

## spontaneous emission

That mode of emission which occurs even in the absence of a perturbing external electromagnetic field. The transition between states,  $n$  and  $m$ , is governed by the Einstein coefficient of spontaneous emission,  $A_{nm}$ .

**See also:** stimulated emission

**Source:**

PAC, 1996, 68, 2223 (*Glossary of terms used in photochemistry (IUPAC Recommendations 1996)*) on page 2277