

WHITE'S EFFECT

in

Brightness,

Color,

Motion

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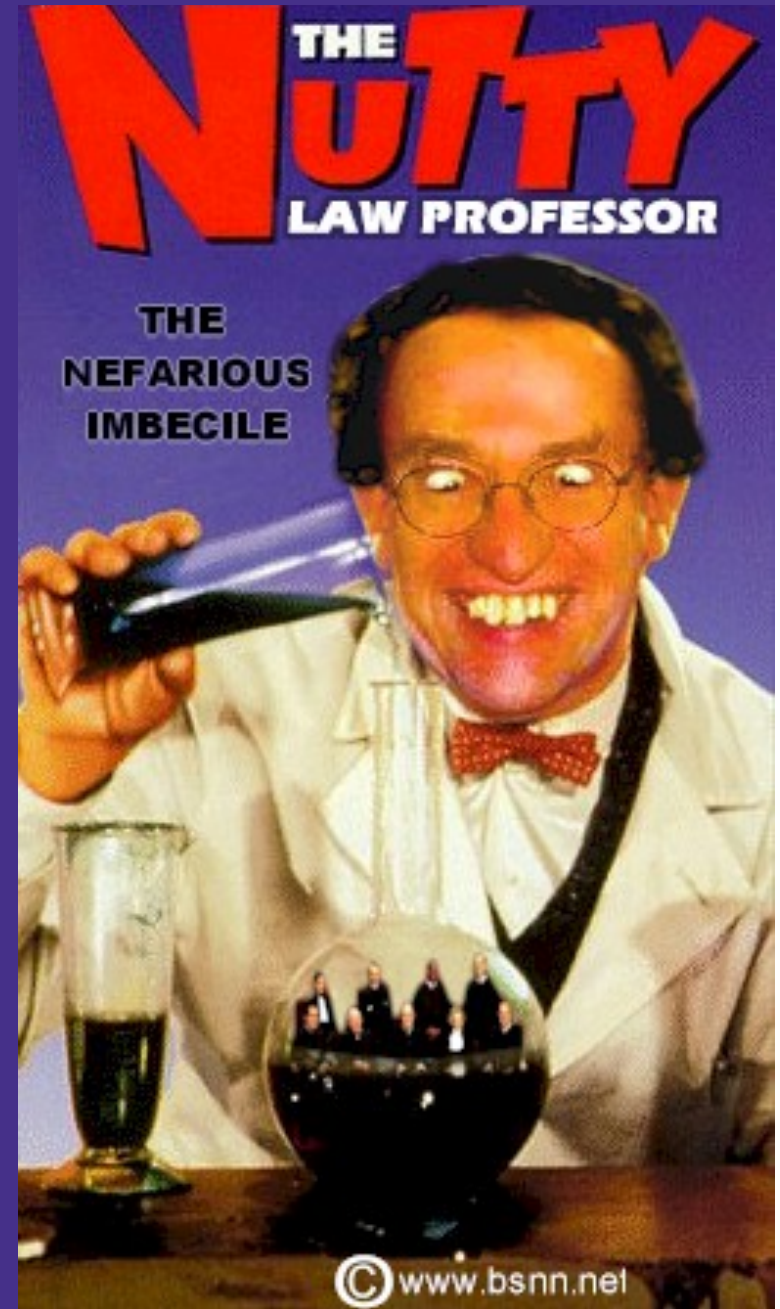
Photo by Jacques-Henri Lartigue, 1913

From a conference
at York
University, 2003,
honouring

**MARTIN
REGAN**



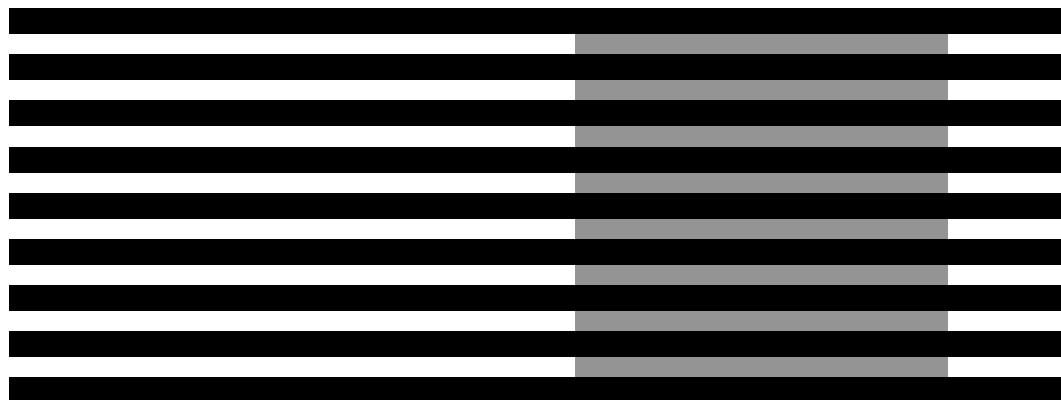
Unpublished photos of Martin Regan:



Simultaneous contrast



White's Effect

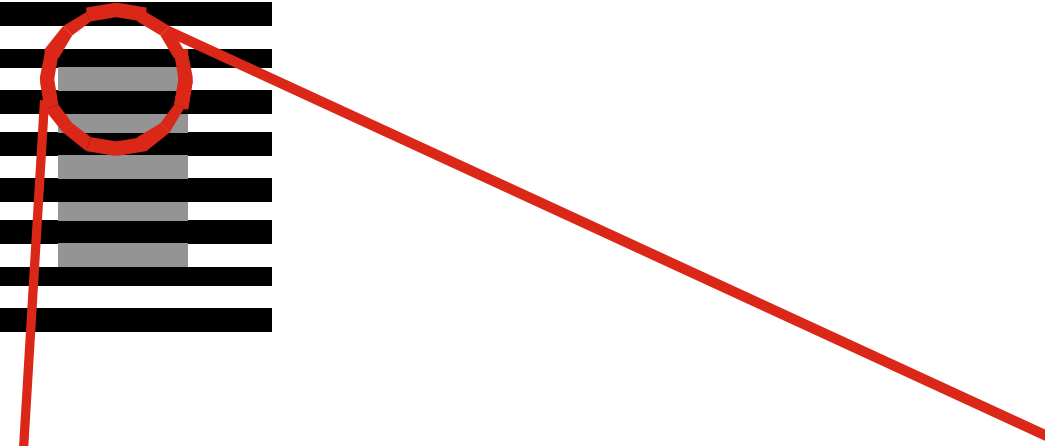
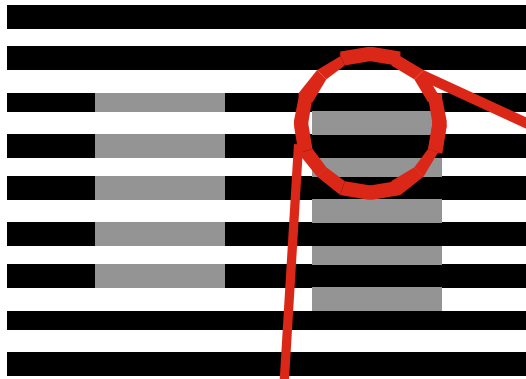


Theories of White's effect

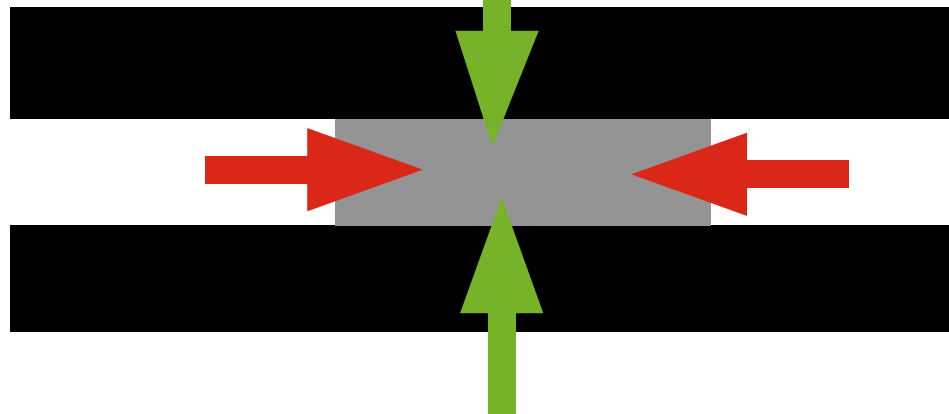
Level:

- | | |
|---|------|
| 1. Assimilation or contrast ? | Low |
| 2. Geometry: T-junctions, elongated RFs | Low |
| 3. Belongingness | High |
| 4. Transparency | High |

Theories of White's effect

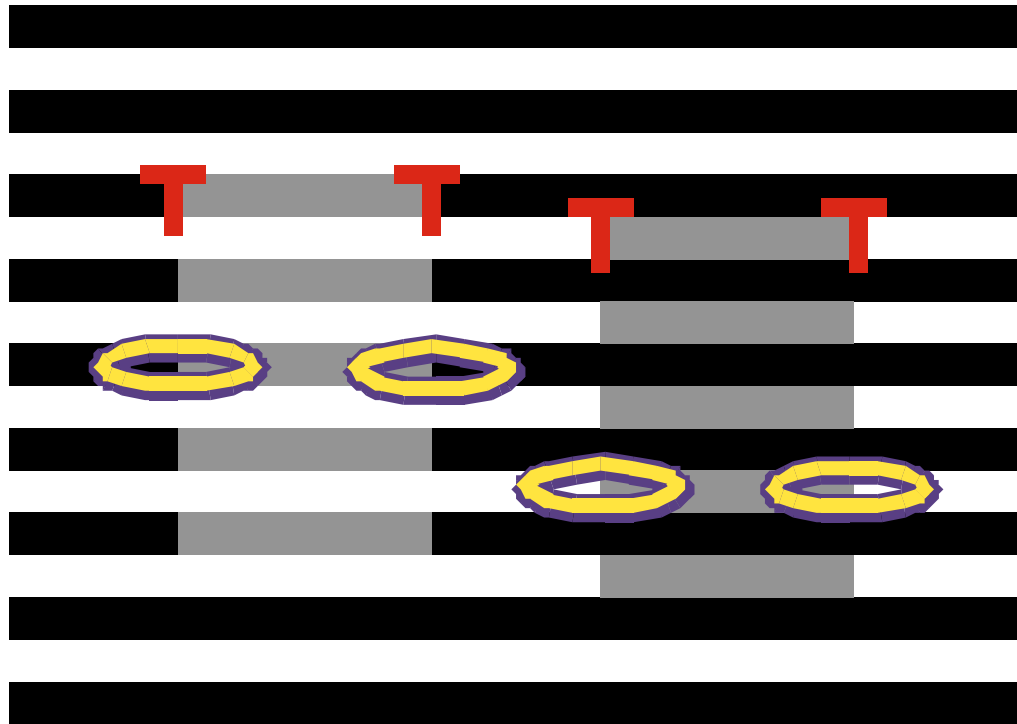


Assimilation ?



Contrast ?

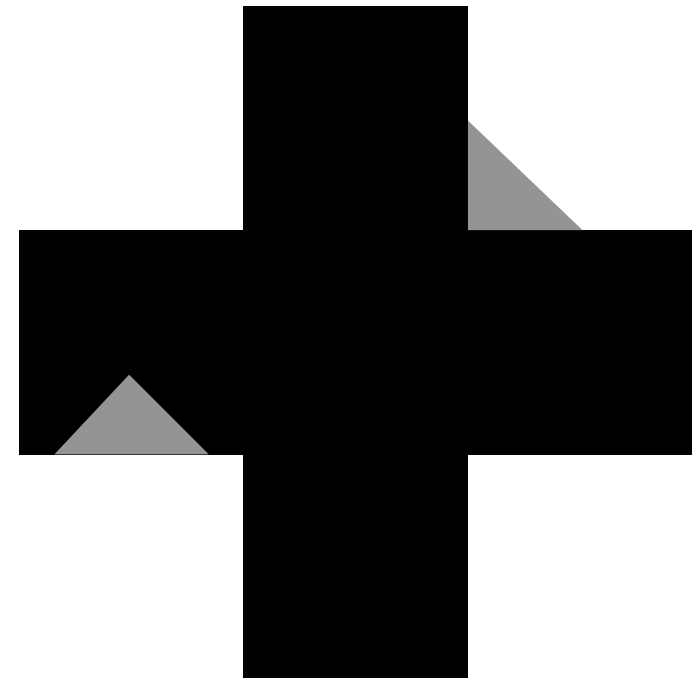
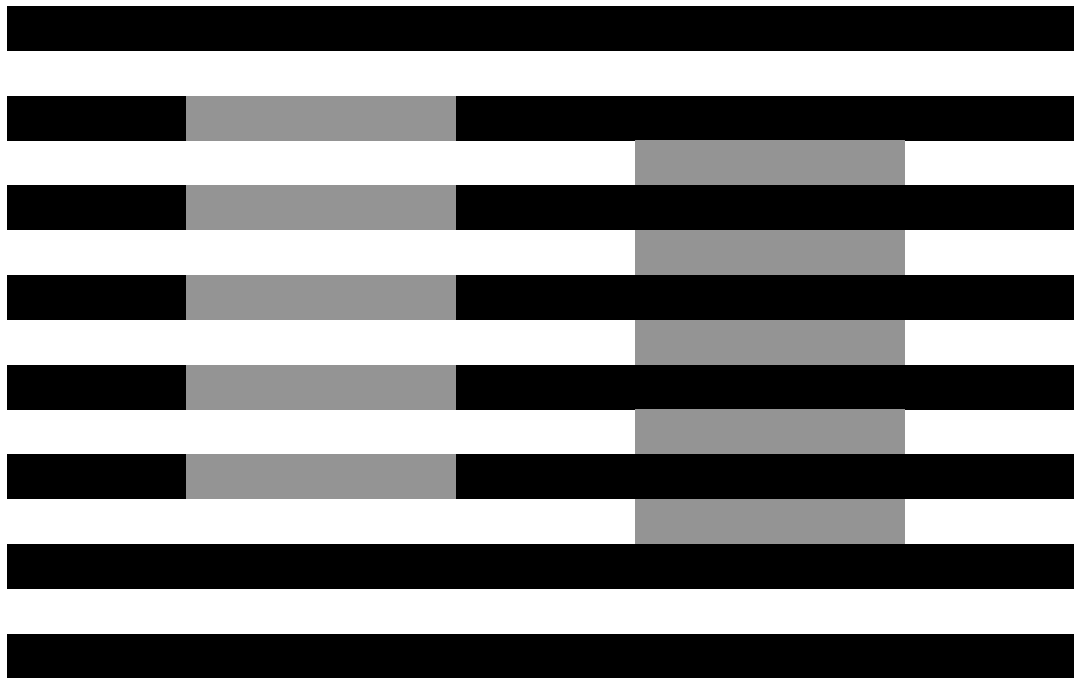
Geometrical theories of White's effect



T-junctions ?

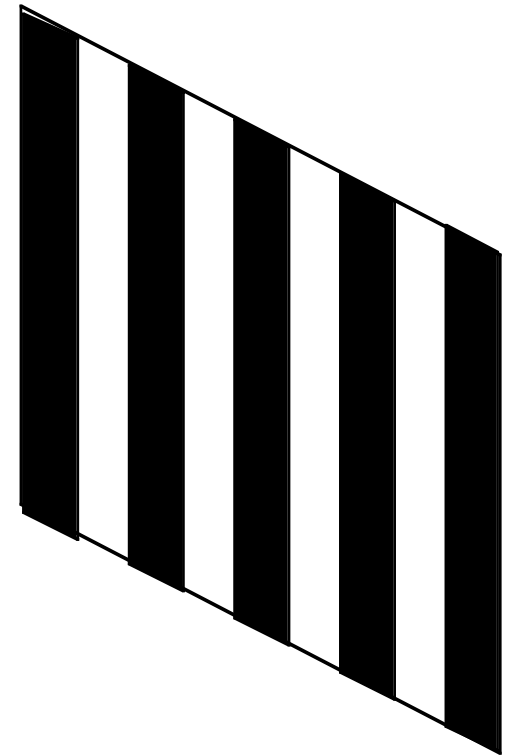
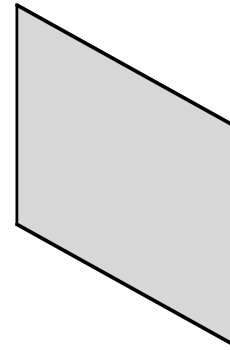
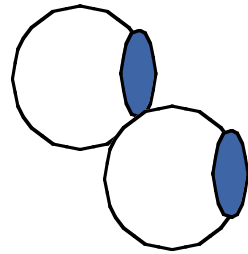
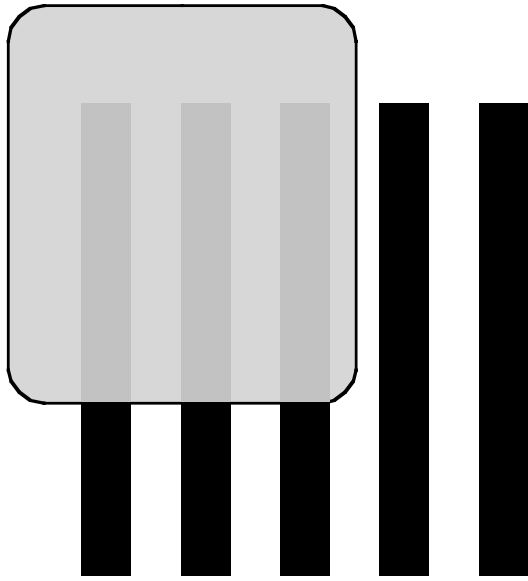
Elongated
receptive
fields ?

“Belongingness” theory of White’s effect



Benary 1924

Transparency theory (Bart Anderson 1997)



Theories of White's effect

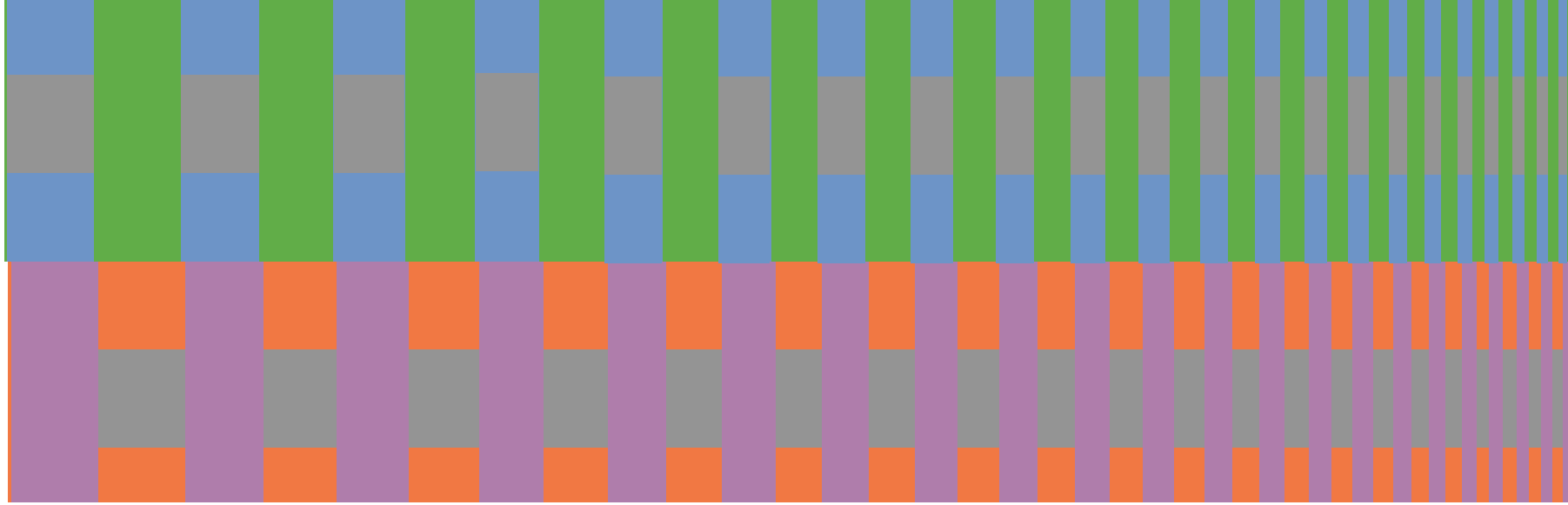
Level:

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| 1. | Assimilation or contrast ? | Low |
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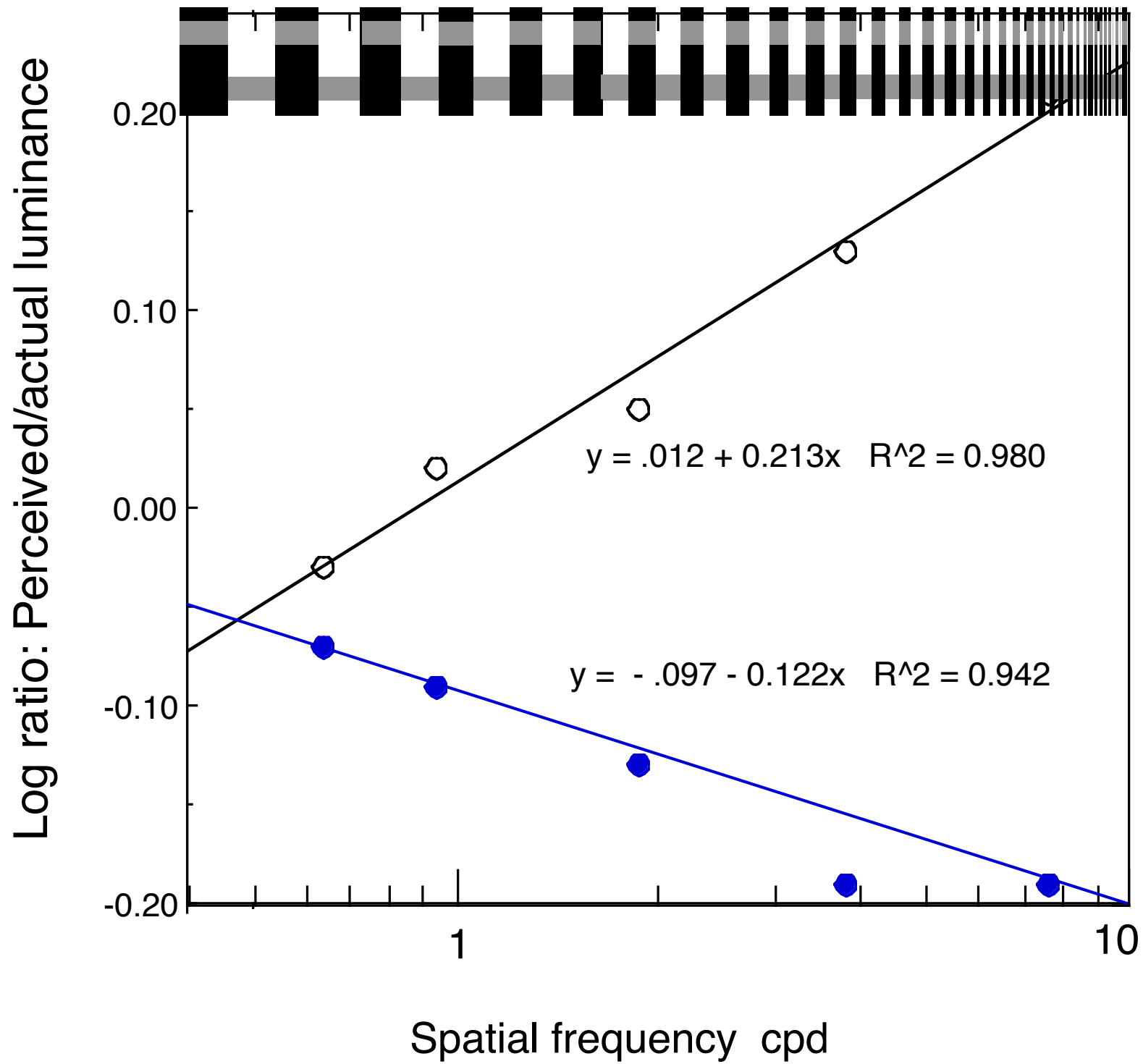
Results

White's effect:

- increases with spatial frequency
- can generalise to colour

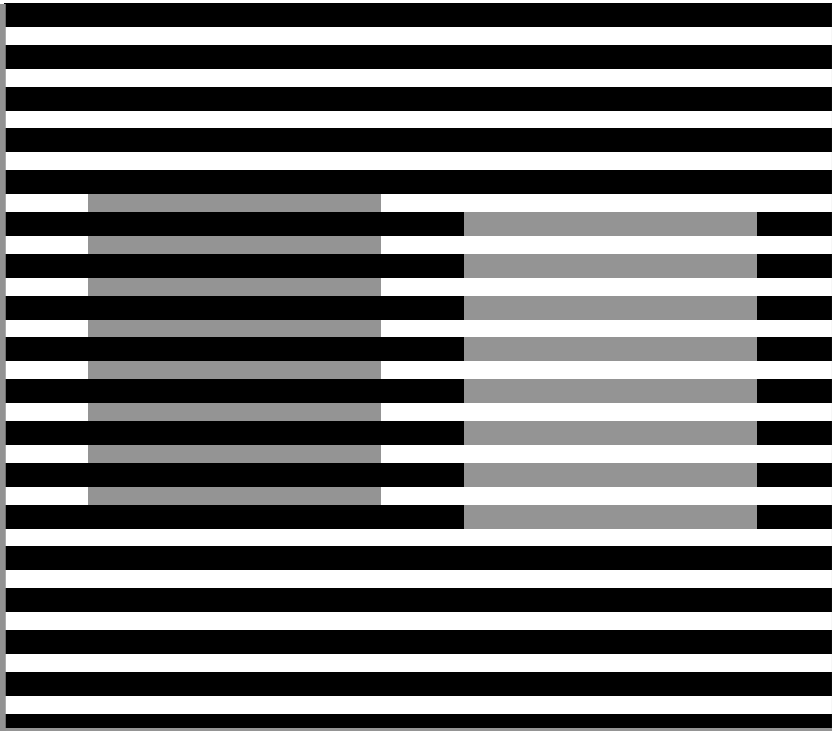


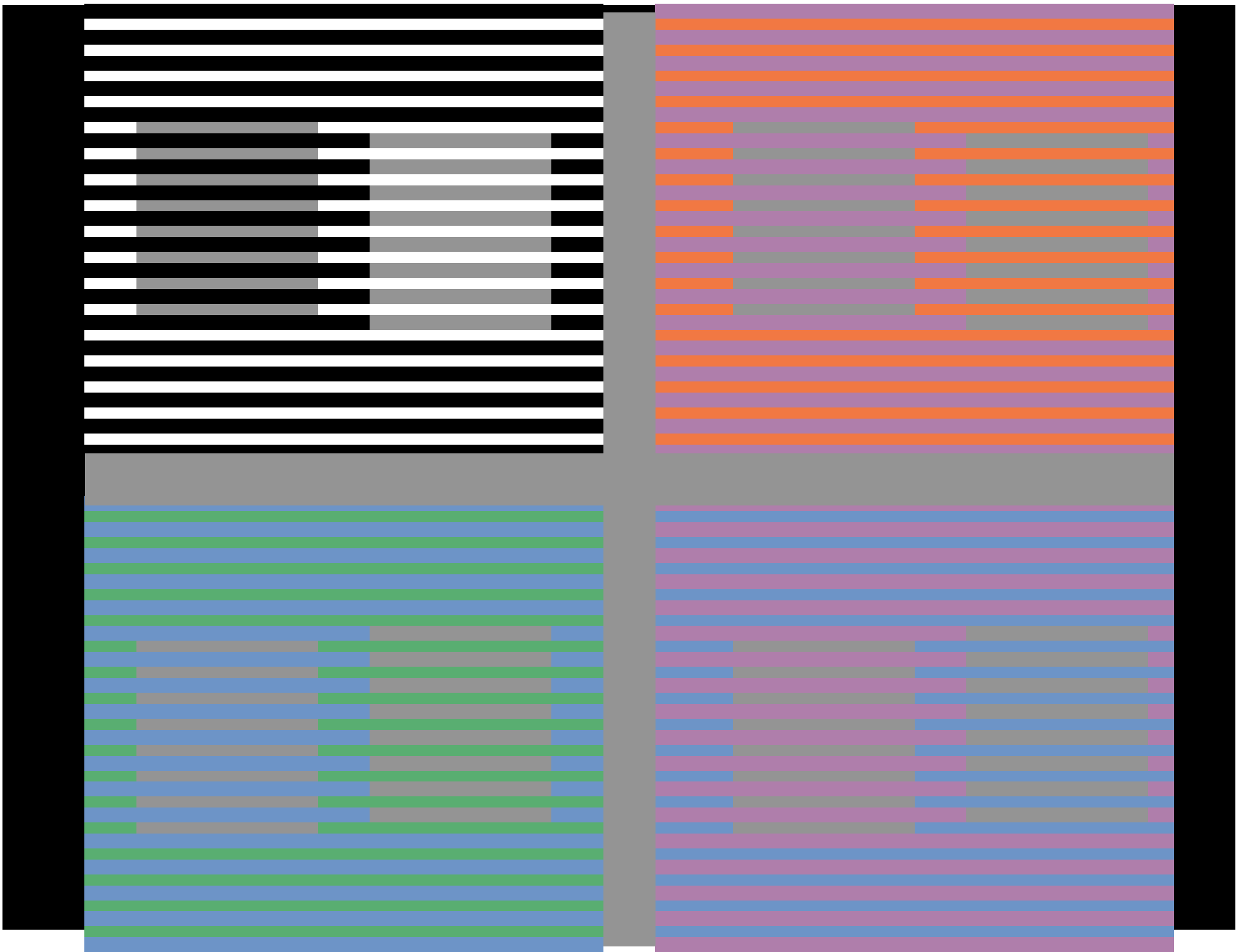
White's effect increases with spatial frequency

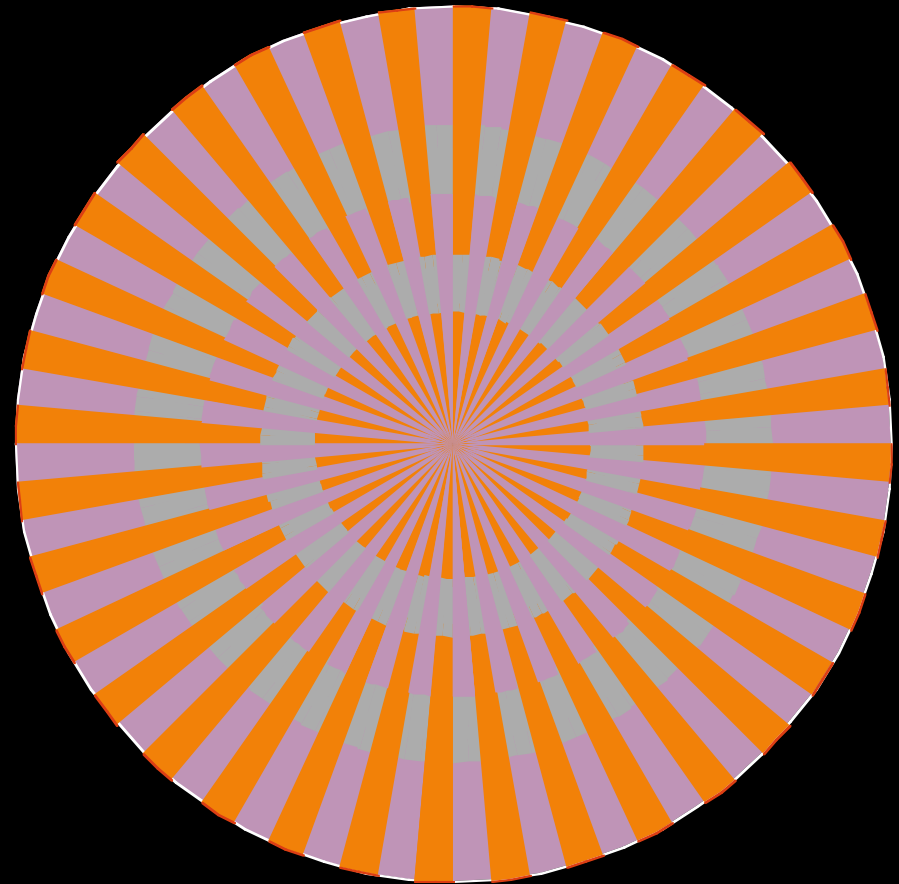
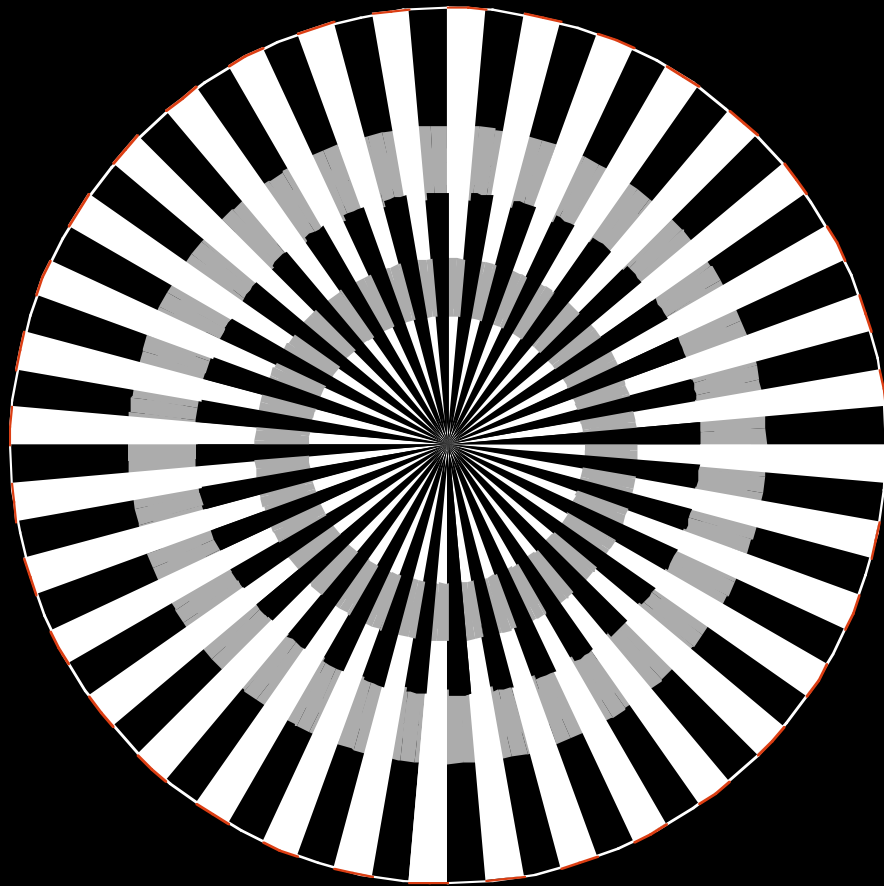


Colored White's effect

(All grays in the next four slides are the same)

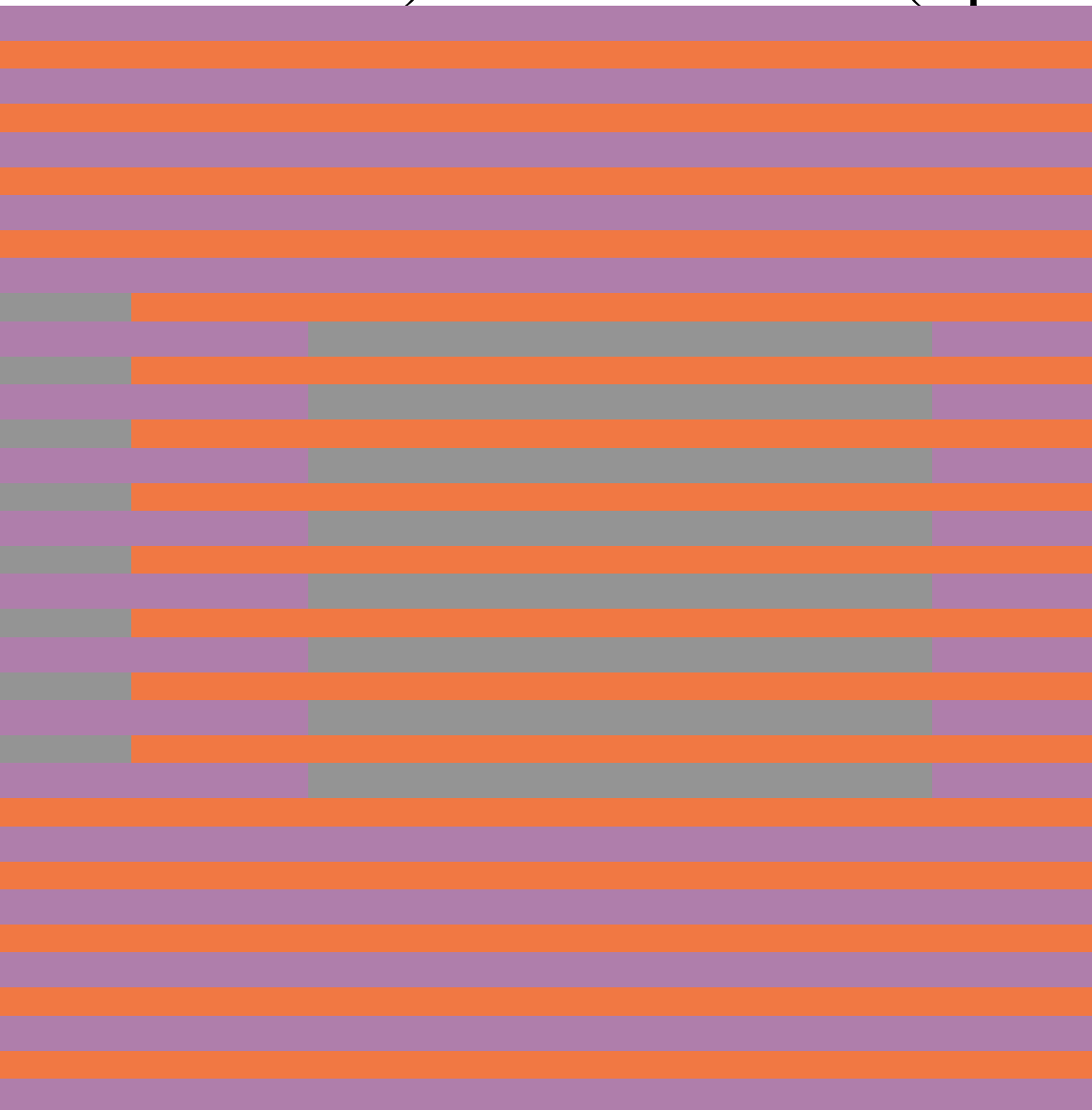






All annuli are the same gray

Colored White's effect: Why does grey test patch look yellow-green? Contrast (=negative induced hues) or assimilation (=positive induced hues) ?

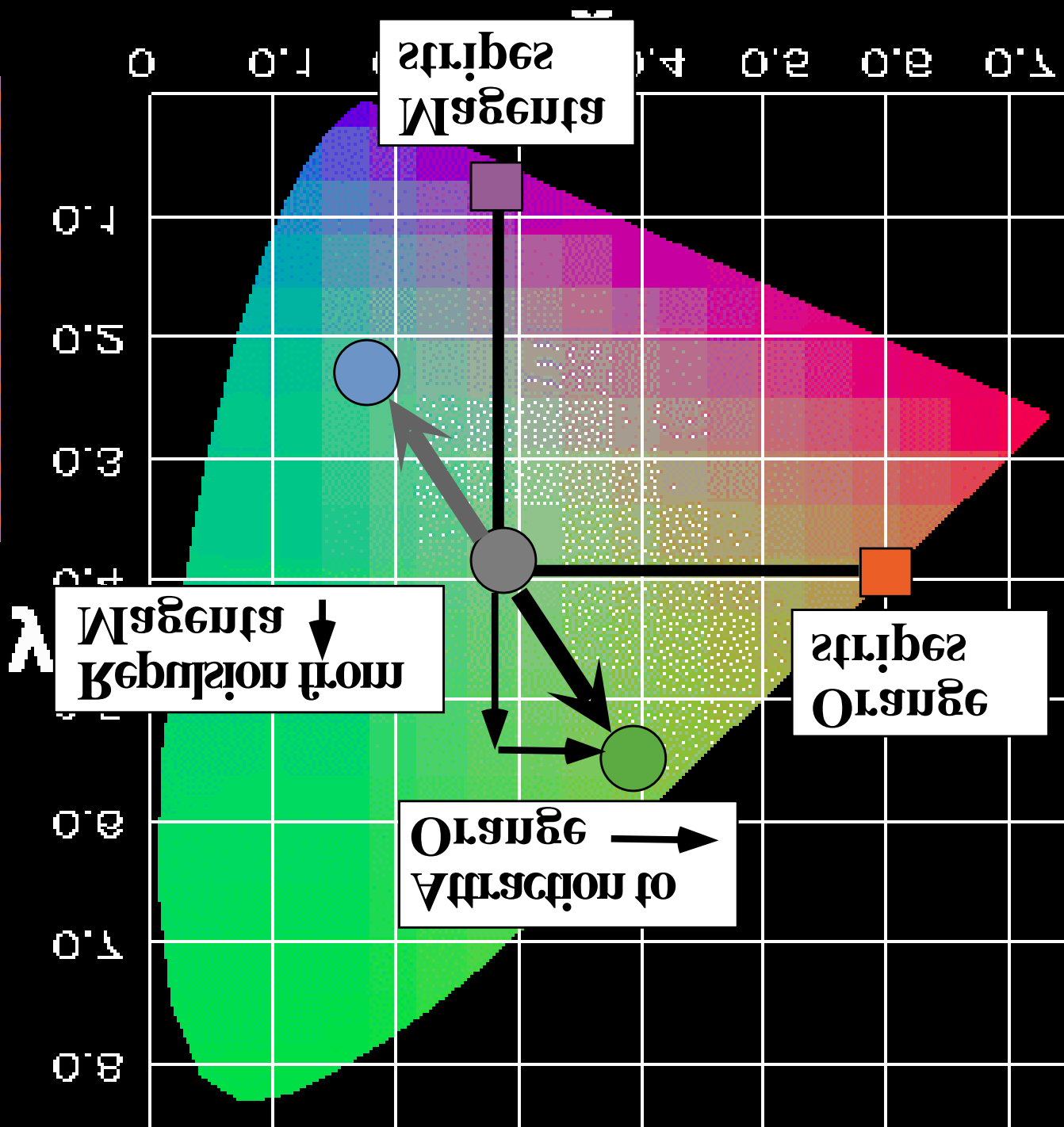
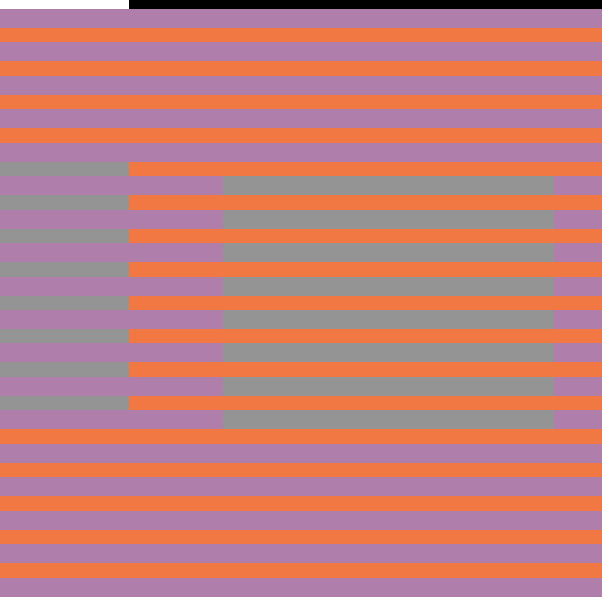


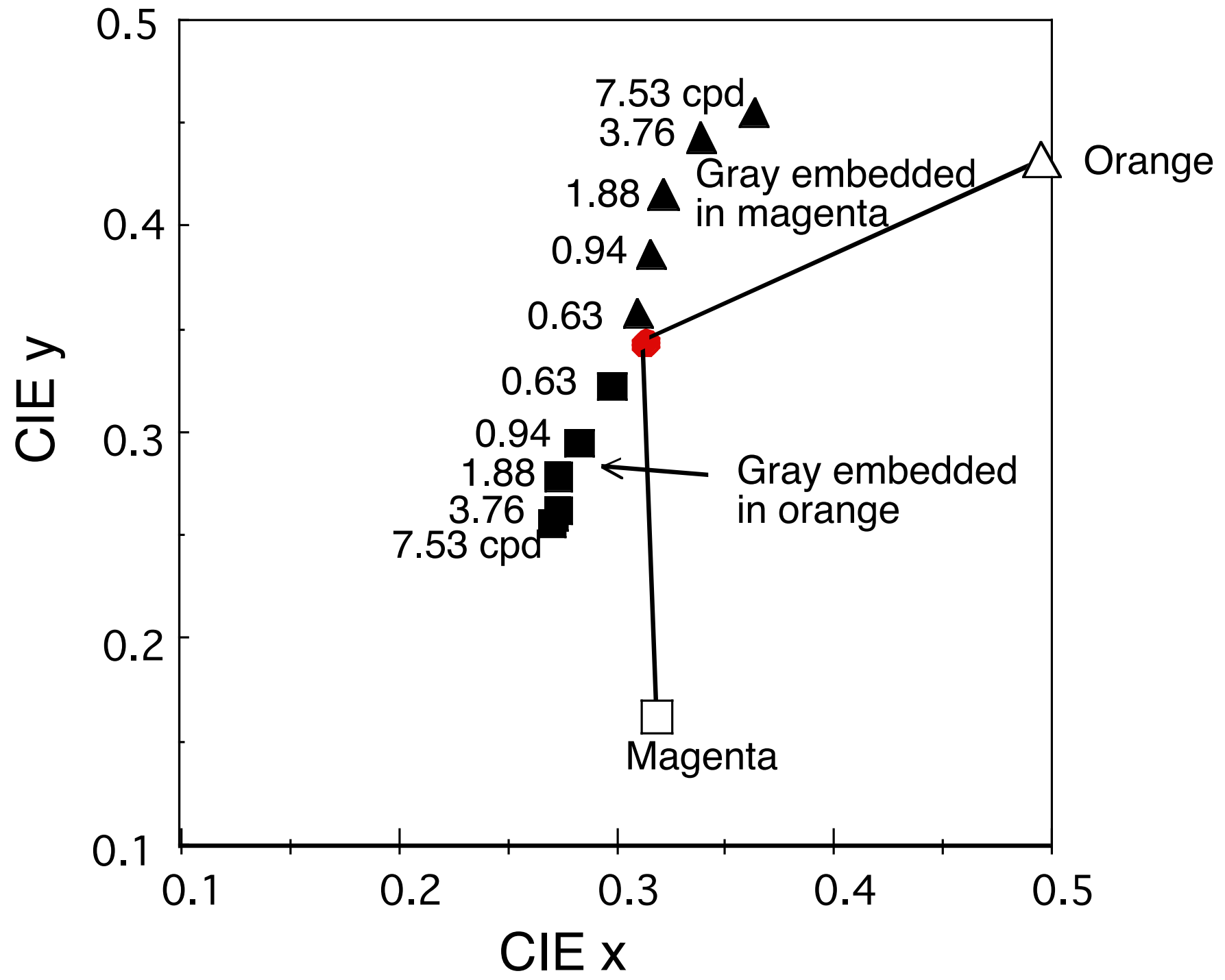
Use non-complementary colored stripes

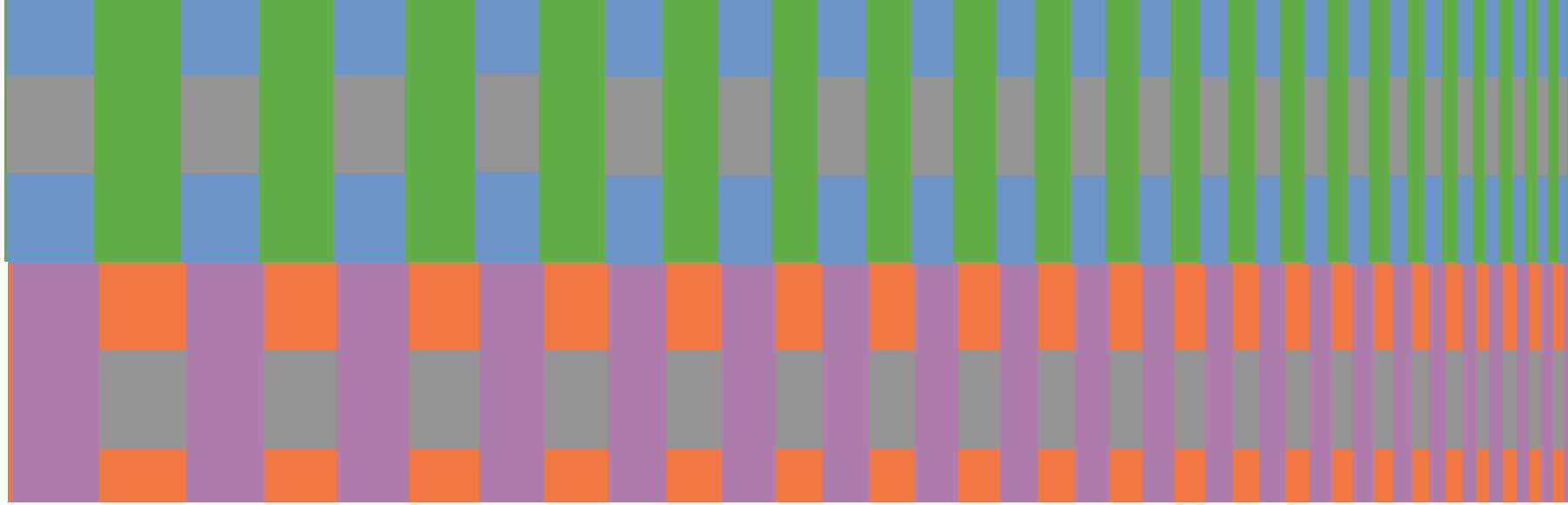
End-wise contrast from embedding magenta stripes (to minus-magenta = green)?

Or:

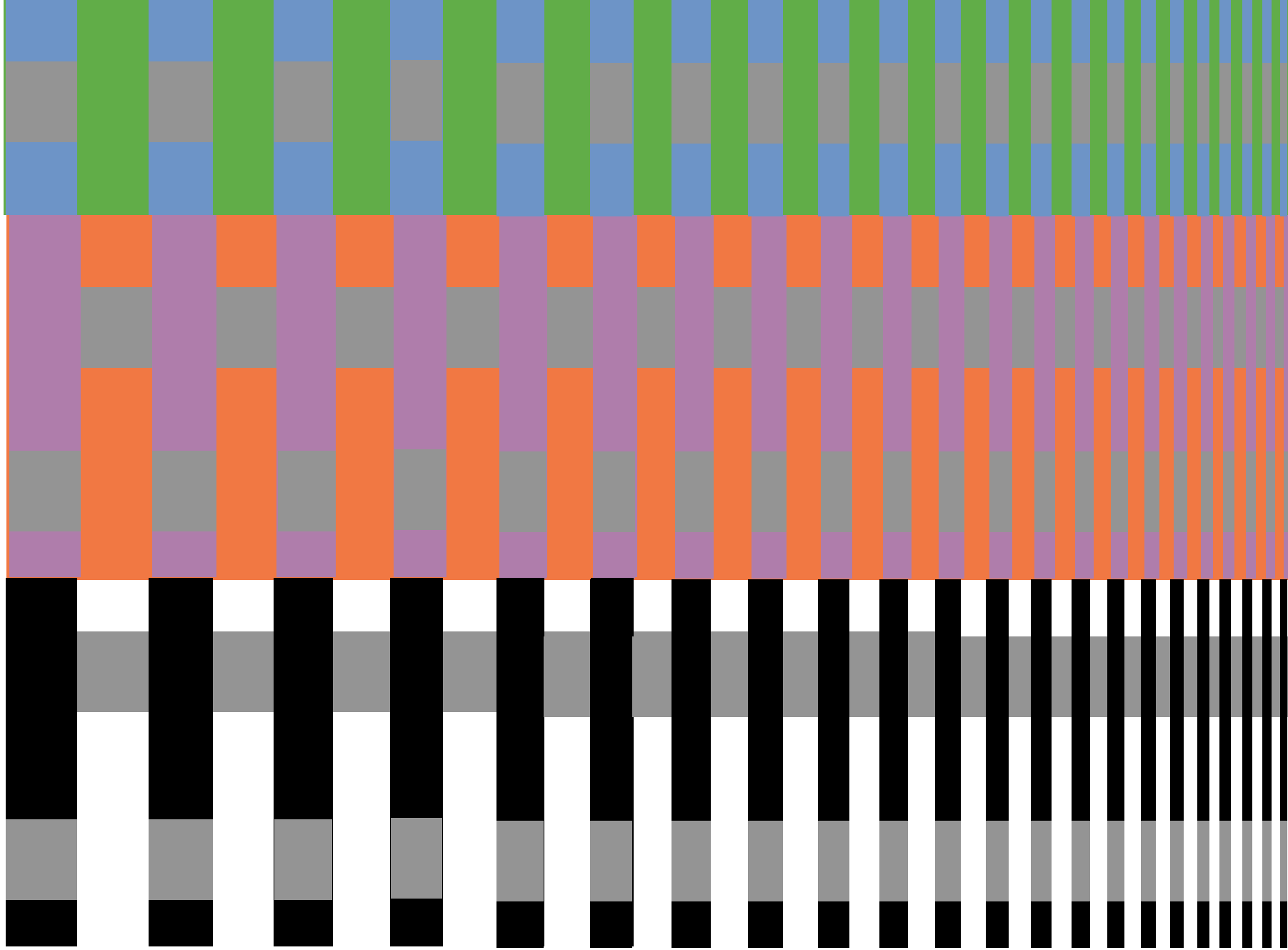
Assimilation (to orange) from flanking orange stripes?



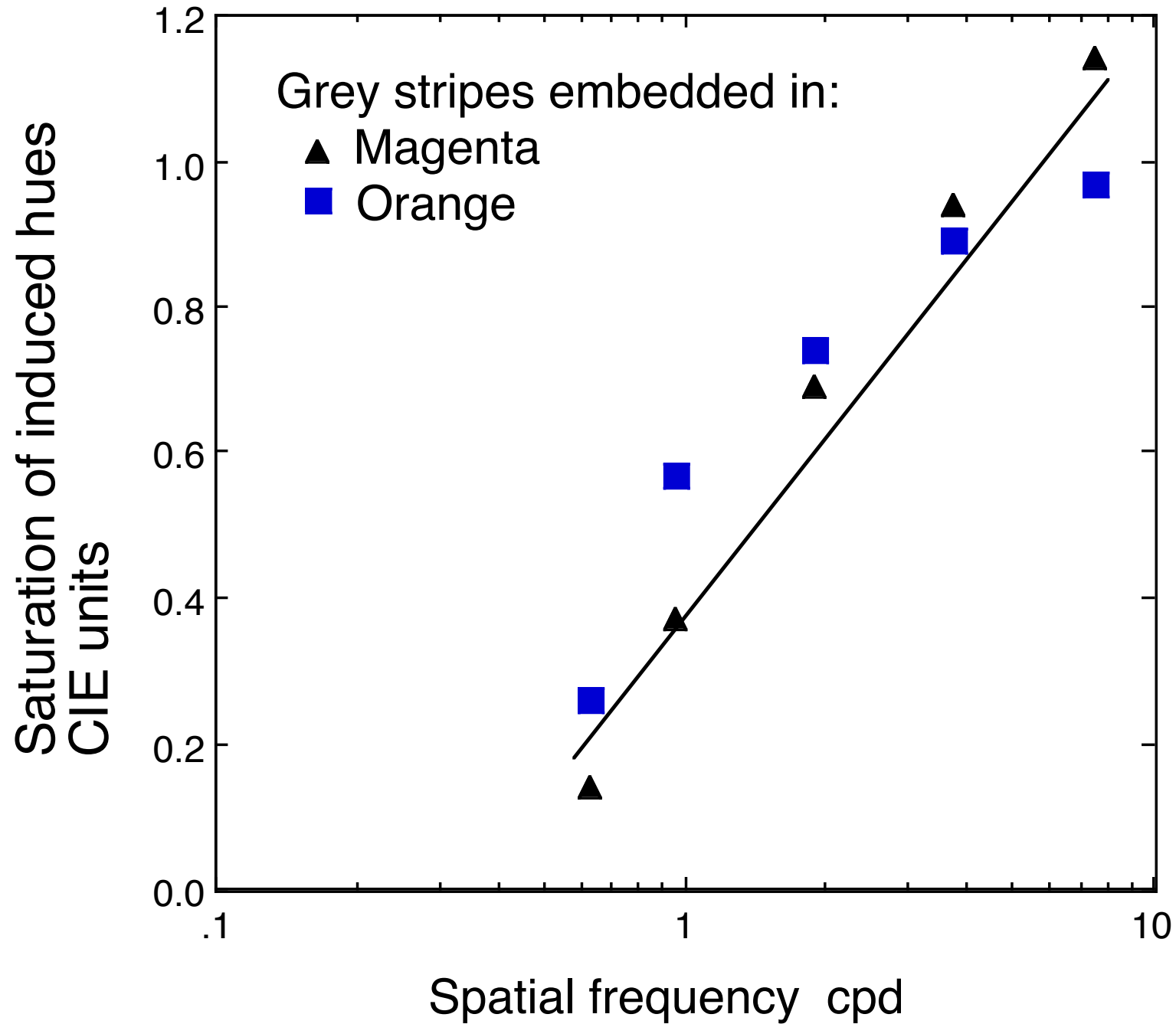




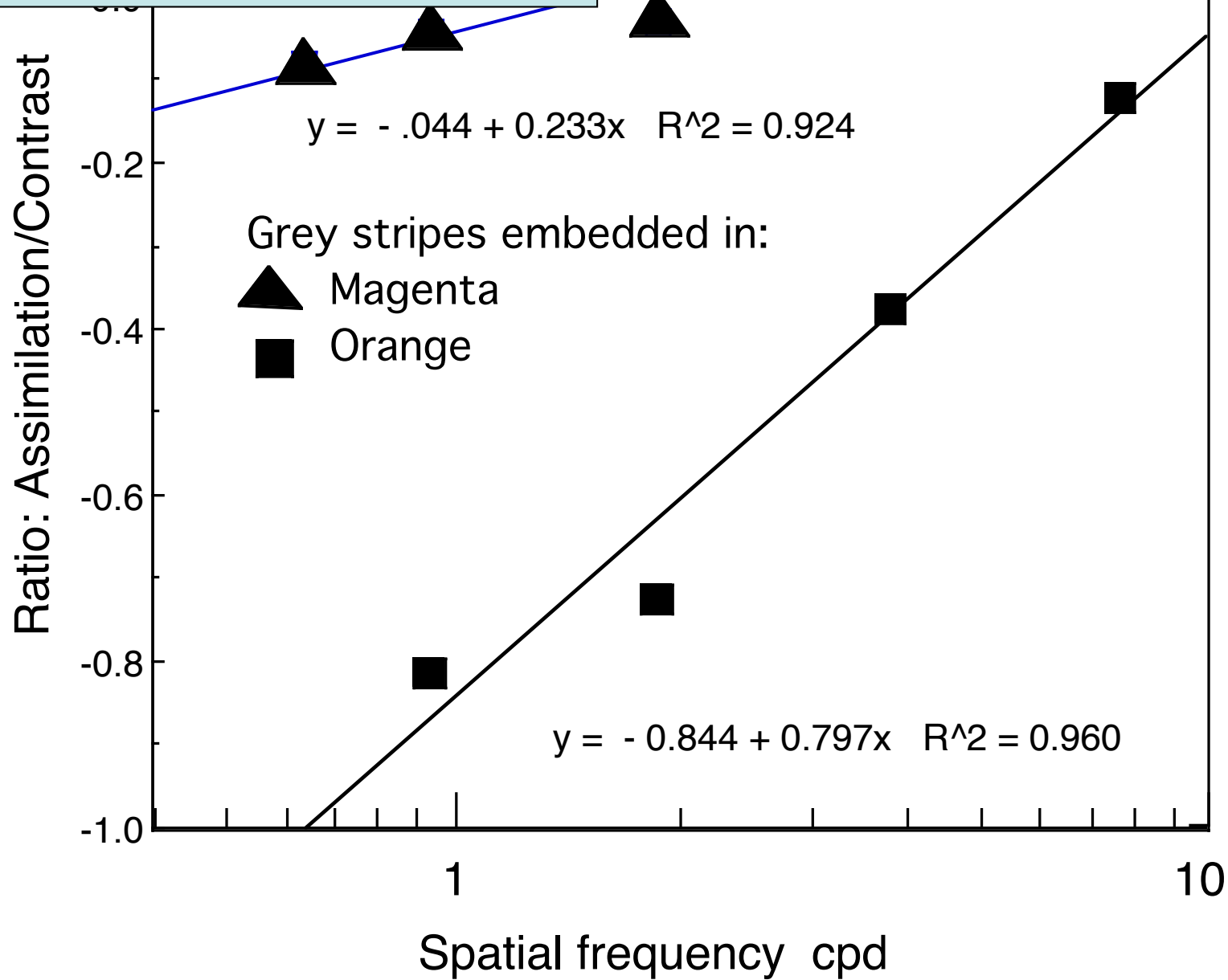
White's effect increases with spatial frequency,
for black/white and also for color.



Colored White's effect increases with spatial frequency



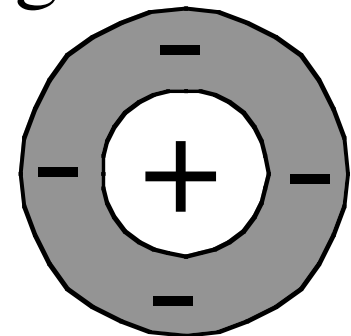
Ratio of assimilation to contrast increases with spatial frequency



Conclusion from coloured White's effect:

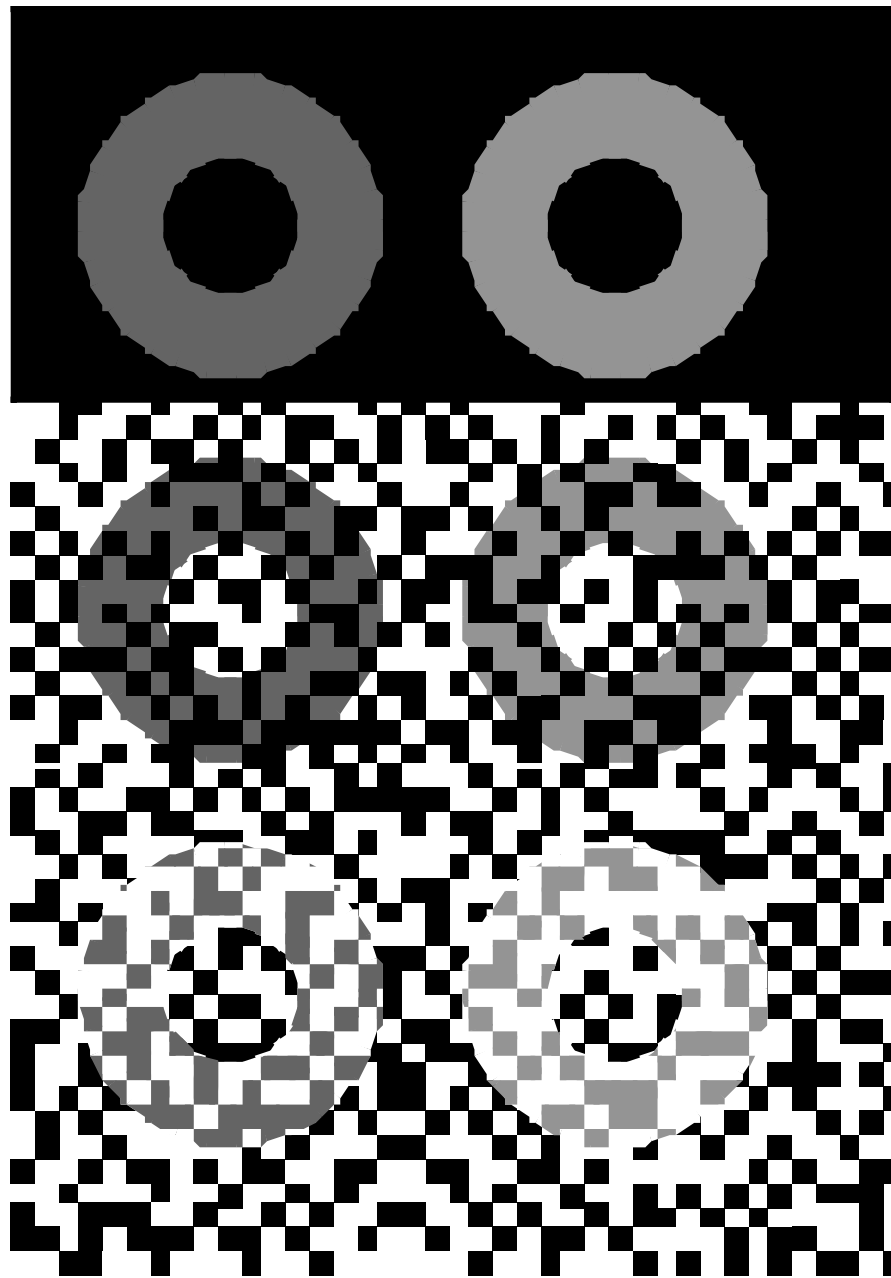
- At low spatial frequencies
Contrast $>$ Assimilation
- At high spatial frequencies
Assimilation $>$ Contrast
($\&$ big overall effect)

So: Assimilation has smaller spatial range!

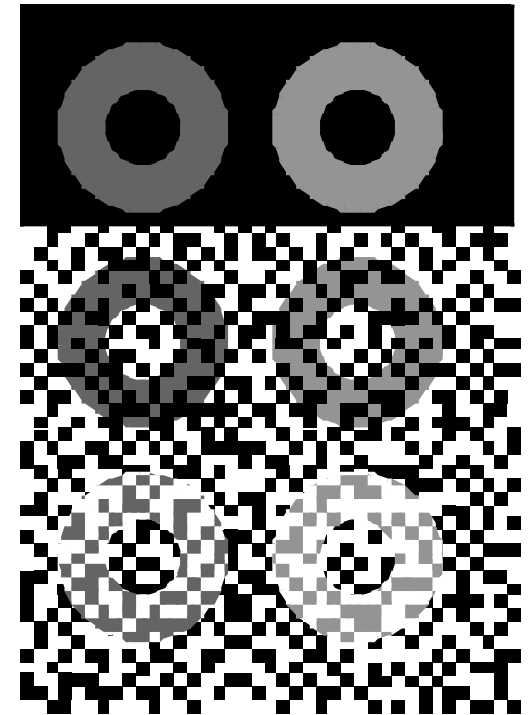


Why geometrical theories are WRONG

“Stuart’s Rings” in next slide are isotropic -- no bars or T-junctions -- yet give brightness illusions like White’s Effect.



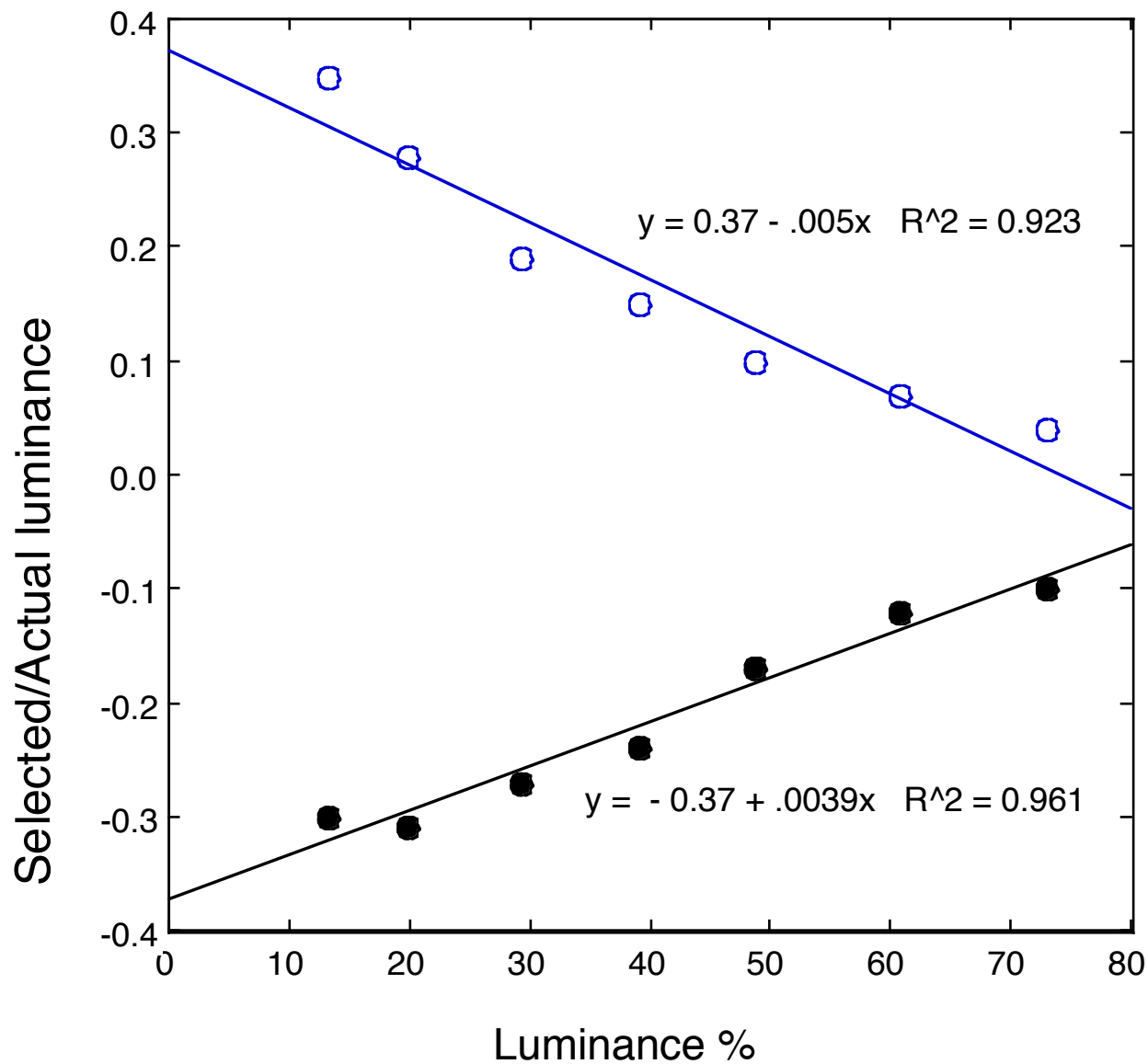
3 rings in each column are the same grey



“Stuart’s Rings”

“Stuart’s Rings” stronger (=larger vertical gap) for dark rings

Rings contain:
Gray + White pixels
+ Black



Theories of White's effect

Level:

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|------|
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White's effect
and
MOTION

Movie :

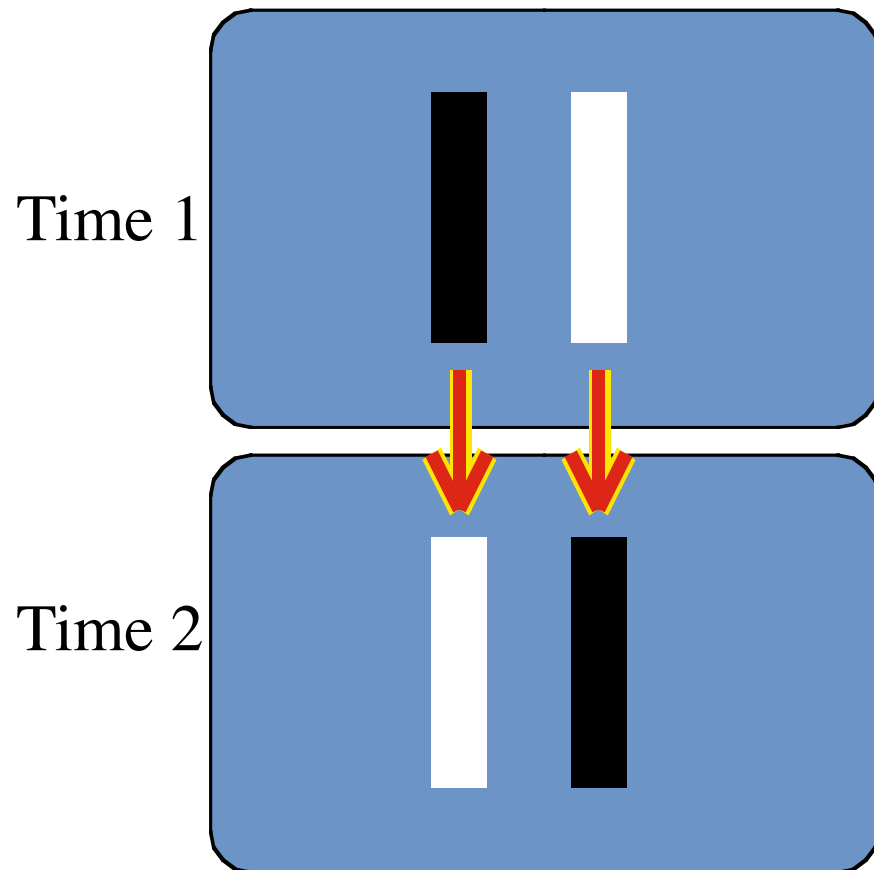
1 Footsteps illusion:

Contrast affects apparent speed



A black & a white bar exchange luminances.

Do you see...



Two bars flickering in place?

NO; a “suspicious coincidence”, so brain applies Occam’s Razor:

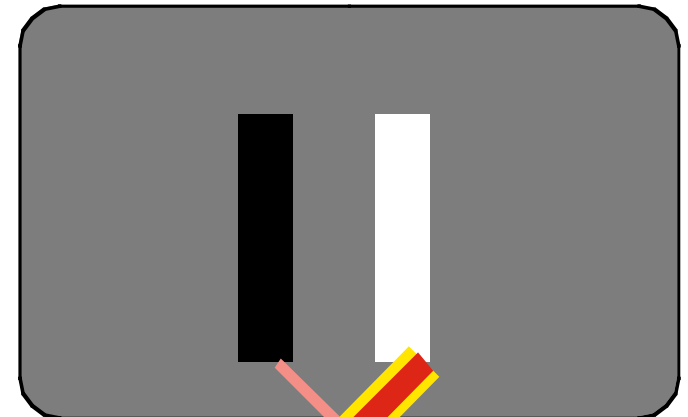
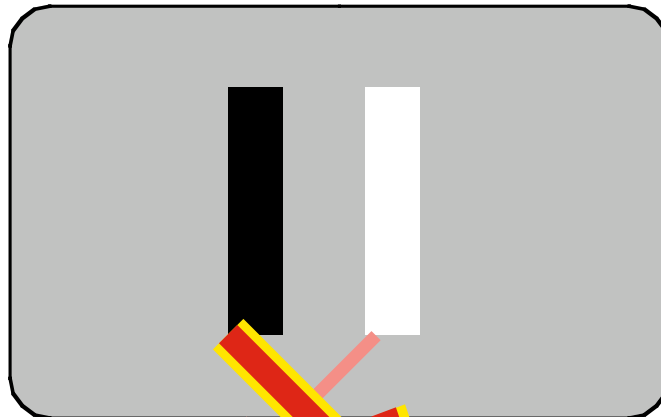
What minimum hypothetical real world events can explain max no. of visual inputs?

Ans: Not 2 flickering, but one moving bar!

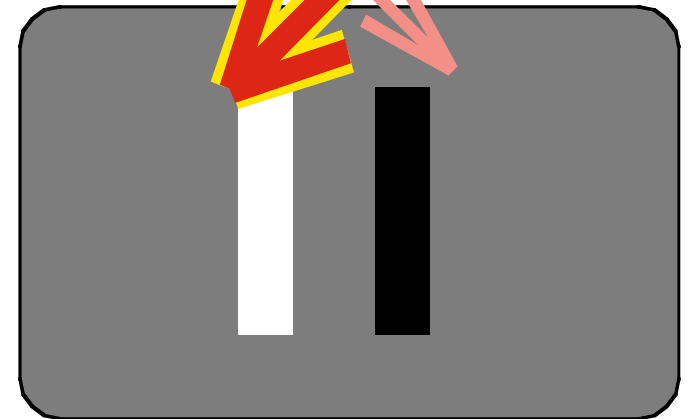
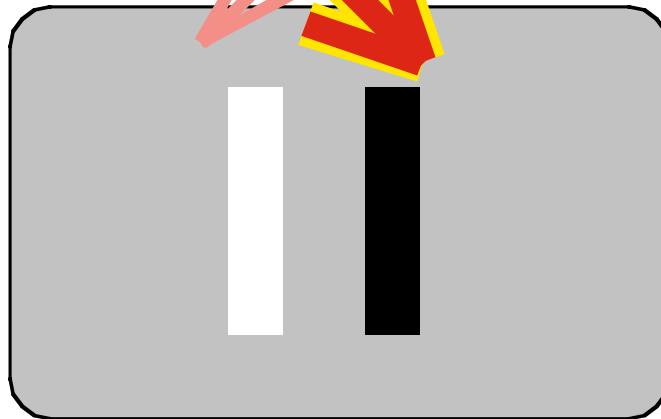
So WHICH bar jumps?

Ans: Bar with higher contrast.

Time 1



Time 2

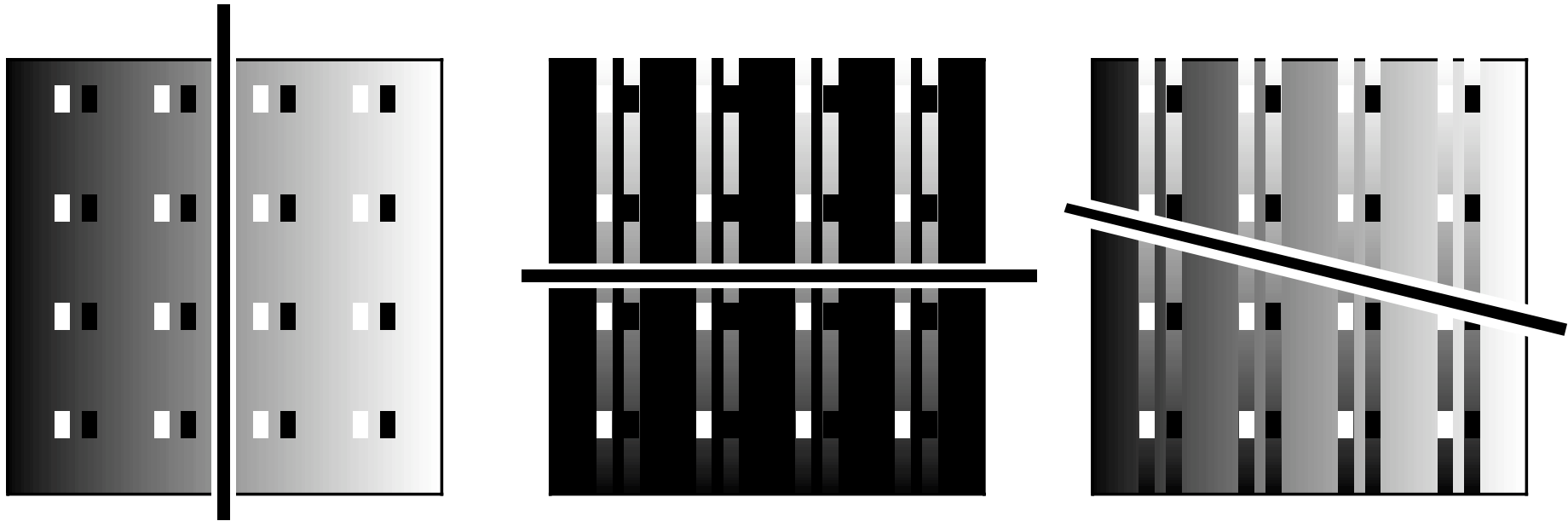


Now: White's effect and contrast...

Movie: 2 WhiteDemo



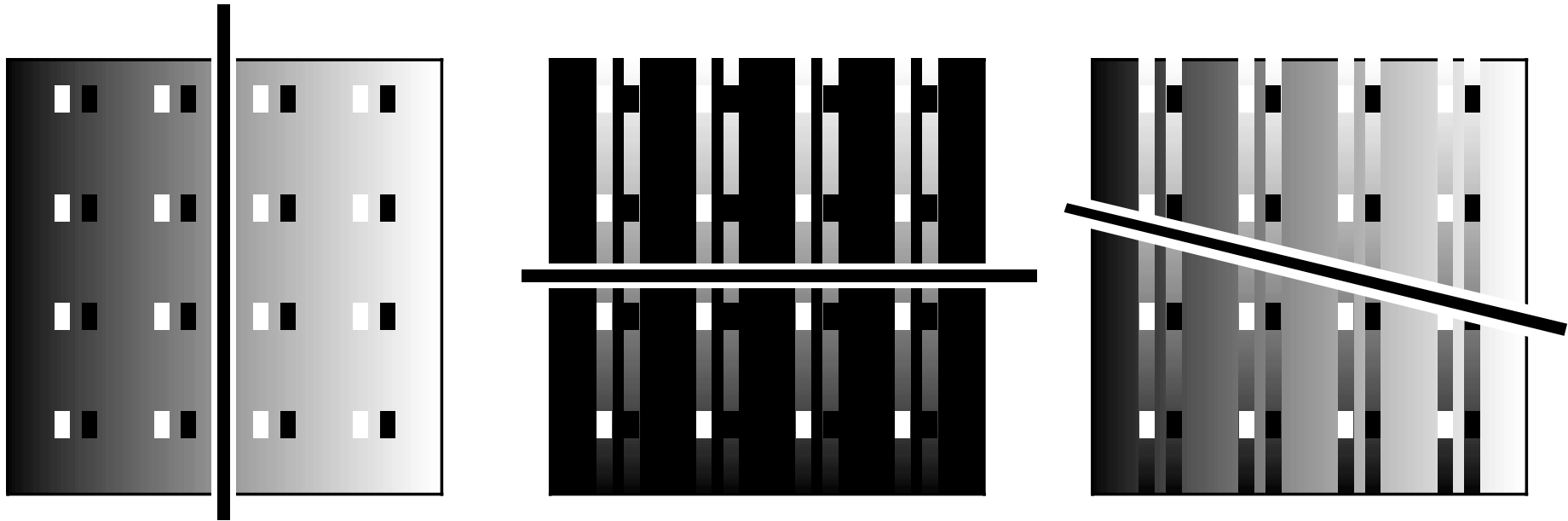
White's effect and apparent motion



Movie: 3 White Demo

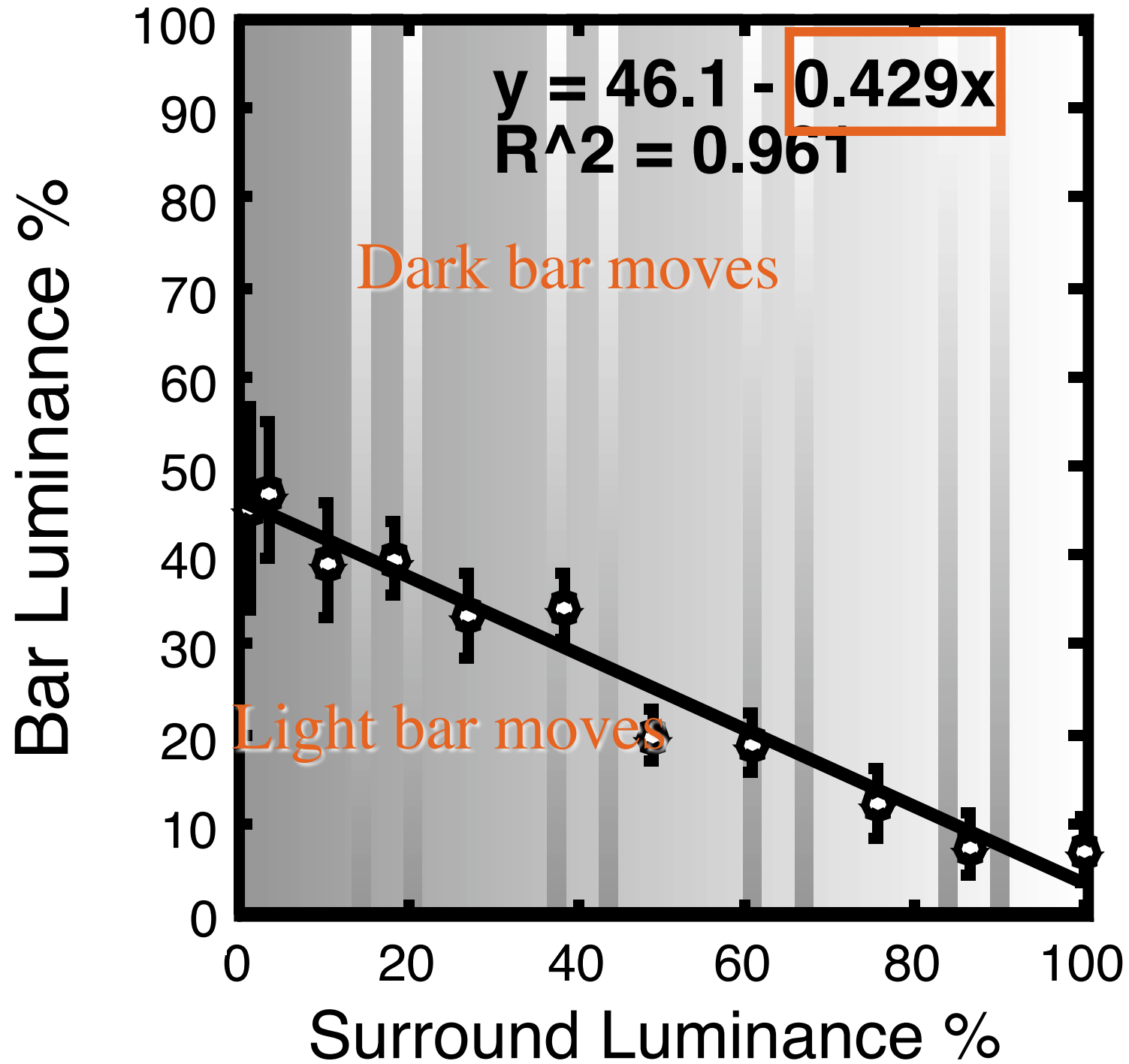


White's effect and apparent motion



Movie: 4 WhiteDemo





Slope = -0.429,
so embedding bars are **2.33**
(=1/0.429) times more important
than surround in setting motion
strength.

Movie:

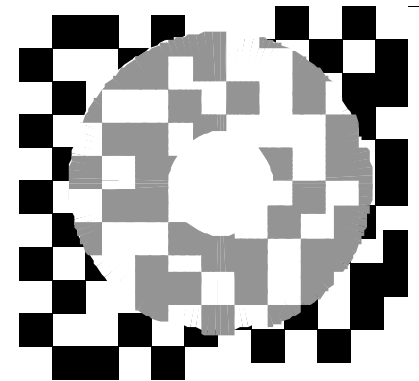
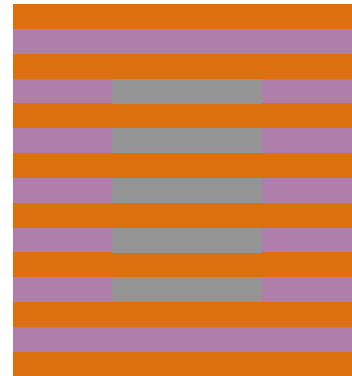
5 White Jump



Conclusions

- Assimilation AND contrast
- NOT geometry [T-junctions, elongated RFs]
- White's effect precedes motion perception

6 CogMovie



thank you

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the end

To be published in “Visual Processing of Spatial
Form” (Conference Proceedings),
Ed. Michael Jenkin & Laurence Harris