# Vision 

PSYC 5665 - Prosem
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28 October 2020

## Main Points

- "Light" is energy
- "Light" is an experience
- The core of vision science is to understand the relationship between these two domains.


## Levels of Understanding

- Molecular
- Cellular
- Systems
- Behavioral
- We want it all!


## Light as Energy

## Light as Energy

- Quanta
- Only one property
- Energy (E)
- Frequency (nu)
- Wavelength (lambda)
$E=h \cdot v$ Planck-Einstein
$c=\lambda \cdot v$
$E=\frac{c \cdot h}{\lambda}$
- Light has no color


## Black Body Radiator



## Black Body Radiator



## Light Energy Interacts with Matter

- Reflected
- Transmitted
- Absorbed


## Visible Spectra



Fig. 4. Spectra of the back of the hand.

## How The Eye Works

- Optical instrument
- Cornea and lens
- Neural information processor
- Retina - a complex network of neurons


## Optics of the Eye: René Descartes (1596-1650)



Figure 1 Descartes' diagram of the formation of images on the retinae of the eyes and the paths of transmission in the visual nervous system.

## The Visual System



## The Eyes in the Head




## The Normal Eye





## Optics of the Eye

- Focal Length of a lens
- Optical Power in dioptres
- Relative Optical Power in dioptres
- Far Point, Near Point, Resting Point


## Problems with the Optics

- Where is the far point?
- At optical infinity (Emmetropia)
- Closer than infinity (Myopia)
- Farther than infinity (Hyperopia)
- Cataract
- Astigmatism
- Resting Point


The normal appearance of the crystalline lens at the bottom and the anterior chamber of the eye above this is shown here. The lens becomes progressively less elastic and distensible with age. This is known as presbyopia because there is diminution of the power of accommodation with greater difficulty focusing at close distances.

Hence, the need for bifocals starting in their 40's for many people.



## Loss of Accommodation Power: Presbyopia




Franciscus Cornelis Donders 1818-1889

## Cataracts



This is a cataract. A cataract results from opacification of the crystalline lens. This opacification results from a series of events starting in the lens cortex with rarefaction, then liquefecation, of cortical cells. This leads to fragmentation of lens fibers and extracellular globule formation. In the lens nucleus there is a progressive increase in the amount of insoluble proteins which leads to hardening (sclerosis) and brownish discoloration (brunescence).

## Cataracts



On cross-section of the eyeball can be seen a lens at the right which contains a cataract. Cataracts are more common in the elderly and in persons with diabetes mellitus. Such cataracts can be removed and replaced by a lens implant.

## Astigmatism

Lewis Harvey
Patient ID:
EyeSys



## Resting Point



Leibowitz, H. W., \& Owens, D. A. (1975). Night myopia and the intermediate dark
focus of accommodation. Journal of the Optical Society of America,

## Resting Focus of the Eye



The Normal Retina

## Three Layers, Five Cells

- Photoreceptors
- Bipolar Cells
- Retinal Ganglion Cells
- Horizontal Cells
- Amacrine Cells


The normal histologic appearance of the retina shows many layers. The lowest layer just above the connective tissue is the layer of rods and cones. Above this are layers of external and internal plexiform and nuclear lamina. The nerve fibers are at the top and collect together to enter the optic nerve at the optic disk.




FIGURE 26.2 Summary diagram of the cell types and connections in the primate retina. R, rod; $\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{cone} ; \mathrm{H}$, horizontal cell; FMB, flat midget bipolar; IMB, invaginating midget bipolar; IDB, invaginating diffuse bipolar; RB, rod bipolar; A, amacrine cell; P, parasol cell (also confusingly called an M cell because of its thalamic targets, see text for details); MG, midget ganglion cell (also confusingly called a P cell). Adapted from Dowling (1997).

Rod


## Østerberg (1935)



## Foveal Mosaic





## Photopic vs. Scotopic Vision




## Liang, Williams, \& Miller (1997)




AN 1 deg nasal


AN 1 deg nasal


AN 1 deg nasal


AN 1 deg nasal


AN 1 deg nasal


AN 1 deg nasal



AN
Nasal


Monkey
Nasal






## Principle of Univariance

- A receptor signals the number of quanta (or the rate) absorbed. It can not signal the wavelength of the quanta.
- All wavelengths cause the same voltage change when they are absorbed
- 700 microvolts per quantum for rods
- 25 or smaller microvolts per quantum for cones


## What Can We Do with Psychometric Functions?

- Answer questions about sensory processes
- What is the minimum amount of energy needed for "seeing?"
- Hecht, Shlaer, \& Pirenne (1942)


## Psychometric Function






Hecht, S., Shlaer, S., \& Pirenne, M. H. (1942). Energy, quanta, and vision. Journal of General Physiology, 25(6), 819840.

## Poisson Probability Distribution

$$
\begin{aligned}
& p(n: \lambda)=\frac{\lambda^{n} e^{-\lambda}}{n!} \\
& \lambda>0, \quad n=0,1,2,3 \ldots
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
\text { Mean } & =\mu=\lambda \\
\text { Variance } & =\sigma^{2}=\lambda
\end{aligned}
$$

Standard Deviation $=\sigma=\sqrt{\lambda}$

## Poisson Process



## Poisson Process



## Observed Frequencies



## Observed Probabilities



## Theoretical Poisson Distribution



## Poisson Probability Distributions



## Poisson Psychometric Functions



## Theory vs. Data



## Fit of Data to Theory



## Fits of Models





## Data from Table V

|  | SH1 | SH2 | SS1 | SS2 | MPH |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| No. Quanta | 8 | 6 | 7 | 10 | 4 |
| Chi-Square | 2.1862 | 1.8612 | 0.9524 | 1.2316 | 4.6696 |
| DF | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Probability | 0.7016 | 0.7613 | 0.9169 | 0.9729 | 0.3229 |
| Alpha | 1.2475 | 1.2813 | 1.1058 | 0.9285 | 1.5253 |
| Quantum Eff | 0.0566 | 0.0523 | 0.0784 | 0.1179 | 0.0298 |

## Conclusions

- You need 4-10 photons to be absorbed by receptors to "see"
- Quantum efficiency is between 5 and 10 percent


## Main Points

- Duplex Retina
- 1 Type of Rod Receptor - Scotopic Vision
- 3 Types of Cone Receptors (S, M, L) - Photopic Vision
- Receptors can only signal rate of quantal absorption

Receptive Fields

## Haldan Keffer Hartline 22 December 1903-17 March 1983


"Spatial effects. No description of the optic responses in single fibers would be complete without a description of the region of the retina which must be illuminated in order to obtain a response in any given fiber. This region will be termed the receptive field of the fiber."

Hartline, H. K. (1938). The response of single optic nerve fibers of the vertebrate eye to illumination of the retina. American Journal of Physiology, 121(2), 400-415



## Ganglion Cell Receptive Fields




## On-Center, Off-Surround Ganglion Cell

 Receptive FieldResponse Surface
(a)

(b)




FIG.4. Gaussian fit to spatial profile of on BT cell's mean effective stimulus. $A$ : mean effective stimulus at its peak 125 ms before spike.



Distance from left edge


## Hermann Grid



## Enhanced Hermann Grid



## Perceptive Fields



Fig. 2. Centre size (lower curves) and total perceptive field size (upper curves) as a function of eccentricity for both subjects. Values were derived from the curves shown in Fig. 1. Total perceptive field size, given as the range between the two arrows in Fig. 1, increases much more rapidly than centre size. There appears to be a region between 10 and $30^{\circ}$ where the total field size remains rela tively constant.

## Perceptive Fields



Fig. 7. Perceptive field and perceptive field centre sizes from Fig. 2 are replotted (bold lines). Estimates by other authors of centre (solid symbols) and fields (open symbols) are given for comparison. Curves are labelled with the procedure, and authors are shown next to their respective symbols. For details see text. Neurophysiological estimates of the size of the centres of retinal ganglion cells in the spider monkey $(x)$ are included.


Nice Theory, but...


Figure 3. (a) Classic Hermann grid. (b) The illusory effect is reduced when the grid is rotated by $45^{\circ}$.



Fig. 9. Patterns made up of wavy bars. (A) Weaves and (B) Hermann grid. The spots for the weaves are barely affected by the wavy pattern, but the spots for the Hermann grid are nearly absent (see also Geier et al., 2004, 2008)



Ninio, J., \& Stevens, K. A. (2000). Variations on the Hermann Grid: An Extinction Illusion. Perception, 29(10), 1209-1217. doi: 10.1068/p2985






## The Perpetual Diamond


http://illusionscience.com/the-perpetual-diamond/

## The Perpetual Diamond




## We Don't See the Stimulus

- We see the result of neural/perceptual processes


## The Visual Brain

## Andreas Vesalius (1514-1564)

De humani corporis fabrica libri septem (1543)


## Localization of Function



## René Descartes (1595-1650)



## Visual Pathways, circa 1967



## Visual Pathways, circa 1974



## Visual Pathways, circa 1991



Felleman, D. J., \& Van Essen, D. C. (1991).
Distributed Hierarchical Processing in Cortex, 1(1), 1-47. doi: 10.1093/cercor/ 1.1.1

Brain Networks, circa 2016 Lots of fluctuating activity in the normal brain


Brain Networks, circa 2016 Default Mode Network (DMN)

Activity "At Rest"


Videos created by Andrew E. Reineberg Department of Psychology and Neuroscience

University of Colorado Boulder

Brain Networks, circa 2016
Default Mode Network (DMN) Activity "At Rest"


# Brain Networks, circa 2016 Default Mode Network (DMN) <br> Activity is Suppressed when Doing Tasks 



## Brain Networks, circa 2016 Multiple Networks



## Neural Organization

- Component Dominant
- Modules
- Interaction Dominant
- Emergent Properties


## Interaction Organization

naturevideo

## naturevideo

## Retinotopic Mapping

- Retina to LGN to Cortex
- Nonlinear
- Cortical Magnification Factor: $\mathrm{M}=\mathrm{mmCortex}$ / mmRetina
- $M=$ Around 11-13 in Fovea



## Lateral Geniculate Nucleus

- Parvocellular
- Magnocellular
- Koniocellular



## Lateral Geniculate Nucleus

- Parvocellular
- high spatial resolution
- color vision
- Magnocellular
- low spatial resolution
- high temporal res.
- Koniocellular
- high spatial resolution
- color vision





## Topographical Mapping



## Functional Significance

- Selective Damage
- Complex Logarithmic Mapping
- Orientation vs Spatial Frequency


## Binocular Visual Field



## Scotomata



Scotomata


## Visual Field Scotoma: A-178



Figure 19a. Case A-178. Right homonymous hemianopia, with irregular defect extending into homonymous left lower quadrants, and arc-shaped defect surrounding the central part of the field. These field defects resulted from a rifle bullet which entered the left midparietal region and traversed the posterior brain substance, making its exit in the right occipital region, 1 cm . to the right of the occipital protuberance.

## Visual Field Scotoma: A-178 Visual Field Scotoma: A-178



Figures 19b-d. Appearance of the head (case 'A-178), following surgical removal of fragments from the left midparietal region and the right and left occipital areas,

## Visual Field Scotoma: A-67 Homonymous Hemianopia: A-67



Figure 16a. Case A-67. Left homonymous hemianopia combined with arc-shaped defect forming a half-ring surrounding the right homonymous half of the macular region. This patient was injured by a rifle bullet penetrating the occiput. In the right half-field outside the crescent. fluctuation of targets was marked and stationary targets disappeared within $2-3 \mathrm{sec}$. Fusion thresholds for flickering light were markedly reduced in the foveal region (i.e., within the arc), and even more so in the right peripheral fields. Apparent movement was reported by this patient when one stationary target was placed inside and another outside the arc-shaped scotoma, and the two targets were illyminated in alternation (see text, pp. 84-86). Snellen acuity: OS 20/100, OD 20/70.

## Foveal Sparing: A-29



Figure 13a. Case $\mathrm{A}_{-}$29. Extreme instance of concentric contraction, resulting in bilateral hemianopia with irregular macular sparing (peephole vision). Areas in black were blind for hand motion on the perimeter. This unusual type of field defect was the result of a through-and-through bullet wound of the head entering 1 cm . above the pinna of the left ear and making its exit in the right occipital region about 2 cm . above the protuberance and 3 cm . lateral to it.

## Hemidecussation of the Retina



Figs. 4A,B Foveal regions of the retinas of figure 3 A
tion. In each retina the arrow points to the optic disc

## Hemidecussation of the Retina



Fig. 8 A: Schematic drawing of the foveal region of the right retina in figure 3A. The outline of the foveola is drawn in and the areas lacking and containing ganglion cells are open and hatched, respectively. The border between these two areas is marked as a line. B: Analogous draw ing for the left retina of the same animal. C: The drawing in $B$ reversed left-to-right. $D: A$ and $C$ superimposed. The outlines of the foveolae are matched as closely as possible and the lines are made as close to parallel as possible. This figure here with double hatching.

## Measuring Left \& Right RT



## Left and Right RT




## Crossed and Uncrossed RT



## Occular Dominance Stripes



Nonlinear Mapping


## Blobs and Stripes



## Orientation Tuning in Cortex

David Hubel and Torsten Wiesel

## Orientation Tuning in Area 17



## Sequence Regularity



Receptive Fields in Cortex


Colin Blakemore

## Effect of Experience



## Retina-Cortical Mapping



## Retina-Cortical Mapping



## Retina-Cortical Mapping

Visual Field



Visual Cortex

## Retina-Cortical Mapping



## Mapping of Movement



## Shifts of Attention



## Shifts of Attention



Figure 5. Temporal differences in attention-related activity for pairs of cortical areas. Arrows indicate significant differences in functional connectivity between attention and fixation. Black arrows represent top-down flow of attention signals, and the gray arrow indicates a bottom-up relationship between V2 and V3.

Break

## Spatial Vision and the Contrast Sensitivity Function

## Spatial Vision

- Detecting Contrast
- Detecting Orientation


## Fourier Transform

Transform space or time into frequency

## What is a Transform?

- A rule or set of rules for turning one set of numbers into another set of numbers
- Many transforms are reversible
- Some transforms are not reversible

| $N$ | $\log N$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 0 |
| 2 | 0.301 |
| 3 | 0.4771 |
| 4 | 0.6021 |
| 5 | 0.699 |
| 6 | 0.7782 |
| 7 | 0.8451 |
| 8 | 0.9031 |

## Why Transform?



To meet the assumptions of psychological models.

## Jean Baptiste Joseph Fourier

- Born:
- 21 March 1768, Auxerre, France
- Died:
- 16 May 1830, Paris, France



## The Fourier Transform

On the Propagation of Heat in Solid Bodies (1807)

| $t$ | $h(t)$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 1.75 |
| 2 | 0.15 |
| 3 | -0.14 |
| 4 | 0.23 |
| 5 | -1.5 |
| 6 | -0.82 |
| 7 | 1.65 |


| $f$ | $H(f)$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| 0 | $1.33,0.00 i$ |
| 1 | $3.33,-2.01 i$ |
| 2 | $0.90,1.26 i$ |
| 3 | $-3.80,-0.07 i$ |
| 4 | $-2.19,0.00 i$ |
| -3 | $-3.80,0.07 i$ |
| -2 | $0.90,-1.26 i$ |
| -1 | $3.33,2.01 i$ |

## The Fourier Transform

- $B(f, t)$ is called a basis function

$$
H(f)=\sum_{t=0}^{N-1} h(t) \cdot B(f, t)
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& t=\text { time } \\
& f=\text { frequency }
\end{aligned}
$$

- For the Fourier transform
- Basis function is a complex exponential function

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Basis Function }=e^{-i \cdot 2 \pi \cdot t \cdot f} \\
& i=\sqrt{-1}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Leonhard Euler

- Born:
- 15 April 1707, Basel, Switzerland
- Died:
- 18 Sept 1783, St. Petersburg, Russia



## Leonhard Euler (1707-1783)

Worked out the relationship between<br>exponential functions and trigonometric functions

$$
e^{i x}=\cos (x)+i \sin (x)
$$

## Leonhard Euler (1707-1783)

The most beautiful equation in the world:

$$
e^{i \pi}=-1
$$

## Leonhard Euler (1707-1783)

The most beautiful equation in the world:

$$
e^{i \pi}=-1
$$

$e \quad$ (irrational and transcendental)
$\pi \quad$ (irrational and transcendental)
i (imaginary number)

## Leonhard Euler (1707-1783)

The most beautiful equation in the world:

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
e^{i \pi}=-1 \\
e & (\text { irrational and transcendental }) \\
\pi & (\text { irrational and transcendental }) \\
i & (\text { imaginary number }) \\
e^{i x}=\cos (x)+i \sin (x) \\
e^{i \pi}=\cos (\pi)+i \sin (\pi)
\end{array}
$$

## Leonhard Euler (1707-1783)

The most beautiful equation in the world:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \cos (\pi)=-1 \\
& \sin (\pi)=0 \\
& e^{i \pi}=\cos (\pi)+i \sin (\pi) \\
& e^{i \pi}=-1+i \cdot 0 \\
& e^{i \pi}=-1
\end{aligned}
$$









Power Spectrum


## Spatial Frequencies: Gabor Patches




Med Low

IIII

Med High
High

## Visual Angle



## Visual Angle

## Visual Angle...

- The angle subtended at the nodal point of the eye by the physical dimensions of an object in the visual field.



## Cycles per Degree

- Distance of pattern from the observer in inches $=\mathrm{d}$
- Resolution of computer screen in pixels/inch = r
- Number of pixels per degree $=180 / \mathrm{pi}^{*} \mathrm{~d}^{*} \mathrm{r}$
- Number of sine cycles in ppd is the number of cycles per degree


## Contrast Sensitivity

- The visual system is not equally sensitive to all spatial frequencies.
- Less sensitive to both low and high spatial frequencies


## Contrast Sensitivity Function



# Adaptation Paradigm 

Spatial frequency mechanisms


$$
\text { Contrast }=\frac{\left(L_{\max }-L_{\min }\right)}{\left(L_{\max }+L_{\min }\right)}
$$

## Contrast varies between 0 and 1

## Threshold Contrast $=C_{t}$

Contrast Sensitivity $=\frac{1}{C_{t}}$

















Vertical Masking Functions


## CSFs of Various Animals





Fig. 2. Log contrast sensitivity as a function of horizontal (u) and vertical ( $v$ ) spatial-frequency coordinates in cycles per degree of visual angle, with sinusoidal test gratings for observer VVD. The height of the surface represents contrast sensitivity: the reciprocal of the grating contrast required to achieve $75.5 \%$ correct on a 3AFC detection task.


Fig. 3. Isosensitivity contours of VVD's unmasked 2-D contrast sensitivity function plotted in the ( $u, v$ ) spatial-frequency plane. The outer contour represents a sensitivity of 20 , and each contour is an increment of 0.2 log unit in sensitivity.


Fig. 4. Isosensitivity contours measured in the presence of an 8 -cpd mask, at 0.31 contrast for observer VVD. The ends of the straight line mark the spatial-frequency locus of the mask. Note that the contours are distorted in the region of the mask compared with Fig. 3. Masks were at polar angles of (A) 90.0 , (B) 105.0 , (C) 120.0 , (D) 135.0 , and (E) 180.0 deg


Fig. 5. Proportional threshold elevation contours in horizontal ( $u$ ) and vertical ( $v$ ) spatial-frequency space in the presence of an 8 -cpd, 0.31 contrast masking grating. The outer contour represents the locus of points where the threshold elevation decreases to $1 / e$ of its maximum; the second contour is the $1 / 2$ locus.

## Frequency <br> Domain

## Space <br> Domain



Fig. 10. Even kernel of the inverse Fourier transform of the proportion threshold elevation surface produced by the $8-\mathrm{cpd}, 90-\mathrm{deg}$ mask. The coordinate system is in degrees of visual angle, and the origin is in the center of the plane.


Fig. 11. Contour plots of the even kernel of the inverse Fourier transform of the proportional threshold elevation surfaces produced by an 8 cpd mask of 0.31 contrast. The solid contours show regions of excitation; the dashed contours show regions of inhibition. The short straight line represents the spatial period and orientation of the mask.



Fig. 12. Half-amplitude contours of the Gaussian envelope of the five Gabor functions fitted to each set of threshold elevation data. The dashed circle marks the 8 -cpd locus. The orientation of each line marks the polar orientation of the mask.

## Dennis Gabor (1900-1979)



## Gabor Function

$$
\begin{aligned}
G(x, y)= & c \exp \left[-\pi\left(x_{\phi}^{2} a^{2}+y_{\phi}^{2} b^{2}\right)\right] \\
& \times \exp \left\{-2 \pi i\left[u_{0}\left(x-x_{0}\right)+v_{0}\left(y-y_{0}\right)\right]\right\},
\end{aligned}
$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
& x_{\phi}=\left[\left(x-x_{0}\right) \cos (\phi)\right]+\left[\left(y-y_{0}\right) \sin (\phi)\right] \\
& y_{\phi}=-\left[\left(x-x_{0}\right) \sin (\phi)\right]+\left[\left(y-y_{0}\right) \cos (\phi)\right]
\end{aligned}
$$

and where $x$ and $y$ are the coordinates of spatial position in degrees of visual angle. The form of the Gabor function in the frequency domain is

$$
\begin{align*}
G(u, v)= & c \exp \left\{-\pi\left[u_{\phi}^{2} / a^{2}+v_{\phi}^{2} / b^{2}\right]\right\} \\
& \times \exp \left\{-2 \pi i\left[x_{0}\left(u-u_{0}\right)+y_{0}\left(v-v_{0}\right)\right]\right\} \tag{3b}
\end{align*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
& u_{\phi}=\left[\left(u-u_{0}\right) \cos (\phi)\right]+\left[\left(v-v_{0}\right) \sin (\phi)\right] \\
& v_{\phi}=-\left[\left(u-u_{0}\right) \sin (\phi)\right]+\left[\left(v-v_{0}\right) \cos (\phi)\right]
\end{aligned}
$$



Jones, J. P. \& Palmer L. A (1987). An evaluation of the two-dimensional Gabor filter model of simple receptive fields in cat striate cortex. Journal of Neurophysiology, 58(6), 1233-1258.

## Spatial Frequencies: Gabor Patches




Med Low

IIII

Med High
High

## Gabor Function

## Cat

Marcelja, S. (1980). Mathematical description of the responses of simple cortical cells. Journal of the Optical Society of America, 70(11), 1297-1300.

## Monkey

Daugman, J. G. (1980). Two-dimensional spectral analysis of cortical receptive field profiles. Vision Research, 20(10), 847856


Jones, J. P., \& Palmer, L. A. (1987). An evaluation of the two-dimensional Gabor filter model of simple receptive fields in cat striate cortex. Journal of Neurophysiology, 58(6), 1233-1258.


Jones, J. P., \& Palmer, L. A. (1987). An evaluation of the two-dimensional Gabor filter model of simple receptive fields in cat striate cortex. Journal of Neurophysiology, 58(6), 1233-1258.


## Iloul

## Visual Information

- Visual stimuli have spatial frequency content (Fourier Analysis).
- High spatial frequencies
- Sharp borders and fine detail
- Low spatial frequencies
- Gradual changes and large features


## Spatial Frequencies

- Small Receptive Fields detect high spatial frequencies
- Large receptive fields detect low spatial frequencies
- The eye and the brain are extremely adept at performing some tasks using only very low spatial frequencies.




## Spatial Frequency Bands

## Spatial Frequency Bands



回


## OH

## Effect of Adaptation Level on Contrast Sensitivity

- Two main effects of lowering adaptation level
- Lower sensitivity
- Loss of high spatial frequencies



## A Typical Scene



## Pedestrian Crosswalk



## Spatial Frequency Filtering with Contrast Scaling

- Here is what happens when you filter the spatial frequencies and adjust the contrast of the image to be proportional to the loss of absolute contrast sensitivity of the human visual system at the lower levels of light adaptation.


## Frequency Filtering with Contrast Scaling



300 td


3 td


## Frequency Filtering with Contrast Scaling



## Conclusions

- The retinal image can be described by its spatial frequency content
- The visual system can be described by its sensitivity to various spatial frequencies
- We can approximate vision at low levels by filtering out frequencies that we can't see at low levels
- The quality of our vision changes at low levels of light

Break

Face Recognition

## Analysis \& Dynamic Interaction

- Sensory input is broken into separate streams of information
- Lines \& edges
- angles \& orientation,
- size \& scale
- color
- movement
- Over $50 \%$ of cortex has visual responses
- Reality is constructed from these component parts using goals, expectations, biases, rewards.



# Lines and Contours <br> Angles and Orientations 

# "Pop Out"-Ann Treisman 

- Closed Areas
- Curvature
- Tilt
- Contrast
- Brightness
- Color
- Line Ends
- Movement


## Texture Segregation Jacob Beck and Bela Julesz

## Texture Segregation Jacob Beck and Bela Julesz



## Texture Segregation Jacob Beck and Bela Julesz



## Texture Segregation Jacob Beck and Bela Julesz



What we perceive does not correspond to physical properties









## Asahi Figure

## Asahi Figure




## Ganglion Cell Receptive Field



## Cortical Cell Receptive Fields




Serre, T., Wolf, L., Bileschi, S., Riesenhuber, M., \& Poggio, T. (2007). Robust object recognition with cortex-like mechanisms. IEEE transactions on pattern analysis and machine intelligence, 29(3), 411-426.




Input Assembly Input Assembly


Gallery Assembly


## Alfred Yarbus, 1967

Eye Scan Patterns




Yarbus, A. L. (1967). Eye movements and vision (B. Haigh, Trans.). New York: Plenum Press.


An Unexpected Visitor by Ilya Repin in 1884


## Free Examination

## An Unexpected Visitor by Ilya Repin in 1884

Sasha Archibald (http://www.datadeluge.com/2012 1001 archive.html)
Yarbus, A. L. (1967). Eye movements and vision (B. Haigh, Trans.). New York: Plenum Press


Material Circumstances

An Unexpected Visitor by Ilya Repin in 1884

Sasha Archibald (http://www.datadeluge.com/2012 10 01 archive.html)


## Robert Yin, 1969

Inversion Affects Faces


## Peter Thompson (1980)

Feature Inversion Effect ("Thatcher Illusion")


Figure 1.

- 1 2mis!


Figure 2.





Carbon, C.-C., Schweinberger, S. R., Kaufmann, J. M., \& Leder, H. (2005). The Thatcher illusion seen by the brain: An event-related brain potentials study. Cognitive Brain Research, 24(3), 544-555. doi: 10.1016/j.cogbrainres.2005.03.008




## Nancy Kanwisher, 1997

Fusiform Facial Area

Face

## Fusiform Face Area



House


Parahippocampal Place Area



Downing, P., Liu, J., \& Kanwisher, N. (2001). Testing cognitive models of visual attention with fMRI and MEG. Neuropsychologia,

Face
FFA


House


PPA


Face
FFA


House


PPA


Face
FFA


House


PPA


Face
FFA


House


PPA


## Faces and Emotions




## Grandmother Cell?




## Main Points

- Faces are important
- Different Features play different roles
- Eyes and Mouth are important
- The brain has special areas for faces



## Attractors in Space



Giovanelli Illusion


Giovanelli Illusion


Giovanelli Illusion


$-2$
-1
0
1
2
Harvey, L. O., Jr., \& Schmidt, E. K. (2014). Self-organizing properties of the visual field: Gestalt forces in action. In A. Geremek, M. W. Greenlee \& S. Magnussen (Eds.), Perception Beyond Gestalt: Progress in vision research (pp. 67-81). London: Psychology Press: Taylor \& Francis Group.

Observed Vector Field
Predicted Gradient Field


$-1$
0
2


Harvey, L. O., Jr., \& Schmidt, E. K. (2014). Self-organizing properties of the visual field: Gestall forces in action. In A. Geremek, M. W. Greenlee \& S. Magnussen (Eds.), Perception Beyond Gestalt: Progress in vision research (pp. 67-81). London: Psychology Press: Taylor \& Francis Group.


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# Color Perception 

It's in your mind

## Why should we even see color?

- Detection
- Make objects stand out
- Make objects "invisible"
- Discrimination
- Separate objects
- Identification
- Decide what an object is


## Basic Principle

## Light has no color!

## Benham's Top



# Benham's Top 

Michael Bach<br>University of Freiburg

http://www.michaelbach.de/ot/col benham/

## Physical Properties of Light

- Intensity
- Dominant Wavelength
- Colormetric Purity


## Color Experience has Three Dimensions

- Hue
- Saturation
- Brightness


## Where Does Color Come From?

- Three Stages
- Stage 1 cone mechanisms (color mixing and matching)
- Stage 2: color-discrimination mechanisms
- Stage 3: color appearance mechanisms


## Three Stages of Color Vision

- Receptor Stage (Color Matching)
- Three Types of Cones (S, M, L)
- Need Three Primaries (R, G, B)

- Stage 2 Cone Opponent Processes (Discrimination)
- Red-Green Opponent Process
- Yellow-Blue Opponent Process


- Luminance Process
- Stage 3 Color Opponent Processes (Appearance)
- Red-Green


Stage 3

- Yellow-Blue


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- Yellow-Bitue






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## Color Matching

- Bipartite Field
- Need only 3 primaries to match any color
- Primaries must not be matched by mixture of the other two
- Many possible sets of primaries
- C.I.E. Tristimulus values (X, Y, Z)



## Color matching

Colors are assessed by matching them with reference colors on a small-field bipartite screen


## Receptor Stage: Matching

- Three Cone Types: S, M, L
- Two Colors will appear identical when they evoke the same response pattern in the three cone types
- C.I.E. Tristimulus Values: X, Y, Z
- C.I.E. Chromaticity Coordinates: $x, y, z$


## Receptor Stage: Color Matching Tristimulus Values

$$
\begin{aligned}
& C_{1} \equiv 1 X+2 Y+3 Z \\
& C_{2} \equiv 3 X+1 Y+1 Z
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
C_{1+2} \equiv 4 X+3 Y+4 Z
$$

# Receptor Stage: Color Matching Tristimulus Values 

$$
\begin{aligned}
C_{1} & \equiv 0.45 X+1.05 Y+0.50 Z \\
C_{2} & \equiv 1.35 X+3.15 Y+1.50 Z \\
C_{1+2} & \equiv 1.80 X+4.20 Y+2.00 Z
\end{aligned}
$$

## C.I.E. Chromaticity:

Relative amount of $\mathrm{X}, \mathrm{Y}, \mathrm{Z}$ Tristimulus Values

$$
\begin{aligned}
& x=\frac{X}{X+Y+Z} \\
& y=\frac{Y}{X+Y+Z} \\
& z=\frac{Z}{X+Y+Z}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Receptor Stage: Color Matching Chromaticity Coordinates

$$
\begin{aligned}
& x=\frac{X}{X+Y+Z} \\
& y=\frac{Y}{X+Y+Z} \\
& z=\frac{Z}{X+Y+Z}
\end{aligned}
$$




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(b)
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Color Appearance: Naming

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## Cone Response

## Cone Opponent Processes

Color Opponent Processes





## Opponent Processes: <br> Color Appearance

 L-, M-, and S-cone photoreceptors (top and bottom). Second stage: $\mathrm{L}-\mathrm{M}$ and $\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{L}$ cone opponency (top) and $\mathrm{S}-(\mathrm{L}+\mathrm{M})$ and (L+M)-S cone opponency (bottom). Third stage: Color opponency (center) is achieved by summing the various cone-opponent second-stage outputs.$$
\begin{aligned}
& r g=1.86 L-2.90 M+S \\
& y b=3.24 L-2.21 M-S
\end{aligned}
$$

## Opponent Processes <br> Opponent-Process Color Space



$$
\begin{array}{r}
r g=1.86 L-2.90 M+S \\
y b=3.24 L-2.21 M-S
\end{array}
$$

## Color Opponent Processes <br> Opponent-Process Color Space



$$
\begin{aligned}
r g & =1.86 L-2.90 M+S \\
y b & =3.24 L-2.21 M-S
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\end{aligned}
$$

## Afterimages

- Afterimages based on complimentary colors.
- Keep looking at the same spot in the center of the picture for 20 seconds.
- Look at a white surface: what do you see?


DARWINILLUSION.
DARW JENKINS (UNIVERSTTY OF GLASGOW, RICHARD WISEMAN (UNIVERSITY OF HERTFORDSHIRE).









# Color Processing 

Black and White Stream
Red and Green Stream
Yellow and Blue Stream

## John Sadowski




# McCollough Effect 



Celeste McCollough Howard (1927- )




## The Color Wheel

- Relative amounts of $\mathrm{r} / \mathrm{g}$ and $\mathrm{y} / \mathrm{b}$ contribution
- Two colors on opposite sides of the wheel
- Two colors on opposite sides of the color wheel, which when placed next to each other make both appear brighter.



## "Color Blindness"

- Trichromacy: 3 primaries to match all colors
- Dichromacy: 2 primaries to match all colors
- Monocromacy:1 primary to match all colors


## Dichromacy

- Protanopia
- Missing L-cone pigment (X chromosome)
- Neutral point at 498 nm
- Deuteranopia
- Missing M-cone pigment (X chromosome)
- Neutral point at 502 nm
- Tritanopia (chromosome 7)
- No single wavelength neutral point

a

Fig. 5. Results of the experiment on binocular color matching. The wavelengths seen by the color-blind eye (left scale) are matched by the indicated wavelengths in the normal eye (right scale).
a


E

## Conclusions

- Vision invokes all levels of neuroscience
- Molecular
- Cellular
- Systems
- Behavioral


## Conclusions

- Some visual functions are well-understood
- Neural organization of retina
- Color Vision (behavioral)
- Many visual functions are not well-understood
- Color Vision (systems)
- Object Recognition
- Conscious Experience


## Levels of Understanding

- Molecular
- Cellular
- Systems
- Behavioral
- We want it all!

The End

