

## Supporting Information

### **Water-born chitosan/CuO-GO nanocomposite as an antibacterial coating for functional leather with enhanced mechanical and thermal properties**

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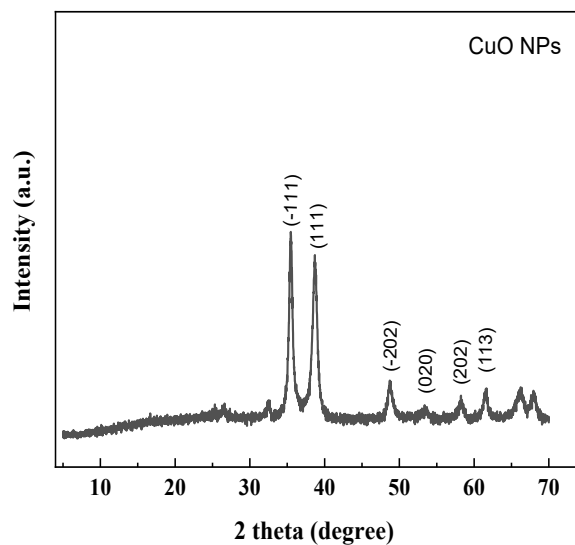


Fig S1. The X-ray diffractogram of CuO nanoparticles

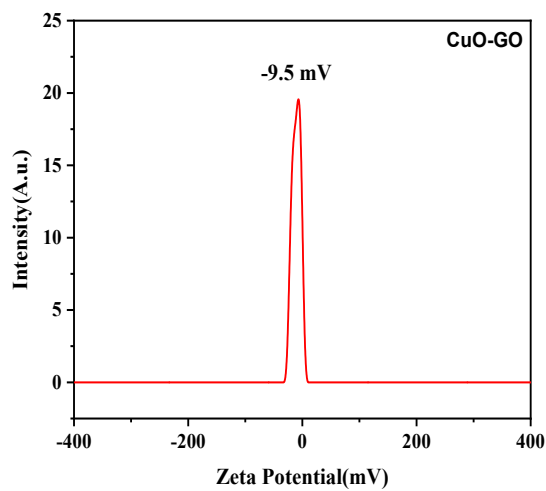


Fig S2. The zeta potential of CuO-GO nanocomposite

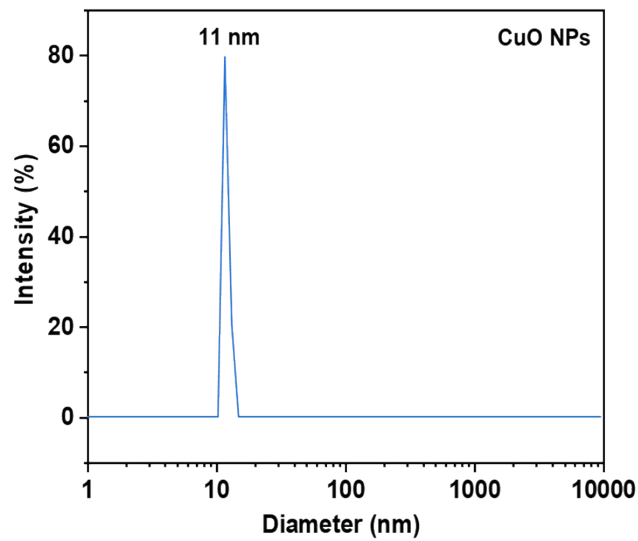


Fig S3. The particle size analysis of CuO NPs by DLS

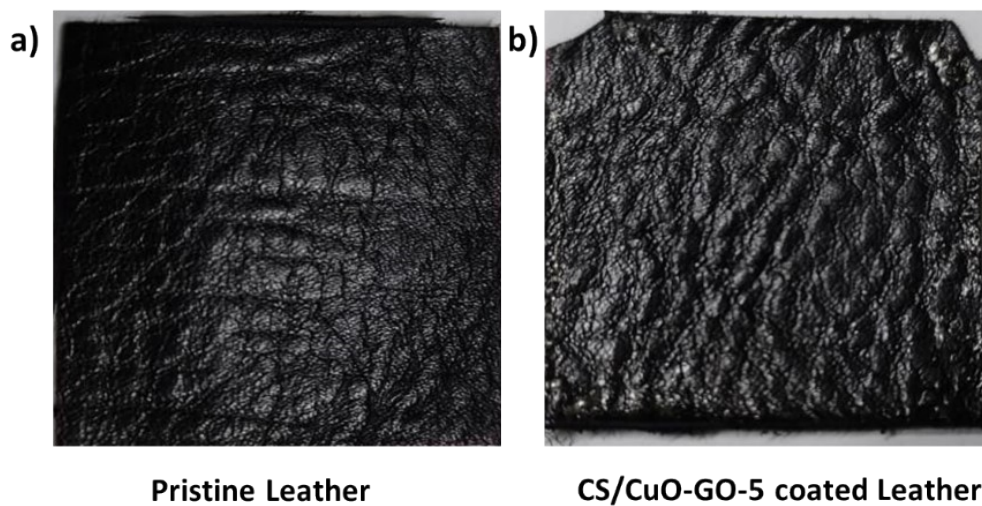


Figure S4. Optical images of a) pristine leather and b) CS/CuO-GO-5 coated leather

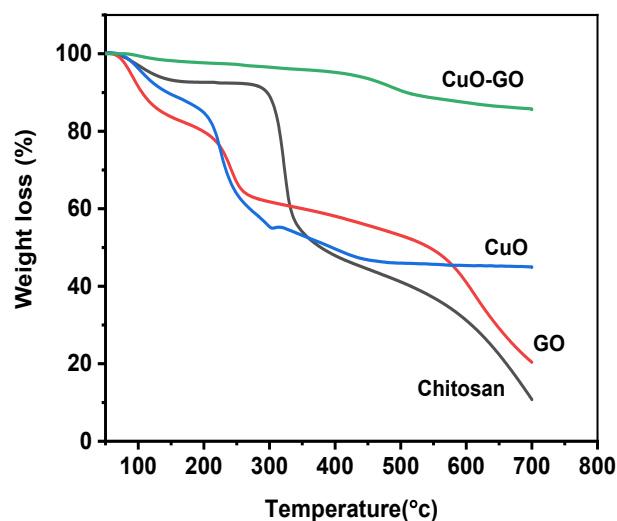


Figure S5. TGA thermogram of Chitosan, GO, CuO NPs, and CuO-GO nanocomposite

The TGA of chitosan, CuO-NPs, GO, and CuO-GO were presented in **Figure 2a**. The TGA thermogram of CS revealed three-degradation profile; the first weight loss was caused by the removal of moisture (around 10%) up to 120°C. After this stage, the chitosan was nearly stable up to 290°C at which gradual decomposition began to take place. The second step occurs in the temperature range from 300 to 400°C, resulting in approximately 50% of weight loss. This step is attributed to the burning of organic hydrocarbon chains, cleavage of branched chains, depolymerization of sugar rings, and dehydration of molecular chains of CS. Finally, the third one appears between 400 and 700°C with a weight loss of about 90% and is assigned to the oxidative decomposition of the carbonaceous residue produced in the second thermal event [1]. Three significant weight loss stages were visible in the thermogram of CuO [2][3]. The first weight loss (about 20%) occurred up to 190°C, which corresponded to the loss of physisorbed water. The second weight loss (about 50%) resembled pyrolysis and combustion of organic compounds and solvent, releasing CO, CO<sub>2</sub>, and organic gases which occurred up to 350°C. In the final stage above 350°C, the constant straight line was observed, which confirms no further change occurred in the materials. In the GO TGA curve, the first weight loss occurred due to the loss of moisture up to

150°C. The second weight loss is caused by the removal of oxygen functional groups up to 270°C. After that stability of GO was decreased due to the decomposition of carboxylic groups and the release of CO<sub>2</sub> gas. At temperatures of 700°C, the total weight lost was found 80%. The CuO-GO TGA curve exhibits higher thermal stability than that of the other materials. At 750°C, the CuO-GO nanocomposite demonstrated a weight loss of only 14.6%, which is attributed to the decomposition and vaporization of various oxygen-containing functional groups on its surface contributing to its enhanced thermal stability [4][3].

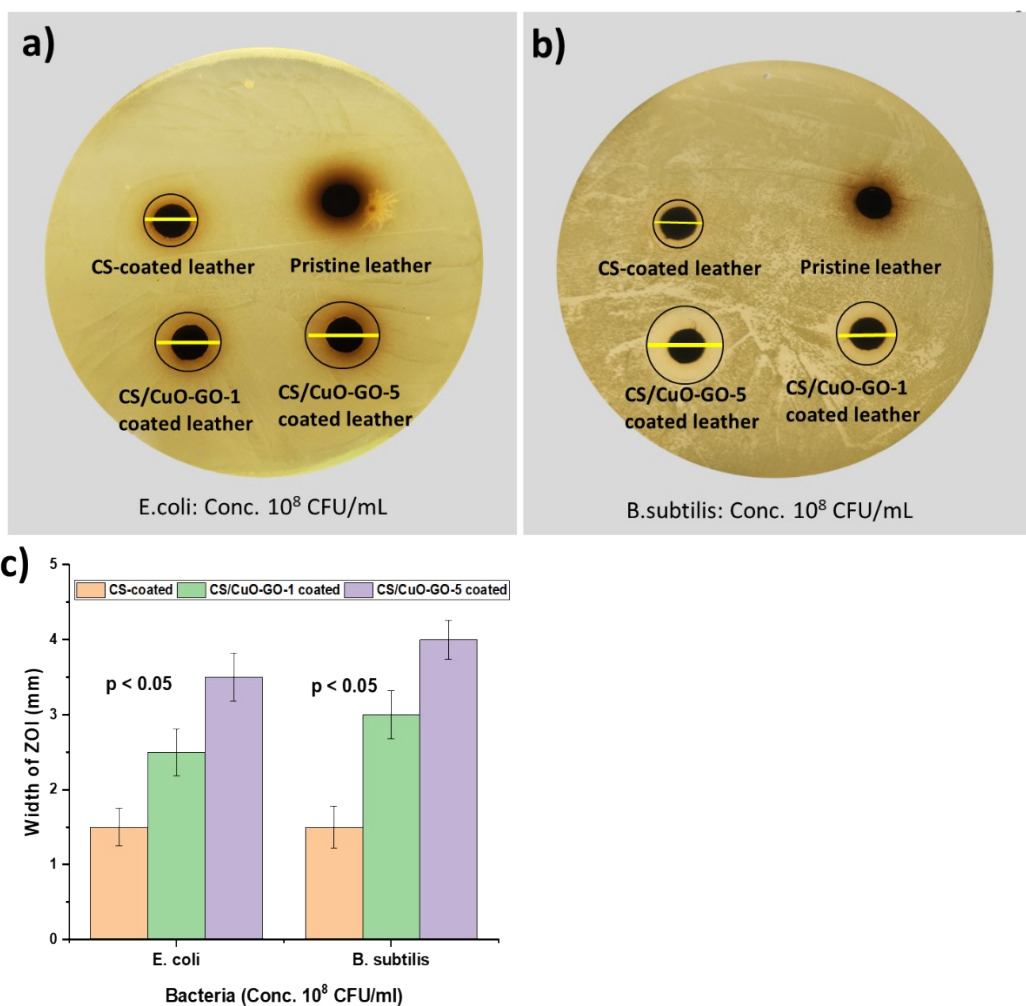


Figure S6. The ZOI of leather samples against *E. coli* (a) and *S. subtilis* (b), the average width calculated from the ZOI of each leather sample (c), and the bacteria-killing efficiency of leather samples after 1 h incubation with bacteria (d). All sample areas were circled to solid ring. Error bars represent mean ± SD (n≥3). \*P was determined by the student's t-test.

## References:

- [1] M.N. Islam, M.N. Khan, A.K. Mallik, M.M. Rahman, Preparation of bio-inspired trimethoxysilyl group terminated poly(1-vinylimidazole)-modified-chitosan composite for adsorption of chromium (VI) ions, *J. Hazard. Mater.* 379 (2019) 120792. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhazmat.2019.120792>.
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- [3] T. Siddike Moin, M.M. Rani Sarkar, Mukta; Mahmud Chowdhury, Mohammed Farhad ; Rahman, M.N. Khan, Electrospun Polyvinyl alcohol/Chitosan Nanofibers embedded with CuO-GO nanocomposite for pH-sensitive adsorption of Heavy Metal ions and Organic Dyes, *ACS Omega.* (2025). <https://doi.org/doi.org/10.1021/acsomega.4c08836>.
- [4] Y. Jain, M. Kumari, H. Laddha, R. Gupta, Ultrasound Promoted Fabrication of CuO-Graphene Oxide Nanocomposite for Facile Synthesis of Fluorescent Coumarin Based 1,4-disubstituted 1,2,3-triazoles in Aqueous Media, *ChemistrySelect.* 4 (2019) 7015–7026. <https://doi.org/10.1002/slct.201901355>.