Erratum

A clarification of “some conjectures on the design of a rod outer segment”

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On p. 360, α is given as 0.016 (Harosi 1975). This is the peak value of the specific optical density ($OD/\mu m$) of Bufo red rods. In my Eq. (1), α is the product (absorption cross section $\times$ rhodopsin concentration) averaged over 400–600 nm, the expected operating range of these rods. The precise value of α (using Fig. 7 of Harosi 1975 for averaging) should be

$$2.303 \times 0.016 \times 0.55 = 0.02 \text{ approx.}$$

With this value of α the optimum length is

$$s = 62.5 \mu m \text{ approx.}$$

The essential conclusions remain the same.