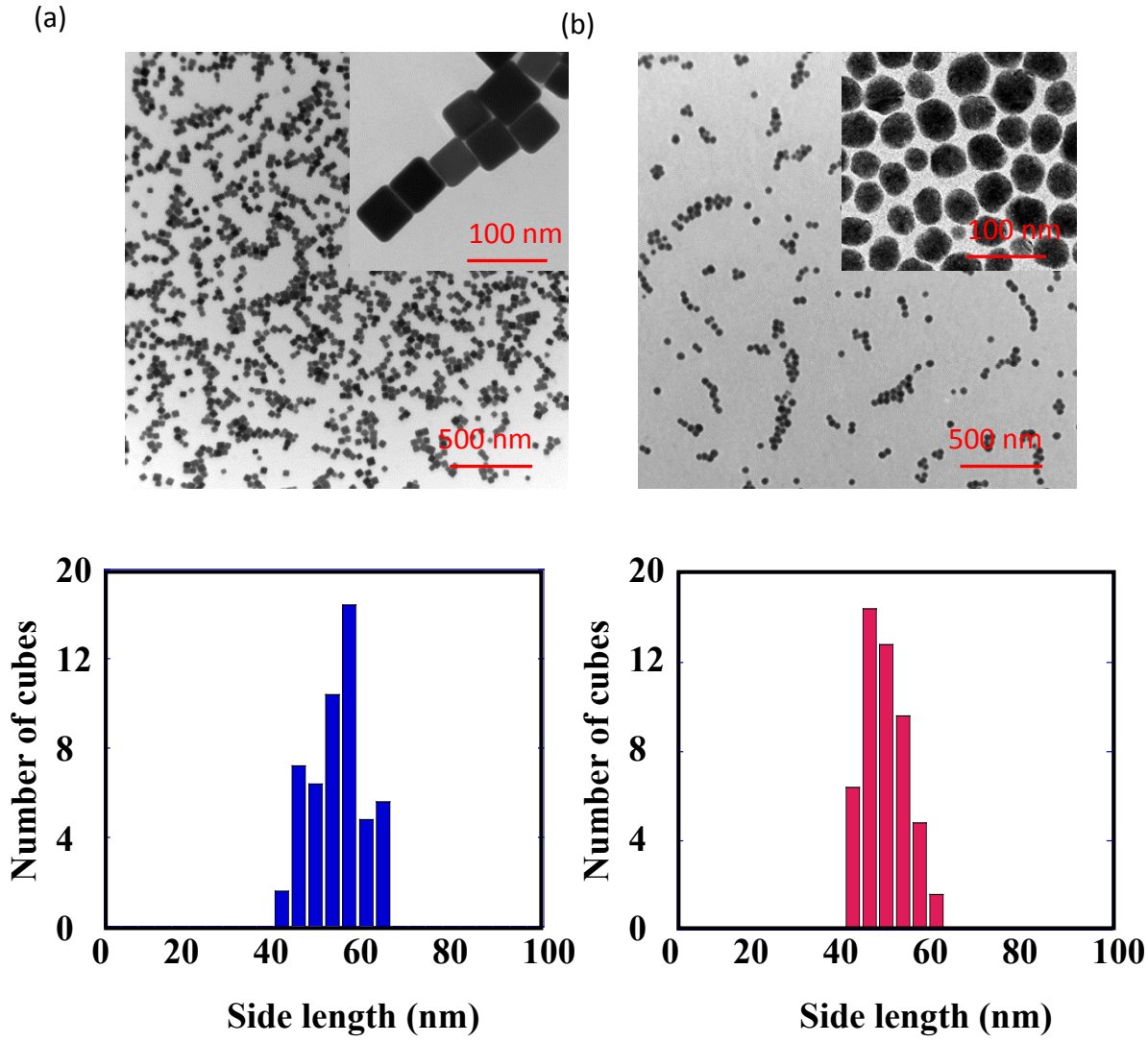
Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for RSC Advances.

Supplementary Information Ⅲ



The Figure shows the tunneling electron microscope image and the size distribution of Ag nanocubes / nanospheres. Student-t distribution with 95 % confidence interval was used to determine the size of silver nanocubes and nanospheres. Again, the following equation was used to calculate the 100 (1-α) % confidence interval (CI).

$$\bar{X} \pm t_{\alpha/2} S/\sqrt{n} \qquad \ldots\ldots (3)$$

In this case, the value of $t_{\alpha/2}$ is 1.671 under the condition with 60 degree of freedom and 95% CI according to the table of t distribution; n is the numbers of samples; and S is the standard deviation of 63 nanocubes and 65 nanospheres, that is 6.9 for nanocubes and 5.2 for nanospheres.

The average size of silver nanocubes and nanospheres are 54.3 ± 1.45 and 49.6 ± 1.01 nm.