

## Metal Surface Decontamination by Ion-Assisted Plasma Processing

’ ’ ’  
17  
’  
150  
DC 가  
RF  
CF<sub>4</sub>/O<sub>2</sub>  
80% CF<sub>4</sub> – 20% O<sub>2</sub>  
DC 가 350  
350 가 가 가  
가 DC 가 300  
, -300V DC 가 380 ,  
220 W RF 0.43 μm/min 가  
가  
2.09μm/min 가  
OES(Optical Emission Spectroscopy) Fluorine  
CO 가 80% CF<sub>4</sub> – 20% O<sub>2</sub>  
fluorination carbonyl  
SEM AES

## Abstract

Experimental research on the surface cleaning of metallic specimen in r.f. plasma with dc bias voltage applied is conducted to demonstrate the applicability and effectiveness of plasma decontamination processing. Metallic Co and Mo, principal contaminants in the spent nuclear components, are chosen as specimens. Experimental variables are CF<sub>4</sub>/O<sub>2</sub> ratio, substrate temperature between 290 °C and 380 °C, and bias voltage (-300 V). Results show that the optimum gas composition is 80%CF<sub>4</sub> - 20%O<sub>2</sub> and the metallic Co and Mo are etched depending on the temperature. Without dc bias voltage, cobalt rarely to be etched under 350 °C, and the rate increases with increasing substrate temperature above the temperature. On the other hand, metallic Mo is etched easily even at low temperature and the reaction rate drastically increases as the substrate temperature goes up.

To enhance the cobalt reaction rate, dc bias voltage was applied to the cobalt specimen. It is found that the bias voltage lowers the initiation temperature of etching reaction. Vigorous cobalt etching reaction takes above 300 °C. With -300 V dc bias voltage maximum etching rate of cobalt had reached 0.43 μm/min. at 380 °C under 220 W r.f. plasma power. OES analysis reveals that the intensities of F atom and CO molecule reach maximum at the optimum gas composition, which demonstrates that the primary reaction mechanism is fluorination and/or carbonyl reaction. To support these results, SEM and AES analysis are followed

1.

2

1 (TRU), (CO, Fe, Ni, Cr), (Mo, Tc, Ru, Rh)

가

U Pu  
fluoride (O<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>, ClF<sub>3</sub>, CF<sub>4</sub>/O<sub>2</sub>, )  
fluorination U, PU fluoride (UF<sub>6</sub> PuF<sub>6</sub>)

(J.G. Malm et al., 1984; E.B. Munday and D.W. Simmons, 1993; E.B. Munday, 1993; K. Tatenuma et al., 1998).

fluorine carbonyl

(J.C. Bailer et al., 1973).

1

1

-spectroscopy ,

CF<sub>4</sub>/O<sub>2</sub> RF

가

2.

CF<sub>4</sub>/O<sub>2</sub>

가

가

( 2).

600W RF

15cm

가

5cm

1200

가

500V

가

CF<sub>4</sub>/O<sub>2</sub>

mass flow controller

0.45 Torr

99.8%

bulk

1cm

0.5cm

low speed diamond saw

1mm

600

polishing

200

10

baking

CF<sub>4</sub>/O<sub>2</sub>

CF<sub>4</sub>/O<sub>2</sub>

CF<sub>4</sub>/O<sub>2</sub>

O<sub>2</sub>

RF

220 W,

120

CF<sub>4</sub>/O<sub>2</sub>

350

290

가

-300V, 60mA DC

가

OES(Optical

Emission Spectroscopy, SD2000, Ocean Optics Inc.)

10<sup>-5</sup>g

가

electro-micro balance(BP210D,

Satorius)

μm/min

SEM

AES

3.

CF<sub>4</sub>/O<sub>2</sub> , 380  
 RF 220 W  
 ( 3). O<sub>2</sub> 20% ,  
 가 80% CF<sub>4</sub> , 20% O<sub>2</sub> RF  
 380 290 . 290  
 , 350  
 가 380 0.06μm/min.  
 가  
 -300V DC 가  
 290 350 20 가 380  
 0.43μm/min. ( 4). SEM (Scanning Electron  
 Microscopy, JSM-6340F, JEOL) . 5b)~ 5d)

AES (Auger Electron Spectroscopy)

6a) spectrum(Kenton D.Childs et al, 1995)  
 AES spectrum 6b) 658 eV Auger electron peak가  
 가 Fluorine 659 eV , AES  
 spectrum 1 eV 658 eV peak fluorine  
 659 eV peak가  
 fluorine fluorides  
 fluorination

7 가 220W RF O<sub>2</sub> 20%  
 가 가  
 , (m.p.: 2,617 )  
 380 , 220 W RF 가

1.9 $\mu$ m/min.

가

2.09 $\mu$ m/min ( 8).

, SEM

( 9).

**OES (Optical Emission Spectroscopy)**

CF<sub>4</sub>/O<sub>2</sub> ,

OES(Optical Emission Spectroscopy, SD2000, Ocean Optics, Inc.)

. O<sub>2</sub> fluorine , , CO spectrum  
11 (F) (CO) 가 O<sub>2</sub> 20%

. fluorine /  
fluorination .

CO

carbonyl

fluorination

**4.**

1 -spectroscopy

1

DC

가 CF<sub>4</sub>/O<sub>2</sub>

O<sub>2</sub>

20%

가

가

가 350

가

가 ,

가 300

OES AES

fluorination

carbonyl

## Reference

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2. E. B. Munday and D. W. Simmons : K/TCD-1048, Oak Ridge K-25 Site (1993)
3. Kenton D. Childs et al, Handbook of Auger electron Spectroscopy 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, Physical Electronics, Inc., (1995) 88
4. K. Tatenuma, Y. Hishinuma, and S. Tomatsuri : Nucl. Tech., V. 124 (1998) 147
5. J. C. Bailar, H. J. Emeleus, S. R. Nyholm, and A. F. Trotman-Dickenson : Comprehensive Inorganic Chemistry, Pergamon Press, New York, (1973) 1053
6. J. G. Malm, P. G. Eller, and L. B. Asprey : J. Am. Chem. Soc., 106 (1984) 2726
7. J.J. Barghusen, A. A. Jonke, N. M. Levitz, M. J. Steindler and R. C. Vogel, Fluid-Bed Fluoride Volatility Processing of Spent Fuel Reactor Materials, Processing of Spent Fuel Reactor Materials, Progress in Nuclear Energy, Series , Vol. 4, Process Chemistry, C. E. Stevenson, E. A. Mason, A. T. Gresky (eds.), Pergamon Press, (1970)347

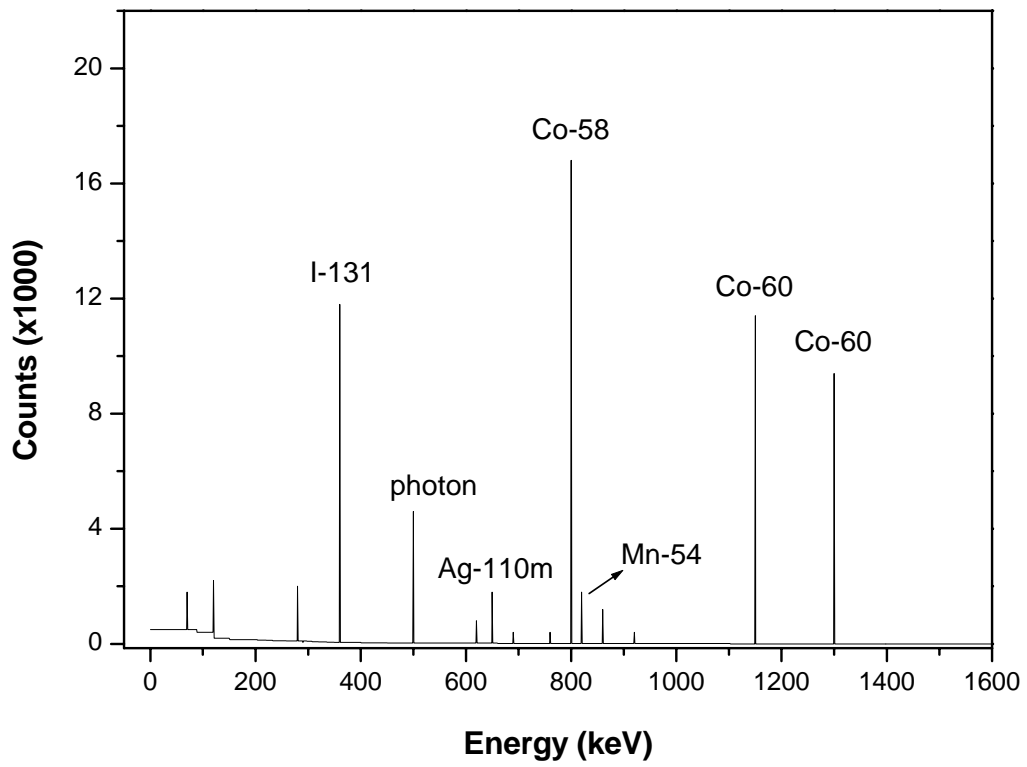


Figure 1.  $\gamma$ -spectroscopy results of spent nuclear steam generator tube

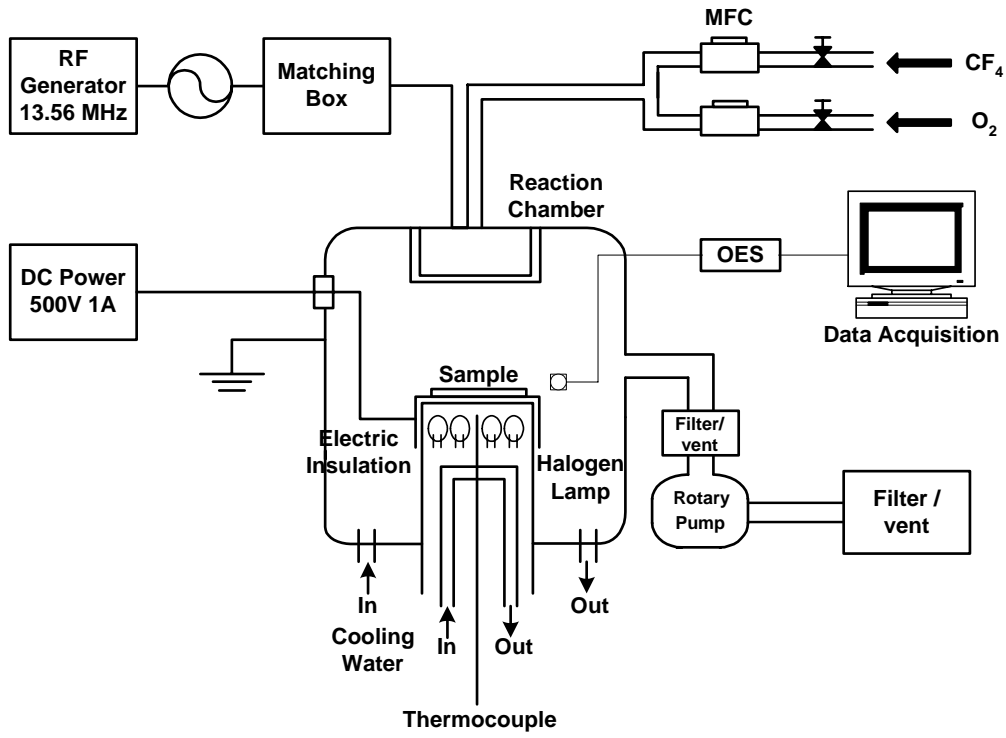


Figure 2. Schematic of reactive ion etcher apparatus



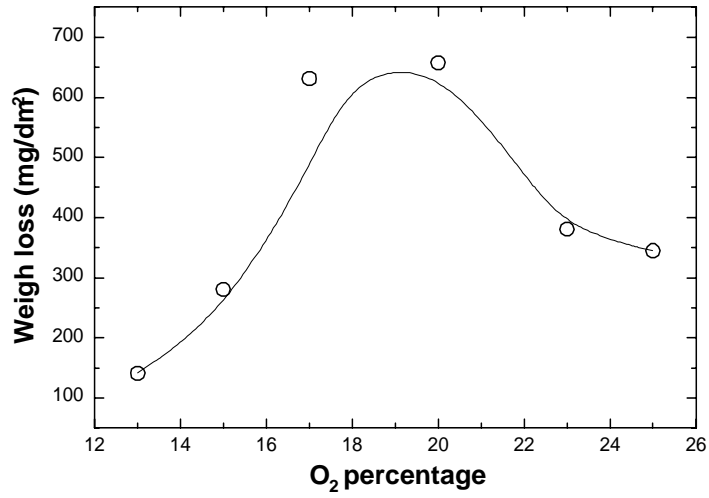


Figure 3. Co etching reaction rate vs. O<sub>2</sub> mole fraction at 380 (total flow rate: 100sccm, reaction time: 120min.)

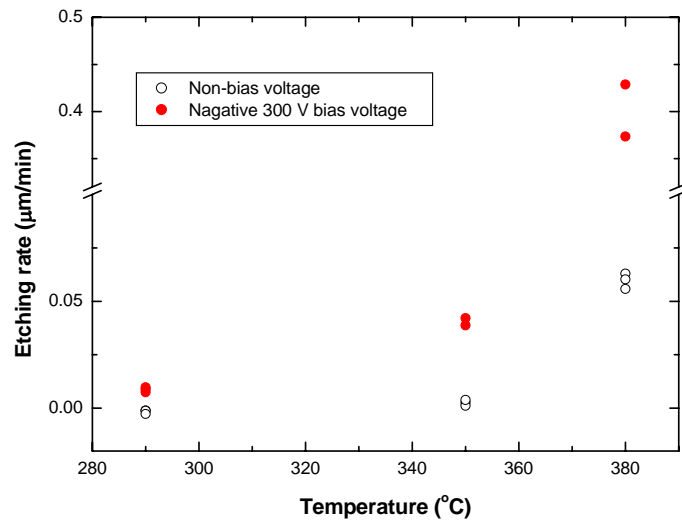


Figure 4. Co etching rate vs. substrate temperature under 220 W r.f. power. (total flow rate: 100 sccm, reaction time: 120 min., 20 % O<sub>2</sub> mole fraction)

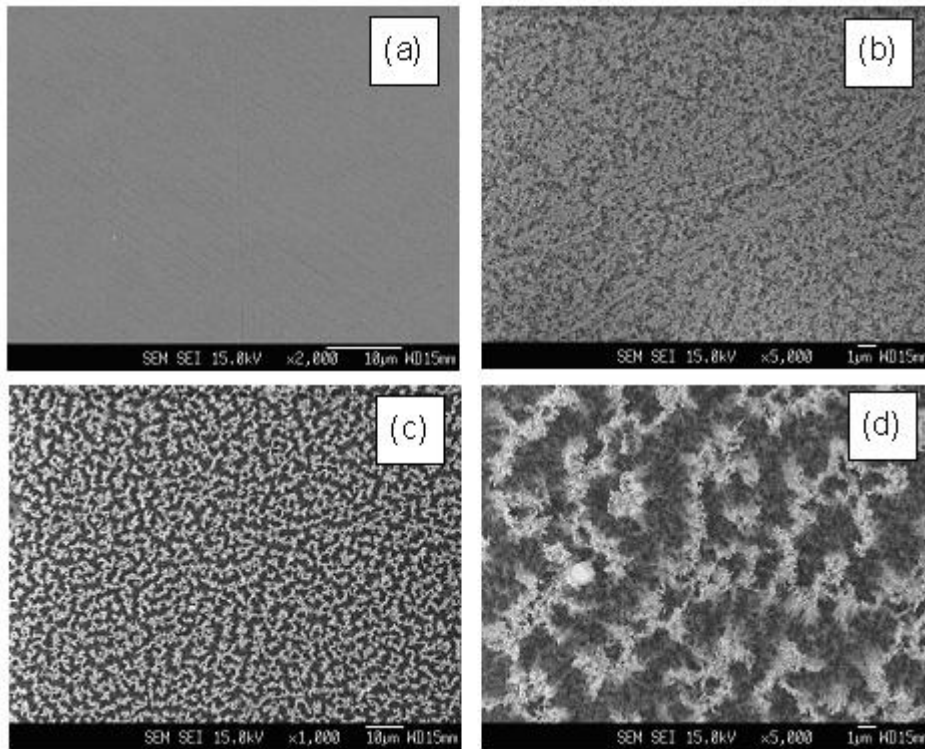
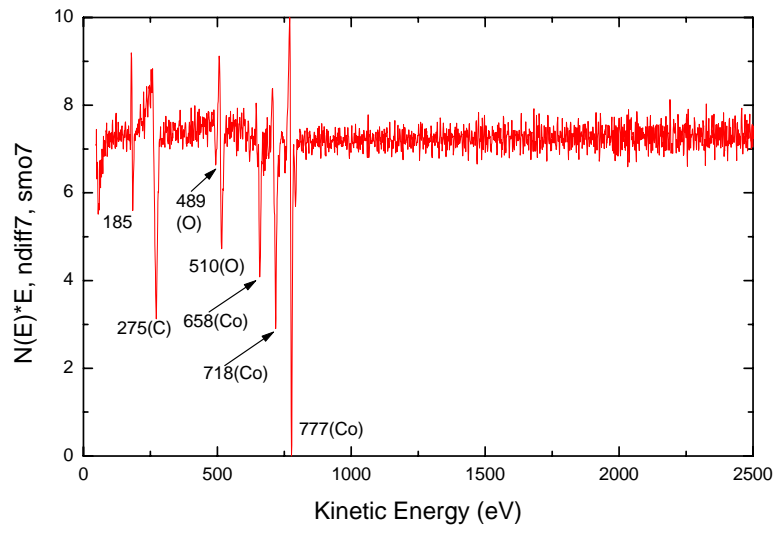
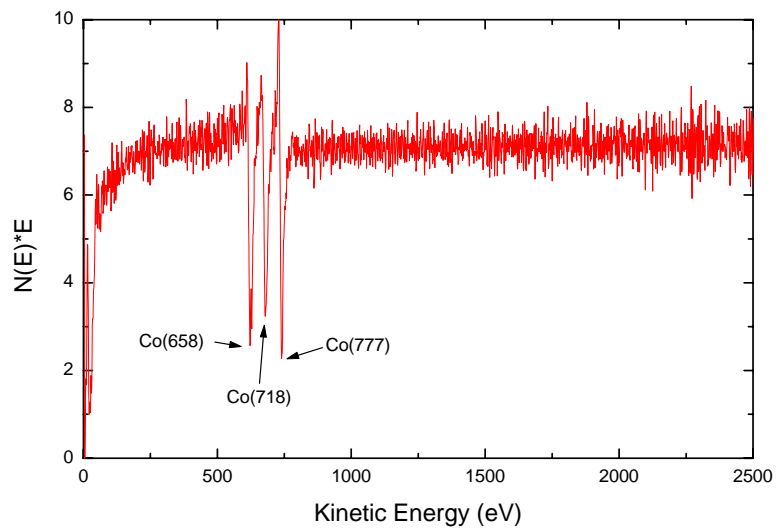


Figure 5. Co surface morphology by SEM (350 )  
(a) Intact (b) No bias voltage  
(c) DC bias voltage( $\times 1000$ ) (d) DC bias voltage( $\times 5000$ )



(a) Intact Co specimen



(b) Differential spectrum  $E \cdot dN(E)/dE$  of etched Co specimen

Figure 6. Differential AES spectrum of Co before and after etching reaction

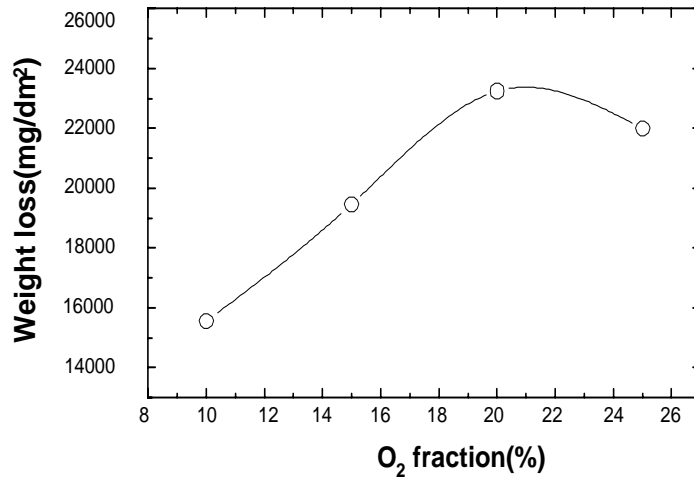


Figure 7. Mo etching reaction rate vs. O<sub>2</sub> mole fraction at 380 (total flow rate: 100sccm, reaction time: 120min.)

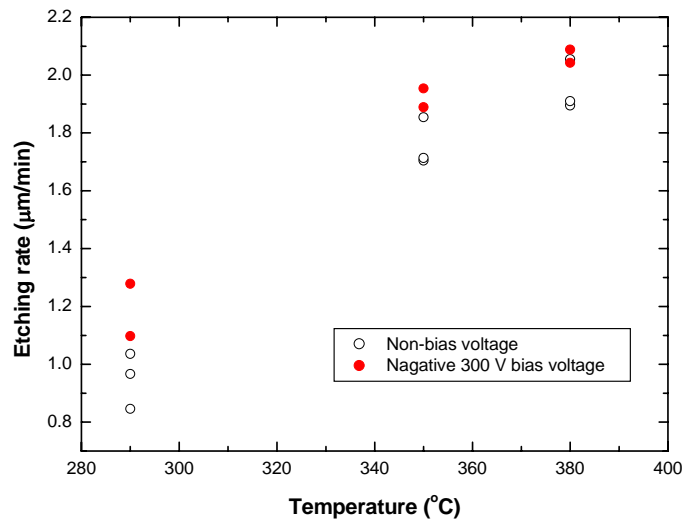


Figure 8. Mo etching rate vs. substrate temperature under 220 W r.f. power. (total flow rate: 100 sccm, reaction time: 120 min., 20 % O<sub>2</sub> mole fraction)

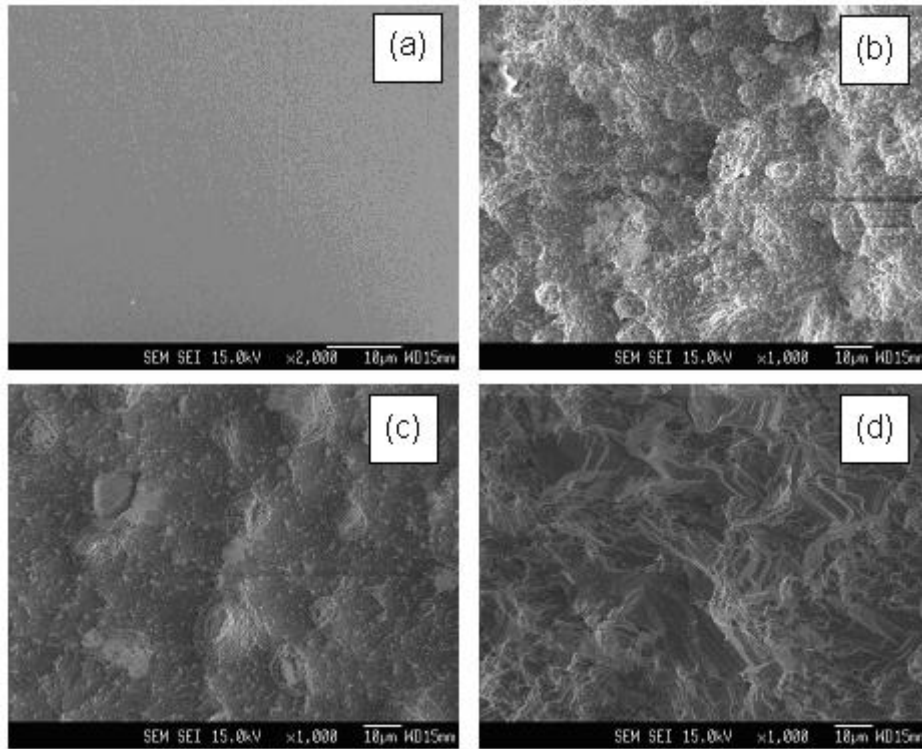
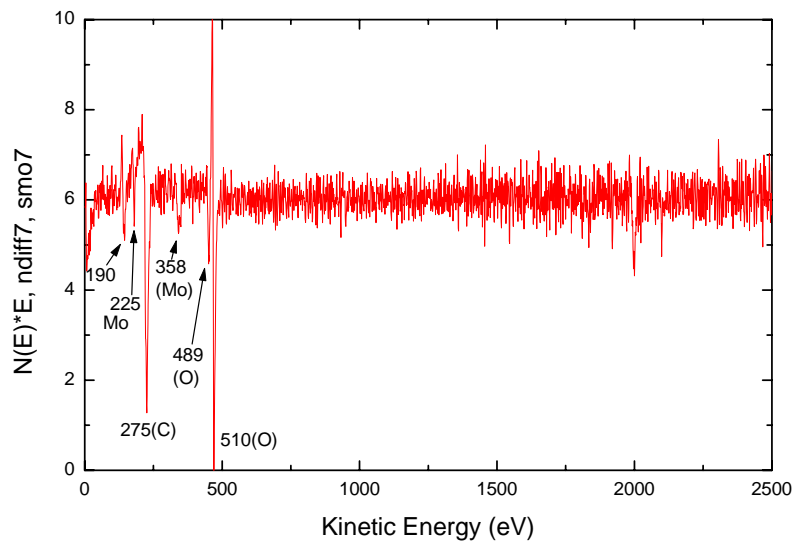
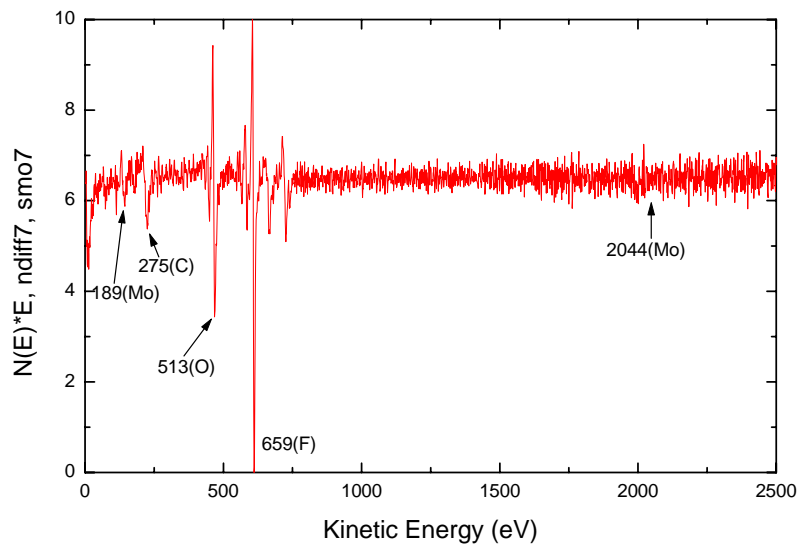


Figure 9. Mo surface morphology by SEM

- |                              |                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (a) Intact                   | (b) No bias voltage (at 300 ) |
| (c) DC bias voltage(at 300 ) | (d) DC bias voltage (at 400 ) |



(a) Intact Mo specimen



(b) Differential spectrum  $E \cdot dN(E)/dE$  of etched Mo specimen

Figure 10. Differential AES spectrum of Mo before and after etching reaction

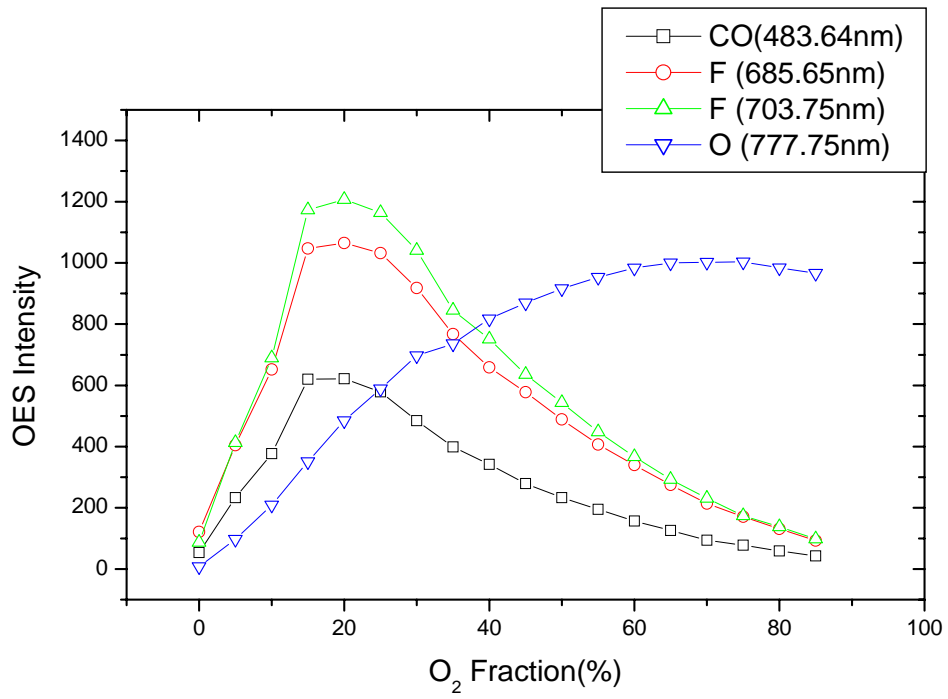


Figure 11. Emission intensities of F, O, and CO with O<sub>2</sub> mole fraction.