

Reviewer 1

Very interesting study. Some minor language polishing should be corrected.

Reply: Thank you for your comments. We have polished language in this manuscript, please check, thank you again!

Reviewer 2

This study is very interesting. In this observational study, Duan et al evaluated the feasibility of THz for the discrimination of HCC from normal liver tissues. Currently, the most accurate diagnostic imaging modality for HCC is MRI, but it's difficult to distinguish HCC from cirrhotic lesions. New methods for early diagnosis of HCC are required. THz spectroscopy is considered to have potential for clinical examination, but there are few reports on HCC diagnosis. This study give the clinicians a new sight on the feasibility of THz imaging for discrimination of HCC. Overall, the study is well designed and the results are interesting and important. The figure 1 clearly showed the continuous-wave THz transmission imaging system. The sample number is not large, and the authors can collect more samples for future studies and to more confirm the feasibility of THz for the HCC diagnosis. Anyway, for this manuscript itself, it's very well written. Only the references can be updated and some minor language polishing should be corrected. Congratulations!

Reply: Thank for your comments, as your suggestion, we will collect more samples in the future for further study, and we have polished our language in this manuscript, please check, thank you again!

Reviewer 3

The manuscript is very well written. THz spectroscopy have potential for clinical examination, especially in cancer diagnosis, including the skin cancer, breast, brain and gastrointestinal cancer. This study evaluated the feasibility of THz imaging for discrimination of HCC. The study is well designed, the results are very interesting. Especially, the figures are wonderful. The figures well introduced the continuous-wave THz transmission imaging system, and

it make a more clear insight for this technology. I suggest to add the patients data to a table, it will give the reader more information then.

Reply: Thank you for your comments, however, because our analysis used anonymous data that were obtained after each patient agreed to treatment by written consent, we could not add patients data, we will supplement this information in the further study, thank you again for your comments!