# **Geometric Optics and ABCD**

Lenses and the imaging equation

Direct ray tracing

**ABCD** matrices

# **Geometric optics**

- Approaches:
  - Paraxial calculations (assume small angle to optical axis)
    - Imaging equations: simple lens, Lensmakers' for thick lens
    - ABCD matrices for optical system
  - Non-paraxial, general case
    - Analytic calculation of aberrations: Zernike polynomials, Taylor-type expansions of wavefront error
    - Computer tracing (no approximations). Example: Zemax, Oslo
- Design procedure
  - Find existing design close to what could work for application
  - Paraxial trace with ray diagram
    - Calculate magnification, limiting apertures
  - Optimize with ABCD matrices or computer program
  - Analyze aberrations

## **Geometric optics: lenses**

For a nice summary, see Lens (optics) Wikipedia page https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lens\_(optics)



## **Geometric optics: imaging equation**



 $s_1$ ,  $s_2$  are positive as shown  $s_1$ ,  $s_2$  = infinity: rays are collimated

 $M = -\frac{s_2}{s_1}$  Magnification calculate with similar triangles M < 0 inverted image M = -1 when s<sub>1</sub> = s<sub>2</sub> = 2 f, 1:1 imaging

### **Geometric optics: virtual images**





 $s_1$ ,  $s_2 < 0$  if on the opposite side of lens

"virtual" image: position where image seems to come from Concave lens: f < 0

Same convention for  $s_1$ ,  $s_2$ 





### **Aberrations**

• For non-paraxial rays errors in how rays focus



#### Lens systems

- It is possible to cascade the lens imaging equation for multiple lenses:
  - Image from lens 1 is object for lens 2



- For more complicated systems, use a matrix method: ABCD matrices
  - Also good for resonators
  - Does not account for 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

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

$$r_{2}' = r_{1}' \qquad \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & L \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$r_{1}''$$

 $\mathbf{r}_2$ 

#### **Refraction in ABCD**

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

n<sub>1</sub>

 $n_2$ 

• 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

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

$$r_{1}' = r_{1} / p$$

$$r_{1}' = r_{1} / p$$

$$r_{2}' = -r_{1} / q$$

$$\frac{1}{q} = \frac{1}{f} - \frac{1}{p} \rightarrow r_{2}' = -r_{1} \left(\frac{1}{f} - \frac{1}{p}\right) = -\frac{r_{1}}{f} + r_{1}' \quad \text{lens} \left(\begin{array}{c} A & B \\ C & D \end{array}\right) \rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{c} 1 & 0 \\ -1 / f & 1 \end{array}\right)$$

• Spherical interface: radius R

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