

**TODAY we'll START with :**

# **THE SUSTAINABILITY SEGMENT**



**The next segment of:**

# **“SAVED BY THE SUN”**

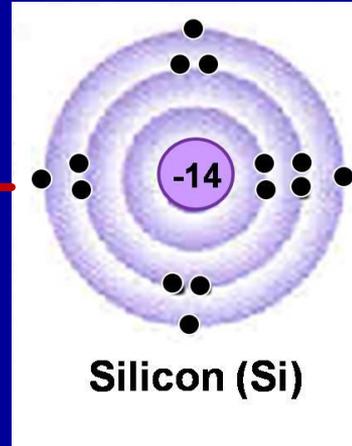
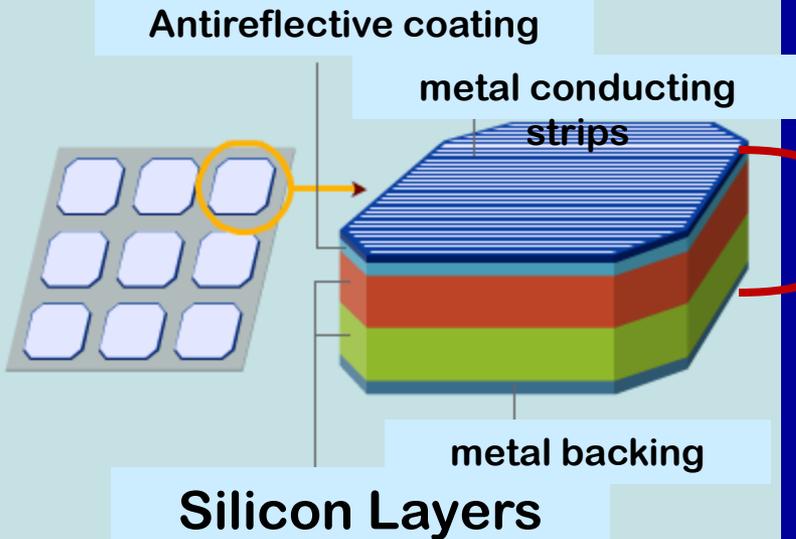
**More lecture & clicker points to follow  
the next 10 minutes of the film . . .**

# Review of an earlier part of the film:

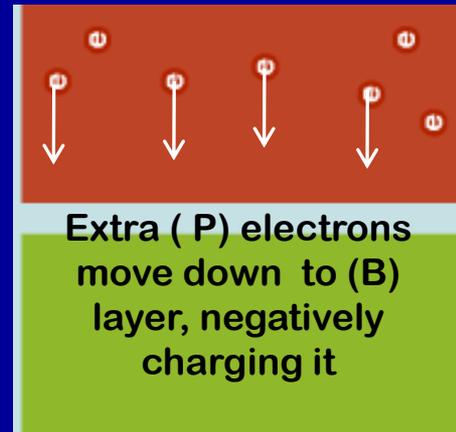
## INSIDE A SOLAR CELL

SOLAR PANEL

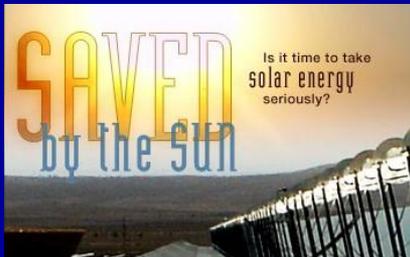
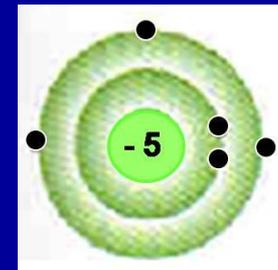
PHOTOVOLTAIC CELL (PV)



Phosphorus (P)  
“doped” Si layer



Boron (B)  
“doped” Si layer

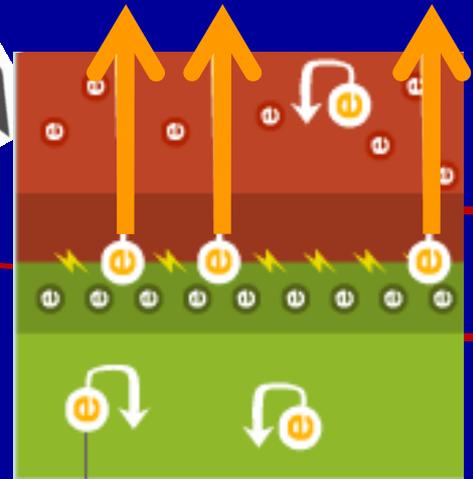
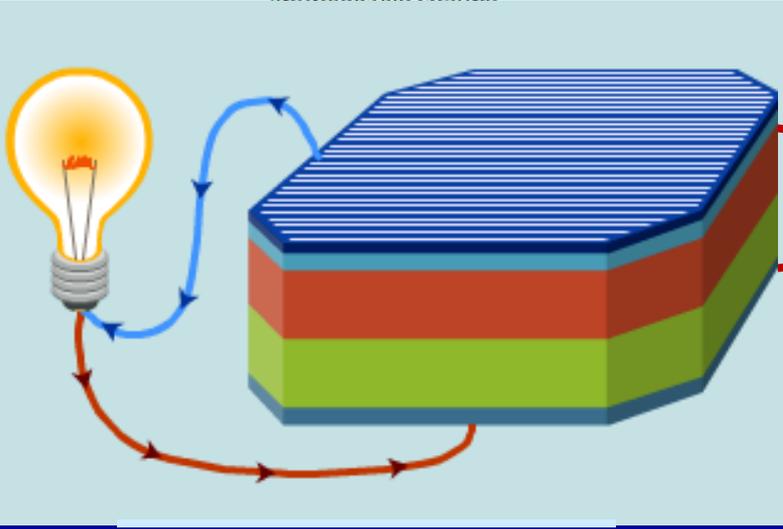
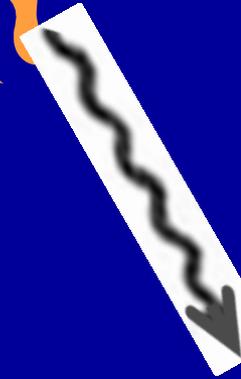
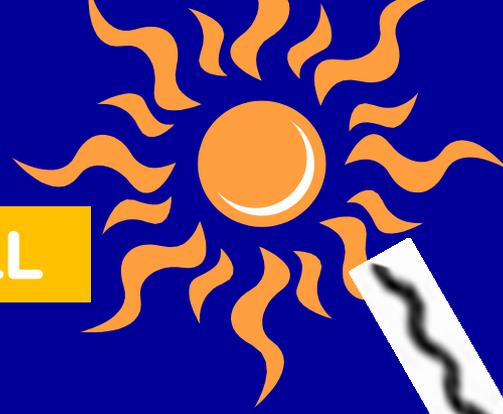


Read this explanation at:

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/solar/>



# INSIDE A SOLAR CELL



ELECTRIC FIELD



Now . . . To the film:

# GERMANY vs. UNITED STATES

## What's happening here??



<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/solar/>

**Topic #6**  
**THE RADIATION LAWS(cont.):**  
**APPLYING**  
**THE RADIATION LAWS**

**#1 Emission of radiation**

All substances emit radiation as long as their temperature is above absolute zero

## #2 Planck Function:

$$E = hc / \lambda$$

“SHORTER wavelengths have HIGHER intensity radiation than LONGER wavelengths”

## # 3 Stefan-Boltzmann Law:

$$E = \sigma T^4$$

“The hotter the body, the (much) greater the amount of energy flux or radiation”

## # 4 Wein's Law:

$$\lambda_m = a / T$$

“The hotter the body, the shorter the wavelength”  
The cooler the body, the longer the wavelength”

## #5: Radiation & distance: inverse-square law

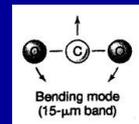
$$E_{\text{flux}} \approx (1/d^2)$$

“Energy flux decreases with increasing distance from source such that small changes in distance → large changes in energy received.”



## #6: Selective emission and absorption

“Some substances, especially gases, emit and absorb radiation at certain wavelengths only due to quantum behavior of electrons & molecules”



review

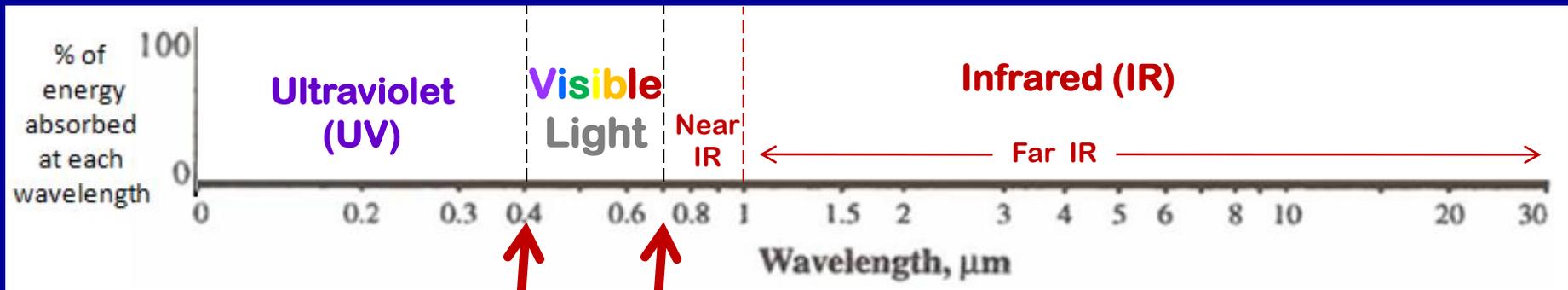
Electromagnetic energy does not **NEED** matter to be transferred, but when it **DOES react with matter**, it can be:

- **ABSORBED (and EMITTED)**
- **TRANSMITTED**
- **SCATTERED, or**
- **REFLECTED . . .**  
*. . . . through -- or by -- the matter*

More about **these 4 processes** in upcoming lectures . . . .

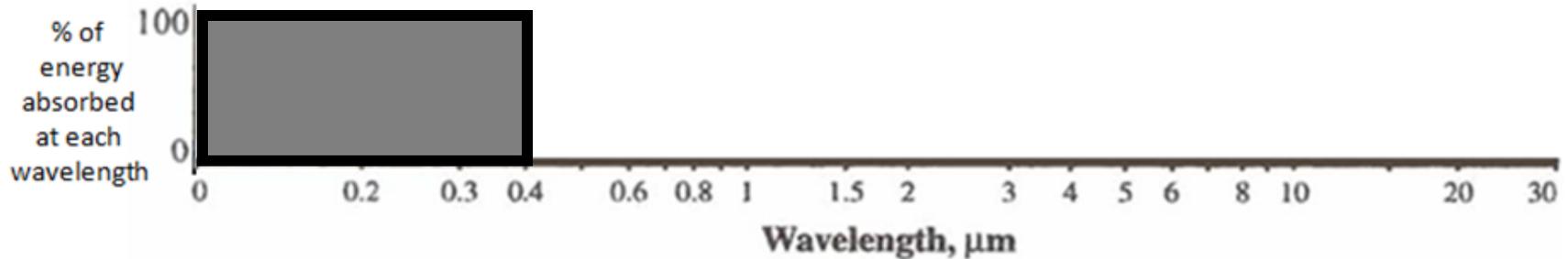
# ABSORPTION CURVES

Graph the relationship between wavelength and % of energy absorbed (at a given wavelength)

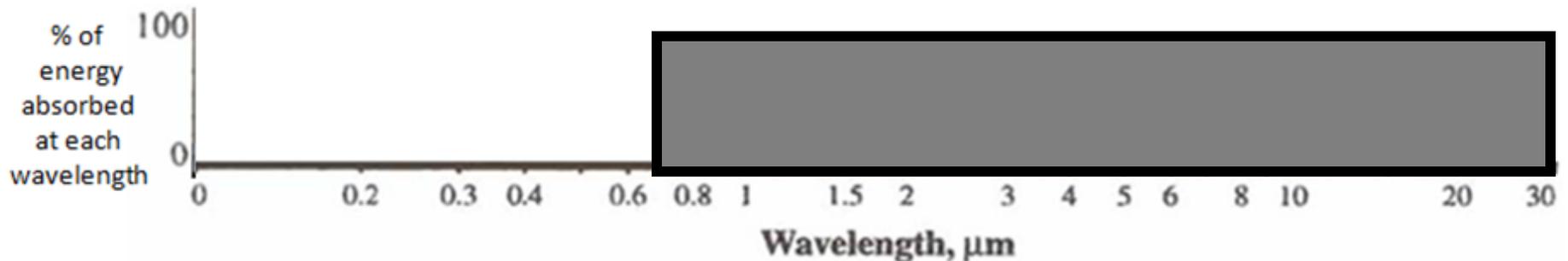


0.4 0.7

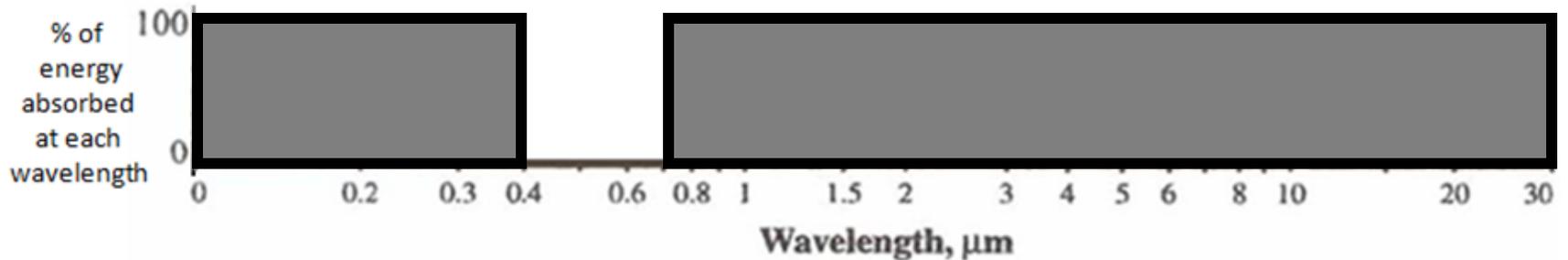
Q1. Draw an absorption curve for a hypothetical gas that can absorb ALL UV radiation but zero visible light and IR radiation. Then shade in the area under your curve in this and subsequent questions.



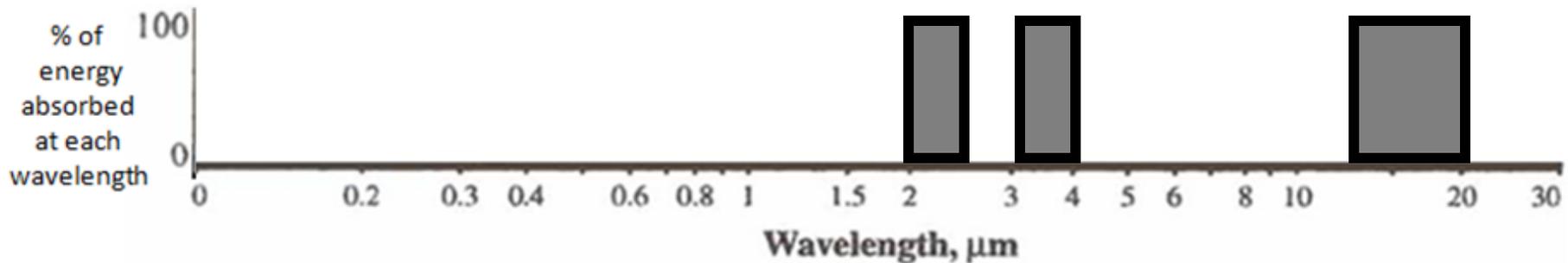
Q2. Draw an absorption curve for a "perfect" greenhouse gas that absorbs ALL IR radiation, but no visible or UV:



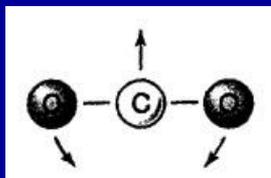
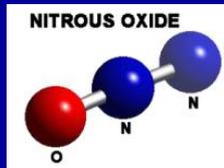
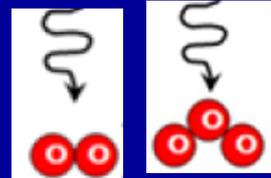
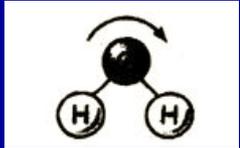
Q3. Draw an absorption curve for a hypothetical gas that absorbs ALL UV radiation and ALL IR radiation, but leaves a "WINDOW" open for visible light, allowing the visible light wavelengths to pass through the gas unimpeded without being absorbed:



Q4. Draw an absorption curve for a hypothetical gas that can absorb 100% of the IR radiation in these three wavelength bands: band from 2 to 2.5 μm band from 3 to 4 μm band from 13 to 20 μm



**Skip to  
p 38:**



<b>Gas</b>	<b>Primary absorption wavelengths (in micrometers)</b>	
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**Water vapor  
(H<sub>2</sub>O)**



0.8	4 to 7
1	9 to 10
1.5	11 to 20
2 to 3.5	

**Molecular  
oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>) and  
Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>)**

0.0001 to 0.280
8.5 to 10

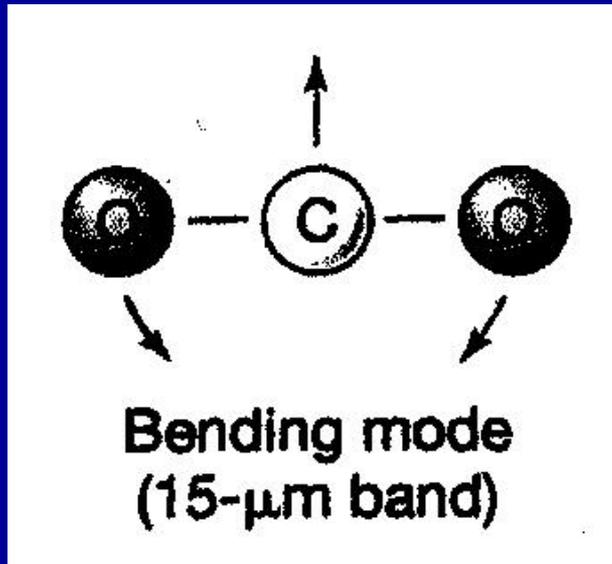
**Nitrous oxide  
(N<sub>2</sub>O)**

4 to 5
7 to 7.5

**Carbon dioxide  
(CO<sub>2</sub>)**

2 to 2.5
3 to 4
13 to 20

*In SGC E-Text  
Chapt 3:*

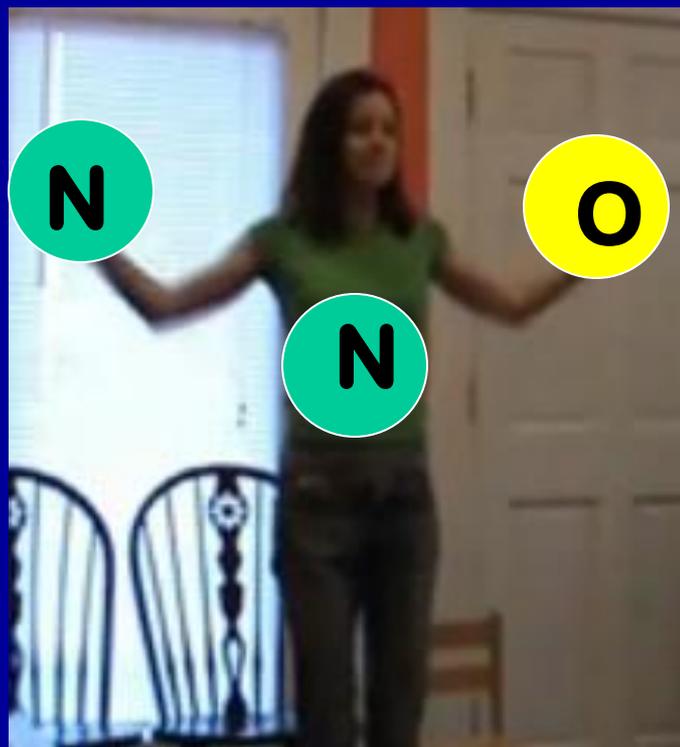


**FIGURE 3-14**

As a triatomic molecule, one way that CO<sub>2</sub> vibrates is in a **“bending mode”** that has a frequency that allows CO<sub>2</sub> to absorb IR radiation at a wavelength of about 15 micrometers

**What about another triatomic molecule: N<sub>2</sub>O (Nitrous oxide)?**

# DANCE YOUR PhD !!



$\text{N}_2\text{O}$  acts as a greenhouse gas through the absorption of radiation in 3 vibrational modes.

With one hand as a nitrogen atom, torso as central nitrogen, and the other hand as an oxygen atom, the dancers exhibit the three specific movements of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ 's vibrational modes.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L5j6BS3XoLc>





The  $N_2O$  starts in the soil where it is produced by microbial activity and “moves on up” into the atmosphere.



Stepping onto the chairs represents the progression of  $N_2O$  to higher levels in the atmosphere (the stratosphere) where it is subject to intense **Ultraviolet (UV) radiation** from the sun.

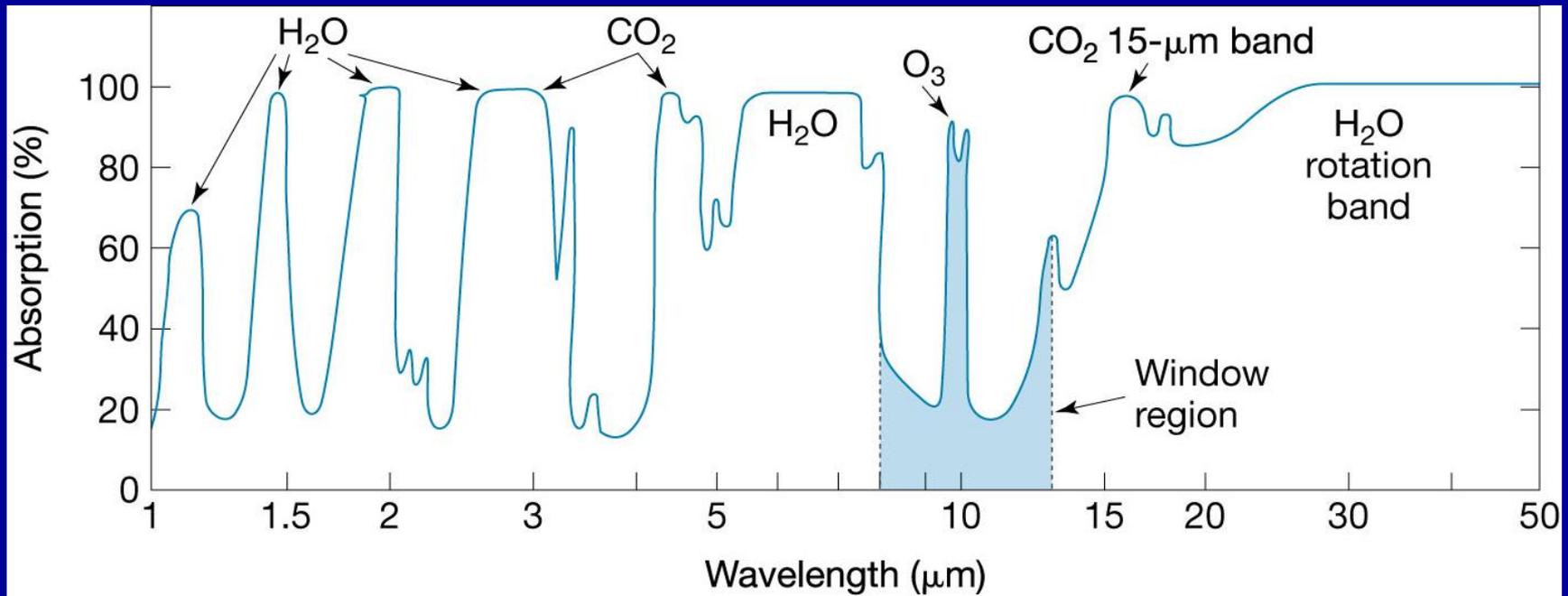
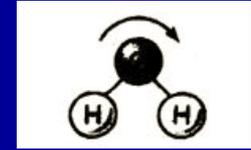
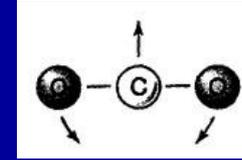
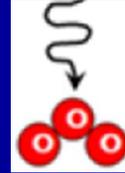
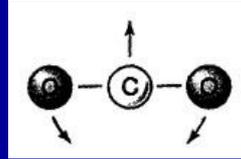
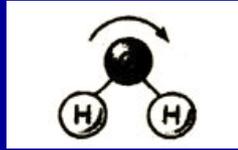


This high energy from the bombarding **UV radiation** is shown in the dancers' high energy, more spastic dancing.

The high intensity **UV radiation** leads to the destruction of  $N_2O$  -- seen as jumping from the chair at the end →



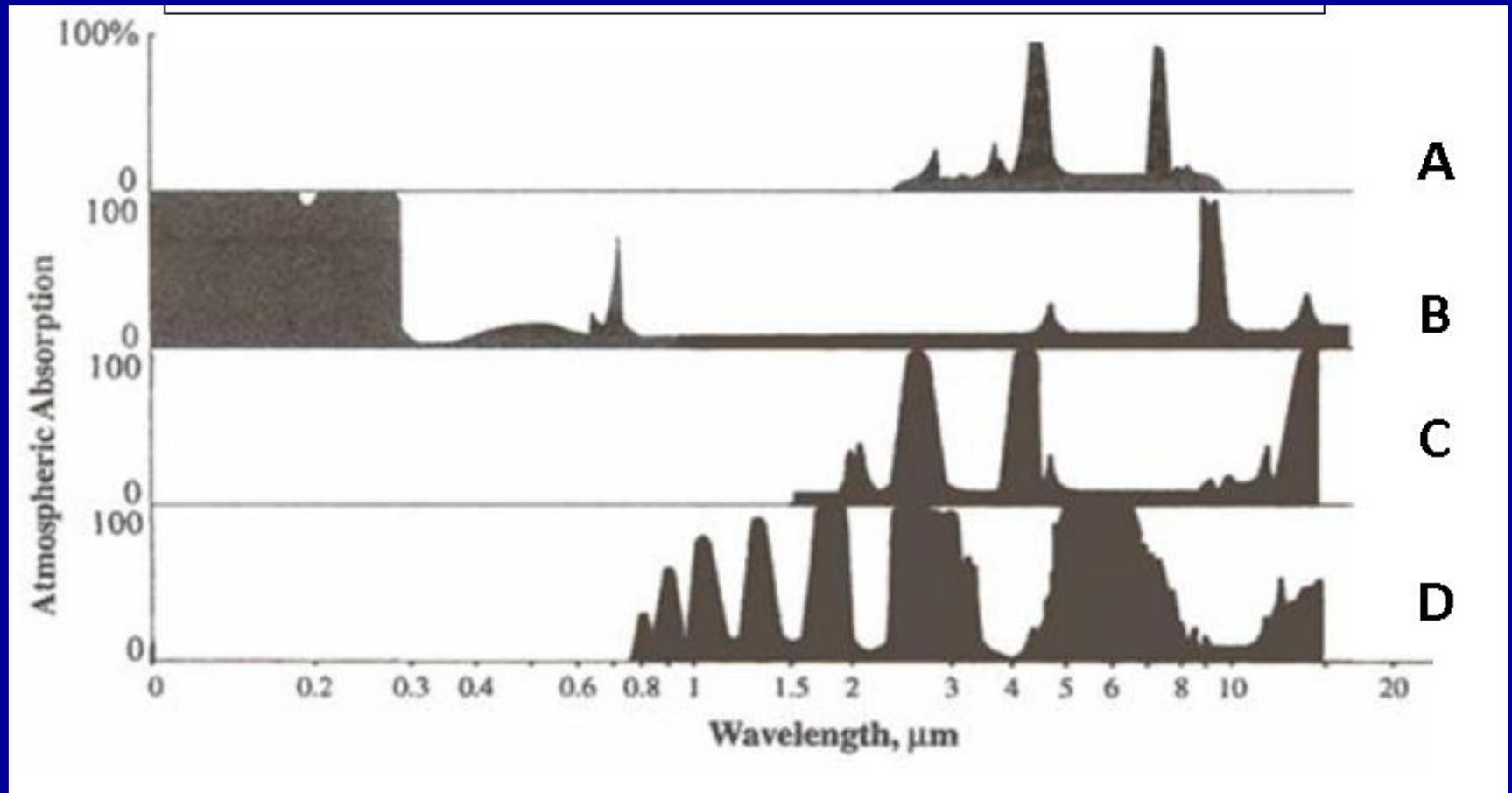
# Close up view of absorption of IR wavelengths by different GHG's:



SGC E-Text Fig 3-13

# Match the GAS with the Absorption Curve #:

CHOICES:  $\text{CO}_2$   $\text{H}_2\text{O}$   $\text{O}_2/\text{O}_3$   $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  & ??



**CLICKERS – Channel 41**

CHOICES:

- 1)  $\text{CO}_2$
- 2)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$
- 3)  $\text{O}_2/\text{O}_3$
- 4)  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$

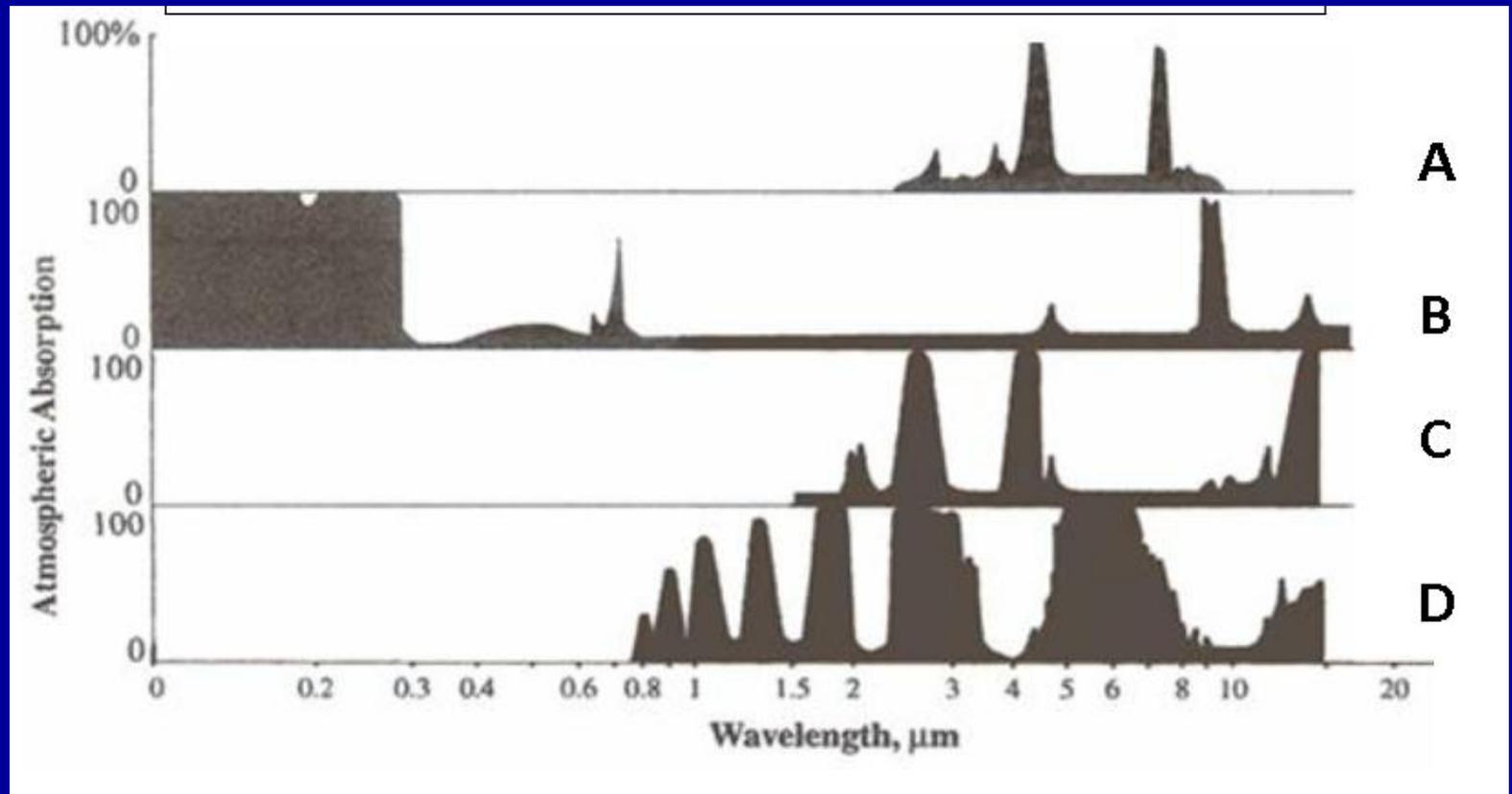
Q. Four separate CLICKER questions:

A =

B =

C =

D =



CHOICES:

- 1)  $\text{CO}_2$
- 2)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$
- 3)  $\text{O}_2/\text{O}_3$
- 4)  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$

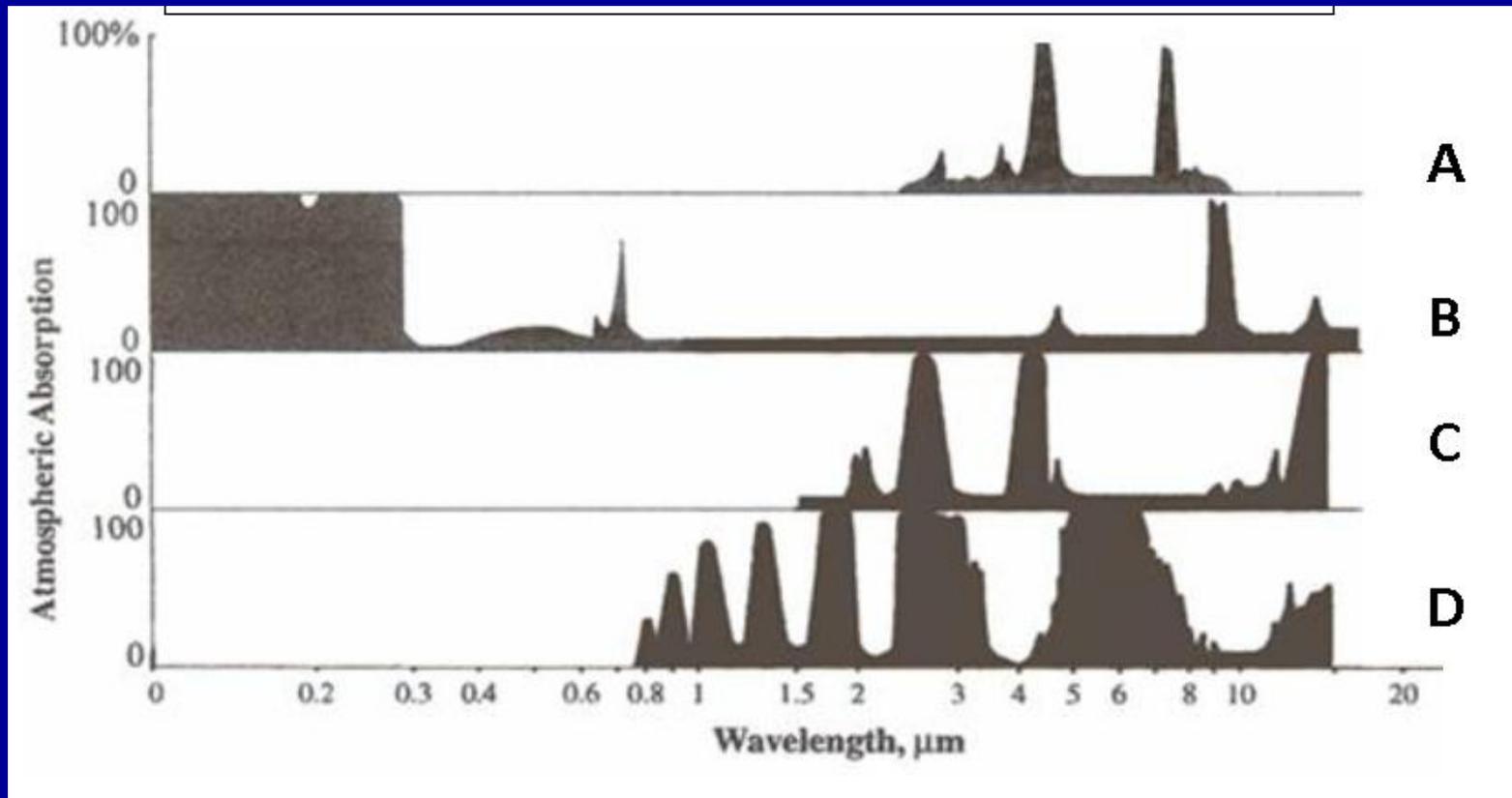
Q. ANSWERS:

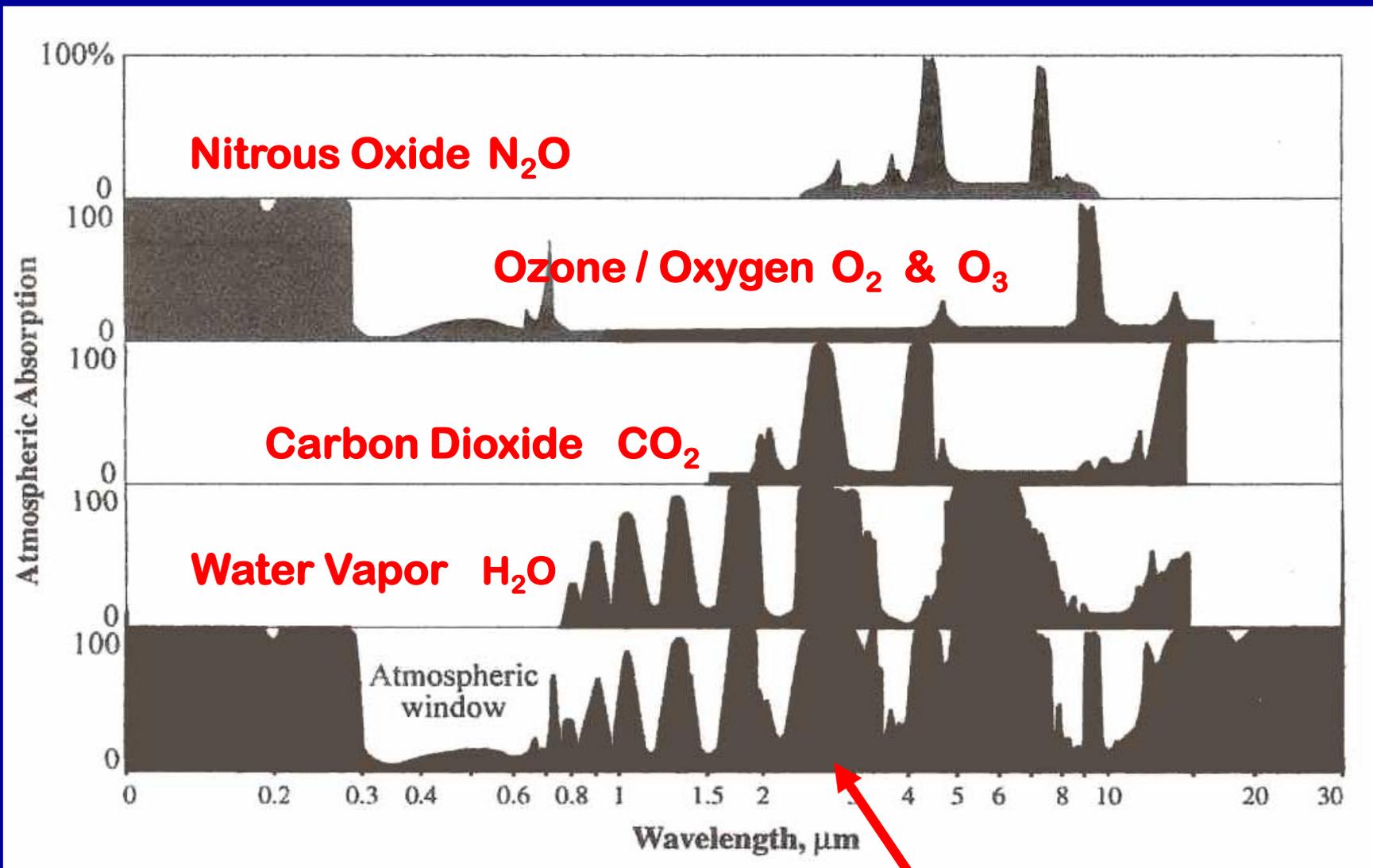
A = 4

B = 3

C = 1

D = 2

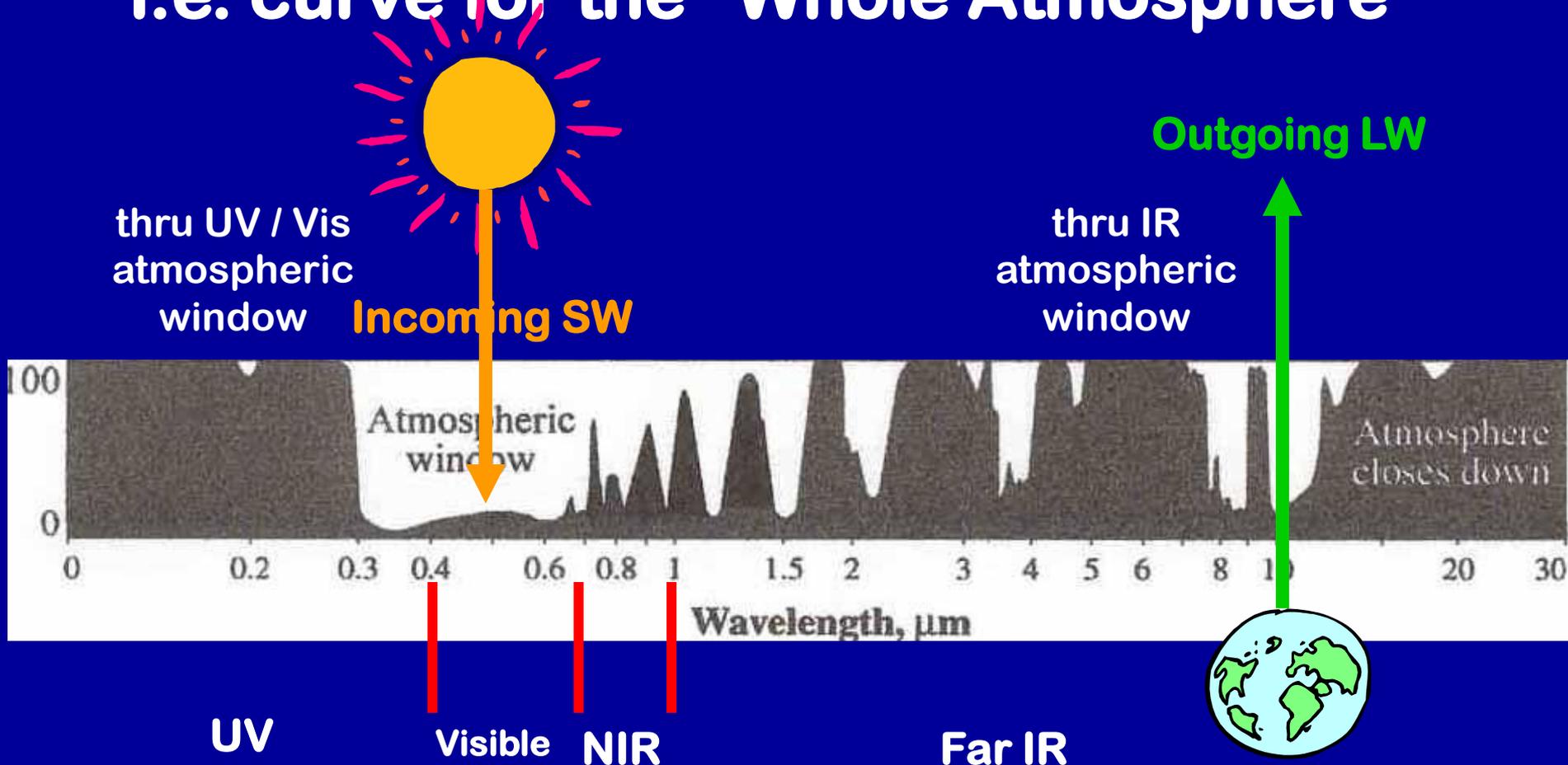


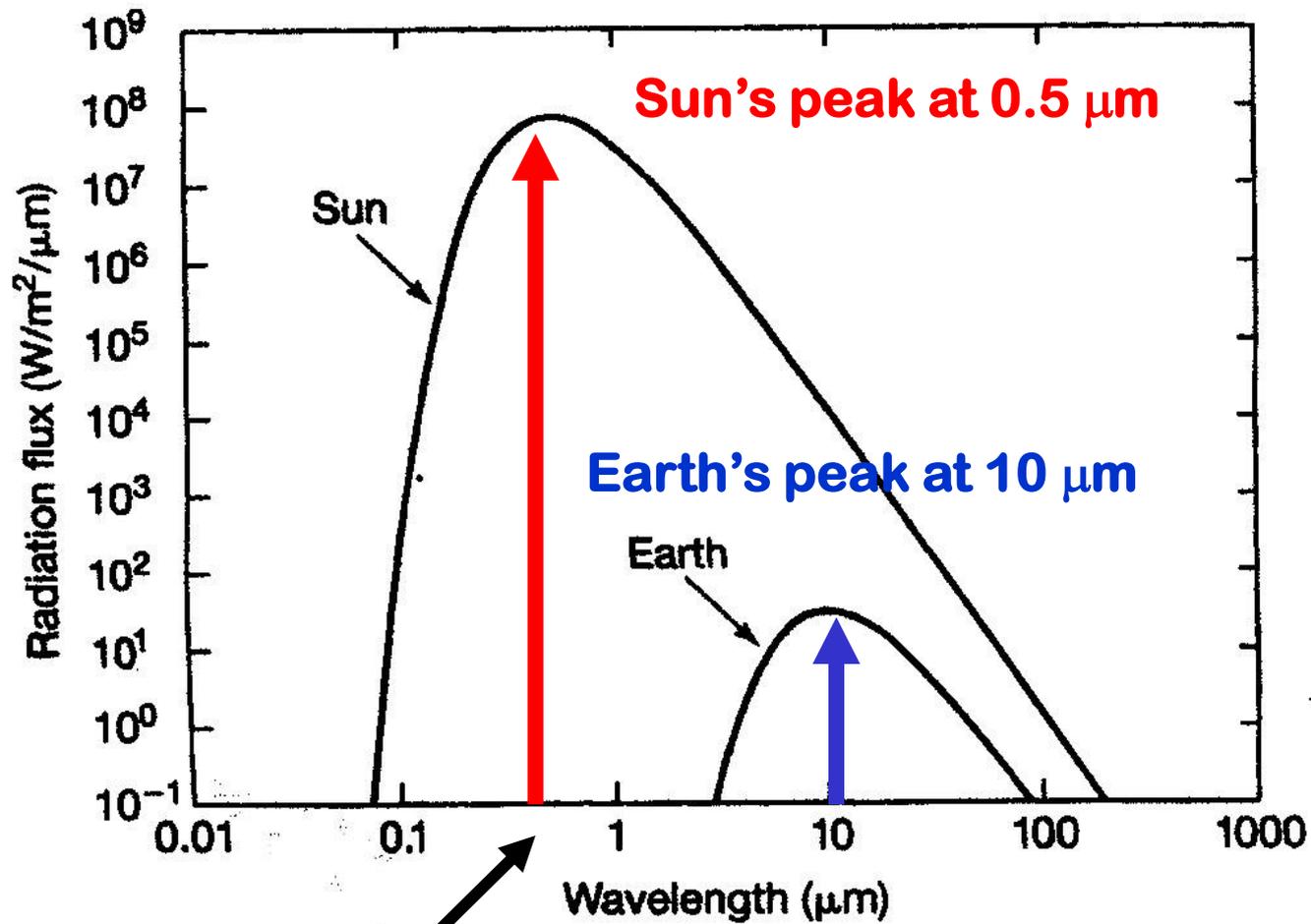


All gases in the atmosphere together!

Absorption by ALL the gases in the atmosphere put together –

i.e. curve for the “Whole Atmosphere”

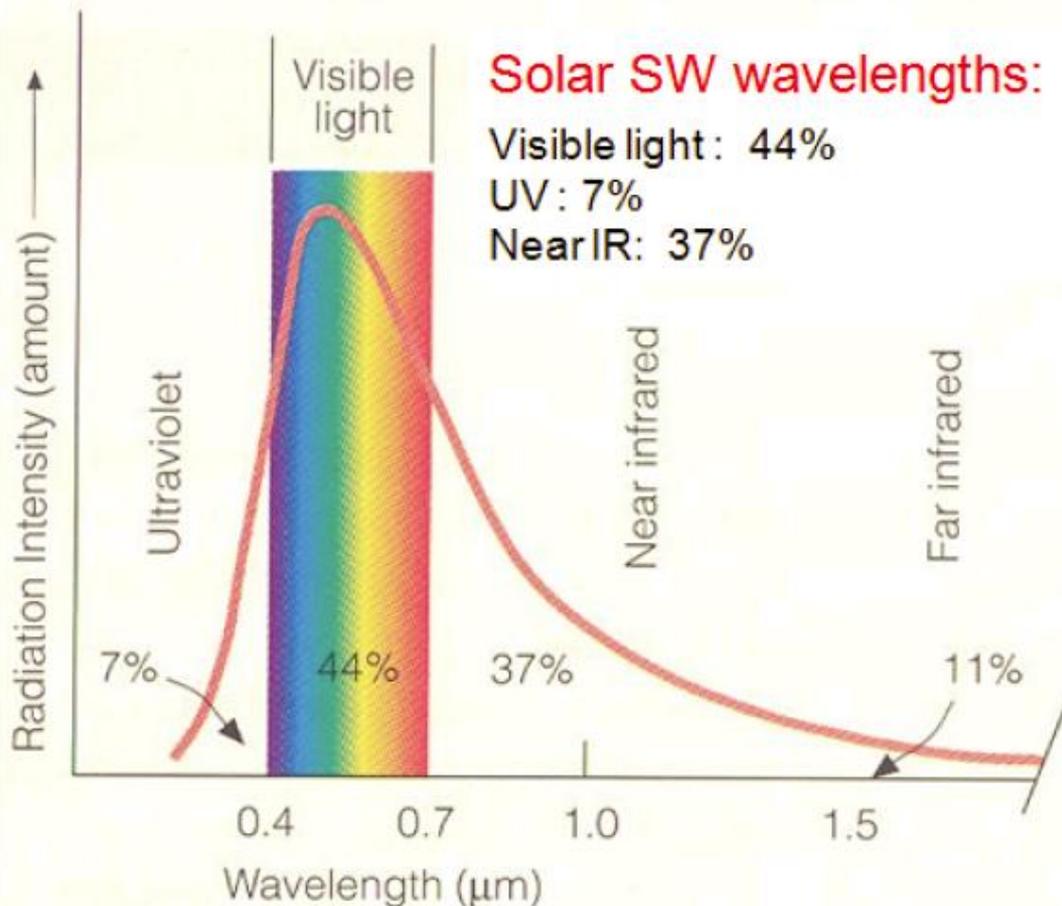




**NOTE: this is a logarithmic scale -- values increase exponentially to the right**

# Shortwave SOLAR radiation

(SW) = UV + VIS + Near IR

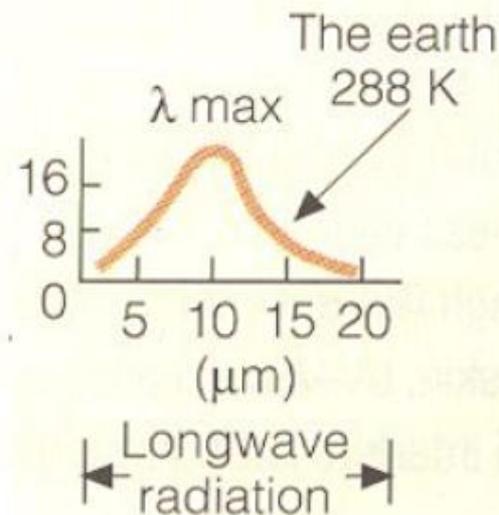


# TERRESTRIAL radiation

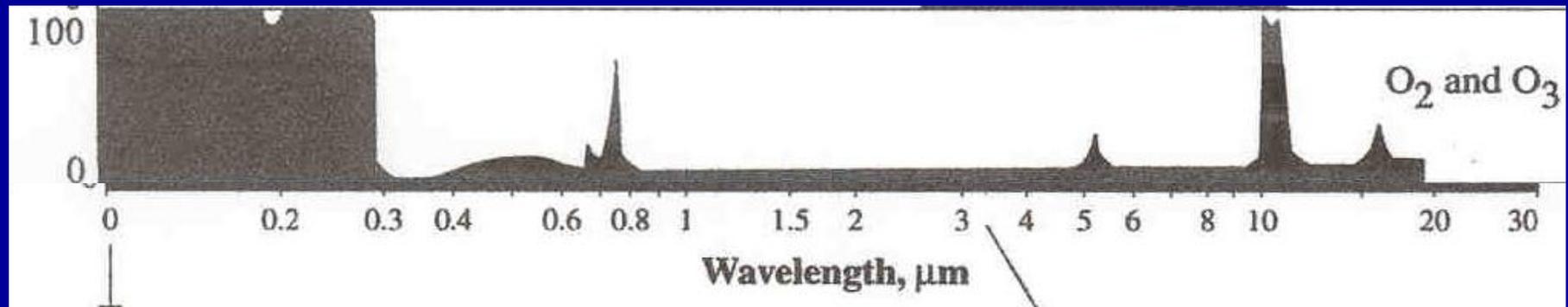
(LW) = Far IR

**Terrestrial (Earth) radiation wavelengths:**

**Far IR, with a maximum at ~ 10 μm**



# HOW IS OZONE ( actually $O_3$ & $O_2$ ) unique???



## IMPLICATIONS SUMMARY:

- a) The frequency & wavelength of a photon absorbed by a given electron, atom, molecule will be the same as the frequency/wavelength with which it is emitted.
  
- b) **O<sub>3</sub> (ozone) selectively absorbs ultraviolet (UV) radiation at wavelengths < ~ 0.3 μm**  
This is how the **ozone layer** in the stratosphere protects us from harmful, high energy radiation.

c) GREENHOUSE GASES both absorb and emit electromagnetic radiation in the infrared (IR) part of the spectrum – **once IR is absorbed by the greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, it can be emitted back to the Earth's surface to heat it all over again!!**

This is called the GREENHOUSE EFFECT!

d) The **IR** absorbed in the atmosphere by the GHG's **can also be emitted upward to outer space**, where it will be **lost** from the Earth-Atmosphere system altogether.

e) CO<sub>2</sub> is a triatomic molecule, and one way that CO<sub>2</sub> vibrates is in a “bending mode” that has a frequency that allows CO<sub>2</sub> to absorb IR radiation at wavelengths of 2.5 - 3.0 μm, at ~ 4 μm, and especially at a wavelength of about 15 μm. ( the “15 μm CO<sub>2</sub> band”)

f) Since 15 μm is close to the peak of Earth’s outgoing radiation, (10 μm), this absorption band keeps a lot of Earth’s longwave radiation from escaping to space.

g) If a gas absorbs radiation of any wavelength, **the amount absorbed** will be proportional to:

(a) the number of molecules of gas &

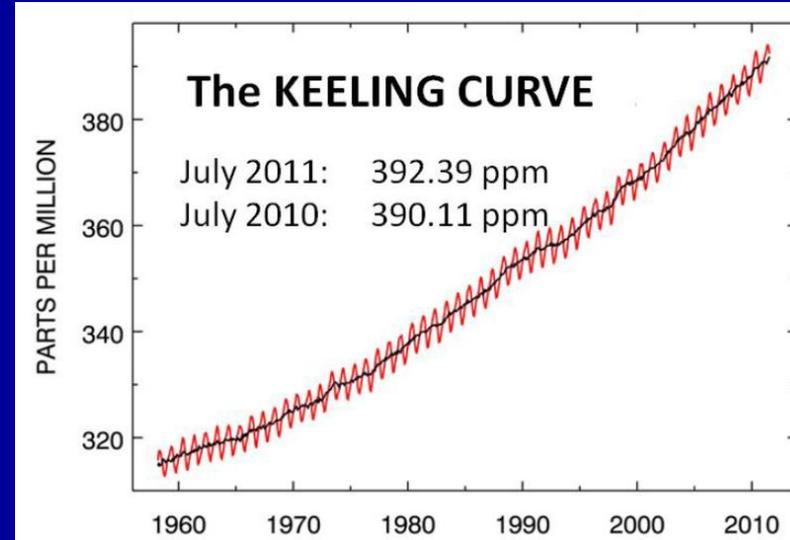
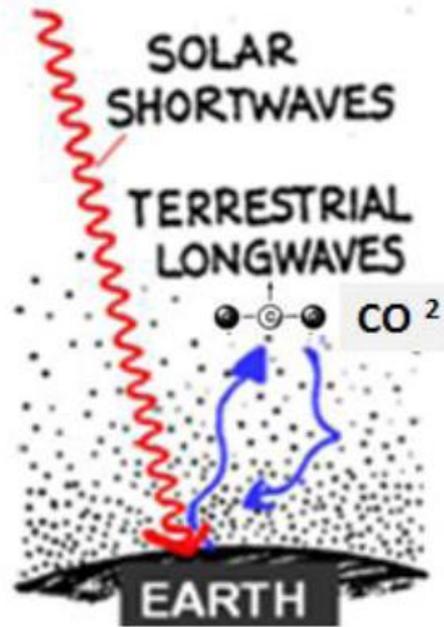
(b) the intensity of radiation of that wavelength.

INDICATOR INTERLUDE . . .



Denier  
Argument #29:

*"Increasing CO<sub>2</sub>  
has little to  
no effect"*



**For Wednesday:** can you come up with a good response to this argument???

**What evidence do we have that increasing CO<sub>2</sub> does have a large effect??**

A possible hint:

→ A gas has the most effect if it **absorbs in a "window"** of wavelengths where the atmosphere is fairly transparent.