

## **luminance**

Photometric counterpart of radiance, producing the visual sensation called brightness. Typical units are: candela  $\text{m}^{-2}$  (nit), candela  $\text{cm}^{-2}$  (stilb), foot lambert (2.426 nit). As with all photometric quantities, luminance does not refer to a specific wavelength, but applies to light emitted by a standard source (formerly a 'standard international candle', now a blackbody radiator emitting at the temperature of solidifying platinum, 2042 K). Conversion from photometric units to radiometric units (e.g.  $\text{J s}^{-1}$ ) requires convolution over wavelength of the relative spectral response of the human eye (photopic response tables).

**Source:**

PAC, 1990, 62, 2167 (*Glossary of atmospheric chemistry terms (Recommendations 1990)*) on page 2199