
Investigation of deuterium and helium plasma irradiation effect on tungsten erosion

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Typical sputtering is a phenomenon in which a tungsten atom is sputtered out by momentum transfer. However, irradiation of deuterium and helium ions causes morphology deformation, that is, blister and fuzzy structure, through which accelerated erosion under threshold energy is observed. Each deformation is caused by different mechanism, thus it is expected that there is synergetic effect on erosion rate. This study deals with tungsten erosion rate in an environment that the both tungsten morphology deformation can be formed by sequential and simultaneous irradiation of deuterium and helium ions. All tungsten samples were prepared as a mirror surface. An electron cyclotron resonance deuterium and helium plasma was used for ion source where electron density was $n_e = (4.5 \sim 6.5) \times 10^{17} \text{ m}^{-3}$, and electron temperature was $T_e = 3 \sim 8 \text{ eV}$. For the deuterium and helium simultaneous irradiation condition, helium ion composition was measured by optical emission spectroscopy of He I line. Also, the helium ion composition was calculated by a global model of ECR plasma that benchmarked D. Nishijima's model which contained ionization, molecular assisted recombination, and molecular assisted dissociation with deuterium. The ion flux was calculated as product of Bohm velocity and electron density which was measured by a Langmuir probe located 2 cm above the target. For the sequential process, pure D ion flux was $F = 6.0 \times 10^{21} \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ with 100 eV target incident energy, and pure He flux was $F = 1.1 \times 10^{22} \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ with 40 eV target incident energy. The fluence of deuterium was $1.14 \times 10^{25} \text{ m}^{-2}$, the fluence of helium was $1.85 \times 10^{25} \text{ m}^{-2}$. In simultaneous irradiation condition, deuterium and helium ion fluxes were $F_D = 6.38 \times 10^{21} \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ and $F_{He} = 1.53 \times 10^{21} \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ and total fluence was $1.45 \times 10^{25} \text{ m}^{-2}$. The ion incident energy was set at 40 eV and 100 eV. When helium ion irradiated on tungsten surface with blister, fuzzy structure was made on the blister and the sputtering yield had no difference compared to case of fuzzy formed at mirror surface. In case of deuterium irradiated to tungsten fuzzy structure, the fuzzy structure was completely disappeared and undetermined rough surface was formed without blister. Also, sputtering yield was increased 50% compared to blister formed at mirror surface. That means pre-generated fuzzy structure enhanced tungsten erosion by deuterium. In the simultaneous irradiation condition, tungsten was eroded by linear sum of each ionic factor. Deuterium and helium act independently of tungsten erosion in the coexisting environment.