



**Institute of  
Applied Physics**

Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena

# Optical Design with Zemax

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Lecture 1: Introduction

2012-10-16

Herbert Gross

- Time: Tuesday, 8.00 – 9.30
- Location: Computerpool, Helmholtzweg 4
- Web page on IAP homepage under ‚learning/materials‘ provides slides and exercises  
Zemax files
- Contents (type of the lecture):
  - Not: pure Zemax handling
  - But:
    - optical design with Zemax as tool
    - understanding of simulation opportunities and limits
    - learning by doing
    - mix of theory/principles, presented examples and own exercises
    - questions and dialog welcome
- The content is adapted and is changed depending on progress
- Seminar: Exercises and solution of given problems  
time: Tuesday, 12.00 -13.30  
Computerpool, Helmholtzweg 4  
starting date: 2012-10-23
- Shift of some dates could be possible

# 1 Introduction

## Preliminary time schedule

1	16.10.	Introduction	Introduction, Zemax interface, menus, file handling, preferences, Editors, updates, windows, Coordinate systems and notations, System description, Component reversal, system insertion, scaling, 3D geometry, aperture, field, wavelength
2	23.10.	Properties of optical systems I	Diameters, stop and pupil, vignetting, Layouts, Materials, Glass catalogs, Raytrace, Ray fans and sampling, Footprints
3	30.10.	Properties of optical systems II	Types of surfaces, Aspheres, Gratings and diffractive surfaces, Gradient media, Cardinal elements, Lens properties, Imaging, magnification, paraxial approximation and modelling
4	06.11.	Aberrations I	Representation of geometrical aberrations, Spot diagram, Transverse aberration diagrams, Aberration expansions, Primary aberrations,
5	13.11.	Aberrations II	Wave aberrations, Zernike polynomials, Point spread function, Optical transfer function
6	20.11.	Optimization I	Principles of nonlinear optimization, Optimization in optical design, Global optimization methods, Solves and pickups, variables, Sensitivity of variables in optical systems
7	27.11.	Optimization II	Systematic methods and optimization process, Starting points, Optimization in Zemax
8	04.12	Imaging	Fundamentals of Fourier optics, Physical optical image formation, Imaging in Zemax
9	11.12.	Illumination	Introduction in illumination, Simple photometry of optical systems, Non-sequential raytrace, Illumination in Zemax
10	18.12.	Advanced handling I	Telecentricity, infinity object distance and afocal image, Local/global coordinates, Add fold mirror, Scale system, Make double pass, Vignetting, Diameter types, Ray aiming, Material index fit
11	08.01.	Advanced handling II	Report graphics, Universal plot, Slider, Visual optimization, IO of data, Multiconfiguration, Fiber coupling, Macro language, Lens catalogs
12	15.01.	Correction I	Symmetry principle, Lens bending, Correcting spherical aberration, Coma, stop position, Astigmatism, Field flattening, Chromatical correction, Retrofocus and telephoto setup, Design method
13	22.01.	Correction II	Field lenses, Stop position influence, Aspheres and higher orders, Principles of glass selection, Sensitivity of a system correction, Microscopic objective lens, Zoom system
14	29.01.	Physical optical modelling I	Gaussian beams, POP propagation, polarization raytrace, polarization transmission, polarization aberrations
15	05.02.	Physical optical modelling II	coatings, representations, transmission and phase effects, ghost imaging, general straylight with BRDF

# 1 Introduction

## Literature on optical design

1. Kingslake                      Lens design fundamentals, SPIE Press, 2010
2. Mouroulis / McDonald       Geometrical Optics and Optical Design, Oxford, 1997
3. Fischer / Tadic-Galeb        Optical System Design, McGraw Hill, 2000
4. Malacara / Malacara        Handbook of Lens Design, Dekker, 1994
5. Laikin                         Lens Design, Dekker, 2007
6. W. Smith                      Modern Optical Engineering, Graw Hill, 2000
7. W. Smith                      Modern lens design, McGraw Hill, 2005
8. Geary                         Lens Design with practical Examples, Willmann-Bell, 2002
9. Gross (Ed.)                  Handbook of optical systems, Vol 1-5, Wiley, 2005
10. Shannon                     The art and science of optical design,  
Cambridge Univ. Press, 1997
11. G. Smith                     Practical computer-aided lens design, Willman Bell, 1998

1. Introduction
2. Zemax interface, menus, file handling, preferences
3. Editors, updates, windows
4. Coordinate systems and notations
5. System description
6. Component reversal, system insertion, scaling
7. Solves and pickups, variables
8. 3D geometry
9. Aperture, field, wavelength

# 1 Introduction

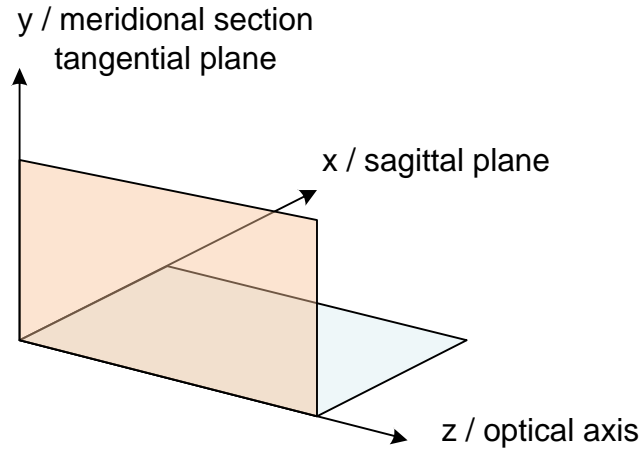
## Zemax interface

- There are 4 types of windows in Zemax:
  1. Editors for data input:
    - lens data, extra data, multiconfiguration, tolerances
  2. Output windows for graphical representation of results
    - Here mostly setting-windows are supported to optimize the layout
  3. Text windows for output in ASCII numerical numbers (can be exported)
  4. Dialog boxes for data input, error reports and more
  
- There are several files associates with Zemax
  1. Data files (.ZMX)
  2. Session files (.SES) for system settings (can be de-activated)
  3. Glass catalogs, lens catalogs, coating catalogs, BRDF catalogs, macros, images, POP data, refractive index files,...
  
- There are in general two working modes of Zemax
  1. Sequential raytrace (or partial non-sequential)
  2. Non-sequential

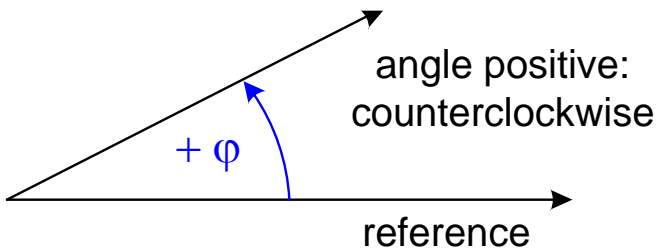
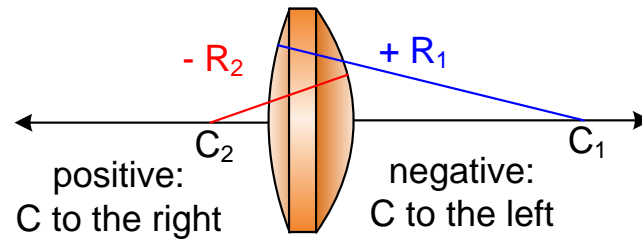
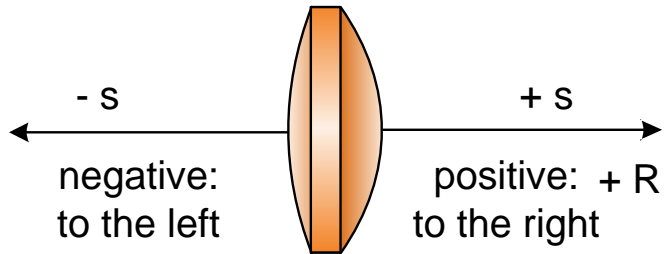
# 1 Introduction

## Coordinate systems and sign of quantities

- Coordinate systems  
2D sections: y-z shown



- Sign of lengths, radii, angles:



# 1 Introduction

## Description of optical systems

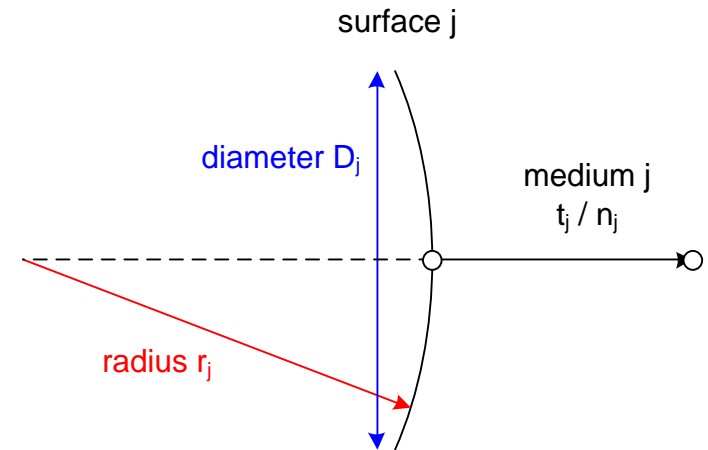
- Interface surfaces
  - mathematical modelled surfaces
  - planes, spheres, aspheres, conics, free shaped surfaces,...
- Size of components
  - thickness and distances along the axis
  - transversal size, circular diameter, complicated contours
- Geometry of the setup
  - special case: rotational symmetry
  - general case: 3D, tilt angles, offsets and decentrations, needs vectorial approach
- Materials
  - refractive indices for all used wavelengths
  - other properties: absorption, birefringence, nonlinear coefficients, index gradients,...
- Special surfaces
  - gratings, diffractive elements
  - arrays, scattering surfaces



# 1 Introduction

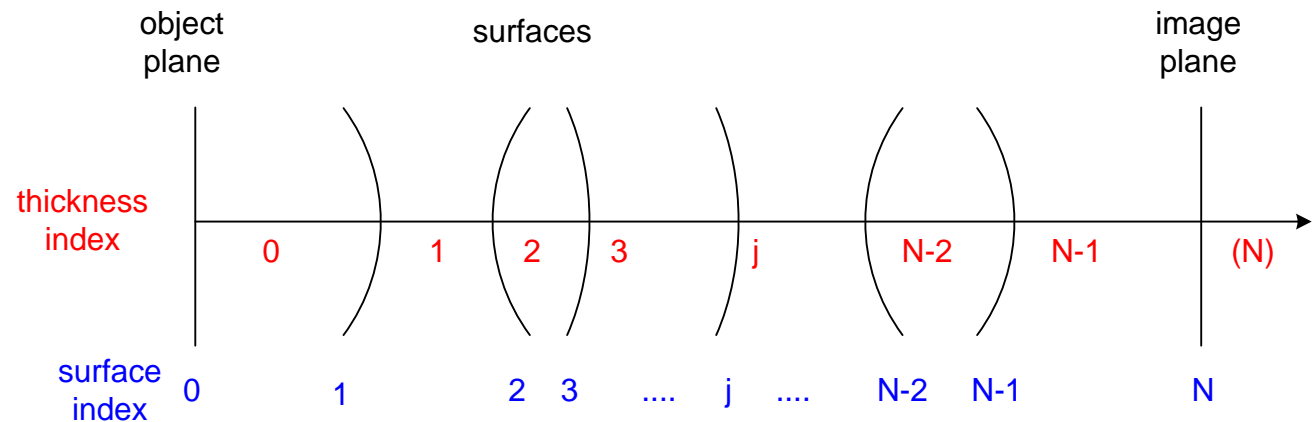
## System model

- Single step:
  - surface and transition
  - parameters: radius, diameter, thickness, refractive index, aspherical constants, conic parameter, decenter, tilt,...



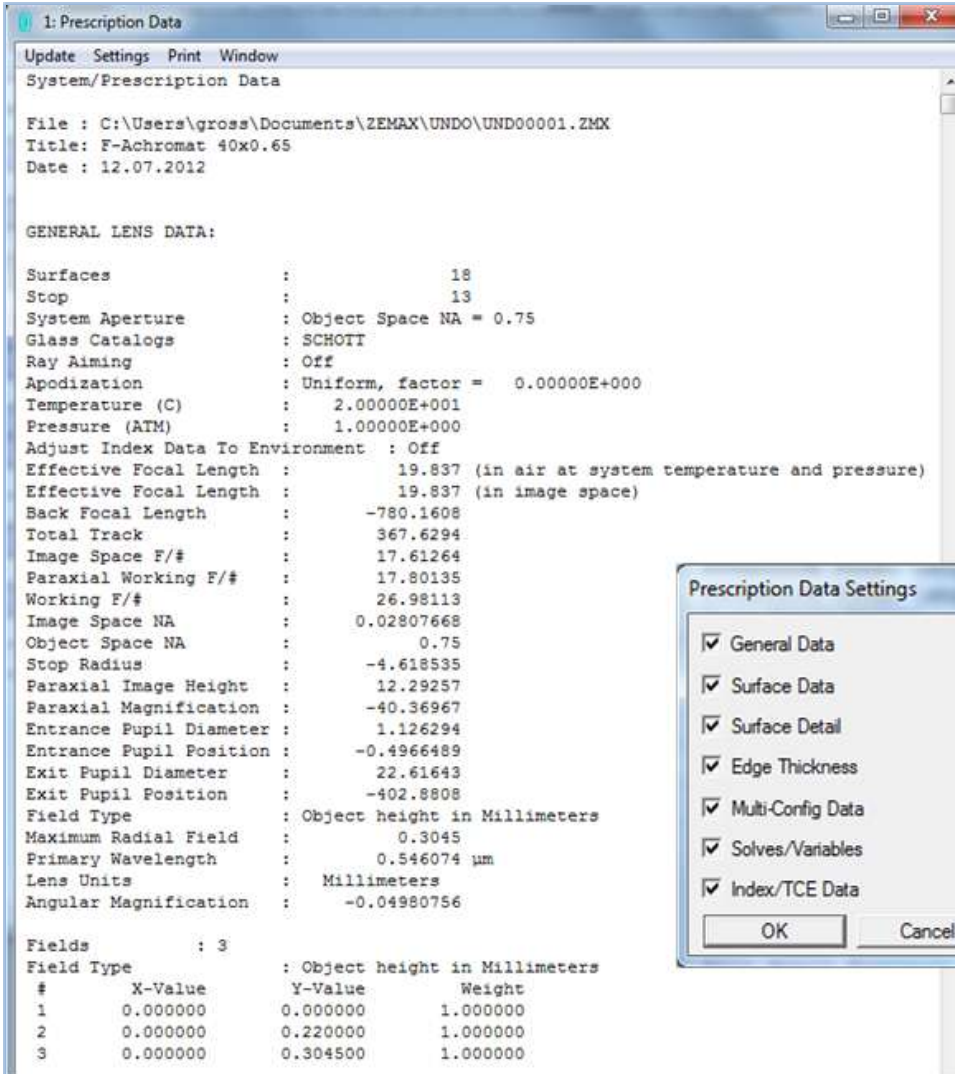
- Complete system:
  - sequence of surfaces
  - object has index 0
  - image has index N
  - $t_N$  does not exist

- Ray path has fixed sequence  
0-1-2-...-(N-1)-N



# 1 Introduction

## System data tables



1: Prescription Data

Update Settings Print Window

System/Prescription Data

File : C:\Users\gross\Documents\ZEMAX\UNDO\UNDO0001.ZMX  
Title: F-Achromat 40x0.65  
Date : 12.07.2012

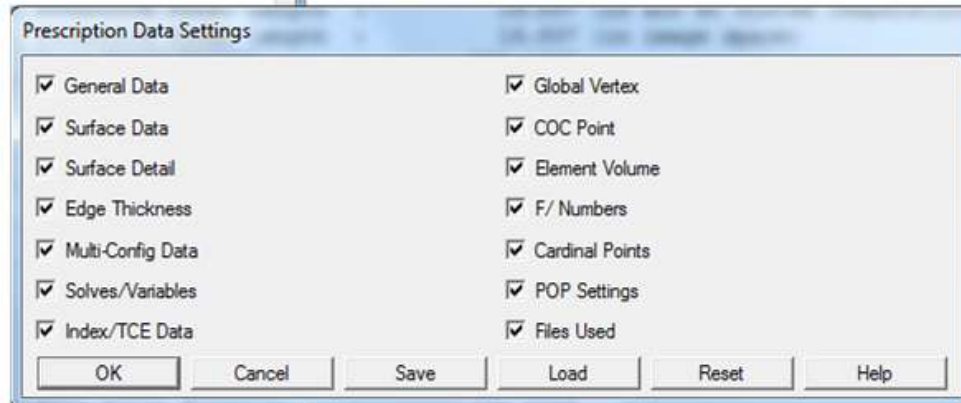
GENERAL LENS DATA:

Surfaces : 18  
Stop : 13  
System Aperture : Object Space NA = 0.75  
Glass Catalogs : SCHOTT  
Ray Aiming : Off  
Apodization : Uniform, factor = 0.00000E+000  
Temperature (C) : 2.00000E+001  
Pressure (ATM) : 1.00000E+000  
Adjust Index Data To Environment : Off  
Effective Focal Length : 19.837 (in air at system temperature and pressure)  
Effective Focal Length : 19.837 (in image space)  
Back Focal Length : -780.1608  
Total Track : 367.6294  
Image Space F/# : 17.61264  
Paraxial Working F/# : 17.80135  
Working F/# : 26.98113  
Image Space NA : 0.02807668  
Object Space NA : 0.75  
Stop Radius : -4.618535  
Paraxial Image Height : 12.29257  
Paraxial Magnification : -40.36967  
Entrance Pupil Diameter : 1.126294  
Entrance Pupil Position : -0.4966489  
Exit Pupil Diameter : 22.61643  
Exit Pupil Position : -402.8808  
Field Type : Object height in Millimeters  
Maximum Radial Field : 0.3045  
Primary Wavelength : 0.546074 μm  
Lens Units : Millimeters  
Angular Magnification : -0.04980756

Fields : 3

Field Type	: Object height in Millimeters		
#	X-Value	Y-Value	Weight
1	0.000000	0.000000	1.000000
2	0.000000	0.220000	1.000000
3	0.000000	0.304500	1.000000

Menu:  
reports / prescription data



Prescription Data Settings

General Data  
 Surface Data  
 Surface Detail  
 Edge Thickness  
 Multi-Config Data  
 Solves/Variables  
 Index/TCE Data

Global Vertex  
 COC Point  
 Element Volume  
 F/ Numbers  
 Cardinal Points  
 POP Settings  
 Files Used

OK Cancel Save Load Reset Help

# 1 Introduction

## System data tables

SURFACE DATA SUMMARY:

surface data

GLOBAL VERTEX COORDINATES, ORI 3D geometry data I/OFFSET MATRICES:

Surf	Type	Radius	Thickness	Glass	Diameter	Conic	Comment
OBJ	STANDARD	Infinity	0		0.609	0	
1	STANDARD	Infinity	0.17	K5	4	0	
2	STANDARD	Infinity	0.4493669		4	0	
3	STANDARD	-1.7783	2.58	LASFN31	2	0	
4	STANDARD	-2.6993	0.15		4	0	
5	STANDARD	-31.851	1.93	PSK53A	6	0	
6	STANDARD	-4.5316	0.07		6	0	
7	STANDARD	-170.31	1	SF1	8	0	
8	STANDARD	5.7049	3.94	FK51	8	0	
9	STANDARD	-6.6834	14.27		8	0	
10	STANDARD	51.955	1.19	LAK31	8	0	
11	STANDARD	7.1821	2.98	FK51	8	0	
12	STANDARD	-30.287	19.77		8	0	
STO	STANDARD	Infinity	96		6.2	0	
14	STANDARD	147.49	6	BAF3	40	0	
15	STANDARD	-273.84	35		40	0	
16	STANDARD	Infinity	161.2	BK7	40	0	
17	STANDARD	Infinity	20.93		40	0	
IMA	STANDARD	Infinity			27.97122	0	

Reference Surface: 1

Surf	R11	R12	R13	X
	R21	R22	R23	Y
	R31	R32	R33	Z
1	1.0000000000	0.0000000000	0.0000000000	0.000000000E+000
	0.0000000000	1.0000000000	0.0000000000	0.000000000E+000
	0.0000000000	0.0000000000	1.0000000000	0.000000000E+000
2	1.0000000000	0.0000000000	0.0000000000	0.000000000E+000
	0.0000000000	0.9961946981	-0.0871557427	0.000000000E+000
	0.0000000000	0.0871557427	0.9961946981	2.200000000E+002
3	1.0000000000	0.0000000000	0.0000000000	0.000000000E+000
	0.0000000000	0.9961946981	-0.0871557427	0.000000000E+000
	0.0000000000	0.0871557427	0.9961946981	2.200000000E+002
4	1.0000000000	0.0000000000	0.0000000000	0.000000000E+000
	0.0000000000	0.9848077530	-0.1736481777	0.000000000E+000
	0.0000000000	0.1736481777	0.9848077530	2.200000000E+002
5	1.0000000000	0.0000000000	0.0000000000	0.000000000E+000
	0.0000000000	0.9848077530	-0.1736481777	1.736481777E+001
	0.0000000000	0.1736481777	0.9848077530	1.215192247E+002
6	1.0000000000	0.0000000000	0.0000000000	0.000000000E+000
	0.0000000000	0.9961946981	-0.0871557427	3.472963553E+001
	0.0000000000	0.0871557427	0.9961946981	2.303844940E+001
7	1.0000000000	0.0000000000	0.0000000000	0.000000000E+000
	0.0000000000	0.9961946981	-0.0871557427	3.472963553E+001
	0.0000000000	0.0871557427	0.9961946981	2.303844940E+001

index data

Surf	Glass	Temp	Pres	0.479991	0.546074	0.643847
0		20.00	1.00	1.00000000	1.00000000	1.00000000
1	K5	20.00	1.00	1.52909921	1.52458303	1.52024098
2		20.00	1.00	1.00000000	1.00000000	1.00000000
3	LASFN31	20.00	1.00	1.89702493	1.88577397	1.87529361
4		20.00	1.00	1.00000000	1.00000000	1.00000000
5	PSK53A	20.00	1.00	1.62749149	1.62247133	1.61764048
6		20.00	1.00	1.00000000	1.00000000	1.00000000
7	SF1	20.00	1.00	1.73609961	1.72310488	1.71141216
8	FK51	20.00	1.00	1.49088232	1.48793656	1.48507869
9		20.00	1.00	1.00000000	1.00000000	1.00000000
10	LAK31	20.00	1.00	1.70601121	1.69967699	1.69356322
11	FK51	20.00	1.00	1.49088232	1.48793656	1.48507869
12		20.00	1.00	1.00000000	1.00000000	1.00000000
13		20.00	1.00	1.00000000	1.00000000	1.00000000
14	BAF3	20.00	1.00	1.59220573	1.58564993	1.57952233
15		20.00	1.00	1.00000000	1.00000000	1.00000000
16	BK7	20.00	1.00	1.52282924	1.51872197	1.51471931
17		20.00	1.00	1.00000000	1.00000000	1.00000000
18		20.00	1.00	1.00000000	1.00000000	1.00000000

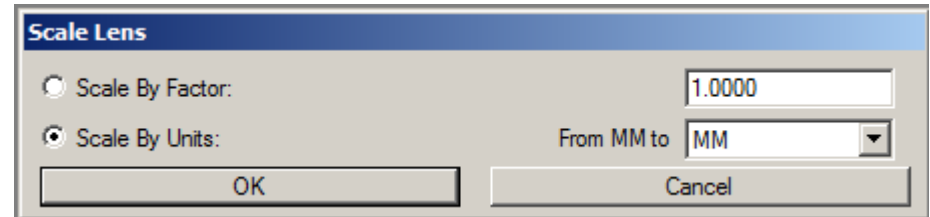
- Necessary data for system calculation:
  1. system surfaces with parameters (radius)
  2. distances with parameters (length, material)
  3. stop surface
  4. wavelength(s)
  5. aperture
  6. field point(s)
  
- Optional inputs:
  1. finite diameters
  2. vignetting factors
  3. decenter and tilt
  4. coordinate reference
  5. weighting factors
  6. multi configurations
  7. ...

# 1. Introduction

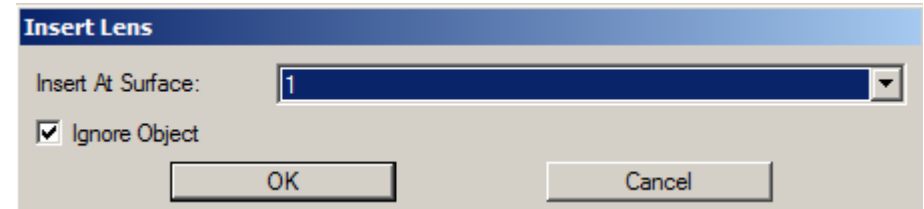
## System changes

- Useful commands for system changes:

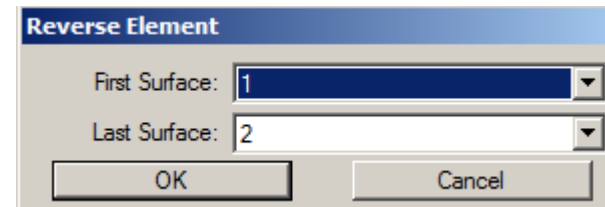
1. Scaling (e.g. patents)



2. Insert system  
with other system file  
File - Insert Lens



2. Reverse system

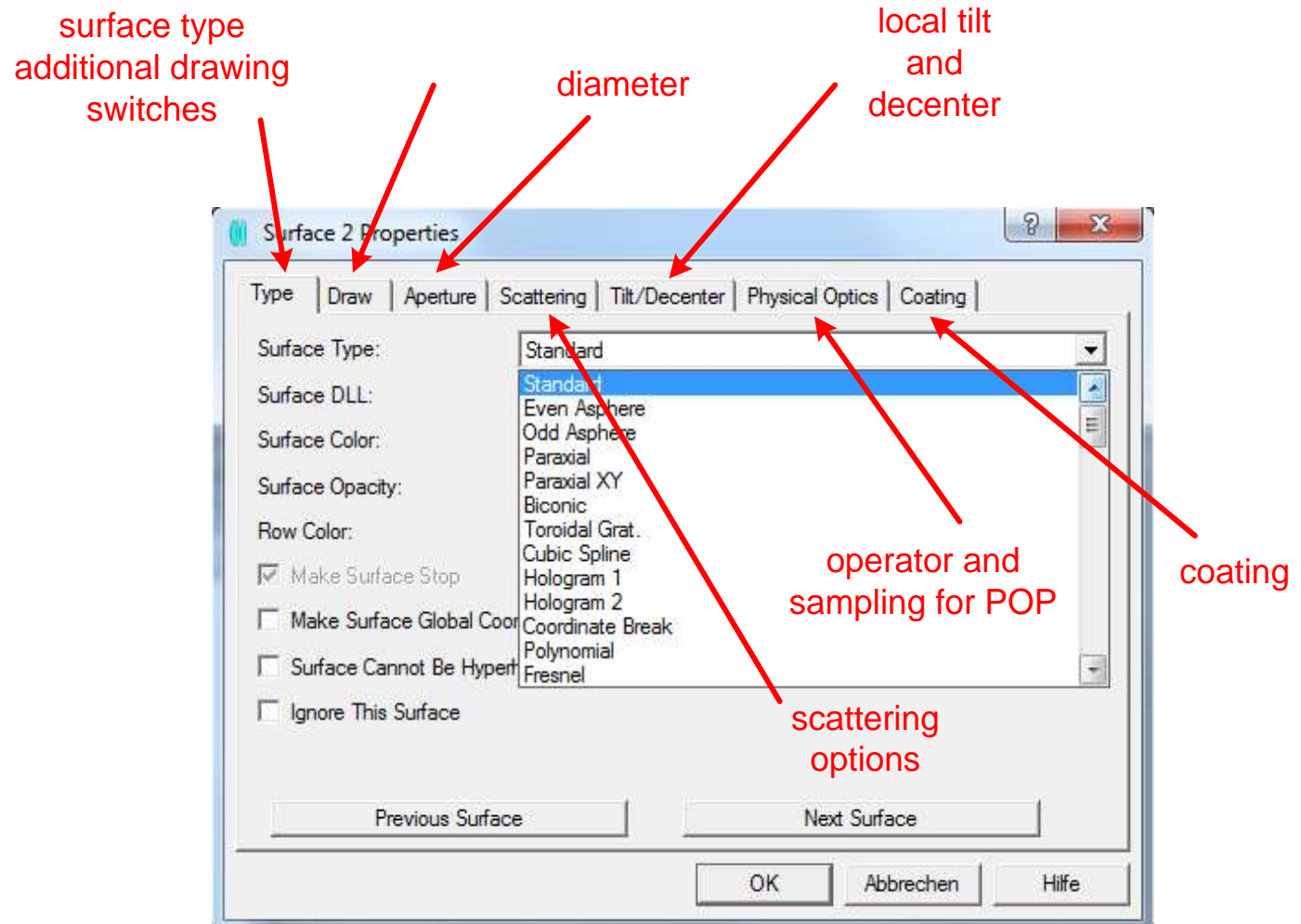




# 1 Introduction

## Surface properties and settings

- Setting of surface properties



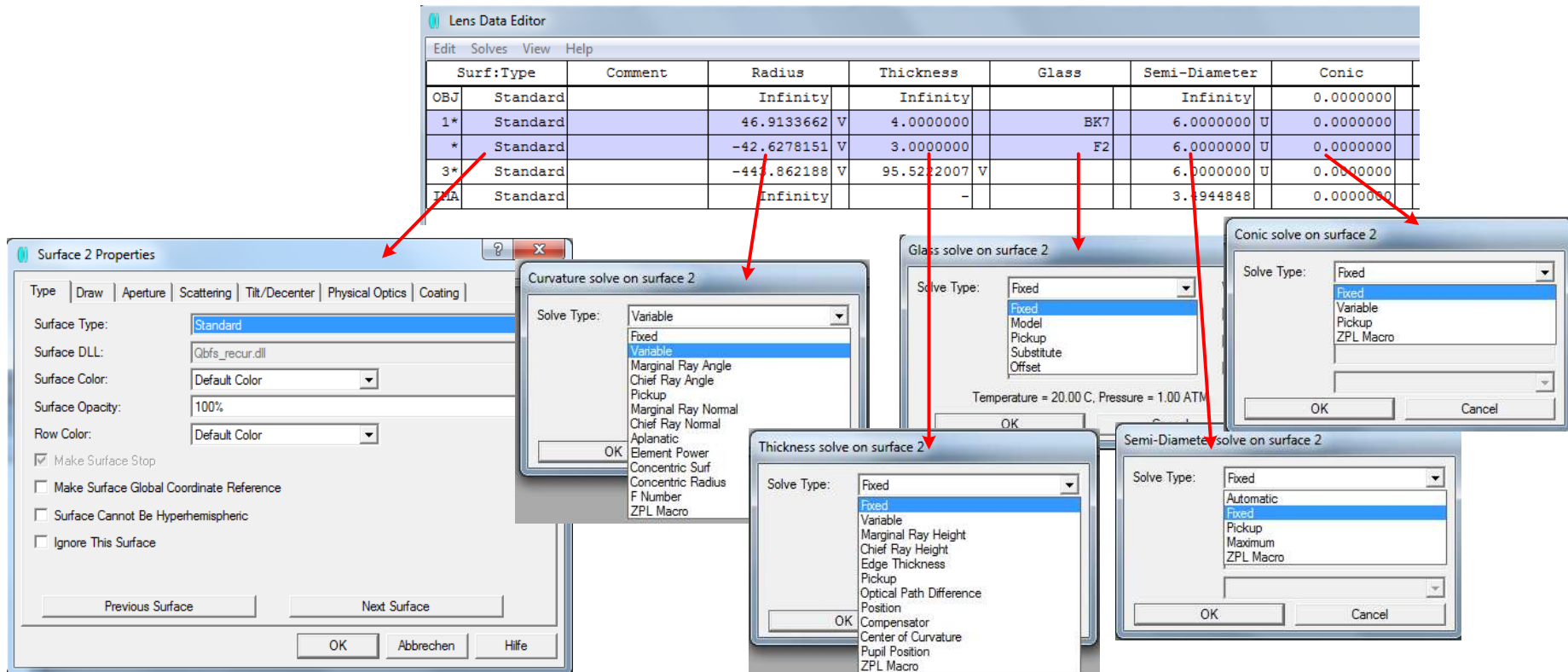
- Value of the parameter depends on other requirements
- Pickup of radius/thickness: linear dependence on other system parameters
- Determined to have fixed:
  - marginal ray height
  - chief ray angle
  - marginal ray normal
  - chief ray normal
  - aplanatic surface
  - element power
  - concentric surface
  - concentric radius
  - F number
  - marginal ray height
  - chief ray height
  - edge thickness
  - optical path difference
  - position
  - compensator
  - center of curvature
  - pupil position

- Examples for solves:
  1. last radius forces given image aperture
  2. get symmetry of system parts
  3. multiple used system parts
  4. moving lenses with constant system length
  5. bending of a lens with constant focal length
  6. non-negative edge thickness of a lens
  7. bending angle of a mirror ( $i'=i$ )
  8. decenter/tilt of a component with return



# 1 Introduction Solves

- Open different menus with a right-mouse-click in the corresponding editor cell
- Solves can be chosen individually
- Individual data for every surface in this menu



The image shows a screenshot of the 'Lens Data Editor' software interface. At the top, there is a table with columns: Surf:Type, Comment, Radius, Thickness, Glass, Semi-Diameter, and Conic. The table contains data for surfaces 1, 2, and 3. Below the table, several dialog boxes are open, each corresponding to a 'Solve' option in the table. Red arrows point from the 'Solve' column cells in the table to the respective dialog boxes. The dialog boxes are: 'Surface 2 Properties', 'Curvature solve on surface 2', 'Glass solve on surface 2', 'Conic solve on surface 2', 'Thickness solve on surface 2', and 'Semi-Diameter solve on surface 2'. Each dialog box has a 'Solve Type' dropdown menu and a list of solve options.

Surf:Type	Comment	Radius	Thickness	Glass	Semi-Diameter	Conic
OBJ	Standard	Infinity	Infinity		Infinity	0.0000000
1*	Standard	46.9133662 V	4.0000000	BK7	6.0000000 U	0.0000000
*	Standard	-42.6278151 V	3.0000000	F2	6.0000000 U	0.0000000
3*	Standard	-441.862188 V	95.5212007 V		6.0000000 U	0.0000000
IMA	Standard	Infinity	-		3.1944848	0.0000000

Surface 2 Properties dialog box fields:

- Surface Type: Standard
- Surface DLL: Qbfs\_recur.dll
- Surface Color: Default Color
- Surface Opacity: 100%
- Row Color: Default Color
- Make Surface Stop:
- Make Surface Global Coordinate Reference:
- Surface Cannot Be Hyperhemispheric:
- Ignore This Surface:

Curvature solve on surface 2 dialog box fields:

- Solve Type: Variable
- Options: Marginal Ray Angle, Chief Ray Angle, Pickup, Marginal Ray Normal, Chief Ray Normal, Aplanatic, Element Power, Concentric Surf, Concentric Radius, F Number, ZPL Macro

Glass solve on surface 2 dialog box fields:

- Solve Type: Fixed
- Options: Fixed, Model, Pickup, Substitute, Offset
- Temperature = 20.00 C, Pressure = 1.00 ATM

Conic solve on surface 2 dialog box fields:

- Solve Type: Fixed
- Options: Fixed, Variable, Pickup, ZPL Macro

Thickness solve on surface 2 dialog box fields:

- Solve Type: Fixed
- Options: Fixed, Variable, Marginal Ray Height, Chief Ray Height, Edge Thickness, Pickup, Optical Path Difference, Position, Compensator, Center of Curvature, Pupil Position, ZPL Macro

Semi-Diameter solve on surface 2 dialog box fields:

- Solve Type: Fixed
- Options: Automatic, Fixed, Pickup, Maximum, ZPL Macro

# 1 Introduction

## 3D geometry

- General input of tilt and decenter:  
Coordinate break surface
- Change of coordinate system with lateral translation and 3 rotations angles
- Direct listing in lens editor
- Not shown in layout drawing

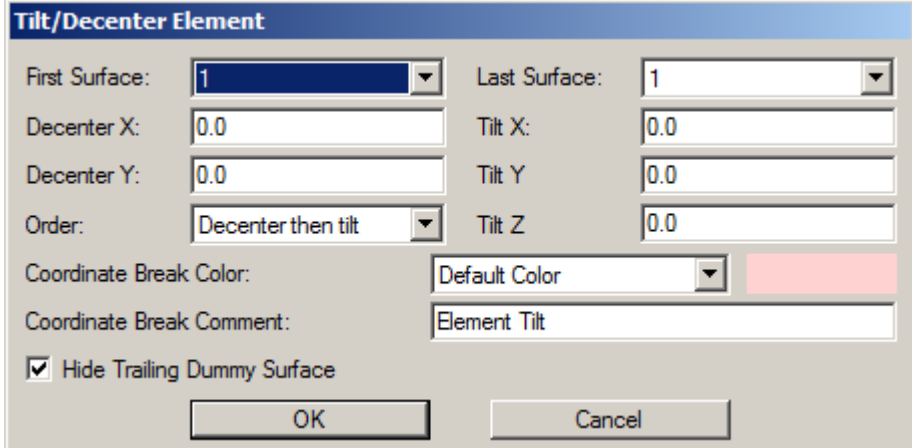
Lens Data Editor					
Edit Solves View Help					
Surf	Type	Comment	Radius	Thickness	Glass
OBJ	Standard		Infinity	20.0000000	
1	Coordinate ..			5.0000000	-
2	Standard		100.0000000	5.0000000	BK7
STO	Standard		-100.0000000	10.0000000	V
4	Standard		50.0000000	5.0000000	SF6
5	Standard		-40.0000000	50.0000000	
IMA	Standard		Infinity	-	

Decenter X	Decenter Y	Tilt About X	Tilt About Y	Tilt About Z
0.0000000	5.0000000	0.0000000	0.0000000	0.0000000

- Auxiliary menus:

## 1. Tilt/Decenter element



**Tilt/Decenter Element**

First Surface: 1 Last Surface: 1

Decenter X: 0.0 Tilt X: 0.0

Decenter Y: 0.0 Tilt Y: 0.0

Order: Decenter then tilt Tilt Z: 0.0

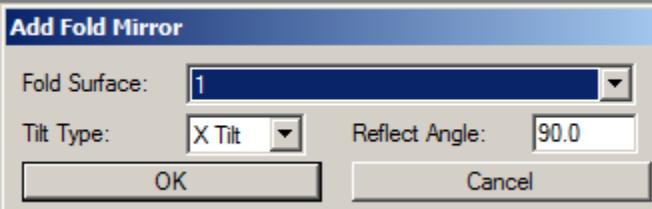
Coordinate Break Color: Default Color

Coordinate Break Comment: Element Tilt

Hide Trailing Dummy Surface

OK Cancel

## 2. Folding mirror



**Add Fold Mirror**

Fold Surface: 1

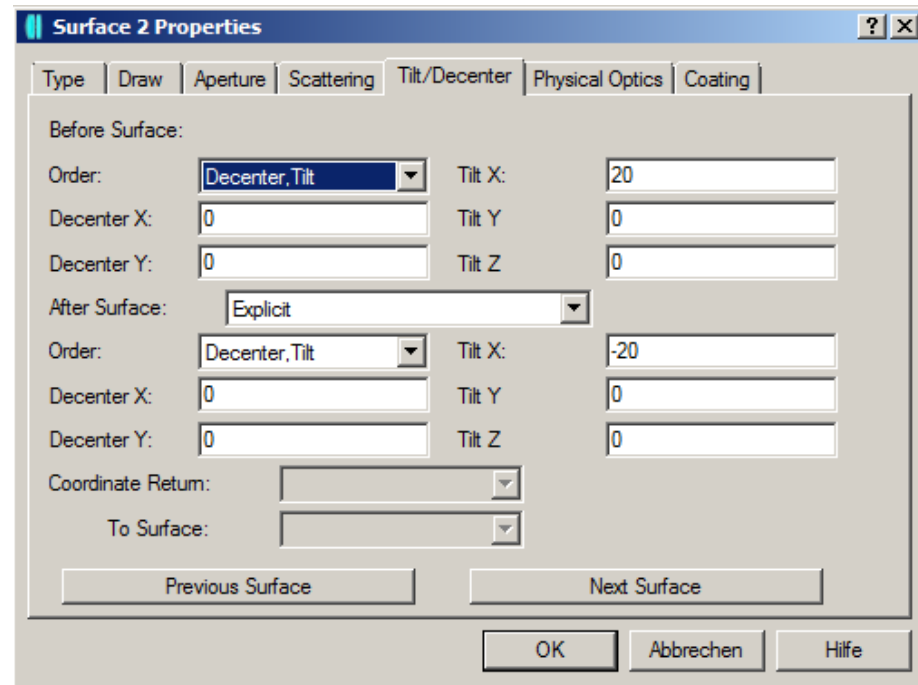
Tilt Type: X Tilt Reflect Angle: 90.0

OK Cancel

# 1 Introduction

## 3D geometry

- Local tilt and decenter of a surface
  - no direct visibility in lens editor  
only + near surface index
  - input in surface properties
  - with effect on following system surfaces



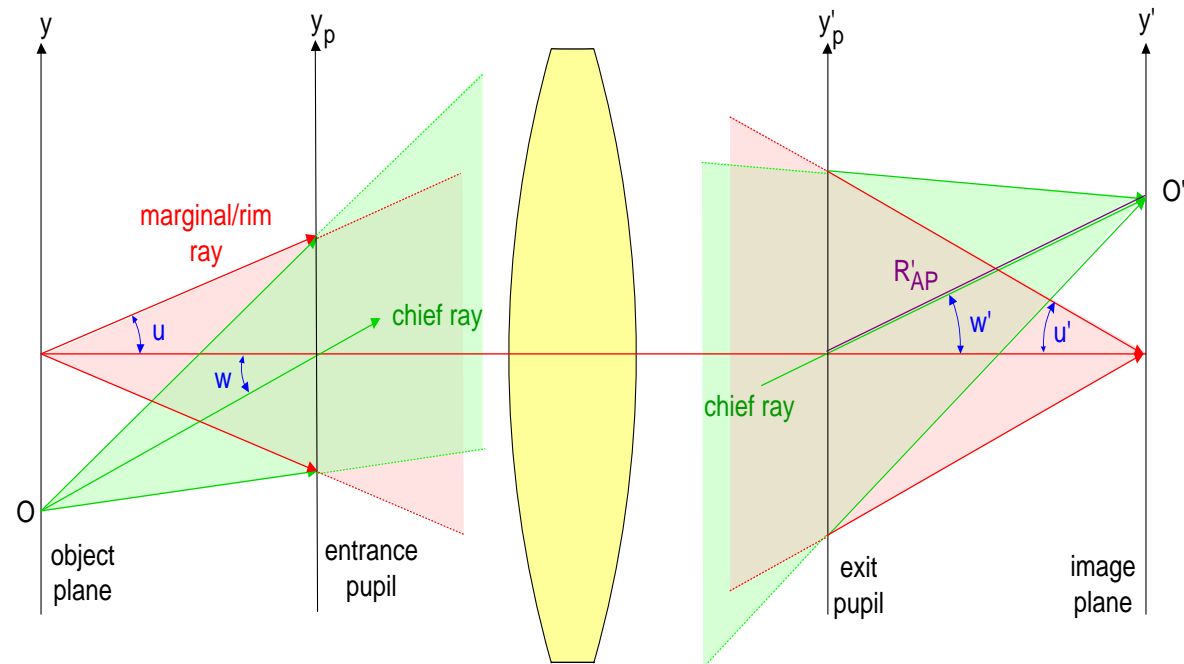
# 1 Introduction

## Definition of aperture and field

- Imaging on axis: circular / rotational symmetry  
Only spherical aberration and chromatical aberrations

- Finite field size, object point off-axis:

- chief ray as reference
- skew ray bundles:  
coma and distortion
- Vignetting, cone of ray bundle  
not circular symmetric
- to distinguish:  
tangential and sagittal plane



# 1 Introduction

## Aperture definition

Quantitative measures of relative opening / size of accepted light cone

- Numerical aperture

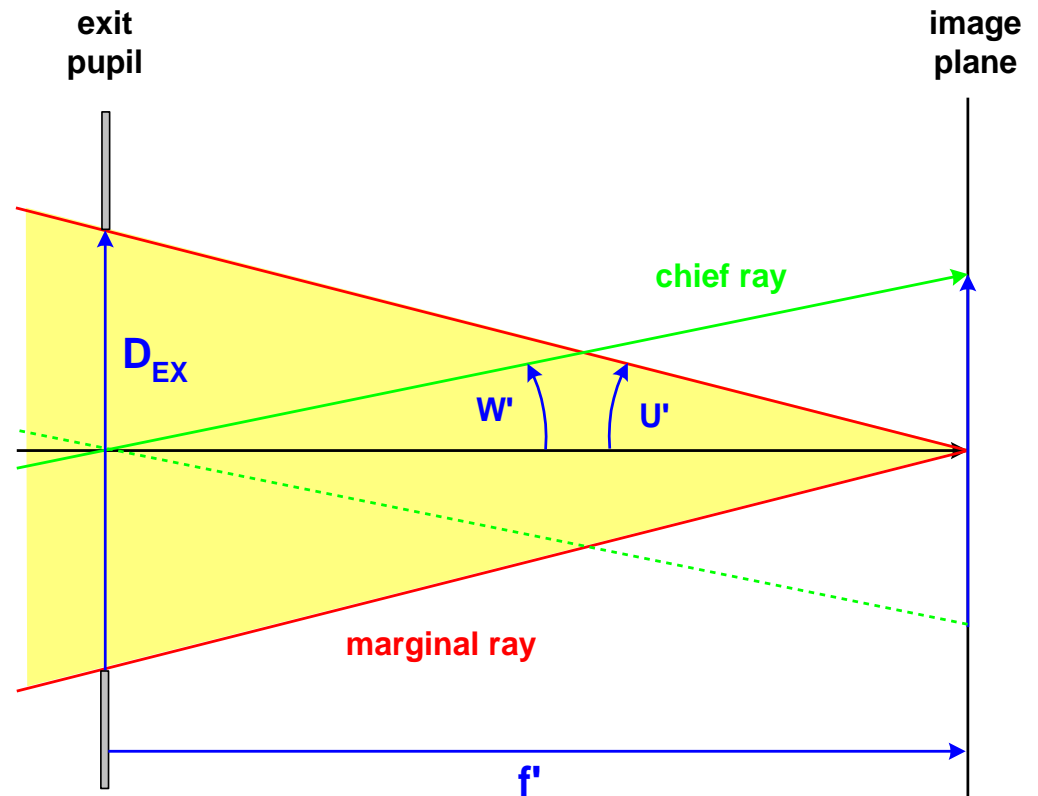
$$NA = n \cdot \sin u'$$

- F-number

$$F\# = \frac{f'}{D_{EX}}$$

- Approximation for small apertures:

$$F\# = \frac{1}{2 \cdot NA}$$



# 1 Introduction

## Zemax interface

### ▪ Helpful shortcuts:

1. F3           undo
2. F2           edit a cell in the editor
3. cntr A       multiconfiguration toggle
4. cntr V       variable toggle
5. F6           merit function editor
6. cntr U       update
7. shift cntr Q quick focus

### ▪ Window options:

1. several export options
2. fixed aspect ratios
3. clone
4. adding comments or graphics

