# SIGGRAPH 2025 Towards Understanding Depth Perception in Foveated Rendering







## Motivation

The true vision for real-time VR is reproducing our visual reality in its entirety. Foveated rendering is a key enabling technique for that. However, it has been shown that foveation impairs visual qualities like perception of 3D layout, or egomotion. Another important aspect of visual realism is the correct reproduction of depth cues, but the effects of blur on depth perception remain largely unexplored.



How can we measure stereoacuity?

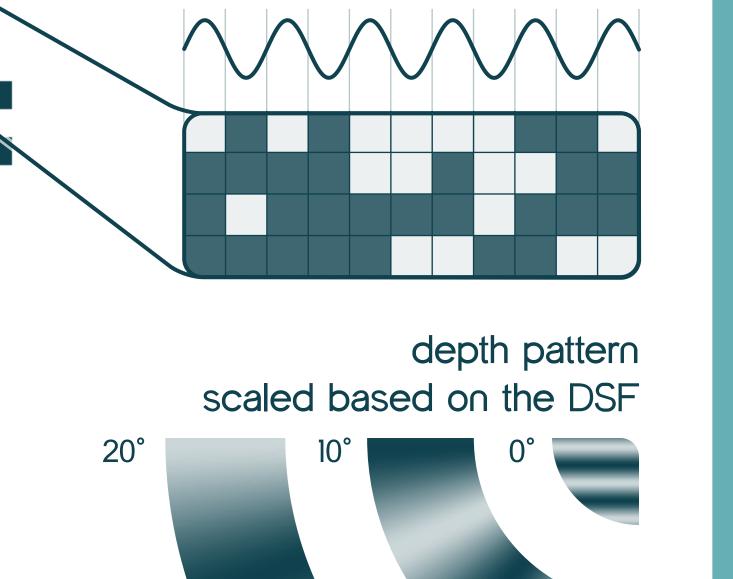
Designing the Psychovisual Experiment

#### eccentricity θ We want to measure the of blur effect blur intensity σ eccentricity to emulate foveation on stereoacuity in isolation.

Stimulus Design Requirements:

. match the peak sensitivity of the human eye in all domains: texture and depth

2. surpress other depth cues



luminance pattern

scaled based on the CSF

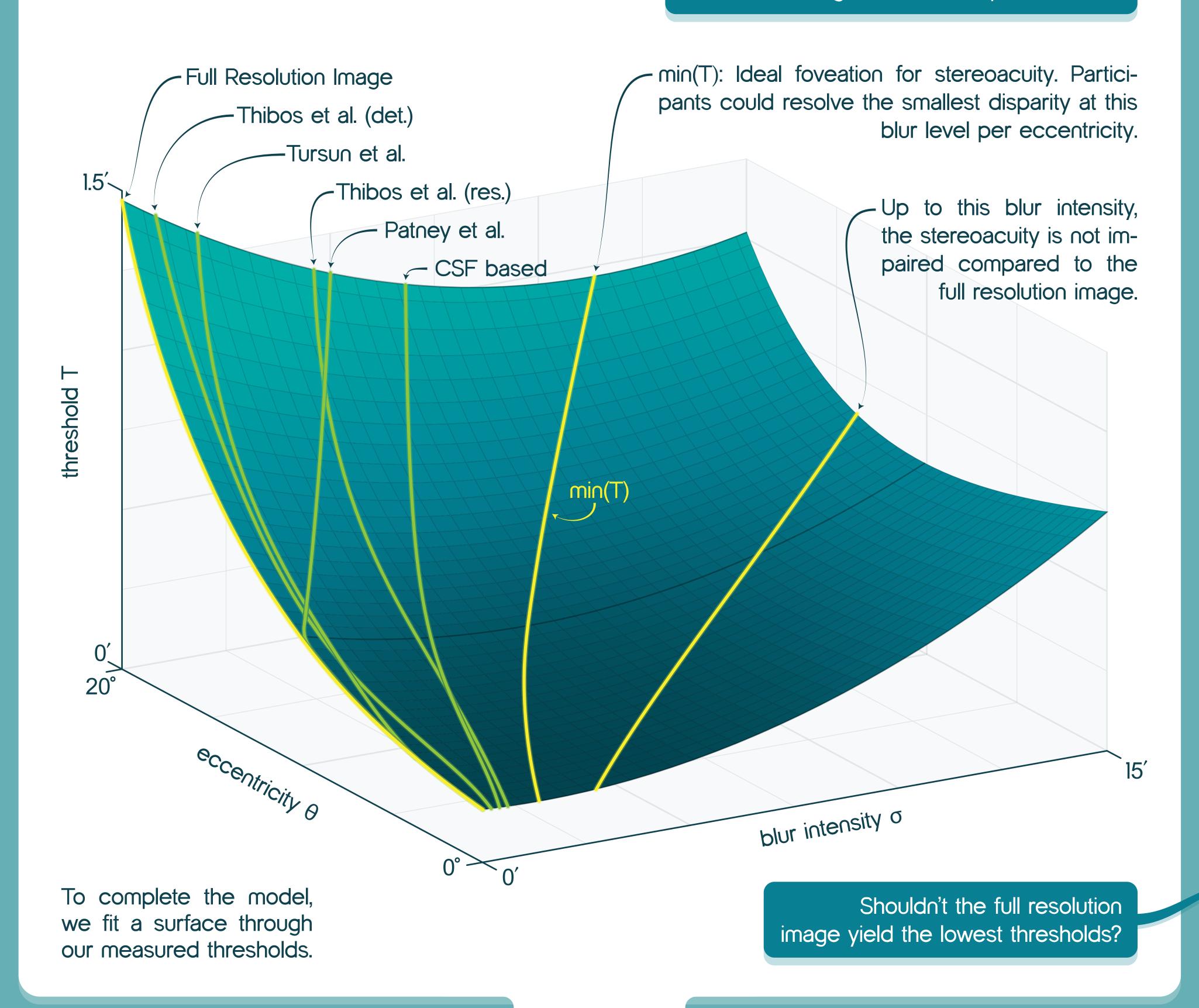
What are the results of the experiment?

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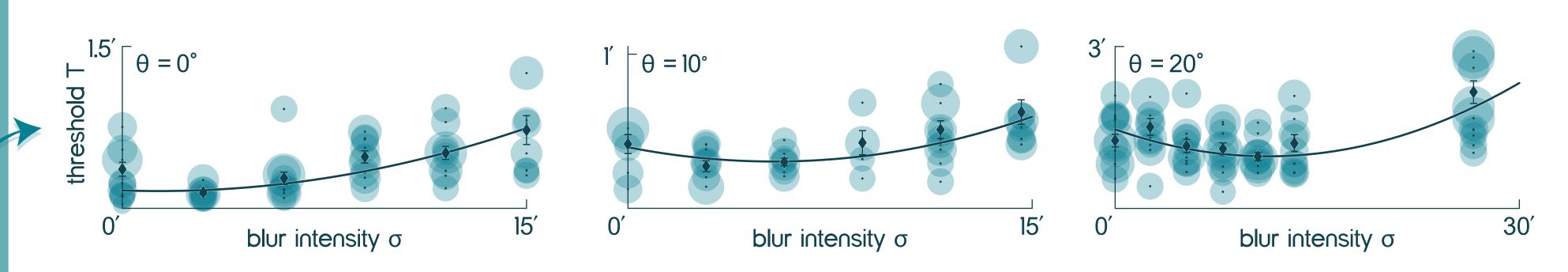
# TLDR: Stereoacuity is remarkably resilient to strong peripheral blur.

# Fitting our Perceptual Model

#### Do these findings hold for complex scenes?



We examine 19 combinations of blur and eccentricity. We estimate the smallest resolvable binocuar disparity using a threshold estimation procedure.



## Validating on Natural Content

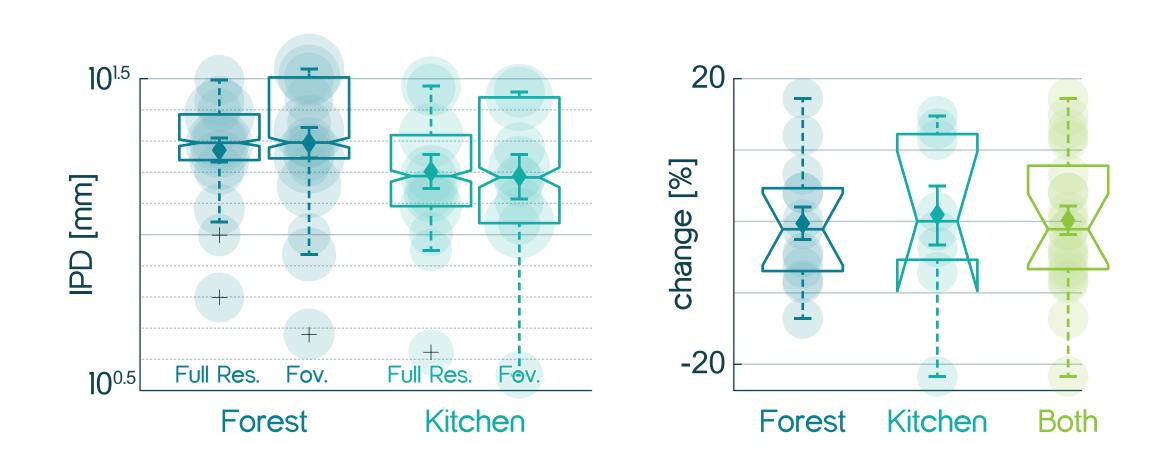
To verify our model, we want to reproduce our results on complex content. We blur natural scenes according to our ideal foveation intensities and measure the stereocauity thresholds.



no foveation, blur intensity  $\sigma = 0$  for all eccentricities

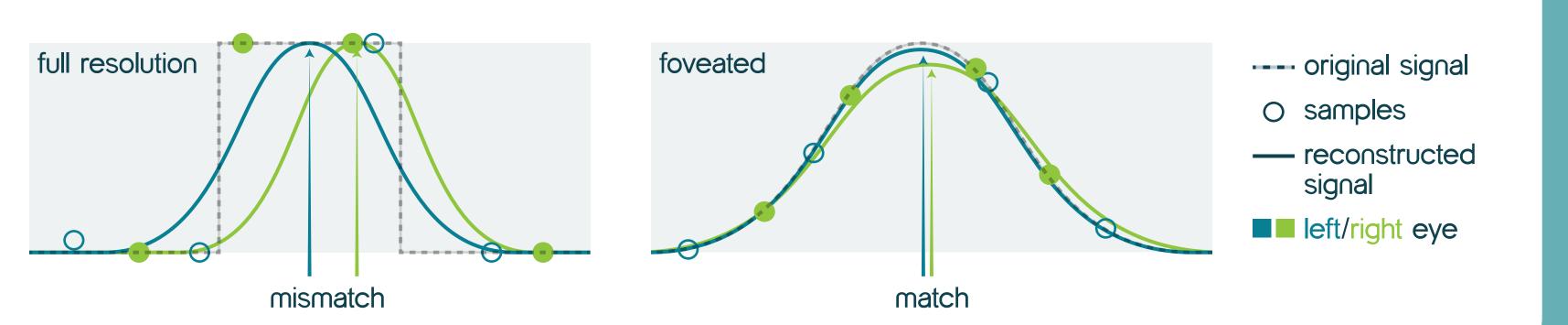


strong foveation according to our model, blur intensity  $\sigma = \min(T)$  for all eccentricities



Stereoacuity was not impaired by our high levels of blur. However, we could not replicate an increase of stereoacuity, as we would have expected it from min(T).

# Explaining the Dip



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