

# Liquid Argon optical properties to be used in Geant4 and Opticks Simulations

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**Abstract.** In Geant4 and Opticks optical properties like e.g. the materials refractive index are inputs that have to be provided. In this paper we collect the optical properties relevant for liquid Argon TPC's.

## 1. Introduction

In Geant4 and Opticks optical properties like e.g. the materials refractive index are inputs that have to be provided. In this article we briefly describe the physical processes relevant to the production, transport and detection of optical photons in liquid Argon. We collect the values and parameterizations of optical properties relevant for liquid Argon TPC's. We provide scripts that plot this quantities and that convert this values into a gdmf description that can be directly used in the Geant4 Detector description.

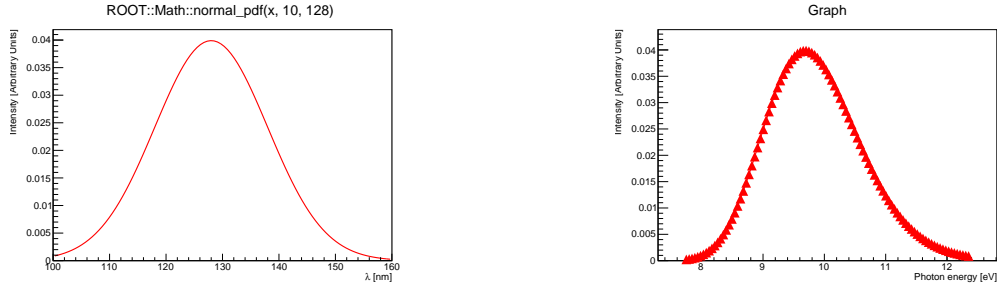
## 2. Light production

### 2.1. Scintillation Properties of liquid Argon

Light yield    few 10,000's of photons per MeV (depends on E field, particle type and purity)  
(SCINTILLATIONYIELD: 50000/MeV when no electric field present)

Property/Geant4 property	value
yield/SCINTILLATIONYIELD	50000 photons/MeV (no electric field)
Wavelength of emission	128nm (FWHM=10nm)
fast component/SCINTILLATIONTIMECONSTANT1	6 ns
fast fraction/SCINTILLATIONYIELD1	0.75
slow component/SCINTILLATIONTIMECONSTANT2	1500 ns
slow fraction/SCINTILLATIONYIELD2	0.25
RESOLUTIONSCALE	1

**Table 1.** Scintillation Properties of liquid Argon.



**Figure 1.** Scintillation emission spectrum.

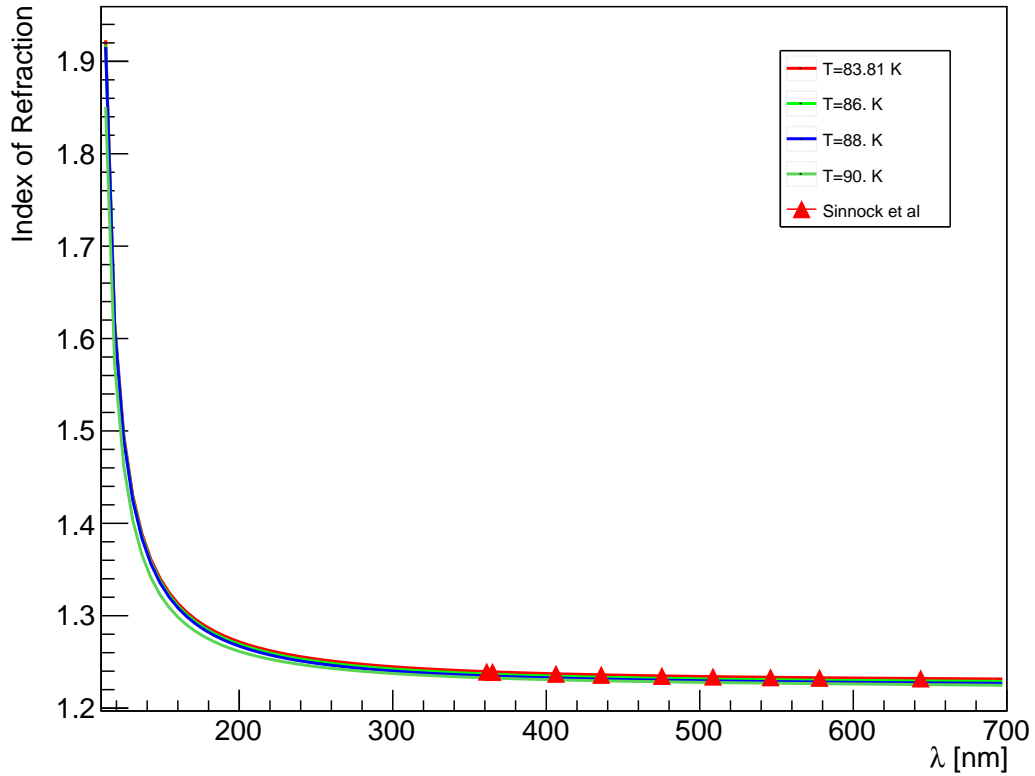
## 2.2. Cerenkov spectrum and Yield

### 3. Light propagation

#### 3.1. Refraction Index of liquid Argon

Refraction Index:  $n = 1.358 \pm 0.003$  at 128 nm (M. Babicz et al 2020 JINST 15 P09009) (compared to  $n = 1.45 \pm 0.07$  (ArXiv:1502.04213)) Group velocity:  $1/v_g = 7.46 \pm 0.08$  ns/m at 128 nm

T=83.81 K



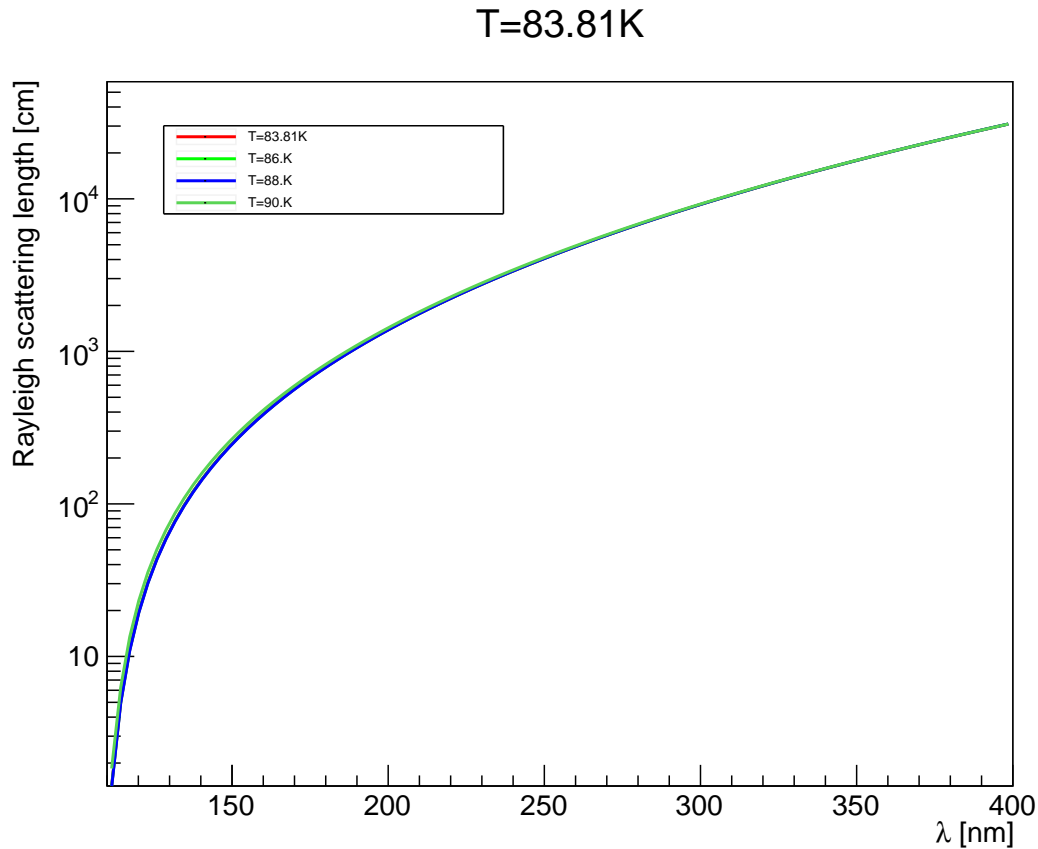
**Figure 2.** refraction index

### 3.2. Absorption length of liquid Argon

Argon is highly transparent to its own scintillation light. (ABSLENGTH)  $\sim 1.1$  m (ArXiv:1511.07725)

### 3.3. Rayleigh Scattering length of liquid Argon

Rayleigh scattering length (RAYLEIGH): 90 cm (M. Babicz et al 2020 JINST 15 P09009)  $55 \pm 5$  cm (ArXiv:1502.04213)



**Figure 3.** rayleigh scattering length.

## 4. rayleigh scattering length.

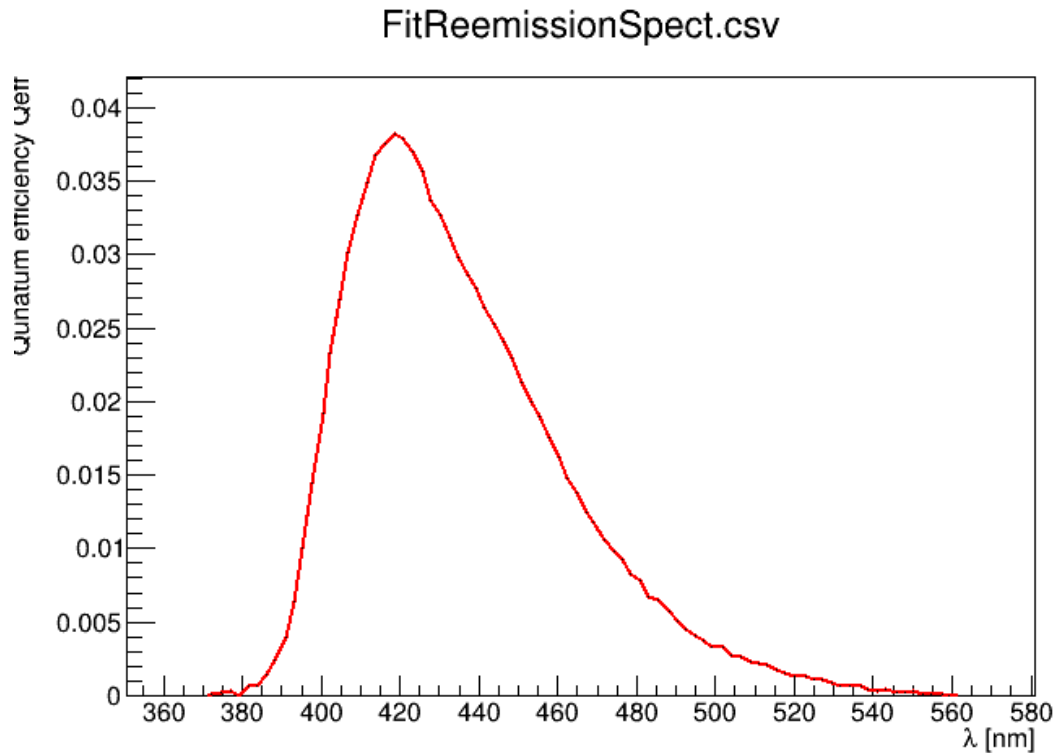
[7]

## 5. Quantum efficiency and absorption length of the tetraphenyl butadiene wave length shifter

## 6. Conclusions and Outlook

### References

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- [2] <https://github.com/hanswenzel/CaTS>
- [3] Allison J et al. 2016 *Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research A* **835** (186–225).
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**Figure 4.** wave length spectrum.

- [6] <https://github.com/hanswenzel/CaTS/tree/master/scripts/LAr.C>"/. <https://github.com/hanswenzel/CaTS/tree/master/scripts/LAr.C>"/.
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- [10] Ben Jones, *Introduction to Scintillation Light in Liquid Argon* [http://microboone-exp.fnal.gov](http://microboone-exp.fnal.gov/)"/
- [11] E. Morikawa, R. Reininger, P. Görtler, V. Saile, and P. Laporte *Argon, krypton, and xenon excimer luminescence: From the dilute gas to the condensed phase* J. Chem. Phys. 91, 1469 (1989); <https://doi.org/10.1063/1.457108>"/