



Rotating snakes
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Is age related to the peripheral drift illusion? An instant study

Akiyoshi Kitaoka[■] and 149 volunteers[■] in Demo Night[■] participated especially in

A famous researcher[■] motion perception does not see this illusion. He suspected inverse relationship between the illusion magnitude and age. We thus investigate this possibility. One hundred and forty-nine observers who visited the Demo Night of VSS 2005[■]

As a result, 95% of them ~~see~~^{saw} this illusion while 5% did not. Within the visible 95%, only 2% ~~were~~^{were} "old" observers (~~more~~^{older} than 60 years old), whereas 57% of the invisible observers were old ones! This result supports the ~~Stuart~~^{famous researcher's} hypothesis. ~~Stuart~~^{do not}

Table 1. The result ($\chi^2_{(1)} = 45.12^{**}$)

| | Visible | Invisible |
|-------|--------------|-----------|
| Old | 3 | 4 |
| Young | 139 | 3 |
| | 149 in total | |

However, old observers[■] always feel difficulty in seeing this illusion (Table 1), and there were young, invisible observers[■]. There remains an open question what aging factor plays a role in reducing illusion. as well.

Thank you. ~~■~~ (May 10, 2005)

After this survey, further four researchers in VSS2005 reported their lack of the peripheral drift illusion. Three of them were over 60 years old, while one was 48 years old.