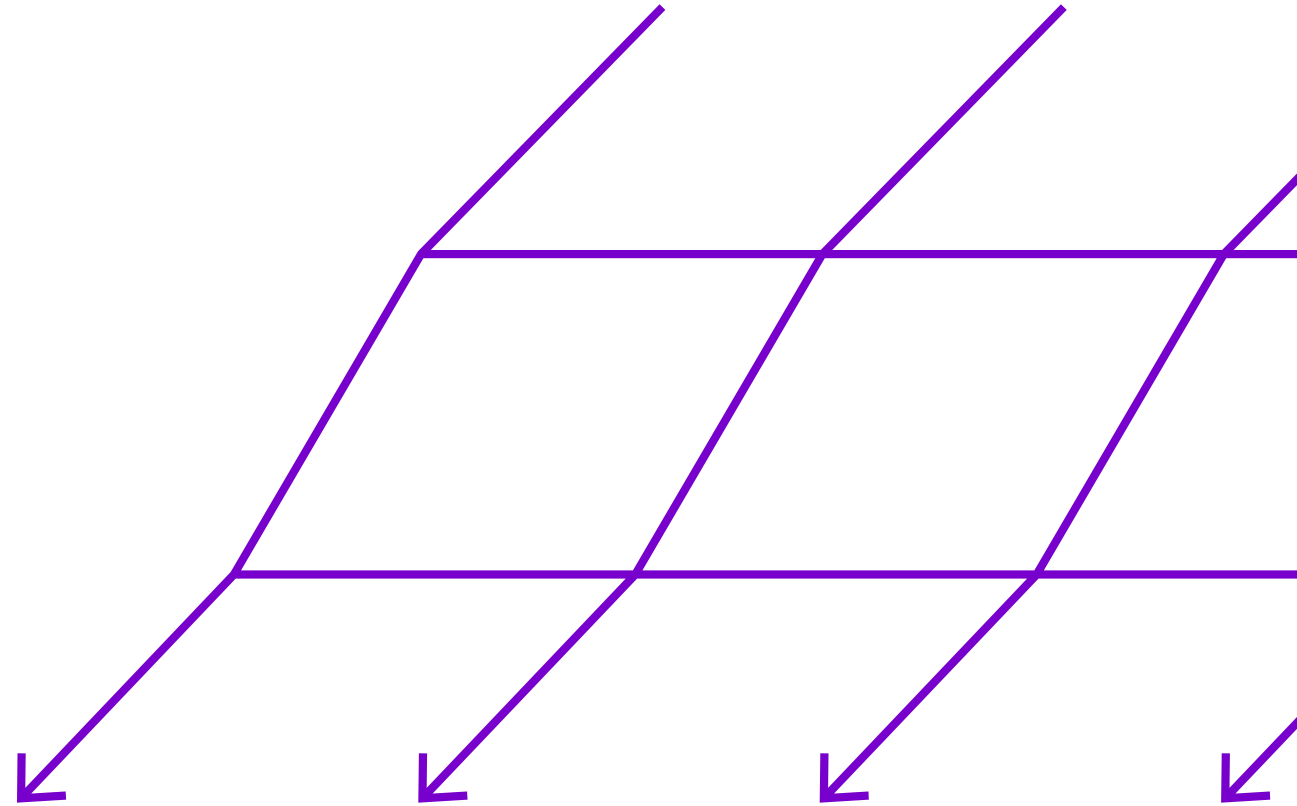


# Color Vision at a Cellular Level

Featuring Katrin Franke and William Tuten  
10 December 2021



# Technical Group Executive Committee



**Francisco Imai**  
Chair of the Color Technical Group



**Manuel Spitschan**  
University of Oxford



**Javier Hernandez-Andres**  
Universidad de Granada



**Rigmor C. Baraas**  
University of South-Eastern Norway

# About the Color Technical Group

**Our technical group focuses on all aspects related to the physics, physiology, and psychology of color in biological and machine vision.**

**Our mission is to connect the 900+ members of our community through technical events, webinars, networking events, and social media.**

## **Our past activities have included:**

- Special webinar on display calibration
- Vision science in times of social distancing bi-weekly coffee breaks
- Incubator meetings

# Connect with the Color Technical Group

**Join our online community to stay up to date on our group's activities. You also can share your ideas for technical group events or let us know if you're interested in presenting your research.**

## **Ways to connect with us:**

- Our website at [www.optica.org/VC](http://www.optica.org/VC)
- On Twitter at [#OSAColorTG](https://twitter.com/OSAColorTG)
- On LinkedIn at [www.linkedin.com/groups/13573604](http://www.linkedin.com/groups/13573604)
- Email us at [TGactivities@optica.org](mailto:TGactivities@optica.org)

# Upcoming Webinar

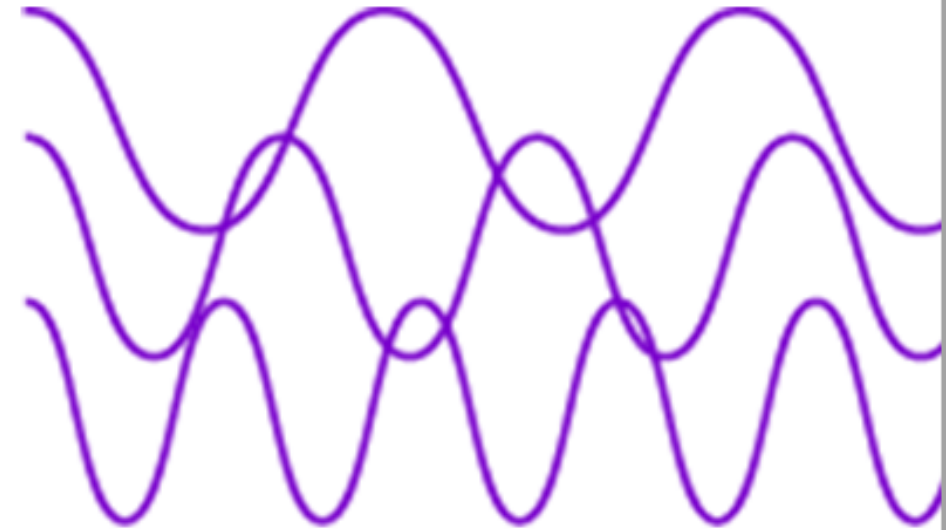
**OPTICA**  
Advancing Optics and Photonics Worldwide

Color  
—

**WEBINAR**

## **Sky Optics: Colors and Spectra of Clear Daytime and Twilight Skies**

13 January 2022 | 14:00 – 15:00 EST (UTC-05:00)



# Vision Technical Group Executive Committee



Chair  
**Vyas Akondi**  
Stanford University



Executive  
Committee Member  
**Alberto de Castro**  
Instituto de Optica,  
CSIC



Executive  
Committee Member  
**Len Zheleznyak**  
Clerio Vision, Inc.



Chair-Elect  
**Christina Schwarz**  
University of  
Tübingen

# About the Vision Technical Group

**Our technical group focuses on optics of the eye and of ophthalmic lenses and devices; physiological optics; and mechanisms of transduction, transmission, coding, detection and analysis of visual information.**

**Our mission is to connect the 1000+ members of our community through technical events, webinars, networking events, and social media.**

## **Our past activities have included:**

- Virtual Vision Science Seminar
- Vision and Color Data Blast Series
- Workshop on Chromatic Aberrations in Vision

# Connect with the Vision Technical Group

**Join our online community to stay up to date on our group's activities. You also can share your ideas for technical group events or let us know if you're interested in presenting your research.**

## **Ways to connect with us:**

- Our website at [www.optica.org/VV](http://www.optica.org/VV)
- Email us at [TGactivities@optica.org](mailto:TGactivities@optica.org)

## **Upcoming Webinar: Grant Writing for Vision Scientists**

- January 26, 2022 12:00-13:00 EST
- Speakers: David Williams and Pablo Artal



# Today's Speakers



**Katrin Franke**  
*Tübingen University*



**William Tuten**  
*University of California, Berkeley*

# Behavioral state tunes mouse (color) vision to ethological features through pupil dilation

Katrin Franke

Bernstein Center for Computational Neuroscience Tübingen  
Institute for Ophthalmic Research  
Center for Integrative Neuroscience

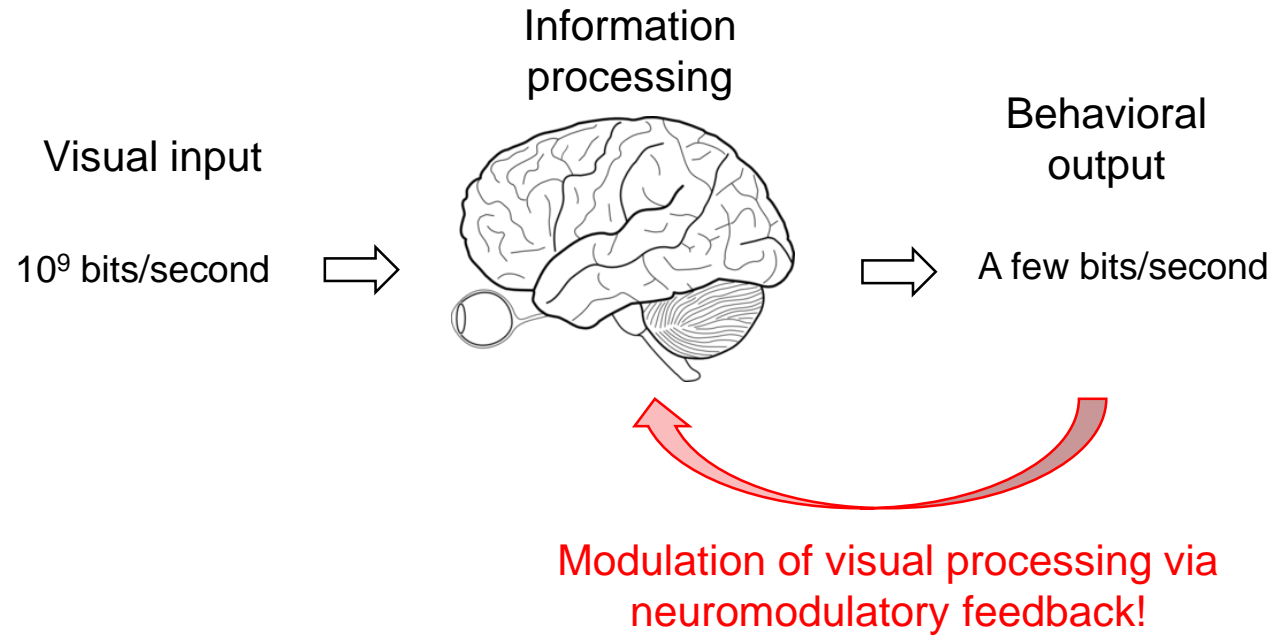
Optica Joint Colour & Vision Technical Groups Webinar



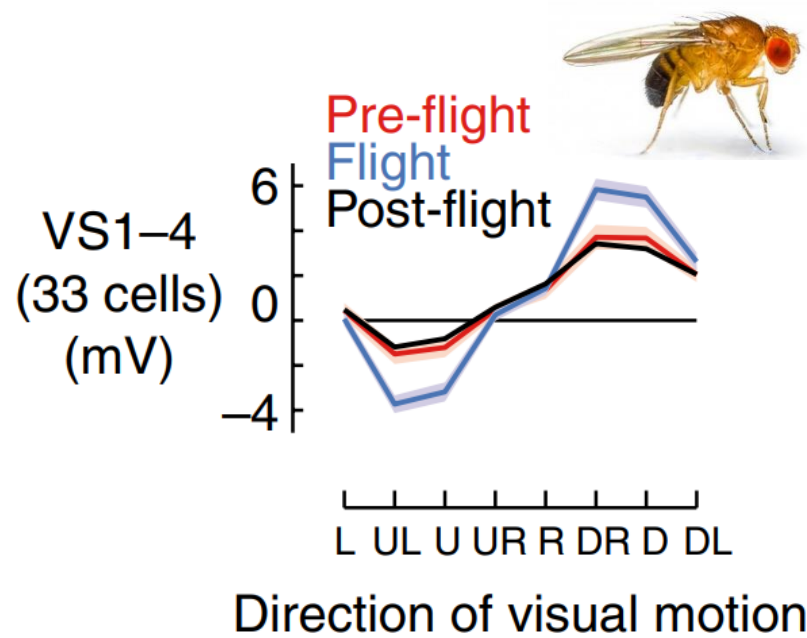
@kfrankelab



# Visual information processing is modulated by behavioral state



# Visual information processing is modulated by behavior & brain state



Maimon et al. 2010 Nat Neuro



Niell & Stryker 2010 Neuron  
Erisken et al. 2014 Curr Biol



Treue & Maunsell 1996 Nature  
McAdams & Maunsell 1996 J Neurosci

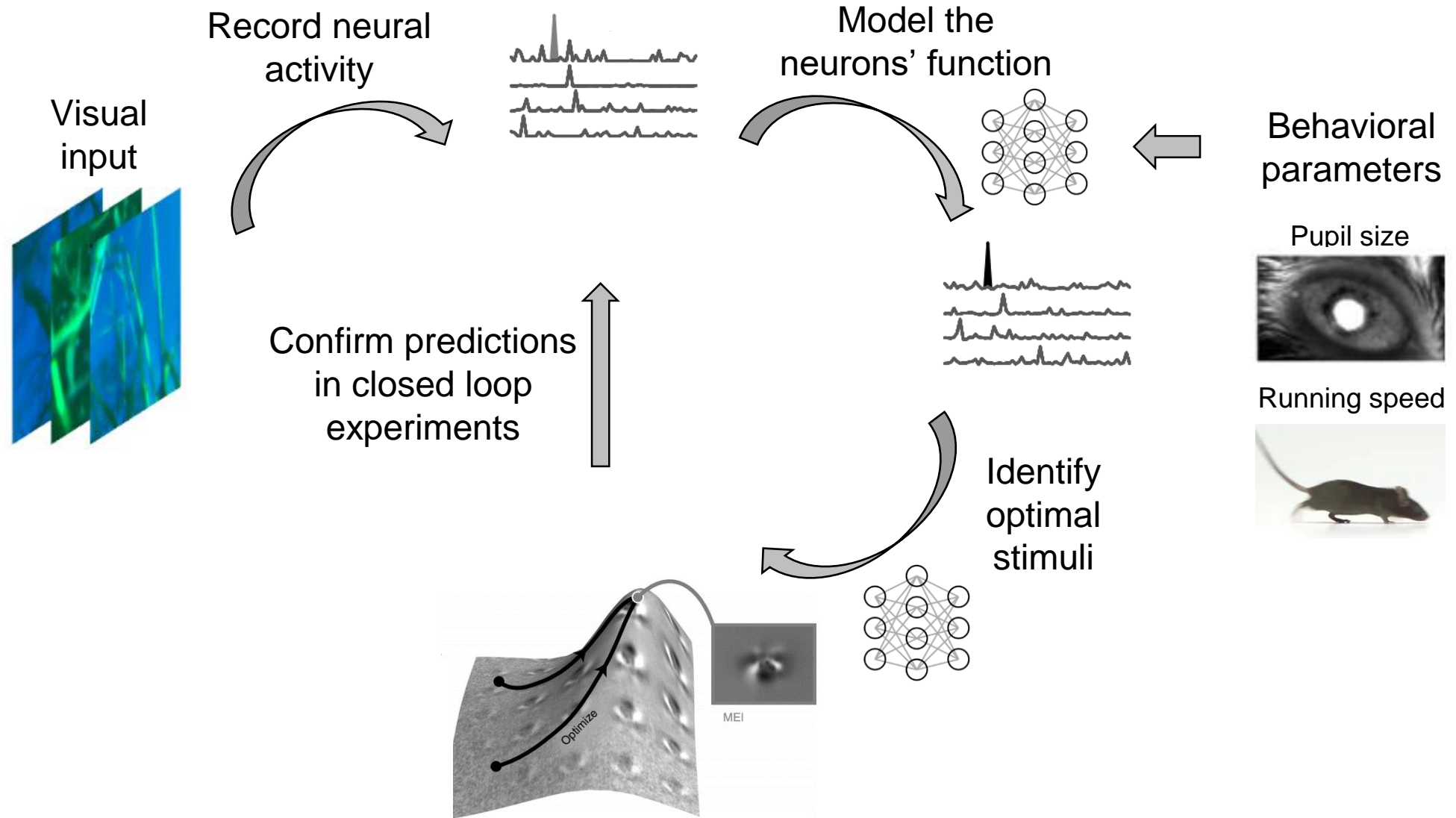
→ Enhancement of visual responses and signal to noise ratio in an active behavioral/brain state

→ Stimulus selectivity remains largely unchanged

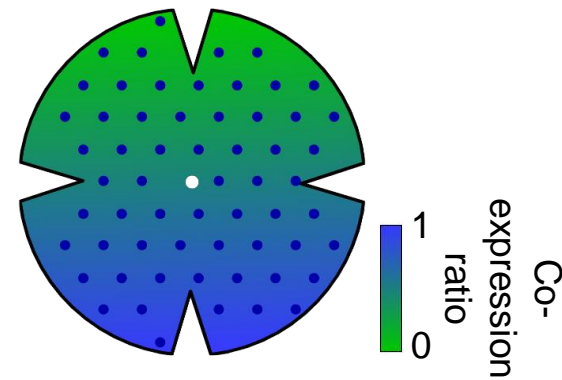
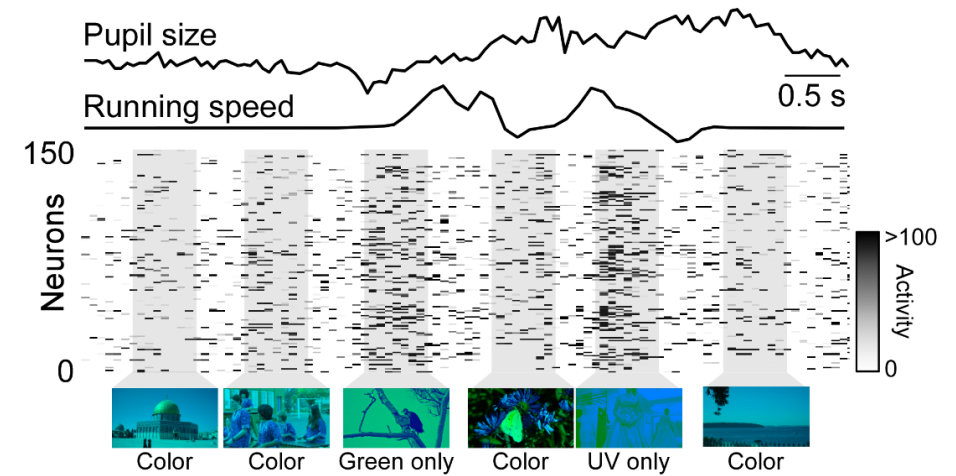
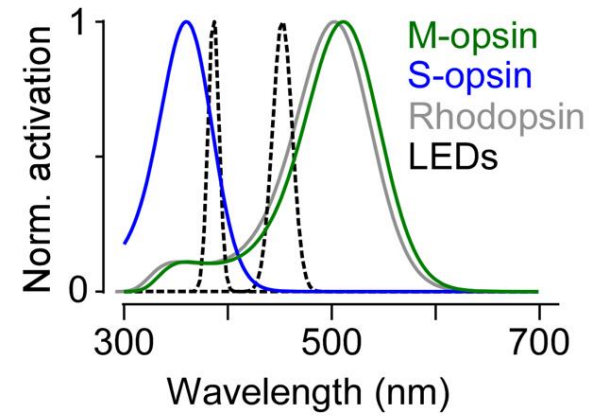
**But:** Simple stimuli, few visual features tested and quantifying relationship between function and behavior challenging

→ How does behavioral state modulate stimulus selectivity in the context of colored naturalistic scenes?

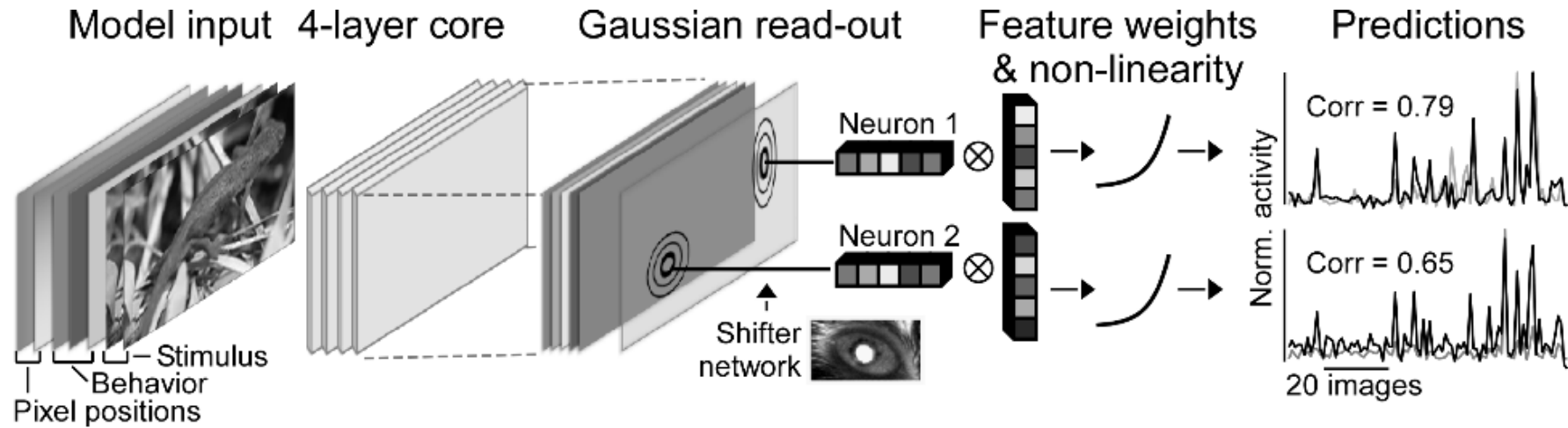
# Studying visual processing of colored natural scenes in the context of behavior



# Recording visual responses to colored natural scenes in mouse visual cortex



# Model architecture



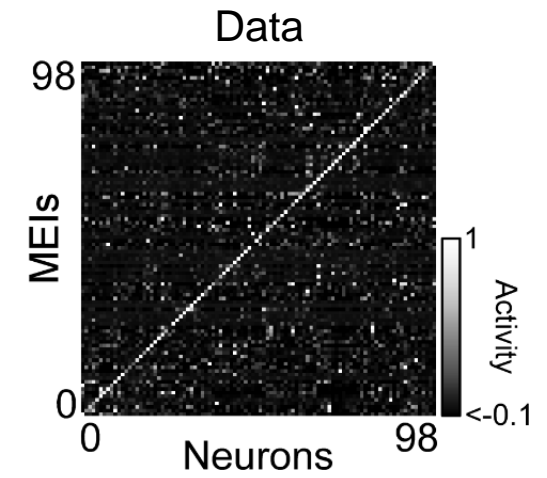
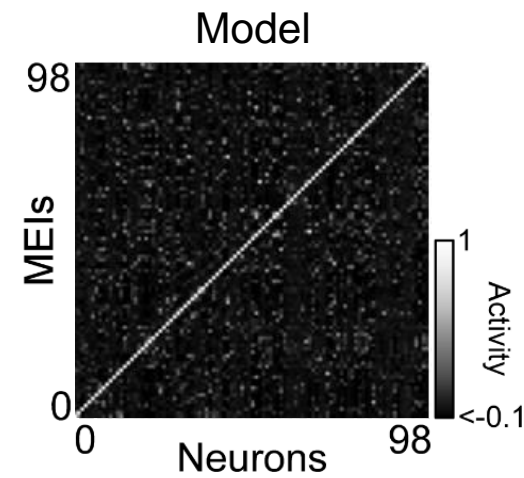
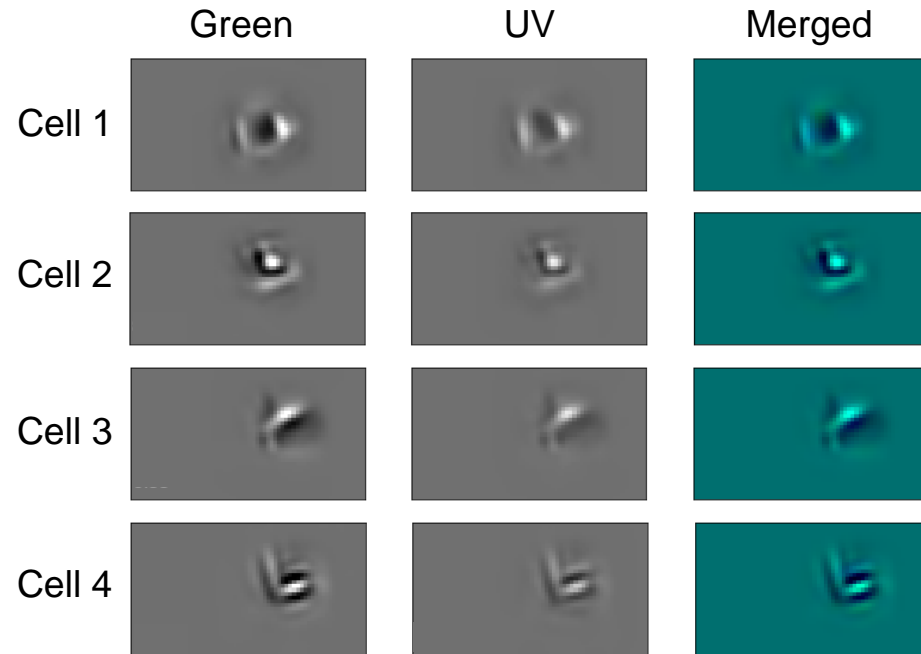
## Behavior channels:

- Pupil size
- Change in pupil size
- Running speed

→ Predict neural responses as a function of both visual input and behavior

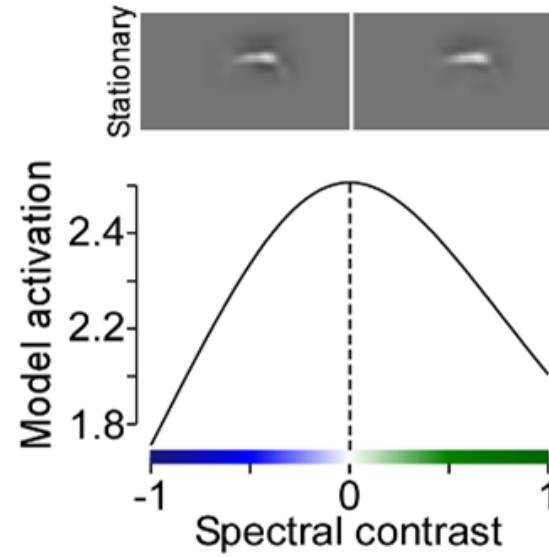
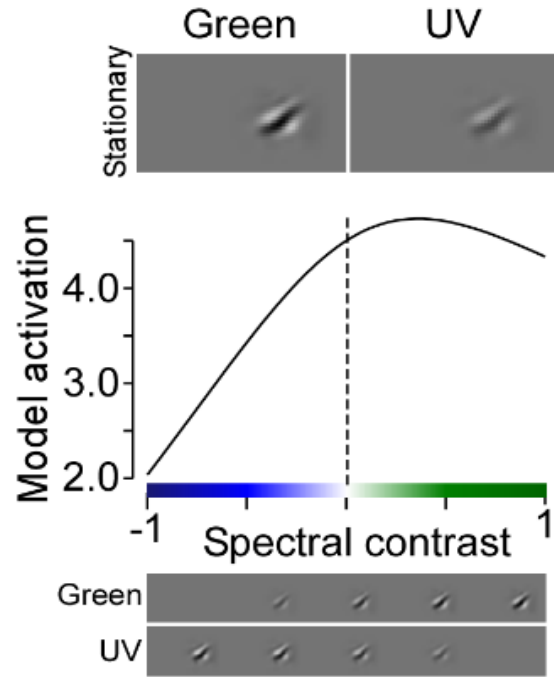
# Most exciting images and closed loop confirmation

Modeling framework allows to systematically investigate chromatic processing and test predictions experimentally

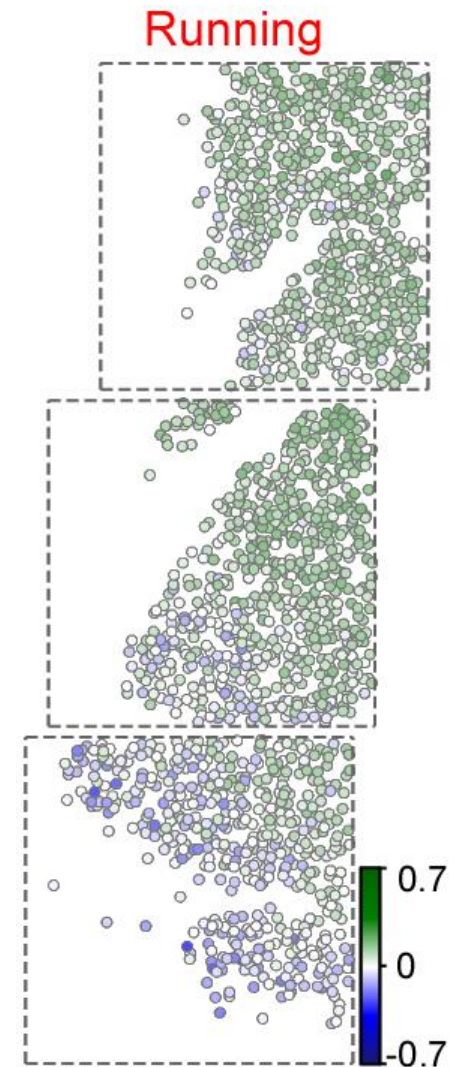
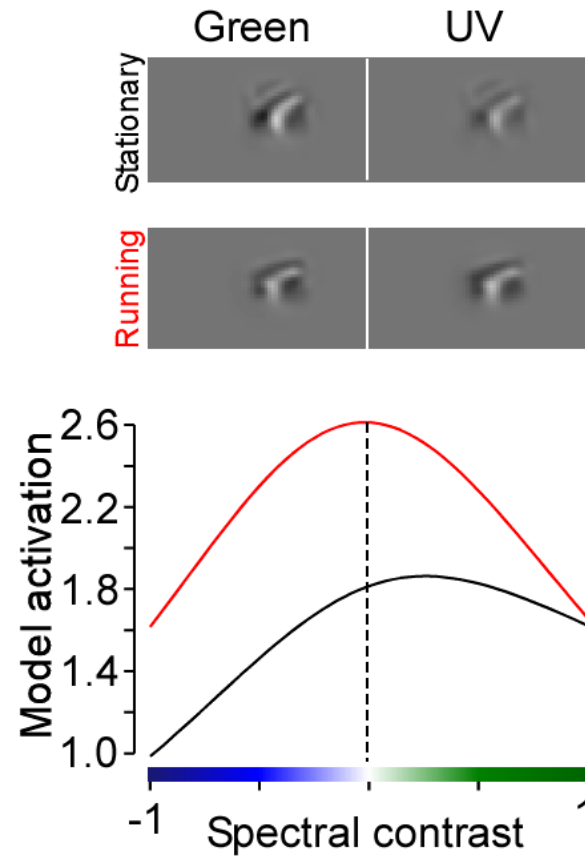
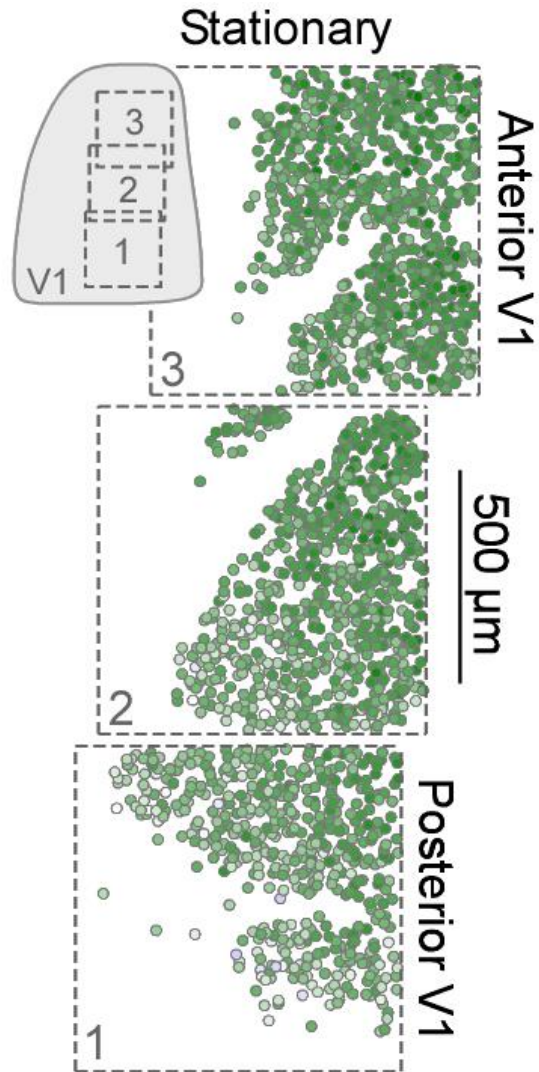




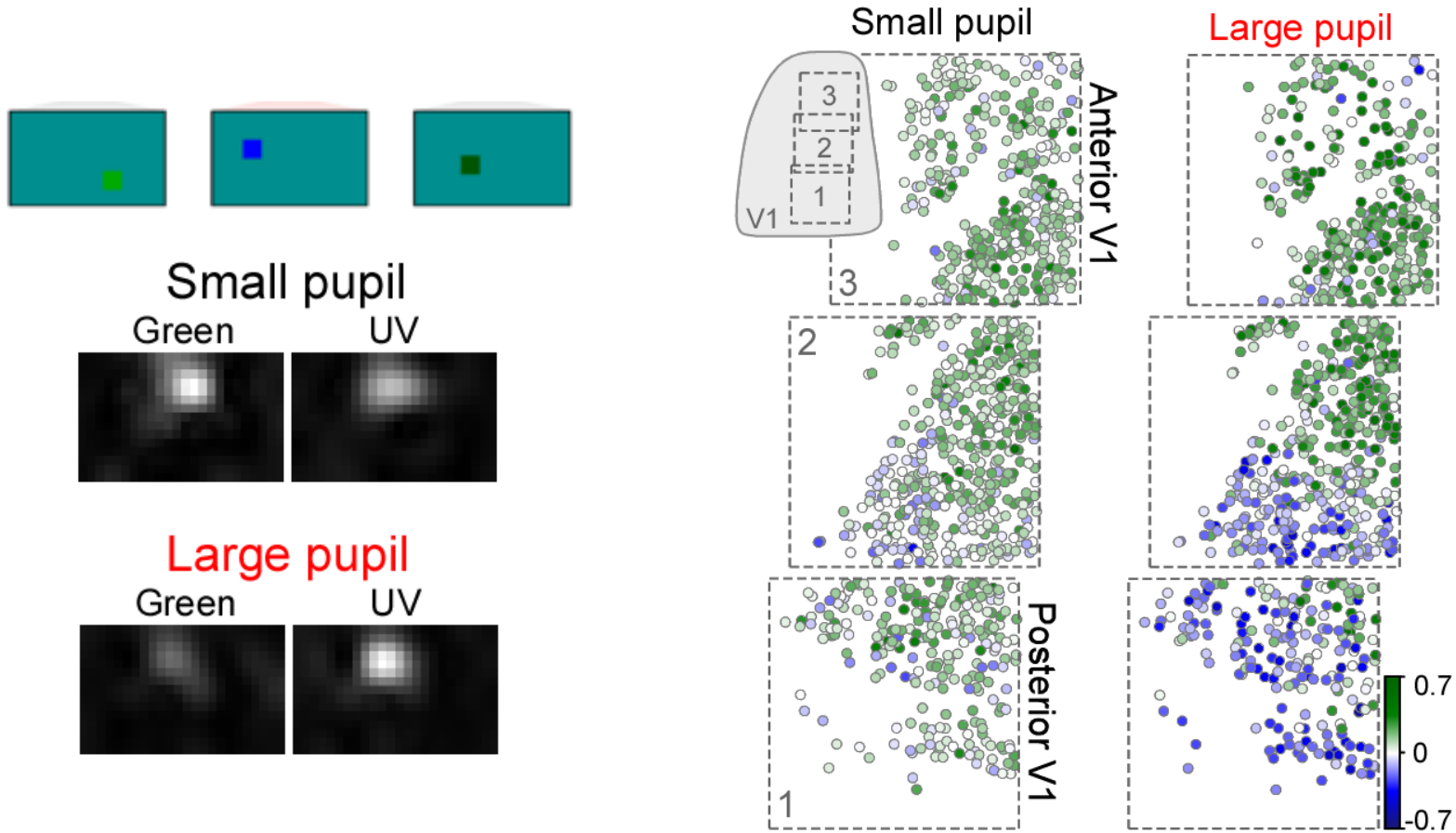
# Generating in silico color tuning curves



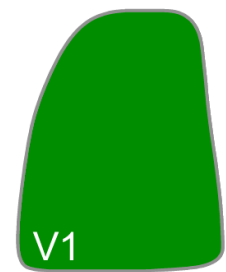
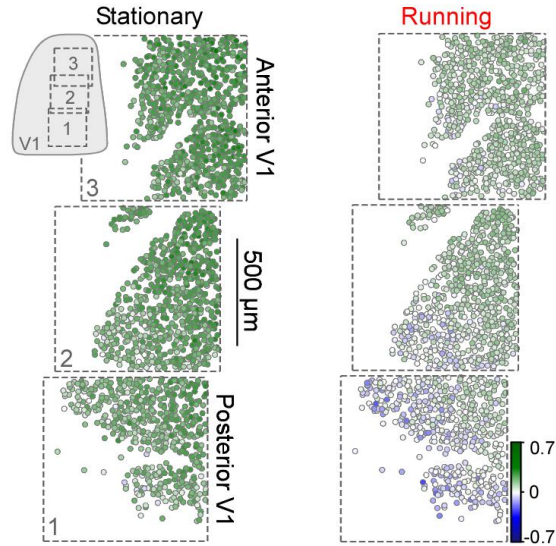
# Color preference across mouse primary visual cortex



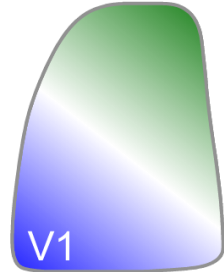
# Confirmation of behavioral modulation using a colored dotmap



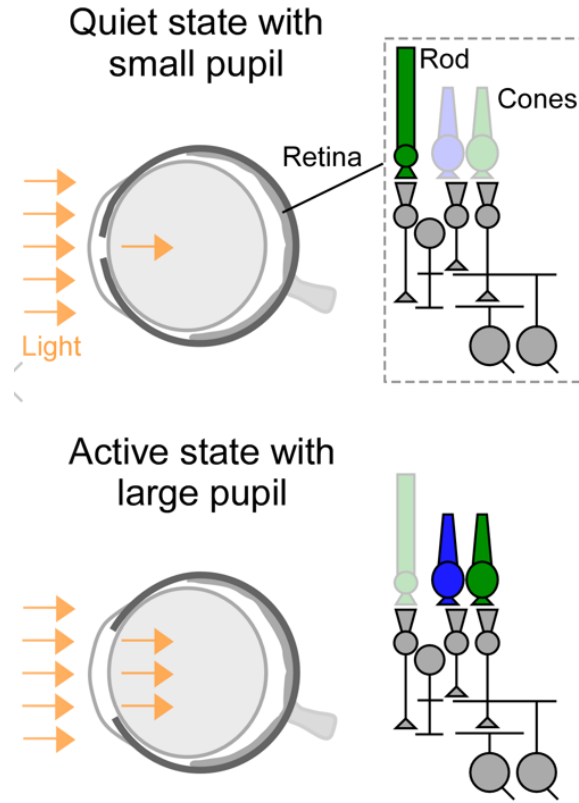
# Mechanism underlying behavioral shift in stimulus selectivity – pupil size?



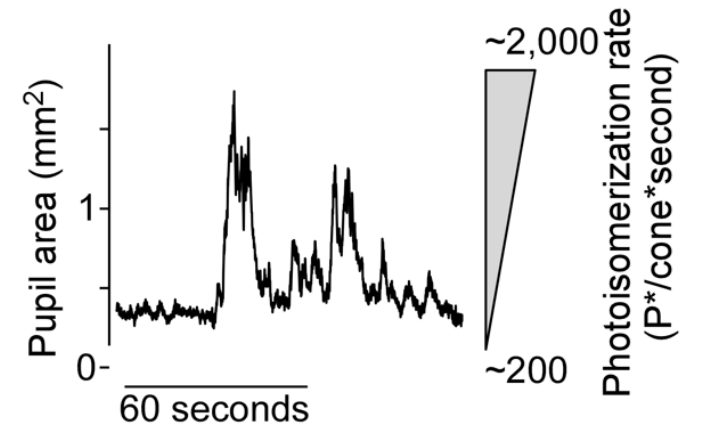
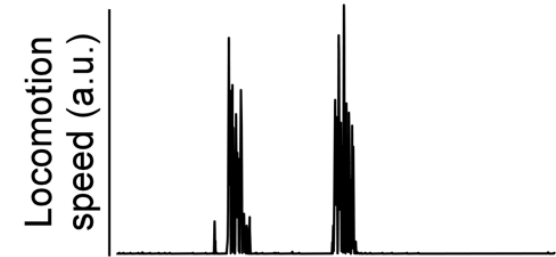
→ Rod-driven responses?



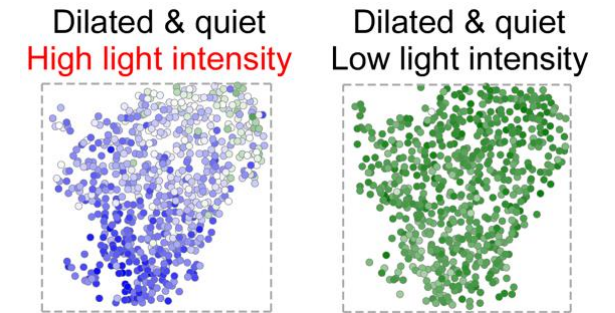
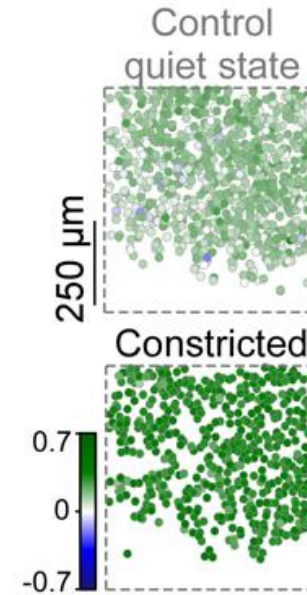
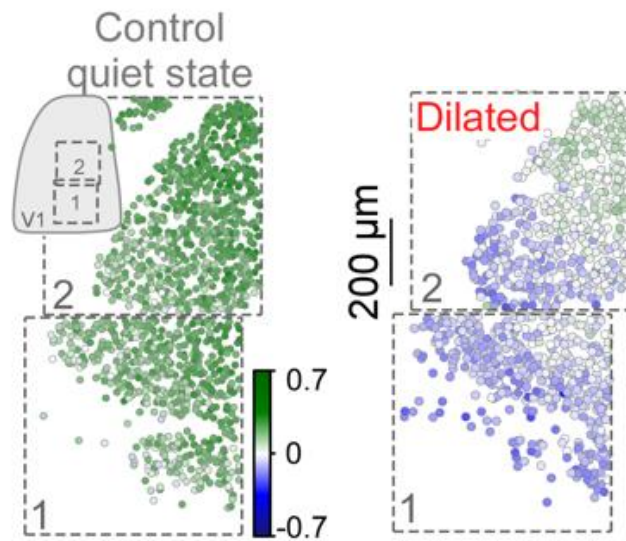
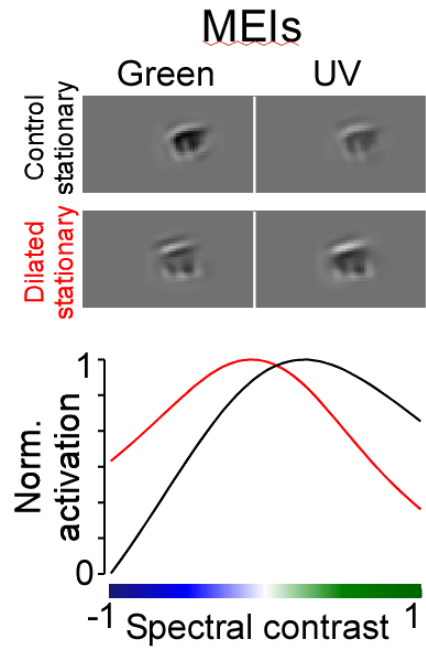
→ Cone-driven responses?



See also Rhim et al. 2021 Scientific Reports



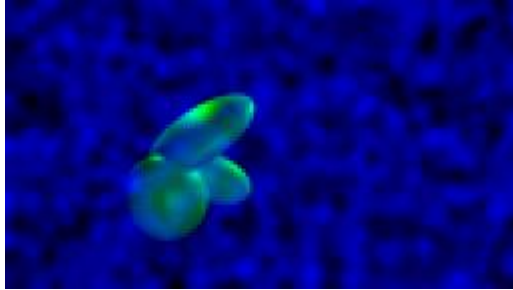
# Mechanism underlying behavioral shift – changes in pupil size?



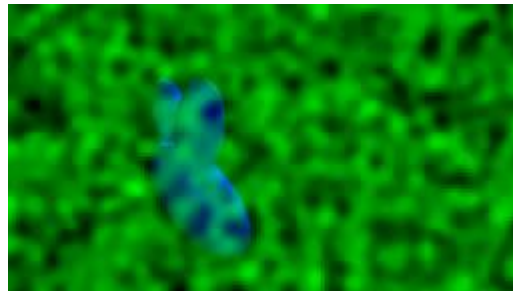
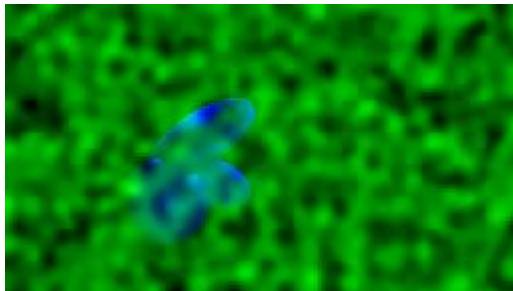
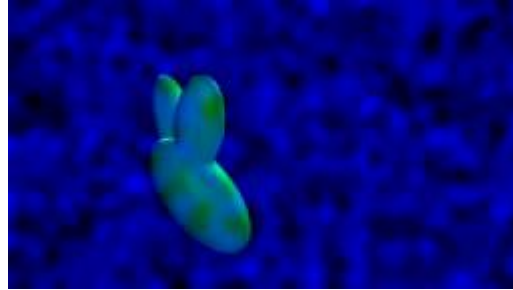


# Decoding of colored objects

Object 1

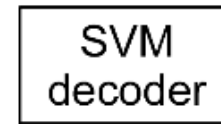
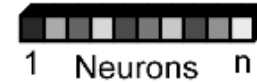


Object 2



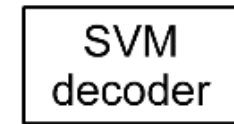
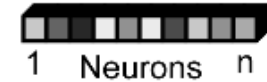
Hypothesis: Improved decoding for UV objects during running compared to stationary

Responses  
Green | UV objects  
Stationary trials



Decoding of stimulus class

Responses  
Green | UV objects  
Running trials



Decoding of stimulus class

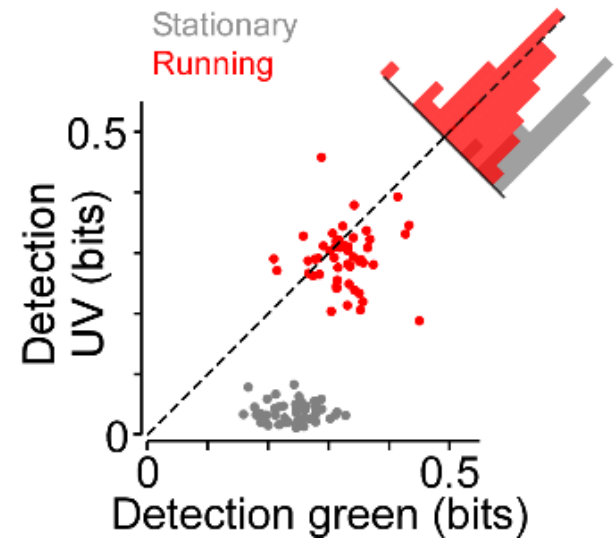
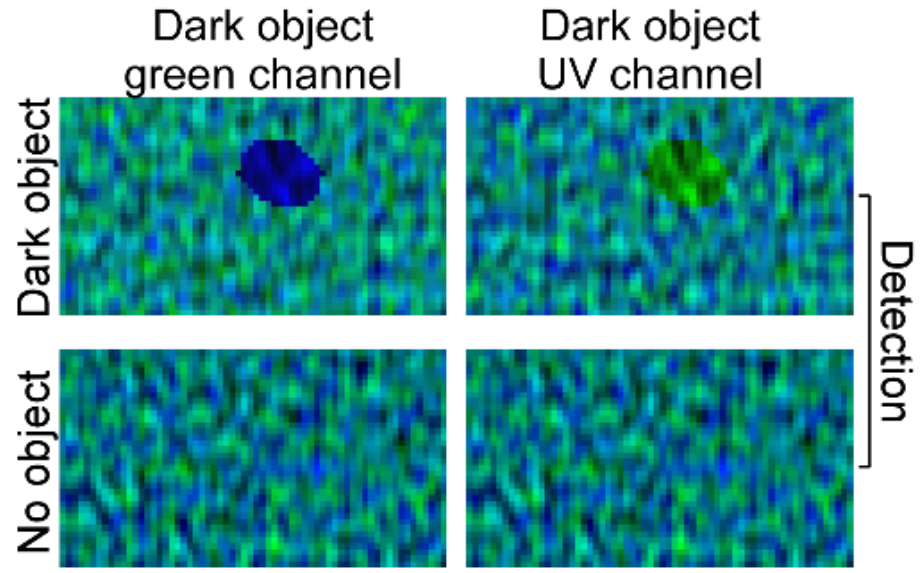
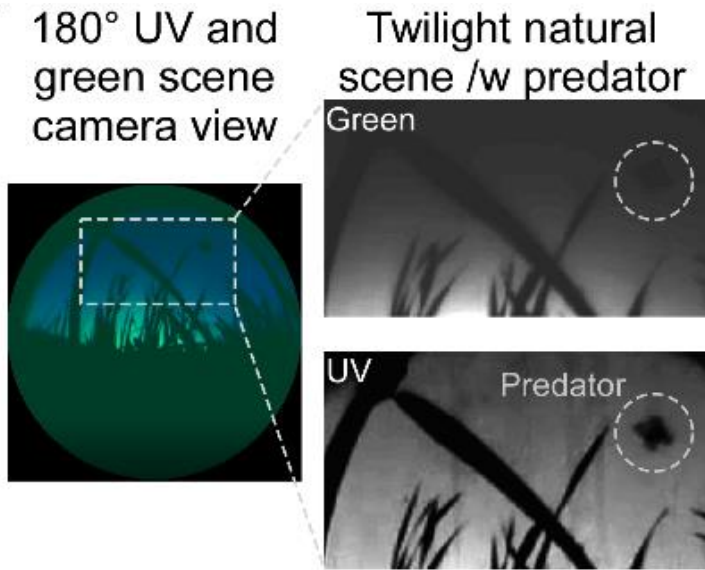
# Functional & behavioral relevance of shift in color preference?



Qiu, Zhao, Klindt, Kautzky, Szatko, Schaeffel, Rifai, Franke, Busse, Euler. *Mouse retinal specializations reflect knowledge of natural environment statistics*. Current Biology 2021

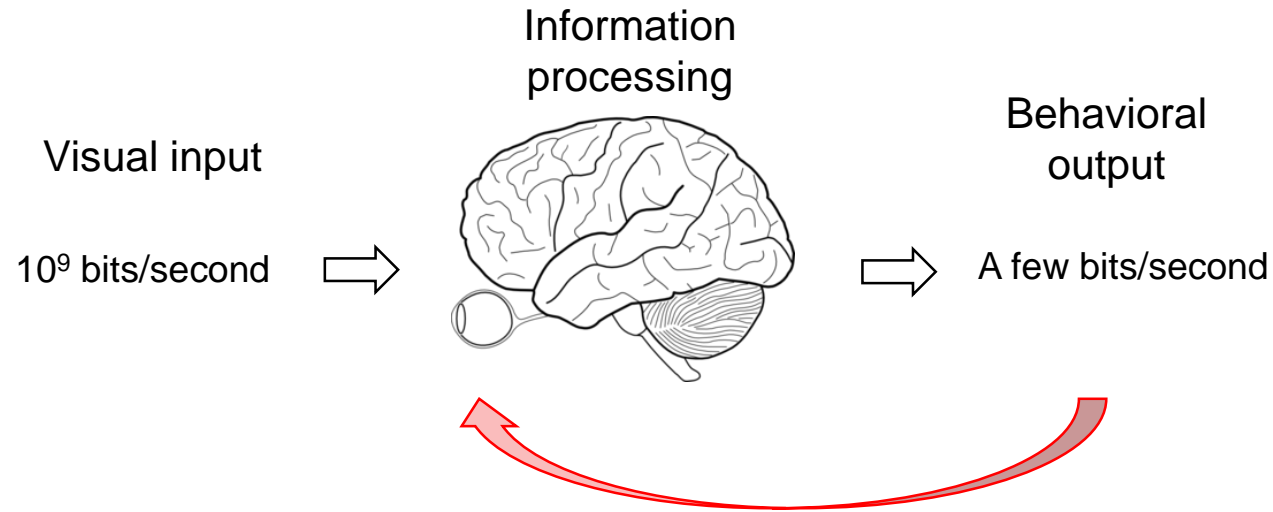
→ Higher UV sensitivity during arousal might facilitate the detection of aerial predators during dusk and dawn

# Functional & behavioral relevance of shift in color preference?





# Visual processing is modulated by behavior & brain state through pupil dilation



State-dependent modulation of pupil size changes photoreceptor recruitment, thereby dynamically tuning visual representations on short timescales

# Acknowledgments



Konstantin  
Willek



Fabian Sinz



Andreas  
Tolias



Manolis  
Froudarakis



Jake Reimer



Mario  
Galdamez



Taliah  
Muhammad



Kayla Ponder



Saumil Patel



# Cone spectral topography and vision at the cellular scale

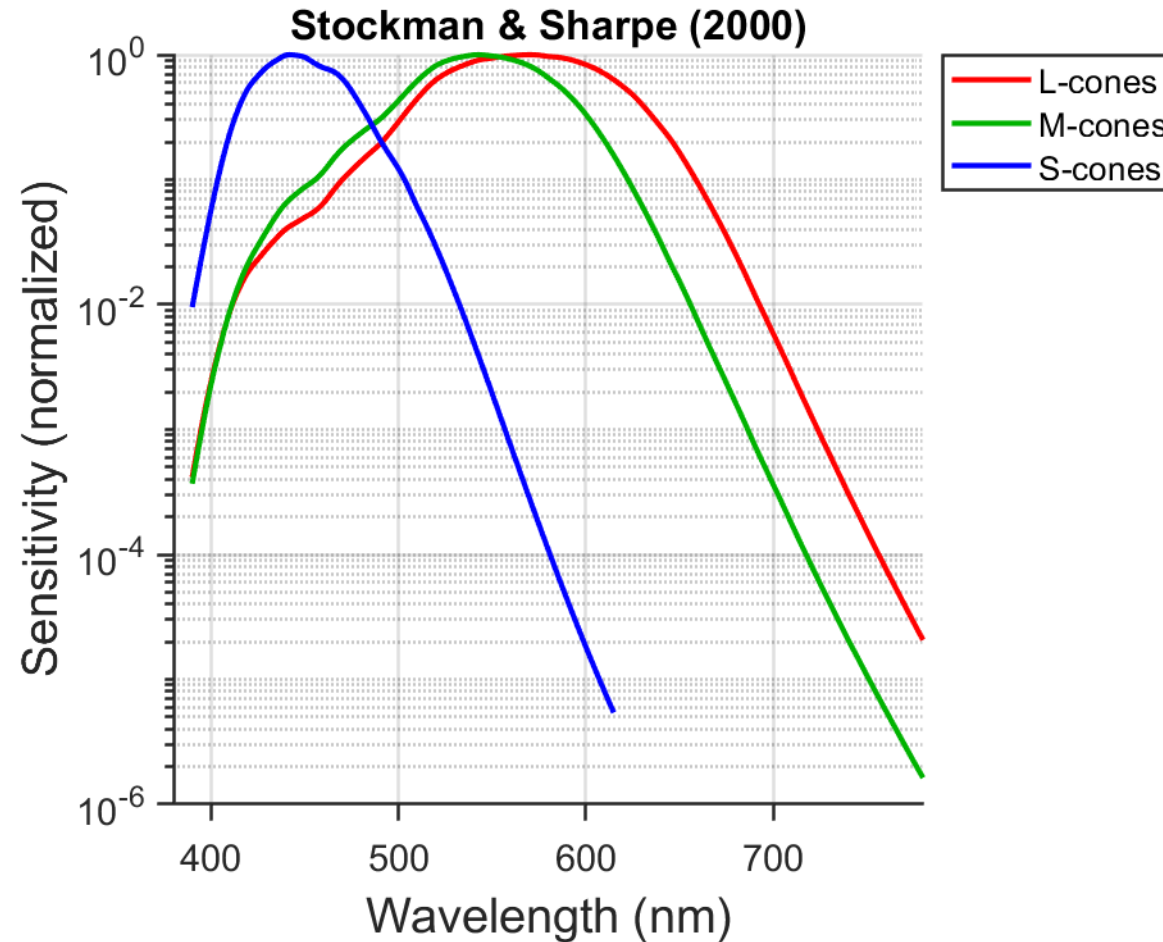
William Tuten, OD PhD

Herbert Wertheim School of Optometry & Vision Science

University of California, Berkeley, USA

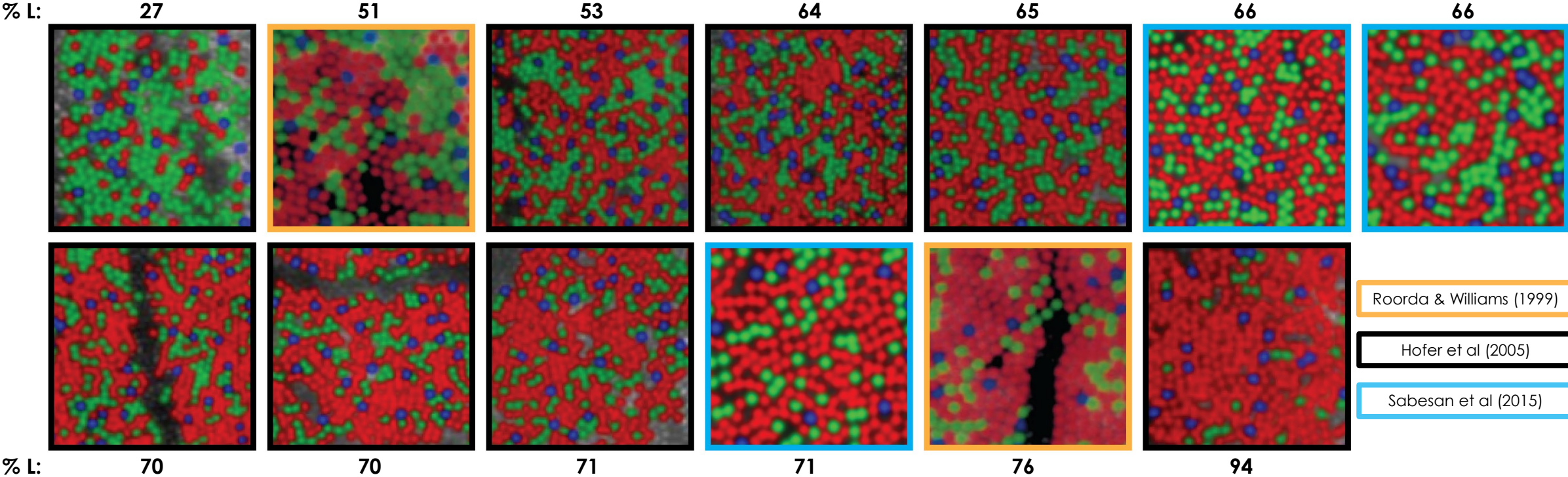
[wtuten@berkeley.edu](mailto:wtuten@berkeley.edu)

# Human color vision is trichromatic





The spectral topography of cones is nonuniform and the relative number of L and M cones varies substantially between individuals



How does vision depend on the spectral topography of the cone mosaic?

Answering this question definitively requires:

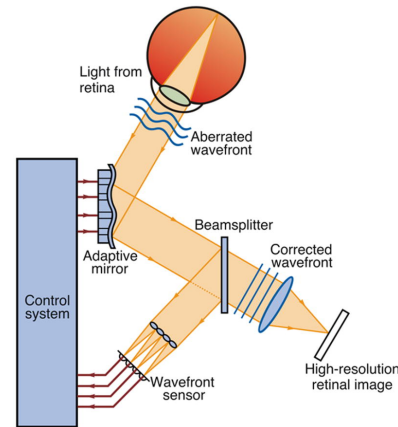
1. Knowledge of how the L, M, and S cones are arranged in the receptor lattice
2. Control over how those cones sample the retinal image



# Retinal stimulation with adaptive optics scanning laser ophthalmoscopy (AOSLO)

## Key features

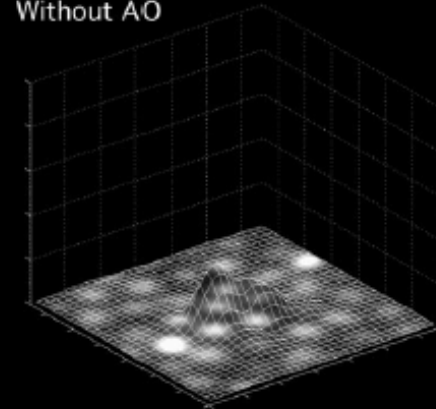
- Adaptive optics (AO):
  - measurement and correction of ocular aberrations
    - including chromatic aberrations
  - improved retinal image quality



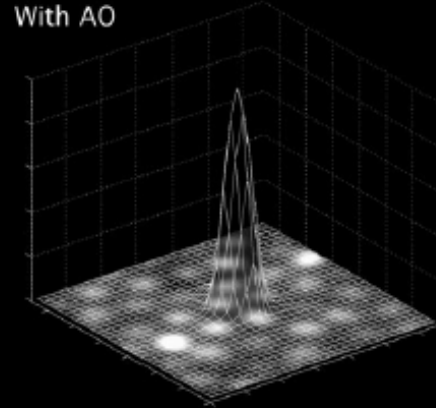
Godara et al. (2010)

## Point spread functions

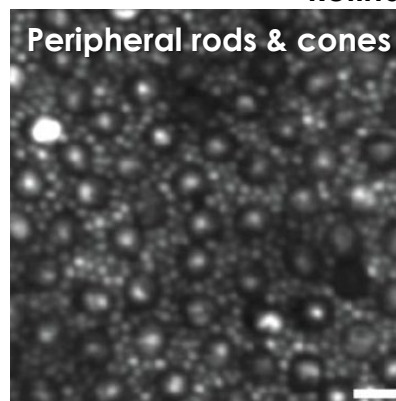
Without AO



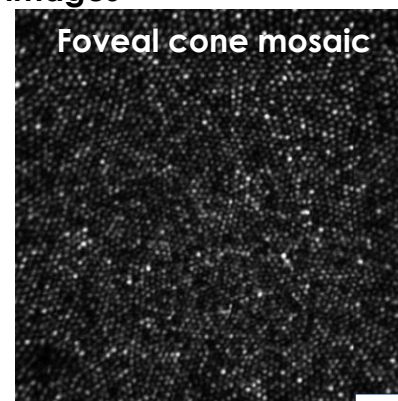
With AO



## Retinal images



Dubra & Sulai (2011)



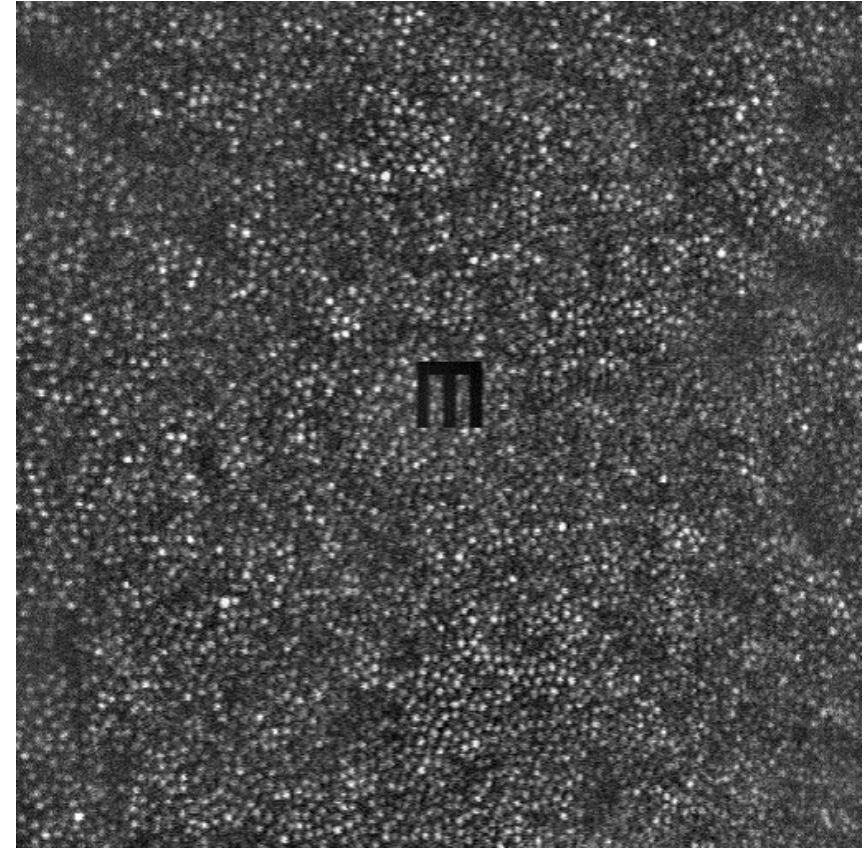
Dubra et al. (2011)

Makous et al. (2006)

# Retinal stimulation with adaptive optics scanning laser ophthalmoscopy (AOSLO)

## Key features

- Adaptive optics (AO):
  - measurement and correction of ocular aberrations
    - including chromatic aberrations
  - improved retinal image quality
- SLO imaging:
  - video-rate (30 Hz) imaging (**840** nm)
  - real-time eye tracking
  - dynamic, multi- $\lambda$  (**543** & **680** nm) stimulus delivery via high-speed laser modulation



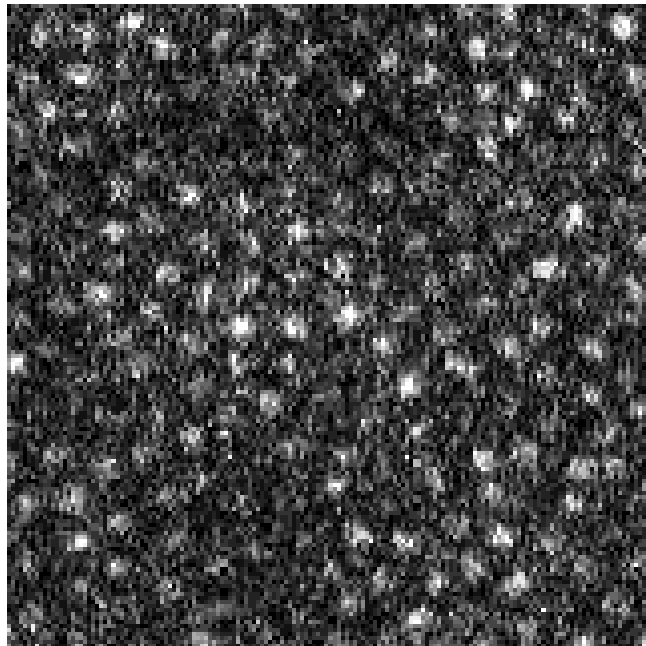
Roorda et al. (2002)  
Poonja et al. (2006)  
Grieve et al. (2006)

Arathorn et al. (2007)  
Tuten et al. (2012)  
Harmening et al. (2012)

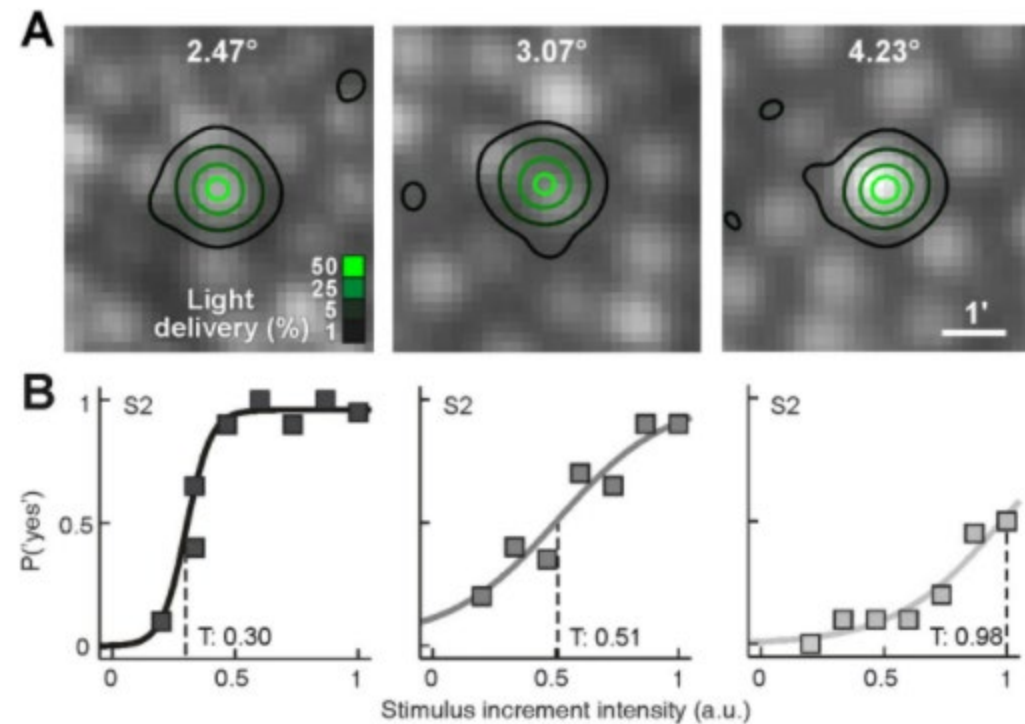


# Single-cone psychophysics

Single-cone stimulation ( $\lambda = 543 \text{ nm}$ )



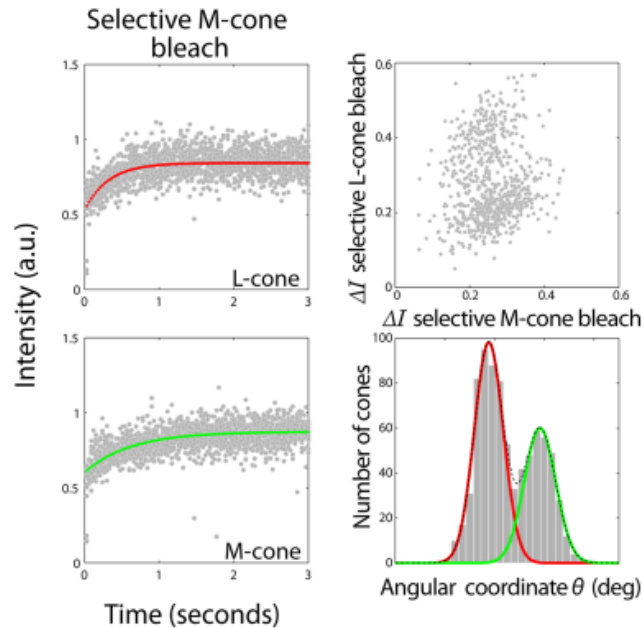
Retinal light spread & psychometric functions



# Spectral classification of human cones: two approaches

## AO densitometry:

Dynamic photoreceptor **intensity changes** during reflectance imaging are indicative of cone type



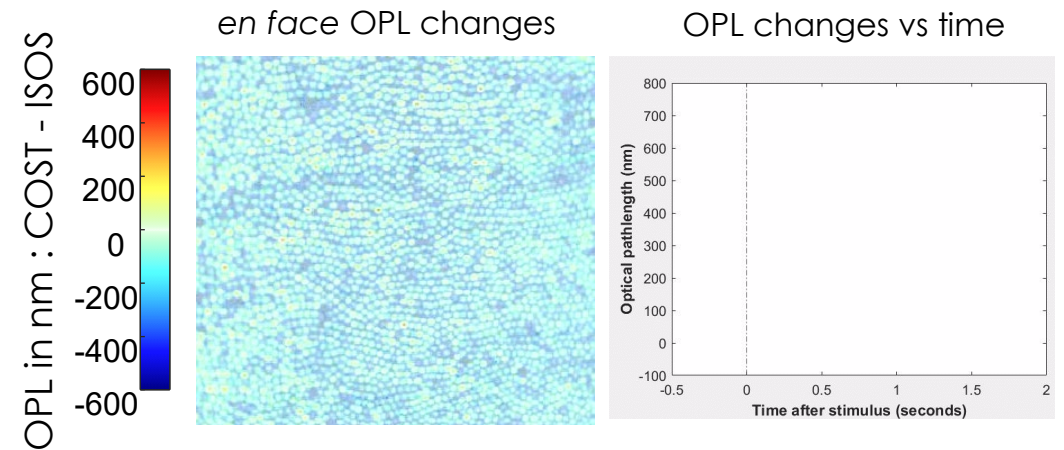
**Sabesan et al. (2015)**

Hofer et al. (2005)

Roorda & Williams (1999)

## AO optoretinography:

Stimulus-induced changes in outer segment **optical path length (OPL)** measured using AO-OCT delineate cone types

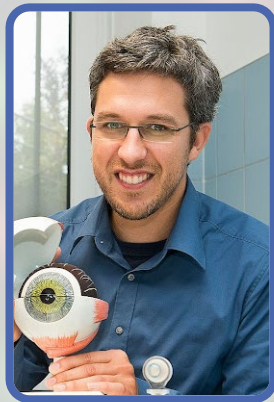


**Pandiyam et al. (2020)**

Zhang et al. (2019)

# How does vision depend on the spectral topography of the cone mosaic?

## 1. Detection



Wolf Harmening,  
PhD  
Univ. of Bonn



Ramkumar Sabesan,  
PhD  
Univ. of Washington



Austin Roorda,  
PhD  
UC Berkeley

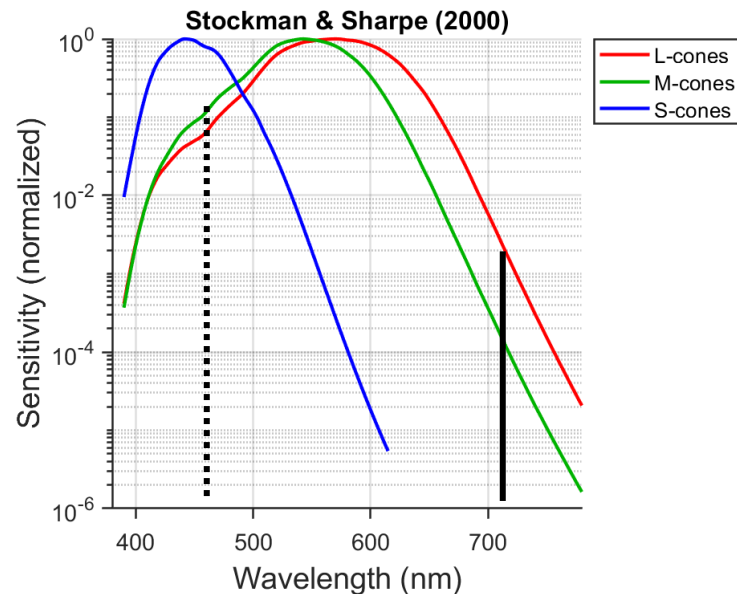
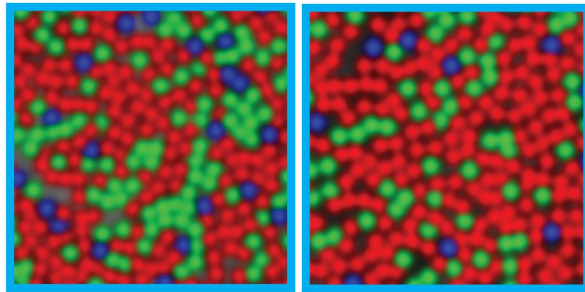


Lawrence Sincich,  
PhD  
UAB

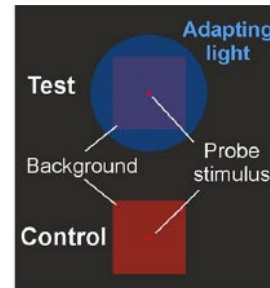
## 2. Color appearance

# Goal: psychophysical classification of single-cones

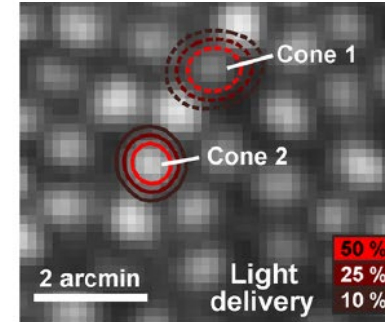
Densitometric classification (**ecc = 1.5°**)  
Sabesan et al (2015)



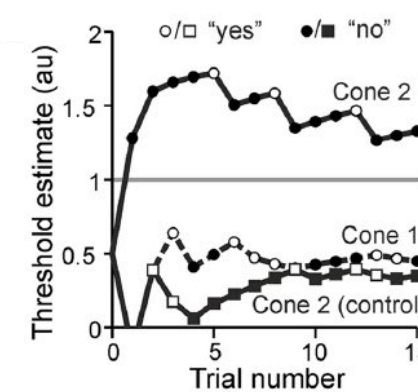
L-cone isolation  
(M-cones adapted)



Retinal light spread  
(0.45 arcmin flash)



QUEST staircases

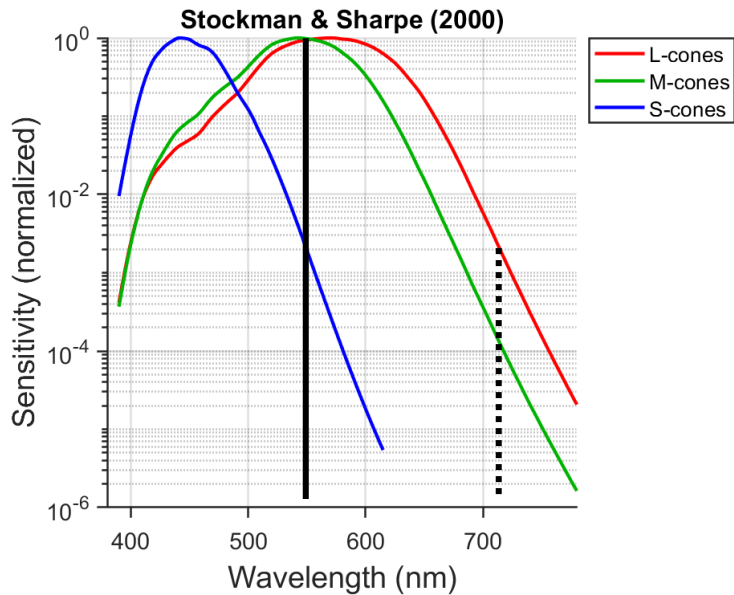
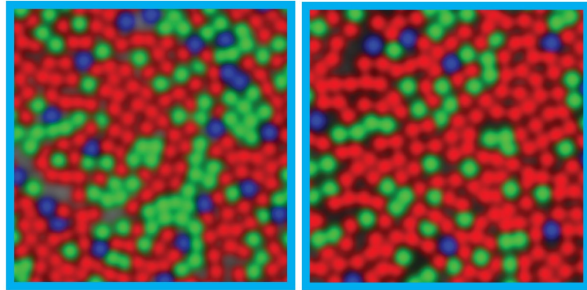


↑ Worse sensitivity  
↓ Better sensitivity

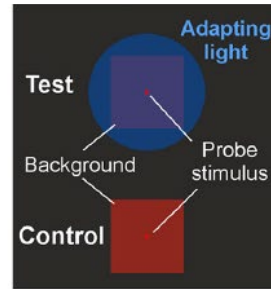


# Goal: psychophysical classification of single-cones

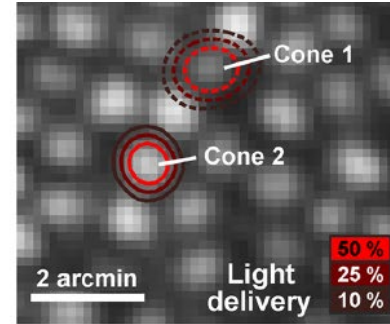
Densitometric classification ( **$\text{ecc} = 1.5^\circ$** )  
Sabesan et al (2015)



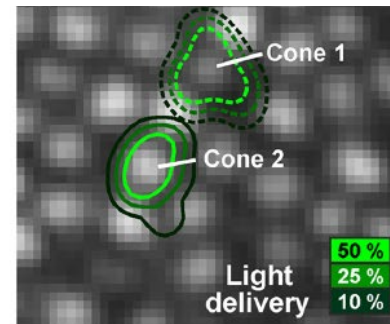
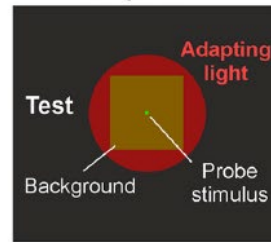
L-cone isolation  
(M-cones adapted)



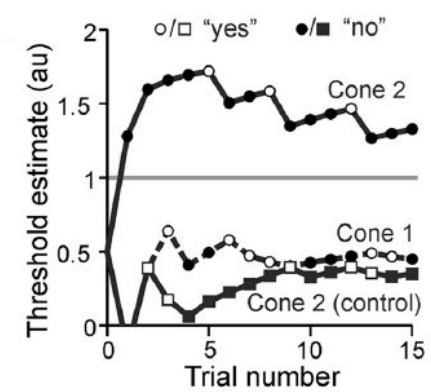
Retinal light spread  
(0.45 arcmin flash)



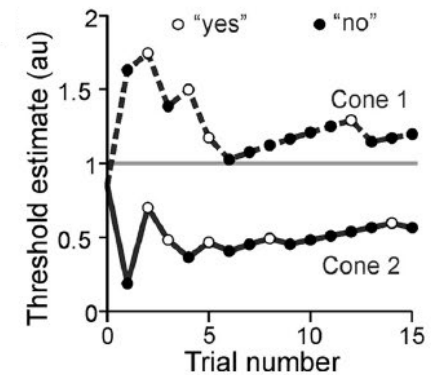
M-cone isolation  
(L-cones adapted)



QUEST staircases



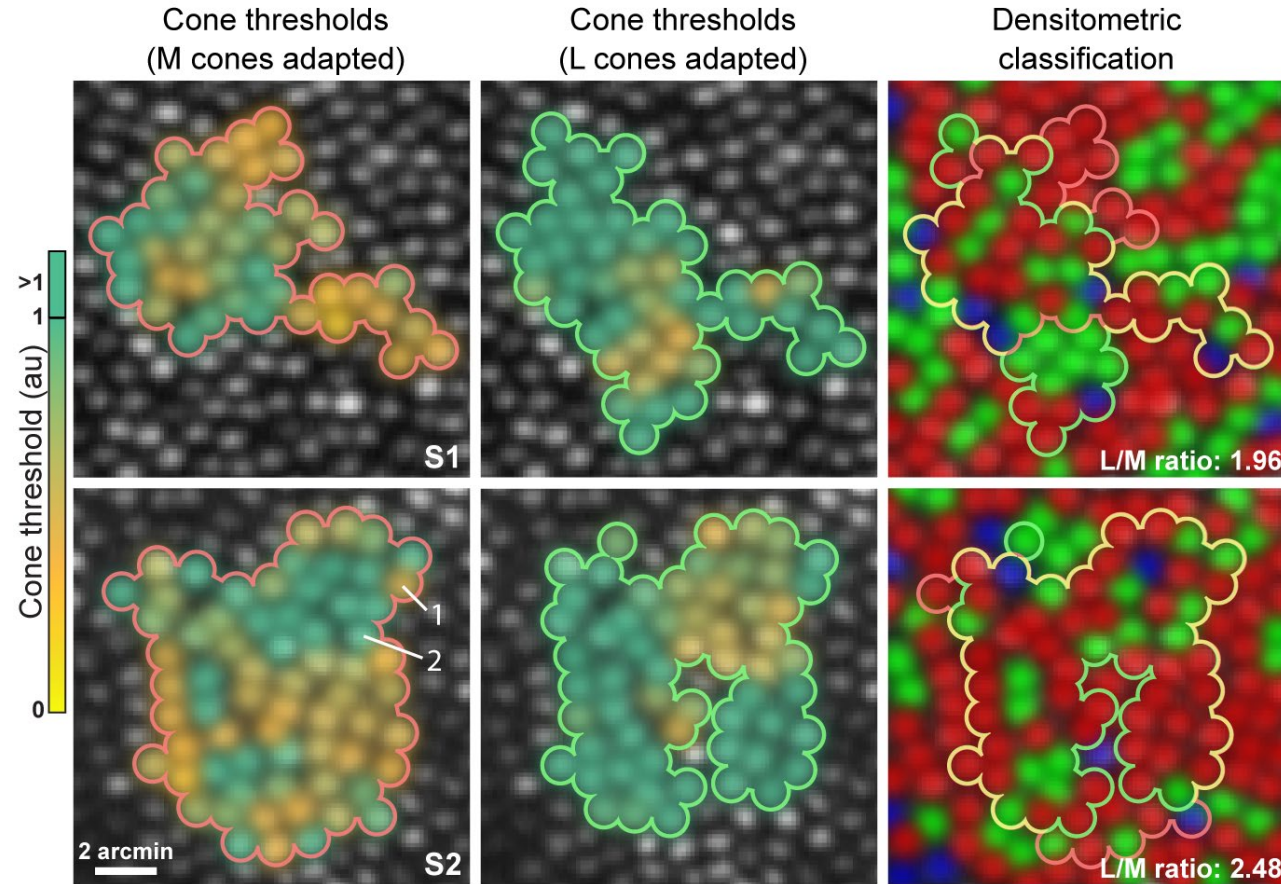
↑ Worse sensitivity  
↓ Better sensitivity



↑ Worse sensitivity  
↓ Better sensitivity

# Result: cone thresholds do not cluster into distinct groups

**77% agreement**  
between  
psychophysical  
and densitometric  
classifications.



Predicted thresholds

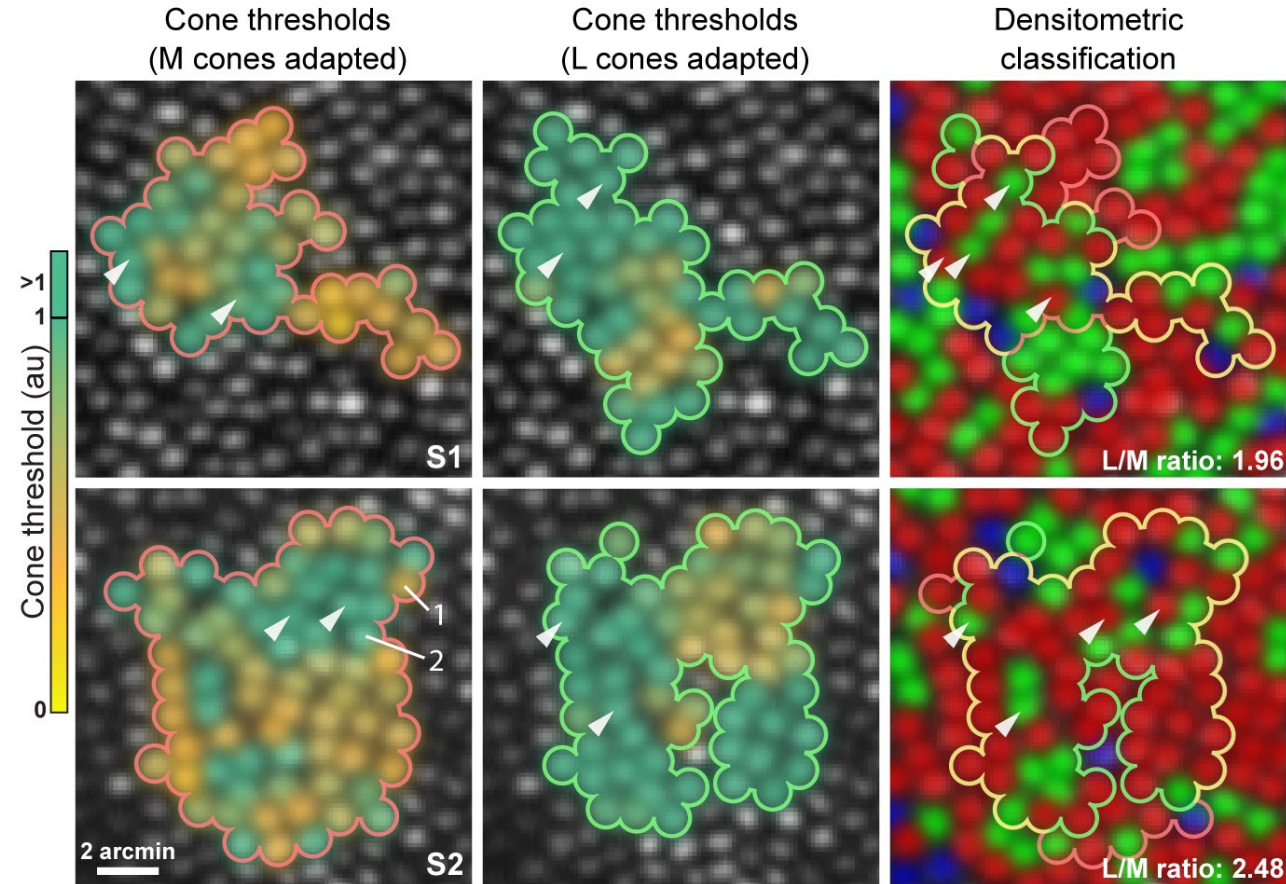
L cones:



M cones:



# Result: cones surrounded by receptors sensitive to the adapting wavelength exhibit high thresholds



Predicted thresholds

L cones:



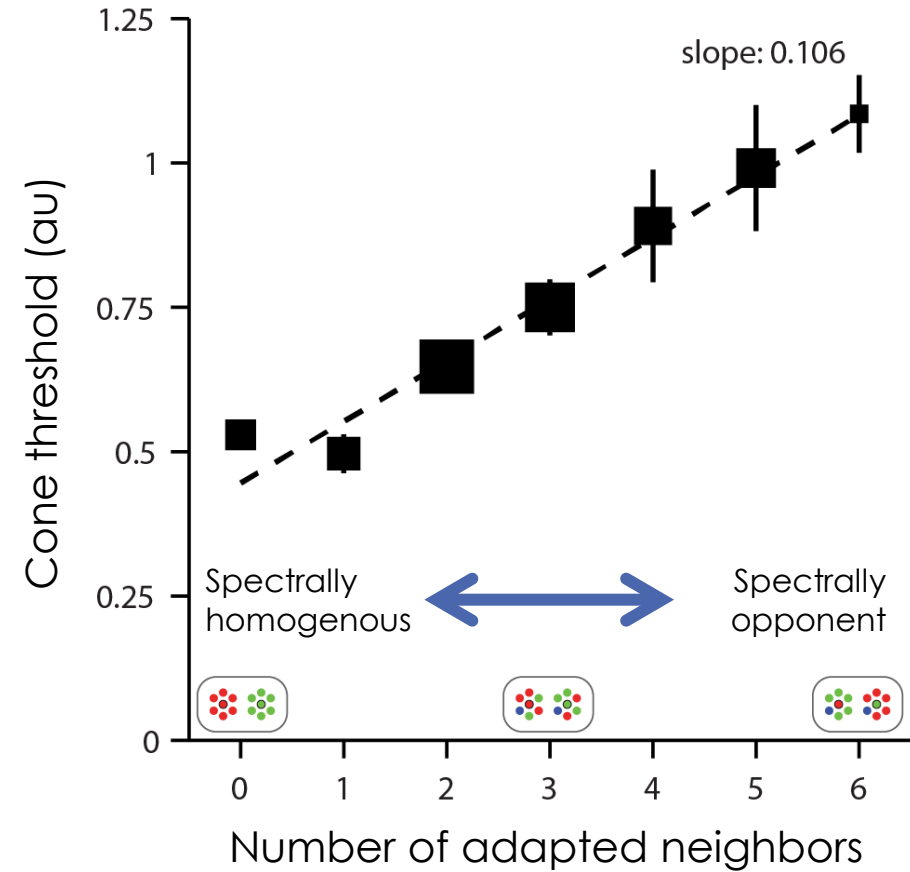
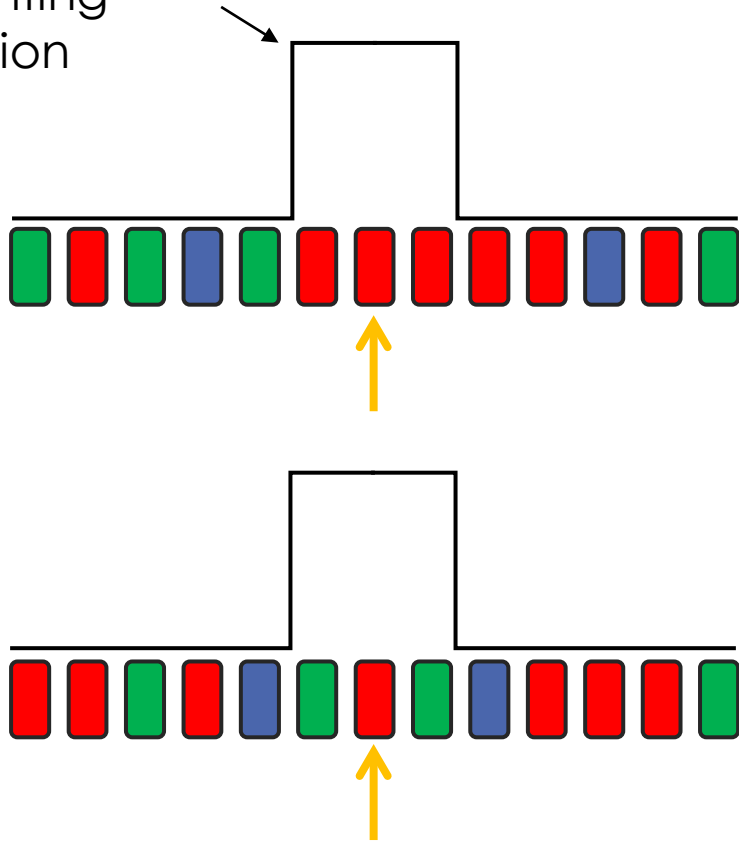
M cones:





# Cone thresholds correlate with local spectral demographics

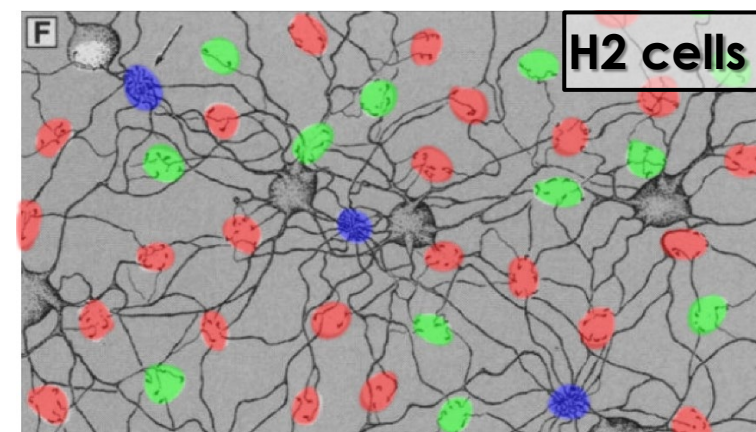
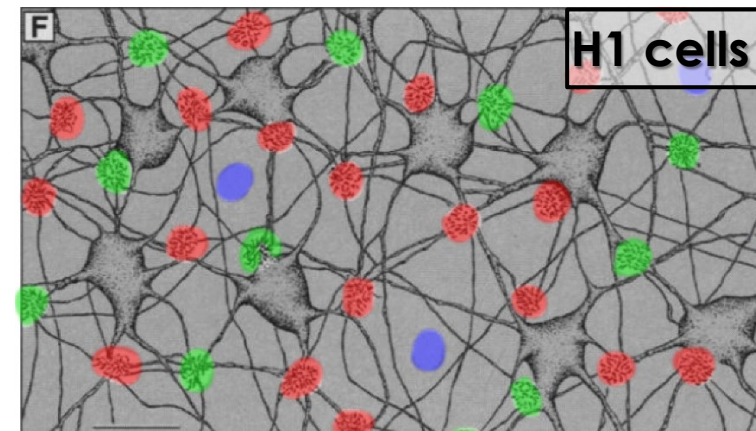
LM opponency  
weighting  
function





# Summary, Pt 1 – Detection

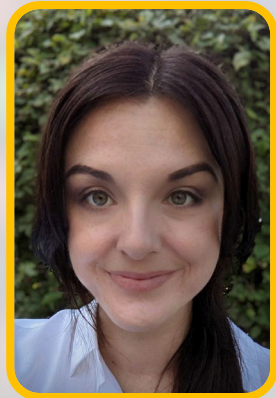
- Measured against chromatic adapting fields, single-cone thresholds depend on both the photopigment of the targeted cone and the spectral makeup of the immediate neighborhood
- The spatial and spectral pattern of the lateral interactions resemble the anatomical dimensions and cone-type wiring patterns of H1 and H2 horizontal cells, suggesting a potential neural basis for the inhibitory effects we observed



*adapted from Dacey et al, 1996*

# How does vision depend on the spectral topography of the cone mosaic?

## 1. Detection



Ally  
Boehm, PhD



John Erik  
Vanston, PhD



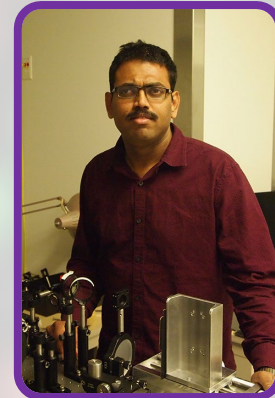
Austin  
Roorda, PhD

UC Berkeley

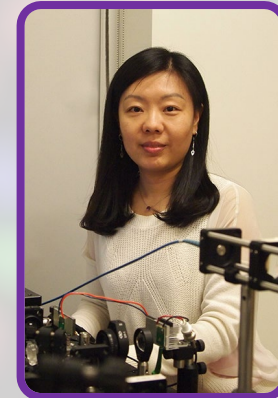
## 2. Color appearance



Ramkumar  
Sabesan, PhD



Vimal  
Pandiyan, PhD



Xiaoyun  
Jiang, PhD

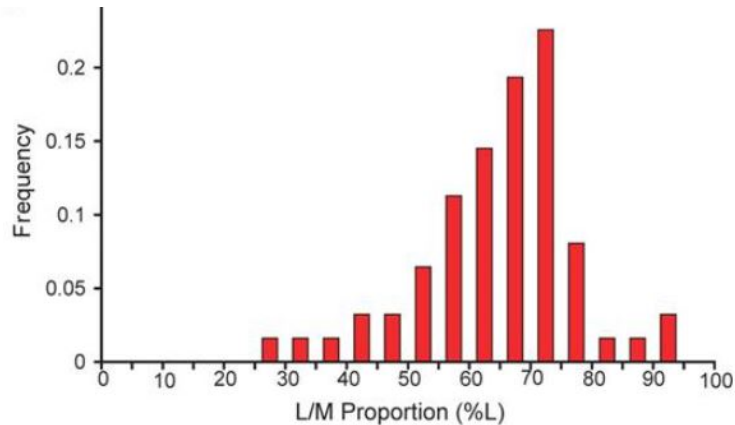


Sierra  
Schleufer

University of Washington

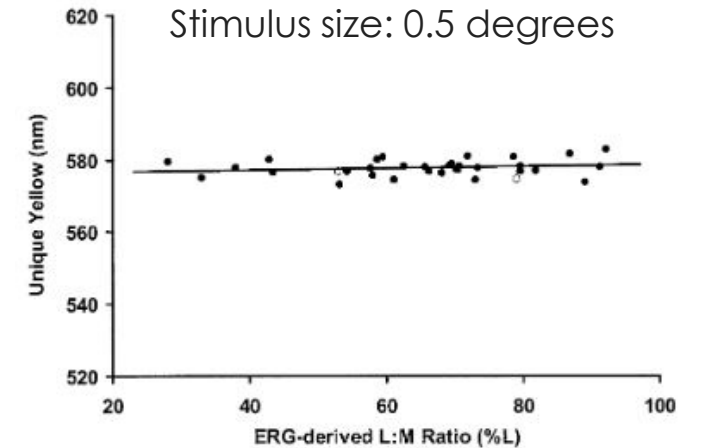
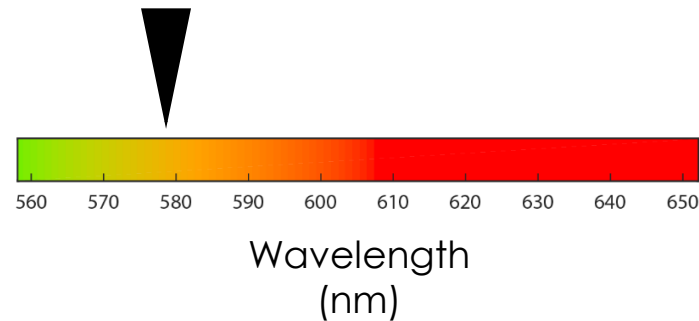
For large stimuli, the wavelength of unique yellow is remarkably robust to individual variations in L:M cone ratio

L:M numerosity estimated by ERG



Carroll, Neitz, & Neitz. (2002)

Unique yellow: a yellow that contains no trace or redness or greenness



Neitz et al. (2002)

see also: Brainard et al. (2000)

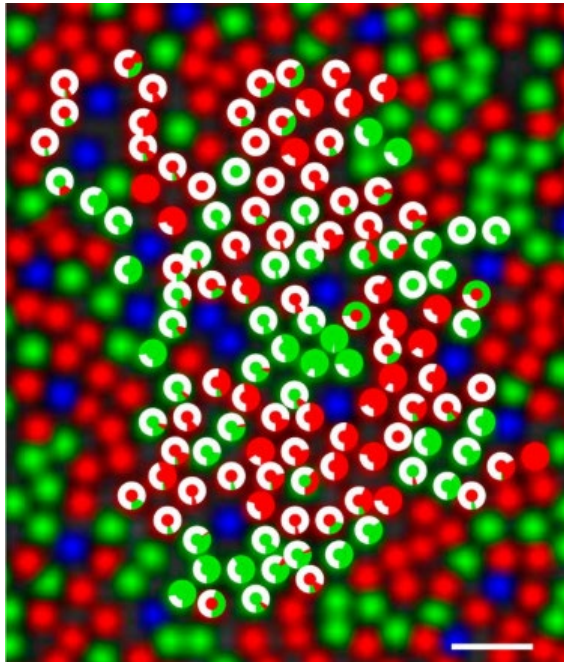
Adaptation studies suggest the wavelength of unique yellow may reflect tuning to the spectral characteristics of the environment.

cf. Neitz et al. (2002) & Welbourne, Morland, Wade (2015)

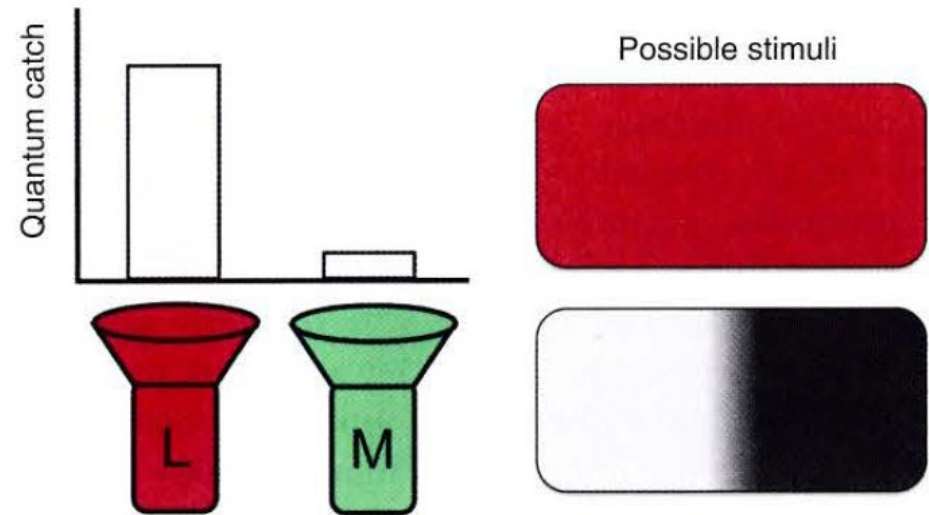


# At the cellular scale, color signals are ambiguous and color perception can be highly non-veridical

Color naming data:  $\lambda = 543 \text{ nm}$

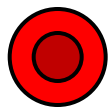
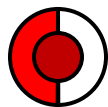
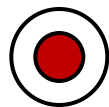


Response  
Options:



Hofer & Williams (2014)

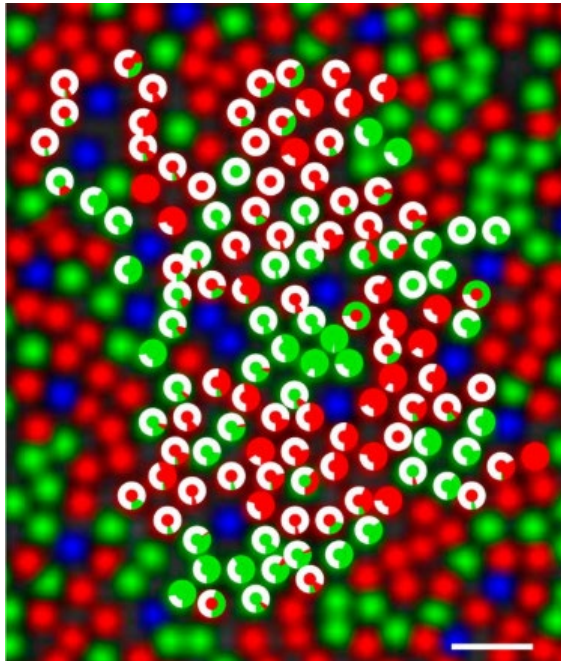
Donut Histograms:



100% white (achromatic) 50% white 50% red 100% red

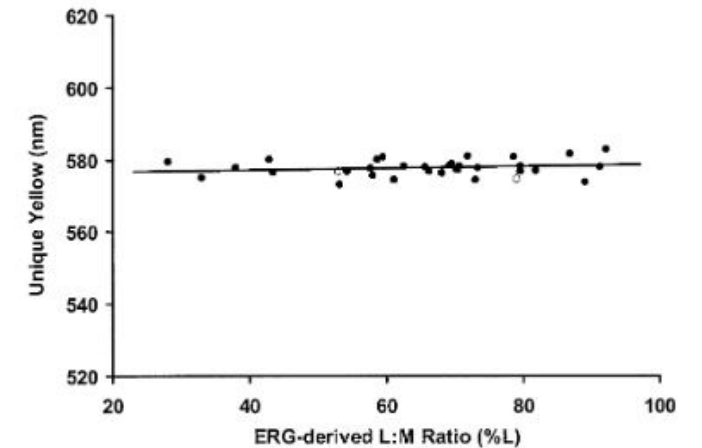
# At what scale do the mechanisms that compensate for the L:M cone ratio operate?

Small spots (<1 arcmin)



Sabesan, et al. *Science Advances*. (2016)  
see also: Hofer, Singer, Williams. *JOV*. (2005)

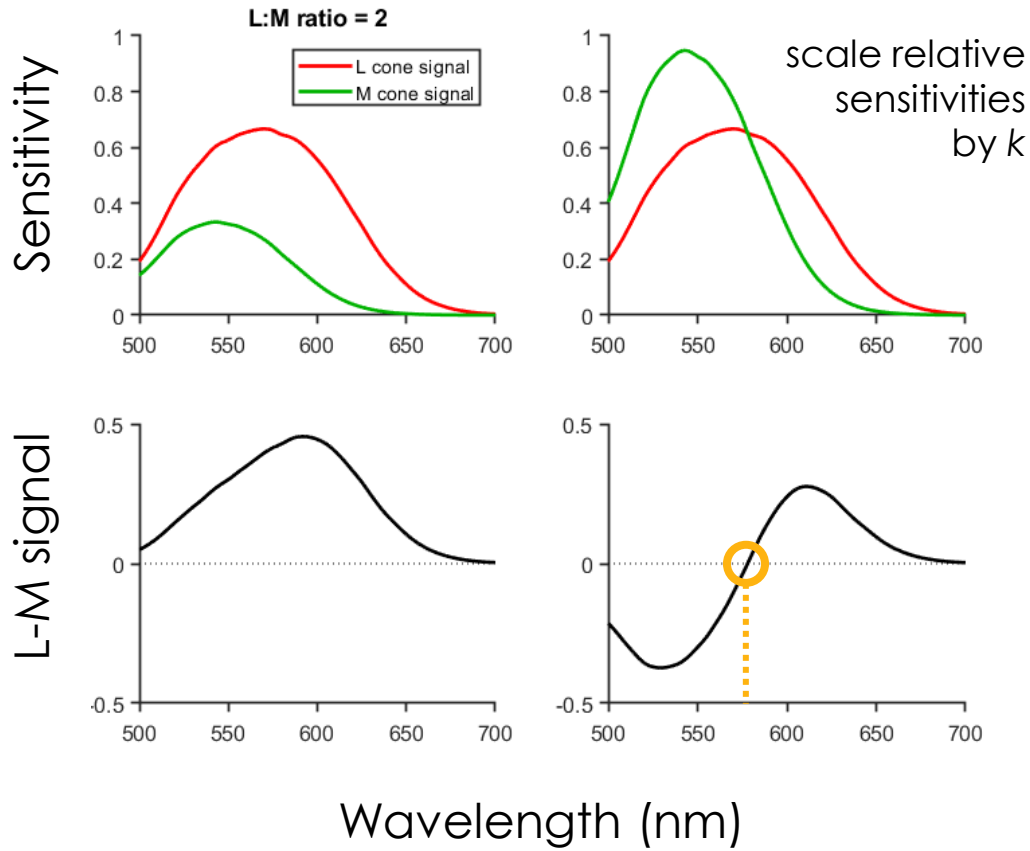
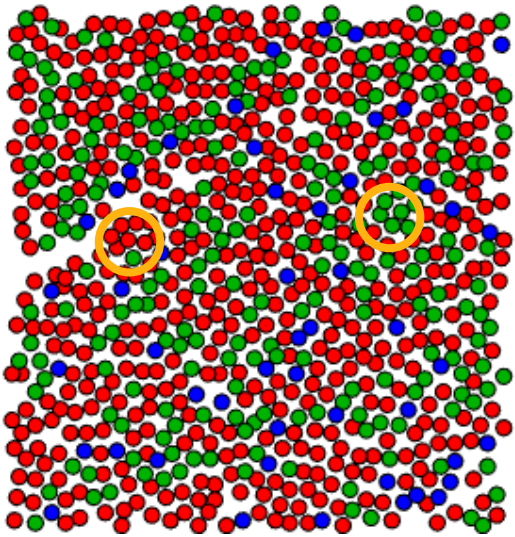
Larger spots ( $\geq 0.5$  degrees)



Neitz et al. (2002)  
see also: Brainard et al. (2000)

# At what scale do the mechanisms that compensate for the L:M cone ratio operate?

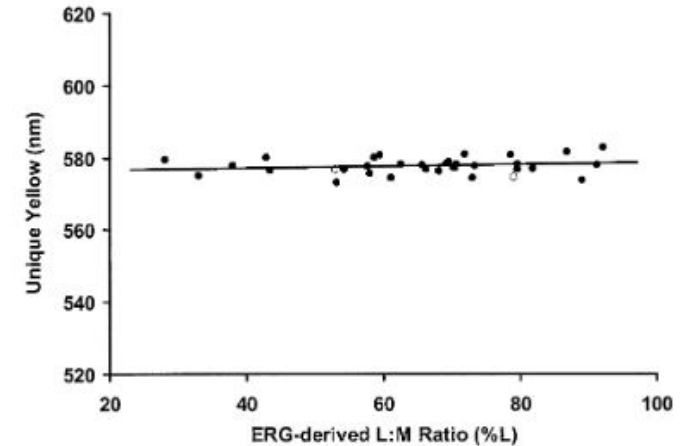
L:M ratio = 2



578 nm appears **too green**  
(UY shifts to longer  $\lambda$ )

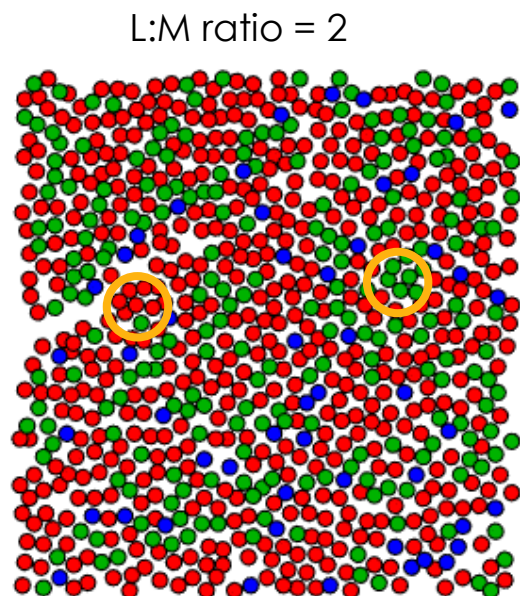
578 nm appears **too red**  
(UY shifts to shorter  $\lambda$ )

Larger spots ( $\geq 0.5$  degrees)

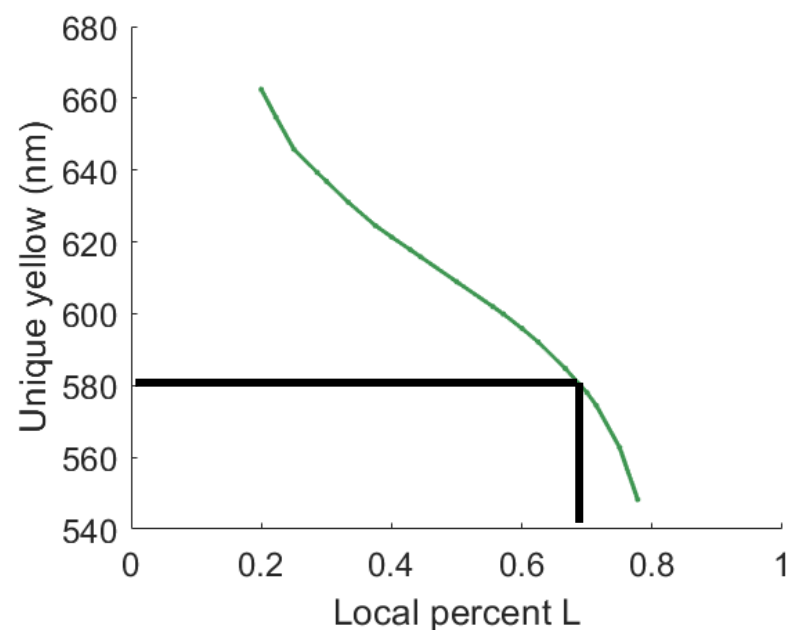


Neitz et al. (2002)  
see also: Brainard et al. (2000)

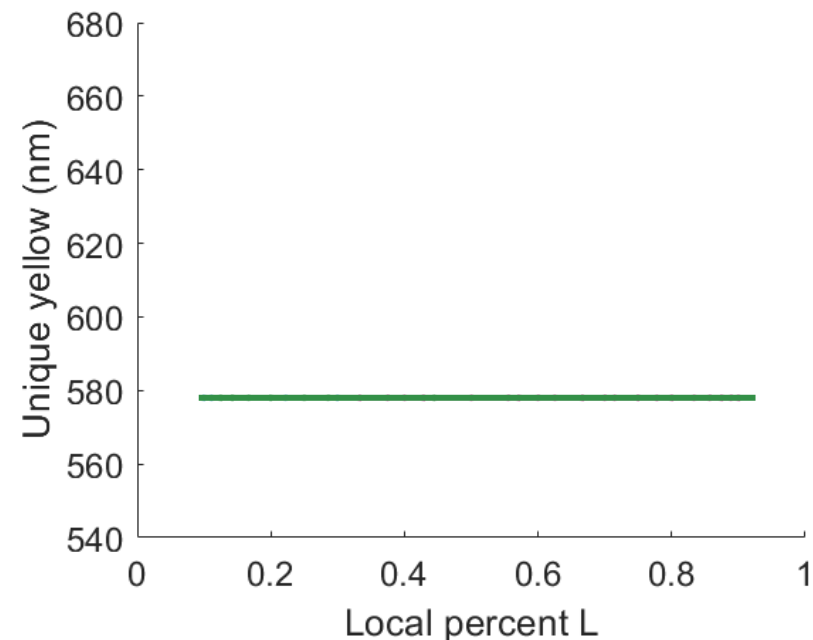
# L-M signal normalization: local vs global



global compensation

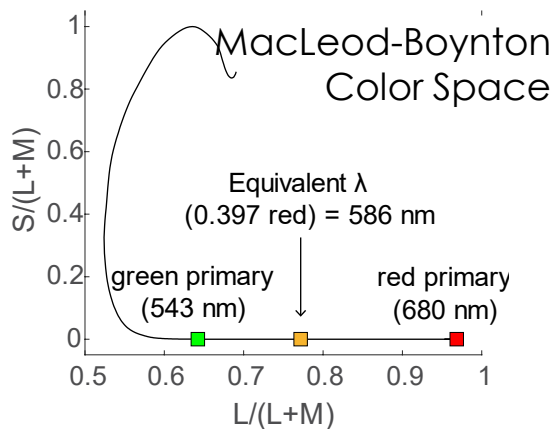
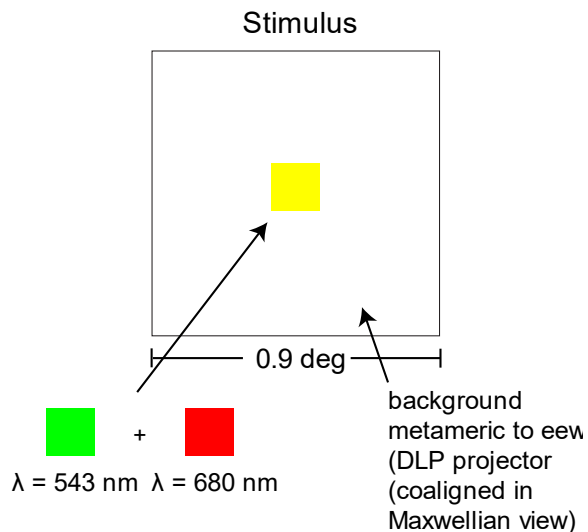


local compensation

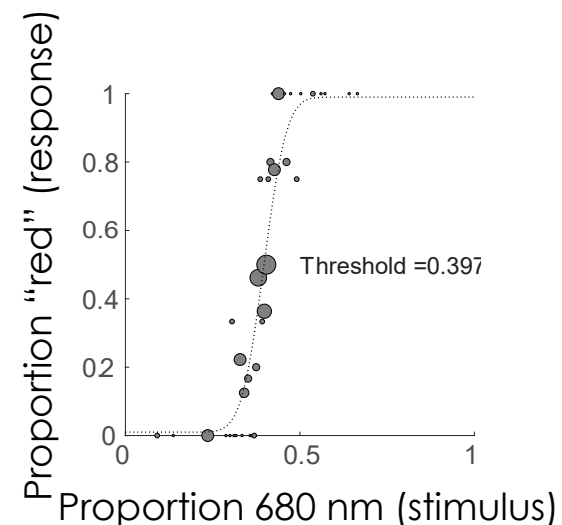
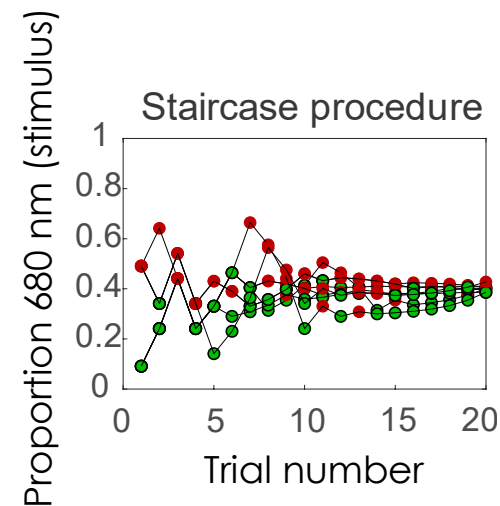
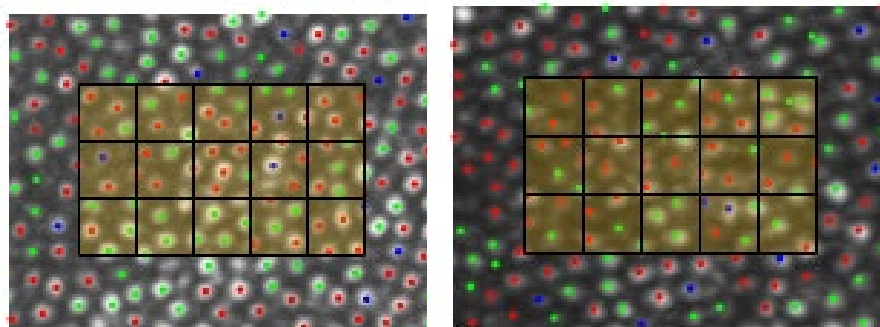


To distinguish between these hypotheses, we need to measure the topography of unique yellow with small stimuli

# Methods

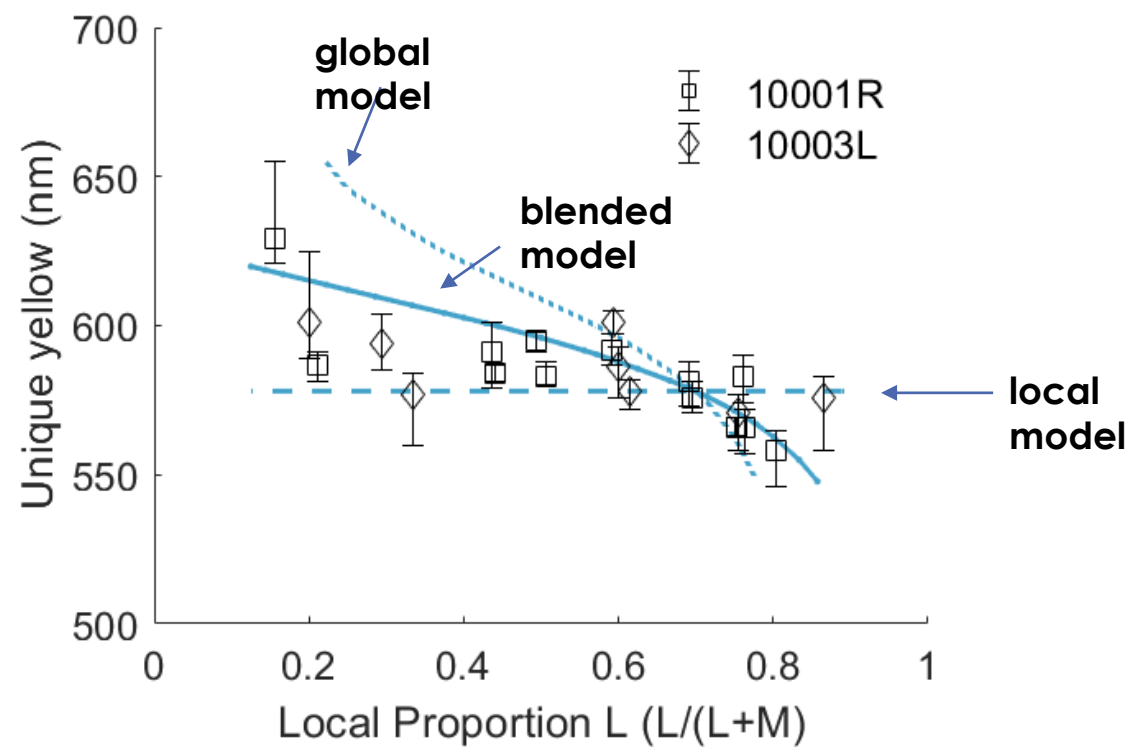
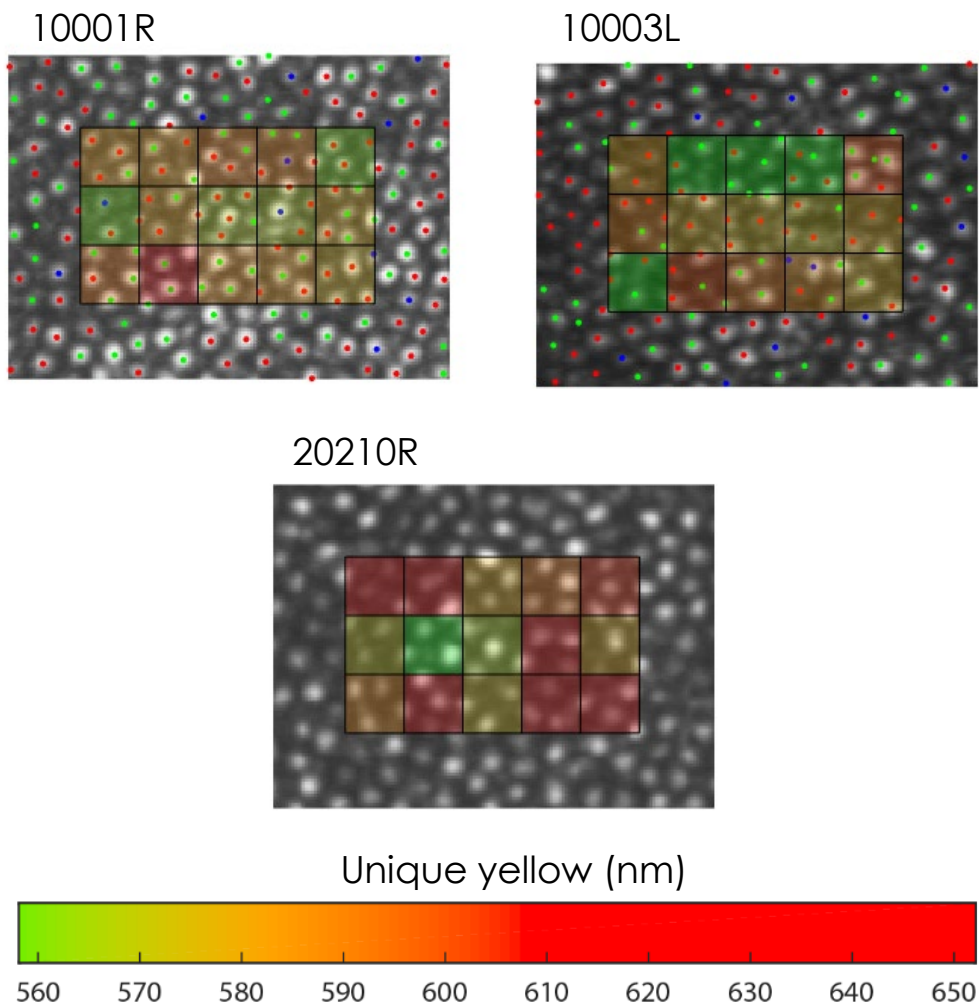


- Retinally-stabilized measurements of unique yellow using 2.2' x 2.2' stimuli
- 3 color-normal subjects (2 w/classed mosaics)
- 543 and 680 nm AOSLO primaries were mixed to create lights metamerically equivalent to intermediate  $\lambda$ 's
- 2AFC staircase ("redder" or "greener") was used to find red-green null point



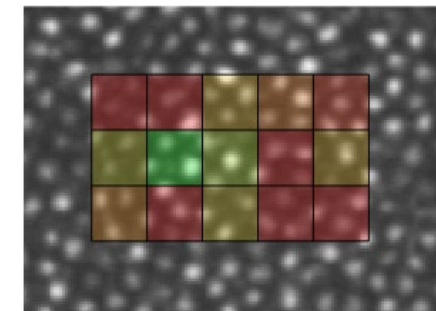
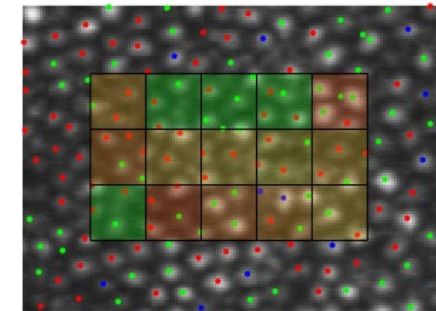
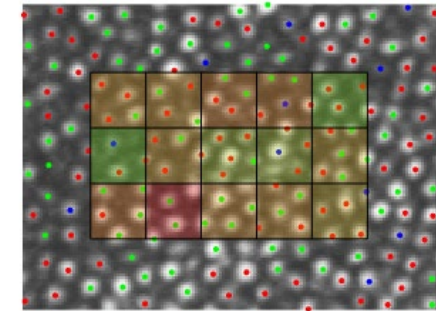


# Results



# Summary, Pt 2 – Color Appearance

- Measured with small, retinally-stabilized stimuli, the wavelength of unique yellow varies across the parafoveal cone mosaic in accordance with local variations in L:M cone ratio
- The amount of variation was less than predicted by a model that only included compensation for the global L:M cone ratio



# Acknowledgements

## UC Berkeley

- Austin Roorda, John Erik Vanston, Pavan Tiruveedhula, Ren Ng, Bruno Olshausen

## University of Washington

- Ramkumar Sabesan, Vimal Pandiyan, Xiaoyun Jiang, Sierra Schleufer, Fred Rieke

## University of Alabama-Birmingham

- Lawrence Sincich

## University of Bonn

- Wolf Harmening

## Funding

- National Eye Institute, Air Force Office of Scientific Research, Alcon Research Institute, Hellman Fellows Fund, Foundation Fighting Blindness

## Tuten Lab

Email: [wtuten@berkeley.edu](mailto:wtuten@berkeley.edu)



Ally Boehm, PhD  
Post-doc



JT Pirog  
PhD Student



Charlotte Wang, OD  
PhD Student



Alisa Braun  
PhD Student



Max Greene  
PhD Student