Homework 6: Color Vision
10 Points: Due at beginning of class, Thursday, 14 April 2011

There are two parts to this homework assignment. Each part counts 5 points. Late homework will receive a grade of zero.

Part 1: Three colors are each matched by the following three color-equations using the C.I.E. Tristimulus X, Y, and Z primaries:

$$C_1 \equiv 0.45X + 1.05Y + 0.50Z$$
$$C_2 \equiv 1.35X + 3.15Y + 1.50Z$$
$$C_3 \equiv 3.20X + 1.85Y + 0.95Z$$

The C.I.E. chromaticity coordinates x, y, z, are computed from the Tristimulus values:

$$x = \frac{X}{(X+Y+Z)}, \quad y = \frac{Y}{(X+Y+Z)}, \quad z = \frac{Z}{(X+Y+Z)}$$

Compute the chromaticity coordinates of each color (small x, y, and z). Construct a chromaticity graph by plotting x-chromaticity against y-chromaticity (make the axis scales go from 0.0 to 1.0). Compare the chromaticity of the three colors: are they the same or different? Will these colors exactly match each other in appearance? If not, how do they differ? Finally, what C.I.E. primaries X, Y, and Z, will match the color C_4 produced when C_2 is added to C_3? Plot C_4 on your chromaticity graph.

Part 2: There are three perceptual processes in color vision: two chromatic channels and one achromatic channel. These three processes receive input from the three types of cones according to these three equations:

$$(+r - g) = 1.89L - 2.79M + 0.45S \qquad \text{Red - Green}$$
$$(+y - b) = 0.85L + 0.22M - 1.72S \qquad \text{Yellow - Blue}$$
$$Lum = 0.85L + 0.15M + 0.015S \qquad \text{Luminance}$$

where S, M, and L are the short, medium, and long wavelength cone types. The luminance equation is given for completeness: You don't need it for the problem below. Assume that two colors activate the cones by the following amounts:

	L	M	S
C5	22.0	8.8	2.2
C6	5.0	20.0	5.0

Make a graph of the opponent process color space with the x-axis representing (+r–g) and the y-axis representing (+y–b). Both axis scales should run from -50 to +50. Compute the activation of the two chromatic channels (ignore luminance) to C5, to C6, and to a mixture of C5 and C6 (C5 + C6). Plot each of the three colors as points on the graph (C5, C6, and C5+C6). What are the color **appearances** of C5 and of C6? What is the color **appearance** of the mixture of C5 and of C6?