

# Optical Properties of Insulators and Semiconductors

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# Dielectric response of insulators

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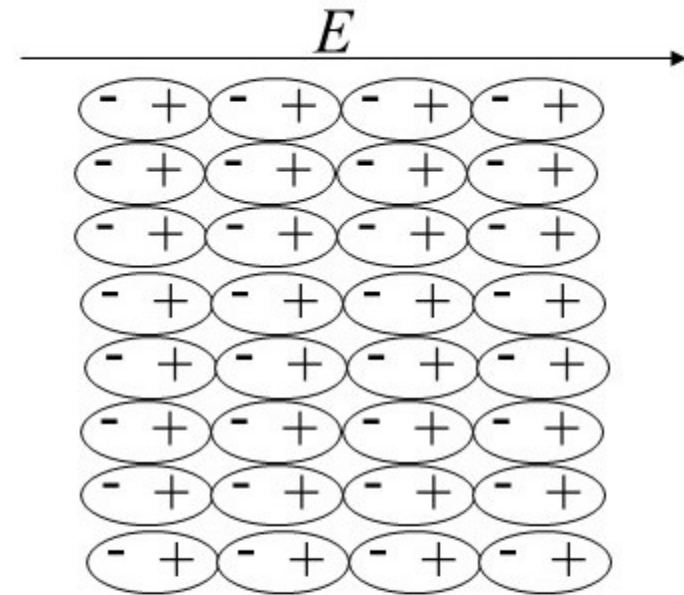
The electric polarization is related to the electric field

$$P_i = \epsilon_0 \chi_{ij} E_j$$

The electric displacement vector  $D$  is also related to the electric field

$$D_i = P_i + \epsilon_0 E_i = \epsilon_0 (1 + \chi_{ij}) E_j = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_{ij} E_j$$

$$\epsilon_{ij} = (1 + \chi_{ij})$$



$E$  is decreased by a factor of the dielectric constant

# Dielectric response of insulators

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In an insulator, charge is bound. The response to an electric field can be modeled as a collection of damped harmonic oscillators

$$P = nex$$

Macroscopic polarization      density       $ex = \text{dipole moment}$

The core electrons of a metal respond to an electric field like this too.

# Dielectric response of insulators

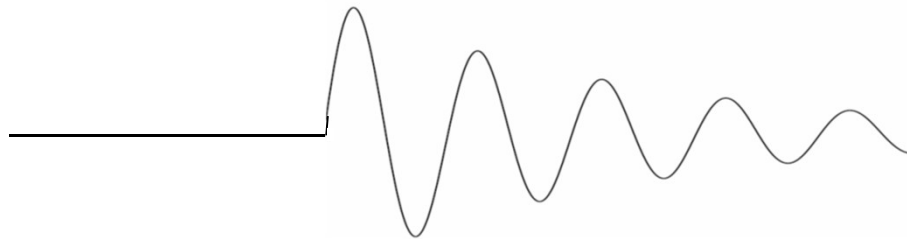
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The differential equation that describes how the position of the charge changes in time is:

$$m \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + b \frac{dx}{dt} + kx = -eE(t)$$

The impulse response function is:

$$g(t) = -\frac{1}{b} \exp\left(\frac{-bt}{2m}\right) \sin\left(\frac{\sqrt{4mk - b^2}}{2m} t\right) \quad t > 0$$



# Electric susceptibility

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$$\vec{P} = \varepsilon_0 \chi_E \vec{E}$$

$$\vec{P} = nq\vec{x}$$

$$\chi_E = \frac{P}{\varepsilon_0 E} = \frac{nqx}{\varepsilon_0 E}$$

Assume a solution of the form  $x(\omega)e^{i\omega t}$ ,  $E(\omega)e^{i\omega t}$

$$m \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + b \frac{dx}{dt} + kx = qE(t)$$

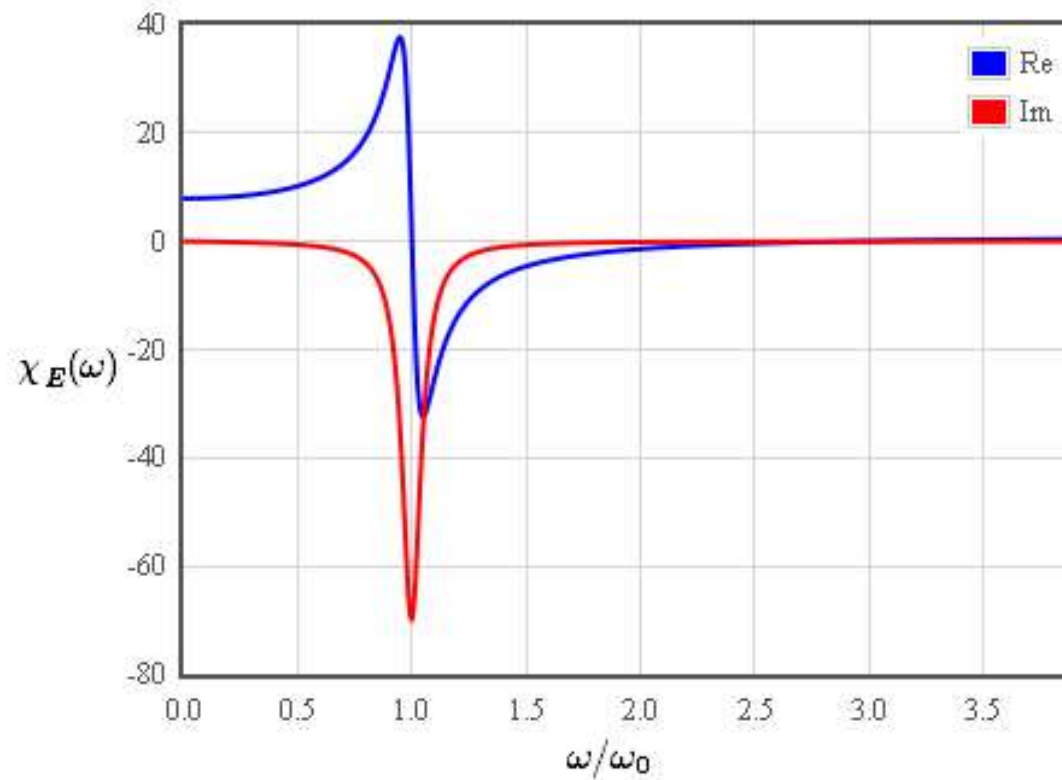
$$\frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + \gamma \frac{dx}{dt} + \omega_0^2 x = - \frac{qE}{m}$$

$$\omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} \quad \gamma = \frac{b}{m}$$

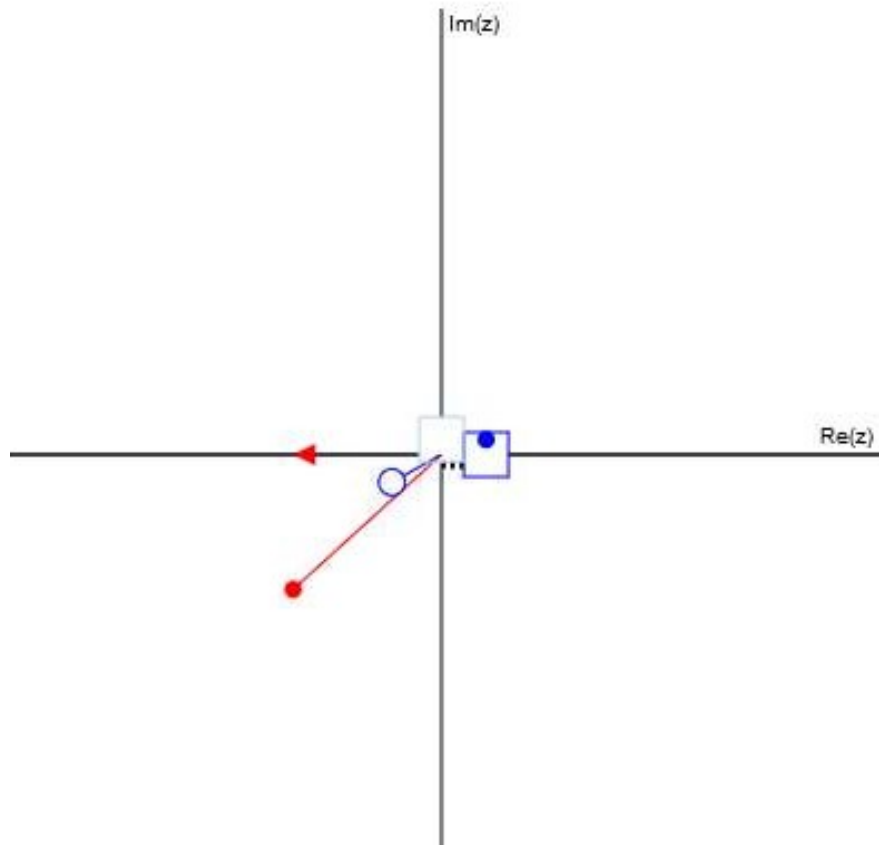
# Electric susceptibility

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$$\chi_E(\omega) = \frac{n_{\omega_0} q^2}{\epsilon_0 m} \frac{1}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2 + i\gamma\omega}$$



## Resonance of a damped driven harmonic oscillator



$$m = 4 \text{ [kg]}$$

$$b = 1 \text{ [N s/m]}$$

$$k = 6 \text{ [N/m]}$$

$$F_0 = 0.9 \text{ [N]}$$

$$\omega = 0.8 \text{ [rad/s]}$$

$$\omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m} - \frac{b^2}{4m^2}} = 1.22 \text{ [rad/s]} = 0.194 \text{ [Hz]}$$

$$\theta = \text{atan}\left(\frac{\omega b}{k - m\omega^2}\right) = 0.228 \text{ [rad]} = 13.1 \text{ [deg]}$$

$$|A| = \frac{F_0}{\sqrt{(k - m\omega^2)^2 + \omega^2 b^2}} = 0.255 \text{ [m]}$$

$$Q = \frac{\sqrt{mk}}{b} = 4.90$$

Display  $F_0 e^{i\omega t}$ :     Display  $|A| e^{i(\omega t - \theta)}$ :

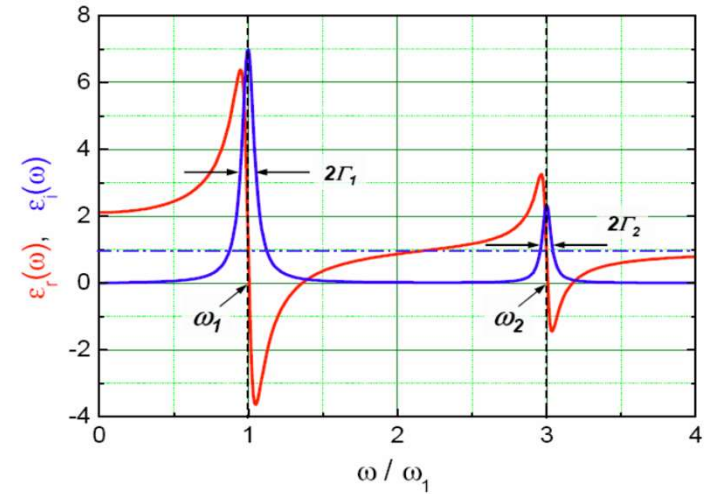
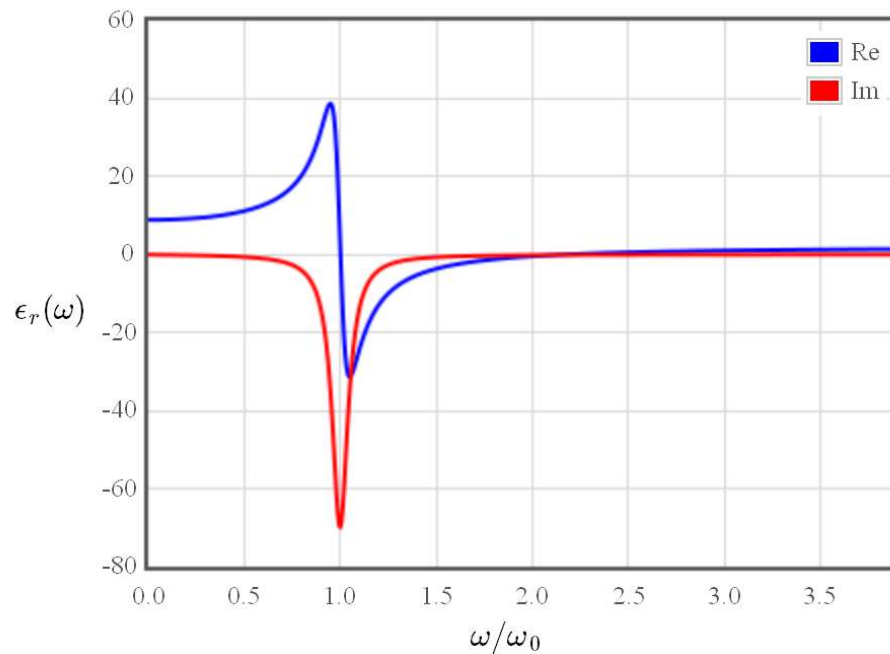
Display transients  $z$ :     Display  $x_2$ :

<http://lamp.tu-graz.ac.at/~hadley/physikm/apps/resonance.en.php>

# Dielectric function

$$\vec{D} = \epsilon_r \epsilon_0 \vec{E} = \vec{P} + \epsilon_0 \vec{E}.$$

$$\epsilon_r(\omega) = 1 + \chi_E(\omega) = 1 + \frac{n_{\omega_0} q^2}{\epsilon_0 m} \frac{1}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2 + i\gamma\omega}$$



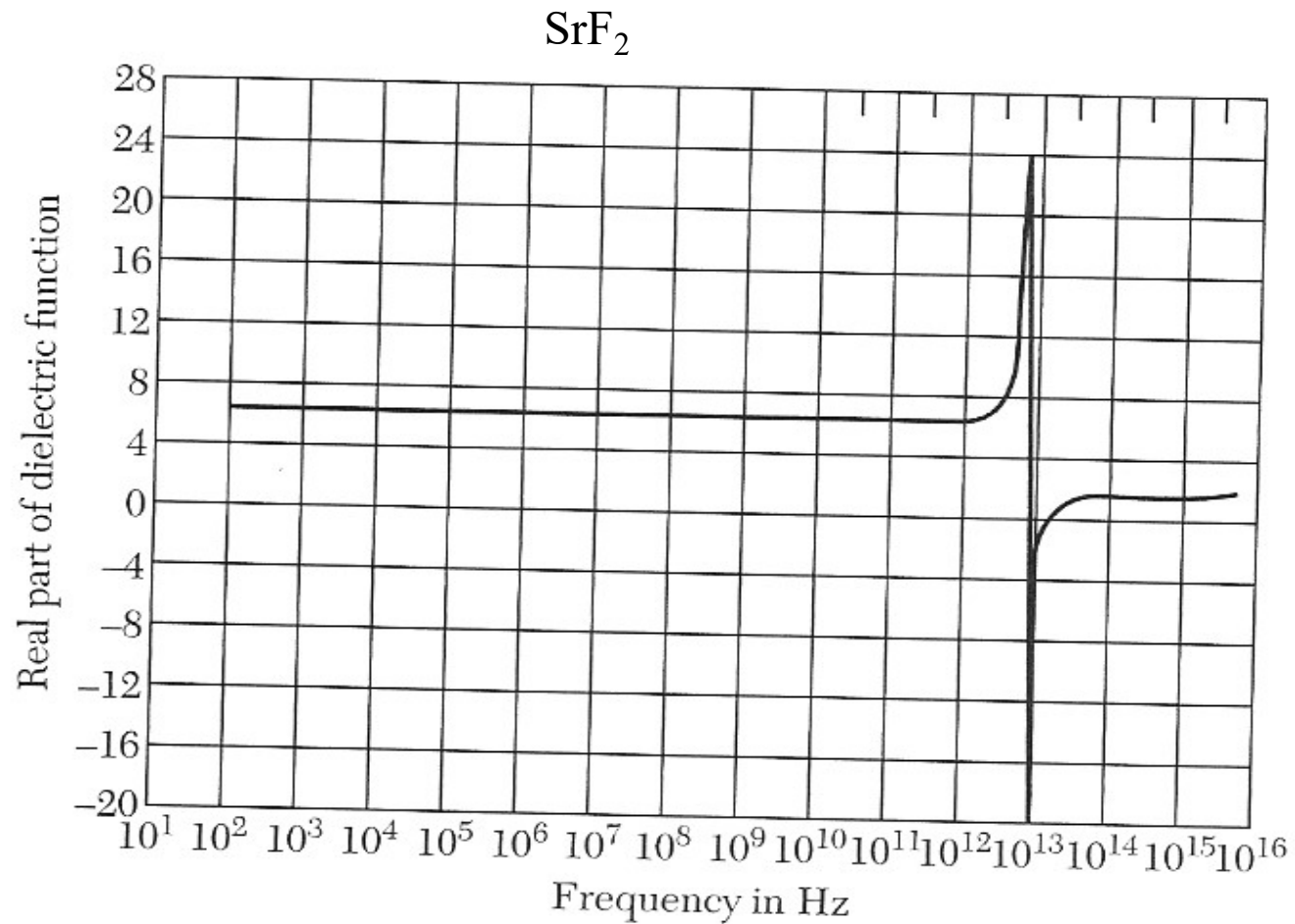
Gross and Marx

There can be more resonances.



# Dielectric function of insulators

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Insulators can often be modeled as a simple resonance.

# Dispersion relation

In the section on photons, we derived the wave equation for light in vacuum. Here the wave equation for light in a dielectric material is derived.

$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \quad \nabla \times \vec{H} = \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t}$$

$$\vec{D} = \epsilon \vec{E} \quad \vec{B} = \mu \vec{H}$$

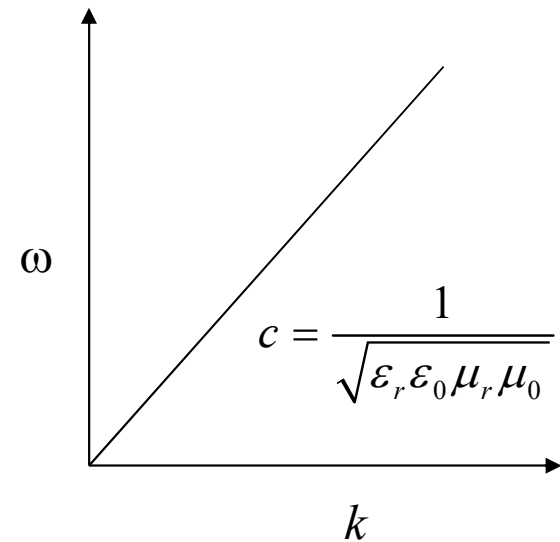
$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\mu \frac{\partial \vec{H}}{\partial t}$$

Take the curl

$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{E} = -\mu \frac{\partial \nabla \times \vec{H}}{\partial t}$$

$$\cancel{\nabla (\nabla \cdot \vec{E})} - \nabla^2 \vec{E} = -\mu \frac{\partial^2 \vec{D}}{\partial t^2}$$

$$\epsilon_r \epsilon_0 \mu_r \mu_0 \frac{\partial^2 \vec{D}}{\partial t^2} = \nabla^2 \vec{D}$$



The normal mode solutions are plane waves:  $\vec{D} = \vec{D}_0 \exp(i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t))$

$$\epsilon(\omega, k) \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \omega^2 = k^2$$

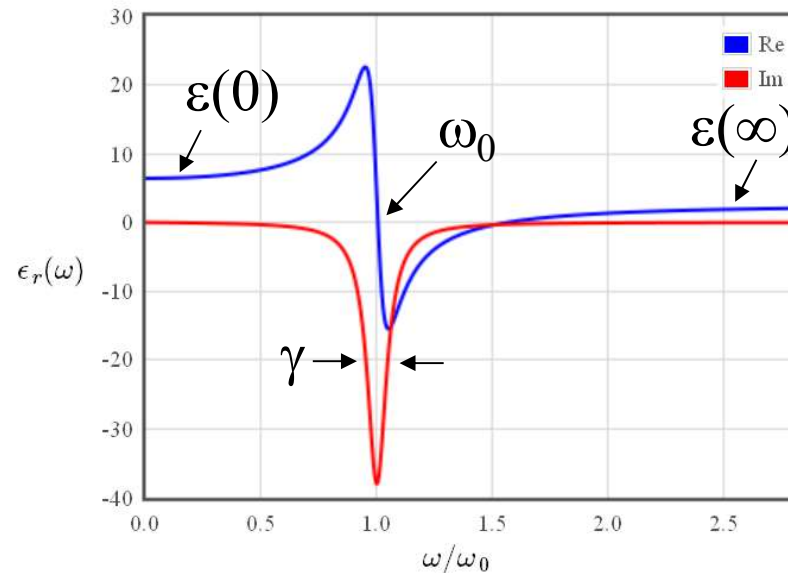
# Dispersion relation

$$\varepsilon(\omega)\mu_0\varepsilon_0\omega^2 = k^2$$

If  $\varepsilon$  is real and positive: propagating electromagnetic waves  $\exp\left(i\left(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t\right)\right)$

If  $\varepsilon_r < 0$  : decaying solutions  $\exp(-\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - i\omega t)$

If  $\varepsilon$  is complex,  $\varepsilon_r > 0$  : decaying electromagnetic waves  $\exp\left(i\left(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t\right)\right)\exp(-\kappa r)$



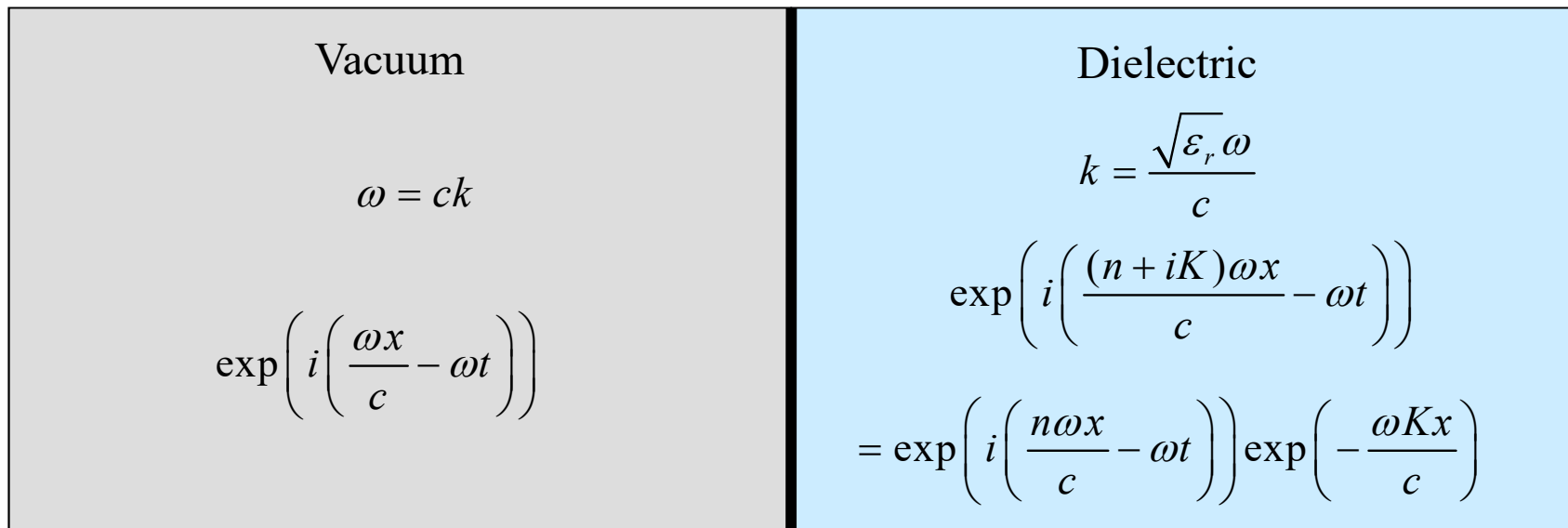
# Dielectric function

Dispersion relation:  $\epsilon_r \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \omega^2 = k^2$   $k = \sqrt{\epsilon_r \mu_0 \epsilon_0} \omega = \frac{\sqrt{\epsilon_r} \omega}{c}$

Measurable:  $\sqrt{\epsilon} = n + iK$

↑ ↑

refractive index extinction coefficient



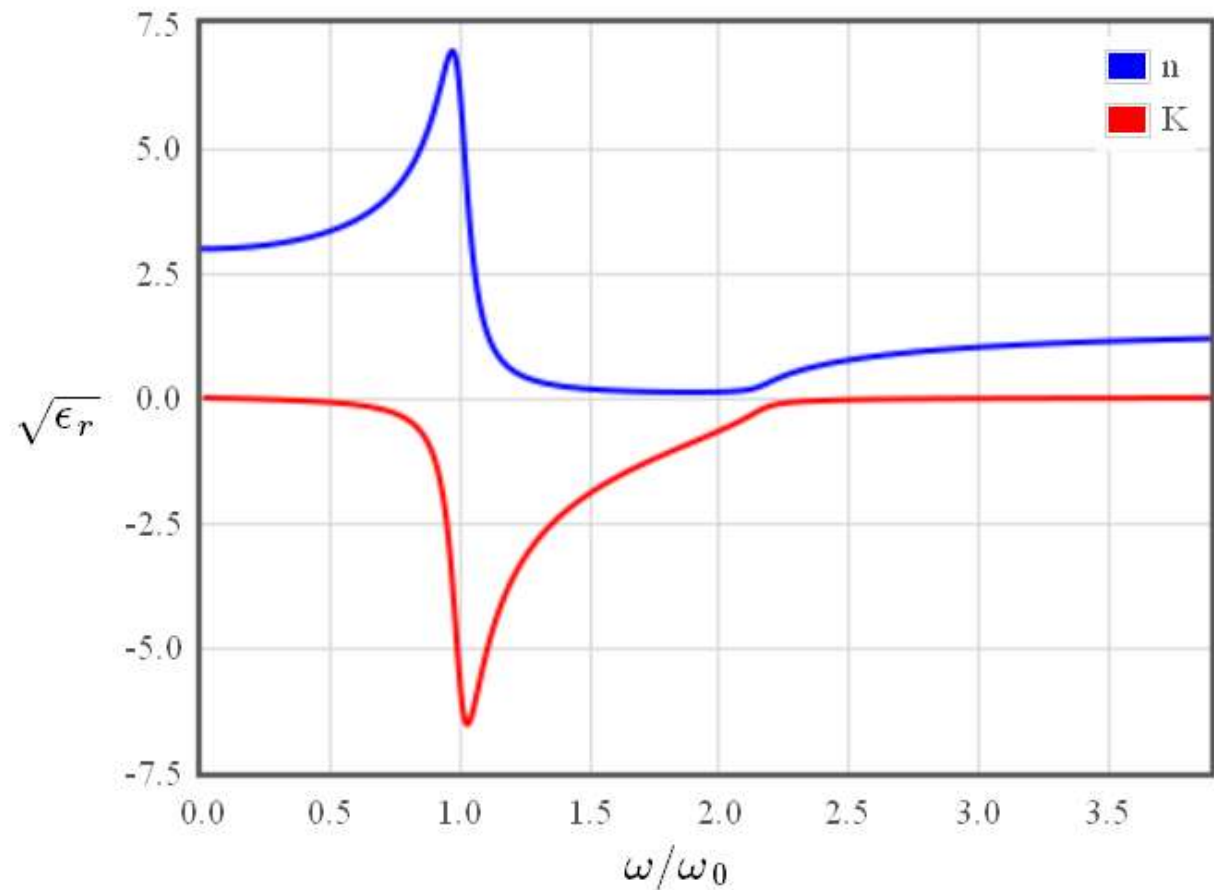
Intensity  $I(x) = I(0) \exp(-\alpha x)$   $\text{J m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  Beer-Lambert

absorption coefficient  $\longrightarrow \alpha = \frac{2\omega K}{c}$

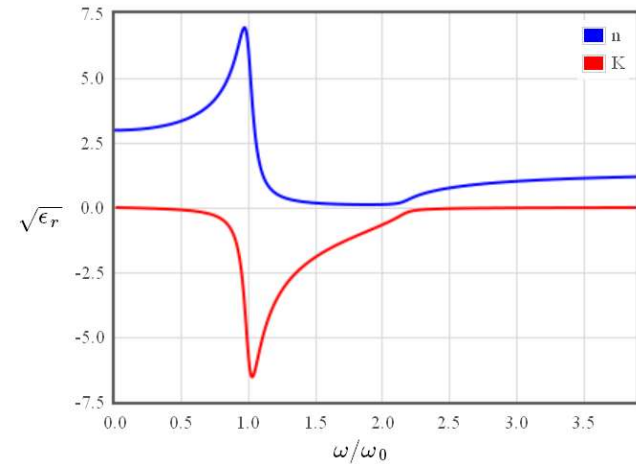
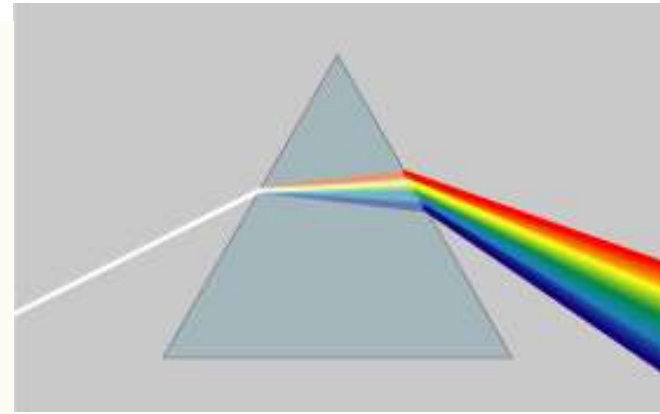
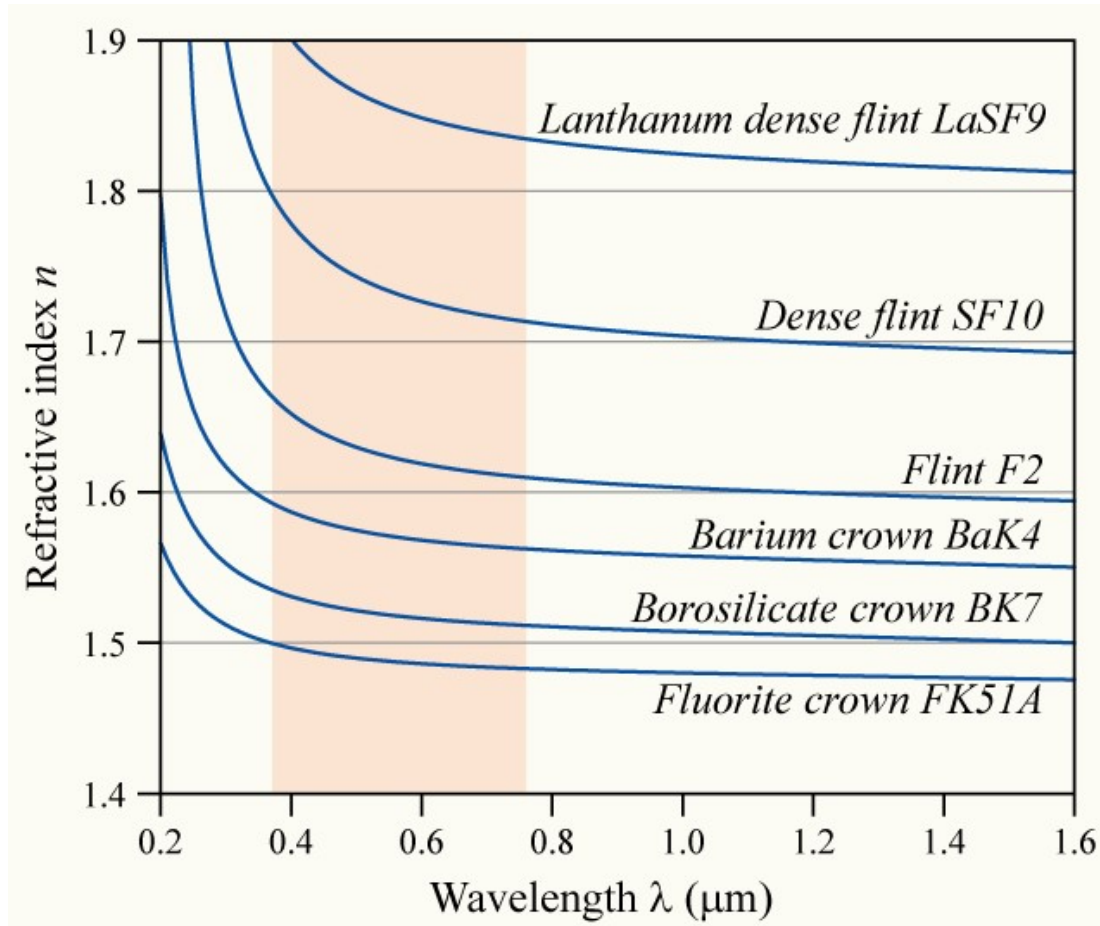
# The index of refraction $n$ and the extinction coefficient $K$

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$$\sqrt{\epsilon_r} = n + iK$$



# Dispersion



Cause of chromatic aberration in lenses.

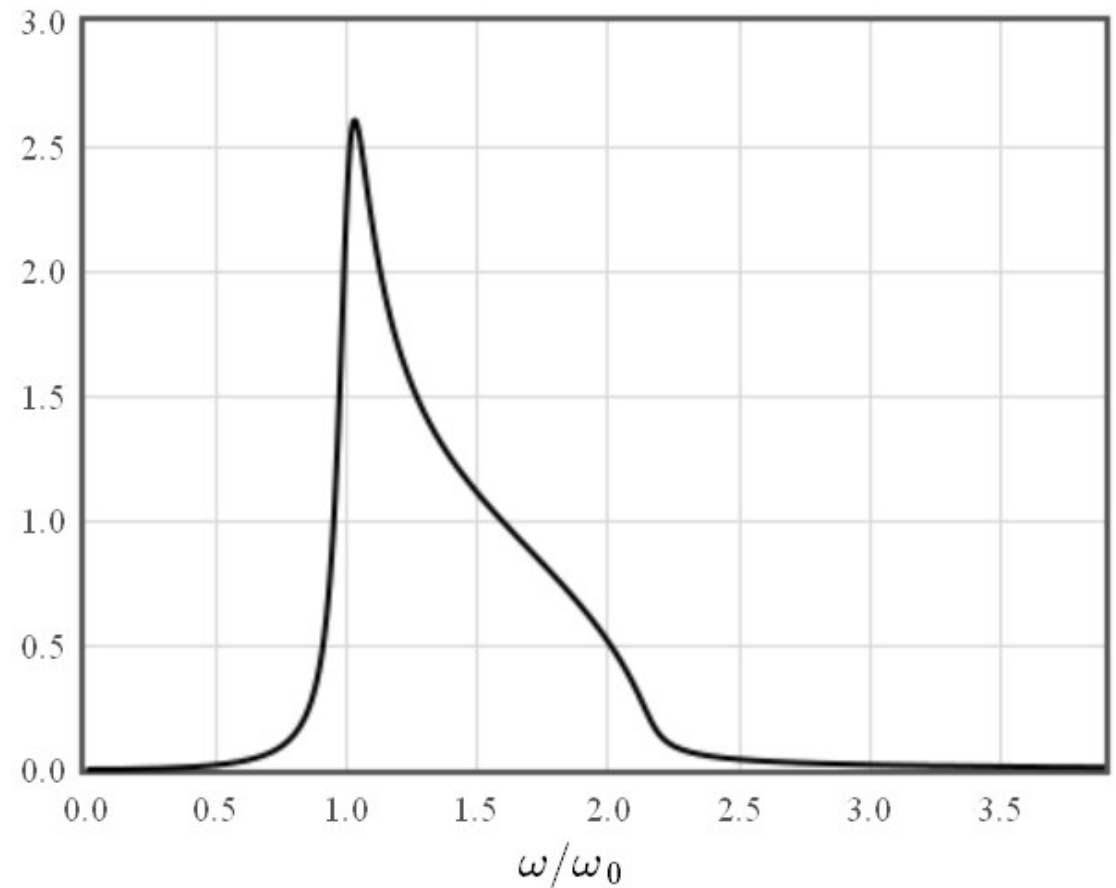
# Absorption coefficient $\alpha$

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$$I = I_0 \exp(-\alpha x)$$

$$\alpha = \frac{2\omega K}{c}$$

$\alpha$   
[ $10^6 \text{ m}^{-1}$ ]



# Reflectance

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$$R = \frac{(n-1)^2 + K^2}{(n+1)^2 + K^2}$$

