

Lecture 11

Multiple scattering as a source of radiation

1. Direct and diffuse radiation
2. Radiative transfer equation
3. Multiple scattering

Required Reading:

S: 6.1, 6.3, 6.4, Appendix 1

Suggested Reading:

Petty: 11, Into to Chapter 13, 13.1

1. Direct and diffuse radiation

The solar radiation field is traditionally considered as a sum of two distinctly different components: **direct** and **diffuse**: $I = I_{dir} + I_{dif}$

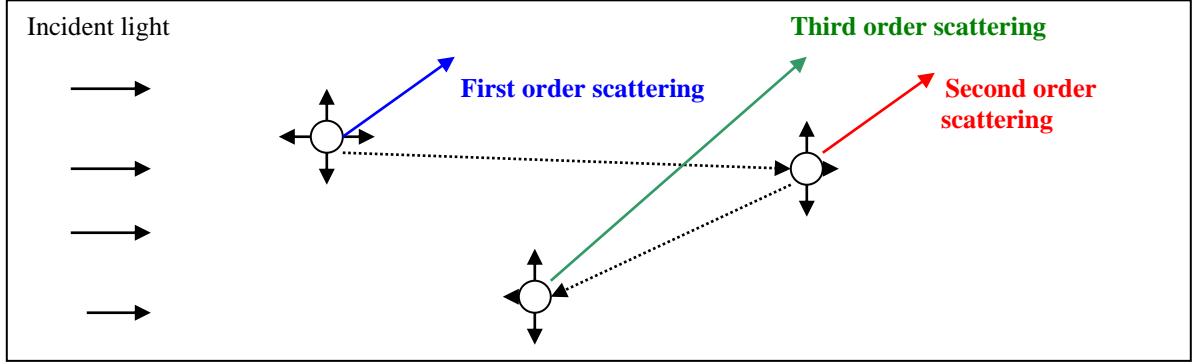
Direct radiation is a part of the radiation field that has survived the extinction passing through a layer with optical depth τ and it obeys the Beer-Bouguer-Lambert law :

$$I_{dir}^{\downarrow} = I_0 \exp(-\tau / \mu_0)$$

where I_0 is the incident intensity at a given wavelength at the top of a layer and μ_0 is a cosine of the incident zenith angle θ_0 ($\mu_0 = \cos(\theta_0)$).

Diffuse radiation

Diffuse radiation arises from the light that undergoes one scattering event (**single scattering**) or many (**multiple scattering**).



For single scattering

$$\delta I_{\lambda}(\vec{\Omega}) = k_{s,\lambda} ds \frac{P_{\lambda}(\vec{\Omega}, \vec{\Omega}')}{4\pi} I_{\lambda}(\vec{\Omega}') \delta\Omega' \quad [11.1]$$

where $I_{\lambda}(\vec{\Omega}')$ is the incident intensity in the direction defined by a solid angle $\vec{\Omega}'(\mu', \varphi')$.

For **multiple scattering**, integrating over all directions:

$$dI_{\lambda}(\vec{\Omega}) = k_{s,\lambda} ds \int_{4\pi} \frac{P_{\lambda}(\vec{\Omega}, \vec{\Omega}')}{4\pi} I_{\lambda}(\vec{\Omega}') d\Omega' \quad [11.2]$$

NOTE: The above equation shows that the phase function redirects the incident intensity from the direction $\vec{\Omega}'(\mu', \varphi')$ to the direction $\vec{\Omega}(\mu, \varphi)$, and the integral accounts for all possible scattering events within the 4π solid angle.

According to the Beer-Bouguer-Lambert law, scattering radiance from path ds can be expressed as $dI_{\lambda} = k_{e,\lambda} J_{\lambda} ds$ thus (from Eq.[11.2]) **the scattering source function** is

$$J_{\lambda}(\vec{\Omega}) = \frac{\omega_{0,\lambda}}{4\pi} \int_{4\pi} I_{\lambda}(\vec{\Omega}') P_{\lambda}(\vec{\Omega}, \vec{\Omega}') d\Omega' \quad [11.3]$$

where $\omega_{0,\lambda} = k_{s,\lambda} / k_{e,\lambda}$ is the single scattering albedo.

The scattering source function:

- 1) has units of intensity
- 2) plays the role of the Planck function in thermal radiative transfer but the scattering source function is more complex
- 3) depends on the radiation intensity in the incident direction, $I_\lambda(\vec{\Omega}')$; fraction of radiation which is scattered, $\omega_{0,\lambda}$; and fraction scattered into the new direction $\frac{P(\vec{\Omega}, \vec{\Omega}')}{4\pi} d\Omega'$

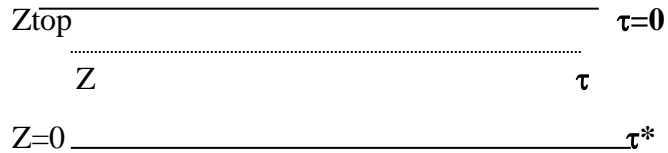
2. Radiative transfer equation

The monochromatic radiative transfer equation for a plane-parallel atmosphere:

Expresses the net change in intensity due to extinction and scattering along path dz :

$$dI = dI(\text{extinction}) + dI(\text{scattering})$$

A plane-parallel atmosphere



Using $ds = dz/\cos(\theta)$, the **radiative transfer equation** can be written as

$$\cos(\theta) \frac{dI_\lambda(z, \theta, \varphi)}{k_{e,\lambda} dz} = -I_\lambda(z, \theta, \varphi) + J_\lambda(z, \theta, \varphi) \quad [11.4]$$

Introducing the optical depth measured from the outer boundary downward as

$$\tau_\lambda(z, 0) = \int_0^z k_{e,\lambda}(z) dz \quad [11.5]$$

and using $d\tau_\lambda = -k_{e,\lambda}(z) dz$ and $\mu = \cos(\theta)$, we have

$$\mu \frac{dI_\lambda(\tau; \mu; \varphi)}{d\tau} = I_\lambda(\tau; \mu; \varphi) - J_\lambda(\tau; \mu; \varphi) \quad [11.6]$$

NOTE: Eq.[11.6] is called the Schwarzschild's equation and is the differential form of the radiative transfer equation for the plane-parallel atmosphere.

Upward (or upwelling) intensity I_λ^\uparrow is for $1 \geq \mu \geq 0$ (or $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/2$);

Downward (or downwelling) intensity I_{λ}^{\downarrow} is for $-1 \leq \mu \leq 0$ (or $\pi/2 \leq \theta \leq \pi$)

The **radiative transfer equation** [11.6] can be written for **upward and downward intensities**:

$$\mu \frac{dI_{\lambda}^{\uparrow}(\tau, \mu, \varphi)}{d\tau} = I_{\lambda}^{\uparrow}(\tau, \mu, \varphi) - J_{\lambda}^{\uparrow}(\tau, \mu, \varphi) \quad [11.7a]$$

$$-\mu \frac{dI_{\lambda}^{\downarrow}(\tau, -\mu, \varphi)}{d\tau} = I_{\lambda}^{\downarrow}(\tau, -\mu, \varphi) - J_{\lambda}^{\downarrow}(\tau, -\mu, \varphi) \quad [11.7b]$$

The solution of Eq.[11.7a] gives the upward intensity in the plane-parallel atmosphere:

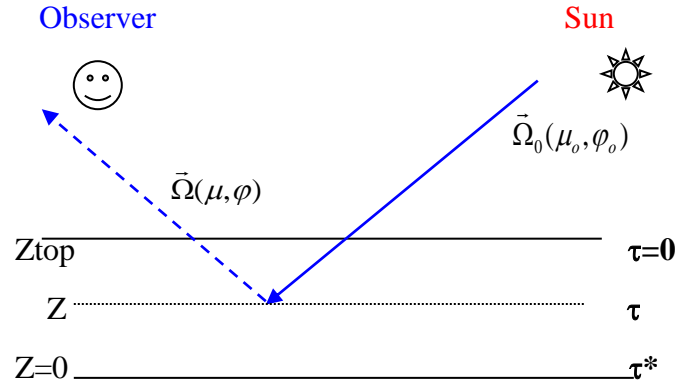
$$I_{\lambda}^{\uparrow}(\tau, \mu, \varphi) = I_{\lambda}^{\uparrow}(\tau^*, \mu, \varphi) \exp\left(-\frac{\tau^* - \tau}{\mu}\right) + \frac{1}{\mu} \int_{\tau}^{\tau^*} \exp\left(-\frac{\tau' - \tau}{\mu}\right) J_{\lambda}^{\uparrow}(\tau', \mu, \varphi) d\tau' \quad [11.8a]$$

The solution of Eq.[11.7b] gives the downward intensity in the plane-parallel atmosphere:

$$I_{\lambda}^{\downarrow}(\tau, -\mu, \varphi) = I_{\lambda}^{\downarrow}(0, -\mu, \varphi) \exp\left(-\frac{\tau}{\mu}\right) + \frac{1}{\mu} \int_0^{\tau} \exp\left(-\frac{\tau - \tau'}{\mu}\right) J_{\lambda}^{\downarrow}(\tau', -\mu, \varphi) d\tau' \quad [11.8b]$$

3. Multiple scattering

➤ First-order scattering:



Direct solar radiation reaching the altitude z is

$$F^\downarrow(z) = F_0 \exp(-k_e(z_t - z) / \mu_0) = F_0 \exp(-\tau / \mu_0)$$

where F_0 is the solar constant at the top of the atmosphere.

Scattering of the direct beam is the source of diffuse radiation (see Eq.[11.1])

$$J(\tau, \mu, \varphi) = \frac{\omega_0}{4\pi} F_0 \exp(-\tau / \mu_0) P(\mu, \varphi, \mu_0, \varphi_0) \quad [11.9]$$

Assuming no surface reflection (dark surface), the upwelling intensity at the level Z (or τ) can be found from Eq.[11.8a] as

$$I^\uparrow(\tau, \mu, \varphi) = \int_{\tau}^{\tau^*} J(\tau', \mu, \varphi) \exp[-(\tau' - \tau) / \mu] d\tau' / \mu \quad [11.10]$$

Substituting in the source function

$$I^\uparrow(\tau, \mu, \varphi) = \frac{\omega_0}{4\pi} F_0 P(\Theta) \int_{\tau}^{\tau^*} \exp[-(\tau' - \tau) / \mu - \tau' / \mu_0] d\tau' / \mu \quad [11.11]$$

An observer (i.e., a satellite sensor) at Z_{top} (or $\tau = 0$) measures

$$I^\uparrow(0, \mu, \varphi) = \frac{\omega_0}{4\pi} F_0 P(\Theta) \frac{\mu_0}{\mu + \mu_0} \left[1 - \exp\left(-\left(\frac{1}{\mu_0} + \frac{1}{\mu}\right)\tau^*\right) \right] \quad [11.12]$$

If $\tau^* < 1$ (called the single scattering approximation), Eq.[11.12] simplifies to

$$I^\uparrow(0, \mu, \varphi) = \frac{\omega_0}{4\pi} F_0 P(\Theta) \frac{\tau^*}{\mu} \quad [11.13]$$

Radiative transfer equation with multiple scattering:

In the general case of multiple scattering

$$J(\tau, \mu, \varphi) = \frac{\omega_0}{4\pi} \int_0^1 \int_{-1}^1 I(\tau, \mu', \varphi') P(\mu, \varphi, \mu', \varphi') d\mu' d\varphi' + \frac{\omega_0}{4\pi} F_0 P(\mu, \varphi, \mu_0, \varphi_0) \exp(-\tau / \mu_0) \quad [11.14]$$

Using the source function for scattering, we can write the **radiative transfer equation for diffuse radiation** as an integro-differential equation:

$$\mu \frac{dI(\tau, \bar{\Omega})}{d\tau} = I(\tau, \bar{\Omega}) - \frac{\omega_0}{4\pi} \int_{4\pi} I(\tau, \bar{\Omega}') P(\bar{\Omega}, \bar{\Omega}') d\Omega' - \frac{\omega_0}{4\pi} F_0 P(\bar{\Omega}, \bar{\Omega}_0) \exp(-\tau / \mu_0) \quad [11.15]$$

NOTE: To solve Eq.[11.15], one needs to know the scattering coefficient $k_{s,\lambda}$, absorption coefficient $k_{a,\lambda}$ and scattering phase function $P(\mu, \varphi, \mu', \varphi')$ as a function of wavelength in each atmospheric layer.

NOTE: Various approximate and “exact” (such as Discrete-ordinate, Adding-doubling, Monte-Carlo, etc.) techniques have been developed to solve the radiative transfer equation for diffuse radiation. Each technique requires a sophisticated numerical code. There are a number of various numerical radiative transfer codes that are openly available to the scientific community.