

## Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S0167-577X(18)31540-4

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.matlet.2018.09.151>

Reference: MLBLUE 25019

To appear in: *Materials Letters*

Received Date: 21 August 2018

Revised Date: 28 September 2018

Accepted Date: 28 September 2018



Please cite this article as: X. Chen, N. Li, Y. Li, P. Che, Characterization on crystal structure of  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_x\text{Cl}_{3-x}$  perovskite by variable temperature powder X-ray diffraction, *Materials Letters* (2018), doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.matlet.2018.09.151>

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# Characterization on crystal structure of $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_x\text{Cl}_{3-x}$ perovskite by variable temperature powder X-ray diffraction

Xue Chen, Ning Li, Yuan Li and Ping Che\*

Beijing Key Laboratory for Science and Application of Functional Molecular and Crystalline Materials, School of Chemistry and Biological Engineering, University of Science & Technology Beijing, Beijing 100083, China

**Abstract:** In this work the  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_x\text{Cl}_{3-x}$  perovskite is obtained by applying vacuum-rotary evaporation procedure with a precursor solution of  $\text{PbCl}_2$  and  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{I}$  in dimethylformamide. Thermal gravimetric and differential thermal analysis (TG-DTA) and the variable temperature powder X-ray diffraction (*in situ* XRD) are employed to research the effect of thermal treatment on the decomposition and the crystal structure of perovskite. It is found that tetragonal to cubic phase transition in the typical perovskite disappears in mixed perovskite crystals because the stabilizing action of Cl. The excess Cl in the precursor leads to the intermediate structure  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbCl}_3$ , and then transforms into  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$  with temperature increasing.

**Keywords:** Mixed halide perovskite; Thermal stability; In situ XRD; Solar energy materials; Energy storage and conversion

## 1. Introduction

Since the first report of perovskite solar cells was demonstrated by Miyasaka with power-conversion efficiency (PCE) of 3.8% in 2009 [1], the performance of perovskite solar cells increase at an unprecedented rate. As a light absorber, the PCE of  $(\text{NH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{NH}_2)\text{PbI}_3$  perovskite solar cells even get to 22.7% up to now [2]. Because of better device performance, great attentions have been focused on the mixed halide

\* Corresponding author.  
E-mail address: [cheping@ustb.edu.cn](mailto:cheping@ustb.edu.cn).

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