

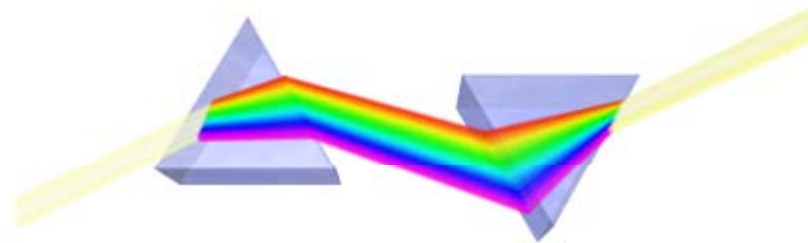
# C280, Computer Vision

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Lecture 3: Color

# Color



*Color*

## Readings:

- Forsyth and Ponce, Chapter 6
- Szeliski, 2.3.2

# Last time

- Image formation affected by geometry, photometry, and optics.
- Projection equations express how world points mapped to 2d image.
- Homogenous coordinates allow linear system for projection equations.
- Lenses make pinhole model practical
- Photometry models: Lambertian, BRDF
- Digital imagers, Bayer demosaicing

*Parameters (focal length, aperture, lens diameter, sensor sampling...) strongly affect image obtained.*

# Slide Credits

- Kristen Grauman: 3-48, 50-75, 79-86
- Bob Woodham: 49, 87-90
- and others, indirectly (Steve Palmer, Brian Wandell, etc!)

# Today: Color

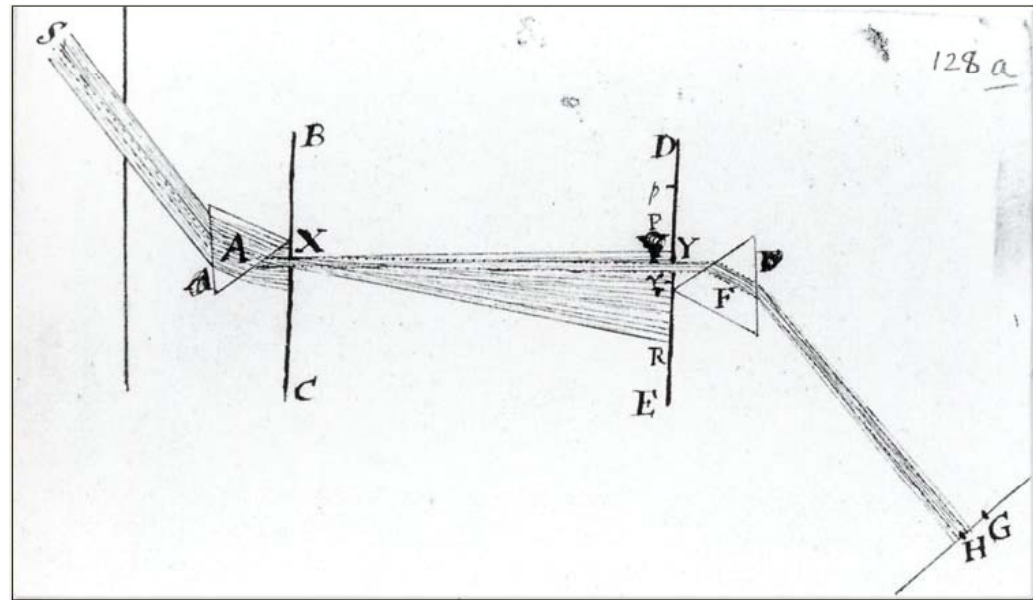
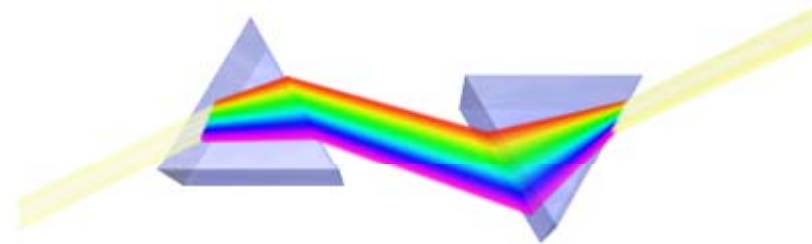
- Measuring color
  - Spectral power distributions
  - Color mixing
  - Color matching experiments
  - Color spaces
    - Uniform color spaces
- Perception of color
  - Human photoreceptors
  - Environmental effects, adaptation
- Using color in machine vision systems

# Color and light

- **Color of light** arriving at camera depends on
  - Spectral reflectance of the surface light is leaving
  - Spectral radiance of light falling on that patch
- **Color perceived** depends on
  - Physics of light
  - Visual system receptors
  - Brain processing, environment

# Color and light

White light:  
composed of about  
equal energy in all  
wavelengths of the  
visible spectrum



Newton 1665

# Electromagnetic spectrum

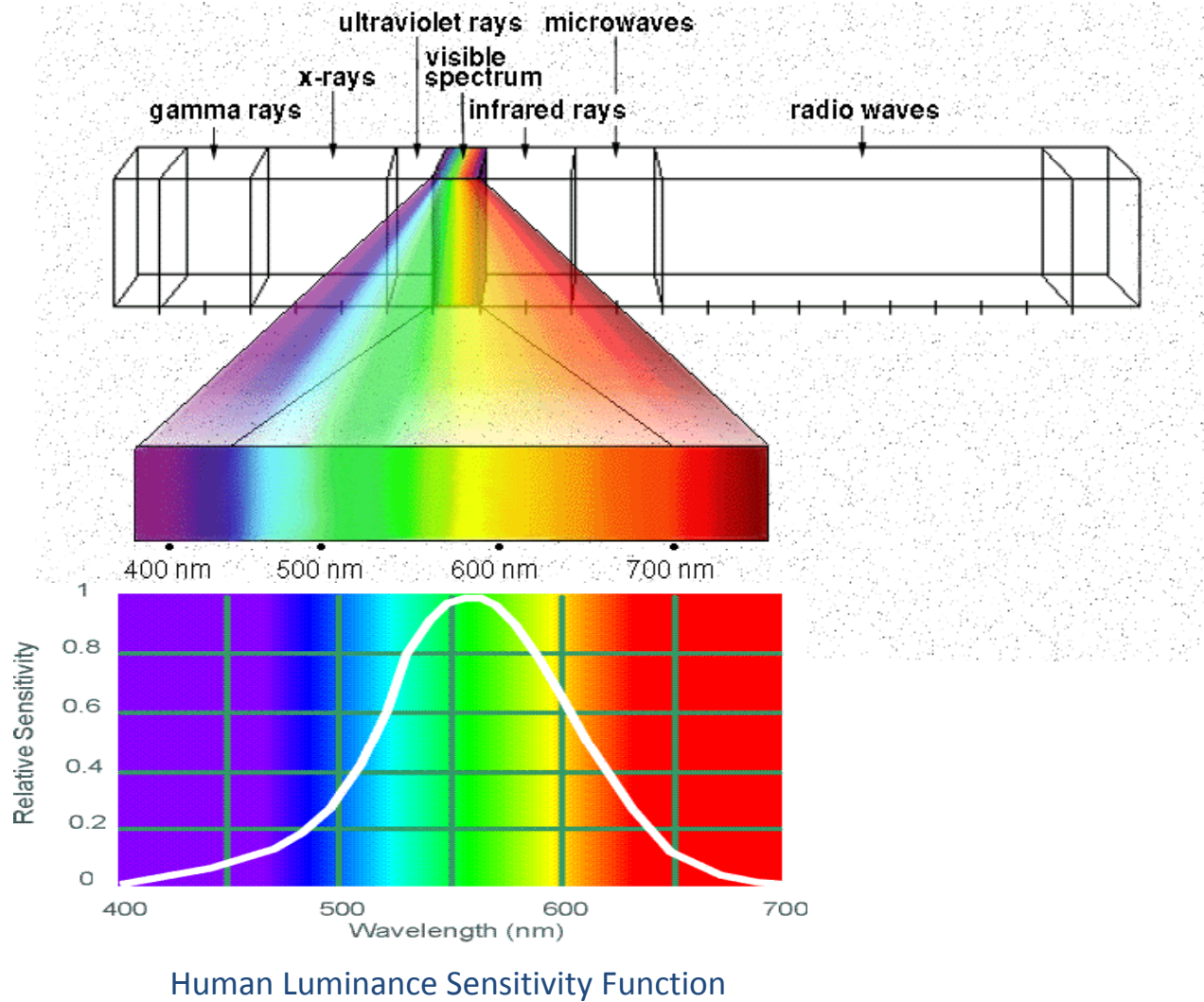
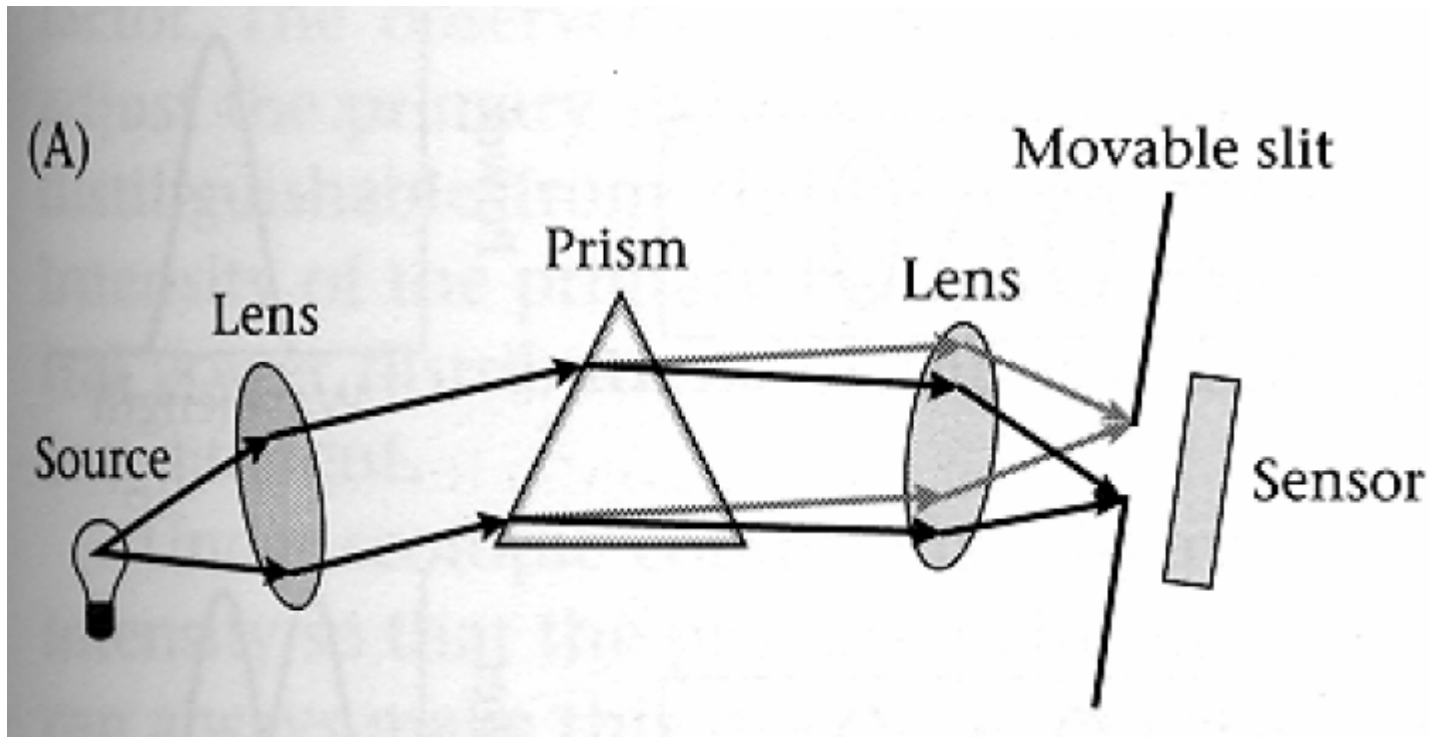


Image credit: nasa.gov



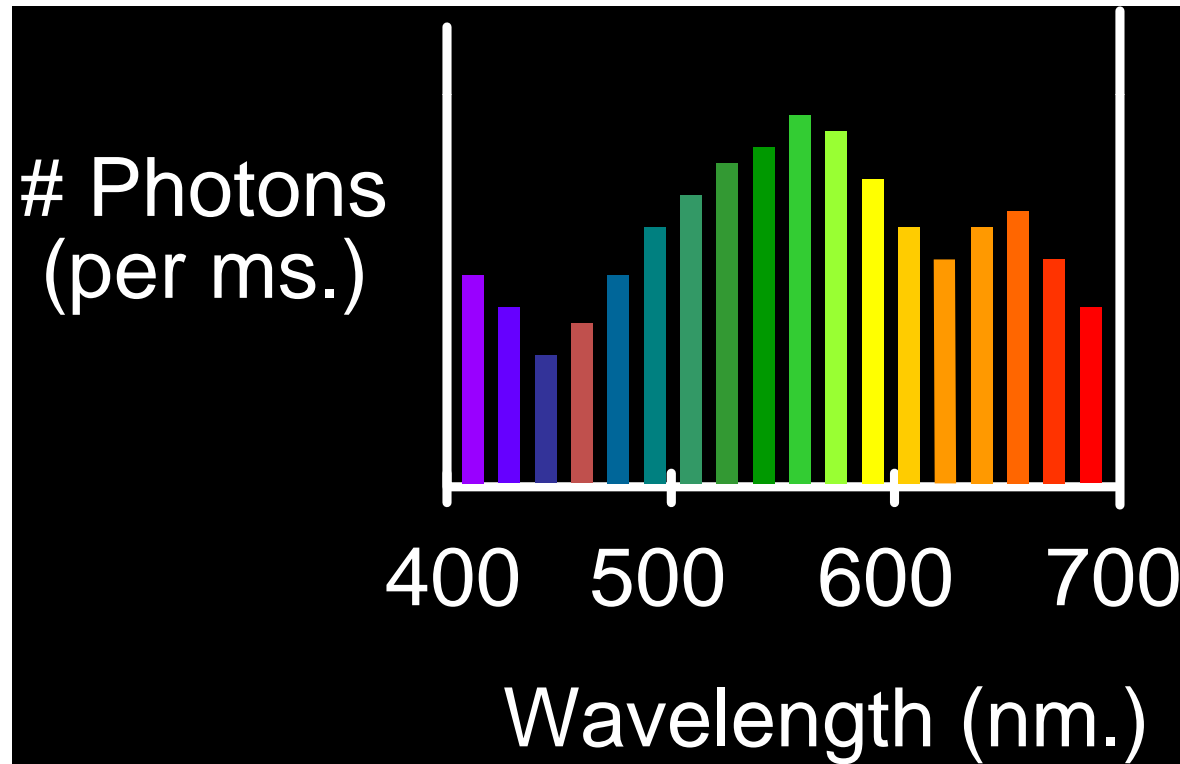
# Measuring spectra



Spectroradiometer: separate input light into its different wavelengths, and measure the energy at each.

# Spectral power distribution

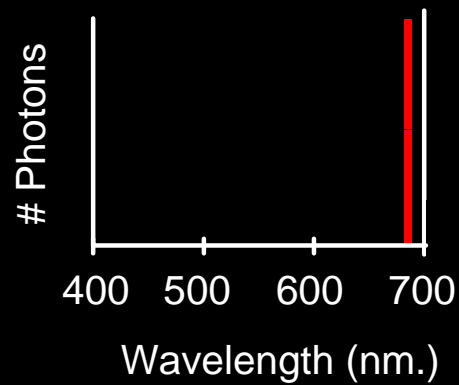
- The power per unit area at each wavelength of a radiant object



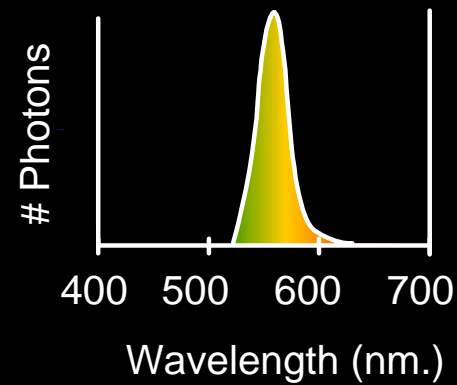
# Spectral power distributions

## Some examples of the spectra of light sources

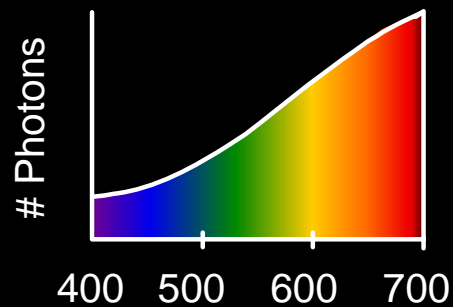
A. Ruby Laser



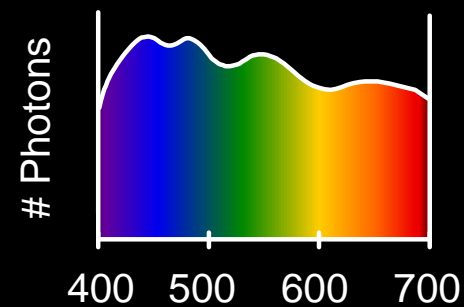
B. Gallium Phosphide Crystal



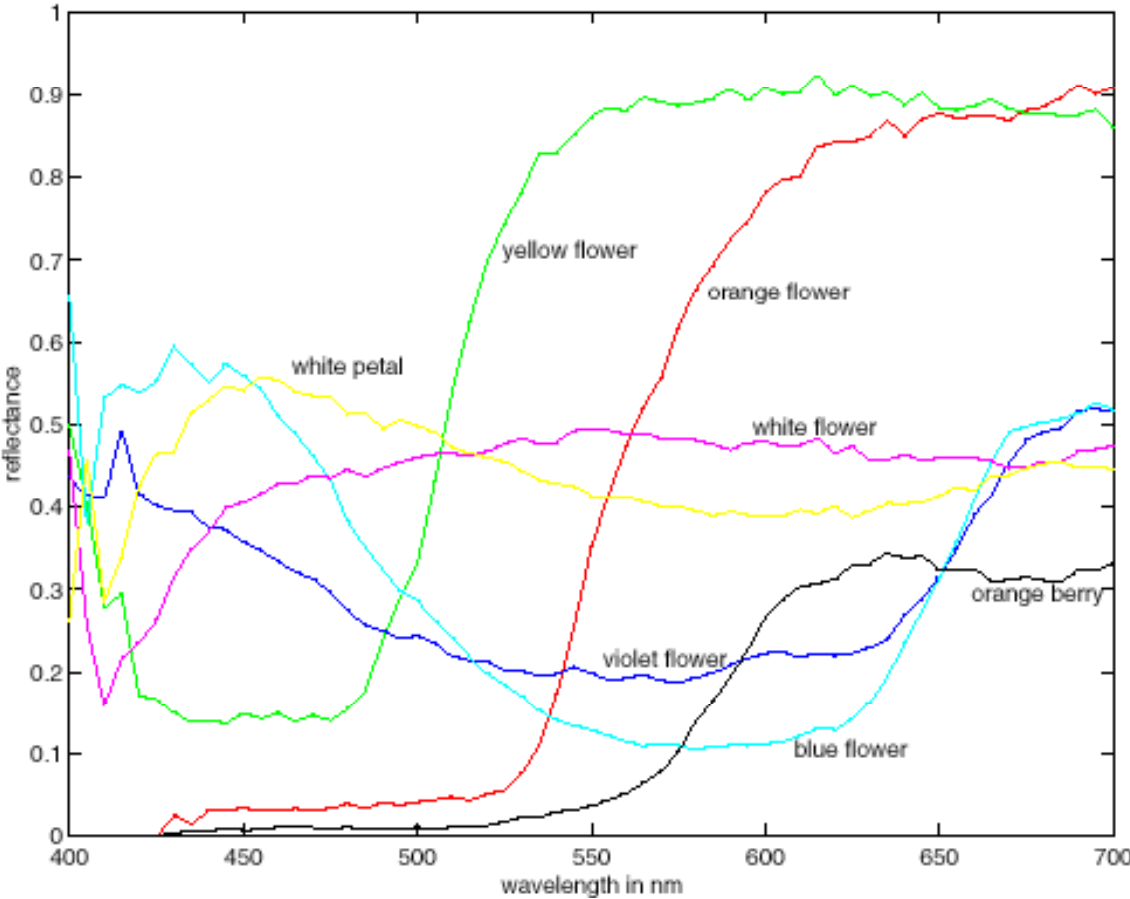
C. Tungsten Lightbulb



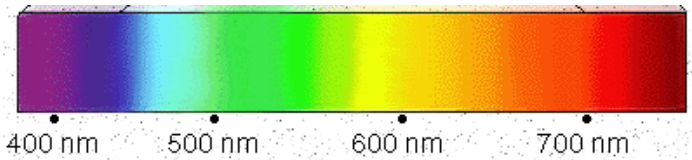
D. Normal Daylight



The color viewed is also affected by the surface's spectral reflectance properties.



Spectral reflectances for some natural objects: how much of each wavelength is reflected for that surface



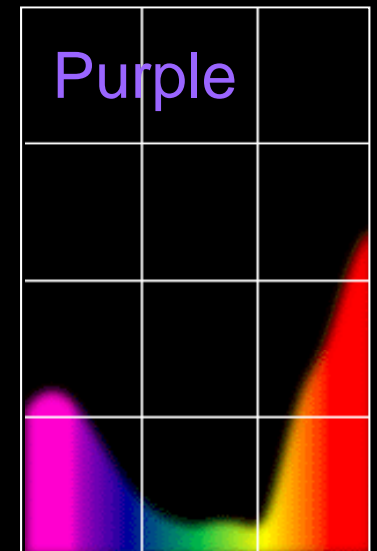
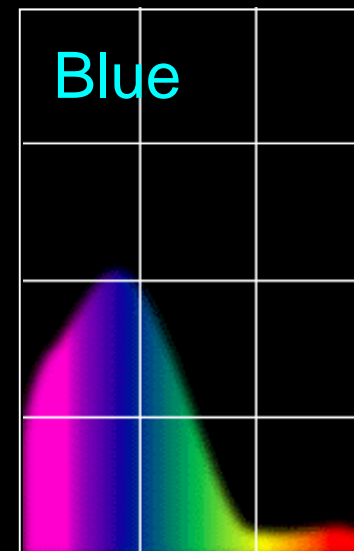
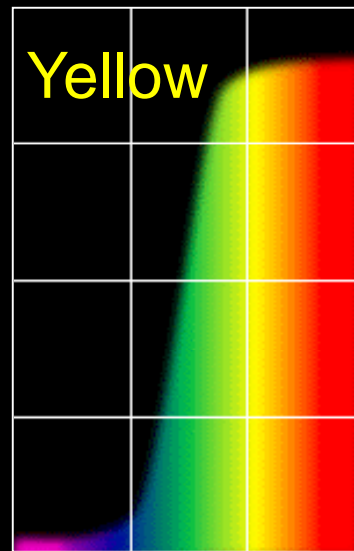
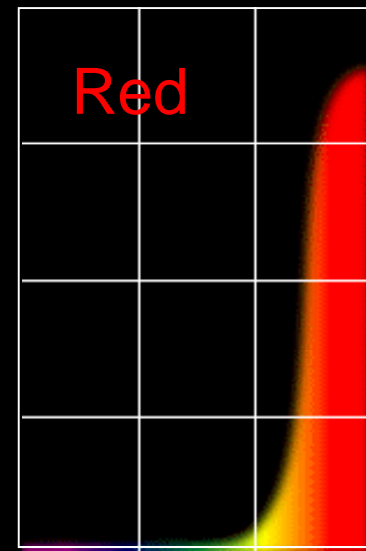
Forsyth & Ponce, measurements by E. Koivisto

# Surface reflectance spectra

Some examples of the reflectance spectra of surfaces



% Photons Reflected



400

700

400

700

400

700

400

700

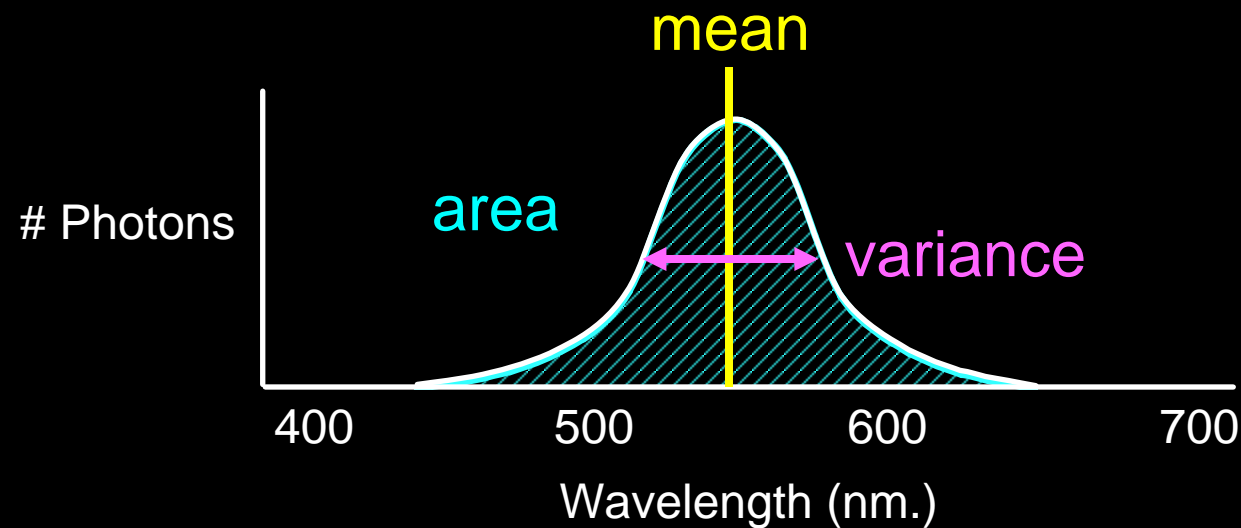
Wavelength (nm)

# The Psychophysical Correspondence

There is no simple functional description for the perceived color of all lights under all viewing conditions, but .....

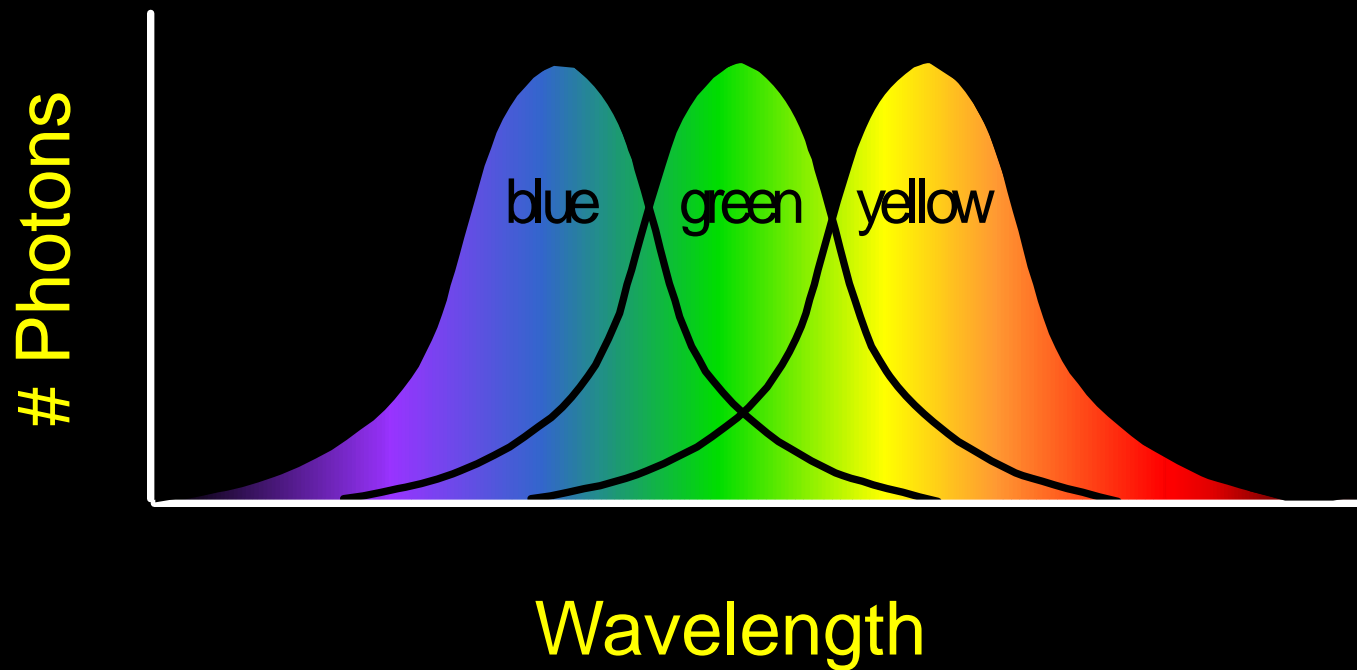
A helpful constraint:

Consider only physical spectra with normal distributions



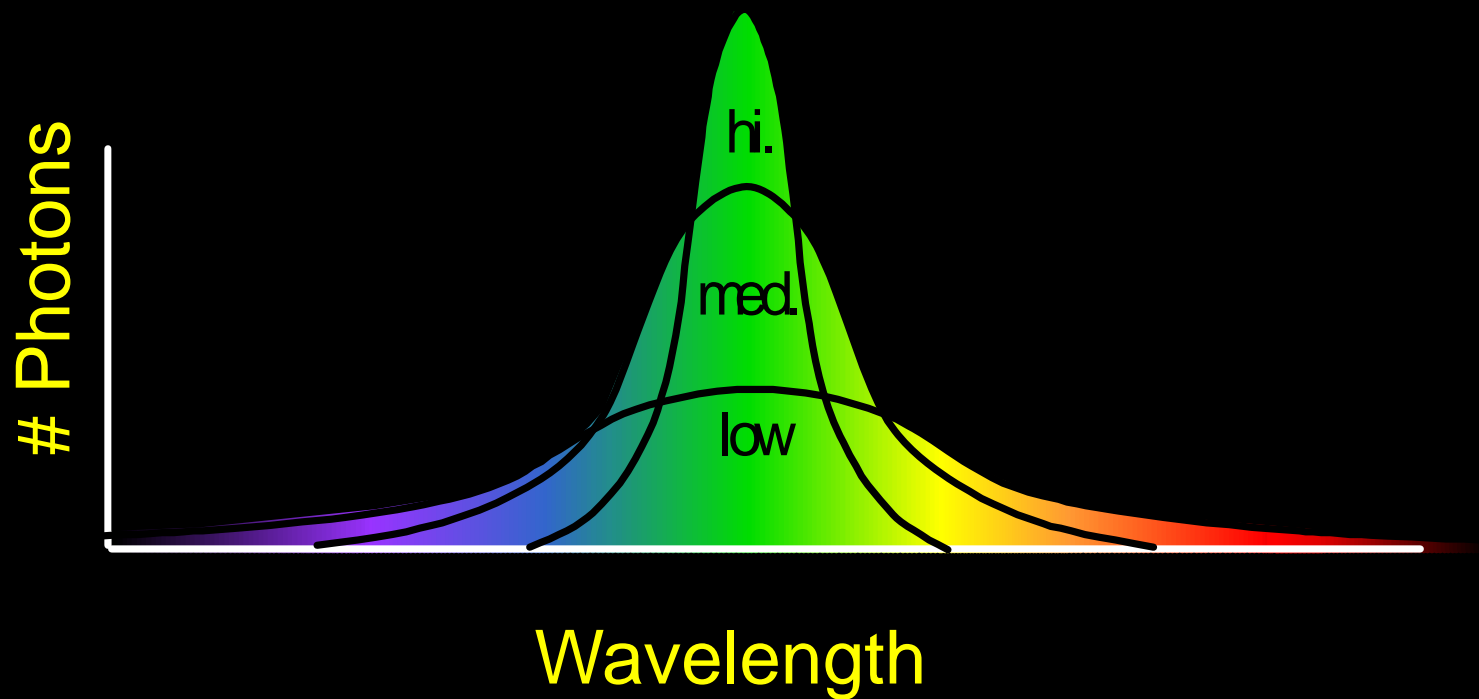
# The Psychophysical Correspondence

Mean ↔ Hue



# The Psychophysical Correspondence

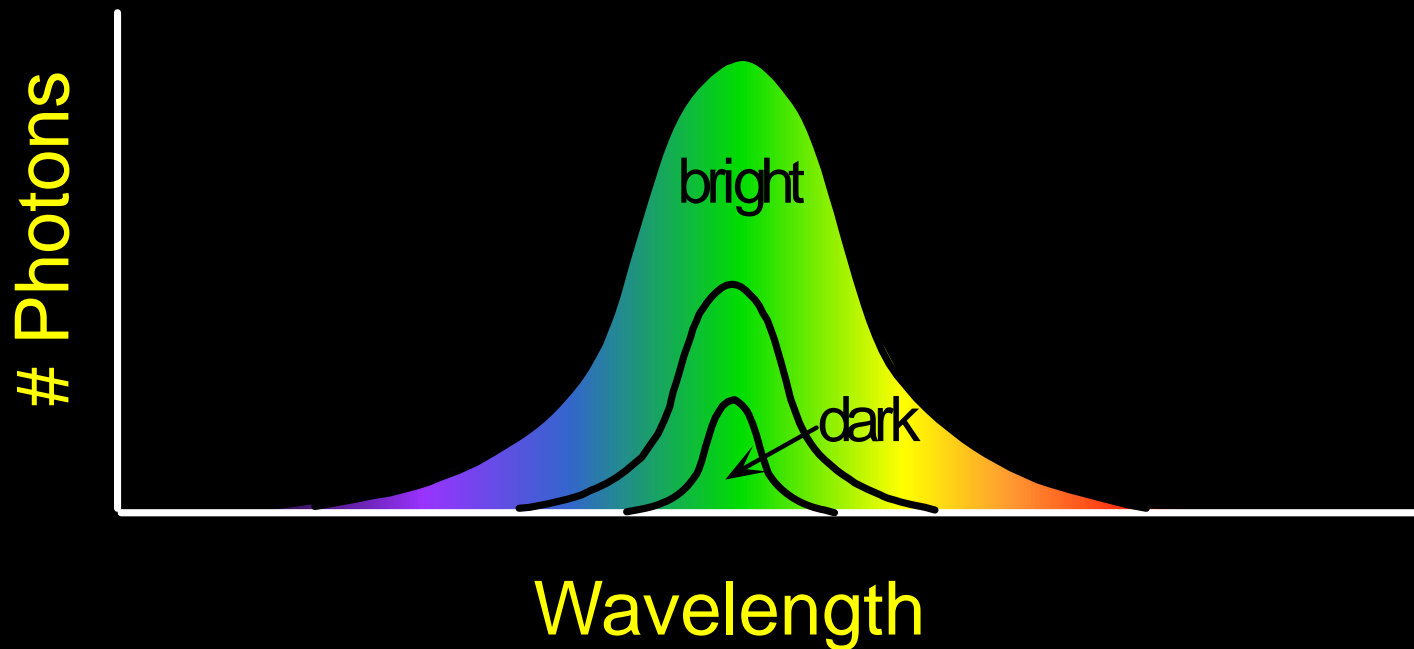
Variance  $\longleftrightarrow$  Saturation





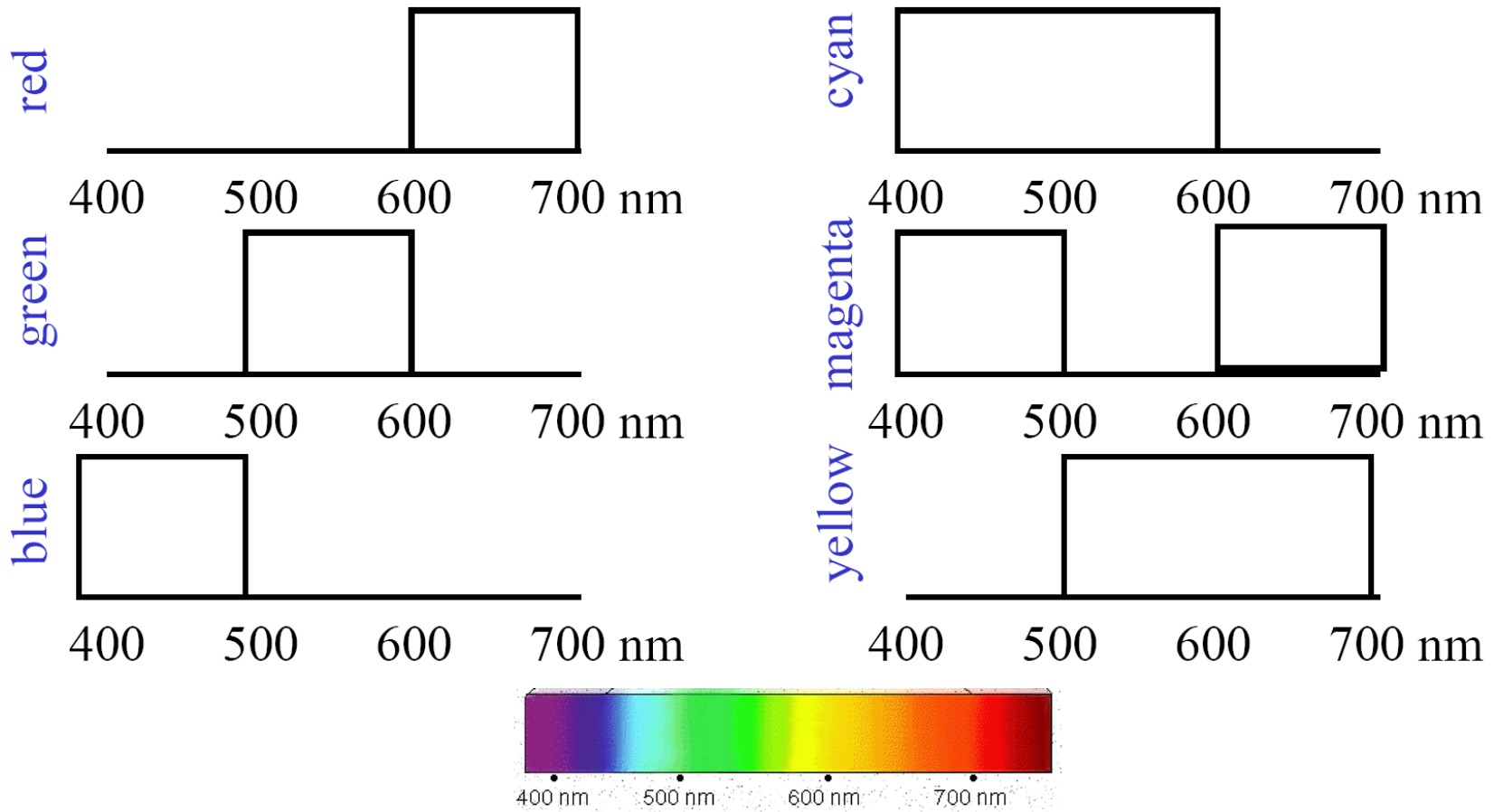
# The Psychophysical Correspondence

Area  $\longleftrightarrow$  Brightness

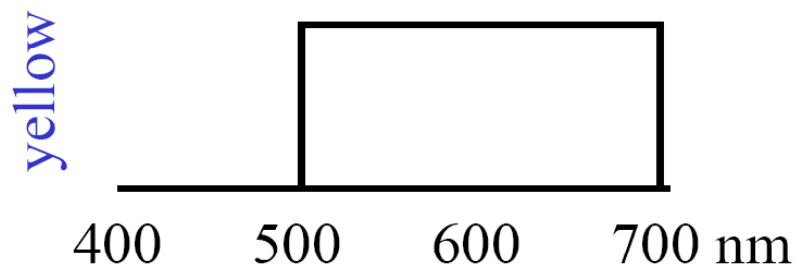
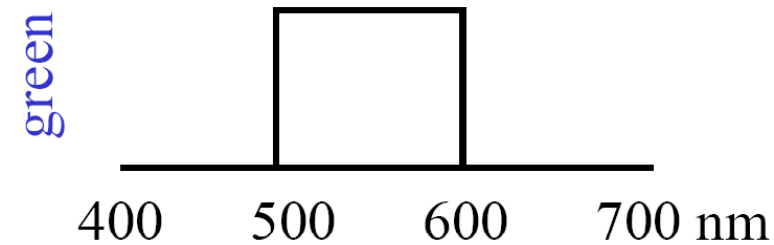
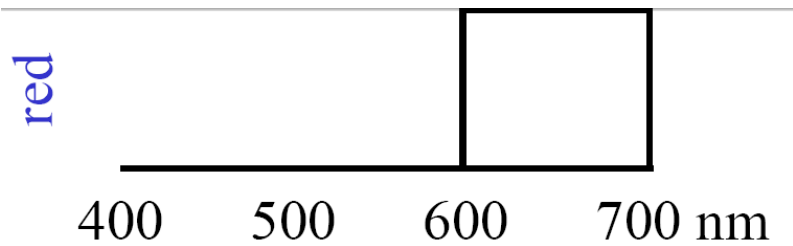


# Color mixing

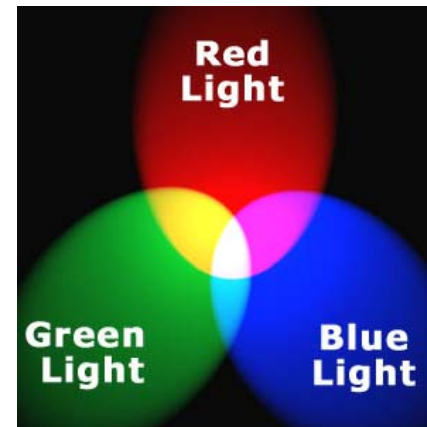
Cartoon spectra for color names:



# Additive color mixing

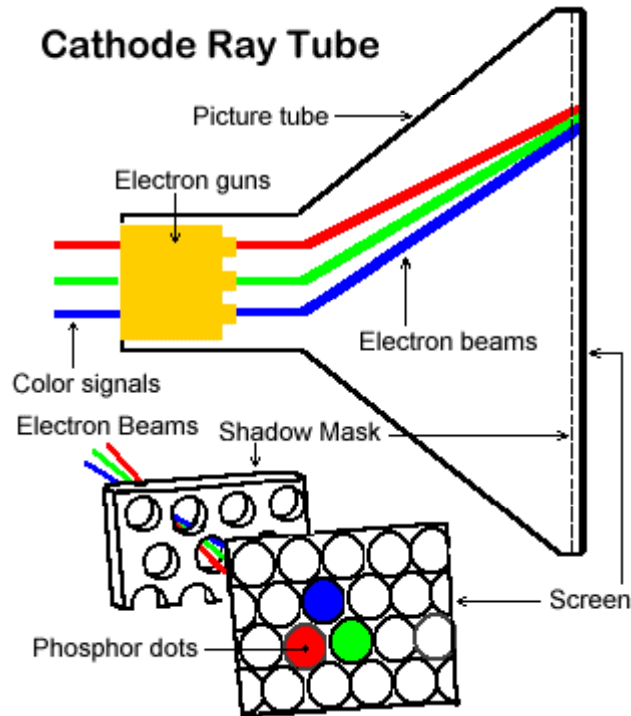


Colors combine by *adding* color spectra



Light *adds* to black.

# Examples of additive color systems



CRT phosphors

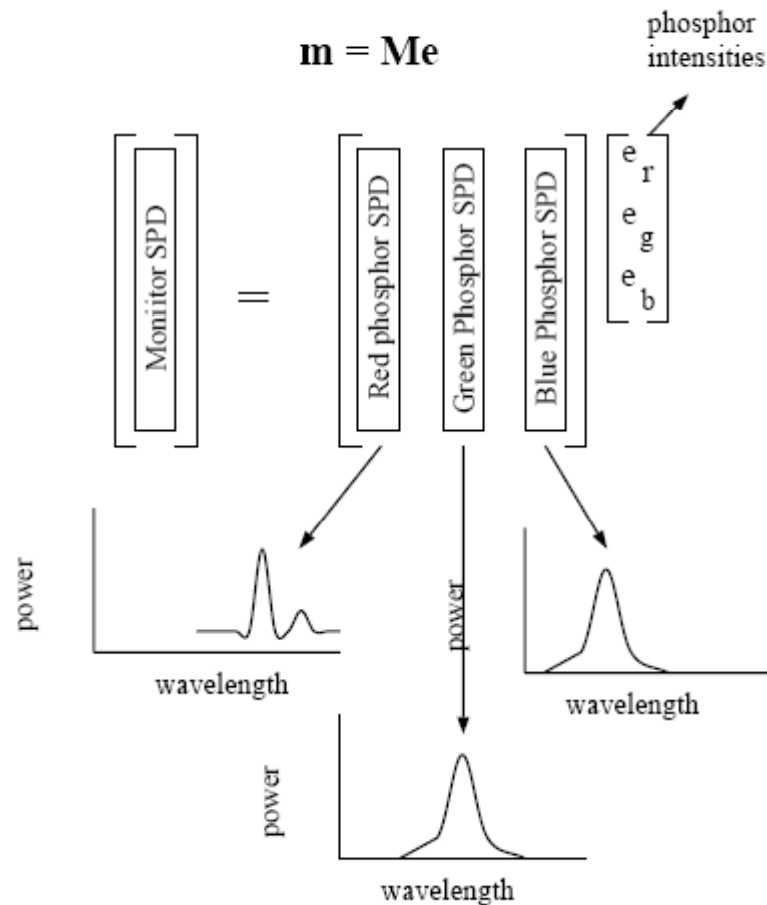


multiple projectors

<http://www.jegsworks.com>

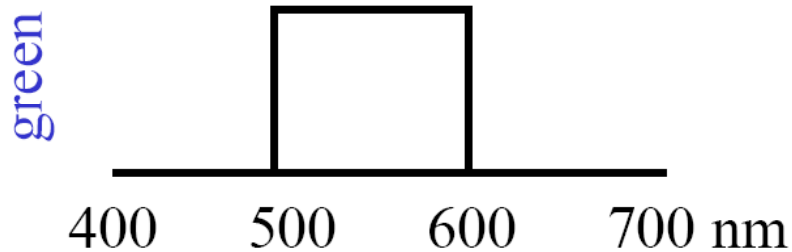
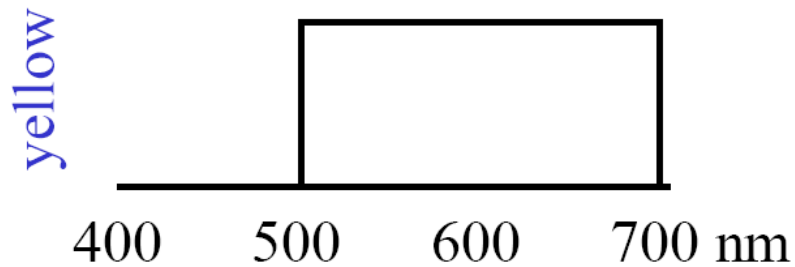
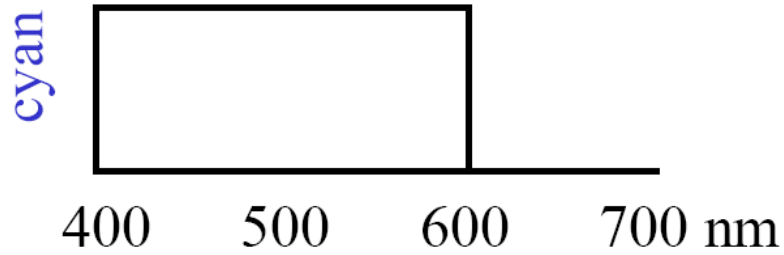
<http://www.crtprojectors.co.uk/>

# Superposition

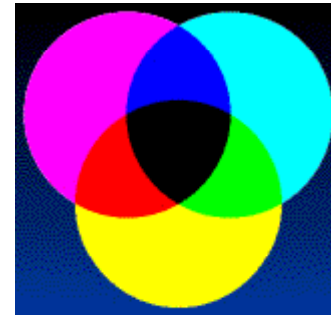


- Additive mixing:  
The spectral power distribution of the mixture is the sum of the spectral power distributions of the components.

# Subtractive color mixing



Colors combine by *multiplying* color spectra.



Pigments *remove* color from incident light (white).

# Examples of subtractive color systems

- Printing on paper
- Crayons
- Most photographic film



# Today: Color

- Measuring color
  - Spectral power distributions
  - Color mixing
  - Color matching experiments
  - Color spaces
    - Uniform color spaces
- Perception of color
  - Human photoreceptors
  - Environmental effects, adaptation
- Using color in machine vision systems



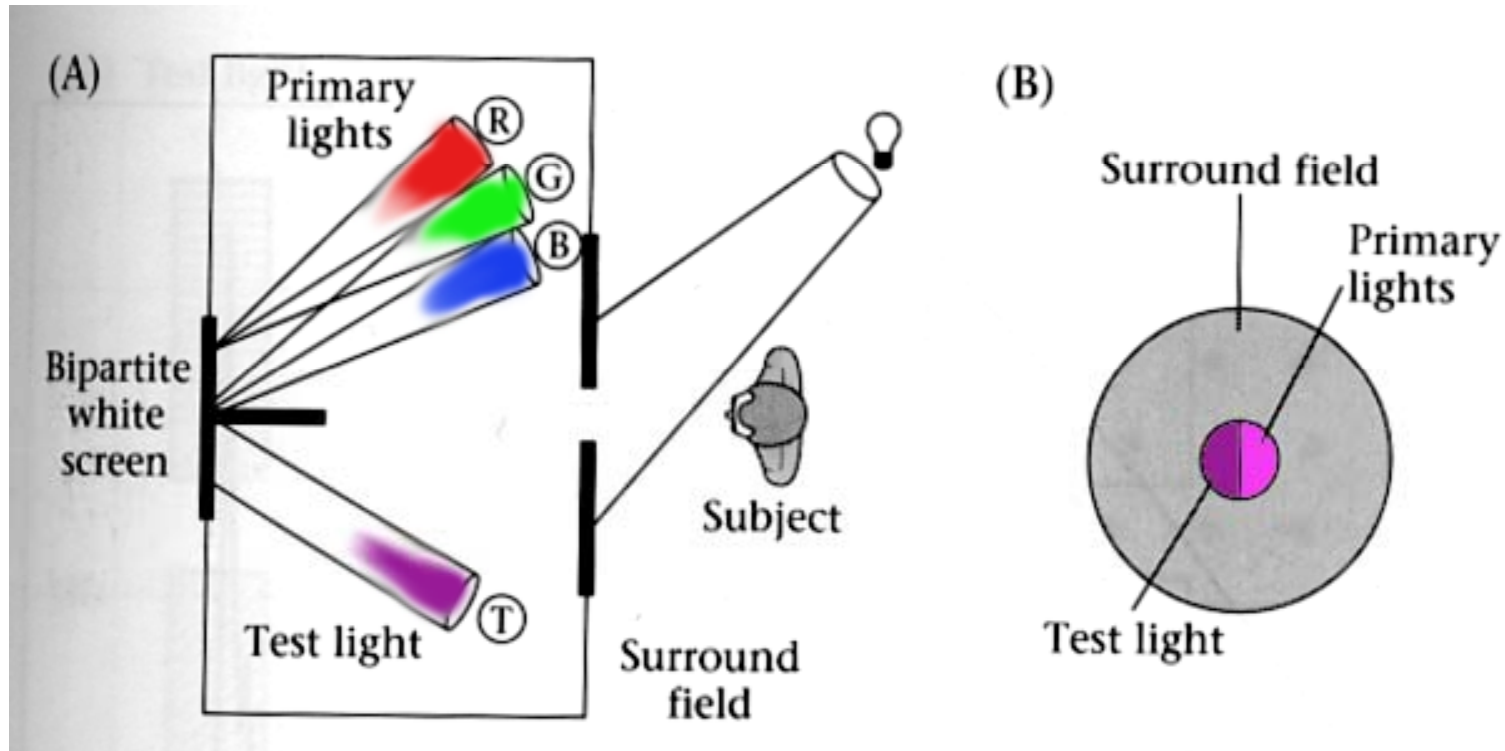
# Why specify color *numerically*?

- Accurate color reproduction is commercially valuable
  - Many products are identified by color (“golden” arches)
- Few color *names* are widely recognized by English speakers
  - 11: black, blue, brown, grey, green, orange, pink, purple, red, white, and yellow.
  - Other languages have fewer/more.
  - Common to disagree on appropriate color names.
- Color reproduction problems increased by prevalence of digital imaging – e.g. digital libraries of art.
  - How to ensure that everyone perceives the same color?
  - **What spectral radiances *produce the same response* from people under simple viewing conditions?**

# Color matching experiments

- Goal: find out what spectral radiances produce same response in human observers

# Color matching experiments

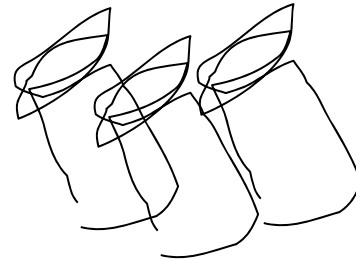
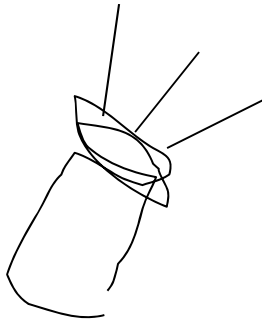
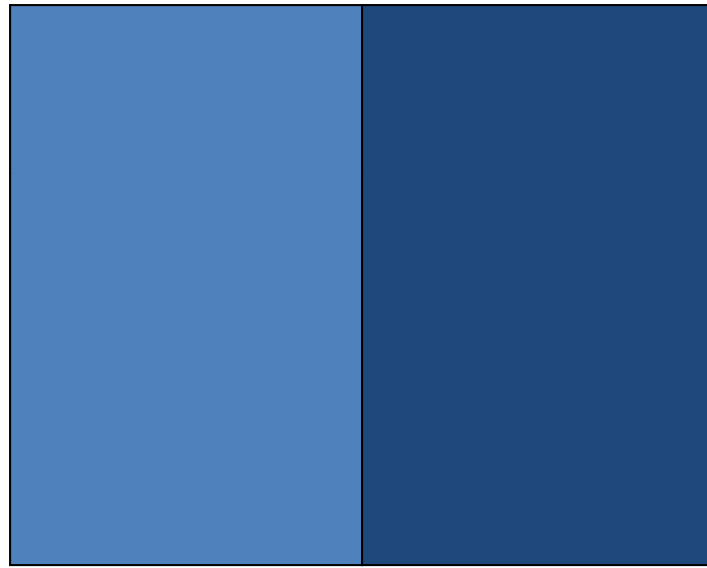


Observer adjusts weight (intensity) for primary lights (fixed SPD's) to match appearance of test light.

# Color matching experiments

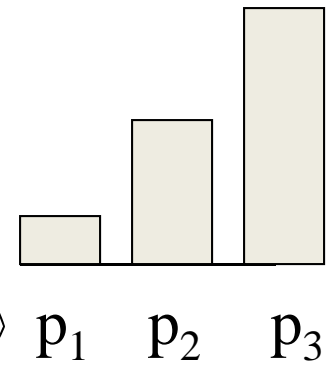
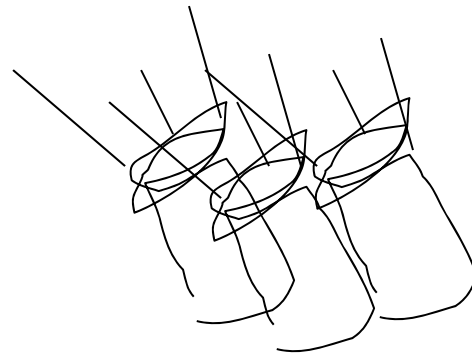
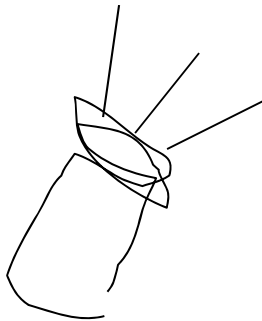
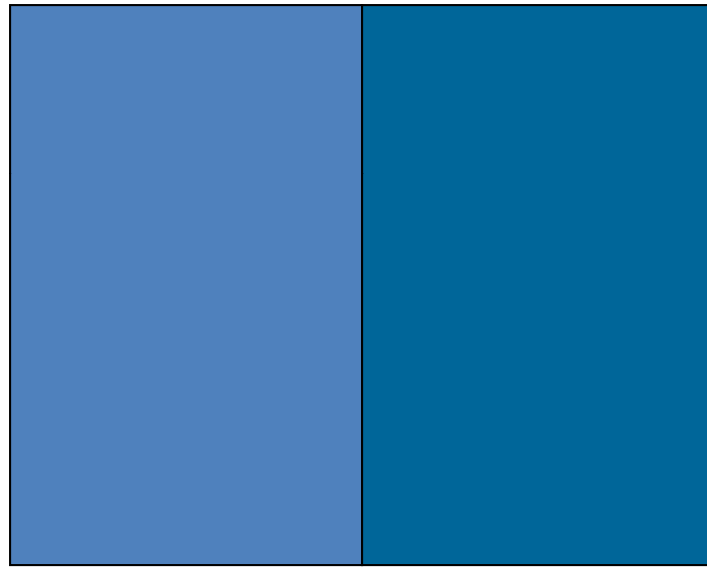
- Goal: find out what spectral radiances produce same response in human observers
- Assumption: simple viewing conditions, where we say test light alone affects perception
  - Ignoring additional factors for now like adaptation, complex surrounding scenes, etc.

# Color matching experiment 1



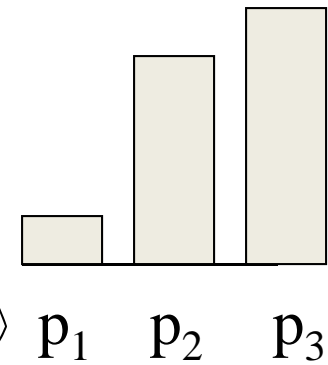
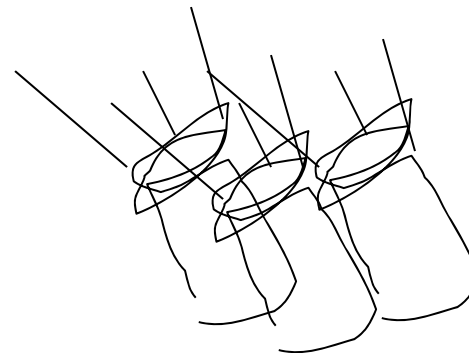
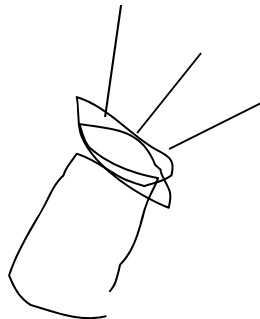
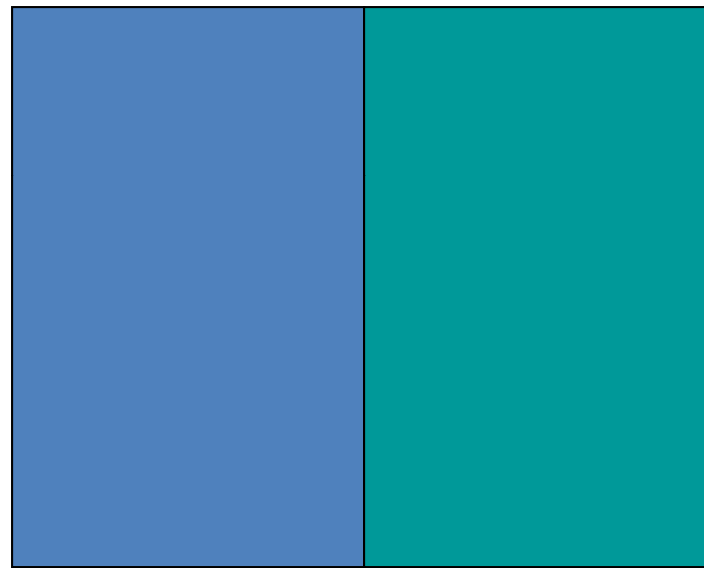
Slide credit: W.  
Freeman

# Color matching experiment 1



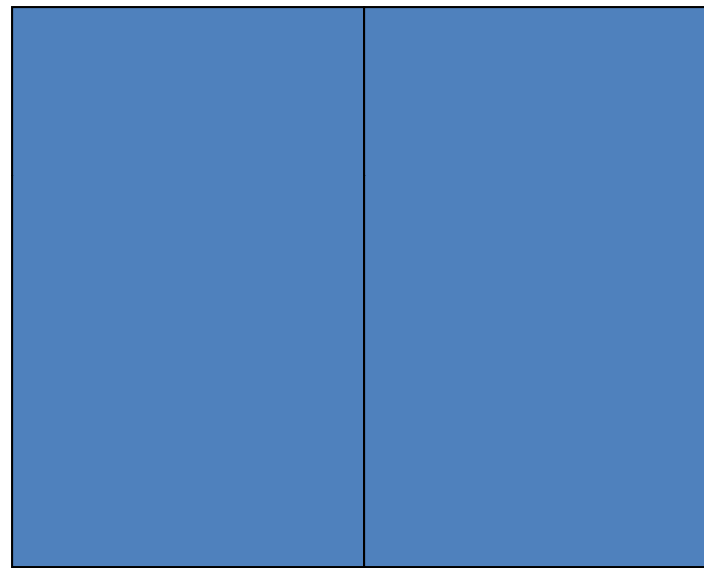
Slide credit: W.  
Freeman

# Color matching experiment 1

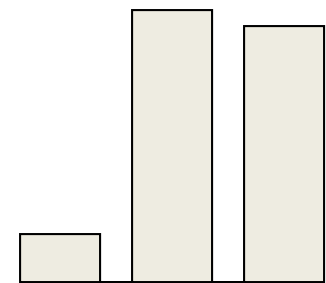


Slide credit: W.  
Freeman

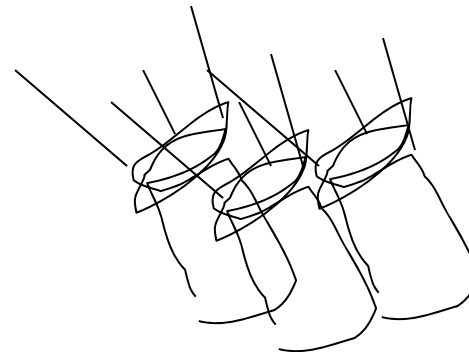
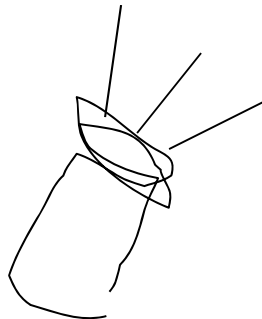
# Color matching experiment 1



The primary color amounts needed for a match

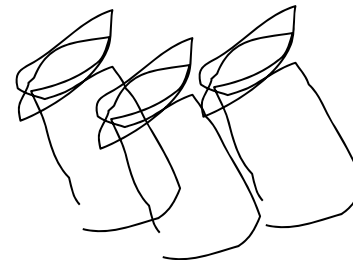
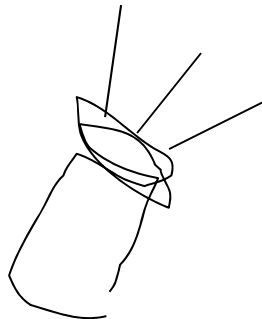
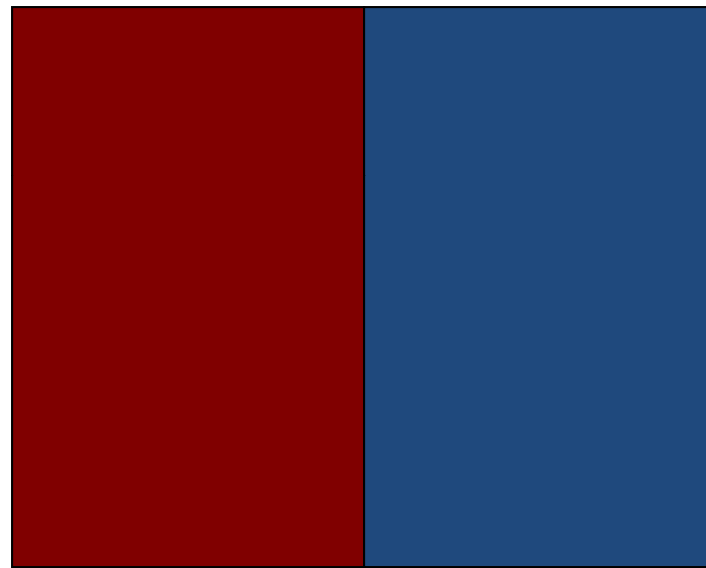


$p_1$   $p_2$   $p_3$



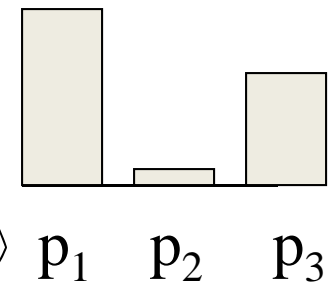
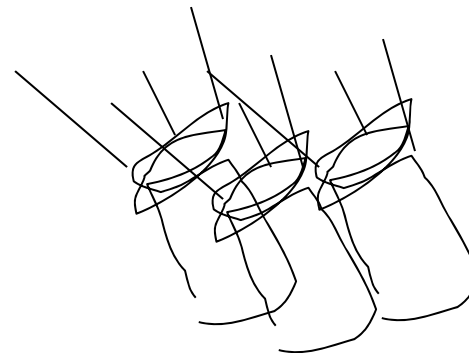
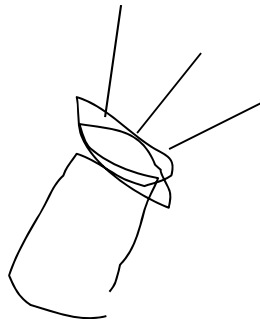
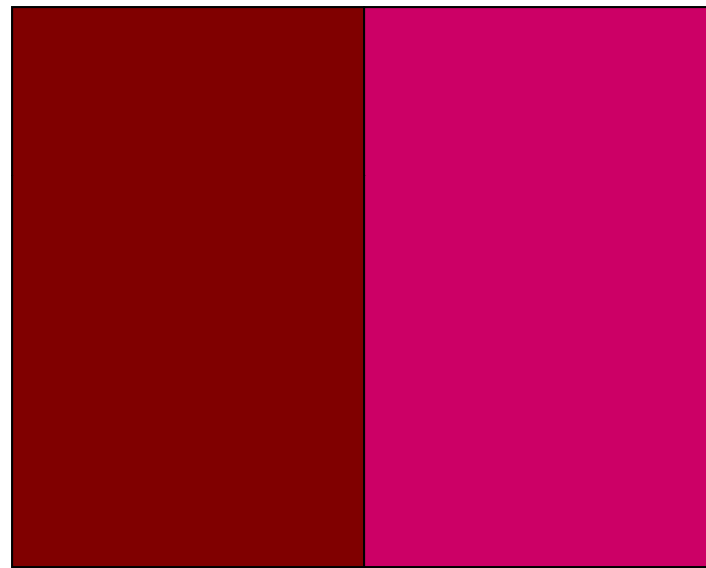


# Color matching experiment 2



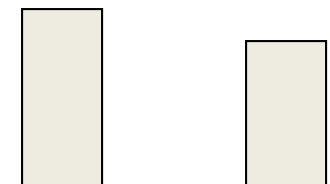
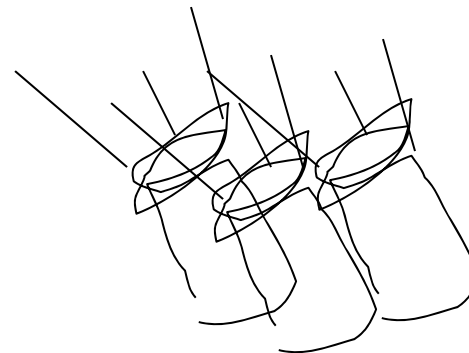
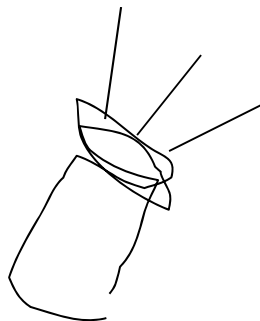
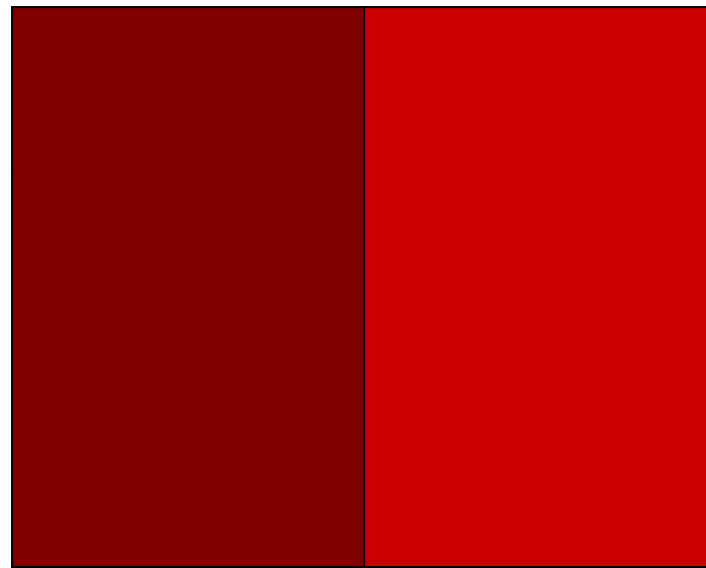
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# Color matching experiment 2



Slide credit: W.  
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# Color matching experiment 2



$p_1$

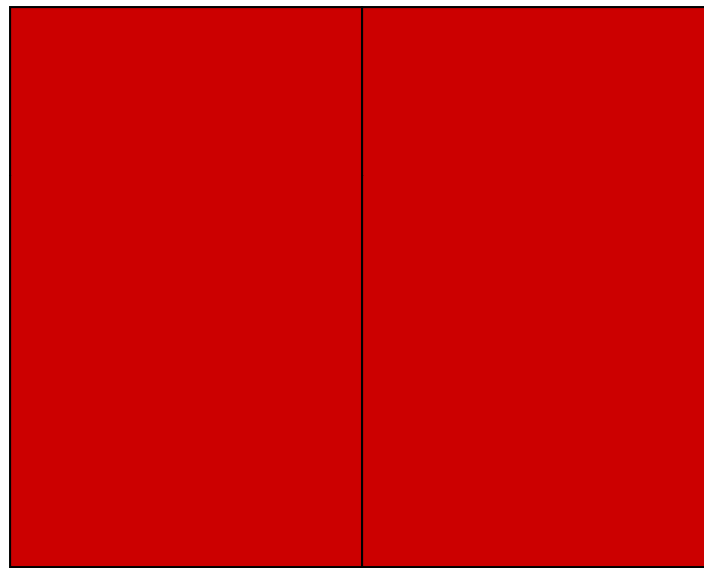
$p_2$

$p_3$

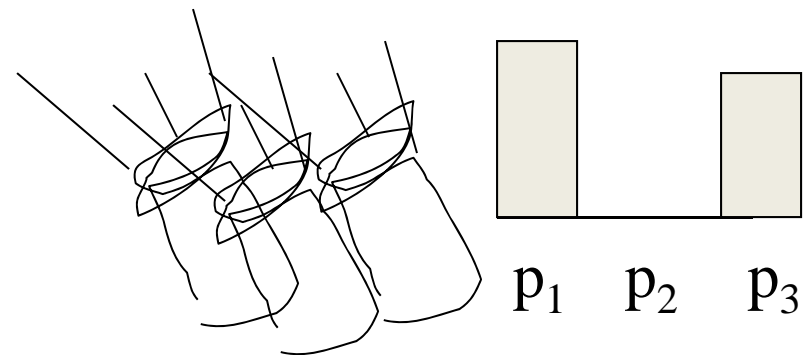
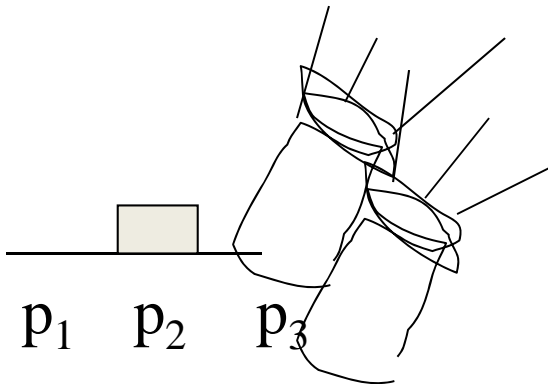
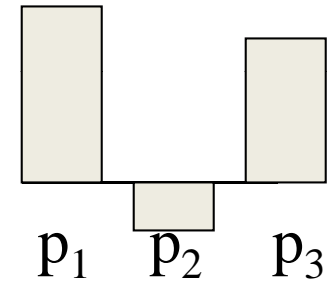
Slide credit: W.  
Freeman

# Color matching experiment 2

We say a “negative” amount of  $p_2$  was needed to make the match, because we added it to the test color’s side.



The primary color amounts needed for a match:

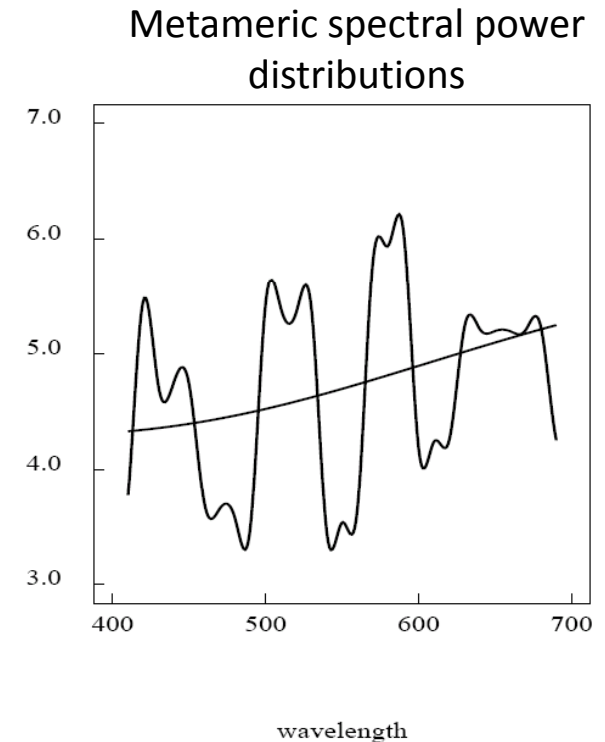


# Color matching

- What must we require of the primary lights chosen?
- How are three numbers enough to represent entire spectrum?

# Metamers

- If observer says a mixture is a match  
→ receptor excitations of both stimuli must be equal
- But lights forming a *perceptual* match still may be *physically* different
  - Match light: must be combination of primaries
  - Test light: any light
- **Metamers:** pairs of lights that match perceptually but not physically



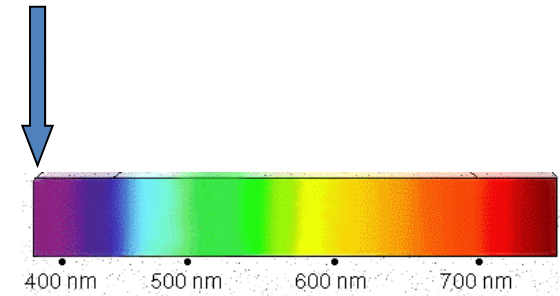
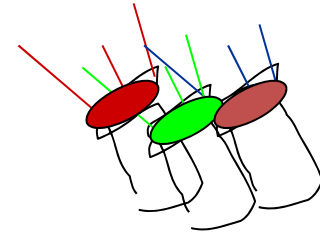
# Grassman's laws

- If two test lights can be matched with the same set of weights, then they match each other:
  - Suppose  $A = u_1 P_1 + u_2 P_2 + u_3 P_3$  and  $B = u_1 P_1 + u_2 P_2 + u_3 P_3$ . Then  $A = B$ .
- If we scale the test light, then the matches get scaled by the same amount:
  - Suppose  $A = u_1 P_1 + u_2 P_2 + u_3 P_3$ .  
Then  $kA = (ku_1) P_1 + (ku_2) P_2 + (ku_3) P_3$ .
- If we mix two test lights, then mixing the matches will match the result (superposition):
  - Suppose  $A = u_1 P_1 + u_2 P_2 + u_3 P_3$  and  $B = v_1 P_1 + v_2 P_2 + v_3 P_3$ . Then  $A+B = (u_1+v_1) P_1 + (u_2+v_2) P_2 + (u_3+v_3) P_3$ .

*Here “=” means “matches”.*

# Computing color matches

- How do we compute the weights that will yield a perceptual match for any test light using a given set of primaries?
  1. Select primaries
  2. Estimate their *color matching functions*: observer matches series of monochromatic lights, one at each wavelength
  3. Multiply matching functions and test light

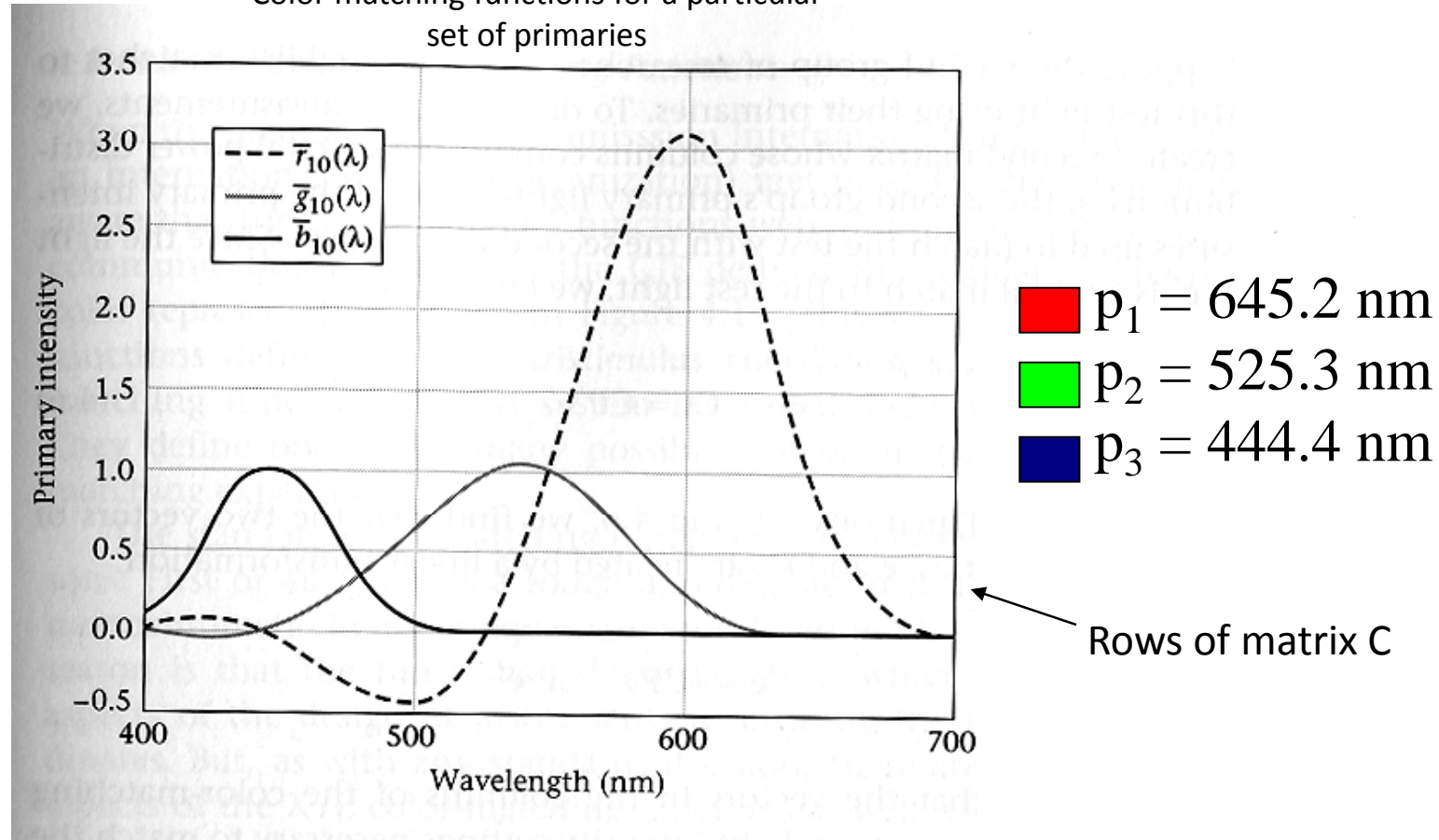


$$\mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} c_1(\lambda_1) \\ c_2(\lambda_1) \\ c_3(\lambda_1) \end{pmatrix}$$

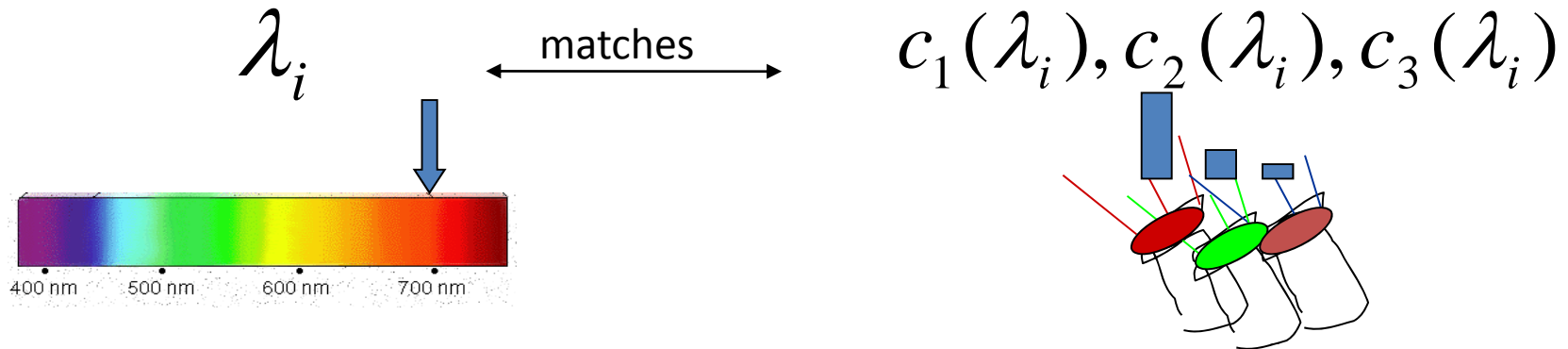


# Computing color matches

Color matching functions for a particular set of primaries

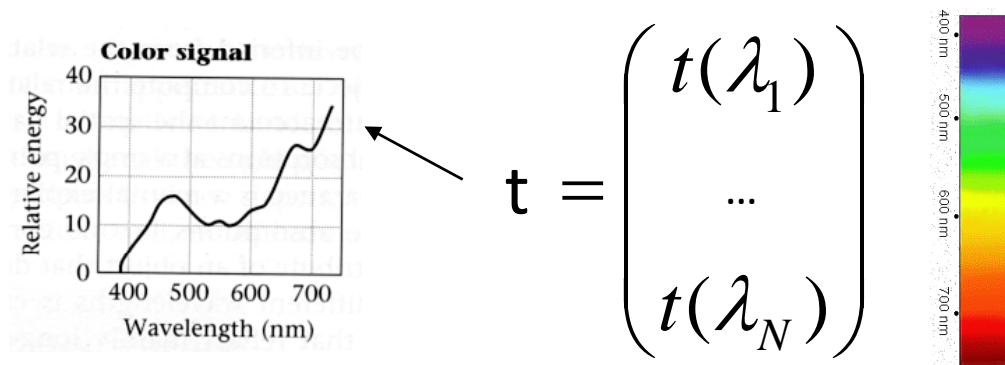


# Computing color matches



Now have matching functions for all monochromatic light sources, so we know how to match a unit of each wavelength.

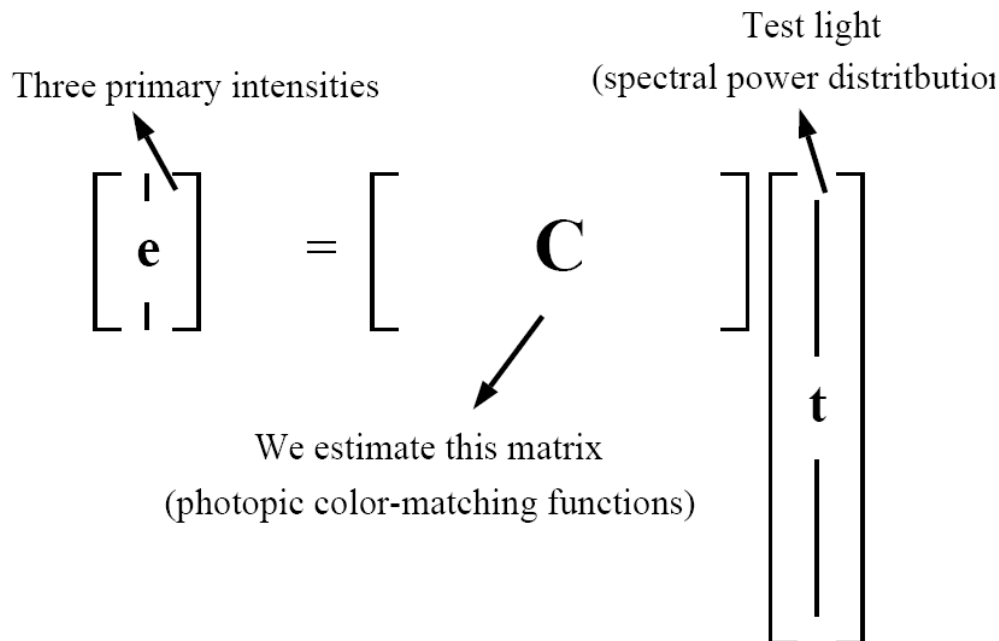
Arbitrary new spectral signal is a linear combination of the monochromatic sources.



# Computing color matches

So, given any set of primaries and their associated matching functions (C), we can compute weights (e) needed on each primary to give a perceptual match to any test light t (spectral signal).

$$\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{Ct}$$



# Computing color matches

- Why is computing the color match for any color signal for a given set of primaries useful?
  - Want to paint a carton of Kodak film with the Kodak yellow color.
  - Want to match skin color of a person in a photograph printed on an ink jet printer to their true skin color.
  - Want the colors in the world, on a monitor, and in a print format to all look the same.



# Today: Color

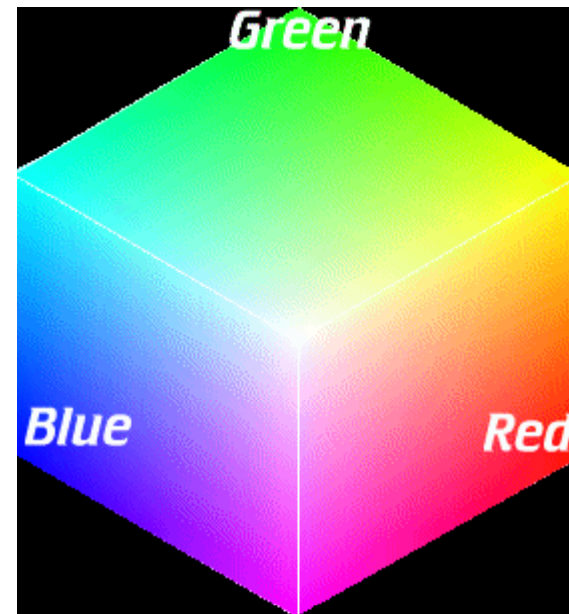
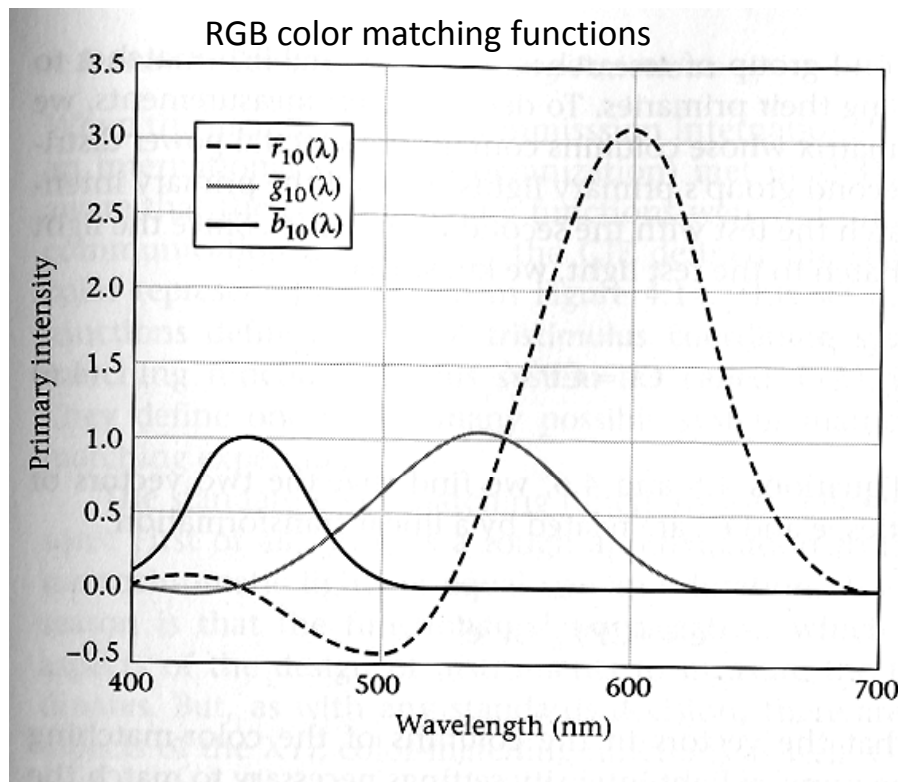
- Measuring color
  - Spectral power distributions
  - Color mixing
  - Color matching experiments
  - Color spaces
    - Uniform color spaces
- Perception of color
  - Human photoreceptors
  - Environmental effects, adaptation
- Using color in machine vision systems

# Standard color spaces

- Use a common set of primaries/color matching functions
- Linear color space examples
  - RGB
  - CIE XYZ
- Non-linear color space
  - HSV

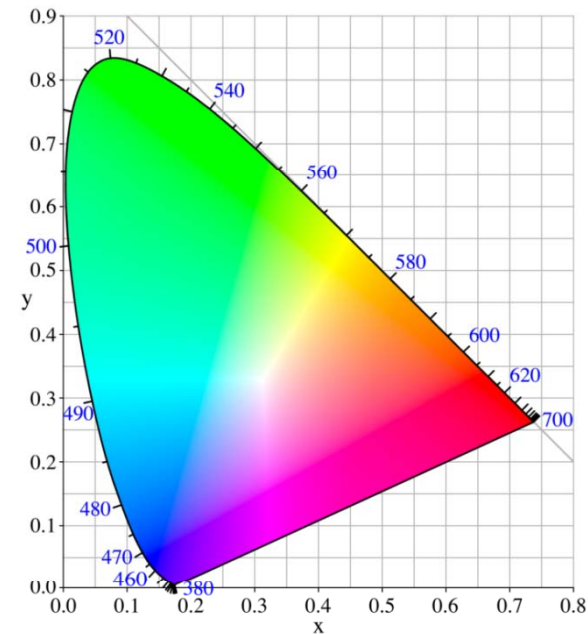
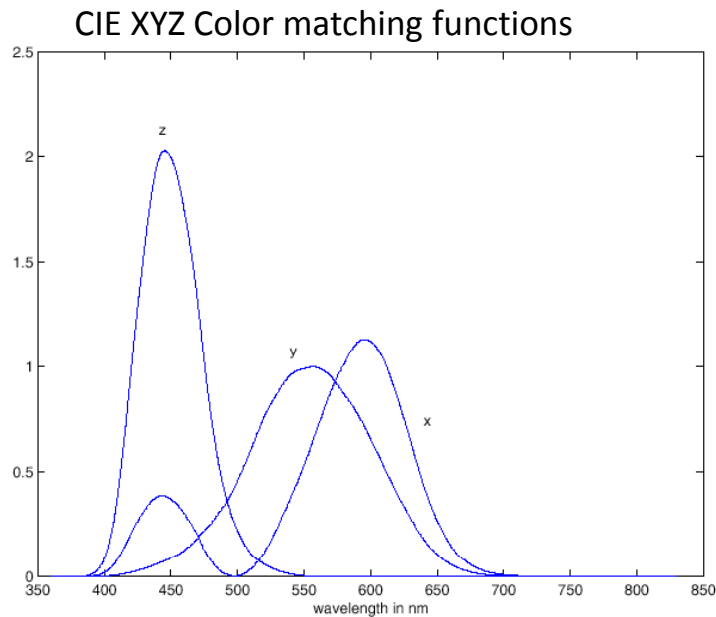
# RGB color space

- Single wavelength primaries
- Good for devices (e.g., phosphors for monitor), but not for perception

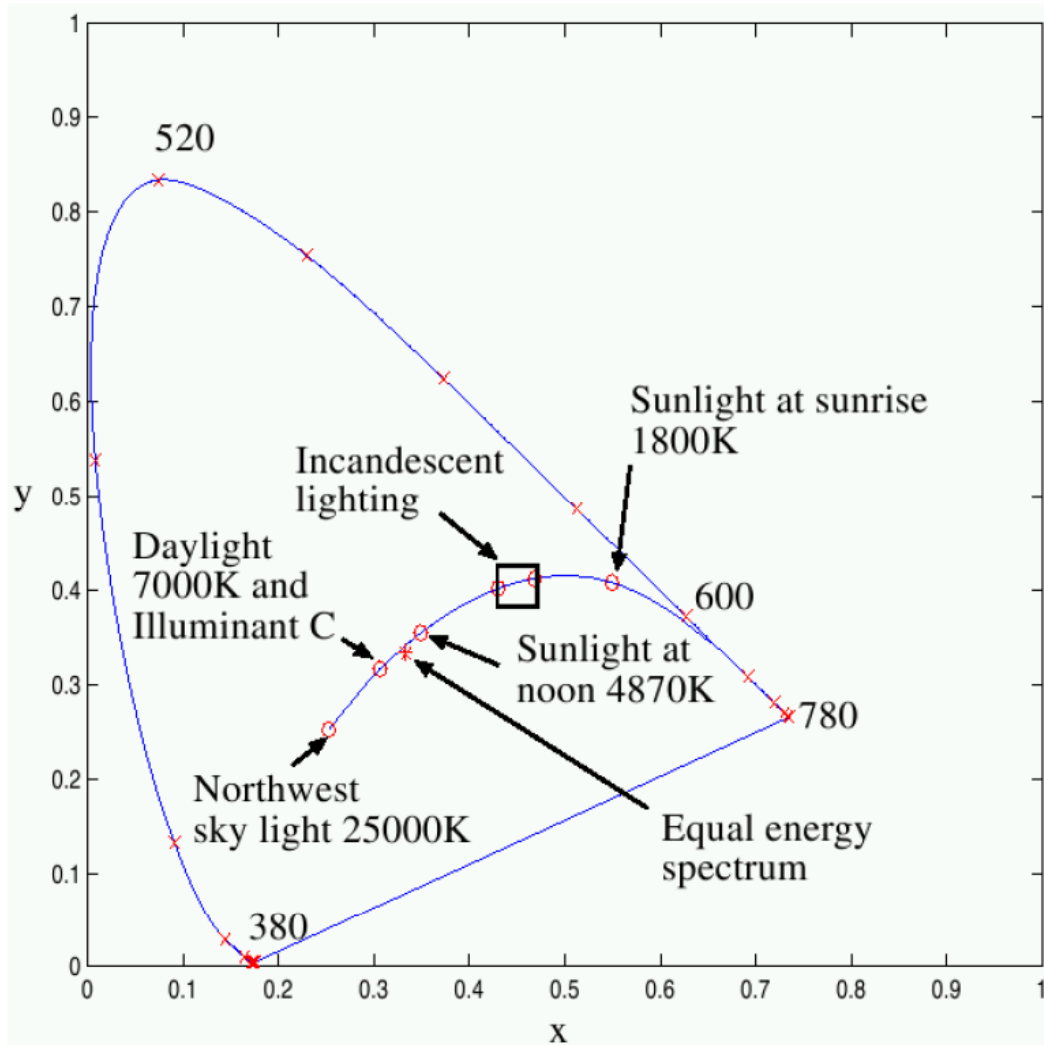


# CIE XYZ color space

- Established by the commission internationale d'éclairage (CIE), 1931
- Usually projected to display:  
 $(x,y) = (X/(X+Y+Z), Y/(X+Y+Z))$







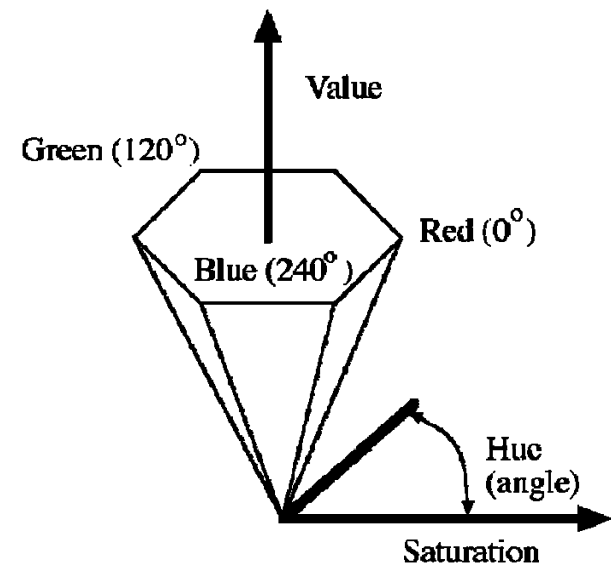
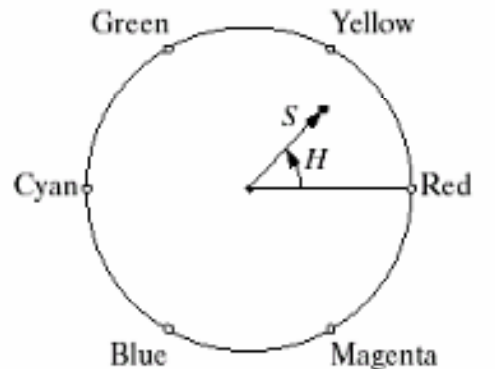
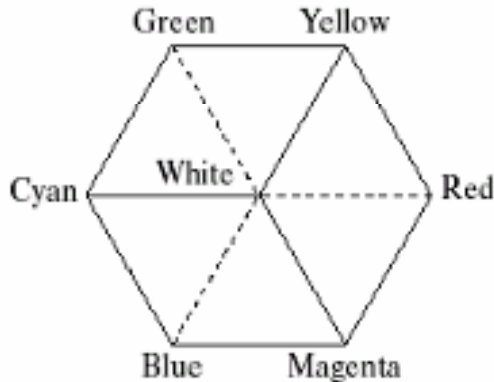
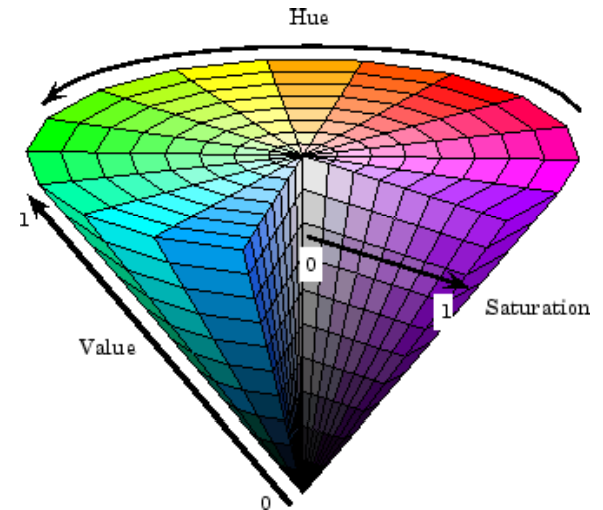
Forsyth & Ponce Figure 6.9

The figure shows:

- The spectral locus (i.e., the colours of monochromatic lights)
- The black-body locus (i.e., the colors of heated black-bodies)
- Some common illuminants

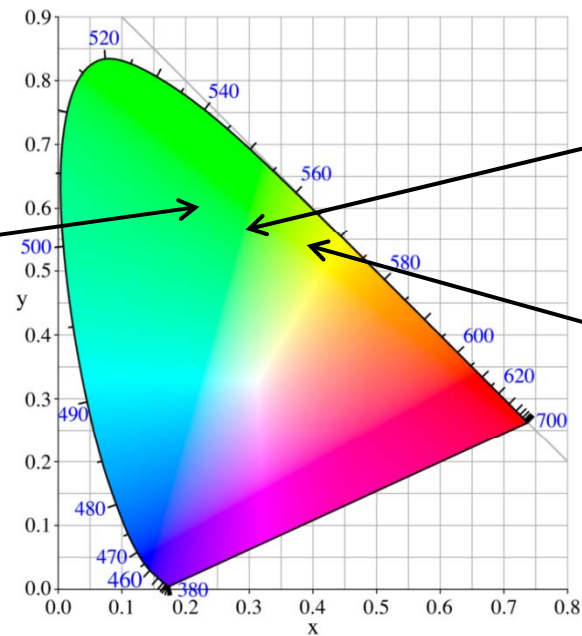
# HSV color space

- **Hue, Saturation, Value (Brightness)**
- Nonlinear – reflects topology of colors by coding **hue** as an angle
- Matlab: `hsv2rgb`, `rgb2hsv`.



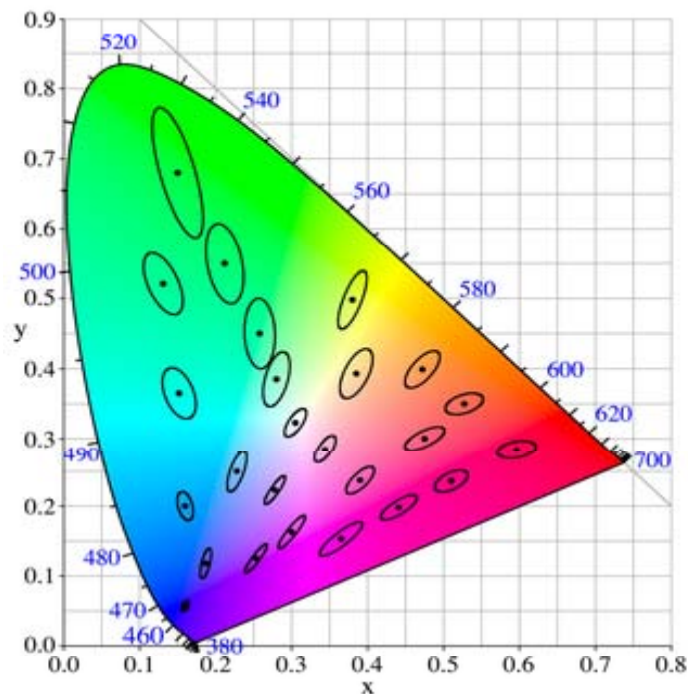
# Distances in color space

- Are distances between points in a color space perceptually meaningful?



# Distances in color space

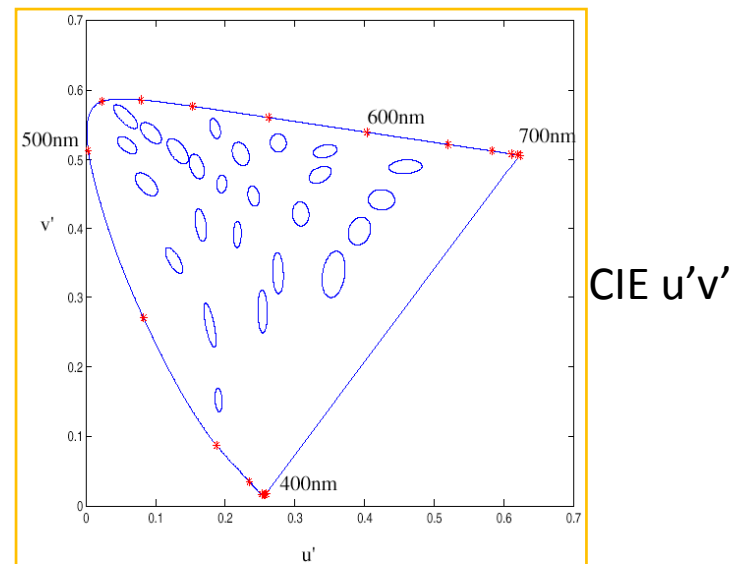
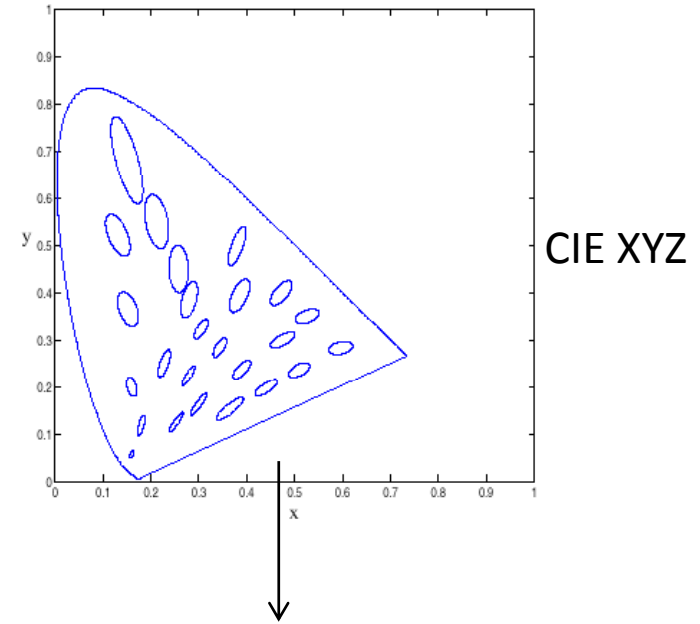
- Not necessarily: CIE XYZ is **not** a *uniform* color space, so magnitude of differences in coordinates are poor indicator of color “distance”.



McAdam ellipses:  
Just noticeable differences in color

# Uniform color spaces

- Attempt to correct this limitation by remapping color space so that just-noticeable differences are contained by circles  $\rightarrow$  distances more perceptually meaningful.
- Examples:
  - CIE  $u'v'$
  - CIE Lab



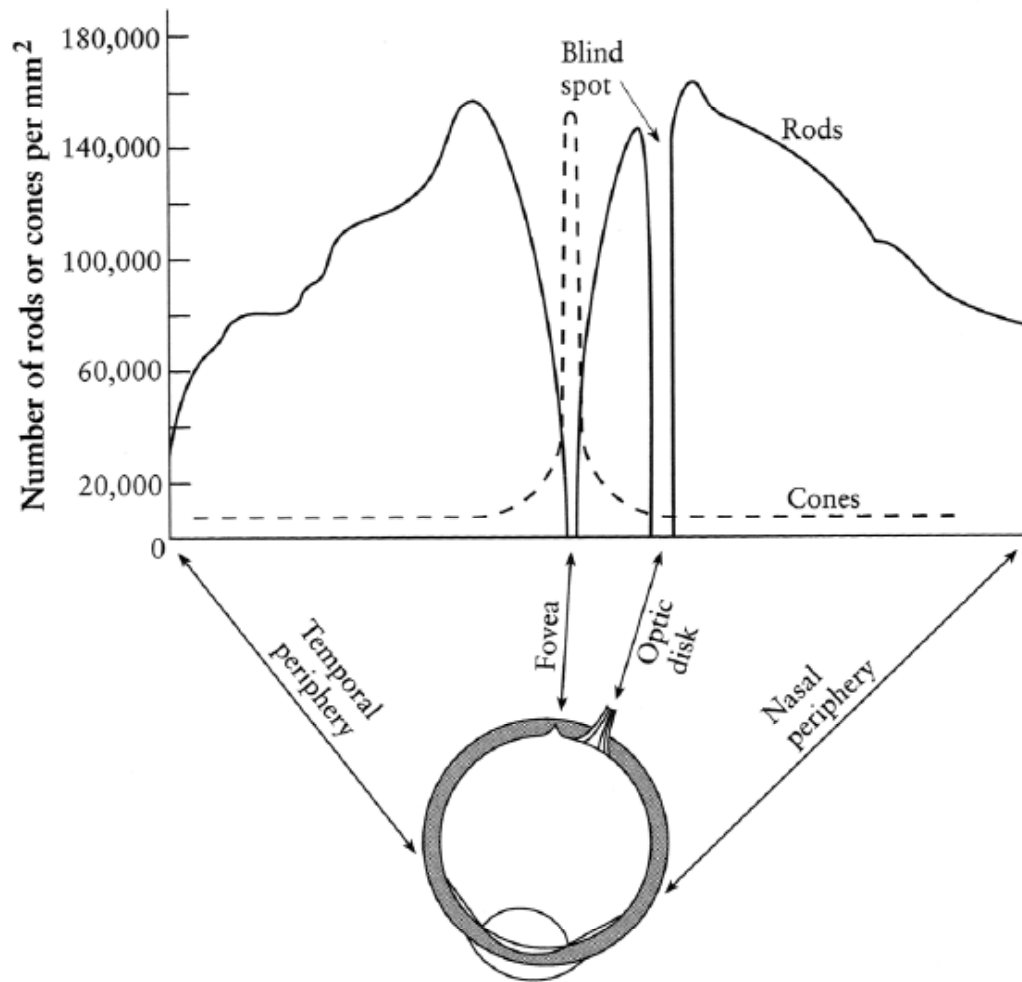
# Today: Color

- Measuring color
  - Spectral power distributions
  - Color mixing
  - Color matching experiments
  - Color spaces
    - Uniform color spaces
- Perception of color
  - Human photoreceptors
  - Environmental effects, adaptation
- Using color in machine vision systems

# Color

- **Color of light** arriving at camera depends on
  - Spectral reflectance of the surface light is leaving
  - Spectral radiance of light falling on that patch
- **Color perceived** depends on
  - Physics of light
  - Visual system receptors
  - Brain processing, environment

# Human photoreceptors



- Rods responsible for intensity
- Cones responsible for color
- Fovea: small region (1 or 2°) at the center of the visual field containing the highest density of cones (and no rods).
- Less visual acuity in the periphery



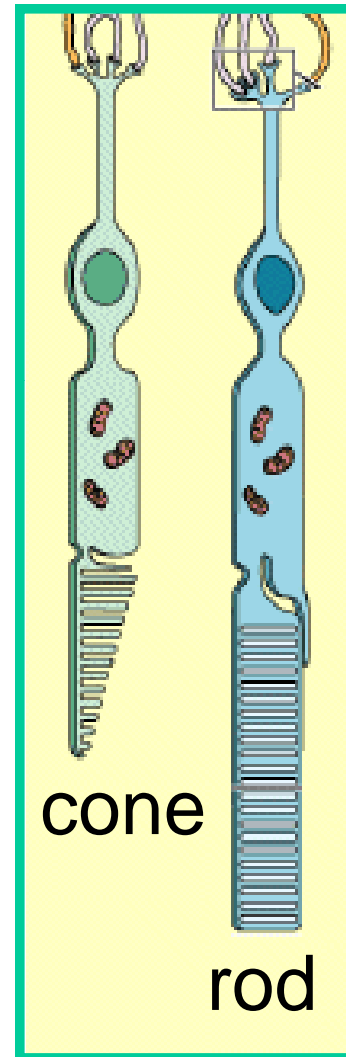
# Two types of light-sensitive receptors

## Cones

cone-shaped  
less sensitive  
operate in high light  
color vision

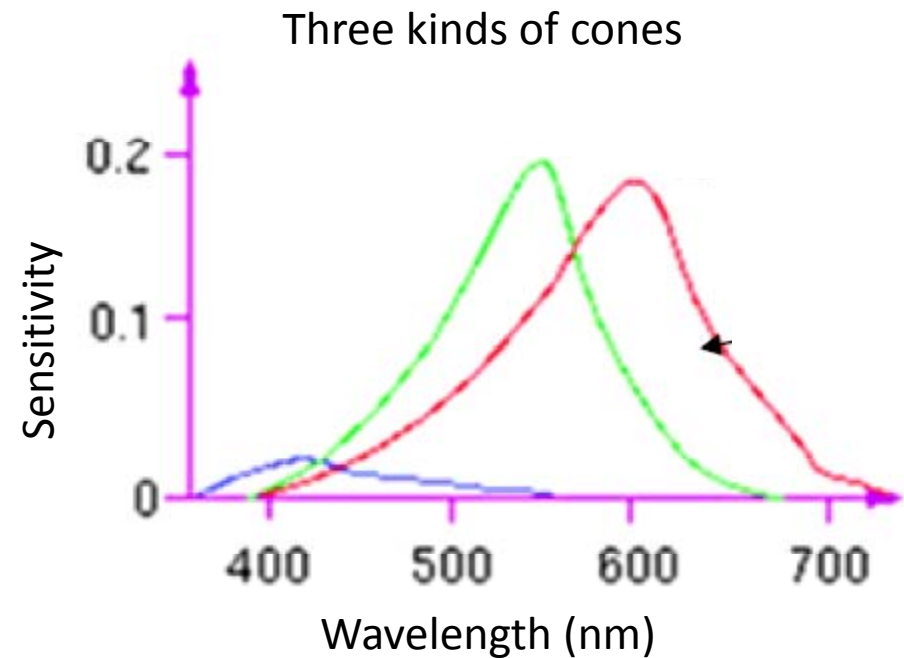
## Rods

rod-shaped  
highly sensitive  
operate at night  
gray-scale vision



# Human photoreceptors

- React only to some wavelengths, with different sensitivity (light fraction absorbed)
- Brain fuses responses from local neighborhood of several cones for perceived color
- Sensitivities vary from person to person, and with age
- Color blindness: deficiency in at least one type of cone



# Human photoreceptors



Possible evolutionary pressure for developing receptors for different wavelengths in primates

Osorio & Vorobyev, 1996

# Trichromacy

- Experimental facts:
  - Three primaries will work for most people if we allow subtractive matching; “trichromatic” nature of the human visual system
  - Most people make the *same* matches for a given set of primaries (i.e., select the same mixtures)

# Environmental effects & adaptation

- *Chromatic adaptation*: we adapt to a particular illuminant
- *Assimilation, contrast effects, chromatic induction*: nearby colors affect what is perceived; receptor excitations interact across image and time
- *Afterimages*

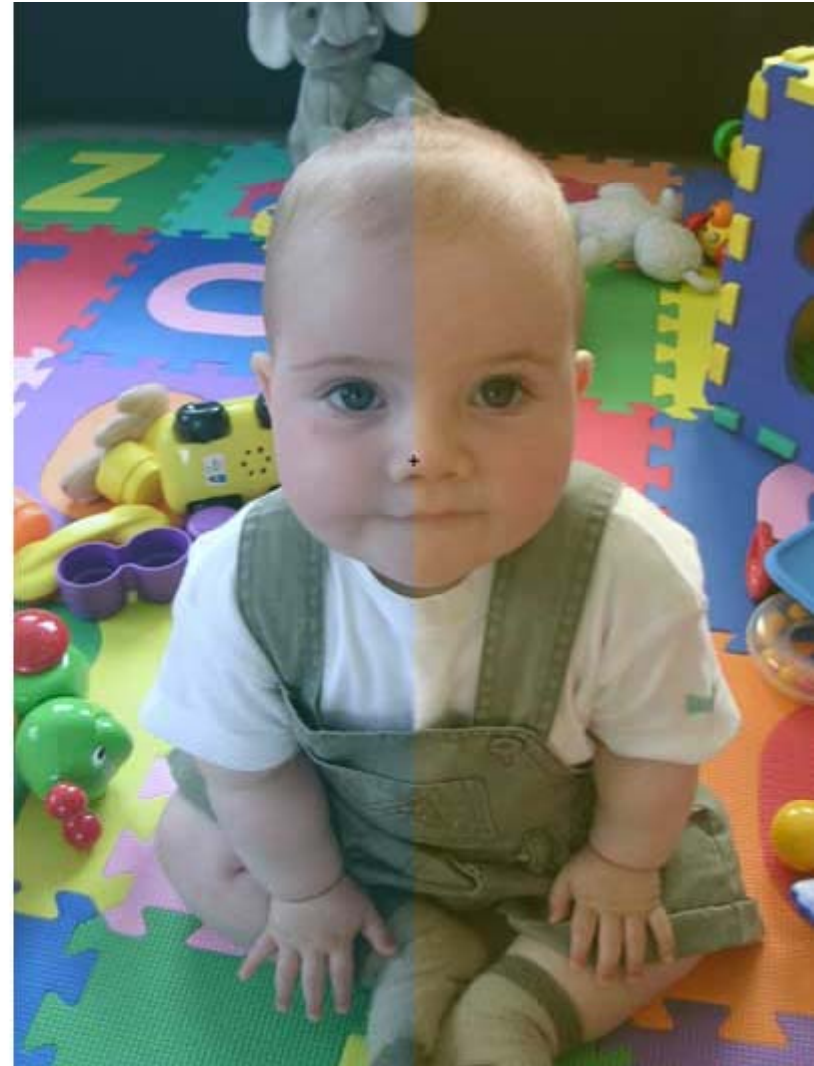
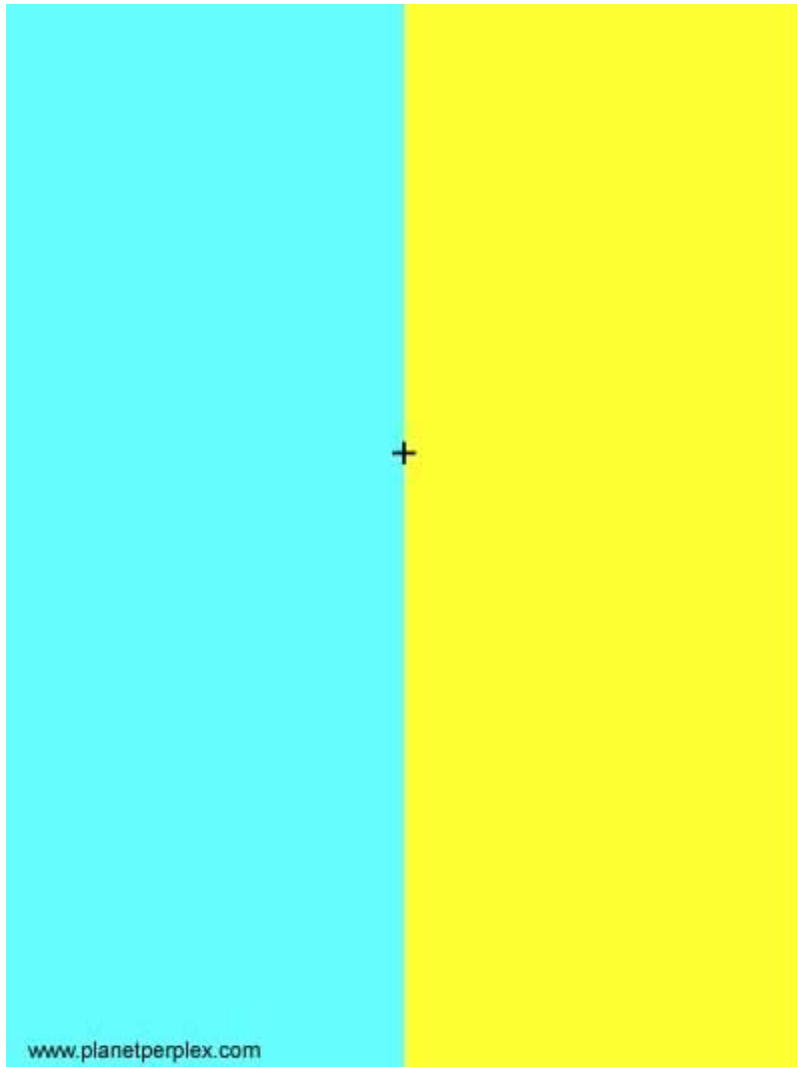
Color matching  $\sim$  color appearance

Physics of light  $\sim$  perception of light

# Chromatic adaptation

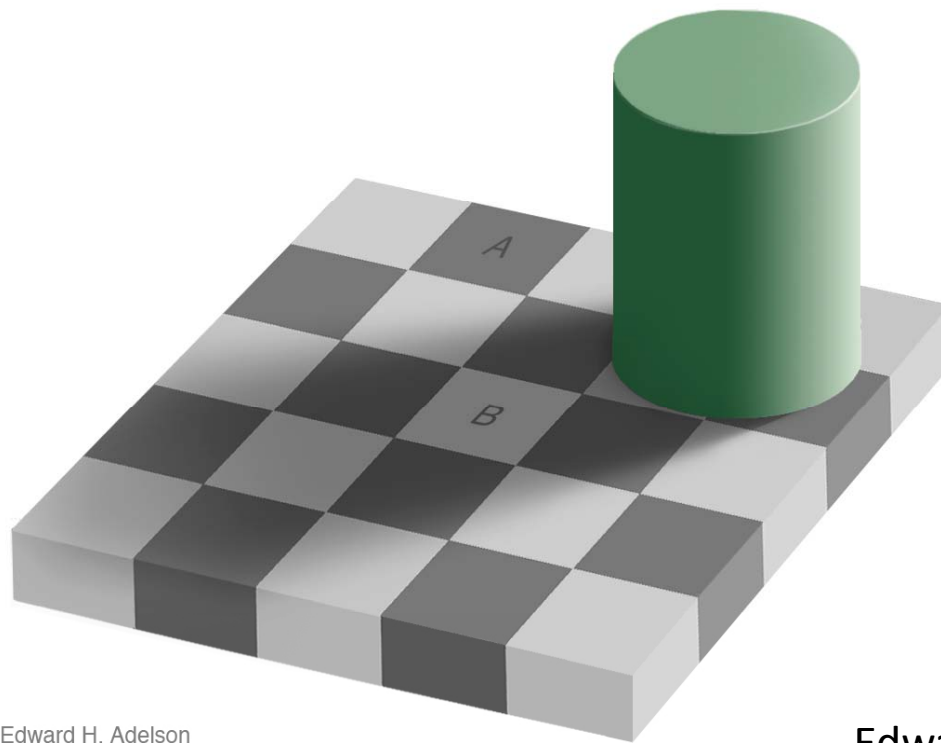
- If the visual system is exposed to a certain illuminant for a while, color system starts to adapt / skew.

# Chromatic adaptation



[http://www.planetperplex.com/en/color\\_illusions.html](http://www.planetperplex.com/en/color_illusions.html)

# Brightness perception

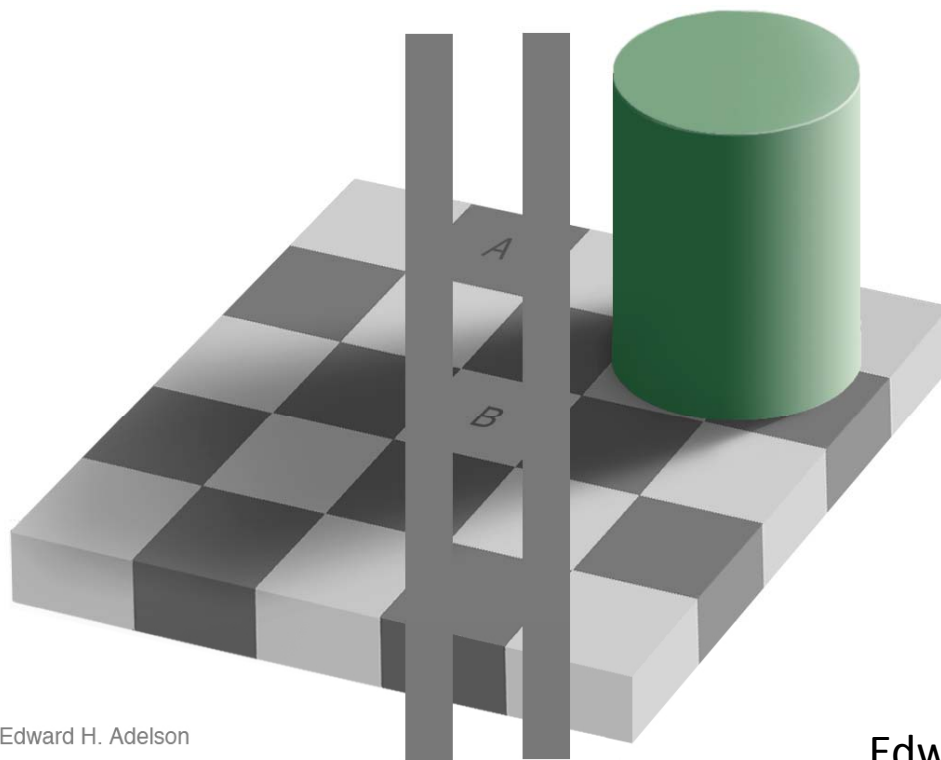


Edward H. Adelson

Edward Adelson

[http://web.mit.edu/persci/people/adelson/illusions\\_demos.html](http://web.mit.edu/persci/people/adelson/illusions_demos.html)

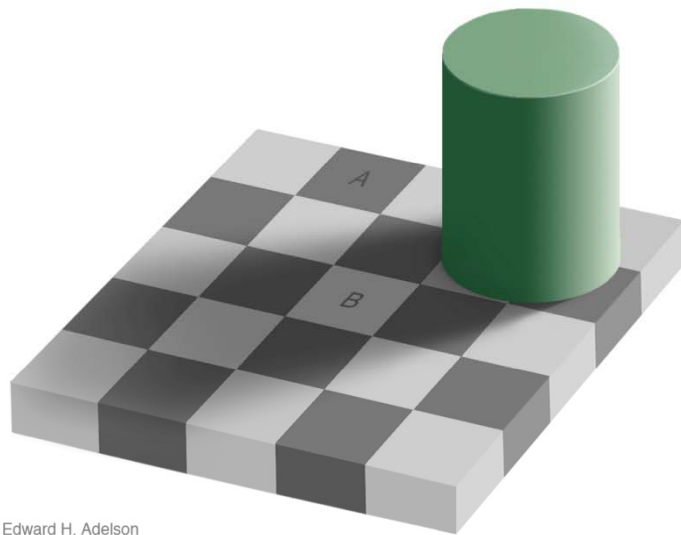




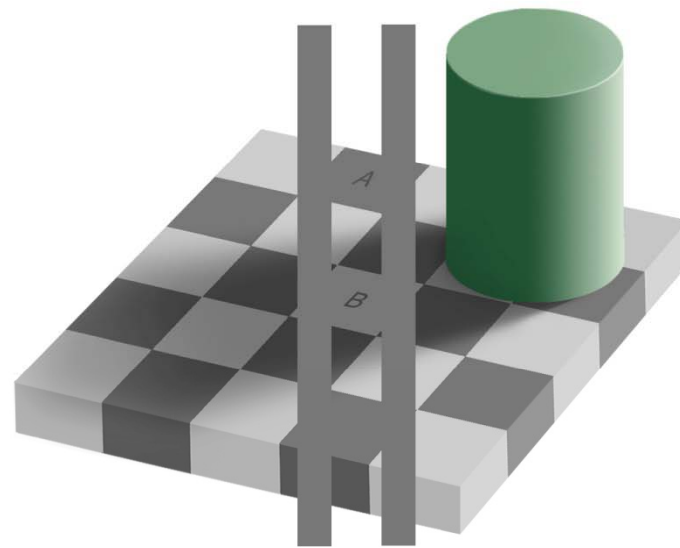
Edward H. Adelson

Edward Adelson

[http://web.mit.edu/persci/people/adelson/illusions\\_demos.html](http://web.mit.edu/persci/people/adelson/illusions_demos.html)

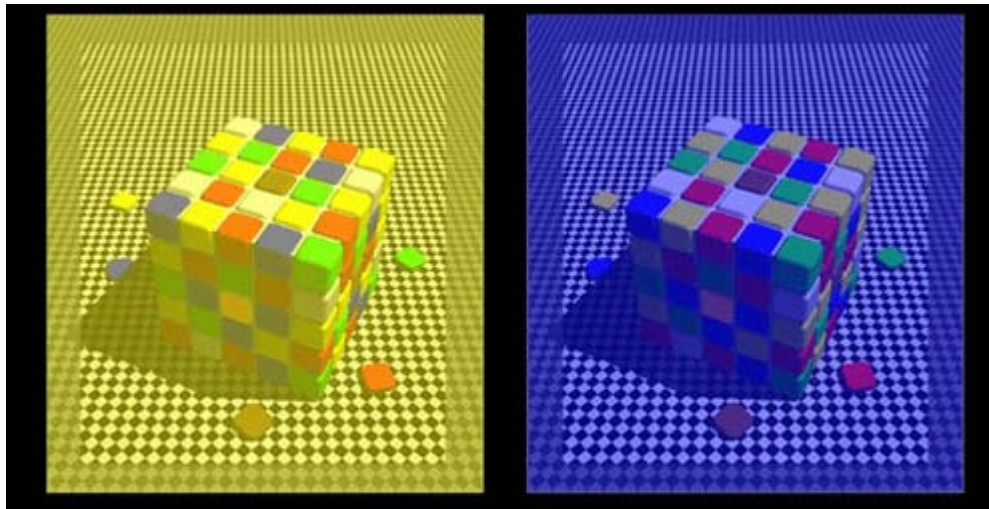


Edward H. Adelson



Edward Adelson

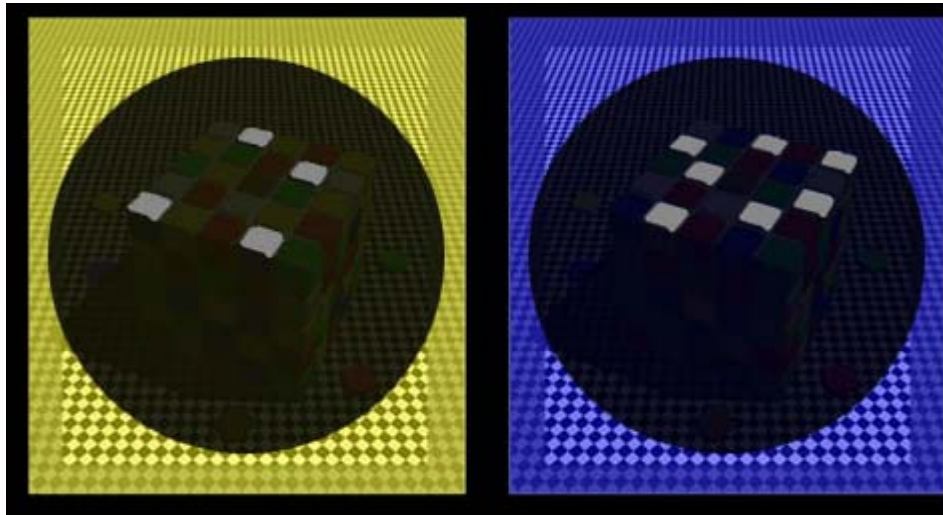
[http://web.mit.edu/persci/people/adelson/illusions\\_demos.html](http://web.mit.edu/persci/people/adelson/illusions_demos.html)



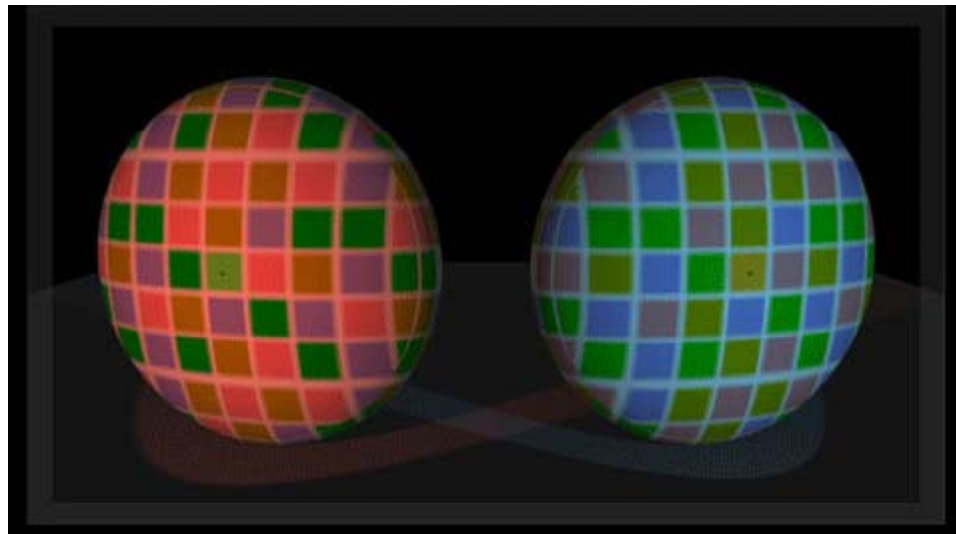
Look at blue  
squares

Look at yellow  
squares

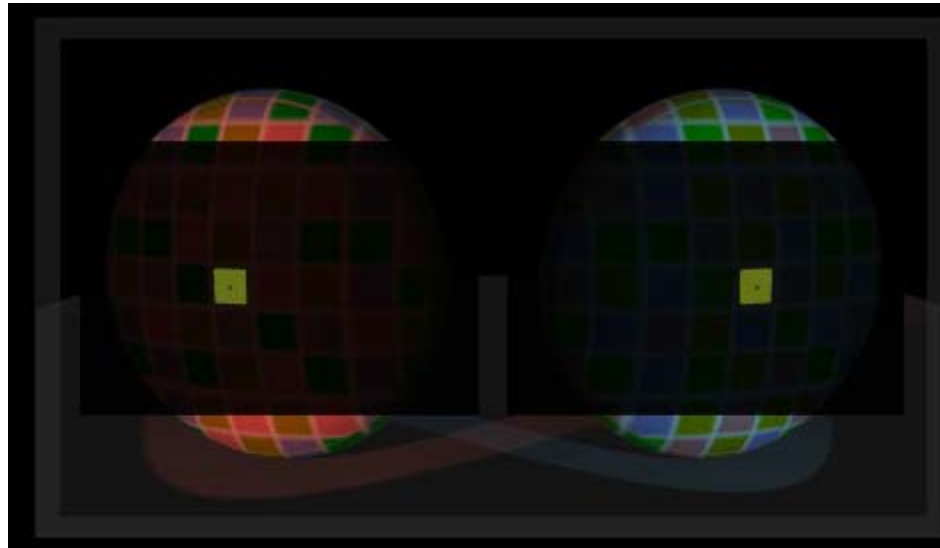
- Content © 2008 R.Beau Lotto
- <http://www.lottolab.org/articles/illusionsoflight.asp>



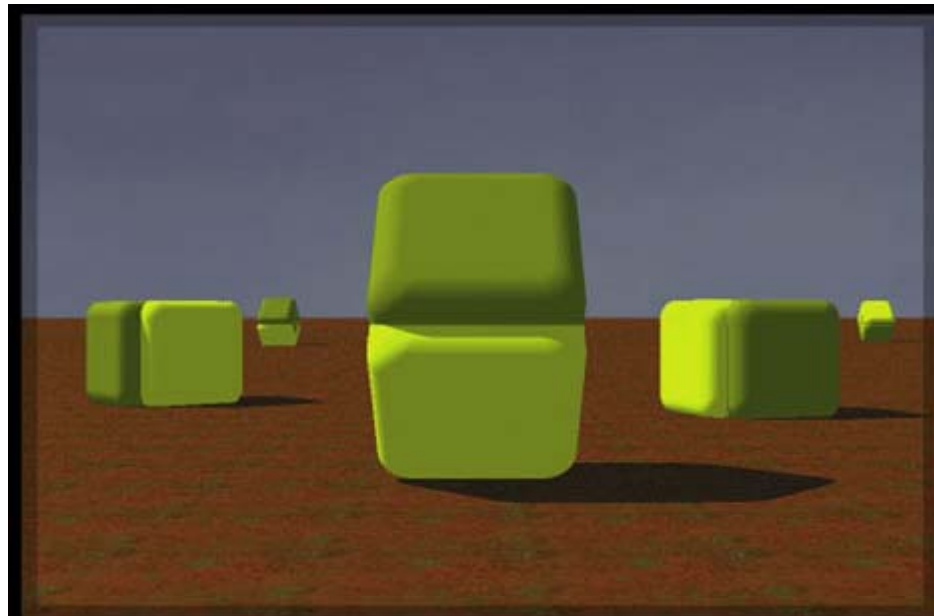
- Content © 2008 R.Beau Lotto
- <http://www.lottolab.org/articles/illusionsoflight.asp>



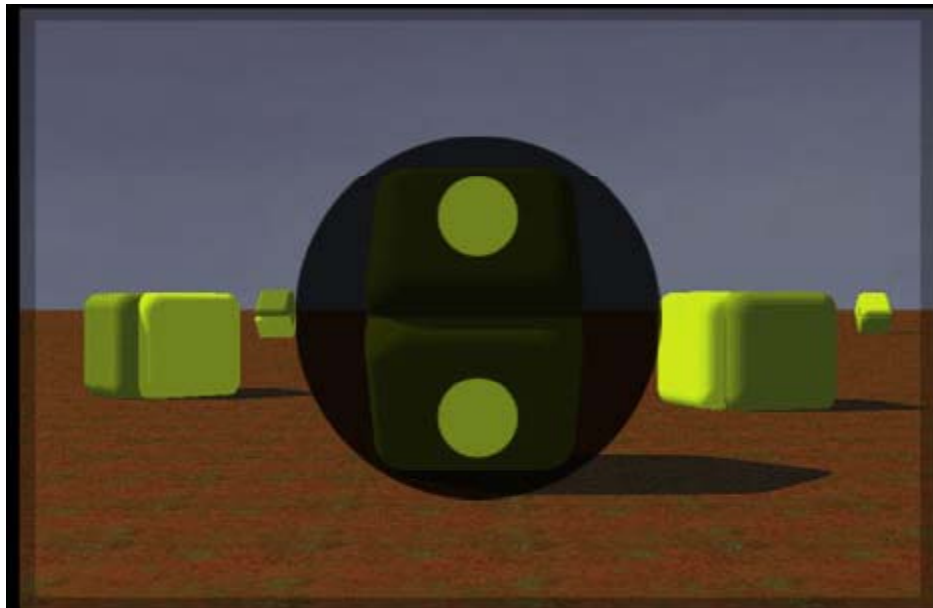
- Content © 2008 R.Beau Lotto
- <http://www.lottolab.org/articles/illusionsoflight.asp>



- Content © 2008 R.Beau Lotto
- <http://www.lottolab.org/articles/illusionsoflight.asp>



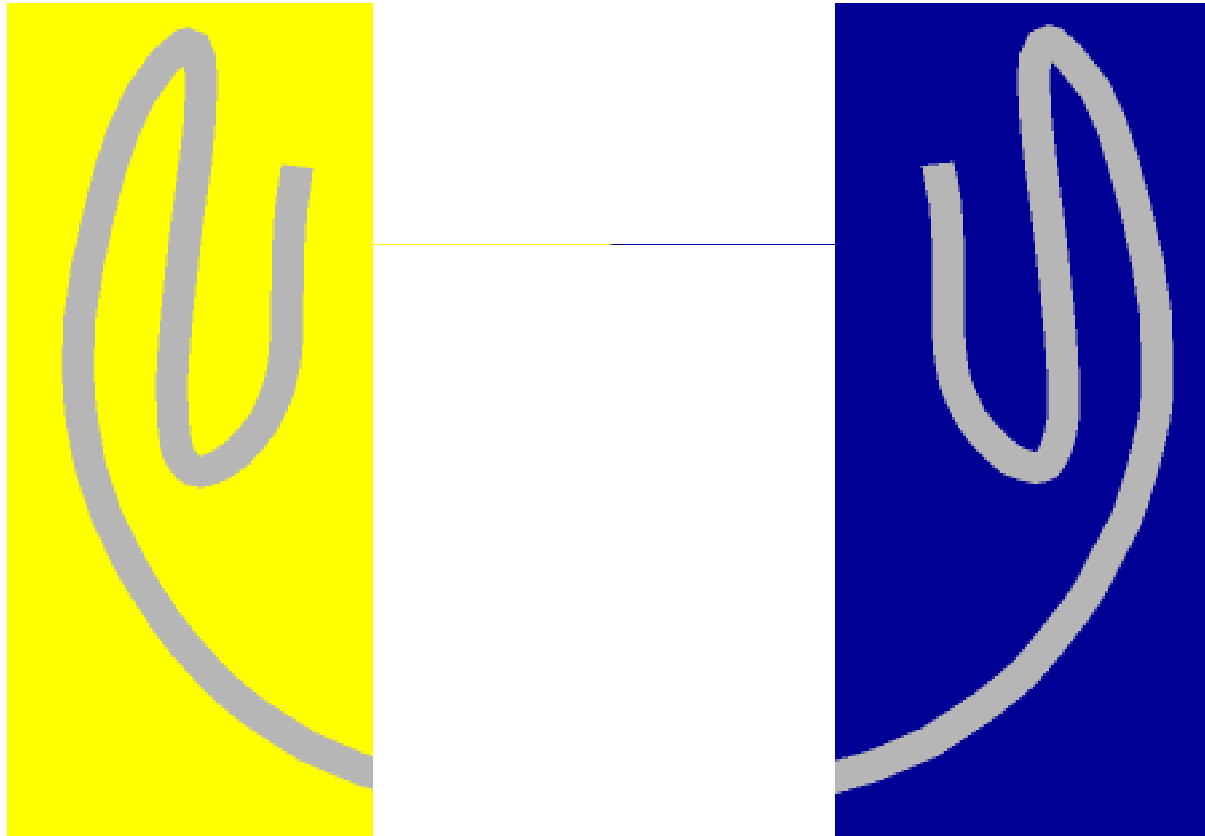
- Content © 2008 R.Beau Lotto
- <http://www.lottolab.org/articles/illusionsoflight.asp>



- Content © 2008 R.Beau Lotto
- <http://www.lottolab.org/articles/illusionsoflight.asp>



# Contrast effects



# After images

- Tired photoreceptors send out negative response after a strong stimulus



[http://www.sandlotscience.com/Aftereffects/Andrus\\_Spiral.htm](http://www.sandlotscience.com/Aftereffects/Andrus_Spiral.htm)

Source: Steve Seitz

# Name that color

*Blue Red Green Cyan*  
*Magenta Black Pink*  
*Yellow Orange Violet*  
*Brown Purple Cyan*  
*Indigo Red Green Blue*

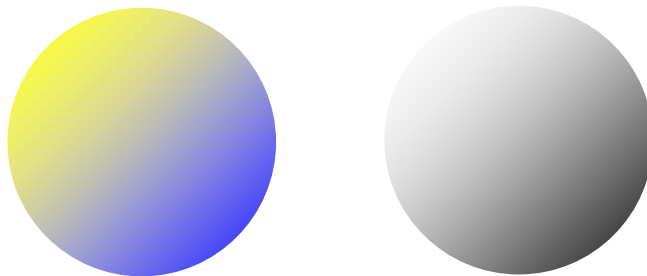
High level interactions affect perception and processing.

# Yellow Text on a Blue Background

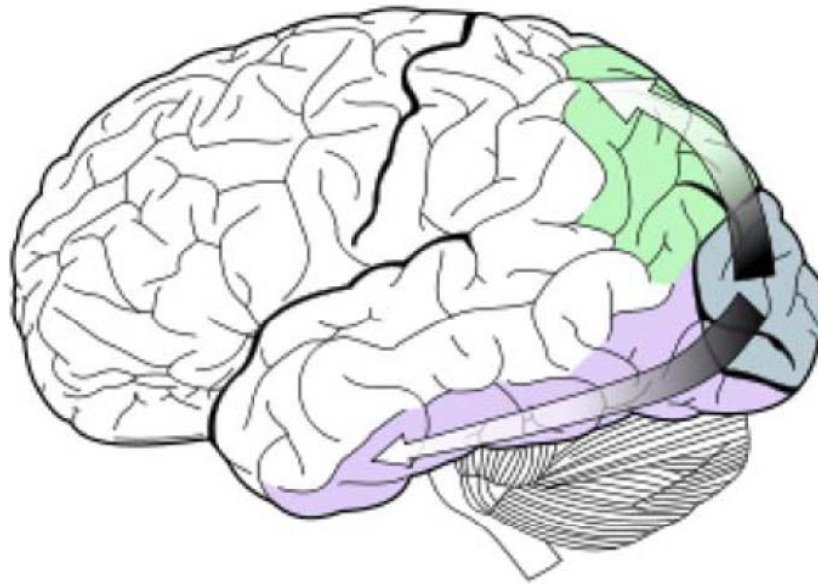
- Is fairly easy to read unless the text is isoluminant with the background colour. As the luminance of the background becomes the same as the luminance of the text, it is very difficult to make out what the text says. So much so, that at this point I can write just about anything I want here and hardly anyone would want to put in the effort to see what it was I had written.

# Other isoluminance effects

- Stereoscopic depth is not detectable with isoluminant colours
- Isoluminance in animation makes it appear to be slower than the same animation in black-and-white
- Shape and form are best shown using luminance:



# “Two pathways”

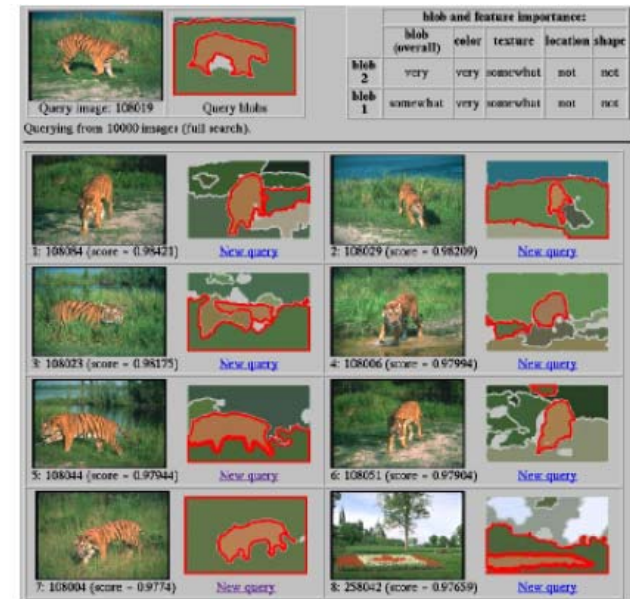
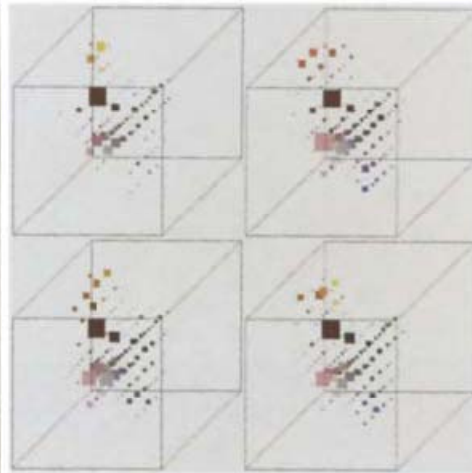


- Visual pathways in the human brain. The [ventral stream](#) (purple) is important in color recognition. The [dorsal stream](#) (green) is also shown. They originate from a common source in the [visual cortex](#).
- Cliché: “what” vs “where”

# Today: Color

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# Color as a low-level cue for CBIR

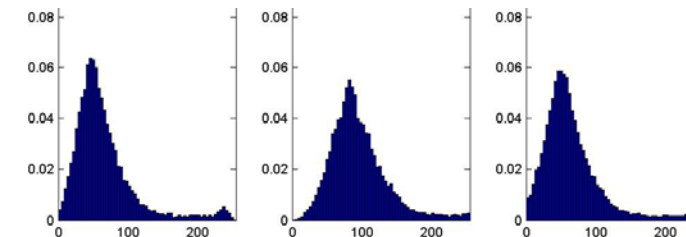
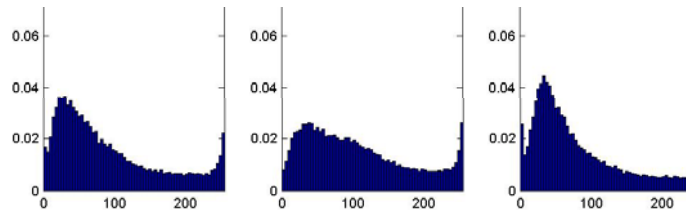
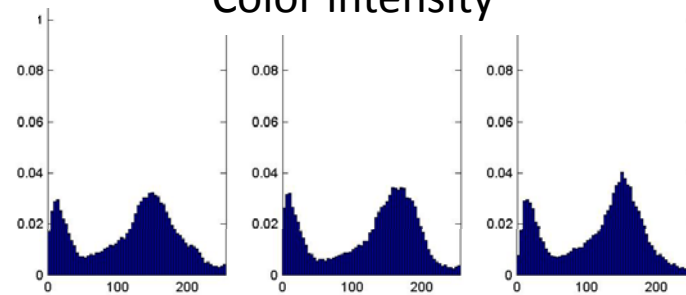
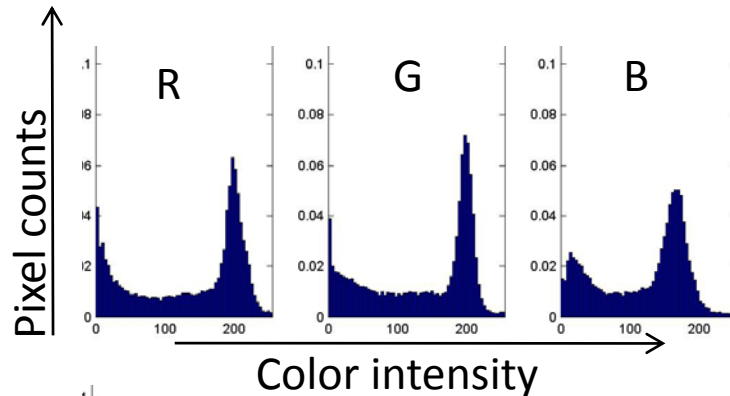


Swain and Ballard, [Color Indexing](#), IJCV 1991

Blobworld system  
Carson et al, 1999

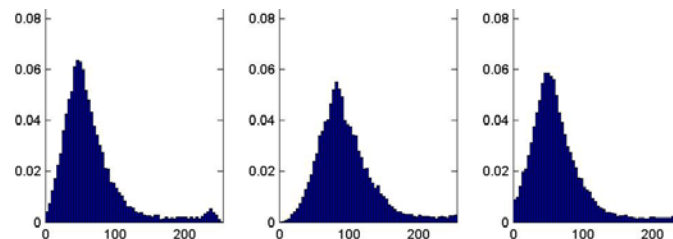
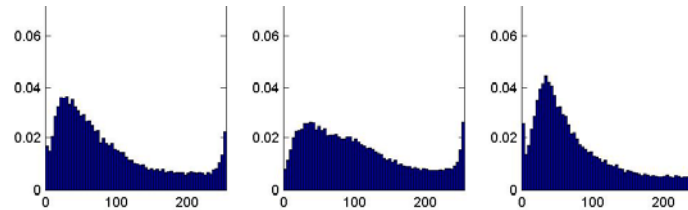
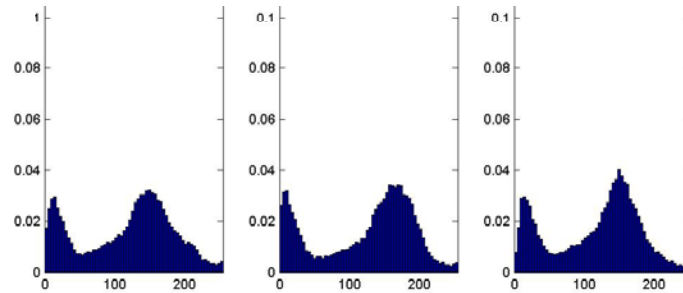
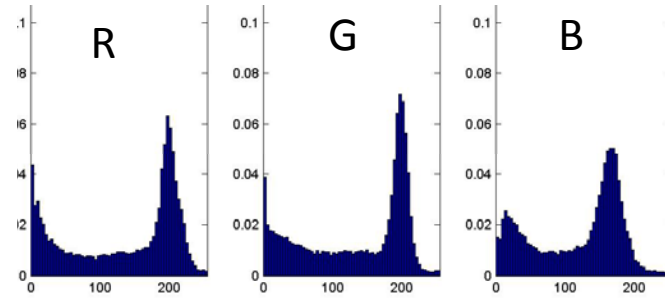


# Color as a low-level cue for CBIR



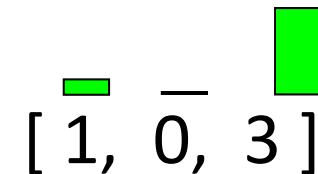
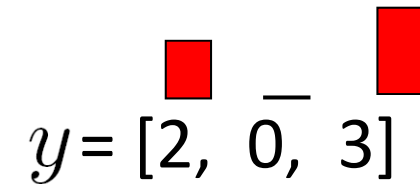
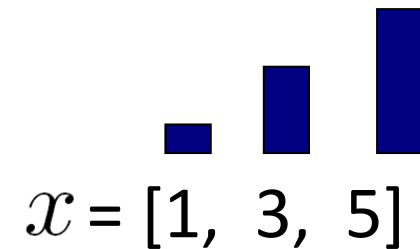
- Color histograms: Use distribution of colors to describe image
- No spatial info – invariant to translation, rotation, scale

# Color as a low-level cue for CBIR



Given two histogram vectors, sum the minimum counts per bin:

$$I(x, y) = \sum_{i=1}^n \min(x_i, y_i)$$

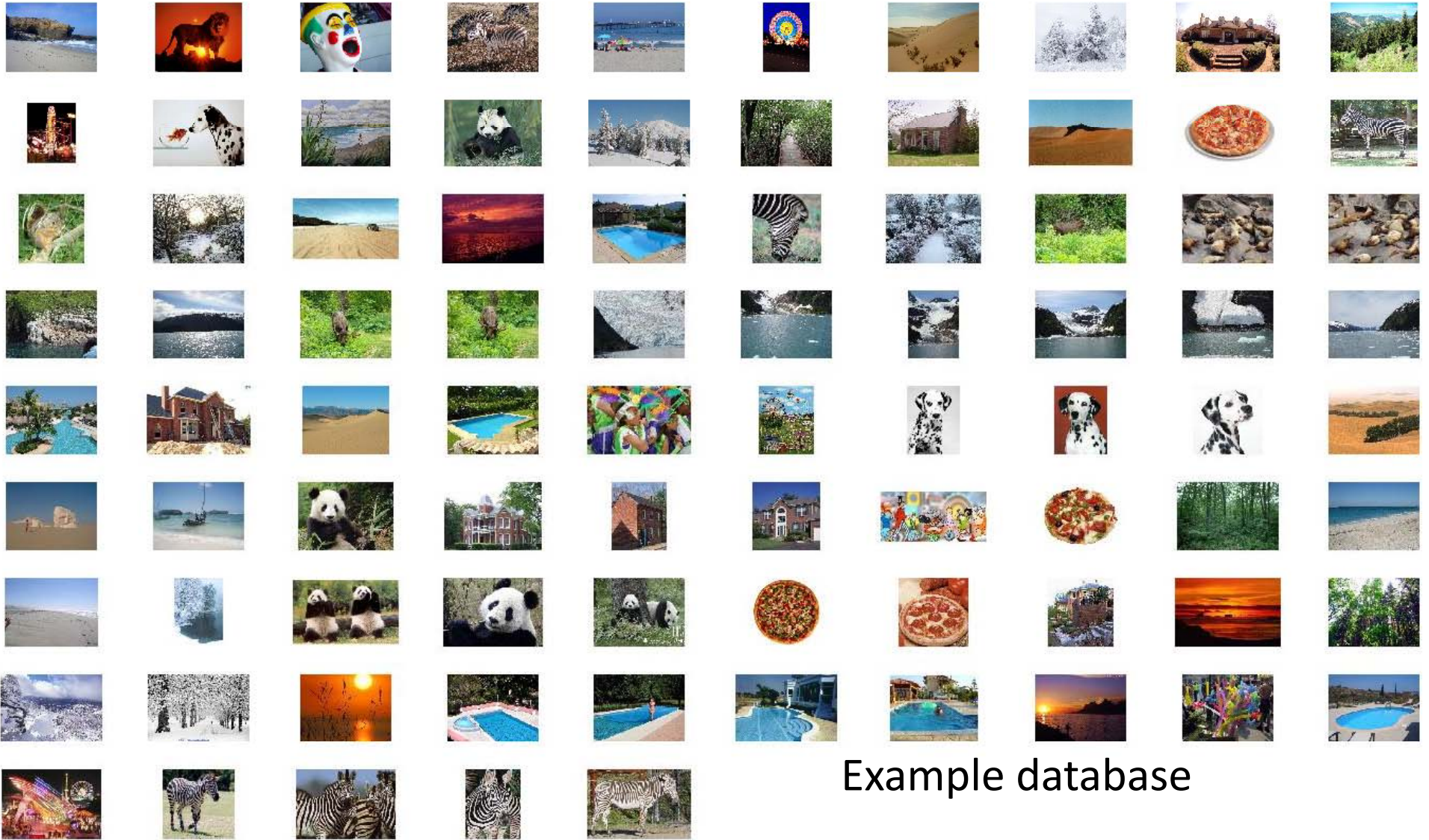


$$\sum_i \min(x_i, y_i) = 4$$

# Color-based image retrieval

- Given collection (database) of images:
  - Extract and store one color histogram per image
- Given new query image:
  - Extract its color histogram
  - For each database image:
    - Compute intersection between query histogram and database histogram
  - Sort intersection values (highest score = most similar)
  - Rank database items relative to query based on this sorted order

# Color-based image retrieval



Example database

# Color-based image retrieval

query



query



query



query



Example retrievals

# Color-based image retrieval

query



query



query



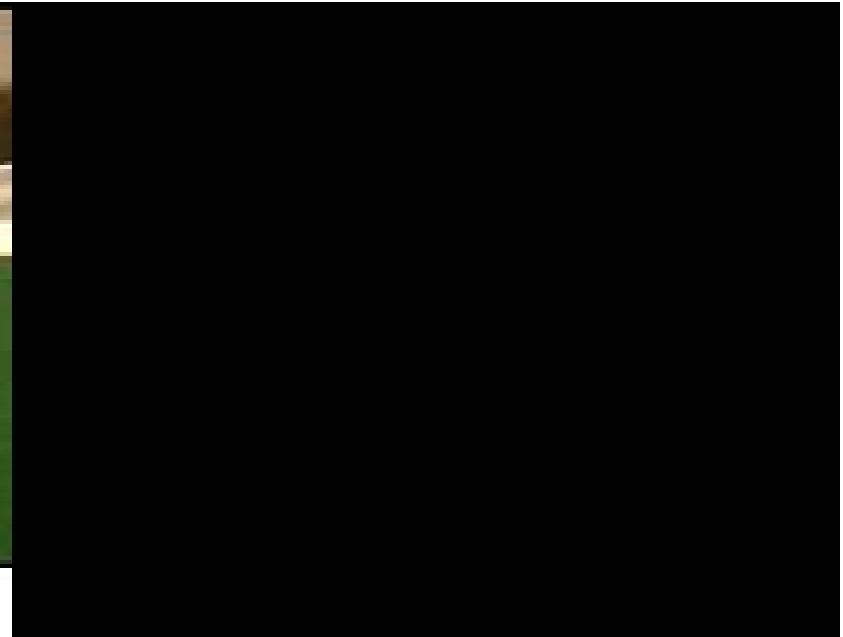
Example retrievals

# Color-based skin detection



M. Jones and J. Rehg, Statistical Color Models with Application to Skin Detection, IJCV 2002.

# Color-based segmentation for robot soccer

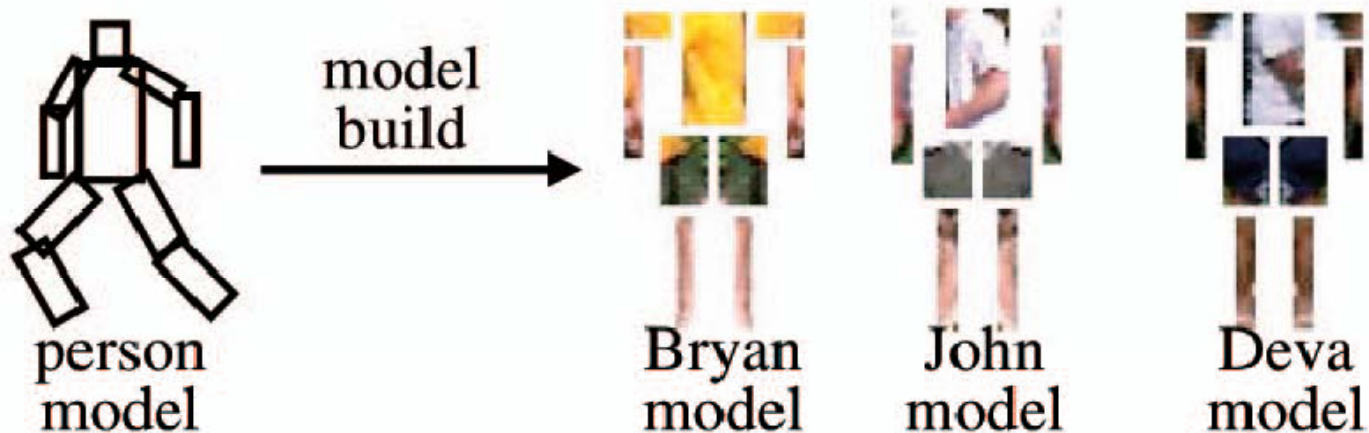
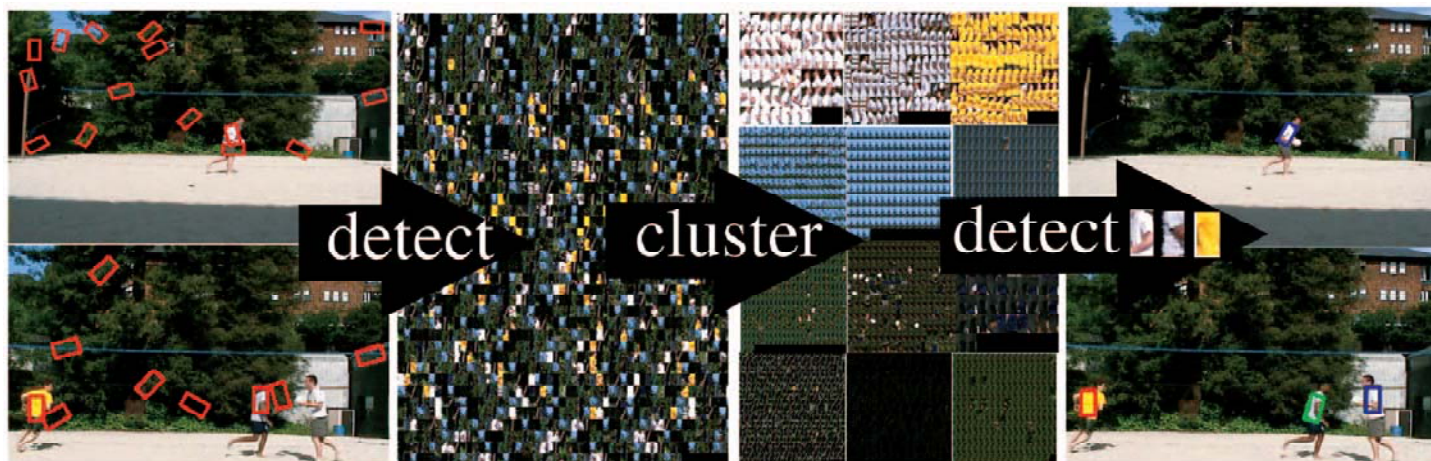


Towards Eliminating Manual Color Calibration at RoboCup. Mohan Sridharan and Peter Stone. RoboCup-2005: Robot Soccer World Cup IX, Springer Verlag, 2006

[http://www.cs.utexas.edu/users/AustinVilla/?p=research/auto\\_vis](http://www.cs.utexas.edu/users/AustinVilla/?p=research/auto_vis)



# Color-based appearance models for body tracking



D. Ramanan, D. Forsyth, and A. Zisserman. [Tracking People by Learning their Appearance](#). PAMI 2007.

Slide credit: L. Lazebnik

# Viewing Colored Objects

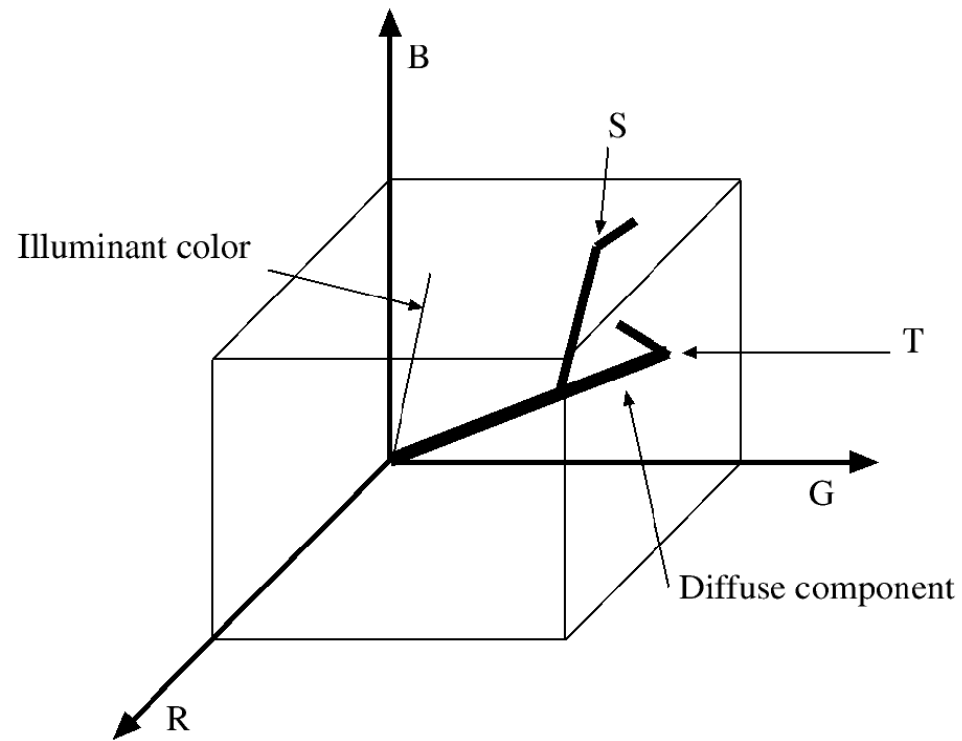
- Assume diffuse (Lambertian) plus specular model
- **Diffuse component**
  - colour of reflected light depends on both illuminant and surface
- **Specular component**
  - specularities on dielectric (non-metallic) objects take the colour of the light
  - specularities on metals have colour of the metal



# Finding Specularities

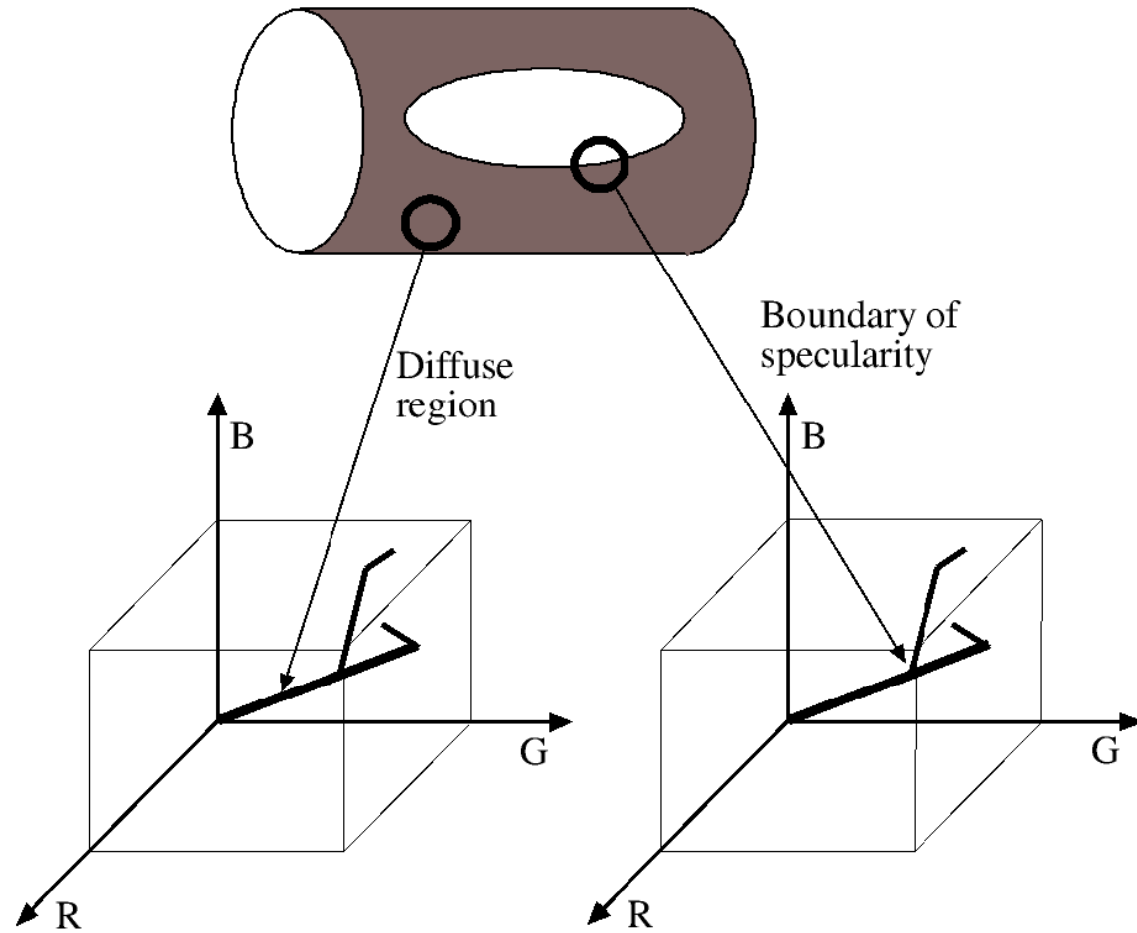
- Assume we are dealing with dielectrics
  - specularly reflected light is the same colour as the source
- Reflected light has two components
  - diffuse
  - specular
  - and we see a weighted sum of these two
- Specularities produce a characteristic “dog leg” in the histogram of receptor responses
  - in a patch of diffuse surface, we see a colour multiplied by different scaling constants (surface orientation)
  - in the specular patch, a new colour is added; a “dog leg” results

# Skewed-T



Forsyth & Ponce Figure 6.20

# Skewed-T



Forsyth & Ponce Figure 6.21

# Slide Credits

- Kristen Grauman: 3-48, 50-75, 79-86
- Bob Woodham: 49, 87-90
- and others, indirectly (Steve Palmer, Brian Wandell, etc!)

# Today: Color

- Measuring color
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    - Uniform color spaces
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# Next time

- ***Image Filtering***
  - Readings: Szel., Ch. 3.1-3.3
- Pset 0 due tomorrow, 5pm
  - download from  
<http://www.box.net/shared/pvkynapd34>
  - submit by email if desired
- Pset 1 available online on Monday
  - via bSpace and some mirror...