Human color encoding and image system engineering

- Types of photoreceptors
- Photoreceptors spatial arrangement
- Color-matching experiment



Color vision is interesting: Blue Man Group



sHc&feature=youtube_gdata_player

Human eye in cross-section



The primate fovea (pit) contains mainly cones and is specialized for high acuity and color



- 5 x 5 cm, 0.4 mm thick
- 5 x 10⁶ cones
- 10⁸ rods
- Foveal cone width: 1 um
- Contacts per cone: 250
- 10⁶ optic nerve fibers

The subject is exposed to a large, (30 deg) uniform field, in the periphery.

The field is extinguished, and a violet test light is presented.

The subject adjusts the test intensity to threshold, over time. lamp Uniform adapting field fixation point virror Beam splitter Violet test light



Spatial distribution of human photoreceptors (rods and cones)



Rods and cones

- Rods and cones seen through a scanning electron microscope.
- Each rod is about one micron across.
- Rods and cones are intermingled in the visual periphery



Rods and cones



Rods and cones in schematic, and as estimated through a scanning electron microscope. Rod

Each rod is about one micron across.

Retinal terminology



- Cone photopigments (L,M,S) absorption efficiency for standard pigment density
- Including the effect of the lens and macular pigment





Impact of the lens and macular pigment

The lens and macular pigment have a dramatic impact on the light that gets to the cone photoreceptors



Cone mosaic

5 um



S cones

- L,M cones stained
- S-cones not stained
- Small cross-sections are rods
- Near periphery in the retina

S-cones labeled





Photoreceptor mosaic



5 um

Foveal cone mosaic in central foveola

- Triangular (hexagonal) packing
- All cones
- Inner segment
- Miller et al.





Cone receptor mosaic (Roorda and Williams, 1999)

L:M cone ratios: 3.8:1 and 1.15:1 – yet both are normal

Enormous variation in the number of L and M cones in different people



Ratio of L/M cones differs greatly between normals

- 1 deg is about 300 microns (um)
- Cone inner segments
 - 1-2 um diameter (central fovea)
 - 3-4 um (0.6 deg eccentricity)
- If average diameter is 3 um, then ~100 cones/deg in foveola (central 1 deg)
- Nyquist is about 50 cpd



10 um

Hofer et al. J. Neurosci. 2005

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Fig. 7-CO, p. 140

Light and superposition

• Spectrum

25.41

• Superposition





The fundamental components of light



Monochromators measure the energy at different wavelengths



Typical daylight SPDs vary



SPD: spectral power distribution

Same objects but illuminated by two different sources

Objects and lights interact on a wavelength basis, not in RGB space

COLOR APPEARANCE OF MATERIALS

David H. Brainard & Brian A. Wandell Stanford University Stanford, CA



From R.M. Evans work at Kodak in the 1940s

Scene radiance depends on reflectance and illumination

- People want to recognize the object – hence estimate reflectance
- The visual system interprets color in a way that accounts for the spectral properties of the illuminant



Scene radiance depends on reflectance and illumination

- People want to recognize the object – hence estimate reflectance
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Superposition of light spectral power distributions









Wavelength





Wavelength

Rod (scotopic) color matching

Rhodopsin Rod color-matching

12.21

25.41



Visual purple and the optogram



Boll

- Boll noticed that the lightsensitive pigment in the rods of the retina had a tendency to fade in the presence of illumination
 - Kuhne made optograms, such using intact rabbit retina whose retina was fixed after dark adaptation, and then fastening its head to a barred window before slicing the retina





Rhodopsin: Regenerated

The rhodopsin pigment can be seen directly in the eye of some animals



Visual purple is a synonym for rhodopsin

Rhodopsin: Bleached

After the eye is exposed to light, the rhodopsin is bleached and invisible



Rod color matching



Example: Rod matches



Rhodopsin absorption curve



Measuring photopigment absorptions





Absorption = ratio of signals



Cone (photopic) color matching

Photopic color-matching Metamerism CMF and additivity

12 21



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Fig. 7-1b, p. 143


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Fig. 7-1a, p. 143

Cone color matching experiment (cone vision)



Metamerism



Metamerism is a big effect

These spectral power distributions appear the same color to the eye



The color matching experiment is linear



Color matching experiment equation







(a)

Color matching experiment equation



Behavioral color matching functions (CMFs; 10 deg)



Color matching functions

Metamer definition Uniqueness CIE (1931) XYZ standard

11-11

10.00

CMFs predict appearance matches

Two SPDs are **metamers** when they differ physically but are matched in the color-matching experiment



Metamer differences: CMF null space

Two SPDs are **metamers** when they differ physically but are matched in the color-matching experiment



CMFs: A uniqueness theorem

Any invertible linear transformation, L, of the CMFs

predicts the same metamers



CMFs: A uniqueness theorem

Different choices of primaries produce different CMFs Related by a linear transformation (see **Foundations of Vision** for proof)



New CMF

The CIE (1931) XYZ standard CMFs

CIE (1931) 10 deg XYZ functions



Wavelength (nm)

The CIE (1931) XYZ standard CMFs



CIE (1931) 10 deg XYZ functions



Physiology and color-matching

- Relating cone responses to color matches
- Static nonlinearities

12.21

Single cone photocurrent measurements

(Schnapf, Baylor et al., 1986)



Principle of univariance (Rushton)



Cone photocurrent using stimuli with different wavelengths

Time (sec)

Spectral sensitivity of nonlinear systems

 $N(I_{500}) = N(sI_{659})$



Spectral sensitivity of nonlinear systems



There are three cone wavelength responsivity functions



Wavelength (nm)

Stimuli causing equal cone absorptions match perceptually

What about the rods?



Wavelength (nm)

The cone responsivities predict the CMFs

Recall the point about all CMFs being unique up to a linear transformation

The relationship between the cones and the XYZ functions is a linear transform



Historical notes





Thomas Young and the Rosetta Stone

Andrew Robinson

(a)

(a)

13 Lonsdale Square, London N1 1EN, United Kingdom





Thomas Young (1802) On the theory of lights and colours. Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society 92, 12-48. "....this paper contains nothing which deserves the name, either of experiment or of discovery, and as it is, in fact, destitute of every species of merit...."

"We now dismiss, for the present, the feeble lucubrations of this author, in which we have searched without success for some traces of learning, acuteness, and ingenuity, that might compensate his evident deficiency in the powers of solid thinking, calm and patient investigation...."

Henry Brougham in Edinburgh Review, an ardent admirer of Newton, criticizing Thomas Young's Bakerian Lectures.

Original color-matching technology (Clerk Maxwell, Image from John Mollon, Cambridge)

Color-mixing was done by spinning a top rapidly, rather than by mixing lights.

In the course of his 1855 paper on the perception of colour, Maxwell proposed that if three black-andwhite photographs of a scene were taken through red, green and blue filters, and transparent prints of the images were projected onto a screen using three projectors equipped with similar filters, when superimposed on the screen the result would be perceived by the human eye as a complete reproduction of all the colours in the scene. (From Wikipedia)



Figure 1.19 The color-mixing top of James Clerk Maxwell. The instrument survived in the collection of the Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge. This photograph was taken in 1982. (Copyright: Department of Experimental Psychology, Cambridge University, reproduced with permission.) Observer K – JCM's spouse Maxwell Comparison with 1931

(From Judd, PNAS)





Koenig and Dieterici (1892) – Estimated cone absorptions



Koenig and Dieterici (1892) – Estimated cone absorptions



The cone response functions predict color matching



Fig. 7-8, p. 147

Color appearance: More than matching



12 21

25.41

Matching does not predict appearance





Scene radiance depends on reflectance and illumination

- People want to recognize the object hence estimate reflectance
- The visual system interprets color in a way that accounts for the spectral properties of the illuminant



Color appearance and context



... passing then into another place illuminated by sunlight, if one looks through the door of the room, the objects that are lit by candlelight will appear tinted reddish-yellow in comparison with those lit by the sun and seen concurrently. One cannot appreciate this when he is in the candlelit chamber.

(De La Hire, 1694/1730)

Even simple judgments – such as lightness depend on interpreting the nature of the lighting (Anderson and Winawer, Nature, 2005)










Artistic rendering – which one do you like better?

Notice that the hole and 2nd prism is missing!

And what is that dude doing there in the background?

And where is the lens?



The fundamental components of light





Color Appearance is Calculated Across Space















Chromatic Aberration Influences Appearance



Text is the same in 3 slides

Chromatic induction

Monnier and Shevell



Purple in front, Yellow in back



Yellow in front, Purple in back

Monnier and Shevell



Purple in front, White in back



Yellow in front, White in back

Lightness Perception

(Anderson and Winawer)



The chess pieces are the same shade; really.





Opponent-Colors – Afterimage demo





Optical point spread in the human fovea

for a 3mm pupil at 550nm and 450nm (cone mosaic is shown in the background)



The Retina

- 5 x 5 cm, 0.4 mm thick
 - 5 x 10⁶ cones
 - 10^8 rods
- Foveal cone width: 1 mu
 - Contacts per cone: 250
 - 10⁶ optic nerve fibers



Curcio Rodieck

Peripheral retina



Color vision is interesting

Blue Man Group

Oct. 2016: 2,614,430 views



http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W-yLfm5HsHc&feature=youtube_gdata_player