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Different Percepts between foveal and Peripheral Vision

Post under optical, optical illusions, science

This optical illusion was finalist at "5th Best visual Illusion of the year 2008"



First, note the direction of the swinging motion on your computer screen. Then, focus your gaze several inches above your screen. Does the swinging motion change directions?
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An object viewed directly (foveal vision) appears different from the same object viewed indirectly (peripheral vision). In this illusions, the "peripheral escalator," zebra-like columns swing back and forth across the screen. Viewed foveally, the columns move along a horizontal path but if you viewed peripherally (focus your gaze several inches above o below the screen), the columns appear to shift back and forth along a diagonal path or up-down. The results illustrate that peripheral vision is not just a blurry version of foveal vision but include some distortions at the movement.

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