

Ion induced structures of millimeter-size on tungsten surface

Polished tungsten sample with purity 99.99% wt. has been exposed to Ar ion beam generated by FALCON ion source. Typical parameters during steady-state expose were the following: Ar ion flux was $2\text{-}3 \times 10^{22} \text{ m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$, heat flux was about 3 MW m^{-2} , average ion energy of 2 keV and the ion fluence reaches 10^{27} m^{-2} . During the exposures, the temperature of sample reaches 1200 K. Following the exposure, SEM study revealed that surface is populated with castle-like structures with density of 2-3 features per mm^2 . Their shape is distinguished by high height-to-diameter aspect ratio and pronounced asymmetry. Typical height of the structures exceeds what has been reported in the literature (1-100 μm) and reaches 0.3-0.4 mm.

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