

# Ray Optics II

Last time, developed idea of ray optics  
approximation to wave theory

Introduced paraxial approximation:  
rays with  $\theta \ll 1$

Will continue to use

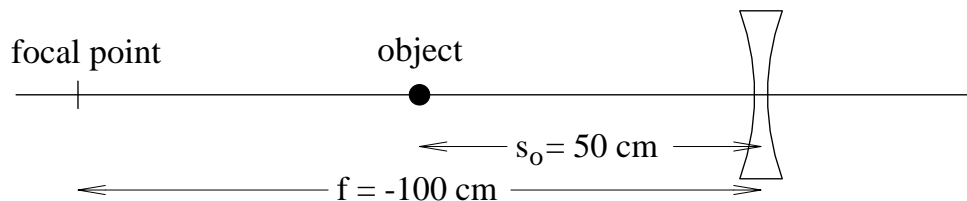
Started discussing imaging and lenses:

Thin lens equation  $\frac{1}{s_o} + \frac{1}{s_i} = \frac{1}{f}$

Basic equation of paraxial optics

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**Example:** Suppose a thin lens of focal length  $f = -100$  cm is placed 50 cm in front of a small light bulb. Where will the image of the bulb be located?



**Solution:**

Real object upstream of lens, so  $s_o = +50$  cm.

Then  $\frac{1}{s_i} = \frac{1}{f} - \frac{1}{s_o} = \frac{1}{(-100 \text{ cm})} - \frac{1}{50 \text{ cm}} = -0.03 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

So  $s_i = -33.3$  cm

Negative, so image located 33.3 cm before lens  
= 16.7 cm from object

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Today: continue with imaging

- Imaging extended objects
- Multiple lenses
- Mirrors
- Apertures

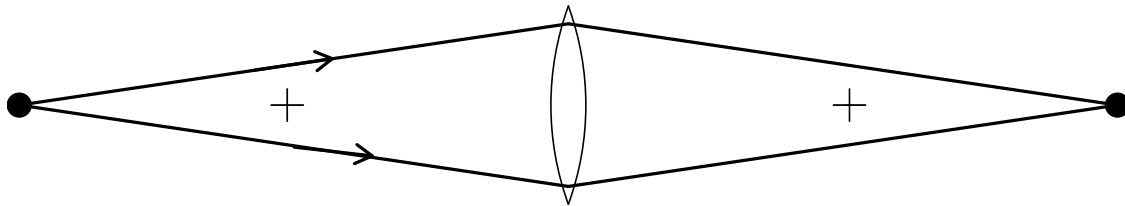
Next time:

Techniques for dealing with multi-lens systems

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## Finite Imaging (Hecht 5.2.3)

Before, all pictures showed point-to-point imaging

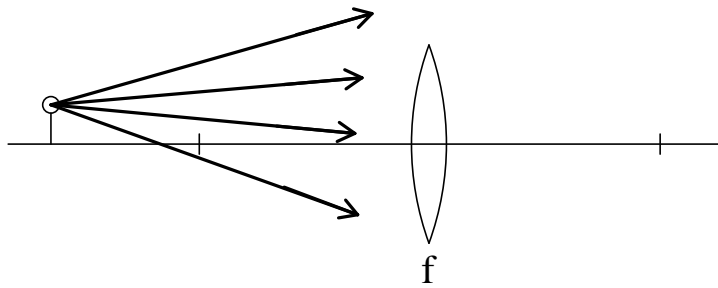


Points are on *optic axis*  
= symmetry axis of lens

Finite object = collection of points  
must deal with points that are off axis

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Picture:



Construct image using *ray diagram*

Three simple rays:

- ray through lens center: undeviated
- ray through front focal point:  
becomes horizontal
- horizontal ray: hits back focal point

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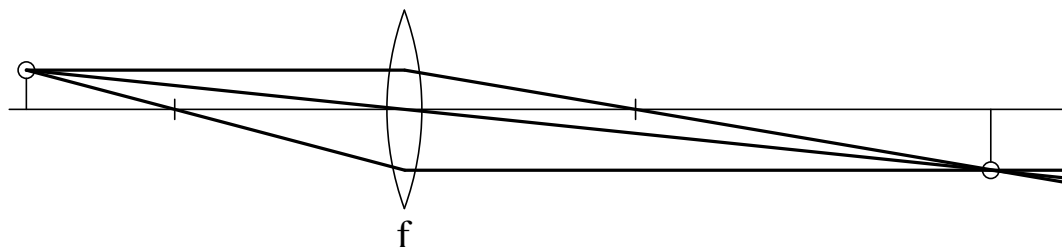


Image where rays intersect

Each point in object plane  $\rightarrow$  point in image plane

Here, image inverted:

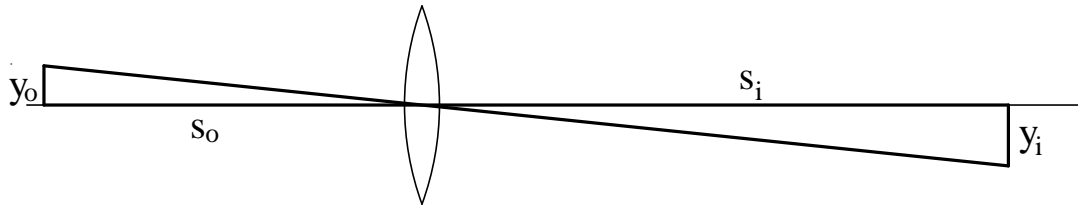
object height  $y_o > 0$

maps to image height  $y_i < 0$

Define *magnification*  $m = \frac{y_i}{y_o}$

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Get magnification from diagram:



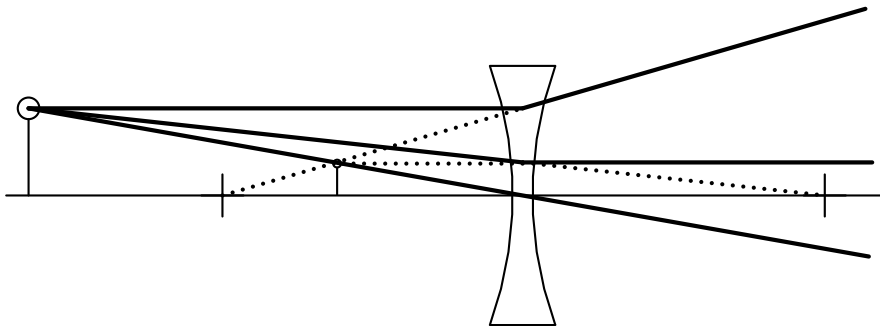
Triangles are similar, so  $\frac{s_i}{y_i} = -\frac{s_o}{y_o}$

Then  $m = \frac{y_i}{y_o} = -\frac{s_i}{s_o}$

with  $s_i$  determined by thin lens equation

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For negative parameters, follow sign conventions:



Since  $f < 0$ , “front” and “back” focal points reversed

See that  $s_i < 0$  and  $m > 0$

Ray diagrams good tool for understanding

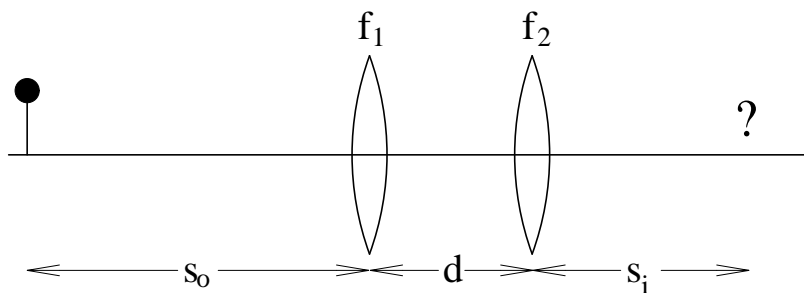
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## Lens systems

If more than one lens:

apply thin lens law in succession

Consider two lenses  $f_1$ ,  $f_2$ , separated by  $d$



Find image distance  $s_i$

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First lens: image distance  $s_{i1}$

$$\frac{1}{s_{i1}} = \frac{1}{f_1} - \frac{1}{s_o}$$

Second lens: object distance  $s_{o2} = d - s_{i1}$

Then final image at  $s_i$ :  $\frac{1}{s_i} = \frac{1}{f_2} - \frac{1}{s_{o2}}$

Combine, get

$$s_i = \frac{f_2 d s_o - f_1 f_2 d - f_1 f_2 s_o}{s_o d - s_o f_1 - s_o f_2 - d f_1 + f_1 f_2}$$

Not very enlightening

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Simple case  $d \rightarrow 0$ :

$$s_{o2} = -s_{i1}$$

$$\text{Then } \frac{1}{s_i} = \frac{1}{f_2} + \frac{1}{s_{i1}} = \frac{1}{f_2} + \left( \frac{1}{f_1} - \frac{1}{s_o} \right)$$

So

$$\boxed{\frac{1}{s_o} + \frac{1}{s_i} = \frac{1}{f_1} + \frac{1}{f_2}}$$

$$\text{like single lens with } \frac{1}{f_{\text{tot}}} = \frac{1}{f_1} + \frac{1}{f_2}$$

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Define  $\frac{1}{f} = \text{power of lens}$

units: diopters ( $\equiv \text{m}^{-1}$ )

Lens powers add for adjacent lenses

**Question:** My eyeglass prescription is -4 diopters. What is the focal length of my lenses?

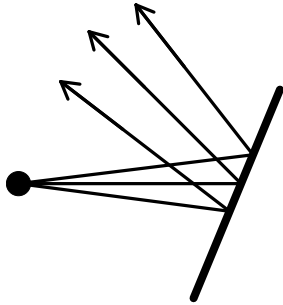
Next time, see better tools to treat lens systems

For now, move on to other elements

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## Mirrors (Hecht 5.4)

Flat mirrors just deflect rays

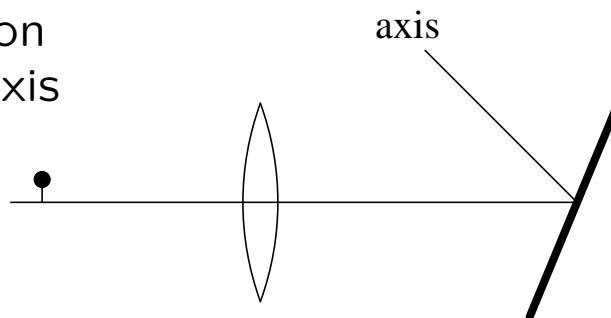


Makes ray tracing hard

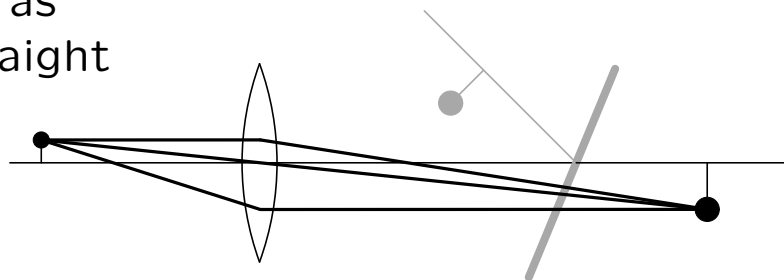
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Best approach:

(1) Use law of reflection to find path of optic axis



(2) Trace rays as if axis were straight

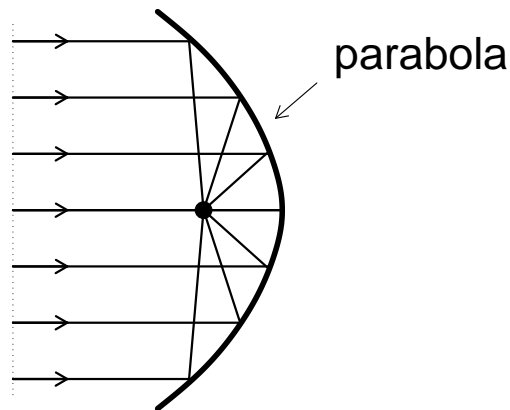


(3) Result correct relative to axis

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Mirrors can be curved too  
act like a lens

Get perfect imaging with aspheric mirror



Parabola = points equidistant from focus and line  
so  $\mathcal{S}$  = constant for all rays

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Aspheric surfaces still expensive:  
spherical mirrors more common  
work for paraxial rays

Analyze with law of reflection or Fermat's principle

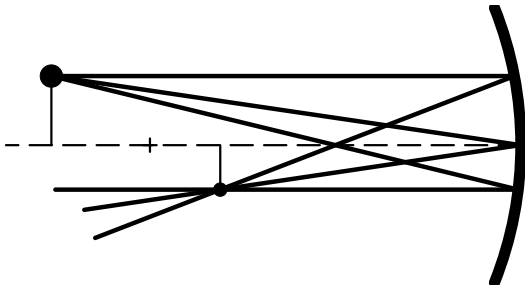
Result:

$$\frac{1}{s_o} + \frac{1}{s_i} = -\frac{2}{R}$$

Just like thin lens:  $f \rightarrow -R/2$

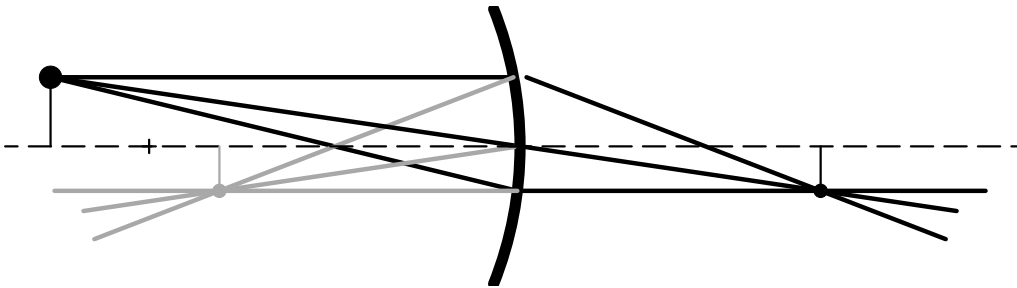
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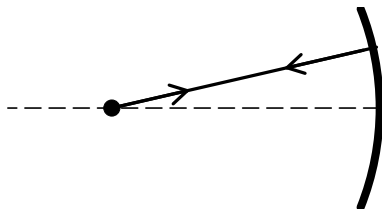
Here  $R < 0$ : like  $f > 0$ , get real image  
But optic axis also folded

Lens equivalent:



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Trick to remember factor of 2:  
if object at center of curvature, so is image



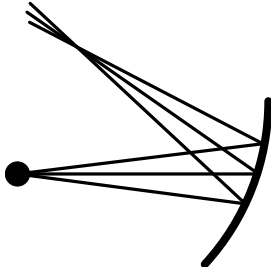
Then  $s_o = s_i = -R$  (since  $R < 0$  here)

and

$$\frac{1}{f} = \frac{1}{s_o} + \frac{1}{s_i} = -\frac{2}{R}$$

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**Question:** Could you tilt a curved mirror and use it to both fold axis and focus rays?



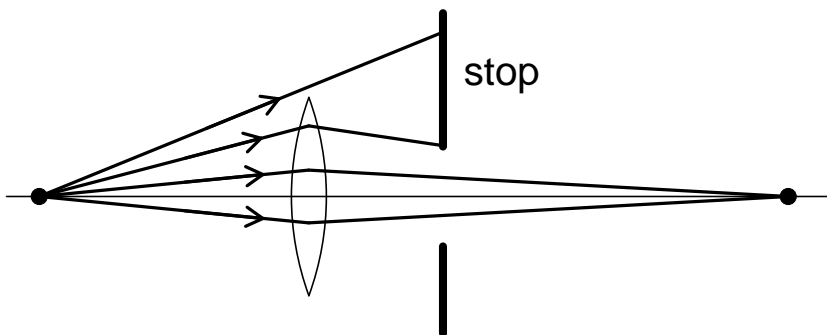
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## Stops

stop = aperture = hole

Formally:

stop = object that limits rays reaching image



Lens edge always a stop  
often introduce additional ones

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Stops important for two questions:

- How bright will image be?  
= how much light is collected
- What is field of view?  
= what area of object is imaged

Both important for real system design

Assume points close to optic axis

off-axis points: vignetting (Hecht pgs. 172-3)

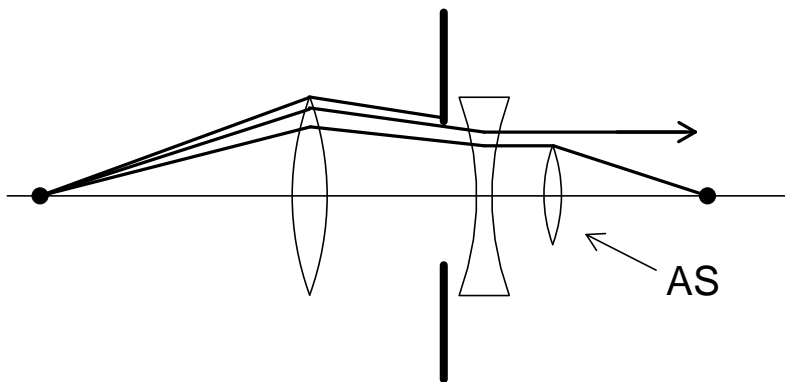
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Image Brightness:

Generally many stops in system

Define *aperture stop* ( $\equiv$  AS)

= the one limiting stop



In complicated system, trace rays to determine

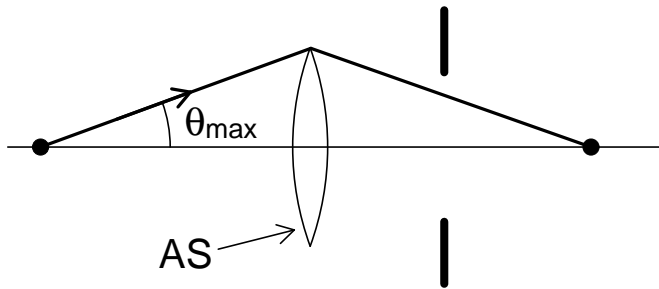
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Aperture stop sets amount of light collected

Suppose AS = first element

then only rays hitting element are imaged

Defines acceptance angle  $\theta_{\max}$



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Characterize source by *brightness*  $B$

$$B = \frac{\text{power}}{(\text{source area})(\text{solid angle})}$$

units  $\text{W}/(\text{m}^2 \text{ sr})$

**Question:** What's a steradian (sr)?

Typical light bulb:

$$P = 100 \text{ W}$$

$$\text{surface area} = 4\pi \times (3 \text{ cm})^2$$

radiates into  $4\pi \text{ sr}$

$$\text{So } B \approx 700 \text{ W}/(\text{m}^2 \text{ sr})$$

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System accepts solid angle  $\pi\theta_{\max}^2$

Power into system =  $B \times (\text{source area}) \times \pi\theta_{\max}^2$

Gives image intensity

What if first element  $\neq$  AS?

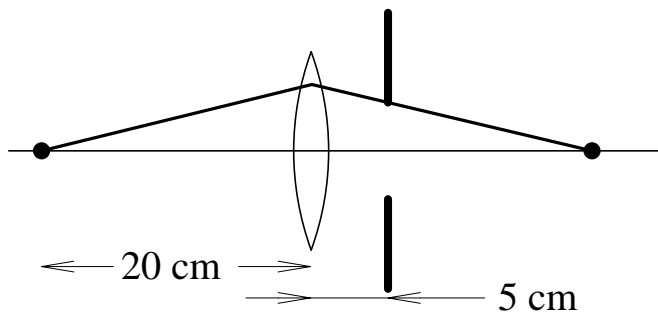
Define *entrance pupil*

= image of AS from object

System acts like first element is entrance pupil

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Example:



Say  $f = 10$  cm, stop radius = 0.5 cm

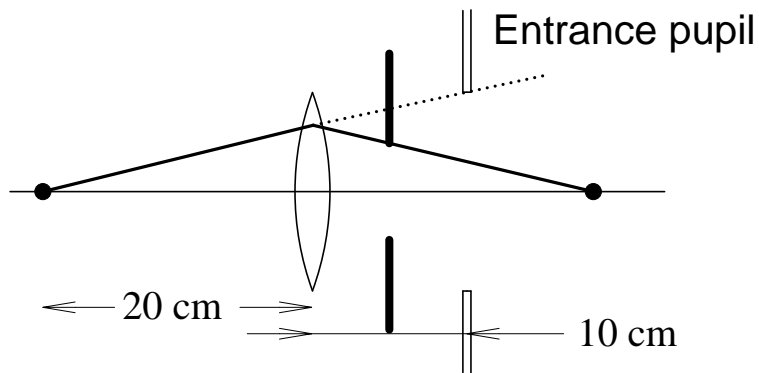
Find image of stop through lens:

$$s_o = 5 \text{ cm} \Rightarrow s_i = -10 \text{ cm}$$

Magnification  $m = -s_i/s_o = 2$

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So entrance pupil located 10 cm behind lens  
radius = 1 cm



Defines rays accepted by system

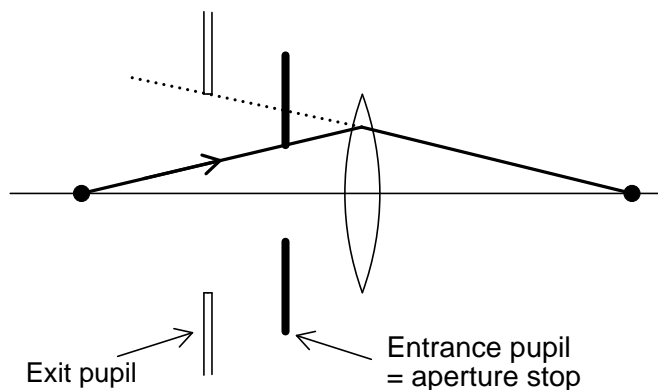
here  $\theta_{\max} = \tan^{-1}(1/30) \approx 0.033$  rad

solid angle =  $\pi\theta_{\max}^2 = 0.0034$  sr

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Similarly, define *exit pupil*

= image of AS seen from image of system



Exit pupil acts like “window”

all rays from object pass through window

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Exit pupil important for systems viewed by eye  
microscope, telescope, binoculars, etc.

Exit pupil like window

- if pupil small, far away:  
observe small disk surrounded by darkness  
See in cheap binoculars
- if pupil large, close to eye:  
many rays don't enter eye ... wasted money

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Ideal system: exit pupil aligned to pupil of eye

- 3-5 mm diameter
- located about 1 cm behind eyepiece

( Eyepiece = last element before eye  
Distance eyepiece to exit pupil = eye relief )

Good binoculars:

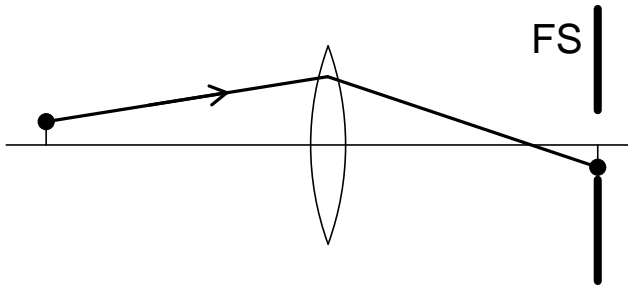
- image fills view
- comfortable to look through

Generally: when combining two systems, make  
exit pupil of first = entrance pupil of second

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Still have second question:  
what is field of view?

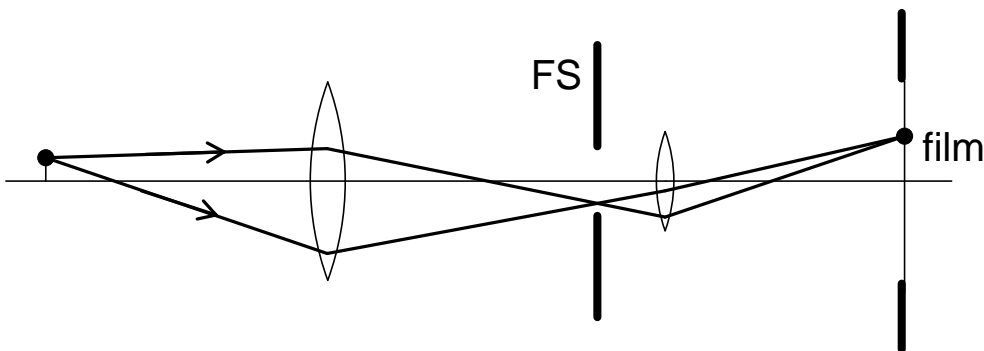
Define *field stop* (FS) =  
stop that limits which object points are imaged



Often, field stop = edge of detector  
(film, CCD sensor, retina of eye, etc.)

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But not always:



Good field stop always in an image plane  
(final or intermediate)

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Field stops useful for non-imaging detectors

- photodiodes, PMT, bolometers

Use field stop to eliminate background light

**Question:** Photographers use a stop to set the exposure level of a camera. Does this refer to the field stop or the aperture stop?

Also, both AS and FS impact aberrations  
(imaging errors)

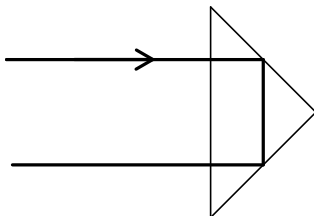
Idea: use stops to block non-paraxial rays

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Last element: prisms  
comment briefly

Two uses: reflection and dispersion

Reflecting: either TIR or mirror coatings  
nice way to hold mirrors close together



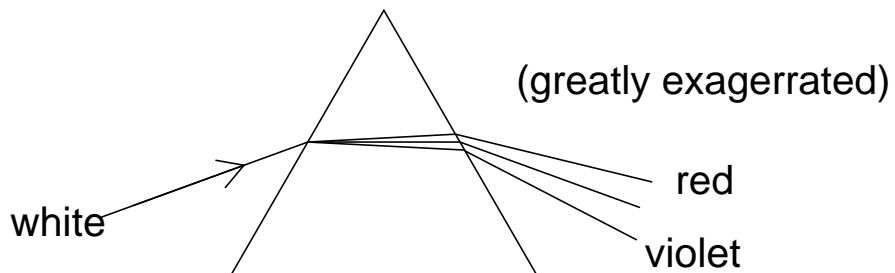
See Hecht 5.5.2 for more

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Dispersing prisms: familiar rainbow effect

Use index  $n = n(\omega)$

Snell's law  $\Rightarrow \theta = \theta(\omega)$



Analysis straightforward (Hecht 5.5.1)

More often use diffraction gratings

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Summary:

- Ray diagrams help analyze off-axis imaging
- Analyze multiple lenses in sequence
- Curved mirrors act much like lenses
- Stop = limiting edge
- Aperture stop sets brightness of image
- Field stop sets field of view

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