# **2D COMPUTER GRAPHICS**

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IMPA

## COLOR AND COMPOSITING

### THE PRISM EXPERIMENT



Visible light: prism experiment (Newton, 1666)

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#### FULL ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM



Measurement of radiant energy in terms of absolute power

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- Wavelength ( $\lambda$ ), frequency ( $\nu = \frac{c}{\lambda}$ ), and amplitude (A)
- Energy ( $E = h\nu$ , where *h* is Planck's constant) and flux ( $\Phi$ )

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#### COLORS ARE SPECTRAL DISTRIBUTIONS



As a continuous function of  $c(\lambda)$ 

 $c: \mathbf{R}_{>0} \to \mathbf{R}_{\geq 0}, \quad \lambda \mapsto A_{\lambda}$ 

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As a discrete set of values  $c(\lambda_i)$ 

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Light emitter has a spectrum, material properties modulate the reflected spectrum (Fluorescence is something else)



Wavelength / nm

Measurement light in terms of perceived brightness to human eye

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- Peaks at  $\lambda = 420 \mathrm{nm}$ ,  $\lambda = 534 \mathrm{nm}$ , and  $\lambda = 564 \mathrm{nm}$
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Are there tetrachromats among us?

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- Mostly peripheral
- $20 \times$  more numerous,  $1000 \times$  more sensitive than cones
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  - R: peak at  $\lambda = 498 \mathrm{nm}$  (between S and M)
- Things look "gray-bluish" at night

#### HUMAN PHOTORECEPTOR DISTRIBUTION



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Spectral sensitivity  $V(\lambda)$  of human perception of brightness

Spectral sensitivity  $V(\lambda)$  of human perception of *brightness* Different for photopic and scotopic vision Spectral sensitivity  $V(\lambda)$  of human perception of *brightness* Different for photopic and scotopic vision Immense dynamic range 1 : 10<sup>10</sup> (brightness adaptation) Spectral sensitivity  $V(\lambda)$  of human perception of *brightness* Different for photopic and scotopic vision Immense dynamic range 1 : 10<sup>10</sup> (brightness adaptation) Convert radiant intensity (W/sr) to luminous intensity (cd)

$$v(c) = \int_{\lambda} c(\lambda) V(\lambda) d\lambda$$
#### PHOTOPIC LUMINOUS EFFICIENCY FUNCTION



Nonlinear perceptual response to brightness

## LIGHTNESS

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Power law

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Weber law of just noticeable difference  $\Delta L^* \approx \frac{\gamma}{100}$ 

Created to compensate for input-output characteristic of CRT displays

$$Y = V^{2.5} = V^{\gamma}$$



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## ILLUSION



1st attempt: Measure spectral distribution of stimulus

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- But how to would you reproduce it?
- 2nd attempt: Measure optical nerve response
  - Remove eye, attach wires to cones: The Matrix
  - Re-inject signal to reproduce
  - Painful, but only 3 values per color

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• The cone responses to c must be

$$S_c = \langle c, S \rangle, \qquad M_c = \langle c, M \rangle, \text{ and } L_c = \langle c, L \rangle$$

# CONE SPECTRAL SENSITIVITIES (NOT TO SCALE)



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Result  $R_c$ ,  $G_c$ , or  $B_c$  could be non-convex

• There is no negative light...

• Could use entire spectrum

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Unnecessary (most of the time) due to metamerism

- Different spectra result in same perceived color  $\begin{bmatrix} S & M & L \end{bmatrix}$
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Obtain R<sub>c</sub>, G<sub>c</sub>, and B<sub>c</sub> directly from c and RGB color matching functions

$$R_c = \langle c, R \rangle$$
  $G_c = \langle c, G \rangle$   $B_c = \langle c, B \rangle.$ 

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How to measure color matching functions R, G, and B

## CIE 1931 RGB COLOR MATCHING FUNCTIONS



Linear transformation to R, G, B

- Visible colors always use non-negative coordinates
- Linear transformation to R, G, B
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Equal-energy radiator (constant SPD in visible spectrum, illuminant E) is at  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ 

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Z ended up almost equal to S

## XYZ COLOR MATCHING FUNCTIONS



Similar to  ${\bf R}{\bf P}^2$ 

- Given  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} \alpha X & \alpha Y & \alpha Z \end{bmatrix}$  have same chromaticity
- Different brightness
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Separation of chromaticity and brightness

$$x = \frac{X}{X + Y + Z} \qquad \qquad y = \frac{Y}{X + Y + Z}$$

## **CIE CHROMATICITY DIAGRAM**



C.I.E. 1931 Chromaticity Diagram

Locus of monochromatic colors

- Locus of monochromatic colors
- Locus of black-body colors

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- Line of purples

- Horseshoe shape
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- Color calibration and matching

$$\begin{bmatrix} R\\ G\\ B \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \gamma(R_{\ell})\\ \gamma(G_{\ell})\\ \gamma(B_{\ell}) \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} R_{\ell}\\ G_{\ell}\\ B_{\ell} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3.2406 & -1.5372 & -0.4986\\ -0.9689 & 1.8758 & 0.0415\\ 0.0557 & -0.2040 & 1.0570 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X_{D65}\\ Y_{D65}\\ Z_{D65} \end{bmatrix}$$
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Perceptual (CIE L\*a\*b\*)

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Opponent color models

TRANSPARENCY

## Seminal work by Porter and Duff [1984]

## Semitransparent color f on top of opaque background color b



- Assume probability of light hitting f is  $\alpha$
- Reflected color (integrated over small area) is

$$f, \alpha \oplus b = \alpha f + (1 - \alpha)b$$

• This is what we call *alpha blending* or the *over* operator

## Compositing

Now imagine  $f_1, \alpha_1$  on top of  $f_2, \alpha_2$  on top of b

• Reflected color is

 $f_1, \alpha_1 \oplus (f_2, \alpha_2 \oplus b) = \alpha_1 f_1 + (1 - \alpha_1) (\alpha_2 f_2 + (1 - \alpha_2) b)$ 

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Can we combine  $f_1$ ,  $\alpha_1$  and  $f_2$ ,  $\alpha_2$  into a single material f,  $\alpha$ ?

$$\alpha f + (1 - \alpha)b = \alpha_1 f_1 + (1 - \alpha_1)(\alpha_2 f_2 + (1 - \alpha_2)b)$$
  
=  $\alpha_1 f_1 + (1 - \alpha_1)\alpha_2 f_2 + (1 - \alpha_1)(1 - \alpha_2)b$ 

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So we have

$$\begin{cases} (1-\alpha)b = (1-\alpha_1)(1-\alpha_2)b\\ \alpha f = \alpha_1 f_1 + (1-\alpha_1)\alpha_2 f_2 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \alpha = \alpha_1 + (1-\alpha_1)\alpha_2\\ \alpha f = \alpha_1 f_1 + (1-\alpha_1)\alpha_2 f_2 \end{cases}$$

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Setting 
$$\tilde{f} = \alpha f$$
,  $\tilde{f}_1 = \alpha_1 f_1$ , and  $\tilde{f}_2 = \alpha_2 f_2$ , we obtain  

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This is what we call pre-multiplied alpha

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Blending becomes associative

$$\tilde{f}_1, \alpha_1 \oplus (\tilde{f}_2, \alpha_2 \oplus b) = (\tilde{f}_1, \alpha_1 \oplus \tilde{f}_2, \alpha_2) \oplus b$$

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Should we blend front-to-back or back-to-front?

# References

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