



**Queensland University of Technology**  
Brisbane Australia

This is the author's version of a work that was submitted/accepted for publication in the following source:

[Adhikari, Prakash, Zele, Andrew J., & Feigl, Beatrix](#)  
(2015)

The Post-Illumination Pupil Response (PIPR).

*Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Science*, 56, pp. 3838-3849.

This file was downloaded from: <http://eprints.qut.edu.au/90214/>

**© Copyright 2015 Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology**

**Notice:** *Changes introduced as a result of publishing processes such as copy-editing and formatting may not be reflected in this document. For a definitive version of this work, please refer to the published source:*

<http://doi.org/10.1167/iovs.14-16233>

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23

## **The Post-Illumination Pupil Response (PIPR).**

*Prakash Adhikari, B Optom,<sup>1</sup> Andrew J. Zele, PhD,\*<sup>1</sup> Beatrix Feigl, MD, PhD\*<sup>1,2</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> Medical Retina and Visual Science Laboratories, Institute of Health and Biomedical  
Innovation, Queensland University of Technology, 60 Musk Avenue, Brisbane QLD 4059,  
Australia.

<sup>2</sup> Queensland Eye Institute, South Brisbane QLD, Australia.

\*Corresponding Authors:

Beatrix Feigl, MD, PhD. Email: [b.feigl@qut.edu.au](mailto:b.feigl@qut.edu.au)

Andrew J. Zele, PhD. Email: [andrew.zele@qut.edu.au](mailto:andrew.zele@qut.edu.au)

## 24 **Abstract**

25 **Purpose:** The post-illumination pupil response (PIPR) has been quantified using four metrics,  
26 but the spectral sensitivity of only one is known; here we determine the other three. To  
27 optimize the human PIPR measurement, we determine the protocol producing the largest  
28 PIPR, the duration of the PIPR, and the metric(s) with the lowest coefficient of variation.

29 **Methods:** The consensual pupil light reflex (PLR) was measured with a Maxwellian view  
30 pupillometer. Experiment 1: Spectral sensitivity of four PIPR metrics [plateau, 6 s, area under  
31 curve (AUC) early and late recovery] was determined from a criterion PIPR to a 1s pulse and  
32 fitted with Vitamin A1 nomogram ( $\lambda_{\max} = 482\text{nm}$ ). Experiment 2: The PLR was measured as  
33 a function of three stimulus durations (1s, 10s, 30s), five irradiances spanning low to high  
34 melanopsin excitation levels (retinal irradiance: 9.8 to 14.8 log quanta.cm<sup>-2</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup>), and two  
35 wavelengths, one with high (465nm) and one with low (637nm) melanopsin excitation. Intra  
36 and inter-individual coefficients of variation (CV) were calculated.

37 **Results:** The melanopsin (opn4) photopigment nomogram adequately describes the spectral  
38 sensitivity of all four PIPR metrics. The PIPR amplitude was largest with 1s short wavelength  
39 pulses ( $\geq 12.8$  log quanta.cm<sup>-2</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup>). The plateau and 6s PIPR showed the least intra and inter-  
40 individual CV ( $\leq 0.2$ ). The maximum duration of the sustained PIPR was 83.0±48.0s  
41 (mean±SD) for 1s pulses and 180.1±106.2s for 30s pulses (465nm; 14.8 log quanta.cm<sup>-2</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup>).

42 **Conclusions:** All current PIPR metrics provide a direct measure of the intrinsic melanopsin  
43 photoresponse. To measure progressive changes in melanopsin function in disease, we  
44 recommend that the PIPR be measured using short duration pulses (e.g.,  $\leq 1\text{s}$ ) with high  
45 melanopsin excitation and analyzed with plateau and/or 6s metrics. Our PIPR duration data  
46 provide a baseline for the selection of inter-stimulus intervals between consecutive pupil  
47 testing sequences.

48 **Keywords:** intrinsically photosensitive Retinal Ganglion Cells (ipRGCs), melanopsin, pupil  
49 light reflex, post-illumination pupil response

50

## 51 **INTRODUCTION**

52 The pupil light reflex (PLR) is a fundamental diagnostic tool for objective and non-invasive  
53 measurement of retinal and optic nerve function in neuroophthalmic disorders.<sup>1</sup> The pupil  
54 control pathway receives retinal input from intrinsically photosensitive Retinal Ganglion Cells  
55 (ipRGCs) which also project to the suprachiasmatic nucleus (SCN) for photoentrainment,<sup>2-7</sup>  
56 and there is circadian modulation of the post-illumination pupil response (PIPR).<sup>8, 9</sup> Given  
57 that outer retinal extrinsic rod, cone and inner retinal intrinsic melanopsin photoresponses  
58 influence the human PLR,<sup>2, 3, 8, 10-16</sup> there has been interest in developing PLR protocols that  
59 quantify outer and inner retinal input.<sup>14, 15, 17-25</sup> An established marker of direct, intrinsic  
60 melanopsin activity is the PIPR, the sustained pupilloconstriction after light offset.<sup>11, 26</sup> Given  
61 ipRGCs are affected in optic nerve and retinal disease such as glaucoma,<sup>21, 24, 27</sup> retinitis  
62 pigmentosa,<sup>14, 17, 20</sup> diabetes,<sup>22</sup> age-related macular degeneration,<sup>28</sup> Leber's congenital  
63 amaurosis,<sup>17</sup> as well as in circadian disorders,<sup>10</sup> the PLR techniques may complement other  
64 clinical measures of retinal function in the healthy and diseased eye such as the  
65 electroretinography (ERG) and perimetry. Depending on the measurement paradigms, ERGs  
66 measure the summed and local photoreceptor, bipolar, and ganglion cell responses. Visual  
67 field testing with Standard Automated Perimetry (SAP) and other modes including Frequency  
68 Doubling Technology (FDT), Short Wavelength Automated Perimetry (SWAP), and flicker  
69 perimetry measure the integrity of visual pathways. In contrast, the PLR can be used to  
70 simultaneously differentiate inner retinal function (mediated via ipRGCs) and outer retinal  
71 function (mediated via rods and cones) to provide a clinical tool for diagnosis and monitoring  
72 progression of ocular disorders, with the PIPR being a specific measure of ipRGCs. The PIPR



73 has been reported in response to a range of stimulus durations, irradiances and wavelengths<sup>8</sup>,  
74 <sup>12, 14, 18, 21-24, 29</sup> and quantified using five metrics, namely the plateau PIPR,<sup>12, 14</sup> redilation  
75 velocity,<sup>8, 21</sup> 6 s PIPR,<sup>17</sup> area under curve (AUC) early and late recovery<sup>18</sup> (metrics are defined  
76 in methods).

77 There are outstanding questions before the PIPR can be translated to clinical practice. First,  
78 the plateau PIPR metric in response to 10 s light pulses is the only metric shown to match the  
79 spectral sensitivity of opn4 melanopsin photopigment,<sup>12, 14, 28</sup> there are no reported  
80 measurements of the PIPR spectral sensitivity for the other metrics. Second, there has been no  
81 direct comparison of these different stimuli and metrics under the same conditions, and hence  
82 no consensus on which metric(s) should be used to quantify the PIPR for clinical application.  
83 For application in a clinical setting, the intra and inter-individual variability of the metrics for  
84 the different stimulus conditions must be determined in a single cohort to determine the  
85 optimum test conditions.

86 This study addresses these two questions. First, we determine the spectral sensitivity of the  
87 PIPR for each of the metrics. Second, we present measurements of the human PLR as a  
88 function of stimulus duration (1 s, 10 s, and 30 s), wavelength (465, 637 nm) and irradiance  
89 (9.8 to 14.8 log quanta.cm<sup>-2</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup>) to define the stimulus parameters which produce the largest  
90 melanopsin response and the PIPR metrics with the lowest intra and inter-individual  
91 coefficient of variation in the same cohort. Given that *in vitro* recordings in rat ipRGCs show  
92 up to a 10 hour response to continuous (480 nm) light stimulation at 12.8 log quanta.cm<sup>-2</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup>,  
93 <sup>1, 26</sup> and the PIPR has been only measured up to 60 s in humans,<sup>12, 14</sup> we measured the duration  
94 of the PIPR and demonstrate that the return to baseline pupil diameter after melanopsin  
95 excitation can be as long as 3 minutes post-illumination.

96

## 97 **METHODS**

### 98 **Participants**

99 A total of seven healthy participants with no ocular pathology were enrolled. None of the  
100 participants was taking any prescription medication. All participants had a visual acuity  
101 ( $\geq 6/6$ ), normal contrast sensitivity (Pelli-Robson Chart), normal color vision (Lanthony  
102 Desaturated D-15 Test), an intraocular pressure of  $< 21$  mmHg (iCare tonometer, Finland), a  
103 normal central visual field (Nidek MP-1 Microperimeter, Italy), and normal retinal nerve fiber  
104 layer thickness (Nidek RS-3000 OCT RetinaScan Advance, Japan). Anterior and posterior  
105 eye examination using slit lamp biomicroscopy revealed no pathology. The PIPR spectral  
106 sensitivity is reported for two participants (32 year old female; 31 year old male). The PLR  
107 and PIPR measurements are reported for five participants (4 male, 1 female; mean age = 32.6  
108  $\pm 5.4$  years SD; range = 29 to 42 years). The research followed the tenets of the Declaration of  
109 Helsinki and informed consent was obtained from the participants after explanation of the  
110 nature of the study. All experiments were conducted in accordance with Queensland  
111 University of Technology Human Research Ethics Approval (080000546). Participants were  
112 tested between 10 AM and 5 PM to minimize circadian variation on ipRGC contribution to  
113 the PIPR.<sup>8,9</sup> Each participant was tested for up to 1.5 hours per day to minimize fatigue and  
114 each participated for ~30 hours in total.

### 115 **Pupillometer**

116 The PLR was measured using a custom built, extended Maxwellian view pupillometer.<sup>23, 28, 30</sup>  
117 The calibrated optical system comprised narrowband LED light sources (see Pupillometry  
118 Protocol for stimulus wavelengths) imaged in the pupil plane of the right eye via two Fresnel  
119 lenses (100 mm diameter, 127 mm and 70 mm focal lengths; Edmund Optics, Singapore) and  
120 a 5° light shaping diffuser (Physical Optics Corp., California, USA) to provide a 35.6°  
121 diameter light stimulus (retinal image diameter: 15.4 mm). The consensual image of the left

122 eye was recorded under infrared LED illumination ( $\lambda_{\max} = 851 \text{ nm}$ ) with a Pixelink camera  
123 (IEEE<sup>-1394</sup>, PL-B741 Fire Wire; 640 x 480 pixels; 60 frames/s) through a telecentric lens  
124 (Computar 2/3" 55 mm and 2 X extender C-Mount). The stimulus presentation, pupil  
125 recording, and analysis were controlled by custom Matlab software (version 7.12.0,  
126 Mathworks, Massachusetts, USA). The blink artefacts were identified and extracted by a  
127 customized algorithm during software analysis of pupil recordings using linear interpolation.  
128 The spectral outputs of the LED stimuli were measured with a Spectroradiometer (StellarNet,  
129 Florida, USA) and light output was calibrated with an ILT1700 Research Radiometer  
130 (International Light Technologies, Massachusetts, USA). Details of the recording procedure  
131 can be found elsewhere.<sup>8</sup>

## 132 **Pupillometry Protocol**

133 Spectral sensitivity of the PIPR was measured with the Maxwellian view optical system in  
134 response to a 1 s rectangular pulse at five wavelengths (409 nm, 464 nm, 508 nm, 531 nm,  
135 and 592 nm). The participant's left eye was dilated (1% Tropicamide) and the criterion  
136 consensual PIPR of the fellow eye was measured in response to a 1 s light pulse ranging  
137 between 13.0 and 15.7 log quanta.cm<sup>-2</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup>. The 409 nm LED had a maximum irradiance of  
138 0.00015 W.cm<sup>-2</sup> at 14.6 log quanta.cm<sup>-2</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup>. This is equivalent to a stimulus luminance of  
139 9.64 cd.m<sup>-2</sup> (the retinal illuminance in Trolands for an 8.0 mm pupil is 484.56 Td). The  
140 maximum output of the LED is therefore below the upper exposure limits (0.003 W.cm<sup>-2</sup>) to  
141 prevent any phototoxicity from UV radiation.<sup>31</sup> The wavelength of successive test stimuli was  
142 always greater than 100 nm to control for melanopsin bistability.<sup>5</sup> The criterion PIPR  
143 amplitude was defined as 8% for the plateau PIPR, 10% for the 6 s PIPR, 4 log units for the  
144 AUC Early and AUC Late. The retinal irradiances required at each wavelength to produce the  
145 criterion PIPR were normalized and fitted with a vitamin A1 pigment nomogram.<sup>32</sup>

146 The PLR was measured with the Maxwellian view optical system at two wavelengths [short  
147 wavelength:  $\lambda_{\max} = 465 \text{ nm}$  (bluish); long wavelength:  $\lambda_{\max} = 637 \text{ nm}$  (reddish)] over a 5 log

148 unit range of retinal irradiances to span low to high melanopsin excitation levels [9.8-14.8 log  
149 quanta.cm<sup>-2</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup> (-2.0 to 2.8 log cd.m<sup>-2</sup> luminance) for the 465 nm light; 9.9-14.9 log  
150 quanta.cm<sup>-2</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup> (-2.3 to 2.8 log cd.m<sup>-2</sup> luminance) for the 637 nm light]. Figure 1 shows the  
151 temporal sequence of the pupillometry protocols. Three stimulus durations (1 s, 10 s, and  
152 30 s) were chosen to reflect the durations commonly adopted in published protocols. The 1 s  
153 duration pulse was chosen because the 6 s and net 6 s PIPR amplitudes are largest with 1 s  
154 pulses.<sup>17</sup> The 10 s pulse has been widely used in clinical studies of the PIPR but only three  
155 different parameters have been quantified (redilation velocity, plateau, and 6 s PIPR).<sup>8, 12, 13, 17,</sup>  
156 <sup>21-24</sup> The 30 s pulse was studied because ipRGCs dominate the steady-state pupil response  
157 during light presentation compared to rod and cone inputs when stimulus durations are  
158 > 10 s.<sup>13</sup> All irradiances were above rod threshold.<sup>33</sup> Retinal irradiances are photopic when  
159 > 11.8 log quanta.cm<sup>-2</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup>.<sup>11</sup> The pre-stimulus duration was 10 s for all conditions. The post-  
160 stimulus recording period ranged from 40 to 600 s to ensure that the sustained  
161 pupilloconstriction returned to baseline before re-measurement. Pilot studies determined that  
162 the inter-stimulus interval (ISI) for return to baseline to be between 100 and 660 s; the ISI  
163 increased with increasing retinal irradiance and stimulus duration. To consider the effect of  
164 dilation of the stimulated eye on the PIPR of the fellow eye, a subset of two participants  
165 underwent pilot testing with their right eye dilated with 1% Tropicamide (Minims, Chauvin  
166 Pharmaceuticals Ltd., England). There was < 4% coefficient of variation (CV) between the  
167 metrics for the undilated and dilated conditions, within the acceptable range of CV (see  
168 ‘Statistical Analysis’ for details on CV). Since there is evidence of unequal consensual and  
169 direct PLR in some normal persons,<sup>34</sup> we compared the metrics between the consensual and  
170 direct PLR in these two participants and found < 7% CV for our test protocols.

171 All measurements were preceded by 10 minutes dark adaptation in a darkened (< 1 lux)  
172 laboratory. For the PLR measurements, short and long wavelength stimulus lights were  
173 alternated in all sessions to control for the effect of melanopsin bistability.<sup>5</sup> Every  
174 measurement for each stimulus wavelength, irradiance, and duration combination was

175 repeated at least three times with the time interval equal to the corresponding ISI. Table 1  
 176 specifies the individual photoreceptor excitations for the stimuli;<sup>35</sup> the L-cones, M-cones, and  
 177 rods have higher sensitivity to the 637 nm light than melanopsin or S-cones, whereas  
 178 melanopsin, rods, and S-cones have higher sensitivity to the 465 nm light compared to the L-  
 179 cones or M-cones. It should be noted that narrow band lights do not provide photoreceptor  
 180 isolation and that the high (or low) photoreceptor excitations specified in Table 1 do not  
 181 imply that a photoreceptor does (or does not) contribute to the PLR; these factors depend on  
 182 the relative contributions of these photoreceptors inputs to the pupil pathway and their  
 183 variation with the stimulus properties (e.g., spatial, temporal, and wavelength), of which many  
 184 of these factors are unknown.

185 **Table 1.** Individual photoreceptor excitation (in log<sub>10</sub> units) with 465 nm and 637 nm light  
 186 stimuli at different retinal irradiances (Based on Lucas et al<sup>35</sup>).

<i>Photo- receptor Excitation</i>	<b><math>\alpha</math>-opic lux (log units)</b>											
	9.8 log		10.8 log		11.8 log		12.8 log		13.8 log		14.8 log	
	quanta.cm <sup>-2</sup> .s <sup>-1</sup>		quanta.cm <sup>-2</sup> .s <sup>-1</sup>		quanta.cm <sup>-2</sup> .s <sup>-1</sup>		quanta.cm <sup>-2</sup> .s <sup>-1</sup>		quanta.cm <sup>-2</sup> .s <sup>-1</sup>		quanta.cm <sup>-2</sup> .s <sup>-1</sup>	
	<i>465 nm</i>	<i>637 nm</i>	<i>465 nm</i>	<i>637 nm</i>	<i>465 nm</i>	<i>637 nm</i>	<i>465 nm</i>	<i>637 nm</i>	<i>465 nm</i>	<i>637 nm</i>	<i>465 nm</i>	<i>637 nm</i>
<b>S cone</b>	-1.6	-7.9	-0.6	-6.9	0.4	-5.9	1.4	-4.9	2.4	-3.9	3.4	-2.9
<b>Melanopsin</b>	-1.8	-5.2	-0.8	-4.2	0.2	-3.2	1.2	-2.2	2.2	-1.2	3.2	-0.2
<b>Rod</b>	-1.9	-4.4	-0.9	-3.4	0.1	-2.4	1.1	-1.4	2.1	-0.4	3.1	0.6
<b>M cone</b>	-2.3	-3.0	-1.2	-2.0	-0.3	-1.0	0.8	0.0	1.8	1.0	2.8	2.0
<b>L cone</b>	-2.6	-2.3	-1.3	-1.3	-0.6	-0.3	0.4	0.7	1.4	1.7	2.4	2.7

187

188 Because the shape of the pupil image is elliptical when measured during off-axis fixation,<sup>36</sup>  
 189 we determined that estimated pupil diameter measured in our Maxwellian view optical system  
 190 would be underestimated by  $0.113 \pm 0.024$  mm when the fixation eccentricity was up to 8.13°  
 191 off-axis. For all pupil recordings used in the analysis, the eye movements were within 5° of  
 192 central fixation axis of the optical system and IR camera plane, introducing an error of  
 193  $\leq 0.07$  mm in estimated pupil diameter.

194 **Analysis of the Pupil Light Reflex (PLR) and Post-illumination Pupil**  
 195 **Response (PIPR)**

196 The PLR and PIPR were described by the 12 metrics outlined in Table 2 and Figure 2. The  
 197 metrics were derived from the best-fit of the linear and exponential model to the data.<sup>8, 14, 21, 22</sup>  
 198 For the peak constriction amplitude, 6 s PIPR, and plateau PIPR, a smaller value indicates a  
 199 larger pupil response. Larger PIPR amplitudes are defined by smaller values of the redilation  
 200 velocity, 6 s PIPR, and plateau PIPR; and larger values of the AUC early and late and PIPR  
 201 duration. Though the models yield negative values for pupil dynamics, absolute values are  
 202 used in Figures.

203 **Table 2.** Description and definition of the PLR metrics during light stimulation and PIPR  
 204 metrics after light offset

	<i>Metrics</i>	<i>Definition and Units</i>
	Baseline pupil diameter (BPD)	Average 10 s pre-stimulus period (mm)
	Transient PLR	Peak % change from 180 – 500 ms after light onset <sup>19, 22</sup>
<i>PLR metrics</i>	PLR latency	Time (s) for 1% constriction
	Constriction velocity	Stimulus gradient of linear model (mm.s <sup>-1</sup> ) at light onset
	Peak constriction amplitude	Minimum pupil size (% baseline) during light presentation
	Time to peak	Time (s) to peak pupil constriction
	Pupil escape	Stimulus gradient of linear model (mm.s <sup>-1</sup> ) during light stimulation
	Redilation velocity	Global rate constant (k) of exponential model (mm.s <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>8, 21</sup>
<i>PIPR metrics</i>	6 s PIPR amplitude	Pupil size (% baseline) at 6 s after light offset <sup>8, 17, 21</sup>
	Plateau PIPR	Plateau of exponential model (% baseline) <sup>21</sup>
	AUC early	$\sum$ (BPD - APD)* over 0-10 s after light offset <sup>18</sup> (unitless)
	AUC Late	$\sum$ (BPD - APD) over 10-30 s after light offset <sup>18</sup> (unitless)
	PIPR duration	Time (s) to return to baseline after light offset
	Net PIPR metrics	Difference between 465 nm and 637 nm PIPR <sup>23, 24</sup> (unit of corresponding metric)

205

206 \*APD – Absolute pupil diameter

207

208

## 209 **Statistical Analysis**

210 Statistical data analysis was conducted using GraphPad Prism (GraphPad Software, Inc., CA,  
211 USA). Means  $\pm$  standard deviation (SD) were used to describe data. Shapiro-Wilk tests  
212 indicated that all data were normally distributed. One-way repeated measures ANOVA (95%  
213 confidence interval,  $p < 0.05$ , Turkey's test for pairwise multiple comparisons, Geisser-  
214 Greenhouse correction) was applied to compute the differences in the pupil responses  
215 between different stimulus durations. To determine variability of the PIPR and net PIPR  
216 metrics the intra and inter-individual coefficient of variation (CV) was calculated (SD/mean).  
217 The CV provides a more precise measurement of variability than SD because it is  
218 dimensionless and is not affected by changes in measurement units.<sup>37</sup> A  $CV \leq 0.2$  was  
219 considered acceptable based on the target acceptance criteria for immunoassay applications;<sup>38</sup>  
220 <sup>39</sup> we are unaware of a literature reference for a CV for human behavioural studies.

221

## 222 **RESULTS**

223 The spectral sensitivity of the PIPR metrics is shown in Figure 3 for the two observers (circle  
224 and square symbols). The data for all metrics (plateau, 6 s, early and late AUC) are well  
225 described by a Vitamin A1 nomogram with a peak spectral sensitivity at 482 nm. There were  
226 no differences in spectral sensitivity derived from the modelled data (shown) and the raw  
227 unmodeled data (not shown).

228 The PLR during light stimulation and the PIPR after light offset were analyzed using twelve  
229 metrics (Table 2) as described in the following sections for the group data. Figure 4 shows the  
230 complete PLR data for one representative participant. While the PLR response is not the  
231 primary outcome of this study, it is presented before the PIPR results to follow the natural  
232 time sequence during and after light stimulation.

233

## 234 **Effect of Stimulus Irradiance, Wavelength, and Duration on the PLR**

235 Figure 5 reports the mean group data across all stimulus irradiances and shows that with  
236 increasing irradiance, the transient PLR increased and the PLR latency shortened with a  
237 plateau beyond  $12.8 \log \text{ quanta.cm}^{-2}.\text{s}^{-1}$ . The constriction velocity and peak constriction  
238 amplitude increased, whereas the time to peak constriction and pupil escape did not change as  
239 a function of irradiance. The effect of stimulus duration on the PLR was wavelength and  
240 irradiance dependent. The transient PLR was independent of stimulus duration [465 nm:  $F_{2,7} =$   
241  $1.378$ ,  $p = 0.298$ ; 637 nm:  $F_{2,10} = 0.52$ ,  $p = 0.607$ ] and so was PLR latency [465 nm:  $F_{2,8} =$   
242  $3.89$ ,  $p = 0.069$ ; 637 nm:  $F_{2,7} = 2.15$ ,  $p = 0.187$ ]. However, the transient PLR amplitude was  
243 always larger and the PLR latency was shorter for short wavelengths than for long  
244 wavelengths due to higher rod sensitivity, but this difference tapered with increasing  
245 irradiance showing saturation of the response. When the data were normalized to peak pupil  
246 constriction, the PLR latency still showed a trend of shortening with increasing irradiance  
247 indicating that this process is driven by stimulus irradiance. The constriction velocity was  
248 dependent on stimulus duration at short wavelengths [465 nm:  $F_{1,7} = 26.24$ ,  $p = 0.001$ ] and  
249 was faster for 30 s stimuli than 1 s and 10 s stimuli, but independent of duration at long  
250 wavelengths [637 nm:  $F_{2,8} = 0.17$ ,  $p = 0.805$ ]. The peak constriction amplitude increased with  
251 increasing stimulus duration [465 nm:  $F_{1,6} = 26.88$ ,  $p = 0.002$ ; 637 nm:  $F_{1,6} = 7.97$ ,  $p = 0.025$ ].  
252 The time to peak constriction was longer for 30 s and 10 s pulses than for 1 s pulses [465 nm:  
253  $F_{2,7} = 26.66$ ,  $p = 0.001$ ; 637 nm:  $F_{2,10} = 7.73$ ,  $p = 0.010$ ]; for 1 s pulses, the time to peak  
254 constriction was longer for 465 nm (1.4 to 1.9 s) than 637 nm (1.2 to 1.4 s) above  $11.8 \log$   
255  $\text{ quanta.cm}^{-2}.\text{s}^{-1}$  indicating a slower temporal response to the short wavelength stimuli. The  
256 pupil escape velocity was independent of stimulus irradiance, but dependent on stimulus  
257 duration [465 nm:  $F_{1,5} = 20.33$ ,  $p = 0.006$ ; 637 nm:  $F_{1,5} = 7.97$ ,  $p = 0.017$ ], with a slower  
258 escape with 30 s pulses than 10 s pulses (note that escape velocity is not applicable to 1 s  
259 pulses).



## 261 **Effect of Stimulus Irradiance, Wavelength, and Duration on the PIPR**

262 Figure 6 displays the effect of stimulus irradiance, wavelength and duration on the six PIPR  
263 metrics. The PIPR redilation velocity decreased with increasing irradiance for 1 s pulses, but  
264 was independent of irradiance for 10 s and 30 s pulses. At 465 nm, a second redilation phase  
265 (Figure 4) was observed at around 40, 50, and 70 s post-stimulus for 1, 10, and 30 s pulses at  
266  $14.8 \log \text{ quanta.cm}^{-2}.\text{s}^{-1}$  and which has not been previously reported. The 6 s PIPR, plateau  
267 PIPR, AUC early, AUC late, and PIPR duration increased with increasing stimulus irradiance.  
268 At the highest measured retinal irradiance ( $14.8 \log \text{ quanta.cm}^{-2}.\text{s}^{-1}$ ), all PIPR metrics (except  
269 PIPR duration) for 1 s pulses were larger or equal to those for 10 s and 30 s pulses.

270 Redilation velocity was dependent on stimulus duration at long wavelengths, with higher  
271 redilation velocity for 1 s pulses than 10 s or 30 s pulses [637 nm:  $F_{1,7} = 37.82$ ,  $p = 0.0003$ ],  
272 but no effect at short wavelengths [465 nm:  $F_{1,6} = 1.48$ ,  $p = 0.278$ ]. Stimulus duration had no  
273 significant effect on the 6 s PIPR amplitude [465 nm:  $F_{1,5} = 1.63$ ,  $p = 0.258$ ; 637 nm:  $F_{1,6} =$   
274  $5.34$ ,  $p = 0.052$ ], plateau PIPR amplitude [465 nm:  $F_{1,5} = 2.81$ ,  $p = 0.752$ ; 637 nm:  $F_{2,7} = 0.38$ ,  
275  $p = 0.633$ ], AUC early [465 nm:  $F_{2,10} = 3.06$ ,  $p = 0.094$ ; 637 nm:  $F_{2,7} = 8.05$ ,  $p = 0.019$ ], AUC  
276 late [465 nm:  $F_{1,7} = 1.25$ ,  $p = 0.323$ ; 637 nm:  $F_{2,10} = 0.79$ ,  $p = 0.479$ ], and PIPR duration [465  
277 nm:  $F_{1,6} = 2.04$ ,  $p = 0.210$ ; 637 nm:  $F_{1,6} = 5.35$ ,  $p = 0.062$ ]. However, at  $14.8 \log \text{ quanta.cm}^{-2}.\text{s}^{-1}$ ,  
278 the PIPR duration increased with increasing stimulus duration.

279 Figure 7 shows as expected, that the net PIPR for irradiances below melanopsin threshold was  
280 not significant for the three stimulus durations. Beyond  $11.8 \log \text{ quanta.cm}^{-2}.\text{s}^{-1}$ , which is  
281 known to be within the melanopsin range,<sup>11</sup> all net PIPR metrics except the net redilation  
282 velocity for 10 s and 30 s pulses increased with increasing irradiance. There was no  
283 significant effect of stimulus duration on the net 6 s PIPR [ $F_{1,6} = 4.72$ ,  $p = 0.068$ ], net plateau  
284 PIPR [ $F_{1,6} = 2.41$ ,  $p = 0.174$ ], net AUC late [ $F_{1,6} = 3.98$ ,  $p = 0.094$ ], and net PIPR duration  
285 [ $F_{1,6} = 0.29$ ,  $p = 0.635$ ]. The net redilation velocity [ $F_{1,6} = 11.57$ ,  $p = 0.016$ ] and net AUC

286 early [ $F_{1,6} = 7.93$ ,  $p = 0.028$ ] were dependent on stimulus duration, with net velocity and net  
287 AUC larger for 1 s pulses than 10 s and 30 s pulses.

### 288 **Intra and Inter-individual CV**

289 To quantify the level of dispersion in the PIPR metrics, we calculated the coefficient of  
290 variation (Figure 8) and applied a criterion of  $\leq 0.2$ .<sup>38, 39</sup> The intra-individual CV for the  
291 plateau PIPR and 6 s PIPR was  $\leq 0.2$  with the others  $> 0.2$  at all measured irradiances. The  
292 inter-individual CV of the PIPR in the melanopsin range was  $\leq 0.2$  for the plateau PIPR, 6 s  
293 PIPR, and AUC early and late recovery whereas the CV was  $> 0.2$  for all other PIPR metrics.

294

## 295 **DISCUSSION**

296 This study shows a nomogram at the peak sensitivity of the melanopsin (opn4) photopigment  
297 ( $\lambda_{\max} = 482$  nm) adequately describes the spectral sensitivity derived from all current PIPR  
298 metrics and thus any of these metrics can be used to quantify the PIPR to obtain a measure of  
299 the intrinsic melanopsin photoresponse. The PIPR amplitude and intra and inter-individual  
300 variability is stimulus dependent. The largest PIPR amplitude was obtained with a 1 s short  
301 wavelength pulse (retinal irradiance  $\geq 12.8$  log quanta.cm<sup>-2</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup>) and the intra and inter-  
302 individual variability was lowest for the 6 s and plateau PIPR metrics. Of the test stimuli and  
303 six PIPR metrics evaluated, we propose that 1 s stimuli and the plateau and/or 6 s PIPR  
304 metrics will be most applicable for clinical studies of ipRGC function. We further observed  
305 that the maximum duration of the sustained PIPR was 83 s for 1 s pulses and 180 s for 30 s  
306 pulses (465 nm; 14.8 log quanta.cm<sup>-2</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup>), but there is large intra and inter-individual  
307 variation.

### 308 **Post-illumination Pupil Response (PIPR)**

309 The PIPR amplitude was larger with 1 s pulses than with 10 s, which is larger than with 30 s  
310 pulses for retinal irradiances  $\geq 12.8$  log quanta.cm<sup>-2</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup>, as evident in the comparison between

311 1 s and 30 s pulses<sup>9</sup> and 1 s and 10 s pulses.<sup>17</sup> This duration dependent response amplitude  
312 may be due to the peak ipRGC firing, with stimuli longer than 1 s, occurring 2-3 s after  
313 stimulus onset and then gradually decaying<sup>11, 26, 40</sup> with light adaptation.<sup>41</sup> Together this may  
314 lead to the lower PIPR amplitude observed with longer stimulus durations. However, with  
315  $14.8 \log \text{ quanta} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ , 465 nm pulses, the PIPR duration increases with increasing stimulus  
316 duration from 1 s to 30 s, in agreement with a study in mouse eyes<sup>42</sup> that showed the duration  
317 of the PIPR increased with stimulus duration from 50 ms to 1 s, possibly due to increased  
318 light adaptation of melanopsin signaling over time.

319 One study<sup>18</sup> reported only the test-retest repeatability of the AUC early (Intra-class  
320 Correlation Coefficient, ICC = 0.6) and late recovery (ICC = 0.8) and another study<sup>43</sup> reported  
321 variation of the plateau PIPR metric (CV = 0.16, ICC = 0.95, 30° central stimulus) but no  
322 other metrics. We report the intra and inter-individual variability of all current PIPR metrics.  
323 Another study reported a lower inter-individual coefficient of variation for the 6 s PIPR than  
324 the plateau PIPR,<sup>44</sup> whereas our study showed a low CV ( $\leq 0.2$ ) for both 6 s and plateau PIPR  
325 metrics compared to all other metrics. However, that study used a larger stimulus (60°x90°)  
326 and defined the plateau PIPR as the average PIPR from 10-30 s post-stimulus, hence it may  
327 not be comparable to our results. In our study with a smaller central stimulus field (35.6°), the  
328 PIPR variability increased with increasing irradiance, indicating that at higher irradiances a  
329 larger PIPR can be produced, but with larger variability. Lei et al<sup>43, 44</sup> showed a lower  
330 variation in PIPR at higher irradiances with large stimuli (full-field and 60°x90°) probably  
331 because the mass response from ipRGCs at high irradiances with large field stimulation  
332 reduces the inter-individual variability. It is known that the pupil constriction amplitudes to  
333 large stimuli are greater than to smaller stimuli of equal irradiance.<sup>1</sup> For a constant corneal  
334 flux density, the pupil constriction amplitude is independent of stimulus size.<sup>45, 46</sup> With  
335 regards to the effect of stimulus size on the PIPR, full-field stimuli presented in Newtonian  
336 view produce a larger sustained PIPR with less variability than smaller central-field (60°x90°  
337 & 30°) and hemi-field (half of 30° central-field) stimuli.<sup>43, 44</sup> Larger stimuli however will be

338 less sensitive to early local retinal deficits (see Feigl & Zele., 2014 for review).<sup>28</sup> Studies in  
339 mouse models have indicated that ipRGCs are robust to axonal injury<sup>47, 48</sup> and induced  
340 chronic ocular hypertension.<sup>49</sup> Studies in mouse models of retinal degeneration suggest that  
341 ipRGC axons/dendrites remain unaffected in early stages and ipRGC density conserves until  
342 the advanced stages of retinal degeneration.<sup>50,51</sup> Further work is required to understand the  
343 role of redundancy and robustness of ipRGCs during disease in humans to define the complex  
344 relationships between ipRGC dysfunction and PIPR amplitude, dynamics, and variability of  
345 the response.

346 We determined that the PIPR duration is longer ( $> 83.4 \pm 48.0$  s) than previously reported<sup>8, 12,</sup>  
347 <sup>14, 17-19, 21-23</sup> and subsequently, longer than the ISI employed in many studies. The ISI should  
348 vary with stimulus irradiance because the PIPR duration increases with increasing irradiance  
349 and the *in vitro* intrinsic response also scales with irradiance in melanopsin excitation range.<sup>52</sup>  
350 Based on our measurements we propose that for 1 s short wavelength pulses  $\geq 14.8$  log  
351 quanta.cm<sup>-2</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup>, the inter-stimulus interval (ISI) should be at least 83 s (95% CI: Upper: 159.8  
352 s), so that the sustained PIPR does not interfere with subsequent recordings. The PIPR  
353 durations were longer for 1 s than 10 s and 30 s pulses at 12.8 and 13.8 log quanta.cm<sup>-2</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup>  
354 possibly indicating different adaptation responses to the stimulus durations. Finally, by  
355 measuring the PIPR at high irradiances we observed that the post-stimulus pupil redilation  
356 shows two phases (Figure 4; first phase just after light offset and second phase at about 40,  
357 50, and 70 s post-stimulus for 1, 10, and 30 s pulses), with the latter phase for short  
358 wavelength pulses at 14.8 log quanta.cm<sup>-2</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup> not well described by a single exponential  
359 function. While the origin of this biphasic redilation is not clear, it may reflect different  
360 adaptation processes or the contribution of different ipRGC subtypes.<sup>53-55</sup>

### 361 **Pupil Light Reflex (PLR) during Light Stimulation**

362 Analysis of the PLR metrics during light stimulation indicates that the time to peak  
363 constriction is longer for 465 nm than 637 nm with 1 s pulses in melanopsin range whereas

364 this difference was not present below melanopsin threshold. The time to peak constriction did  
365 not differ between 465 nm and 637 nm with 10 and 30 s pulses, in agreement with Tsujimura  
366 and Tokuda.<sup>56</sup> Pupil escape has been considered previously in detail by Loewenfeld,<sup>1</sup> Kardon  
367 et al.,<sup>19</sup> and McDougal and Gamlin.<sup>13</sup> In an extension to their observations, we found that  
368 pupil escape with 30 s pulses ( $\geq 12.0 \log \text{ quanta.cm}^{-2}.\text{s}^{-1}$ ) was slower than with 10 s pulses  
369 which we infer is due to larger relative ipRGC contributions to the steady-state pupil  
370 constriction,<sup>13, 57</sup> a decay in rod-cone response with stimuli longer than 10 s,<sup>13</sup> and ipRGC  
371 adaptation to steady light stimulation.<sup>41</sup> Together these markers indicate signature  
372 contributions of melanopsin to the pupil constriction amplitude and escape.

373 In general, the metrics quantifying the human PLR during light stimulation are in accordance  
374 with previous studies using different test stimulus protocols with broadband light stimuli. We  
375 found that the pupil constriction velocity is wavelength dependent; with long wavelengths, the  
376 velocity is independent of stimulus duration, as per the early findings of Lowenstein and  
377 Loewenfeld<sup>58</sup> who used broadband lights, whereas the constriction velocity to the short  
378 wavelength light was duration dependent, with the fastest velocity with 30 s pulses. The  
379 wavelength dependent effect on constriction velocity may be related to the differential rod  
380 and cone sensitivity to the wavelength and mediated extrinsically via ipRGCs.<sup>13</sup> Consistent  
381 with previous studies,<sup>43, 44</sup> pupil constriction velocity increased with increasing stimulus  
382 irradiance.<sup>58, 59</sup> Our findings confirm for narrow band lights that with increasing retinal  
383 irradiance, the magnitude of pupil constriction increases<sup>58-61</sup> and that the transient PLR  
384 increases and the PLR latency shortens.<sup>19, 59, 62</sup> The pupil attains the minimum latent period<sup>1</sup> at  
385  $\sim 12.8 \log \text{ quanta.cm}^{-2}.\text{s}^{-1}$  indicating that the additional time delay of the PLR originating in  
386 the photoreceptors and neural reflex circuit and dependent on stimulus intensity,<sup>1</sup> is absent at  
387  $12.8 \log \text{ quanta.cm}^{-2}.\text{s}^{-1}$ , so the minimum latent period cannot be eliminated by further  
388 increases in stimulus intensity because the time delay is then limited by iris sphincter muscle  
389 strength.<sup>1</sup>

390 In a pilot experiment ( $n = 2$ ), the PLR to a 1 s pulse ( $14.8 \log \text{ quanta} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ ) of undilated and  
391 dilated eyes were compared using the same metrics for describing the response as in the main  
392 experiment; we found  $< 4\%$  coefficient of variation between two conditions. This is not  
393 surprising as we used a Maxwellian view pupillometer to provide an open-loop feedback.<sup>1, 63</sup>  
394 Further studies need to show whether a full field system using Newtonian stimulation<sup>64</sup>  
395 (closed-loop feedback) detects a difference between stimulated eyes with dilated and  
396 undilated pupils. We conclude that for a Maxwellian system, dilation of stimulated eye is not  
397 essential unless it is required to minimize accommodative fluctuations on pupil, or persons  
398 whose natural pupil diameter is small.

399 In conclusion, we propose that the PIPR produced by short duration pulses (e.g.,  $\leq 1\text{s}$ ) with an  
400 irradiance above melanopsin threshold and described with the plateau and/or 6 s PIPR metrics  
401 may be the optimum protocol for monitoring disease progression in clinical studies of  
402 ipRGCs because short duration stimuli produce larger PIPR amplitudes and these two metrics  
403 show the least intra-individual coefficient of variation.

404

405 Acknowledgments: Supported by Australian Research Council Discovery Projects (ARC-  
406 DP140100333) to BF and AJZ. We thank Daniel S. Joyce for contributions to data collection.

407

408

409

410

411

412

413

414

415 **REFERENCES**

- 416 1. Loewenfeld I. *The Pupil: Anatomy, Physiology and Clinical Applications*. Boston:  
417 Butterworth-Heinemann; 1999;1:83-273.
- 418 2. Lucas RJ, Douglas RH, Foster RG. Characterization of an ocular photopigment  
419 capable of driving pupillary constriction in mice. *Nat Neurosci*. 2001;4:621-626.
- 420 3. Lucas R, Hattar S, Takao M, Berson D, Foster R, Yau KW. Diminished pupillary light  
421 reflex at high irradiances in melanopsin-knockout mice. *Science*. 2003;299:245-247.
- 422 4. Dacey DM, Peterson BB, Robinson FR, Gamlin PD. Fireworks in the primate retina:  
423 In vitro photodynamics reveals diverse LGN-projecting ganglion cell types. *Neuron*.  
424 2003;37:15-27.
- 425 5. Mure LS, Rieux C, Hattar S, Cooper HM. Melanopsin-dependent nonvisual responses:  
426 Evidence for photopigment bistability in vivo. *J Biol Rhythms*. 2007;22:411-424.
- 427 6. Morin LP, Blanchard JH, Provencio I. Retinal ganglion cell projections to the hamster  
428 suprachiasmatic nucleus, intergeniculate leaflet, and visual midbrain: Bifurcation and  
429 melanopsin immunoreactivity. *J Comp Neurol*. 2003;465:401-416.
- 430 7. Hattar S, Lucas RJ, Mrosovsky N, et al. Melanopsin and rod–cone photoreceptive  
431 systems account for all major accessory visual functions in mice. *Nature*.  
432 2003;424:75-81.
- 433 8. Zele AJ, Feigl B, Smith SS, Markwell EL. The circadian response of intrinsically  
434 photosensitive retinal ganglion cells. *PLoS One*. 2011;6:e17860.
- 435 9. Münch M, Léon L, Crippa SV, Kawasaki A. Circadian and wake-dependent effects on  
436 the pupil light reflex in response to narrow-bandwidth light pulses. *Invest Ophthalmol*  
437 *Vis Sci*. 2012;53:4546-4555.
- 438 10. Roecklein KA, Wong PM, Franzen PL, et al. Melanopsin gene variations interact with  
439 season to predict sleep onset and chronotype. *Chronobiol Int*. 2012;29:1036-1047.

- 440 11. Dacey DM, Liao HW, Peterson BB, et al. Melanopsin-expressing ganglion cells in  
441 primate retina signal colour and irradiance and project to the LGN. *Nature*.  
442 2005;433:749-754.
- 443 12. Gamlin PDR, McDougal DH, Pokorny J, Smith VC, Yau KW, Dacey DM. Human  
444 and macaque pupil responses driven by melanopsin-containing retinal ganglion cells.  
445 *Vision Res*. 2007;47:946-954.
- 446 13. McDougal DH, Gamlin PD. The influence of intrinsically-photosensitive retinal  
447 ganglion cells on the spectral sensitivity and response dynamics of the human  
448 pupillary light reflex. *Vision Res*. 2010;50:72-87.
- 449 14. Markwell EL, Feigl B, Zele AJ. Intrinsically photosensitive melanopsin retinal  
450 ganglion cell contributions to the pupillary light reflex and circadian rhythm. *Clin Exp*  
451 *Optom*. 2010;93:137-149.
- 452 15. Barrionuevo PA, Nicandro N, McAnany JJ, Zele AJ, Gamlin P, Cao D. Assessing rod,  
453 cone and melanopsin contributions to human pupil flicker responses. *Invest*  
454 *Ophthalmol Vis Sci*. 2014;55:719-727.
- 455 16. Gooley JJ, Lu J, Chou TC, Scammell TE, Saper CB. Melanopsin in cells of origin of  
456 the retinohypothalamic tract. *Nat Neurosci*. 2001;4:1165-1165.
- 457 17. Park JC, Moura AL, Raza AS, Rhee DW, Kardon RH, Hood DC. Toward a clinical  
458 protocol for assessing rod, cone, and melanopsin contributions to the human pupil  
459 response. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci*. 2011;52:6624-6635.
- 460 18. Herbst K, Sander B, Milea D, Lund-Andersen H, Kawasaki A. Test-retest  
461 repeatability of the pupil light response to blue and red light stimuli in normal human  
462 eyes using a novel pupillometer. *Front Neurol*. 2011;2:10.
- 463 19. Kardon R, Anderson SC, Damarjian TG, Grace EM, Stone E, Kawasaki A. Chromatic  
464 pupil responses: Preferential activation of the melanopsin-mediated versus outer  
465 photoreceptor-mediated pupil light reflex. *Ophthalmology*. 2009;116:1564-1573.



- 466 20. Kardon R, Anderson SC, Damarjian TG, Grace EM, Stone E, Kawasaki A. Chromatic  
467 pupillometry in patients with retinitis pigmentosa. *Ophthalmology*. 2011;118:376-381.
- 468 21. Feigl B, Mattes D, Thomas R, Zele AJ. Intrinsically photosensitive (melanopsin)  
469 retinal ganglion cell function in glaucoma. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci*. 2011;52:4362-  
470 4367.
- 471 22. Feigl B, Zele AJ, Fader SM, et al. The post-illumination pupil response of  
472 melanopsin-expressing intrinsically photosensitive retinal ganglion cells in diabetes.  
473 *Acta Ophthalmol*. 2012;90:230-234.
- 474 23. Kankipati L, Girkin CA, Gamlin PD. Post-illumination pupil response in subjects  
475 without ocular disease. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci*. 2010;51:2764-2769.
- 476 24. Kankipati L, Girkin CA, Gamlin PD. The post-illumination pupil response is reduced  
477 in glaucoma patients. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci*. 2011;52:2287-2292.
- 478 25. Joyce DS, Feigl B, Cao D, Zele AJ. Temporal characteristics of melanopsin inputs to  
479 the human pupil light reflex. *Vision Res*. 2015;107:58-66.
- 480 26. Wong KY. A retinal ganglion cell that can signal irradiance continuously for 10 hours.  
481 *J Neurosci*. 2012;32:11478-11485.
- 482 27. Nissen C, Sander B, Milea D, et al. Monochromatic pupillometry in unilateral  
483 glaucoma discloses no adaptive changes subserved by the ipRGCs. *Front Neurol*.  
484 2014;5:15.
- 485 28. Feigl B, Zele AJ. Melanopsin-expressing intrinsically photosensitive retinal ganglion  
486 cells in retinal disease. *Optom Vis Sci*. 2014;91:894-903.
- 487 29. Kawasaki A, Munier FL, Leon L, Kardon RH. Pupillometric quantification of residual  
488 rod and cone activity in Leber congenital amaurosis. *Arch Ophthalmol*. 2012;130:798-  
489 800.
- 490 30. Beer RD, MacLeod DI, Miller TP. The extended maxwellian view (bigmax): A high-  
491 intensity, high-saturation color display for clinical diagnosis and vision research.  
492 *Behav Res Methods*. 2005;37:513-521.

- 493 31. Protection ICoN-IR. Guidelines on limits of exposure to ultraviolet radiation of  
494 wavelengths between 180 nm and 400 nm (incoherent optical radiation). *Health*  
495 *Physics*. 2004;87:171-186.
- 496 32. Dartnall H. The interpretation of spectral sensitivity curves. *Br Med Bull*. 1953;9:24-  
497 30.
- 498 33. Zele AJ, Cao D. Vision under mesopic and scotopic illumination. *Front Psychol*.  
499 2014;5:1594.
- 500 34. Smith S, Ellis C, Smith S. Inequality of the direct and consensual light reflexes in  
501 normal subjects. *Br J Ophthalmol*. 1979;63:523-527.
- 502 35. Lucas RJ, Peirson SN, Berson DM, et al. Measuring and using light in the melanopsin  
503 age. *Trends Neurosci*. 2014;37:1-9.
- 504 36. Mathur A, Gehrman J, Atchison DA. Pupil shape as viewed along the horizontal  
505 visual field. *J Vis*. 2013;13:3.
- 506 37. Reed GF, Lynn F, Meade BD. Use of coefficient of variation in assessing variability  
507 of quantitative assays. *Clin Diagn Lab Immunol*. 2002;9:1235-1239.
- 508 38. Findlay J, Smith W, Lee J, et al. Validation of immunoassays for bioanalysis: A  
509 pharmaceutical industry perspective. *J Pharm Biomed Anal*. 2000;21:1249-1273.
- 510 39. Shah VP, Midha KK, Findlay JW, et al. Bioanalytical method validation—a revisit  
511 with a decade of progress. *Pharm Res*. 2000;17:1551-1557.
- 512 40. Wong KY, Dunn FA, Berson DM. Photoreceptor adaptation in intrinsically  
513 photosensitive retinal ganglion cells. *Neuron*. 2005;48:1001-1010.
- 514 41. Do MTH, Yau KW. Adaptation to steady light by intrinsically photosensitive retinal  
515 ganglion cells. *Proc Natl Acad Sci*. 2013;110:7470-7475.
- 516 42. Vugler A, Semo M, Ortín-Martínez A, et al. A role for the outer retina in development  
517 of the intrinsic pupillary light reflex in mice. *Neuroscience*. 2015;286:60-78.
- 518 43. Lei S, Goltz HC, Chandrakumar M, Wong AM. Test-retest reliability of hemifield,  
519 central-field and full-field chromatic pupillometry for assessing the function of

- 520 melanopsin-containing retinal ganglion cells. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci.*  
521 2015;56:1267-1273.
- 522 44. Lei S, Goltz HC, Chandrakumar M, Wong AM. Full-field chromatic pupillometry for  
523 the assessment of the post-illumination pupil response driven by melanopsin-  
524 containing retinal ganglion cells. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci.* 2014;55:4496-4503.
- 525 45. Atchison DA, Girgenti CC, Campbell GM, Dodds JP, Byrnes TM, Zele AJ. Influence  
526 of field size on pupil diameter under photopic and mesopic light levels. *Clin Exp*  
527 *Optom.* 2011;94:545-548.
- 528 46. Stanley PA, Davies AK. The effect of field of view size on steady-state pupil  
529 diameter. *Ophthalmic Physiol Opt.* 1995;15:601-603.
- 530 47. de Sevilla Müller LP, Sargoy A, Rodriguez AR, Brecha NC. Melanopsin ganglion  
531 cells are the most resistant retinal ganglion cell type to axonal injury in the rat retina.  
532 *PLoS One.* 2014;9:e93274.
- 533 48. Robinson G, Madison R. Axotomized mouse retinal ganglion cells containing  
534 melanopsin show enhanced survival, but not enhanced axon regrowth into a peripheral  
535 nerve graft. *Vision Res.* 2004;44:2667-2674.
- 536 49. Li RS, Chen BY, Tay DK, Chan HH, Pu ML, So KF. Melanopsin-expressing retinal  
537 ganglion cells are more injury-resistant in a chronic ocular hypertension model. *Invest*  
538 *Ophthalmol Vis Sci.* 2006;47:2951-2958.
- 539 50. Vugler AA, Semo M, Joseph A, Jeffery G. Survival and remodeling of melanopsin  
540 cells during retinal dystrophy. *Vis Neurosci.* 2008;25:125-138.
- 541 51. Esquivia G, Lax P, Cuenca N. Impairment of intrinsically photosensitive retinal  
542 ganglion cells associated with late stages of retinal degeneration. *Invest Ophthalmol*  
543 *Vis Sci.* 2013;54:4605-4618.
- 544 52. Berson DM, Dunn FA, Takao M. Phototransduction by retinal ganglion cells that set  
545 the circadian clock. *Science.* 2002;295:1070-1073.

- 546 53. Baver SB, Pickard GE, Sollars PJ, Pickard GE. Two types of melanopsin retinal  
547 ganglion cell differentially innervate the hypothalamic suprachiasmatic nucleus and  
548 the olivary pretectal nucleus. *Eur J Neurosci.* 2008;27:1763-1770.
- 549 54. Chen SK, Badea T, Hattar S. Photoentrainment and pupillary light reflex are mediated  
550 by distinct populations of ipRGCs. *Nature.* 2011;476:92-95.
- 551 55. Estevez ME, Fogerson PM, Ilardi MC, et al. Form and function of the M4 cell, an  
552 intrinsically photosensitive retinal ganglion cell type contributing to geniculocortical  
553 vision. *J Neurosci.* 2012;32:13608-13620.
- 554 56. Tsujimura S, Tokuda Y. Delayed response of human melanopsin retinal ganglion cells  
555 on the pupillary light reflex. *Ophthalmic Physiol Opt.* 2011;31:469-479.
- 556 57. Tsujimura S, Ukai K, Ohama D, Nuruki A, Yunokuchi K. Contribution of human  
557 melanopsin retinal ganglion cells to steady-state pupil responses. *Proc R Soc Lond B*  
558 *Biol Sci.* 2010;277:2485-2492.
- 559 58. Lowenstein O, Loewenfeld IE. *The eye* In: Davson H, ed. Vol 3. 2 ed: New York:  
560 Academic Press; 1969.
- 561 59. Ellis C. The pupillary light reflex in normal subjects. *Br J Ophthalmol.* 1981;65:754-  
562 759.
- 563 60. Moon P, Spencer DE. Visual data applied to lighting design. *J Opt Soc Am.*  
564 1944;34:605-614.
- 565 61. Alpern M, McCready DW, Barr L. The dependence of the photopupil response on  
566 flash duration and intensity. *J Gen Physiol.* 1963;47:265-278.
- 567 62. Loewenfeld IE. Pupillary movements associated with light and near vision. *Recent*  
568 *Developments in Vision Research.* 1966:17.
- 569 63. Stark L, Sherman PM. A servoanalytic study of consensual pupil reflex to light. *J*  
570 *Neurophysiol.* 1957;20:17-26.

571 64. Burns SA, Webb RH. Optical generation of the visual stimulus. *Handbook of Optics*,  
572 *M Bass, EW van Stryland, DR Williams, and WL Wolfe, eds(McGraw-Hill, 1994).*  
573 1994:1-28.

574

575

576

577

578

579

580

581

582

583

584

585

586

587

588

589

590

591 **FIGURE LEGENDS**

592 **Figure 1.** Temporal sequence of the stimulus protocol for the pupillometry experiments.  
593 Retinal irradiance is specified on the left ordinate and post-stimulus time on the abscissa. PRE  
594 = pre-stimulus period, Stimulus (3 durations, 30s: upper; 10s, 1s, lower), PIPR = Post  
595 Illumination Pupil Response, ISI = inter-stimulus interval.

596 **Figure 2.** An exemplar of the PLR and PIPR in response to a short wavelength (465 nm), 30s  
597 light pulse. The metrics used to quantify the pupil light response during and after light  
598 stimulation are indicated on the pupil trace and defined in Table 2. The blue trace indicates  
599 the PLR and PIPR; the gray trace shows the model.

600 **Figure 3.** Spectral sensitivity of the plateau PIPR, 6 s PIPR, AUC early and late recovery  
601 metrics. In each panel, the circles and squares indicate the data (average  $\pm$  SD) from two  
602 participants. The data of 32/F observer are horizontally offset from 31/M observer by 3.5 nm.  
603 The solid blue lines indicate the vitamin A1 nomogram ( $\lambda_{\max} = 482$  nm), and the insets show  
604 the corresponding metrics. The legends in the first panel are common to all panels.

605 **Figure 4.** Average pupil response of a representative participant (30 year old female) to short  
606 (465 nm) and long wavelength (637 nm) stimuli of retinal irradiance between 9.8 to 14.8 log  
607 quanta.cm<sup>-2</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup> increasing in 1 log unit steps, and three durations: 1 s (Panel A), 10 s (B), and  
608 30 s (C). The retinal irradiance is defined in log quanta.cm<sup>-2</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup> (with log Trolands given in  
609 parentheses) next to the corresponding pupil trace in the upper panels. Stimulus duration is  
610 indicated by the colored rectangular bar on the abscissa. Insets show the 30 s PIPR with the  
611 dotted vertical lines indicating the 6 s PIPR amplitude and gray lines indicating the models.  
612 All data are offset successively by 5% along the ordinates from the 9.8 log quanta.cm<sup>-2</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup>  
613 trace. The same color coding is followed in all panels.

614

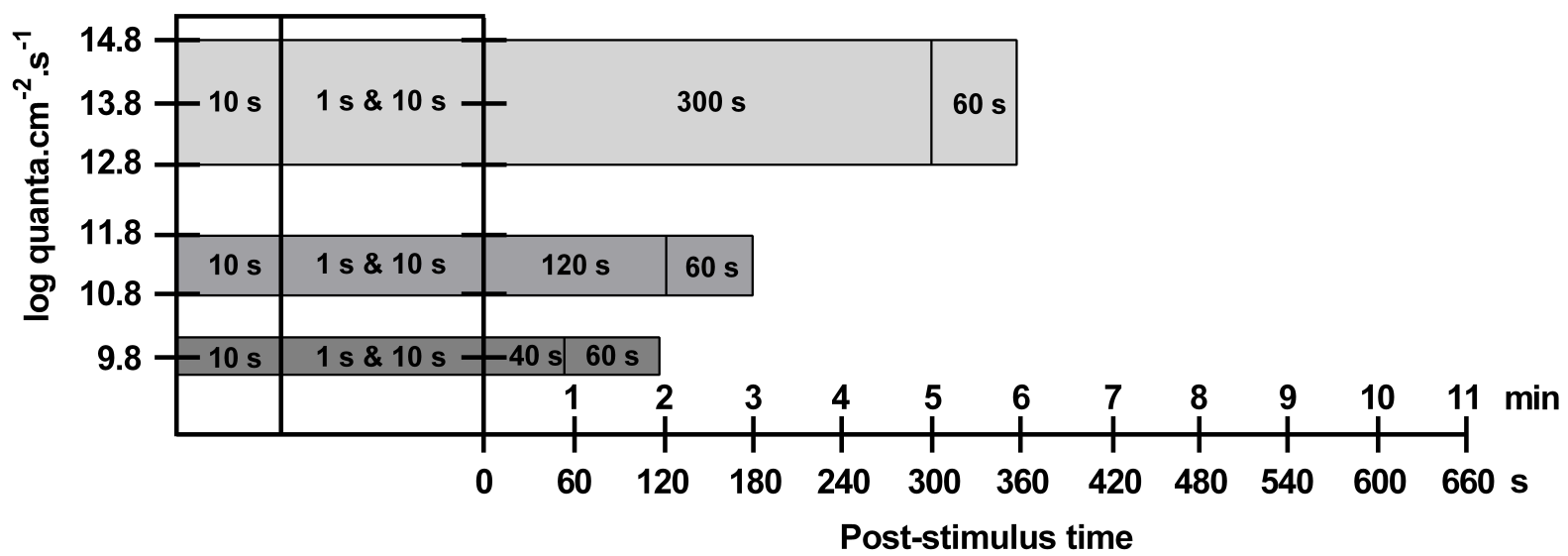
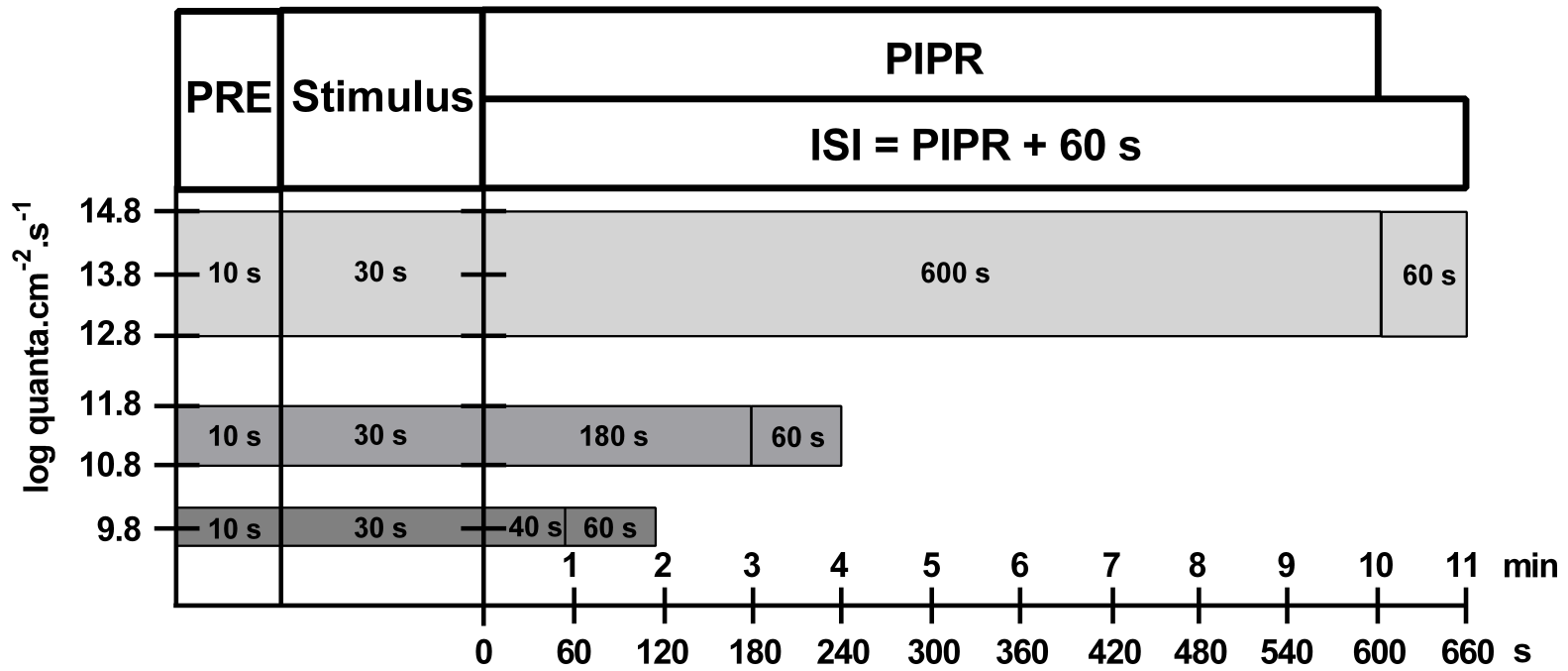
615 **Figure 5.** Average ( $\pm$  SD) (n=5 participants) transient pupil light response (PLR) (%), PLR  
616 latency (ms), constriction velocity ( $\text{mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ), peak constriction amplitude (% baseline), time to  
617 peak constriction (s), and pupil escape ( $\text{mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ) of the PLR to stimuli of wavelength 465 nm  
618 (blue) and 637 nm (red), retinal irradiance between 9.8 to 14.8  $\text{log quanta}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  increasing  
619 in 1 log unit steps, and three durations: 1 s (squares), 10 s (triangles), and 30 s (circles). The  
620 numbers in blue and red in the upper left and right panels indicate the luminance ( $\text{log cd}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}$ )  
621 of the short and long wavelength stimuli respectively.

622 **Figure 6.** Average ( $\pm$ SD) (n=5) redilation velocity ( $\text{mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ), 6 s PIPR amplitude ((%  
623 baseline), plateau PIPR ((% baseline), AUC early and late recovery (linear and log units), and  
624 PIPR duration (s) of the pupil light response to stimuli of wavelength 465 nm (blue) and 637  
625 nm (red), retinal irradiance between 9.8 to 14.8  $\text{log quanta}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  increasing in 1 log steps,  
626 and three durations: 1 s (squares), 10 s (triangles), and 30 s (circles). The numbers in blue and  
627 red in the upper left and right panels indicate the luminance ( $\text{log cd}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}$ ) of the short and long  
628 wavelength stimuli respectively.

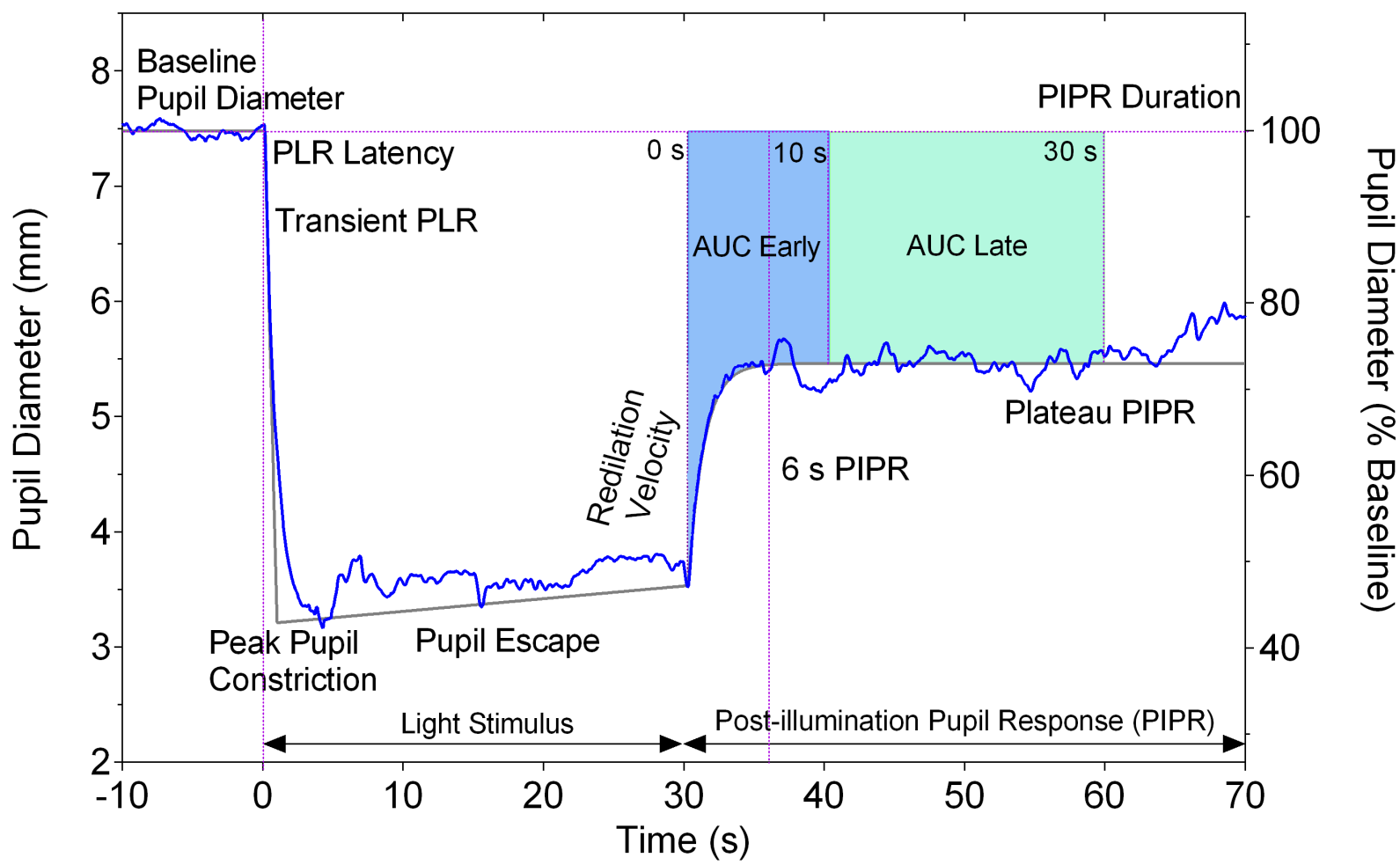
629 **Figure 7.** Average ( $\pm$ SD) (n = 5) net redilation velocity (A), net 6 s PIPR (B), net plateau  
630 PIPR (C), net AUC early (D) and late (E) recovery, and net PIPR duration (F) of the pupil  
631 light response to stimuli of wavelength 465 nm and 637 nm, retinal irradiance from 9.8 to  
632 14.8  $\text{log quanta}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  increasing in 1 log steps, and three durations: 1 s (squares), 10 s  
633 (triangles), and 30 s (circles).

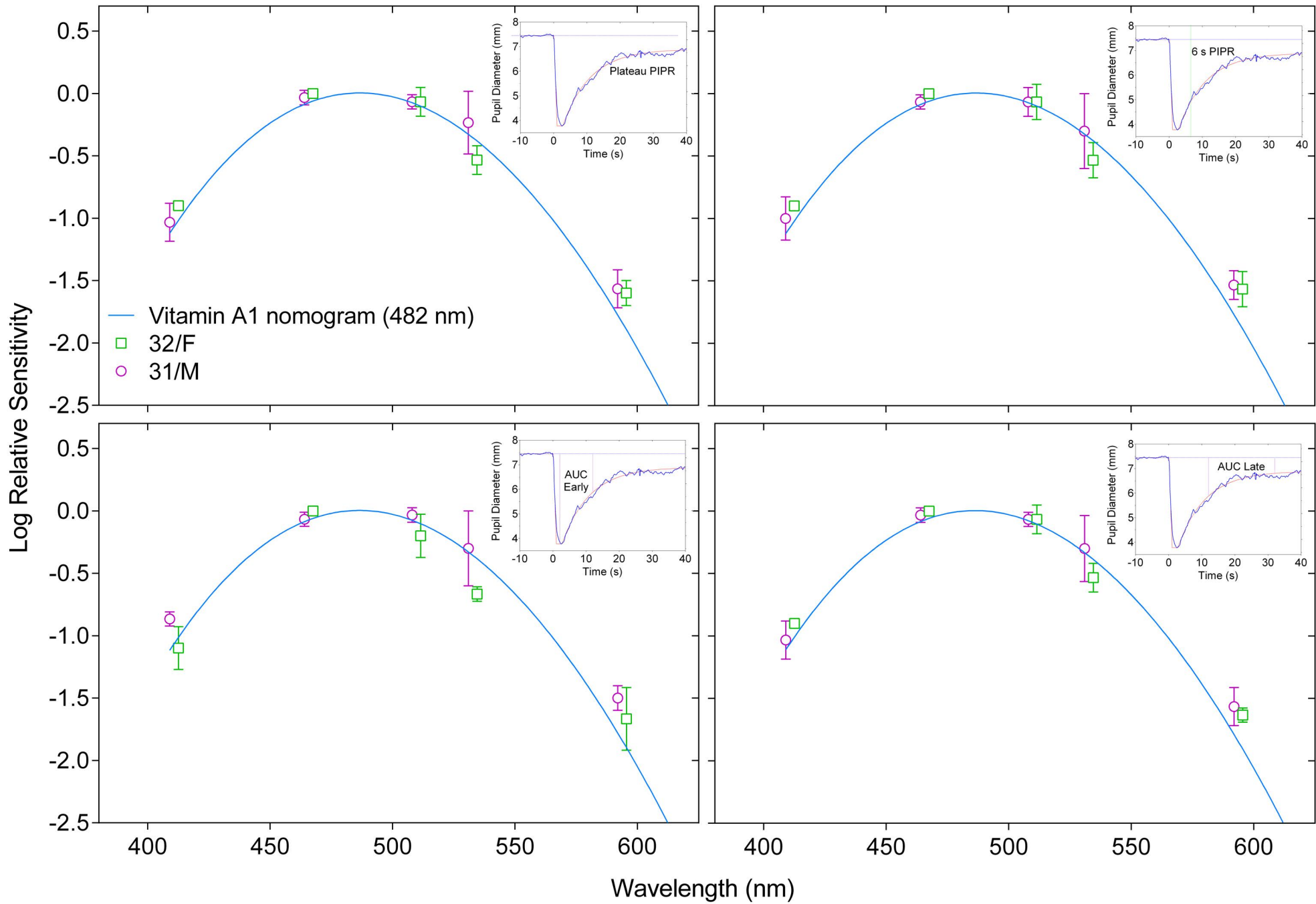
634 **Figure 8.** Intra-individual (upper two rows) and inter-individual (lower two rows) Coefficient  
635 of Variation (CV) of the PIPR metrics for short wavelength stimuli. The CVs for long  
636 wavelength stimuli (not shown) were similar. The traces joined by squares, triangles, and  
637 circles represent the data for 1 s, 10 s, and 30 s pulses in all panels. The data points with a CV  
638  $>1.0$  are not shown.

639

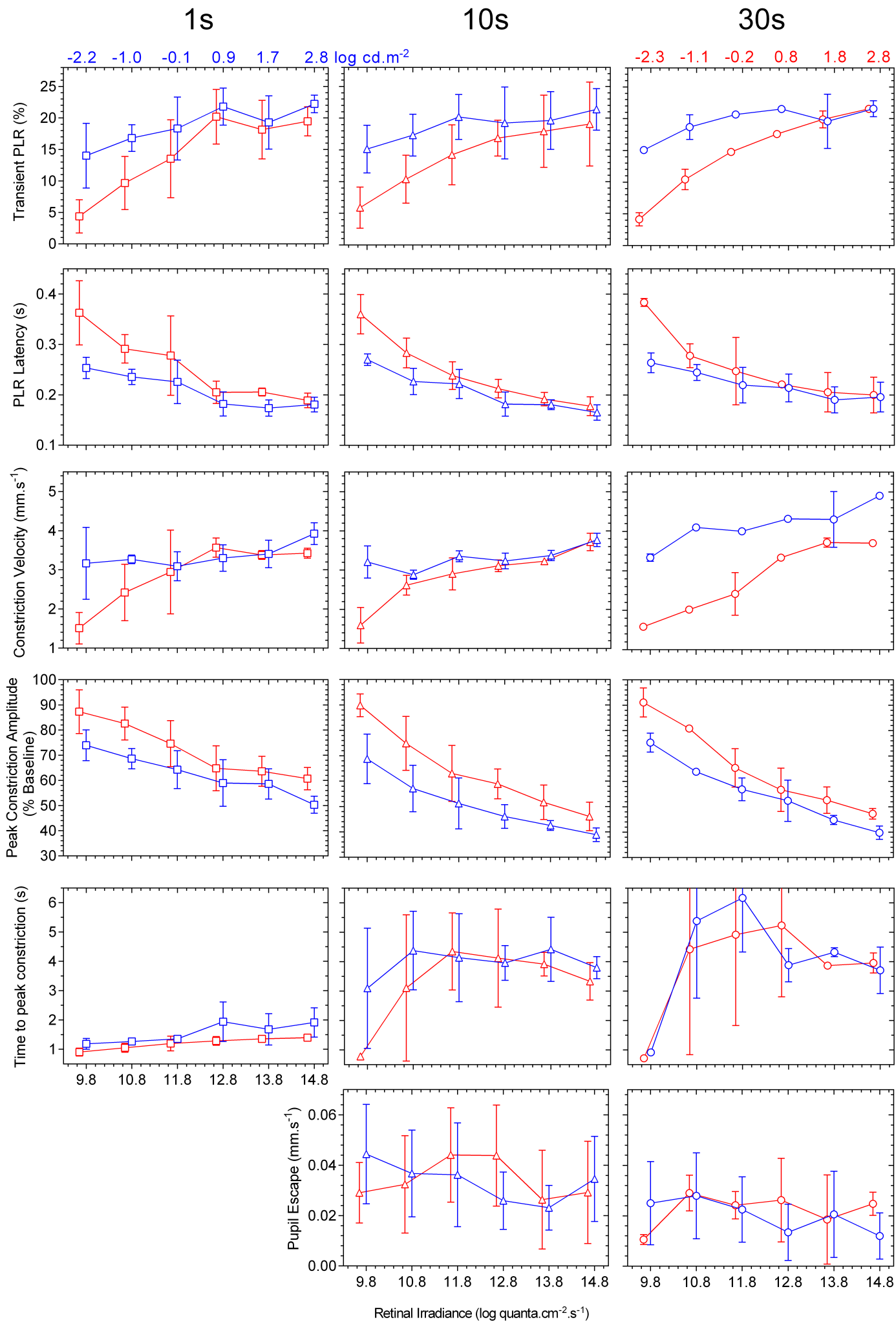








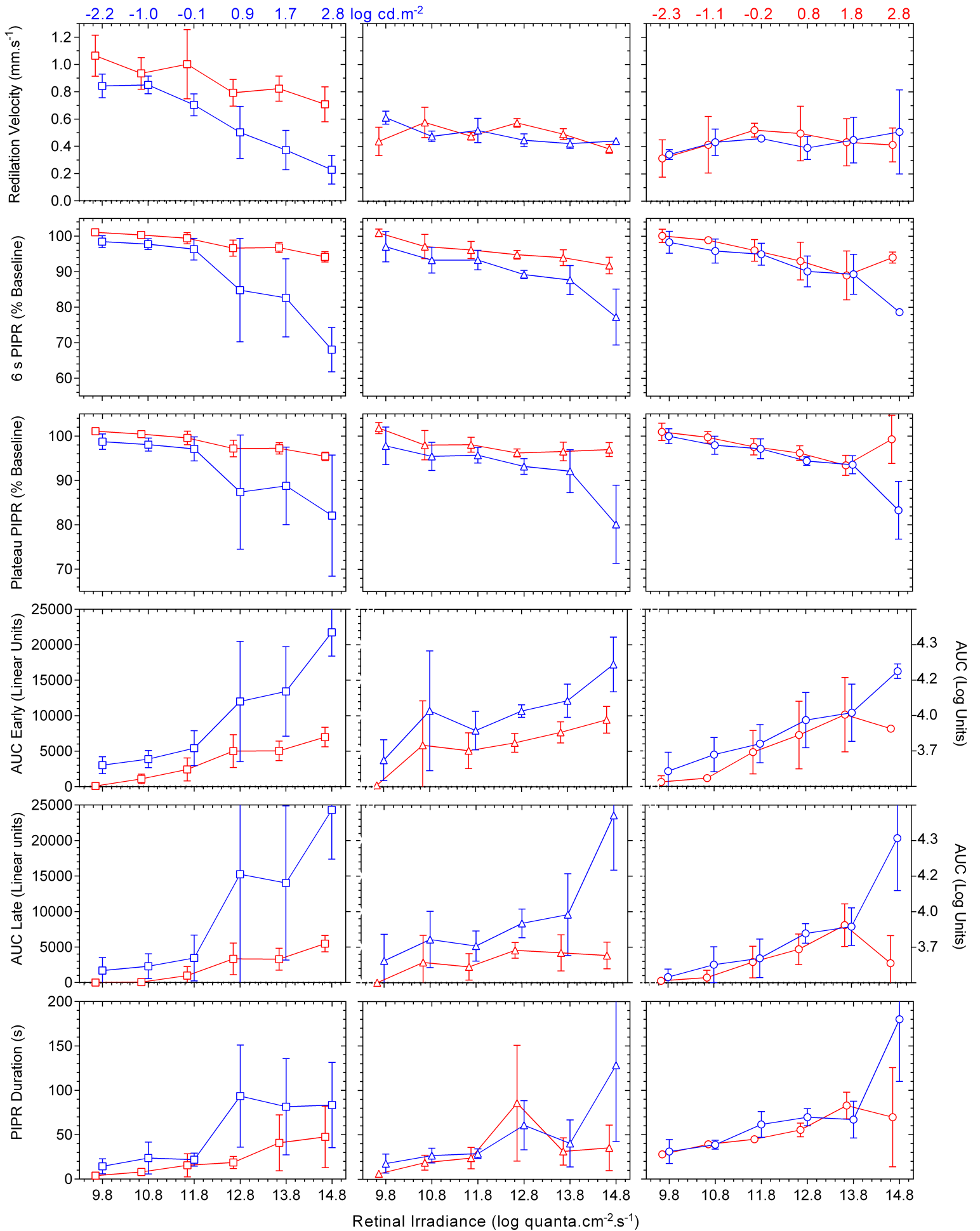


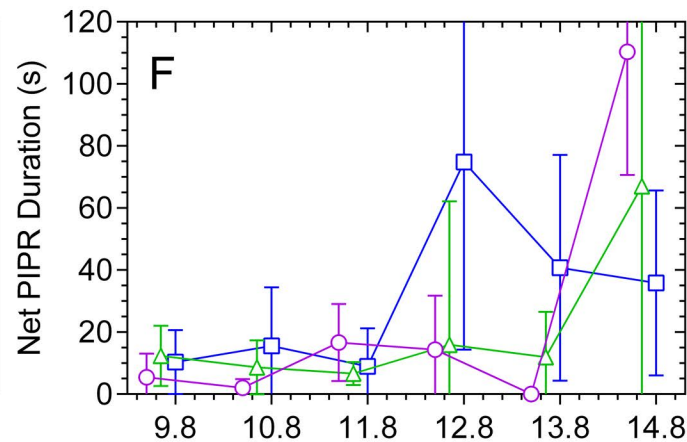
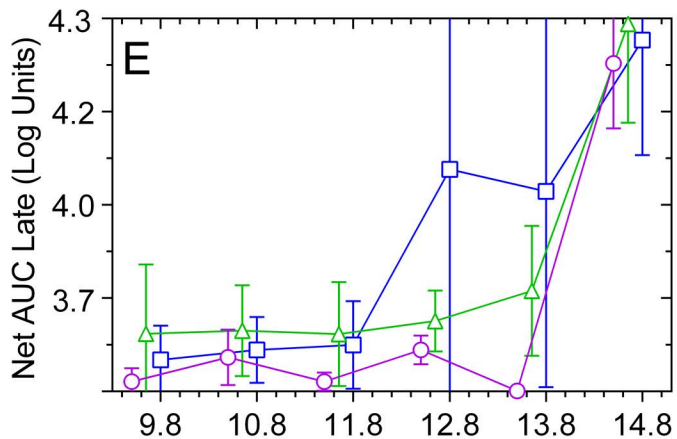
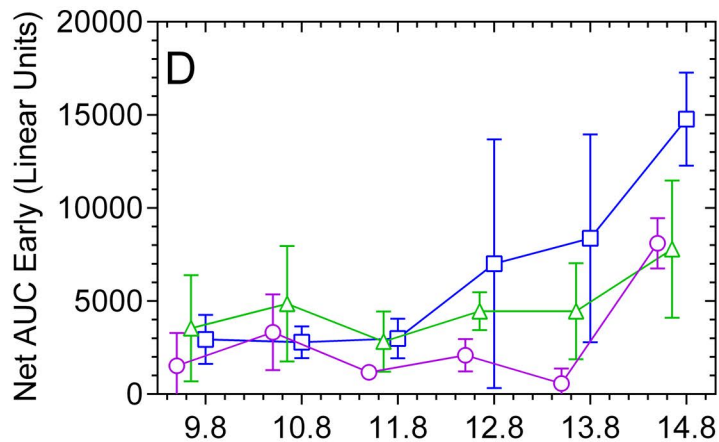
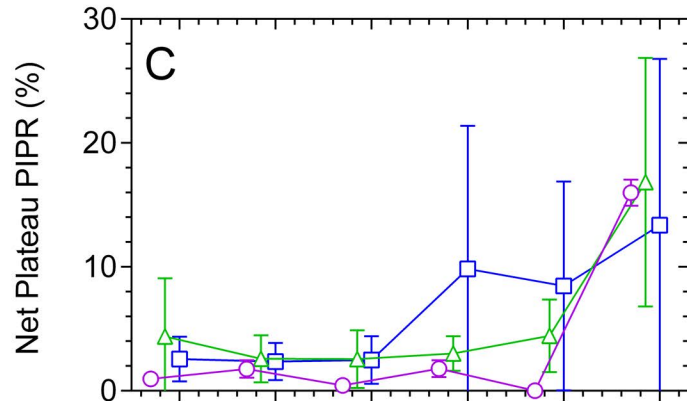
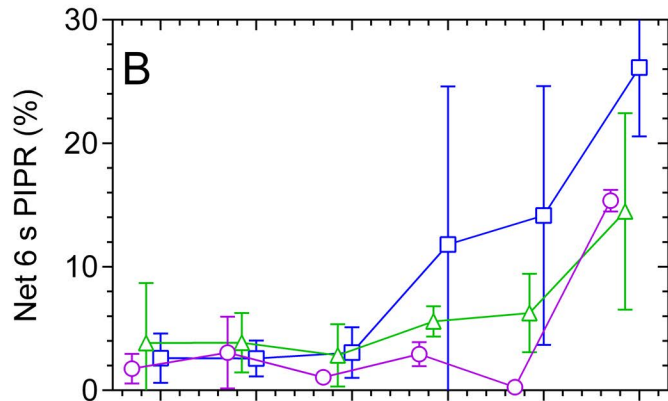
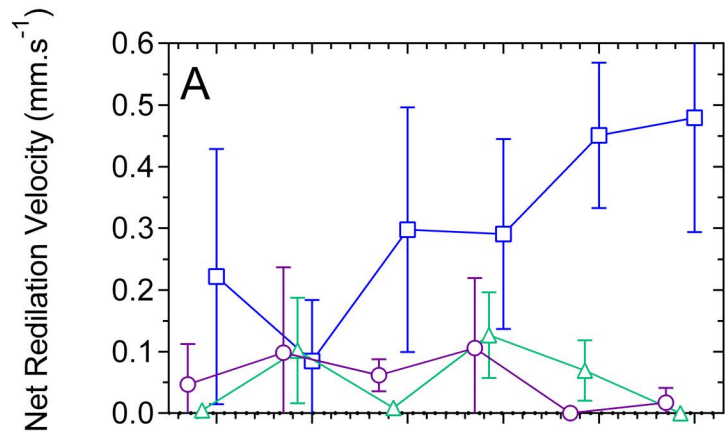


1s

10s

30s





Retinal Irradiance ( $\log \text{quanta}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ )

