ME 964-002 Project Proposal

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Project Title: Monte Carlo simulation with scattering medium and specular reflection

Description of project:

Develop the code for a Monte Carlo simulation that has isotropic scattering and a specularly reflective surface. The geometry will have 2 surfaces, based on a parabolic trough CSP collector, so a parabolic trough and a cylindrical collector. The scattering and reflection are expected to affect different portions of the simulation: the scattering affects the how collimated the sun's light incident on the geometry, while optical depth of the reflective geometry will scatter little light.

Goals of analysis (anticipated results):

The value of interest for a CSP plant is the radiation flux on the collector. This analysis will determine how the radiation flux changes with trough reflectance, collector absorptance, and sun position.

How this is related to topics covered in class:

The Monte Carlo simulation is a numerical solution to the radiative transfer equation.