

## Effects of MgO on dielectric properties and electrical conductivity of ternary zinc magnesium phosphate glasses.

### ABSTRACT

Glasses with composition  $(\text{ZnO})_{30}(\text{MgO})_x(\text{P}_2\text{O}_5)_{70-x}$  ( $x = 5, 8, 13, 18$  and  $20$  mol%) have been successfully prepared by the melt-quenching technique. The dielectric permittivity ( $\epsilon'\epsilon'$ ) and loss factor ( $\epsilon''\epsilon''$ ) were measured in the frequency range of  $0.01$  Hz to  $1$  MHz and in the temperature range of  $303$  to  $573$  K. From the results, there is evidence of dipolar relaxation occurring between  $10^3$ – $10^6$  Hz, while at low frequencies, the spectrum is dominated by dc conduction which was manifested by the  $1/\omega$  slope of the loss factor plot. The value of the relaxing frequency ( $\omega_p$ ) plotted against  $1/T$  shows a single relaxation mechanism with an activation energy of  $0.45$  eV. The average value of the activation energy for dc conduction was much higher ( $1.25$  eV) suggesting its diffusion movement had encountered more difficult steps than the small displacement changing dipoles. With increasing MgO concentration, the dielectric permittivity ( $\epsilon'\epsilon'$ ), dc conductivity ( $\sigma_{dc}$ ) and dielectric strength ( $\Delta\epsilon$ ) decrease and these were attributed to some of the magnesium ions participated in the glass-forming positions as well as modifiers. At lower temperatures, the complex permittivity plots present a skewed arc with center point lying below the real axis which is a non-Debye characteristic. The empirical data were sufficiently fitted by using the Haviliak–Negami equation. The temperature dependent of the parameter  $\alpha$  is discussed.

**Keyword:** Dielectric properties; Relaxation, Electric modulus; Phosphates; Short-range order.