

For Release  
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Scintillation of stars! Generally it is said that only stars scintillate. The planets, sun, and moon noticeably scintillate along their edges, and markings on them, if watched closely, will scintillate also. Scintillation is due to the fact that light from heavenly objects passes through the atmosphere the density of which in its several parts is constantly changing. This causes the light coming from the stars constantly to change its direction, giving us the impression that it is the star that is jumping. Scintillation is bad for astronomical observations, and that is why observatories are placed on high mountains, thus getting away from the unsteady surface air.

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