

5. The optical index of refraction and the dielectric constant for glass are 1.45 and 6.5 respectively. Calculate the percentage of ionic polarizability.

Solution:

We have from Clausius-Massotti equation

$$\frac{\epsilon_r - 1}{\epsilon_r + 2} = \frac{N(\alpha_e + \alpha_i)}{3\epsilon_0}$$

At optical frequencies, we have

$$\frac{n^2 - 1}{n^2 + 2} = \frac{N\alpha_e}{3\epsilon_0}$$

Now, dividing the second relation by the first, we have

$$\frac{n^2 - 1}{n^2 + 2} \times \frac{\epsilon_r + 2}{\epsilon_r - 1} = \frac{\alpha_e}{\alpha_0 + \alpha_i}$$

So, percentage of ionic polarizability is

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\alpha_i}{\alpha_e + \alpha_i} \times 100 &= \left[1 - \frac{\alpha_e}{\alpha_e + \alpha_i} \right] \times 100 \\ &= \left[1 - \left(\frac{1.1025}{4.1025} \right) \left(\frac{8.5}{5.5} \right) \right] \times 100 = 57.98\% \end{aligned}$$

Exercise