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COLORIMETRY







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# The Electromagnetic spectrum



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Spectral examples

The light emitted from a Laser is strictly monochromatic and its spectrum is made from a single line where all the energy is concentrated.



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#### Spectral examples

The light emitted from the 3 different phosphors of a traditional color Cathode Ray Tube (CRT)





The light emitted from a gas vapour lamp is a set of diffent spectral lines. Their value is linked to the allowed energy steps performed by the excited gas electrons.



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#### Spectral examples

Many objects, when heated, emit light with a spectral distribution close to the "Black body" radiation. It follows the Planck law and its shape depends only on the absolute object temperature.

Examples:

- the stars,
- the sun.
- incandenscent

lamps



# The "Black body" law

Planck's law states that:

$$I(\nu,T)d\nu = \left(\frac{2h\nu^3}{c^2}\right)\frac{1}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{kT}} - 1}d\nu$$

where:

I(v,T) dv is the amount of energy per unit surface area per unit time per unit solid angle emitted in the frequency range between v and v + dv by a black body at temperature T;

*h* is the Planck constant;

c is the speed of light in a vacuum;

k is the Boltzmann constant;

v is frequency of electromagnetic radiation;

*T* is the temperature in Kelvin.

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# The "white" light

An ideal illuminant with flat spectrum is not realizable.

The sun can be assumed as a Planck source a 6000K

Incandescent lamps can be assumed as planck sources ranging from 2000K to 5000K



A detailed description of the power spectrum where providing power density at each frequency.

30 values to specify energy in every sub-band (of 10 nm) in the visible range (from 400 to 700 nm)  $\Diamond$ 

Following the trichromatic description

- Lightness
- Hue
- Saturation



#### The human eye sensibility

Concerning the daylight visual system, the la retina can be assumed as composed of 3 different cones( $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ ), with different, but partially overlapped, spectral sensitivity.



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## Additive synthesis

A certain color can be though as a weighted sum of 3 primary colors Red ->R; Green ->G; Blu ->B

A "normalized" white can be described as: White= $1 \cdot R + 1 \cdot G + 1 \cdot B$ 



#### Subtractive synthesis

In order to obtain a specific color three filters with different weights are applied to white light. They will absorb different spectral parts of the white color. Cyan ->C; Yellow ->Y; Magenta ->M;



#### Comparison between CMY, CMYK, RGB



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# Additive synthesis: linearity $A_1=d_1\mathbf{R}+e_1\mathbf{G}+f_1\mathbf{B}$ $A_2=d_2\mathbf{R}+e_2\mathbf{G}+f_2\mathbf{B}$ $A_1+A_2=[d_1+d_2]\mathbf{R}+[e_1+e_2]\mathbf{G}+[f_1+f_2]\mathbf{B}$

We can define  $P_j(\lambda)$  (j=1,2,3) the spectra of the primary sources. In case of primary sources we will have  $P_j(\lambda) = \delta(\lambda - \psi_j)$ ; we also assume unitary power for each primary source.

$$\int P_j(\lambda) d\lambda = 1$$

Additive synthesis

A color can be defined as:  $C(\lambda) = \sum_{j=1}^{3} A_{j}(C)P_{j}(\lambda)$ 

If we define  $V(\lambda)$  as the sensibility of the human eye, the perceived **luminance** for a color is:

$$Y(C) = \int C(\lambda) V(\lambda) \, d\lambda$$

The luminance can also be described in terms of primary sources:

$$Y(C) = \sum_{j=1}^{3} A_j(C) \int P_j(\lambda) V(\lambda) d\lambda$$

In order to define the coefficient of the 3 primary sources for a specific color C (for a set of people)

The first step consists in primary sources calibration in

White 
$$=\sum_{j=1}^{3}A_{j}(W)P_{j}(\lambda$$

order to obtain the reference white color. The  $A_j(W)$  coefficients indicate the weights for each primary source in order to obtain the *reference white* [which is different from the *absolute white* for that set of sources obtained when all the  $A_j(W)$ coefficients are 1]

#### The CIE Standard Observers

#### **CIE: International Commission on Illumination:**

Established in 1931 and based in Vienna, Austria, the **International Commission on Illumination** (usually known as the **CIE** for its French name **Commission internationale de l'éclairage**, but the English abbreviation is sometimes seen in older papers) is the international authority on light, illumination, color, and color spaces.

In the CIE experiment one half of a circular field is illuminated with spectrum color and the other with a mixture of red, green and blue

The observer adjusts the red, green and blue until it matches the spectrum color

The result is a set of color matching functions used to calculate the tristimulus values



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# The CIE standard device



The tristimulus values of a color are the amounts of three primary colors in a three-component additive color model needed to match that test color.

$$T_{j}(C) = \frac{A_{j}(C)}{A_{j}(W)}$$
  $j = 1,2,3$ 

When the generated color meets the analyzed color, we can store the 3 values  $A_j(C)$  that are the tristimulus values.

$$Y(C) = \int C(\lambda) V(\lambda) d\lambda = \sum_{y=1}^{3} T_j(C) A_j(W) \int P_j(\lambda) V(\lambda) d\lambda$$

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 $A_j(C)$  can be calculated from  $T_j(C)$  since:  $e_1(C) = \int C(\lambda) s_1(\lambda) d\lambda = \int \sum_{j=1}^3 T_j(C) A_j(W) P_j(\lambda) s_1(\lambda) d\lambda$  $e_2(C) = \int C(\lambda) s_2(\lambda) d\lambda = \int \sum_{i=1}^3 T_i(C) A_i(W) P_i(\lambda) s_2(\lambda) d\lambda$  $e_{3}(C) = \int C(\lambda)s_{3}(\lambda)d\lambda = \int \sum_{i}^{3} T_{j}(C)A_{j}(W)P_{j}(\lambda)s_{3}(\lambda)d\lambda$ where  $e_i(C)$  are the relative excitations for the observed color while  $s_i(\lambda)$  is the i-th cone sensitivity.

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Then we can write:

$$e_{1}(C) = \int C(\lambda)s_{1}(\lambda)d\lambda = \sum_{y=1}^{3} T_{j}(C)A_{j}(W)\int P_{j}(\lambda)s_{1}(\lambda)d\lambda$$
$$e_{2}(C) = \int C(\lambda)s_{2}(\lambda)d\lambda = \sum_{y=1}^{3} T_{j}(C)A_{j}(W)\int P_{j}(\lambda)s_{2}(\lambda)d\lambda$$
$$e_{3}(C) = \int C(\lambda)s_{3}(\lambda)d\lambda = \sum_{y=1}^{3} T_{j}(C)A_{j}(W)\int P_{j}(\lambda)s_{3}(\lambda)d\lambda$$

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If the primary sources are monochromatic with unitary power  $(P_j(\lambda) = \delta(\lambda - \psi_j))$  we can write:

$$e_1(C) = \int C(\lambda) s_1(\lambda) d\lambda = \sum_{y=1}^3 T_j(C) A_j(W) s_1(\psi_i)$$

$$e_{2}(C) = \int C(\lambda)s_{2}(\lambda)d\lambda = \sum_{y=1}^{3} T_{j}(C) A_{j}(W)s_{2}(\psi_{i})$$
$$e_{3}(C) = \int C(\lambda)s_{3}(\lambda)d\lambda = \sum_{y=1}^{3} T_{j}(C) A_{j}(W)s_{3}(\psi_{i})$$

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# Cones do not "see" colors

Different wavelength, different intensity

Same response



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## Response comparison

Different wavelength, different intensity

But different response for different cones



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#### von Helmholtz 1859: Trichromatic theory

Colors as relative responses (ratios)







Wavelengths (nm)

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For some colors it is impossible to find  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$ ,  $A_3$  all positives, i.e. it is impossible to obtain the match as the sum:  $A_1(C)R+A_2(C)G+A_3(C)B$ .

The "trick" is to add to the analyzed color one or more primary colors:

this is equivalent to say that primary components can have negative values:

 $C+A_1(C)\mathbf{R} = A_2(C)\mathbf{G}+A_3(C)\mathbf{B}$  $C=-A_1(C)\mathbf{R}+A_2(C)\mathbf{G}+A_3(C)\mathbf{B}$ 

#### Mixing curves

Mixing curvesTs1( $\lambda$ ), Ts2( $\lambda$ ), Ts3( $\lambda$ ) represents, within a resolution of ~1 nm the tristimulus values for a unitary energy

$$C_{\psi} = \delta(\lambda - \psi)$$
$$e_i(C_{\psi}) = \int \delta(\lambda - \psi) s_i(\lambda) d\lambda =$$
$$= \sum_{j=1}^3 A_j(W) T_{sj}(\psi) \int P_j(\lambda) s_i(\lambda) d\lambda$$

For a color with specttrum  $C(\lambda)$  the tristimulus components can be obtained as:

$$T_{j}(C) = \int C(\psi) T_{sj}(\psi) d\psi \qquad j = 1,2,3$$

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#### Color Matching functions Ro Go Bo



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#### Color space

Colors can be represented in a 3D space but it is simpler to work with only two coordinates (assuming Y constant)

C=d**R**+e**G**+f**B**, if d+e+f=T **r**=d/T; **g**=e/T; **b**=f/T Since **r**+**g**+**b**=1, we can work with two coordinates (*chromatic coordinates*), the luminance is assumed constant(Y)

We then get chormaticity diagrams with only **hue** and **saturation**.

# Points locus for visible light.

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With a proper primary choice it is possible to obtain positive chomaticity space (for each  $\lambda$ ).

$$\begin{bmatrix} X\\Y\\Z \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{b_{21}} \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & b_{13}\\b_{21} & b_{22} & b_{23}\\b_{31} & b_{32} & b_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R\\G\\B \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{0.17697} \begin{bmatrix} 0.49 & 0.31 & 0.20\\0.17697 & 0.81240 & 0.01063\\0.00 & 0.01 & 0.99 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R\\G\\B \end{bmatrix}$$

#### Chromatic space X Y Z



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# Chromatic coordinates x y



C=aX+bY+cZ, Where a+b+c=T

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# Summing colors

In the chromaticity diagram the linear combination of two colors (with positive coefficients) represents the segment joining those two colors



**C**<sub>2</sub>

Once three primary sources are chosen a triangle is defined in the chromatic space.

#### Fundamental colors in Television



# Fundamental colors



Horseshoe Shape of Visible Color

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#### Colors perceptivity

Ellipses represent the locus of colors hardly distinguishable with respect to the central point color.

The X,Y space is not perceptively uniform.



(a) x-y chromaticity diagram

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### The Hue, saturation, value space





# Conversion from RGB to HSV

Let  $r, g, b \in [0,1]$  be the red, green, and blue coordinates, respectively, of a color in RGB space.

Let *max* be the greatest of *r*, *g*, and *b*, and *min* the least.

To find the hue angle  $h \in [0, 360]$  for HSV space, compute:

$$h = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if max} = \min \\ (60^\circ \times \frac{g-b}{\max - \min} + 360^\circ) \mod 360^\circ, & \text{if max} = r \\ 60^\circ \times \frac{b-r}{\max - \min} + 120^\circ, & \text{if max} = g \\ 60^\circ \times \frac{r-g}{\max - \min} + 240^\circ, & \text{if max} = b \end{cases}$$

To find saturation and lightness  $s, l \in [0,1]$  for HSV space, compute:

$$s = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } \max = 0\\ \frac{\max - \min}{\max} = 1 - \frac{\min}{\max}, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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# Conversion from HSV to RGB

Similarly, given a color defined by (h, s, v) values in HSV space, with h as above, and with s and v varying between 0 and 1, representing the saturation and value, respectively, a corresponding (r, g, b) triplet in RGB space can be computed:



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