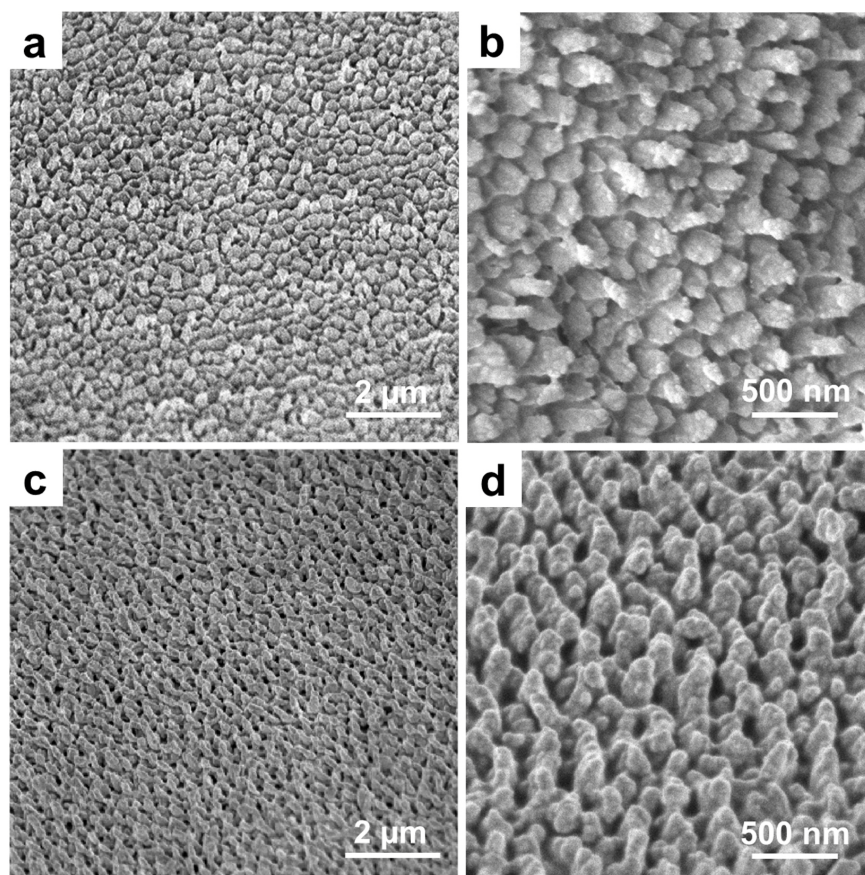


**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

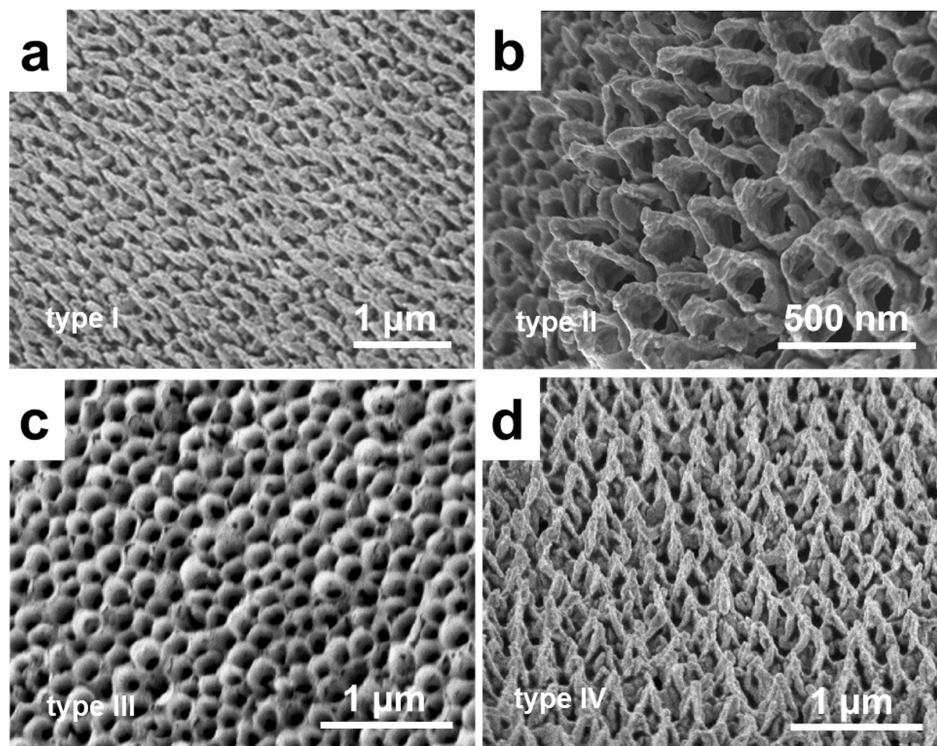
**Large area flexible SERS active substrates using  
engineered nanostructures**

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**Fig. S1. Effect of evaporation angle,  $\alpha$ , on nanostructure formation (a-b)** With a small incident angle of  $30^\circ$ , tall structures could be formed since the evaporated metal could penetrate deep into the holes. The structures however tended to be weak and collapsed during dissolution of the AAO membrane (c-d) For the highest incident angle of  $60^\circ$ , we observed shorter and duller nano-pillars.



**Fig. S2. Uniformity of the four types of SERS-active substrates.** Wider view SEM images for each of the nanostructured substrates developed here.