



Understanding Ripples Formation: Nonequilibrium Properties of Stainless Steel and Tungsten Metal

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In the Framework of the Interference Model

Ultrashort laser irradiation



Electronic Structures & Laser Irradiation



- 1: Unhomogeneous excitation of electrons (1-10 fs)
- 2: Thermalization of electrons, homogeneous distribution from electronic collisions (10-100 fs)
- 3: Electrons-ions energy exchanges, from election-ion coupling (ps)



Finite Temperature Density Functional Theory Calculations



- FT DFT calculations to account for nonequilibrium conditions
- Fermi Dirac distribution function for electrons
- \checkmark Self-consistent computation of T_e dependent electronic structures



E. Bevillon et al., Phys. Rev. B 89, 115117 (2014)

Electronic Density Differences Between Hot and Cold Densities, (mapping and isosurfaces)



Ni, primitive FCC cell



Cr, conventional BCC cell



Xcrysden images: Blue: loss of electronic density Red: gain of electronic density

 \rightarrow Impact on material properties: thermodynamics, optics, athermal forces..

Si, primitive diamond cell

Tungsten Nonequilibrium Optical Properties

Tungsten, a Non-Plasmonic Metal Showing Ripples Formation



At $\lambda = 800$ nm: n = 3.6 ; k = 2.7 preclude the condition for plasmonic excitation n² - k² < -1

 \rightarrow According to interference model, ripples should not appear.

Disagreement with experimental observations :

Are optical properties changing during the irradiation process?



 \rightarrow MD-FT-DFT coupled to KG formalism to determine temperature dependent optical properties.

Temperature Evolutions of Irradiated Tungsten and its Effect on Potential Electronic Transitions



Potential electronic transitions at $\lambda = 800$ nm

- \sim W electronic structure at $T_i = 300K$
- Increase and dilution of the electronic transition space phase with T_e increases



Impact on tungsten optical properties

T_e Dependent Optical Indices of Tungsten



- Increase of intraband signal, decrease of interband signal
- At λ = 800 nm: n significantly decreases ; k significantly increases

Surface Plasmon Existence Domain



- Extension of the plasmon existence domain
- Plasmonic switch at 800 nm at high T_e
- Agreement between Interference model and experiments

316L Stainless Steel Nonequilibrium Properties

Stainless Steel Surface Structuring Under Ultrashort Laser Irradiation



B. Chichkov, et al. Appl. Phys. A **63**, 109–115 (1996).



B. Dusser, et al. Opt. Express 18, 2913-2924 (2010).

- Leads to numerous applications in optical functionalization, tribology or wettability
- Knowledge of nonequilibrium behavior is required
- Lack of theoretical data from atomistic approaches

316L Stainless Steel Characteristics

- Austenitic steel, with FCC arrangement of metal elements in solid solution
- Mass composition: Fe (66%), Cr (17%), Ni (12%), Mo (2%), Mn (2%), Si (1%), P (0.04%), S (0.03%) and C (0.02%)
- Approximated to main constituents, Fe (68%), Cr (18%) and Ni (14%)
- Special Quasi Random distribution of atoms



E. Bévillon et al. J.Phys. Chem. C (2015) doi: 10.1021/acs.jpcc.5b02085.

Nonequilibrium Thermodynamic Properties of 316L Stainless Steel





- *T_e* dependent DOS, d-block enlarging and shifting toward high temperature
- ~ T_e dependent μ_e , C_e , P_e and N_e determined
- Strong similarities with y-Fe.

Nonequilibrium Transport Properties of y-Fe (Standing for Stainless Steel)



- n and k decrease
- K_{th} strongly increases

Effective Electron-Phonon Coupling



Based on DFPT calculations: ∞

$$\lambda \langle \omega^2 \rangle = \int_0^\infty \omega \, \alpha^2 F(\Omega) \, d \, \omega$$

- High G(T_e) at low temperature,
 decrease with T_e
- → Nonequilibrium database for
 Stainless Steel

Hydrodynamic Properties of Irradiated Stainless Steel (Esther Code)



- Fluence set to 0.6 J cm⁻²
- Strong increase of T_e and P_e
- Electron-phonon coupling leading to 30 nm ablation depth





Resume

Tungsten:

- Determination of nonequilibrium optical properties of Tungsten
- Change of optical indices leading to plasmonic switch in agreement with experimental observation
- Agreement between Interference model and experimental observations

316L Stainless Steel:

- Determination of thermodynamic and transport properties: nonequilibrium database
- Inserted in hydrodynamic codes showing matter ablation in agreement with experimental data

Thank you for attention