

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### MANUSCRIPT:

*The effect of oxygen vacancies on water wettability of  
transition metal based SrTiO<sub>3</sub> and rare-earth based Lu<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>*

*Tarapada Sarkar<sup>#1</sup>, Siddhartha Ghosh<sup>#1</sup>, Meenakshi Annamalai<sup>1</sup>, Abhijeet Patra<sup>1,3</sup>, Kelsey Stoerzinger<sup>4</sup>, Yueh-Lin Lee<sup>4</sup>, Saurav Prakash<sup>1</sup>, Mallikarjuna Rao Motapothula<sup>1</sup>, Yang Shao-Horn<sup>\*4</sup>, Livia Giordano<sup>\*4,5</sup>, T. Venkatesan<sup>\*1,2,3,6,7</sup>*

<sup>1</sup>NUSNNI-NanoCore, National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore

<sup>2</sup>Department of Electrical Engineering, National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore

<sup>3</sup>NUS Graduate School for Integrative Sciences and Engineering, National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore

<sup>4</sup>Electrochemical Energy Laboratory, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, USA

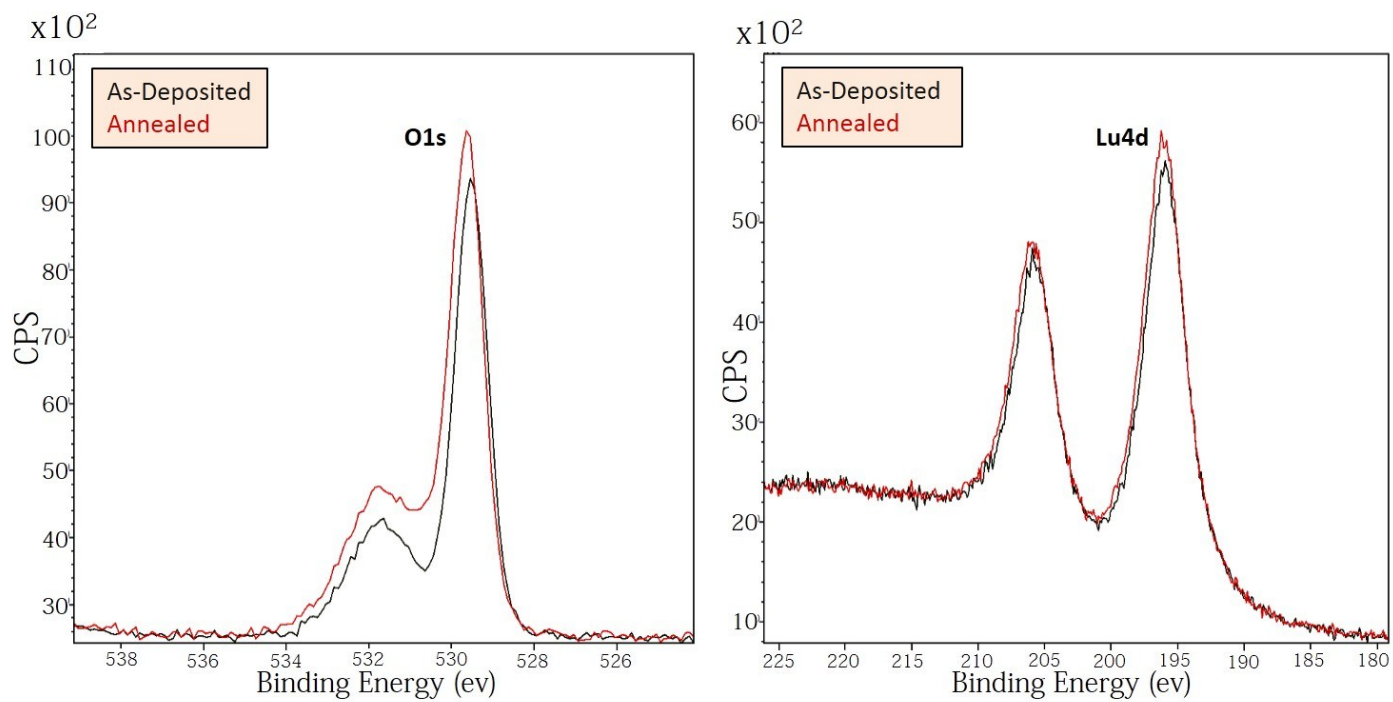
<sup>5</sup> Department of Material Science, University of Milano-Bicocca, Milano, Italy

<sup>6</sup>Department of Department of Materials Science and Engineering, National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore

<sup>7</sup>Department of Physics, Faculty of Science, National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore

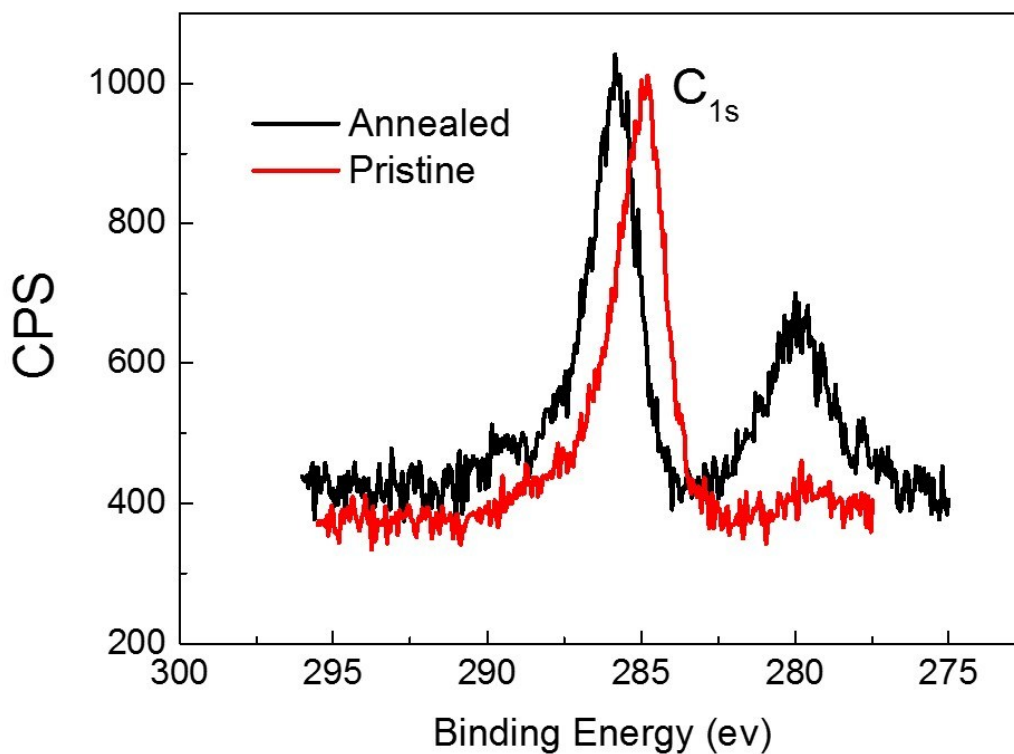
**# These authors have contributed equally in the manuscript.**

## XPS study of Lu<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> thin-film:



**Fig. S1:** XPS analysis of Lu<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> on (a) O1s element and (b) Lu4d element.

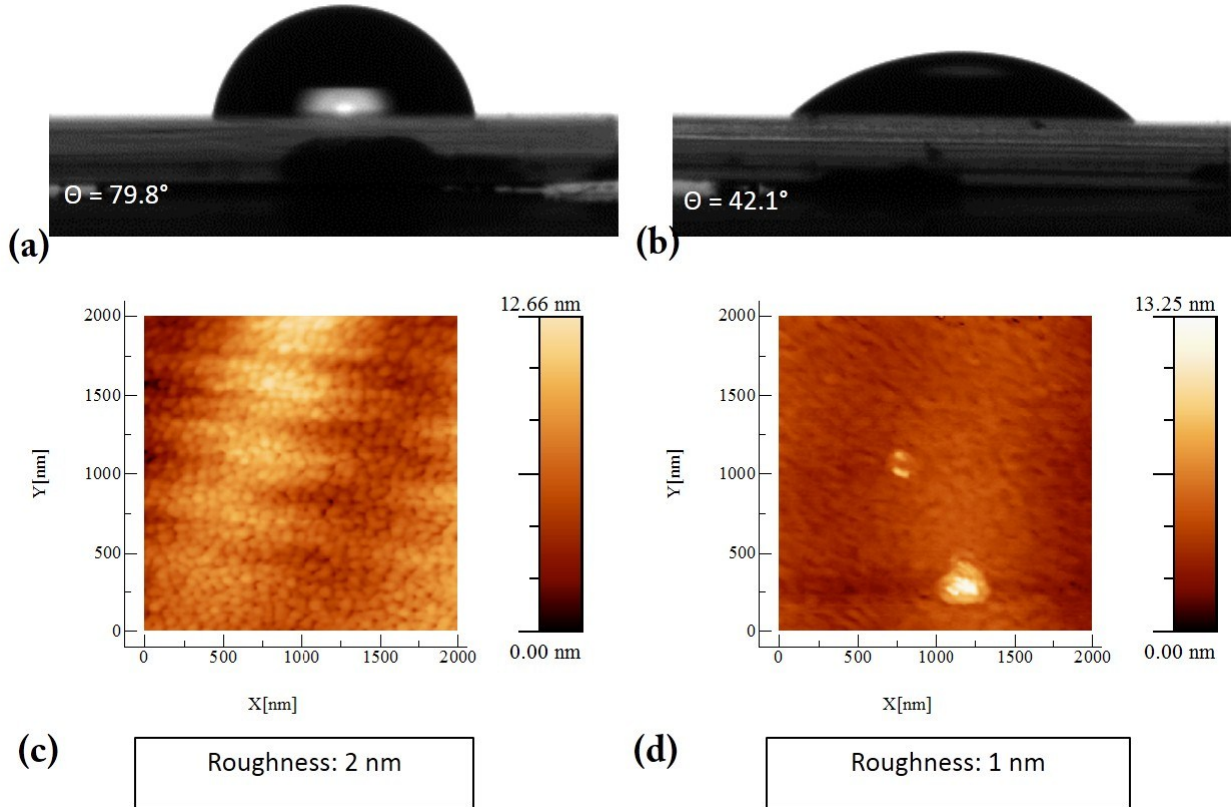
## XPS study of SrTiO<sub>3</sub> thin-film:



**Fig. S2:** XPS analysis of SrTiO<sub>3</sub> C<sub>1s</sub> element before and after annealing.

Slight shift in the peak could be due to formation of C-O-C (286nm) after annealing. In Pristine sample the dominated peak is C-C (284.8nm).

## Oxygen vacancy and WCA Study of CeO<sub>2</sub> thin films:



**Fig. S3:** Wetting properties of CeO<sub>2</sub> thin film grown on YSZ [1 0 0]: Water Contact Angle measurement of (a) pristine and (b) annealed CeO<sub>2</sub> thin-film. Atomic Force Microscopy images of (c) pristine and (d) annealed surface of CeO<sub>2</sub> thin-film.

CeO<sub>2</sub> films were also grown on YSZ [1 0 0] by pulsed laser deposition with a stoichiometric target of CeO<sub>2</sub>. The thin films were deposited at a temperature of 850°C and under  $\approx 10$  Torr Oxygen partial pressure. Before growth chamber was pumped down to base pressure of  $\approx 5 \times 10^{-7}$  mbar. The 248 nm wavelength KrF laser was utilized to ablate the ceramic target. The incident laser energy density and the repetition rate were 1.5 J/cm<sup>2</sup> and 5 Hz, respectively.

All the water contact angle and AFM measurement were done using identical procedure described in the “EXPERIMENTAL AND COMPUTATIONAL METHODS” part of the main text.

**Static and dynamic contact angle measurements on SrTiO3 and Lu2O3 samples:**

Sample	Static Contact Angle	Advancing Contact Angle	Receding Contact Angle
Lu <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> Pristine	76.1	77.0	68.2
Lu <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> Annealed	54.9	60.9	51.1
STO Pristine	65.1	66.5	57.9
STO Annealed	56.0	59.0	50.1

