

## Supporting Information

### Highly sensitive fluorescent explosives detection via SERS: based on fluorescence quenching of graphene oxide @ Ag composite aerogels

Lingyan Shi,<sup>a,b,c,#</sup> Wei Liu,<sup>a,b,c,#</sup> Xuan He,<sup>\*b</sup> Zihan Wang,<sup>a,b,c</sup> Weiping Xian,<sup>b</sup> Jie Wang,<sup>a,c</sup> and Sheng Cui<sup>\*a,c</sup>

a. State Key Laboratory of Materials-Oriented Chemical Engineering, College of Material Science and Engineering, Nanjing Tech University, Nanjing 211816, China.

b. Institute of Chemical Materials, China Academy of Engineering Physics, Mianyang 621900, China.

c. Jiangsu Collaborative Innovation Center for Advanced Inorganic Function Composites, Nanjing Tech University, Nanjing 211816, China.

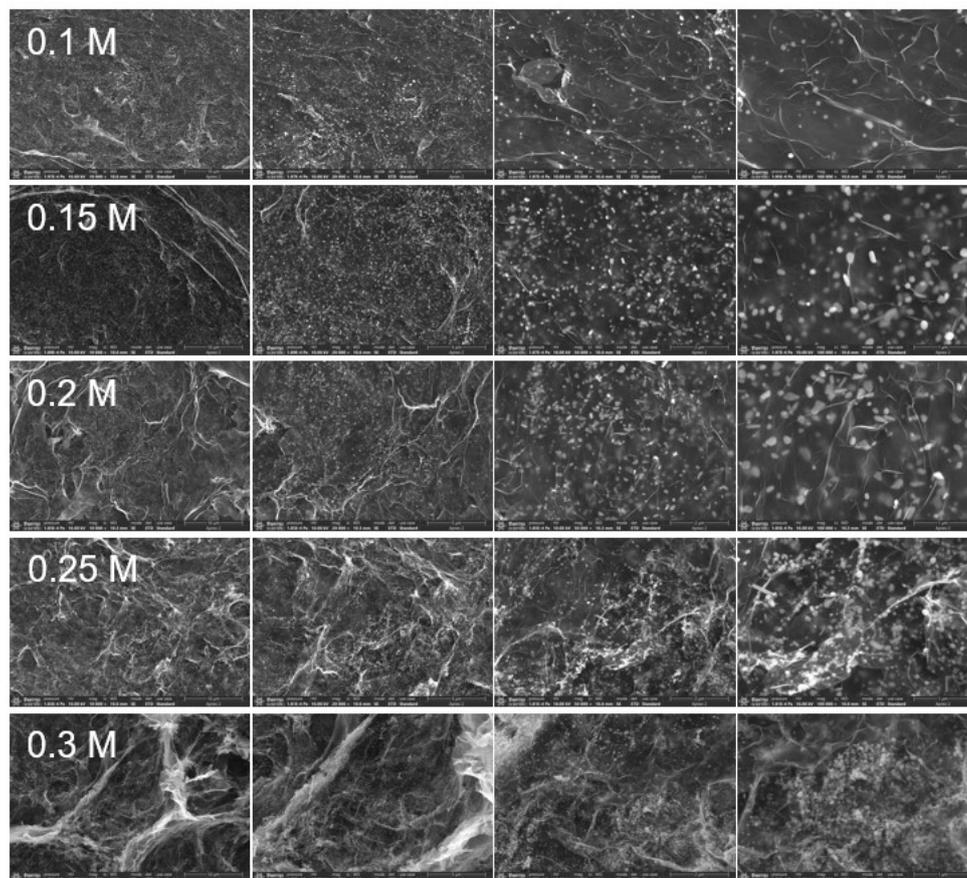
# Both authors have the same contribution

\*Corresponding Authors

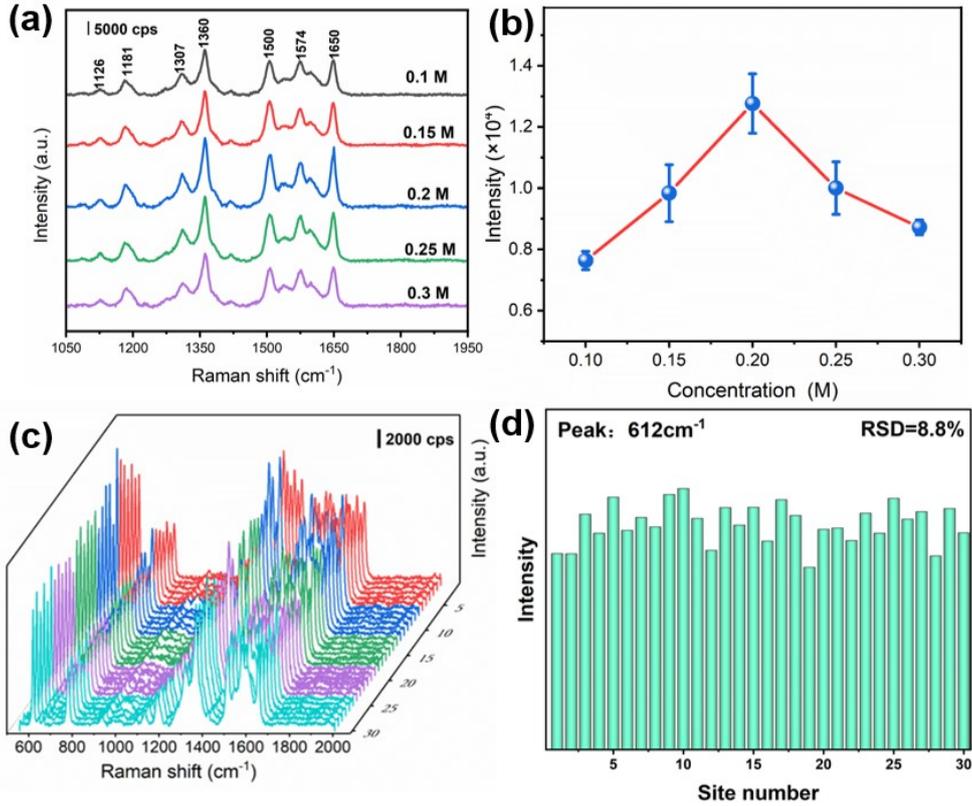
E-mail address: hellenpoko@qq.com, xuan.hellen@caep.cn (Xuan He)

E-mail address: scui@njtech.edu.cn (Sheng Cui)

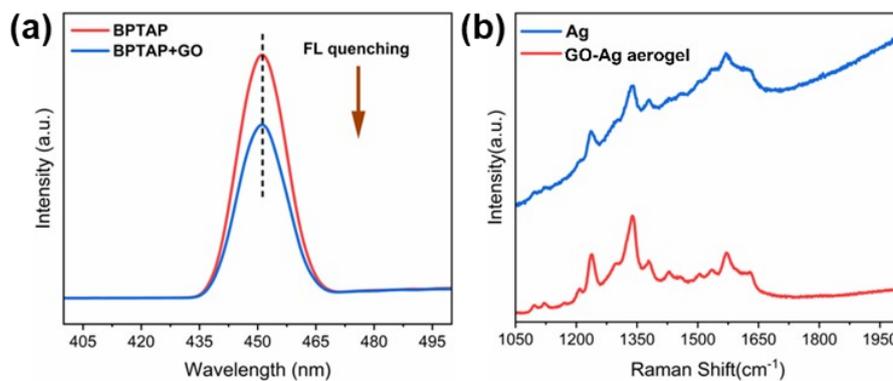
## Supplementary Data



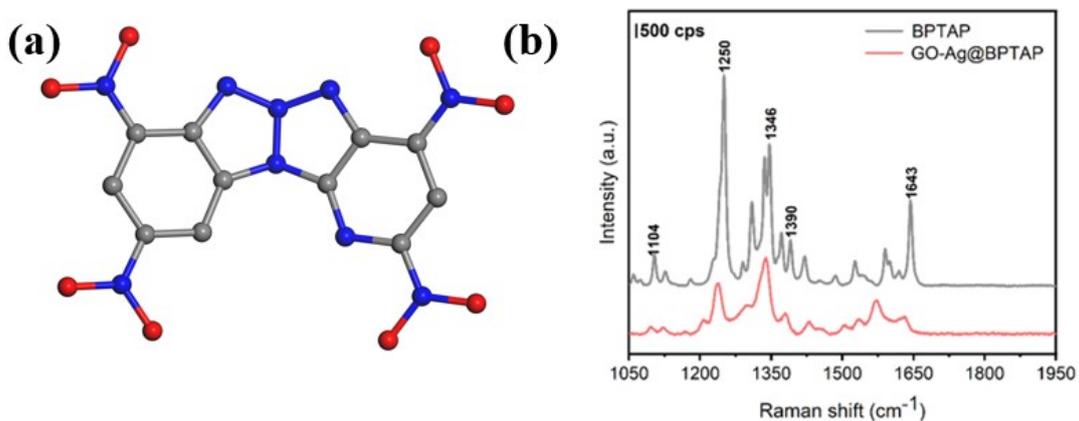
**Figure S1.** SEM images of GO-Ag ANM with different  $\text{AgNO}_3$  concentration (0.1 M, 0.15 M, 0.2 M, 0.25 M, 0.3 M).



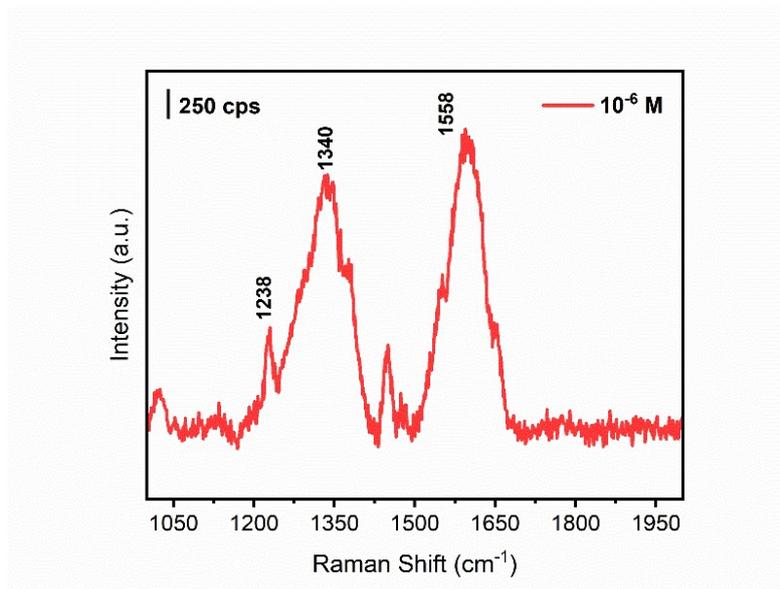
**Figure S2.** SERS enhanced effect of different concentrations of silver loaded GO-Ag ANM on R6G (a), SERS trend diagram under different concentrations of AgNO<sub>3</sub> (b), A series of SERS spectra of R6G ethanol solution ( $1 \times 10^{-5}$  M) collected on randomly selected 30 dots of the GO-Ag ANM substrates (c), The SERS intensity distribution of the 1650 cm<sup>-1</sup> (d).



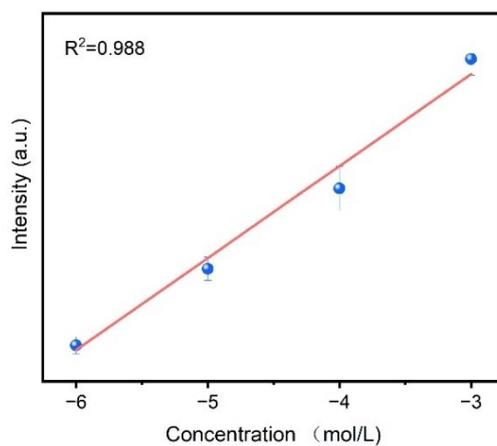
**Figure S3.** Comparison of fluorescence quenching effects of GO-Ag ANM on fluorescent explosive BPTAP. (a) fluorescence contrast diagram. (b) 10<sup>-4</sup> M BPTAP Raman performance comparison diagram.



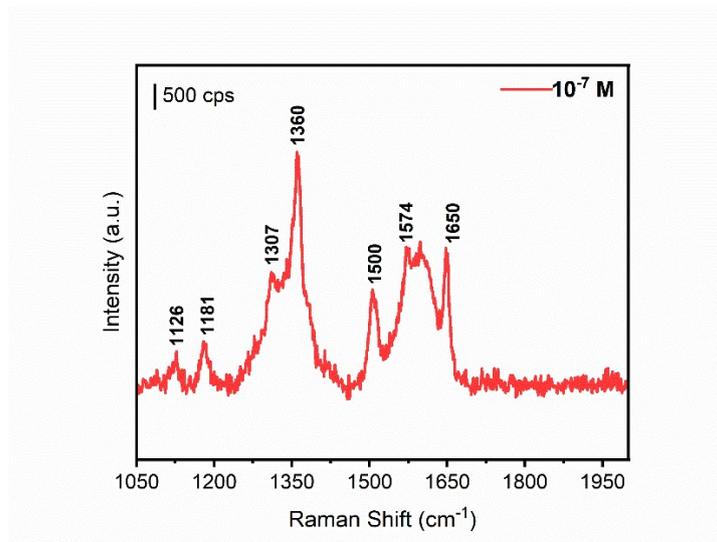
**Figure S4.** The molecular structure of explosive BPTAP(a), the SERS spectra of explosive BPTAP and GO-Ag@BPTA.



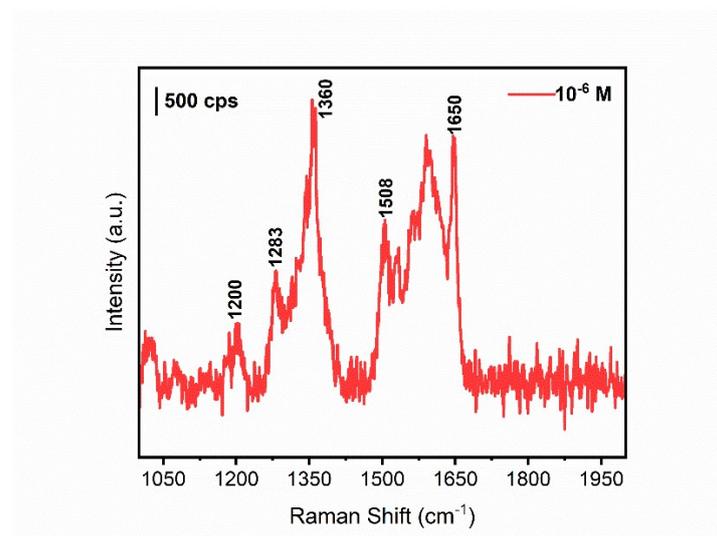
**Figure S5.** SERS responses of GO-Ag ANM in the presence of BPTAP at  $10^{-6}$  M.



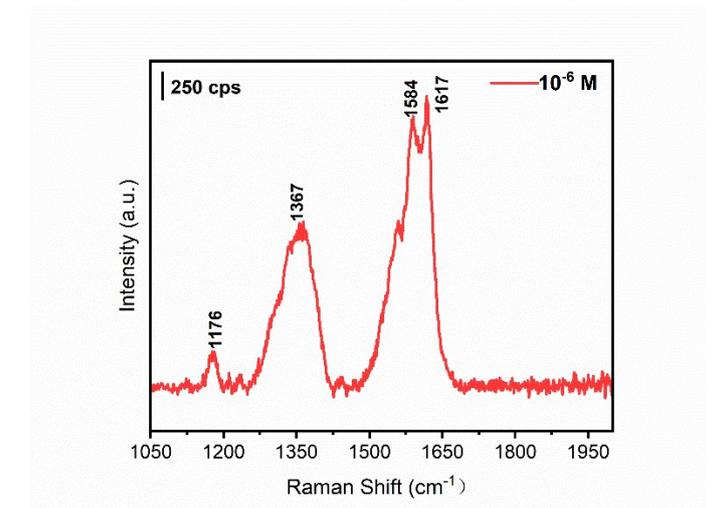
**Figure S6.** Linear diagram of BPTAP.



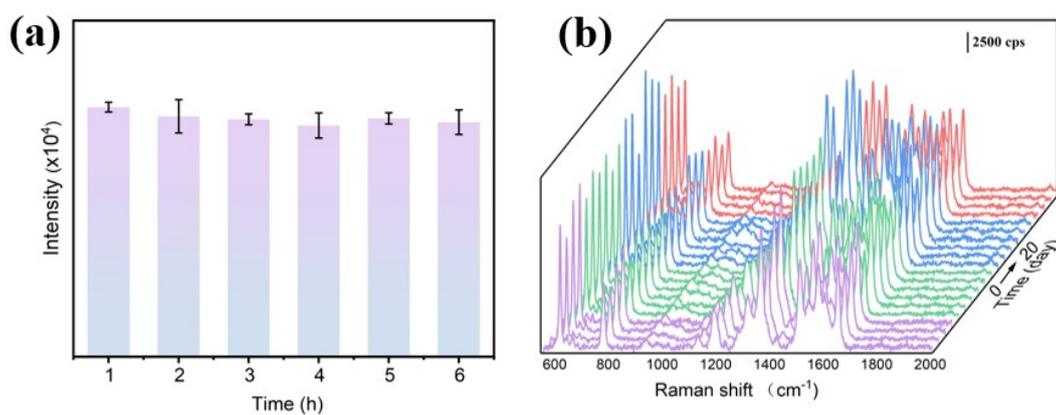
**Figure S7.** SERS responses of GO-Ag ANM in the presence of R6G at  $10^{-7}$  M.



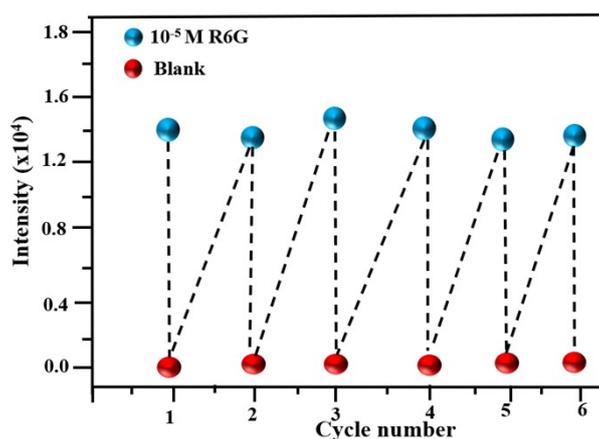
**Figure S8.** SERS responses of GO-Ag ANM in the presence of RhB at  $10^{-6}$  M.



**Figure S9.** SERS responses of GO-Ag ANM in the presence of CV at  $10^{-6}$  M.



**Figure S10.** The trend chart illustrates the change in SERS intensity of the GO-Ag ANM substrate, detected with R6G ( $1 \times 10^{-5}$  M), at hourly intervals(a). SERS performance diagram of GO-Ag ANM against R6G ( $1 \times 10^{-5}$  M) in 1-20 days(b)



**Figure S11.** Sensor recovery performance of GO-Ag in 6 cycles cleaned with ethanol

**Table S1.** GO-Ag ANM for each element Wt% and At%.

Elements	C		Ag		O		N	
	Wt%	At%	Wt%	At%	Wt%	At%	Wt%	At%
0.1	60.91	78.36	21.24	3.04	7.90	7.63	9.94	10.97
0.15	60.20	70.61	9.38	1.22	19.50	17.17	10.93	10.99
0.2	58.20	77.25	23.79	3.52	8.96	8.93	9.05	10.31
0.25	54.84	71.32	20.59	2.98	12.28	11.99	12.29	13.71

0.3	44.62	73.11	40.59	7.41	7.47	9.19	7.32	10.29
-----	-------	-------	-------	------	------	------	------	-------

**Table S2. The SERS intensity of the 612 cm<sup>-1</sup> bands from thirty dots.**

<b>Number</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
Intensity	10946	10932	13155	12083	14100	15246	16964	9443	14249	14575
<b>Number</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
Intensity	12918	11134	13519	12542	13540	11648	13956	13076	10187	12299
<b>Number</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
Intensity	12374	11683	13209	12086	14037	10874	13289	10817	13464	12104

**Table S3: Explosive BATAP Raman signature peak**

Raman shift (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Tentative Assignments
1104	ring respiratory peak
1250	symmetric N=N-N stretching vibration peak
1346	symmetric NO <sub>2</sub> stretching
1390	symmetric NO <sub>2</sub> stretching vibration peak
1643	cyclic stretching vibration peak of benzene derivative

**Text S1. The detailed calculation of the enhancement factor.**

To quantitatively characterize the enhancement ability of this SERS active substrate, the enhancement factor (EF) value of R6G is calculated according to the following equation:

$$EF = (I_{\text{SERS}}/I_{\text{bulk}})(N_{\text{bulk}}/N_{\text{SERS}}) \quad \text{Equation. S1}$$

Where  $I_{\text{SERS}}$  and  $I_{\text{bulk}}$  were the peak intensities of  $1 \times 10^{-6}$  M R6G on GO-Ag ANM and  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  M R6G on silicon wafer at 1645 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively.  $N_{\text{SERS}}$  and  $N_{\text{bulk}}$  were the number of R6G molecules excited by the laser beam on GO-Ag ANM and the silicon

wafer, respectively. Herein, a certain volume ( $V_{\text{SERS}}$ ) and concentration ( $C_{\text{SERS}}$ ) R6G ethanol solution was dispersed to an area of  $S_{\text{SERS}}$  at GO-Ag ANM. For non-SERS Raman spectra, a certain volume ( $V_{\text{bulk}}$ ) and concentration ( $C_{\text{bulk}}$ ) R6G ethanol solution was dispersed to an area of  $S_{\text{bulk}}$  at a clean Si substrate. Both the substrates were dried in air. Considering the area of laser spot was the same, the equation thus becomes:  $EF = (I_{\text{SERS}}/I_{\text{bulk}}) (C_{\text{bulk}}V_{\text{bulk}}/C_{\text{SERS}}V_{\text{SERS}})(S_{\text{SERS}}/S_{\text{bulk}})$ . In our experiment, 20  $\mu\text{L}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-6}$  M R6G was dispersed to an area of 12  $\text{mm}^2$  for GO-Ag ANM and 20  $\mu\text{L}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  M R6G ethanol solution was dispersed to an area of 16  $\text{mm}^2$  for the silicon wafer s. For the band at 1645  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ,  $I_{\text{SERS}}/I_{\text{bulk}}$  was  $[(9882+9654+9947)/3] / [(652+685+671)/3] \approx 14.7$ . Therefore, average enhancement factor for the band at 1652  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  was calculated to be  $1.96 \times 10^4$ .

**Text S2. Detailed calculative process of relative standard deviation (RSD).**

$$\text{RSD} = (\text{SD}/X_{\text{average}}) \times 100\% \quad \text{Equation S2}$$

SD (standard deviation) was calculated according to the well-known formula:

$$\text{SD} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n-1} \times \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - X_{\text{average}})^2} \quad \text{Equation S3}$$

where, n is the total number of the R6G standard sample.  $X_i$  is the “i” sample of the series of measurements.  $X_{\text{average}}$  is the average value of the SERS signals obtained for the specific series of identical samples repeated n times.  $\text{SD} = 1120.664$ ,  $X_{\text{average}} = 1219.4$ , RSD was calculated to be 8.88%.