

Supporting Information for

Very Large, Soluble Endohedral Fullerenes in the Series La_2C_{90} to $\text{La}_2\text{C}_{138}$: Isolation and Crystallographic Characterization of a $\text{La}_2@D_5(450)\text{-C}_{100}$

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Synthesis of the La₂@C₁₀₀. A 8 × 150 mm graphite rod filled with La₂O₃ and graphite powder (La:C atomic ratio 1:50) was vaporized as the anode in a DC arc discharge under optimized conditions. The raw soot was sonicated in *o*-dichlorobenzene for eight hours and then filtered with aid of vacuum. After removing the solvent with a rotary evaporator, chlorobenzene was added to re-dissolve the dry extract. The resulting solution was subjected to a four-stage HPLC isolation process without recycling. The first stage was carried out using a Buckyprep-M column with chlorobenzene mobile phase. The eluent in the range from 13.3 to 14.4 minutes, which is labeled as F in Figure SI-1, was collected. Fraction F was then subjected to the second stage of chromatography on a Buckyprep column with also chlorobenzene as the eluent, and the fraction S1 was collected, as shown in Figure SI-2. The fraction S1 was reinjected into the Buckyprep-M column for the third stage separation using toluene as the eluent. The main peak marked with shaded area, shown in Figure SI-3, was collected, and La₂@C₁₀₀ was finally obtained. The purity of the isolated La₂@C₁₀₀ isomer was also examined using LDI-TOF-MS. The Buckyprep and Buckyprep-M columns are 10mm in diameter and 250mm in length from Nacalai Tesque Inc.

Computations of hexa-anions of C₁₀₀.

The number of the IPR cages of C₁₀₀ is 450, according to the spiral algorithm.¹ All geometries of the 450 cages were fully optimized using semiempirical molecular orbital method (AM1),²² and density functional theory with the B3LYP density functional³ together with 6-31G(d) basis set for carbon atoms. All calculations were carried out using the Gaussian 03 program package.⁴ The inverse pentagon separation index (IPSI) for the tetra-anions were calculated based on the optimized geometries. In addition, the numbers of pyracyclenes of the above cages were enumerated using a small program written by ourselves. The results are drawn in the Figure SI-4 and SI-5, respectively.

1. Fowler, P. W.; Manolopoulos, D. E. *An Atlas of Fullerenes*, Clarendon, Oxford, 1995.

2. Dewar, M.; Thiel, W. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1977, 99, 4499 .

3. (a) Becke, A. D. *Phys. Rev. A* 1988, 38, 3098; (b) Becke, A. D. *J. Chem. Phys.* 1993, 98, 5648; (c) Lee, C., Yang, W., Parr, R. G., *Phys. Rev. B* 1988, 37, 785.

4. Complete citation for this software:

Gaussian 03, Revision C.02. Frisch, M. J.; Trucks, G. W.; Schlegel, H. B.; Scuseria, G. E.; Robb, M. A.; Cheeseman, J. R.; Montgomery, Jr., J. A.; Vreven, T.; Kudin, K. N.; Burant, J. C.; Millam, J. M.; Iyengar, S. S.; Tomasi, J.; Barone, V.; Mennucci, B.; Cossi, M.; Scalmani, G.; Rega, N.; Petersson, G. A.; Nakatsuji, H.; Hada, M.; Ehara, M.; Toyota, K.; Fukuda, R.; Hasegawa, J.; Ishida, M.; Nakajima, T.; Honda, Y.; Kitao, O.; Nakai, H.; Klene, M.; Li, X.; Knox, J. E.; Hratchian, H. P.; Cross, J. B.; Bakken, V.; Adamo, C.; Jaramillo, J.; Gomperts, R.; Stratmann, R. E.; Yazyev, O.; Austin, A. J.; Cammi, R.; Pomelli, C.; Ochterski, J. W.; Ayala, P. Y.; Morokuma, K.; Voth, G. A.; Salvador, P.; Dannenberg, J. J.; Zakrzewski, V. G.; Dapprich, S.; Daniels, A. D.; Strain, M. C.; Farkas, O.; Malick, D. K.; Rabuck, A. D.; Raghavachari, K.; Foresman, J. B.; Ortiz, J. V.; Cui, Q.; Baboul, A. G.; Clifford, S.; Cioslowski, J.; Stefanov, B. B.; Liu, G.; Liashenko, A.; Piskorz, P.; Komaromi, I.; Martin, R. L.; Fox, D. J.; Keith, T.; Al-Laham, M. A.; Peng, C. Y.; Nanayakkara, A.; Challacombe, M.; Gill, P. M. W.; Johnson, B.; Chen, W.; Wong, M. W.; Gonzalez C.; and Pople, J. A.; Gaussian, Inc., Wallingford CT, 2004.

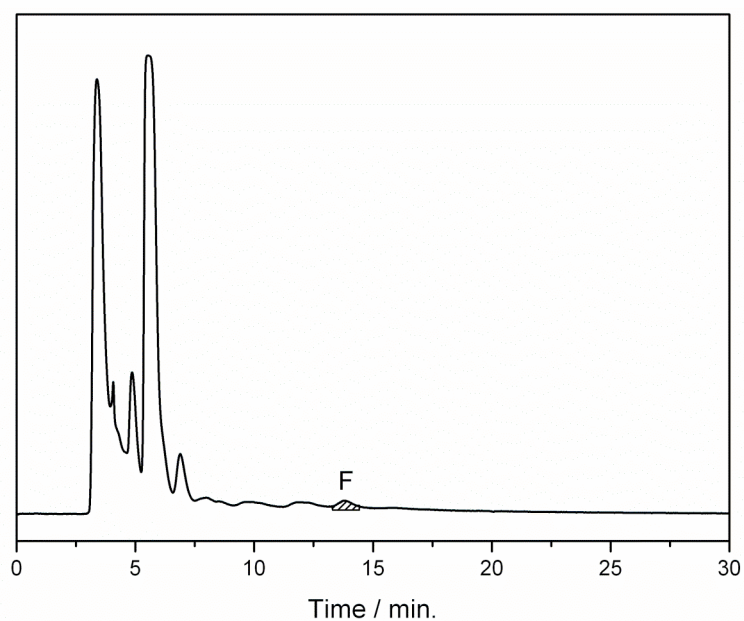


Figure SI-1. Chromatogram of the first stage using Buckprep-M column with chlorobenzene as eluent. The HPLC conditions were: flow rate 4.0 mL/min, detection wavelength of 450 nm.

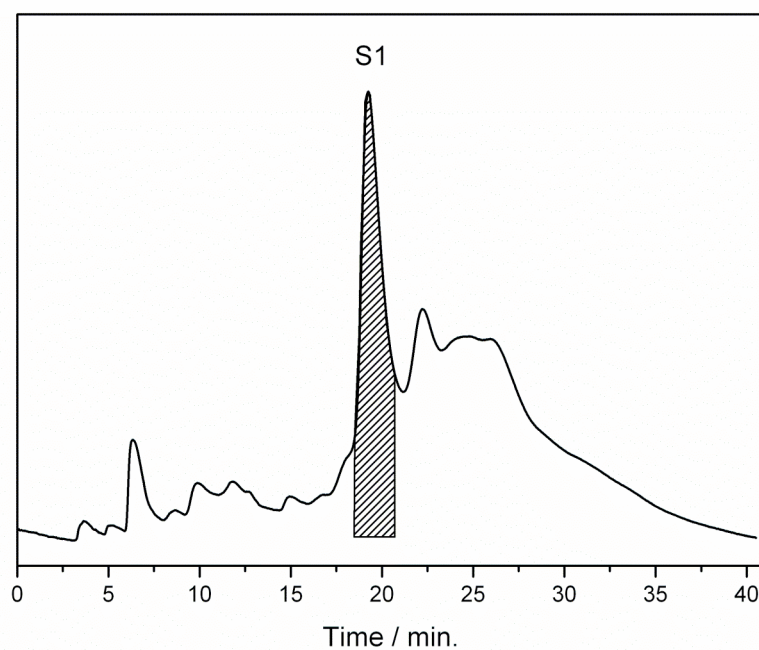


Figure SI-2. The second chromatogram of the F on a Buckyprep column with chlorobenzene as eluent. The HPLC conditions were: flow rate 4.0 mL/min, detection wavelength of 450nm.

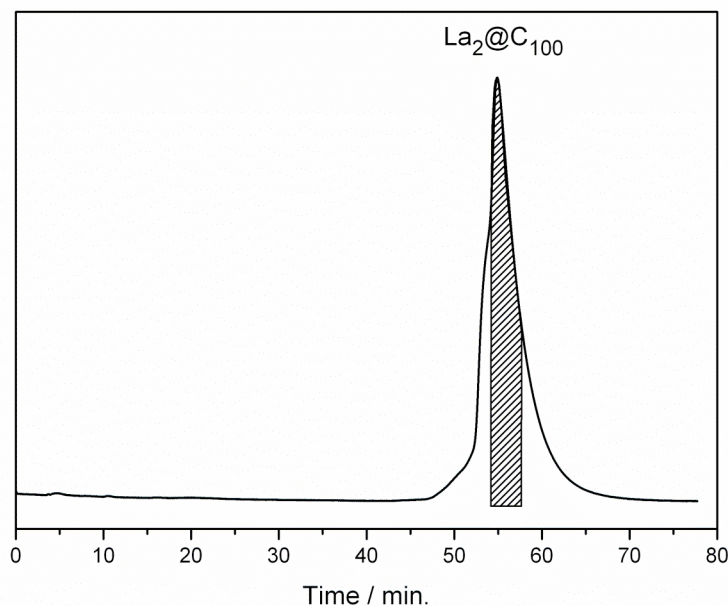


Figure SI-3 The third and fourth stage chromatogram of the $\text{La}_2@\text{C}_{100}$ isolation on a Buckyprep-M column. The HPLC conditions were: flow rate of toluene eluent 4.5 mL/min, detection wavelength of 450nm.

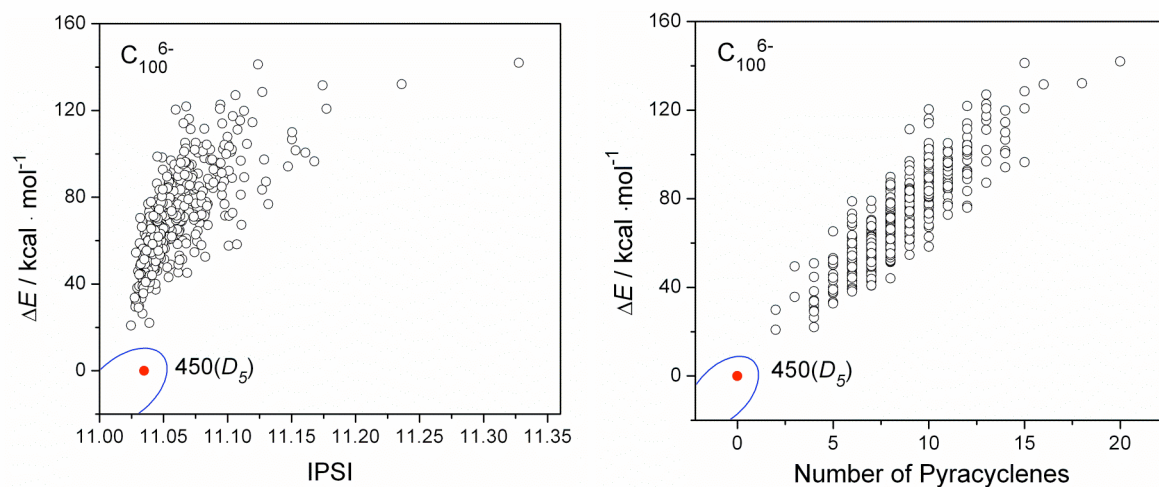


Figure SI-4 Correlations between relative stability of the fullerene hexa-anions and the IPSI, as well as the number of pyracyclene units in the IPR cages of C_{100} . The calculations were carried out at B3lyp/3-21g level. The isomer with a red mark was experimentally identified in this work. For more information on the IPSI see: Rodriguez-Forteza, A.; Alegret, N.; Balch, A. L.; Poblet, J. M. *Nature Chem.*, **2010**, 2, 955-961.

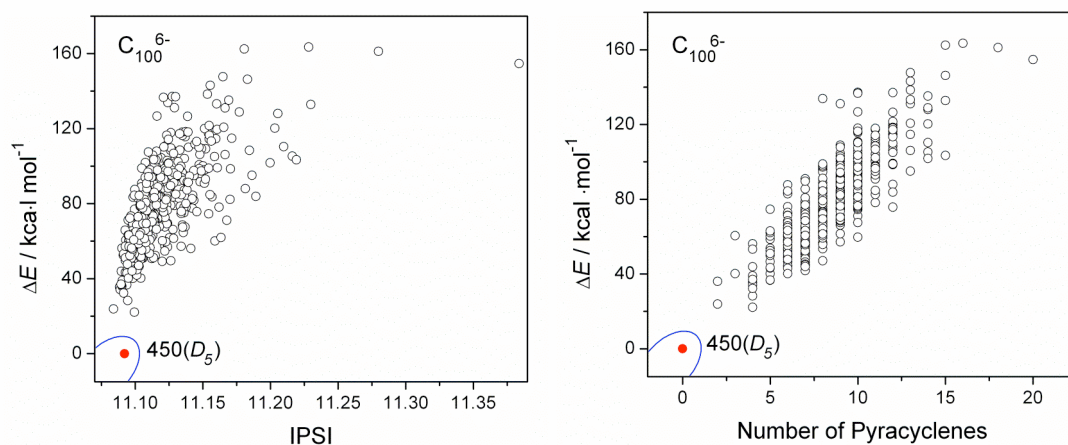


Figure SI-5 Correlations between relative stability of the fullerene hexa-anions and the IPSI, as well as the number of pyracyclene units in the IPR cages of C_{100} . The calculations were carried out at AM1 level. The isomer with a red mark was experimentally identified in this work.

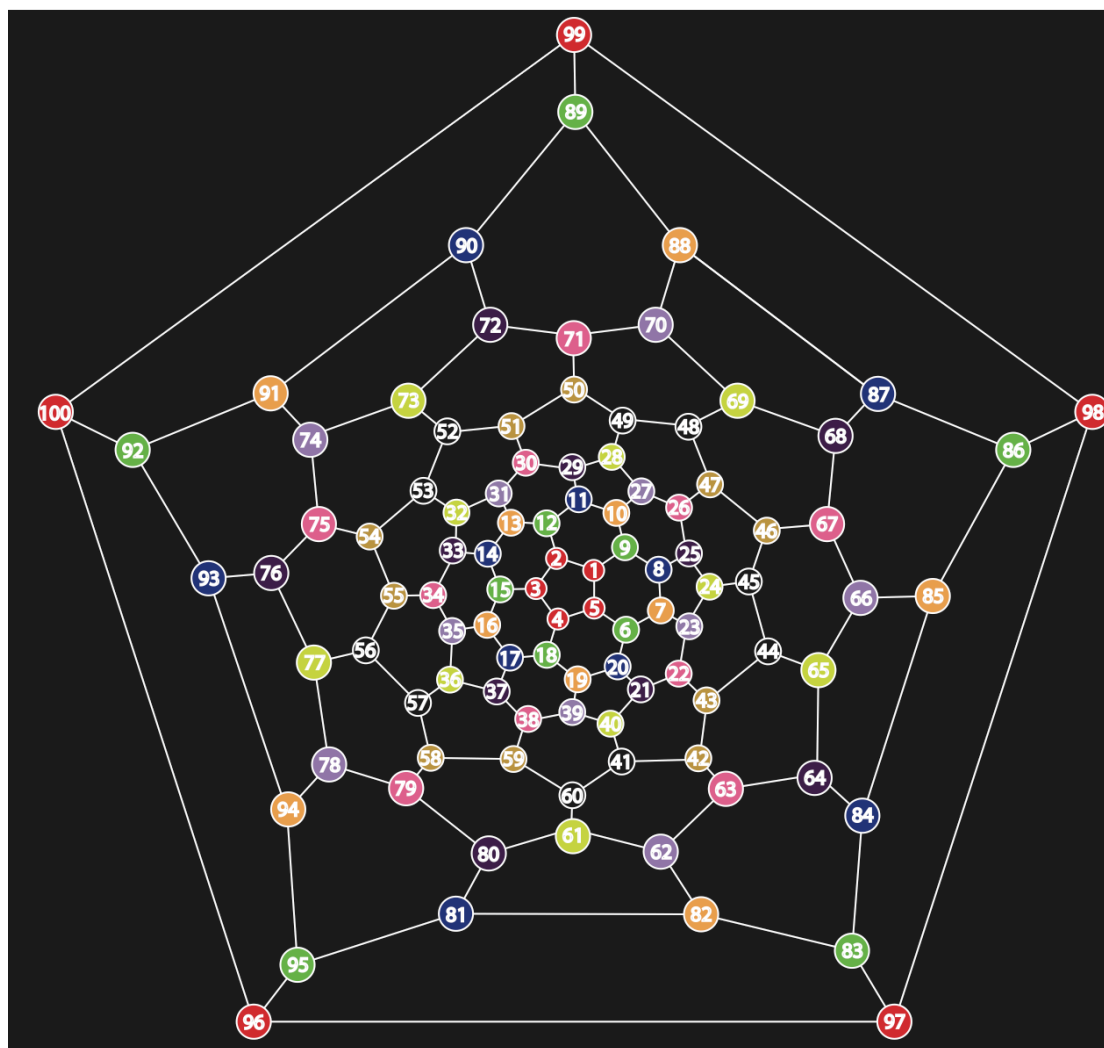
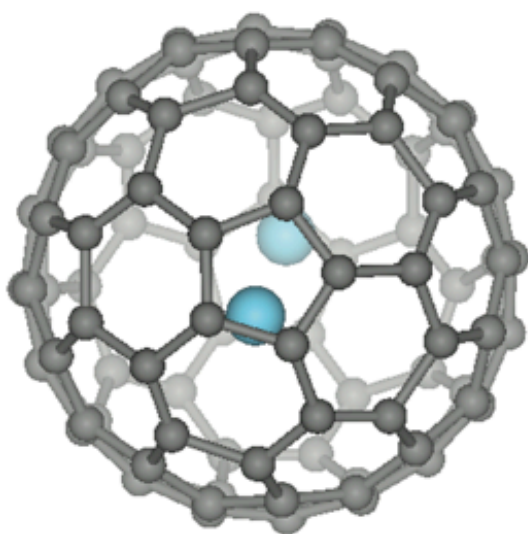
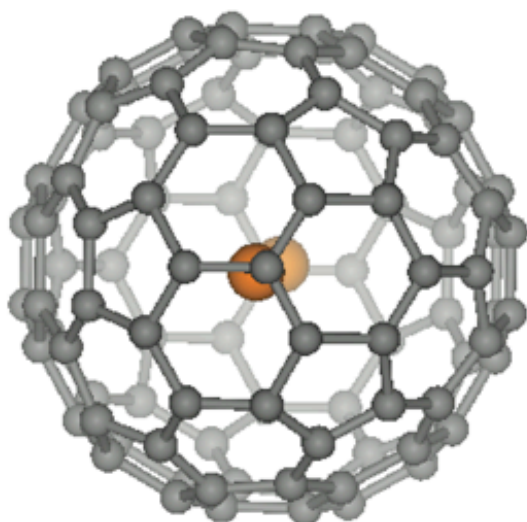


Figure SI-6 Schlegel diagram for $D_5(450)-\text{C}_{100}$.

Comparison of the Nanocapsules
 $\text{La}_2@D_5(450)\text{-C}_{100}$ and $\text{Sm}_2@D_{3d}(822)\text{-C}_{104}$
 Looking Down the Long 5- or 3-Fold Axes



$\text{La}_2@D_5(450)\text{-C}_{100}$
 8.024 Å by 10.083 Å
 No pyracylene units
 IPSI, 11.14



$\text{Sm}_2@D_{3d}(822)\text{-C}_{104}$
 8.266 Å by 10.841 Å
 No pyracylene units
 IPSI, 10.89

Figure SI-7 Comparison of the nanocapsules $\text{La}_2@D_5(450)\text{-C}_{100}$ and $\text{Sm}_2@D_{3d}(822)\text{-C}_{104}$ looking down the long 5- or 3-fold axes.