Lenses and Imaging (Part I)

- Why is imaging necessary: Huygen's principle
 - Spherical & parallel ray bundles, points at infinity
- Refraction at spherical surfaces (paraxial approximation)
- Optical power and imaging condition
- Matrix formulation of geometrical optics
- The thin lens
- Surfaces of positive/negative power
- Real and virtual images

Parabloid mirror: perfect focusing

(e.g. satellite dish)



Lens: main instrument for image formation



The curved surface makes the rays bend proportionally to their distance from the "optical axis", according to Snell's law. Therefore, the divergent wavefront becomes convergent at the right-hand (output) side.

Why are focusing instruments necessary?

- Ray bundles: spherical waves and plane waves
- Point sources and point images
- Huygens principle and why we can see around us
- The role of classical imaging systems



Huygens principle



Each point on the wavefront acts as a secondary light source emitting a spherical wave

The wavefront after a short propagation distance is the result of superimposing all these spherical wavelets

Why are focusing instruments necessary?



Why are focusing instruments necessary?



Ideal lens



Each point source from the object plane focuses onto a point image at the image plane; <u>NOTE</u> the image inversion

Summary: Why are imaging systems needed?

- Each point in an object scatters the incident illumination into a spherical wave, according to the Huygens principle.
- A few microns away from the object surface, the rays emanating from all object points become entangled, delocalizing object details.
- To relocalize object details, a method must be found to reassign ("focus") all the rays that emanated from a single point object into another point in space (the "image.")
- The latter function is the topic of the discipline of Optical Imaging.



The ideal optical imaging system



<u>each</u> point in the object is mapped onto a <u>single</u> point in the image

Real imaging systems introduce blur ...

Focus, defocus and blur



Focus, defocus and blur



Why optical systems do *not* focus perfectly

- <u>Diffraction</u>
- <u>Aberrations</u>
- However, in the paraxial approximation to Geometrical Optics that we are about to embark upon, optical systems do focus perfectly
- To deal with aberrations, we need non-paraxial Geometrical Optics (higher order approximations)
- To deal with diffraction, we need Wave Optics

Ideal lens



Each point source from the object plane focuses onto a point image at the image plane

Refraction at single spherical surface



Paraxial approximation /1

• In paraxial optics, we make heavy use of the following approximate (1st order Taylor) expressions:

 $\sin \varepsilon \approx \varepsilon \approx \tan \varepsilon$ $\cos \varepsilon \approx 1$

$$\sqrt{1+\varepsilon} \approx 1 + \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon$$

where ε is the angle between a ray and the optical axis, and is a small number ($\varepsilon \langle \langle 1 \text{ rad} \rangle$). The range of validity of this approximation typically extends up to ~10-30 degrees, depending on the desired degree of accuracy. This regime is also known as "Gaussian optics" or "paraxial optics."

Note the assumption of existence of an optical axis (*i.e.*, perfect alignment!)

Paraxial approximation /2



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Refraction at spherical surface



Propagation in uniform space



Paraxial ray-tracing



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Translation+refraction+translation /1



Starting ray: location x_0 direction α_0 Translation through distance D_{01} (+ direction): $\begin{cases} x_1 = x_0 + D_{01}\alpha_0 \\ \alpha_1 = \alpha_0 \end{cases}$

Refraction at positive spherical surface:

$$\alpha_1' = \frac{n}{n'} \alpha_1 - \left[\frac{(n'-n)}{n'R}\right] x_1$$

1

Translation+refraction+translation /2



Put together:

Translation+refraction+translation /3



Sign conventions for refraction

- Light travels from left to right
- A radius of curvature is positive if the surface is convex towards the left
- Longitudinal distances are positive if pointing to the right
- Lateral distances are positive if pointing up
- Ray angles are positive if the ray direction is obtained by rotating the +z axis counterclockwise through an acute angle



On-axis image formation



On-axis image formation



All rays emanating at x_0 arrive at x_2 irrespective of departure angle α_0



$$x_{2} = \left[\cdots\right] x_{0} + \left[D_{01} + \frac{nD_{12}}{n'} - \frac{(n'-n)D_{01}D_{12}}{n'R}\right] \alpha_{0}$$

On-axis image formation



All rays emanating at x_0 arrive at x_2 irrespective of departure angle α_0





Off-axis image formation



Magnification: lateral (off-axis), angle



Lateral
$$m_x = \frac{x_2}{x_0} = \frac{n - n'}{R} \frac{D_{12}}{n'} + 1 = \dots = -\frac{n}{n'} \frac{D_{12}}{D_{01}}$$

Angle $m_\alpha = \frac{\Delta \alpha_2}{\Delta \alpha_0} = -\frac{D_{01}}{D_{12}}$

Object-image transformation



$$x_2 = m_x x_0$$
$$\alpha_2 = -\frac{1}{f'} x_0 + m_\alpha \alpha_0$$

Ray-tracing transformation (paraxial) between object and image points

Image of point object at infinity



Image of point object at infinity



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Point object imaged at infinity



Point object imaged at infinity



Image / object focal lengths



Matrix formulation /1



Matrix formulation /2

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_{\text{out}} &= M_{11}\alpha_{\text{in}} + M_{12}x_{\text{in}} \\ x_{\text{out}} &= M_{21}\alpha_{\text{in}} + M_{22}x_{\text{in}} \end{aligned} \qquad \begin{pmatrix} n_{\text{out}}\alpha_{\text{out}} \\ x_{\text{out}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} M_{11} & M_{12} \\ M_{21} & M_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} n\alpha_{\text{in}} \\ x_{\text{in}} \end{pmatrix}$$

Refraction by spherical surface

$$x_{1}' = x_{1}$$

$$\alpha_{1}' = \frac{n}{n'}\alpha_{1} + \left[\frac{(n-n')}{n'R}\right]x_{1}$$

$$\binom{n'\alpha_{1}}{x_{1}'} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\begin{pmatrix} n'-n \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} n\alpha_{1} \\ x_{1} \end{pmatrix}$$
Translation through uniform medium

$$x_{1} = x_{0} + D_{01}\alpha_{0} \qquad \begin{pmatrix} n\alpha_{1} \\ x_{1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ D_{01} & 1 \\ x_{0} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} n\alpha_{0} \\ x_{0} \end{pmatrix}$$

Translation+refraction+translation



Thin lens in air



Objective: specify input-output relationship



Model: refraction from first (positive) surface + refraction from second (negative) surface

Ignore space in-between (thin lens approx.)

Thin lens in air



Thin lens in air





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Thin lens in air

Thin lens in air

The power of surfaces

• Positive power bends rays "inwards"

• Negative power bends rays "outwards"

