

## Calculation of beam parameters from local slopes

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APPLICATION NOTE

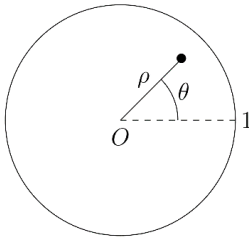
When a light wave passes through an optical system, we can consider a phase shift function  $\varphi$  corresponding to the difference between the theoretical perfect wavefront and the one carrying the optical defects of the system.  $\varphi$  is equal to zero if the system is perfect. In case of a circular pupil, these phase differences can be approximated by projecting the phase map onto the orthogonal basis of Zernike polynomials, the elements that describe wavefront aberrations.

## 1. Expression of the wavefront

A wavefront  $\varphi$  can be written as a sum of the first five Zernike polynomials and a residual wavefront  $\varphi_r$  containing all other aberrations:

$$\varphi(\rho, \theta) = Z_1\rho \cos(\theta) + Z_2\rho \sin(\theta) + Z_3 \cdot (2\rho^2 - 1) + Z_4\rho^2 \cos(2\theta) + Z_5\rho^2 \sin(2\theta) + \varphi_r(\rho, \theta)$$

where  $(\rho, \theta)$  is the polar coordinates on the circular **normalized** pupil (i.e.  $\rho \in [0; 1]$ ), and  $Z_i$  is the  $i$ -th Zernike coefficient.



- Coefficients  $Z_4$  and  $Z_5$  are corresponding to the astigmatism. By noting  $A$  as the **amplitude** of the astigmatism and  $\theta_0$  as its **angle**:

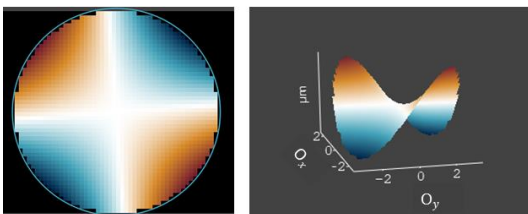
$$\begin{cases} Z_4 = A \cos 2\theta_0 \\ Z_5 = A \sin 2\theta_0 \end{cases}$$

We can then rewrite the wavefront as

$$\varphi(\rho, \theta) = Z_1\rho \cos(\theta) + Z_2\rho \sin(\theta) + Z_3 \cdot (2\rho^2 - 1) + A\rho^2 \cos(2(\theta - \theta_0)) + \varphi_r(\rho, \theta)$$

## 2. Calculation of the radius of curvature of astigmatism along their axes

We can express the radius of curvature of the astigmatism along their axes ( $Ox$  and  $Oy$  in Figure 1).



**Figure 1.** Representation of astigmatism on a circular pupil.

The wavelines along these axes become:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(\rho, \theta_0) &= Z_3(2\rho^2 - 1) + A\rho^2 \\ &= (\rho r)^2 \left( \frac{2Z_3 + A}{r^2} \right) - Z_3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(\rho, \theta_0 + \pi/2) &= Z_3(2\rho^2 - 1) - A\rho^2 \\ &= (\rho r)^2 \left( \frac{2Z_3 - A}{r^2} \right) - Z_3 \end{aligned}$$

- The coefficients in front of the terms in  $(\rho r)^2$  are associated with the curvature  $2\gamma = \frac{1}{2R_c}$ . We now have:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{1}{2R_{\theta_0}} = \frac{2Z_3 + A}{r^2} \\ \frac{1}{2R_{\theta_0 + \pi/2}} = \frac{2Z_3 - A}{r^2} \end{cases}$$

## 3. Calculation of the radius of curvature of astigmatism along the axes of a wavefront sensor

When using a wavefront sensor to detect aberrations, we are interested in expressing the radius of curvature of the astigmatism this time **along the main axes of an wavefront sensor itself**.

- Let's go back to the wavefront equation :

$$\varphi(\rho, \theta) = Z_3 \cdot (2\rho^2 - 1) + A\rho^2 \cos(2(\theta - \theta_0)) + \varphi_r(\rho, \theta)$$

We can find the expression of the waveline on the axes of the analyzer:

$$\begin{cases} \varphi(\rho, 0) = (\rho r)^2 \frac{2Z_3 + A \cos(2\theta_0)}{r^2} - Z_3 \\ \varphi(\rho, \pi/2) = (\rho r)^2 \frac{2Z_3 - A \cos(2\theta_0)}{r^2} - Z_3 \end{cases}$$

This gives:

$$\frac{1}{2R_0} = \frac{2Z_3 + A \cos 2\theta_0}{r^2}$$

$$\frac{1}{2R_{\pi/2}} = \frac{2Z_3 - A \cos 2\theta_0}{r^2}$$

## 4. Determination of parameters using local slopes

We have the radius of curvature as a function of the astigmatism parameters. It remains for us to know how to **obtain these parameters** in the particular case of **our wavefront sensor**.

- Written in the **Cartesian coordinates** ( $x = r\rho \cos(\theta)$  and  $y = r\rho \sin(\theta)$ ), we have:

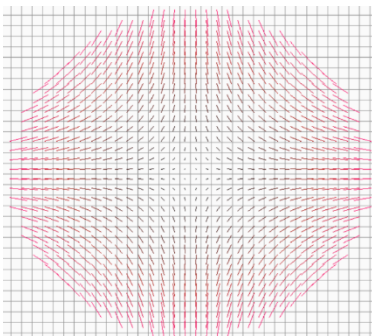
$$\varphi(x, y) = \frac{Z_1}{r}x + \frac{Z_2}{r}y + \frac{2Z_3}{r^2}(x^2 + y^2) + \frac{A}{r^2}(x^2 - y^2) \cos(2\theta_0) + \frac{2A}{r^2}xy \sin(2\theta_0) + \varphi_r(x, y)$$

We thus obtain analytically the following wavefront **gradient** or local slopes along x and y directions:

$$\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x}(x, y) = \frac{Z_1}{r} + \left( \frac{4Z_3}{r^2} + \frac{2A \cos 2\theta_0}{r^2} \right) x + \frac{2A \sin 2\theta_0}{r^2} y + \frac{\partial \varphi_r}{\partial x}(x, y)$$

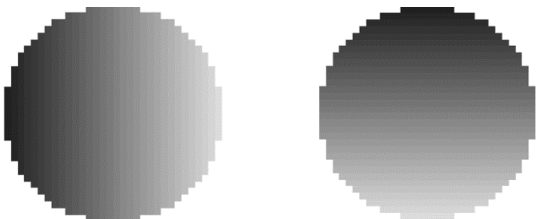
$$\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial y}(x, y) = \frac{Z_2}{r} + \frac{2A \sin 2\theta_0}{r^2} x + \left( \frac{4Z_3}{r^2} - \frac{2A \cos 2\theta_0}{r^2} \right) y + \frac{\partial \varphi_r}{\partial y}(x, y)$$

- On its side, the wavefront analyzer measures local slopes on a regular mesh or a microlens array. A single local slope is obtained from one microlens.



**Figure 2.** Representation of slope map with astigmatism: Each point  $(x_i, y_j)$  is associated with a vector corresponding to the local slope.

- We can separate the information of this vector map into two scalar maps along x and y direction, see the **Figure 3**.



**Figure 3.** x-slope (left) and y-slope (right) maps.

We can then **numerically** find the **plane that fits a given wavefront surface** the best for each map and thus express the slope map in this way:

$$\begin{cases} s_x = a_x x_i + b_x y_j + c_x + s_{xres} \\ s_y = a_y x_i + b_y y_j + c_y + s_{yres} \end{cases}$$

X- or Y-slope map
best fit plane
Residual slopes

**!** The unit of coefficients is **slope per unit length**. The calculation of the nearest planes to the slope maps gives **slopes per sub-pupil**.

- Knowing the  $a_x, a_y, b_x$  and  $b_y$  coefficients, it is now a question of **extracting**  $\theta_0$  and  $A$  in order to fully determine the astigmatism, as well as the radius of curvature.

Note that in the expression of the gradient, the coefficients  $a_x$  and  $a_y$  are supposed to be equal. It is therefore recommended to **average** them in order to **minimize the impact of the measurement error** and to be consistent with the theory.

By **identifying** with the mathematical gradient expression we now have:

$$b'_x = a'_y = \frac{b_x + a_y}{2} = \frac{2A \sin(2\theta_0)}{r^2}$$

$$a_x = \frac{4Z_3}{r^2} + \frac{2A \cos(2\theta_0)}{r^2}$$

$$b_y = \frac{4Z_3}{r^2} - \frac{2A \cos(2\theta_0)}{r^2}$$

From this set of equations, we can deduce the **angle of astigmatism**  $\theta_0$ :

$$\tan(2\theta_0) = \frac{b_x + a_y}{a_x - b_y}$$

**Note** If  $a_x = b_y$ , it is necessary to look at the value of  $\frac{b_x + a_y}{2}$ ,

$$\frac{b_x + a_y}{2} = 0 \Rightarrow A = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{b_x + a_y}{2} \neq 0 \Rightarrow \theta_0 = \pi/4$$

No astigmatism

Pure 45° astigmatism

We deduce the **amplitude** of **astigmatism**  $A$ :

$$A = \text{sgn}(b_x + a_y) \cdot \frac{r^2}{2} \sqrt{\left(\frac{b_x + a_y}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{a_x - b_y}{2}\right)^2}$$

By identification, we can express the  $x$  and  $y$  **tilts** coefficients (resp.  $Z_1$  and  $Z_2$ ):

$$Z_1 = r \cdot c_x \quad \text{and} \quad Z_2 = r \cdot c_y$$

And finally the **Focus** coefficient  $Z_3$  is

$$Z_3 = r^2 \cdot \frac{a_x + b_y}{8}$$