

# Seamless transition to geometrical optics concepts in a fully physical optics framework

### Abstract

VirtualLab Fusion is a software product developed for multiscale optical simulations and design. It offers a platform that interconnects different simulation models, such as precise Maxwell solvers, like the Fourier Modal Method (FMM), and more approximate methods, including geometrical optics. The ability for various simulation models to work together requires that all methods utilize electromagnetic fields as both input and output. Therefore, integrating geometrical optics into a multiscale simulation framework necessitates developing a formulation of geometrical optics for electromagnetic fields. This document examines the theory, which is also applied within VirtualLab Fusion.

The document originates from a presentation delivered by Frank Wyrowski at SPIE Europe in April 2024. We need to identify that part of physical optics, which deals with the "geometrical laws relating to the propagation of the 'amplitude vectors' E and H." Principles of Optics Citation from page 125 Physical Optics  $\boldsymbol{E}, \boldsymbol{H}$ Geometrical Optics for Fields E, H

### **Simulating Optical Systems**



## Systems are composed of a continuously expanding variety of

**components**, such as lenses, freeform surfaces, Fresnel lenses, pancake lenses, GRIN lenses, metalenses, mirrors, gratings, diffractive optical elements (DOEs), crystals, apertures, prisms, cubes, fibers, scatterers, diffusers, micro lens arrays, and spatial light modulators (SLMs).

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The simulation should generate all required detector outputs, such as aberrations, point spread function (PSF), modulation transfer function (MTF), beam characteristics, radiometry, photometry, colorimetry, and diagnostics for ultrashort pulses.

### The simulation must be appropriate for a multiscale system configuration.

### Finding the Right Balance Between Accuracy and Speed



Simulations should aim to achieve the necessary level of accuracy while also being computationally efficient.



### **Simulating Optical Systems: Universal Solver**



- Solvers that can be used for solving Maxwell's equations universally include methods such as:
  - Fourier Modal Method (FMM),
  - Finite Difference Time Domain Method (FDTD),
  - Finite Element Method (FEM).
- While these solvers are highly precise, they tend to be slow and demand significant computational resources.
- Their significance lies in their ability to simulate the impact of nanostructures.
- Universal solvers are not appropriate for system simulation.

### **Simulating Optical Systems: Geometrical Optics**



- Utilizing geometric optics in simulations often leads to quick results.
- It allows for the precise assessment of aberrations in lens systems.
- In general, the precision of geometrical optics is viewed as being moderate.
- Geometrical optics is not sufficient to model the wide variety of optical systems.

### **Simulating Optical Systems: Combine Many Techniques**



- Utilize customized simulation models for each component.
- Simulation models range from geometrical optics to rigorous and simplified methods in physical optics.
- For effective system modeling, it is crucial that all **methods are interoperable** with each other to enable seamless integration.

### **Multiscale Optical Simulation by VirtualLab Fusion Software**



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### Interoperability?

### **Simulation Models and Light Representation**



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### **Simulation Models and Light Representation**



### **Interoperable Simulation Requires Generalized Geometrical Optics**



### Geometrical optics for fields *E*, *H* required!



**Not** interoperable







### 3.1 Approximation for very short wavelengths

THE electromagnetic field associated with the propagation of visible light is characterized by very rapid oscillations (frequencies of the order of  $10^{14}$  s<sup>-1</sup>) or, what amounts to the same thing, by the smallness of the wavelength (of order  $10^{-5}$  cm). It may therefore be expected that a good first approximation to the propagation laws in such cases may be obtained by a complete neglect of the finiteness of the wavelength. It is found that for many optical problems such a procedure is entirely adequate; in fact, phenomena which can be attributed to departures from this approximate theory (socalled diffraction phenomena, studied in Chapter VIII) can only be demonstrated by means of carefully conducted experiments.

The branch of optics which is characterized by the neglect of the wavelength, i.e. that corresponding to the limiting case  $\lambda_0 \rightarrow 0$ , is known as geometrical optics,\* since in this approximation the optical laws may be formulated in the language of geometry. The energy may then be regarded as being transported along certain curves (light rays). A physical model of a pencil of rays may be obtained by allowing the light from a source of negligible extension to pass through a very small opening in an opaque screen. The light which reaches the space behind the screen will fill a region the boundary of which (the edge of the pencil) will, at first sight, appear to be sharp. A more careful examination will reveal, however, that the light intensity near the boundary varies rapidly but continuously from darkness in the shadow to lightness in the illuminated region, and that the variation is not monotonic but is of an oscillatory character, manifested by the appearance of bright and dark bands, called diffraction fringes. The region in which this rapid variation takes place is only of the order of magnitude of the wavelength. Hence, as long as this magnitude is neglected in comparison with the dimensions of the opening, we may speak of a sharply bounded pencil of rays.<sup>†</sup> On reducing the size of the opening down to the dimensions of the

<sup>†</sup> That the boundary becomes sharp in the limit as λ<sub>0</sub> → 0 was first shown by G. Kitchhoff, Vorlezungen ũ. Math. Phys., Vol. 2 (Mathematische Optik) (Leipzig, Tuebrner, 1891), p. 33. See also B. B. Baker and E. T. Copson, The Mathematical Theory of Hwygens' Principle (Oxford, Clarendon Press, 2nd edition, 1950), p. '99, and A. Sommerfeld, Optics (New York, Academic Press, 1954), §55.

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<sup>\*</sup> The historical development of geometrical optics is described by M. Herzberger, Srahlenoptik (Berlin, Springer, 1931), p. 179; Z. Instrumentenkande, 52 (1932), 429–435, 485–493, 534–542, C. Carathéodory, Geometrische Optik (Berlin, Springer, 1937) and E. Mach, The Principles of Physical Optics, A Historical and Philosophical Treatment (First German edition 1913, English translation: London, Methuen, 1926; reprinted by Dever Publications, New York, 1953).



using the concept of rays and wave-fronts. In other words polarization properties are excluded. The reason for this restriction is undoubtedly due to the fact that the simple laws of geometrical optics concerning rays and wave-fronts were known from experiments long before the electromagnetic theory of light was established. It is, however, possible, and from our point of view quite natural, to extend the meaning of geometrical optics to embrace also certain geometrical laws relating to the propagation

equations (16)-(17). Since S satisfies the eikonal equation, it follows that  $\mathbf{K} = 0$ , and we see that when  $k_0$  is sufficiently large ( $\lambda_0$  small enough), only the *L*-terms need to be retained in (16) and (17). Hence, in the present approximation, the amplitude vectors and the eikonal are connected by the relations L = 0. If we use again the operator  $\partial/\partial \tau$  introduced by (38), the equations L = 0 become

of the 'amplitude vectors' e and h. These laws may be easily deduced from the wave

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{e}}{\partial \tau} + \frac{1}{2} \left( \nabla^2 S - \frac{\partial \ln \mu}{\partial \tau} \right) \mathbf{e} + (\mathbf{e} \cdot \operatorname{grad} \ln n) \operatorname{grad} S = 0, \tag{41}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{h}}{\partial \tau} + \frac{1}{2} \left( \nabla^2 S - \frac{\partial \ln \varepsilon}{\partial \tau} \right) \mathbf{h} + (\mathbf{h} \cdot \operatorname{grad} \ln n) \operatorname{grad} S = 0. \tag{42}$$

These are the required transport equations for the variation of e and h along each ray. The implications of these equations can best be understood by examining separately the variation of the magnitude and of the direction of these vectors.

\* It has been shown by M. Kline, Comm. Pure and Appl. Maths., 14 (1961), 473 that the intensity ratio (40) may be expressed in terms of an integral which involves the principal radii of curvature of the associated wavefronts. Kline's formula is a natural generalization, to inhomogeneous media, of the formula (34). See also M, Kline and I, W, Kay, ibid, 184

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"According to traditional terminology, one understands by geometrical optics this picture approximate of energy propagation, using the concept of rays wave-fronts. and In other words polarization properties are excluded. The reason for this restriction is undoubtedly due to the fact that the simple laws of geometrical optics concerning rays and wave-fronts were known from experiments long before the electromagnetic theory of light was established. It is, however, possible, and from our point of view quite natural, to extend the meaning of geometrical optics to embrace also certain geometrical laws relating to the propagation of the 'amplitude vectors' E and H."



## We follow Max Born's and Emil Wolf's advice!

We need to identify that part of physical optics, which deals with the "geometrical laws relating to the propagation of the 'amplitude vectors' E

and H."









Modeling of optical effects, including, e.g., aberrations, energy redistribution, diffraction, scattering, interference, speckles, polarization, coherence, and spatiotemporal evolution.

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### **Simulating Optical Systems: Combine Many Techniques**



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### **Interoperable Optical Simulation is Non-Sequential**



### Scenario: Lens System Modeling with Ghost Signal



### **Interoperable Optical Simulation is Non-Sequential**



- The nodes of the simulation tree represent the simulation models for each component.
- The connections among the nodes illustrate the propagation of light between the components.
- Diffraction manifests itself during this propagation.



### **From Simulation Tree to Operator Sequences**

- The simulation tree can be divided into a limited number of **operator sequences**.
- These sequences can be illustrated using a modeling diagram.



### **Modeling Free-Space Propagation**







- By utilizing  $E(x, y, z_0)$  and  $H(x, y, z_0)$ , we can derive E(x, y, z) and H(x, y, z) for  $z > z_0$  through forward propagation and for  $z < z_0$  through inverse propagation.
- The propagation of each field component, denoted by *V*, can be carried out independently.




## **Electromagnetic Fields in Homogeneous, Isotropic Media**















We need to identify that part of physical optics, which deals with the "geometrical laws relating to the propagation of the 'amplitude vectors' E and H." Citation



# **Geometric Free-Space Propagation: Pointwise Mapping**



 The solution of Maxwell's equations in homogeneous and isotropic media provides us with a rigorous propagation operator in the k-domain:

$$\tilde{V}(k_x, k_y, z) = \left(\tilde{\mathcal{P}}\tilde{V}(z_0)\right)(k_x, k_y, z)$$
  
= exp (i $\check{k}_z \Delta z$ ) ×  $\tilde{V}(k_x, k_y, z_0)$ ,

with 
$$\check{k}_{z}(k_{x},k_{y}) = \sqrt{k_{0}^{2}\check{n}^{2}-k_{x}^{2}-k_{y}^{2}}$$
 and  $\Delta z = z - z_{0} > 0.$ 



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- The operation  $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}\tilde{V}$  is pointwise.
- Hence, the propagation in the x-domain can only adhere to geometrical laws when the forward and inverse Fourier transforms exhibit nearly pointwise behavior.



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# **Geometrical Optics for Electromagnetic Fields**



When does free-space propagation approximately reduce to a pointwise mapping?

When does the Fourier transform behave in a pointwise manner?

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### **Example: Diffraction at Circular Aperture: Far Field Zone**



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### **Example: Diffraction at Circular Aperture: Far Field Zone**



# **Example: Illumination of Slide with Spherical Wave**



When does free-space propagation approximately reduce to a pointwise mapping?

When does the Fourier transform behave in a pointwise manner?











### **Pointwise Behavior of Fourier Transform**







# **Pointwise Fourier Transform (PFT) Algorithm**





Theory and algorithm of the homeomorphic Fourier transform for optical simulations

ZONGZHAO WANG,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> OLGA BALADRON-ZORITA,<sup>1,2</sup> D CHRISTIAN HELLMANN,<sup>3</sup> AND FRANK WYROWSKI<sup>1</sup>



 $\times f(\rho')$
## **Geometric and Diffractive Field Zone**



#### **Pointwise Behavior in Presence of Aberrations**



## **Results of Fourier Transform**



## **Geometric Propagation of Electromagnetic Fields**





## **Geometric Propagation of Electromagnetic Fields**



## **Geometric Propagation of Electromagnetic Fields**



$$\begin{split} V_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z) &= U_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z) \exp\left[\mathrm{i}\psi(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z)\right] \\ &= \left(|V_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z)| \exp\left[\mathrm{i}\alpha_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z)\right]\right) \exp\left[\mathrm{i}\psi(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z)\right] \end{split}$$

Example: propagated Gaussian Laguerre beam



```
V_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z) = U_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z) \exp\left[\mathrm{i}\psi(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z)\right]
                            = \left( |V_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z)| \exp\left[ i\alpha_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z) \right] \right) \exp\left[ i\psi(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z) \right]
                               oldsymbol{\mathcal{F}} \ oldsymbol{
ho}\mapstooldsymbol{\kappa}(oldsymbol{
ho})=
abla\psi(oldsymbol{
ho})
                                                                                                              Jacobian determinant
\tilde{V}_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\kappa}, z) = \tilde{A}_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\kappa}, z) \exp\left[\mathrm{i}\tilde{\phi}(\boldsymbol{\kappa}, \zeta)\right]
                             = \left( |\tilde{V}_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\kappa}, z)| \exp\left[i\tilde{\phi}(\boldsymbol{\kappa}, z)\right] \right) \exp\left[i\tilde{\phi}(\boldsymbol{\kappa}, z)\right]
\tilde{A}_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\kappa}, z) = \sqrt{|\mathbf{J}_{\rho}(\boldsymbol{\kappa})|} \Big( U_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z) \sigma(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z) \Big) [\boldsymbol{\rho} \leftarrow \boldsymbol{\rho}(\boldsymbol{\kappa})]
   	ilde{\phi}(oldsymbol{\kappa},z) = \Big(\psi(oldsymbol{
ho},z) - oldsymbol{\kappa}\cdotoldsymbol{
ho}\Big)[oldsymbol{
ho}\leftarrowoldsymbol{
ho}(oldsymbol{\kappa})]
                                                                                                                                                                                                                             Legendre
                                                                                                                                                                                                                   transformation
```

$$V_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z) = U_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z) \exp\left[\mathrm{i}\psi(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z)\right]$$
$$= \left(|V_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z)| \exp\left[\mathrm{i}\alpha_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z)\right]\right) \exp\left[\mathrm{i}\psi(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z)\right]$$

 $\mathcal{F}_{\boldsymbol{\rho}\mapsto\boldsymbol{\kappa}(\boldsymbol{\rho})=\nabla\psi(\boldsymbol{\rho})$ 

$$\begin{split} \tilde{V}_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\kappa}, z) &= \tilde{A}_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\kappa}, z) \exp\left[\mathrm{i}\tilde{\phi}(\boldsymbol{\kappa}, z)\right] \\ &= \left(|\tilde{V}_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\kappa}, z)| \exp\left[\mathrm{i}\tilde{\beta}_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\kappa}, z)\right]\right) \exp\left[\mathrm{i}\tilde{\phi}(\boldsymbol{\kappa}, z)\right] \\ \tilde{A}_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\kappa}, z) &= \sqrt{|\mathbf{J}_{\rho}(\boldsymbol{\kappa})|} \left(U_{\ell}(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z) \overline{\sigma(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z)}\right) [\boldsymbol{\rho} \leftarrow \boldsymbol{\rho}(\boldsymbol{\kappa})] \\ \tilde{\phi}(\boldsymbol{\kappa}, z) &= \left(\psi(\boldsymbol{\rho}, z) - \boldsymbol{\kappa} \cdot \boldsymbol{\rho}\right) [\boldsymbol{\rho} \leftarrow \boldsymbol{\rho}(\boldsymbol{\kappa})] \end{split}$$

$\partial_{xx}\psi(\boldsymbol{ ho}), \partial_{yy}\psi(\boldsymbol{ ho})$	$\partial_{xy}\psi(\mathbf{\rho})$	$ J_{\kappa}({oldsymbol{ ho}}) $	factor $\sigma({oldsymbol  ho})$
same sign (±)	small	> 0	±i
one/both = 0	≠ 0	< 0	1
different sign	any	< 0	1
same sign	large	< 0	1





# Algorithm for Geometric Propagation of Electromagnetic Fields

$$V_{\ell}(\rho, z) = U_{\ell}(\rho, z) \exp\left[i\psi(\rho, z)\right]$$

$$= \left(|V_{\ell}(\rho, z)| \exp\left[i\alpha_{\ell}(\rho, z)\right]\right) \exp\left[i\psi(\rho, z)\right]$$

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$$U_{\ell}(\rho, z) = \sqrt{|\mathbf{J}_{k}(\rho)|} \left(\tilde{A}_{\ell}(\kappa, z)\tilde{\sigma}(\kappa, z)\right)[\kappa \leftarrow \kappa(\rho)]$$

$$\psi(\rho, z) = \left(\tilde{\phi}(\kappa, z) + \kappa \cdot \rho\right)[\kappa \leftarrow \kappa(\rho)]$$

$$\tilde{V}_{\ell}(\kappa, z) = \tilde{A}_{\ell}(\kappa, z) \exp\left[i\tilde{\phi}(\kappa, z)\right]$$

$$\tilde{V}_{\ell}(\kappa, z) = \sqrt{|\mathbf{J}_{\rho}(\kappa)|} \left(U_{\ell}(\rho, z)\sigma(\rho, z)\right)[\rho \leftarrow \rho(\kappa)]$$

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#### **Gouy Phase Shift**





























Fast equivalent to Rayleigh-Sommerfeld integral





Application of the semi-analytical Fourier transform to electromagnetic modeling

Zongzhao Wang,  $^{1,2}$  Site Zhang,  $^{1,2}$  Olga Baladron-Zorita,  $^{1,2}$  Christian Hellmann,  $^3$  and Frank Wyrowski  $^1$ 







## **Geometrical Optics for Electromagnetic Fields**



## **Interferometer Modeling: Pointwise FT Algorithm Only**



## **Interferometer Modeling: Automatic Selection of FT Algorithms**



#### **Seamless Inclusion of Diffraction Effects**





## **Megatrend Multiscale Optical Simulation and Design**

