

# Digital Image Processing

## COSC 6380/4393

Lecture – 27

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# What is color?

- Color is a psychological property of our visual experiences when we look at objects and lights,  
*not* a physical property of those objects or lights  
(S. Palmer, *Vision Science: Photons to Phenomenology*)
- Color is the result of interaction between physical light in the environment and our visual system

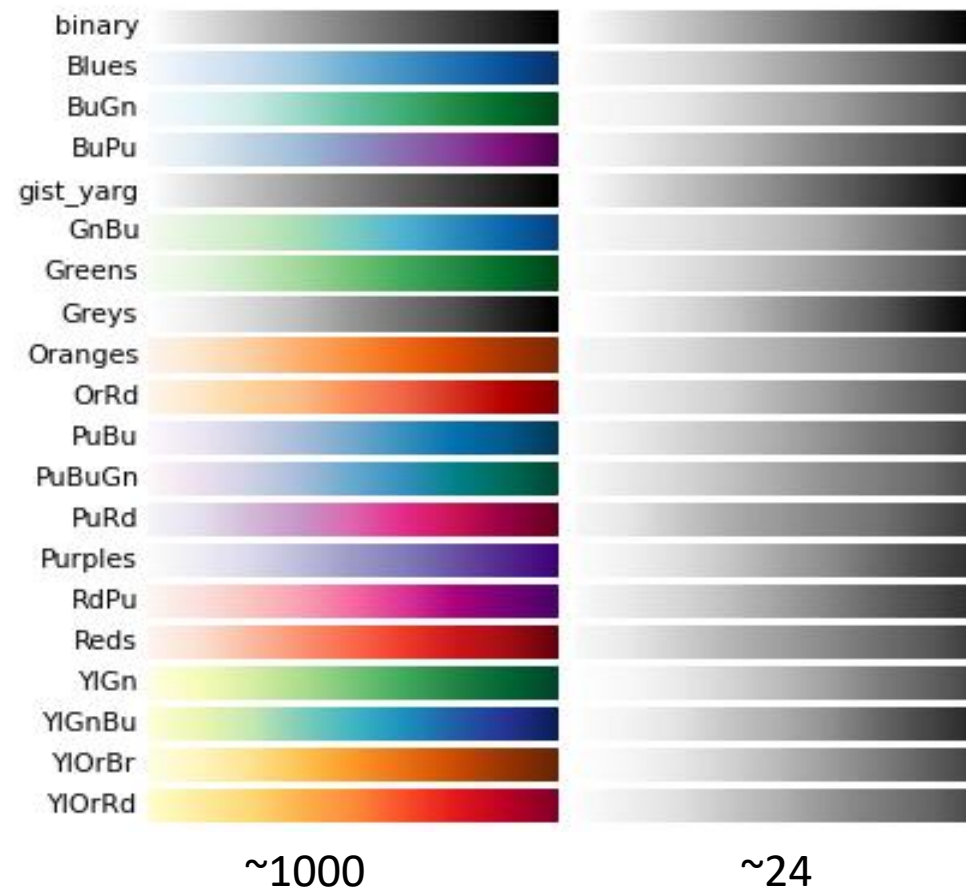


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Wassily Kandinsky (1866-1944), Murnau Street with Women, 1908

# Principal Descriptor

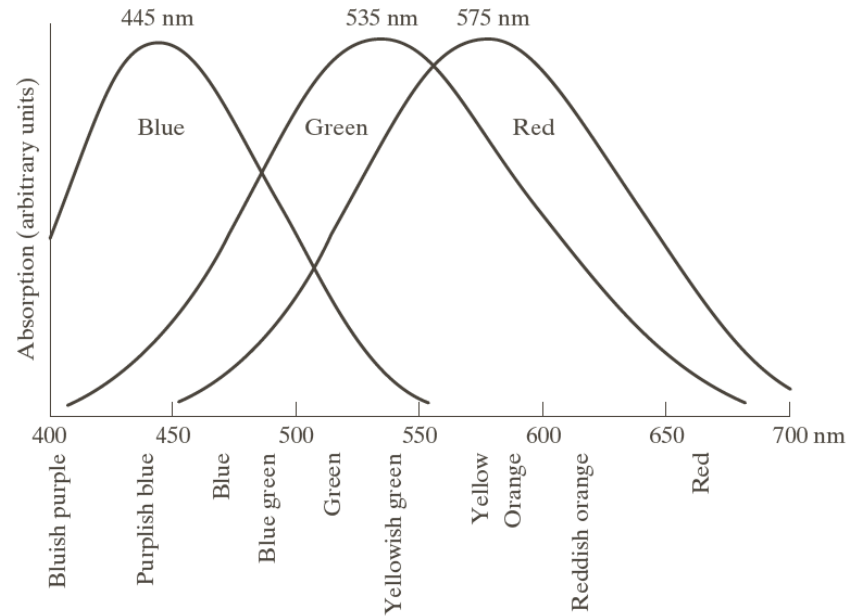
- Visual Descriptor
  - **SHAPE**
  - **COLOR**
  - **TEXTURE**
  - **MOTION**

# Discerning Color



# Color Fundamentals

- Cones are the sensors in the eye that are responsible for color vision
- 6 to 7 million cones in the human eye

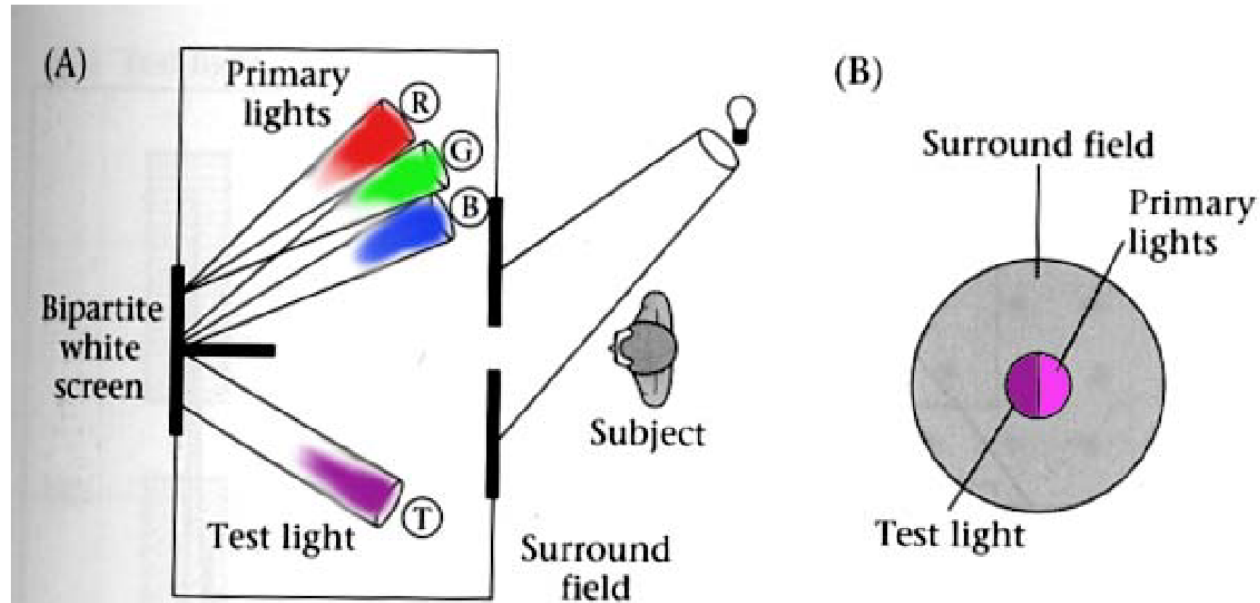


**FIGURE 6.3**  
Absorption of light by the red, green, and blue cones in the human eye as a function of wavelength.

# Primary colors

- Due to the absorption characteristics of human eye,
- Primary colors:
  - Red
  - Green
  - Blue
- Color: described as a variable combination of the primary colors
- In 1931, CIE(International Commission on Illumination) defines specific wavelength values to the primary colors
  - B = 435.8 nm, G = 546.1 nm, R = 700 nm
  - However, we know that no single color may be called red, green, or blue

# Color matching experiment



**4.10 THE COLOR-MATCHING EXPERIMENT.** The observer views a bipartite field and adjusts the intensities of the three primary lights to match the appearance of the test light. (A) A top view of the experimental apparatus. (B) The appearance of the stimuli to the observer. After Judd and Wyszecki, 1975.

Foundations of Vision, by Brian Wandell, Sinauer Assoc., 1995

# CIE RGB

- **Tri-stimulus** values: Color defined by three value **(R,G,B)**
- The amount of Red, Green and Blue needed to form any particular color



# CIE XYZ

- New color matching functions were to be everywhere greater than or equal to zero.
- For the constant energy white point, it was required that  $x = y = z = 1/3$ .

# CIE XYZ model

- RGB -> CIE XYZ model

$$\begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.431 & 0.342 & 0.178 \\ 0.222 & 0.707 & 0.071 \\ 0.020 & 0.130 & 0.939 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \end{bmatrix}$$

- Normalized tristimulus values

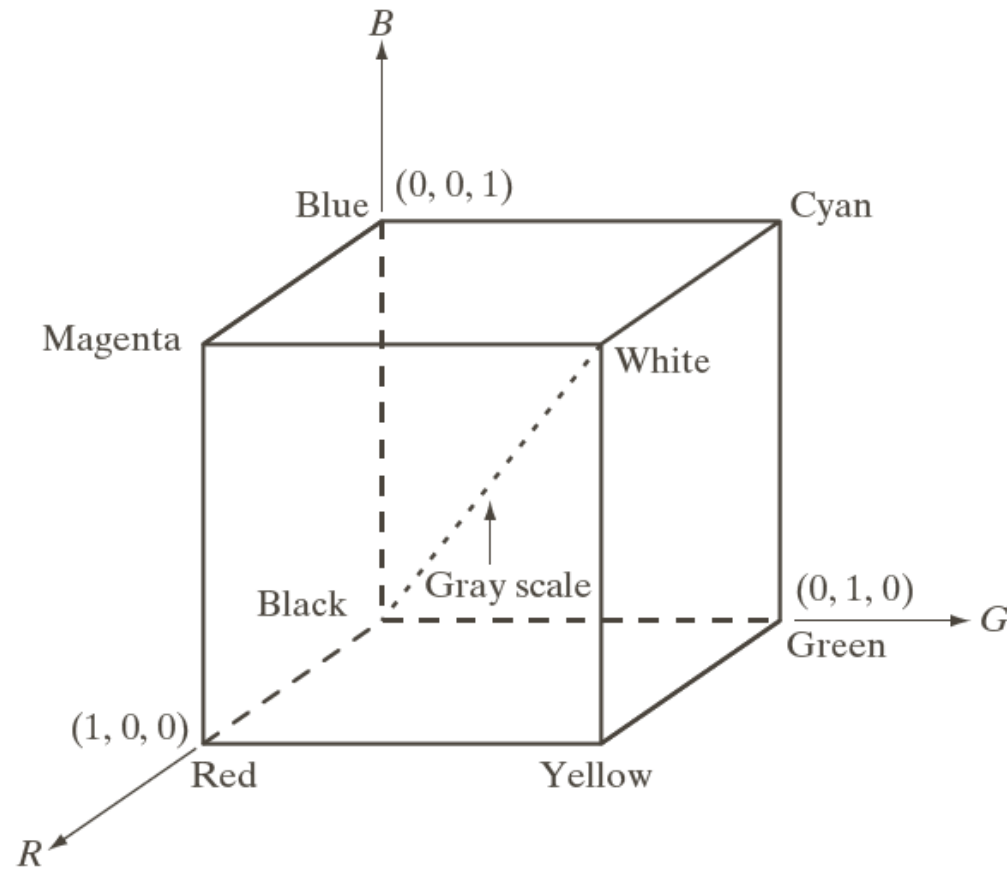
$$x = \frac{X}{X + Y + Z} \quad y = \frac{Y}{X + Y + Z} \quad z = \frac{Z}{X + Y + Z}$$

=>  $x+y+z=1$ . Thus,  $x, y$  (chromaticity coordinate) is enough to describe all colors

# Color models

- Color model, color space, color system
    - Specify colors in a standard way
    - A **coordinate system** that each color is represented by a single point
  - RGB model
  - CYM model
  - CYMK model
  - HSI model
- } Suitable for hardware or applications
- match the human description

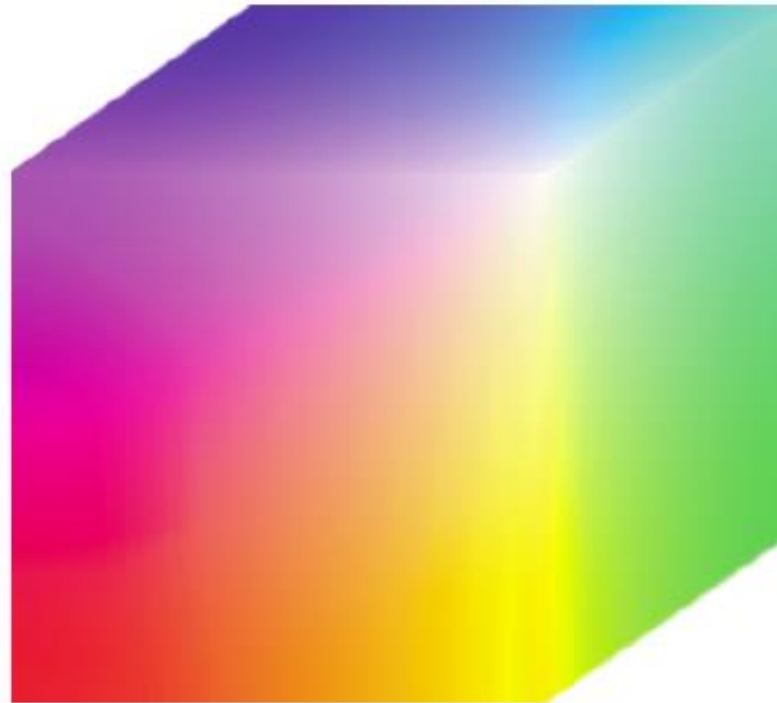
# RGB Color Model



**FIGURE 6.7**

Schematic of the RGB color cube. Points along the main diagonal have gray values, from black at the origin to white at point (1, 1, 1).

# RGB Color Model



**FIGURE 6.8** RGB  
24-bit color cube.

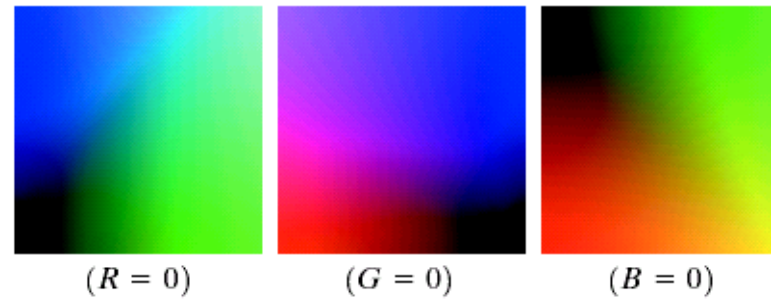
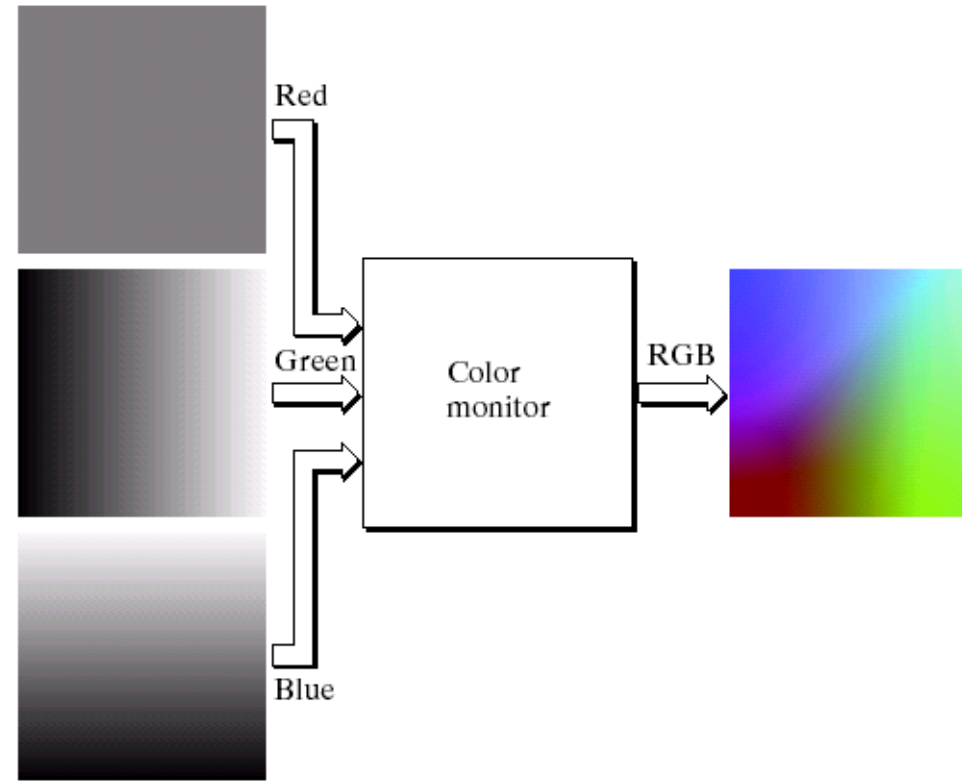
Pixel depth

The total number of colors  
in a 24-bit RGB image is  
 $(2^8)^3 = 16,777,216$

a  
b

**FIGURE 6.9**

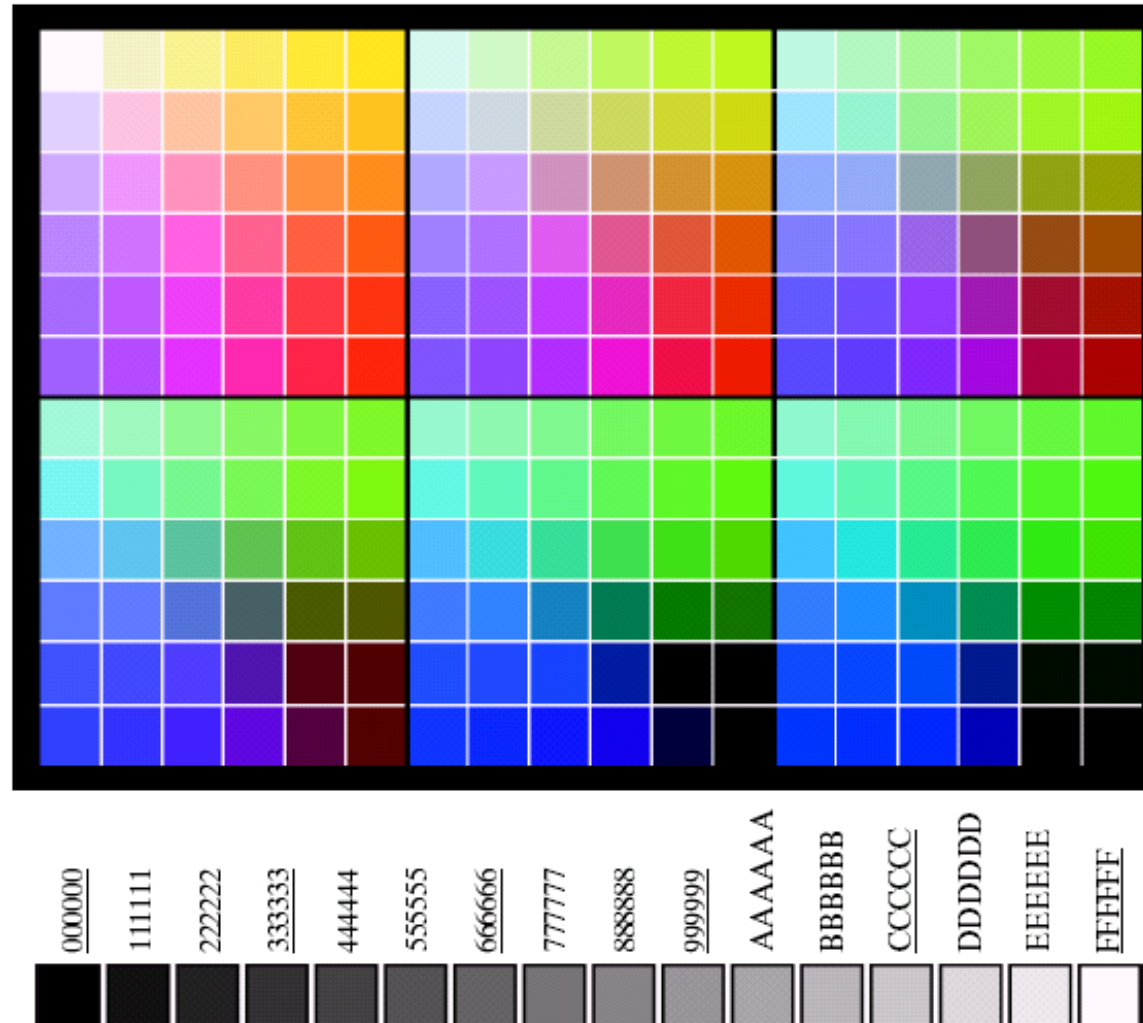
(a) Generating the RGB image of the cross-sectional color plane  $(127, G, B)$ .  
(b) The three hidden surface planes in the color cube of Fig. 6.8.



Number System		Color Equivalents				
Hex	00	33	66	99	CC	FF
Decimal	0	51	102	153	204	255

**TABLE 6.1**

Valid values of each RGB component in a safe color.

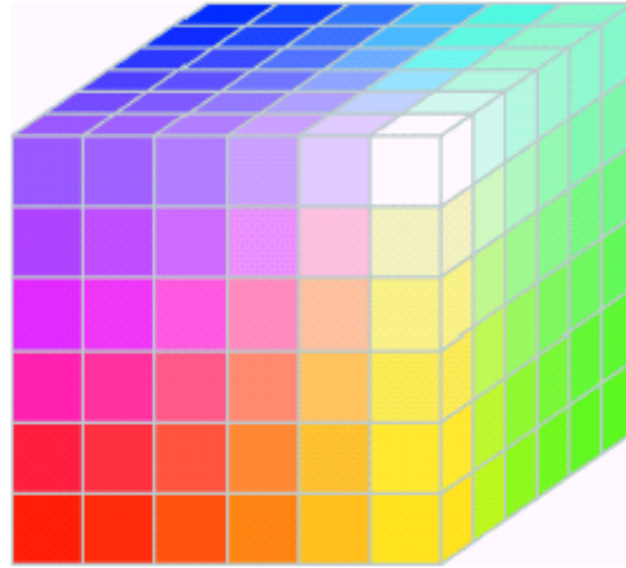


a  
b

**FIGURE 6.10**

(a) The 216 safe RGB colors.  
(b) All the grays in the 256-color RGB system (grays that are part of the safe color group are shown underlined).

**Safe RGB colors (or safe Web colors)** are reproduced faithfully, reasonably independently of viewer hardware capabilities



**FIGURE 6.11** The RGB safe-color cube.

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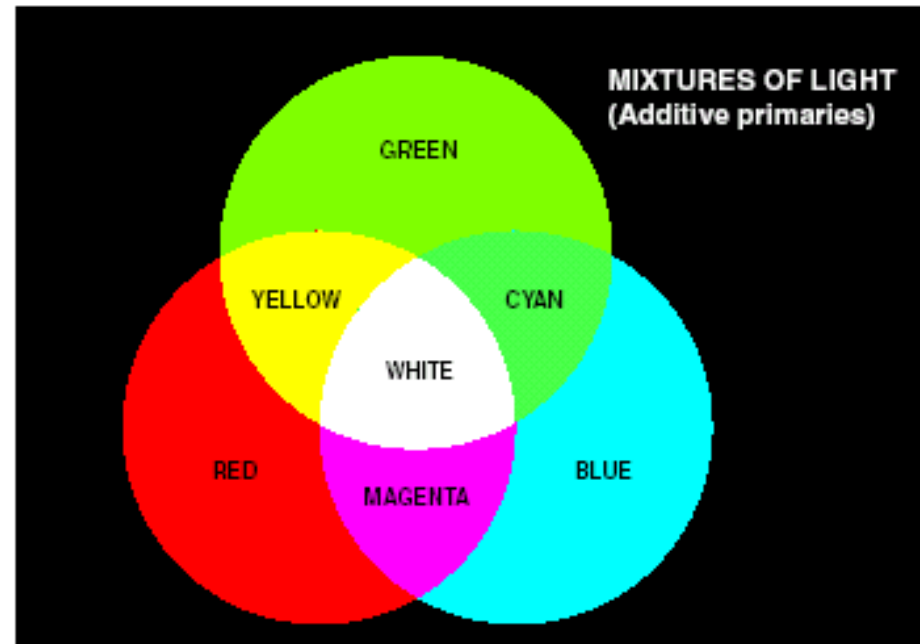


# CMY model (+Black = CMYK)

- **CMY**: secondary colors of light, or primary colors of pigments
- Used to generate hardcopy output

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

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## The CMY and CMYK Color Models

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

Equal amounts of the pigment primaries, cyan, magenta, and yellow should produce black. In practice, combining these colors for printing produces a muddy-looking black.

To produce true black, the predominant color in printing, the fourth color, black, is added, giving rise to the CMYK color model.



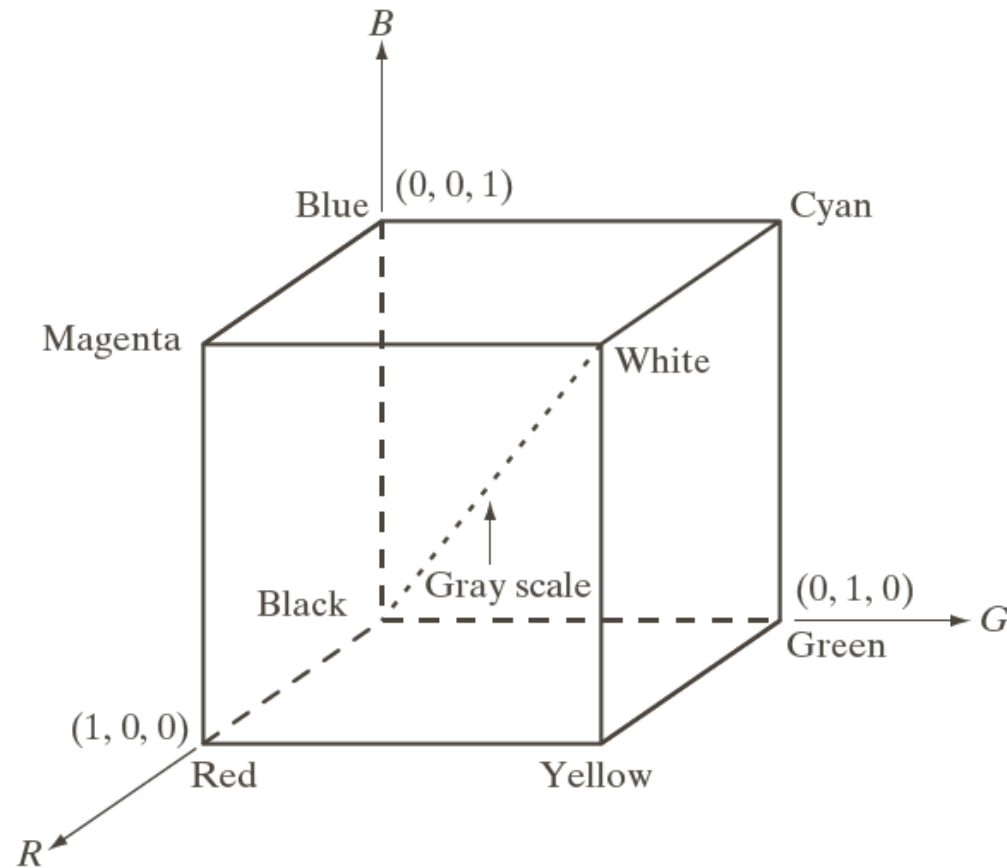
CMY vs. CMYK



# HSI color model

- Will you describe a color using its R, G, B components?
- Human describe a color by its hue, saturation, and brightness
  - Hue: color attribute
  - Saturation: purity of color (white->0, primary color->1)
  - Brightness: achromatic notion of intensity

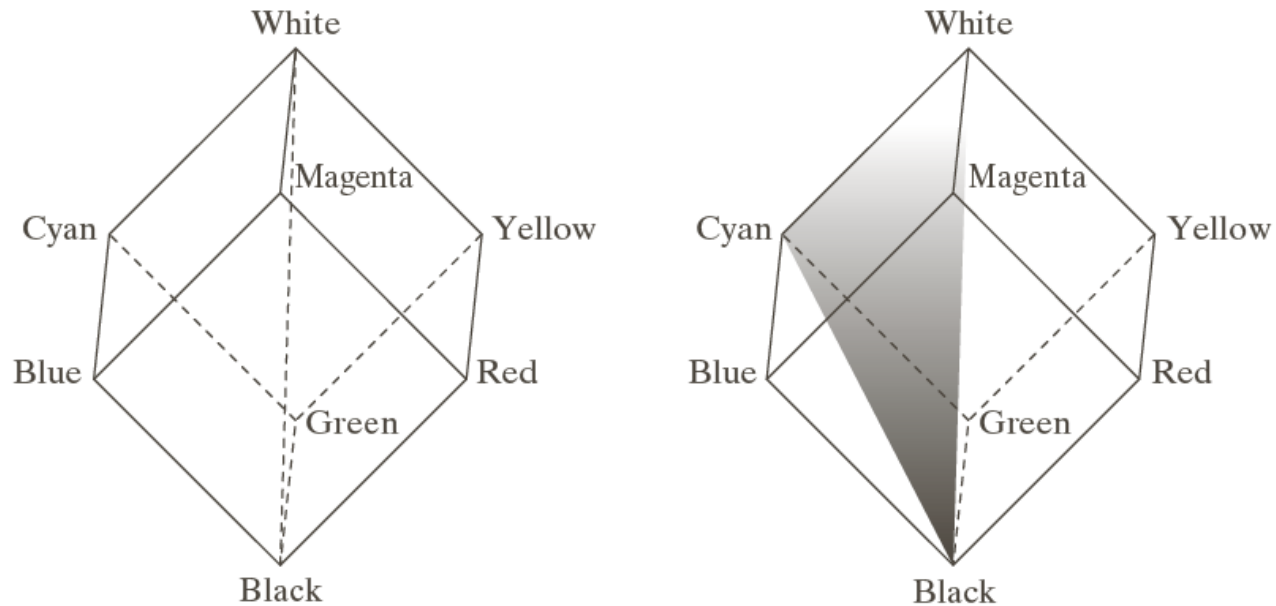
# RGB Color Model



**FIGURE 6.7**

Schematic of the RGB color cube. Points along the main diagonal have gray values, from black at the origin to white at point (1, 1, 1).

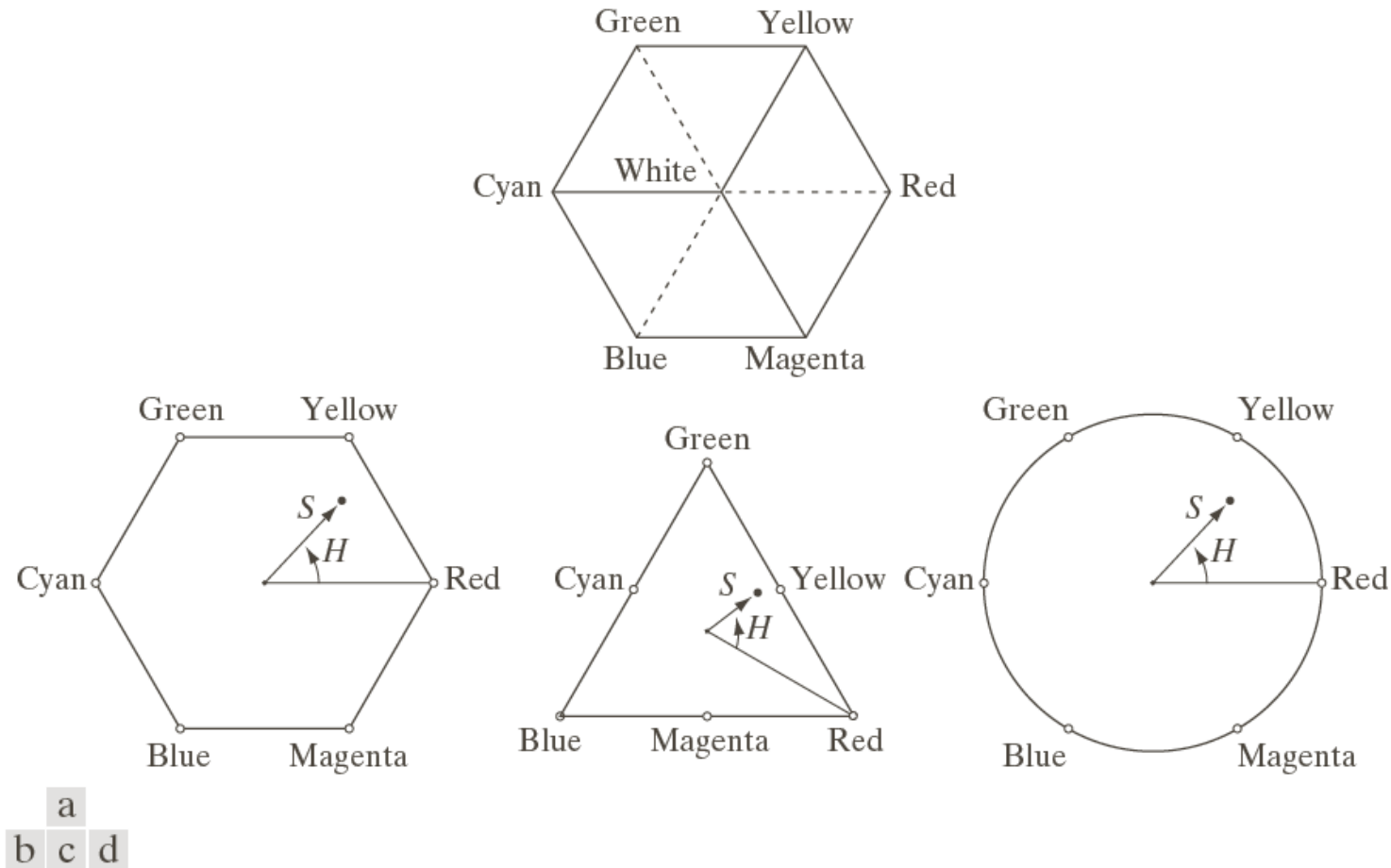
# HIS Color Model



a b

**FIGURE 6.12**  
Conceptual  
relationships  
between the RGB  
and HSI color  
models.

# HIS Color Model



**FIGURE 6.13** Hue and saturation in the HSI color model. The dot is an arbitrary color point. The angle from the red axis gives the hue, and the length of the vector is the saturation. The intensity of all colors in any of these planes is given by the position of the plane on the vertical intensity axis.

## Converting Colors from RGB to HSI

- Given an image in RGB color format, the H component of each RGB pixel is obtained using the equation

$$H = \begin{cases} \theta & \text{if } B \leq G \\ 360 - \theta & \text{if } B > G \end{cases}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left\{ \frac{\frac{1}{2}[(R-G) + (R-B)]}{\left[ (R-G)^2 + (R-B)(G-B) \right]^{1/2}} \right\}$$



## Converting Colors from RGB to HSI

- Given an image in RGB color format, the saturation component is given by

$$S = 1 - \frac{3}{(R + G + B)} [\min(R, G, B)]$$

## Converting Colors from RGB to HSI

- Given an image in RGB color format, the intensity component is given by

$$I = \frac{1}{3}(R + G + B)$$

## Converting Colors from HSI to RGB

- RG sector  $(0^\circ \leq H < 120^\circ)$

$$B = I(1 - S)$$

$$R = I \left[ 1 + \frac{S \cos H}{\cos(60^\circ - H)} \right]$$

and

$$G = 3I - (R + B)$$

## Converting Colors from HSI to RGB

- RG sector  $(120^\circ \leq H < 240^\circ)$

$$H = H - 120^\circ$$

$$R = I(1 - S)$$

$$G = I \left[ 1 + \frac{S \cos H}{\cos(60^\circ - H)} \right]$$

and

$$B = 3I - (R + G)$$

## Converting Colors from HSI to RGB

- RG sector  $(240^\circ \leq H \leq 360^\circ)$

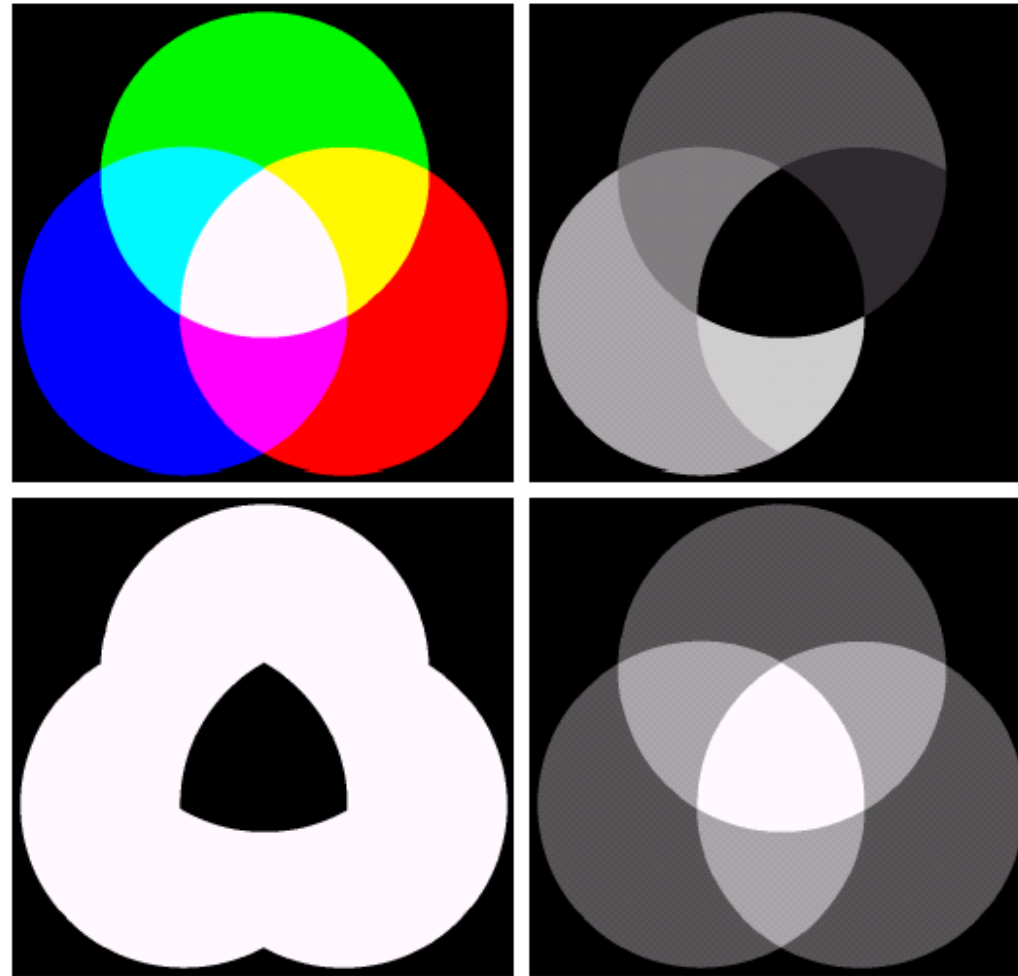
$$H = H - 240^\circ$$

$$G = I(1 - S)$$

$$B = I \left[ 1 + \frac{S \cos H}{\cos(60^\circ - H)} \right]$$

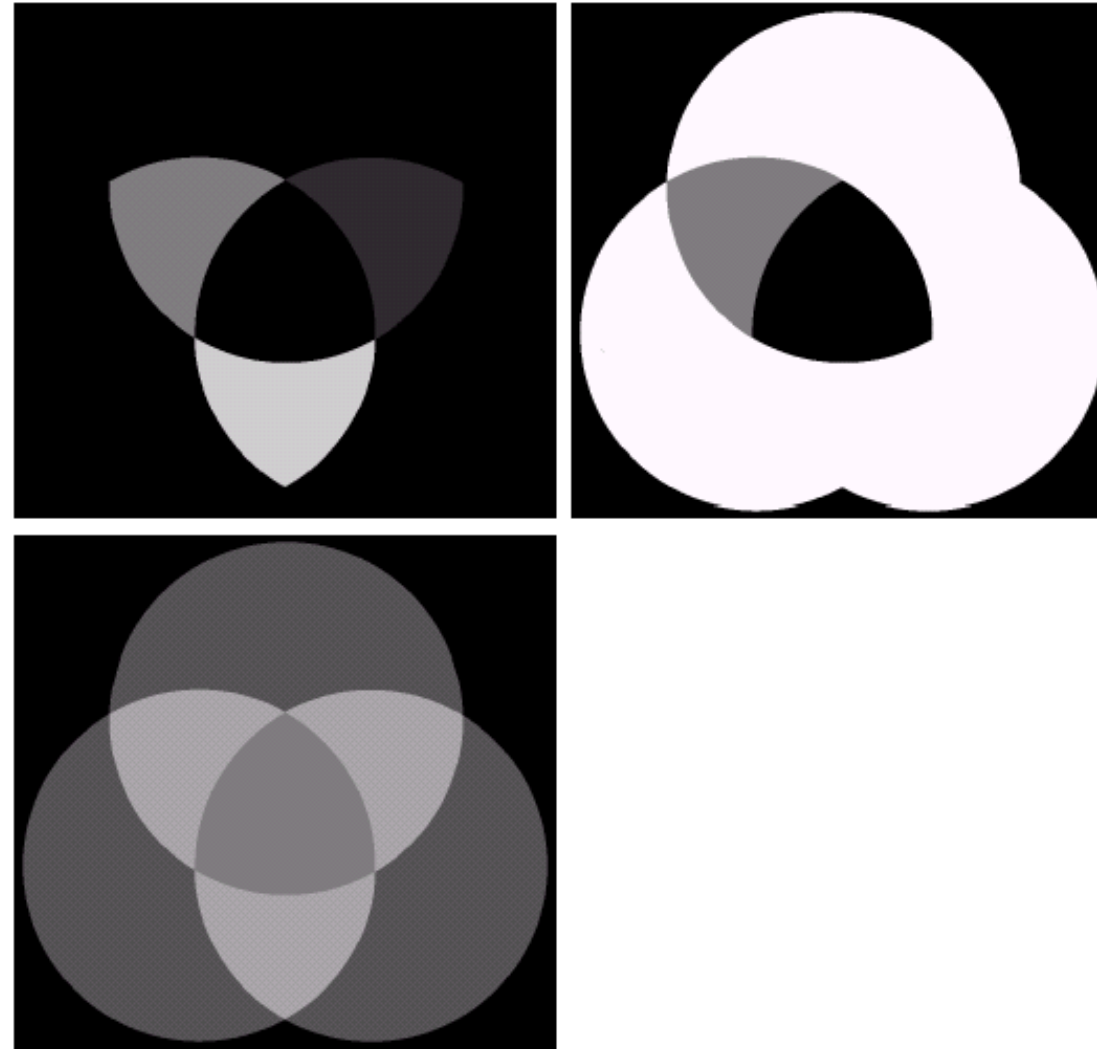
and

$$R = 3I - (G + B)$$



a	b
c	d

**FIGURE 6.16** (a) RGB image and the components of its corresponding HSI image: (b) hue, (c) saturation, and (d) intensity.



a	b
c	d

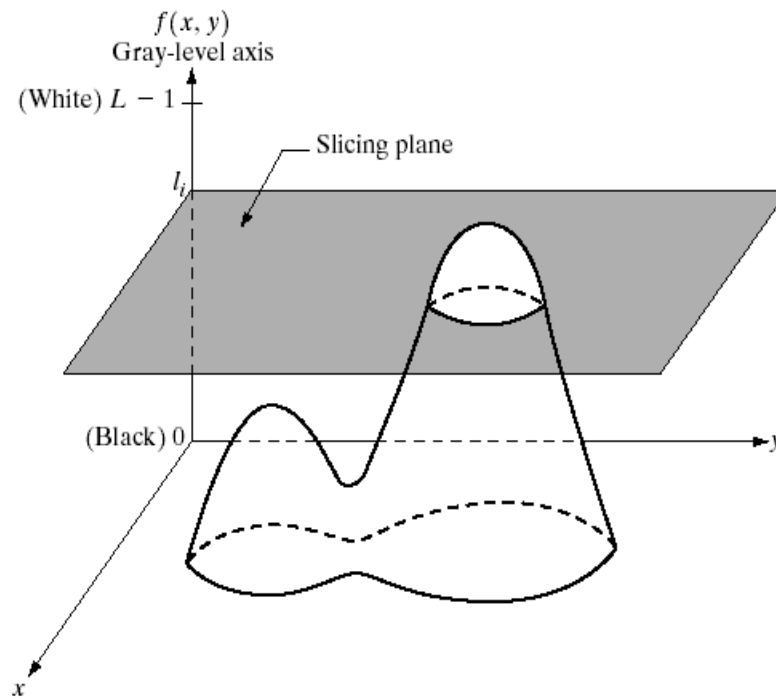
**FIGURE 6.17** (a)–(c) Modified HSI component images. (d) Resulting RGB image. (See Fig. 6.16 for the original HSI images.)

## ***Pseudocolor Image Processing***

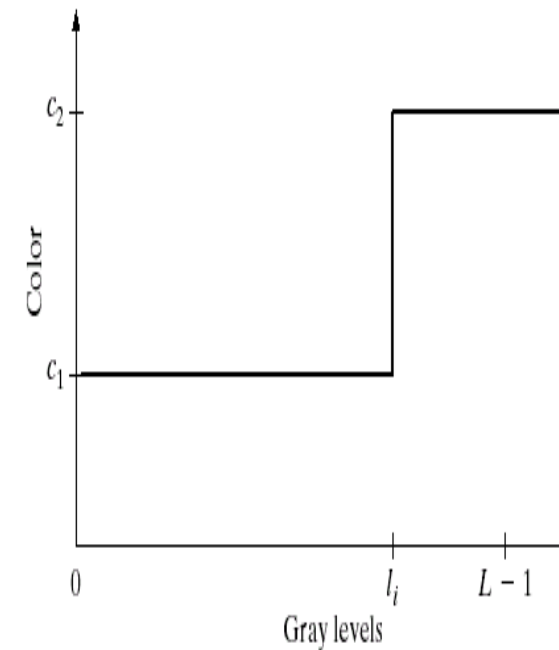
- **Pseudocolor (also called false color) image processing consists of assigning colors to gray values based on a specified criterion.**
  - **The principal use of pseudocolor is for human visualization and interpretation of gray-scale events in an image or sequence of images.**
- 1. Intensity Slicing**
  - 2. Gray Level to Color Transformations**



## Intensity Slicing

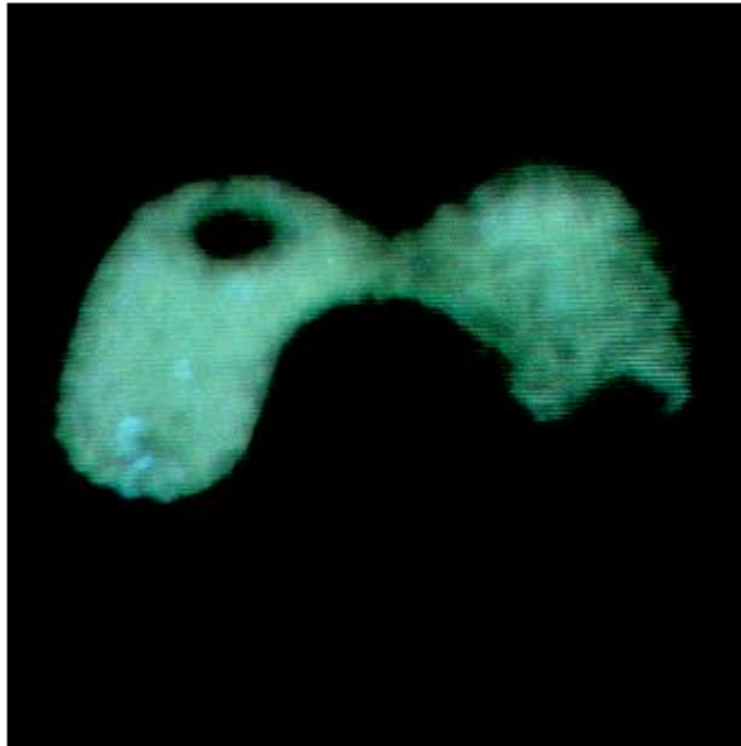


**FIGURE 6.18** Geometric interpretation of the intensity-slicing technique.



**FIGURE 6.19** An alternative representation of the intensity-slicing technique.

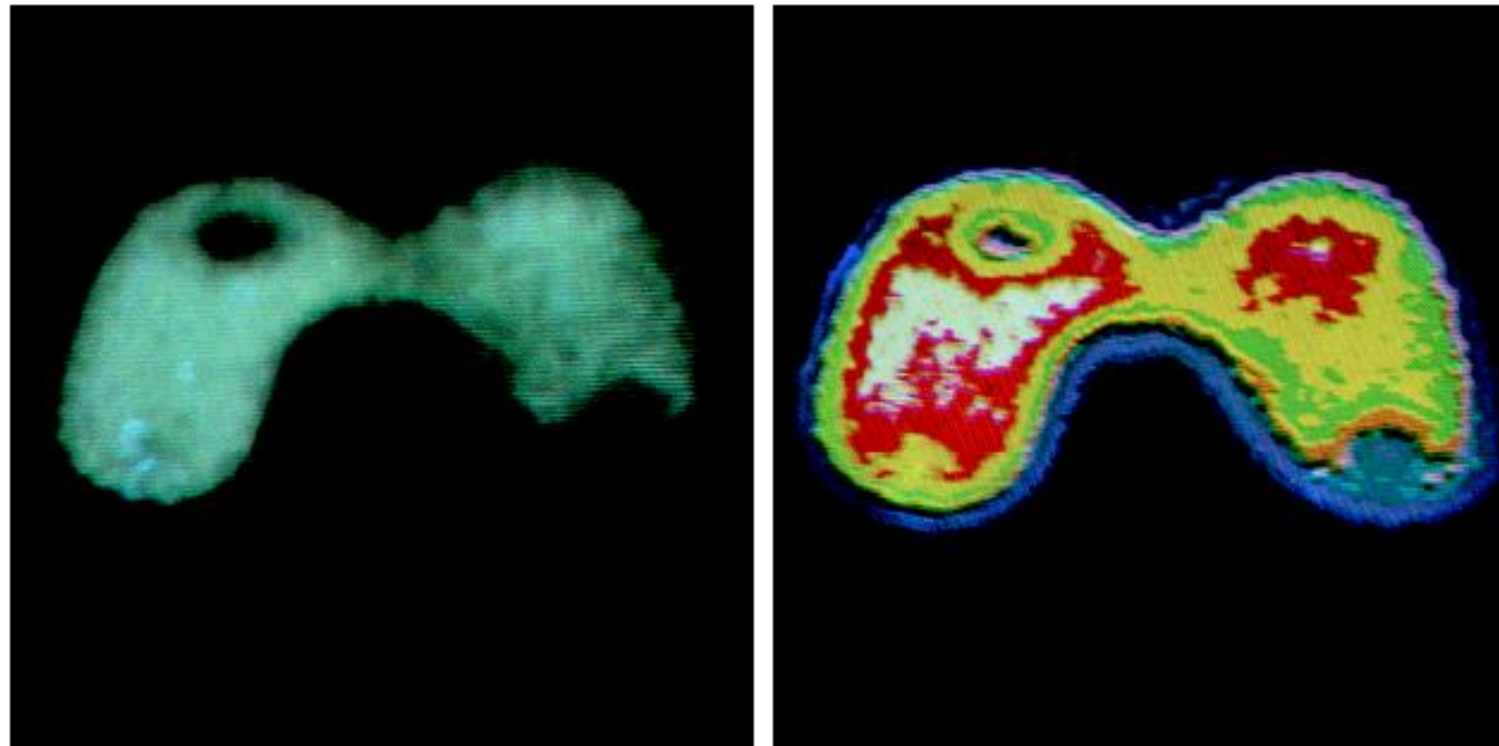
## *Intensity Slicing (con't)*



a b

**FIGURE 6.20** (a) Monochrome image of the Picker Thyroid Phantom. (b) Result of density slicing into eight colors. (Courtesy of Dr. J. L. Blankenship, Instrumentation and Controls Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory.)

## *Intensity Slicing (con't)*



a b

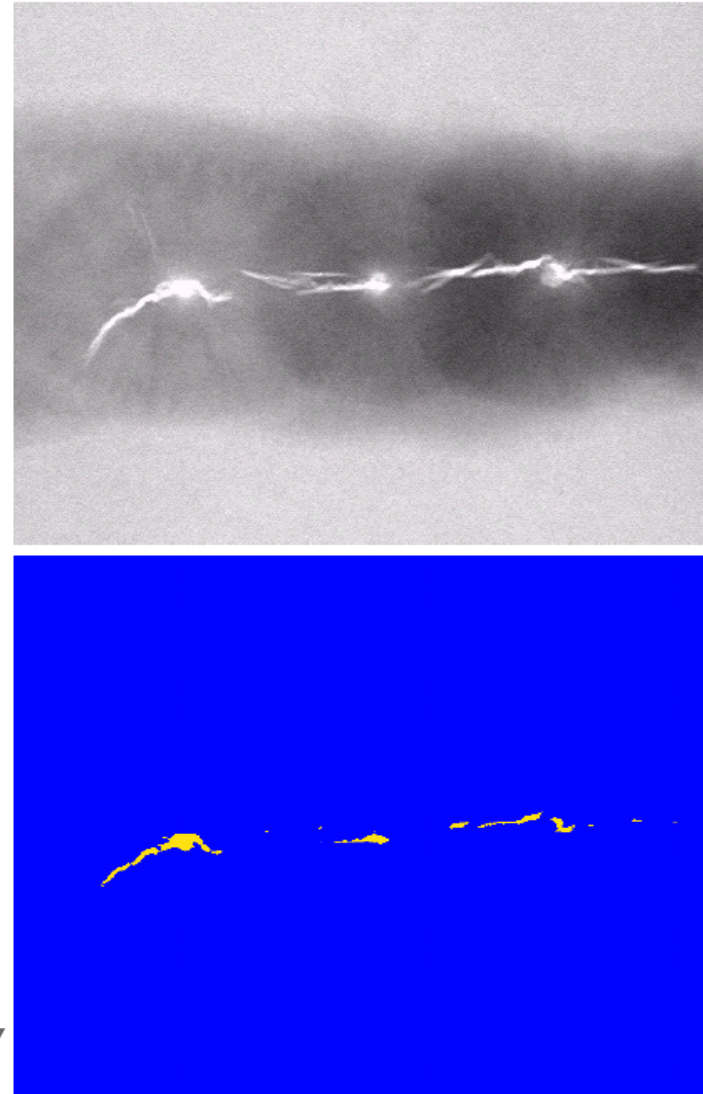
**FIGURE 6.20** (a) Monochrome image of the Picker Thyroid Phantom. (b) Result of density slicing into eight colors. (Courtesy of Dr. J. L. Blankenship, Instrumentation and Controls Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory.)

## *Intensity Slicing (con't)*

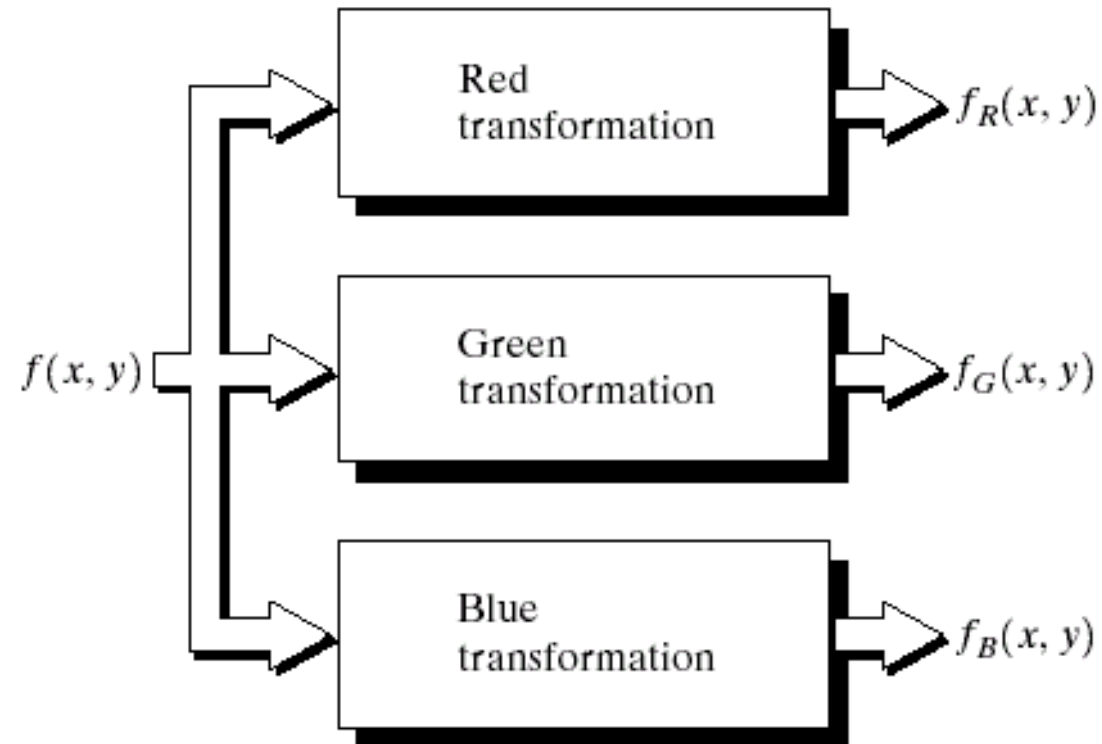
a  
b

**FIGURE 6.21**

(a) Monochrome X-ray image of a weld. (b) Result of color coding. (Original image courtesy of X-TEK Systems, Ltd.)

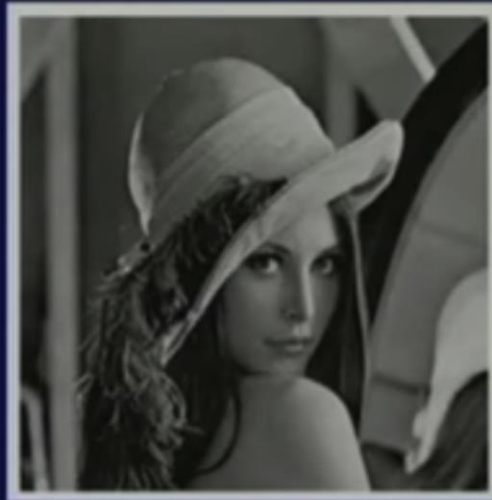


## *Gray Level to Color Transformations*



**FIGURE 6.23** Functional block diagram for pseudocolor image processing.  $f_R$ ,  $f_G$ , and  $f_B$  are fed into the corresponding red, green, and blue inputs of an RGB color monitor.

# *Gray Level to Color Transformations*



$$f_R(x, y) = f(x, y)$$

$$f_G(x, y) = 0.33 f(x, y)$$

$$f_B(x, y) = 0.11 f(x, y)$$

# *Gray Level to Color Transformations*

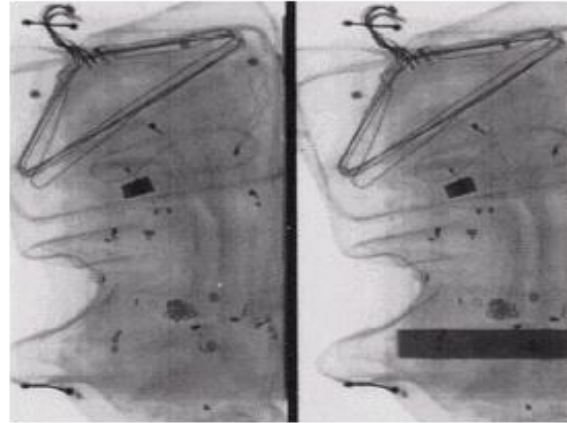


$$f_R(x, y) = 0.33 f(x, y)$$

$$f_G(x, y) = f(x, y)$$

$$f_B(x, y) = 0.11 f(x, y)$$

## *Gray Level to Color Transformations*

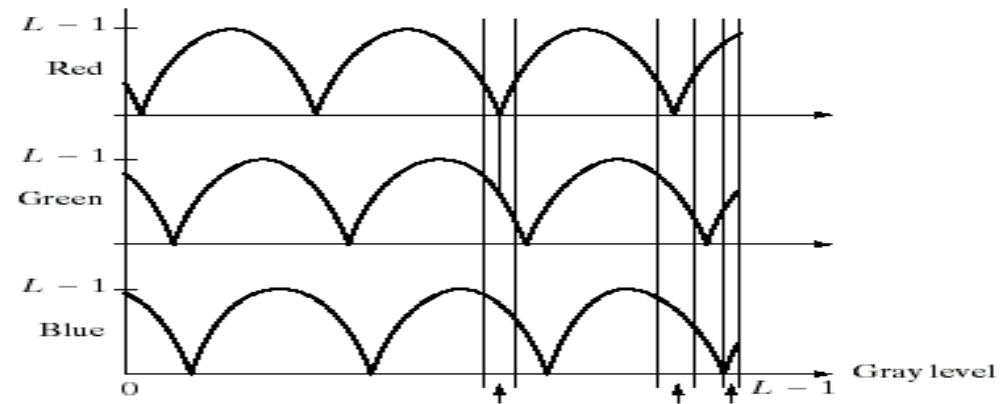
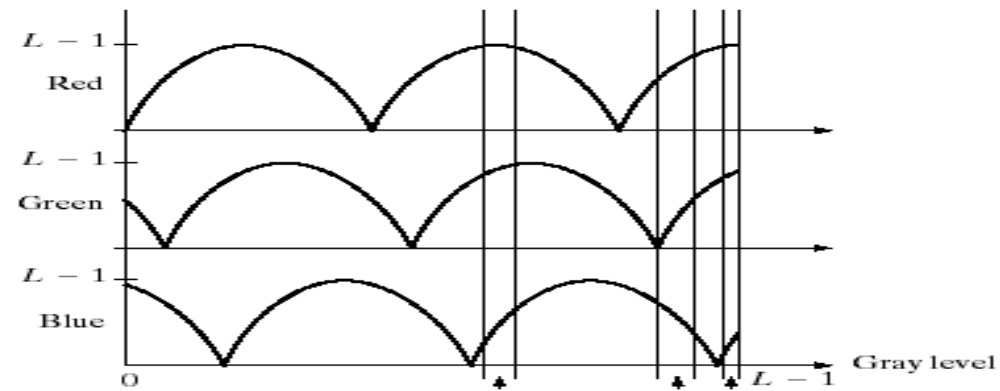


a  
b c

**FIGURE 6.24** Pseudocolor enhancement by using the gray-level to color transformations in Fig. 6.25. (Original image courtesy of Dr. Mike Hurwitz, Westinghouse.)



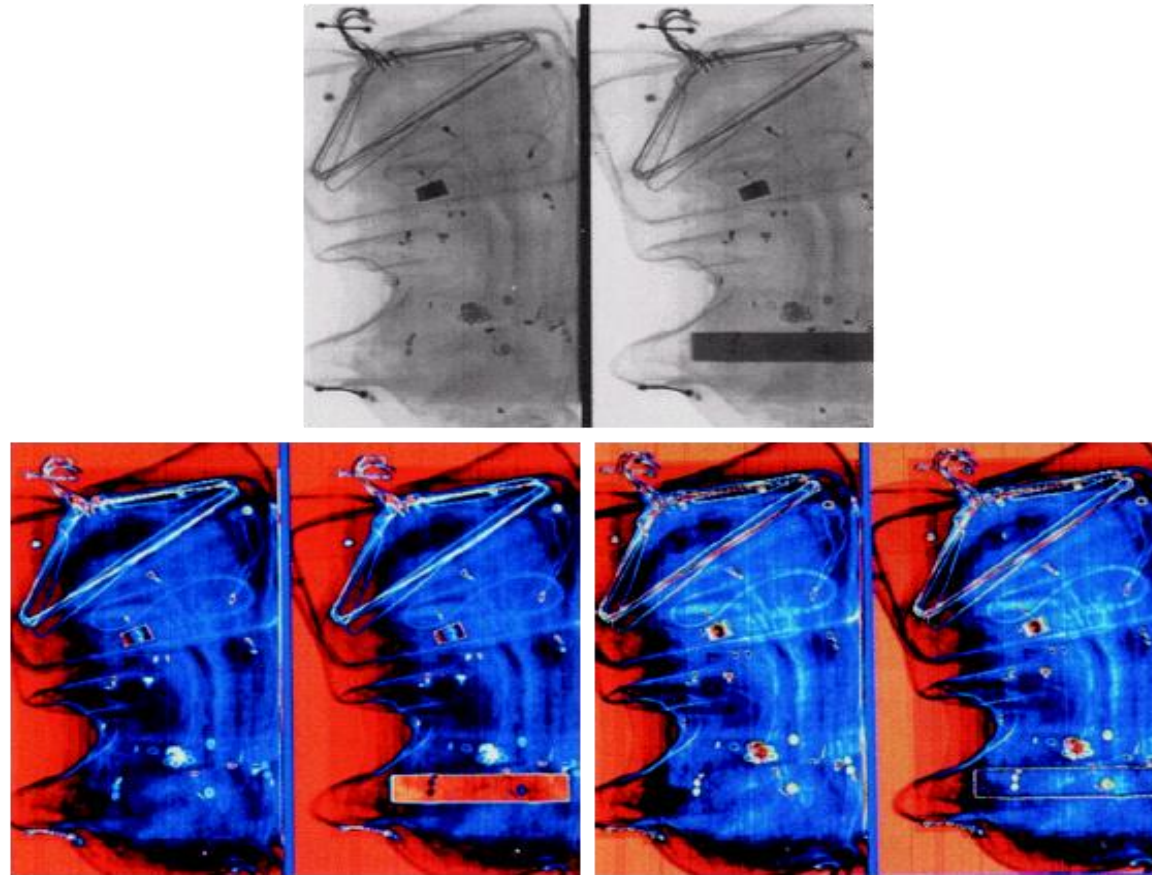
## Gray Level to Color Transformations



a  
b

FIGURE 6.25 Transformation functions used to obtain the images in Fig. 6.24.

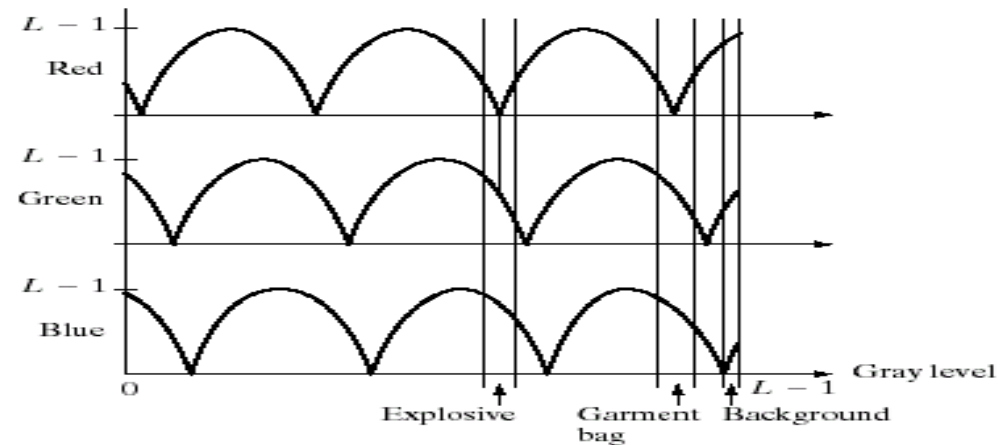
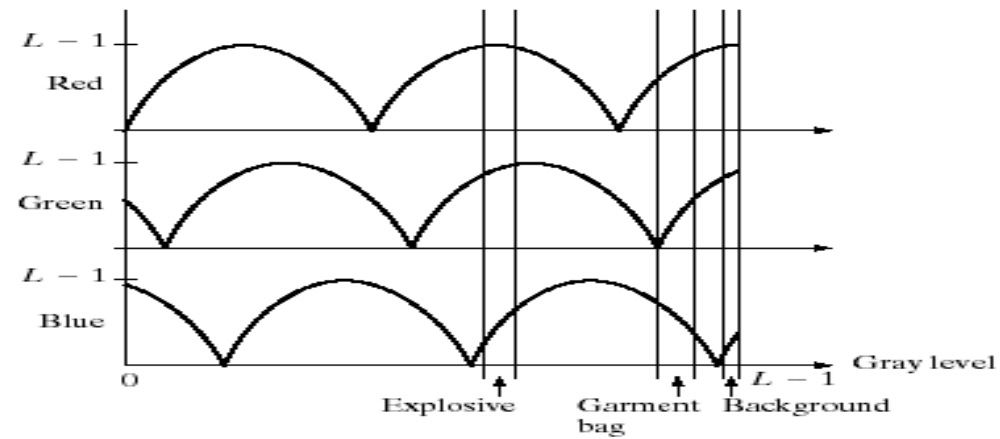
## *Gray Level to Color Transformations*



a  
b c

**FIGURE 6.24** Pseudocolor enhancement by using the gray-level to color transformations in Fig. 6.25. (Original image courtesy of Dr. Mike Hurwitz, Westinghouse.)

## Gray Level to Color Transformations



a  
b

FIGURE 6.25 Transformation functions used to obtain the images in Fig. 6.24.