

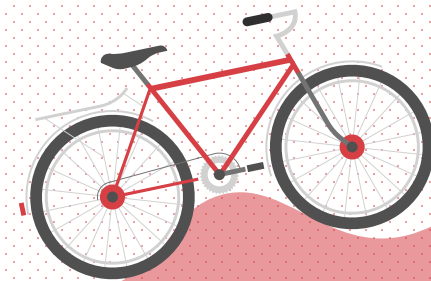


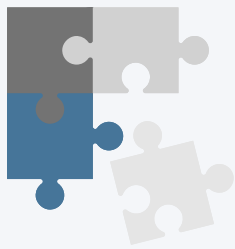
ACTIVITY

04 RGB-to-Spectra using PCA

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objectives



Compute the eigenspectral of paint pigments from the Munsell Color Chips database



Convert a color camera into a spectral imager using principal components analysis



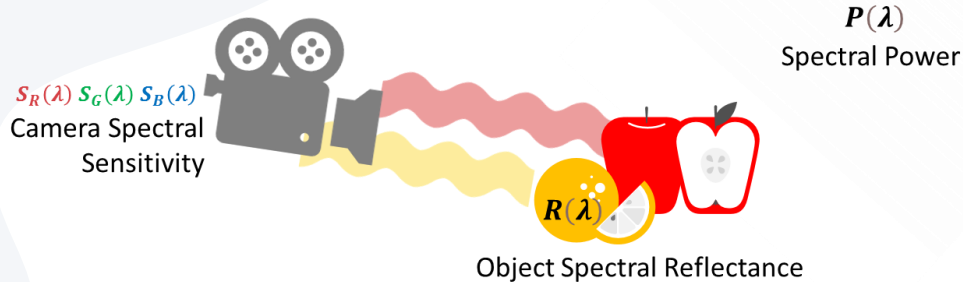
key take-aways

- We can accurately depict large datasets with only a few representative values through Principal Components Analysis.
- RGB digital counts were found to be sufficient in reconstructing the high-dimensional spectral information even with a novel set.
- Spectral (RMSE, SAM) and color error metrics (ΔE_{76}) should all be used in evaluating reconstruction as one supplements the other.

SOURCE CODE

- [Physics-301/Activity - 4 RGB-to-Spectra using PCA.ipynb at main · reneprincipejr/Physics-301 \(github.com\)](#)
- https://drive.google.com/file/d/11YbzA_dpg4L-_9xB1E44XnfDiXXtFVsc/view?usp=sharing

Background



$$C(\lambda) = \sum P(\lambda)R(\lambda)$$

$$q_n = \sum C_n S_n(\lambda)$$

Recalling trinity of color, the **RGB** values or q_n are obtained by multiplying the color signal $C_n(\lambda)$ with spectral sensitivities $S_n(\lambda)$ [1].

Suppose we have a spectral reflectance database and a default source, then we can represent the color signal as a linear superposition of the eigenvectors e_i and weights a_i by PCA's dimensional reduction given by

$$C(\lambda) \approx \sum_{i=1}^m a_i e_i(\lambda).$$

Background

The **RGB** [q_R, q_G, q_B] values can then be obtained using:

$$\begin{aligned} q_R &= a_1 \sum e_1(\lambda) S_R(\lambda) + a_2 \sum e_2(\lambda) S_R(\lambda) + \dots + a_m \sum e_m(\lambda) S_R(\lambda) \\ q_G &= a_1 \sum e_1(\lambda) S_G(\lambda) + a_2 \sum e_2(\lambda) S_G(\lambda) + \dots + a_m \sum e_m(\lambda) S_G(\lambda) \\ q_B &= a_1 \sum e_1(\lambda) S_B(\lambda) + a_2 \sum e_2(\lambda) S_B(\lambda) + \dots + a_m \sum e_m(\lambda) S_B(\lambda) \end{aligned} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{bmatrix} q_R \\ q_G \\ q_B \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} e_1 \cdot S_R & e_2 \cdot S_R & \dots & e_m \cdot S_R \\ e_1 \cdot S_G & e_2 \cdot S_G & \dots & e_m \cdot S_G \\ e_1 \cdot S_B & e_2 \cdot S_B & \dots & e_m \cdot S_B \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_m \end{bmatrix}.$$

Here we see an association between the weights (eigenvalues) and the **RGB** value through the transformation matrix **T**. Weiner estimation method then allows us to obtain the weights **a**:

$$\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{T}\mathbf{a}$$

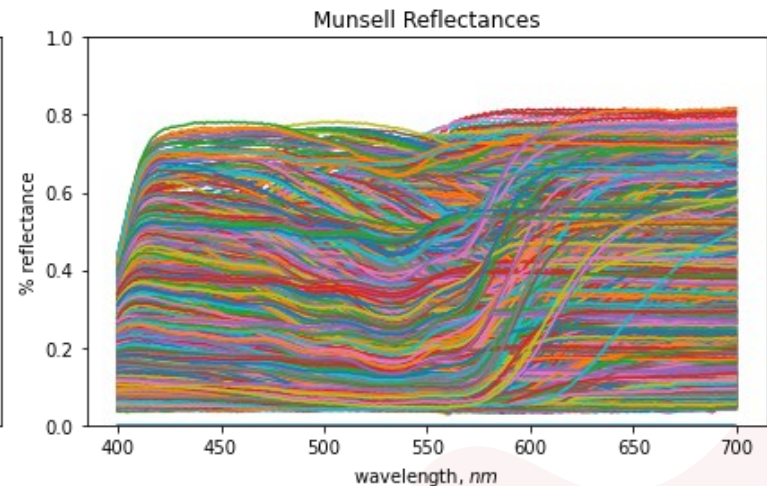
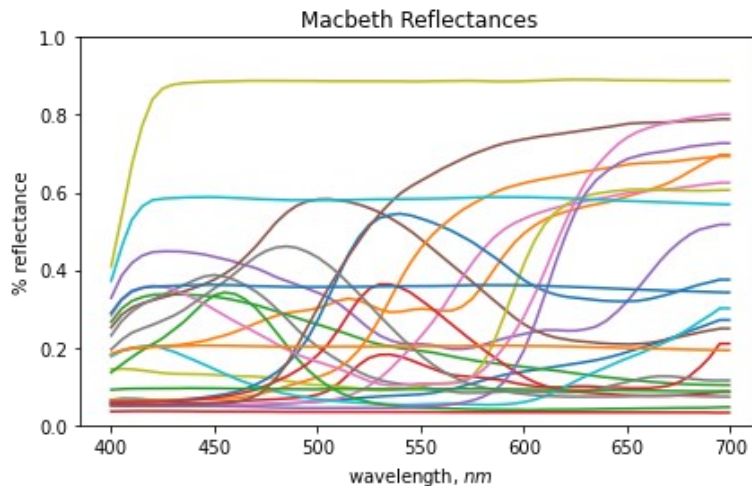
$$\mathbf{a} = (\mathbf{T}^T \mathbf{T})^{-1} \mathbf{T}^T \mathbf{q}.$$

Since the eigenvectors are already established and the weights can be determined using **RGB**, then **the spectrum of the color signal can be recreated** [1].

Background

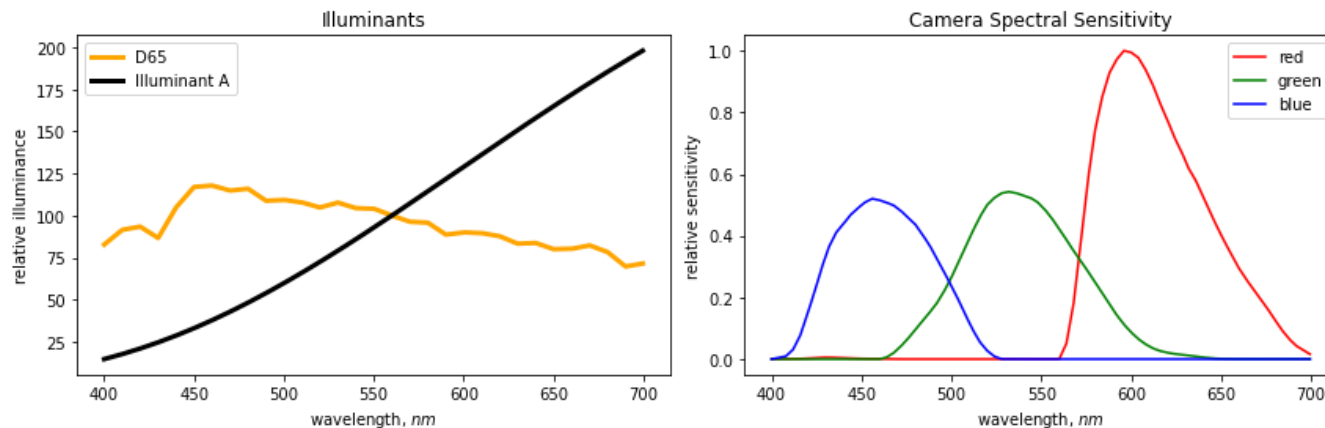
Like the compression demonstrated in facial reconstruction using Principal Components Analysis (PCA) [2], here we attempt to reduce the reflectance database into a few representative eigenspectra which yields the transformation matrix \mathbf{T} necessary to represent the spectral reflectance using only the input digital color [1].

To facilitate this process called spectral super-resolution, we use the 1269 Munsell color chips ensemble and then, we attempt to recover the spectra of 24 Macbeth color patches using the rendered RGB values [3].



Transformation Matrix

Show below are the illuminants to be tested and the spectral sensitivity to be used in obtaining the transformation matrix T .



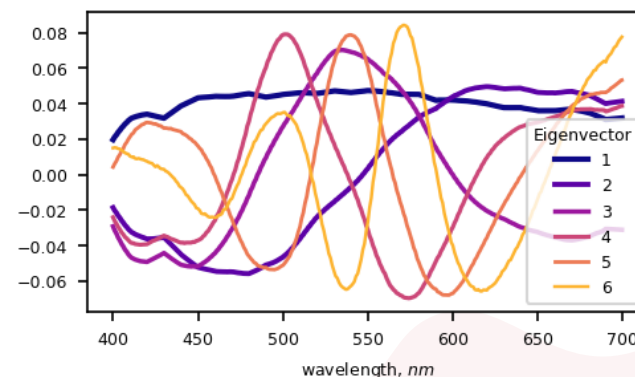
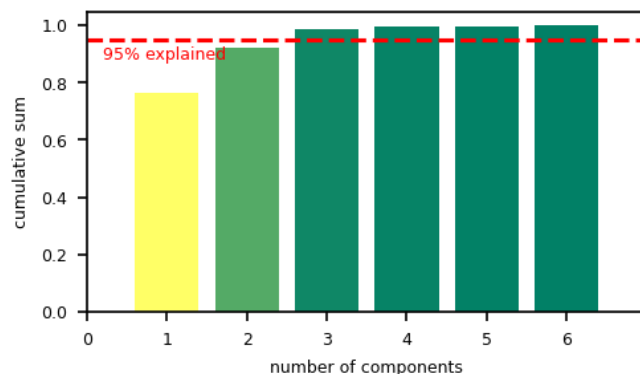
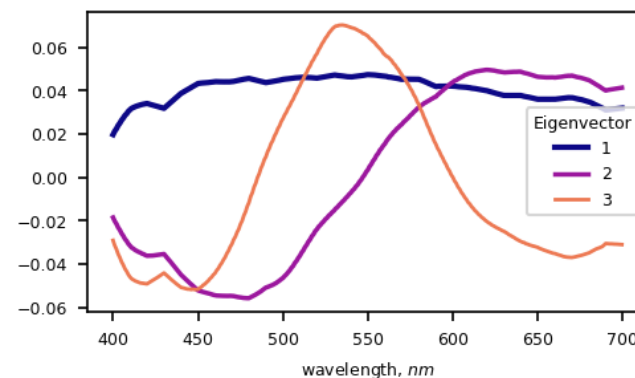
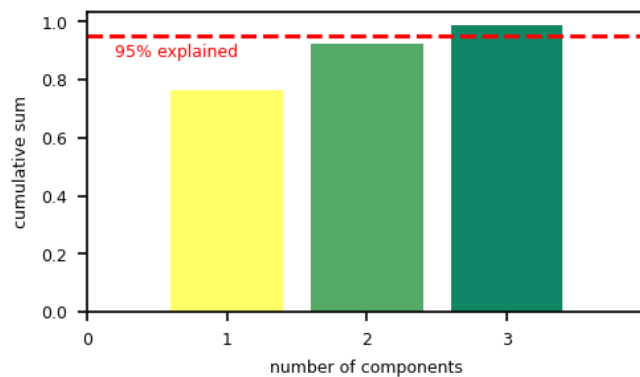
To quantify the reconstruction accuracies, we employed **Root-Mean-Square-Error (RMSE)** and **Spectral-Angle-Mapper (SAM)** metrics which measures the **residual error** and **structure shape similarity** respectively between the actual \hat{r} and reconstructed r spectra [4]:

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_N (r(N) - \hat{r}(N))^2}{n}}$$

$$SAM = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{\sum_N r(N) * \hat{r}(N)}{\sqrt{\sum_N r(N)} \sqrt{\sum_N \hat{r}(N)}} \right).$$

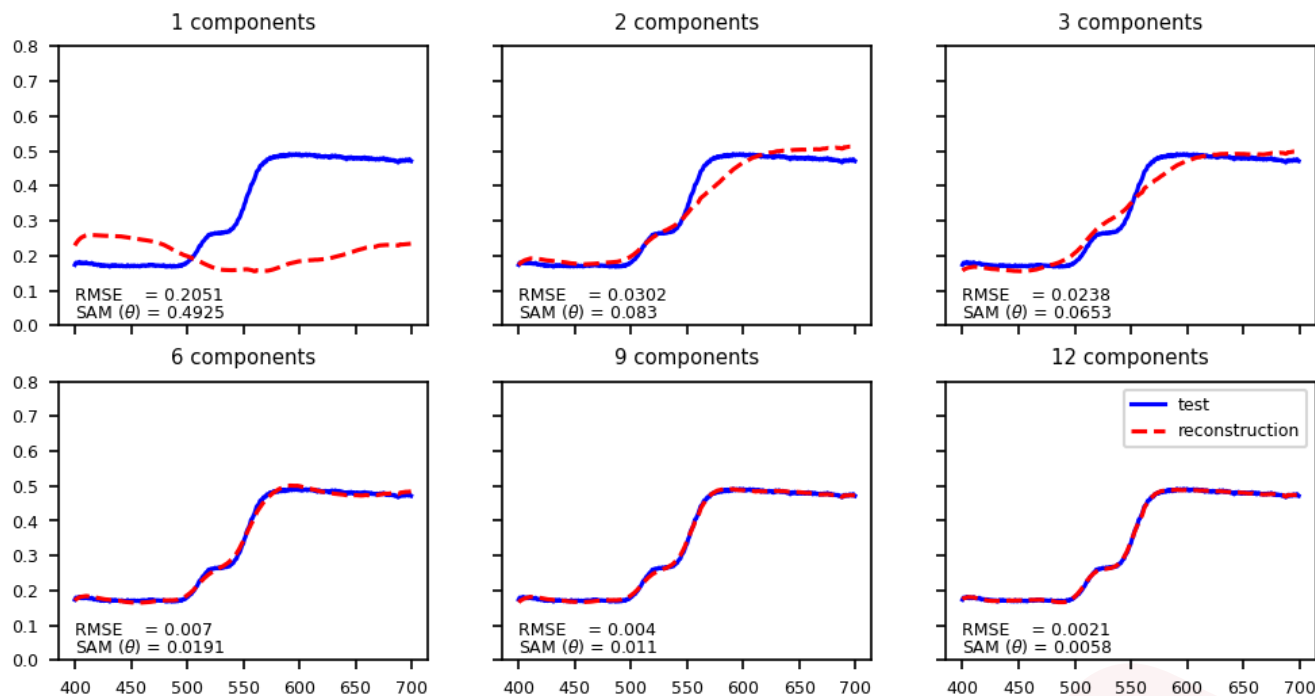
Percent Explained

Taking the cumulative sum of the normalized eigenvalues, we can see that **three (3) principal components can represent 95% of the variance** in the Munsell reflectance database. Therefore, we expect a spectrum to be properly represented using only three input values.



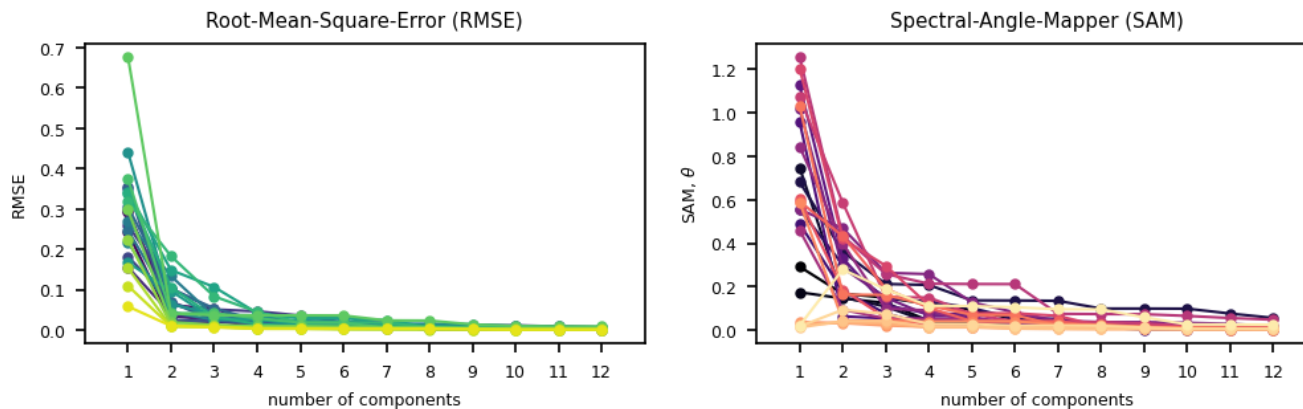
Reconstruction

Shown below is the sample reconstruction of a random Munsell reflectance spectrum using increasing number of principal components. At $N = 3$, the **residual error** of the reconstruction was reduced by **almost ten-folds** and the **shape similarity** has improved by **seven-folds**. At $N = 6$ onwards, the reconstruction is almost perfect with imperceivable errors.



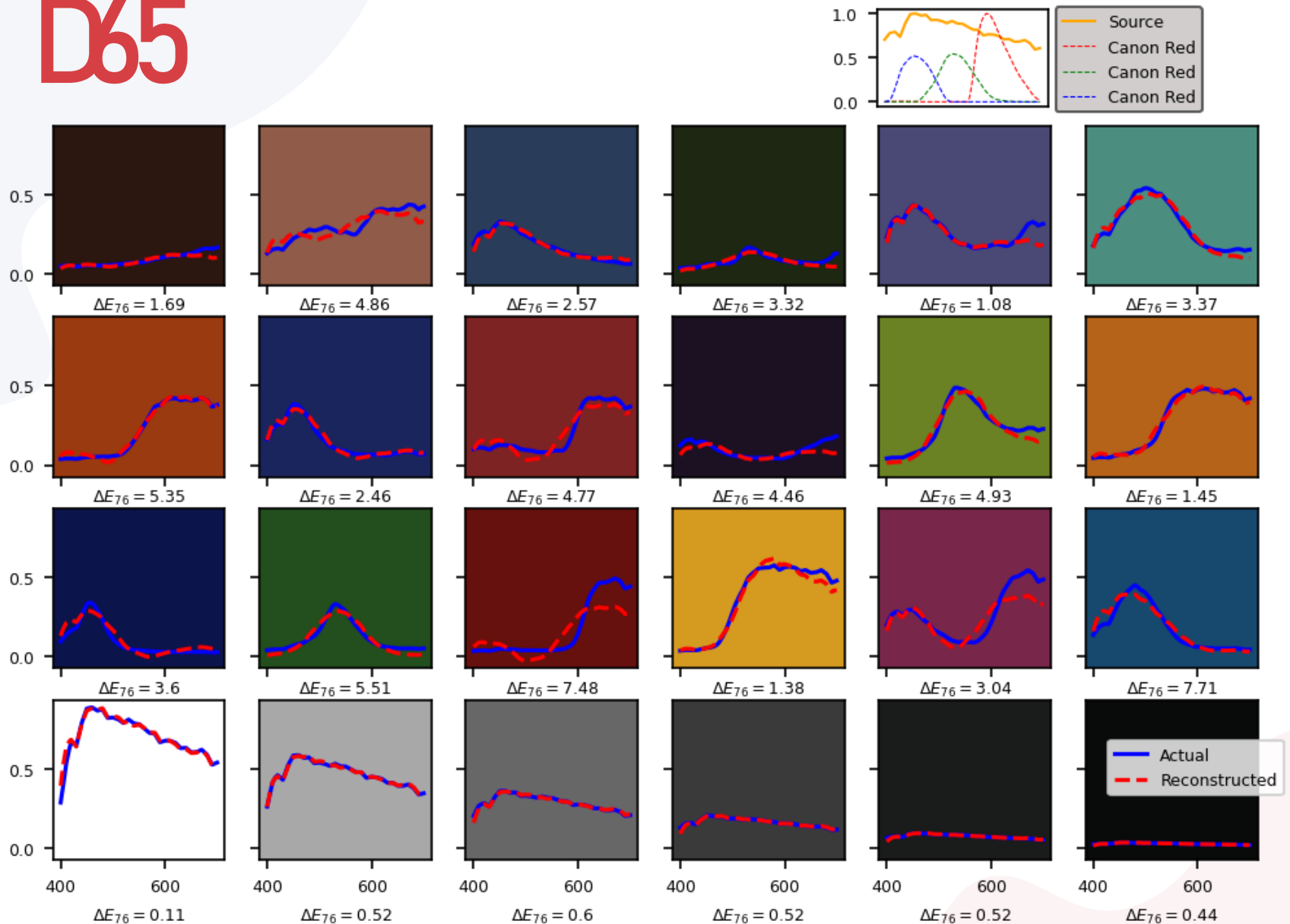
Reconstructing Macbeth CC

Shown below are the accuracies for the reconstruction of the 24 reflectance spectra from the Macbeth color chart. At $N = 3$, majority of the patches have **RMSE** < 0.1 and **SAM** < 0.2, quite low even though these were not part of the PCA ensemble where eigenvectors were obtained.

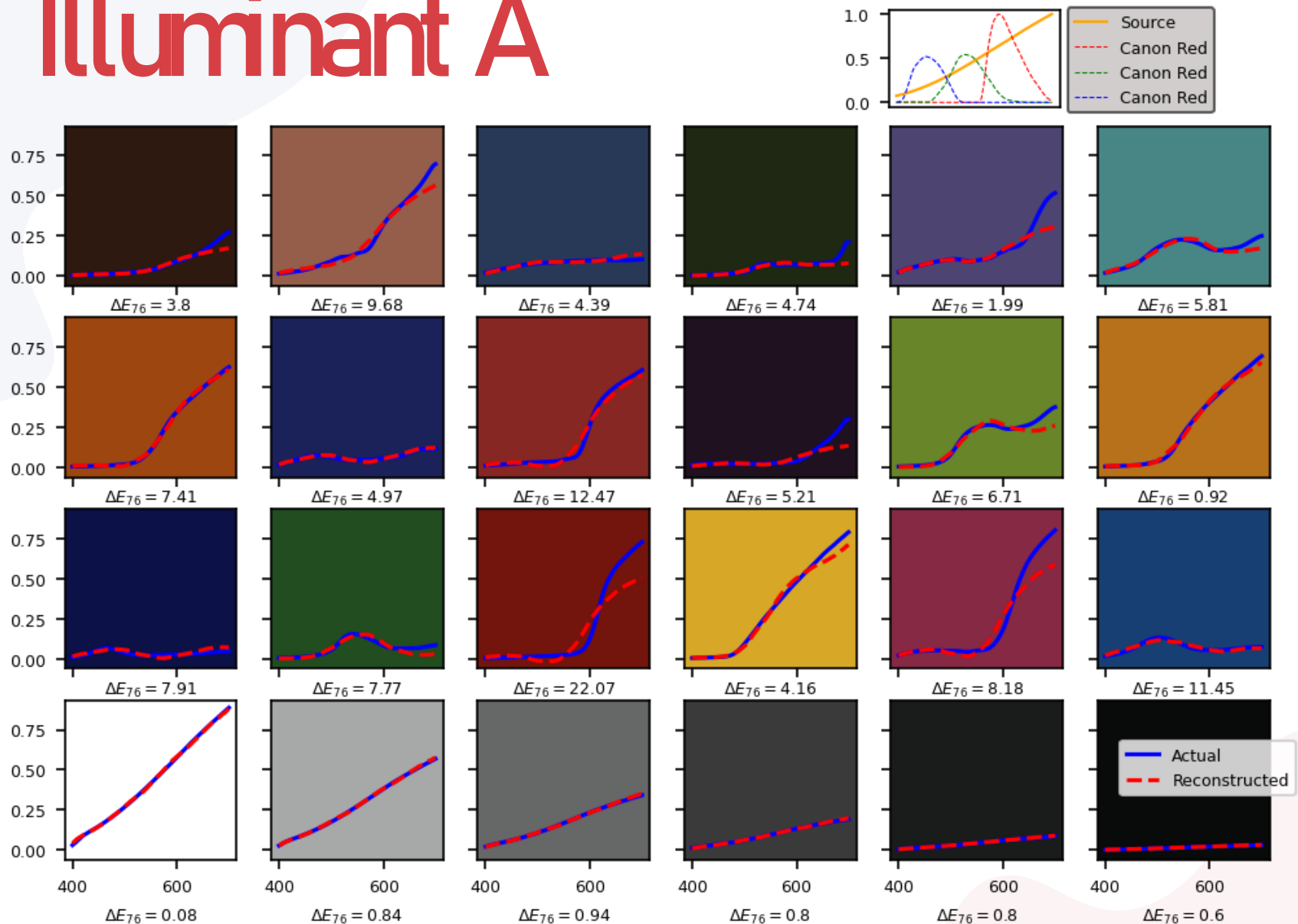


Aside from spectral accuracy, we employed color difference ΔE_{76} which measures the Euclidean distance between the two spectra transformed in the CIELAB uniform color space [5]. In short, ΔE_{76} quantifies how perceptually different the actual Macbeth color signals are from the PCA reconstructed spectra. From here onwards, we use ($N = 3$) three principal components.

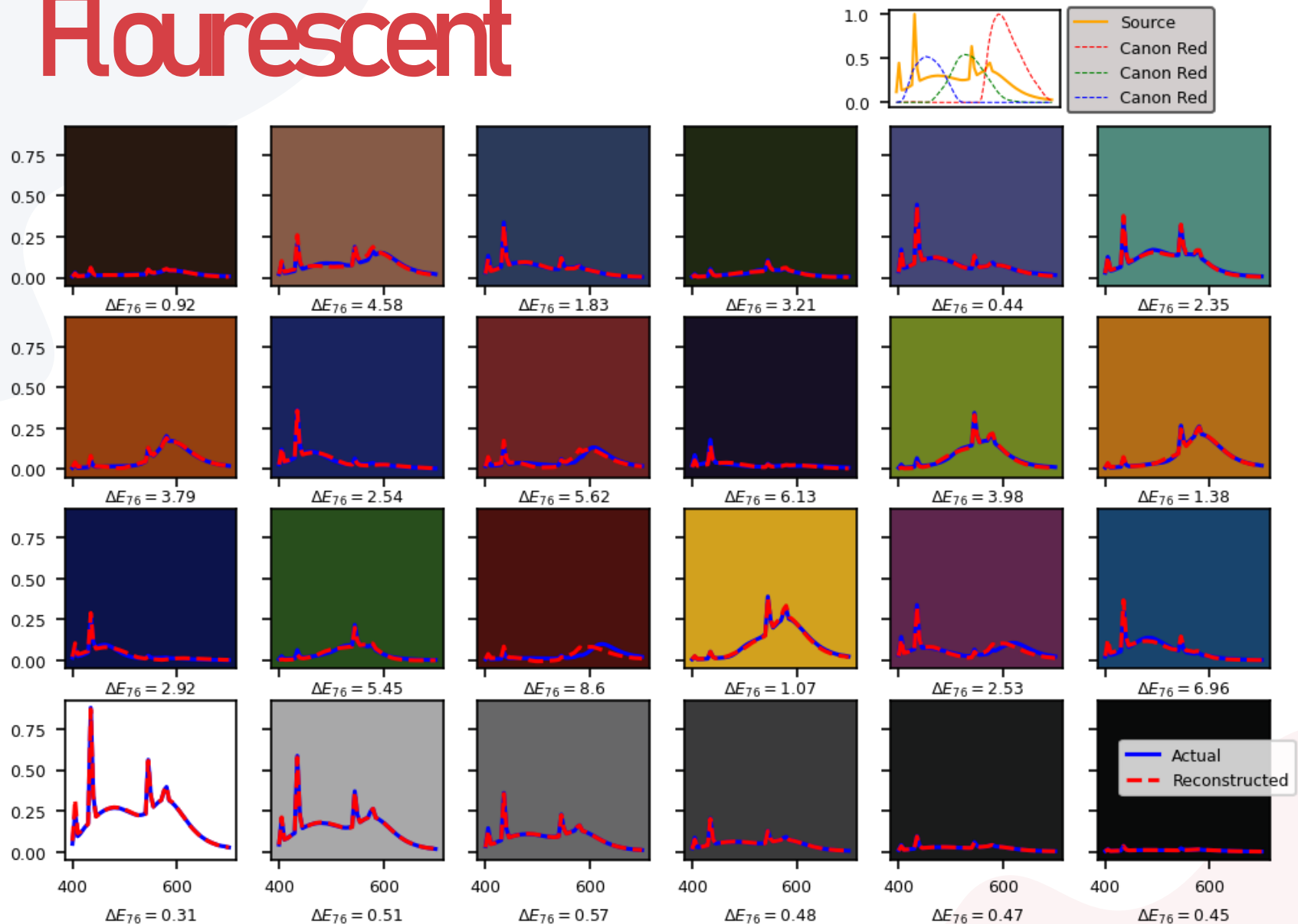
D65



Illuminant A

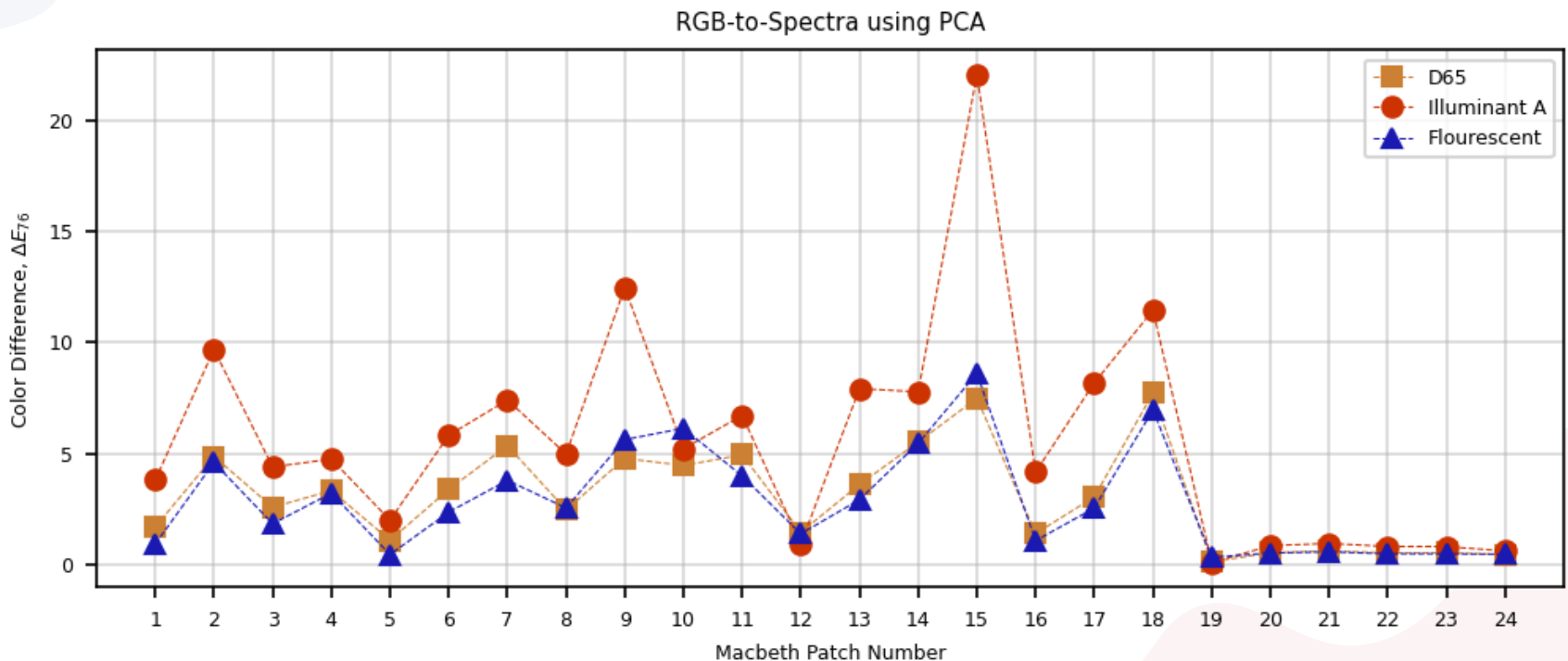


Flourescent



Discussion

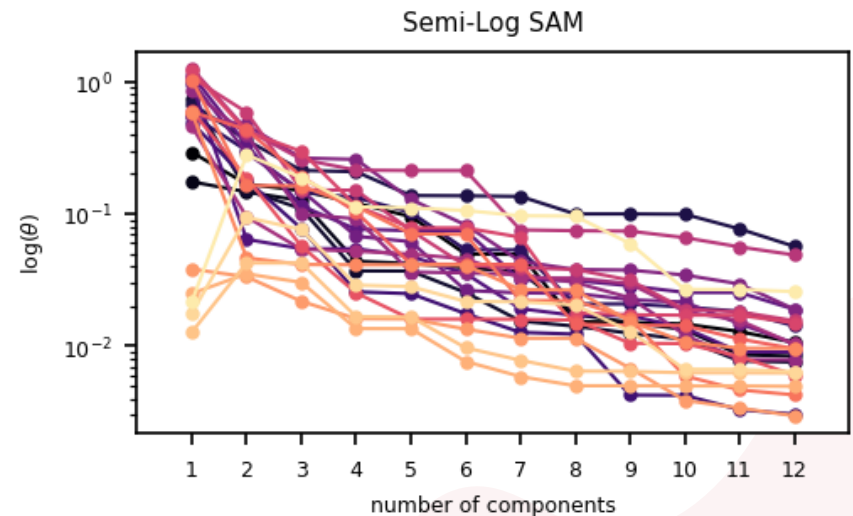
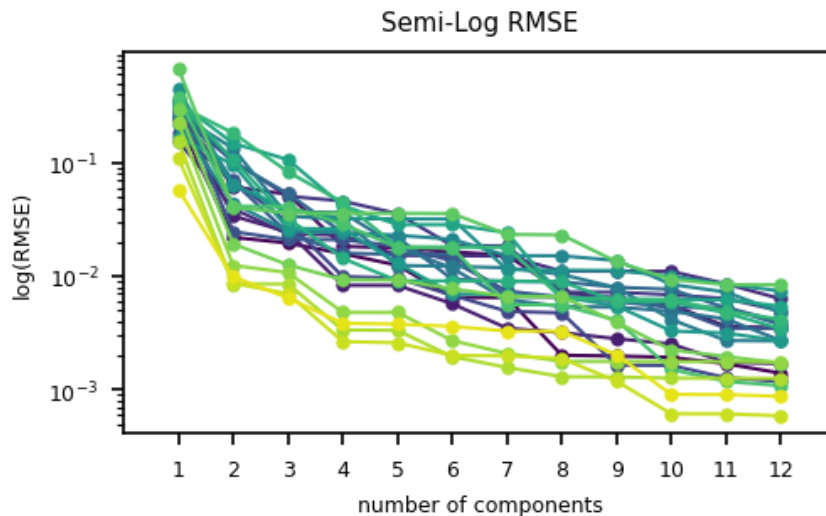
Overall, we successfully reconstructed the never-before-seen Macbeth color spectra using the Transformation Matrix derived from the Munsell ensemble's eigenvectors. Across different illuminants, majority of the reconstructions returned imperceivable color difference ($\Delta E_{76} < 10$) [5], with a few exceptions due to Illuminant A which has a skewed power spectrum.



Conclusions

Both the spectral (RMSE, SAM) and colorimetric (ΔE_{76}) accuracy has shown how we can accurately depict large datasets with only a few representative values through Principal Components Analysis.

In this activity, we were able to convert a digital camera into a spectral imager where the RGB digital counts were found sufficient to reconstruct the high-dimensional spectral information using PCA.





As mentioned previously, I have used PCA before in spectral resolution but in this report, I was able to compare how the method fared across all different light sources. The visualizations were stand-alone and self-explanatory. One important finding is that it turns out, the skewed power distribution contributed to rendering spectra with large color difference. The take-away here is the same as what my undergraduate thesis proposed; we should implement both spectral and color error metrics to evaluate the spectral reconstruction.

In this activity, I'd give myself a score of **96/100**.

references

- [1] M. Soriano, Physics 301 – RGB-to-Spectra using PCA, (2022).
- [2] [sklearn.decomposition.PCA – scikit-learn 1.1.1 documentation](#)
- [3] J. P. S. Parkkinen, J. Hallikainen, and T. Jaaskelainen, Characteristic spectra of Munsell colors, J. Opt. Soc. Am. 6, 318 (1989).
- [4] P. E. Dennison, K. Q. Halligan, and D. A. Roberts, A comparison of error metrics and constraints for multiple endmember spectral mixture analysis and spectral angle mapper, Remote Sens. Environ. 93, 359 (2004).
- [5] W. Mokrzycki and M. Tatol, Color difference Delta E - A survey, Mach. Graph. Vis. 20, 383 (2011).