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Real-time observation of self-assembling nanostructures of Langmuir-Blodgett films of vinylidene fluoride-trifluoroethylene copolymer by Atomic Force Microscopy.¹ JIHEE KIM, STEPHEN DUCHARME, Physics and Astronomy and Nebraska Center for Materials and Nanoscience, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68588-0111, BRIAN RODRIGUEZ, SERGEI KALININ, Materials Science and Technology Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN 37831 — Annealing studies have shown that ferroelectric polymer Langmuir-Blodgett (LB) films less than 10 nm thick undergo drastic morphology change after annealing in the crystalline ferroeletric phase [M. Bai et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. 85, 3528 (2004) During annealing in the crystalline paraelectric phase, continuous films self-assemble into disk shape features, nanomesas, with approximately 9 nm thickness and 100 nm diameter. The nanomesa self-assembly was observed in real time with an Atomic Force Microscope, which was equipped with a heating stage. This results show that the nanomesas formed during annealing agree well with nanomesas observed in ferroelectric phase at room temperature after annealing in the paraelectric phase.

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