

## light scattering

The redirection of a light beam due to interactions with molecules (Rayleigh and Raman scattering) and aerosols (Mie scattering). Scattered light received at any point in the atmosphere (sometimes called *sky* radiation) is a very important component of the total radiation received from the sun; it is dependent on the solar zenith angle, elevation aerosol concentration etc.

**See also:** elastic scattering

**Source:**

PAC, 1990, 62, 2167 (*Glossary of atmospheric chemistry terms (Recommendations 1990)*) on page 2199