



Review of previous characterization of collected dust particles from different machines

Marek Rubel

With very important contributions from nearly 70 colleagues coworking on the topic for over 40 years



This work has been carried out within the framework of the EUROfusion Consortium and has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement number 633053. The views and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the European Commission.



**This talk could be prepared thanks to the work of many, many colleagues.
Thank you!**

B. Emmoth†, H. Bergsåker, N. Almqvist, J.R. Drake, J. Malmberg, M. Cecconello,
D. Hasselbrunner†, H. Ferm, A. Hedqvist, P. Sundelin, P. Petersson, D. Ivanova, A. Weckmann,
P. Ström, A. Garcia-Carrasco, S.W. Moon, L. Dittrich, E. Pitthan, D. Primetzhofer, D. Gautan



P. Wienhold, M. Freisinger, H. Reimer, V. Philipps, G. Sergienko, A. Huber, E. Wessel, H. Penkalla,
M. Rödig, W. Biel, J. Linke, S. Brezinsek



E. Fortuna-Zaleśna, M. Psoda†, J. Grzonka, T. Płociński, A. Balcerzak



POLITECHNIKA WARSZAWSKA



J.P. Coad, A. Widdowson, G.F. Matthews, A. Baron-Wiecheć, I. Jecu, A. Zayachuk



N. Ashikawa, T. Otsuka, Y. Hatano, Y. Torikai, S. Masuzaki, K. Osobe, M. Oyaidzu, N. Asakura, T.
Hayashi, M. Hara



B. Pegourie



S. Fazinić, I. Božičević Mihalić, G. Provatas, T. Tadić



C. Lungu, C. Porosnicu



J. Varju, J. Adamek, M. Hron



L. Dittrich, C.P. Dhard

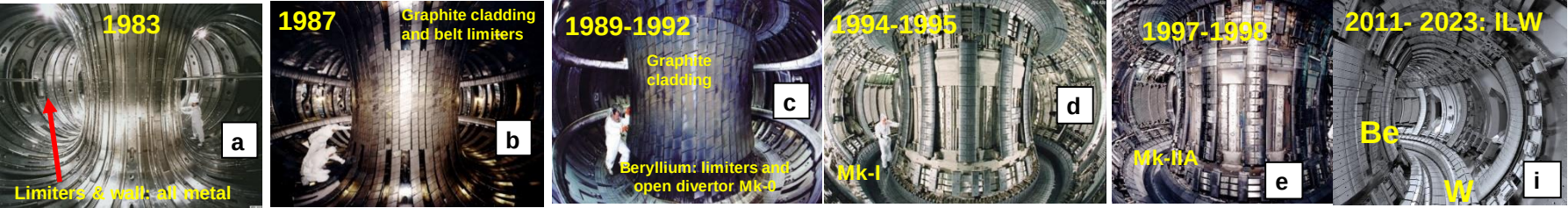


Max Planck Institute
for Plasma Physics

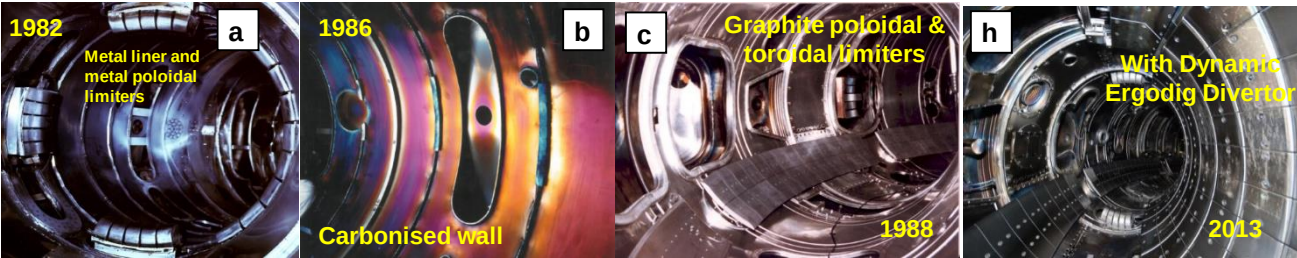
Studies over the years 1984 - 2025: The devices



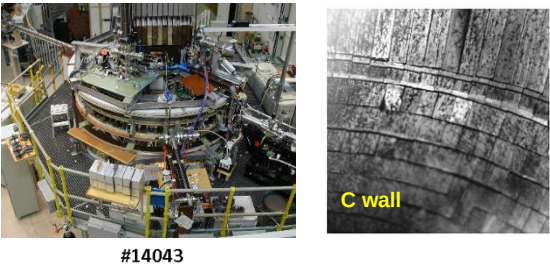
JET



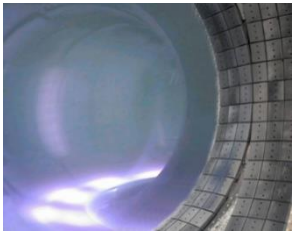
TEXTOR



EXTRAP-T2



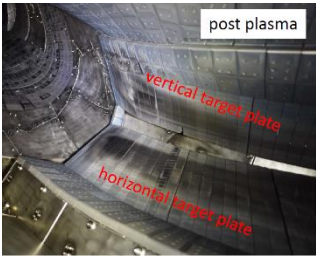
Tore Supra



COMPASS



W7-X



Interest in Dust



Driving force in studies: Safety & economy of reactor operation

- **Safety hazard: *ignition, H_2 generation, Be, tritiated matter***
- **Impact on operation:**
 - ***mobilization (disruptions),***
 - ***degradation of optical diagnostics,***
 - ***impact on pumping systems.***

**Dust/metal splashing studies started in 1984 (e.g. JET),
very systematic studies since 1997 (TEXTOR, JET)**

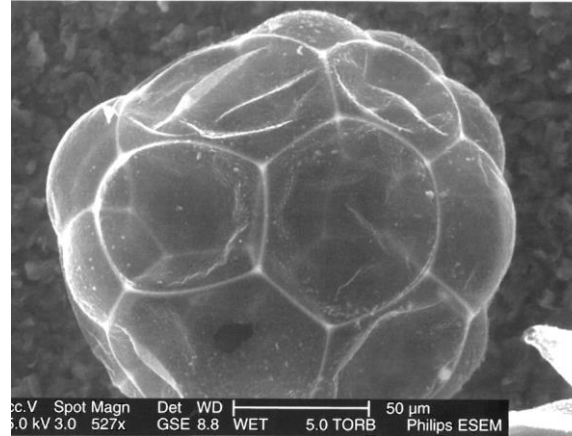
Key points:

- ***quantity and fuel retention properties,***
- ***behaviour in plasma.***

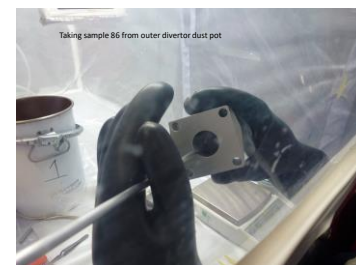
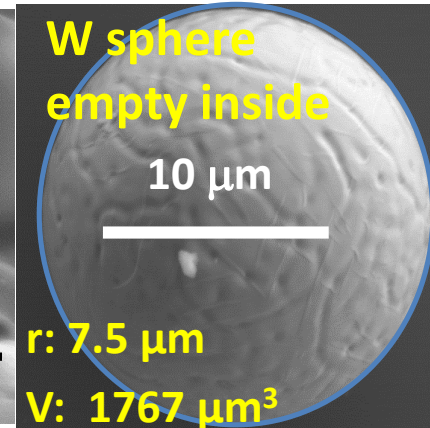
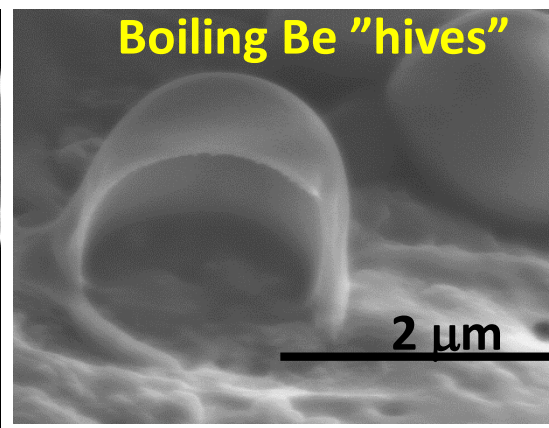
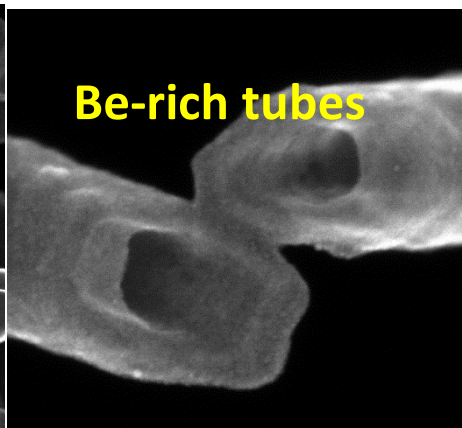
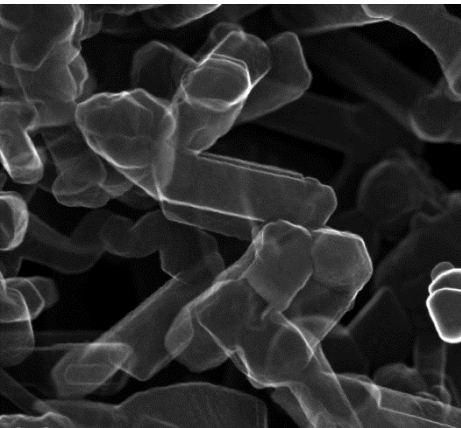
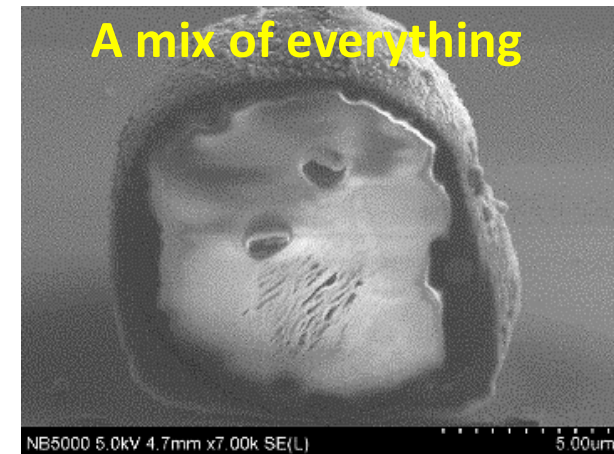
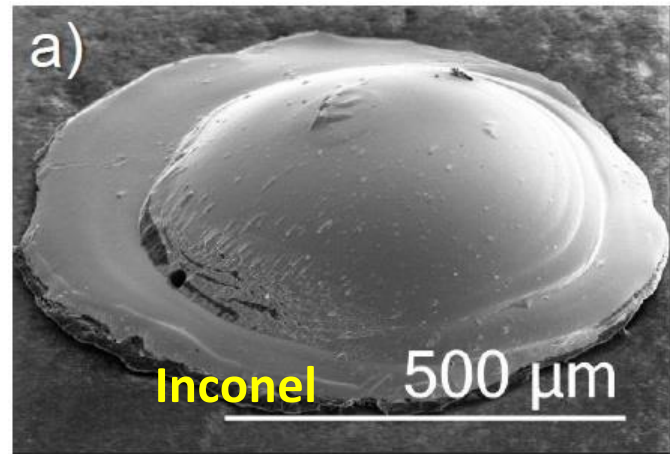
Dust is fascinating



PARTICLE FROM A DIESEL ENGINE



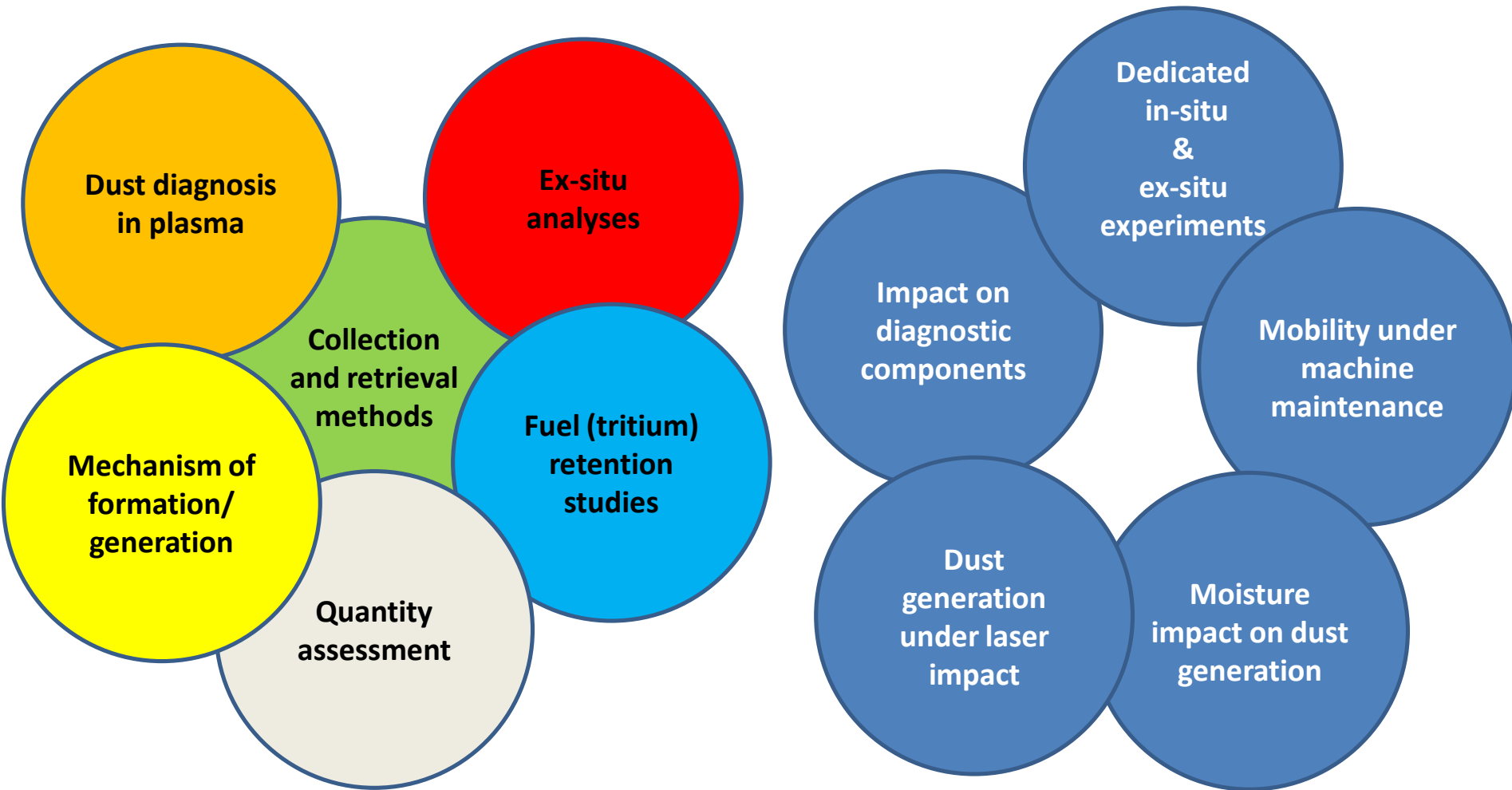
Dr. Tricard, ELF Aquitaine, France



There will be many pictures, but this work is far beyond "picturology".

Dust is unpleasant, difficult in handling, in many cases just dangerous.

Integrated / Holistic Approach

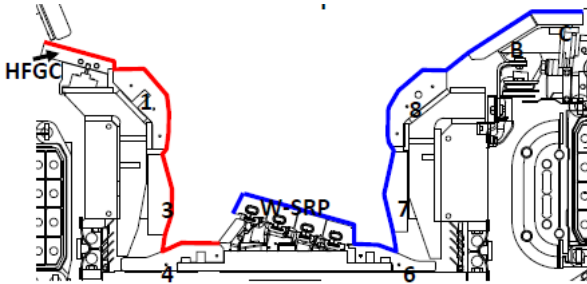




Dust Collection: *Facts, Advantages, Drawbacks*



Vacuum cleaning: 360 °



Message:

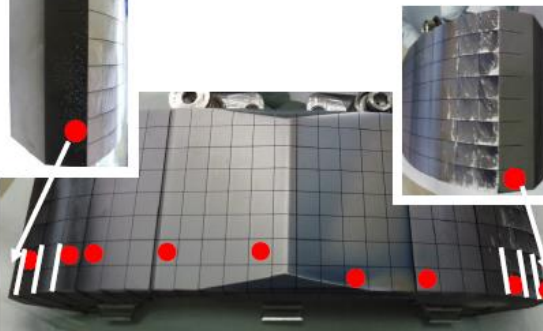
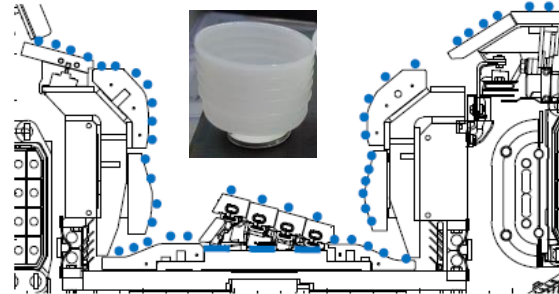
Around 1 g found after each campaign
(20 h of plasma)

Drawbacks:

Composition: a mix of all particles.

*Not possible to associate dust
morphology with a place of
collection.*

Local sampling: sticky pads



Messages:

- Fairly small amount sampled.*
- Good adherence of particles to tiles*

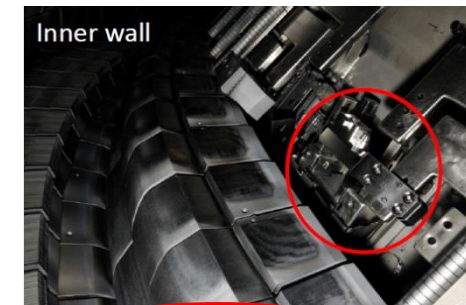
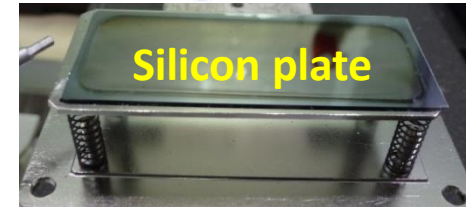
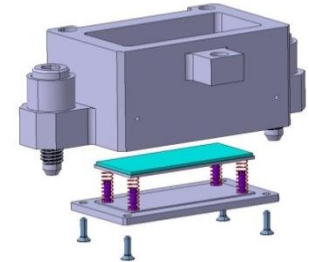
Advantage: *Detailed local analyses.*

Drawbacks:

*The top layer of samples represents
the bottom of deposits.*

*Force is applied during the collection;
more than just dust may be collected.*

Dust monitors



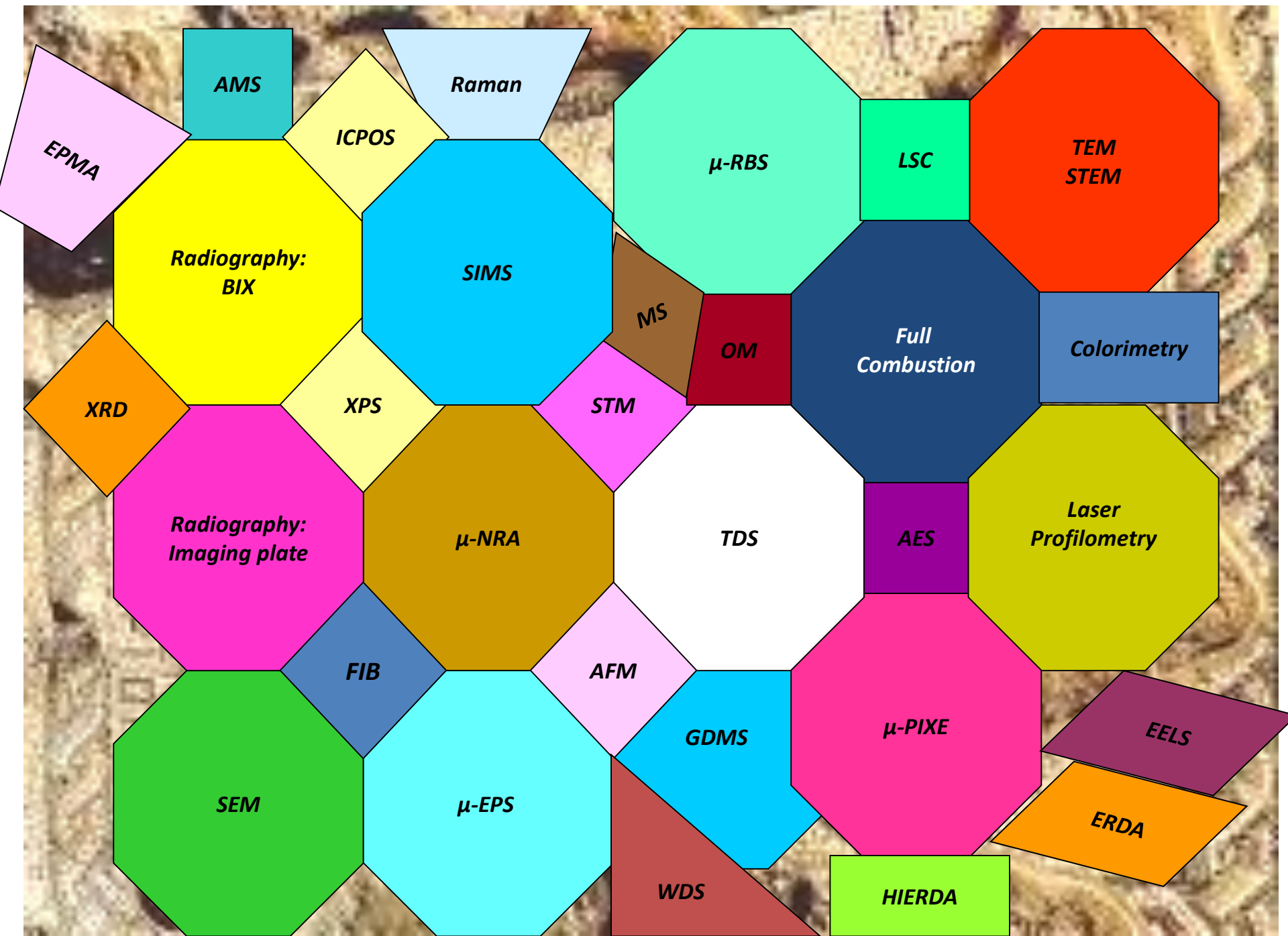
Message:

Tiny amount collected.

Advantages:

*Collection of undisturbed
mobilized particles.*

Precise analyses.

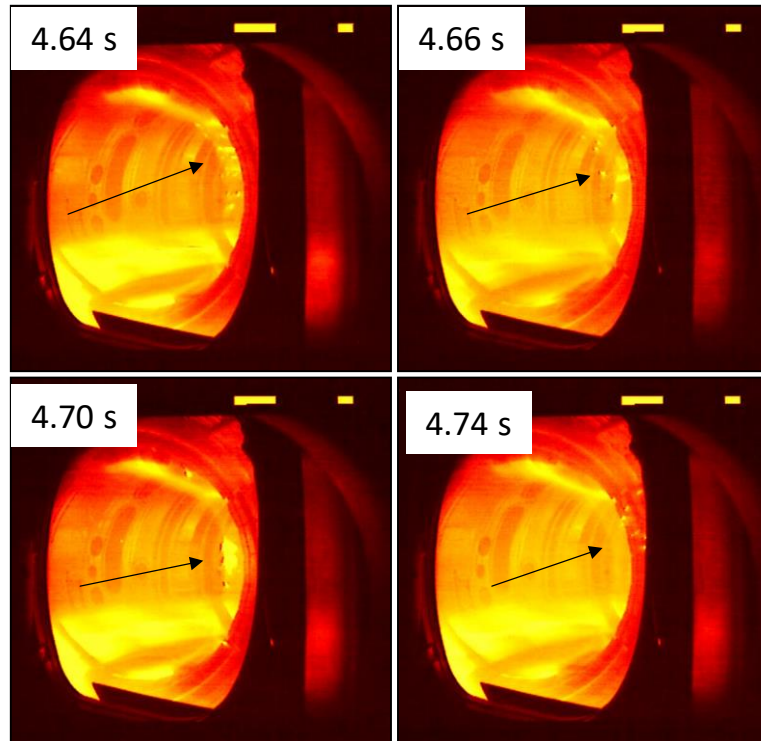
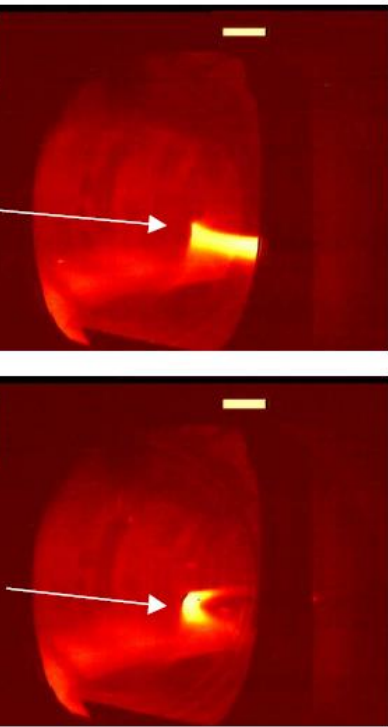


TEXTOR plasma: detachment of co-deposits

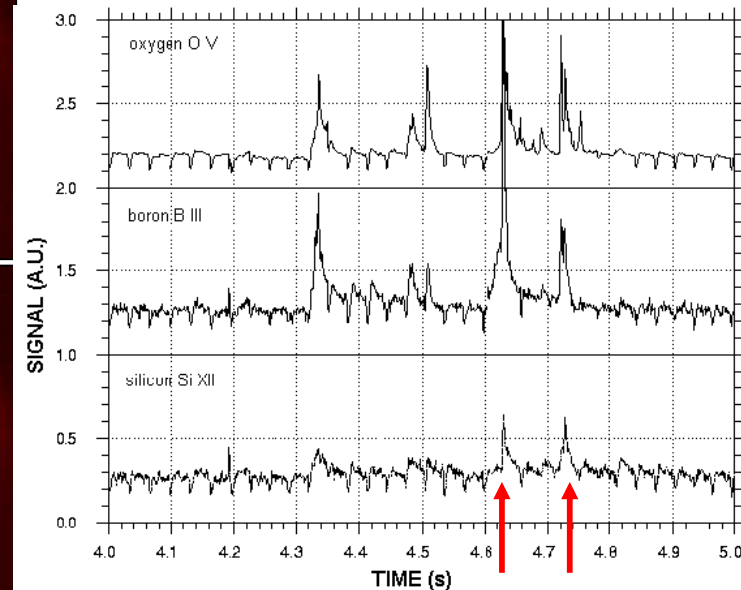


A debris motion caused by the rocket effect.

Time sequence showing a cloud of particles

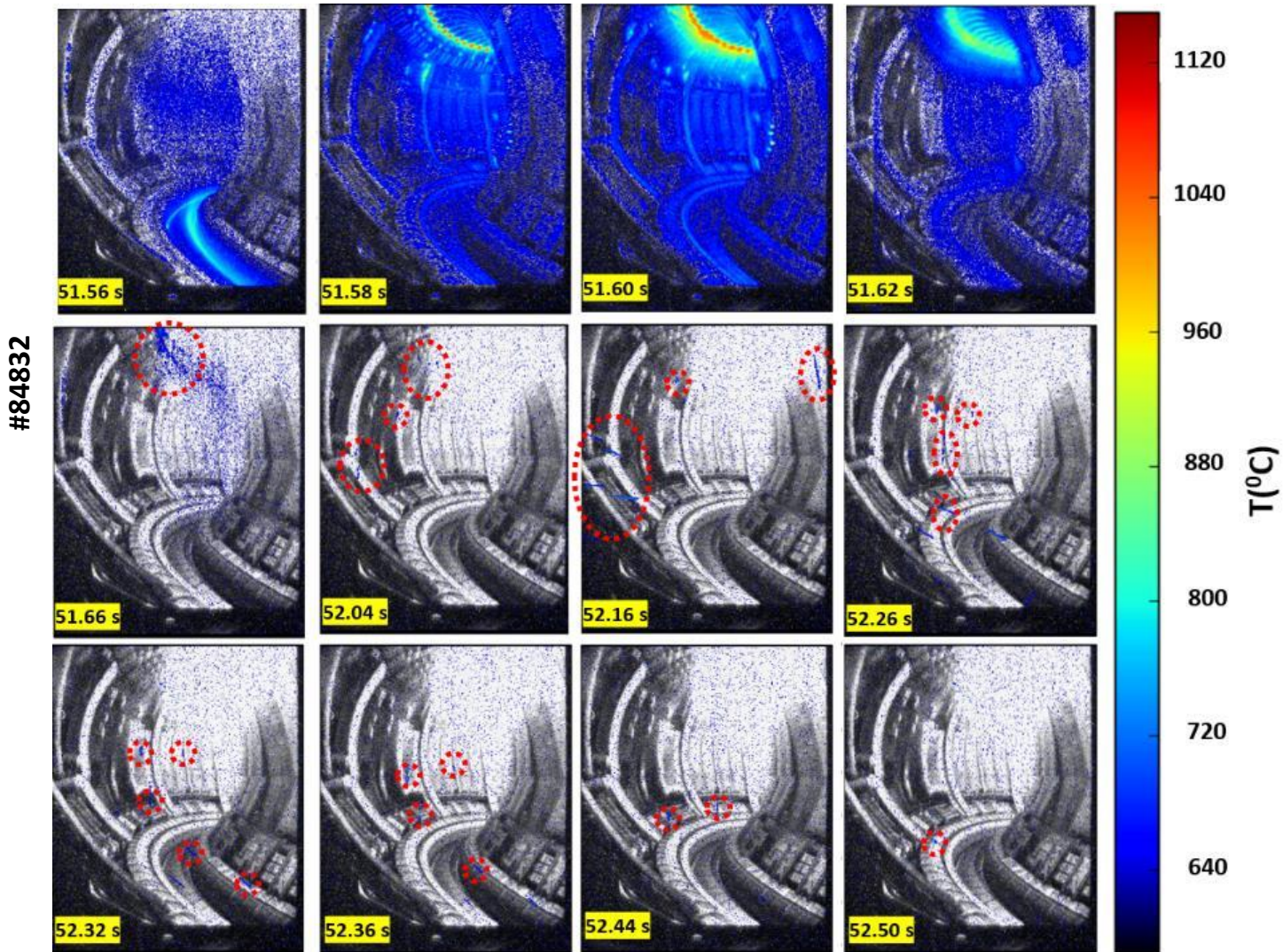


Dust release is immediately detected by spectroscopy.



JET-ILW: Beryllium melting and splashing.

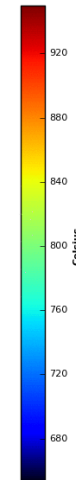
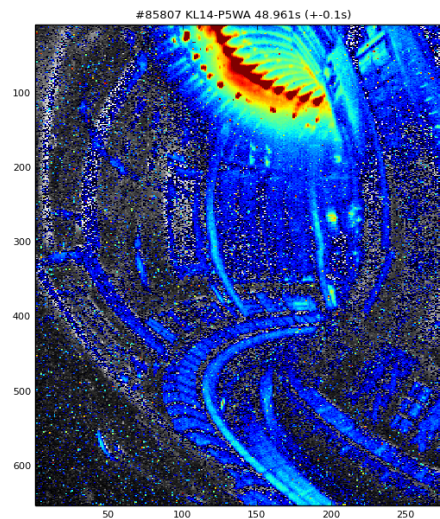
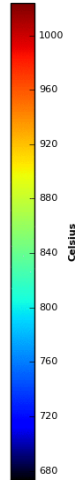
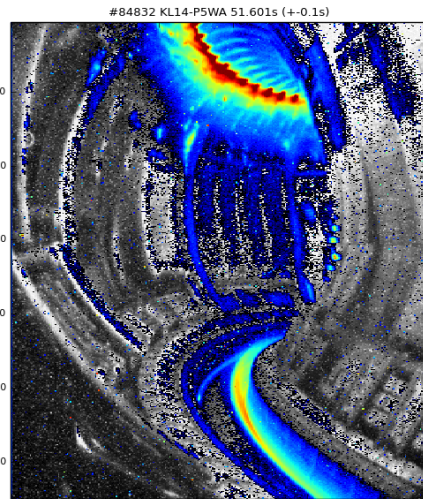
A rain of droplets from the upper limiters



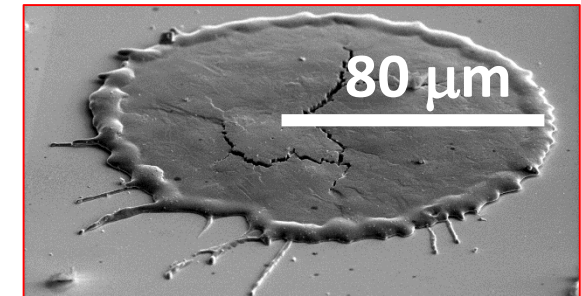
Beryllium splashes



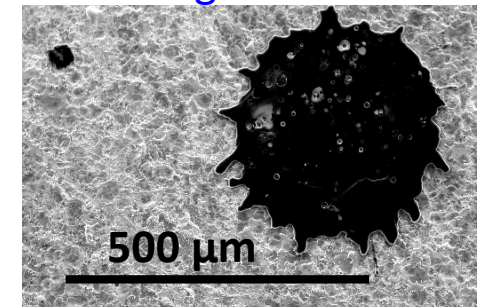
#85807



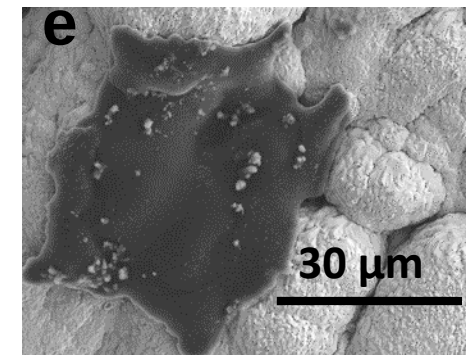
On dust monitors



On a diagnostic mirror



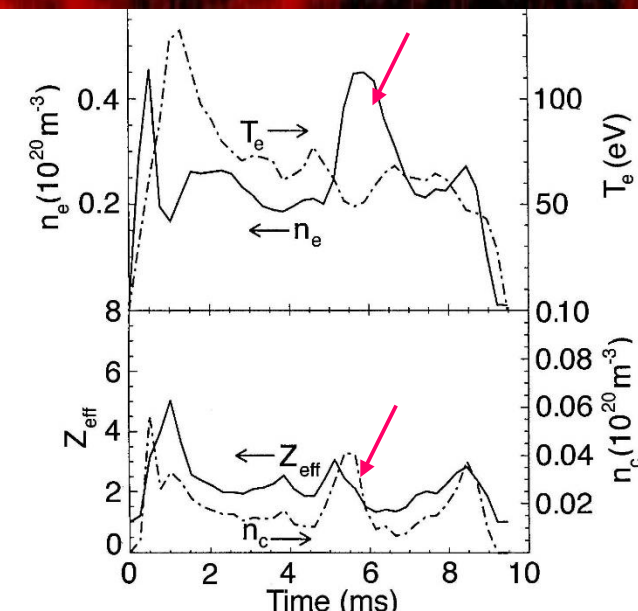
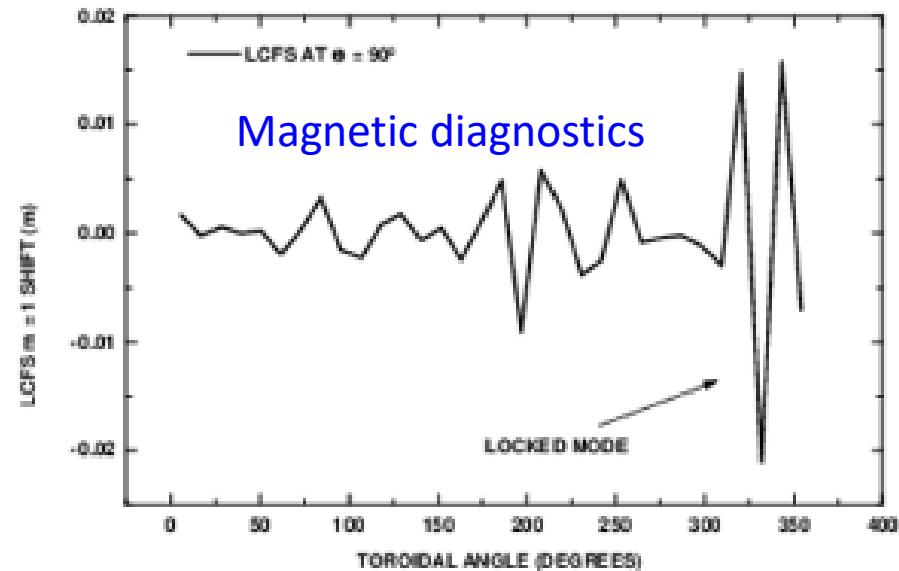
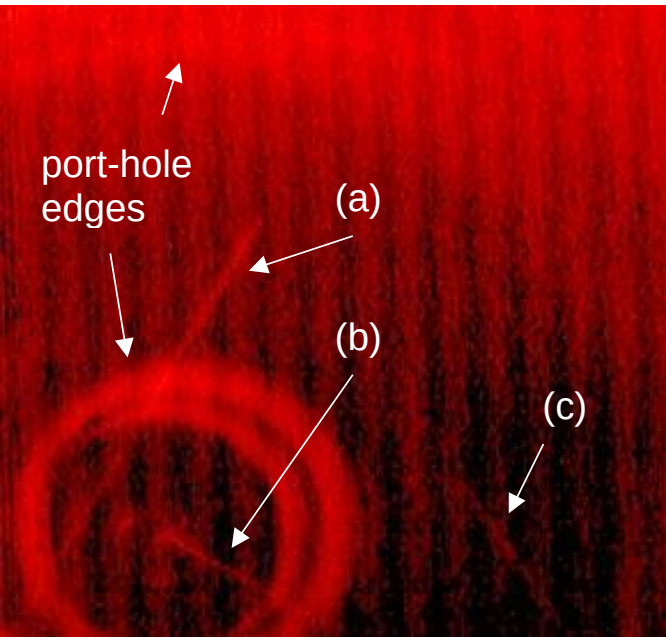
On the outer divertor tiles



Messages:

- Be droplets and splashes adhere fairly well to surfaces.
- Splashes are mostly round and only very thinly coated by deposits → "rain" of fine droplets at right angle from dump plates in the run-away experiment, last in ILW-2.

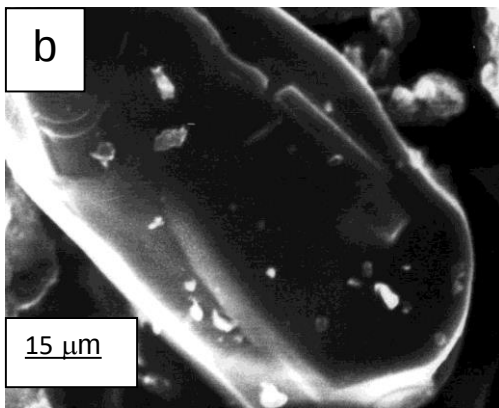
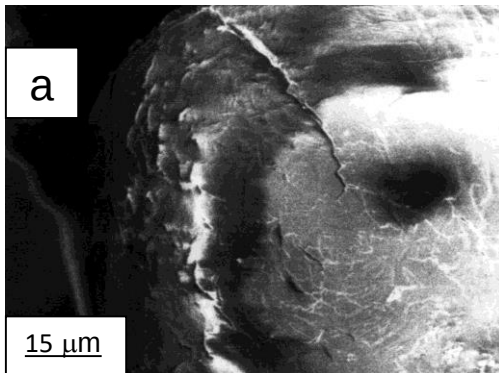
Brittle destruction of carbon by wall locking modes at the EXTRAP-T2 RFP device



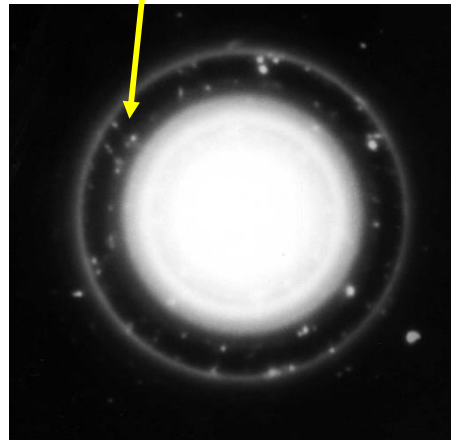
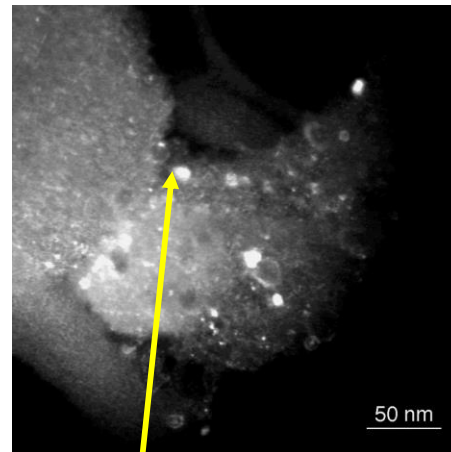
A burst of particles is caused by wall locking mode $\rightarrow$ extreme local energy deposition.

Particles' release from the wall is accompanied by a drastic increase of all spectroscopy signals: n_e T_e Z_{eff} n_{carbon}

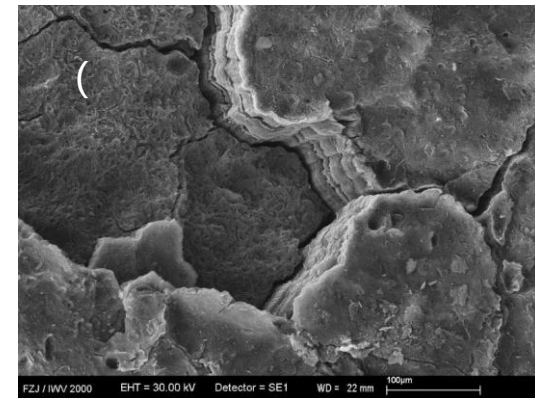
Extrap-T2 RFP: crystalline debris and co-deposits



Debris after passing through the plasma.



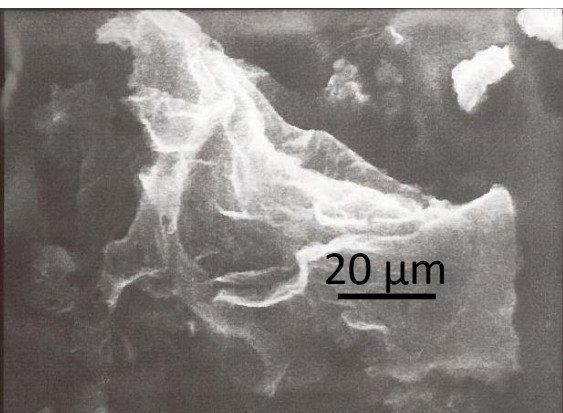
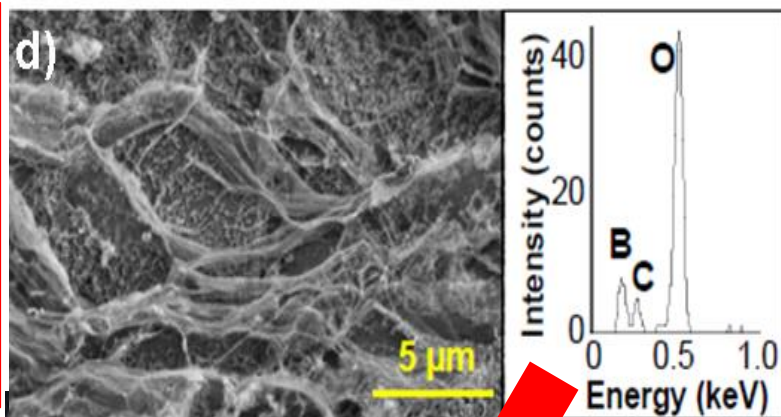
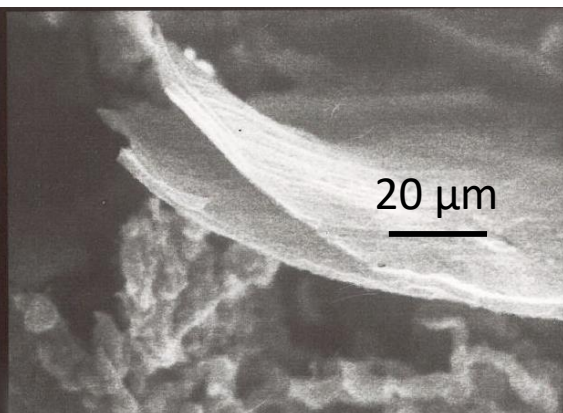
Dark field image of a co-deposit with embedded crystallites (bright spots) and a diffraction pattern.



Large graphite debris (2 mm) with a co-deposit.



Carbon-based polymer-like films. Precursors of co-deposits?



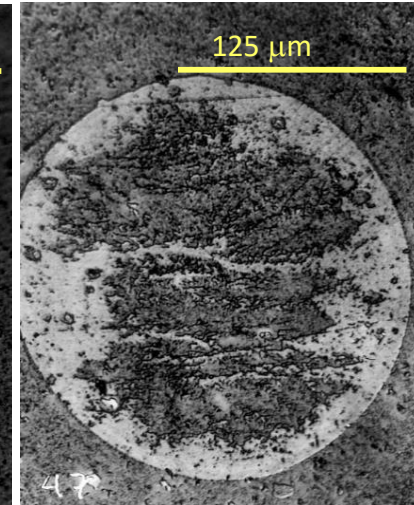
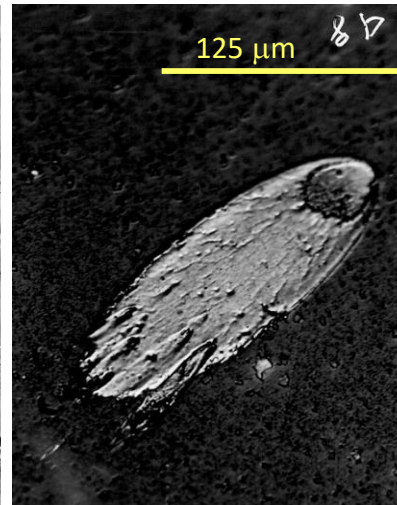
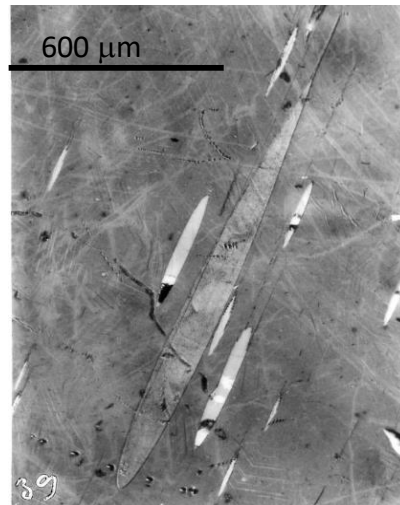
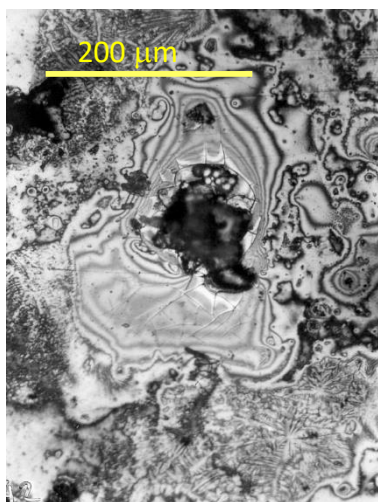
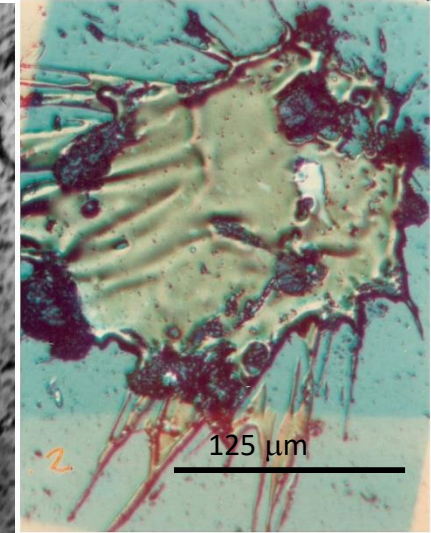
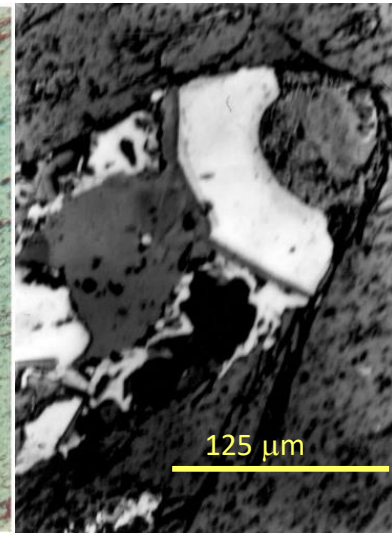
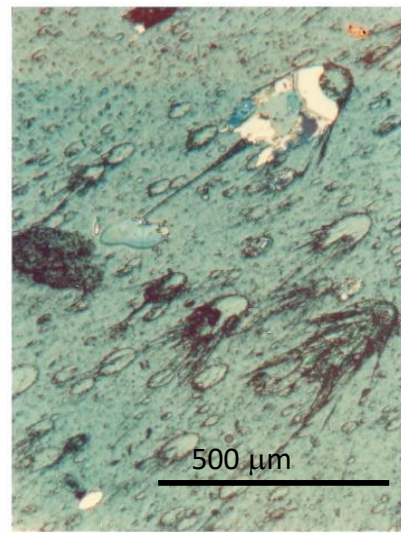
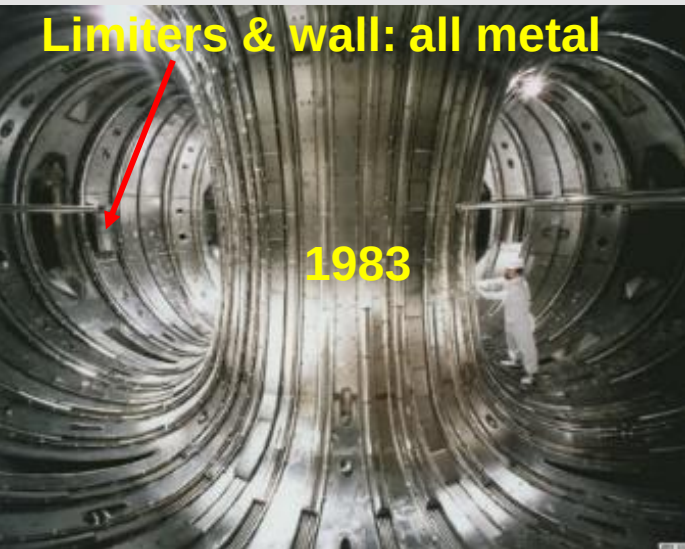
TEXTOR

EXTRAP-T2



COMPASS

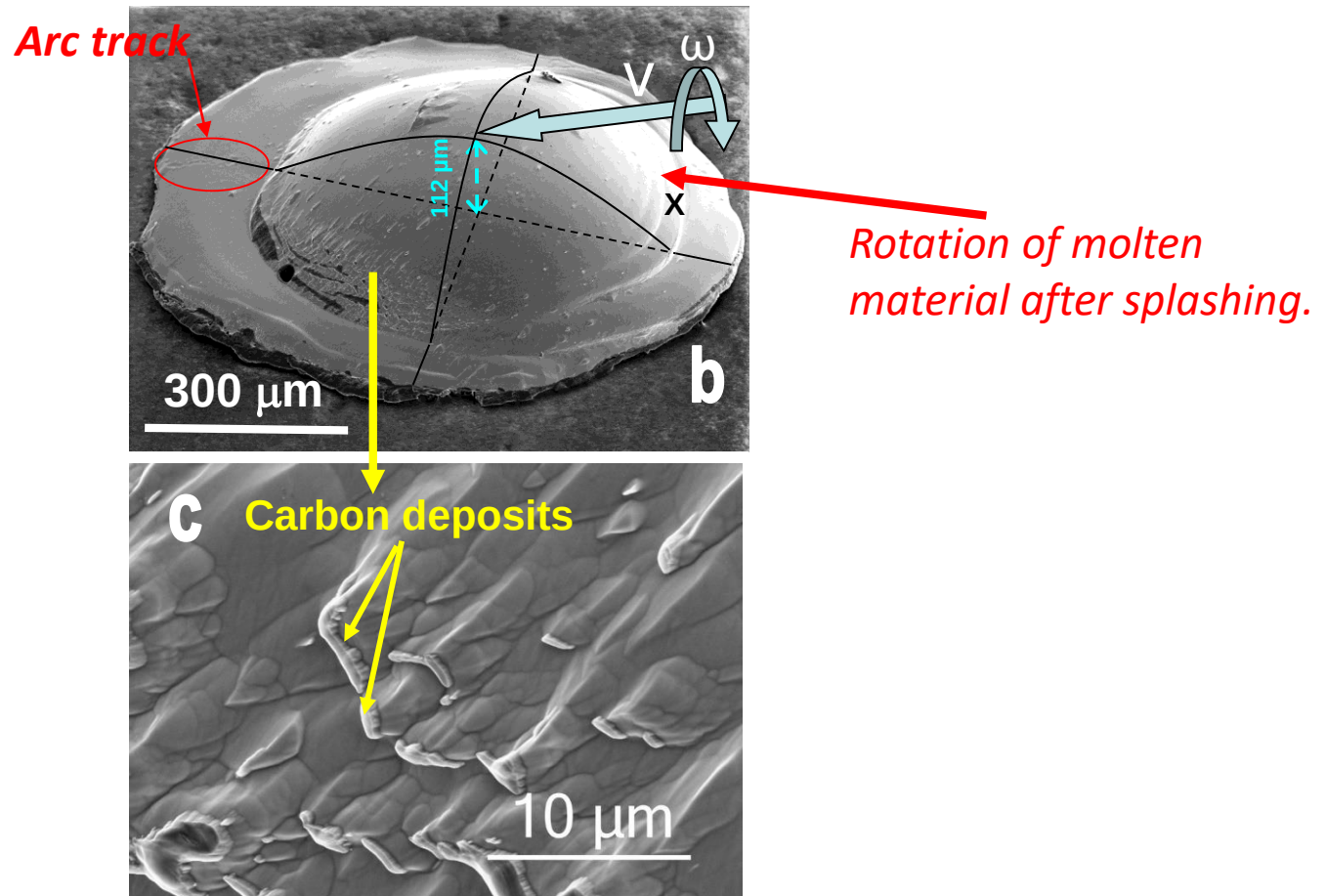
Metal splashes: JET with full metal wall (1984)





Metal splashes: TEXTOR

- Inconel splash on the graphite limiter.
- Origin: the liner or the ICRH antenna grill.



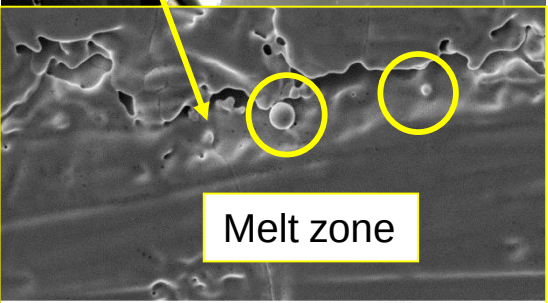


Metal melting & splashes: What about tungsten?

Dedicated experiments on W melting

TEXTOR: Test limiter with W plate)

G. Sergienko et al.,
Phys. Scr. T128 (2007) 81

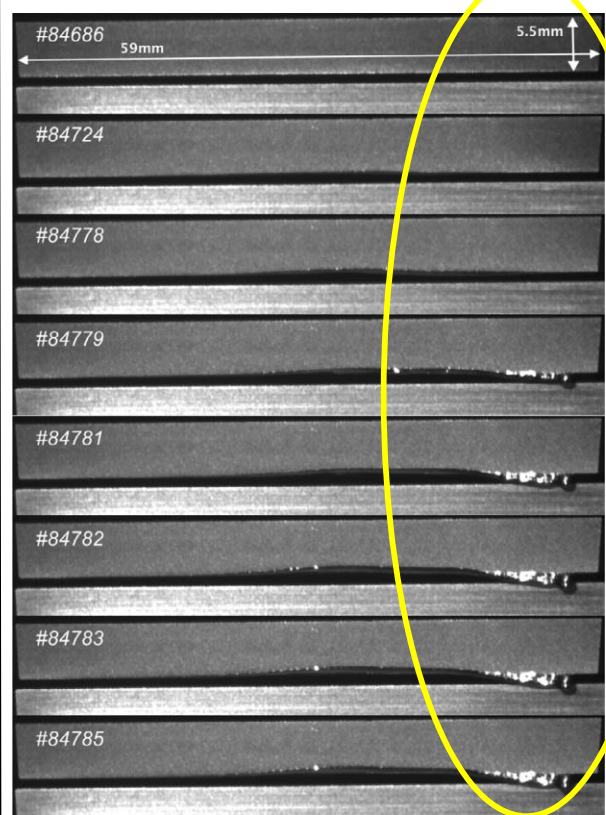


W droplets in the melt zone.

No W droplets found in the collected debris.

JET-ILW: special lamella in bulk W divertor

J.W. Coenen et al., JNM 463 (2015) 78



Evolution of melt damage.

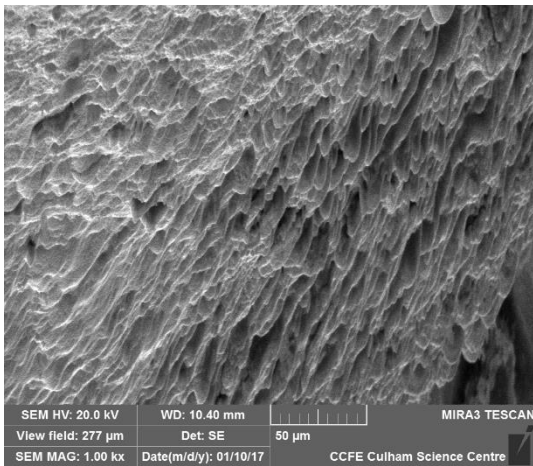
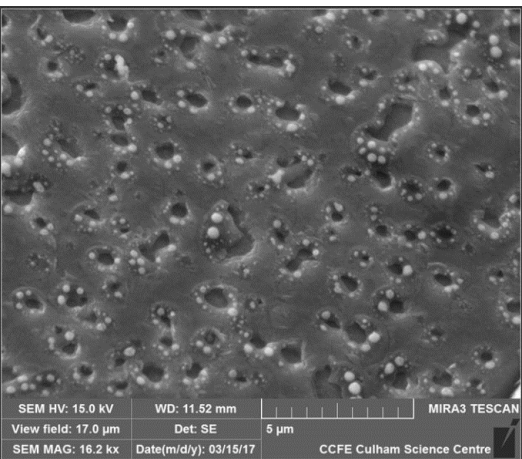
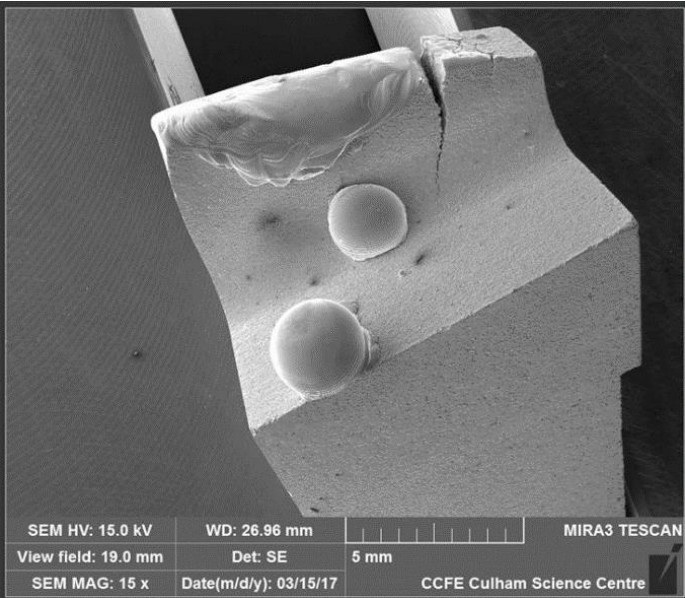
No single loose W droplet has been found on that damaged piece and on the adjacent lamellae.

Nothing in other regions of JET-ILW.

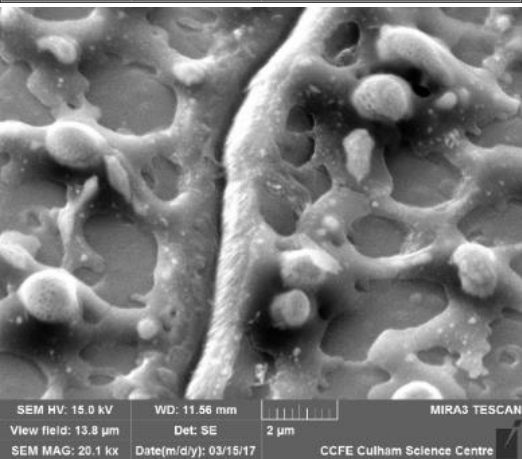
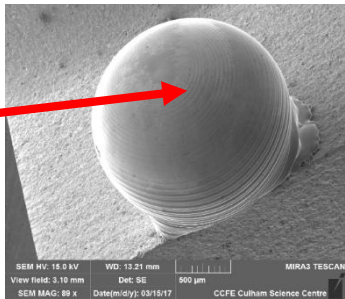
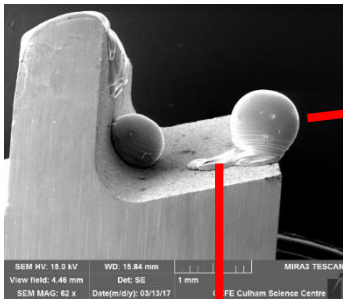


Metal melting & splashes: What about tungsten?

JET-ILW: Langmuir probes

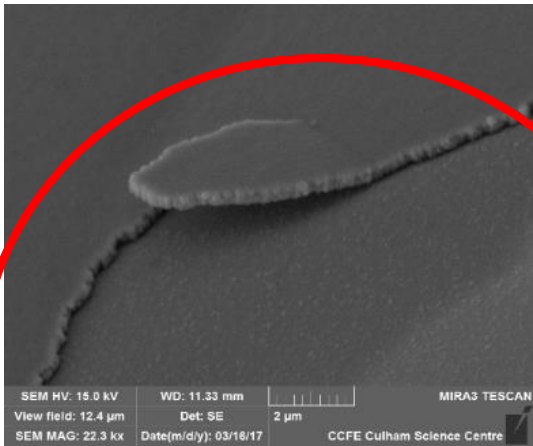
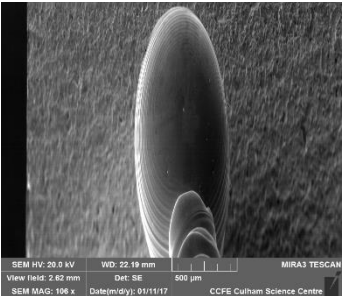
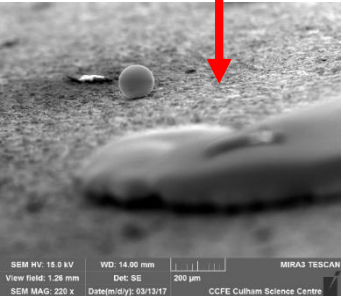


Deficit of W: blown out?



Boiling W

No single loose W droplet found in the matter retrieved from JET-ILW.

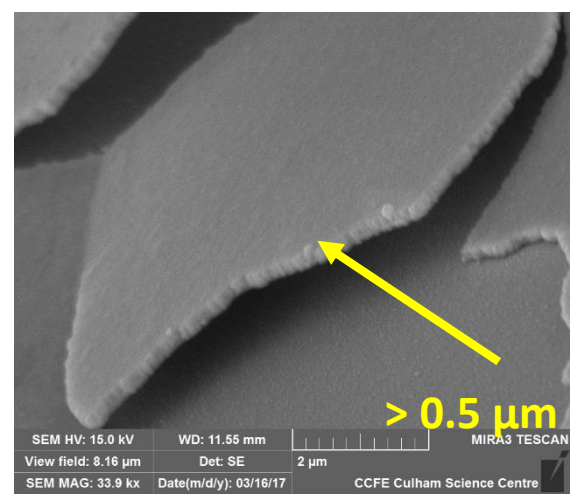
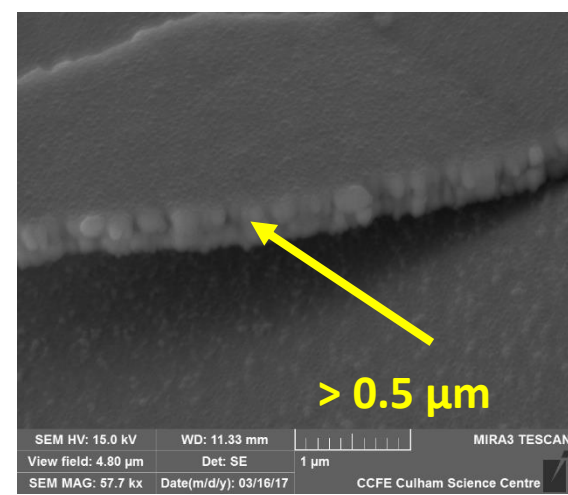
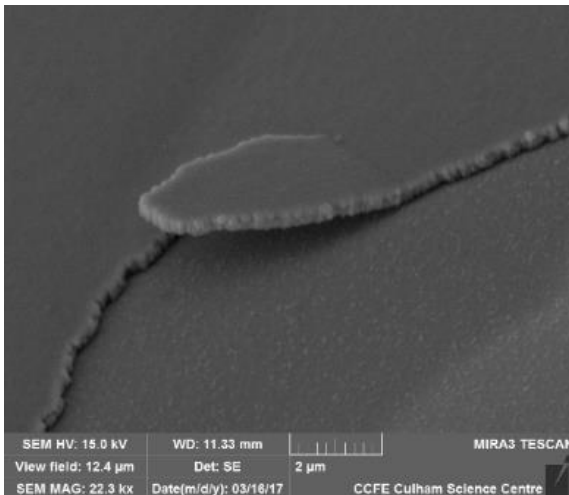
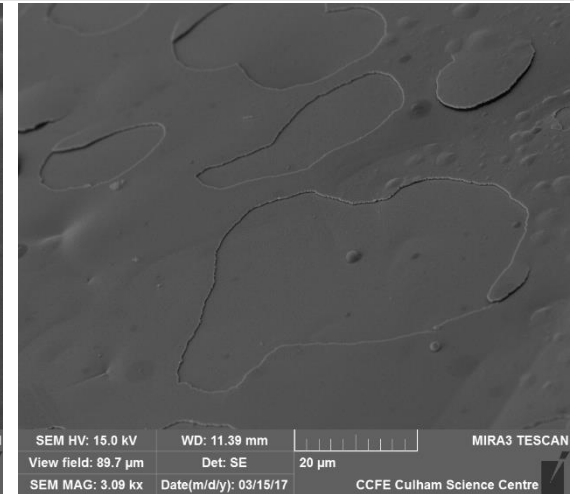
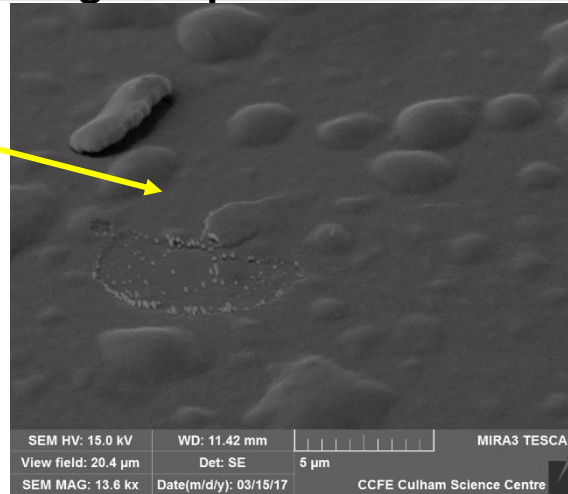
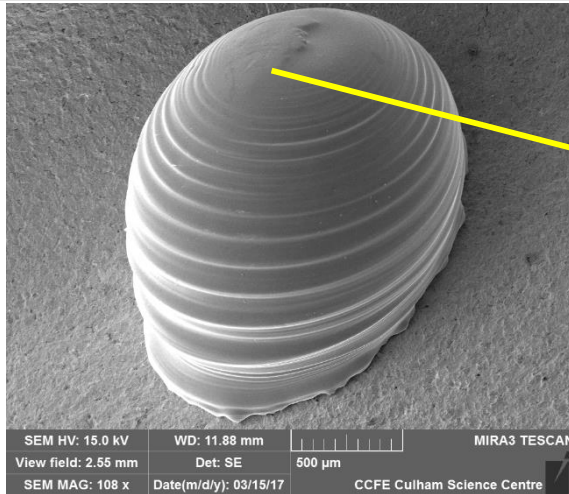


Exfoliation of the overheated surface?



Metal melting & splashes: What about tungsten?

JET-ILW: Langmuir probes



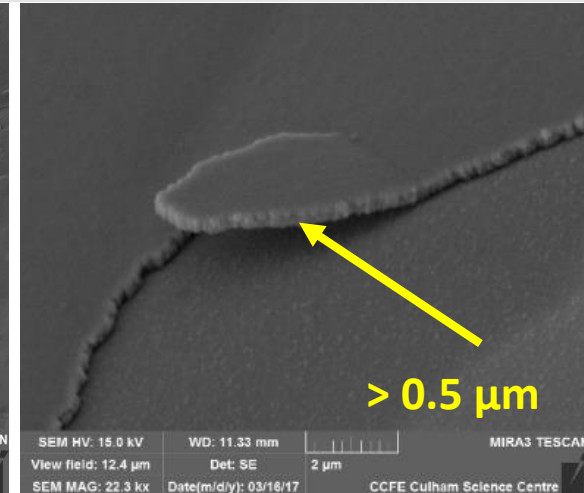
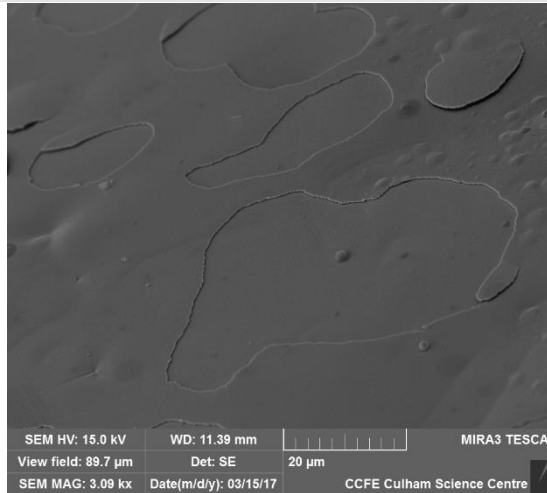
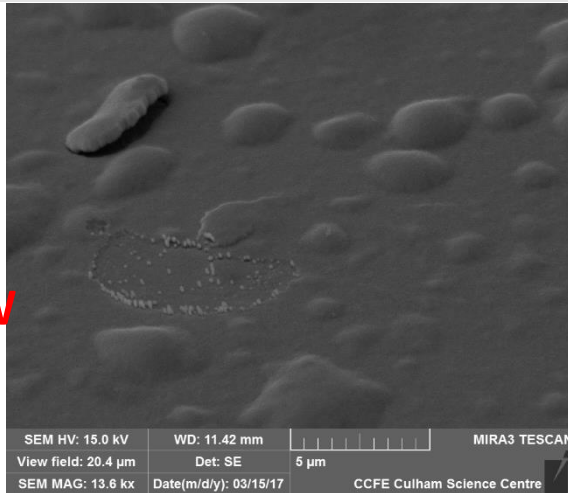
- Metal exfoliation in the overheated region. This may be a real contributor in the W erosion.
- Are these pure W flakes or ...?



Comparison of W and C flaking. Identical?

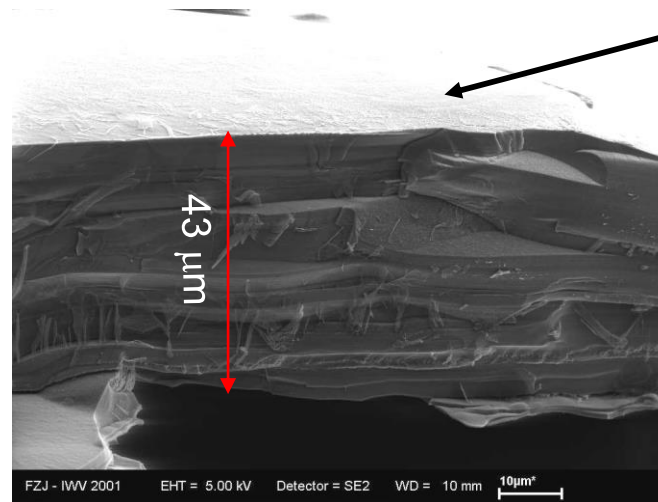
W

JET-ILW



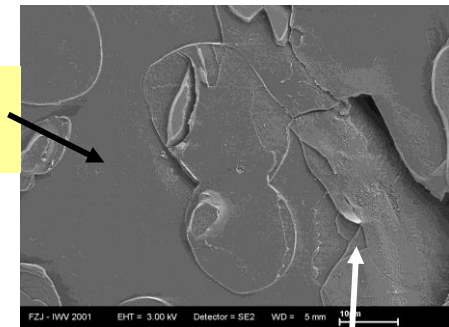
~ 15 000 s of plasma operation

C
TEXTOR

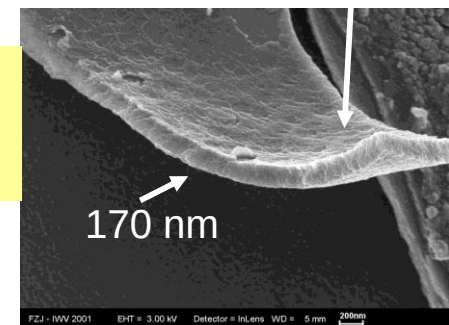


Cross - section

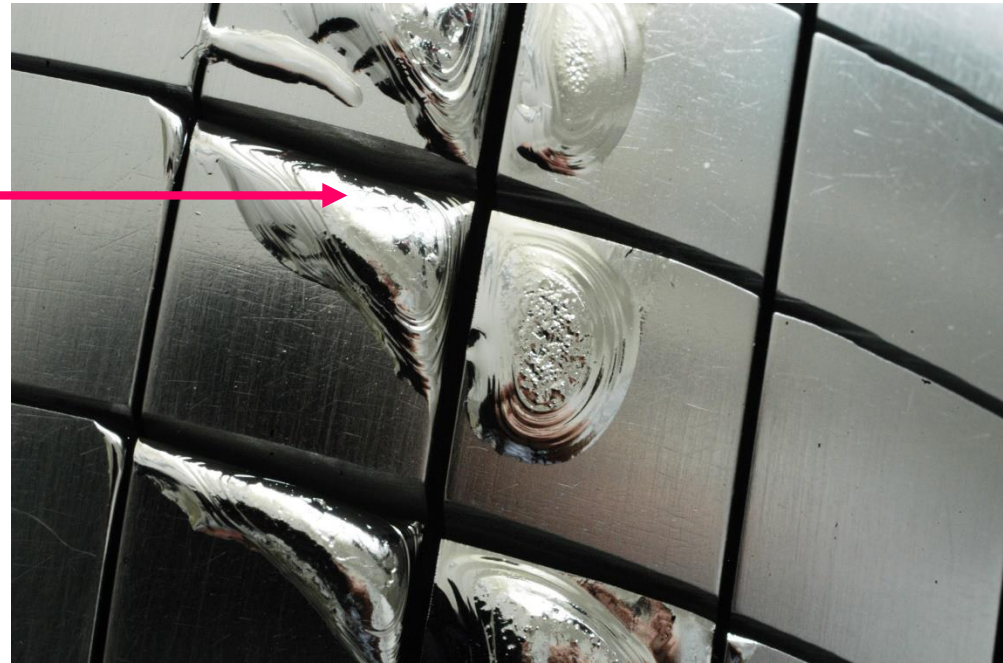
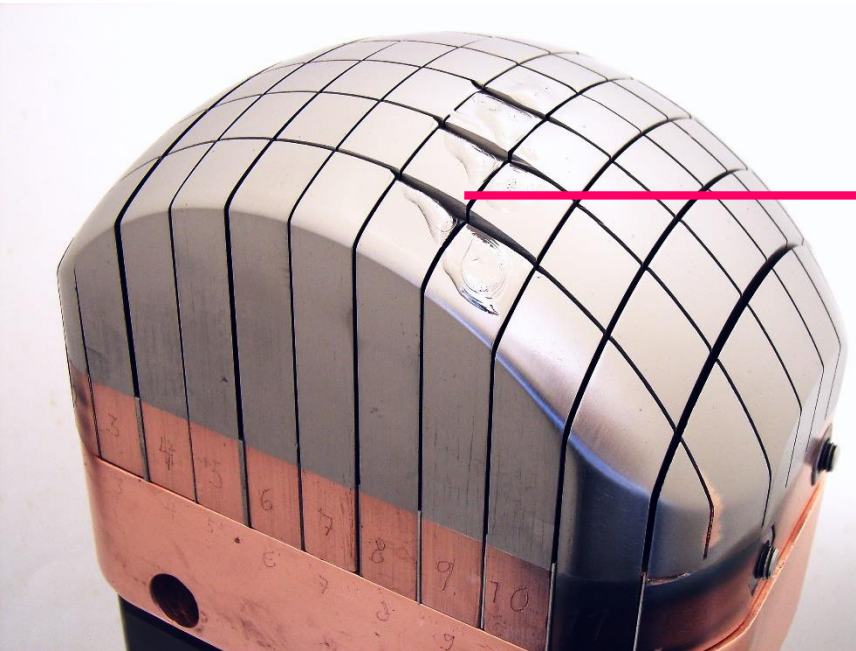
Top surface



Single flaking layer



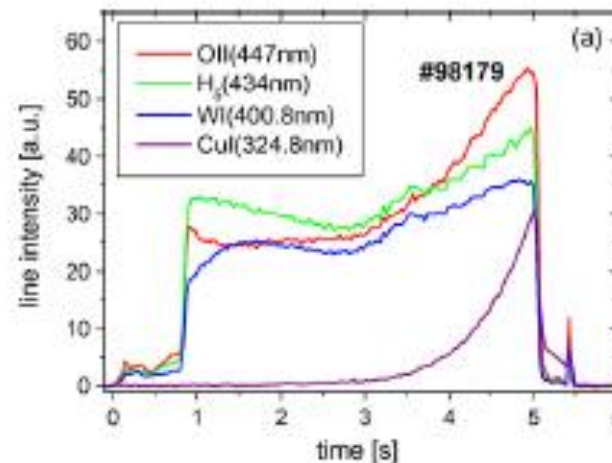
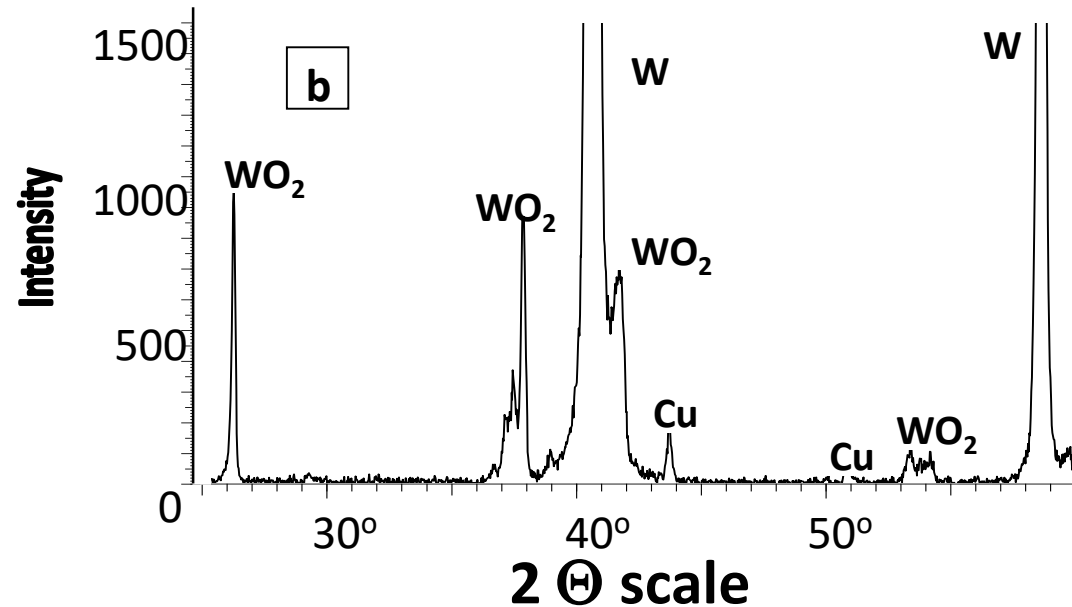
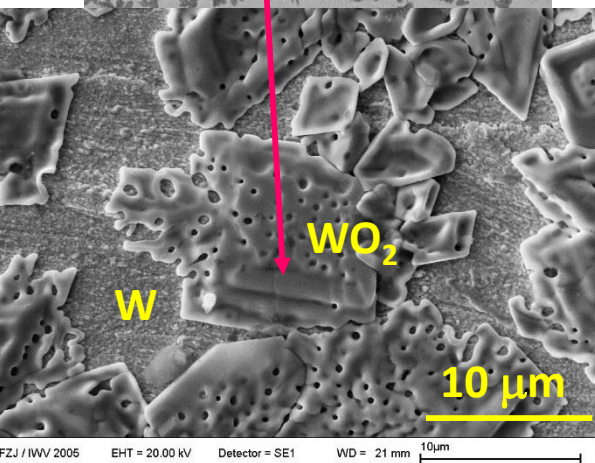
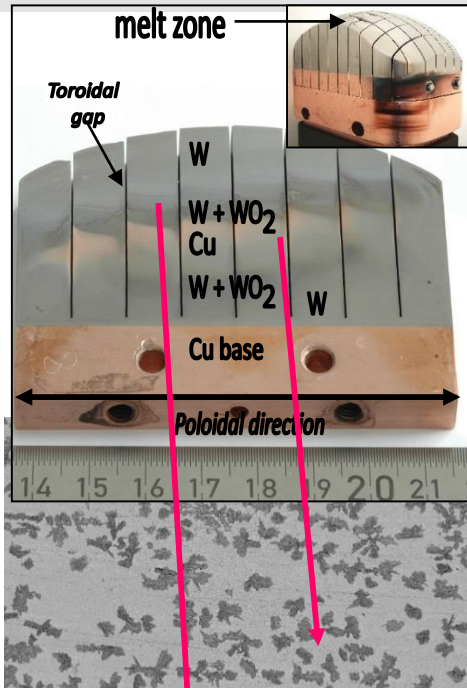
W melting: Castellated W test limiter in TEXTOR



Deliberate melting.

W melting: Castellated W test limiter in TEXTOR

The role of chemistry in W transport.



Evolution of signals when melting occurred at 2.34 s.

WO₂ “leaves”

**What is the source of oxygen?
O₂ or H₂O desorption from bulk Cu or W?**

Categories of dust in JET-ILW



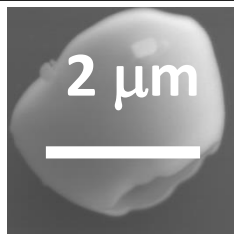
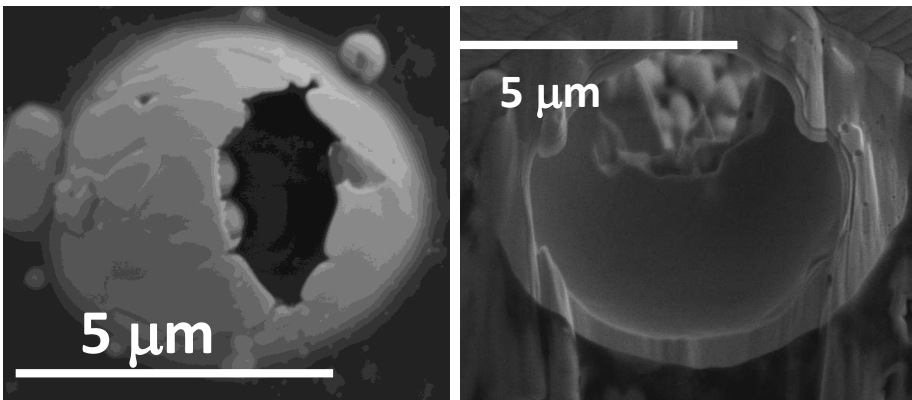
ITER not relevant

Be flakes of coatings from inner wall cladding tiles

Debris of CFC or BN (probes heads)

W-Mo coatings from CFC

- *Small debris, flakes not molten.*
- *Partly molten (glassy structure)*
- *Spheroids by aggregation of W flakes*



Formation phase

ITER relevant

Be-rich flakes of co-deposited layers

Be droplets and splashes

W droplets and splashes

Steel (and Inconel) droplets and splashes e.g. from antennae grills

Swarf from in-vessel work

Cu chunks from NBI systems, etc

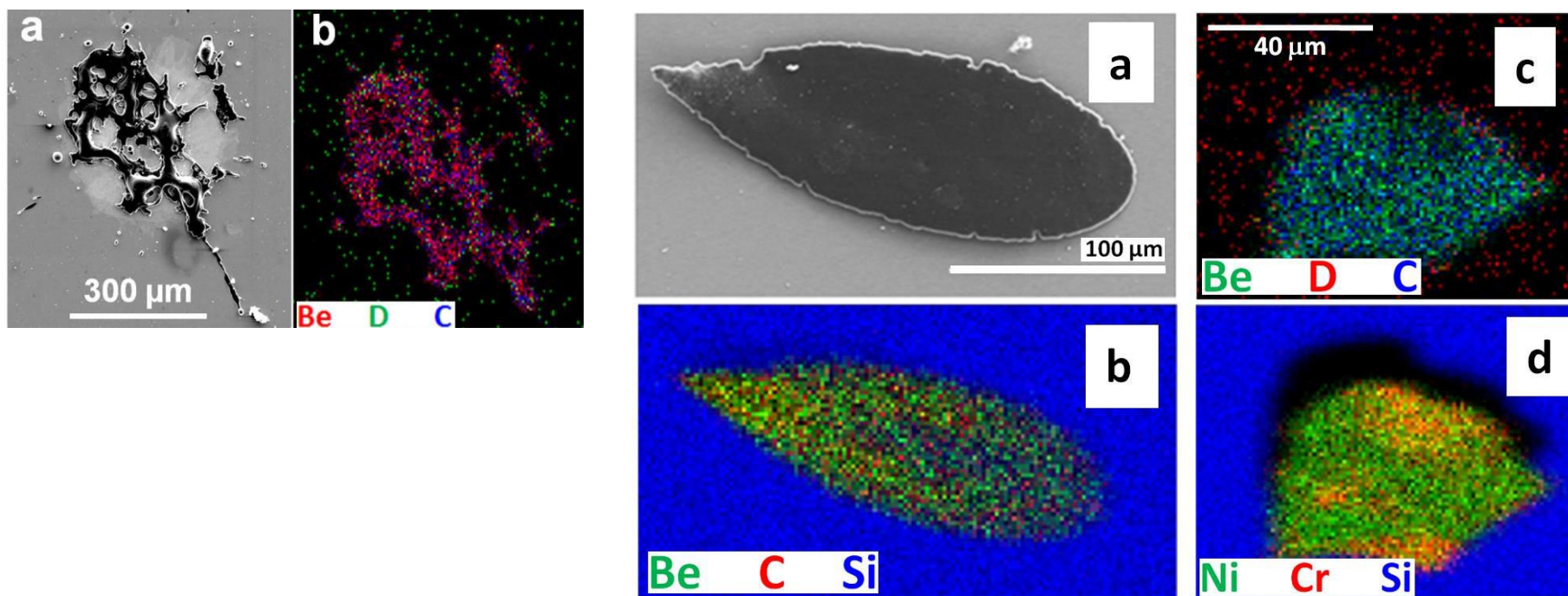


Fuel tracing in individual dust particles

JET-ILW: Deuterium in particles on dust monitors



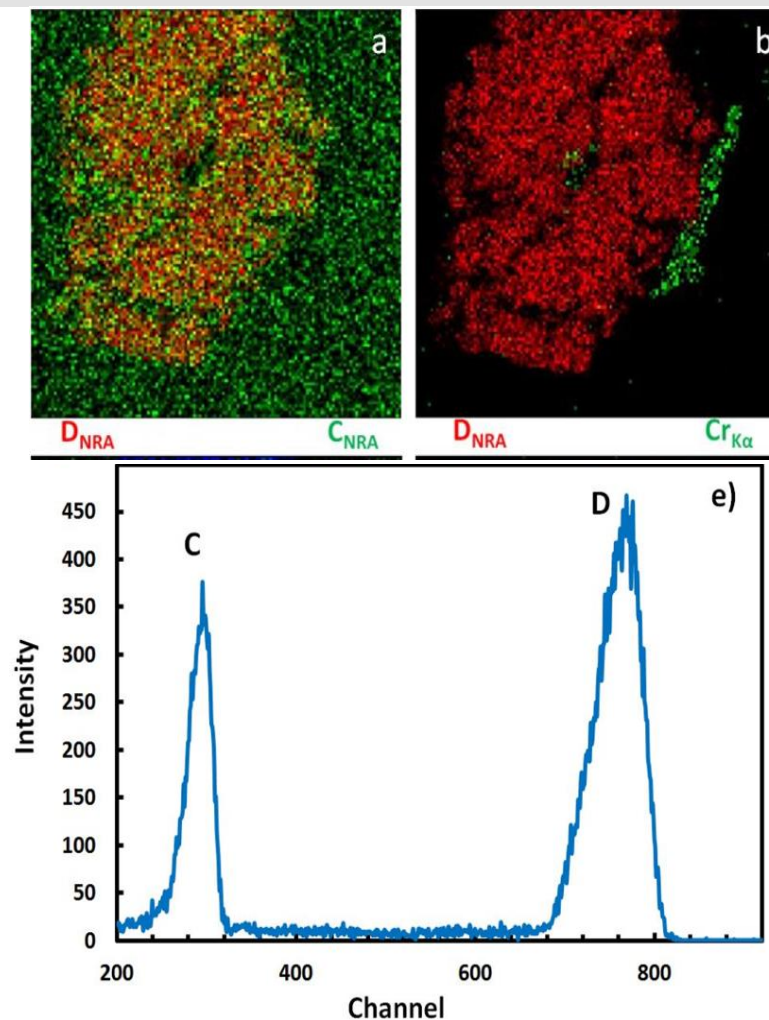
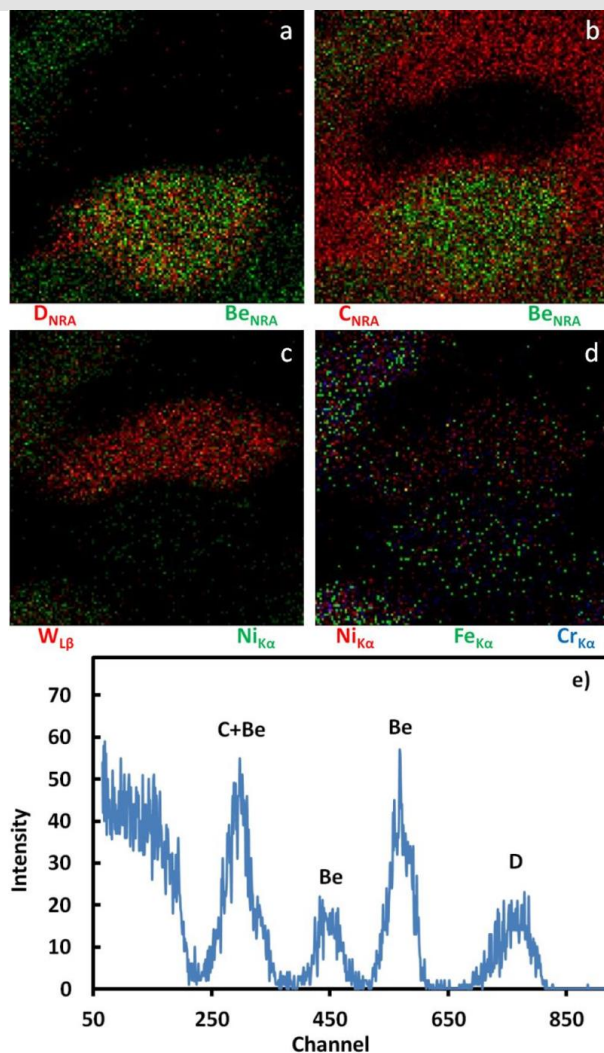
- Combination of several methods: μ -NRA, μ -PIXE with SEM and EDX (different laboratories).
- Main difficulty: identification of the same study object in the two labs.



Message:

Only traces of deuterium detected in/on metallic dust particles

JET-ILW: Deuterium in particles on dust monitors



Messages: Deuterium presence is mainly associated with carbon.

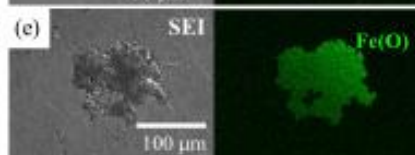
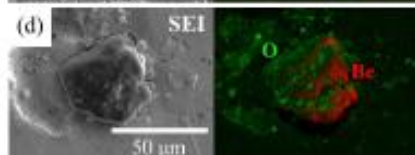
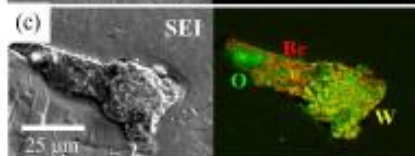
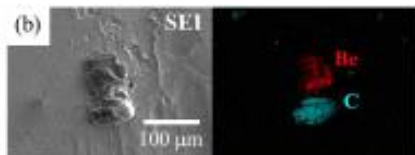
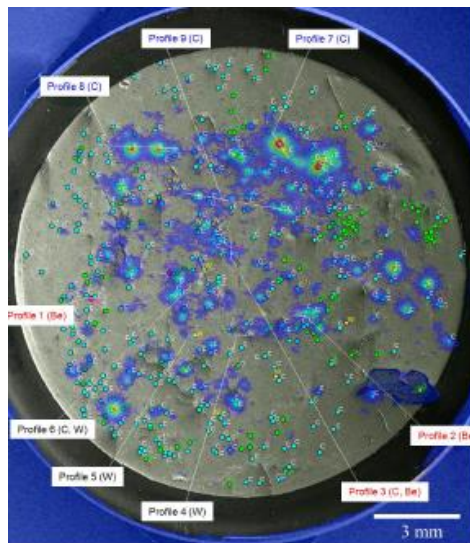
In quantitative terms, the D content even in C dust is small, 0.01-0.05 (also experience from TEXTOR)

S. Fazinić et al., *Anal. Chem.* 90 (2018) 5744; *Nucl. Fusion* 60 (2020) 126061; *MDPI Materials* 15 (2022) 08353.

JET-ILW: Tritium in individual particles

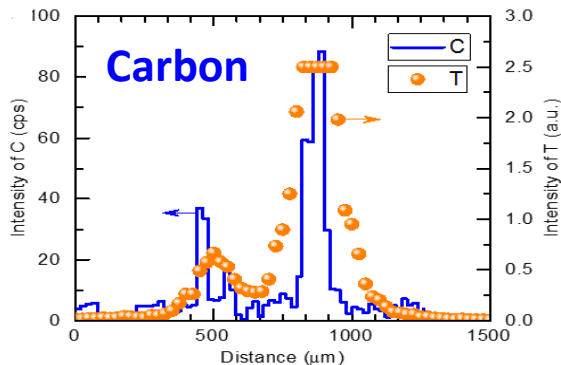
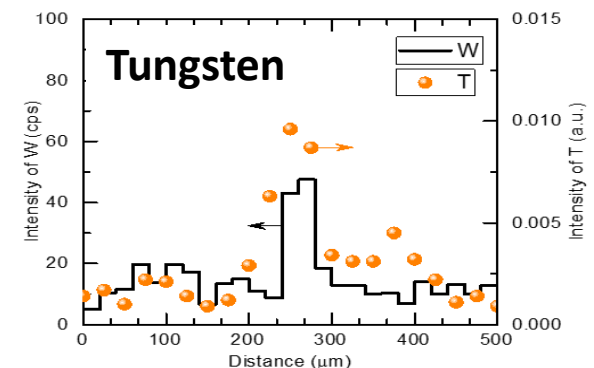
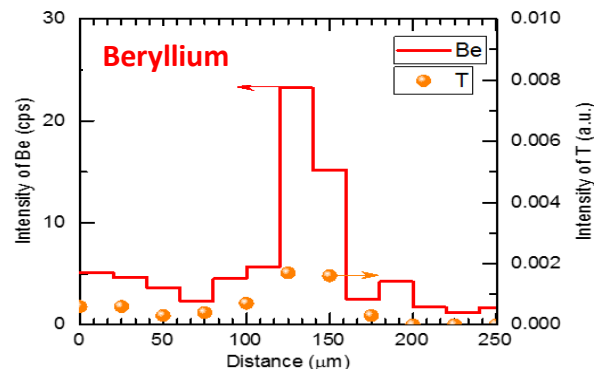


Radiography of T in different particles (ILW-1)



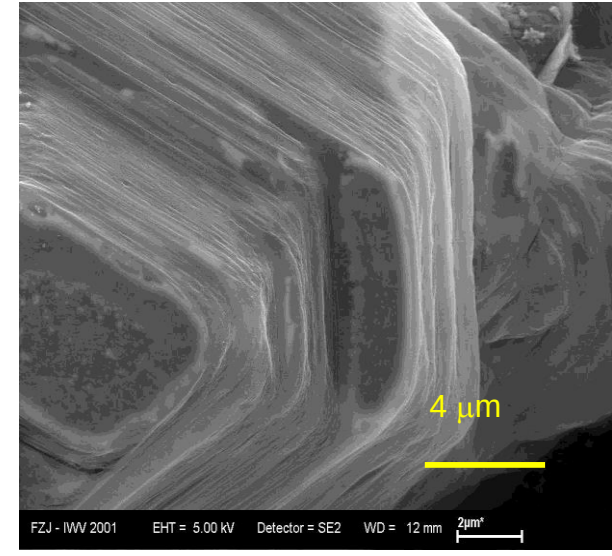
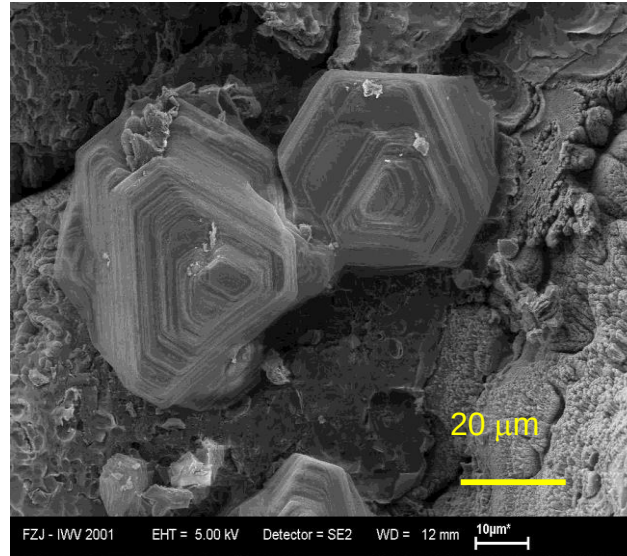
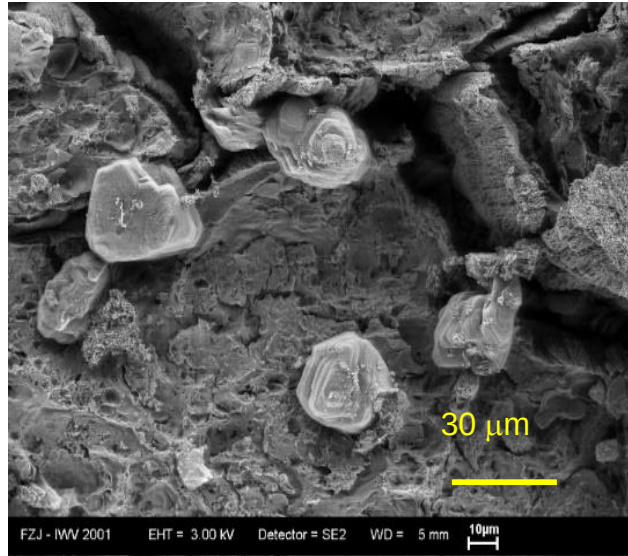
- Dust particles are placed on In disk.
- Composition of individual particles is identified with EPMA (WDS).
- β^- (T) recorded by radiography.
- Superposition of profiles.

Message:
T presence is associated with C
(legacy from JET-C)



Note the scale. 100x more in C than in metals

Boron dust crystals

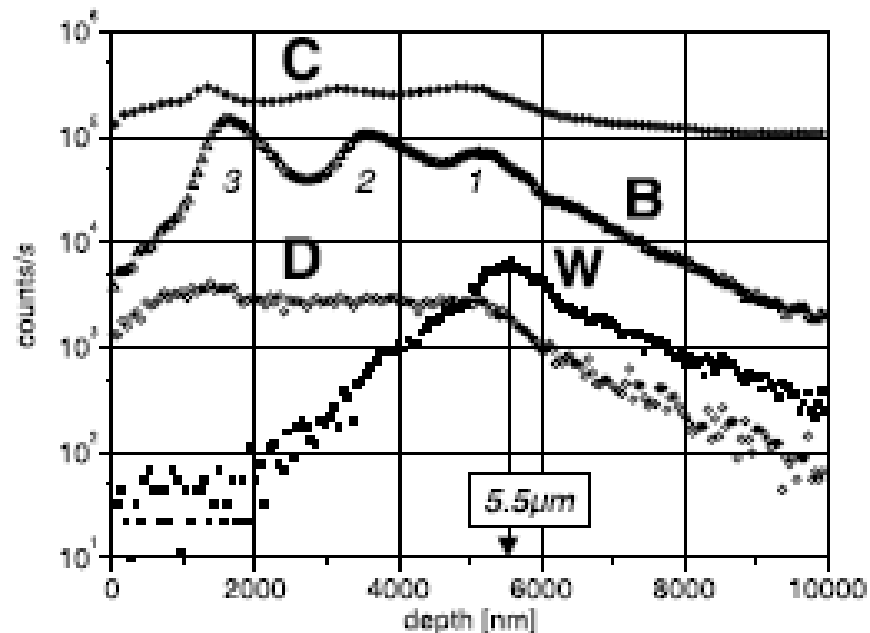
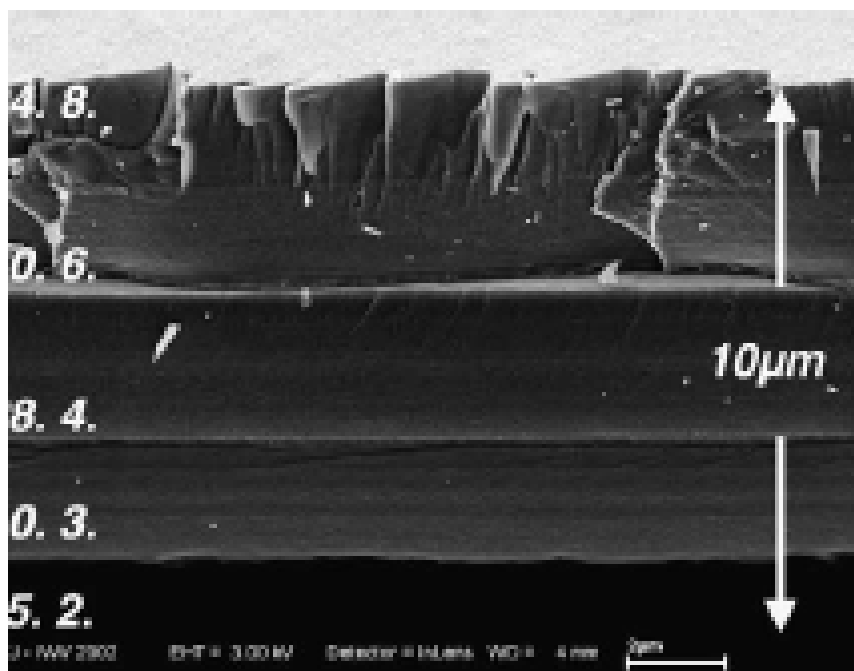


Precipitation of boron from co-deposit?

$T_{\text{plates}} \sim 600 - 700 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ (*thermocouples*)

$T_{\text{deposit}} > 2000 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ (*still below T_m of B and/or B_4C*)

Boron/Boronisation as a marker



A flake of a stratified co-deposit with three boronisation layers: SEM and SIMS.

P. Wienhold et al., JNM 313-316 (2003) 311.

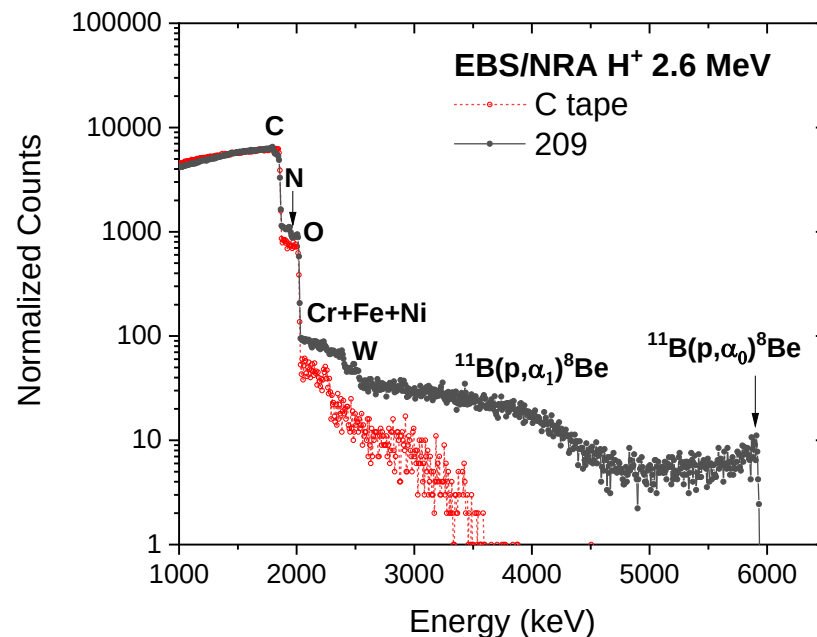
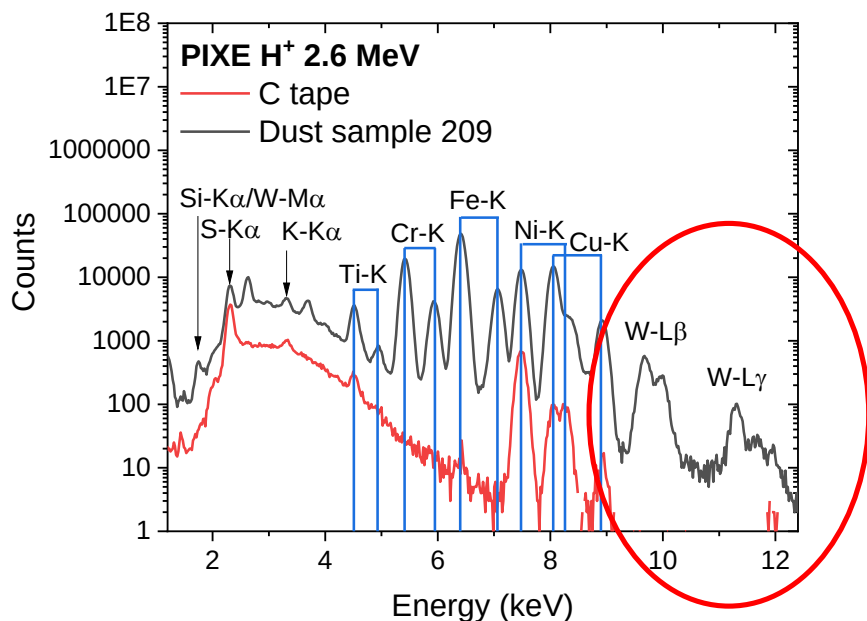
Ion beam analyses of dust from W7-X (VR)



Example of data for from sample 209:

- Sample from Module M1, Divertor (DU18).
- Identified the presence of B, Fe, Cr, and W in sample. Ti, Ni, and Cu also present in tape.

E. Pitthan et al., VR



W originates from a marker tile.
Dust with W is a material transport tracer.

Boronisation with B-10 diborane would contribute to transport studies.

Outlook: Proposal for studies of W7-X dust

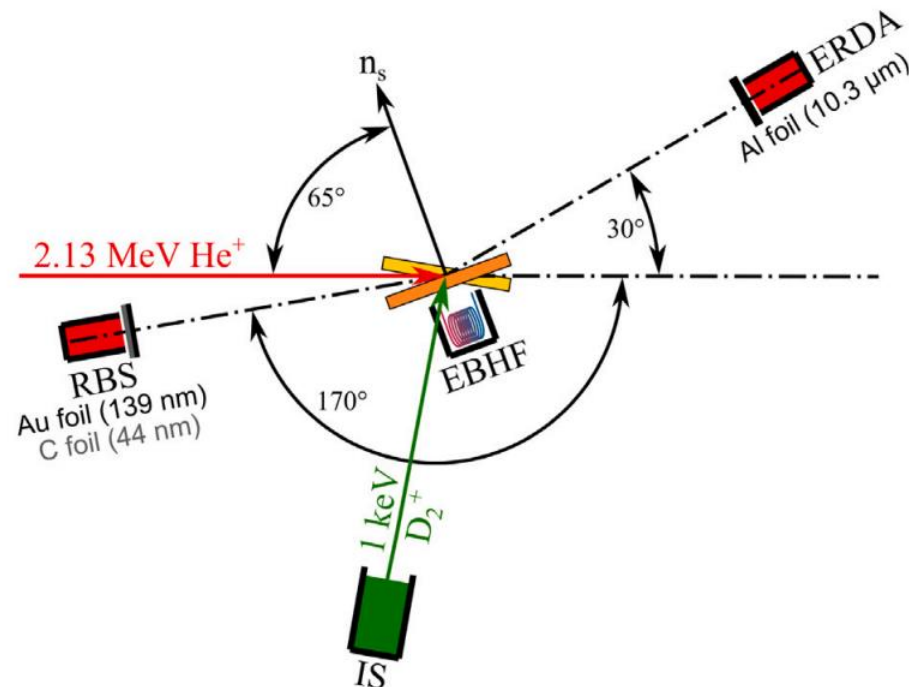


W7-X dust is deuterium free → good chance for:

- *stepwise desorption – re-saturation exercise;*
- *H-D isotope exchange*
- ...

SIGMA apparatus for in-situ experiments and measurements.

- *IBA*
- *Heating to 1000 °C*
- *QMS*
- *Gas inlets (gas mixing)*
- *Ion source*



Extra slides

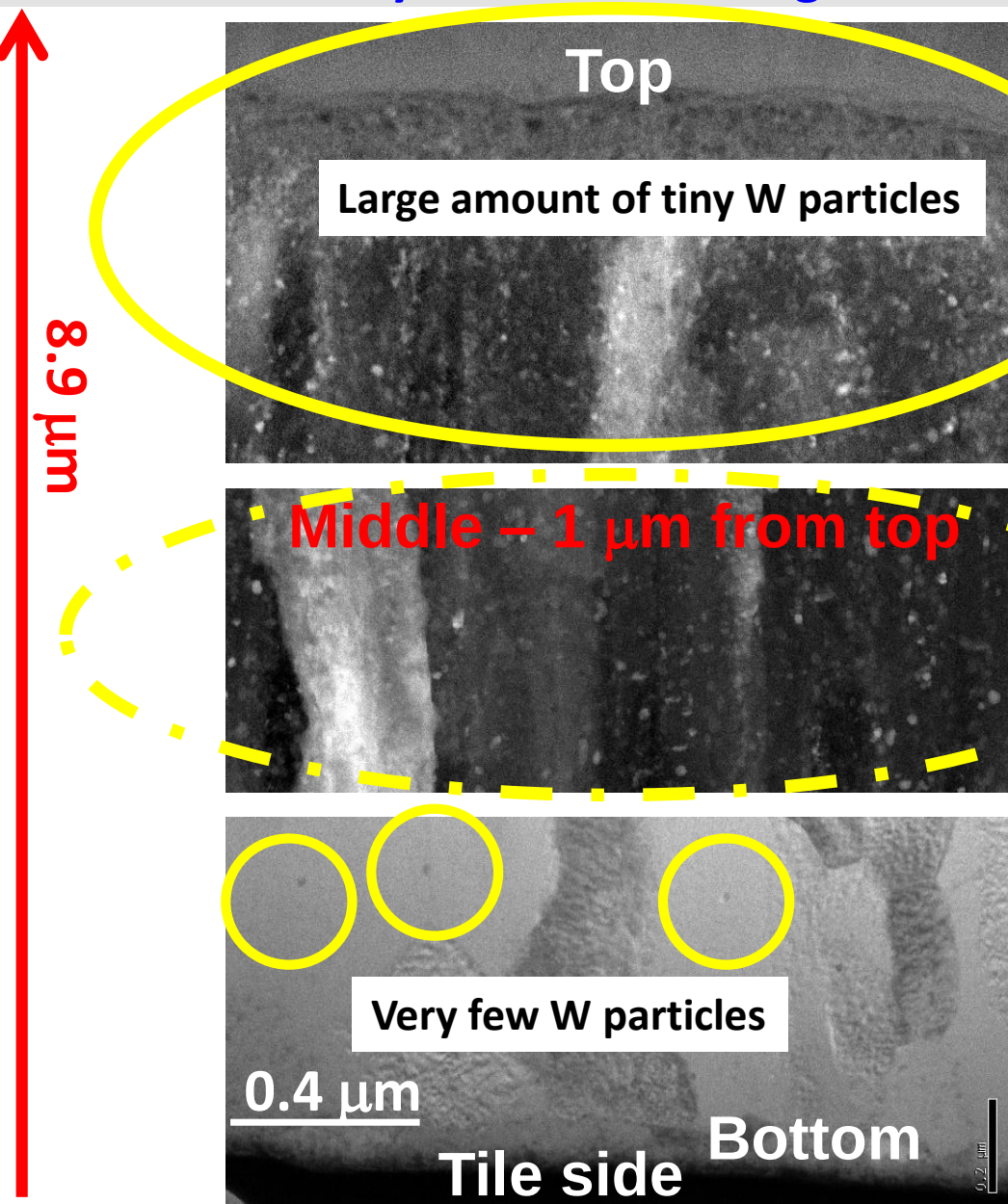


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ILW 2011-2012 Dust studies: Beryllium flakes

Dust removed by vacuum cleaning. Studies performed at IFERC- Rokkasho



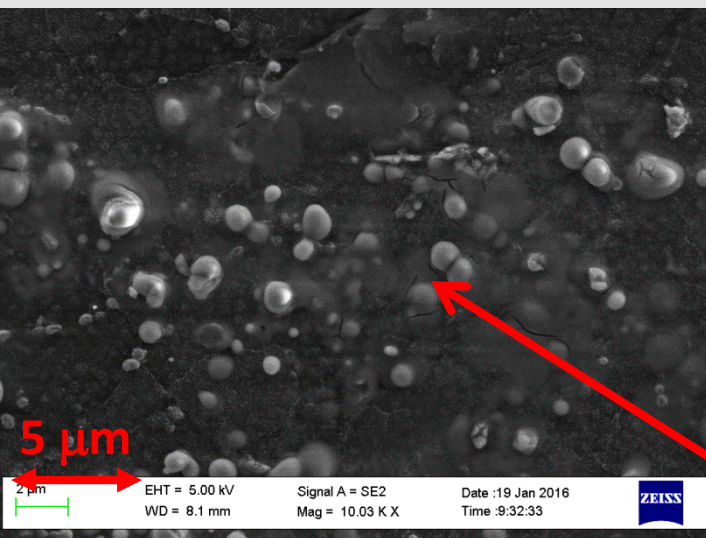
Messages:

- TEM Dark Field images reveal heavy particles (white) of nm size in deposits.
- Particles of nm size identified by EDS as Tungsten.
- The amount of particles increases towards the top, i.e. rises with the power of the JET-ILW operation.

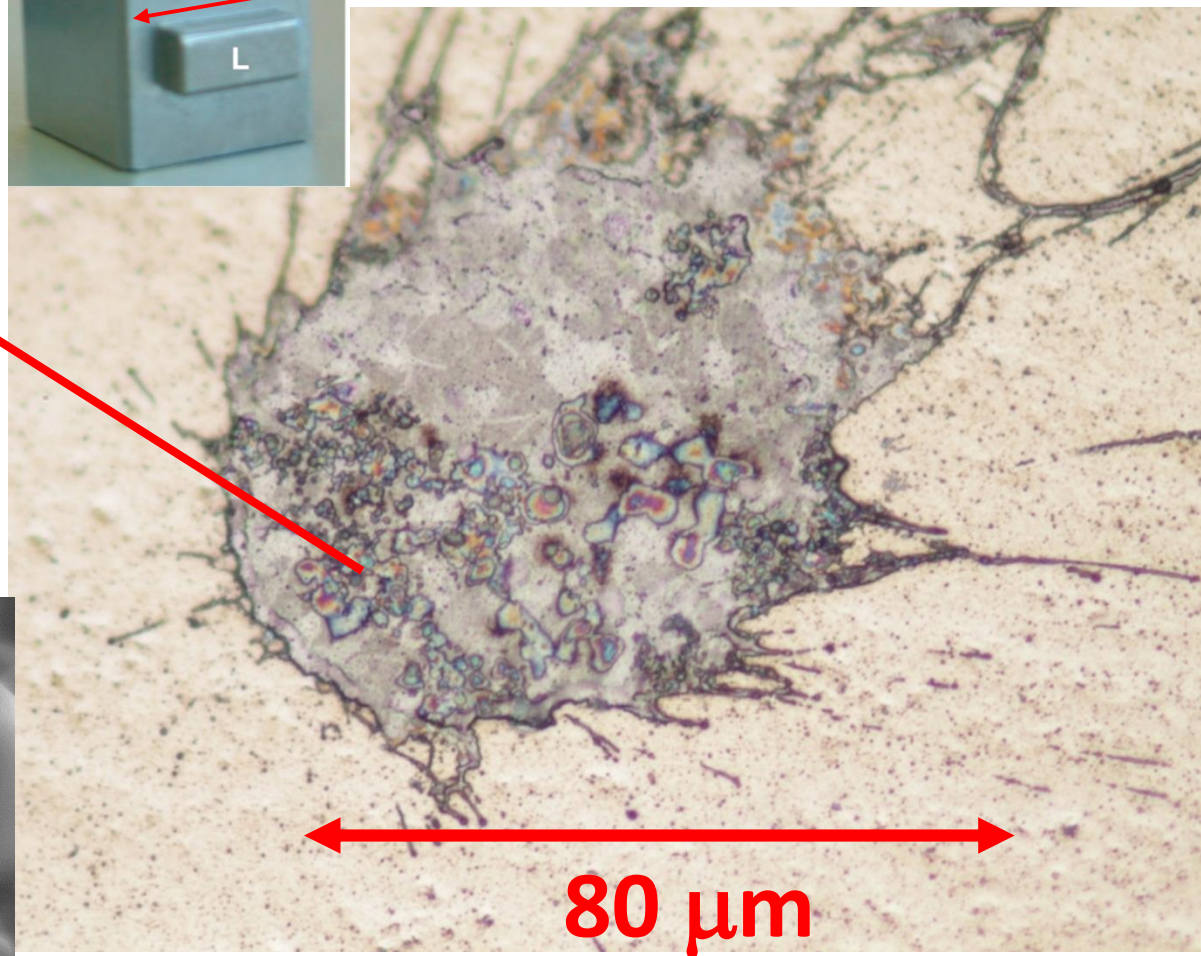
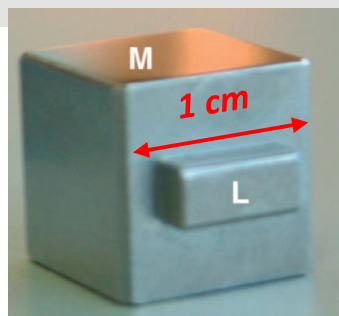
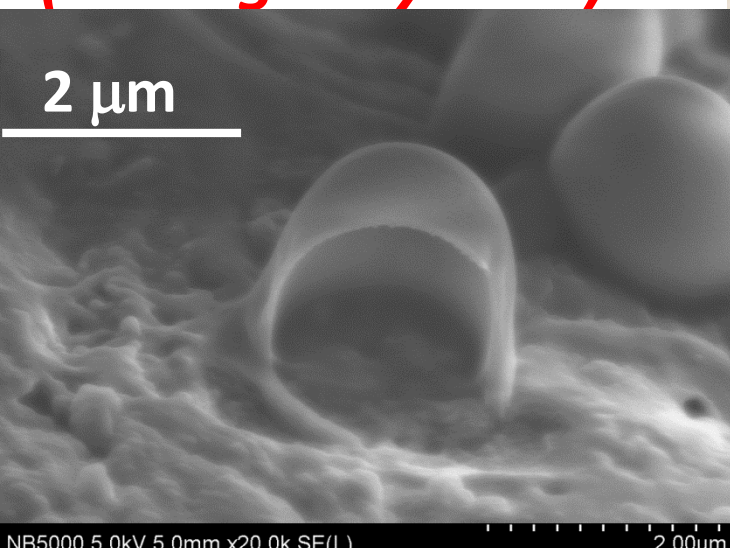
M. Rubel et al., Fusion Eng. Design 2018.



ILW 2013-2014: Be splashes on test mirrors



*Droplets or bubbles?
(boiling beryllium)*



Mirror 127, Mo bulk, Main chamber wall

A. Garcia-Carrasco et al. Nucl. Mater. Ener. 2017

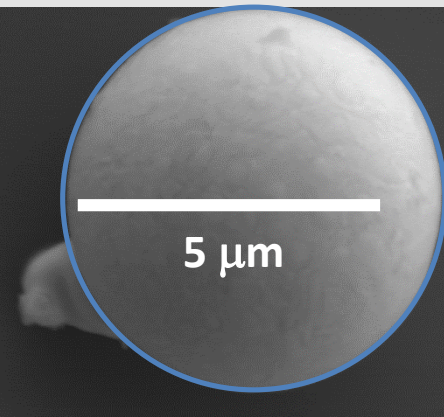
X. Litaudon, IAEA-27, Nucl. Fusion 57 (2017)



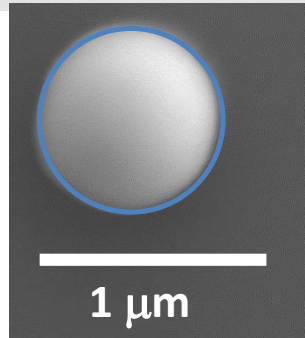
Tungsten:

Droplets (?)

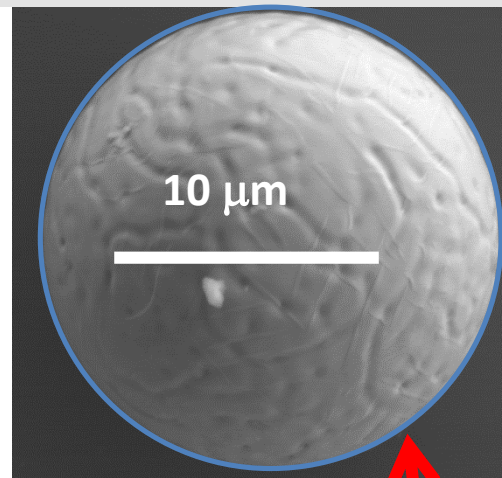
W on dust collector (outer divertor)



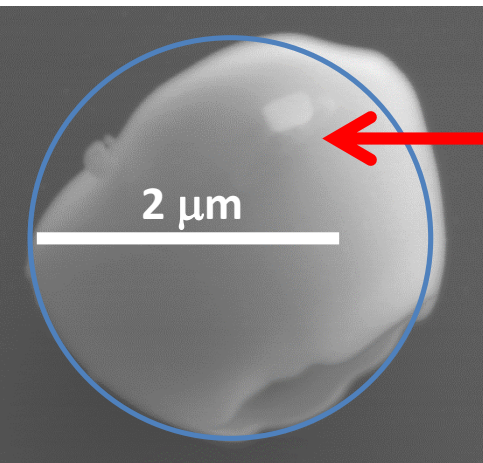
V: $131 \mu\text{m}^3$
r: $3.15 \mu\text{m}$



V: $0.21 \mu\text{m}^3$
r: $0.37 \mu\text{m}$



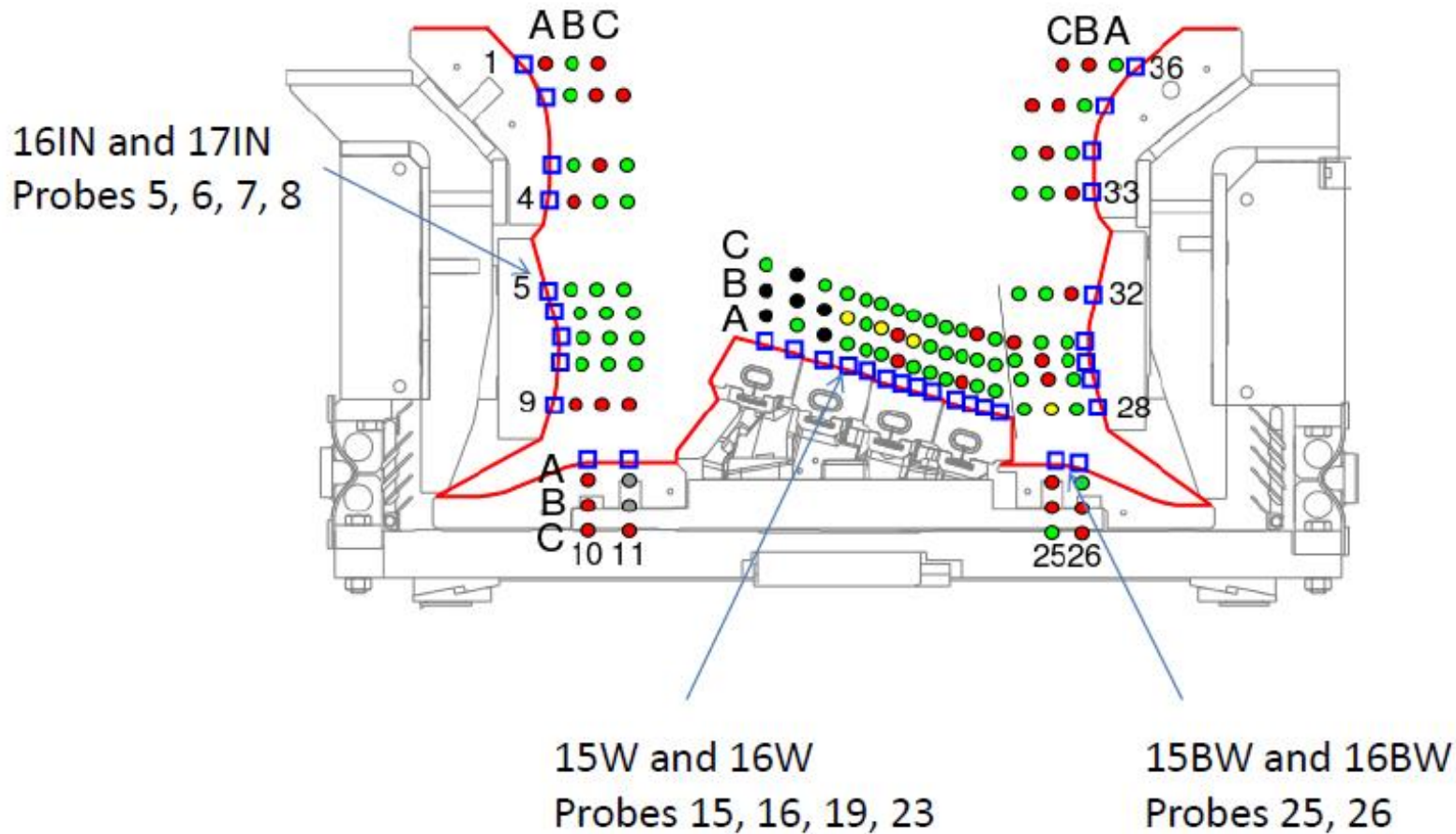
V: $1767 \mu\text{m}^3$
r: $7.5 \mu\text{m}$



Most probably "spheroids" (*shell with empty interior*) in the phase of formation by agglomeration of W flakes detached from the coatings.

Message: There is no evidence of W droplets which would indicate tungsten melting (either W coatings or Tile 5).

LPs in JET



Categories of dust in JET-ILW



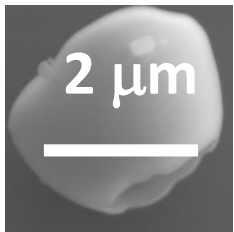
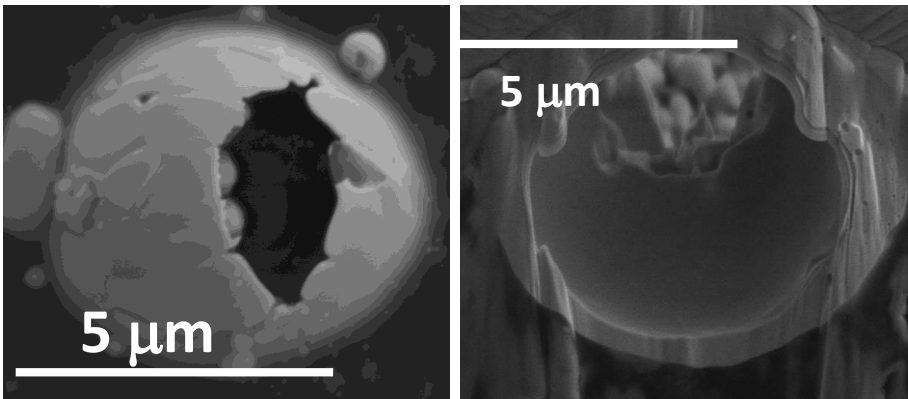
ITER not relevant

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