

Arayla Bakhetbek

Digital Designer

aray-la.com

abaketeb@risd.edu

The peripheral drift illusion: A motion illusion in the visual periphery

Jocelyn Faubert, Andrew M Herbert
 Ecole d'Optométrie, Université de Montréal, CP 6128, Succursale Centre-Ville, Montréal, Québec H3C 3J7, Canada; e-mail: jocelyn.faubert@umontreal.ca
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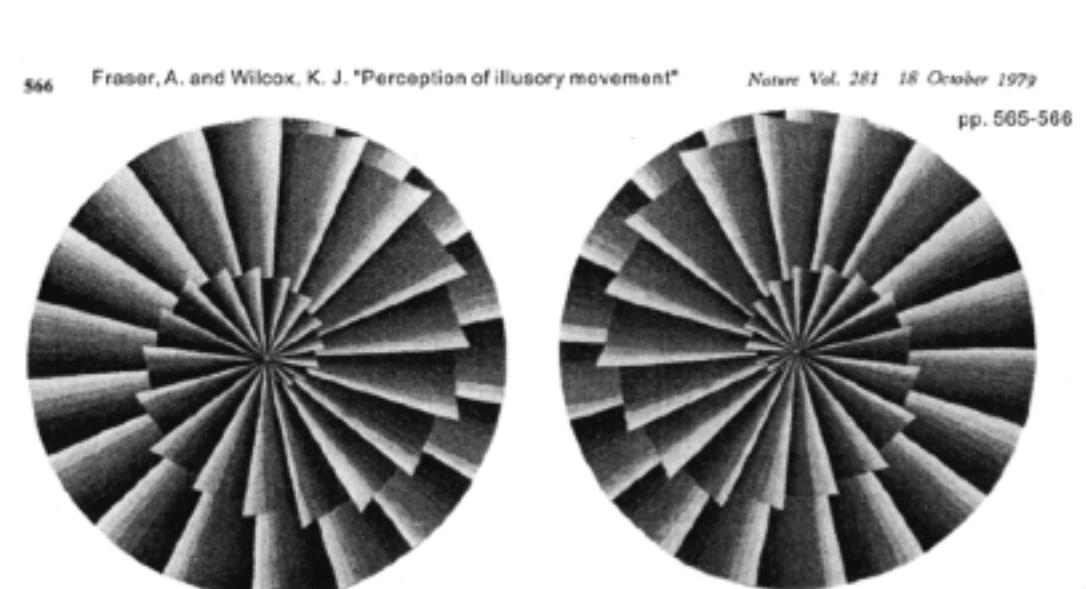
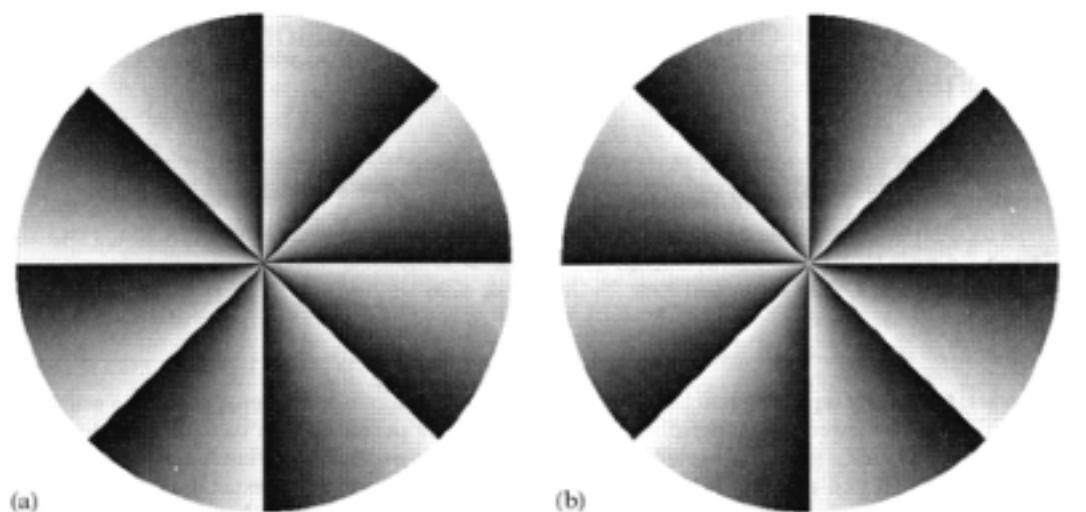


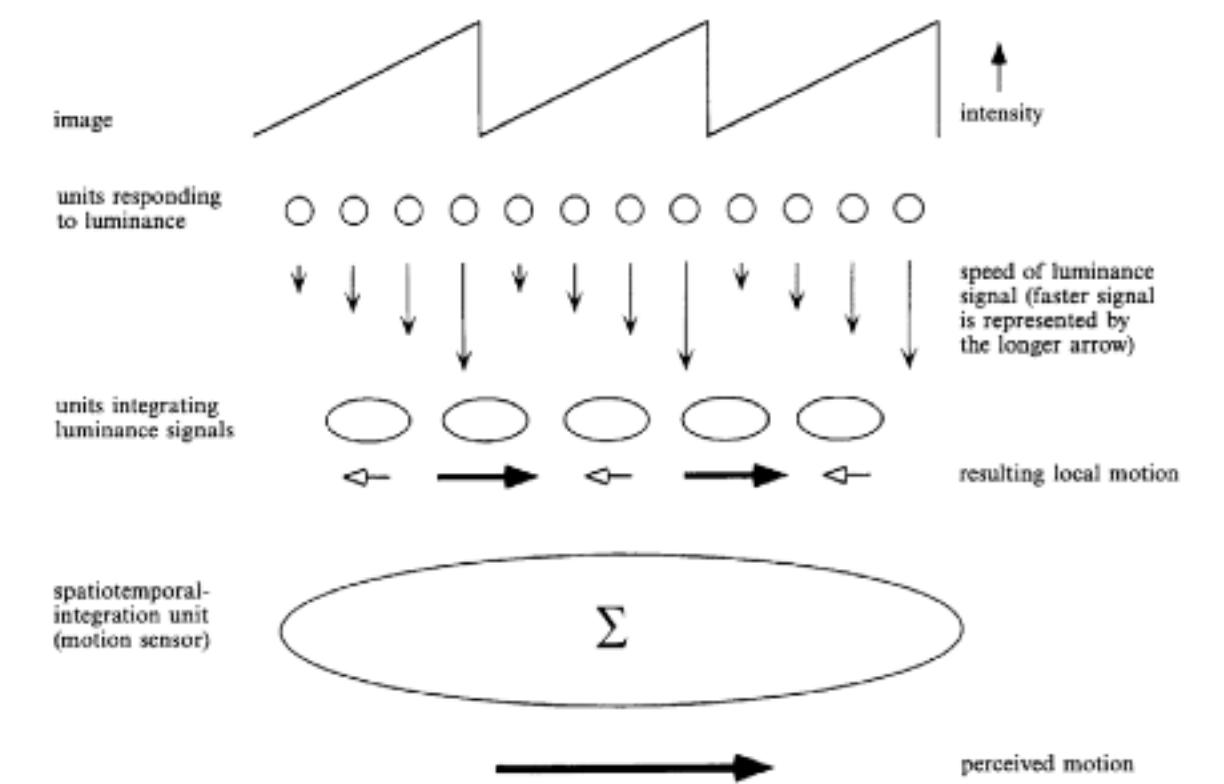
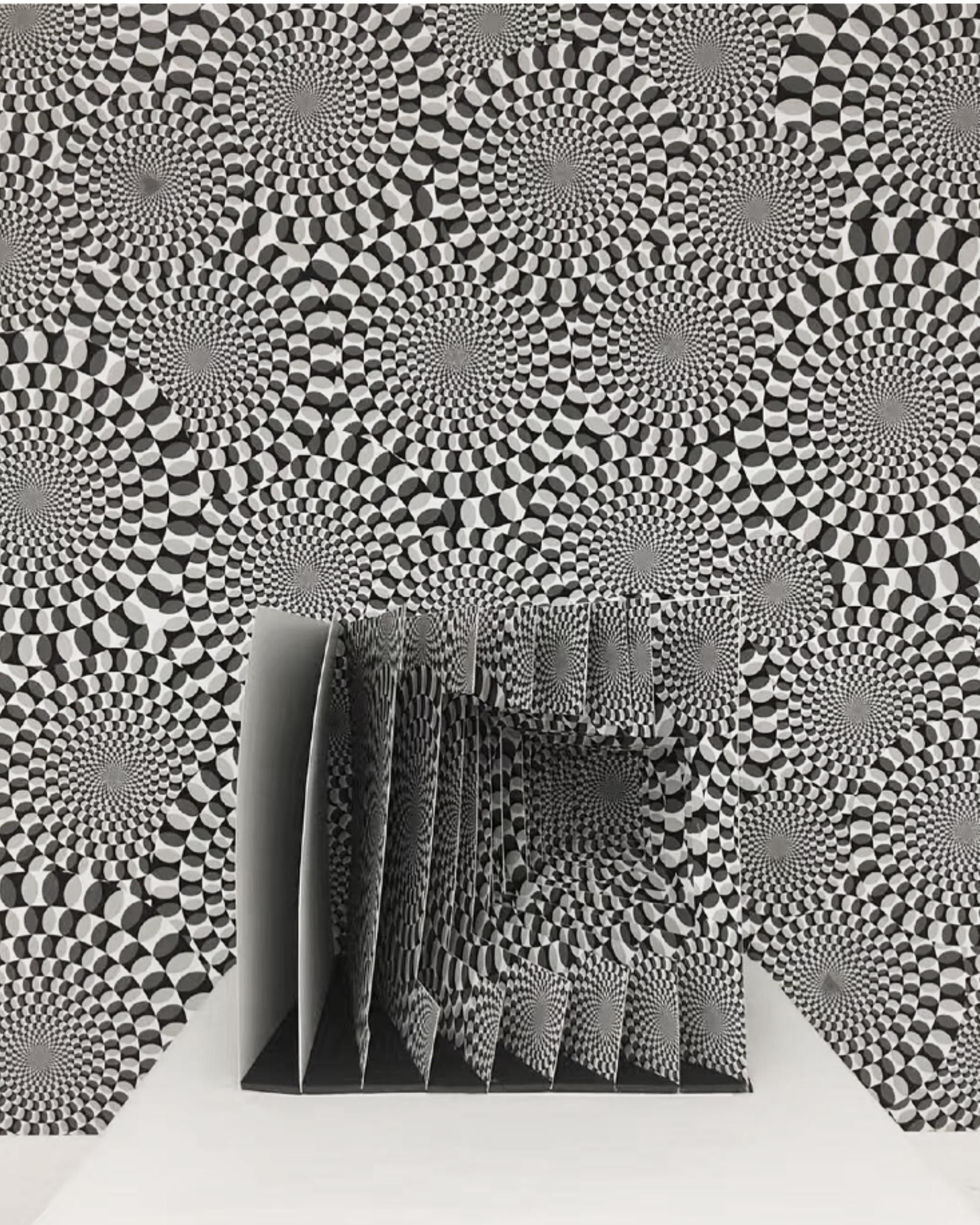
Fig. 1 The two illustrations presented to observers.

Behavioral/Systems/Cognitive

Microsaccades and Blinks Trigger Illusory Rotation in the "Rotating Snakes" Illusion

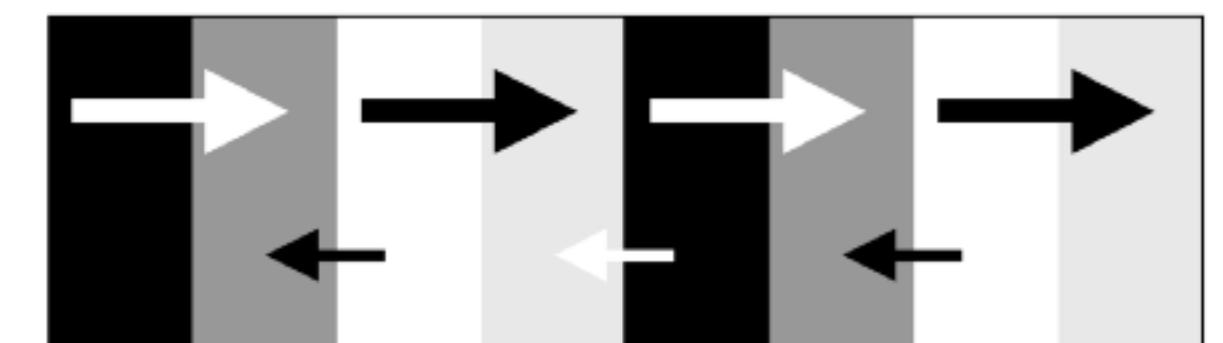
Jorge Otero-Millan,^{1,2} Stephen L. Macknik,¹ and Susana Martínez-Conde¹
¹Barrow Neurological Institute, Phoenix, Arizona 85013, and ²University of Vigo, 36310 Vigo, Spain

Certain repetitive arrangements of luminance gradients elicit the perception of strong illusory motion. Among them, the "Rotating Snakes Illusion" has generated a large amount of interest in the visual neurosciences, as well as in the public. Prior evidence indicates that the Rotating Snakes illusion depends critically on eye movements, yet the specific eye movement types involved and their associated neural mechanisms remain controversial. According to recent reports, slow ocular drift—a non-saccadic type of fixational eye movement—drives the illusion, whereas microsaccades produced during attempted fixation fail to do so. Here, we asked human subjects to indicate the presence or absence of rotation during the observation of the illusion while we simultaneously recorded their eye movements with high precision. We found a strong quantitative link between microsaccade and blink production and illusory rotation. These results suggest that transient oculomotor events such as microsaccades, saccades, and blinks, rather than continuous drift, act to trigger the illusory motion in the Rotating Snakes illusion.



AUTOMATIC SHAKE TO ENHANCE FRASER-WILCOX ILLUSIONS

Kazuhsia Yanaka, Ryuto Mitsuhashi and Teluhiko Hilano
 Kanagawa Institute of Technology, 1030 Shimo-ogino, Atsugi-shi, Kanagawa-ken, 243-0292, Japan



"A classification of the Fraser-Wilcox illusion group"

"Optimized Fraser-Wilcox illusions"

	Dark to light	Light to dark	Luminance profiles
Type I	 illusory motion →	 ←	
Type III			
Type IIa			
Type IV			