

## Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

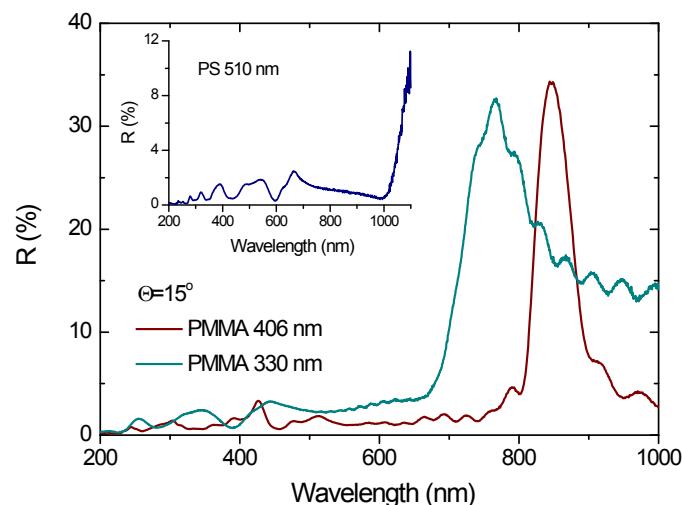
### Nanographene oxide-TiO<sub>2</sub> photonic films as plasmon-free substrates for surface-enhanced Raman scattering

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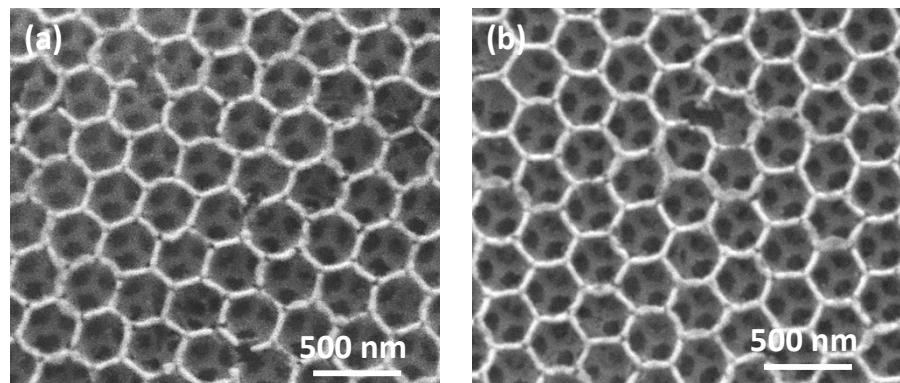
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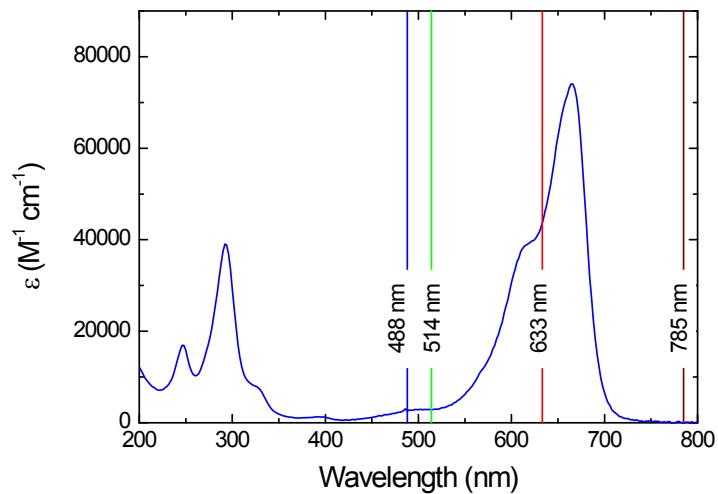
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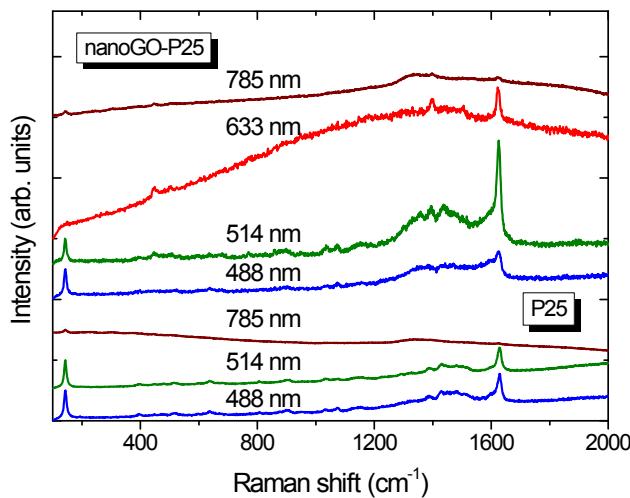
**Fig. S1** Specular reflectance spectra for the colloidal opal templates from 330 and 406 nm PMMA spheres. The inset shows the corresponding R% spectrum for the PS 510 nm opal film, where the stop band is expected at 1200 nm.



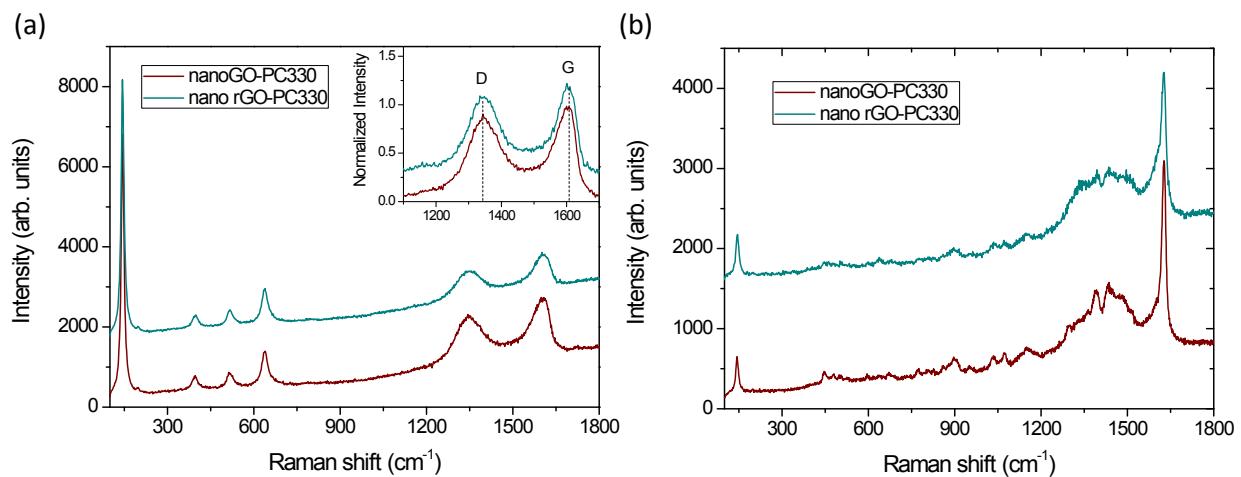
**Fig. S2** SEM images for the PC406 inverse opals (a) before and (b) after surface functionalization with GO nanosheets.



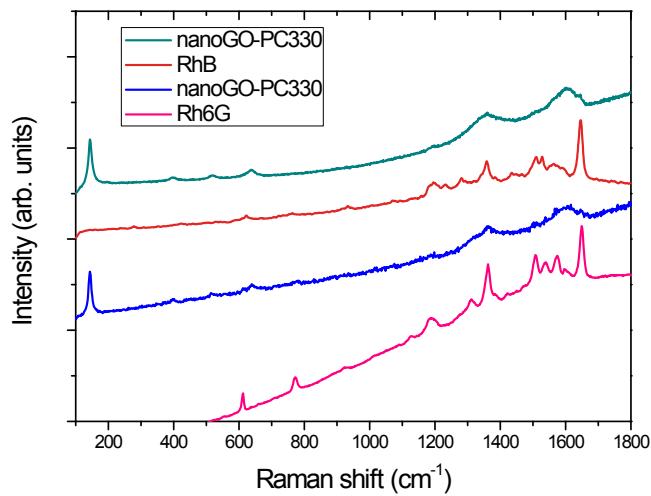
**Fig. S3** The molar extinction coefficient of MB determined from  $10^{-5}$  M aqueous solution using a 1 cm path length quartz micro cell. Solid lines depict the different laser excitation wavelengths applied in the present work.



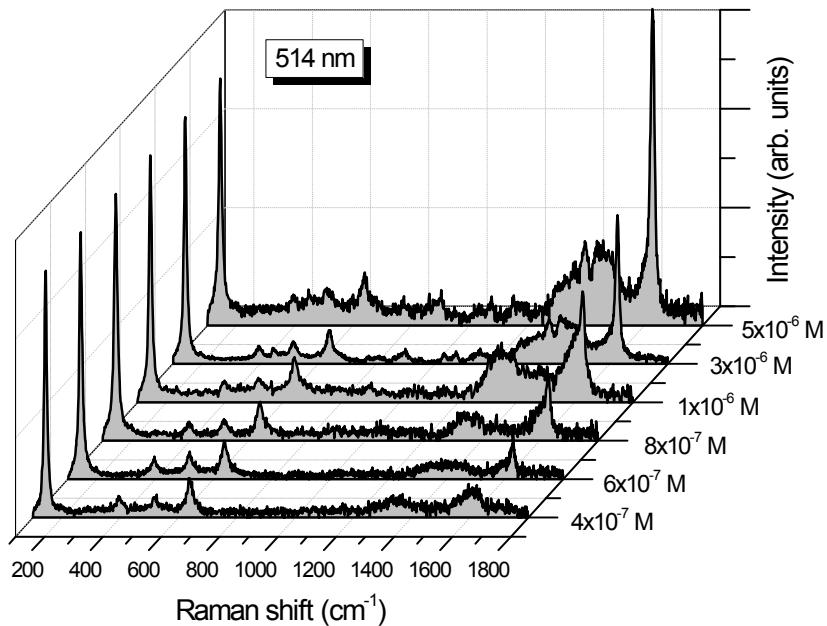
**Fig. S4** Raman spectra of  $3 \times 10^{-5}$  M MB adsorbed on pristine and nanoGO-functionalized P25 films at different laser excitations.



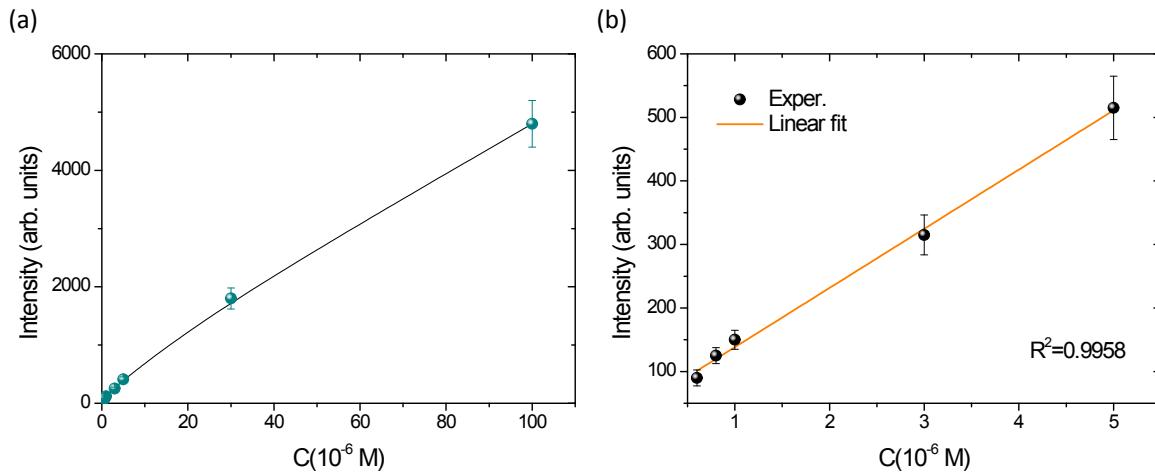
**Fig. S5** (a) Raman spectra of nanoGO-PC330 before and after thermal reduction at 200 °C under He flow at 514 nm. (b) MB SERS spectra on nanoGO-PC330 and nano rGO-PC330 films after adsorption using  $10^{-4}$  M MB aqueous solution.



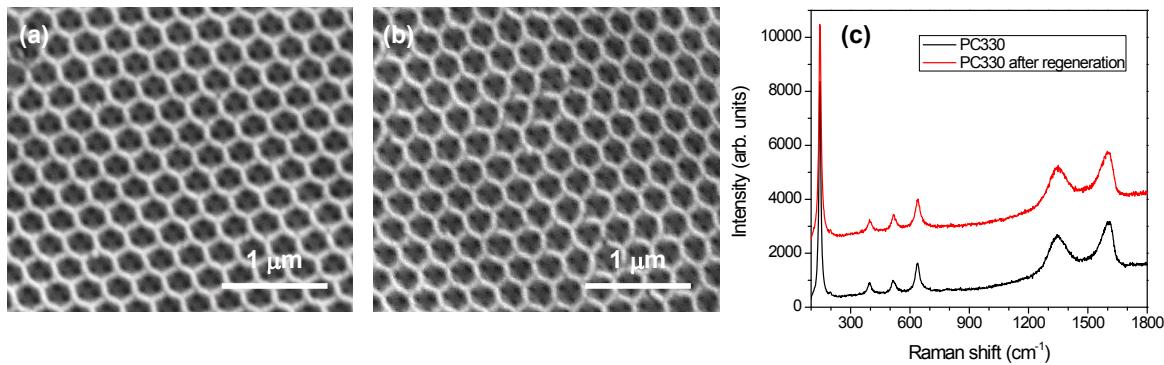
**Fig. S6** Raman spectra of RhB and Rh6G dyes adsorbed from  $10^{-5}$  M aqueous solutions on nanoGO-PC330 substrates compared to the corresponding solid powders at 488 and 514 nm, respectively.



**Fig. S7** MB SERS spectra on nanoGO-PC330 after adsorption in MB aqueous solutions of decreasing concentrations at 514 nm.



**Fig. S8** Concentration dependence of the  $1628 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  SERS intensity on nanoGO-PC330 (a) over a broad MB concentration range ( $10^{-4}$  to  $6 \times 10^{-7} \text{ M}$ ) and (b) in the mM range along with the corresponding linear fit. The solid line in (a) serves as a guide to the eye.



**Fig. S9** SEM images of nanoGO-PC330 substrate (a) before and (b) after the 2<sup>nd</sup> regeneration cycle. (c) The corresponding Raman spectra of the SERS substrates at 514 nm.

**Table S1** Raman band frequencies of MB adsorbed on pristine PC330 and nanoGO-PC330 inverse opals compared to those of solid MB powder at 514 nm.

MB powder	PC330	nanoGO-PC330	Assignment [1], [2], [3]
1627 (vs)	1629 (vs)	1630 (vs)	$\nu$ (C-C)ring
1543 (vw)	1546 (vw)	1546 (vw)	$\nu$ asym(C-C-C)
1473 (s)	1482 (s)	1474 (s)	$\nu$ (C-C)/ $\delta$ (C-N-C)
1440 (m)	1430 (s)	1443 (s)	$\nu$ (C-C-C)/ $\nu$ as(C-N-C)
1397 (s)	1394 (s)	1398 (s)	$\nu$ (C-C)/ $\nu$ (NH-C)
1366 (m)	1366 (vw)	1366 (m)	$\nu$ (C-N-C)/ $\delta$ (C-C-C)
1303 (m)	1302 (w)	1302 (m)	$\delta$ (C-N-C)/ $\beta$ (C-H)
1186 (w)	1186 (vw)	1186 (w)	w(C-H)
1157 (w)	1157 (vw)	1157 (w)	$\delta$ (C-C-C)/w(NH)/ $\beta$ (CH)
1076 (m)	1076 (w)	1076 (m)	w(NH)/w(CH)
1039 (w)	1037 (m)	1037 (m)	$\nu$ (C-S-C)/ $\delta$ (C-C-C)
953 (m)	953 (w)	953 (m)	$\nu$ (C-S-C)
900 (vw)	900 (m)	900 (m)	
862 (m)	862 (vw)	862 (w)	
828 (vw)	828 (w)	828 (w)	
-	809 (w)	808 (w)	$\delta$ (C-N-C)/ $\delta$ (C-S-C)/ $\delta$ (C-C-C)
772 (m)	771 (w)	772 (m)	
670 (w)	670 (vw)	671 (w)	$\gamma$ (C-H)
595 (vw)	597 (w)	597 (w)	$\delta$ (C-S-C)/ $\delta$ (C-C-C)
502 (w)	502 (w)	502 (vw)	$\delta$ (C-N-C) dimer
-	479 (vw)	479 (vw)	$\beta$ (C-H) monomer
448 (m)	448 (m)	448 (m)	$\delta$ (C-N-C) dimer

Abbreviations: s, strong; m, medium; w, weak; vw, very weak;  $\nu$ , stretching;  $\beta$ , in-plane bending;  $\gamma$ , out-of-plane bending;  $\delta$ , skeletal deformation; w, wagging

## References

- 1 K. Hutchinson, R. E. Hester, W. J. Albery and A. R. Hillman, *J. Chem. Soc., Faraday Trans. 1*, 1984, **80**, 2053-2071.
- 2 W. Xu, M. Aydin, S. Zakia and D. L. Akins, *J. Phys. Chem. B* 2004, **108**, 5588-5593.
- 3 G. N. Xiao and S. Q. Man, *Chem. Phys. Lett.*, 2007, **447**, 305-309.