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# Computer Graphics

- The Human Visual System -

**Hendrik Lensch**

# Overview

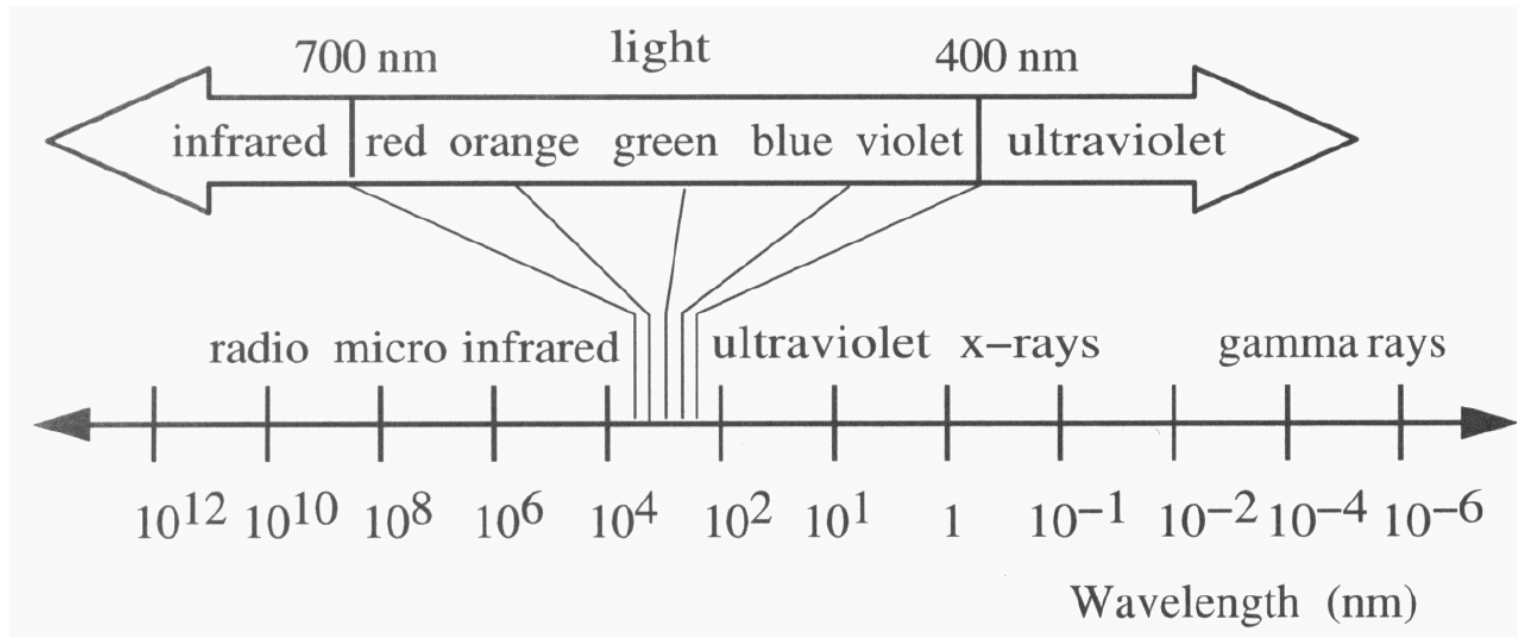
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- **Last time**
  - Antialiasing
  - Super-Sampling
- **Today**
  - The Human Visual System
    - The eye
    - Early vision
    - High-level analysis
    - Color perception
- **Next lecture**
  - Color spaces

# Light

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- **Electromagnetic radiation**
- **Visible spectrum: ~ 400 to 700 nm**



# Radiation Law

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- **Physical model for light**

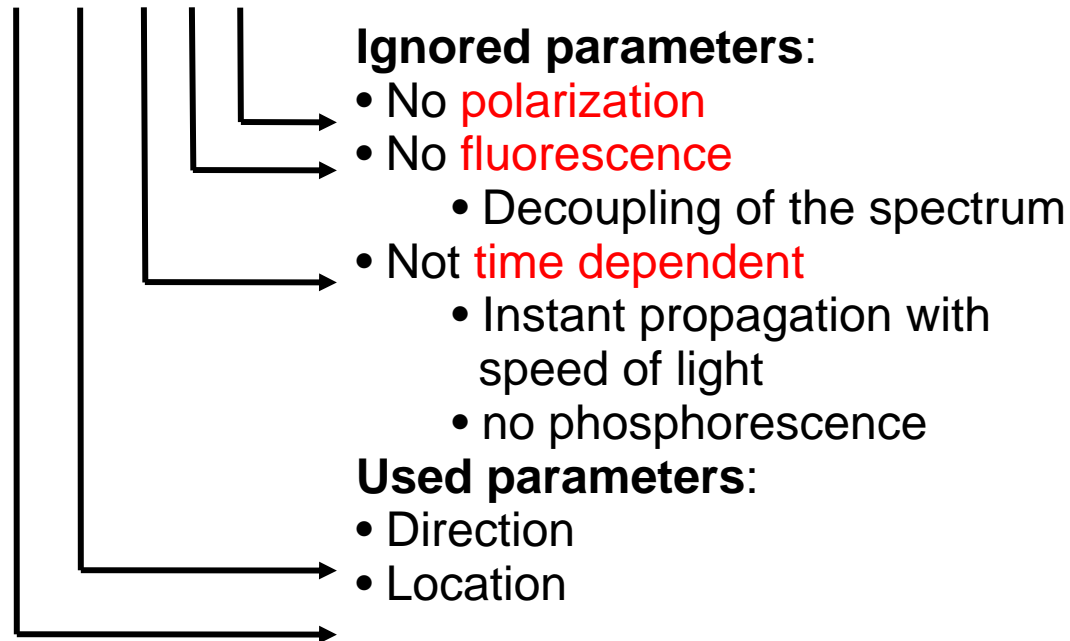
- Wave/particle-dualism

- Electromagnetic radiation wave model

- Photons:  $E_{ph}=h\nu$  particle model & ray optics

- Plenoptic function

- $L = L(x, \omega, t, v, \gamma)$ , 5 dimensional,



# Photometry

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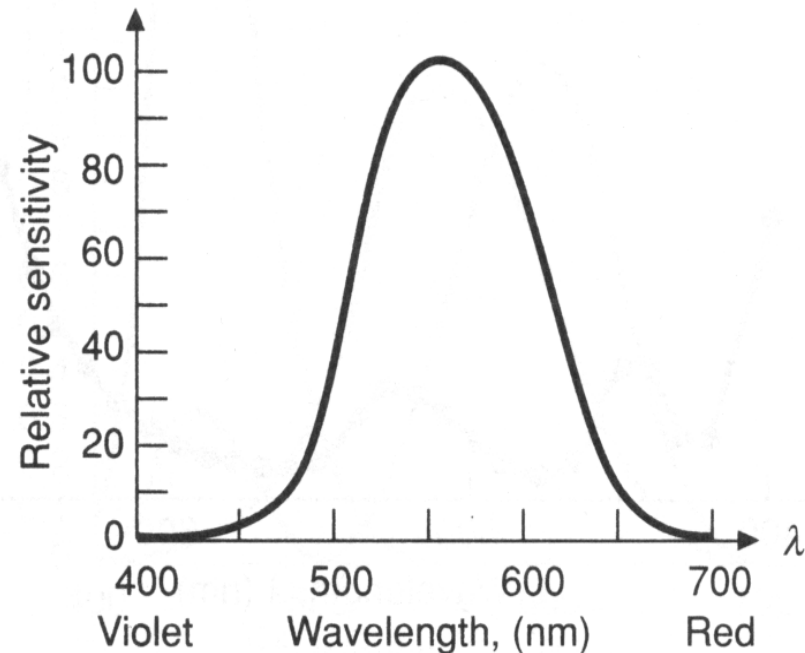
- **Equivalent units to radiometry**

- Weight with **luminous efficiency function**  $V(\lambda)$  (luminous efficiency function)
- Spectral or “total” units

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

$$K_m = 680 \text{ lm} / \text{W}$$

- Distinction in English simple:
  - “rad”: radiometric unit
  - “lum”: photometric unit



# Radiometric Units

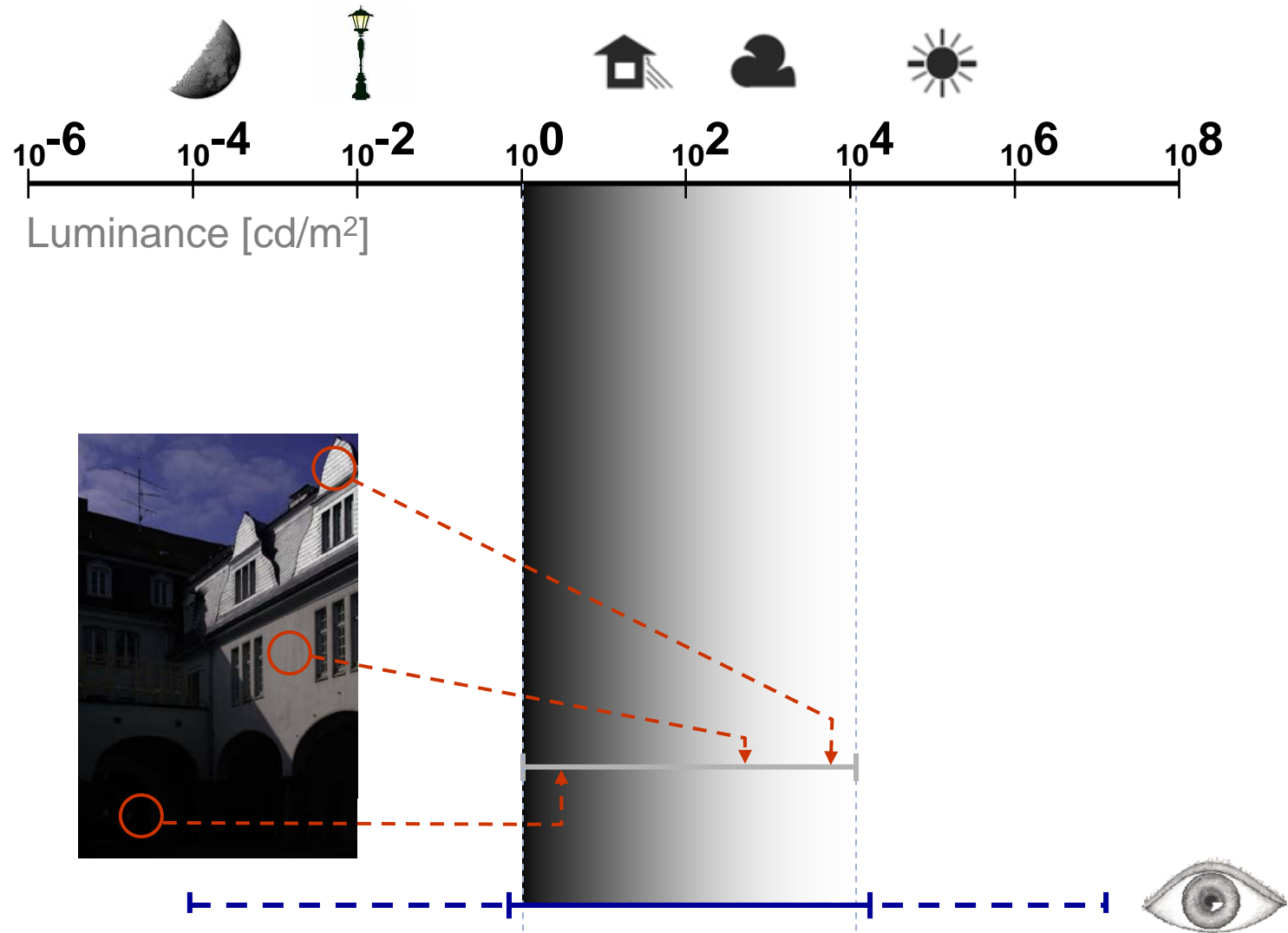
| Specification                 | Definition              | Symbol      | Unit                   | Notation                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|------------------------|--|
| Energie<br>energy             |                         | $Q_e$       | [J= Ws]<br>Joule       | Strahlungsenergie<br>radiant energy    |
| Leistung, Fluß<br>power, flux | $dQ/dt$                 | $\Phi_e$    | [W= J/s]               | Strahlungsfluß<br>radiant flux         |
| Flußdichte<br>flux density    | $dQ/dAdt$               | $E_e$       | [W/m <sup>2</sup> ]    | Bestrahlungsstärke<br>Irradiance       |
| Flußdichte<br>flux density    | $dQ/dAdt$               | $M_e = B_e$ | [W/m <sup>2</sup> ]    | Radiom. Emissionsvermögen<br>Radiosity |
|                               | $dQ/dA^\phi d\omega dt$ | $L_e$       | [W/m <sup>2</sup> /sr] | Strahlungsdichte<br>Radiance           |
| Intensität<br>intensity       | $dQ/d\omega dt$         | $I_e$       | [W/sr]                 | Strahlungsstärke<br>radiant intensity  |

# Photometric Units

With luminous efficiency function weighted units

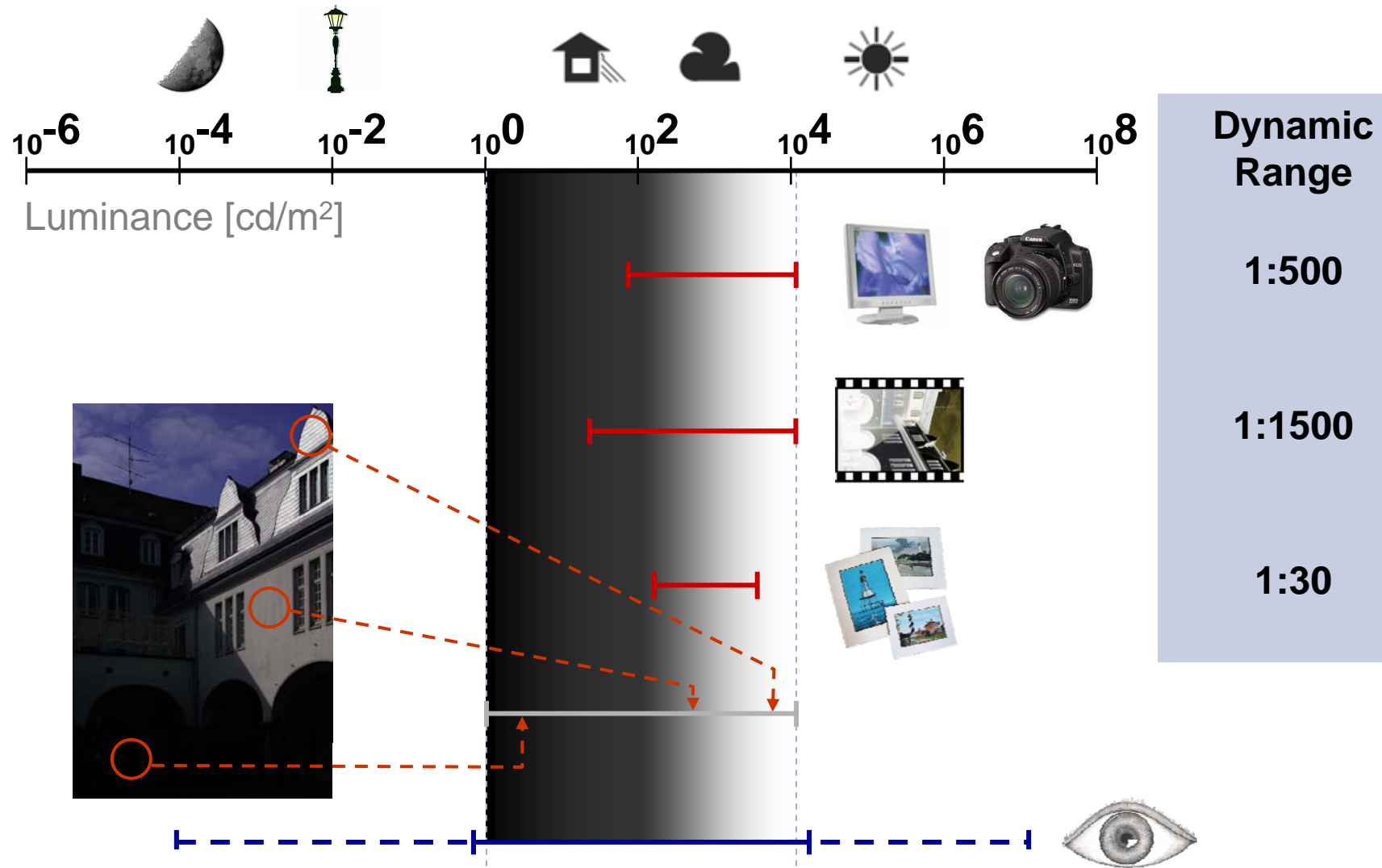
| Specification                 | Definition              | Symbol           | Units                      | Notation                                |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Energie<br>energy             |                         | $Q_v$            | [talbot]                   | Lichtmenge<br>luminous energy           |
| Leistung, Fluß<br>power, flux | $dQ/dt$                 | $\Phi_v$         | [lm (Lumen)<br>= talbot/s] | Lichtstrom<br>luminous flux             |
| Flußdichte<br>flux density    | $dQ/dA dt$              | $E_v$            | [lux= lm/m <sup>2</sup> ]  | Beleuchtungsstärke<br>Illuminance       |
| Flußdichte<br>flux density    | $dQ/dA dt$              | [ $M_v$ =] $B_v$ | [lux]                      | Photom. Emissionsvermögen<br>Luminosity |
|                               | $dQ/dA^\Phi d\omega dt$ | $L_v$            | [lm/m <sup>2</sup> /sr]    | Leuchtdichte<br>Luminance               |
| Intensität<br>intensity       | $dQ/d\omega dt$         | $I_v$            | [cd (candela)<br>= lm/sr]  | Lichtstärke<br>radiant intensity        |

# Luminance Range



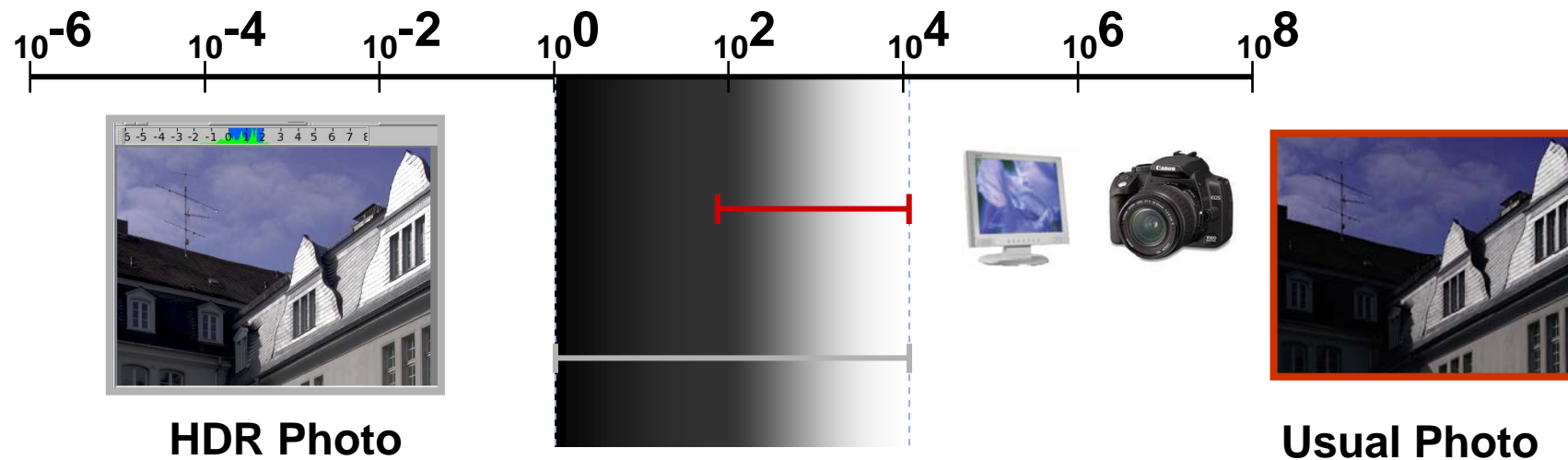


# Contrast (Dynamic Range)



# High Dynamic Range (HDR)

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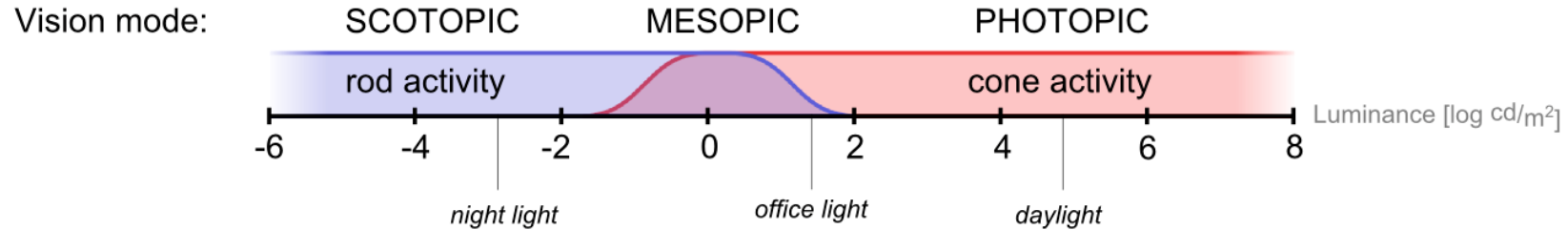
# Illumination: samples

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- **Typical illumination intensities**

| Light source           | Illumination intensity [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                     |

# Percept. Effects – Vision Modes



Mode properties: monochromatic vision  
limited visual acuity

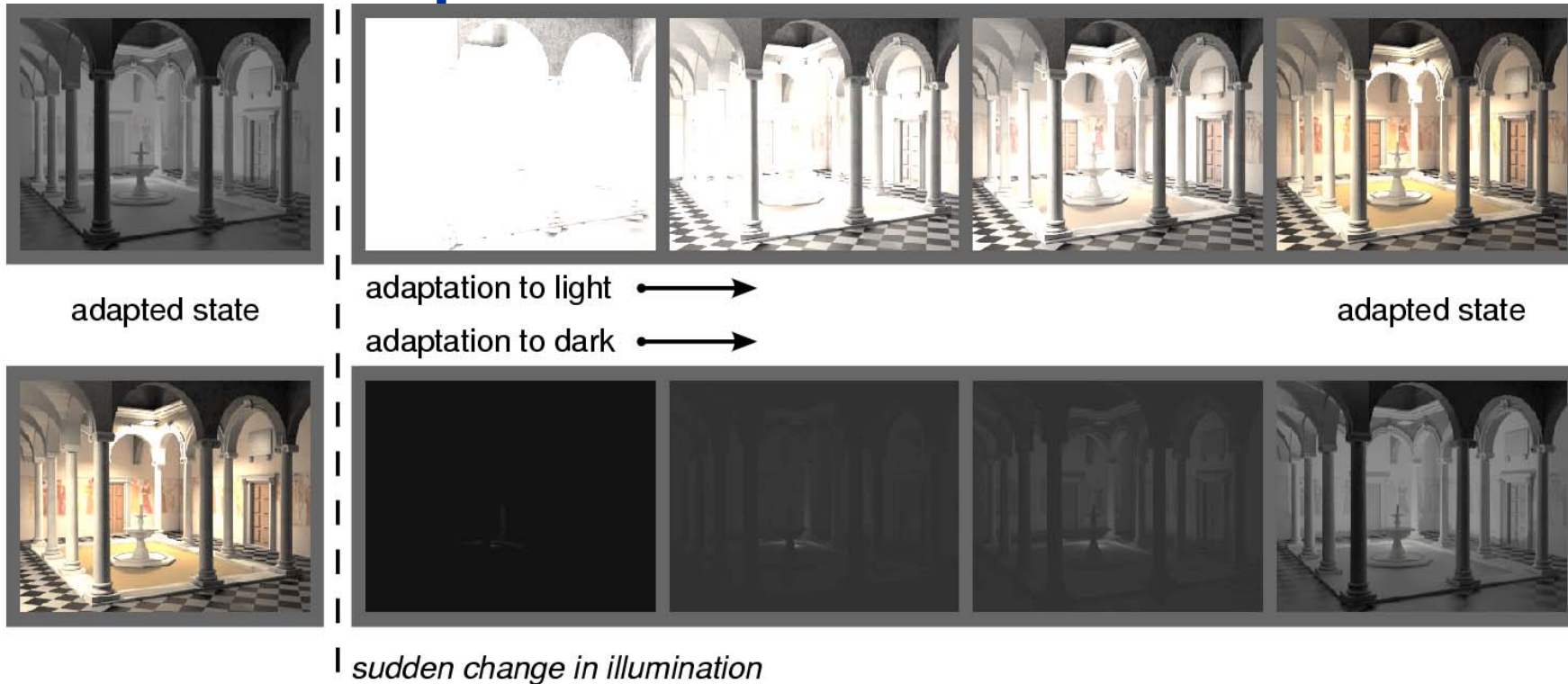
good color perception  
good visual acuity



## Simulation requires:

- control over color reproduction
- local reduction of detail visibility  
(*computationally expensive*)

# Percept. Effects – Light Adaptation

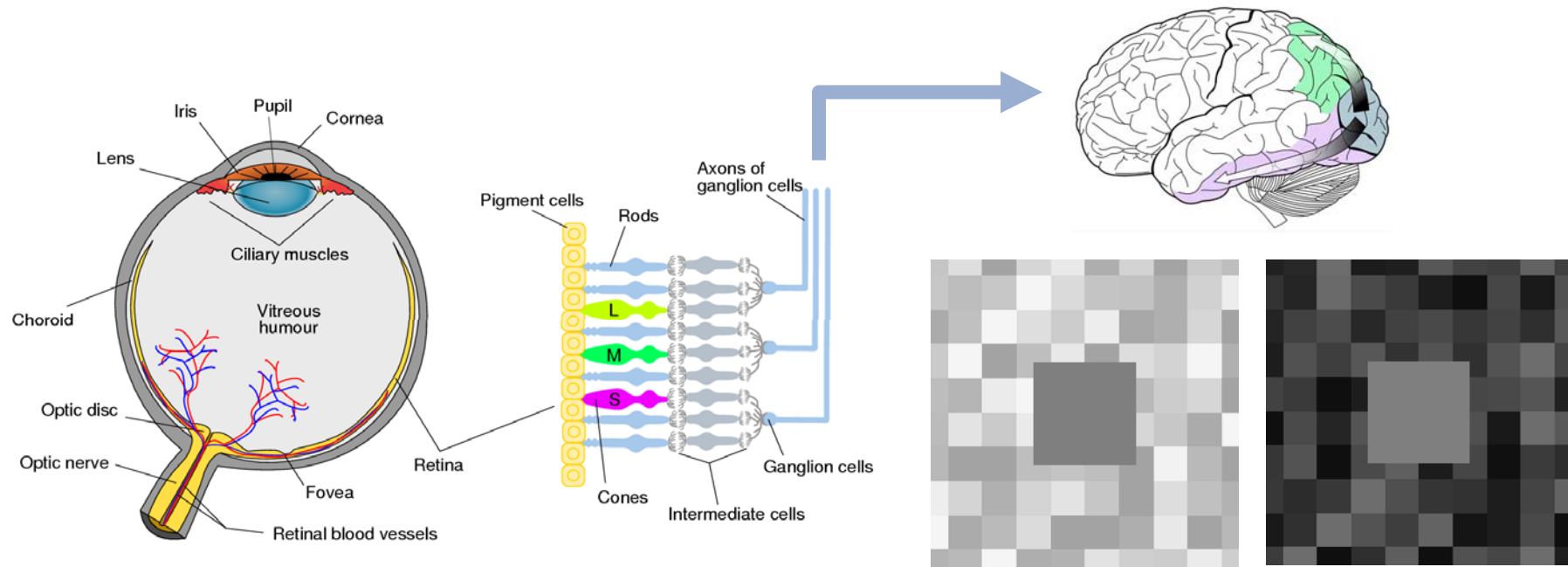


**Adaptation to dark much slower**

**Simulation requires:**

- time-dependent filtering of light adaptation

# Human Visual Perception



**early vision (eyes)**

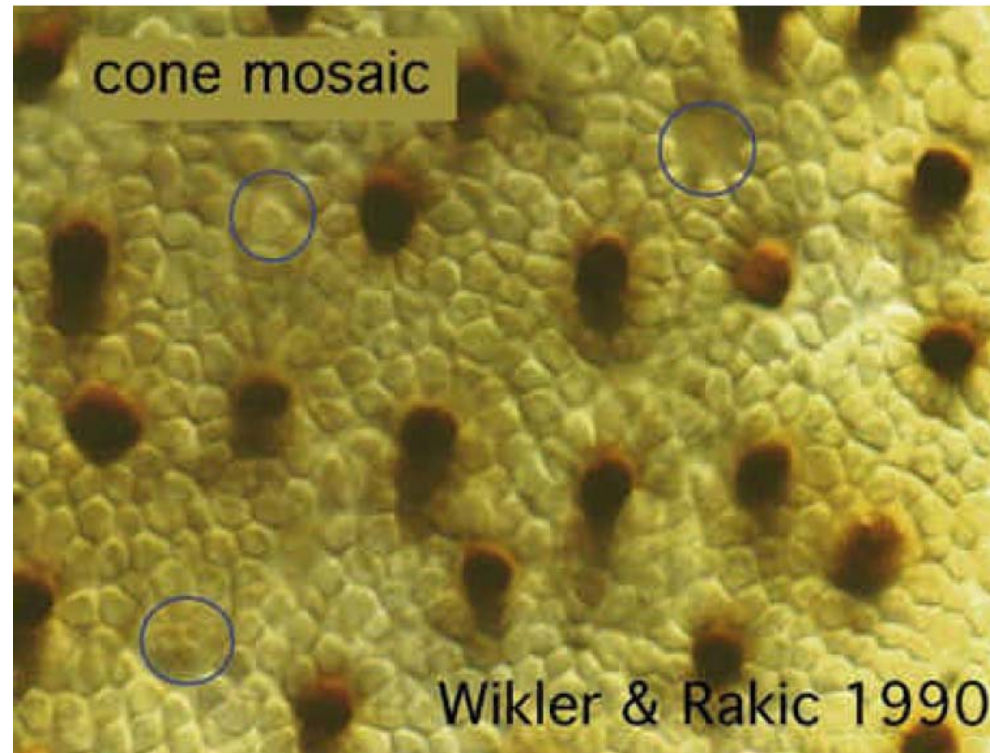
**image appearance**

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

# Distribution of Rods and Cones

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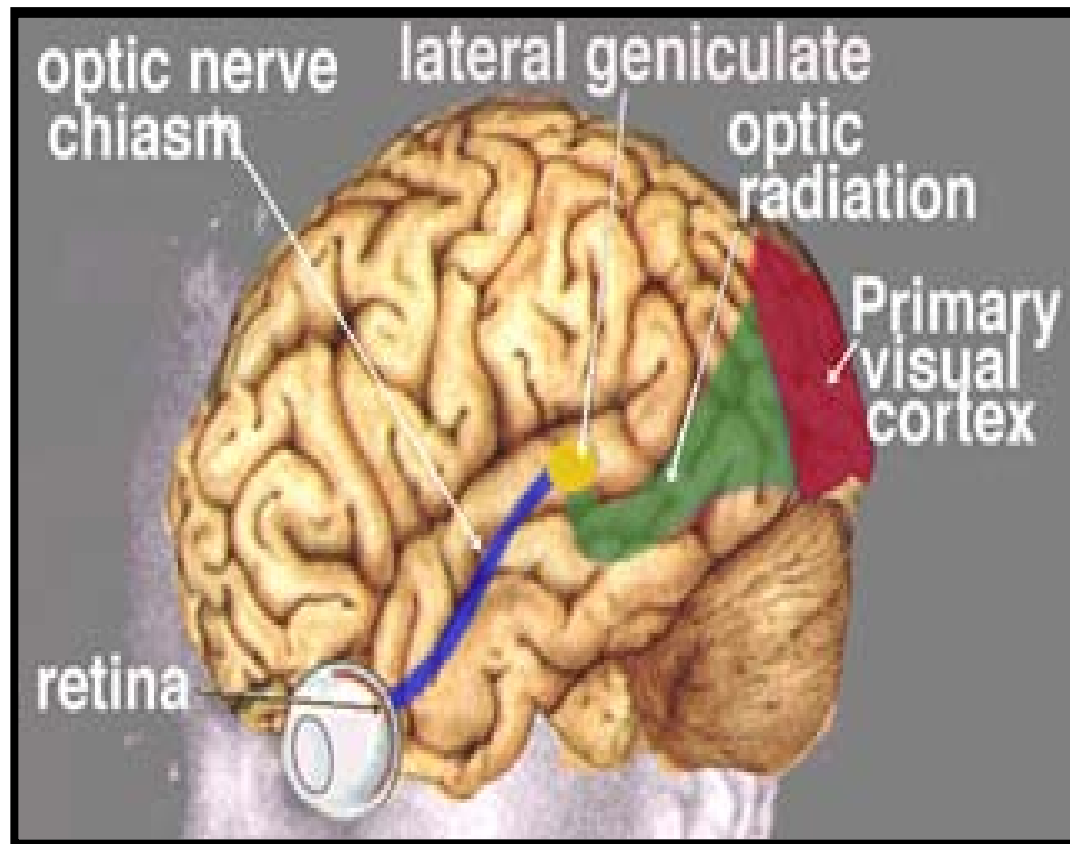
- approximate a Poisson disc distribution



# Human Visual System

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- **Physical structure well established**
- **Perceptual behaviour is a complex process**

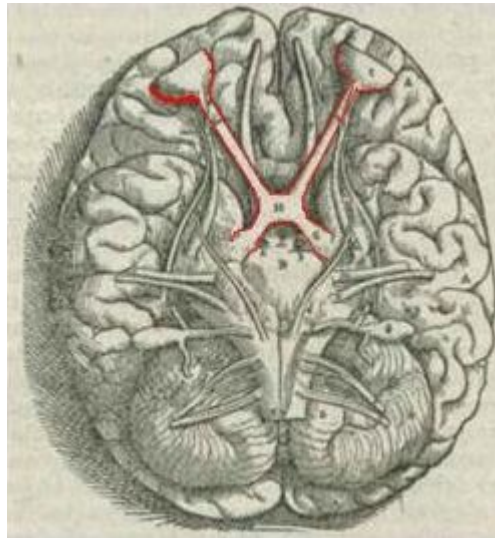




# Human Visual System

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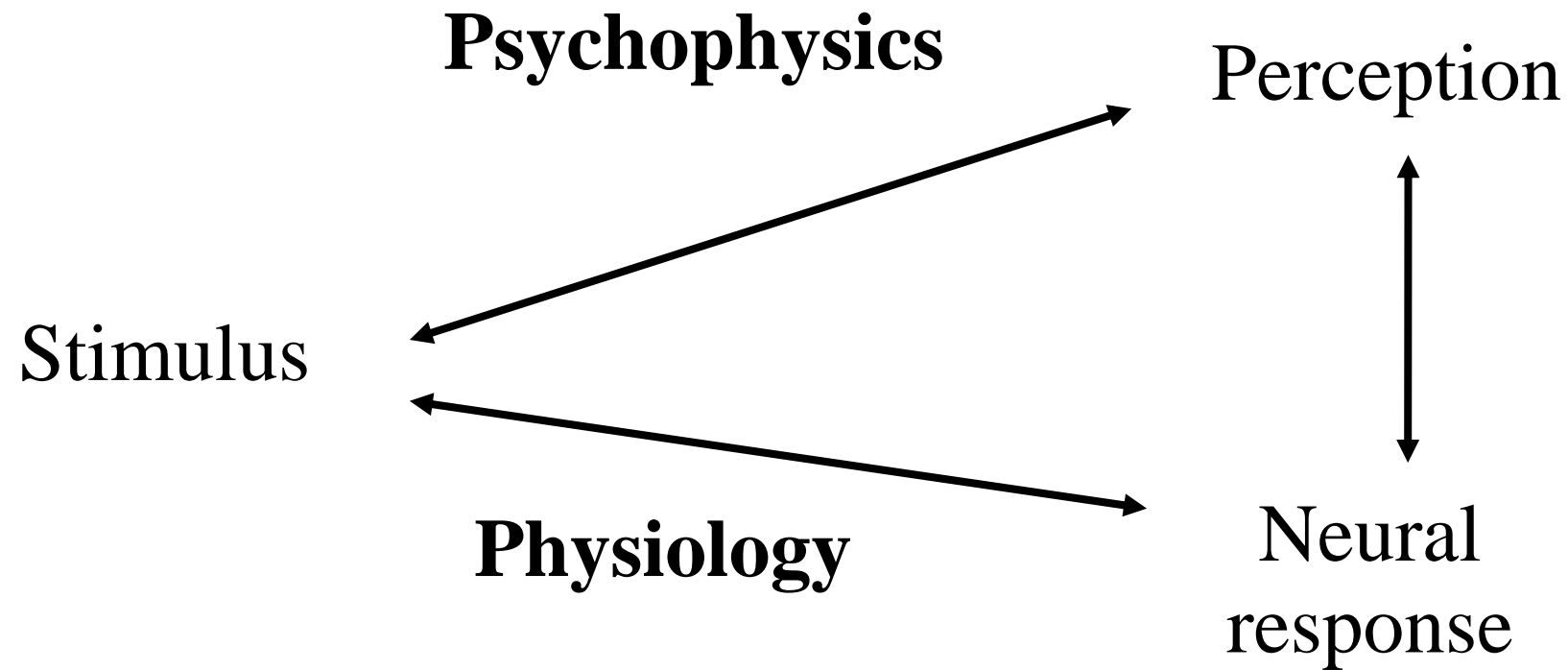
- **Physical structure well established**
- **Perceptual behaviour is a complex process**



optic chiasm

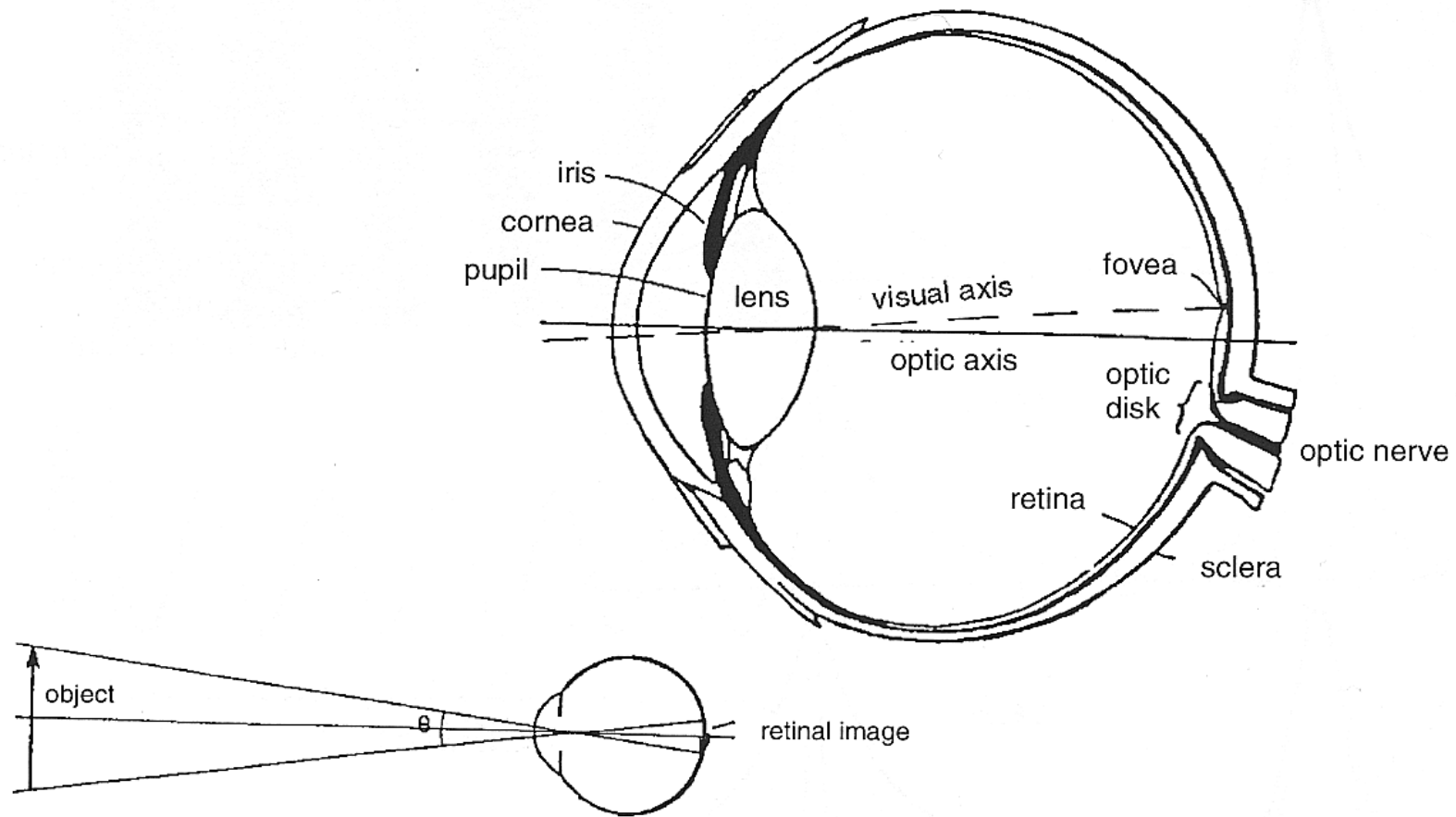
# HVS - Relationships

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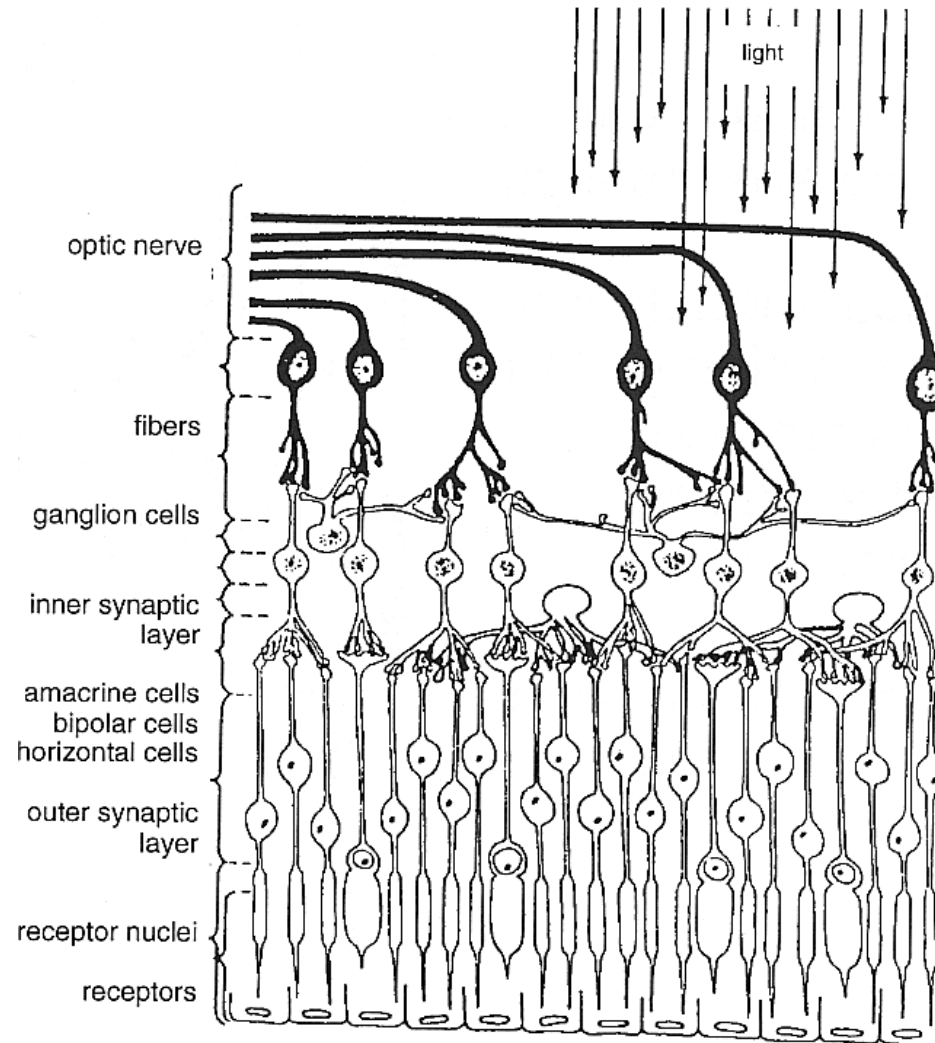
# Perception and Eye

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# Retina

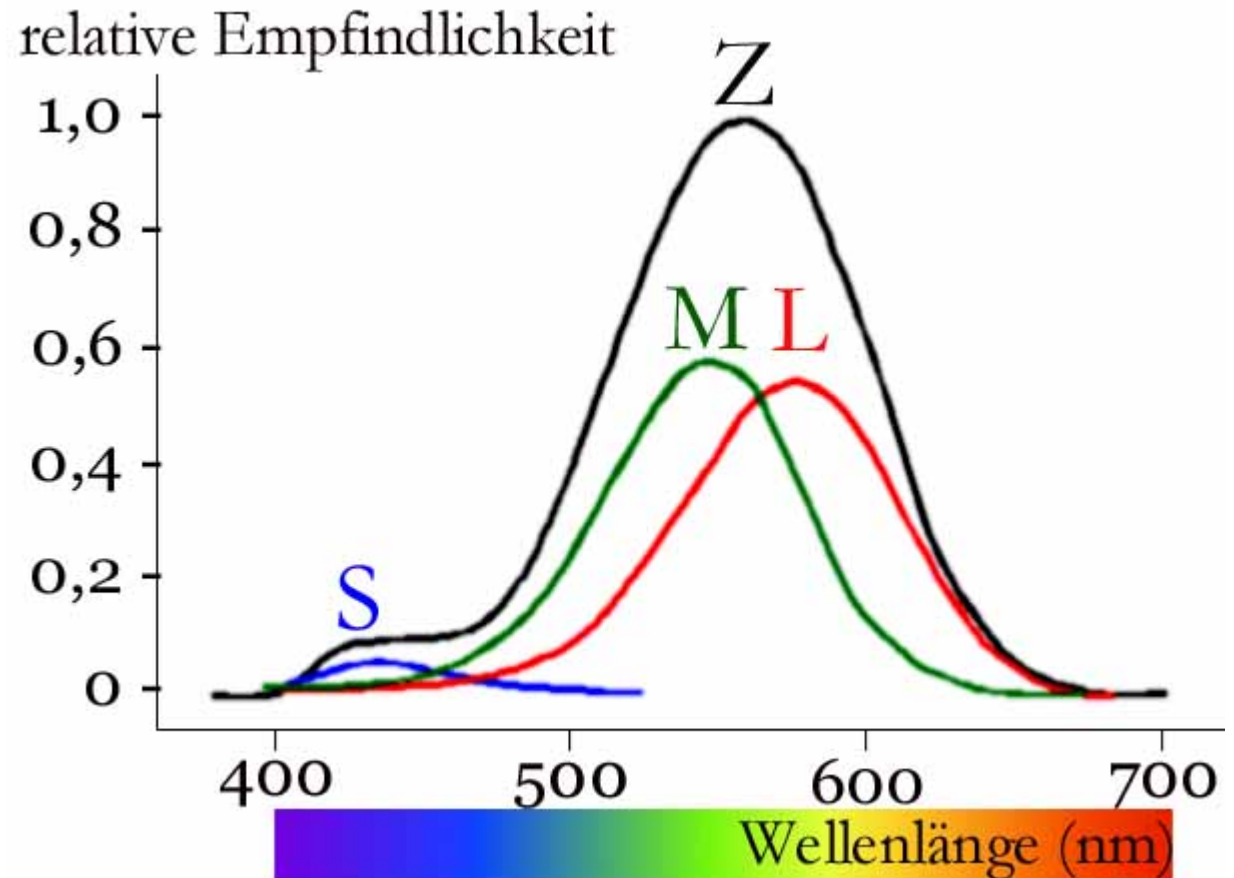
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# Eye as a Sensor

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- **Relative Sensitivity of Cones**
  - S scaled by 3x
  - Z (Zäpfchen – cones) total sensitivity



# Eye

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- **Fovea:**
  - Ø 1-2 visual degrees
  - 6-7 Mio. **cones**, about 0.4 arc seconds wide
  - No rods, but three different cone types:
    - L(ong, 64%), M(edium, 32%), S(hort wavelength, 4%)
    - Results in varying resolution depending on color
    - Resolution: 10 arc minutes (S, blue), 0.5 arc minutes (L, M)
  - Linked directly with optical nerves
  - Adaptation of light intensity only through cones
- **Periphery:**
  - 75-150 Mio. **rods**, night vision, S/W
  - Response to stimulation of approx. 5 photons/sec. (@ 500 nm)
  - Many thousands of cells are combined before linked with nerves
    - Bad resolution
    - Good flickering 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

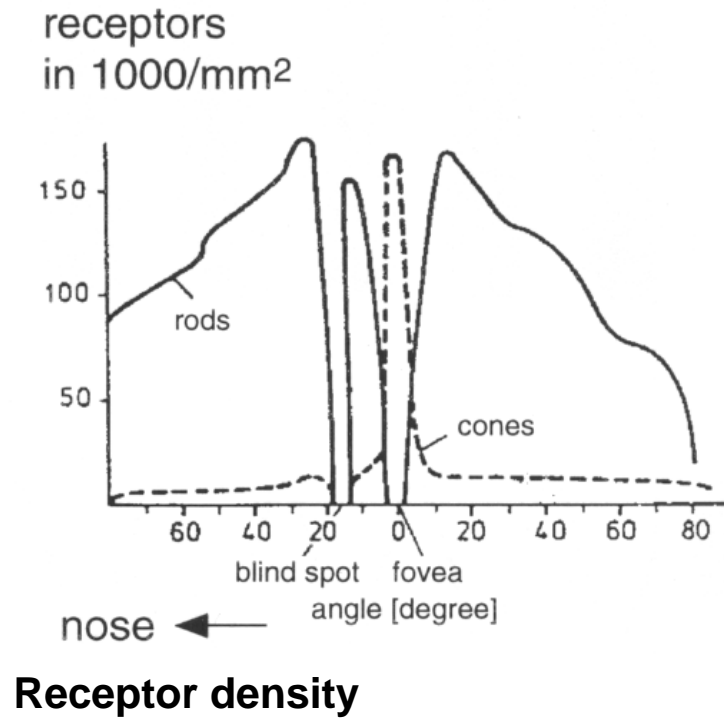
This is a text in blue

This is a text in red

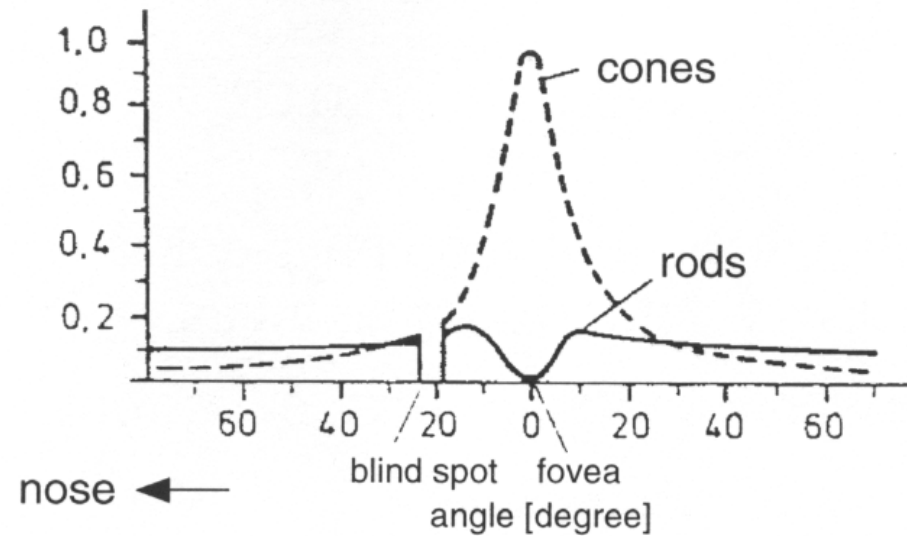
This is a text in green

This is a text in blue

# Visual Acuity



## Resolution in line-pairs/arc minute





# Resolution of the Eye

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- **Resolution-experiments**

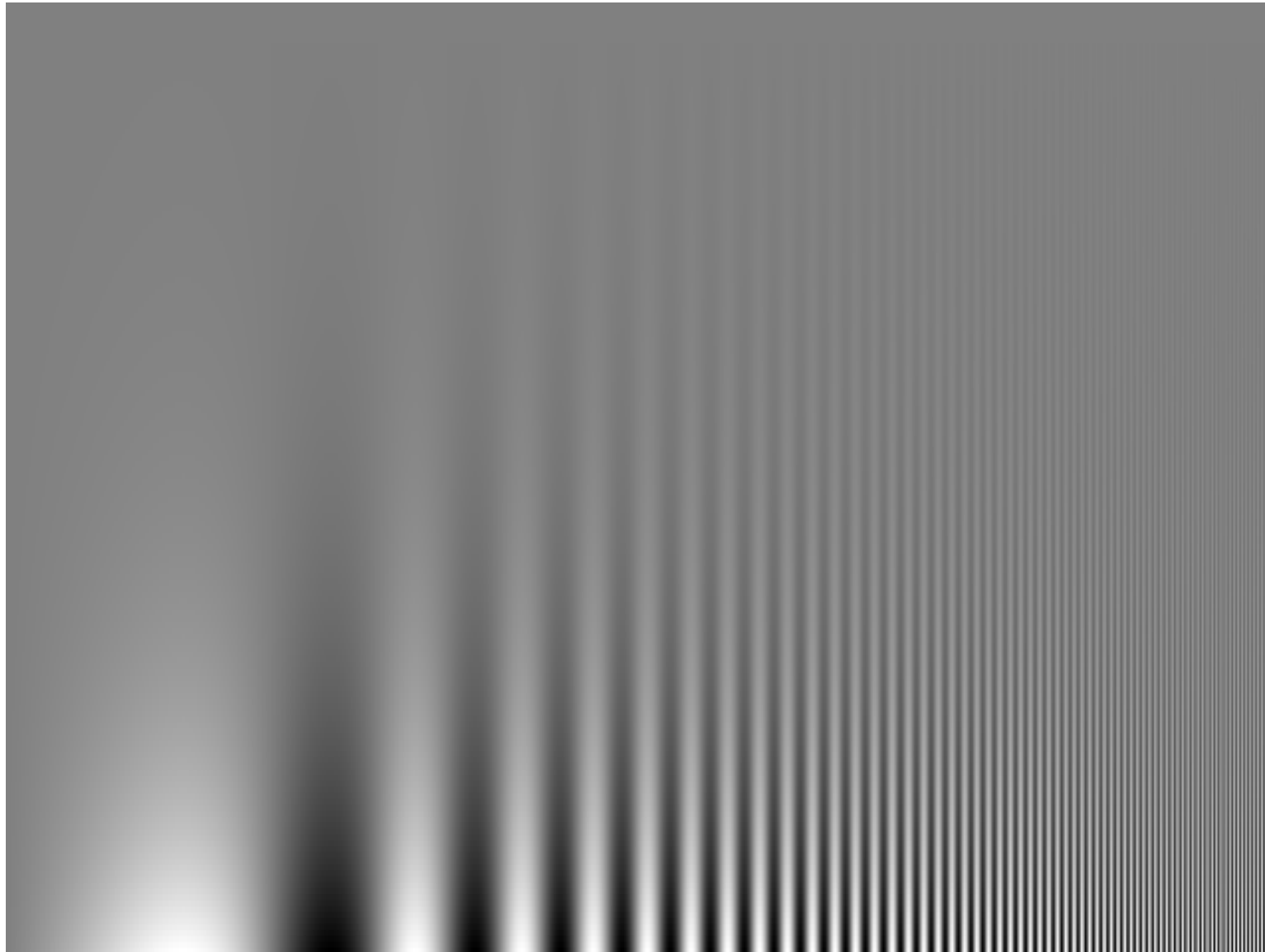
- Line pairs: 50-60/degree → resolution .5 arc minutes
- Line offset: 5 arc seconds (hyperacuity)



- Eye micro-tremor: 60-100 Hz, 5  $\mu\text{m}$  (2-3 photoreceptor spacings)
  - Allows to reconstruct from super-resolution
- Together corresponds to
  - 19" display at 60 cm: 18.000<sup>2</sup> Pixel (3000<sup>2</sup> w/out hyperacuity)
- **Automatic fixation of eye onto region of interest**
  - Automatic gaze tracking
  - Apparent overall high resolution of fovea
- **Visual acuity increased by**
  - Brighter objects
  - High contrast

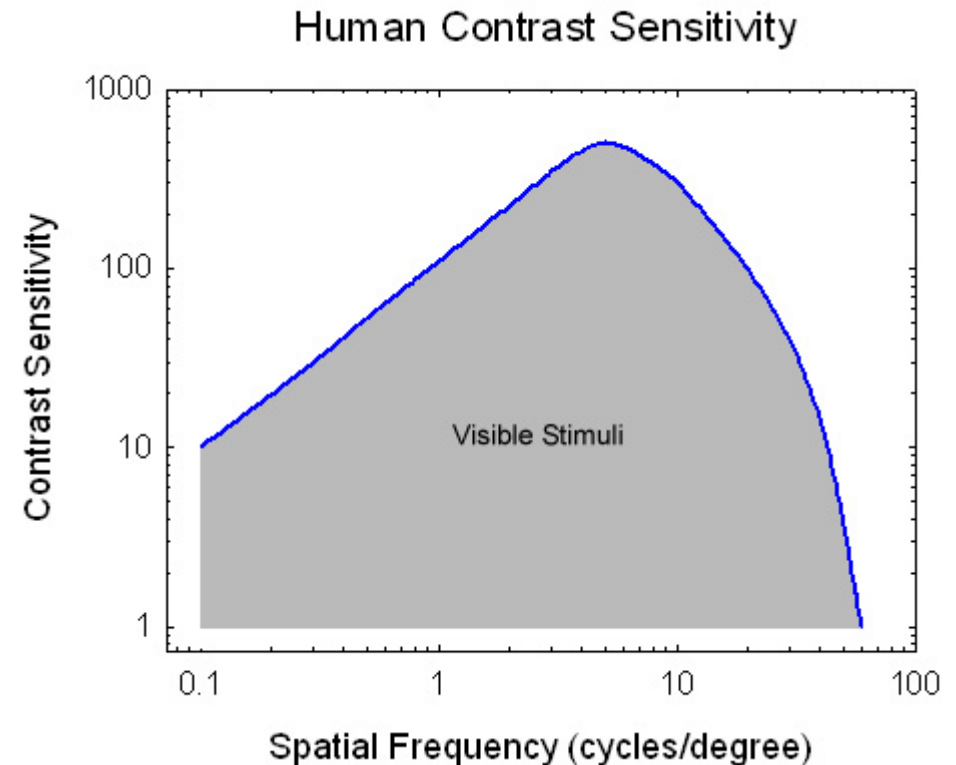
# Luminance Contrast Sensitivity

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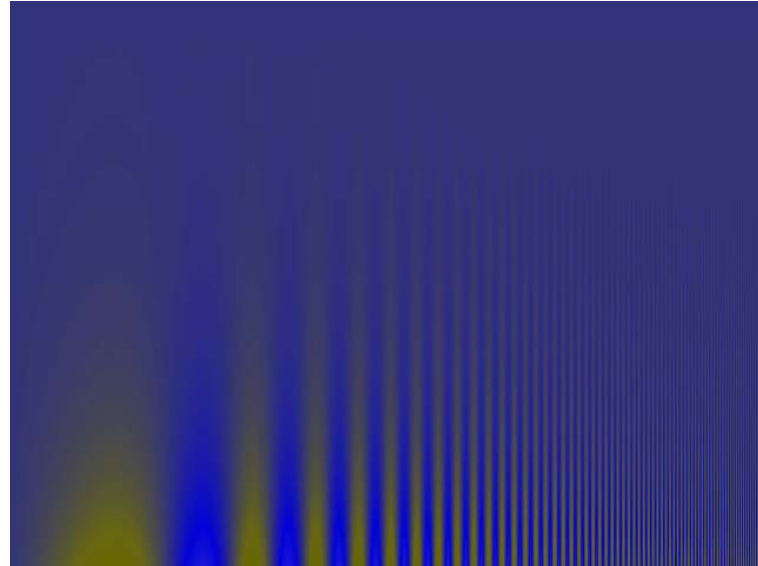
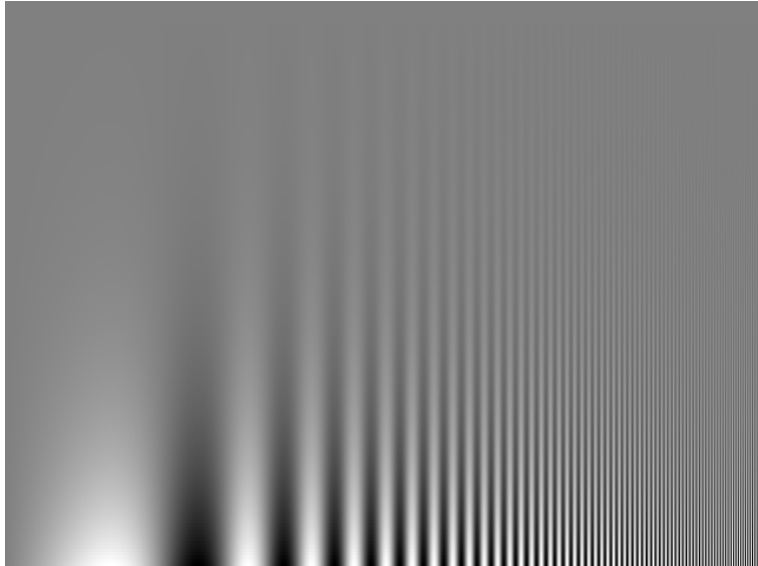
# Contrast Sensitivity

- **Sensitivity:**  
**1 / threshold contrast**
- **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)

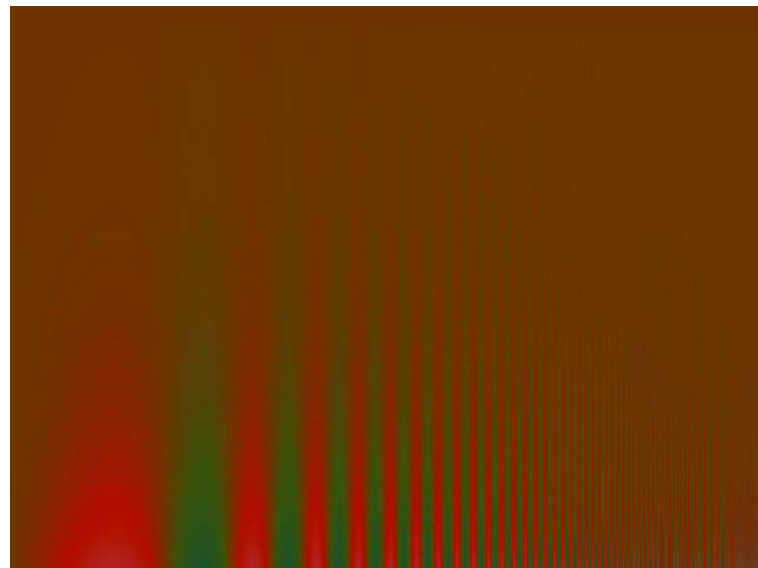


# Color Contrast Sensitivity

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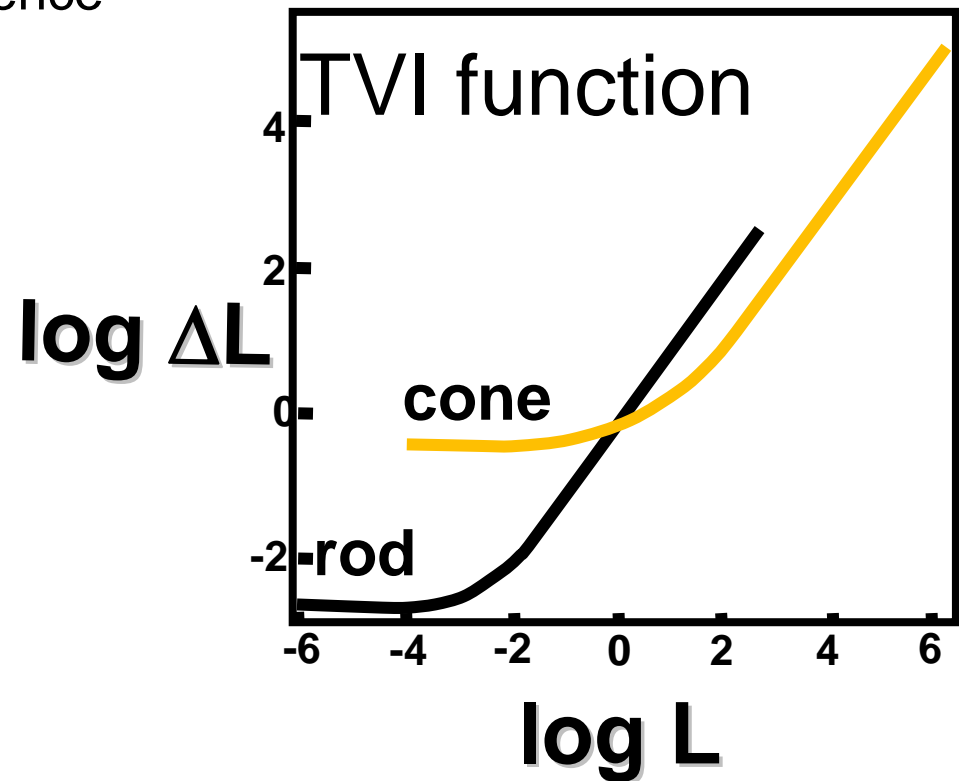
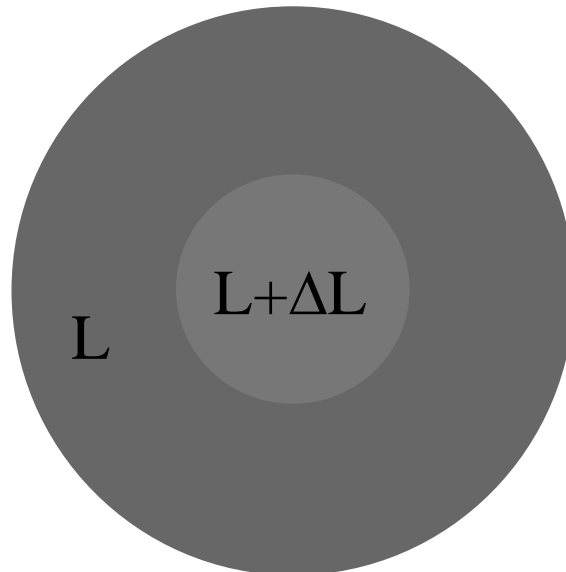


- **Color vs. luminance vision system**
  - Higher sensitivity at lower frequencies
  - High frequencies less visible
- **Image compression**



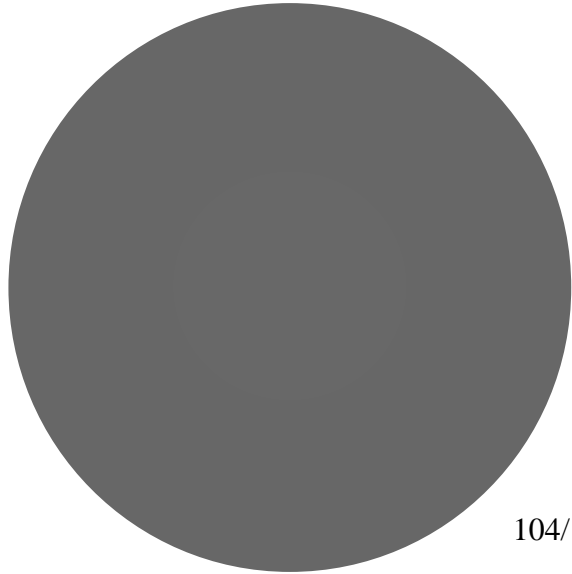
# Threshold Sensitivity Function

- Weber-Fechner Law (Threshold Versus Intensity, TVI)
  - Perceived brightness =  $\log$  (radiant intensity)  
$$E = K + c \log I_v$$
  - Perceivable intensity difference
    - 10 cd vs. 12 cd:  $\Delta L = 2\text{cd}$
    - 20 cd vs. 24 cd:  $\Delta L = 4\text{cd}$
    - 30 cd vs. 36 cd:  $\Delta L = 6\text{cd}$

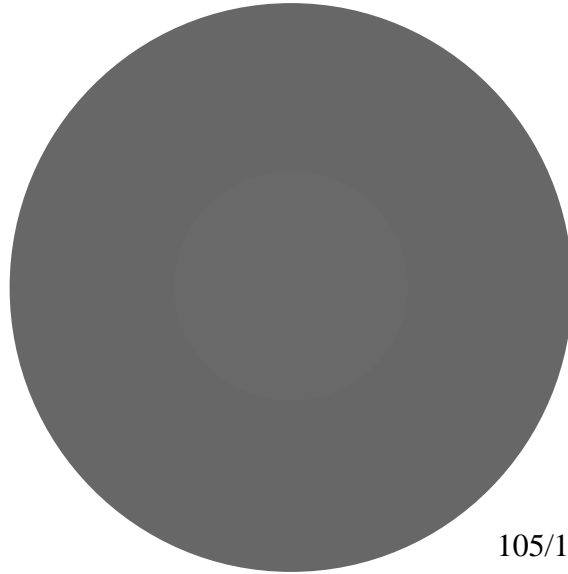


# Weber-Fechner Examples

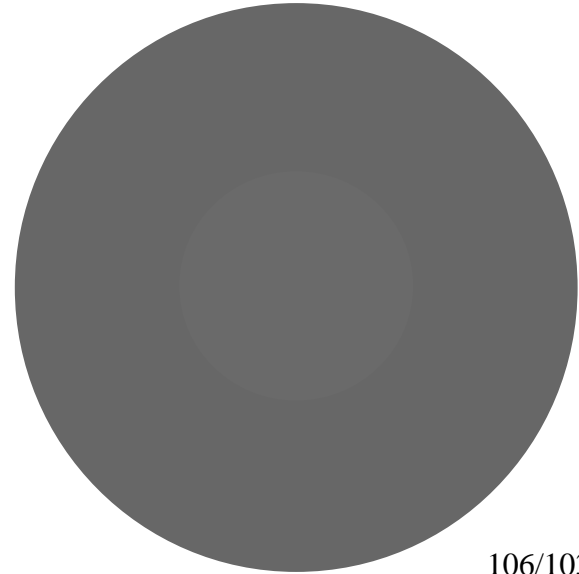
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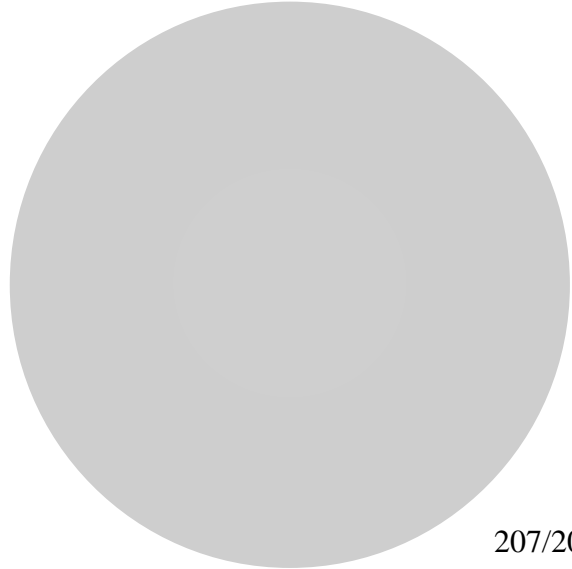
104/103



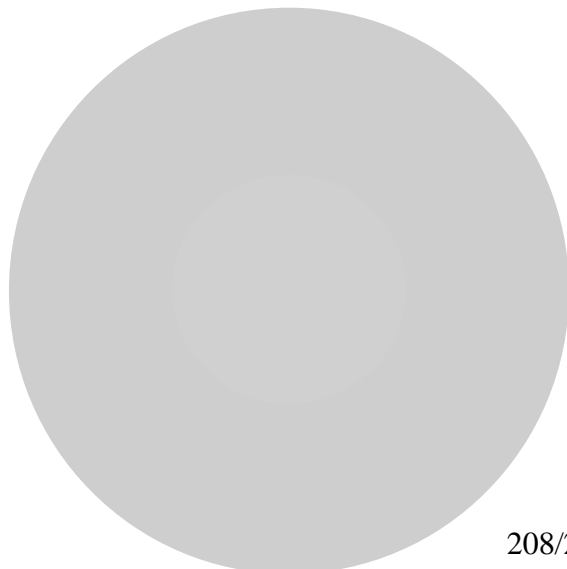
105/103



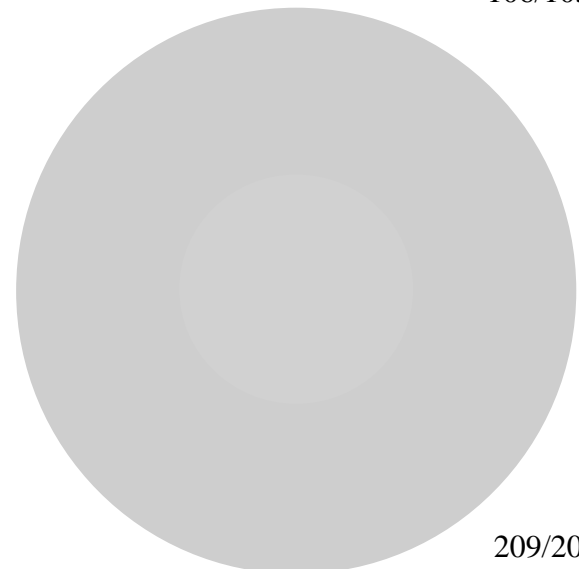
106/103



207/206



208/206

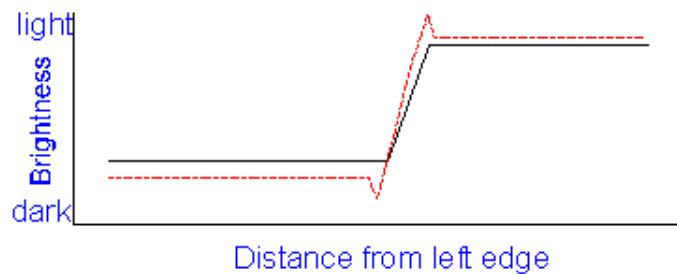
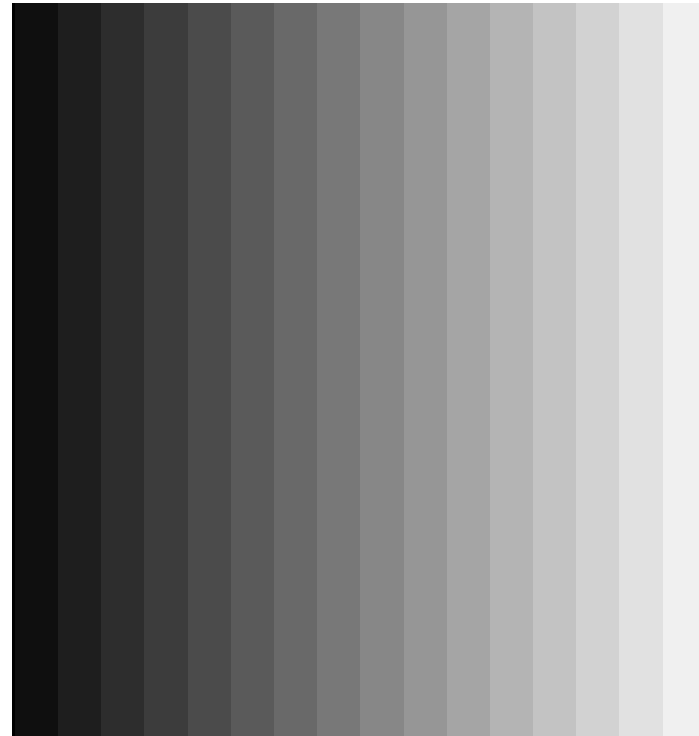
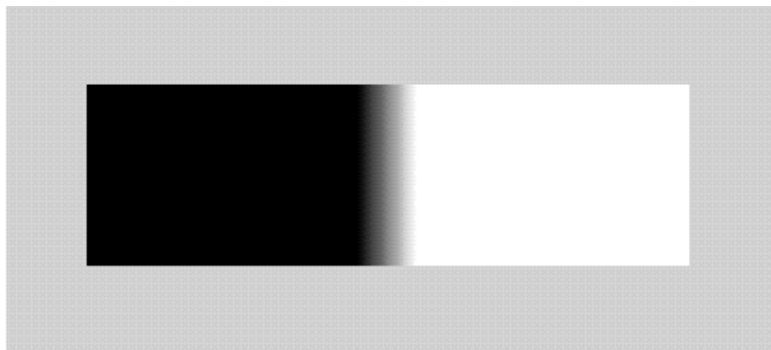


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# Mach Bands

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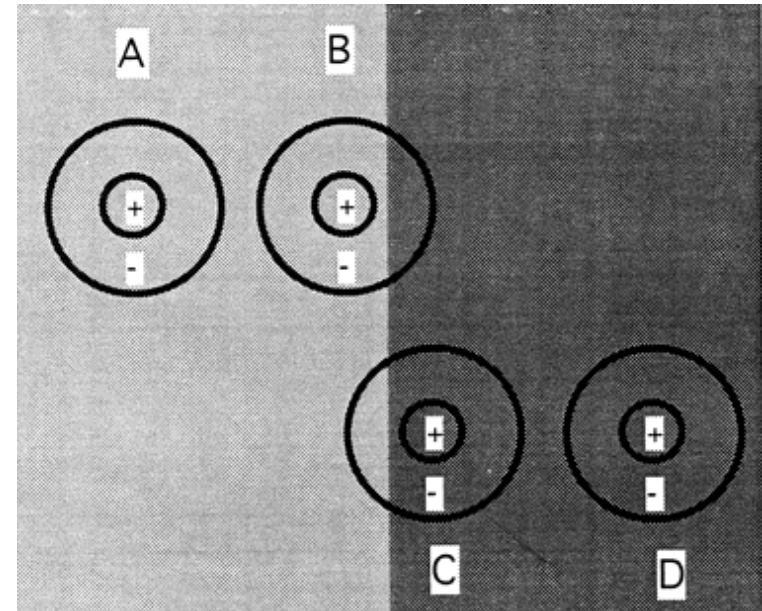
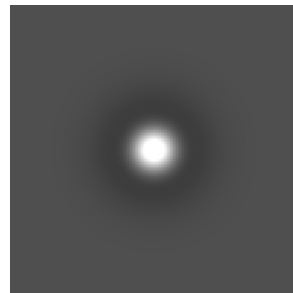
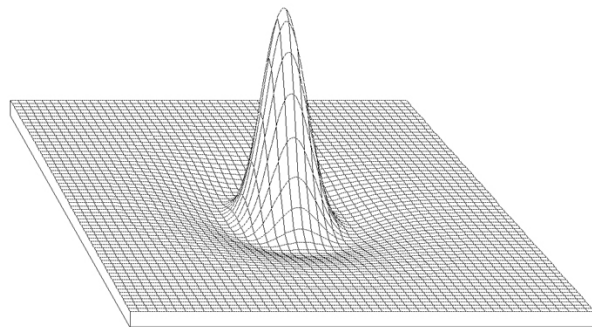
- “Overshooting” along edges
  - Extra-bright rims on bright sides
  - Extra-dark rims on dark sides
- Due to “Lateral Inhibition”



# Lateral Inhibition

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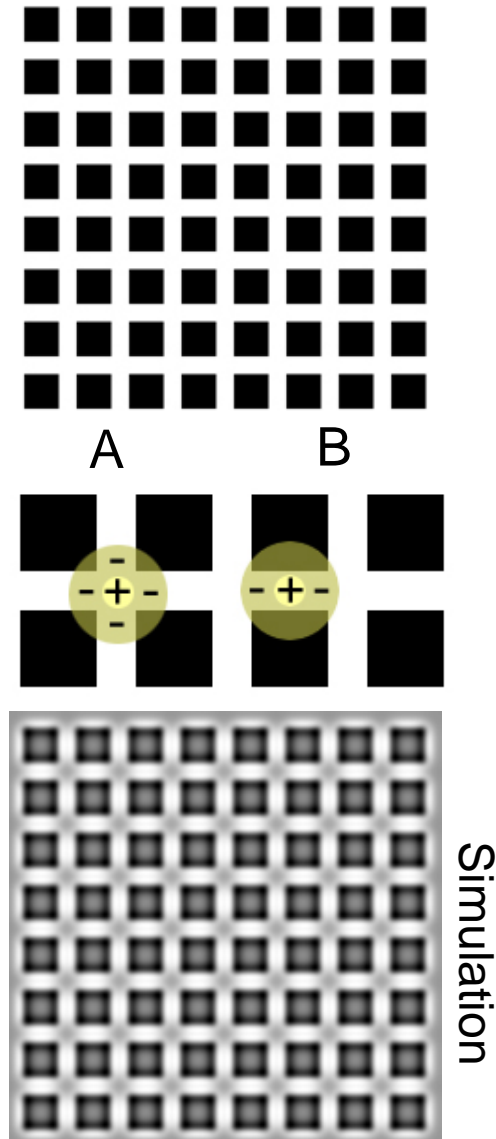
- **Pre-processing step within retina**
  - Surrounding brightness level weighted negatively
    - A: high stimulus, maximal bright inhibition
    - B: high stimulus, reduced inhibition → stronger response
    - D: low stimulus, maximal inhibition
    - C: low stimulus, increased inhibition → weaker response
- **High-pass filter**
  - Enhances contrast along edges
  - Difference-of-Gaussians (DOG) function

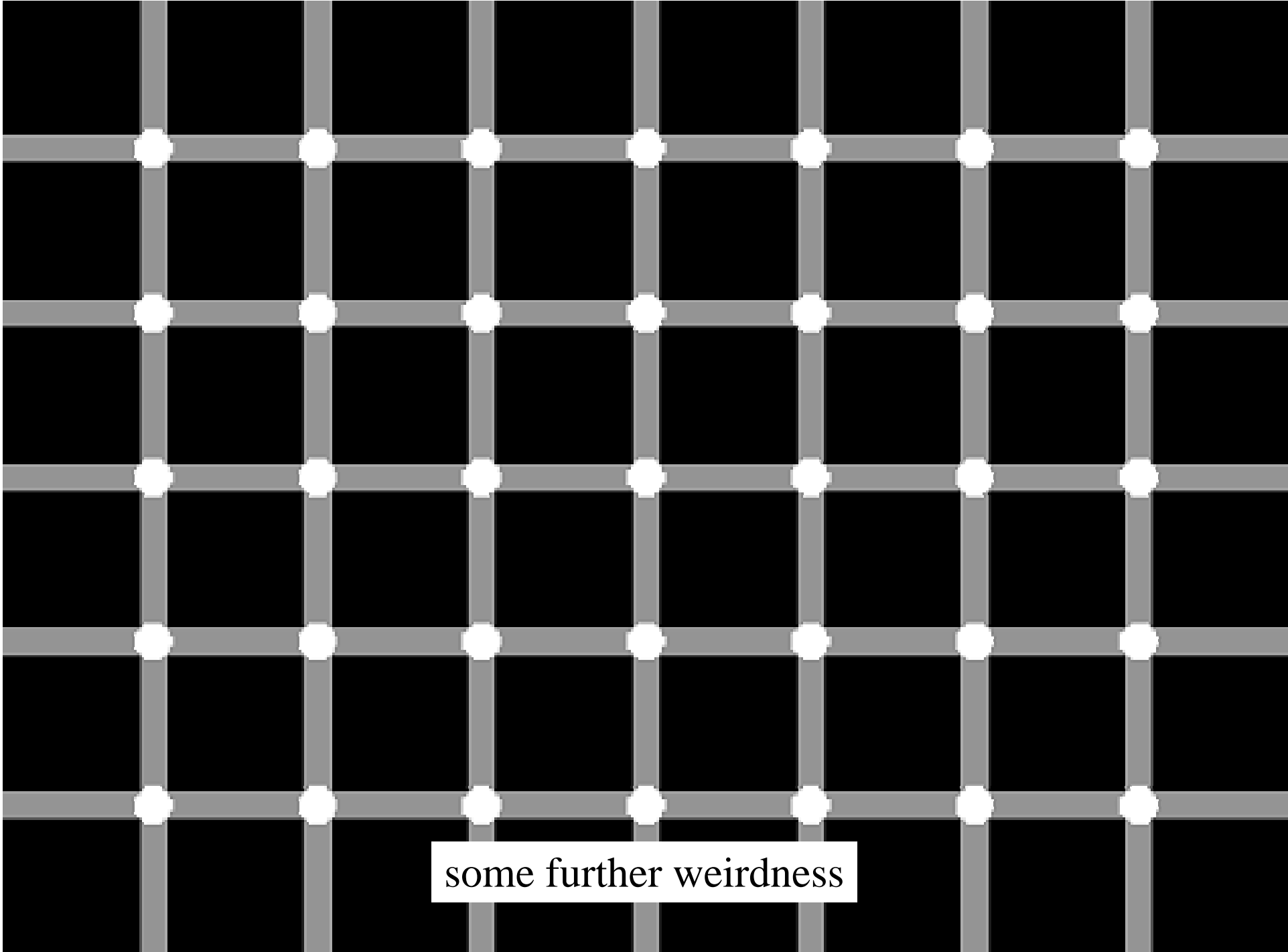




# Lateral Inhibition: Hermann Grid

- Dark dots at crossings
- Explanation
  - Crossings (A)
    - More surround stimulation (more bright area)
    - ⇒ Less inhibition
    - ⇒ Weaker response
  - Streets (B)
    - Less surround stimulation
    - ⇒ More inhibition
    - ⇒ Greater response
- Simulation
  - Darker at crossings, brighter in streets
  - Appears more steady
  - What if reversed ?

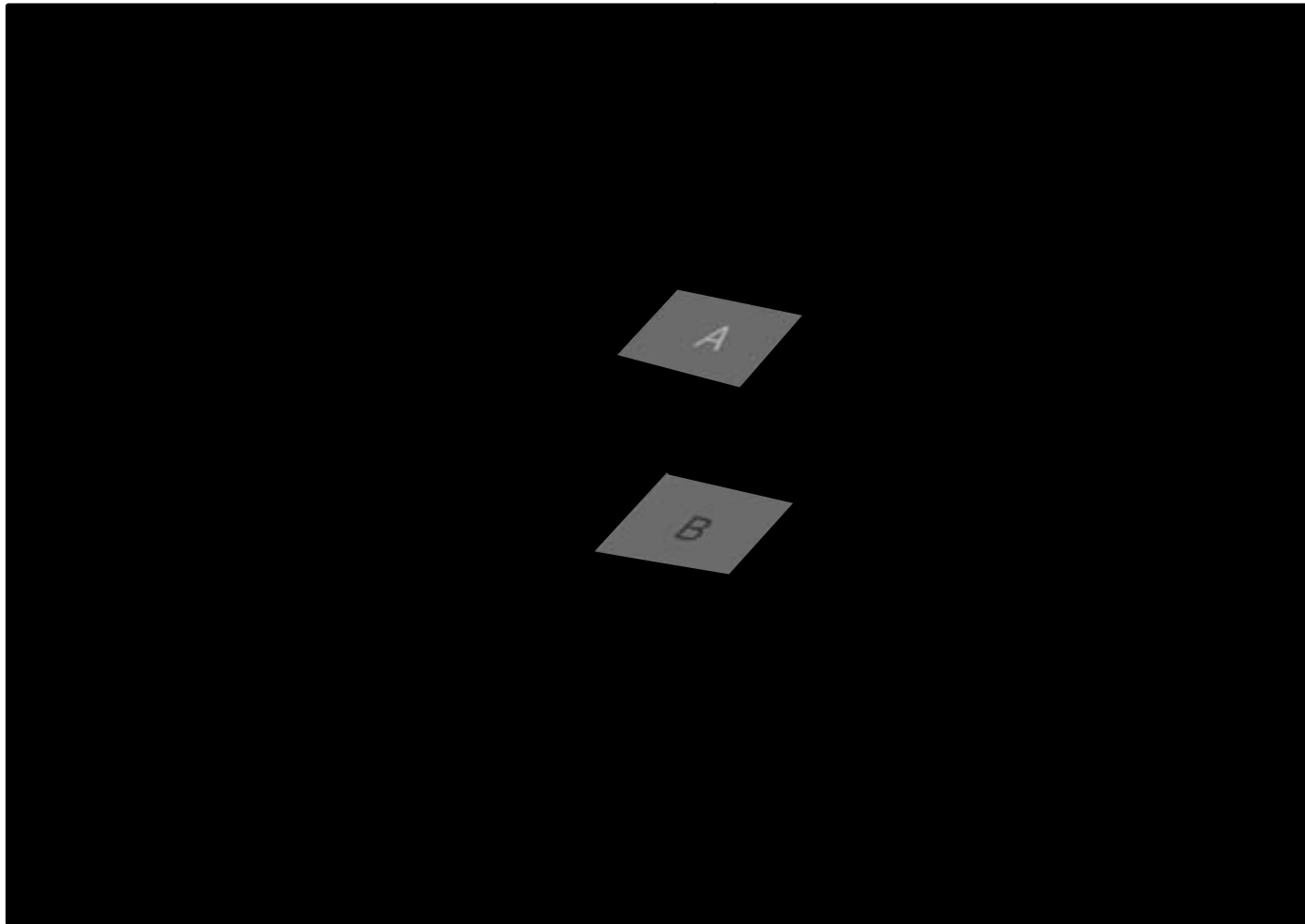




some further weirdness

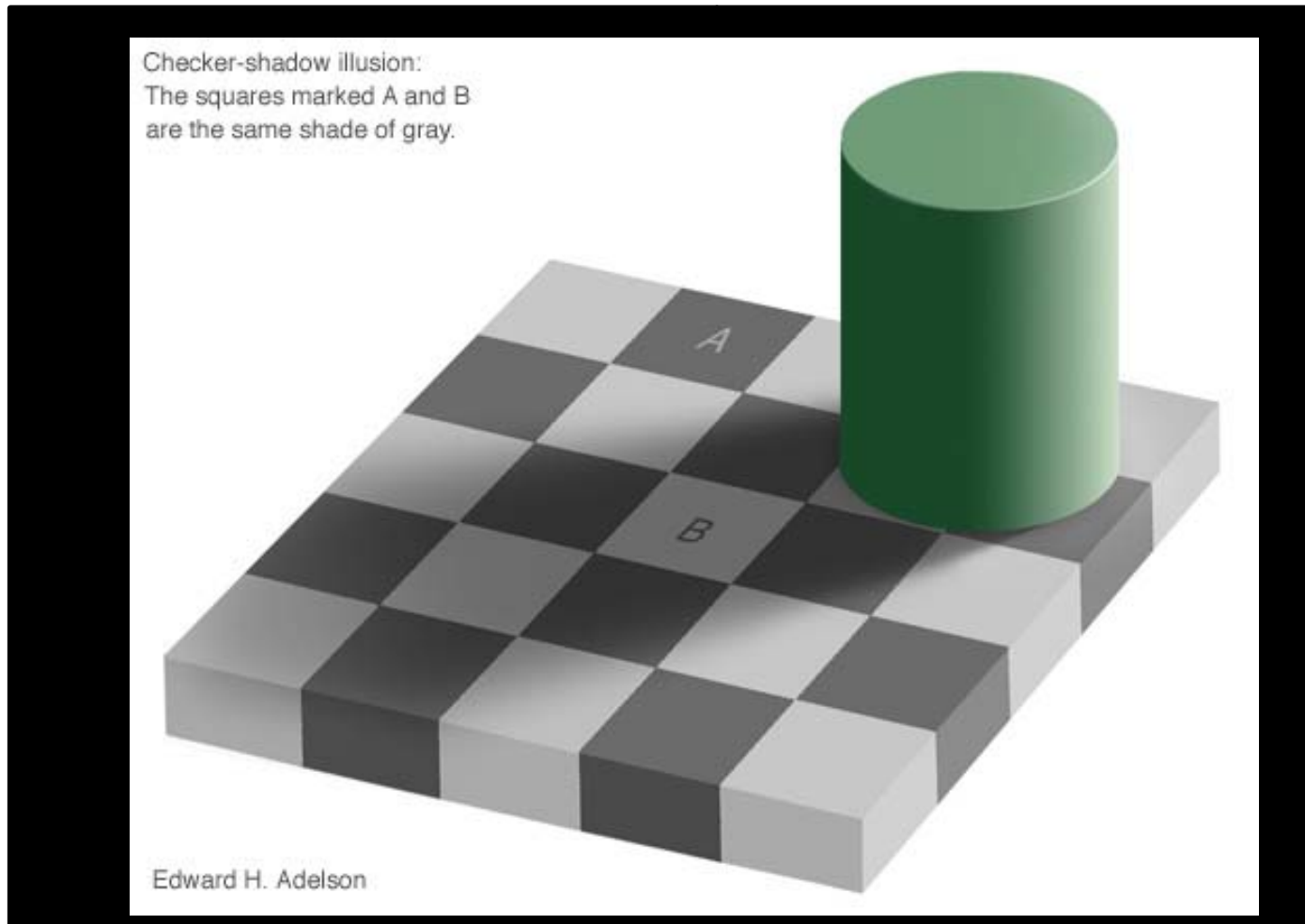
# High-Level Contrast Processing

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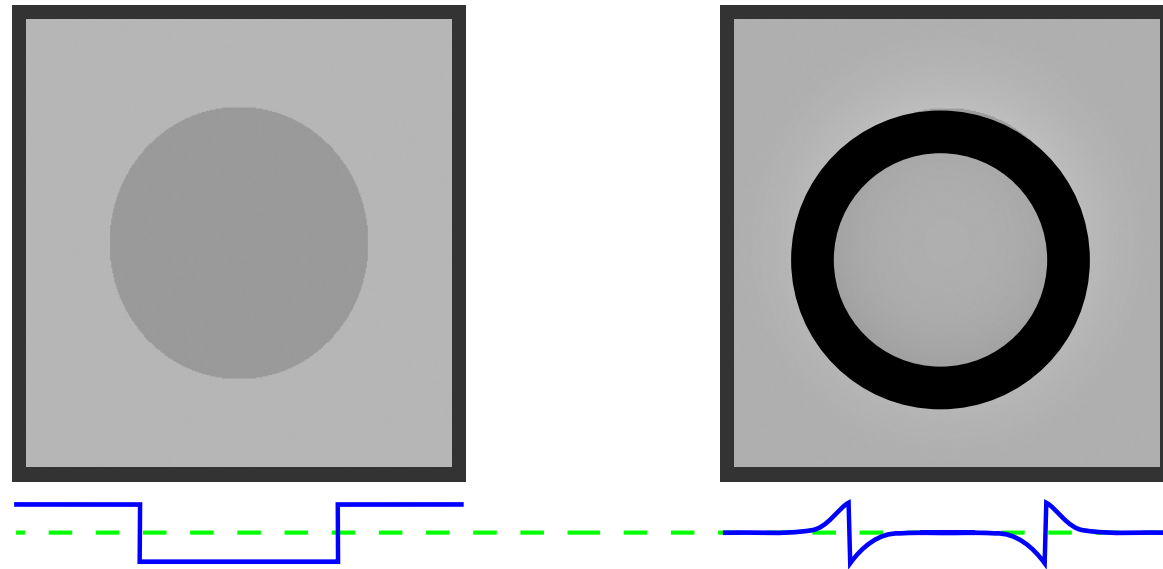
# High-Level Contrast Processing

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# Cornsweet Illusion

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- Apparent contrast due to **gradual darkening / brightening towards** a contrasting edge

# Percept. Effects – Veiling Glare

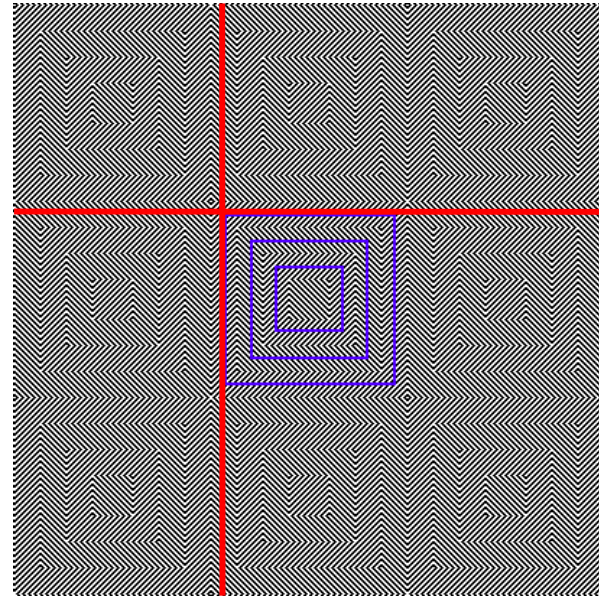
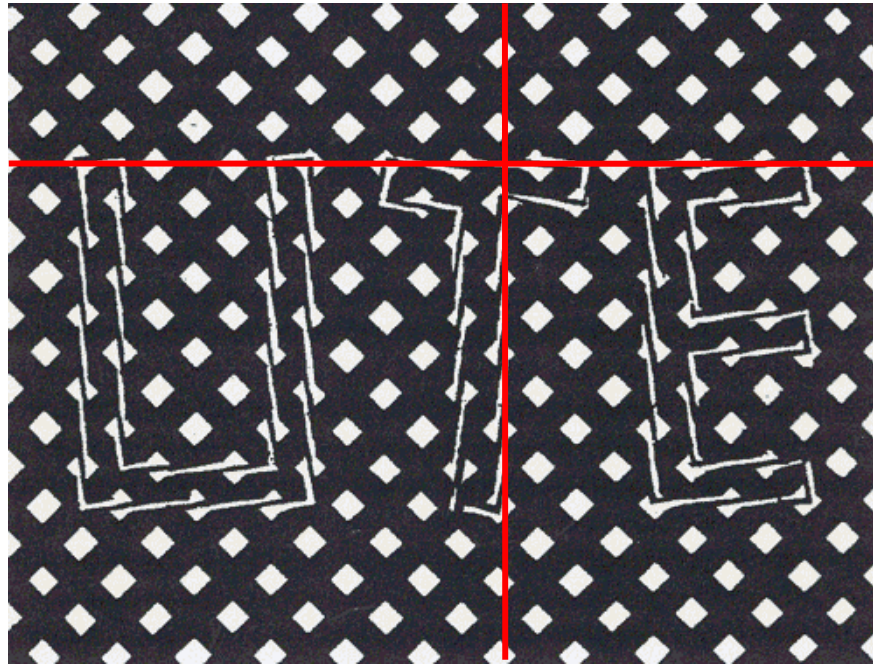
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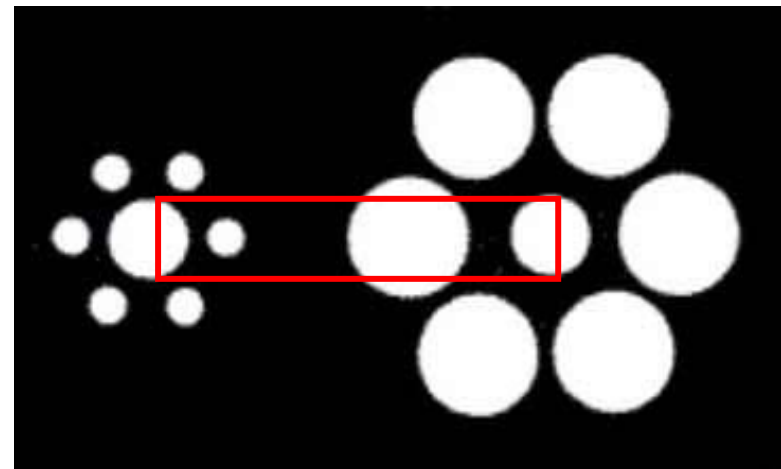
## **Simulation requires:**

- scatter (blur) of sources of high luminance  
*(computationally expensive)*

# Shape Perception



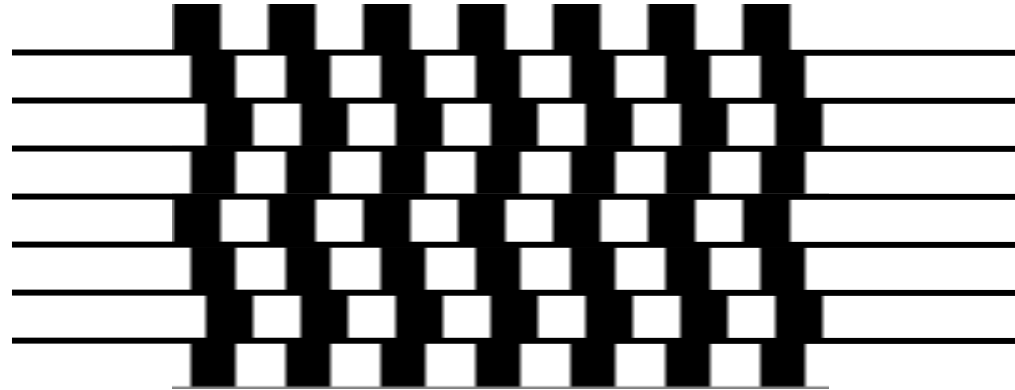
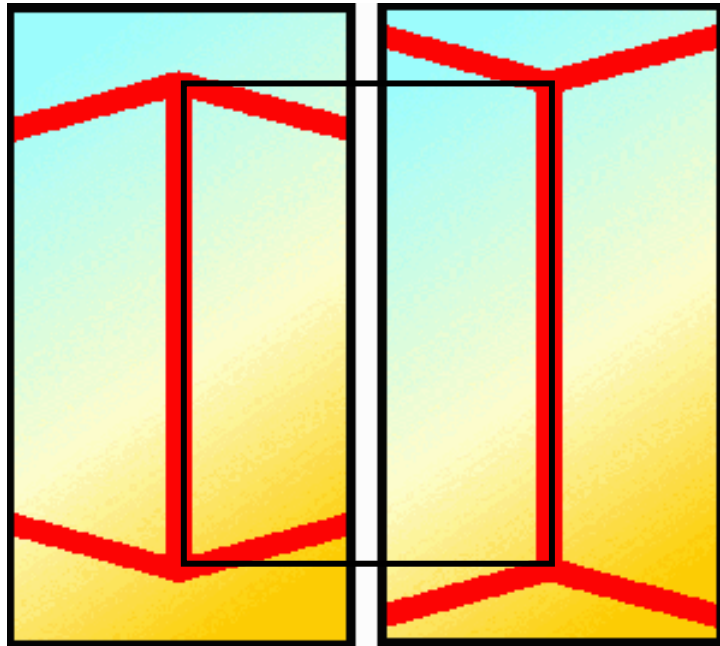
- Depends on surrounding primitives
  - Directional emphasis
  - Size emphasis



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

# Shape Processing: Geometrical Clues

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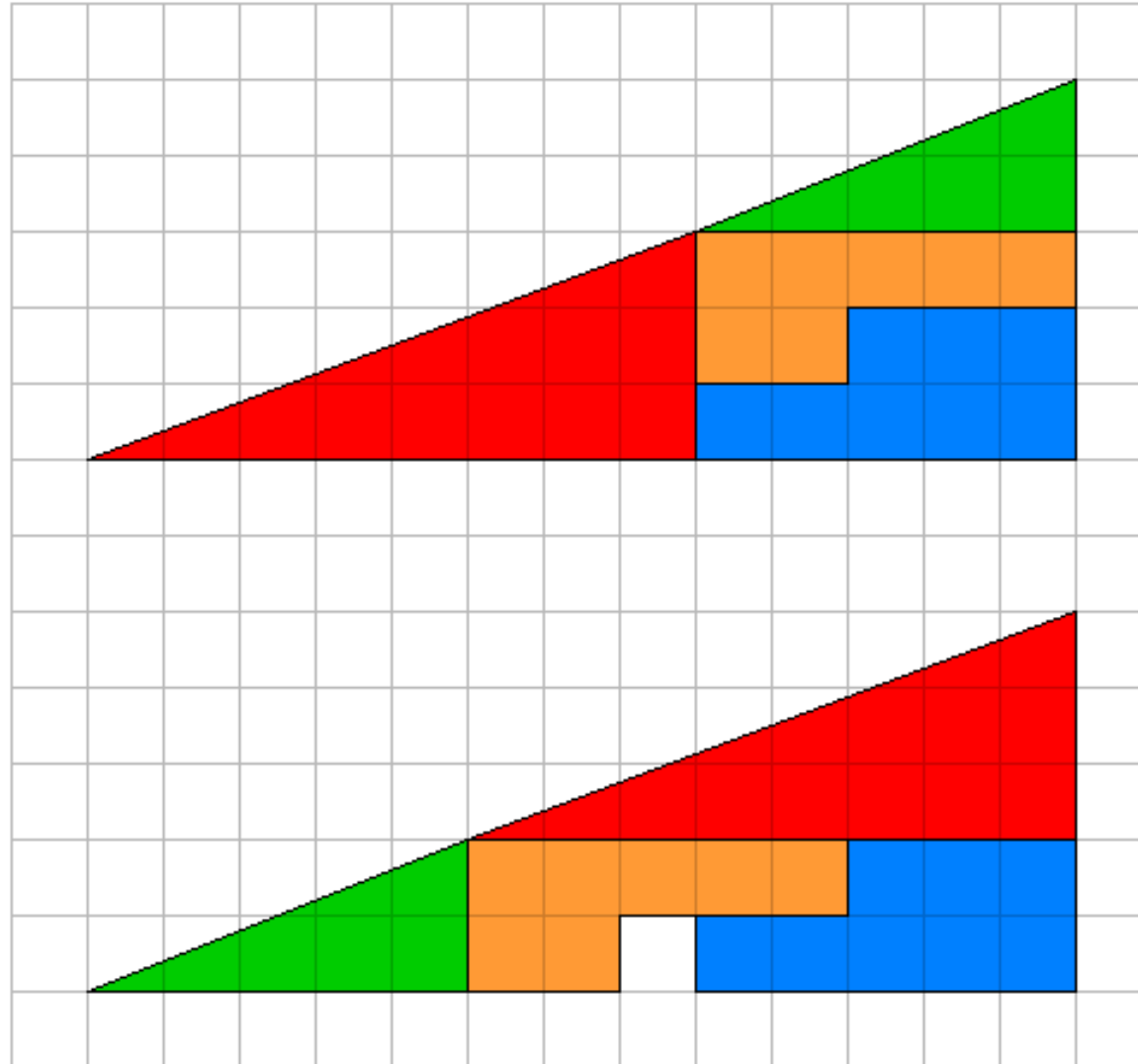
<http://www.panoptikum.net/optischetaeuschungen/index.html>

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



# Visual “Proofs”

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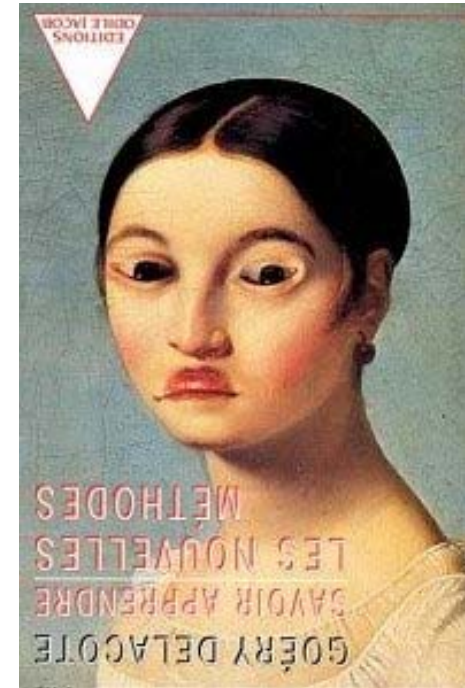
<http://www.panoptikum.net/optischetaeuschungen/index.html>

# HVS: High-Level Scene Analysis

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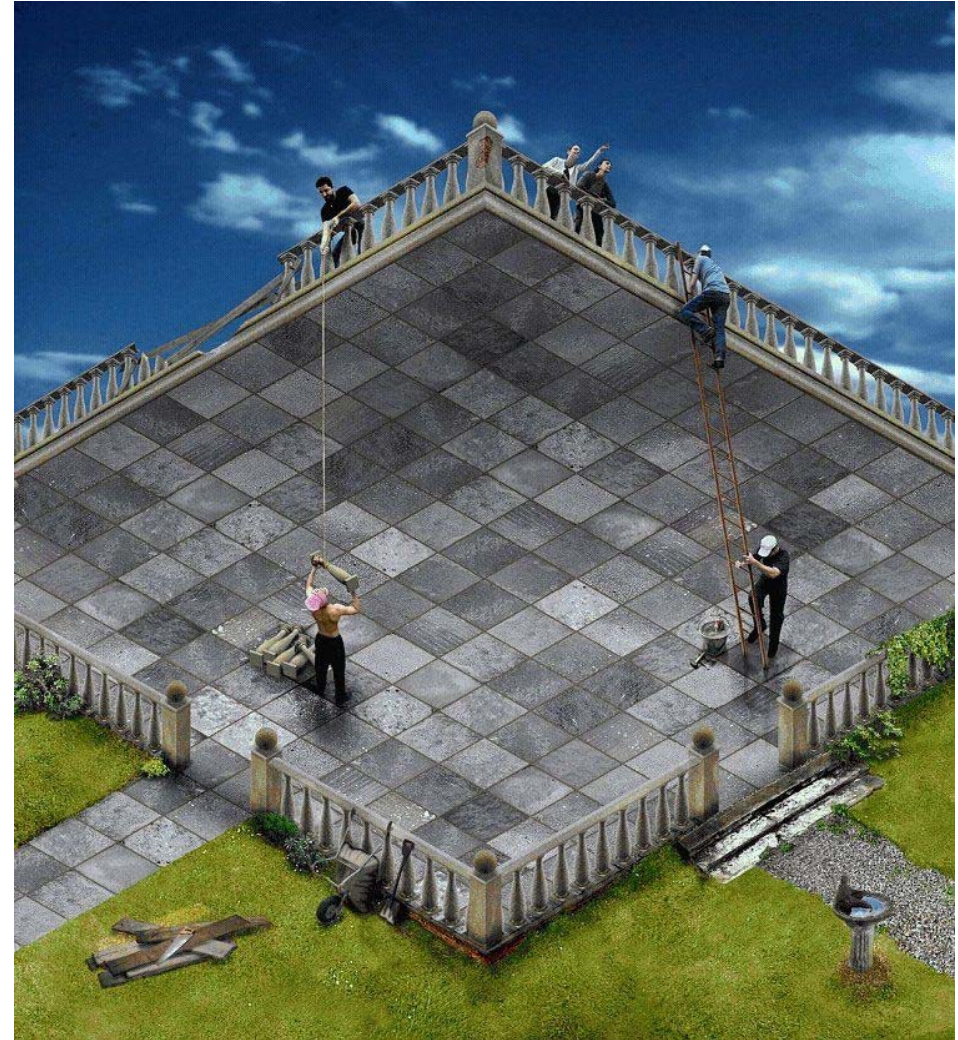
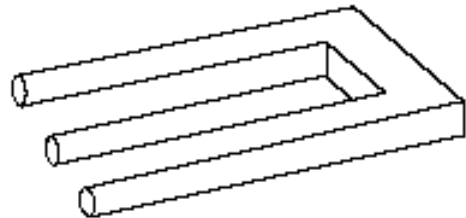
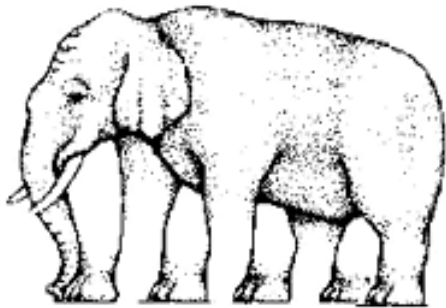
- Experience
- Expectation
- Local clue consistency



<http://www.panoptikum.net/optischetaeusungen/index.html>

# Impossible Scenes

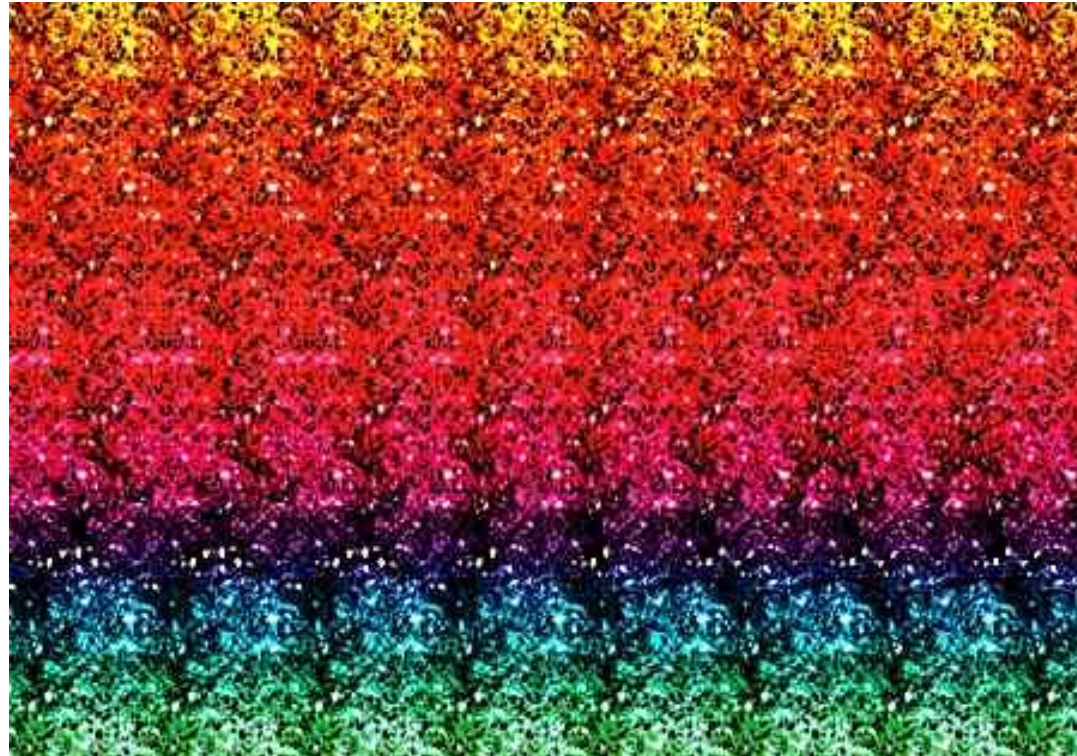
- Escher et.al.
  - Confuse HVS by presenting contradicting visual clues



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

# Single Image Random Dot Stereograms

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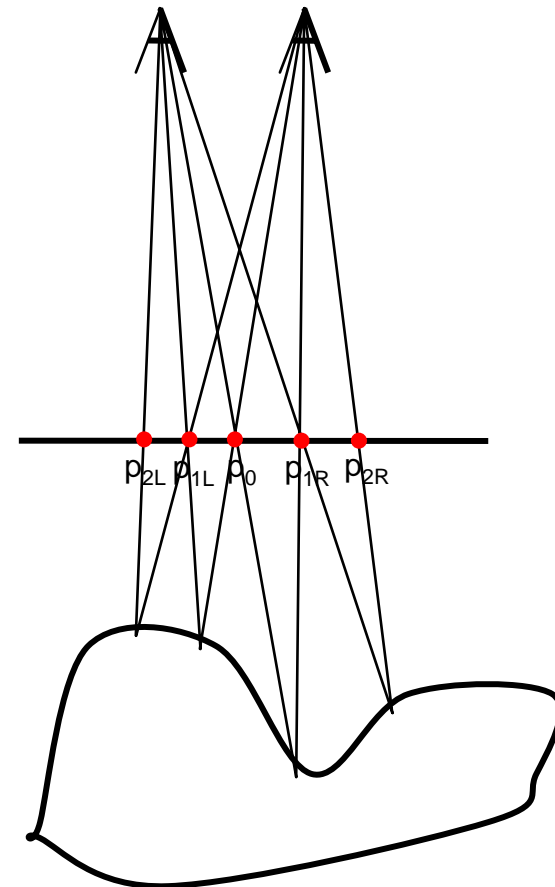


- **Vergence:** both eyes rotate to look at the same spot
- **Accommodation:** focussing at a particular depth plane

# SIRDS Construction

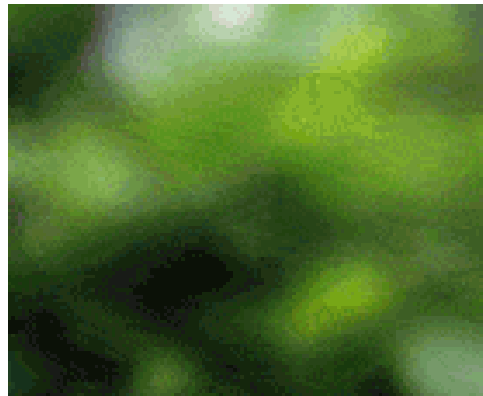
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- Assign arbitrary color to  $p_0$  in image plane
- Trace from eye points through  $p_0$  to object surface
- Trace back from object to corresponding other eye
- Assign color at  $p_0$  to intersection points  $p_{1L}, p_{1R}$  with image plane
- 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

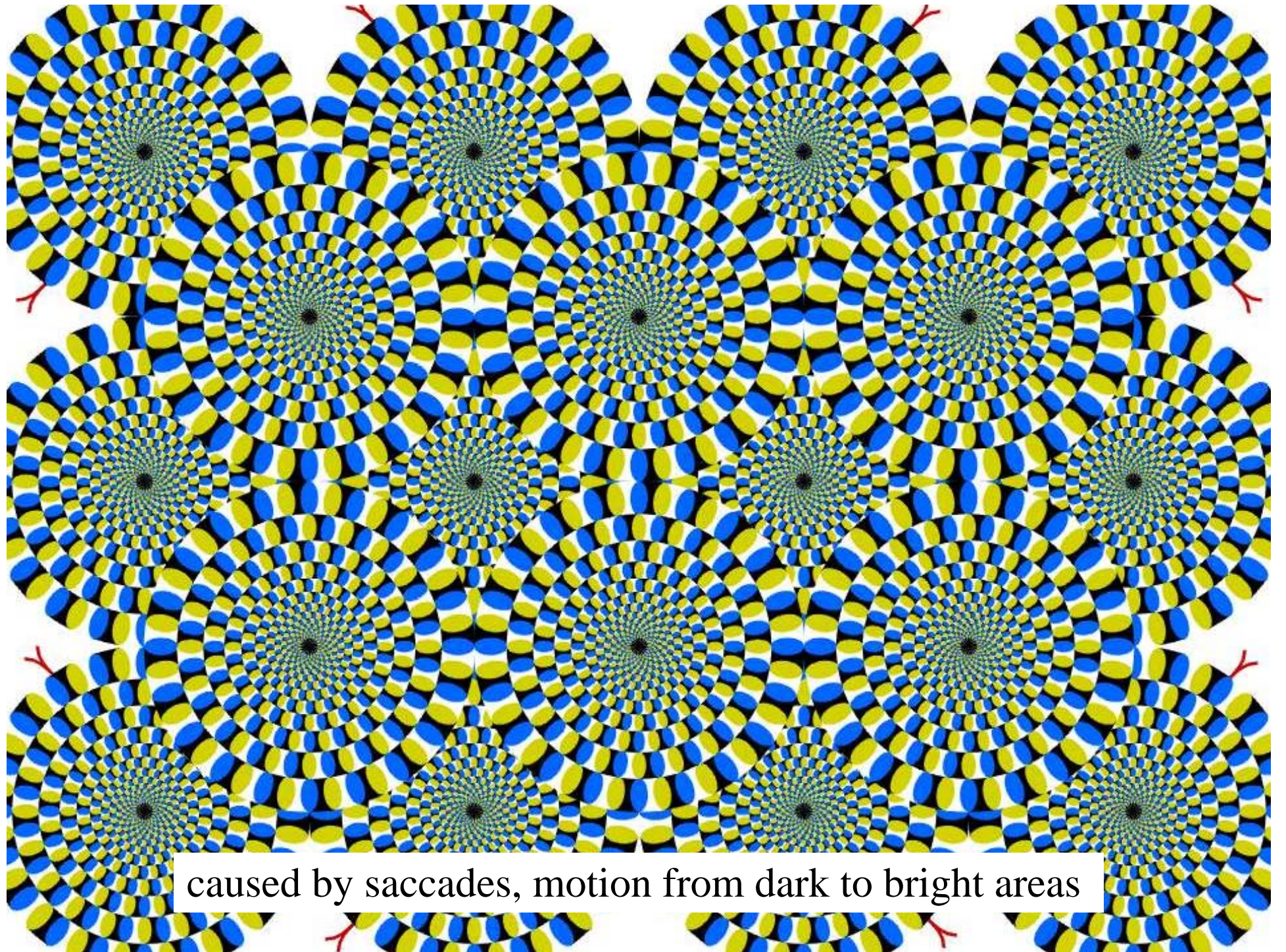


# Another Optical Illusion

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- **If you stare for approx. 20 seconds some of you will actually see a giraffe.**

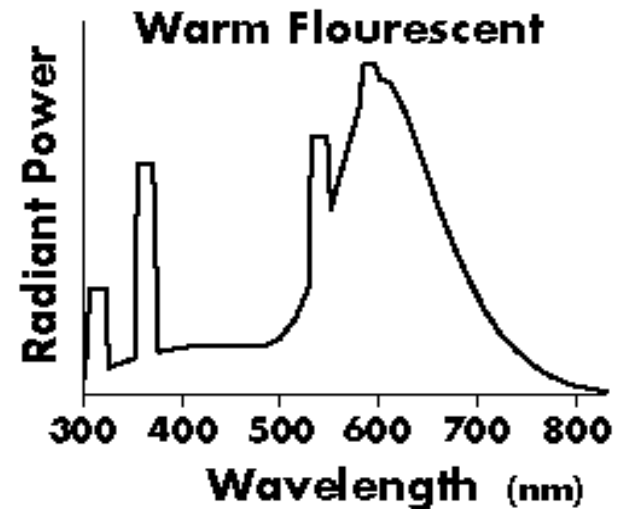
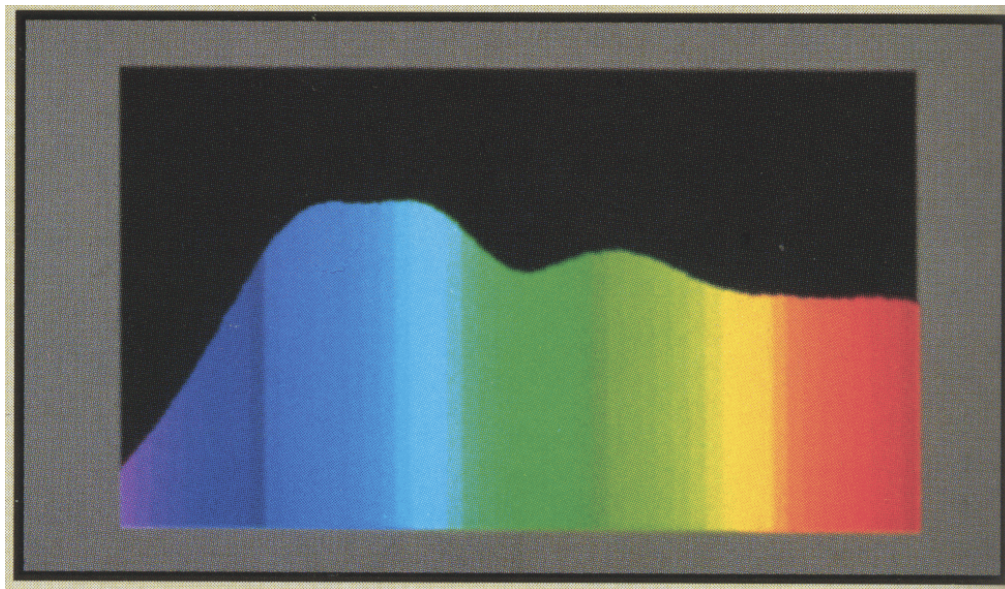


caused by saccades, motion from dark to bright areas

# Color

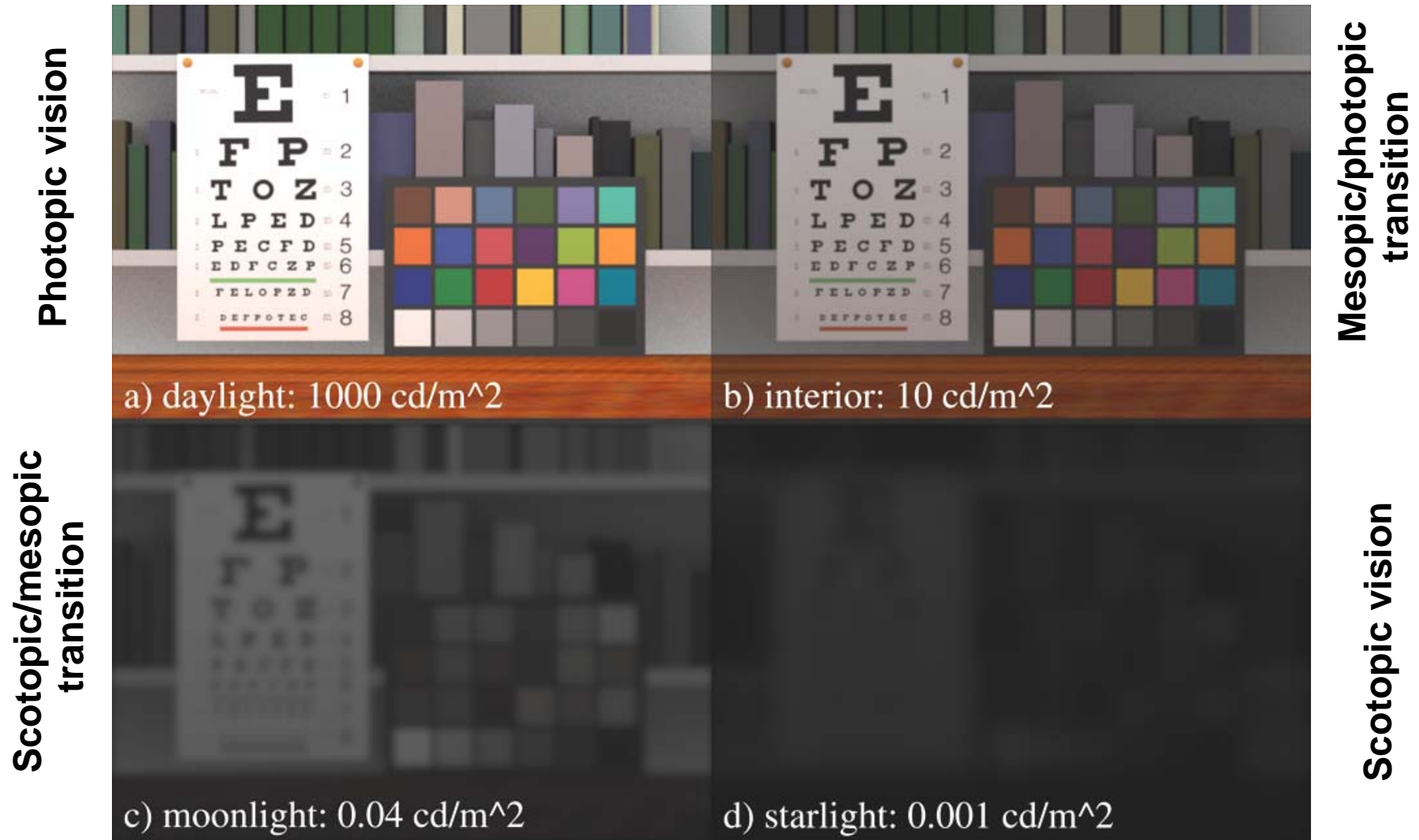
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- **Physics**
  - Continuous spectral energy distribution
- **Human color perception**
  - Cones in retina
  - 3 different cone types
  - Spectral mapping to 3 channels





# Visual Acuity and Color Perception

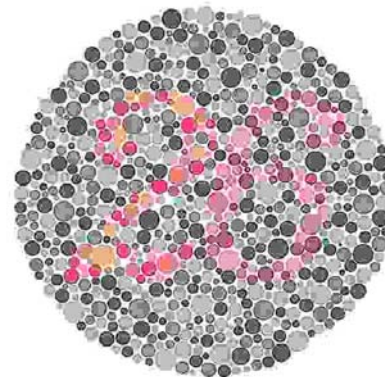
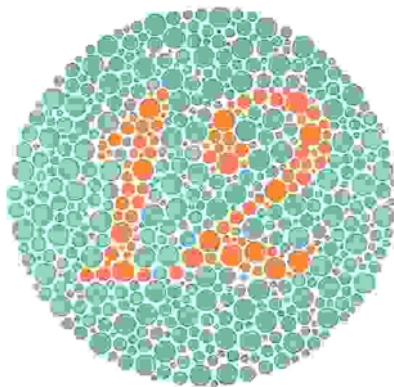


# Color Perception

- **Di-chromaticity (dogs, cats)**
  - Yellow & blue-violet
  - Green, orange, red indistinguishable
- **Tri-chromaticity (humans, monkeys)**
  - Red, green, blue
  - Color-blindness
    - Most often men, green color-blindness



[www.lam.mus.ca.us/cats/color/](http://www.lam.mus.ca.us/cats/color/)



[www.colorcube.com/illusions/clrblnd.html](http://www.colorcube.com/illusions/clrblnd.html)