# **Color Discrimination**

#### **Tony Esposito, PhD**

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#### **Outline**

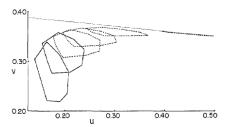
Background

Esposito and Houser 2017

Esposito 2019 [unpublished]

Moving forward





#### **WA Thorton** [1972] – Color Discrimination Index

"...the extent to which the illumination allows the observer to discriminate among a large variety of object colors simultaneously viewed."

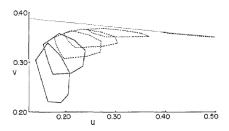
Gamut area as a predictor of discrimination ability, CDI

#### Good



### **Bad**

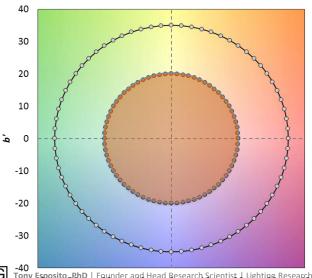




**WA Thorton** [1972] – Color Discrimination Index

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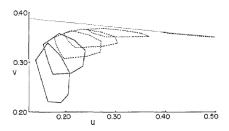
Gamut area as a predictor of discrimination ability, CDI



# Example

$$R_{\rm g} = 100$$

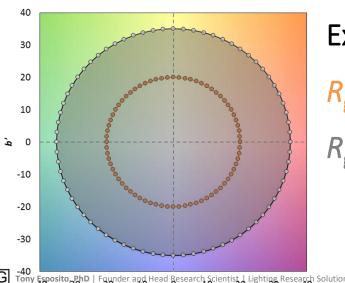
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#### **WA Thorton** [1972] – Color Discrimination Index

"...the extent to which the illumination allows the observer to discriminate among a large variety of object colors simultaneously viewed."

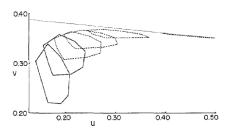
Gamut area as a predictor of discrimination ability, CDI



# Example

$$R_{g} = 100$$

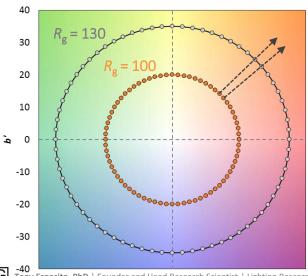
$$R_{g} = 130$$



#### **WA Thorton** [1972] – Color Discrimination Index

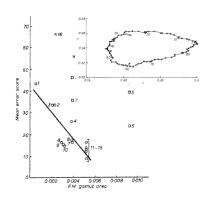
"...the extent to which the illumination allows the observer to discriminate among a large variety of object colors simultaneously viewed."

Gamut area as a predictor of discrimination ability, CDI



Does Larger gamut = better CD?



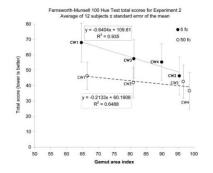


### Boyce, Boyce and Simons [1976, 1977]

 $R_{\rm a}$  ("CRI") and CDI are approximate predictors

Above 300 lux, lamp type is more important than illuminance

Age is a significant factor

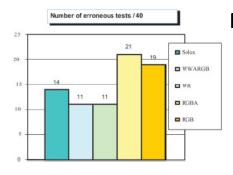


#### Rea and Freyssinier-Nova [2007]

Evaluated cool white and warm white sources

Color discrimination better (i.e. error scores consistently lower) at higher illuminances

GAI is a better, and more consistent predictor than CIE  $R_a$ 

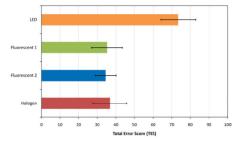


#### Mahler and Others [2008]

CRI correlates well with discrimination for LED sources

Increasing chroma (saturation) doens't imply improved Color Discrimination

Color discrimination ability of "...RGB LED illumination is reduced precisely for the falsely saturated colors."



#### **Royer and Others** [2011]

CRI, CDI, and FM Gamut all fail to predict (or correctly rank order) the four experimental SPDs

Gamut measures "...are not accurate predictors of color discrimination capability when highly structured SPDs are included."

# **Esposito and Houser 2017**

## Background: Esposito and Houser define Rd

# A new measure of color discrimination



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November 15, 2018



https://www.ies.org/lighting-education/a-new-measure-of-color-discrimination/

## **Background:** Esposito and Houser define Rd

#### **Lighting Research and Technology**

Esposito T, Houser KW. 2017. A new measure of color discrimination for LEDs and other sources. Lighting Research and Technology. 51(1): 5-23.

#### Personal Website – Green Open Access Free Download

https://espositotresearch.com/bibliography/

https://espositotresearch.files.wordpress.com/2018/07/espositot\_houserkw\_2017\_a-new-measure-of-colour-discrimination-for-leds-and-other-light-sources\_greenopenaccess.pdf



## **Background:** Esposito and Houser define Rd

Available fidelity and gamut indices cannot predict a light source's ability to permit the accurate discrimination of colors.

Previous research highlights this problem specifically for highly structured spectra (e.g. sharp peaks and valleys).

#### **PROBLEM**

We don't have an accurate and reliable CD metric for applied lighting

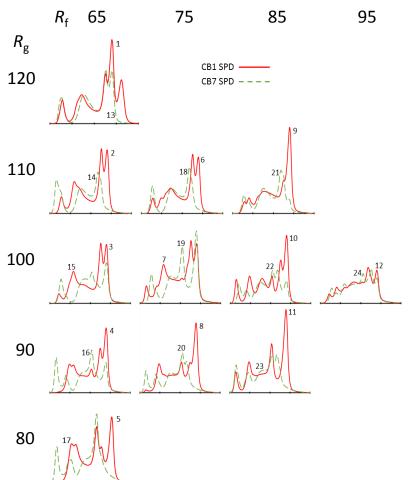
#### **GOAL**

To develop a generalizable method for quantifying a light source's CD ability:

CCT = 3500 K

 $D_{uv} = 0.000$ 

E = 600 lx



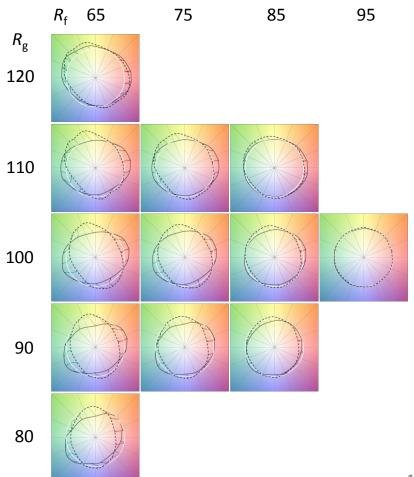


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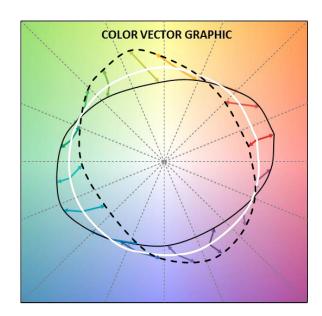


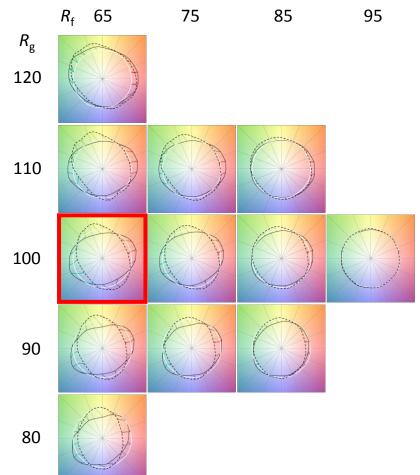
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#### 24 spectra



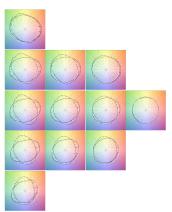
20 participants per spectra



480 FM-100 tests

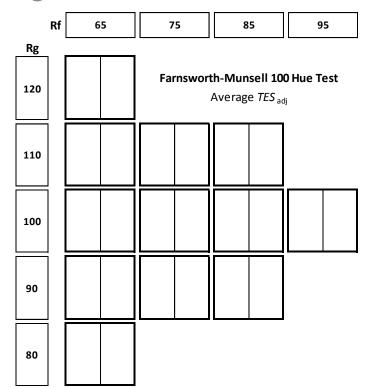
Average TES<sub>adj</sub>

4 nominal  $R_f$  values 5 nominal  $R_g$  values 2 CVG orientations

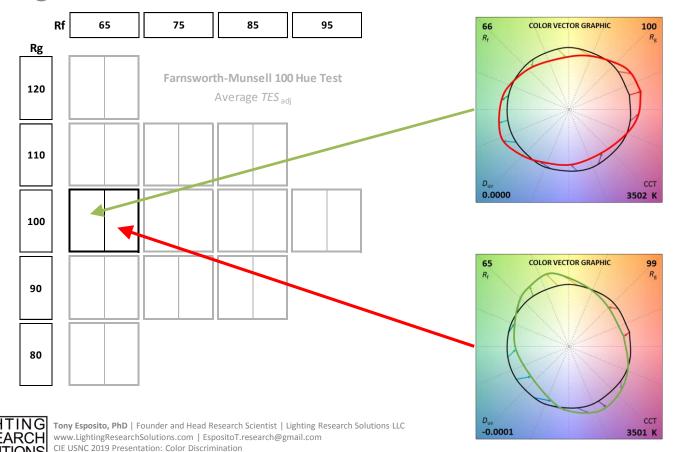


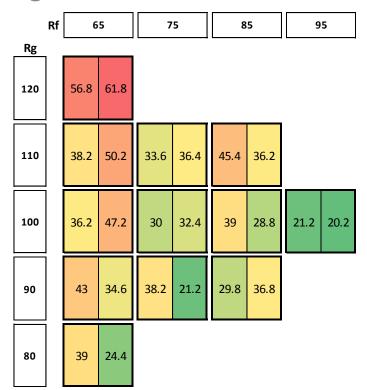










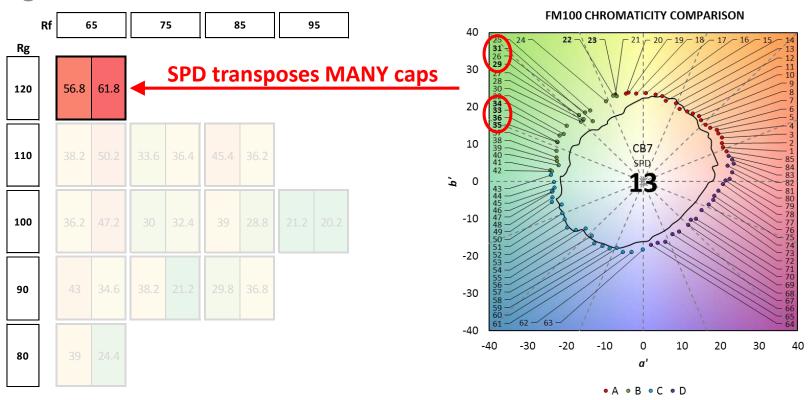


		p-value	
Model	r <sup>2</sup>	Gamut	Fidelity
$R_{\rm g} + R_{\rm f}$	61.07	0.001	0.001
$Q_a + Q_f$	56.20	0.000	0.000
$Q_{\rm g}$ + $Q_{\rm f}$	48.16	0.002	0.036
$GAI + R_a$	42.31	0.004	0.111
$FMG + R_a$	40.98	0.005	0.131
FMG (CIE CAM02) + $R_a$	41.72	0.004	0.066
CDI + R <sub>a</sub>	42.29	0.004	0.111

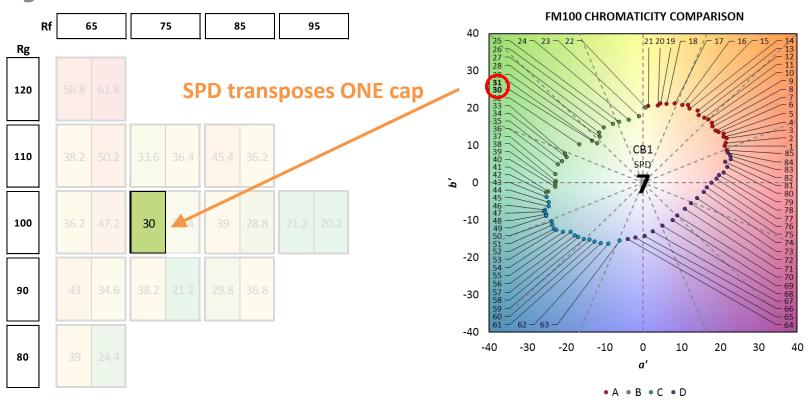
Gamut area is not predictive of TES<sub>adj</sub>

Even when paired with an average fidelity metric

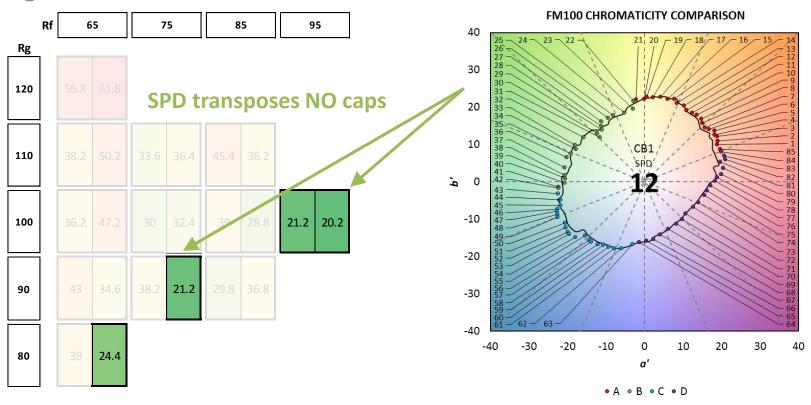






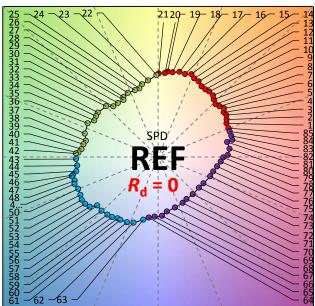




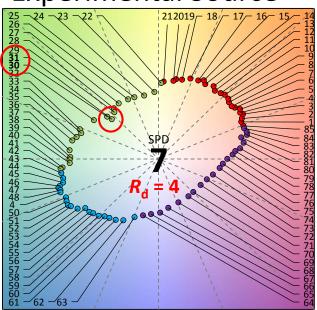




## **Standard Illuminant**

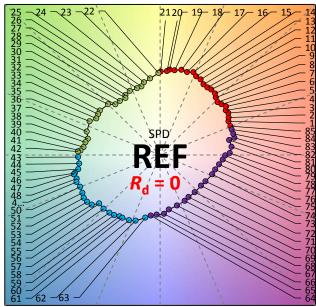


# **Experimental Source**

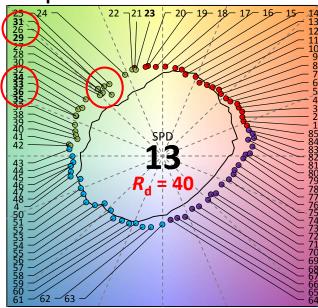




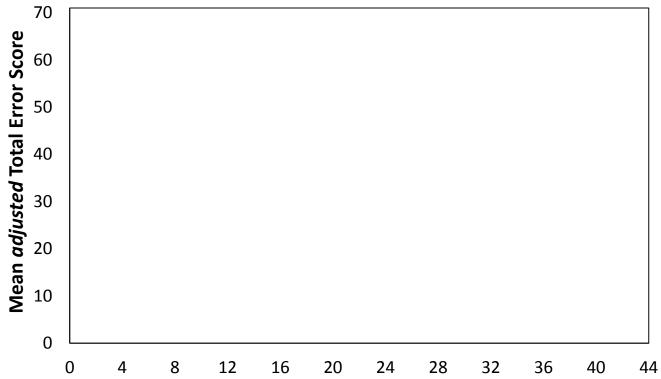
## **Standard Illuminant**



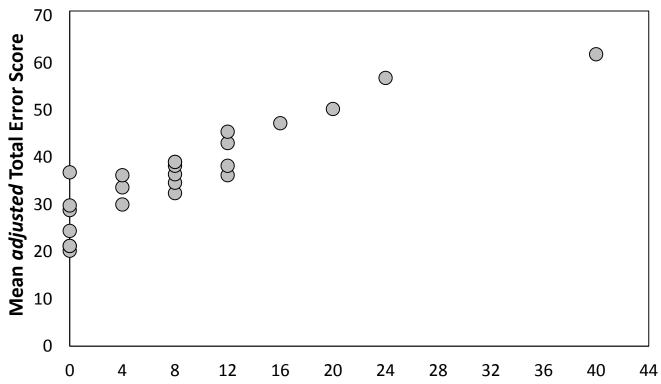
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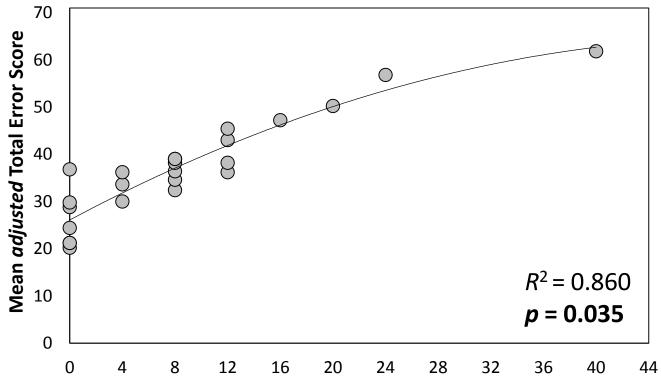






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www.LipbingResearchSolutions.com | EspositoT.research@ Total light source error score (R<sub>d</sub>)





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Source Type	Source Name	$R_{d}$	Discrimination
Incandescent	75WA19 Neodymium	12	Average
Incandescent	Halogen/Halogen MR16	4, 8	Average
Incandescent	Filtered Halogen	0	Superior
HID	HPS Standard	40, 48	Poor
HID	HPS Deluxe	36	Poor
HID	Super HPS	40	Poor
HID	Mercury	36, 44, 52	Poor
HID	CDM940 - Metal Halide	0	Superior
HID	CDM830, MHC100/U/MP/3K	4, 8	Average
LED	Mixed (Experimental)	0-40	Superior, Average, Poor
LED	Hybrid (Commercial)	0-16	Superior, Average, Poor
LED	Phosphor	0-28	Superior, Average, Poor
Fluorescent	Narrowband - F32T8/7XX	8, 12, 24	Average, Poor
Fluorescent	Narrowband - F32T8/8XX	0-16, 24	Superior, Average, Poor
Fluorescent	Narrowband - F32T8/9XX	0, 8	Superior, Average
Fluorescent	Narrowband - F40T12/XXU	8, 12, 24	Average, Poor
Fluorescent	Broadband	0, 4, 8, 20	Superior, Average, Poor
Model	CIE D65	0	Superior
Model	Equal Energy	0	Superior
	Founder and Head Research Scientist   Lighting Re ISOI <b>ldeal</b> c <b>Brime</b> p <b>Color</b> esearch@gmail.com	60	Poor



CIE USNC 2019 Presentation: Color Discrimination

Background: Rd

# $R_{\rm d}$ , Total Light Source Error Score

(Sum of Partial Light Source Error Score,  $R_{d,i}$ )

" $R_{\rm d}$  was developed from 480 individual FM-100 tests and back tested on more than 200 common light sources to verify accordance with experience and anecdote.  $R_{\rm d}$  is a strong predictor of [total error score] and has face validity."

# **Esposito 2019 [unpublished]**



## **Study:** Prime Color Wavelengths

# Thornton WA. 1971. Luminosity and color-rendering capability of white light. J Opt Soc Am. 61(9): 1155-1163

"The peculiar wavelength dependences...can be summarized as follows: Three wavelengths, approximately **450**, **540**, and **610** nm, are strikingly effective in promoting good color rendition by white light.

Two wavelengths, approximately **495** and **575** nm, have deleterious effects on color rendition, and the first of these is also relatively ineffective for luminosity."

Not all wavelengths are created equal!

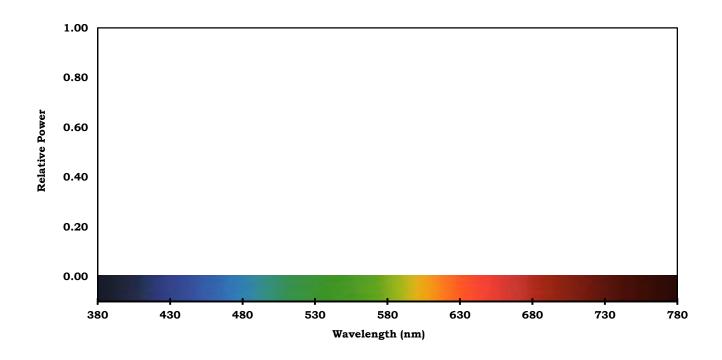


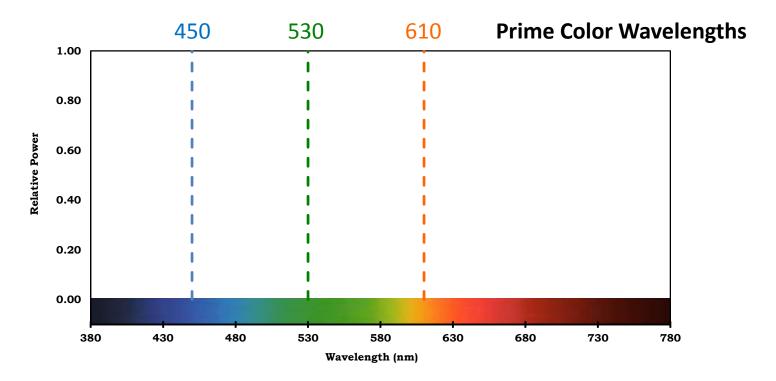
## Study: goals

#### **GOAL**

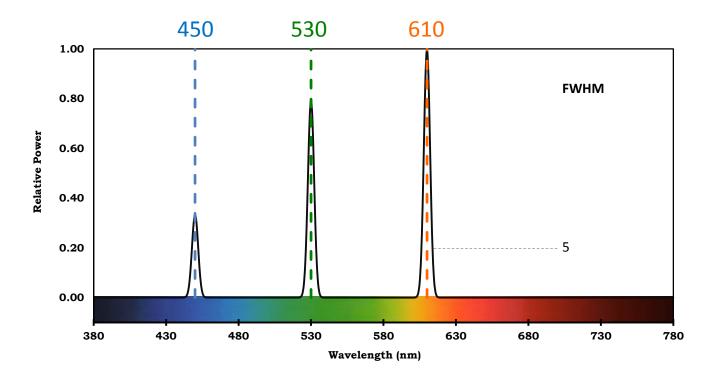
To evaluate the color discrimination ability of spectra about Thornton's PC and anti-PC wavelengths (using Rd as a measure of color discrimination performance.)

To further explore the relationship between CD and Gamut Area  $(R_g)$ 



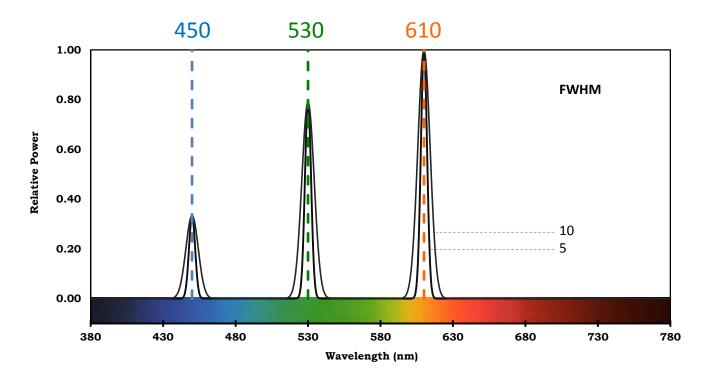








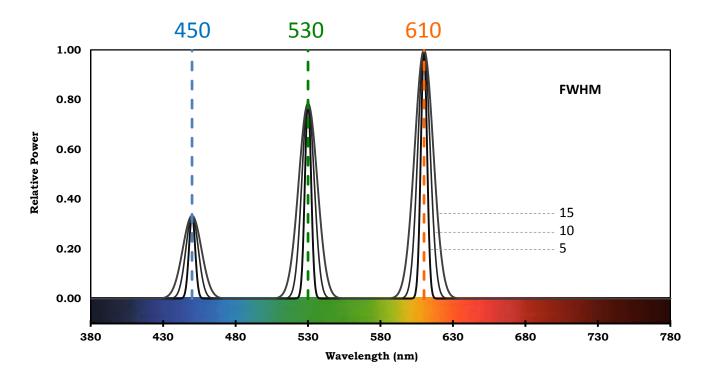
# **PC-set**





#### **Study:** Spectral Power Distributions

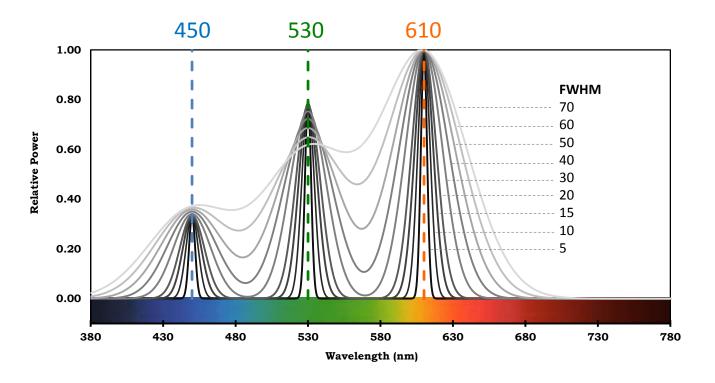
## **PC-set**





#### **Study:** Spectral Power Distributions

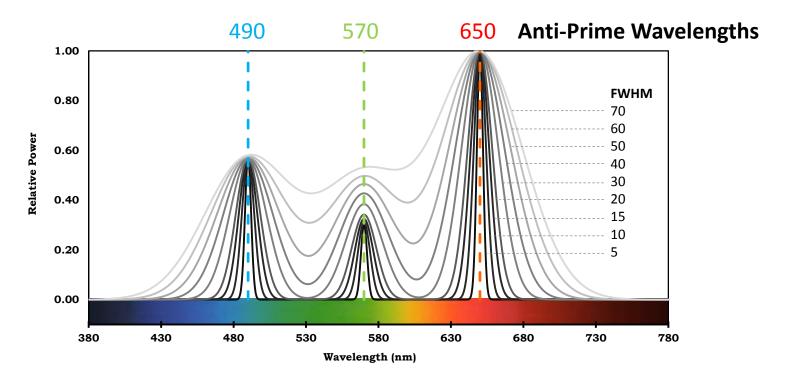
## **PC-set**





#### **Study:** Spectral Power Distributions

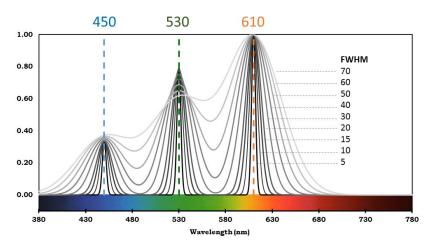
## **AP-set**



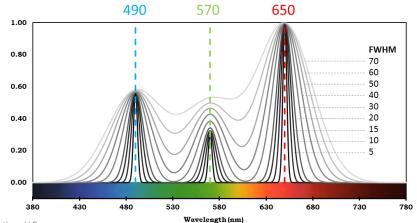


#### **Study:** Spectral Power Distribution

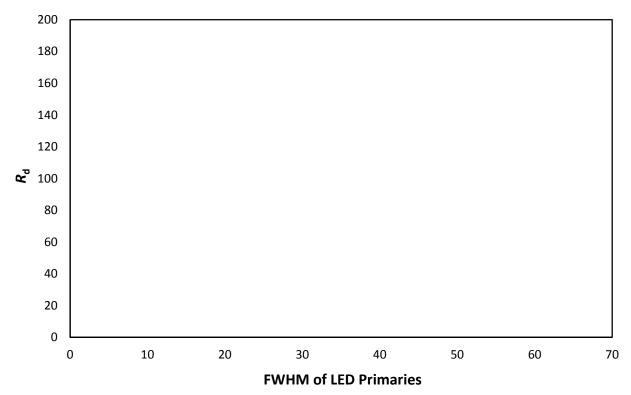
#### **PC-set**



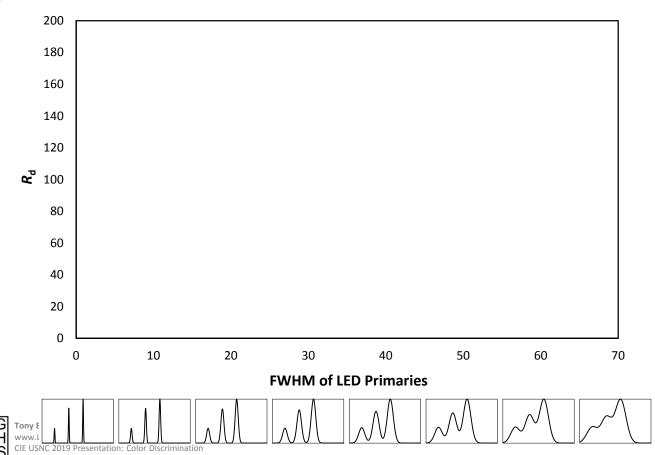
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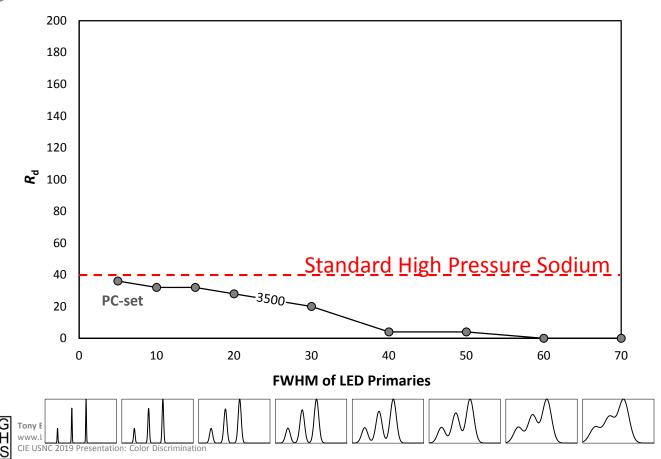


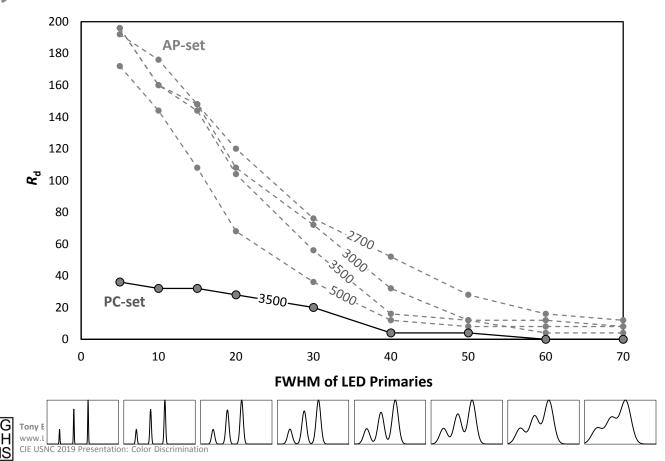


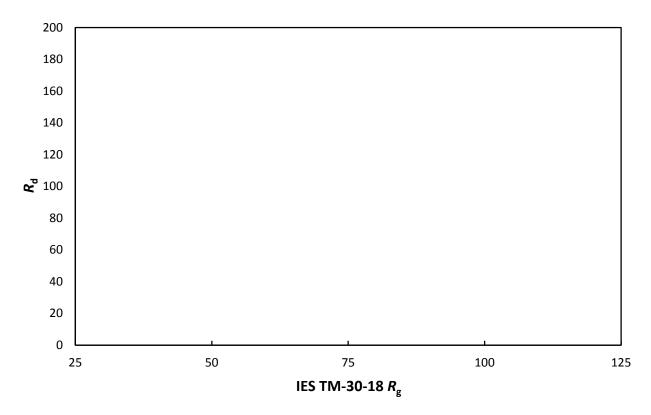




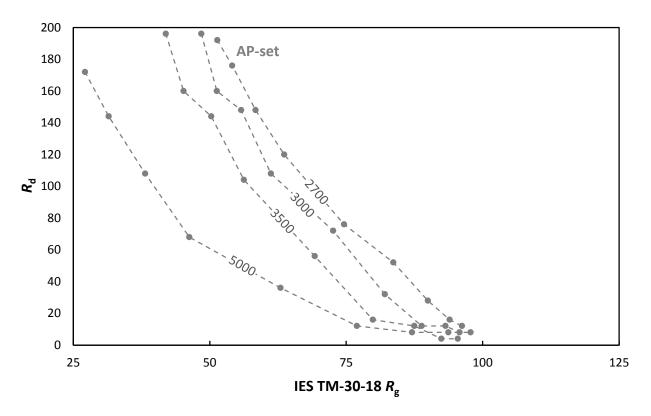




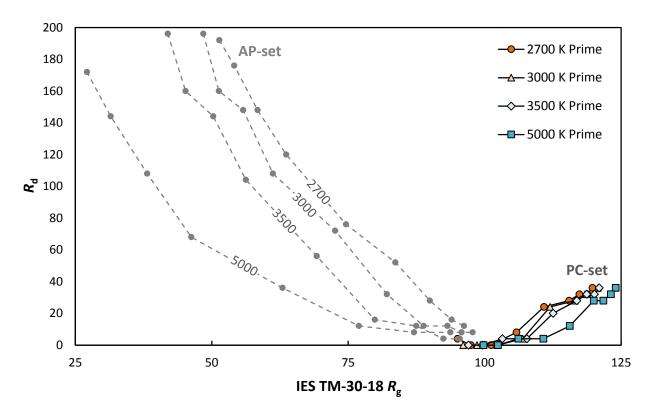




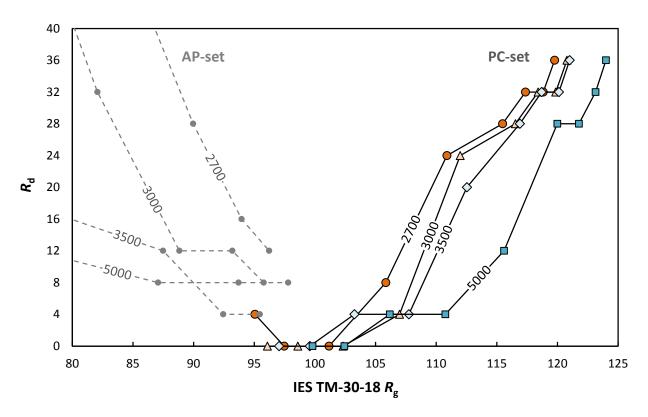




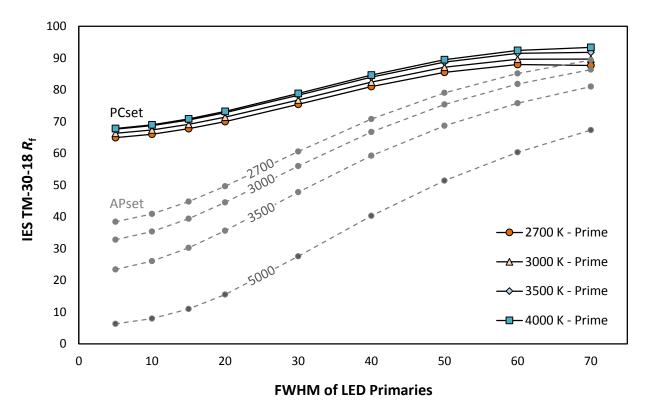




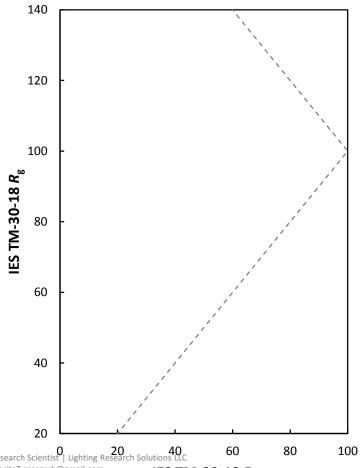




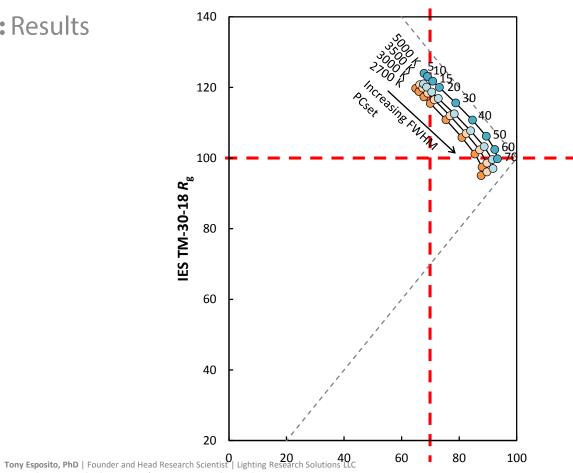




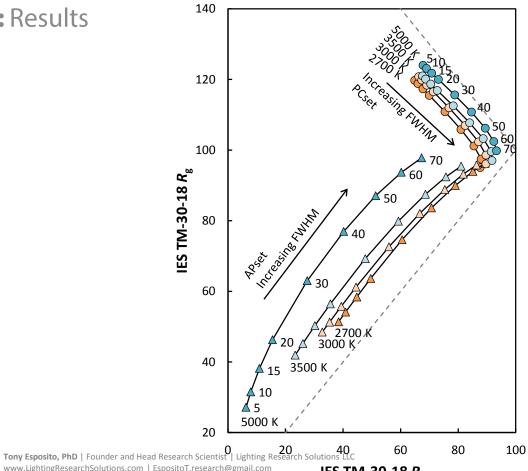














#### **Conclusions**

 $R_{\rm d}$  is a new measure of CD that shows face validity

Gamut area does not predict CD across many/varied light sources

Larger gamut area may lead to worse CD

#### For three-component SPDs:

- Locating radiation about PC wavelengths is advantageous to  $\downarrow R_{\rm d}$  (good)
- (though difference between PC and AP decreases as  $FWHM/R_f$  increases)
- Maximizing gamut area is deleterious to Color Discrimination

 $R_{\rm d}$  has internal consistency regarding daylight as an ideal color discriminator

There are tradeoffs between CD ( $R_d$ ) and other aspects of color rendition



#### **Future Work**

#### Experimental Validation of $R_d$ (i.e. direct testing)

Expansion of simulation work to include variable FWHM

Expansion of simulation work to include 4, 5, 6-component SPDs

**Exploration of Rd sample set (spectral non-uniformity)** 

Generalized CD metric (not linked to FM100)

Age-related  $R_{d}$  trends

Does the frequency of hue transpositions vary with hue?

Evaluate impact of standard observer and color space

Relationship to metameric uncertainty and  $R_t$ 

Defining a framework for a nuanced discussion of Color Discrimination

Relationship between Color Discrimination ( $R_d$ ) and light level

Relationship between Color Discrimination ( $R_d$ ) and CCT

End-Box Scoring artefacts,  $R_d$ , and custom CD tests

Evaluating  $R_d$  in a field study research project



# Thank you!

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