

Raytracing

- Approches:
 - Paraxial tracing (assume small angle to optical axis)
 - Computer tracing (no approximations). Example: Zemax, Oslo,...
- Design procedure
 - Find existing design close to what could work
 - Paraxial trace with ray diagram
 - Calculate magnification, limiting apertures
 - Optimize with ABCD matrices or computer program
 - Analyze aberrations

ABCD ray matrices

- Formalism to propagate rays through optical systems
 - Keep track of ray height r and ray angle $\theta = dr/dz = r'$
 - Treat this pair as a vector: $\begin{pmatrix} r \\ r' \end{pmatrix}$
 - Optical system will modify both the ray height and angle, e.g.

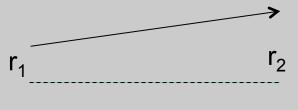
$$\begin{pmatrix} r_2 \\ r'_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} r_1 \\ r'_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Successive ABCD matrices multiply from the left
- Translation

 $r_2 = r_2$

 $r_{2}' = r_{1}$

$$\dot{r}_{1}^{+} L r_{1}^{\prime} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & L \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



Refraction in ABCD

- Translation: $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & L \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$
- Flat interface

n₁

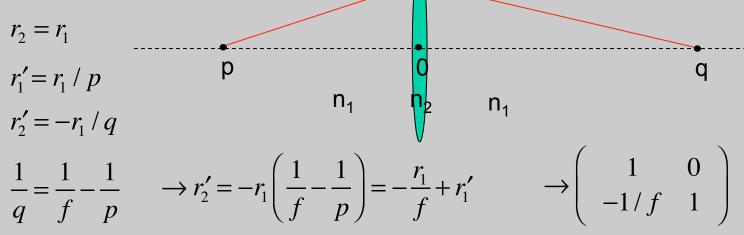
 n_2

• Window: calculate matrix

$$\rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & L \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/n \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & L/n \\ 0 & 1/n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & L/n \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
Effective thickness reduced by *n*

Curved surfaces in ABCD

 Thin lens: matrix computes transition from one side of lens to other

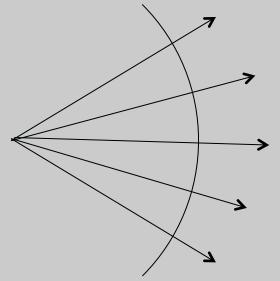


• Spherical interface: radius R

$$\rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 0 \\ \frac{n_1 - n_2}{n_2} \frac{1}{R} & \frac{n_1}{n_2} \end{array}\right)$$

Curved wavefronts

- Rays are directed normal to surfaces of constant phase
 - These surfaces are the wavefronts
 - Radius of curvature is approximately at the focal point



• Spherical waves are solutions to the wave equation (away from r = 0) $\nabla^{2}E + \frac{n^{2}\omega^{2}}{c^{2}}E = 0$ $E \propto \frac{1}{r}e^{i(\pm kr - \omega t)}$ $E \propto \frac{1}{r}e^{i(\pm kr - \omega t)}$

Paraxial approximations

- For **rays**, paraxial = small angle to optical axis
 - Ray slope: $\tan \theta \approx \theta$

 $e^{ikr} = \exp\left[ik\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}\right]$

• For **spherical waves** where power is directed forward:

$$k\sqrt{x^{2} + y^{2} + z^{2}} = kz\sqrt{1 + \frac{x^{2} + y^{2}}{z^{2}}} \approx kz\left(1 + \frac{x^{2} + y^{2}}{2z^{2}}\right) \qquad \begin{array}{l} \text{Expanding to} \\ 1^{\text{st}} \text{ order} \end{array}$$
$$e^{i(kr-\omega t)} \rightarrow e^{ikz} \exp\left[i\left(k\frac{x^{2} + y^{2}}{2z} - \omega t\right)\right] \qquad z \text{ is radius of curvature} \end{array}$$

Wavefront = surface of constant phase For x, y >0, t must increase. Wave is diverging:

$$k\frac{x^2+y^2}{2z} = \omega t$$

3D wave propagation $\nabla^{2}\mathbf{E} - \frac{n_{j}^{2}}{c^{2}} \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial t^{2}} \mathbf{E} = \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial z^{2}} \mathbf{E} + \nabla_{\perp}^{2}\mathbf{E} - \frac{n(\mathbf{r})^{2}}{c^{2}} \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial t^{2}} \mathbf{E} = 0$ ote: $\nabla_{\perp}^{2} = \partial_{x}^{2} + \partial_{y}^{2}$ $\nabla_{\perp}^{2} = \frac{1}{r} \partial_{r} (r \partial_{r}) + \frac{1}{r^{2}} \partial_{\phi}^{2}$

- Note:
 - All linear propagation effects are included in LHS: diffraction, interference, focusing...
 - Previously, we assumed plane waves where transverse derivatives are zero.
- More general examples:
 - Gaussian beams (including high-order)
 - Waveguides
 - Arbitrary propagation
 - Can determine discrete solutions to linear equation (e.g. Gaussian modes, waveguide modes), then express fields in terms of those solutions.

Paraxial, slowly-varying approximations

- Assume
 - waves are forward-propagating: $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t) = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r})e^{i(kz-\omega_0 t)} + c.c.$
 - Refractive index is isotropic

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2}\mathbf{A} + 2ik\frac{\partial}{\partial z}\mathbf{A} - k^2\mathbf{A} + \nabla_{\perp}^2\mathbf{A} + \frac{n^2\omega_0^2}{c^2}\mathbf{A} = 0$$

- Fast oscillating carrier terms cancel (blue)
- Slowly-varying envelope: compare red terms
 - Drop 2nd order deriv if $\frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \frac{1}{L} A \gg \frac{1}{L^2} A$
 - This ignores:
 - Changes in z as fast as the wavlength
 - Counterpropagating waves