Pinholes and lenses



http://graphics.cs.cmu.edu/courses/15-463

15-463, 15-663, 15-862 Computational Photography Fall 2022, Lecture 3

Course announcements

- Homework assignment 1 is out.
 - Due September 16th.
 - Start early! Second part takes a lot of time and requires considerable handiwork.
 - You can get boxes from my office.
 - Any issues with homework assignment 1?
- Camera distribution this week: drop by my office whenever is convenient.
- Apologies for having to cancel the first reading group, I'll make up for it this Friday.

Overview of today's lecture

- Some motivational imaging experiments.
- Pinhole camera.
- Accidental pinholes.
- The thin lens model.
- Lens camera and pinhole camera.
- Perspective.
- Field of view.
- Orthographic camera and telecentric lenses.

Slide credits

Many of these slides were adapted from:

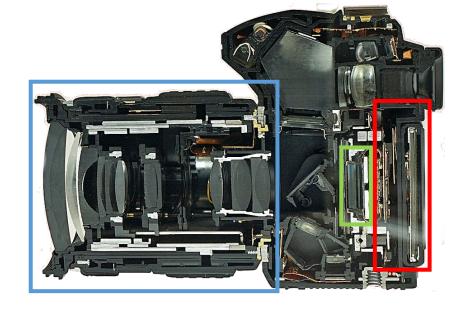
- Kris Kitani (15-463, Fall 2016).
- Fredo Durand (MIT).
- Gordon Wetzstein (Stanford).

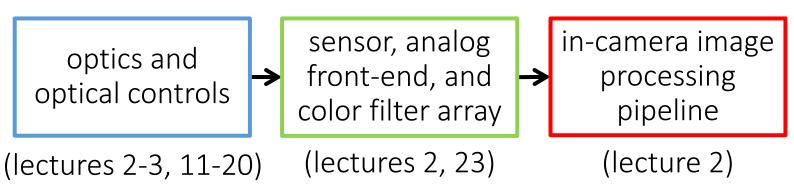
The modern photography pipeline





post-capture processing (lectures 5-10)





Some motivational imaging experiments

Let's say we have a sensor...

digital sensor (CCD or CMOS)

... and an object we like to photograph



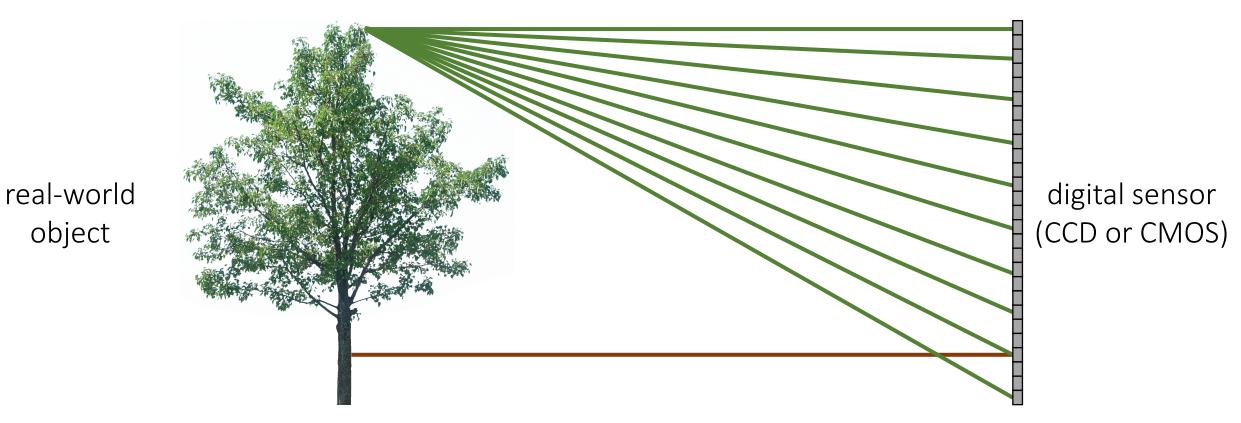
object

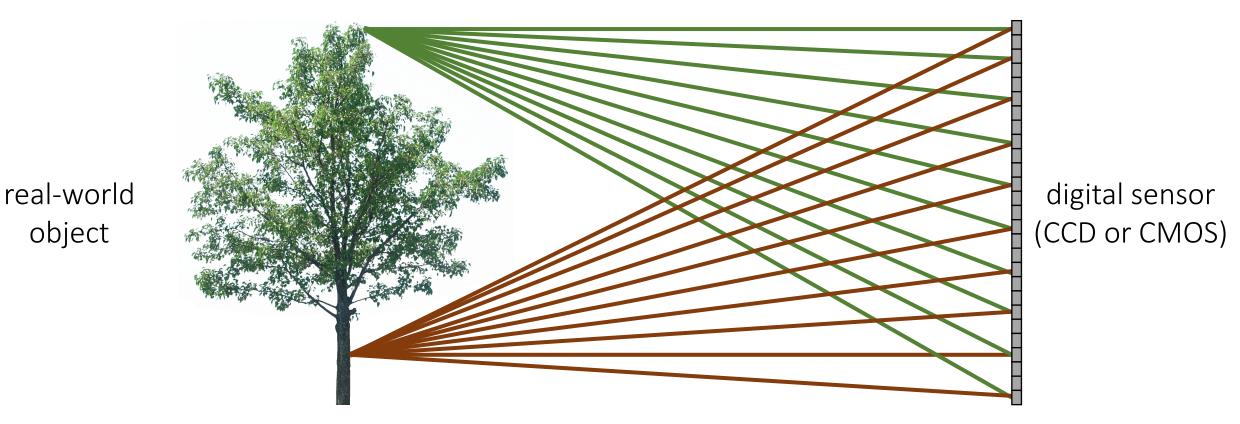
digital sensor (CCD or CMOS)

What would an image taken like this look like?









What does the image on the sensor look like?

All scene points contribute to all sensor pixels

object



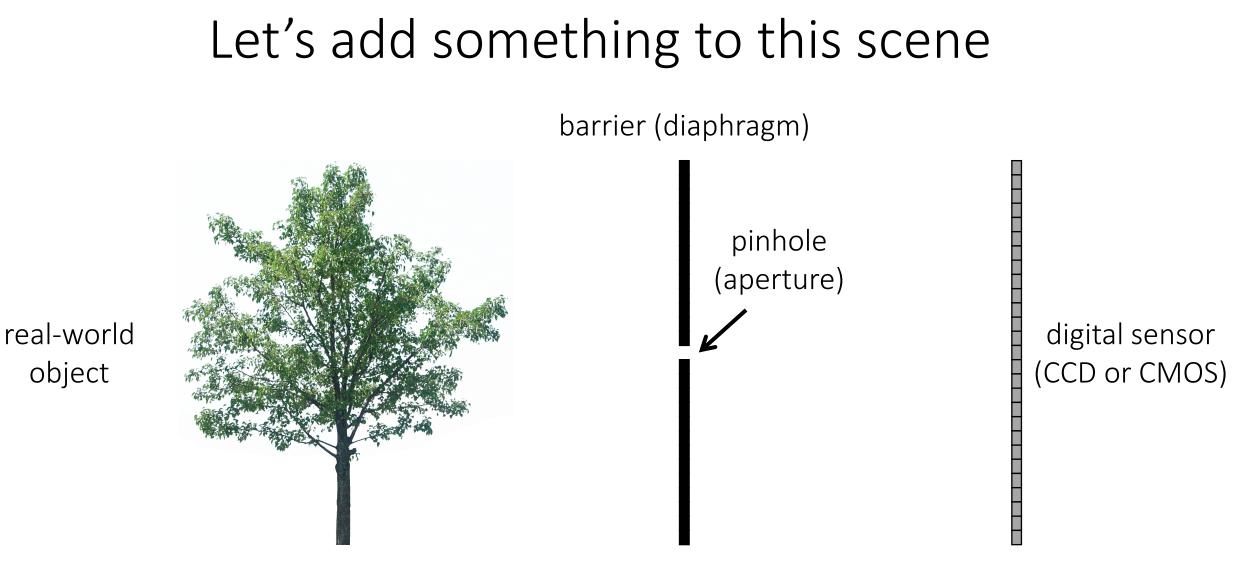
All scene points contribute to all sensor pixels

What can we do to make our image look better?

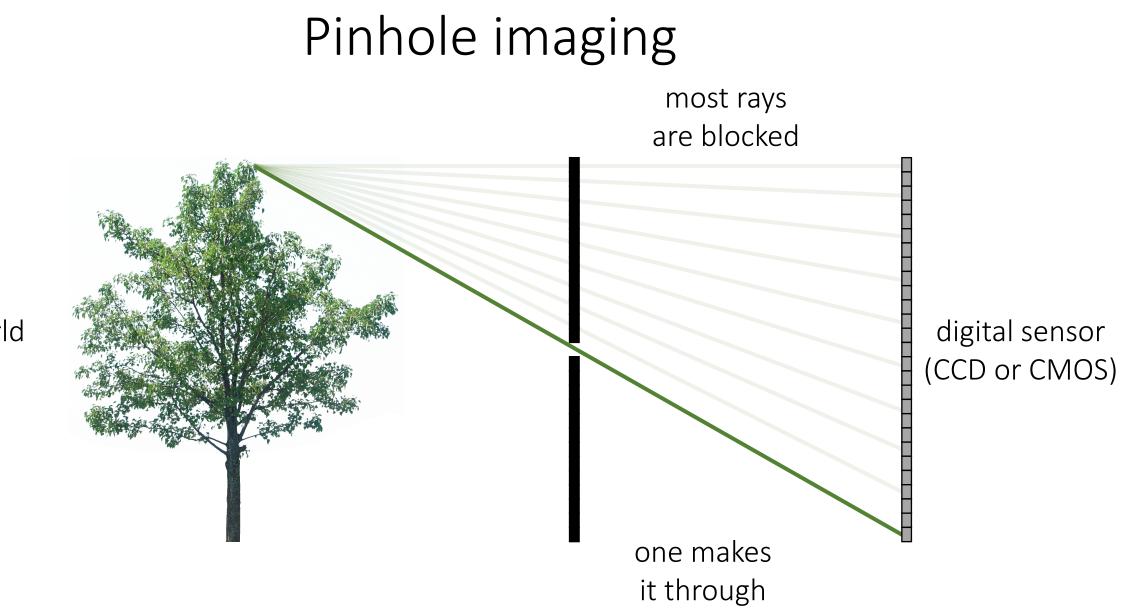


object

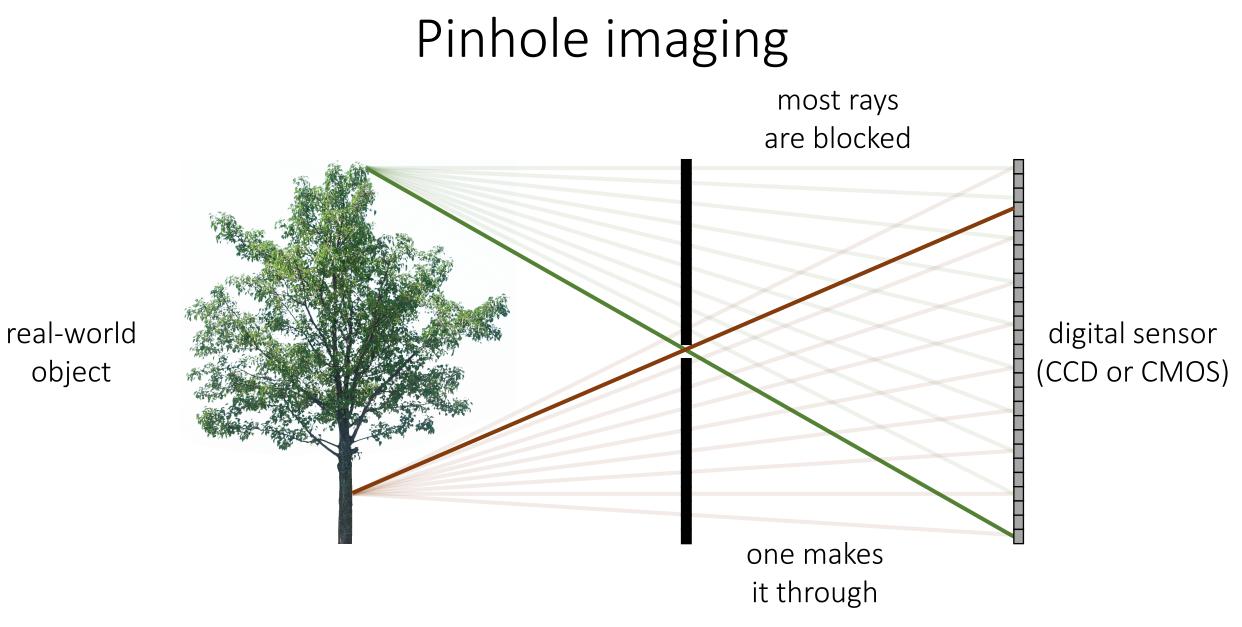
digital sensor (CCD or CMOS)



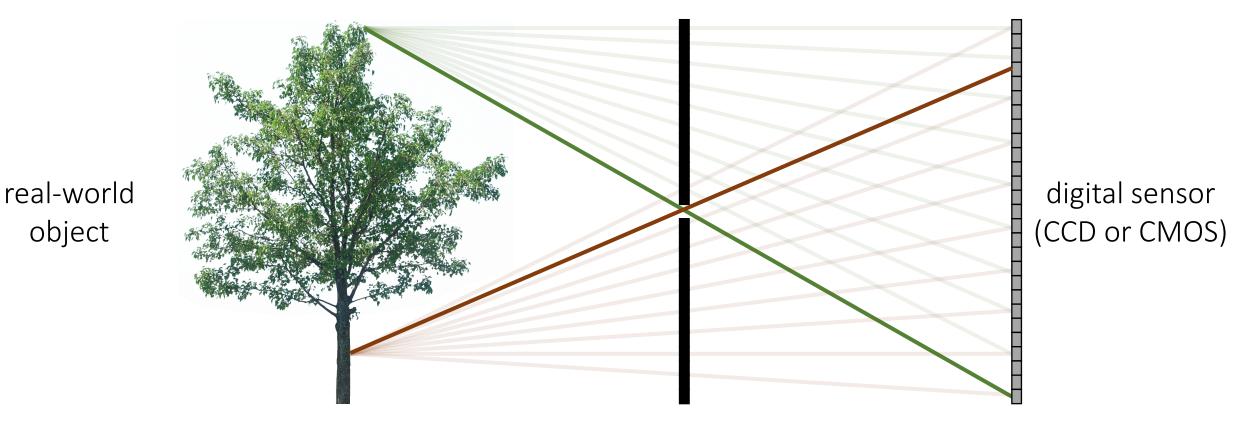
What would an image taken like this look like?



real-world object



Pinhole imaging

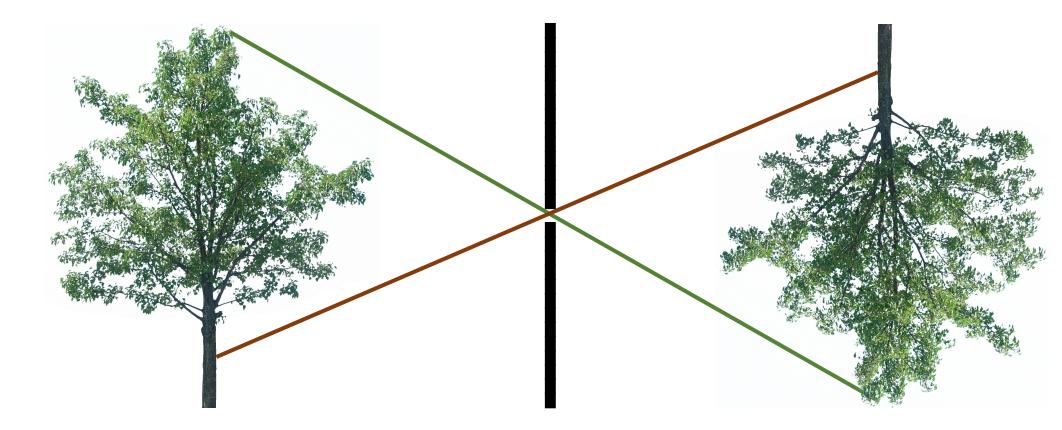


What does the image on the sensor look like?

Each scene point contributes to only one sensor pixel

object

Pinhole imaging

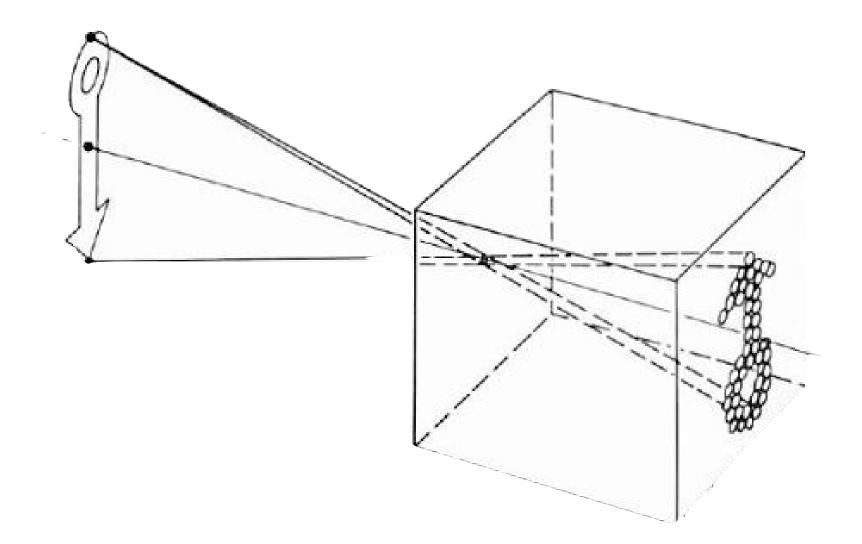


copy of real-world object (inverted and scaled)

real-world object

Pinhole camera

Pinhole camera a.k.a. camera obscura



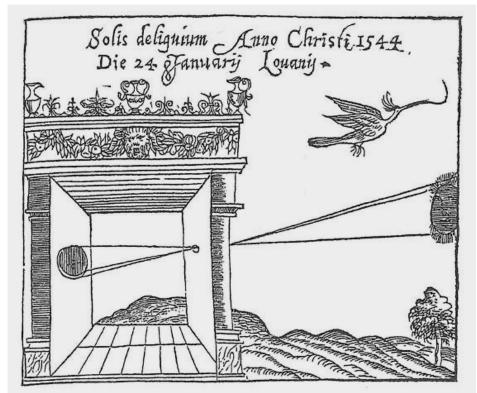
Pinhole camera a.k.a. camera obscura

First mention ...



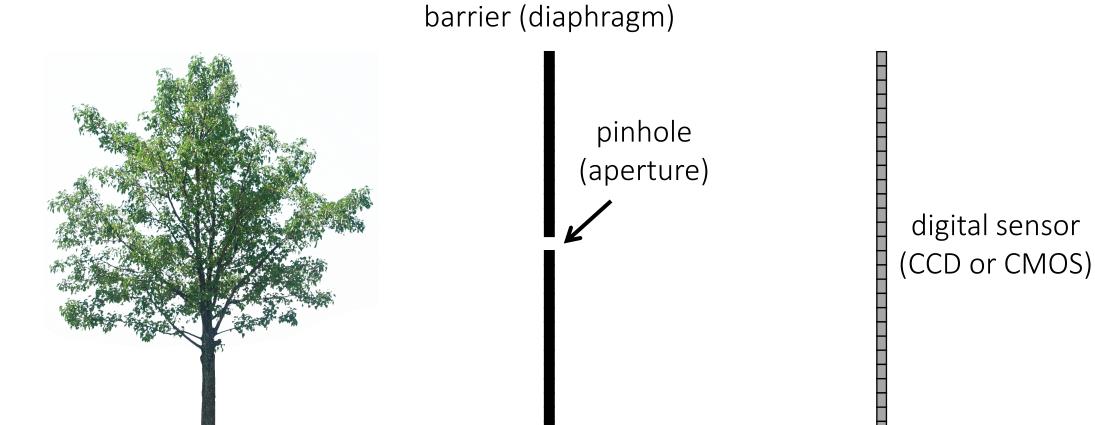
Chinese philosopher Mozi (470 to 390 BC)

First camera ...



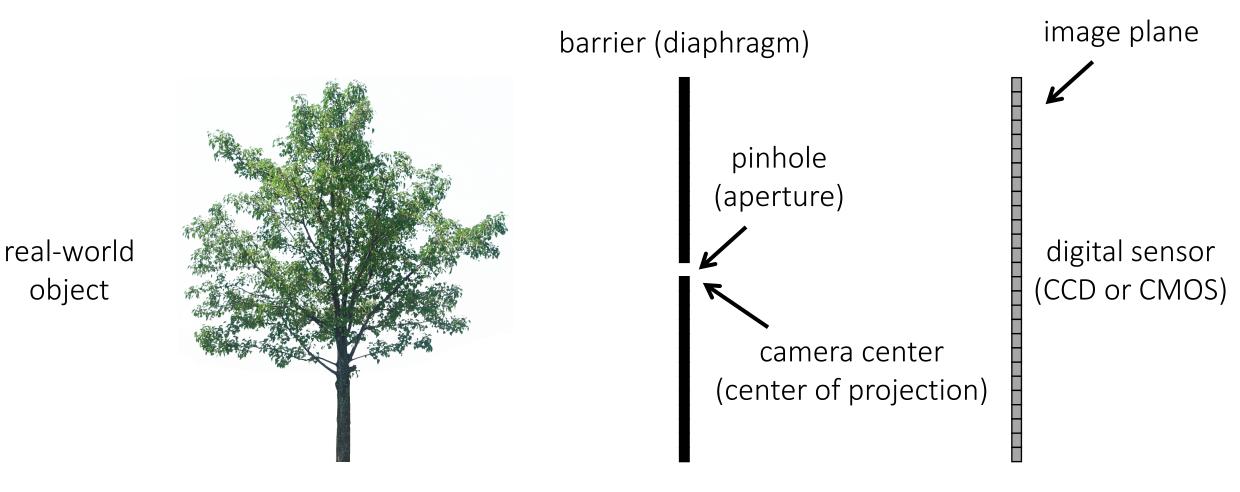
Greek philosopher Aristotle (384 to 322 BC)

Pinhole camera terms



real-world object

Pinhole camera terms

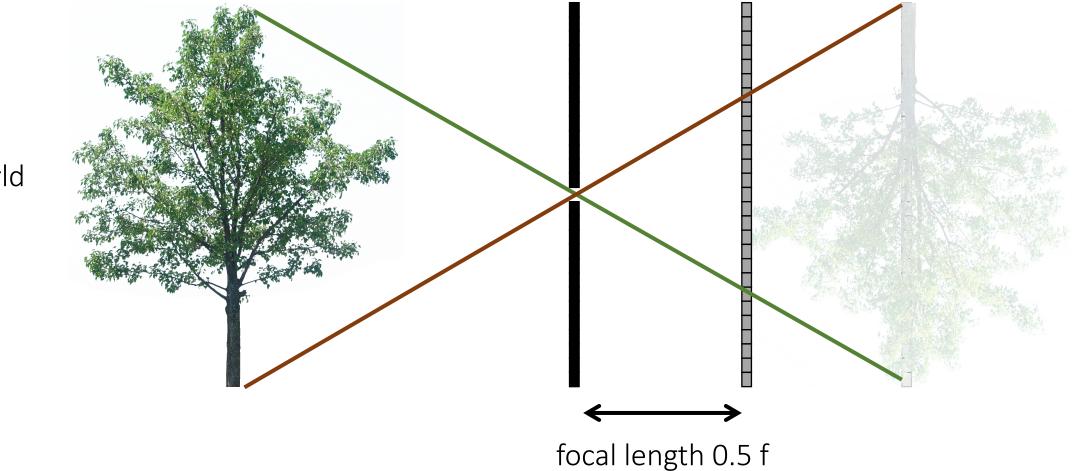




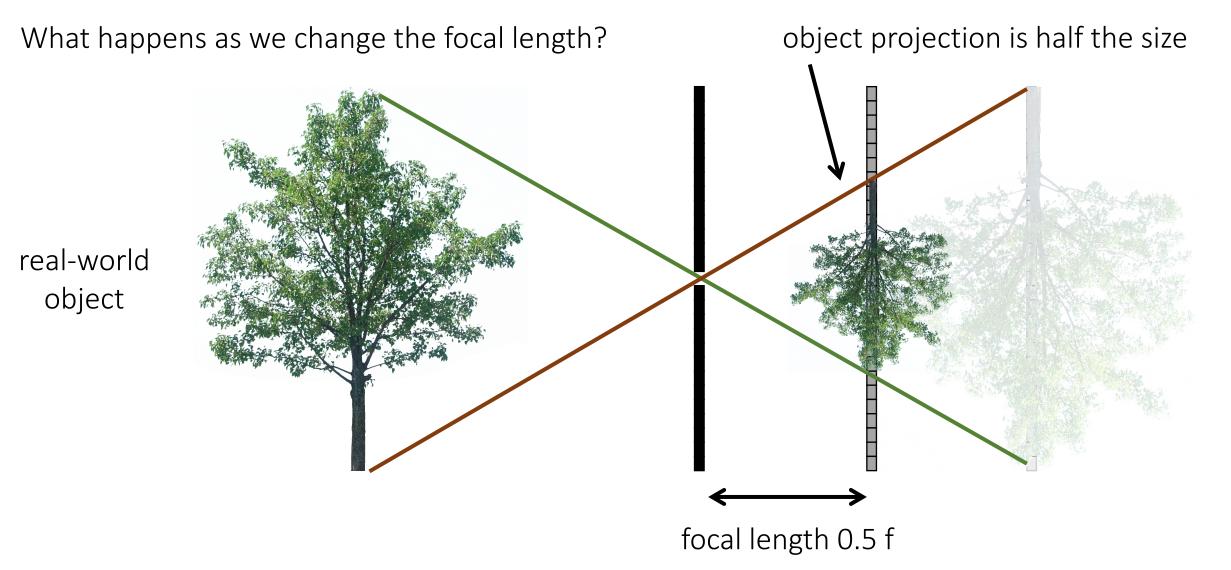
What happens as we change the focal length?

real-world object focal length 0.5 f

What happens as we change the focal length?



real-world object





Ideal pinhole has infinitesimally small size

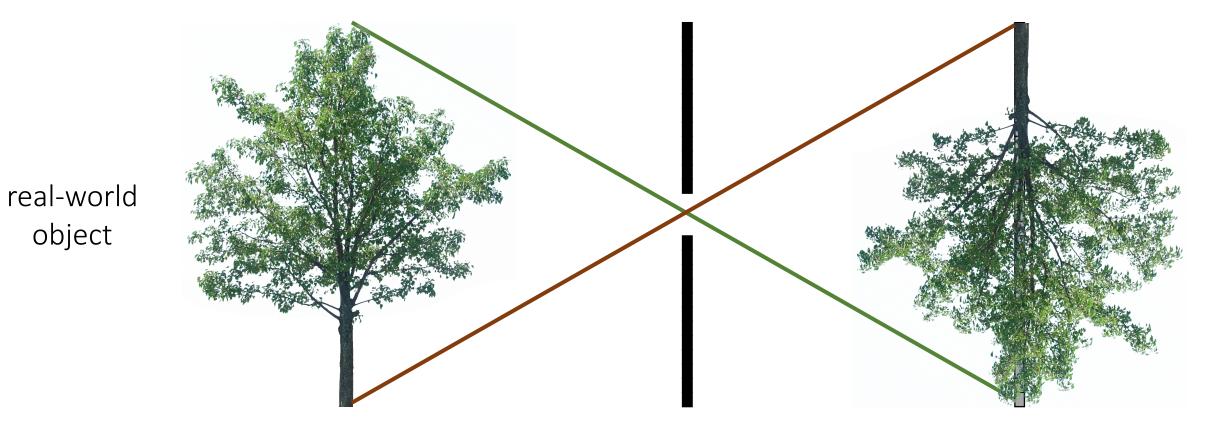
• In practice that is impossible.

What happens as we change the pinhole diameter?



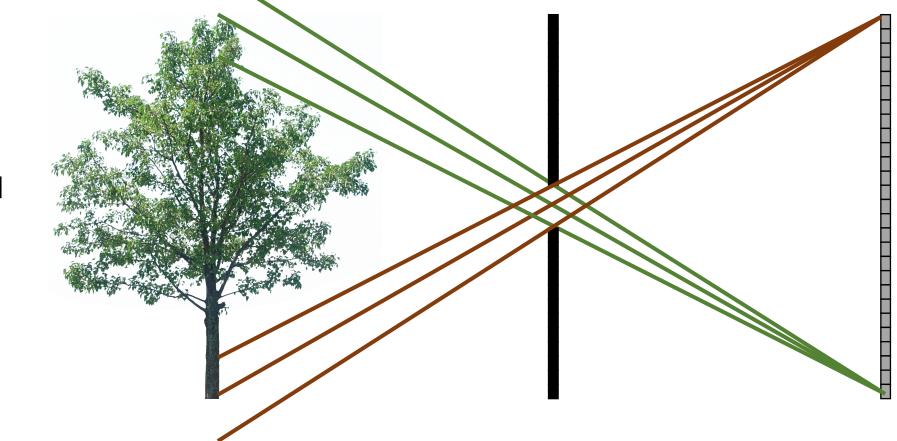
real-world object

What happens as we change the pinhole diameter?

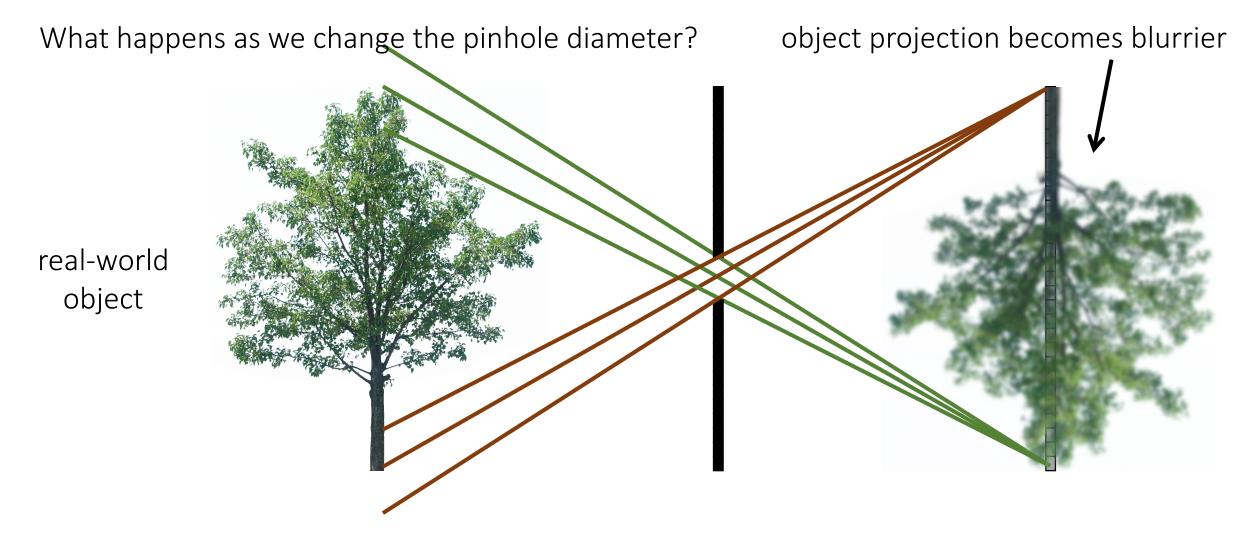


31

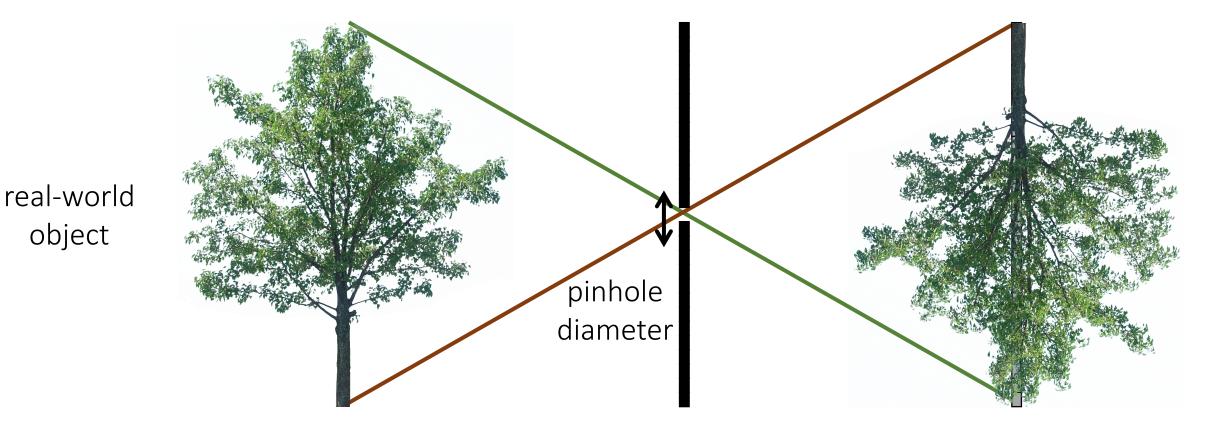
What happens as we change the pinhole diameter?



real-world object



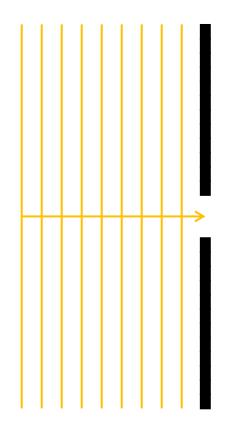
What happens as we change the pinhole diameter?



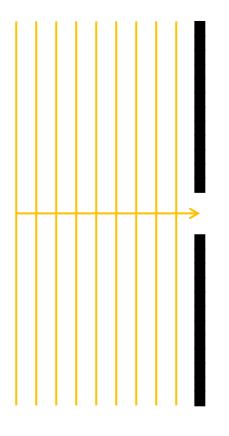
Will the image keep getting sharper the smaller we make the pinhole?

Diffraction limit

A consequence of the wave nature of light



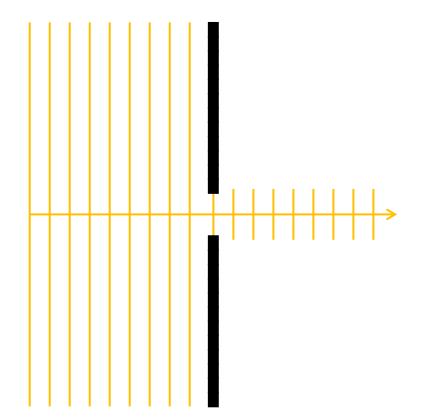
What do geometric optics predict will happen?



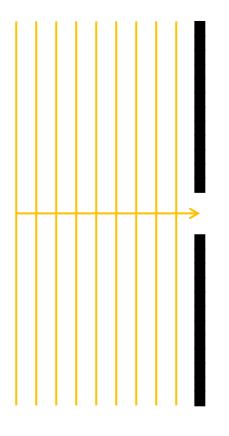
What do wave optics predict will happen?

Diffraction limit

A consequence of the wave nature of light



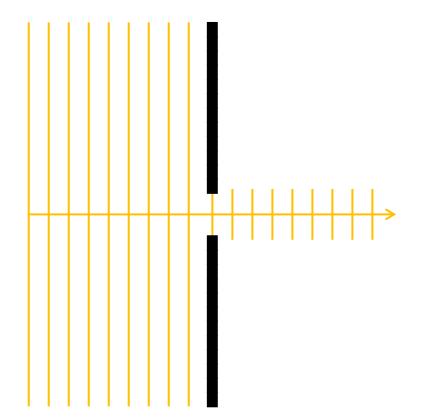
What do geometric optics predict will happen?



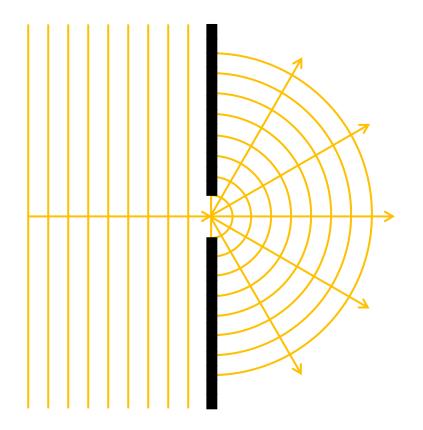
What do wave optics predict will happen?

Diffraction limit

A consequence of the wave nature of light



What do geometric optics predict will happen?

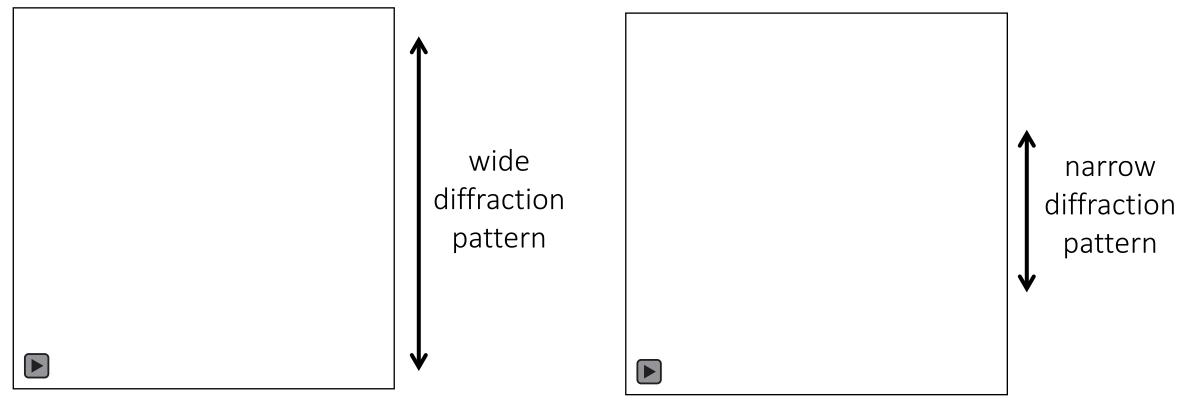


What do wave optics predict will happen?

Diffraction limit

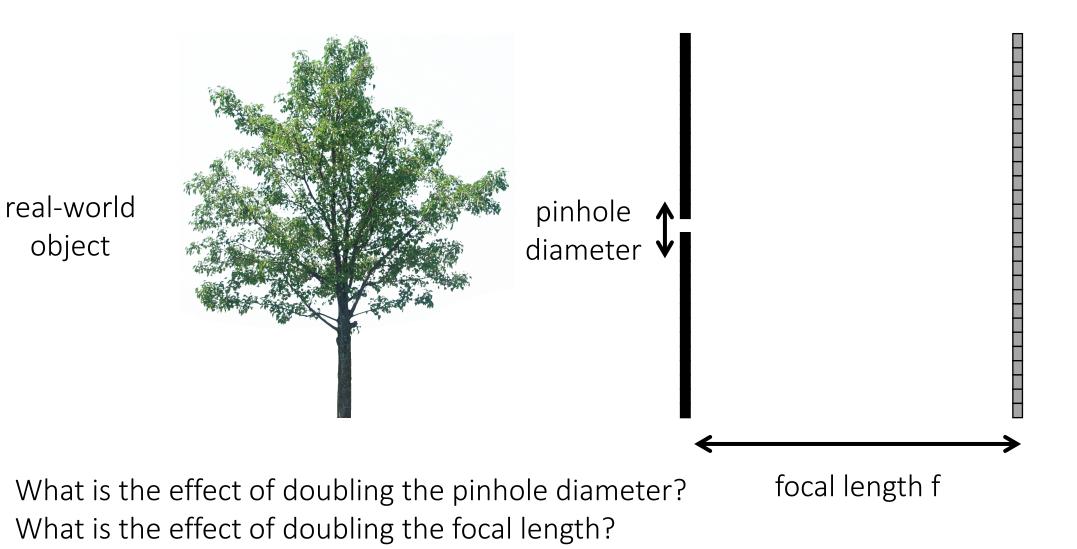
Diffraction pattern = Fourier transform of the pinhole.

- Smaller pinhole means bigger Fourier spectrum.
- Smaller pinhole means more diffraction.

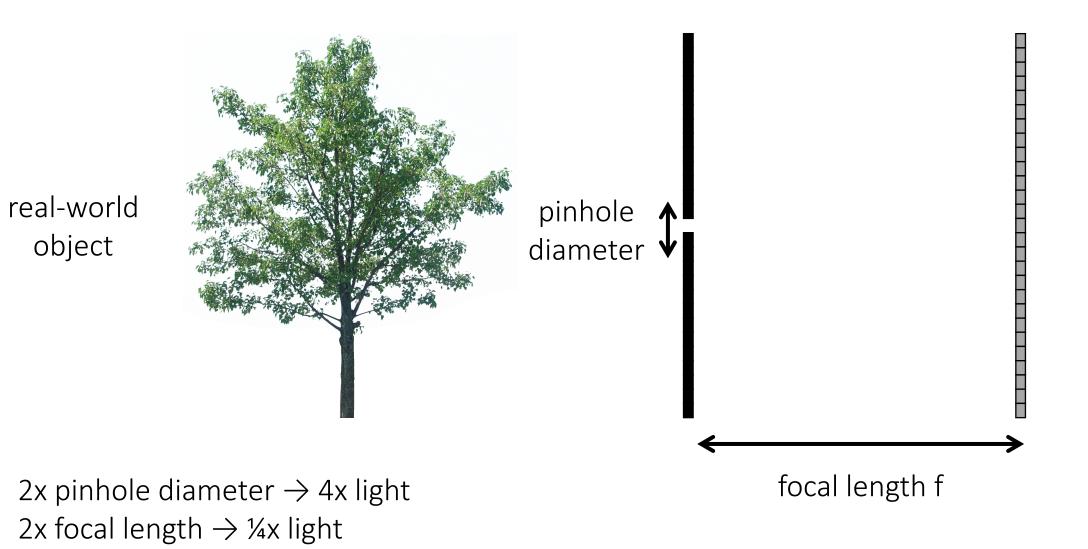


small pinhole

What about light efficiency?

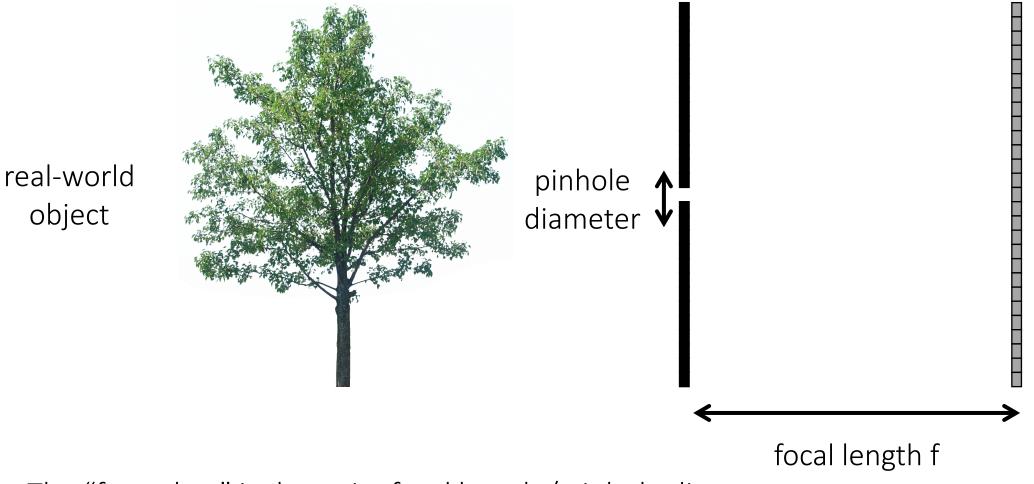


What about light efficiency?



Some terminology notes

A "stop" is a change in camera settings that changes amount of light by a factor of 2



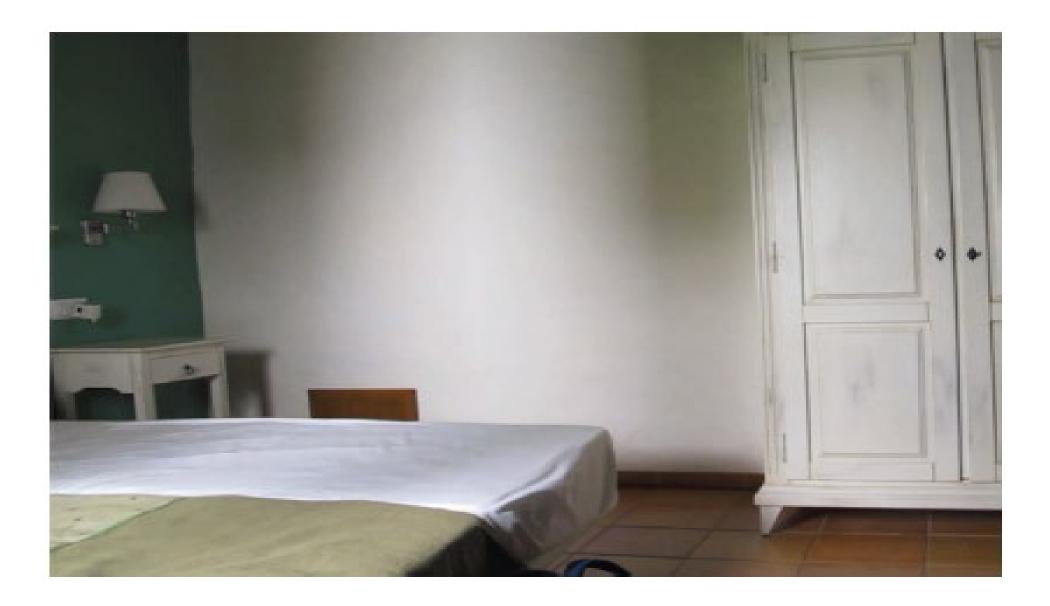
The "f-number" is the ratio: focal length / pinhole diameter

Accidental pinholes





What does this image say about the world outside?

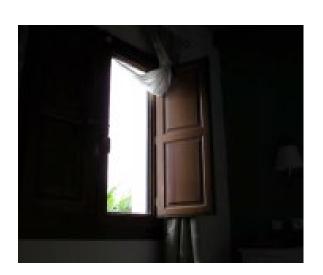


Accidental pinhole camera



Antonio Torralba, William T. Freeman Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL) MIT torralba@mit.edu, billf@mit.edu

Accidental pinhole camera



window is an aperture

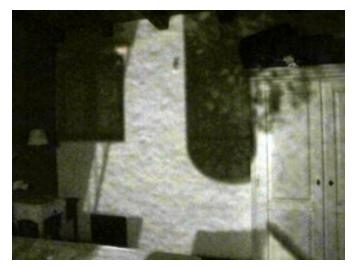
projected pattern on the wall



upside down



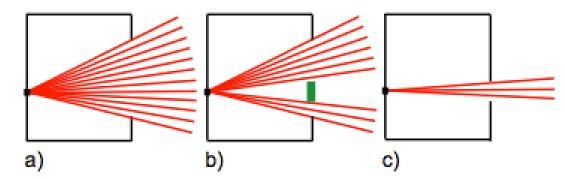
window with smaller gap



view outside window



Accidental pinspeck camera













a) Difference image



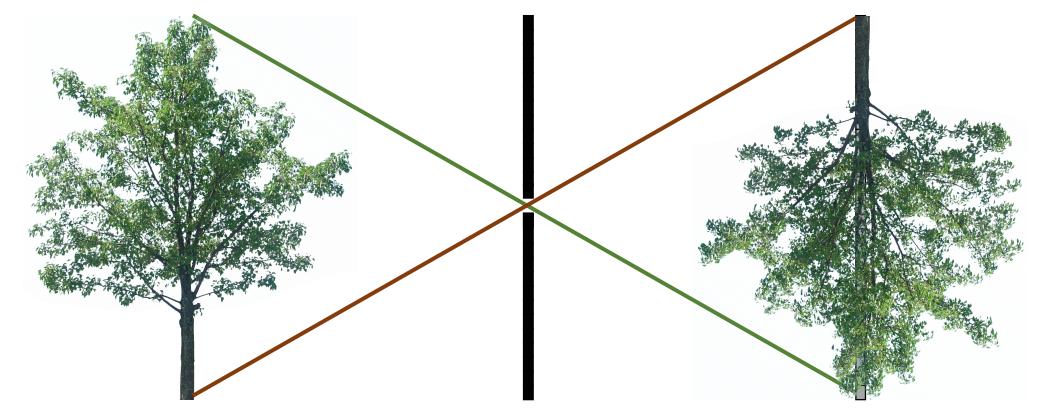




c) True outdoor view

C

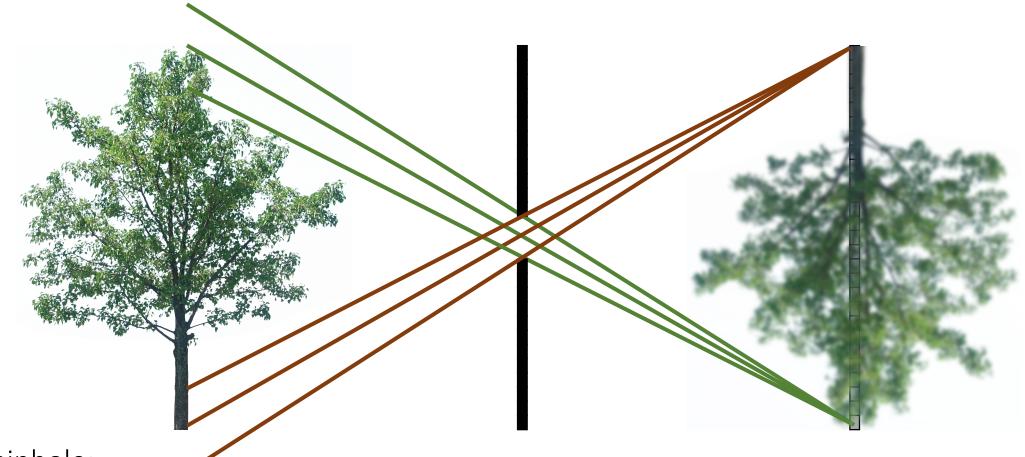
Pinhole camera trade-off



Small (ideal) pinhole:

- 1. Image is sharp.
- 2. Signal-to-noise ratio is low.

Pinhole camera trade-off

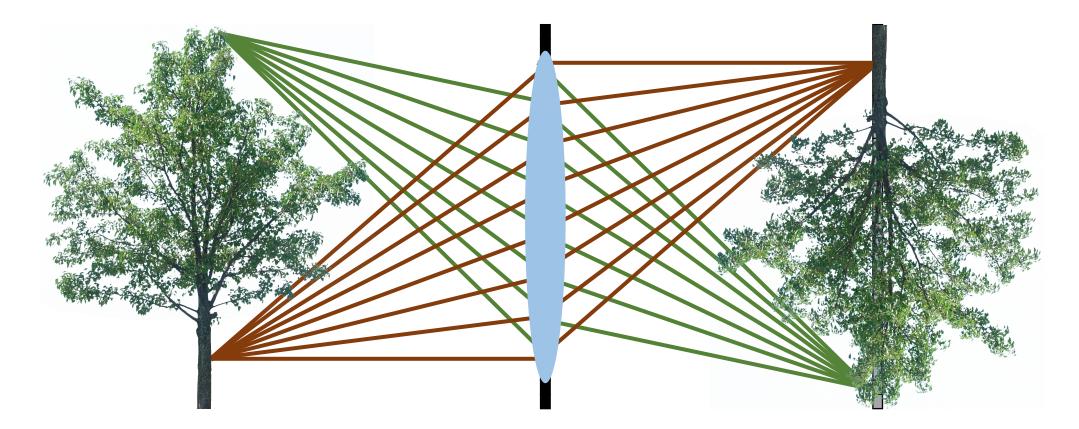


Large pinhole:

- 1. Image is blurry.
- 2. Signal-to-noise ratio is high.

Can we get best of both worlds?

Almost, by using lenses



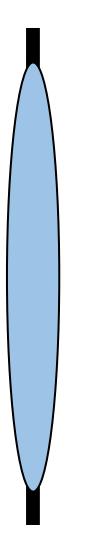
Lenses map "bundles" of rays from points on the scene to the sensor.

How does this mapping work exactly?

Lens (very) basics

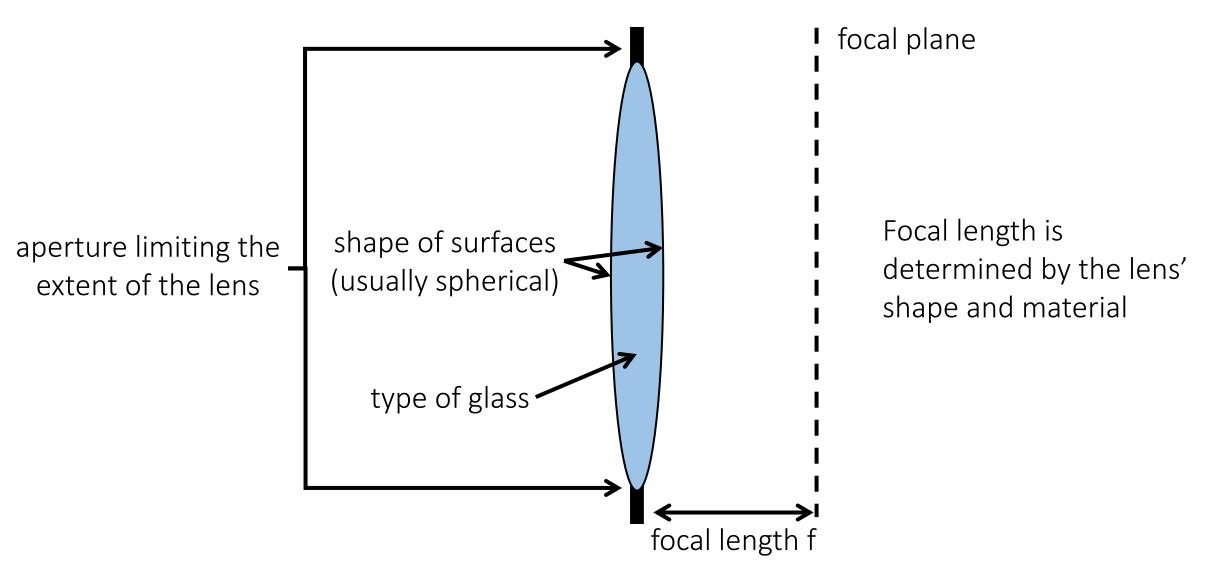
What is a lens?

A piece of glass manufactured to have a specific shape



What is a lens?

A piece of glass manufactured to have a specific shape



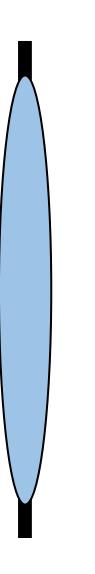
The lens on your camera





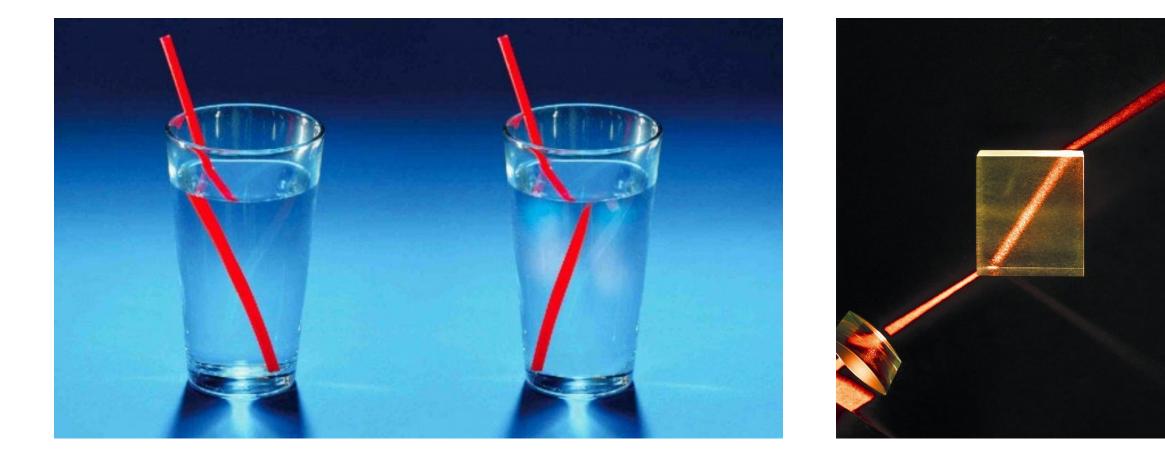


How does a lens work?



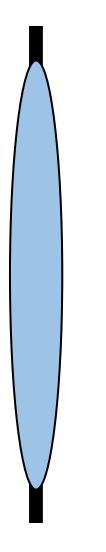
Refraction

Refraction is the bending of rays of light when they move from one material to another



How does a lens work?

Lenses are designed so that their refraction makes light rays bend in a very specific way.

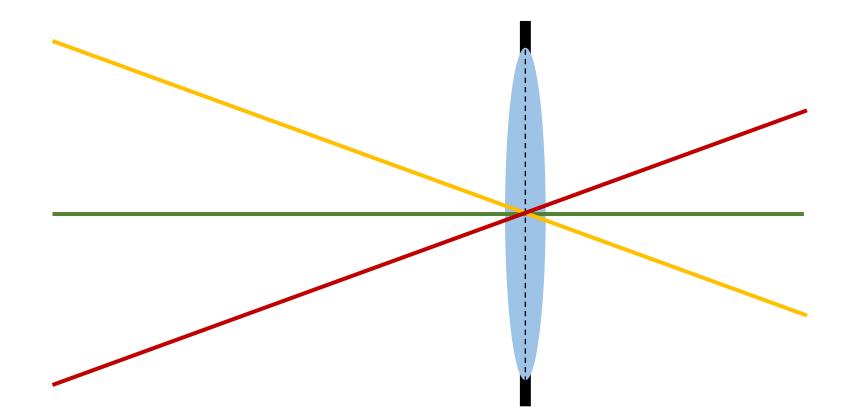


The thin lens model

Simplification of geometric optics for <u>well-designed</u> lenses.



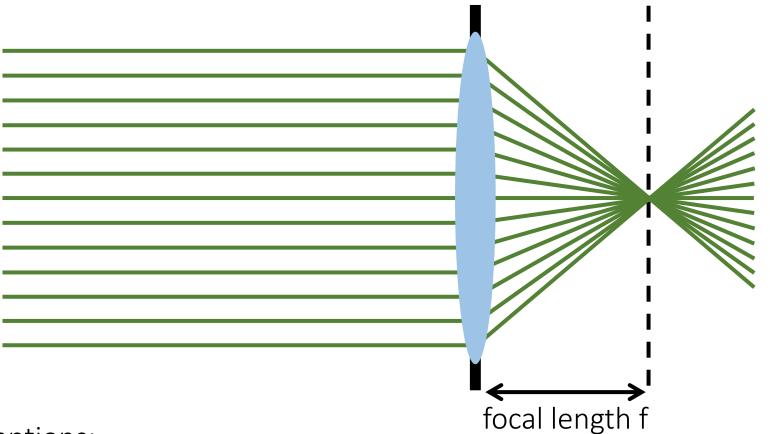
Simplification of geometric optics for well-designed lenses.



Two assumptions:

1. Rays passing through lens center are unaffected.

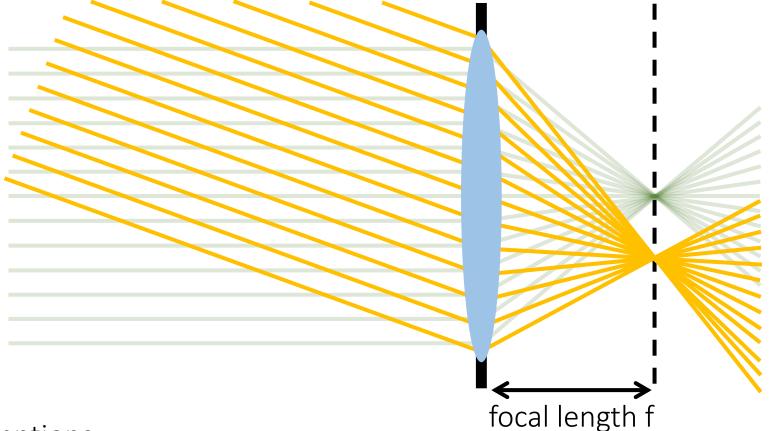
Simplification of geometric optics for well-designed lenses.



Two assumptions:

- 1. Rays passing through lens center are unaffected.
- 2. Parallel rays converge to a single point located on focal plane.

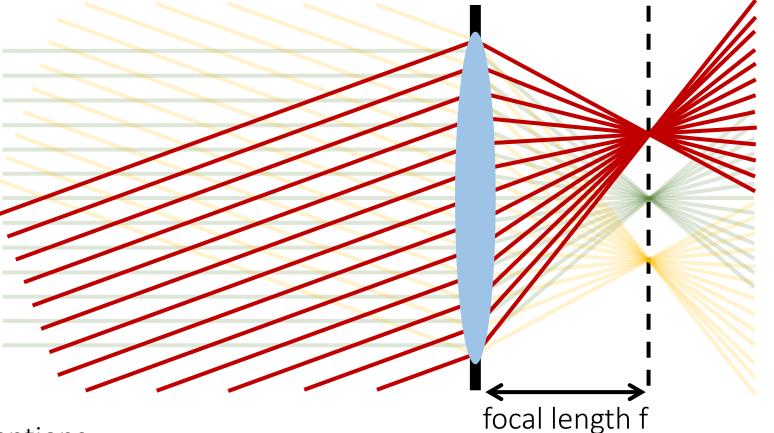
Simplification of geometric optics for well-designed lenses.



Two assumptions:

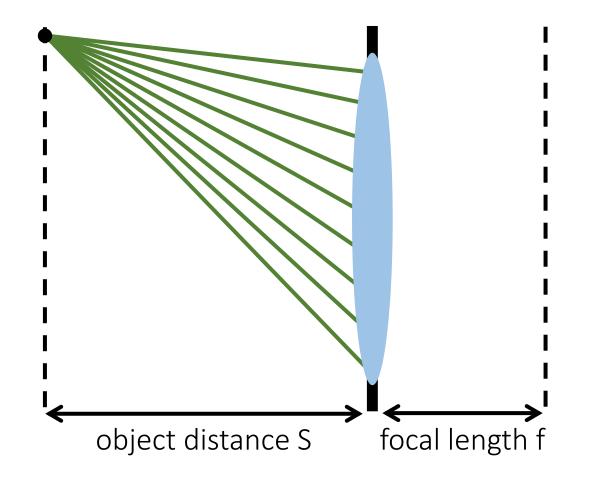
- 1. Rays passing through lens center are unaffected.
- 2. Parallel rays converge to a single point located on focal plane.

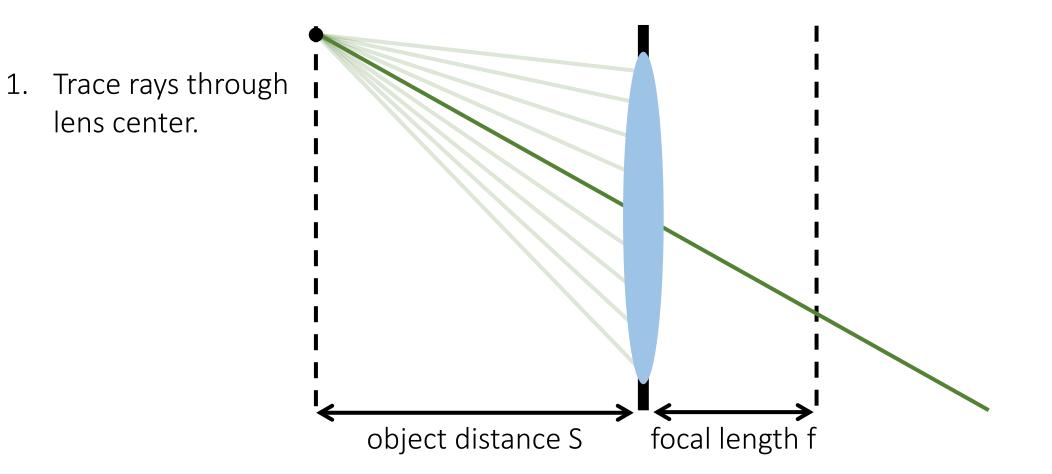
Simplification of geometric optics for well-designed lenses.

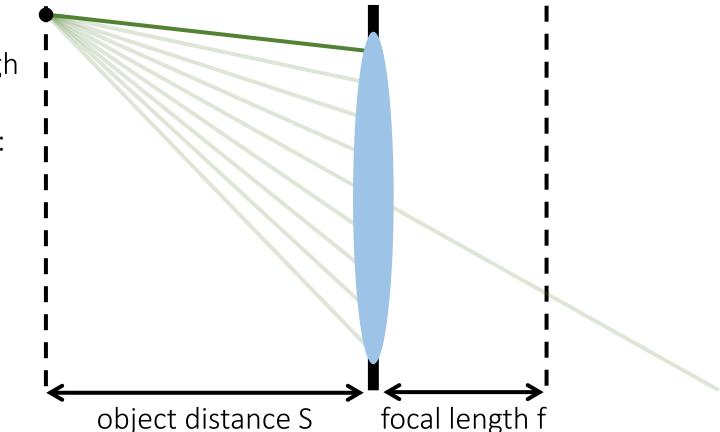


Two assumptions:

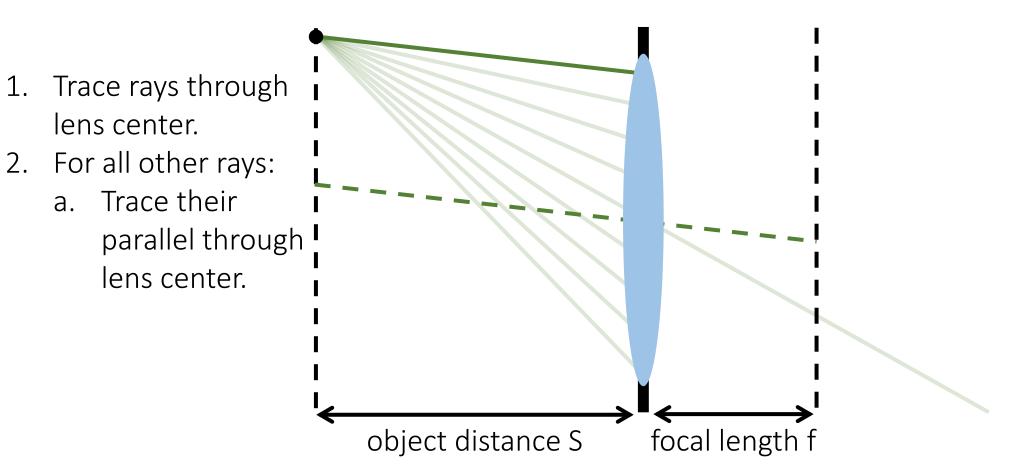
- 1. Rays passing through lens center are unaffected.
- 2. Parallel rays converge to a single point located on focal plane.

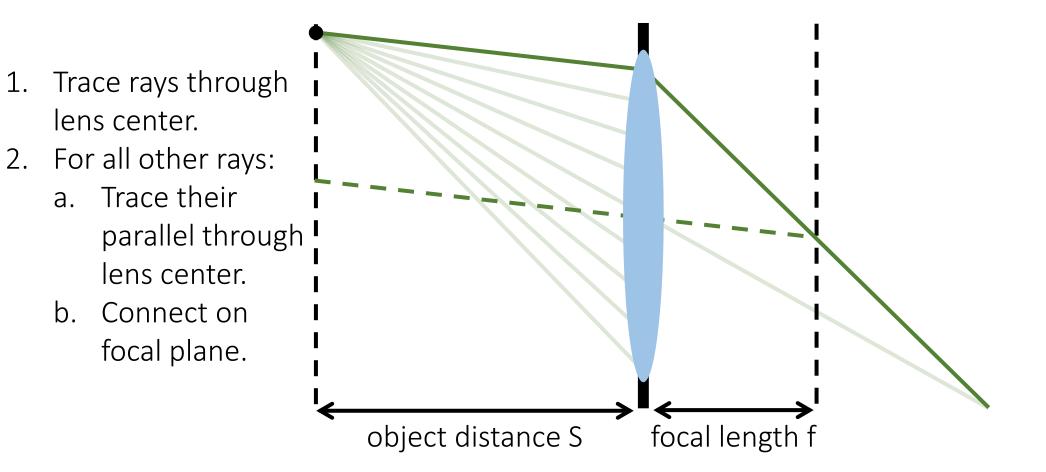


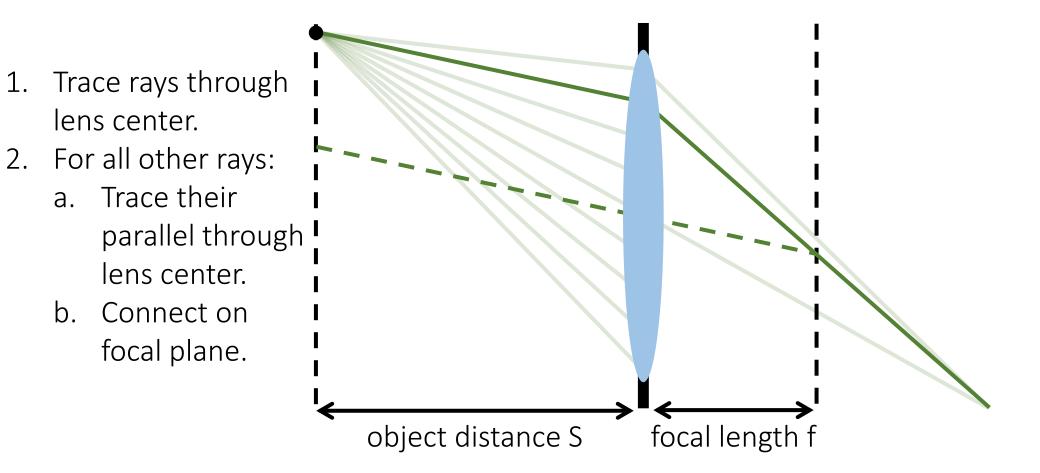


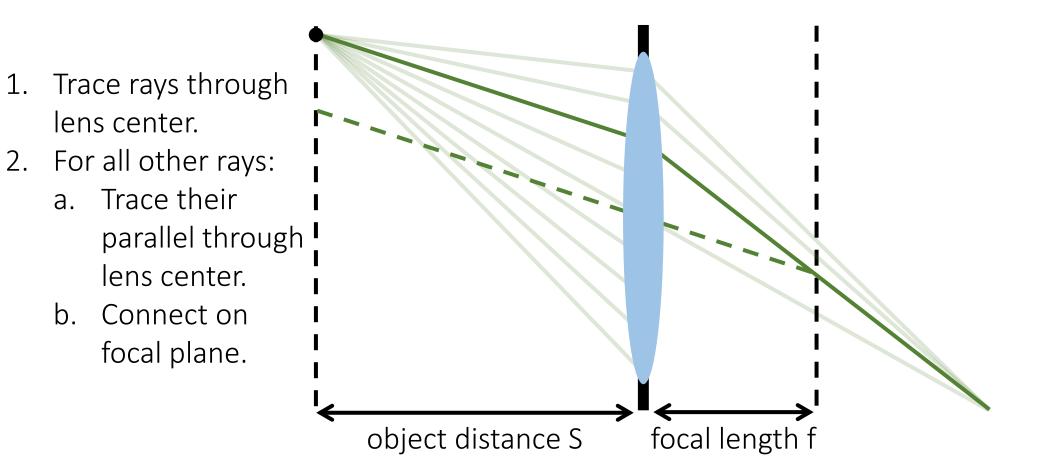


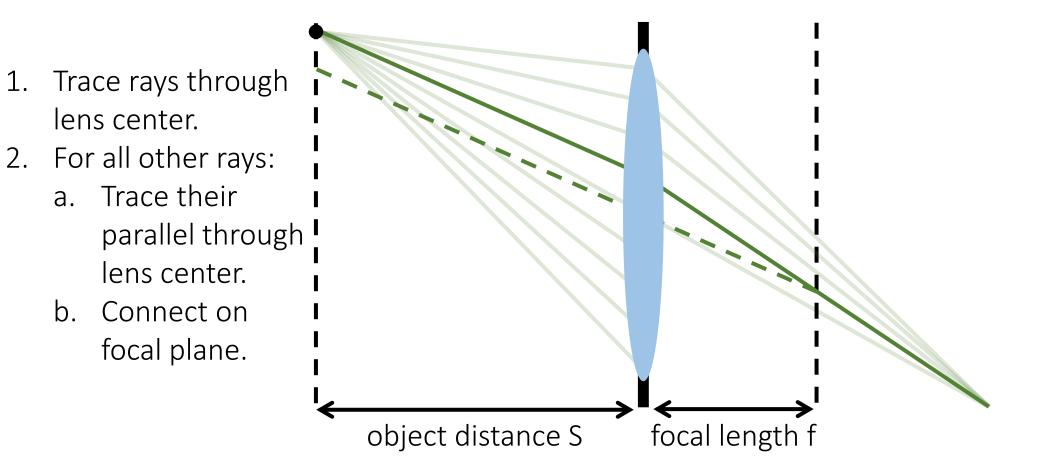
- Trace rays through lens center.
- 2. For all other rays:

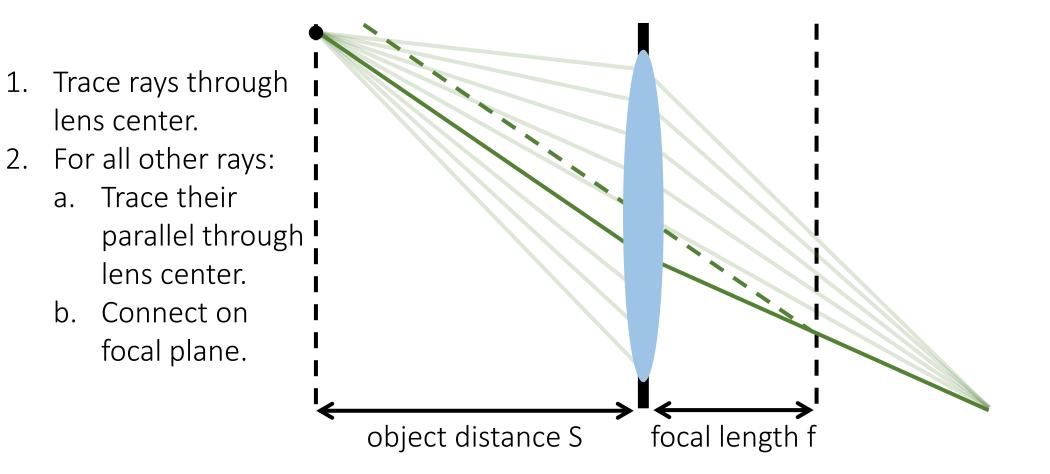


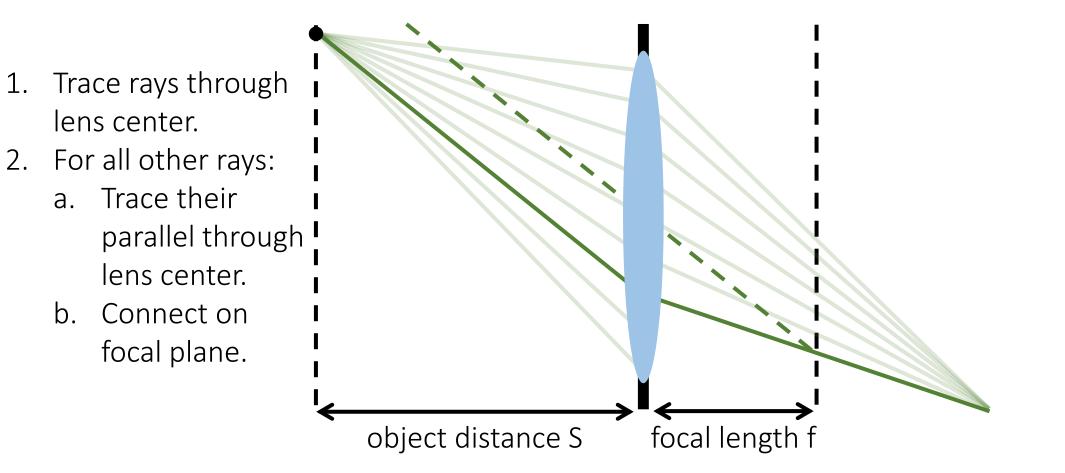


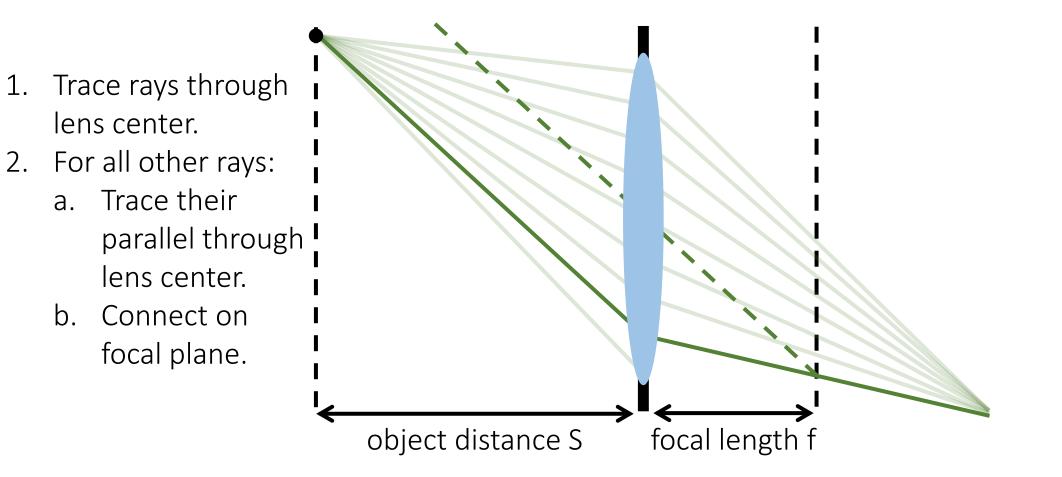


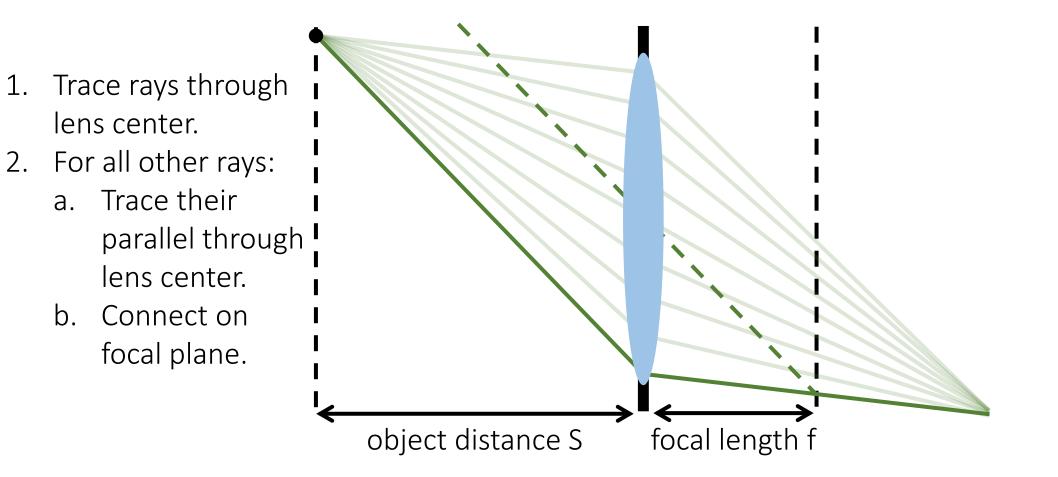




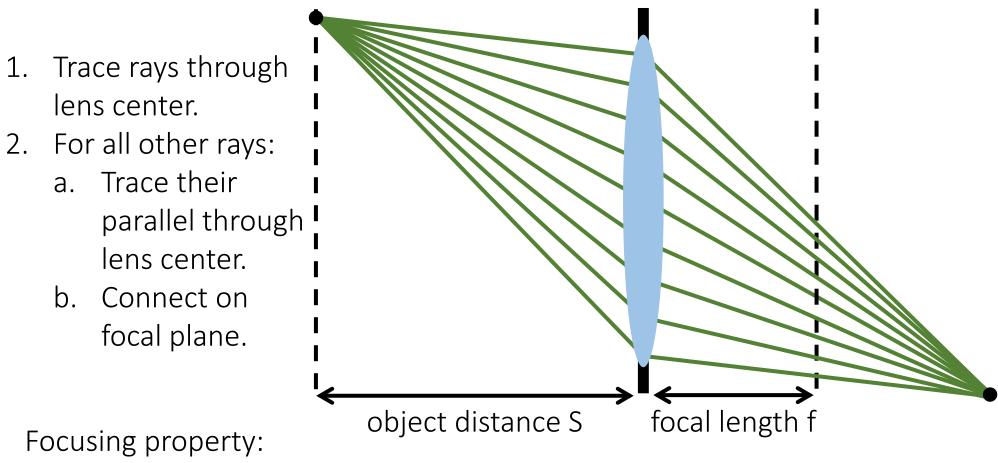








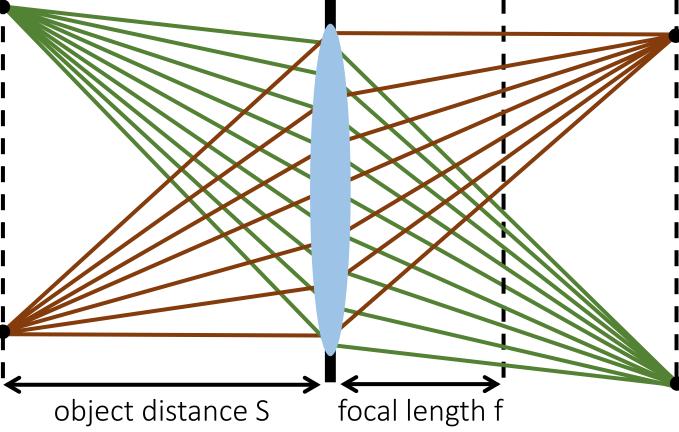
Consider an object emitting a bundle of rays. How do they propagate through the lens?



1. Rays emitted from a point on one side converge to a point on the other side.

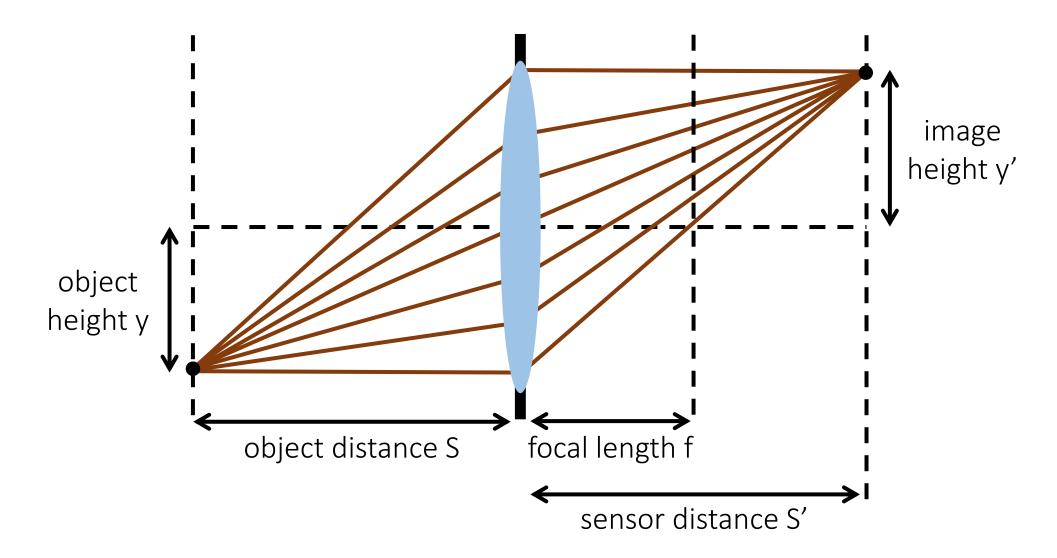
Consider an object emitting a bundle of rays. How do they propagate through the lens?

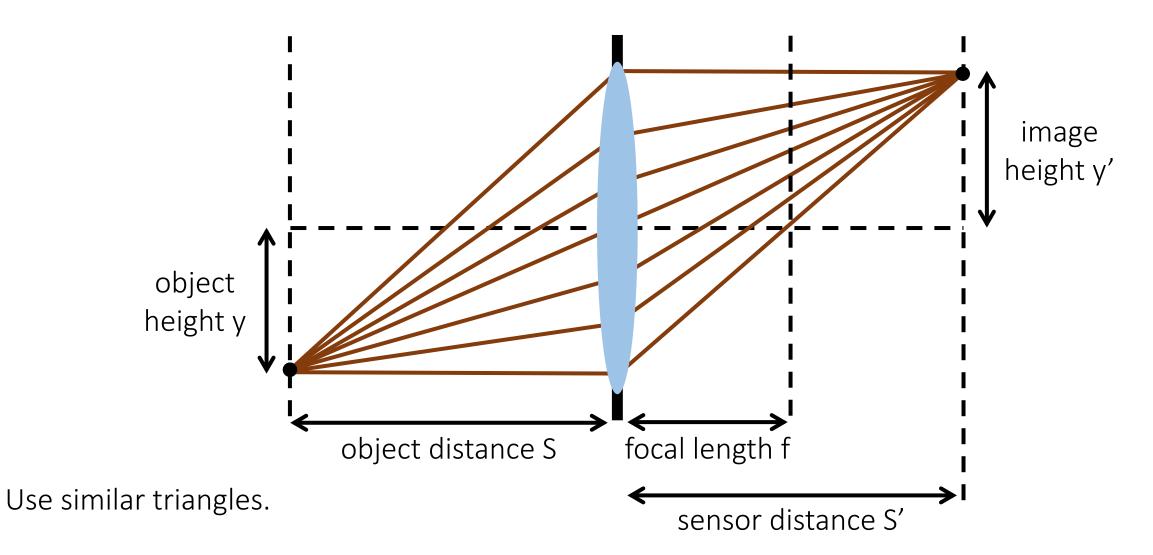
- 1. Trace rays through lens center.
- 2. For all other rays:
 - a. Trace their parallel through lens center.
 - b. Connect on focal plane.

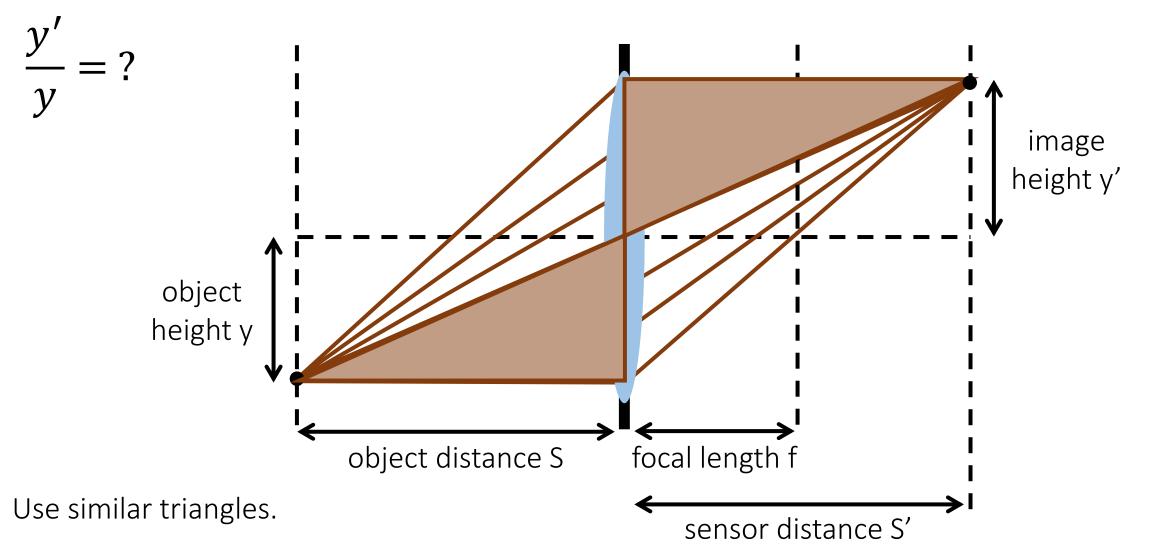


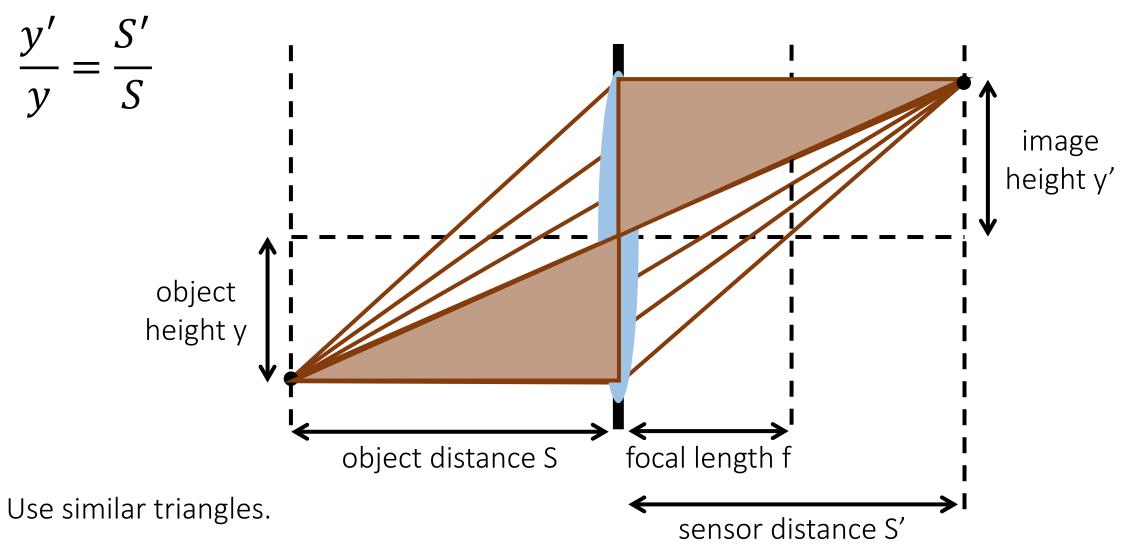
Focusing property:

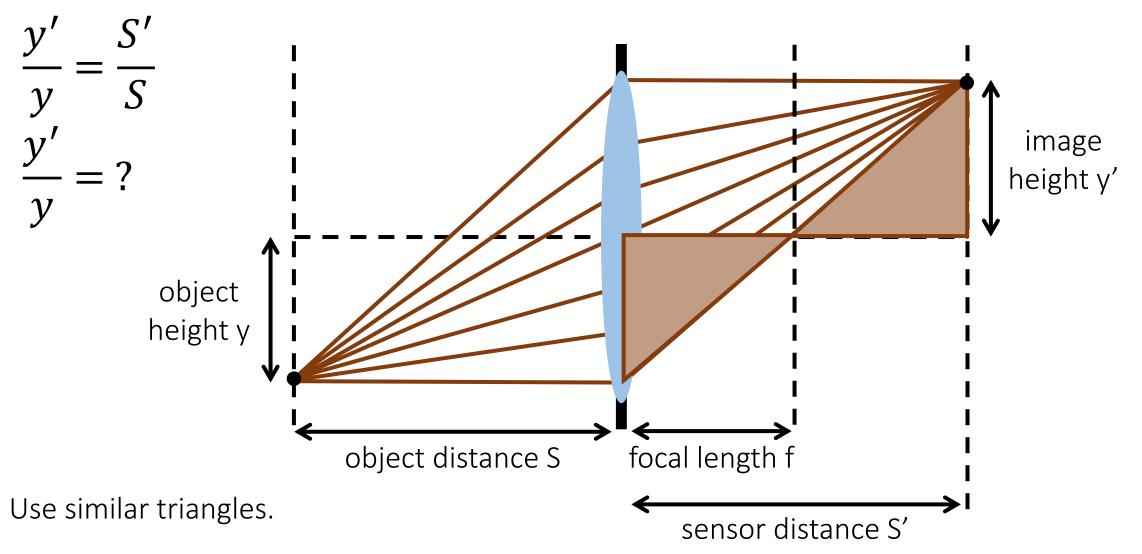
- 1. Rays emitted from a point on one side converge to a point on the other side.
- 2. Bundles emitted from a plane parallel to the lens converge on a common plane.

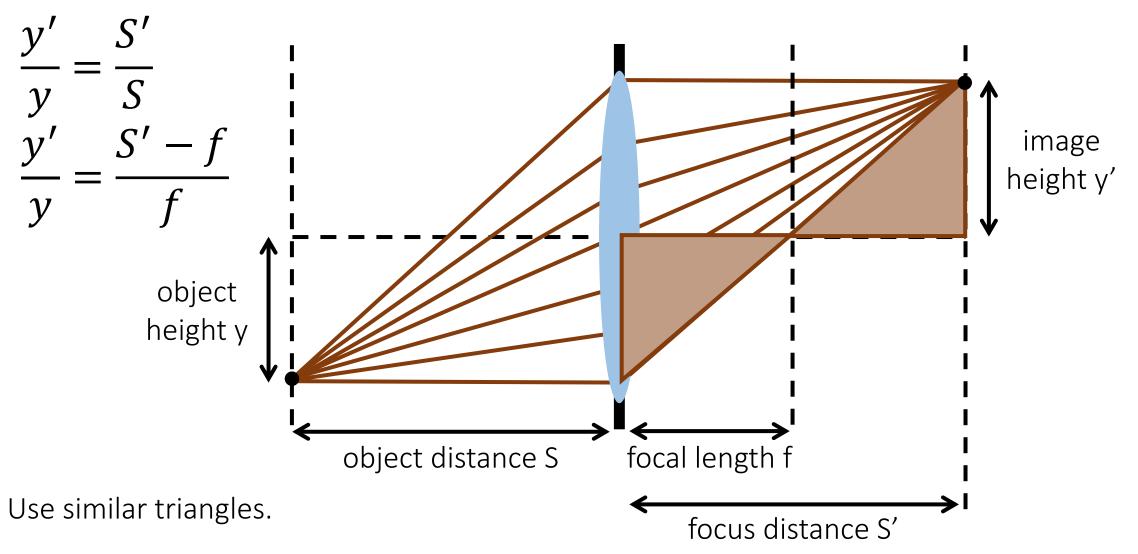


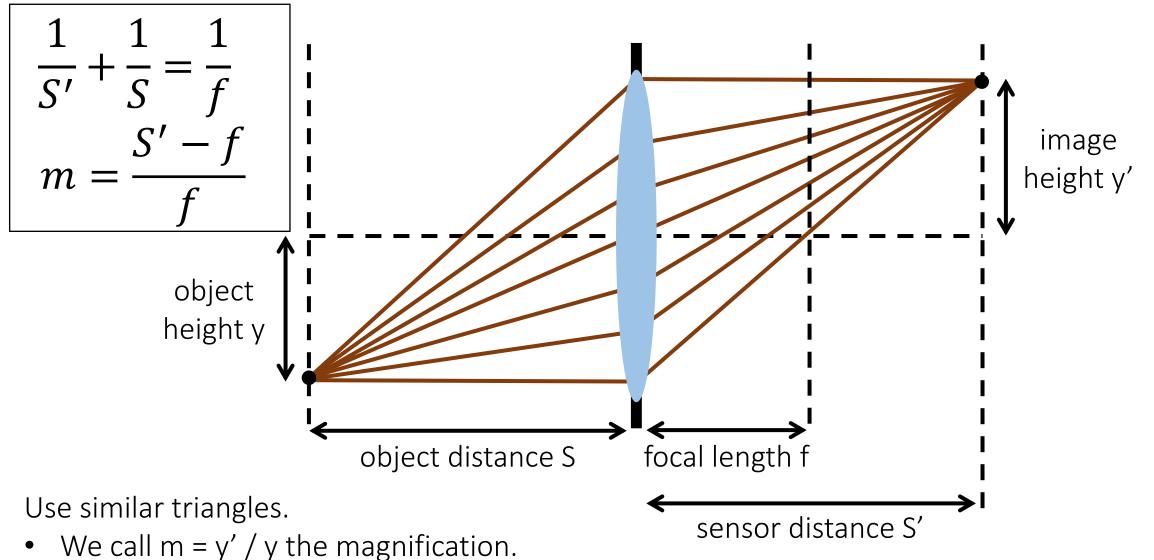




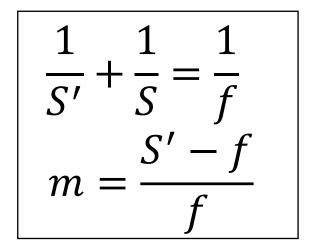






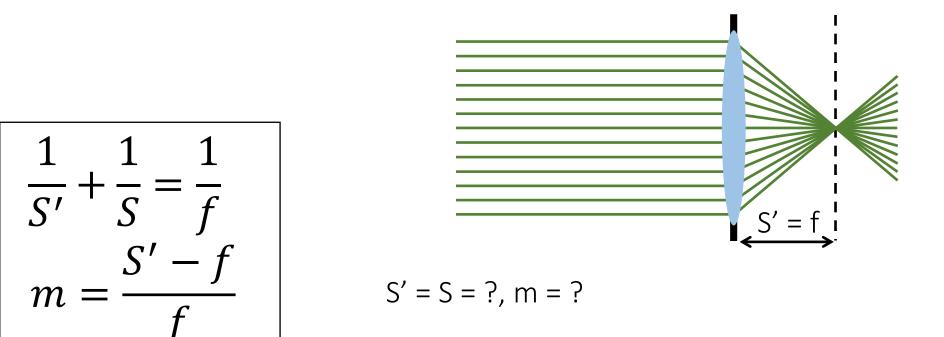


Special focus distances S' = f, S = ?, m = ?



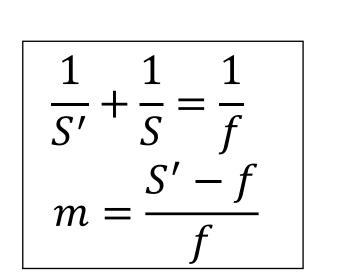
Special focus distances

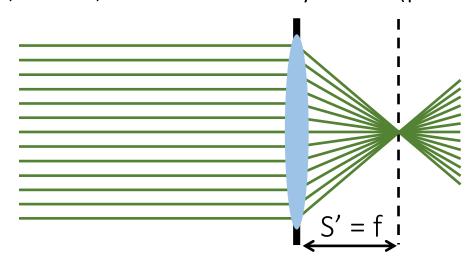
S' = f, S = ∞ , m = 0 \rightarrow infinity focus (parallel rays)



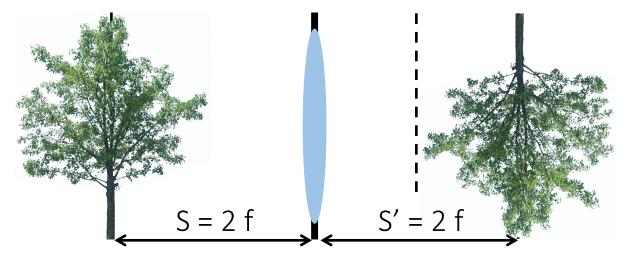
Special focus distances

S' = f, S = ∞ , m = 0 \rightarrow infinity focus (parallel rays)

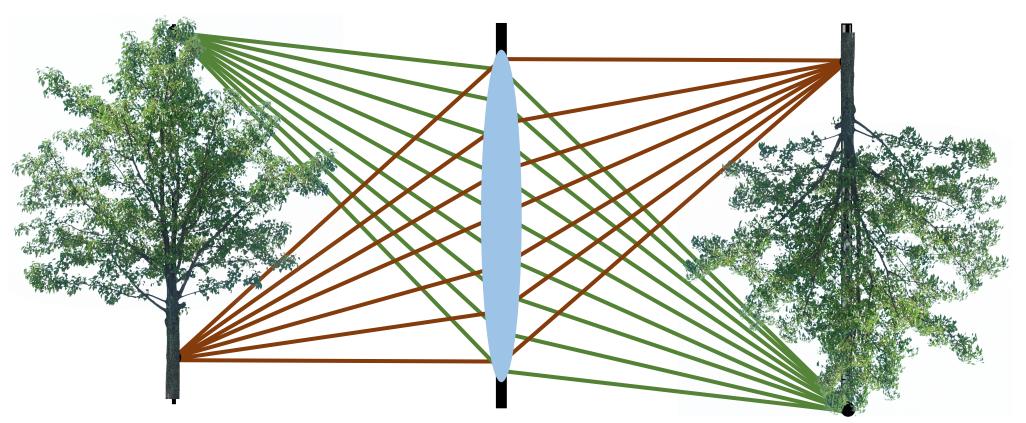




S' = S = 2 f, m = 1 \rightarrow object is reproduced in real-life size



Free lunch?

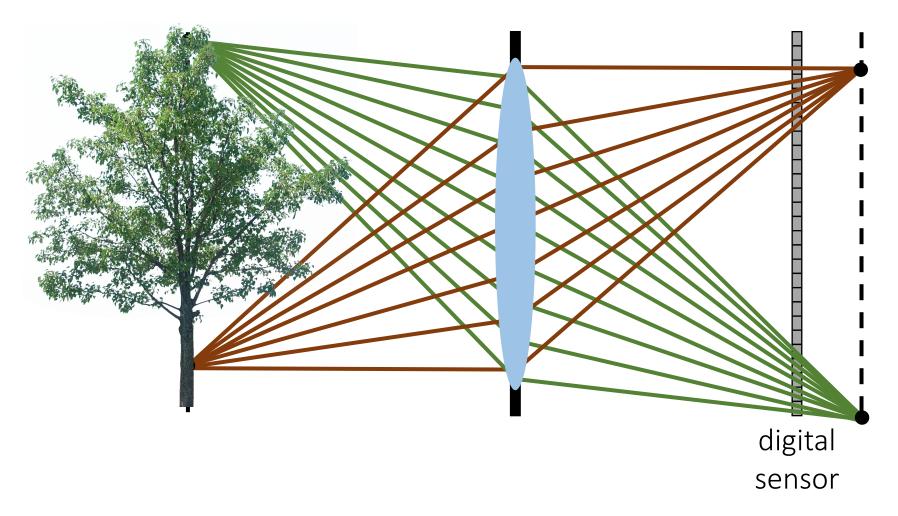


By using a lens, we simultaneously achieve:

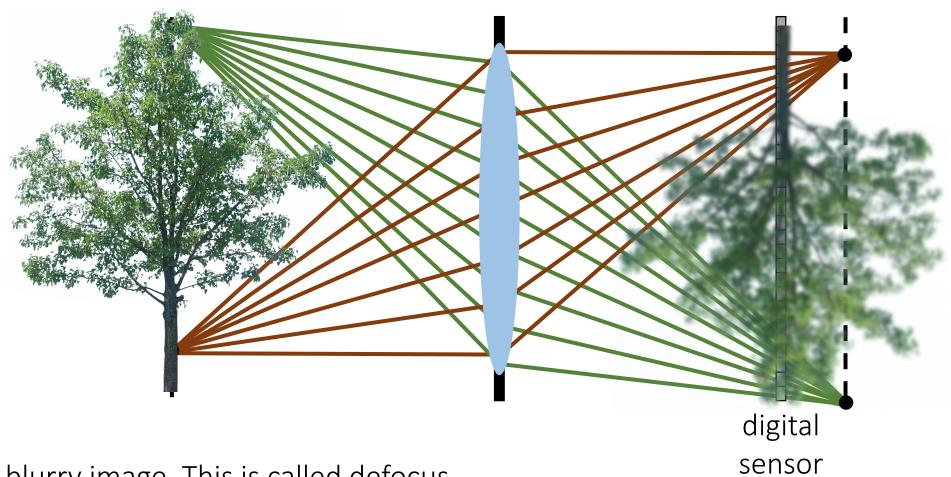
- 1. Image is sharp.
- 2. Signal-to-noise ratio is high.

Do we lose anything by using a lens?

What happens if we don't place the sensor at the focus distance?



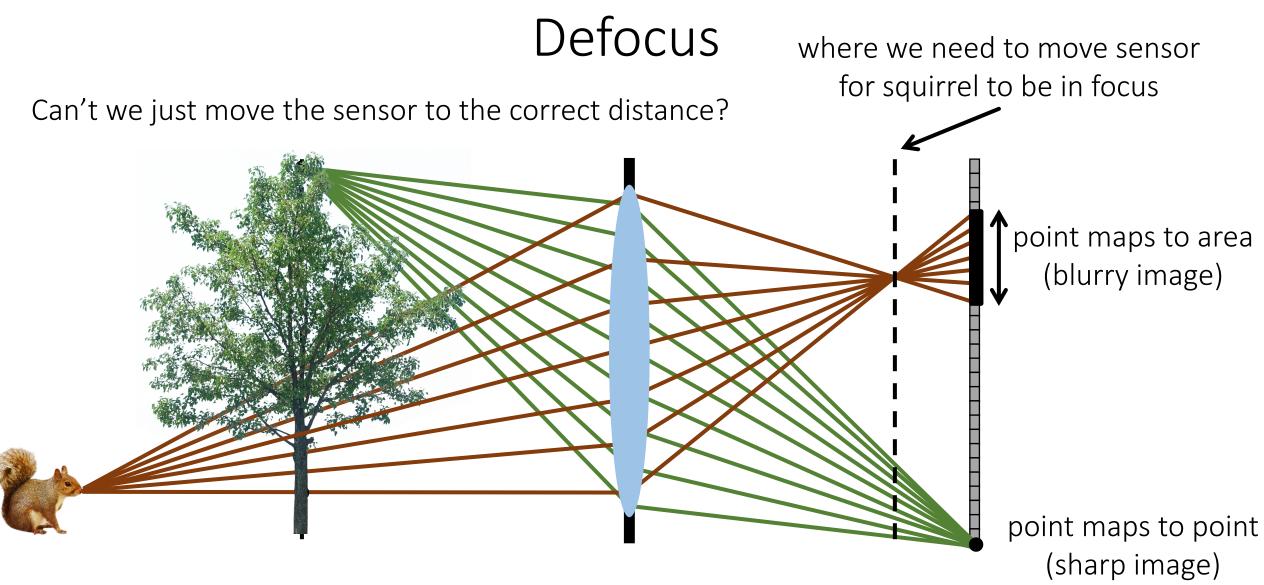
What happens if we don't place the sensor at the focus distance?



We get a blurry image. This is called defocus.

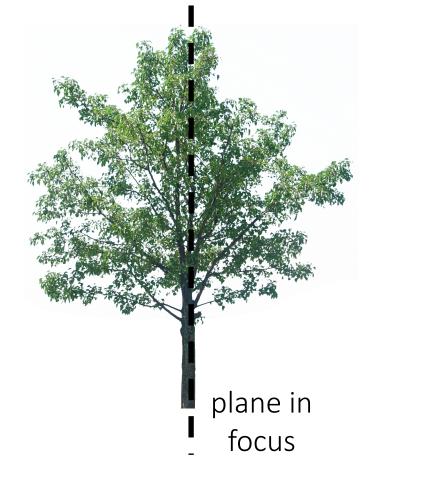
• Defocus never happens with an ideal pinhole camera.

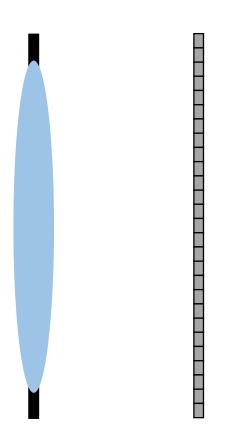
Can't we just move the sensor to the correct distance?



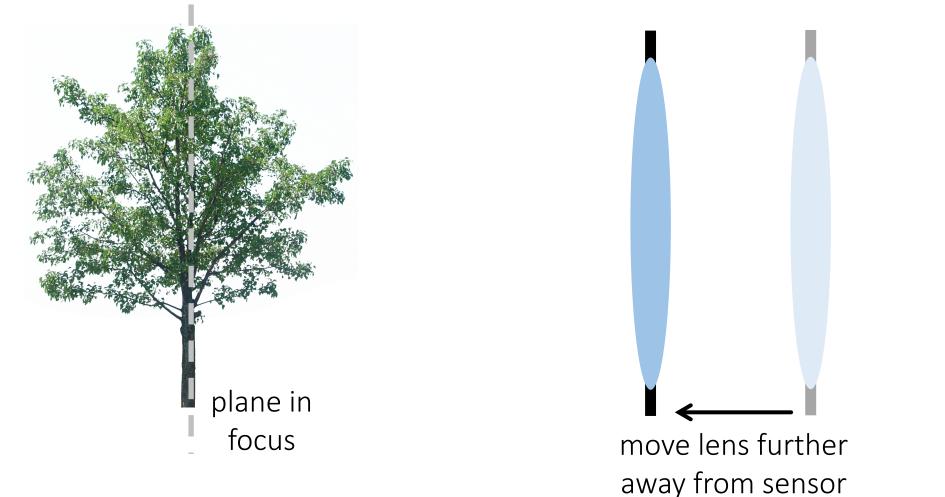
Unless our scene is just one plane, part of it will always be out of focus.

We change the distance between the sensor and the lens



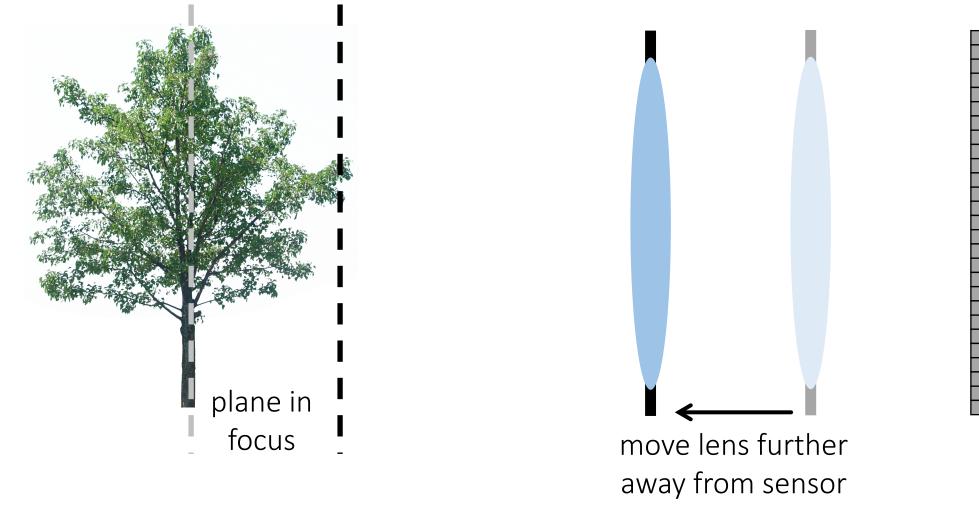


We change the distance between the sensor and the lens



• What happens to plane in focus?

We change the distance between the sensor and the lens



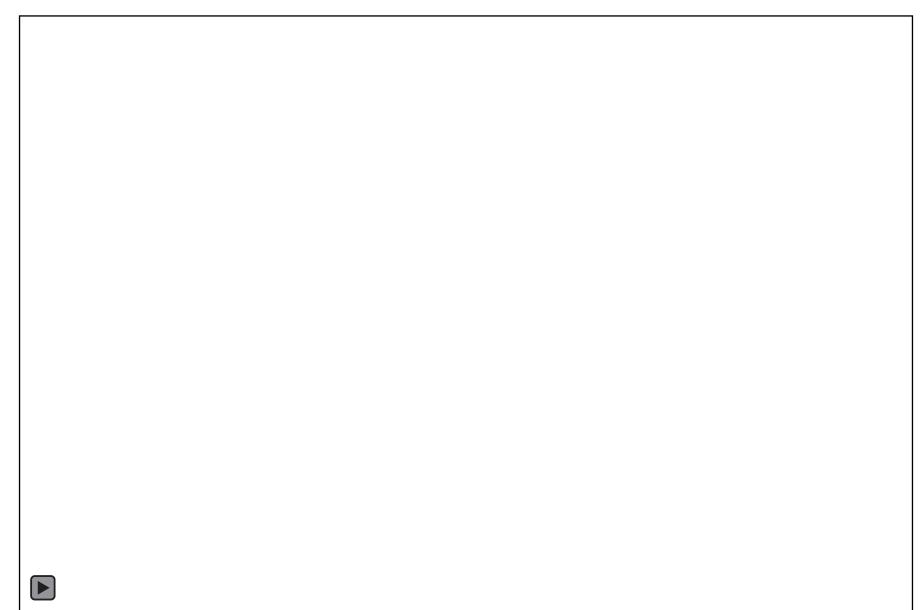
• What happens to plane in focus? \rightarrow It moves closer.

The lens on your camera

Focus ring: controls distance of lens from sensor

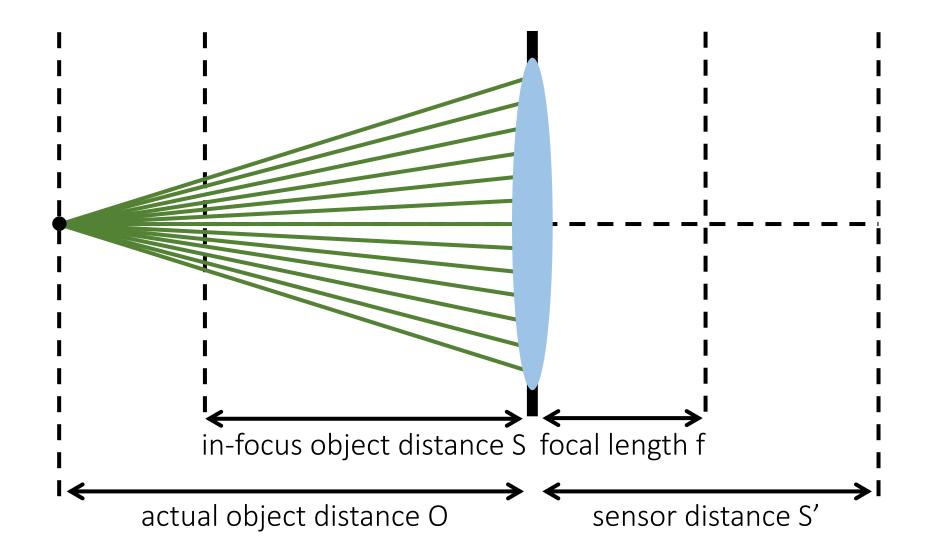


Demonstration

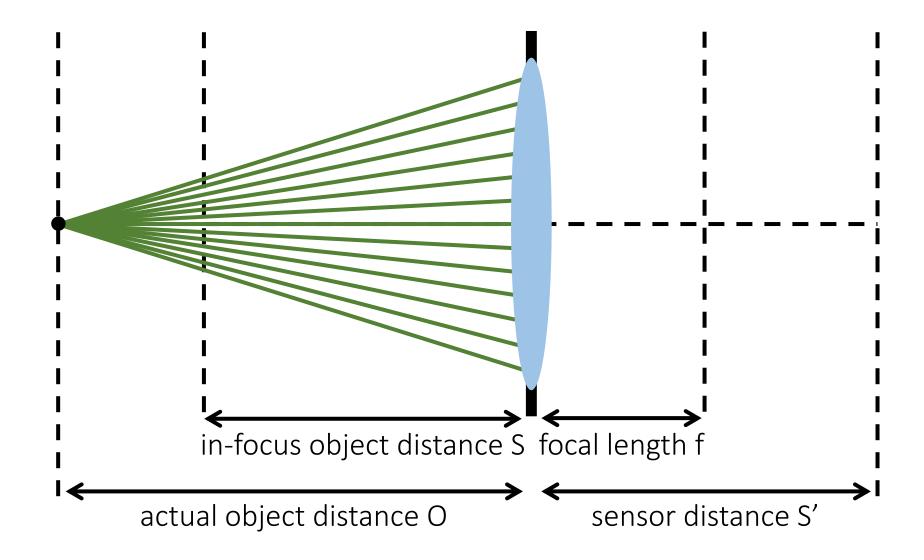


Does the mean that lenses are only good for planar scenes?

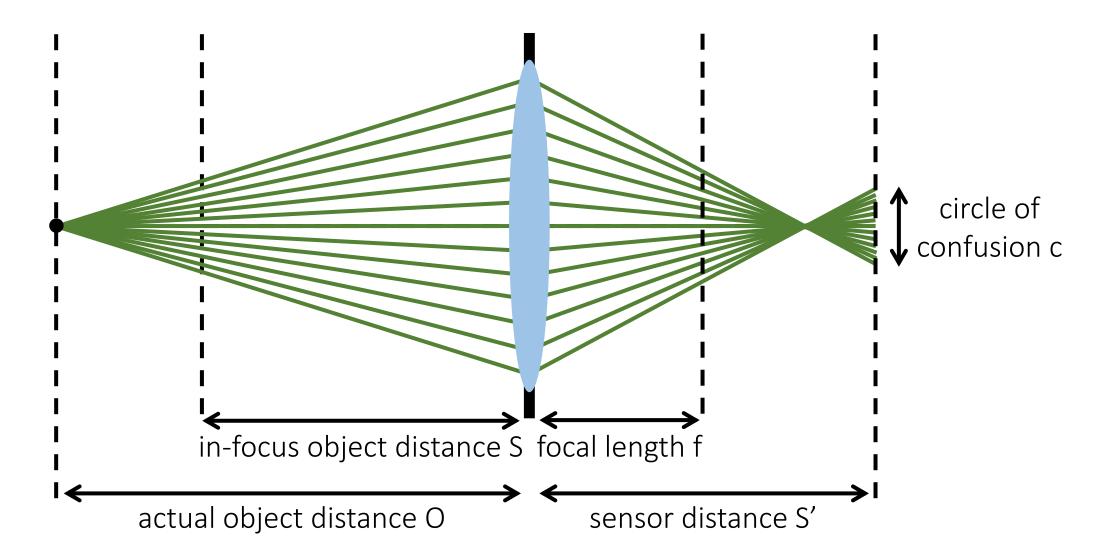
How do we find where the point will focus?

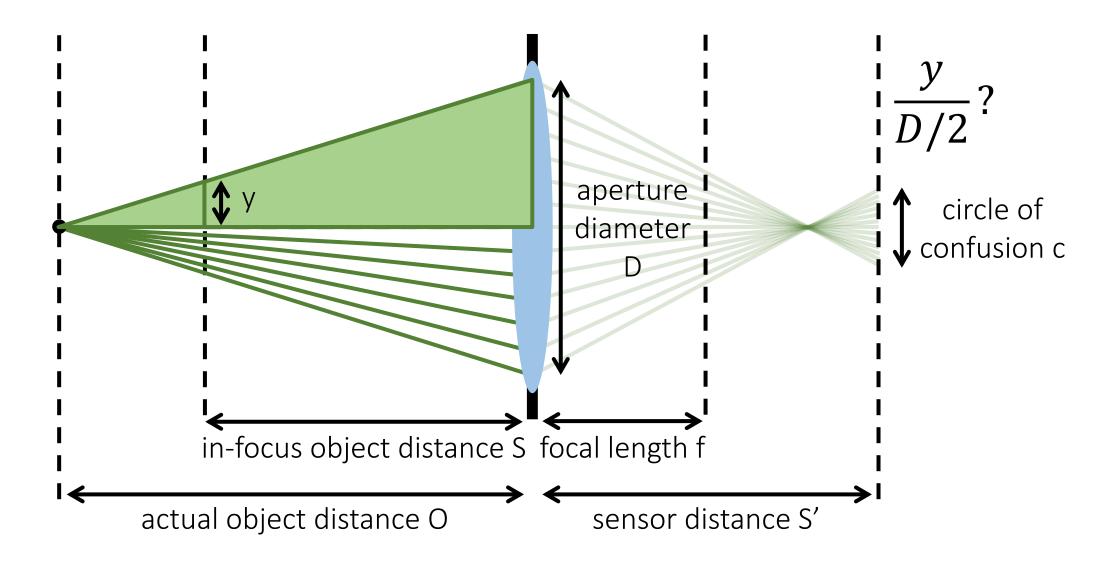


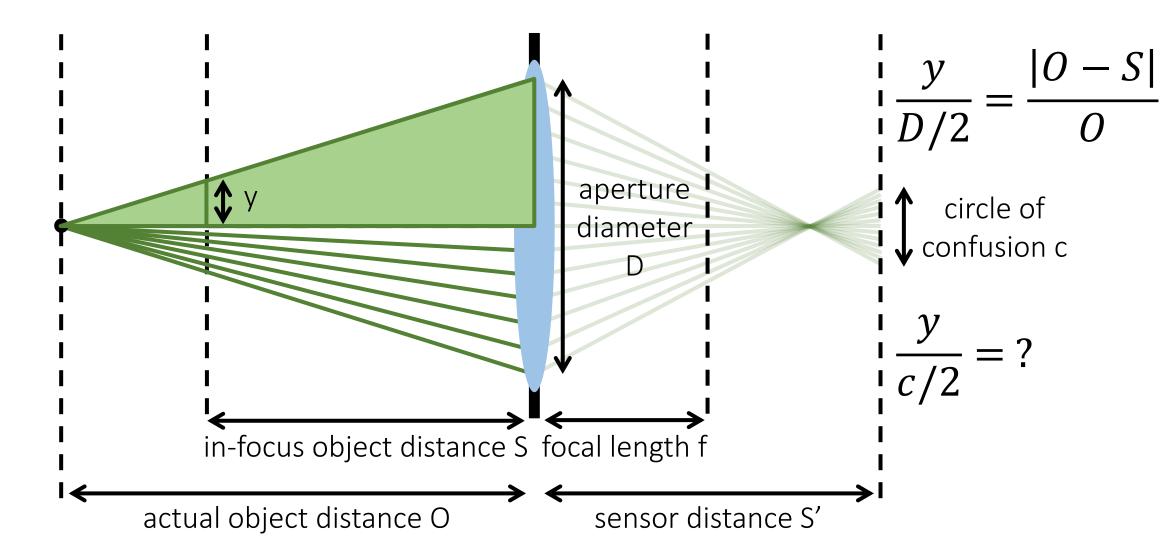
Will the point focus at a distance smaller or larger than S'?

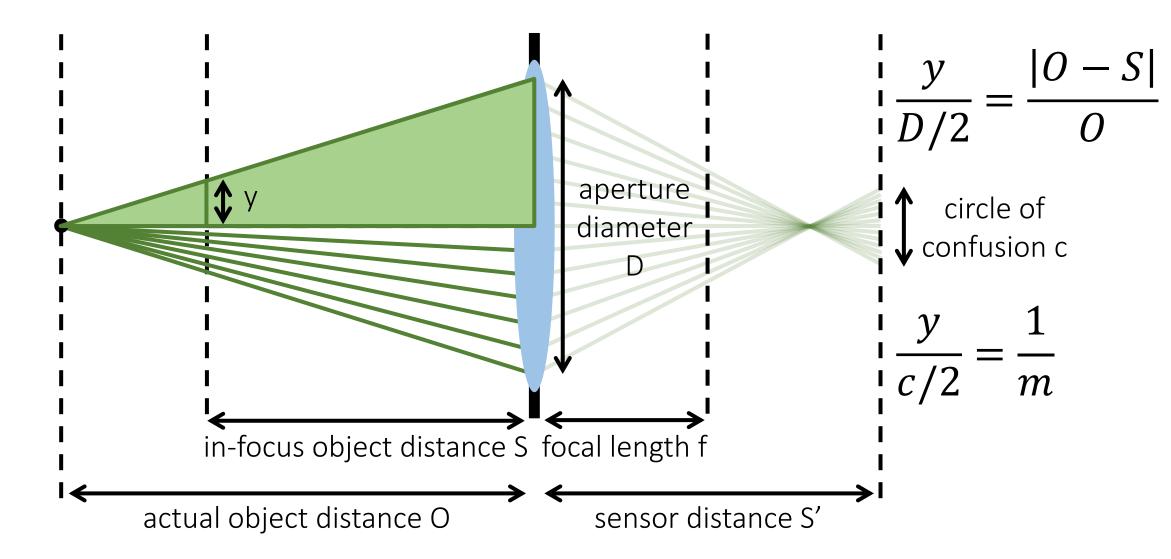


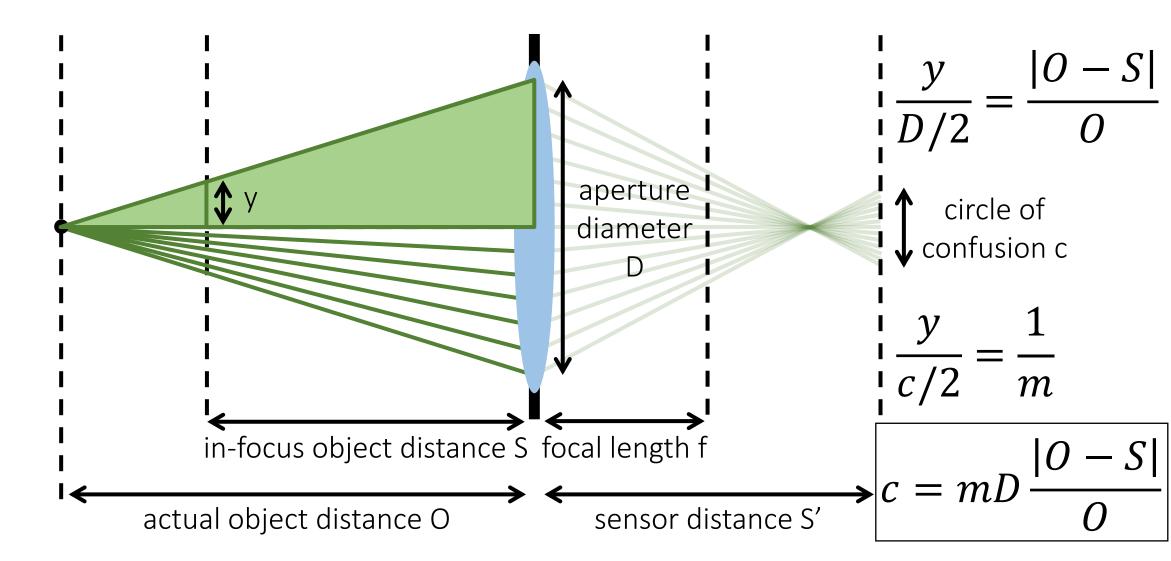
How can we compute the diameter of the circle of confusion?





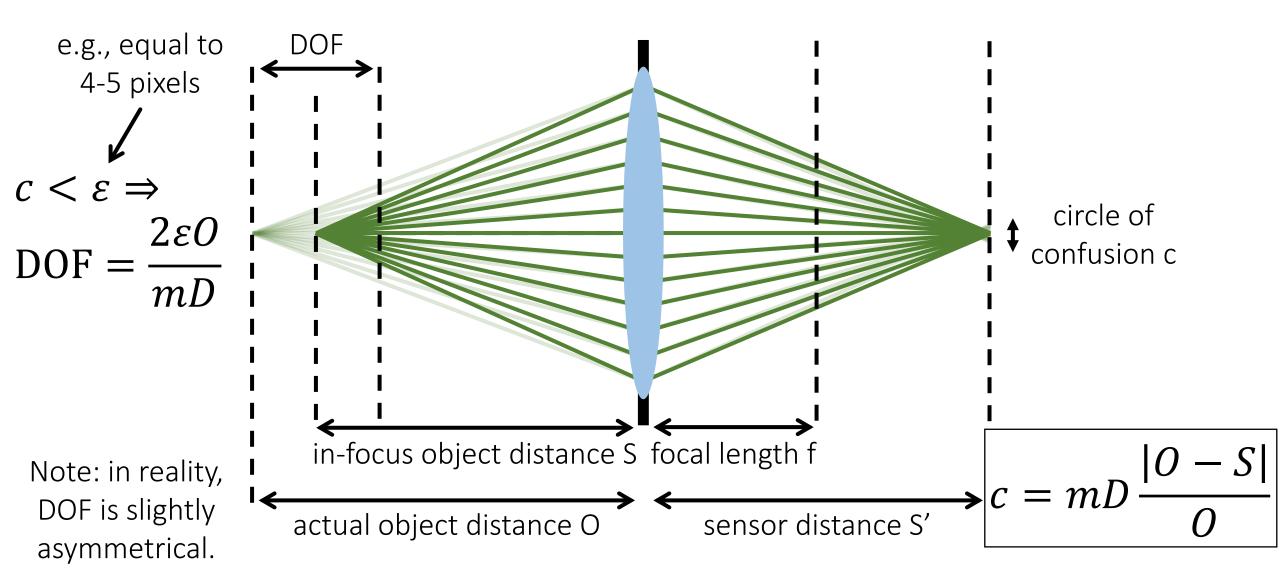




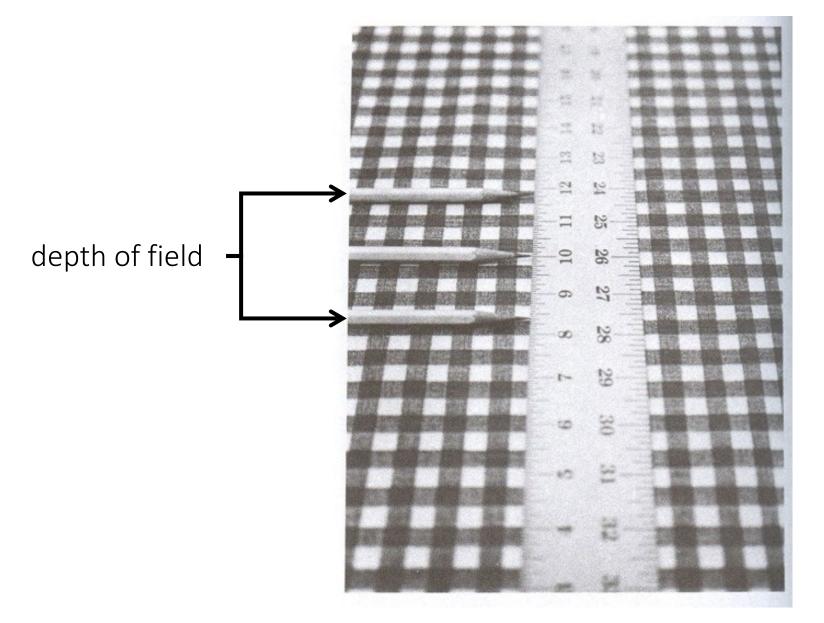


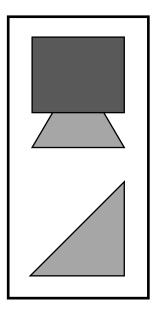
Depth of field

Distance from the in-focus object plane where the circle of confusion is acceptably small.



Depth of field

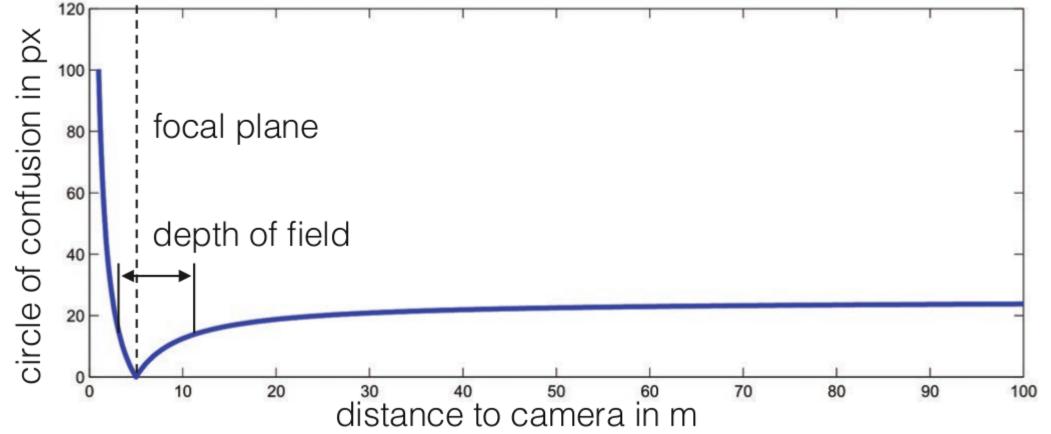




scene

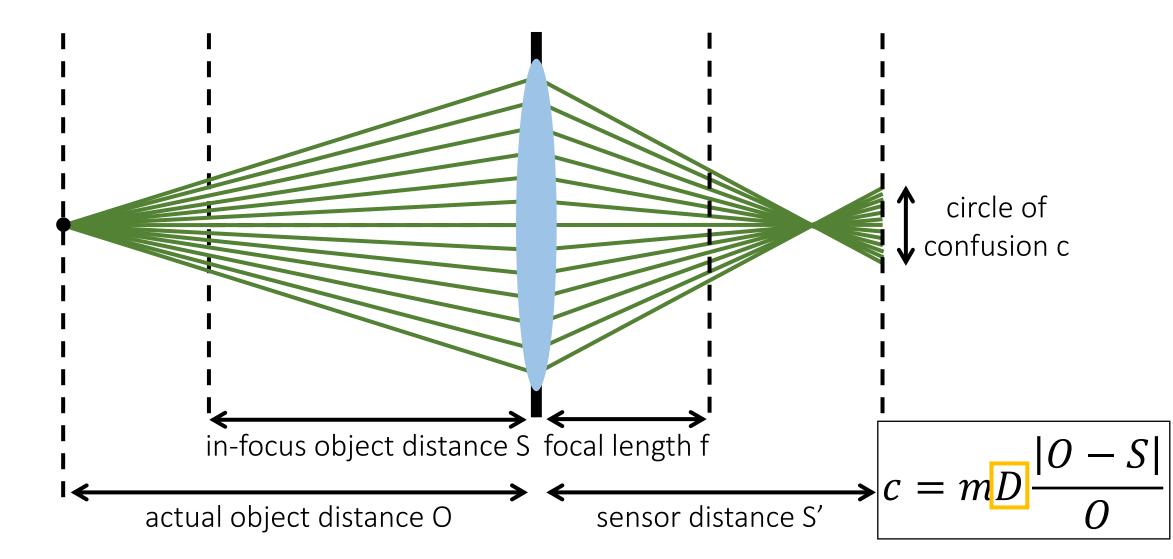
Circle of Confusion



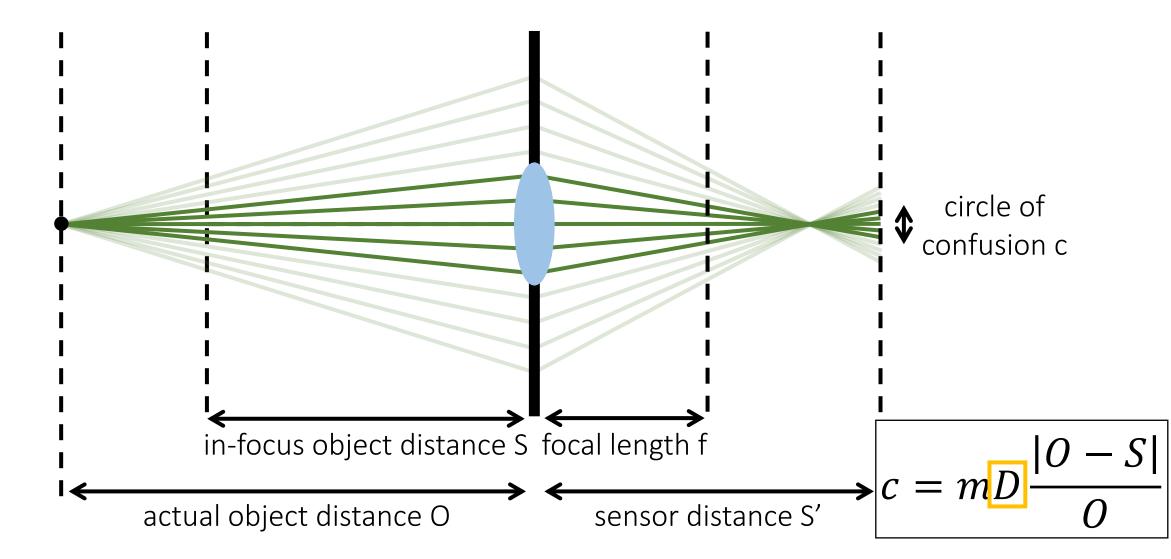


Defocus depends on aperture

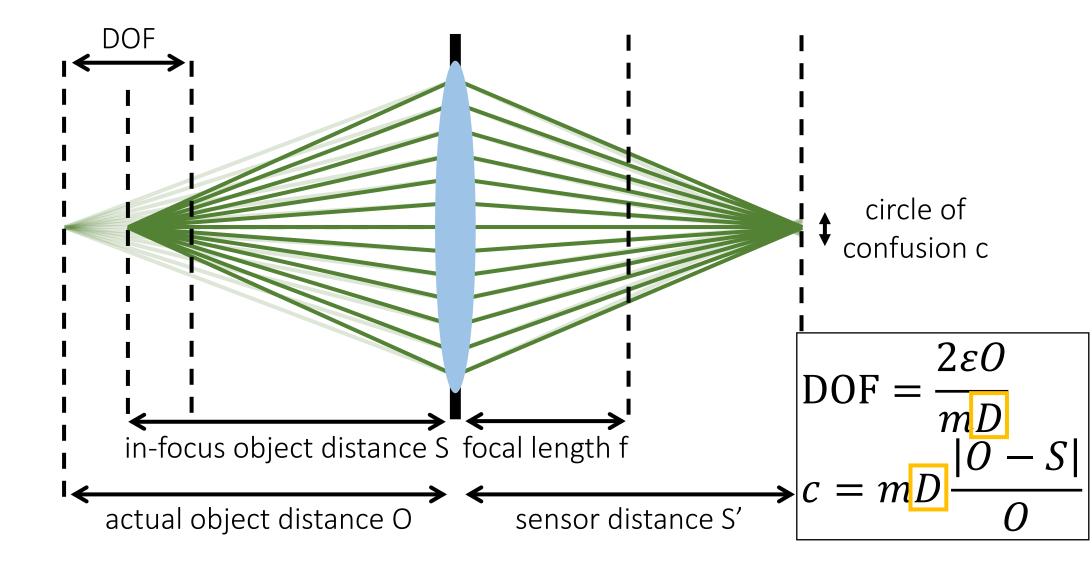
What happens to the circle of confusion as the aperture diameter is reduced?



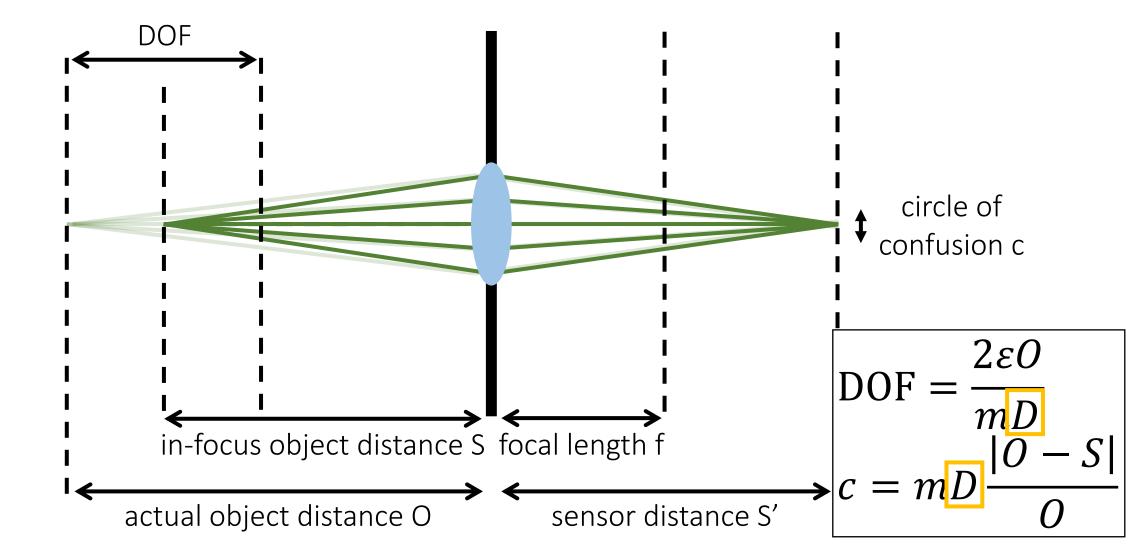
What happens to the circle of confusion as the aperture diameter is reduced? \rightarrow It shrinks.



What happens to the depth of field as the aperture diameter is reduced?



What happens to the depth of field as the aperture diameter is reduced? \rightarrow It expands.



Aperture size

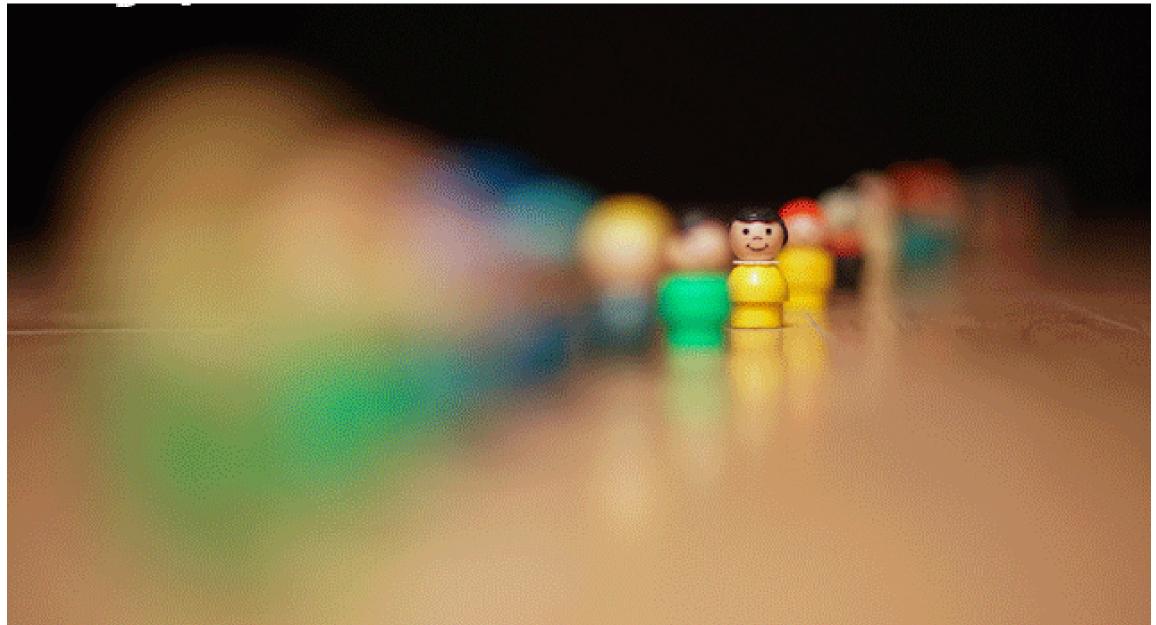
Most lenses have apertures of variable size.

• The size of the aperture is expressed as the "f-number": The bigger this number, the smaller the aperture.



You can see the aperture by removing the lens and looking inside it.

Demonstration

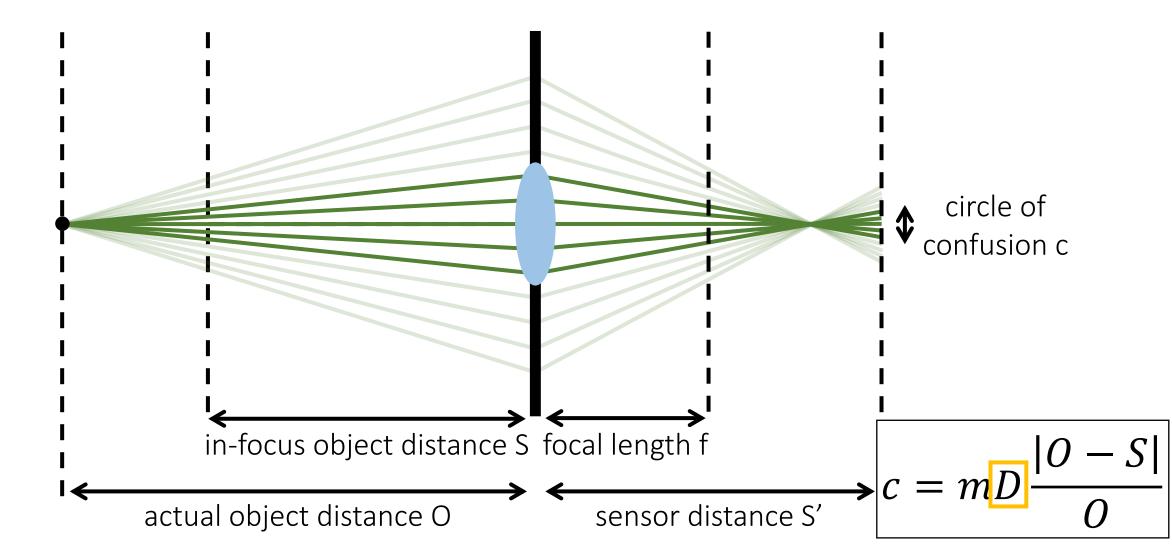


Depth of field

Form of defocus blur is determined by shape of aperture.



If small aperture sizes reduce defocus blur, should we always use the smallest aperture?



Bokeh

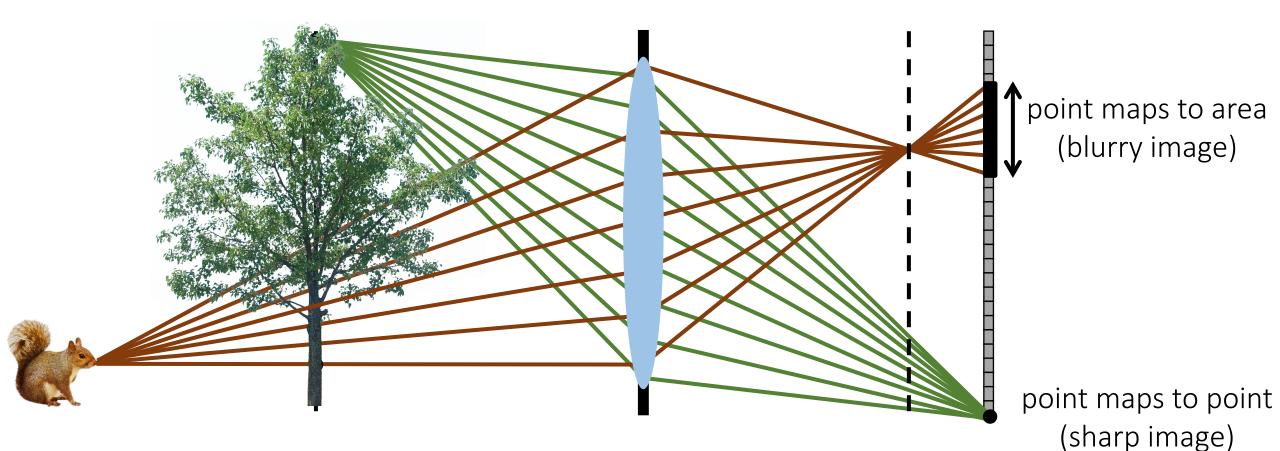
Sharp depth of field ("bokeh") is often desirable.





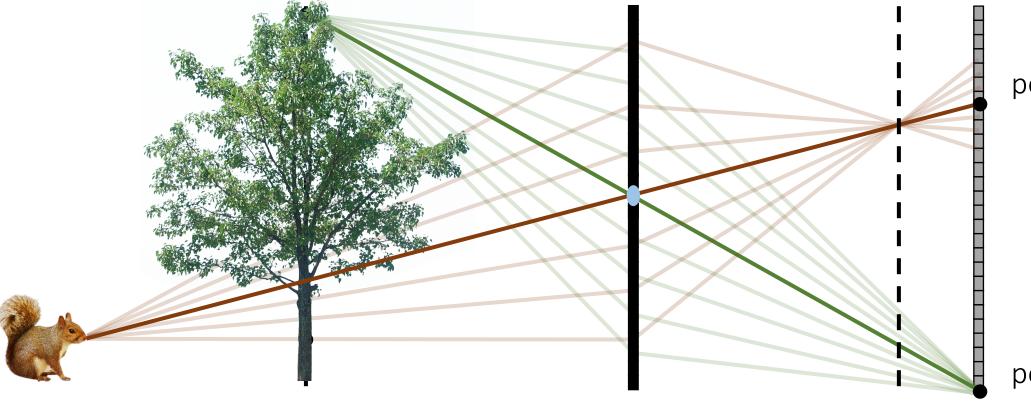
What happens as the aperture keeps getting smaller?

122



What happens as the aperture keeps getting smaller?

Lens becomes equivalent to a pinhole.



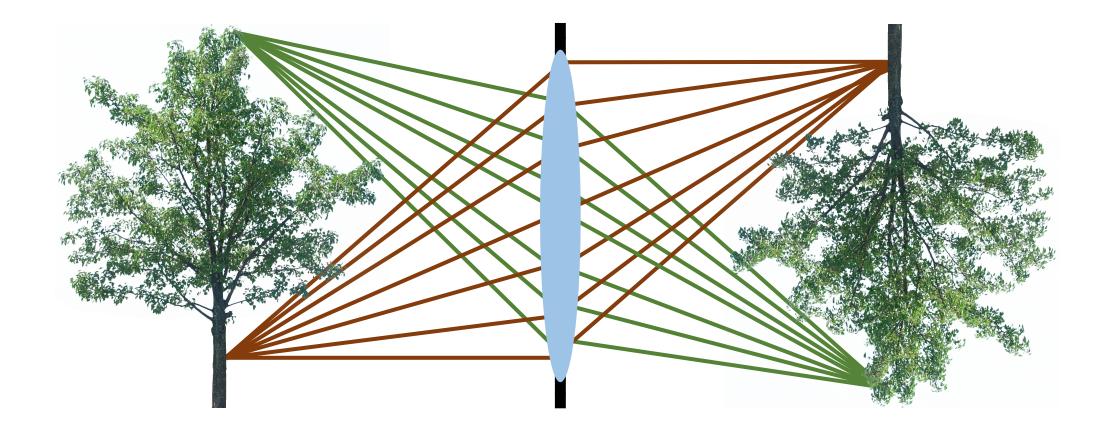
point maps to point (sharp image)

point maps to point (sharp image)

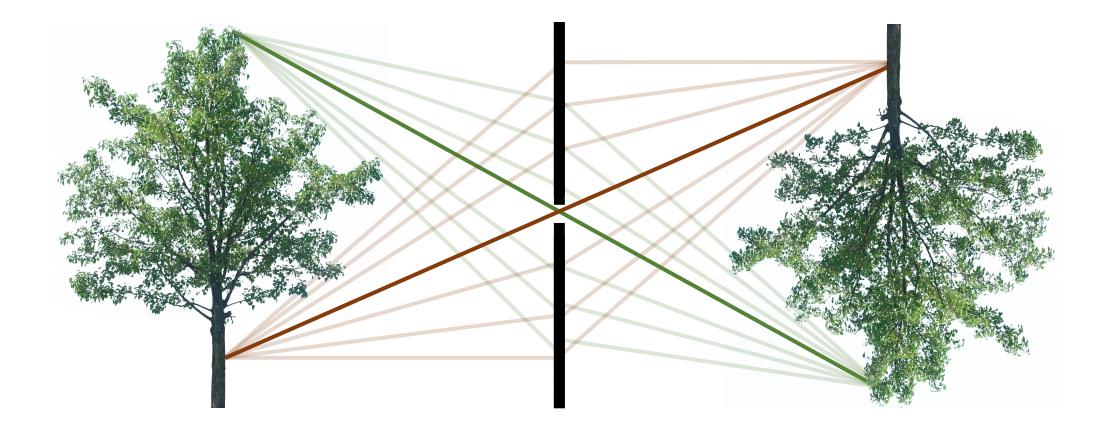
- No defocus, everything is sharp regardless of depth.
- Very little light, signal-to-noise ratio is just as bad as pinhole.

Lens camera and pinhole camera

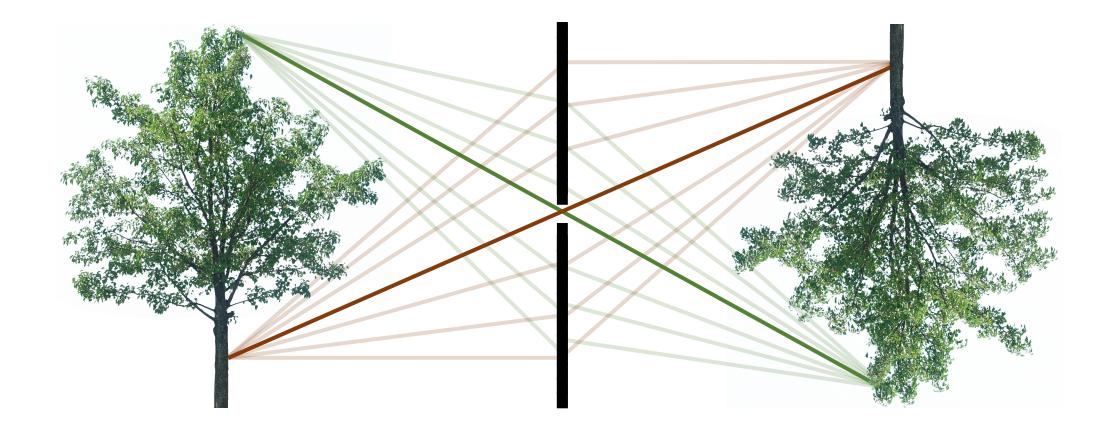
The lens camera



The pinhole camera

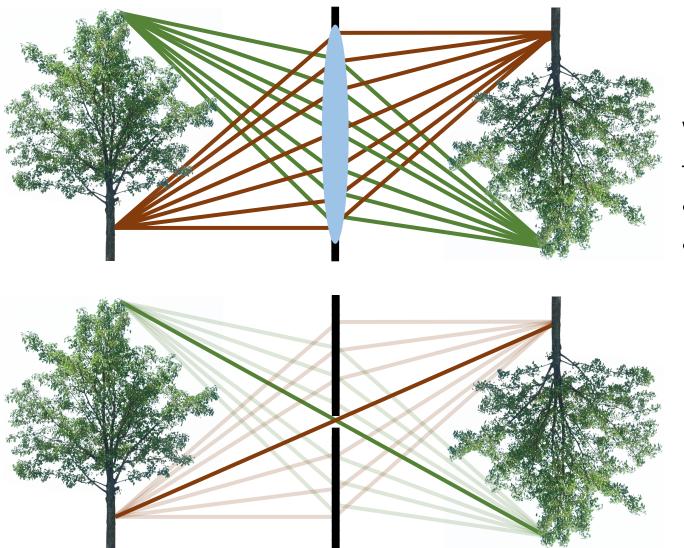


The pinhole camera



Central rays propagate in the same way for both models!

Describing both lens and pinhole cameras



We can derive properties and descriptions that hold for both camera models if:

- We consider only central rays.
- We assume that everything of interest in the scene is within the depth of field.

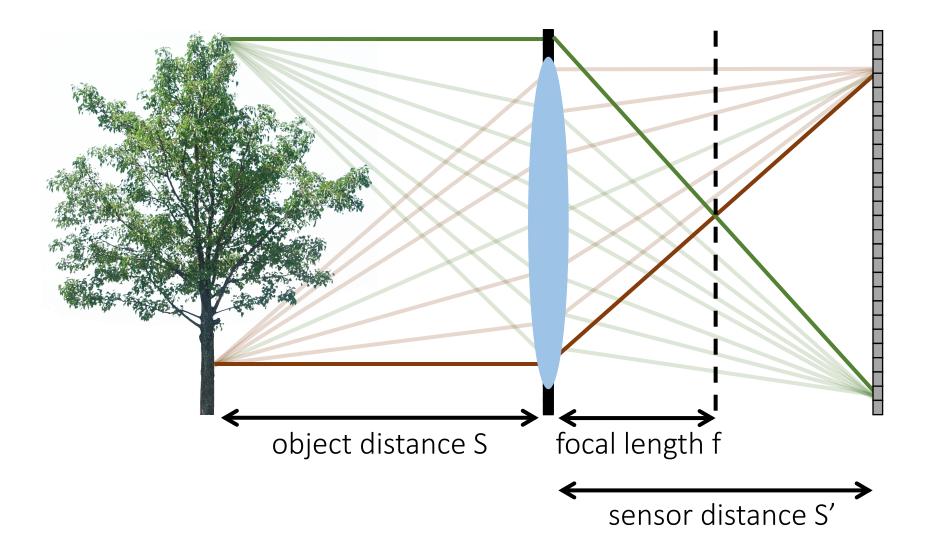
Important difference: focal length

In a pinhole camera, focal length is distance between aperture and sensor

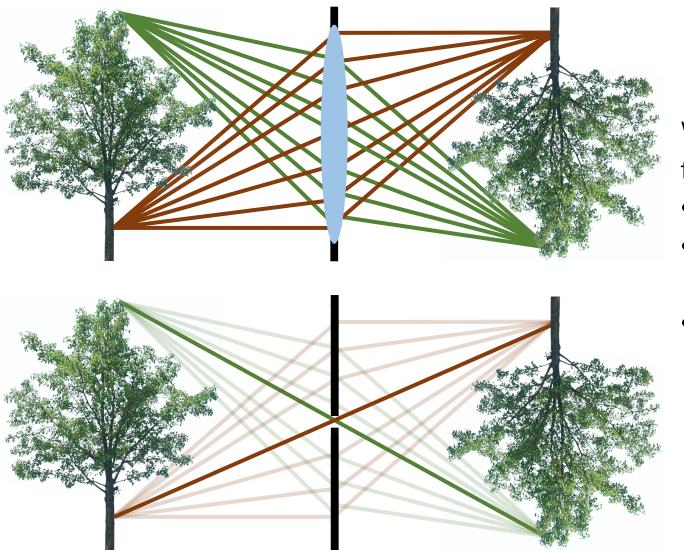


Important difference: focal length

In a lens camera, focal length is distance where parallel rays intersect



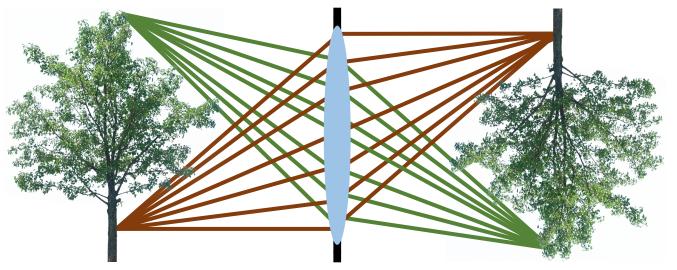
Describing both lens and pinhole cameras



We can derive properties and descriptions that hold for both camera models if:

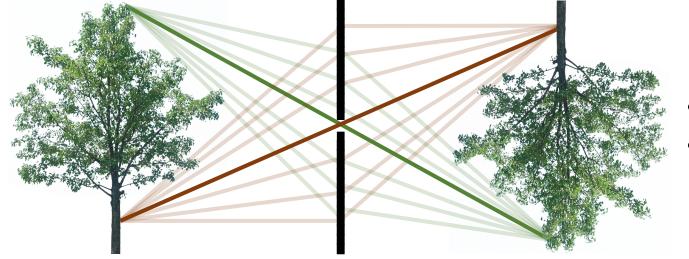
- We consider only central rays.
- We assume everything of interest in the scene is within the depth of field.
- We assume that the focus distance of the lens camera is equal to the focal length of the pinhole camera.

Effect of aperture size on lens and pinhole cameras



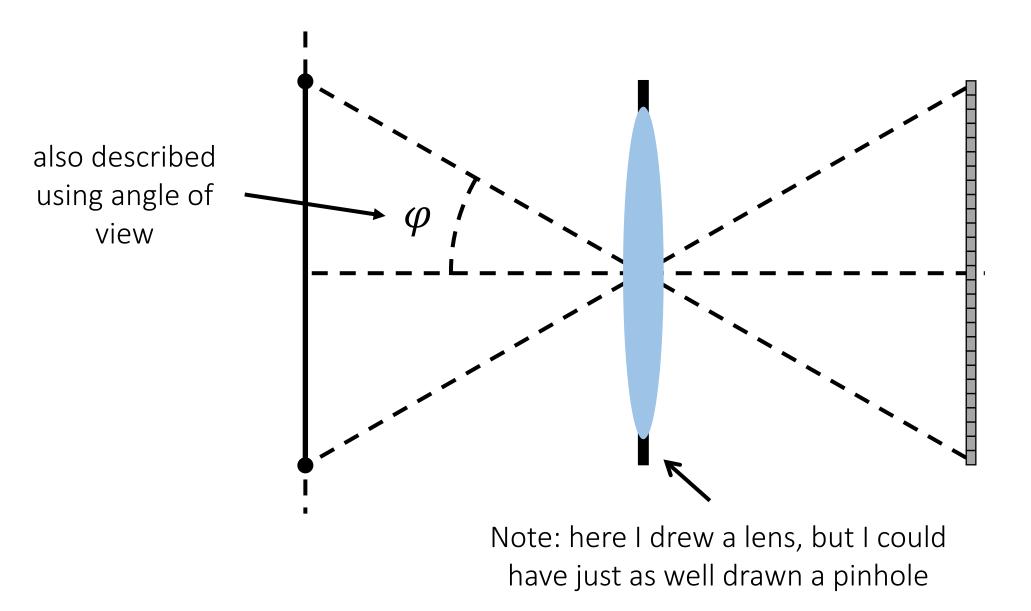
Doubling the aperture diameter:

- Increases light throughput by four times.
- Increases circle of confusion for out-offocus plane by two times.
- Decreases depth of field by two times.

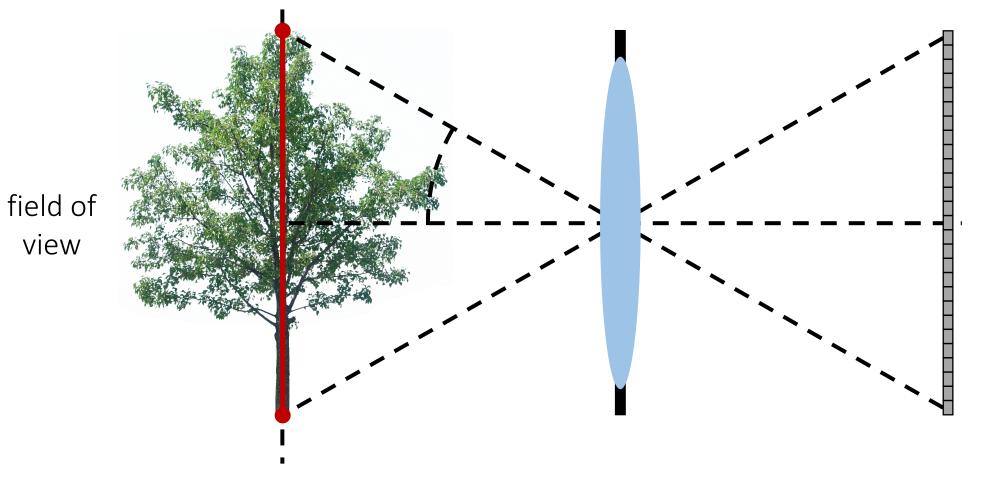


Doubling the aperture diameter:

- Increases light throughput by four times.
- Increases circle of confusion for all planes by two times.

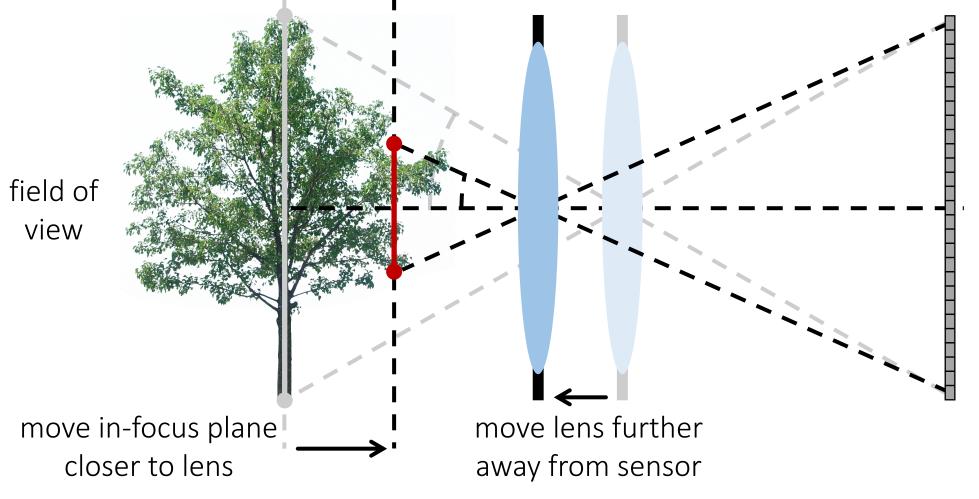


The part of the in-focus plane that gets mapped on the sensor.



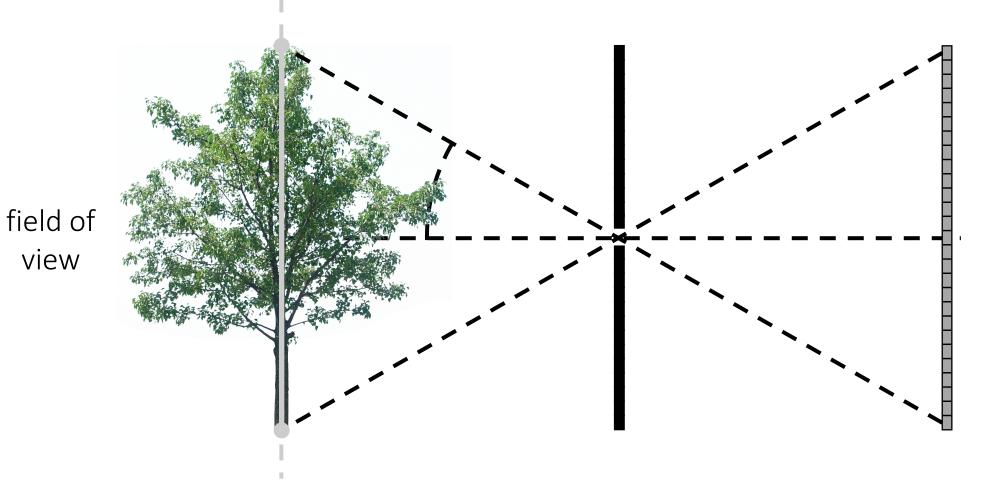
• What happens to field of view as we focus closer?

The part of the in-focus plane that gets mapped on the sensor.



• What happens to field of view as we focus closer? \rightarrow It becomes smaller.

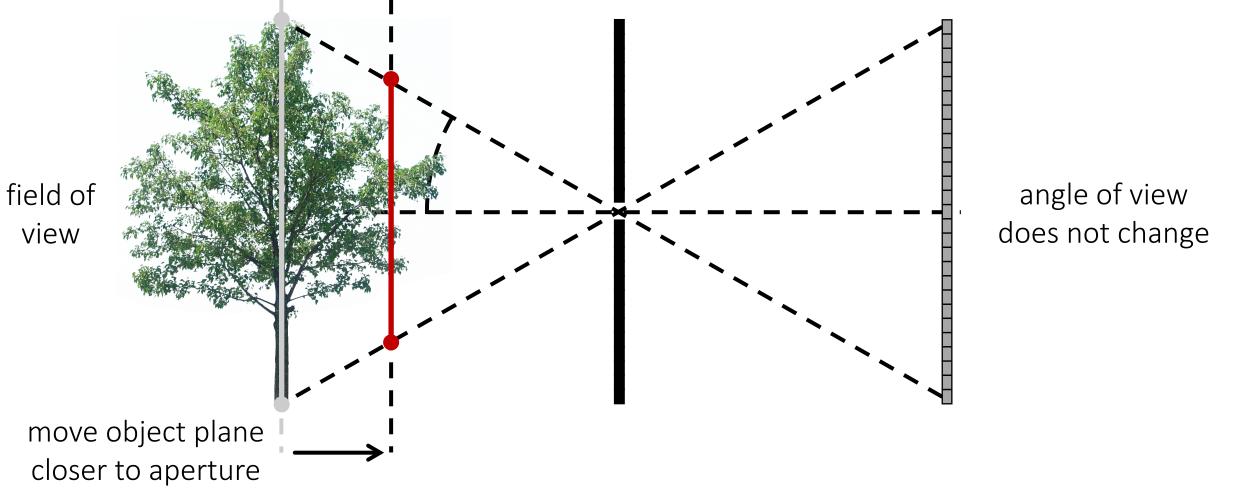
Comparison with pinhole camera



• What happens to field of view as we move closer?

Comparison with pinhole camera

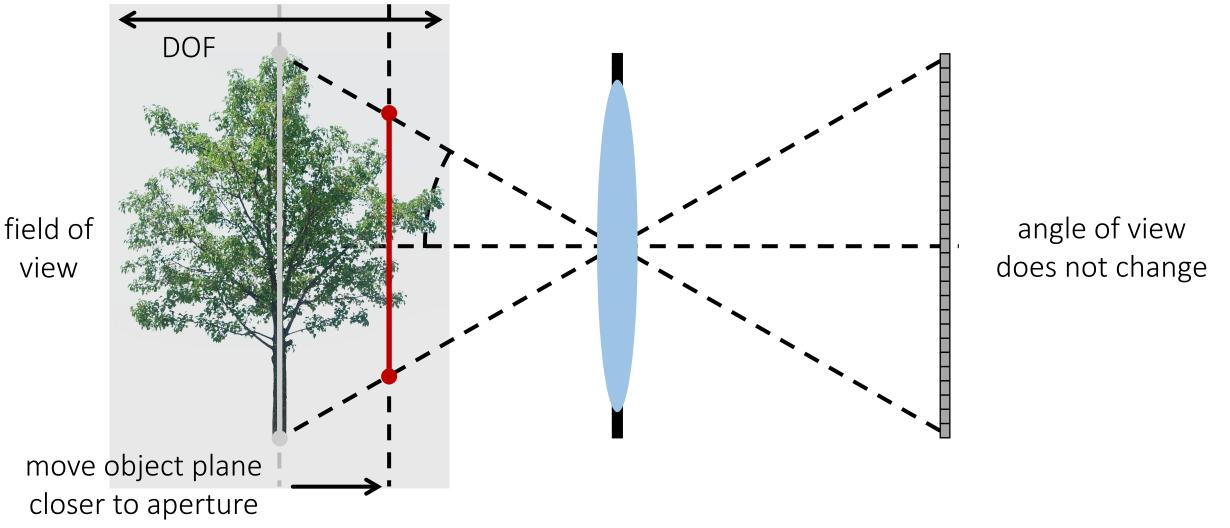
No need to refocus: we can move object closer without changing aperture-sensor distance.



• What happens to field of view as we move closer? \rightarrow It becomes smaller, but amount differs.

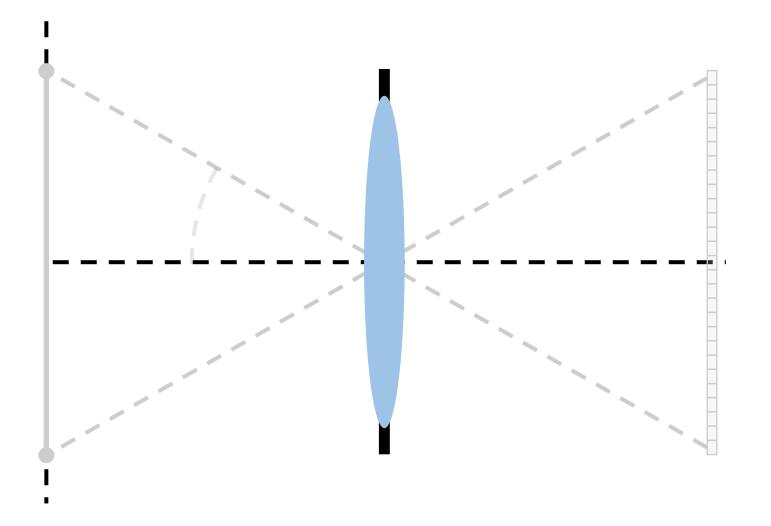
Comparison with pinhole camera

No need to refocus: we can move object closer without changing aperture-sensor distance.



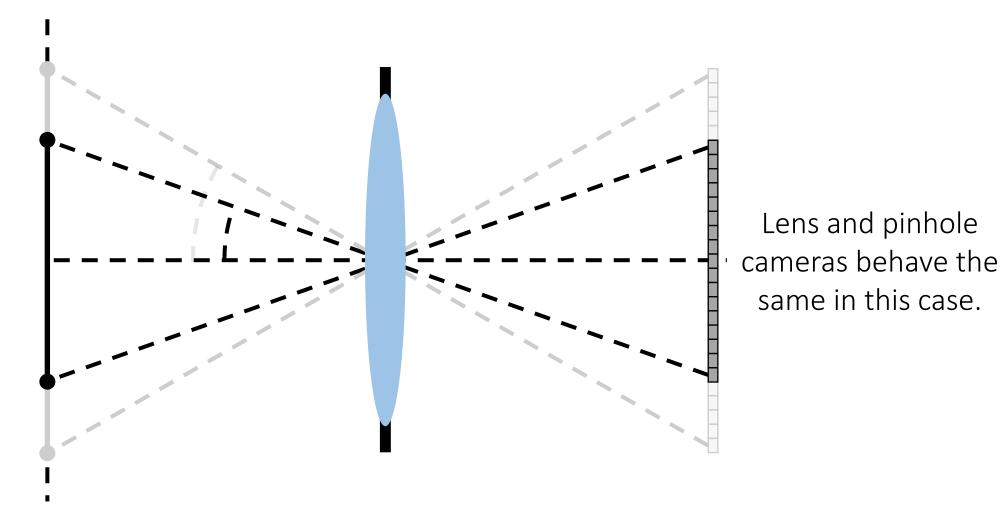
This can be done with a lens *only if* depth of field is large enough. Then the two behave the same.

Field of view also depends on sensor size



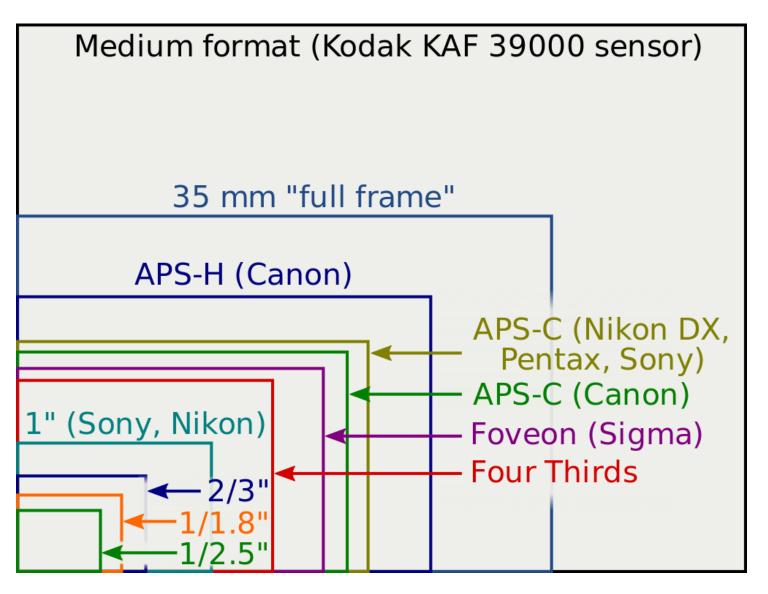
• What happens to field of view when we reduce sensor size?

Field of view also depends on sensor size



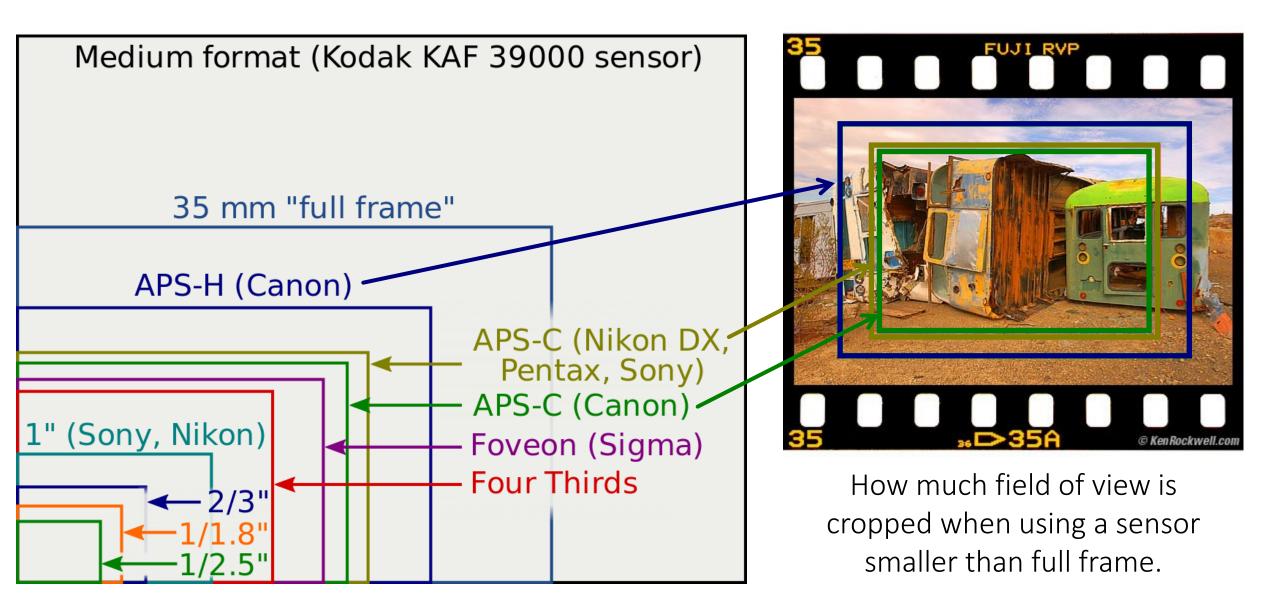
What happens to field of view when we reduce sensor size? \rightarrow It decreases.

Field of view also depends on sensor size



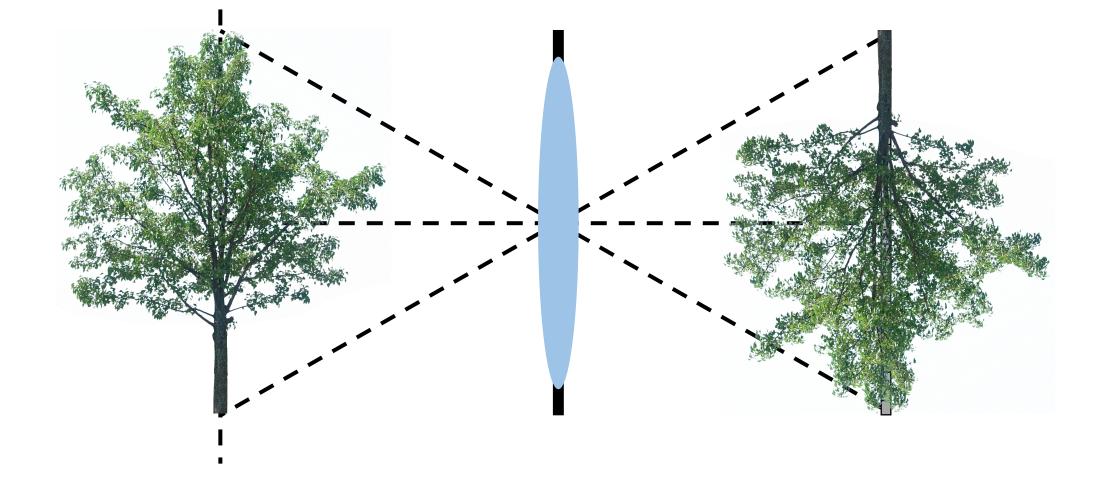
- "Full frame" corresponds to standard film size.
- Digital sensors come in smaller formats due to manufacturing limitations (now mostly overcome).
- Lenses are often described in terms of field of view on film instead of focal length.
- These descriptions are invalid when not using full-frame sensor.

Crop factor

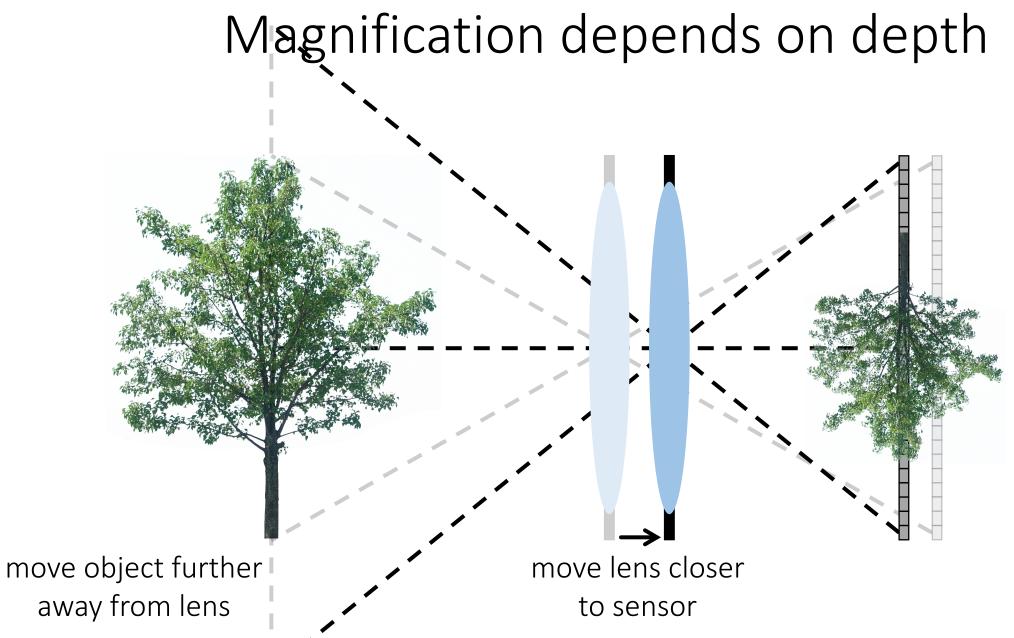


Magnification and perspective

Magnification depends on depth

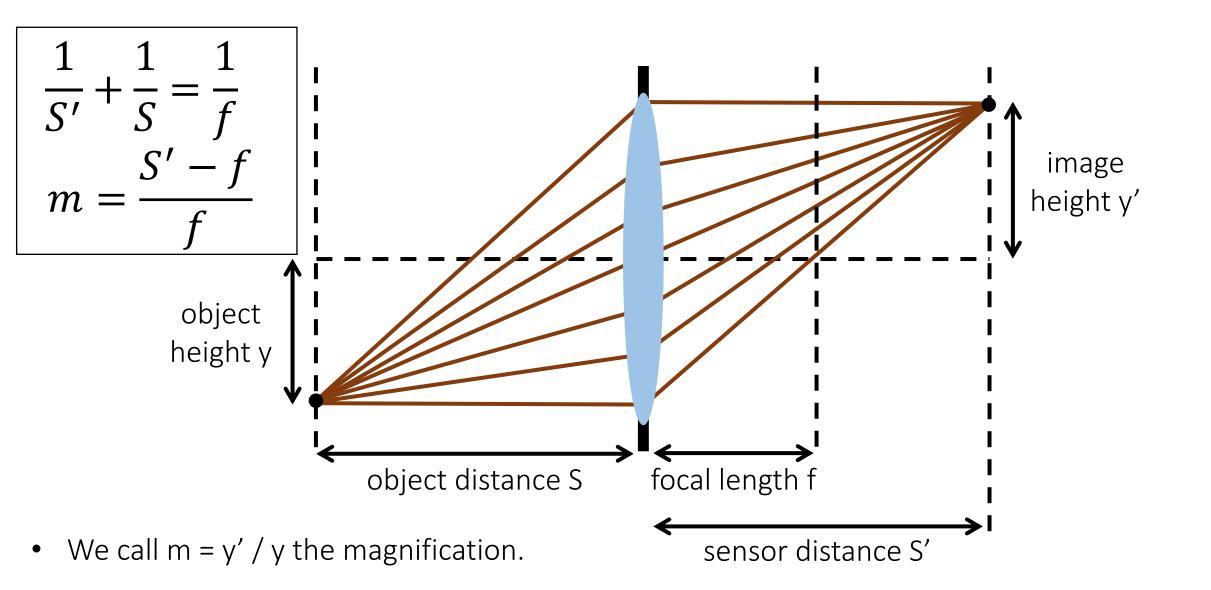


What happens to magnification as we focus further away?



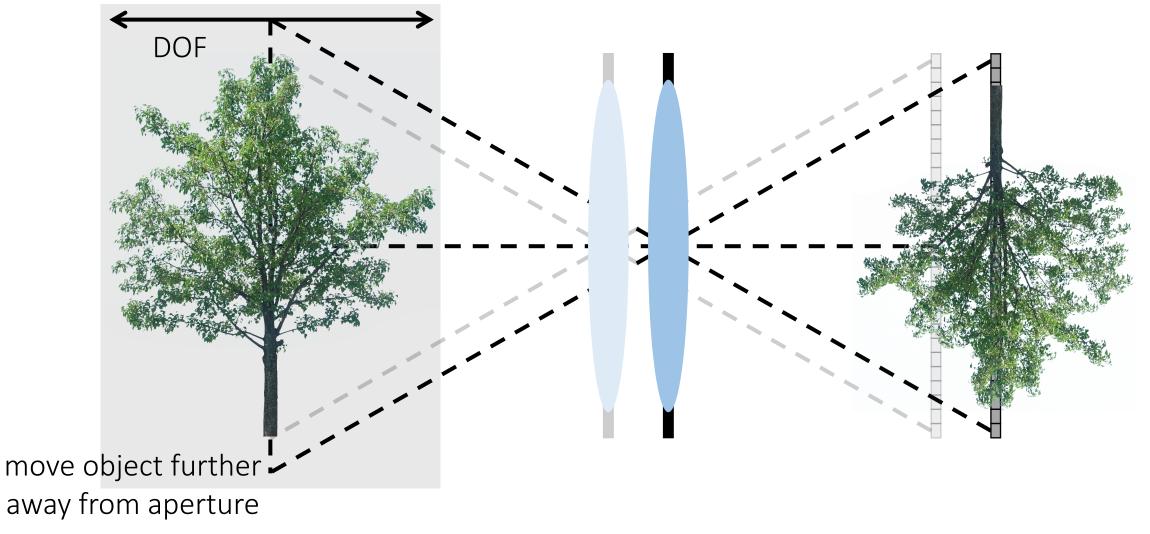
• What happens to magnification as we focus further? \rightarrow It becomes smaller.

Magnification depends on depth



Comparison with pinhole camera

No need to refocus: we can move object further without changing aperture-sensor distance.



This can be done with a lens *only if* depth of field is large enough. Then the two behave the same.

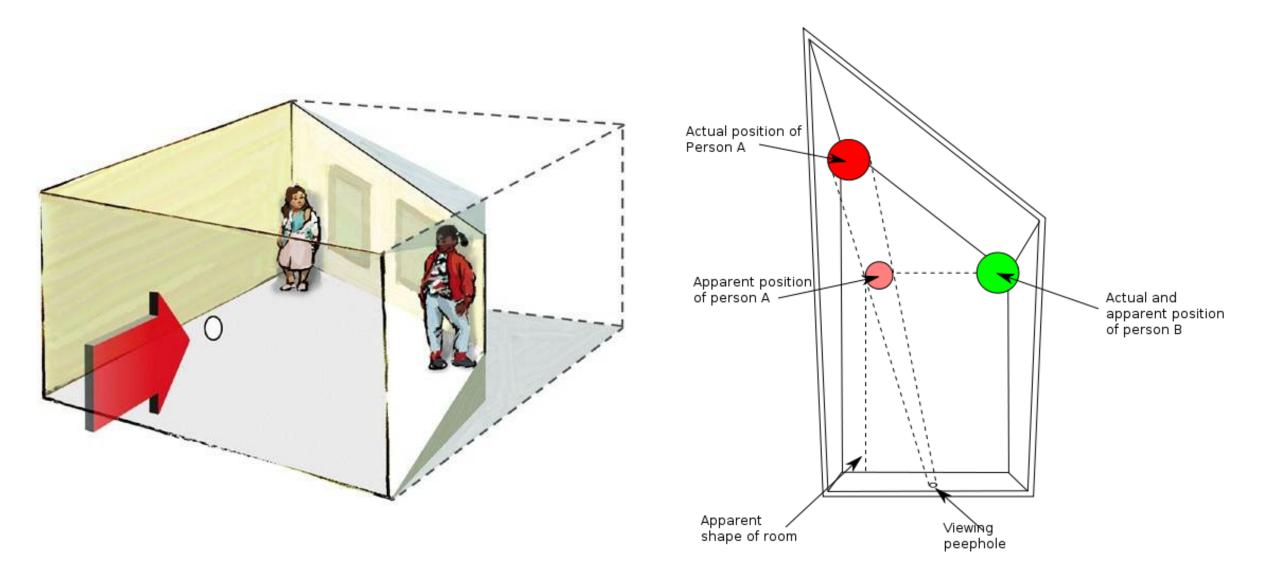
Forced perspective



The Ames room illusion



The Ames room illusion



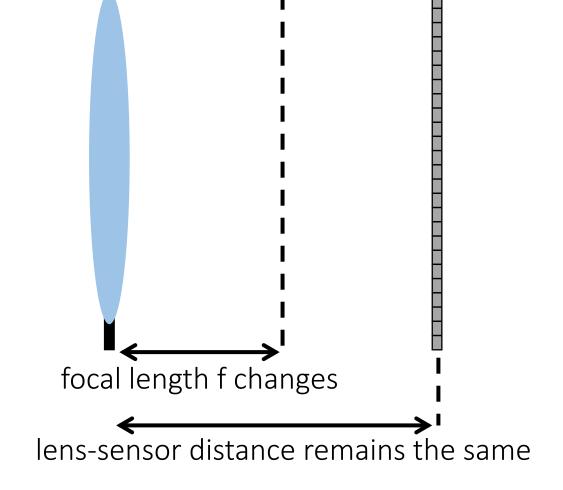
The arrow illusion

Prof. Kokichi Sugihara has many other amazing illusions involving perspective distortion, check them out on YouTube or on his website: <u>http://www.isc.meiji.ac.jp/~kokichis/</u>

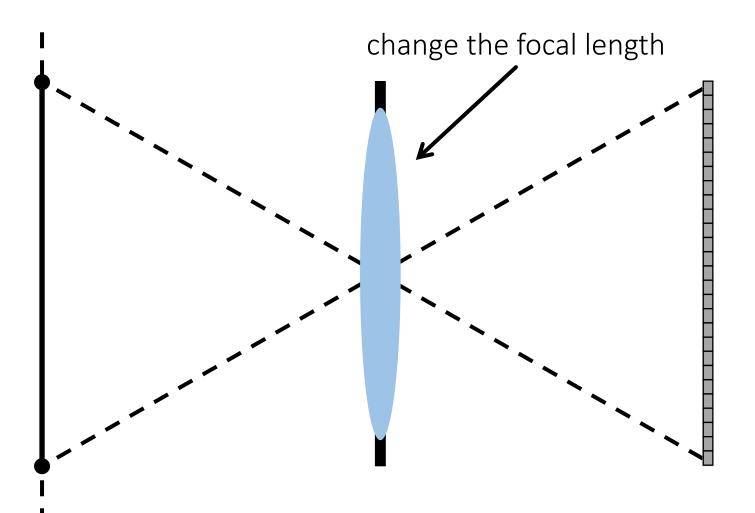
Zooming

Zooming means changing the focal length

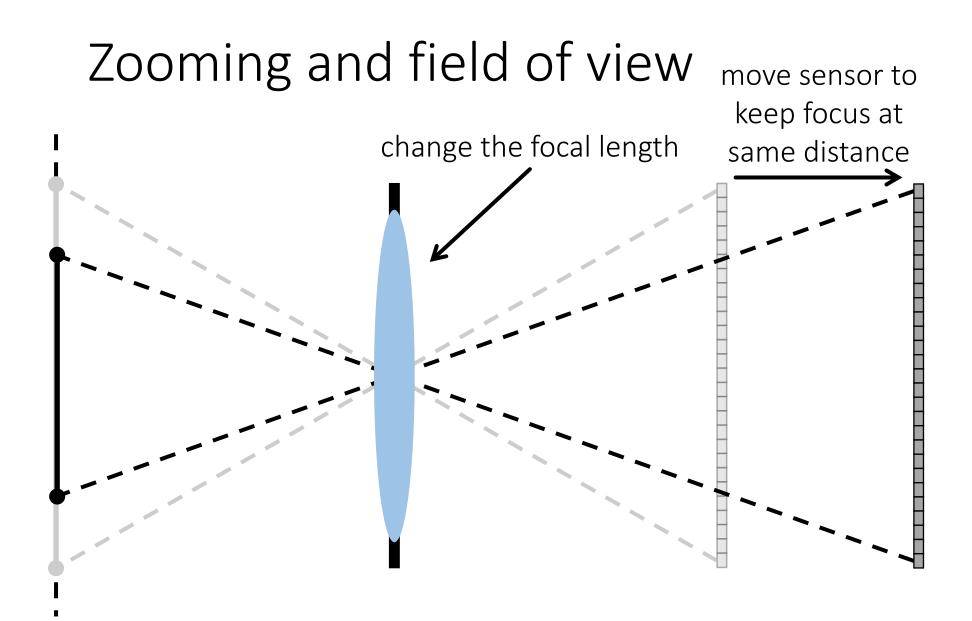
Very different process from refocusing



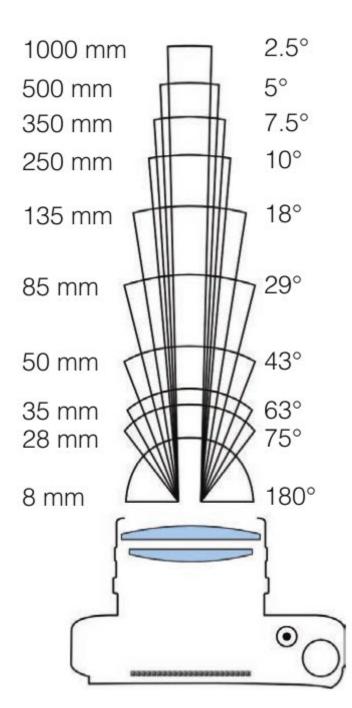
Zooming and field of view



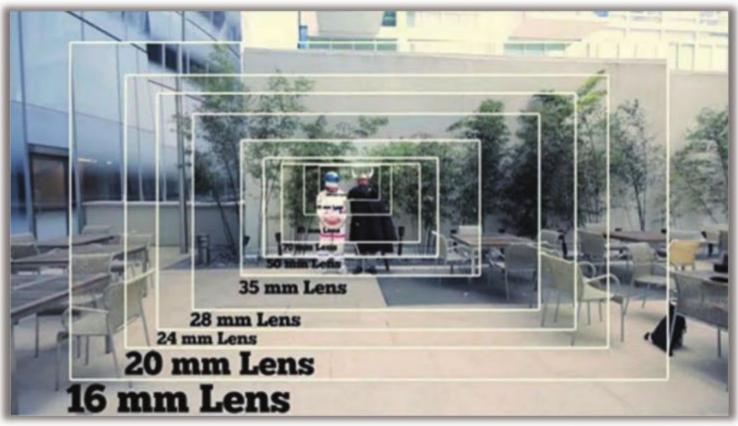
- What happens to field of view when we focus closer? \rightarrow It decreases.
- What happens to field of view when we increase <u>lens</u> focal length?



• When we increase lens focal length, field of view decreases (we "zoom in").



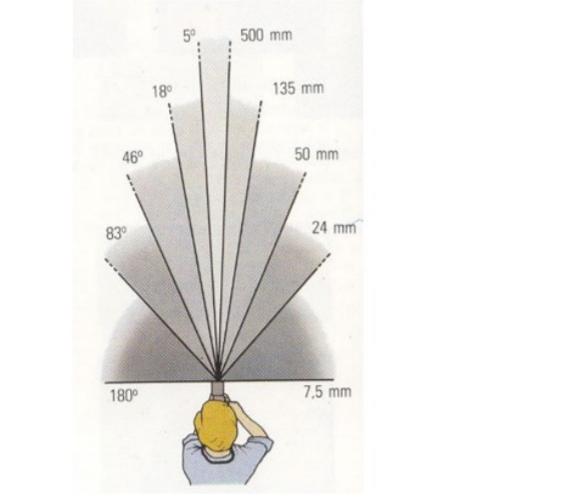
Field of view



Andrew McWilliams

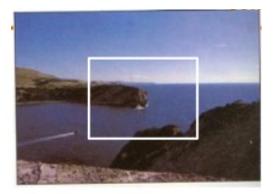
Field of view

Increasing the <u>lens</u> focal length is similar to cropping

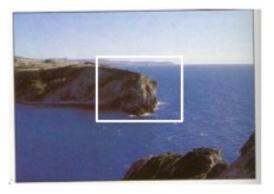


Is this effect identical to cropping?





f = 50 mm







The lens on your camera

Focus ring: controls distance of lens from sensor



Zoom ring: controls focal length of lens

Focusing versus zooming

When you turn the focus ring to bring lens further-away from the sensor:

- 1. The in-focus distance decreases (you need to get closer to object).
- 2. The field of view decreases (you see a smaller part of the object).
- 3. The magnification increases (same part of the object is bigger on sensor).

When you turn the zoom ring to decrease the focal length of the lens:

- 1. The in-focus distance increases (you need to move away from the object).
- 2. The field of view increases (you see a larger part of the object).
- 3. The magnification decreases (same part of the object is smaller on sensor).

Focusing versus zooming

When you turn the focus ring to bring lens further-away from the sensor:

- 1. The in-focus distance decreases (you need to get closer to object).
- 2. The field of view decreases (you see a smaller part of the object).
- 3. The magnification increases (same part of the object is bigger on sensor).

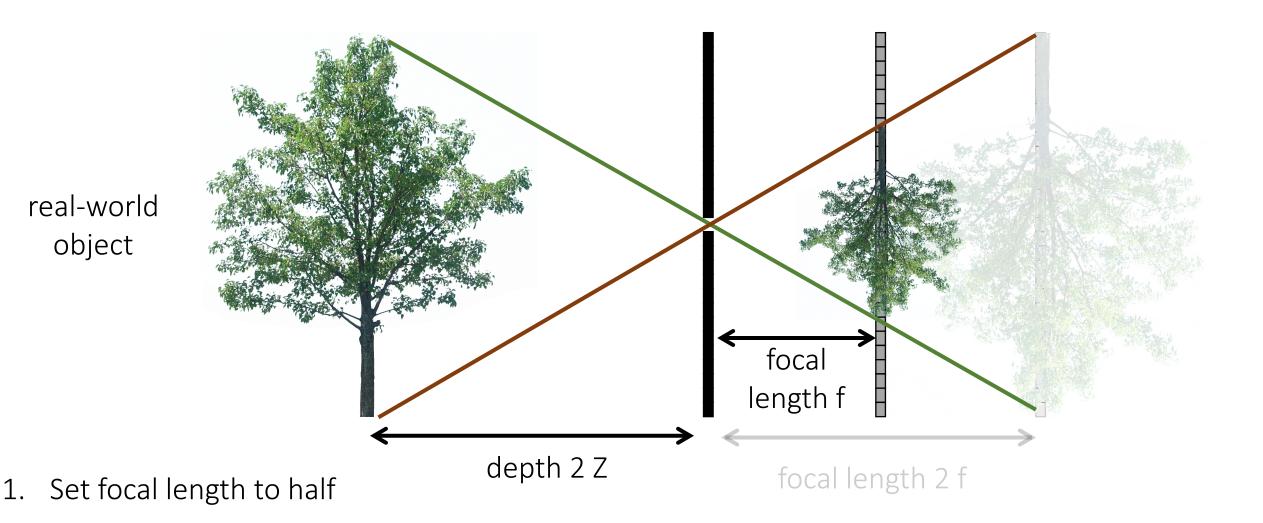
When you turn the zoom ring to decrease the focal length of the lens:

- 1. The in-focus distance increases (you need to move away from the object).
- 2. The field of view increases (you see a larger part of the object).
- 3. The magnification decreases (same part of the object is smaller on sensor).

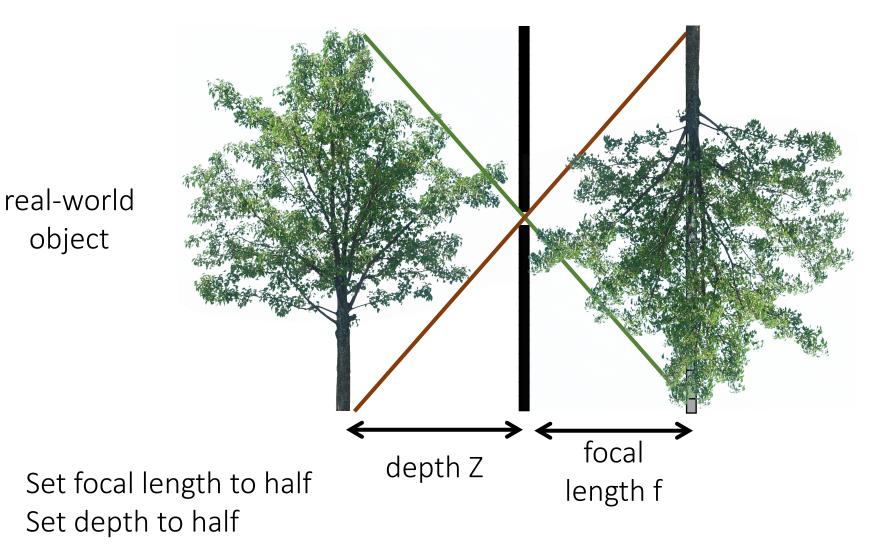
We can use both focus

 and zoom to cancel out their effects.

What if...



What if...



2.

Is this the same image as the one we had at focal length 2f and distance 2Z?

Similar construction can be done with lenses, after taking care of refocusing.

Perspective distortion

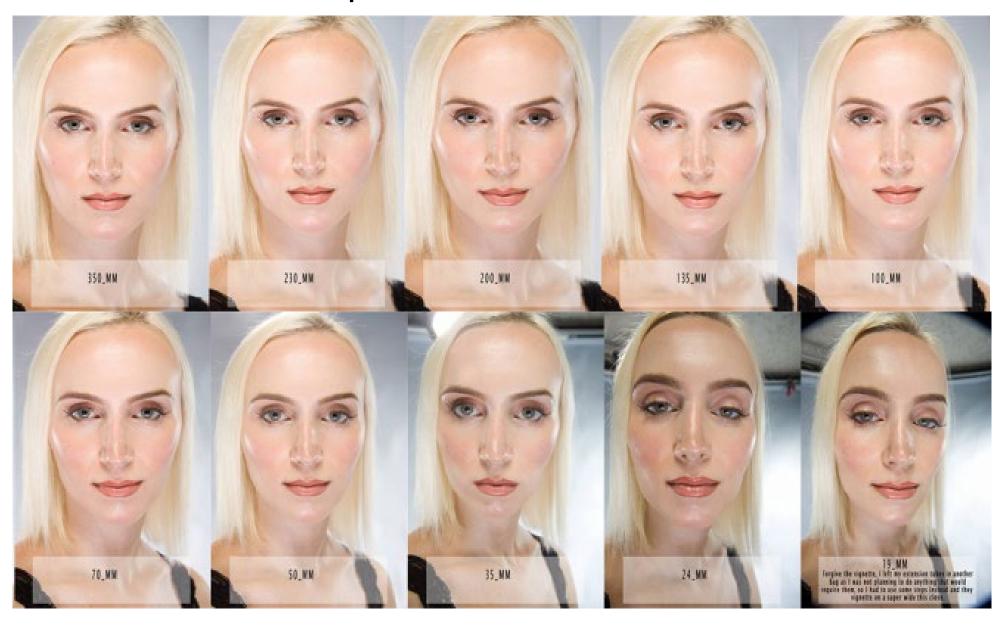


long focal length

mid focal length

short focal length

Perspective distortion



What is the best focal length for portraits?

That's like asking which is better, vi or emacs...



long focal length

mid focal length

short focal length

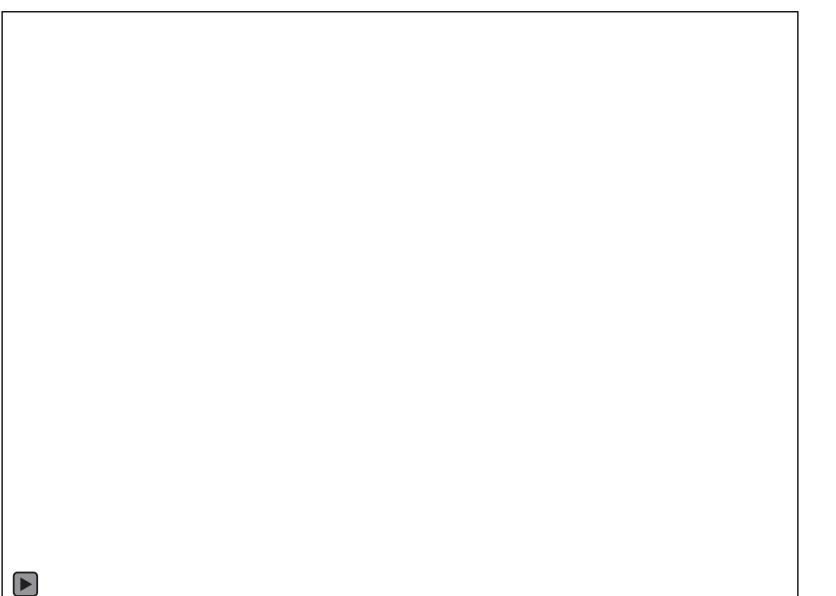
Vertigo effect

Named after Alfred Hitchcock's movie

• also known as "dolly zoom"



Vertigo effect



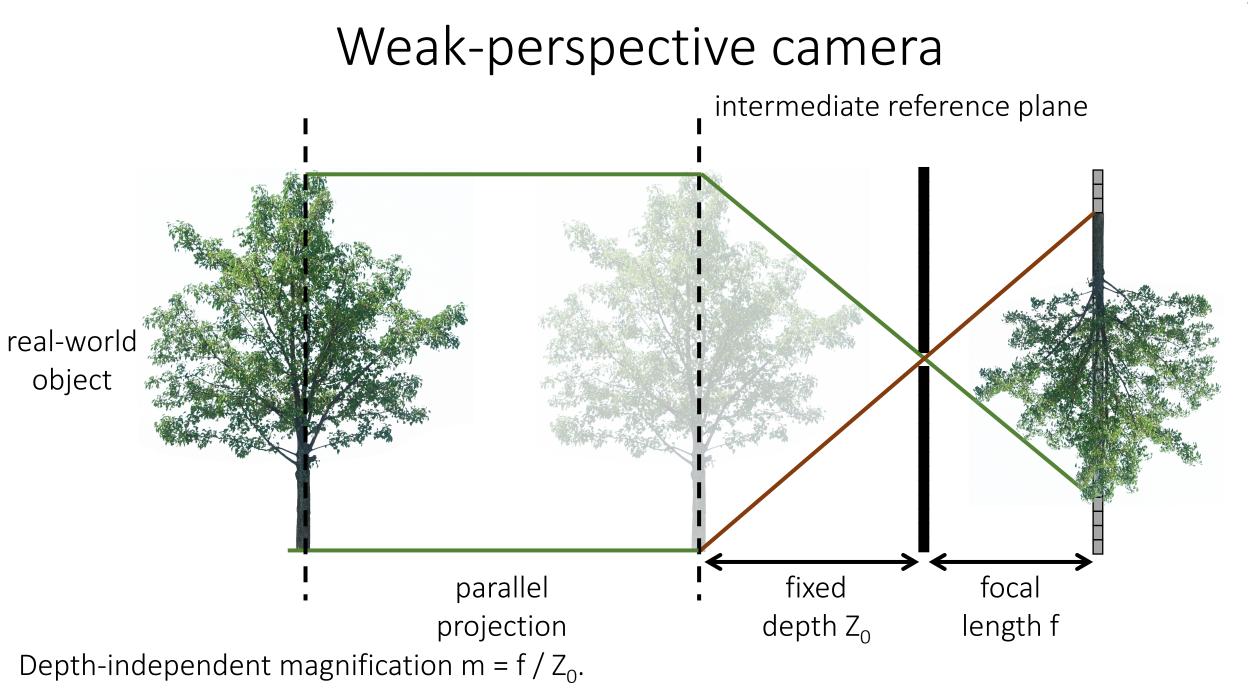
How would you create this effect?

Orthographic camera and telecentric lenses

Can we make magnification depth-independent?

Orthographic camera intermediate reference plane real-world object parallel fixed focal depth Z₀ projection length f

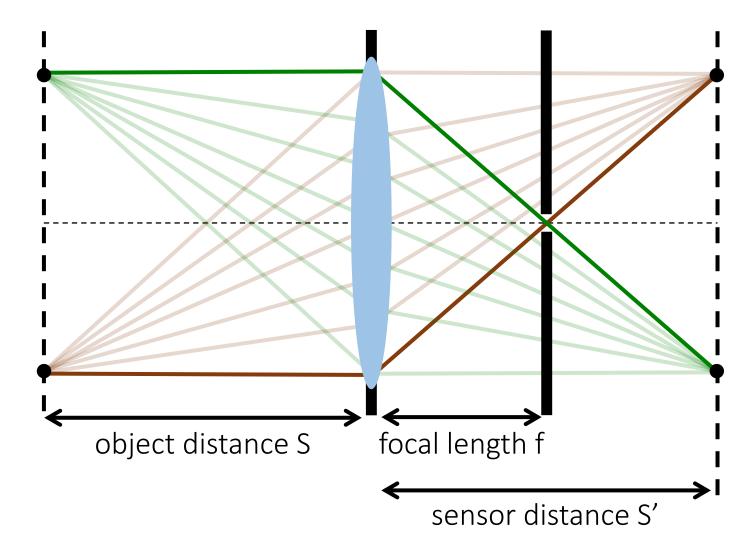
Depth-independent magnification m = 1 (real-life size).



How can we implement such a camera with lenses?

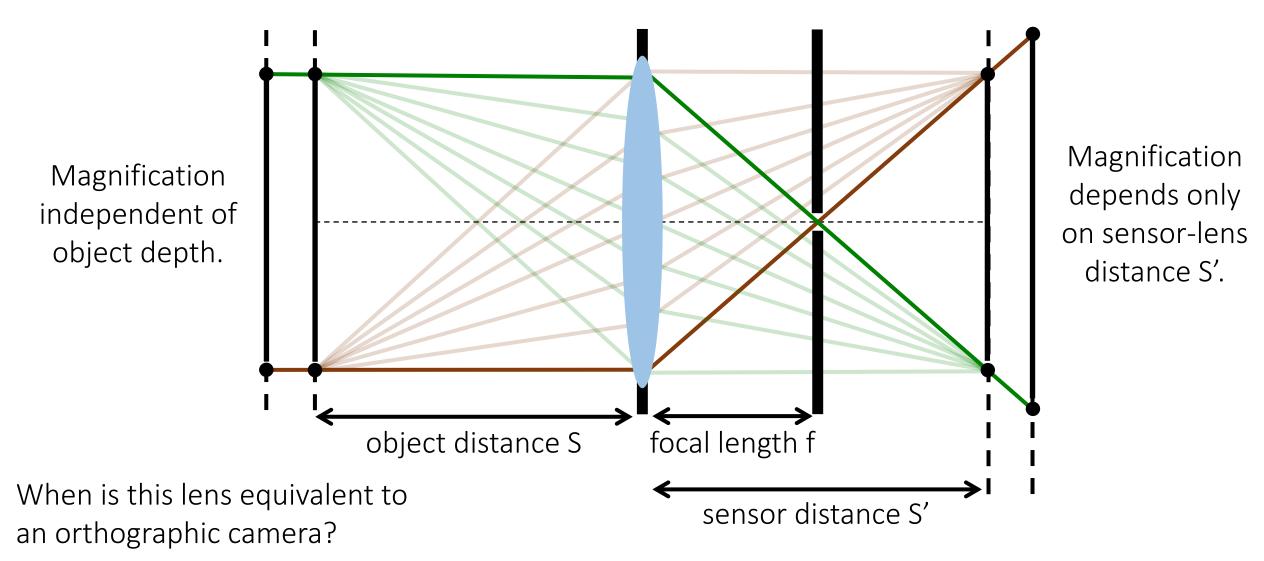
Telecentric lens

Place a pinhole at focal length, so that only rays parallel to primary ray pass through.

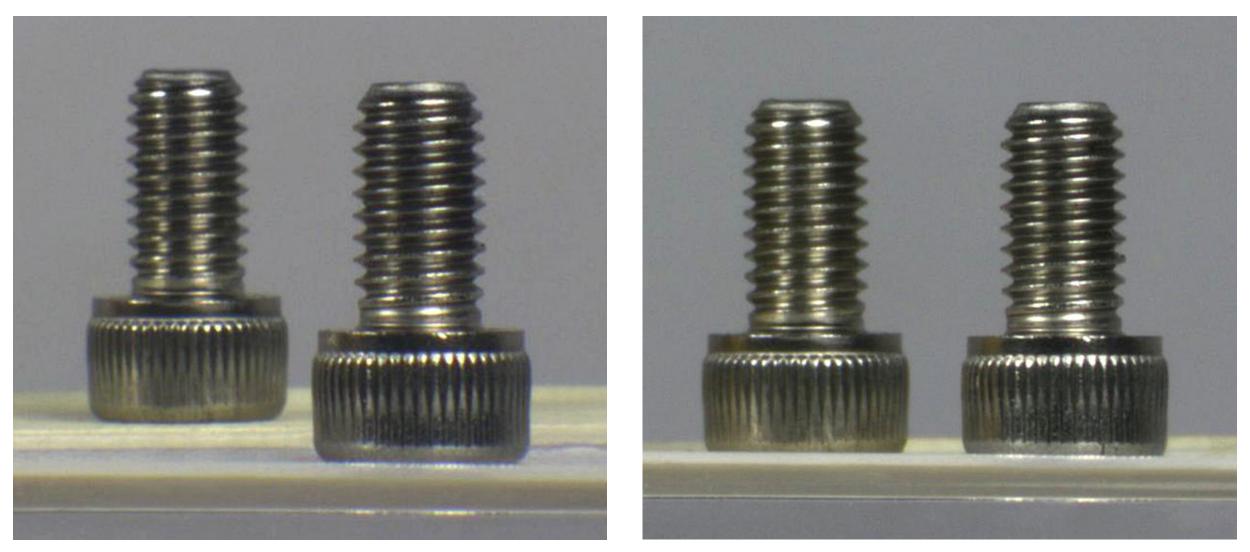


Telecentric lens

Place a pinhole at focal length, so that only rays parallel to primary ray pass through.



Regular vs telecentric lens



regular lens

telecentric lens

References

Basic reading:

- Szeliski textbook, Section 2.1.5, 2.2.3.
- Pedrotti, Pedrotti, and Pedrotti, Introduction to Optics.

Chapters 2 and 3 have a detailed overview of basic geometric optics and lenses.

Additional reading:

- Hartley and Zisserman, "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision," Cambridge University Press 2004. Chapter 6 of this book is a very thorough treatment of camera models.
- Goodman, "Introduction to Fourier Optics," W.H. Freeman 2004. The standard reference on Fourier optics, chapter 4 covers aperture diffraction.
- Ray, "Applied Photographic Optics," Focal Press 2002. A great book covering everything about photographic optics.
- Torralba and Freeman, "Accidental Pinhole and Pinspeck Cameras," CVPR 2012. The eponymous paper discussed in the slides.
- Watanabe and Nayar, "Telecentric Optics for Focus Analysis," PAMI 1997.
 An early computational photography paper analyzing the ray optics and explaining the advantages and disadvantages of telecentric lenses relative to conventional lenses.