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# Towards a new colour rendition metric

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## LED obstacles: early lessons learned

http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/publications/pdfs/ssl/ssl\_lessons-learned\_2014.pdf

- 12 lessons learned
- Lesson 4: The range of color quality available with LED-based products and the limitations of existing color metrics may confuse users







## Agenda

- What is colour?
- What is colour rendition?
- The current metric + limitations
- The new metric







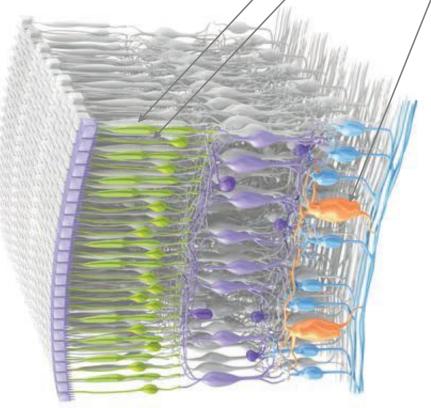
## 5 different light receptors

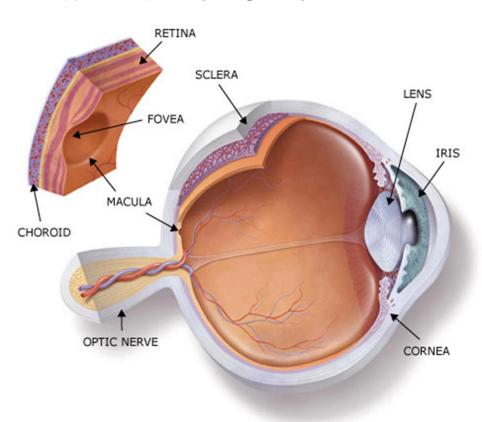
3 types of cones for colour

Rods for low light levels and movement

Photosensitive ganglion cell (ipRGC): day/night synchronisation,

pupil size





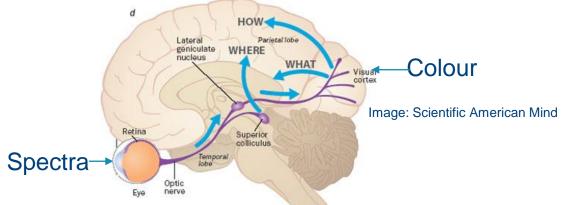
Images: Huffman, Psychology in Action Bryan Christie for Scientific American



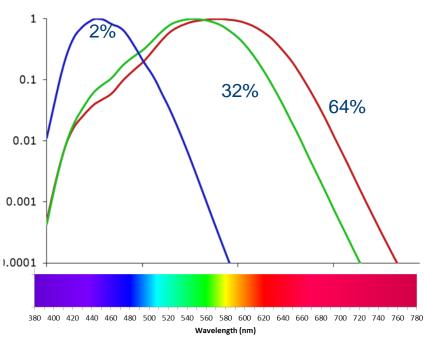


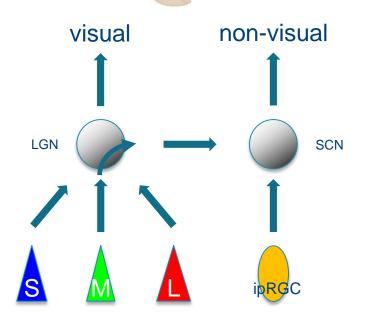


## Perception



#### Cone sensitivity





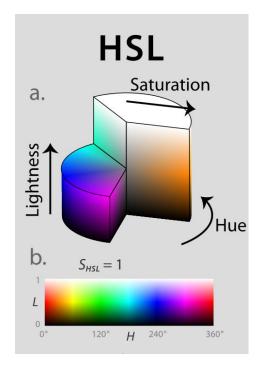






## Colour representation: 3 coordinates

- RGB
- XYZ
- xyY
- Lu'v'
- La\*b\*
- HSL
- HSV
- HCL



By Jacob Rus - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0 https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=9445469

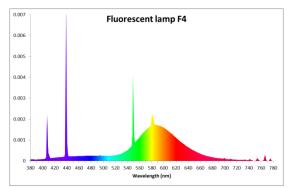


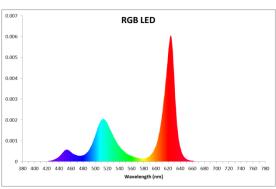


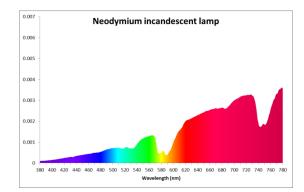


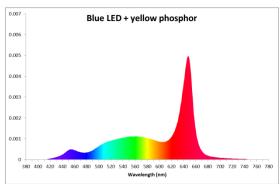
## Spectra

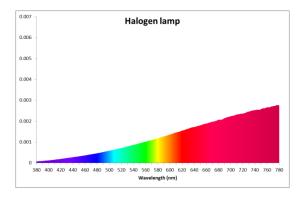
## Different spectra with same tri-stimulus values = Same colour

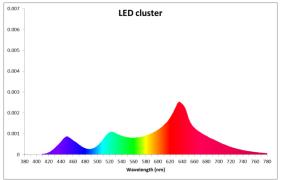












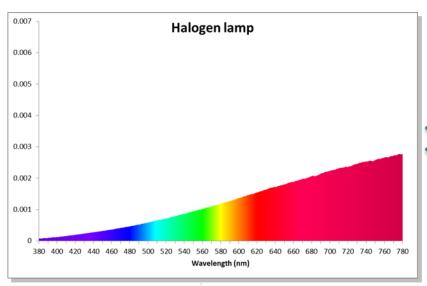


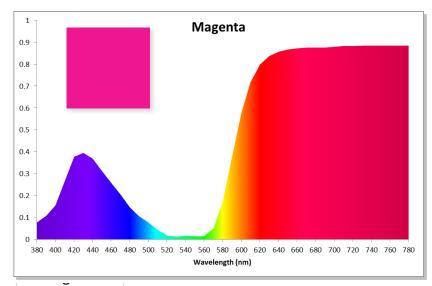




## Object colour

Different illumination spectra give different reflected spectra. Although white can be the same for the different spectra, another object colour (e.g. magenta, orange-yellow) can be different.





	х	У	
Fluorescent lamp F4	0.540	0.295	
Neodymium incandescent lamp	0.617	0.287	
Halogen lamp	0.611	0.307	
RGB LED	0.682	0.318	
Blue LED + yellow phosphor	0.621	0.297	
LED cluster	0.585	0.281	





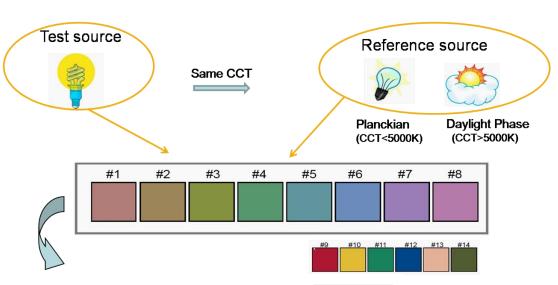


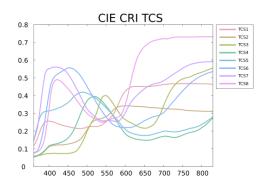


## CIE colour rendering

"Effect of an illuminant on the colour appearance of objects by conscious or subconscious comparison with their colour appearance under a reference illuminant."

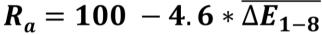
#### Index:













## CIE colour rendering index

#### CIE CRI:

 $R_a$ : measure of **average** colour fidelity/colour shift

 $R_i$ : colour fidelity/colour shift for specific hue region

(disregarding limitations of samples and colour science)

#### But what about:

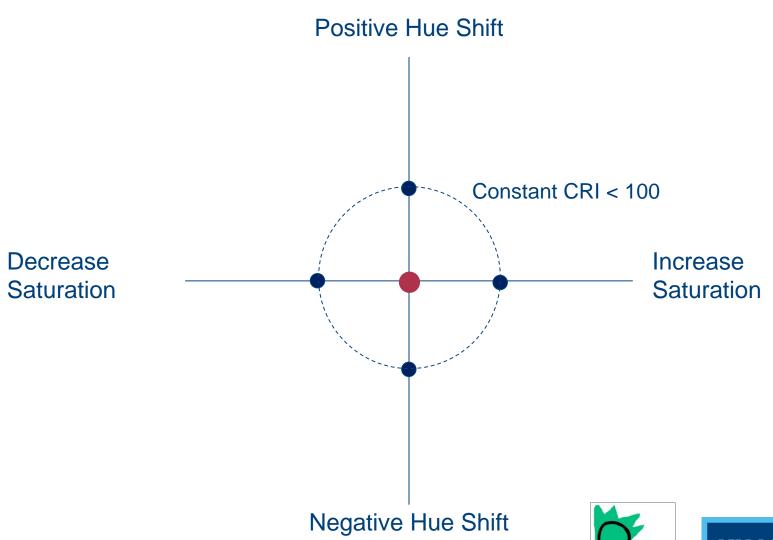
- Direction/type of colour shifts
- Information on human preference, naturalness, discrimination, ...
- Difference in colour for any specific object
- How one source will make things look compared to another







## Limitations of considering only fidelity









CRI = 95, Original Image



Slide: Kevin Houser

Original Image courtesy of Randy Burkett Lighting Design

CRI = 80, Desaturated Image



Slide: Kevin Houser

Original Image courtesy of Randy Burkett Lighting Design

CRI = 80, Saturated Image (Red Enhanced)



Slide: Kevin Houser

Original Image courtesy of Randy Burkett Lighting Design

## Issues of CIE colour rendering index

- Test samples
  - Non saturated
  - Non independent samples (limited amount of dyes)
- Von Kries transformation is outdated
- Colour space used is not a colour appearance space
- Infinite number of reference sources:
  - R<sub>a</sub> for unequal CCTs cannot be compared!
- Two types of reference source with discontinuity at 5000 K
  - e.g. Planck distribution: at 4999 K:  $R_a = 100$  | at 5001 K:  $R_a = 89$
- Risk of poor correlation with visual colour quality assessment of narrowband sources, such as LEDs!





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## Motivation for a new rendition method

- The need for an improved measure of colour fidelity
   Use up-to-date colour science.
   Use improved sample set including saturated colours.
- The need to provide supplementary information about colour rendering ability of any given light source.
  - One index is not enough.
  - Add a colour gamut index.
  - Add a colour vector / distortion diagram.

 $\Rightarrow$  IES TM-30-15







## IES Method for colour rendition

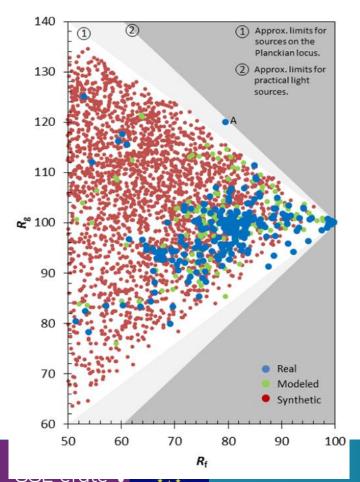
#### IES Method for Evaluating Light Source

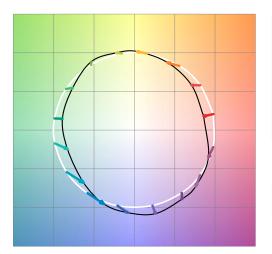
#### **Contributors:**

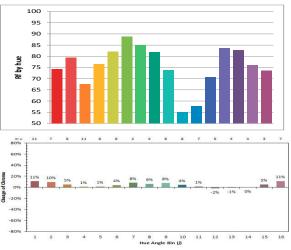
*Academia* (K. Houser, Y. Ohno, M. Royer, K. Smet, M. Wei, L. Whitehead), *Industry* (A. David, P. Fini), Lighting Design (R. Burkett)

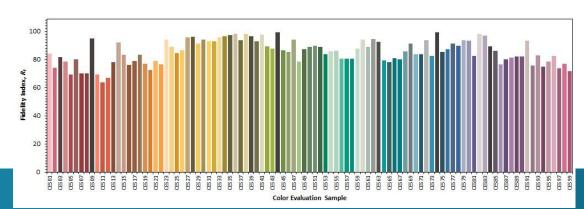
#### Colour fidelity index $R_f$

### Colour gamut index $R_g$ + lots of graphical info









## IES TM-30 indices

#### $R_f$ fidelity index

- Average similarity in appearance of test and reference sources
- Analogous to CIE Ra, greater accuracy
- Scores 0 to 100
- Scale similar to CIE R<sub>a</sub>, but high scores harder to achieve
- Equal weight to all directions of shift

### $R_g$ gamut index

- An R<sub>g</sub> value greater than 100 indicates an average increase in saturation
- An  $R_g$  value less than 100 indicates an average decrease in saturation







## IES TM-30

#### Colour science update

- = replace U\*V\*W\* with state-of-the-art colour space CAM02-UCS
- = replace Von Kries transformation with CAT02
  - good perceptual uniformity
  - no CCT dependence
  - includes a good chromatic adaptation formula
  - includes a colour difference formula

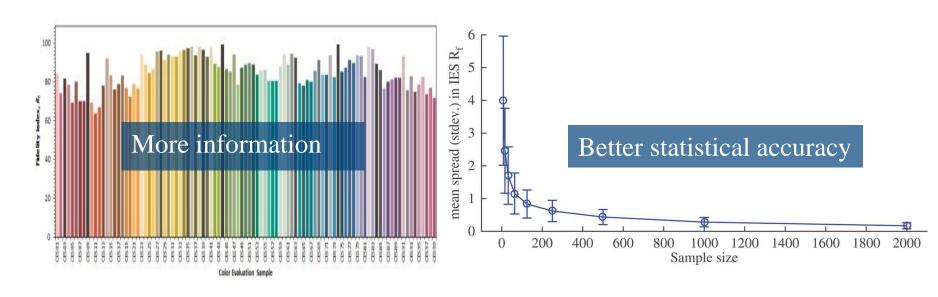






## Sample set improvement

## Larger sample size from 8 (14) to 99 samples



Kevin A. G. Smet, Aurelien David & Lorne Whitehead (2016) Why Color Space Uniformity and Sample Set Spectral Uniformity Are Essential for Color Rendering Measures, LEUKOS, 12:1-2, 39-50, DOI: 10.1080/15502724.2015.1091356







## Sample set improvement

#### Uniform 3D distribution in color space

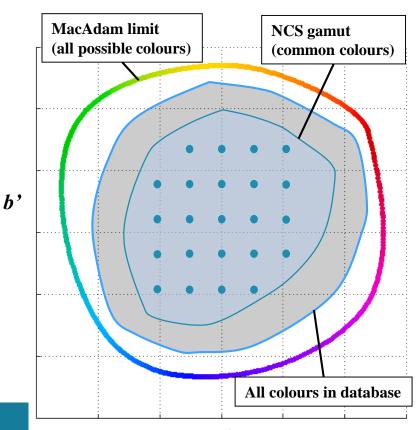
#### Start from 105 000 reflectance samples

Natural objects, Paints, Plastics, Fabrics, Printed materials, Skin tones...

#### Discard some colours:

- Extremely saturated or dark
- No colour-error formula

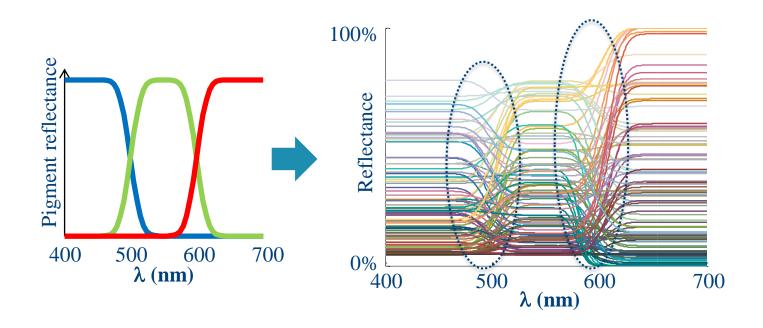
Uniformly distributed selection **4880** colour points





## Wavelength uniformity

Make sure that samples treat all wavelengths equally. Why? It is possible to generate many colours with only 3 "pigments":



But the corresponding samples are mostly sensitive to a few wavelengths for differences in colour rendition

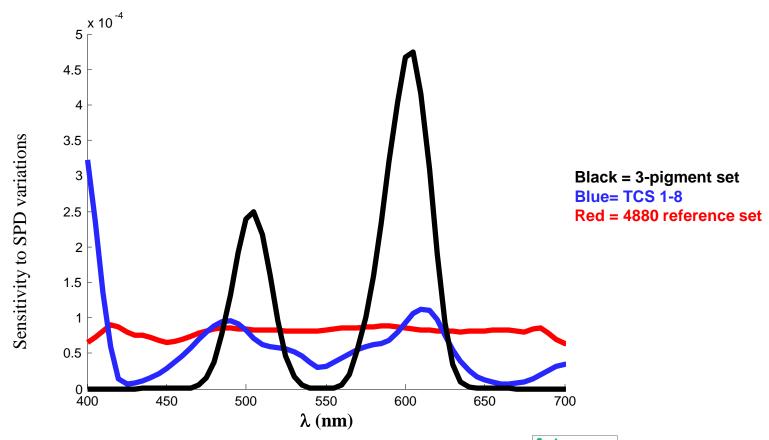






## Wavelength uniformity

The "wavelength sensitivity" for a sample set (r'2, r"2...)



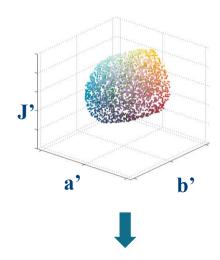




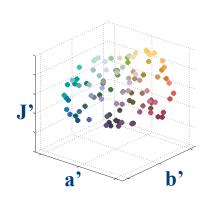
SSL-erate\*

## 99 test samples

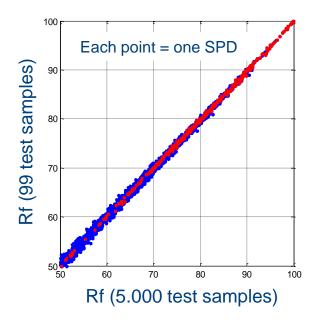
#### 4880 Reference set

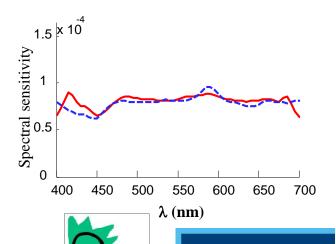


99 Color Evaluation Samples









Groen

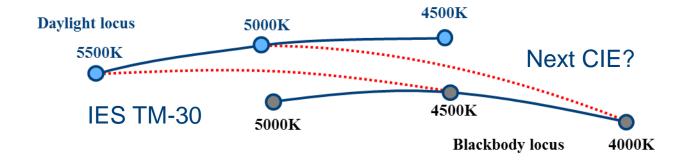
Vlaanderen

**KU LEUVEN** 



## No discontinuity at 5000 K

Gradual change by mixing blackbody and daylight reference illuminants









#### **Theoretical Example**







#### **Original**

CRI = 95

 $R_{\rm f} = 93$ 

 $R_{\rm g} = 100$ 

**Desaturated** 

CRI = 80

 $R_{\rm f} = 78$ 

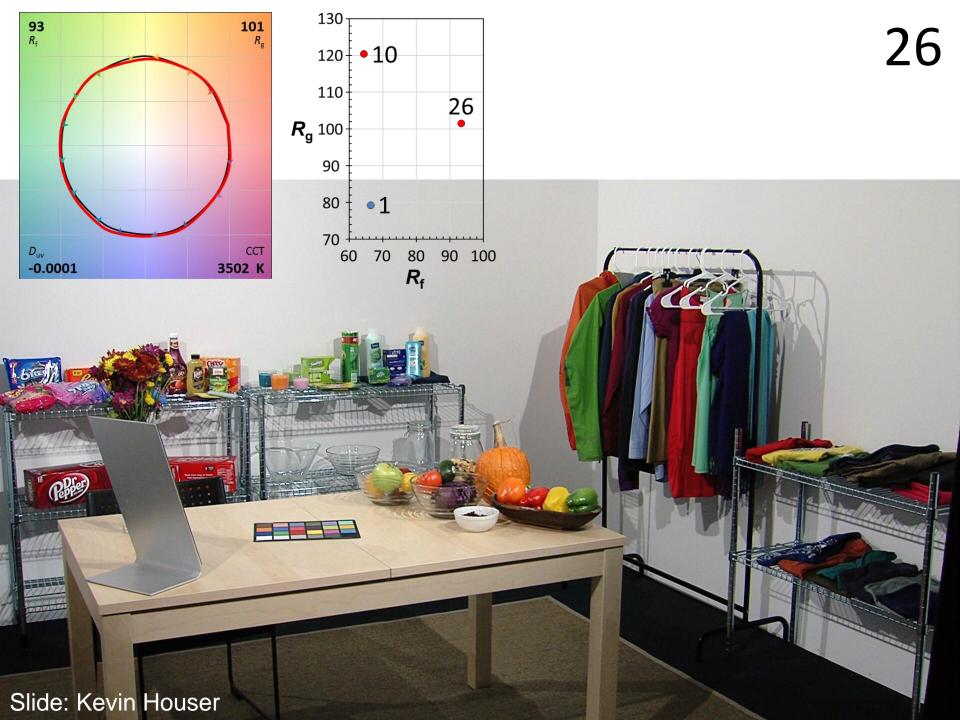
 $R_{\rm g} = 90$ 

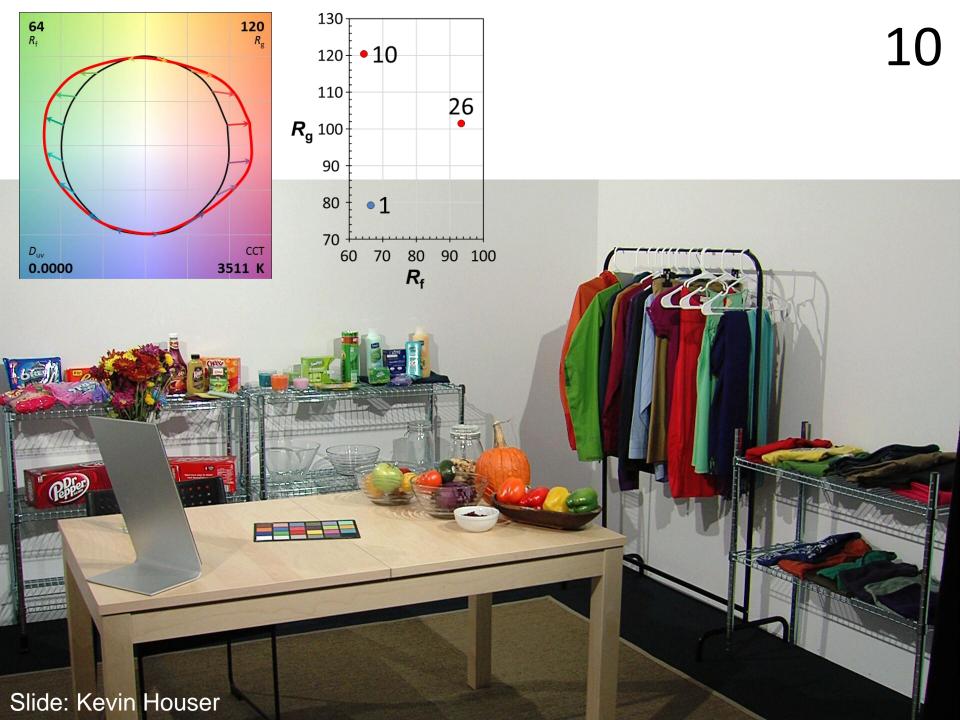
#### **Red-Enhanced**

CRI = 80

 $R_{\rm f} = 78$ 

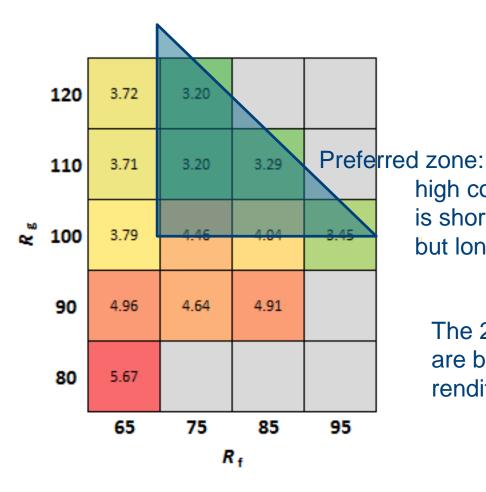
 $R_{\rm g} = 110$ 







## Preference



high colour saturation is short-term preferred but long-term?

The 2 new indices are better colour rendition indications

More Liked

Less Liked

Groen Licht Vlaanderen



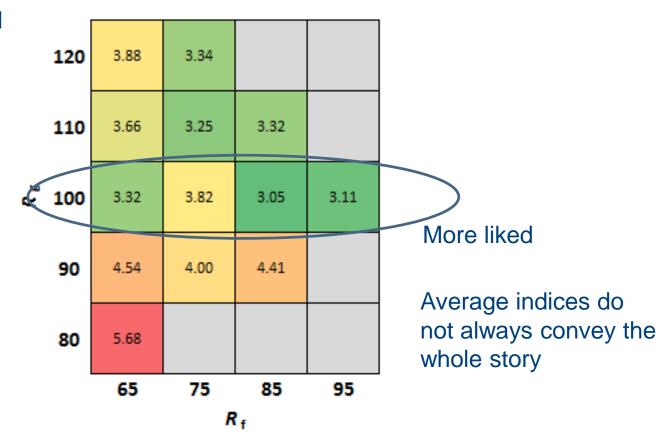






## Preference for red saturation?

#### Red more saturated



More Liked

Less Liked

Groen

Vlaanderen



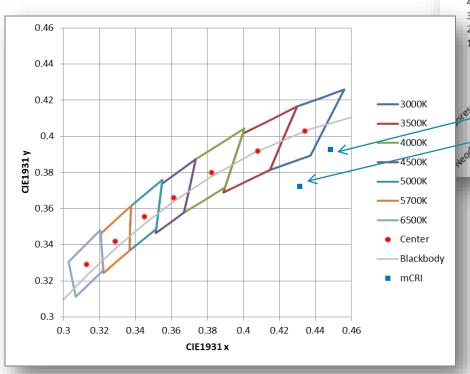


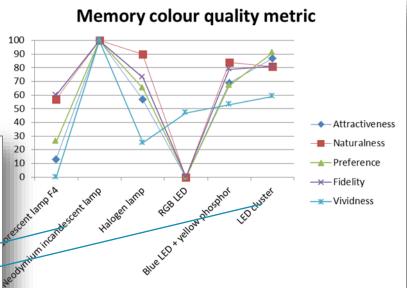


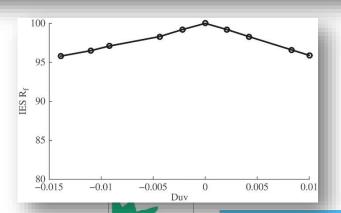


## Preferred white

Is not on blackbody curve













## Some additional resources

http://energy.gov/eere/ssl/tm-30-frequently-asked-questions

Watch the 8:45 minute movie!

#### Kevin Smet slides:

http://www.lichttechnologie.be/sites/default/files/downloads/KSMET\_KU%20Leuven\_Is%20the%20new%20CIE%20color%20rendering%20index%20finally%20in%20sight\_40m.pdf

#### Kevin Houser slides:

http://www.personal.psu.edu/kwh101/TM30/PLDC2015 HouserRoyerDavid.pdf

#### Michael Royer slides:

http://energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2016/04/f30/royer-tm30-color-lightfair2016.pdf





