

Designers Light Forum

# The Design Implications of Circadian Lighting

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3/13/2019



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Questions related to specific materials, methods, and services will be addressed at the conclusion of this presentation.

## Learning Objectives

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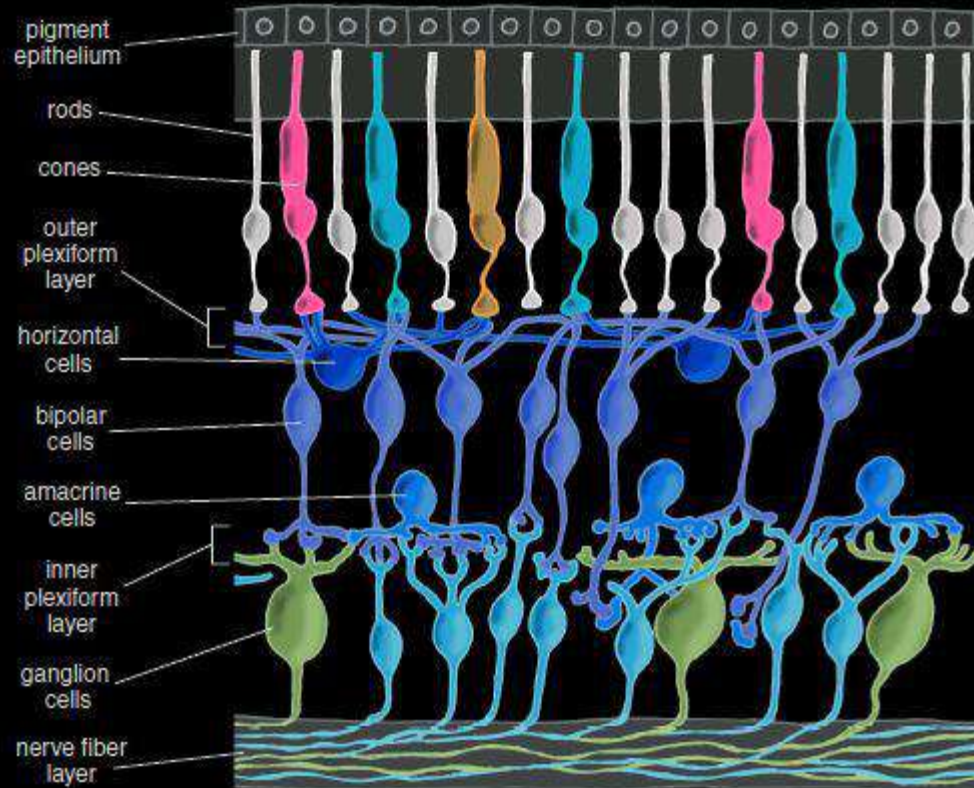
At the end of the this course, participants will be able to:

1. Understanding the impacts that circadian lighting has on design
2. Explore the decisions that the owner of a building will need to talk through with the design team
3. Discuss the importance of CCT and SPD on CS, and the aesthetic implications of each
4. Identify the appropriate level of lighting controls for a building's individual needs

“An important note of caution here is that **it is not always clear** whether lighting design should aim to maximize or minimize non-visual responses. In many ways, light can be considered a drug, **having the potential for both beneficial and deleterious effects**. These conflicting effects can occur concurrently, and in a single individual and context... Balancing the desirable and undesirable impacts of light or darkness **requires careful, informed consideration** of the context and of the myriad effects of light on physiology, perception, and cognition.”

Lucas et al., “Measuring and Using Light in the Melanopsin Age.” Trends in Neuroscience, Jan 2014.

## Background: Photoreceptors



Kolb, Helga. "How the Retina Works." *American Scientist*, Volume 91. January-February 2003. p30

## Background: Color Opponent Channels



red ON/green OFF



red OFF/green ON

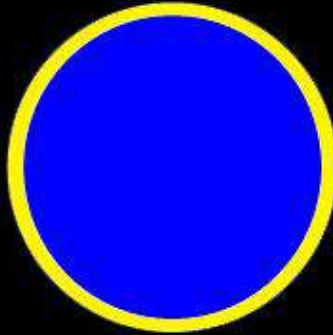


green ON/red OFF



green OFF/red ON

blue ON/yellow OFF



Figueiro, Mariana. "Human Factors – Light & Color."  
Human Factors in Lighting Class, LRC, Fall 2014, Troy, NY.

## Scientific Debate: Lucas Group

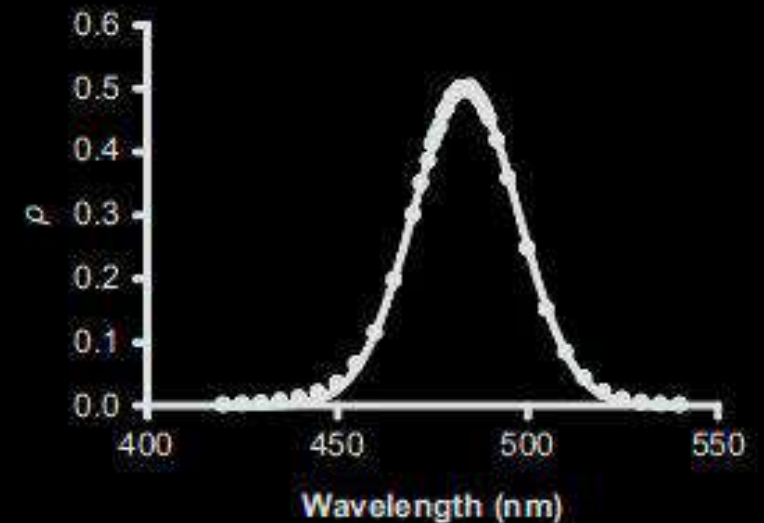
Equivalent Melanopic Lux (EML): The weighting of visual light to reflect the spectral sensitivity of ipRGCs

Melanopic Lux Calculator:

<http://lucasgroup.lab.manchester.ac.uk/research/measuringmelanopicilluminance/>

Application:

- 200 EML from 9am to 1pm or during daytime
- No more than 50 EML during the nighttime



El Enezi, Jazi, Victoria Revell, Timothy Brown, Luc Schlangen, and Robert Lucas, "A 'Melanopic' Spectral Efficiency Function Predicts the Sensitivity of Melanopsin Photoreceptors to Polychromatic Lights." *Journal of Biological Rhythms* 2011, 26: 320

## Scientific Debate: LRC Recommendations

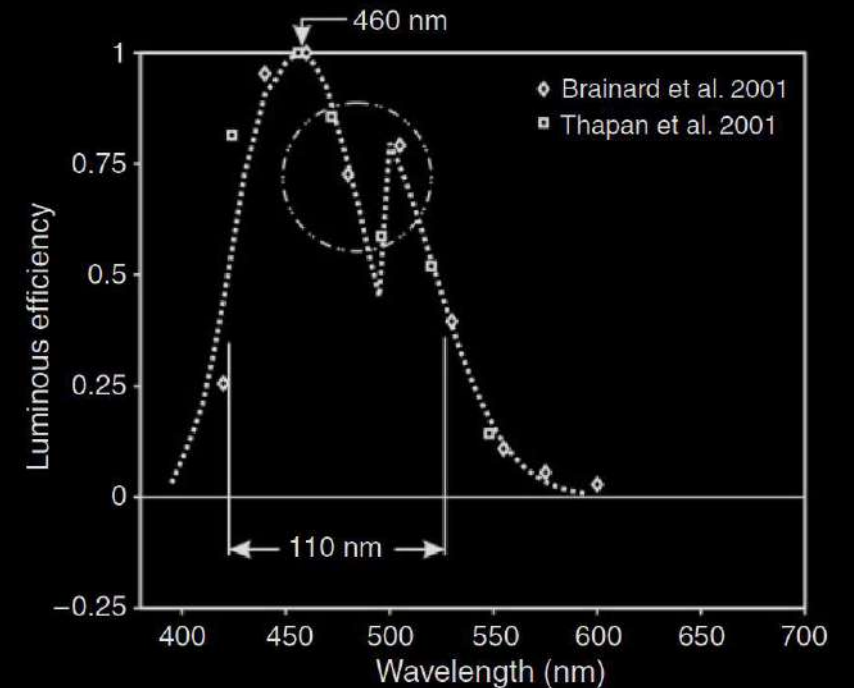
Circadian Stimulus (CS): The effectiveness of spectrally weighted irradiance at the cornea from threshold to saturation

Circadian Light ( $CL_A$ ): Irradiance at the cornea weighted to reflect the spectral sensitivity of the human circadian system as measured by acute melatonin suppression after one hour of exposure

CS Calculator: <https://www.lrc.rpi.edu/programs/ligthealth/>

### Application:

- Exposure to a CS value of at least 0.3 for at least 1-2 hours in the circadian morning
- Exposure to CS of less than 0.1 in the circadian evening



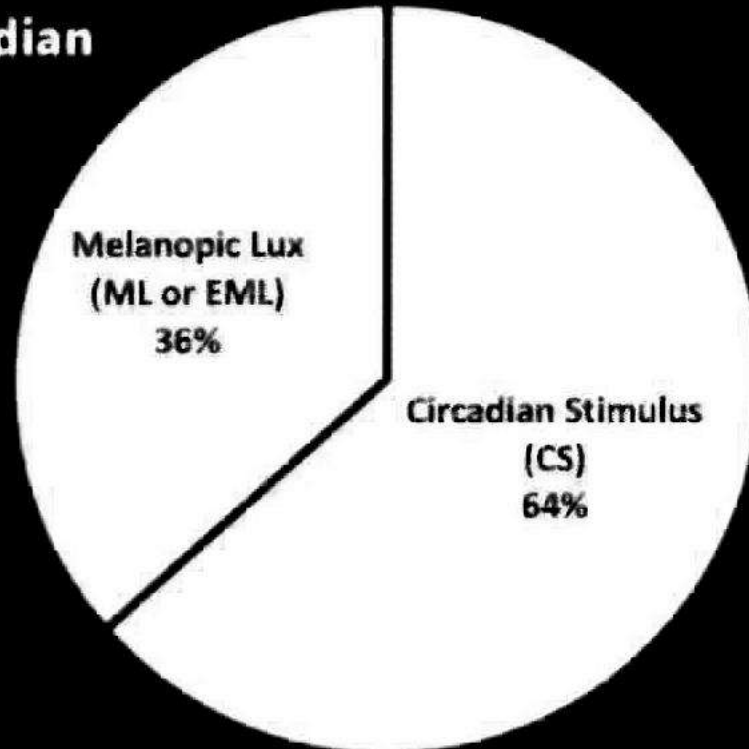
Rea, MS and MG Figueiro, "Light as a Circadian Stimulus for Architectural Lighting." *Lighting Res. Technol.* 2018; 50: 498



## LD+A Survey:

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### 3. Which circadian metric do you use?



Lesniak, Natalia and Ed Clark, "Putting it Into Practice: Circadian Survey." LD+A Oct 2018, p45

## Client's Needs

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## Client's Needs: Building Use Type



## Client's Needs: Age of Occupants



## Client's Needs: Aesthetic



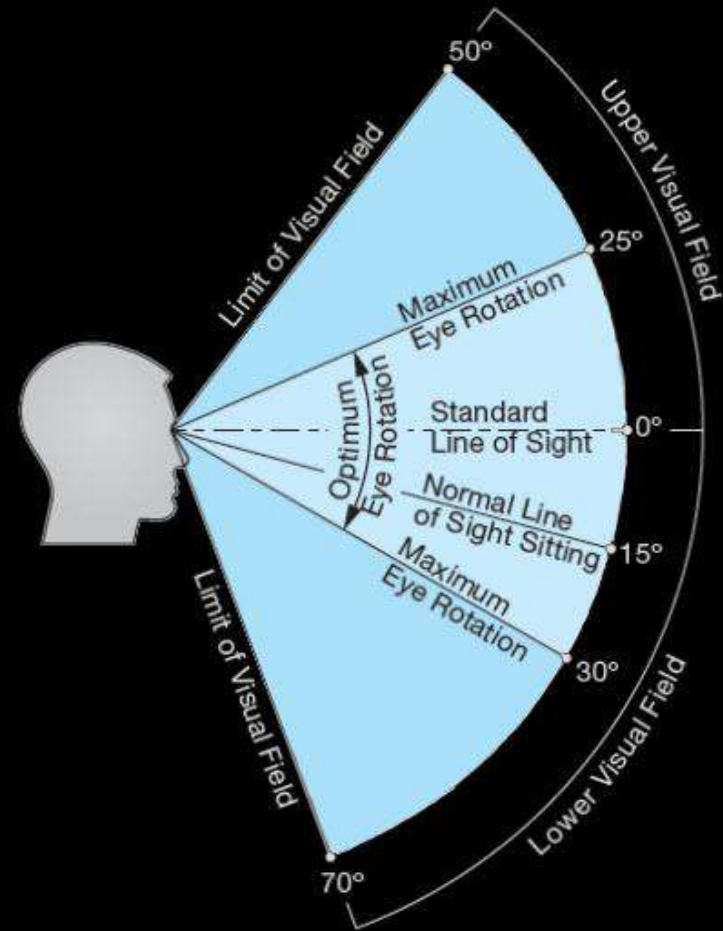
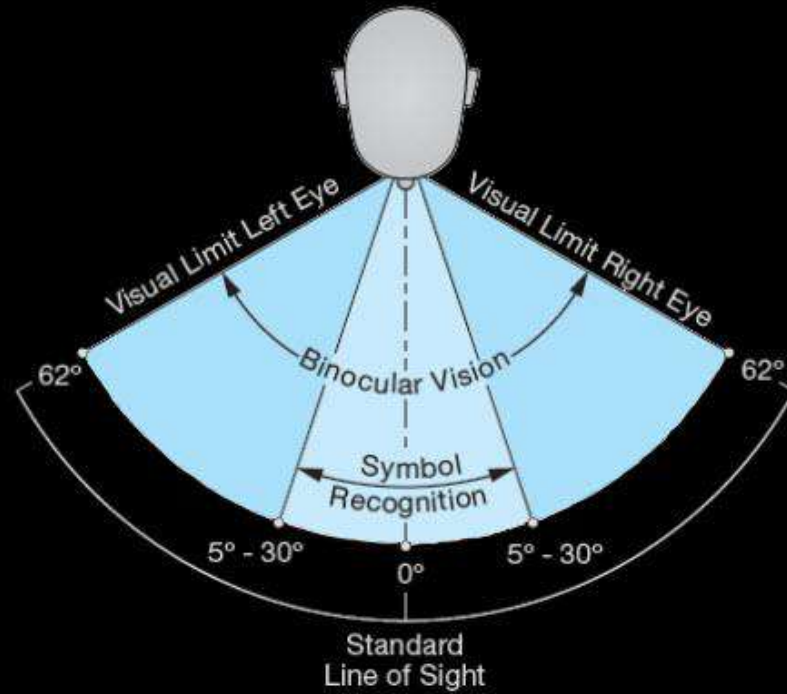
## Use of Light

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## Delivery of Light: Circadian Morning

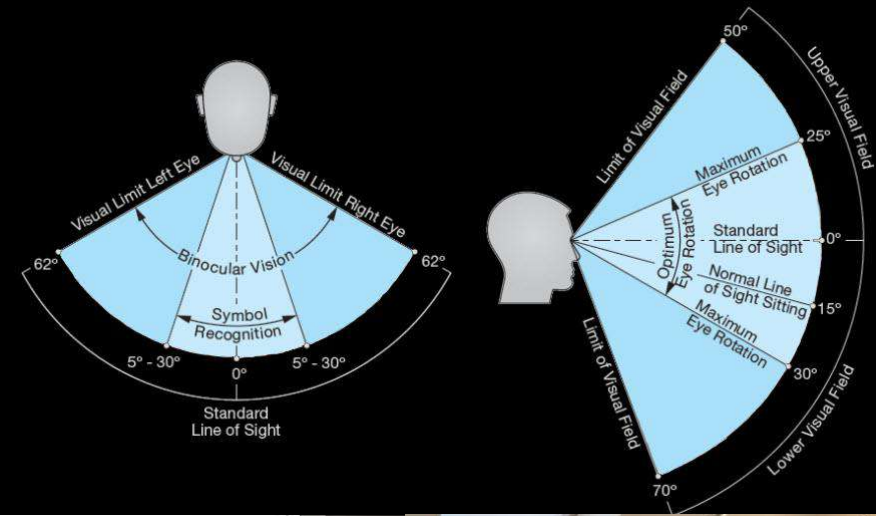
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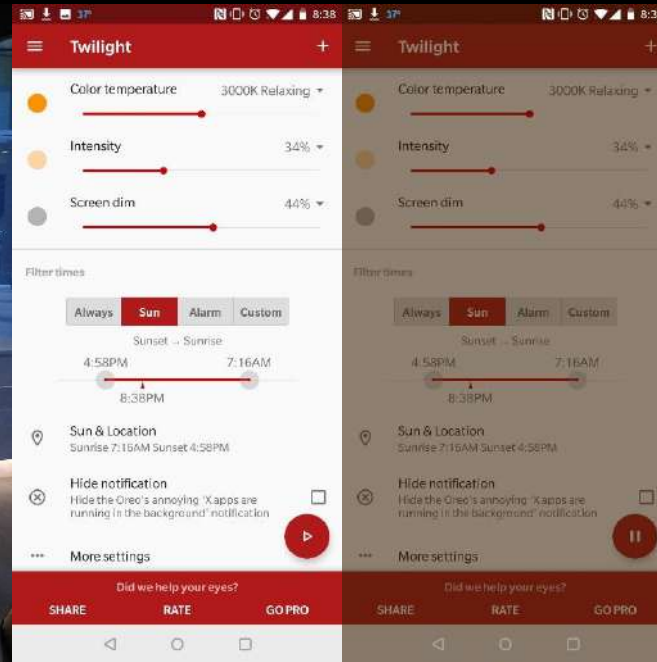




## Delivery of Light: Circadian Morning



## Removal of Light: Circadian Evening



## Removal of Light: Circadian Night

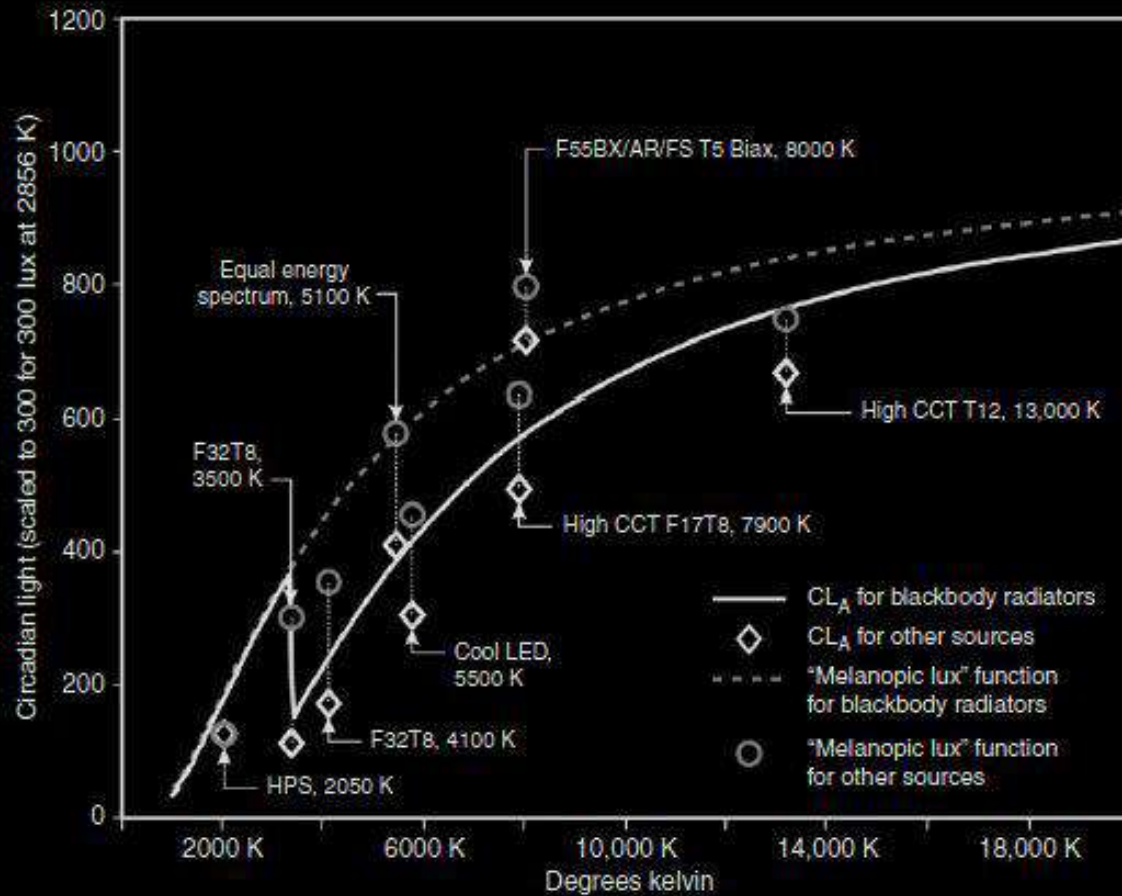


## Benefits of Single Spectrum Light

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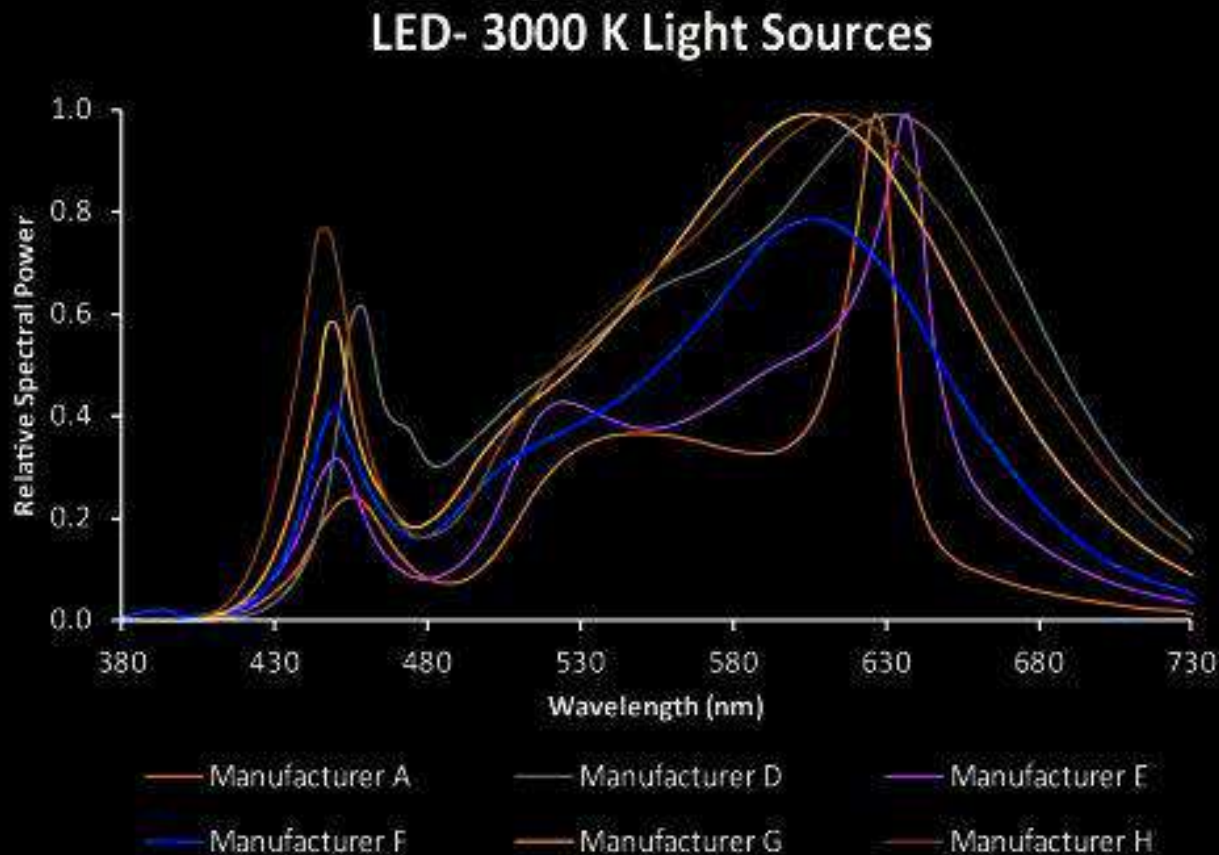


## CCT and SPD of White Light



Rea, MS and MG Figueiro, "Light as a Circadian Stimulus for Architectural Lighting." *Lighting Res. Technol.* 2018; 50: 503

# CCT and SPD of White Light



Circadian Stimulus (CS) at the Eye

Horizontal Illuminance (lux)	Manufacturer					
	A	D	E	F	G	H
300	0.23	0.26	0.24	0.24	0.23	0.12
325	0.25	0.27	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.13
350	0.26	0.29	0.26	0.27	0.26	0.14
375	0.27	<b>0.30</b>	0.28	0.28	0.27	0.14
400	0.29	<b>0.31</b>	0.29	0.29	0.28	0.15
425	<b>0.30</b>	<b>0.33</b>	<b>0.30</b>	<b>0.30</b>	<b>0.30</b>	0.16
450	<b>0.31</b>	<b>0.34</b>	<b>0.31</b>	<b>0.31</b>	<b>0.31</b>	0.17
475	<b>0.32</b>	<b>0.35</b>	<b>0.32</b>	<b>0.32</b>	<b>0.32</b>	0.18
500	<b>0.33</b>	<b>0.36</b>	<b>0.33</b>	<b>0.33</b>	<b>0.33</b>	0.19

Values in **BOLD** meet or exceed the recommended CS of 0.3 or higher.

Lighting Research Center, "Circadian Stimulus Look-Up Charts – Direct/Indirect." p5.  
<https://www.lrc.rpi.edu/programs/lightHealth/index.asp>



# Architectural Finishes



## Architectural Finishes

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## Controlling the Light

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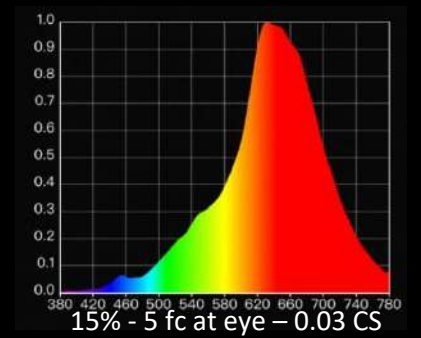
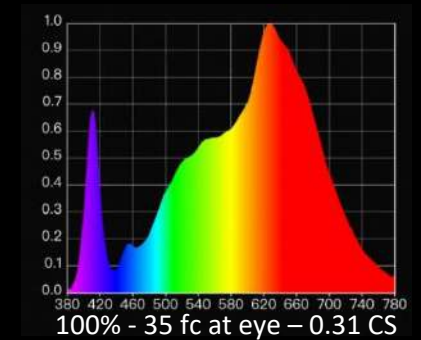
## Controls: Simple



Tunable task lighting (4200K vs. 2700K)



Use different fixtures at different times of day



Warm dim downlights (100% vs. 10%)

## Controls: Medium Level



# Controls: High Tech



“Sunrise”



“Morning”



“Afternoon”



“Sunset”

## On the Horizon

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UL Task Group Developing Circadian Lighting RP  
Delivery Goal: May 2019



ALFA  
Modeling software based on melanopic lux





The Most Important Factor

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Occupant Training/Education



Thank you!

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<https://www.lrc.rpi.edu/programs/lightHealth/index.asp>



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