Ray Optics and Optical Instruments

(a)

Image

FIGURE 9.19 Tracing rays through (a)

convex lens (b) concave lens.

Image

2F'

F′

Object

h

Object

2F

the laws of refraction and find the point where the refracted rays meet (or appear to meet). In practice, however, it is convenient to choose any two of the following rays:

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(i) A ray emanating from the object parallel to the principal axis of the lens after refraction passes through the second principal focus
Y F' (in a convex lens) or appears to diverge (in a concave lens) from the first principal focus F.
(ii) A ray of light, passing through the optical centre of the lens, emerges without any deviation after refraction.

(iii) A ray of light passing through the first principal focus (for a convex lens) or appearing to meet at it (for a concave lens) emerges parallel to the principal axis after refraction.

Figures 9.19(a) and (b) illustrate these rules for a convex and a concave lens, respectively. You should practice drawing similar ray diagrams for different positions of the object with respect to the lens and also verify that the lens formula, Eq. (9.23), holds good for all cases.

Here again it must be remembered that each point on an object gives out infinite number of rays. All these rays will pass through the same image point after refraction at the lens.

<u>Magnification (*m*)</u> produced by a lens is defined, like that for a mirror, as the ratio of the size of the image to that of the object. Proceeding in the same way as for spherical mirrors, it is easily seen that for a lens

$$m = \frac{h'}{h} = \frac{v}{u}$$

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(9.24)

When we apply the sign convention, we see that, for erect (and virtual) image formed by a convex or concave lens, *m* is positive, while for an inverted (and real) image, *m* is negative.

Example 9.7 A magician during a show makes a glass lens with n = 1.47 disappear in a trough of liquid. What is the refractive index of the liquid? Could the liquid be water?

Solution

The refractive index of the liquid must be equal to 1.47 in order to make the lens disappear. This means $n_1 = n_2$. This gives 1/f = 0 or $f \rightarrow \infty$. The lens in the liquid will act like a plane sheet of glass. No, the liquid is not water. It could be glycerine.

9.5.3 Power of a lens

Power of a lens is a measure of the convergence or divergence, which a lens introduces in the light falling on it. Clearly, a lens of shorter focal

9.24)

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