

Figure S11. The reaction paths of the dominant structures of Ag_n^+ ($n = 4, 6, 8, 10, 12$) with O_2 (a-e) and the comparisons between their barriers from the physisorbed O_2 to the chemisorbed O_2 and their HOMO-LUMO gaps. The gray lines in (a) and the gray points in (f) show the results of the pyramid isomer of Ag_4^+ .

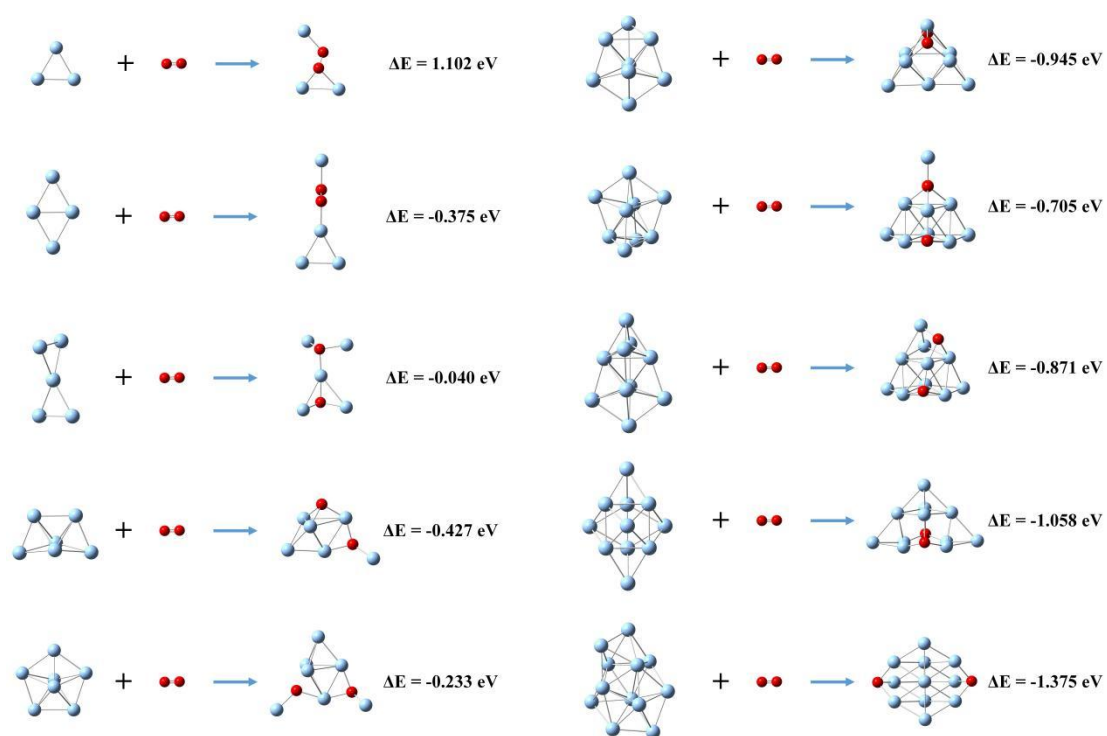


Figure S12. The lowest lying structures of Ag_nO_2^+ ($n = 3-12$) with O_2 inserted into or dissociated on the silver moiety and their energies relative to the initial reactants Ag_n^+ and O_2 .

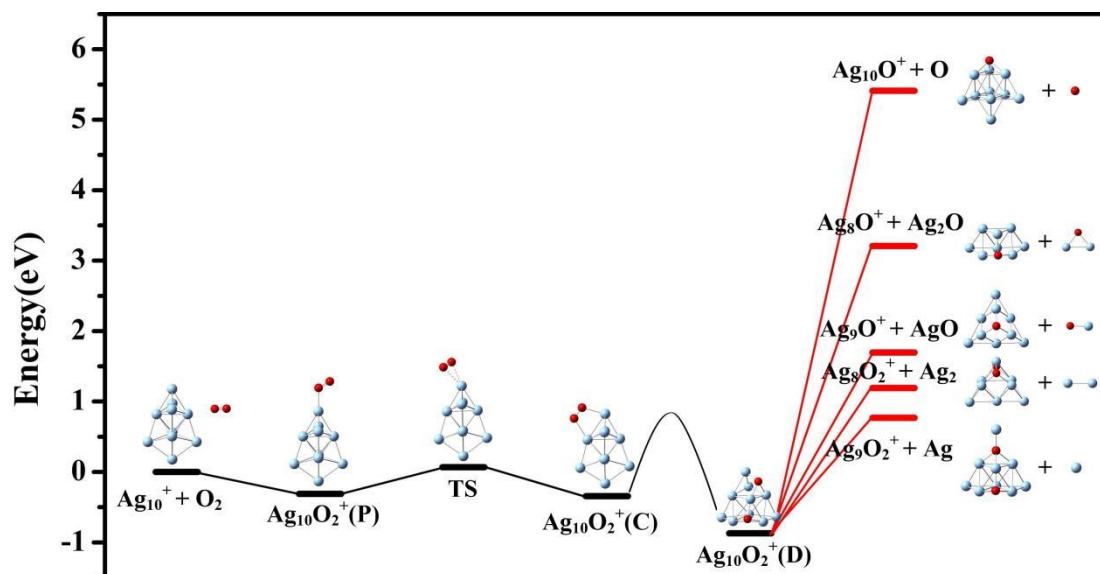


Figure S13. The relative energies of the reaction products between Ag_{10}^+ with O_2 including those of the physisorption, the chemisorption, the dissociation, and the etching steps.

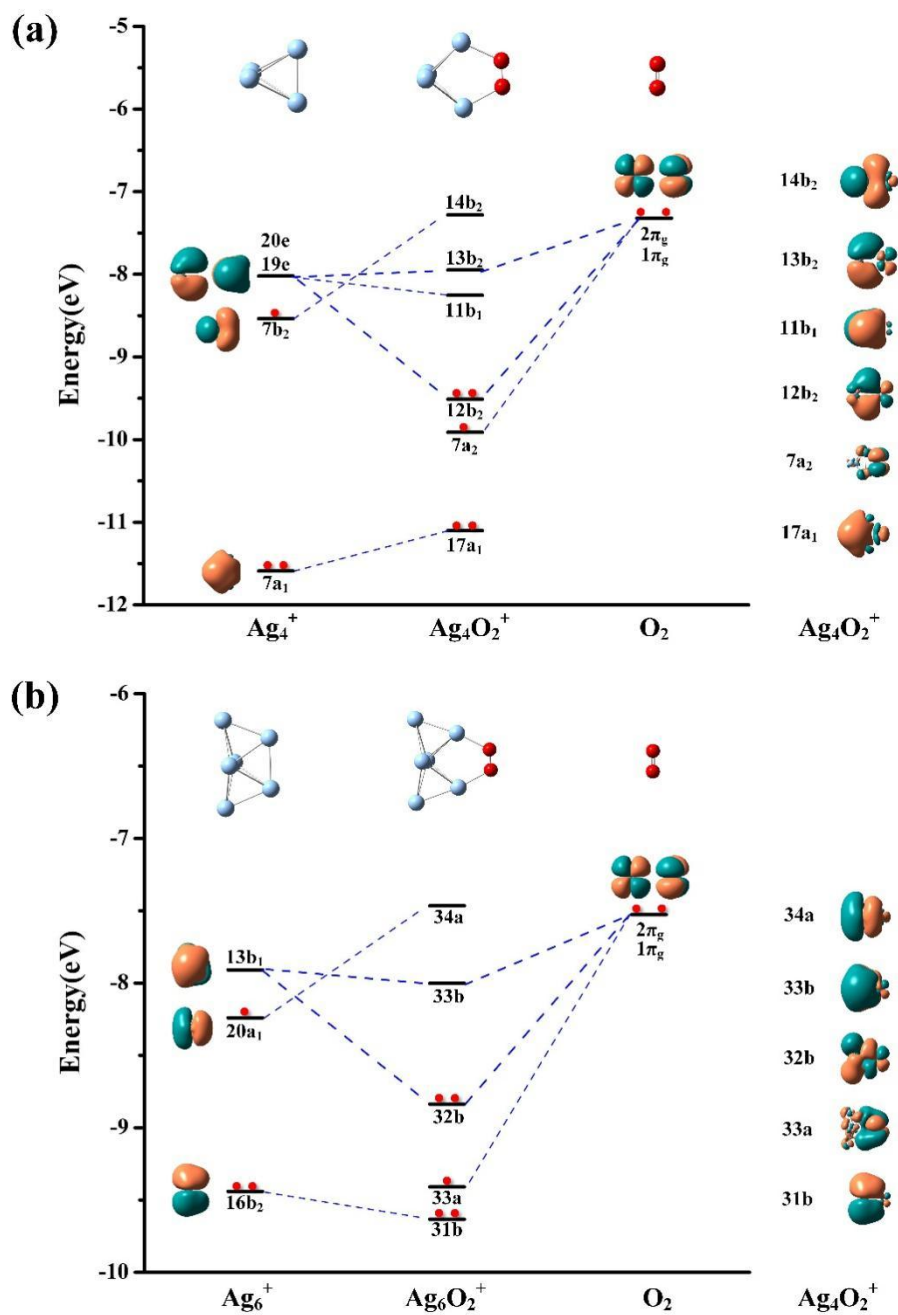


Figure S14. The bonding scheme of Ag_4O_2^+ (a) and Ag_6O_2^+ (b), illustrating the bonding interactions between the bare cluster $\text{Ag}_{4/6}^+$ and the O_2 fragment as well as their canonical Kohn–Sham frontier valence MOs (isosurface = 0.01 a.u.).