

# Supplementary Information

## Modulating the Hysteresis of an Electronic Transition: Launching Alternative Transformation Pathways in the Metal—Insulator Transition of Vanadium(IV) Oxide

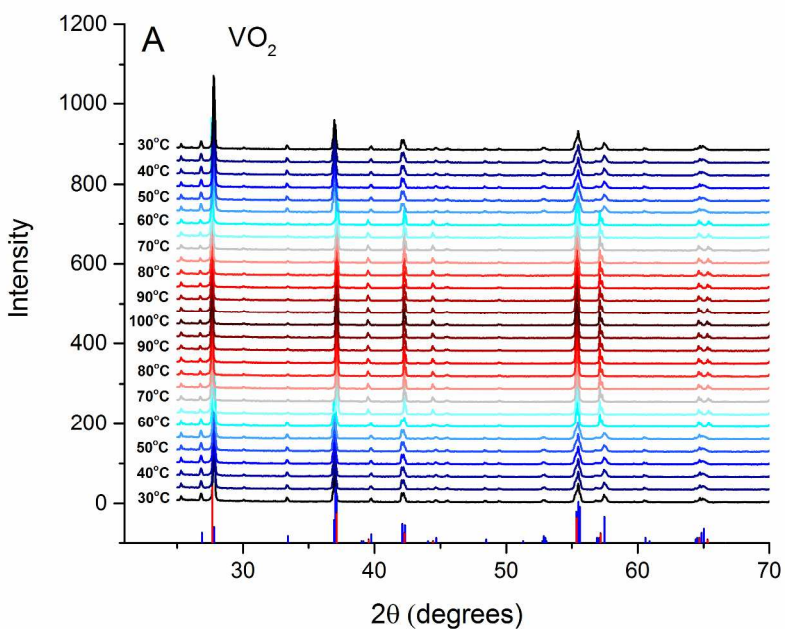
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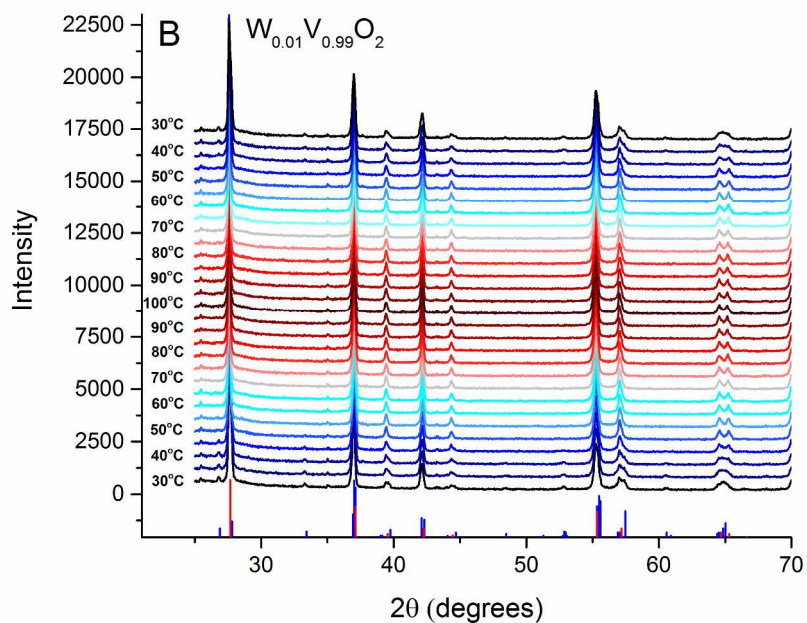
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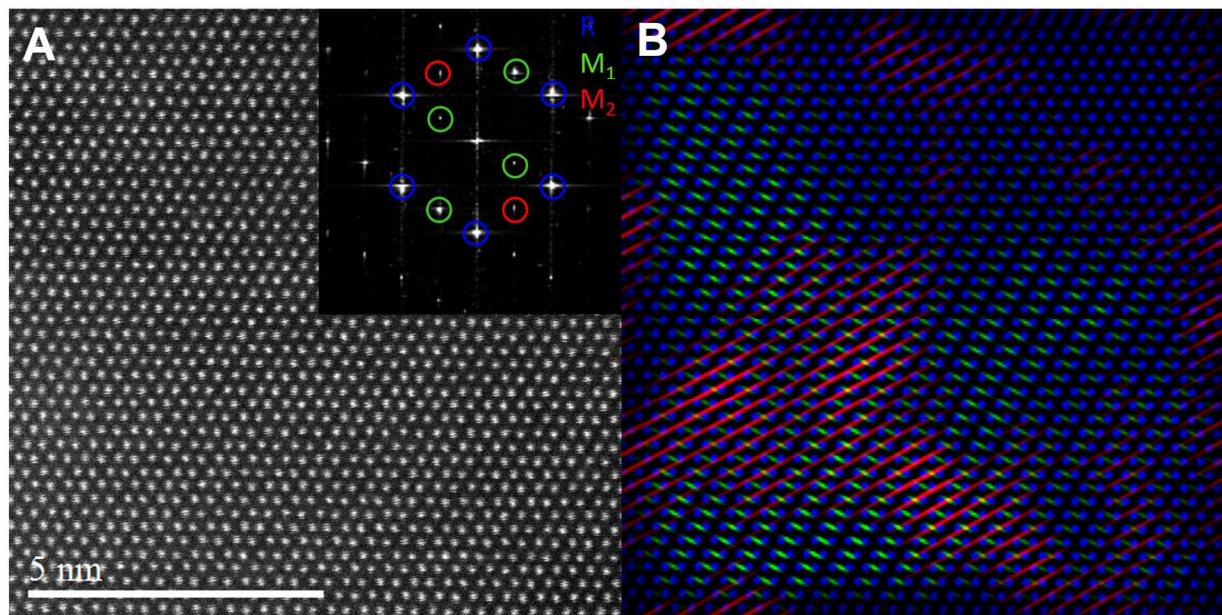
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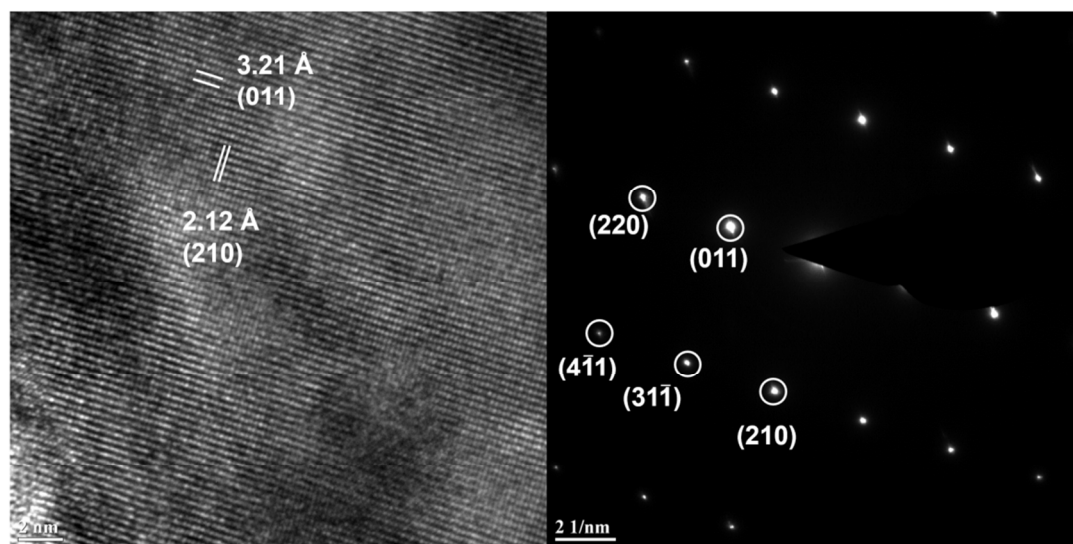




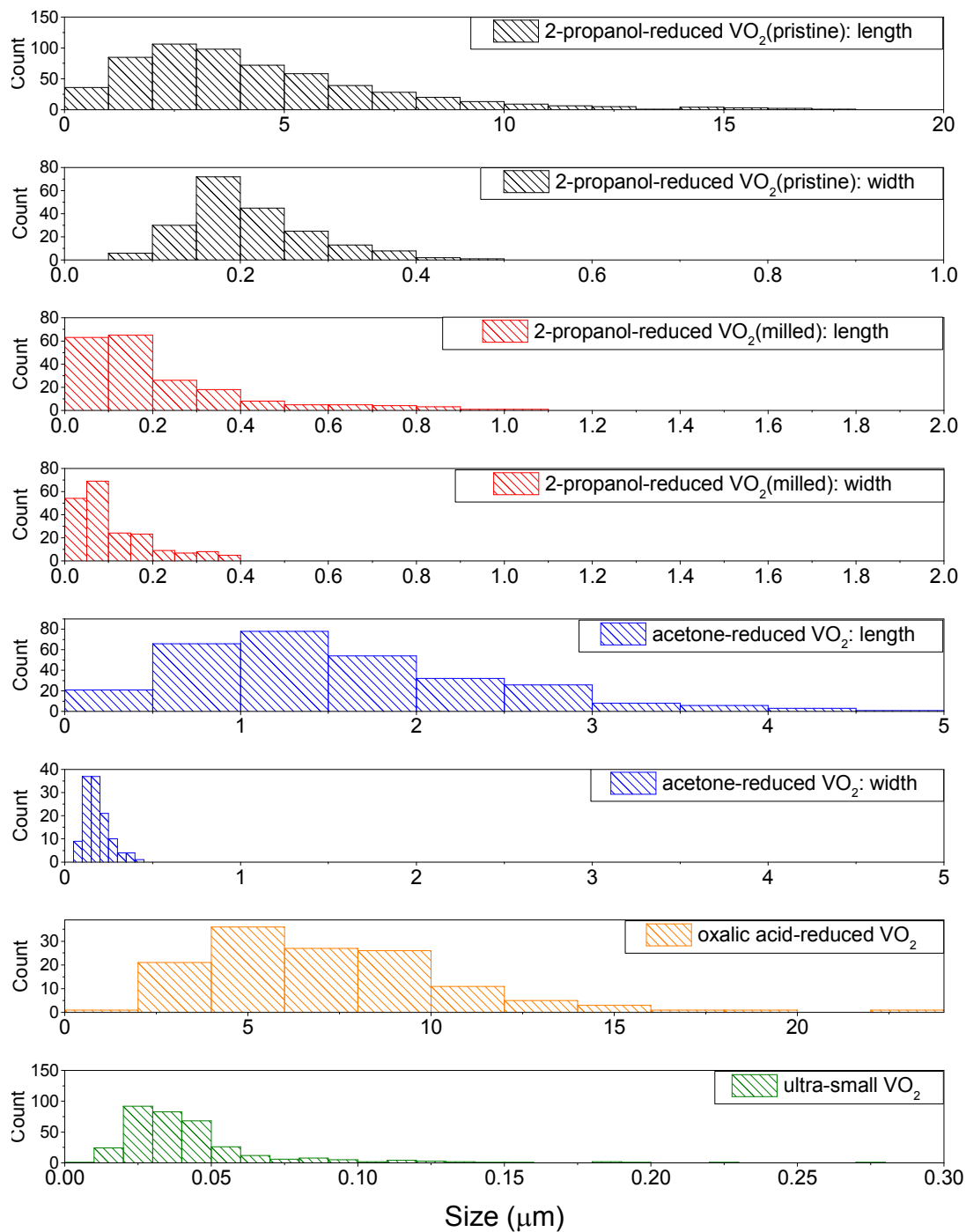
**Figure S1.** Extended powder XRD patterns acquired in the  $2\theta$  range from 25—70° for (A) undoped and (B)  $\text{VO}_2$  incorporating 0.51 at.% W as a substitutional dopant.



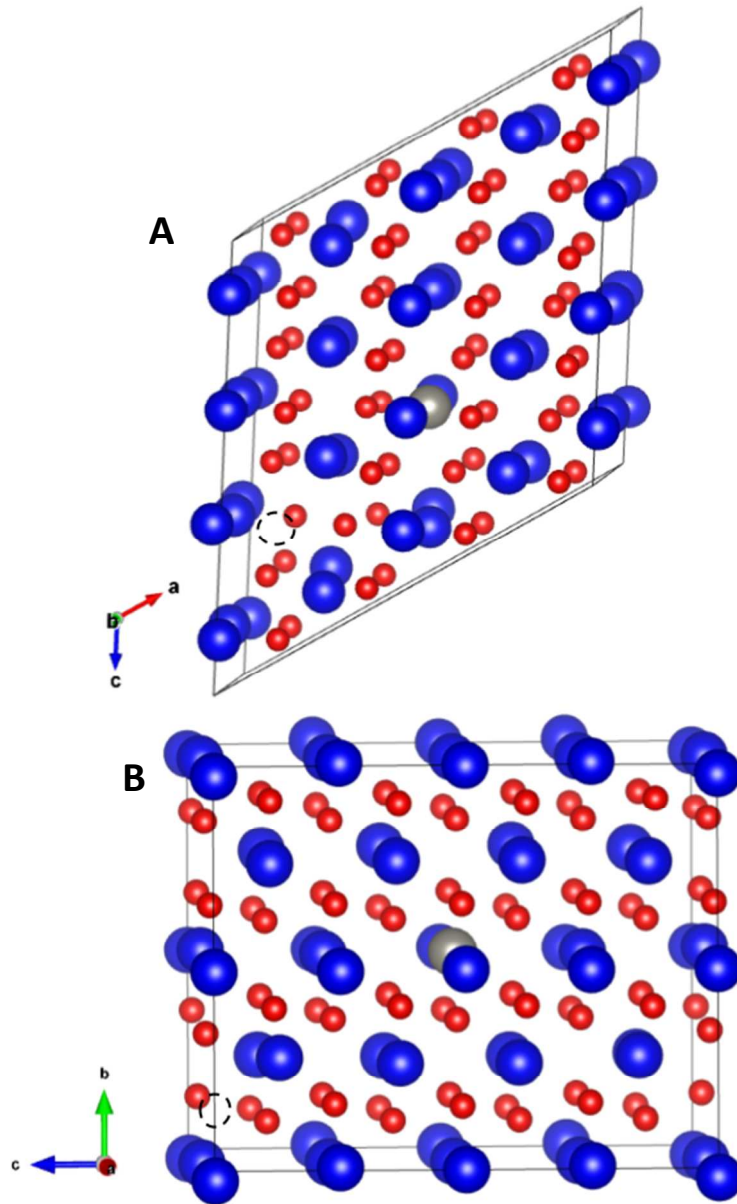
**Figure S2.** Atomic-resolution HAADF TEM image of a  $W_xV_{1-x}O_2$  particle (with  $x$  of ca. 0.008) acquired at 25°C after warming from -180°C. A) TEM image and diffraction patterns with distinct diffraction spots indexed to R (blue),  $M_1$  (green), and  $M_2$  (blue) polymorphs. B) Composite map depicting the spatial distribution of the three phases.



**Figure S3.** High-resolution TEM image (left) and selected area electron diffraction pattern (right) acquired for undoped  $\text{VO}_2$  prepared by acetone reduction of  $\text{V}_2\text{O}_5$ . The diffraction pattern and interplanar separations correspond solely to the  $\text{M}_1$  phase of  $\text{VO}_2$ .



**Figure S4:** Size distribution histograms for four different sample preparations yielding different sized particles. Oxalic acid and ultra-small VO<sub>2</sub> yield star shaped and spherical particles respectively and thus a single value, the diameter, is shown as a measure of the size.



**Figure S5:** Structural representation of supercell used in defect calculations of doped A) M<sub>1</sub> and B) R polymorphs of VO<sub>2</sub>. The oxygen vacancy is represented by a dashed circle, whereas the tungsten atom is depicted in silver. Vanadium atoms are depicted in blue and oxygen atoms in red. To test for a possible local effect, an oxygen vacancy was created at an adjacent site and far from tungsten as seen in Figure S3 in both rutile and monoclinic supercells. After introducing a vacancy, supercell structures were fully relaxed. The energy of the rutile cell did not change significantly, less than 6 meV, as a result of proximity of the oxygen vacancy to the tungsten atom.