

Series 6

FUNDAMENTALS OF MODERN OPTICS

to be returned on 01.12.2022, at the beginning of the lecture

Task 1: Response function of Fresnel approximation (5 points)

Consider the Fresnel approximation, under which the transfer function in the spatial frequency domain reads:

$$H_F(\alpha, \beta, z) = \exp(ikz) \exp\left[-i \frac{\alpha^2 + \beta^2}{2k} z\right]$$

Derive the response function $h_F(x, y, z > z_0)$ in the spatial domain, as given in the lecture notes. Use the integral:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-ix^2} dx = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{i}}.$$

Task 2: Gaussian beam (2+2 points)

In the lecture we defined the Gaussian beam as

$$v(x, y, z) = A(z) \exp\left[-\frac{x^2 + y^2}{w(z)^2}\right] \exp\left[ikz + i \frac{k}{2} \frac{x^2 + y^2}{R(z)} + i\varphi(z)\right].$$

- Derive a spherical wave in paraxial approximation and show that for which condition the wavefront of a Gaussian beam is the same as a wavefront of the spherical wave. *Hint: Neglect Guoy phase shift of the Gaussian beam.*
- How far can a Gaussian beam with $\lambda = 630$ nm and $W_0 = 8$ mm stay collimated (we consider maximum 10% broadening after propagating z_1 from waist)?

Task 3: Focusing a Gaussian Beam (4+2 points)

A collimated Gaussian beam of wavelength λ with a waist W_0 (the waist is just behind the lens) is focused by a lens with a focal distance f , as shown in Figure 1. The Rayleigh length of the beam before the lens, $z_0 = \frac{\pi W_0^2}{\lambda}$, is much larger than f . The focused Gaussian beam after the lens would have the waist W_1 at the distance d after the lens.

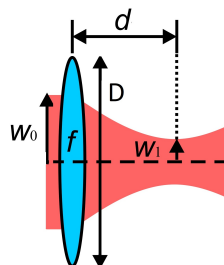


Figure 1: Focusing with a lens.

- Use the ABCD matrix of the system to calculate W_1 and d exactly. Then use the fact that $z_0 \gg f$ to simplify your results.
- How small can $2W_1$ be? In other words, how small can the focal spot after the lens be? Use the approximate result of (a) in the $z_0 \gg f$ regime.
Hint: To make a statement about this, you have to make some assumptions. Firstly, you have to notice that for the calculation in (a) to be correct, you are assuming that the lens aperture D is large enough to let a

substantial part of the Gaussian beam to pass through it. Let us say that $2W_0$ should be smaller than D for a substantial part of the beam to pass through the lens. Moreover, for a thin lens, the size of the aperture is also limited based on its focal length. So let us assume that $D/2$ is smaller than f , such that the ratio $D/2f$ is always smaller than 1. Put all these statements together, to be able to find a limit on how small the size of the focused beam can be.