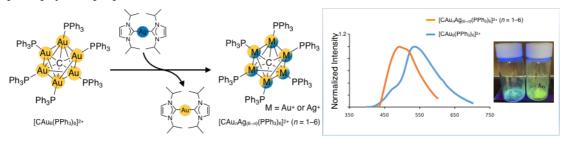
Transmetalation of a carbon-centered hexagold(I) cluster supported by triphenylphosphine ligands with silver(I) ions

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The construction of heterogeneous multinuclear metal complexes has a great potential for the expression of unique physical and chemical properties derived from heterometallic cooperativity and asymmetry specific to the metal arrangement. Since the first report by Schmidbaur in 1988,¹ *C*-centered hexagold(I) clusters have attracted much attention as promising building block for functional metal clusters.² For example, Wang reported *C*-centered clusters, $CAu_{6}^{I}M_{2}$ (M = Ag^I, Cu^I), in which the outer shell of the CAu_{6}^{I} was modified using pyridylphosphine ligands.^{3,4} Here, we report the transmetalation reaction of a phosphine-supported *C*-centered hexagold(I) cluster with silver(I) ions to give heterometallic clusters, $[CAu_{n}Ag_{(6-n)}(PPh_{3})_{6}]^{2+}$ (n = 1-6).

First, the transmetalation of $[CAu_6(PPh_3)_6]^{2+}$ by Ag^I complexes was examined. An excess amount of AgPPh₃OTf (30 eq.) was added to a CH₂Cl₂ solution of [C(Au₆PPh₃)₆](BF₄)₂. In the ESI-MS spectrum, peaks corresponding to the parent $[CAu_6(PPh_3)_6]^{2+}$ and $[CAu_5Ag_1(PPh_3)_6]^{2+}$ were observed. We found that the $(I^{i}Pr)_{2}Ag^{+}$ bis(*N*,*N*-diisoprpylimidazolidene)silver complex, effectively promoted transmetalation to give a mixture of heterometallic $[CAu_nAg_{(6-n)}(PPh_3)_6]^{2+}$ clusters. The ³¹P NMR spectrum also supported the formation of heterometallic clusters. A mixture of $[CAu_nAg_{(6-n)}(PPh_3)_6]^{2+}$ clusters showed blue-shifted luminescence compared to the parent CAu₆ cluster in the solid state. The clusters showed stronger and red-shifted luminescence than at room temperature. In the presentation, we will discuss the details of their photophysical properties.



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