



8<sup>th</sup> International  
LED professional Symposium + Expo  
Sept 25-27, 2018 | Bregenz

LpS 2018  
LED SYMPOSIUM  
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# Light flicker: A reasonable measurement method in view

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Der Lichtpeter

# Content

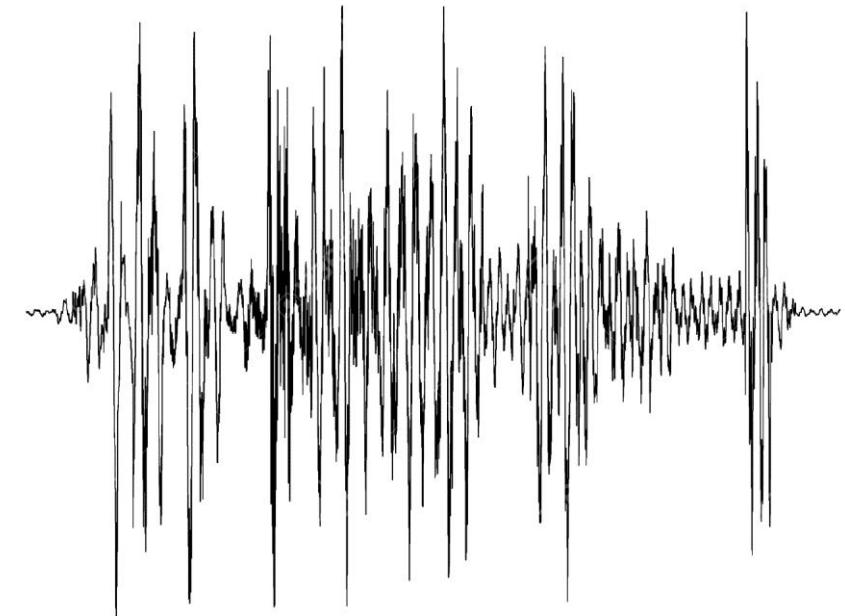


## □ Light: Classification



## □ Measurement of modulation

- Current measuring methods,
- Their limitations
- Stroboscope- and phantom array effect
- Analysis examples



## □ Goal

- One single measuring value for all influences according to HCL
- → CFD, PstLM $\infty$  SVM

# Light: Classification



## Ideal *illuminating* (artificial) light...

- ... w/o modulation (like the sun)...
- ... requires capacitors



## Contrary: *Informative* light...

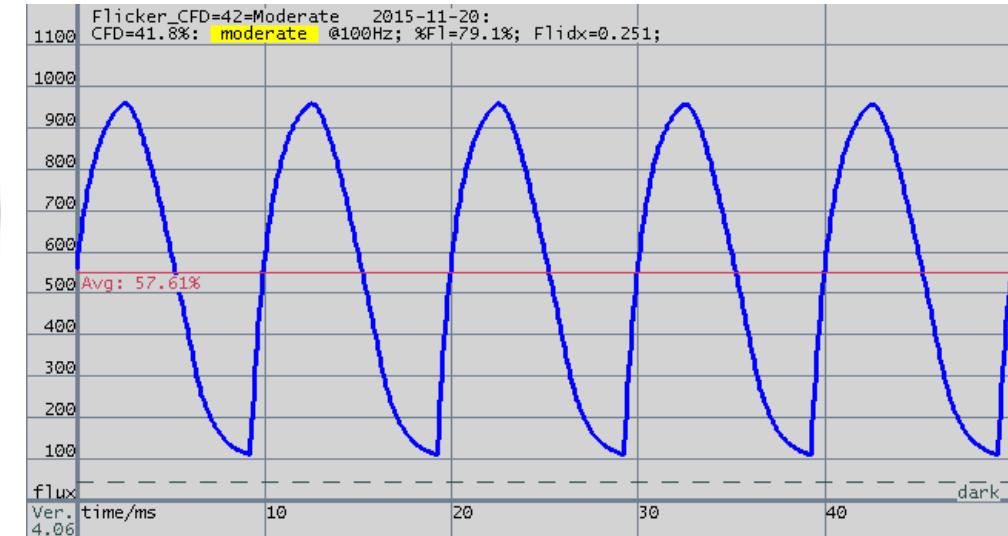
- ... has the information modulated:
- Any kind of screens
- Special-effect lighting
- ... wants effects on humans
- ... may exceed humans compatibility



# Light: Modulation

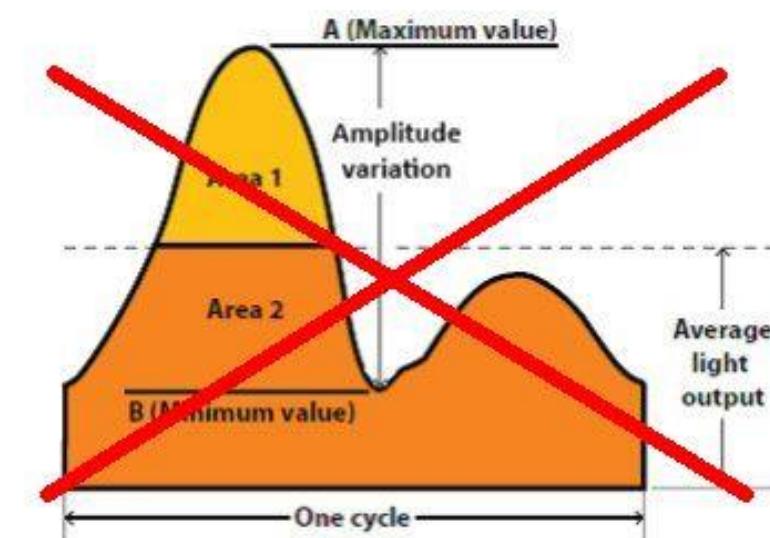


- Non-ideal artificial light...
  - ... contains modulation...
  - ... with effects on humans

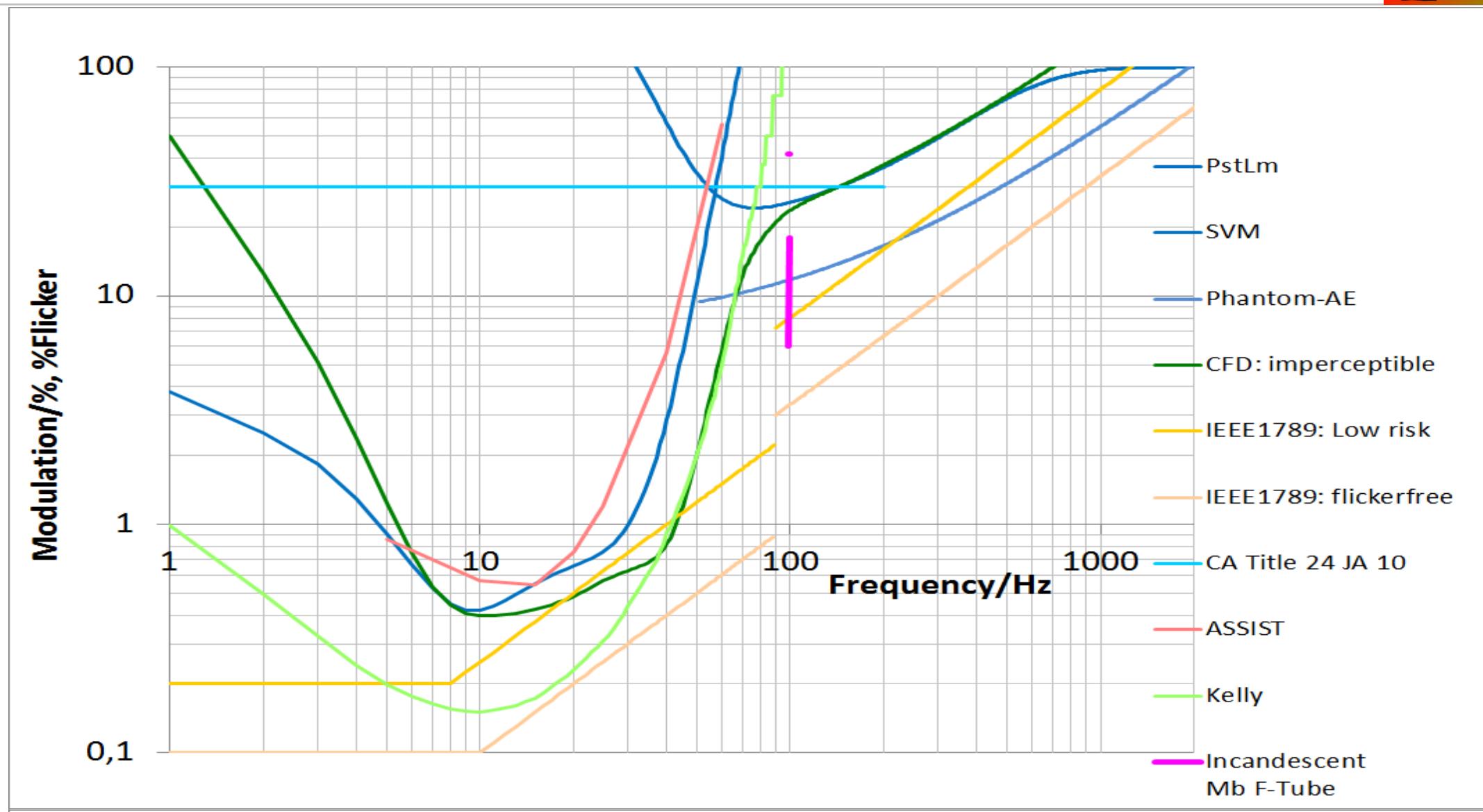


- Perception: different
  - - Directly visible flicker (flicker < 70 Hz)
  - - Non-directly Visible (stroboscopic) flicker (> 70 Hz)
  - - Phantom array effect
  - → CIE : Temporal Light Artefact (TLA)

- Measurement
  - - Only reasonable in frequency domain
  - - So not %Flicker und Flicker index



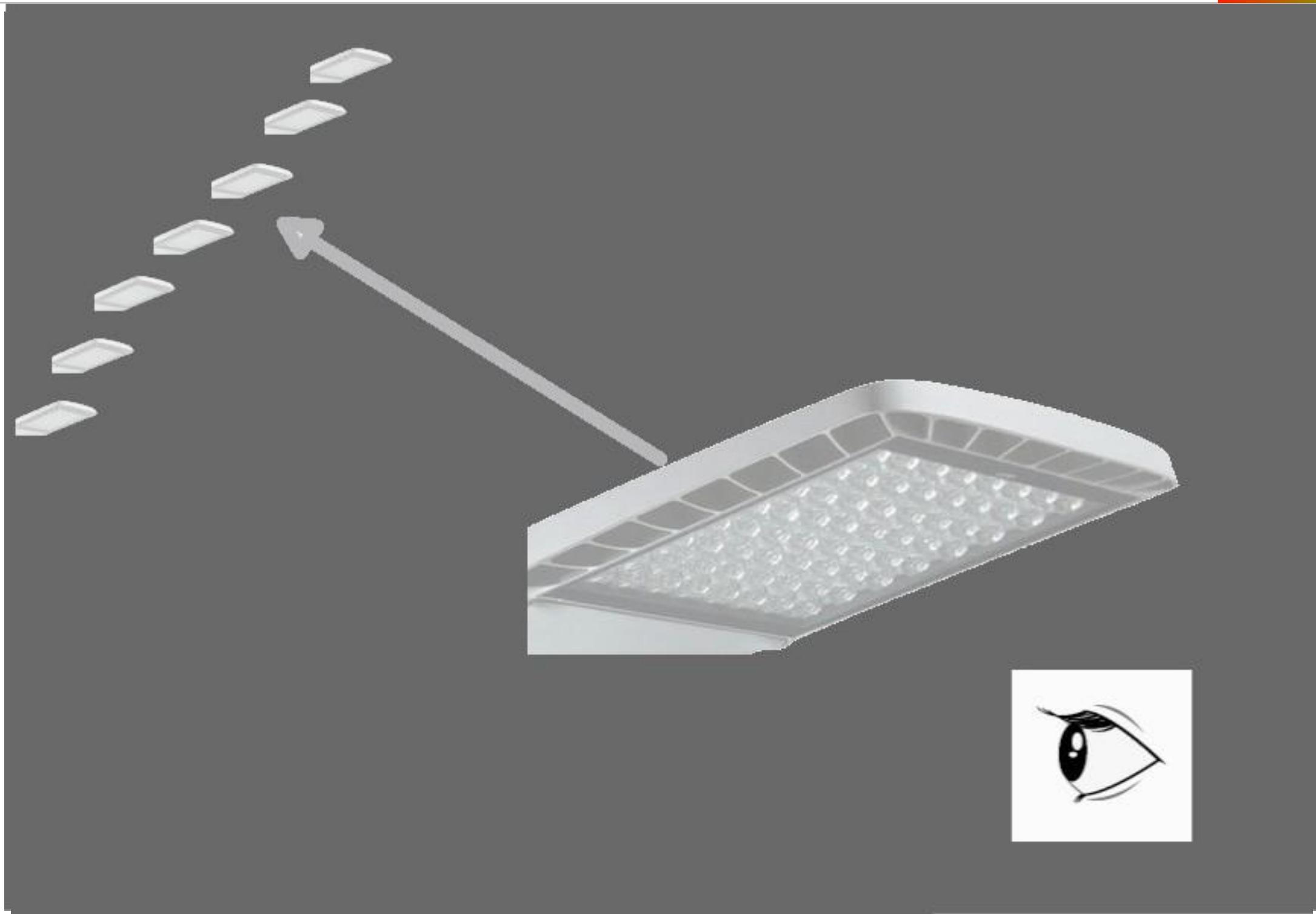
# Measurement frequency based



## □ Perceptibility thresholds

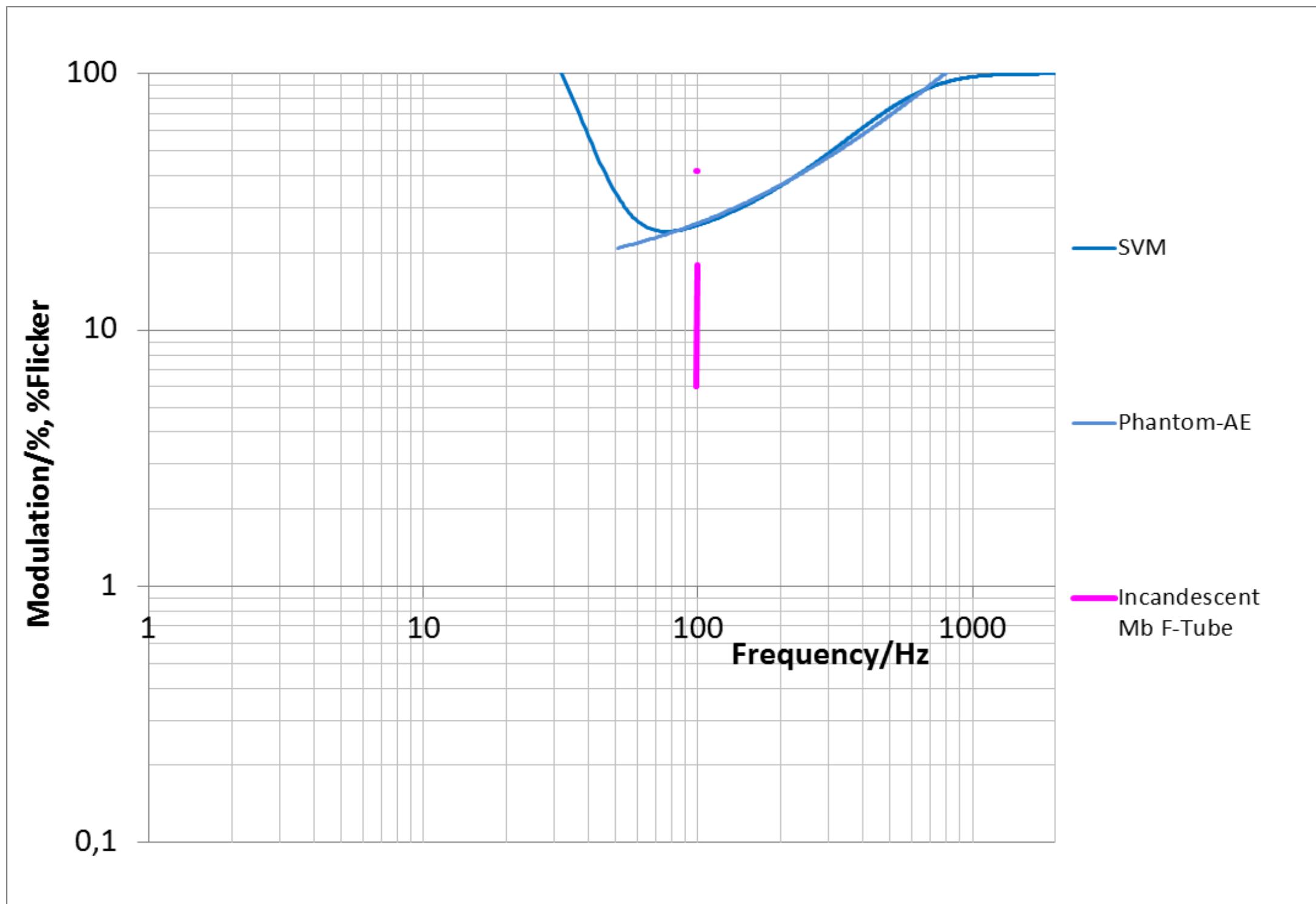
- CFD (2017):  $f_{25\%} = 110\text{Hz}$
  - CIE TN 006:2016
    - Flicker (PstLM based on IEC/TR 61547-1):  $f_{25\%} = 55\text{ Hz}$
    - Stroboscopic light (SVM)  $f_{25\%} = 95\text{ Hz}$ ;
    - Phantom array effect

# Stroboscopic and phantom array effect



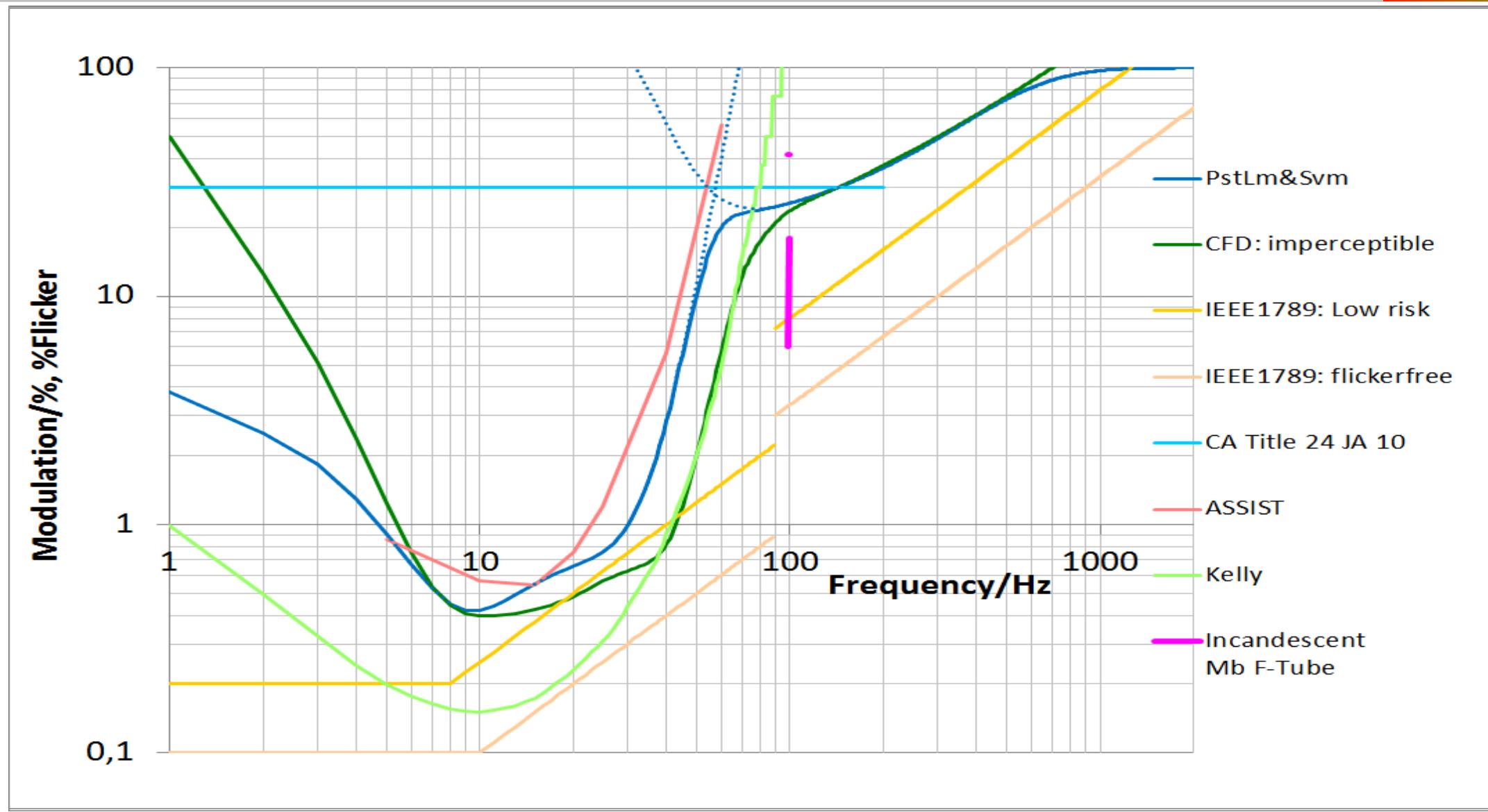
## □ Phantom array effect

# Stroboscopic and phantom array effect



□ Phantom array effect → Stroboscopic effect

# PstLM and SVM



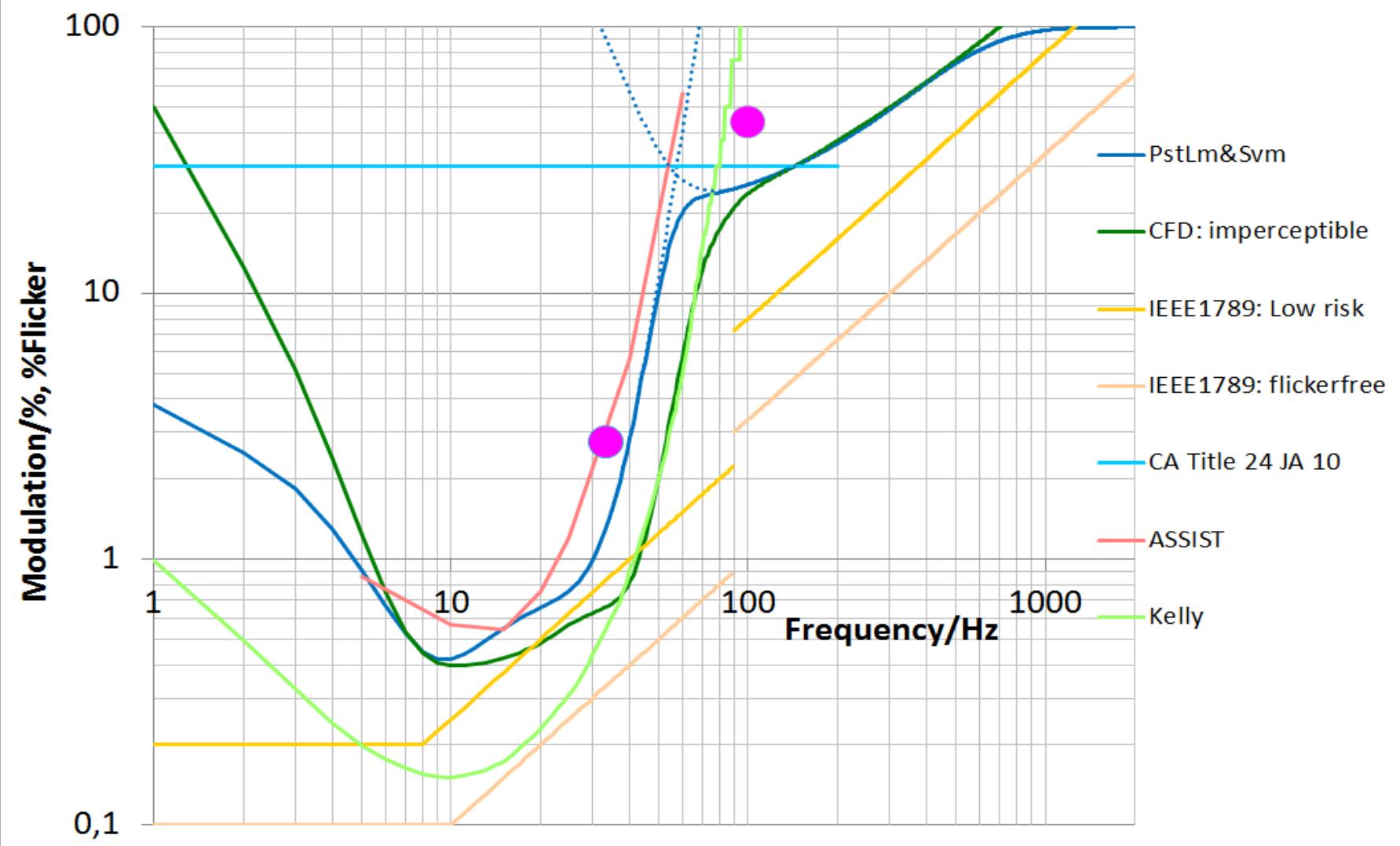
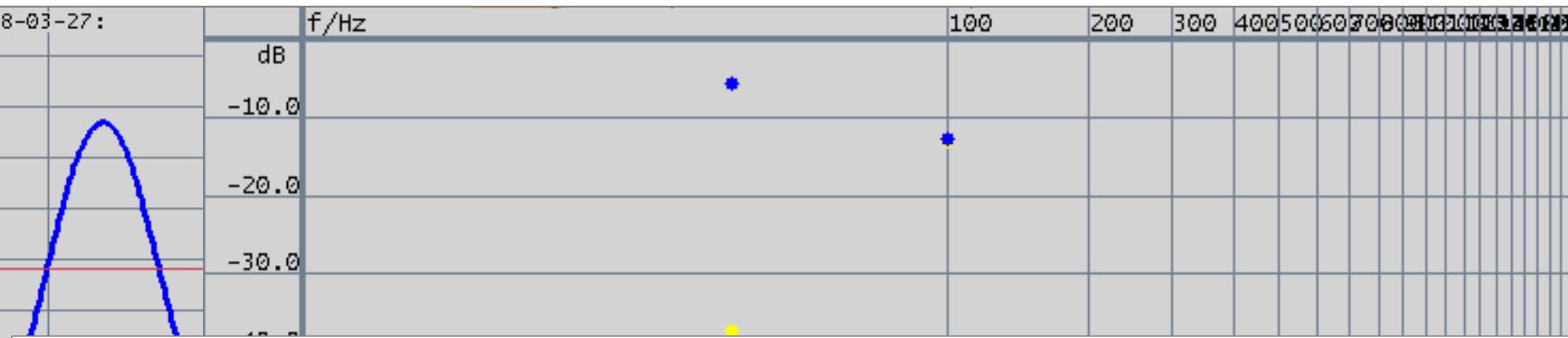
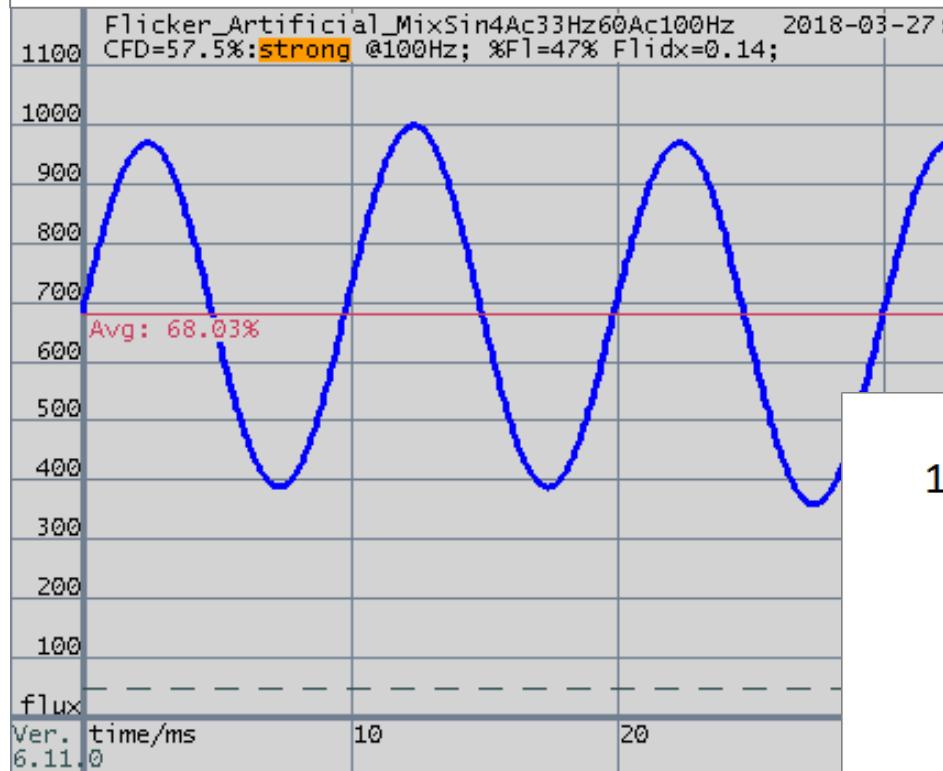
## □ Combination of PstLM and SVM

- After merging SVM and phantom array effect:
- Goal: Merging of PstLM and SVM: Removing the discontinuity at 60..70 Hz.
- Replacing IEC Pst method into PstLM using SVM formula with new weighting curve.
- **Merge each weighting factor  $W(f_{PstLM})$  and  $W(f_{SVM})$  via vector-p-norm with  $p = -1.5$ .**
- → PstLM & SVM: Frequency range from 1 Hz to 2 kHz in a **single measuring value**.

# Examples... No. 1



**Sin 33 Hz, MD=2,8% added with Sin 100 Hz, MD=44%**

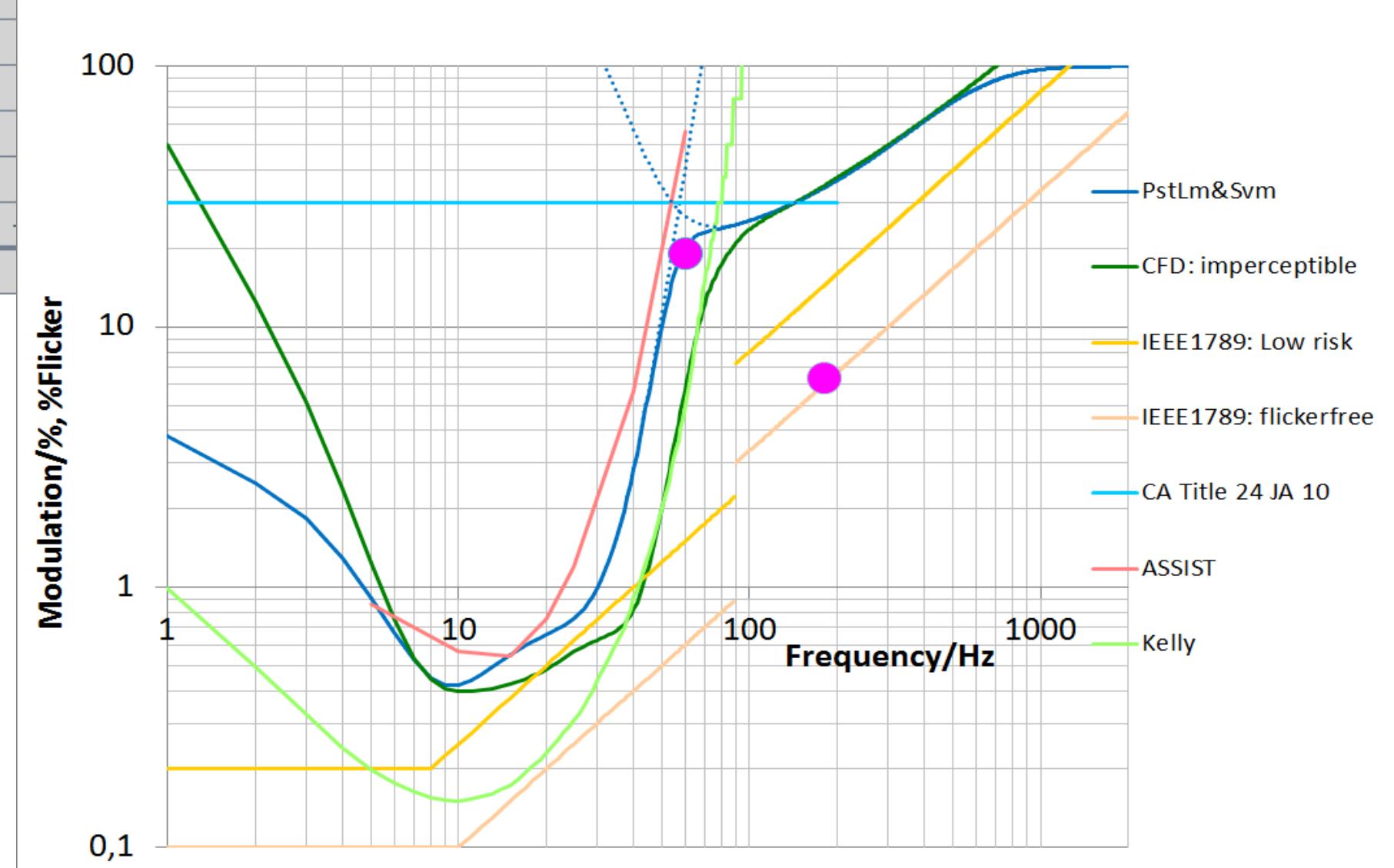
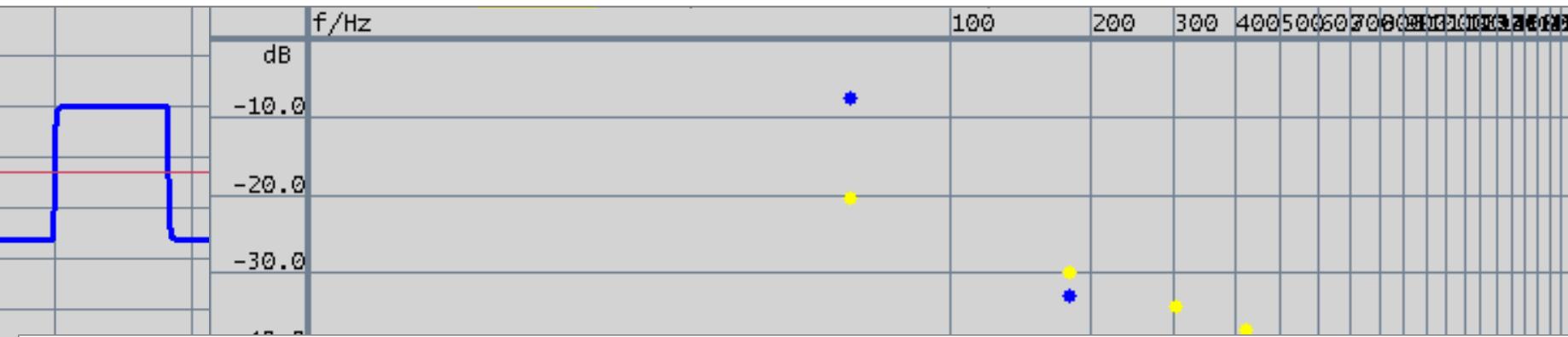
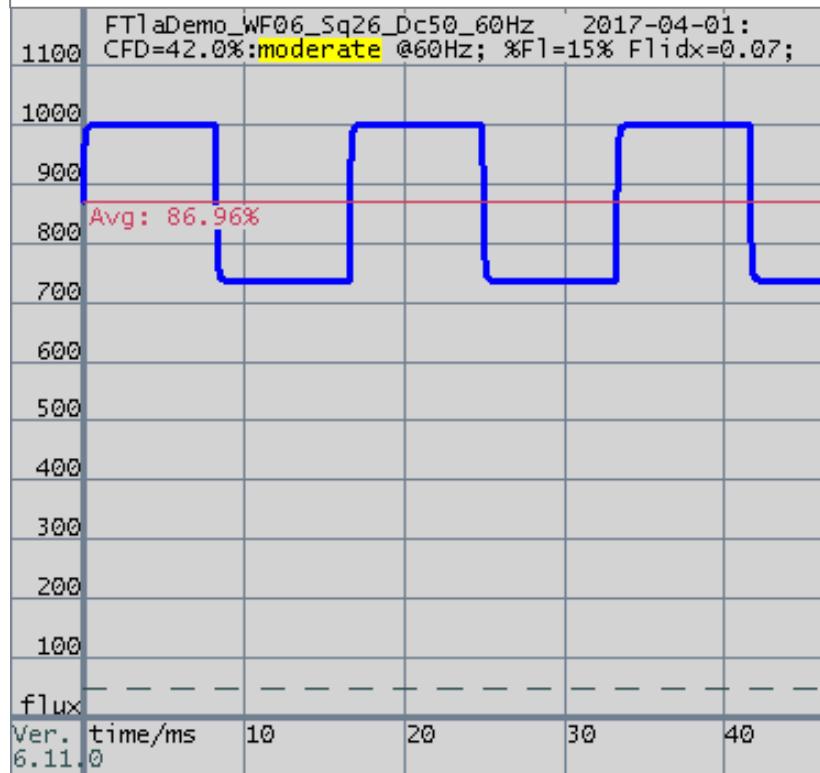


**CFD = 57 %**  
**PstLM = 2.18;**  
**SVM = 1.72;**  
**PstLM & SVM = 2.40**

# Examples... No. 2



Square, 60 Hz, DC=50%, MD=15%

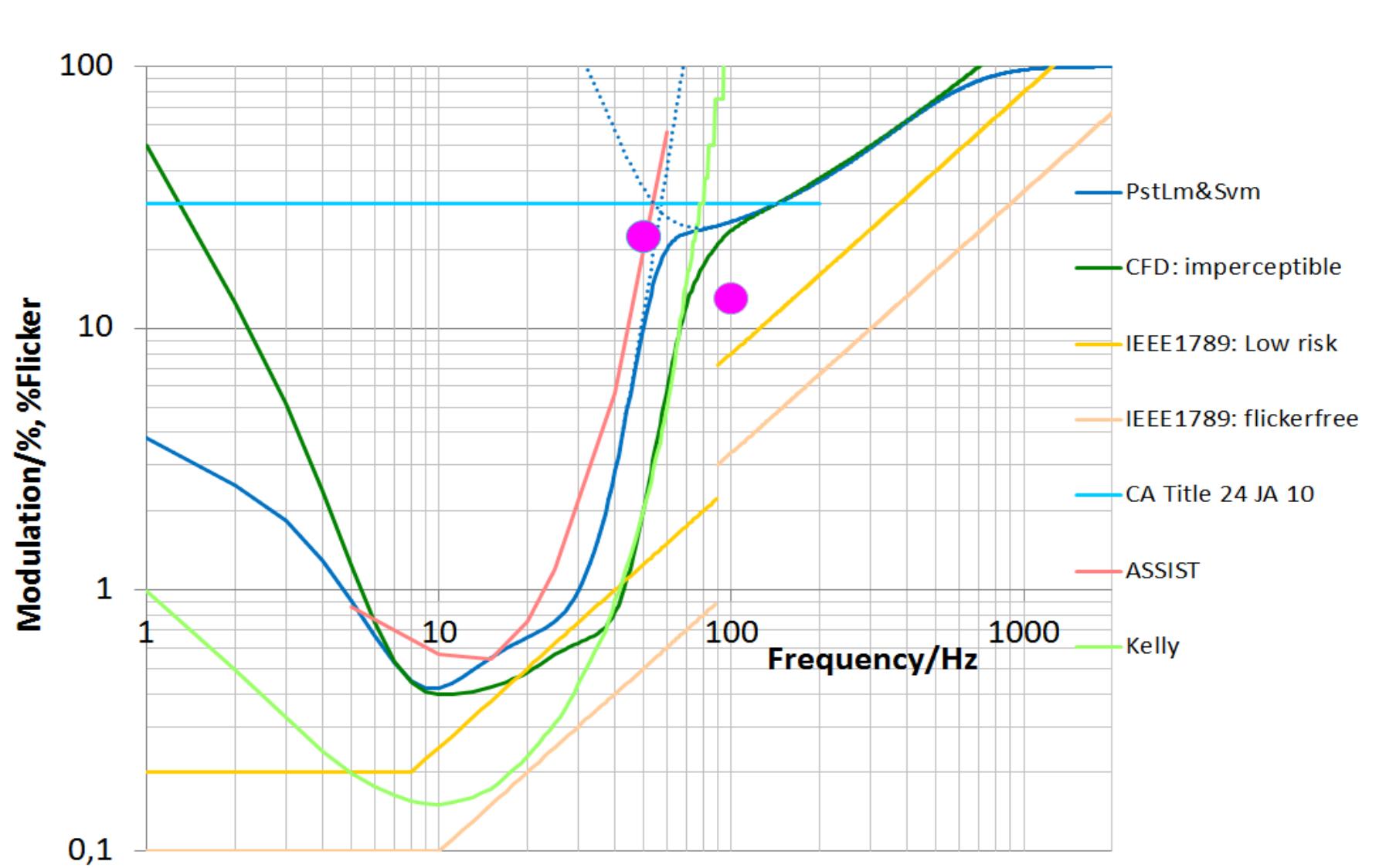
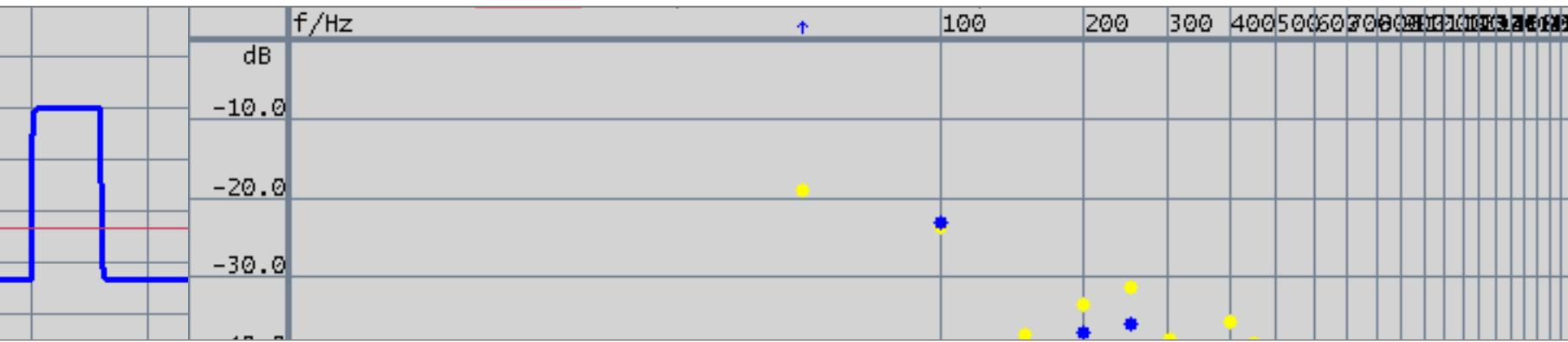
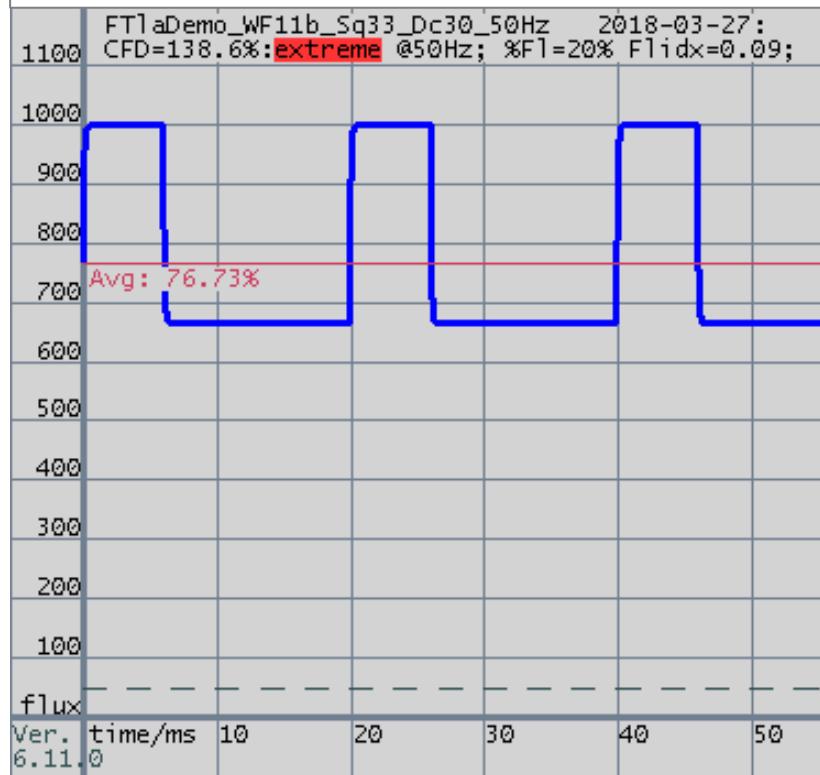


**CFD = 42 %**  
**PstLM = 0.48;**  
**SVM = 0.72;**  
**PstLM & SVM = 0.96**

# Examples... No. 3



Square, 50 Hz, DC=30%, MD=20%

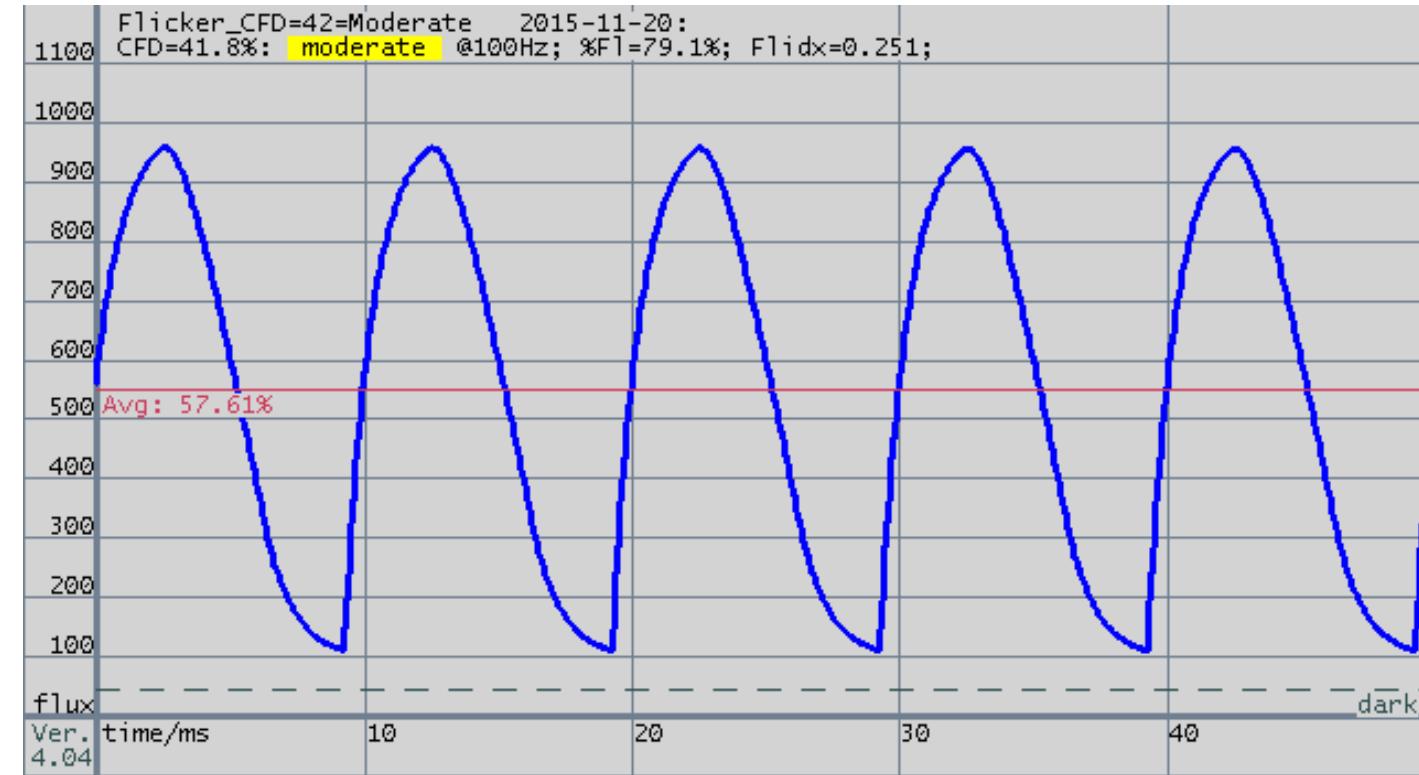


**CFD = 139 %**  
**PstLM = 1.98;**  
**SVM = 0.72;**  
**PstLM & SVM = 2.22**



# Assessment

## Signal at 100 Hz



<input type="checkbox"/>	CFD	PstLM& <b>SVM</b> (graph)	Effect	
<input type="checkbox"/>	0 ... 1%	0 ... 0,1	(0.0)	None
<input type="checkbox"/>	1% ... 12%	0.1 ... 1	(0.4)	Not perceptible
<input type="checkbox"/>	12% ... 25%	1 ... 2	(1.5)	Acceptable (i. e. MB-FLT)
<input type="checkbox"/>	25% ... 50%	2 ... 4	(3.1)	Moderate
<input type="checkbox"/>	50% ... 75%	4 ... 6	(4.8)	Strong (Strobe effect)
<input type="checkbox"/>	> 75%	> 6	(8.0)	Extreme (Strobe effect)



# Other aspects

- Dimming
  - Whether leading edge, trailing edge, PWM (also spread spectrum):  
Multiple measurement dimmed: worst value → Final value
- Control gears
  - Testing in conjunction with specified load
- Mains flicker
  - Stimulation on the DUT, reference: 60W incandescent bulb
- Camera applications, barcode scanners
  - ... and other technical cross influences: special aspect
- Other beings
  - ... like birds, nocturnal animals: MD<50%, TLA<1.5, CFD<25%

# Consequence

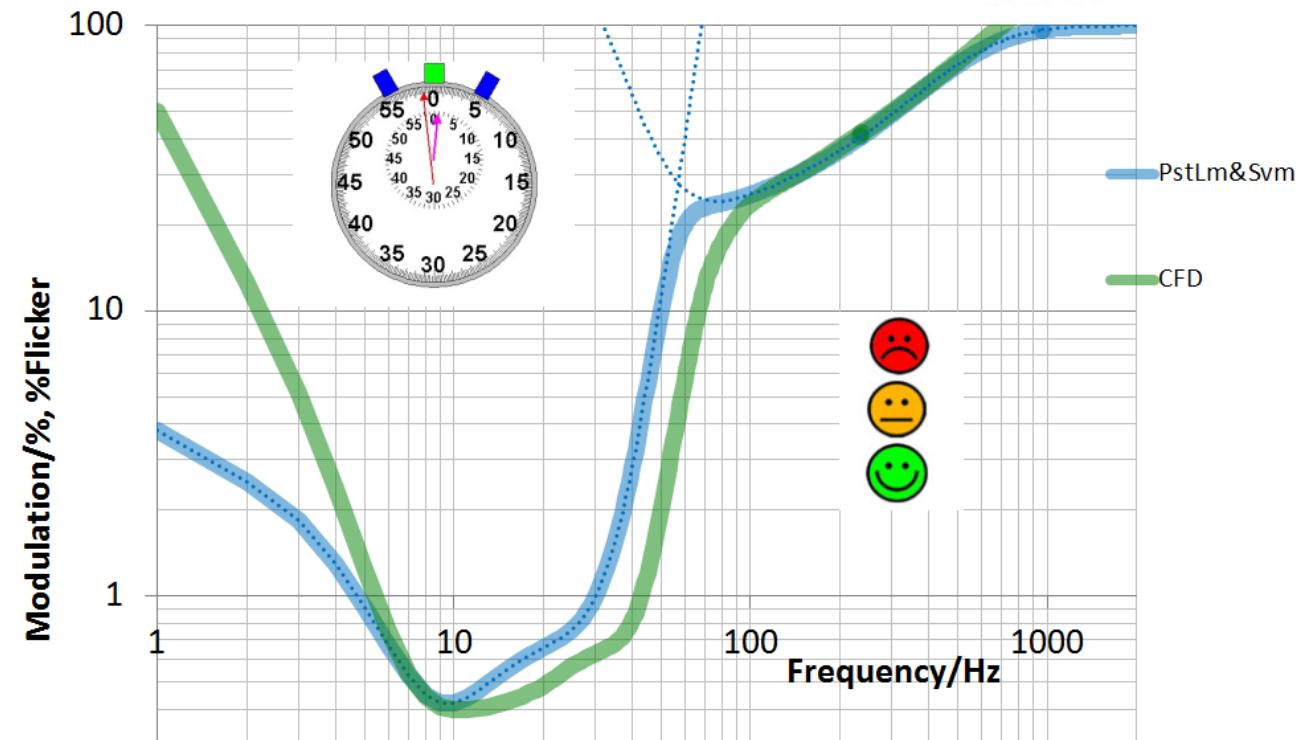


## □ Light modulation measurement requires...

- Sampling **>20 kHz** & capt. for **1s**.
- FFT with 1 Hz resolution.
- Frequency weighting  
@ 1 Hz ..  $\geq 2$  kHz.
- Summation to single result,  
allowing easy assessment.

## □ 2 possible measuring methods...

- ... - CFD.
- ... - PstLM combined with SVM → TLA.
- ... → communicable in the technical data.
- ... → eligible for standard limits.





We have listened to:

## **Light flicker: A reasonable measurement method in view**

Thank you for your attention.

→ Discussion

**Dipl.-Ing. (DH) Peter Erwin**

Der Lichtpeter

<https://www.derlichtpeter.de/>

Literature (EuP-Proposal for the new EU Eco-Design Directive):

[http://www.eup-network.de/fileadmin/user\\_upload/Lichtquellen\\_Flimmern\\_Erwin\\_2017\\_10\\_EN.pdf](http://www.eup-network.de/fileadmin/user_upload/Lichtquellen_Flimmern_Erwin_2017_10_EN.pdf)