

Neil Alberding (SFU Physics) [Physics 121: Optics, Electricity & Magnetism](#page-16-0) Spring 2010 1/17

Dispersion (23.5)

- The speed of light in a material depends on its wavelength
- White light is a mixture of wavelengths and colours.
- Different colours refract at different angles when a ray of white light crosses a boundary between two transparent media.
- Thus the colours are separated.
- Notice that blue light is bent more than red.

- The index of refraction in most materials is larger at lower wavelengths. The shaded region is visible light.
- Short wavelength light travels more slowly in glass, water, etc.
- This effect is called dispersion and depends on the chemical composition of the material.

- Rainbows are caused by light refracting in water droplets in the air.
- White light from the sun enters a droplet and reflects off the back.
- When entering and leaving a droplet, the beam refracts and different colours leave the droplet going in different directions.
- Red light is bent leaves at a steeper downward angle than blue.
- When you look up in the sky with your back to the sun.
- Rays from the sun are reflected by all the droplets in the sky
- Some of the droplets reflect visible light to your eye.
- The droplets that reflect red light are higher than the ones that reflect blue because red light goes down at a steeper angle.

Rainbows

Image Formation by Refraction (23.4)

- Your brain determines how far away something is by how much the images in both eyes differ: parallax.
- However, your brain can be fooled! The fish on the left looks different when it is in water compared to when it is in air.
- In water the rays reflected from the fish refract at the air/water boundary.
- Water has a higher n than air, so the rays refract away from the normal and the projected rays converge in front of the actual position of the fish.
- We actually see a virtual image of the fish.

Image Formation by Refraction

- Analyzing the effect, for object P we see a virtual object P' .
- Distance s is called the object distance, s' is known as the image distance.
- A line perpendicular to the boundary is the optical axis
- Using two triangles with common side *l* we have $l = s \tan \theta_1 = s' \tan \theta_2$ and

$$
s'=\frac{\tan\theta_1}{\tan\theta_2}s
$$

Image Formation by Refraction

• Remembering

We can use Snell's Law

• Angles are small and the rays nearly parallel (paraxial rays), so $\sin \theta \approx \theta \approx \tan \theta$:

$$
\frac{\tan \theta_1}{\tan \theta_2} = \frac{\sin \theta_1}{\sin \theta_2} = \frac{n_2}{n_1}
$$

$$
s' = \frac{n_2}{n_1} s
$$

Thin Lenses: Ray Tracing (23.6)

- A lens is a transparent material that uses refraction to form an image from diverging light rays.
- The geometrical method for understanding the effect of a given lens is known as ray tracing
- A converging lens causes parallel rays to refract toward the optical axis. A diverging lens causes parallel rays to refract away from the optical axis.

Thin Lenses: Ray Tracing

- For a converging lens the focal point of the lens is where all initially parallel rays meet. The focal length is the distance from the lens to this point.
- The focal point of a diverging lens is on the same side of the lens as the parallel rays.
- The focal length is a property of the lens.

Converging Lenses

- We model our lenses as thin lenses ignore their thickness. All refraction occurs as the rays pass the lens plane.
- The picture on the left shows three important types of rays to trace:
	- **1** Parallel rays converging at the focal point
	- Rays from the focal point becoming parallel
	- ³ Rays passing through the center of the lens following a straight line
- You will become used to making use of these three special cases.

Any ray directed at the center of the len

Rays are

not bent.

Center of lens

- **•** If you place an object at a distance greater than the focal length away from a converging lens you will get a real image of the object on the other side of the lens.
- The real image is inverted and can be projected onto a screen.
- All points on an object which are in the same plane (the object plane) will have an image in the image plane.
- Rays strike the full lens surface. A bigger lens collects more light.
- The real image exists whether or not you put a screen there.

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- Draw and optical axis and center the lens on the axis
- ² Represent the object with an arrow at distance s
- ³ Draw three "special" rays from the tip of the arrow: one parallel to the axis, one through the near focal point and one through the center of the lens.

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Extend the rays until they converge

 \bullet Measure the image distance s'

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• From the geometry one can see that the following formula holds

$$
\frac{1}{s}+\frac{1}{s'}=\frac{1}{f}
$$

In our convention both s and s' are positive. and f is positive for a converging lens. \bullet

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• In this case $s = 200$ cm and $f = 50$ cm 1 $\frac{1}{s}$ + 1 $\frac{1}{s'} = \frac{1}{f}$ f 1 200 cm 1 $\overline{s'}$ = 1 50 cm

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$$
\frac{1}{200 \text{ cm}} + \frac{1}{s'} = \frac{1}{50 \text{ cm}}
$$

$$
s' = \frac{200 \text{ cm} \times 50 \text{ cm}}{200 \text{ cm} - 50 \text{ cm}}
$$

 $= 66.7$ cm

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• Your textbook shows how the height of the image depends on the object and image distances:

$$
\frac{h'}{h}=\frac{s'}{s}
$$

We can then define the lateral magnification as

$$
m=-\frac{s^\prime}{s}
$$

- \bullet A positive m indicates the image is upright, negative indicates inverted.
- \bullet The absolute value of m gives the ratio of the image height to the object height (hence the word "magnification").

- What happens if you put an object inside the focal length of the lens??
- You still get an image of the object but it is a virtual image
- The line through the near focal point must be projected back to reach that focal point.
- The rays diverge on the far side of the lens. Project all three back to see an enlarged upright image behind the lens.
- You have built a magnifying glass!!
- The image distance (s') for a virtual image is negative, making $m = s'/s$ positive (upright image).