Computer Graphics

The Human Visual System (HVS)

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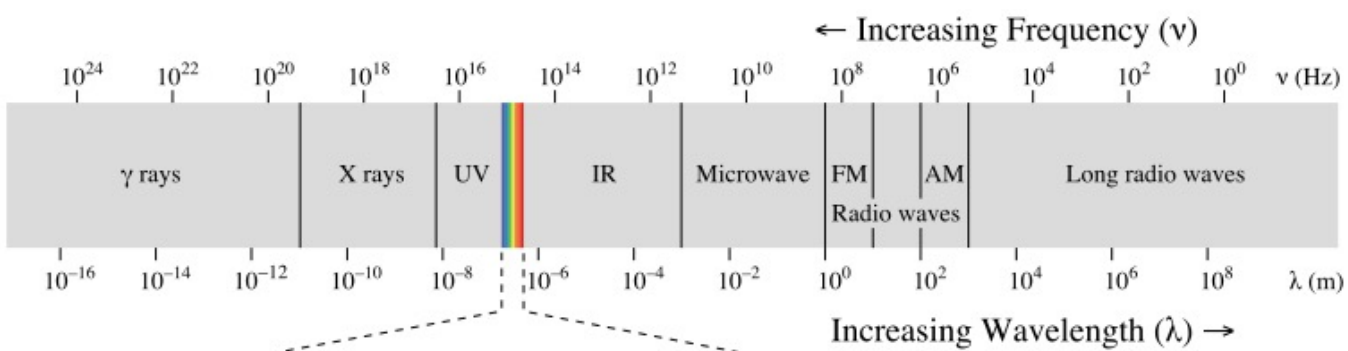
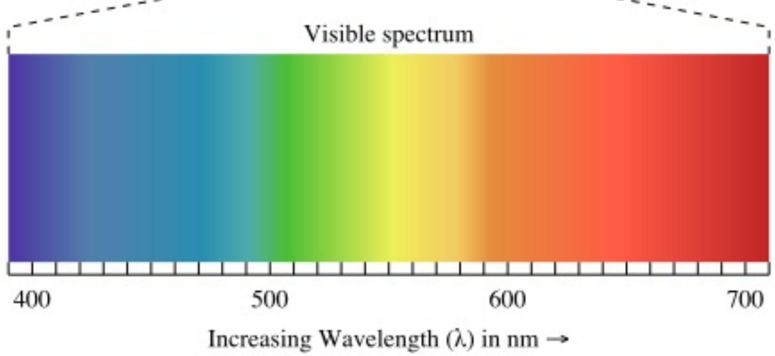
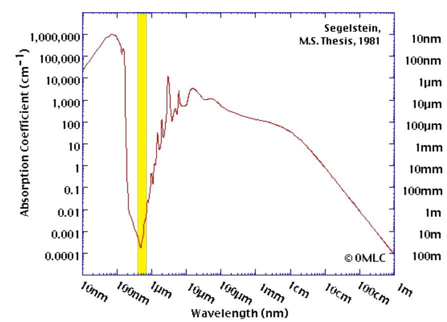
Light

- **Electromagnetic (EM) radiation**
  - From long radio waves to ultra short wavelength gamma rays
- **Visible spectrum: ~400 to 700 nm (all animals)**
  - Likely due to development of early eyes in water
    - Only very small window that lets EM radiation pass though







EM absorption in water

Plenoptic Function

- **Physical model for light**
  - Wave/particle-dualism
    - Electromagnetic radiation wave model
    - Photons: $E_{ph} = hv \rightarrow$ particle model & ray optics (h: Planck constant)
  - *Plenoptic function* defined at any point in space
    - $L = L(x, \omega, t, v, \gamma) \rightarrow$ 5 dimensional

Ignored parameters:

- No polarization
- No fluorescence
  - Decoupling of the spectrum
- No time dependence
  - Instant propagation with speed of light
  - No phosphorescence

Used parameters:

- Direction
- Location

Radiometric Units

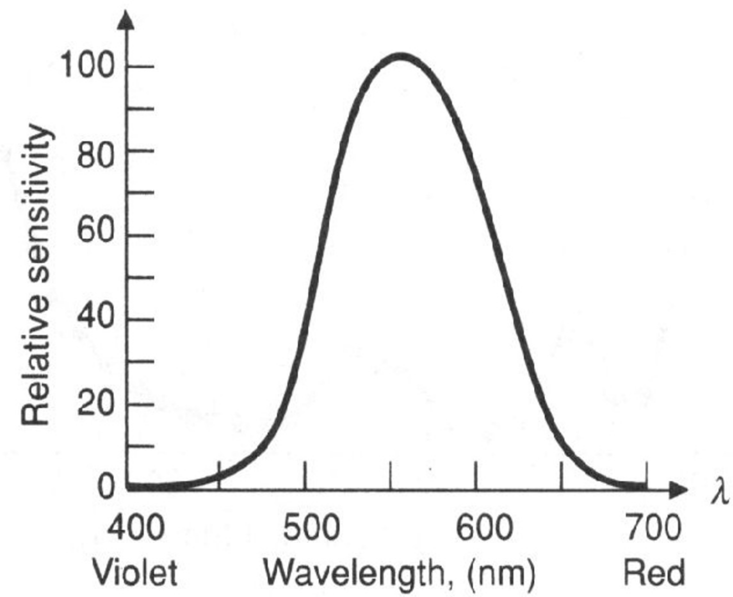
Specification	Definition	Symbol	Unit	Quantity
Energy		Q_e	[J = W ·s] (joule)	Radiant energy
Power, flux	dQ/dt	Φ_e	[W = J/s] (watt)	Radiant flux
Flux density	dQ/dAdt	E_e	[W/m^2]	Irradiance
Flux density	dQ/dAdt	B_e	[W/m^2]	Radiosity
Intensity	dQ/dωdt	I_e	[W/sr]	Radiant intensity
	dQ/dAdωdt	L_e	[$W/(m^2 \cdot sr)$]	Radiance

Photometry

- **Equivalent units to radiometry**
  - Weighted with luminous efficiency function V(λ)
  - Considers the spectral sensitivity of the human eye
    - Measured across different sets of humans
  - Spectral or (typically) “total” units
    - Integrate over the entire spectrum and deliver a single scalar value

$$\Phi_v = K_m \int V(\lambda) \Phi_e(\lambda) d\lambda$$

$$K_m = 680\, lm/W$$



Luminous efficiency function $V(\lambda)$

  - Simple distinction (in English!):
    - Names of radiometric quantities contain “radi”
    - Names of photometric quantities contain “lumi”

Photometric Units (total)

Specification	Definition	Symbol	Unit	Quantity
Energy		Q_v	[T = lm ·s] (talbot)	Luminous energy
Power, flux	dQ/dt	Φ_v	[lm = T/s] (lumen)	Luminous flux (e.g., emitted power of lamp)
Flux density	dQ/dAdt	E_v	[lx = lm/m^2] (lux)	Illuminance (e.g., illumination on desk)
Flux density	dQ/dAdt	B_v	[lx = lm/m^2] (lux)	Luminosity (e.g., reflection off desk)
Intensity	dQ/dωdt	I_v	[cd = lm/sr] (candela)	Luminous intensity (e.g., intensity of a point light)
	dQ/dAdωdt	L_v	[lm/(m^2 ·sr)] (nits)	Luminance (e.g., brightness of a monitor)

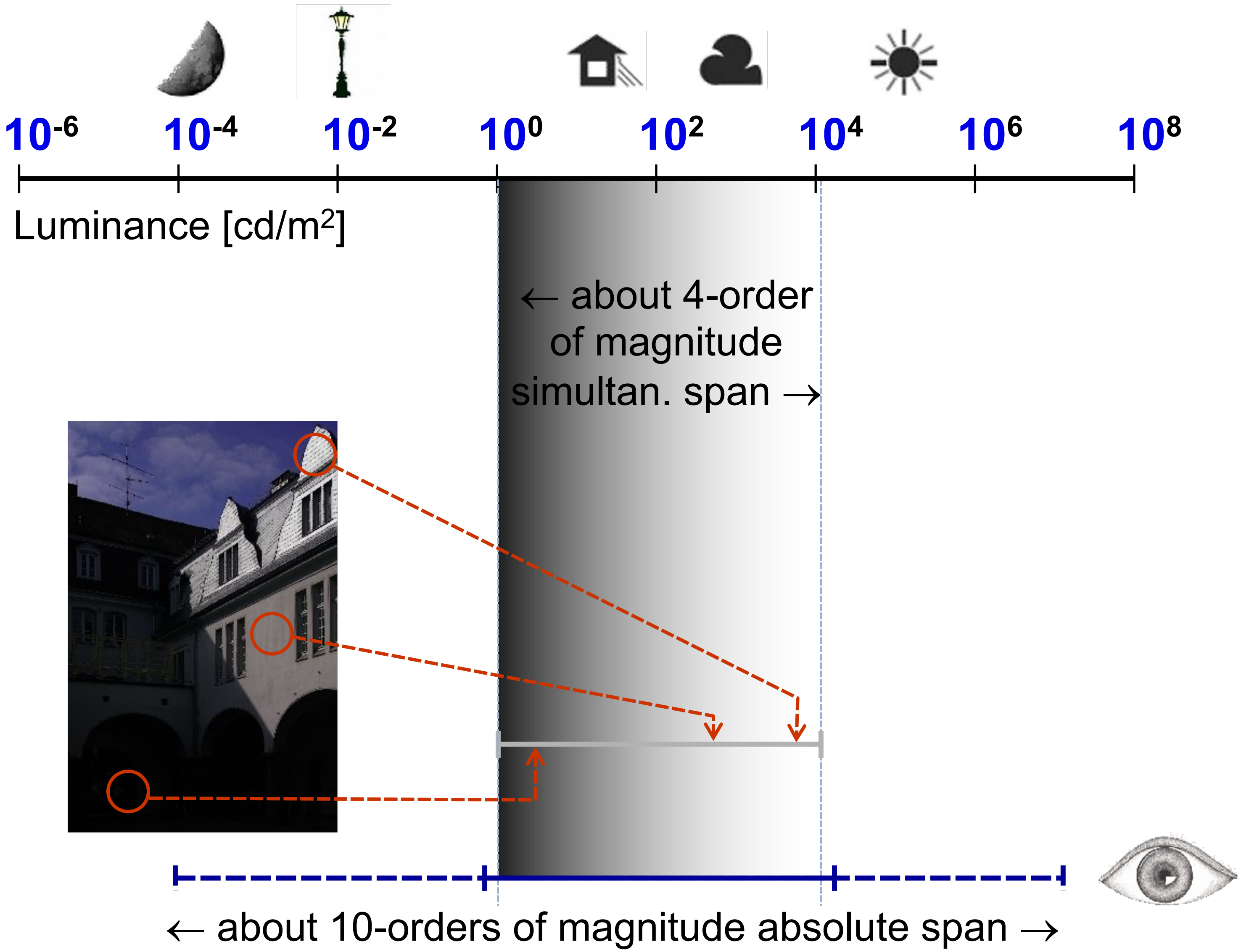
With luminous efficiency function weighted units

Illumination: Examples

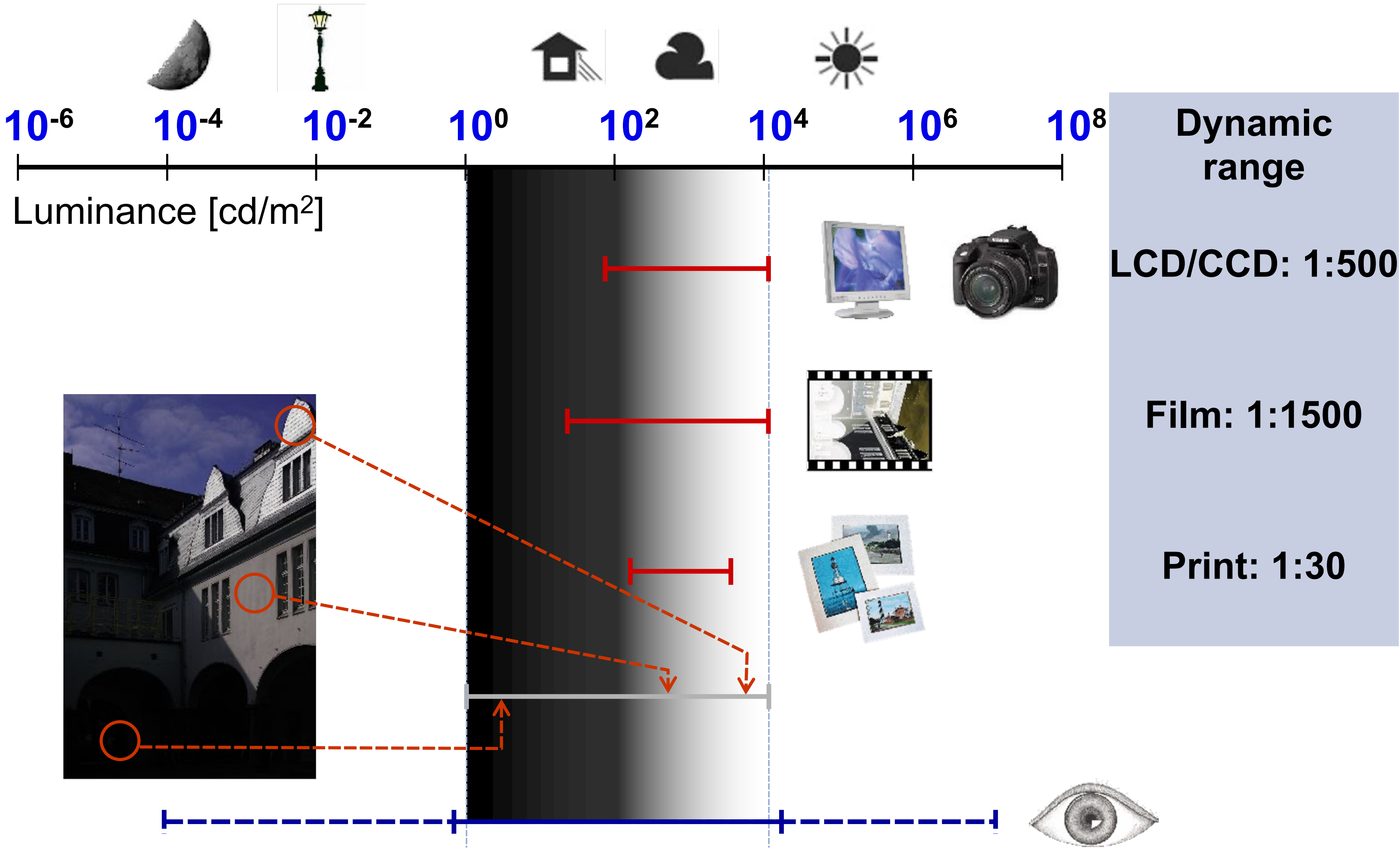
- **Typical illumination intensities**

Light source	**Illuminance [lux]**
Direct solar radiation	25,000 – 110,000
Day light	2,000 – 27,000
Sunset	1 – 108
Moon light	0.01 – 0.1
Starry night	0.0001 – 0.001
TV studio	5,000 – 10,000
Shop lighting	1,000 – 5,500
Office lighting	200 – 550
Home lighting	50 – 220
Street lighting	0.1 – 20

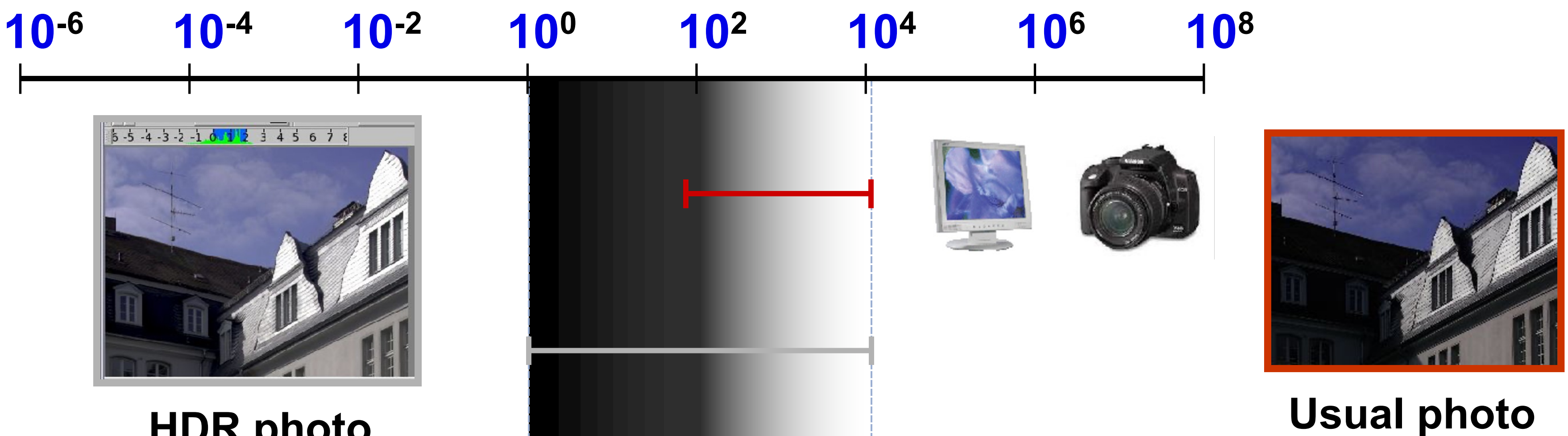
Luminance Range



Contrast (Dynamic Range)

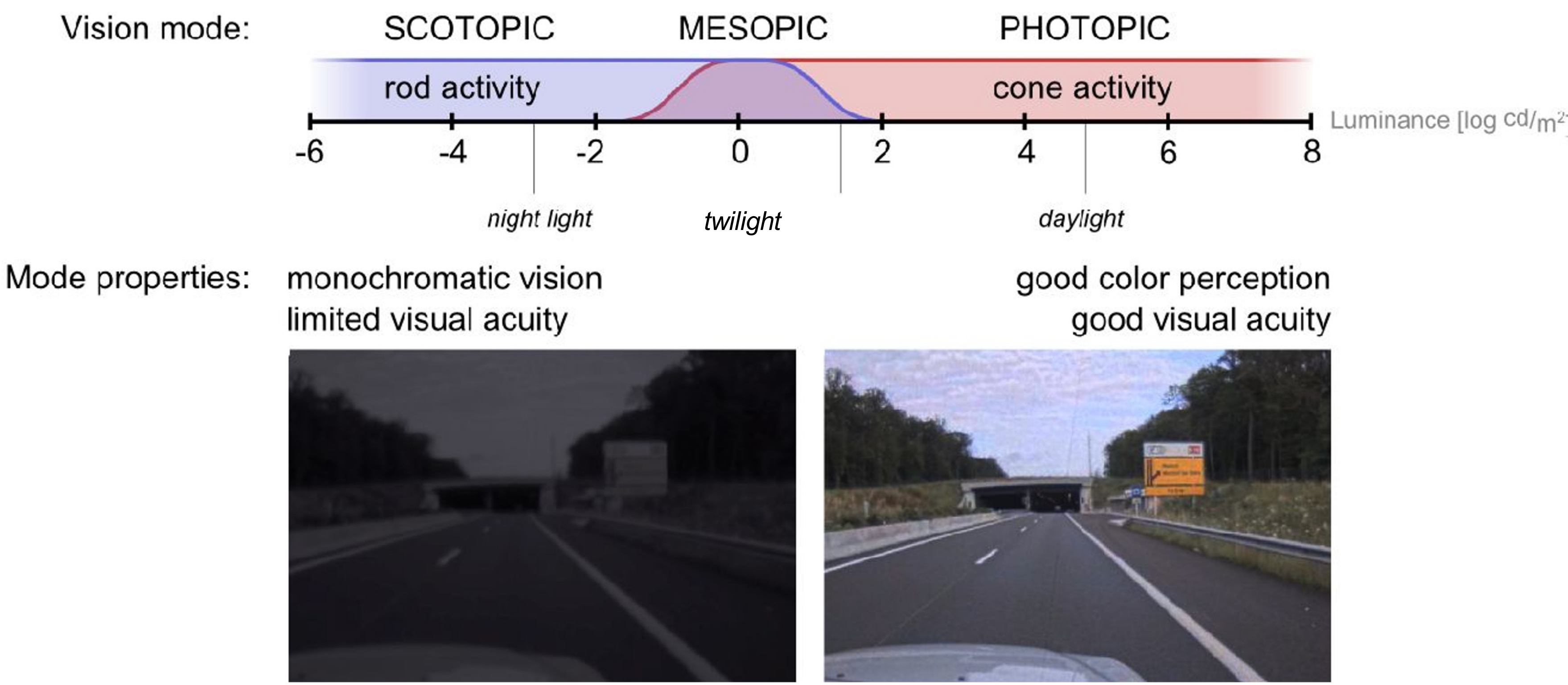


High Dynamic Range (HDR)



- **How to display computed/measured HDR values on an LDR device ?**
  - Tone mapping (→ RIS course)

Percept. Effects: Vision Modes

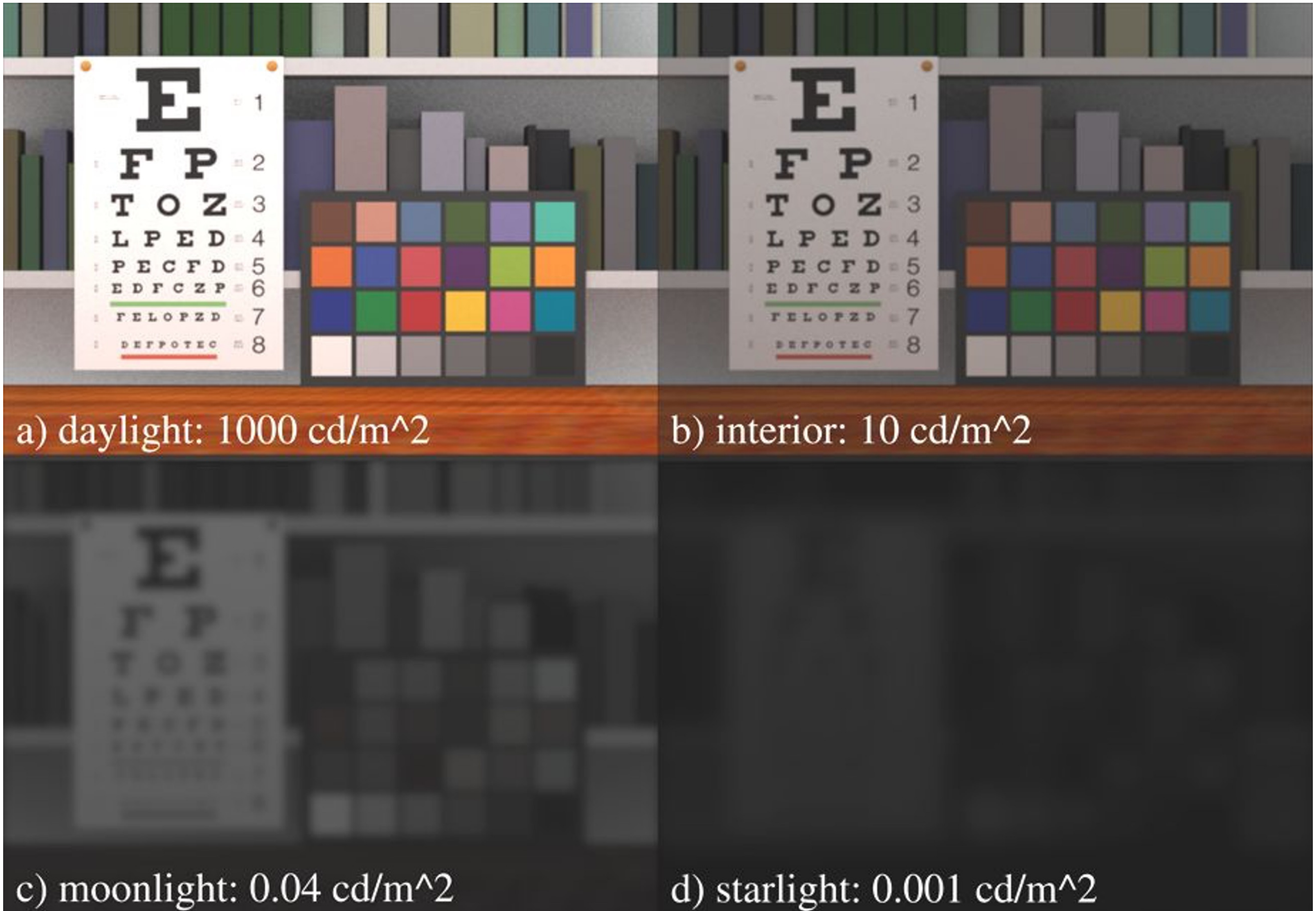


- **Simulation requires:**
  - Control over color reproduction
  - Local reduction of detail visibility (computationally expensive)

Visual Acuity and Color Perception

Photopic vision

Mesopic/photopic transition



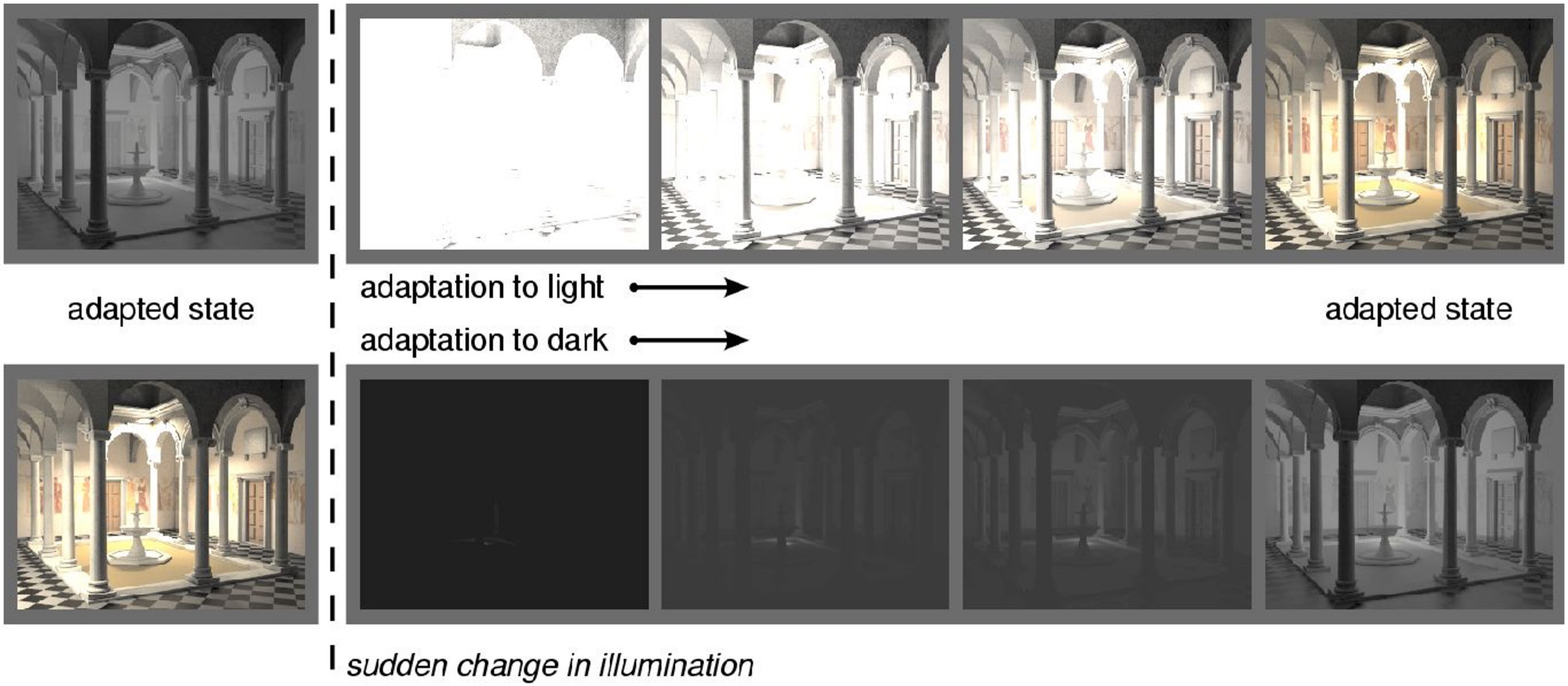
Scotopic/mesopic transition

Scotopic vision

Simulation, (c) Cornell

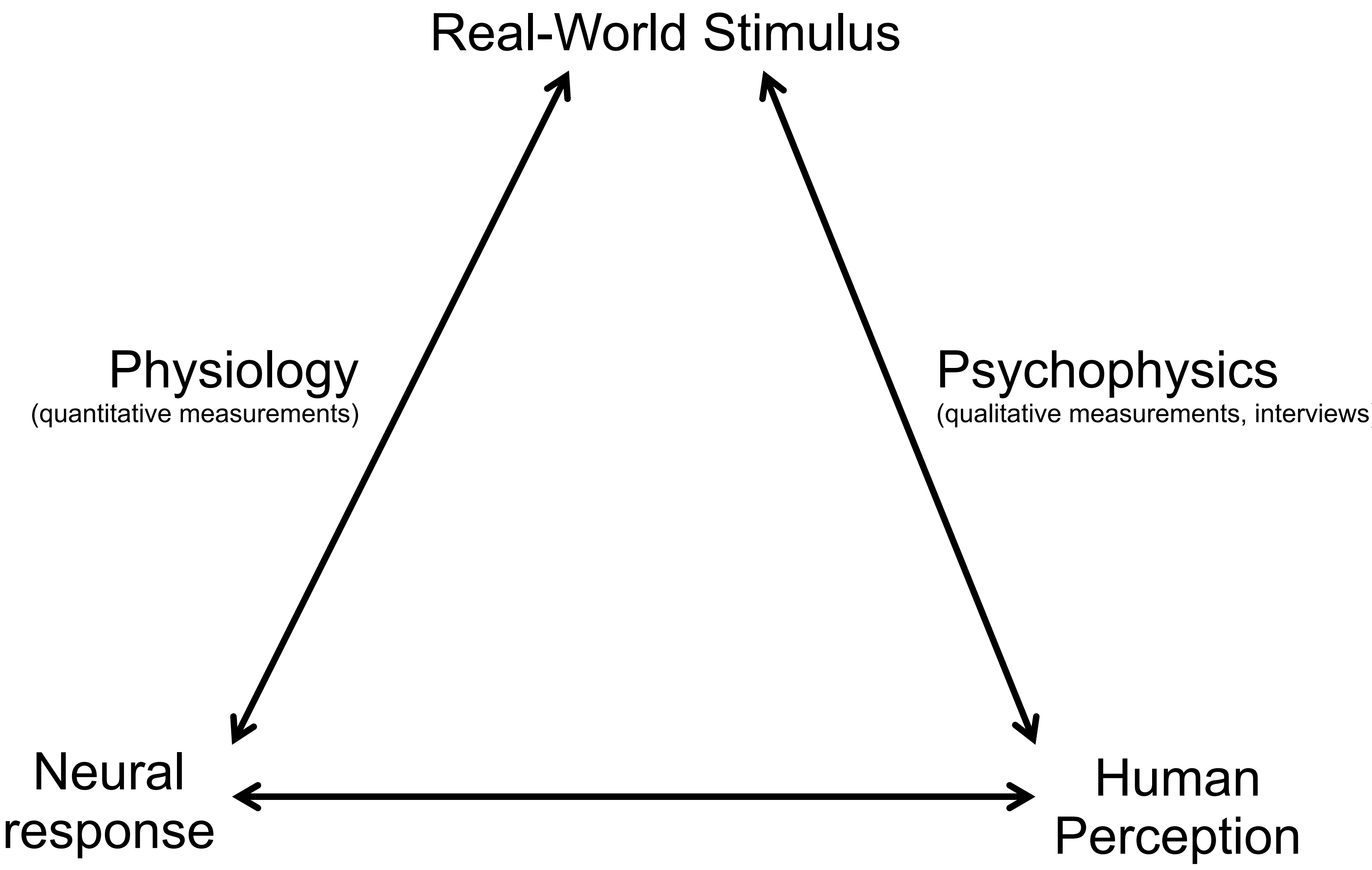
Percept. Effects: Temp. Adaptati.

- **Adaptation to dark much slower**



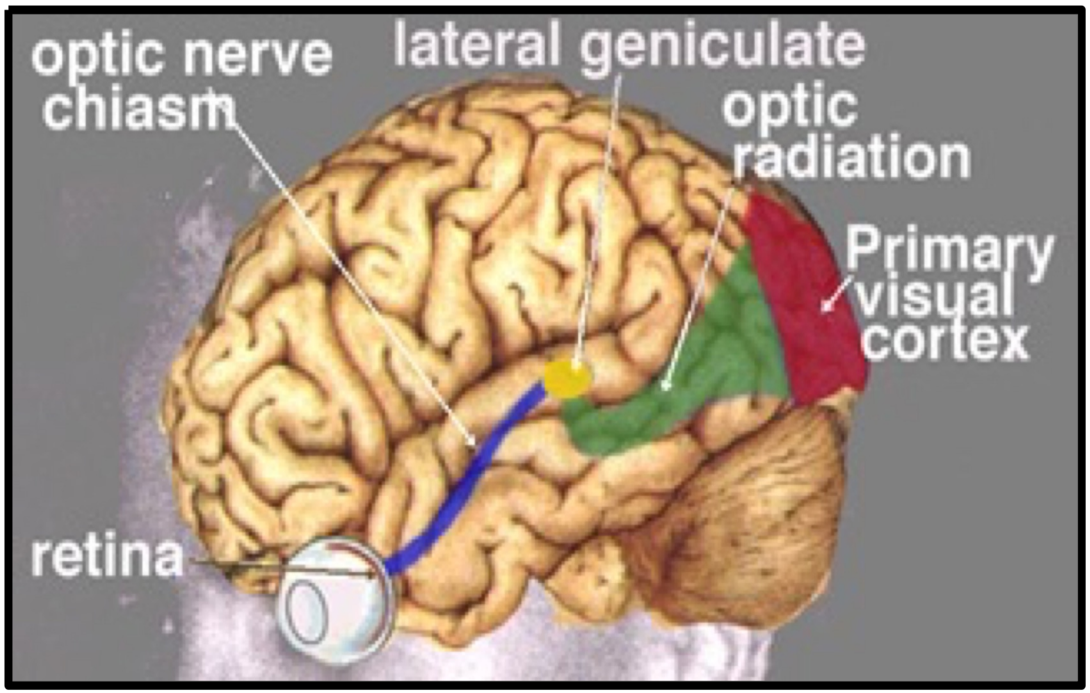
- **Simulation requires:**
  – Time-dependent filtering of light adaptation

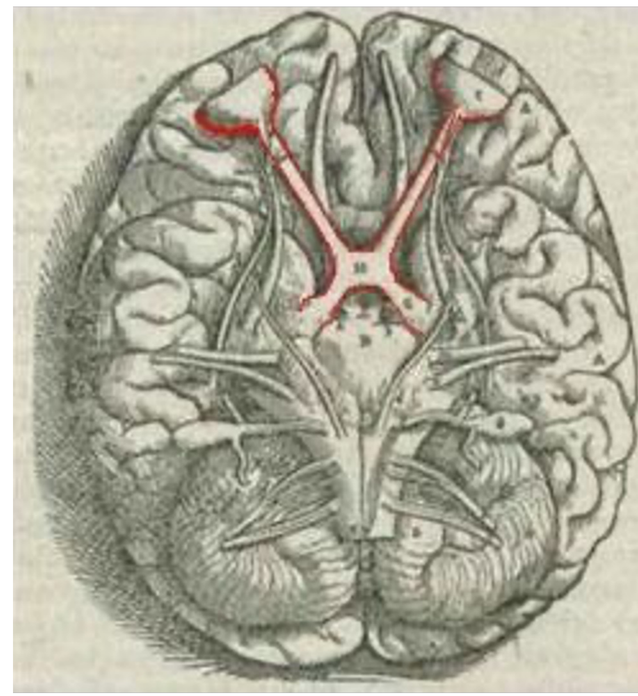
HVS - Relationships



Human Visual System

- **Physical structure well established**
- **Percept. behavior complex & less understood process**

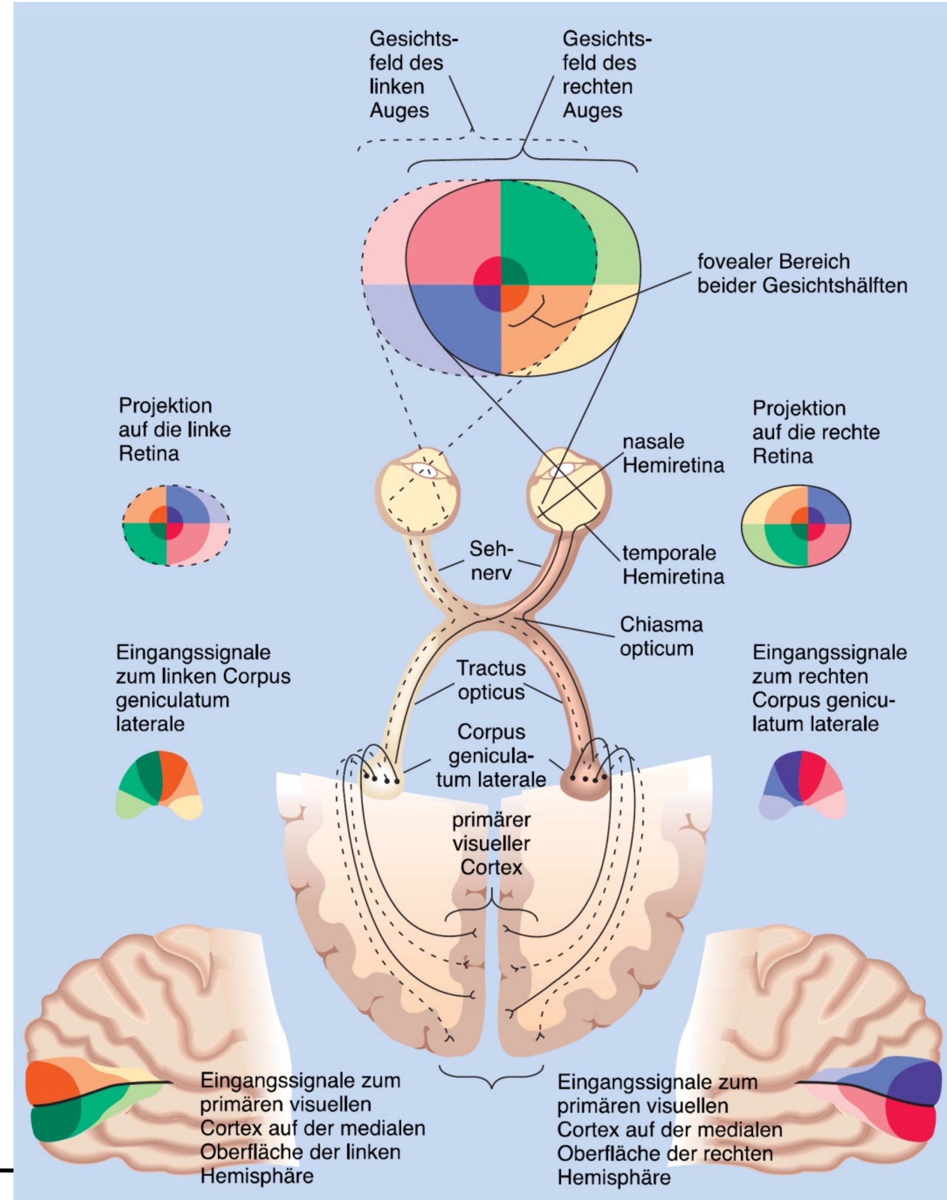




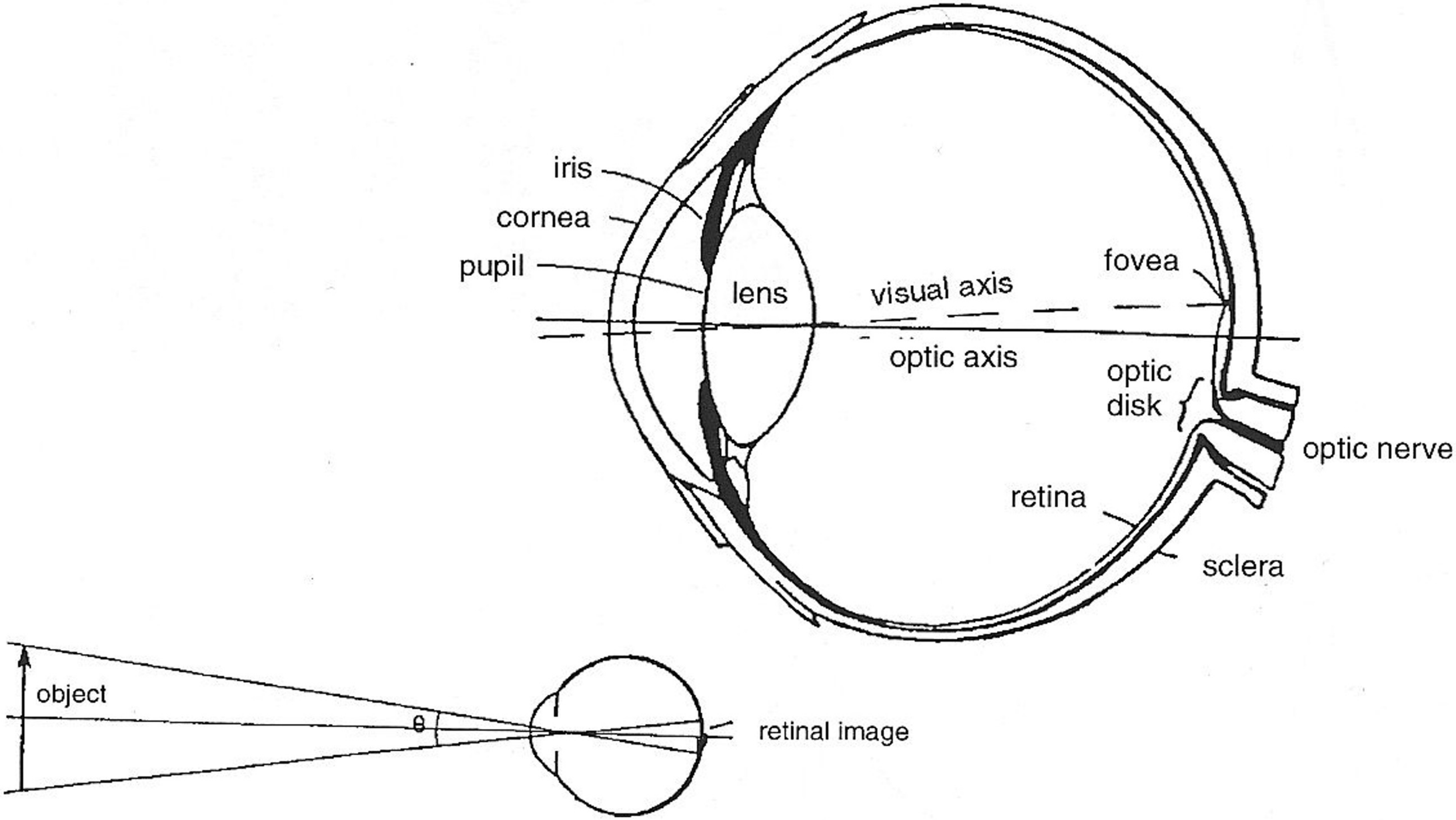
Optic chiasm

Optical Chiasm

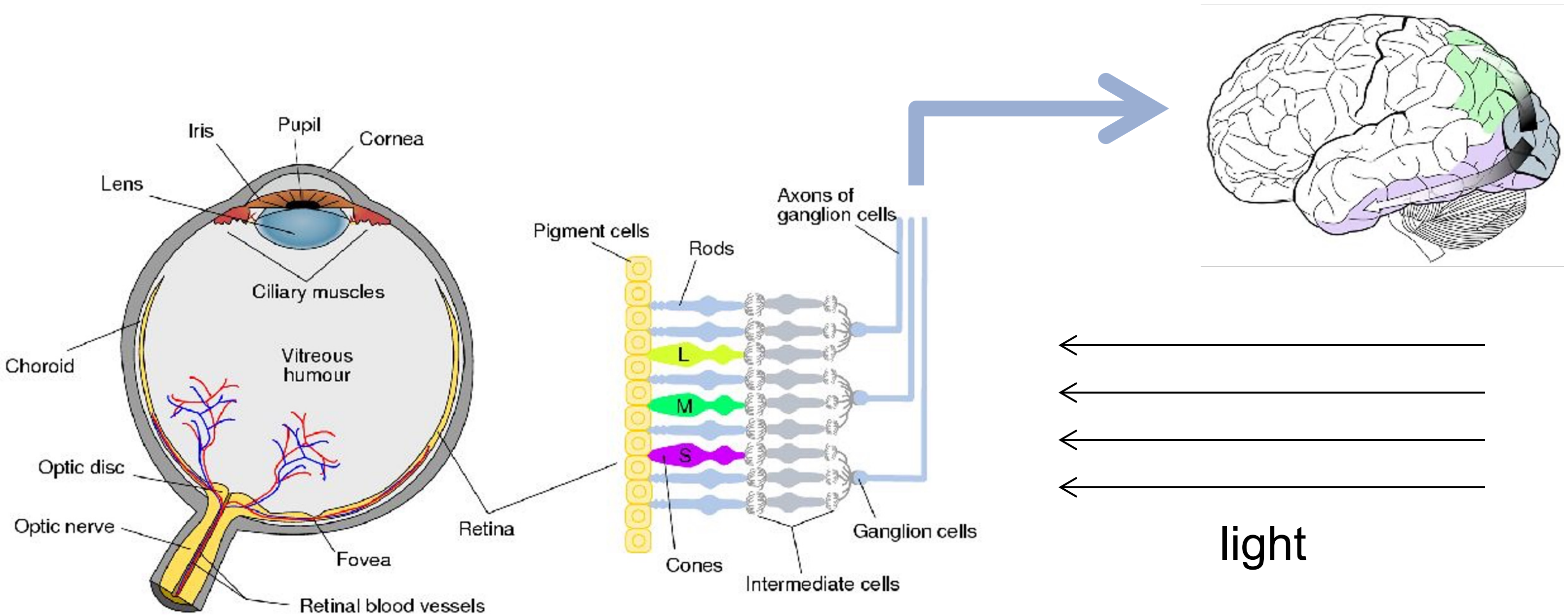
- **Right half of the brain operates on left half of the field of view**
  - From both eyes!!
- **And vice versa**
  - Damage to one half of the brain can results in loss of one half of the field of view



Perception and Eye



Human Visual Perception



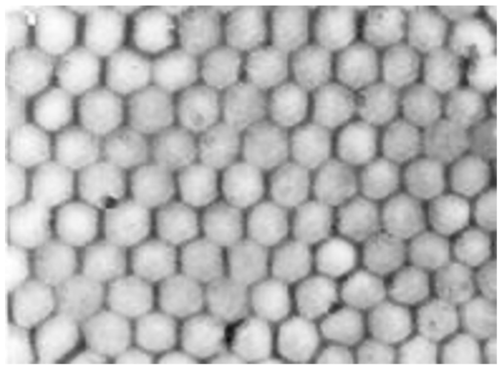
early vision (eyes)

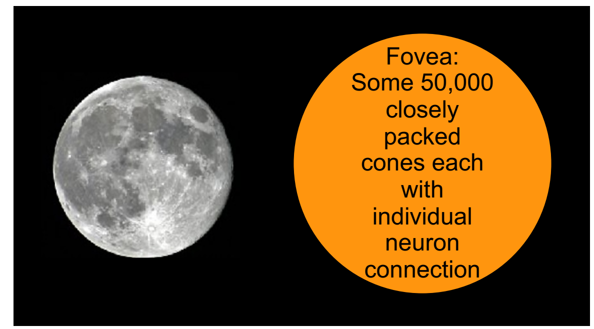
- **Determines how real-world scenes appear to us**
- **Understanding of visual perception is necessary to reproduce appearance, e.g., in tone mapping**

Distribution of Rods and Cones

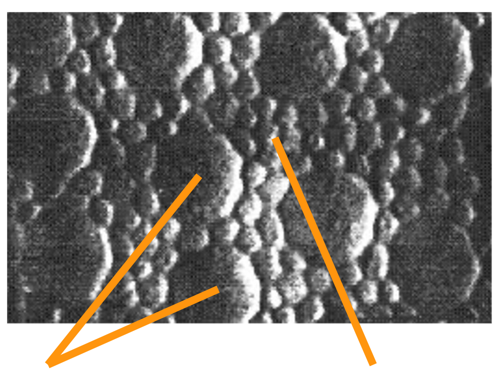
- **High-res. foveal region with highest cone density**
- **Poisson-disc-like distribution**

Cone mosaic in fovea which subtends small solid angle





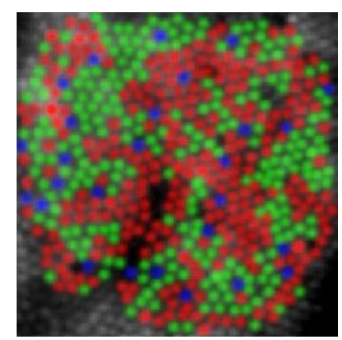
Cone mosaic in periphery with almost 180° field of view



Cones

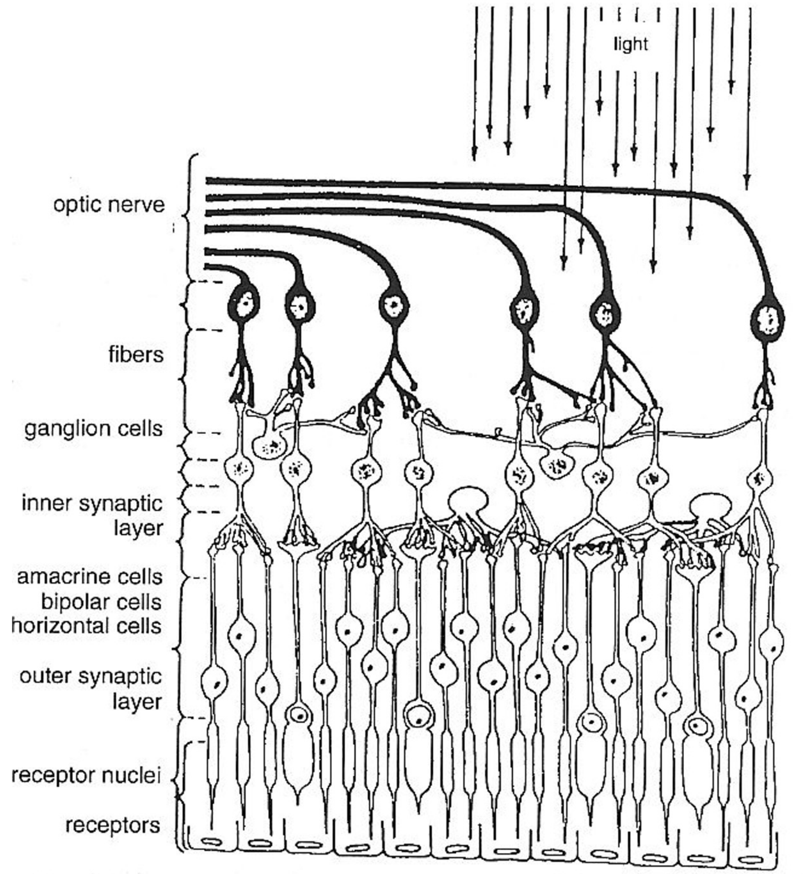
Rods

L-cones
~
M-cones
>>
S-cones



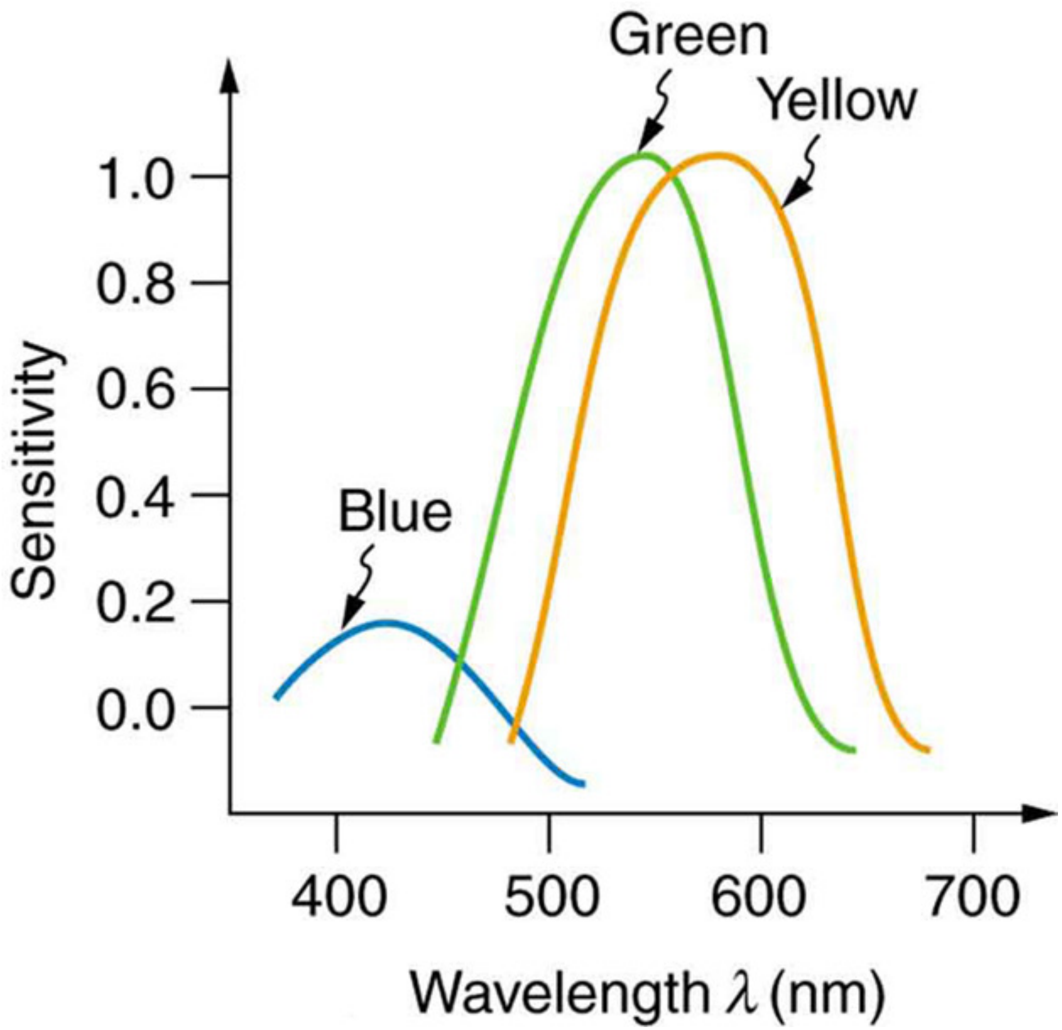
Retina

- **Receptors on opposite side of incoming light**
- **Early cellular processing between receptors & nerves**
  - Mainly for rods



Eye as a Sensor

- **Relative sensitivity of cones to photons**



Eye

- **Fovea (centralis):**
  - Ø 1-2 visual degrees
  - 50,000 cones each covering ~0.5 arcminutes angle (~2.5 µm wide)
  - No rods in central fovea, but three different cone types:
    - L(ong, 64%), M(edium, 32%), S(hort wavelength, 4%), varies individ.

    ⇒ Varying resolution: 10 arcminutes for S vs. 0.5 arcminutes for L & M
  - Mostly linked directly with optical nerves and visual cortex (1:1),
    - 1% of retina area but covers 50% of visual cortex in brain
  - Adaptation to light intensity only through cones
- **Periphery:**
  - 75-150 M. rods: night vision (B/W)
  - 5-7 M. cones (color)
  - Rods: Response to stimuli by even a single photon (@ 500 nm)
    - 100x better than cones, integrating over 100 ms
  - Signals from many rods are combined before linking with nerves
    - Bad resolution, high flicker sensitivity

This is a text in red

This is a text in green

This is a text in blue

This is a text in red

This is a text in green

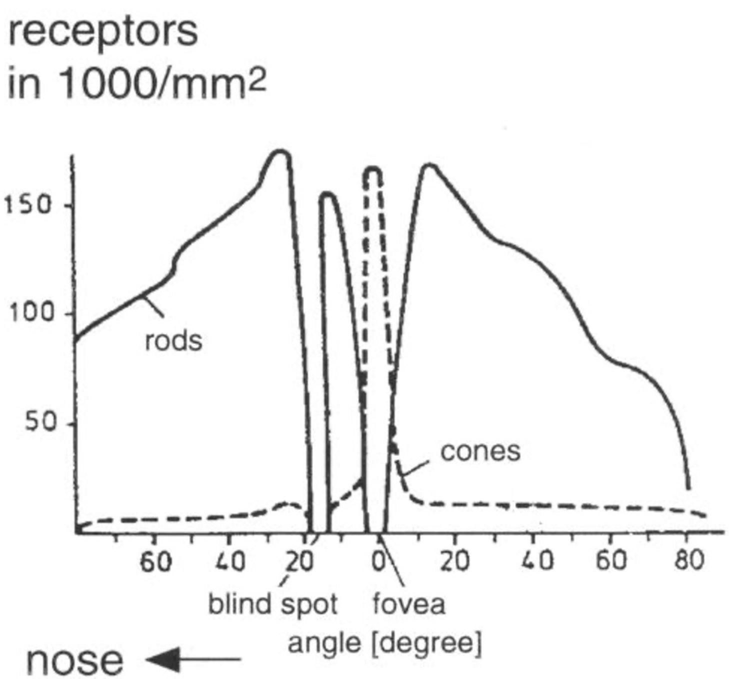
This is a text in blue

This is a text in red

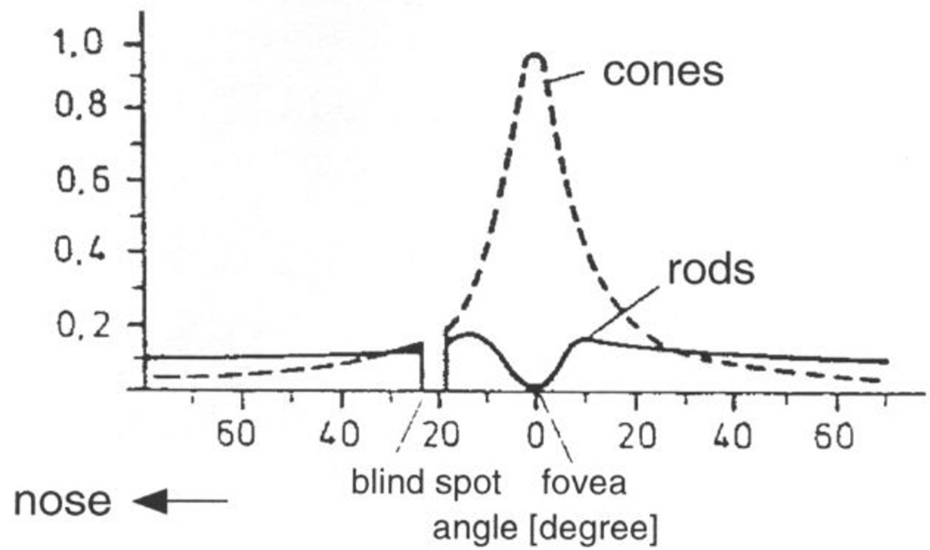
This is a text in green

This is a test in blue

Visual Acuity



Receptor density



Resolution in line-pairs/arcminute

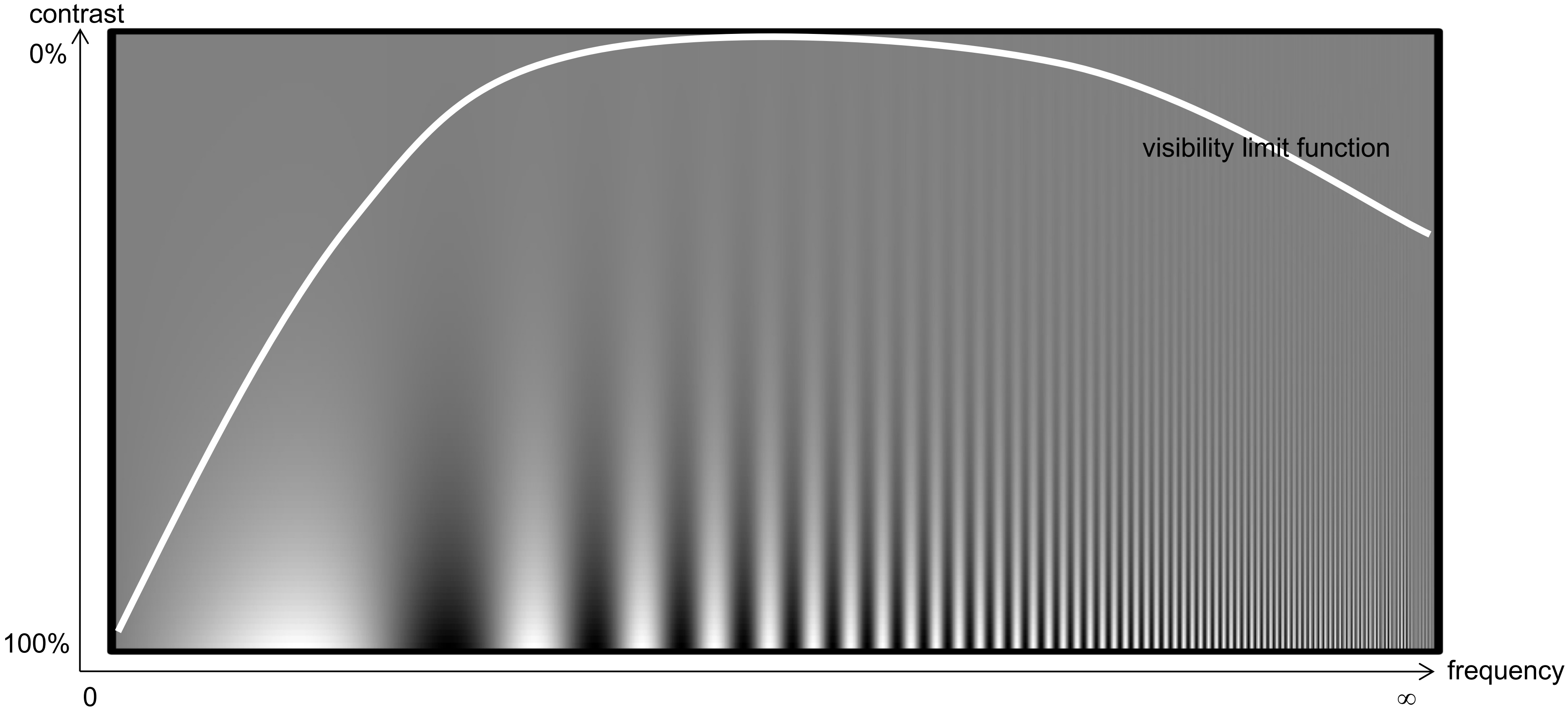
Resolution of the Eye

- **Resolution-experiments**
  - Line pairs: eye ~ 50-60 p./degree → resolution of 0.5 arcminutes
  - Line offset: 5 arcseconds (hyperacuity)

  - Eye micro-tremor: 60-100 Hz, 5 µm (2-3 photoreceptor spacing)
    - Allows to create super-resolution (w/ Poisson pattern)
  - Together corresponds to 19” display at 60 cm away from viewer: $3{,}000^2$ without hyperacuity – $18{,}000^2$ pixels with hyperacuity
- **Fixation of eye onto (moving) region of interest**
  - Automatic gaze tracking, autom. compensation of head movement
  - Apparent overall high resolution of fovea
- **Visual acuity increased by**
  - Brighter objects and high contrast

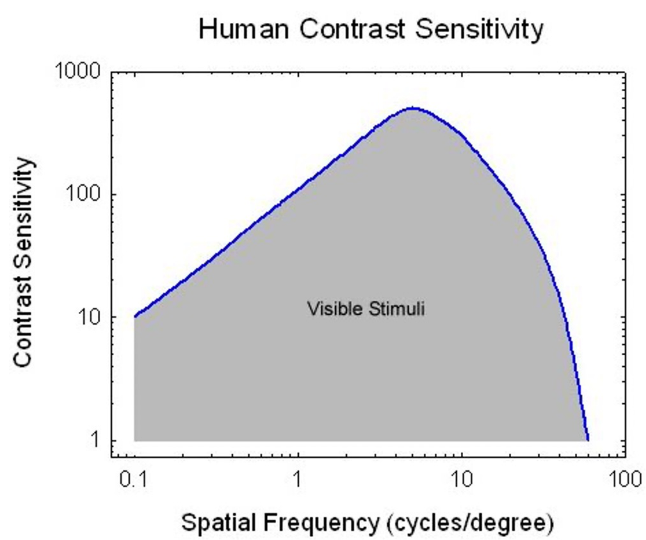
Contrast Sensitivity

- **Human visual system**
  - Perception very sensitive to regular structures
  - Insensitive against (high-frequency) noise
  - Campbell-Robson sinusoidal contrast sensitivity chart



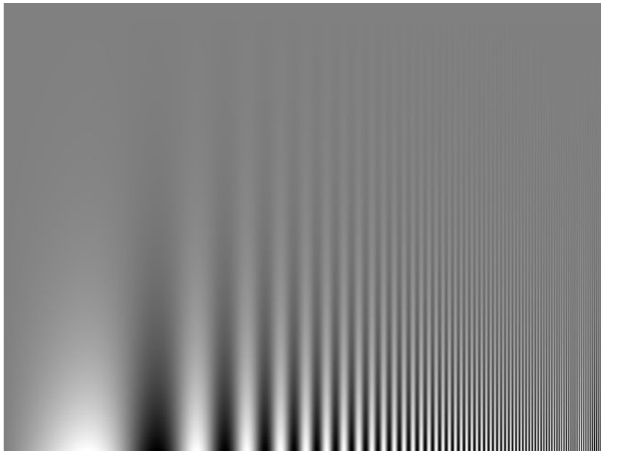
Luminance Contrast Sensitivity

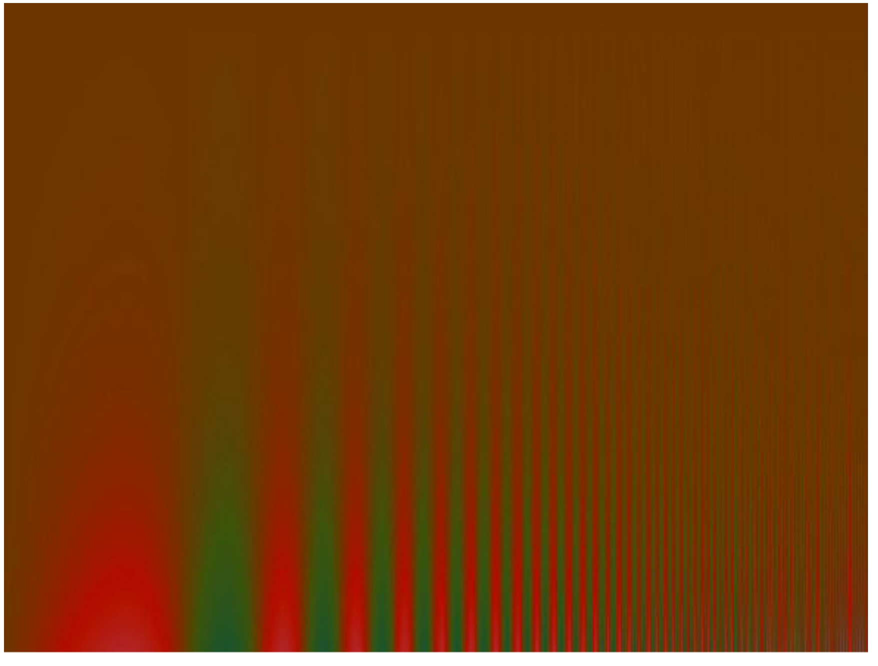
- **Sensitivity: inverse of perceptible contrast threshold**
- **Maximum acuity at 5 cycles/degree (0.2 %)**
  - Decrease toward low frequencies: lateral inhibition
  - Decrease toward high frequencies: sampling rate (Poisson disk)
  - Upper limit: 60 cycles/degree
- **Medical diagnosis**
  - Glaucoma (affects peripheral vision: low frequencies)
  - Multiple sclerosis (affects optical nerve: notches in contrast sensitivity)

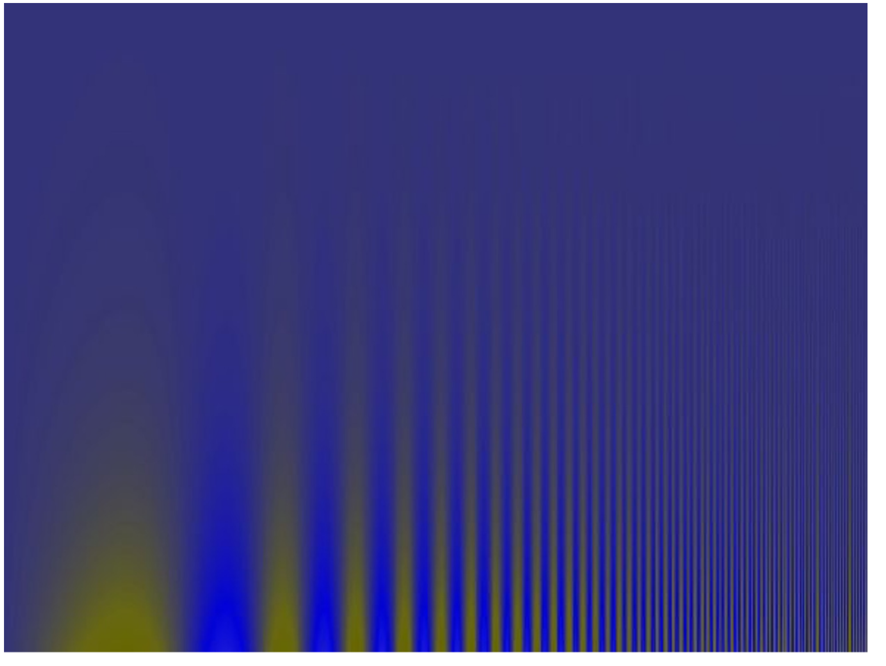


Color Contrast Sensitivity

- **Color vs. luminance vision system**
  - Similar but slightly different curves
  - Higher sensitivity at lower frequencies
  - High frequencies less visible
- **Image compression**
  - Exploit color sensitivity in lossy compr.

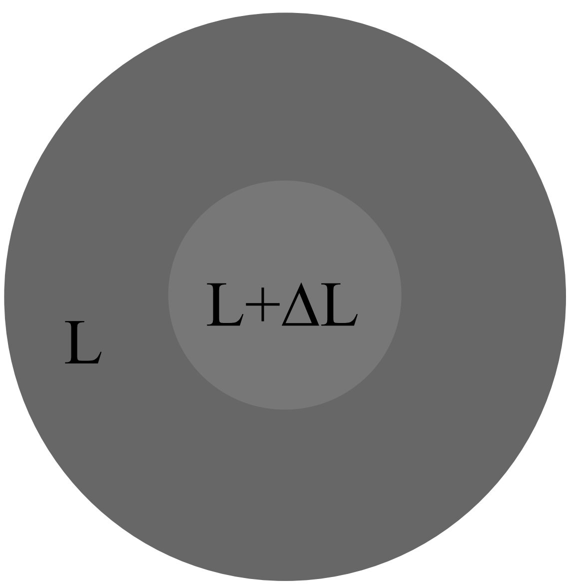


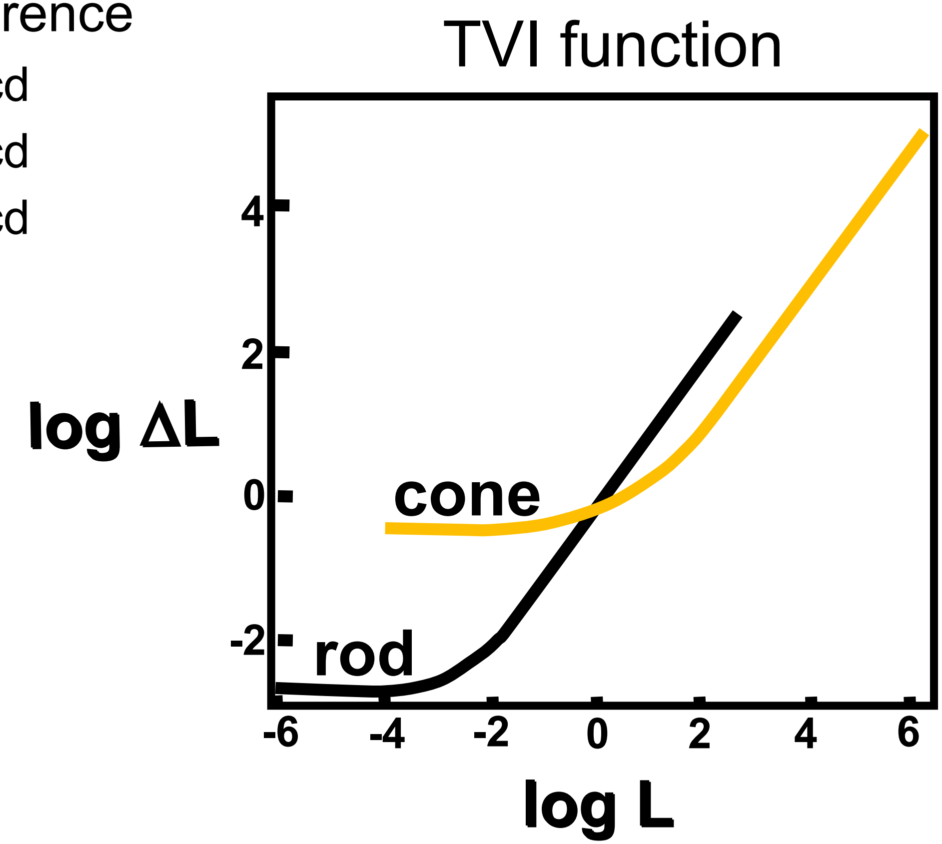




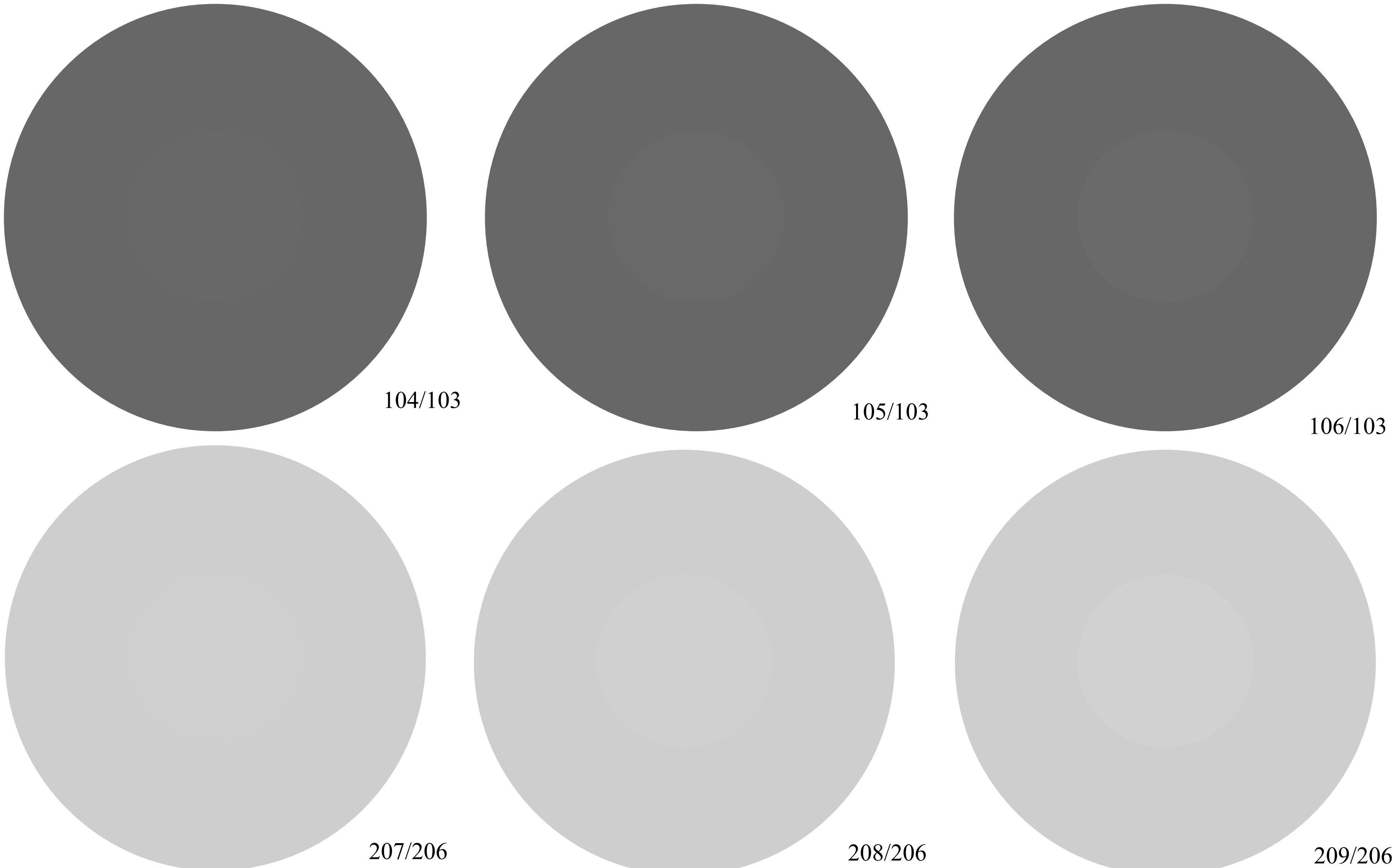
Threshold Sensitivity Function

- **Weber-Fechner law (Threshold Versus Intensity, TVI)**
  - Perceived brightness varies linearly with log(radiant intensity)
    - $E = K + c \log I$
  - Perceivable intensity difference
    - 10 cd vs. 12 cd: ΔL = 2 cd
    - 20 cd vs. 24 cd: ΔL = 4 cd
    - 30 cd vs. 36 cd: ΔL = 6 cd



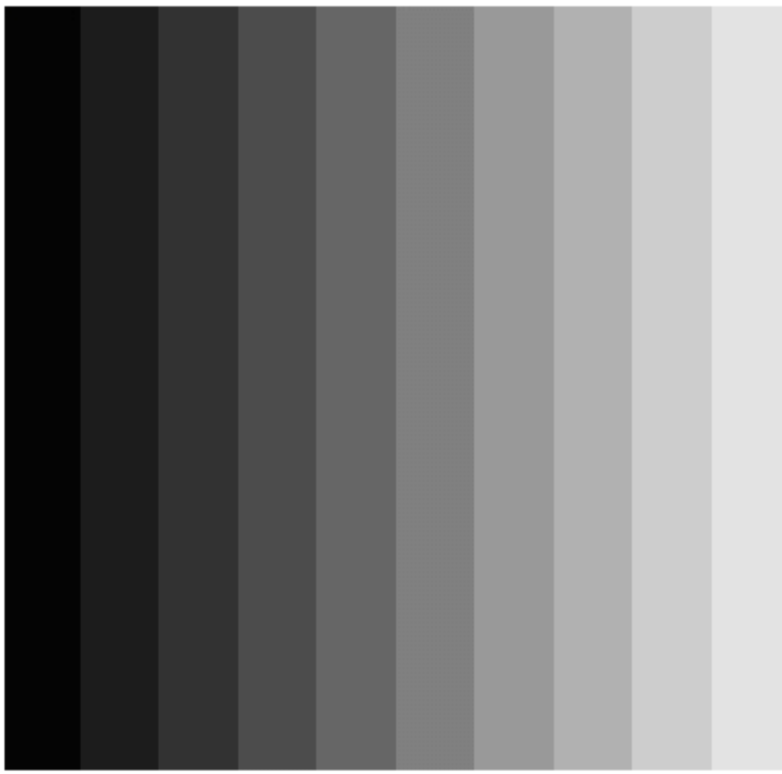


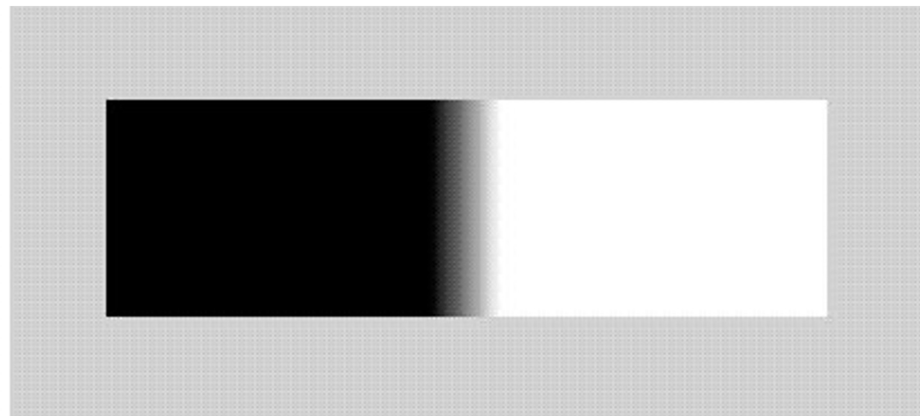
Weber-Fechner Examples

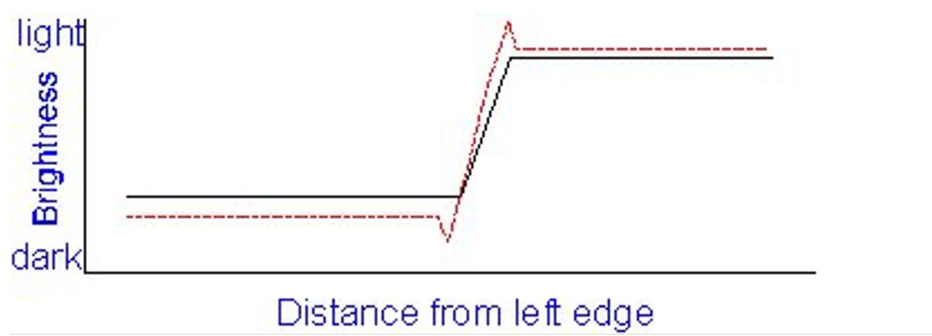


Mach Bands

- **“Overshooting” along edges**
  - Extra-bright rims on left sides
  - Extra-dark rims on right sides
- **Due to “lateral inhibition”**







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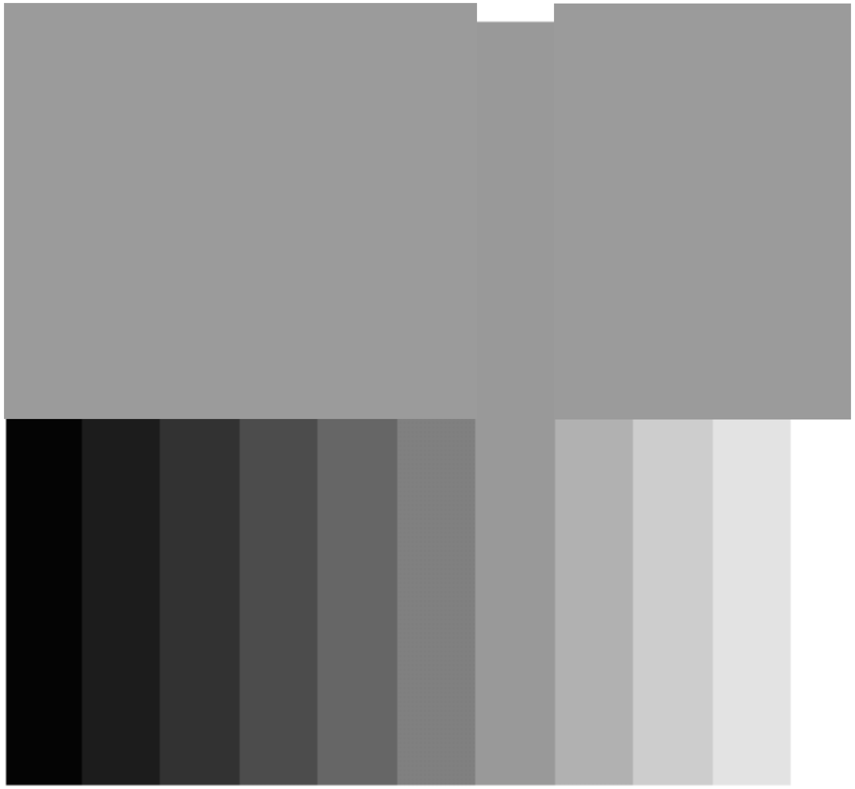
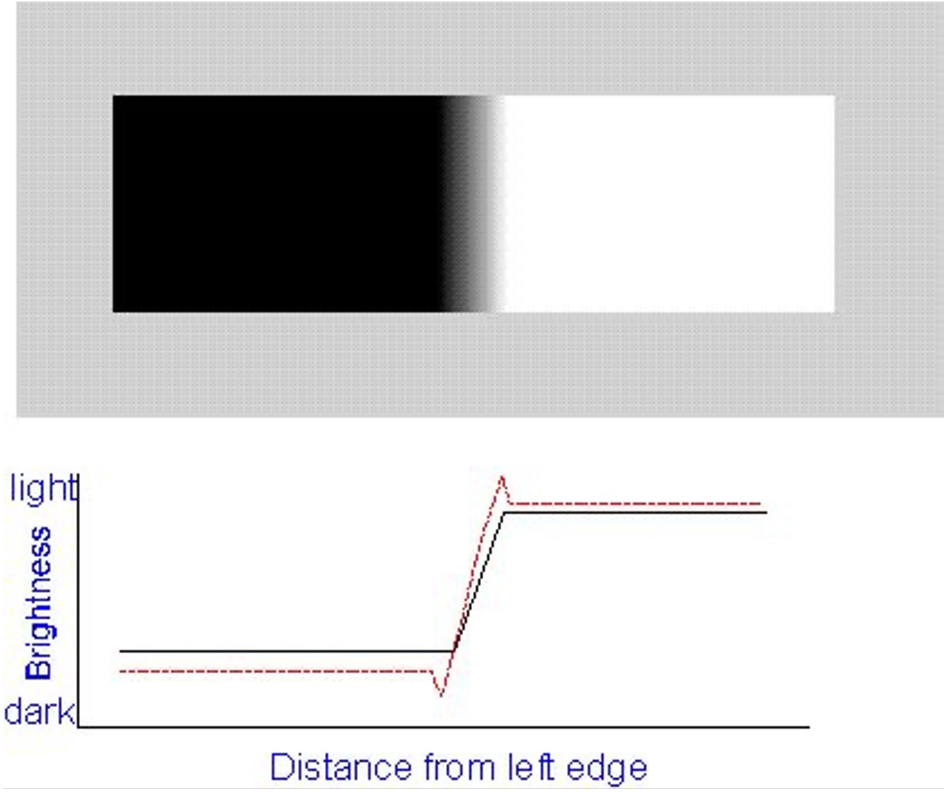
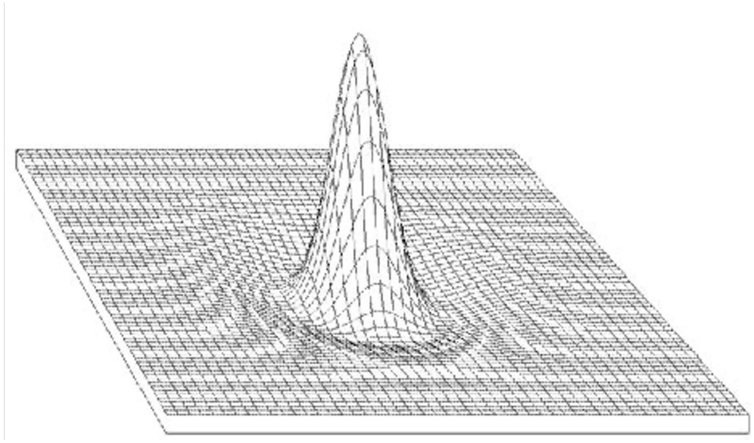
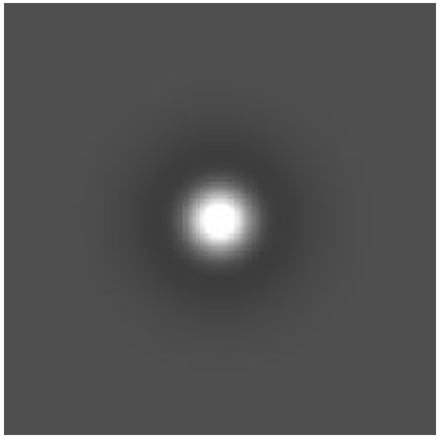


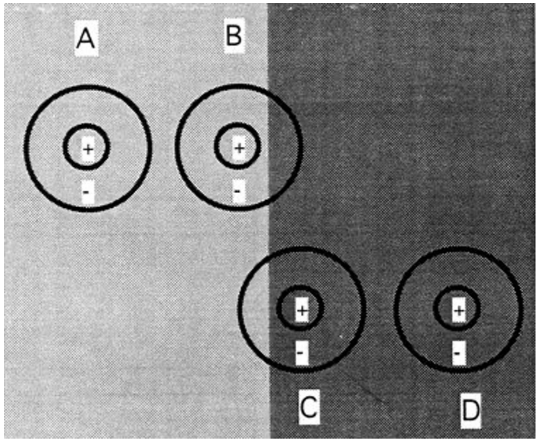


Lateral Inhibition

- **Pre-processing step within retina**
  - Surrounding brightness level weighted negatively
    - A: high stimulus, maximal bright inhibition
    - B: high stimulus, reduced inhibition → stronger response
    - D: low stimulus, maximal dark inhibition
    - C: low stimulus, increased inhibition → weaker response
- **High-pass filter**
  - Enhances contrast along edges
  - Differential operator (Laplacian/difference of two Gaussian)

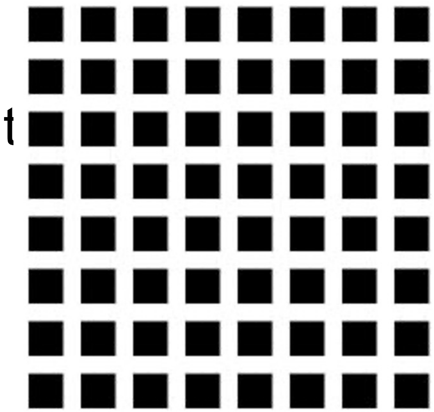


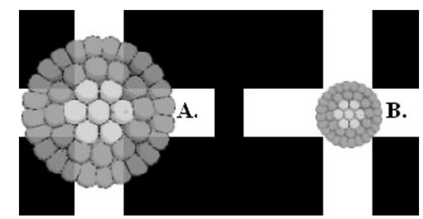




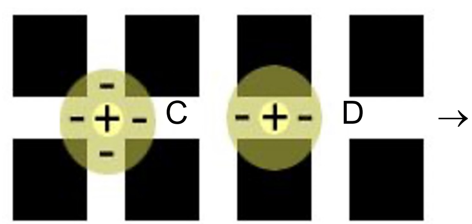
Lateral Inhibition: Hermann Grid

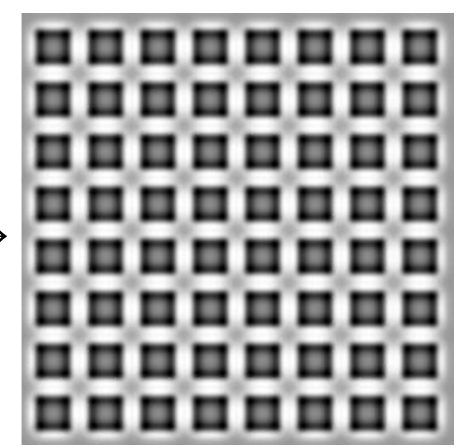
- **Apparent dark spots at perip. crossings**
  - Weakly if within foveal Ω (B): smaller filter extent
  - Strongly within periphery (A): larger filter extent
- **Explanation**
  - Crossings (C): more surround stimulation
    - More inhibition ⇒ weaker response
  - Streets (D): less surround stimulation
    - Less inhibition ⇒ greater response
- **Simulation**
  - Convolution with differential kernel
  - Darker at crossings, brighter in streets



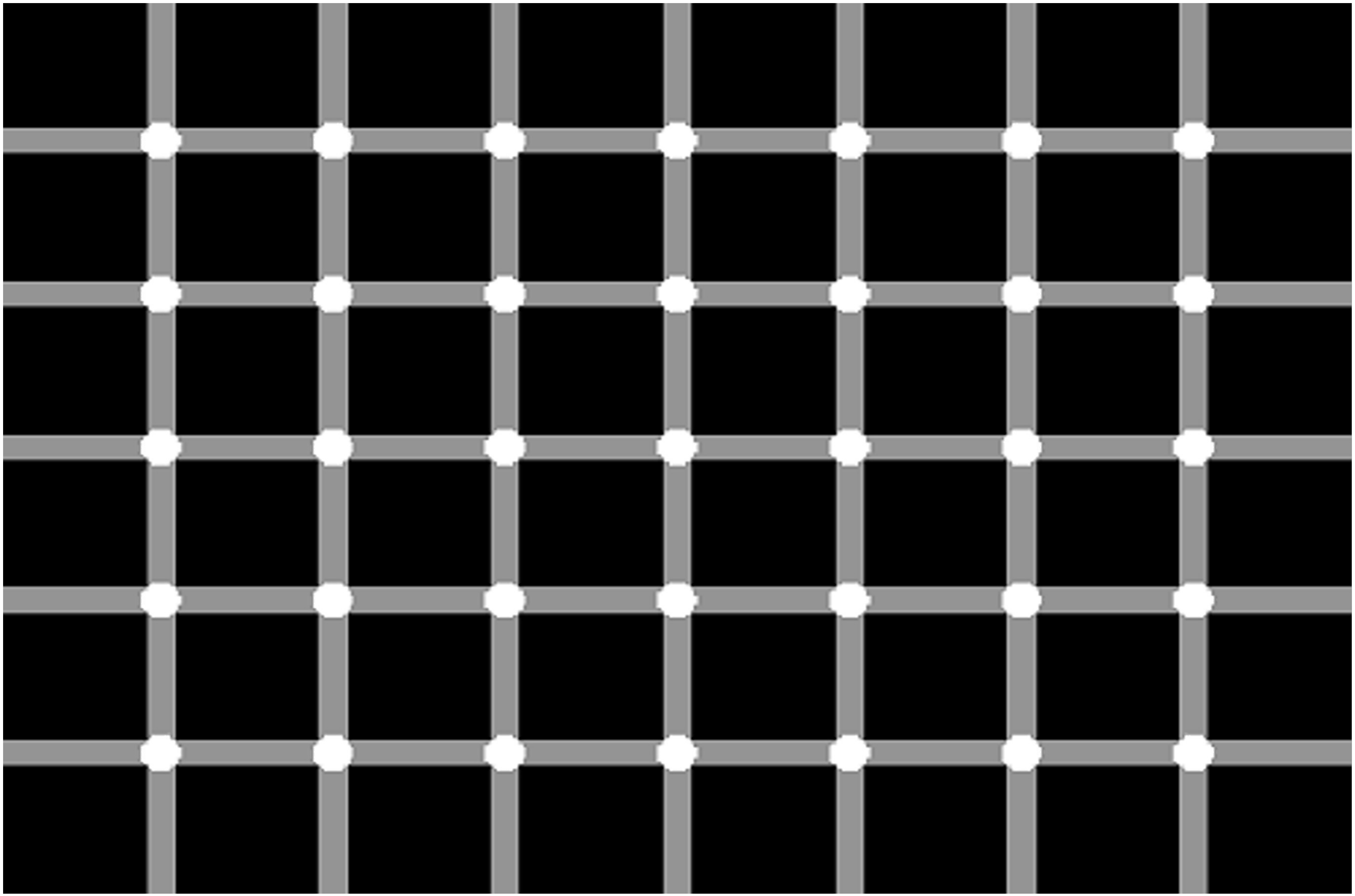


Periphery Fovea

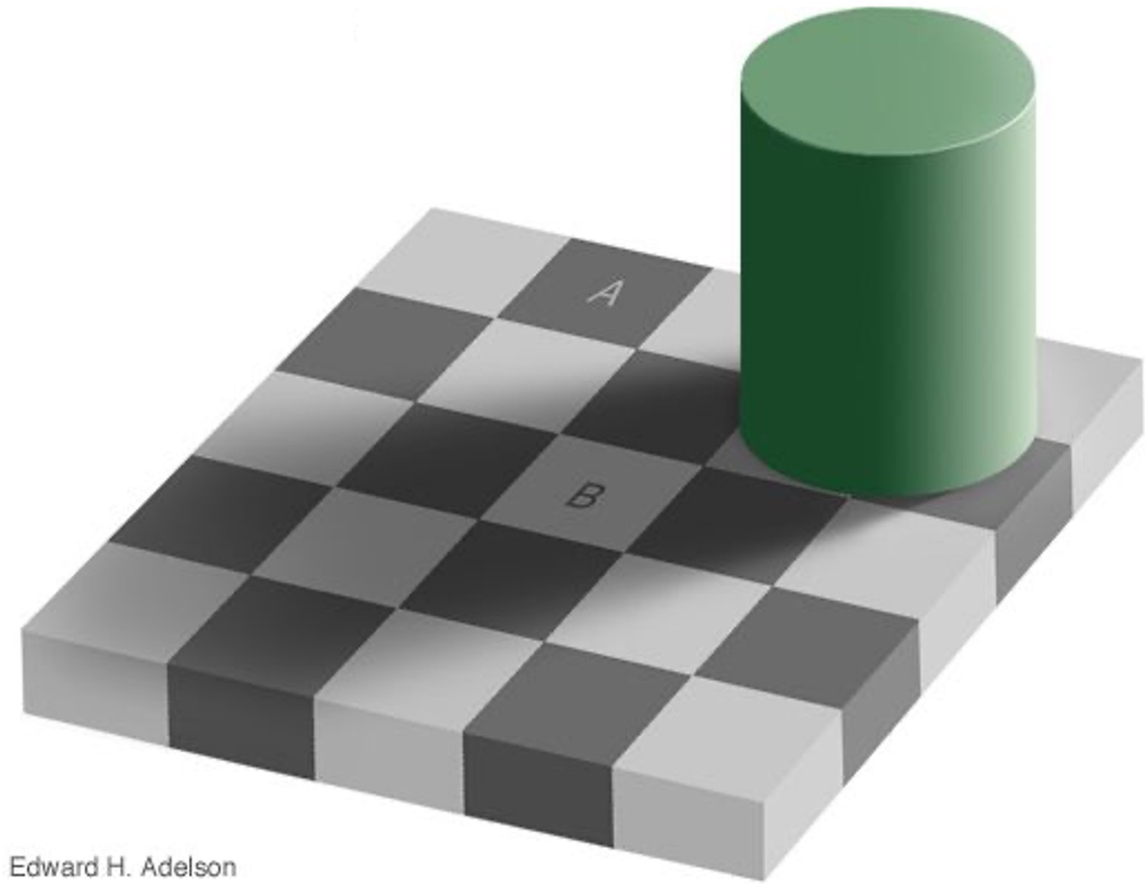




Some Further Weirdness



High-Level Contrast Processing



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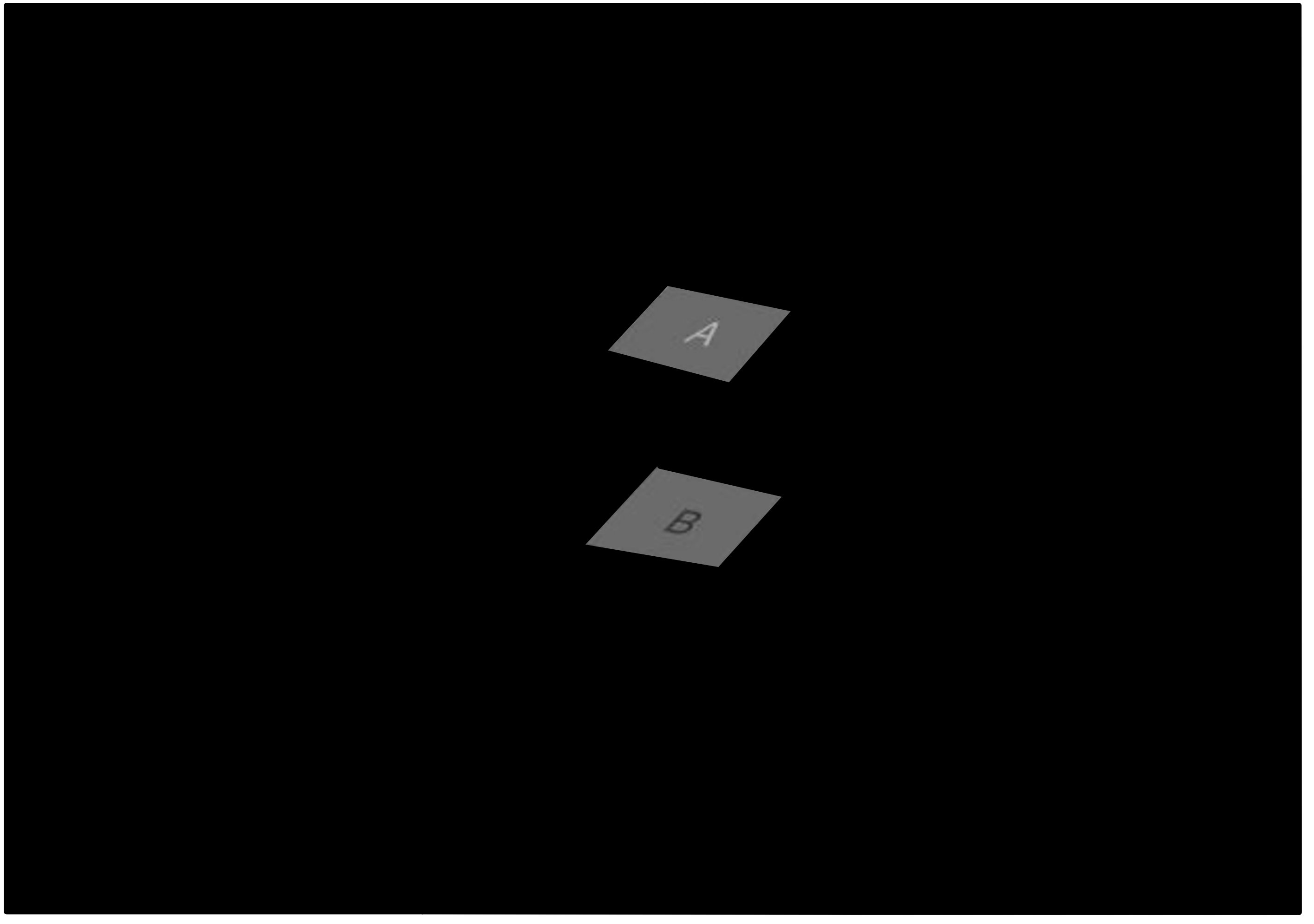
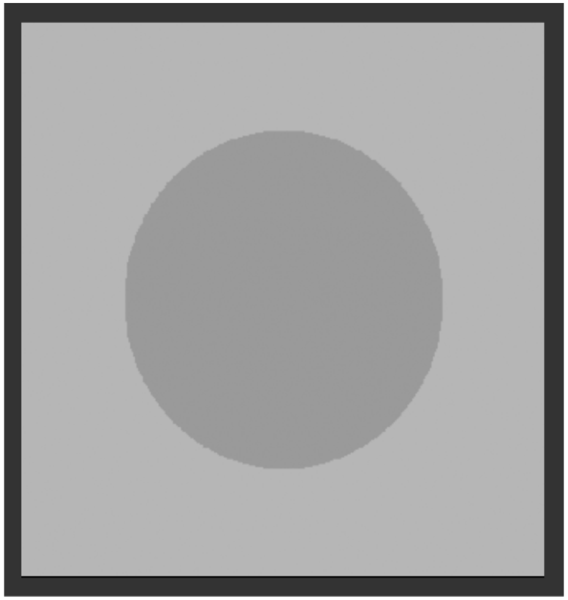
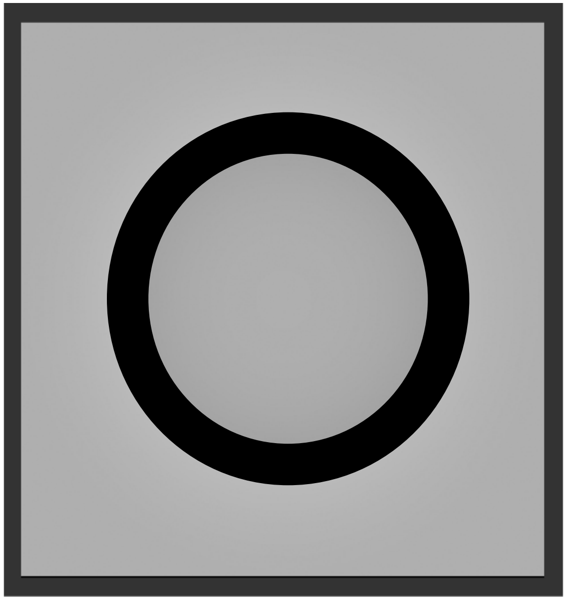


Cornsweet Illusion

- **Apparent contrast between inner and outer shades**

A

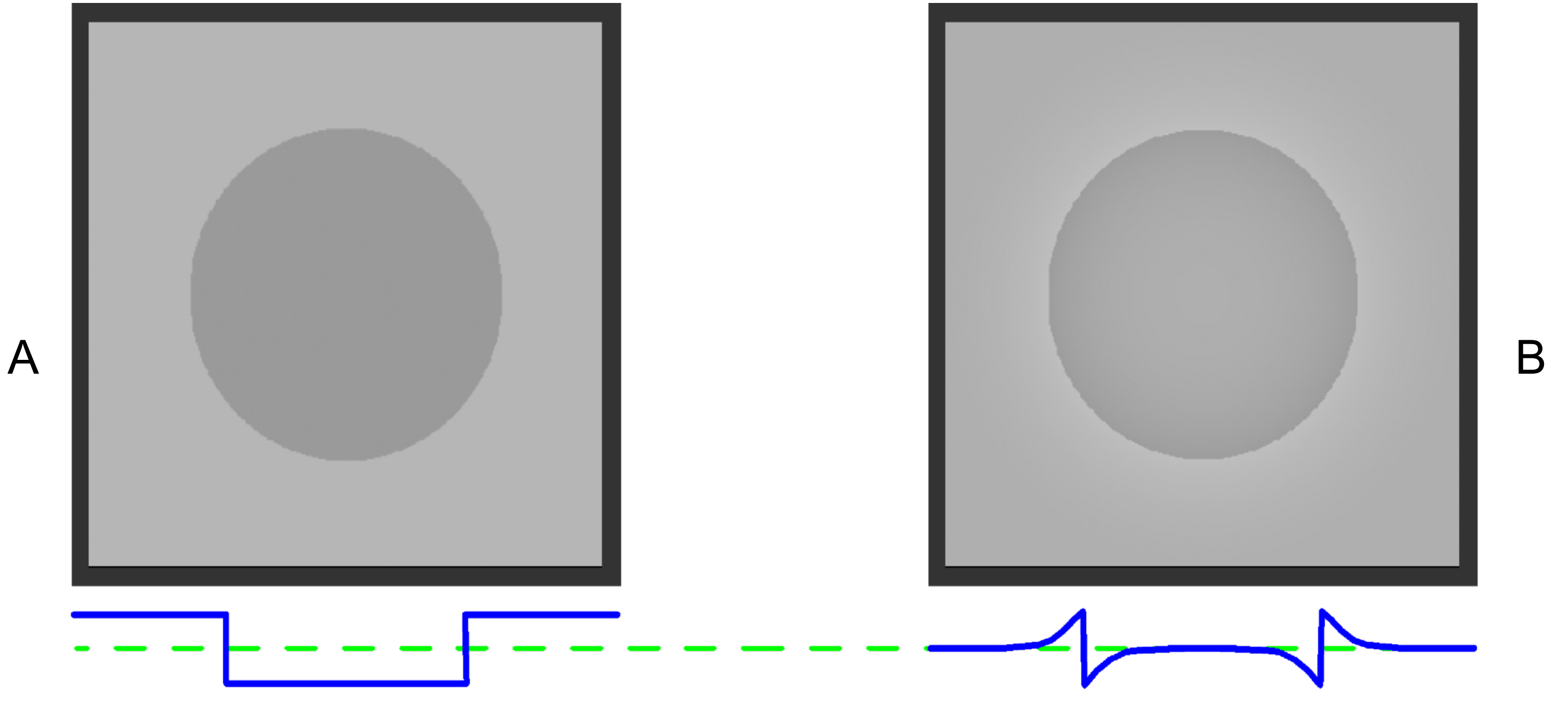




B

Cornsweet Illusion

- **Apparent contrast between inner and outer shades**
  - Due to gradual darkening/brightening towards a contrasting edge
  - Causes B to be perceived similarly to A



Optical Effects – Veiling Glare

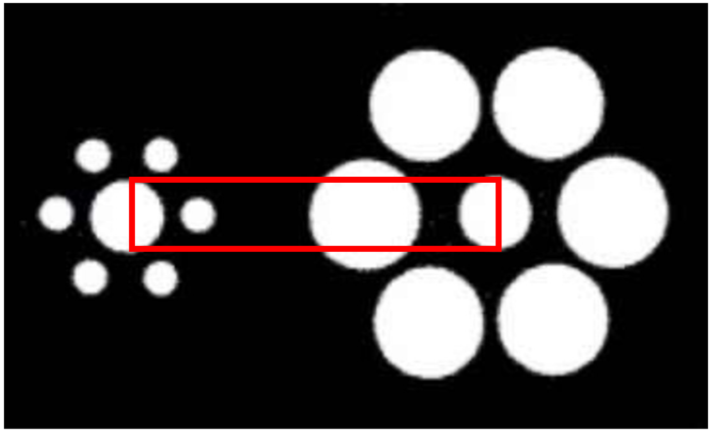
- **Internal scattering/blur of sources of high luminance**
- **Blur around the bright object makes it appear brighter!**

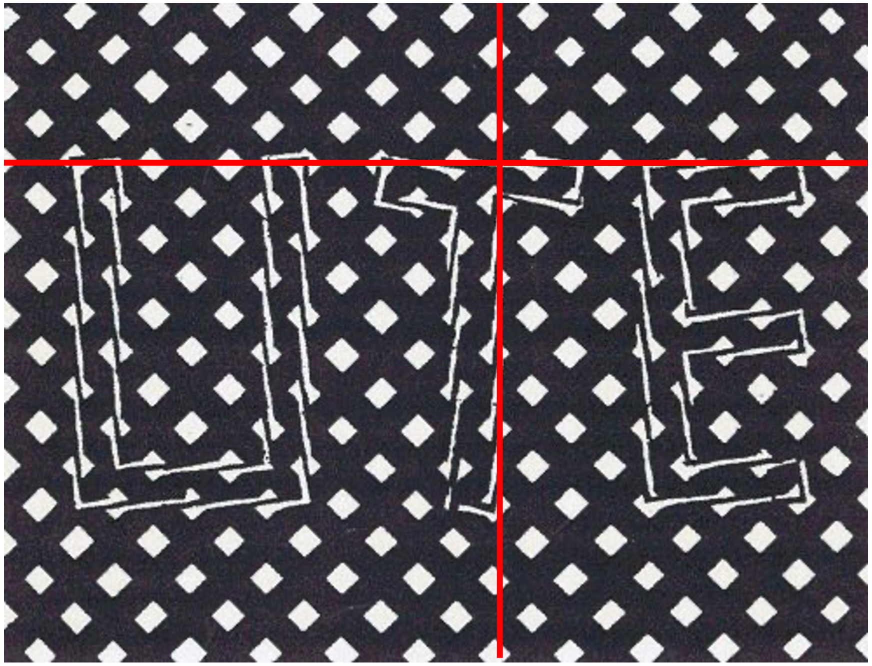
Actual size

Perceived size

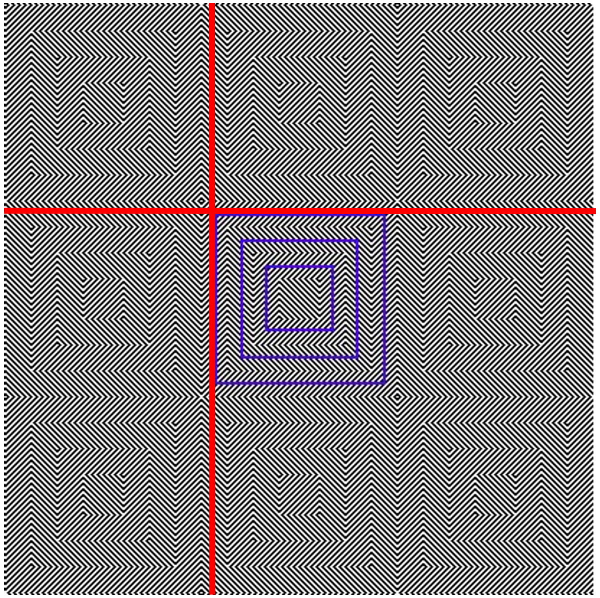
Shape Perception

- **Depends on surrounding primitives**
  - Size emphasis
  - Directional emphasis



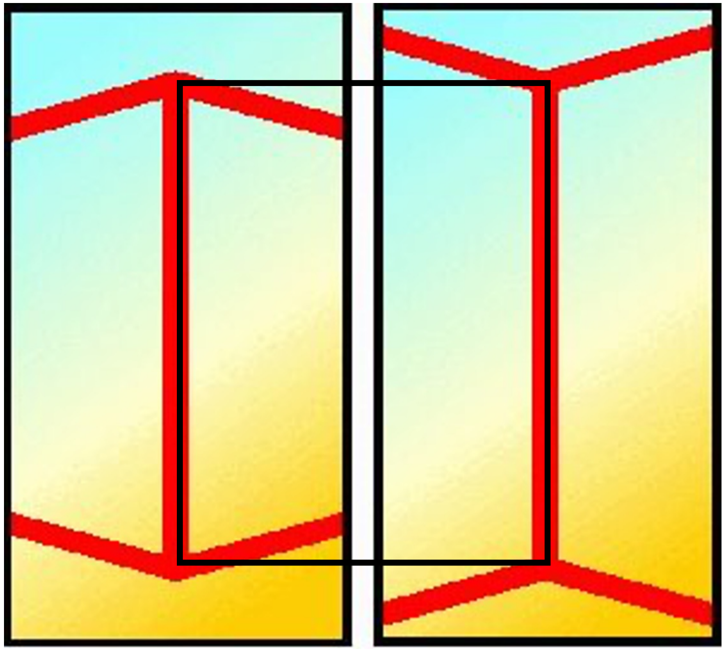


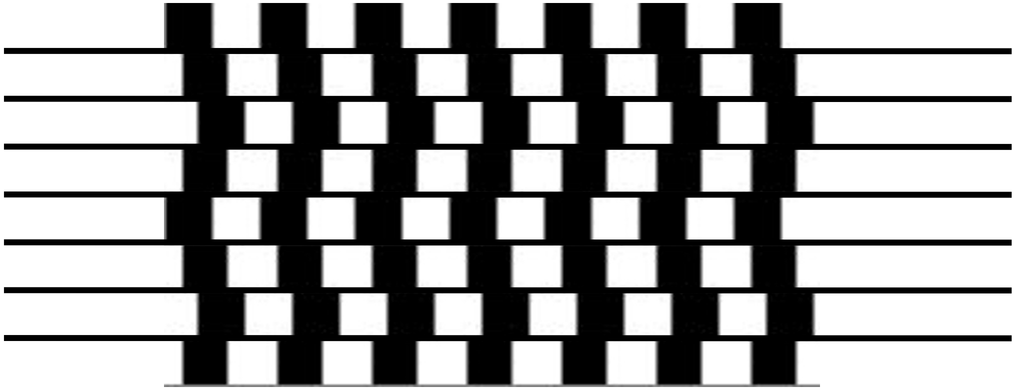
http://www.panoptikum.net/optischetaeuschungen/index.html



Geometric Cues

- **Automatic geometrical interpretation**
  - 3D perspective
  - Implicit scene depth





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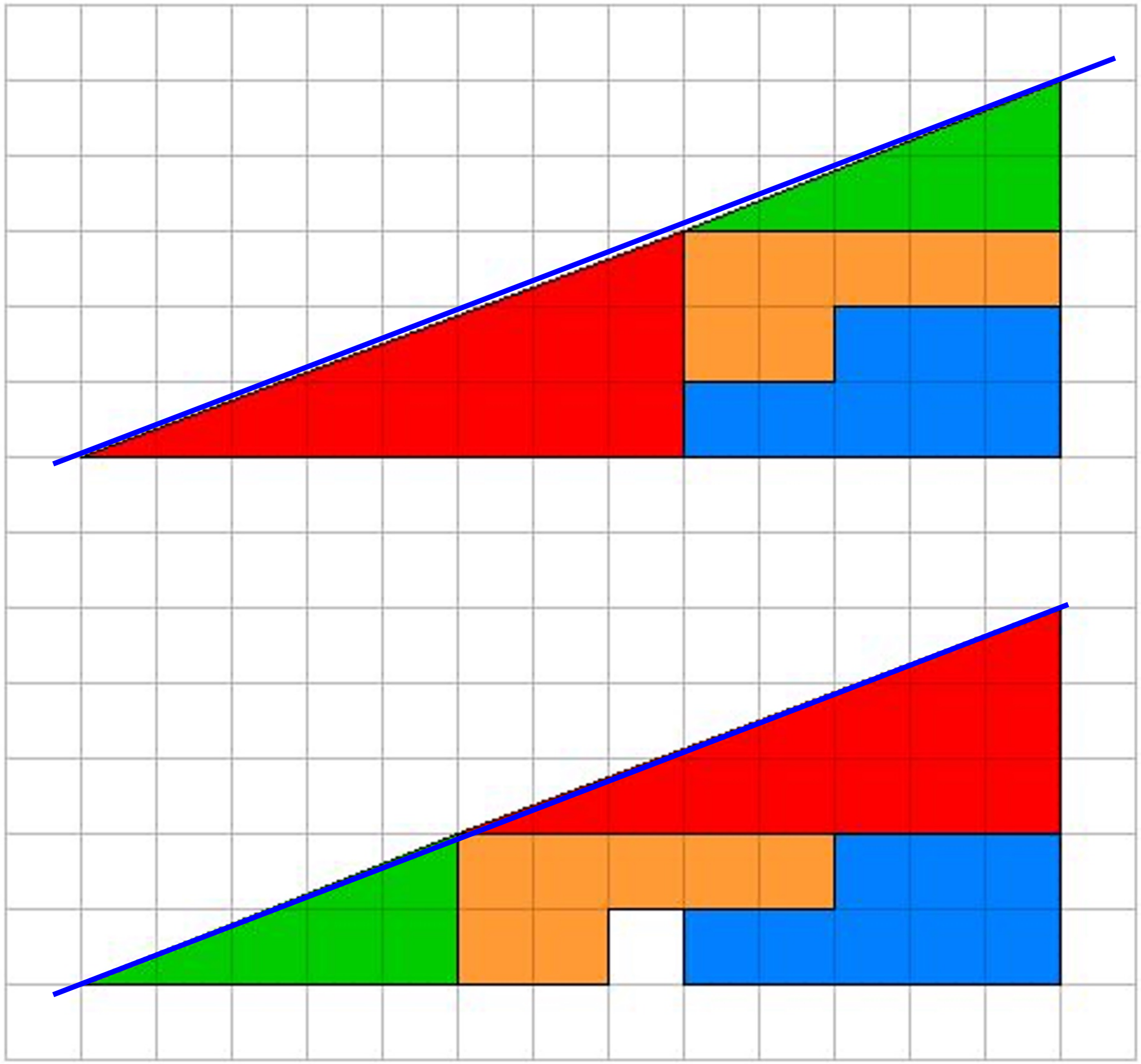
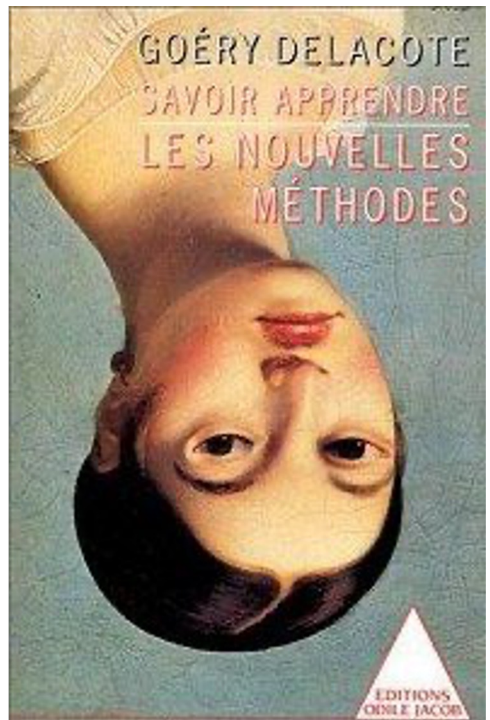
Visual "Proofs"



http://www.panoptikum.net/optischetaeuschungen/index.html

HVS: High-Level Scene Analysis

- **Experience & expectation**
  - Pictures usually horizontal
- **Local cue consistency**
  - Eyes and mouth look right, but actually are upside-down



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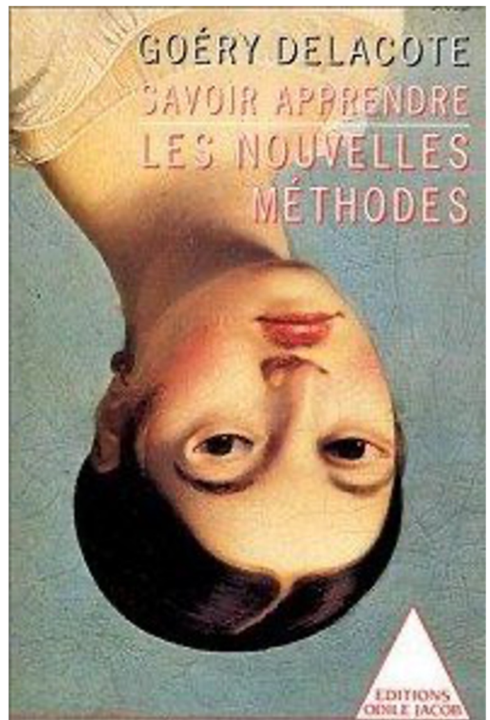

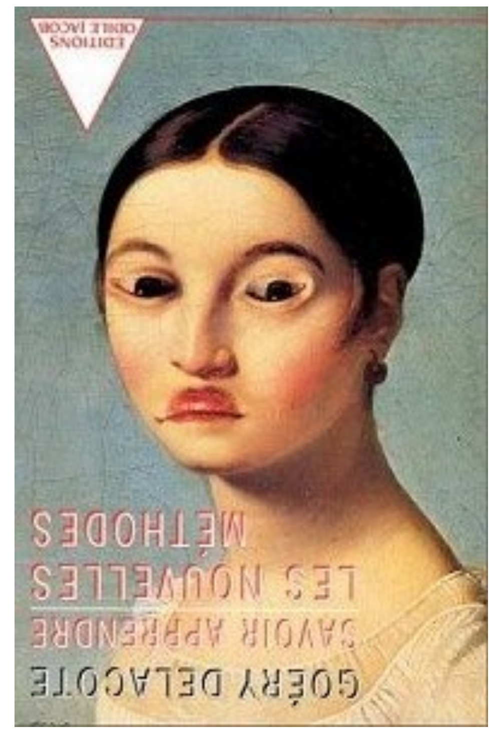

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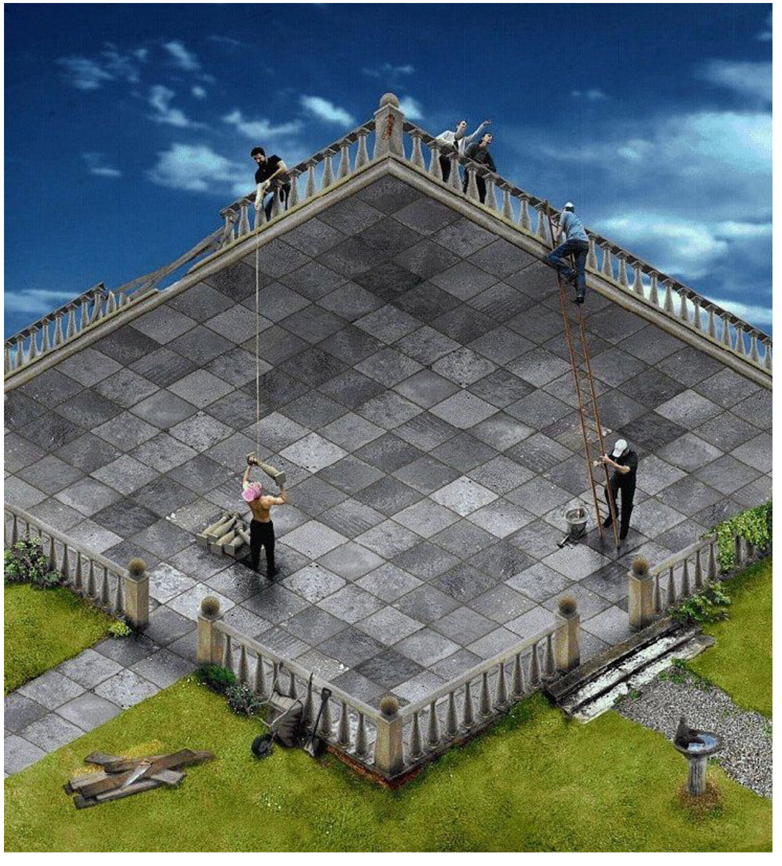
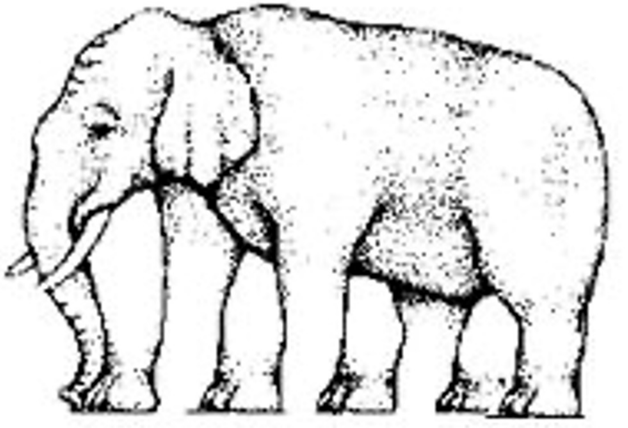
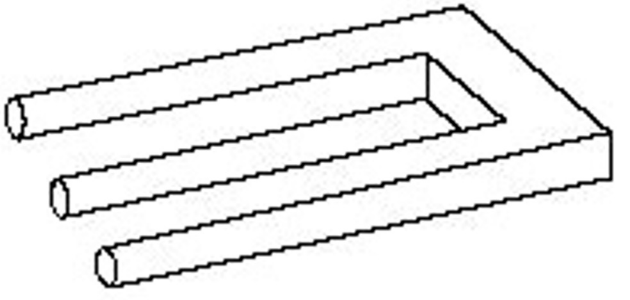
Impossible Scenes

- **Escher et al.**
  – Confuse HVS by presenting contradicting visual cues
  – Locally consistent but not globally







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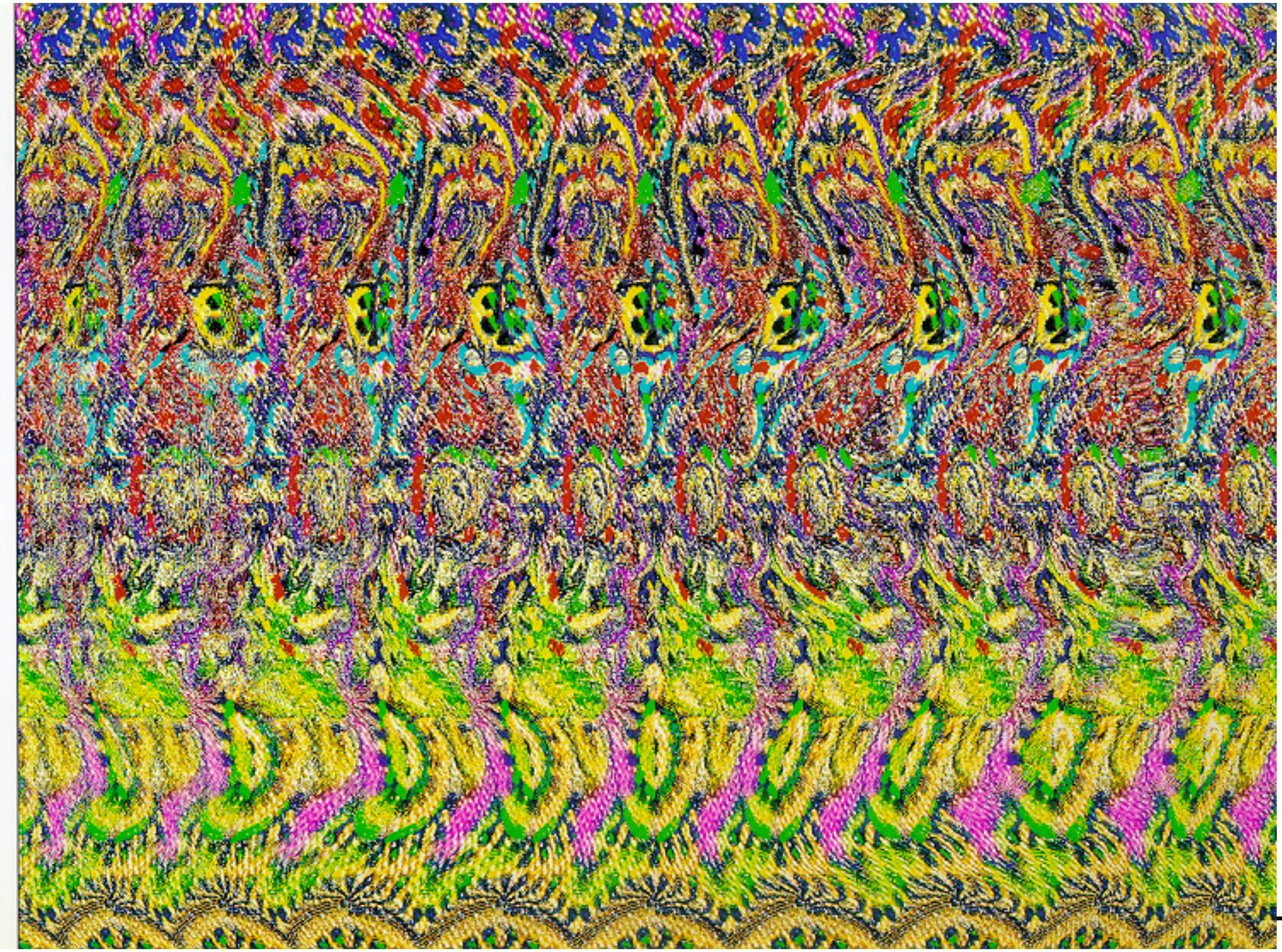
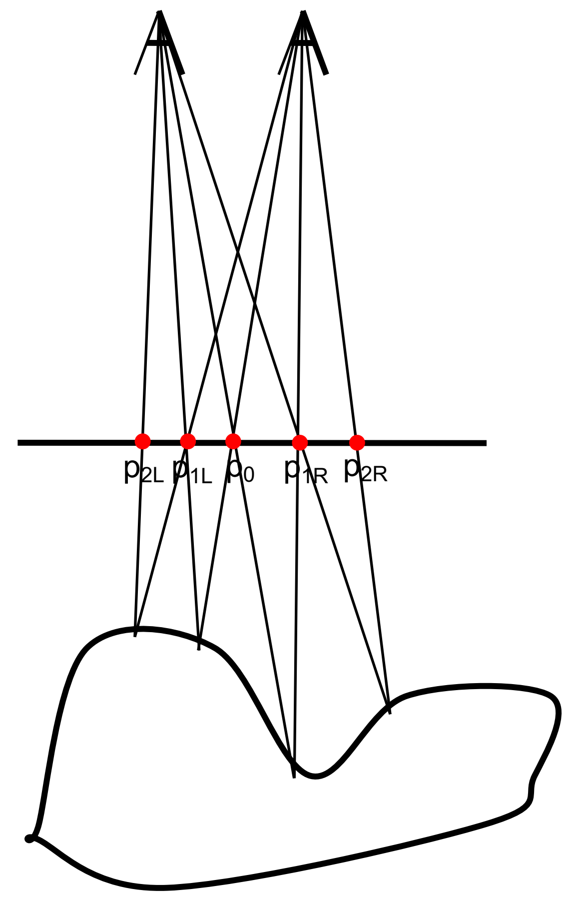
Single Image Random Dot Stereograms

- **Vergence: Cross eyers to look at the same 3D spot**
- **Accommodation: Focusing at a particular depth plane**



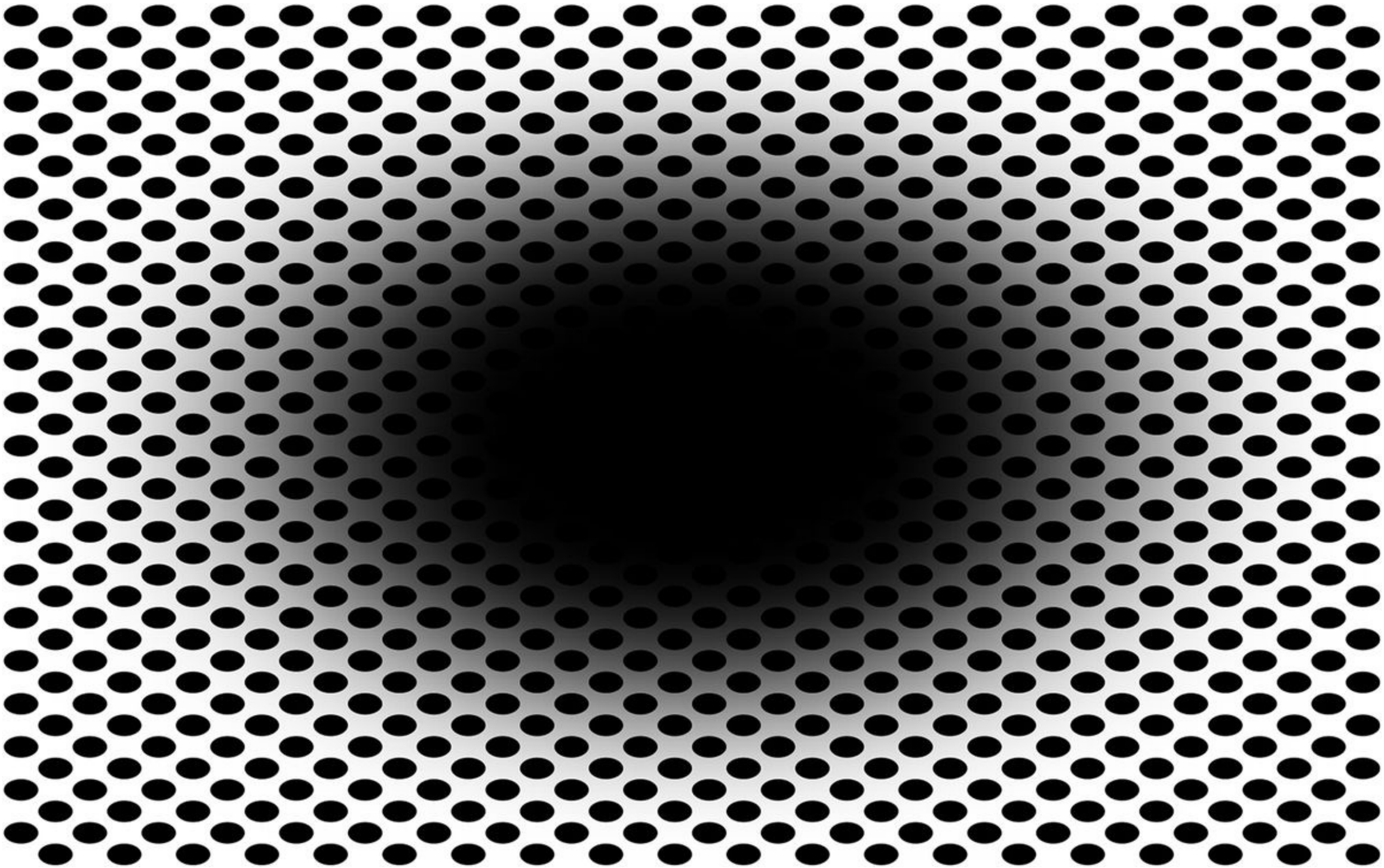
SIRDS Construction

- Assign arbitrary color to pixel p_0 in image plane
- Trace from eye points through p_0 to object surface
- Trace back from object to corresponding other eye
- Assign color at p_0 to intersection points p_{1L}, p_{1R} with image plane
- Trace from eye points through p_{1L}, p_{1R} to object surface
- Trace back to eyes
- Assign p_0 color to p_{2L}, p_{2R}
- Repeat until image plane is covered



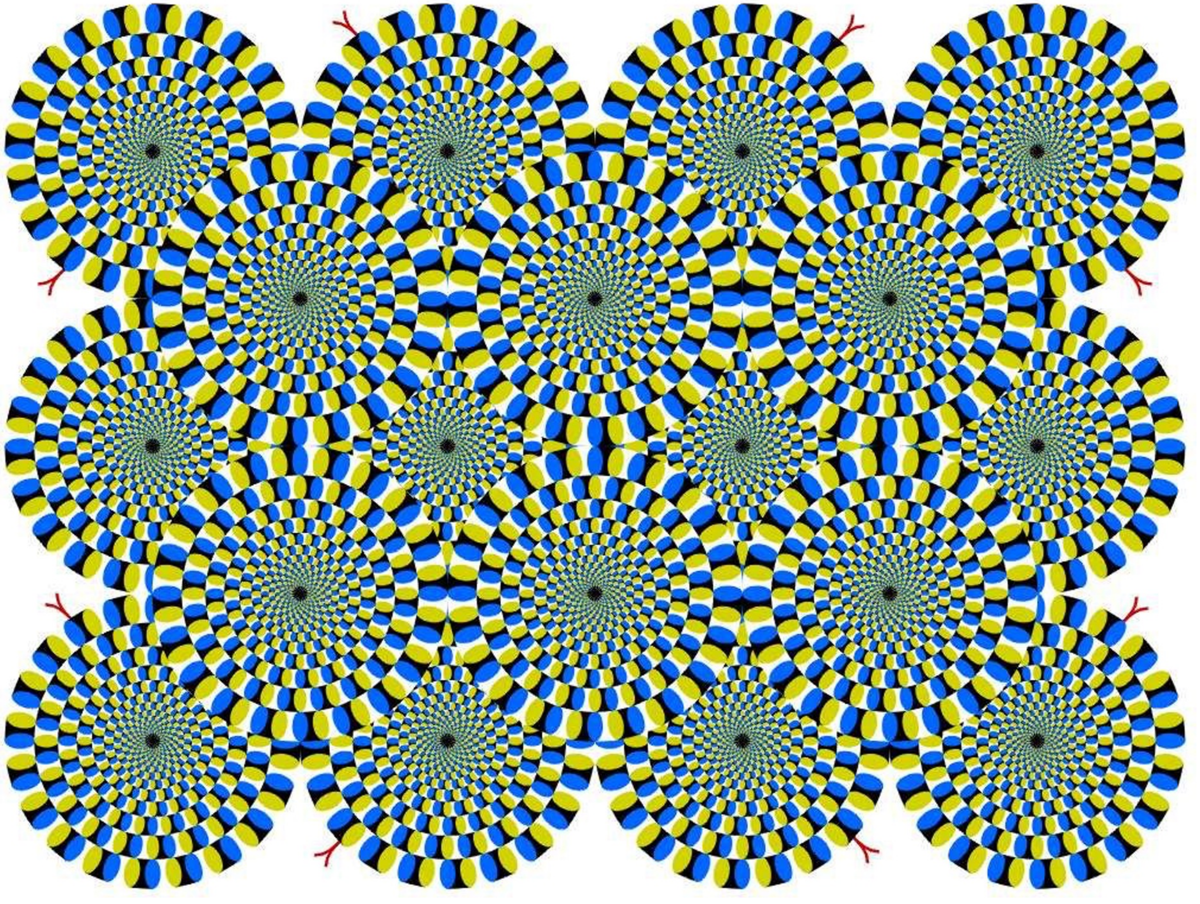
Asahi Illusion

Asahi Illusion

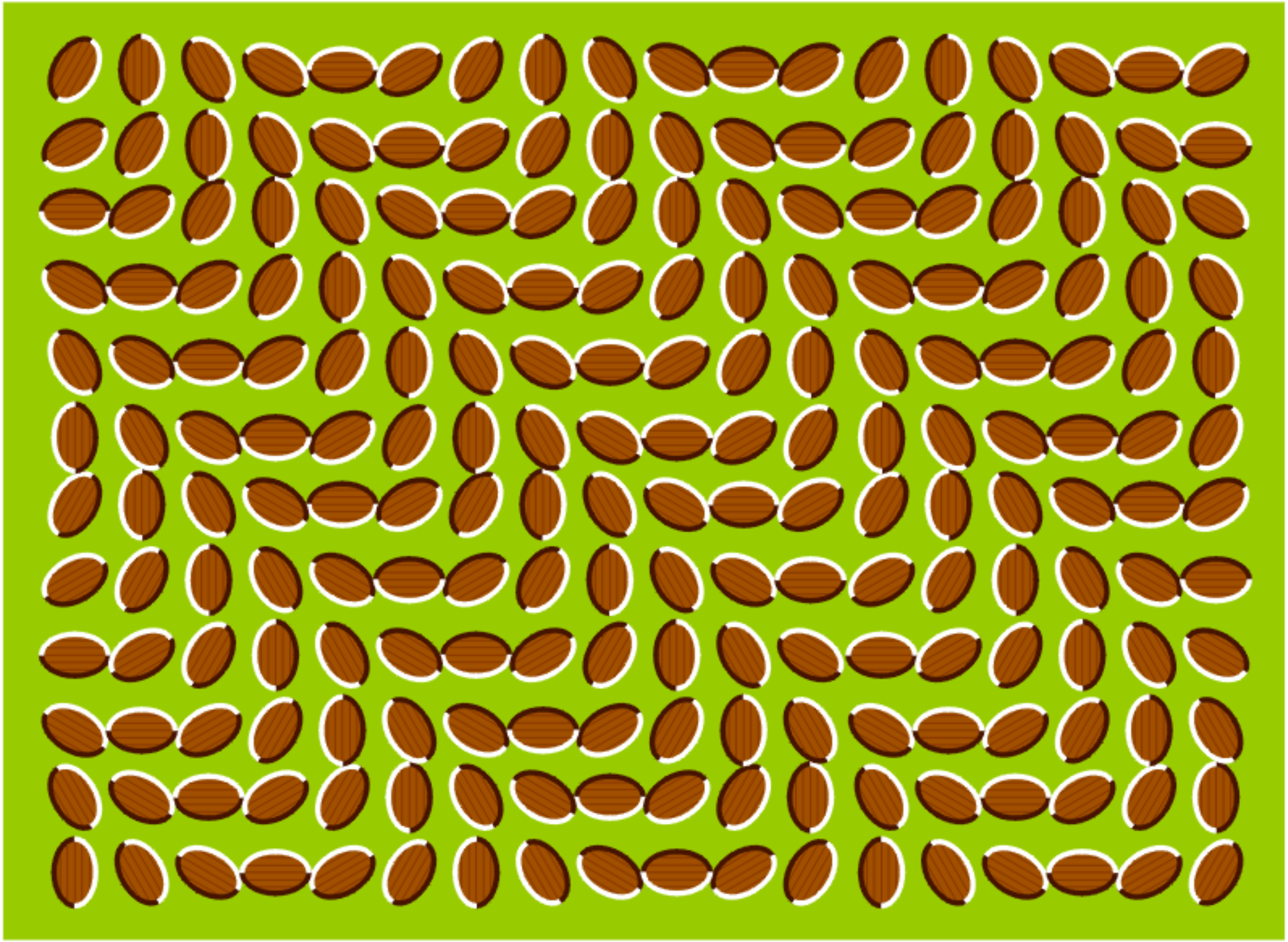


Motion Illusion

- **Appearance of movement in static image**
  - Due to cognitive effects of interacting color contrast & shape pos.
  - Saccades $\rightarrow$ diff. in neural signals between dark and bright areas



Motion Illusion



Motion Illusion

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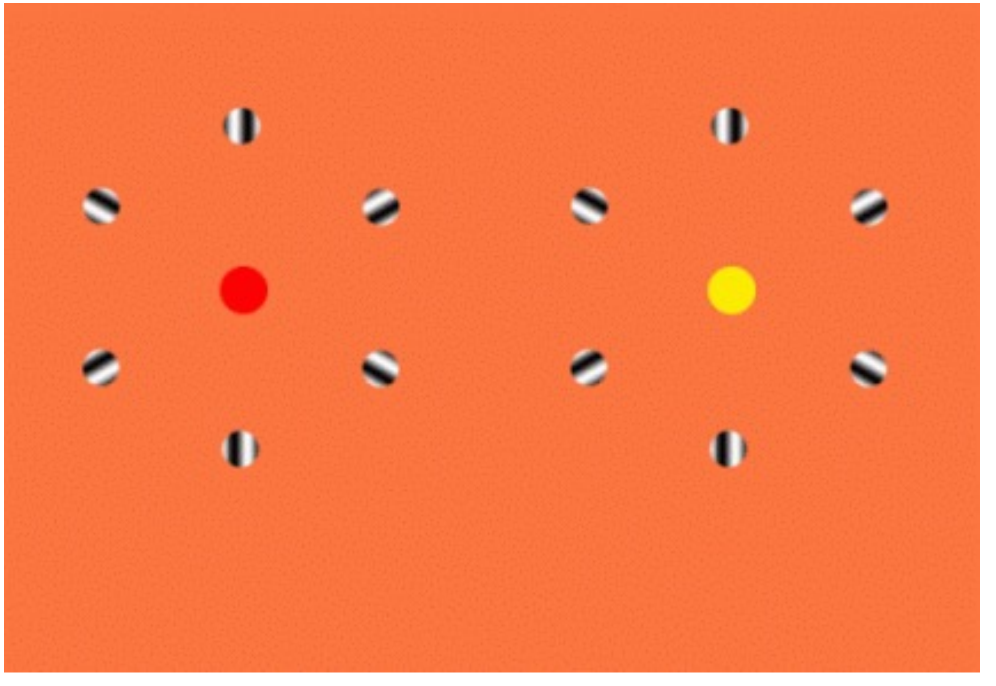
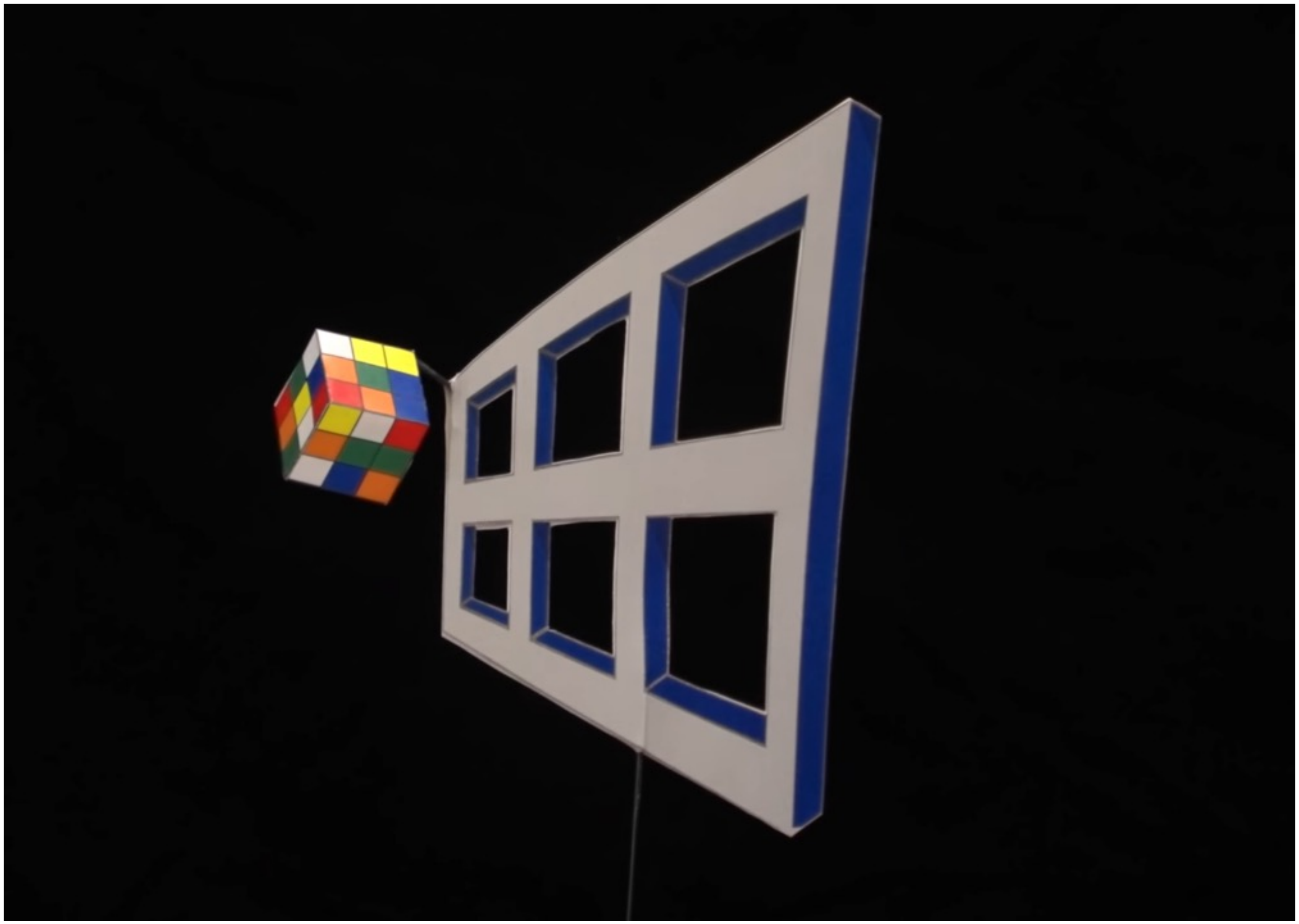


Ames Window Illusion

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dBap_Lp-0oc



Negative Afterimages

- **Cones excited by color eventually lose sensitivity**
  - Photoreceptors adapt to overstimulation and send a weak signal

Negative Afterimages

- **When switching to grey background**
  - Colors corresponding to adapted cones remain muted
  - Other freshly excited cones send out a strong signal
  - Same perceived signal as when looking at the inverse color

Another Optical Illusion

- **If staring for ~ 15 sec., you may see a giraffe appear**