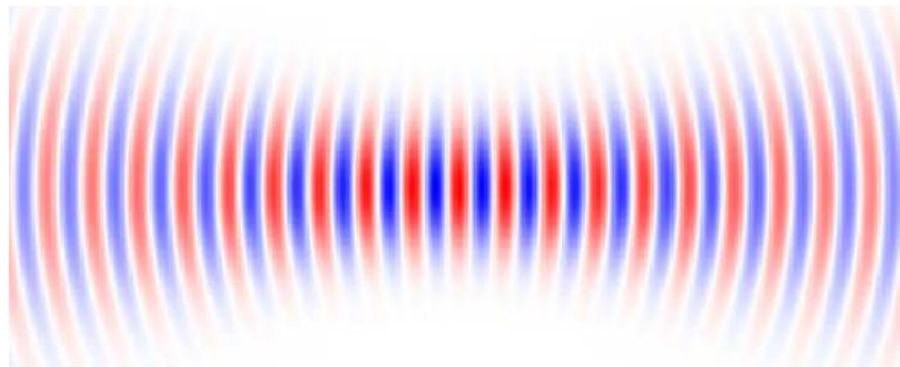


# 3.Beam Optics

# Beam Optics

- Can light be spatially confined and transported in free space without angular spread? No!
- However, light can be confined in the form of beams that come as close as possible to spatially localized and nondiverging waves
- Gaussian Beam



From: [www.rp-photonics.com/laser\\_beams.html](http://www.rp-photonics.com/laser_beams.html)

$$u(x, y, z) = \Psi(x, y, z)e^{ikz} .$$

$$\left(\nabla^2 + k^2\right) u(x, y, z) = 0$$

the following equation for  $u$  is obtained

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x} e^{ikz} ,$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial x^2} e^{ikz} ,$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial z} e^{ikz} + ik\Psi e^{ikz} ,$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} = \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial z^2} e^{ikz} + 2ik \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial z} e^{ikz} - k^2 \Psi e^{ikz} ;$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\nabla^2 + k^2\right) u = \left(\frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial y^2}\right) e^{ikz} + \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial z^2} e^{ikz} + 2ik \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial z} e^{ikz} = 0 .$$

$$\left| \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial z^2} \right| \ll \left| 2k \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial z} \right| = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda_n} \left| \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial z} \right|$$

$$\Rightarrow \left. \frac{|\Delta(\partial \Psi / \partial z)|}{|\partial \Psi / \partial z|} \right|_{\Delta z = \lambda_n} \ll 4\pi .$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial y^2} + 2ik \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial z} = 0 .$$

paraxial Helmholtz equation

$$U(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{A}{z} \exp(-jkz) \exp\left[-jk_r\left(\frac{\rho}{2}\right)\right] = A(\mathbf{r}) \exp(-jkz)$$

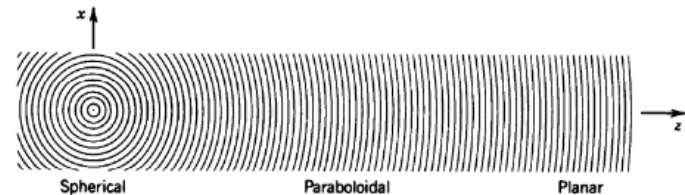
## Gaussian Beam

From the Paraxial Helmholtz equation:

$$\nabla_T^2 A - j2k \frac{\partial A}{\partial z} = 0$$

$$\longrightarrow A(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{A_1}{z} \exp\left(-jk \frac{\rho^2}{2z}\right), \quad \rho^2 = x^2 + y^2$$

Paraboloidal wave



$$\longrightarrow A(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{A_1}{q(z)} \exp\left[-jk \frac{\rho^2}{2q(z)}\right], \quad q(z) = z - \xi$$

is also a solution to the Paraxial Helmholtz equation

$$\longrightarrow A(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{A_1}{q(z)} \exp\left[-jk \frac{\rho^2}{2q(z)}\right], \quad q(z) = z + jz_0$$

The complex envelope of the Gaussian Beam

# Gaussian Beam

$$A(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{A_1}{q(z)} \exp\left[-jk \frac{\rho^2}{2q(z)}\right], \quad q(z) = z + jz_0$$

$\nearrow$   $q$ -parameter  
 $\searrow$  Rayleigh length

The complex envelope of the Gaussian Beam

$$\frac{1}{q(z)} = \frac{1}{R(z)} - j \frac{\lambda}{\pi W^2(z)}$$

$W(z)$  : Beam width

$R(z)$  : Wavefront radius of curvature

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

where  $A_0 = A_1/jz_0$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{q(z)} &= \frac{1}{z + jz_0} \\ &= \frac{z}{z^2 + z_0^2} - j \frac{z_0}{z^2 + z_0^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{R} &= \frac{z}{z^2 + z_0^2} \\ \frac{\lambda}{\pi w^2} &= \frac{z_0}{z^2 + z_0^2} \end{aligned}$$

# Gaussian Beam

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

$$W(z) = W_0 \left[1 + \left(\frac{z}{z_0}\right)^2\right]^{1/2}$$

$$R(z) = z \left[1 + \left(\frac{z_0}{z}\right)^2\right]$$

$$\zeta(z) = \tan^{-1} \frac{z}{z_0}$$

$$W_0 = \left(\frac{\lambda z_0}{\pi}\right)^{1/2}$$

Beam parameters



$$\frac{W_0}{W(z)} \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{W^2(z)}\right)$$

Amplitude factor

$$\times \exp\left[-j\left(kz - \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{z}{z_0}\right)\right)\right]$$

Longitudinal phase

$$\times \exp\left(-j \frac{kr^2}{2R(z)}\right)$$

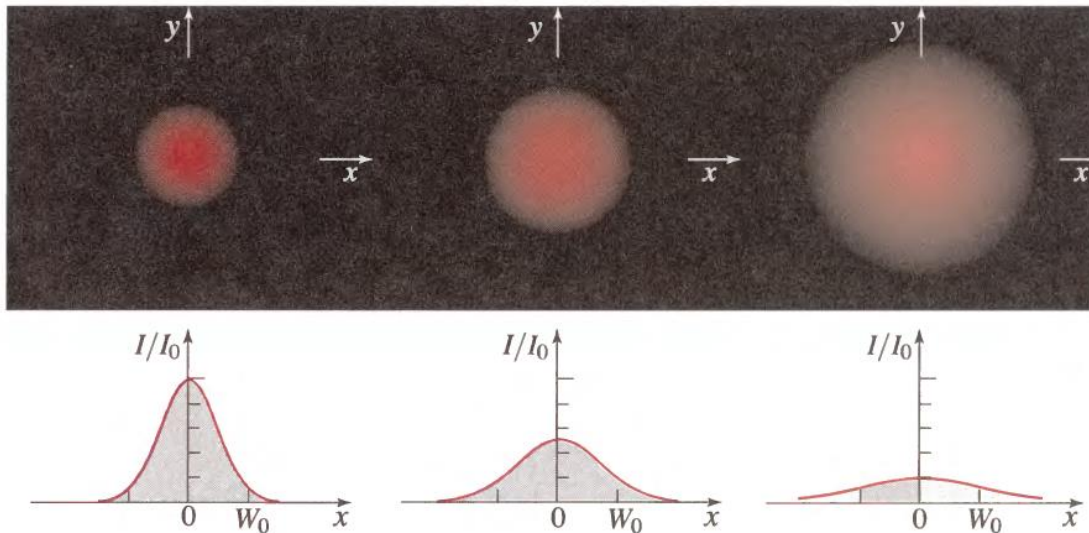
Radial phase

# Intensity of a Gaussian Beam

From the definition of an optical intensity:  $I(\mathbf{r}) = |U(\mathbf{r})|^2$

$$I(\rho, z) = I_0 \left[ \frac{W_0}{W(z)} \right]^2 \exp \left[ -\frac{2\rho^2}{W^2(z)} \right],$$

where  $I_0 = |A_0|^2$



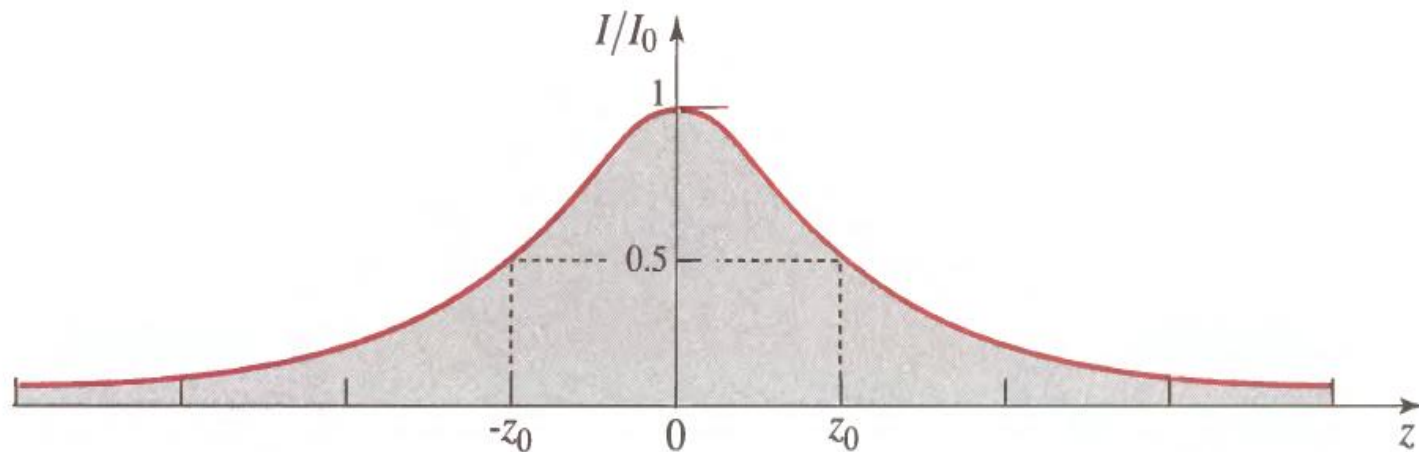
- At each value of  $z$ , the intensity is a Gaussian function of the radial distance  $\rho$ .
- The width of the Gaussian distribution increases as the axial distance  $z$

**Figure 3.1-1** The normalized beam intensity  $I/I_0$  as a function of the radial distance  $\rho$  at different axial distances: (a)  $z = 0$ ; (b)  $z = z_0$ ; (c)  $z = 2z_0$ .

# Intensity of a Gaussian Beam

On the beam axis ( $\rho = 0$ ):

$$I(0, z) = I_0 \left[ \frac{W_0}{W(z)} \right]^2 = \frac{I_0}{1 + (z/z_0)^2}$$



**Figure 3.1-2** The normalized beam intensity  $I/I_0$  at points on the beam axis ( $\rho = 0$ ) as a function of distance along the beam axis,  $z$ .

FIGURE 3.1-2

When  $|z| \gg z_0$ ,  $I(0, z) \approx I_0 z_0^2 / z^2$  : an inverse-square law



# Power of a Gaussian Beam

From the definition of a optical power:

$$P(t) = \int_A I(\mathbf{r}, t) dA.$$

The total optical power carried by the beam:

$$P = \int_0^\infty I(\rho, z) 2\pi\rho d\rho = \frac{1}{2} I_0 (\pi W_0^2)$$

Beam area

Independent of  $z$

$$I(\rho, z) = \frac{2P}{\pi W^2(z)} \exp\left[-\frac{2\rho^2}{W^2(z)}\right]$$

Gaussian beam intensity

$$\frac{1}{P} \int_0^{\rho_0} I(\rho, z) 2\pi\rho d\rho = 1 - \exp\left[-\frac{2\rho_0^2}{W^2(z)}\right]$$

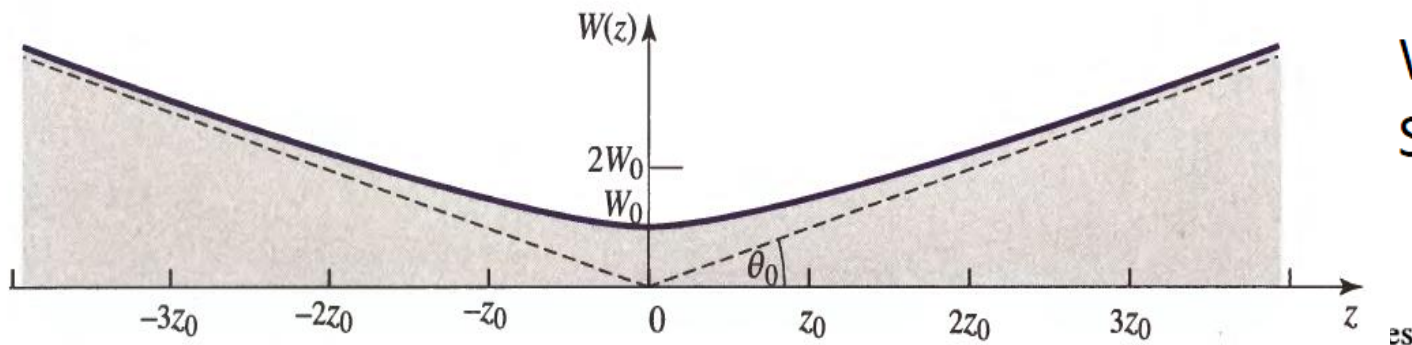
Ratio of the power  
carried within a  
circle of radius  $\rho$

# Gaussian Beam Width

The beam intensity drops by the factor  $1/e^2 \simeq 0.135$  at the radial distance  $\rho = W(z)$

$$W(z) = W_0 \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{z}{z_0} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2}$$

Beam width (or radius)

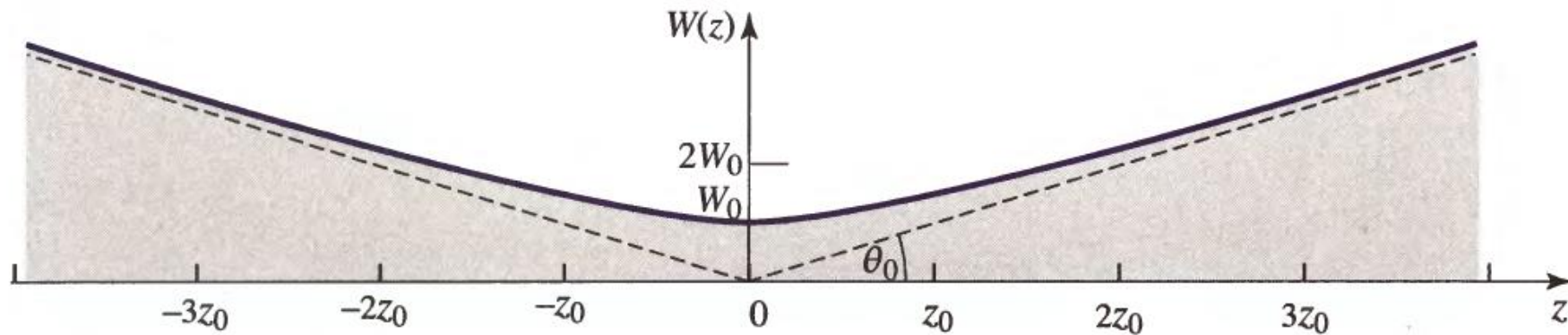


Waist radius =  $W_0$   
Spot size =  $2W_0$

**Figure 3.1-3** The beam width  $W(z)$  assumes its minimum value  $W_0$  at the beam waist ( $z = 0$ ), reaches  $\sqrt{2}W_0$  at  $z = \pm z_0$ , and increases linearly with  $z$  for large  $z$ .

# Gaussian Beam Divergence

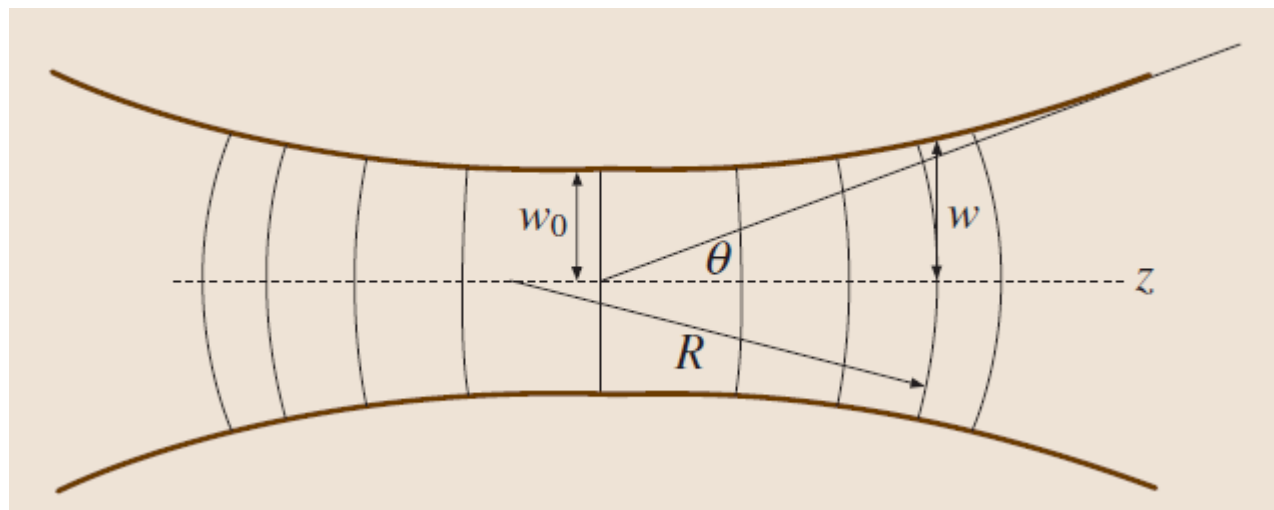
$$W(z) = W_0 \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{z}{z_0} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} \xrightarrow{z \rightarrow \infty} \frac{W_0}{z_0} z = \theta_0 z \quad (\text{For } z \gg z_0)$$



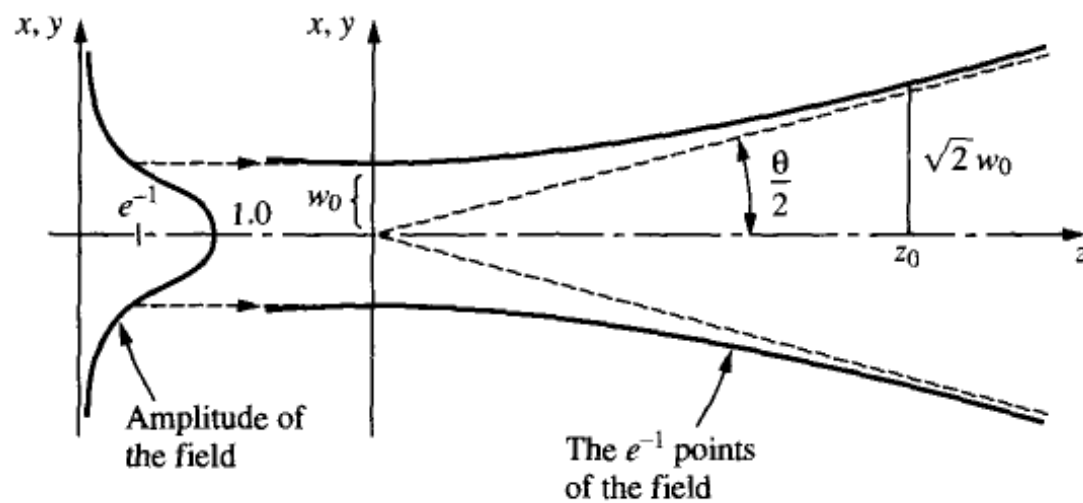
**Figure 3.1-3** The beam width  $W(z)$  assumes its minimum value  $W_0$  at the beam waist ( $z = 0$ ), reaches  $\sqrt{2}W_0$  at  $z = \pm z_0$ , and increases linearly with  $z$  for large  $z$ .

$$2\theta_0 = \frac{4}{\pi} \frac{\lambda}{2W_0} \quad : \text{Angular divergence of the beam}$$

Note: Squeezing the spot size leads to increased beam divergence

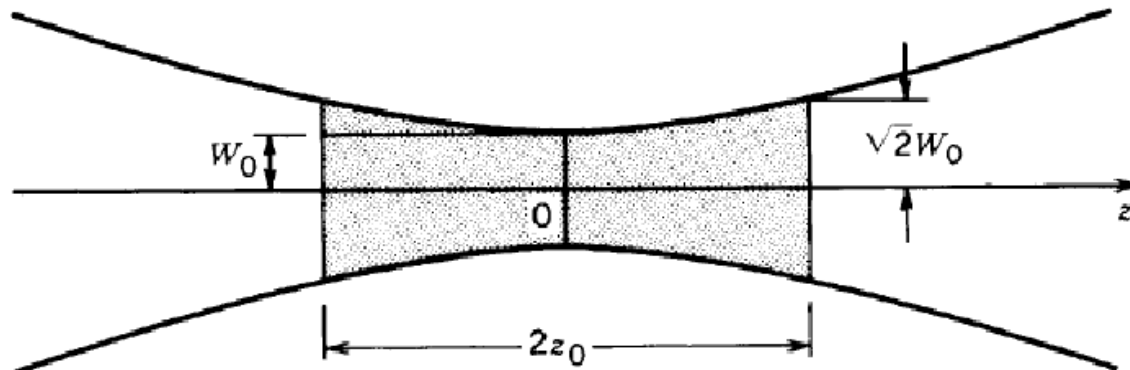


$$w(z \gg z_0) = \frac{w_0 z}{z_0} = \frac{\lambda_0 z}{\pi n w_0}$$



**FIGURE 3.2.** Spreading of a  $\text{TEM}_{0,0}$  mode.

# Depth of Focus



**Figure 3.1-4** The depth of focus of a Gaussian beam.

**Depth of focus** (confocal parameter): The axial distance within which the beam radius lies within a factor  $\sqrt{2}$  of its minimum value (i.e., its area lies within a factor of 2 of its minimum)

$$2z_0 = \frac{2\pi W_0^2}{\lambda}$$

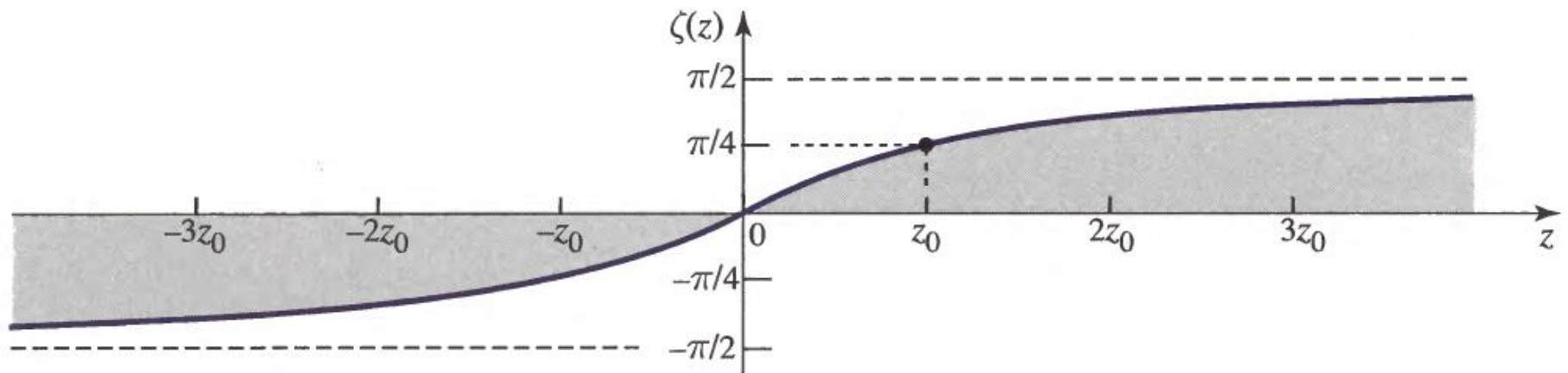
Waist beam area

Note that a small spot size and a long depth of focus cannot be obtained simultaneously!

# Phase

$$\varphi(\rho, z) = kz - \zeta(z) + \frac{k\rho^2}{2R(z)} \xrightarrow{\rho=0} \boxed{\varphi(0, z) = kz - \zeta(z)}$$

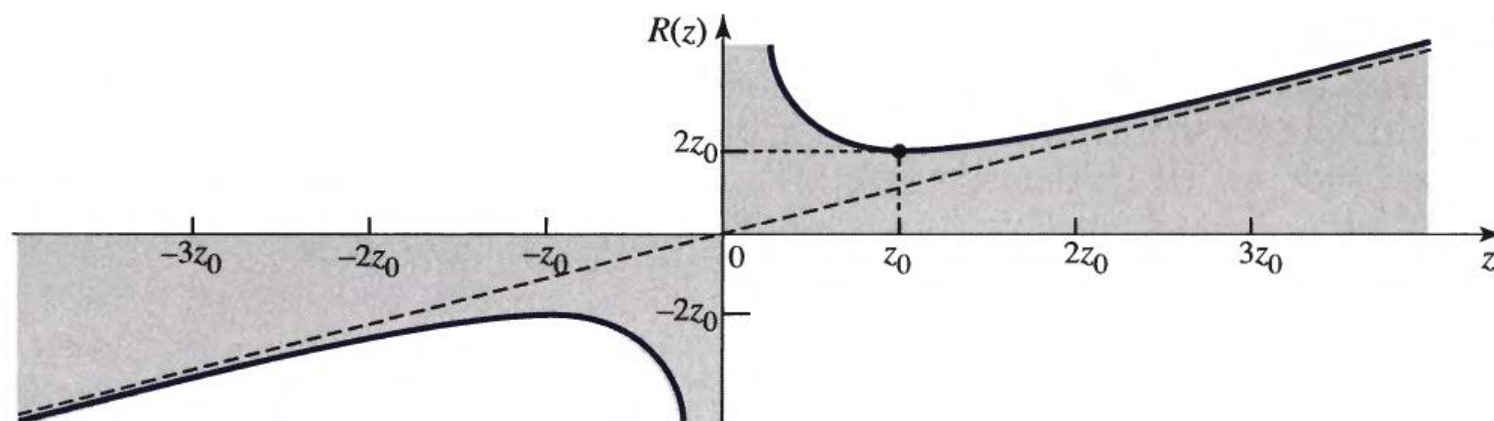
Phase of a plane wave



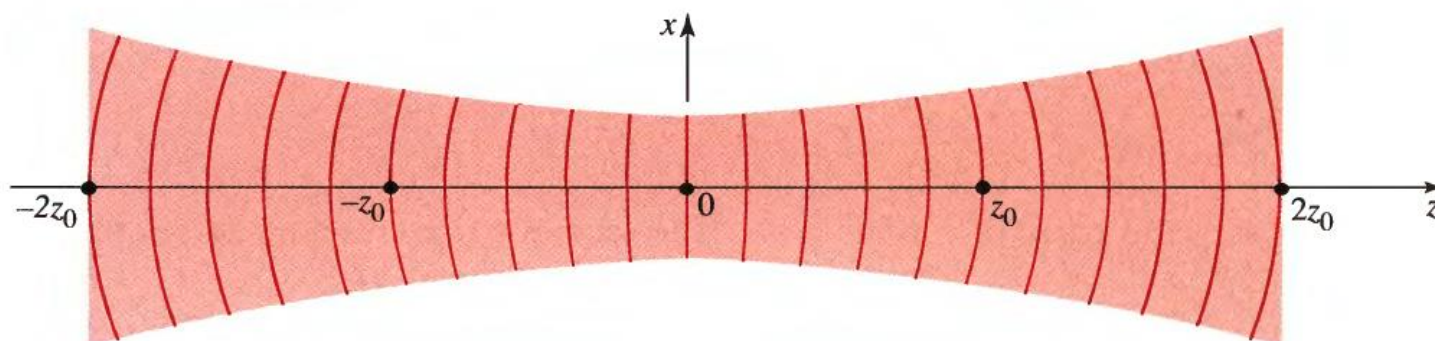
**Figure 3.1-5** The function  $\zeta(z)$  represents the phase retardation of the Gaussian beam relative to a uniform plane wave at points on the beam axis.

The total accumulated excess retardation (compared to the corresponding plane wave) as the wave travels from  $z = -\infty$  to  $z = \infty$  is  $\pi \rightarrow$  Guoy effect





**Figure 3.1-6** The radius of curvature  $R(z)$  of the wavefronts of a Gaussian beam as a function of position along the beam axis. The dashed line is the radius of curvature of a spherical wave.



**Figure 3.1-7** Wavefronts of a Gaussian beam.

# Wavefront Bending

$$\varphi(\rho, z) = kz - \zeta(z) + \frac{k\rho^2}{2R(z)}$$

Responsible for wavefront bending

Deviation from the phase at off-axis points in a given transverse plane from that at the axial point

Wavefronts (= surfaces of constant phase) are given by

$$k[z + \rho^2/2R(z)] - \zeta(z) = 2\pi q$$

Since  $\zeta(z)$  and  $R(z)$  are relatively slowly varying,

$$z + \rho^2/2R = q\lambda + \zeta\lambda/2\pi$$

Equation of a paraboloidal surface of radius of curvature  $R$

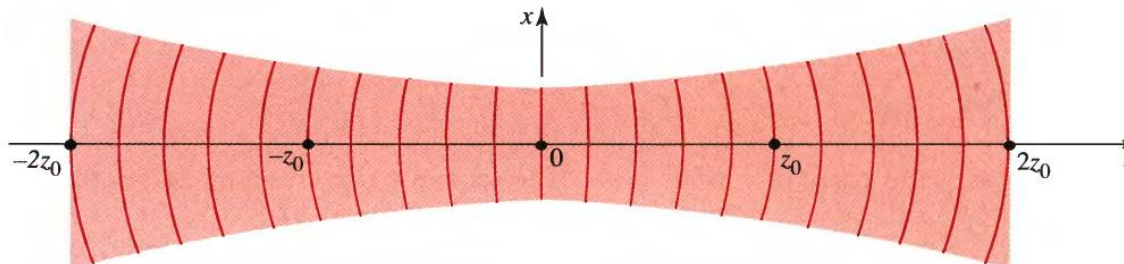
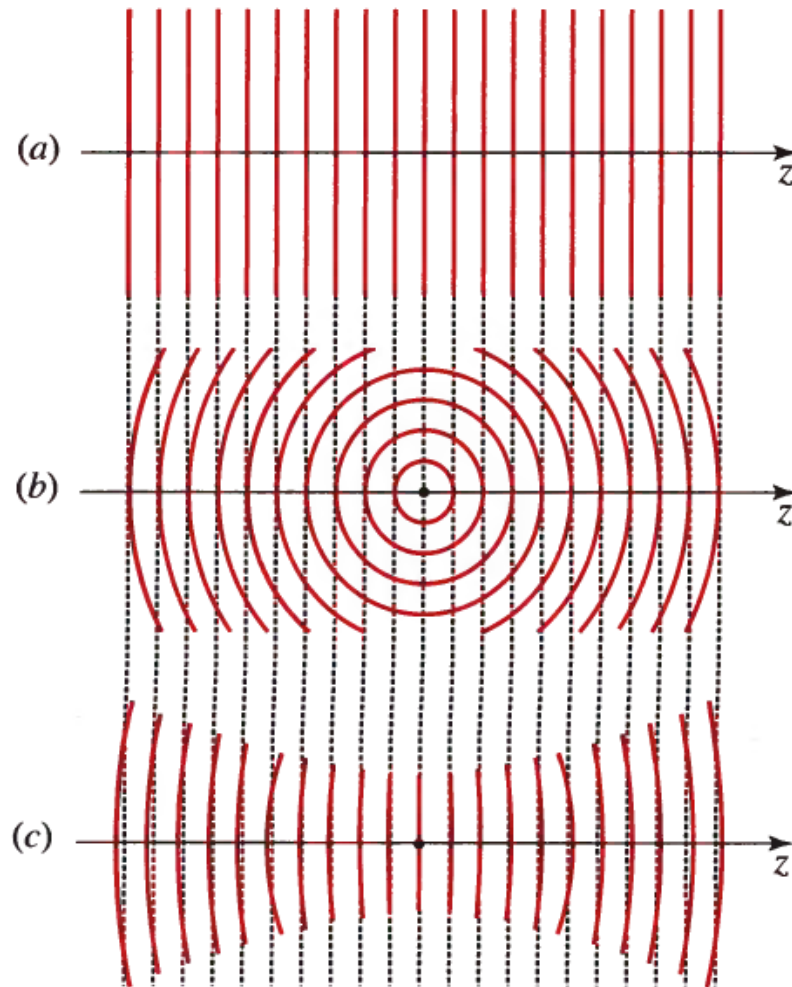


Figure 3.1-7 Wavefronts of a Gaussian beam.



# Gaussian Beam



**Figure 3.1-8** Wavefronts of (a) a uniform plane wave; (b) a spherical wave; (c) a Gaussian beam. At points near the beam center, the Gaussian beam resembles a plane wave. At large  $z$  the beam behaves like a spherical wave except that its phase is retarded by  $\pi/2$  (a quarter of the distance between two adjacent wavefronts).

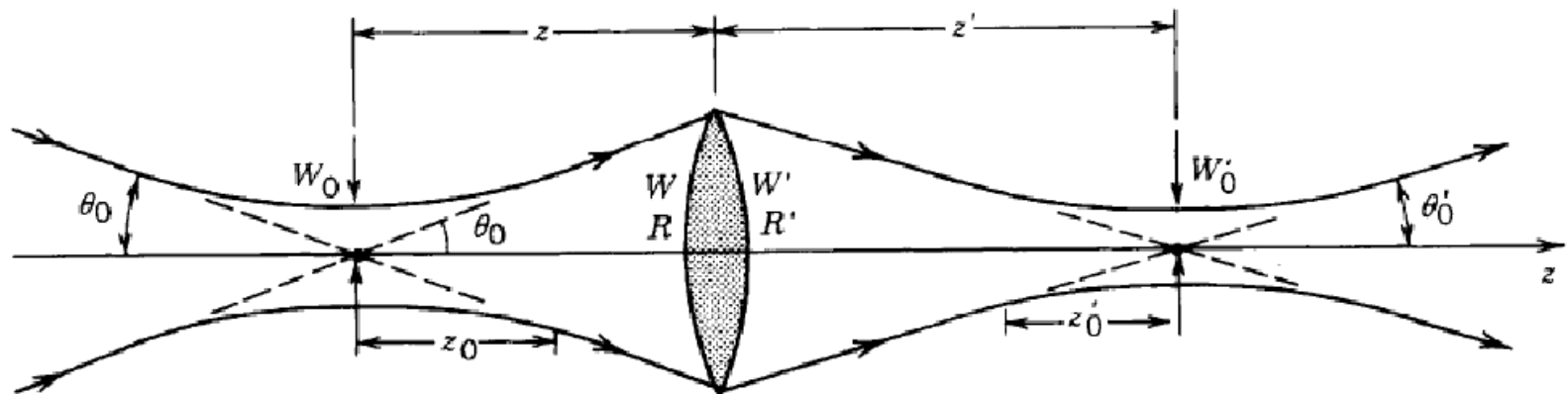
# Transmission through a Thin Lens

Transmission through optical components:

*The Gaussian beam remains a Gaussian beam* (within the paraxial approximation)



Only the beam width and curvature changed



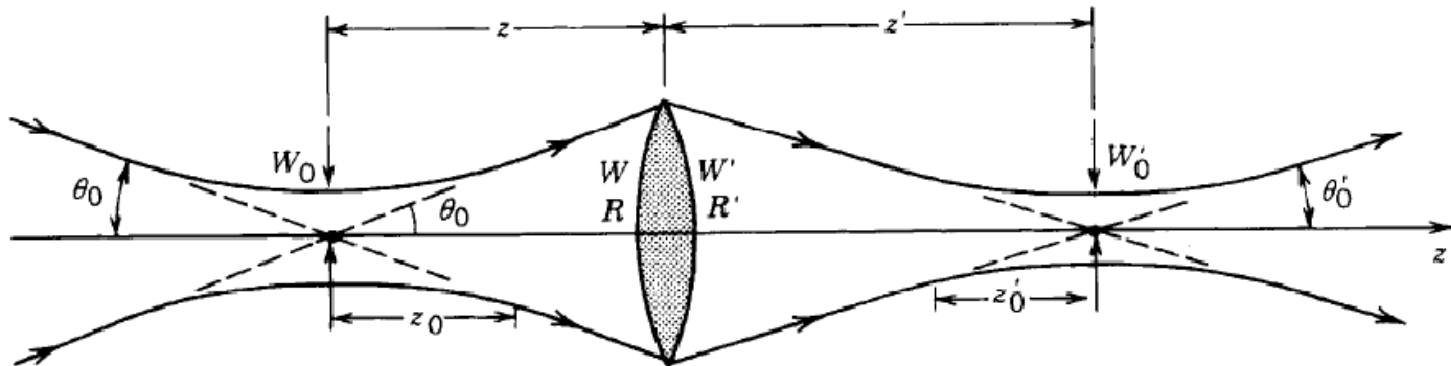
**Figure 3.2-1** Transmission of a Gaussian beam through a thin lens.

Remember!

$$t(x, y) \approx h_0 \exp \left[ jk_o \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2f} \right]$$

Complex amplitude transmittance of a thin lens

# Transmission through a Thin Lens



**Figure 3.2-1** Transmission of a Gaussian beam through a thin lens.

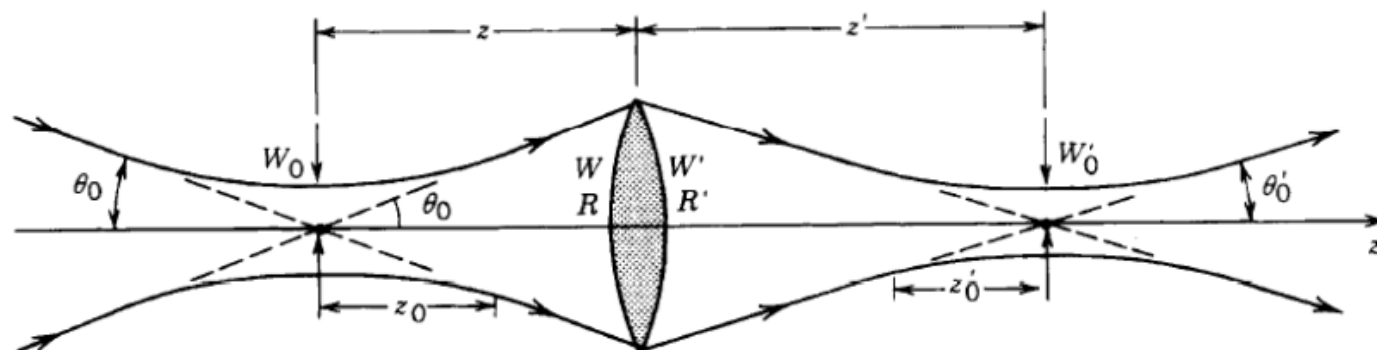
After the transmission, the phase changes to:

$$kz + k\frac{\rho^2}{2R} - \zeta - k\frac{\rho^2}{2f} = kz + k\frac{\rho^2}{2R'} - \zeta \quad \text{where} \quad \frac{1}{R'} = \frac{1}{R} - \frac{1}{f}$$

$$W' = W$$

$$1/R - 1/R' = 1/f$$

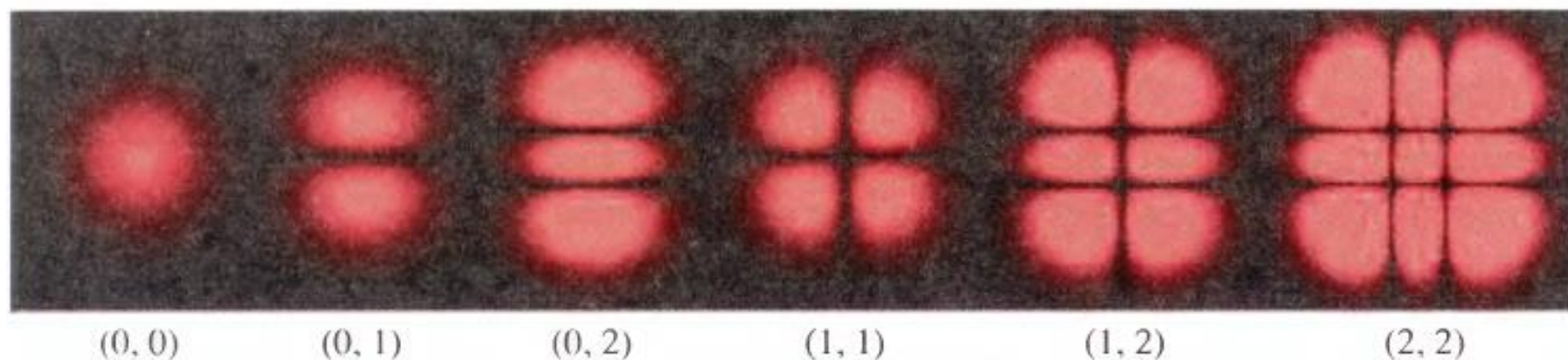
# Transmission through a Thin Lens



**Figure 3.2-1** Transmission of a Gaussian beam through a thin lens.

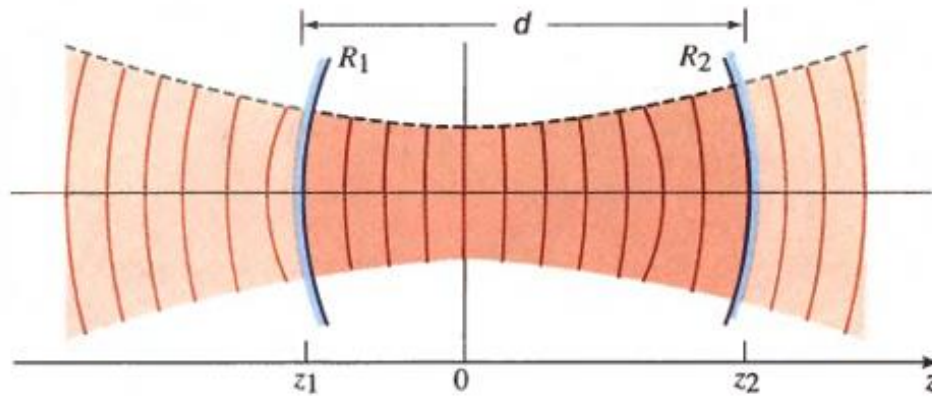
Waist radius	$W'_0 = MW_0$
Waist location	$(z' - f) = M^2(z - f)$
Depth of focus	$2z'_0 = M^2(2z_0)$
Divergence	$2\theta'_0 = \frac{2\theta_0}{M}$
Magnification	$M = \frac{M_r}{(1 + r^2)^{1/2}}$
	$r = \frac{z_0}{z - f},$
	$M_r = \left  \frac{f}{z - f} \right .$

Parameter transformation  
by a lens



**Figure 3.3-2** Intensity distributions of several low-order Hermite-Gaussian beams in the transverse plane. The order  $(l, m)$  is indicated in each case.

## Problem



Distance between two mirror:  $d$

Curvature  $R_1, R_2$

Center of Gaussian beam locate  $z=0$

$$R_1 = z_1 + \frac{z_0^2}{z_1} \quad \text{---(A)}$$

$$R_2 = z_2 + \frac{z_0^2}{z_2} \quad \text{---(B)} \quad (\text{here, } z_1 + z_2 = d)$$

Show that 
$$z_1 = \frac{d(R_2 - d)}{R_2 + R_1 - 2d} \quad (\text{Hint, (A)+(B)})$$