

Supporting Information

**Ratiometric SERS Detection of N₂H₄ by Porous Ag(I)-linked
Waugh-type Polyoxometalate as Efficient Label-free
Substrate**

Jie Wang, Jia-Yuan Zhang, Wen-Jing Zhu, Bin Qi, Jun-Peng Wang,
Guang-Gang Gao,* Lin-Lin Fan, and Hong Liu*

*School of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Jinan, Jinan, 250022,
China.*

** Corresponding authors.*

E-mail: mse_gaogg@ujn.edu.cn (G.-G. Gao), mse_liuh@ujn.edu.cn (H. Liu).

Contents

Chemicals and materials

Characterization methods

X-ray crystallography

Supporting Figures

Fig. S1 Coordination numbers and modes of MnMo_9 and Ag(I) in Compound Ag_6MnMo_9 . Symmetric codes: #1 $2-x, y, 1/2-z$; #2 $3/2-x, 1/2-y, -1/2+z$; #3 $1-x, y, 1/2-z$; #4 $-1+x, y, z$; #5 $-1/2+x, 1/2-y, 1-z$; #6 $-1/2+x, 1/2+y, z$; #7 $1-x, 1-y, 1/2+z$.

Fig. S2 Representation of 3D structure of Ag_6MnMo_9 along c axis.

Fig. S3 Structures of left- and right- handed MnMo_9 polyoxoanions located in Ag_3MnMo_9 .

Fig. S4 (a) Representation of different chiral $[\text{MnMo}_9\text{O}_{32}]^{6-}$ polyoxoanions in Ag_3MnMo_9 . (b) 3D framework of Ag_3MnMo_9 filled with $[\text{Ag}_3(\text{trz})_3]^{3+}$. The hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

Fig. S5 Comparative FTIR curves for Ag_6MnMo_9 and MnMo_9 (a) and Ag_3MnMo_9 , MnMo_9 and trz (b).

Fig. S6 (a) SERS spectra of Ag_3MnMo_9 after reactions with different concentrations of N_2H_4 (10^{-4} -1.0 mg/L).

Fig. S7 The Raman and SERS spectra of Ag_6MnMo_9 and Ag_3MnMo_9 in the presence of 10^{-3} mg/L N_2H_4 , respectively.

Fig. S8 SERS spectra of Ag_6MnMo_9 in different solvents (a) and different

concentrations of N_2H_4 (10^{-4} -1.0 mg/L) (b).

Fig. S9 The TEM image (a) and PXRD pattern (b) of Ag_6MnMo_9 in the presence of 1.0 mg/L N_2H_4 .

Fig. S10 Raman spectra of Ag_6MnMo_9 at laser power (a) and sampling time (b). (c) A set of Raman spectra of Ag_6MnMo_9 from 10 random positions. (d) The Raman intensity at 945 cm^{-1} from 10 random positions.

Fig. S11 (a) A set of SERS spectra of Ag_6MnMo_9 exposed 10^{-3} mg/L N_2H_4 from 20 random positions. (b) The SERS intensity at 945 cm^{-1} from 20 random positions.

Fig. S12 The histogram of SERS signal at 945 cm^{-1} of three Ag_6MnMo_9 SERS substrates exposed to 10^{-3} mg/L N_2H_4 .

Fig. S13 TEM images of Ag_6MnMo_9 before (a) and after (b) N_2H_4 treatment (inset of b: The HRTEM of Ag_6MnMo_9 after N_2H_4 treatment). The overlay distribution of elements (c) and elemental mappings of Mo (d), Ag (e) and Mn (f).

Fig. S14 AgNPs size distribution for Ag_6MnMo_9 after N_2H_4 treatment.

Fig. S15 PXRD patterns of Ag_6MnMo_9 without and with the presence of N_2H_4 .

Fig. S16 XPS survey spectra of Ag_6MnMo_9 without and with the presence of N_2H_4 .

Fig. S17 XPS analysis of Ag_6MnMo_9 before and after reduction by N_2H_4 for O 1s.

Fig. S18 TEM images of **Ag₃MnMo₉** before (a) and after (b) N₂H₄ treatment. The overlay distribution of elements (c) and elemental mappings of Mo (d), Ag (e) and Mn (f) in **Ag₃MnMo₉**.

Fig. S19 (a) XPS survey spectra of **Ag₃MnMo₉** before and after reduction by N₂H₄; the core level XPS spectra for Mo 3d (b), Mn 2p (c) and Ag 3d (d).

Fig. S20 UV-vis absorbance spectra of **Ag₆MnMo₉** and its reduced state by reaction with N₂H₄.

Table S1 Crystal Data and Structure for complexes **Ag₆MnMo₉** and **Ag₃MnMo₉**.

Table S2 Raman and SERS vibrational frequencies (cm⁻¹) of **Ag₆MnMo₉**^a.

Table S3 Comparison of different methods for detecting N₂H₄.

Chemicals and materials

All reagents were purchased commercially and used without further purification. $(\text{NH}_4)_6[\text{MnMo}_9\text{O}_{32}] \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (MnMo_9) was prepared according to the literature method.¹ AgNO_3 (99%) and $\text{MnSO}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ (99%) were purchased from Macklin. $(\text{NH}_4)_6\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24} \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. NH_4OH , Phenethylamine (PEA), triethylamine (TEA), N,N-Dimethylformamide (DMF), $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$ (98%), 1,2,4-triazole (trz, 98%), acetonitrile, acetic acid and N_2H_4 were obtained from Alfa Aesar.

Characterization methods

The morphologies of the samples were studied on the transmission electron microscopy (TEM, JEOL 2010, 200 kV). The powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) patterns were performed on Rigaku/Max-2550 with Cu $K\alpha$ radiation ($\lambda = 1.7890 \text{ \AA}$). The element distribution was measured by Energy dispersive spectrometer (EDS) on JEOL TEM. X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) scans were carried on multifunctional imaging electron spectrometer (Thermo ESCALAB 250XI). The elemental analyses of H and N were conducted on a Vario EL III elemental analyzer, and those of Mo, Mn and Ag were analyzed on a Jarrel-AshJ-A1100 (ICP) atomic emission spectrometer. SERS testing was performed using a Raman spectrometer (Labramis, Horiba Jobbin Yvon, Paris, France). The wavelength was 532 nm. The laser power was 5 mW for all experiments. Spectra were collected with a 50-object lens for 4 s.

X-ray crystallography

Crystal data were collected on an Agilent Technology Eos Dual system with focusing multilayer mirror optics and a Cu K α source of $\lambda = 1.54184 \text{ \AA}$. Empirical absorption corrections were applied to the intensities using the SADABS program. The structures were solved using the program SHELXS97 and refined with the program SHELXL-97. The positions of the metal atoms and their first coordination spheres were located from direct-methods. Other non-hydrogen atoms were found in alternating difference Fourier syntheses and least-squares refinement cycles. During the final cycles, except for some solvent molecules, all other non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. Hydrogen atoms were placed in calculated positions refined using idealized geometries and assigned fixed isotropic displacement parameters. CCDC number of 2086764 for **Ag₆MnMo₉** and 2097830 for **Ag₃MnMo₉**.

Supporting figures

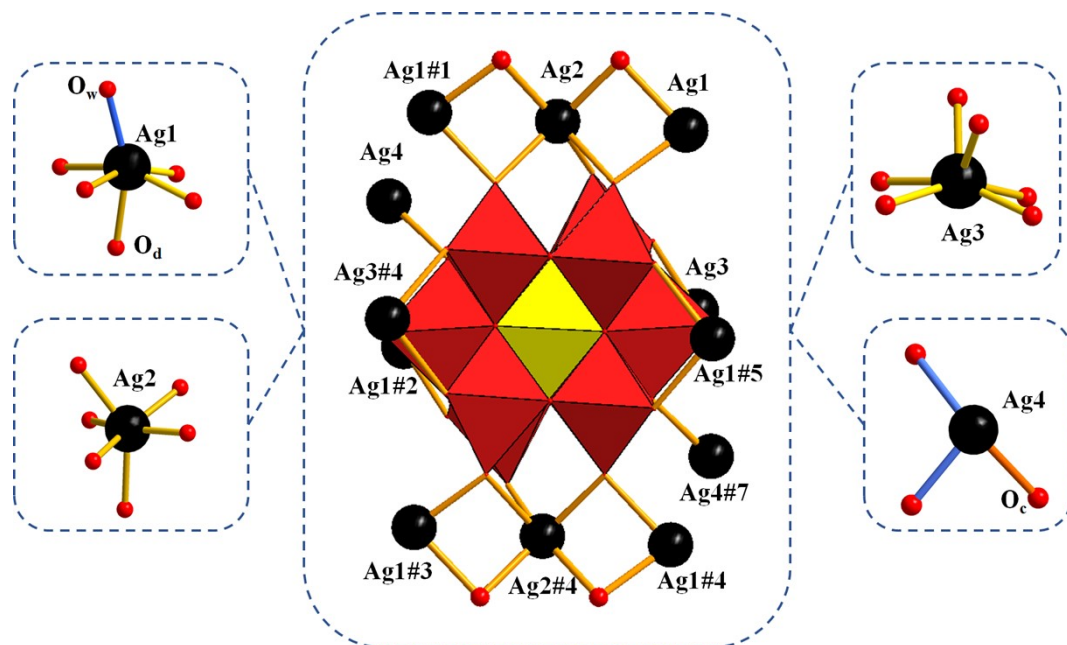


Fig. S1 Coordination environment of Ag⁺ and MnMo₉ polyoxoanion. Symmetric code:
 #1 2-x, y, 1/2-z; #2 3/2-x, 1/2-y, -1/2+z; #3 1-x, y, 1/2-z; #4 -1+x, y, z; #5 -1/2+x, 1/2-
 y, 1-z; #6 -1/2+x, 1/2+y, z; #7 1-x, 1-y, 1/2+z.

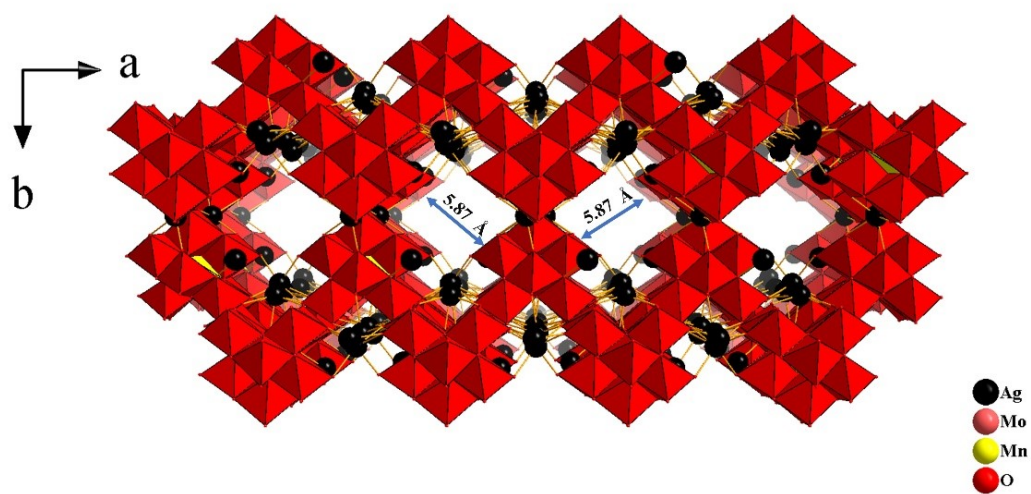


Fig. S2 Representation of 3D structure of Ag_6MnMo_9 along axis c .

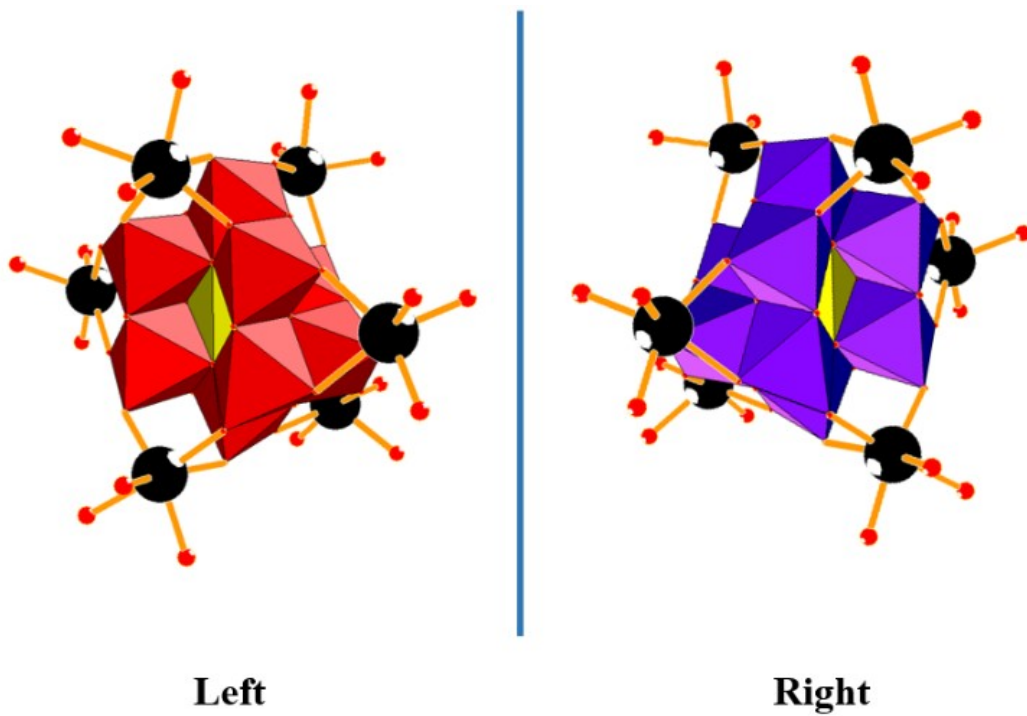


Fig. S3 Structures of left- and right- handed MnMo₉ polyoxoanions located in **Ag₃MnMo₉**.

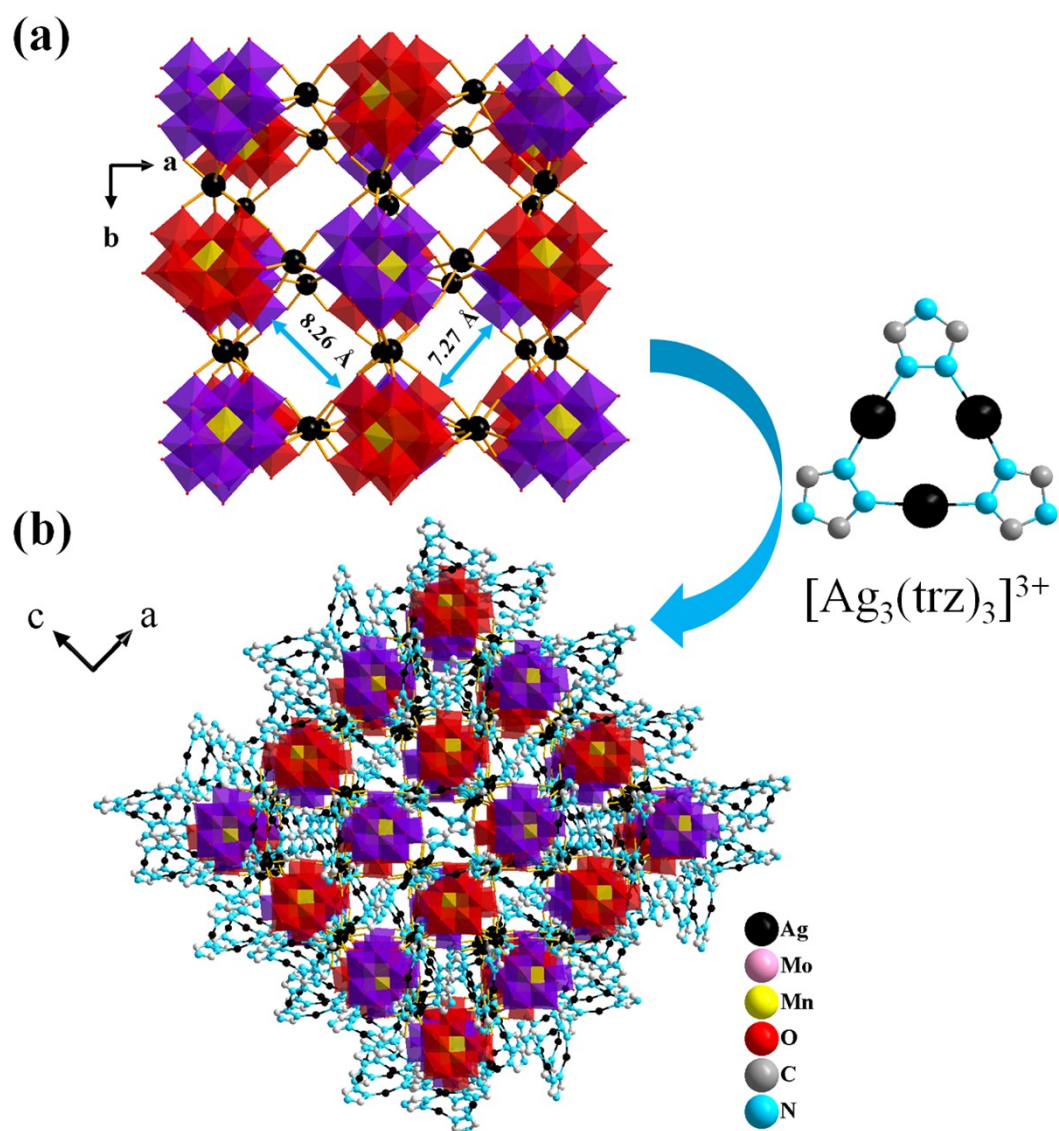


Fig. S4 (a) Representation of different chiral $[\text{MnMo}_9\text{O}_{32}]^{6-}$ polyoxoanions in Ag_3MnMo_9 . (b) 3D framework of Ag_3MnMo_9 filled with $[\text{Ag}_3(\text{trz})_3]^{3+}$.

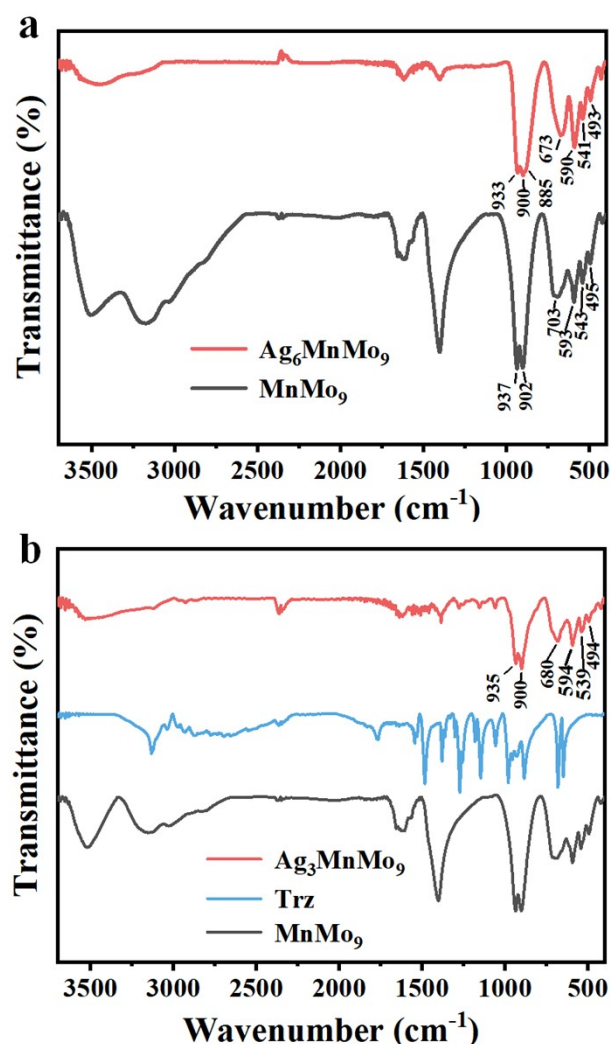


Fig. S5 Comparative FTIR curves for **Ag₆MnMo₉** and **MnMo₉** (a) and **Ag₃MnMo₉**, **MnMo₉** and **trz** (b).

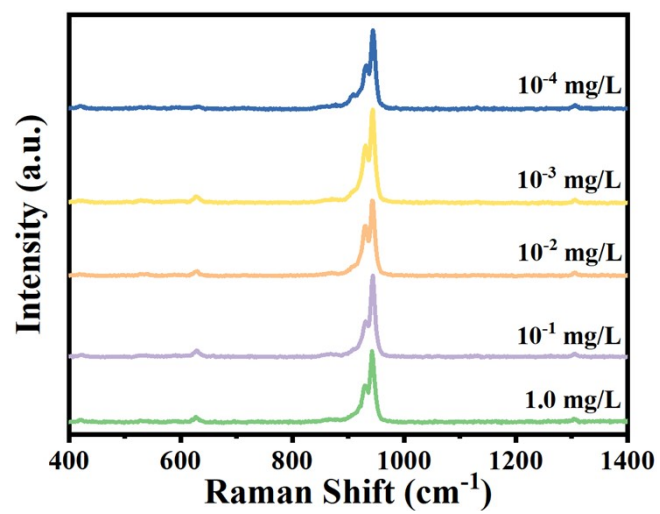


Fig. S6 (a) SERS spectra of Ag_3MnMo_9 after reactions with different concentrations of N_2H_4 (10^{-4} -1.0 mg/L).

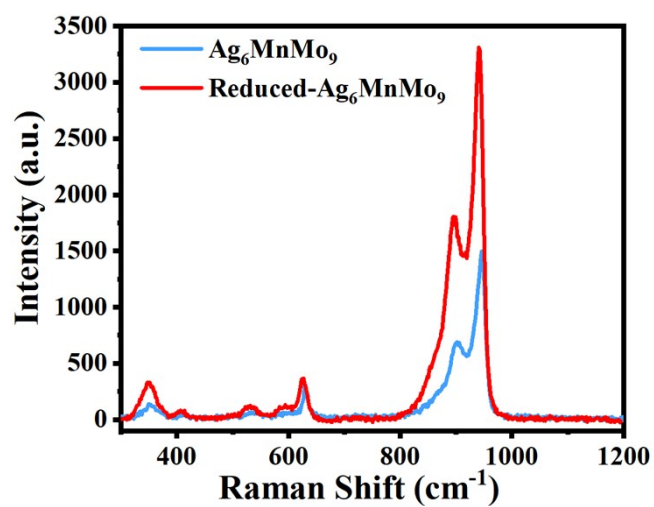


Fig. S7 The Raman and SERS spectra of Ag_6MnMo_9 and Ag_6MnMo_9 in the presence of 10^{-3} mg/L N_2H_4 , respectively.

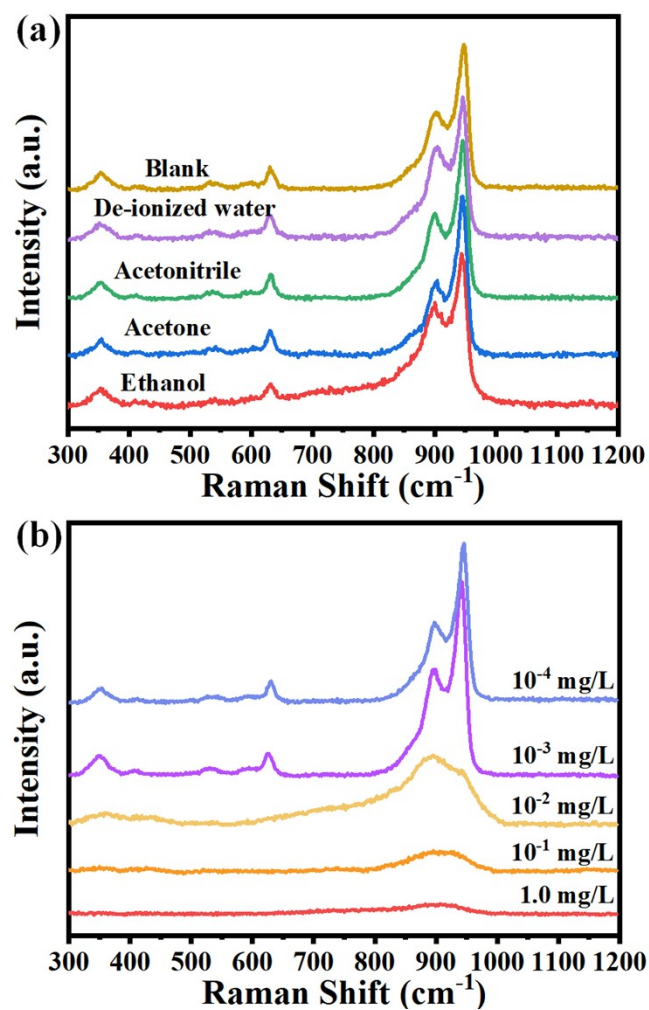


Fig. S8 SERS spectra of Ag_6MnMo_9 in different solvents (a) and different concentrations of N_2H_4 (10^{-4} -1.0 mg/L) (b).

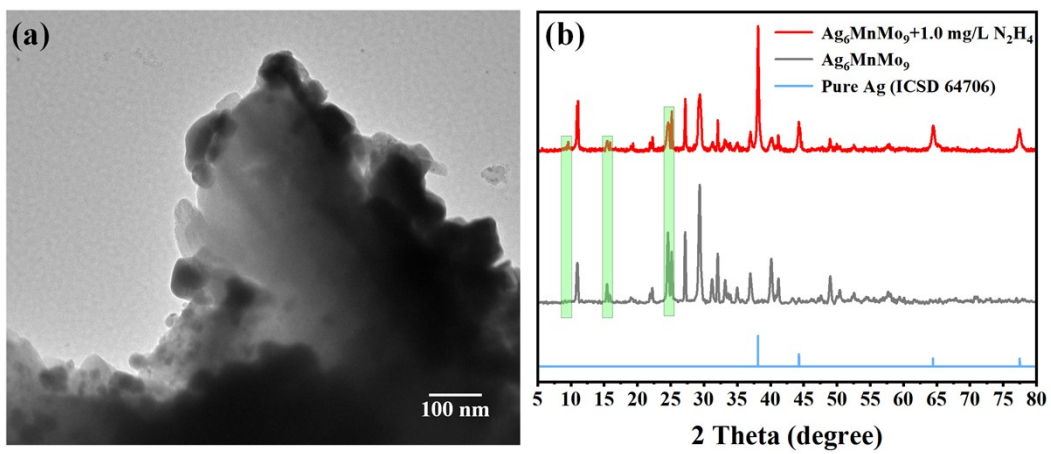


Fig. S9 The TEM image (a) and PXRD pattern (b) of Ag_6MnMo_9 in the presence of 1.0 mg/L N_2H_4 .

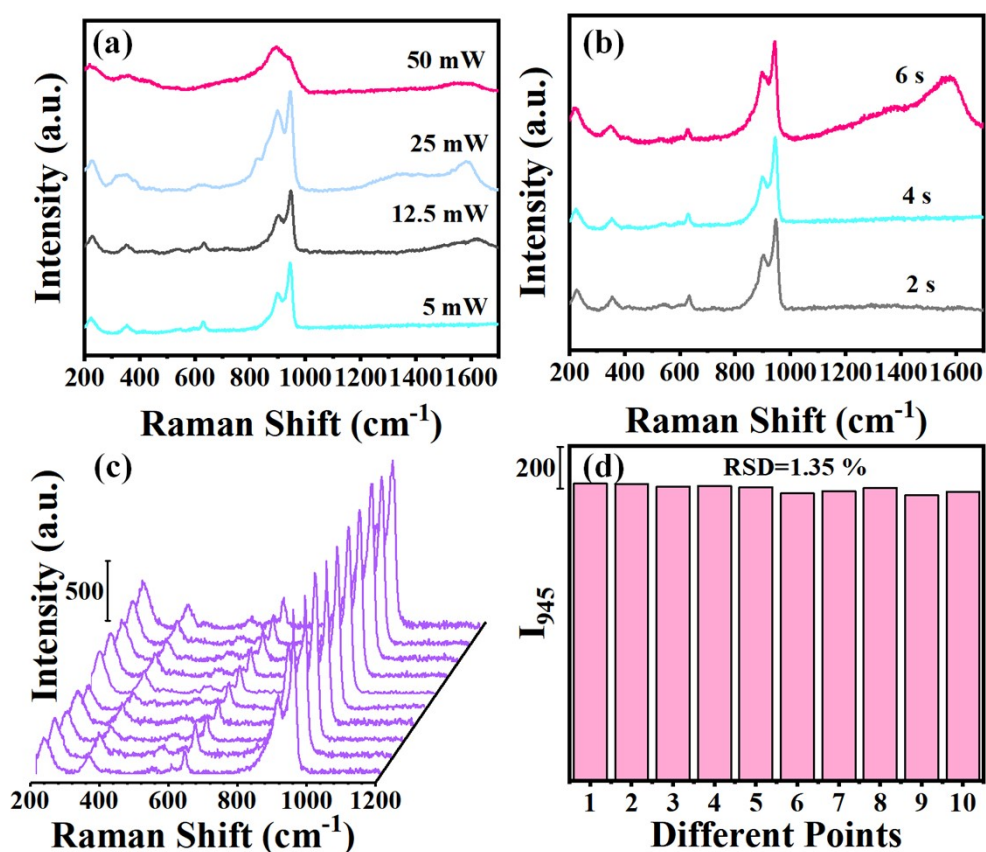


Fig. S10 Raman spectra of Ag_6MnMo_9 at laser power (a) and sampling time (b). (c) A set of Raman spectra of Ag_6MnMo_9 from 10 random positions. (d) The Raman intensity at 945 cm^{-1} from 10 random positions.

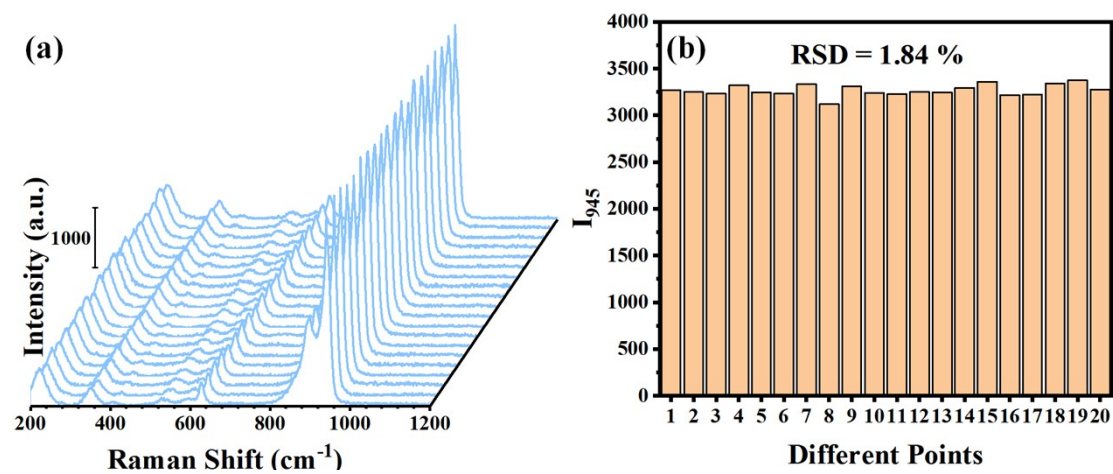


Fig. S11 (a) A set of SERS spectra of Ag_6MnMo_9 exposed 10^{-3} mg/L N_2H_4 from 20 random positions. (b) The SERS intensity at 945 cm^{-1} from 20 random positions.

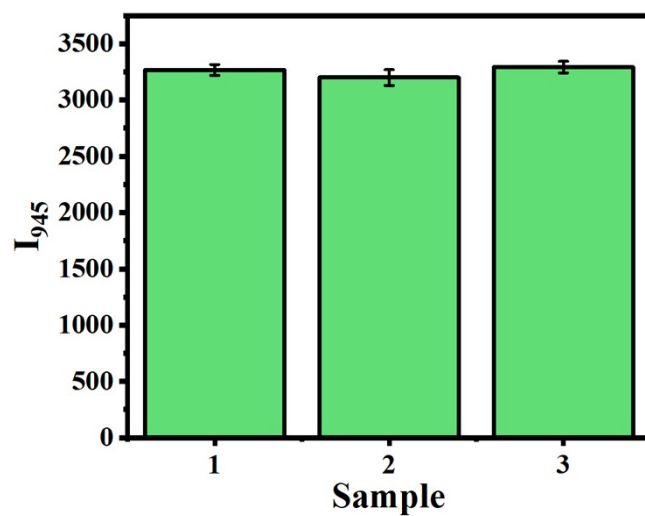


Fig. S12 The histogram of SERS signal at 945 cm⁻¹ of three **Ag₆MnMo₉** SERS substrates exposed to 10⁻³ mg/L N₂H₄.

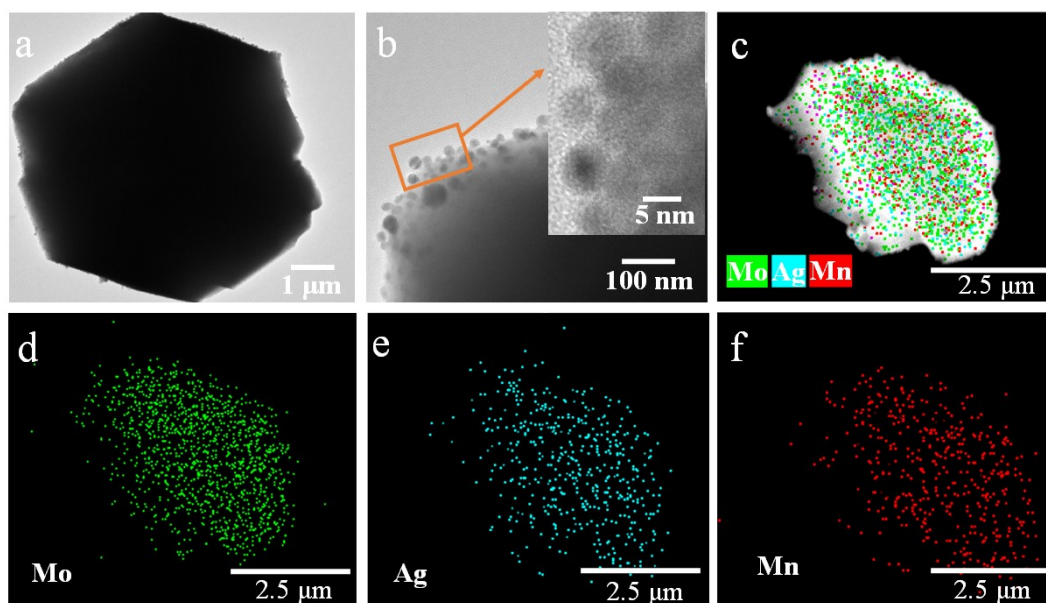


Fig. S13 TEM images of Ag_6MnMo_9 before (a) and after (b) N_2H_4 treatment (inset of b: The HRTEM of Ag_6MnMo_9 after N_2H_4 treatment). The overlay distribution of elements (c) and elemental mappings of Mo (d), Ag (e) and Mn (f).

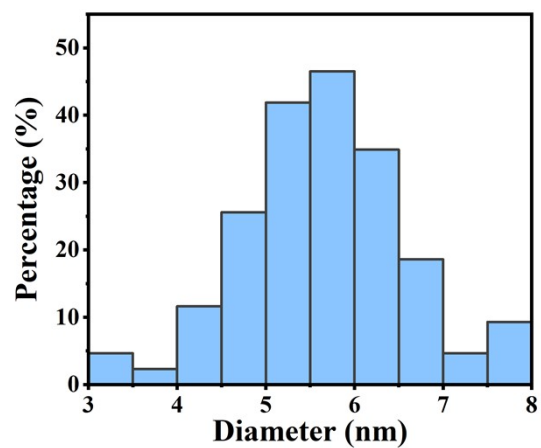


Fig. S14 AgNPs size distribution for Ag₆MnMo₉ after N₂H₄ treatment.

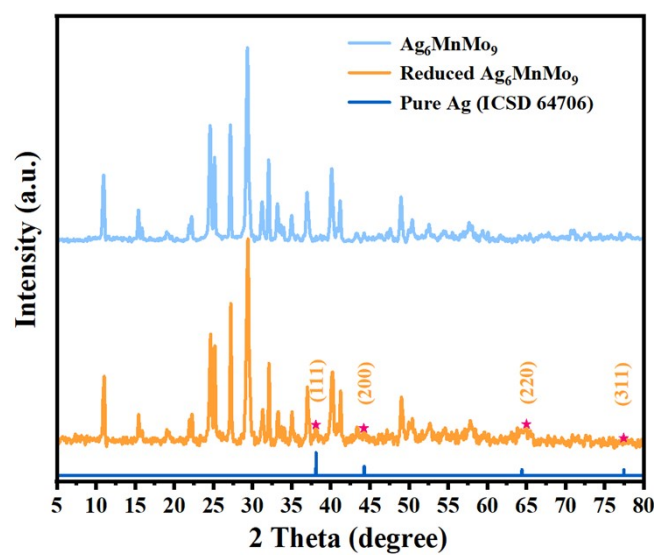


Fig. S15 PXRd patterns of Ag_6MnMo_9 without and with the presence of N_2H_4 .

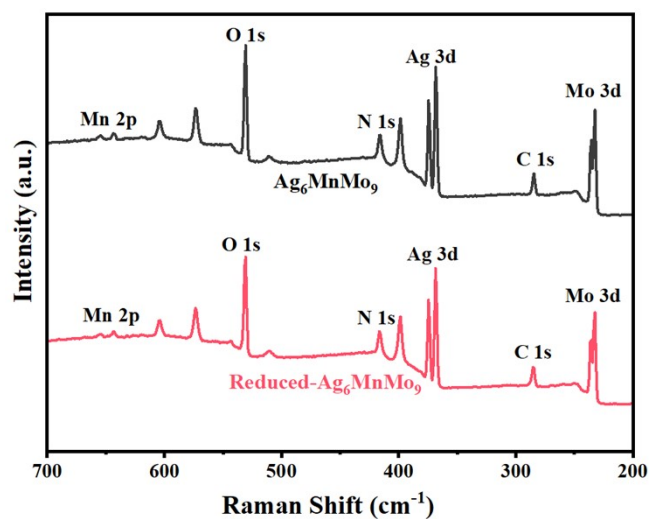


Fig.S16 XPS survey spectra of Ag_6MnMo_9 without and with the presence of N_2H_4 .

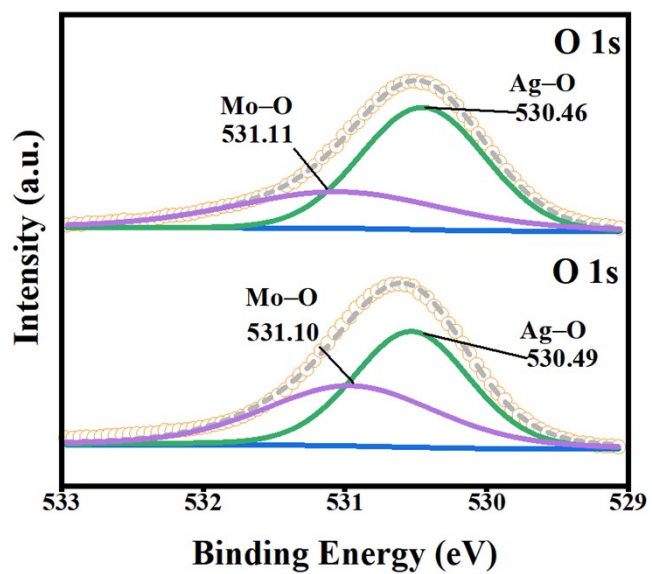


Fig. S17 XPS analysis of Ag_6MnMo_9 before and after reduction by N_2H_4 for O 1s.

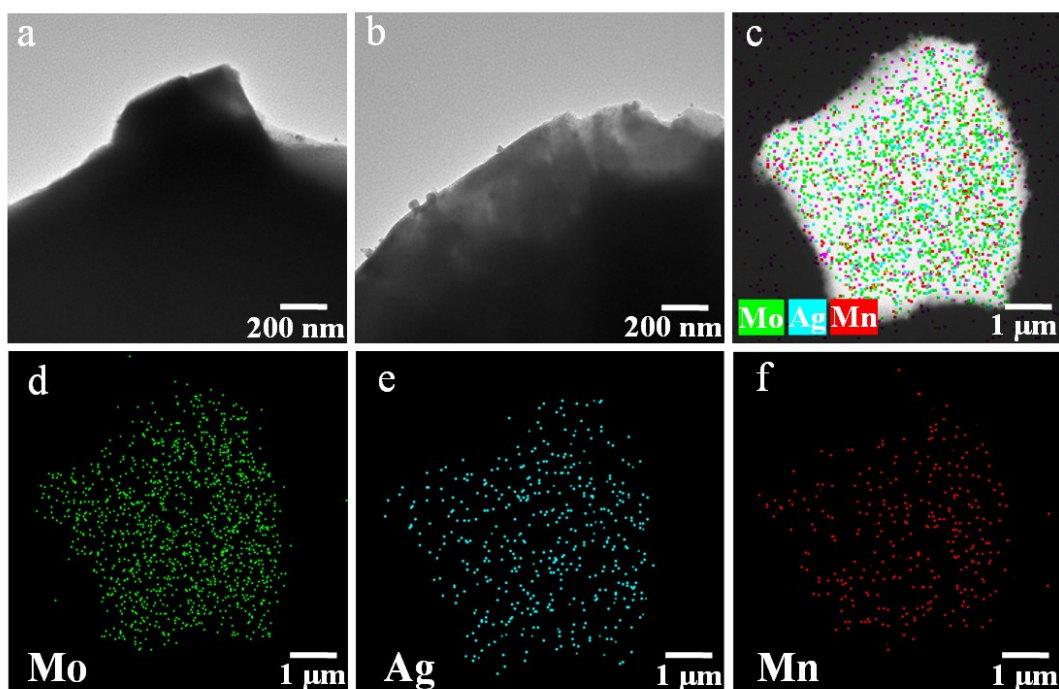


Fig.S18 TEM images of Ag_3MnMo_9 before (a) and after (b) N_2H_4 treatment. The overlay distribution of elements (c) and Elemental mappings of Mo (d), Ag (e) and Mn (f) in Ag_3MnMo_9 .

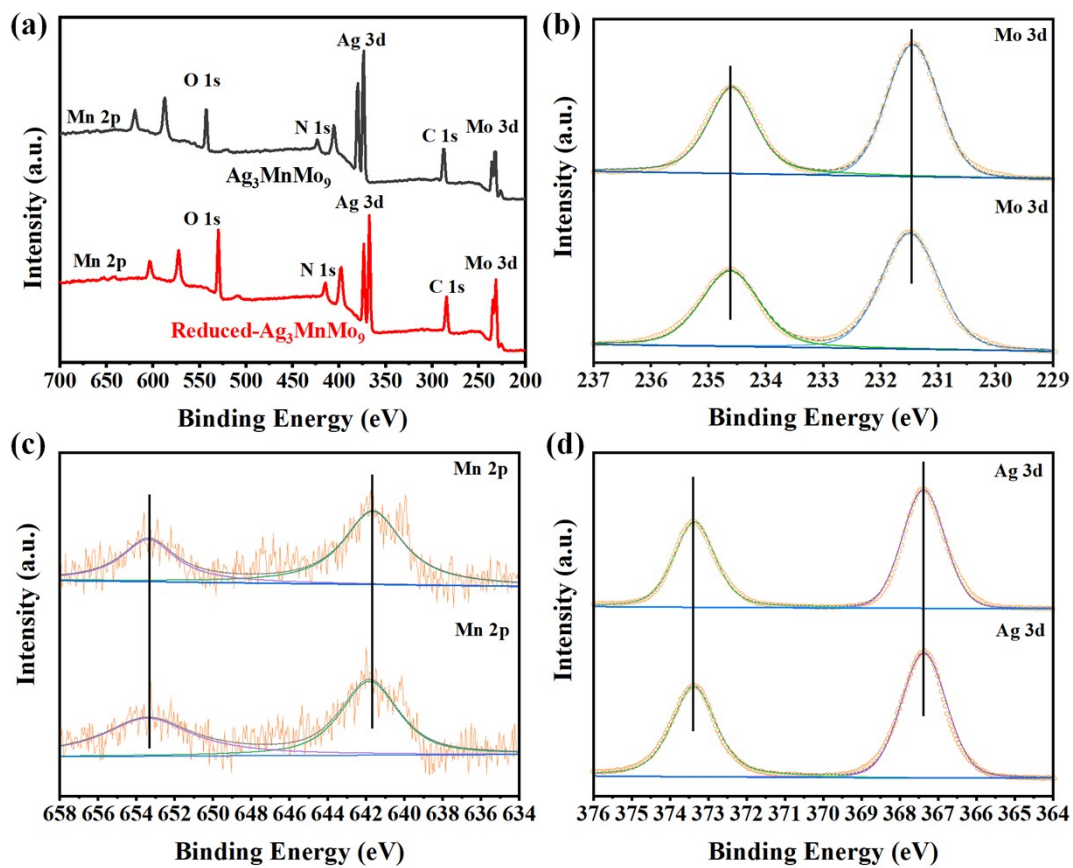


Fig. S19 XPS spectra of survey (a), Mo 3d (b), Mn 2p (c) and Ag 3d (d) of Ag_3MnMo_9 .

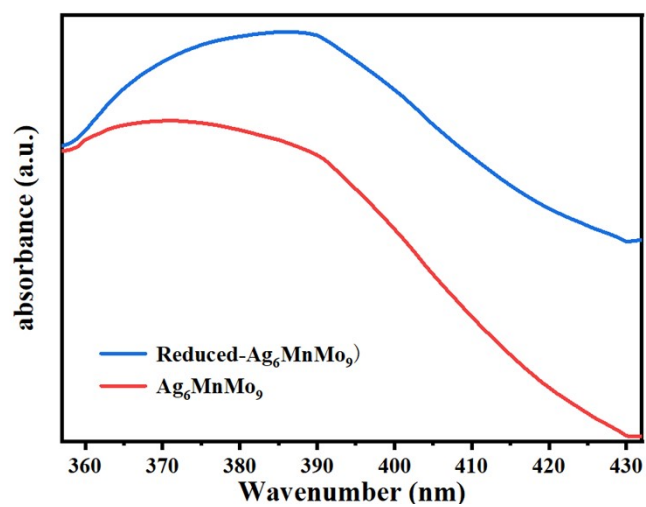


Fig.S20 UV-vis absorbance spectra of Ag_6MnMo_9 and its reduced state by reaction with N_2H_4 .

Table S1 Crystal Data and Structure for complexes **Ag₆MnMo₉** and **Ag₃MnMo₉**.

Compound	Ag₆MnMo₉	Ag₃MnMo₉
Empirical formula	H ₄ O ₃₆ Ag ₆ Mn ₁ Mo ₉	H ₂₄ C ₆ H ₂₄ N ₉ O ₄₁ Ag ₆ Mn ₁ Mo ₉
Formula weight	2145.62	2427.77
T (K)	293(2)	293(2)
Space group	<i>C</i> 222 ₁	<i>P</i> <i>a</i> ³
Crystal system	Orthorhombic	Cubic
<i>a</i> / Å	10.9514(9)	21.4897(2)
<i>b</i> / Å	24.5879(17)	21.4897(2)
<i>c</i> / Å	15.3537(10)	21.4897(2)
<i>a</i> / °	90)	90
<i>β</i> / °	90	90
<i>γ</i> / °	90	90
<i>V</i> / Å ³	4134.3(5)	9924.1(3)
<i>Z</i>	4	8
<i>D_c</i> / g cm ⁻³	3.441	3.218
<i>F</i> (000)	3892.0	8832.0
Reflns collected / unique	6190 / 2919	26361 / 2924
<i>R</i> _(int)	0.0444	0.0619
Goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i> ²	1.047	0.953
final <i>R</i> indices	<i>R</i> ₁ ^a = 0.0791	<i>R</i> ₁ ^a = 0.0294
[<i>I</i> > 2σ(<i>I</i>)]	<i>wR</i> ₂ ^b = 0.2013	<i>wR</i> ₂ ^b = 0.0701
<i>R</i> indices	<i>R</i> ₁ ^a = 0.0803	<i>R</i> ₁ ^a = 0.0332
(All data)	<i>wR</i> ₂ ^b = 0.2026	<i>wR</i> ₂ ^b = 0.0721
CCDC	2086764	2097830

^a $R_1 = \sum ||F_o| - |F_c|| / \sum |F_o|$. ^b $wR_2 = \{ \sum [w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2] / \sum [w(F_o^2)^2] \}^{1/2}$.

Table S2. Raman and SERS vibrational frequencies (cm^{-1}) of Ag_6MnMo_9 ^a.

SERS	Raman	Vibrational assignments
945	945	ν Mo–O _d
898	898	ν Mo–O _b –Mo
	630	ν Mn–O _a –Mo
531	534	ν Mo–O _c –Mo
347	353	δ Mo–O _c –Mo

^a ν , stretching; δ , bending.

Table S3. Comparison of different methods for detecting N₂H₄.

Method	Linear range	Limit of detection	References
fluorometry	0.75 – 1.5 μ M	204 nM	2
fluorometry	0 – 15 μ M	0.16 μ M	3
fluorometry	0 – 75 μ M	82 nM	4
fluorometry	0 – 15 μ M	0.075 μ M	5
fluorometry	0 – 6 μ M	90 nM	6
fluorometry	0 – 500 μ M	0.3 μ M	7
fluorometry	0 – 50 μ M	81.8 nM	8
chromatography	0 – 0.06 mM	0.013 mM	9
chromatography	0.05 – 1 μ M	9.6 nM	10
SERS	10 ⁻¹⁰ – 10 ⁻⁹ M	85 pM	11
SERS	10 ⁻⁹ – 10 ⁻⁷ M	38 pM	12
SERS	10 ⁻³ – 10 ⁻¹⁰ mg/L	40 pg/L (2 pM)	This work

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