

Supporting Information

Computational insights into the physico-chemical properties of pure and single-atom copper-indium sub-nanometre clusters: a DFT-genetic algorithm approach

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1. Average distances.

Table S1: Average distances for Cu–Cu and In–In bonds for the Cu₂ and In₂ dimers compared with experimental and theoretical data obtained from literature.

Cu ₂	Distance (Å)	In ₂	Distance (Å)
Exp.	2.25 ¹	Exp.	3.07 ²
Theo.	2.22 ³	Theo.	2.91 ⁴
Ours	2.22	Ours	3.06

2. Energies, point groups, and the optimal spin states and average distances.

Table S2: The energies, point groups, and optimal spin states of mono- and bimetallic clusters.

Cluster	Energy (eV)	Point Group	2S+1
Cu ₂	-2.753	C _{2v}	singlet
Cu ₃	-4.431	C _{2v}	doublet
Cu ₄	-7.350	D _{2h}	singlet
Cu ₅	-9.856	C _{2v}	doublet
Cu ₆	-12.969	D _{3h}	singlet
Cu ₇	-16.006	D _{2d}	doublet
Cu ₈	-19.095	C _s	singlet
Cu ₉	-21.454	D _{2d}	doublet
Cu ₁₀	-24.589	C _s	singlet
Cu ₁₁	-27.341	C ₁	doublet
Cu ₁₂	-30.491	C _{2v}	singlet
Cu ₁₃	-33.373	C _{2v}	doublet
In ₂	-1.815	C _{2v}	triplet
In ₃	-3.711	C _{2v}	quartet
In ₄	-5.951	D _{4h}	triplet
In ₅	-7.966	C _{2v}	doublet
In ₆	-10.607	C _s	doublet
In ₇	-13.158	C _s	doublet
In ₈	-15.596	C _s	singlet
In ₉	-17.364	C _s	doublet
In ₁₀	-19.838	C _s	singlet
In ₁₁	-22.212	C _s	doublet
In ₁₂	-24.674	C _s	singlet
In ₁₃	-27.228	C _s	doublet
CuIn	-2.9122	C _{∞v}	singlet

Cu ₂ In	-5.0152	C _{2v}	doublet
Cu ₃ In	-7.8788	C _{2v}	singlet
Cu ₄ In	-10.423	C _{3v}	doublet
Cu ₅ In	-13.450	C _{3v}	doublet
Cu ₆ In	-15.749	C _s	doublet
Cu ₇ In	-18.599	C _s	doublet
Cu ₈ In	-20.616	C _s	doublet
Cu ₉ In	-24.407	C _s	singlet
In ₂ Cu	-4.681	C _{2v}	doublet
In ₃ Cu	-6.748	C _{2v}	triplet
In ₄ Cu	-9.046	C _{3v}	doublet
In ₅ Cu	-11.012	C _{3v}	singlet
In ₆ Cu	-13.853	D _{4h}	singlet
In ₇ Cu	-16.182	C _s	singlet
In ₈ Cu	-18.421	C _s	singlet
In ₉ Cu	-20.628	C _s	singlet

Table S3: Average bond distances of Cu-Cu, In-In, and Cu-In (in Å).

Cluster	Average Bond Distance (Å)		
	Cu-Cu	In-In	Cu-In
Cu ₂	2.225	-	-
Cu ₃	2.277	-	-
Cu ₄	2.366	-	-
Cu ₅	2.353	-	-
Cu ₆	2.345	-	-
Cu ₇	2.420	-	-
Cu ₈	2.394	-	-
Cu ₉	2.458	-	-
Cu ₁₀	2.443	-	-
Cu ₁₁	2.471	-	-
Cu ₁₂	2.369	-	-
Cu ₁₃	2.404	-	-
In ₂	-	3.062	-
In ₃	-	3.661	-
In ₄	-	2.975	-
In ₅	-	2.950	-
In ₆	-	2.928	-
In ₇	-	3.048	-
In ₈	-	3.093	-
In ₉	-	2.935	-
In ₁₀	-	3.035	-
In ₁₁	-	3.012	-
In ₁₂	-	3.271	-
In ₁₃	-	2.974	-
CuIn	-	-	2.534
Cu ₂ In	2.309	-	2.645
Cu ₃ In	2.306	-	2.640
Cu ₄ In	2.374	-	2.715
Cu ₅ In	2.385	-	2.602

Cu ₆ In	2.406	-	2.692
Cu ₇ In	2.406	-	2.663
Cu ₈ In	2.442	-	2.667
Cu ₉ In	2.413	-	2.634
In ₂ Cu	-	3.210	2.649
In ₃ Cu	-	3.057	2.598
In ₄ Cu	-	3.079	2.754
In ₅ Cu	-	2.990	2.696
In ₆ Cu	-	2.924	2.716
In ₇ Cu	-	3.012	2.702
In ₈ Cu	-	3.150	2.711
In ₉ Cu	-	3.168	2.628

3. Energies of Cu and In and GM of bimetallic systems:

Table S4: Energies, binding energies, excess energies and second difference in energy for all compositions of CuIn systems, N=2-8.

Composition	E _b /e V	Δ/e V	Δ ₂ E /e V
N=2			
Cu ₂	1.37	0.00	---
Cu ₁ In ₁	1.45	-0.94	---
In ₂	1.31	0.00	---
N=3			
Cu ₃	2.24	0.00	-1.24
In ₁ Cu ₂	1.97	-0.82	-0.76
In ₂ Cu ₁	1.40	-0.73	-0.29
In ₃	1.84	0.00	-0.34
N=4			
Cu ₄	2.85	0.00	0.41
In ₁ Cu ₃	1.82	-0.87	0.31
In ₂ Cu ₂	1.93	-1.18	---
In ₃ Cu ₁	1.77	-0.44	-0.23
In ₄	2.30	0.00	0.22
N=5			
Cu ₅	3.24	0.00	-0.60
In ₁ Cu ₄	1.92	-0.94	-0.48
In ₂ Cu ₃	1.97	-3.43	---
In ₃ Cu ₂	2.55	-3.94	---
In ₄ Cu ₁	1.92	-0.70	0.33
In ₅	2.61	0.00	-0.62
N=6			
Cu ₆	3.68	0.00	0.07
In ₁ Cu ₅	2.06	-0.87	0.72
In ₂ Cu ₄	2.13	-1.22	---
In ₃ Cu ₃	2.08	-0.88	---
In ₄ Cu ₂	2.03	-0.49	---
In ₅ Cu ₁	1.96	-0.01	-0.87
In ₆	2.99	0.00	0.08

N=7			
Cu ₇	4.06	0.00	-0.05
In ₁ Cu ₆	2.06	-0.14	0.83
In ₂ Cu ₅	2.11	-0.48	---
In ₃ Cu ₄	2.15	-0.68	---
In ₄ Cu ₃	2.11	-0.35	---
In ₅ Cu ₂	2.07	-1.95	---
In ₆ Cu ₁	2.11	-0.28	0.51
In ₇	3.30	0.00	0.11
N=8			
Cu ₈	4.42	0.00	0.73
In ₁ Cu ₇	2.12	0.05	0.83
In ₂ Cu ₆	2.19	-0.48	---
In ₃ Cu ₅	2.20	-0.49	---
In ₄ Cu ₄	2.20	-0.48	---
In ₅ Cu ₃	2.18	0.05	---
In ₆ Cu ₂	2.24	-0.75	---
In ₇ Cu ₁	2.16	-0.14	-0.11
In ₈	3.37	0.00	0.66

4. Band gaps, PDOS, TDOS calculated at the HSE06 level.

Table S5: Band gaps of mono- and bimetallic clusters.

Clusters	Cu ₂	Cu ₃	Cu ₄	Cu ₅	Cu ₆	Cu ₇	Cu ₈
Band gap (eV)	3.12	0.881	1.724	1.124	3.078	0.998	2.393
Clusters	In ₂	In ₃	In ₄	In ₅	In ₆	In ₇	In ₈
Band gap (eV)	0.734	1.168	0.791	0.881	0.995	0.963	1.274
Clusters	In ₄ Cu		Cu ₃ In		Cu ₅ In		Cu ₇ In
Band gap (eV)	0.674		2.868		2.521		2.103

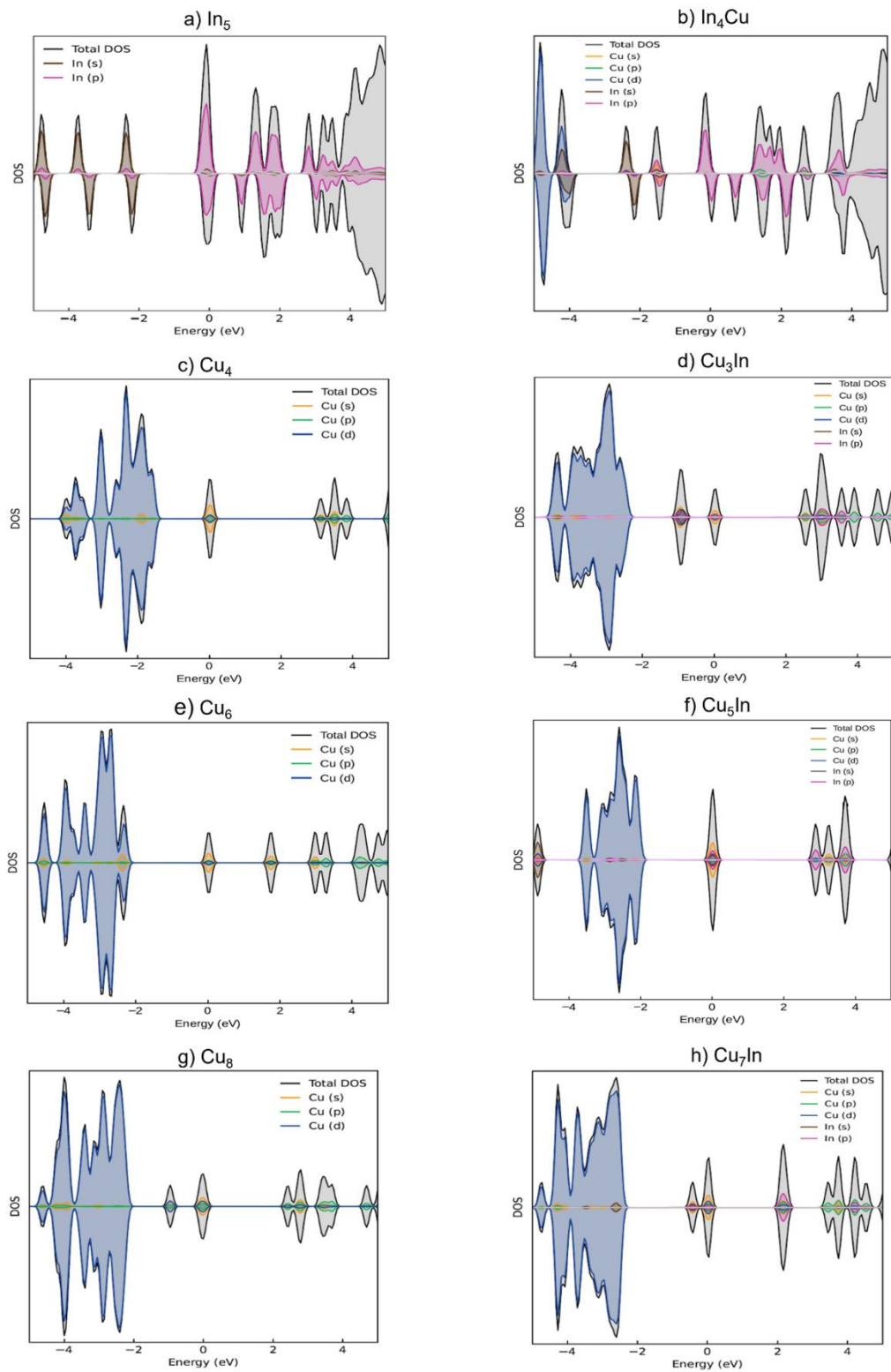


Figure S1: Partial and total density of state.

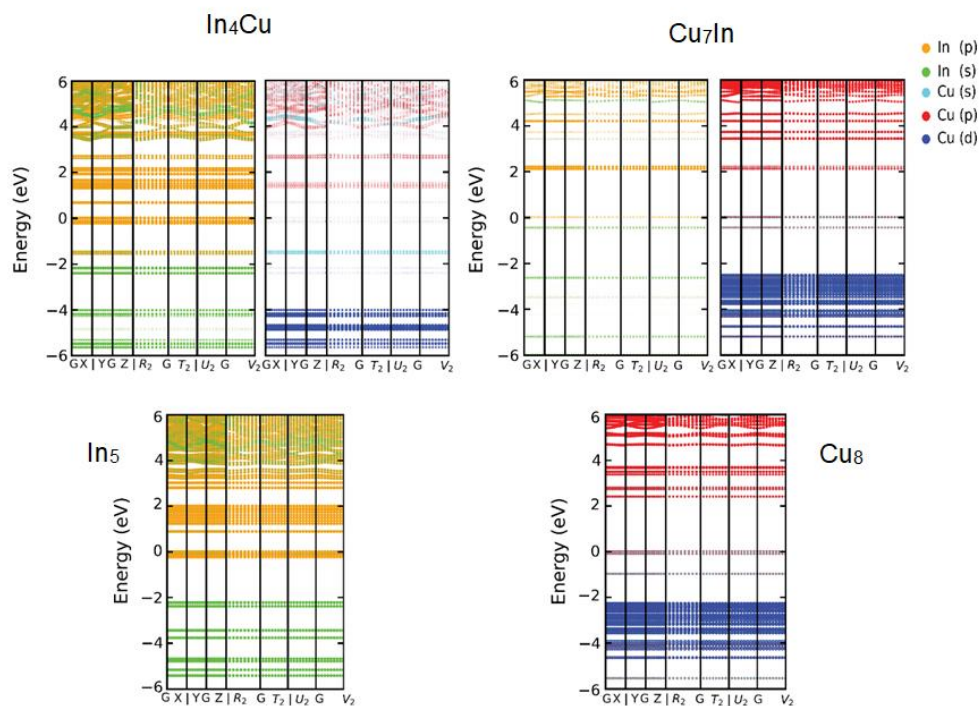


Figure S2: Projected band structures of bimetallic a) In_4Cu b) Cu_7In and monometallic c) In_5 and d) Cu_8 , at HSE06 level.

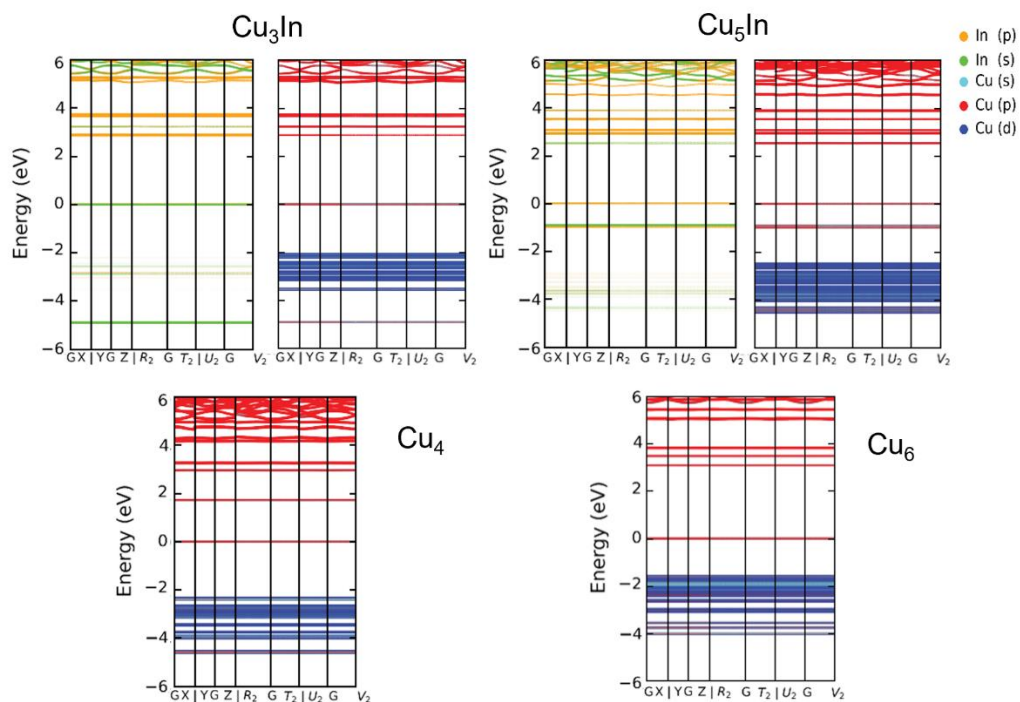


Figure S3: Projected band structures of bimetallic a) In_3Cu b) Cu_3In and monometallic c) Cu_4 and d) Cu_6 , at HSE06 level.

5. Calculated quantum molecular descriptors for CuIn systems

Table S6: Calculated quantum molecular descriptors for atoms, dimers and clusters (N = 2-5).

Cluster	Δ_{HL}	I/eV	A/eV	χ /eV	μ /eV	η /eV	S/eV	ω /eV
N=2								
In ₂	1.92	2.53	6.65	4.79	-4.79	-0.12	-8.33	-95.60
Cu ₁ In ₁	1.70	3.47	4.18	3.33	-3.33	-0.70	-1.42	-7.92
Cu ₂	1.56	3.02	4.56	3.78	-3.78	-1.56	-0.64	-4.57
N=3								
In ₃	0.90	2.75	3.66	1.93	-1.93	-0.90	-1.11	-2.06
Cu ₂ In ₁	1.50	4.44	4.94	4.19	-4.19	-0.50	-2.00	-17.55
Cu ₃	1.48	3.22	4.70	3.96	-3.96	-1.48	-0.67	-5.29
N=4								
In ₄	0.26	3.21	3.47	1.82	-1.82	-0.26	-3.84	-6.37
Cu ₃ In ₁	1.30	3.73	4.03	3.38	-3.38	-0.30	-3.33	-19.04
Cu ₄	0.94	3.42	4.37	3.89	-3.89	-0.94	-1.06	-8.04
N=5								
In ₅	0.42	3.18	3.61	1.89	-1.89	-0.42	-2.38	-4.25
Cu ₄ In ₁	1.69	3.45	4.15	3.30	-3.30	-0.69	-1.44	-7.89
Cu ₅	0.88	3.77	4.65	4.21	-4.21	-0.88	-1.13	-10.07

6. Topological parameters

Table S7: Topological analysis of selected CuIn, Cu, In Clusters, calculated using the B3LYP/WTBS Method.

Bond	$\rho_b(\text{e}\text{\AA}^{-3})$	$\nabla^2\rho_b(\text{e}\text{\AA}^{-5})$	$G_b(\text{he}^{-1})$	$H_b(\text{he}^{-1})$	$V(\text{he}^{-1})$	V/G
Cu₃In						
Cu1-In	0.034	0.067	0.022	-0.006	-0.028	1.273
Cu2-In	0.032	0.06	0.02	-0.005	-0.025	1.250
Cu3-In	0.035	0.07	0.023	-0.006	-0.029	1.261
Cu1-Cu2	0.041	0.154	0.047	-0.008	-0.055	1.170
Cu2-Cu3	0.04	0.147	0.044	-0.008	-0.052	1.182
Cu₅In						
Cu1-In	0.038	0.075	0.026	-0.007	-0.033	1.269
Cu3-In	0.038	0.073	0.025	-0.007	-0.032	1.280
Cu4-In	0.037	0.073	0.025	-0.007	-0.032	1.280
Cu5-In	0.038	0.074	0.025	-0.007	-0.032	1.280

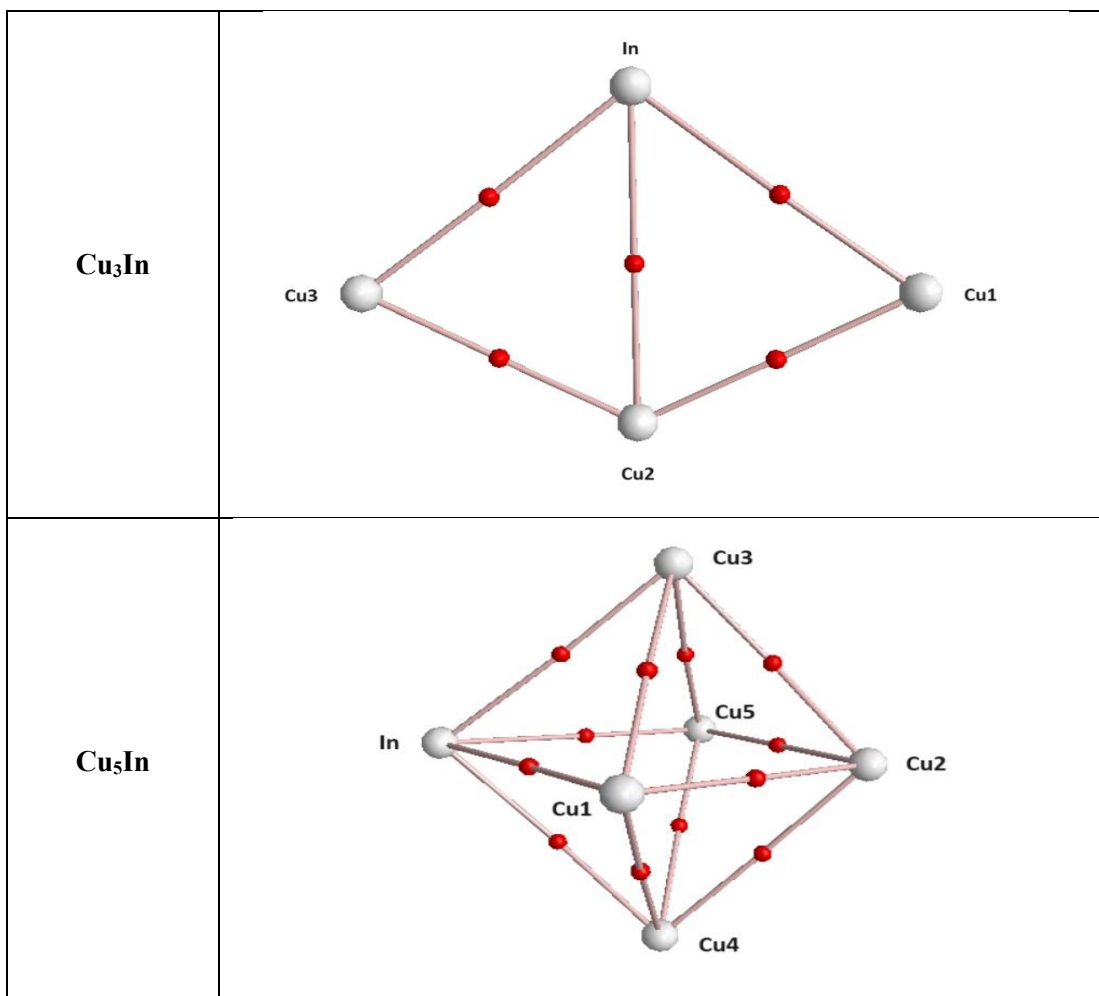
Cu1-Cu2	0.036	0.13	0.039	-0.006	-0.045	1.154
Cu1-Cu3	0.03	0.099	0.029	-0.005	-0.034	1.172
Cu1-Cu4	0.03	0.097	0.029	-0.004	-0.033	1.138
Cu2-Cu3	0.036	0.13	0.039	-0.007	-0.046	1.179
Cu2-Cu4	0.035	0.123	0.037	-0.006	-0.043	1.162
Cu2-Cu5	0.037	0.134	0.04	-0.007	-0.047	1.175
Cu3-Cu5	0.029	0.091	0.027	-0.004	-0.031	1.148
Cu4-Cu5	0.03	0.099	0.029	-0.005	-0.034	1.172
Cu₇In						
Cu1-In	0.031	0.065	0.021	-0.005	-0.026	1.238
Cu2-In	0.032	0.067	0.022	-0.005	-0.027	1.227
Cu3-In	0.031	0.064	0.021	-0.005	-0.025	1.190
Cu1-Cu2	0.03	0.097	0.029	-0.005	-0.033	1.138
Cu1-Cu3	0.03	0.097	0.029	-0.004	-0.033	1.138
Cu1-Cu4	0.036	0.118	0.036	-0.007	-0.043	1.194
Cu1-Cu6	0.036	0.119	0.037	-0.007	-0.043	1.162
Cu2-Cu3	0.029	0.096	0.028	-0.004	-0.033	1.179
Cu2-Cu4	0.036	0.119	0.036	-0.007	-0.043	1.194
Cu2-Cu5	0.036	0.119	0.036	-0.007	-0.043	1.194
Cu3-Cu5	0.036	0.12	0.037	-0.007	-0.043	1.162
Cu3-Cu6	0.036	0.118	0.036	-0.007	-0.043	1.194
Cu4-Cu5	0.032	0.106	0.032	-0.005	-0.037	1.156
Cu4-Cu6	0.031	0.105	0.031	-0.005	-0.036	1.161
Cu4-Cu7	0.035	0.119	0.036	-0.006	-0.042	1.167
Cu5-Cu6	0.031	0.102	0.03	-0.005	-0.035	1.167
Cu5-Cu7	0.035	0.117	0.035	-0.006	-0.041	1.171
Cu6-Cu7	0.036	0.121	0.037	-0.006	-0.043	1.162
Cu₂						
Cu1-Cu2	0.047	0.159	0.049	-0.01	-0.059	1.204
Cu₃						
Cu1-Cu2	0.043	0.155	0.047	-0.008	-0.056	1.180
Cu1-Cu3	0.043	0.154	0.047	-0.008	-0.056	1.180
Cu2-Cu3	0.028	0.085	0.025	-0.004	-0.029	1.151
Cu₄						
Cu1-Cu2	0.044	0.182	0.054	-0.009	-0.063	1.167
Cu1-Cu3	0.037	0.123	0.038	-0.007	-0.044	1.158
Cu1-Cu4	0.037	0.12	0.037	-0.007	-0.043	1.162
Cu2-Cu3	0.036	0.119	0.036	-0.006	-0.043	1.194
Cu2-Cu4	0.037	0.122	0.037	-0.007	-0.044	1.189
Cu₅						
Cu1-Cu2	0.036	0.127	0.038	-0.006	-0.045	1.169
Cu2-Cu3	0.037	0.125	0.038	-0.007	-0.045	1.179
Cu2-Cu5	0.037	0.125	0.038	-0.007	-0.045	1.176

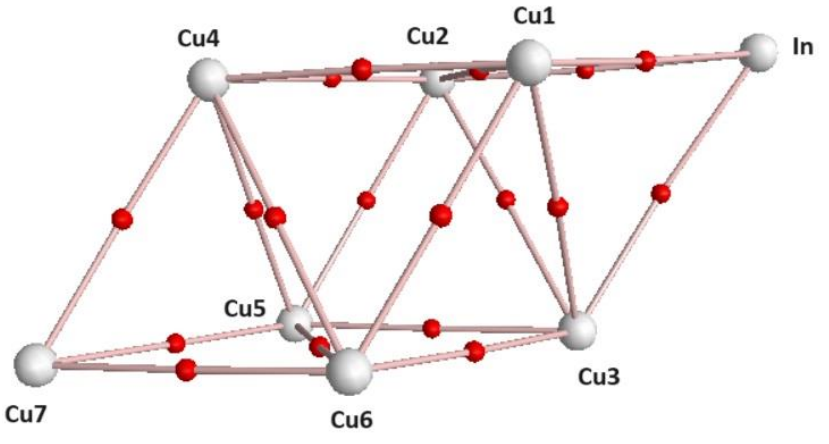
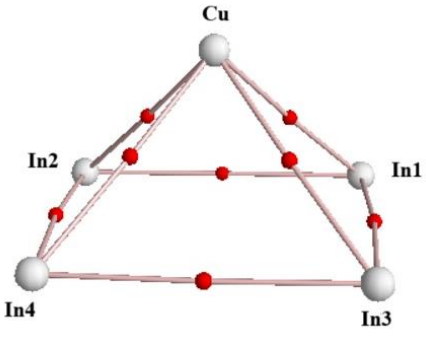
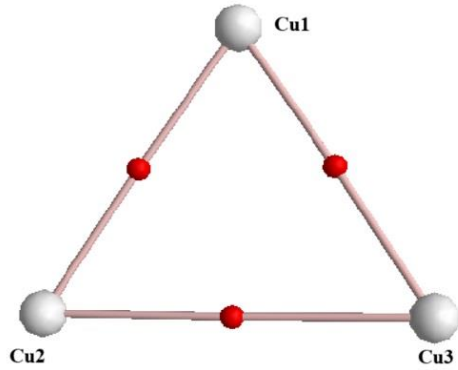
Cu1-Cu5	0.040	0.126	0.039	-0.008	-0.047	1.195
Cu1-Cu3	0.036	0.126	0.038	-0.006	-0.044	1.169
Cu1-Cu4	0.041	0.130	0.040	-0.008	-0.048	1.194
Cu3-Cu4	0.037	0.125	0.038	-0.007	-0.045	1.176
Cu₆						
Cu1-Cu2	0.036	0.122	0.037	-0.006	-0.043	1.162
Cu1-Cu3	0.035	0.117	0.035	-0.006	-0.042	1.200
Cu1-Cu4	0.04	0.126	0.039	-0.007	-0.047	1.205
Cu1-Cu5	0.04	0.128	0.039	-0.008	-0.047	1.205
Cu2-Cu3	0.036	0.122	0.037	-0.006	-0.043	1.162
Cu2-Cu4	0.039	0.123	0.038	-0.007	-0.045	1.184
Cu2-Cu6	0.039	0.125	0.039	-0.007	-0.046	1.179
Cu3-Cu5	0.04	0.127	0.039	-0.007	-0.047	1.205
Cu3-Cu6	0.04	0.126	0.039	-0.007	-0.047	1.205
Cu₇						
Cu1-Cu3	0.027	0.090	0.026	-0.004	-0.030	1.143
Cu1-Cu4	0.035	0.120	0.036	-0.006	-0.042	1.172
Cu3-Cu4	0.034	0.113	0.034	-0.006	-0.040	1.171
Cu4-Cu6	0.033	0.114	0.034	-0.006	-0.040	1.162
Cu1-Cu7	0.034	0.115	0.035	-0.006	-0.041	1.171
Cu2-Cu3	0.034	0.112	0.034	-0.006	-0.040	1.172
Cu5-Cu6	0.034	0.116	0.034	-0.006	-0.040	1.162
Cu3-Cu6	0.034	0.115	0.035	-0.006	-0.041	1.172
Cu2-Cu5	0.033	0.114	0.034	-0.006	-0.040	1.162
Cu3-Cu7	0.035	0.119	0.036	-0.006	-0.042	1.172
Cu2-Cu7	0.033	0.112	0.033	-0.005	-0.039	1.162
Cu3-Cu5	0.034	0.113	0.034	-0.006	-0.040	1.171
Cu1-Cu6	0.034	0.111	0.034	-0.006	-0.039	1.171
Cu₈						
Cu1-Cu3	0.027	0.090	0.026	-0.004	-0.030	1.143
Cu1-Cu4	0.035	0.120	0.036	-0.006	-0.042	1.172
Cu3-Cu4	0.034	0.113	0.034	-0.006	-0.040	1.171
Cu4-Cu6	0.033	0.114	0.034	-0.006	-0.040	1.162
Cu1-Cu7	0.034	0.115	0.035	-0.006	-0.041	1.171
Cu2-Cu3	0.034	0.112	0.034	-0.006	-0.040	1.172
Cu5-Cu6	0.034	0.116	0.034	-0.006	-0.040	1.162
Cu3-Cu6	0.034	0.115	0.035	-0.006	-0.041	1.172
Cu2-Cu5	0.033	0.114	0.034	-0.006	-0.040	1.162
Cu3-Cu7	0.035	0.119	0.036	-0.006	-0.042	1.172
Cu2-Cu7	0.033	0.112	0.033	-0.005	-0.039	1.162
Cu3-Cu5	0.034	0.113	0.034	-0.006	-0.040	1.171
Cu1-Cu6	0.034	0.111	0.034	-0.006	-0.039	1.171
Cu₉						

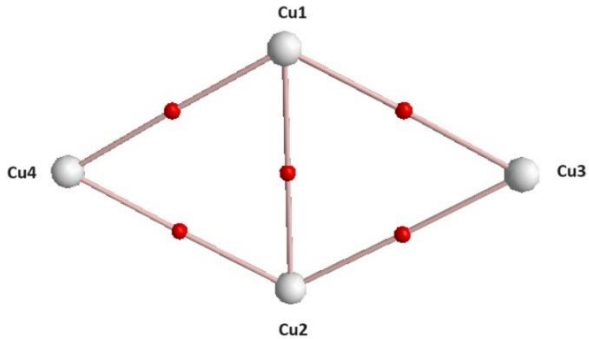
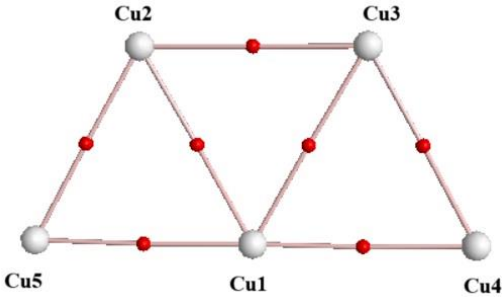
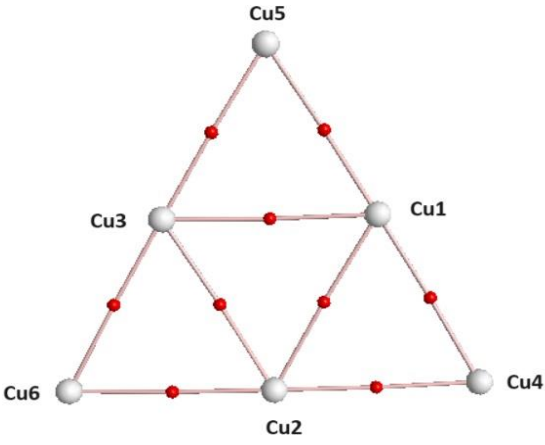
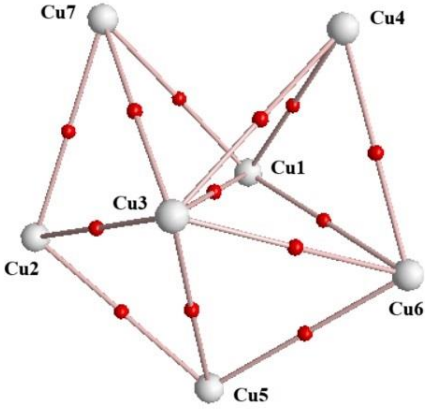
Cu1-Cu3	0.034	0.115	0.035	-0.006	-0.04	1.143
Cu1-Cu4	0.033	0.113	0.034	-0.006	-0.04	1.176
Cu1-Cu5	0.038	0.13	0.039	-0.007	-0.046	1.179
Cu1-Cu7	0.035	0.12	0.036	-0.006	-0.042	1.167
Cu1-Cu8	0.035	0.121	0.036	-0.006	-0.043	1.194
Cu2-Cu3	0.034	0.115	0.035	-0.006	-0.04	1.143
Cu2-Cu4	0.034	0.114	0.034	-0.006	-0.04	1.176
Cu2-Cu6	0.038	0.131	0.04	-0.007	-0.047	1.175
Cu2-Cu7	0.035	0.118	0.036	-0.006	-0.042	1.167
Cu2-Cu8	0.035	0.118	0.036	-0.006	-0.042	1.167
Cu3-Cu6	0.033	0.111	0.033	-0.006	-0.039	1.182
Cu3-Cu7	0.036	0.121	0.037	-0.006	-0.043	1.162
Cu4-Cu5	0.034	0.112	0.034	-0.006	-0.039	1.147
Cu4-Cu6	0.034	0.113	0.034	-0.006	-0.04	1.176
Cu4-Cu8	0.036	0.12	0.036	-0.006	-0.043	1.194
Cu5-Cu6	0.03	0.097	0.029	-0.004	-0.033	1.138
Cu7-Cu8	0.027	0.083	0.025	-0.004	-0.028	1.120
In₃						
In1-In2	0.023	0.038	0.012	-0.002	-0.014	1.192
In1-In3	0.023	0.038	0.012	-0.002	-0.014	1.188
In₄						
In1-In3	0.026	0.026	0.01	-0.004	-0.013	1.300
In1-In4	0.026	0.027	0.01	-0.004	-0.014	1.400
In2-In3	0.026	0.027	0.01	-0.003	-0.014	1.400
In2-In4	0.026	0.026	0.01	-0.004	-0.014	1.400
In₆						
In2-In4	0.027	0.033	0.012	-0.004	-0.016	1.310
In3-In6	0.027	0.034	0.012	-0.004	-0.016	1.299
In1-In5	0.027	0.037	0.013	-0.003	-0.016	1.266
In1-In6	0.024	0.024	0.009	-0.003	-0.012	1.350
In4-In6	0.022	0.026	0.009	-0.002	-0.011	1.271
In₇						
In2-In3	0.024	0.026	0.009	-0.003	-0.012	1.302
In4-In5	0.025	0.031	0.011	-0.003	-0.014	1.293
In2-In7	0.024	0.027	0.010	-0.003	-0.012	1.300
In4-In4	0.023	0.024	0.009	-0.003	-0.012	1.327
In2-In6	0.018	0.014	0.005	-0.002	-0.007	1.344
In1-In6	0.026	0.033	0.011	-0.003	-0.015	1.285
In3-In5	0.028	0.035	0.013	-0.004	-0.016	1.304
In1-In2	0.018	0.014	0.005	-0.002	-0.007	1.345
In₈						
In1-In2	0.021	0.021	0.008	-0.002	-0.01	1.250

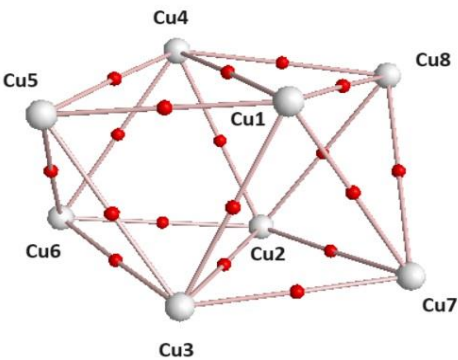
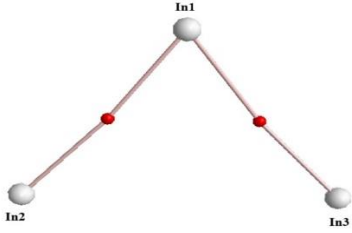
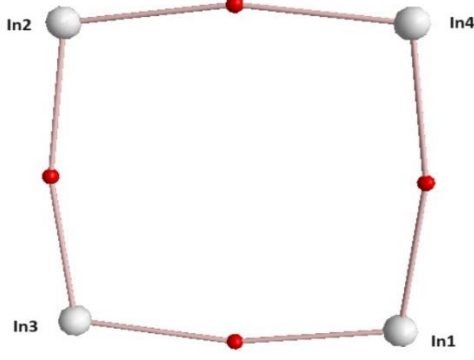
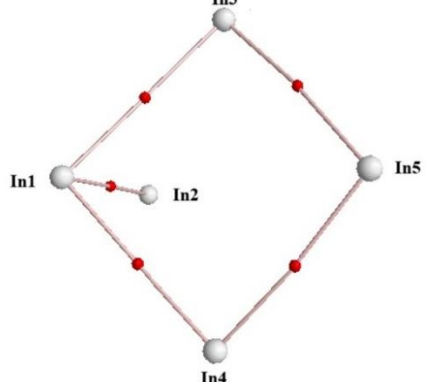
In1-In3	0.03	0.045	0.015	-0.004	-0.019	1.267
In1-In5	0.023	0.022	0.008	-0.003	-0.011	1.375
In1-In6	0.023	0.022	0.008	-0.003	-0.011	1.375
In2-In4	0.03	0.045	0.015	-0.004	-0.019	1.267
In2-In5	0.023	0.023	0.009	-0.003	-0.011	1.222
In2-In6	0.023	0.022	0.008	-0.003	-0.011	1.375
In3-In4	0.021	0.02	0.008	-0.002	-0.01	1.250
In3-In7	0.023	0.022	0.008	-0.003	-0.011	1.375
In3-In8	0.023	0.022	0.008	-0.003	-0.011	1.375
In4-In7	0.023	0.023	0.009	-0.003	-0.012	1.333
In4-In8	0.023	0.022	0.008	-0.003	-0.011	1.375
In5-In7	0.028	0.041	0.014	-0.003	-0.017	1.214
In6-In8	0.028	0.041	0.014	-0.003	-0.017	1.214

7. Molecular graphs for Cu, In, and binary CuIn systems



Cu₇In	
In₄Cu	
Cu₂	
Cu₃	

Cu₄	
Cu₅	
Cu₆	
Cu₇	

Cu₈	
In₃	
In₄	
In₅	

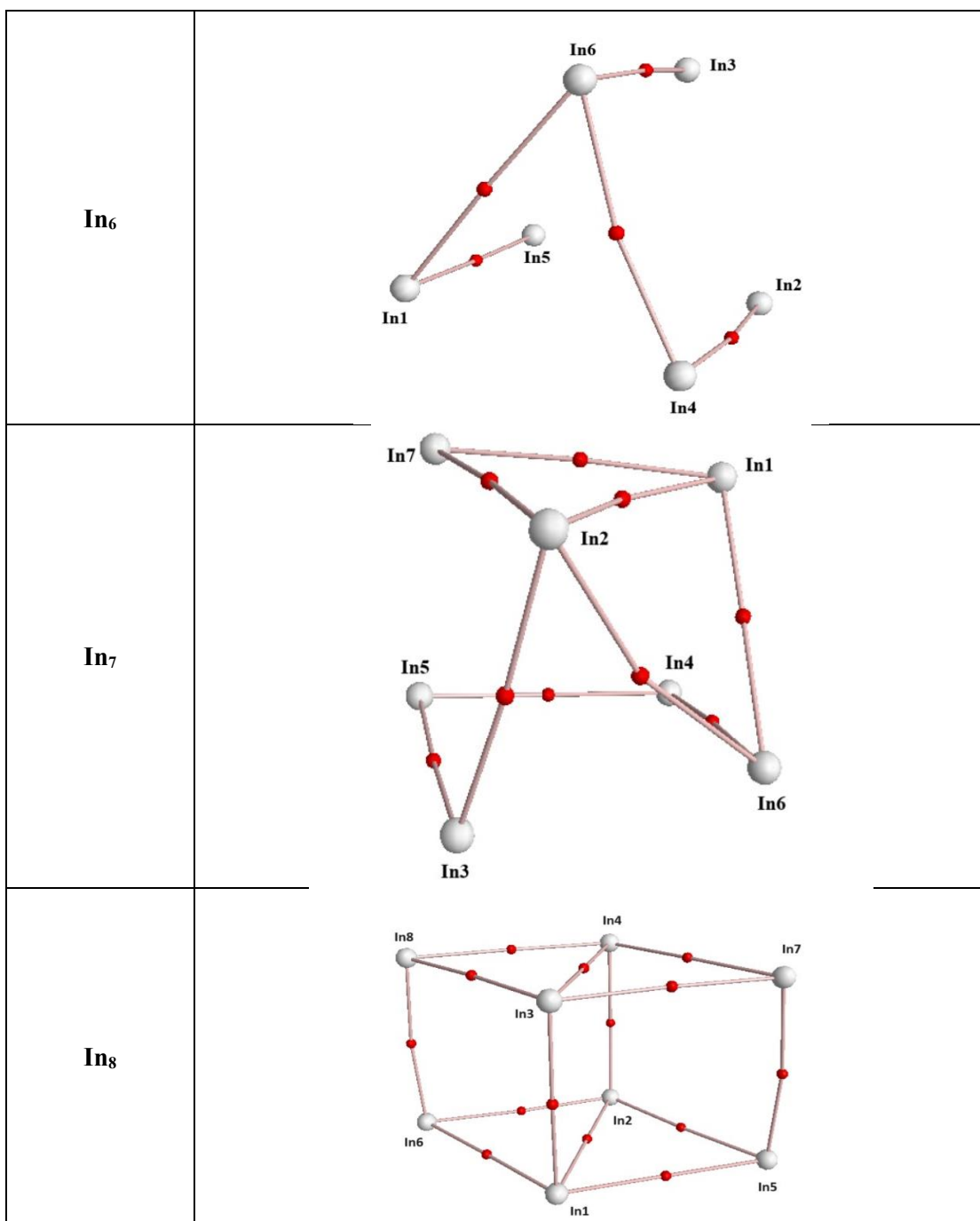
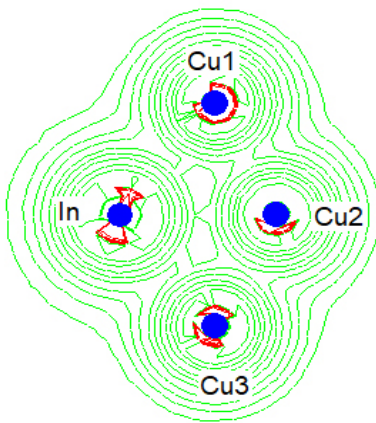
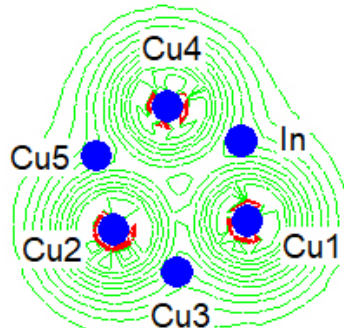
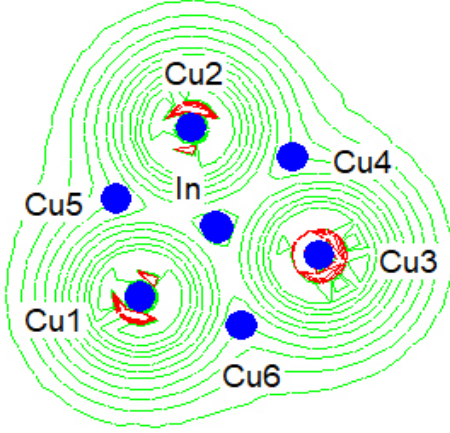
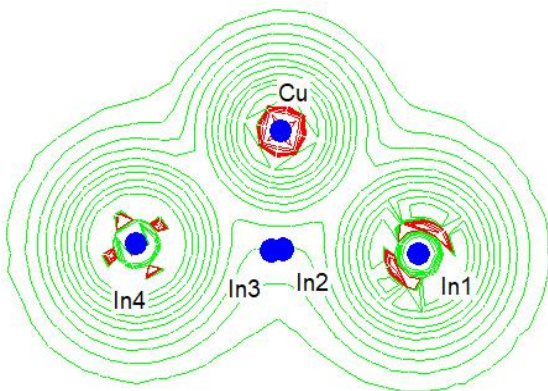
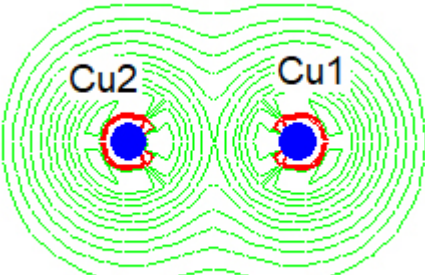
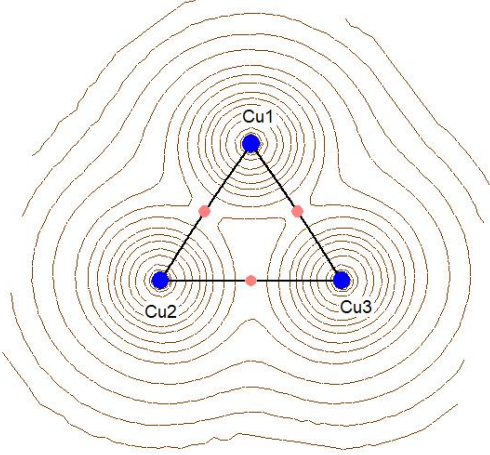
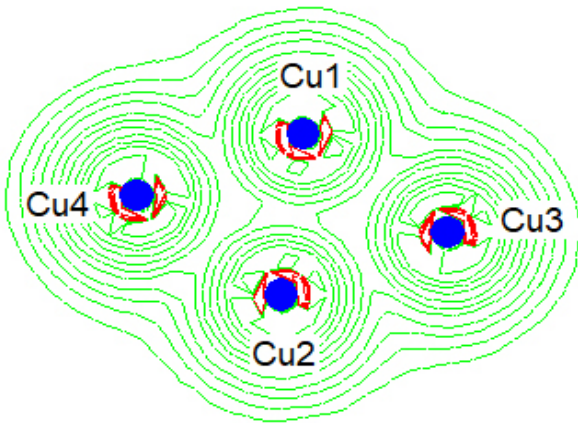
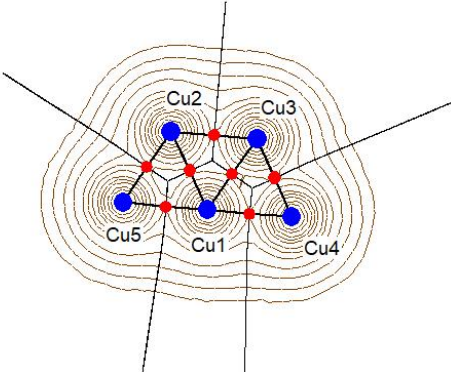
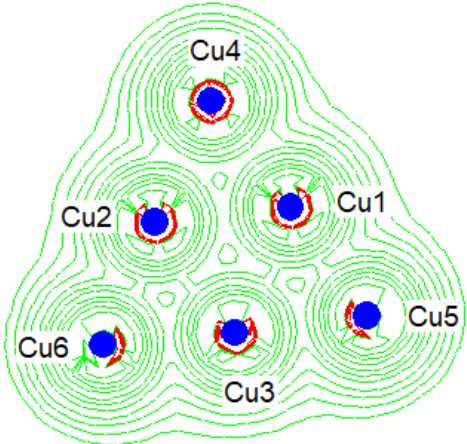
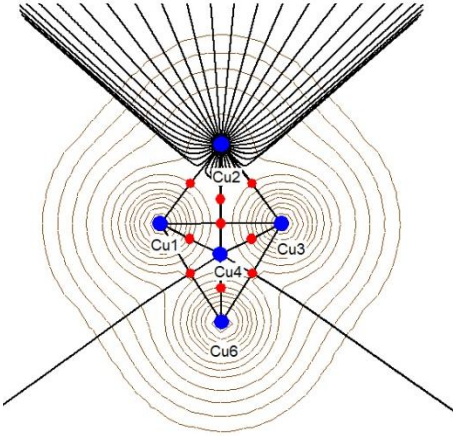
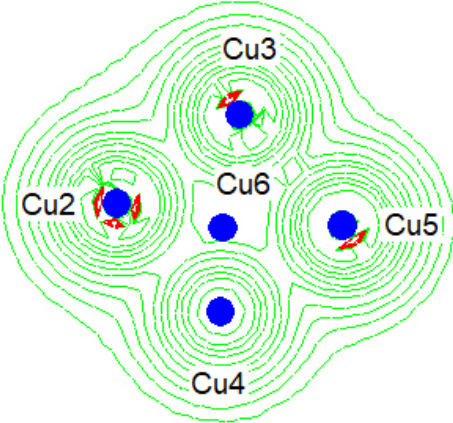
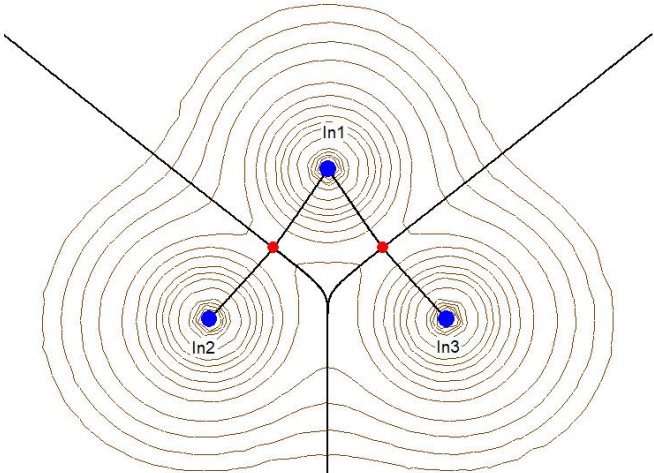


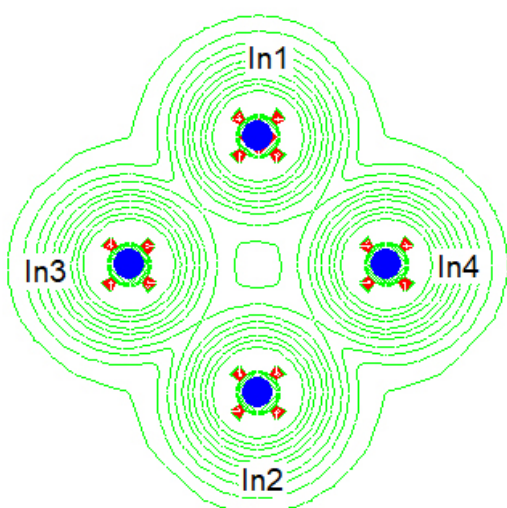
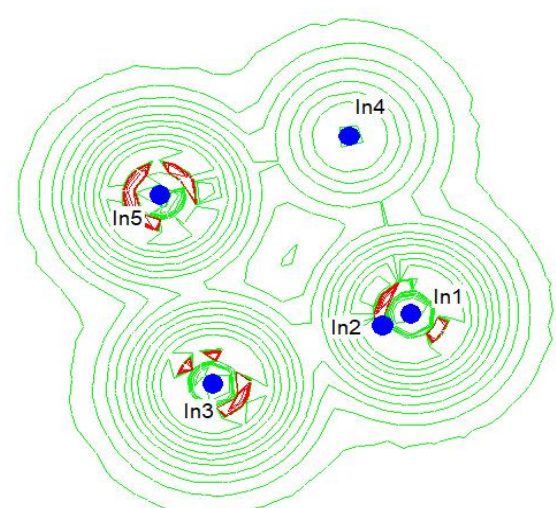
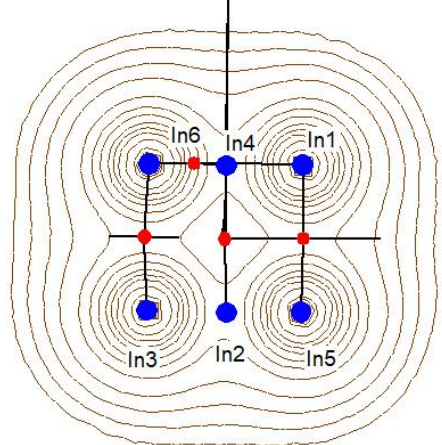
Figure S4: Molecular graph of CuIn, Cu and In Clusters. Solid lines indicate the presence of bond paths, whereas small red dots illustrate the bond critical points.

Cu₃In	 The diagram shows the magnetic field distribution for Cu₃In. It features three blue spheres representing magnetic centers, labeled Cu1, Cu2, and Cu3. Each sphere has a red arrow indicating a magnetic moment. Concentric green contour lines represent the magnetic field lines, which are centered on each of the three spheres. An 'In' label is also present near the Cu1 and Cu2 spheres.
Cu₅In	 The diagram shows the magnetic field distribution for Cu₅In. It features five blue spheres representing magnetic centers, labeled Cu1, Cu2, Cu3, Cu4, and Cu5. Each sphere has a red arrow indicating a magnetic moment. Concentric green contour lines represent the magnetic field lines, which are centered on each of the five spheres. An 'In' label is also present near the Cu1 and Cu4 spheres.
Cu₇In	 The diagram shows the magnetic field distribution for Cu₇In. It features seven blue spheres representing magnetic centers, labeled Cu1, Cu2, Cu3, Cu4, Cu5, Cu6, and Cu7. Each sphere has a red arrow indicating a magnetic moment. Concentric green contour lines represent the magnetic field lines, which are centered on each of the seven spheres. An 'In' label is also present near the Cu2 and Cu5 spheres.

In₄Cu	 The diagram shows the electrostatic potential map of an In₄Cu molecule. It features a central copper atom (Cu) at the top, surrounded by four indium atoms (In1, In2, In3, In4) in a triangular arrangement. The map is represented by green contour lines, with red and blue regions indicating areas of high and low electrostatic potential, respectively. Each atom is marked with a blue dot and a red circle.
Cu₂	 The diagram shows the electrostatic potential map of a Cu₂ molecule. It consists of two copper atoms (Cu1 and Cu2) connected by a bond. The map is represented by green contour lines, with red and blue regions indicating areas of high and low electrostatic potential, respectively. Each atom is marked with a blue dot and a red circle.
Cu₃	 The diagram shows the electrostatic potential map of a Cu₃ molecule. It consists of three copper atoms (Cu1, Cu2, Cu3) arranged in a triangle. The map is represented by brown contour lines, with red and blue regions indicating areas of high and low electrostatic potential, respectively. Each atom is marked with a blue dot and a red circle.

Cu₄	 A contour plot showing four distinct peaks labeled Cu1, Cu2, Cu3, and Cu4. Each peak is represented by a blue dot with a red circular arrow indicating a clockwise direction. The peaks are surrounded by concentric green contour lines. The overall shape is roughly circular with four lobes.
Cu₅	 A contour plot showing five peaks labeled Cu1, Cu2, Cu3, Cu4, and Cu5. The peaks are represented by blue dots with red circular arrows. The peaks are arranged in a pentagonal pattern. The plot includes several black lines radiating from the center and connecting the peaks. The contour lines are brown.
Cu₆	 A contour plot showing six peaks labeled Cu1, Cu2, Cu3, Cu4, Cu5, and Cu6. Each peak is represented by a blue dot with a red circular arrow. The peaks are arranged in a hexagonal pattern. The plot is surrounded by concentric green contour lines. The overall shape is roughly triangular with six lobes.

Cu₇	 A contour plot for Cu₇ showing a central peak at Cu₂ and a cluster of peaks at Cu₁, Cu₃, Cu₄, and Cu₆. The plot is divided into four quadrants by two intersecting lines. The peaks are represented by concentric contour lines, with Cu₂ being the most prominent.
Cu₈	 A contour plot for Cu₈ showing four distinct peaks labeled Cu₂, Cu₃, Cu₄, and Cu₅, with Cu₆ in the center. The peaks are represented by concentric contour lines, with Cu₂, Cu₃, Cu₄, and Cu₅ being the most prominent.
In₃	 A contour plot for In₃ showing three distinct peaks labeled In₁, In₂, and In₃. The peaks are represented by concentric contour lines, with In₁ being the most prominent.

In₄	 The diagram shows four lobes arranged in a cross pattern. Each lobe contains a blue center with four red arrows pointing outwards. The lobes are labeled In1 (top), In2 (bottom), In3 (left), and In4 (right). Each lobe is surrounded by concentric green rings.
In₅	 The diagram shows four lobes arranged in a cross pattern. Each lobe contains a blue center with four red arrows pointing outwards. The lobes are labeled In1 (right), In2 (bottom-right), In3 (bottom-left), and In5 (top-left). Each lobe is surrounded by concentric green rings.
In₆	 The diagram shows six lobes arranged in a hexagonal pattern. Each lobe contains a blue center with four red arrows pointing outwards. The lobes are labeled In1 (top-right), In2 (bottom), In3 (bottom-left), In4 (top), In5 (bottom-right), and In6 (top-left). Each lobe is surrounded by concentric brown rings.

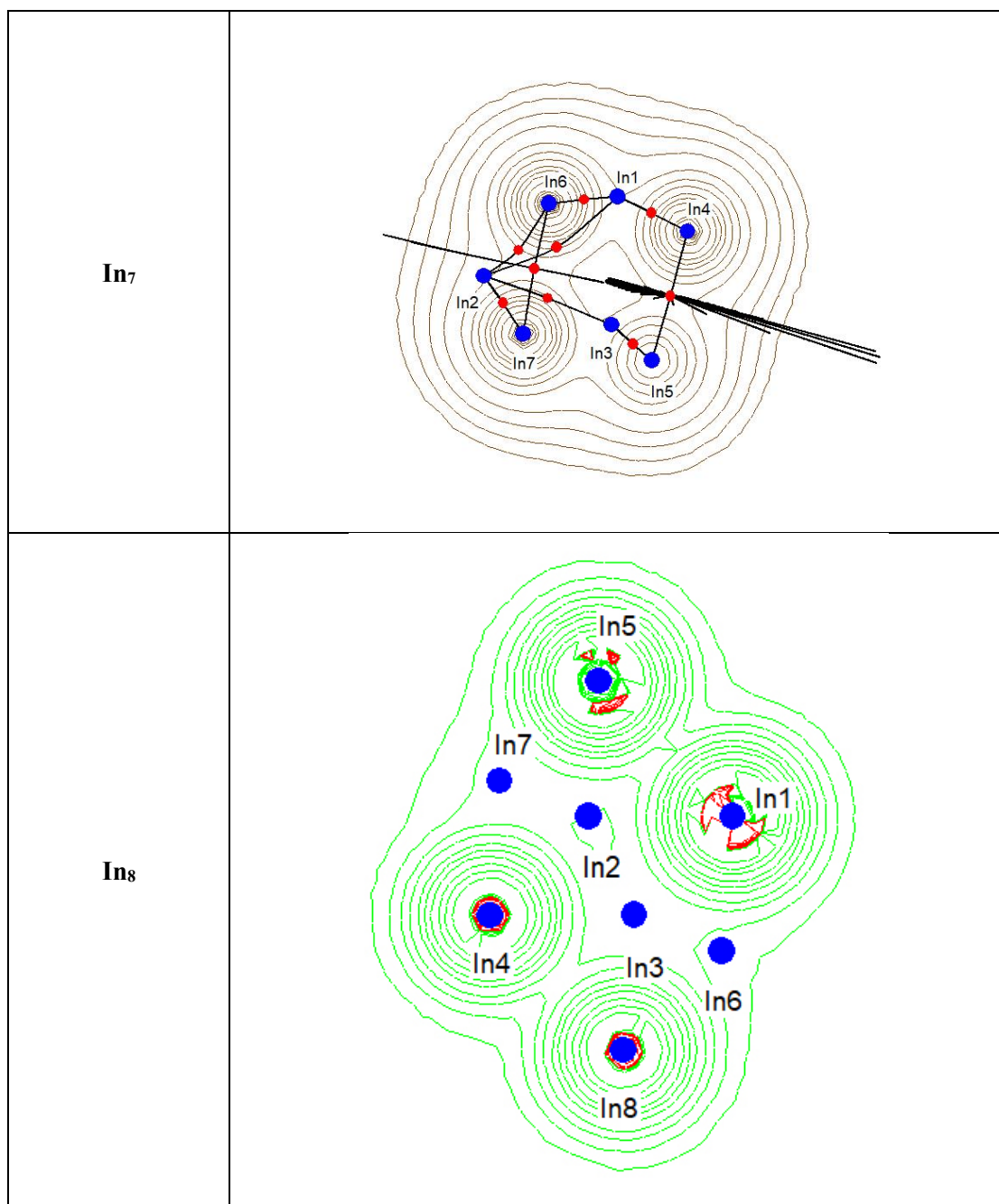


Figure S5: Laplacian maps of the electron density for clusters.

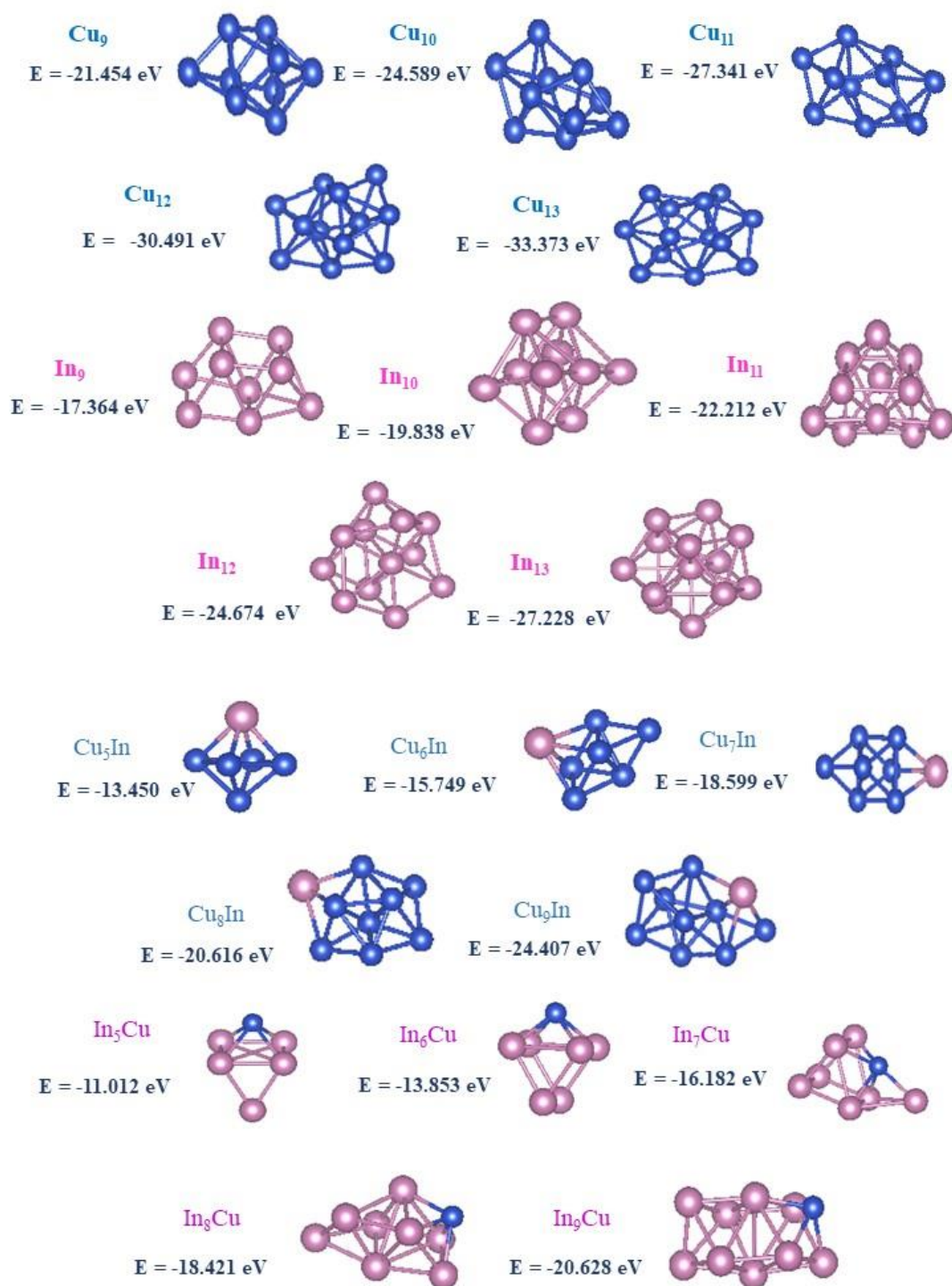


Figure S6: 5 lowest energy configurations of each system and the corresponding energies (in eV).

8. the convex hull diagram for the Cu-In clusters

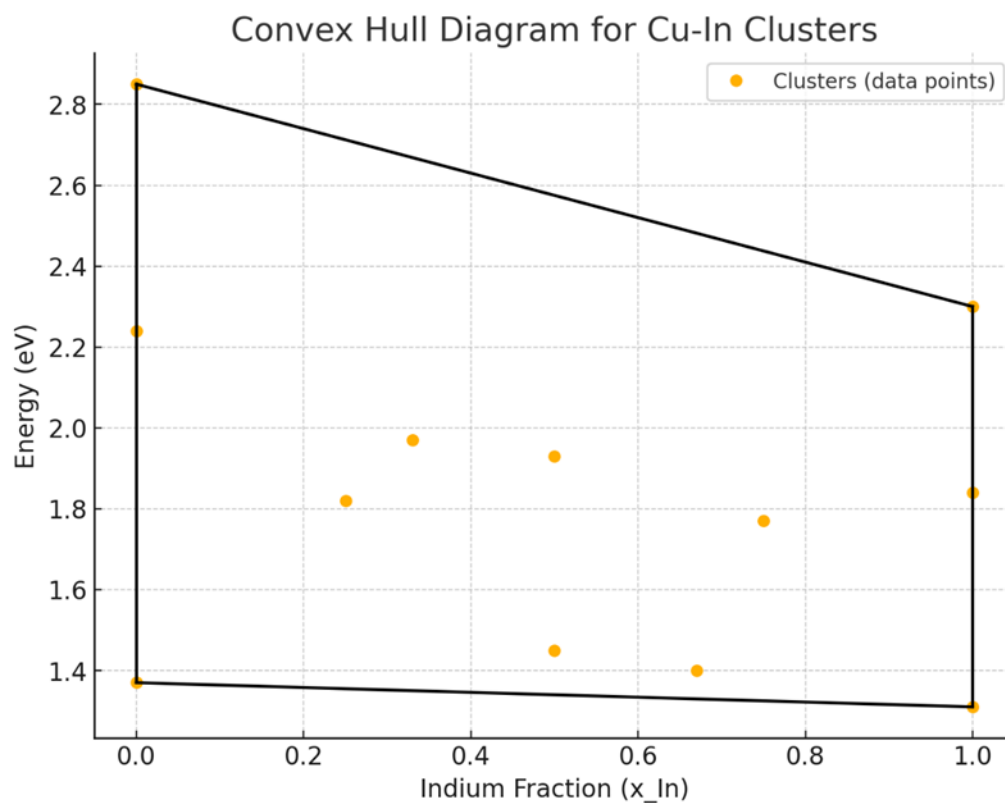


Figure S7: the convex hull diagram for the Cu-In clusters. The x-axis represents the indium fraction (x_{In}), and the y-axis represents the energy (eV). The points connected by solid lines form the convex hull, indicating the thermodynamically stable configurations. Clusters lying on the convex hull are stable, while those above are less stable or metastable.

9. XYZ coordinates of minimum-energy structures

9.1 monometallic Cu

Cu₂

Cu 5.195465 5.298632 5.483022

Cu 6.718685 6.615519 6.431128

Cu₃

Cu 5.999661 5.619271 7.054590

Cu 7.681839 7.105236 7.439252

Cu 6.210180 7.167040 5.397573

Cu₄

Cu 6.463658 7.592496 6.348217

Cu 7.808087 6.673994 7.922681

Cu 5.455040 6.389678 8.119416

Cu 8.812601 7.883219 6.149215

Cu₅

Cu 7.198979 7.897425 6.947613

Cu 9.113454 7.935263 8.370246

Cu 7.312316 6.454341 8.846205

Cu 5.450883 6.429358 7.405559

Cu 8.979010 9.338256 6.484868

Cu₆

Cu 7.814696 7.191311 8.989532

Cu 7.804375 9.559688 8.581551

Cu 9.287198 8.143649 7.326582

Cu 6.382145 8.600456 10.181418

Cu 9.292869 5.852095 7.778153

Cu 9.212276 10.446359 6.936158

Cu₇

Cu 6.904564 6.834542 6.892011

Cu 8.109850 8.710585 5.933099

Cu 8.327622 8.382541 8.331236

Cu 8.151340 6.002830 8.777419

Cu 6.209927 9.095765 7.381691

Cu 6.250438 7.452527 9.153626

Cu 9.325615 6.800568 6.810121

Cu₈

Cu 8.986183 7.901047 6.833536

Cu 6.956532 6.790087 8.830604

Cu 7.514671 9.108641 8.349815

Cu 6.948049 6.631660 6.399882

Cu 7.085041 9.016752 5.964860

Cu 5.433768 8.109148 7.588584

Cu 9.184417 7.626259 9.213500

Cu 8.736497 5.661410 7.664224

Cu₉

Cu 7.340215 9.007876 9.001348

Cu 9.479141 7.992725 9.617893

Cu 9.230247 7.130970 7.364004

Cu 8.619675 9.436752 6.944281

Cu 6.904983 7.756266 6.969079

Cu 9.310790 10.358687 9.075630

Cu 7.597597 6.600091 9.093480

Cu 10.839793 8.897932 7.822035

Cu 5.405368 7.546346 8.840059

Cu₁₀

Cu	8.732306	6.835625	8.237733
Cu	7.332896	8.574455	9.458672
Cu	9.550911	9.162413	8.547917
Cu	7.615428	8.662817	6.989591
Cu	7.710197	10.678343	8.279658
Cu	9.868765	8.051232	6.444492
Cu	9.307490	7.613330	10.424932
Cu	6.342928	6.883595	8.075556
Cu	9.285066	10.425567	6.419300
Cu	7.331696	6.190474	10.200002

Cu₁₁

Cu	8.926787	10.149770	10.545526
Cu	9.550906	8.699966	8.347810
Cu	11.272082	9.898726	9.706934
Cu	10.084444	8.037766	10.753239
Cu	9.681957	11.120132	8.308724
Cu	7.515284	10.102232	8.587830
Cu	7.824519	8.011678	9.890715
Cu	11.587147	7.550567	8.951941
Cu	10.337975	12.097921	10.401473
Cu	8.018551	12.262940	9.675667
Cu	9.484194	6.352335	9.114554

Cu₁₂

Cu	8.842829	7.705579	7.142196
Cu	8.051778	8.941769	9.412142
Cu	9.537713	10.006445	7.647011
Cu	7.146899	9.523237	7.183060
Cu	10.430611	8.200459	8.947860
Cu	6.609330	7.380625	8.223801

Cu	8.628017	6.547884	9.338518
Cu	7.949347	11.267946	8.897580
Cu	9.889462	10.365122	10.090466
Cu	9.513066	8.192434	11.149105
Cu	6.793188	7.456635	5.858087
Cu	7.739802	5.544245	7.242552

Cu₁₃

Cu	9.892563	10.432230	10.415316
Cu	7.763274	9.290822	10.732983
Cu	8.795929	8.841647	8.490454
Cu	10.110738	10.820367	7.940300
Cu	7.916274	11.101089	9.058066
Cu	9.824489	8.012490	10.725910
Cu	11.211205	8.838722	8.819550
Cu	9.912790	6.695182	8.744427
Cu	9.890621	12.640721	9.463675
Cu	11.961223	11.196013	9.461414
Cu	11.968381	9.301764	11.023071
Cu	6.422503	9.080762	8.765997
Cu	7.676719	7.094514	9.705730

9.2 monometallic In

In₂

In	4.989480	6.518878	6.337119
In	8.032296	6.502897	6.684657

In₃

In	7.511602	5.959793	6.102926
In	7.231444	6.545740	8.988865
In	6.495615	8.732987	6.146729

In₄

In 5.352972 6.779522 5.372591

In 8.340879 6.917081 8.327846

In 8.327630 6.974476 5.353073

In 5.371949 6.722488 8.339921

In₅

In 7.533421 6.662819 5.273175

In 5.224335 5.288969 6.259279

In 6.107087 8.975376 6.438303

In 8.260044 5.559882 7.938550

In 7.644207 8.282045 8.859645

In₆

In 8.428304 8.717191 8.454348

In 6.162333 5.229131 7.704169

In 5.629820 7.364484 5.556087

In 9.023489 5.839461 7.575489

In 5.562878 8.128155 8.530818

In 8.484450 8.012854 5.470509

In₇

In 5.621952 6.500730 5.229103

In 5.132751 8.719536 7.734347

In 8.052620 8.265053 8.481554

In 8.545257 5.552680 5.306298

In 8.180593 5.357309 8.256928

In 7.778212 8.517462 5.616838

In 5.291367 5.689844 7.977684

In₈

In 8.626317 5.746696 7.030624

In 6.021389 6.543873 8.689192

In 9.013803 8.484396 6.327822

In 6.411548 9.286676 8.000988

In 5.825763 5.785412 5.702777

In 8.804443 6.486727 10.039043

In 6.213342 8.550667 5.011951

In 9.210299 9.242606 9.324507

In₉

In 9.490917 7.171718 9.909079

In 9.252891 10.035721 10.084566

In 8.776847 7.686893 6.868890

In 8.497164 10.628724 6.975592

In 11.714684 7.801421 7.884249

In 6.366366 9.932391 8.985980

In 11.356661 10.704850 7.645467

In 6.877472 7.923005 11.757025

In 6.550981 6.998908 8.772608

In₁₀

In 7.647586 8.231854 7.967769

In 9.929558 9.459976 9.610306

In 9.968578 9.729768 6.333670

In 8.639545 5.597300 8.675244

In 7.524181 7.662233 11.376205

In 10.873381 7.105953 7.251299

In 6.702498 10.995543 7.412628

In 6.938279 10.347057 10.372381

In 10.407435 6.859121 10.795376

In 9.398504 12.040387 8.234492

In₁₁

In 9.518426 10.324837 10.123768

In 9.680846 11.915770 7.435841

In 12.319447 9.096717 10.776819

In 10.674543 6.662583 10.112123

In 10.686481 8.587620 7.734324

In 9.302524 8.146346 12.348888

In 6.719634 9.545489 11.675447

In 7.964813 7.735612 9.170473

In 7.970413 9.544618 6.699736

In 6.670786 10.961996 9.018353

In 12.328264 11.315155 8.740971

In₁₂

In 10.356497 9.614732 9.117774

In 7.571825 8.479424 7.827100

In 9.539539 10.204348 12.176009

In 7.898454 11.877663 9.855897

In 12.664523 10.583402 10.764551

In 10.516456 12.856517 10.937304

In 9.421556 7.162820 10.569080

In 8.847193 11.141430 7.007619

In 11.351142 12.551132 8.068724

In 11.587334 8.229583 12.584348

In 7.027449 9.148776 10.709278

In 12.553708 7.486046 9.717992

In₁₃

In 9.702015 9.551982 9.525513

In 8.285606 9.632379 12.374104

In 6.790883 8.825245 8.210742

In 10.692340 6.668478 9.016870

In 9.571223 8.247823 6.718760

In 11.748637 11.036462 7.730711

In 8.619363 11.268381 7.188380

In 9.907275 12.819933 9.683905

In 7.200899 11.289495 10.121425

In 12.768139 9.311827 9.960263

In 10.976190 11.198323 11.926492

In 7.806964 7.172817 10.466138

In 10.795135 7.840953 11.941176

9.3 Bimetallic CuIn

Cu₁In₁

Cu 7.651290 7.348905 7.164705

In 5.828640 5.974576 6.062569

Cu₂In₁

Cu 6.685096 7.082710 8.923226

Cu 7.053747 6.004655 6.914204

In 8.197564 8.375229 7.177567

Cu₃In₁

Cu 7.639879 8.814580 9.317575

Cu 8.537016 8.559238 7.208114

Cu 7.879998 6.965965 5.651080

In 6.520595 6.892081 7.894382

Cu₄In₁

Cu 7.348486 6.083352 7.186931

Cu 8.535547 7.315083 8.893275

Cu 6.157151 7.320678 8.826563

Cu 9.482580 7.030738 6.732199

In 7.411314 8.779751 6.909799

Cu₅In₁

Cu 7.229953 5.880531 7.120104

Cu 8.514443 6.719747 8.946537

Cu 6.273062 7.509097 8.752553

Cu 9.200822 7.375304 6.738945

Cu 8.267811 9.010839 8.372402

In 6.799754 8.322939 6.329579

Cu₆In₁

Cu 8.739849 9.666272 9.558608

Cu 9.775466 7.666366 8.709465

Cu 6.907495 9.432294 7.888169

Cu 9.208667 9.523363 7.199123

Cu 7.970572 7.424060 7.055526

Cu 10.284433 7.600967 6.330077

In 7.260041 7.404910 9.633493

Cu₇In₁

Cu 9.355155 9.871283 8.511221

Cu 9.310617 7.519888 7.652948

Cu 8.611247 8.008307 10.011095

Cu 7.748408 9.164455 6.871526

Cu 7.022299 7.325280 8.350359

Cu 7.067056 9.658797 9.197499

Cu 5.457232 8.974927 7.561936

In 11.216344 8.162235 9.400073

Cu₈In₁

Cu 10.425940 11.767112 11.170863

Cu 10.462825 9.531306 9.607965

Cu 11.501323 11.586364 8.883804

Cu 9.083245 11.578415 9.189165

Cu 12.477145 10.559839 10.827266

Cu 8.681855 10.107161 11.148388

Cu 10.390749 13.599391 9.447351

Cu 12.437015 13.002340 10.638994

In 10.977709 8.837186 12.205559

Cu₉In₁

Cu 7.184081 7.495778 6.555281

Cu	8.509089	7.856502	8.862650
Cu	5.974418	8.029150	8.574942
Cu	9.173899	6.237570	7.181690
Cu	7.451300	9.726664	7.749169
Cu	9.313503	8.626310	6.611082
Cu	5.423252	9.163229	6.474692
Cu	7.533748	9.716001	5.391730
Cu	9.525296	5.736639	9.495863
In	6.981059	5.551236	8.838419

9.4 Bimetallic InCu

In₁Cu₂

In	8.197564	8.375229	7.177567
Cu	6.685096	7.082710	8.923226
Cu	7.053747	6.004655	6.914204

In₂Cu₁

In	6.672437	6.336367	5.007273
In	6.047325	6.384568	8.155671
Cu	7.837217	7.829144	6.860411

In₂Cu₂

In	6.203395	8.484751	7.780577
In	8.980477	8.054698	6.772045
Cu	7.203024	6.158090	7.111452
Cu	8.111798	7.301998	9.121376

In₂Cu₃

In	9.230536	8.268092	7.922586
In	6.103728	6.975080	8.318351
Cu	7.427957	7.424901	5.893044
Cu	8.317314	5.833357	7.403261
Cu	6.868387	9.280911	7.256642

In₃Cu₂

In 6.535330 6.711805 8.350669

In 8.018749 9.830102 10.288125

In 9.702989 7.918051 6.488837

Cu 9.048641 7.654013 9.085268

Cu 9.971640 9.847281 8.396459

Cu 7.673783 9.180279 7.701315

In₃Cu₁

In 8.438763 7.191957 9.046842

In 6.139115 8.816400 7.854386

In 8.844342 7.077279 6.010446

Cu 6.690469 6.188295 7.407394

In₄Cu₁

In 6.206058 5.401229 5.391613

In 6.916390 5.376496 8.401658

In 6.364531 8.353860 5.390320

In 7.077645 8.328688 8.385630

Cu 8.344887 6.761091 6.496163

In₅Cu₁

In 7.090417 6.753731 5.934583

In 9.033523 8.821525 7.072795

In 8.399522 7.883911 9.840535

In 6.248882 9.674590 6.280460

In 6.504069 5.776241 8.695250

Cu 9.038425 6.147098 7.879073

In₆Cu₁

In 8.693503 8.140447 9.537285

In 8.669438 9.544365 6.968032

In 8.546251 5.450099 8.104392

In 5.866376 6.720417 8.785918

In 5.834157 8.118958 6.217213

In 8.537626 6.895876 5.501473

Cu 6.472644 9.348705 8.553404

In₇Cu₁

In 8.582129 6.536089 6.606877

In 8.636930 9.852283 7.162237

In 8.477489 6.087296 9.514285

In 8.491298 9.384789 10.016451

In 6.152762 8.294163 6.798034

In 11.682559 9.992912 8.812598

In 6.017618 7.821856 9.649496

Cu 10.073846 7.869269 8.357991

In₈Cu₁

In 8.519061 5.929688 9.896825

In 8.801198 7.410859 6.793796

In 7.910283 9.068963 9.935282

In 8.408298 10.457850 7.057596

In 6.140663 8.716888 5.681605

In 6.102787 6.903986 8.258402

In 10.863045 9.546804 8.697187

In 11.222297 6.559900 8.720421

Cu 10.153142 7.921645 10.748580

In₉Cu₁

In 9.975029 8.902237 9.268831

In 6.822640 7.787789 7.752378

In 9.783240 7.726488 6.387178

In 7.614830 10.797335 8.673216

In 9.094826 5.648501 8.535097

In 6.863311 8.751091 10.845781

In 8.951028 6.664914 11.363998

In 10.154225 10.829216 6.760290

In 7.509020 9.825197 5.663932

Cu 6.786511 6.206577 9.851397

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