



# Colour matching functions (and individual differences)



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## 1. TRICHROMACY AND THE CONE SPECTRAL SENSITIVITIES



## Trichromacy



Trichromacy means that colour vision at the input to the visual system is relatively simple.

It is a 3-variable system...

Trichromacy arises because there are just three cone types each of which is "univariant" (*i.e.*, responds only according to the number of photons it absorbs independent of their wavelengths) and each of which has a different spectral sensitivity.



If we know the three spectral sensitivities, and thus the effects that a light has on the three cones, we can completely specify that light.

## Information loss



I'll be showing linear and logarithmic versions of the cone spectral sensitivities:



#### Logarithmic



## 2. CONE SPECTRAL SENSITIVITIES AND COLOUR MATCHING FUNCTIONS



Another way of specifying colours that does not depend on knowing the cone spectral sensitivities is by making colour matches in a colour matching experiment:



Another way of specifying colours that does not depend on knowing the cone spectral sensitivities is by making colour matches in a colour matching experiment:

But what has this got to do with cone spectral sensitivities?



All colour matches are matches at the cone level and depend on the spectral sensitivities of the cones.

Consequently, the cone spectral sensitivities are the: **"Fundamental" colour matching functions** ...upon which all other CMFs depend.

#### Accordingly, there exist simple linear transformations between RGB and LMS...



#### And also between RGB and LMS and XYZ.



#### However, not all CMFs are physiologically correct...

#### CIE 1931 2-deg XYZ (or RGB) CMFs

#### 2-deg LMS cone fundamentals



## Old and new $V(\lambda)$ functions

There is a large error in CIE 1931 Y, which is also CIE 1924  $V(\lambda)...$ 

But, why??



#### The mistake is related to the choice of V( $\lambda$ ) back in 1924...



The CIE 2006 standard 10° LMS functions are defined as a linear transformation of Stiles & Burch (1959) 10° RGB CMFs:



These functions represent the average or "standard" spectral sensitivity or colour matching functions for normal observers.



The standards, however, underplay the sizeable individual differences found in the original individual Stiles & Burch colour matching data.



Stiles & Burch (1959) 10-deg CMFs

Wavelength (nm)

## **3. INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES**



## What causes these individual differences (and how can we model them)?



Wavelength (nm)

## What causes individual differences?

- Macular pigment optical density differences
  Lens pigment optical density differences
  Photopigment optical density differences
  Spectral shifts in photopigment sensitivity
- Spectral shifts in photopigment sensitivity

Individual differences are most easily visualized and modelled as effects on the cone spectral sensitivities or the "fundamental" LMS colour matching functions (rather than on XYZ or RGB CMFs)...

Logarithmic



Individual data for deuteranopes with the same L-cone photopigment

L-cone data from fifteen deuteranopes with the same genotype (and therefore with the same photopigment)

Why are the results so variable at short wavelengths?



#### Individual data for deuteranopes with the same L-cone photopigment

The variability is due to individual differences in macular and lens pigment optical densities.





Individual data for deuteranopes with the same L-cone photopigment

L-cone data adjusted to the same mean macular and lens optical densities





## What causes individual differences?

Macular pigment optical density differences
 Lens pigment optical density differences
 Photopigment optical density differences
 Spectral shifts in photopigment sensitivity

### Individual differences in photopigment optical density

Increasing photopigment optical density broadens the spectral sensitivity around the  $\lambda_{max}$ 

Cone photopigments varying in optical density from 0.1 (narrow) to 0.9 (broad) in 0.2 steps



### Individual differences in photopigment optical density

Increasing photopigment optical density broadens the spectral sensitivity around the  $\lambda_{max}$ 

Photopigment optical density also varies with eccentricity because the cones in the fovea are longer and thus have a higher photopigment optical density than cones outside the fovea (also affected by bleaching). Cone photopigments varying in optical density from 0.1 (narrow) to 0.9 (broad) in 0.2 steps



## What causes individual differences?

Macular pigment optical density differences
 Lens pigment optical density differences
 Photopigment optical density differences
 Spectral shifts in photopigment sensitivity

## Why does this variability occur?

The variability is caused by shifts in the spectral positions of the Land M-cone spectral sensitivity functions between the normal Mand L-cone functions.

The shifts are the result of variability in the genetic codes for the M- and L-cone photopigments



## Amino acid differences between the L-and M-cone opsins

There are only fifteen amino acid differences between the L- and M-cone photopigment opsins. Only about five of those cause wavelength shifts between their spectral sensitivities.



Simple representation of gene (amino acid) sequence for L and M



## SUMMARY OF SPECTRAL SHIFTS PER EXON



Values from Neitz and Neitz (2011)



Changes (substitutions) at these sites are usually modelled as shifts in the  $\lambda_{max}$  of the photopigment absorbance spectrum, which is assumed to be of invariant shape when plotted against some function of wavelength. We use a  $\log_{10}$  wavelength scale.

The spectral sensitivities of the "hybrid" photopigments vary between those of the M- and L-cones depending on where the crossover occurs.







Figure 7 from Jackson, Marks, May & Wilson (2018) *Essays in Biochemistry* 62, 643-723

## What causes individual differences?

Macular pigment optical density differences
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## 4. MODELLING INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES

#### Stockman & Sharpe (2000) and CIE (2006) standard LMS observers for 2-deg and 10-deg vision.



The new CIE standards also define the macular and lens pigment optical density spectra, the photopigment optical densities and the photopigment spectra.

Photopigment absorbance curves



## We model individual differences by adjusting the photopigment absorbance curves and varying the macular and lens optical densities



Wavelength (nm)



Unfortunately, the CIE (2006) LMS standards are defined as discrete values at 5 or 1 nm steps rather than as continuous functions of wavelength.





For computational convenience, we want to define these as continuous functions of wavelength...





## First, we extended the discrete functions to 360 nm at short wavelengths and 850 nm at long.



### Fourier polynomials were then fitted to the discrete functions and then used to define the template shapes

The templates are of the general form:

$$F(\theta) = a_0 + \sum_{k=1}^n \left[ a_k \cos(k\theta) + b_k \sin(k\theta) \right]$$

*n* is the number of harmonics.

*Continuous functions of wavelength with little error when used to reconstruct fundamentals.* 



Important that they describe both log and linear absorbances!





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MainWindow					-		×
SI Codon	horter ML-co M L	ne	Exon	Longer M	r LM-co L	ne Codon	
116	◉ Tyr 🔾 Ser		2	⊖ Туг	Ser	116	
180	● Ala 🔾 Ser		3	🔾 Ala	● Ser	180	
230	● Thr 🔿 Ile		4	⊖ Thr	<ul><li>Ile</li></ul>	230	
233	● Ser ○ Ala			⊖ Ser	◉ Ala	233	
277	● Phe ○ Tyr			() Phe	e 🖲 Tyr	277	
285	◉ Ala 🔾 Thr		5	🔿 Ala	Thr	285	
309	● Phe ○ Tyr			⊖ Phe	e 🖲 Tyr	309	
ML shift (nm) <b>0</b> Done LM shift (nm) <b>0</b>							

Stockman, A., & Rider, A. T. (2023). Formulae for generating standard and individual human cone spectral sensitivities. *Color Research & Application*, 48(6), 818-840. doi: https://doi.org/10.1002/col.22879

Python program is available on Github at: <a href="https://github.com/CVRL-IoO/Individual-CMFs.git">https://github.com/CVRL-IoO/Individual-CMFs.git</a>



Plot CMFs

Fundamental CMFs (LMS cone spectral sensitivities) INDIVIDUAL LMS TEMPLATES Longer L (or M) cone parameters Step-size 0.1 nm 1 nm 0 5 nm  $\lambda$  max shift from L o d -40 to +10 nm only 0.5 Optical density Data output choices (Excel file) Fundamental CMFs Use codons to calculate L and M shifts (Corneal cone spectral sensitivities) Quantal units Iinear log Shorter M (or L) cone parameters Energy units Iinear 🗌 log  $\lambda$  max shift from M 0.0 Retinal cone spectral sensitivities +30 to -20 nm only □ log Quantal units Iinear Optical density 0.5 Absorbance Inear 🗌 log S-cone parameters densities RGB CMFs 0.4 Optical density Primary wavelengths (Stiles & Burch default) Standard 10-deg R 645.15 G 526.32 densities B 444.44 Common parameters Output Written to local 'CMFs out' directory Lens pigment density (at 400 nm) 1.7649 CMFs directory CMFs filename CMFs\_out output Macular pigment density (at 460 nm) 0.35 Overwrite file? Generate unshifted Reset to Generate Excel file mean L (ser/ala180)

defaults

📧 MainWind	🗈 MainWindow — 🗆 🗙				
S Codon	horter ML-cone M L Exon		Longer LM-cone M L Codon		
116	● Tyr ○ Ser	2	⊖ Tyr ⑧ Ser	116	
180	● Ala 🔿 Ser	3	🔿 Ala 🖲 Ser	180	
230	● Thr 🔾 Ile	4	○ Thr	230	
233	● Ser ○ Ala		🔾 Ser 💿 Ala	233	
277	● Phe ○ Tyr		⊖ Phe ⊚ Tyr	277	
285	● Ala 🔾 Thr	5	🔿 Ala 💿 Thr	285	
309	● Phe ○ Tyr		⊖ Phe ම Tyr	309	
ML shift (nm) <b>0</b> Done LM shift (nm) <b>0</b>					

Given this software there is no need to use the anomalous cone spectral sensitivities of DeMarco, Pokorny & Smith, V. C. (1992) [with shifts of 13 nm for protanomalous L and 17 nm for deuteranomalous M].

Python program is available on Github at: <u>https://github.com/CVRL-IoO/Individual-CMFs.git</u>

M and S Excel file

0 X

#### One correction of the CIE 2006 functions:



Wavelength (nm)

Wavelength (nm)



Wavelength (nm)





Figure 8. Chromaticity diagram averaged from two aphakic observers in the UV. Subjects matched a split field with primaries at 445 and 625 nm on the left and UV with 525 nm on the right. The color matching functions  $r_{\lambda}$ ,  $g_{\lambda}$ and  $b_{\lambda}$  were equated by means of W. D. Wright's (1946) convention with normalizing wavelengths 494 and 582.5 nm. From these the  $(r_{\lambda}, g_{\lambda})$  chromaticity diagram for UV stimuli, representing the lower left corner of the color triangle, is drawn here. Redrawn from Tan (1971).

Aphakics

#### Originally from Tan (1971) thesis



Figure 7. Photopic and cone spectral sensitivities of aphakic observers. (**II**), Fovcal spectral sensitivity which is a composite spectrum of the 3 phototopic (cone) spectra. Left: blue cone spectra; (**O**), give the foveal spectrum obtained against a bright orange background (Wratten 23 A filter, 5.13 log Trolands) averaged for two subjects; (**A**), show the spectral sensitivity of the  $\pi$ 3 mechanism determined for one subject. Middle: green cone spectra; (**O**), foveal spectrum obtained against a bright purple background (Wratten 34 filter, 4.78 log Trolands) averaged for two subjects; (**A**), spectral sensitivity of the  $\pi$ 4 mechanism determined for one subject. Right: yellow (red) cone spectra; (**O**), spectral sensitivity of the  $\pi$ 4 mechanism determined for one subject. Right: yellow (red) cone spectra; (**O**), spectral spectrum obtained against a bright blue background (Wratten 47 filter, 5.22 log Trolands) averaged for two subjects; (**A**), show the spectral sensitivity of the  $\pi$ 5 mechanism determined for one subject. Redrawn from Tan (1971).

#### Trichromator (LEDMax) developed by Thouslite



Collaborative work with Ronnier Luo's lab with Lucas Shi and Alan Song and Andy Rider



Subject view

#### Trichromator (LEDMax) version 2

## An newer compact version is on display outside...









We chose 11 triplets of LEDs (primaries lights) that can be optically mixed to match a white standard (+)...

Collaborative work with Ronnier Luo's lab





We then asked observers to adjust the intensities of each of the 11 triplets of primaries to match the white standard...

Here are the SPDs for the 11 matching whites (each SPD is made up of all three primaries) set by one of our subjects.





We then asked observers to adjust the intensities of each of the 11 triplets of primaries to match the white standard...



These 11 matching whites should all produce identical L-, M- and Scone excitations.

So...



Goal is to find the versions of S, M and L that are closest to producing equal excitations.



By varying individual differences in lens, macular, and photopigment optical densities and allowing spectral shifts in M and L.



All 11 should produce the same S-cone excitation



All 11 should produce the same L-cone excitation



#### We use these continuous functions.





Here are the cone fundamentals that best predict Obs 5 the colour matches measured and estimated five times in five subjects.

## The CIEPO06 curves are the CIE standard LMS functions



#### Fitted parameters

2°

10°





We simultaneously fit 22 colour matches: 11 at 2° and 11 at 10° and assumed the same L- and M-shifts and lens densities for 2° and 10°.

Shi, K., Luo, M. R., Rider, A. T., Huang, T., Xu, L., & Stockman, A. (2024). A multiprimary trichromator to derive individual color matching functions and cone spectral sensitivities. *Color Research & Application, 2024, 1-16* 

#### Now measured in a total of 51 young observers.

### **RGB** method



Wavelength(nm)

2°



10°

550

550

Wavelength(nm)

600

600

650

650

RGB 10°

CIEPO06

Lab mean

700

700

#### Fitted parameters

2°

10°





#### 51 young observers.

Shi, K., Luo, M. R., Rider, A. T., Song, S., Huang, T., & Stockman, A. (2024). Individual differences in color matches and cone spectral sensitivities in 51 young adults. Optics Express, 32(13), 23597-23616.

Macular

5 10 15 20 25

Observer

We are now working on different age groups and have measured 100 observers form young to old.

And also for, so far, 22 colour deficient observers, for whom, remarkably, the methods seem also to work. Here are two examples...

#### Typical severe deuteranomalous/ deuteranopic observer





1.2 - CIE 2006 2° 1 - Obs 2° 0.8 0.6 Sensitivity 0.4 0.2 0 -0.2 400 450 500 550 600 650 700

Wavelength (nm)



	Obs	CIE 2006 2°
L- shift	-0.1	0
M- shift	19.8	0
Density of L-	0.31	0.5
Density of M-	0.69	0.5
Density of S-	0.31	0.4
Lens density	1.57	1.76
Macular density	0.321	0.350

### Typical severe protanomalous/ protanopic observer



1.2





	Obs	CIE 2006 2°
L- shift	-19.5	0
M- shift	0.3	0
Density of L-	0.34	0.5
Density of M-	0.64	0.5
Density of S-	0.35	0.4
Lens density	1.29	1.76
Macular density	0.536	0.350

## Most functions (ancient and modern) and the new CIE standards can be downloaded from:



CVRL database