Inductively-coupled plasma and laser-produced plasma source researches at GIST

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Diagnostics is a very important issue in plasma. We developed a novel plasma diagnosticsmethod using a THz (terahert) wave pulse, where the THz pulse is generated byfocusing an intense laser pulse in gas. In this process, the focused laserpulse ionizes the gas atoms and the strong interaction between the laser pulseand the plasma can generate an intense THz pulse. To utilize the laser-producedTHz pulse for plasma diagnostics, we developed a small-scale ICP(inductively-coupled plasma) source, which consists of an 8-tern coil antenna and a quartz tube with a length of 12 cm and a diameter of 2.5 cm. An RF (radio-frequency) sourcewith a frequency of 13.56 MHz is used to produce a plasma in the ICP source. Argon or helium gas is injected into the quartz tube that is pumped by

a dry pump. TheICP source and RF system were adjusted to produce plasma densities on the orderof 10¹³ cm⁻³ and the THz pulse was sent through theplasma. The transmitted THz pulse is analyzed and it turns out that it can give the plasma density information successfully. In this talk, details of theresearch are presented.