

Gaussian Beams

Nicolas Fressengeas

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Gaussian Beams

N. Fressengeas

Laboratoire Matériaux Optiques, Photonique et Systèmes Unité de Recherche commune à l'Université de Lorraine et à Supélec

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Further reading [KL66, GB94]



A. Gerrard and J.M. Burch.

Introduction to matrix methods in optics. Dover, 1994.



Laser beams and resonators. *Appl. Opt.*, 5(10):1550–1567, Oct 1966.



Course Outline

Fundamentals of Gaussian beam propagation

- Gaussian beams vs. plane waves
- The fundamental mode
- Higher order modes

2 Matrix methods for geometrical and Gaussian optics

- Linear algebra for geometrical optics
- A few simple matrices
- Matrix method for Gaussian beams

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1 Fundamentals of Gaussian beam propagation

• Gaussian beams vs. plane waves

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Waves carrying an infinite amount of energy cannot come into existence

Planes waves

- Plane wave have a homogeneous transversal electric field
- Ponting's vector norm, and power density, are also homogeneous
- Total carried power is infinite

Practical use of plane wave theory: usual unsaid approximation

- Plane waves of finite extent are often used
- Strictly speaking, they are not plane waves

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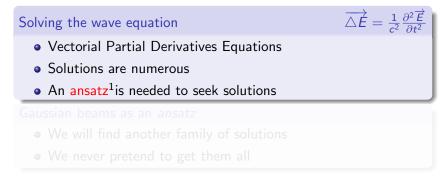
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Plane waves, Gaussian beams... what else ?

Solutions of the wave equations: one finds only those he was searching for

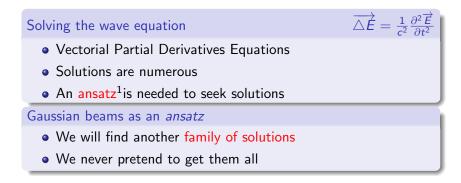




¹An ansatz is an *a priori* hypothesis on the form of the sought solution.

Plane waves, Gaussian beams... what else ?

Solutions of the wave equations: one finds only those he was searching for





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Plugging the ansatz into the wave equation builds the envelope equation

Introducing a space dependent envelope

- Plane wave: $\vec{E}_0 \times e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}}$
- Gaussian ansatz : $u(x, y, z) \overrightarrow{e_x} \times e^{-ikz}$
 - u(x, y, z) : complex beam envelope
 - $\overrightarrow{e_x}$ unit vector
- The envelope u(x, y, z) is our new unknown

Envelope equation

- 0



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- Wave equation: $\overline{\Delta E} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 \overline{E}}{\partial t^2}$
- Scalar harmonic wave equation: $\Delta E + E = 0$
- Envelope equation:
 - $e^{-ik_2} = 0$



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 - $\Delta[u(x,y,z)e^{-ikz}] + k^2 u(x,y,z)e^{-ikz} = 0$



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Envelope equation

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- Scalar harmonic wave equation: $\triangle E + \frac{\omega^2}{c^2}E = 0$
- Envelope equation: $\Delta \left[u\left(x, y, z \right) e^{-ikz} \right] + k^2 u\left(x, y, z \right) e^{-ikz} = 0$

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Envelope equation

- Scalar harmonic wave equation: $\triangle E + k^2 E = 0$
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Fundamentals of Gaussian beam propagation Matrix methods for geometrical and Gaussian optics

Gaussian beams vs. plane waves The fundamental mode Higher order modes

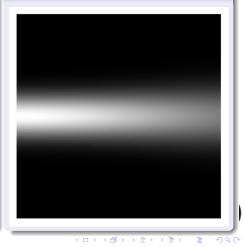
The paraxial approximation

Also known as Gauss conditions, Slow Varying Envelope...

Non Paraxial Beam



Paraxial Beam

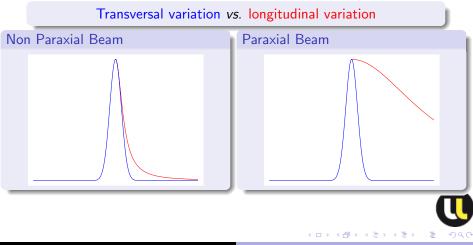


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Gaussian Beams, version 1.2, frame 7

Paraxial approximation and partial derivatives

Assuming small angles is equivalent to neglecting z derivatives

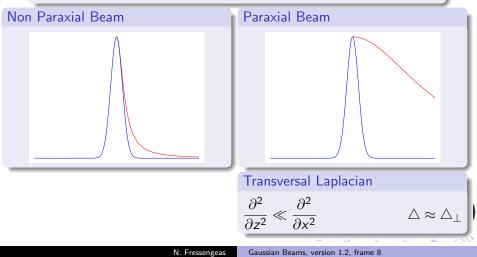


Fundamentals of Gaussian beam propagation Matrix methods for geometrical and Gaussian optics

Paraxial approximation and partial derivatives

Assuming small angles is equivalent to neglecting z derivatives

Transversal variation vs. longitudinal variation



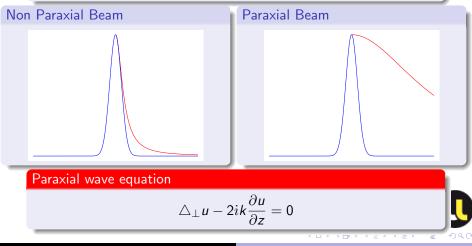
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Gaussian beams vs. plane waves The fundamental mode Higher order modes

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1 Fundamentals of Gaussian beam propagation

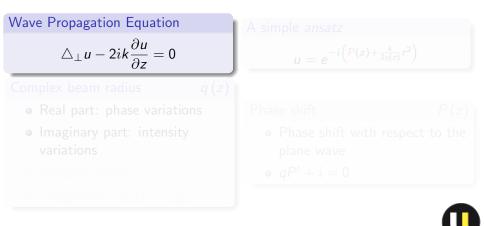
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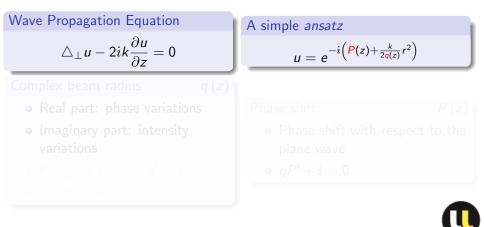
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The simplest one, though probably the more important



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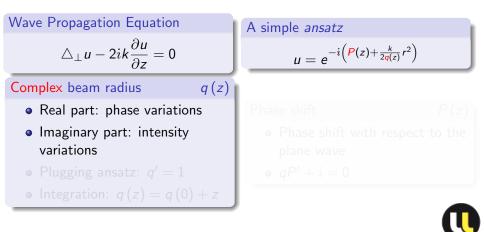
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Fundamentals of Gaussian beam propagation Matrix methods for geometrical and Gaussian optics

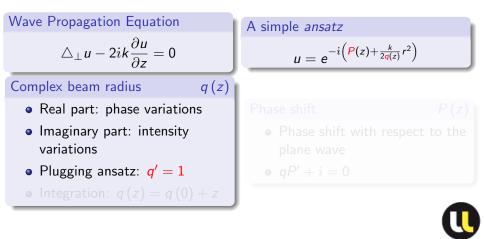
Gaussian beams vs. plane waves The fundamental mode Higher order modes

A first solution to the paraxial wave equation

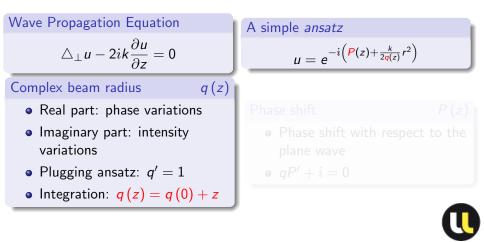
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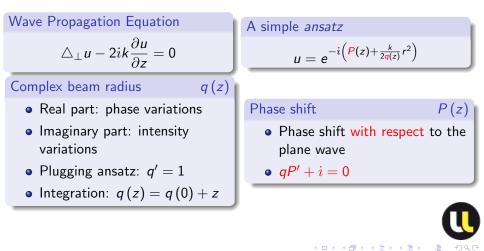
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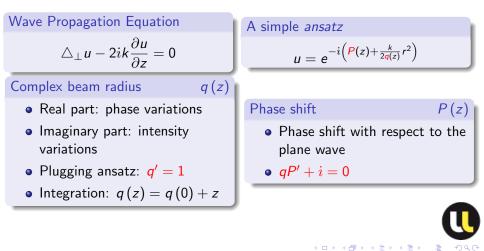
The simplest one, though probably the more important



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Fundamentals of Gaussian beam propagation Matrix methods for geometrical and Gaussian optics

Gaussian beams vs. plane waves The fundamental mode Higher order modes

q(z)

 $\mu = e^{-i\left(P(z) + \frac{k}{2q(z)}r^2\right)}$

The complex beam radius

A closer look to the signification on a complex parameter

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$$\frac{1}{q} = \frac{1}{R} - i\frac{\lambda}{\pi W^2}$$

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Fundamentals of Gaussian beam propagation Matrix methods for geometrical and Gaussian optics Gaussian beams vs. plane waves The fundamental mode Higher order modes

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A closer look to the signification on a complex parameter

A complex parameter is linked to two real ones

$$\frac{1}{q} = \frac{1}{R} - i\frac{\lambda}{\pi W^2}$$

The *ansatz* re-written

$$u = e^{-i\left(P(z) + \frac{k}{2q(z)}r^2\right)}$$

Fundamentals of Gaussian beam propagation Matrix methods for geometrical and Gaussian optics Gaussian beams vs. plane waves The fundamental mode Higher order modes

The complex beam radius

A closer look to the signification on a complex parameter

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A complex parameter is linked to two real ones

$$\frac{1}{q} = \frac{1}{R} - i \frac{\lambda}{\pi W^2}$$

The *ansatz* re-written

$$= e^{-i\left(P(z)+k\frac{r^2}{2R(z)}-i\frac{k\lambda r^2}{2\pi W(z)^2}\right)}$$



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Gaussian beams vs. plane waves The fundamental mode Higher order modes

The complex beam radius

$$q(z)$$

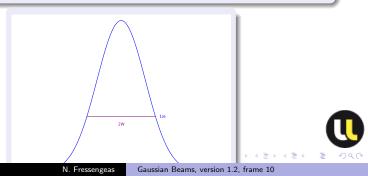
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A closer look to the signification on a complex parameter A complex parameter is linked to two real ones

$$\frac{1}{\mathbf{q}} = \frac{1}{\mathbf{R}} - i\frac{\lambda}{\pi \mathbf{W}^2}$$

The *ansatz* re-written

$$u = e^{-i\left(P(z) + k\frac{r^2}{2R(z)}\right)} e^{-\frac{r^2}{W(z)^2}}$$



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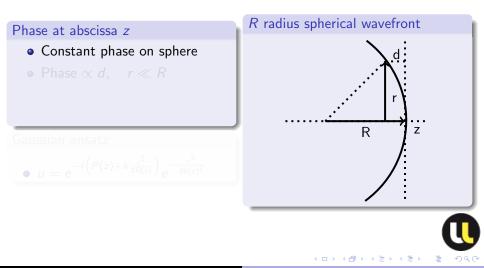
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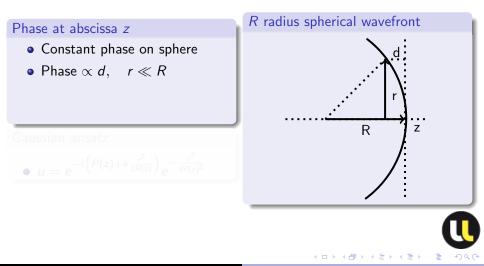
$$rac{1}{q} = rac{1}{R} - i rac{\lambda}{\pi W^2}$$

The ansatz re-written

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What is R ?





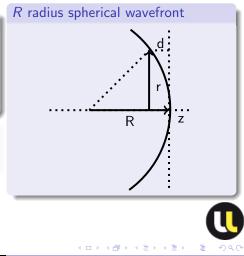
Phase at abscissa z

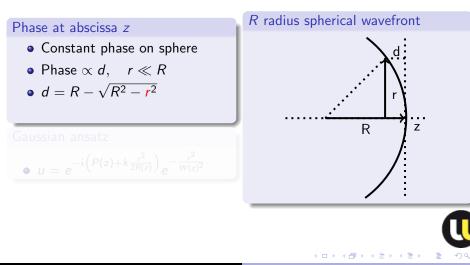
- Constant phase on sphere
- Phase $\propto d$, $r \ll R$

•
$$(R - d)^2 + r^2 = R^2$$

Gaussian ansatz

•
$$u = e^{-i\left(P(z) + k\frac{r^2}{2R(z)}\right)} e^{-\frac{r^2}{W(z)^2}}$$





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Phase at abscissa z

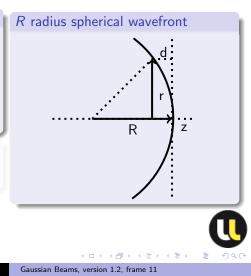
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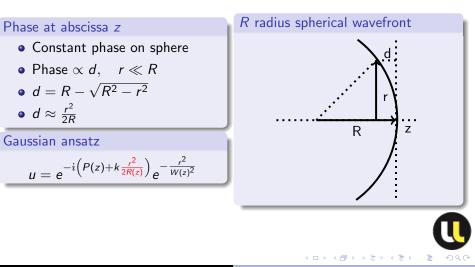
•
$$d = R - \sqrt{R^2 - r^2}$$

•
$$d = R\left(1 - \sqrt{1 - \frac{r^2}{R^2}}\right)$$

Gaussian ansatz

$$u = e^{-i\left(P(z) + k\frac{r^2}{2R(z)}\right)} e^{-\frac{r^2}{W(z)^2}}$$





Where the Gaussian beam amplitude is derived from the ansatz and $q^\prime=1$

A quick summary

• Ansatz :
$$u = e^{-i\left(P(z) + \frac{k}{2q(z)}r^2\right)}$$

- Complex beam radius : $\frac{1}{q} = \frac{1}{R} i \frac{\lambda}{\pi W^2}$
- Beam radius equation : q' = 1

Assuming a plane wavefront for z = 0

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- Beam radius equation : q(z) = q(0) + z

Assuming a plane wavefront for z = 0

•
$$q(0) = i \frac{\pi W_0}{\lambda}$$

• $W^2(z) = W_0^2 \left[1 + \left(\frac{\lambda z}{\pi W_0^2} \right) \right]$

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Assuming a plane wavefront for z = 0

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$$q(0) = i \frac{\pi W_0^2}{\lambda}$$

• $W^2(z) = W_0^2 \left[1 + \left(-\frac{1}{2} \right) \right]$

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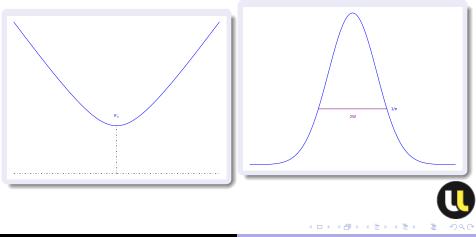
•
$$q(0) = i \frac{\pi W_0^2}{\lambda}$$

• $W^2(z) = W_0^2 \left[1 + \left(\frac{\lambda z}{\pi W_0^2} \right)^2 \right]$
• $R(z) = z \left[1 + \left(\frac{\pi W_0^2}{\lambda z} \right)^2 \right]$

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Gaussian beams vs. plane waves The fundamental mode Higher order modes

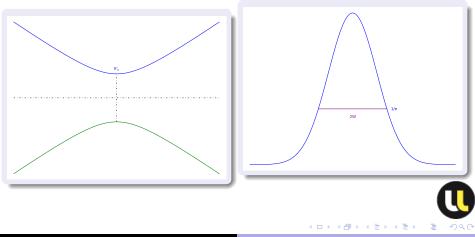
Gaussian Beam Intensity $W^{2}(z) = W_{0}^{2} \left[1 + \left(\frac{\lambda z}{\pi W_{0}^{2}} \right)^{2} \right]$



N. Fressengeas Gaussian Beams, version 1.2, frame 13

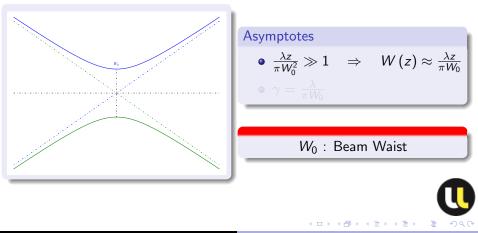
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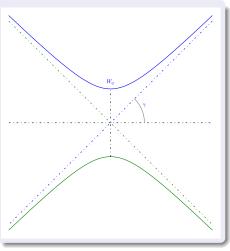
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Asymptotes

•
$$\frac{\lambda z}{\pi W_0^2} \gg 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad W(z) \approx \frac{\lambda z}{\pi W_0}$$

• $\gamma = \frac{\lambda}{\pi W_0}$

 W_0 : Beam Waist

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Gaussian beams vs. plane waves The fundamental mode Higher order modes

Gaussian wavefront curvature $R(z) = z \left[1 + \left(\frac{\pi W_0^2}{\lambda z} \right)^2 \right]$

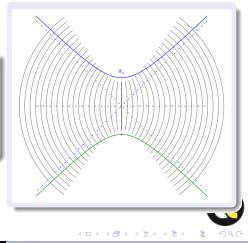
Plane and spherical limits

• For small $z : R = \infty$

plane wavefront

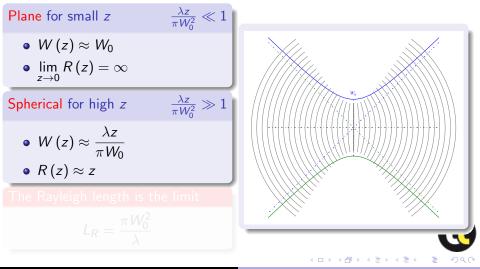
• For high $z : R \approx z$

spherical wavefront



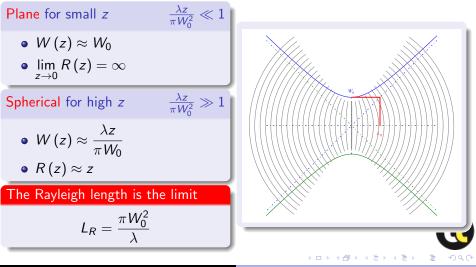
The Rayleigh length

A quantitative criterion to decide whether a Gaussian beam is plane or spherical



The Rayleigh length

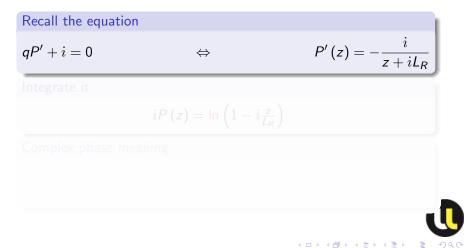
A quantitative criterion to decide whether a Gaussian beam is plane or spherical



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P(z)

The homogeneous phase shift $u = e^{-i\left(\frac{P(z) + \frac{k}{2q(z)}r^2\right)}$



Gaussian beams vs. plane waves The fundamental mode Higher order modes

P(z)

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The homogeneous phase shift $u = e^{-i\left(\frac{P(z) + \frac{k}{2q(z)}r^2\right)}$

Recall the equation $P'(z) = -\frac{i}{z + iL_R}$ aP' + i = 0 \Leftrightarrow Integrate it $iP(z) = \ln\left(1 - i\frac{z}{L_R}\right)$

Gaussian beams vs. plane waves The fundamental mode Higher order modes

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Gaussian beams vs. plane waves The fundamental mode Higher order modes

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> Recall the equation $qP' + i = 0 \qquad \Leftrightarrow \qquad P'(z) = -\frac{i}{z + iL_R}$ Integrate it $iP(z) = \ln\left(\frac{W(z)}{W_0}\right) - i\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{z}{L_R}\right)$

Complex phase meaning

- Real part : Phase shift with respect to plane wave

Gaussian beams vs. plane waves The fundamental mode Higher order modes

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Gaussian beams vs. plane waves The fundamental mode Higher order modes

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Gaussian beams vs. plane waves The fundamental mode Higher order modes

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$$P(z) = i \ln \left(rac{W_0}{W(z)}
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Complex phase meaning

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The fundamental Gaussian mode

General expression

$$E(r,z) = \frac{W_0}{W(z)} e^{-i[kz+P(z)]-r^2\left(\frac{1}{W(z)^2} + i\frac{k}{2R(z)}\right)}$$

With, in (nearly) the order of appearance on the screen

•
$$W^2(z) = W_0^2 \left[1 + \left(\frac{z}{L_R}\right)^2 \right]$$

• $R(z) = z \left[1 + \left(\frac{L_R}{z}\right)^2 \right]$

•
$$P(z) = -\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{z}{L_R}\right)$$

- Rayleigh length $L_R = \frac{\pi W_0^2}{\lambda}$
- Diffraction half angle: $\gamma \approx \frac{\lambda}{\pi W_0} = \frac{W_0}{L_R}$

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1 Fundamentals of Gaussian beam propagation

- Gaussian beams vs. plane waves
- The fundamental mode
- Higher order modes

2 Matrix methods for geometrical and Gaussian optics

- Linear algebra for geometrical optics
- A few simple matrices
- Matrix method for Gaussian beams

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A Cartesian family of higher order modes

Ansatz
$$u(x, y, z) = g\left(\frac{x}{W(z)}\right) h\left(\frac{y}{W(z)}\right) e^{-i\left(P(z) + \frac{k}{2q(z)}\left(x^2 + y^2\right)\right)}$$

Plugged into the wave equation

•
$$q' = 1$$

• $\exists m \in \mathbb{N}, \ \frac{\partial g}{\partial x^2} - 2x \frac{\partial g}{x} + 2mg = 0$
• $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}, \ \frac{\partial h}{\partial y^2} - 2y \frac{\partial h}{y} + 2nh = 0$

qP' + (1 + m + n)j = 0

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Behavior of Hermite-Gaussian modes

Each mode is a mere space modulation of the fundamental

q' = 1

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- Rayleigh length and diffraction angle are unchanged

$\frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial x^2} - 2x \frac{\partial g}{x} + 2mg = 0$

- Solutions are, by definition, the orthogonal Hermite polynomials
- $\mathcal{H}_0 = 1$, $\mathcal{H}_1 = x$, $\mathcal{H}_2 = 4x^2 1$, $\mathcal{H}_3 = 8x^3 12x \dots$
- \mathcal{H}_n has degree n
- $g\left(\frac{x}{W(z)}\right)h\left(\frac{y}{W(z)}\right) = \mathcal{H}_m\left(\sqrt{2}\frac{x}{W(z)}\right)\mathcal{H}_n\left(\sqrt{2}\frac{y}{W(z)}\right)$



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• Solutions are, by definition, the orthogonal Hermite polynomials

•
$$\mathcal{H}_0 = 1$$
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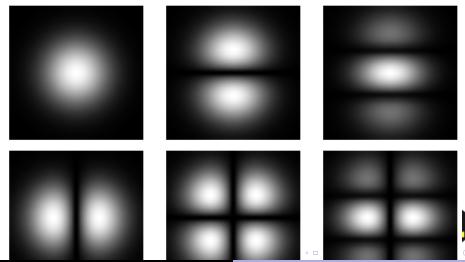
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Gaussian beams vs. plane waves The fundamental mode **Higher order modes**

Intensity profiles of Hermite Gaussian (HG) modes

The intensity if proportional to the squared envelope



N. Fressengeas

Gaussian Beams, version 1.2, frame 20

Gaussian beams vs. plane waves The fundamental mode Higher order modes

High order Laguerre-Gaussian modes

A cylindrical family of higher order modes

Ansatz $u(r, \phi, z) = g\left(\frac{r}{W(z)}\right) e^{-i\left(P(z) + \frac{k}{2q(z)}r^2 + I\phi\right)}$ Plugged into the wave equation

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Gaussian beams vs. plane waves The fundamental mode **Higher order modes**

High order Laguerre-Gaussian modes

A cylindrical family of higher order modes

Ansatz

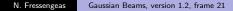
$$u(r,\phi,z) = g\left(\frac{r}{W(z)}\right) e^{-i\left(P(z) + \frac{k}{2q(z)}r^2 + I\phi\right)}$$

Plugged into the wave equation

•
$$q' = 1$$

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Gaussian beams vs. plane waves The fundamental mode **Higher order modes**

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$$\mathcal{L}_0^{(l)} = 1$$
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• $\mathcal{L}_m^{(l)}$ has degree m

•
$$g\left(\frac{r}{W(z)}\right) = \left(\sqrt{2}\frac{r}{W(z)}\right)^{l} \mathcal{L}_{p}^{\left(l\right)}\left(2\frac{r^{2}}{W^{2}(z)}\right)^{l}$$



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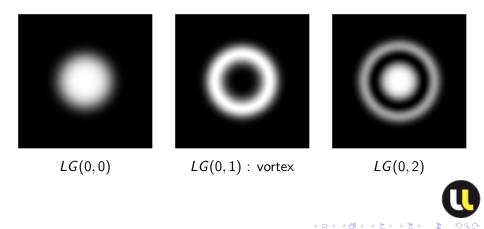
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Gaussian beams vs. plane waves The fundamental mode Higher order modes

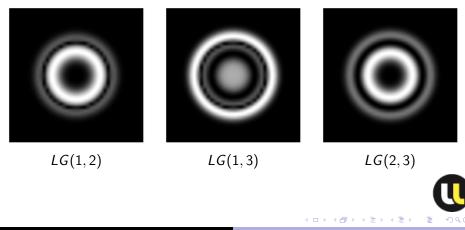
Intensity profiles of Laguerre Gaussian (LG) modes

The intensity if proportional to the squared envelope



Gaussian beams vs. plane waves The fundamental mode Higher order modes

Intensity profiles of other Laguerre Gaussian (LG) modes The intensity if proportional to the squared envelope



Homogeneous phase shift is different for high order modes qP' + (1 + m + n)j = 0 qP' + (1 + 2p + l)j = 0

A small phase difference between modes around the beam waist

- Slightly different optical paths for different orders
- Slightly different oscillating frequencies in lasers
- Usually forgotten



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1 Fundamentals of Gaussian beam propagation

- Gaussian beams vs. plane waves
- The fundamental mode
- Higher order modes

2 Matrix methods for geometrical and Gaussian optics

- Linear algebra for geometrical optics
- A few simple matrices
- Matrix method for Gaussian beams

Geometrical optics framework

Where is is shown that rays are not so thin as you may think

Geometrical optics do not deal with thin rays

• A thin ray has a thin waist: it should diffract

$$\gamma = \frac{\lambda}{\pi W_0}$$

- Thin rays are seldom alone: their meaning is collective
- A ray is a Poynting vector curve
- A bunch of rays describes a wavefront

Do geometrical optics deal with plane and spherical waves ?

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Linear algebra for geometrical optics A few simple matrices Matrix method for Gaussian beams

Geometrical optic is Gaussian optics

Transversely limited plane waves

Parallel rays

Gaussian Beams within their Rayleigh zone

Transversely limited spherical waves

Con(Di)verging rays

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Gaussian Beams far from their Rayleigh zone

Orders of magnitude

- He-Ne laser: $W_0 \approx 1 \text{mm}, \lambda = 633 \text{nm}, L_R \approx 5 \text{m}$
- GSM Antenna: $W_0 \approx 1 \mathrm{m}, \lambda \approx 33 \mathrm{cm}, L_R \approx 10 \mathrm{m}$

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Linear algebra for geometrical optics A few simple matrices Matrix method for Gaussian beams

Geometrical optics is linear

Geometrical optics stems entirely from Descartes law

$$n_1\sin\left(\theta_1\right)=n_2\sin\left(\theta_2\right)$$

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 $n_1 heta_1 pprox n_2 heta_2$

Descartes made paraxial

Paraxial approximation : $\theta \ll 1$

Geometrical optics is linear algebra

- Paraxial Descartes is linear
- Straight line propagation is linear
- The behavior of a ray through any optical system can be described linearly



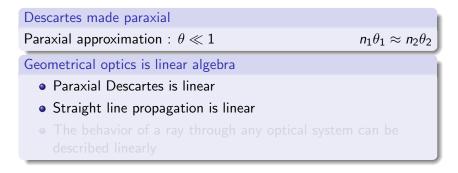
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Linear algebra for geometrical optics A few simple matrices Matrix method for Gaussian beams

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 $n_1\theta_1 \approx n_2\theta_2$

Descartes made paraxial Paraxial approximation : $\theta \ll 1$

- Paraxial Descartes is linear
- Straight line propagation is linear
- The behavior of a ray through any optical system can be described linearly



Linear algebra for geometrical optics A few simple matrices Matrix method for Gaussian beams

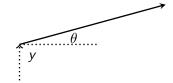
Matrix geometrical optics

A 2 dimensional linear algebra framework

The ray vector
$$v = \begin{pmatrix} y \\ \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

• y : distance from the axis

 $\bullet~\theta$: angle to the axis



An optical system



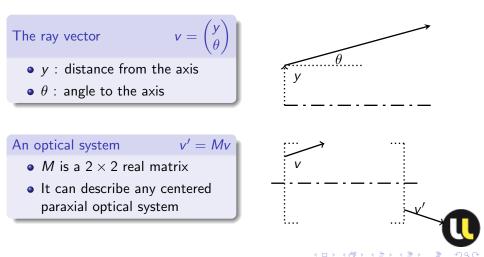
- M is a 2 \times 2 real matrix
- It can describe any centered paraxial optical system



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Matrix geometrical optics

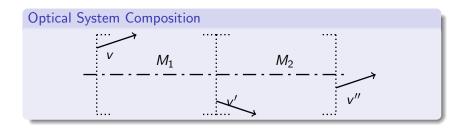
A 2 dimensional linear algebra framework



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Optical system composition

Optical system composition reduced to matrix product

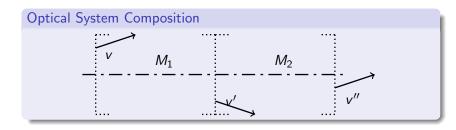




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Optical system composition

Optical system composition reduced to matrix product



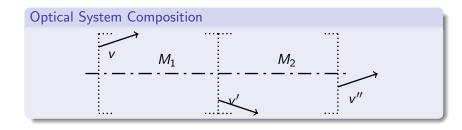
Matrix Composition • $v' = M_1 \cdot v$ • $v'' = M_2 \cdot v'$ • $v'' = M_2 M_1 \cdot v$ Complex systems Compose simple systems

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Linear algebra for geometrical optics A few simple matrices Matrix method for Gaussian beams

Optical system composition

Optical system composition reduced to matrix product



Matrix Composition

- $v' = M_1 \cdot v$
- $v'' = M_2 \cdot v'$
- $v'' = M_2 M_1 \cdot v$

Complex systems

Compose simple systems

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1 Fundamentals of Gaussian beam propagation

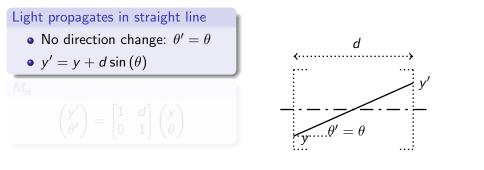
- Gaussian beams vs. plane waves
- The fundamental mode
- Higher order modes

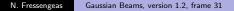
2 Matrix methods for geometrical and Gaussian optics

- Linear algebra for geometrical optics
- A few simple matrices
- Matrix method for Gaussian beams

Linear algebra for geometrical optics A few simple matrices Matrix method for Gaussian beams

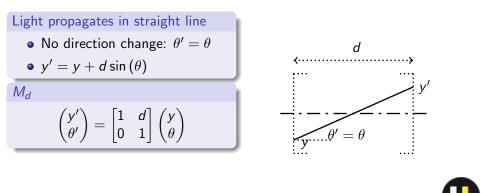
Propagation in a homogeneous medium $\begin{pmatrix} y' \\ \theta' \end{pmatrix} = M_d \begin{pmatrix} y \\ \theta \end{pmatrix}$





Linear algebra for geometrical optics A few simple matrices Matrix method for Gaussian beams

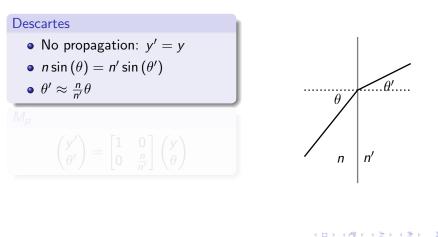
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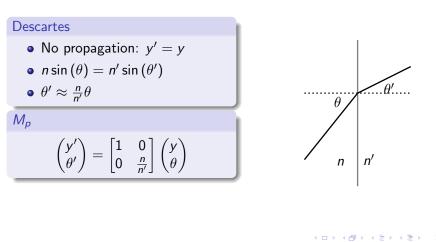
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Passing through a plane interface $\begin{pmatrix} y' \\ \theta' \end{pmatrix} = M_p \begin{pmatrix} y \\ \theta \end{pmatrix}$



Linear algebra for geometrical optics A few simple matrices Matrix method for Gaussian beams

Passing through a plane interface $\begin{pmatrix} y' \\ \theta' \end{pmatrix} = M_p \begin{pmatrix} y \\ \theta \end{pmatrix}$



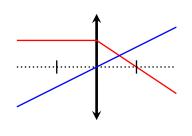
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Passing through a thin lens

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{y}'\\ \mathbf{\theta}' \end{pmatrix} = M_l \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{y}\\ \mathbf{\theta} \end{pmatrix}$$

Two characteristic rays

- No propagation: y' = y
- Blue ray: $y = 0 \Rightarrow \theta' = \theta$
- Red ray: $\theta = 0 \Rightarrow \theta' = -\frac{1}{f}y$



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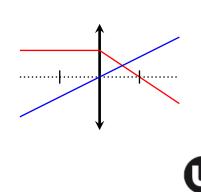
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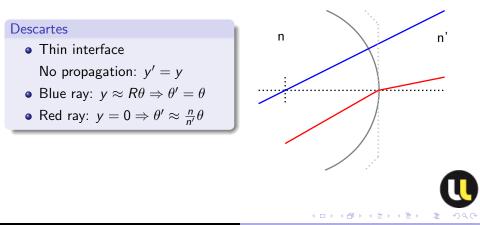
$$egin{aligned} y' \ heta' \end{pmatrix} &= egin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \ -rac{1}{f} & 1 \end{bmatrix} egin{matrix} y \ heta \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$



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Passing through a (thin) spherical interface $\begin{pmatrix} y' \\ \theta' \end{pmatrix} = M_s \begin{pmatrix} y \\ \theta \end{pmatrix}$



Linear algebra for geometrical optics A few simple matrices Matrix method for Gaussian beams

Passing through a (thin) spherical interface $\begin{pmatrix} y'\\ \theta' \end{pmatrix} = M_s \begin{pmatrix} y\\ \theta \end{pmatrix}$



Thin interface

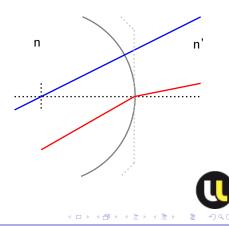
No propagation: y' = y

- Blue ray: $y \approx R\theta \Rightarrow \theta' = \theta$
- Red ray: $y = 0 \Rightarrow \theta' \approx \frac{n}{n'}\theta$

 $\theta' = ay + b\theta$

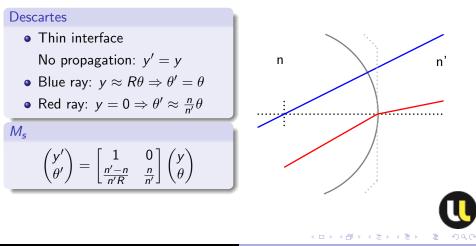
Solve for (a, b) using • $(y, \theta') = (R\theta, \theta)$

•
$$(y, \theta') = (0, \frac{n}{n'}\theta)$$



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Passing through a (thin) spherical interface $\begin{pmatrix} y'\\ \theta' \end{pmatrix} = M_s \begin{pmatrix} y\\ \theta \end{pmatrix}$

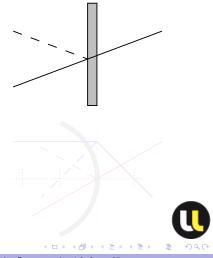


Mirrors Unfolding the light

Plane mirrors as if they did not exist
$$\begin{pmatrix} y'\\ \theta' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0\\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} y\\ \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

Spherical Mirrors are thin lenses
$$\begin{pmatrix} y'\\ \theta' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0\\ -\frac{2}{R} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} y\\ \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

Linear algebra for geometrical optics A few simple matrices Matrix method for Gaussian beams



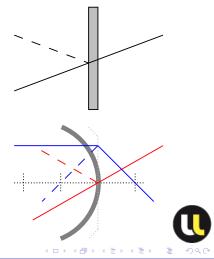
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Matrix property

A determinant property stemming from all the simple matrices determinants

$$n: \text{ start index} \qquad n': \text{ stop index} \\ \forall M, \det(M) = \frac{n}{n'}$$



1 Fundamentals of Gaussian beam propagation

- Gaussian beams vs. plane waves
- The fundamental mode
- Higher order modes

2 Matrix methods for geometrical and Gaussian optics

- Linear algebra for geometrical optics
- A few simple matrices
- Matrix method for Gaussian beams

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Gaussian modes, propagation and lenses

A Gaussian mode does not change upon propagation of by passing through thin interfaces or lenses

$$g\left(\frac{x}{W(z)}\right)h\left(\frac{y}{W(z)}\right)e^{-i\left(P(z)+\frac{k}{2q(z)}\left(x^{2}+y^{2}\right)\right)}$$

• *z* independent modulation of the fundamental mode

- Free space q' = 1 common property
- Thin lens does not change mode profile

Common R(z) and W(z) behavior All the modes share the same laws on q(z), R(z) and W(z)

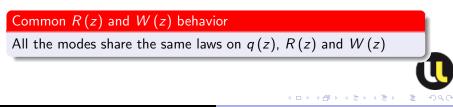
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Gaussian beam propagation: the ABCD law

The transformation of the complex radius q for simple optical systems

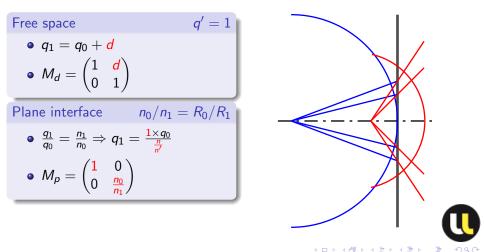




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Gaussian beam propagation: the ABCD law

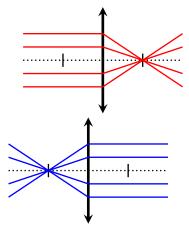
The transformation of the complex radius q for simple optical systems



Linear algebra for geometrical optics A few simple matrices Matrix method for Gaussian beams

Gaussian beam propagation: the ABCD law

The transformation of the complex radius q for simple optical systems



Thin lens	$\frac{1}{R_1} = \frac{1}{R_0} - \frac{1}{f}$
• $\frac{1}{q_1} = \frac{1}{q_0} - \frac{1}{f} \Rightarrow q$	$q_1 = rac{1}{-rac{1}{f}q_0+1}$
• $M_l = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{f} & 1 \end{pmatrix}$	

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Linear algebra for geometrical optics A few simple matrices Matrix method for Gaussian beams

Gaussian beam propagation: the ABCD law

The transformation of the complex radius q for simple optical systems

Free space $q' =$	1 Thin lens $\frac{1}{R_1} = \frac{1}{R_0} - \frac{1}{f}$
• $q_1 = q_0 + d$ • $M_d = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & d \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$	• $\frac{1}{q_1} = \frac{1}{q_0} - \frac{1}{f} \Rightarrow q_1 = \frac{1}{-\frac{1}{f}q_0+1}$ • $M_I = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{f} & 1 \end{pmatrix}$
Plane interface $n_0/n_1 = R_0/R_0$	R1
• $\frac{q_1}{q_0} = \frac{n_1}{n_0} \Rightarrow q_1 = \frac{1 \times q_0}{\frac{n}{r}}$	Kogelnik's ABCD law
• $M_p = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{n_0}{n_1} \end{pmatrix}$	$M = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow q_1 = \frac{Aq_0 + B}{Cq_0 + D}$
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Linear algebra for geometrical optics A few simple matrices Matrix method for Gaussian beams

Gaussian beam propagation: the ABCD law

The transformation of the complex radius q for simple optical systems

Free space $q'=1$	Thin lens $\frac{1}{R_1} = \frac{1}{R_0} - \frac{1}{f}$
• $q_1 = q_0 + d$ • $M_d = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & d \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$	• $\frac{1}{q_1} = \frac{1}{q_0} - \frac{1}{f} \Rightarrow q_1 = \frac{1}{-\frac{1}{f}q_0+1}$ • $M_l = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{f} & 1 \end{pmatrix}$
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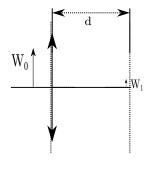
Geometrical and Gaussian optics are linked through paraxial approx. Gaussian beam propagation can be evaluated, for any mode, using simple matrix geometrical optics

N. Fressengeas

Gaussian Beams, version 1.2, frame 38

Using the ABCD law to verify that parallel rays do converge on the focal plane

Parallel input beam Input plane : just before lens Output plane : after length d Input beam at waist: q₀ = i πW₀²/_λ



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Using the ABCD law to verify that parallel rays do converge on the focal plane

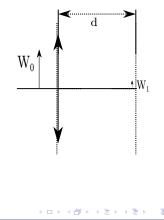
Parallel input beam

- Input plane : just before lens
- Output plane : after length d
- Input beam at waist: $q_0 = i L_{R_0}$

Propagation matrix

• lens:
$$M_f = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{f} & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

• distance d : $M_d = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & d \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$



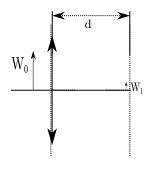
Using the ABCD law to verify that parallel rays do converge on the focal plane

Parallel input beam

- Input plane : just before lens
- Output plane : after length d
- Input beam at waist: $q_0 = i L_{R_0}$

Propagation matrix

$$M_d \cdot M_f = egin{pmatrix} -rac{d}{f}+1 & d \ -rac{1}{f} & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



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Using the ABCD law to verify that parallel rays do converge on the focal plane

Parallel input beam

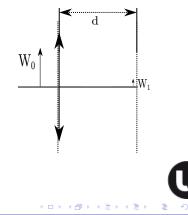
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Propagation matrix

$$M_d \cdot M_f = \begin{pmatrix} -rac{d}{f} + 1 & d \ -rac{1}{f} & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

ABCD law

$$q_1 = \frac{df + i(f-d)L_{R_0}}{f - iL_{R_0}}$$



Using the ABCD law to verify that parallel rays do converge on the focal plane

Parallel input beam

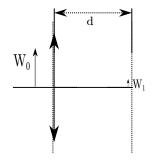
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Propagation matrix

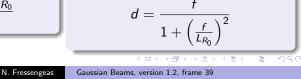
$$M_d \cdot M_f = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{d}{f} + 1 & d \\ -\frac{1}{f} & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

ABCD law

$$q_1 = \frac{df + i(f-d)L_{R_0}}{f - iL_{R_0}}$$



d for plane wavefront: imaginary q_1



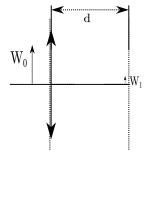
Linear algebra for geometrical optics A few simple matrices Matrix method for Gaussian beams

Transformation of a parallel beam by a lens

The basics of geometrical optics

As we just saw
$$L_{R_0} \ll d$$

 $q_1 = \frac{df + i(f - d)L_{R_0}}{f - iL_{R_0}}$ & $d \approx f$
Identifying W_1 in q_1 $L_{R_0} \ll d$
 $W_1 = \frac{\lambda |f|}{\pi W_0}$



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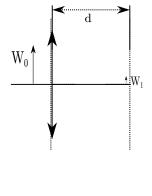
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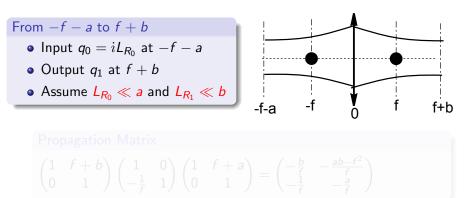
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Transformation of a diffracting Gaussian beam by a lens



From waist to waist

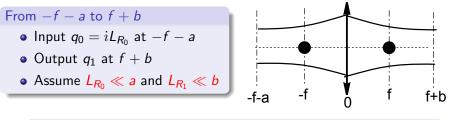
assuming q_1 imaginary

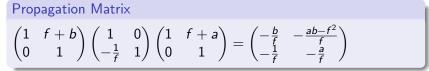
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$$ab = f^2$$

Transformation of a diffracting Gaussian beam by a lens





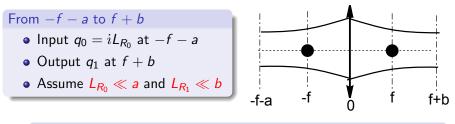
From waist to waist

 $ab = f^2$

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Transformation of a diffracting Gaussian beam by a lens



Propagation Matrix $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & f+b \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{f} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & f+a \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{b}{f} & -\frac{ab-f^2}{f} \\ -\frac{1}{f} & -\frac{a}{f} \end{pmatrix}$

From waist to waist

 $ab = f^2$

assuming q_1 imaginary

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 $\left(\frac{W_1}{W_0}\right)^2 = \frac{b}{a}$