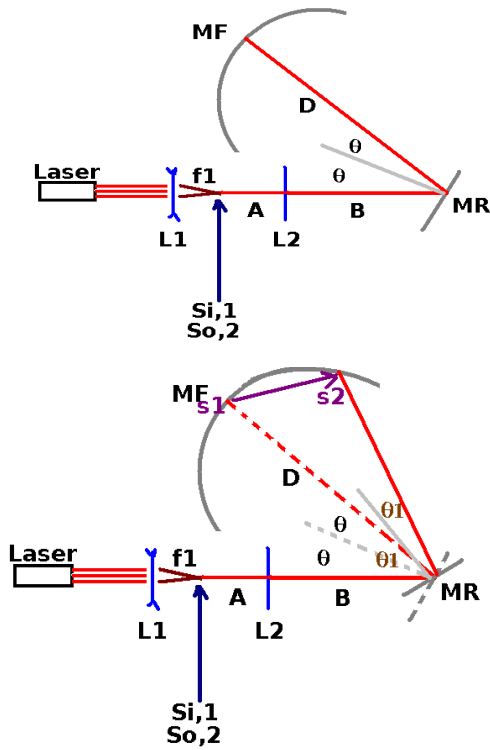


## Measurement of the speed of light



(1) Find  $S_{i,1}$ : Thin Lens Equation:

$$\frac{1}{s_{i,1}} + \frac{1}{s_{o,1}} = \frac{1}{f_1}; s_{o,1} = \infty \Rightarrow \frac{1}{s_{i,1}} = \frac{1}{f_1} \Rightarrow s_{i,1} = f_1$$

(2) Find A.

$$f_1 > 0: s_{o,2} = f_1: f_1 + A = |L_2 - L_1| \Rightarrow A = |L_2 - L_1| - f_1$$

(3) Find  $s_2 - s_1 = \Delta s$ :

Use:  $\Delta s = D\Delta\phi$  from the measurement of an arc. Here, the included angle is  $2\theta$  and  $2\theta_1$ . The actual angles are from the law of reflection.

So:  $\Delta s = 2D\Delta\theta$ .

Ultimately,  $s_{o,2}$  will be an image in the beam splitter which is viewed with a microscope.

(4) Find  $\Delta\theta$ :

In the time it takes a pulse of light to go from MR to  $s_2$  and back, it travels through the distance  $2D$ .

We find the mirror rotation in this time:  $\Delta\theta = \omega\Delta t$ .

We further find the time for the light to travel this

distance as:  $\Delta t = \frac{2D}{c}$ . Putting it together, we have the result:  $\Delta\theta = \frac{2D\omega}{c}$ . This gives

then:  $\Delta s = \frac{4D^2\omega}{c}$ .

(5) Imagine that the arrow  $s_1$  to  $s_2$  above is an object. We ultimately look at the reflection of this in the eyepiece. These two can be thought of as a virtual source. From this we find the magnification of the image of this imagined arrow as:

$$M = \frac{d_i}{d_o} = -\frac{\Delta s'}{\Delta s} \Rightarrow \Delta s' = -\Delta s \left( \frac{d_i}{d_o} \right).$$

Ignore the - sign since it is not important here and refers to image inversion. The result we obtain is:

$$\Delta s' = \Delta s \left( \frac{d_i}{d_o} \right).$$

We identify:

$$d_o = D + B: d_i = A.$$

The identification of A is because originally the system would be optically aligned to make this so. We have, after putting it all together:

$$\Delta s' = \frac{4D^2\omega}{c} \left( \frac{A}{D+B} \right) = \frac{8\pi D^2 f}{c} \left( \frac{A}{D+B} \right).$$

To make the actual measurements, we rotate 2 different directions: ccw and cw, and then subtract the 2 positions. However note that one frequency is positive while the other is negative. This gives the shift in position which I will call  $\Delta s_{\text{spots}}$ .

$$\Delta s_{\text{spots}} = \frac{8\pi D^2}{c} \left( \frac{D+B}{A} \right) (f_{\text{ccw}} + f_{\text{cw}})$$

We solve this for c to obtain the result which will provide us with the speed of light:

$$c = \frac{8\pi D^2}{\Delta s_{\text{spots}}} \left( \frac{A}{D+B} \right) (f_{\text{ccw}} + f_{\text{cw}})$$