

# **Remote Sensing**

# Remote Sensing Literature:

- Lillesand T.M. and Kiefer R.W., 2000. Remote sensing and image interpretation. John Wiley & Sons.
- Aronoff S., 2005. Remote sensing for GIS managers; ESRI Press, Redlands, California.
- Barrett E.C. and Curtis L.F., 1992. Introduction to environmental remote sensing. Chapman & Hall.
- Jensen J.R., 2000. Remote sensing of the environment. An earth resource perspective. Prentice Hall, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey.

# Remote Sensing

## Table of contents

- Introduction to remote sensing
- History of Remote Sensing
- Multispectral Remote Sensing Systems
- Spectral properties of vegetation
- Spectral properties of soils
- Spectral properties of water
- Applications of Remote Sensing
- Remote Sensing in Agriculture

# Remote Sensing - introduction

## REMOTE SENSING

### DEFINITIONS:

The more general: Remote Sensing involves gathering data and information about the physical "world" by detecting and measuring signals composed of radiation, particles, and fields emanating from objects located beyond the immediate vicinity of the sensor device(s).

The more restricted: Remote Sensing is a technology for sampling electromagnetic radiation to acquire and interpret non-contiguous *geospatial data* from which to extract information about features, objects, and classes on the Earth's land surface, oceans, and atmosphere



"Remote" and "Proximal" Sensing



# Remote Sensing - introduction

## **Remote Sensing methods:**

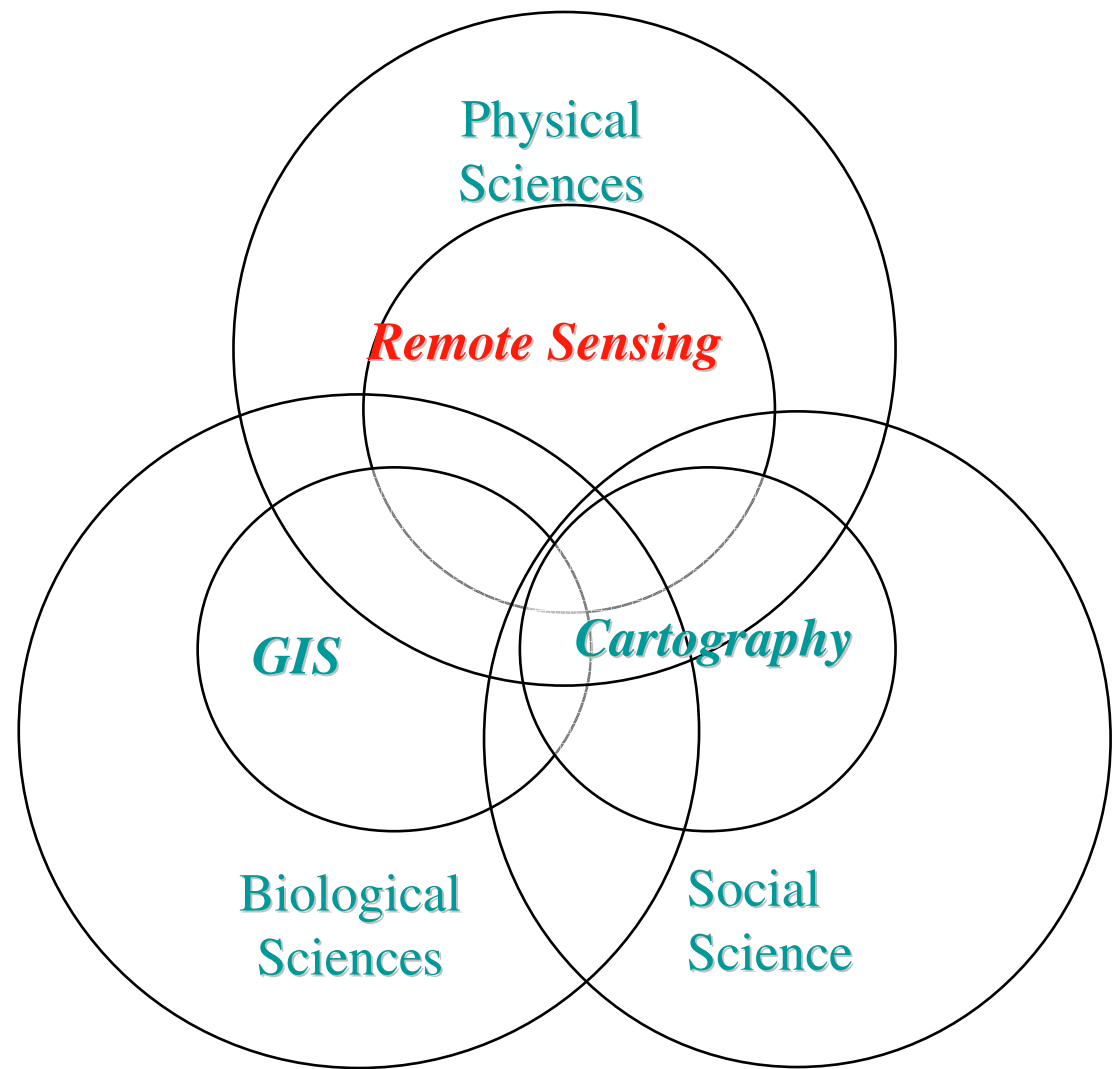
- passive analog (camera, videography)
- passive digital (camera, multispectral scanners, linear and area arrays, spectroradiometers)
- active (microwave - radar, laser - lidar, sonar)

## **Remote Sensing observations can be carried out from a level:**

- Satellite,
- Airborne,
- Low Altitude Remote Sensing (LARS)
- Ground.

# Remote Sensing - introduction

Relationships  
between Remote  
Sensing, Cartography  
and Geographical  
Information System  
on a background of a  
physical, biological  
and social sciences

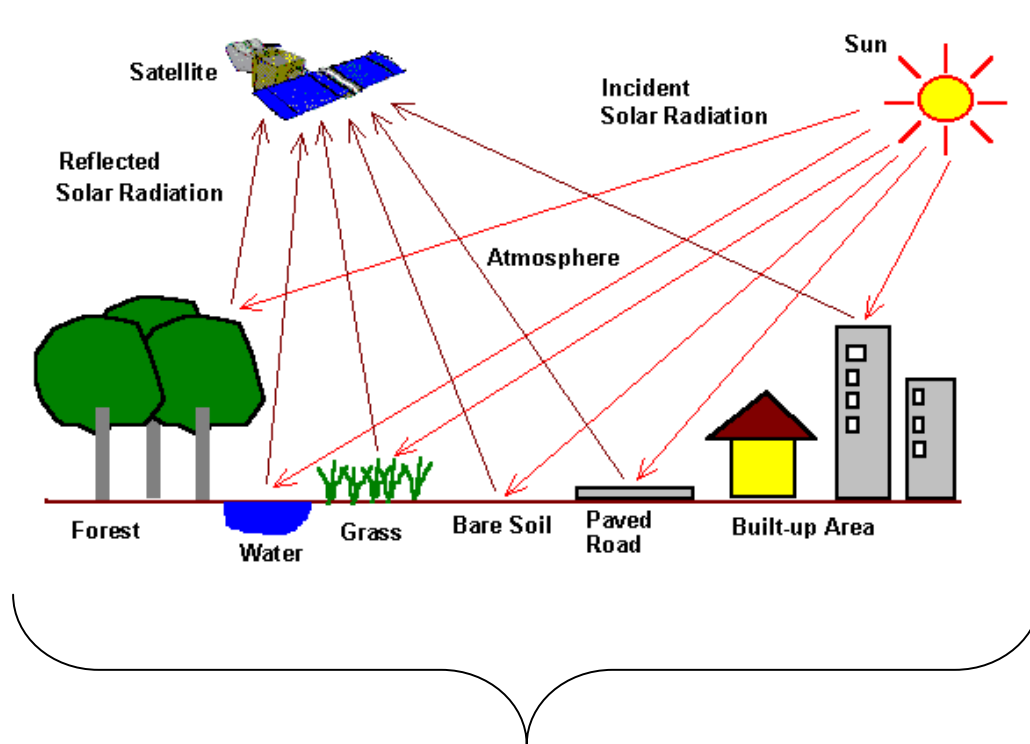


# Remote Sensing - introduction

## Why remote sensing is also an art?

- The ability of visual photo or digital image interpretation derives not only from scientific knowledge, but also from the experience acquired during a past life.
- Some image analyst are much superior to other image analysts because they:
  - Understand the scientific principles better,
  - are more widely travelled and have seen many landscape objects and geographic areas first-hand
  - can synthesize scientific principles and real-world knowledge to reach logical and correct conclusions.

# Remote Sensing - introduction



Radar has its own source of radiation.

## Output data:

- images-photography
- maps
- graphs
- digital numbers.

**Incident solar radiation can be:**

***reflected, transmitted and/or absorbed in various proportions depending on material characteristics***

# Remote Sensing - introduction

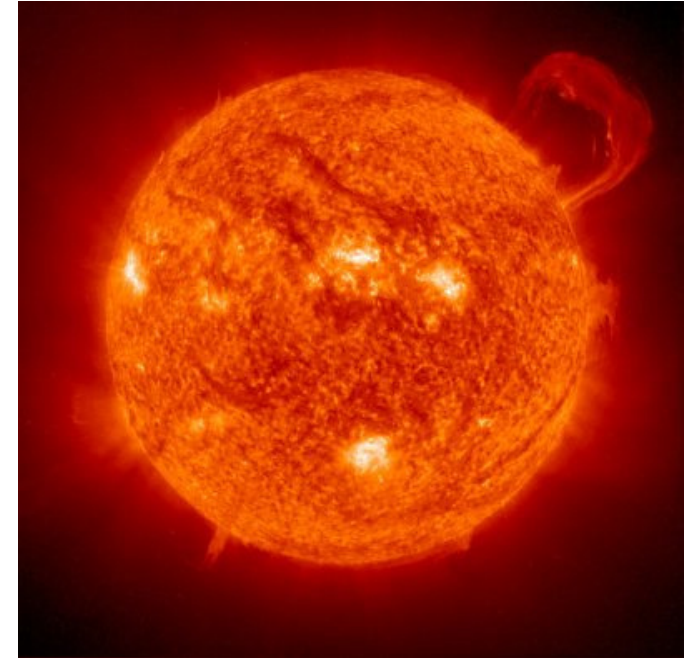
**Solar energy** – is created in the process of thermosynthesis - in which, by a combination of four protons in the nucleus of helium, the mass conversion into energy occurs.

**Energy is the ability to do work**

***Can be transferred in:***

**conduction, convection and radiation**

***Radiation*** - transfer of energy that do not require physical contact between the body and absorbing radiant energy. Energetic particles or energetic waves travel through a medium or space. They ***radiate*** (i.e., travel outward in all directions) from a source.



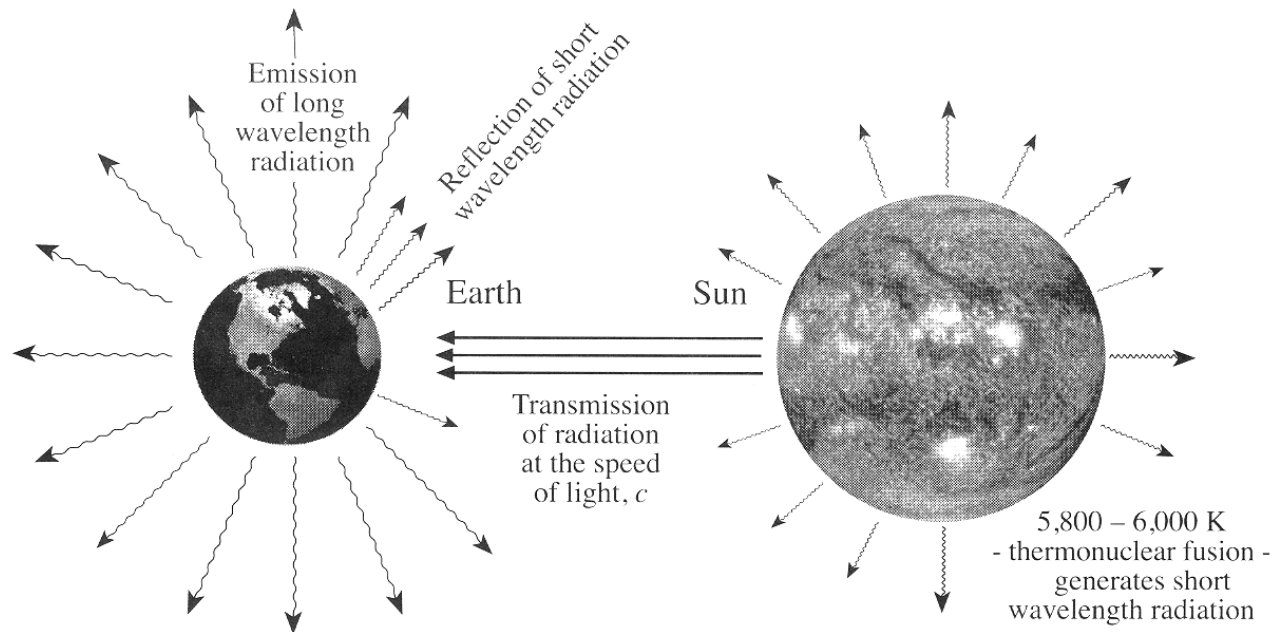
**Radiation:**

- **ionizing** (or ionising) radiation is radiation composed of particles that individually carry enough kinetic energy to liberate an electron from an atom or molecule, ionizing it. Ionizing radiation is generated through nuclear reactions, either artificial or natural, by very high temperature

- **non-ionizing**: the light from the Sun that reaches the earth is largely composed of non-ionizing radiation. Far-ultraviolet rays have been filtered out by the gases in the atmosphere, particularly oxygen.

# Remote Sensing – electromagnetic radiation

**Wave model** – James C. Maxwell

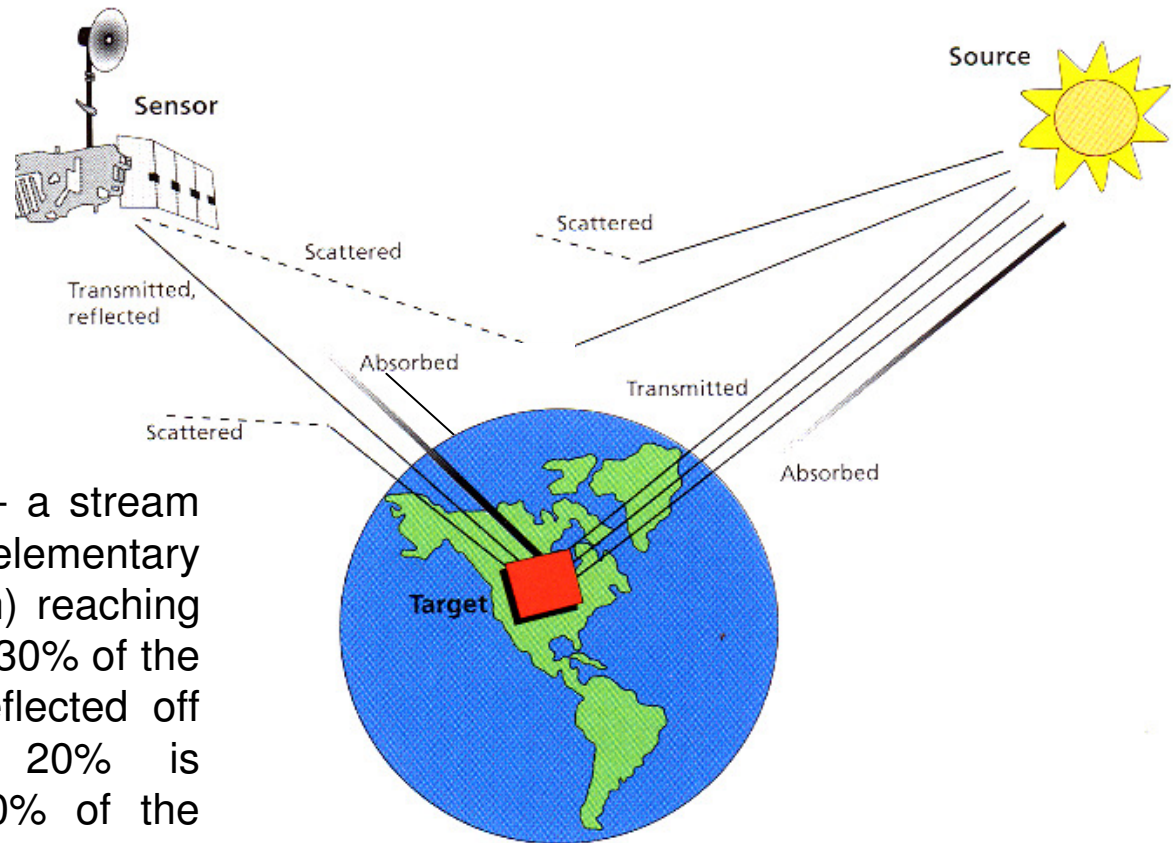


**Blackbody** – a theoretical construct that absorbs and radiates energy at the maximum possible rate per unit area at each wavelength for a given temperature

**Stefan-Boltzmann law** – the total emitted radiation from a blackbody [ $\text{W m}^{-2}$ ] is proportional to the fourth power of its absolute temperature.

$$M_{\lambda} = \sigma T^4$$

# TELEDETEKCJA podstawy fizyczne



**Solar radiation** - Solar radiation - a stream of electromagnetic waves and elementary particles (corpuscular radiation) reaching the Earth from the Sun. About 30% of the incoming solar radiation is reflected off the planet's atmosphere, 20% is absorbed by it, and only 50% of the energy reach the Earth's surface.

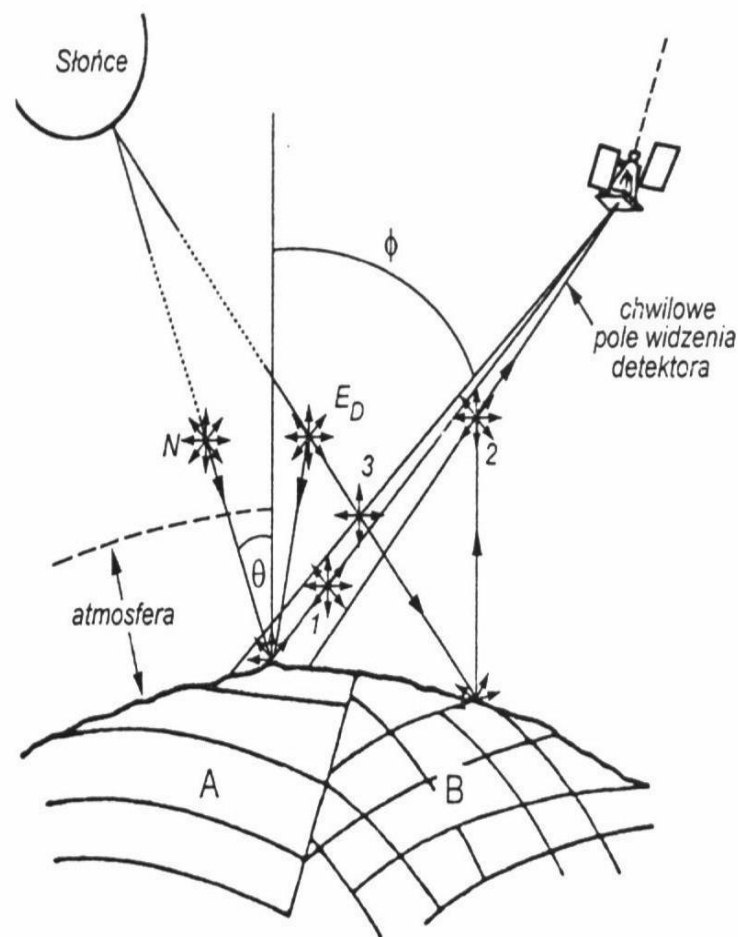
## Solar radiation:

- direct,
- diffuse (sky radiation) solar radiation from the hemisphere of the sky reaching the Earth's surface, with the exception of direct radiation,
- total.

# Remote Sensing – electromagnetic radiation

## The energy from the Sun being remotely sensed:

- is radiated by atomic particles at the source (the Sun),
- propagates through the vacuum of space at the speed of light,
- interacts with the Earth's atmosphere,
- interacts with the Earth's **surface**,
- interacts with the Earth's atmosphere once again, and
- finally reaches the remote sensing, where it interacts with various optical systems, filters, film emulsions, or detectors.

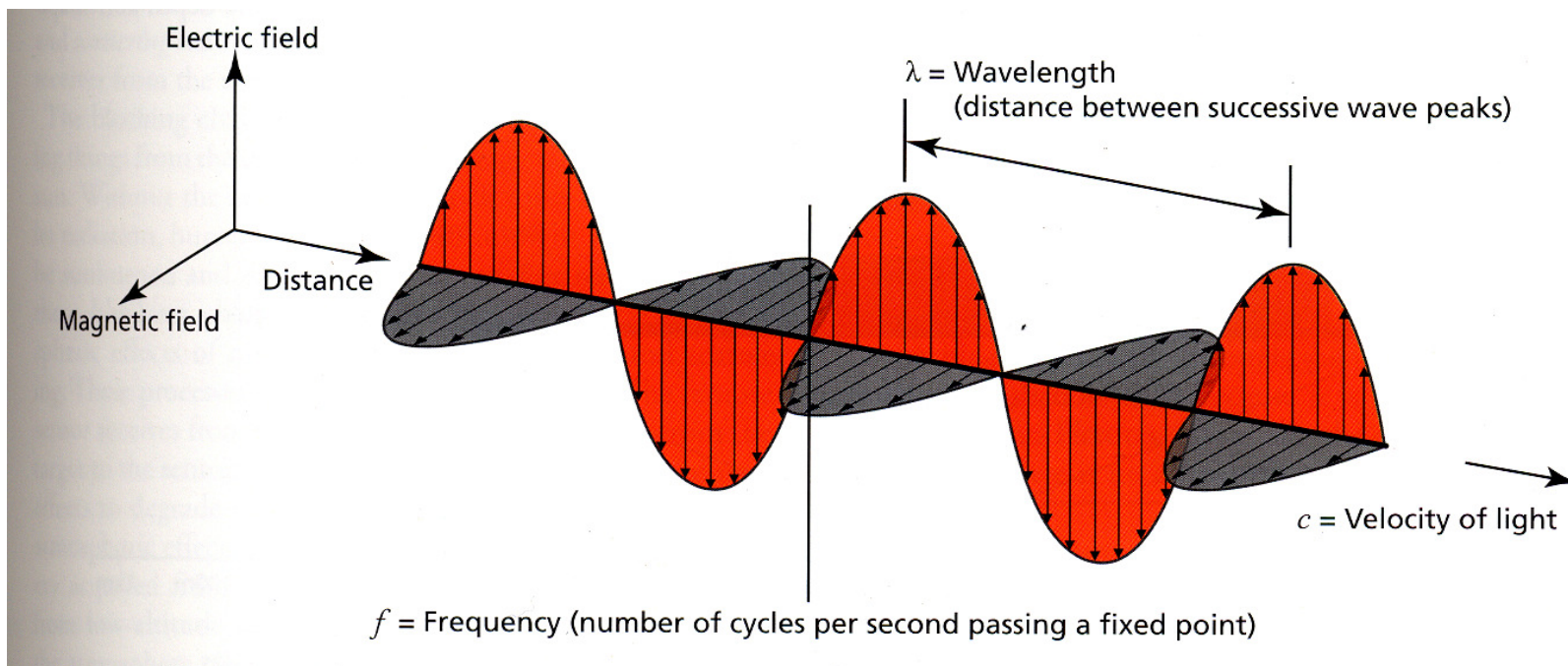




# Remote Sensing – electromagnetic radiation

## Wave model – James C. Maxwell

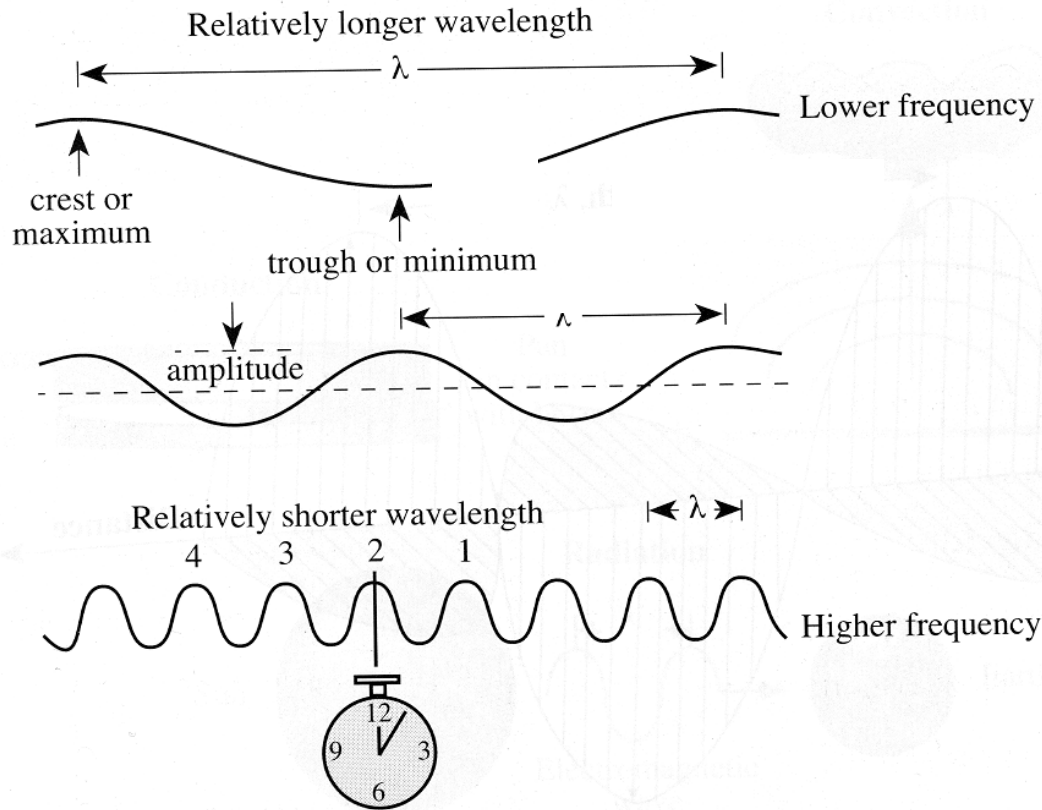
An electromagnetic wave is composed of both electric and magnetic vectors that are orthonogal (at  $90^\circ$  angles) to one another



The waves travel from the source at the speed of light ( $3 \times 10^8 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ )

# Remote Sensing – electromagnetic radiation

## Wave model – James C. Maxwell



**Wavelength** - the mean distance between maximums (or minimums) of a roughly periodic pattern [ $\mu\text{m}$  or  $\text{nm}$ ].

**Frequency** - the number of wavelengths that pass a point per unit time [Hz].

$$c = \lambda v$$

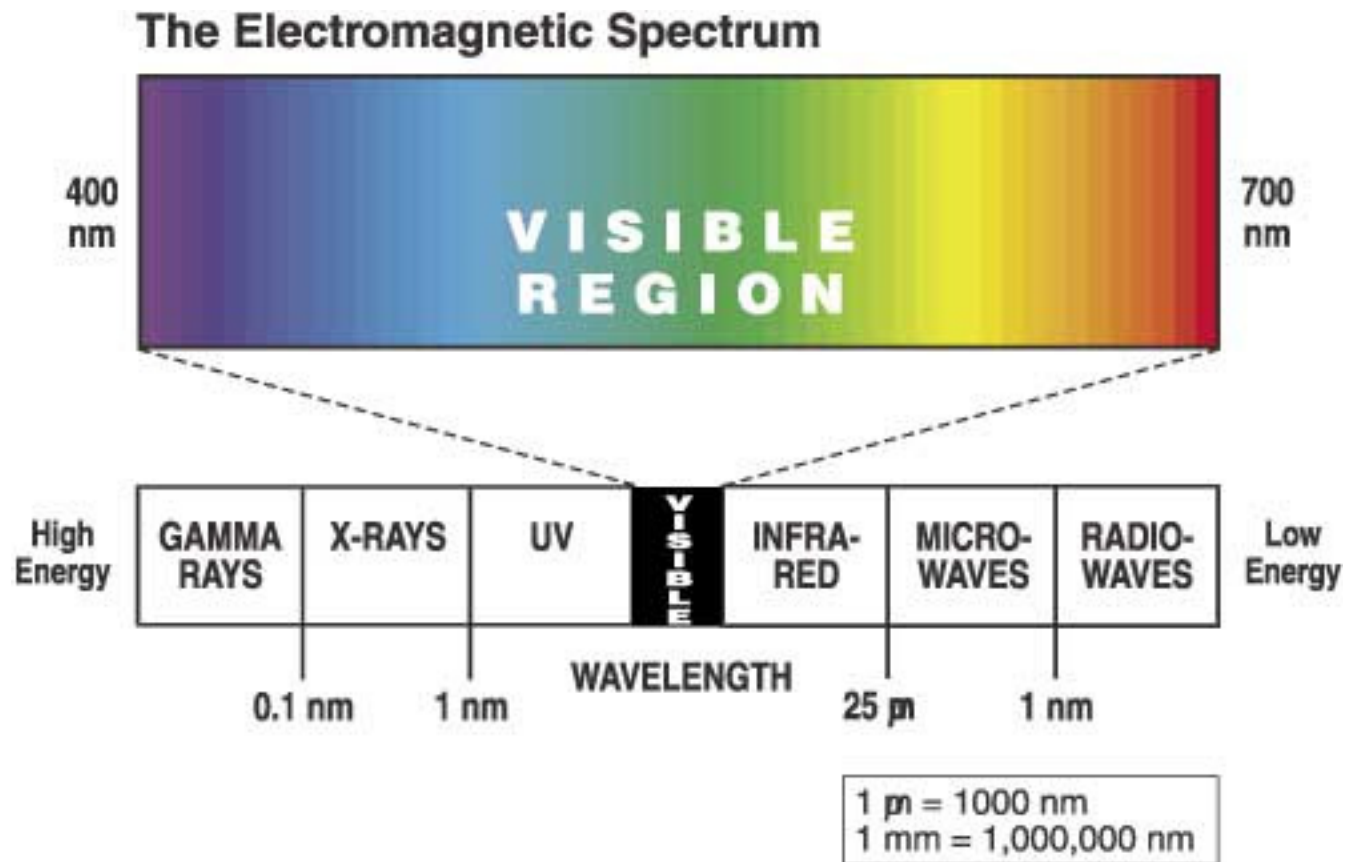
$$v = c/\lambda$$

$$\lambda = c/v$$

$c$  – speed of light,  
 $\lambda$  – wavelength,  
 $v$  – frequency.

The longer the wavelength, the lower the frequency;  
the shorter the wavelength, the higher the frequency.

# Remote Sensing – electromagnetic radiation



Blue: 400–500 nm

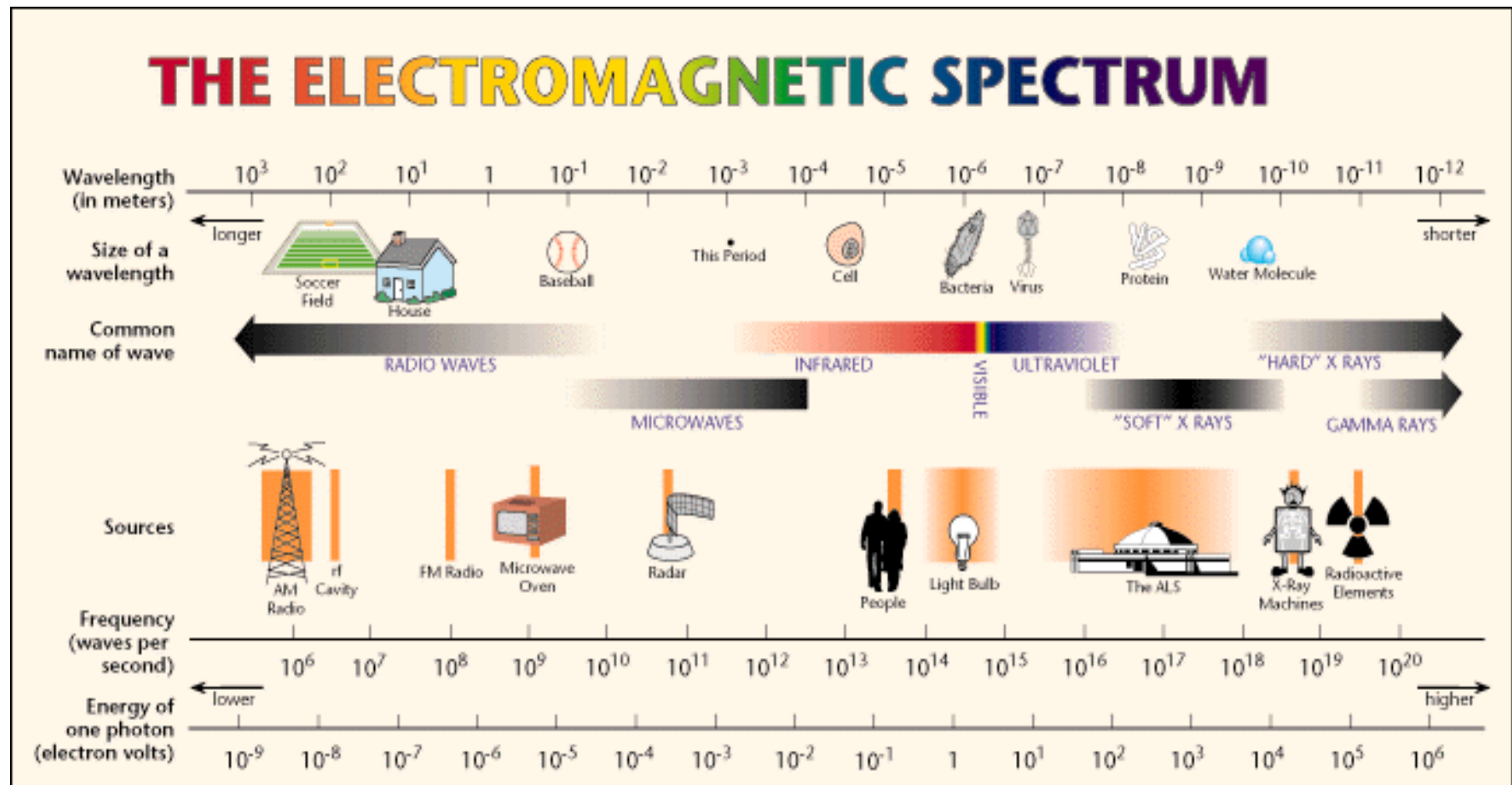
Green: 500-600 nm

Red: 600-700 nm

**Optical remote sensing:** visible + infrared

*Infrared - near infrared (700-1300 nm) + short-waveinfrared (1300 – 2500 nm)*

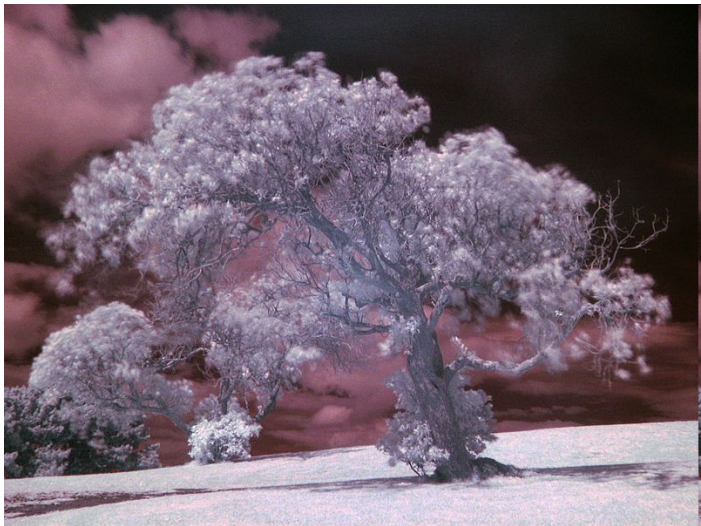
# Remote Sensing – electromagnetic radiation



# Remote Sensing – electromagnetic radiation



Visible wavelength



Near-infrared wavelength

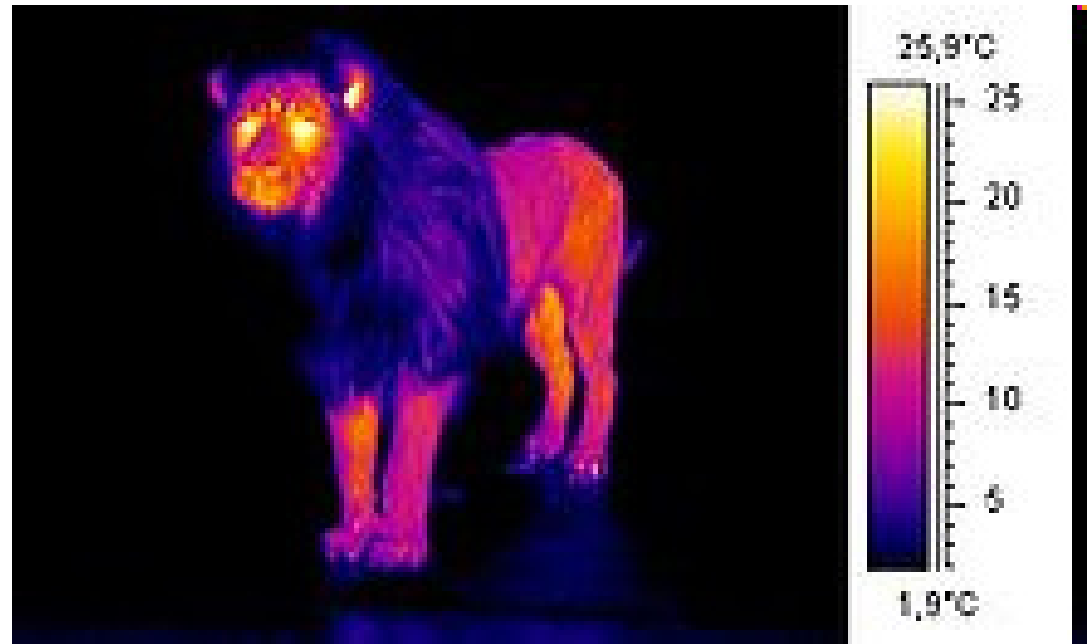


Photo of a lion taken in the mid-infrared  
(colors contractual)



# Remote Sensing – electromagnetic radiation

**Himalyan balsam (policeman's helmet) - *Impatiens glandulifera***

Human Vision



Bee Vision Simulation

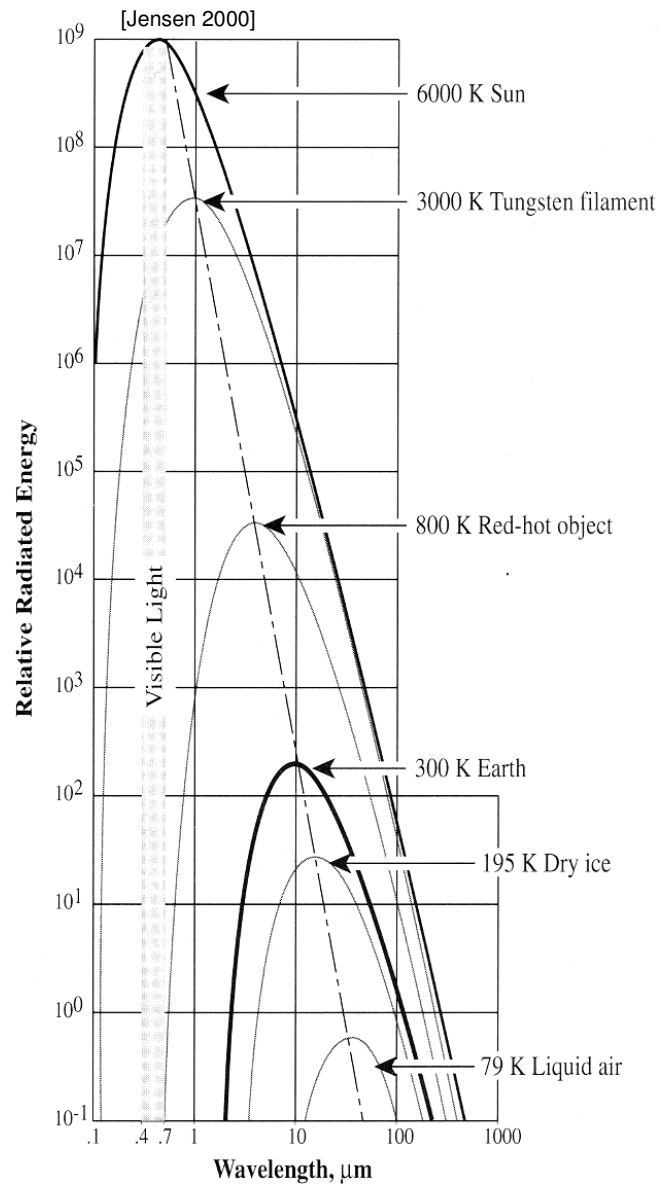


Butterfly Vision Simulation



# Remote Sensing – electromagnetic radiation

**Wave model** – James C. Maxwell



**Wiens displacement law**  
(dominant wavelength)

$$\lambda_{\text{max}} = k/T$$

*k* – a constant equaling  $2898 \mu\text{m K}$   
*T* – absolute temp. in degrees K

Blackbody radiation curves

# Remote Sensing – electromagnetic radiation

## The particle model

### Photon energy units:

Joules (J)

electron volts (eV)

$$Q = h\nu$$

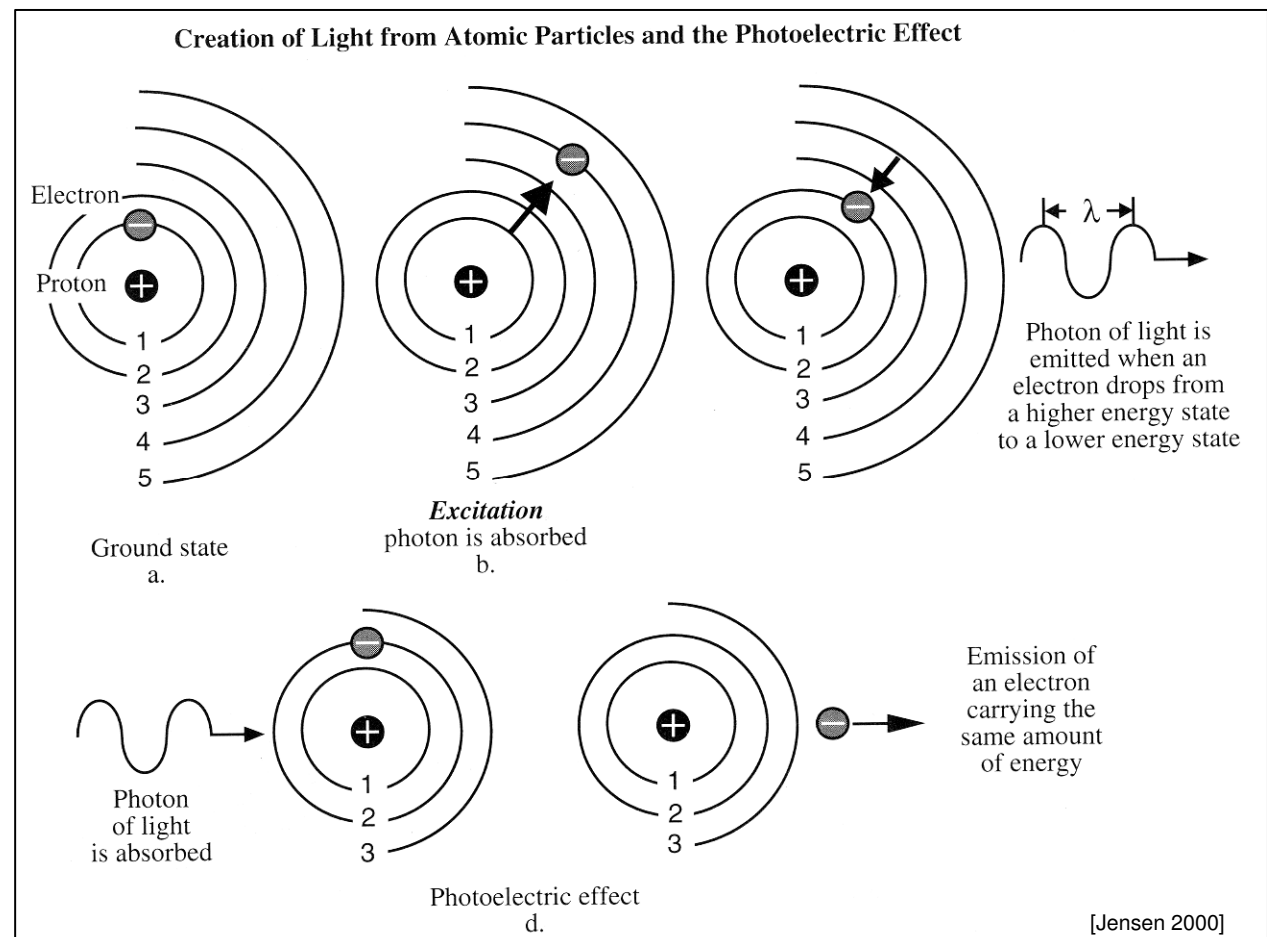
**Q** - the energy of a quantum measured in Joules (J),

**h** - the Planck constant ( $6.626 \times 10^{-34}$  J s),

**$\nu$**  - the frequency of the radiation,

**c** – speed of light.

$$\lambda = \frac{hc}{Q} \quad \text{or} \quad Q = \frac{hc}{\lambda}$$





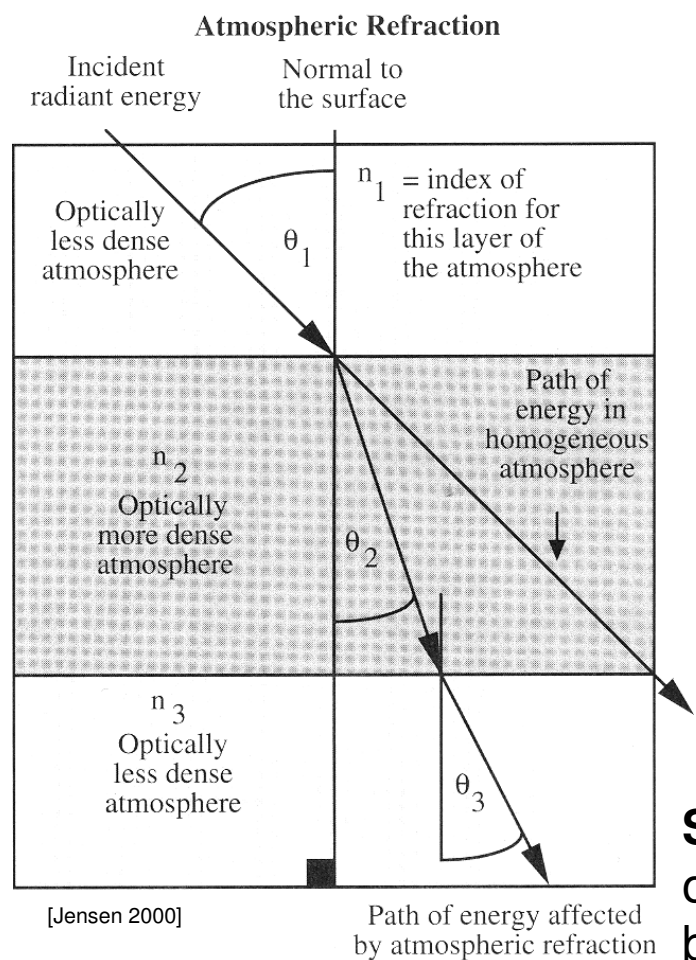
# Remote Sensing – electromagnetic radiation

## **Radiant energy ( $Q$ )**

- **Electromagnetic radiation can be described using both wavelength  $\lambda$ , frequency  $\nu$  and size of radiant energy  $Q$ , which causes photochemical reaction in the emulsion film or inducing light-sensitive element (eg CCD).**
- **Radiant energy  $Q$  is understood as the ability of radiation to perform physical work, warm-up or cause changes in state of matter, measured in J or eV.**

# Remote Sensing – electromagnetic radiation

## Energy – Matter interaction in the Atmosphere



***Radiant energy*** - the capacity of radiation within a spectral band to do work

**Refraction** - the bending of light when it passes from one medium to another

***Index of refraction*** - measure of the optical density of a substance.

Atmosphere - 1.0002926

Water - 1.33

$$n = \frac{c}{c_n}$$

**where:**  $c$  – speed of light in a vacuum,  
 $c_n$  – speed of light in a given substance.

**Snell's law** - for a given frequency of light the product of the index of refraction and the sine of the angle between the ray and a line normal to the interface is constant

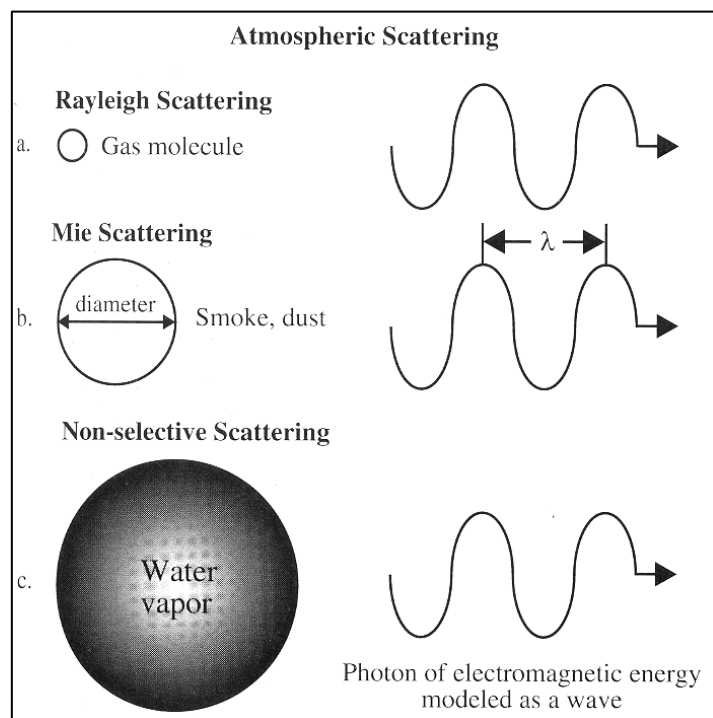
# Remote Sensing – electromagnetic radiation

## Energy – Matter interaction in the Atmosphere

**Scattering** is a general physical process where some forms of radiation, such as light are forced to deviate from a straight trajectory by one or more localized non-uniformities in the medium through which they pass.

**The direction associated with scattering is unpredictable.**

The direction of **reflection** is **predictable**



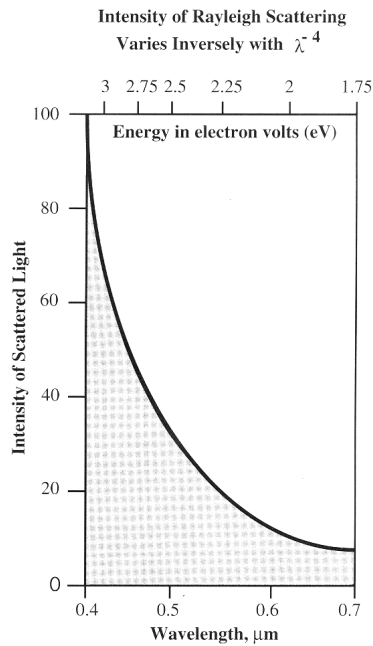
**Rayleigh scattering** (molecular scattering) – at particles with the effective diameter many times smaller (usually  $< 0.1$ ) than the wavelength of the incident electromagnetic radiation

UV light at 300 nm is scattered approximately 16 times more than red light at 600 nm

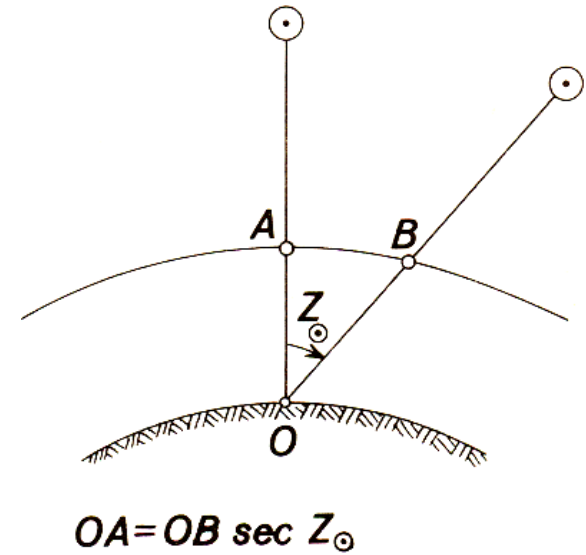
Blue light at 400 nm is scattered about 5 times that of red light at 600 nm

# Remote Sensing – electromagnetic radiation

## Energy – Matter interaction in the Atmosphere



*Rayleigh scattering*



# Remote Sensing – electromagnetic radiation

## Energy – Matter interaction in the Atmosphere

***Mie scattering*** (nonmolecular scattering) – at particles with diameters approximately equal to the size of the wavelength of the incident energy

### Number of dust particles in 1 cm<sup>3</sup> over:

Ocean	70 -340
High mountains	400 – 8 000
Arable fields after rain	32 000
Arable fields during sunny days	130 000
Urban areas	170 – 470 000

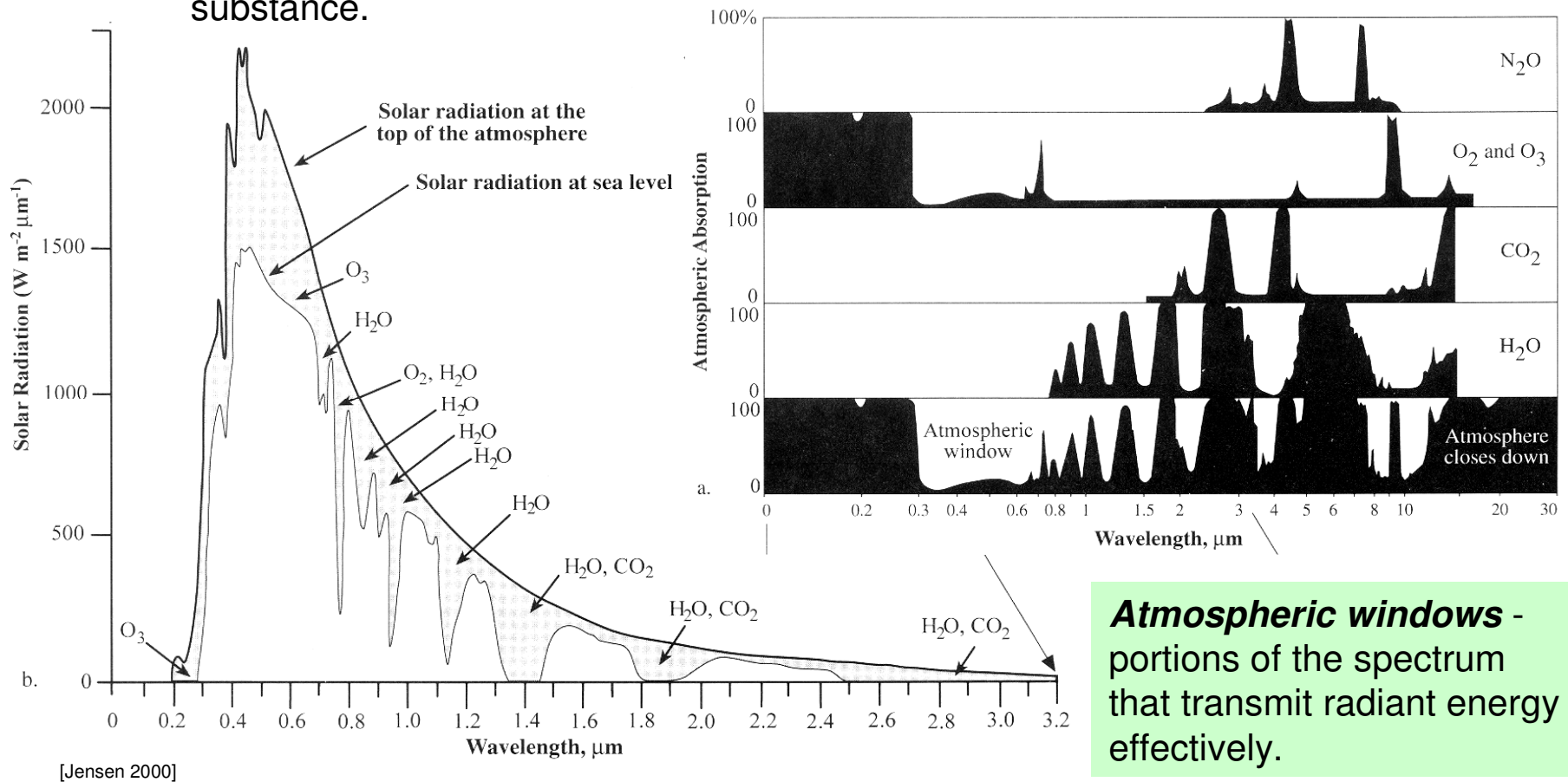
***Non-selective scattering*** takes place in the lowest portions of the atmosphere where there are particles greater than 10 times the wavelength of the incident electromagnetic radiation

# Remote Sensing – electromagnetic radiation

## Energy – Matter interaction in the Atmosphere

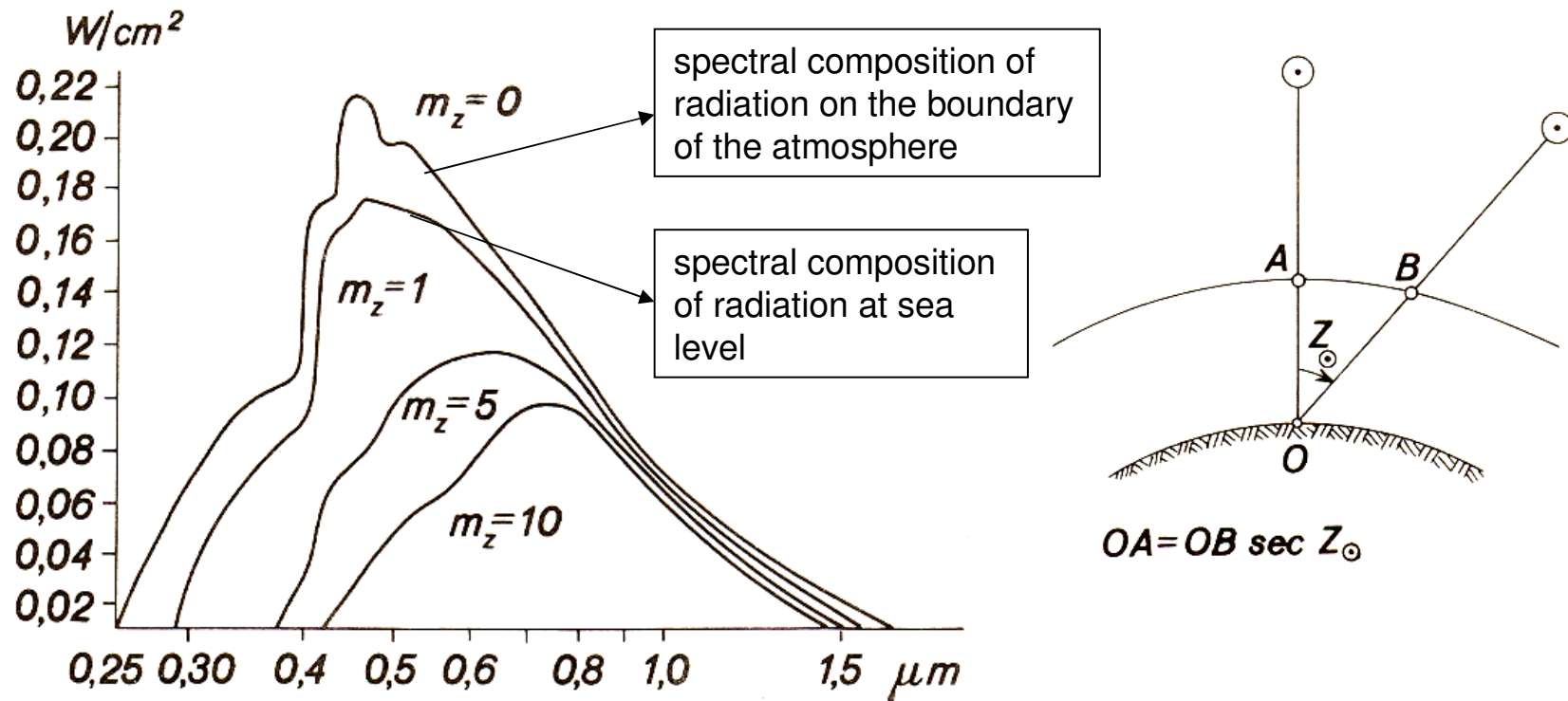
**Absorption** is the process by which radiant energy is absorbed and converted into other forms of energy.

An ***absorption band*** is a range of wavelengths (or frequencies) in the electromagnetic spectrum within which radiant energy is absorbed by a substance.



# Remote Sensing – electromagnetic radiation

## Energy – Matter interaction in the Atmosphere



The spectral composition and intensity of solar radiation depending on the thickness of the atmosphere, through which the radiation passes (A.S. Kuczko) [Wójcik]



# Remote Sensing – electromagnetic radiation

**Radiant flux** - the amount of radiant energy onto, off of, or through a surface per unit time and is measured in Watts (W).

**Radiation budget equation:**

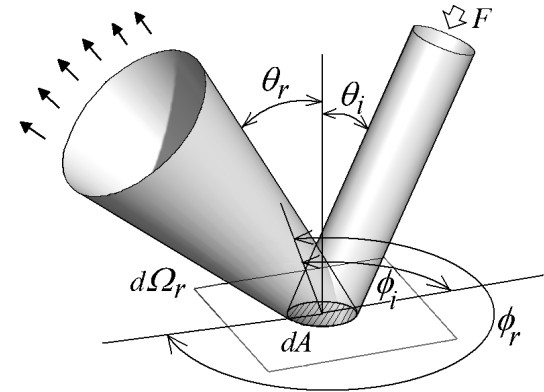
$$\Phi_{i\lambda} = r_{\lambda} + \tau_{\lambda} + \alpha_{\lambda}$$

**Hemispherical reflectance** - the ratio of the radiant flux reflected from a surface to the radiant flux incident to it (dimensionless).

**Reflectance factor:**  $\rho_{r\lambda} = \frac{\Phi_{reflected}}{\Phi_{i\lambda}} \bullet 100$

**Hemispherical transmittance** - the ratio of the radiant flux transmitted through a surface to the radiant flux incident to it (dimensionless)

**Hemispherical absorptance** - the ratio of the radiant flux absorbed by a surface to the radiant flux incident to it (dimensionless)

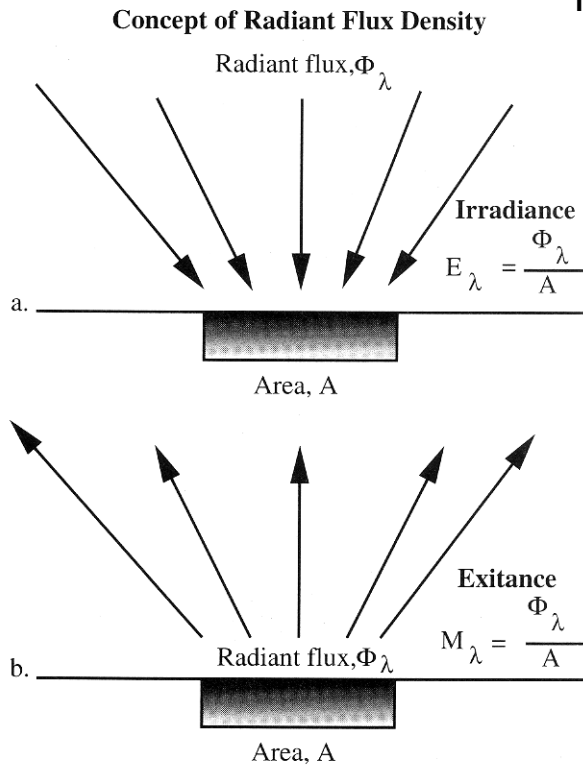


Hemisphere – half of the sphere



# Remote Sensing – electromagnetic radiation

**Radiant Flux Density** - the amount of radiant flux intercepted divided by the area of the plane surface.

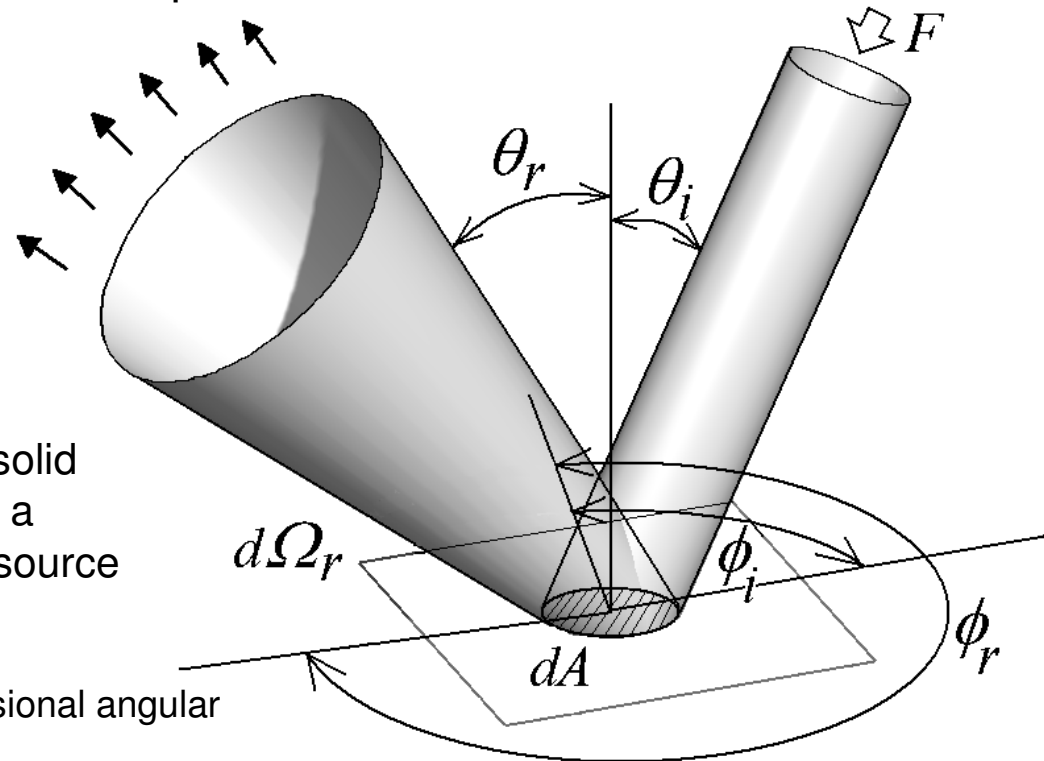


**Irradiance** - the amount of radiant flux incident per unit area of a plane surface.

**Exitance** - the amount of radiant flux leaving per unit area of the plane surface.

**Radiance** - the radiant flux per unit solid angle leaving an extended source in a given direction per unit of projected source area in that direction [ $\text{W} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{sr}^{-1}$ ].

**Steradian** is used to describe two-dimensional angular spans in three-dimensional space.

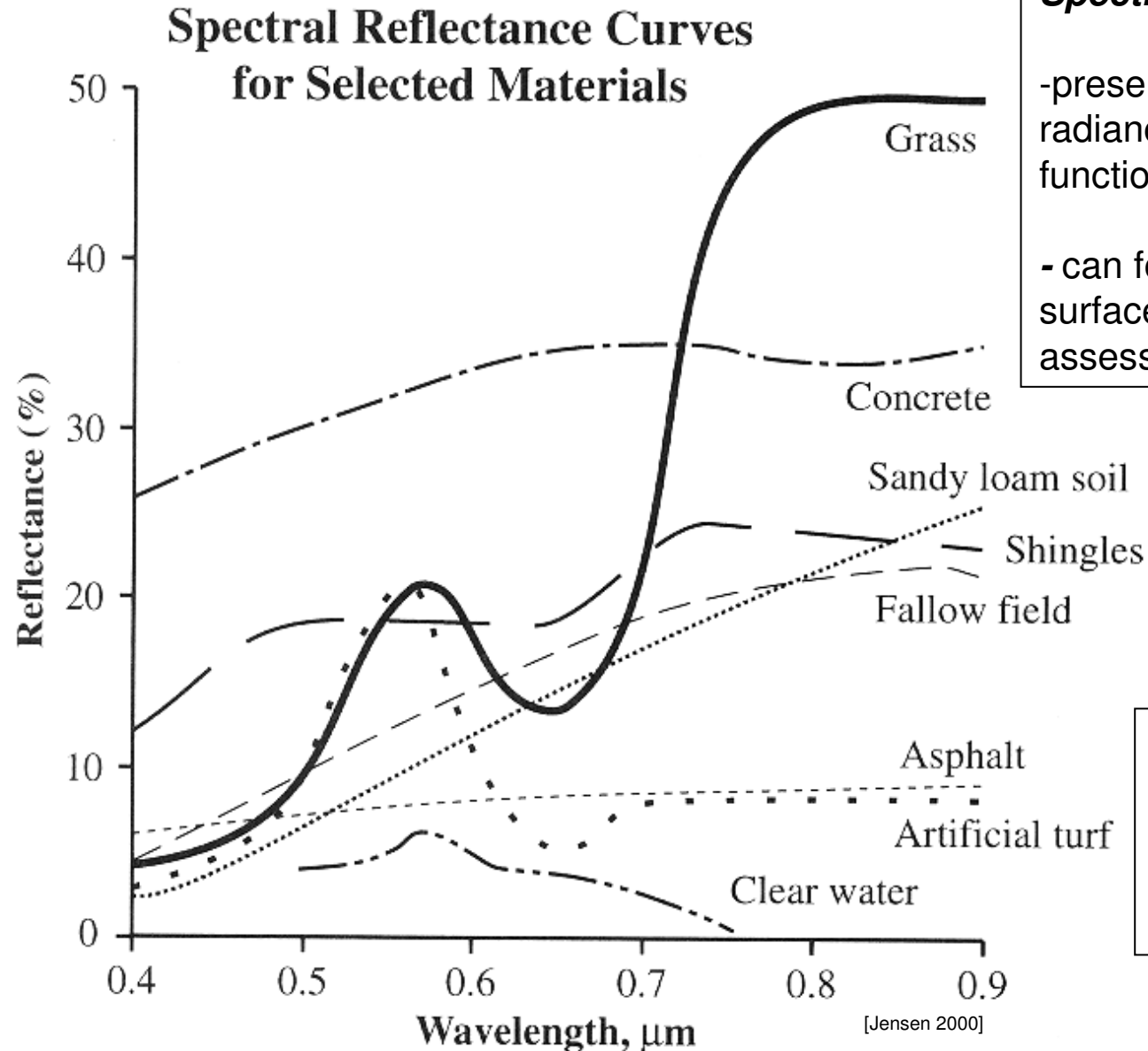


# Remote Sensing – electromagnetic radiation

## ***Spectral reflectance curves:***

-present amount of reflected radiance as reflectance in the function of wavelength,

- can form the basis for object or surface identification and assessment.



**spectral reflectance curves diagram** - presents amount of reflected radiance as reflectance in the function of wavelength

# Remote Sensing – electromagnetic radiation

Reflectivity and reflectance refer to the fraction of incident electromagnetic power that is reflected at an interface

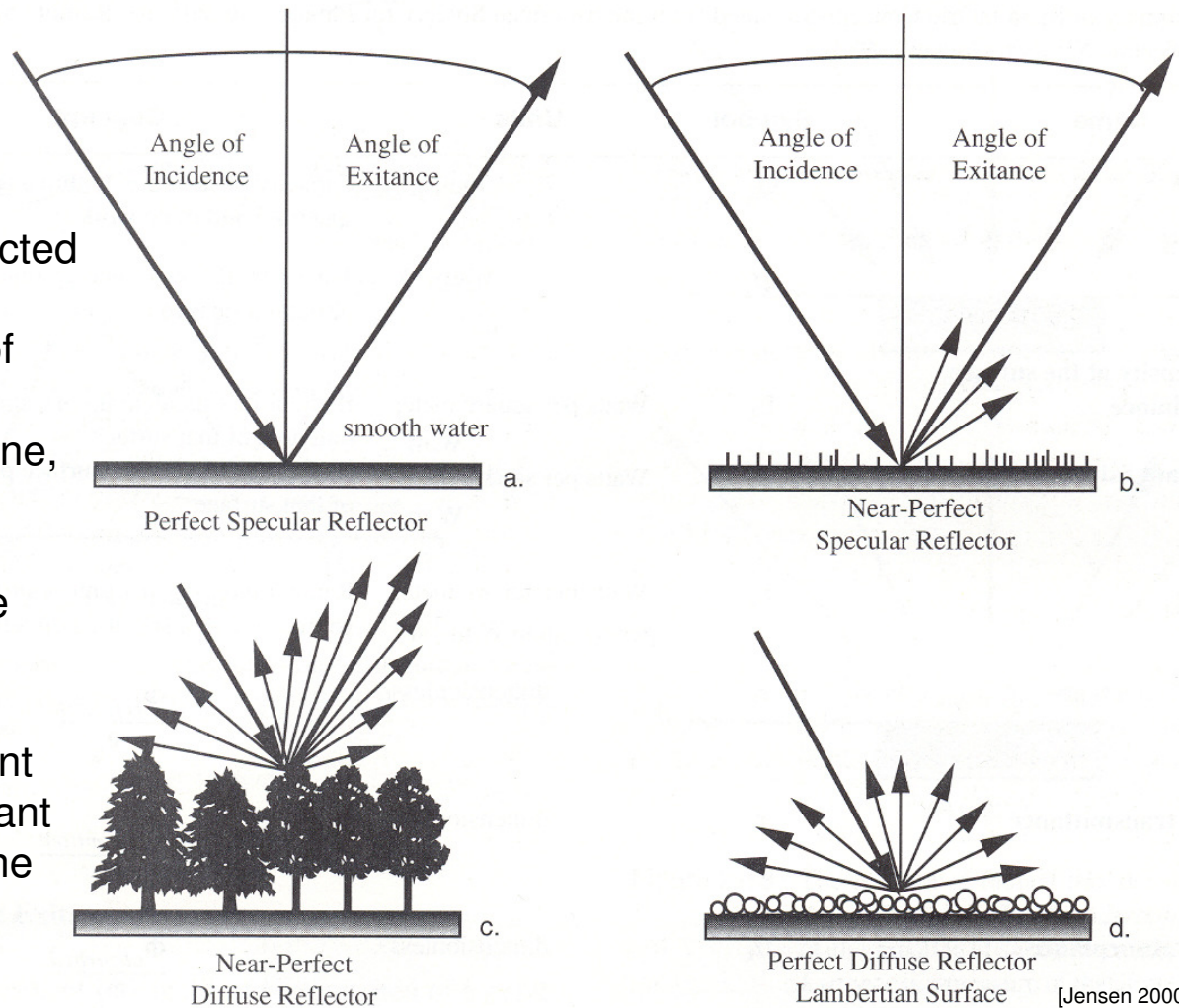
**Reflection** - fundamental characteristics :

- the incident radiation, the reflected radiation, and a vertical to the surface from which the angles of incidence and reflection are measured all lie in the same plane,

- the angle of incidence and the angle of reflection (exitance) are approximately equal.

**Lambertian surface** - the radiant flux leaving the surface is constant for any angle of reflectance to the surface

Specular Versus Diffuse Reflectance



# Remote Sensing – electromagnetic radiation

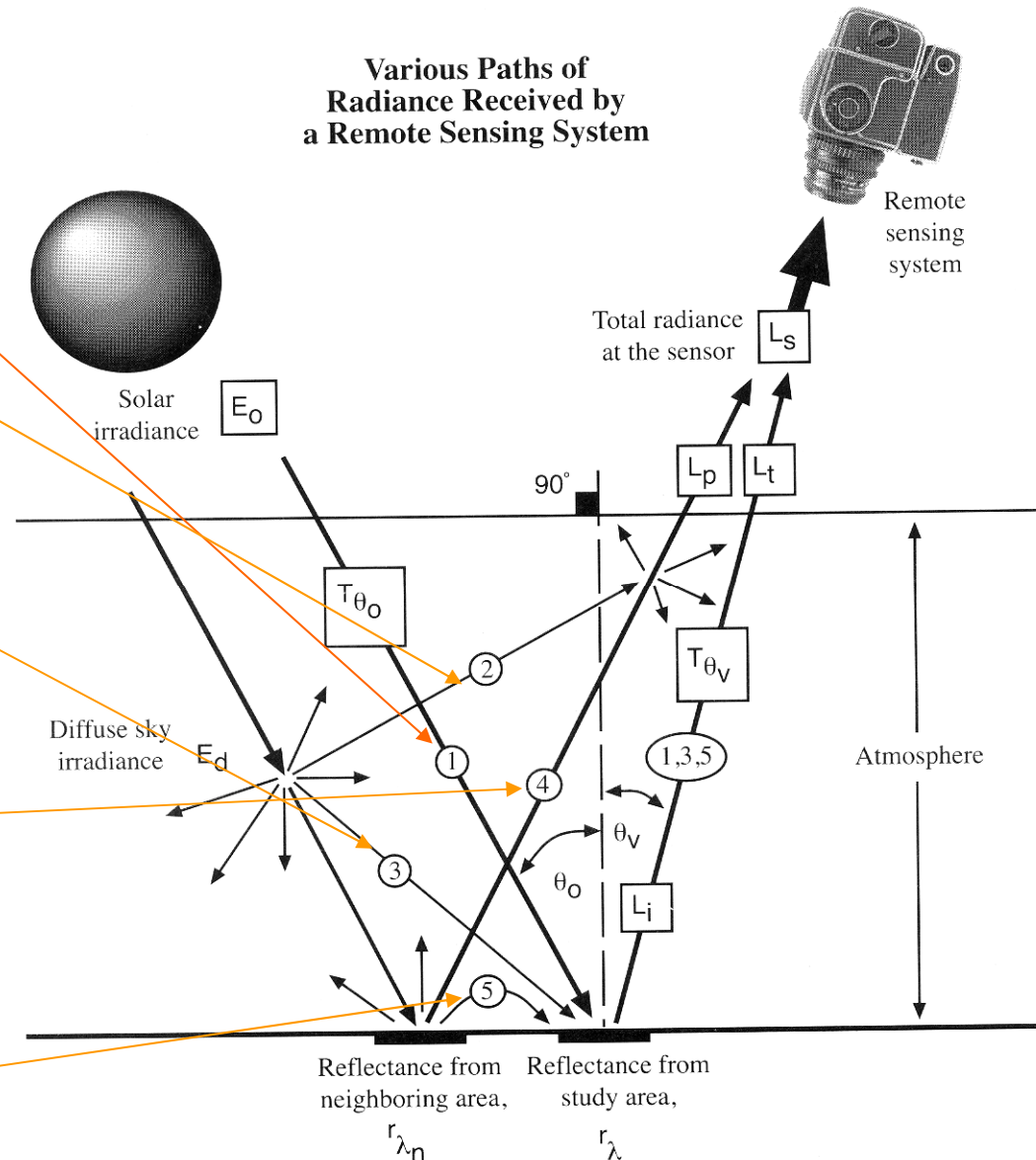
**Path 1** - contains spectral solar irradiance ( $E_0$ ) that was attenuated very little before illuminating the terrain within the IFOV of the sensor system.

**Path 2** contains spectral diffuse sky irradiance ( $E_d$ ) that never even reaches the Earth's surface (the study area) because of scattering in the atmosphere.

**Path 3** contains energy from the Sun that has undergone some scattering, absorption and reemission before illuminating the study area.

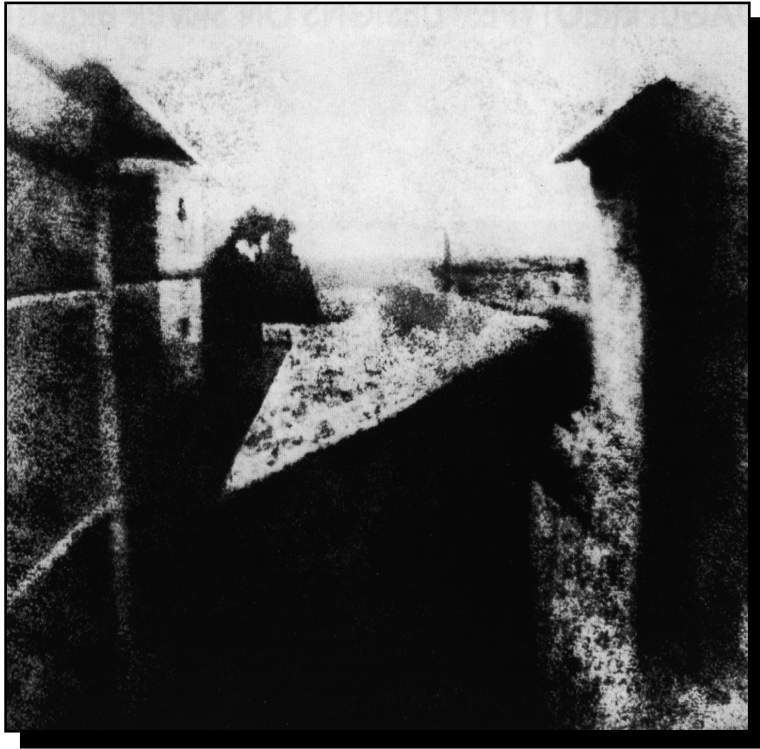
**Path 4** contains radiation that was reflected or scattered by nearby terrain (  $r_A$  ) covered by snow, concrete, soil, water, and/or vegetation into the IFOV of the sensor system.

**Path 5** is energy that was also reflected from nearby terrain into the atmosphere, but then scattered or reflected onto the study area.





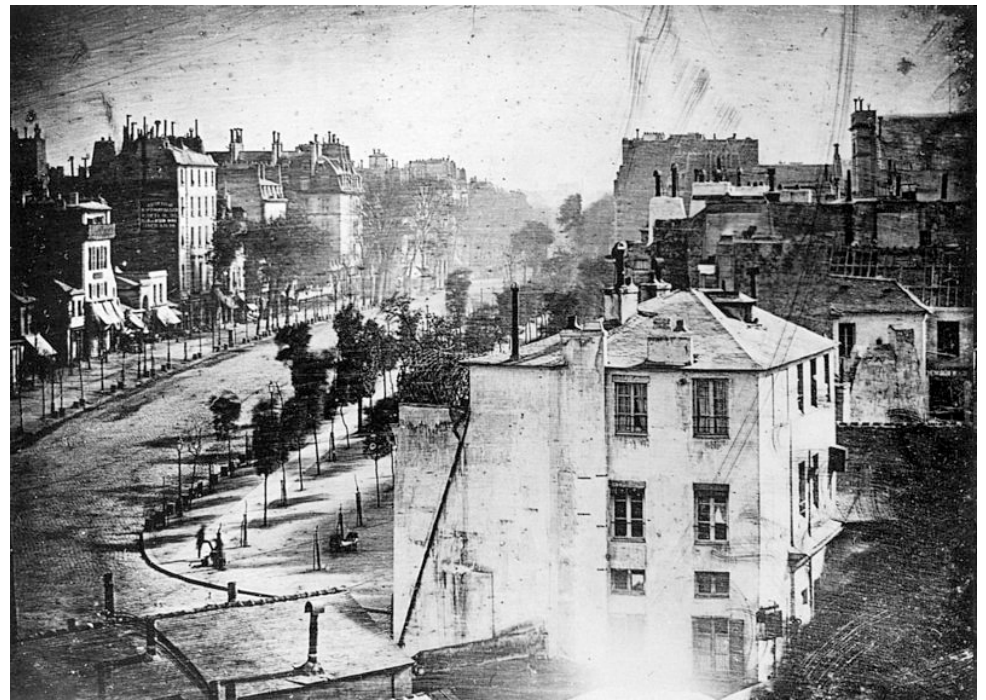
# Remote Sensing – history



Nicephore Niepce's earliest surviving photograph of a scene from nature, circa 1826, „View from the window at Le Gras" Saint-Loup-de-Varennes (France).

(copyright Gernsheim Collection, Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, University of Texas)

- Metal plate.
- White bitumen of Judea (derivative of petroleum) which hardens with exposure of light.
- Silver compounds (silver nitrate  $\text{AgNO}_3$ )



"Boulevard du Temple", taken by Louis Daguerrein late 1838 or early 1839, was the first-ever photograph of people.

# Remote Sensing – history



James Clerk Maxwell - First Color Photograph - 1861



# Remote Sensing – history

## Balloons



Gaspard Felix Tournachon (*Nadar*)  
1858



The oldest surviving aerial photo of Boston in 1860, taken by James Wallace Black, from a balloon.

In 1858, Nadar applied for a patent for an „**aerial survey** - the mapping of the land from a series of overlapping aerial photographs ”

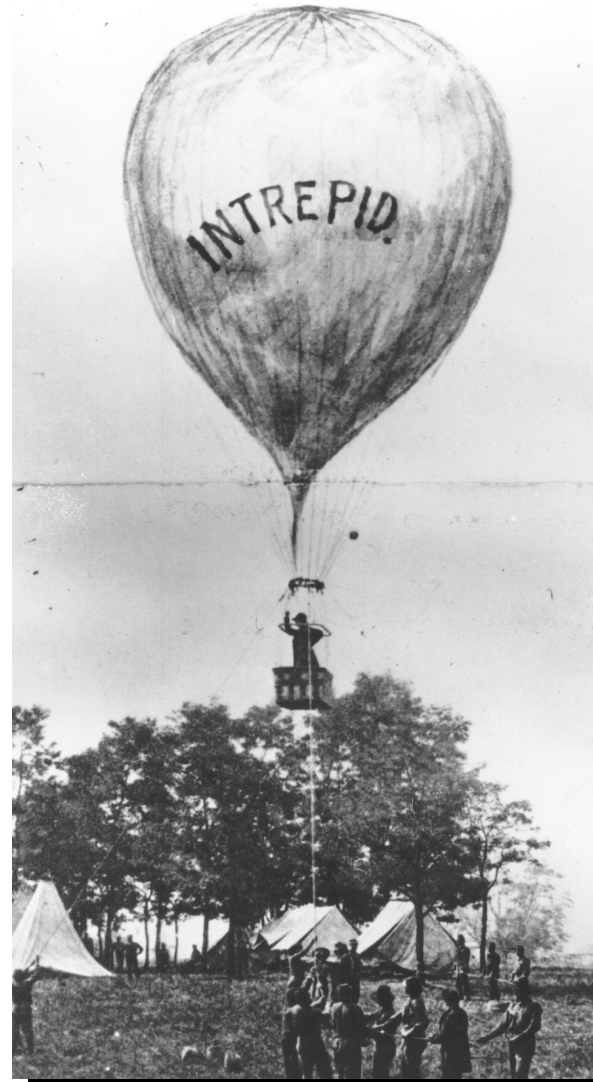
# Remote Sensing – history



(copyright Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.).

A portion of an aerial photograph of downtown Boston, MA. obtained by Black and King at altitude of 400 m. First aerial photograph taken from a captive balloon in the USA.

## Balloons



(copyright Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.).

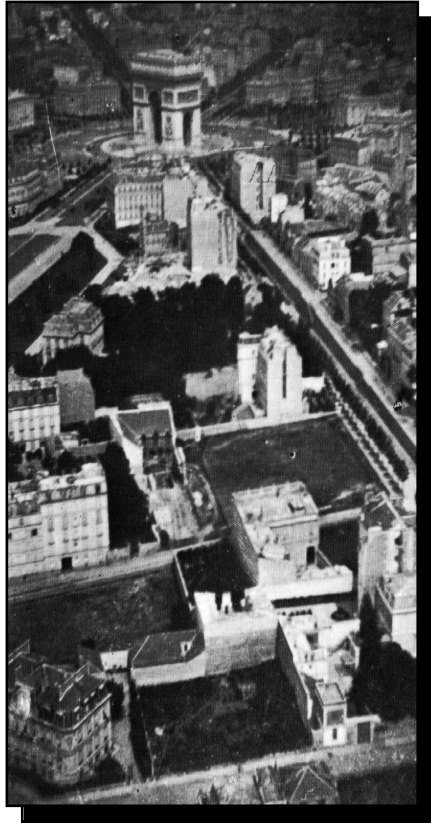
Balloon *Intrepid* tethered during the Civil War battle of Fair Oaks on June 1, 1862

[Jensen 2000]



# Remote Sensing – history

## Balloons



Oblique photograph obtained from the *Hippodrome* Balloon using a multiband camera (1868).

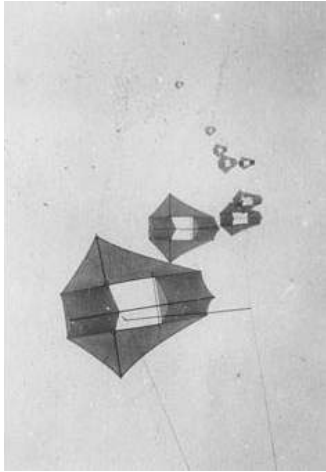
*Nadar*



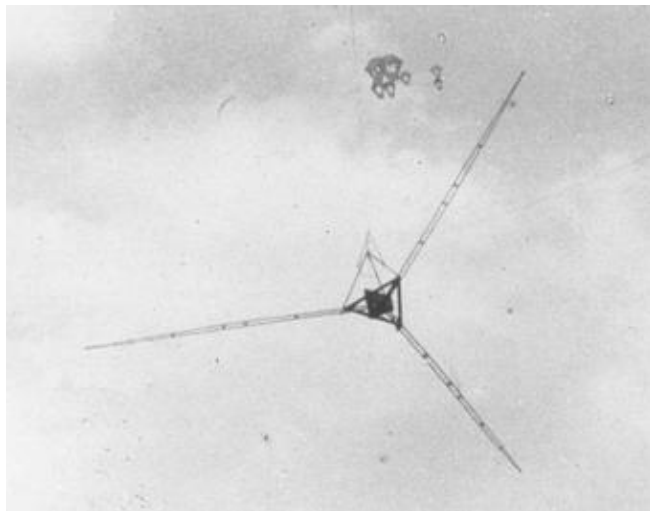
**Paris, the pont Louis-Phillippe**  
Gaston Tissandier and Jacques  
Ducom (dry-plate process)

# Remote Sensing – history

## Kites

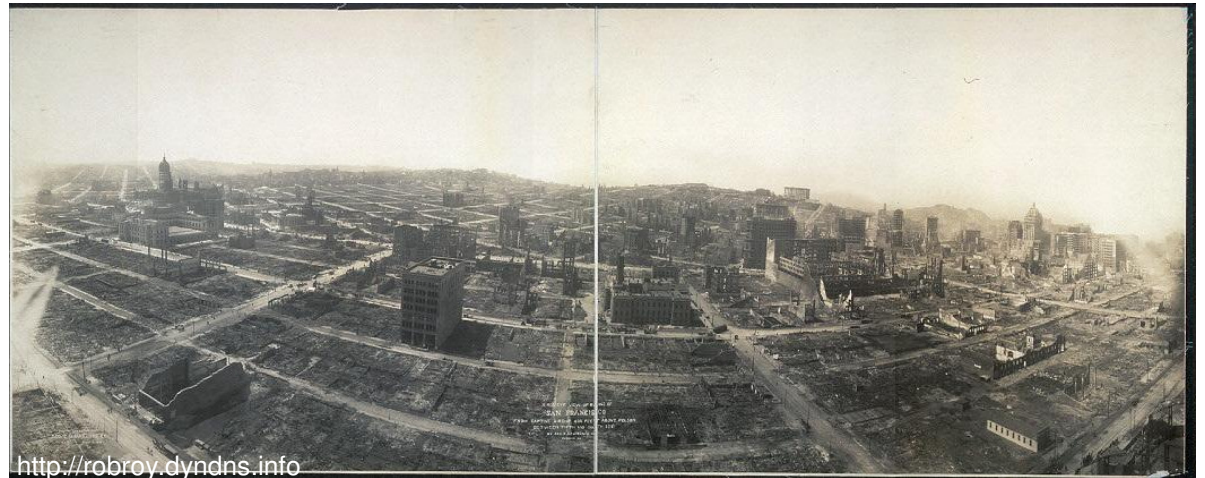


*a train of nine Conyne kites*

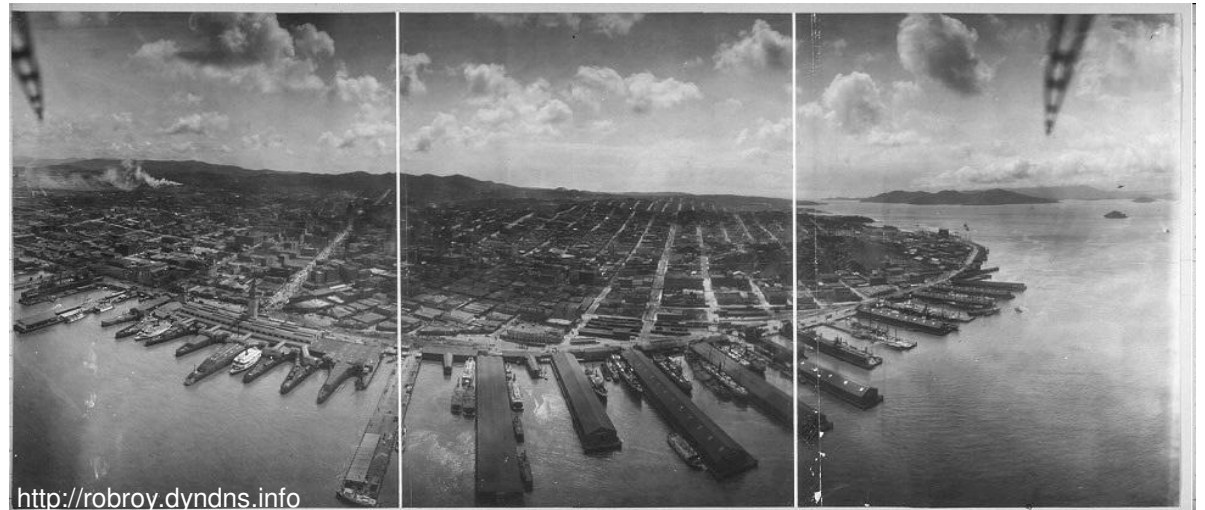


*the kite train and camera-steadying mechanism 'Captive Airship.'*

George Lawrence - *Captive Airship*



Six weeks after the April 18, 1906

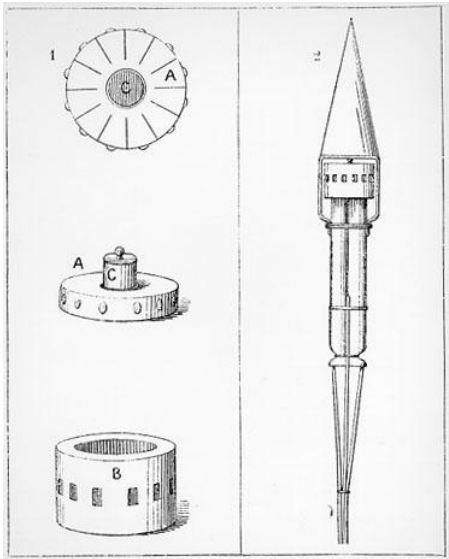


1908



# Remote Sensing – history

## Rockets



"Photo rocket" conceived  
by the Frenchman  
Amedee Denisse in 1888



View of a village in Sweden thought to  
be taken by Alfred Nobel's photo rocket  
in 1897



German landscape photographed in  
1904 by the camera system of Alfred  
Maul, a pioneer in photo rocketry.

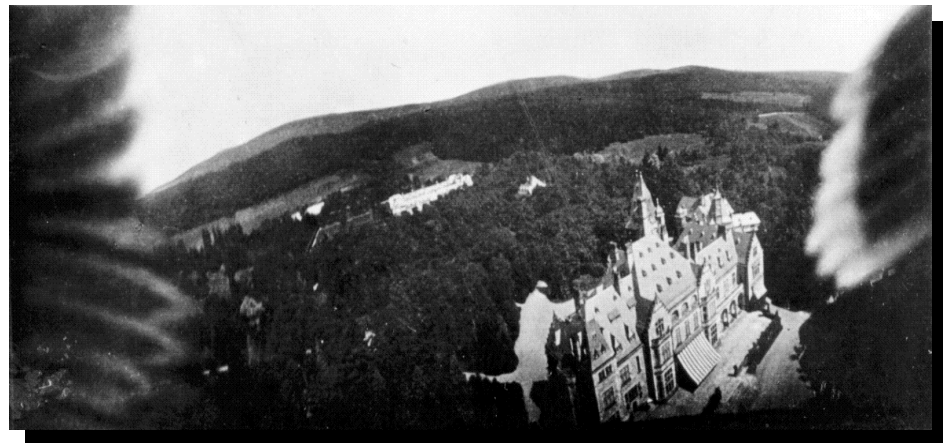
# Remote Sensing – history

## Pigeons



*Deutsches Museum, Munich*

Pigeon with miniature camera  
*Patented in 1903*



# Remote Sensing – history

## Aeroplanes



Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC

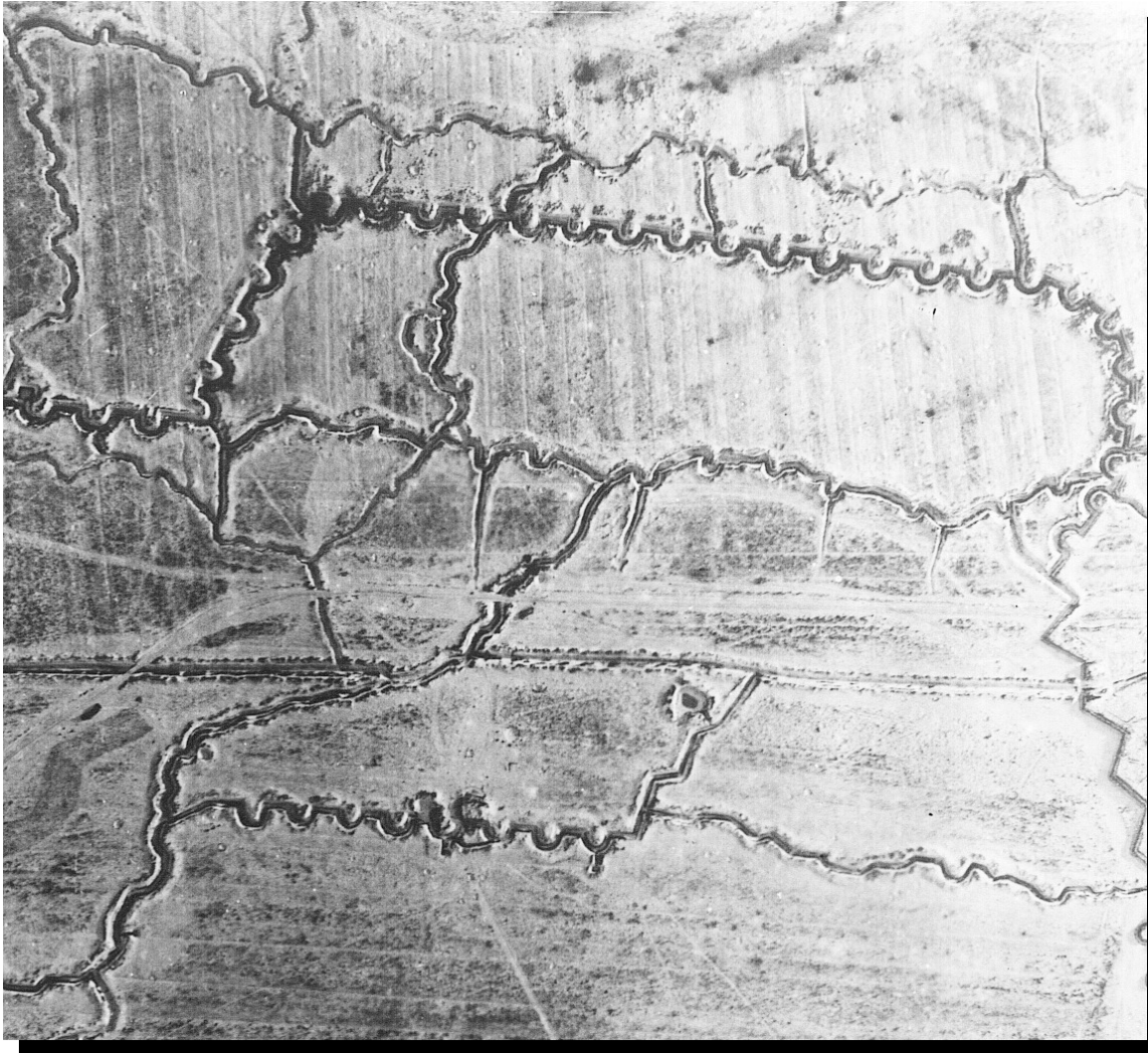
The Wright Flyer built by Orville and Wright. The first successful heavier-than-air engine-powered flight on December 1903

11 seconds and 40 meters



# Remote Sensing – history

## World War I



"a most disgraceful thing to  
have attempted"

Vertical photography of World War I trenches in Europe.

# Remote Sensing – history

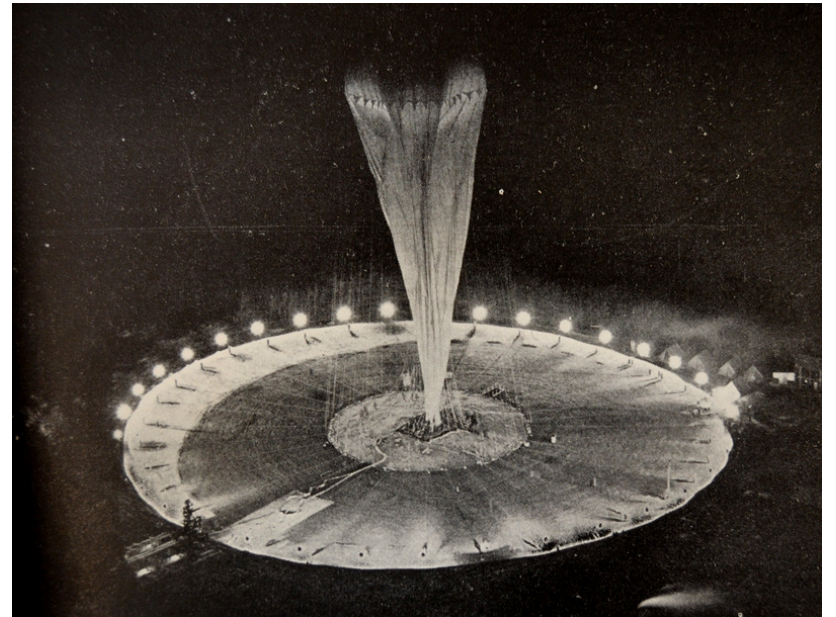
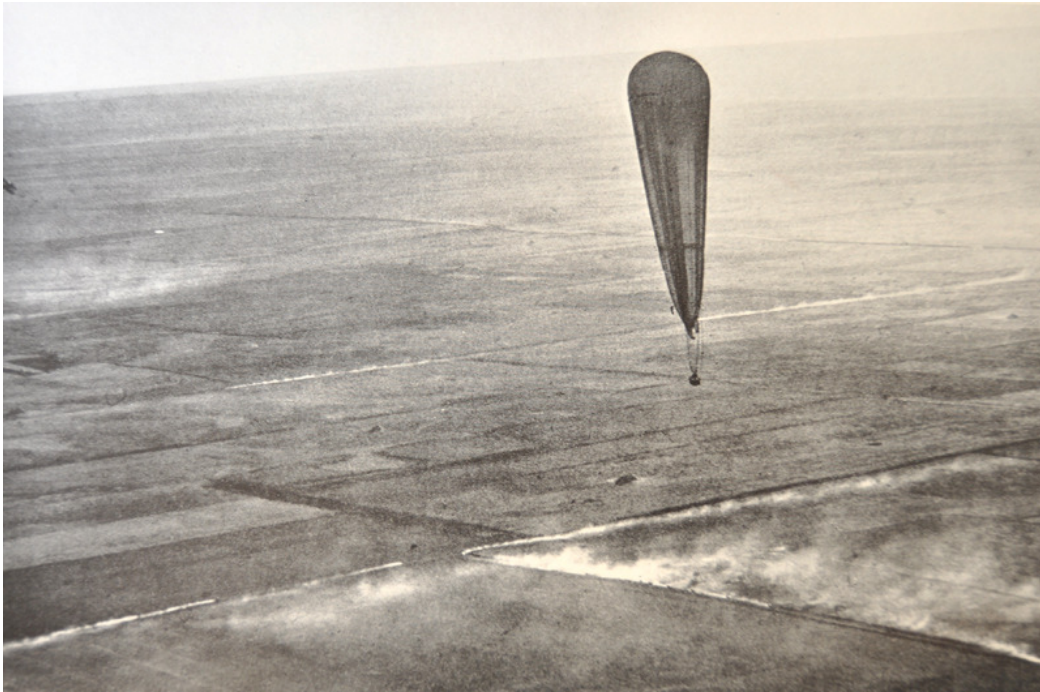
## World War I



An aerial photographer and pilot in a Curtiss AH-13 airplane with Graflex camera in 1915



# Remote Sensing – history



Before 1946, the highest pictures ever taken of the Earth's surface were from the helium-filled Explorer II balloon, which had ascended 13.7 miles in 1935, high enough to discern the curvature of the Earth.

# Remote Sensing – history



A German photograph of a direct hit on the oil storage tanks at Purfleet, near [Tilbury](#) on the [Thames](#)

<http://nzetc.victoria.ac.nz/tm/scholarly>

# Remote Sensing – history

## World War II



An aerial reconnaissance photograph of German invasion barges



German invasion barges in Boulogne Harbour, France, June 1940.



# Remote Sensing – history

## World War II



Craters surround a site at Peenemünde in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany on September 2, 1944, following an Allied bombing raid on the site where the V weapons were designed and tested



A German photograph of a direct hit on the oil storage tanks at Purfleet, near Tilbury on the Thames.

# Remote Sensing – history

## World War II



US 8th Air Force B-17 Flying Fortress over Berlin, Germany in World War II.

# Remote Sensing – history

## World War II



Operation Market Garden in September 1944



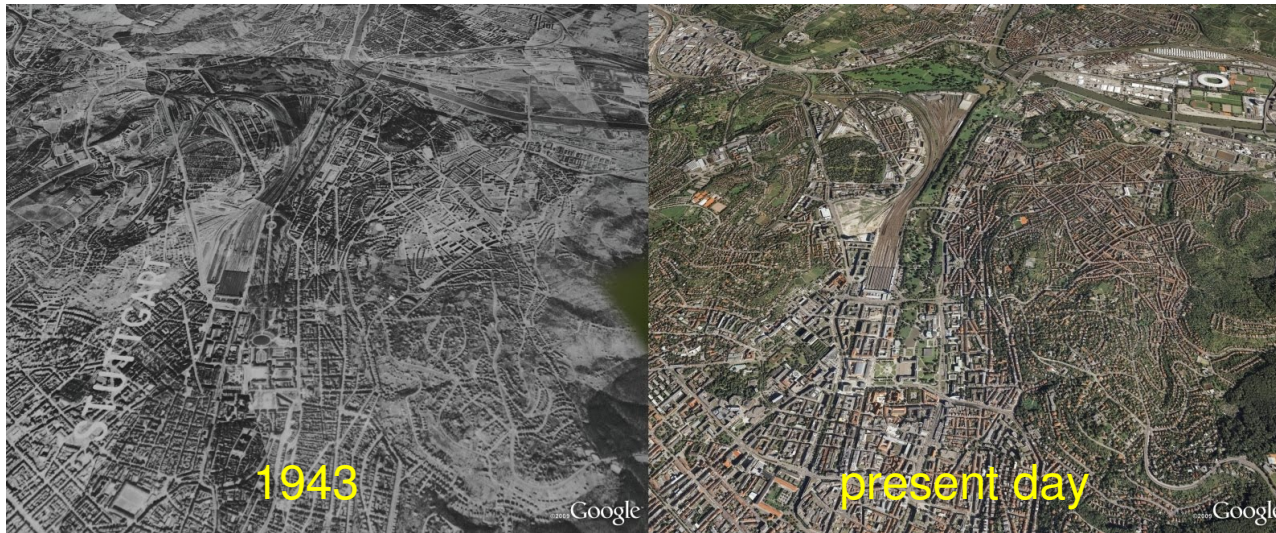
D-Day on June 6, 1944 of the Allied invasion



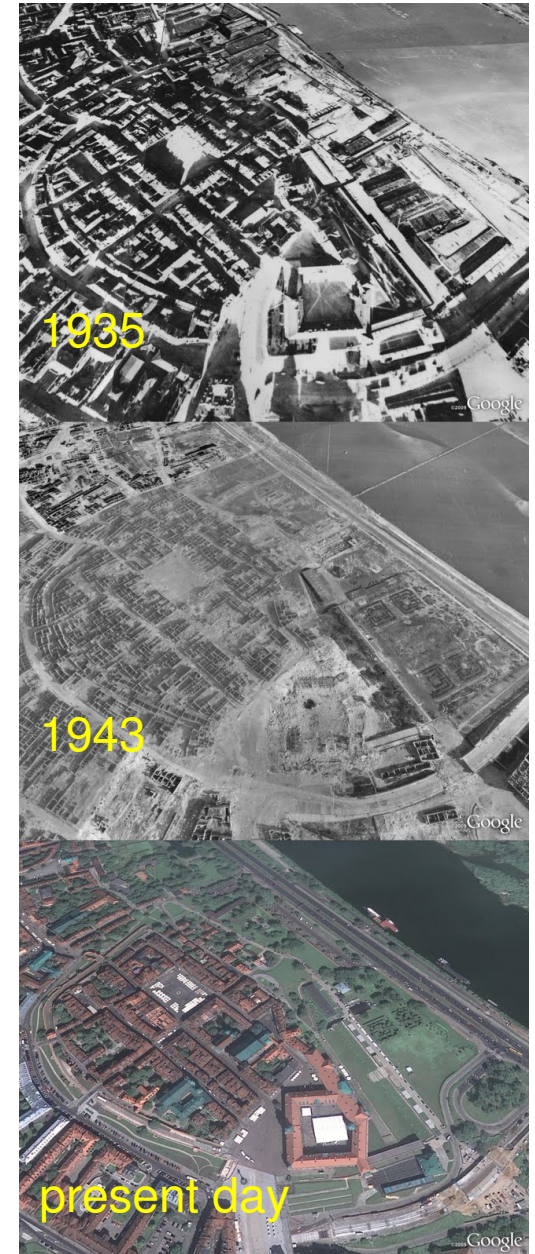
# Remote Sensing – history

Warsaw ghetto

Stuttgart



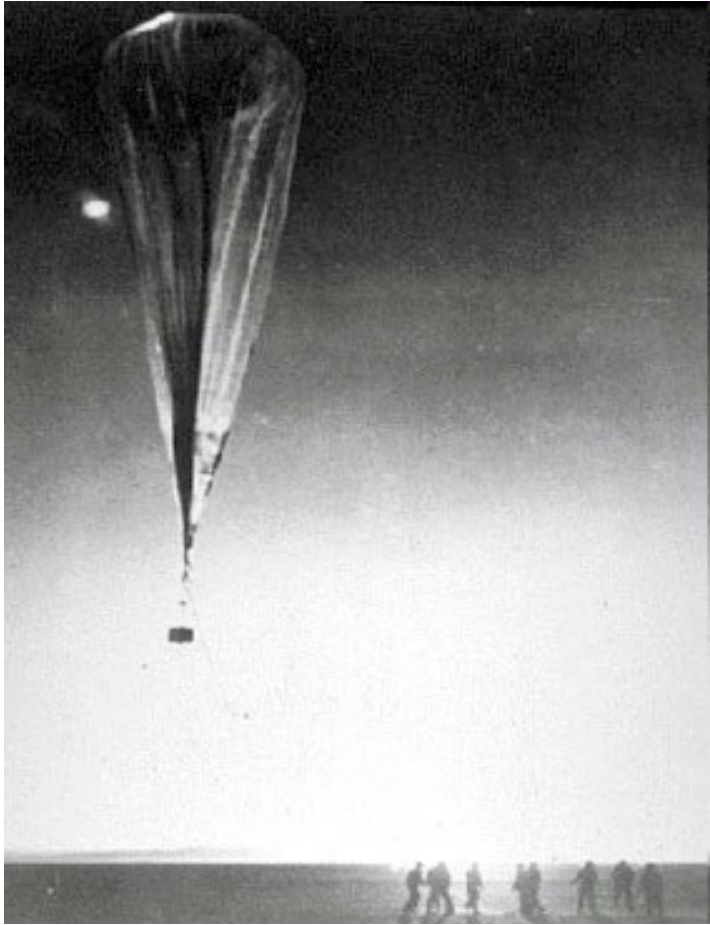
<http://gizmodo.com>



# Remote Sensing – history

## Cold War

Grayback Program  
Project GENETRIX Balloon



Project GENETRIX Balloon  
during launch



This image, taken through a telescope, is of the  
newly designed super pressure balloon at float  
altitude over Antarctica.

**Credit:** Columbia Scientific Balloon Facility

# Remote Sensing – history

## Cold War



Lockheed U-2 high altitude reconnaissance aircraft  
1956



Francis Gary Powers

### Two high resolution cameras:

- long-focal-length spotting camera (resolution 60 cm to 1m from 20 000 m)
- tracking camera to record the flight path



# Remote Sensing – history

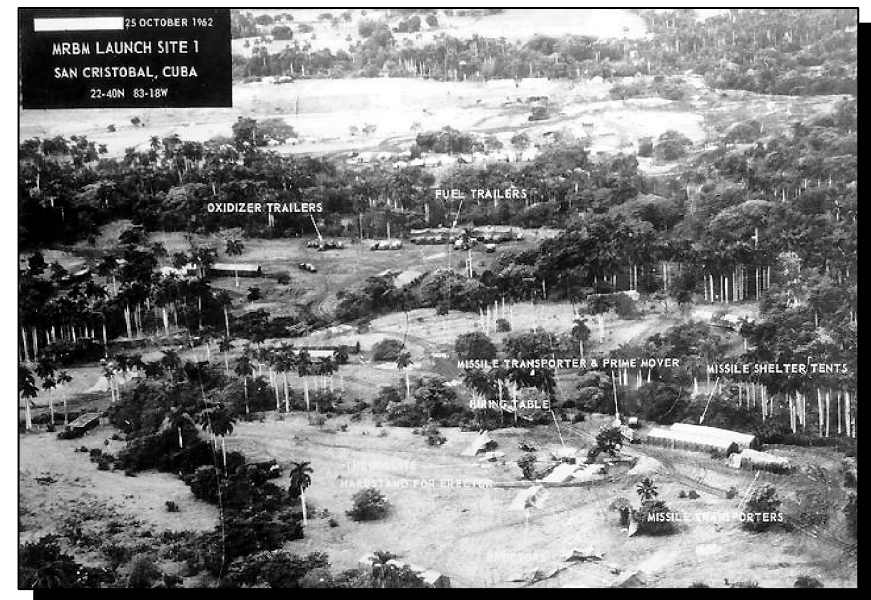
## Cold War



[Jensen 2000]

A portion of the U-2 aerial photograph of San Cristobal, Cuba, 1962 obtained at an altitude of 21 000 m.

Low-oblique aerial photograph of ballistic missile launch site obtained by low-flying RF-101 aircraft.



25 OCTOBER 1962

MRBM LAUNCH SITE 1

SAN CRISTOBAL, CUBA

22-40N 83-18W





# Remote Sensing – history



Lockheed SR-71 reconnaissance aircraft



# Remote Sensing – history



First Image From Space - 1946



First Image Of The Entire Earth - 1968

# Remote Sensing – history



24 October 1946

White Sands (New Mexico)

Rocket V2

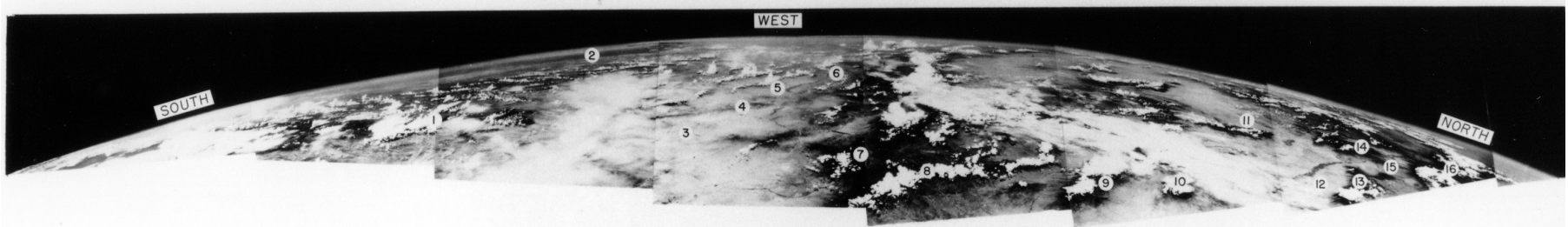
7 March 1947

Gulf of California



# Remote Sensing – history

## V-2 ROCKET-EYE VIEW FROM 60 MILES UP



- 1- MEXICO
- 2- GULF OF CALIFORNIA

- 3- LORDSBURG, NEW MEXICO
- 4- PELONCILLO MTS.
- 5- GILA RIVER

- 6- SAN CARLOS RESERVOIR
- 7- MOGOLLON MTS.
- 8- BLACK RANGE

- 9- SAN MATEO MTS.
- 10- MAGADALENA MTS.
- 11- MT. TAYLOR

- 12- ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO
- 13- SANDIA MTS.
- 14- VALLE GRANDE MTS.
- 15- RIO GRANDE
- 16- SANGRE DE CRISTO RANGE

**ROCKET FIRED AT WHITE SANDS PROVING GROUND, JULY 26, 1948**

**DISTANCE FROM CAMERA TO HORIZON-700 MILES**

**AREA SHOWN APPROXIMATELY 800,000 SQ.MILES**

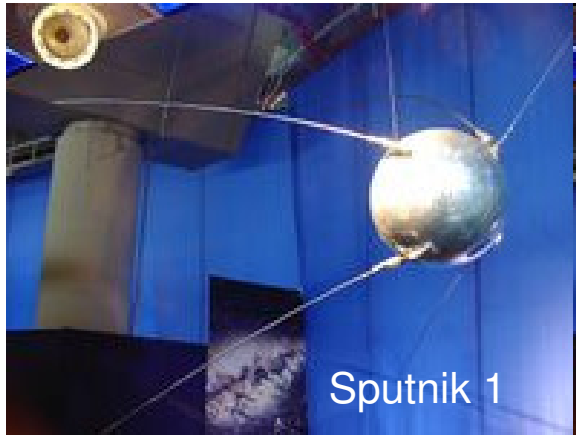
**DISTANCE ALONG HORIZON-2700 MILES**

INSTRUMENTATION AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY APPLIED PHYSICS LABORATORY OF  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY FOR THE BUREAU OF ORDNANCE, U.S.NAVY

A [panorama from a July 1948 V-2 shot here.](#))



# Remote Sensing – history

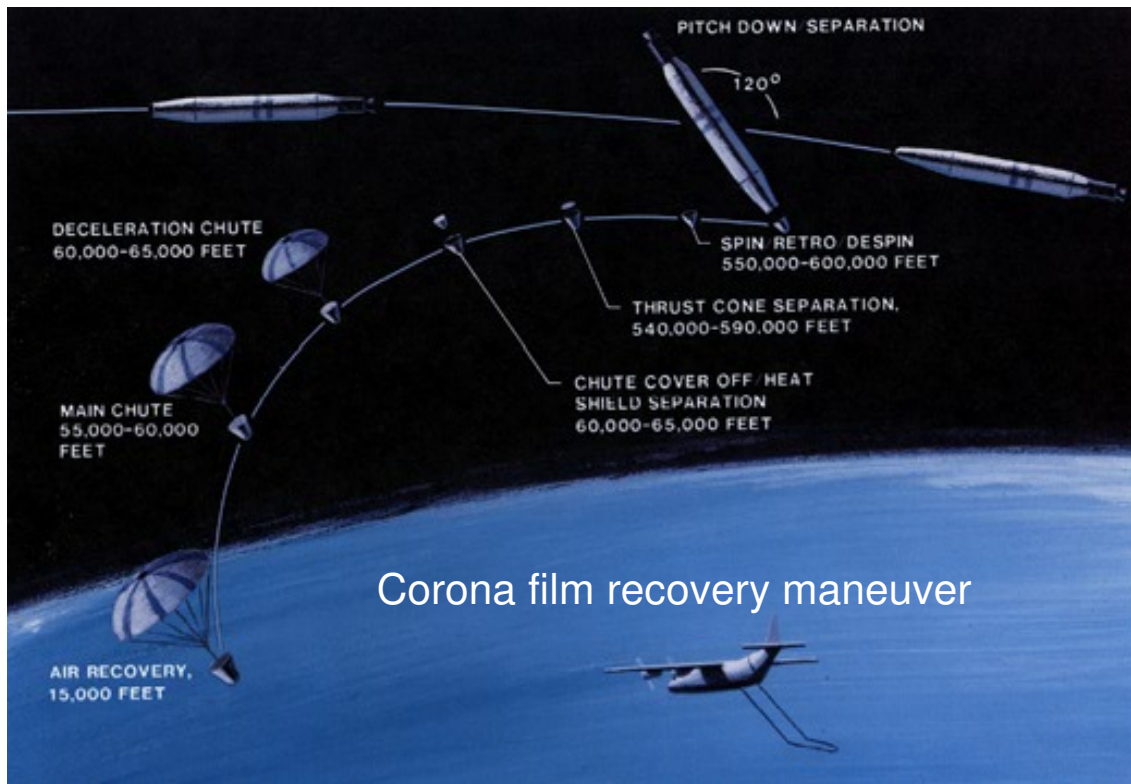


**Corona sensors:** KH-1, KH-2 ... KH-6

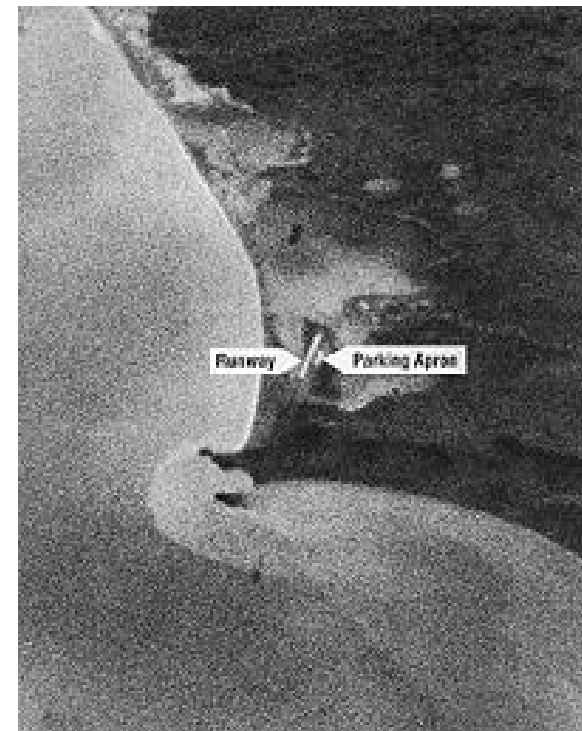
**Spatial resolution:**

KH-1: 12 m (1960)

KH-4B: 1.4 – 1.8 m (1972)



Corona film recovery maneuver



Mys Shmidt Air Field, Chukotka U.S.S.R.  
August 18, 1960.

First recovered reconnaissance image  
from the Corona spy satellite



**The first picture of the whole Earth - 1968**

# Remote Sensing – history



Satellite image which, according to Americans, confirms that North Korea is preparing to launch a ballistic missile

30.03.2012