# Depth perception

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Please refer to lecture video

## Cues used for coding depth in the brain

Oculomotor cues	Visual cues
accommodation vergence	<i>Binocular</i> stereopsis
	Monocular motion parallax shading interposition size perspective

# Stereopsis, basic facts and demos

## Two simple methods for creating stereo images





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Demos, page 1

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Please see lecture video or Figure 1 of Schiller, Peter H., Geoffrey L. Kendall, et al. "Depth Perception, Binocular Integration and Hand-Eye Coordination in Intact and Stereo Impaired Human Subjects." *Journal of Clinical & Experimental Ophthalmology* 3, (210).

Images removed due to copyright restrictions.

Please see lecture video or the autostereogram from The Magic Eye, Volume I: A New Way of Looking at the World. Andrews McMeel Publishing, 1993.

Autostereograms: see Howard and Rogers, Depth Perception, Vol 2, pp. 549-556.

Demos, page 3

## Retinal disparity utilized for stereopsis





Target hits non-corresponding retinal points

# Stereopsis, neuronal responses

## V1 cell response to drifting bars at varied stereo depths



Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.

## V1 cell response to drifting bars at varied stereo depths



Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.

## Basic cell types for stereo



## Basic cell types for stereo



Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.

The effects of V4 and MT lesions on stereoscopic depth perception Images removed due to copyright restrictions.

Please see lecture video or Figure 1 of Schiller, Peter H., Geoffrey L. Kendall, et al. "Depth Perception, Binocular Integration and Hand-Eye Coordination in Intact and Stereo Impaired Human Subjects. "*Journal of Clinical & Experimental Ophthalmology* 3, (210).

## Stereopsis

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Please see lecture video or Schiller, Peter H. "The Effects of V4 and Middle Temporal (MT) Area Lesions on Visual Performance in the Rhesus Monkey." *Visual Neuroscience* 10, no. 4 (1993): 717-46.

# Motion parallax

## MOTION PARALLAX, the eye is stationary



## Velocity of motion:

A fastest, C slowest, creating velocity gradient With rigidity constraint highest relative velocity is judged to be closest

## MOTION PARALLAX, the eye tracks



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# Motion parallax

To derive depth information from motion parallax neurons are needed that provide information about velocity and direction of motion and perhaps also about differential motion.

The majority of cells in V1 are direction and velocity selective. Some appear also to be selective for differential motion.

Cells that process motion parallax have also been found in MT.

Brain activation by stereopsis and motion parallax in normal and stereoblind subjects with fMRI









Binocular, motion parallax



#### Binocular, stereo



#### Four conditions:

- 1. No depth cues
- 2. Stereo only
- 3. Parallax only
- 4. Stereo and parallax

50 and 60 trials each



**B:** Parallax











# The power of shading for depth perception





# Examples of the 12 different shadings used

The next five displays have identical, repeating elements which are shaded differently in each set yielding a variety of stable and conflicting percepts











# Stereo and shading in harmony and in conflict

Demos, page 4-7



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# Putting stereo, parallax and shading together

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Please see lecture video or see Display 24 of Schiller, Peter H., and Christina E. Carvey. "Demonstrations of Spatiotemporal Integration and What they Tell us About the Visual System." *Perception* 35, no. 11 (2006): 1521.

### Separate and combined disparity, parallax and shading depth cues

Graphs removed due to copyright restrictions.

Please see lecture video or Figure 3a,b of Schiller, Peter H., Warren M. Slocum, et al. "The Integration of Disparity, Shading and Motion Parallax Cues for Depth Perception in Humans and Monkeys." *Brain Research* 1377 (2011): 67-77.

# Perspective

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Please see lecture video or see William O'Brian, "Because it's here, that's why," *New Yorker*, September 21, 1963, 42.









## Perspective illusion







Hand-eye coordination and Binocular integration tests



## Movie of needle test

needle\_binoc needle\_monoc



# Examples of test of binocular integration

Binocular integration test, figures



Binocular integration test, words



## Summary, depth:

- Numerous mechanisms for analyzing depth have been identified that include vergence and accommodation, stereopsis, parallax, shading, and perspective.
- 2. Several cortical structures process stereopsis utilizing disparity information; the number of disparities represented is limited as in the case of color coding.
- Utilizing motion parallax for depth processing necessitates neurons specific for direction, velocity and differential velocity; several areas, including V1 and MT process motion parallax.
- Area MT contributes to the analysis of motion, motion parallax, depth, and flicker; however, these analyses are also carried out by several other structures.
- 5. Litte is known at present about the manner in which information about shading and perspective is analyzed by the brain.

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9.04 Sensory Systems Fall 2013

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