AIX-MARSEILLE UNIVERSITÉ

MÉMOIRE DE MASTER

Computational modelling of visual object localization in the magnocellular pathway

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Une thèse soumise en conformité avec les exigences

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Declaration of Authorship

I, Pierre ALBIGÈS, declare that this thesis titled, "Computational modelling of visual object localization in the magnocellular pathway" and the work presented in it are my own. I confirm that:

- This work was done wholly or mainly while in candidature for a research degree at this University.

- Where any part of this thesis has previously been submitted for a degree or any other qualification at this University or any other institution, this has been clearly stated.

- Where I have consulted the published work of others, this is always clearly attributed.

- Where I have quoted from the work of others, the source is always given. With the exception of such quotations, this thesis is entirely my own work.

- I have acknowledged all main sources of help.

- Where the thesis is based on work done by myself jointly with others, I have made clear exactly what was done by others and what I have contributed myself.

Signed:

_____

Date:

_____

"Thanks to my solid academic training, today I can write hundreds of words on virtually any topic without possessing a shred of information, which is how I got a good job in journalism."

Dave Barry

AIX-MARSEILLE UNIVERSITÉ

Abstract

Faculté des Sciences, département de Biologie

Master de Neurosciences

Master de Neurosciences, spécialité Intégratives et Cognitives

Computational modelling of visual object localization in the magnocellular pathway

by Pierre ALBIGÈS

The Thesis Abstract is written here (and usually kept to just this page). The page is kept centered vertically so can expand into the blank space above the title too...

Acknowledgements

The acknowledgments and the people to thank go here, don't forget to include your project advisor. . .

Contents

1 Introduction

1.1 Vision naturelle

» Rôle de la vision

    » Structure générale d'une rétine (cones/bâtonnets + fovéa/rétine périphérique)

Chez les vertébrés la vision débute à la surface de la rétine, où les cellules photovoltaïques réalisent la transduction des signaux lumineux qui les atteignent en signaux électriques, transmissibles à la suite du réseau nerveux. Les cônes et les bâtonnets sont les deux types de cellules photovoltaïques connues. Elles sont différenciées par un certain nombre de caractéristiques, notamment leur morphologie, leur sensibilité aux longueurs d'ondes lumineuses et leur distribution au sein de la rétine. Ces différences permettent à notre rétine de rester fonctionnelle dans de nombreuses situations, y compris lorsque la luminance est très faible (le seuil absolu de la rétine humaine correspondant à 70 photons). Les cônes sont divisés en sous-catégories sensibles à des longueurs d'onde différentes, caractéristique primordiale sous-jacent notre perception des couleurs.

    » Notion de champs récépteurs

    » Cellules parvo/magno -> rôle de la voie magno

    »Voie dorsale (voie du "où/where"), rôle dans la localisation de cible

    » Notion de saccades oculaires

1.2 Vision artificielle

1.2.1 A Short Math Guide for LaTeX

If you are writing a technical or mathematical thesis, then you may want to read the document by the AMS (American Mathematical Society) called, "A Short Math Guide for LaTeX". It can be found online here: http://www.ams.org/tex/amslatex.html under the "Additional Documentation" section towards the bottom of the page.

1.2.2   Common LaTeX Math Symbols

There are a multitude of mathematical symbols available for LaTeX and it would take a great effort to learn the commands for them all. The most common ones you are likely to use are shown on this page:

http://www.sunilpatel.co.uk/latex-type/latex-math-symbols/

You can use this page as a reference or crib sheet, the symbols are rendered as large, high quality images so you can quickly find the LaTeX command for the symbol you need.

1.2.3   Files

Included are also several files, most of them are plain text and you can see their contents in a text editor. After initial compilation, you will see that more auxiliary files are created by LaTeX or BibTeX and which you don't need to delete or worry about:

example.bib – this is an important file that contains all the bibliographic information and references that you will be citing in the thesis for use with BibTeX. You can write it manually, but there are reference manager programs available that will create and manage it for you. Bibliographies in LaTeX are a large subject and you may need to read about BibTeX before starting with this. Many modern reference managers will allow you to export your references in BibTeX format which greatly eases the amount of work you have to do.

MastersDoctoralThesis.cls – this is an important file. It is the class file that tells LaTeX how to format the thesis.

main.pdf – this is your beautifully typeset thesis (in the PDF file format) created by LaTeX. It is supplied in the PDF with the template and after you compile the template you should get an identical version.

main.tex – this is an important file. This is the file that you tell LaTeX to compile to produce your thesis as a PDF file. It contains the framework and constructs that tell LaTeX how to layout the thesis. It is heavily commented so you can read exactly what each line of code does and why it is there. After you put your own information into the *THESIS INFORMATION* block – you have now started your thesis!

Files that are *not* included, but are created by LaTeX as auxiliary files include:

main.aux – this is an auxiliary file generated by LaTeX, if it is deleted LaTeX simply regenerates it when you run the main `.tex` file.

main.bbl – this is an auxiliary file generated by BibTeX, if it is deleted, BibTeX simply regenerates it when you run the `main.aux` file. Whereas the `.bib` file contains all the references you have, this `.bbl` file contains the references you have actually cited in the thesis and is used to build the bibliography section of the thesis.

main.blg – this is an auxiliary file generated by BibTeX, if it is deleted BibTeX simply regenerates it when you run the main `.aux` file.

main.lof – this is an auxiliary file generated by LATEX, if it is deleted LATEX simply regenerates it when you run the main `.tex` file. It tells LATEX how to build the *List of Figures* section.

main.log – this is an auxiliary file generated by LATEX, if it is deleted LATEX simply regenerates it when you run the main `.tex` file. It contains messages from LATEX, if you receive errors and warnings from LATEX, they will be in this `.log` file.

main.lot – this is an auxiliary file generated by LATEX, if it is deleted LATEX simply regenerates it when you run the main `.tex` file. It tells LATEX how to build the *List of Tables* section.

main.out – this is an auxiliary file generated by LATEX, if it is deleted LATEX simply regenerates it when you run the main `.tex` file.

So from this long list, only the files with the `.bib`, `.cls` and `.tex` extensions are the most important ones. The other auxiliary files can be ignored or deleted as LATEX and BibTeX will regenerate them.

1.3 The `main.tex` File Explained

The `main.tex` file contains the structure of the thesis. There are plenty of written comments that explain what pages, sections and formatting the LATEX code is creating. Each major document element is divided into commented blocks with titles in all capitals to make it obvious what the following bit of code is doing. Initially there seems to be a lot of LATEX code, but this is all formatting, and it has all been taken care of so you don't have to do it.

Begin by checking that your information on the title page is correct. For the thesis declaration, your institution may insist on something different than the text given. If this is the case, just replace what you see with what is required in the *DECLARATION PAGE* block.

Then comes a page which contains a funny quote. You can put your own, or quote your favourite scientist, author, person, and so on. Make sure to put the name of the person who you took the quote from.

Following this is the abstract page which summarises your work in a condensed way and can almost be used as a standalone document to describe what you have done. The text you write will cause the heading to move up so don't worry about running out of space.

Next come the acknowledgements. On this page, write about all the people who you wish to thank (not forgetting parents, partners and your advisor/supervisor).

The contents pages, list of figures and tables are all taken care of for you and do not need to be manually created or edited. The next set of pages are more likely to be optional and can be deleted since they are for a more technical thesis: insert a list of abbreviations you have used in the thesis, then a list of the physical constants and numbers you refer to and finally, a list of mathematical symbols used in any formulae. Making the effort to fill these tables means the reader has a one-stop place to refer to instead of searching the internet and references to try and find out what you meant by certain abbreviations or symbols.

The list of symbols is split into the Roman and Greek alphabets. Whereas the abbreviations and symbols ought to be listed in alphabetical order (and this is *not* done automatically for you) the list of physical constants should be grouped into similar themes.

The next page contains a one line dedication. Who will you dedicate your thesis to?

Finally, there is the block where the chapters are included. Uncomment the lines (delete the `%` character) as you write the chapters. Each chapter should be written in its own file and put into the *Chapters* folder and named `Chapter1`, `Chapter2`, etc. . . Similarly for the appendices, uncomment the lines as you need them. Each appendix should go into its own file and placed in the *Appendices* folder.

After the preamble, chapters and appendices finally comes the bibliography. The bibliography style (called `authoryear`) is used for the bibliography and is a fully featured style that will even include links to where the referenced paper can be found online. Do not underestimate how grateful your reader will be to find that a reference to a paper is just a click away. Of course, this relies on you putting the URL information into the BibTeX file in the first place.

1.4   Thesis Features and Conventions

To get the best out of this template, there are a few conventions that you may want to follow.

One of the most important (and most difficult) things to keep track of in such a long document as a thesis is consistency. Using certain conventions and ways of doing things (such as using a Todo list)

makes the job easier. Of course, all of these are optional and you can adopt your own method.

1.4.1 Printing Format

This thesis template is designed for double sided printing (i.e. content on the front and back of pages) as most theses are printed and bound this way. Switching to one sided printing is as simple as uncommenting the *oneside* option of the `documentclass` command at the top of the `main.tex` file. You may then wish to adjust the margins to suit specifications from your institution.

The headers for the pages contain the page number on the outer side (so it is easy to flick through to the page you want) and the chapter name on the inner side.

The text is set to 11 point by default with single line spacing, again, you can tune the text size and spacing should you want or need to using the options at the very start of `main.tex`. The spacing can be changed similarly by replacing the *singlespacing* with *onehalfspacing* or *doublespacing*.

1.4.2 Using US Letter Paper

The paper size used in the template is A4, which is the standard size in Europe. If you are using this thesis template elsewhere and particularly in the United States, then you may have to change the A4 paper size to the US Letter size. This can be done in the margins settings section in `main.tex`.

Due to the differences in the paper size, the resulting margins may be different to what you like or require (as it is common for institutions to dictate certain margin sizes). If this is the case, then the margin sizes can be tweaked by modifying the values in the same block as where you set the paper size. Now your document should be set up for US Letter paper size with suitable margins.

A Note on bibtex

The bibtex backend used in the template by default does not correctly handle unicode character encoding (i.e. "international" characters). You may see a warning about this in the compilation log and, if your references contain unicode characters, they may not show up correctly or at all. The solution to this is to use the biber backend instead of the outdated bibtex backend. This is done by finding this in `main.tex`: *backend=bibtex* and changing it to *backend=biber*. You will then need to delete all auxiliary BibTeX files and navigate to the template directory in your terminal (command prompt). Once there, simply type `biber main` and biber will compile your bibliography. You can then compile

TABLE 1.1: The effects of treatments X and Y on the four groups studied.

Groups	Treatment X	Treatment Y
1	0.2	0.8
2	0.17	0.7
3	0.24	0.75
4	0.68	0.3

`main.tex` as normal and your bibliography will be updated. An alternative is to set up your LaTeX editor to compile with biber instead of bibtex, see here for how to do this for various editors.

1.4.3 Tables

Tables are an important way of displaying your results, below is an example table which was generated with this code:

```
\begin{table}
\caption{The effects of treatments X and Y on the four groups studied.}
\label{tab:treatments}
\centering
\begin{tabular}{l l l}
\toprule
\tabhead{Groups} & \tabhead{Treatment X} & \tabhead{Treatment Y} \\
\midrule
1 & 0.2 & 0.8\\
2 & 0.17 & 0.7\\
3 & 0.24 & 0.75\\
4 & 0.68 & 0.3\\
\bottomrule\\
\end{tabular}
\end{table}
```

You can reference tables with `\ref{<label>}` where the label is defined within the table environment. See `Chapter1.tex` for an example of the label and citation (e.g. Table 1.1).

1.4.4 Figures

There will hopefully be many figures in your thesis (that should be placed in the *Figures* folder). The way to insert figures into your thesis is to use a code template like this:

```
\begin{figure}
\centering
\includegraphics{Figures/Electron}
\decoRule
\caption[An Electron]{An electron (artist's impression).}
\label{fig:Electron}
\end{figure}
```

Also look in the source file. Putting this code into the source file produces the picture of the electron that you can see in the figure below.

FIGURE 1.1: An electron (artist's impression).

Sometimes figures don't always appear where you write them in the source. The placement depends on how much space there is on the page for the figure. Sometimes there is not enough room to fit a figure directly where it should go (in relation to the text) and so LaTeX puts it at the top of the next

page. Positioning figures is the job of LaTeX and so you should only worry about making them look good!

Figures usually should have captions just in case you need to refer to them (such as in Figure 1.1). The `\caption` command contains two parts, the first part, inside the square brackets is the title that will appear in the *List of Figures*, and so should be short. The second part in the curly brackets should contain the longer and more descriptive caption text.

The `\decoRule` command is optional and simply puts an aesthetic horizontal line below the image. If you do this for one image, do it for all of them.

LaTeX is capable of using images in pdf, jpg and png format.

1.4.5 Typesetting mathematics

If your thesis is going to contain heavy mathematical content, be sure that LaTeX will make it look beautiful, even though it won't be able to solve the equations for you.

The "Not So Short Introduction to LaTeX" (available on CTAN) should tell you everything you need to know for most cases of typesetting mathematics. If you need more information, a much more thorough mathematical guide is available from the AMS called, "A Short Math Guide to LaTeX" and can be downloaded from: `ftp://ftp.ams.org/pub/tex/doc/amsmath/short-math-guide.pdf`

There are many different LaTeX symbols to remember, luckily you can find the most common symbols in The Comprehensive LaTeX Symbol List.

You can write an equation, which is automatically given an equation number by LaTeX like this:

```
\begin{equation}
E = mc^{2}
\label{eqn:Einstein}
\end{equation}
```

This will produce Einstein's famous energy-matter equivalence equation:

$$E = mc^2 \tag{1.1}$$

All equations you write (which are not in the middle of paragraph text) are automatically given equation numbers by LaTeX. If you don't want a particular equation numbered, use the unnumbered form:

```
\[ a^{2}=4 \]
```

1.5 Sectioning and Subsectioning

You should break your thesis up into nice, bite-sized sections and subsections. LaTeX automatically builds a table of Contents by looking at all the \chapter{}, \section{} and \subsection{} commands you write in the source.

The Table of Contents should only list the sections to three (3) levels. A chapter{} is level zero (0). A \section{} is level one (1) and so a \subsection{} is level two (2). In your thesis it is likely that you will even use a subsubsection{}, which is level three (3). The depth to which the Table of Contents is formatted is set within MastersDoctoralThesis.cls. If you need this changed, you can do it in main.tex.

1.6 In Closing

You have reached the end of this mini-guide. You can now rename or overwrite this pdf file and begin writing your own Chapter1.tex and the rest of your thesis. The easy work of setting up the structure and framework has been taken care of for you. It's now your job to fill it out!

Good luck and have lots of fun!

Guide written by —

Sunil Patel: www.sunilpatel.co.uk

Vel: LaTeXTemplates.com

A Frequently Asked Questions

A.1 How do I change the colors of links?

The color of links can be changed to your liking using:

`\hypersetup{urlcolor=red}`, or

`\hypersetup{citecolor=green}`, or

`\hypersetup{allcolor=blue}`.

If you want to completely hide the links, you can use:

`\hypersetup{allcolors=.}`, or even better:

`\hypersetup{hidelinks}`.

If you want to have obvious links in the PDF but not the printed text, use:

`\hypersetup{colorlinks=false}`.