Propagation and interactions of light II.

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Propagation and interactions of light II.

- Photonic momentum change, optical trap
- Phase, phase contrast microscopy
- Polarization, anisotropy, polarimetry
- Optics of the human eye
- Accomodation
- Refraction problems of the eye
- Resolution of the human eye
- Color coding, color vision

Momentum and momentum-change of the photon

Einstein: mass-energy equivalence $E = mc^2$

Planck: law of radiation $E = hf$

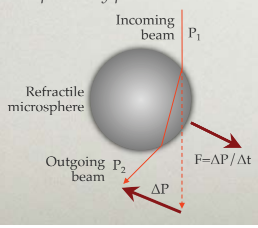
Maxwell: speed of light $c = \lambda f$

Louis-Victor-Pierre-Raymond, 7th duc ***de Broglie*** *(1892-1987)*

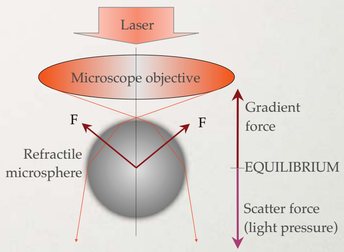
$$mc^2 = h \cdot \frac{c}{\lambda}$$

Momentum of the photon: $P = \frac{h}{\lambda}$

Refraction is accompanied by photonic momentum change (ΔP):



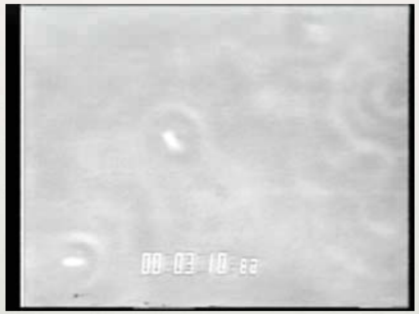
Refractile particles may be captured with photonic forces:



In the optical trap a momentum change occurs between the photons and the trapped particle:

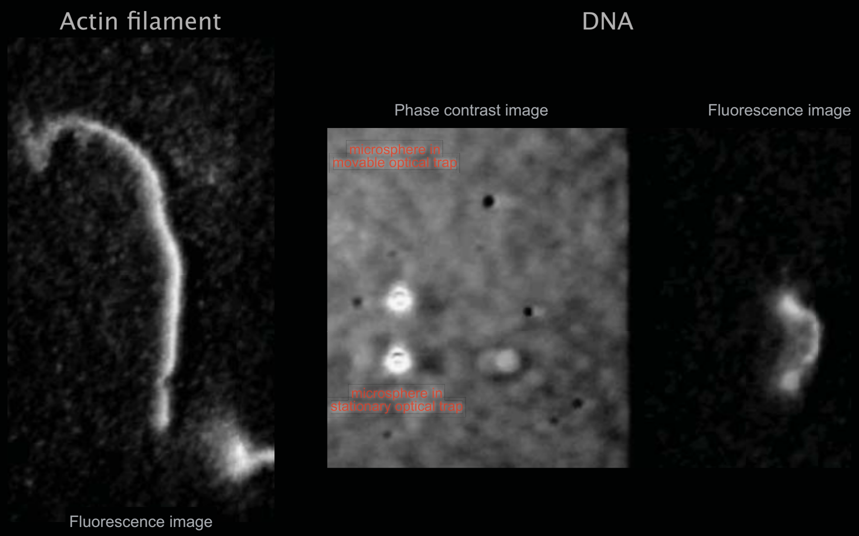
3 μm latex (polystyrene) microspheres in the optical trap

Even cells can be captured with the optical trap



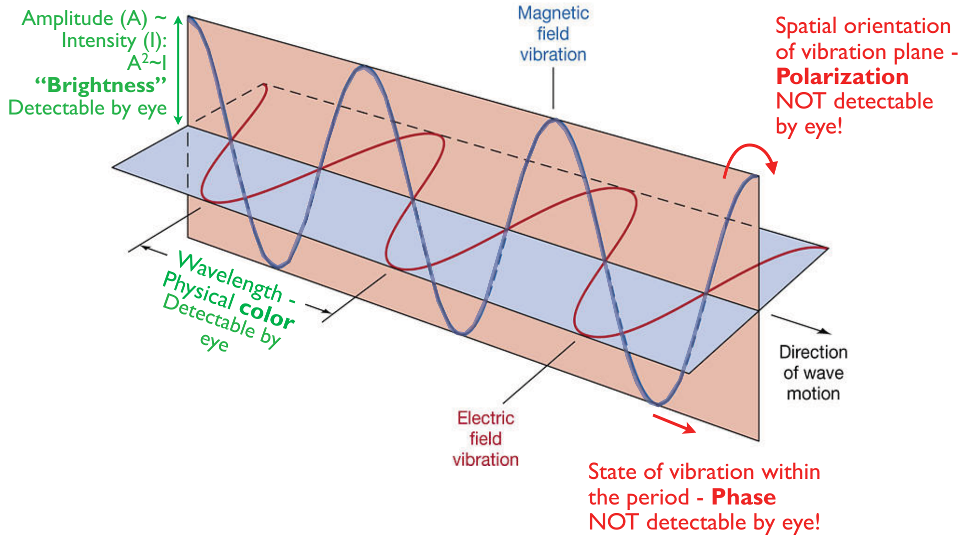
Trapping of bacterial cells

Tying a knot on a molecular filament by using optical trap



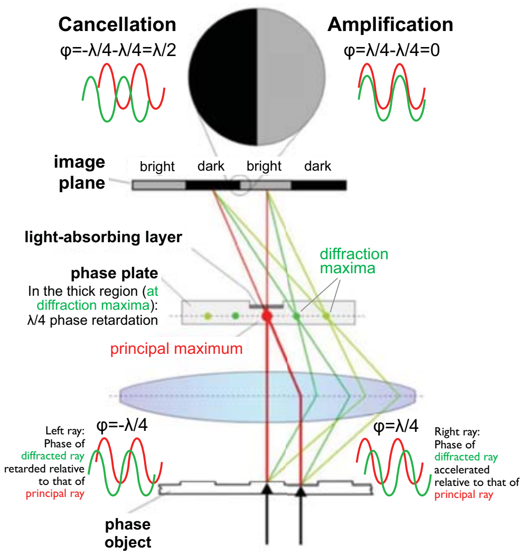
Arai et al. Nature 399, 446, 1999.

Detectable parameters of the light wave



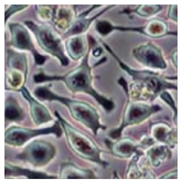
Phase, phase contrast microscopy

Frits Zernike (1888-1966) Nobel-prize



Live (unstained) cells

Bright-field m icroscopic image



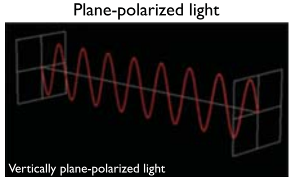
Phase-contast microscopic image

- **Phase**: shows the state of vibration within the entire period (2π).
- Expressed with the **phase angle** (φ).
- Phase difference between waves: **phase shift** (retardation or acceleration)

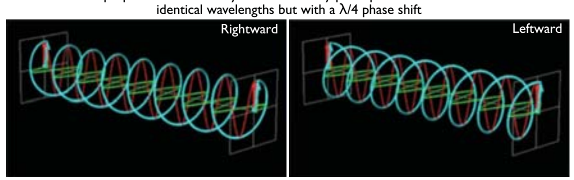
Polarized light and its interactions

Direction of the vibration (electric or magnetic field) has preferred orientation

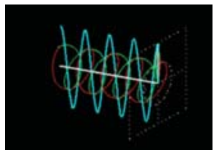
Plane-polarized light



Circularly polarized light:
Superposition of vertically and horizontally plane-polarized waves with identical wavelengths but with a λ/4 phase shift

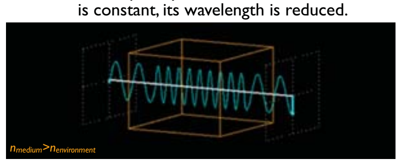


Superposition of a right- and leftward circularly polarized wave results in plane-polarized light.

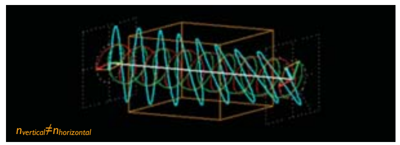


Orientation of polarization plane depends on the relative phase of the two circularly polarized waves

Light decelerates in optically dense medium; because its frequency is constant, its wavelength is reduced.



In an anisotropic* medium a phase shift occurs between the circularly polarized components: the polarization plane of the emerging wave rotates.

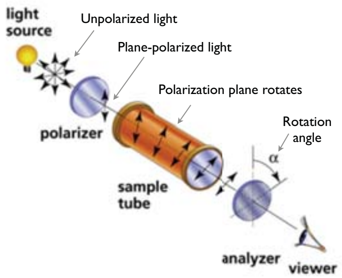


**Anisotropy (birefringence)*: refractive index (~light speed) is orientation dependent (i.e., in different directions within the sample, light propagates with different speeds).

Movies - http://www.enzim.hu/~szia/cddemo/demo0.htm

Applications of polarization

Polarimetry



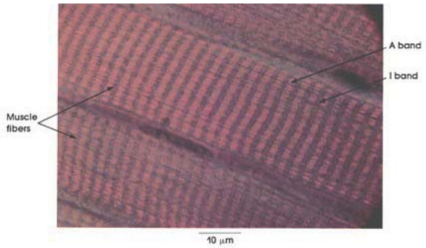
Rotation angle depends on the concentration (c) of the optically active* material:

$$\alpha = [\alpha]_D^{20} \cdot c \cdot l$$

[α] = specific angle of rotation ("20": room temperature; "D": emission spectral line of Na λ=589 nm)
l = length of sample tube

Polarization microscopy

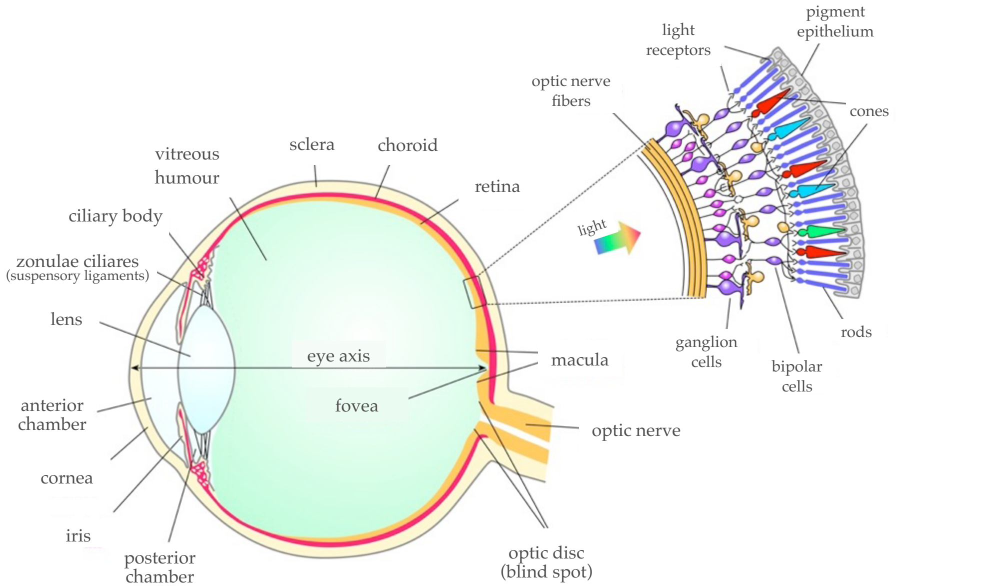
Cross-striated skeletal muscle in the polarization microscope



- A-band: anisotropic (birefringent) region (contains myosin helically ordered myosin molecules)
- I-band: isotropic region

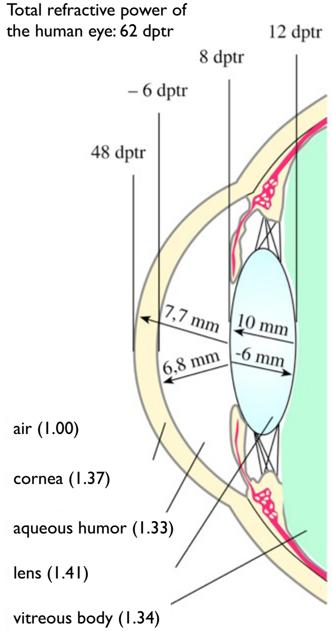
*Optically active material: contains *chiral* (mirror-symmetric) molecules tat rotate the plane of polarization.

Optics of the human eye



Horizontal section of the human eye

Optics of the human eye



Optical power entering the eye (P):

$$P = J\pi\left(\frac{d}{2}\right)^2$$

J=intensity (W/m^2)
d=pupil diameter

Power depends on pupil diameter:

$$\frac{P_{\max}}{P_{\min}} = \left(\frac{d_{\max}}{d_{\min}}\right)^2 = 16$$

d_{max}=8 mm
d_{min}=2 mm

Refractive power of surfaces (D, dptr):

$$D = \frac{n - n'}{r}$$

n-n' = refractive index difference of bounding media (air, cornea, etc.)
r = radius of curvature of refractive surface

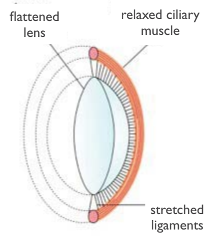
N.B.:
1) n-n' is greatest at the air-cornea surface.
2) There are two possible mechanisms for controlling refractive power (variation of n' or r)!

Accomodation and refraction problems

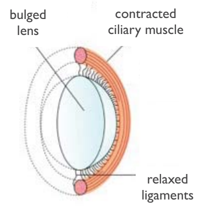
Accomodation:

- Adaptation of the eye's refractive power to the object distance.
- Mechanism: radius of curvature of the lens is modified.
- Accomodation power: difference, in diopter, between the far and near points of the eye.

Farsight

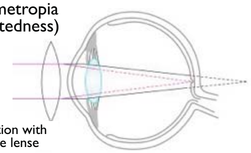


Nearsight



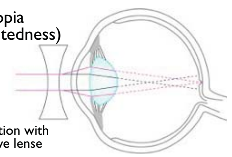
Presbyopia:
- Accomodation power decreases.
- Manifests with age (>45 years).
- Nearsight worsens.

Hypermetropia (farsightedness)



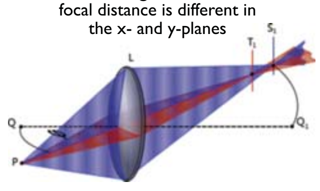
Correction with positive lense

Myopia (nearsightedness)



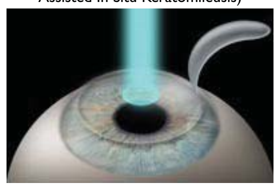
Correction with negative lense

Astigmatism: focal distance is different in the x- and y-planes



Correction with cylindrical lens

Permament corretion of refractive problem: LASIK (Laser Assisted In Situ Keratomileusis)

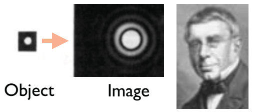


The radius of curvature of the cornea is changed (with laser surgery)

Resolution of the human eye I.

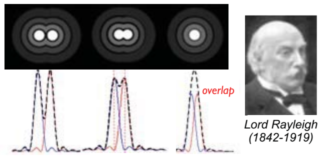
Diffraction limit

Because of diffraction: image of a point object is an Airy disk



Sir George Biddel Airy (1801-1892)

Rayleigh criterion: objects may be resolved if their corresponding Airy disks do not overlap



Lord Rayleigh (1842-1919)

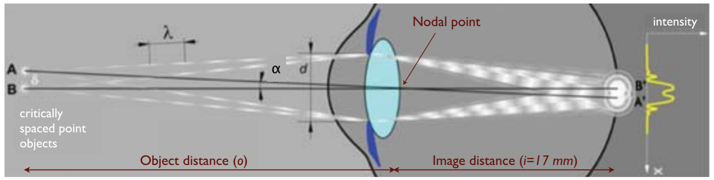
Smallest resolved distance has a limit (Abbe equation):

$$d = \frac{0.61\lambda}{n \sin\alpha}$$

λ = wavelength
n = refractive index of medium
α = angle between axis and outermost ray

Ernst Abbe (1840-1905)

Diffraction limit of the human eye



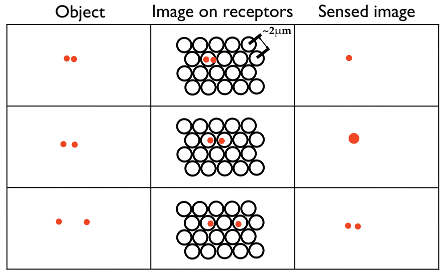
Reduced eye model

Limiting visual angle: $\alpha_H = 1.22\frac{\lambda}{d}$

Smallest angle of view at which two closely spaced objects may be resolved.
At average wavelength (550 nm) and pupil diameter (4 mm): **0.6'** (angular minutes)

Resolution of the human eye II.

Biological limit: receptor cell density



- Condition of resolution: at least one inactivated receptor cell falls in between two activated ones. The limiting angle of view under this condition is (α_B)≈ **0.8'**
- The diffraction and biological limits of the human eye are **comparable**!

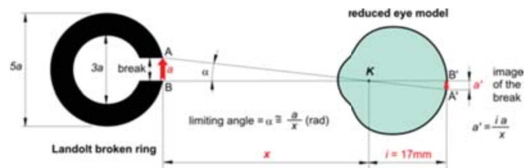
Visual Acuity ("visus", vision):

$$visual\_acuity = \frac{1'}{\alpha}100\%$$

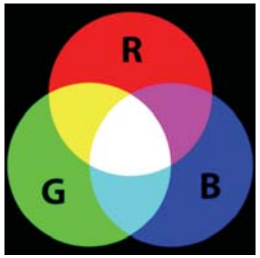
α = experimental (measured) visual angle

Average visual angle in healthy humans:
1' (= 100% vision)

Measurement of visual acuity



Color coding, color vision

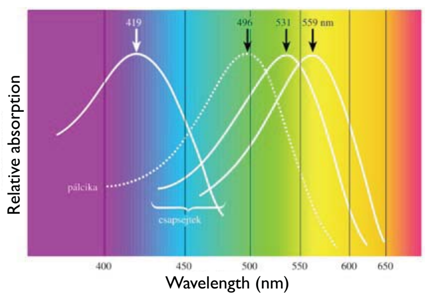


Additive color coding

Any color may be generated by mixing three basic colors (R=red, G=green, B=blue) with varying weighing factors.

$$X = rR + gG + bB$$

Absorption spectra of the human color-sensitive receptors (cones)



In the human eye:

- 3 different color-sensitive receptors.
- Each receptor absorbs in different regions of the visible spectrum (R=64%, G=32%, B=2%).