MOTION PERCEPTION. II

BASIC OBSERVATIONS AND THEIR INTERPRETATION

These are facts of motion. They all involve *distinct* high-level processes. But before accessing that processing stage the system must code the *elementary, local motion signal*.

So here is how all this has started and how it proceeded.

Apparent motion: Exner's experiments (1875)



Motion is *primary*, not a matter of comparing a spatial and temporal interval.

Apparent motion (Exner 1875; Wertheimer, 1912)



ble than the sum of its par

Dmax with random dots



D_{max}: Braddick (1974)

Time & Space; Dmax (& Tmax)

(steps are in element size units)



Dmax Anstis' (2009) demos



(a) Trajectory of a rigid random-dot field that makes alternate long jumps downward and short jumps to the right. Each arrow is one movie frame. (b) If the long jumps exceed Dmax, then the dots appear to drift to the right. (c) Identical display at a smaller spatial scale appears (d) to be drifting downward.



These movies are identical, at respective magnifications of 1, 2, 4. Yet #1 seems to move downward, #3 to the right, and #2 in between. View them in Loop mode from different distances. Also, fixate a point and adapt, then notice that they all give motion aftereffects (MAE) to the left.





- Motion after-effect (MAE)
 - Adapt to a drifting pattern
 - Test on a static pattern
 - > Motion is perceived in the opposite direction
- Direction selective threshold elevation
 - Adapt to a moving pattern (same/opposite direction)
 - Test sensitivity and appearance
 - Sensitivity and apparent contrast are reduced for same
 - Perceived direction of a physically similar direction to the adaptor is shifted away (Levinson & Sekuler, 1975)

ADAPTATION and OPPONENCY

Motion After Effect (Addams, 1834; Wohlgemuth, 1911)

View from Train Window: Train stops



Motion After Effect (Addams, 1834; Wohlgemuth, 1911)





MAE-Waterfall

MAE-Boudha

Direction specific adaptation (Pantle, 1974; Levinson and Sekuler, 1975)



Separate 'channels' for opposite directions of motion

- Direction selective threshold elevation
 - Adapt to a moving pattern (same/opposite direction)
 - Test sensitivity and appearance
 - Sensitivity and apparent contrast are reduced for same





Motion Aftereffect – Ratio model (Sutherland, 1961)



Motion Aftereffect – Distribution shift model (Mather, 1980)

Adapt to one direction, test all directions



Motion Aftereffect – Distribution shift model (Mather, 1980)

Adapt to two directions, test all directions





Pairing "opposite" detectors can eliminate spurious activity;
Opponency enhances direction specificity.





Adaptation, Bias & Labelled channels



Signature of adaptation^{*}. (a) A generic mechanism for sensory adaptation: the response gain of channels that are selectively activated by the adaptor is reduced. The reduction is largest for channels that respond most. (b) Decoding such channel activity by taking the population average leads to a stereotypical *signature* in subsequent perception: the perceived values of stimuli *v*- and *v*+ are repulsively biased away from the value of the adaptor, V_a . We define bias as the difference between the mean of perceived stimulus value *V*, before and after adaptation.

^{*} Levinson & Sekuler (1975) The independence of channels in human vision selective for direction of movement. *J Physiol. 250*(2): 347–366.

Adaptation & Symmetrical Bias



The magnitude of the aftereffect. The abscissa is spatial frequency in cycles of the grating per degree of visual angle, on a logarithmic scale. Octaves are equal increments on this scale. The ordinate is the matched spatial frequency expressed as a percentage of a correct match; 100 is a perfect setting. Results of adapting at five different frequencies for subject C.B. The data points are normalized on the abscissa in the bottom graph, with all the adapting frequencies superimposed at 10 cycles per degree.



...BUT Velocity adaptation effects are NOT symmetric about the adapting velocity!

Fig. 3. Perceptual estimation bias due to adaptation. Each row shows the perceptual biases of one subject, for each of four adaptation conditions, with adaptor velocities indicated by arrows and dashed vertical lines. Hollow points represent measured *shifts in the point of subjective equality with respect to the control condition*. Red bold lines indicate the bias of the two-mechanism model, fitted separately for each subject, using a total of 9 free parameters (see also Figure 4). Both axes represent nonlinearly transformed velocities with horizontal and vertical distances scaled identically. Note that *bias is a signed velocity difference*; thus *positive bias* for negative test velocities indicates reduced perceived speed, while positive bias for positive test velocities indicates increased perceived speed. All subjects show similar behavior, with adaptation affecting subsequent perception over the whole range of test velocities, including test stimuli moving in the opposite direction.

Stocker & Simoncelli (2009). Journal of Vision, 9(9):9, 1-14.

A 2-mechanisms velocity perception model: *Non-Directional* + *Directional*

Stocker & Simoncelli (2009) Journal of Vision, 9(9):9, 1-14.



Fig. 4. Superposition of a directional and a nondirectional signature. (a) Perceptual bias is modeled as a weighted sum of two signatures (<u>Figure 2b</u>): a nondirectional signature centered at zero motion and a directional signature centered at the adaptor. For the nondirectional signature, the fitted weights were predominantly *negative*, which flips the polarity of the signature.

Stocker & Simoncelli (2009). Journal of Vision, 9(9):9, 1-14.



Fig. 7. Predictions derived from estimated model parameters of individual subjects. (a) Classical motion aftereffects as a function of the adaptor speed. Solid lines indicate predicted perceived speed of a stationary test stimulus (in the direction opposite to the adaptor), as a function of adaptor speed. Dashed lines indicate the speed of a test stimulus (moving in the same direction as the adaptor) that "nulls" the aftereffect (i.e., makes the test stimulus appear to have no net motion). Inset shows measured nulling speeds for two subjects as reported by Wright and Johnston (<u>1985</u>).

Direction selectivity & Motion relativity

Inhibition / Excitation within motion detectors



Motion repulsion (Levinson & Sekuler, 1975)

Mutual inhibition between motion detectors



Although one set of dots is moving 45 degrees clockwise from vertical while the other set moves horizontally, this difference appears to be enlarged.

SEGREGATION vs.TRANSPARENCY and MOTION INTERACTIONS

Segregation vs. Transparency

van Doorn & Koenderink, (1982)

To obtain transparency, the different motion vectors should be neither too close (they cancel), nor too far apart (they yield disparate motion patches).



Whenever a display has *finely balanced opposing motion signals* in all local regions, it is perceptually *non*-transparent. The displays that appear transparent always contain *locally unbalanced motion signals*, with some local regions having net motion signals in one direction and some other regions in the opposite direction.

Segregation vs. Transparency

Local interactions between motion detectors

Segregation (streaming)

Transparency





van Doorn & Koenderink (1982); Qian et al. (1994)

Segregation vs. Transparency



*Second order motion

SECOND ORDER STIMULI & THE NEED OF NONLINEARITIES



LOCAL vs. GLOBAL MOTION

Coding locality in space-time and frequency

V1 & MT responses (Movshon et al., 1983)



Hierarchical Motion Processing



Global motion detectors

- found in later areas (e.g., MT)

- integrate signals to

produce a global percept

Local motion detectors

located in early visual

areas (e.g., V1)

- extract ambiguous local motion signals

Courtesy of Alan Lee

The Multiple-aperture Stimulus

Independently manipulate local and global motion



Courtesy of Alan Lee

Amano et al. (2009). J. Vision, 9(3), 1-25.

The Multiple-aperture Stimulus

Independently manipulate local and global motion



±45° oriented Gabors with speeds assigned to be consistent with a single 2D object moving to the right

A. Johnston, http://www.psychol.ucl.ac.uk/vision/Lab_Site/Demos.html.

Adapting to Transparent Motion

Motion AfterEffect (MAE) is integrated



Mather, G. (1980). *Perception, 9*, 379-392. Verstraten, F. et al. (1994). *Perception, 23*, 1181-1188.

Courtesy of Alan Lee

Multiple-aperture Transparent Motion



Courtesy of Alan Lee

Amano et al. (2009)

Aftereffect depends on Test Locations



Courtesy of Alan Lee

Lee & Lu (2012) *JoV*

Toggling Local Adaptation ON/OFF



Courtesy of Alan Lee

Lee & Lu (2012) *JoV*



Tse & Hsieh (2006). The infinite regress illusion reveals faulty integration of local and global motion signals. *Vision Res. 46*, 3881–3885.

Lisi & Cavanagh (2015). Dissociation between the perceptual and saccadic localization of moving objects. *Curr. Biol., 25*, 1-6.



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Local-Local opposite directions



Hedges, Gartshteyn, Kohn, Rust, Shadlen, Newsome & Movshon (2011). Dissociation of Neuronal and Psychophysical Responses to Local and Global Motion, *Curr. Biol.*, *21*(23), 2023-28.

Local-Global same direction

Local-Global same direction

Local-Global opposite directions







Although local motion perception might depend on MT signals, global motion perception depends on mechanisms qualitatively different from those in MT. Motion perception therefore does not depend on a single cortical area but reflects the action and interaction of multiple brain systems.

MT neurons *do* compute 'global' motion *at a given spatial location* (i.e. when different motions are spatially superimposed), but they do *not* compute global motion *across space*.

A Comparison of Directional Selectivity for Local and Global Components of Motion in MT.

Local DI values are plotted against global DI values for 85 MT neurons. Data from anesthetized monkeys is in blue; data from awake monkeys is in green. The marginal distributions on the ordinate and abscissa capture the directional selectivity for the global and local motions, respectively. The oblique marginal distribution is of the difference between local and global DI, which we term local dominance.