

Illusory contours and the response of V1 and V2 neurons

von der Heydt R, Peterhans E, Baumgartner G (1984) Illusory contours and cortical neuron responses. Science 224: 1260-1262.

<http://www.sciencemag.org/content/224/4654/1260.abstract>

1. What is an illusory contour? How does it differ from a real contour?
2. What measures were taken to make sure the cells could only be responding to the illusory contour?
3. What was the basic pattern of results for cells in areas V1 and V2?
4. What explanation do the authors give to explain their finding?
5. Can you devise a further experiment that would test their ideas on the generation of the responses to the illusory contours?