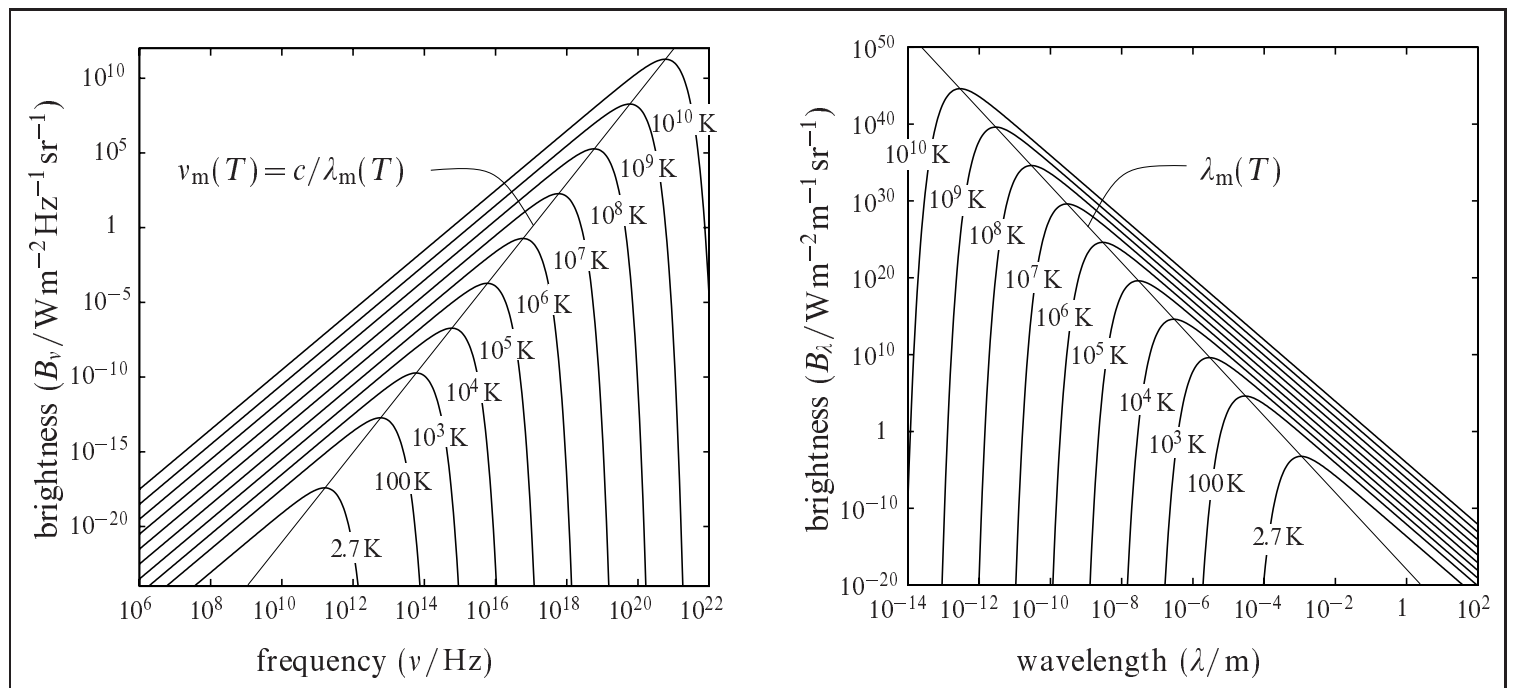


# Blackbody radiation



Planck function <sup>a</sup>	$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2h\nu^3}{c^2} \left[ \exp\left(\frac{h\nu}{kT}\right) - 1 \right]^{-1}$ $B_\lambda(T) = B_\nu(T) \frac{d\nu}{d\lambda}$ $= \frac{2hc^2}{\lambda^5} \left[ \exp\left(\frac{hc}{\lambda kT}\right) - 1 \right]^{-1}$	$B_\nu$ surface brightness per unit frequency ( $\text{W m}^{-2} \text{Hz}^{-1} \text{sr}^{-1}$ ) $B_\lambda$ surface brightness per unit wavelength ( $\text{W m}^{-2} \text{m}^{-1} \text{sr}^{-1}$ ) $h$ Planck constant
Spectral energy density	$u_\nu(T) = \frac{4\pi}{c} B_\nu(T) \quad \text{J m}^{-3} \text{Hz}^{-1}$ $u_\lambda(T) = \frac{4\pi}{c} B_\lambda(T) \quad \text{J m}^{-3} \text{m}^{-1}$	$c$ speed of light $k$ Boltzmann constant $T$ temperature $u_{\nu,\lambda}$ spectral energy density
Rayleigh–Jeans law ( $h\nu \ll kT$ )	$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2kT}{c^2} \nu^2 = \frac{2kT}{\lambda^2}$	
Wien's law ( $h\nu \gg kT$ )	$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2h\nu^3}{c^2} \exp\left(\frac{-h\nu}{kT}\right)$	
Wien's displacement law	$\lambda_m T = \begin{cases} 5.1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mK} & \text{for } B_\nu \\ 2.9 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mK} & \text{for } B_\lambda \end{cases}$	$\lambda_m$ wavelength of maximum brightness
Stefan–Boltzmann law <sup>b</sup>	$M = \pi \int_0^\infty B_\nu(T) d\nu$ $= \frac{2\pi^5 k^4}{15c^2 h^3} T^4 = \sigma T^4 \quad \text{W m}^{-2}$	$M$ exitance $\sigma$ Stefan–Boltzmann constant ( $\simeq 5.67 \times 10^{-8} \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{K}^{-4}$ )
Energy density	$u(T) = \frac{4}{c} \sigma T^4 \quad \text{J m}^{-3}$	$u$ energy density
Greybody	$M = \epsilon \sigma T^4 = (1 - A) \sigma T^4$	$\epsilon$ mean emissivity $A$ albedo

<sup>a</sup>With respect to the projected area of the surface. Surface brightness is also known simply as “brightness.” “Specific intensity” is used for reception.

<sup>b</sup>Sometimes “Stefan’s law.” Exitance is the total radiated energy from unit area of the body per unit time.