Psych 202: Paper #1

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**Psychophysical Functions as Incomplete Models of Subjective Visibility**

In our everyday lives we experience a dramatic and undeniable connection between attending to something and our complete awareness of it. But there exist many examples of phenomena in which we have only incomplete awareness of a stimulus. In particular, many features appear to show a graded change from a lack of awareness to full awareness. Windey et al. (Windey, Gevers, & Cleeremans, 2013) propose that the shape of the transition function depends specifically on the task and “processing level” of stimuli. In particular, they show that based on previous findings it may be possible to explain the ‘graded’ and

Their task is a classic signal detection experiment similar to that outlined in Swets et al. involving a 2-alternative discrimination (color or numerical estimation) which depends crucially on the length of stimulus presentation. In addition to their discrimination measurement they also obtain a subjective judgment of certainty.