Thesis Proposal for the Master's Degree in Physics

Title: The psychophysics of Mona Lisa's

Abstract (max 10 lines):
Psychophysics quantifies the relationship between physical stimuli and perceptual experiences by measuring how changes in stimulus properties affect perceptual responses. Using the psychophysical method of magnitude estimation (where participants rate the intensity of a stimulus on a numerical scale), Soranzo (2024) discovered that Mona Lisa's perceived level of contentment strongly depends on how a small area around her mouth—referred to as 'Ambiguity Nuance'—is perceptually organized. Building on these findings, this project aims to investigate how manipulations of the area around the eyes influence the perceived expression of Mona Lisa. Thirty-two participants will be asked to rate the perceived level of contentment in reproductions of the painting, in which the region around the eyes will be systematically manipulated to alter its perceptual organization.

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Laboratory where the thesis is carried out: Cubo 17/B

Any participating external structures:

Type of thesis:
• compilation
• research:
      specify if • experimental X• theoretical or • data analysis