# BBM4I3 <br> Fundamentals of <br> Image Processing 

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## Color Perception and Color Spaces

## Review - image formation

- What determines the brightness of an image pixel?



## Review - digital camera



A digital camera replaces film with a sensor array

- Each cell in the array is light-sensitive diode that converts photons to electrons
- http://electronics.howstuffworks.com/digital-camera.htm


## Review - digital images


a b
FIGURE 2.17 (a) Continuos image projected onto a sensor array. (b) Result of image sampling and quantization.

## Review - digital images

- Sample the 2D space on a regular grid
- Quantize each sample (round to nearest integer)
- Image thus represented as a matrix of integer values.


| 62 | 79 | 23 | 119 | 120 | 105 | 4 | 0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 10 | 10 | 9 | 62 | 12 | 78 | 34 | 0 |
| 10 | 58 | 197 | 46 | 46 | 0 | 0 | 48 |
| 176 | 135 | 5 | 188 | 191 | 68 | 0 | 49 |
| 2 | 1 | 1 | 29 | 26 | 37 | 0 | 77 |
| 0 | 89 | 144 | 147 | 187 | 102 | 62 | 208 |
| 255 | 252 | 0 | 166 | 123 | 62 | 0 | 31 |
| 166 | 63 | 127 | 17 | 1 | 0 | 99 | 30 |



## Review - image representation

- Digital image: 2D discrete function $f$
- Pixel: Smallest element of an image $f(x, y)$


Slide credit: M. J. Black

## Outline

- Perception of color and light
- Color spaces


## Why does a visual system need color?



## Why does a visual system need color? (an incomplete list...)

- To tell what food is edible.
- To distinguish material changes from shading changes.
- To group parts of one object together in a scene.
- To find people's skin.
- Check whether a person's appearance looks normal/healthy.


## What is color?

- Color is the result of interaction between physical light in the environment and our visual system
- Color is a psychological property of our visual experiences when we look at objects and lights, not a physical property of those objects or lights (S. Palmer, Vision Science: Photons to Phenomenology)



## \#thedress

- What is the color of the dress?
- blue and black
- white and gold
- blue and brown
- What \#thedress tell about our color perception?



## \#thedress

- Let's take averages

two pieces
of the dress
http://nyti.ms/186m3wE



## \#thedress

- The dress in the photograph




## \#thedress

- Consider the dress is in shadow.



## \#thedress

- The dress in the photograph




## \#thedress

- Consider the dress is in bright light.



## \#thedress

- Answer:

- The dress is actually blue and black.



## Brightness perception



Edward Adelson
http://web.mit.edu/persci/people/adelson/
illusions_demos.html

## Brightness perception



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## Brightness perception



## Land's Experiment (1959)



- Cover all patches except a blue rectangle
- Make it look gray by changing illumination
- Uncover the other patches

Color Constancy
We filter out illumination variations

## Color Constancy in Gold Fish



In David Ingle's experiment, a goldfish has been trained to swim to a patch of a given color for a reward-a piece of liver. It swims to the green patch regardless of the exact setting of the three projectors' intensities. The behavior is strikingly similar to the perceptual result in humans.

## Color Cube Illusion



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

## Color perception



## Color perception



## Color perception



## Color perception



## Reading Assignment \#2

- Watch Beau Lotto's TED talk on "Optical illusions show how we see" [link available on course webpage]
- Prepare a l-page summary of the talk
- Due on $22^{\text {nd }}$ of October



## Image Brightness (Intensity)



- Monochromatic Light: $\left(\lambda=\lambda_{i}\right)$

$$
b^{\prime}(x, y)=r^{\prime}(x, y) e^{\prime}(x, y) \quad q\left(\lambda_{i}\right)=1
$$

NOTE: The analysis can be applied to COLORED LIGHT using FILTERS

## Recovering Lightness

- Image Intensity: $b^{\prime}(x, y)=r^{\prime}(x, y) e^{\prime}(x, y)$


## An illposed

 problem!- Retinex theory, Land and McCann, I97I
- use constraints (or priors) on shading and reflectance
- employ additional information (multiple images, depth maps, etc.)



## 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 is a phenomenon of human perception; it is not a universal property of light


## Color

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


Newton 1665

Color

4.1 NEWTON'S SUMMARY DRAWING of his experiments with light. Using a point source of light and a prism, Newton separated sunlight into its fundamental components. By reconverging the rays, he also showed that the decomposition is component

## Electromagnetic spectrum

- Light is electromagnetic radiation
- exists as oscillations of different frequency (or, wavelength)
$\leftarrow$ Increasing Frequency (v)




Human Luminance Sensitivity Function

## The Physics of light

Any source of light can be completely described physically by its spectrum: the amount of energy emitted (per time unit) at each wavelength 400-700 nm.


## The Physics of light

Some examples of the spectra of light sources


## The Physics of light

Some examples of the reflectance spectra of surfaces


## Image formation

- What determines the brightness of an image pixel?



## 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

## 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
- Photographic film



## Interaction of light and surfaces



- Reflected color is the result of interaction of light source spectrum with surface reflectance




Slide credit: A. Efros

## Reflection from colored surface








## The Eye



- Iris - colored annulus with radial muscles
- Pupil - the hole (aperture) whose size is controlled by the iris
- Lens - changes shape by using ciliary muscles (to focus on objects at different distances)
- Retina - photoreceptor cells


## The eye as a measurement device



- We can model the low-level behavior of the eye by thinking of it as a light-measuring machine
- its optics are much like a camera
- its detection mechanism is also much like a camera
- Light is measured by the photoreceptors in the retina
- they respond to visible light
- different types respond to different wavelengths
- The human eye is a camera!


## Layers of the retina



Slide credit: S. Ullman

## Receptors Density - Fovea



Slide credit: S. Ullman

## Receptors Density - Fovea

| 64 | 66 | 76 | 85 | 99 | 100 | 101 | 101 | 106 | 112 | 117 | 118 | 105 | 77 | 57 | 50 | 51 | 43 | 52 | 55 | 62 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 65 | 69 | 76 | 84 | 97 | 89 | 93 | 107 | 121 | 121 | 121 | 122 | 125 | 101 | 71 | 43 | 45 | 41 | 52 | 52 | 68 |
| 66 | 72 | 78 | 83 | 91 | 86 | 91 | 102 | 108 | 104 | 106 | 113 | 136 | 118 | 86 | 43 | 49 | 47 | 60 | 55 | 64 |
| 73 | 79 | 83 | 85 | 94 | 93 | 90 | 83 | 79 | 79 | 85 | 92 | 124 | 124 | 108 | 62 | 58 | 43 | 57 | 57 | 64 |
| 78 | 84 | 86 | 86 | 69 | 71 | 68 | 68 | 86 | 108 | 115 | 109 | 117 | 135 | 139 | 93 | 73 | 37 | 49 | 58 | 70 |
| 75 | 75 | 73 | 77 | 75 | 80 | 62 | 84 | 90 | 94 | 98 | 102 | 102 | 110 | 114 | 100 | 80 | 58 | 51 | 51 | 51 |
| 77 | 72 | 73 | 83 | 84 | 91 | 80 | 77 | 71 | 70 | 73 | 80 | 80 | 87 | 99 | 103 | 93 | 67 | 53 | 50 | 51 |
| 74 | 66 | 69 | 88 | 98 | 101 | 95 | 65 | 56 | 55 | 55 | 60 | 64 | 70 | 93 | 114 | 112 | 82 | 56 | 47 | 53 |
| 64 | 59 | 66 | 86 | 108 | 103 | 98 | 54 | 52 | 57 | 54 | 54 | 67 | 77 | 103 | 124 | 125 | 96 | 64 | 46 | 53 |
| 56 | 57 | 66 | 83 | 112 | 108 | 104 | 59 | 55 | 60 | 59 | 60 | 78 | 94 | 115 | 125 | 121 | 98 | 68 | 43 | 46 |
| 56 | 58 | 66 | 80 | 114 | 121 | 117 | 85 | 71 | 67 | 69 | 76 | 87 | 101 | 116 | 117 | 112 | 94 | 68 | 43 | 46 |
| 61 | 57 | 61 | 77 | 111 | 125 | 119 | 114 | 98 | 87 | 87 | 94 | 97 | 102 | 111 | 113 | 108 | 90 | 65 | 43 | 44 |
| 74 | 52 | 54 | 73 | 103 | 117 | 107 | 126 | 119 | 108 | 103 | 104 | 106 | 103 | 108 | 115 | 112 | 91 | 65 | 48 | 42 |
| 63 | 54 | 64 | 64 | 69 | 93 | 104 | 99 | 94 | 93 | 96 | 101 | 99 | 101 | 102 | 103 | 108 | 106 | 90 | 69 | 53 |

Slide credit: S. Ullman

## Human Photoreceptors


(C)


[^0](B)


### 3.4 THE SPATIAL MOSAIC OF THE HUMAN

 CONES. Cross sections of the human retina at the level of the inner segments showing (A) cones in the fovea, and (B) cones in the periphery. Note the size difference (scale bar $=10 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ ), and that, as the separation between cones grows, the rod receptors fill in the spaces. (C) Cone density plotted as a function of distance from the center of the fovea for seven human retinas; cone density decreases with distance from the fovea. Source: Curcio et al., 1990.
## Human eye photoreceptor spectral sensitivities

3.3 SPECTRAL SENSITIVITIES OF THE L-, M-, AND S-
CONES in the human eye. The measurements are based on a light source at the cornea, so that the wavelength loss due to the cornea, lens, and other inert pigments of the eye plays a role in determining the sensitivity. Source: Stockman and MacLeod, 1993.


Images: Foundations of Vision,
by Brian Wandell, Sinauer Assoc., 1995

Slide Credit: B. Freeman and A. Torralba

## Two types of light-sensitive receptors <br> <br> Cones

 <br> <br> Cones}cone-shaped less sensitive operate in high light color vision

## Rods

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


## Rods and cones



Rods are responsible for intensity, cones for color perception
Rods and cones are non-uniformly distributed on the retina

- Fovea - Small region (I or $2^{\circ}$ ) at the center of the visual field containing the highest density of cones (and no rods)


## Rod / Cone sensitivity



## Physiology of Color Vision

Three kinds of cones:


WAVELENGTH (nm.)

- Ratio of $L$ to $M$ to $S$ cones: approx. 10:5:I
- Almost no $S$ cones in the center of the fovea


## Color perception



Wavelength
Rods and cones act as filters on the spectrum

- To get the output of a filter, multiply its response curve by the spectrum, integrate over all wavelengths
- Each cone yields one number

Q: How can we represent an entire spectrum with 3 numbers?
A: We can't! Most of the information is lost.

- As a result, two different spectra may appear indistinguishable


## Digital images

- Sample the 2D space on a regular grid
- Quantize each sample (round to nearest integer)
- Image thus represented as a matrix of integer values.


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| 0 | 89 | 144 | 147 | 187 | 102 | 62 | 208 |
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## Color Images: Bayer Grid



- Estimate RGB at ' $G$ ' cells from neighboring values
http://www.cooldictionary.com/ words/Bayer-filter.wikipedia


Resulting Pattern

Slide credit: S. Seitz

## Digital color images

Color images, RGB color space



B
Slide credit: K. Grauman

## Images in Matlab

- Images represented as a matrix
- Suppose we have a NxM RGB image called "im"
- $\operatorname{im}(1,1,1)=$ top-left pixel value in $R$-channel
- im $(y, x, b)=y$ pixels down, $x$ pixels to right in the $b^{\text {th }}$ channel
- im(N,M,3) = bottom-right pixel in B-channel
- imread(filename) returns a uint8 image (values 0 to 255)
- Convert to double format (values 0 to 1 ) with im2double

| column |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $R$ |  | $G$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| row | 0.92 | 0.93 | 0.94 | 0.97 | 0.62 | 0.37 | 0.85 | 0.97 | 0.93 | 0.92 | 0.99 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 0.95 | 0.89 | 0.82 | 0.89 | 0.56 | 0.31 | 0.75 | 0.92 | 0.81 | 0.95 | 0.91 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 0.89 | 0.72 | 0.51 | 0.55 | 0.51 | 0.42 | 0.57 | 0.41 | 0.49 | 0.91 | 0.92 | 0.92 | 0.99 |  |  |
|  | 0.96 | 0.95 | 0.88 | 0.94 | 0.56 | 0.46 | 0.91 | 0.87 | 0.90 | 0.97 | 0.95 | 5 | 1 |  |  |
|  | 0.71 | 0.81 | 0.81 | 0.87 | 0.57 | 0.37 | 0.80 | 0.88 | 0.89 | 0.79 | 0.85 | 0.95 | 0.91 | 0.92 | 0.99 |
|  | 0.49 | 0.62 | 0.60 | 0.58 | 0.50 | 0.60 | 0.58 | 0.50 | 0.61 | 0.45 | 0.33 | 7 | 95 |  |  |
|  | 0.86 | 0.84 | 0.74 | 0.58 | 0.51 | 0.39 | 0.73 | 0.92 | 0.91 | 0.49 | 0.74 | 0.97 | 0.55 | 0.95 | 0.91 |
|  | 0.96 | 0.67 | 0.54 | 0.85 | 0.48 | 0.37 | 0.88 | 0.90 | 0.94 | 0.82 | 0.93 | 0.79 | 0.85 | 0.91 | 0.92 |
|  | 0.69 | 0.49 | 0.56 | 0.66 | 0.43 | 0.42 | 0.77 | 0.73 | 0.71 | 0.90 | 0.99 | 0.45 | 0.74 | 0.97 | 0.95 |
|  | 0.79 | 0.73 | 0.90 | 0.67 | 0.33 | 0.61 | 0.69 | 0.79 | 0.73 | 0.93 | 0.97 | 0.49 | 0.74 | 0.79 | 0.85 |
|  | 0.91 | 0.94 | 0.89 | 0.49 | 0.41 | 0.78 | 0.78 | 0.77 | 0.89 | 0.99 | 0.93 | 0.82 | 0.93 | 0.45 | 0.33 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0.90 | 0.99 | 0.49 | 0.74 |
|  |  |  | 0.79 | 0.73 | 0.90 | 0.67 | 0.33 | 0.61 | 0.69 | 0.79 | 0.73 | 0.93 | 0.97 | 0.82 | 0.93 |
|  |  |  | 0.91 | 0.94 | 0.89 | 0.49 | 0.41 | 0.78 | 0.78 | 0.77 | 0.89 | 0.99 | 0.93 | 0.90 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 0.79 | 0.73 | 0.90 | 0.67 | 0.33 | 0.61 | 0.69 | 0.79 | 0.73 | 0.93 | 0.97 |
|  |  |  |  |  | 0.91 | 0.94 | 0.89 | 0.49 | 0.41 | 0.78 | 0.78 | 0.77 | 0.89 | 0.99 | 0.93 |

Slide credit: D. Hoiem

## Color spaces

- How can we represent color?



## Color spaces: RGB

- Single wavelength primaries
- makes a particular monitor RGB standard
- Good for devices (e.g., phosphors for monitor), but not for perception



Slide credit: K. Grauman, S. Marschner

## Color spaces: RGB



## Default color space



Some drawbacks

- Strongly correlated channels


R
( $\mathrm{G}=0, \mathrm{~B}=0$ )


G
( $\mathrm{R}=0, \mathrm{~B}=0$ )

B
( $\mathrm{R}=0, \mathrm{G}=0$ )

- Non-perceptual


## Color spaces: CIE XYZ

- Standardized by CIE (Commission Internationale de I'Eclairage, the standards organization for color science)
- Based on three "imaginary" primaries $\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}$, and $\mathbf{Z}$
- imaginary = only realizable by spectra that are negative at some wavelengths
- separates out luminance: $\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z}$ have zero luminance, so $Y$ tells you the luminance by itself


Slide credit: K. Grauman, S. Marschner

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$$
\left[\begin{array}{l}
X \\
Y \\
Z
\end{array}\right]=\frac{1}{0.17697}\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
0.49 & 0.31 & 0.20 \\
0.17697 & 0.81240 & 0.01063 \\
0.00 & 0.01 & 0.99
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{l}
R \\
G \\
B
\end{array}\right]
$$

## Perceptually organized color spaces

- Artists often refer to colors as tints, shades, and tones of pure pigments
- tint: mixture with white
- shade: mixture with black
- tones: mixture with black and white
- gray: no color at all (aka. neutral)

- This seems intuitive
- tints and shades are inherently related to the pure color
- "same" color but lighter, darker, paler, etc.


## Perceptual dimensions of color

- Hue
- the "kind" of color, regardless of attributes
- colorimetric correlate: dominant wavelength
- artist's correlate: the chosen pigment color
- Saturation
- the "colorfulness"
- colorimetric correlate: purity
- artist's correlate: fraction of paint from the colored tube
- Lightness (or value)
- the overall amount of light
- colorimetric correlate: luminance
- artist's correlate: tints are lighter, shades are darker


## Color spaces: HSV

- Hue, Saturation, Value
- Nonlinear - reflects topology of colors by coding hue as an angle
- Matlab: hsv2rgb, rgb2hsv.


Image from mathworks.com


Slide credit: K. Grauman

## Color spaces: HSV

- Hue, Saturation, Value
- Nonlinear - reflects topology of colors by coding hue as an angle
- Matlab: hsv2rgb, rgb2hsv.


$$
\begin{aligned}
& H=\left\{\begin{array}{lll}
\left(\frac{G^{\prime}-B^{\prime}}{M A X-M I N}\right) / 6, & \text { if } & R^{\prime}=M A X \\
\left(2+\frac{B^{\prime}-R^{\prime}}{M A X-M I N}\right) / 6, & \text { if } & G^{\prime}=M A X \\
\left(4+\frac{R^{\prime}-G^{\prime}}{M A X-M I N}\right) / 6, & \text { if } & B^{\prime}=M A X
\end{array}\right. \\
& S=\frac{M A X-M I N}{M A X} \\
& V=M A X
\end{aligned}
$$

## Color spaces: HSV



## Intuitive color space



## H

$(S=1, V=1)$


S
( $\mathrm{H}=1, \mathrm{~V}=1$ )


Slide credit: D. Hoiem

## Color spaces: YCbCr

Fast to compute, good for
$(\mathrm{Cb}=0.5, \mathrm{Cr}=0.5)$


Cb
( $\mathrm{Y}=0.5, \mathrm{Cr}=0.5$ )

Cr
( $\mathrm{Y}=0.5, \mathrm{Cb}=05$ )

Slide credit: D. Hoiem

## Color spaces: YCbCr

Fast to compute, good for compression, used by TV


## Y

$(\mathrm{Cb}=0.5, \mathrm{Cr}=0.5)$

Cb
$\mathrm{Y}=1$
$\left[\begin{array}{c}Y^{\prime} \\ C_{b} \\ C_{r}\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{ccc}0.299 & 0.587 & 0.114 \\ -0.168736 & -0.331264 & 0.5 \\ 0.5 & -0.418688 & -0.081312\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{c}R^{\prime} \\ G^{\prime} \\ B^{\prime}\end{array}\right]+\left[\begin{array}{c}0 \\ 128 \\ 128\end{array}\right]$
Slide credit: D. Hoiem

## Distances in color space

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


Slide credit: K. Grauman

## 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".


Just noticeable differences in color

## Uniform color spaces

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



## Perceptually uniform spaces

- Two major spaces standardized by CIE
- designed so that equal differences in coordinates produce equally visible differences in color
- by remapping color space so that justnoticeable differences are contained by circles $\rightarrow$ distances more perceptually meaningful.
- LUV: earlier, simpler space; $L^{*}, u^{*}, v^{*}$
- LAB: more complex but more uniform: $L^{*}, a^{*}, b^{*}$
- both separate luminance from chromaticity
- including a gamma-like nonlinear component is important


Slide credit: K. Grauman, S. Marschner

## Color spaces: L*a*b*

"Perceptually uniform"* color space


L
( $\mathrm{a}=0, \mathrm{~b}=0$ )
a
( $\mathrm{L}=65, \mathrm{~b}=0$ )

## b

( $\mathrm{L}=65, \mathrm{a}=0$ )

Slide credit: D. Hoiem

## Color spaces: L*a*b*

"Perceptually uniform"* color space


$$
\begin{aligned}
& L^{*}=116 f\left(\frac{Y}{Y_{n}}\right) \\
& f(t)= \begin{cases}t^{1 / 3} & t>\delta^{3} \\
t /\left(3 \delta^{2}\right)+2 \delta / 3 & \text { else },\end{cases} \\
& a^{*}=500\left[f\left(\frac{X}{X_{n}}\right)-f\left(\frac{Y}{Y_{n}}\right)\right] \\
& b^{*}=200\left[f\left(\frac{Y}{Y_{n}}\right)-f\left(\frac{Z}{Z_{n}}\right)\right]
\end{aligned}
$$


b
$\left(X_{n}, Y_{n}, Z_{n}\right)$ : measured white point

## Most information in intensity



Only intensity shown - constant color
Slide credit: D. Hoiem

## Most information in intensity



Original image
Slide credit: D. Hoiem

## Back to grayscale intensity



Slide credit: D. Hoiem

## Today

- Perception of color and light
- Color spaces


## Next week

- Point operations
- Histogram processing


## Your first programming assignment

- Colorizing the Prokudin-Gorskii photo collection
- A Matlab warm-up exercise
- Main steps:
I. Divide the input image into three equal parts corresponding to RGB channels.

2. Align the second and the third parts (G and $R$ channels) to the first one ( B channel).

## Prokudin-Gorskii's Russia in Color

- Russia circa 1900
- One camera, move the film with filters to get 3 exposures


Images from: http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/empire/

## Prokudin-Gorskii's Russia in Color

- Digital restoration


Slide credit: F. Durand


Emir Seyyid Mir Mohammed Alim Khan, the Emir of Bukhara, ca. 1910.


Self-portrait on the Karolitskhali River, ca. 1910.


A metal truss bridge on stone piers, part of the Trans-Siberian Railway, crossing the Kama River near Perm, Ural Mountains Region, ca. 1910.


On the Sim River, a shepherd boy, ca. 1910.


Peasants harvesting hay in 1909. From the album "Views along the Mariinskii Canal and river system, Russian Empire", ca. 1910.


[^0]:    Images: Foundations of Vision,
    by Brian Wandell, Sinauer Assoc., I995

