

# Astronomie et astrophysique pour physiciens CUSO 2012

Instruments and observational  
techniques - Image formation

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# The observables

Propagation of light wave from **stable** source at infinity:

$$\vec{E}(\vec{x}, t) = \vec{A} \cdot e^{-i(\vec{k}\vec{x} - \omega \cdot t)}$$

which is a solution of **wave equations** if:

$c_n$  is the speed of light in a medium with refractive index  $n = n(k)$

$$c_n = \frac{\omega}{k}, \text{ where } k = |\vec{k}|$$

Independent observables are:

$\vec{A}$  = Amplitude of electric field

$(k_x, k_y)$  = Direction vector projected on sky

$\omega$  = Frequency or  $k$  = Wave vector

The distance between two spatial maxima of the light wave in a given medium and at fixed  $t$  is called wavelength and results to be:

$$\lambda_n = \frac{2\pi}{n(k) \cdot k}$$

# The observables

Astronomical spectroscopy aims at measuring:

$$\vec{A}(\nu, (k_x, k_y)) \quad \text{or} \quad \vec{A}(\lambda, (k_x, k_y))$$

At optical wavelength  $\nu = \omega/2\pi$  is  $10^{15}$  Hz, thus too fast to be resolved by detectors. The observable becomes the (surface) brightness or **specific intensity**  $I_\nu$  or  $I_\lambda$ :

$$I_\nu(k_x, k_y) = \overline{|\vec{E}_{\nu, \lambda}(t, \vec{x}_{obs})|^2}^t = \frac{1}{2} |\vec{A}(\nu, (k_x, k_y))|^2 \quad [\text{W m}^{-2} \text{ sterad}^{-1} \text{ Hz}^{-1}]$$

$$\text{or} \quad I_\lambda(k_x, k_y) = \frac{1}{2} |\vec{A}(\lambda, (k_x, k_y))|^2 \quad [\text{W m}^{-2} \text{ sterad}^{-1} \mu\text{m}^{-1}]$$

# The observables

Morphology:  $I(\alpha, \delta)$  and  $dI/dt(\alpha, \delta)$

- ✓ Source geometry and dynamics
- ✓ Time variations
- ✓ Interactions by gravity and radiation
- ✓ Cosomology

Imaging

# Imaging

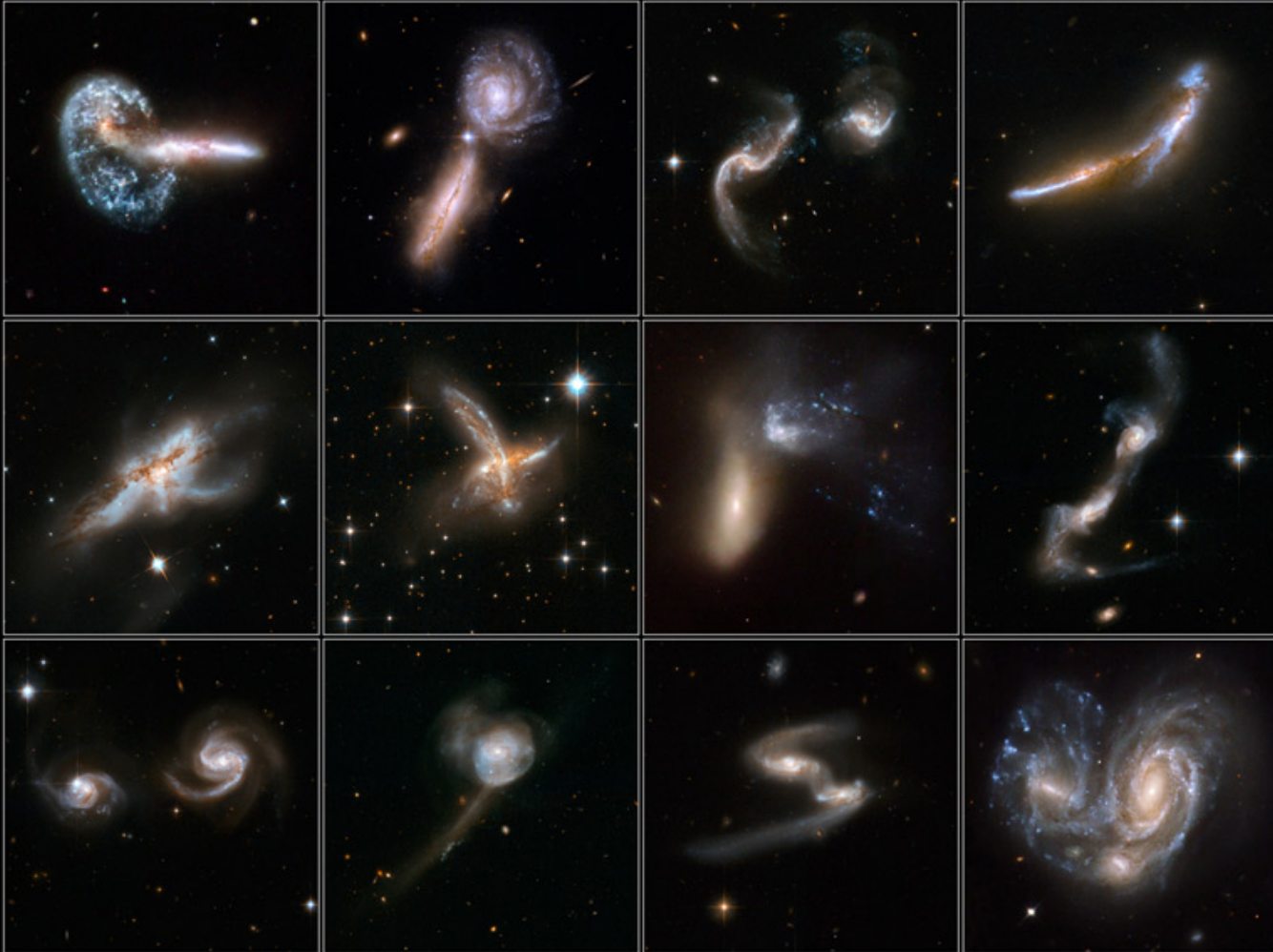
Galileo Galilei, 1609



# Imaging

Interacting Galaxies

Hubble Space Telescope • ACS/WFC • WFPC2



NASA, ESA, the Hubble Heritage (AURA/STScI)-ESA/Hubble Collaboration, and  
A. Evans (University of Virginia, Charlottesville/NRAO/Stony Brook University)

STScI-PRC08-16a

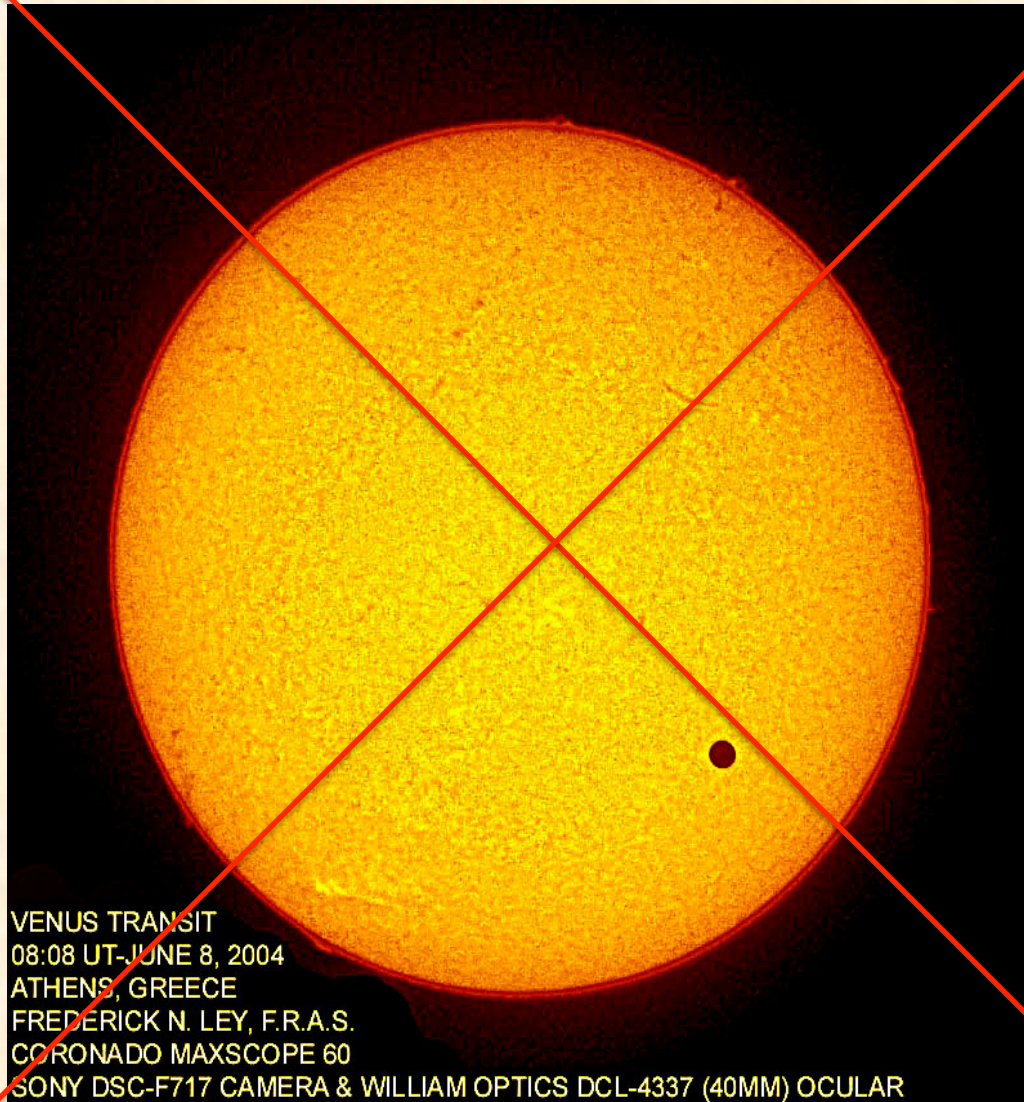
# The observables

Intensity/flux:  $I_{\alpha,\delta}(t)$  and  $dI_{\alpha,\delta}(t)/dt$

- ✓ Variability due to physics or perturbing object
- ✓ Periodic events
- ✓ Luminosity/distance/mass ('standard candle')

Photometry

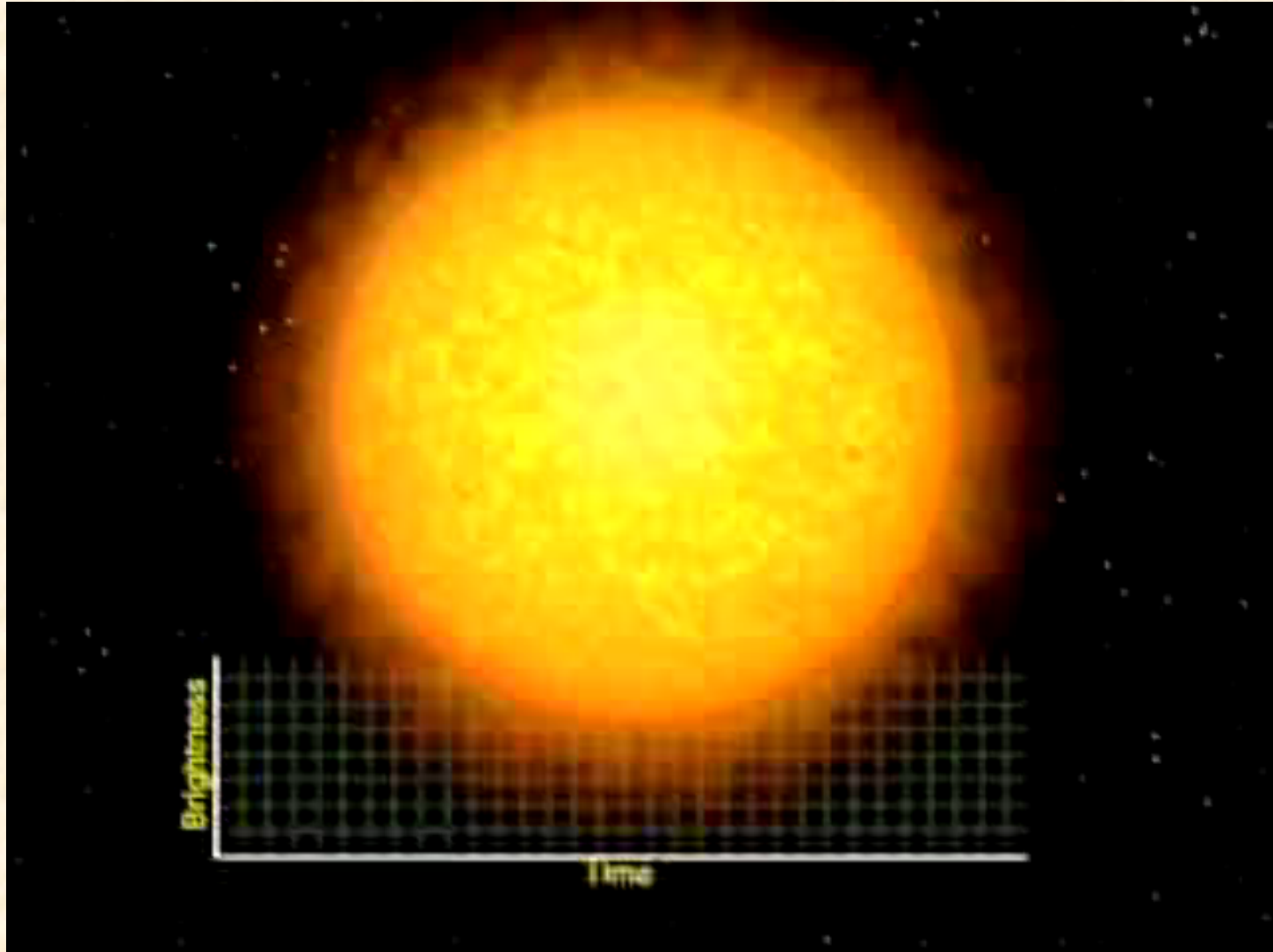
# Photometry



VENUS TRANSIT  
08:08 UT-JUNE 8, 2004  
ATHENS, GREECE  
FREDERICK N. LEY, F.R.A.S.  
CORONADO MAXSCOPE 60  
SONY DSC-F717 CAMERA & WILLIAM OPTICS DCL-4337 (40MM) OCULAR



# Photometry



# The observables

Polarisation:  $I_{p,s}(\alpha, \delta, \nu)$  and  $I_{p,s}(\alpha, \delta, \nu) / dt$

- ✓ Magnetic fields
- ✓ Physics of emitting medium
- ✓ Physics of intermediate medium

Polarimetry

# The observables

Position:  $\alpha_S$ ,  $\delta_S$  and  $d\alpha_S/dt$ ,  $d\delta_S/dt$

- ✓ Parallaxes  $\rightarrow$  distances
- ✓ Proper motion
- ✓ Kinematics and dynamics

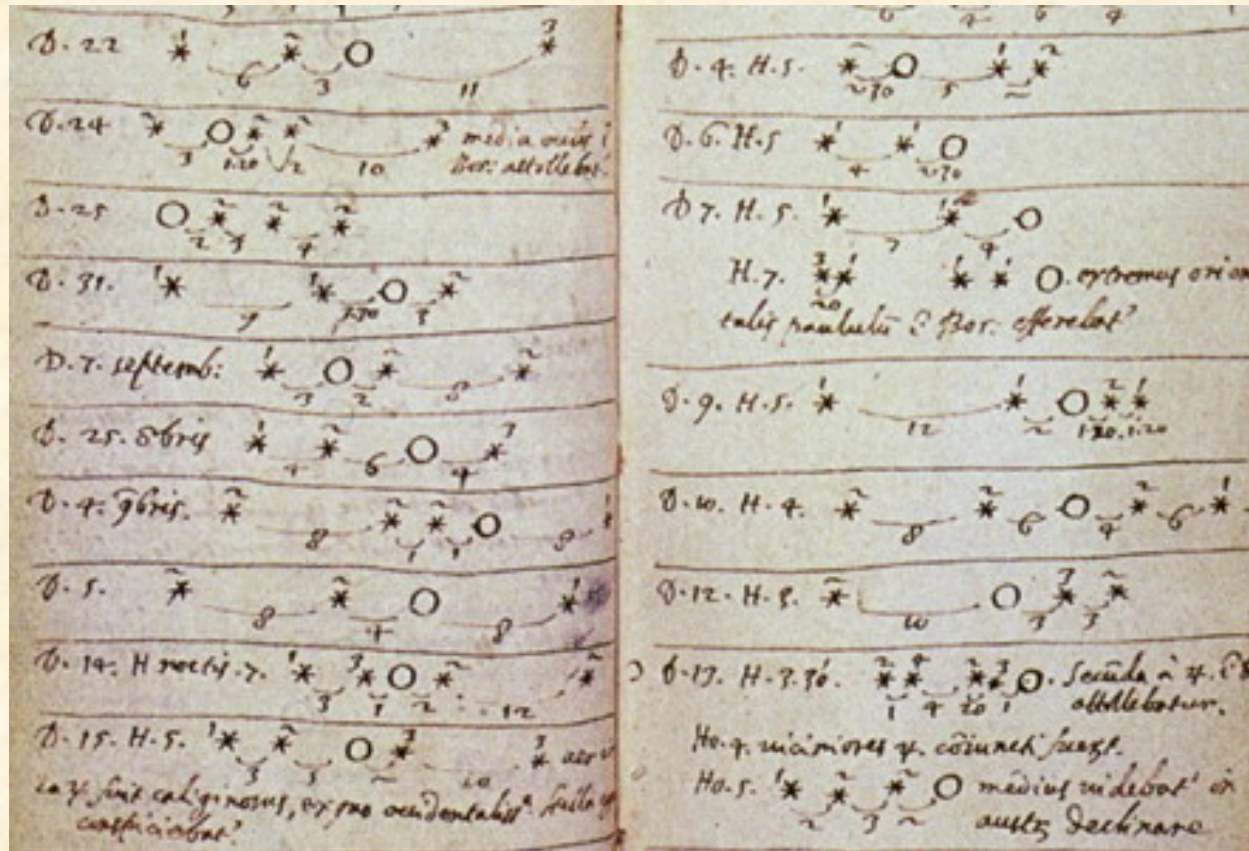
Astrometry

# Astrometry



Callisto  
Io  
Ganymede  
Europa

Galileo Galilei, 1609



# The observables

Spectrum: Flux density (integrated surface brightness)

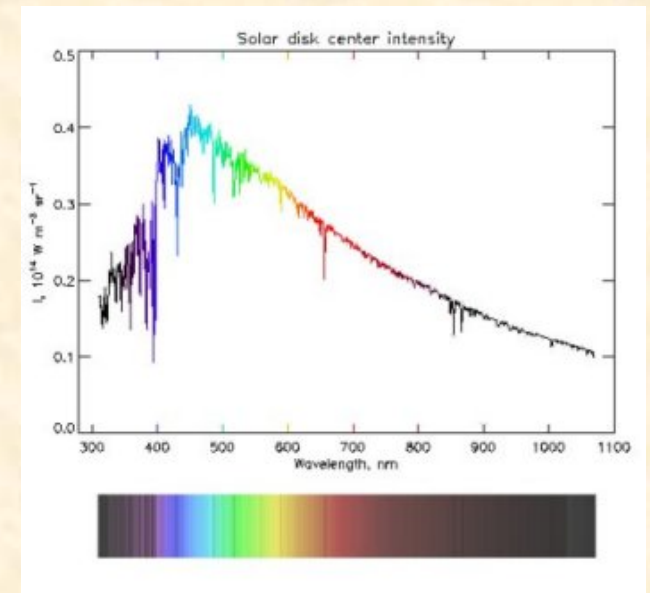
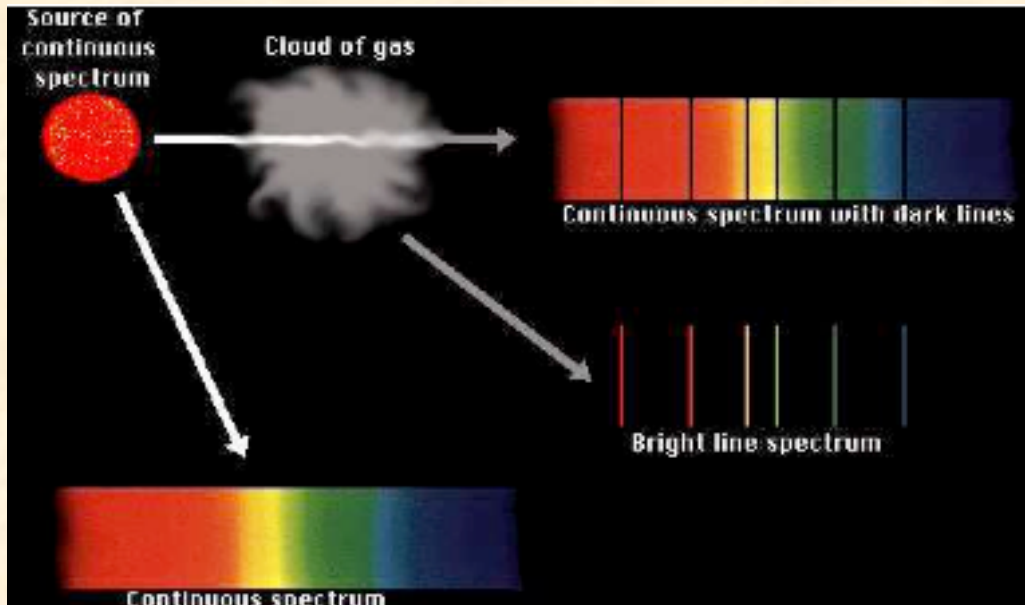
- ✓ Temperature
- ✓ Chemical composition and processes
- ✓ Source velocity and rotation (Doppler effect)

## Spectroscopy

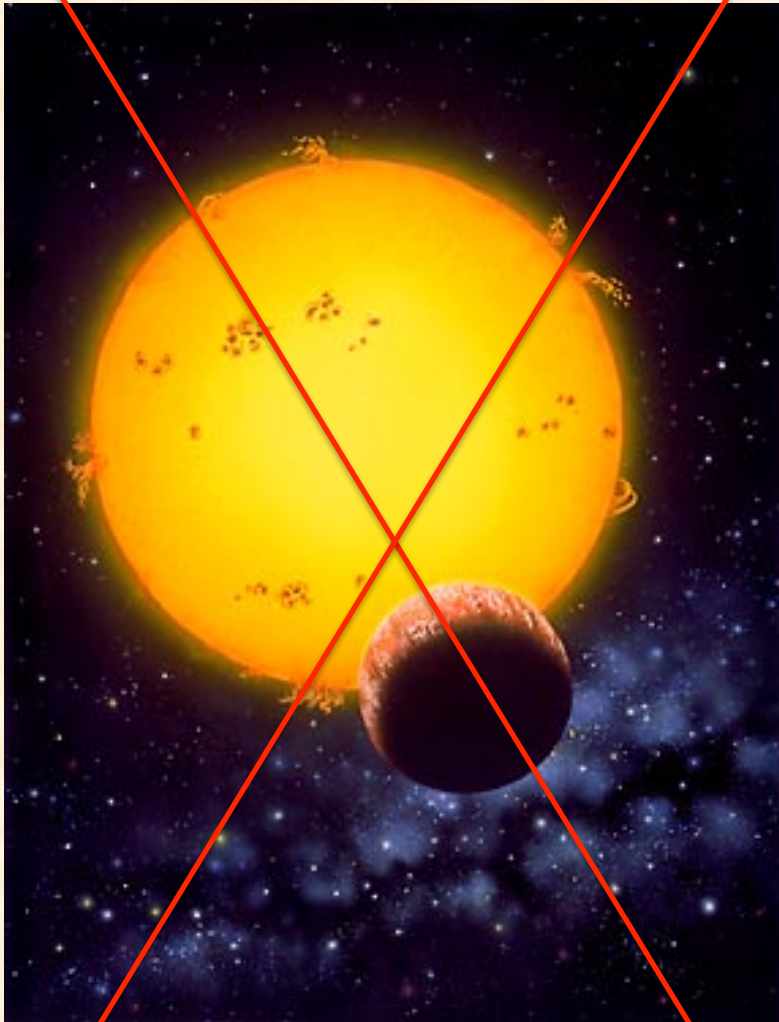
# Spectroscopy

$$F_\nu = F(\nu) = \int S(\nu, (k_x, k_y)) \cdot \cos \Theta \cdot d\Omega \cong \int S(\nu, (k_x, k_y)) \cdot d\Omega$$

$$F_\lambda = F(\lambda) = \int S(\lambda, (k_x, k_y)) \cdot \cos \Theta \cdot d\Omega \cong \int S(\lambda, (k_x, k_y)) \cdot d\Omega$$

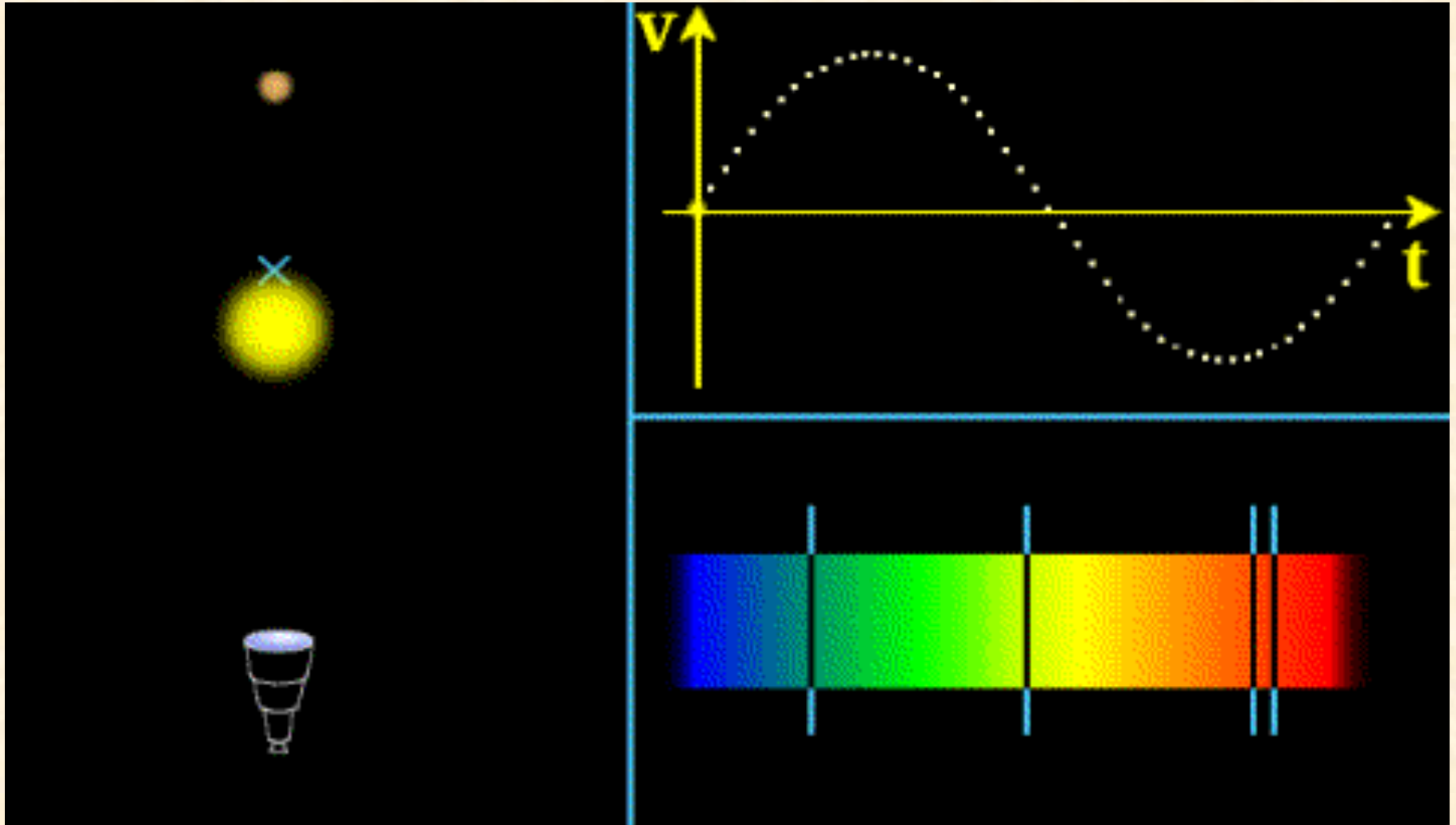


# (Doppler) Spectroscopy



1995  
Discovery of 51Pegb  
Queloz & Mayor

# (Doppler) Spectroscopy





# Observing with a telescope

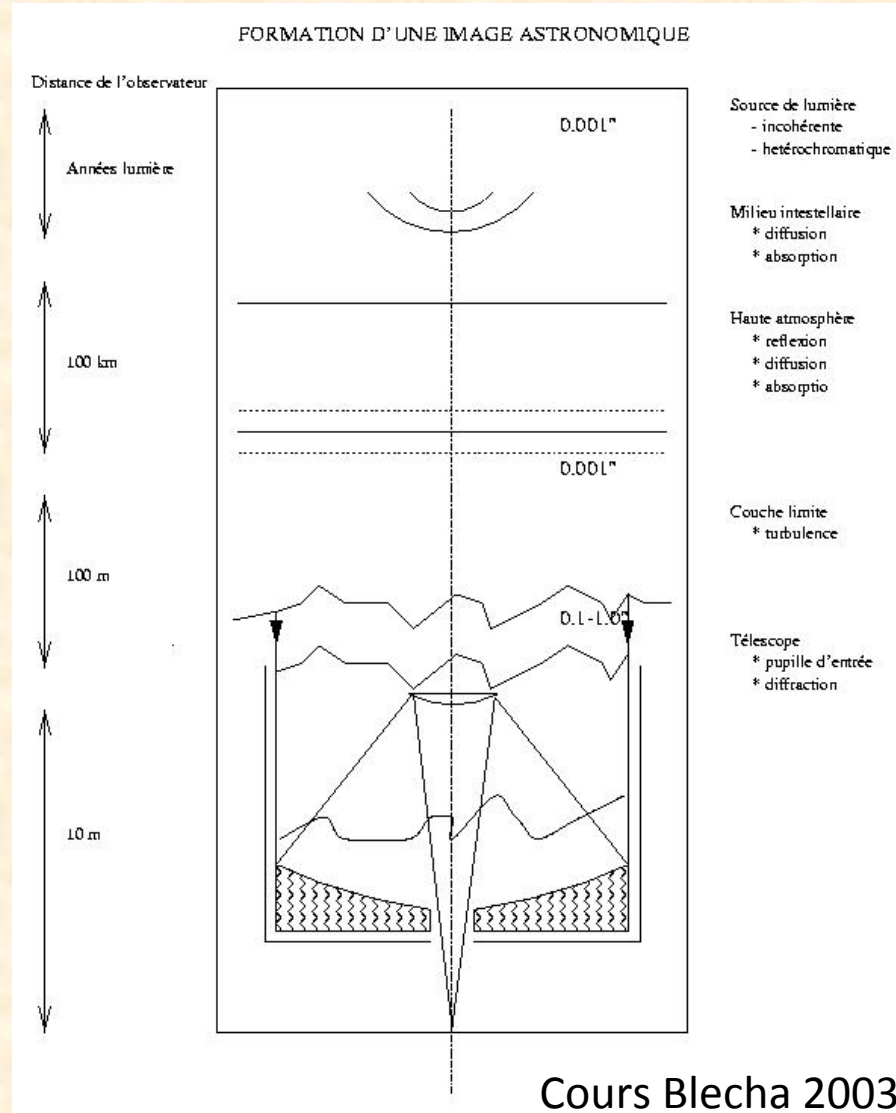
## Goals:

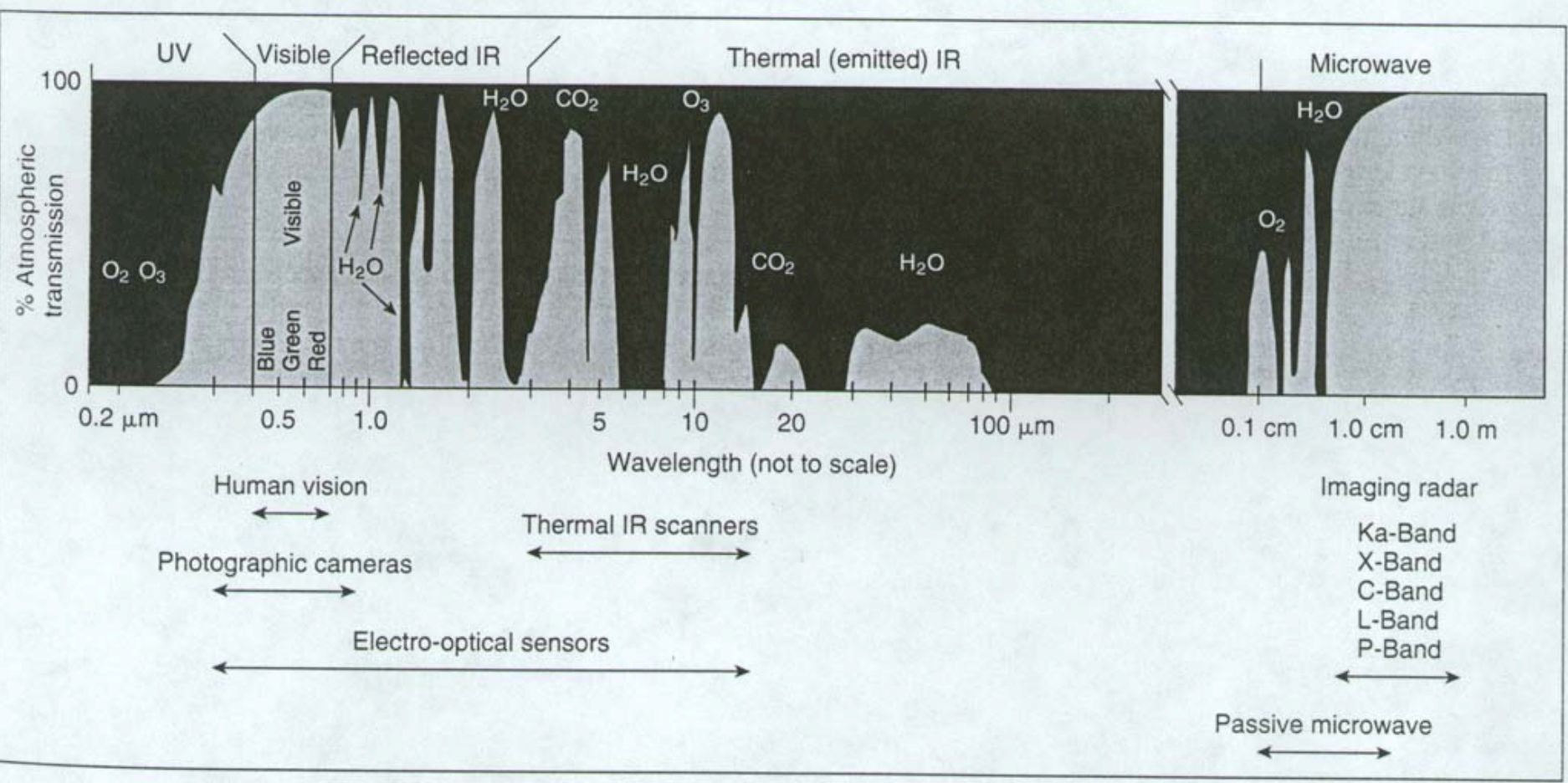
- Collect as much light as possible
- Resolve spatial 'details' (form an image)

The telescope is the 'lens' and the instrument/detector is the 'chip' of your 'camera'.

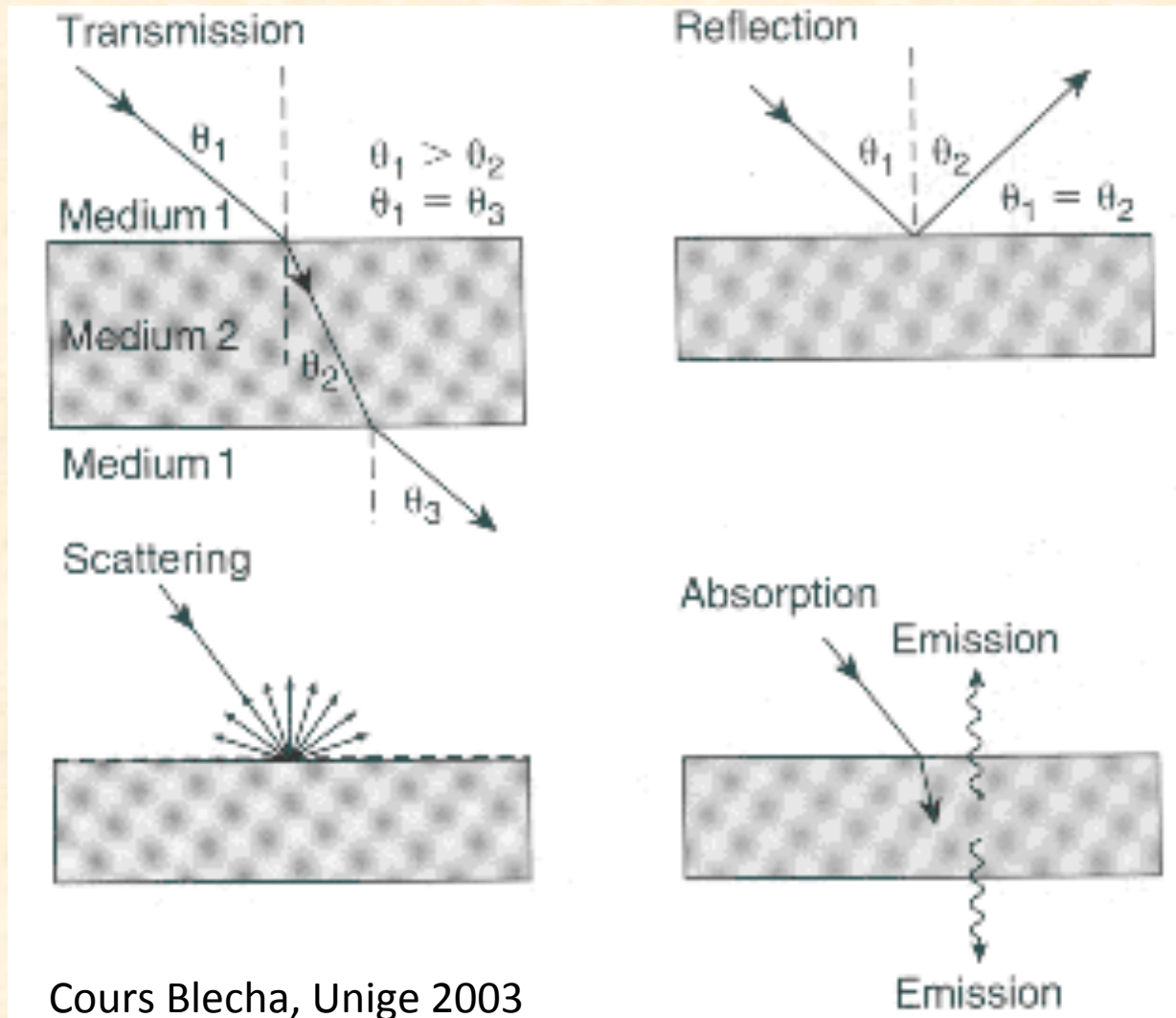


# Acquiring the image

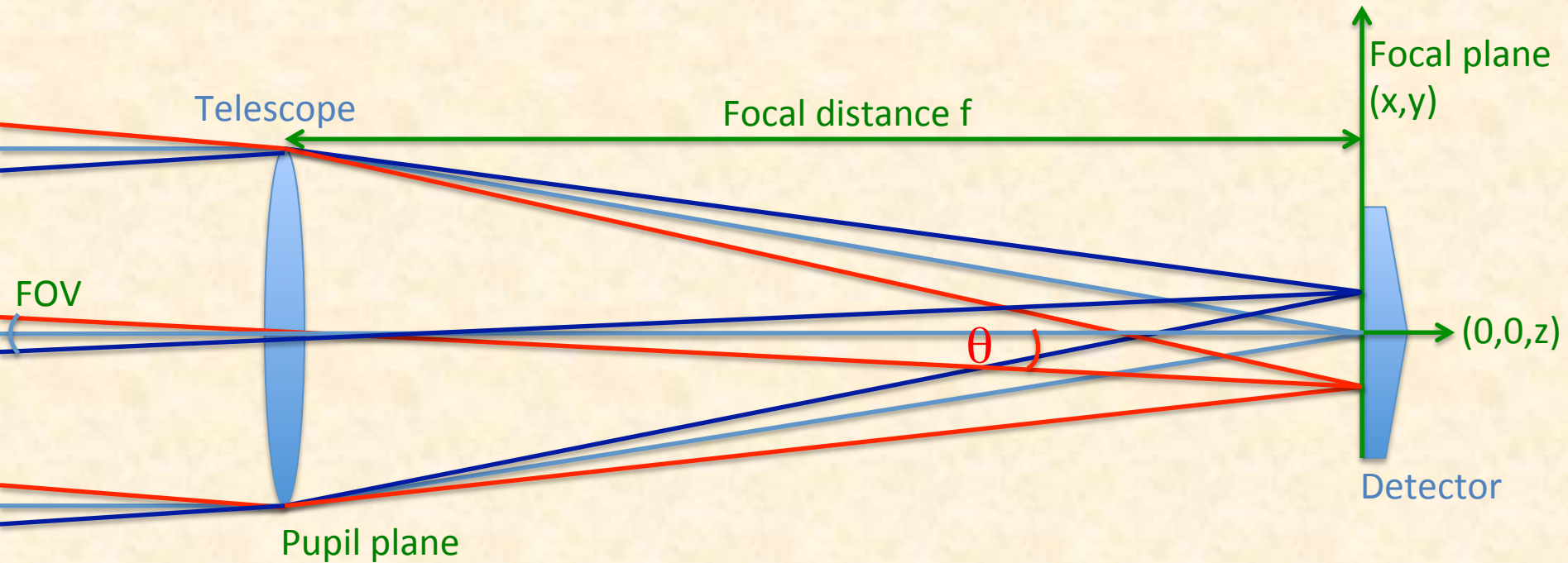




# Effects of the atmosphere



# Telescope definition



Field of View: FOV [arcsec]

Telescope diameter (collecting area):  $D$  [m]

Focal length:  $f$  [m]

Source angular position:  $\theta$  [arcsec]

Transmittance (efficiency):  $\varepsilon$

Image quality: IQ

Collecting area:  $S = \pi D^2/4$  [m<sup>2</sup>]

F-number:  $f/D$

Numerical aperture:  $NA = D/2f$

Scale factor:  $\Delta x/\Delta\theta$  [mm/arcsec]

$\Delta\theta = \text{FWHM}$  (full-width at half maximum)

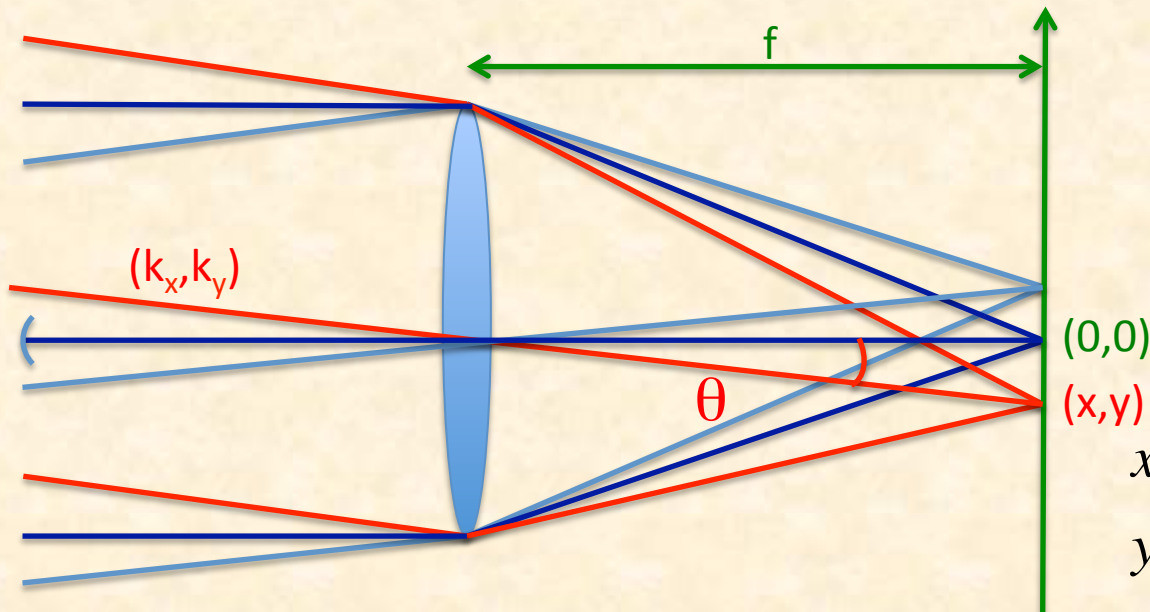
= angular (spatial) resolution =  $1.22 \lambda/D$

# Geometrical image

Object at infinity  $\rightarrow$  Image on detector

Angular position  $\rightarrow$  Position on detector

$(k_x, k_y) \rightarrow (x, y)$



$$\vec{k} = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \cdot \vec{j} \quad |\vec{j}| = 1$$

$$|\vec{k}| = k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} = \frac{2\pi\nu n}{c}$$

$$x = f \cdot k_x / k = f \cdot \sin\theta_x \cong f \cdot \theta_x$$

$$y = f \cdot k_y / k = f \cdot \sin\theta_y \cong f \cdot \theta_y$$

# Telescope classes

## Refractor:

Uses lenses

Good AR coatings

Chromatic

'Easier' to manufacture

Lower optical power

longer

## Reflector:

Uses mirror

Expensive reflective coat.

Achromatic

More expensive

Higher optical power

More compact

# Mirror manufacturing

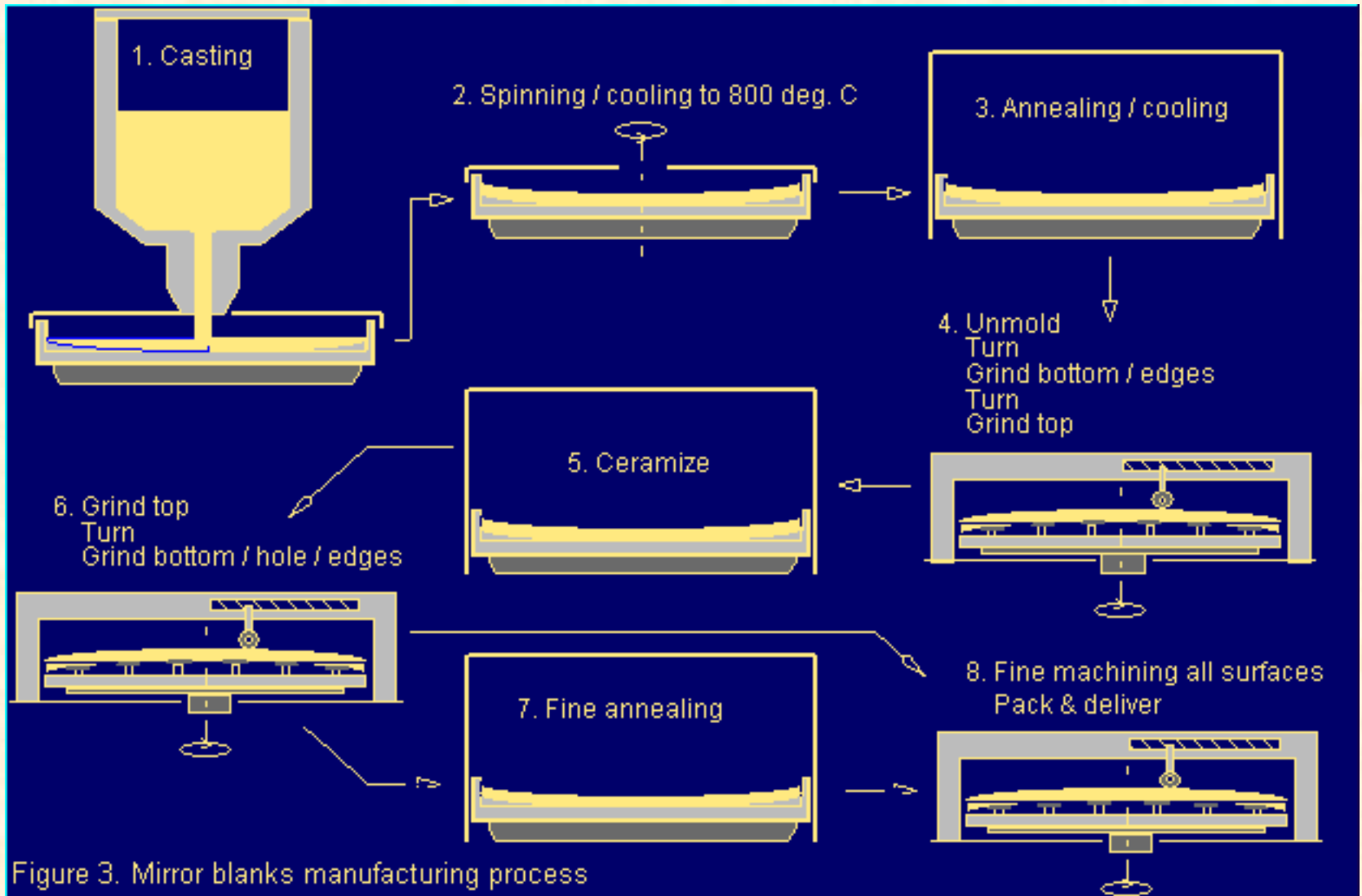
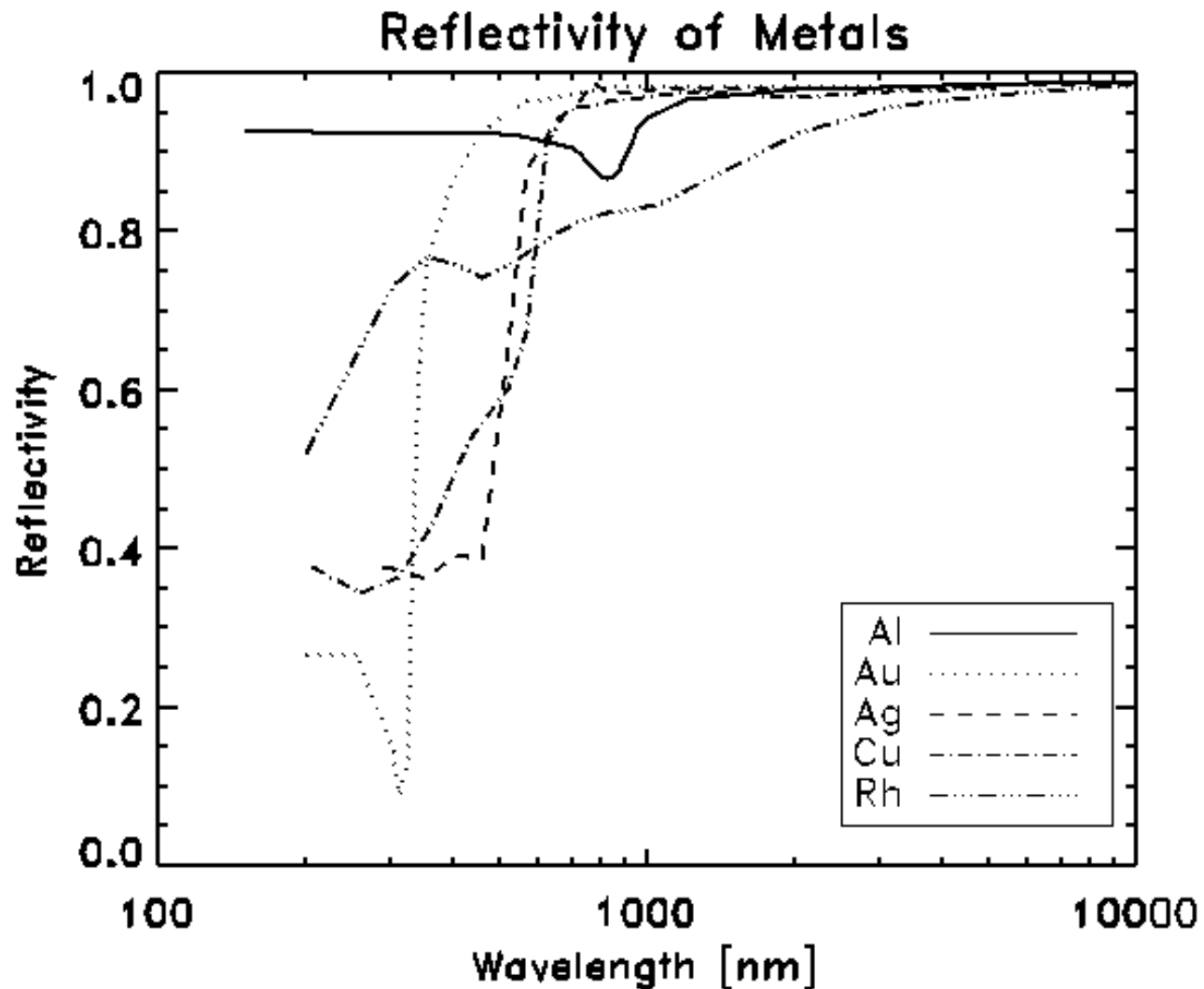


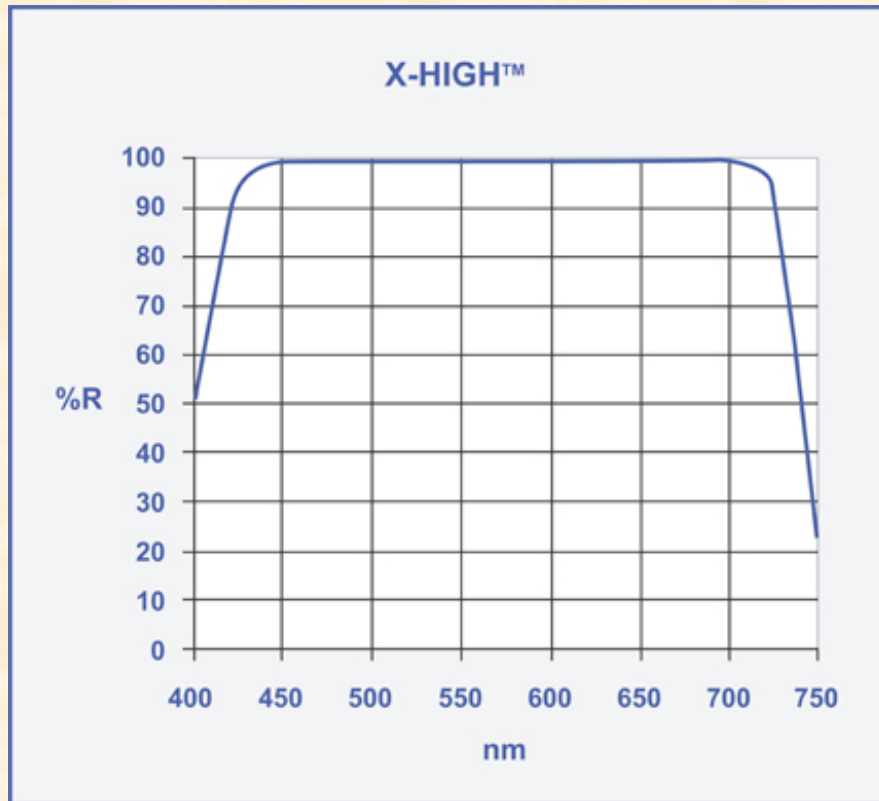
Figure 3. Mirror blanks manufacturing process



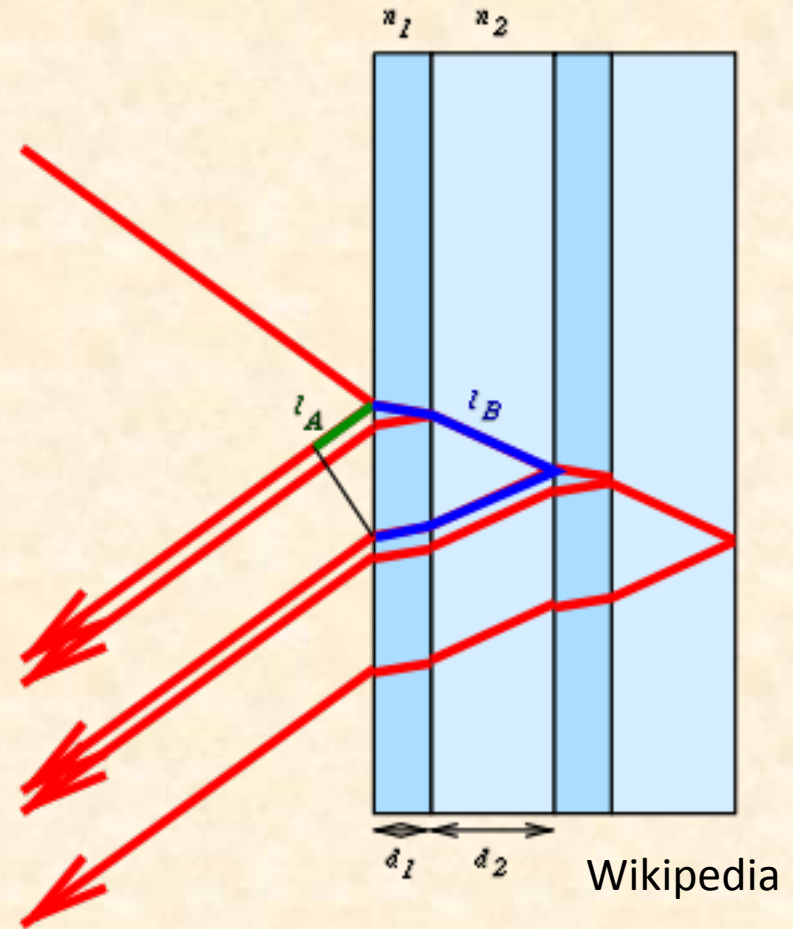
# Reflective coatings



# Dielectric coatings



OpcoLab



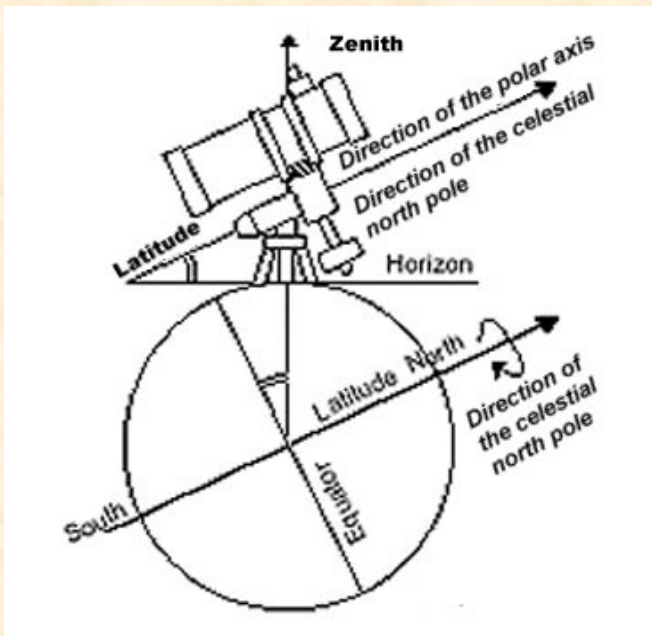
Wikipedia

# Telescope mounting classes

## Equatorial

Simple control

Heavier and bigger  
mechanics



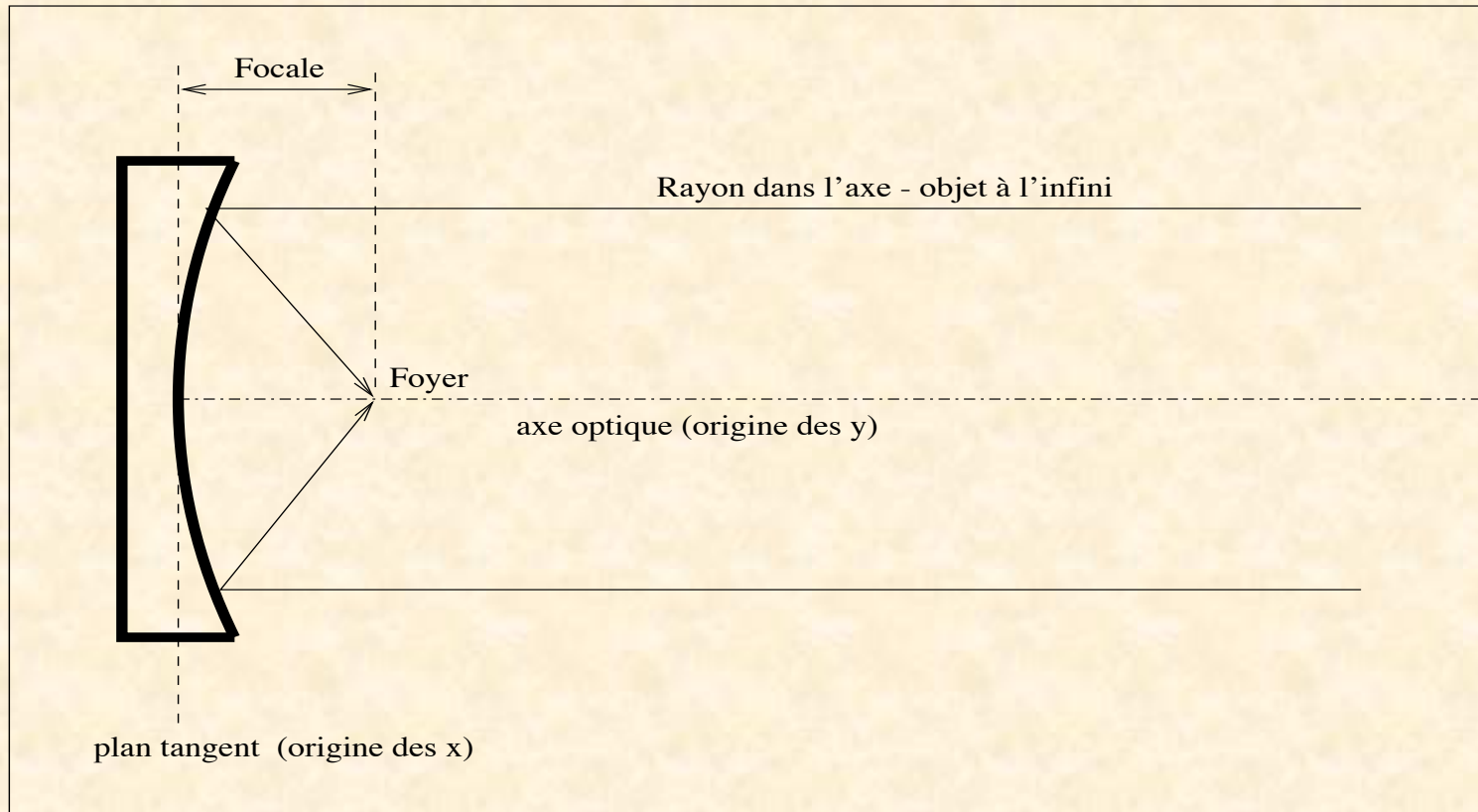
## Horizontal

Simpler and more compact

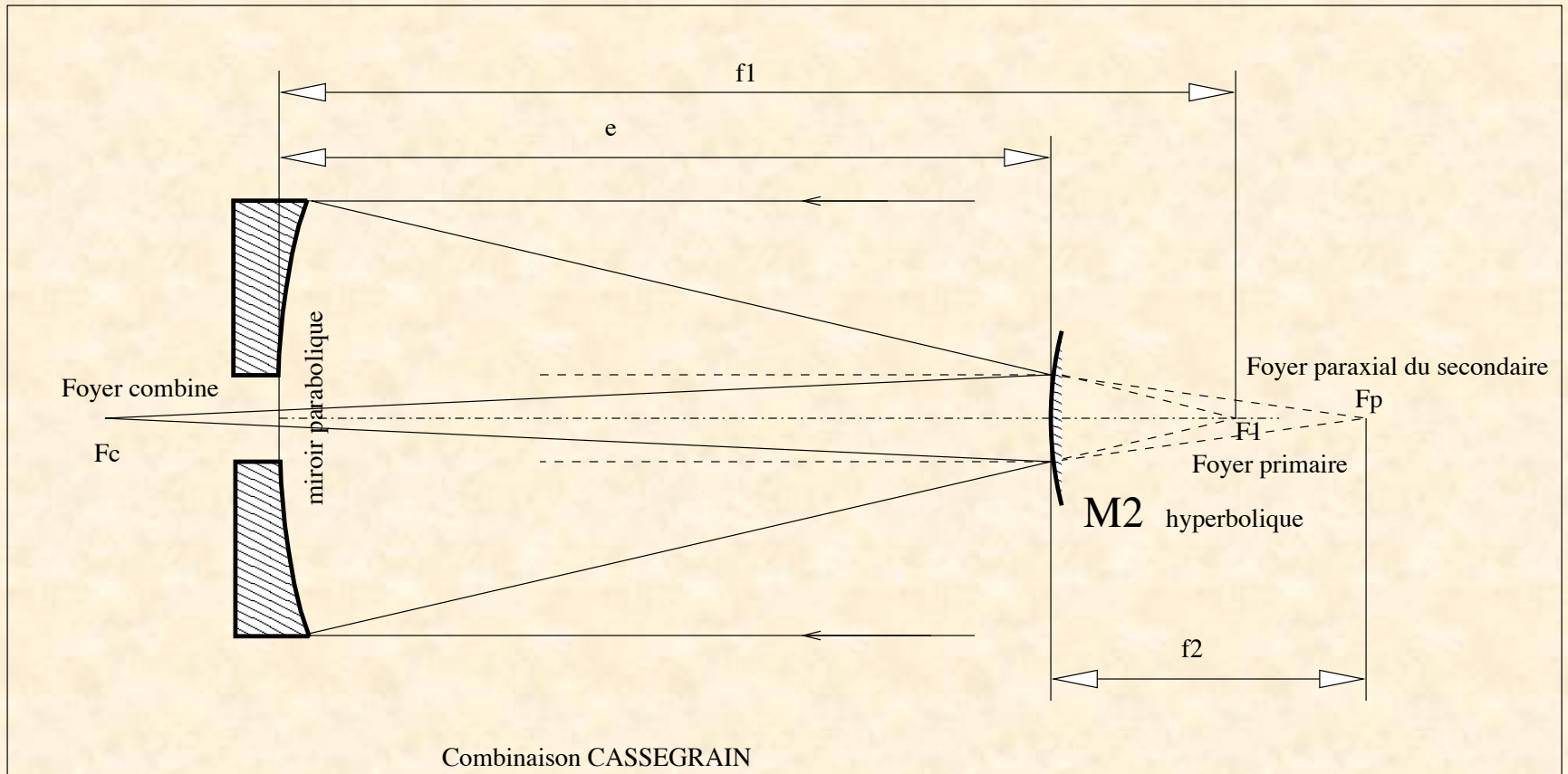
Requires computer control



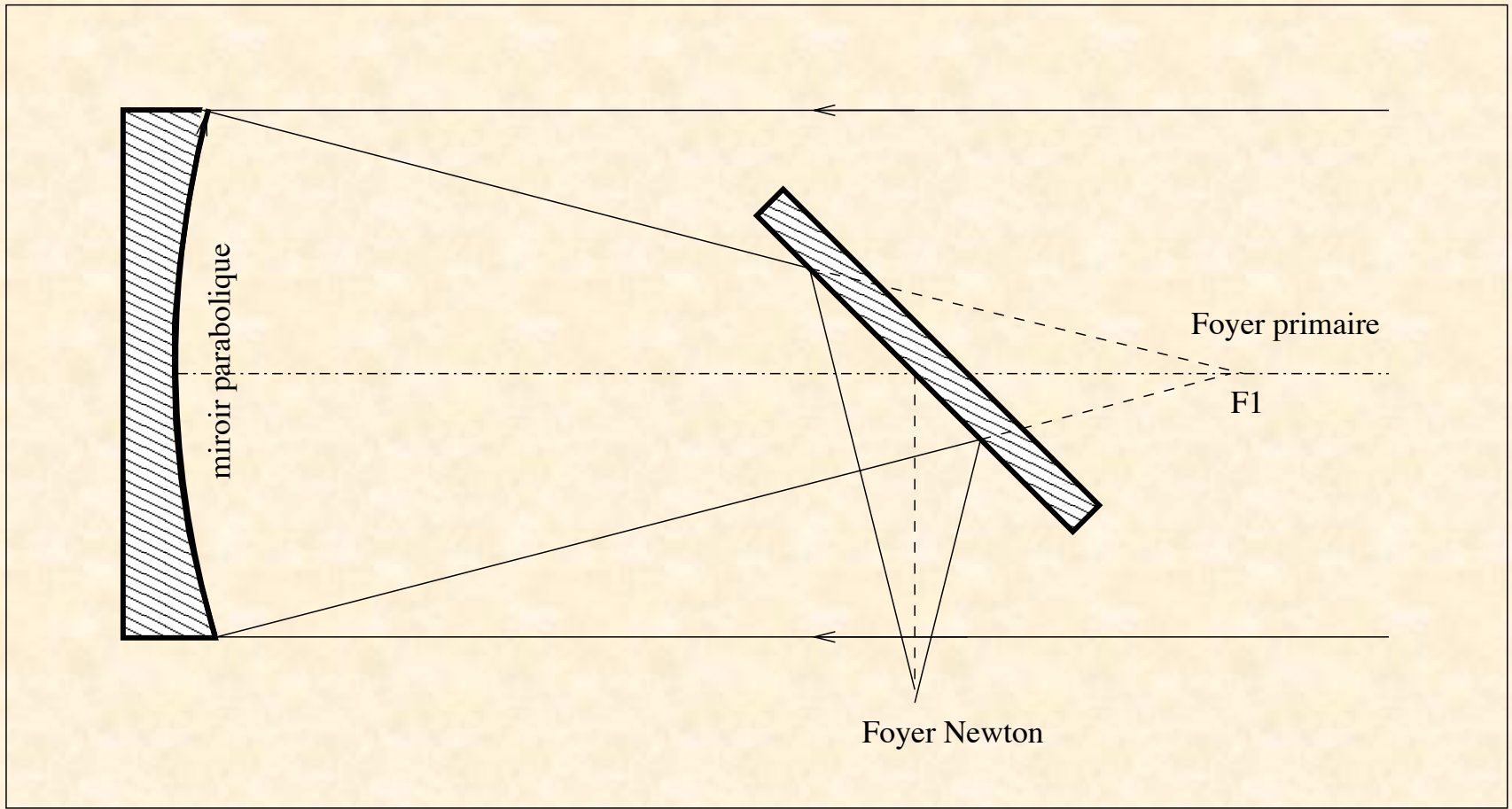
# Basic telescope



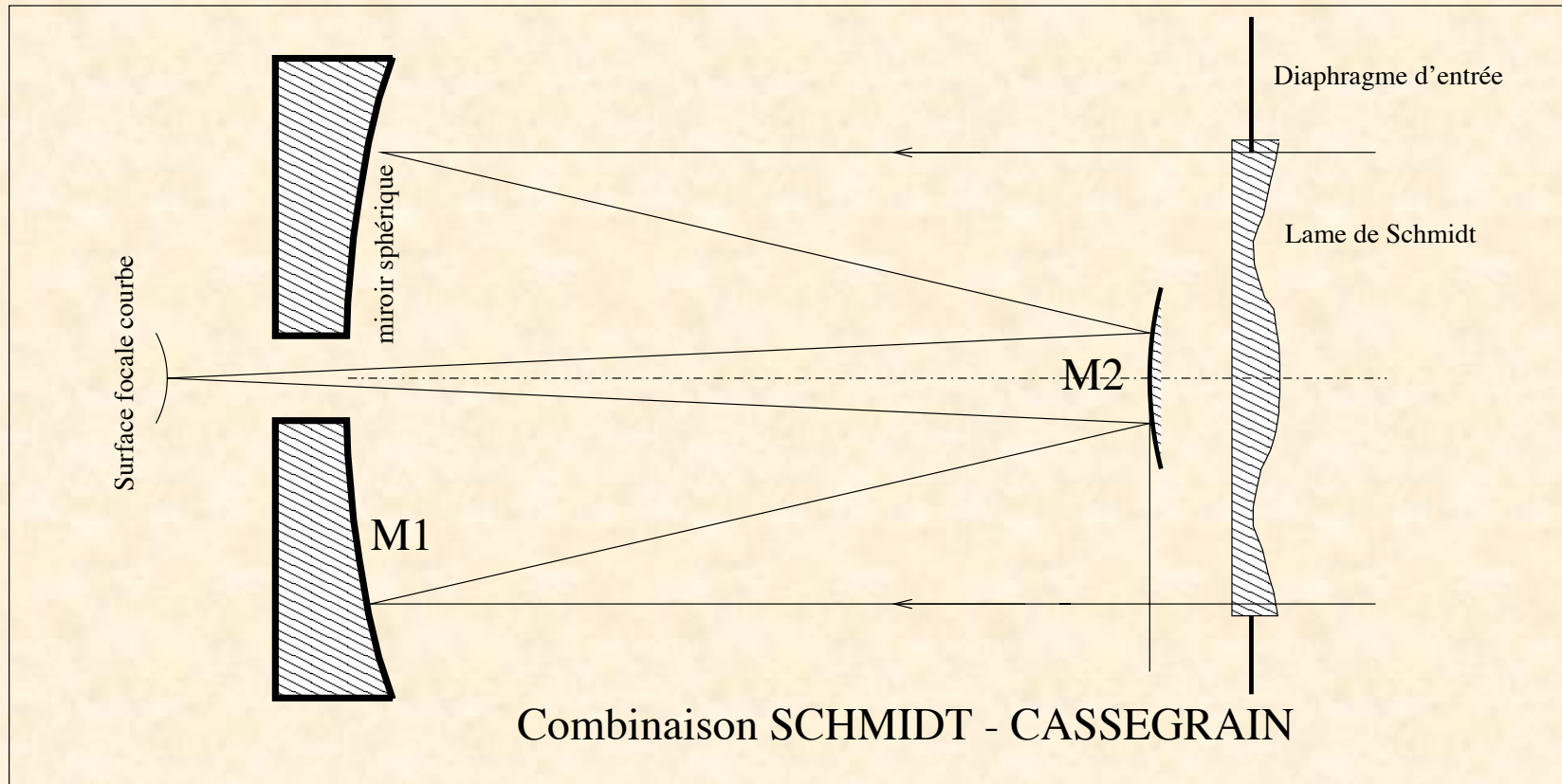
# Cassegrain telescope



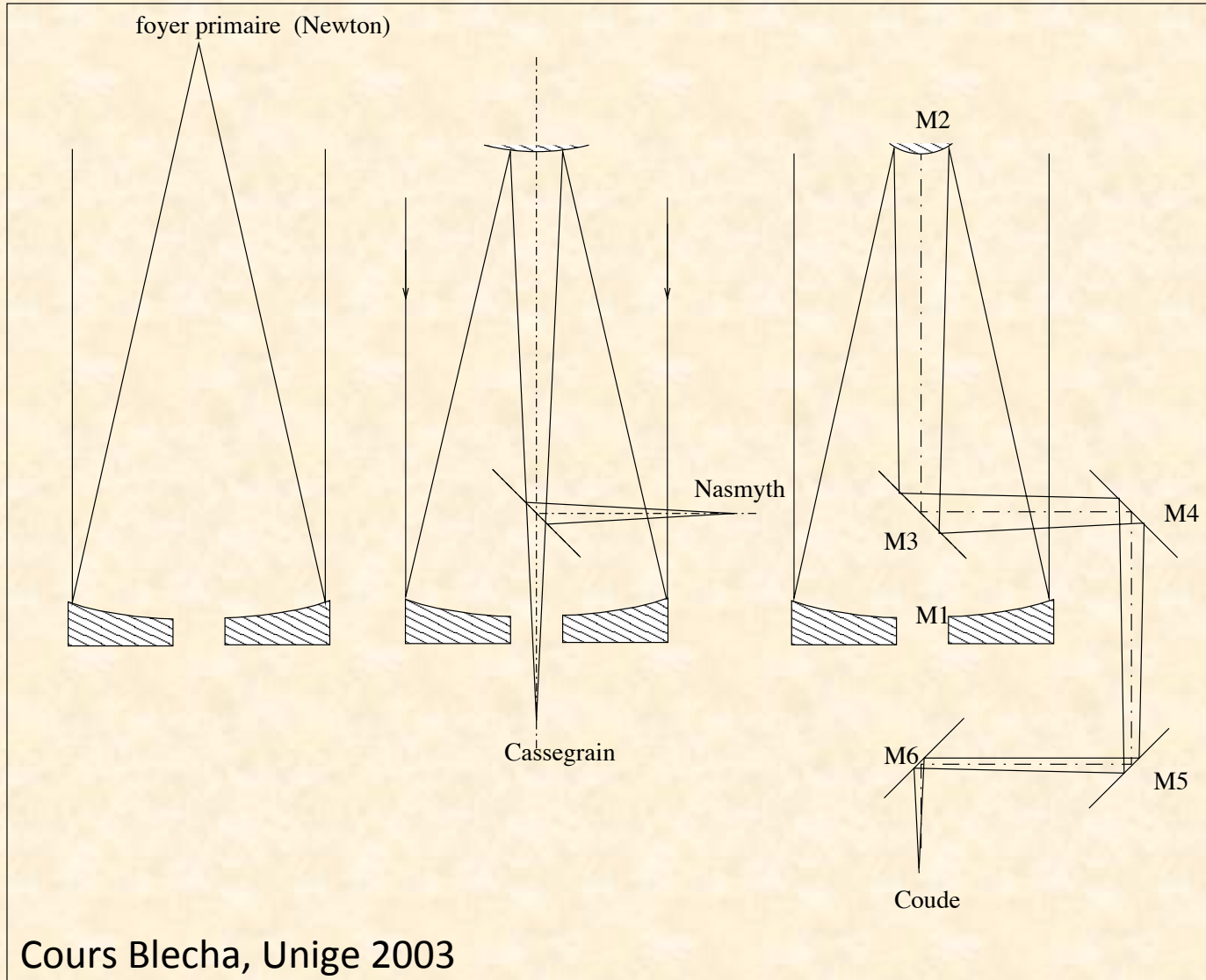
# Newton telescope



# Schmidt-Cassegrain

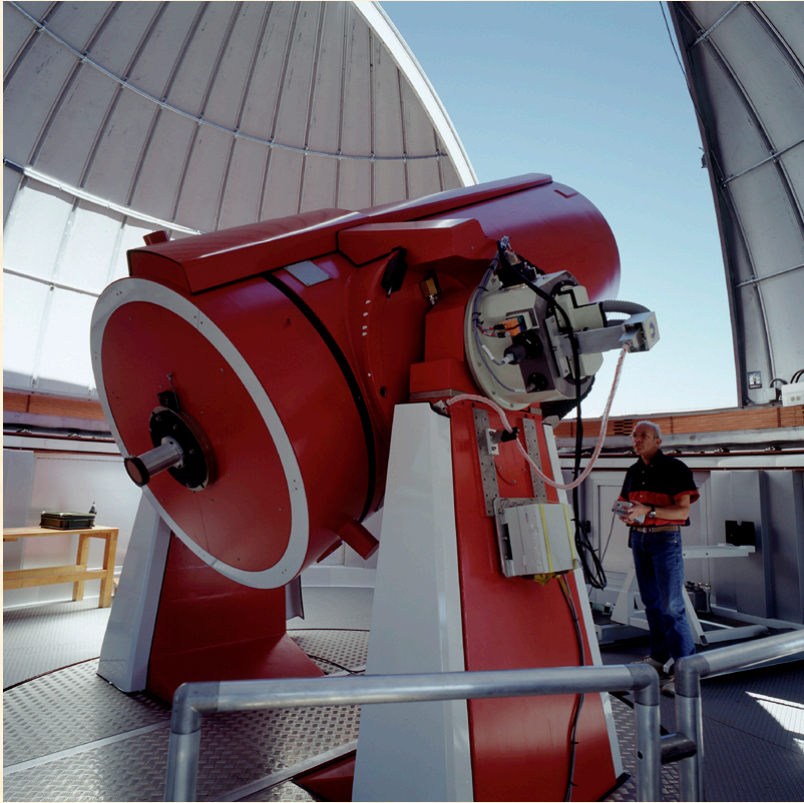


# Telescope focii





# Swiss Euler@ La Silla



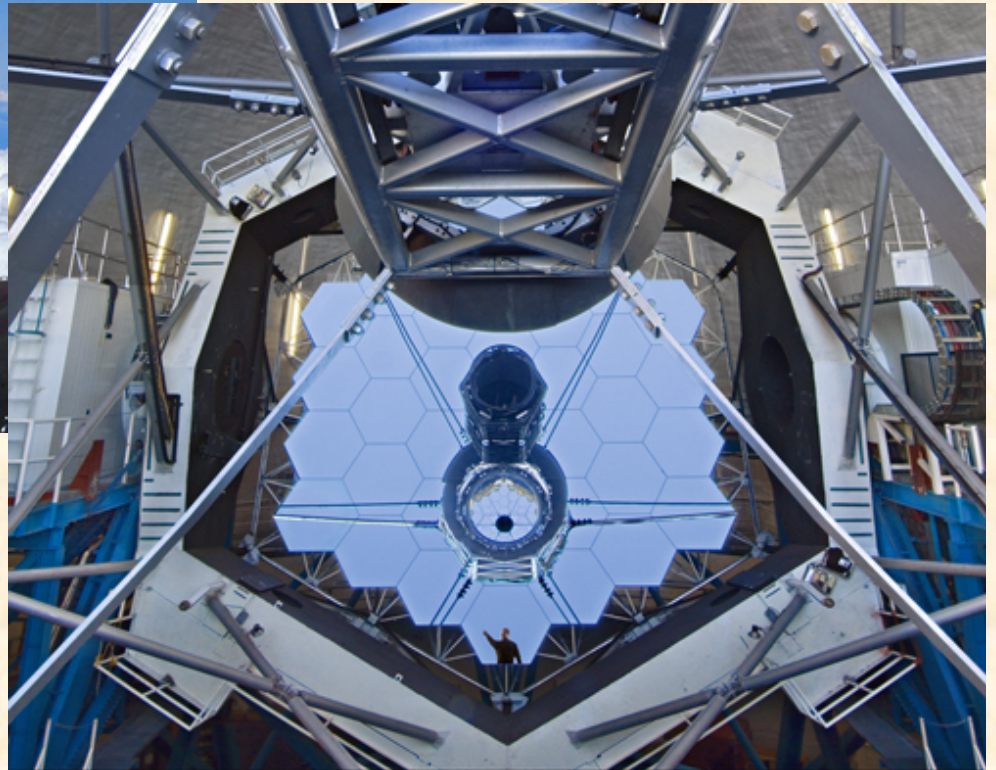
# ESO 3.6-m@ La Silla



# ESO VLT@Paranal



# Keck@Mauna Kea



#750h Keck II Mirror 2007 January 29  
© 2007 LaurieHatch.com / all rights reserved / photo credit requested / email: lh@lauriehatch.com  
The Keck II 10-meter, 36-segment mirror is seen from a bird's eye view nearly 30 meters above.



# Future E-ELT@ESO



[www.eso.org](http://www.eso.org)

# Fourier optics

Prinzip 1 : l'équation de Helmholtz à comme solution les ondes planes :

$$u = u_0 \cdot e^{-i\vec{k}\vec{x}}$$

$u_0, \vec{k}$  complexes  
 $u =$  scalaires

$u$  représente 1 composante du champs électrique (vecteur  $\vec{E}$ ) ou Magnétique ( $\vec{H}$ )

Prinzip 2 : Superposition.

Deux champs  $u_1(\vec{x})$  et  $u_2(\vec{x})$  produisent un champ qui est la somme des deux champs individuels :

$$u(\vec{x}) = u_1(\vec{x}) + u_2(\vec{x})$$

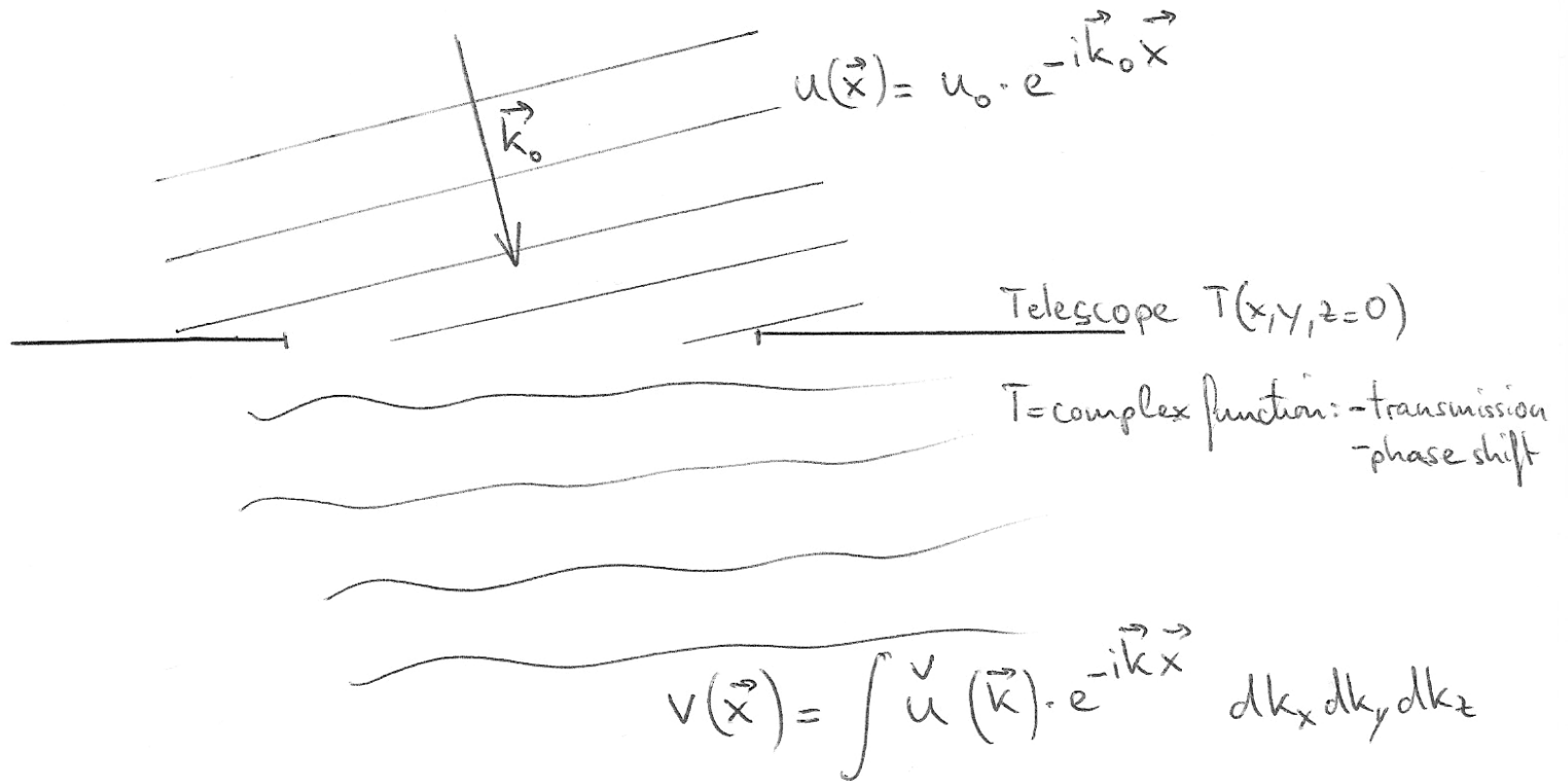
# Fourier optics

Prinzip 3: Un champ  $u(\vec{x}, t)$  peut être décrit en tant que superposition de ondes planes, et qui doivent automatiquement être une solution de l'équation de Helmholtz.

$$u(\vec{x}) = \int \tilde{u}(\vec{k}) \cdot e^{-i\vec{k}\vec{x}} d\vec{k}$$
$$u(\vec{x}) = \int \tilde{u}(k_x, k_y) e^{-ik_x x} e^{-ik_y y} e^{-ik_z z} dk_x dk_y$$

Prinzip 4: Si un champ  $u(\vec{x})|_A$  est connu partout sur une surface fermée  $A$ , alors le champ  $u(\vec{x})$  est connu et défini partout dans l'espace.

# Image of point-like source



pour  $\text{div } v = 0$  :  $v(\vec{x})|_{z=0} \stackrel{!}{=} u(\vec{x})|_{z=0} \cdot T(x, y)$



# Image of point-like source

$$\stackrel{(z=0)}{\Rightarrow} \int \check{u}(\vec{k}) \cdot e^{-i\vec{k}\vec{x}} dk_x dk_y = u_0 \cdot e^{-i\vec{k}_0\vec{x}} \cdot T(x, y)$$

$$\Rightarrow \int \check{u}(\vec{k}) \cdot e^{-i(\vec{k}-\vec{k}_0)\vec{x}} dk_x dk_y = u_0 \cdot T(x, y)$$

$T$  is FT of  $\check{u} \Rightarrow \check{u}$  must be inverse FT of  $T$

$$\Rightarrow \check{u}(\vec{k}) = \frac{u_0}{2\pi} \int T(x, y) \cdot e^{+i(\vec{k}-\vec{k}_0)\vec{x}} dx dy$$

---

$$\Rightarrow I(\vec{k}) = \frac{|\check{u}(\vec{k})|^2}{2} = \frac{u_0^2}{8\pi^2} \cdot |T(\vec{k}-\vec{k}_0)|^2$$

Def.: PSF =  $|T(\vec{k})|^2$  = Point-Spread-Function

# Image of an extended source

For extended source: incoherent sum!

Source  $A(\vec{k}') =$  intensity distribution at emission

⇒ Measured intensity distribution  $I(\vec{k})$  in focal plane:

$$I(\vec{k}) = \int A(\vec{k}') \cdot \text{PSF}(\vec{k} - \vec{k}') dk'_x dk'_y$$

(Remember:  $k_z$  defined by  $|\vec{k}| = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda_n} \quad \lambda_n = \frac{c}{n \cdot \nu}$ )

# Define optical transfer function (OTF)

- Imaging through any optical system: in intensity units

Image = Object  $\otimes$  Point Spread Function  
convolved with

$$I(\underline{r}) = O \otimes PSF \equiv \int d\underline{x} O(\underline{x} - \underline{r}) PSF(\underline{x})$$

- Take Fourier Transform:  $\mathcal{F}(I) = \mathcal{F}(O) \mathcal{F}(PSF)$
- Optical Transfer Function is the Fourier Transform of PSF:

$$OTF = \mathcal{F}(PSF)$$

# PSF of '1-D' telescope

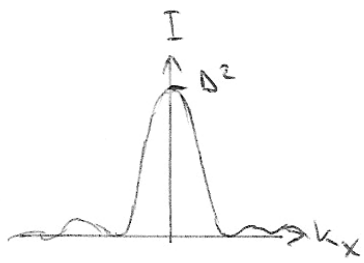
1-D Telescope

$$T(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{for } |x| > D/2 \\ 1, & \text{for } |x| \leq D/2 \end{cases}$$

$$\underline{\underline{\text{PSF}(k)}} = \left| \int_x T(x) e^{ik_x x} dx \right|^2$$

$$= \left| \int_{-D/2}^{D/2} e^{ik_x x} dx \right|^2 = \left| \frac{1}{ik} \left( e^{i\frac{Dk_x}{2}} - e^{-i\frac{Dk_x}{2}} \right) \right|^2$$

$$= \left| D \cdot \left( \frac{e^{+i\frac{Dk_x}{2}} - e^{-i\frac{Dk_x}{2}}}{2i \cdot \frac{Dk_x}{2}} \right) \right|^2$$



$$= \left| D^2 \cdot \left( \frac{\sin\left(\frac{Dk_x}{2}\right)}{\frac{Dk_x}{2}} \right) \right|^2 = \underline{\underline{D^2 \cdot \text{sinc}^2\left(\frac{Dk_x}{2}\right)}}$$

# PSF of '1-D' telescope

Le premier minimum est atteint pour

5.6

$$\frac{D \cdot k_x}{2} = \pi$$

Rappel:  $k_x = k \cdot \sin \theta_x = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \cdot \sin \theta_x$

$\Rightarrow$  Minimum pour  $\frac{D \cdot \pi \cdot \sin \theta_x}{\lambda} = \pi$

$\Rightarrow \underline{\underline{\sin \theta_x = \frac{\lambda}{D} \equiv \theta_x}} =$  Résolution spatiale

$\equiv$  Distance angulaire minimale à laquelle deux objets ponctuels sont distingués (résolus)

# PSF of '2-D' telescope

$$\begin{aligned} T(\vec{x}) &= 0 & x^2 + y^2 > R^2 \\ T(\vec{x}) &= 1 & x^2 + y^2 \leq R^2 \\ R &= D/2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{T}(k) &= \int T(\vec{x}) \cdot e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x}} dx dy \\ &= \int_{R < D/2}^A e^{ik_x x} \cdot e^{ik_y y} dx dy \end{aligned}$$

$$= 2 \cdot \frac{\int_1^{\left(\frac{D \cdot k}{2}\right)} dx}{\frac{D \cdot k}{2}}$$

$$\text{PSF}(k) \propto \frac{\int_1^2 \left(\frac{D \cdot k}{2}\right)^2 dx}{\left(\frac{D \cdot k}{2}\right)^2}$$

→ Premier minimum pour

$$\underline{\underline{\sin \theta = 1.22 \cdot \lambda / D = \text{Resolution}}}}$$

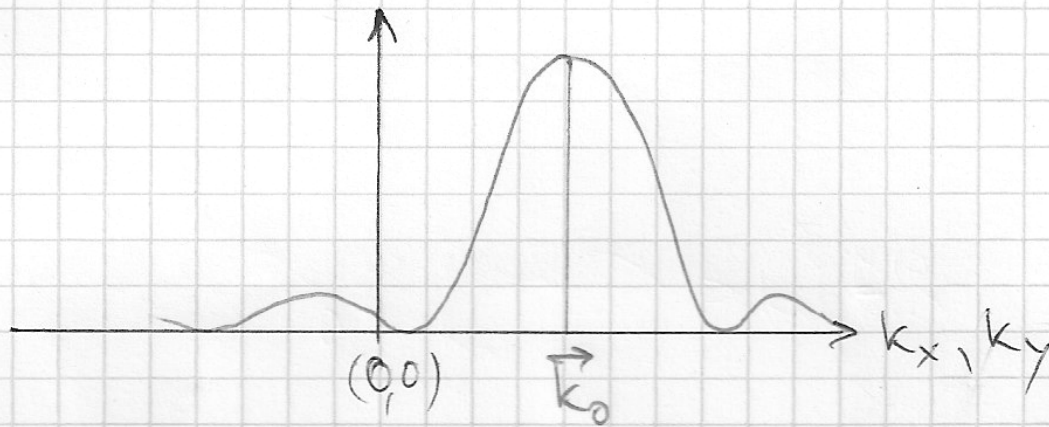
A = Surface Telescope

# Image formation

Post scriptum:

5.7

Si la source ponctuelle est située à  $\vec{k}_0 \neq 0$ , alors l'intensité enregistrée aura un maximum non pas à  $(k_x, k_y) = (0, 0)$  mais à  $\vec{k} = \vec{k}_0$  (PSF( $\vec{k} - \vec{k}_0$ )).



# Exercises



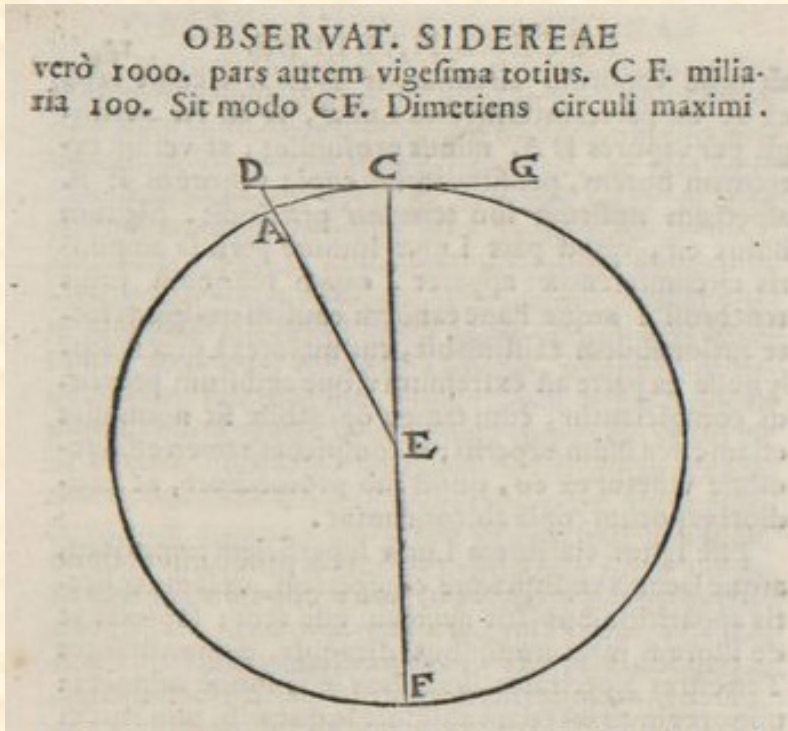
# Exercise 1

Compute data rate (bytes per seconds) to observe the 'whole' universe:

- Solid angle of  $4\pi$
- Visible range (400 nm - 700 nm)
- Spectral resolution  $\lambda/\Delta\lambda = 10'000$
- Spatial resolution 1 arcsec
- 2 polarisations
- 16-bit resolution

# Exercise 2

Estimate the height of the lunar 'mountains' using Galileo's approach and knowing that  $R_M = 3476$  km:



## Exercise 3

Compute the image size of a 10-arcsec galaxy in the focal plane of a telescope with effective focal length of 30m.

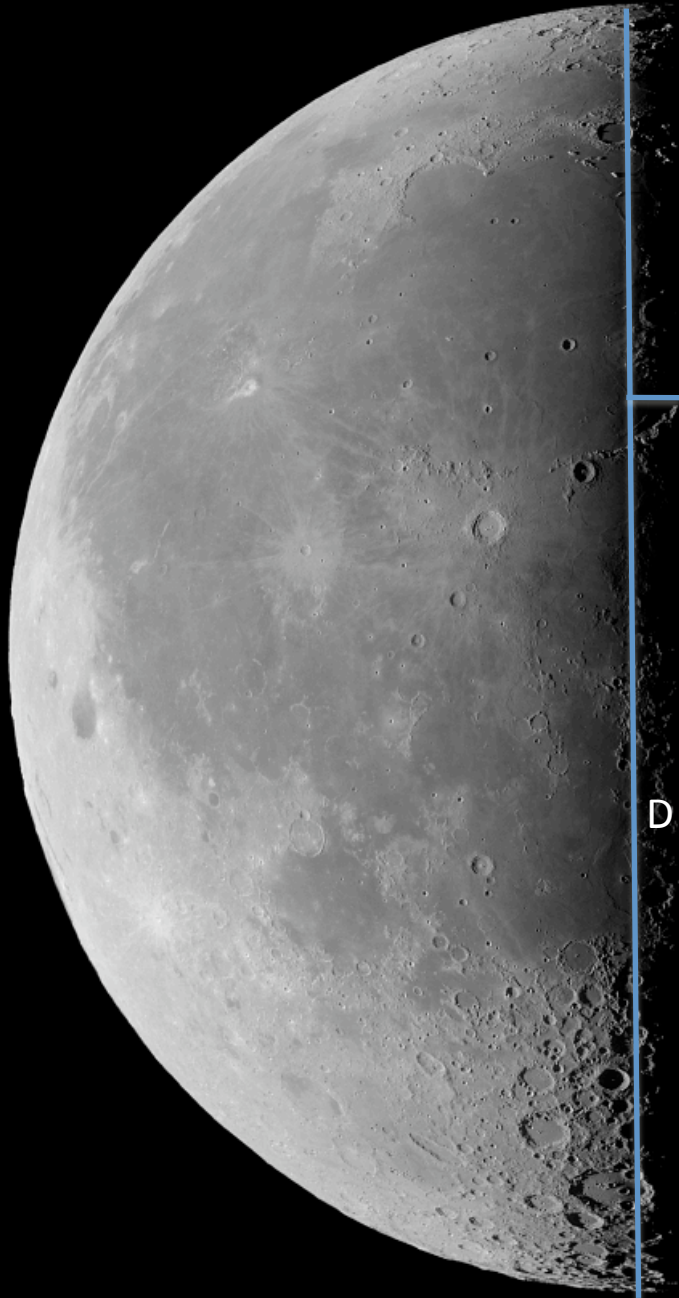
# Exercise 4

Demonstrate that the mirror shape which reflects a parallel beam into a single focal point is a parabola. Tip: Use Fermat's principle

# Exercise 5

Compute the spatial resolution of the human eye, assuming that the pupil size is of 5mm.

Give an example of an object at the limit of the eye's resolution.



Diametro della Luna= 3476km

$$d/D=0.035$$

d

D

$$h=((1738^2+(d/D \ 3476)^2)^{1/2} - 1738=4.25\text{km}$$