



**Fig. S1.** Example of stimulus 1 in the achromatic treatment following acuity modelling & image resizing, RNL ranked filtering and RNL clustering over a modelled viewing distance of 2cm, 5cm, 10cm, 30cm and 50cm (left to right). Note the pronounced change in pattern & contrast over distance, including intermediate zones. RGB reconstructions based on the modelled cone stimulation of a triggerfish. Brightness and contrast adjusted for better visibility of pattern geometry.

**Table S1. Summary of all 17 parameters used in this study. For a detailed explanation of all parameters and their mathematical formulation, please see van den Berg et al. 2020b. The different analyses are colour coded throughout the manuscript.**

Parameter Abbreviation	Parameter name	Parameter meaning
GabRat	Gabor Ratio	Average ratio of luminance edges at right angle to stimulus outline to luminance edges (measured as dbl stimulation) parallel with the stimulus outline
Lum.skew	LEIA luminance skewness	Skewness of histogram of all luminance edges measured in $\Delta S$ at the scale of an edge detecting receptive field
Lum.mean	LEIA mean luminance	Mean of luminance edges measured in $\Delta S$ at the scale of an edge detecting receptive field
Lum.kurt	LEIA luminance kurtosis	Kurtosis of histogram of all luminance edges measured in $\Delta S$ at the scale of an edge detecting receptive field
Lum.CoV	LEIA luminance coefficient of variation	Coefficient of variation (mean relative to standard deviation) of luminance edges measured in $\Delta S$ at the scale of an edge detecting receptive field
Lum.sd	LEIA luminance standard deviation	Standard deviation of luminance edges measured in $\Delta S$ at the scale of an edge detecting receptive field
Col.skew	LEIA chromatic skewness	Skewness of histogram of all chromatic edges measured in $\Delta S$ at the scale of an edge detecting receptive field
Col.mean	LEIA mean chromaticity	Mean of chromatic edges measured in $\Delta S$ at the scale of an edge detecting receptive field
Col.kurt	LEIA chromatic kurtosis	Kurtosis of histogram of all chromatic edges measured in $\Delta S$ at the scale of an edge detecting receptive field
Col.CoV	LEIA chromatic coefficient of variation	Coefficient of variation (mean relative to standard deviation) of chromatic edges measured

		in $\Delta S$ at the scale of an edge detecting receptive field
Col.sd	LEIA chromatic standard deviation	Standard deviation of chromatic edges measured in $\Delta S$ at the scale of an edge detecting receptive field
BSA.BML	BSA weighted mean boundary luminance contrast	Abundance weighted mean of luminance edges measured as Michelson contrast of double cone stimulation between pattern elements
BSA.BsL	BSA standard deviation of boundary luminance contrast	Standard deviation of luminance edges measured as Michelson contrast of double cone stimulation between pattern elements
BSA.BCVL	BSA coefficient of variation of boundary luminance contrast	Coefficient of variation of luminance edges measured as Michelson contrast of double cone stimulation between pattern elements
BSA.BMSsat	BSA weighted mean boundary saturation contrast	Abundance weighted mean of chromatic edges measured as Michelson contrast of chromatic $\Delta S$ between pattern elements
BSA.BsSsat	BSA standard deviation of boundary saturation contrast	Standard deviation of chromatic edges measured as Michelson contrast of chromatic $\Delta S$ between pattern elements
BSA.BCVSsat	BSA coefficient of variation of boundary saturation contrast	Coefficient of variation of chromatic edges measured as Michelson contrast of chromatic $\Delta S$ between pattern elements

**Table S2.** All significant correlations tested for each viewing distance (D) (single parameter linear mixed effect regression models). Only parameters with significant (p) interactions are listed.

stimulus only					stimulus vs. background				stimulus only				stimulus only				stimulus vs. background							
Parm	D	p	F	%	Parm	D	p	F	%	Parm	D	p	F	%	Parm	D	p	F	%	Parm	D	p	F	%
BSA.Bsl	5	<0.001	13.75	1.52	Lum.CoV	5	<0.001	25.50	1.56	GabRat	10	<0.001	12.45	1.65	Lum.CoV	5	<0.001	25.91	1.58	Lum.CoV	5	<0.001	25.5	1.56
Lum.CoV	2	<0.001	12.53	1.40	Lum.mean	2	<0.001	24.77	1.51	GabRat	5	0.006	7.58	1.00	Lum.CoV	2	<0.001	25.62	1.56	Lum.mean	2	<0.001	24.77	1.51
BSA.BCVL	5	<0.001	12.67	1.39	Lum.CoV	2	<0.001	23.38	1.43	BSA.BMSSat	30	0.007	7.35	0.97	BSA.BCVL	5	<0.001	25.23	1.53	Lum.CoV	2	<0.001	23.38	1.43
BSA.BCVL	10	0.001	10.88	1.21	Col.mean	30	<0.001	23.15	1.42	Col.sd	2	0.008	7.15	0.94	BSA.BCVL	10	<0.001	23.71	1.44	Col.mean	30	<0.001	23.15	1.42
Lum.CoV	5	0.001	10.36	1.16	Lum.CoV	10	<0.001	22.40	1.37	Col.sd	5	0.010	6.64	0.88	Col.mean	30	<0.001	23.50	1.44	Lum.CoV	10	<0.001	22.4	1.37
Col.mean	30	0.004	8.36	0.93	Lum.mean	5	<0.001	20.75	1.26	BSA.BsSsat	10	0.013	6.25	0.84	Col.sd	30	<0.001	21.30	1.31	Lum.mean	5	<0.001	20.75	1.26
Col.mean	10	0.005	7.98	0.88	BSA.BCVL	10	<0.001	20.42	1.24	Col.mean	30	0.016	5.89	0.78	Lum.CoV	10	<0.001	21.03	1.28	BSA.BCVL	10	<0.001	20.42	1.24
Lum.skew	2	0.007	7.32	0.82	Col.sd	10	<0.001	20.09	1.22	Col.sd	10	0.027	4.93	0.65	BSA.BML	5	<0.001	20.61	1.25	Col.sd	10	<0.001	20.09	1.22
Lum.mean	30	0.008	7.14	0.80	Col.sd	5	<0.001	20.06	1.22	Lum.mean	30	0.030	4.72	0.62	Col.sd	10	<0.001	20.20	1.23	Col.sd	5	<0.001	20.06	1.22
BSA.BML	10	0.008	7.01	0.78	Col.sd	2	<0.001	19.87	1.21	BSA.Bsl	10	0.037	4.36	0.58	Col.sd	5	<0.001	20.11	1.22	Col.sd	2	<0.001	19.87	1.21
Col.sd	2	0.009	6.87	0.76	Col.sd	30	<0.001	19.51	1.20	Lum.CoV	5	0.039	4.30	0.57	Col.sd	2	<0.001	19.93	1.21	Col.sd	30	<0.001	19.51	1.2
Col.sd	10	0.011	6.55	0.73	BSA.BML	10	<0.001	19.26	1.18	Col.sd	30	0.047	3.97	0.52	Col.CoV	2	<0.001	18.99	1.16	BSA.BML	10	<0.001	19.26	1.18
Col.mean	2	0.011	6.51	0.72	BSA.BCVL	2	<0.001	16.14	0.98	Lum.CoV	10	0.049	3.90	0.52	BSA.BML	10	<0.001	18.92	1.15	BSA.BCVL	2	<0.001	16.14	0.98
Col.sd	5	0.011	6.44	0.71	Col.mean	10	<0.001	15.42	0.94	stimulus vs. background				Lum.mean	2	<0.001	18.49	1.12	Col.mean	10	<0.001	15.42	0.94	
Lum.CoV	10	0.012	6.28	0.70	Lum.mean	30	<0.001	14.64	0.89	Parm	D	p	F	%	Col.CoV	5	<0.001	18.22	1.12	Lum.mean	30	<0.001	14.64	0.89
Col.mean	5	0.013	6.18	0.68	Col.mean	5	<0.001	14.60	0.89	GabRat	10	<0.001	12.45	1.65	Col.mean	2	<0.001	18.05	1.10	Col.mean	5	<0.001	14.6	0.89
Lum.skew	5	0.017	5.73	0.64	BSA.BCVL	5	<0.001	14.26	0.87	BSA.BsSsat	30	0.001	11.74	1.54	Col.mean	5	<0.001	17.75	1.08	BSA.BCVL	5	<0.001	14.26	0.87
BSA.BML	30	0.017	5.69	0.64	Lum.skew	10	<0.001	14.11	0.86	Lum.skew	10	0.006	7.67	1.01	Lum.skew	2	<0.001	17.39	1.06	Lum.skew	10	<0.001	14.11	0.86
Col.kurt	10	0.020	5.45	0.61	Col.mean	2	<0.001	13.77	0.84	GabRat	5	0.006	7.58	1.00	Col.mean	10	<0.001	17.46	1.06	Col.mean	2	<0.001	13.77	0.84
Lum.mean	2	0.020	5.42	0.61	Lum.mean	10	<0.001	13.58	0.83	Lum.kurt	5	0.007	7.36	0.98	Lum.skew	5	<0.001	16.48	1.01	Col.mean	50	<0.001	13.61	0.84
BSA.BML	5	0.020	5.44	0.60	Col.CoV	2	<0.001	12.45	0.76	Lum.kurt	10	0.008	7.11	0.93	Lum.mean	5	<0.001	15.14	0.92	Lum.mean	10	<0.001	13.58	0.83
GabRat	2	0.023	5.17	0.58	Col.CoV	5	0.001	11.64	0.71	BSA.Bsl	10	0.010	6.68	0.88	BSA.BCVL	2	<0.001	14.24	0.86	Col.CoV	2	<0.001	12.45	0.76
Col.kurt	50	0.024	5.13	0.57	Lum.sd	2	0.001	10.78	0.66	BSA.BsSsat	10	0.014	6.14	0.82	Col.CoV	10	<0.001	13.55	0.83	Col.CoV	5	0.001	11.64	0.71
BSA.BMSSat	2	0.025	5.07	0.56	BSA.BMSSat	30	0.001	10.38	0.63	Lum.mean	2	0.013	6.15	0.81	Lum.skew	10	<0.001	12.80	0.78	Lum.sd	2	0.001	10.78	0.66
GabRat	5	0.028	4.86	0.54	Lum.kurt	10	0.002	9.62	0.59	Col.mean	30	0.026	5.00	0.66	Lum.kurt	2	<0.001	12.44	0.76	BSA.BMSSat	30	0.001	10.38	0.63
Lum.kurt	2	0.028	4.84	0.54	Lum.kurt	5	0.002	9.34	0.57	BSA.BMSSat	30	0.032	4.64	0.61	BSA.BsSsat	10	0.001	12.20	0.75	Lum.kurt	10	0.002	9.62	0.59
BSA.BsSsat	30	0.033	4.58	0.51	Col.CoV	30	0.003	8.89	0.54	Lum.CoV	5	0.046	3.98	0.53	BSA.BsL	5	0.001	12.08	0.73	Lum.kurt	5	0.002	9.34	0.57
Col.kurt	30	0.035	4.49	0.50	BSA.BsL	10	0.003	8.77	0.53	Lum.mean	5	0.048	3.94	0.52	Lum.mean	30	0.001	11.95	0.73	Col.CoV	30	0.003	8.89	0.54
Col.kurt	5	0.037	4.39	0.49	BSA.BCVSsat	5	0.004	8.14	0.50	Lum.mean	30	0.049	3.89	0.52	BSA.BsSsat	2	0.001	11.59	0.71	BSA.BsL	10	0.003	8.77	0.53
Col.sd	30	0.048	3.92	0.43	BSA.BsSsat	2	0.013	6.15	0.38					Lum.kurt	5	0.001	11.23	0.69	BSA.BCVSsat	5	0.004	8.14	0.5	
					Lum.sd	30	0.013	6.14	0.38					BSA.BCVSsat	5	0.001	11.03	0.68	BSA.BsSsat	2	0.013	6.15	0.38	
					Col.CoV	10	0.015	5.89	0.36					Lum.mean	10	0.001	10.87	0.66	Lum.sd	30	0.013	6.14	0.38	
					Col.skew	2	0.015	5.93	0.36					BSA.BCVSsat	10	0.002	10.06	0.62	Col.CoV	10	0.015	5.89	0.36	
					BSA.BsSsat	10	0.020	5.39	0.33					BSA.BML	2	0.002	9.46	0.57	Col.skew	2	0.015	5.93	0.36	
					BSA.BML	5	0.022	5.23	0.32					BSA.BCVL	30	0.002	9.27	0.57	BSA.BsSsat	10	0.02	5.39	0.33	
					Lum.sd	5	0.033	4.56	0.28					BSA.BsL	10	0.004	8.28	0.50	BSA.BML	5	0.022	5.23	0.32	
					Lum.CoV	30	0.035	4.43	0.27					Lum.kurt	10	0.005	7.90	0.48	Lum.sd	5	0.033	4.56	0.28	
					Col.kurt	2	0.039	4.25	0.26					Lum.sd	30	0.006	7.65	0.47	Lum.CoV	30	0.035	4.43	0.27	
					Col.skew	5	0.044	4.05	0.25					BSA.BsSsat	5	0.007	7.30	0.45	Col.kurt	2	0.039	4.25	0.26	
					Col.kurt	10	0.046	4.00	0.24					Lum.sd	2	0.008	7.02	0.43	Col.skew	5	0.044	4.05	0.25	
					BSA.BCVL	30	0.047	3.96	0.24					BSA.BMSSat	30	0.016	5.78	0.35	Col.kurt	10	0.046	4	0.24	
													BSA.BCVSsat	2	0.022	5.26	0.32	BSA.BCVL	30	0.047	3.96	0.24		

**Table S3.** Summary of best models using pcr regression for each viewing distance (dist). The % of the variation in the data (% var), the % of explained variation in time to detection (% var resp) as well as the number of principal components (PC) are listed.

Combined					Chromatic				
ROI	Dist	% var	% var resp	PCs	ROI	Dist	% var	% var resp	PCs
Stim	2cm	62.66	3.18	3	Stimulus	2cm	23.55	0.11	1
Stim	5cm	47.84	3	2	Stimulus	5cm	99.79	5.05	13
Stim	10cm	98.18	5.16	11	Stimulus	10cm	91.14	2.67	6
Stim	30cm	99.95	5.73	15	Stimulus	30cm	96.21	6.33	8
Stim vs. BG	2cm	96.66	4.37	8	Stim vs. BG	2cm	99.3	2.82	9
Stim vs. BG	5cm	94.65	3.77	7	Stim vs. BG	5cm	94.85	2.37	7
Stim vs. BG	10cm	38.08	2.96	1	Stim vs. BG	10cm	38.72	0.35	1
Stim vs. BG	30cm	99.58	4.7	9	Stim vs. BG	30cm	99.96	4.2	9
Achromatic									
ROI	Dist	% var	% var resp	PCs					
Stim	2cm	80.14	2.16	5					
Stim	5cm	57.77	1.32	3					
Stim	10cm	24.57	0.97	1					
Stim	30cm	54.88	1.81	2					
Stim vs. BG	2cm	92.93	3.32	6					
Stim vs. BG	5cm	30.21	1.07	1					
Stim vs. BG	10cm	49.53	0.93	2					
Stim vs. BG	30cm	96.62	2	6					

**Table S4.** Summary of all stepwise regression analyses.

ROI	Treatment	Dist	Retained pattern statistics	% var expl
Stimulus	Achromatic	2cm	BSA.BML + Lum.CoV	2.45
Stimulus	Chromatic	2cm	Lum.mean	0.81
Stimulus	Achromatic	5cm	Lum.CoV	1.40
Stimulus	Chromatic	5cm	BSA.BCVSsat + BSA.BML + BSA.BMSSat + BSA.BsL + BSA.BsSsat + Col.CoV + Col.kurt + Col.mean + Col.sd	1.89
Stimulus	Achromatic	10cm	BSA.BCVL + BSA.BCVSsat + BSA.BsSsat + Col.skew + Lum.CoV	2.45
Stimulus	Chromatic	10cm	BSA.BMSSat + BSA.BsL + GabRat	2.67
Stimulus	Achromatic	30cm	BSA.BCVSsat + Col.CoV + Col.mean	2.92
Stimulus	Chromatic	30cm	BSA.BML + BSA.BMSSat + BSA.BsSsat	4.18
Stim vs. BG	Achromatic	2cm	BSA.BMSSat + Lum.CoV	2.58
Stim vs. BG	Chromatic	2cm	Col.sd	0.94
Stim vs. BG	Achromatic	5cm	BSA.BCVL + Col.skew + GabRat + Lum.CoV + Lum.kurt	3.53
Stim vs. BG	Chromatic	5cm	BSA.BCVSsat + Col.sd + GabRat + Lum.kurt	2.18
Stim vs. BG	Achromatic	10cm	BSA.BCVL + Col.kurt	1.98
Stim vs. BG	Chromatic	10cm	BSA.BCVSsat + BSA.BMSSat + Col.sd + GabRat + Lum.CoV + Lum.kurt	3.53
Stim vs. BG	Achromatic	30cm	BSA.BCVL + BSA.BCVSsat + BSA.BML + BSA.BsSsat + Col.kurt + Col.mean + Lum.mean	2.94
Stim vs. BG	Chromatic	30cm	BSA.BCVSsat + BSA.BMSSat + BSA.BsSsat + GabRat + Lum.mean	2.77
Stimulus	Combined	2cm	BSA.BCVSsat + BSA.BMSSat + Col.mean + Col.skew + GabRat + Lum.kurt + Lum.mean + Lum.skew	3.34
Stimulus	Combined	5cm	BSA.BCVSsat + BSA.BML + BSA.BsSsat + Col.mean + GabRat + Lum.CoV	2.27
Stimulus	Combined	10cm	BSA.BCVL + BSA.BCVSsat + BSA.BML + BSA.BMSSat + BSA.BsL + BSA.BsSsat + Col.CoV + Col.mean + Col.skew + GabRat + Lum.CoV + Lum.kurt + Lum.mean	3.41
Stimulus	Combined	30cm	BSA.BCVSsat + BSA.BML + BSA.BMSSat + BSA.BsSsat + Col.CoV + Col.mean	3.37
Stimulus	Combined	50cm	Col.mean	0.84
Stim vs. BG	Combined	2cm	BSA.BMSSat + Col.mean + Lum.CoV	2.38
Stim vs. BG	Combined	5cm	BSA.BsL + Col.mean + GabRat + Lum.mean	2.49
Stim vs. BG	Combined	10cm	BSA.BCVL + BSA.BML + BSA.BsL + Col.kurt + Col.mean + GabRat + Lum.mean	2.57
Stim vs. BG	Combined	30cm	BSA.BCVSsat + BSA.BML + BSA.BMSSat + BSA.BsL + BSA.BsSsat + Col.kurt + Col.sd + GabRat + Lum.mean + Lum.sd	3.06