Dedication

To the spirit of my father.

To my family (mother, sisters and my brother).

To all my great teachers.

To all colleagues, friends and anyone who helped me to finish this research.

Acknowledgement

I would like to thank God firstly for helping me and giving me life, health and time to accomplish this work .Thanks to Sudan University of Science and Technology - Institute of Laser for giving me the opportunity to present this work.

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Abstract

The objective of this research was the utilization of laser induced breakdown spectroscopy (LIBS) technique to determine the spectroscopic changes in caries teeth. Q-Switched Nd:YAG laser with 10 ns pulse duration, 100 mj energy per pulse, 2 Hz repetition rate was used.

Five caries teeth were used as samples. Each tooth has been divided into three regions for irradiation; the first region is the health, the second is the region of caries and the third region is the edge between the health region and the caries region. Each region was irradiated with the same parameters.

The laser beam was focused on the sample to achieve high power density leads to very high temperature in the focal volume and then undergo a number of reactions resulting in formation of plasma of the sample. This plasma emits discrete emission lines which represent the fingerprint of the sample.

A spectrometer connected to PC was used to collect and record the emission spectra of the samples plasma. The recorded spectra were processed by subtracting: the dark current, the pumping flashlamp and the background radiation.

The elements in the emission spectra were identified after referring to the atomic spectra database.

A comparison was done between the sample contents in order to determine the spectral differences between the health part and caries part of each tooth.

The results showed that certain elements were found in all the five samples with different amounts while some elements were not found in all the five teeth. In general, the elements and ions that were appeared in the health region, and started to decrease then disappeared in caries region, are: Praseodymium (PrII), Terbium (Tb), Manganese (MnII), Cerium (CeII), Neon (NeII), Strontium (Sr), Xenon (Xe), Krypton (Kr).

In addition to that, the elements and ions that were appeared in the health region in certain amounts, and decreased in the caries region, are: Europium (EuII), Zirconium (ZrIII), Gadolinium (GdII), Yttrium (YII), Cerium (CeIII), iron ion (FeII), iron (Fe).

Finally, the elements and ions which were not appeared in the health region and appeared in the carious are: Thorium (Th), Cerium (Ce), Ytterbium (Yb), Fluorine (F), Bismuth (Bi), Krypton (Kr), Chlorine (CI II), Sodium (NaII), Beryllium (BeIV), Chlorine (Cl), Hydrogen (HI).

المستخلص

الهدف من هذا البحث هو استخدام تقنية مطيافية الانهيار الكهربائي المستحث بالليزر لتحديد التغيرات الموجودة في خمس عينات مختلفة من الاسنان المتسوسة. استخدم ليزر النيديميوم – ياك ذي التشغيل المفتاحي النبضي بزمن نبضة مقداره 10 نانوثانية وبطاقة نبضة مقدارها 100 ملي جول وبتكرارية مقدارها 2 هيرتز.

قسمت كل سن الى ثلاث مناطق لغرض التشعيع المنطقة الاولى هي السليمة وكانت الثانية هي المتسوسة اما الثالثة فهي منطقة الحافة بين المنطقة المتسوسة والمنطقة السليمة.

ركزت حزمة الليزر على العينة للحصول على كثافة قدرة عالية تؤدي الى ارتفاع في درجة حرارة الجزيئات عند بؤرة الحزمة عندها تحصل عدة تفاعلات تؤدي الى تكون البلازما من العينة. هذه البلازما لها خطوط انبعاث طيفية مميزة تمثل بصمة تعرف بها الذرات والايونات المكونة للعينة. استخدم جهاز مطياف مربوط بجهاز الحاسب لتسجيل الانبعاثات ومعالجتها عبر برنامج حاسوبي للتخلص من طيف المصباح المستخدم في ضخ الليزر وتيار الظلام والاشعاع من الوسط المحيط. حددت العناصر الموجودة في كل عينة بواسطة الخطوط الطيفية المنبعثة وذلك بعد الرجوع الى قاعدة بيانات الاطياف الذرية للذرات والايونات. تمت المقارنة بين مكونات كل عينة وذلك لغرض تحديد الفروقات الطيفية بين الجزء السليم في السن والجزء المتسوس.

اوضحت النتائج ان هنالك بعض المكونات موجودة في كل العينات الخمس بكميات متفاوته في حين ان بعض المكونات لا توجد في كل العينات.

كل التغيرات التي حدثت في العينات الخمس اوضحت ان كل عينة تحتوي على كميات محددة من العناصر التي تختلف عن العينات الاخرى خصوصا في حالة التسوس فهناك عناصر تظهر واخرى لا تظهر وهذا يعتمد على طبيعة وتركيب السن نفسها.

وعليه فان العناصر والايونات التالية : (NeII), (CeII), (MnII), (Tb), (PrII) : وعليه فان العناصر والايونات التالية : (NeII), (Kr), (Xe), (Sr) (Kr), (Xe), (Sr) (FeII), (Fe), (ZrIII), (GdII), (YII), من السن وبدا بالتناقص (FeII), (Fe), (ZrIII), (GdII), (YII), من السن ولكنها بدات بالتناقص اكثر في منطقة التسوس.

من ناحية اخرى فالعناصر والايونات التي لم تظهر في الجزء السليم من السن بينما ظهرت في الجزء المتسوس فهي (Th), (Ce), (Yb), (F), (Bi), (Kr), (CIII), (Ce), (Yb), (F), (Bi), (Kr), (CIII), (BeIV), (Cl), (HI) نسوس الاسنان.

Table of contents

Article		Page		
		number		
الآيـــــة				
Dedication		Ι		
Acknowledgment		II		
Abstract English		III		
Abstract Arabic (المستخلص)		V		
Contents		VII		
List of	figures	IX		
List of	tables	XI		
	Chapter one			
	Introduction and basic concepts			
1.1	Introduction	1		
1.2	Absorption and emission of radiation	2		
1.2.1	Absorption	2		
1.2.2	Spontaneous emission	3		
1.2.3	Stimulated emission	4		
1.3	Fundamental of Lasers	5		
1.3.1	Properties of Laser Beams	6		
1.4	Laser in Spectroscopy	6		
1.4.1	Laser Raman Spectroscopy	7		
1.4.2	Laser induced fluorescence (LIF).	10		
1.4.3	LIDAR Techniques	12		
1.5	Laser Induced breakdown spectroscopy	13		
	(LIBS).			
1.5.1	The LIBS method in brief	14		
1.5.2	Components for a LIBS apparatus setup	14		
1.5.3	Laser system for LIBS	15		
1.5.4	Detectors	16		
1.5.5	Forming the LIBS plasma in a solid .	17		
1.5.6	Advantages & disadvantages of LIBS	17		
1.6	Literature Review	18		
1.7	The aim of the work	21		

Chapter Two				
The Experimental Part				
2.1	Introduction	22		
2.2	The experimental setup	22		
2.2.1	The Laser	23		
2.2.2	The Spectrometer.	24		
2.2.3	Optical fiber	27		
2.2.4	The Software	28		
2.3	The materials	28		
2.4	The experimental procedure	31		
Chapter Three				
Results and Discussion				
3.1	Introduction	33		
3.2	LIBS results	33		
3.3	Discussion	61		
3.4	Conclusions	63		
3.5	Future work	65		
References		66		

Figures	Page
	No.
Figure (1.1): The process of Spontaneous Emission.	4
Figure (1.2): The process of Stimulated Emission.	5
Figure (1.3): Schematic diagram showing the different possibilities of	8
light scattering (Rayleigh scattering).	
Figure (1.4):Schematic diagram of a Raman spectrometer.	9
Figure (1.5): Laser induced fluorescence (LIF) setup	11
Figure (1.6): Schematic diagram of LIDAR	13
Figure (1.7): Diagram of a typical laboratory LIBS apparatus.	14
Figure (2.1): The experimental setup.	22
Figure (2.2): Schematic diagram of the setup.	23
Figure (2.3): spectrometer USB4000.	25
Figure (2.4): The propagation direction of light inside the spectrometer USB4000.	26
Figure (2.5): Human tooth and all of its magical layers.	30
Figure (2.6): The irradiation of the three regions (health, edge and caries) in human tooth.	30
Figure (3.1a): LIBS emission spectrum of tooth No. 1 (health region).	33
Figure (3.1b): LIBS emission spectrum of tooth No. 1 (edge region)	34
Figure (3.1c): LIBS emission spectrum of tooth No. 1 (caries region).	34

Figure (3.2a): LIBS emission spectrum of tooth No. 2 (health region).	40
Figure (3.2b): LIBS emission spectrum of tooth No. 2 (edge region).	40
Figure (3.2c): LIBS emission spectrum of tooth No. 2 (caries region)	41
Figure (3.3a): LIBS emission spectrum of tooth No. 3 (health region).	44
Figure (3.3b): LIBS emission spectrum of tooth No. 3 (edge region).	45
Figure (3.3c): LIBS emission spectrum of tooth No. 3 (caries region)	45
Figure (3.4a): LIBS emission spectrum of tooth No. 4 (health region).	50
Figure (3.4b): LIBS emission spectrum of tooth No. 4 (edge region).	50
Figure (3.4c): LIBS emission spectrum of tooth No. 4 (caries region)	50
Figure (3.5a): LIBS emission spectrum of tooth No. 5 (health region).	56
Figure (3.5b): LIBS emission spectrum of tooth No. 5 (edge region).	56
Figure (3.5c): LIBS emission spectrum of tooth No. 5 (caries region)	56

List of Tables

Contents	Page No.
Table (2.1): Specifications of the Q- switched ND:YAG Laser	23
LRH786T.	
Table (3.1): analysis of LIBS emission spectrum for tooth No 1	35
(health, edge and caries).	
Table (3.2): analysis of LIBS emission spectrum for tooth No 2	41
(health, edge and caries).	
Table (3.3): analysis of LIBS emission spectrum for tooth No 3	46
(health, edge and caries).	
Table (3.4): analysis of LIBS emission spectrum for tooth No 4	51
(health, edge and caries).	
Table (3.5): analysis of LIBS emission spectrum for tooth No 5	57
(health, edge and caries).	