

Supporting Information

Unusual Electrical Conductivity Driven by Localized Stoichiometry Modification at Vertical Epitaxial Interfaces

Wenrui Zhang,^{1,2,*} Shaobo Cheng,³ Christopher M Rouleau,² Kyle P. Kelley,² Jong Keum,^{2,4} Eli Stavitski,⁵ Yimei Zhu,³ Matthew F. Chisholm,² Zheng Gai,² and Gyula Eres^{1,2,*}

¹Materials Science and Technology Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831, United States

²Center for Nanophase Materials Sciences, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831, United States

³Condensed Matter Physics and Materials Science, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York 11973, United States

⁴Neutron Scattering Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN 37831, United States

⁵National Synchrotron Light Source II, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York 11973, United States

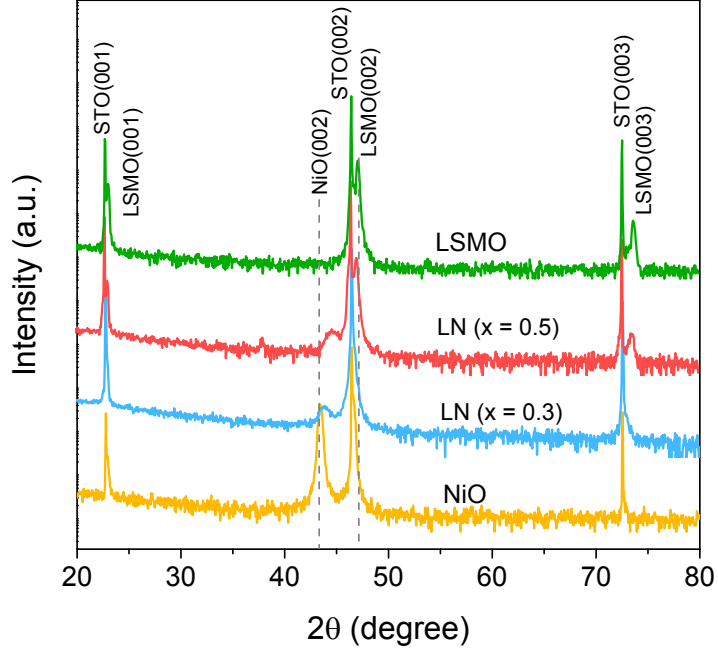


Figure S1. θ - 2θ local XRD scans of LSMO, NiO, LSMO-NiO (LN) VAN films with $x = 0.3$ and $x=0.5$.

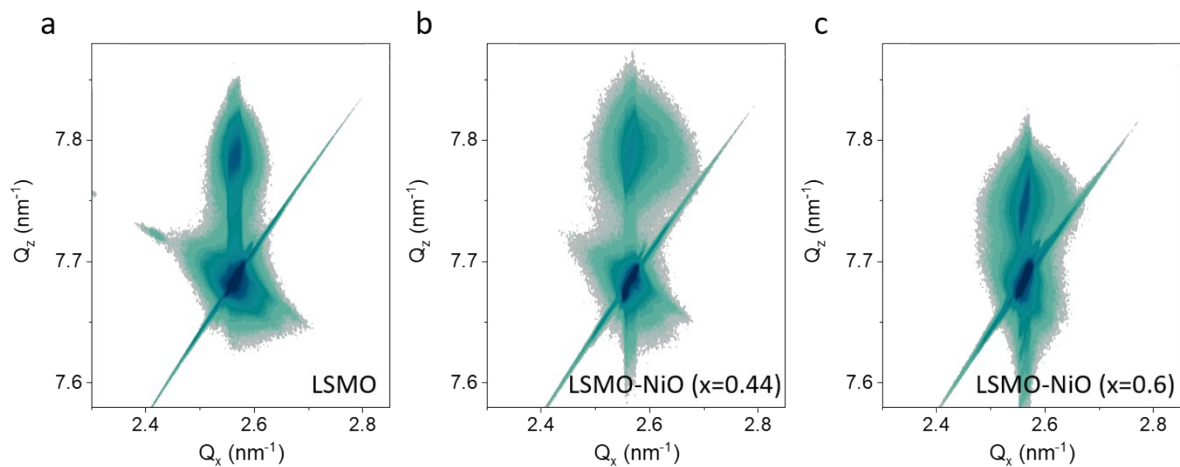


Figure S2. Reciprocal space maps near the STO(103) diffraction peak for (a) single-phase LSMO ($x = 0.3$), (b) LSMO-NiO ($x = 0.44$) and (c) LSMO-NiO ($x = 0.6$) VAN films.

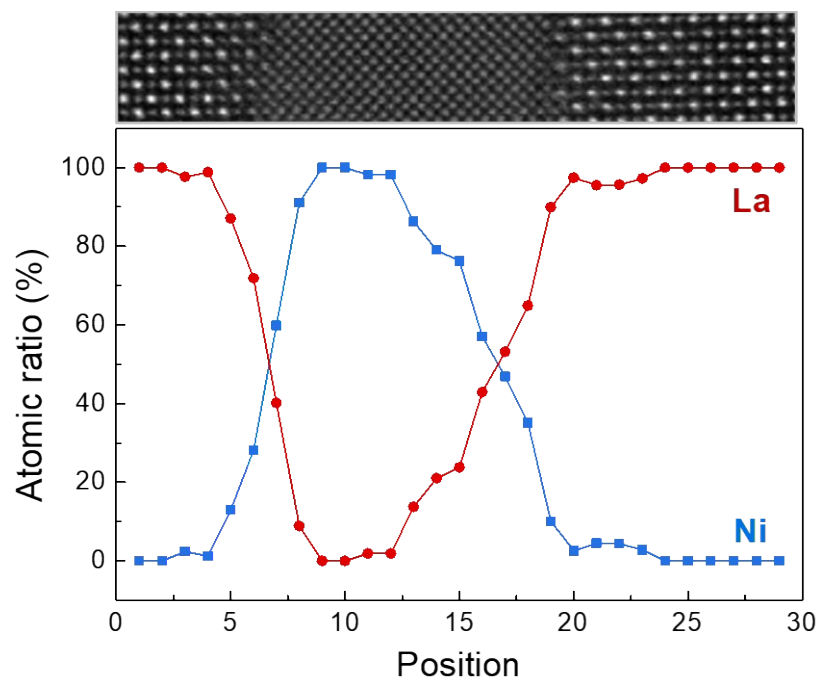


Figure S3. Atomic ratio variation for La and Ni across an entire NiO pillar with the corresponding HADDF-STEM image. The element variation was determined based on the multiple linear least square (MLLS) fitting analysis of La-*M* edge and Ni-*L* edge EESL data presented in Figure 2 of the main text.

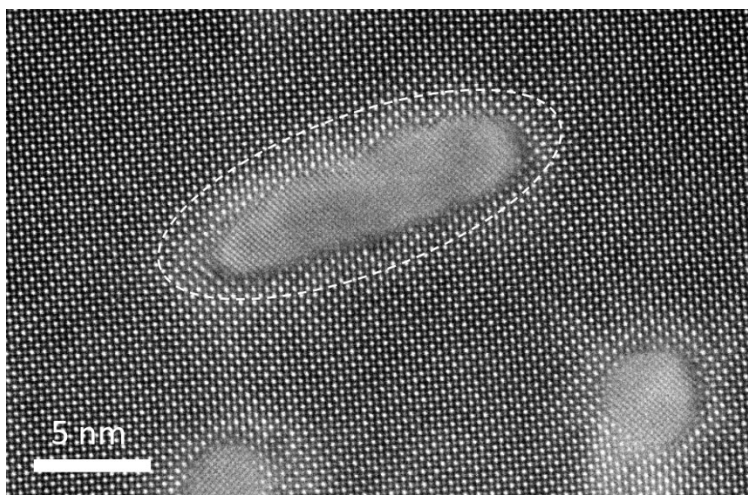


Figure S4. Plan-view HAADF-STEM image of a LSMO-NiO ($x = 0.5$) VAN film highlighting an elliptical NiO nanopillar with a brighter contrast region near the interface.

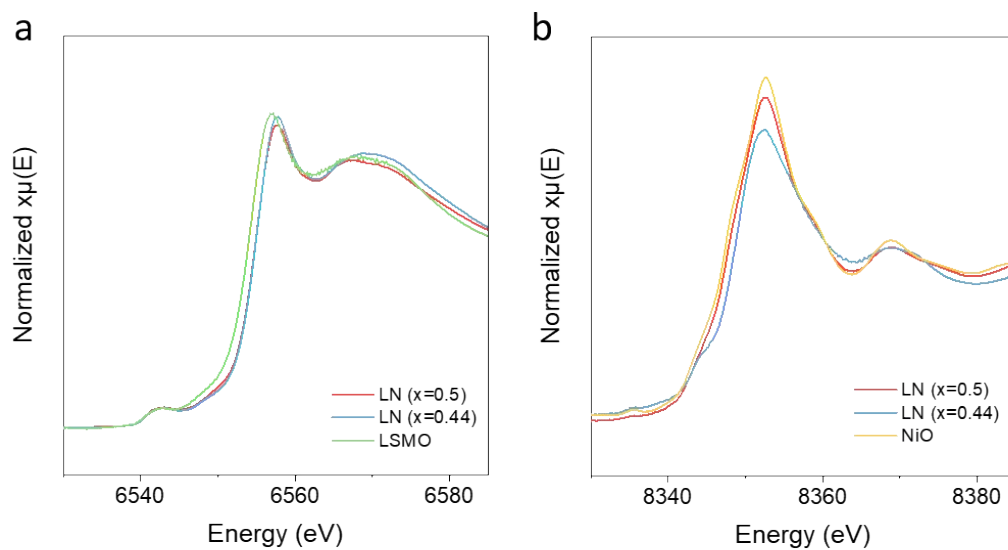


Figure S5. (a) Mn-*K* edge and (b) Ni-*K* edge XANES spectra of LSMO-NiO ($x = 0.44$ and $x = 0.5$) VAN and single-phase films.

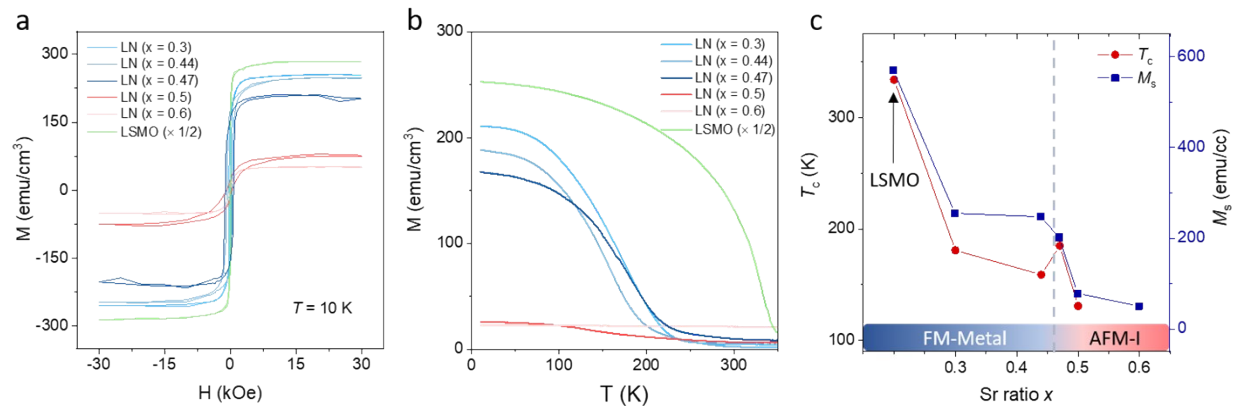


Figure S6. (a) Magnetic hysteresis curves, (b) Temperature dependent field-cooled magnetization with an in-plane magnetic field of 1000 Oe, (c) Curie temperature (T_c) and saturated magnetization (M_s) for LSMO ($x = 0.3$) compared to LSMO:NiO VAN films as a function of composition x .