

CHAPTER OVERVIEW

6: Limb Darkening

Limb darkening is an optical effect seen in stars (including the Sun), where the center part of the disk appears brighter than the edge or limb of the image.

Topic hierarchy

[6.1: Introduction. The Empirical Limb-darkening](#)

[6.2: Simple Models of the Atmosphere to Explain Limb Darkening](#)

Thumbnail: A filtered image of the Sun in visible light, showing the limb-darkening effect as a dimmer luminosity towards the edge or limb of the solar disk. The image was taken during the 2012 transit of Venus (seen here as the dark spot at the upper right). (CC BY 2.5; [Brocken Inaglory](#)).

This page titled [6: Limb Darkening](#) is shared under a [CC BY-NC 4.0](#) license and was authored, remixed, and/or curated by [Jeremy Tatum](#) via [source content](#) that was edited to the style and standards of the LibreTexts platform.