

## **radiation continuum**

*in spectrochemistry*

Continuous (in the wavelength, not time sense) radiation arising for example from non-quantized free-free transitions of electrons in the fields of the ions, free-bound transitions or radiative recombinations of electrons and ions, incandescent radiation emitted by hot solids (when the radiation distribution conforms to that described by Planck's law, it is considered black-body radiation) and unresolvable band spectra, i.e. where the spectral lines are wider than the spacings between them.

**Source:**

PAC, 1985, 57, 1453 (*Nomenclature, symbols, units and their usage in spectrochemical analysis - V: Radiation sources (Recommendations 1985)*) on page 1462