

Physics 262/266

George Mason University

Prof. Paul So

Summary for Spherical Mirrors and Thin Lens

$$\frac{1}{s} + \frac{1}{s'} = \frac{1}{f}$$

(object-image relation, spherical mirror & thin lens)

$$f = \frac{R}{2}$$

(focal length, spherical mirror)

$$\frac{1}{f} = (n - 1) \left(\frac{1}{R_1} - \frac{1}{R_2} \right)$$

(lensmaker's equation)

$$m = -\frac{s'}{s}$$

(lateral magnification, spherical mirror & thin lens)

Sign Rules for Mirrors & Lens

1. Object Distance:

- s is + if the object is on the same side as the incoming light (for both reflecting and refracting surfaces) and s is – otherwise.

2. Image Distance:

- s' is + if the image is on the same side as the outgoing light and is – otherwise.

3. Object/Image Height:

- y (y') is + if the image (object) is erect or upright. It is – if it is inverted.

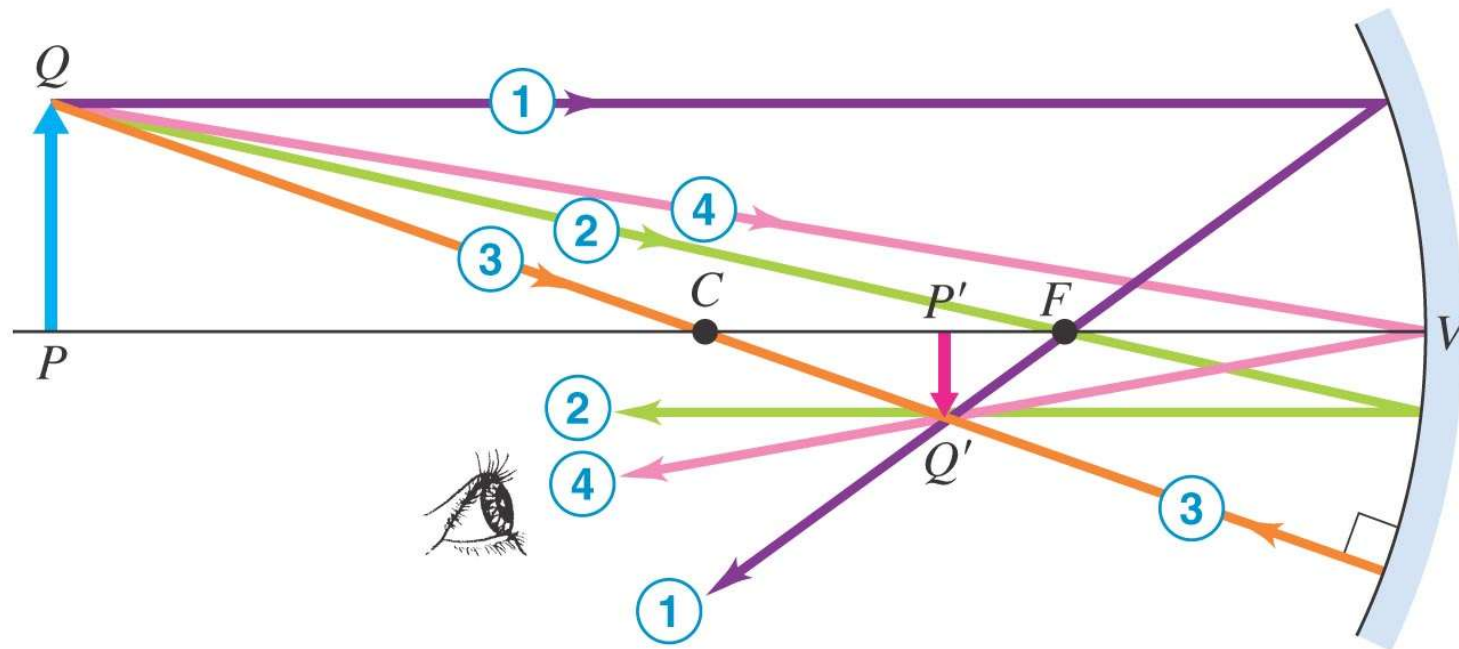
4. Radius of Curvature:

- R is + when the center of curvature C is on the same side as the outgoing light and – otherwise.

5. Focus Length: (+ concave, - convex)
(+ converging, - diverging)

Geometric Methods: Rays Tracing

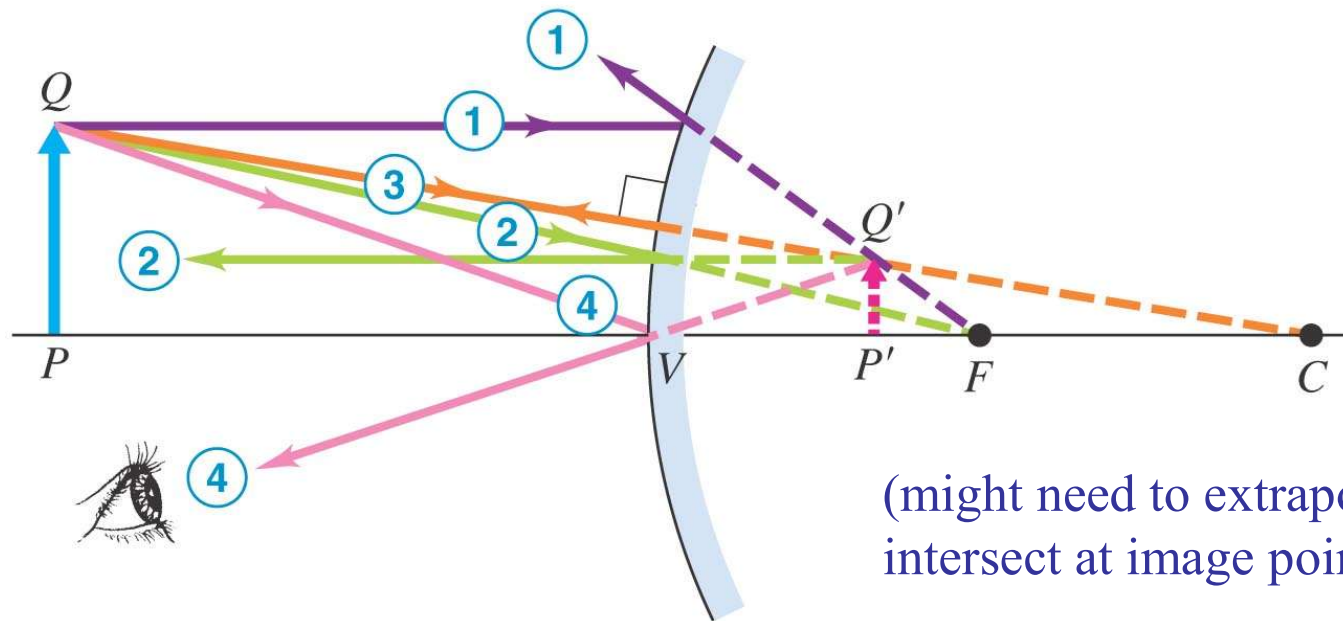
Principal rays for concave mirror



- ① Ray parallel to axis reflects through focal point.
- ② Ray through focal point reflects parallel to axis.
- ③ Ray through center of curvature intersects the surface normally and reflects along its original path.
- ④ Ray to vertex reflects symmetrically around optic axis.

Geometric Methods: Rays Tracing

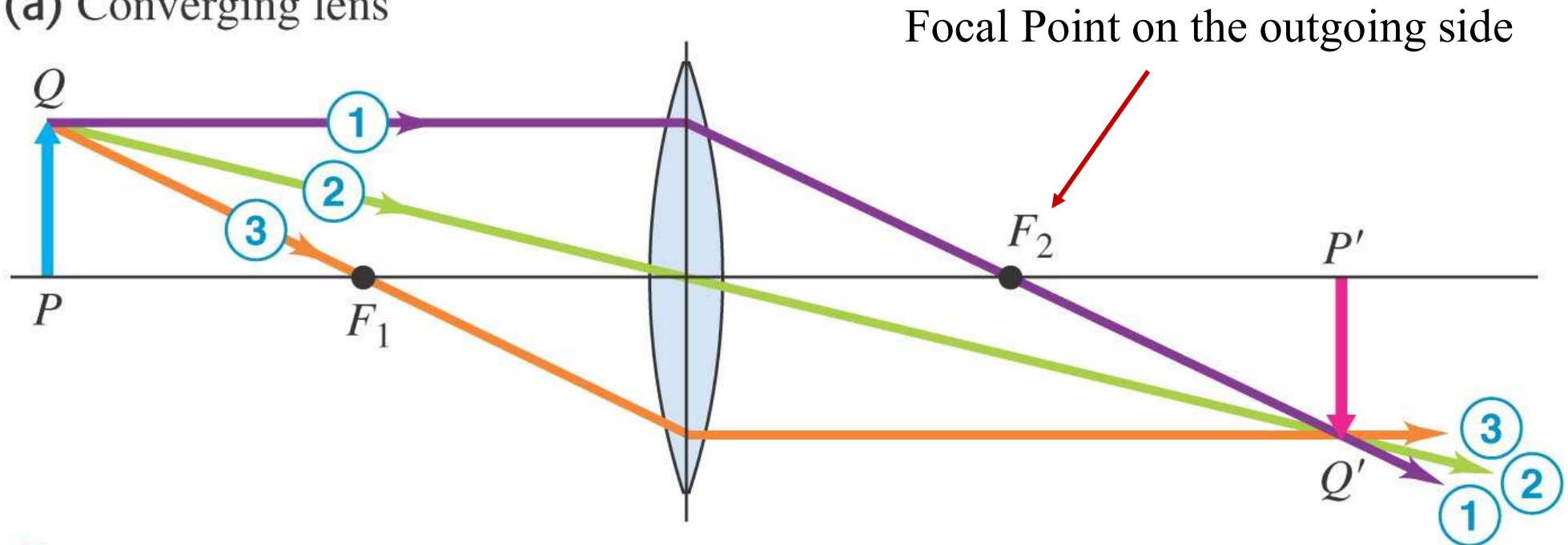
Principal rays for convex mirror



- ① Reflected parallel ray appears to come from focal point.
- ② Ray toward focal point reflects parallel to axis.
- ③ As with concave mirror: Ray radial to center of curvature intersects the surface normally and reflects along its original path.
- ④ As with concave mirror: Ray to vertex reflects symmetrically around optic axis.

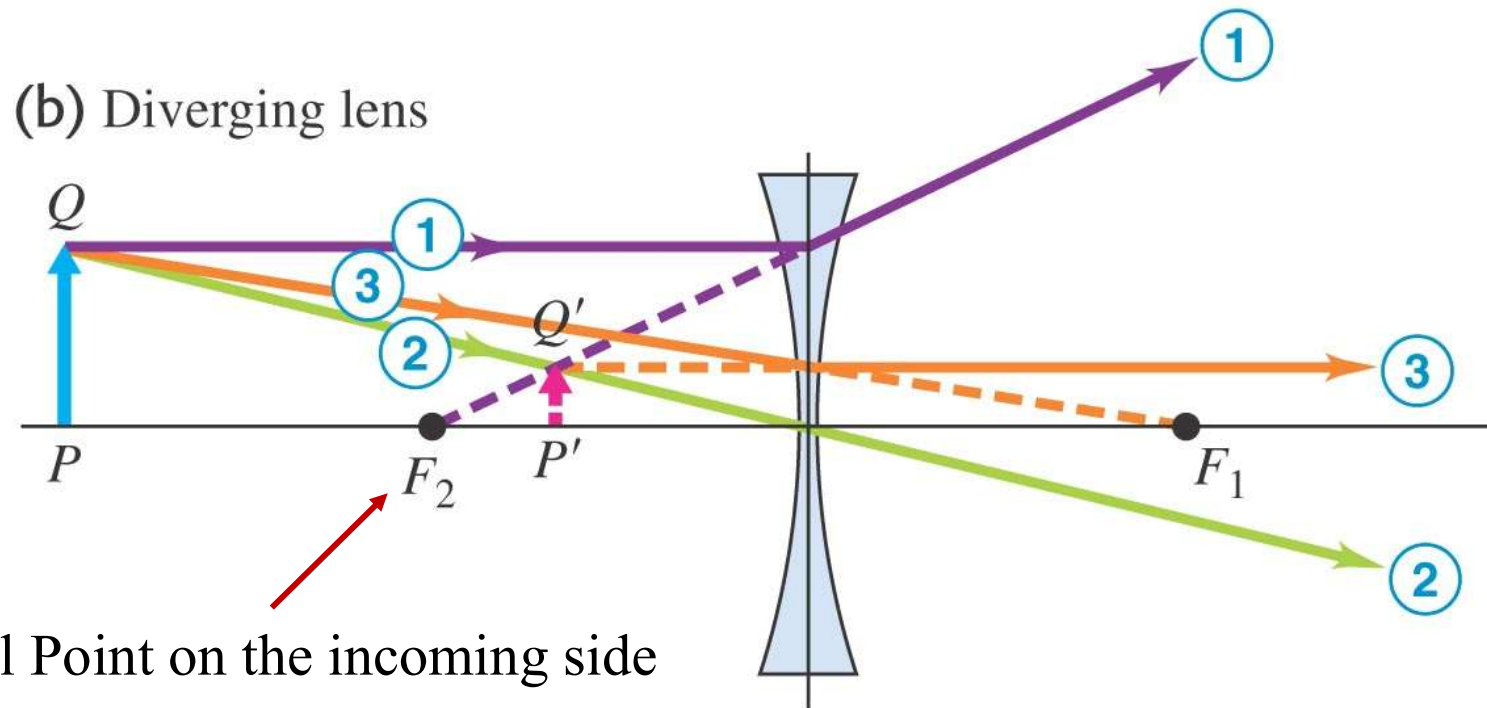
Ray Tracing Methods for Lenses

(a) Converging lens



- ① Parallel incident ray refracts to pass through second focal point F_2 .
- ② Ray through center of lens does not deviate appreciably.
- ③ Ray through the first focal point F_1 emerges parallel to the axis.

Rays Tracing Methods for Lenses



Focal Point on the incoming side

- ① Parallel incident ray appears after refraction to have come from the second focal point F_2 .
- ② Ray through center of lens does not deviate appreciably.
- ③ Ray aimed at the first focal point F_1 emerges parallel to the axis.

Example: Compound Lenses

