

# Viewing Object Colors in a Gallery

Glenn Davis <gdavis@gluonics.com>

June 8, 2025

## Introduction

The goal of this **colorSpec** vignette is to display rendered images of a popular color target with different illuminants, both with and without chromatic adaption methods. The figures are best viewed on a display calibrated for sRGB. Featured functions in this vignette are: **extradata()**, and **product()**.

```
library( colorSpec )
library( spacesXYZ )      # for function standardXYZ()
library( spacesRGB )      # for functions RGBfromXYZ() and plotPatchesRGB()
```

Read the target spectra. This data has been kindly provided in CGATS format by [2]. *ColorChecker* is a Registered Trademark of X-Rite, and X-Rite is a Trademark.

```
# read the Macbeth ColorCheck target
path = system.file( 'extdata/targets/CC_Avg30_spectrum_CGATS.txt', package='colorSpec')
MacbethCC = readSpectra( path )                # MacbethCC is a 'colorSpec' object
MacbethCC = MacbethCC[ order(MacbethCC$SAMPLE_ID), ] # still class 'colorSpec'
print( extradata(MacbethCC), row.names=F )
```

SAMPLE_ID	SAMPLE_NAME	Munsell	ISCC-NBS_Name	LEFT	TOP	WIDTH	HEIGHT
1	dark skin	3YR 3.7/3.2	moderate brown	7	9	29	29
2	light skin	2.2YR 6.47/4.1	light reddish brown	40	9	29	29
3	blue sky	4.3PB 4.95/5.5	moderate blue	73	9	29	29
4	foliage	6.7GY 4.2/4.1	moderate olive green	106	9	29	29
5	blue flower	9.7PB 5.47/6.7	light violet	139	9	29	29
6	bluish green	2.5BG 7/6	light bluish green	172	9	29	29
7	orange	5YR 6/11	strong orange	7	42	29	29
8	purplish blue	7.5PB 4/10.7	strong purplish blue	40	42	29	29
9	moderate red	2.5R 5/10	moderate red	73	42	29	29
10	purple	5P 3/7	deep purple	106	42	29	29
11	yellow green	5GY 7.1/9.1	strong yellow green	139	42	29	29
12	orange yellow	10YR 7/10.5	strong orange yellow	172	42	29	29
13	Blue	7.5PB 2.9/12.7	vivid purplish blue	7	75	29	29
14	Green	0.25G 5.4/8.65	strong yellowish green	40	75	29	29
15	Red	5R 4/12	strong red	73	75	29	29
16	Yellow	5Y 8/11.1	vivid yellow	106	75	29	29
17	Magenta	2.5RP 5/12	strong reddish purple	139	75	29	29
18	Cyan	5B 5/8	strong greenish blue	172	75	29	29
19	white	N9.5/	white	7	108	29	29
20	neutral 8	N8/	light gray	40	108	29	29
21	neutral 6.5	N6.5/	light medium gray	73	108	29	29

22	neutral 5	N5/	medium gray	106 108	29	29
23	neutral 3.5	N3.5/	dark gray	139 108	29	29
24	black	N2/	black	172 108	29	29

Note that **MacbethCC** is organized as `'df.row'` and contains extra data for each spectrum, notably the coordinates of the patch rectangle.

## Viewing with Illuminant D65

Build the "material responder" from Illuminant D65 and standard CMFs:

```
D65.eye = product( D65.1nm, "artwork", xyz1931.1nm, wave='auto' )
# calibrate according to the ASTM and CIE standards,
# except normalize to Y=1 instead of Y=100
# X, Y, and Z are scaled by the same factor
PRD = neutralMaterial( 1, wavelength(D65.eye) )
D65.eye = calibrate( D65.eye, stimulus=PRD, response=c(NA,1,NA), method='scaling' )
```

Calculate XYZ and then RGB:

```
XYZ = product( MacbethCC, D65.eye, wave='auto' )
RGB = RGBfromXYZ( XYZ, space='sRGB', which='scene' )$RGB # this is *signal* sRGB
# add the rectangle data to RGB, so they can be plotted in proper places
obj = extradata(MacbethCC)
obj$RGB = RGB
# display in proper location, and use the sRGB display transfer function
par( oma=c(0,0,0,0), mai=c(0.2,0.2,0.2,0.2) )
plotPatchesRGB( obj, space='sRGB', which='signal', back='gray20', labels=FALSE )
```



Figure 1: Rendering with Illuminant D65 and xyz1931.1nm

```
obj.first = obj # save this reference object for later
```

Here are the 8-bit device values:

```
RGB8 = round( 255 * RGB )
print( RGB8 )
```

	R	G	B
dark skin	115	82	68
light skin	195	149	128
blue sky	93	123	157
foliage	91	108	65
blue flower	130	129	175
bluish green	98	191	170
orange	220	123	46
purplish blue	72	92	168
moderate red	194	84	97
purple	91	59	104
yellow green	161	189	62
orange yellow	229	161	40
Blue	42	63	147
Green	72	149	72
Red	175	50	57
Yellow	238	200	22
Magenta	188	84	150

Cyan	0	137	166
white	245	245	240
neutral 8	201	202	201
neutral 6.5	161	162	162
neutral 5	120	121	121
neutral 3.5	83	85	85
black	50	50	51

Note that all of these patches are inside the sRGB gamut, except for Cyan.

Another way to do the same thing is use the built-in theoretical camera **BT.709.RGB** that computes sRGB directly from spectra, and has already been calibrated.

```
RGB = product( D65.1nm, MacbethCC, BT.709.RGB, wave='auto' ) # this is *linear* sRGB
obj = extradata(MacbethCC)
obj$RGB = RGB
par( omi=c(0,0,0,0), mai=c(0.2,0.2,0.2,0.2) )
plotPatchesRGB( obj, space='sRGB', which='scene', back='gray20', labels=FALSE )
```

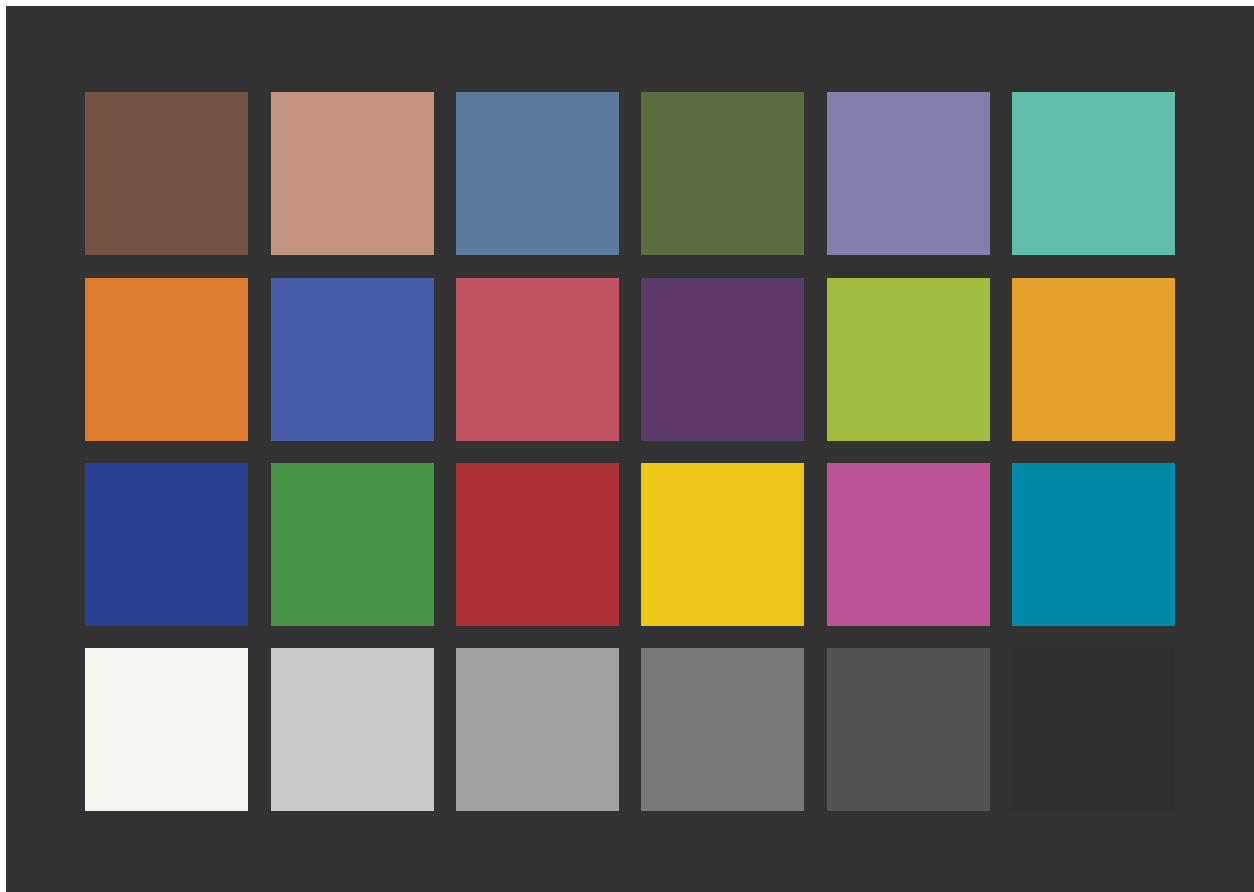


Figure 2: Rendering with Illuminant D65 and Theoretical BT.709.RGB Camera

## Viewing with Illuminant D50

Build the "material responder" from Illuminant D50 and standard CMFs:

```
D50.eye = product( D50.5nm, "artwork", xyz1931.5nm, wave='auto' )
# calibrate according to the ASTM and CIE standards,
# except normalize to Y=1 instead of Y=100
PRD = neutralMaterial( 1, wavelength(D50.eye) )
D50.eye = calibrate( D50.eye, stimulus=PRD, response=c(NA,1,NA), method='scaling' )
```

Calculate XYZ and then RGB:

```
XYZ = product( MacbethCC, D50.eye, wave='auto' )
obj = extradata(MacbethCC)
obj$RGB = RGBfromXYZ( XYZ, space='sRGB' )$RGB # this is *signal* sRGB
par( omi=c(0,0,0,0), mai=c(0.2,0.2,0.2,0.2) )
plotPatchesRGB( obj, space='sRGB', which='signal', back='gray20', labels=FALSE )
```

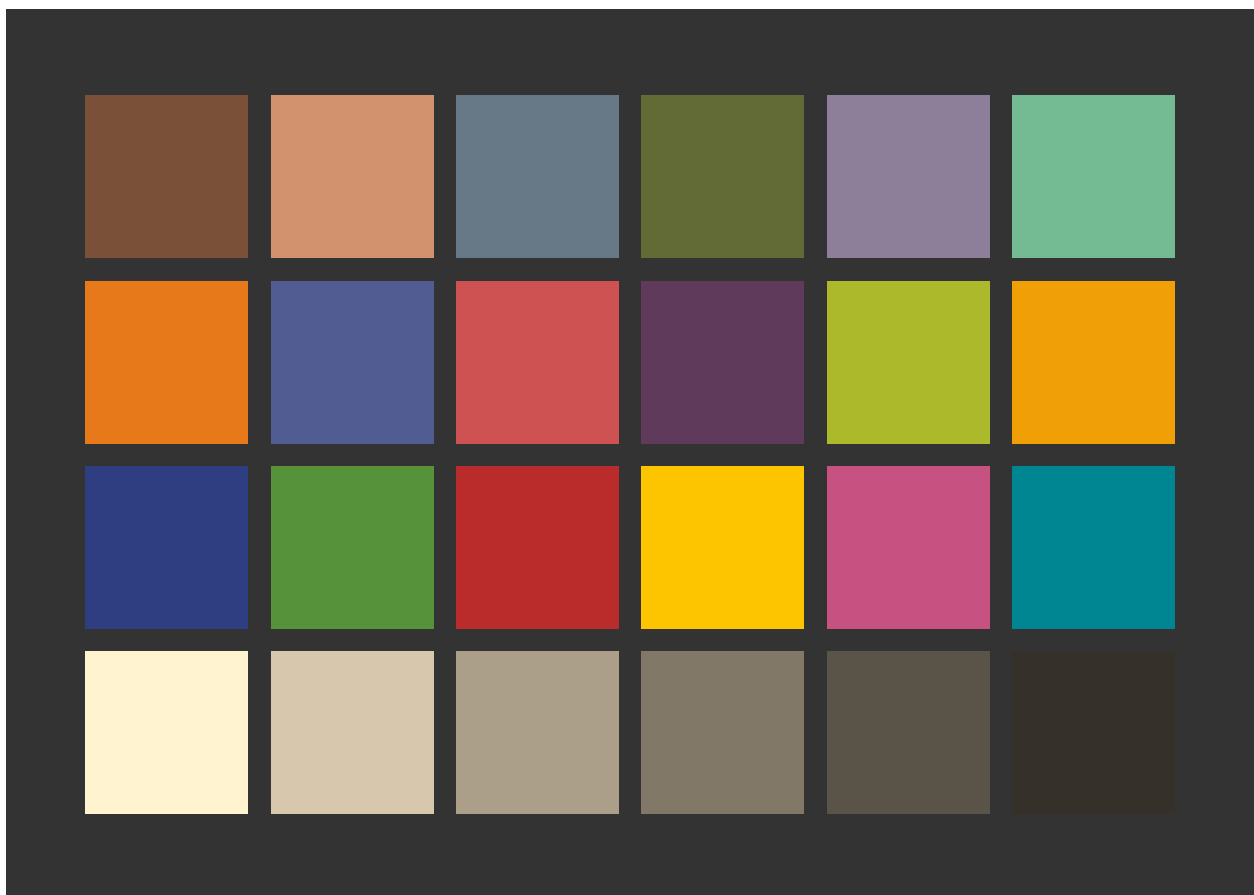


Figure 3: Rendering with Illuminant D50 and xyz1931.5nm

Since D50 is yellower than D65, the result has a yellow cast. Start over, but this time calibrate and adapt to D65 using the Bradford method.

```
D50.eye = product( D50.5nm, "artwork", xyz1931.5nm, wave='auto' )
# calibrate so the response to the perfect-reflecting-diffuser is the 'official XYZ' of D65
# with this chromatic adaption the destination XYZ is a 3x3 matrix times the source XYZ
PRD = neutralMaterial( 1, wavelength(D50.eye) )
XYZ.D65 = spacesXYZ::standardXYZ('D65')
```

```

D50toD65.eye = calibrate( D50.eye, stimulus=PRD, response=XYZ.D65, method='Bradford' )
XYZ = product( MacbethCC, D50toD65.eye, wave='auto' )
obj = extradata(MacbethCC)
obj$RGB = RGBfromXYZ( XYZ, space='sRGB' )$RGB      # this is *signal* sRGB
par( omi=c(0,0,0,0), mai=c(0.2,0.2,0.2,0.2) )
plotPatchesRGB( obj, space='sRGB', which='signal', back='gray20', labels=FALSE )

```



Figure 4: Rendering with Illuminant D50 and xyz1931.5nm, but then adapted to D65

The white-balance here is much improved. But it hard to compare colors in this figure with the ones way back in Figure 1. So combine the original D65 rendering in Figure 1 with this D50 rendering in Figure 4 by splitting each square into 2 triangles. We can do this by setting **add=T** in the second plot.

```

par( omi=c(0,0,0,0), mai=c(0.2,0.2,0.2,0.2) )
plotPatchesRGB( obj.first, space='sRGB', back='gray20', labels=F )
plotPatchesRGB( obj, space='sRGB', labels=F, shape='bottomright', add=T )

```



Figure 5: Rendering with both D65 (Figure 1), and D50 then adapted to D65 (Figure 4)

The top-left triangle has the color from Figure 1 and the bottom-right triangle has the color from Figure 4. There is a noticeable difference in the **Red** and **Magenta** patches.

## A Rendering with a Scanner

Here we calculate a rendering on an RGB scanner. This is not really a gallery situation, but illustrates the similarity of the 2 RGB calculations.

```
# Build a scanner from Illuminant F11 and the Flea2 camera
scanner = product( subset(Fs.5nm,'F11'), 'artwork', Flea2.RGB, wave='auto' )
# calibrate scanner so the response to the perfect-reflecting-diffuser is RGB=(1,1,1)
# set the RGB gains independently
PRD = neutralMaterial( 1, wavelength(scanner) )
scanner = calibrate( scanner, stimulus=PRD, response=1, method='scaling' )
obj = extradata(MacbethCC)
obj$RGB = product( MacbethCC, scanner, wave='auto' ) # this linear RGB is not linear sRGB
par( oma=c(0,0,0,0), mai=c(0.2,0.2,0.2,0.2) )
plotPatchesRGB( obj, space='sRGB', which='scene', back='gray20', labels=FALSE )
```

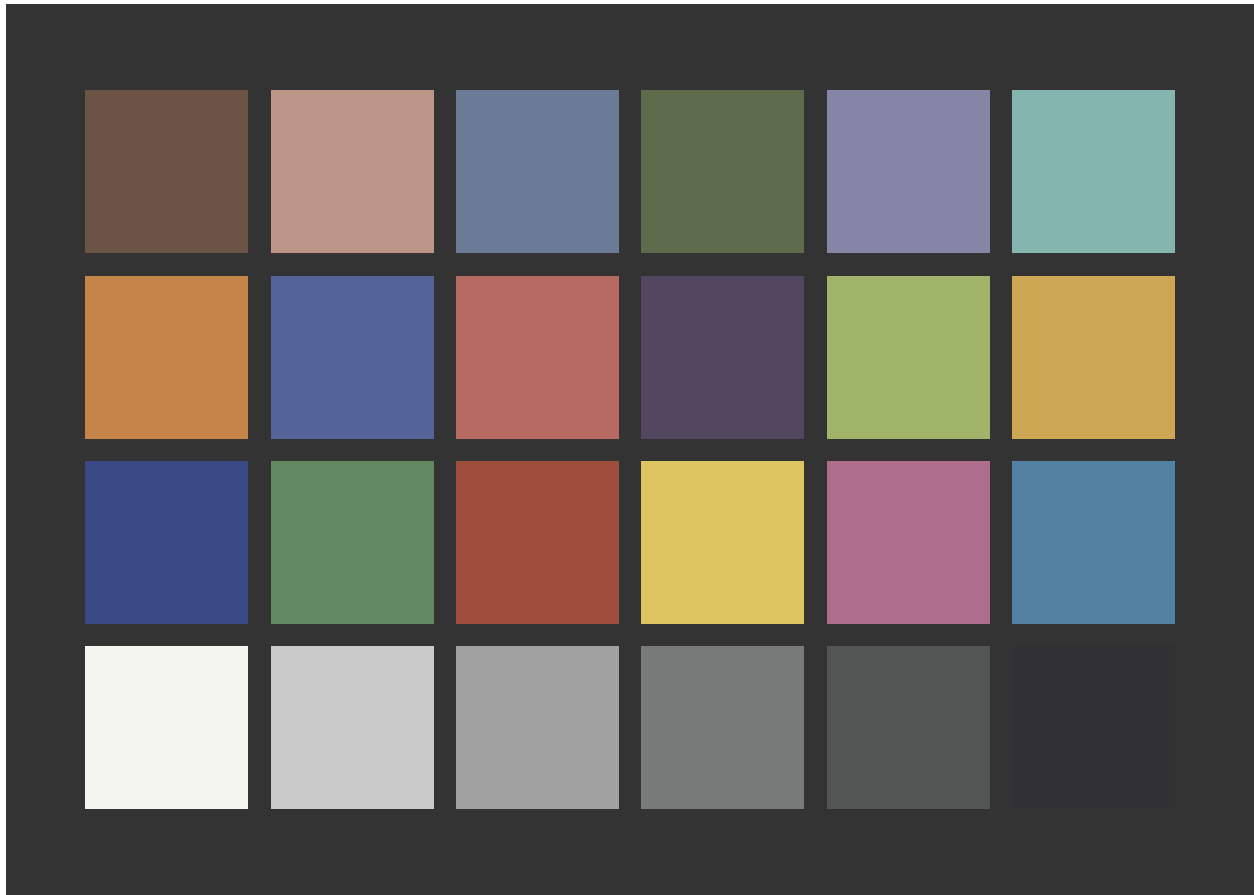


Figure 6: Rendering with a generic RGB scanner

The colors are too pale; this time **Cyan** has a substantial Red signal. Some sort of color management is necessary in this scanner to improve accuracy.

For an interactive viewer along these lines, see [1].

## References

- [1] Lindbloom, Bruce. GretagMacbeth ColorChecker Calculator. <http://brucelindbloom.com/index.html?ColorCheckerCalculator.html>.
- [2] Pascale, Danny. The ColorChecker, page 2. <http://www.babelcolor.com/colorchecker-2.htm>.

## Appendix

This document was prepared June 8, 2025 with the following configuration:

- R version 4.5.0 (2025-04-11 ucrt), x86\_64-w64-mingw32
- Running under: Windows 11 x64 (build 26100)
- Matrix products: default
- Base packages: base, datasets, grDevices, graphics, methods, stats, utils



- Other packages: colorSpec 1.8-0, knitr 1.50, spacesRGB 1.7-0, spacesXYZ 1.6-0
- Loaded via a namespace (and not attached): MASS 7.3-65, R6 2.6.1, bslib 0.9.0, cachem 1.1.0, cli 3.6.5, compiler 4.5.0, digest 0.6.37, evaluate 1.0.3, fastmap 1.2.0, glue 1.8.0, highr 0.11, htmltools 0.5.8.1, jquerylib 0.1.4, jsonlite 2.0.0, lifecycle 1.0.4, logger 0.4.0, microbenchmark 1.5.0, rlang 1.1.6, rmarkdown 2.29, sass 0.4.10, tools 4.5.0, xfun 0.52, yaml 2.3.10, zonohedra 0.4-0