

A Trapezoidal Chromatic Mach Card

3D shape perception influences colour perception via mutual illumination. Bloj, M. Kersten, D. & Hurlbert, A.C. Nature, 1999.

Stimulus preparation. 1. Cut out one of the two figures on the right with a scissors. 2. Fold it in half along the mid-line (A) so that the red panel faces the white panel. 3. Fold again (lines B and B') so that the two black panels face outward.

Demonstration. Set the folded card on a flat surface as shown below. Orient the card so that the red panel reflects a little pinkish light onto the white panel. You may have to pinch crease A to make the angle between the red and white sides small enough. View the card steadily with one eye until the card's geometry appears to change and crease A goes from appearing concave to convex. At this point, you may also see that the white panel appears to be made of pinkish material.

