

A satellite with solar panels is shown in orbit above a coastal region. Below the satellite, a false-color map of the land and water is visible, with colors ranging from blue to yellow. The background is a dark, clear sky.

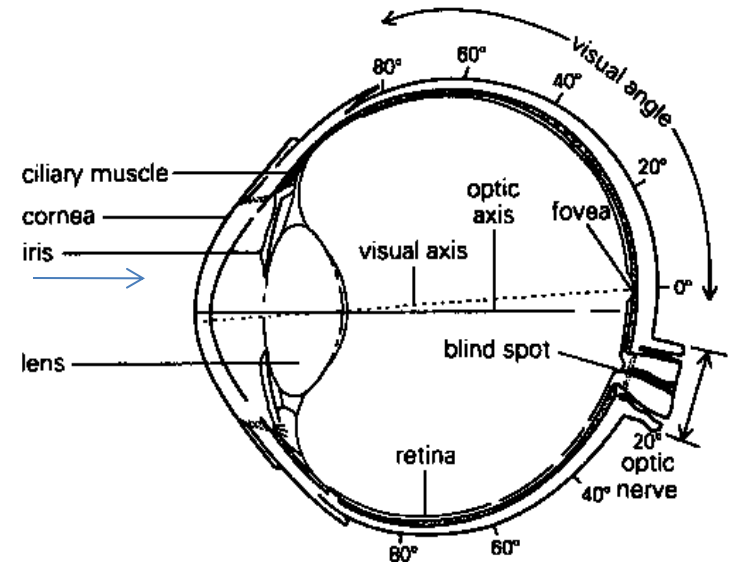
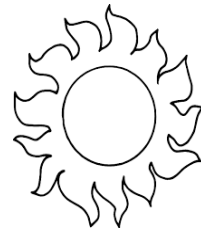
# *LESSON 1*

# Basics of Remote Sensing

Foundation

# What is remote sensing ?

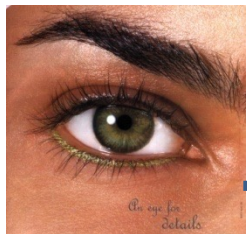
- Remote – away from or at a distance
- Sensing – detecting a property or characteristic



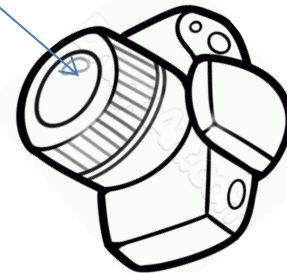
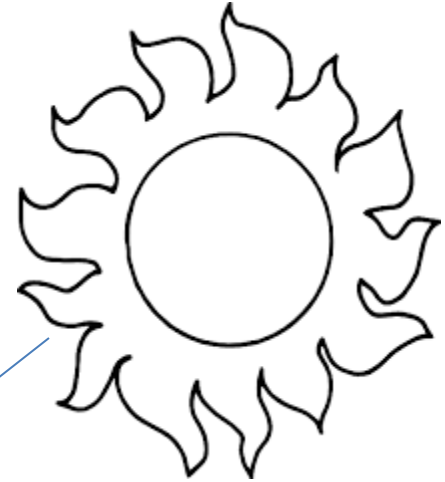
Process: Source of energy

# What is remote sensing ?

- Remote – away from or at a distance
- Sensing – detecting a property or characteristic



INTERPRETATION  
←  
→ House/Hut



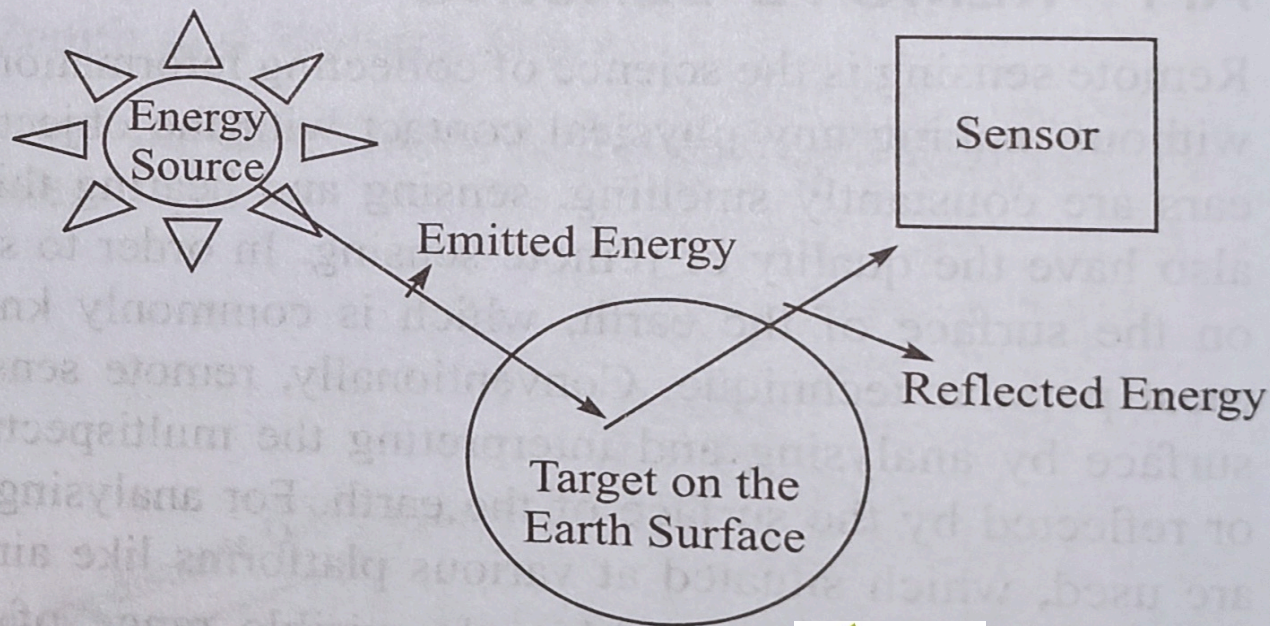


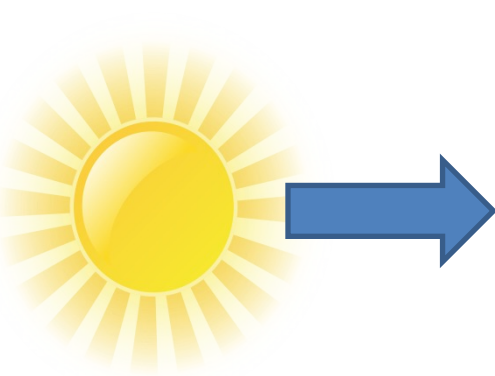
Fig. A.14 Components of Remote Sensing

- Remote sensing requirement:
- Source of radiation
- Object to be detected
- Platform, Sensor and method of analysis

The term "remote sensing," first used in the United States in the 1950s by Ms. **Evelyn Pruitt** of the U.S. Office of Naval Research.

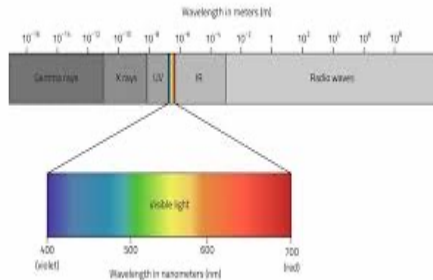
**is now commonly used to describe the science—and art—of identifying, observing, and measuring an object without coming into direct contact with it..**

- **“The art and science of obtaining information about an object without being in direct contact with the object” (Jensen 2000).**



## Planck's Law Intensity of Radiation vs. Wavelength

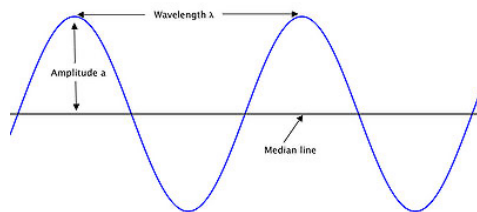
The intensity ( $I$ ) of electromagnetic radiation at a given wavelength ( $\lambda$ ) is a complicated function of the wavelength and the temperature ( $T$ ).  
 $h$  plank's constant  $6.626 \times 10^{-34}$  (J.s)  
 $k$  Boltzmann's constant  $1.380 \times 10^{-23}$  (J.K<sup>-1</sup>).  
 $c$  velocity of light  $2.998 \times 10^8$  (m.s<sup>-1</sup>)



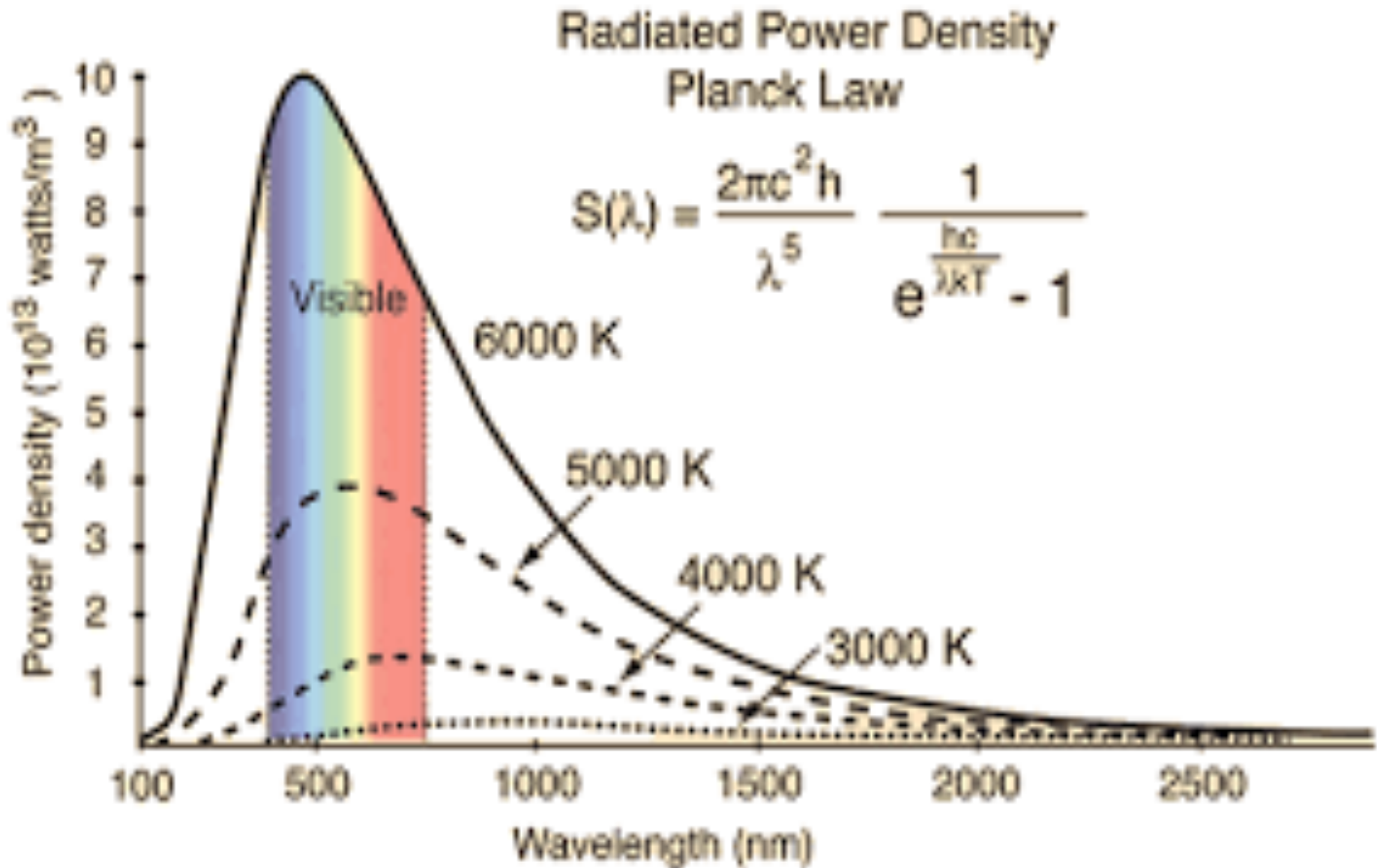
## Planck's Law Intensity of Radiation vs. Wavelength

$$I(\lambda) = \frac{2\pi hc^2}{\lambda^5} \cdot \frac{1}{e^{hc/\lambda kT} - 1}$$

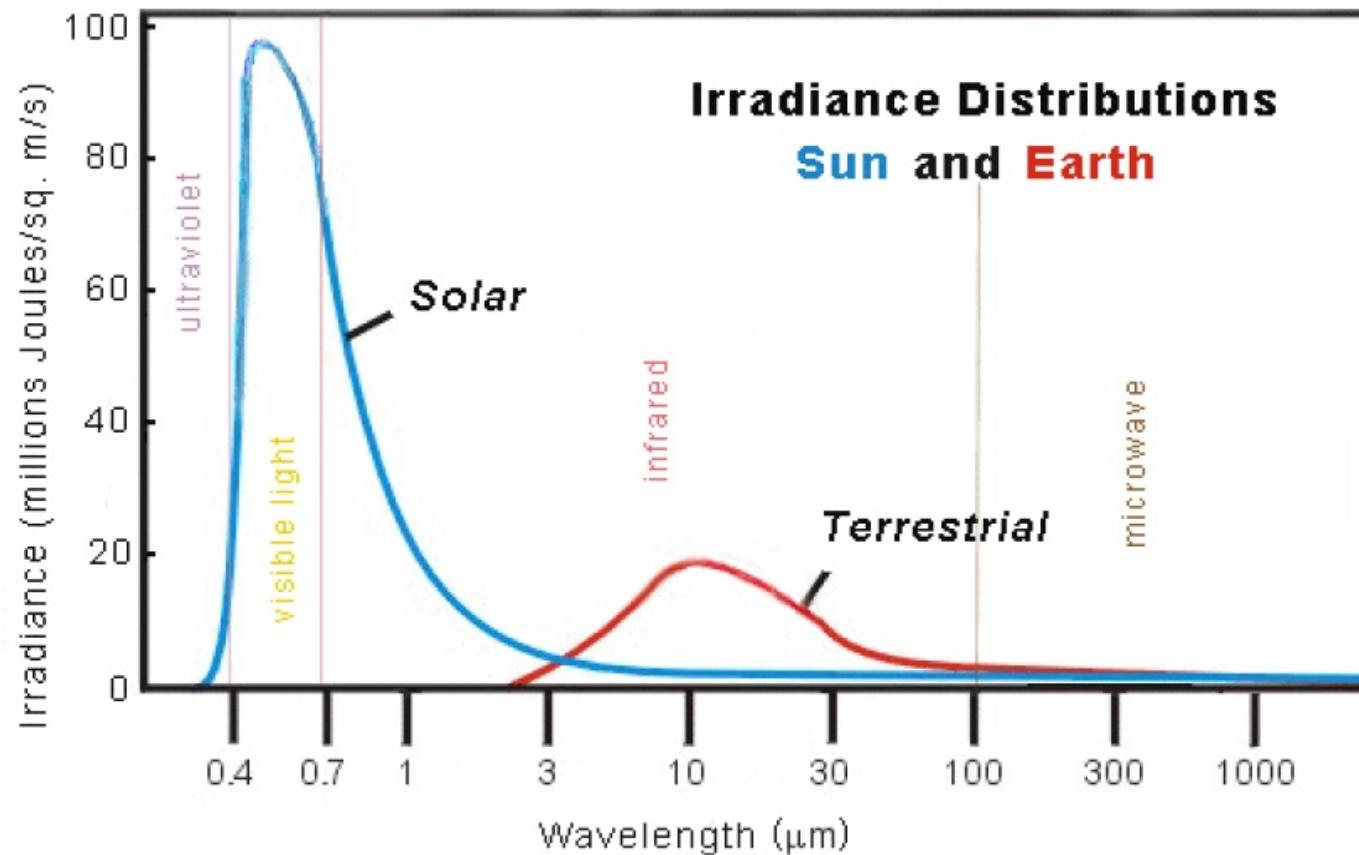
The intensity ( $I$ ) of electromagnetic radiation at a given wavelength ( $\lambda$ ) is a complicated function of the wavelength and the temperature ( $T$ ).







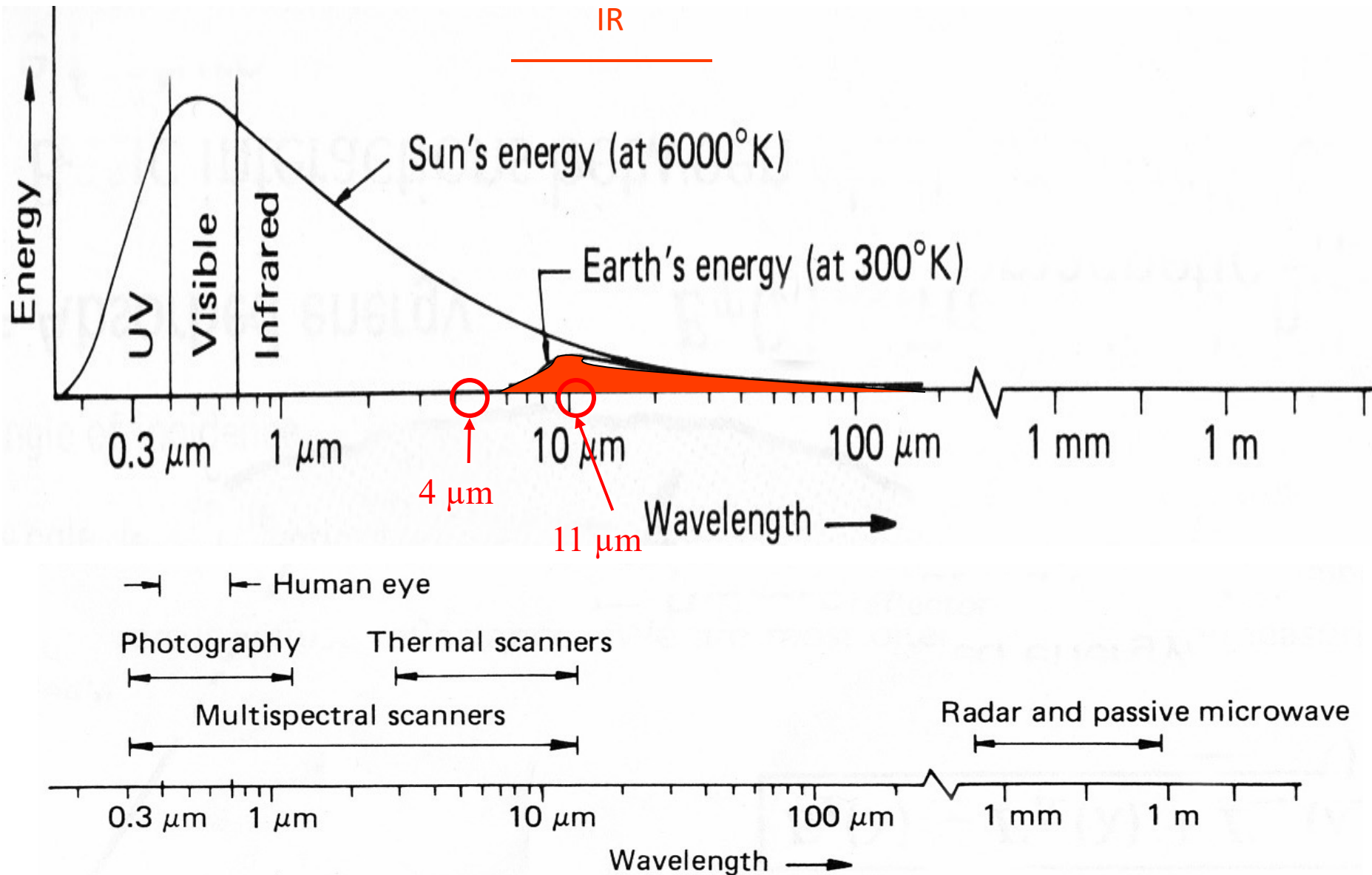
Power density is the amount of power (time rate of energy transfer) per unit volume.



**Solar irradiance ( Power of EM radiation incident per unit area on a surface.  
Almost 90 percent of energy is in range of .28 to 4.96 micrometer)  
About 43 percent radiation is in visible wavelength ( .4 to .7)  
Maximum energy is 0.48 i.e green wave length**

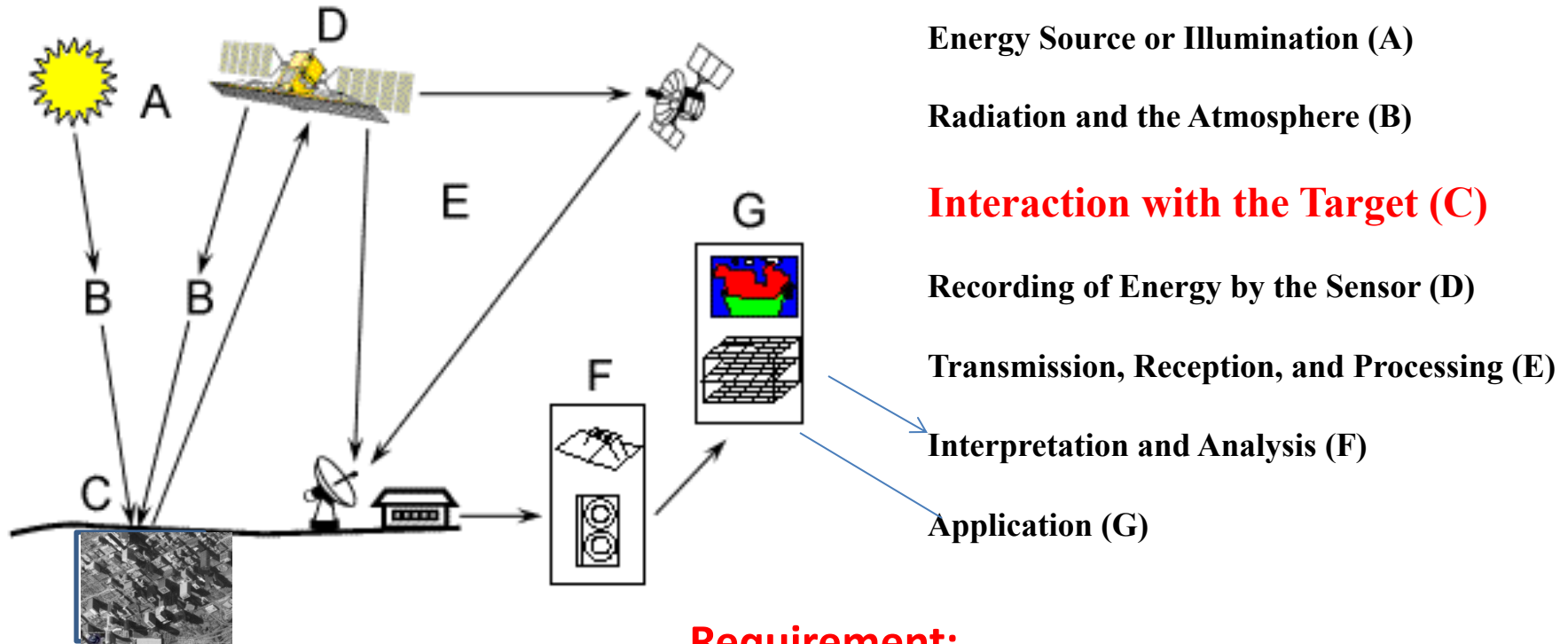


## Spectral Characteristics of Energy Sources and Sensing Systems



# What are components of Remote Sensing

## OR What are the processes in remote sensing



Source: Canadian Centre for Remote Sensing

### Requirement:

Source of energy - Sun

Object – Ground features

Sensor – camera etc

Data processing- covert data to a usable form

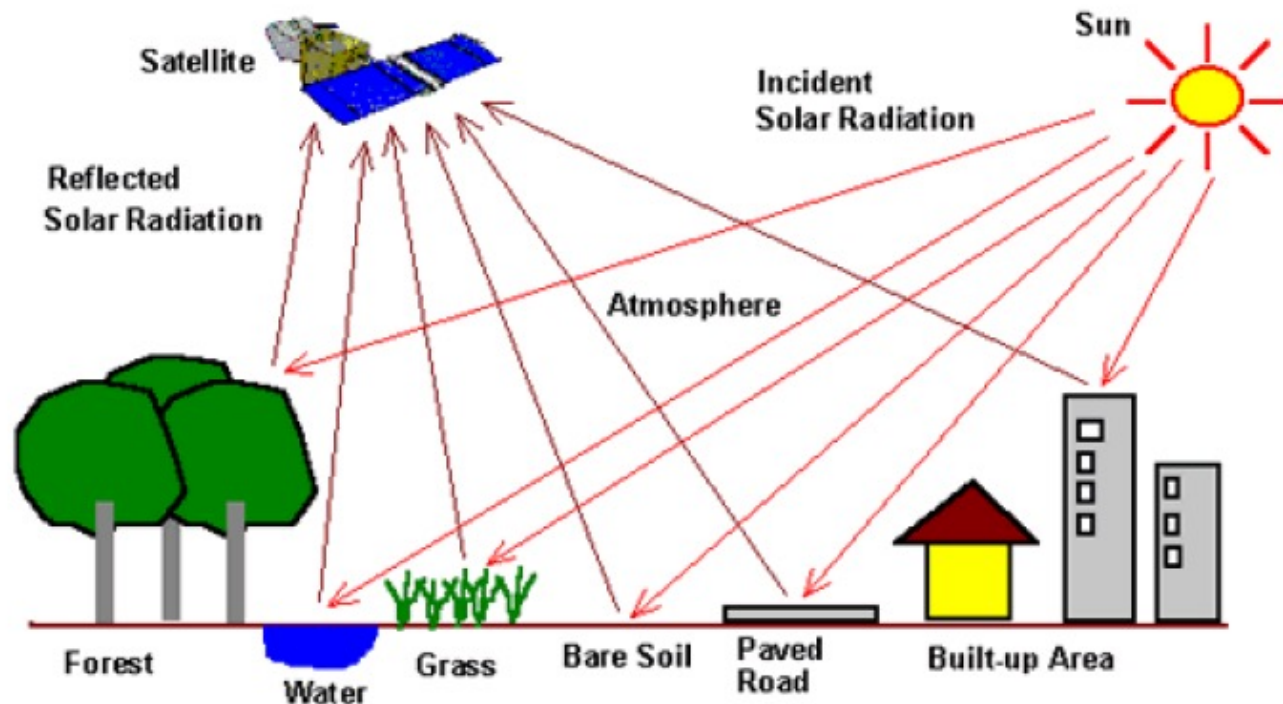
Image- Interpretation

# Remote Sensing

## Definition of remote sensing

Remote sensing is the branch of science delivering information about objects through the analysis of data collected by **spectral instruments** that are not in physical contact with the objects of investigation.

The detection and recording instruments for this technology are known as **remote sensors**. The object being monitored is called **target**.



# Basic Principles

- Remote sensing based on reflected electromagnetic energy
- Light energy characterized by *wavelength*
  - Each “color” of light has distinctive wavelength
  - Full range of wavelengths called *electromagnetic spectrum*
  - Our eyes sense light in the visible portion of spectrum



RADIATION INTENSITY

7%

44%

49%

Ultraviolet

Visible Light

Near Infrared

Far Infrared

Microwaves

TV Waves

Short radio waves

AM radio waves



WAVELENGTH

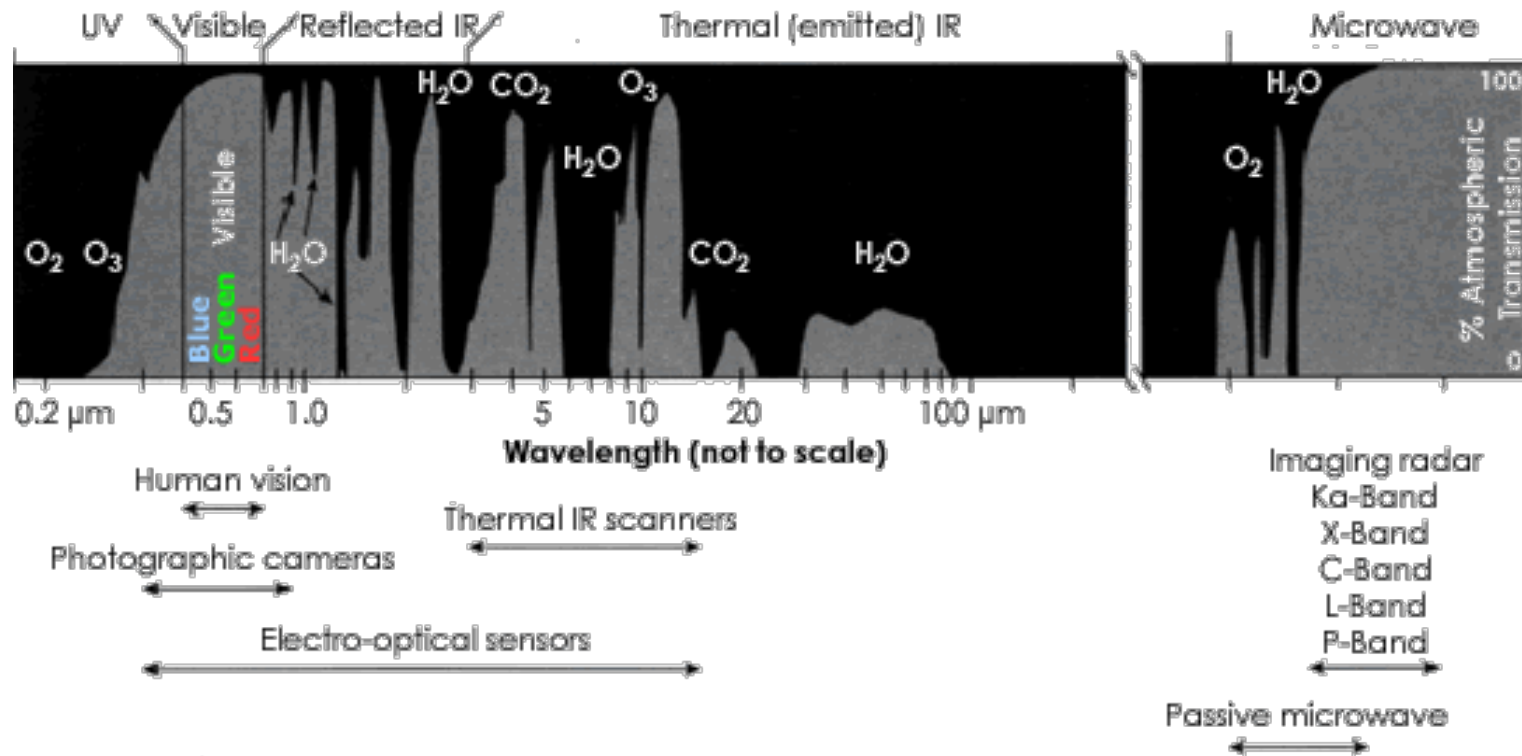
SHORTER

LONGER

Region	Wavelength ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Remarks
Gamma rays	$< 3 \times 10^{-5}$	Not available for remote sensing. Incoming radiation is absorbed by the atmosphere
X-ray	$3 \times 10^{-5} - 3 \times 10^{-3}$	Not available for remote sensing since it is absorbed by atmosphere
Ultraviolet (UV) rays	0.03 - 0.4	Wavelengths less than 0.3 are absorbed by the ozone layer in the upper atmosphere. Wavelengths between 0.3- 0.4 $\mu\text{m}$ are transmitted and termed as “Photographic UV band”.
Visible	0.4 - 0.7	Detectable with film and photodetectors.
Infrared (IR)	0.7 - 100	Atmospheric windows exist which allows maximum transmission. Portion between 0.7 and 0.9 $\mu\text{m}$ is called photographic IR band, since it is detectable with film. Two principal atmospheric windows exist in the thermal IR region (3 - 5 $\mu\text{m}$ and 8 - 14 $\mu\text{m}$ ).
Microwave	$10^3 - 10^6$	Can penetrate rain, fog and clouds. Both active and passive remote sensing is possible. Radar uses wavelength in this range.
Radio	$> 10^6$	Have the longest wavelength. Used for remote sensing by some radars.



# Effects of Atmosphere on the electromagnetic spectrum: Atmospheric windows for Remote Sensing



Links:

<http://www.gisdevelopment.net/tutorials/tuman008.htm>

<http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/Library/RemoteSensingAtmosphere/>

# WHAT are different type of remote sensing?

## Classification of Remote sensing:

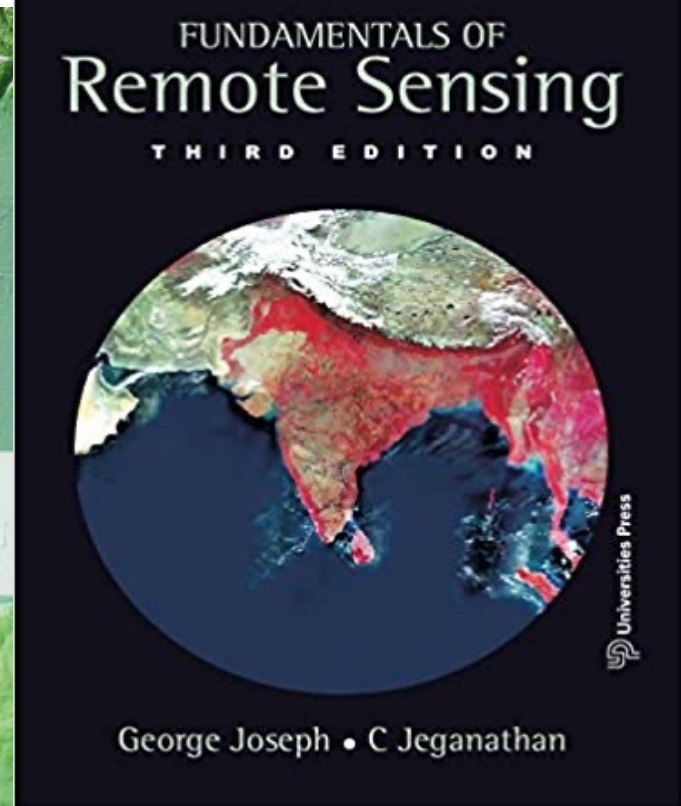
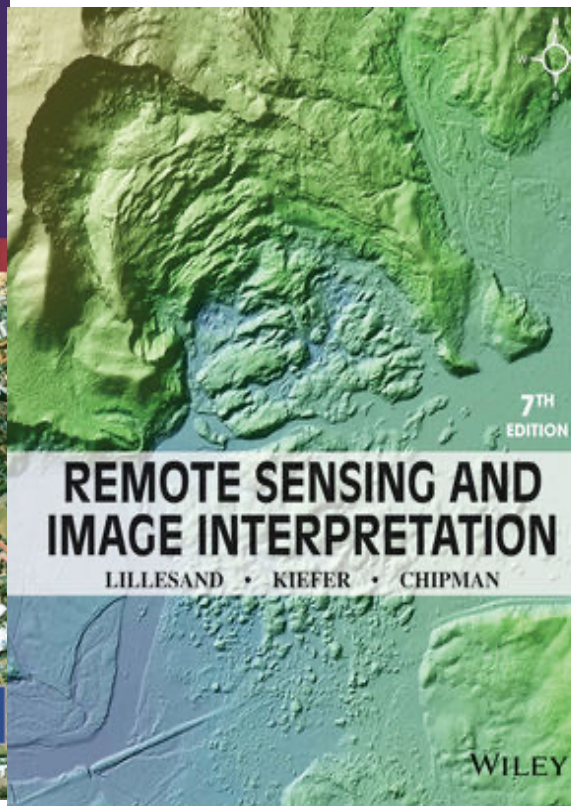
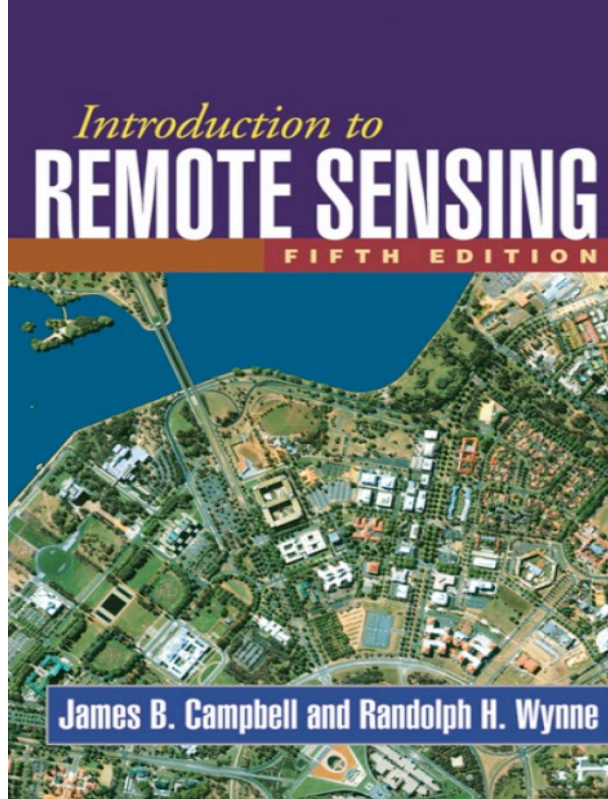
Based on spectral region:

Optical/IR remote sensing ( 0.4 to 8.0 micrometer)

Thermal remote sensing ( 8 to 12 micrometer)

Microwave remote sensing ( .3 to 100 GHz)

The **micrometre** (  $\mu\text{m}$ ) also commonly known as a micron, is unit of length equalling  $1 \times 10^{-6}$  metre



[https://www.usna.edu/Users/oceano/pguth/md\\_help/html/satb8rlf.htm](https://www.usna.edu/Users/oceano/pguth/md_help/html/satb8rlf.htm)

<https://appliedsciences.nasa.gov/join-mission/training/english/arset-fundamentals-remote-sensing>

<https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/maps-tools-and-publications/satellite-imagery-and-air-photos/tutorial-fundamentals-remote-sensing/9309>

Further suggested reading

<https://nptel.ac.in/content/storage2/courses/1/05108077/module1/lecture1.pdf>

<http://hillagric.ac.in:999/downloads/gis/notes/4-IntroductiontoRemoteSensing.pdf>

Chapter 1: Remote sensing by Campbell and Wyne

## **Question Bank**

- 1. What is remote sensing?**
- 2. What are three main electromagnetic region of remote sensing.**
- 3. Explain Planck's law. What is peak wavelength of emitted radiation from sun and earth.**
- 4. Explain Components of Remote sensing**