

The Eye

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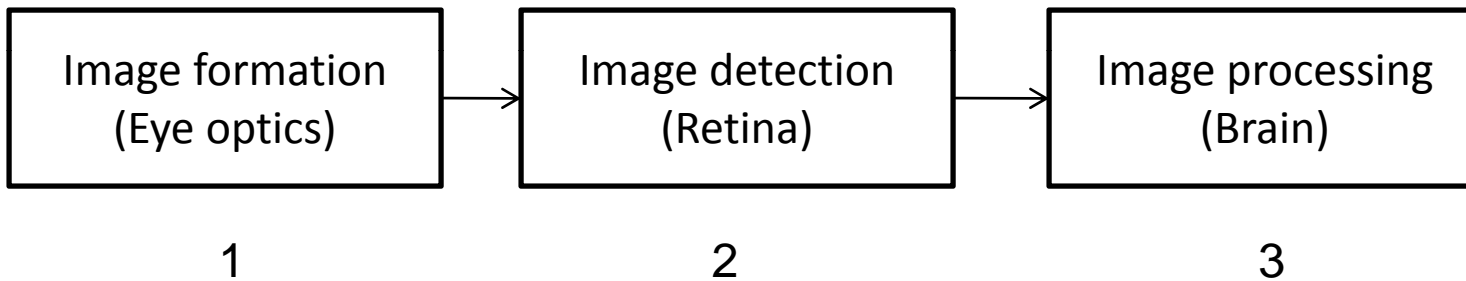
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<http://light.ece.uiuc.edu>



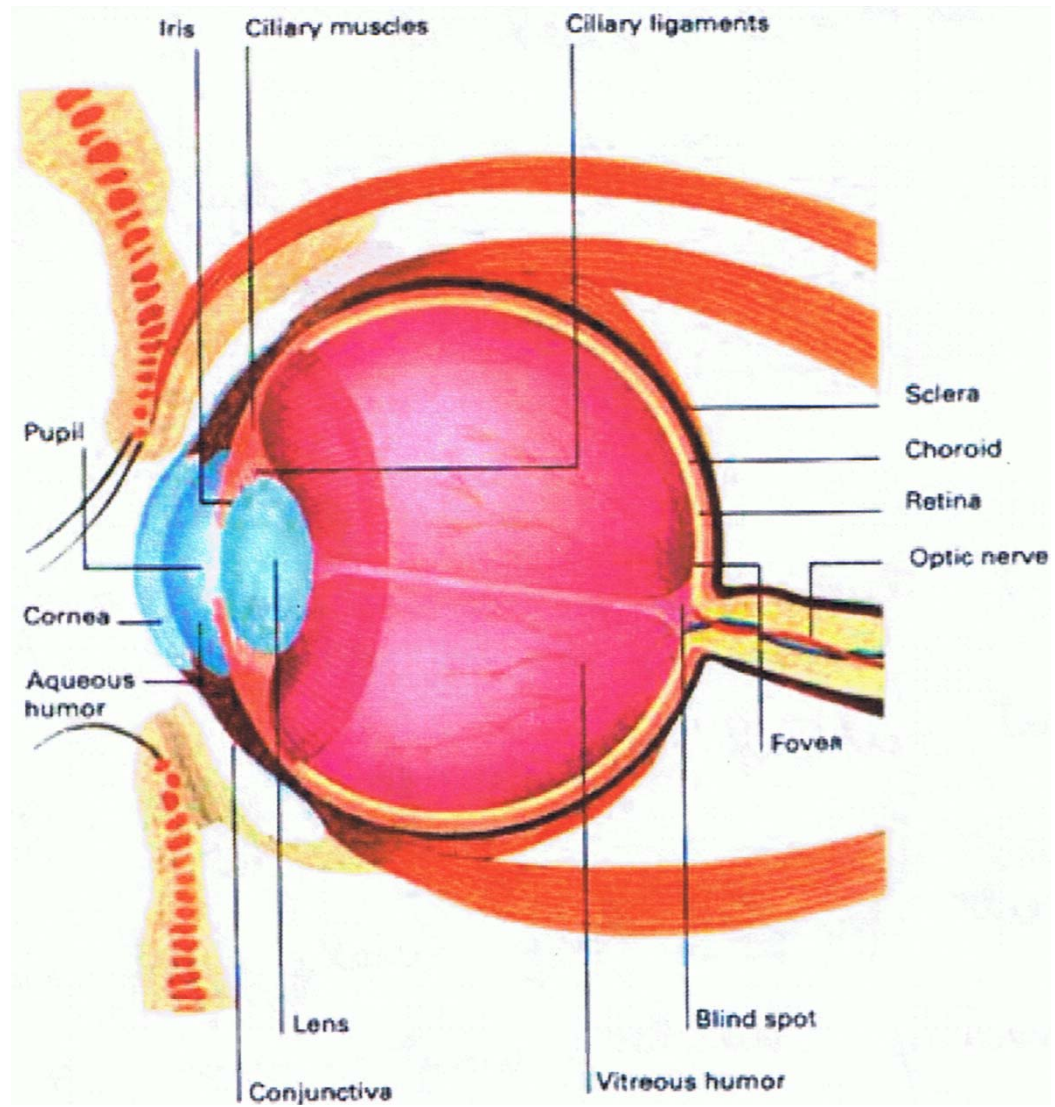
Introduction

- How do we see?
- There are 3 steps:





Introduction





1. Eye optics

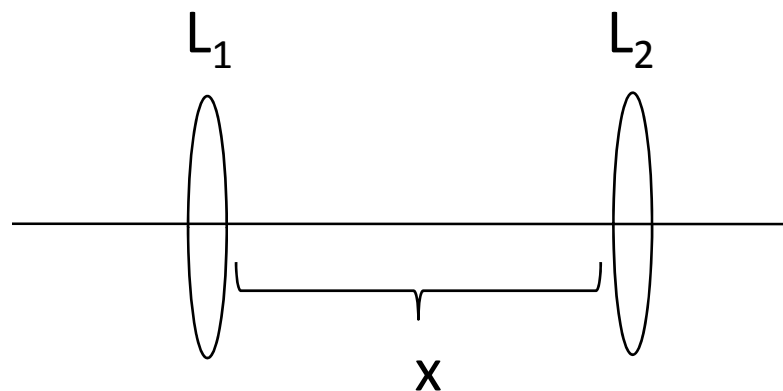
a) The reduced eye:

- The main optical components are: anterior cornea & lens
- Cornea: $n = 1.37$ (air: $n = 1$) \rightarrow high power (convergence)

$$C = \frac{\Delta n}{f}$$

- cornea: $C = 40\text{m}^{-1} = 40\text{d}$
- lens: $C = 17\text{ m}^{-1} = 40\text{d}$

- Equivalent to:

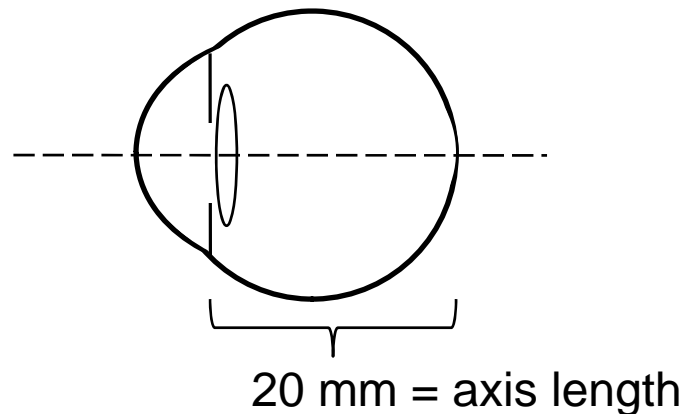




1. Eye optics

$$C = \frac{1}{f} = \frac{1}{f_1} + \frac{1}{f_2} - \frac{x}{nf_1f_2} = \text{equivalent power} \quad (1)$$

- Or even reduce it further to 1 lens
- One lens placed just behind the iris, i.e. 20 mm from retina, power = 50d





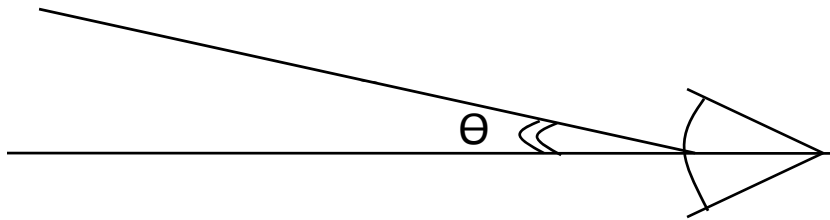
1. Eye optics

- Note $C = \frac{1}{20\text{mm}} = \frac{1}{0.2\text{m}} = 50\text{d} \rightarrow$ retina at back focal plane
- $\frac{2}{3}C$ comes from cornea
- $\frac{1}{3}C$ comes from lens!
- The lens changes its curvature, thus its power, but its role is to adapt \rightarrow most of convergence comes from cornea



1. Eye optics

b) Visual acuity:



- The smallest angle for which the eye still solves the 2 objects (resolution angle)

- $v = \frac{1}{\theta}$; $[\theta] = \text{arc minute}$; $1 \text{ minute} = \frac{1}{60} \text{ deg} = \frac{1}{60} \frac{2\pi}{360} \text{ rad} \approx 0.3 \text{ mrad}$
 - Visual acuity

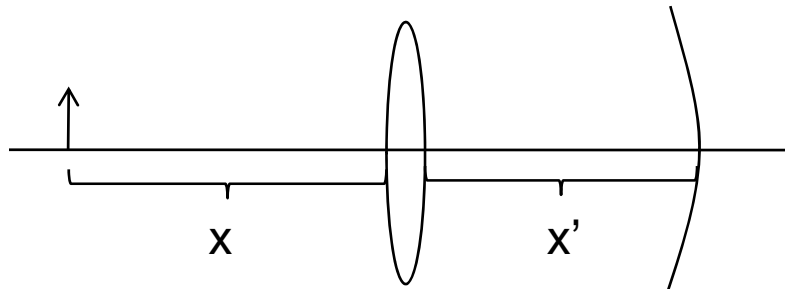


1. Eye optics

c) The relaxed eye

- Relaxed = no accommodation
 - Lens = the flattest, lowest power
 - Looking far away
- Define net power, NP:

$$NP = C - \frac{1}{\text{axis length}} = \frac{1}{f} - \frac{1}{x'}$$



$$NP = \frac{1}{x}$$



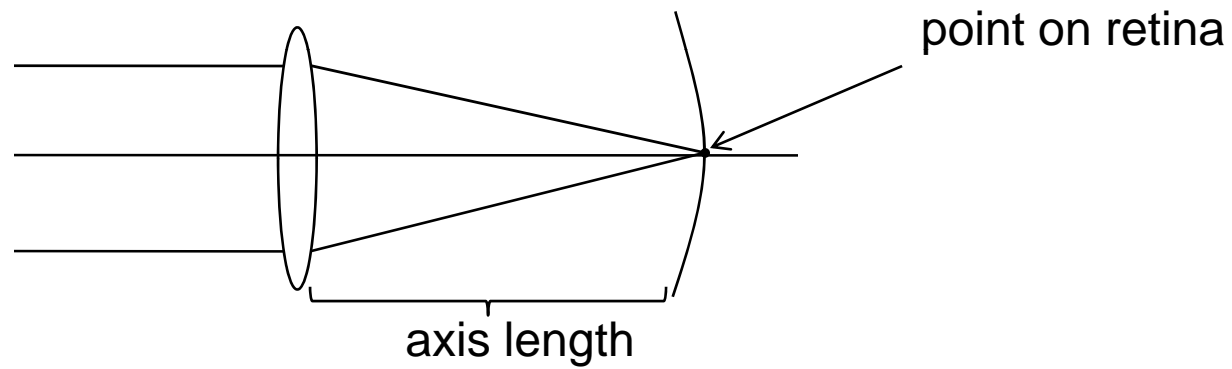
1. Eye optics

- We have 3 distinct cases:
 - $NP = 0$ → Emmetropic eye
 - $NP < 0$ → Hyperopic
 - $NP > 0$ → Myopic



1. Eye optics

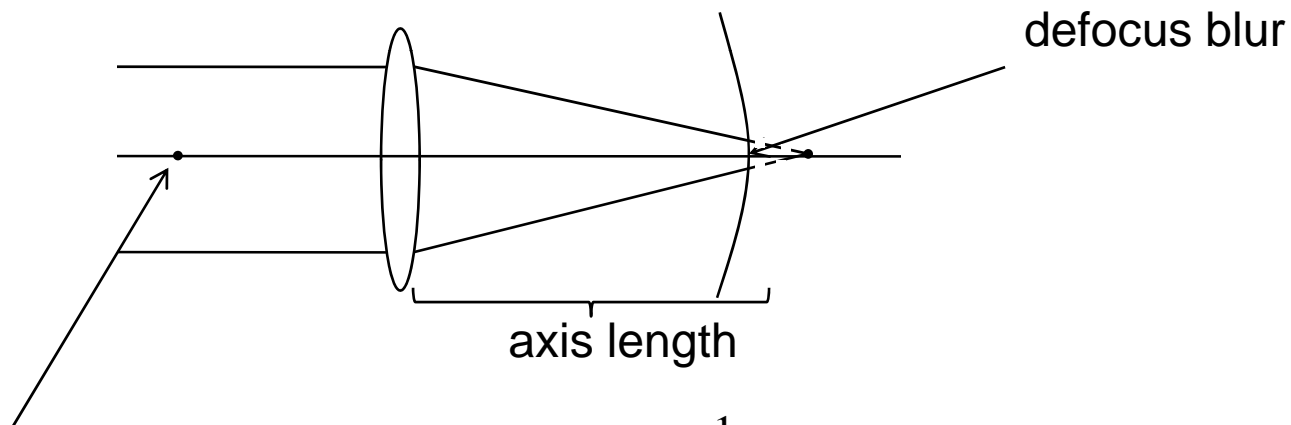
- Emmetropic eye: $NP = 0$





1. Eye optics

- Hyperopic: $NP < 0$ (confusing names)



as if the object is closer ($NP = \frac{1}{x} < 0$)

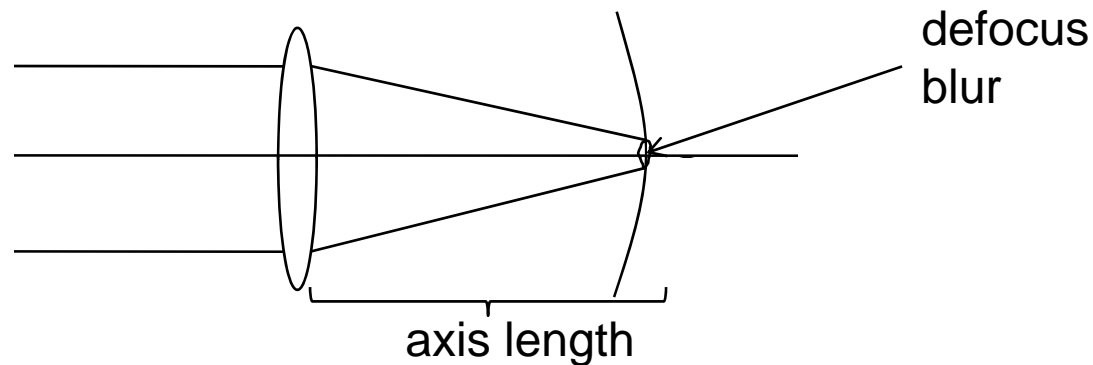
decrease the object distance for good image

- Correction → positive lens



1. Eye optics

- Myopic: $NP > 0$



- correction? $\frac{1}{x} > 0!!!$
- Clinical language: “state of refraction”
- Refers to the power needed for correction:
Eg. “-2s myopic” \rightarrow needs -2s to make $NP = 0$



1. Eye optics

d) Importance of pupil size:

- Pupil is larger in the dark
- Large pupil \rightarrow larger aberrations
that $\sin\theta \neq \theta \rightarrow$ accommodation

e) Accommodation:

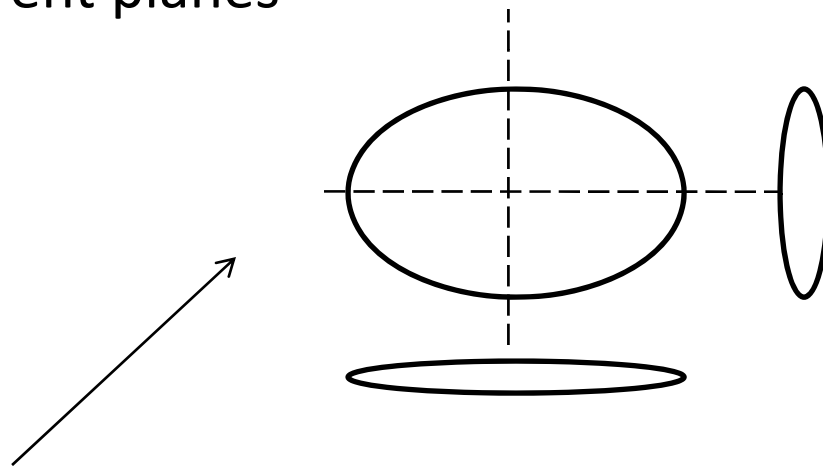
- Contraction/relaxation of ciliary muscle \rightarrow
 \rightarrow Lens changes curvature \rightarrow see closer object
- “presbiopia” = lens loses flexibility
- Range of accommodation: $NP_{\max} - NP_{\min}$



1. Eye optics

f) Astigmatism:

- The lens can be assymmetric, i.e. Different curvatures in different planes



Most common orientation (eyelids apply pressure?)



1. Eye optics

g) Corrections:

- Glasses, contact lens
- More extreme method: intraocular lenses & cornea
- Hyperopia → positive lenses (hyper)
 - Self accommodation for most cases
- Myopia → negative lenses (0.5s is already a problem)
- Presbyopia → different lenses for different distances
(eg. Reading & driving) → bifocal
- Astigmatism → astigmatic lenses (difficult with contact lenses)