

## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

### **Title: Nitrite ion sensing properties of ZnTiO<sub>3</sub>-TiO<sub>2</sub> composite thin films deposited from zinc-titanium molecular complex**

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<b>List of Information</b>	<b>Page No.</b>
Microanalysis of precursor ( <b>1</b> )	2
FT-IR spectrum of precursor ( <b>1</b> )	2
<sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of precursor ( <b>1</b> )	3
XRD patterns of ZnTiO <sub>3</sub> -TiO <sub>2</sub> composite thin films	3-7
SEM images of ZnTiO <sub>3</sub> -TiO <sub>2</sub> composite thin films	8
EDX spectra of ZnTiO <sub>3</sub> -TiO <sub>2</sub> composite thin films	9-11
Electrochemical plots of ZnTiO <sub>3</sub> -TiO <sub>2</sub> composite thin film	11-13

### Elemental Analysis of $[\text{Zn}_2\text{Ti}_4(\mu\text{-O})_6(\text{TFA})_8(\text{THF})_6]\cdot\text{THF}$ (1)

DATE & TIME	7/1/2014 12:47:02 PM	P_ID	20140701
SAMPLE ID	B3	USER ID	Administrator
WEIGHT (mg)	1.913	MODE	CHN
		SIGNALS	
CARBON	27.960%	ZR	9486
HYDROGEN	2.877%	NR	9709
NITROGEN	0.0%	CR	18474
BLANKS	-14    279    225	HR	20513
K FACTORS	16.413    37.908    5.872		

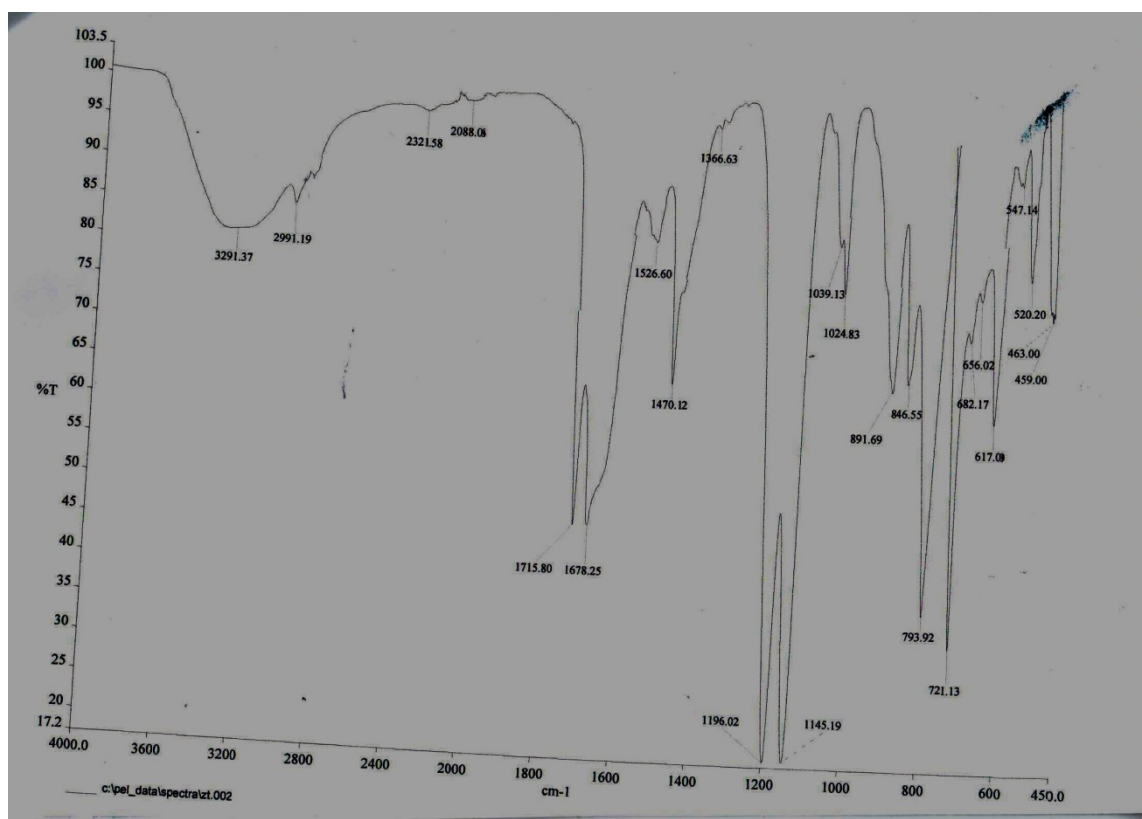
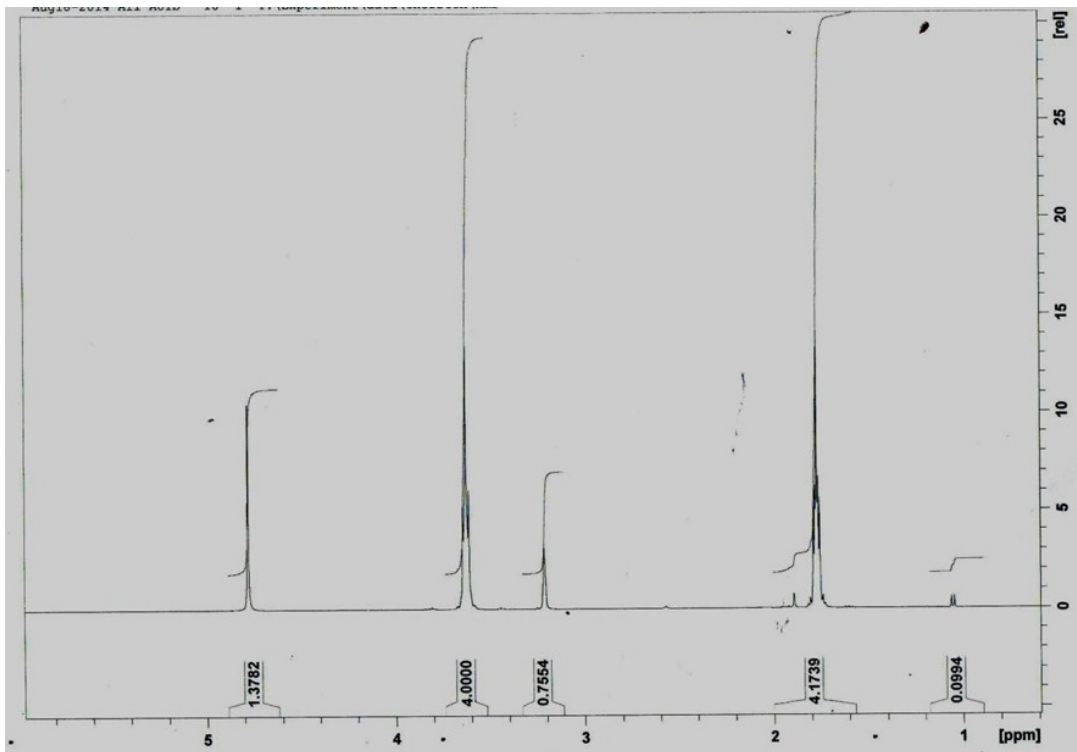
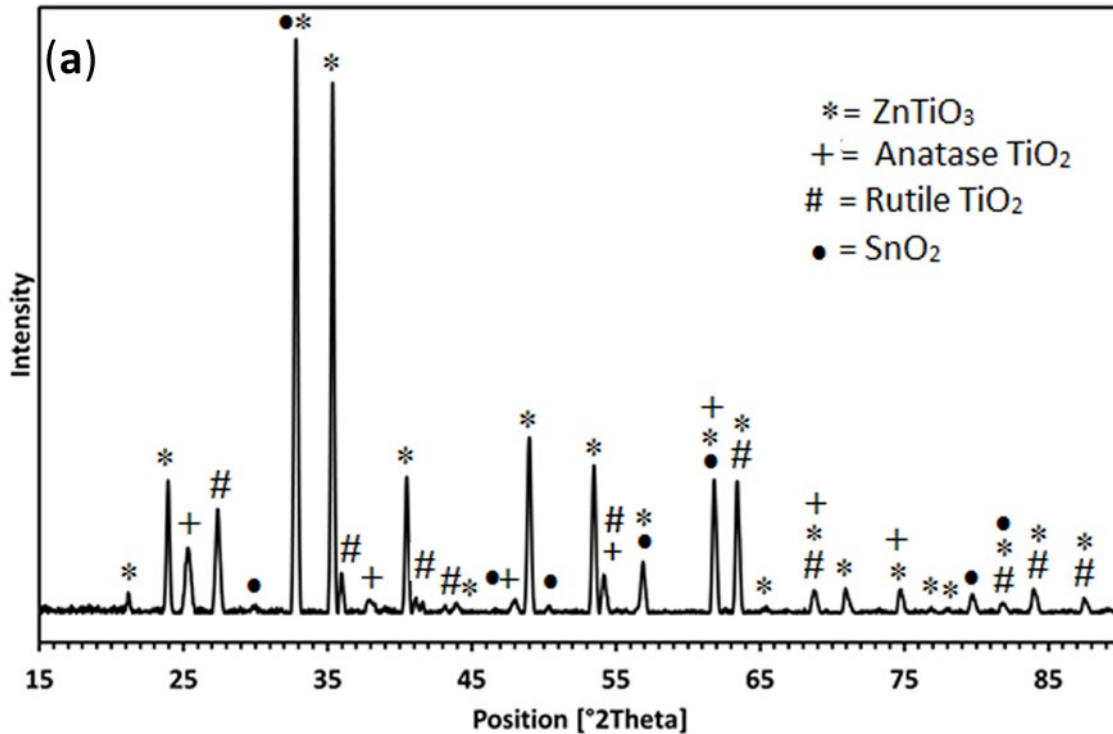


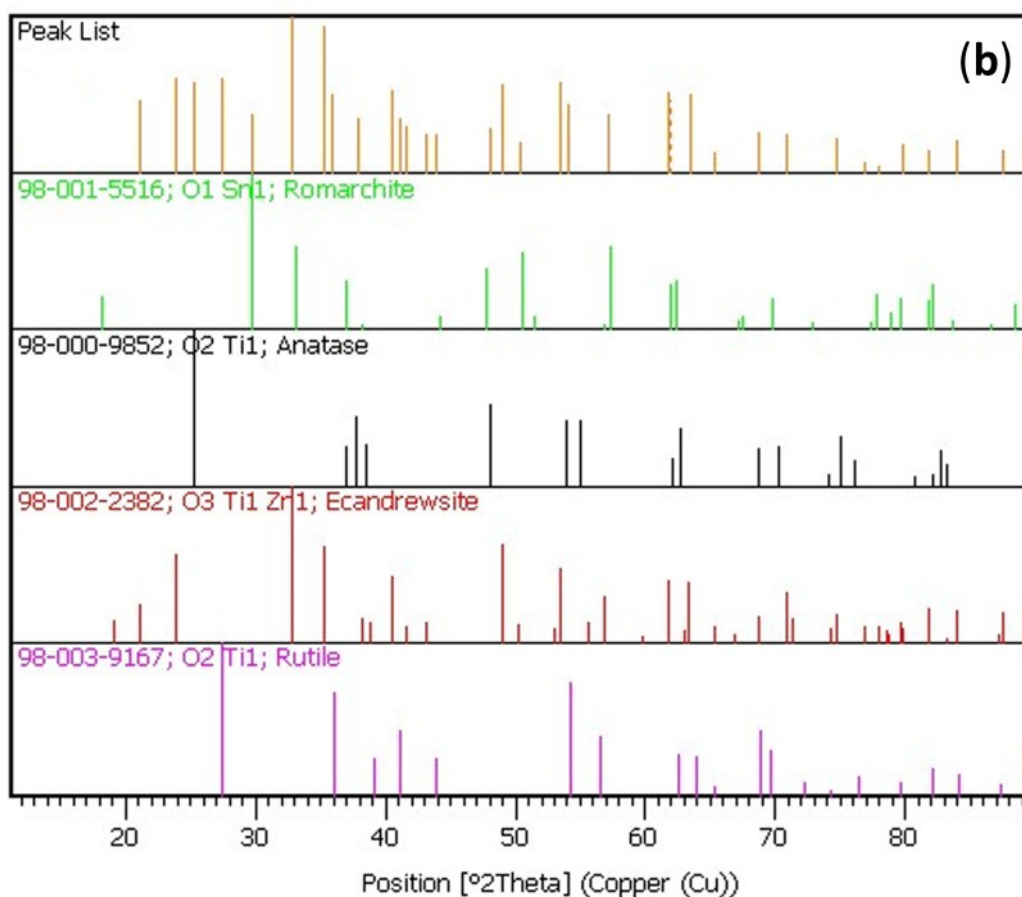
Fig. S1: FT-IR spectrum of precursor  $[\text{Zn}_2\text{Ti}_4(\mu\text{-O})_6(\text{TFA})_8(\text{THF})_6]\cdot\text{THF}$  (1).



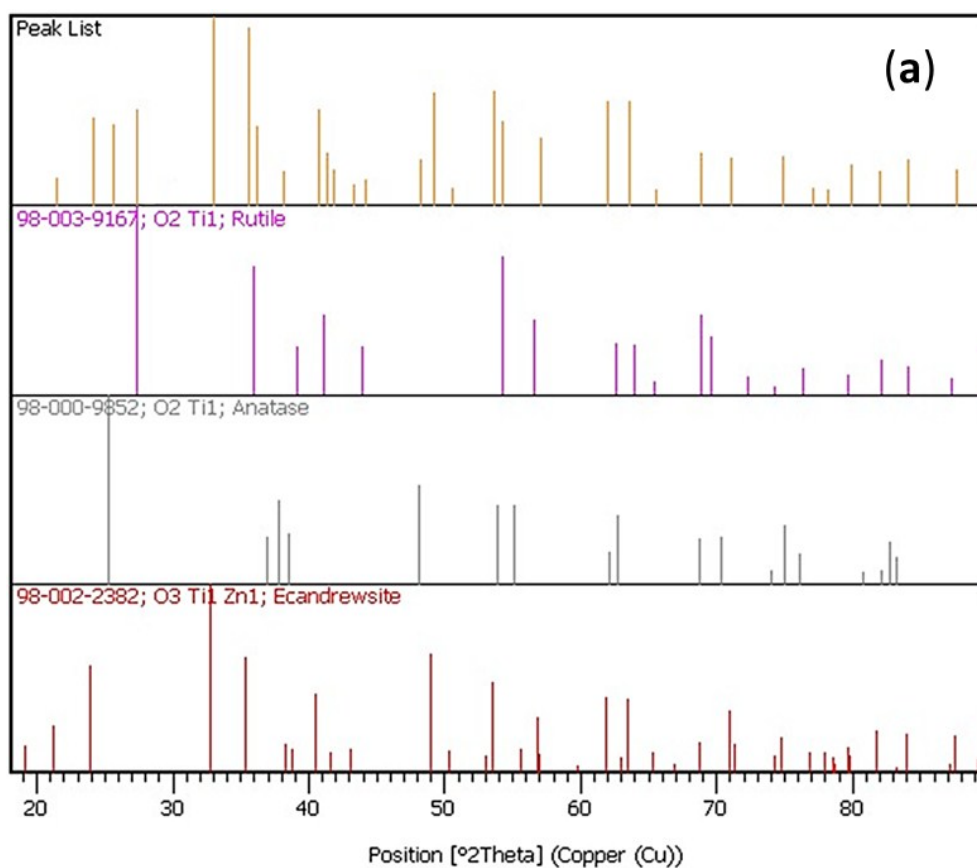
**Fig. S2:**  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectrum of precursor  $[\text{Zn}_2\text{Ti}_4(\mu\text{-O})_6(\text{TFA})_8(\text{THF})_6]\cdot\text{THF}$  (**1**).



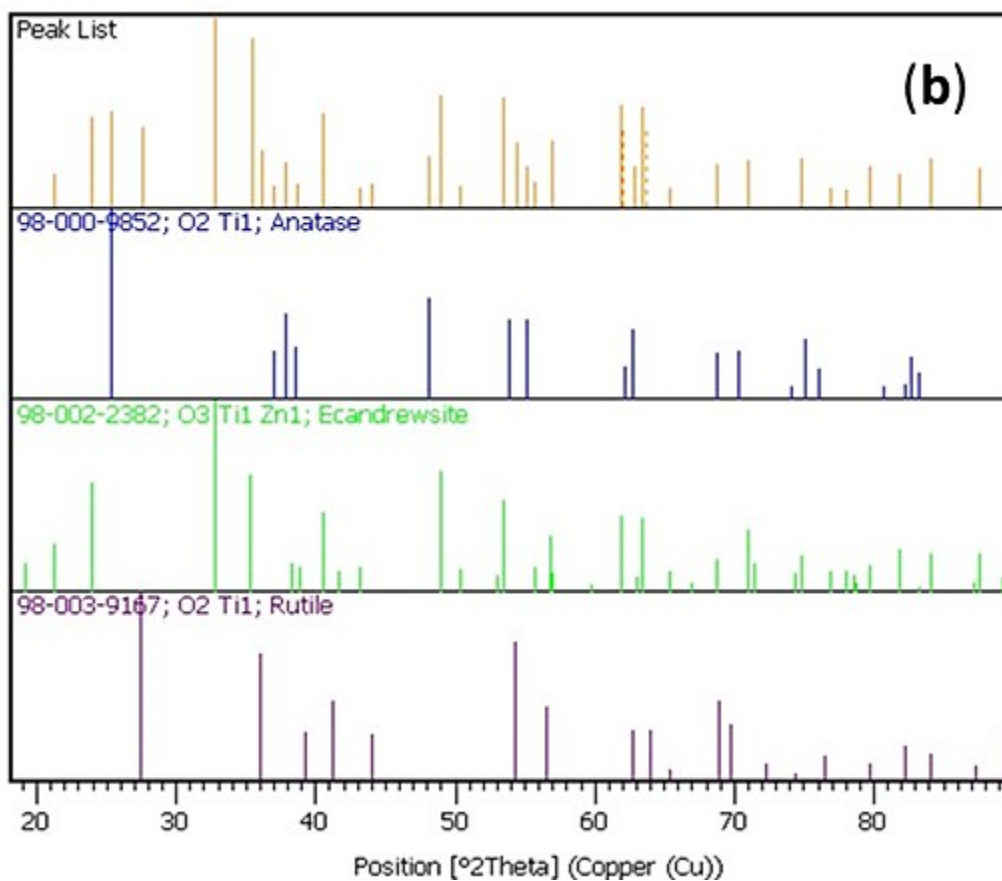
**Fig. S3a:** XRD pattern of  $\text{ZnTiO}_3\text{-TiO}_2$  composite thin film deposited from methanol solution of (**1**) on crystalline FTO glass substrate at  $550\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ .



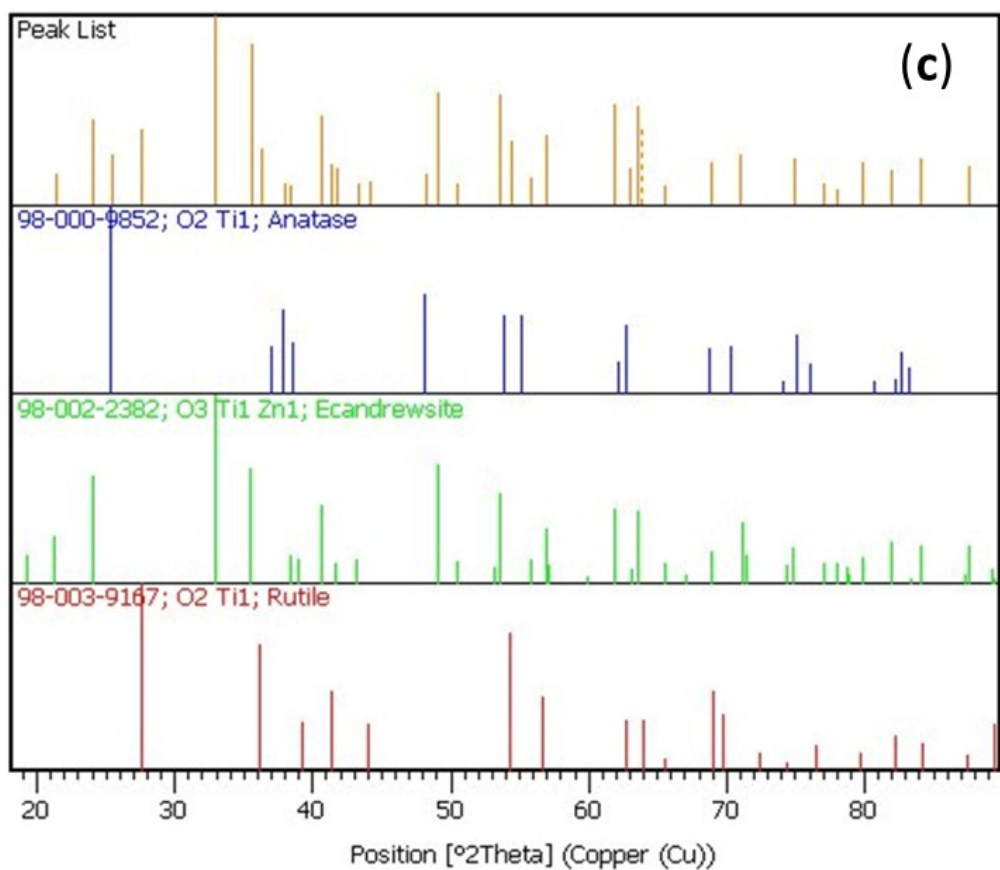
**Fig. S3b:** Comparisons of XRD patterns of ZnTiO<sub>3</sub>-TiO<sub>2</sub> composite thin film deposited from methanolic solution of (1) on crystalline FTO substrate with standard ICSD; SnO (green lines) (98-001-5516), anatase TiO<sub>2</sub> (black lines) (98-000-9852), ecandrewsite ZnTiO<sub>3</sub> (ICSD 98-002-2382) (red lines), rutile TiO<sub>2</sub> (violet lines) (98-003-9167).



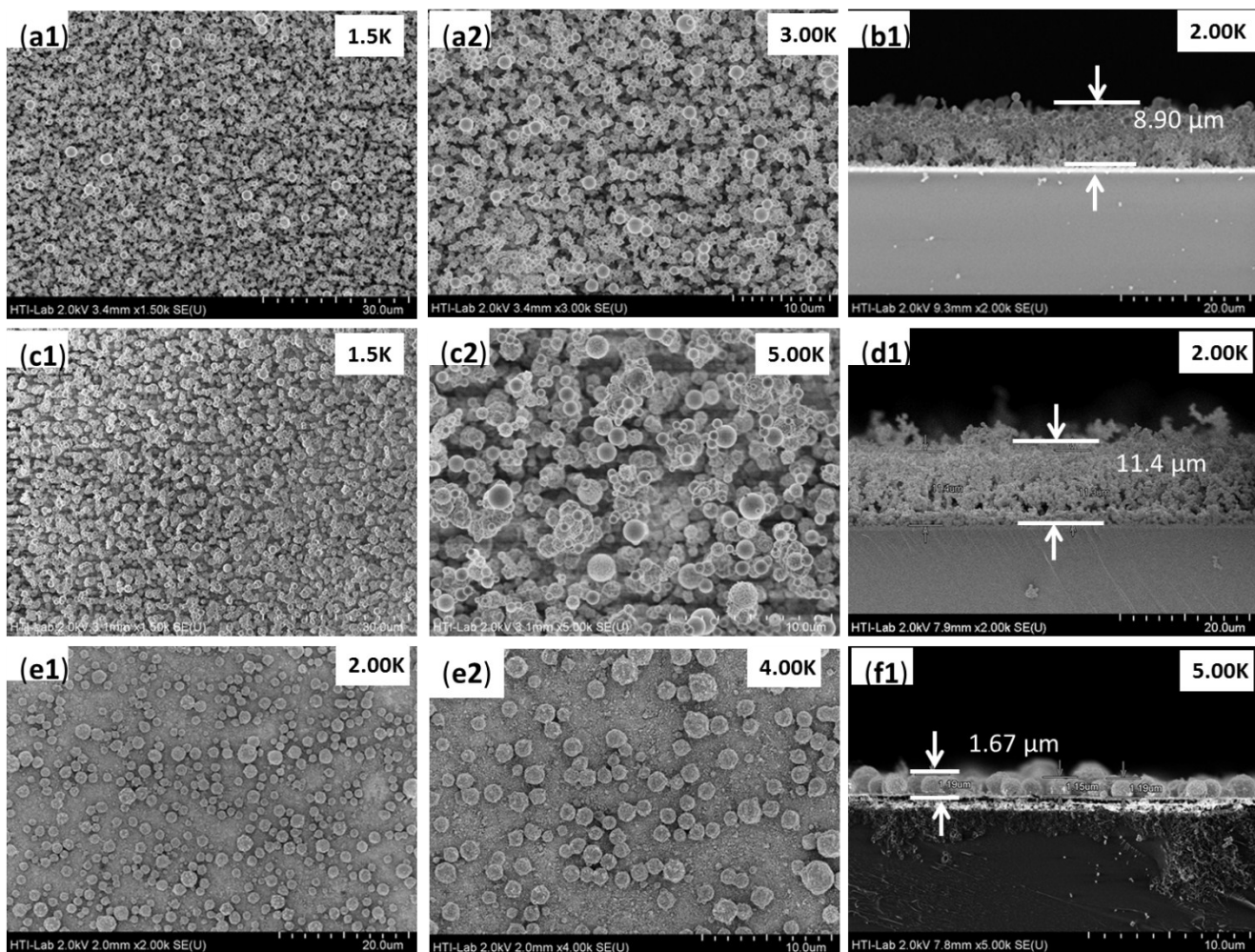
**Fig. S4a:** Comparisons of XRD pattern of ZnTiO<sub>3</sub>-TiO<sub>2</sub> composite thin film deposited from methanolic solution of (1) on plain glass with the standard ICSD; rutile TiO<sub>2</sub> (violet lines) (98-003-9167), anatase TiO<sub>2</sub> (grey lines) (98-000-9852) and ecandrewsite (red lines) ZnTiO<sub>3</sub> (ICSD 98-002-2382).



**Fig. S4b:** Comparisons of XRD patterns of ZnTiO<sub>3</sub>-TiO<sub>2</sub> composite thin film deposited from THF solution of (1) on plain glass with the standard ICSD; anatase TiO<sub>2</sub> (blue lines) (98-000-9852), ecandrewsite ZnTiO<sub>3</sub> (98-002-2382) (green lines), rutile TiO<sub>2</sub> (violet lines) (98-003-9167) .

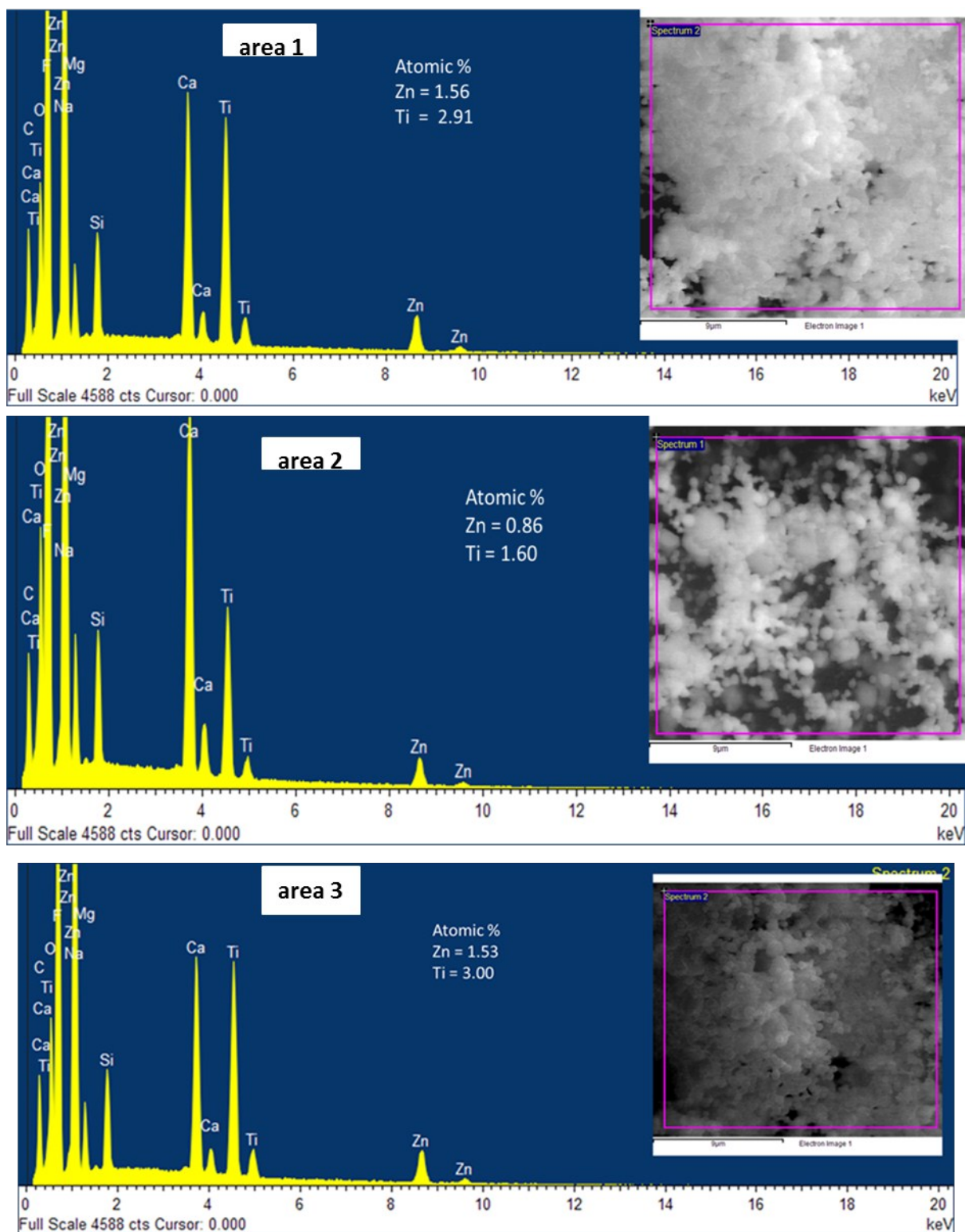


**Fig. S4c:** Comparisons of XRD pattern of ZnTiO<sub>3</sub>-TiO<sub>2</sub> composite thin film deposited from ACN solution of (1) on plain glass with the standard ICSD; anatase TiO<sub>2</sub> (blue lines) (98-000-9852), ecandrewsite ZnTiO<sub>3</sub> (98-002-2382) (green lines), rutile TiO<sub>2</sub> (violet lines) (98-003-9167) .

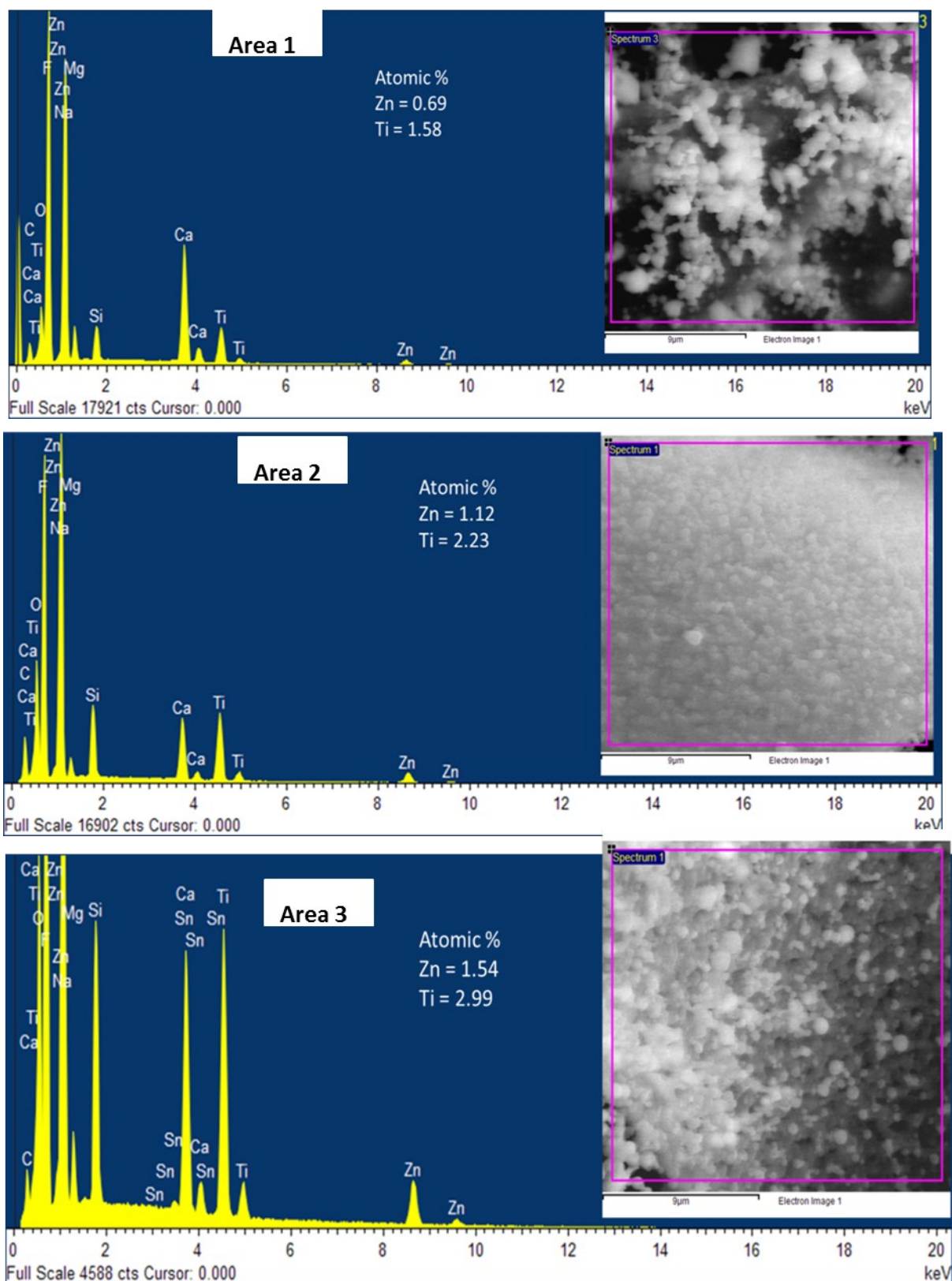


**Fig. S5 :** (a), (c) and (e) show surface ; (b), (d) and (f) indicate the cross section SEM images of  $\text{ZnTiO}_3\text{-TiO}_2$  composite thin films deposited on FTO glass substrate at  $550\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  from solution of precursor (1) in (a, b) methanol (c, d) THF and (e, f) acetonitrile, respectively.

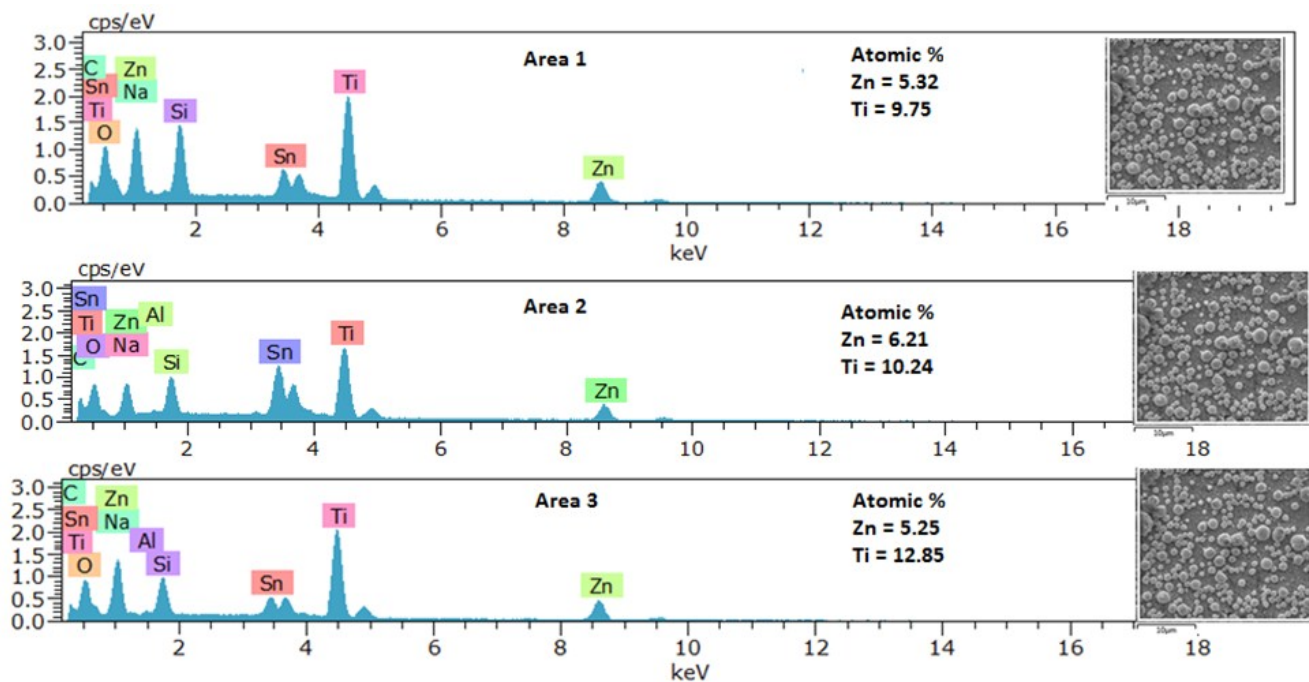




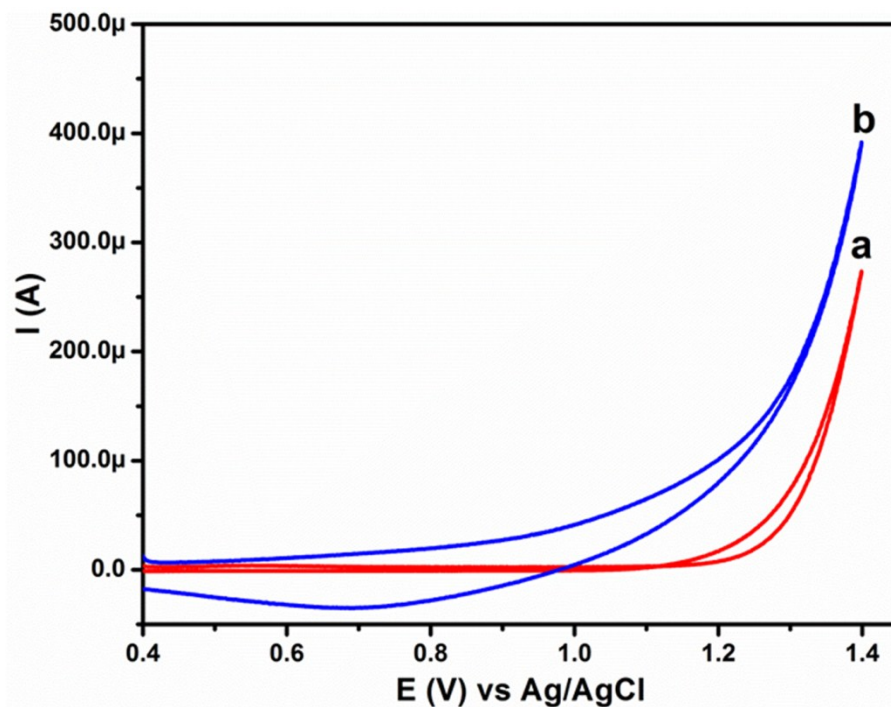
**Fig. S6:** EDX spectrum recorded from different areas of ZnTiO<sub>3</sub>-TiO<sub>2</sub> composite film deposited from methanol solution of (1) on FTO substrate at 550 °C in air atmosphere.



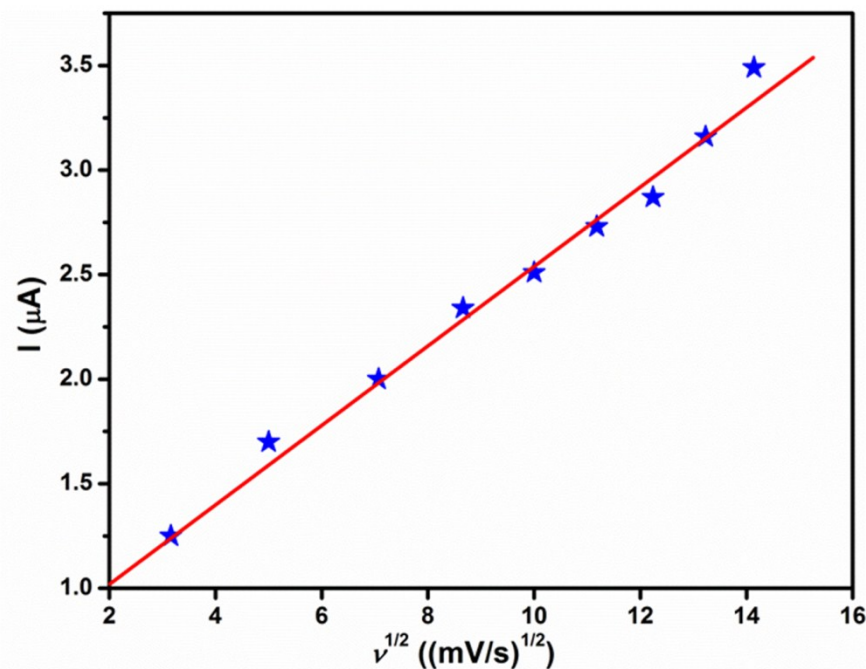
**Fig. S7:** EDX spectrum recorded from different areas of  $\text{ZnTiO}_3\text{-TiO}_2$  composite film deposited from THF solution of (1) on FTO substrate at  $550\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  in air atmosphere.



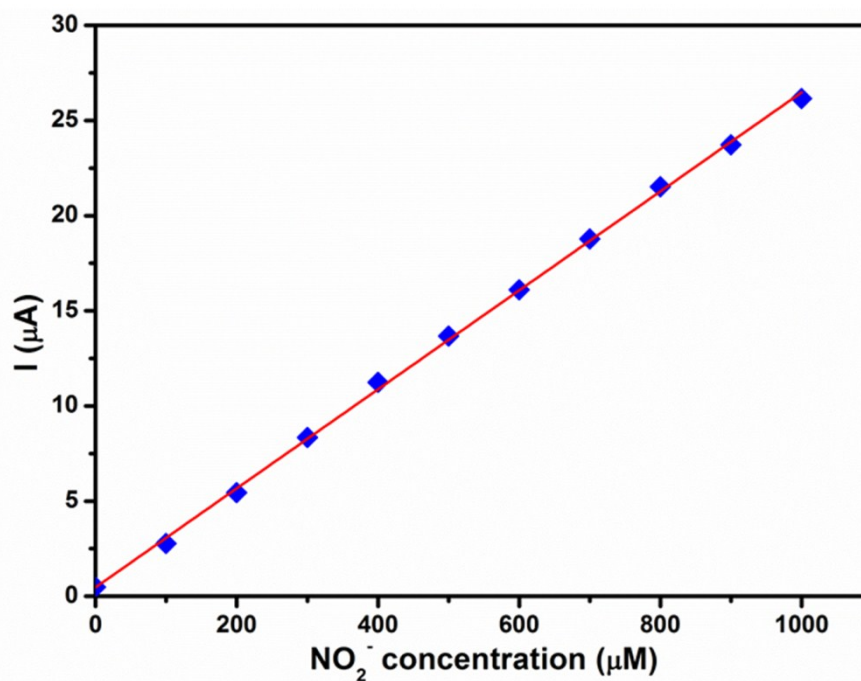
**Fig. S8:** EDX spectrum recorded from different areas of ZnTiO<sub>3</sub>-TiO<sub>2</sub> composite film deposited from ACN solution of (1) on FTO substrate at 550 °C in air atmosphere



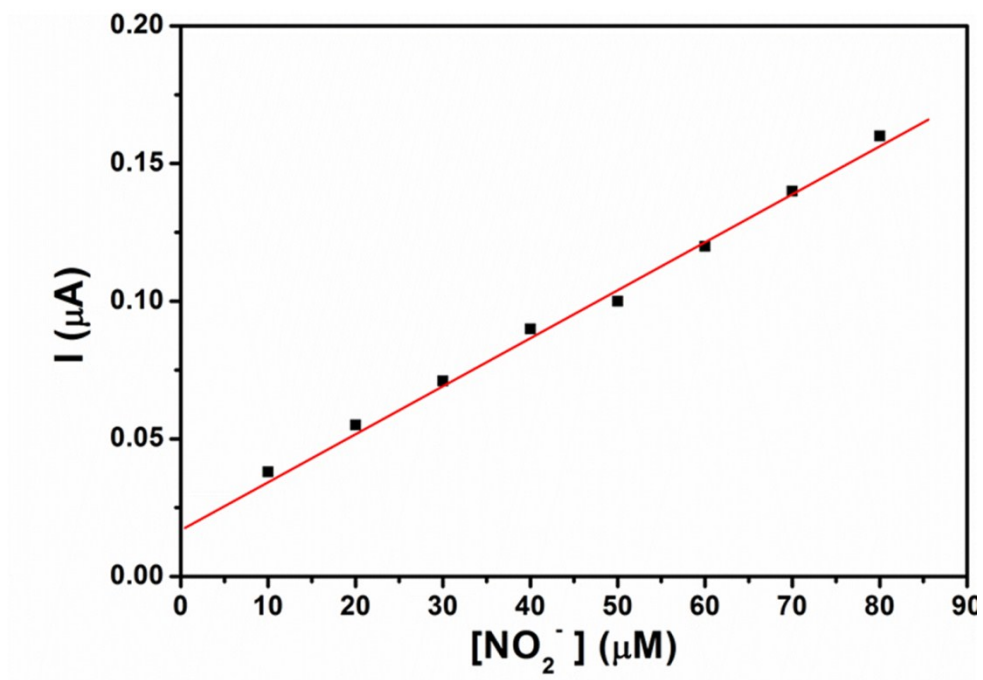
**Fig. S9:** Cyclic voltammograms obtained for the bare FTO electrode (a) absence and (b) presence of 1 mM nitrite in 0.1 M PBS (pH 7.2) at a scan rate of 50 mV s<sup>-1</sup>.



**Fig. S10:** Plot of peak current vs. square root of scan rate obtained for the ZnTiO<sub>3</sub>-TiO<sub>2</sub> composite thin film in the presence of 1 mM nitrite in 0.1 M PBS (pH 7.2).



**Fig. S11:** Plot of peak current vs. nitrite concentration obtained for the ZnTiO<sub>3</sub>-TiO<sub>2</sub> composite thin film for each addition of 10  $\mu\text{M}$  nitrite in 0.1 M PBS (pH 7.2) at a scan rate of 50 mV s<sup>-1</sup>.



**Fig. S12:** Plot of peak current vs. nitrite concentration obtained for the ZnTiO<sub>3</sub>-TiO<sub>2</sub> composite thin film for various addition nitrite in 0.1 M PBS (pH 7.2) at a regular time interval of 60 sec (applied potential was +1.2 V).