

## Mirrors

mirror equation:  $\frac{1}{s} + \frac{1}{s'} = \frac{1}{f}$

magnification:  $m = \frac{y'}{y} = -\frac{s'}{s}$

sign convention:

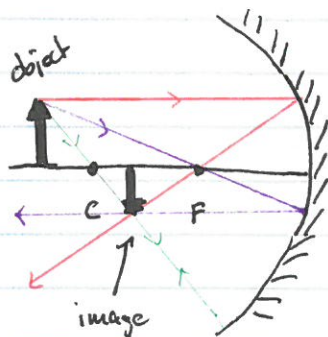
	+	-
object distance $s$	same side as incident light	(we won't consider this for mirrors)
image distance $s'$	on side of reflected light ("reflective side")	behind the mirror ("backside of mirror")
radius of curvature $r$ , $f$ focal length	center of circle is on reflective side → concave	center of mirror is on the "backside" → convex
magnification $m$	upright image	inverted image

rays for ray diagram: parallel ray  
focal ray  
central ray

direction from  
object to mirror  
parallel to  
principle axis  
through focal  
point  
through center

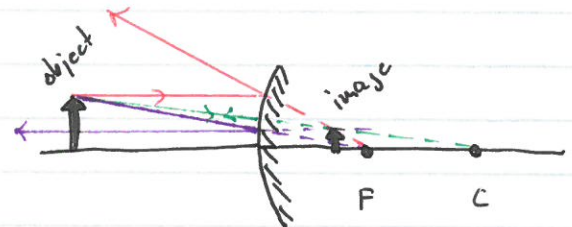
direction  
from mirror out  
through focal point  
parallel to  
principle axis  
through center

incident  
light from  
the left



concave mirror

incident  
light from  
the left



dashed lines: no actual light!

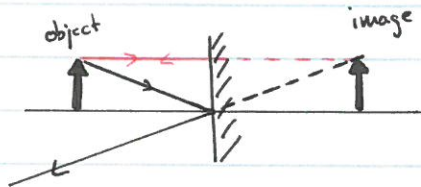
convex mirror

Note: the focal point and the center are on the other side of the mirror

$$\frac{1}{s} + \frac{1}{s'} = \frac{1}{f}$$

## Mirrors

flat mirror  
( $f = \infty$ )



$s$ : positive

$f: \infty$ , so  $\frac{1}{f} = 0$

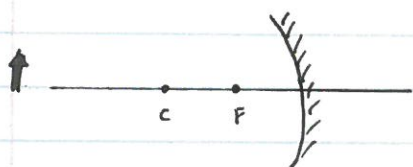
$$\frac{1}{s} + \frac{1}{s'} = 0 \Rightarrow s' = -s$$

$\hookrightarrow s'$ : negative

(ie image is behind the mirror)

$$m = -\frac{s'}{s} = +1 \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{same size as object.} \\ \text{upright} \end{array}$$

concave  
mirror  
( $f$  positive)

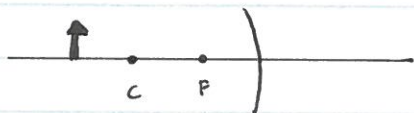


object at infinity:  $s = \infty$

$\frac{1}{s'} = \frac{1}{f} \Rightarrow$  image is at focal point

$s'$  positive  $\rightarrow$  real image on the reflecting side of the mirror

~~image~~ image is a point



$s > 2f$ ;  $s$  positive  $\Rightarrow f < s' < 2f$

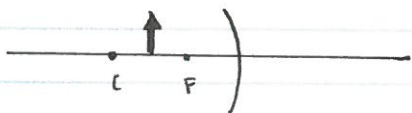
$\Rightarrow s'$  positive (real image)  
 $-1 < m < -\frac{1}{2}$  (inverted; smaller)



$s = 2f$ ;  $s$  positive  $\frac{1}{2f} + \frac{1}{s'} = \frac{1}{f}$

$\Rightarrow s' = 2f$  (positive, ie real image)

$$m = -\frac{s'}{s} = -1 \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{same size (magnification of 1)} \\ \text{inverted} \end{array}$$



$f < s < 2f$

$\rightarrow$  real image

$\Rightarrow s'$  positive;  $s' > 2f$

$\Rightarrow m < -1$  or  $|m| > 1$ ;  $m$  negative  
 $\downarrow$  magnified  $\downarrow$  inverted



$s = f$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{f} + \frac{1}{s'} = \frac{1}{f} \Rightarrow s' = \infty \text{ no image!}$$



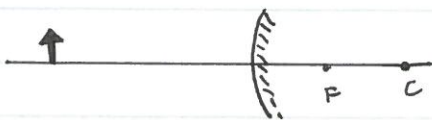
$s < f$

$\frac{1}{s'} = \frac{1}{f} - \frac{1}{s} < 0 \Rightarrow s'$  negative  $\rightarrow$  virtual image!

$m = -\frac{s'}{s} \Rightarrow m$  positive  $\rightarrow$  upright

$|m| > 1 \rightarrow$  magnified

CONVEX  
mirror



$s$  is positive  
 $f$  is negative

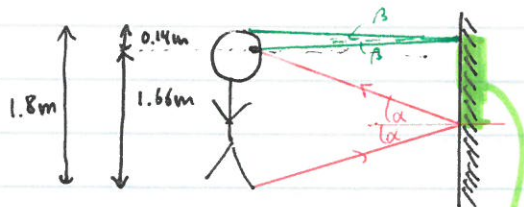
( $f$  negative)

$\Rightarrow s'$  is negative  $\Rightarrow$  virtual image

$m = -\frac{s'}{s}$  so  $m$  is positive  $\rightarrow$  upright  
and  $|m| < 1 \Rightarrow$  smaller

### Examples :

Minimum height of flat mirror such that you can see your full image.  
you are 1.80m tall ; your eyes are 14cm below the top of your head.

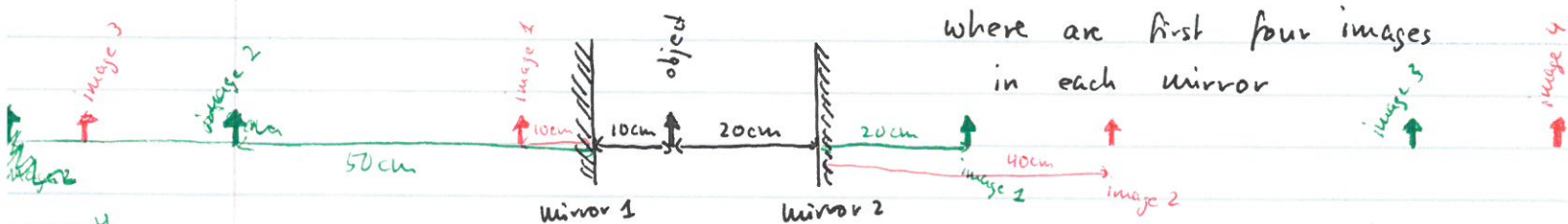


a light ray from the top of your head into your eyes

a light ray from your feet (into your eyes, so you can see it)

Minimal height of mirror

$$\frac{1.66\text{m}}{2} + \frac{0.14\text{m}}{2} = \frac{1.80\text{m}}{2} \text{ (half your height)}$$



where are first four images  
in each mirror

Image 4  
is off the left

red image

green image

red images : 10cm left of mirror ①

20cm right of ②

$10\text{cm} + 30\text{cm} = \underline{40\text{cm}}$  right of mirror ②

$20\text{cm} + 30\text{cm} = \underline{50\text{cm}}$  left of ①

$40\text{cm} + 30\text{cm} = \underline{70\text{cm}}$  left of ①

$50\text{cm} + 30\text{cm} = \underline{80\text{cm}}$  right of ②

$70\text{cm} + 30\text{cm} = \underline{100\text{cm}}$  right of ②

$80\text{cm} + 30\text{cm} = \underline{110\text{cm}}$  left of ①