

Study Guide for the mid-term examination (Friday, 21 February 2003). Be able to answer the following questions and be familiar with the concepts involved in the answers.

1. Draw a “typical” **psychometric** function relating percent correct to stimulus intensity. Be sure to label the axes. Indicate on the graph how the stimulus “threshold” is defined. What is the relationship between the “threshold” as a point on a psychometric function and threshold as a theoretical concept?
2. What are the three classical methods that G. T. Fechner developed to measure internal sensory thresholds?
3. What is a Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC)? Describe the ROC predicted by the High Threshold Model and by Signal Detection Theory of detection. How do you compute sensitivity (d') and decision criterion (X_c) from the hit rate and the false alarm rate for the equal-variance dual-Gaussian signal detection model?
4. Draw a diagram of the eye including the following structures: cornea, lens, pupil, iris, sclera, aqueous humor, vitreous humor, choroid, retina, optic disk and optic nerve.
5. Be able to define the following optical properties of the eye: dioptres, optical power, relative optical power, accommodation, near point, far point, resting point, range of accommodation, emmetropia, myopia, and hyperopia.
6. If a person is classified as a +4 dioptre myope, where is his/her far point located? What kind of optical correction will be needed to make the person emmetropic?
7. Draw a diagram of the retina including the following parts: rods, cones, horizontal cells, bipolar cells, amacrine cells, ganglion cells and the optic nerve.
8. Define the term “receptive field.” Describe the receptive fields of retinal ganglion cells. How do ganglion cell receptive fields differ from those of cells in the primary visual cortex?
9. Why do dark-adaptation curves obtained from different parts of the visual field and the Purkinje shift indicate that there are two receptor systems in our retina? Explain.
10. Four important stimulus variables that affect the visibility of a target are contrast, size, exposure duration, and average level of illumination. Know how they are interrelated.
11. If a person is injured in the upper left region of the primary visual cortex, what change in vision, if any, do you expect?
12. Draw a diagram of the major visual pathways from the eye to the thalamus, the cortex, and the midbrain. Include the optic nerve, optic chiasm, lateral geniculate nucleus, superior colliculus and the visual cortex.