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RETRACTION

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Retraction: A surfactant-free co-assembly route to fabricate 2D TiO_2–WO_3 composite inverse opal films for photochromic applications

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Retraction of 'A surfactant-free co-assembly route to fabricate 2D TiO_2–WO_3 composite inverse opal films for photochromic applications' by Hongyu Zhen *et al.*, *New J. Chem.*, 2014, **38**, 4041–4044.

We, the named authors, hereby wholly retract this *New Journal of Chemistry* article.

In this article we report a method to fabricate 2D TiO_2–WO_3 composite inverse opal films *via* a mechanical co-assembly route with a template of polystyrene spheres. Upon repeating the experiments described, we found that this was not an effective method for forming the films; often the film was broken or did not form at all. We suggest that this may be due to the mechanical forces exerted by the rubber, which were inconsistent between experiments and predominantly acted in one direction only. Therefore we are no longer confident that the method and results reported in this article are reliable. We retract this article to avoid misleading readers and apologise for any inconvenience caused to *New Journal of Chemistry* and the readers.

Signed: Hongyu Zhen and Kan Li, 29th September 2015.

Retraction endorsed by Andrew Shore, Executive Editor (Royal Society of Chemistry) and Denise Parent, Managing Editor (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique), *New Journal of Chemistry*.

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