



Astro 500

*Techniques of Modern
Observational Astrophysics*

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Find values for WIYN & SALT instr.:

- Detector gain, read-noise, system efficiency
 - WIYN
 - WHIRC
 - Bench Spectrograph
 - MiniMo
 - OPTIC
 - ODI
 - SALT
 - SALTCAM
 - RSS

What did you find?

Assignment:

- ❖ Work in pairs
- ❖ Tabulate information
- ❖ Assess availability, ease of access
- ❖ Bring to class to present

Homeworks

- Show your work
- Cite your sources
- Make your write-up neat and organized
 - I can't grade it properly if I don't know what's going on.
- Wikipedia is not a peer-refereed source.
 - If you use a result from wikipedia, show the derivation – *make sure wikipedia is correct!*

Telescopes & Optics

Outline

- Defining the telescope & observatory

- Mounts


- Foci

- Optical designs


- Geometric optics

- Aberrations


Conceptually separate



Critical for understanding telescope and instrument capabilities and preliminary instrument design



Essential for detailed instrument design *and* for evaluating data.



Telescopes as Facilities

- The Observatory: far more than telescope
 - Opto-mechanical and thermal control
 - Acquisition & guiding
 - Telemetry and sensing
 - Instrumentation and instrument interfaces (ports)
 - Software for telescope and instrument control
 - Technical support and maintenance
 - Data storage and transfer
 - Software pipelines for data reduction and analysis
 - Environment for observer and operator
 - Personnel management, technical and scientific leadership

Telescopes: broader relevance

- Telescopes are examples of optical systems serving as cameras, i.e., producing images from sources at infinity (collimated light).
- Spectrographs and re-imaging systems essentially use variants of these systems as collimators and cameras.

Telescopes

- What parameters define telescopes?

- Collecting Area (A)

- FOV (Ω)

- Image Quality

- Cost

- Throughput

- Spectral range

- Plate scale/Magnification

- Pointing/tracking

highly coupled

Telescopes as cameras

Telescopes

We will focus on optical/IR telescopes;
Most of this parameter space is relevant for
light collection at other wavelengths.

Examples of Telescopes

➤ Refracting

- o Galilean (1609)
- o Keplerian (1611)

➤ Reflecting (4x harder to make!)

- o Newtonian (1672)
- o Gregorian (1673)
- o Cassegrain (1668)
- o Ritchey-Cretien (1927)

Why?

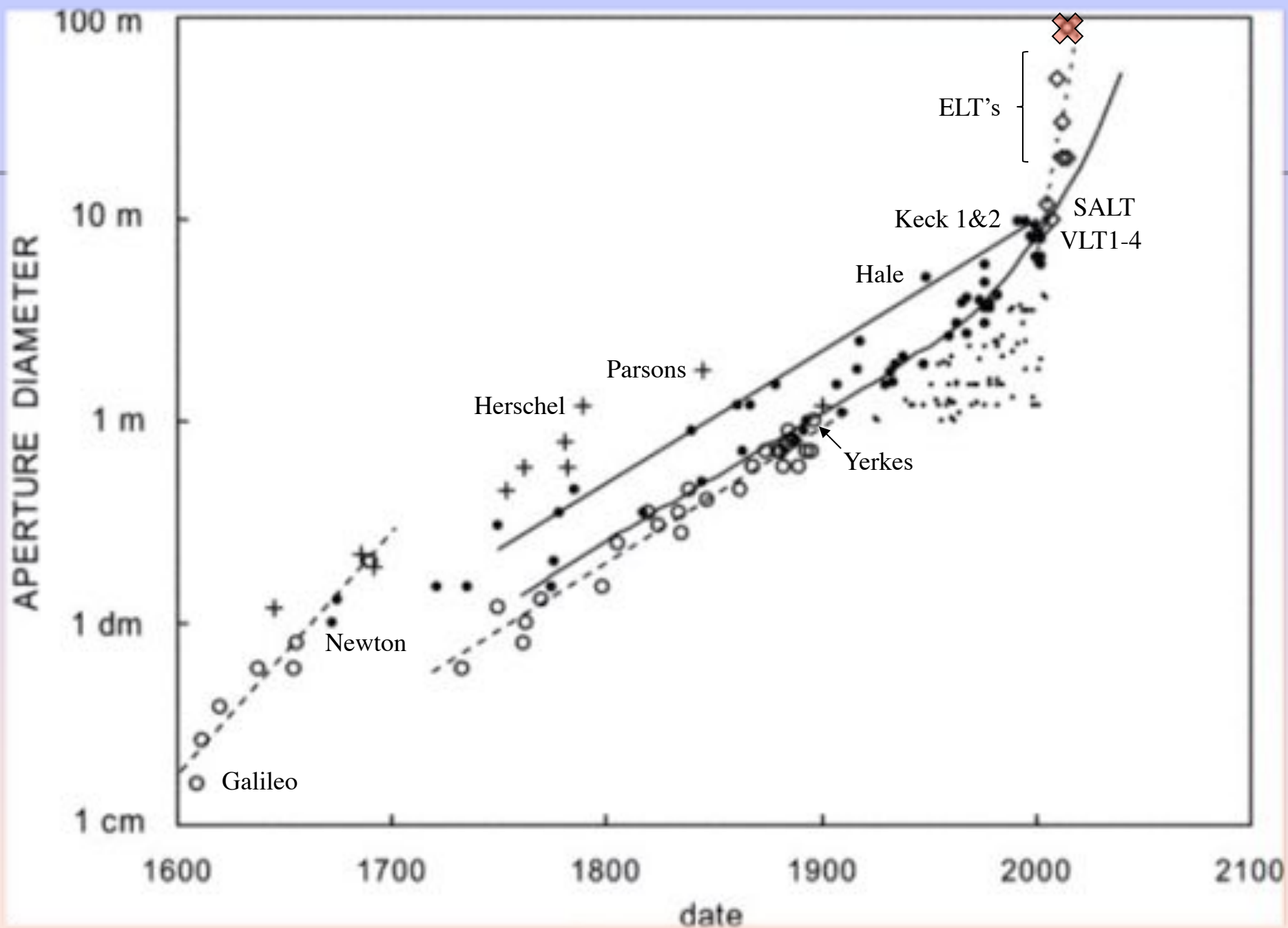
➤ Catadioptric

- o Schmidt (1931)
- o Maksutov (1944)

➤ Multi-mirror

- o MMT (1977)
- o Keck (1992)
- o HET (1996), SALT (2005)
- o all ELT's (2014+)

Trends to larger collecting area, but more compact in mounting and focal-ratio (speed).



Credit: R. Racine

Telescope Mounts

➤ Equatorial

- German (Yerkes)
- English Yoke or English Cross ←
- Fork (Shane 3m)
- Horseshoe (CTIO & KPNO 4m) ←

Easiest for tracking

Best for flexure, but pointing limitations

Best compromise

➤ Alt-Az (Altitude-Azimuth)

3.5-4.5m

- ARC, WIYN, ARC, SOAR

6.5-10m

- Keck, VLT, Subaru, LBT, **MMT**
Megellan

First: 1977

Most compact but requires computer control; has field rotation

➤ Transit

- Arecibo (radio)
- LMT - liquid mirror telescope

Cheapest but limited sky coverage (40%)

➤ Transit-Azimuth

- HET, SALT

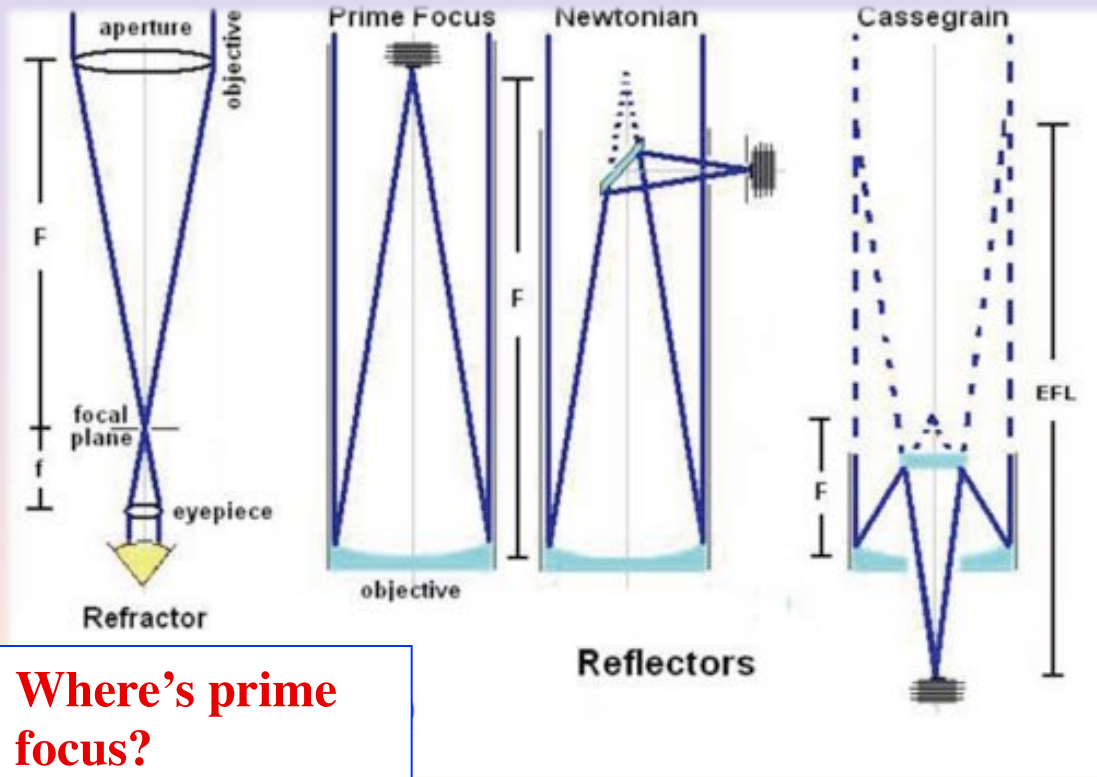
Cheap and up to 70% sky coverage

Telescope Foci

- Prime
- Newtonian
- Cassegrain

What's the difference?

- Folded Cassegrain
- Nasmyth
- Coude

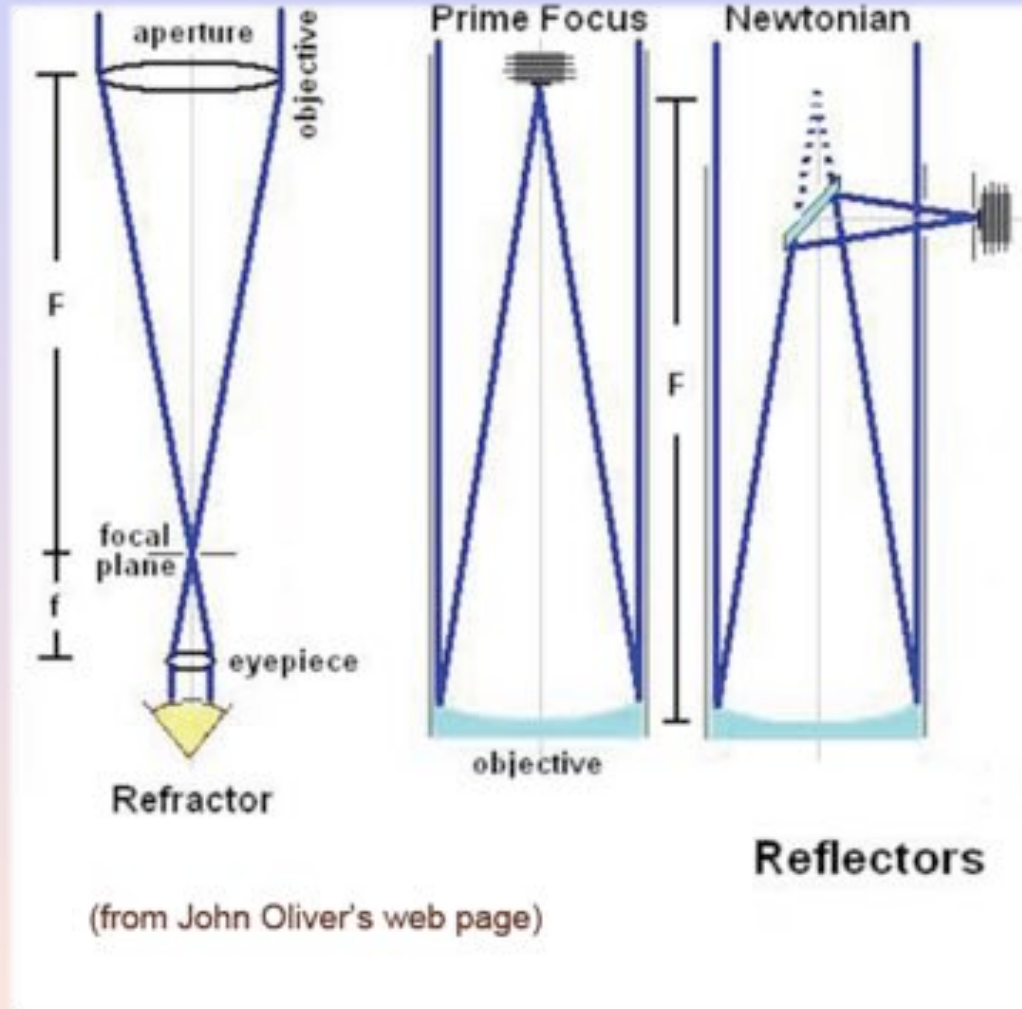


Where's prime focus?

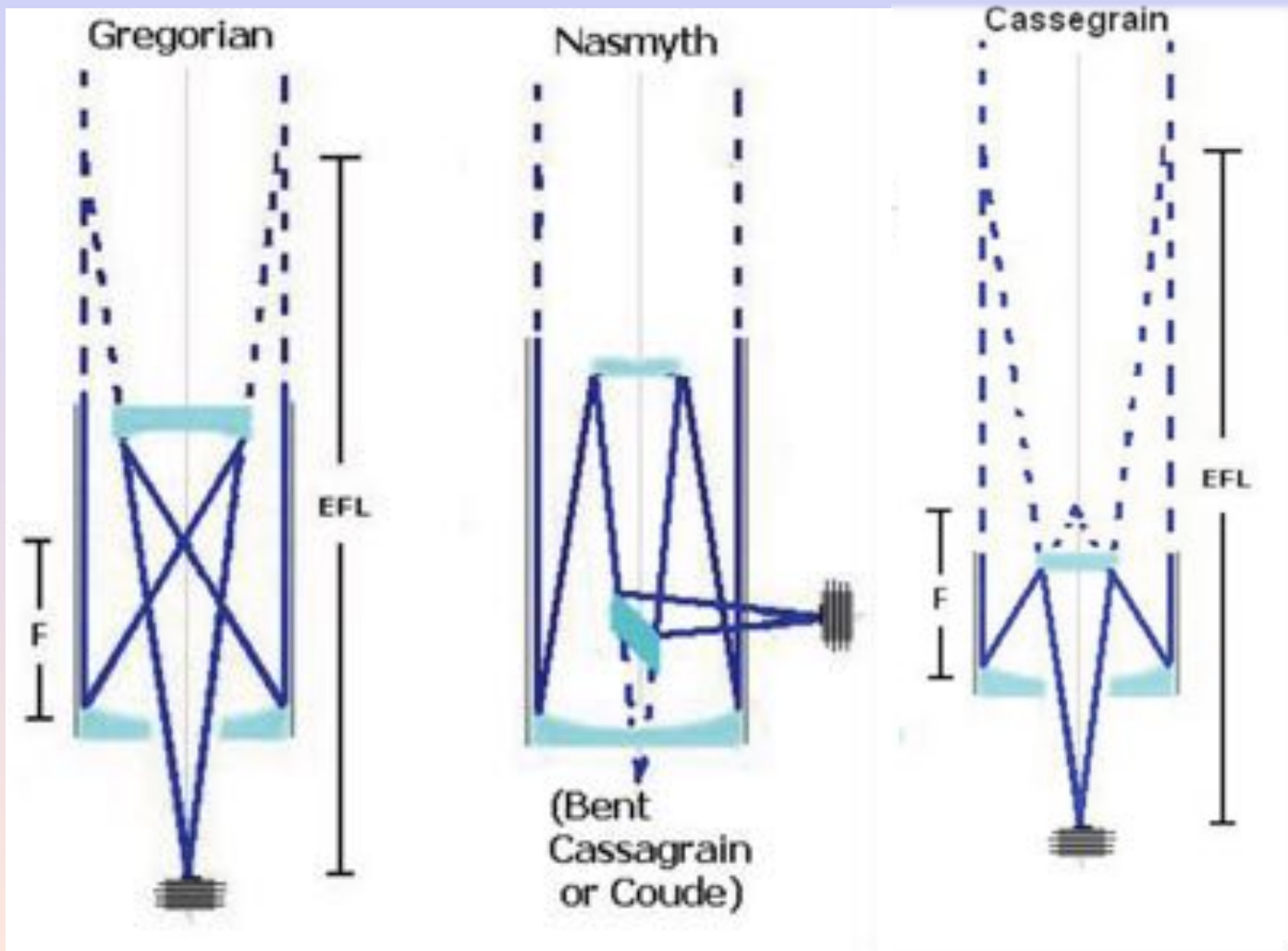
Types of Telescopes

Category	Primary	Secondary	Corrector	Name	Principal Aberrations
Singlet lens	Spherical			refractor	spherical + chromatic
Singlet mirror	Paraboloid mirror			Newtonian	coma + astigmatism
Doublet mirrors	Paraboloid	Hyperbaloid		Cassegrain	coma
	Hyperbaloid	Hyperbaloid		Ritchey-Chertien (RC)	astigmatism (twice Cassegrain field)
	Parabaloid	Ellipsoid		Gregorian	field curvature
	Ellipsoid	Spherical		Dall-Kirkham	
	Ellipsoid	Ellipsoid		Aplonatic Gregorian (AG)	best images but large obstruction
Multiplets	Spherical		Aspheric lens or achromate doublet	Schmidt	v. wide field
	Spherical	Hyperbaloid	Aspheric lens	Schmidt-Cassegrain	“
	Spherical	Spherical	Spherical meniscus lens	Maksutov	“
	Spherical		4-mirror asphere	HET, SALT	Low cost

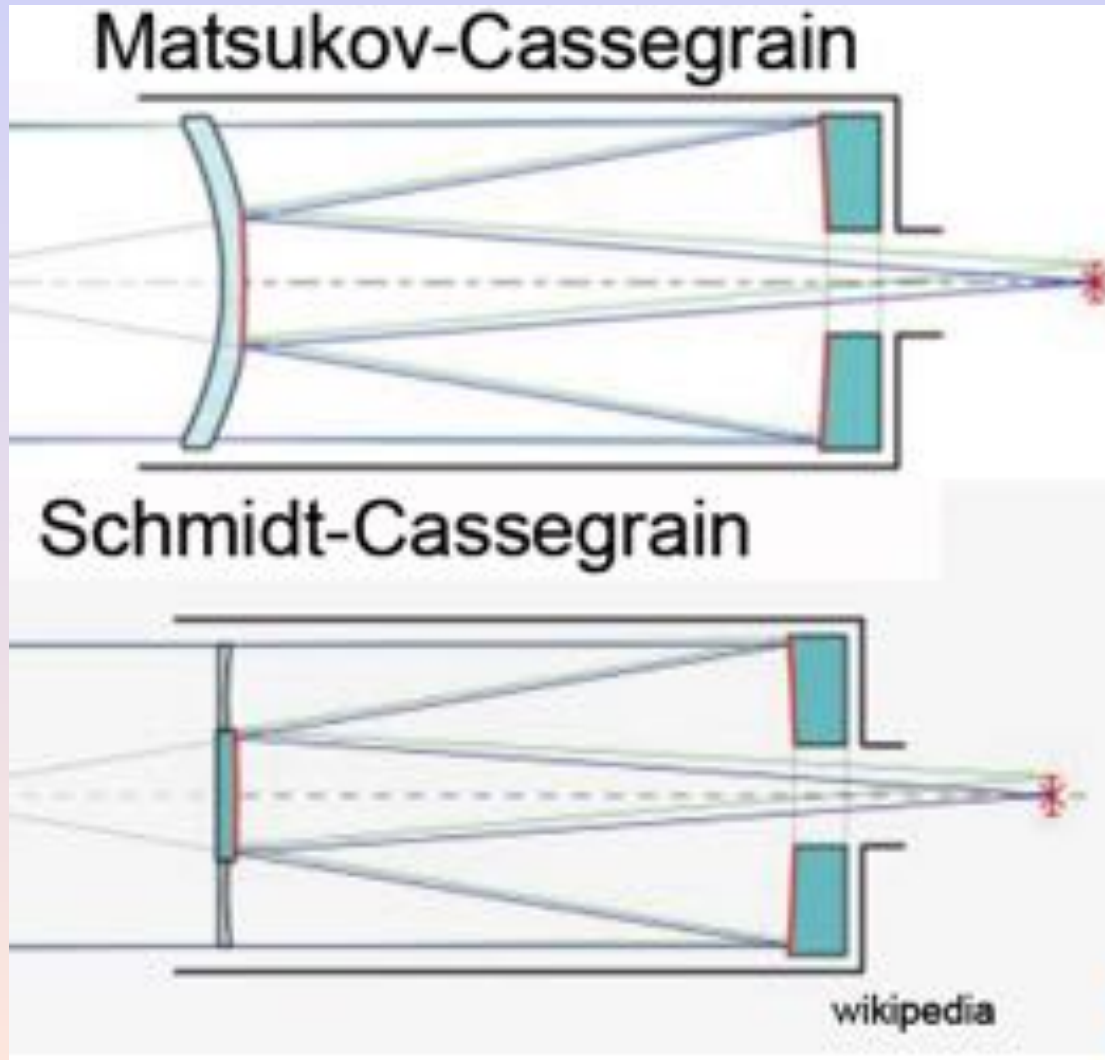
Singlets



Doublets



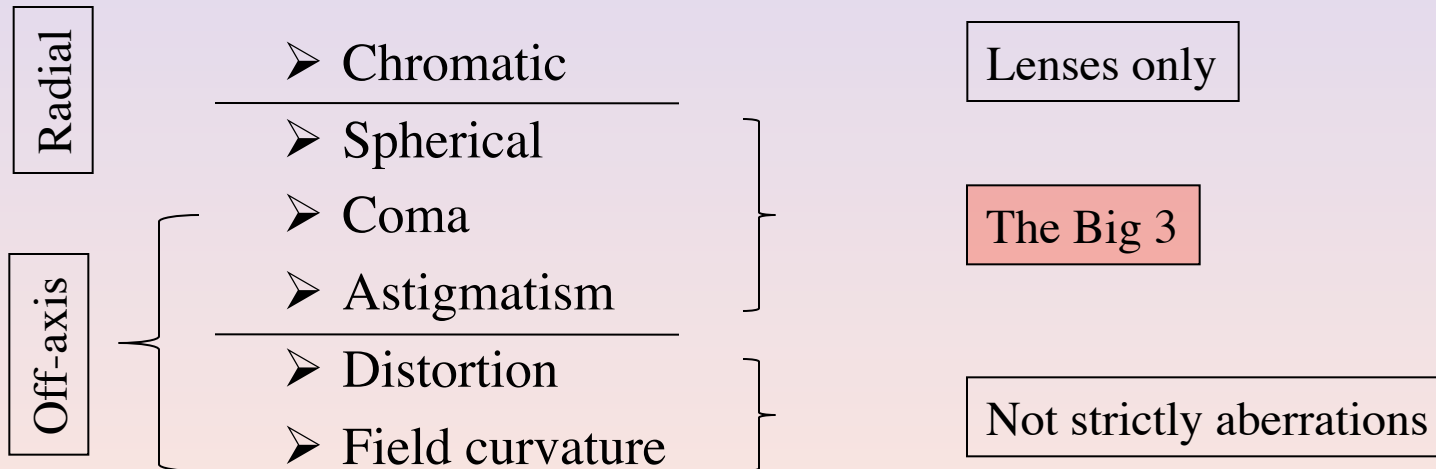
Multiplets: Catadioptrics



Spherical Primary

Why different designs?

- Trade-offs primarily between cost, desired field of view (at given image-quality) and collecting area.
- Image-quality and field-of-view concern aberrations.
- 6 principal aberrations:



Optics

- Geometric Optics

- Reflection
- Refraction
- Thin lens
- Spherical optics
- Conics

- Stops
- Pupils
- Chief rays
- Marginal ray
- System design

- Aberrations
 - Chromatic
 - Spherical
 - Coma
 - Astigmatism
 - Distortion
 - Field curvature



Where we're headed



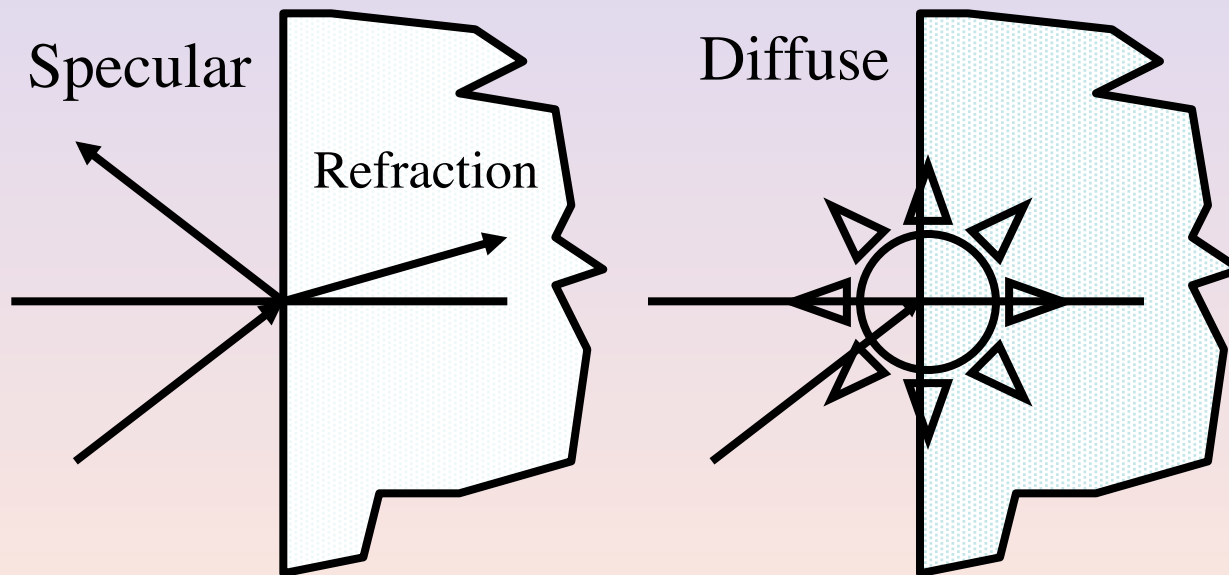
- Telescope summary

Reading

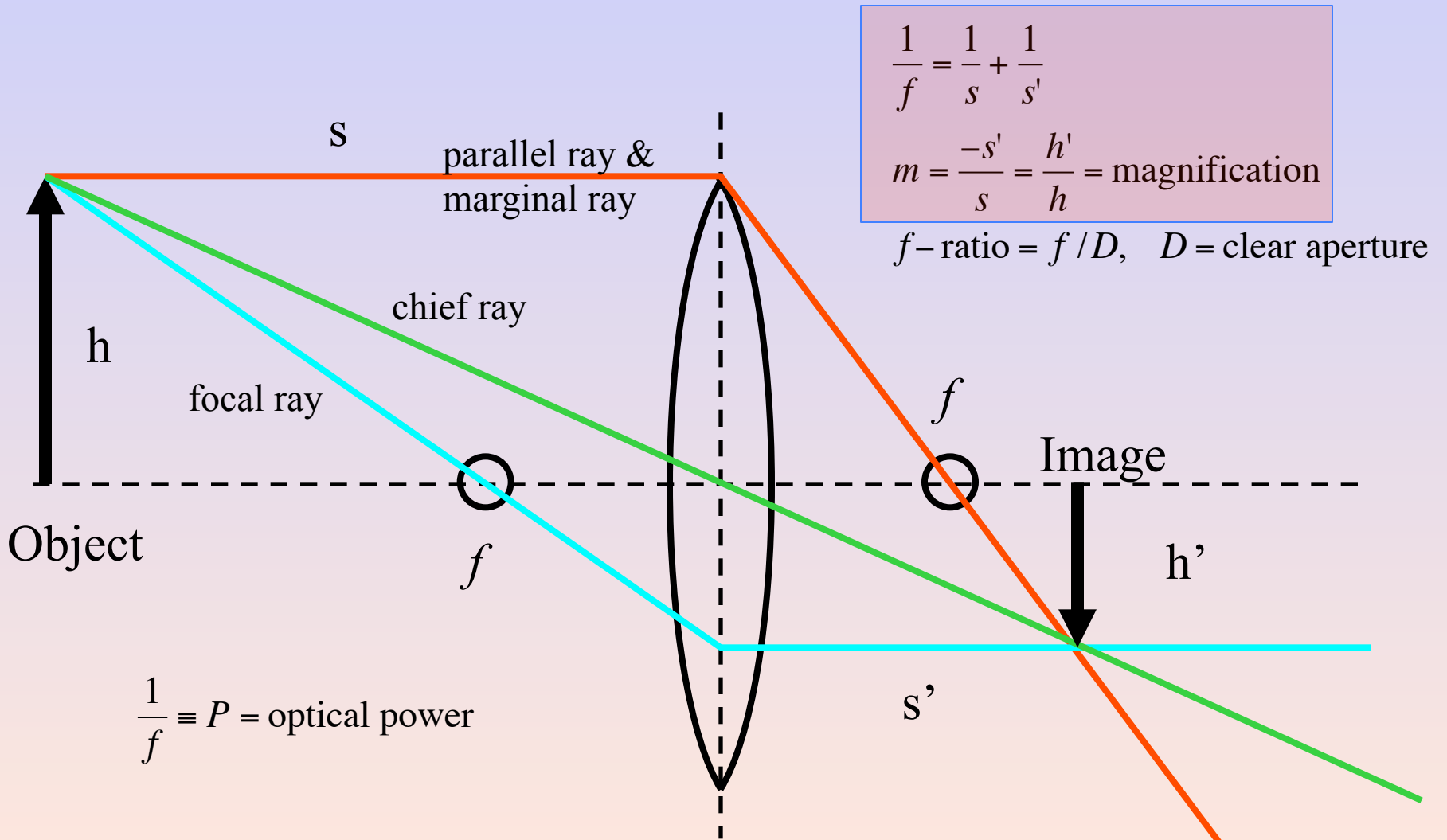
- Walker - ok place to start
 - Schroeder - ferocious, but very rigorous and remarkably general and complete
 - McLean - fairly complete, but missing basics
- *Recommend:*
1. Start with Walker to get an overview
 2. Pick up McLean *and* a basic optics book (e.g., Meyer-Arendt, “Introduction to Classical and Modern Optics”) and work out quoted results; return to Walker to reconcile results and nomenclature.
 3. Then hit Schroeder’s text running to go to expert level.

Some Everyday Concepts

- Specular and Diffuse Reflection
- Refraction



The Thin Lens



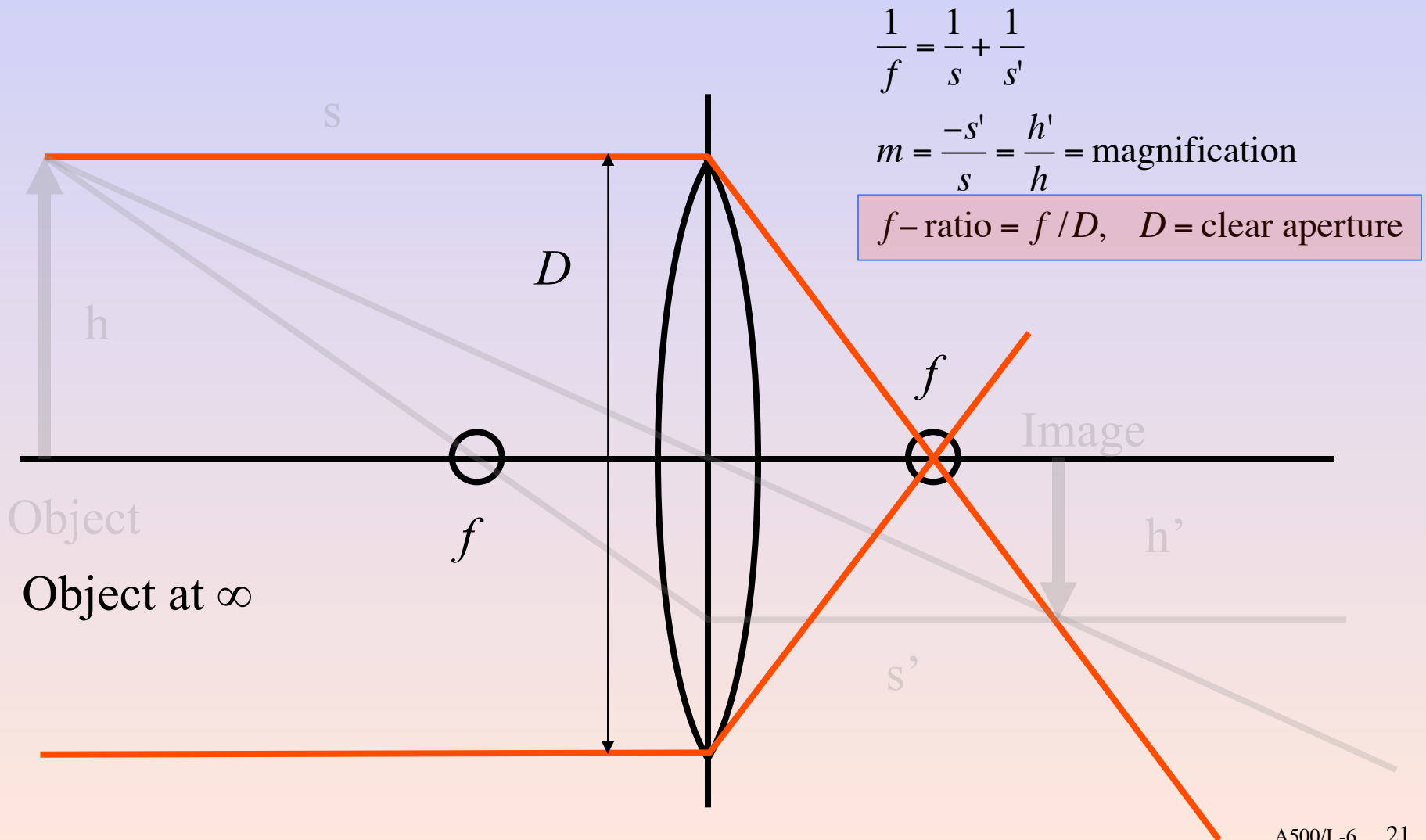
$$\frac{1}{f} = \frac{1}{s} + \frac{1}{s'}$$

$$m = \frac{-s'}{s} = \frac{h'}{h} = \text{magnification}$$

f -ratio = f/D , D = clear aperture

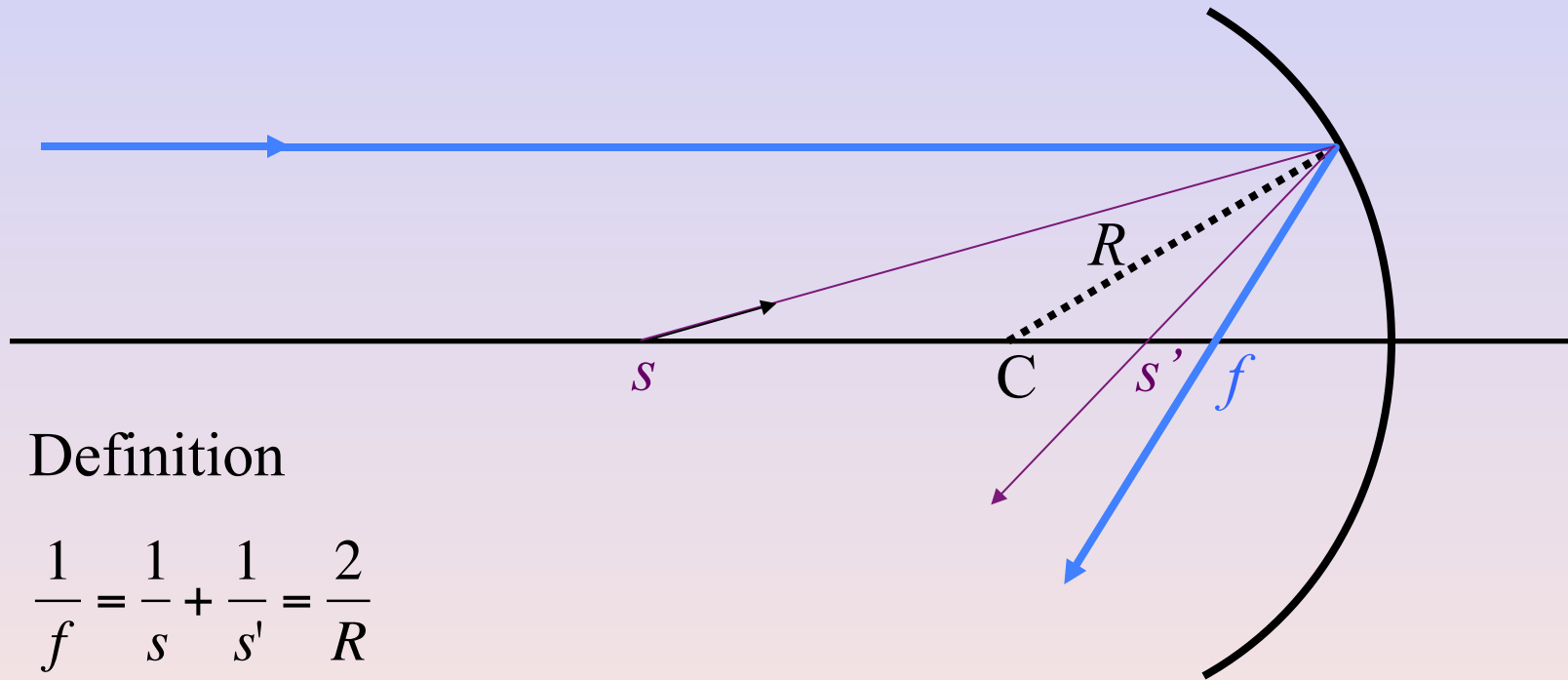
$$\frac{1}{f} \equiv P = \text{optical power}$$

The Thin Lens



Spherical Optics

Focal Length Defined



Definition

$$\frac{1}{f} = \frac{1}{s} + \frac{1}{s'} = \frac{2}{R}$$

Object at Infinity

$$\frac{1}{s'} = \frac{1}{f} \qquad \frac{1}{s'} = \frac{2}{R}$$

$f = R/2$ is referred to as the *paraxial* focal-length

Snell's Law

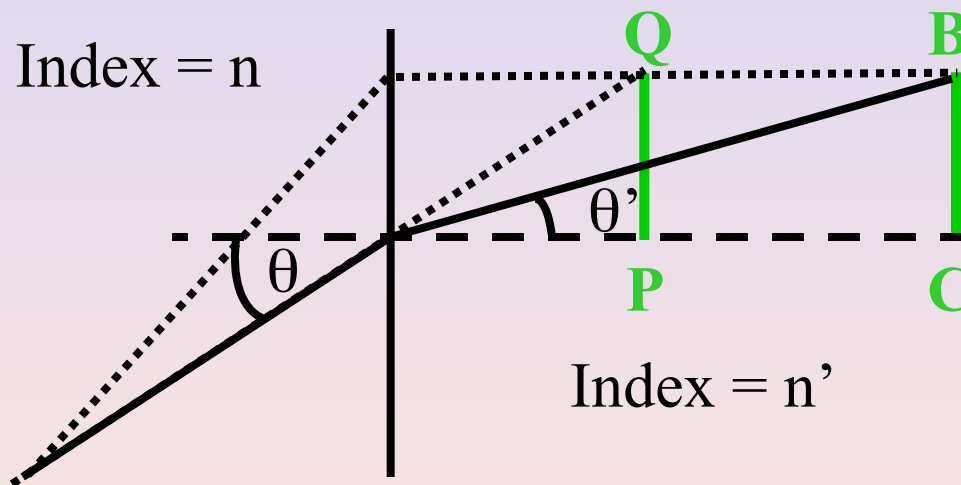
$$n \sin \theta = n' \sin \theta'$$

n and n' depend on λ

$$\frac{1}{V} = (n_F - n_C) / (n_D - 1)$$

= dispersive power

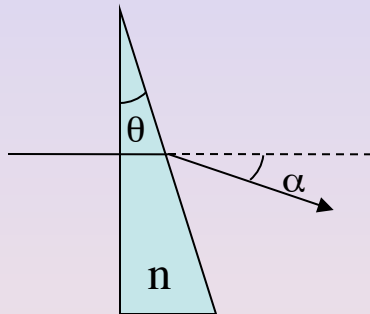
F, D, C : solar-spectrum
Fraunhofer lines (486, 589,
656 nm).
 V vs n is called a glass table.



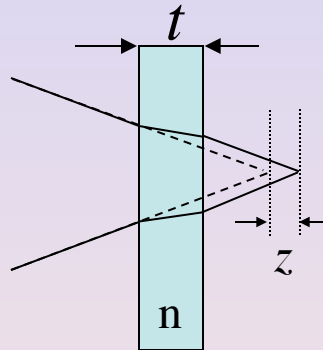
Fermat's principle: least time

An Aside: Implications of Snell's Law

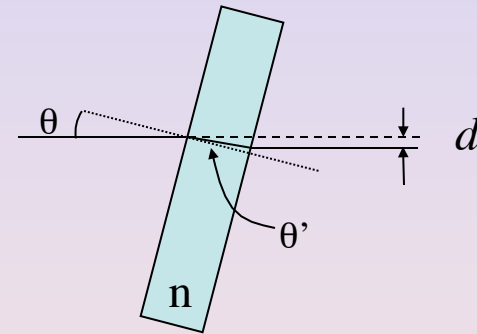
$$\alpha \approx (n - 1)\theta$$



$$z \approx \frac{(n - 1)t}{n}$$



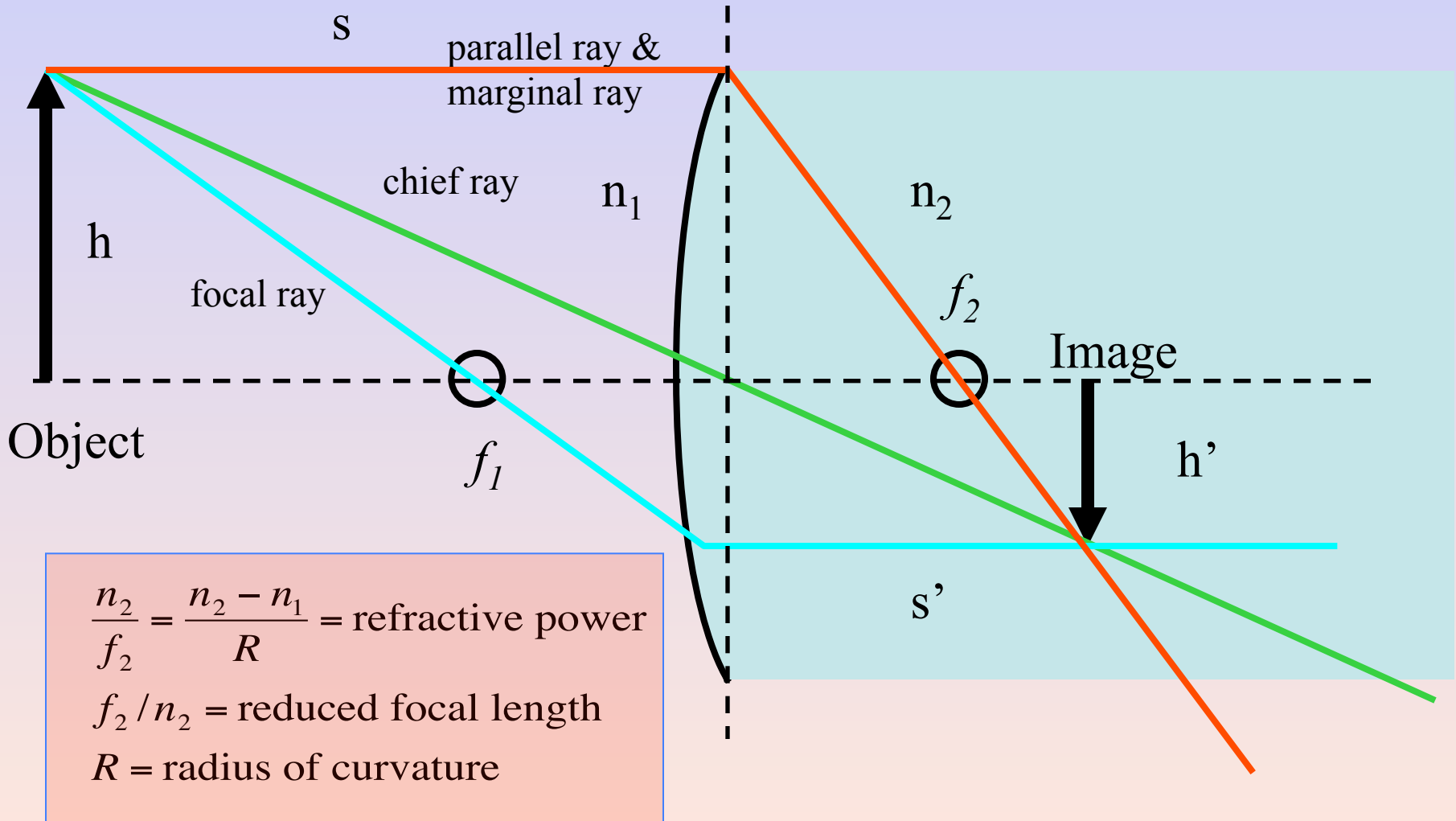
$$d \approx t \sin \theta \left(1 - \frac{\cos \theta}{n \cos \theta'} \right)$$



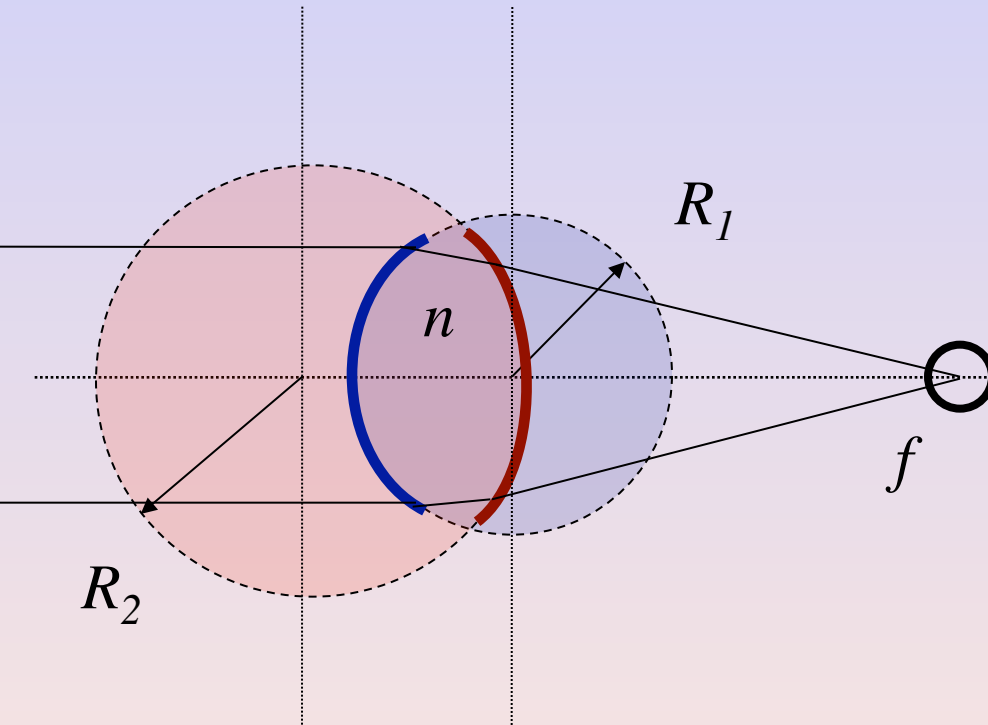
Impact of wedges and
and plane parallel plates
on an optical beam

If beam is converging,
astigmatism introduced.
Can be eliminated with wedge.

The Thick Lens



Optical Power, P



Two surfaces

- separation d
- index n

$$P \equiv \frac{1}{f} = P_1 + P_2 - \frac{d}{n} P_1 P_2$$

Two-surface spherical lens in air or vacuum

- R_1, R_2 radii of curvature
- $R > 0$: center of curvature behind lens

Lensmaker's formula:

$$P = \frac{1}{f} = (n-1) \left[\frac{1}{R_1} - \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{d(n-1)}{nR_1R_2} \right]$$

units : dioptor (m^{-1})