# Fundamentals of Multimedia

2<sup>nd</sup> Edition 2014 Ze-Nian Li Mark S. Drew Jiangchuan Liu

Chapter 4:

Color in Image and Video

- This chapter explores:
- several issues in the use of color, since color is vitally important in multimedia programs
- in this chapter we shall consider the following topics:
- Color Science
- Color Models in Images
- Color Models in Video.



- 4.1 Color Science
- 4.2 Color Models in Images
- 4.3 Color Models in Video
- 4.4 Further Exploration

#### Light and Spectra

- Light is an electromagnetic wave. Its color is characterized by the wavelength content of the light:
  - (a) Laser light consists of a single wavelength: e.g., a ruby (یاقوت) laser produces a bright, scarlet-red beam.
  - (b) Most light sources produce contributions over many wavelengths.
  - (c) However, humans cannot detect all light, just contributions that fall in the "visible wavelengths".
  - (d) Short wavelengths produce a blue sensation, long wavelengths produce a red one.

- **Spectrophotometer:** device used to measure visible light, by reflecting light from a diffraction grating (prism حاجز انکسار کالمنشور) (a ruled surface) that spreads out the different wavelengths.
- Figure 4.1 shows the phenomenon that white light contains all the colors of a rainbow.
- Visible light is an electromagnetic wave in the range 400 nm to 700 nm (where nm stands for nanometer, 10–9 meters).

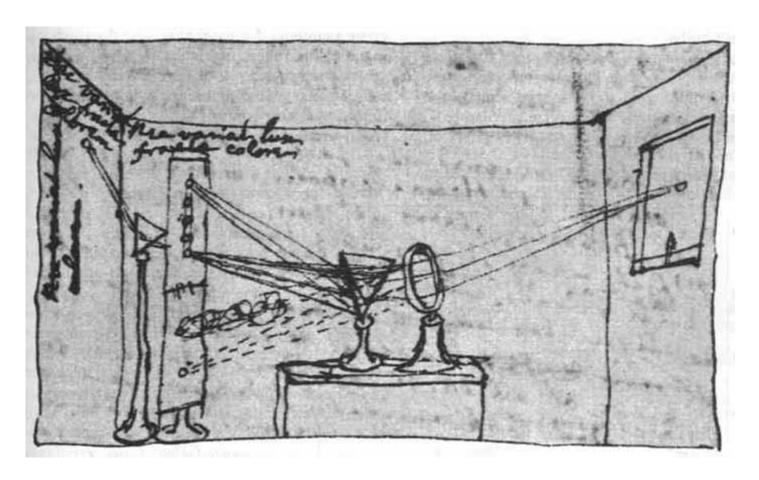
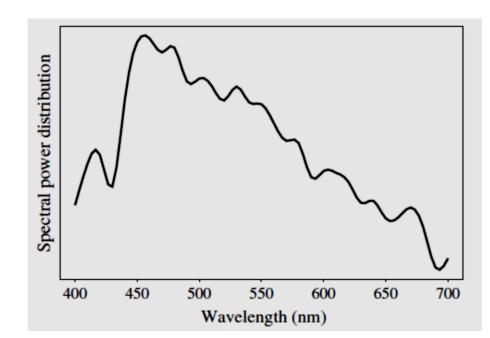


Fig. 4.1: Sir Isaac Newton's experiments.

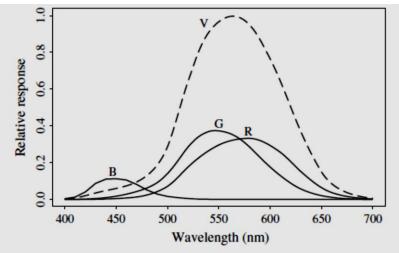
- Fig. 4.2 (See Book) shows the relative power in each wavelength interval for typical outdoor light on a sunny day.
- This type of curve is called a Spectral Power Distribution (SPD) or a spectrum.
- The symbol for wavelength is  $\lambda$ . This curve is called  $E(\lambda)$ .



#### Human Vision

- The eye works like a camera, with the lens focusing an image onto the retina شبکیة (upside-down and left-right reversed).
- The retina consists of an array of rods and three kinds of cones. See images (rods cones, rods cones1).
- The rods come into play when light levels are low and produce a image in shades of gray ("all cats are gray at night!").
- For higher light levels, the cones each produce a signal. Because of their differing pigments, the three kinds of cones are most sensitive to red (R), green (G), and blue (B) light.
- It seems likely that the brain makes use of differences R-G, G-B, and B-R, as well as combining all of R, G, and B into a high-light-level achromatic channel.

- Spectral طيفي Sensitivity of the Eye
- The sensitivity of our receptors is a function of wave-length (Fig. 4.3).
- The Blue receptor sensitivity is not shown to scale because it is much smaller than the curves for Red or Green — Blue is a late addition, in evolution.
- Fig. 4.3 shows the overall sensitivity as a dashed line this important curve is called the **luminous** efficiency function.
  - It is usually denoted  $V(\lambda)$  and is formed as the sum of the response curves for Red, Green, and Blue.

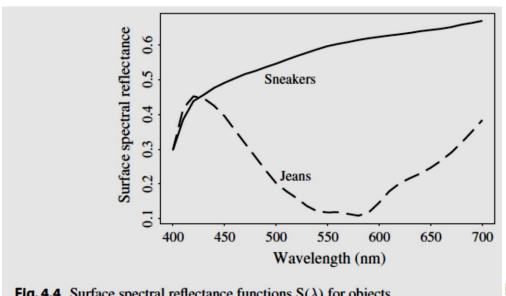


**Fig. 4.3** R,G, and B cones, and luminous-efficiency curve  $V(\lambda)$ 

- Spectral طیفی Sensitivity of the Eye
- The eye is most sensitive to light in the middle of the visible Spectrum طیف.
- The eye has about 6 million cones, but the proportions of R, G, and B cones are different.
- They likely are present in the ratios 40:20:1
- So the achromatic اللوني channel produced by the cones is thus something like 2R + G + B/20.

#### **Image Formation**

- In most situations, we actually image light that is reflected from a surface.
- Surfaces reflect different amounts of light at different wavelengths, and dark surfaces reflect less energy than light surfaces.
- then the reflected light filtered by the eye's cone



**Fig. 4.4** Surface spectral reflectance functions  $S(\lambda)$  for objects

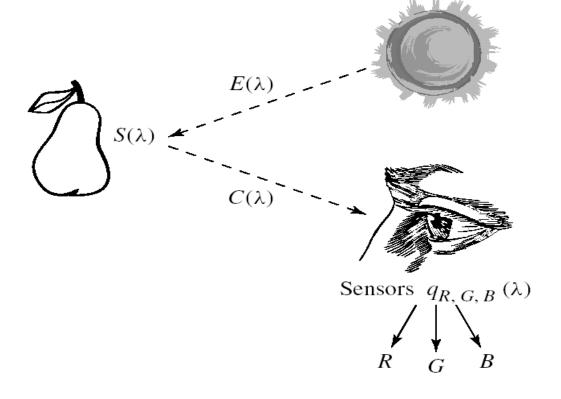


Fig. 4.5: Image formation model.

$$R = \int E(\lambda) S(\lambda) q_R(\lambda) d\lambda$$

$$G = \int E(\lambda) S(\lambda) q_G(\lambda) d\lambda$$

$$B = \int E(\lambda) S(\lambda) q_B(\lambda) d\lambda.$$

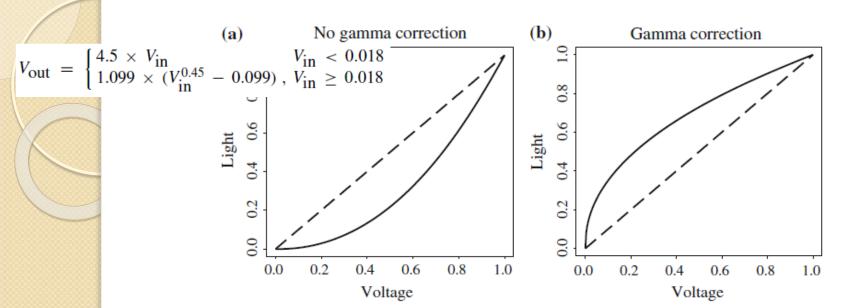
#### 4.1.5. Camera Systems

- Camera systems are made in a similar fashion; a good camera has three signals produced at each pixel location (corresponding to a retinal position).
- Analog signals are converted to digital, truncated to integers, and stored. If the precision used is 8-bit, then the maximum value for any of R; G;B is 255, and the minimum is 0.

#### 4.1.6. Gamma Correction

- In TV systems, The light emitted is actually roughly proportional to the voltage raised to a power; this power is called "gamma," with symbol γ. The value of gamma is around 2.2.
- We can precorrect for this situation by actually applying the inverse transformation before generating TV voltage signals. It is customary to append a prime to signals that are "gamma-corrected" by raising to the power  $(1/\gamma)$  before transmission.

$$R \rightarrow R' = R^{1/\gamma} \Rightarrow (R')^{\gamma} \rightarrow R$$



**Fig. 4.6** a Effect of putative standard CRT (mimiced by an actual modern display) on light emitted from screen (voltage is normalized to range 0..1). b Gamma correction of signal

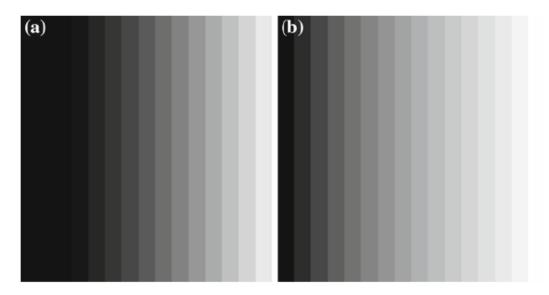
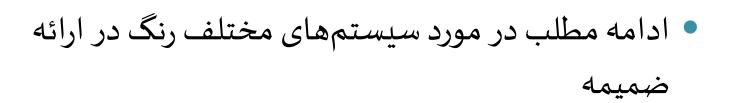


Fig. 4.7 a Display of ramp from 0 to 255, with no gamma correction. b Image with gamma correction applied



# End of Chapter 4