

# Reversible tuning of structural, magnetic and transport properties via oxygen desorption/absorption in epitaxial $\text{La}_{0.7}\text{Sr}_{0.3}\text{MnO}_{3-\delta}$ thin films

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An oxygen vacancy induced topotactic transition from perovskite to brownmillerite and vice versa in epitaxial  $\text{La}_{0.7}\text{Sr}_{0.3}\text{MnO}_{3-\delta}$  thin films is identified by real-time x-ray diffraction. A novel intermediate phase with a non-centered crystal structure is observed for the first time during the topotactic phase conversion which indicates a distinctive transition route. Polarized neutron reflectometry confirms an oxygen deficient interfacial layer with drastically reduced nuclear scattering length density, further enabling a quantitative determination of the oxygen stoichiometry ( $\text{La}_{0.7}\text{Sr}_{0.3}\text{MnO}_{2.65}$ ) for the intermediate state. Associated physical properties of distinct topotactic phases (i.e. ferromagnetic metal and anti-ferromagnetic insulator) can be switched reversibly by an oxygen desorption/absorption cycling process.

L. Cao, O. Petravic, P. Zakalek, A. Weber, U. Rucker, J. Schubert, A. Koutsioubas, S. Mattauch, and Th. Brückel, Reversible Control of Physical Properties via an Oxygen-Vacancy-Driven Topotactic Transition in Epitaxial  $\text{La}_{0.7}\text{Sr}_{0.3}\text{MnO}_{3-\delta}$  Thin Films, Adv. Mater. 2018, 1806183 (2018)

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