

## Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

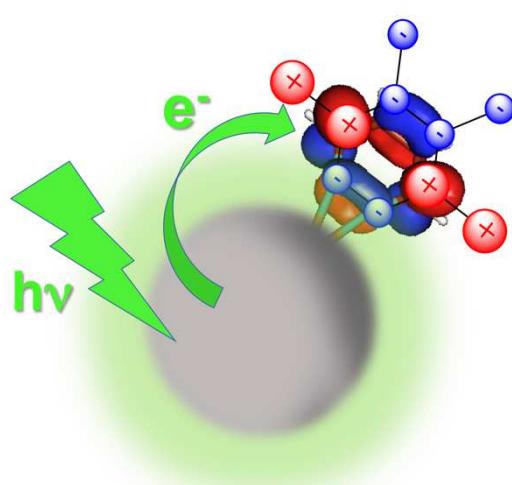
### Charge transfer at the nanoscale and the role of the out-of-plane vibrations in the selection rules of surface-enhanced Raman scattering

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**Table S1** Assignment of the infrared and Raman spectra ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) of pure liquid and 1M aqueous solution of pyridazine and the scaled B3LYP/6-31+G\* calculated wavenumbers.

Liquid		Solution		B3LYP/ 6-31+G*	
IR	Ra	Ra		v <sup>b</sup>	Assignment <sup>c</sup>
v <sup>a</sup>	v	v		v <sup>b</sup>	Assignment <sup>c</sup>
3085	-	-		3120	2;v(CH),A <sub>1</sub>
3068	3068	3086		3111	20a;v(CH),B <sub>2</sub>
3056	3056	3074		3103	7a;v(CH),A <sub>1</sub>
-	-	-		3095	13;v(CH),B <sub>2</sub>
1570	1568	1574		1570	8a;v <sub>ring</sub> ,A <sub>1</sub>
1563	1566	-		1565	8b;v <sub>ring</sub> ,B <sub>2</sub>
1446	1448	1458		1443	19b; $\delta$ (CH),A <sub>1</sub>
1415	-	-		1404	19a; $\delta$ (CH),B <sub>2</sub>
1283	1287	1293		1281	$\delta$ (CH),B <sub>2</sub>
1159	1162	1186		1167	14;v <sub>ring</sub> ,A <sub>1</sub>
-	-	1166		-	16b+11,A <sub>1</sub>
-	1118	1124		1144	$\delta$ (CH),A <sub>1</sub>
1061	1063	1069		1064	v <sub>ring</sub> ,A <sub>1</sub>
1058	-	-		1055	v <sub>ring</sub> ,B <sub>2</sub>
-	-	-		1022	12; $\delta$ <sub>ring</sub> ,B <sub>2</sub>
-	-	-		1006	5; $\gamma$ (CH),A <sub>2</sub>
-	-	-		970	17b; $\gamma$ (CH),B <sub>1</sub>
963	965	975		983	1;v <sub>ring</sub> ,A <sub>1</sub>
-	-	-		934	10b; $\gamma$ (CH),A <sub>2</sub>
760	756	758		754	11; $\gamma$ (CH),B <sub>1</sub>
-	-	-		753	4; $\tau$ <sub>ring</sub> ,A <sub>2</sub>
664	666	668		659	6a; $\delta$ <sub>ring</sub> ,A <sub>1</sub>
629	626	634		612	6b; $\delta$ <sub>ring</sub> ,B <sub>2</sub>
372	375	375		372	16b; $\tau$ <sub>ring</sub> ,B <sub>1</sub>
-	367	-		370	16a; $\tau$ <sub>ring</sub> ,A <sub>2</sub>

<sup>a</sup>From A.R. Bérces, P.G. Szalay, I. Magdó, G. Fogarasi, and G. Pongor, *J. Phys. Chem.* 1993, **97**, 1356-1363. <sup>b</sup>Calculated in-plane and out-of-plane wavenumbers scaled by 0.97 and 0.99, respectively. <sup>c</sup>Wilson's nomenclature from G. Varsanyi, Vibrational spectra of benzene derivatives, Academic Press, New York, 1969. v:stretching,  $\delta$ :in-plane deformation,  $\gamma$ :out-of-plane deformation and  $\tau$ :torsion.

**Table S2** Assignment of the SERS spectra ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) of pyridazine recorded at different electrode potentials correlated with the experimental (Raman) and the B3LYP/6-31+G\* scaled wavenumbers.

Exp. Raman	B3LYP/ 6-31+G*	SERS (Electrode Potential/V)				Assignment <sup>e</sup>
		0.00	-0.25	-0.50	-0.75	
$\nu^{\text{a}}$	$\nu^{\text{b}}$	$\nu$	$\nu$	$\nu$	$\nu$	
-	3120	-	-	-	-	2; $\nu(\text{CH}),\text{A}_1$
3086	3111	-	-	-	-	20a; $\nu(\text{CH}),\text{B}_2$
3074	3103	3064	3064	3062	3062	7a; $\nu(\text{CH}),\text{A}_1$
-	3095	-	-	-	-	13; $\nu(\text{CH}),\text{B}_2$
1574	1570	1576	1574	1574	1574	8a; $\nu_{\text{ring}},\text{A}_1$
1566 <sup>c</sup>	1565	-	-	-	-	8b; $\nu_{\text{ring}},\text{B}_2$
1458	1443	1456	1454	1454	1452	19b; $\delta(\text{CH}),\text{A}_1$
1413 <sup>d</sup>	1404	-	-	-	-	19a; $\delta(\text{CH}),\text{B}_2$
1293	1281	-	1293	1289	1289	$\delta(\text{CH}),\text{B}_2$
1186	1167	1207	1207	1209	1209	14; $\nu_{\text{ring}},\text{A}_1$
1166	-	1170	1166	1166	1166	16b+11, $\text{A}_1$
1124	1144	1152	1154	sh	-	$\delta(\text{CH}),\text{A}_1$
1069	1064	1069	1069	1067	1063	$\nu_{\text{ring}},\text{A}_1$
1049 <sup>d</sup>	1055	-	-	-	-	$\nu_{\text{ring}},\text{B}_2$
1014 <sup>d</sup>	1022	-	-	-	-	12; $\delta_{\text{ring}},\text{B}_2$
-	1006	-	-	-	-	5; $\gamma(\text{CH}),\text{A}_2$
987 <sup>d</sup>	970	-	1001	997	999	17b; $\gamma(\text{CH}),\text{B}_1$
975	983	981	979	975	971	1; $\nu_{\text{ring}},\text{A}_1$
943 <sup>d</sup>	934	-	941	943	-	10b; $\gamma(\text{CH}),\text{A}_2$
758	754	776	774	774	760	11; $\gamma(\text{CH}),\text{B}_1$
729 <sup>d</sup>	753	722	746	744	740	4; $\tau_{\text{ring}},\text{A}_2$
668	659	670	670	670	670	6a; $\delta_{\text{ring}},\text{A}_1$
634	612	644	642	640	640	6b; $\delta_{\text{ring}},\text{B}_2$
375	372	389	387	385	379	16b; $\tau_{\text{ring}},\text{B}_1$
367 <sup>c</sup>	370	-	-	-	-	16a; $\tau_{\text{ring}},\text{A}_2$

<sup>a</sup>1M aqueous solution (this work). <sup>b</sup>Calculated wavenumbers for in-plane and out-of-plane fundamentals scaled by 0.97 and 0.99, respectively. <sup>c</sup>Pure liquid (this work). <sup>d</sup>Pure liquid from J. Vázquez, J.J. López González, F. Márquez and J. E. Boggs, *J. Raman Spectrosc.* 1998, **29** 547-559. <sup>e</sup>Wilson's nomenclature from G. Varsanyi, *Vibrational spectra of benzene derivatives*, Academic Press, New York, 1969.  $\nu$ :stretching,  $\delta$ :in-plane deformation,  $\gamma$ :out-of-plane deformation and  $\tau$ :torsion.

**Table S3** B3LYP/LanL2DZ calculated wavenumber shifts ( $\Delta\nu/\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) of the vibrations of pyridazine (Pdz) in the Pdz-Ag<sub>2</sub> and Pdz-Ag<sup>+</sup> complexes with C<sub>2v</sub> and C<sub>s</sub> symmetry.

		B3LYP/ 6-31+G*		B3LYP/LanL2DZ			
Symmetry <sup>a</sup>	Assignment <sup>b</sup>	Pdz ν <sup>c</sup>	Pdz ν	Pdz-Ag <sub>2</sub> (C <sub>2v</sub> ) Δν	Pdz-Ag <sub>2</sub> (C <sub>s</sub> ) Δν	Pdz-Ag <sup>+</sup> (C <sub>2v</sub> ) Δν	Pdz-Ag <sup>+</sup> (C <sub>s</sub> ) Δν
A <sub>1</sub>	2;ν(CH)	3120	3250	6	8	19	20
	7a;ν(CH)	3103	3224	9	12	26	27
	8a;ν <sub>ring</sub>	1570	1596	3	4	10	6
	19b;δ(CH)	1443	1455	4	8	9	11
	<b>14;ν<sub>ring</sub></b>	<b>1167</b>	<b>1198</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>48</b>
	<b>δ(CH)</b>	<b>1144</b>	<b>1161</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>41</b>
	ν <sub>ring</sub>	1064	1067	0	5	-4	-4
	1;ν <sub>ring</sub>	975	962	-3	10	-20	-3
B <sub>2</sub>	6a;δ <sub>ring</sub>	668	675	6	6	14	13
	20a;ν(CH)	3111	3236	8	10	23	24
	13;ν(CH)	3095	3214	9	12	29	29
	8b;ν <sub>ring</sub>	1565	1576	4	10	7	9
	19a;δ(CH)	1404	1425	7	7	18	16
	δ(CH)	1281	1303	4	8	5	12
	ν <sub>ring</sub>	1055	1080	2	8	10	17
	12;δ <sub>ring</sub>	1022	1036	14	22	30	45
A <sub>2</sub>	6b;δ <sub>ring</sub>	612	629	3	13	9	16
	5;γ(CH)	1006	1041	4	3	15	14
	10b;γ(CH)	934	940	11	8	28	20
	4;τ <sub>ring</sub>	753	774	-1	-5	-11	-16
B <sub>1</sub>	16a;τ <sub>ring</sub>	370	380	6	16	9	16
	17b;γ(CH)	970	986	10	9	28	23
	11;γ(CH)	754	778	5	7	18	20
	16b;τ <sub>ring</sub>	372	374	7	8	23	27

<sup>a</sup>C<sub>2v</sub> symmetry. <sup>b</sup>Wilson's nomenclature from G. Varsanyi, Vibrational spectra of benzene derivatives, Academic Press, New York, 1969. ν:stretching, δ:in-plane deformation, γ:out-of-plane deformation and τ:torsion. <sup>c</sup>Calculated wavenumbers for in-plane and out-of-plane fundamentals scaled by 0.97 and 0.99, respectively.

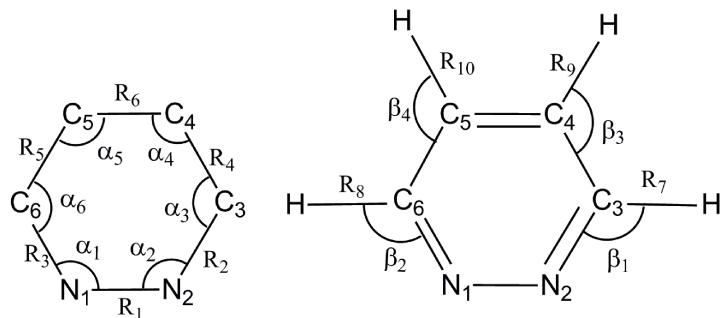
**Table S4** M06-HF/LanL2DZ vertical excitation energies ( $\Delta E/\text{eV}$ , symmetries of the isolated molecules) for the two first CT electronic transitions of the corresponding molecule- $\text{Ag}_2$  complex.

	Vertical Energies / eV		
	Pyridine- $\text{Ag}_2$	Pyrazine- $\text{Ag}_2$	Pyridazine- $\text{Ag}_2$
$\Delta E (\text{CT}_0-\text{S}_0)$	3.29 ( $\text{B}_1 \leftarrow \text{A}_1$ )	2.90 ( $\text{B}_{3\text{u}} \leftarrow \text{A}_{\text{g}}$ )	2.61 ( $\text{A}_2 \leftarrow \text{A}_1$ )
$\Delta E (\text{CT}_1-\text{S}_0)$	3.94 ( $\text{A}_2 \leftarrow \text{A}_1$ )	3.73 ( $\text{A}_{\text{u}} \leftarrow \text{A}_{\text{g}}$ )	3.12 ( $\text{B}_1 \leftarrow \text{A}_1$ )

**Table S5** M06-HF/LanL2DZ optimized structures of pyridazine (Pdz) and of Pdz- $\text{Ag}_2$  complexes in the ground electronic state ( $\text{S}_0; ^1\text{A}_1$ ) and the corresponding doublet states ( $\text{D}_0$  and  $\text{D}_1$ ) of Pdz<sup>-</sup> and the singlet CT states ( $\text{CT}_0$  and  $\text{CT}_1$ ) of the complexes, respectively.

Parameter <sup>a</sup>	Pdz ( $\text{C}_{2v}$ )			Pdz- $\text{Ag}_2$ ( $\text{C}_{2v}$ )			Pdz- $\text{Ag}_2$ ( $\text{C}_s$ )		
	$\text{S}_0$	$\text{D}_0$	$\text{D}_1$	$\text{S}_0$	$\text{CT}_0$	$\text{CT}_1$	$\text{S}_0$	$\text{CT}_0$	$\text{CT}_1$
Structure									
$\mathbf{R}_1$	1.346	1.435	1.308	1.349	1.432	1.342	1.345	1.408	1.317
$\mathbf{R}_{2/3}$	1.344	1.360	1.399	1.336	1.354	1.361	1.338/1.348	1.367	1.344/1.375
$\mathbf{R}_{4/5}$	1.408	1.394	1.446	1.412	1.386	1.464	1.410/1.410	1.376	1.468/1.434
$\mathbf{R}_6$	1.391	1.448	1.376	1.389	1.454	1.364	1.390	1.456	1.363
$\mathbf{R}_{7/8}$	1.081	1.088	1.079	1.081	1.082	1.075	1.081/1.080	1.082	1.076/1.075
$\mathbf{R}_{9/10}$	1.082	1.083	1.086	1.082	1.079	1.082	1.081/1.082	1.079	1.082/1.082
$\alpha_{1/2}$	119.9	117.4	120.9	120.4	118.7	122.0	121.4/119.1	118.7	125.1/118.6
$\alpha_{3/6}$	122.7	126.3	120.8	121.9	123.7	118.9	121.7/122.6	123.8	118.9/120.1
$\alpha_{4/5}$	117.3	116.3	118.2	117.7	117.5	119.1	117.4/117.7	117.4	116.4/120.8
$\beta_{1/2}$	115.1	113.6	115.5	115.6	115.0	117.4	115.7/115.1	114.8	117.7/115.9
$\beta_{3/4}$	120.5	121.1	120.1	120.3	120.6	119.3	120.3/120.2	120.8	120.4/118.6

<sup>a</sup>Bond lengths in Angstroms and angles in degrees. See Figures for symbols:



**Table S6** Assignment of the M06-HF/LanL2DZ calculated wavenumbers of the Pdz-Ag<sub>2</sub> complex (C<sub>2v</sub>) in the S<sub>0</sub>;<sup>1</sup>A<sub>1</sub>, CT<sub>0</sub>;<sup>1</sup>A<sub>2</sub> and CT<sub>1</sub>;<sup>1</sup>B<sub>1</sub> electronic states.

Symmetry	Assignment <sup>a</sup>	S <sub>0</sub> ( <sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub> )	S <sub>0</sub> ( <sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub> )	CT <sub>0</sub> ( <sup>1</sup> A <sub>2</sub> )		CT <sub>1</sub> ( <sup>1</sup> B <sub>1</sub> )	
		B3LYP/6-31+G* <sup>b</sup> v/ cm <sup>-1</sup>	M06-HF/LanL2DZ v/ cm <sup>-1</sup>	v/ cm <sup>-1</sup>	D <sub>ij</sub> <sup>c</sup>	v/ cm <sup>-1</sup>	D <sub>ij</sub> <sup>c</sup>
A <sub>1</sub>	2;v(CH)	3120	3311	3330	-0.99	3298	-0.88
	7a;v(CH)	3103	3286	3266	-0.99	3367	-0.88
	8a;v <sub>ring</sub>	1570	1689	1573	-0.82	1684	0.98
	19b;δ(CH)	1443	1507	1513	0.75	1447	0.99
	14;v <sub>ring</sub>	1167	1224	1333	-0.69	1413	0.80
	δ(CH)	1144	1209	1185	-0.74	1195	-0.83
	v <sub>ring</sub>	1064	1111	1015	-0.76	1081	0.84
	1;v <sub>ring</sub>	983	1016	920	-0.73	981	0.89
	6a;δ <sub>ring</sub>	659	691	701	-0.98	647	1.00
B <sub>2</sub>	20a;v(CH)	3111	3296	3314	-0.93	3355	0.75
	13;v(CH)	3095	3282	3263	0.93	3228	0.70
	8b;v <sub>ring</sub>	1565	1684	1541	0.68	4383	-0.88
	19a;δ(CH)	1404	1481	1405	-0.65	1417	0.96
	δ(CH)	1281	1348	1089	0.52	1329	-0.94
	v <sub>ring</sub>	1055	1119	1176	0.76	974	0.98
	12;δ <sub>ring</sub>	1022	1072	1066	0.99	1073	1.00
	6b;δ <sub>ring</sub>	612	639	582	-1.00	648	-0.99
A <sub>2</sub>	5;γ(CH)	1006	1091	1044	-0.79	1038	0.91
	10b;γ(CH)	934	988	841	-0.79	668	-0.74
	4;τ <sub>ring</sub>	753	798	689	-0.98	696	0.81
	16a;τ <sub>ring</sub>	370	413	259	0.98	447	1.00
B <sub>1</sub>	17b;γ(CH)	970	1039	1032	0.99	794	0.76
	11;γ(CH)	754	814	744	-0.96	664	-0.72
	16b;τ <sub>ring</sub>	372	418	421	-0.98	133	0.70

<sup>a</sup>Wilson's nomenclature from G. Varsanyi, Vibrational spectra of benzene derivatives, Academic Press, New York, 1969. v:stretching, δ:in-plane deformation, γ:out-of-plane deformation and τ:torsion. <sup>b</sup>B3LYP/6-31+G\* wavenumbers for in-plane and out-of-plane fundamentals scaled by 0.97 and 0.99, respectively. <sup>c</sup>Biggest element of the Duschinski matrix.

**Table S7** Vibrational wavenumbers ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) of the out-of-plane fundamentals of pyridazine (Pdz) in the  $S_0;^1\text{A}_1$ ,  $D_0;^2\text{A}_2$  and  $D_1;^2\text{B}_1$  electronic states calculated at several levels of theory.

Electronic state:	$S_0$	$S_0$	$D_0$		$D_1$		$S_0$	$D_0$		$D_1$		$S_0$	$D_0$		$D_1$	
Method:	B3LYP	<b>B3LYP</b>	UB3LYP		UB3LYP		RHF	UHF		UHF		CASSCF <sup>a</sup>	CASSCF <sup>a</sup>		CASSCF <sup>a</sup>	
Basis set:	6-31+G*	<b>6-31+G*</b>	<b>6-31+G*</b>		<b>6-31+G*</b>		<b>6-31+G*</b>	<b>6-31+G*</b>		<b>6-31+G*</b>		<b>6-31+G*</b>	<b>6-31+G*</b>		<b>6-31+G*</b>	
Assignment <sup>b</sup>	v <sup>c</sup>	v	v	D <sub>ij</sub> <sup>d</sup>	v	D <sub>ij</sub> <sup>d</sup>	v	v	D <sub>ij</sub> <sup>d</sup>	v	D <sub>ij</sub> <sup>d</sup>	v	v	D <sub>ij</sub> <sup>d</sup>	v	D <sub>ij</sub> <sup>d</sup>
5, $\gamma(\text{CH}),\text{A}_2$	1006	<b>1016</b>	<b>578</b>	-0.73	<b>885</b>	-0.87	<b>1141</b>	<b>677</b>	0.67	<b>1028</b>	-0.88	<b>1083</b>	<b>714</b>	-0.68	<b>977</b>	0.91
17b, $\gamma(\text{CH}),\text{B}_1$	970	<b>980</b>	<b>907</b>	-0.94	<b>443</b>	0.80	<b>1095</b>	<b>1030</b>	-0.91	<b>448</b>	-0.72	<b>1031</b>	<b>995</b>	-0.92	<b>516</b>	0.76
10b, $\gamma(\text{CH}),\text{A}_2$	934	<b>943</b>	<b>943</b>	0.76	<b>452</b>	0.75	<b>1048</b>	<b>1055</b>	0.73	<b>416</b>	-0.89	<b>984</b>	<b>1020</b>	-0.71	<b>512</b>	-0.91
11, $\gamma(\text{CH}),\text{B}_1$	754	<b>762</b>	<b>587</b>	0.87	<b>668</b>	-0.85	<b>850</b>	<b>667</b>	0.80	<b>774</b>	-0.82	<b>811</b>	<b>664</b>	-0.91	<b>746</b>	-0.79
4, $\tau_{\text{ring}},\text{A}_2$	753	<b>761</b>	<b>664</b>	0.93	<b>666</b>	-0.98	<b>833</b>	<b>722</b>	-0.89	<b>727</b>	-0.98	<b>779</b>	<b>692</b>	0.88	<b>699</b>	0.97
16b, $\tau_{\text{ring}},\text{B}_1$	372	<b>376</b>	<b>383</b>	-0.92	<b>298i</b>	0.91	<b>446</b>	<b>439</b>	0.96	<b>267i</b>	0.76	<b>440</b>	<b>440</b>	-0.97	<b>72i</b>	0.86
16a, $\tau_{\text{ring}},\text{A}_2$	370	<b>374</b>	<b>211</b>	0.99	<b>411</b>	-0.89	<b>433</b>	<b>290</b>	-0.92	<b>487</b>	-0.99	<b>423</b>	<b>304</b>	0.94	<b>475</b>	1.01

<sup>a</sup>6x6 and 7x6 CASSCF calculations for  $S_0$  and  $D_i$ , respectively. <sup>b</sup>Wilson's nomenclature from G. Varsanyi, *Vibrational spectra of benzene derivatives*, Academic Press, New York, 1969. <sup>c</sup>:out-of-plane deformation and  $\tau$ :torsion. <sup>d</sup>Scaled B3LYP/6-31+G\* wavenumbers by 0.99. <sup>d</sup>Biggest element of the Duschinski matrix.

