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Design and Fabrication of Two Heterojunction Devices Performance for Photodetectors Applications

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Abstract— Hydrothermal preparations have been made from vanadium oxygen systems V₂O₅ and VO₂ NPs prototype to design photodetectors. In comparison, the films' polycrystalline structure can be seen in analysis of x-ray diffraction (XRD) pattern, which has 7 and 14 peaks with crystallite sizes = 19.59 for V₂O₅ and, crystallite sizes = 12.92 nm, for VO₂. The grains had large, neatly separated conical columnar growth combined grains throughout the surface, with some of the columnar grains coalescing in a few spots, according to the analysis from atomic force microscopy (AFM). It is revealed that the average size of particle of V₂O₅ = 29.58 nm and for VO₂ = 16 nm, with rms roughness of 6.8 nm and 21.3 nm respectively. Also, the optical energy gap of V₂O₅ = 2.6 eV, whereas energy gap of VO₂ = 1.36 eV. In addition, it was discovered that the reflectance increased in the visible and infrared regions to register 0.09 and 0.07 respectively. The maximum values of the refractive indices for V₂O₅ and VO₂ were 2.6 and 1.9, respectively. Two types of hetero-junction photo-detectors Ag/VO₂/PSi/n-Si/Ag and Ag/V₂O₅/PSi/n-Si/Ag have been fabricated and characterized. The proposed results of Ag/ V₂O₅ /PSi/n-Si/Ag heterojunction Photo-detector at different concentrations from PMMA: Acetone responsivity was 0.7A/W at 850nm and, the remarkable detectivity = 4.1×10^{12} (1/W) .cm.Hz^{0.5}, while, highest values of the detectivity in Ag/VO₂/PSi/n-Si/Ag = 3.3×10^{12} (1/W) .cm.Hz^{0.5} at wavelength equal and greater than 850 nm.

Index Terms— vanadium dioxide, hydrothermal, PVP, PMMA, Acetone, Photo-detector.

I. INTRODUCTION

The essential class of materials used in a variety of industrial applications, vanadium oxides which, exhibit an intriguing and wide range of chemical and physical properties due to diverse metal oxidation states (from +II to +V) and V-O coordination geometries. For more than 50 years, the theoretical and experimental summarized substance and materials communities have studied vanadium oxygen systems (V₂O₅, VO₂), a model of intensely associated materials [1, 2]. Compared to other vanadium oxides, Vanadium Pentoxide (V₂O₅) has excellent electronic and chemical properties, making it a possible applicant for electronic applications [3, 4]. V₂O₅ is a great option for optoelectronic applications like photo-detectors because it has a straight band gap of 2.2 eV to 2.7 eV [5]. Vanadium dioxide (VO₂) is a well-known "smart substance" that has become more well-known since the Morin work in 1959. Its monoclinic M1 phase displays a metal-insulator transition (MIT) behaviors near-room-temperature, which increases the requirements for nonmaterial structural. However, reported till date now involve complex structures and constrained wavelength response, and, there is limited understanding of the parameters which, are controlled the insulator-to-metal transition IMT and, the photoresponse in VO₂ photo sensor [5, 6].

In addition, vanadium oxides can have a wide range of V: O ratios, which results in diverse operational styles. Vanadium oxides, VO₂, include more than 15 additional stable vanadium oxide phases (such as VO, V₂O₃, V₃O₅, etc.), with VO₂ and V₂O₅ being the two most intriguing vanadium oxides [7-9]. Electromagnetic radiation is absorbed by the detector's transducer, which then emits an

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electrical signal that is typically related to the radiation's intensity. P-n junctions are commonly found in semiconductor-based photo-detectors, which convert the light photons into output signal can either be a current or a voltage [7-10]. And by using crystalline silicon wafers which are electrochemically etched in a hydrofluoric acid-based electrolyte solution under constant anodization conditions like etching time, current density, HF concentration, and Si orientation, porous silicon (PSi) is created. Porous silicon is made up of a network of nanoscale-sized silicon. There are a wide ranges of potential applications for porous silicon structures, including waveguides, 1D photonic crystals, chemical sensors, biological sensors, photovoltaic devices, etc. [11, 13]. Porous silicon structures also have good mechanical robustness, chemical stability, and compatibility with existing silicon technology. In present work design and fabrication two heterjunction photodetectors from V₂O₅ and VO₂ nanoparticles by using a hydrothermal method will be compared and contrasted as well as to investigate the characteristics of the photodetectors. The presence of Vanadium dioxide on the surface produces composites with increased surface area of exposed electrolyte, which ultimately improves electro-optical performance. Implementation and experimental testing use to prepare the characteristics of vanadium dioxide nanostructures and its application for Nano phonics devices. A significant enhancement in photo response of photodetectors could be achieved by optimizing the size of the device and, the substrates type. The broadband photo-response opens opportunities for designing and controlling the performance o for scalable Micro and Nano-scale devices.

II. EXPERIMENTAL PART

A. Materials and Method

Firstly, material V₂O₅ NPs were created using the hydrothermal method, which involved by adding 1.8 g of powder to 100 ml of distilled water, stirring the mixture for 15 min at 50 oC, letting it cool to room temperature, and then adding 1 g of Poly(methyl methacrylate PMMA to 50 ml of acetone at a concentration of (1.5:8.5) as shown in *Fig. 1*. Secondly, VO₂ NPs were made using the hydrothermal method, which involved adding 1.8 g of material powder to 100 ml of distilled water, stirring the mixture for 15 minutes at 50 oC, and then letting it cool to room temperature. Firstly, to prepare the material, 1.5g of Polyvinylpyrrolidone (PVP) was added to 50ml of ethanol. as shown in *Fig. 1*.

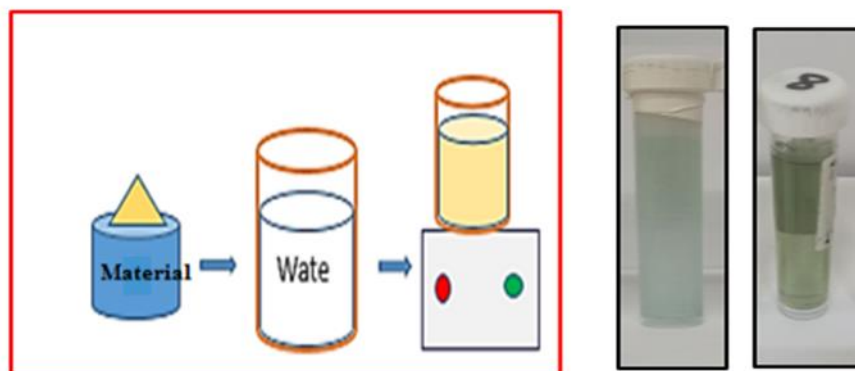


FIG. 1. PREPARATION OF NPS ON THE LEFT DIAGRAM OF HYDROTHERMAL METHOD, IN THE MIDDLE V₂O₅ ON THE RIGHT VO₂.

B. Etching Cell Preparation

A silicon wafer (n-type) was cut into small slides that were (1.5cm * 1.5 cm) in size. The slides were then rinsed in ethanol for 10 seconds to take out dirt and the natural oxide layer from the models. Following cleaning, it is submerged in a mixture of HF (40%) and ethanol (99.99) (1:1) at room temperature. In etching process, a Teflon cell with an Au ring as an electrode was utilized and a Halogen

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lamp with a light intensity of (100) mW/m as shown in Fig. 2, 10 mA/cm² current density was useful to use for the duration of (10) min and, to yield an etched area of the model totally around the cell (0.785 cm²).



FIG. 2. PRACTICAL SETUP OF PHOTOELECTROCHEMICAL ETCHING TECHNIQUE.

C. Characterizations of Heterojunction Ag/V2O5/PSi/n-Si /Ag and Ag/VO2/PSi/n-Si/Ag

In order to measure the properties of photo-detectors, thin films of the compounds (V2O5 and VO2) were applied to a PSi slide using the drop casting method, and then Ag electrodes were applied to the top and bottom surfaces and then connected to a circuit as shown in Fig. 3. When the light strikes the detector, the photons excited the electrons to higher energy levels lead to the formation of electrical charge carriers (e or h) that remain inside the detector material. This detector converts photons in straight to some free current carriers. For valence electrons to be excited, the incident photon's energy must be equivalent to or bigger than the band gap energy.

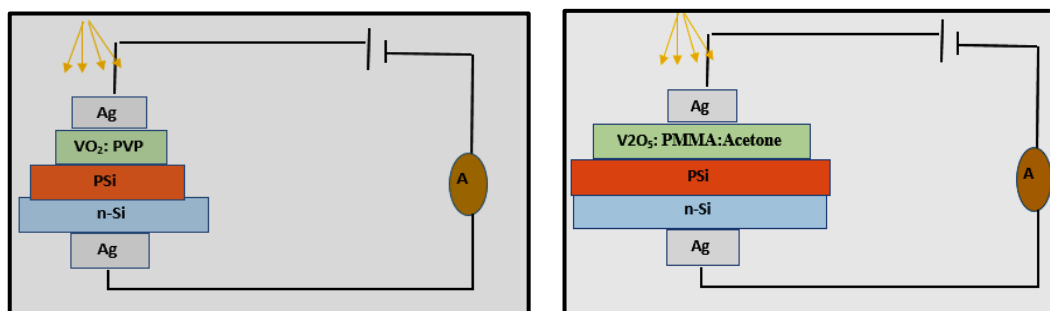


FIG. 3. DIAGRAM CONNECTION CIRCUITS FOR DETECTORS.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The comparison between two hetero-junction devices V2O5: PMMA/PSi and VO2: PVP/PSi for Photodetector applications present in this work. Fig. 4 (a, b) describe the results of X-ray diffraction for V2O5 and VO2 the thin films that deposited by drop casting method on the glass substrate. It observed that thin films of V2O5 and VO2 are polycrystalline structure, with 7 and 14 peaks respectively. The crystallite size values of V2O5 and VO2 films were calculated by measuring by Scherer's equation (21.91 and 11.19) nm respectively[14-17].

$$D = \frac{0.9\lambda}{B \cos \theta} \quad (1)$$

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Where D is the mean crystallite size, λ is the wavelength of $\text{CuK}\alpha$ ($=1.5405 \text{ \AA}$), B is the full width at half maximum (FWHM) and θ is Bragg's diffraction angle.

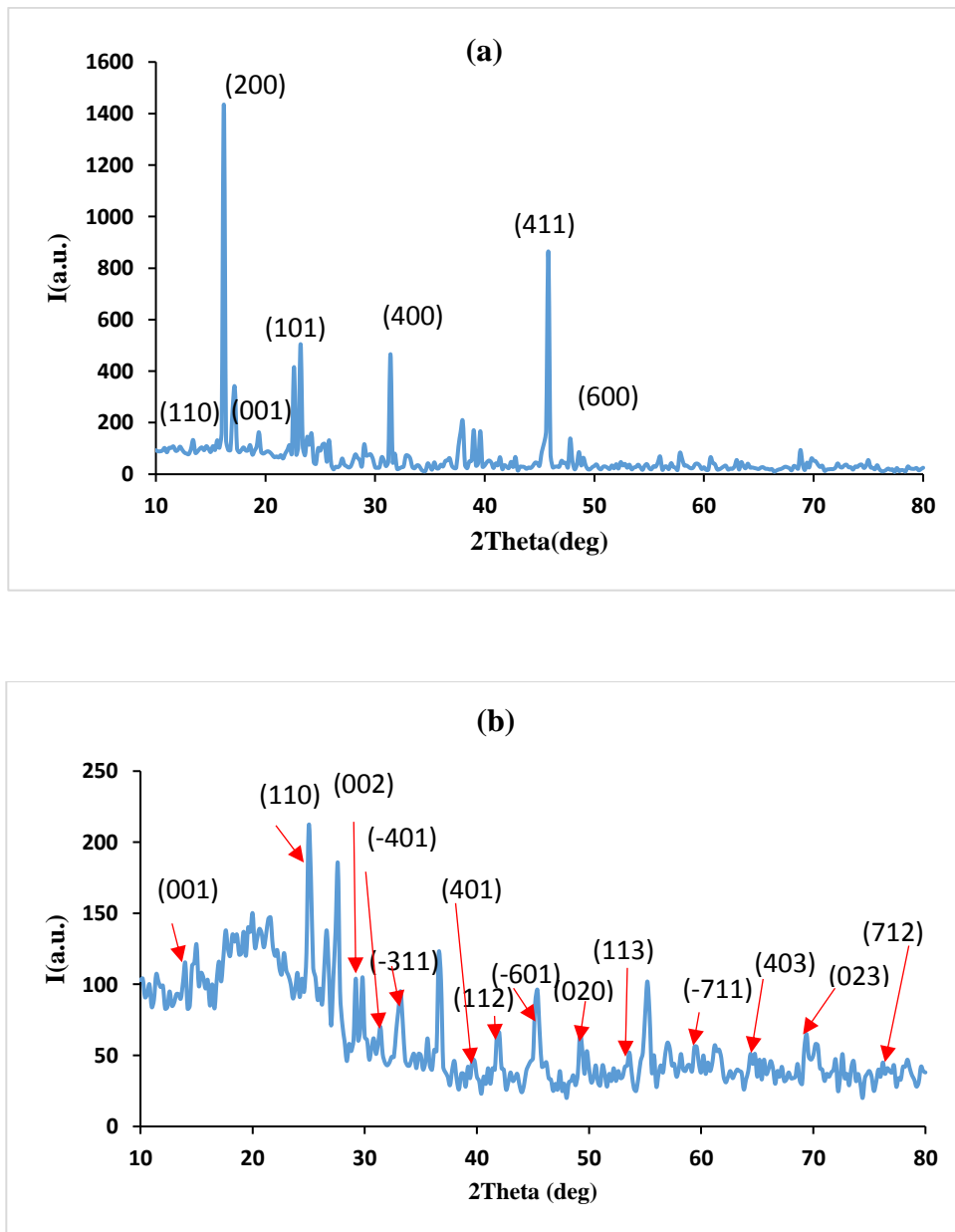
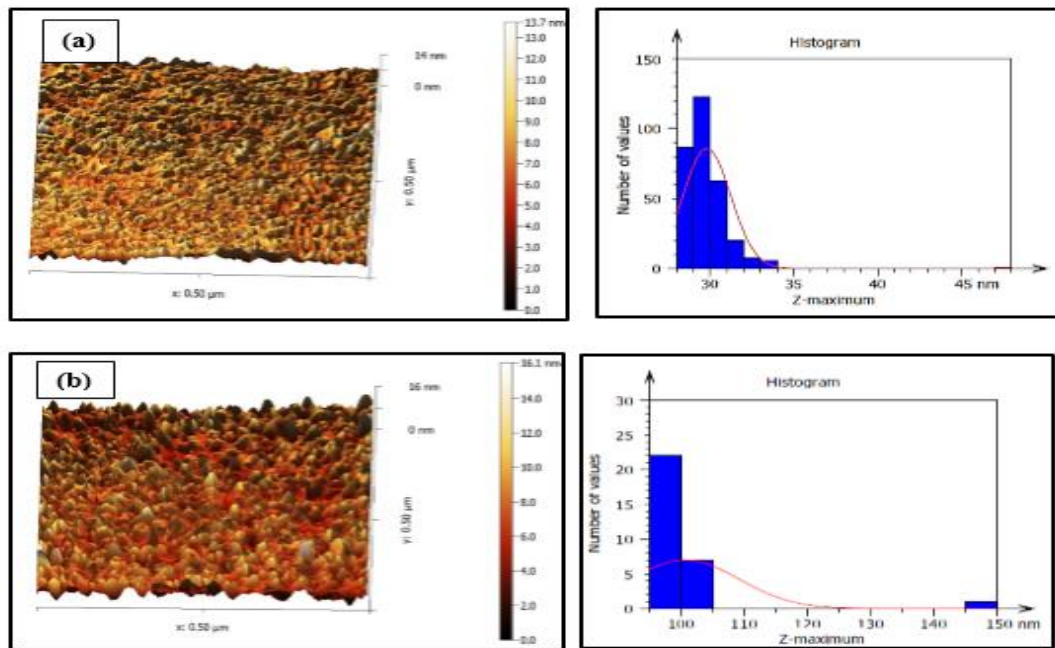
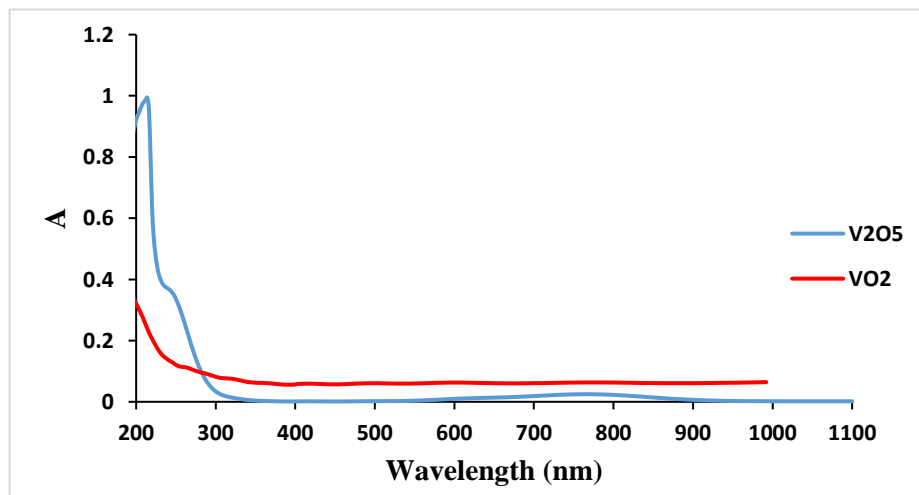


FIG. 4. (A). X-RAY DIFFRACTION FOR V_2O_5 FILM AND (B). X-RAY DIFFRACTION FOR VO_2 FILM.

AFM analysis using atomic force microscopy revealed a porous free morphology with homogeneity and uniformity on the films surface. Fig. 5 (a, b) displays 3D AFM micrographs and histograms of (V_2O_5 and VO_2). There were no visible cracks on the surface of the film. The grains had large, neatly separated conical columnar growth combined grains all over the surface with some columnar grains coalescing in a few spots. It displayed average particle sizes of 14.3 and 16.4 nm, rms roughness of 6.8 and 21.3 nm, respectively.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.33103/uot.ijccce.24.1.1>FIG. 5. AFM IMAGE HISTOGRAM OF (A) V₂O₅ THIN FILM AND (B) VO₂ THIN FILM.

The absorption spectra was studied using UV-Visible-Near-Infrared (NIR) spectroscopy at range (200-1100) nm for both samples (V₂O₅ and VO₂). Fig. 6 shows the UV-Vis-NIR spectrum of films at where it exhibits good absorbance in UV range (200-300 nm) where the transmittance increasing with increase of wavelength in visible region and IR. The maximum absorbance record 90% and 29% at wavelength 200 nm for V₂O₅ and VO₂ respectively. Energy gap of the films estimated by extrapolating the line, where E_g value was (2.6) and (1.36) eV for V₂O₅ and VO₂ respectively as shown in Fig. 7 [18, 21].

FIG. 6. UV-VISIBLE SPECTRA OF V₂O₅ AND VO₂.

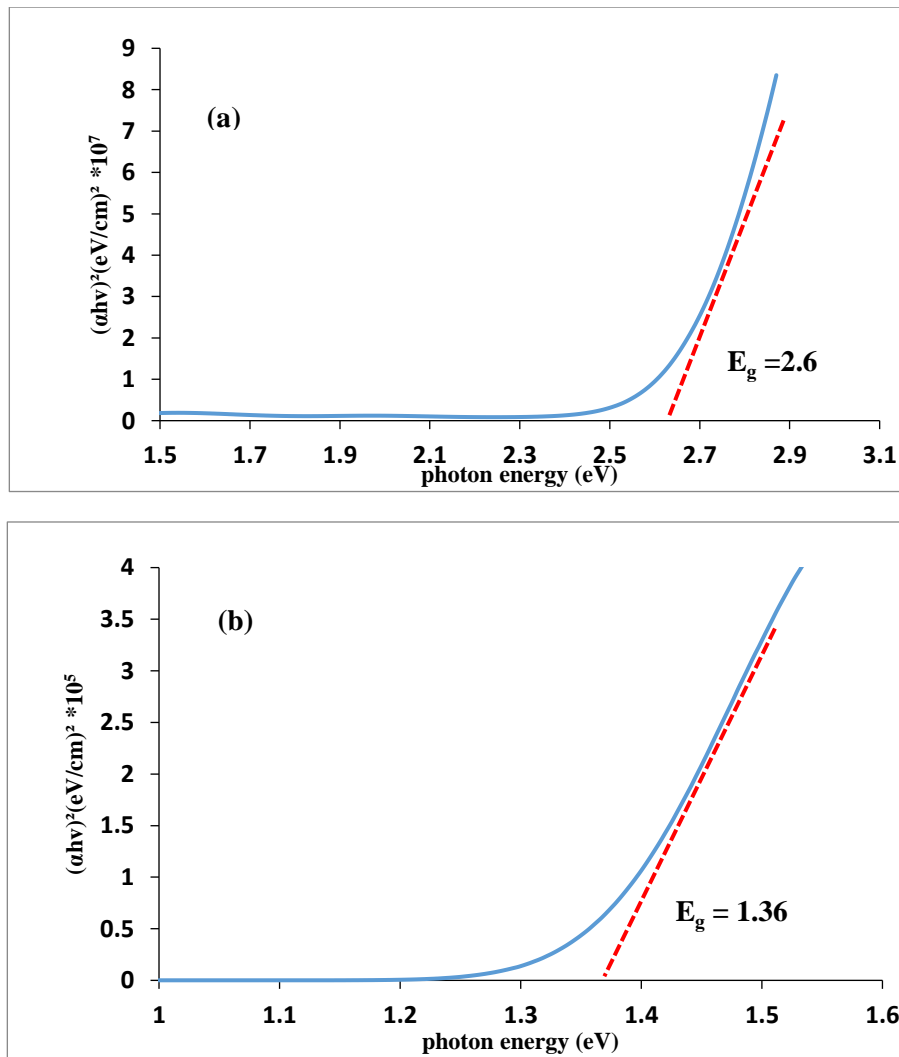
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.33103/uot.ijccce.24.1.1>FIG. 7. VARIATION OF $(\alpha h\nu)^2$ WITH PHOTON ENERGY FOR (A) V2O5 AND (B) VO2.

Fig. 8 displays the samples' reflectance spectra as a function of wavelength in the range (300-1100). reflecting factor calculated using relationship (2)[22]. It is important to note that reflectance values increase in the visible and IR regions and decrease at wavelengths (500nm) to record 0.09 and 0.07 at 780nm. The refractive index is a crucial parameter for semiconductor materials and applications. It depends on a number of variables, including the kind of material and crystal structure, and its values change as the roughness of the sample surface changes. Refractive index as determined by relationship (3) [22]. In the range of wavelengths shown in Fig. 9, the refractive indices of V2O5 and VO2 are shown as a function of wavelength (200-1100nm). At a wavelength of 300 nm, the maximum values of the refractive indices for V2O5 and VO2 were 2.6 and 1.9, respectively.

$$R + T + A = 1 \quad (2)$$

$$n = \frac{1 + \sqrt{R}}{1 - \sqrt{R}} \quad (3)$$

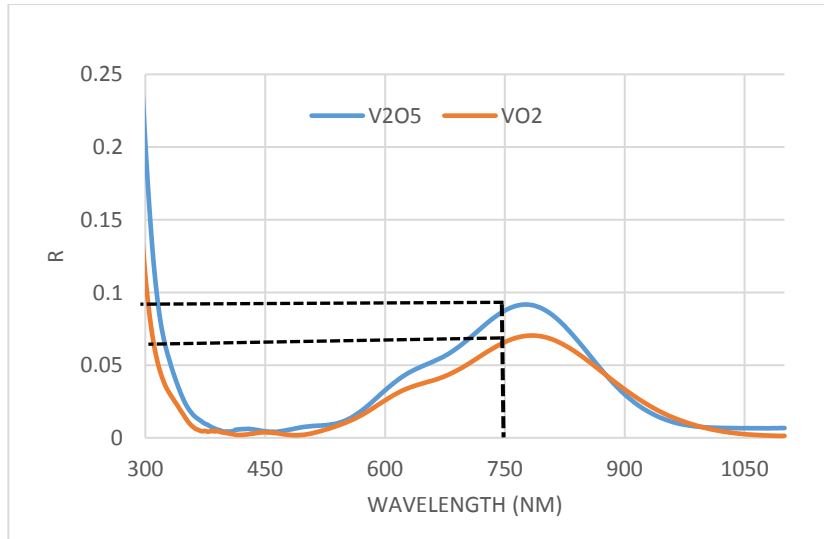
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FIG. 8. REFLECTANCE SPECTRA OF V2O5 AND VO2.

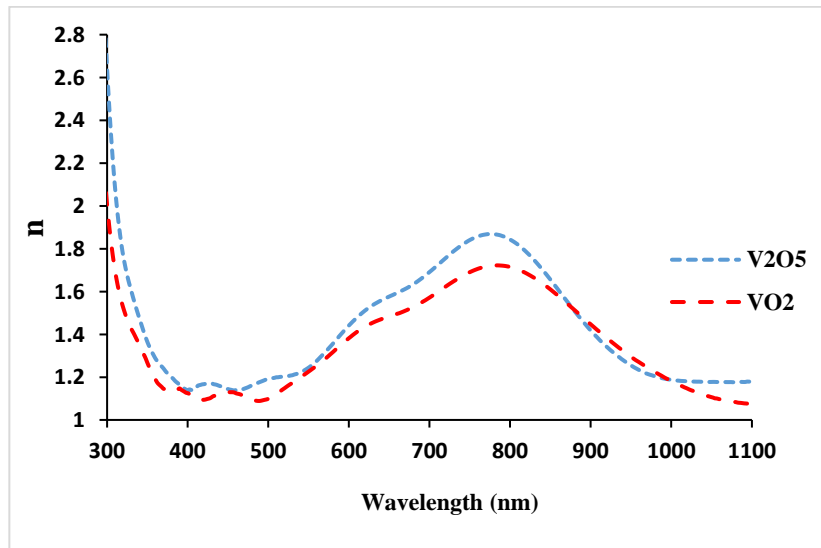


FIG. 9. REFRACTIVE INDEX OF V2O5 AND VO2.

Fig. 10 (a, b) show the spectral responsivity as the function of wavelength of Ag/V2O5: PMMA/Psi/Ag and Ag/VO2: PVP /Psi/Si/Ag structures. The spectral responsivity calculated from the relationship (4) [23]. It observed from Fig. 6 a spectral responsivity of structure has consist of 3 peaks located at 460,750 and 852nm due to the absorption of V2O5, Psi and Si respectively. Ag/V2O5: PVP/Psi/Si/Ag structure also has 3 peaks located at 751, 850nm and 920 due to the absorption of Psi, Si and VO2 respectively.

$$R_{\lambda} = \frac{I_{ph}}{P_{in}} \quad (\text{A/W}) \quad (4)$$

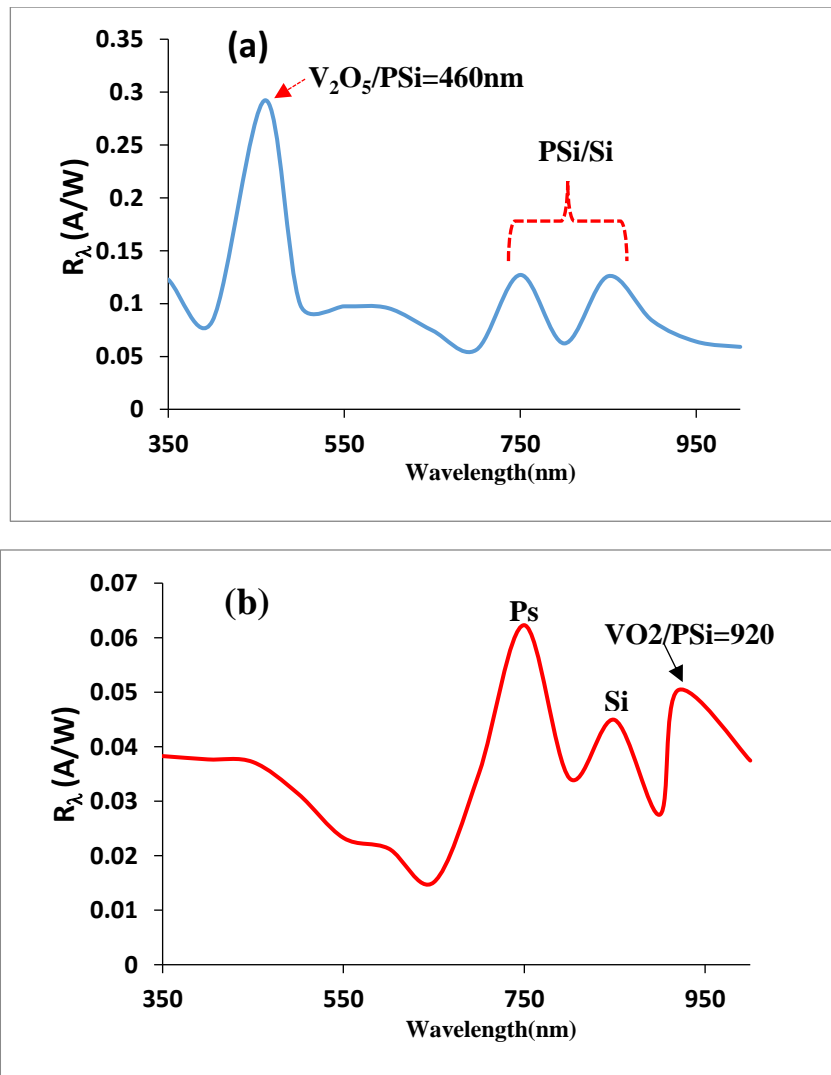
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FIG. 10. RESPONSIVELY AS A FUNCTION OF WAVELENGTH OF (A) V_2O_5 : PMMA/PSI/ N- SI PHOTO-DETECTORS AND (B) VO_2 : PVP/PSI/ N- SI PHOTO-DETECTORS

Fig. 11 (a, b) show the Specific detectivity as the function of wavelength of Ag/V_2O_5 :PMMA/Psi/Ag and Ag/V_2O_5 :PVP /Psi/Si/Ag structure. The Specific detectivity calculated from the relationship (6) [23]. It observed the Specific detectivity exhibits the same behavior of as the spectral responsively. The remarkable D^* found to be $4.17 \times 10^{12} W^{-1} \cdot cm \cdot Hz^{1/2}$ at wavelength 460 nm for sample (a) and $8.90 \times 10^{11} W^{-1} \cdot cm \cdot Hz^{1/2}$ at wavelength 750 nm for sample (b), where we notice that the sample (a) is a better photo-detector than sample (b).

$$D^* = R_\lambda \frac{\sqrt{A \cdot \Delta f}}{I_n} \quad (5)$$

$$I_n = (2qI_d \Delta f)^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad (6)$$

Where Δf is the bandwidth, A: active area of the detector, I_d : dark current and q: electron charge. Fig. 11 (a, b) show that detectivity directly related to responsiveness.

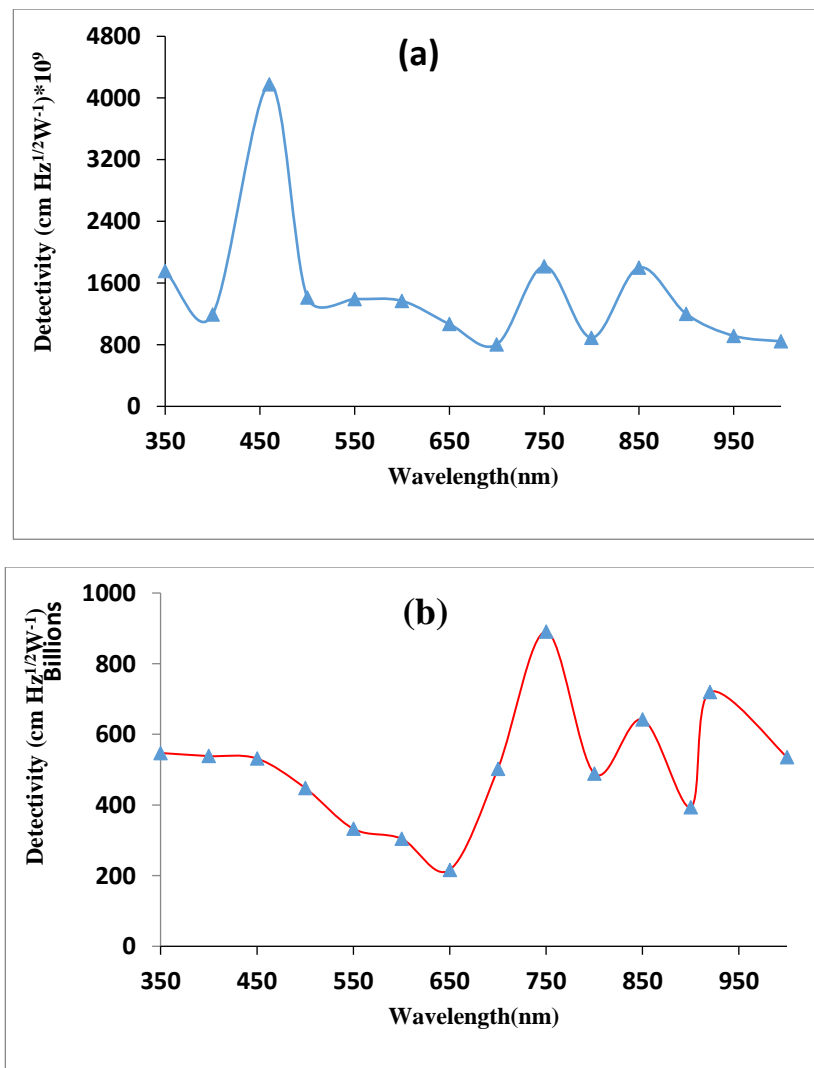
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FIG. 11. SPECIFIC DETECTIVITY VS. WAVELENGTH OF (A) V2O5: PMMA/PSI/N-SI PHOTO-DETECTORS AND (B) VO2: PVP/PSI/N-SI PHOTO-DETECTORS.

Finally, the statistical analysis had been achieved by SPSS 24.0 window using Least Significant Difference (LSD) between varietal means to calculate a significance variation among all groups. LSD (Least Significant Difference) is the value at particular level of statistical probability which means when exceeded by the difference between two varietal means for particular characteristic. However, the two varieties are said to be distinct for that characteristic at that or lesser.

Steps of multiple comparison between two varietal means:

1. Instruction the means descendant.
2. Definition the difference between two varietal means.
3. If the difference between them greater than LSD this indicates there is statistical significant function at the level ($\alpha= 0.05$.)

After performing the binary analysis, it was found there were significant differences between varietal means for the variable the sample S and the variable wavelength λ which effect for on the variable of the responsivity R . So, it's necessary to confirm the meaning of the smallest significance difference (LSD) the results as shown in Table I. Firstly, with the respect to the variable S the smallest significant difference (LSD= 0.023):

1. ($S1 \& S6$) it is greater than the smallest LSD ($0.023 < 0.0233$) which indicates that the difference between them statistical significant at level ($\alpha= 0.05$.)

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2. (S6 & S8) it is greater than the smallest LSD ($0.023 < 0.0605$) which indicates that the difference between them statistical significant at level ($\alpha = 0.05$).
3. (S3 & S10) it is greater than the smallest LSD ($0.023 < 0.0401$) which indicates that the difference between them statistical significant at level ($\alpha = 0.05$).
4. (S7 & S10) it is greater than the smallest LSD ($0.023 < 0.0677$) which indicates that the difference between them statistical significant at level ($\alpha = 0.05$).
5. (S12 & S10) it is greater than the smallest LSD ($0.023 < 0.0453$) which indicates that the difference between them statistical significant at level ($\alpha = 0.05$).
6. The difference between averages (S12 & S13) it is greater than the smallest ($0.023 < 0.579$) which indicates that the difference between them statistical significant at level ($\alpha = 0.05$).

Other groups indicate that the difference between them non- statistical significant at level ($\alpha = 0.05$) due to the difference was lesser than the LSD.

TABLE I. EFFECT OF SAMPLES S AND WAVELENGTHS λ ON RESPONSIVITY R

S	S													Mean of (λ)
	λ	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	S9	S10	S11	S12	
350	0.0077	0.1227	0.0096	0.0077	0.0096	0.0402	0.1210	0.0383	0.1605	0.6919	0.0038	0.2479	0.0098	0.1131
400	0.0012	0.0833	0.0094	0.0075	0.0110	0.0337	0.1194	0.0377	0.1643	0.7090	0.0033	0.1831	0.0039	0.1051
450	0.0009	0.2923	0.0140	0.0091	0.0126	0.1202	0.1232	0.0372	0.1635	0.7384	0.0035	0.1845	0.0029	0.1309
500	0.0003	0.0988	0.0231	0.0069	0.0081	0.0421	0.1229	0.0313	0.1614	0.7265	0.0038	0.1710	0.0019	0.1075
550	0.0029	0.0974	0.0174	0.0066	0.0061	0.0467	0.1230	0.0233	0.1622	0.7309	0.0038	0.1660	0.0024	0.1068
600	0.0016	0.0957	0.0167	0.0067	0.0058	0.0437	0.1278	0.0213	0.1555	0.7306	0.0038	0.1627	0.0030	0.1058
650	0.0011	0.0746	0.0198	0.0063	0.0054	0.0523	0.1329	0.0151	0.1498	0.6772	0.0040	0.1257	0.0031	0.0975
700	0.0024	0.0562	0.0400	0.0073	0.0084	0.1133	0.1695	0.0352	0.2045	0.6730	0.0047	0.2323	0.0032	0.1192
750	0.0022	0.1271	0.0296	0.0068	0.0104	0.1144	0.1979	0.0623	0.1843	0.9163	0.0053	0.1602	0.0034	0.1400
800	0.0032	0.0623	0.0458	0.0070	0.0088	0.1664	0.1557	0.0342	0.2104	0.7627	0.0046	0.2355	0.0026	0.1307
850	0.0037	0.1259	0.0438	0.0076	0.0116	0.1433	0.1602	0.0449	0.1955	0.9023	0.0056	0.1734	0.0023	0.1400
900	0.0006	0.0838	0.0370	0.0069	0.0077	0.1064	0.1530	0.0275	0.2186	0.8795	0.0048	0.1709	0.0000	0.1305
930	0.0006	0.0640	0.0253	0.0068	0.0074	0.0890	0.1627	0.0503	0.2343	0.9916	0.0063	0.2899	0.0000	0.1483
1000	0.0002	0.0590	0.0233	0.0067	0.0050	0.0890	0.1349	0.0375	0.2119	0.8745	0.0037	0.1362	0.0000	0.1217
Mean of S	0.0020	0.1031	0.0253	0.0071	0.0084	0.0858	0.1432	0.0354	0.1841	0.7860	0.0044	0.1885	0.00275	0.1212

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IV. CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, it is a simple method to dissolve vanadium or its oxides in water, and it is simple way to dissolve polyvinylpyrrolidone (PVP) in the ethanol by using room temperature and stirring the mixture. On the other hand, due to the fact that polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA) does not agglomerate at the bottom, this can only be accomplished in the case of PMMA by using a relatively strong solvent, such as acetone, along with constant stirring of the solution. Specified the temperature does not exceed 60 degrees Celsius to prevent the occurrence of a glass transition to the material, the drop casting method is thought of as a simple and easy method that is also of high economic quality. It is very suitable for creating regular and homogeneous films. Both of the prepared compositions improved the properties of the porous silicon and demonstrated the viability of the material for use as a detector in the ultraviolet radiation region as the detection increased to $10^{11} \text{ W}^{-1} \cdot \text{cm} \cdot \text{Hz}^{1/2}$, and at NIR radiation region increased to $10^{13} \text{ W}^{-1} \cdot \text{cm} \cdot \text{Hz}^{1/2}$ at wavelength $> 850 \text{ nm}$.

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