## Color \& Graphics

The complete display system is:
\| Model
\| Frame Buffer
| Screen
II Eye
|| Brain

## Color \& Vision

We'll talk about:
| Light
| Visions
|| Psychophysics, Colorimetry
\| Color
Perceptually based models
Hardware models

## Light



1. Vision = perception of electromagnetic energy

- Very small portion of EM spectrum is visible



## Vision: The Eye

- A dynamic, biological camera!
\| a lens
I a focal length
I an equivalent of film


The lens must focus directly on the retina for perfect vision

## Vision: The Retina

| The eye's "film"

- Covered with cells sensitive to light
\| turn light into electrochemical impulses
- Two types of cells
\| rods
\| cones


## Vision: Rods

Sensitive to most wavelengths (brightness)
About 120 million in eye

- Most outside of fovea (center of retina)

Used for low light vision

Absorption function:


## Vision: Cones

Three kinds
\| $R$ sensitive to long wavelengths
\| $G$ to middle
\| B to short
About 8 million in eye
Highly concentrated in fovea
II B cones more evenly distributed than others
Used for high detail color vision

## Vision: Cones

The absorption functions of the cones are:


## Psychophysics

## Spectral Energy Distribution

\| measure intensity of light at unit wavelength intervals of electromagnetic spectrum from $\sim 400 \mathrm{~nm}$ to ${ }^{\sim} 700$ nm


## Psychophysics

- Dominant Wavelength $\cong$ hue
- Excitation Purity $\cong$ saturation
- Luminance $\cong$ intensity
| Lightness: luminance from a reflecting object
|| Brightness: luminance from a light source
- To mix colors
| mix power distributions!


## Color Mixing: Additive

Luminous objects emit s.e.d.

- Linearly add s.e.d.'s

e.g. Monitors, lights


## Color Mixing: Subtractive

| Reflective objects absorb (or filter) light

- Can't subtract s.e.d.'s

E.g., ink, film, paint, dye


## Colorimetry

Based on matching colors using additive color mixing
|| Tristimulous Values

- Metamers
|| Different s.e.d.'s that appear the same
\| Same tristimulous values


## Colorimetric Color Models

|| Generated color match functions
\| match each wavelength, multiple people
|| some colors require negative red!

- CIE produced two device independent models:
| 1931: Measured on 10 subjects (!) on samples subtending 2 (!) degrees of the field of view
|| 1964: Measured on larger number of subjects subtending 10 degrees of field of view


## Color Match Functions



## CIE 1931 Imaginary Primaries

Defines three new primary "colors"
II X, Y and Z
\| Mixtures positive valued
|| Y's fon corresponds to luminance-efficiency function
To define a color

|| weights $x, y, z$ for the $X, Y, Z$ primaries
(e.g. color $=x X+y Y+z Z$ )

## CIE 1931 Chromaticity

$\mathrm{X}, \mathrm{Y}$ and Z form a three dimensional color volume
$\| Y$ is luminance, others aren't intuitive

- Factor luminance by normalizing $x+y+z=1$
- Chromaticity values:
l $x^{\prime}=x /(x+y+z)$
II $y^{\prime}=y /(x+y+z)$
|l $z^{\prime}=1-x^{\prime}-y^{\prime}$



## CIE 1931 Chromaticity Diagram

|| Chromaticity diagram
\| Plot of $x^{\prime}$ vs. $y^{\prime}$

- Additive color mixing
\| linear interpolation
- Color gamuts
|| range of possible colors for a device
II convex hull of primary colors
$C=$ standard illuminant
 approximates sunlight


## CIE 1931 Chromaticity Diagram

- Dominant Wavelength/Hue:
\| inscribe line from C through color (A) to edge of diagram (H)
Saturation
1 distance C-A distance C-H
- Complements
\| inscribe line through $C$ to the edge of the diagram ( $\mathrm{H}^{\prime}$ )
What if edge is bottom?



## Hardware Models: RGB

(Additive Color)

- (red, green, blue)
- Parameters vary between 0 and 1


Hard to achieve intuitive effects:

- Hue is defined by the one or two largest parameters
- Saturation controlled by varying the collective minumum value of $R, G$ and $B$
- Luminance controlled by varying magnitudes while keeping ratios constant

[^0]
## Hardware Models: CMY, CMYK (Subtractive Color)

- (cyan, magenta, yellow, +blacK)
- All parameters vary between 0 and 1


The CMY Cube

- $K=\min (C, M, Y)$
- subtract $K$ from each


## Intuitive Hardware Models: HSV

- (hue, saturation, value)
\| value roughly luminance
I hue: ( $0 . . .360$ ), saturation/value: ( $0 . . .1$ )

- Simple xform of RGB
- What do hexagonal and triangle cross sections look like?


## Intuitive Hardware Models: HLS

- (hue, lightness, saturation)

II lightness roughly luminance
I hue: (0...360), saturation/value: (0...1)
HIsspace

- saturated colors at $I=0.5$
- tints above, shades below
- What do hexagonal and triangle cross sections look like?


## Problem: V/L!= Luminance

- Fully saturated colors (same $\mathrm{v} / \mathrm{I}$ ) have far different Y values in XYZ (Sun 17" monitor, 1991):

| Colour | RGB | XYZ | Chromaticity |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| White | 111 | 0.9511 .0001 .088 | 0.3130 .329 |
| Red | 100 | 0.5890 .2900 .000 | 0.6700 .330 |
| Green | 010 | 0.1790 .6050 .068 | 0.2100 .710 |
| Blue | 001 | 0.1830 .1051 .020 | 0.1400 .080 |
| Cyan | 011 | 0.3620 .7101 .088 | 0.1680 .329 |
| Magenta | 101 | 0.7720 .3951 .020 | 0.3630 .181 |
| Yellow | 110 | 0.7680 .8950 .068 | 0.4440 .517 |

## Problem: None of these models are perceptually uniform

|| Perceived distance between two colors not proportional to linear distance

- Uniform Color Spaces
\| Non-linear deformations
\| OSA Uniform Color Space (limited range)
\| CIELUV

\| CIELAB



## Issue: Device-independent color

\| Must use CIEXYZ
II ie. Apple Colorsync
| RGB $=(0.3,0.2,0.55)$ tells you what computer generates, not what the monitor will display!
\| Depends on phosphors, room lighting, monitor adjustment

- Moving between devices (and media)
\| Go through XYZ
\| Must know properties of devices


[^0]:    The RGB Cube

