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Solid-State Lighting: What is New in Research?

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Rensselaer's Lighting Research Center

- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute is the oldest engineering university in the US (established 1824).
 - LRC is the largest universitybased center for lighting research and education.
 Started in 1988

LRC Mission:

 Advancing the effective use of light and creating a positive legacy for society and the environment





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LRC Staff Expertise

35 faculty and staff

- Engineering
 - Electrical
 - o Mechanical
 - Optical
 - o Materials
- Architecture
 - o Lighting

- Science
 - o Physics
 - o Biology
 - Biophysics
- Humanities

 Psychology

Research: Technology, Human factors, Design

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LRC Laboratory Facilities

- 30,000 square feet of research and testing space
- NVLAP accredited testing facility
 - NIST traceable measurements





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LRC's Solid State Lighting Program



M.S. and Ph.D. in Lighting

Multidisciplinary

- Technology
 - > Light sources, luminaires, controls
 - > Optics, photometry, colorimetry
- Human Factors
 - > Vision / psychology / physiology
- Lighting Design
- Leadership and Entrepreneurship



Finally students gain valuable experience with their thesis, enabling them to be the future leaders in the industry

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Industry collaboration



- Established: In 2002. A collaboration among researchers, manufacturers, and government organizations.
- Mission: To enable the broad adoption of solid-state lighting by providing factual information based on applied research and by visualizing future applications.
- Activities: Research, demonstration, education, industry networking and standards support



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Dissemination of research results

"ASSIST recommends" publications

- Goal: To provide formal recommendations about issues important for the reliable performance of LED lighting and its comparison to other technologies
 - Recommendations for testing and evaluating LED lighting & systems
 - > Application guides and recommendations for using LED light fixtures in applications
- Free download: http://www.lrc.rpi.edu/programs/solidstate/assist/ recommends.asp





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LED life definition and testing



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Research Center





Outreach Education - LED Lighting Institute, since 2001



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Topics

- 1. Color metric
- 2. Parking lot lighting
- 3. LED system life prediction

4. New building infrastructure (if time permits)



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Class A Color Classification for Light Sources Used in General Illumination

Mark Rea, PhD and Jean Paul Freyssinier, MS



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Introduction

- Color rendering (CRI) and the color of illumination (CCT) are two key factors that support architectural lighting (e.g., retail lighting).
 - However, CRI and CCT are not perfectly predictive of people's assessments of illumination from a light source.





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Color rendering study

- The goal of the study was to examine correlations of subjective and objective evaluations to CRI and GAI
- In general, the larger the gamut area, the more saturated the color samples are and the easier it is to discriminate between them.







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Color rendering study results

- Two metric approach can characterize color rendering much better than a single metric.
 - Good color rendering by a light source depends on providing an optimum amount of color saturation (but without distortion; e.g., objects look like under daylight.)



•Rea, M.S., and J.P. Freyssinier. 2010. Color rendering: Beyond pride and prejudice." Color Research and Application 35 (6): 401-409.



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The two-metric strategy

CRI plus GAI approach

- Is practical, predictive, and validated by human factors studies.
- Does not require additional measurements to report CRI and GAI values



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Color Appearance of Illumination



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Light source color appearance

- Correlated color temperature is the most used metric to specify light source color appearance
 - Based on light source chromaticity



Color appearance study

- A laboratory psychophysical experiment was conducted to investigate the subjective target chromaticity of white illumination of different CCTs
- White points for CCTs 3500 K and lower are below the blackbody locus
- And above the blackbody locus for 4100 K and above



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Class A Lighting – for ease of communication

- CRI > 80 and $80 \le GAI \le 100$
- On or near the "white body" locus
- Consistent chromaticities



Figure 3. Class A target zones for "white" illumination (left panel) and good color rendering properties (CRI≥80 and 80≤GAI≤100; right panel).



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Parking lot lighting

The benefits of uniform illuminance in parking lots



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Introduction

- The purpose of parking lot lighting is to satisfy visibility requirements while providing a sense of safety and security, comfort, and aesthetic appeal.
 - Other considerations
 - > Economy and Environment

 Myth: Highly efficacious light sources or luminaires guarantee energy efficient applications.







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Luminaire System Application Efficacy (LSAE)

- 2009 ASSIST recommends -LSAE to evaluate parking lot luminaires based on application efficacy, which considers
 - Only the flux on the target that met the IES RP-20-98 criteria for minimum light level (2 lx) and uniformity ratio (20:1; max:min)
 - LSAE = useful luminous flux ÷ luminaire power

LSAE has a good correlation with a parking lot's lighting power density.



This metric used the requirements of RP-20-98 because at the time there was no evidence to use a different uniformity criterion.

*For basic illumination in this example



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Lighting transformation

- Transformation from HID to LED
 - potential to save energy and reduce maintenance cost.
- Commonly, LED luminaires are built to match beam distributions of traditional HID luminaires
 - To maintain similar light levels and distribution
- LED luminaires can efficiently direct light to where it is needed
 - Can achieve highly uniform illuminance on parking lot surface.

Is there a benefit to uniform illuminance?

Knowledge gap: There weren't any past studies that have shown the benefits of uniform illuminance in parking lots.

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Studies

We performed a three-part study.

• Part 1: Human factors study

- To understand if uniform lighting can improve visibility and perception of safety and security
- To determine the minimum light level required to achieve highest user satisfaction under uniform and non-uniform lighting conditions
- Part 2: Optical ray tracing analysis
 - > To understand how much uniformity is achievable with LED fixtures

• Part 3: LSAE Analysis

To estimate the potential for energy savings from systems that provide uniform lighting



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Study objectives

To understand if uniform lighting can improve

- Visibility, perception of safety and security, and energy demand
- To determine minimum light level requirements
 when the illuminance is more uniform





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Field study

Field evaluation

- RPI campus parking lot
- Two levels of uniformity,
 3:1 Uniform; 10:1 Non-Uniform
 Six nominal light levels from 2 lx to 60 lx
- Gathered subjective impressions from 43 participants
 - about perceptions of brightness, visibility, safety, glare, uniformity, and well the parking lot is lighted







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Results

When the illumination is

- Uniform: perceptions of how good the lighting is and how safe people feel reach high ratings at much lower light levels
- Non-uniform: subjective ratings are not as high even for increased illuminance



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Results

When the illumination is

- Uniform: perceptions of how good the lighting is and how safe people feel reach high ratings at much lower light levels
- Non-uniform: subjective ratings are not as high even for increased illuminance
- Consistent with Boyce et al.
 (2000)





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Results summary

 The perceptions of good lighting and safety reach high ratings at

- > >9 lux: for **Uniform**; 3:1 ratio
 - Maximum rating ~ +4
- >>40 lux: for **Non-uniform**; 10:1 ratio
 - Maximum rating ~ +2

Replacing RP-20-14 recommendations from

- > Minimum light level of 5 lux
- > Uniformity ratio (max/min) of 15:1 (max: 75 lx)

to

- Minimum light level of 4.5 lx
- > Uniformity ratio of 3:1 (max: 13.5 lx)
- > Average light level of 9 lux

will yield better illuminated parking lots.

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LSAE comparisons





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Conclusions

In parking lots, for equal average illuminance and uniform lighting provides

 higher ratings of perceived safety and security
 Up to 75% energy savings

 Smaller light sources have an optical advantage over larger size sources

 for creating uniform beam distributions.

 LSAE is a more useful metric than light source or luminaire efficacy



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Development of a Predictive Life Test Method for LED lighting systems



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Why LED system life?

- $_{\circ}$ $\,$ How often to change the light bulb $\,$
- Life-cycle cost analysis
- Users buying a lighting product expect it to perform and last the same in all applications





www.destinationlighting.com/



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LED system life

- Presently, LED lighting product life is rated based on LED lumen maintenance (LM80/TM21)
- A lighting system has many components.
 - Failure of any component can cause system failure
- Therefore, the whole system has to be tested to obtain a reasonable life estimate.









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IESNA LM 84-14 standard:

- First attempt towards developing a system life test method
- Test method is based on continuous operation
- In applications the lighting systems are turned on and off
 - Typical use pattern:
 - > A Office: 12 hrs on, 12 hrs off
 - > B Home: 4 hrs on, 4 hrs off
- LRC studies have shown that power cycling causes component/system failure











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- Some standards have very fast cycling of LED products to test for failures.
 - Very small delta T
 - May not cause damage
- Generally there are two types of failures:
 - Parametric
 - > Lumen depreciation or color shift
 - Catastrophic

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Ceases to produce light







Study Goal

- To develop an accelerated test method that can predict failure of an LED system based on factors such as
 - Environment temperature (Tpin)
 - On-off cycling





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Study

- Objective: To understand the effect of different delta temperature and dwell times on LED lamp failure
 - Lamps used: 40W and 60W
 equivalent LED replacement
 lamp

ΔΤ	60°C	70°C	80°C	90°C
Dwell Time		1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 hours		







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Results: 40W Light output pattern



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Results: 40W

- Lumen deprecation, failure assumption:
 - o 70% light level
- Cycles to failure
 - Correlated well with
 - > time averaged temperature



Multiple degradation mechanisms



Discussion: Failure Analysis

Lumen depreciation was due to electrical and optical degradations

 $_{\circ}$ 40% light loss due to electrical

 $_{\circ}$ 13% light los due to optical



	New sample	D95 Aged sample	D95 aged sample with original current
Current (mA)	193	117	193
Light output	100%	47%	87%



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Discussion: Data Extrapolation

Extrapolating the 6000 hr data can lead to erroneous results

- Projected life = 25,000 hrs
- \circ Actual life = 8,000 hrs



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Results: 60W

- For the system tested, cycles to failure has a good correlation with time averaged temperature.
 - Dominant failure mode: Solder joint failure



- It appears a 3000-hour test can be developed to project failure of an LED system.
 - Based on factors such as environment temperature and on-off cycling





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Final Remarks

• Failures can be parametric or catastrophic

Life testing of LED systems must include on-off cycling

 In an LED system lumen depreciation can be due to several factors (Electrical and optical)

 Simple function extrapolation for systems may lead to erroneous results

 Failure acceleration using delta T and dwell time looks promising in predicting the failure of LED systems under different operating conditions



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Future study

 Additional funding received from BPA, NYSERDA, and ASSIST is allowing us to:

- Expand the ASSIST study to develop a cost effective, accelerated test method to project LED system life for any given environmental temperature and use pattern.
- Include a wider range of LED luminaires, light engines, and integral lamps.

A two-year study began in October 2014



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Acknowledgments

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Research Center

- LRC partners and program sponsors
- LRC staff and students

Thank You



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