Optical Fields

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Fall 2021

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Overview

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- 5 Free Space Propagation
- 6 Beam Focusing Using Lenses
- Orthogonal Decomposition

Wave Optics

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- Wave function: $u(\mathbf{r}, t)$
- Linear wave equation: $\nabla^2 u \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = 0$, $c = \frac{c_0}{n}$
- Optical intensity: $I(\mathbf{r}, t) = 2\langle u^2(\mathbf{r}, t) \rangle$
- Optical power: $P(t) = \int_A I(\mathbf{r}, t) dA$
- Optical energy: $E(t) = \int P(t)dt$

Monochromatic Optical Waves



Figure: A monochromatic wave and its complex amplitude.

- Monochromatic wave function: $u(\mathbf{r}, t) = |U(\mathbf{r})| \cos(2\pi\nu t + \angle U(\mathbf{r}))$
- Monochromatic wave function: $u(\mathbf{r}, t) = \text{Re}\{U(\mathbf{r})e^{j2\pi\nu t}\}$
- Helmholtz's wave equation: $\nabla^2 U(\mathbf{r}) + k^2 U(\mathbf{r}) = 0$, $k = 2\pi/\lambda = 2\pi\nu/c$
- Optical intensity: $I(\mathbf{r}) = |U(\mathbf{r})|^2$
- Optical power: $P = \int_A I(\mathbf{r}, t) dA$
- Optical energy: $E = \int P dt$

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Elementary Monochromatic Waves

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Figure: A plane wave traveling in the z direction.

- Plane wave: $U(\mathbf{r}) = A \exp(-j\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}) = A \exp[-j(k_x x + k_y y + k_z z)]$
- Wave vector: $\mathbf{k} = (k_x, k_y, k_z), \quad k_x^2 + k_y^2 + k_z^2 = k^2 = (\frac{2\pi\nu}{c})^2$
- Optical intensity: $I(\mathbf{r}) = |A|^2$
- *z*-propagated plane wave: $U(\mathbf{r}) = A \exp(-jkz)$

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Figure: A spherical wave originating at $r_0 = 0$.

• Spherical wave:
$$U(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{A}{|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}_0|} \exp(-jk|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}_0|)$$

- Wave number: $k = \frac{2\pi\nu}{c}$
- Optical intensity: $I(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{A^2}{|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}_0|^2}$
- 0-originated spherical wave: $U(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{A}{r} \exp(-jkr)$

Example (Fresnel approximation for spherical wave)

If $z \gg \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$, a spherical wave originated at 0 can be approximated by a paraboloidal wave.



Example (Fraunhofer approximation for spherical wave)

If $z \gg \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$, a spherical wave originated at 0 can be approximated by a plane wave.





Figure: Wave function and wave front of paraxial wave.

- Paraxial wave: $U(\mathbf{r}) = A(\mathbf{r}) \exp(-jkz)$
- Paraxial condition: $\left|\frac{\partial A}{\partial z}\right|\lambda \ll |A|$
- Paraxial Helmholtz's equation: $\nabla_T^2 A j2k\frac{\partial A}{\partial z} = 0$, $\nabla_T^2 = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2}$



Figure: Wave front of a Gaussian bBeam.

• Gaussian beam: $U(\mathbf{r}) = A_0 \frac{W_0}{W(z)} \exp\left[-\frac{\rho^2}{W^2(z)}\right] \exp\left[-jkz - jk\frac{\rho^2}{2R(z)} + j\zeta(z)\right]$

• Radial distance:
$$\rho = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

- Waist radius: $W_0 = \sqrt{\frac{\lambda z_0}{\pi}}$
- Beam bandwidth: $W(z) = W_0 \sqrt{1 + (\frac{z}{z_0})^2}$
- Radius of curvature : $R(z) = z[1 + (\frac{z_0}{z})^2]$
- Gouy phase: $\zeta(z) = \tan^{-1}(\frac{z}{z_0})$

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Example (Power of Gaussian beam)

The total power carried by the Gaussian beam is $0.5I_0\pi W_0^2$.



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Example (Bandwdith of Gaussian beam)

The traverse circle with the radius W(z), which is called beam bandwidth, collects 86% of the total power of the Gaussian beam. The bandwidth diverges as a cone of half-angle $\theta_0 = \lambda/(\pi W_0)$.



$$\begin{aligned} P_{W(z)} &= \int_{0}^{W(z)} I(\rho, z) 2\pi \rho d\rho = 0.5 I_0 \pi W_0^2 \int_{0}^{2} e^{-u} du = (1 - e^{-2}) P_{\infty}, \quad u = \frac{2\rho^2}{W^2(z)} \\ z \to \infty \Rightarrow W(z) &= W_0 \sqrt{1 + (\frac{z}{z_0})^2} \approx \frac{W_0}{z_0} z \Rightarrow \theta_0 \approx \frac{W_0}{z_0} \frac{z}{z} = \frac{\lambda}{\pi W_0} \end{aligned}$$

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Example (Diameter of Gaussian beam)

The traverse circle with the radius d(z)/2, where the beam diameter $d(z) = d_0 \sqrt{1 + (\lambda z/d_0^2)^2}$, $d_0 = 2W_0$, collects 71% of the total power of the Gaussian beam. The diameter diverges as a cone of angle $\theta_b = \lambda/d_0$.

$$\begin{aligned} z \to \infty &\Rightarrow \frac{d^2(z)}{2W^2(z)} \approx \frac{(\lambda z/d_0)^2}{2(W_0 z/z_0)^2} = \frac{(\lambda z_0)^2}{8W_0^4} = \frac{\pi^2}{8} \\ P_{0.5d(z)} &= \int_0^{0.5d(z)} I(\rho, z) 2\pi\rho d\rho = 0.5 I_0 \pi W_0^2 \int_0^{\frac{d^2(z)}{2W^2(z)}} e^{-u} du \approx (1 - e^{-\pi^2/8}) P_\infty, \quad u = \frac{2\rho^2}{W^2(z)} \\ z \to \infty \Rightarrow d(z) \approx \frac{\lambda z}{d_0} \Rightarrow \theta_b \approx \frac{\lambda z}{d_0} = \frac{\lambda}{d_0} \end{aligned}$$

Example (Diffraction-limited transmitter beam solid angle)

The power of Gaussian beam is mostly confined to the solid angle $\Omega_b \approx \pi \theta_b^2/4$.



$$\Omega_b = \int_{ heta=0}^{ heta_b/2} \int_{\phi=0}^{2\pi} \sin(heta) d\phi d heta = 2\pi [1-\cos(heta_b/2)] pprox \pi heta_b^2/4$$

Example (Transmitter antenna gain)

An optical transmitter with Gaussian beam has the antenna gain $G_t \approx (4d_0/\lambda)^2$.

$$G_t = rac{4\pi}{\Omega_b} pprox (rac{4d_0}{\lambda})^2$$

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Temporal Superposition

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$$f(t)$$

Figure: An arbitrary function f(t) may be analyzed as a sum of temporal harmonic functions of different frequencies and complex amplitudes.

- Fourier transform: $F(\nu) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \exp(-j2\pi\nu t) dt$
- Inverse Fourier transform: $f(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(\nu) \exp(j2\pi\nu t) d\nu$
- Polychromatic optical wave: Superposition of monochromatic optical waves

Polychromatic Optical Waves



Figure: Fourier transform of a polychromatic wave function and its corresponding complex wave function.

- Fourier analysis: $u(\mathbf{r},t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} v(\mathbf{r},\nu) \exp(j2\pi\nu t) d\nu$
- Complex wave function: $U(\mathbf{r}, t) = 2 \int_0^\infty v(\mathbf{r}, \nu) \exp(j2\pi\nu t) d\nu$
- Real wave function: $u(\mathbf{r}, t) = \text{Re}\{U(\mathbf{r}, t)\}, \quad u(\mathbf{r}, t) \in \mathbb{R}$

• Wave equation:
$$\nabla^2 U - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial t^2} = 0$$
, $c = \frac{q}{r}$

• Optical intensity: $I(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{\langle U^2(\mathbf{r},t) \rangle}{2} + \frac{\langle U^{*2}(\mathbf{r},t) \rangle}{2} + \langle U(\mathbf{r},t) U^*(\mathbf{r},t) \rangle$

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Quasi-monochromatic Optical Waves



Figure: Fourier transform of the complex wave function of a quasi-monochromatic wave function.

- Quasi-monochromatic condition: $\Delta \nu \ll \nu_0$
- Temporal and spectral width: $au \Delta \nu \geq rac{1}{4\pi}$
- Optical intensity: $I(\mathbf{r}, t) = \langle U(\mathbf{r}, t)U^*(\mathbf{r}, t) \rangle = |U(\mathbf{r}, t)|^2$

Example (Pulsed plane wave)

The pulse plane wave $u(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathcal{A}(t - z/c) \exp[j2\pi\nu_0(t - z/c)]$, where $\mathcal{A}(t)$ is a slowly time-varying function with the temporal width τ , can represent a wavepacket of fixed extent $c\tau$ traveling in z-direction. For $\tau = 1$ ps, then $\Delta\nu \gtrsim 80$ GHz and the wave is quasi-monochromatic at $\nu_0 = 500$ THz.



Spatial Superposition

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Spatial Superposition



Figure: An arbitrary function f(x, y) may be analyzed as a sum of spatial harmonic functions of different spatial frequencies and complex amplitudes.

- Fourier transform: $F(u, v) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) e^{j2\pi(ux+vy)} dxdy$
- Inverse Fourier transform: $f(x, y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(u, v) e^{-j2\pi(ux+vy)} du dv$
- Monochromatic complex wave function: Superposition of spatial harmonics (plane waves)

Spatial Superposition



Figure: An arbitrary wave in free space can be analyzed as a superposition of plane waves. The transmission of an arbitrary wave U(x, y, z) through an optical system between an input plane z = 0 and an output plane z = d. This is regarded as a linear system whose input and output are the functions of f(x, y) = U(x, y, 0) and g(x, y) = U(x, y, d), respectively.



Figure: A harmonic function of spatial frequencies v_x and ν_y at the plane z = 0 is consistent with a plane wave traveling at angles $\theta_x = \sin^{-1}(\lambda \nu_x)$ and $\theta_y = \sin^{-1}(\lambda \nu_y)$.

- Plane wave complex function: $U(x, y, z) = A \exp[-j(k_x x + k_y y + k_z z)]$
- Wave vector angles: $sin(\theta_x) = k_x/k = \lambda \nu_x, sin(\theta_y) = k_y/k = \lambda \nu_y$
- Spatial frequencies: $\nu_x = 1/\Lambda_x = k_x/(2\pi), \quad \nu_y = 1/\Lambda_y = k_y/(2\pi)$
- Spatial harmonic function: $f(x, y) = U(x, y, 0) = A \exp[-j2\pi(\nu_x x + \nu_y y)]$
- Plane wave complex function: $U(x, y, z) = f(x, y) \exp\left(-jz\sqrt{k^2 k_x^2 k_y^2}\right)$

Spatial Harmonic



Figure: A thin element whose complex amplitude transmittance is a harmonic function of spatial frequency ν_x .

- Incident plane wave complex function: $1 \exp(-jkz)$
- Spatial harmonic function: $f(x, y) = \exp[-j2\pi(\nu_x x + \nu_y y)]$
- Plane wave complex function: U(x, y, 0) = f(x, y)
- Plane wave complex function: $U(x, y, z) = f(x, y)e^{-j2\pi z\sqrt{\lambda^{-2}-\nu_x^2-\nu_y^2}}$
- Propagation condition: $k_z > 0 \equiv \nu_x^2 + \nu_y^2 < \lambda^{-2}$

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Spatial Spectral analysis



Figure: A thin optical element of amplitude transmittance f(x, y) decomposes an incident plane wave into many plane waves.

- Optical element transmittance: $f(x,y) = \int \int F(\nu_x,\nu_y) e^{-j2\pi(\nu_x x + \nu_y y)} d\nu_x d\nu_y$
- Transmitted wave: $U(x, y, z) = \int \int F(\nu_x, \nu_y) e^{-j2\pi(\nu_x x + \nu_y y)} e^{-jk_z z} d\nu_x d\nu_y$
- Propagation condition: $k_z > 0 \equiv \nu_x^2 + \nu_y^2 < \lambda^{-2}$

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Example (Amplitude modulation and spatial-frequency multiplexing)

A slowly-varying image $f_0(x, y)$ with $\Delta \nu_x \ll \nu_{x_0} \Delta \nu_y \ll \nu_{y_0}$ can be carried on a carrier harmonic function as $f_0(x, y) \exp[-j2\pi(\nu_{x_0}x + \nu_{y_0}y)]$, where the harmonic carries the image on a spatial direction with the angles $\theta_{x_0} = \sin^{-1}(\lambda \nu_{x_0})$ and $\theta_{y_0} = \sin^{-1}(\lambda \nu_{y_0})$. Two images can be spatially multiplexed as $f_1(x, y) \exp[-j2\pi(\nu_{x_1}x + \nu_{y_1}y)] + f_2(x, y) \exp[-j2\pi(\nu_{x_2}x + \nu_{y_2}y)]$.



Example (Frequency modulation)

As a frequency-modulating transparency, Fresnel Zone plate with complex amplitude transmittance $f(x, y) = u \left[\cos \left(\pi \frac{x^2 + y^2}{\lambda f} \right) \right]$ serves as a spherical lens with multiple focal lengths at $f, f/2, f/3, \cdots$.



 $f(x,y) = \exp[-j2\pi\phi(x,y)] \Rightarrow (\theta_x,\theta_y) = (\sin^{-1}(\lambda\partial\phi/\partial x), (\sin^{-1}(\lambda\partial\phi/\partial y)))$

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Free Space Propagation

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Free Space Propagation



Figure: Propagation of light between two planes.

- Complex envelope of plane-wave components: $F(\nu_x, \nu_y) = \int \int f(x, y) e^{j2\pi(\nu_x x + \nu_y y)} dx dy$
- Huygen's diffraction pattern: $g(x, y) = \int \int F(\nu_x, \nu_y) H(\nu_x, \nu_y) e^{-j2\pi(\nu_x x + \nu_y y)} d\nu_x d\nu_y$

Huygens's free space transfer functions





- Plane wave complex function: $U(x, y, d) = e^{-j2\pi(\nu_x x + \nu_y y)}e^{-j2\pi d\sqrt{\lambda^{-2} \nu_x^2 \nu_y^2}}$
- Free space transfer function: $H(\nu_x, \nu_y) = e^{-j2\pi d \sqrt{\lambda^{-2} \nu_x^2 \nu_y^2}}$
- Light propagation spatial bandwidth: λ^{-1} cycles/mm

Huygens's Diffraction Integral



Figure: Propagation of light between two planes.

- Complex envelope of plane-wave components: $F(\nu_x, \nu_y) = \int \int f(x, y) e^{j2\pi(\nu_x x + \nu_y y)} dx dy$
- Huygen's diffraction pattern:

$$g(x,y) = \int \int F(\nu_x,\nu_y) e^{-j2\pi d \sqrt{\lambda^{-2} - \nu_x^2 - \nu_y^2}} e^{-j2\pi (\nu_x x + \nu_y y)} d\nu_x d\nu_y$$

Fresnel's free space transfer functions



Figure: The transfer function of free-space propagation for low spatial frequencies.

- Free space transfer function: $H(\nu_x, \nu_y) \approx H_0 e^{j\pi\lambda d(\nu_x^2 + \nu_y^2)}$, $H_0 = e^{-jkd}$
- Fresnel's condition: $\nu_x^2 + \nu_y^2 \ll \lambda^{-2}$
- Free space impulse response: $h(x, y) \approx h_0 e^{-jk \frac{x^2+y^2}{2d}}, \quad h_0 = (j/\lambda d) e^{-jkd}$

Fresnel's Diffraction Integral



Figure: Propagation of light between two planes.

- Complex envelope of plane-wave components: $F(\nu_x, \nu_y) = \int \int f(x, y) e^{j2\pi(\nu_x x + \nu_y y)} dx dy$
- Fresnel's diffraction pattern: $g(x, y) \approx H_0 \int \int F(\nu_x, \nu_y) e^{j\pi\lambda d(\nu_x^2 + \nu_y^2)} e^{-j2\pi(\nu_x x + \nu_y y)} d\nu_x d\nu_y$
- Fresnel's diffraction pattern: $g(x, y) \approx h_0 \int \int f(u, v) e^{-jk[(x-u)^2 + (y-v)^2]/(2d)} du dv$

Fraunhofer's Diffraction Integral



Figure: When the distance *d* is sufficiently long, the complex amplitude at point (x, y) in the z = d plane is proportional to the complex amplitude of the plane-wave component with angles $\theta_x \approx x/d \approx \lambda \nu_x$ and $\theta_y \approx y/d \approx \lambda \nu_y$, i.e., to the Fourier transform $F(\nu_x, \nu_y)$ of f(x, y), with $\nu_x = x/(\lambda d)$ and $\nu_y = y/(\lambda d)$.

- Fraunhofer's condition: $\nu_x^2 + \nu_y^2 \ll \lambda^{-2}, x^2 + y^2 \ll \lambda d, u^2 + v^2 \ll \lambda d$
- Fraunhofer's diffraction pattern: $g(x, y) \approx h_0 \int \int f(u, v) e^{jk(ux+vy)/d} du dv = h_0 F(\frac{x}{\lambda d}, \frac{y}{\lambda d})$

Diffraction Pattern



Figure: Fraunhofer fiftraction pattern of an aperture with the transmittance amplitude p(x, y) illuminated by the plane wave $\sqrt{I_i} \exp\{-jkz\}$.

- Aperture transmittance: p(x, y) = 1 inside the aperture and 0 otherwise
- Incident wave complex amplitude: U(x, y)
- Transmit wave complex amplitude: f(x, y) = U(x, y)p(x, y)
- Receive wave complex amplitude: g(x, y)
- Receive diffraction pattern: $I(x, y) = |g(x, y)|^2$
- Fraunhofer diffraction pattern: $I(x, y) = \frac{I_i}{(\lambda d)^2} |P(\frac{x}{\lambda d}, \frac{y}{\lambda d})|^2$

Example (Fraunhofer diffraction from a rectangular aperture)

The Fraunhofer diffraction pattern from a rectangular aperture, of height D_y and width D_x observed at a distance d is $l(x, y) = l_i(D_x D_y/(\lambda d))^2 \operatorname{Sinc}^2(D_x x/\lambda d) \operatorname{Sinc}^2(D_y y/\lambda d)$. The central lobe of the pattern has half-angular widths $\theta_x = \lambda/D_x$ and $\theta_y = \lambda/D_y$.



Diffraction Pattern

Example (Fraunhofer diffraction from a circular aperture)

The Fraunhofer diffraction pattern from a circular aperture of diameter D observed at a distance d is $I(x, y) = I_i(\pi D^2/(4\lambda d))^2 \text{Jinc}^2(D\rho/(\lambda d))$, where $\rho = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ and $\text{Jinc}(x) = 2J_1(\pi x)/(\pi x)$. The central lobe of the pattern has half-angular widths $\theta = 1.22\lambda/D$.



Diffraction Pattern

Example (Fresnel diffraction from a circular aperture)

The Fresnel diffraction pattern from a circular aperture depends on Fresnel integrals and approaches the corresponding Fraunhofer pattern as d increases.



Beam Focusing Using Lenses

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Thin Transparent Plate Transmittance Function



Figure: Transmission of a paraxial wave through a thin transparent plate.

- Incident plane wave: U(x, y, 0) = A
- Transmitted plane wave: $U(x, y, d) = A \exp(-jnkd)$
- Plane wave transmittance: $t(x, y) = U(x, y, d)/U(x, y, 0) = \exp(-jnkd)$
- Paraxial wave transmittance: $t(x, y) \approx e^{-jnkd(x,y)}e^{-jk(d_0-d(x,y))}$
- Paraxial wave transmittance: $t(x,y) \approx h_p e^{-j(n-1)kd(x,y)}, \quad h_p = e^{-jkd_0}$

Lens Transmittance Function



Figure: Planoconvex and double-convex lenses. By definition, $R_1 \ge 0$ and $R_2 \le 0$.

- Planoconvex lens
 - Thickness function: $d(x, y) = d_0 [R \sqrt{R^2 (x^2 + y^2)}]$
 - Paraxial thickness function: $d(x, y) \approx d_0 [R R(1 \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2R^2})] = d_0 \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2R}$
 - Lens focal length: f = R/(n-1)
 - Thin lens transmittance: $t(x, y) \approx h_l \exp\left[jk\frac{x^2+y^2}{2f}\right], \quad h_l = \exp(-jnkd_0)$
- Double-convex lens
 - Lens focal length: $f = R_1 R_2 / [(n-1)(R_2 R_1)]$
 - Thin lens transmittance: $t(x, y) \approx h_l \exp\left[jk\frac{x^2+y^2}{2f}\right], \quad h_l = \exp(-jnkd_0)$

Lens Focusing Property



Figure: Lens focusing property at d = f.

- Fresnel's approximation: $g(x, y) \approx h_0 \int \int f(u, v) t(u, v) e^{-jk \frac{(x-u)^2 + (y-u)^2}{2d}} du dv$
- Fresnel's approximation:

 $g(x,y) \approx h_0 h_l \int \int f(u,v) e^{jk \frac{u^2 + v^2}{2f}} e^{-jk \frac{(x-u)^2 + (y-v)^2}{2d}} du dv$

• Focal plane: $g(x,y) \approx h_0 h_l e^{-jk \frac{x^2+y^2}{2f}} \int \int f(u,v) e^{jk \frac{ux+yv}{f}} du dv$

• Focusing property: $g(x, y) \approx h_0 h_l e^{-jk \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2f}} F(\frac{x}{\lambda f}, \frac{y}{\lambda f}) \propto \frac{1}{\lambda f} F(\frac{x}{\lambda f}, \frac{y}{\lambda f})$

Lens Airy Pattern



Figure: Airy pattern for an infinite lens for the plane wave traveling towards z-direction.

• Airy pattern: $f_{d_o}(x, y) \propto \lambda f \delta(x, y)$



Figure: Airy pattern for a rectangular aperture lens of height D_y and width D_x for the plane wave traveling towards z-direction.

• Airy pattern: $f_{d_o}(x, y) \propto \frac{D_x D_y}{\lambda f} \operatorname{Sinc}(\frac{D_x x}{\lambda f}) \operatorname{Sinc}(\frac{D_y y}{\lambda f})$

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Figure: Airy pattern for a circular lens of diameter D the plane wave traveling towards z-direction.

• Airy pattern:
$$f_{d_o}(x,y) \propto \frac{\pi D^2}{4\lambda f} \text{Jinc}(\frac{D\sqrt{x^2+y^2}}{\lambda f})$$

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Example (Focused pattern of a lens illuminated by an arbitrary wave)

If an arbitrary field $f_s(x, y)$ is received at a lens with the pupil function w(x, y), the focused field at the focal plane is $g(x, y) = F_s(x, y) \otimes f_{d_o}(x, y)$, where $F_s(x, y)$ is the Fourier transform of $f_s(x, y)$, $f_{d_o}(x, y)$ is the airy pattern of the lens, and \otimes is the spatial convolution operator.

$$f_1(x,y) \otimes f_2(x,y) = \int \int f_1(u,v) f_1(x-u,y-v) du dv$$

$$f_1(x,y) \otimes f_2(x,y) \Leftrightarrow F_1(\nu_x,\nu_y) f_2(\nu_x,\nu_y)$$

$$f_1(x,y) f_2(x,y) \Leftrightarrow F_1(\nu_x,\nu_y) \otimes f_2(\nu_x,\nu_y)$$

$$f(x,y) = f_s(x,y) w(x,y) \Rightarrow g(x,y) \propto F(x,y) \otimes f_{d_o}(x,y)$$

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Diffraction-limited Angle



Figure: Focused pattern for a circular lens of diameter *D* for the plane wave traveling through the angles (θ_x, θ_y) .

- Plane wave propagating at (θ_x, θ_y) : $g(x, y) \propto \frac{\pi D^2}{4\lambda f} \text{Jinc}(\frac{D\sqrt{(x-f\theta_x)^2 + (y-f\theta_y)^2}}{\lambda f})$
- Central lobe radius: $\rho_0 = 1.22 \frac{f\lambda}{D} \approx \frac{f\lambda}{D}$
- Diffraction-limited angle: $\theta_{dl} = 1.22 \frac{\lambda}{D} \approx \frac{\lambda}{D}$
- Lens f-number: $\frac{f}{D} \approx 1 \Rightarrow \theta_{dl} \approx \frac{\lambda}{f}$
- Diffraction-limited solid angle: $\Omega_{dl} \approx \frac{\pi}{4} \theta_{dl}^2 = (\frac{\pi}{4})^2 \frac{\lambda^2}{A}$

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Example (Spatial degree of freedom)

An optical detector of area A_d can detect around $4A_d/(\pi\lambda^2)$ separable spatial modes. When $A_d = 1 \text{ cm}^2$ and $\lambda = 1 \mu \text{m}$, around 10^8 separable spatial modes exist.



$$\frac{\Omega_{fv}}{\Omega_{dl}} = \frac{A_d/f^2}{\pi\lambda^2/(4f^2)} = \frac{4A_d}{\pi\lambda^2}$$

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Example (Equality of power at aperture and focal planes)

The amount of detected power at the aperture and focal planes are equal.

$$P_{0} = \int \int |f(u,v)|^{2} du dv = \int \int |F(\nu_{x},\nu_{y})|^{2} d\nu_{x} d\nu_{y}$$
$$P_{f} = \int \int \left|\frac{1}{\lambda f}F(\frac{x}{\lambda f},\frac{y}{\lambda f})\right|^{2} dx dy = \int \int |F(\nu_{x},\nu_{y})|^{2} d\nu_{x} d\nu_{y}$$

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Orthogonal Decomposition

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Orthogonal Decomposition



Figure: Orthogonal decomposition of optical field of a finite area.

- Quasi-monochromatic complex wave function: $U(\mathbf{r}, t) = a(\mathbf{r}, t)e^{j2\pi\nu t}, \mathbf{r} \in A$
- Spatial decomposition: $a(\mathbf{r}, t) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i(t) \Phi_i(\mathbf{r})$
- Orthogonality condition: $\int_A \Phi_i(\mathbf{r}) \Phi_j^*(\mathbf{r}) dA = 0, \quad i \neq j$
- Decomposition coefficients: $a_i(t) = \frac{\int \int a(\mathbf{r},t)\Phi_i^*(\mathbf{r})dA}{\int_A |\Phi_i(\mathbf{r})|^2 dA}$

Example (Optical field decomposition at the aperture plane)

Plane waves with wavelength λ arriving to a squared aperture area A having arrival angles separated by multiples of λ/\sqrt{A} can be used for optical field decomposition over the aperture plane.

$$\begin{split} \Phi_{i}(\mathbf{r}) &= e^{-j\mathbf{k}_{i}\cdot\mathbf{r}} \\ \Rightarrow \int_{A} \Phi_{i}(\mathbf{r}) \Phi_{j}^{*}(\mathbf{r}) dA &= \int_{-\sqrt{A}/2}^{+\sqrt{A}/2} \int_{-\sqrt{A}/2}^{+\sqrt{A}/2} e^{-j[x(k_{x_{i}}-k_{x_{j}})+y(k_{y_{i}}-k_{y_{j}})+0]} dx dy \\ &= A \frac{\sin\left((k_{x_{i}}-k_{x_{j}})\frac{\sqrt{A}}{2}\right)}{(k_{x_{i}}-k_{x_{j}})\frac{\sqrt{A}}{2}} \frac{\sin\left((k_{y_{i}}-k_{y_{j}})\frac{\sqrt{A}}{2}\right)}{(k_{y_{i}}-k_{y_{j}})\frac{\sqrt{A}}{2}} \\ &= \begin{cases} A, & k_{x_{i}}-k_{x_{j}}=0 \text{ and } k_{y_{i}}-k_{y_{j}}=0 \\ 0, & k_{x_{i}}-k_{x_{j}}=n_{1}(2\pi/\sqrt{A}) \text{ or } k_{y_{i}}-k_{y_{j}}=n_{2}(2\pi/\sqrt{A}) \end{cases} \\ &\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \theta_{x_{i}}-\theta_{x_{j}} \approx k_{x_{i}}/k - k_{x_{j}}/k = n_{1}\frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{A}} \\ \theta_{y_{i}}-\theta_{y_{j}} \approx k_{y_{i}}/k - k_{y_{j}}/k = n_{2}\frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{A}} \end{cases} \end{split}$$

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Example (Optical field decomposition at the focal plane)

The focused fields corresponding to the plane waves with wavelength λ arriving to a squared aperture area A having arrival angles separated by multiples of λ/\sqrt{A} can be used for optical field decomposition over the focal plane.

$$egin{aligned} &a(x,y,0,t) = \sum_{i=1}^\infty a_i(t) \Phi_i(x,y) \ &a(x,y,f,t) pprox \sum_{i=1}^\infty a_i(t) rac{1}{\lambda f} F_{\Phi_i}(rac{x}{\lambda f},rac{y}{\lambda f}) \end{aligned}$$

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