

How does a clear layer modify the appearance of a halftone print?

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HOW DOES A CLEAR LAYER MODIFY THE APPEARANCE OF A HALFTONE PRINT?











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Lamination System Pty Ltd rapid-com.com manomano.fr anthedesign.fr

Halftoning



Screening parameters:

- Dot shape
- Spatial frequency
- Surface coverage



Printing



Dot gain

- Mechanical
- Optical

Printing



Diffusion of light inside the substrate



Convolution with the paper Point Spread Function (PSF)





Microscope image of a halftone period

Coating









Lamination



Surface topology



Lionel Simonot *et al.*, 'Halo and subsurface scattering in the transparent coating on top of a diffusing material', *Journal of the Optical Society of America A*, vol. 35, no. 7, pp. 1192–12, Jun. 2018

Mathieu Hébert *et al.*, 'Exploring the bronzing effect at the surface of ink layers', presented at the Proceedings of SPIE - The International Society for Optical Engineering, 2015.

Bronzing effect



Lionel Simonot *et al.*, 'Halo and subsurface scattering in the transparent coating on top of a diffusing material', *Journal of the Optical Society of America A*, vol. 35, no. 7, pp. 1192–12, Jun. 2018 Mathieu Hébert *et al.*, 'Why a clear coating modifies halftone color prints', presented at the Material Appearance, IS&T Electronic Imaging Symposium, Jan. 2021.

Halo effect



Darkening effect on halftones

STAR CLOUD IN THE MILKY WAY. Near Messier II. 1892, June 29. Taken By Prof. E.E. Barnard at the Lick Observatory, Exposure 3 hours 25 minutes Collotype

Halo effect inside photographs explained by A. Cornu

Cornu, A. Sur le halo des lames épaisses, ou halo photographique, et les moyens de le faire disparaitre. J. Phys. Theor. Appl. 9, 270–277 (1890).



Microscope images of halftones with a lamination layer

Spectrophotometer: CM 2600d from Konica Minolta, 8 mm aperture, with geometry di:8°, with a UV filter avoiding fluorescence



Lionel Simonot *et al.*, 'Halo and subsurface scattering in the transparent coating on top of a diffusing material', *Journal of the Optical Society of America A*, vol. 35, no. 7, pp. 1192–12, Jun. 2018

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Optical model

Reflectance model **input** parameters:

- Material physical characteristics: *n*, *d*, γ , $R_0(\lambda)$, $R_{NC}(x, y, \lambda)$
- Measurement geometry: r_s , r_i , T_{in} , T_{out}



$$\rho(x,y) = \frac{R_{NC}(x,y) - r_s}{T_{in}T_{out} + r_i[R_{NC}(x,y,\lambda) - r_s]}$$

Interface Air
$$(x,y) = \sqrt{\frac{\rho(x,y)}{\rho_0}}$$

 $M_1(x, y) = T_{in}t^2(x, y)\rho_0$



 $M_k(x,y) = \rho_0 t^{\gamma+1}(x,y) [t^{\gamma-1}M_{k-1}*h](x,y)$



Output: reflectance of the coated halftone:

$$R(x, y, \lambda) = r_s + T_{out} \sum_{k=1}^{10} M_k(x, y, \lambda)$$

Experiment



Measure spatial and spectral reflectances

Characteristics

- Paper: coated paper, 90 g/m², Bekk smoothness ~ 2000 s
- Printer: Xerox Versant 180, printing resolution: 600 dpi

Laminate halftones

Characteristics

- Lamination foil: bright and transparent foil, theoretical thickness: 25 µm, optical index: 1.5
- Laminator: DRY 350 W from RBS, temperature: 110°



Measured coated halftone reflectances



Predicted coated halftone reflectances



- Camera: Canon 1200D with a RGGB CMOS sensor. ISO at 800. Sensor: 14-bit encoding, resolution of 3516 × 5344 pixels,
- Filterwheel: 17 filters (Hard Coated OD 4.0 25nm Bandpass Filters from Edmund Optics), 13 are used in the range [400, 700 nm].

Multispectral microscope





Multispectral microscope





White calibration

where,

w_5#12 -.CR2

- $R(x, y, \lambda)$ is the reflectance of the sample at pixel (x, y) for wavelength λ of the filter,
- V is the pixel value,
- *T* is the exposure time,

w_5#13 -.CR2

- e is the irradiance of the light source,
- V_k is a constant equal to the pixel value in the dark,
- Q is the calibration value measured on a white calibration patch

Agreement microscale/macroscale

Good agreement over 23 samples

Material

Spectrophotometer: CM 2600d from Konica Minolta, 8 mm aperture, with geometry di:8°, with a UV filter avoiding fluorescence

Results

Ordinary multi-colored halftone

Conclusion

Perspectives

- Color management for printing industry
- Contactless measurements of the thicknesses of thin transparent layers
- Security printing: printed and coated watermarks

Thank you for your attention

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