

Atomic Physics

Alejandro Campos

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1 NLTE Equation of state

2 NLTE opacities

There are multiple processes that control the behavior of photons:

- Absorption
 - Bound-bound excitation (**stimulated absorption**)
 - Bound-free ionization (**photoionization**)
 - Free-free photo-absorption (**inverse breemstrahlung**)
- Emission
 - Bound-bound de-excitation (**stimulated emission, spontaneous emission**)
 - Free-bound recombination
 - Free-free photo-emission (**breemstrahlung from Coulomb collisions**)
- Scattering
 - **Rayleigh scattering**: elastic scattering of a photon from an atom or molecule whose size is less than that of the wavelength of the photon.
 - **Mie scattering**: same as Rayleigh scattering but for cases where the sizes of the atoms or molecules are comparable to the wavelength of the incoming photon.
 - **Raman scattering**: inelastic scattering of a photon from a molecule. The interaction changes the molecule's vibrational, rotational, or electron energy.
 - **Brillouin scattering**: inelastic scattering of a photon caused by its interaction with material waves in a medium (i.e. mass oscillation modes, charge displacement modes, magnetic spin oscillation modes).
 - **Compton scattering**: inelastic scattering of a photon from a charged particle.
 - **Thomson scattering**: low-energy limit of Compton scattering. The photon energy and the particle's kinetic energy do not change as a result of the scattering. Can be explained with classical electrodynamics.

- Reflection???
- **Pair production/annihilation**