

**DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS AND NANOTECHNOLOGY  
SRM INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

**18PYB101J-Electromagnetic Theory, Quantum Mechanics, Waves  
and Optics**

**Module I Lecture-16**

**Solving Problems**

1. Calculate the polarisability and relative permittivity in hydrogen gas with a density of  $9.8 \times 10^{26}$  atoms/m<sup>3</sup>. Given the radius of the hydrogen atom to be  $0.50 \times 10^{-10}$  m.

Solution:

Given:  $N = 9.8 \times 10^{26}$  atoms/m<sup>3</sup>  $R = 0.50 \times 10^{-10}$  m ;  $\alpha_e = ?$ ;  $\epsilon_r = ?$

We Know

$$\alpha_e = 4\pi\epsilon_0 R^3$$
$$\alpha_e = 1.389 \times 10^{-41} \text{ Fm}^2$$

To find  $\epsilon_r$  we know that,

$$\alpha_e = \epsilon_0 \times (\epsilon_r - 1) / N$$

$$\{(N \alpha_e) / \epsilon_0\} + 1 = \epsilon_r - 1$$

$$1.0015 = \epsilon_r$$

2. If a NaCl crystal is subjected to an electrical field of 1000 V/m and the resulting polarization is  $4.3 \times 10^{-8} \text{ C/m}^2$ , calculate the relative permittivity of NaCl.

Solution:

Given:  $E = 1000 \text{ V/m}$ ,  $P = 4.3 \times 10^{-8} \text{ C/m}^2$ ;  $\epsilon_0 = 8.854 \times 10^{-12} \text{ F/m}$

We Know that

$$P = \epsilon_0 (\epsilon_r - 1)E$$

$$\epsilon_r = 1 + (P / \epsilon_0 E)$$

$$5.86 = \epsilon_r$$

3. Calculate the electronic polarisability of argon atom given  $\epsilon_r = 1.0024$  at NTP and  $N = 2.7 \times 10^{25}$  atoms/m<sup>3</sup>

Solution:

Given:  $\epsilon_r = 1.0024$ ;  $N = 2.7 \times 10^{25}$  atoms/m<sup>3</sup> ;  $\epsilon_0 = 8.854 \times 10^{-12}$  F/m

We Know that

$$P = \epsilon_0 (\epsilon_r - 1)E$$

$$\text{Also, } P = N\alpha_e E$$

$$\alpha_e = \{\epsilon_0 (\epsilon_r - 1)\} / N$$

Substituting the given values, we have

$$\alpha_e = 7.9 \times 10^{-40} \text{ Fm}^2$$

4. The dielectric constant of He gas at NTP is 1.0000684. Calculate the electronic polarisability of He atoms if the gas contains  $2.7 \times 10^{25}$  atoms per  $\text{m}^3$

Solution:

Given:  $\epsilon_r = 1.0000684$ ;  $N = 2.7 \times 10^{25}$  atoms/ $\text{m}^3$ ;  $\epsilon_0 = 8.854 \times 10^{-12}$  F/m

We Know that

$$\alpha_e = \{\epsilon_0 (\epsilon_r - 1)\} / N$$

Substituting the given values, we have

$$\alpha_e = 2.242 \times 10^{-41} \text{ Fm}^2$$