Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

Direct evidence for two-dimensional oxygen diffusion in the

hexagonal perovskite-related oxide $Ba_3MoNbO_{8.5-\delta}$

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Figure S1. Crystal structure (a) and isosurface of neutron scattering length density (b) of $(La_{0.8}Sr_{0.2})(Ga_{0.8}Mg_{0.15}Co_{0.05})O_{2.8}$ at 1392 °C (Ref. 8). A sintered sample was synthesized by the solid-state reactions. Neutron-diffraction data of the sintered sample was measured *in situ* at 1392 °C in air and then analyzed by Rietveld, MEM and MEM-based pattern fitting analyses. See the details in the literature (Ref. 17). An oxide ion migrates the circular -O-O- diffusion pathways around the M (= $Ga_{0.8}Mg_{0.15}Co_{0.05}$) cation of the AMX₃ perovskite-type oxide (A = $La_{0.8}Sr_{0.2}$ and X = O) as shown by the arrows.



Figure S2. XPS spectra of Mo 3d (a) and Nb 3d (b) in Ba₃MoNbO_{8.5}. Two peaks at 232.3 and 235.6 eV in (a) represent the Mo⁶⁺ $3d_{5/2}$ and Mo⁶⁺ $3d_{3/2}$ components, respectively. Two peaks at 206.6 and 209.5 eV in (b) represent the Nb⁵⁺ $3d_{5/2}$ and Nb⁵⁺ $3d_{3/2}$ components, respectively. Literature^{a-f} was referred to for the peak identification.

References

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Figure S3. Rietveld pattern of the synchrotron X-ray powder diffraction data of Ba₃MoNbO_{8.5} at 25.6 °C, based on the trigonal $R\bar{3}m$ hybrid structure consisting of 9R polytype and palmierite structures (Fig. 1c). Red crosses and green line denote the observed and calculated intensities, respectively. Green tick marks and blue line below the profile stand for the calculated peak positions and difference pattern, respectively.

Table S1. Refined crystal parameters and reliability factors in Rietveld analysis of neutron diffraction data of Ba₃MoNbO_{8.5- δ} measured at 21 °C (δ = 0.000(9)).

site label s	atom X	site	x	У	Ζ	g(X;s)	$U_{\rm eq}~{\rm or}~U_{\rm iso}$	U_{11} / Å ²	U_{22} / Å ²	U_{33} / Å ²	$U_{12}/\text{\AA}^2$	U_{13} / Å ²	U_{23} / Å ²
Ba1	Ba	3 <i>a</i>	0	0	0	1	0.0130(16)	0.0173(19)	0.0173(19)	0.004(3)	0.0087(10)	0	0
Ba2	Ba	6 <i>c</i>	0	0	0.2061(3)	1	0.0220(13)	0.0173(13)	0.0173(13)	0.046(3)	0.0087(6)	0	0
Mo/Nb1	$Mo_{0.5}Nb_{0.5}$	6 <i>c</i>	0	0	0.39783(17)	0.919(6)	0.0174(11)	0.0098(13)	0.0098(13)	0.046(2)	0.0049(7)	0	0
Mo/Nb2	$Mo_{0.5}Nb_{0.5}$	3 <i>b</i>	0	0	0.5	0.081(7)	0.0174(11)	0.0098(13)	0.0098(13)	0.046(2)	0.0049(7)	0	0
01	0	18h	0.17278(18)	-0.17278(18)	0.10393(8)	1	0.0209(9)	0.0245(8)	0.0245(8)	0.0210(12)	0.0178(9)	0.0034(5)	-0.0034(5)
02	0	9e	0.5	0	0	0.5	0.0371(16)	0.025(2)	0.058(4)	0.039(4)	0.0289(19)	0.015(2)	0.030(4)
O3	0	36 <i>i</i>	0.091(2)	0.077(3)	0.3198(5)	0.0833(8)	0.029(4)						

Crystal system: trigonal. Space group: $R\overline{3}m$, Lattice parameters: a = 5.9221(11) Å, c = 21.076(3) Å. g(X, s): Occupancy factor of X atom at the s site. g(Ba, Ba1) = g(Ba, Ba2) = g(O, O1) = 1. U_{ij} : Anisotropic atomic displacement parameter (ADP). $U_{ij} = U_{ij}(s) = U_{ij}(X; s)$: Anisotropic ADP of X atom at the s site. Linear constraints for the anisotropic ADPs: $U_{22}(s1) = U_{11}(s1)$, $U_{12}(s1) = U_{11}(s1)/2$, $U_{13}(s1) = U_{23}(s1) = 0$ for s1 = Ba1, Ba2, Mo/Nb1, Mo/Nb2; $U_{ij}(Mo/Nb2) = U_{ij}(Mo/Nb1)$; $U_{22}(O1) = U_{11}(O1)$, $U_{13}(O1) = -U_{23}(O1)$; $U_{22}(O2) = 2U_{12}(O2)$, $U_{23}(O2) = 2U_{13}(O2)$. U_{eq} : Equivalent isotropic ADP. U_{iso} : Isotropic ADP.

O3–O3 distance on the oxide-ion conducting layer = 0.34(4) Å, O2–O3 distance on the oxide-ion conducting layer = 1.723(17) Å.

Table S2. Refined crystal parameters and reliability factors in Rietveld analysis of neutron diffraction data of Ba₃MoNbO_{8.5- δ} measured *in situ* at 1100 °C (δ = 0.16(3)).

site label s	atom X	site	x	У	Ζ	g(X;s)	$U_{\rm eq} {\rm ~or~} U_{\rm iso}$	U_{11} / Å ²	U_{22} / Å ²	U_{33} / Å ²	$U_{12}/\mathrm{\AA}^2$	U_{13} / Å ²	U_{23} / Å ²
Ba1	Ba	3 <i>a</i>	0	0	0	1	0.064(3)	0.083(5)	0.083(5)	0.026(5)	0.042(3)	0	0
Ba2	Ba	6 <i>c</i>	0	0	0.2049(4)	1	0.073(3)	0.070(3)	0.070(3)	0.079(6)	0.035(1)	0	0
Mo/Nb1	$\mathrm{Mo}_{0.5}\mathrm{Nb}_{0.5}$	6 <i>c</i>	0	0	0.4014(2)	0.973(9)	0.049(2)	0.042(2)	0.042(2)	0.064(4)	0.021(1)	0	0
Mo/Nb2	Mo _{0.5} Nb _{0.5}	3 <i>b</i>	0	0	0.5	0.053(18)	0.049(2)	0.042(2)	0.042(2)	0.064(4)	0.021(1)	0	0
01	0	18 <i>h</i>	0.1748(3)	-0.1748(3)	0.10185(13)	1	0.077(2)	0.093(2)	0.093(2)	0.076(3)	0.070(2)	0.0051(11)	-0.0051(11)
02	0	9e	0.5	0	0	0.343(6)	0.139(7)	0.1118(6)	0.26(2)	0.086(13)	0.131(4)	0.036(8)	0.073(9)
O3	0	36 <i>i</i>	0.094(2)	0.080(4)	0.3229(5)	0.1095(9)	0.050(5)						

Crystal system: trigonal. Space group: $R\overline{3}m$, Lattice parameters: a = 6.0914(4) Å, c = 21.3710(13) Å. g(X, s): Occupancy factor of X atom at the s site. g(Ba, Ba1) = g(Ba, Ba2) = g(O, O1) = 1. U_{ij} : Anisotropic atomic displacement parameter (ADP). $U_{ij} = U_{ij}(s) = U_{ij}(X; s)$: Anisotropic ADP of X atom at the s site. Linear constraints for the anisotropic ADPs: $U_{22}(s1) = U_{11}(s1)$, $U_{12}(s1) = U_{11}(s1)/2$, $U_{13}(s1) = U_{23}(s1) = 0$ for s1 = Ba1, Ba2, Mo/Nb1, Mo/Nb2; $U_{ij}(Mo/Nb2) = U_{ij}(Mo/Nb1)$; $U_{22}(O1) = U_{11}(O1)$, $U_{13}(O1) = -U_{23}(O1)$; $U_{22}(O2) = 2U_{12}(O2)$, $U_{23}(O2) = 2U_{13}(O2)$. U_{eq} : Equivalent isotropic ADP.

O3–O3 distance on the oxide-ion conducting layer = 0.66(4) Å, O2–O3 distance on the oxide-ion conducting layer = 1.39(3) Å.



Figure S4. Temperature dependence of the oxygen content 8.5– δ and oxygen vacancy concentration δ of Ba₃MoNbO_{8.5- δ} in air. These data were obtained by TG measurements.



Figure S5. (a-c) Bond-valence-based energy landscapes (BVELs) for a test oxide ion on the *ab* planes at (a) z = 0.01, (b) z = 0 and (c) z = -0.01 in Ba₃MoNbO_{8.5- δ}, which were calculated for the crystal parameters refined using the neutron-diffraction data of Ba₃MoNbO_{8.5- δ} at 1100 °C ($\delta = 0.16(3)$). (d-g) Corresponding MEM neutron scattering length density (NSLD) distributions on the *ab* planes at (d) z = 0.01, (e) z = 0 and (f) z = -0.01 in Ba₃MoNbO_{8.5- δ}, which were obtained using the neutron-diffraction data of Ba₃MoNbO_{8.5- δ} at 1100 °C ($\delta = 0.16(3)$). The NSLD distributions are consistent with BVELs. The central position of the tetrahedral oxygen (non-split site O3') is unstable due to the shorter (Mo/Nb1)–O3' bond lengths, which is confirmed by the BVELs. The split site O3 is more stable due to the longer (Mo/Nb1)–O3 bond lengths, which is also supported by the BVELs and MEM NSLD distributions.



Figure S6. Temperature dependence of minimum neutron scattering length density (NSLD) in the -O2-O3- pathway of Ba₃MoNbO_{8.5- δ}. The minimum NSLD increases with an increase of temperature.

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