



FIGURE 3.12 Solar flux outside the atmosphere and at sea level, respectively. The emission of a blackbody at 6000 K is also shown for comparison. The species responsible for light absorption in the various regions (O_3 , H_2O , etc.) are also shown (from Howard *et al.*, 1960).

The above figure plots sunlight intensity (or “solar flux”) as a function of wavelength. Focus on the dotted line (the wavelengths that hit the top of the atmosphere) and the bottom solid line (the wavelengths that hit the earth’s surface after being filtered by the atmosphere).

(from Finlayson-Pitts, B. J.; Pitts, J. N., Jr. *Chemistry of the Upper and Lower Troposphere*; Academic Press: San Diego, 2000; Chapter 1)