

# CORTICAL ARCHITECTURES FOR DYNAMIC STEREOPSIS

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#### **DIBE – University of Genoa**





#### PRESENTATION OUTLINE

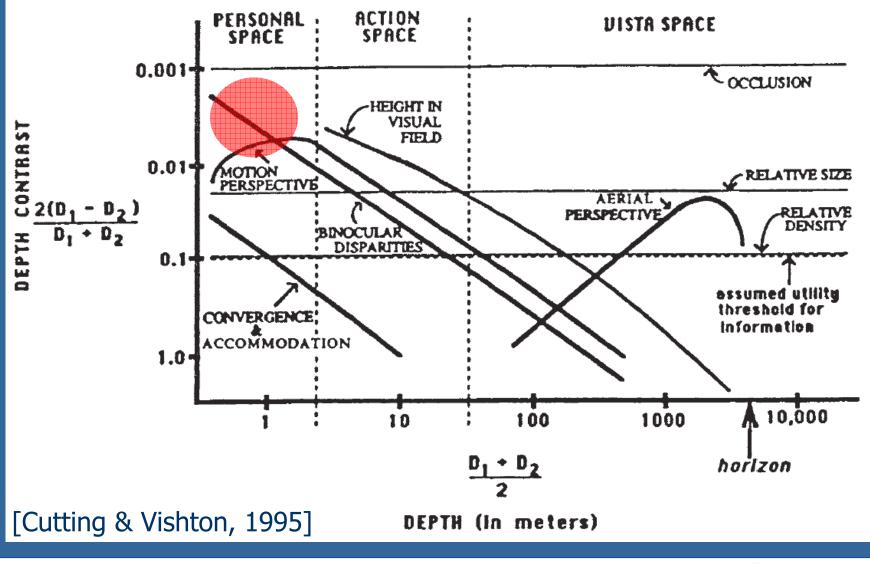
The computational theory of stereo vision

- Geometrical issues
- Disparities as measures on the visual signals
- The active vision perspective
- Cortical disparity detectors
  - Hierarchical processing of depth information
  - The binocular energy models
  - 2nd order disparities (pb and neuromorphic solutions)

Work in progress under EYESHOTS' perspective



#### JNDs FOR DIFFERENT DEPTH CUES





#### STEREOSCOPIC VISION

- The most important mechanism for assessing depth in human vision. First enunciated in 1838 by Sir Charles Wheatstone, depends on the slight differences in the two pictures projected on the retinas (binocular disparity).
  - Effect: the sensation of 3D is caused by the images falling on the fovea on one eye and its Panum's area in the other. Stereopsis allows us to appreciate depth and judge distances
  - Cause: the process in visual perception leading to perception of stereoscopic depth.





### CORRESPONDING POINTS AND EPIPOLAR LINES

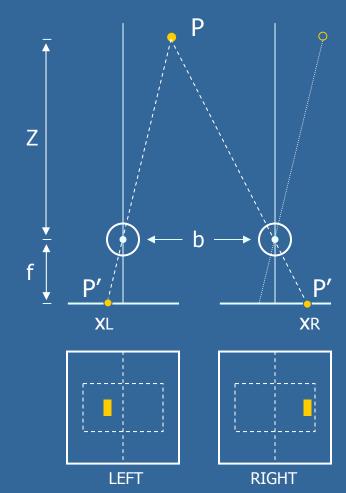
#### The case of parallel optical axes

 The point P is imaged in the left and right images with different horizontal coordinates

 $\delta = x_L - x_R$ 

Application of parallel proportionality theorem results in

$$\delta = -f \frac{b}{7}$$

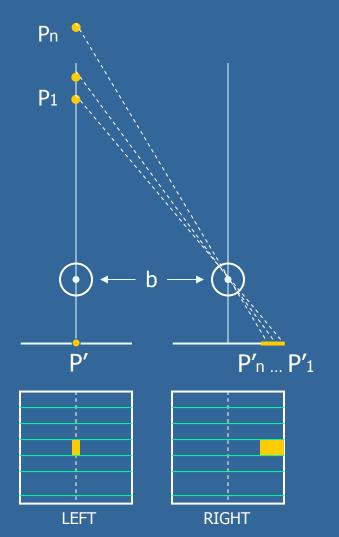




#### CORRESPONDING POINTS AND EPIPOLAR LINES

The case of parallel optical axes

- For any point in one eye the set of possible matches defines a line in the other eye
- The *epipolar line* is the locus of all possible matches in the right eye for point P in the left eye





#### MEASURES IN THE PLENOPTIC SPACE

- What can be potentially seen?
- What information about the world is contained in the light filling a region of space?
- → The *Plenoptic Function* [Adelson & Bergen, 1991] is an idealized concept representing the whole set of images that can be collected by translating the eye through a range of viewing positions

 $P(x, y, t, V_X, V_Y, V_Z)$ 

Interactions with objects take place through measures of the pattern of light rays reflected by objects

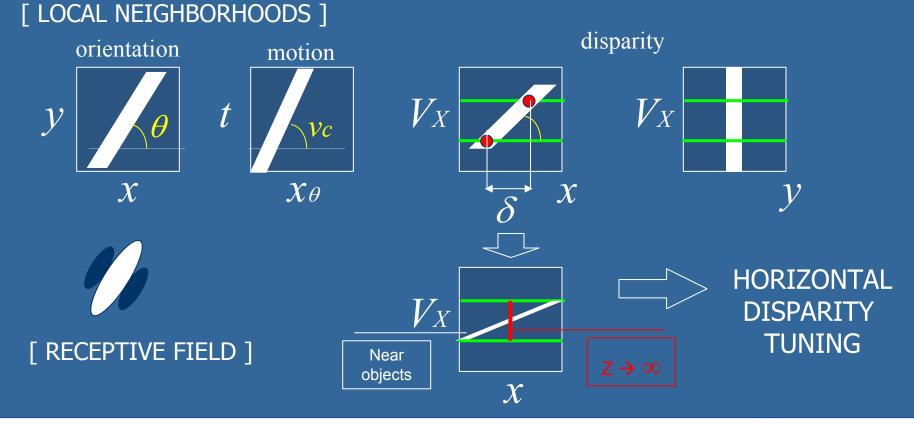
The plenoptic function acts as a communication link between physical objects and their corresponding retinal images.

The Physical Structure of Perception and Computation

#### MEASURES IN THE PLENOPTIC SPACE

Features as measures of local (oriented) discontinuities in the Plenoptic Function

$$P(x, y, t, V_X, V_Y, V_Z)$$

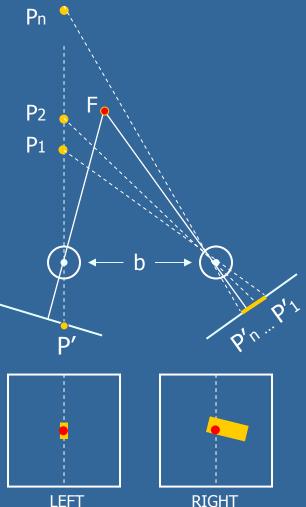


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#### CORRESPONDING POINTS AND EPIPOLAR LINES

The case of convergent optical axes

- In human stereopsis the optical axes usually intersect in a common fixation point F
- Deviations from primary position rotate the epipolar lines and vertical disparities (VD) become possible

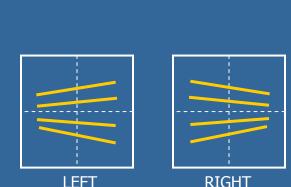




## CORRESPONDING POINTS AND EPIPOLAR LINES

#### The case of convergent optical axes

- For verging systems, epipolar lines are slanted. HD is therefore associated with a predictable VD
- Epipolar lines can be used to estimate vergence angle from images.

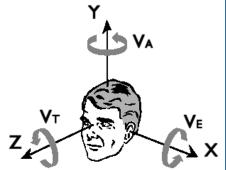


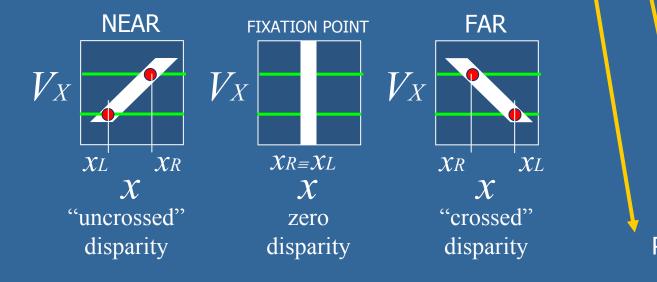
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 $P(x, y, t, V_x, V_y, V_z, V_z)$ 

 Rotations of the eye(s) in the orbit(s) affect the way we visually interact with the external world





 $\mathsf{ROLL} \rightarrow V_T(t)$ 

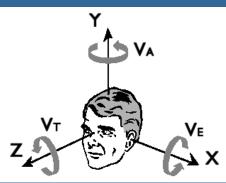
ACTION

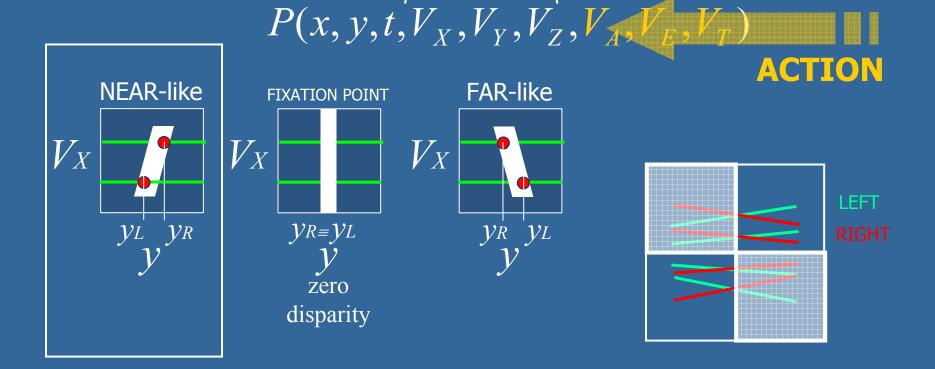
 $\mathsf{TIL}\mathsf{T} \to V_E(t)$ 

 $PAN \rightarrow V_A(t)$ 

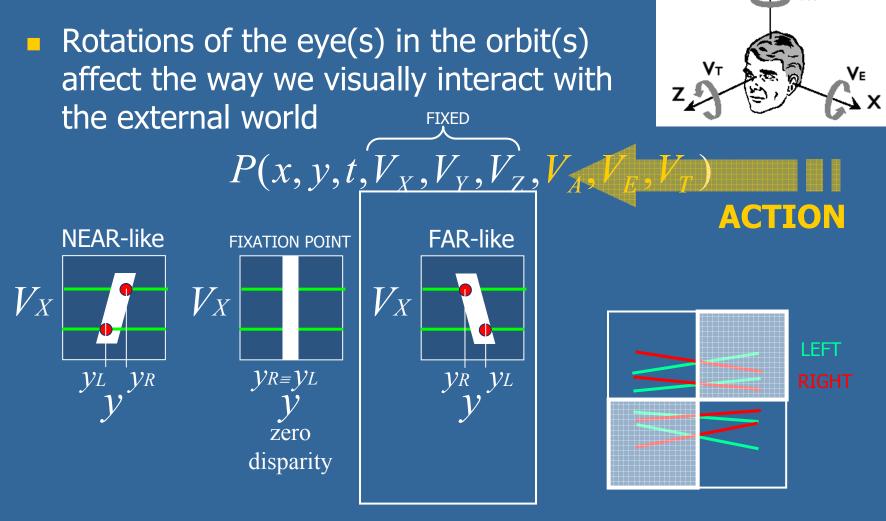
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 Rotations of the eye(s) in the orbit(s) affect the way we visually interact with the external world



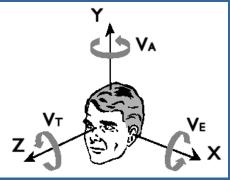


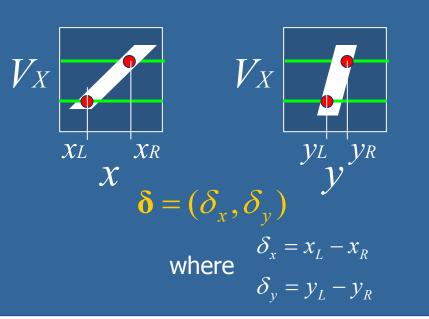






Rotations of the eye(s) in the orbit(s) affect the way we visually interact with the external world FIXED $P(x, y, t, V_X, V_Y, V_Z, V_Z)$ 

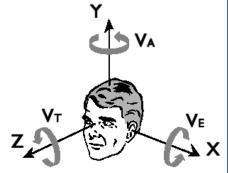


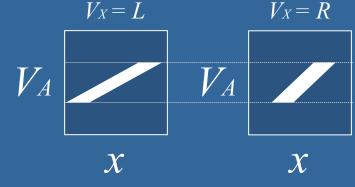


Oblique disparity  $(\delta_x, \delta_y)$  as the vector difference in positions of identified corresponding points in the left and right eyes, each measured with respect to the point of fixation as origin.



Rotations of the eye(s) in the orbit(s) affect the way we visually interact with the external world PIXED $P(x, y, t, V_X, V_Y, V_Z, V_Z)$ 





 $\rightarrow$  Interocular velocity differences



#### 1st-order disparity measures

- Position disparity
- 2nd-order disparity measures
  - Motion disparity (interocular velocity differences, motion-in-depth)
  - Orientation disparity

#### JOINT TUNING





- The visual signal changes actively!
- How can measures on the visual signal change accordingly (in an active way)?

On a local neighborhood this means that:

- New detectors can be learnt
- New coding/decoding mechanisms occur at population level
- influences on local detectors and/or on selection/decision processes.



Computational implications:

- Development of RFs (disparity detectors) from signal of a behaving agent. Stable RFs as soon as the newly learnt behaviour is successful (objective function).
- New measures of the visual signals. Dynamic characteristics of the visual signal → change detectors (visual feedback)
- 3) Predictive recruitment of resources (preparation of RF tuning, etc).

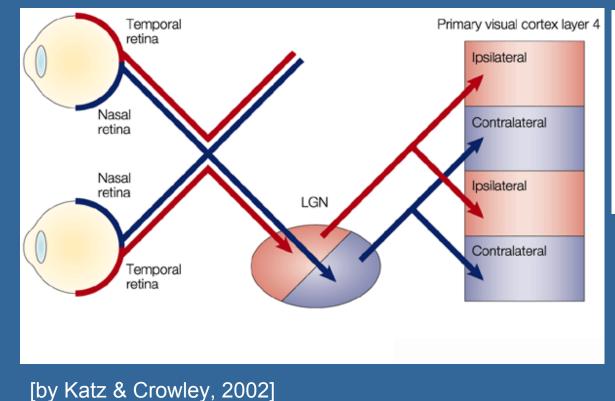


#### CORTICAL DISPARITY DETECTORS

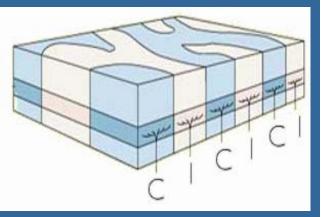


#### BINOCULAR CONVEGENCE

# Cortical mapping of the inputs from the left and the right eyes



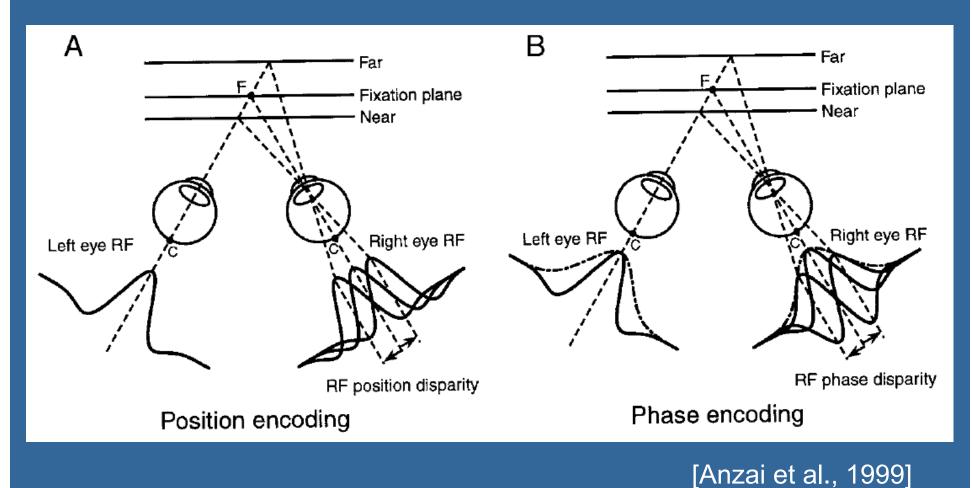
[LeVay et al., 1975]



and the ocular dominance columns

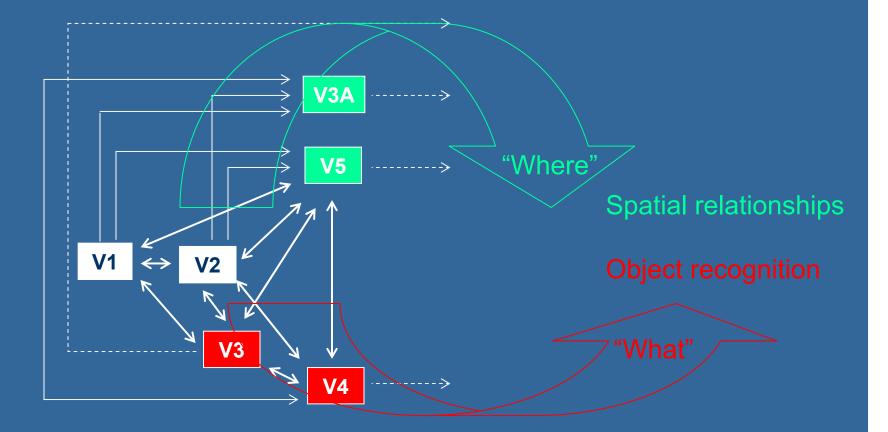


#### BASIC DISPARITY DETECTORS



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#### HIERARCHICAL PROCESSING OF DEPTH INFORMATION (1)



[Adapted from Desimone & Ungerleider, 1989]

#### What is where?



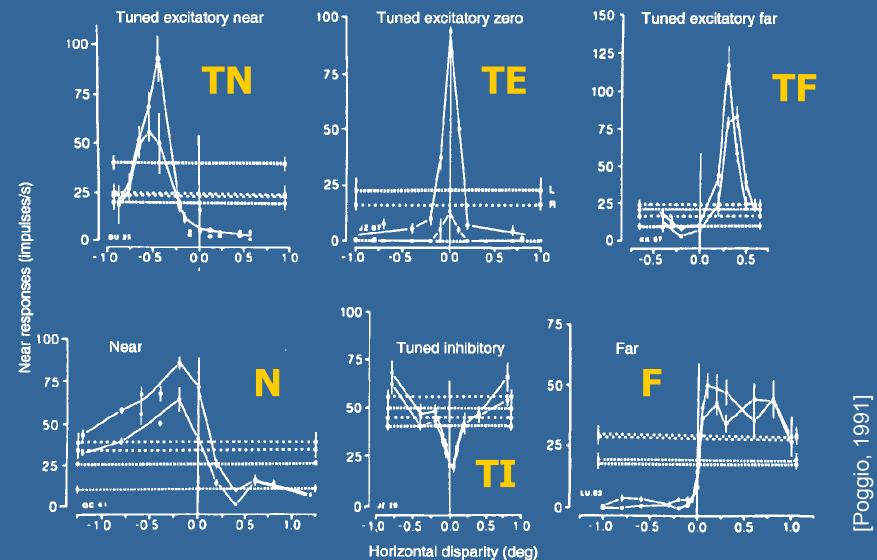
### HIERARCHICAL PROCESSING OF DEPTH INFORMATION (2)

[V1] Absolute disparity (early joint stereo-motion tuning)

[V2] Relative disparity [V2] Disparity edges [V3] Higher-order orientation disparities [V3] Disparity gradients (projects to the PO, concerned with processing 3D form) [V4] Orientation of slanted surfaces [V5] Joint stereo-motion processing perceptual segmentation, control of vergence eye movements (projects to parietal cortex [e.g., LIP])

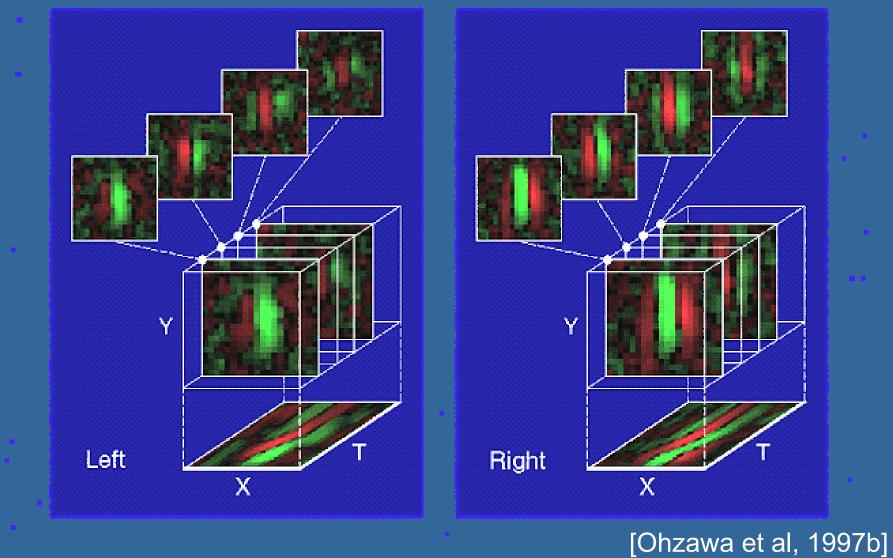


### DISPARITY TUNING



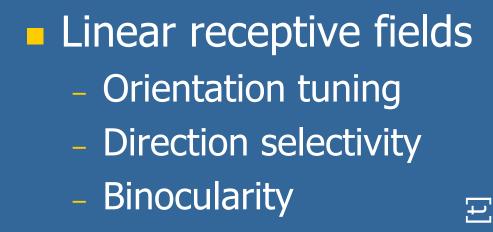
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#### SIMPLE CELLS





#### SIMPLE CELLS

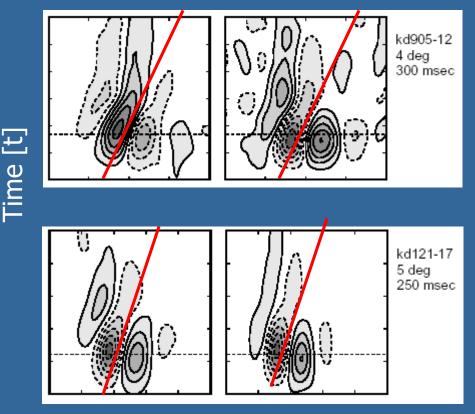


Space [x]

 $\geq$ 

Space

#### [Ohzawa et al, 1996]



Space [x]



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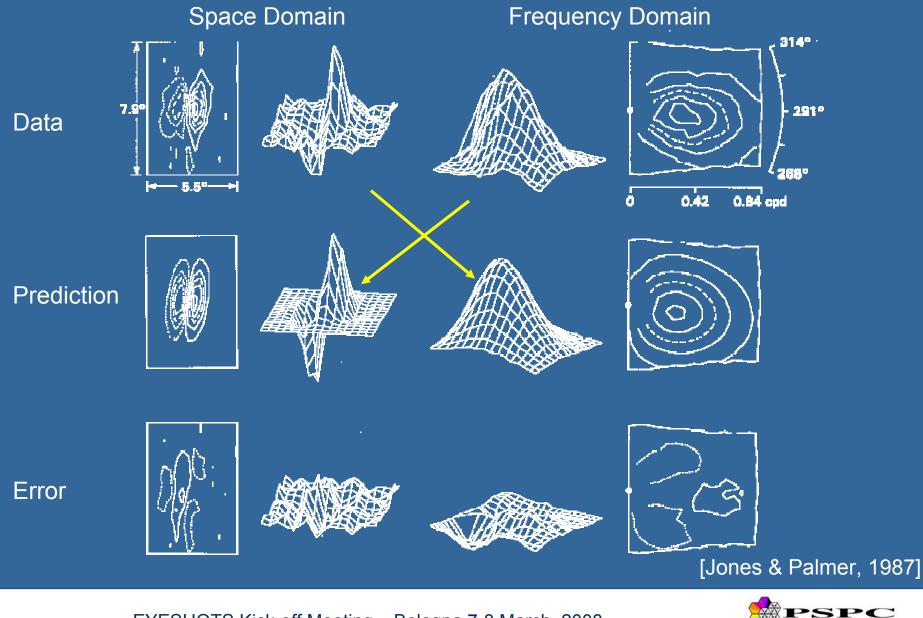
kd905-12 80 msec

4 x 4 deg

OR=115°. 115°

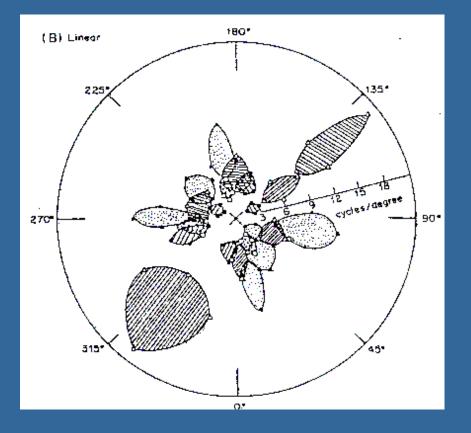
E=0.96, 0.43 S/N=23.6, 14.5 dB

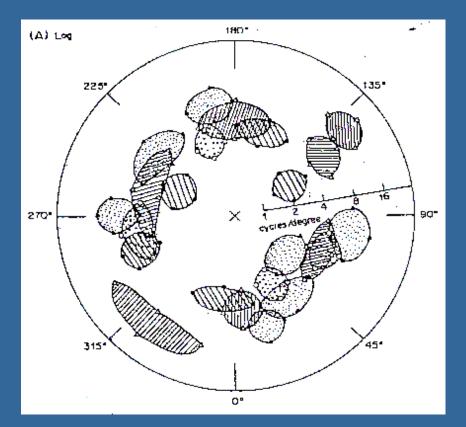
#### THE LINEARITY ASSUMPTION





#### SPATIAL FREQUENCY CHANNELS





[De Valois et al., 1982]



[Gabor, 1946] [Marcelja, 1980] THE 2D GABOR LOGON [Daugman, 1984]  $h(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_x \sigma_y} e^{-\frac{x'^2}{2\sigma_x^2} - \frac{y'^2}{2\sigma_y^2}} e^{-j2\pi k_0 x'} \qquad \{\text{Re}\}$ 

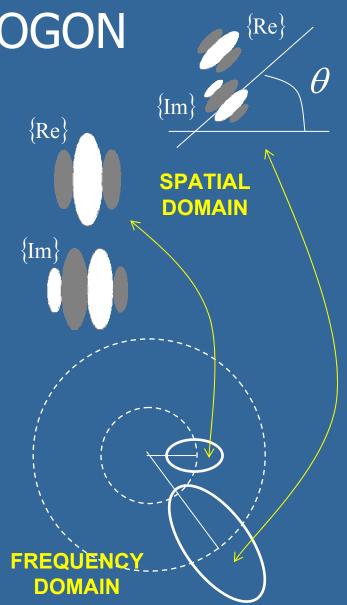
with

$$\begin{cases} x' = (x - x_0)\cos\theta + (y - y_0)\sin\theta \\ y' = -(x - x_0)\sin\theta + (y - y_0)\cos\theta \end{cases}$$

$$\theta = \arctan \frac{k_{0y}}{k_{0x}} + \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$k_0 = \sqrt{k_{0x}^2 + k_{0y}^2}$$

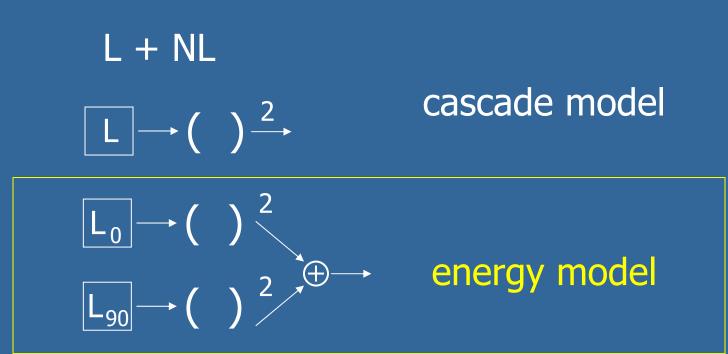
radial peak frequency

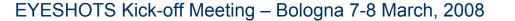




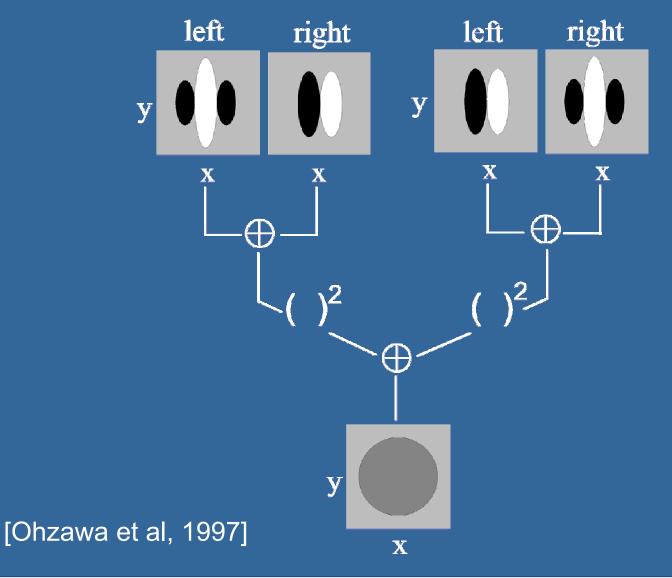
#### COMPLEX CELLS

Inherit the tuning of simple cell afferents but *independently* of the phase of the stimulus









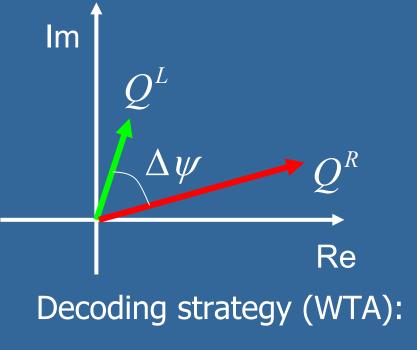


**Response of a binocular cell centered in x**<sub>0</sub>

$$Q(x_0) = \int_{a}^{b} \mathbf{g}^{L} (x - x_0) I^{L} (x) dx + \int_{a}^{b} \mathbf{g}^{R} (x - x_0) I^{R} (x) dx$$
  
where  
$$\mathbf{g}(x) = g_{C}(x) + jg_{S}(x) = G(x) \quad e^{jk_0(x - x_0)} e^{j\psi}$$

**<u>Binocular energy unit centered in xo</u>** [phase model]  $E(x_0) = |Q(x_0)|^2 = |Q^L(x_0) + e^{j\Delta\psi}Q^R(x_0)|^2$ where  $\Delta\psi = \psi^R - \psi^L$ 





The binocular energy unit maximally responds when  $\Delta \psi$ matches the local phase disparity  $\Delta \phi$ . >> <u>Tuned to</u>  $\delta = \frac{\Delta \psi}{k_0}$ 

 $\Delta \phi(x) = \underset{\Delta \psi_i}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} \left| Q^L(x) + e^{j \Delta \psi_i} Q^R(x) \right|^2$ 

Yet, alternative decoding mechanisms can be used (e.g., CoG)

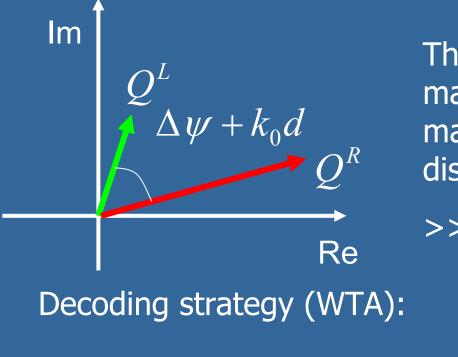


**Response of a binocular cell centered in x**<sub>0</sub>

$$Q(x_0) = \int_{a}^{b} \mathbf{g}^{L} (x - x_0) I^{L} (x) dx + \int_{a}^{b} \mathbf{g}^{R} (x - x_0) I^{R} (x) dx$$
  
where  
$$\mathbf{g}(x) = g_{C}(x) + jg_{S}(x) = G(x) \quad e^{jk_0(x - x_0)} e^{j\psi}$$

**<u>Binocular energy unit centered in xo</u>** [hybrid model]  $E(x_0) = |Q(x_0)|^2 = |Q^L(x_0) + e^{j\Delta\psi + jk_0 d}Q^R(x_0)|^2$ where  $\Delta\psi = \psi^R - \psi^L$  and  $d = x_0^R - x_0^L$ 





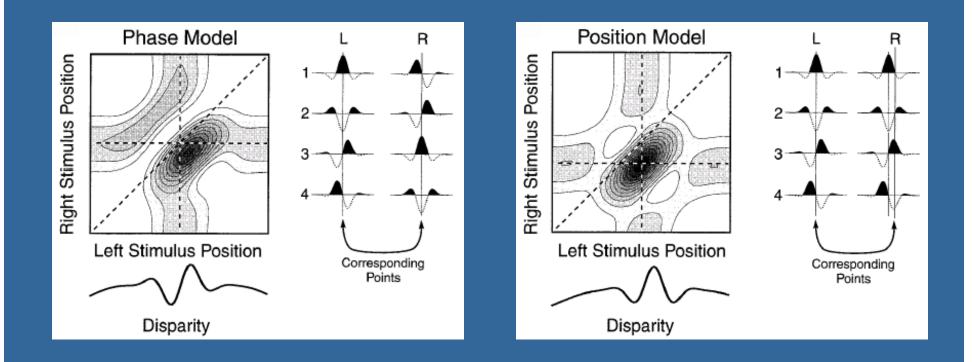
The binocular energy unit maximally responds when  $\Delta \psi + d$ matches the local hybrid disparity  $\Delta \phi + \Delta x$ >> <u>Tuned to</u>  $\delta = \frac{\Delta \psi}{k_0} + d$ 

 $\Delta \phi(x) = \underset{\Delta \psi_i, d_j}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} \left| Q^L(x) + e^{j \Delta \psi_i + j k_0 d_j} Q^R(x) \right|^2$ 

Yet, alternative decoding mechanisms can be used (e.g., CoG)



#### DISPARITY TUNING

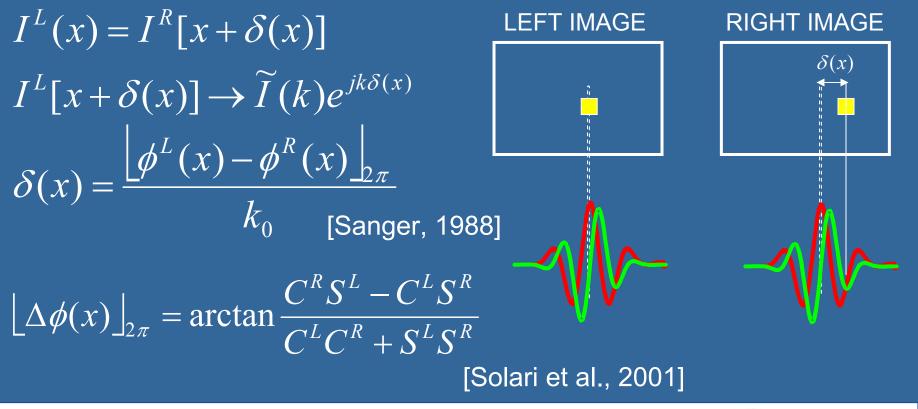


#### [adapted from Ohzawa et al, 1997]



#### PHASE-BASED DISPARITY ESTIMATION

The disparity  $\delta(x)$  is defined as the 1D shift necessary to align, along the epipolar lines, the phase values of bandpass filtered versions of the stereo image pair





MULTICHANNEL ARCHITECTURE (1) Pooling information across spatial scales - to remove ambiguities and false matches - to cover a wider range of disparity values Pooling across orientation channels - to "solve" the "aperture problem" - to project the displacement respect to the direction of the peak frequency vector on the horizontal epipolar line



MULTICHANNEL ARCHITECTURE (1)
Pooling information across spatial scales

to remove ambiguities and false matches
to cover a wider range of disparity values

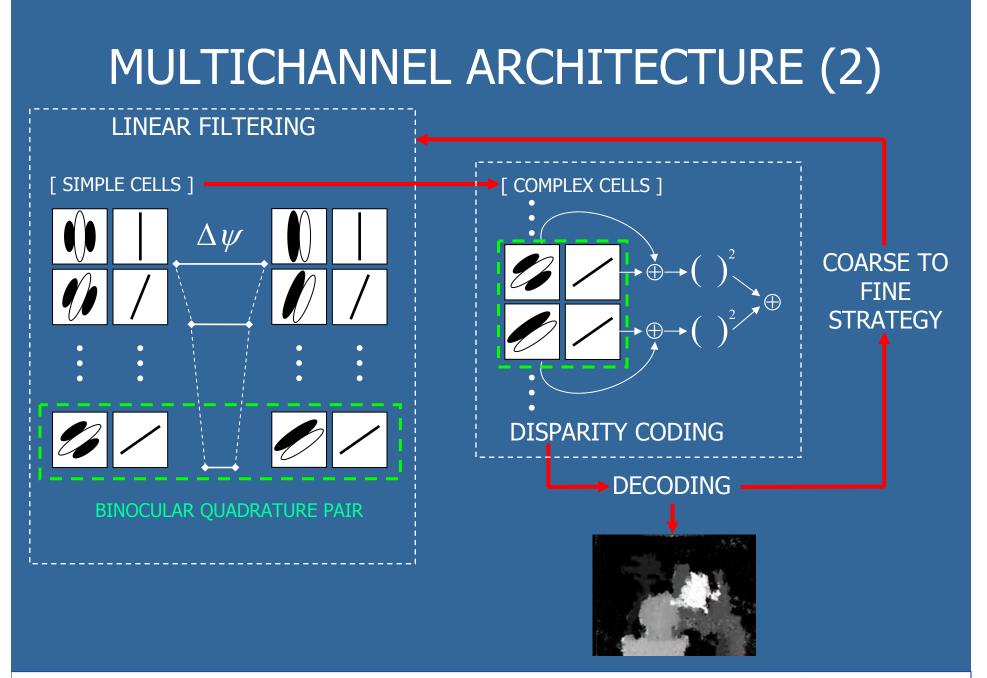
Pooling across orientation channels

$$HD = \frac{\Delta\phi}{k_0 \sin\theta}$$

The detectable disparity range becomes

$$-\frac{\pi}{k_0\sin\theta} < \text{HD} < \frac{\pi}{k_0\sin\theta}$$







TOWARDS A GENERALIZED ARCHITECTURE Handling horizontal and vertical disparities Vergence in the loop: refinement of vergence  $\rightarrow$ VS. refinement of the disparity map

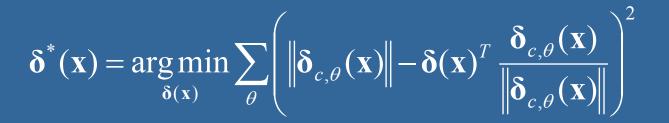
Take care that: mechanisms guiding vergence eye movements are different from those supporting depth perception!





#### HANDLING HD+VD (VECTOR DISPARITY)

 $\boldsymbol{\chi}$ 



[cf. Theimer & Mallot, 1994]

Disparity is defined as the vector difference in positions of identified corresponding points in the left and right eyes, each measured with respect to the point of fixation as origin.



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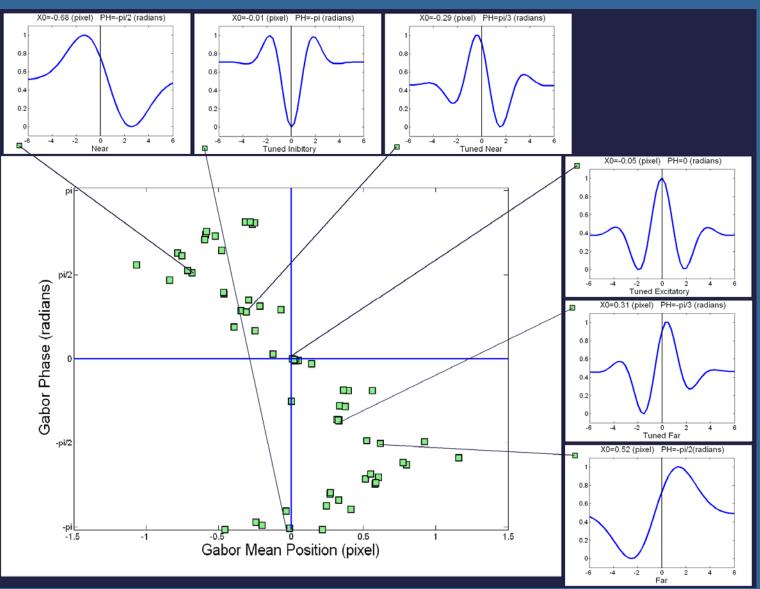
 $\delta_{c,\theta}(\mathbf{x})$ 

 $\delta_{c,\theta}(\mathbf{x})$ 

 $\delta(\mathbf{x})$ 

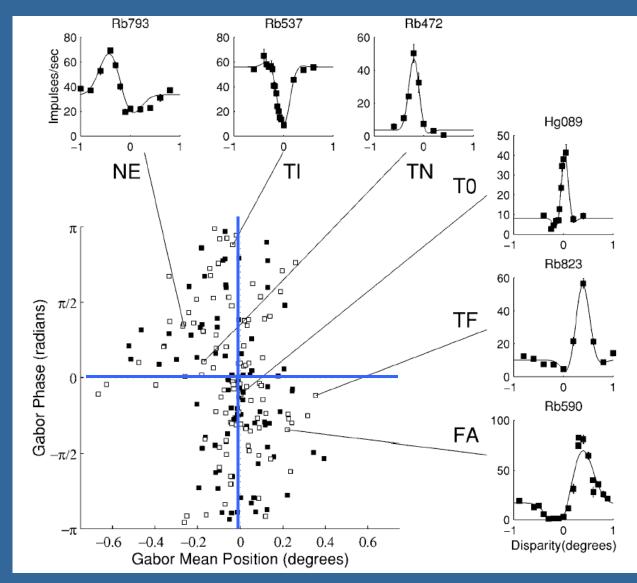
 $\delta_{c,\theta}(\mathbf{x})$ 

### MODEL'S DISPARITY TUNING CURVES





### REAL DISPARITY TUNING CURVES



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[Prince et al., 2002]

## JOINT CODING (metamerism)

 Quantitative models of early cortical processing start with a linear convolution of the image with a RF profile

→ They do not encode features independently!

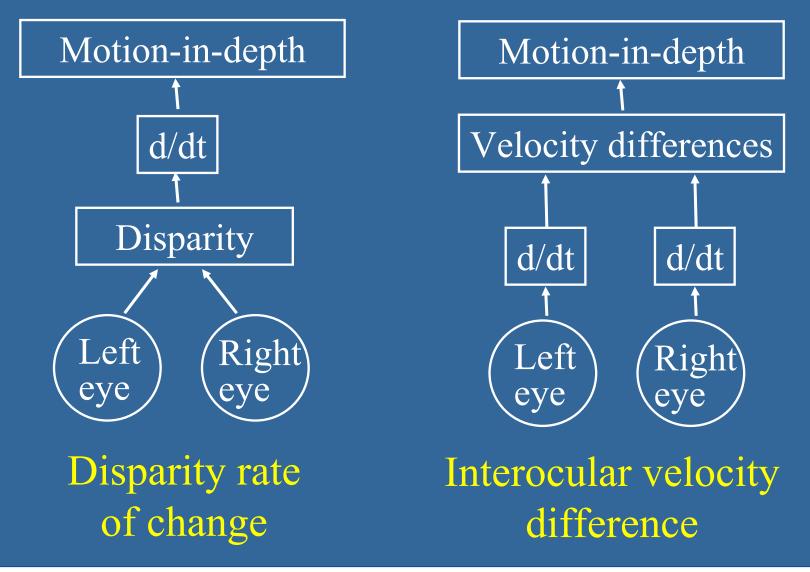
Several stimulus parameters (position, orientation, spatial frequency, motion) are encoded simultaneously

How to encode 2<sup>nd</sup>-order disparities independently of 1<sup>st</sup>-order ones?

MID as a case study

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## COMPUTATIONAL THEORY (1)





## COMPUTATIONAL THEORY (2)

#### **Motion-in-depth**

The total rate of variation of disparity can be written as  $\frac{d\delta}{dt} = \frac{\partial\delta}{\partial t} + \frac{v^L}{k_0}(\phi_x^L - \phi_x^R)$ Considering the conservation properties of local phase

 $\phi_x^L = -\frac{\phi_t^L}{v_x^L}$  and  $\phi_x^R = -\frac{\phi_t^R}{v_x^R}$ 

Thus

Information hold in the interocular velocity difference is the same of that derived from the derivative of binocular disparity, if a phase-based disparity encoding scheme is assumed



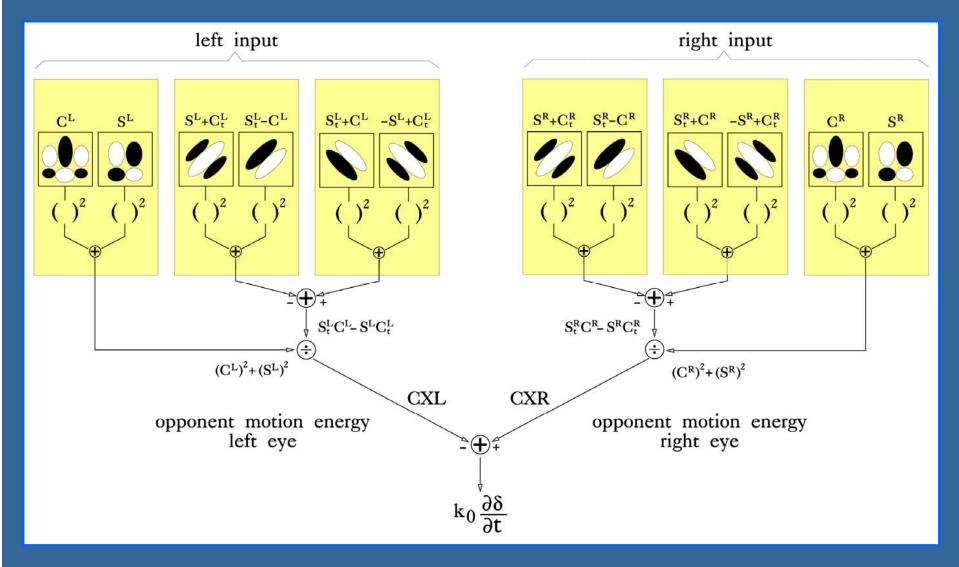
Partial derivative of disparity can be expressed through convolutions with a set of spatiotemporal filters whose shapes resemble simple cell RFs

$$\frac{\partial \delta}{\partial t} = \left[\frac{S_t^L C^L - S^L C_t^L}{(S^L)^2 + (C^L)^2} - \frac{S_t^R C^R - S^R C_t^R}{(S^R)^2 + (C^R)^2}\right] \frac{1}{k_0}$$
  
nere  
$$SC_t = \frac{(S + C_t)^2 - (C_t - S)^2}{1 + 1 + 1 + 1}, \qquad 4S_t C = \frac{(S_t + C)^2 - (S_t - C)^2}{1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1}, \qquad t = \frac{1}{k_0}$$

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$$S_{1} = (1 - \alpha)(C_{t}^{L} + S^{L}) - \alpha(C^{R} - S_{t}^{R})$$

$$S_{2} = (1 - \alpha)(C^{L} + S_{t}^{L}) + \alpha(C_{t}^{R} + S^{R})$$

$$S_{3} = (1 - \alpha)(C_{t}^{L} - S^{L}) - \alpha(C^{R} + S_{t}^{R})$$

$$S_{4} = (1 - \alpha)(C^{L} + S_{t}^{L}) + \alpha(C_{t}^{R} - S^{R})$$

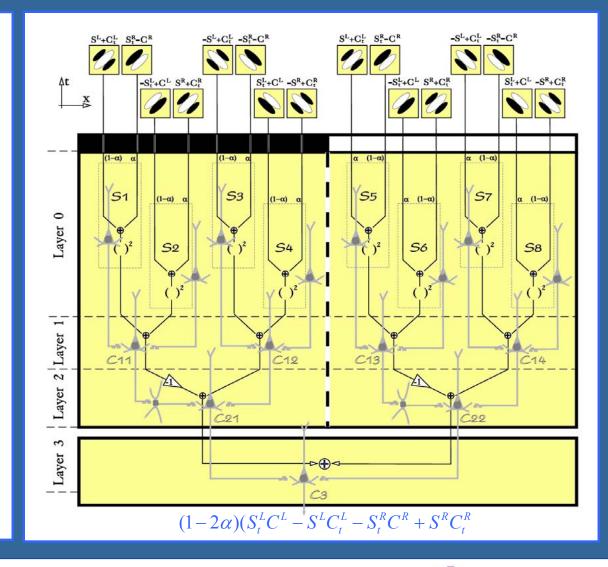
$$S_{5} = \alpha(C_{t}^{L} + S^{L}) - (1 - \alpha)(C^{R} - S_{t}^{R})$$

$$S_{6} = \alpha(C^{L} - S_{t}^{L}) + (1 - \alpha)(C_{t}^{R} + S^{R})$$

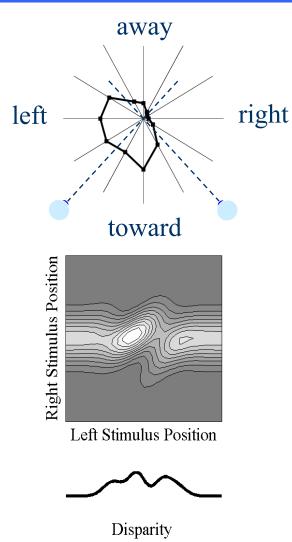
$$S_{7} = \alpha(C_{t}^{L} - S^{L}) - (1 - \alpha)(C^{R} + S_{t}^{R})$$

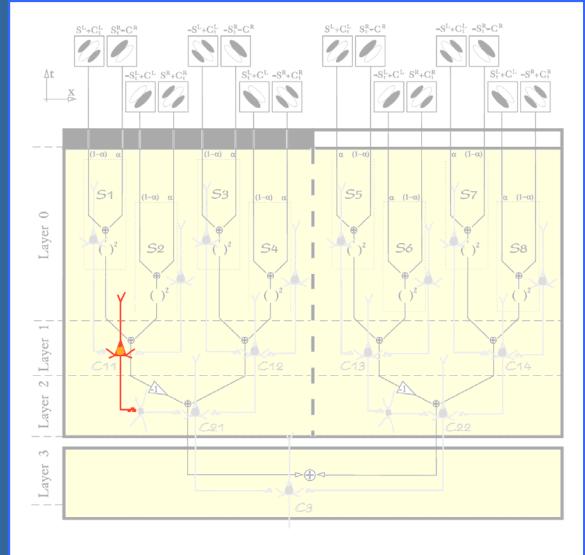
$$S_{8} = \alpha(C^{L} + S_{t}^{L}) + (1 - \alpha)(C_{t}^{R} - S^{R})$$

 $C_{11} = S_1^2 + S_2^2 \qquad C_{12} = S_3^2 + S_4^2$  $C_{13} = S_5^2 + S_6^2 \qquad C_{14} = S_7^2 + S_8^2$  $C_{21} = C_{12} - C_{11}$  $C_{22} = C_{13} - C_{14}$  $C_3 = C_{21} + C_{22}$ 

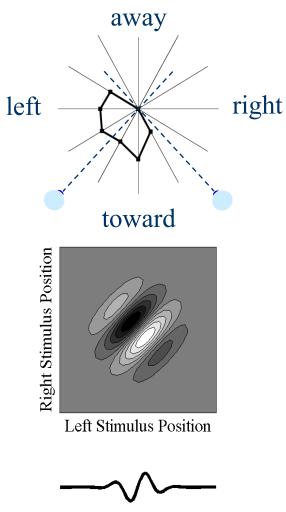




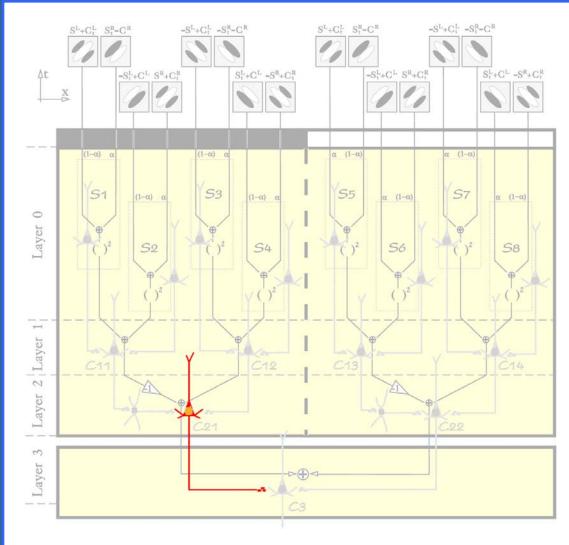




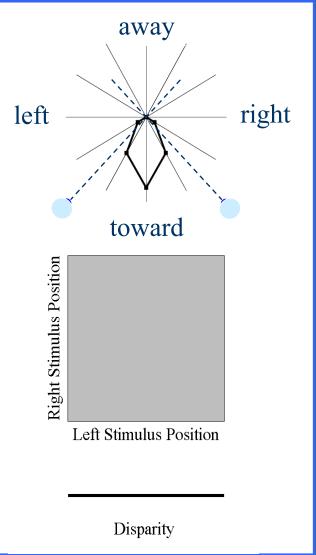


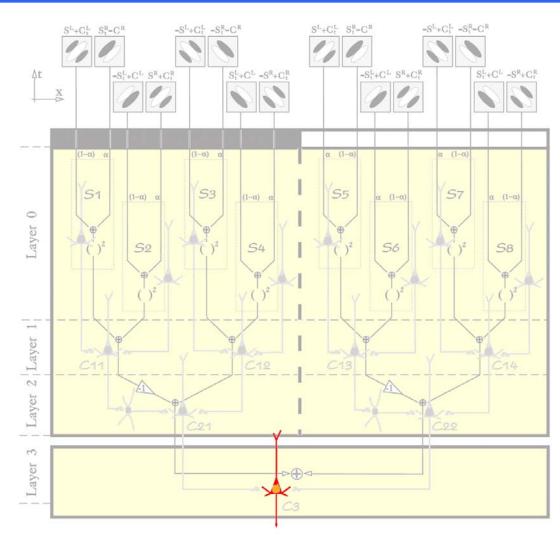






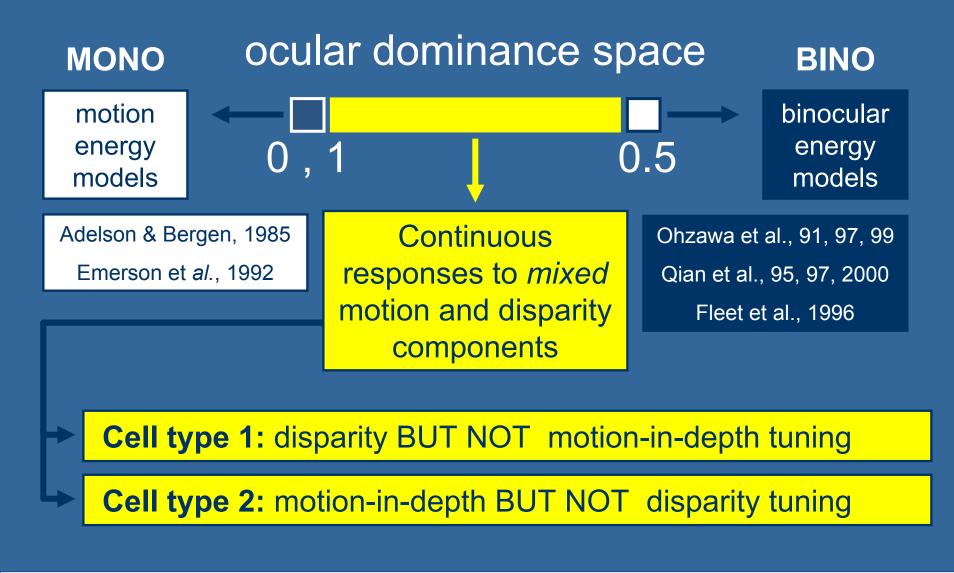








## MODEL'S PREDICTIONS





## CONCLUSIONS

The proposed architecture

represents a structural way to obtain dynamic disparity descriptors of growing complexity:

<u>Simple cells</u>  $\rightarrow$  provide a general (harmonic) representation on which to base a variety of visual functions

<u>Complex cells</u>  $\rightarrow$  by proper combinations of the simple cells' outputs become specifically tuned to different features



combines connectionism paradigms with signal processing



provides "entry points" for adaptation and learning



## THE EYESHOTS' PERSPECTIVE

Approach: active measures in the plenoptic space lssues to be addressed:

- Active stereopsis [WP2]
   Static disparity
  - V1 S-cell network for 1<sup>st</sup>-order (positional) disparity coding
  - Space-variant sampling of retinal space (log-polar)
  - Systematic multilayer & multidimensional extension of the "energy circuits" for 2<sup>nd</sup>-order disparity coding Dynamic disparity
  - Direct use of MID information for guiding active scrutiny
  - Depth judgements [WP3]
    - Hierarchical extension of the architecture to handle relative disparity
- Oculomotor issues





## THE EYESHOTS' PERSPECTIVE

Approach: active measures in the plenoptic space lssues to be addressed:

- Active stereopsis [WP2]
   Static disparity
  - V1 S-cell network for 1<sup>st</sup>-order (positional) disparity coding
  - Space-variant sampling of retinal space (log-polar)
  - Systematic multilayer & multidimensional extension of the "energy circuits" for 2<sup>nd</sup>-order disparity coding
     Gain fields

Dynamic disparity

- Direct use of MID information for guiding active scrutiny
- Depth judgements [WP3]
  - Hierarchical extension of the architecture to handle relative disparity
- Oculomotor issues

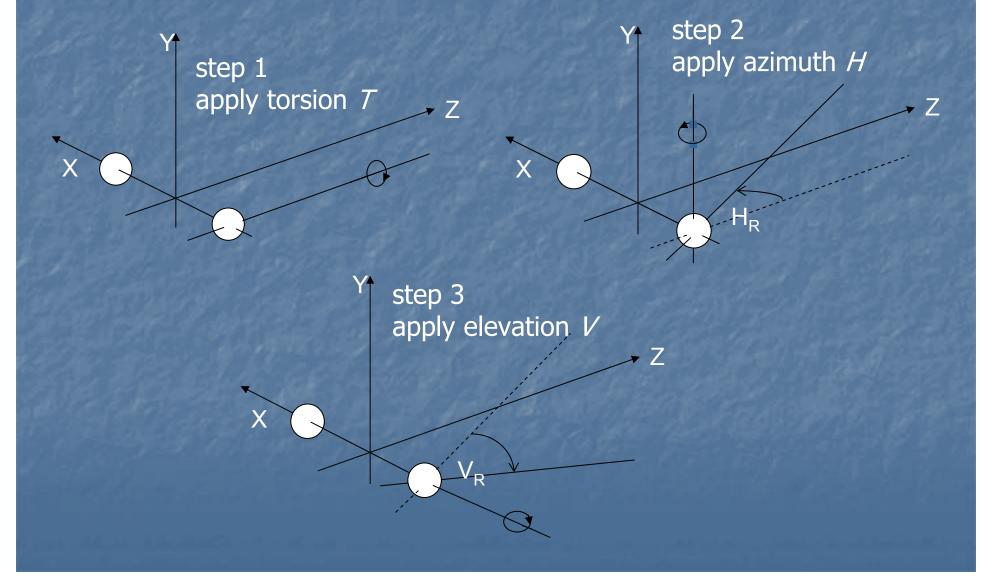


## ACTIVE STEREOPSIS AND EYE MOVEMENTS

#### Andrea Canessa



## Helmhotz coordinates



# Quaternions

Many papers in the eye-movement literature specify eye positions by quaternions.
 A rotation through an angle ε about a unit vector n can be represented by the quaternion

 $q = \left(\cos\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right) + \left(\sin\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right)\mathbf{n} = q_0 + \mathbf{q}$ 

## Helmhotz rotations

The three rotations which move the eye from its reference position into a position with Helmholtz coordinates (H,V,T), are a rotation through T about Z, a rotation through H about Y and a rotation through V about  $\mathbf{X}$ ,  $q_T = \left(\cos\frac{T}{2}\right) + \left(\sin\frac{T}{2}\right)\mathbf{Z}$   $q_H = \left(\cos\frac{H}{2}\right) + \left(\sin\frac{H}{2}\right)\mathbf{Y}$  $q_V = \left(\cos\frac{V}{2}\right) + \left(\sin\frac{V}{2}\right)\mathbf{X}$ 

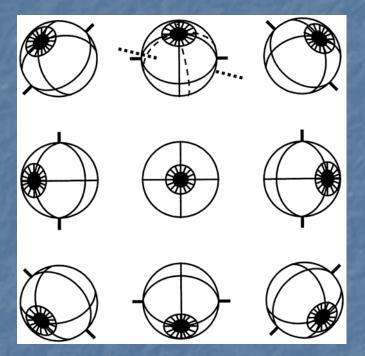
## Helmhotz rotations

So, multiplying these three together in the order q<sub>v</sub>q<sub>H</sub>q<sub>T</sub> gives the quaternion

$$q = \left(\cos\frac{V}{2}\cos\frac{H}{2}\cos\frac{T}{2} - \sin\frac{V}{2}\sin\frac{H}{2}\sin\frac{T}{2}\right)$$
$$\left(\cos\frac{V}{2}\sin\frac{H}{2}\sin\frac{T}{2} + \sin\frac{V}{2}\cos\frac{H}{2}\cos\frac{T}{2}\right)\mathbf{X}$$
$$+ \left(\cos\frac{V}{2}\sin\frac{H}{2}\cos\frac{T}{2} - \sin\frac{V}{2}\cos\frac{H}{2}\sin\frac{T}{2}\right)\mathbf{Y}$$
$$+ \left(\cos\frac{V}{2}\cos\frac{H}{2}\sin\frac{T}{2} + \sin\frac{V}{2}\sin\frac{H}{2}\cos\frac{T}{2}\right)\mathbf{Z}$$

# Listing's Law

Listing's law states that, when the head is fixed, there is an eye position called primary position, such that the eye assumes only those orientations that can be reached from primary position by a single rotation about an axis in a plane called Listing's plane.

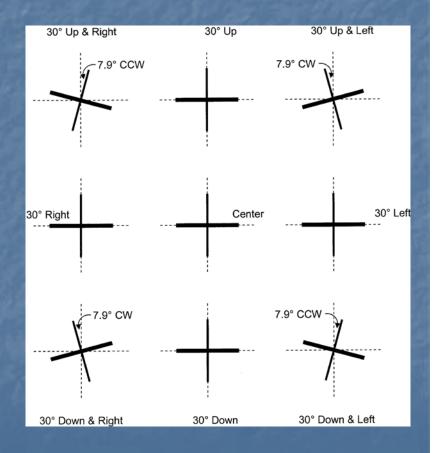


This plane is orthogonal to the line of sight when the eye is in primary position.

## Listing's Law

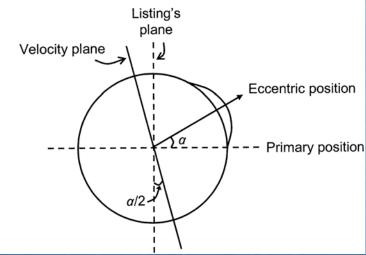
 Listing's law requires that q<sub>T</sub> = 0
 In Helmholtz coordinates, Listing's law says:

 $T \cong -\frac{HV}{2}$ 



## Listing's half - angle rule

What if the eye starts its rotation from an eccentric eye position? Listing's half-angle rule (saccades and smooth pursuit) The eye rotates about axes that lie in a plane (velocity plane) but this plane is tilted in the same direction as the line of sight but only half as much



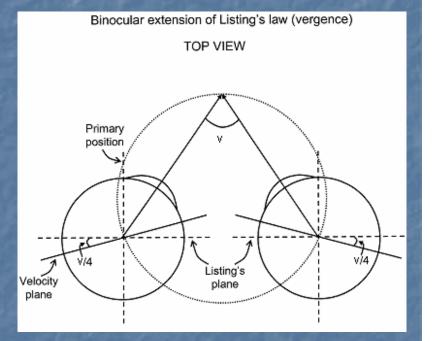
SIDE VIEW

What about a binocular system? If the eyes continued to obey Listing's law when they converge the torsional angles differ:  $T_r \cong -\frac{H_r V}{2}$   $T_l \cong -\frac{H_l V}{2}$ This leads to nonzero torsional disparity  $T_{disp} = T_r - T_l \cong -\frac{VV}{2}$ where v is the vergence angle

## Extending Listing's law: L2

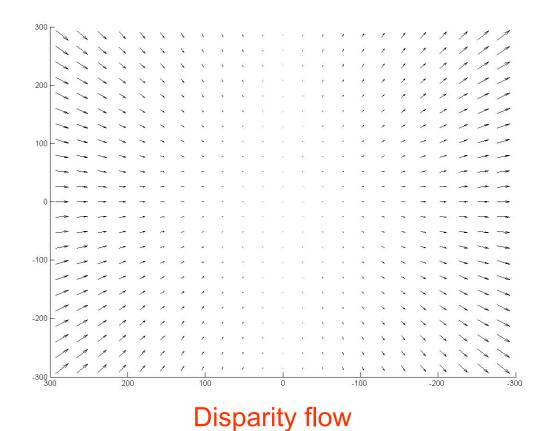
We could avoid this disparity by breaking Listing's law, adding to each eye some extra torsion that varies in the appropriate way with v and V:

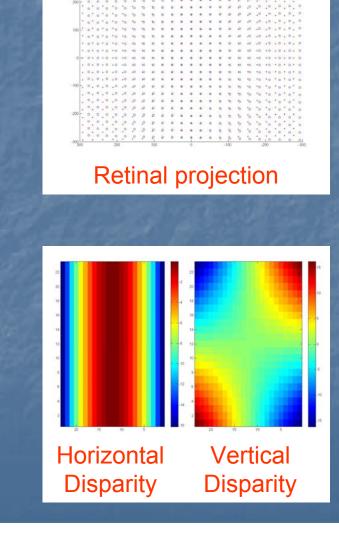
 $T_{r} = -\frac{H_{r}V}{2} + \frac{vV}{4} = -\frac{\gamma V}{2}$  $T_{l} = -\frac{H_{l}V}{2} - \frac{vV}{4} = -\frac{\gamma V}{2}$ where  $\gamma$  is the version angle



# Primary position

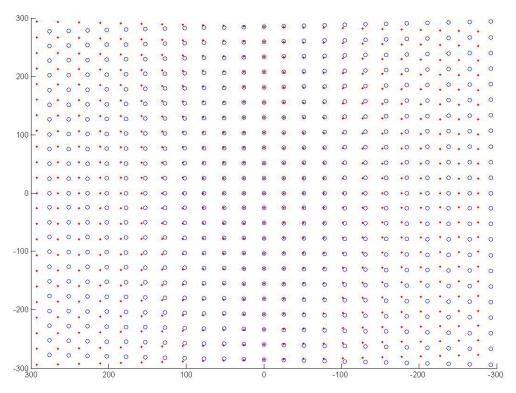
#### Gaze: 0°, 0° Distance: 30cm Plane: FrontoParallel



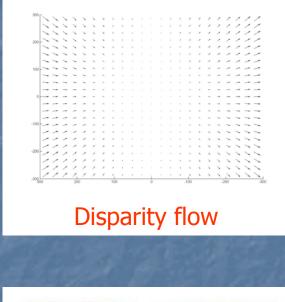


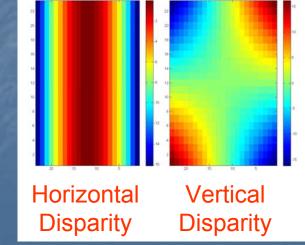
## Primary position

#### Gaze: 0°, 0° Distance: 30cm Plane: FrontoParallel



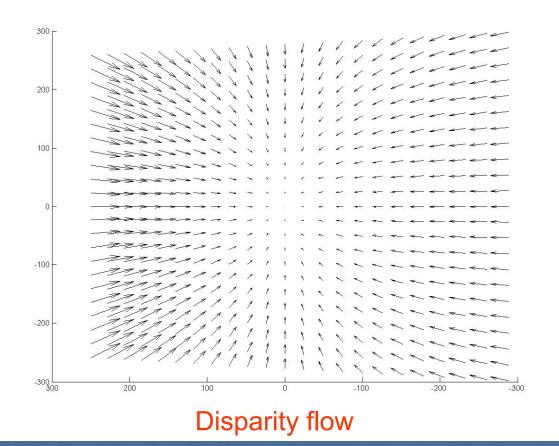
#### **Retinal projection**

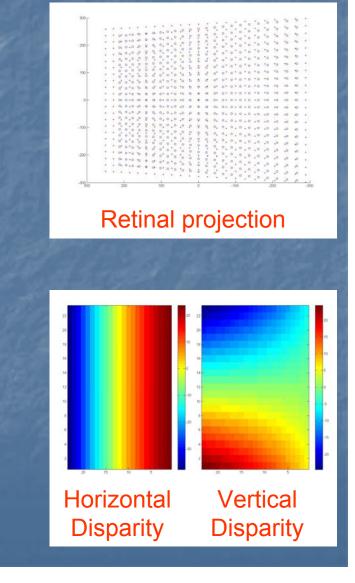




# Secondary position

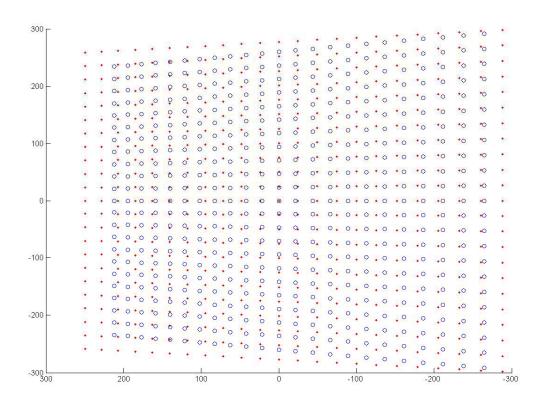
Gaze: 20°, 0° Distance: 30cm Plane: FrontoParallel



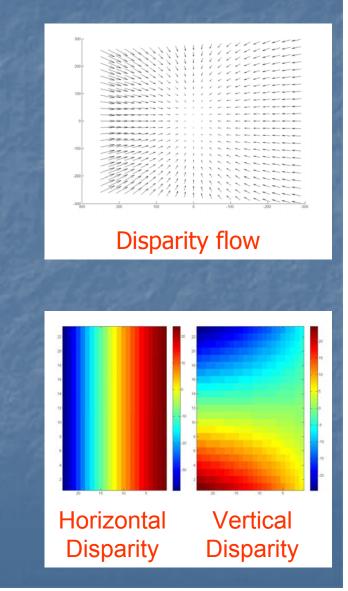


# Secondary position

#### Gaze: 20°, 0° Distance: 30cm Plane: FrontoParallel

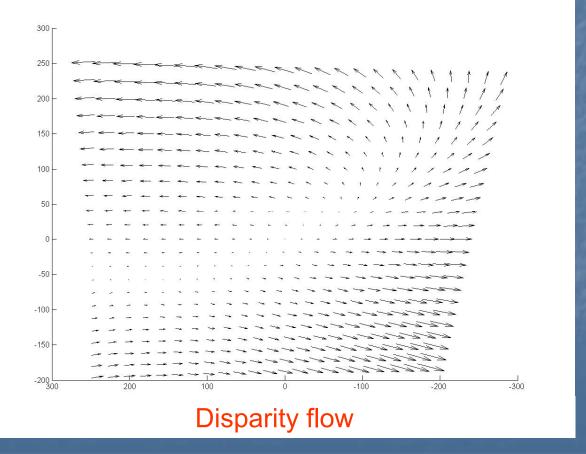


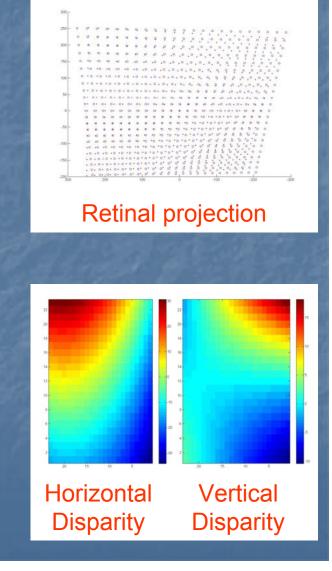
#### **Retinal projection**



# Tertiary position

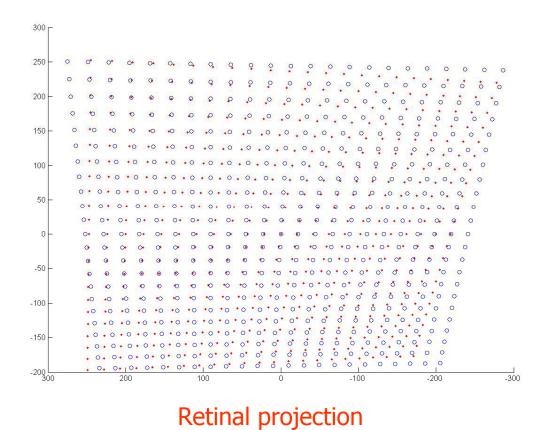
Gaze: -10°, 30° Distance: 30cm Plane: Frontoparallel

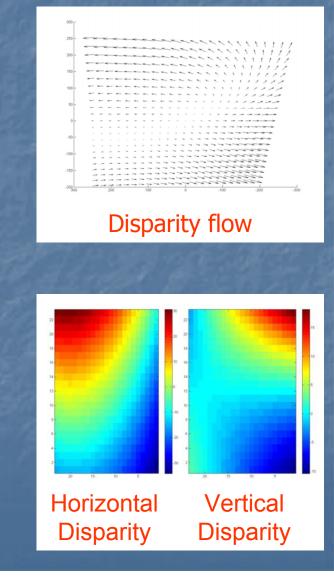




## Tertiary position

#### Gaze: -10°, 30° Distance: 30cm Plane: Frontoparallel

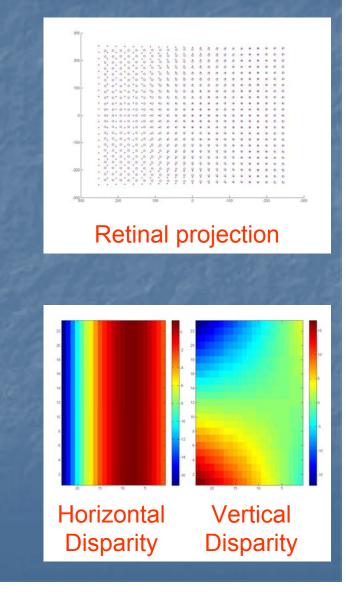




#### No torsion

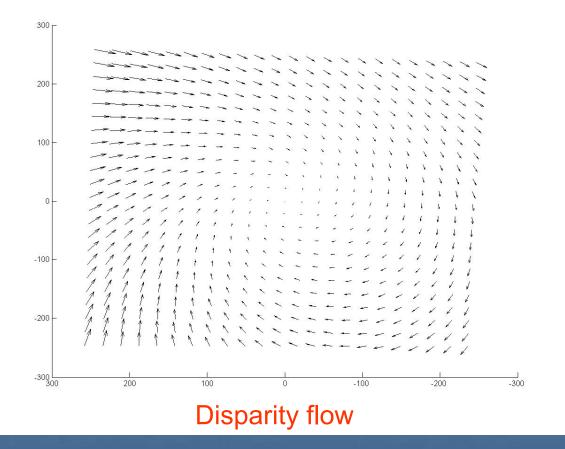
Gaze: 10°, 30° Distance: 30cm Plane: Perpendicular sight line

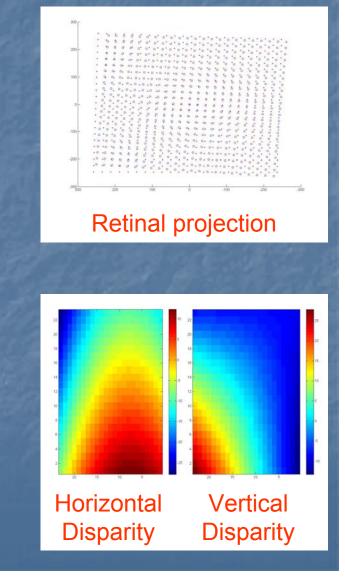




## Listing's law

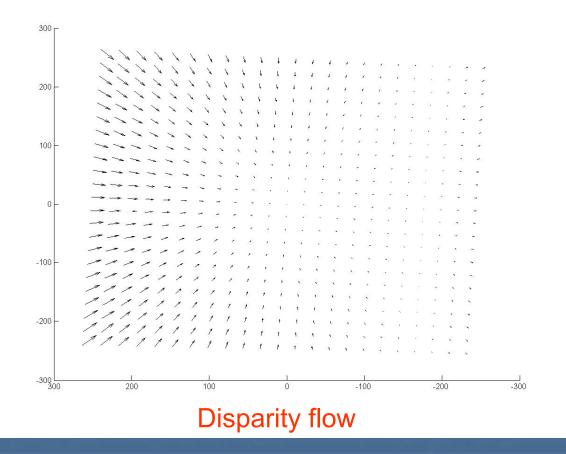
Gaze: 10°, 30° Distance: 30cm Plane: Perpendicular sight line

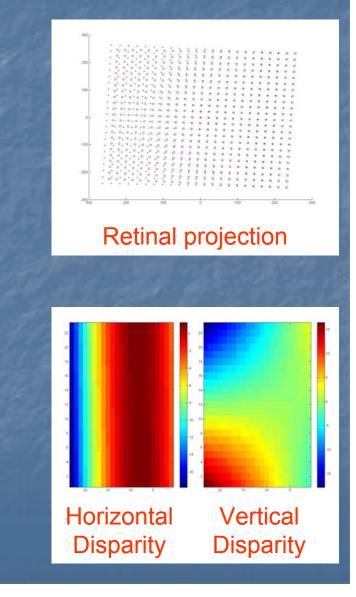




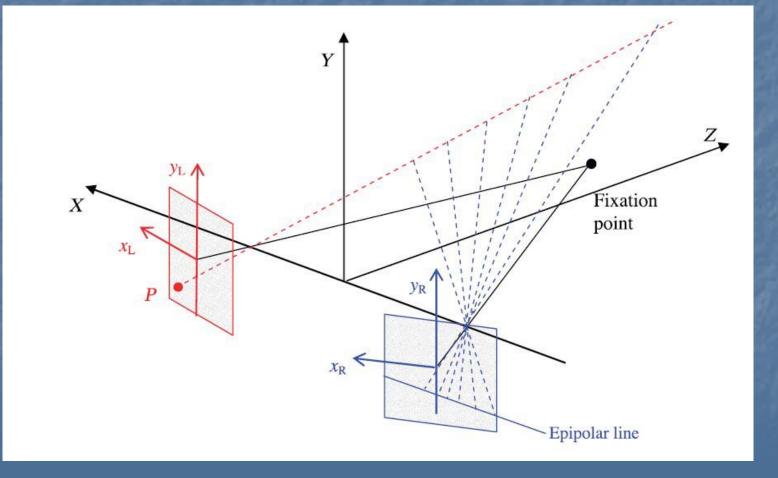
### L2 law

Gaze: 10°, 30° Distance: 30cm Plane: Perpendicular sight line

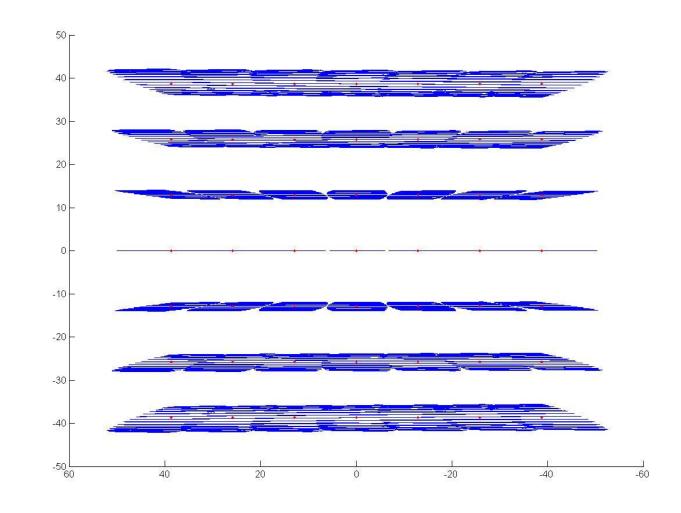




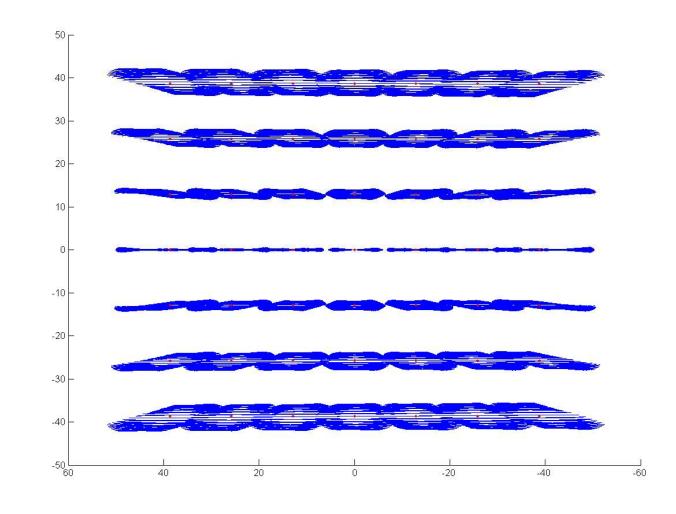
# **Epipolar Lines**

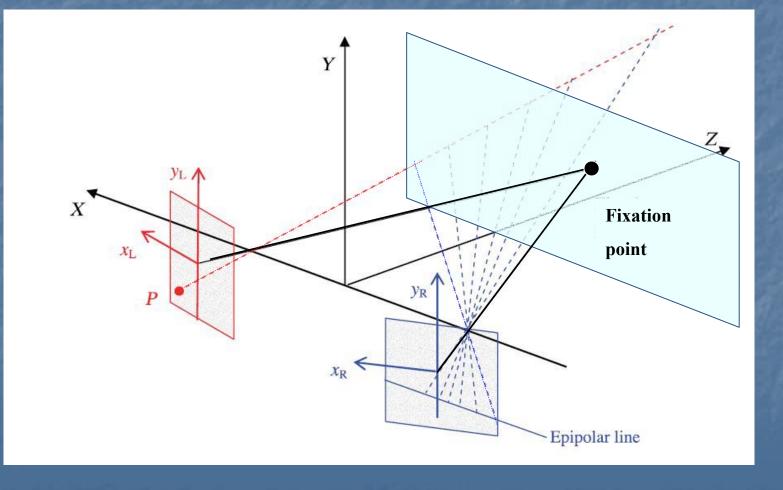


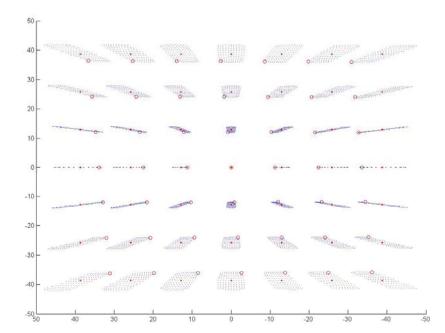
### Epipolar Lines without torsion



### Epipolar Lines with L2 law

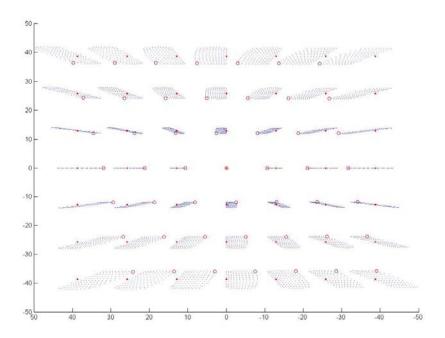


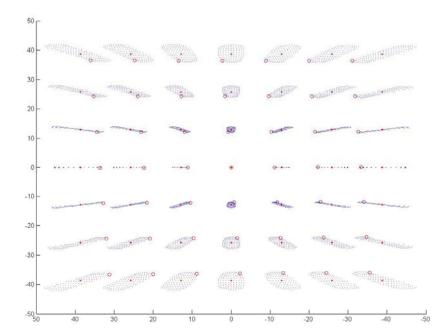




#### No torsion Plane: Frontoparallel

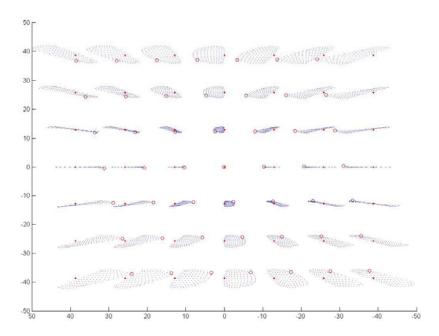
#### No torsion Plane: 10°, 25°

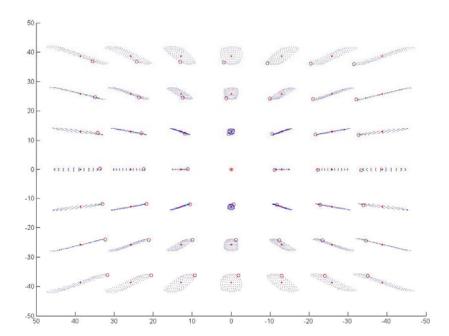




#### L2 law Plane: Frontoparallel

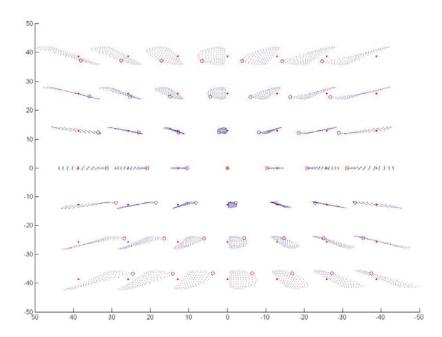






#### 60% L2 law Plane: Frontoparallel

#### 60% L2 law Plane: 10°, 25°



### Open issues

Can the torsional eyes movements play a role in the registration of the two retinic images?
Can they be useful to reduce the mean disparity of what we are seeing?
Are there evidences of an adaptation system that governs the eyes torsion (a Listing plane adaptation) in relation to the slant of the fixation surface?