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# ABCD analysis of Dye-doped Polymers for Photonic Applications

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## **ABSTRACT**

Photonics is a subject of scientific study on generating, controlling, harvesting and detecting the beam of photons or light with a purpose of creating, manipulating, storing, transmitting and detecting information using nonlinear optical properties of materials. This paper is a new attempt to integrate scientific research and social research by analysing the characteristics of dye-doped polymer films for photonics applications. The analysing framework called ABCD framework to analyse any business concepts, business systems, technology, strategy, engineering material, technology or even an idea systematically by identifying the advantages, benefits, constraints, and disadvantages under various determinant issues and listing the constituent critical elements under each construct. In this paper, as per the ABCD framework, the various determinant issues related to the use of dye-doped polymer films for photonic applications through focus group method are determined as affecting factors under: (1) Material Issues, (2) Application Issues, (3) Commercialization Issues, (4) Production/Service providers Issues, (5) Customer Issues, and (6) Environmental/Social Issues. The constituent critical elements of these factors are listed under the four constructs - advantages, benefits, constraints and disadvantages of the ABCD technique and tabulated. The analysis has brought about 204 critical constituent elements which satisfy the success of this analysis methodology.

**Keywords**: Nonlinear optical materials, Dye-doped polymer films, ABCD analysis, Constituent critical elements.

## 1. Introduction

Nonlinear optics is expected to play an important role in the field of photonics which is a multidisciplinary new frontier of science and technology capturing the imagination of scientists and engineers worldwide due to its potential applications in optical communication, and optical computation. According to the definition, Photonics is the technology of generating and harnessing light and other forms of radiant energy whose quantum unit is the photon. The range of applications of photonics extends from energy generation to detection to communication and information processing using nonlinear optical properties of materials. The major challenge of photonics is identifying a right material/device to optimally process the signals for a right application using material science and chemical engineering knowledge. Materials with exceptional nonlinear optical properties are critical to the continuing development of photonic and electro-optical devices, such as those used in optical communications, networking, Optical computation for signal processing, and data storage equipment. The nonlinear optical material is a general term for the materials efficiently makes the appearance of nonlinear phenomenon optically as the responses to optical wavelength conversion, optical amplification as well as the refractive index changes due to its intensity. Nonlinear optical materials are largely divided into inorganic and organic materials. In 1930, the nonlinear optical effect related to optical wavelength conversion was predicted, which was said to be the first finding knowledge about the nonlinear optical phenomenon. In 1960, laser oscillation using inorganic material was reported. Since then research of inorganic nonlinear optical materials were actively taken place, but now-a-days, probably there is no more that undiscovered [1]. With the rapid development of modern science and technology, information transmission capacity of communication increases day by day. Optical communication, which has advantages of large transmission capacity, high transmission velocity, excellent anti-jamming ability and good Signal-to-Noise value, is becoming the main method in communication research at present. Functions like optical switching and memory by nonlinear optical effects, all depending on light intensity, are expected to result in the realization of a pivotal optical device in optical computing. This is a new data processing system that makes the maximum use of light characteristics such as parallel and spatial processing capabilities and high speed [2].

All-optical networks with good performances, such as big capacity, good transparency, wavelength routing characteristics, compatibility, and extensibility, has become the first choice of next generation of the wide-band net with a promising application. Accompanied by the deep research of wave division multiplex (WDM), switches have drawn more and more people's attention. In the existing opticalelectronic-optical conversion apparatus of present communication net, disadvantages of slow switching speed and clock displacement have lead to a "bottleneck" of optical fiber communication systems. Alloptical switches which can break through the transmission speed limits of electro-optical, acousto-optical, thermo-optical and micro-electro-mechanical switches, can serve as effective methods to solve these problems. Based on the third-order nonlinear optical (NLO) effect, phase all-optical switches use a controlled light to bring changes of refraction index and make phase difference when signal light passes through the sample and thus carry out the function of "on" or "off" of optical switches. Its nonlinear phase difference is proportional to  $(2\pi/\lambda)n_2IL$ , where I is intensity, L is the length of interaction of wave and  $n_2$ is nonlinear refraction index. The properties, such as change speed, intensity loss, sensitivity to optical polarization and insert loss, all depend on third-order NLO materials used to synthesize apparatuses. At present, it is with great enthusiasm to an emphasis on exploring and synthesis of materials for all-optical switches based on the continual discovery of varies kinds of new materials. There are other applications of third-order NLO materials, including optical limiting devices, Q-switch, passive mode locking, optical operation and light storage etc. Laser weapons applied to military have special effects on optical-electro antagonism, aerial defense and military recovery. Laser blinding can make eyes blind temporarily or permanently, and laser can also destroy important apparatus in the satellite, such as detectors and sensors. As a result, laser protection materials and devices have become a focus. The purpose of laser protection is to protect people and devices from the damage of high intensity. These optical limiting devices are mainly based on the materials' third-order NLO properties, including self-focusing, self-defocusing, two-photon absorption, reverse saturable absorption and nonlinear scattering. Comparing to earlier laser protection devices, it has advantages of fast response, wide protected band, low optical limiting threshold, large damage threshold and high linear transmission, etc. The third-order NLO properties of materials can also be used in the compression (mode-locking) and shaping of laser pulses, optical bistability, etc. Thirdorder NLO materials also have many potential practical exciting applications and motivated scientists to continually explore new materials with high third-order NLO properties. The demands of materials for all-optical information process and high-speed all-optical switches include large nonlinear refraction index, small linear and nonlinear absorption coefficient, fast response and low propagation loss [1-3]. Photonic and electro-optical (in which information storage or processing involves the modulation and

switching of light beams) devices are used in many applications which include:

- Electro-optic modulators
- Mach-Zehnder interferometers
- Optical switches
- Optical interconnectors
- Frequency doublers for high-power lasers
- Active waveguides
- Optical memory storage devices
- Optical computing devices
- Nonlinear directional couplers
- Nonlinear Bragg reflectors
- Optical limiters
- Photorefractive memories

Currently, a wide range of inorganic non-linear optical materials is available [2-3] with varied wavelengths, damage thresholds, and optical characteristics. The research focus is to develop materials that meet all requirements such as faster response, high laser damage threshold, and wide transparency range coupled with adaptability, processing ability, and the ability to interface with other materials. Further, robust growth in demand for high bandwidth fiber optic networking infrastructure and high-speed optical computing are expected to boost the demand for Non-Linear Optical Materials [1]. Doped inorganic nonlinear crystals are also shown optical limiting properties [4-7]. Studies showed that by means of heavy ion irradiation one can improve the material properties of both inorganic and organic nonlinear crystals [8-11].

It is well known that one can improve the performance of any system by comparing it with a hypothetical, predicted system of that kind called "Ideal system" [12]. Ideal properties of a device or a system can be used to upgrade or improve its properties towards reaching 100% efficiency. By comparing the properties/characteristics of a practical device/system with its ideal counterpart, one can find out the possible modifications in that device /system towards reaching the objective of achieving such an ideal system [13]. Many systems like an ideal gas, ideal fuel, ideal solution, ideal fluid, ideal engine, ideal switch, ideal voltage source, ideal current source, ideal diode, ideal transistor, and ideal amplifier are familiar to everybody since school days. Recently, ideal business system [13-14], ideal education system [15-17], ideal technology system [12], ideal strategy [18], ideal energy source [19], ideal banking system [20], and ideal library system [21] are studied and their input, system, output and environmental characteristics are discussed. The properties of the ideal nonlinear material are interesting to know. In table 1, we have summarized the ideal properties of the nonlinear optical material.

Table 1 . Ideal Properties of optical nonlinear material.

S. No	Property	Value
1	Nonlinear Susceptibility	Infinity (High)
2	Refractive index	Low & constant value
3	Dielectric property	Low
4	Material property	optimum
5	Material Processing	Easy
6	Colour	Transparent and colourless
7	Transmission range	Infinite
8	Durability	Life time without degradation
9	Laser damage threshold	High
10	Transmission range	Infinite
11	Material state	Solid (Film & Fiber)
12	Electro-optic Coefficient	Infinity (High)
13	Photoconductivity	Infinity (High)
14	Photorefractive co-efficient	Infinity (High)
15	Degradation with time	No
16	Cost	Zero
17	Availability	Abundant
18	Environmental degradation	Zero
19	Weight	Zero (Low)

From the year 1982, organic nonlinear optical material research got importance due to their advantages compared to the inorganic counterpart. It is found that organic compounds with the delocalized conjugated electrons which have excellent nonlinear optical property and high-speed responsiveness due to the high mobility of electrons. Based on predictions, the 21st century is said to be an age of photonics. As one of the basic technology of photonics, improvements in the wavefront control technology using organic nonlinear optical effects are considered very important and hence research on the organic materials with excellent nonlinear optical properties, and exceptional material properties have been studied. Present developments in the field of materials chemistry show that, though inorganic materials are still the choices for many devices, interest, and scope for organic materials are growing day-by-day in view of their adaptability to various kinds of applications. The field of organic molecular materials has

transformed the use of materials in the modern world in the last 40 years, and it can be seen that organic molecules provide wonderful opportunities to materials researchers to design custom-tailored materials whose properties at the macroscopic /microscopic level reflect closely to the modeled or actual behavior of individual molecules. In other words, development of novel functional organic materials is a rapidly growing area of science, which probably can replace the traditionally used materials with cheaper and better-performing new ones in the near future, and also bring out some new applications [22-24]. Research also has shown that many organic crystals have better nonlinear susceptibility compared to inorganic crystals [25-26].

In view of the technological applications of the organic materials, the current research focus is in five technical areas, which are (1) Structural and multifunctional materials, (2) Energy and power materials, (3) Photonic and Electronic Materials, (4) Functional organic and hybrid materials, (5) Bio-derived and bio-inspired materials. Organic nonlinear materials are currently finding importance due to their advantages and benefits for photonics device fabrication. Some of the benefits of organic nonlinear optical materials are:

- **Easy to process**: Because they do not require electric poling or the preparation of large single crystals, these materials are easier to process than inorganic optical materials.
- Lower cost: The ease of processing directly translates into a lower cost to fabricate.
- **High second- and third-order susceptibility**: This technology exhibits exceptional performance in doubling and tripling the frequency of light passing through it, making it at least comparable to inorganic materials.
- Low dielectric constant: An optical material with a high dielectric constant requires a larger poling voltage in order to polarize the dipole moment and can suffer changes in the refractive index. This technology requires no poling voltage and maintains its refractive index.
- **High electro-optic coefficient**: Materials with a high electro-optic coefficient are more suitable for electro-optic modulation for high-speed devices.
- **Colorless**: It is believed that the clarity of the doubling material will prevent the absorption of visible light, allowing a wide variety of light frequencies to be doubled.
- **Resistant to laser damage**: The tripling material can be exposed to 4,32,000 20-nanosecond pulses at 20 Hz without any evidence of damage to the organic material, making it ideal for use in photonic applications.

## 2. Dye – Doped Polymers for Photonic Applications

Though the present best practice in Photonics technology is the usage of organic materials/dyes that exhibit exceptional nonlinear optical properties, these organic materials have few of the drawbacks inherent in the processing of comparable inorganic materials like of intense light induced degradation or bleaching and aggregation at higher dye concentration. In order to overcome these drawbacks and for effective use of highly nonlinear dyes, the strategic idea for the next practice is doping the dye molecules in the polymer matrix. This idea of dye-doped polymer material matrix may increase the concentration of absorptive or fluorescence centers as well as the opto-chemical and opto-physical stability [27–28]. A large number of organic compounds with delocalized electrons and conjugated double bond systems, and a large dipole moment has been studied to realize the susceptibilities far larger than the inorganic optical materials [29]. The organic compounds and dyes molecules with two basic structural families of acceptor/donor/donor/acceptor and donor/bridge/acceptor have shown high two photon absorption properties. Such information can be useful in the design of more efficient two-photon dyes for imaging and power-limiting applications. Organic dye doped polymer films are used for (1) Optical amplification, (2) Rewritable optical data storage, (3) optical information storage, (4) Spatial light modulation, (5) Optical power limiting [30-33], (6) Photonic switching [34], (7) Quasi-permanent alloptical encoding [35], (8) Two photon florescence microscopy [36], (9) Frequency up-converted lasing,

(10) Three dimensional optical storage, (11) Two photon induced optical imaging, (12) photosensitive media for holographic recording and optical computing, (13) Ultrafast all-optical devices. (14) Optical phase conjugation [37-39], (15) Optical parametric oscillator using four-wave mixing [40-41], and (16) controlling light by light through optical spatial solitons [42]. Many studies have been conducted to measure nonlinear optical properties like third harmonic generation properties [43], optical limiting studies [44] and optical phase conjugation using four-wave mixing studies [45] in various nonlinear dyes doped in polymer films. In this paper, we have made an attempt to analyse nonlinear dye-doped polymer films for nonlinear and photonic applications using recently developed analysis framework called ABCD analysis framework. The acronym ABCD stands for Advantages, Benefits, Constraints, and Disadvantages.

## 3. About ABCD Analysis

Various techniques are used to analyze the individual characteristics, system characteristics, effectiveness of a concept or idea, effectiveness of a strategy while studying the business value in the society. The individual characteristics or organizational effectiveness & strategies in a given environment can be studied using SWOT analysis, SWOC analysis, PEST analysis, McKinsey 7S framework, ICDT model, Portor's five force model etc. Recently introduced business analysis framework called ABCD analysis framework [46] is suitable for analysing business concepts, business systems, technology, business models or business idea in terms of determining various factors for chosen determinant issues under four constructs called advantages, benefits, constraints, and disadvantages. In the qualitative analysis using ABCD framework, the concept/system/strategy/technology/model/idea is further analysed by identifying constitutional critical factors. In the quantitative analysis using ABCD framework [47], the appropriate score/weightage is given to each constituent critical factor under each construct, through empirical research, the total score is calculated for each construct and by evaluating the scores, the concept/idea/system/technology/strategy can be accepted or rejected. Thus ABCD analysis framework can be used as a research tool in these areas and is a simple but systematic analyzing technique for business models/systems/concepts/ideas/technology/strategy analysis.

## 4. Literature Review on ABCD Analysis

In 2015, Aithal P.S. et. al. [46] developed ABCD analyzing framework to analyze any business model/strategy/concept/system and to study its effectiveness in providing value to its stakeholders and sustainable profit through expected revenue generation. Application of ABCD analysis results in an organized list of business advantages, benefits, constraints, and disadvantages in a systematic matrix. The entire framework is divided into various issues/area of focus and various business deployment factors affecting the business/concept can be identified and analyzed under each issue by identifying the suitable critical effective element. This analyzing technique being simple gives he guideline to identify and analyze the effectiveness of any business model, business strategy, business concept/idea, and business system.

Reshma et. al. [48], have analyzed the characteristics of "Working from Home" e-business model using 'ABCD Analysis Technique'. Based on various factors which decide the Working from Home system, a model of various factors and their constituent critical elements affecting under organizational objectives, employers point of view, employees point of view, customers/students point of view, environmental/societal point of view and system requirements are derived from a qualitative data collection instrument namely focus group method. It is found that the factors supporting advantages and benefits are more effective compared to constraints and disadvantages of this model so that working from the home model may become more popular from the perspective of employers and employees in the organization in the future.

ABCD analysis framework is used for analysing Black Ocean Strategy (BOS) concept [49]. The various factors & their constituent critical factors affecting the BOS concept adopted in some of the business organizations for quick relief from the problems are identified for organizational point of view, administrative point of view, employee point of view, operational point of view, business point of view and external issues point of view are determined under the four constructs - advantages, benefits, constraints, and disadvantages.

ABCD analysis framework has been used for analysis of a concept "Higher Education Stage Model". The characteristics of the concept are evaluated based on identifying and analyzing the advantages, benefits, constraints, and disadvantages. The result supported the logic of using ABCD analyzing technique in any concept/idea performance evaluation [50].

ABCD analysis framework is also used for analysing National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) accreditation process on higher education institutions [51]. The various features of the NAAC accreditation system is evaluated based on identifying and analyzing the advantages, benefits, constraints, and disadvantages of some of the chosen issues like organizational issues, Faculty performance issues, student development/progression issues, social/environmental/community engagement issues, Infrastructure And Learning resources, and Issues on Innovations Creativity and Best Practices. The affecting factors under these issues found out using focus group method and the constituent critical elements under each factor are identified. The result supported the logic of using ABCD analyzing technique in any System/concept performance evaluation.

In another paper on "Study on ABCD Analysis Technique for Business Models, business strategies, Operating Concepts & Business Systems", the author discussed the detailed ABCD framework for quantitative studies and explained how this framework can be used for four specific instances namely Business model, Business strategy, Operational concept and Functional system are outlined here. Finally, ABCD analysing framework is compared with other known analyzing techniques like SWOC, Competitive Profile Matrix (CPM) analysis, EFE & IFE Matrices, BCG analysing frameworks, Porter's Five Forces Model, and PESTLE Analysis [47].

Application of ABCD Analysis Framework on Private University System in India is another paper published using this model in which for six determinant issues related to the functioning of a University has been chosen. These are Organizational aspects, Students Progression, Faculty development, Societal & other stakeholders issues, Governance, Leadership, and Issues on Innovations and Best Practices. Four key issues were identified under each of these and critical constituent elements under these factors are worked out. Through this analysis, 192 critical constituent elements which satisfy the success of a private university have been explored [52].

Recently, another paper on "Study of New National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) System using ABCD Framework, is published in which the ranking system is evaluated using four constructs Advantages, Benefits, Constraints, and Disadvantages, this system consider all determinant issues in key areas through analyzing the major issues and identifying the critical constituent elements and concluded that NIRF provides a comprehensive ranking suitable for higher educational institutions and it takes care of many small and subtle aspects comparable to quality assessment criterion of National Assessment and Accreditation Council. [53].

Apart from using ABCD framework for Qualitative analysis, in several research studies, ABCD analysis is limited and simplified to only listing of various advantages, benefits, constraints, and disadvantages of either concept, models, systems, strategies, technology, or ideas [54-60]. These studies on ABCD listing can be analysed in detail using ABCD framework either qualitatively or quantitatively for further research.

## 5. ABCD Analysis on Dye-doped Polymers

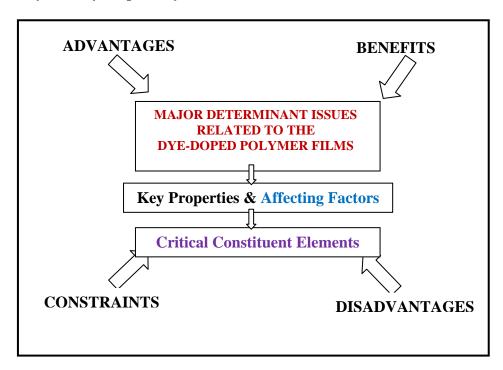


Figure. 1 . Block diagram of issues affecting the dye-doped polymer films for photonic applications as per ABCD framework.

Advantages, Benefits, Constraints and Disadvantages (ABCD) of a System can be used to analyze and understand the model/system in an effective way. As per this analysis technique, the effectiveness of a material system can be studied by identifying and analyzing the advantages, benefits, constraints, and disadvantages by considering various determinant issues related to the use of dye-doped polymers for photonic applications as shown in the block diagram (fig. 1). As per the ABCD framework, the various determinant issues related to the success of dye-doped polymer films in photonic applications identified using focus group method [61] are: (1) Material Issues, (2) Application Issues, (3) Commercialization Issues, (4) Production/Service providers Issues, (5) Customer Issues, and (6) Environmental/Social Issues.

#### (1) Material Issues:

The affecting factors under key properties like Processing for device fabrication, Third order susceptibility, Laser damage threshold, Electro-optic coefficient value, and Dielectric constant value are determinant factors under the constructs Advantages, Benefits, Constraints, and Disadvantages of the System.

#### (2) Application Issues:

The affecting factors under key properties like Optical limiting, Electro-optic modulators, Photorefractive memories, Optical switches, and Optical computer components are determined under the constructs Advantages, Benefits, Constraints, and Disadvantages of the System.

## (3) Commercialization Issues:

The affecting factors under key properties like Easy to process, Low cost, High reliability, and Long life are determined under the constructs Advantages, Benefits, Constraints, and Disadvantages of the System.

## (4) Production/Service providers Issues:

The affecting factors under key properties like Production cost, Performance, Durability, and Raw materials availability are determined under the constructs Advantages, Benefits, Constraints, and Disadvantages of the System.

## (5) Customer Issues:

The affecting factors under key properties like Quality, Durability, Cost, and Availability are determined under the constructs Advantages, Benefits, Constraints, and Disadvantages of the System.

## (6) Environmental/Society Issues:

The affecting factors under key properties like Environmental degradation, Social perception, Future scope, and Recycling are determined under the constructs Advantages, Benefits, Constraints, and Disadvantages of the System.

Each determinant issue has sub-issues called key properties used for analyzing the advantages, benefits, constraints and disadvantages, the four constructs of the framework. The factors affecting the various determinant issues of private university system for each key issue under four constructs are derived by a qualitative data collection instrument namely, focus group method [61-68], and are listed in table 2.

Table 2 . Analysis of the dye-doped polymer films for photonic applications using ABCD framework.

Determinant	Key	Advantages	Benefits	Constraints	Disadvantages
Issues	Properties				
Material	Processing for	Easy to	Microfilm	Maintaining	Low physico-
Properties	device	fabricate as	component	uniform	chemical
Issues	fabrication	thin films	for device	thickness and	stability.
			fabrication	surface	
	Third order	High third	Enhanced	Depending	Bleaching of
	susceptibility	order	efficiency	on film	dye for long
		susceptibility		thickness	time
	Laser damage	Effective	Suitable for	Sample may	Low damage
	threshold	performance at	low power	burn at high	thresh
		Low power	devices	intensity	old
		laser		laser beam	
	Electro-optic	High at low	High	Applying	E-O
	coefficient	applied	breakdown	external dc	coefficient
	value	electric field	voltage	electric field	varies with
				is difficult	wavelength of
					laser beam
	Dielectric	Low dielectric	No poling	Applying	Dielectric
	constant value	constant	voltage	external dc	constant varies
			required	electric field	with
				is difficult	wavelength of
					laser beam
Application	Optical	Limiting of	Eye	Limiter at all	Nonlinear
Issues	limiting	High intensity	protection	wavelengths	refraction
		laser light	when		property of

			working with		dye
			laser beams		
	Electro-optic	High electro-	Fast response	High voltage	Low physico-
	modulators	optic		requirement	chemical
		coefficient		for	stability
				modulation	
	Photorefractive	High PR	High density	Doping is	Temperature
	memories	coefficient	storage at	required to	dependent
			high retrieval	increase	properties
			speed	trapping	
				centers	
	Optical	Fast optical	High figure	Doping is	Slow time
	switches	response	of merit	required to	response
				increase	
				charge	
				centers	
	Optical	Easy to	High speed	Doping is	Low physico-
	computer	fabricate thin	response	required to	chemical
	components	film & fibers		increase	stability
				charge	
				centers	
Commercializ	Easy to process	Easy to	Less	Tedious	Colour of dye
ation Issues		fabricate as	expensive	process	decreases the
		thin films and	equipments		transparency
		fibers	required		range
	Low cost	Less expensive	Easily	Low profit	More
			available in	due to low	competitors
			the market	cost	
	High reliability	Stable	Used for	Degradation	Low phisico-
		nonlinear	longer period	of	chemical
		properties		performance	stability
				for longer	
				period	
	Long life	Stable	High laser	Delicate for	Not withstands
		nonlinear	damage	replacement	at higher laser
		properties for	threshold		intensity
		long time			
Production/Se	Production cost	Low	Less	Assembling	Periodical
rvice		***	expensive		Replacement
providers	Performance	Higher	Fast response	Anti-	Degrades with
Issues		susceptibility		reflection	time
				coating	
	Durability	Long time	Less after	Periodic	Less life with
			sales service	service	100 efficiency

	Raw materials availability	Easily available	Cheap	Uniform doping	Environmental degradation of dyes
Customer Issues	Quality	High nonlinear properties	Easy processing	Soft material	Bleaching of dye after several years
	Durability	Long life with expected performance	Worth investment	Maintaining outer surface of thin sample	Bleaching of dye after several years
	Cost	Low cost device	Low price	Periodic up gradation	Periodic replacement
	Availability	Easily available	Anywhere usage	Simple component	Supply of components
Environmental /Society Issues	Environmental degradation	No green gas emission	Low environment al effect	Careful handling	Dyes are poisonous
	Social perception	Advanced device for society	High speed device	Environment al effect	Low phisico- chemical stability
	Future scope	High performance devices	Advanced technology usage	Availability of dyes	Threat of better components based on nanotechnolog y
	Recycling	Possible	No degradation	Dye stability	Dye may degrade drinking water

## 6. Critical Constituent Elements as per ABCD model

The critical constituent elements of these factors are listed under the four constructs - advantages, benefits, constraints and disadvantages of the ABCD technique and tabulated in tables 3 to 6.

Table 3: Advantages of dye-doped polymers for photonic applications

Sl.	Issue	Factors affecting	Critical Constituent Elements
No.			
1.	Material Issues	Easy to fabricate as thin	, ,
		films & fibers	Easy for hot press method
		High third order	Non-centrosymmetric molecular
		susceptibility	structure
		700	Do not require electric poling
		Effective performance at	Active for CW laser beam & pulsed
		Low power laser	laser beam
			Active for low power UV, visible, and
		TT' 1 4 1 1' 1 1 4 '	IR region
		High at low applied electric	Effective polarization
		field	High breakdown voltage
		Low dielectric constant	Polarization ability
2	A 1'	T. C. TY. 1	Electric field strength
2.	Application	Limiting of High intensity	High nonlinear absorption
	Issues	laser light	Wide transparency range
		High electro-optic coefficient	Variation of transmission amplitude
		TT 1 DI C C	High modulation index
		High Photorefractive	Refractive index variation with light
		coefficient	intensity
			Charge transfer properties
		Fast optical response	Free carriers
		Erm 4 - fel vice 4 - 41 in 61 m 0	Optical bistability
		Easy to fabricate thin film & fibbers	Surface tension
3.	Commercializati		Strength of fibres  Metarial property
3.	on Issues	Easy to fabricate as thin films and fibers	Material property Tensile strength
	Oli Issues		Easy availability
		Less expensive	Simple processes
		Stable nonlinear properties	^ ^
		Stable hommear properties	Non-centrosymmetry Non-bleaching
		Stable nonlinear properties	Material type
			Stable dye & polymer used
4.	Production/Serv	for long time  Low production cost	Easy component processing
4.	ice providers	Low production cost	Availability of raw materials at low
	Issues		price
	133403	Higher susceptibility	Quality of raw materials
		Trigher susceptionity	Organic nonlinear materials
		Long time	Functioning
		Long time	Same conversion efficiency
		Easily available	Abundant
		Labily available	Low cost
5.	Customer Issues	High nonlinear properties	Non-centrosymmetry
٥.	Customer issues	Ingli nominear properties	Efficiency
		Long life with expected	Faithfull operation
		Long life with expected performance	Expected performance
		Low cost device	* *
		Low cost device	Low price

			Easy replacement
		Easily available	Abundant
			Continuous supply
6.	Environmental/	No green gas emission	Clean operation
	Society Issues		Clean environment
		Advanced device for society	Latest technology
			Environmental sustainability
		High performance devices	Efficiency
			Best output
		Recycling Possible	Low degradation
			Sustainability

Table 4: Benefits of the dye-doped polymers for photonic applications

Sl. No.	Issue	Factors affecting	Critical Constituent Elements
1.	Material Issues	Microfilm component for	Small device
		device fabrication	Simple device
		Enhanced efficiency	Best performance
			Better output
		Suitable for low power	Low cost
		devices	Low input energy
		High breakdown voltage	Sustaining strong electric field
			High polarizability
		No poling voltage	Natural nonlinearity
		required	Low cost
2.	Application Issues	Eye protection when	Low transmission at high intensity
		working with laser beams	High laser damage threshold
		Fast response	Effective at nano and femto second
			regime
			High modulation index
		High density storage at	High space charge field
		high retrieval speed	Refractive Index grating
		High figure of merit	High optical bistability
			Low noise for amplification
		High speed response	High speed grating
			High speed storage & retrieval
3.	Commercialization	Less expensive	Simple and easy process
	Issues	equipments required	Less and cheaper raw materials
		Easily available in the	Abundant supply of raw materials
		market	Minimum raw materials requirement
		Used for longer period	Trouble free operations
			Minimum energy consumption
		High laser damage	Durability
		threshold	No periodic material replacement
4.	Production/Service	Less expensive	Low investment
	providers Issues	_	Small component size
		Fast response	Material property
		_	Amount of doping

		Less after sales service	No frequent breakdown
			Easy repairing/replacement
		Cheap	Simple raw materials
			Component in the form of thin film.
5.	Customer Issues	Easy processing	Simple process
			No special care needed
		Worth investment	No periodic replacement
			Return on investment
		Low price	Affordability
			High demand
		Anywhere usage	Simple operations
			Easy procurement
6.	Environmental/Soci	Low environmental effect	Emission
	ety Issues		Recycling
		High speed device	Technology
			Speed
		Advanced technology	Comfortability
		usage	Better facilities
		No degradation	Poisonous gas
			Green house effect

Table 5 : Constraints of the dye-doped polymers for photonic applications

Sl. No.	Issue	Factors affecting	<b>Critical Constituent Elements</b>
1.	Material Issues	Maintaining thickness and	Viscosity
		surface	Surface Tension
		Depending on film	Noncentrosymmetry
		thickness	Doping concentration
		Sample may burn at high	Phisico-chemical stability
		intensity laser beam	Power of input light
		Applying external dc	Electric field intensity
		electric field is difficult	Film thickness
		High AC electric field is	Material property
		required for modulation	Modulation index
2.	Application Issues	Limiter at all wavelengths	Material transmission range
			Nonlinear refractive index
		High voltage requirement	Electro-optic coefficient
		for modulation	Modulating voltage strength
		Doping is required to	Space charge
		increase trapping centers	Dye concentration
		Doping is required to	Nature of Dye
		increase charge centers	Intensity variation of external light
3	Commercialization	Tedious process	Thickness monitoring
	Issues		Uniform doping
		Low profit due to low	Less investment
		cost	Low price
		Degradation of	Dye bleaching

		performance for longer period	Film cracking
		Delicate for replacement	Thin film
		•	Trouble free performance
4.	Production/Service	Assembling	Delicate
	providers Issues		Simple processes
		Anti-reflection coating	Enhanced interaction of light
		_	Avoid reflection of light
		Periodic service	Film replacement
			Easy service
		Uniform doping	Proper solvent
			Uniform drying
5.	Customer Issues	Soft material	Polymer as backbone
			Film between glass plates
		Maintaining outer surface	Antireflection coating
		of thin sample	Film between thin glass plates
		Periodic up gradation	Increases performance
			Easy
		Simple component	Susceptibility for damage
			Easy replacement
6.	Environmental/Soci	Careful handling	Fragile
	ety Issues		Complete replacement & recycling
		Environmental effect	Dyes are poisonous
			Degradability of dyes
		Availability of dyes	Nature of dye
			Supply of dye
		Dye stability	Component replacement
			Easy recycling

Table 6: Disadvantages of the dye-doped polymers for photonic applications

Sl.	Issue	Factors affecting	<b>Critical Constituent Elements</b>
No.		_	
1.	Material Issues	Low physico-chemical	Softness of film
		stability.	Fragileness/brittleness
		Bleaching of dye for long	Reaction with atmosphere
		time	Reaction of dye with light beam
		Low damage threshold	Intensity of pulsed laser beam
			Choice of polymer base
			Dye concentration
		E-O coefficient varies	Material property with laser wavelength
		with wavelength of laser	Nature of dye
		beam	
		Dielectric constant varies	Polarizability
		with wavelength of laser	Bandwidth
		beam	
2	Application Issues	Nonlinear refraction	Material property
		property of dye	Wavelength of light
		Low physico-chemical	Instability in electro-optic property

		stability	
		Temperature dependent	Thermal stability
		properties	Working temperature range
		Slow time response	Optical bistability
		1	Effective intensity & wavelength range
		Low physico-chemical	Durability of components
		stability	Assembling of components
3.	Commercialization	Colour of dye decreases	Transmission range of dye
	Issues	the transparency range	
		More competitors	Demand
		•	Profit
		Low phisico-chemical	Durability of device
		stability	After sales support
		Not withstands at higher	Dye bleaching
		laser intensity	Threshold intensity
4.	Production/Service	Periodical Replacement	Durability
	providers Issues	•	Warranty
		Degrades with time	Aging of components
			Safe input intensity range
		Less life with 100 %	Warranty period
		efficiency	
		Environmental	Production easiness
		degradation of dyes	Demand for dye
5.	Customer Issues	Bleaching of dye after	Nature of dye used
		several years	Operating light intensity range
		Bleaching of dye after	Dye property
		several years	Faithful operation of device
		Periodic replacement	Cost of replacement
			Troubleless working time
		Supply of components	Demand
			Importance of component
6.	Environmental/Soci	Dyes are poisonous	Recycling the component
	ety Issues		Air tight system
		Low phisico-chemical	
		stability	Softness & bleaching
		Threat of better	Dye sensitized nanomaterials
		components based on	Nano-composites
		nanotechnology	
		Dye may degrade	Recycling
		drinking water	Usage of selective dyes

## 7. Conclusion

We have studied the application of dye-doped polymer films for nonlinear and photonics processes using ABCD analysis framework. The various determinant issues of related to the use of dye-doped polymer films in photonic applications identified using focus group method are: (1) Material Issues, (2) Application Issues, (3) Commercialization Issues, (4) Production/Service providers Issues, (5) Customer Issues, and (6) Environmental/Social Issues. The analysis identified the affecting factors for various determinant issues under four constructs advantages, benefits, constraints, and disadvantages.

The analysis has brought about 204 critical constituent elements which satisfy the success of this analysis methodology.

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