

Resolution: See model resolution.

RH (Relative Humidity): The dimensionless ratio of the actual vapor pressure of water in the air to the saturation vapor pressure at the current temperature of the air.

S: Sulfur.

Saturation: A moist air sample is said to be saturated, with respect to water or to ice, if it can coexist in neutral equilibrium with a plane surface of pure condensed phase, water or ice, at the same temperature and pressure as the sample.

Scale: The magnitude of the time period or geographical area of interest.

Sample (sampling): A specimen.

Scavenging: The processes by which materials are incorporated into precipitation elements and (usually) brought to the earth's surface.

Scavenging Ratio: Ratio of the concentration of a species in precipitation to its concentration in air.

Scenario: In the modeling context, a set of specified conditions (usually an emission inventory) for input to a model which reflects some anticipated future situation (e.g., energy use).

Secondary particles (or secondary aerosols): Dispersion aerosols that form in the atmosphere as a result of chemical reactions, often involving gases.

Sedimentation: The deposition of atmospheric constituents (coarse particles) by the force of gravity.

Sensitive Area: A geographical area in which a receptor (or receptors) can exhibit damage in response to a (pollution-imposed) stress.