

# Effect of the Yttrium Oxide ( $Y_2O_3$ ) Nanoparticles on the Optical Properties of the Polyacrylamide (PAAm)

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## Abstract

In this paper, the (PAAm/ $Y_2O_3$ ) nanocomposites was prepared via casting process with different contented of  $Y_2O_3$ NPs (1, 3 and 5wt. %). The optical properties was investigated. The optical characteristics, such as optical density, coefficient of absorbance, index of refraction, coefficient of extinction, dielectric constant of real and imaginary and optical conductivity, showed a growing trend with increasing  $Y_2O_3$  NPs concentration in the experiments. However, when the concentration of  $Y_2O_3$  NPs increased, a reduction correlation was seen between these two parameters (transmittance and indirect energy gap, both allowed and banned. Finally, from this result can be used these nanocomposites as the photodetectors application specially in the UV region.

**Keywords:** PAAm,  $Y_2O_3$ , nanocomposites, optical properties

## 1. Introduction

Natural or synthetic polymers are used to create polymer nanocomposites, which are nanomaterials due to their nanoscale topography or composition [1]. Nanomaterials and nanocomposites may be cutting-edge in the context of materials research, yet their natural occurrence has made them familiar to scientists for decades. Nanoscale structural characterization and manipulation approaches, however, have been stimulated very recently [2]. Nanocomposites follow the same structure as any other compound, with a filler and a matrix. While fibers like carbon and glass are commonly utilized as fillers in traditional composites, nanomaterials play that role in nanocomposites. Nanomaterials include things like carbon nanotubes, carbon fiber tubes, and nanoparticles of precious metals, semiconductors, and metals [3]. Polymer nanocomposites, formed by incorporating inorganic nanocomposites into an organic polymer, have attracted a lot of attention in recent years. Because of the basic and crucial part played in their applications by nanostructure control composition and shape, By successfully transferring the qualities of the original components into a single material, nanocomposites can get their new properties [4].

Polyacrylamide (PAAm) is additional watersoluble polymer that has a varied variety of manufacturing woolly requests, rheology-control agents, drag tumbling polymers, and glues. PAAm and their derivatives increased attention during the past years and to the present time [5-7]. PAAm is often used to increase the viscosity of water, polyamides and an acrylic material solid crystal is very stable [8]. The presence of aggregates amine and carboxyl in the dry polymer chains lead to a severe reaction molecule when calculating the hydrogen bonds between chains and polyamides scores with very high melting relatively. Because bonded hydrogen molecular and differences in the hydrogen profile bonded poly amid and effectiveness increases strength and cohesion are used in the formation of fibers, called these kind nylons [9, 11].

Yttrium Oxide ( $Y_2O_3$ ) is a ceramic substantial known for its amazing belongings, such as excellent rigidity, tall sweet opinion, substantial attire confrontation, and chemical constancy. The aforementioned characteristics make it a material with great potential for use in applications that need extremely high temperatures [11].

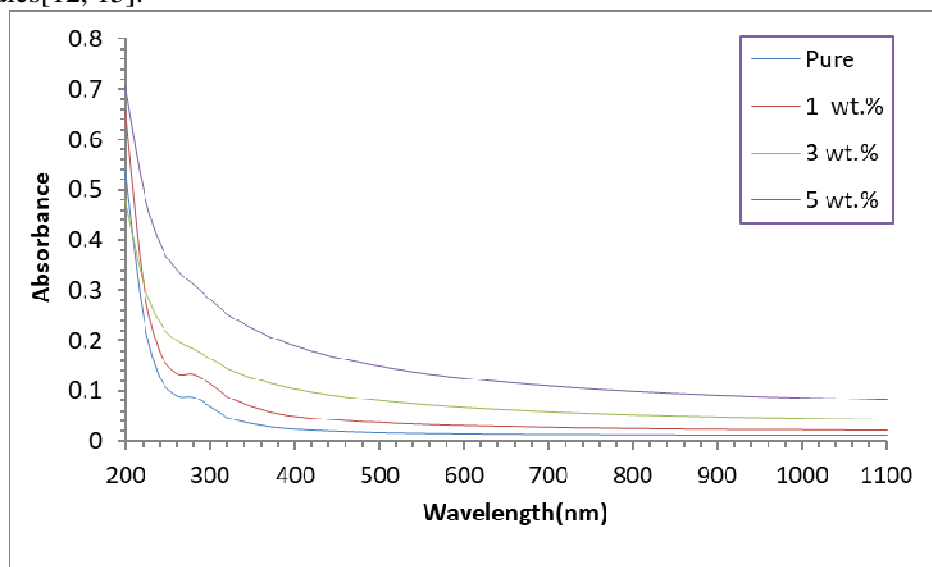
The aim of this work is preparation of the PAAm/ $Y_2O_3$  film via casting technique and obtain the effect of the  $Y_2O_3$ NPs on the optical properties of polymer.

## 3. Preparation of (PVA/PAAm/CMC/ZrC) nanocomposite

A solution was prepared by dissolving 1 g of PAAmpolymer in 50 mL of distilled water. In order to dissolve the substance completely, a magnetic stirrer was used to vigorously mixture the liquid at a temperature of 70 °C for a period of 30 minutes or until complete dissolution was achieved, resulting in the production of a uniform mixture. The work entailed integrating  $Y_2O_3$ NPs into the solution at concentrations of 1, 3 and 5 wt.%, with the aim of producing nanocomposites. Afterwards, the casting procedure was utilized. A Shimadzu UV-1650 PC spectrophotometer, manufactured by Phillips, a Japanese corporation, was used to examine the development of nanocomposite at wavelengths ranging from 200 to 1100 nm.

### 3. Result and Discussion

The absorption (PAAm/ $Y_2O_3$ ) nanocomposite with various content ( $Y_2O_3$ ) nanoparticles were verified at range 200-1100 nm at RT. The optical density for (PAAm/ $Y_2O_3$ ) nanocomposite through wavelength at the occurrence light are shown in figure (1) respectively. It is observed, the absorbance rises with rising content of  $Y_2O_3$ , while in each sample, it is descending by rising wavelength (photon with lower energy) since of the giver level electrons existence to the C.B at high energy. Because photons have sufficient energy to make atoms to respond, it is possible for an electron to be stimulated from a lesser to a developed energy near just by absorbing a photon that has already been established. These results agree with other studies [12, 13].



Figure(1): The optical density with the wavelength of samples

Figure(2) demonstrates the transmittance of (PAAm/ $Y_2O_3$ ) nanocomposite with wavelength. The transmittance reduces as the concentration of  $Y_2O_3$  nanoparticles rise, also increased with increasing of wavelength, which is due to the accumulation of nanoparticles with increasing content [14].

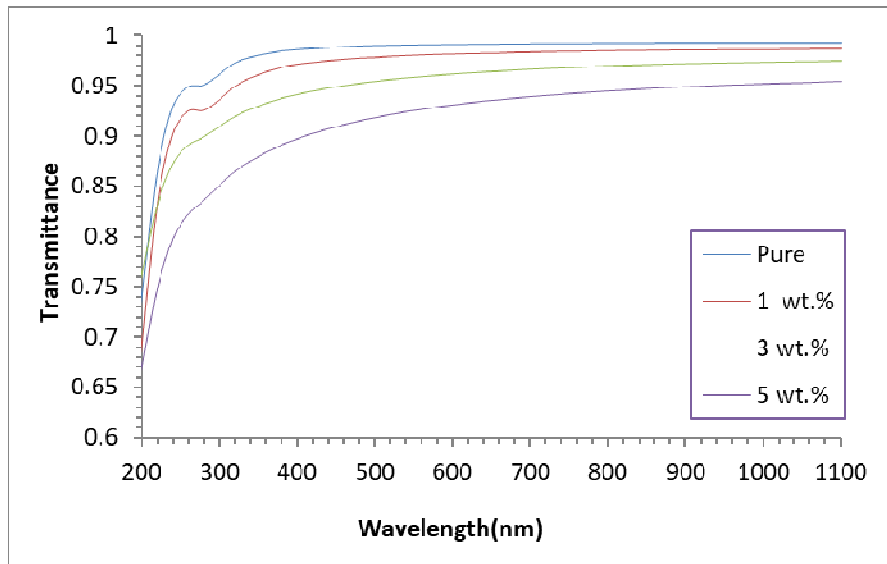


Figure (2): Change transmittance of (PAAm/Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) nanocomposites versus the wavelengths.

An empirical correlation was utilized to get the absorption coefficient [15].

$$\alpha = 2.303 \frac{A}{t}$$

Where A is the absorbance. Figure (3) illustrates the association amid the photon energy and the  $\alpha$  of the (PAAm/Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) nanocomposite. The  $\alpha$  might aid to symbol out what gentle of electron conversion trade with. It is expected that straight electron conversions occur when the  $\alpha$  is large ( $>10^4 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). When the  $\alpha$  is low ( $<10^4 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), an indirect conversion of electrons is expected then standards of  $\alpha$  of the (PAAm/Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) film, the transition of the electron takes place in a roundabout way. Because of an rise in the total amount of charge transporters, the  $\alpha$  of (PAAm/Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) nanocomposites increased with increasing of Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> nanoparticles. The rise in the value of nanocomposites can be attributed to this phenomenon [16].

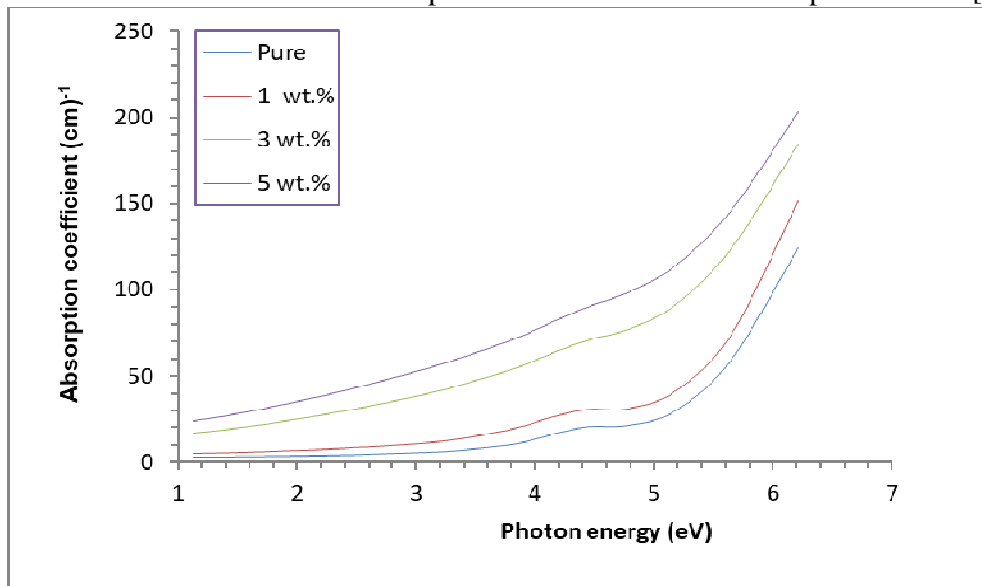


Figure (3): The distinction absorption coefficient of (PAAm/Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) nanocomposites versus the photon energies.

The energy gap is given by [17]:

$$(\alpha h\nu)^{1/m} = C(h\nu - E_g)$$

For any constant C, the  $E_g$  is denoted as  $h\nu$ , the energy gap is represented as  $E_g$ , and m can take on the values of 2 and 3 for allowable and prohibited indirect conversions, respectively. The  $E_g$  for allowable and prohibited indirect conversions of (PAAm/ $Y_2O_3$ ) film are showed in figures (4, 5), utilizing the intercept of the expanded linear segment. A linear segment was generated by isolating a section of the depicted curve to analyze the disparity in energy. From these figures, the  $E_g$  are decrease with the rise of the  $Y_2O_3$  nanoparticle contents, this act is owing to the creation of energy levels in the  $E_g$  and therefore, these local stages decrease the  $E_g$  with growth of the  $Y_2O_3$  nanoparticle contents [18]. The value of the  $E_g$  of nanocomposites are recorded in Table (1).

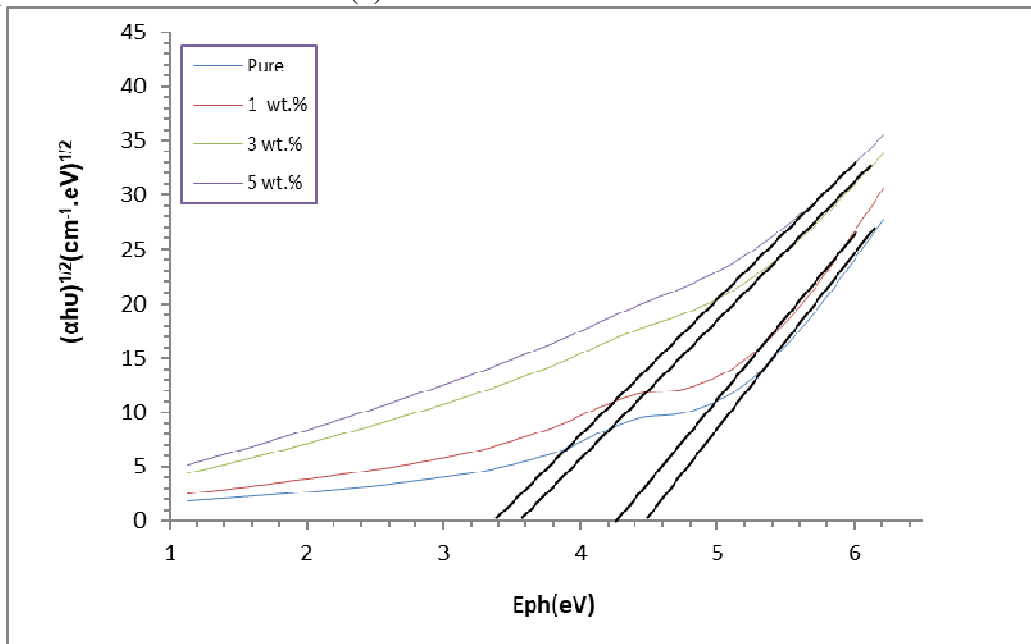
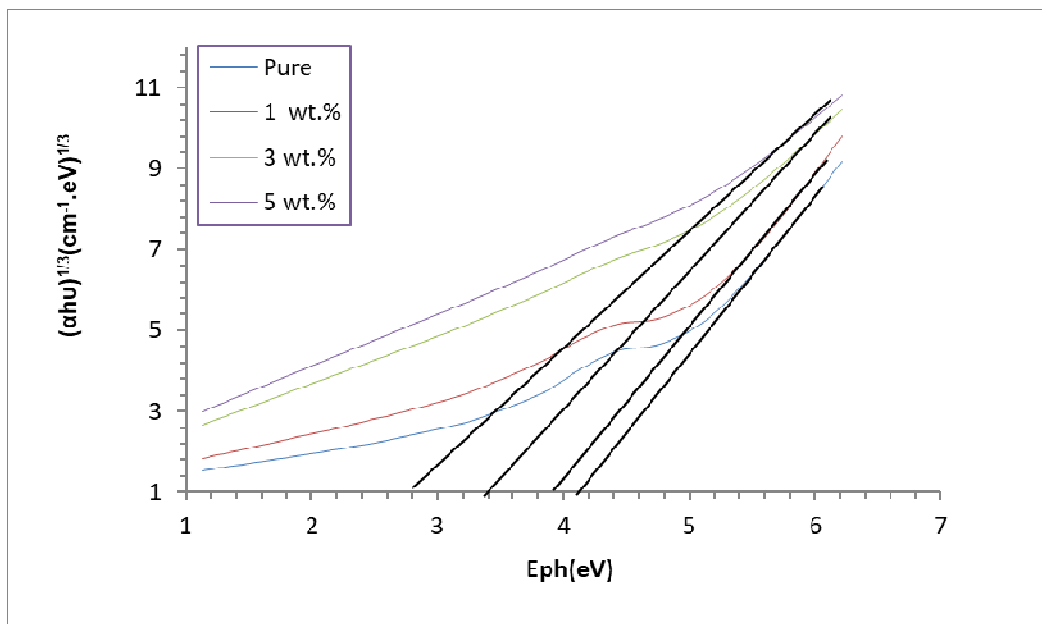


Figure (4): The  $(\alpha h\nu)^{1/2} (\text{cm}^{-1}.\text{eV})^{1/2}$  of (PAAm/ $Y_2O_3$ )nanocomposites versus photon energy.



Figure(5): The  $E_g$ for  $(\alpha h\nu)^{1/3} (\text{cm}^{-1}.\text{eV})^{1/3}$  of (PAAm/ $Y_2O_3$ )nanocomposites versus photon energy.

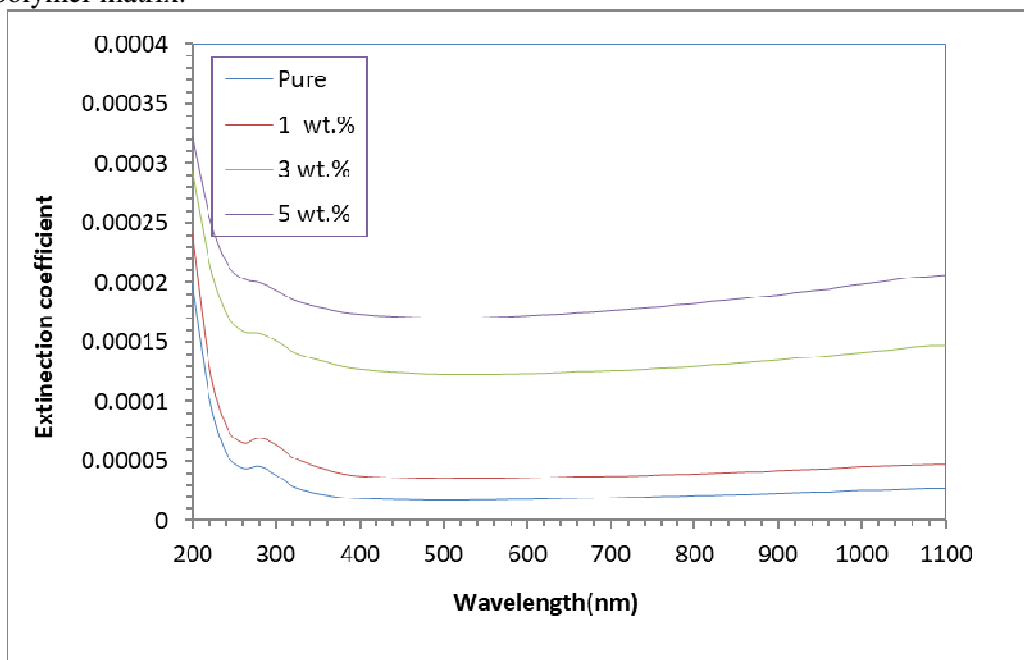
Table (1):The values of indirect optical energy gap of (PAAm/Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>)nanocomposite

Y <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> wt % NPs content	E <sub>g</sub> allowed indirect (eV)	E <sub>g</sub> forbidden indirect (eV)
4.16	4.5	0
3.95	4.28	1
3.4	3.6	3
2.8	3.4	5

The extinction coefficient (K<sub>o</sub>)is assumed by the relation [19]

$$k = \alpha\lambda/4\pi$$

where λ is the wavelength. Figure (6) demonstrates the k of (PAAm/Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) with of wavelength. It is detected that the extinction coefficient of nanocomposites growths with the rise of the Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> nanoparticlecontents and reduce with rising wavelength, this is owing to the growth inabsorption in the (PAAm) polymer matrix.



Figure(6): Variation of k for (PAAm/Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) nanocomposites versus wavelength.

The index of refractive (n) was calculated from relation [15].

$$n = \frac{1+\sqrt{R}}{1-\sqrt{R}}$$

where R is the reflectance. The n of (PAAm/Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) with wavelength are revealed in figure (7). It is found that the n rises with the growing of the content of Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> nanoparticles and it decreases with the rise of the wavelength. This action is due to the rise of the density of nanocomposites [20].

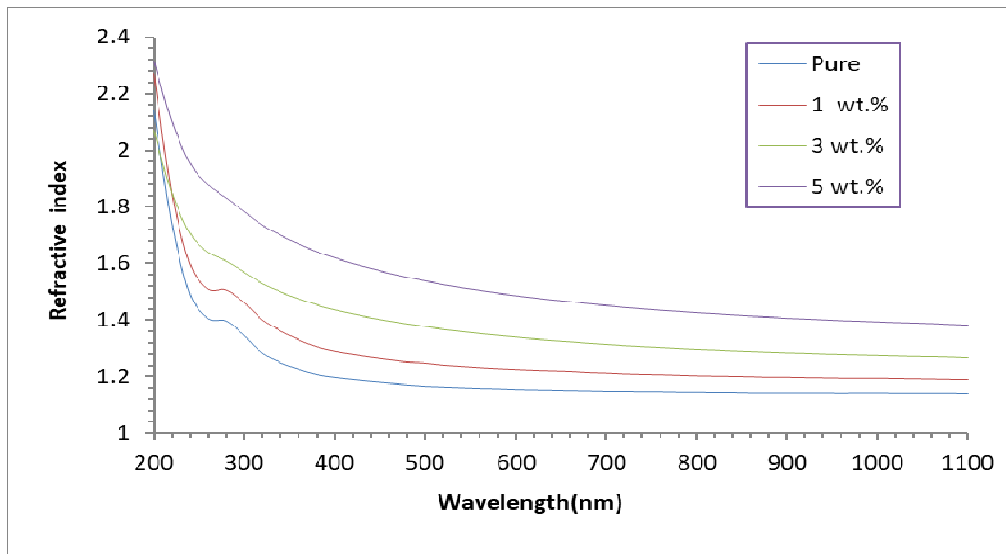


Fig. (7): Difference of n for (PAAm/Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) nanocomposites versus wavelength

The dielectric constant is composed of two parts: the real part ( $\epsilon_1$ ) and the imaginary part ( $\epsilon_2$ ) [21]:

$$\epsilon_1 = n^2 - k^2$$

$$\epsilon_2 = 2nk$$

The  $\epsilon_1$  and  $\epsilon_2$  part of insulator constant with the wavelength for (PAAm/Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) are demonstrates in fig. (8) and (9) respectively. The data presented indicates that the insulator constant of PAAm/Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> nanocomposites has greater values for both the real and imaginary components at shorter wavelengths, and diminishes as the wavelength increases. The nanocomposite films display a prominent increase in both the real and imaginary values as the wavelength decreases. The observed resemblance can be elucidated by the fact that the effective dielectric constant is predominantly influenced by the magnitudes of (n) rather than (k), considering that the latter values are considerably less than the refractive index, particularly when squared [22, 23]

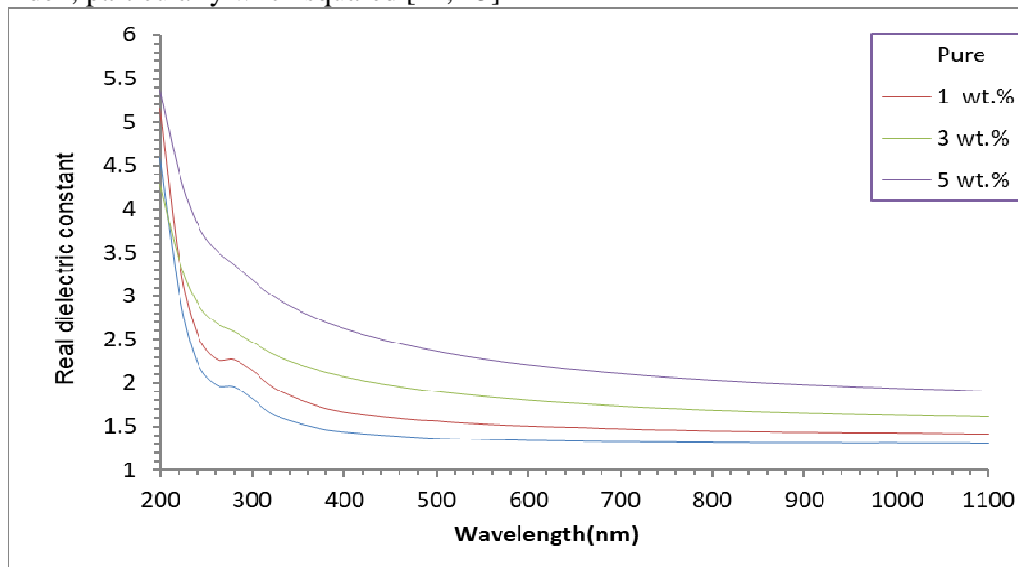
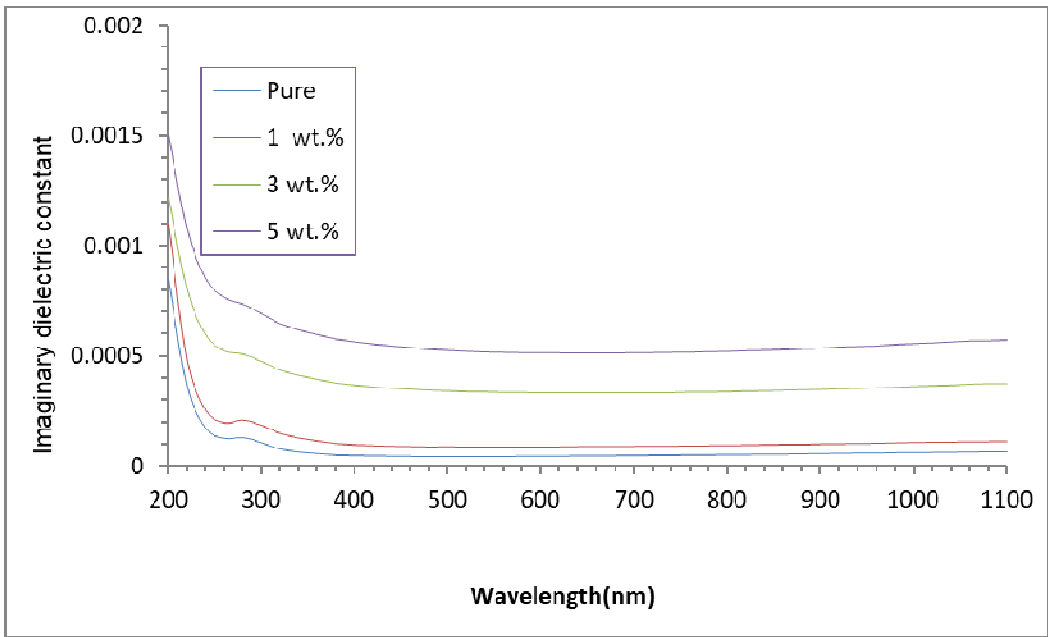


Figure (8) : Difference of  $\epsilon_1$  of (PAAm/Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) with the wavelength

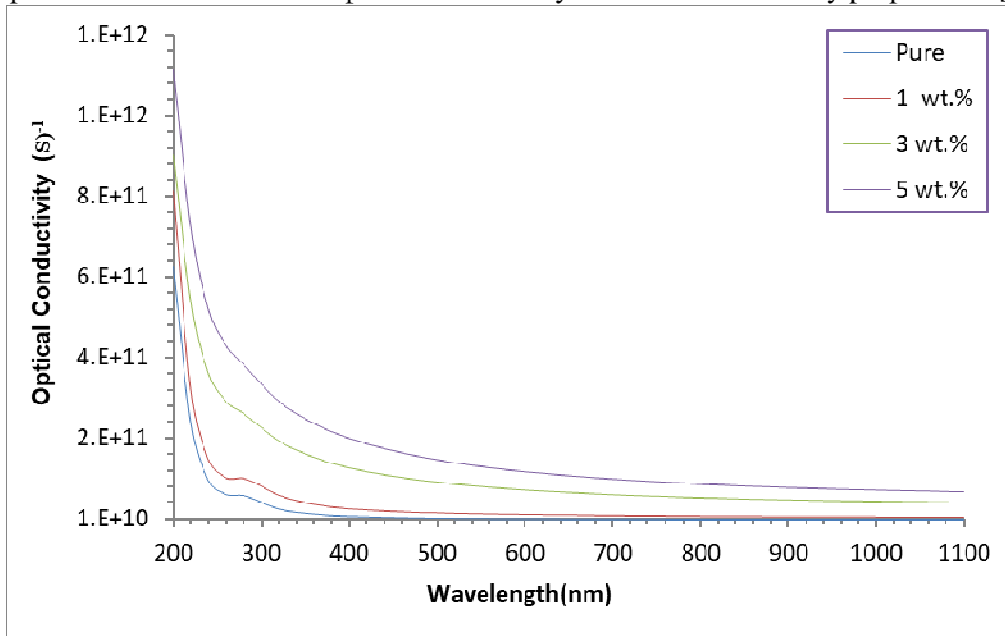


**Figure(9): Distinction  $\epsilon_2$  of (PAAm/ $Y_2O_3$ ) with wavelength.**

The optical conductivity ( $\sigma_{op}$ ) is definite by [24, 25]:

$$\sigma_{op} = \alpha nc/4\pi$$

where  $c$  is the speed of light. The  $\sigma_{op}$  of the of (PAAm/ $Y_2O_3$ ) with a wavelength is shown in figure (11). The PAAm/ $Y_2O_3$  nanocomposites demonstrate a notable enhancement in optical conductivity at shorter wavelengths, followed by a reduction at longer wavelengths. This behavior can be explained by the concurrent increase in the absorption coefficient. The relationship between the concentration of  $Y_2O_3$  nanoparticles and the observed optical conductivity is found to be directly proportional[25].



**Figure (10): Variation  $\sigma_{op}$  of (PAAm/ $Y_2O_3$ ) nanocomposites with the wavelength.**

#### 4- Conclusion

From these results can be concluded from results revealed that as the concentration of  $Y_2O_3$  NPs increased, various optical properties such as absorbance, absorption coefficient, refractive index, extinction coefficient, real and imaginary dielectric constant, and optical conductivity also increased. Conversely, the transmittance and indirect energy gap reduced with growing concentration of  $Y_2O_3$

NPs. Finally, from this result can be used these nanocomposites as the photodetector application specially in the UV region.

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