

For a perfectly ideal lens

Let us focus our attention to the diffraction limited PSF for a theoretically perfect (or ideal) lens. The encircled energy (or power within a circle) of a diffraction limited PSF is given by the expression,

$$P(r, \lambda) = P_0 \cdot \left(1 - \left[J_1 \left(\frac{\pi}{\lambda F_{\#}} r \right) \right]^2 - \left[J_0 \left(\frac{\pi}{\lambda F_{\#}} r \right) \right]^2 \right)$$

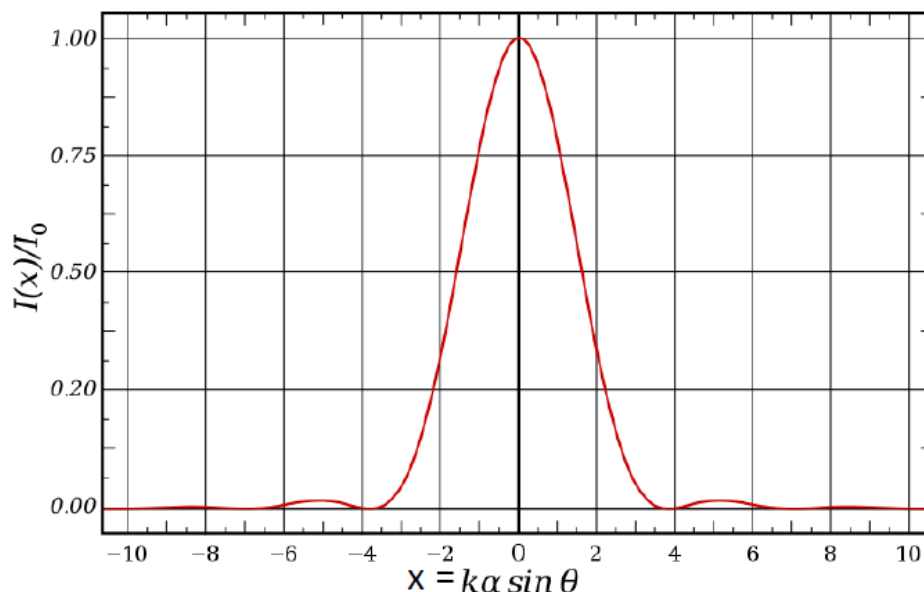
where P_0 is the input power on the lens, A is the area of the lens, λ is the wavelength, $F_{\#}$ is the F-number, J_0 and J_1 are the Bessel function of order 0 and 1, respectively, and r is the distance to the center of the image (or the radius of the circle). Now if we take the focusing efficiency to be defined as “the power within a spot of diameter equal to 3 times the FWHM divided by the total power incident on the lens”. The FWHM of a diffraction limited PSF occurs at

$$\text{FWHM} \approx 3.23266 \cdot \frac{\lambda F_{\#}}{\pi}$$

which in turn gives the focusing efficiency

$$\frac{1}{P_0} \cdot P \left(\frac{3}{2} \text{FWHM}, \lambda \right) \% \approx 85\%.$$

An ideal lens produces the Airy disk.



This is the encircled power of the Airy spot.

