RECENT HIGH SPECTRAL AND SPATIAL RESOLUTION SPECTROSCOPY OF LASER-PRODUCED PLASMAS AND ELECTRON-ION BEAM PLASMAS

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Spectra of plasmas produced by a CO_2 laser have recently been obtained using a normal incidence slitless spectrograph and a high spectral resolution (0.028 mÅ) grazing incidence spectrograph. The slitless spectrograph forms images of the plasmas in spectral lines and is similar to the instrument flown by NRL on <u>Skylab</u>. The total wavelength coverage is from about 100 Å to about 600 Å. The shapes of the images depend markedly on the type of atomic transition. Time-averaged electron densities in the expanding plumes are calculated, and the expansion velocity is estimated from the profiles of lines recorded by the grazing incidence spectrograph. In addition, spectra of electron-ion beam plasmas between ~200 Å and 2000 Å were obtained using a stigmatic normal incidence slit spectrograph. The distribution of plasma emission between the anode and cathode, and the mass motions in the plasmas are discussed.