London forces

**Synonym:** dispersion forces

Attractive forces between apolar molecules, due to their mutual polarizability. They are also components of the forces between polar molecules. Also called 'dispersion forces'.

*See also:* van der Waals forces

**Source:**

PAC, 1994, 66, 1077 (*Glossary of terms used in physical organic chemistry (IUPAC Recommendations 1994)*) on page 1136