

Astronomy 405: Homework #8 (Radiative Transfer)
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1. **Carroll & Ostlie, Problem 9.7:** Calculate how far you could see through Earth's atmosphere if it had the opacity of the solar photosphere. Use the value for the Sun's opacity from Example 9.2.2 ($0.3 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ gm}^{-1}$, from page 242) and $1.2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ gm cm}^{-3}$ for the density of the Earth's atmosphere. (3 pts)
2. **Carroll & Ostlie, Problem 9.11:** According to a "standard model" of the Sun, the central density is 153 gm cm^{-3} and the Rosseland mean opacity at the center is $2.17 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ gm}^{-1}$.
 - (a) Calculate the mean free path of a photon at the center of the Sun. (2 pts)
 - (b) If this mean free path remained constant for the photon's journey to the surface, calculate the average time it would take for the photon to escape the Sun. (5 pts)