

Demonstrating optical aberrations in the laboratory

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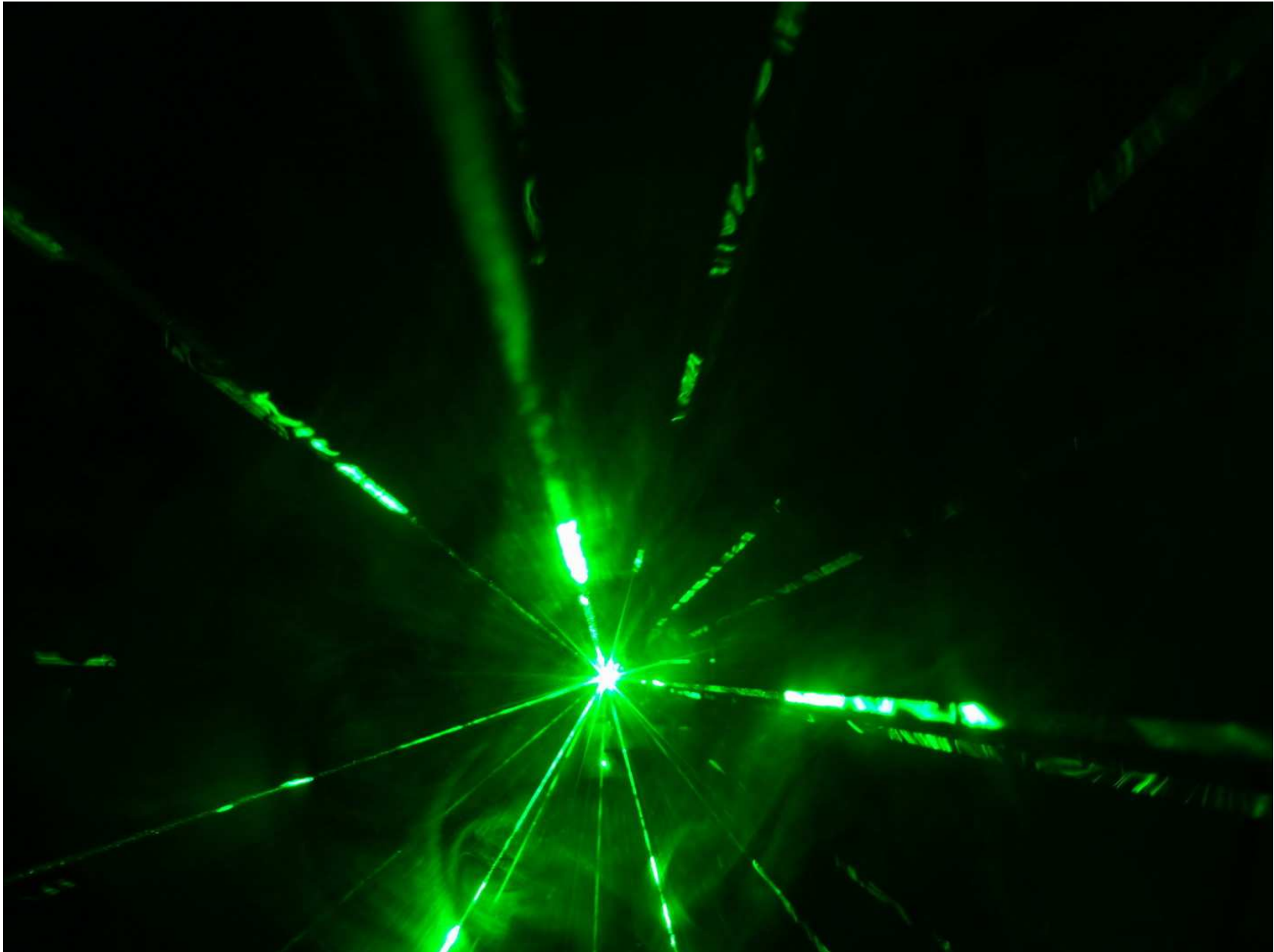


OPTICAL ABERRATIONS

AN OPTICAL ABERRATION IS A DISTORTION OF AN IMAGE AS COMPARED TO THE OBJECT DUE TO DEFECTS IN AN OPTICAL SYSTEM

TILT IS THE DEVIATION OF A LASER BEAM OFF THE OPTICAL AXIS

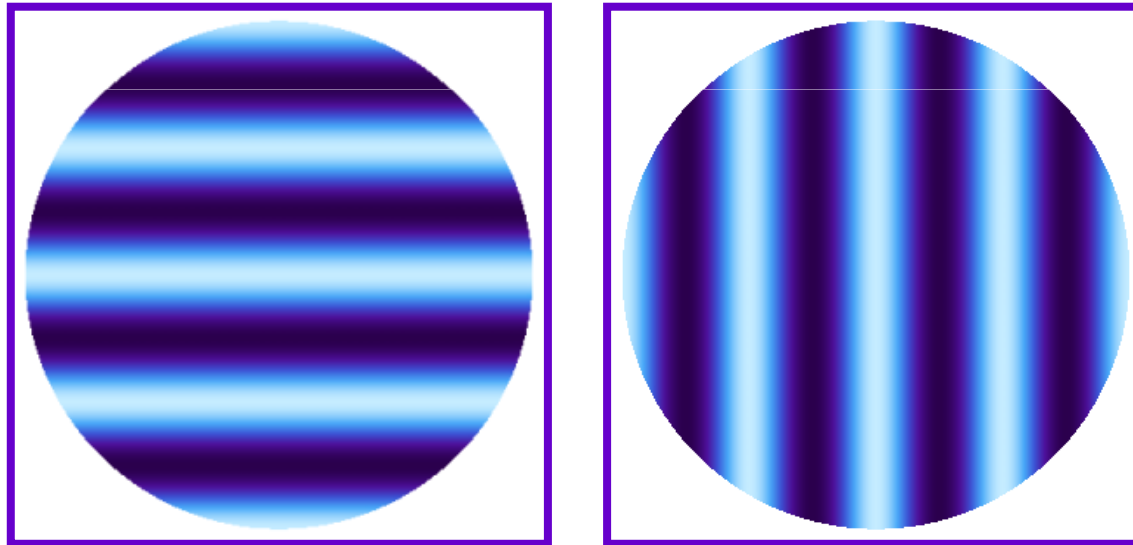
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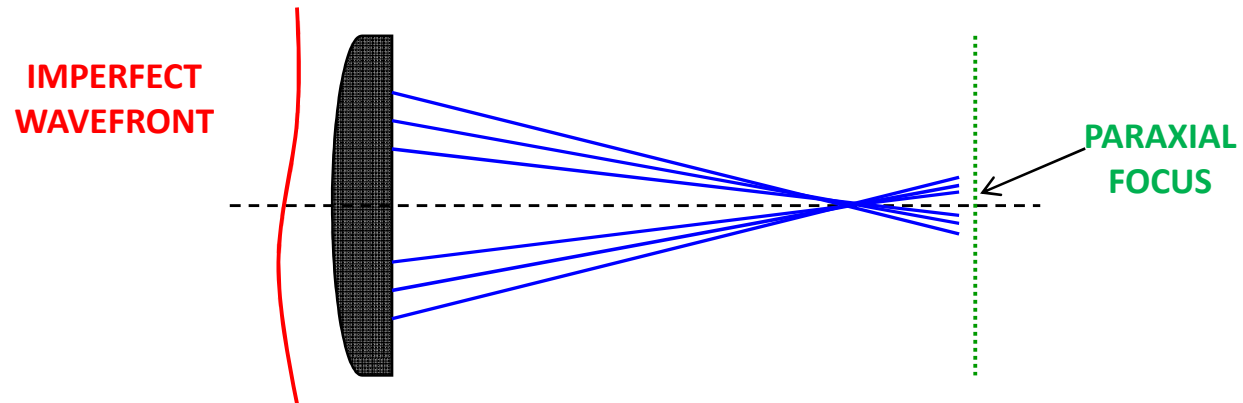
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OPTICAL ABERRATIONS...

DEFOCUS

OCCURS WHEN AN IMPERFECT WAVEFRONT IS **FOCUSED** TO A POINT THAT IS EITHER BEFORE OR AFTER THE PARAXIAL FOCUS



OPTICAL ABERRATIONS...

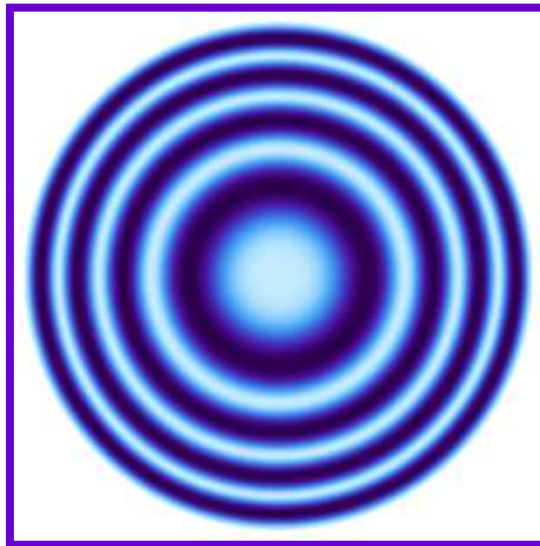
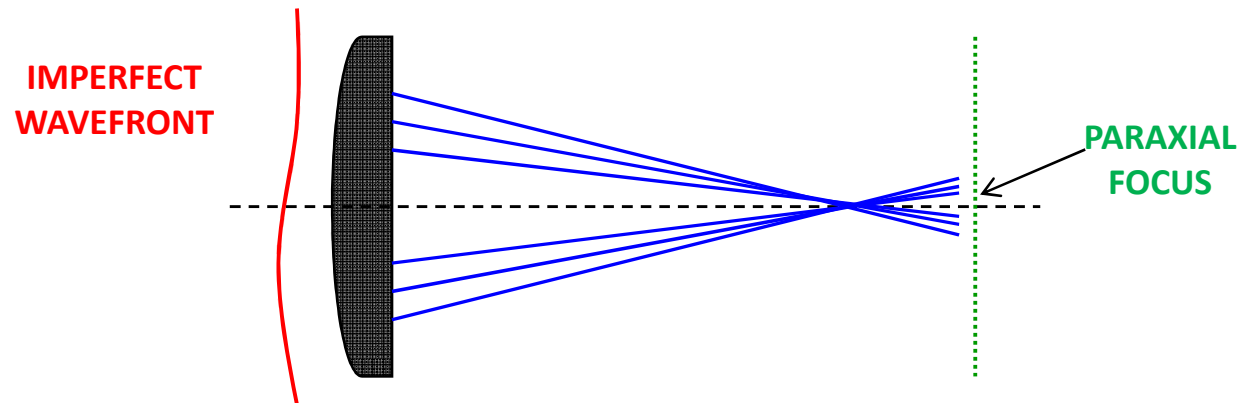
DEFOCUS



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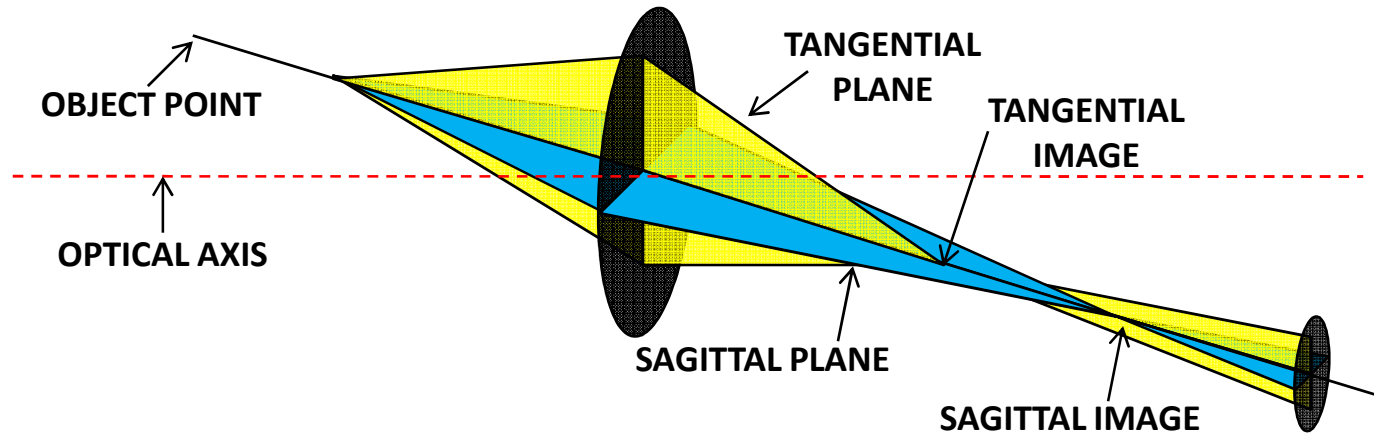
OCCURS WHEN AN IMPERFECT WAVEFRONT IS **FOCUSED** TO A POINT THAT IS EITHER BEFORE OR AFTER THE PARAXIAL FOCUS



OPTICAL ABERRATIONS...

ASTIGMATISM

ARISES WHEN THE TANGENTIAL AND SAGITTAL FOCI DO NOT COINCIDE AND THE SYSTEM APPEARS TO HAVE 2 POINTS OF FOCUS



OPTICAL ABERRATIONS...

ASTIGMATISM

Original

aio

Compromise

aio

Horizontal Focus

aio

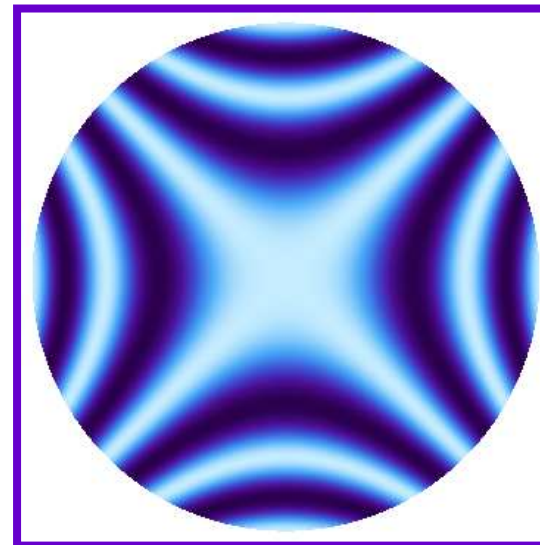
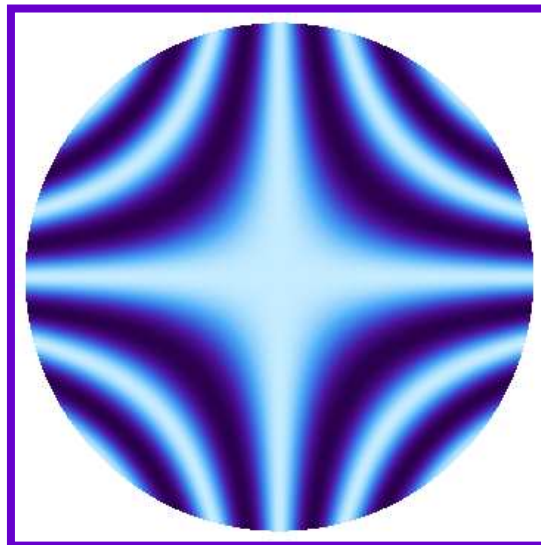
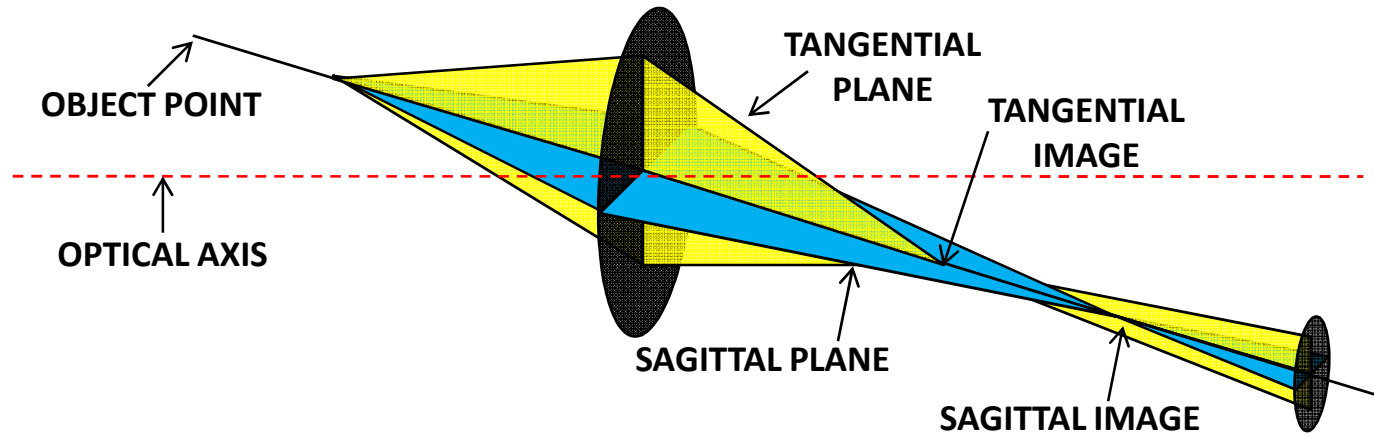
Vertical Focus

aio

OPTICAL ABERRATIONS...

ASTIGMATISM

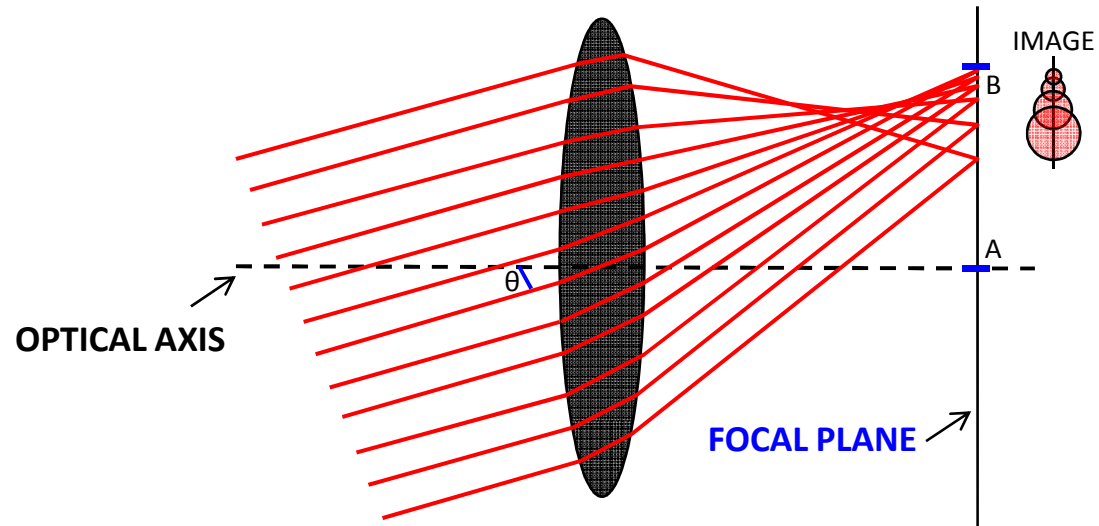
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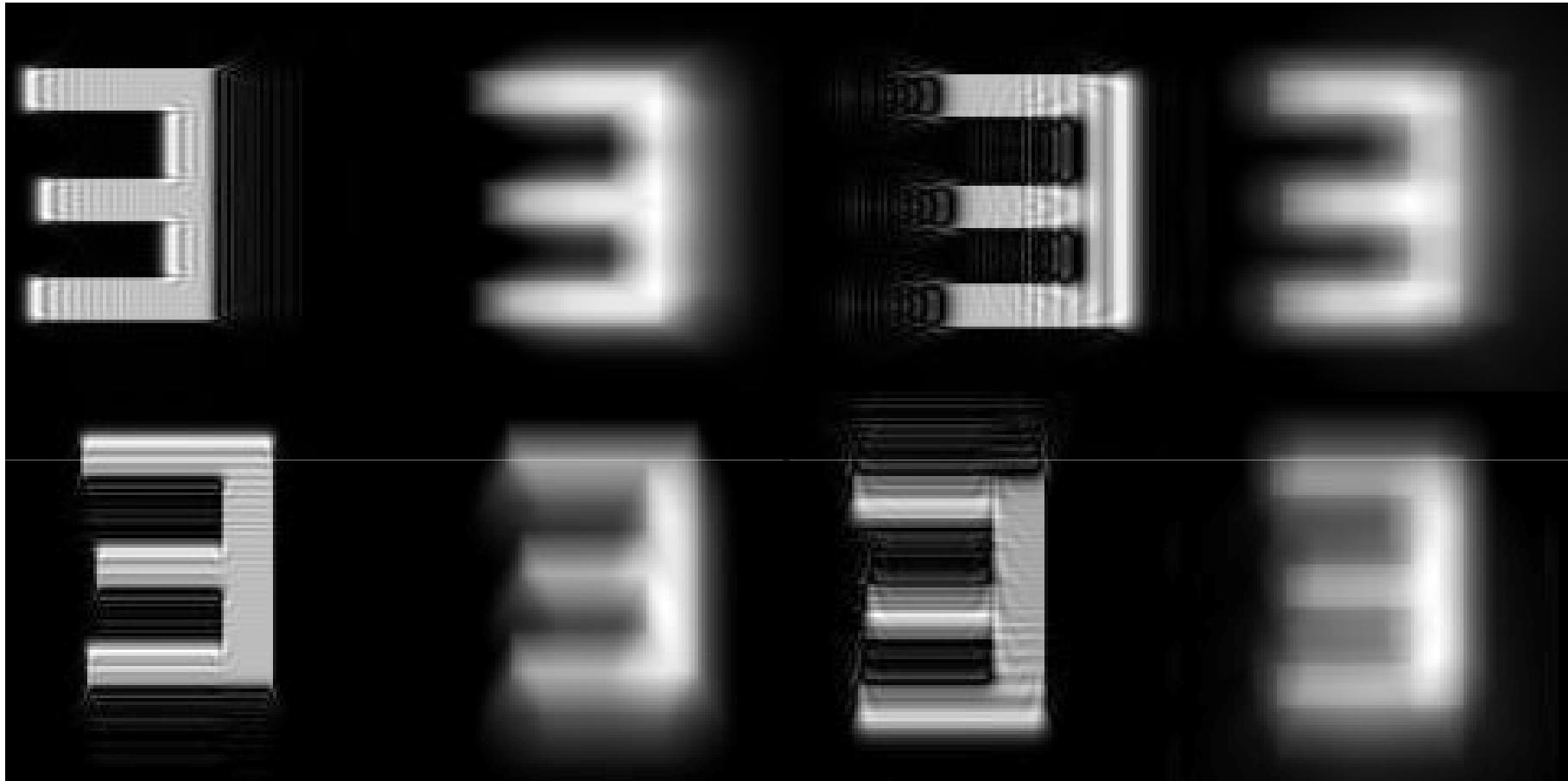
COMA

COMA IS PRODUCED WHEN A WAVEFRONT FROM AN OFF-AXIS OBJECT POINT ARE IMAGED BY DIFFERENT ZONES OF THE LENS



OPTICAL ABERRATIONS...

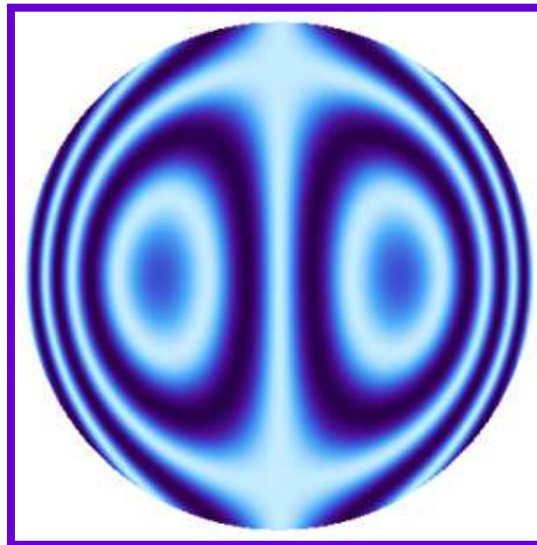
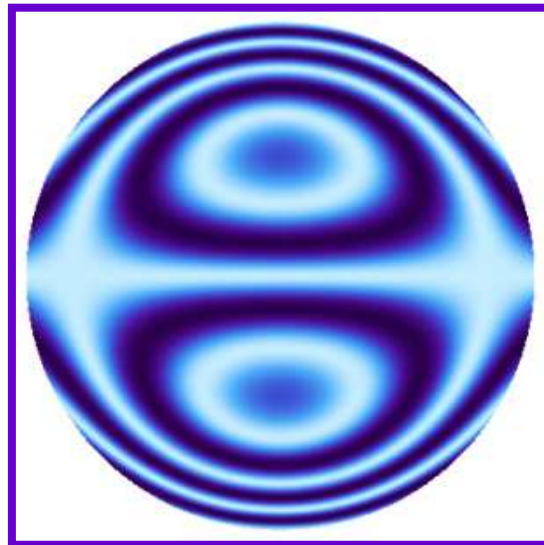
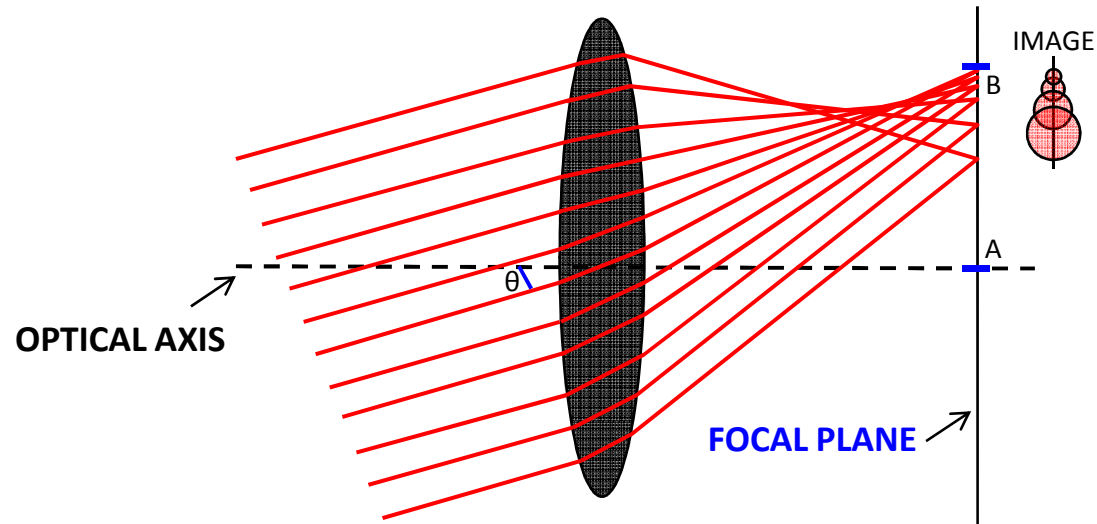
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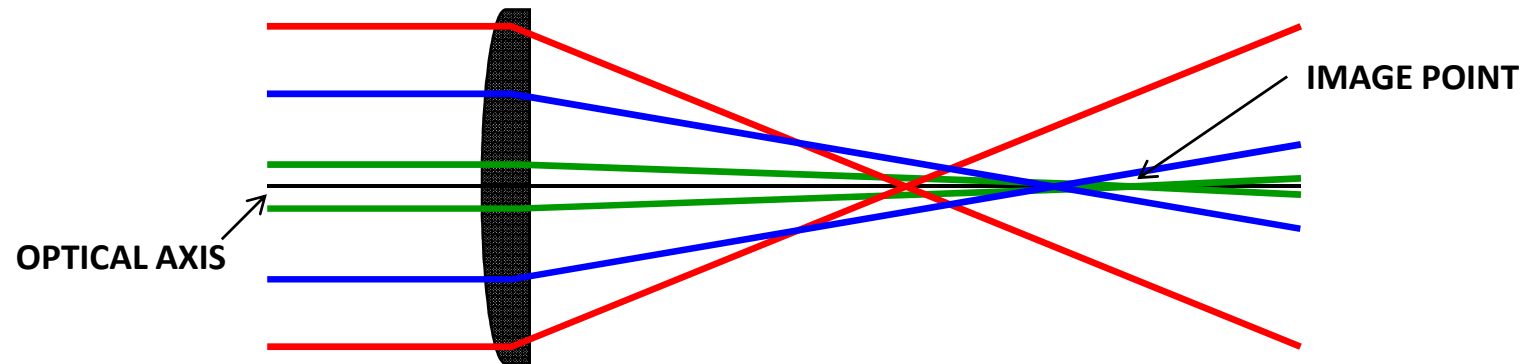
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OPTICAL ABERRATIONS...

SPHERICAL ABERRATION

SPHERICAL ABERRATION IS A DEVIATION OF THE LASER WAVEFRONT FROM AN IDEAL SPHERICAL SHAPE



OPTICAL ABERRATIONS...

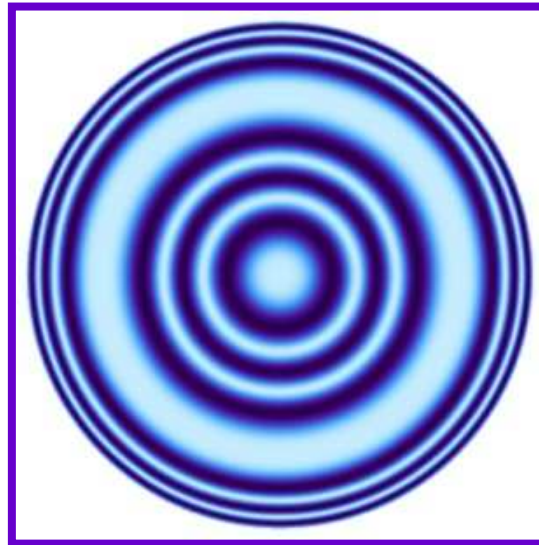
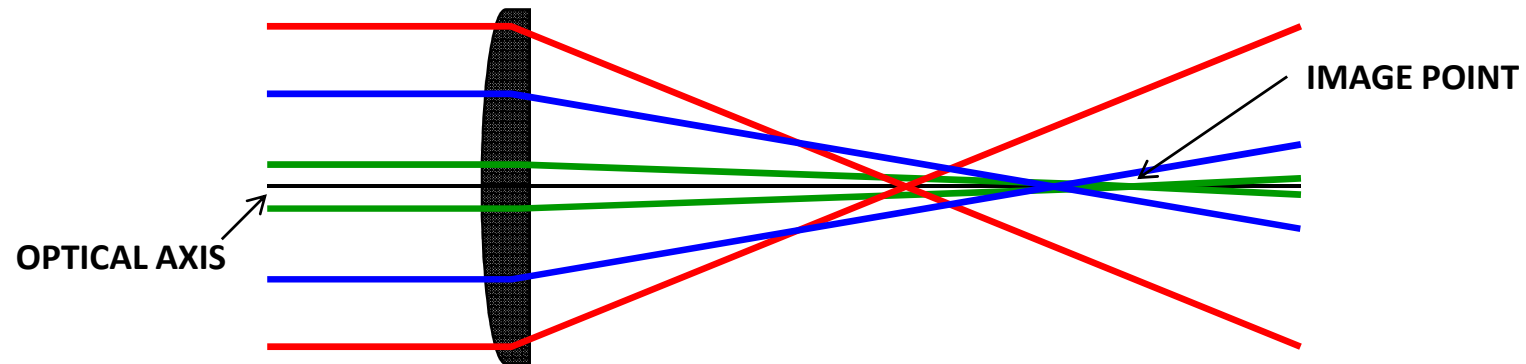
SPHERICAL ABERRATION



OPTICAL ABERRATIONS...

SPHERICAL ABERRATION

SPHERICAL ABERRATION IS A DEVIATION OF THE LASER WAVEFRONT FROM AN IDEAL SPHERICAL SHAPE



ZERNIKE POLYNOMIALS

ZERNIKE POLYNOMIALS ARE AN **ORTHOGONAL** SET

EACH POLYNOMIAL HAS AN ASSOCIATED **WEIGHTING** COEFFICIENT

$$Z_n^m(r, \theta) = R_n^m(r) e^{im\theta}$$

$$Z_n^m(r, \theta) = \underbrace{R_n^m(r) \cos(m\theta)}_{\text{EVEN}} + i \underbrace{R_n^m(r) \sin(m\theta)}_{\text{ODD}}$$

ODD WEIGHTING
COEFFICIENT

ABERRATION PHASE

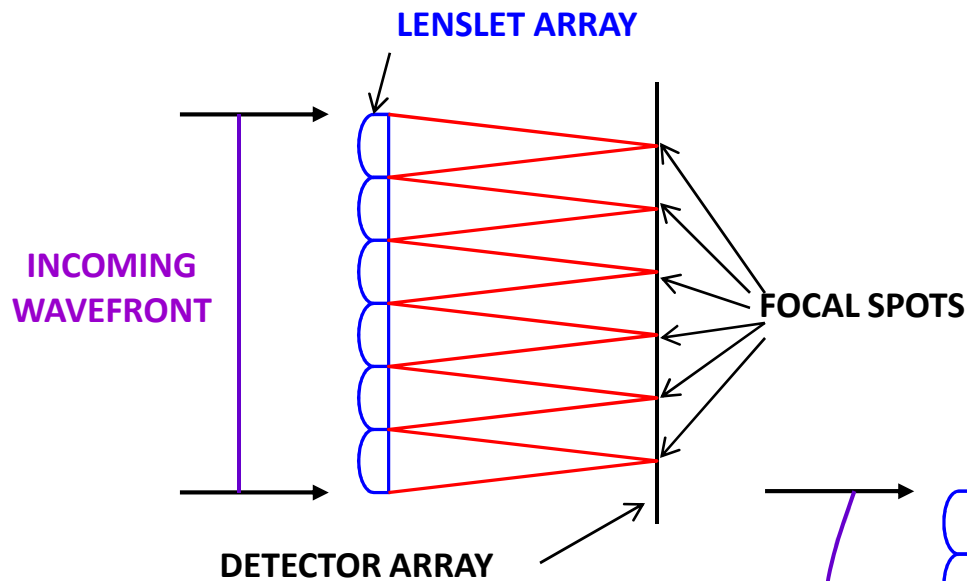
$$\Phi(r, \theta) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^n [A_n^m R_n^m(r) \cos(m\theta) + B_n^m R_n^m(r) \sin(m\theta)]$$

EVEN WEIGHTING
COEFFICIENT

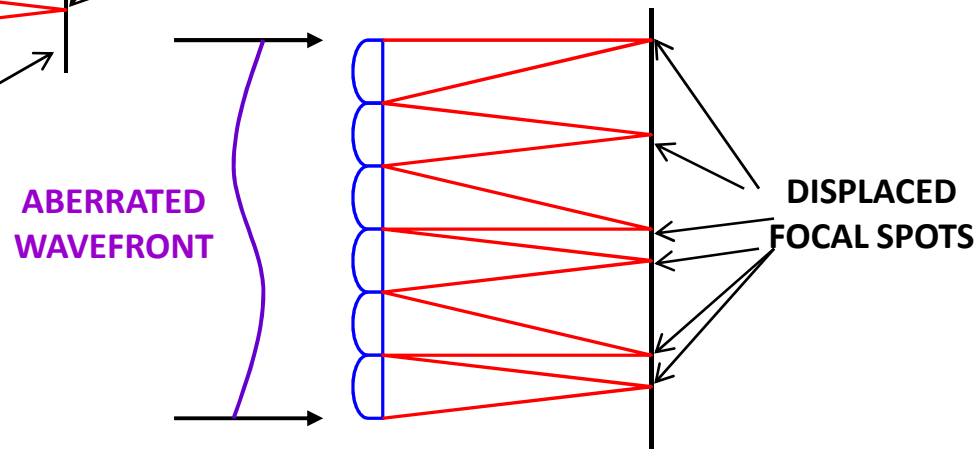
ZERNIKE POLYNOMIALS ARE FITTED TO 3-DIMENSIONAL DATA TO **DESCRIBE** THE
ABERRATIONS OF WAVEFRONT MEASUREMENTS

SHACK-HARTMANN WAVEFRONT SENSOR

IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF DESIGN INCLUDE A LENSLET ARRAY AND A POSITION-SENSING DETECTOR

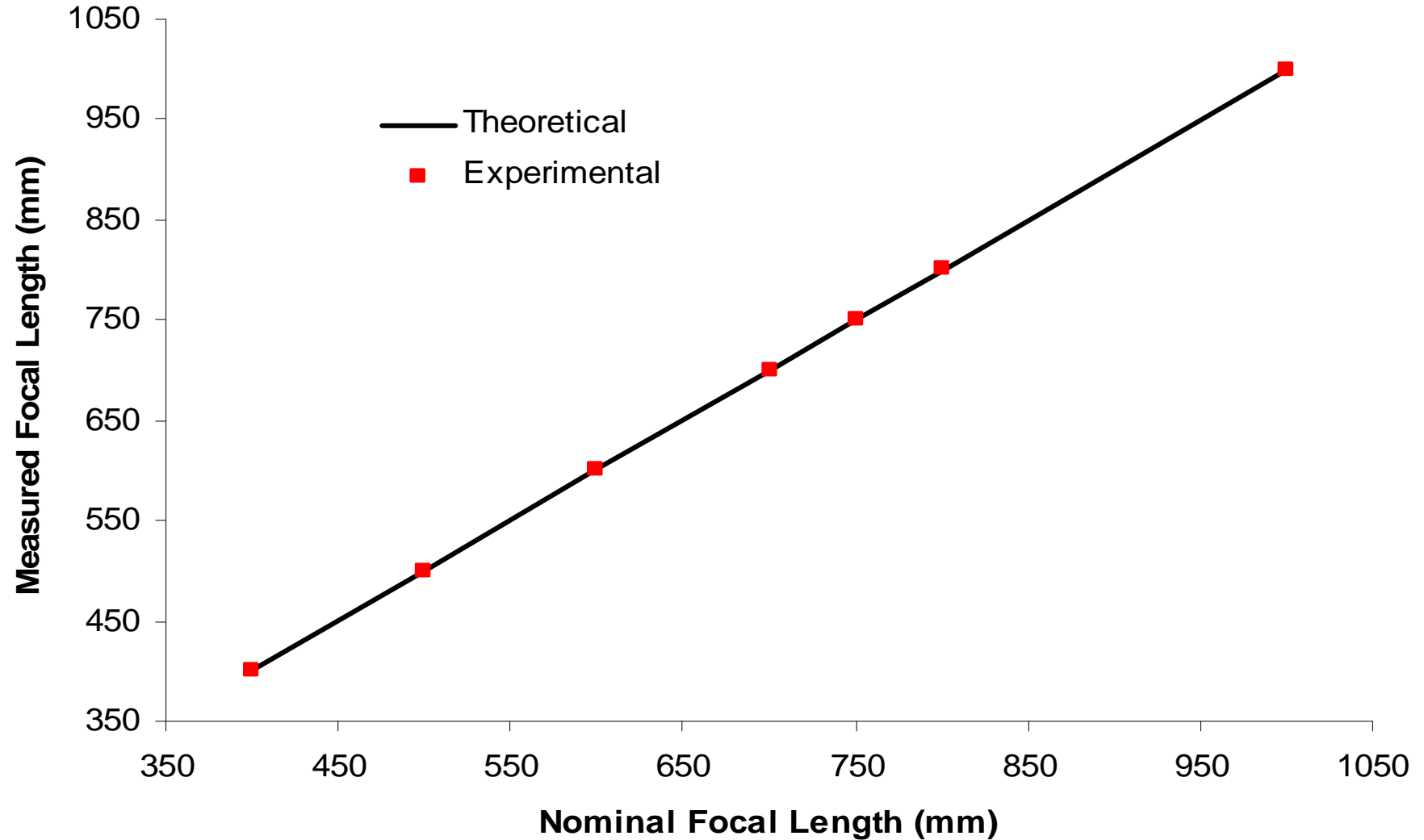


THE POSITION OF THE FOCAL SPOTS IS **DIRECTLY RELATED** TO THE AVERAGE WAVEFRONT SLOPE ACROSS THE LENSLET

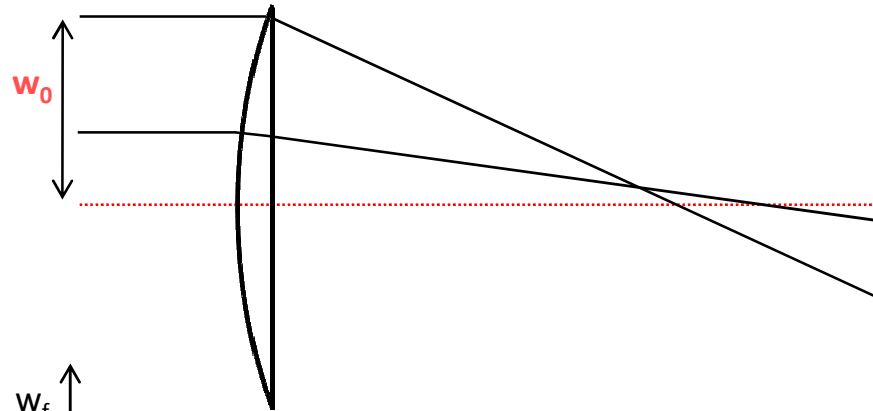


DEMONSTRATING OPTICAL ABERRATIONS

Focal length from Defocus



DEMONSTRATING OPTICAL ABERRATIONS

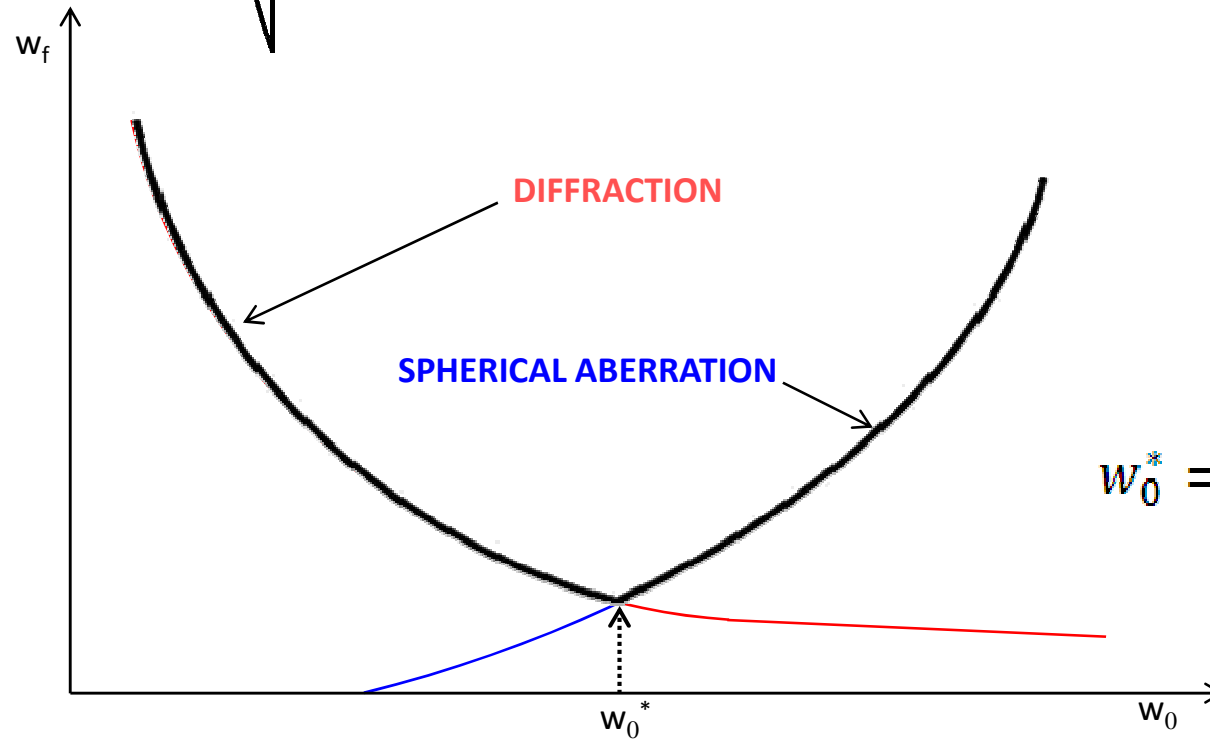


DUE TO DIFFRACTION

$$W_f = \frac{4kw_0^3}{f^2}$$

DUE TO SPHERICAL ABERRATION

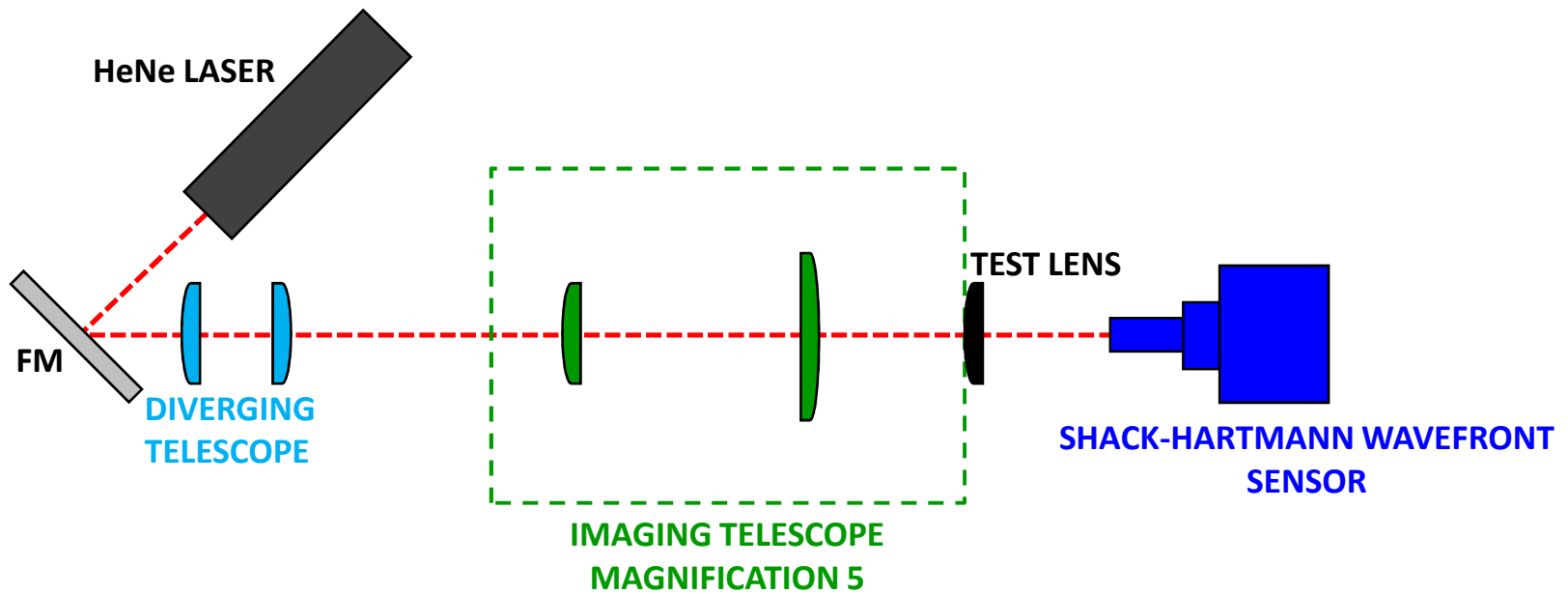
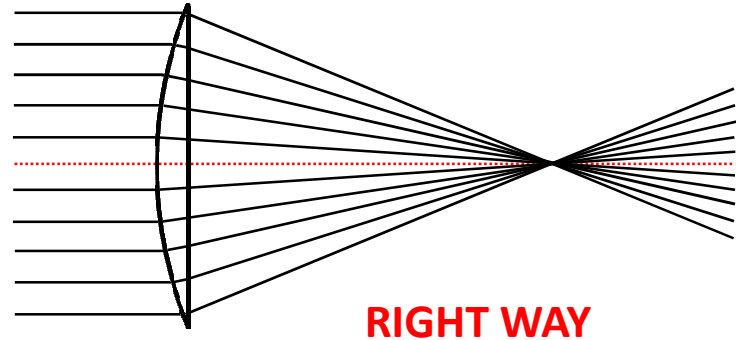
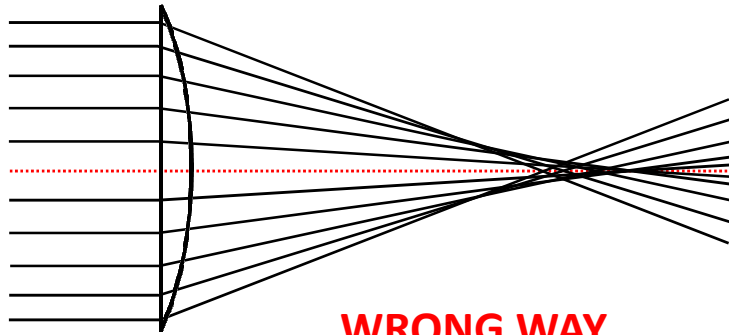
$$W_f = \frac{M^2\lambda f}{\pi w_0}$$



$$w_0^* = \left(\frac{M^2\lambda f^3}{4\pi k} \right)^{1/4}$$

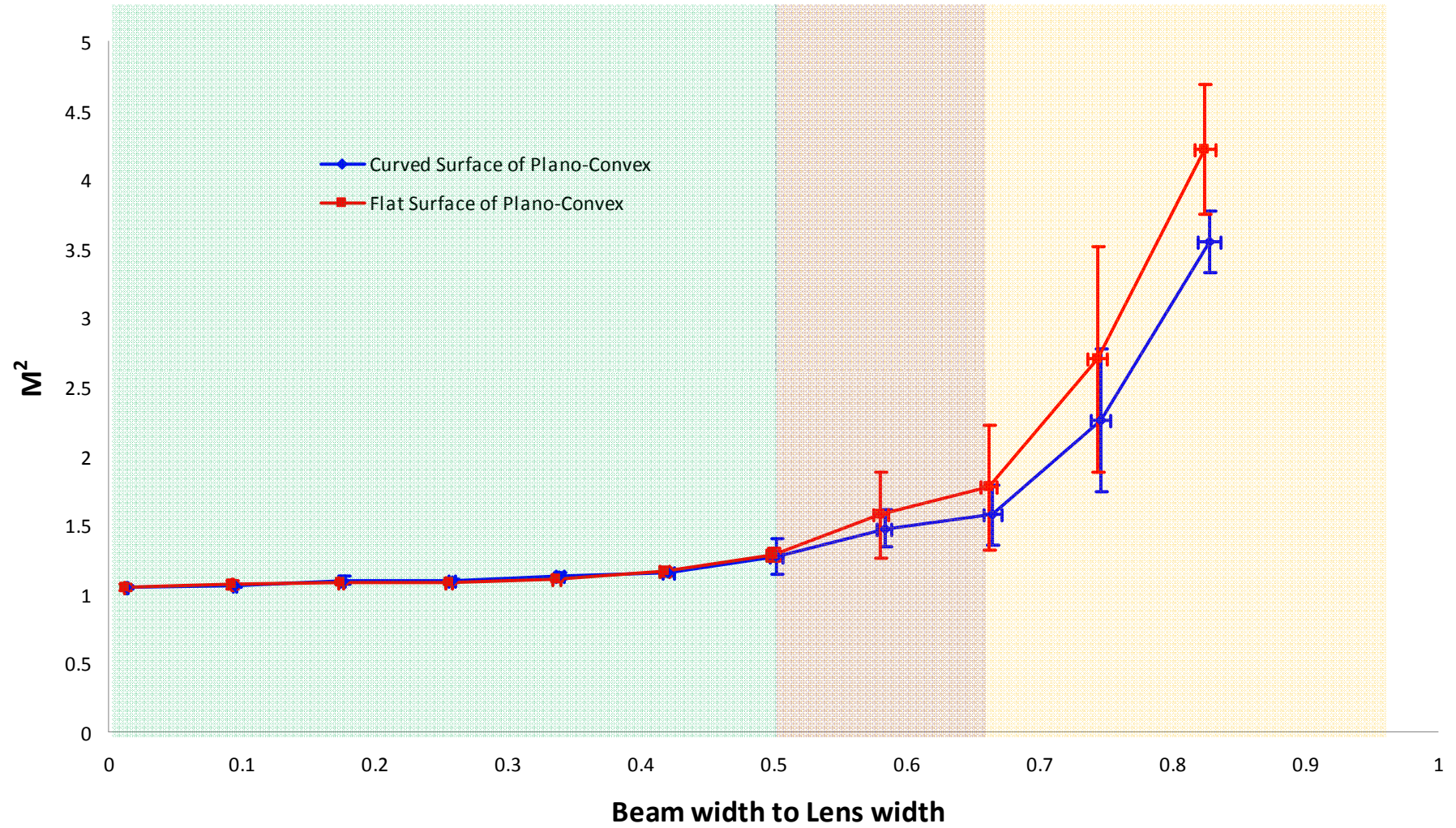
DEMONSTRATING OPTICAL ABERRATIONS

LENS QUALITY



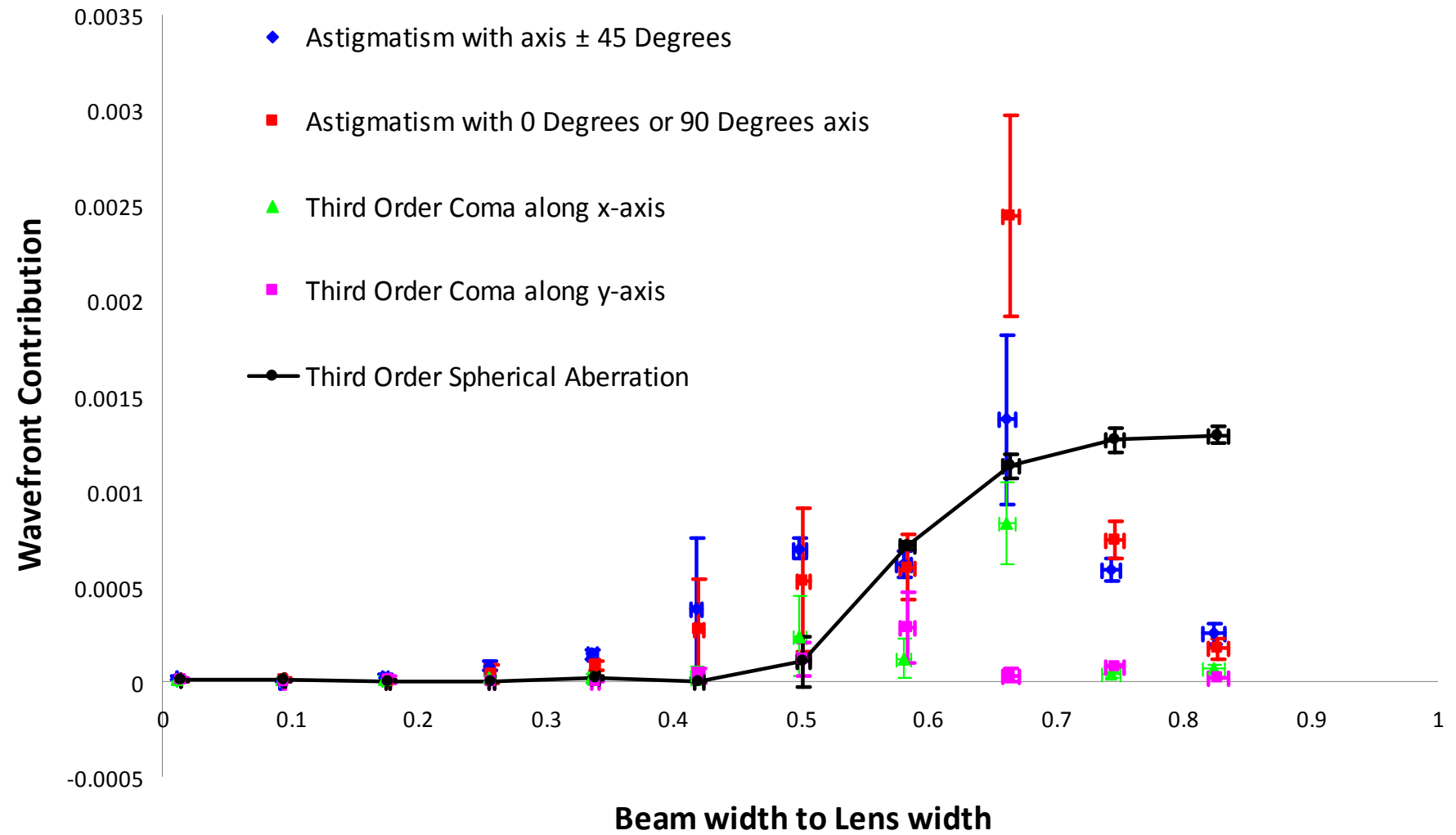
DEMONSTRATING OPTICAL ABERRATIONS...

M² Comparison on increasing beam width



DEMONSTRATING OPTICAL ABERRATIONS...

Aberrations on the increase of M^2

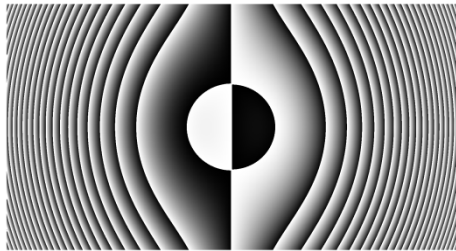


DEMONSTRATING OPTICAL ABERRATIONS...

SPATIAL LIGHT MODULATOR



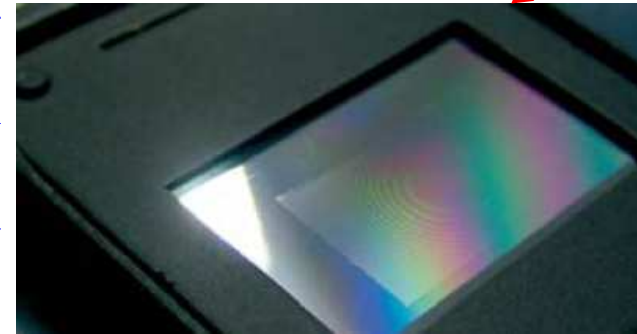
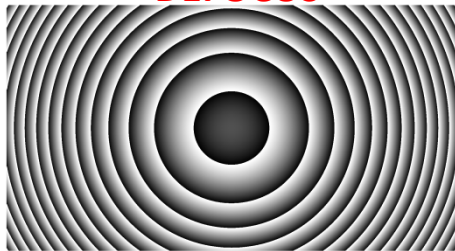
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ASTIGMATISM

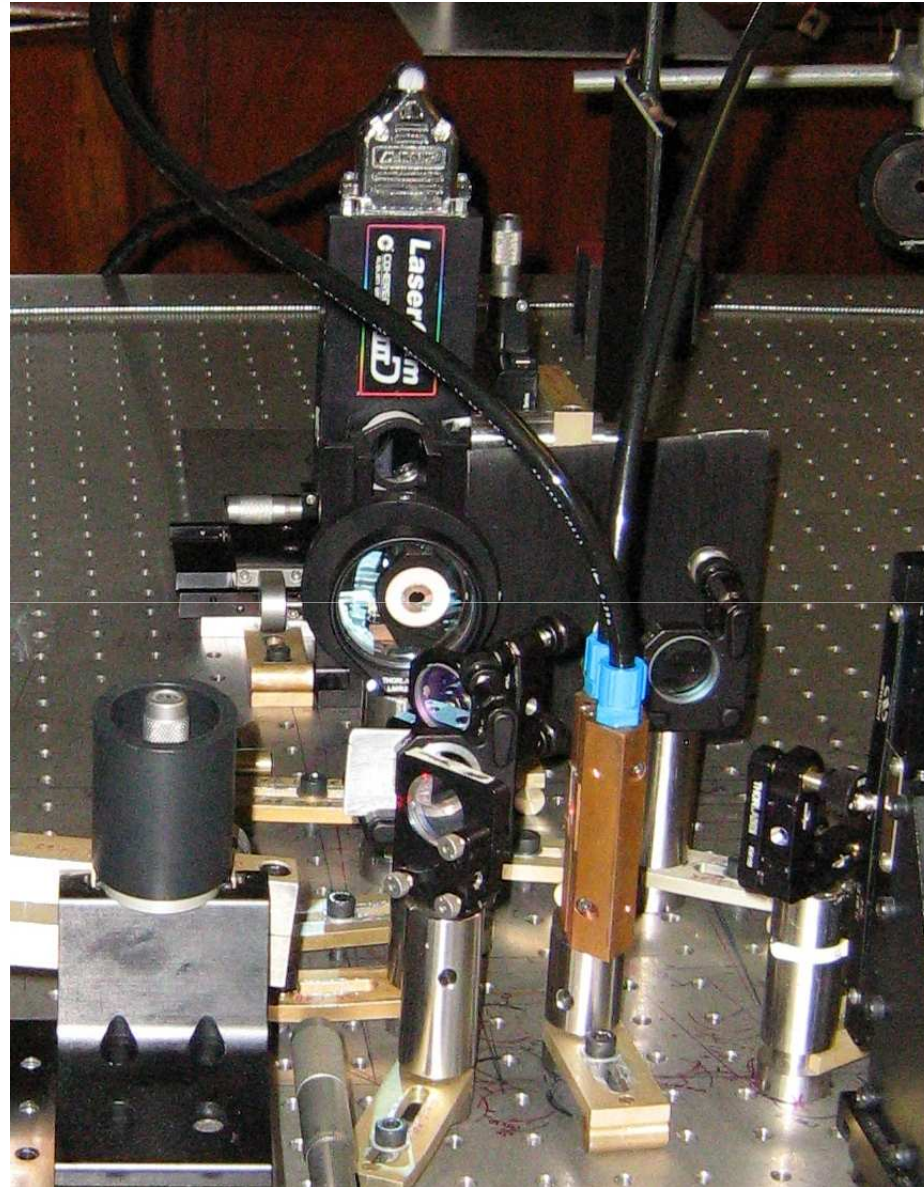


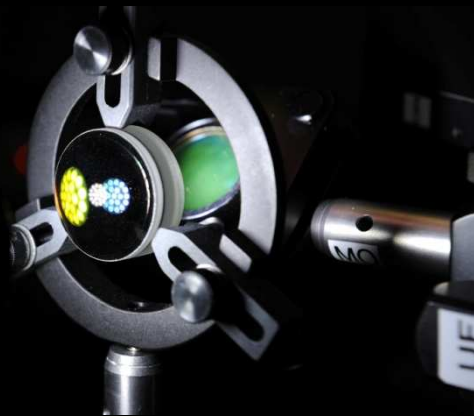
DEFOCUS



DEMONSTRATING OPTICAL ABERRATIONS...

FUTURE WORK





Join the Mathematical Optics research team!

**Opportunities: MSc and PhD studentships, Post docs and
Sabbaticals**

Contact: Dr Andrew Forbes or Dr Stef Roux

www.csir.co.za/lasers/index_mathematical_optics.html