## Color

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CS 448B: Visualization
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## Assignment 3: Dynamic Queries

Create a small interactive dynamic query application similar to Homefinder, but for SF Crime Data.

1. Storyboard interface
2. Implement interface and produce final writeup
3. Submit the application and a final writeup on the wiki


Can work alone or in pairs
Final write up due before class on May 4, 2016

## Color

## Color in Visualization

Identify, Group, Layer, Highlight


## Purpose of Color

To label
To measure
To represent and imitate
To enliven and decorate
"Above all, do no harm."

- Edward Tufte


## Topics

Color Perception
Color Naming
Using Color in Visualization

# Color Perception <br> Physical World, Visual System, Mental Models 

## What is Color?

Physical World Visual System Mental Models
Lights, surfaces,

objects $\quad \longrightarrow$\begin{tabular}{c}
Eye, optic <br>
nerve, visual <br>
cortex

$\longrightarrow$

Red, green, brown <br>
Bright, light, dark, <br>
vivid, colorful, dull
\end{tabular}

Warm, cool, bold,
blah, attractive, ugly, pleasant, jarring


## Color Models

| Physical World |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Light <br> Energy | Cone <br> Response <br> Spectral <br> distribution <br> functions | Encode as <br> three values <br> $(\mathrm{L}, \mathrm{M}, \mathrm{S})$ |
| $\mathrm{F}(\lambda)$ |  |  |

## Physical World

Light is radiation in range of wavelengths


Light of single wavelength is monochromatic

## Most Colors not Monochromatic



Curves describe spectral composition $\Phi(\lambda)$ of stimulus

## Most Colors not Monochromatic



Curves describe spectral composition $\Phi(\lambda)$ of stimulus

## Emissive vs. reflective light




Additive
(digital displays)


Subtractive
(print, e-paper)

## Perception Vs. Measurement

You do not see the spectrum of light

- Eyes make limited measurements

Eyes physically adapt to circumstance

- You brain adapts in various ways
$\square$ Weird stuff also happens


## Retina



## Rods and Cones

## Rods


$\square$ No color (sort of)

- Spread over the retina
$\square$ More sensitive
Cones
- 3 types sensitive to different frequencies
$\square$ Concentrated in fovea (center of the retina)
$\square$ Less sensitive


## As light enters our cones...

## LMS (Long, Middle, Short) Cones

Sensitive to different wavelength


A Field Guide to Digital Color, Maureen Stone

## Cone Response

Integrate cone response with input spectra


## Computing Cone Response

Integrate cone response with input spectra


## Metamers

All spectra that stimulate the same cone response are indistinguishable


Two different spectra
$\Phi_{1}(\lambda), \Phi_{2}(\lambda)$
produce same L,M,S response

## CIE XYZ Color Space

Standardized in 1931 to mathematically represent tri-stimulus response
"Standard observer" response curves


## Chromaticity Diagram



## Chromaticity Diagram

Project $\mathrm{X}, \mathrm{Y}, \mathrm{Z}$ on a plane to separate colorfulness from brightness

$$
\begin{aligned}
& x=X /(X+Y+Z) \\
& y=Y /(X+Y+Z) \\
& z=Z /(X+Y+Z) \\
& 1=x+y+Z
\end{aligned}
$$



## CIE chromaticity diagram

## Spectrum locus



Courtesy of PhotoResearch, Inc.

## CIE chromaticity diagram

Spectrum locus
Purple line


## CIE chromaticity diagram

Spectrum locus
Purple line
Mixture of two lights appears as a straight line


Courtesy of PhotoResearch, Inc.

## Display Gamut

## Typically defined by:

3 "Primaries"
Convex region


## Other Gamuts



Fig. 3. The color gamut of LCDs with backlights employing CCFL, white LEDs and RGB LEDs are shown here along with the NTSC (television) color gamut.

## Color Models

## Physical World

## Visual System

## Mental Models

| Light <br> Energy | Cone Response | Opponent Encoding | Perceptua Models | Appearance Models |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Spectral distribution functions$F(\lambda)$ | Encode as three values (L,M,S) CIE (X,Y,Z) | Separate lightness, chroma | Color <br> "Space" | Color in Context |
|  |  | (A,R-G, Y-B) | lightness saturation | Background, Size, ... |
|  |  | Separate ness, chroma | CIELAB <br> Munsell | CIECAM02 |
|  |  | olor blindness |  |  |
|  |  | age encoding |  |  |

## Opponent processing

LMS are linearly combined to create:

## Lightness

Red-green contrast
Yellow-blue contrast


Fairchild

## Opponent Color

Definition
$\square$ Achromatic, lightness axis
$\square$ R-G and Y-B axis

- Separate lightness from chroma channels First level encoding
$\square$ Linear combination of LMS
- Before optic nerve
- Basis for perception
$\square$ Defines "color blindness"




## Color blindness

Missing one or more retina cones or rods


Deuteranope


Luminance

## Vischeck

## Simulates color vision deficiencies

$\square$ Web service or Photoshop plug-in
$\square$ Robert Dougherty and Alex Wade

## www.vischeck.com



Deuteranope


Protanope
Tritanope

## Color Models

## Physical World

## Visual System

Mental Models

| Light <br> Energy | Cone Response | Opponent Encoding | Perceptual Models | Appearance Models |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Spectral distribution functions | Encode as three values <br> (L,M,S) | Separate lightness, chroma | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Color } \\ & \text { "Space" } \end{aligned}$ | Color in Context |
| $F(\lambda)$ | CIE (X,Y,Z) | (A,R-G, Y-B) | lightness saturation | Background, Size, ... |
|  |  |  | CIELAB Munsell (HVC) | CIECAM02 |
|  |  | Color differences <br> "Intuitive" color spaces |  |  |
|  |  | Color scales |  |  |

## Axes of CIE LAB

Correspond to opponent signals
L* = Luminance
a* $=$ Red-green contrast
$b^{*}=$ Yellow-blue contrast
Scaling of axes to represent "color distance" JND = Just noticeable difference (~2.3 units)

## Munsell Atlas

Developed the first perceptual color system based on his experience as an artist (1905)


Hue, Value, Chroma


Hue, Value, Chroma


Hue, Value, Chroma


Hue, Value, Chroma


## Psuedo-Perceptual Models

## HLS, HSV, HSB

NOT perceptual models
Simple renotation of RGB
$\square$ View along gray axis

- See a hue hexagon
$\square \mathrm{L}$ or V is grayscale pixel value
Cannot predict perceived lightness



## Perceptual brightness


(Photoshop)

## Perceptual brightness



(CIE XYZ)

## Perceptual brightness



## Color Models

## Physical World

## Visual System

## Mental Models

| Light Energy | Cone Response | Opponent Encoding | Perceptual Models | Appearance Models |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Spectral distribution functions$F(\lambda)$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Encode as } \\ \text { three values } \\ (\mathrm{L}, \mathrm{M}, \mathrm{~S}) \\ \mathrm{CIE}(\mathrm{X}, \mathrm{Y}, \mathrm{Z}) \end{gathered}$ | Separate lightness, chroma$(A, R-G, Y-B)$ | Color "Space" | Color in Context |
|  |  |  | Hue, lightness saturation | Adaptation, Background, Size, ... |
|  |  |  | CIELAB Munsell (HVC) | CIECAM02 <br> Adaptation |
|  |  |  |  | ontrast effects ge appearance mplex matching |

## Simultaneous Contrast

The inner and outer thin rings are the physical purple


## Simultaneous Contrast



## Simultaneous Contrast



## Affects Lightness Scale



Bezold Effect


## Crispening

Perceived difference depends on background


From Fairchild, Color Appearance Models

## Spreading

Adjacent colors blend

Spatial frequency

- The paint chip problem
- Small text, lines, glyphs
- Image colors


Redrawn from Foundations of Vision © Brian Wandell, Stanford University

## Color Naming

What color is this?


What color is this?

"Yellow"

What color is this?

What color is this?


## "Blue"

What color is this?

## What color is this?



## Colors according to XKCD...



## Basic color terms

Chance discovery by Brent Berlin and Paul Kay


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## Basic Color Terms

Chance discovery by Brent Berlin and Paul Kay
Initial study in 1969
Surveyed speakers from 20 languages
Literature from 69 languages

## World color survey



## World color survey



## World color survey



Naming information from 2616 speakers from 110 languages on 330 Munsell color chips


## Results from WCS (Mexico)

Language \#72 (Mixteco)
Wutual into $=0.942 /$ Contribution $=0.476$


## Results from WCS (South Pacific)

Mutual info $=0.939 /$ Contribution $=0.487$

tual info $=0.939 /$ Contribution $=0.51$


## Universal (?) Basic Color Terms

Basic color terms recur across languages

| White | Red | Pink |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Grey | Yellow | Brown |
| Black | Green | Orange |
|  | Blue | Purple |

## Evolution of Basic Color Terms

Proposed universal evolution across languages


## Rainbow color ramp

We associate and group colors together, often using the name we assign to the colors

## Rainbow color ramp

We associate and group colors together, often using the name we assign to the colors


## Rainbow color ramp

We associate and group colors together, often using the name we assign to the colors

400nm


## Naming affects color perception

Color name boundaries

> Green Blue


## Color naming models

Model 3 million responses from XKCD survey
Bins in LAB space sized by saliency:
How much do people agree on color name?
Modeled by entropy of p(name | color)


## lcicle tree with colors



## Using Color in Visualization

## Gray's Anatomy



Superficial dissection of the right side of the neck,
showing the carotid and subclavian arteries
http://www.bartleby.com/107/illus520.html

## Molecular Models



## Product Categories



## Grouping, Highlighting

|  | X | Y | Z | X | Y | Z | X | Y | Z | X | Y | Z |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| red | 25.37 | 13.70 | 0.05 | 26.27 | 14.13 | 0.04 | 18.41 | 10.16 | 0.05 | 17.43 | 9.30 | 0.00 |
| green | 22.14 | 51.24 | 0.35 | 20.68 | 49.17 | 0.44 | 21.11 | 46.00 | 0.20 | 16.36 | 37.95 | 0.12 |
| blue | 13.17 | 3.71 | 74.89 | 15.38 | 5.20 | 86.83 | 11.55 | 3.37 | 65.53 | 9.96 | 3.44 | 56.14 |
| gray | 63.46 | 73.30 | 78.05 | 64.66 | 71.99 | 90.08 | 52.96 | 62.49 | 67.99 | 45.54 | 53.65 | 58.14 |
| black | 0.66 | 0.70 | 0.77 | 0.63 | 0.66 | 1.09 | 0.47 | 0.58 | 0.70 | 0.44 | 0.54 | 0.71 |
|  | X | Y | Z | X | Y | Z | X | Y | Z | X | Y | Z |
| red | 25.37 | 13.70 | 0.05 | 26.27 | 14.13 | 0.04 | 18.41 | 10.16 | 0.05 | 17.43 | 9.30 | 0.00 |
| green | 22.14 | 51.24 | 0.35 | 20.68 | 49.17 | 0.44 | 21.11 | 46.00 | 0.20 | 16.36 | 37.95 | 0.12 |
| blue | 13.17 | 3.71 | 74.89 | 15.38 | 5.20 | 86.83 | 11.55 | 3.37 | 65.53 | 9.96 | 3.44 | 56.14 |
| gray | 63.46 | 73.30 | 78.05 | 64.66 | 71.99 | 90.08 | 52.96 | 62.49 | 67.99 | 45.54 | 53.65 | 58.14 |
| black | 0.66 | 0.70 | 0.77 | 0.63 | 0.66 | 1.09 | 0.47 | 0.58 | 0.70 | 0.44 | 0.54 | 0.71 |

Radio Spectrum Map (33 colors)

http://www.cybergeography.org/atlas/us spectrum map.pdf

## Distinguishable on Inspection



## Palette Design + Color Names

Minimize overlap and ambiguity of color names

| Color Name Distance |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Salience | Name blue 62.9\% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.98 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.20 | . 47 |  |
| 1.00 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 0.97 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.96 | 1.00 | . 90 | orange 93.9\% |
| 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.90 | 0.99 | . 67 | green 79.8\% |
| 1.00 | 0.97 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 0.95 | 0.99 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | . 66 | red 80.4\% |
| 0.98 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 0.96 | 0.91 | 0.97 | 1.00 | 0.99 | . 47 | purple 51.4\% |
| 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.95 | 0.96 | 0.00 | 0.97 | 0.93 | 0.98 | 1.00 | . 37 | brown 54.0\% |
| 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.99 | 0.91 | 0.97 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | . 58 | pink $71.7 \%$ |
| 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.97 | 0.93 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | . 67 | grey 79.4\% |
| 1.00 | 0.96 | 0.90 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.98 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 1.00 | . 18 | yellow 31.2\% |
| 0.20 | 1.00 | 0.99 | 1.00 | 0.99 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 | . 25 | blue $25.4 \%$ |
| Tableau-10 |  |  |  |  |  |  | Average 0.97 |  |  | . 52 |  |

http://vis.stanford.edu/color-names

## Palette Design + Color Names

## Minimize overlap and ambiguity of color names

| Color Name Distance |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Salience | Name <br> blue 50.5\% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.89 | 0.07 | 1.00 | 0.35 | 0.99 | 1.00 | 0.89 | . 30 |  |
| 1.00 | 0.00 | 0.99 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.92 | 1.00 | 0.84 | 0.98 | 0.99 | . 21 | red 27.8\% |
| 1.00 | 0.99 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 0.98 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.17 | 1.00 | . 34 | green 36.8\% |
| 0.89 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 0.98 | 1.00 | 0.71 | 0.93 | 1.00 | 0.32 | . 55 | purple 67.3\% |
| 0.07 | 1.00 | 0.98 | 0.98 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 0.36 | 1.00 | 0.97 | 0.95 | . 20 | blue $36.6 \%$ |
| 1.00 | 0.92 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 0.97 | 0.99 | 1.00 | . 39 | orange 51.9\% |
| 0.35 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.71 | 0.36 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 0.95 | 0.92 | 0.42 | . 13 | blue 15.7\% |
| 0.99 | 0.84 | 1.00 | 0.93 | 1.00 | 0.97 | 0.95 | 0.00 | 0.98 | 0.85 | . 16 | pink 29.4\% |
| 1.00 | 0.98 | 0.17 | 1.00 | 0.97 | 0.99 | 0.92 | 0.98 | 0.00 | 0.97 | . 12 | green $21.7 \%$ |
| 0.89 | 0.99 | 1.00 | 0.32 | 0.95 | 1.00 | 0.42 | 0.85 | 0.97 | 0.00 | . 30 | purple 23.9\% |
| Excel-10 |  |  |  |  |  |  | Average 0.87 |  |  | . 27 |  |

## Mapping Data to Color Scale

## Default rainbow maps



## Avoid rainbow color maps!



1. People segment colors into classes
2. Hues are not naturally ordered
3. Different lightness emphasizes certain scalar values
4. Low luminance colors (blue) hide high frequencies

## Phase Diagrams (hue scale)

Singularities occur where all colors meet


The optical singularities of bianisotropic crystals, by M. V. Berry

## Phases of the Tides



Figure 1.9. Cotidal chart. Tide phases relative to Greenwich are plotted for all the world's oceans. Phase progresses from red to orange to yellow to green to blue to purple. The lines converge on anphidromic points, singularities on the earth' s surface where there is no defined tide. [Winfree, 1987 \#1195 , p. 17].


## Classing quantitative data




Age-adjusted mortality rates for the United States

## Quantitative color encoding

## Sequential color scale

Constrain hue, vary luminance/saturation Map higher values to darker colors


Diverging color scale
Useful when data has a meaningful "midpoint"
Use neutral color (e.g., grey) for midpoint
Use saturated colors for endpoints
Limit number of steps in color to 3-9


## Color Brewer



## Sequential color scheme



## Sequential color scheme



## Design of sequential color scales

Hue-Lightness (Recommended)
Higher values mapped to darker colors
ColorBrewer schemes have 3-9 steps

## Hue Transition

Two hues
Neighboring hues interpolate better Couple with change in lightness

## Diverging color scheme



## Diverging color scheme



## Diverging color scheme

## Hue Transition

Carefully handle midpoint
$\square$ Critical class
Low, Average, High
'Average' should be gray
$\square$ Critical breakpoint
Defining value e.g. 0
Positive \& negative should use different hues
Extremes saturated, middle desaturated

## Hints for the colorist

Use only a few colors (~6 ideal)
Colors should be distinctive and named Strive for color harmony (natural colors?)
Use cultural conventions; appreciate symbolism
Beware of bad interactions (red/blue etc.)
Get it right in black and white
Respect the color blind

