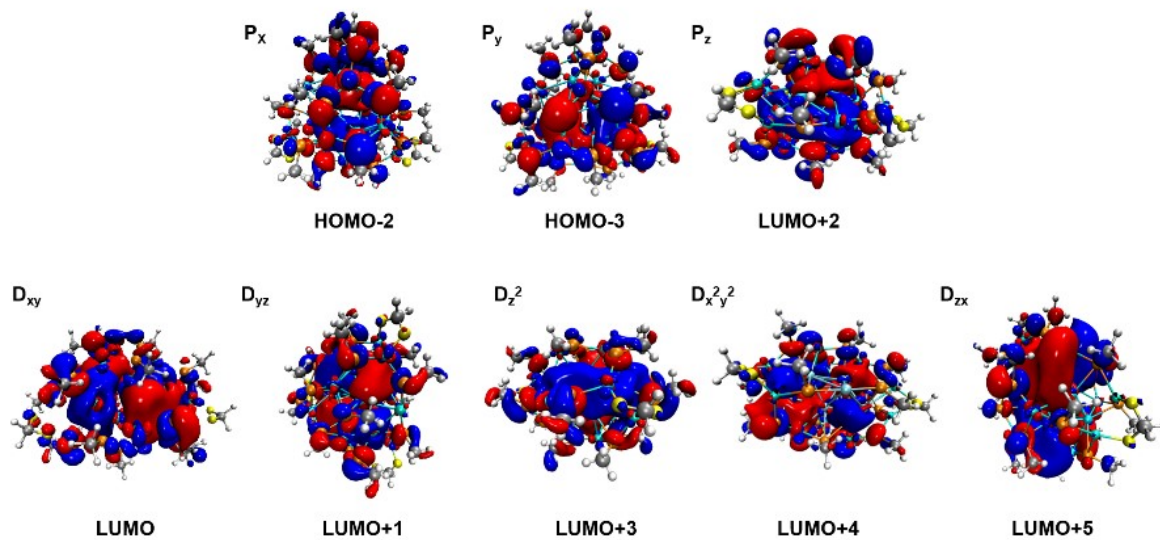


Fig.S16 Superatomic orbitals of $\text{Ag}_{15}\text{Cu}_{12}^{\text{T}}$.

Table S1. The comparison of the bond length of the icosahedral Ag₁₃ metal core and Ag₁₂ core of Ag₁₅Cu₁₂.

Cluster	Core	Average bond length
[Ag ₂₅ (SR) ₁₈] ⁻	icosahedral Ag ₁₃	2.866 Å
Ag ₂₉ (SR) ₁₂ (PPh ₃) ₄	icosahedral Ag ₁₃	2.868 Å
Ag ₁₅ Cu ₁₂ (SR) ₁₈ (CH ₃ COO) ₃	irregular Ag ₁₂	2.893 Å
Ag ₂₇ H ₁₁ (SR) ₁₂ (DPPM) ₆	twisted Ag ₁₃	2.993 Å

Table S2. Crystal Data and Structure Refinement of the Ag₁₅Cu₁₂(SR)₁₈(CH₃COO)₃ (C₆H₁₄) nanocluster.

Ellipsoid plot	ADPs
Identification code	lzz-revised sq
Empirical formula	C ₁₂₀ H ₂₂₁ Ag ₁₅ Cu ₁₂ O ₆ S ₁₈
Formula weight	4717.57
Temperature/K	120
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	P-1
a/Å	17.4880(12)
b/Å	17.6703(12)
c/Å	30.473(2)
α/°	90.275(5)
β/°	96.680(5)
γ/°	93.511(5)
Volume/Å ³	9334.6(11)
Z	2
ρ _{calc} /g/cm ³	1.678
μ/mm ⁻¹	15.873
F(000)	4656.0
Crystal size/mm ³	0.02 × 0.01 × 0.01
Radiation	CuKα (λ = 1.54186)
2θ range for data collection/°	6.924 to 124.996
Index ranges	-19 ≤ h ≤ 20, -20 ≤ k ≤ 7, -35 ≤ l ≤ 33
Reflections collected	56338
Independent reflections	28534 [R _{int} = 0.0693, R _{sigma} = 0.0818]

Data/restraints/parameters	28534/913/1543
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	0.993
Final R indexes [I>2σ(I)]	R ₁ = 0.0772, wR ₂ = 0.1997
Final R indexes [all data]	R ₁ = 0.1055, wR ₂ = 0.2341
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	2.67/-2.47