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Redetermination of the distorted perovskite $\text{Nd}_{0.53}\text{Sr}_{0.47}\text{MnO}_3$

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Key indicators: single-crystal X-ray study; $T = 241$ K; mean $\sigma(\text{Mn}-\text{O}) = 0.001$ Å; disorder in main residue; R factor = 0.028; wR factor = 0.066; data-to-parameter ratio = 14.3.

Neodymium strontium manganese oxide with ideal composition $\text{Nd}_{0.5}\text{Sr}_{0.5}\text{MnO}_3$ was reported to have two different structure models. In one model, the x coordinate of an O atom is at $x > 1/2$, while in the other model the x -coordinate of this atom is at $x < 1/2$. Difference-density maps around this O atom obtained from the current redetermination clearly show that the structure with the O atom at $x < 1/2$ result in a more satisfactory model than that with $x > 1/2$. The title compound with a refined composition of $\text{Nd}_{0.53(5)}\text{Sr}_{0.47(5)}\text{MnO}_3$ is a distorted perovskite-type structure with site symmetries $2mm$ for the statistically occupied (Nd, Sr) site and for the above-mentioned O atom, $..2/m$ for the Mn atom and $..2$ for a second O-atom site. In contrast to previous studies, the displacement factors for all atoms were refined anisotropically.

Related literature

For details of the synthesis, see: Nakamura *et al.* (1999). For previous refinements of compounds with composition $\text{Nd}_{0.5}\text{Sr}_{0.5}\text{MnO}_3$ from powder and single-crystal data, see: Woodward *et al.* (1998), Caignaert *et al.* (1998) and Kajimoto *et al.* (1999), Angappane *et al.* (2004), respectively. For general background, see: Becker & Coppens (1975); Dawson *et al.* (1967); Libermann *et al.* (1971); Mann (1968), Tanaka & Marumo (1983).

Experimental

Crystal data

$\text{Nd}_{0.53}\text{Sr}_{0.47}\text{MnO}_3$	$b = 5.4310(3)$ Å
$M_r = 218.81$	$c = 7.6006(5)$ Å
Orthorhombic, $Ibmm$	$V = 226.14(2)$ Å ³
$a = 5.4785(3)$ Å	$Z = 4$

Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
 $\mu = 28.37$ mm⁻¹

$T = 241(1)$ K
 $0.07 \times 0.05 \times 0.04$ mm

Data collection

MAC Science M06XHF22 four-circle diffractometer
Absorption correction: numerical (CCDABS; Zhurov & Tanaka, 2003)
 $T_{\min} = 0.358$, $T_{\max} = 0.521$

1255 measured reflections
966 independent reflections
679 reflections with $F > 3\sigma(F)$
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.022$

Refinement

$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.028$
 $wR(F^2) = 0.066$
 $S = 1.19$
927 reflections

65 parameters
14 restraints
 $\Delta\rho_{\max} = 2.17$ e Å⁻³
 $\Delta\rho_{\min} = -3.38$ e Å⁻³

Table 1

Selected bond lengths (Å).

Mn—O1	1.9199 (6)	Nd ^{II} —O2	2.545 (2)
Mn—O2	1.9400 (4)	Nd ^I —O1	2.7332 (5)
Nd ^I —O1 ⁱ	2.501 (4)	Nd ^{II} —O1	2.978 (4)

Symmetry codes: (i) $-x + \frac{1}{2}, y + \frac{1}{2}, z$; (ii) $x + 1, y, z$.

Data collection: *MXSYS* (MAC Science, 1995) and *IUANGLE* (Tanaka *et al.*, 1994); cell refinement: *RSLC-3 UNICS* system (Sakurai & Kobayashi, 1979); data reduction: *RDEDIT* (Tanaka, 2008); program(s) used to solve structure: *QNTAO* (Tanaka & Onuki, 2002; Tanaka *et al.*, 2008); program(s) used to refine structure: *QNTAO*; molecular graphics: *ATOMS for Windows* (Dowty, 2000); software used to prepare material for publication: *RDEDIT*.

Supplementary data and figures for this paper are available from the IUCr electronic archives (Reference: WM2198).

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Redetermination of the distorted perovskite Nd_{0.53}Sr_{0.47}MnO₃

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Comment

Woodward *et al.* (1998) and Caignaert *et al.* (1998) determined the structure of Nd_{0.5}Sr_{0.5}MnO₃ on the basis of powder X-ray diffraction data, whereas Kajimoto (1999) and Angappane *et al.* (2004) used single-crystal X-ray diffraction data for structure refinements. Except the model reported by Woodward *et al.* (1998), for all other structure models of Nd_{0.5}Sr_{0.5}MnO₃ the *x*-coordinate of oxygen atom O1 was reported to be > 1/2. Since a new examination of the *x*-coordinate of O1 seemed desirable and anisotropic displacement factors were not reported in the previous studies, we decided to redetermine the structure of Nd_{0.45}Sr_{0.55}MnO₃. The result of the structure analysis is presented in this communication.

The structure of the title compound derives from the perovskite-type (Fig. 1) and exhibits an orthorhombic distortion. The site symmetries are *2mm* for the statistically occupied [(Nd,Sr)O₁₂] polyhedron and for O1, *.2/m.* for the distorted [MnO₆] octahedron and *.2* for O2.

Experimental

A large single crystal was grown using a floating zone method (Nakamura *et al.*, 1999). The bulk sample was put on a piece of filter paper and was etched by diluted nitric acid under a microscope. Finally, the sample was shaped into a 0.040 mm × 0.053 mm × 0.065 mm block. Nd_{0.45}Sr_{0.55}MnO₃ exhibits a first order phase transition at T_N = 225K. The present diffraction study was carried out at 241 (1) K close to the phase transition temperature.

Refinement

The structure of Nd_{1-x}Sr_xMnO₃ changes with the hole-concentration *x*. In the region *x* > 0.55 the structure has tetragonal symmetry. However, at *x* = 0.60 a phase with monoclinic symmetry was reported at low temperature (Kajimoto *et al.*, 1999). Below *x* = 0.55 it changes to orthorhombic symmetry. Since crystals with monoclinic, orthorhombic and tetragonal symmetries were found in preliminary experiments for crystal with approximate compositions of Nd_{0.45}Sr_{0.55}MnO₃ (which is expected from the composition of the starting materials), the hole-concentration *x* (i.e. site occupation factors) were also refined besides the atomic coordinates and the temperature factors. The previous studies (Woodward *et al.* (1998); Caignaert *et al.* (1998); Angappane *et al.* (2004)) have used the standard setting of space group No. 74 in *Imma*. We decided to refine the structure with the setting in *Ibmm*, because in the orthorhombic phase the crystal axis is taken along the same direction as that of the tetragonal phase which is also adopted by many other physicists to make clear the relationships between the two phases. Furthermore, Nd_{0.45}Sr_{0.55}MnO₃ is well known as having dx²-y²-type orbital-ordering of Mn and the physical and chemical properties are discussed based on the *Ibmm* setting.

When the coordinates by Caignaert *et al.* (1998) were used as starting parameters for refinement, the *x*-coordinate of O1 converged to 0.518 (1) with a *R*-factor of 0.0381. Fig. 2 (a) shows the difference density map onto (010) after this refinement in the range 0 < *z* < 1/2 and 0 < *x* < 1 with the vertical and horizontal lengths of 3.80 Å × 5.48 Å. The cores of Nd/Sr, Mn

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and O1 are at (0, 1/4), (1/2, 1/2) and (0.52, 1/4). Since there are two high peaks at $x = 0.45$ and 0.55 in Fig 2 (a), O1 was split into O1(1) at $x=0.45$ and O1(2) at $x=0.55$. The site occupation factors of O1(1) and O1(2) became 0.96 (6) and 0.04 (6) after the refinement. Hence O1 was concluded to be located only at $x=0.45$. After the subsequent refinement the R -factor converged at 0.0289 and the difference density map became likewise more satisfactory (Fig. 2(b)).

Although the temperature factor U^{33} of O1 is 0.001 (1) \AA^2 and almost insignificant, it becomes 0.0015 (2) \AA^2 after the refinement of anharmonic vibration parameters (Dawson *et al.*, 1967; Tanaka & Marumo, 1983) as well as the harmonic ones. Finally, refinement of the site occupation factors revealed a hole-concentration x of 0.47 (5) thus leading to a composition of $\text{Nd}_{0.53}\text{Sr}_{0.47}\text{MnO}_3$.

Figures

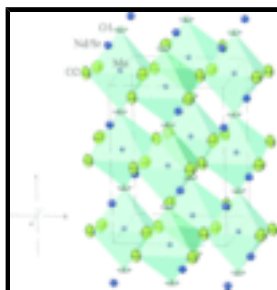


Fig. 1. The structure of the distorted perovskite $\text{Nd}_{0.53}\text{Sr}_{0.47}\text{MnO}_3$ with displacement ellipsoids drawn at the 90% probability level.



Fig. 2. The difference density map projected onto (010) plane with a range $0 < x < 1$ and $0 < z < 1/2$. (a): The x -coordinate of O1 is $> 1/2$. (b): The x -coordinate of O1 is $< 1/2$. Contours are given at intervals of 0.5 e \AA^{-3} . Zero contours are drawn as thick lines, positive contours are drawn as thin lines, and negative contours are drawn as broken line.

Neodymium strontium manganese oxide

Crystal data

$\text{Nd}_{0.53}\text{Sr}_{0.47}\text{MnO}_3$

$M_r = 218.81$

Orthorhombic, $Ibmm$

Hall symbol: $-I 2c 2c$

$a = 5.4785$ (3) \AA

$b = 5.4310$ (3) \AA

$c = 7.6006$ (5) \AA

$V = 226.14$ (2) \AA^3

$Z = 4$

$F_{000} = 394.64$

$D_x = 6.479 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$

Mo $K\alpha$ radiation

$\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$

Cell parameters from 30 reflections

$\theta = 35.6\text{--}37.8^\circ$

$\mu = 28.37 \text{ mm}^{-1}$

$T = 240.5$ (5) K

Block, black

$0.07 \times 0.05 \times 0.04 \text{ mm}$

Data collection

MAC Science M06XHF22 four-circle diffractometer

Radiation source: fine-focus rotating anode

Monochromator: graphite

Detector resolution: $1.25 \times 1.25^\circ \text{ pixels mm}^{-1}$

966 independent reflections

679 reflections with $F > 3\sigma(F)$

$R_{\text{int}} = 0.022$

$\theta_{\text{max}} = 74.7^\circ$

$T = 240.5(5)$ K $\theta_{\min} = 5.3^\circ$
 integrated intensities data fom $\omega/2\theta$ scans $h = -12 \rightarrow 14$
 Absorption correction: numerical (CCDABS; Zhurov & Tanaka, 2003) $k = -12 \rightarrow 14$
 $T_{\min} = 0.358, T_{\max} = 0.521$ $l = -18 \rightarrow 18$
 1255 measured reflections

Refinement

Refinement on F 14 restraints
 Least-squares matrix: full Weighting scheme based on measured s.u.'s ?
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.028$ $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = 0.0002$
 $wR(F^2) = 0.066$ $\Delta\rho_{\max} = 2.17 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
 $S = 1.19$ $\Delta\rho_{\min} = -3.38 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
 927 reflections Extinction correction: B-C type 1 Gaussian anisotropic (Becker & Coppens, 1975)
 65 parameters Extinction coefficient: 0.029E04 (1)

Special details

Experimental. Multiple diffraction was avoided by ψ -scan. Intensities was measured at equi-temperature region of combinaion of angles ω and χ of four-circle diffractometer

Refinement. B—C anisotropic type1 extinction parameters ($\times 10^4$ s) are as follows 4087 (526) 6631 (1159) 3088 (391) -790 (416) -1835 (361) 3716 (625)

Dawson *et al.* (1967) proposed the treatment of temperature factors including anharmonic thermal vibration (AHV) effect for high-symmetry crystals by means of series expansion of an one-particle-potential. Tanaka and Marumo (1983) generalized the treatment and anharmonic third and fourth order parameters were refined in the least-square program. AHV parameters were restricted by the site symmetry of Nd/Sr(2 mm), Mn(.2/m.), O1(2 mm) and O2(.2). The anharmonic potentials (V) are represented by the following equation:

$$V_{\text{Nd,Sr,O1}} = c_{111}u_1^3 + c_{123}u_1u_2^2 + c_{133}u_1u_3^2 + q_{1111}u_1^4 + q_{1122}u_1^2u_2^2 + q_{1133}u_1^2u_3^2 + q_{2222}u_2^4 + q_{2233}u_2^2u_3^2 + q_{3333}u_3^4 \dots(1)$$

$$V_{\text{Mn}} = q_{1111}u_1^4 + q_{1122}u_1^2u_2^2 + q_{1133}u_1^2u_3^2 + q_{2222}u_2^4 + q_{2233}u_2^2u_3^2 + q_{3333}u_3^4 + q_{1131}u_1^3u_3 + q_{2231}u_2^2u_1u_3 + q_{3331}u_3^3u_1 \dots(2)$$

$$V_{\text{O2}} = c_{211}u_1^2u_2 + c_{222}u_2^3 + c_{233}u_3^2u_2 + c_{123}u_1u_2u_3 + q_{1111}u_1^4 + q_{1122}u_1^2u_2^2 + q_{1133}u_1^2u_3^2 + q_{2222}u_2^4 + q_{2233}u_2^2u_3^2 + q_{3333}u_3^4 + q_{1131}u_1^3u_3 + q_{2231}u_2^2u_1u_3 + q_{3331}u_3^3u_1 \dots(3)$$

where (u_1, u_2, u_3) is a displacement vector from equilibrium position of each atom. The displacement vector of Nd, Sr, O1 was defined on the coordinate system with axes parallel to the crystal axes, a, b and c. That of Mn and O2 was defined by equation (4) and (5) in terms of the lattice vectors a, b and c in the present study.

$$u_1 = -0.18253a, u_2 = 0.18413b, u_3 = -0.13157c \dots(4)$$

$$u_1 = -0.11080a - 0.14633b, u_2 = 0.13157c, u_3 = -0.14506a + 0.11177b \dots(5)$$

Since there is strong correlation between harmonic temperature factors and AHV parameters, the AHV parameters and the harmonic temperature factors were refined alternately. The significant AHV parameters c_{ijk} ($\times 10^{-19} \text{ J } \text{\AA}^{-3}$) and q_{ijk} ($\times 10^{-19} \text{ J } \text{\AA}^{-3}$) are as follows:

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Nd and Sr; $c_{111} = -5.9$ (49), $c_{122} = -3.8$ (14),

Mn; $q_{2231} = -1832$ (1560),

O1: $q_{2222} = -9.5$ (39), $q_{2233} = 569.9$ (2279),

O2: $c_{211} = 3.7$ (33), $c_{233} = 0.8$ (7), $c_{123} = -5.5$ (23), $q_{2233} = 9.1$ (79),

Fractional atomic coordinates and isotropic or equivalent isotropic displacement parameters (\AA^2)

	x	y	z	$U_{\text{iso}}^*/U_{\text{eq}}$	Occ. (<1)
Nd	-0.00656 (9)	0	0.25	0.00637 (4)	0.53 (5)
Sr	-0.00656 (9)	0	0.25	0.00637 (4)	0.47 (5)
Mn	0.5	0	0	0.00305 (7)	
O1	0.4499 (8)	0	0.25	0.0112 (6)	
O2	0.75	0.25	0.0276 (4)	0.0139 (5)	

Atomic displacement parameters (\AA^2)

	U^{11}	U^{22}	U^{33}	U^{12}	U^{13}	U^{23}
Nd	0.00653 (6)	0.00685 (7)	0.00574 (8)	0	0	0
Sr	0.00663 (6)	0.00685 (7)	0.00574 (8)	0	0	0
Mn	0.0035 (1)	0.0030 (1)	0.0027 (1)	0	0	0
O1	0.015 (1)	0.017 (1)	0.0015 (2)	0	0	0
O2	0.0148 (7)	0.0116 (7)	0.015 (1)	-0.0058 (6)	0	0

Geometric parameters (\AA , $^\circ$)

Mn—O1	1.9199 (6)	Nd ⁱⁱ —O2	2.545 (2)
Mn—O2	1.9400 (4)	O1—O2	2.721 (3)
Nd ⁱ —Nd ⁱⁱ	3.8064 (5)	Nd ⁱ —Mn	3.3043 (4)
Nd ⁱⁱ —O1 ⁱⁱ	2.501 (4)	O1 ⁱⁱⁱ —O2 ⁱⁱ	2.738 (3)
Nd ⁱ —O2	2.545 (2)	O1—O1 ⁱⁱ	3.489 (4)
Nd ⁱⁱ —O1	2.7332 (5)	O2—O2 ⁱⁱⁱ	3.8799 (5)
Nd ⁱ —O1	2.978 (4)		
Nd ⁱⁱ —Nd ⁱ —Mn	55.020 (8)	Nd ⁱ —O1—Mn	81.8 (1)
Mn—Nd ⁱ —O1	35.10 (8)	Nd ⁱⁱ —O1—Mn	89.07 (3)
Nd ⁱ —Nd ⁱⁱ —Mn	54.769 (6)	Mn—O1—O1 ⁱⁱ	95.15 (9)
Nd ⁱ —Nd ⁱⁱ —O2	41.61 (5)	Nd ⁱⁱ —O1 ⁱⁱ —O1	51.11 (8)
Mn—Nd ⁱⁱ —O1 ⁱⁱ	89.4 (1)	Nd ⁱ —O2—Nd ⁱⁱ	96.8 (1)
O1—Nd ⁱⁱ —O1 ⁱⁱ	83.5 (1)	Nd ⁱ —O2—O2 ⁱⁱⁱ	144.59 (7)
O1 ⁱⁱ —Nd ⁱⁱ —O2	121.6 (1)	Nd ⁱⁱ —O2—O2 ⁱⁱⁱ	47.83 (1)
Nd ⁱ —Mn—Nd ⁱⁱ	70.212 (7)	Nd ⁱⁱ —Nd ⁱ —O2	41.61 (5)
Nd ⁱⁱ —Mn—O1	55.54 (2)	O1—Nd ⁱ —O2	58.4 (1)
Nd ⁱ —O1—Nd ⁱⁱ	83.48 (9)	Nd ⁱ —Nd ⁱⁱ —O1 ⁱⁱ	134.5 (1)

Nd ⁱ —O1—O2	52.83 (8)	Mn—Nd ⁱⁱ —O1	35.39 (1)
Nd ⁱⁱ —O1—O2	55.64 (6)	Mn—Nd ⁱⁱ —O2 ⁱⁱⁱ	87.76 (5)
O1 ⁱⁱ —O1—O2	89.48 (6)	O1—Nd ⁱⁱ —O2 ⁱⁱⁱ	114.44 (5)
O1—O1 ⁱⁱ —O2 ⁱⁱⁱ	97.8 (1)	O2—Nd ⁱⁱ —O2 ⁱⁱⁱ	91.19 (7)
Nd ⁱ —O2—O1	68.77 (9)	Nd ⁱ —Mn—O2	50.22 (1)
Nd ⁱⁱ —O2—O1	62.42 (8)	Nd ⁱ —O1—O1 ⁱⁱ	128.89 (6)
Nd ⁱⁱ —Nd ⁱ —O1	45.51 (8)	Nd ⁱⁱ —O1—O1 ⁱⁱ	45.41 (5)
Mn—Nd ⁱ —O2	35.85 (5)	Mn—O1—O2	45.48 (6)
Nd ⁱ —Nd ⁱⁱ —O1	51.01 (1)	Nd ⁱⁱ —O1 ⁱⁱ —O2 ⁱⁱⁱ	66.4 (1)
Nd ⁱ —Nd ⁱⁱ —O2 ⁱⁱⁱ	132.79 (5)	Nd ⁱ —O2—Mn	93.92 (6)
Mn—Nd ⁱⁱ —O2	35.71 (5)	Nd ⁱⁱ —O2—Mn	94.32 (6)
O1—Nd ⁱⁱ —O2	61.94 (5)	Mn—O2—O2 ⁱⁱⁱ	88.84 (2)
O1 ⁱⁱ —Nd ⁱⁱ —O2 ⁱⁱⁱ	60.7 (1)	O1—O2—O2 ⁱⁱⁱ	89.42 (6)
Nd ⁱ —Mn—O1	63.12 (2)	O1 ⁱⁱ —O2 ⁱⁱⁱ —O2	81.49 (5)
Nd ⁱⁱ —Mn—O2	49.98 (1)	Nd ⁱⁱ —O2 ⁱⁱⁱ —O1 ⁱⁱ	52.84 (6)

Symmetry codes: (i) $x+1, y, z$; (ii) $-x+1/2, y+1/2, z$; (iii) $x-1/2, y+1/2, -z$.

Fig. 1

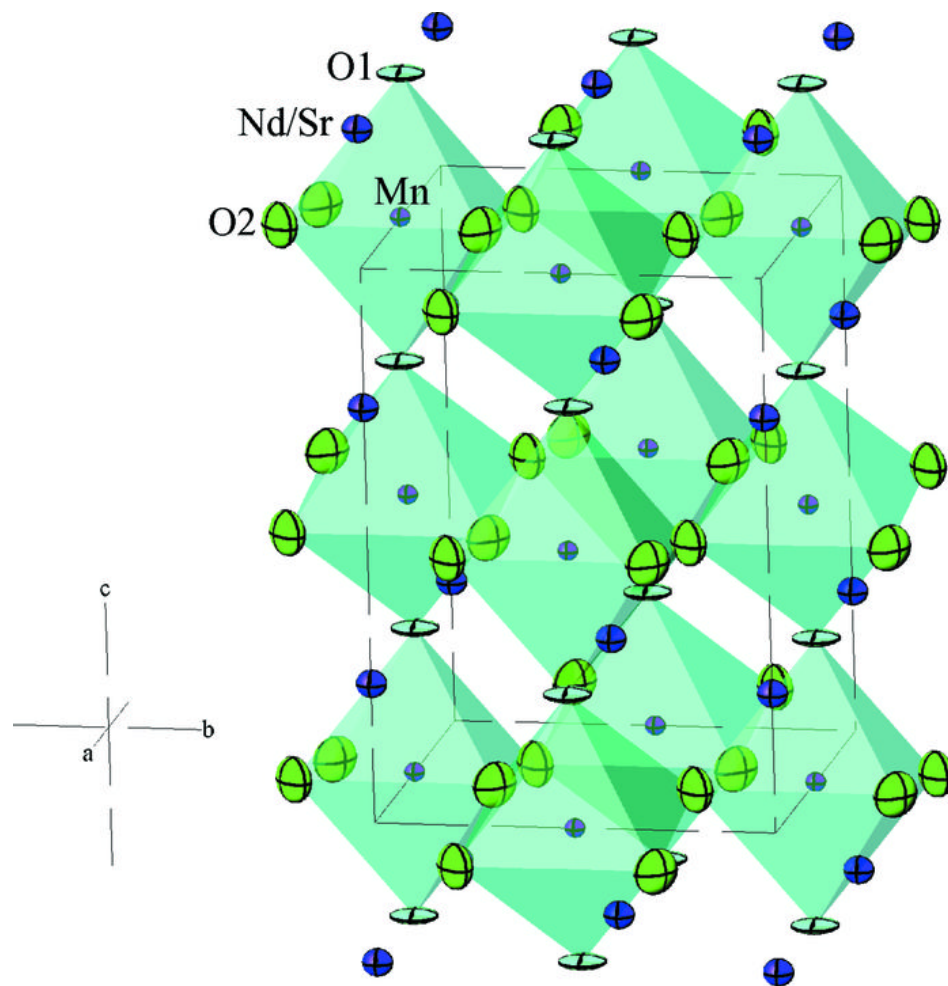


Fig. 2

