A NEW, MORE USER-FRIENDLY DIGITAL COLOUR PICKER?
“The colour picker in all major software is crude and unhelpful to understanding, using and applying colour creatively”

professor Jan Koederink, University of Leuven, the Netherlands.
A TRADITIONAL COLOUR PICKER (MICROSOFT OFFICE)
THE "KOLORPICKER"
Kolorpicker: with the second tool bar; the user moves into the globe, gradually closer to the middle grey
With the top tool bar, you can adjust the number of gradients, from very few to endlessness.
THE STUDY

• Colour naïve subjects searched for 4 specific colours in a traditional colour picker and in Kolorpicker

• Both efficiency (search-time) and accuracy (ability to find a specific colour) was measured

• 24 American students and 10 retired swedes

• Nov- Dec 2018
THE 4 COLOURS, SHOWN ONE AT A TIME

RGB 0,0,255  RGB 255,85,85  RGB 80,62,25  RGB 149,126,142
RESULTS – ALL USERS

- Kolorpicker gives **better accuracy** + requires **less time** for two of the four colours

- For one colour the two applications **perform equally well**

- For the last colour the result is **ambiguous**
RESULTS – BEGINNERS

• The same tendencies as for the whole group; it speaks in favour of Kolorpicker in the first 3 colours

• In colour 4, Microsoft comes out much stronger
RESULTS – HEAVY USERS

• (Less than a handful subjects)

• Spent considerably more time on Kolormondo - that was new to them - than in Microsoft

• More unexpected, accuracy was much better in Kolormondo for the first 3 colours
WHAT SUBJECTS SAID
RYERSON SUBJECTS

• “For Kolorpicker, the process was so much easier and user-friendly”
• “Both colour pickers had their difficulties. Microsoft depended on sliders, which was inefficient, while Kolorpicker had a “larger” variety of choice, so it took longer to find the accurate colour.”
• “It was very easy to find the colours using the Kolorpicker, rather than trying to visualize what changes RGB will produce. It is better to visually see a model of colour.”
WHAT SUBJECTS SAID

“All participants thought that Kolormondo was easier to use versus Microsoft Word and would prefer when using a color picker to see colors within a spherical/global shape”

CLEMSON TEACHER