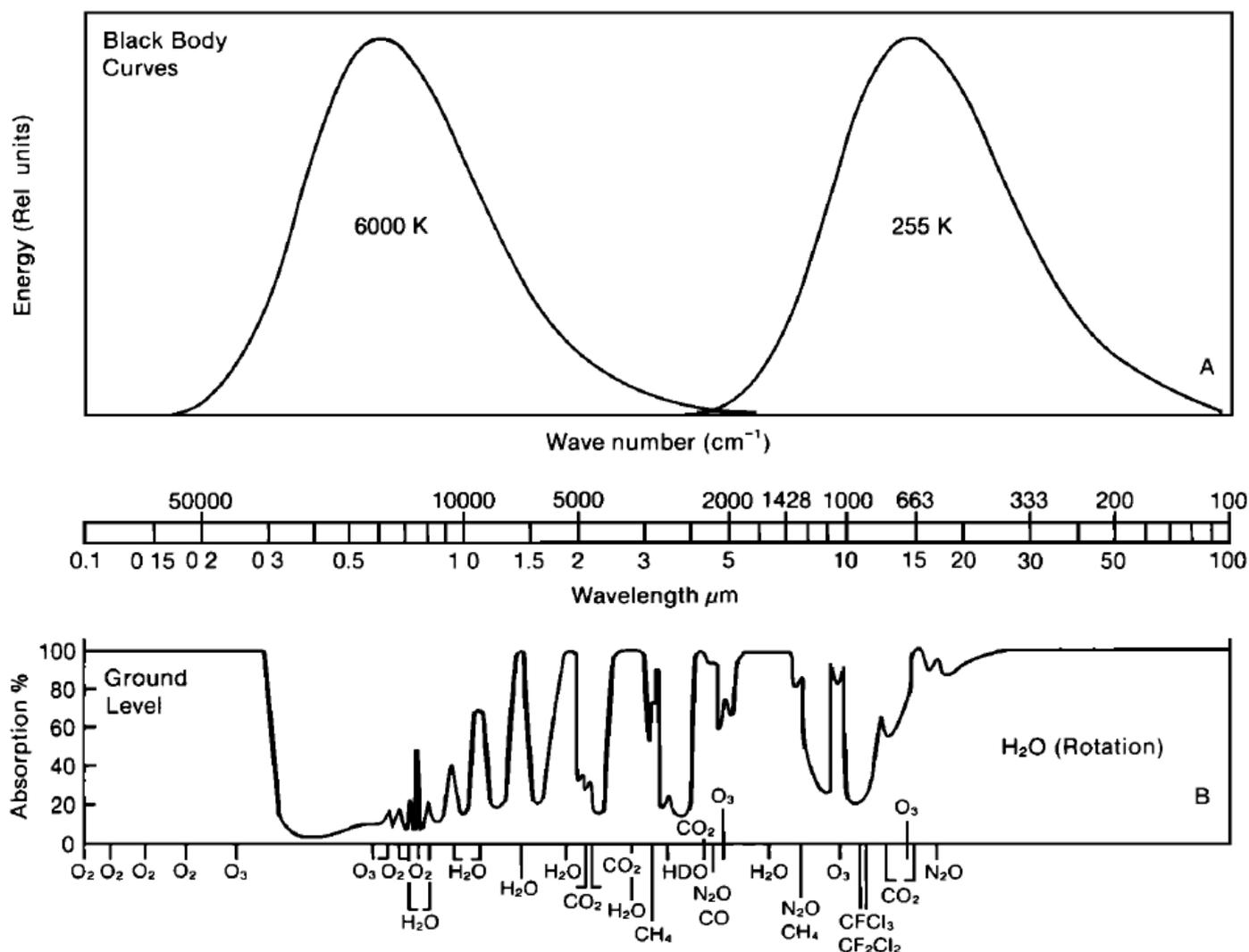


The Greenhouse Effect



The upper figure shows the spectral energy density of thermal radiation from blackbodies at 6000 K and 255 K, corresponding to the average emitting temperatures of the Sun and Earth, respectively. The lower figure shows the percentage of the radiation incident on the upper atmosphere that is absorbed before reaching Earth's surface.

From J.F.B. Mitchell, Reviews of Geophysics, vol. 27, page 1 (1989)