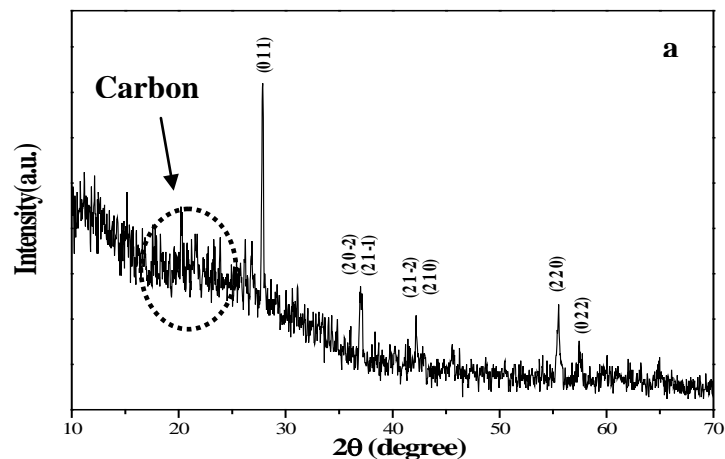
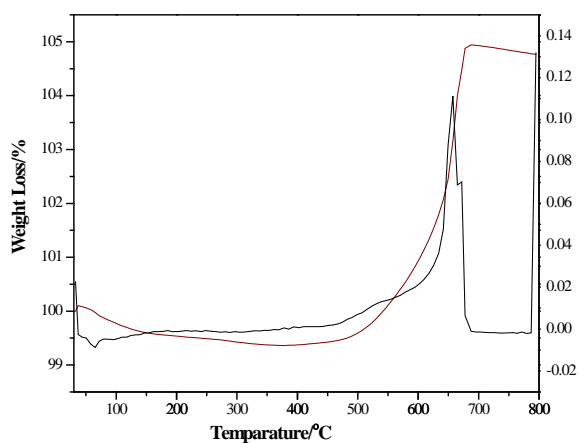


Supporting Information

SI 1. PXRD pattern of as synthesized blue black VO₂ without passing air.



SI 2. TGA of as synthesised VO₂ in air atmosphere



The weight loss of 0.57 % below 300 °C is attributed to both physically adsorbed water as well as the carbon content in it. As the evaporation of free water and physically adsorbed water goes below 150 °C, hence the remaining weight loss of about 0.16% is purely due to the carbon content in the as synthesised sample.