

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*.

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