



IMID 2025

HDR Display Picture Quality Assessment

Dale Stoltzka
Samsung Display America Lab, San Jose, CA

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HDR problem statement

H-K effect revisited

Computational model 2D

Volumetric model

Perceptual attribute terminology

Relative scales

- **Lightness (J):** brightness of stimulus relative to scene white point.
- **Chroma (C):** colorfulness relative to scene white point.
- **Saturation (s):** colorfulness relative to stimulus brightness

Absolute scales

- **Brightness (Q):** perceived amount of light emitted by stimulus.



- **Colorfulness (M):** perceived chromaticness of stimulus



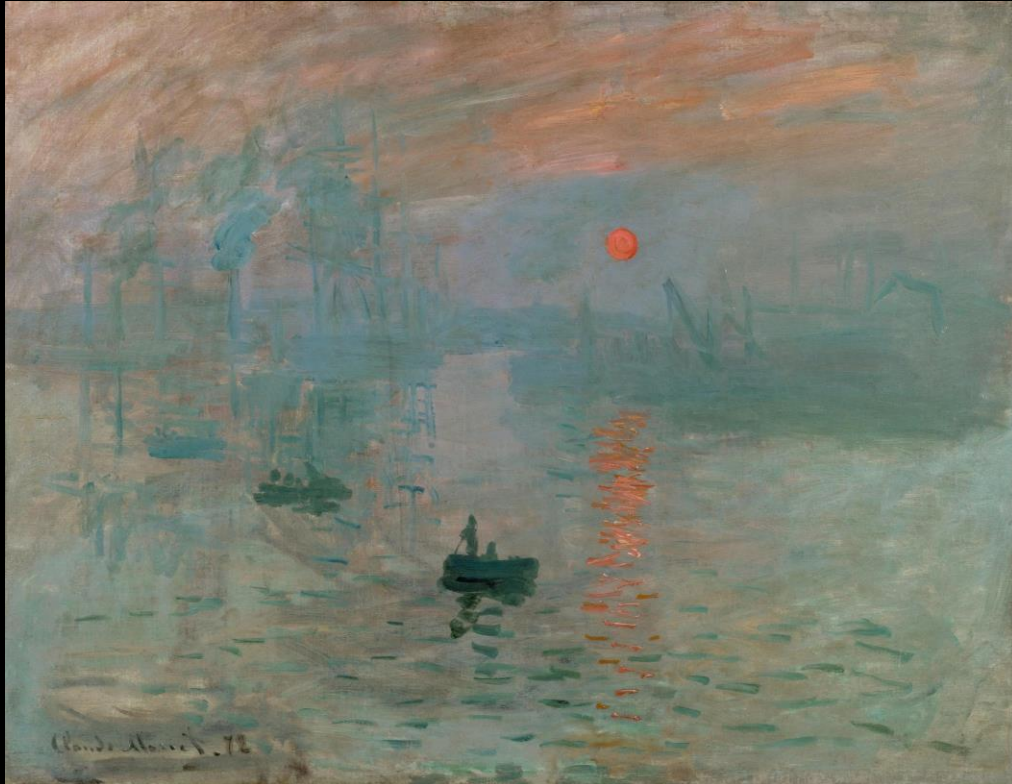
Hue:





Claude Monet, *Impression Sunrise*. Concept from Margaret Livingstone.

Failure of luminance to predict perceived colors

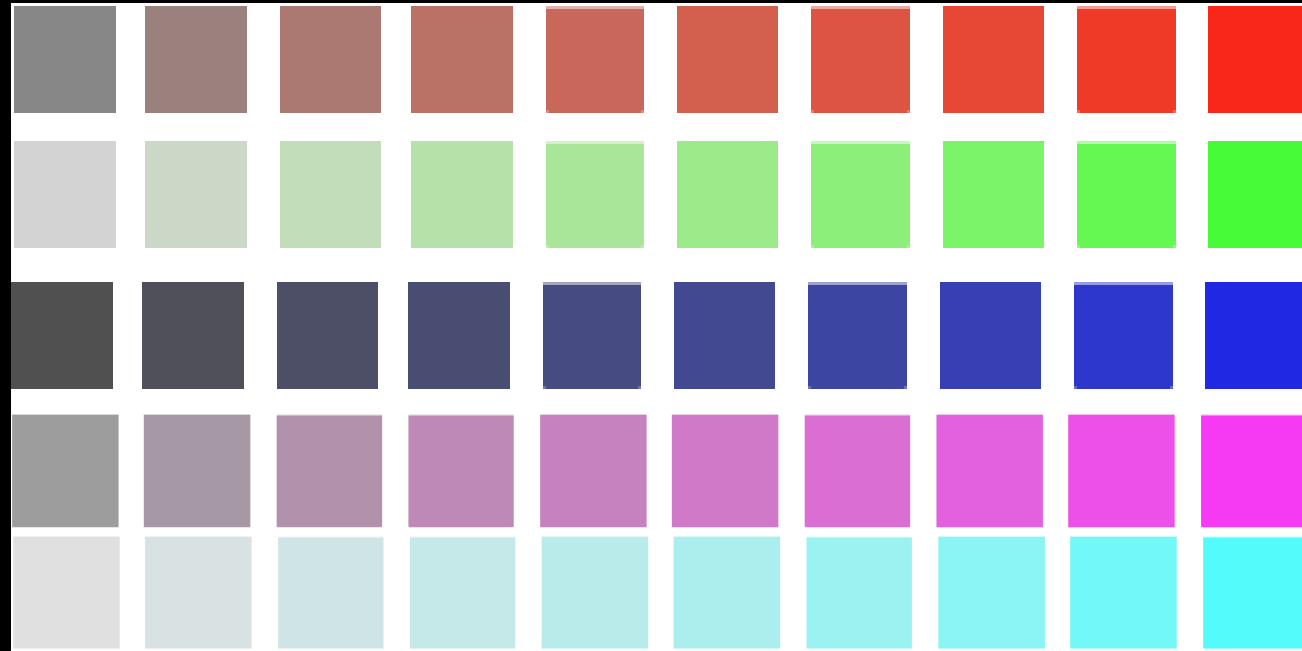


Claude Monet, *Impression Sunrise*. Concept from Margaret Livingstone.

Helmholtz-Kohlrausch Effect

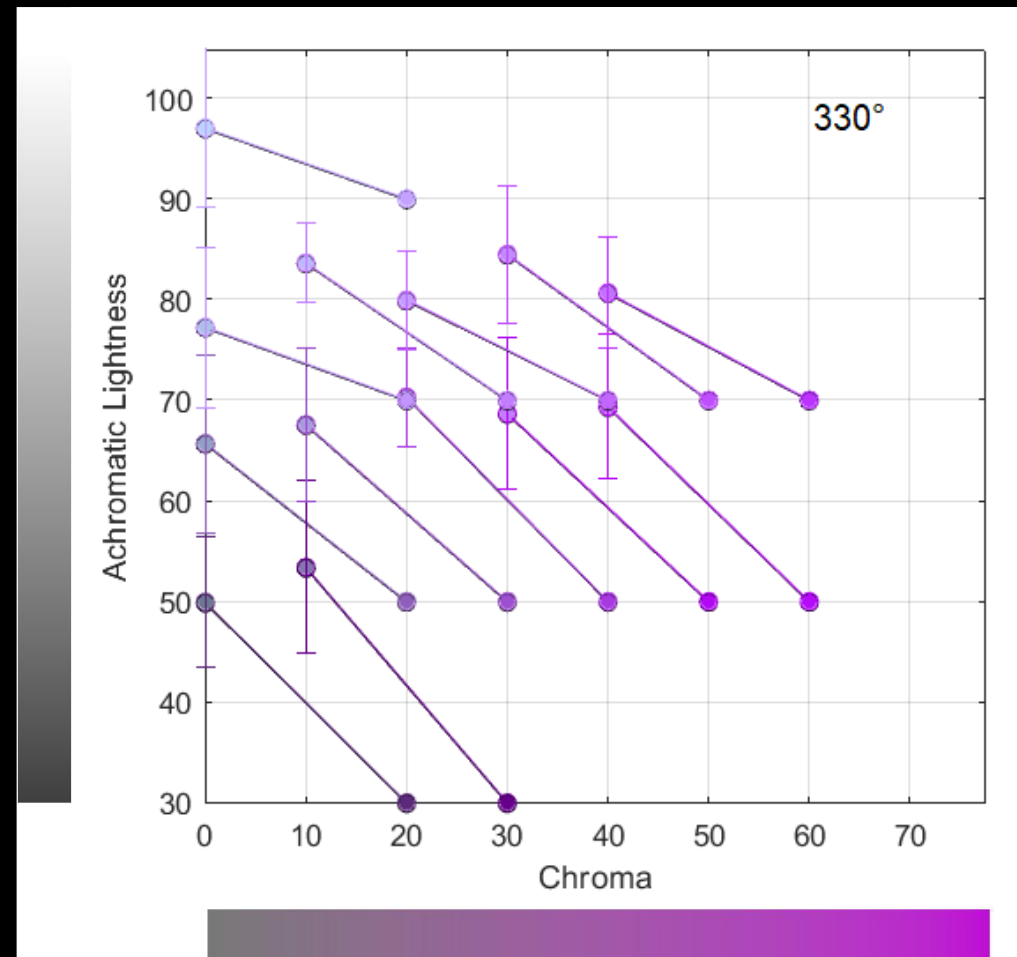
At constant luminance, perceived brightness increases with increasing colorfulness or saturation

- Well reported; only recently have HDR-appropriate models appeared



Decoding subjective data results for one hue (330°)

- Lines connect pairs of stimuli that were matched in brightness by observers (spacing by $\Delta\text{Chroma} = 20$)
- H-K Effect:
Higher chroma, lower luminance stimuli are equally bright to lower chroma, higher luminance stimuli.
- H-K strength \propto negative slope of loci



Data testing included 3 studies across 171 stimuli; viewed by 50 observers

modCAM16 model with H-K effect

Trends represented by a differential equation:

$$\frac{dJ_A}{dC} = \frac{-a}{J - b}$$

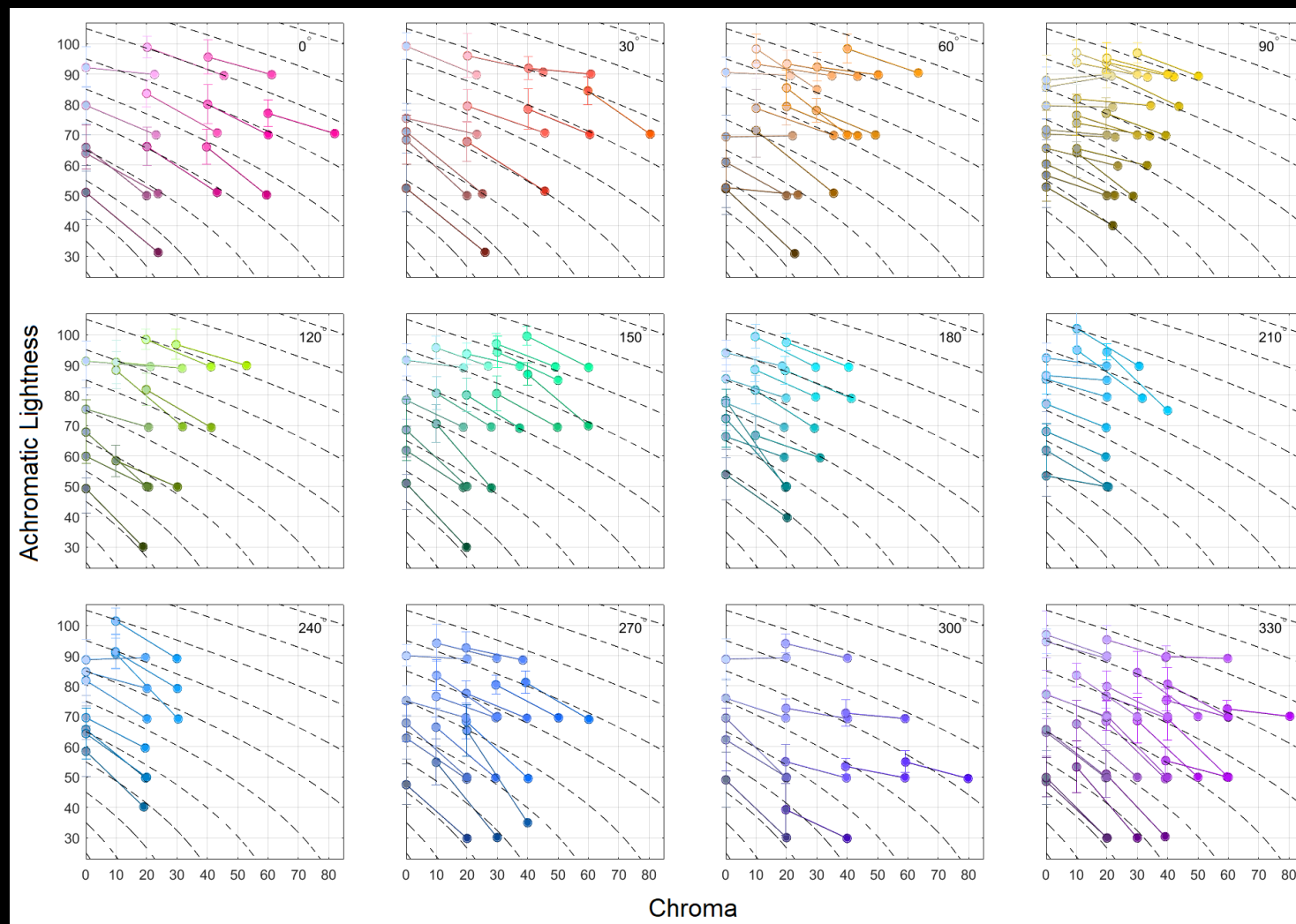
J_A : Achromatic lightness

C : Chroma

Proposed modCAM16 Model [1,2]

$$J_{HK} = \sqrt{J_A^2 + 66C}$$

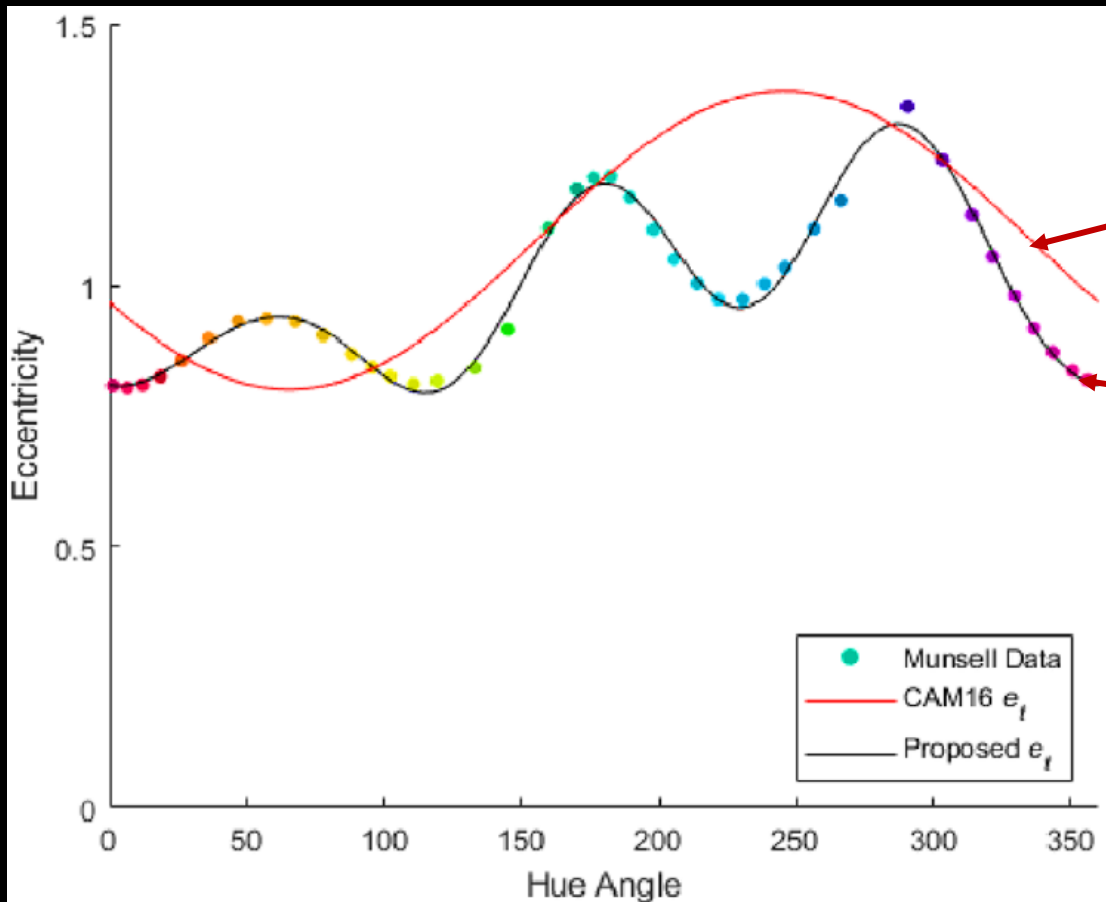
J_{HK} : Perceived lightness



1. Hellwig and Stoltzka, "An Advanced Color Model for Evaluating New Display Technologies, *Info. Disp.*, 39, #3, pp 11-15 (May/June 2023).
2. Hellwig, Stoltzka and Fairchild, "The brightness of chromatic stimuli", *Color Res. Appl.*, **49**, #1, pp 113-123 (January 2024).

Hue dependency moved into modCAM16

Hue comparison CIECAM16 vs. modCAM16



- **CIECAM16**

$$e_t = \frac{1}{4} \cos \left(\frac{\pi}{180} h + 2 \right) + 3.8$$

- **Proposed modCAM16**

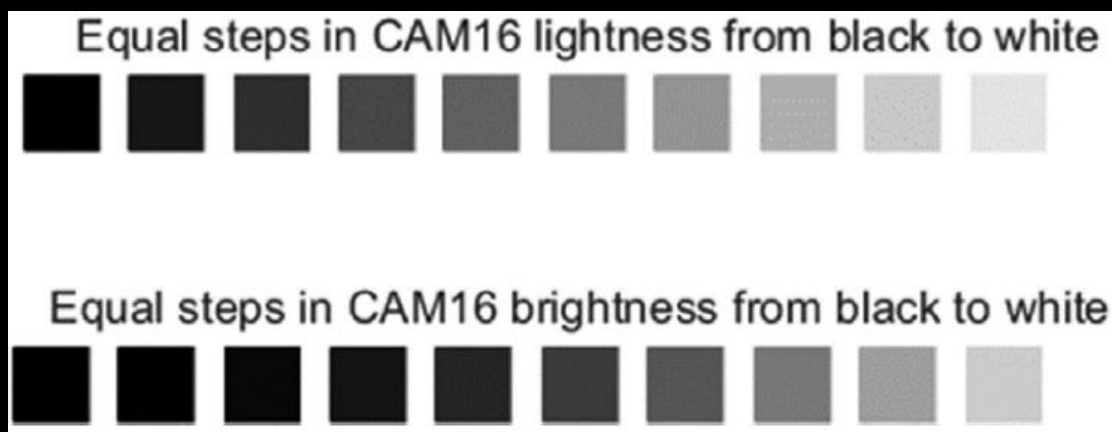
$$e_t = -0.0582 \cos h - 0.0258 \cos 2h - 0.1347 \cos 3h + 0.0289 \cos 4h - 0.1457 \sin h - 0.0308 \sin 2h + 0.0385 \sin 3h + 0.0096 \sin 4h + 1$$

What about perceived brightness rather than lightness

CIECAM16

Average conditions

White background 400 cd/m²



Warning:

$Q \propto f(\sqrt{J})$ has an intrinsic perception error

modCAM16 [3] brightness

- modCAM16 conversion from lightness to brightness – linear

modCAM16

CIECAM16 & CIECAM02

$$Q = \left(\frac{2}{c}\right) \left(\frac{J}{100}\right) A_w$$

$$Q = \left(\frac{4}{c}\right) \sqrt{\frac{J}{100}} (A_w + 4)$$

- with H-K compensation

$$Q_{HK} = \left(\frac{2}{c}\right) \left(\frac{J_{HK}}{100}\right) A_w$$

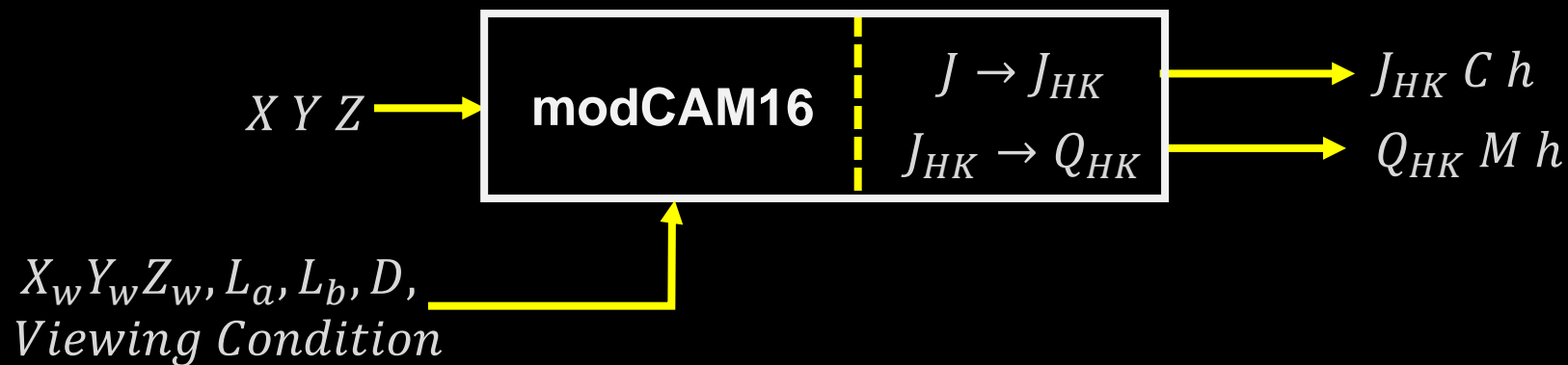
Q_{HK} : Perceived brightness

A_w : Brightness of white

c : Viewing conditions



eXperienced Color Range (XCR)



Example of applying XCR – 2D color attribute class

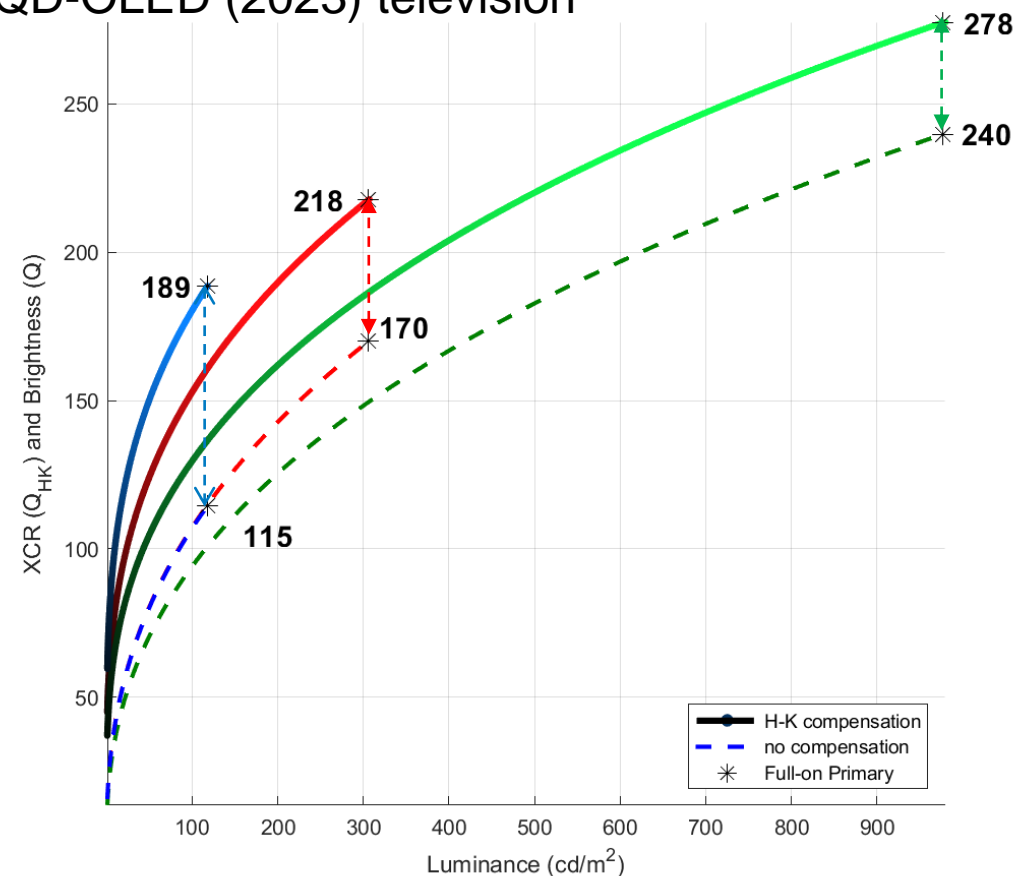
- Accuracy

Data set	CIECAM16-based models			
	Proposed	Hellwig '22	Kim '19	CIECAM16
Current	-0.37	-8.4	-2.3	-12
High '23	-0.087	-1.1	-3.4	-4.8
Seong '23	-4.7	-11.2	-21.5	-18.1
Xie '21	-3.0	-8.4	0.030	-14
Fairchild '91	5.6	1.2	5.4	-1.9
Wyszecki '67	3.7	-1.3	3.6	-4.3
Sanders '63	3.3	-1.6	4.4	-4.3

- Tested in HDR conditions

Data set	Lightness range	White luminance (cd/m ²)
Current	30-90	400, 500
High '23	80-100	120
Seong '23	100	30, 95, 300
Xie '21	100	50, 100, 200
Fairchild '91	30-70	382
Wyszecki '67	50	159
Sanders '63	50	100

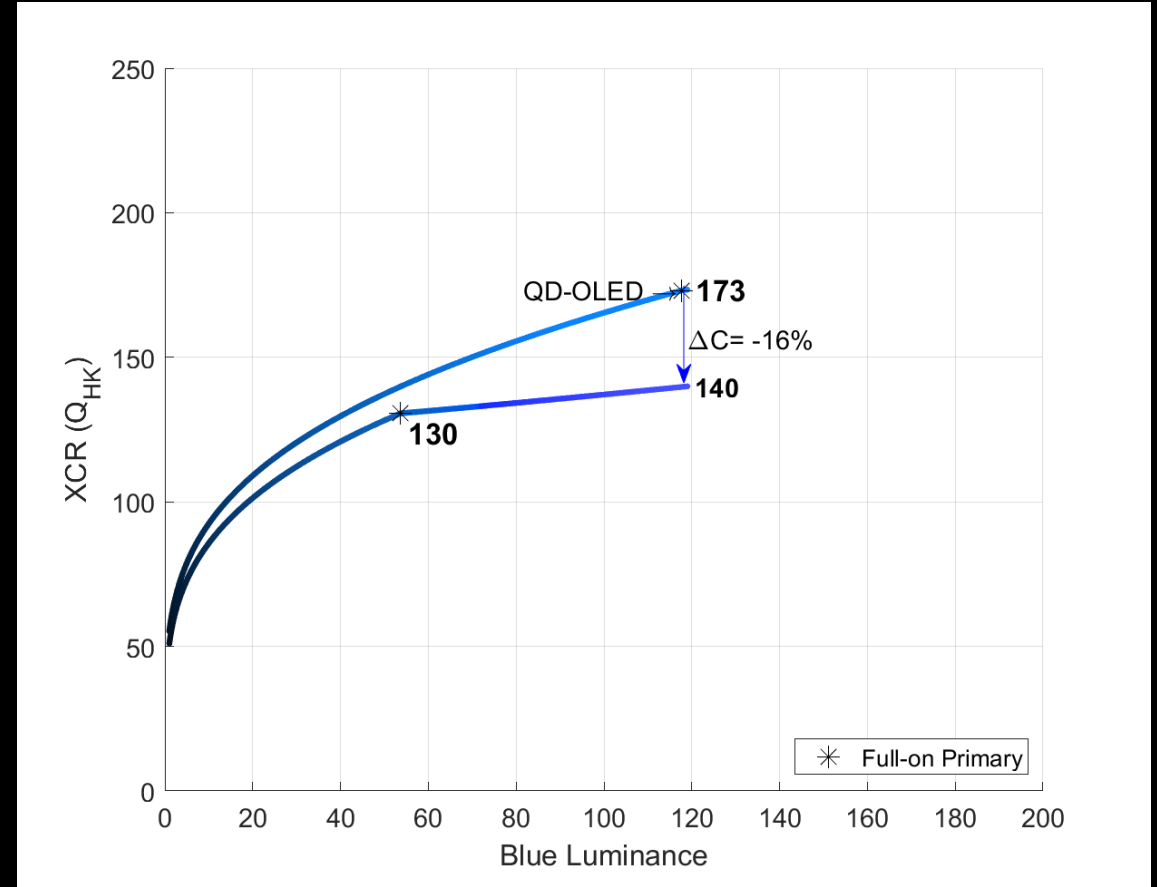
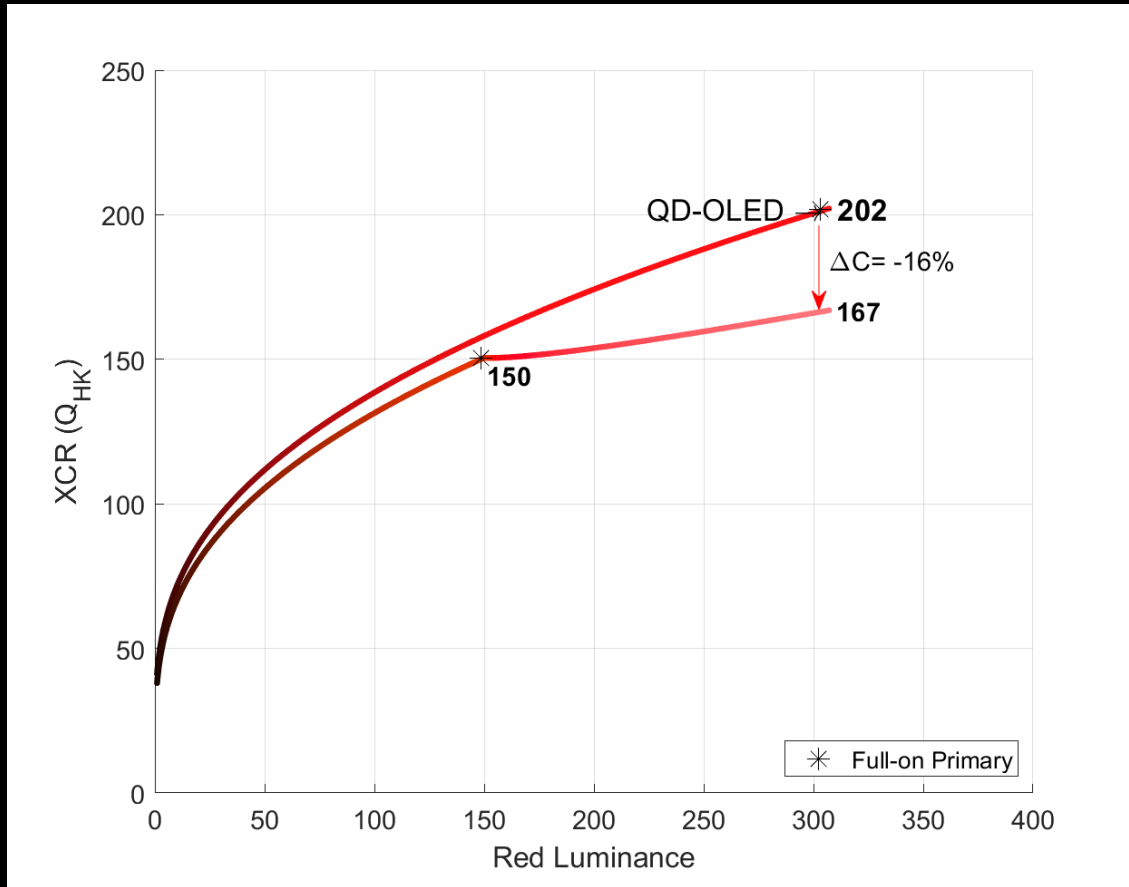
QD-OLED (2023) television



wp = 200 cd/m^2 , condition “dark”

XCR showing desaturation

Effect when luminance is increased beyond one full primary toward the white point



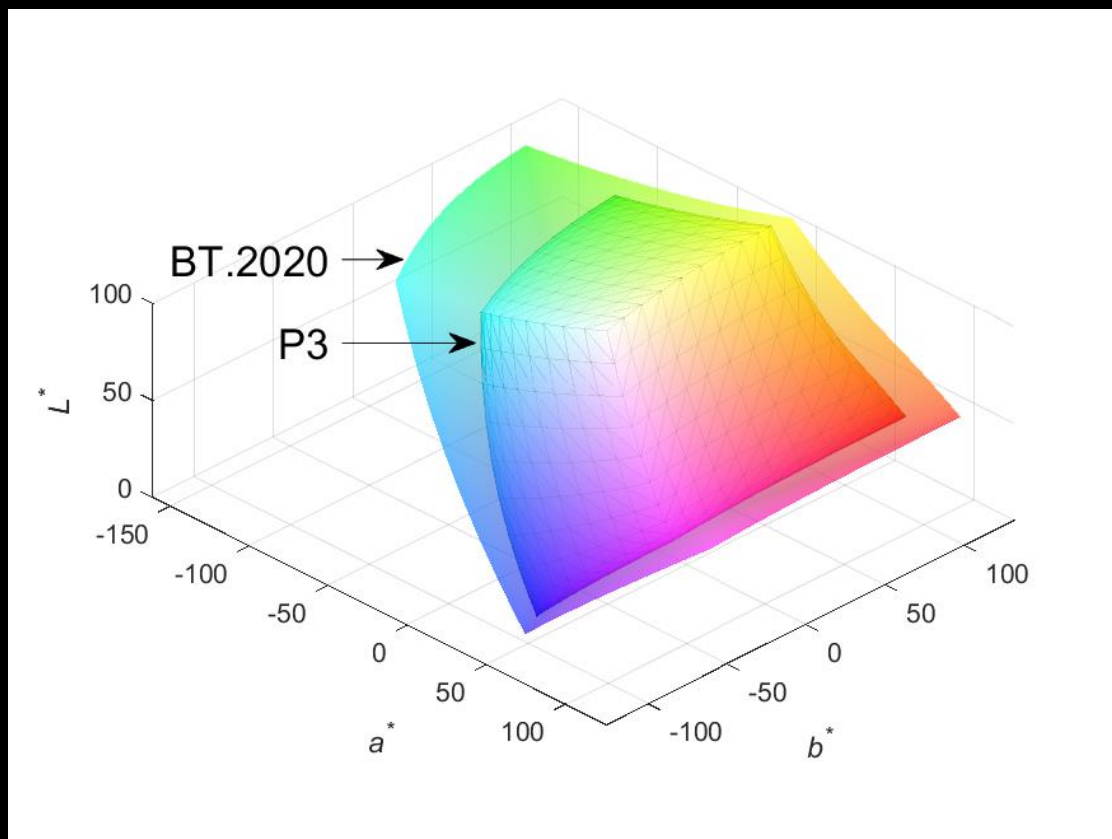
wp = 200 cd/m²; Condition “dim”



Volumetric representations

SDR volumetric option using CIELAB

CIELAB (SDR)



E. Smith, Synthetic volume models

Underlying formulae

$$XYZ \Rightarrow \begin{matrix} L^* = 116f\left(\frac{Y}{Y_n}\right) - 16 \\ a^* \dots \\ b^* \dots \end{matrix}$$

- ☹ luminance is not a good predictor of lightness
- ☹ $\left(\frac{Y}{Y_n}\right) \leq 1$; no extension beyond ref. white
- ☹ ΔE_{ab} not competitive with the uniformity in ΔE_{00} & CAM16-UCS by weighted STRESS performance [4,5]

Color Difference Metric	Color Difference Dataset				
	COM-BVD	RIT-DuPont	Witt	Leeds	BFD
Proposed $J^*a^*b^*$	28.2	22.9	32.3	23.8	28.8
Proposed $Q^*p^*t^*$	28.6	22.5	31.7	24.5	28.5
CIEDE2000	<u>24.2</u>	<u>19.5</u>	30.1	<u>19.2</u>	<u>23.4</u>
CAM16-UCS	28.1	20.6	30.9	25.4	28.5
CIELAB ΔE_{ab}	45.3	33.4	51.9	40.1	44.8
DIN99	31.8	24.2	36.3	29.8	30.7

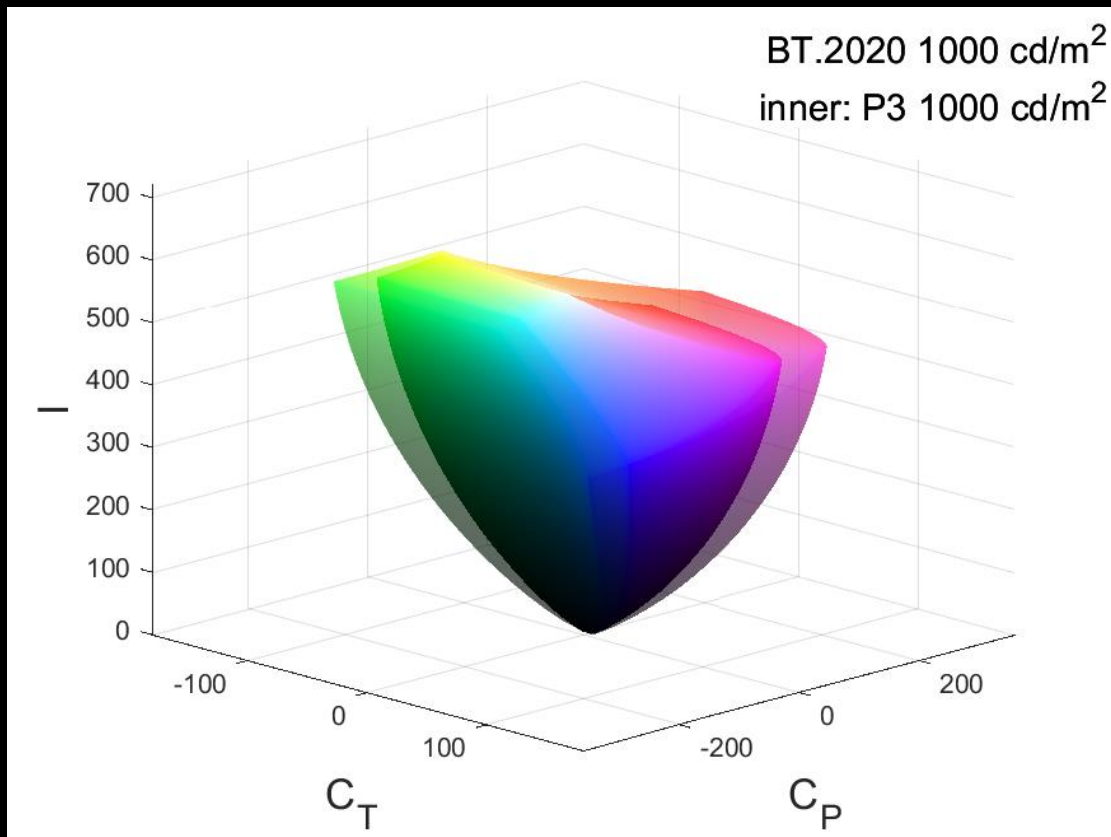
4. C. Li, M. R. Luo, G. Cui, "Colour-Differences Evaluation Using Colour Appearance Models" *Proc. 11th CIC* (2003): 127-131.

5. Hellwig, L., & Fairchild, M.D. (2022). Revising CAM16-UCS. 30th Color and Imaging Conference Final Paper and Proceedings. Scottsdale, Ariz.

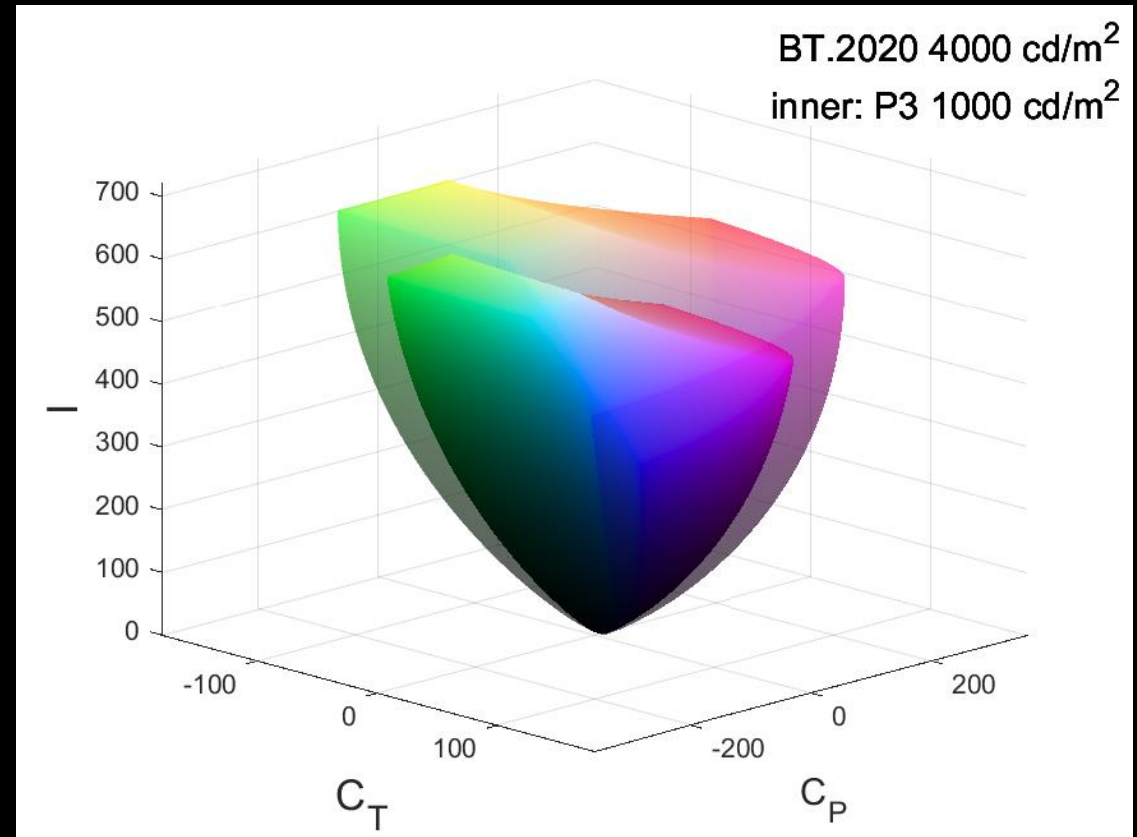
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$IC_T C_P$ behavior with expanding intensity and color

Larger gamut

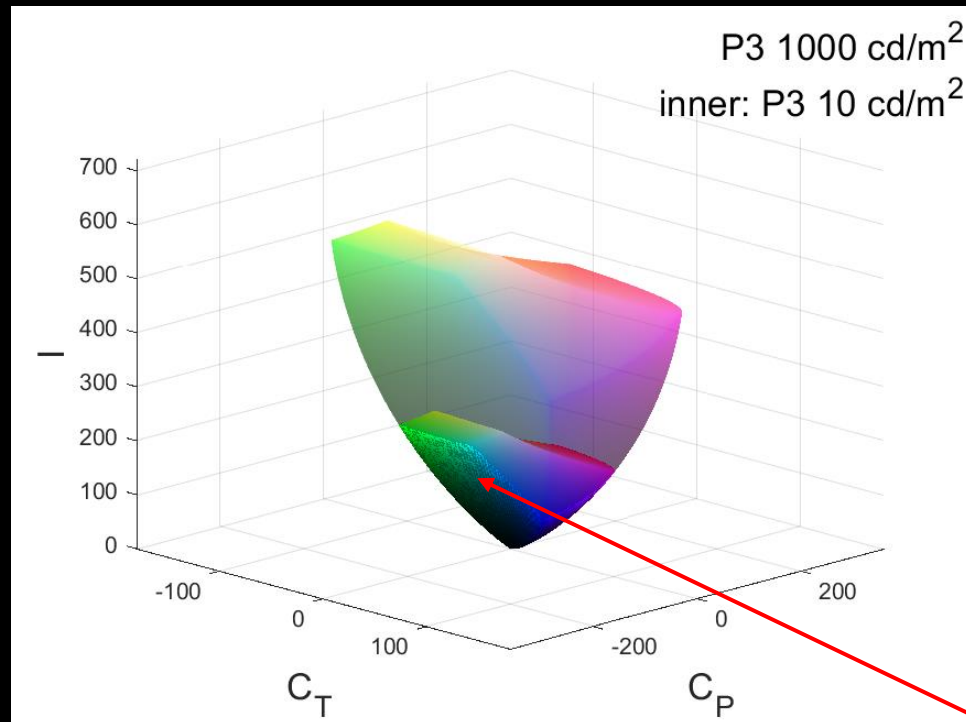


Larger intensity and gamut



P3 only viewed by $IC_T C_P$

Higher intensity



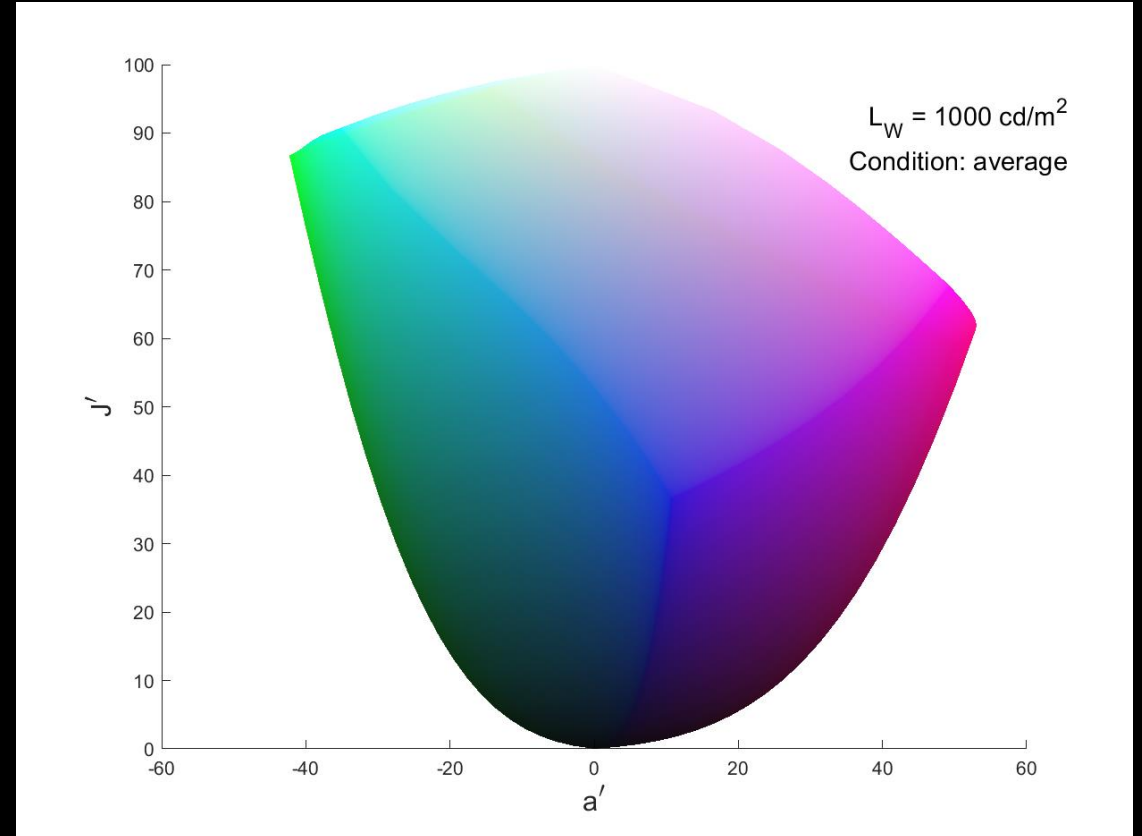
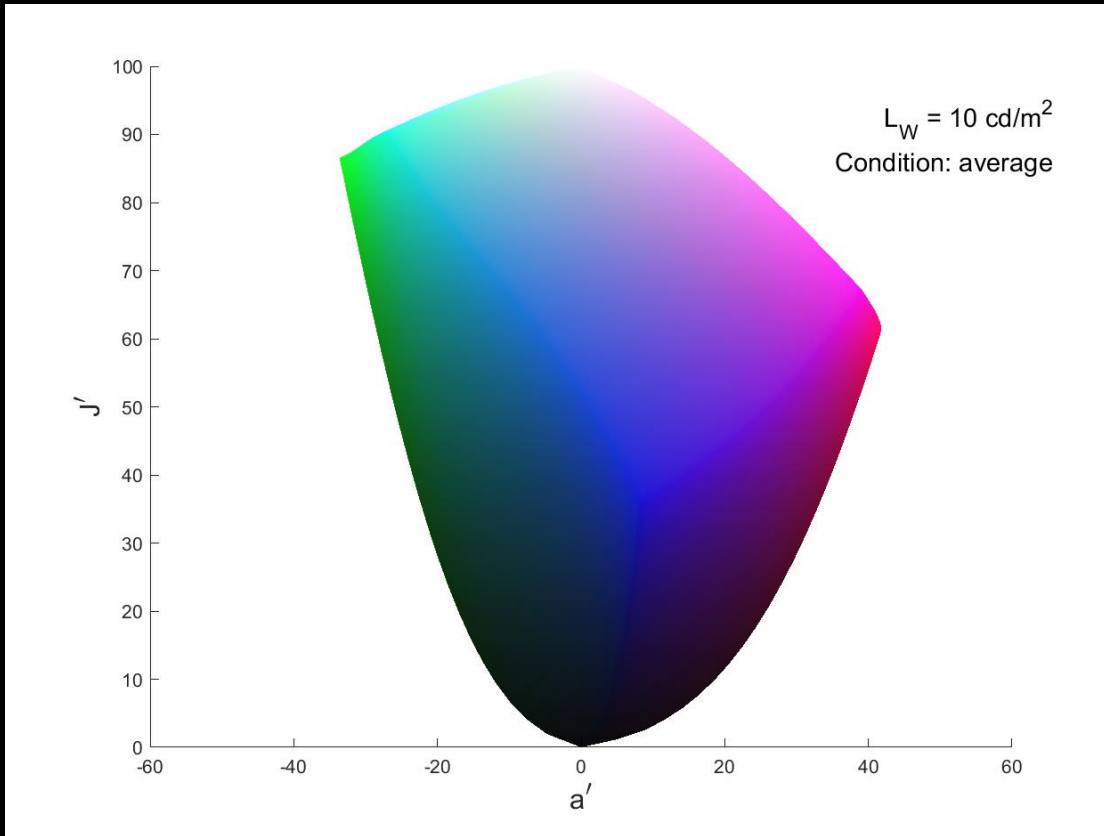
Issues also persist

- ΔE_{ITP} recommended by BT.2124 for small color differences
- Lacks increasing colorfulness at low I
- Nevertheless, the plots faithfully show an ability to render colors across a range of intensity

Coincident surfaces

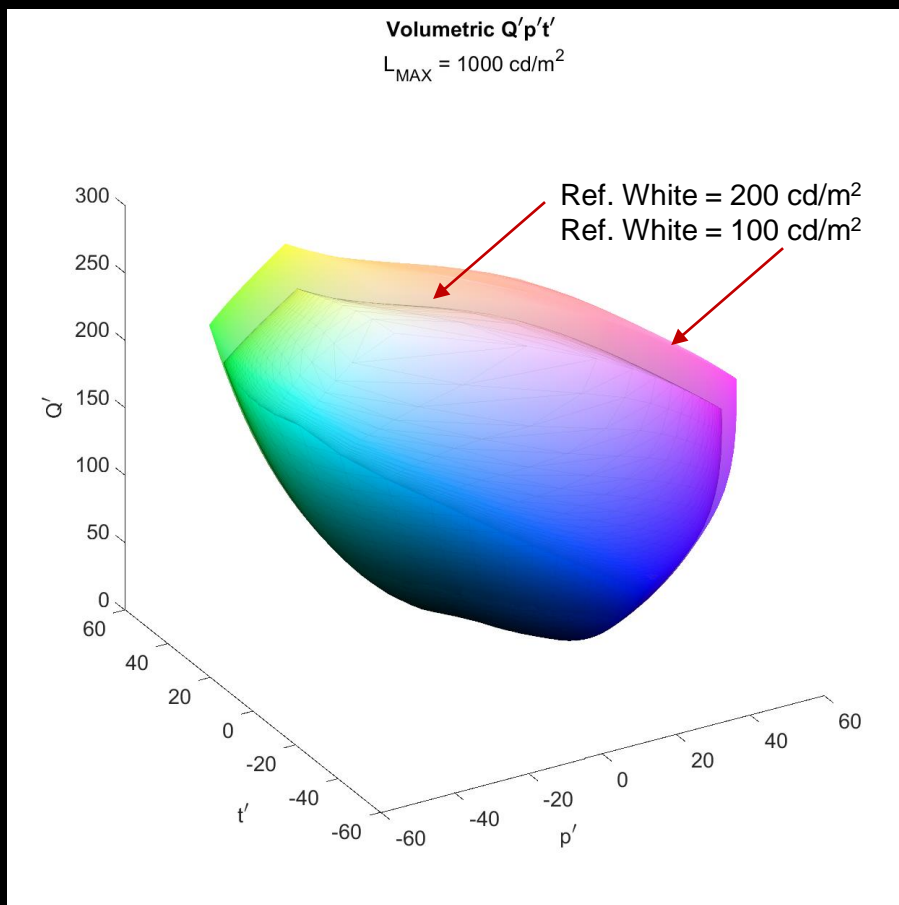
CAM16-UCS J' a' b' side view (sRGB / SDR example)

a' and b' grow relative to J'



CAM16-UCS Q' p' t'

Brightness



Underlying formulae

- Volumetric lightness and brightness

$$J' = \frac{1.7J}{1 + 0.007J} \quad Q' = 0.86 \frac{1.7Q}{1 + 0.007J}$$

$$p' = M' \cos h; t' = M' \sin h$$

- Use tools for their intended application

“The characteristic nonlinearities in [J' and Q'] warp the uniform perceptual attribute scales of CIECAM16. The resulting uniform color spaces are thus uniform only in their prediction of color differences, not in their prediction of perceptual attributes.”

– Hellwig, Fairchild Revising CAM16-UCS (2022)

Take-aways from volumetric discussion

- **CIELAB is not appropriate for HDR displays**
 - Not designed to model Hunt, Stevens or H-K Effect
- **IC_TC_P also has issues but does show what an HDR display is capable of rendering, even if the observer cannot see the all colors all the time**
- **CAM16-UCS is quite uniform, a good color space**
 - Great job modeling more complex color effects with added modeling parameters
 - Also designed for color difference
 - Warping of the space leads to perceptual inaccuracy – not intended for absolute color counting

Conclusions

- **Reviewed**
 - CIELAB
 - modCAM16 and XCR
 - $IC_T C_P$
 - CAM16-UCS
- **HDR modeling needs to be taken seriously**
 - Perceptual testing is a requirement, using a wide variety of chromatic stimuli
 - Industry should question whether volumetric analysis provides “the answer”
- **Color scales, like XCR can tell us a lot about HDR displays**
- **Watch CIE developments, for example:**
 - TC1-99 (revitalized) Modelling Two-Dimensional Colour Appearance Scales
 - TC1-100 To recommend CAM16-UCS as the CIE Uniform Colour Space



Thank you

Dale Stoltzka, San Jose, CA USA
d.stoltzka@samsung.com