


EE421/521 Image Processing

Lecture 4
HUMAN VISUAL SYSTEM
COLOR THEORY


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Color Perception


- Color perception is a psychophysical phenomenon that combines two main components:
 1. The *physical* properties of light sources (usually expressed by their spectral power distribution, SPD) and surfaces (e.g., their absorption and reflectance capabilities).
 2. The *physiological* and *psychological* aspects of the human visual system (HVS).

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Human Eye

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Human Visual System

Used to determine the shape & color of objects & their movement.

Eye:
Functions like a camera to focus light on the retina using a lens and an aperture (pupil) whose size can be adjusted to change the amount of entering light.

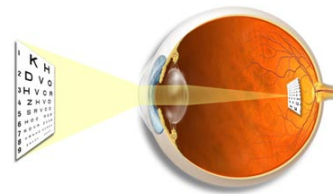
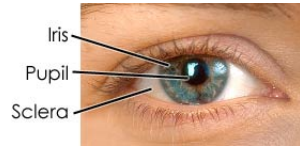
Vision:
Process by which light reflected from external objects are translated into a mental image. This process consists of 3 steps:

1. light enters the eye and is focused by a lens on to the retina.
2. retinal photoreceptors transduce light energy into electrical signal.
3. processing of the electrical signals through neural pathways.

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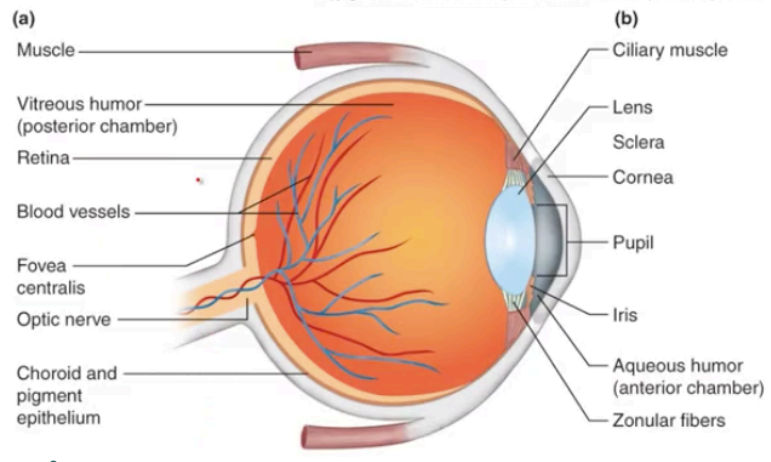
Human Physiology, Duke University, Coursera

Human Vision



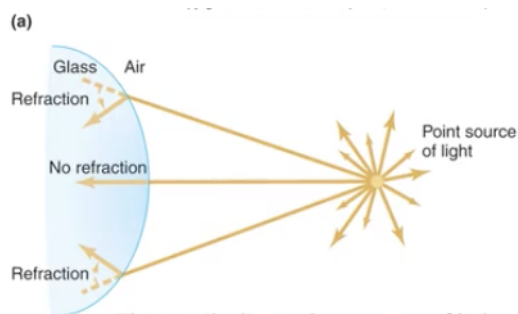
Human Eye

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Refraction of Light

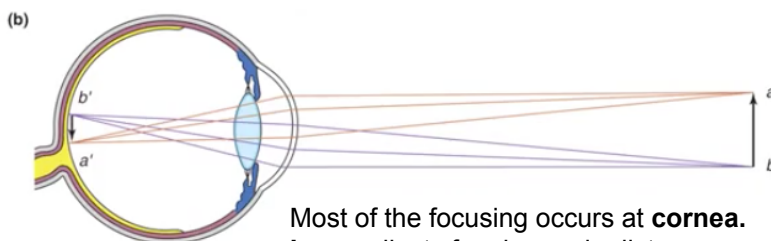


The *pupil* adjusts the amount of light entering.
Changes in the shape of the *lens* focus the light onto the retina.
The *retina* contains the photoreceptors, *rods* & *cones*.

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Focusing of Light

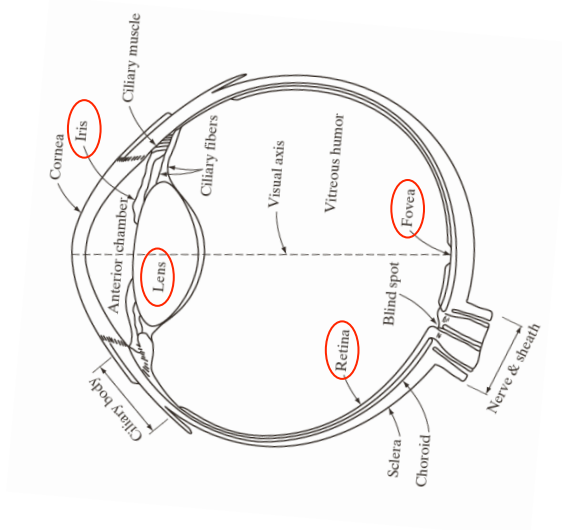


Most of the focusing occurs at **cornea**.
Lens adjusts for change in distance.

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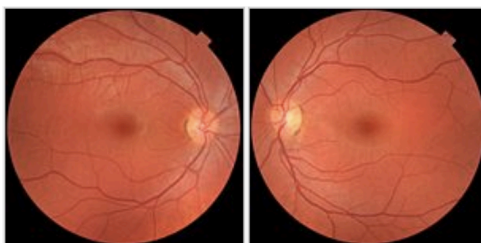


Fovea & Blind Spot



The Macula

- Absorbs excess blue and ultraviolet light
- Has a diameter of around 6 mm
- Contains the fovea at its center



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Central (Fovea) Vision

We think we see like this:

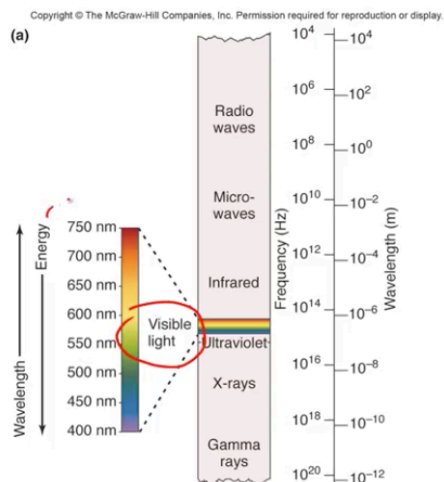


But really we see like this:



Images by Stuart Anstis

Light Spectrum

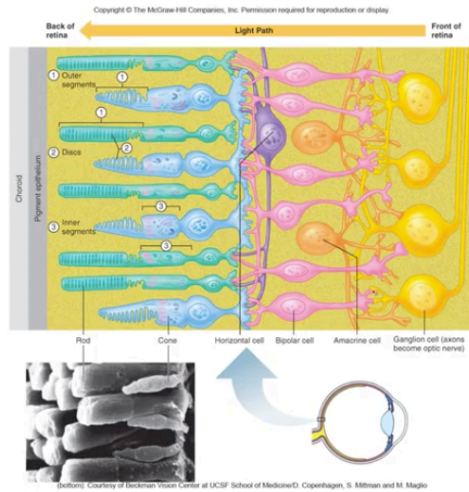


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Rods and Cones: Photoreceptors

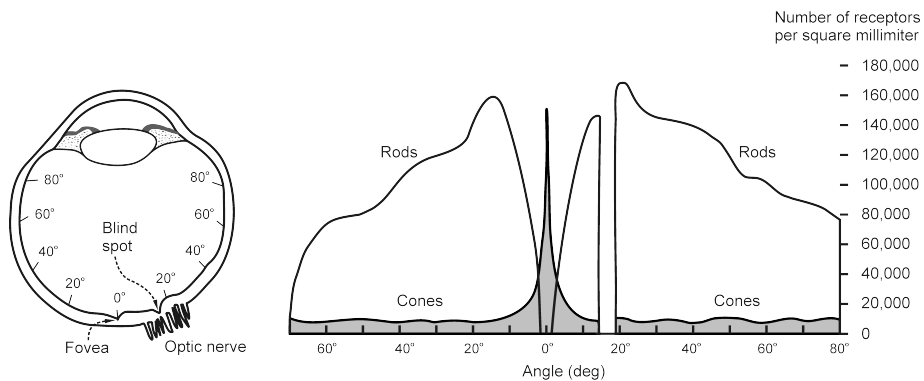
- Light images are converted into electro-chemical signals inside the photoreceptors called rods and cones.

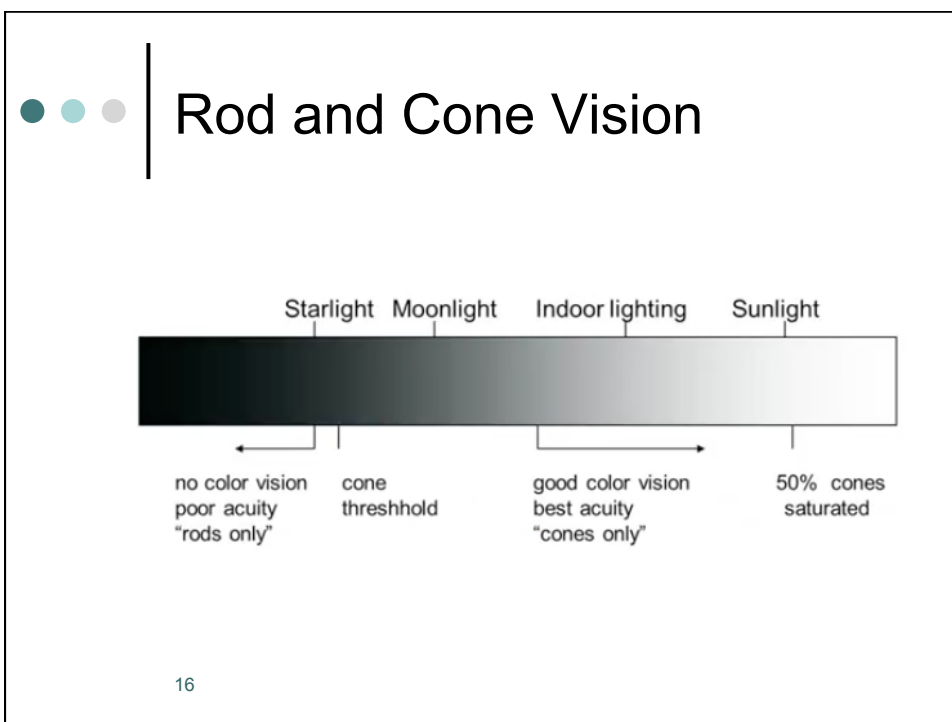
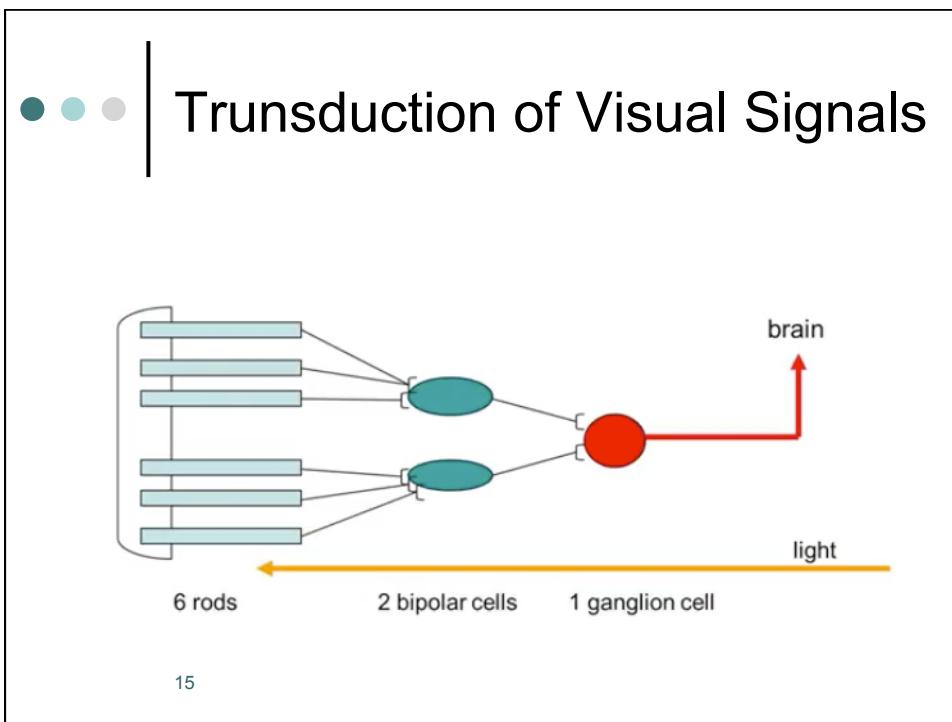


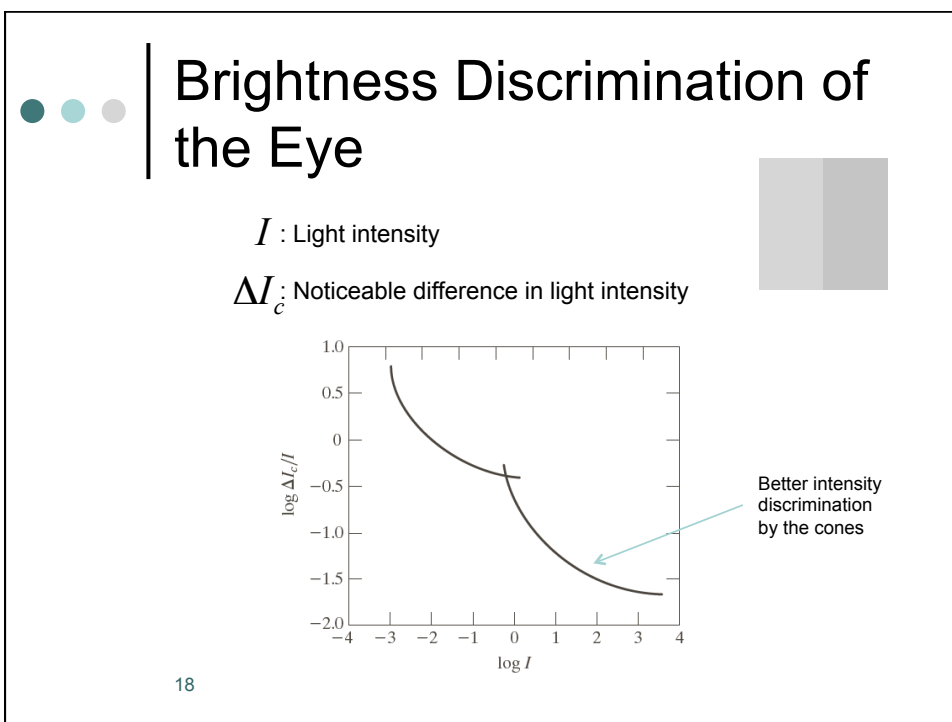
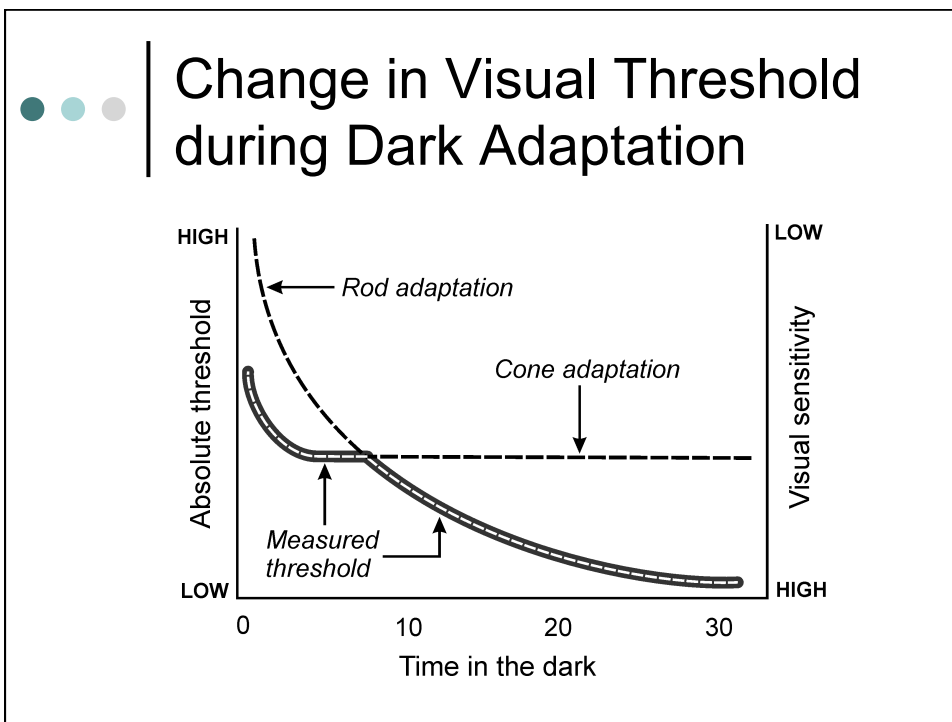
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Distribution of Rods & Cones









Brightness Adaptation and Dynamic Range of the Eye

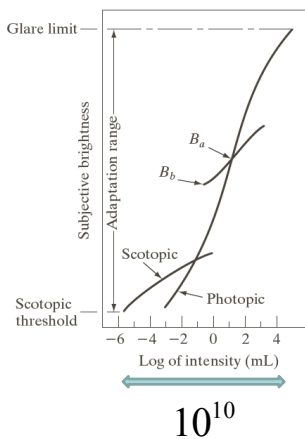
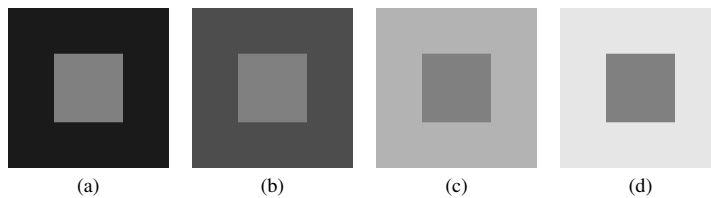


FIGURE 2.4
Range of subjective brightness sensations showing a particular adaptation level.

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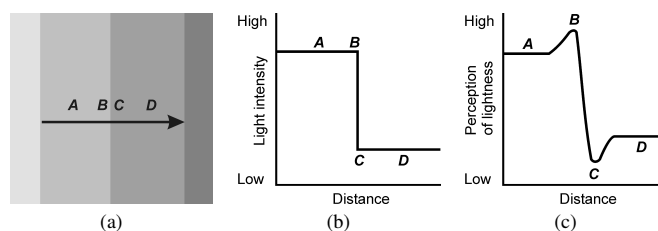
Brightness Adaptation





Mach Bands

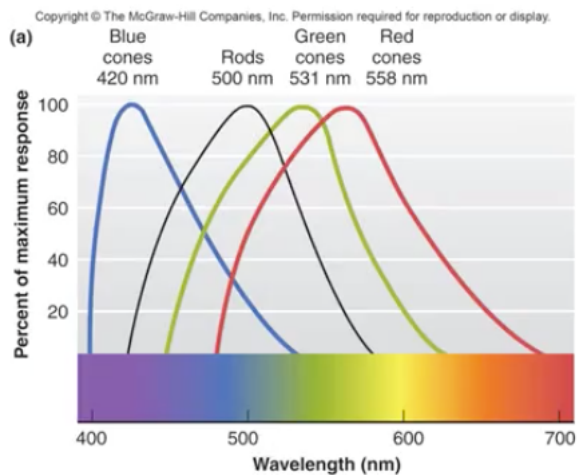
- Our visual system tends to overshoot and undershoot at the boundaries of regions with different intensities.
- Explains the ability to separate objects even in dim light.



Color Vision



Color Vision



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Blue Cone Distinctions

Blue is less-focused

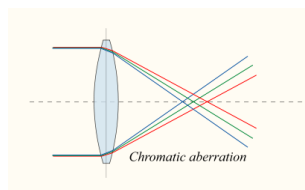
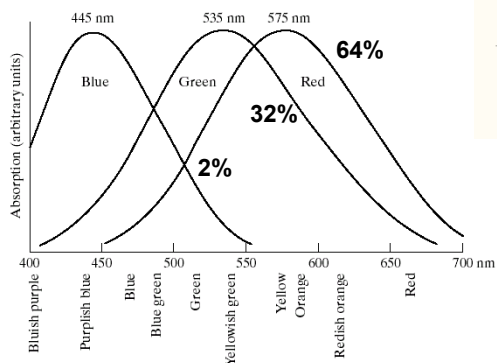
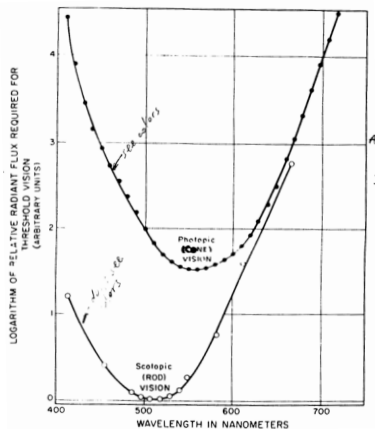


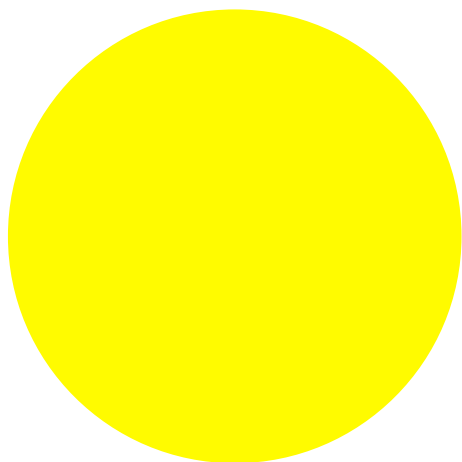
FIGURE 6.3 Absorption of light by the red, green, and blue cones in the human eye as a function of wavelength.




Vision Threshold vs. Wavelength



Eye Fatigue



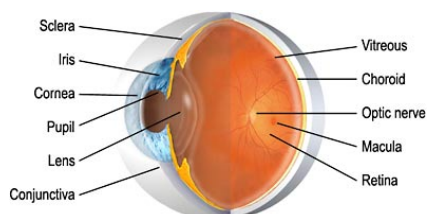


Summary

- Lens focuses the image.
- Movements of the lens are controlled by the specialized ciliary muscles.
- Iris diaphragm controls the amount of light that enters the eye.
- Central opening of the eye is called the pupil, diameter varies between 2mm to 8mm, inversely proportional with the incoming light.
- Innermost membrane is called the retina, which is coated with prosensitive receptors.



Human Eye vs. Camera



Camera components	Eye components
Lens	Lens, cornea
Shutter	Iris, pupil
Film	Retina
Cable to transfer images	Optic nerve to send the incident light information to the brain




Spatial Resolution of the Human Eye

- Photopic (bright-light) vision:
Approximately 7 million cones
- Scotopic (dim-light) vision:
Approximately 75-150 million rods
- (HDTV: 1920x1080 = 2 million pixels)

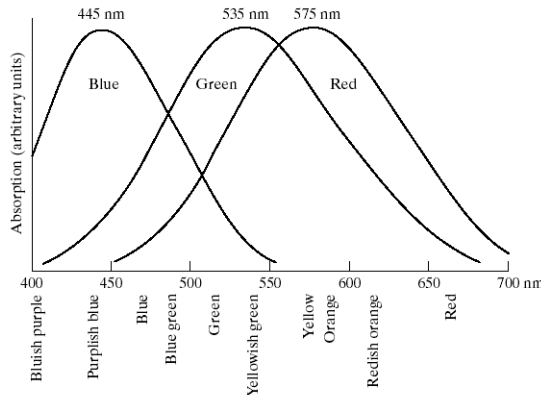


Color Mixing

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Three Types of Cones and their Frequency Response



The graph plots Absorption (arbitrary units) on the y-axis against Wavelength (nm) on the x-axis, ranging from 400 nm to 700 nm. Three curves represent the absorption of light by different types of cones in the human eye:

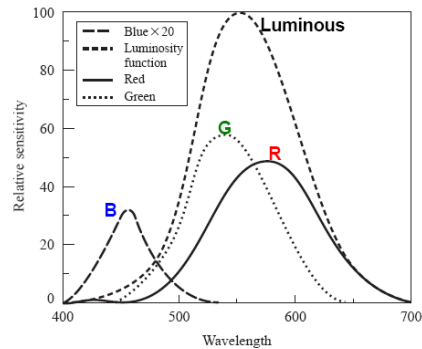
- Blue cones:** Peak absorption at 445 nm.
- Green cones:** Peak absorption at 535 nm.
- Red cones:** Peak absorption at 575 nm.

Color labels along the x-axis include: Bluish purple, Purplish blue, Blue, Blue green, Green, Yellowish green, Yellow Orange, Reddish orange, and Red.

FIGURE 6.3 Absorption of light by the red, green, and blue cones in the human eye as a function of wavelength.

Frequency Responses of Cones, Luminous Efficiency Function

- Same amount of energy produces different sensations of brightness at different wavelengths
- Green wavelength contributes most to the perceived brightness.

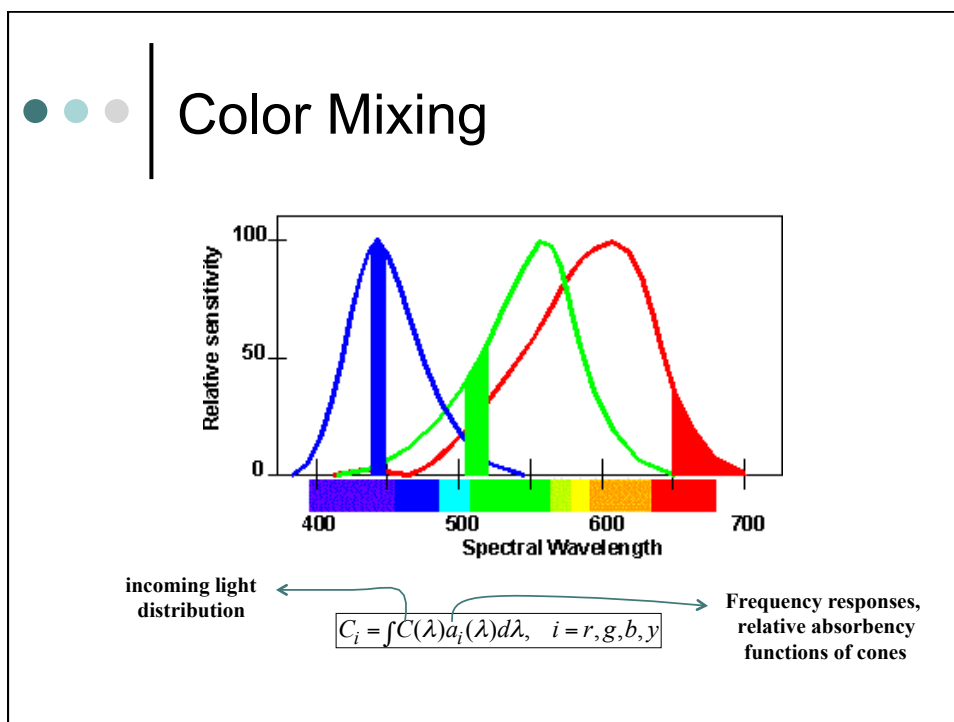


$$a_Y(\lambda) = a_R(\lambda) + a_G(\lambda) + a_B(\lambda)$$

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Luminance & Chrominance

- Luminance (brightness) refers to **achromatic intensity**
- Chrominance (chromaticity) refers to **hue and saturation**
 - Hue: color tone (depends on the peak wavelength of the light)
 - Saturation: color purity (depends on the spread of bandwidth of the light)
 - Hence, addition of white decreases saturation



● ● ● | Trichromatic Theory of Color

- Any color can be obtained by mixing three primary colors with the right proportion

$$C = \sum_{k=1,2,3} T_k C_k, \quad T_k : \text{Tristimulus values}$$

- Primary colors for illuminating sources: Red, Green, Blue (RGB)
- Primary colors for reflecting sources (also known as secondary colors): Cyan, Magenta, Yellow (CMY)



Light Sources

- Illuminating sources:
 - Emit light (e.g., the sun, light bulb, TV monitors)
 - Perceived color depends on the emitted frequency
 - Follows **additive** rule
 - $R + G + B = \text{white}$
- Reflecting sources:
 - Reflect an incoming light (e.g., the color dye, matte surface, cloth)
 - Perceived color depends on reflected frequency (= incident frequency – absorbed frequency)
 - Follows **subtractive** rule
 - $C = W - R$
 - $R + G + B = \text{black}$

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Additive Color System



G+B LIGHT = CYAN



R+B LIGHT = MAGENTA



G+R LIGHT = YELLOW



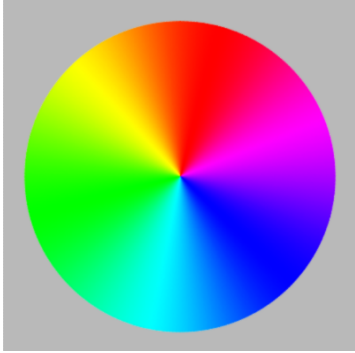
● ● ● | Subtractive Color System

The diagram illustrates the subtractive color system. At the top, three overlapping circles represent Cyan (C), Magenta (M), and Yellow (Y). The central intersection where all three overlap is labeled "C + M + Y = BLACK". Below this, six diagrams show light rays (represented by colored arrows) hitting a surface. Each diagram shows a different combination of primary colors being absorbed (indicated by arrows pointing into the surface) and the resulting reflected color (indicated by an arrow pointing away from the surface). For example, one diagram shows red and green light being absorbed, resulting in blue light being reflected.

● ● ● | RGB vs. CMY

This section compares the RGB and CMY color models. On the left, a Venn diagram for the RGB model shows three overlapping circles: Red (top), Blue (left), and Green (right). The intersections are labeled: Red and Blue overlap to form Magenta; Red and Green overlap to form Yellow; Blue and Green overlap to form Cyan; and the intersection of all three (Red, Blue, and Green) is white. On the right, a Venn diagram for the CMY model shows three overlapping circles: Cyan (top), Magenta (left), and Yellow (right). The intersections are labeled: Cyan and Magenta overlap to form Blue; Cyan and Yellow overlap to form Green; Magenta and Yellow overlap to form Red; and the intersection of all three (Cyan, Magenta, and Yellow) is black.

● ● ● | Color Wheel & Complementary Colors



● ● ● | Tristimulus Values

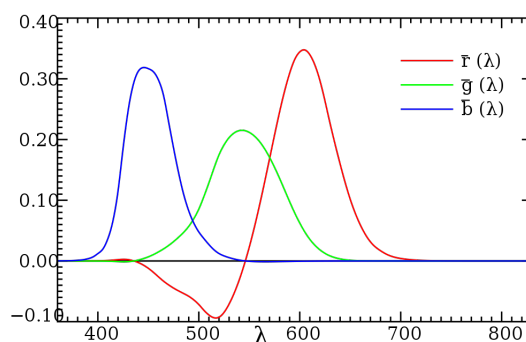
- The tristimulus values of a color are the amounts of three primary colors in a three-component additive color model needed to match a test color.
- The tristimulus values denoted X, Y, and Z form the CIE XYZ color space.

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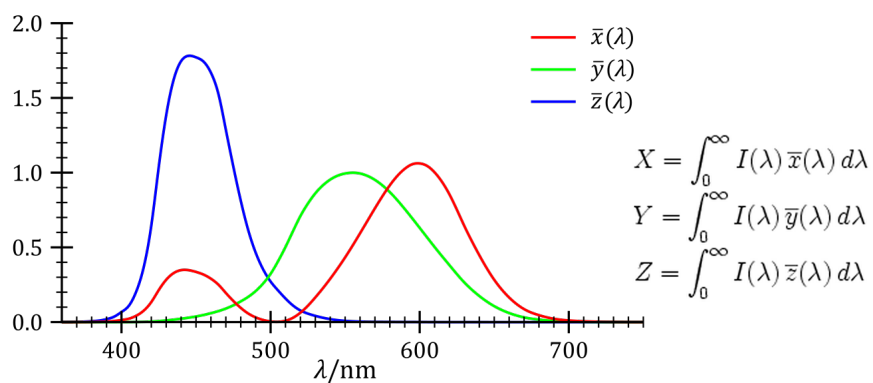
RGB Color Matching

- Subjects were asked to adjust the amount of red, green and blue on one patch that were needed to match a color on the second patch.
- Negative values mean adding the color to the given patch.
- The amounts of additive primary colors on the first patch needed to match a test color on the second patch are called **tristimulus values**.



XYZ Color Matching Function (CIE 1931)

- To remove the inconvenience of having to deal with negative values, CIE defined a new set of curves based on a new set of tristimulus values: X, Y and Z.





Color fundamentals

- The CIE XYZ color model
- The tristimulus values of X, Y and Z are linearly related to the R, G and B values as follows:

$$\begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.431 & 0.342 & 0.178 \\ 0.222 & 0.707 & 0.071 \\ 0.020 & 0.130 & 0.939 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3.063 & -1.393 & -0.476 \\ -0.969 & 1.876 & 0.042 \\ 0.068 & -0.229 & 1.069 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{bmatrix}$$

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Color fundamentals

- The CIE XYZ color model is designed such that Y corresponds to a measure of the *brightness* of a color.
- The *chromaticity* of a color is specified by two other parameters, x and y, known as chromaticity coordinates.
- Normalized tristimulus values: x, y and z.

$$x = \frac{X}{X + Y + Z}$$

$$y = \frac{Y}{X + Y + Z}$$

$$z = \frac{Z}{X + Y + Z}$$

$$x + y + z = 1$$

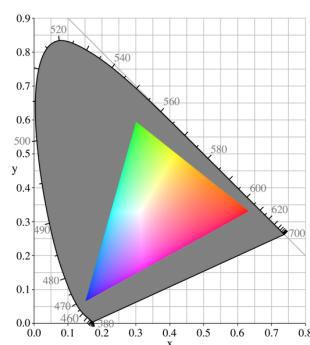
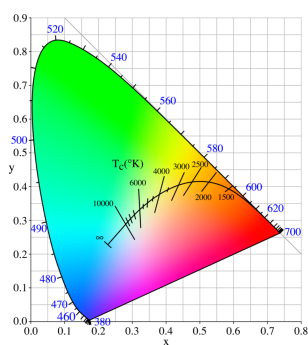
$$X = \frac{x}{y}Y$$

$$Z = \frac{1 - x - y}{y}Y$$



Chromaticity Gamut (CIE-XYZ Color Space) and Color Triangle

- Using the CIE XYZ to represent color gamut of different devices.
- **Color Gamut:** A range of colors that can be produced by a physical device.
- The greater the gamut, the better the device's color reproduction capabilities.



Color Spaces



Color models

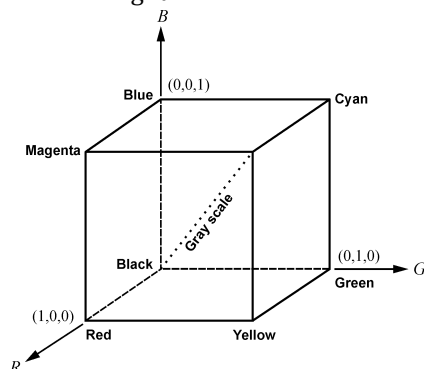
- A color model (also called color space or color system) is a specification of a coordinate system and a subspace within that system where each color is represented by a single point.
- Contemporary color models have evolved to specify colors for different purposes (e.g., photography, physical measurements of light, color mixtures, etc.).

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RGB color space

- A cartesian coordinate system whose axes represent the three primary colors of light (R, G, B).
- The eight vertices correspond to the three primary colors of light.



Color name	R	G	B
Black	0	0	0
Blue	0	0	1
Green	0	1	0
Cyan	0	1	1
Red	1	0	0
Magenta	1	0	1
Yellow	1	1	0
White	1	1	1



The CMY(K) color model(s)

- The CMY model is based on the three primary colors of pigments (*Cyan, Magenta and Yellow*).
 - Used for color printers, where each primary color usually correspond to an ink (or toner) cartridge.
 - The conversion from RGB to CMY is straightforward:

$$\begin{bmatrix} C \\ M \\ Y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \end{bmatrix}$$



HSV color space

- Human perception of light is best described in terms of hue, saturation, and lightness.
 - Hue describes the color type, or tone, of the color.
 - Saturation provides a measure of purity (or how much it has been diluted in white).
 - Lightness refers to the intensity of light reflected from objects.
- For representing colors in a way closer to human perception, a family of color models have been proposed.
- These color models separate the dimension of **intensity** (also called as **brightness** or **value**) from **chromaticity** (expressed as a combination of hue and saturation) of a color.

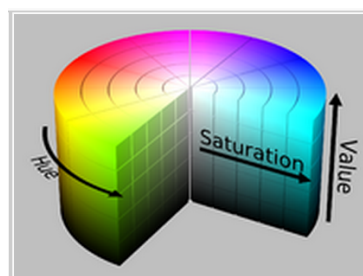
HSV Color Space

- HSV color model can be obtained by looking at the RGB color cube along its main diagonal (or gray axis), which results in a hexagonal shaped color palette.
- As we move along the main axis, the hexagon gets smaller, corresponding to decreasing values of V , from 1 (white) to 0 (black).
- Hue is specified as an angle relative to the red axis.
- Saturation is the distance to the axis: the longer the distance, the more saturated the color.

HSV color space

- An alternative representation of the HSV color model is the cylinder.
- Another representation: a cone with a circular base.
- Advantages of HSV color model:
 - Matches the human way of describing colors.
 - Allows for independent control over hue, saturation, and intensity.
 - The isolation of intensity from the other two (chromaticity components) is a requirement of many color image processing algorithms.
- Disadvantages of HSV model:
 - Discontinuity of numeric values around red.
 - Computationally expensive conversion to/from RGB.
 - Hue is undefined for saturation 0.

● ● ● | HSV Color Space



HSV cylinder

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● ● ● | YIQ (NTSC) color space

- Used in American standard for analog color TV.
- Ability to separate grayscale contents from color data.
 - Color TV transmission needed to be backward compatible with black and white predecessors.
 - Y: luminance
 - I: orange-blue
 - Q: purple-green



$$\begin{bmatrix} Y \\ I \\ Q \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.299 & 0.587 & 0.114 \\ 0.596 & -0.274 & -0.322 \\ 0.211 & -0.523 & 0.312 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \end{bmatrix}$$

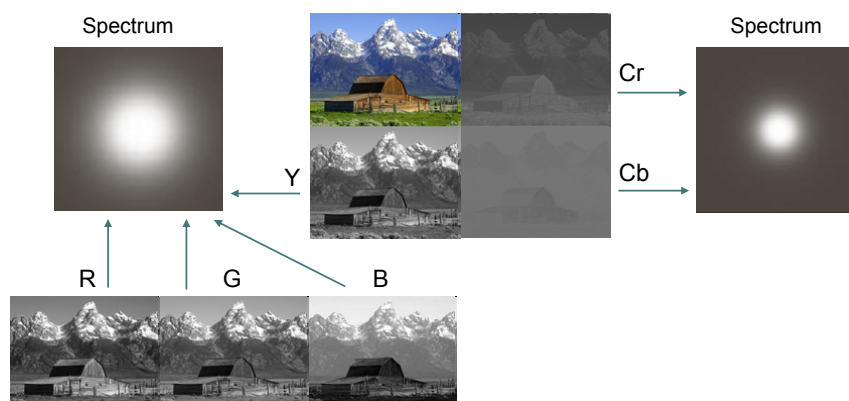
YUV Color Space

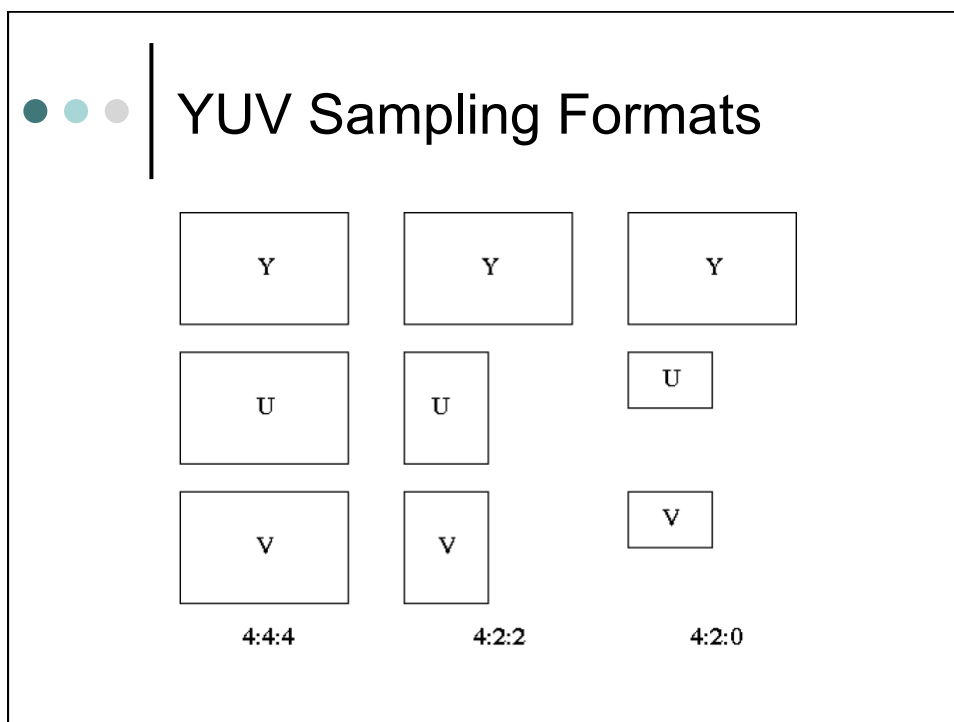
- Similar to YIQ. Most popular color representation for digital video.

$$\begin{bmatrix} Y' \\ U \\ V \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.299 & 0.587 & 0.114 \\ -0.14713 & -0.28886 & 0.436 \\ 0.615 & -0.51499 & -0.10001 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \end{bmatrix}$$


$$\begin{bmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1.13983 \\ 1 & -0.39465 & -0.58060 \\ 1 & 2.03211 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} Y' \\ U \\ V \end{bmatrix}$$

Smaller Bandwidth Enables More Compression






- ## Color Representation Models Summary
- Specify the tristimulus values associated with the three primary colors
 - RGB
 - CMY
 - Specify the luminance and chrominance values
 - HSV (Hue, saturation, value)
 - YUV (used in digital color TV)



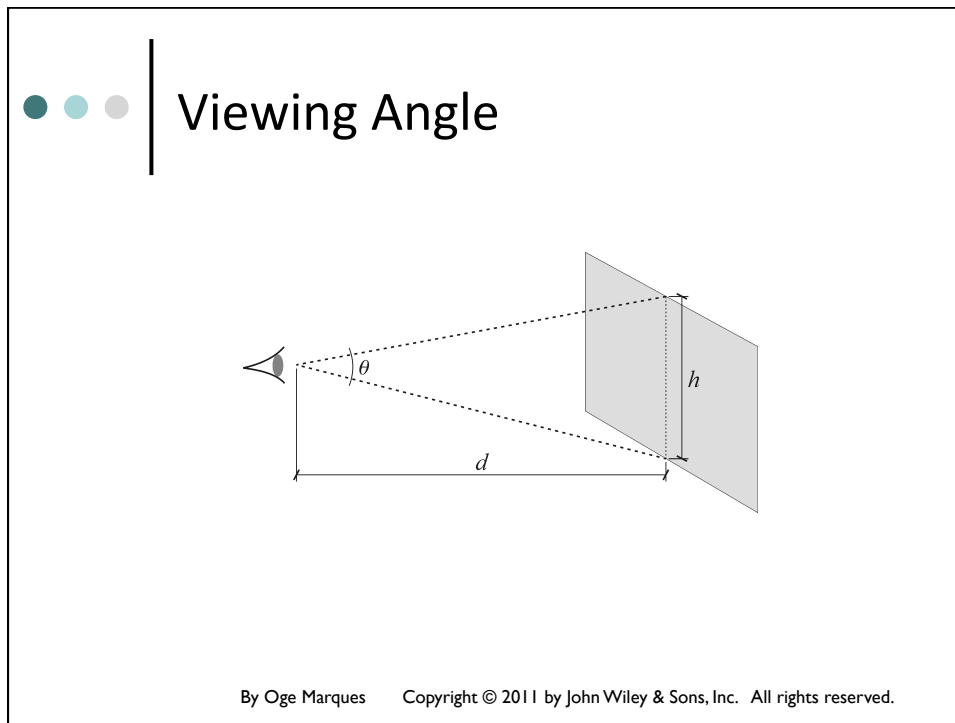
Spatial Frequency & HVS

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Resolution

- The ability to separate two adjacent pixels, that is, resolve the details in test grating.
- This ability depends on several factors such as:
 - Picture (monitor) height (h)
 - Viewer's distance from monitor (d)
 - The viewing angle (θ)



● ● ● | Spatial Frequency

- Spatial Frequency: measure of the number of changes in image intensity for a certain test grating.
- Spatial frequency can be completely characterized by:
 - f_x : Horizontal frequency (cycles / horizontal unit distance)
 - f_y : Vertical frequency (cycles / vertical unit distance)
 - Horizontal and vertical frequency can be combined and expressed in terms of magnitude and angle:

$$f_m = \sqrt{(f_x^2 + f_y^2)}$$

$$\theta = \arctan\left(\frac{f_y}{f_x}\right)$$



Spatial Frequency

- Sinusoidal gratings commonly used for measures of resolution



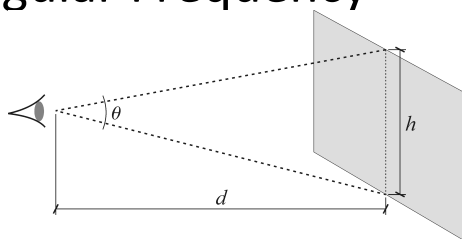
$$(f_x, f_y) = (0, 4)$$



$$(f_x, f_y) = (7, 4.5)$$



Angular Frequency



- The previous definition does not take into account the viewing distance.
- More useful measure is the angular frequency, expressed in cycles per degree:

$$\theta = 2 \arctan\left(\frac{h}{2d}\right) \approx \frac{h}{2d} (\text{radian}) = \frac{180h}{\pi d} (\text{deg.})$$

$$f_\theta = \frac{f_s}{\theta} = \frac{\pi d}{180h} f_s (\text{cpd})$$



Angular Frequency

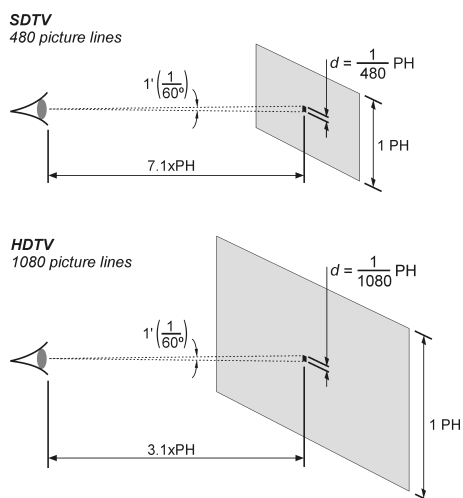
$$\theta = 2 \arctan\left(\frac{h}{2d}\right) \approx \frac{h}{2d} (\text{radian}) = \frac{180h}{\pi d} (\text{deg.})$$

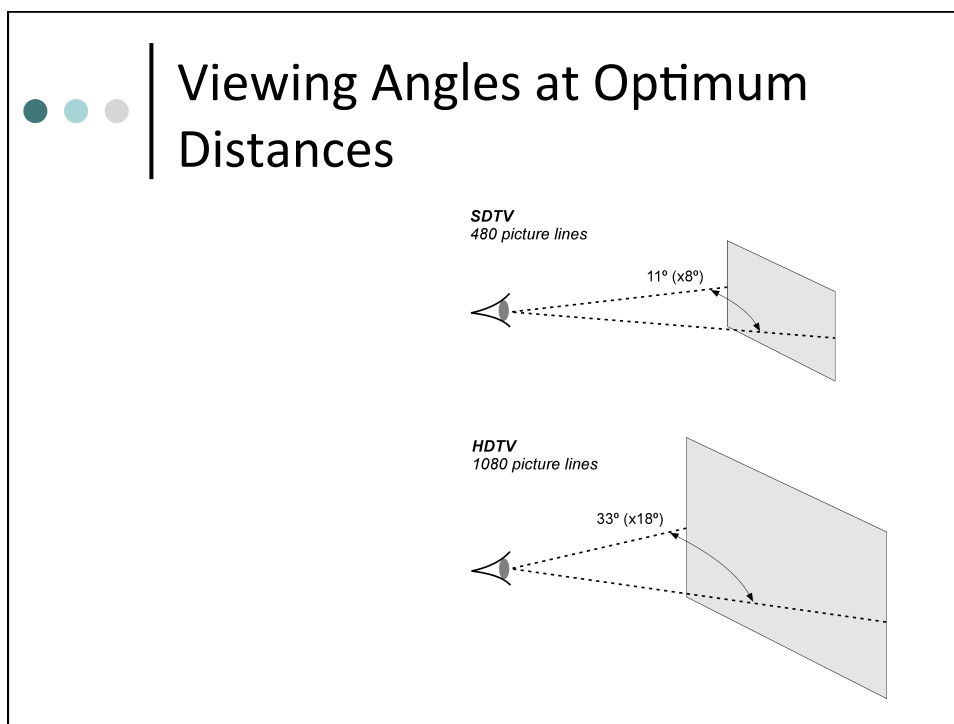
$$f_{\theta} = \frac{f_s}{\theta} = \frac{\pi d}{180h} f_s (\text{cpd})$$

- For the same picture and picture height (h), angular frequency increases with distance.
- For fixed viewing distance (d), larger displays give less angular frequency.
- Optimum viewing distances for.
 - SDTV = 7.1 x PH (picture height)
 - HDTV = 3.1 x PH



Viewing Distance





Project 1.4
YUV Color Space
Due 24.10.2013

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RGB vs. YUV

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Project 1.4

1. Select an arbitrary color image.
2. Extract and display individual R, G, B bands.
3. Extract and display individual Y, U, V bands.
4. Keep Y band as is; low-pass filter each of U and V bands by a factor of 4 in both horizontal and vertical directions, then combine all three bands, and display the resulting color image.
5. Keep U band as is; low-pass filter each of Y and V bands by a factor of 4 in both horizontal and vertical directions, then combine all three bands, and display the resulting color image.
6. Keep V band as is; low-pass filter each of Y and U bands by a factor of 4 in both horizontal and vertical directions, then combine all three bands, and display the resulting color image.
7. Compare the images obtained in Steps 4, 5 and 6 and comment on any differences.

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Next Lecture

- IMAGE TRANSFORMS

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