

A person with curly hair is wearing a VR headset and smiling, with their hands raised in a gesture. The background is a dark blue and purple space filled with a glowing network of white lines and dots, resembling a digital or neural network. The overall lighting is cool, with blue and purple hues.

# Chapter 4

## Color in Image and Video

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# Agenda

***4.1 Color Science***

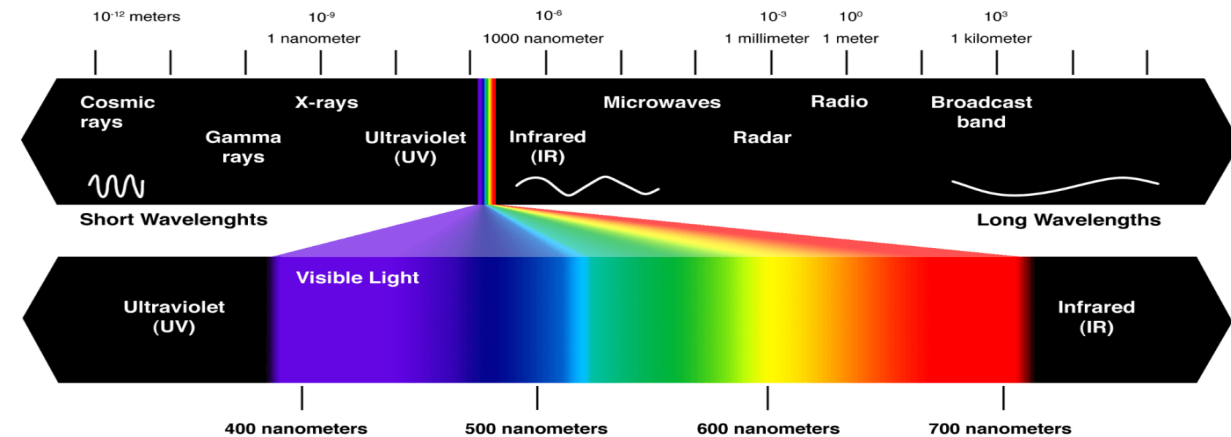
***4.2 Color Models in Images***

***4.3 Color Models in Video***

# 4.1 Color Science

## Light and Spectra

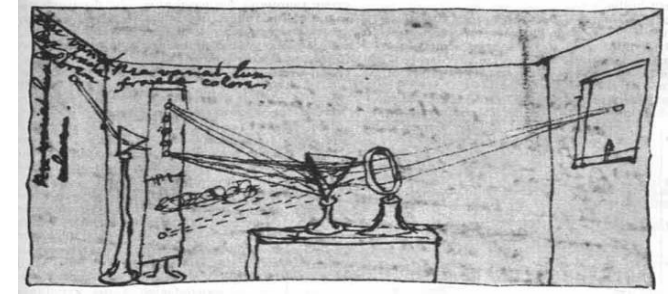
- Light is an electromagnetic wave. Its color is characterized by the **wavelength content of the light**.
  - a) **Laser light** consists of a **single wavelength**: e.g., a ruby laser produces a bright, scarlet-red beam.
  - b) However, **humans cannot detect all light**, just contributions that fall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



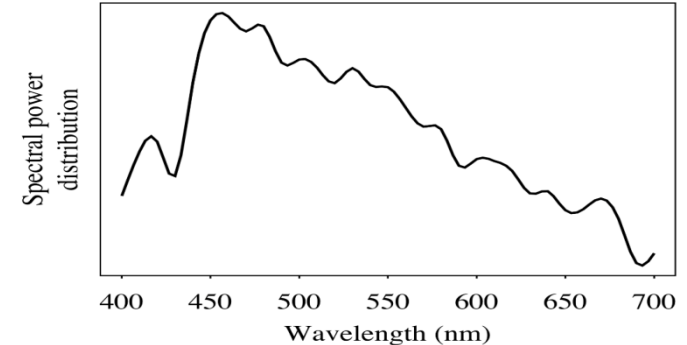
**visible wavelengths**

# 4.1 Color Science cont.

- 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. 4.2 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)* التوزيع الطيفي للطاقة or a spectrum .
- The symbol for wavelength is  $\lambda$  **Lambda** . This curve is called  $E(\lambda)$ .

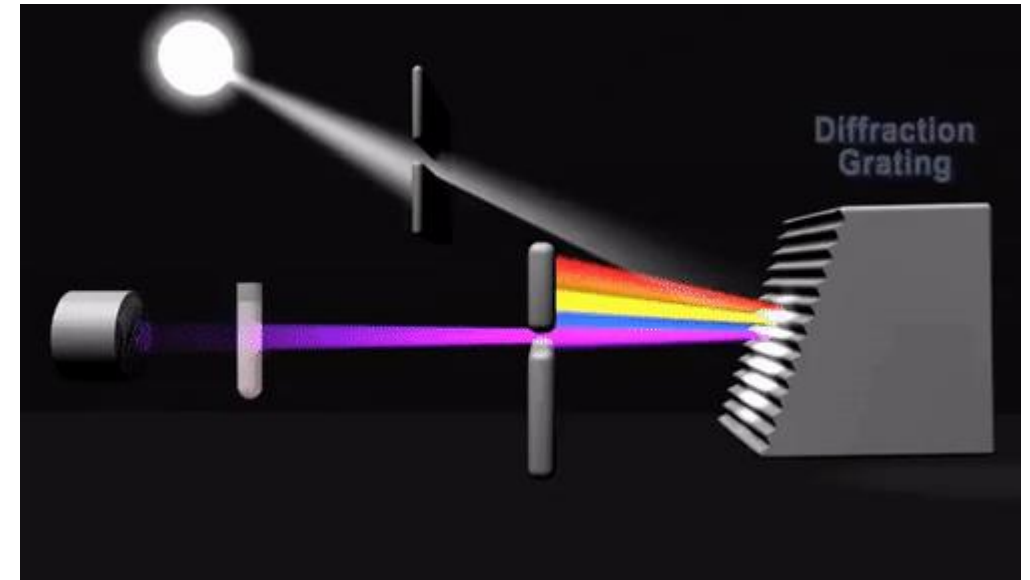
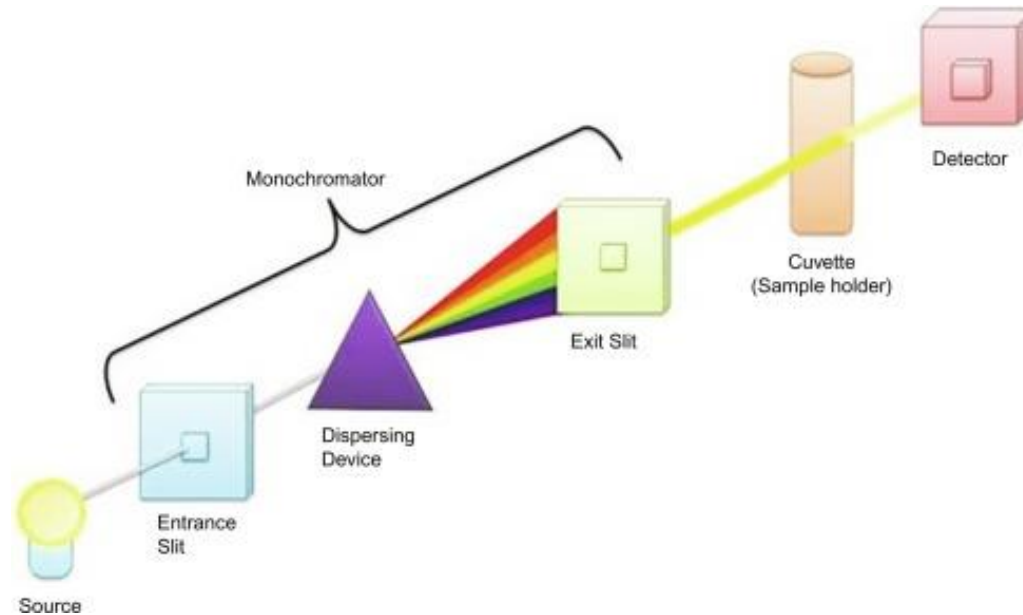


**Fig. 4.1:** Sir Isaac Newton's experiments.  
By permission of the Warden and Fellows, New College, Oxford.



**Fig. 4.2:** Spectral power distribution of daylight.

## 4.1 Color Science cont.

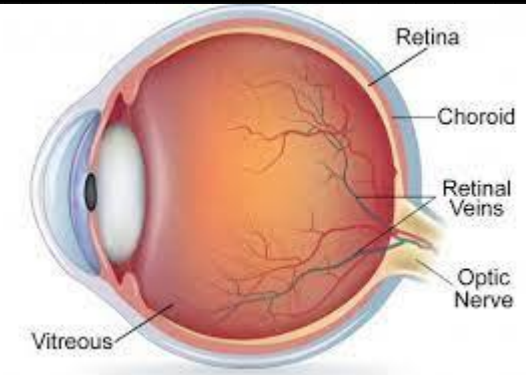
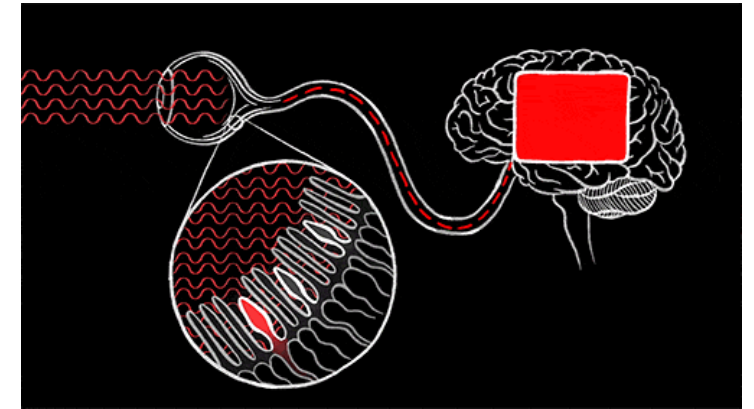


- **Spectrophotometer** مقياس الطيف الضوئي: device used to measure visible light, by reflecting light from a diffraction grating (a ruled surface) that spreads out the different wavelengths.

# 4.1 Color Science cont.

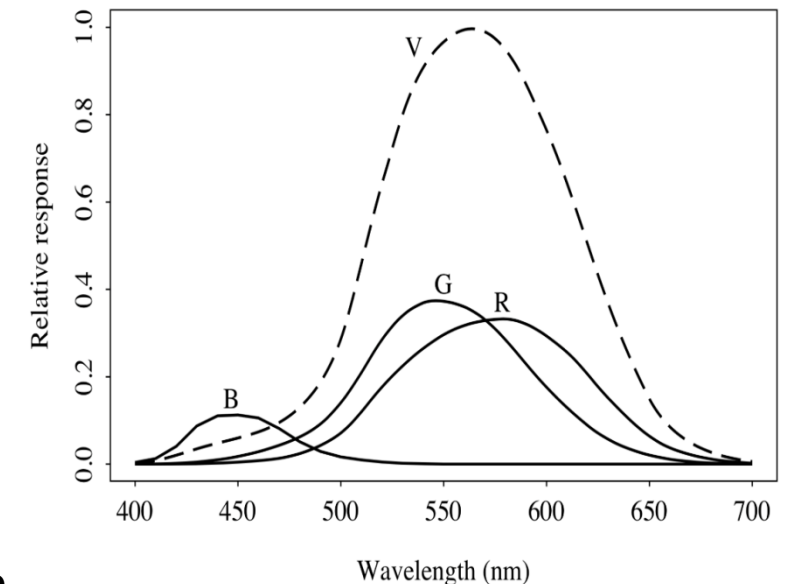
## 4.1.2 Human Vision

- The **eye** works like a **camera**,
  - the lens focusing an image *onto the retina* (upside-down and left-right reversed).
- The **retina** consists of an *array* of **rods** + **three kinds of cones**.
- The **rods** come into play when light levels are low
  - When you are in a dark place
  - and produce a image in shades of gray (“all cats are gray at night!”).
- For higher light levels, the cones each produce a signal 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.



## 4.1.3 Spectral Sensitivity of the Eye

- The eye is most sensitive to light in the middle of the visible spectrum.
- The sensitivity of our receptors is also a function of wavelength (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 human evolution.
  - Statistically, Blue is the favourite color of humans, regardless of nationality
  - perhaps for this reason: **Blue is a latecomer in the new versions of human** → a bit surprising!
- Fig. 4.3 shows the overall sensitivity as a dashed line — this important curve is called the **luminous-efficiency function**  $V(\lambda)$ .
  - is formed as the sum of the response curves for Red, Green, and Blue.
  - Our **luminous-efficiency** is bigger at the middle
  - The eye has about **6 million cones**, but the proportions of R, G, and B cones are different **is approximately  $2R+G+B/20$** .
  - **Ratios about (40:20:1)**

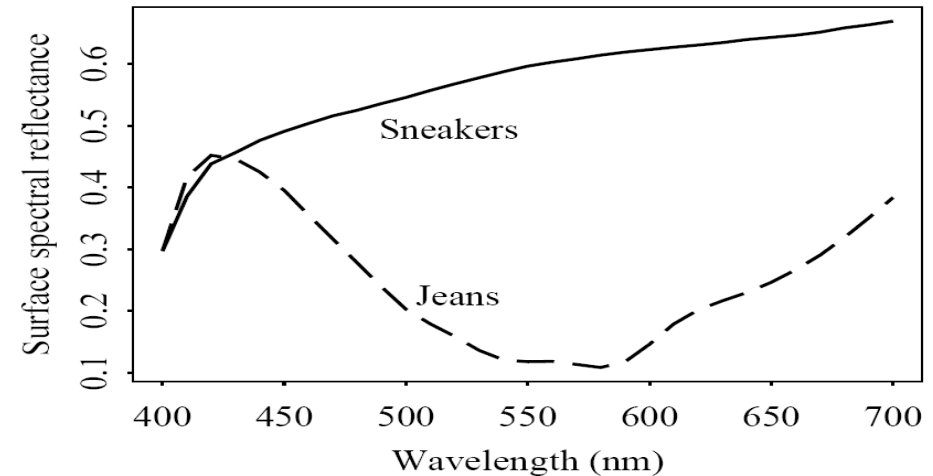


**Fig. 4.3: R,G, and B cones, and Luminous Efficiency curve  $V(\lambda)$ .**

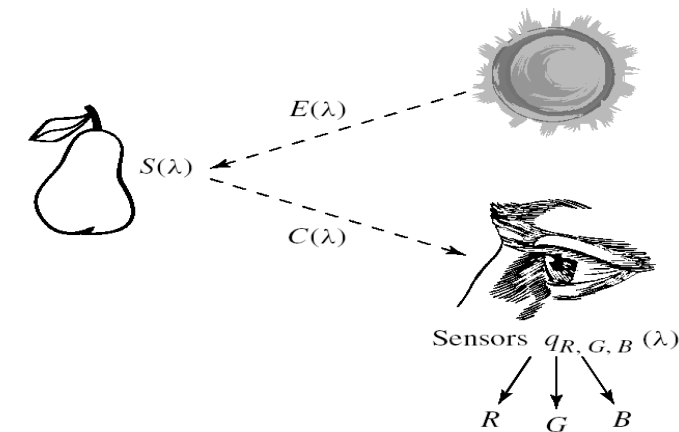
## 4.1.4 Image Formation

- Surfaces **reflect different amounts** of light at different wavelengths,
- **dark** surfaces reflect **less energy** than light surfaces.
- Fig. 4.4 shows the surface spectral reflectance from (1) **orange sneakers** and (2) **faded blue jeans**.
- The reflectance function is denoted  $S(\lambda)$ .
- **Image formation is thus:**
  - **Light** from the illuminant with **Spectral Power Distribution (SPD)**  $E(\lambda)$ 
    1. Impinges تصطدم on a surface,
      - each surface has a **surface spectral reflectance function**  $S(\lambda)$ ,
    2. is reflected,
    3. and then is **filtered by the eye's cone** functions  $q(\lambda)$ .
  - The function  $C(\lambda)$  = the color signal
    - consists of the product of :  
 $E(\lambda)$ , the illuminant, times  $S(\lambda)$ , the reflectance:

$$C(\lambda) = E(\lambda) * S(\lambda).$$



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



**Fig. 4.5:** Image formation model.

## 4.1.5 Camera Systems

- Camera systems are made *in a similar fashion*;
- a studio quality 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, for any of  $R, G, B$  is
  - $\text{max}=255$
  - $\text{min}=0$
- Light entering the eye of the computer user
  - emitted by the screen
  - the screen = a self-luminous source.

## 4.1.6 Gamma Correction

- The light emitted is in fact roughly
  - ❑ ***Proportional*** to the ***voltage raised to a power***, called **gamma**, with **symbol  $\gamma$** .
  - ❑ The value of gamma is  $\gamma \approx 2.2$ .
  - ❑ So it **lowers MORE FROM the LOW voltage** values → we can't differentiate between the degrees of the dark columns (fig 4.7 a)
- Append a prime to signals that are **gamma-corrected**
  - ❑ By raising to the power  $(1/\gamma)$  before transmission.
  - ❑ Thus we arrive at **linear signals**

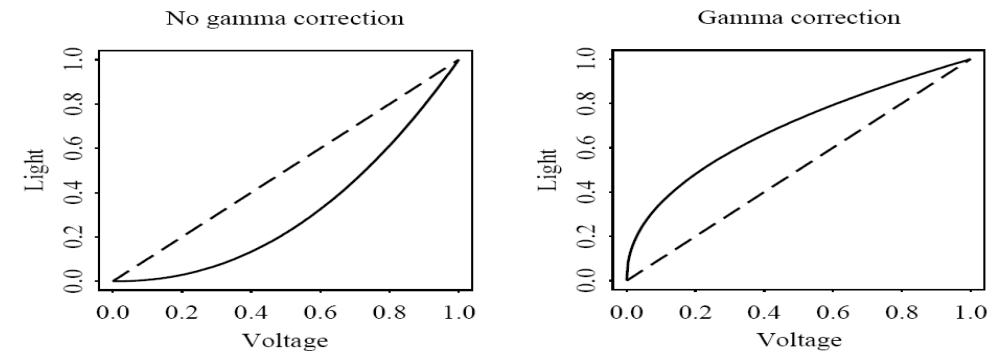


Fig. 4.6: (a) Effect of CRT (mimicked by an actual modern display) on light emitted from screen (voltage is normalized to range 0..1). (b) Gamma correction of signal.

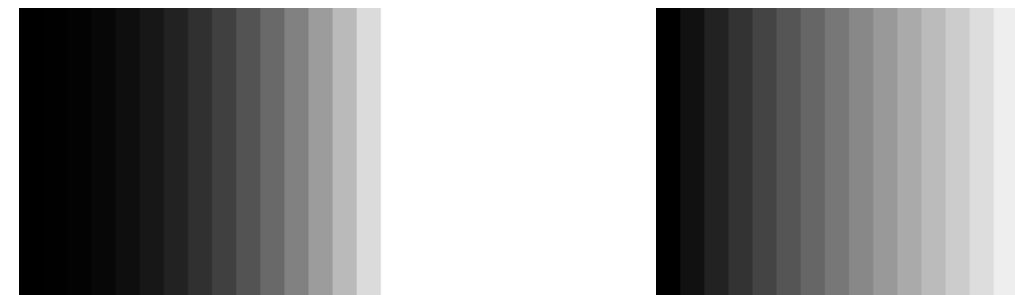
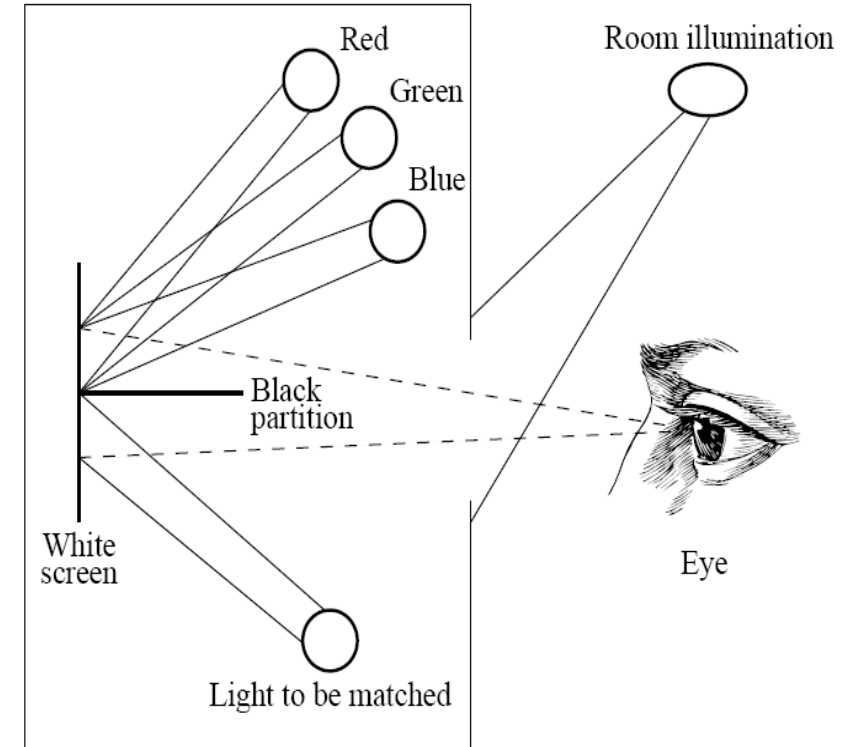


Fig. 4.7: (a) Display of ramp from 0 to 255, with no gamma correction. (b) Image with gamma correction applied.

## 4.1.7 Color-Matching Function

- A technique evolved in psychology
- For matching a combination of basic  $R$ ,  $G$ , and  $B$  lights to a given shade.
- The particular set of three basic lights used in an experiment are called the set of **color primaries**.
- To match a given color,
  - A subject (***Person***) is asked to separately adjust the brightness of the three primaries
  - Using a set of controls until the resulting spot of light most closely matches the desired color.
- The basic situation → a device for carrying out such an experiment is called a **colorimeter**.

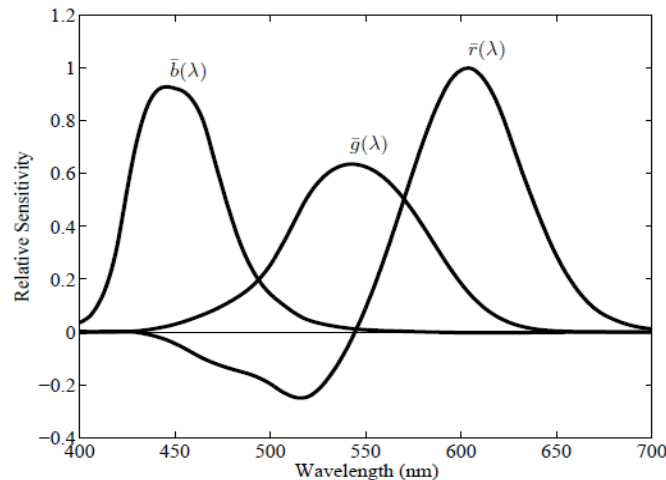


**Fig. 4.8: Colorimeter experiment.**

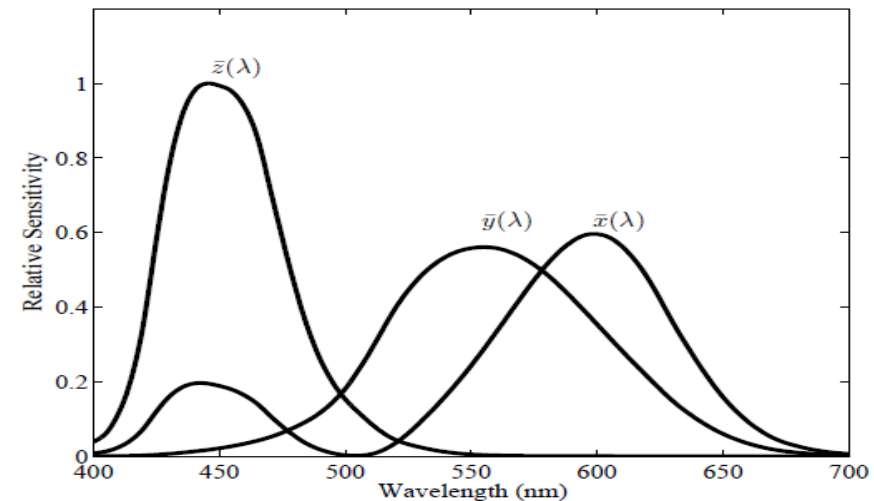
## 4.1.8 CIE Chromaticity Diagram

- International Commission on Illumination / commission internationale de l'éclairage الهيئة الدولية للإضاءة
- The amounts of R, G, and B the subject selects to match each single-wavelength light forms the color-matching curves → **CIE RGB color-matching functions**.
- These are denoted  $\bar{r}(\lambda), \bar{g}(\lambda), \bar{b}(\lambda)$
- Problem:**
  - Since the color-matching R curve has a negative lobe, HOW CAN I PUT A NEGATIVE RED COLOR → **NOT** applicable
- Solution** → select fictitious primaries → They are a  $3 \times 3$  matrix away from  $\bar{r}, \bar{g}, \bar{b}$  curves, → called **CIE standard XYZ** and are denoted  $\bar{x}(\lambda), \bar{y}(\lambda), \bar{z}(\lambda)$

- The matrix is chosen such that the middle standard color-matching function exactly equals the luminous-efficiency curve  $V(\lambda)$  shown in [Fig. 4.3](#).



**Fig. 4.9:** CIE RGB color-matching functions  $\bar{r}(\lambda), \bar{g}(\lambda), \bar{b}(\lambda)$



**Fig. 4.10:** CIE standard XYZ color-matching functions  $\bar{x}(\lambda), \bar{y}(\lambda), \bar{z}(\lambda)$

## 4.1.8 CIE Chromaticity Diagram

- We want to convert the 3D CIE standard XYZ TO 2D by factoring out the magnitude of vectors  $(X, Y, Z)$ ;
- We could divide by  $\sqrt{X^2 + Y^2 + Z^2}$  **but instead** we divide by the sum  $X + Y + Z$  to make the **chromaticity**:

$$X = X/(X+Y+Z)$$

$$Y = Y/(X+Y+Z)$$

$$Z = Z/(X+Y+Z)$$

- This effectively means that one value out of the set  $(x, y, z)$  is redundant since we have

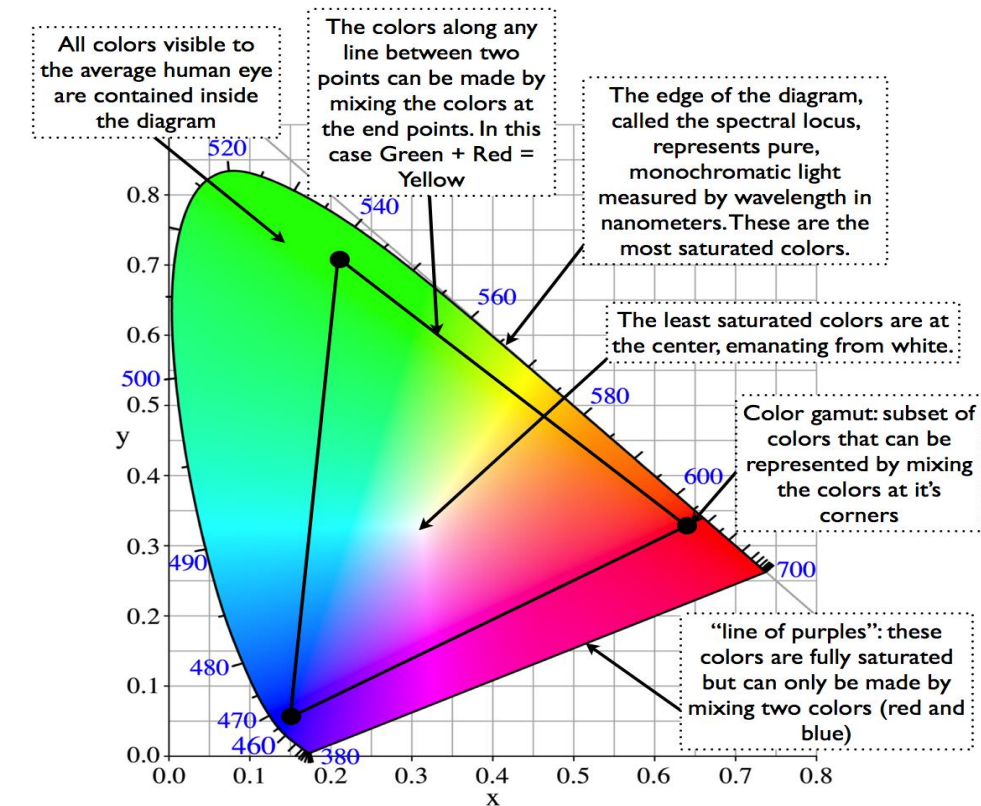
$$x + y + z = \frac{X + Y + Z}{X + Y + Z} \equiv 1 \quad (4.7)$$

$$(4.8)$$

So that

$$Z = 1 - x - y \quad (4.9)$$

- Effectively, we are projecting each vector  $(X, Y, Z)$  onto the plane connecting points  $(1, 0, 0)$ ,  $(0, 1, 0)$ , and  $(0, 0, 1)$ .
- Fig. 4.11 shows the locus of points for monochromatic light



Anatomy of a CIE Chromaticity Diagram

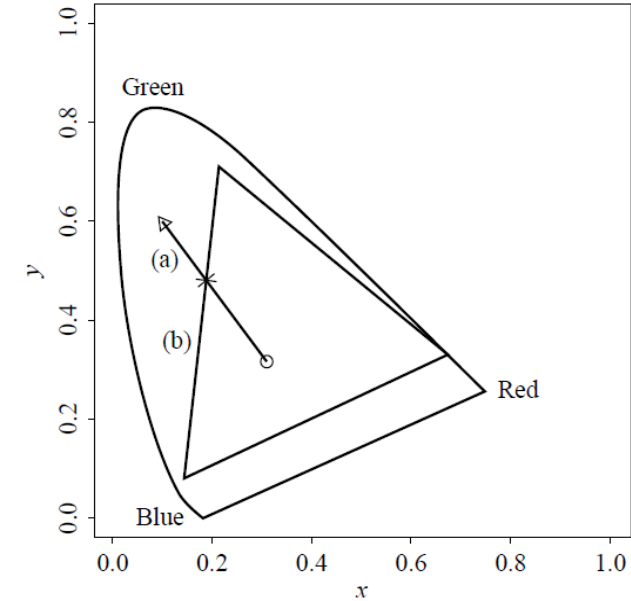
## 4.1.10 Out-of-Gamut colors

- For any  $(x, y)$  pair we wish to find that RGB triple giving the specified  $(x, y, z)$ : We form the  $z$  values for the phosphors, via  $z = 1 - x - y$
- We combine nonzero values of R, G, and B via

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_r & x_g & x_b \\ y_r & y_g & y_b \\ z_r & z_g & z_b \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$$

What do we do if any of the *RGB* numbers is negative →; color, visible to humans, but is out-of-gamut for our display

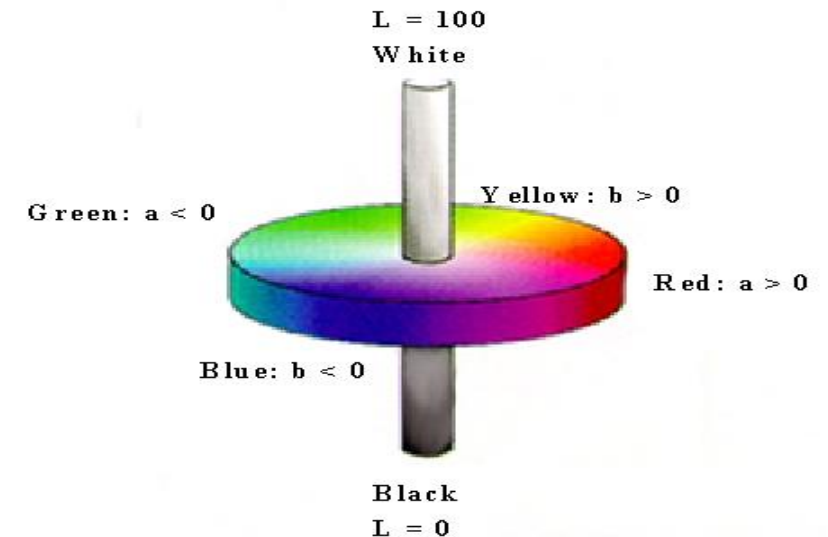
- **Solution 1:** simply use the closest in-gamut color available, intersection on the boundary of the triangle from white point to the point
- **Solution 2:** select the closest **complementary** color.



**Fig. 4.13:** Approximating an out-of-gamut color by an in-gamut one. The out-of-gamut color shown by a triangle is approximated by the intersection of the line (labeled (a)) from that color to the white point with the boundary (labeled (b)) of the device color gamut.

# • 4.1.14 L\*a\*b\* (CIELAB) color Model

- **Weber's Law:**
  - Equally-perceived differences are proportional to magnitude.
- The more there is of a quantity, the more change there must be to perceive a difference.
- A rule of thumb
  - equally-perceived changes **must be relative**
  - changes are about **equally perceived** if the ratio of the **change is the same**, whether for dark or bright lights, etc.
- Mathematically,
  - with intensity I, change is equally perceived so long as the change  $\frac{\Delta I}{I}$  is a constant.
- Ex in sound :
  - If it's quiet, we can hear a small change in sound.
  - If there is a lot of noise, to experience the same difference the change has to be of the same proportion.
- For human vision, the CIE arrived at a different version of this kind of rule — CIELAB space. What is being quantified in this space is differences perceived in color and brightness.
- Fig. 4.14 shows a cutaway into a 3D solid of the coordinate space associated with this color difference metric.



## 4.1.14 L\*a\*b\* (CIELAB) color Model

- CIELA

$$\Delta E = \sqrt{(L_1^* - L_2^*)^2 + (a_1^* - a_2^*)^2 + (b_1^* - b_2^*)^2}$$

$$L^* = 116 \left( \frac{Y}{Y_n} \right)^{(1/3)} - 16$$

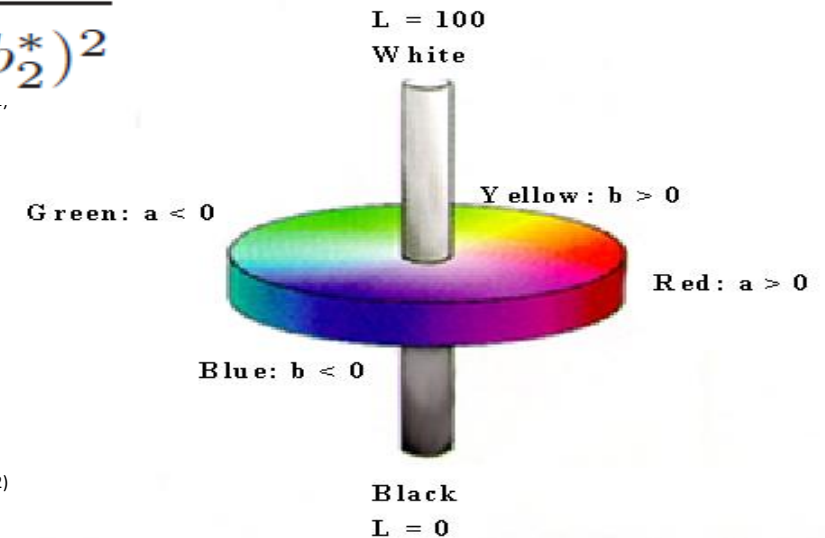
$$a^* = 500 \left[ \left( \frac{X}{X_n} \right)^{(1/3)} - \left( \frac{Y}{Y_n} \right)^{(1/3)} \right] \quad (4.22)$$

$$b^* = 200 \left[ \left( \frac{Y}{Y_n} \right)^{(1/3)} - \left( \frac{Z}{Z_n} \right)^{(1/3)} \right]$$

with  $X_n$ ,  $Y_n$ ,  $Z_n$  the XYZ values of the white point.

- Auxiliary definitions are:

$$\text{chroma} = c^* = \sqrt{(a^*)^2 + (b^*)^2}, \text{ hue angle} = h^* = \arctan \frac{b^*}{a^*}$$



• Fig. 4.14: CIELAB model.

# 4.1.15 More Color Coordinate Schemes

- Beware: gamma correction or not is usually ignored.
- Schemes include:
  - a) CMY — Cyan (*C*), Magenta (*M*) and Yellow (*Y*) color model;
  - b) HSL — Hue, Saturation and Lightness;
  - c) HSV — Hue, Saturation and Value;
  - d) HSI — Hue, Saturation and Intensity;
  - e) HCl — C=Chroma;
  - f) HVC — V=Value;
  - g) HSD — D=Darkness.

## 4.2 Color Models in Images

- Colors models and spaces used for stored, displayed, and printed images.
- **RGB Color Model for Displays**
  - ✓ We expect to be able to use 8 bits per color channel for color that is accurate enough.
  - ✓ However, in fact we have to use about 12 bits per channel to avoid an aliasing effect in dark image areas — contour bands that result **from gamma correction**.
  - ✓ For images produced from computer graphics,
    - ❑ we store integers proportional to intensity in the frame buffer.
    - ❑ So should have a gamma correction Lookup Table **LUT** between the frame buffer and the display.
  - ✓ If gamma correction is applied to floats
    - ❑ before quantizing to integers,
    - ❑ before storage in the frame buffer,
    - ❑ then in fact we can use only 8 bits per channel.

## 4.2.2 Multi-sensor Cameras

1. **More accurate color** can be achieved by using cameras with **more than 3 sensors, = more than 3 color filters.**
2. One way of doing this is by using a **rotating filter.**
  - Can remove the near-infrared filter typically placed in a camera,
  - so as to extend the camera's sensitivity into the infrared



+



Combination:  
smooths skin

## 4.2.3 Camera-Dependant Colour : HSV

1. Besides R,G,B, two other camera-dependent color spaces are commonly used: HSV and sRGB.
2. **HSV**: **H** stands for hue **درجة اللون**; **S** stands for ‘saturation’ of a color; **V** stands for ‘value’, meaning brightness.
  - Assuming R,G,B are in 0..255 are KNOWN, → **We can get the HSV**

$$\begin{aligned} M &= \max\{R, G, B\} \\ m &= \min\{R, G, B\} \\ V &= M \\ S &= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } V = 0 \\ (V - m)/V & \text{if } V > 0 \end{cases} \\ H &= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } S = 0 \\ 60(G - B)/(M - m) & \text{if } (M = R \text{ and } G \geq B) \\ 60(G - B)/(M - m) + 360 & \text{if } (M = R \text{ and } G < B) \\ 60(B - R)/(M - m) + 120 & \text{if } M = G \\ 60(R - G)/(M - m) + 240 & \text{if } M = B \end{cases} \end{aligned} \tag{4.24}$$

## 4.2.3 Camera-dependant Colour : sRGB

### 3. sRGB (standard RGB):

- Tied to the color space of a particular reference display device
- Adopted as a reference color space on the web
- With each color channel  $I$  in  $(R, G, B)$  normalized into the range  $[0, 1]$ ): for  $I = R, G, B$ , we apply a function to take gamma-corrected  $I'$  back into “linear”  $I$ :
- When white is  $(R, G, B) = (1, 1, 1)$ , the XYZ is that of **standard light D65 /100**:  $(X, Y, Z) = (0.9505, 1.0000, 1.0890)$ .
- The **sRGB** standard also specifies a colorimetric transform to go from such linear **sRGB** values  $i$  to CIEXYZ values:

(4.25)

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{What the human} \\ \text{perceives} \end{array} \xrightarrow{\quad} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.4124 & 0.3576 & 0.1805 \\ 0.2126 & 0.7152 & 0.0722 \\ 0.0193 & 0.1192 & 0.9505 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \end{pmatrix} \xleftarrow{\quad} \begin{array}{c} \text{What can be displayed over the most} \\ \text{of devices} \end{array}$$

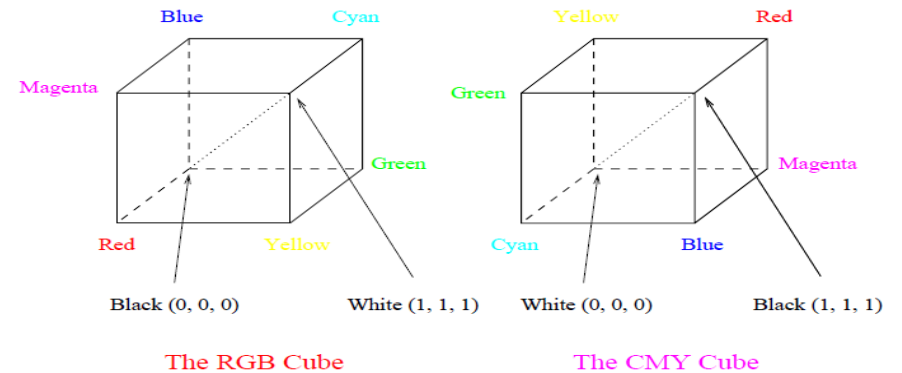
## 4.2.4 Subtractive color: CMY color model

- So far, we have effectively been **dealing only** with **additive color**.
- Namely, when 2 light beams impinge on a target, **their colors add**
  - (when 2 phosphors on an older CRT screen are turned on, their colors add)
- But for **printing** → ***ink deposited on paper***, the opposite situation holds:

- yellow ink = white illumination - blue,
- reflects red and green; it appears yellow.

$$\begin{bmatrix} C \\ M \\ Y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} C \\ M \\ Y \end{bmatrix}$$

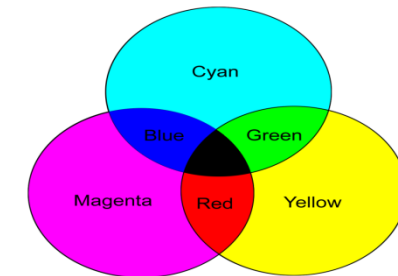
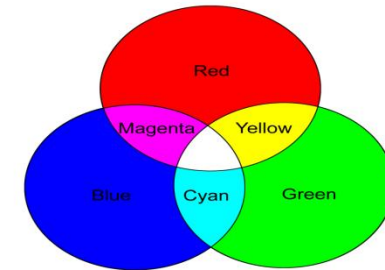


## 4.2.6 Undercolor Removal: CMYK System

- **Undercolor removal:** Sharper and cheaper printer it loses ink to use the colors in order to get BLACK COLOR
  - colors:
    1. calculate that part of the CMY
    2. mix that would be black,
    3. remove it from the color proportions,
    4. and add it back as real black (relatively inexpensive ink).
- The new specification of inks is thus:

$$K \equiv \min\{C, M, Y\}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} C \\ M \\ Y \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} C - K \\ M - K \\ Y - K \end{bmatrix}$$



**Fig. 4.16:** Additive and subtractive color.  
(a): RGB is used to specify additive color.  
(b): CMY is used to specify subtractive color

## 4.3 Color Models in Video

- Video Color Transforms

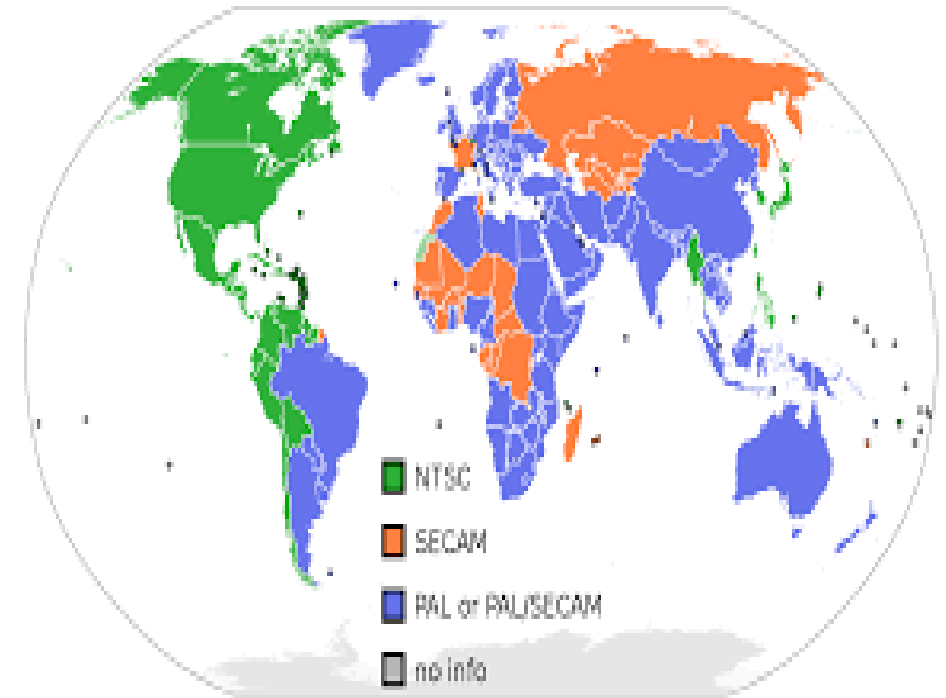
- Largely derive from older analog methods of coding color for TV. Luminance is separated from color information.
- a matrix transform method

- 2 Majors analog models

- ☐ NTSC→YIQ is used to transmit TV signals in **North America and Japan**.
- ☐ In Europe, video tape uses the **PAL or SECAM** codings, → YUV.

- digital video

- ☐ uses a matrix transform called **YCbCr** that is **closely related to YUV**





THANK YOU