## Metamer Sets

Graham D. Finlayson University of East Anglia



# RGB to Spectra



## Metamerism

# Simple Image Formation



 $\int_{\omega} \underline{Q}(\lambda) E(\lambda) S(\lambda) d\lambda$ 

$$\underline{R}(\lambda) = \underline{Q}(\lambda)E(\lambda)$$

 $\int_{\omega} \underline{R}(\lambda) S(\lambda) d\lambda$ 

Wandell, BA. "Foundations of Vision"

## **Observer Metamerism**





### **Emissive chart for imager calibration**

Jeffrey M. DiCarlo, Glen Eric Montgomery and Steven W. Trovinger Hewlett-Packard Laboratories Palo Alto, California



**Figure 1.** Responsivity functions for two hundred instances of a consumer camera plotted on top of one another. The widths of the lines indicate the responsivity variations across camera instances.



### **Emissive chart for imager calibration**

Jeffrey M. DiCarlo, Glen Eric Montgomery and Steven W. Trovinger Hewlett-Packard Laboratories Palo Alto, California



**Figure 1.** Responsivity functions for two hundred instances of a consumer camera plotted on top of one another. The widths of the lines indicate the responsivity variations across camera instances.



Figure 6. The first prototype of the emissive calibration chart.



Figure 7. The spectral power distributions of the LED light sources used in the emissive calibration chart.

## Illuminant Metamerism



A stepping stone to thinking about metamers



Wire Frame: Adobe RGB

Solid: Epson Printer

A stepping stone to thinking about metamers



Wire Frame: Adobe RGB

Solid: Epson Printer

i) If we could manufacture any reflectance (theoretically possible), what would be the gamut of colours?

A stepping stone to thinking about metamers



Wire Frame: Adobe RGB

Solid: Epson Printer

i) If we could manufacture any reflectance (theoretically possible), what would be the gamut of colours?

ii) This theoretical gamut is called the Object Colour Solid (OCS)

How the OCS is computed (efficiently) has been the source of research

A stepping stone to thinking about metamers



Wire Frame: Adobe RGB

Solid: Epson Printer

i) If we could manufacture any reflectance (theoretically possible), what would be the gamut of colours?

ii) This theoretical gamut is called the Object Colour Solid (OCS)

How the OCS is computed (efficiently) has been the source of research

iii) How we solve for the OCS can help us solve for pairs of reflectances that are metamerrs

## Theoretical limits: Object Colour Solid



What is the colour response p in the direction <u>n</u> which has maximum length?

$$\max_{S(\lambda)} ||\underline{n}.\underline{p}|| \ s.t. \ \begin{cases} \ 0 \le S(\lambda) \le 1 \\ \underline{p} = \int_{\omega} \underline{R}(\lambda) S(\lambda) d\lambda \\ \overline{(I_{3\times 3} - \underline{n}\underline{n}^t)} \underline{p} = \underline{0} \end{cases}$$

## Theoretical limits: Object Colour Solid



What is the colour response <u>p</u> in the direction <u>n</u> which has maximum length?

$$\max_{S(\lambda)} ||\underline{n}.\underline{p}|| \ s.t. \ \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 0 <= S(\lambda) <= 1\\ \underline{p} = \int_{\omega} \underline{R}(\lambda) S(\lambda) d\lambda\\ (I_{3\times 3} - \underline{nn}^t) \underline{p} = \underline{0} \end{array} \right.$$

In the discrete domain, this optimisation is a 'Quadratic Program'. Can be solved Efficiently. (Actually, can be further simplified as a linear program)

## Object Colour Solid



0.5

a measure of how well spectrum is recovered



a measure of how well spectrum is recovered



a measure of how well spectrum is recovered





$$\max_{S(\lambda)} ||\underline{n}.\underline{q}|| \ s.t.$$

a measure of how well spectrum is recovered



$$\max_{S(\lambda)} ||\underline{n}.\underline{q}|| \ s.t.$$

$$0 <= S(\lambda) <= 1$$

a measure of how well spectrum is recovered



$$\max_{S(\lambda)} ||\underline{n}.\underline{q}|| \ s.t.$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 0 <= S(\lambda) <= 1\\ \underline{q} = \int_{\omega} \underline{Q}(\lambda) S(\lambda) d\lambda \end{array}$$

a measure of how well spectrum is recovered



$$\max_{S(\lambda)} ||\underline{n}.\underline{q}|| \ s.t.$$

$$0 \le S(\lambda) \le 1$$
  
$$\underline{q} = \int_{\omega} \underline{Q}(\lambda) S(\lambda) d\lambda$$
  
$$(I_{3\times 3} - \underline{nn}^t) q = \underline{0}$$

a measure of how well spectrum is recovered



$$\max_{S(\lambda)} ||\underline{n}.\underline{q}|| \ s.t.$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 0 <= S(\lambda) <= 1\\ \underline{q} = \int_{\omega} \underline{Q}(\lambda) S(\lambda) d\lambda\\ \overline{(I_{3\times 3} - \underline{n}\underline{n}^t)} \underline{q} = \underline{0}\\ \underline{p}_{ref} = \int_{\omega} \underline{R}(\lambda) S(\lambda) d\lambda \end{array}$$

![](_page_22_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Metamer Mismatch Volumes of Flat Grey

Brian Funt<sup>\*</sup>, Hamidreza Mirzaei<sup>\*</sup> and Alexander D. Logvinenko; <sup>\*</sup>Simon Fraser University; Vancouver, Canada; <sup>\*\*</sup>Glasgow Caledonian University; Glasgow, UK

![](_page_22_Figure_4.jpeg)

A lot of theory 'assumes' the reflectances on the boundary of the metamer mismatch volume is '0-1' and has 5 transitions

![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Metamer Mismatch Volumes of Flat Grey

Brian Funt<sup>\*</sup>, Hamidreza Mirzael<sup>\*</sup> and Alexander D. Logvinenko; <sup>\*</sup>Simon Fraser University; Vancouver, Canada; <sup>\*\*</sup>Glasgow Caledonian University; Glasgow, UK

![](_page_23_Figure_4.jpeg)

A lot of theory 'assumes' the reflectances on the boundary of the metamer mismatch volume is '0-1' and has 5 transitions

This assumption is wrong. Using the optimisation method for computing metamer sets produces 50% larger volumes.

Metamer mismatch volumes using spherical sampling

Michal Macklewicz<sup>1</sup>, Hans J. Rivertz<sup>2</sup>, Graham D. Finlayson<sup>1</sup>; <sup>1</sup> School of Computing Sciences, University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK; <sup>2</sup>Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim, Norway

![](_page_24_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Metamer Mismatch Volumes of Flat Grey

Brian Funt<sup>\*</sup>, Hamidreza Mirzael<sup>\*</sup> and Alexander D. Logvinenko; <sup>\*</sup>Simon Fraser University; Vancouver, Canada; <sup>\*\*</sup>Glasgow Caledonian University; Glasgow, UK

![](_page_24_Figure_4.jpeg)

A lot of theory 'assumes' the reflectances on the boundary of the metamer mismatch volume is '0-1' and has 5 transitions

This assumption is wrong. Using the optimisation method for computing metamer sets produces 50% larger volumes.

Metamer mismatch volumes using spherical sampling

Michal Macklewicz<sup>1</sup>, Hans J. Rivertz;<sup>2</sup>, Graham D. Finlayson<sup>1</sup>; <sup>1</sup> School of Computing Sciences, University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK; <sup>2</sup>Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim, Norway

## Metamer Sets:

## Can we recover 'material' from images?

![](_page_26_Picture_1.jpeg)

### And does this help solve vision tasks?

# Discretely...

![](_page_27_Figure_1.jpeg)

$$\int_{\omega} \underline{R}(\lambda) S(\lambda) d\lambda$$

3x1 RGB

Nx1 reflectance vector

Nx3 matrix of 'effective' sensitivities

## The Set of all Reflectances

Hyper-cube constraint (if 31 sample wavelengths then 31 dimensional hypercube)

![](_page_28_Picture_2.jpeg)

### Reflectances that 'project' to p

#### Reflectance hyper-plane

constraint: All vectors <u>S</u> that 'project' to the same RGB lie on a plane (if 31 sample wavelengths then 28 dimensional affine hyperplane or 'flat')

![](_page_29_Picture_3.jpeg)

### Reflectances that 'project' to p

![](_page_30_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### Reflectance hyper-plane

constraint: All vectors <u>S</u> that 'project' to the same RGB lie on a plane (if 31 sample wavelengths then 28 dimensional affine hyperplane or 'flat')

$$\mathcal{R}^{t}\underline{S} = \underline{p} \equiv \mathcal{R}^{t}[\mathcal{R}\underline{\alpha} + \mathcal{R}^{\perp}\underline{\beta}] = \underline{p}$$

### Reflectances that 'project' to p

![](_page_31_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### Reflectance hyper-plane

constraint: All vectors <u>S</u> that 'project' to the same RGB lie on a plane (if 31 sample wavelengths then 28 dimensional affine hyperplane or 'flat')

$$\mathcal{R}^{t}\underline{S} = \underline{p} \equiv \mathcal{R}^{t}[\mathcal{R}\underline{\alpha} + \mathcal{R}^{\perp}\underline{\beta}] = \underline{p}$$

$$\underline{S}_{ref} + \sum_{i=1}^{28} Black_i(\lambda)\beta_i$$

## Metamer Sets

![](_page_32_Picture_1.jpeg)

The Metamer Set is the intersection of a hyper-cube with a hyper-plane (can have complex geometry [thousands of points, computationally hard]

 $\overline{O(n^{d/2})}$ 

## Metamer Sets

![](_page_33_Picture_1.jpeg)

The Metamer Set is the intersection of a hyper-cube with a hyper-plane (can have complex geometry [thousands of points, computationally hard]

 $O(n^{d/2})$ 

A hypercube is the intersection of half spaces delimited by the cube's faces (hyperplanes)

Intersection of half spaces in N-D is found using ND convex hull algorithm

![](_page_34_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Figure_5.jpeg)

## **Basic** Metamer Sets

![](_page_35_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Picture_2.jpeg)

denotes N-dimensional reflectances that 'live' inside the 31-d hypercube (N<<31)
#### Basis Approximations

$$S(\lambda) \approx \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sigma_i S_i(\lambda)$$





## Basis Approximations

$$S(\lambda) \approx \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sigma_i S_i(\lambda)$$

#### How many basis functions are needed?









i) hypercube constraints in 7D are defined by 14 hyperplanes







i) hypercube constraints in 7D are defined by 14 hyperplanes

ii) Intersecting the14 cube hyperplanes with the reflectancehyperplane can be computed usinghigh dimensional convex hull







i) hypercube constraints in 7D are defined by 14 hyperplanes

ii) Intersecting the14 cube hyperplanes with the reflectancehyperplane can be computed usinghigh dimensional convex hull

iii) Complexity ~ O(floor([D-3]/2))





#### These are solved for \*exactly\* because

i) hypercube constraints in 7D are defined by 14 hyperplanes

ii) Intersecting the14 cube hyperplanes with the reflectancehyperplane can be computed usinghigh dimensional convex hull

iii) Complexity ~ O(floor([D-3]/2))

iv)  $7D = O(n^2)$ ,  $12D=O(n^3)$ 







i) hypercube constraints in 7D are defined by 14 hyperplanes

ii) Intersecting the14 cube hyperplanes with the reflectancehyperplane can be computed usinghigh dimensional convex hull

iii) Complexity ~ O(floor([D-3]/2))

iv)  $7D = O(n^2)$ ,  $12D=O(n^3)$ 

v) Can calculate basic metamer sets for 12,13,14 dimensional basis (more degrees of freedom than typically used



# Worked Example $Q(\lambda)$ $E(\lambda)$



Spectral Sensitivities



 $S(\lambda)$ 





# $\int \underline{Q}(\lambda) E(\lambda) S(\lambda) d\lambda = \begin{bmatrix} 1.19 & 4.24 & 2.56 \end{bmatrix}$



The spectra shown lie on the convex hull of the 'Metamer Set'

All spectra integrate to [1.19 4.24 2.45]

All convex combinations integrate to [1.19 4.24 2.45]



$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}^{t} \underline{S} &= \underline{p} \equiv \\ \mathcal{R}^{t} [\mathcal{R} \underline{\alpha} + \mathcal{R}^{\perp} \underline{\beta}] &= \underline{p} \end{aligned}$$
$$\underbrace{S_{ref}}{} + \sum_{i=1}^{2} Black_{i}(\lambda)\beta_{i} \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}^{t} \underline{S} &= \underline{p} \equiv \\ \mathcal{R}^{t} [\mathcal{R} \underline{\alpha} + \mathcal{R}^{\perp} \beta] &= p \end{aligned}$$

The set comprises a ref spectrum that projects to the desired RGB and a combination of spectra that is orthogonal to the sensor space

$$\underline{S}_{ref} + \sum_{i=1}^{2} Black_i(\lambda)\beta_i$$



If the reflectance basis is 5D. There is a single ref reflectance and a 2-dimensional set of metameric blacks

$$\mathcal{R}^{t}\underline{S} = \underline{p} \equiv$$
$$\mathcal{R}^{t}[\mathcal{R}\underline{\alpha} + \mathcal{R}^{\perp}\underline{\beta}] = \underline{p}$$
$$\underline{S}_{ref} + \sum_{i=1}^{2} Black_{i}(\lambda)\beta_{i}$$



If the reflectance basis is 5D. There is a single ref reflectance and a 2-dimensional set of metameric blacks

The metamer set is a 2-dimensional hyperplane in 5D (which in turn is embedded in 31-D)

$$\mathcal{R}^{t}\underline{S} = \underline{p} \equiv$$
$$\mathcal{R}^{t}[\mathcal{R}\underline{\alpha} + \mathcal{R}^{\perp}\underline{\beta}] = \underline{p}$$
$$\underline{S}_{ref} + \sum^{2} Black_{i}(\lambda)\beta_{i}$$

i=1

# Reprojecting



#### Reprojecting





integrating (projecting) the metamer set to a second viewing condition typically generates multiple 'colors'









0.25	0.37	0.38
0.24	0.36	0.38
0.25	0.36	0.38
0.25	0.35	0.38
0.30	0.30	0.38
0.31	0.32	0.38





0.25	0.37	0.38
0.24	0.36	0.38
0.25	0.36	0.38
0.25	0.35	0.38
0.30	0.30	0.38
0.31	0.32	0.38







8 dimensional reflectance basis

yields 5 dimensional bounded convex region (in 8-d space) of metamers.

All of which integrate to [1.19 4.24 2.56]





## RGB to Spectra





ground-truth

closest in X-D metamer set



ground-truth

closest in X-D metamer set





#### Variants on a theme

#### Noise: Example

- 1. Well capacity 50000 electrons
- Between .1 and 200 photons/10Nm wavelength band
- 3. 10 bit quantization
- Sensors scaled so one sensor at one wavelength captures 100% of the photons
- 5. Shot-noise (assumed normally distributed.





What effect does noise have on the metamer set?

Intuitively, it becomes larger



What effect does noise have on the metamer set?

Intuitively, it becomes larger

normal metamer set

$$\mathcal{R}_k \underline{S} = p_k , \ k \in \{R, G, B\}$$
$$\underline{0} \le \underline{S} \le \underline{1}$$



What effect does noise have on the metamer set?

Intuitively, it becomes larger

normal metamer set

$$\mathcal{R}_k \underline{S} = p_k , \ k \in \{R, G, B\}$$
$$\underline{0} \le \underline{S} \le \underline{1}$$

with  $\epsilon$  noise

$$p_k - \epsilon \le \mathcal{R}_k \underline{S} \le p_k + \epsilon , \ k \in \{R, G, B\}$$
$$\underline{0} \le \underline{S} \le \underline{1}$$



#### Noise



The 'paramer' set (computed with ~2% noise) is 3\* the volume of the noise free Metamer set

## Noise vs Dimensionality





60% grey that maps to a single RGB could be the 'projection of many metamers. Under a second light the metamer set spans a set of possible RGBs



#### Invariant Metamer Sets







Metamer Set: 6 dimensional basis



#### Metamer Set: 10 dimensional basis

## What are good sensors?



i) The projection in the 'luminance' direction has small metamer sets

ii) Possibly, given N>3 sensors, there are linear combinations which give RGB (sRGB?) with small metamer sets (use >3 sensors to get provably stable 3 sensor measurements)

iii) It can't just be about metamers. Below is an sensor set that has many of the same metamers for all lights




1) A 'Physics-Based' approach to measurement asks what can I reliably recover (given known viewing conditions)



1) A 'Physics-Based' approach to measurement asks what can I reliably recover (given known viewing conditions)



2) Reliably: what the 3 numbers 'mean' and how certain or uncertain they are (are you sure its not a road sign?)



1) A 'Physics-Based' approach to measurement asks what can I reliably recover (given known viewing conditions)





 Under idealized conditions 'Metamer Set' theory provides an answer to what can be reliably measured and provides explicit measure of uncertainty



1) A 'Physics-Based' approach to measurement asks what can I reliably recover (given known viewing conditions)





 Under idealized conditions 'Metamer Set' theory provides an answer to what can be reliably measured and provides explicit measure of uncertainty



4) Noise models can be incorporated. Plus: computationally \*more\* efficient. Minus: more uncertaintly



1) A 'Physics-Based' approach to measurement asks what can I reliably recover (given known viewing conditions)





 Under idealized conditions 'Metamer Set' theory provides an answer to what can be reliably measured and provides explicit measure of uncertainty



4) Noise models can be incorporated. Plus: computationally \*more\* efficient. Minus: more uncertaintly



 5) Next Steps? Metamer sets and other tools exist for answering a variety of questions. Example: "Metamer Constrained Colour Correction"