

Acknowledgments

While preparing this book, I received generous and wise advice from many people. I am especially grateful to Tony Movshon for reading and commenting on several chapters and answering many dozens of questions. Dave Marimont also read large portions of the manuscript thoroughly, and continually reminded me what this book should be about. E. J. Chichilnisky, Joyce Farrell, and David Heeger all spent many hours talking with me about aspects of this book, and they shared their views on many issues ranging from substance to style. They were all patient and cheerful through an endless series of interruptions, but I am sure that we are all relieved this project is complete.

Many other individuals were also a great help—reading and commenting on a chapter, suggesting a figure or providing one, or assisting with some part of the production process. Their efforts were essential to whatever merit this book may have. Many thanks to Ted Adelson, Al Ahumada, Denis Baylor, Gary Blasdel, Rick Born, Geoff Boynton, Dave Brainard, Patrick Cavanagh, Seung Choi, Ted Cohn, Christine Curcio, Dennis Dacey, Jim Dannemiller, Greg DeAngelis, Steve Engel, David Fleet, John Foley, Ralph Freeman, Bill Geisler, Norma Graham, David Grossof, Hagit Hel-Or, Toni Haun, Anita Hendrickson, Don Kelly, Dan Kersten, Ken Knoblauch, Shirit Kronzon, Gordon Legge, Peter Lennie, Geoff Loftus, Jennifer Lund, Don MacLeod, John Mollon, Vic Nalwa, Bill Newsome, Izumi Ohzawa, Liddy Olds, Sandy Pentland, Geoff Phillips, Allen Poirson, John Robson, Bob Rodieck, Stan Schein, Bob Scott, Phil Servos, Mike Shadlen, Bob Shapley, Roger Shepard, Luis

Silveira, Eero Simoncelli, Michael Stryker, Patrick Teo, Peter Thompson, Shoji Tominaga, Nick Wade, Gary Walker, Heinz Wässle, Beau Watson, Dave Williams, Jack Yellott, and Mei Zhang.

Special thanks are due to Dave Brainard, Gordon Legge, Dan Kersten, Jonathan Marshall, and Stephen Pizer, who all bravely agreed to teach from early versions of this book; I benefited a great deal from the comments they and their students provided. Likewise, I wish to thank all of the students at Stanford who offered me comments and encouragement during the years I taught from preliminary versions of this book. Their keen interest in vision science and their enthusiasm for learning in general were an inspiration, and their encouragement was often much needed.

I am deeply indebted to Jan Ruby for the many different things she has done for me during the last fifteen years. Jan's diligence and good spirits have been a great resource to me and to all the members of my laboratory who have had the good fortune to work with her.

Working with Peter Farley, my editor at Sinauer Associates, has been a pleasure. Many thanks to Peter for his support and for being direct and helpful at all times. Kathaleen Emerson, project editor, and Christopher Small, production manager, also worked hard and well to help realize this book, and I appreciate their efforts. Roberta Lewis and J. David Baldwin provided expert copy editing, and the book was much improved by their advice and attention to detail.

Several people arranged financial support so that I might suspend my teaching and committee responsibilities at Stanford and concentrate on writing. In this regard, I am grateful to Dave Marimont, Maureen Stone, and John S. Brown for arranging a one-quarter leave at Xerox Palo Alto Research Center in 1992, and to Gardner Lindzey and Robert Scott for making a special effort to arrange a sabbatical year for me in 1988–89 at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences. During that year this project and my son were born.

Thanks also to the many people on CVNET who responded to my electronic query for useful numbers in vision science, many of which appear within the front cover of this book. A much larger posting of their work can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://vision.arc.nasa.gov>.

Finally, Hagit Hel-Or and David Heeger took time out from their work to help me create the cover image, and I thank them. Working on the cover gave us a chance to step back and see one big picture. Whenever I became too absorbed in writing this book, my son Adam reminded me that playing soccer, basketball, or taking a bike ride to the park are important too, and this helped me to step back and see another big picture. Thanks, Adam.