

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

# *Remarkable enhancement in ligand-exchange reactivity of thiolate-protected Au<sub>25</sub> nanocluster by single Pd atom doping*

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### I. Experiments

#### A. Synthesis of [Au<sub>25</sub>(SC<sub>12</sub>H<sub>25</sub>)<sub>18</sub>]<sup>−</sup> and [PdAu<sub>24</sub>(SC<sub>12</sub>H<sub>25</sub>)<sub>18</sub>]<sup>0</sup>

[Au<sub>25</sub>(SC<sub>12</sub>H<sub>25</sub>)<sub>18</sub>]<sup>−</sup> and [PdAu<sub>24</sub>(SC<sub>12</sub>H<sub>25</sub>)<sub>18</sub>]<sup>0</sup> were synthesized by the methods reported in our previous studies.<sup>1,2</sup>

#### B. Ligand exchange reactions between cluster and incoming thiol

0.14 μmol of [Au<sub>25</sub>(SC<sub>12</sub>H<sub>25</sub>)<sub>18</sub>]<sup>−</sup> or [PdAu<sub>24</sub>(SC<sub>12</sub>H<sub>25</sub>)<sub>18</sub>]<sup>0</sup> was dissolved in 500 μL of dichloromethane. To this solution, 140 μmol of C<sub>n</sub>H<sub>2n+1</sub>SH (*n* = 6, 8, 10, or 16) or PhC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>SH was added and the solution was stirred at room temperature. At each reaction time, 5 μL of the solution was separated, washed with a mixture of methanol and water to remove excess thiols, and then characterized by matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization (MALDI) mass spectrometry.

#### C. Ligand exchange reaction between two kinds of clusters

0.07 μmol of [Au<sub>25</sub>(SC<sub>12</sub>H<sub>25</sub>)<sub>18</sub>]<sup>−</sup> or [PdAu<sub>24</sub>(SC<sub>12</sub>H<sub>25</sub>)<sub>18</sub>]<sup>0</sup> was dissolved in 250 μL of dichloromethane. To this solution, 0.07 μmol of [Au<sub>25</sub>(SC<sub>10</sub>H<sub>21</sub>)<sub>18</sub>]<sup>−</sup> or [PdAu<sub>24</sub>(SC<sub>10</sub>H<sub>21</sub>)<sub>18</sub>]<sup>0</sup> was added and the solution was stirred at room temperature. At each reaction time, 5 μL of the solution was separated and then characterized by MALDI mass spectrometry.

#### D. Characterization

MALDI mass spectra were collected using a linear time-of-flight mass spectrometer (Applied Biosystem, Voyager Linear RD VDA 500) using a nitrogen laser (wavelength: 337 nm). High-resolution MALDI mass spectra (Figures S3) were collected using a spiral time-of-flight mass spectrometer (JEOL Ltd., JMS-S3000) using a semiconductor laser (wavelength: 349 nm). In the MALDI experiments, *trans*-2-[3-(4-*tert*-butylphenyl)-2-methyl-2-propenylidene]malononitrile (DCTB) was used as the matrix. The cluster-to-matrix ratio was set to 1:1000.

Electrospray ionization (ESI) mass spectrometry was performed using a Fourier-transform mass spectrometer (Bruker, Solarix). 1 mg/mL of toluene/acetonitrile (1:1, v:v) solution of [Au<sub>25</sub>(SC<sub>12</sub>H<sub>25</sub>)<sub>18</sub>]<sup>−</sup> or [PdAu<sub>24</sub>(SC<sub>12</sub>H<sub>25</sub>)<sub>18</sub>]<sup>0</sup> was electrosprayed at a flow rate of 800 μL/h. In the mass analysis of [PdAu<sub>24</sub>(SC<sub>12</sub>H<sub>25</sub>)<sub>18</sub>]<sup>0</sup>, a small amount of (C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>)<sub>4</sub>N<sup>+</sup> was added to the solution to observe the neutral [PdAu<sub>24</sub>(SC<sub>12</sub>H<sub>25</sub>)<sub>18</sub>]<sup>0</sup> as a cation.

UV-Vis absorption spectra of the clusters were recorded in toluene at ambient temperature with a spectrometer (JASCO, V-630).

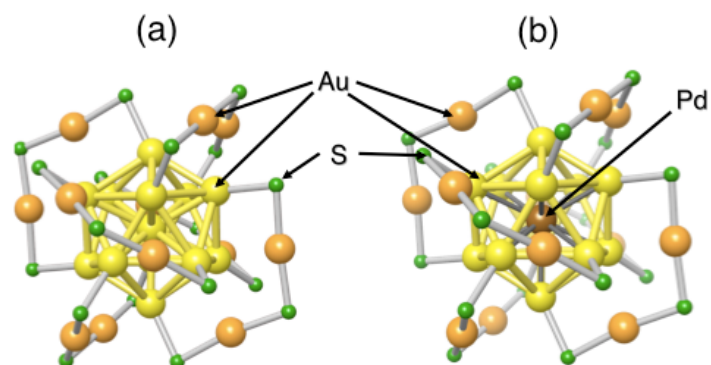
### II. Analysis

The average numbers of exchanged ligands,  $x_{\text{ave}}$ , were estimated as

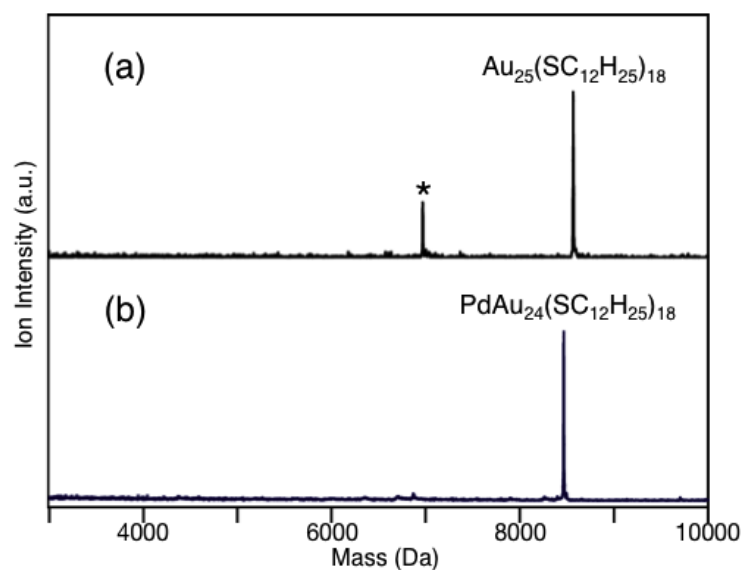
$$x_{\text{ave}} = \sum_{x=0}^{18} x \frac{I(x)}{\left( \sum_{y=0}^{18} I(y) \right)} \quad (1)$$

where  $x$  and  $y$  are the number of exchanged ligands and  $I(x)$  and  $I(y)$  are the ion intensities observed in the mass spectra for each  $x$  and  $y$ , respectively.

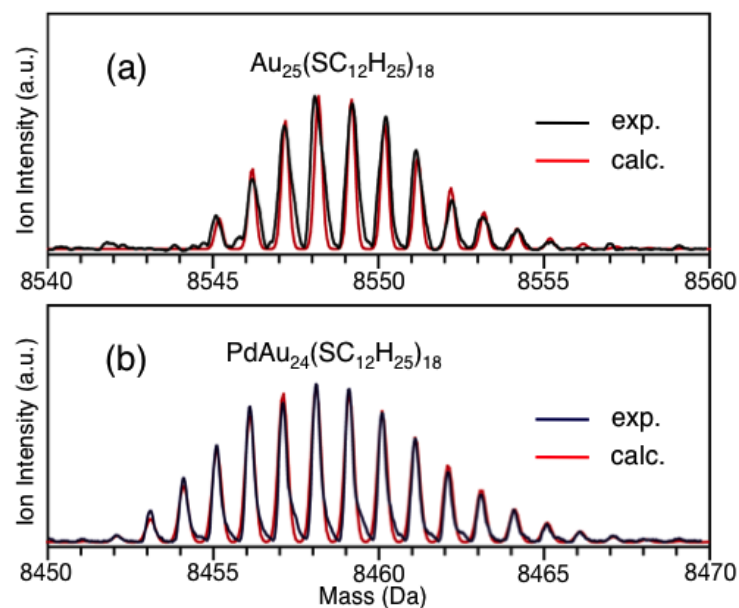
### III. Characterization



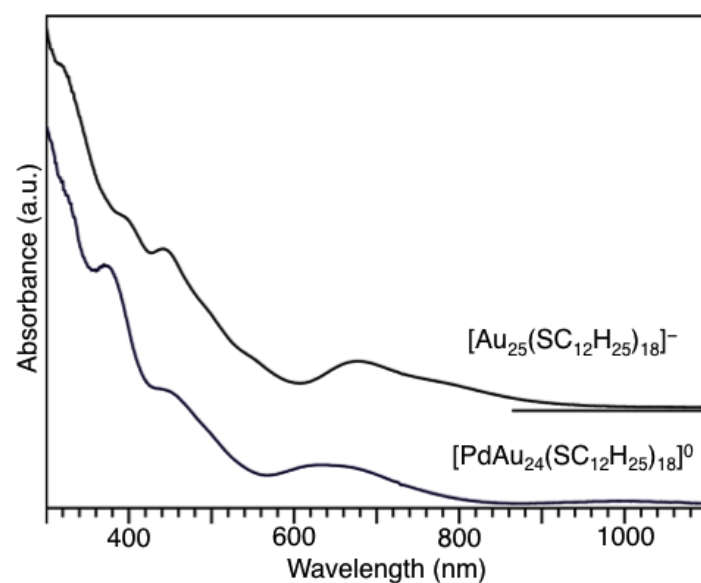
**Figure S1.** Structural representation of (a)  $\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SR})_{18}$  (Refs. 3 and 4) and (b)  $\text{PdAu}_{24}(\text{SR})_{18}$  (Ref. 2). (The R moieties are omitted for clarity in both figures.)



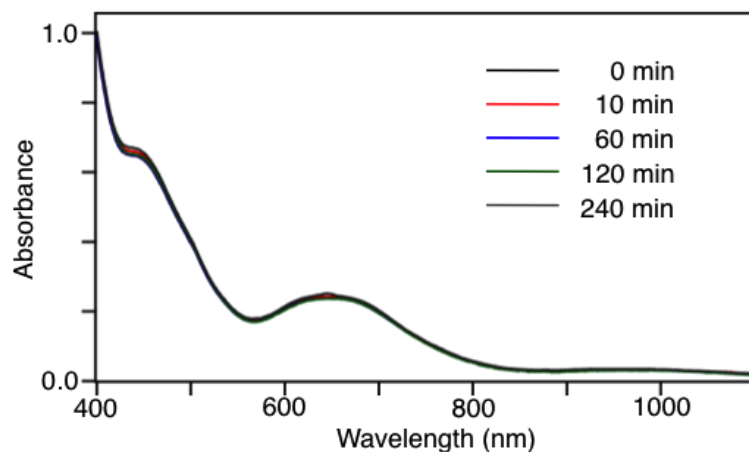
**Figure S2.** Negative-ion MALDI mass spectra of (a)  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^{-}$  and (b)  $[\text{PdAu}_{24}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^0$ , which were used in this study. In (a), the asterisk indicates laser fragments. In (a) and (b), only peaks attributed to  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^{-}$  and  $[\text{PdAu}_{24}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^0$  were observed, indicating that  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^{-}$  and  $[\text{PdAu}_{24}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^0$  with a high purity were used in this study.



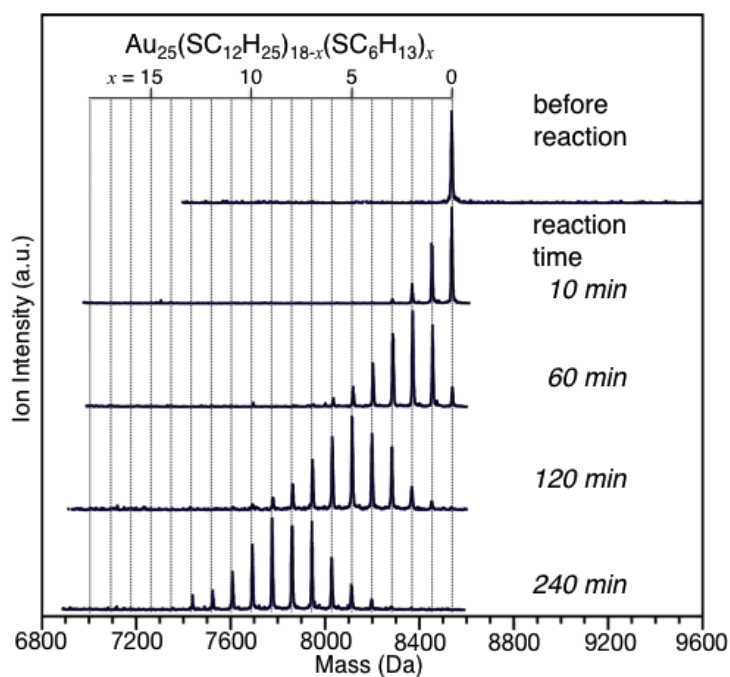
**Figure S3.** Comparison of experimental data obtained by high-resolution MALDI mass spectrometry with the calculated isotope pattern for (a)  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^-$  and (b)  $[\text{PdAu}_{24}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^0$ . In (a) and (b), the experimental data is well consistent with the calculated isotope pattern, supporting the identification of the products.



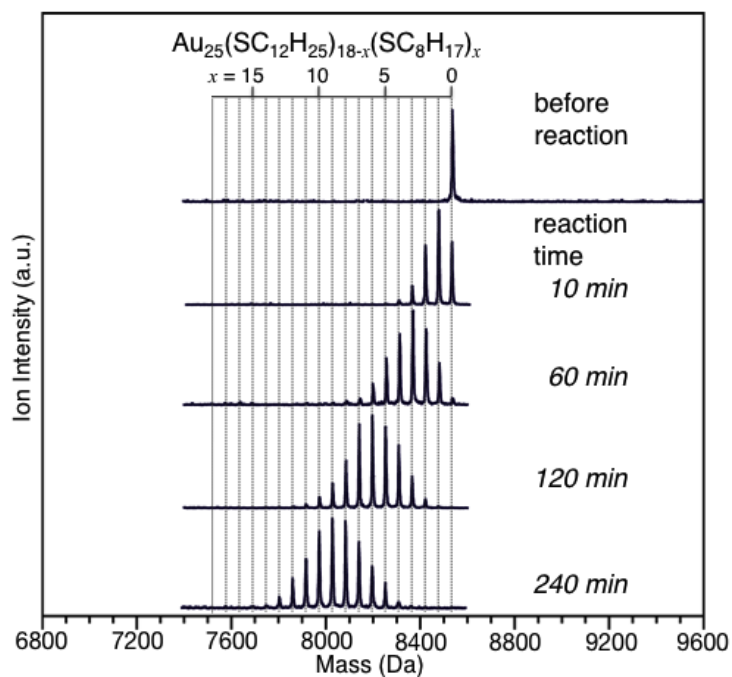
**Figure S4.** Optical absorption spectra of  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^-$  and  $[\text{PdAu}_{24}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^0$ . The optical absorption spectrum of  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^-$  is well consistent with that reported for anionic  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SR})_{18}]^-$  (Refs. 1 and 4).



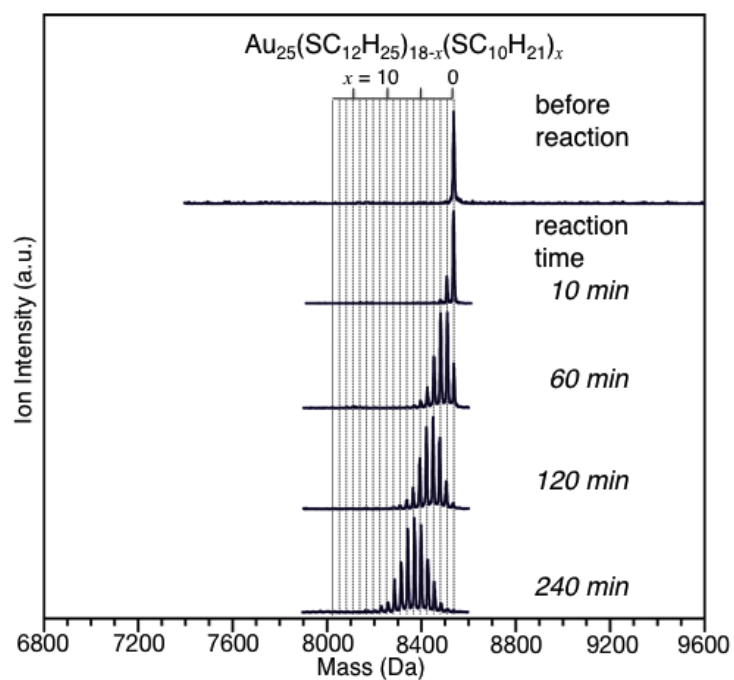
**Figure S5.** Time dependence of absorption spectra of a  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  solution of a mixture of  $[\text{PdAu}_{24}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^0$  and  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{13}\text{SH}$  (entry 7 in Table 1). Absorption spectrum exhibited only a slight change, even after 240 min. A similar phenomenon was observed for the reactions of entries 1–6 and 8–16 in Table 1.



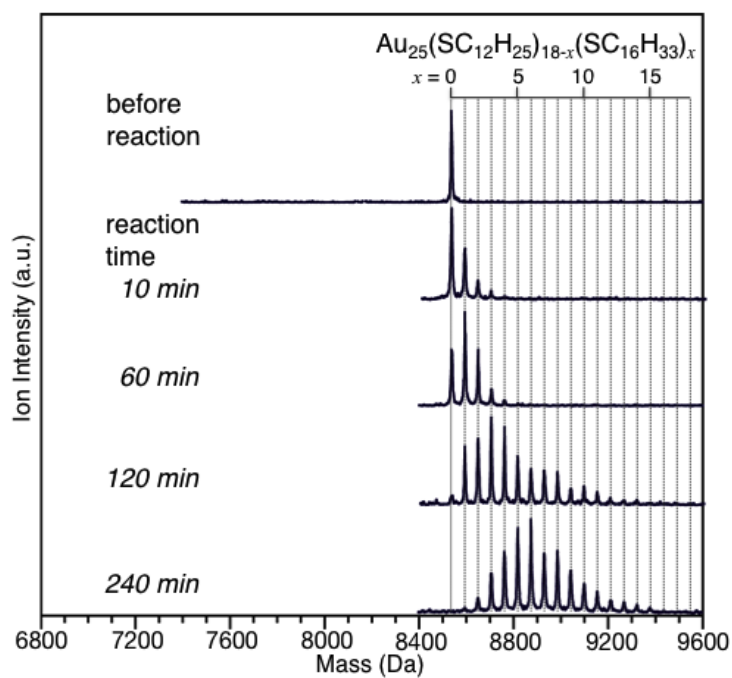
**Figure S6.** Negative-ion MALDI mass spectra of the product formed by the reaction between  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^-$  and  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{13}\text{SH}$  in dichloromethane (entry 1 in Table 1).



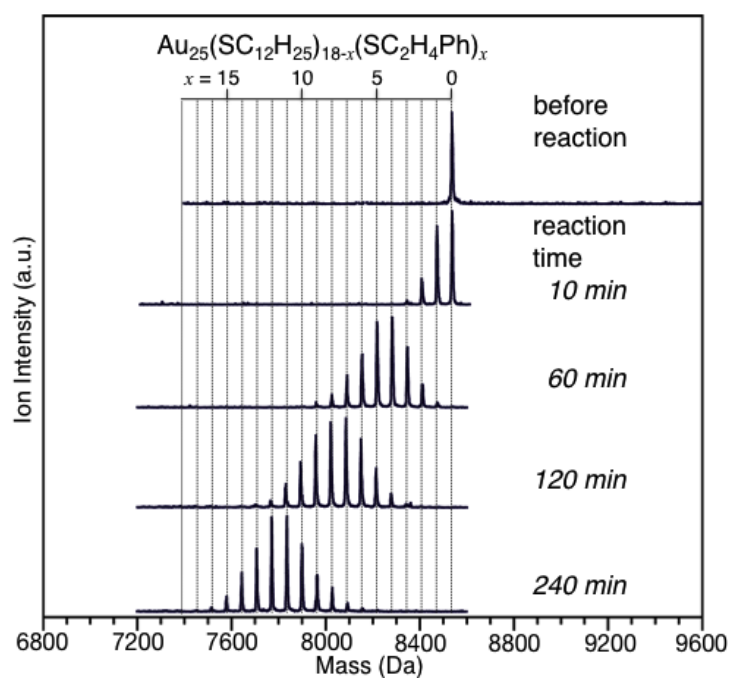
**Figure S7.** Negative-ion MALDI mass spectra of the product formed by the reaction between  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^-$  and  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{17}\text{SH}$  in dichloromethane (entry 2 in Table 1).



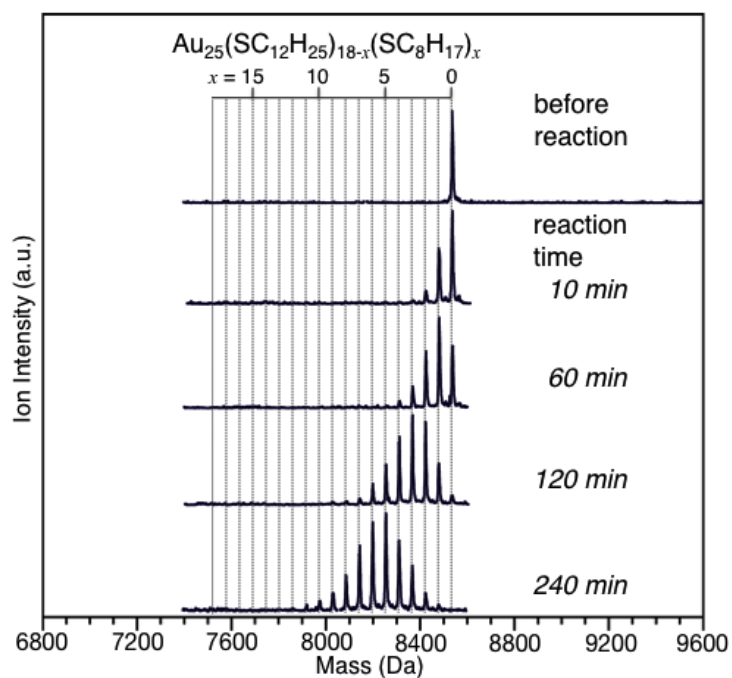
**Figure S8.** Negative-ion MALDI mass spectra of the product formed by the reaction between  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^-$  and  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{21}\text{SH}$  in dichloromethane (entry 3 in Table 1).



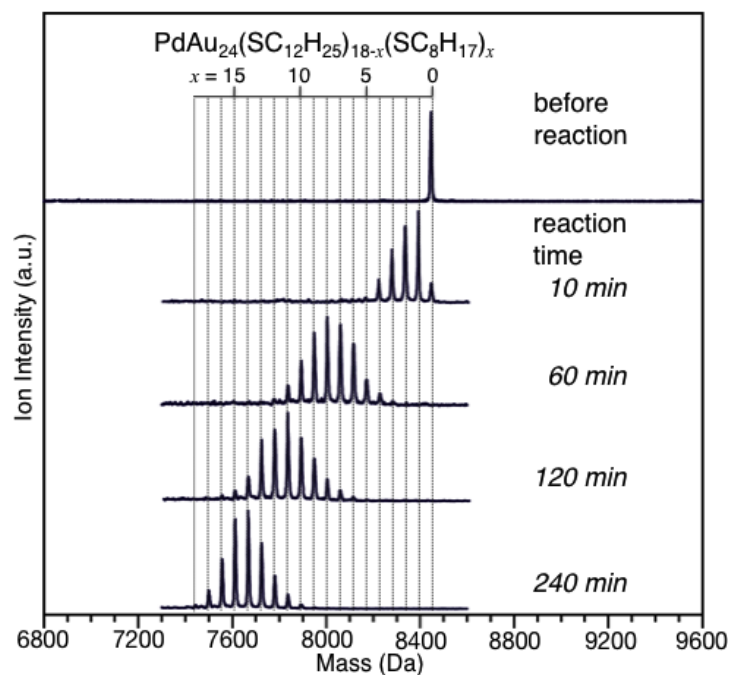
**Figure S9.** Negative-ion MALDI mass spectra of the product formed by the reaction between  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^-$  and  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{33}\text{SH}$  in dichloromethane (entry 4 in Table 1).



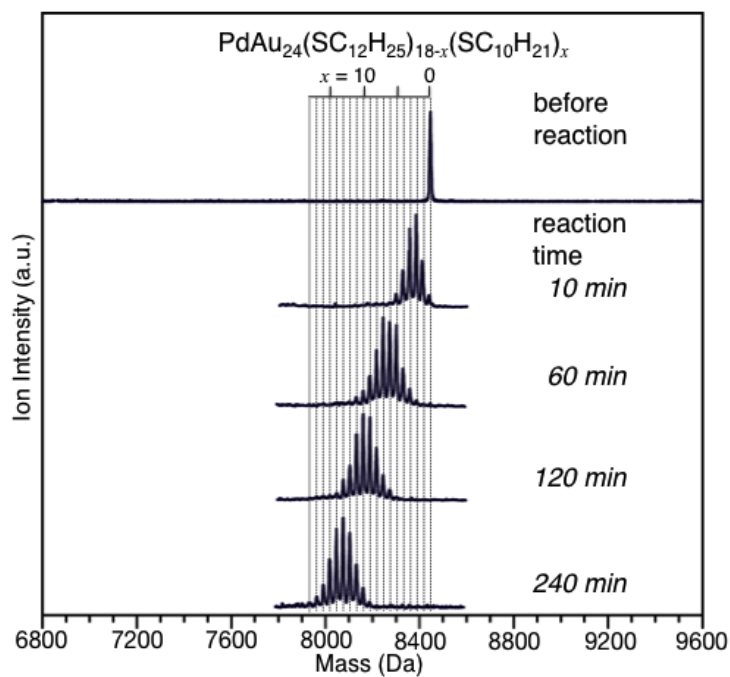
**Figure S10.** Negative-ion MALDI mass spectra of the product formed by the reaction between  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^-$  and  $\text{PhC}_2\text{H}_4\text{SH}$  in dichloromethane (entry 5 in Table 1).



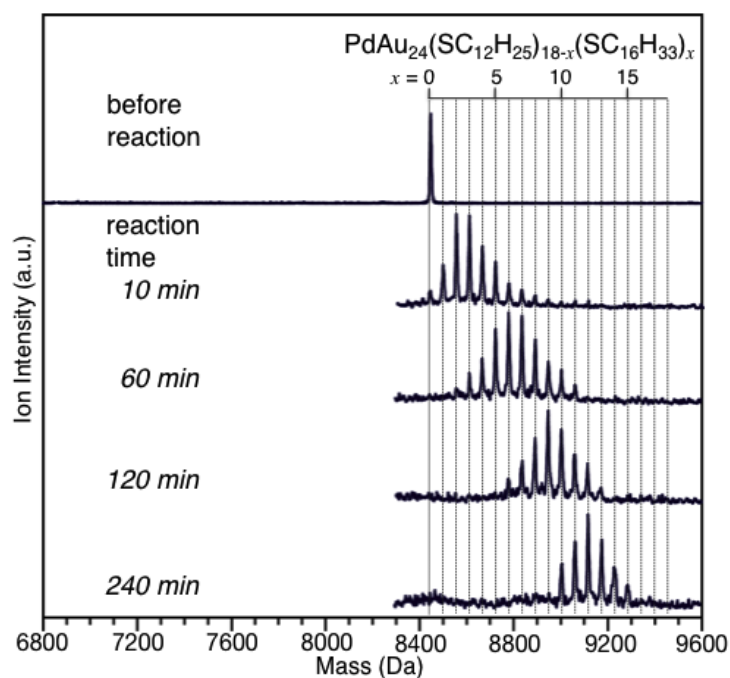
**Figure S11.** Negative-ion MALDI mass spectra of the product formed by the reaction between  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^{-}$  and  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{17}\text{SH}$  in toluene (entry 6 in Table 1).



**Figure S12.** Negative-ion MALDI mass spectra of the product formed by the reaction between  $[\text{PdAu}_{24}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^0$  and  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{17}\text{SH}$  in dichloromethane (entry 8 in Table 1).

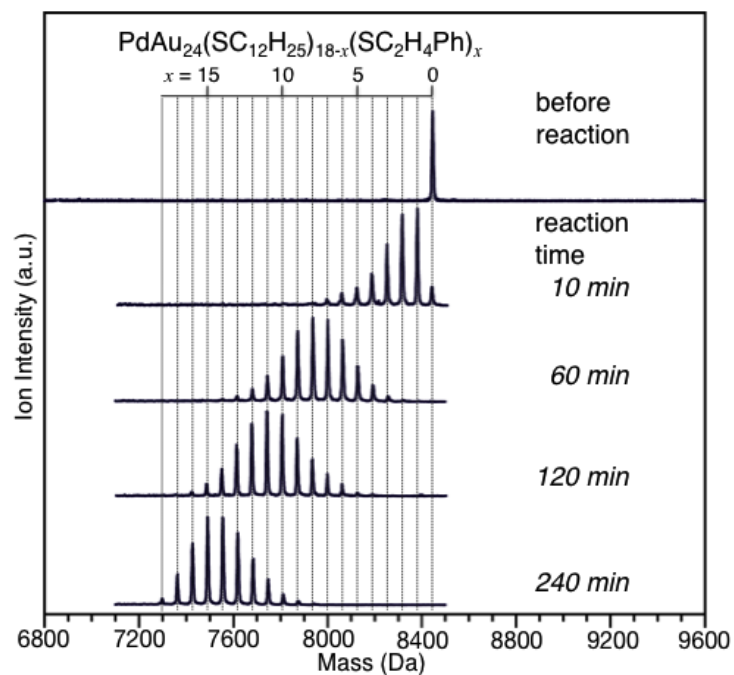


**Figure S13.** Negative-ion MALDI mass spectra of the product formed by the reaction between  $[\text{PdAu}_{24}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^0$  and  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{21}\text{SH}$  in dichloromethane (entry 9 in Table 1).

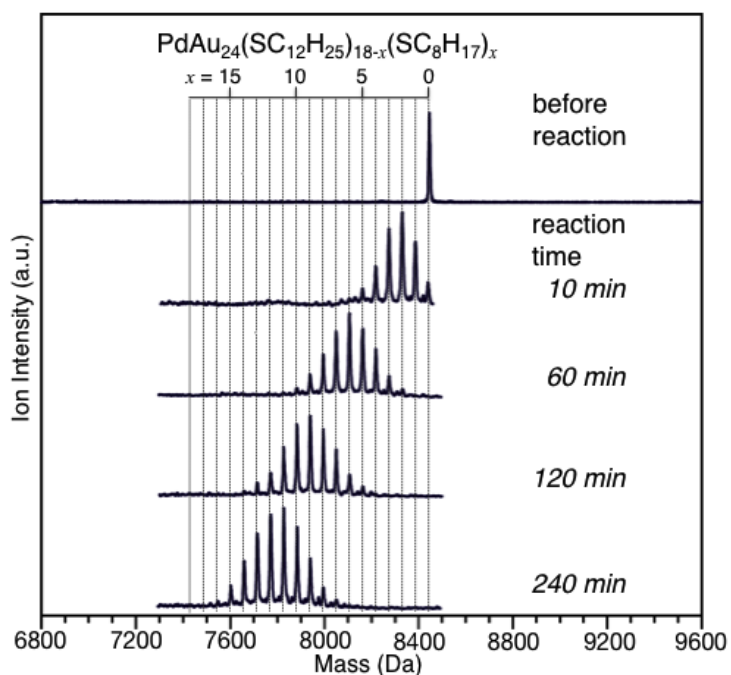


**Figure S14.** Negative-ion MALDI mass spectra of the product formed by the reaction between  $[\text{PdAu}_{24}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^0$  and  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{33}\text{SH}$  in dichloromethane (entry 10 in Table 1).

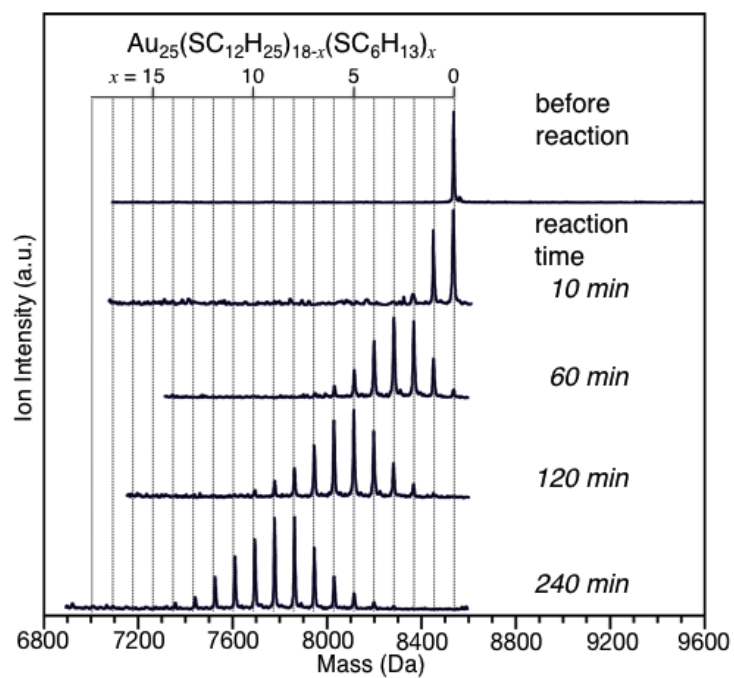




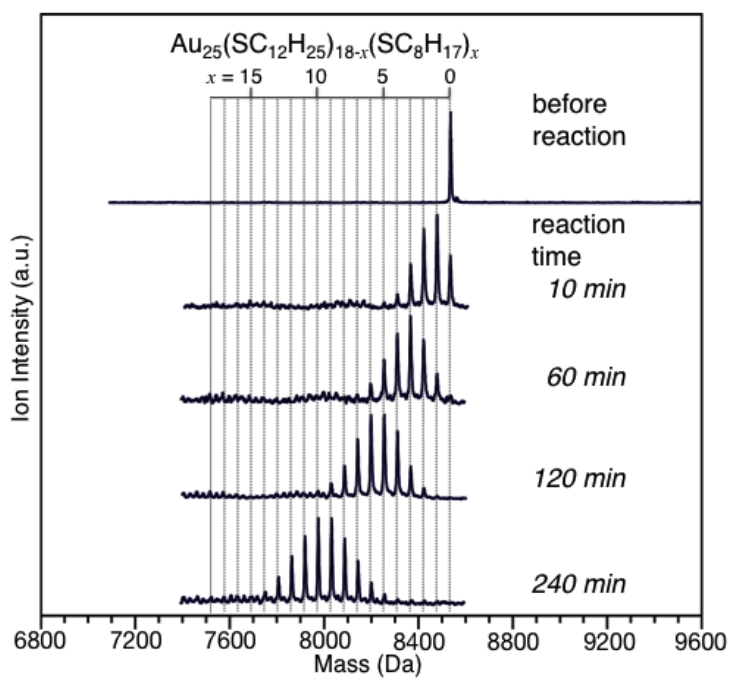
**Figure S15.** Negative-ion MALDI mass spectra of the product formed by the reaction between  $[\text{PdAu}_{24}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^0$  and  $\text{PhC}_2\text{H}_4\text{SH}$  in dichloromethane (entry 11 in Table 1).



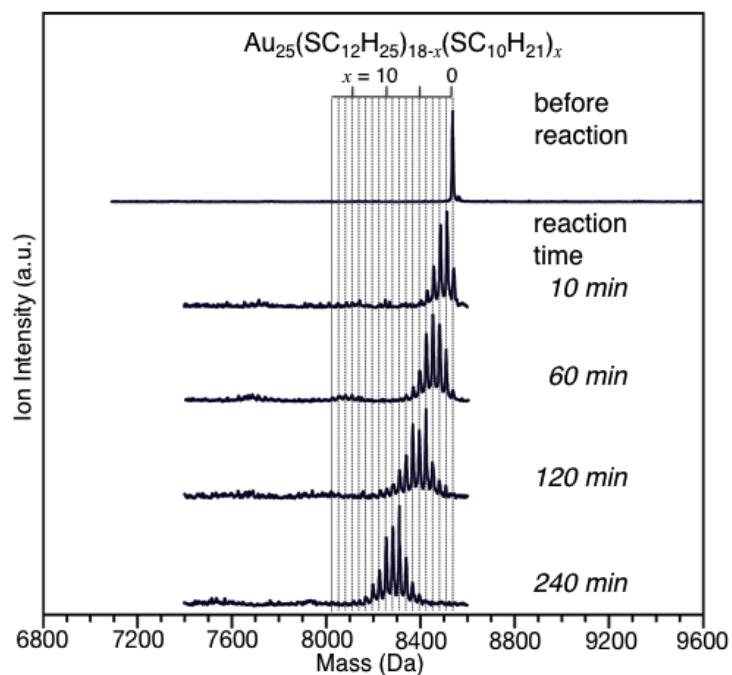
**Figure S16.** Negative-ion MALDI mass spectra of the product formed by the reaction between  $[\text{PdAu}_{24}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^0$  and  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{17}\text{SH}$  in toluene (entry 12 in Table 1).



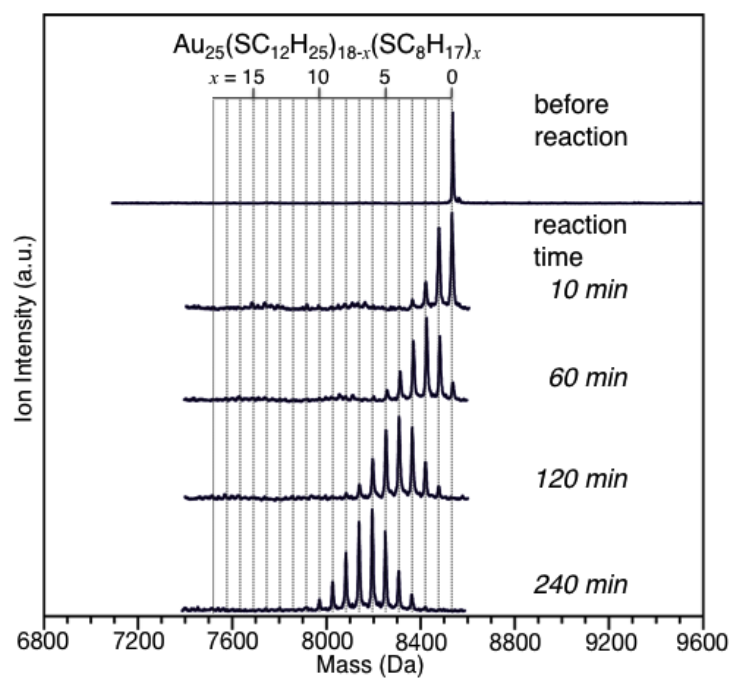
**Figure S17.** Negative-ion MALDI mass spectra of the product formed by the reaction between  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^0$  and  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{13}\text{SH}$  in dichloromethane (entry 13 in Table 1).



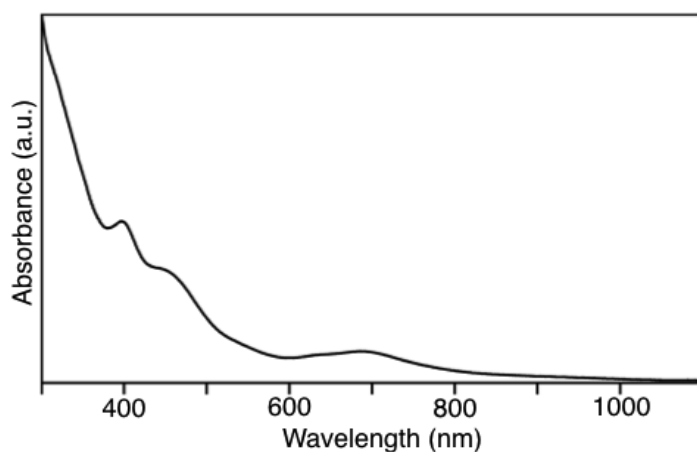
**Figure S18.** Negative-ion MALDI mass spectra of the product formed by the reaction between  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^0$  and  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{17}\text{SH}$  in dichloromethane (entry 14 in Table 1).



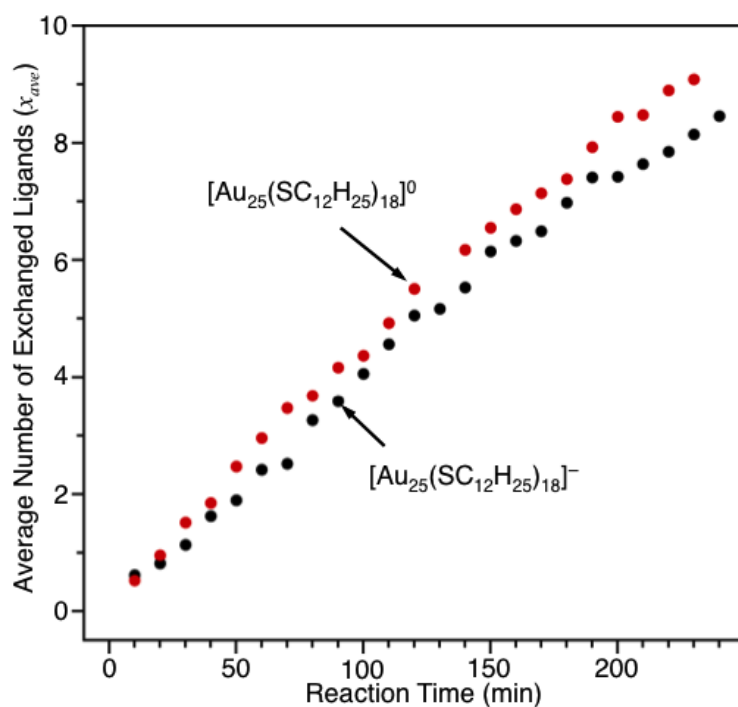
**Figure S19.** Negative-ion MALDI mass spectra of the product formed by the reaction between  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^0$  and  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{21}\text{SH}$  in dichloromethane (entry 15 in Table 1).



**Figure S20.** Negative-ion MALDI mass spectra of the product formed by the reaction between  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^0$  and  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{17}\text{SH}$  in toluene (entry 16 in Table 1).



**Figure S21.** Optical absorption spectrum of  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^0$ , which was formed by leaving  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^-$  in acetone for 3 days. This optical absorption spectrum is well consistent with that reported for  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_2\text{H}_4\text{Ph})_{18}]^0$  by Jin's group (Ref. 5).



**Figure S22.** Plot of average number of exchanged ligands,  $x_{\text{ave}}$ , against reaction time for (red) the reaction between  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^0$  and  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{13}\text{SH}$  in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (entry 13) and (black) that between  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^-$  and  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{13}\text{SH}$  in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (entry 1). This result indicates that the reaction rate depends on the charge state of  $\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}$ ;  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^0$  reacts with  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{13}\text{SH}$  faster than  $[\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SC}_{12}\text{H}_{25})_{18}]^-$ . A similar phenomenon was observed under the other experimental conditions (Table 1).

## References

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