## **Chapter 2: Reflection and Refraction of Light**



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## *Nature of Light: Waves vs Particles*

#### **Early beliefs:**

Light is a stream of particles emitted either by the object being viewed or emanating from the eyes of the viewer.

❑ **Newton** was the chief architect of the particle theory of light: He believed the particles left the object and stimulated the sense of sight upon entering the eyes.

❑ **Christian Huygens** argued that light might be some sort of a wave motion.

❑ **Thomas Young** (1801) provided the first clear demonstration of the wave nature of light: Because of their interference properties. ❑ **Einstein** (in 1905) proposed an explanation of the photoelectric effect that used the idea of quantization.

The quantization model assumes that the energy of a light wave is present in particles called *photons.*

## *Wavefronts and Rays, 1*



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*Wavefronts and Rays, 2*

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### *Wavefronts and Rays, Huygen's Principle*



- Huygens assumed that light is a form of wave motion rather than a stream of particles
- Huygens's Principle is a geometric construction for determining the position of a new wave at some point based on the knowledge of the wave front that preceded it

#### Figure 23.05 *Constuction of Plane Waves: Example 23.1*



### *Reflection of Light: Specular and Diffuse Reflection*



# *The Laws of Reflection*



- The *normal* is a line perpendicular to the surface
	- It is at the point where the incident ray strikes the surface
- The incident ray makes an angle of  $\theta_i$  with the normal
- The reflected ray makes an angle of  $\theta_r$  with the normal

#### **Laws of Reflection**

- The angle of reflection is equal to the angle of incidence  $\theta_i = \theta_r$
- The incident ray, the reflected ray and the normal are all in the same plane

### *The Refraction of Light: Snell's Law*

- Light may refract into a material where its speed is lower
- The angle of refraction is less than the angle of incidence

– The ray bends *toward* the normal

$$
\frac{\sin \theta_{i}}{\sin \theta_{t}} = \frac{\lambda_{i}}{\lambda_{t}}
$$

$$
\frac{\lambda_{i}}{\lambda_{t}} = \frac{v_{i}/f}{v_{t}/f} = \frac{v_{i}}{v_{t}} = \frac{c/n_{i}}{c/n_{t}} = \frac{n_{t}}{n_{i}}
$$



#### **Snell's Law**

 $n_i \sin \theta_i = n_i \sin \theta_i$ 

 $(23-4)$ 

#### *Snell's Law – Example*

- Light is refracted into a crown glass slab
- $\theta_1 = 30.0^\circ, \theta_2 = ?$
- $n_1 = 1.00$  and  $n_2 = 1.52$ – From Table 23.1 (page 844)
- $\theta_2 = \sin^{-1}(n_1 / n_2) \sin \theta_1 =$ 19.2<sup>o</sup>
- The ray bends toward the normal, as expected



*Physics at Home*

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 $(a)$ 



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 $(a)$ 



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Cooler air; larger  $n$ Hotter air; smaller  $n$  $(b)$ 



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 $(b)$ 

 $(a)$ 



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- For a given material, the index of refraction varies with the wavelength of the light passing through the material
- **This dependence of** *n* **on** *λ* **is called** *dispersion*
- Snell's law indicates light of different wavelengths is bent at different angles when incident on a refracting material

Figure 23.16ab

## *Total Internal Reflection*

Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. Permission required for reproduction or display. Sunlight **Refraction** Red Violet **Reflection** Water Red Violet Refraction ⇙  $(a)$  $(b)$ 

Figure 23.16cd

## *Total Internal Reflection*



#### *Double Rainbow*

- The secondary rainbow is fainter than the primary
- The secondary rainbow arises from light that makes two reflections from the interior surface before exiting the raindrop
- Higher-order rainbows are possible, but their intensity is low



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### *Partial and Total Internal Reflection*



- There is a particular angle of incidence that will result in an angle of refraction of 90°
	- This angle of incidence is called the *critical angle*,  $\theta_c$

**Critical angle:** 

$$
\theta_{\rm c} = \sin^{-1} \frac{n_{\rm t}}{n_{\rm i}}
$$

no transmitted ray for  $\theta_i \ge \theta_c$ 

## *Fiber Optics*

- An application of internal reflection
- Plastic or glass rods are used to "pipe" light from one place to another
- Applications include:
	- medical use of fiber optic cables for diagnosis and correction of medical problems
	- Telecommunications





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### *Polarization by Reflection: Brewster's Angle*





#### **A 2-component unpolarized Light:**

At some angle, the reflected and refracted rays would be perpendicular to each other  $\Rightarrow$   $\theta_R + \theta_t = 90^\circ$ 

The reflected beam is fully polarized: one component only.

**Brewster's angle:** 

$$
\theta_{\rm B} = \tan^{-1} \frac{n_{\rm t}}{n_{\rm i}} \tag{23-6}
$$

# *Formation of Images Through Reflection or Refraction*

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#### *Notation for Mirrors and Lenses*

- The *object distance* is the distance from the object to the mirror or lens:
	- Denoted by *p*
- The *image distance* is the distance from the image to the mirror or lens:
	- Denoted by *q*
	- Images are formed at the point where rays actually intersect or appear to originate
- The *lateral magnification* of the mirror or lens is the ratio of the image height to the object height:
	- Denoted by *M*
- A *real image* is one in which light actually passes through the image point: Real images can be displayed on screens
- A *virtual image* is one in which the light does not pass through the image point
	- Virtual images cannot be displayed on screens
	- The light appears to diverge from that point
- To find where an image is formed, it is always necessary to follow at least two rays of light as they reflect from the mirror

*Example 23.4*

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### *Plane Mirrors*



## *Convex Spherical Mirrors*



**The focal point of a convex mirror is on the principal axis a distance R/2 behind the mirror**

# *Convex Spherical Mirrors: How do they work?*

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# *Convex Spherical Mirrors: How do they work?*

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## *Concave Spherical Mirrors*

 $\boldsymbol{R}$ V Principal axis



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# *Concave Spherical Mirrors: How do they work?*

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#### Principal rays for concave mirrors

1. A ray parallel to the principal axis is reflected through the focal point.

2. A ray along a radius is reflected back upon itself.

3. A ray along the direction from the focal point to the mirror is reflected parallel to the principal axis.

4. A ray incident on the vertex of the mirror reflects at an equal angle to the axis.

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 $(a)$ 

# *Transverse Magnification*



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$$
|m| = \frac{\text{image size}}{\text{object size}}
$$

 $\frac{h'}{h}$ 

 $\,m$ 

**Magnification equation:** 

$$
m = \frac{h'}{h} = -\frac{q}{p}
$$





**Mirror equation:** 

 $rac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = \frac{1}{f}$ 

#### *Objects Located at Infinity or at Large Distances*



Table 23.02



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Table 23.2

#### **Sign Conventions for Mirrors**



\*In Chapter 23, we consider only real objects. Chapter 24 discusses multiple-lens systems, in which virtual objects are possible.







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Figure 23.47a





#### Table 23.3

#### Principal Rays and Principal Focal Points for Thin Lenses



Figure 23.47b





#### Table 23.3

#### Principal Rays and Principal Focal Points for Thin Lenses



#### *The Magnification & Thin Lens Equation*



**Magnification equation:** 

$$
m = \frac{h'}{h} = -\frac{q}{p}
$$

$$
\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = \frac{1}{f}
$$

### *Sign Conventions for Mirrors and Lenses*

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Table 23.4

#### Sign Conventions for Mirrors and Lenses



## *Lens and Mirror Aberrations*

- One of the basic problems is the imperfect quality of the images
	- Largely the result of defects in shape and form
- Two common types of aberrations exist
	- Spherical aberration
	- Chromatic aberration

## *Spherical Aberration*

- Results from the focal points of light rays far from the principle axis are different from the focal points of rays passing near the axis
- For a mirror, parabolic shapes can be used to correct for spherical aberration



## *Chromatic Aberration*

- Different wavelengths of light refracted by a lens focus at different points
	- Violet rays are refracted more than red rays
	- The focal length for red light is greater than the focal length for violet light
- Chromatic aberration can be minimized by the use of a combination of converging and diverging lenses



## *End of Chapter 2*