## Data Visualization Principles: Color

Acknowledgments for today's lecture: Tamara Munzner, Miriah Meyer, Maureen Stone

### Outlook

Mechanics

### Principles

Techniques

#### Why worry about principles?

#### Why worry about principles?



Ninio's extinction illusion

#### Why worry about principles?



https://cscheid.net/2014/12/13/not-spirals.html



### VISION IS COMPLICATED

### Reading

- <u>"Representing Colors as Three Numbers"</u>, Stone
- <u>Rainbow Colormap (Still) Considered Harmful</u>, Borland and Russell.
- Optional:
  - Face-based Luminance Matching... Kindlmann et al.

## WHY COLOR?



Colin Ware, Information Visualization



## LIGHT AND COLOR

#### How does the yellow from your **laptop display** "equal" the yellow from the **sun**, and that from a **painting**?

## How does light work?

- Each photon has a "wavelength", roughly the frequency in which it wiggles as it travels through space
- Visible light is the same thing as FM radio is the same thing as X-rays is the same thing as microwaves

400	500	600	700
	Wavelen	gth (nm)	



https://www.flickr.com/photos/llnl/9403051123/

### How does light work?

http://www.chemistryland.com/CHM107Lab/Exp7/ Spectroscope/Spectroscope.html

400	500	600	700
	Wavelen	gth (nm)	

### How does light work?



400 500 600 700

Wavelength (nm)

### How does your eye work?

http://www.retinalmicroscopy.com/mosaics.html

### How does your eye work?

#### Cones

#### Rods

http://www.retinalmicroscopy.com/mosaics.html

### How does your eye work?



Wavelength (nm)

### TRICHROMACY



**Three numbers!** 





### OPPONENT PROCESS MODEL



## COLOR VISION DEFICIENCIES

### Ishihara Plates

http://www.dfisica.ubi.pt/~hgil/ p.v.2/Ishihara/Ishihara. 24.Plate.TEST.Book.pdf

## What goes wrong?

- Only some types of cones present in the eye
- red-green dichromacy, blue-yellow dichromacy (rare)



#### Normal

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700	650	600	550	500	450	400

#### Protanopia



#### Deuteranopia



# Tritanopia









## WHAT ARE THE PRIMARY COLORS?

### WHAT ARE THE PRIMARY COLORS?

red, green, blue
red, yellow, blue
orange, green, violet
cyan, magenta, yellow

# 4. cyan, magenta, yellow5. all of the above

- 3. orange, green, violet
- 2. red, yellow, blue
- 1. red, green, blue
- WHAT ARE THE PRIMARY COLORS?

### Any three "independent" ways of combining color works (!)











Wavelength (nm)





### COLOR GAMUTS



### CONSTANCY AND ADAPTATION



### SPATIAL ADAPTATION





### SPATIAL ADAPTATION







### SIMULTANEOUS CONTRAST





http://www.handprint.com/HP/WCL/tech13.html





### TEMPORAL ADAPTATION

http://www.moillusions.com/black-and-white-in-colouragain.html/13191556xteeocm7

## Impossible Colors (!)

http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/56/ Chimerical-color-demo.svg

#### CHIMERICAL COLOR DEMO TEMPLATES

