

# Structure, magnetic, magnetocaloric and magnetoresistance properties of $\text{La}_{1-x}\text{Pb}_x\text{MnO}_3$ perovskite

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Abstract:  $\text{La}_{1-x}\text{Pb}_x\text{MnO}_3$  ( $x = 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4,$  and  $0.5$ ) perovskites were prepared by a solid-state reaction. Except for  $x = 0.5$  (cubic) and  $x = 0.4$  (rhombohedral), the structure of the other compositions was pseudo-rhombohedral with P1 symmetry. The particle size of the grains is depending on the Pb content of the samples. The Curie temperature  $T_c$  increases from 235 K for  $x = 0.1$ -310 K for  $x = 0.2$  and is almost constant (about 360 K) for  $x \geq 0.3$ . The field-cooled and zero-field-cooled thermomagnetic curves measured at low field show a split below a so-called irreversibility temperature  $T_I$ , which is somewhat smaller than  $T_c$  except for  $x = 0.1$ , where it is 270 K. From a series of magnetic isotherms the magnetic entropy changes  $\delta S(T)$  were determined for a field step of 500 Oe. The maximum value of  $\delta S_{\text{max}}$  increases with increasing  $x$  till  $x = 0.3$  and then decreases with further increasing  $x$ . The conductivity of perovskites is metallic at low temperatures and semiconducting at high temperatures. Magnetoresistance measurements have been performed. © 2002 Elsevier Science B.V. All rights reserved.

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