## Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S2210-271X(16)30002-0

DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.comptc.2016.01.018

Reference: COMPTC 2046

To appear in: Computational & Theoretical Chemistry

Received Date: 30 November 2015 Revised Date: 27 January 2016 Accepted Date: 27 January 2016



Please cite this article as: C-G. Li, Y-Q. Yuan, Y-F. Hu, J. Zhang, Y-N. Tang, B-Z. Ren, Density functional theory study of the structures and electronic properties of copper and sulfur doped copper clusters, *Computational & Theoretical Chemistry* (2016), doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.comptc.2016.01.018

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Density functional theory study of the structures and electronic properties of

copper and sulfur doped copper clusters

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**Abstract:** 

The structures and electronic properties of copper and sulfur doped copper clusters have

been systematically investigated by means of the CALYPSO structure searching method

combined with density functional theory. According to optimized Cu<sub>n</sub>S geometries, the dominant

growth pattern is described as one Cu atom being added on the  $Cu_{n-1}S$  clusters. The planar  $(C_{2\nu})$ 

Cu<sub>2</sub>S cluster is the most stable geometries of Cu<sub>n</sub>S clusters. From n=3, the doped systems show

the appearance of three-dimensional (3D) geometries. In addition, the calculated HOMO-LUMO

gaps are in the energy range of 1.42-2.96 eV, which make Cu<sub>n</sub>S clusters suitable candidates for

renewable energy sources. At last, the molecular orbital energy, density of states, electrostatic

potential and electron density deformation are also respectively analyzed for realizing the doped

microscopic mechanism and providing strong support for essential theoretical and experimental

research.

**Keywords:** CALYPSO; Density functional theory; Cu-S cluster

1. Introduction

It is well known that the energy sources are a serious problem in current society. Looking for a

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