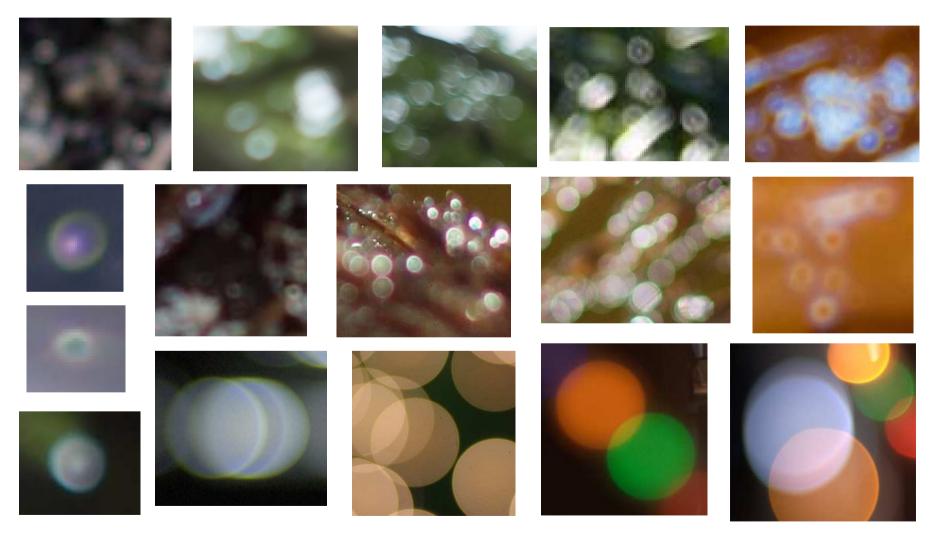




Various Bokeh from Photographs





Contents

- Aberrations and Corrections
- Residual Aberrations and Bokeh Characteristics
- Phenomena of Multiple-Lens Systems
- Conclusion



Aberrations and Corrections



Optical Aberrations

- Actual lenses do not image ideally
 - Imperfect focus
 - Image distortion
 - Color dispersion
 - And more ...



Major Aberrations

- Monochromatic aberrations
 - Occur even with single-wavelength rays
 - Also known as Seidel's five aberrations
- Chromatic aberrations
 - Caused by dispersion
 - The separation of visible light into its different colors
 - Different refractive indices in multi-wavelength rays
 - Caused with multi-wavelength rays but:
 - Occurs as blur in monochrome film
 - Does not occur in color film with single-wavelength rays
 - Such as Sodium-vapor Lamps



Monochromatic and Chromatic Aberrations

- Monochromatic aberrations (Seidel's five aberrations)
 - Spherical Aberration (SA)
 - Coma
 - Field Curvature
 - Astigmatism
 - Distortion
- Chromatic aberrations (CA)
 - Lateral Chromatic Aberration (CA of Magnification)
 - Longitudinal Chromatic Aberration (Axial CA)



Details of Important Aberrations Which Affect Bokeh

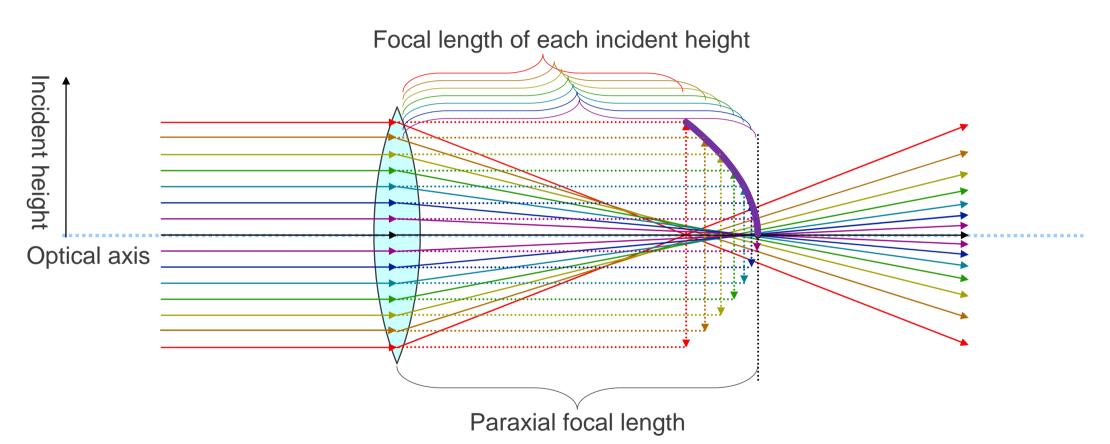


Spherical Aberration

- The focal length deviation of rays parallel to the optical axis
- The aberration is caused by a spherical lens
 - Spherical surfaces are:
 - Not ideal for lenses
 - Commonly used due to the high manufacturability



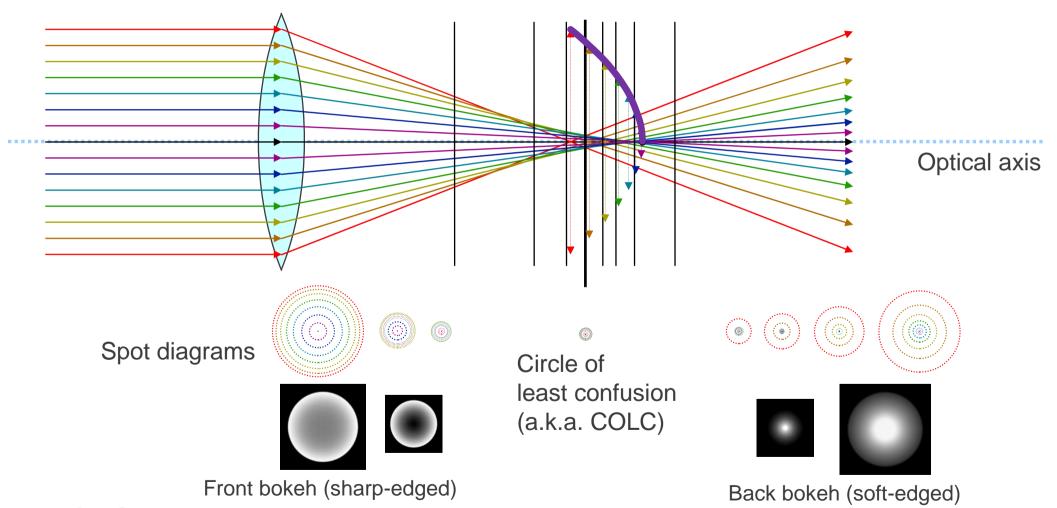
Principle of Spherical Aberration



 The farther the rays are from the optical axis, the closer they intersect the optical axis



Spherical Lens Bokeh





Corrections for Spherical Aberration

Doublet lens

- Pair of convex and concave lenses
- Concave lens aberration cancels convex lens one
- Cannot cancel perfectly

Triplet lens

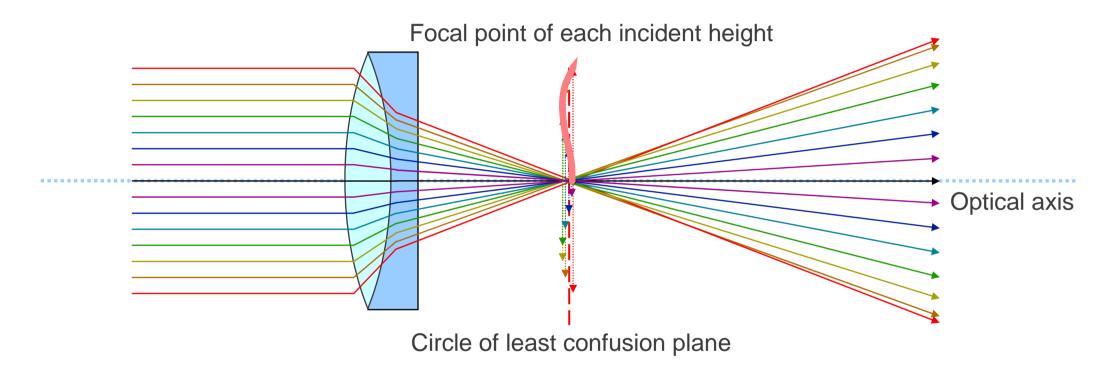
- An additional lens to doublet
- Still not perfect, but much better

Aspherical lens

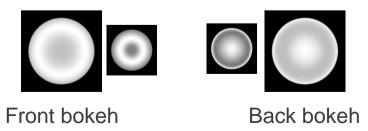
- Surface is close to ideal
- Expensive to make
- Perfectly remove spherical aberration



Example of Doublet Lens Correction

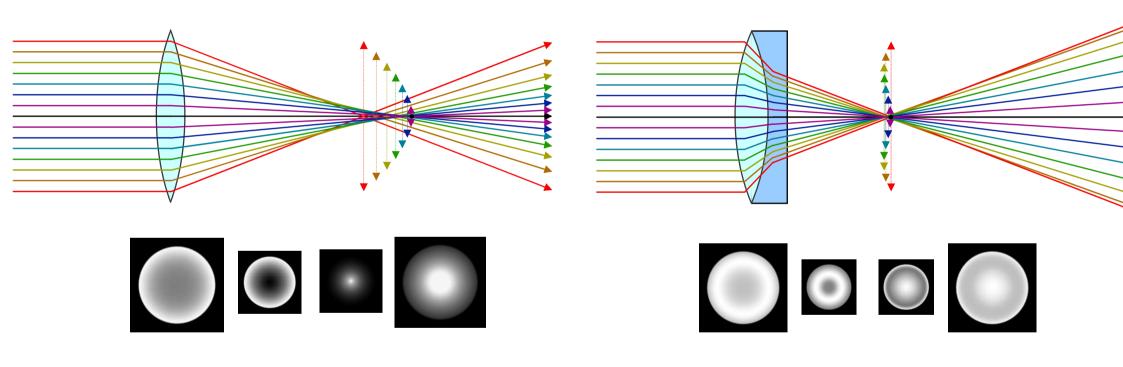


More complicated bokeh than spherical





Comparison

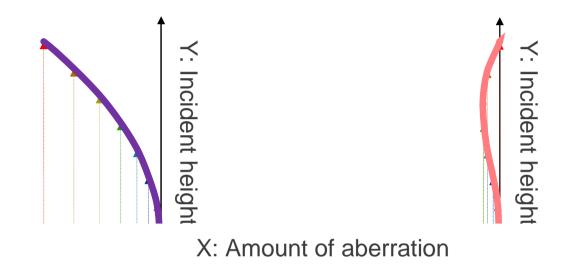


Spherical lens

Doublet lens Sharper focus Flatter bokeh



Spherical Aberration Charts (Longitudinal Aberration Diagrams)



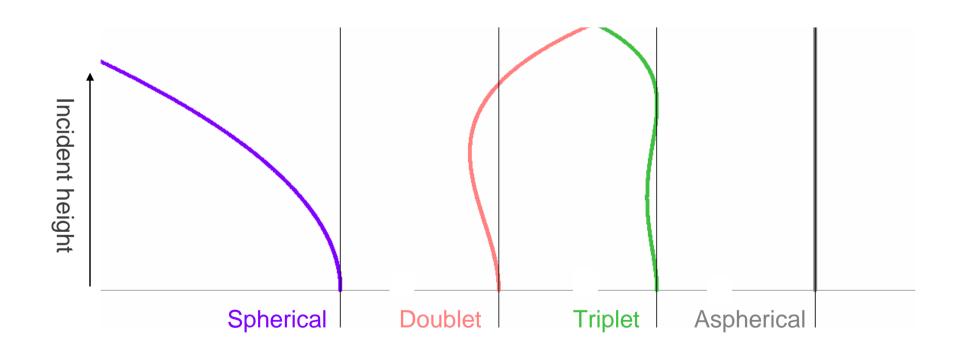
Spherical lens

Doublet lens

- Y-axis: Incident height (independent variable)
- X-axis: Amount of spherical aberration (dependent variable)



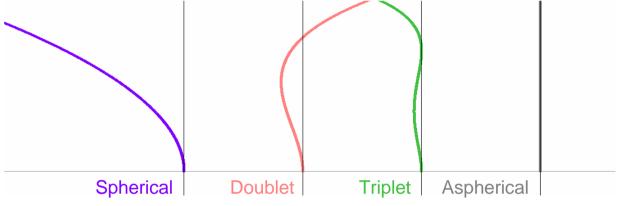
Spherical Aberration Charts (Longitudinal Aberration Diagrams)

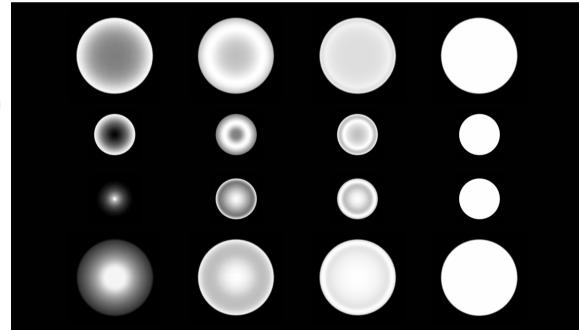




Diagrams and Bokeh

- Closer to vertical line, better correction
 - Sharper focus
 - Flatter bokeh





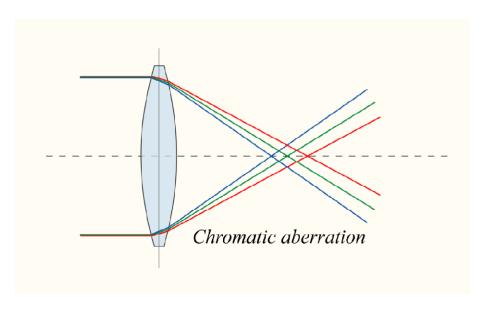
Front bokeh

Back bokeh



Axial Chromatic Aberration

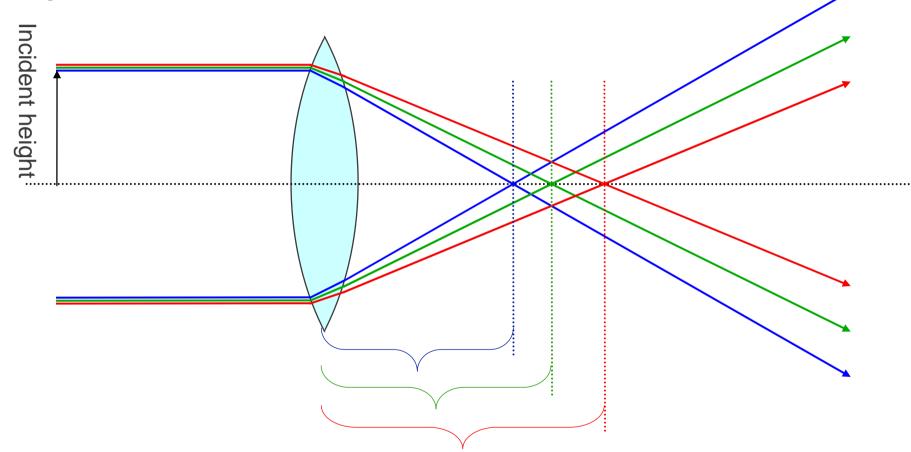
- Differences of ray wavelengths cause aberration
- Refractive indices differ by wavelengths



DrBob, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Chromatic_aberration_lens_diagram.svg



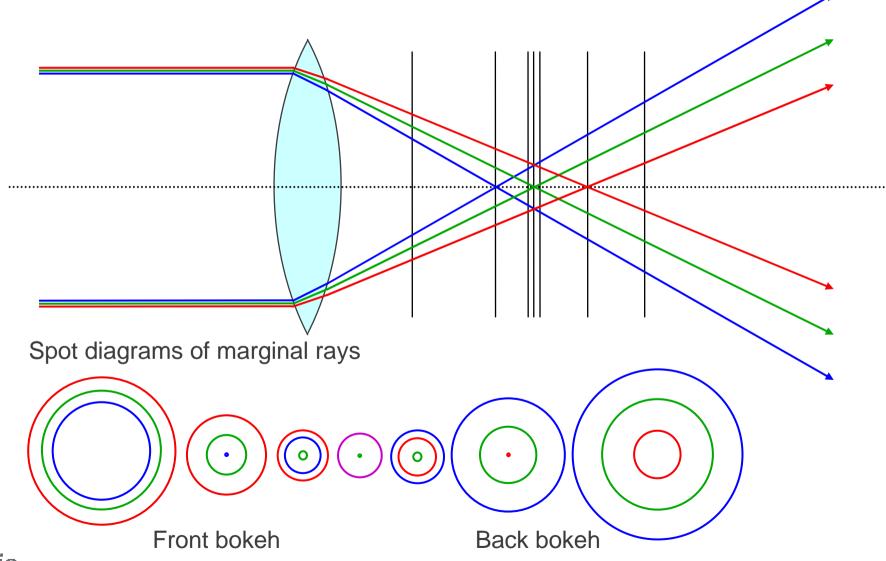
Principle of Axial CA



Focal length on each wavelength

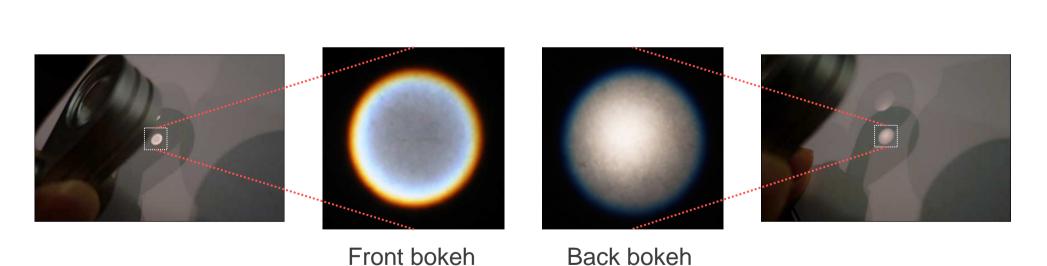


Bokeh of Axial CA



Effects of Axial CA

- Front bokeh shows red fringe
- Back bokeh shows blue fringe
- Relatively larger fringe around the focal point



Out-of-focus images made by a magnifier



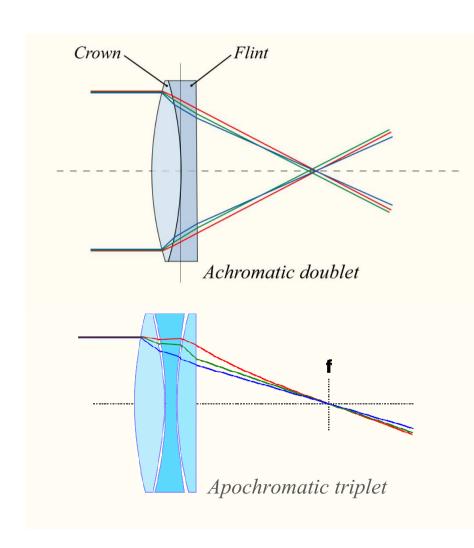
Correction of Axial Chromatic Aberration

- Achromatic lens
 - Correction with doublet or triplet etc.
 - Coupling of different dispersion property lenses
 - Focusable multi-wavelength rays on a single point
 - Cannot correct perfectly on all wavelengths



Achromatic Lens

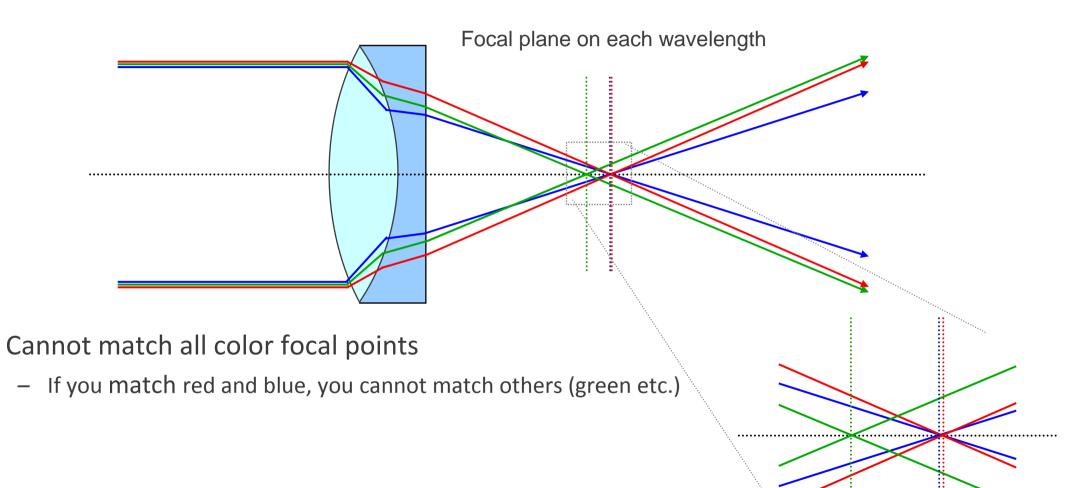
- Achromatic lens (Achromat)
 - Achromatic doublet etc.
 - Focusable two wavelength rays on the same point
 - E.g. red and blue
- Apochromatic lens (APO)
 - Apochromatic triplet etc.
 - Generally focusable three wavelength rays
 - E.g. red, green and blue



DrBob, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Lens6b-en.svg
Egmason, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Apochromat_2.svg

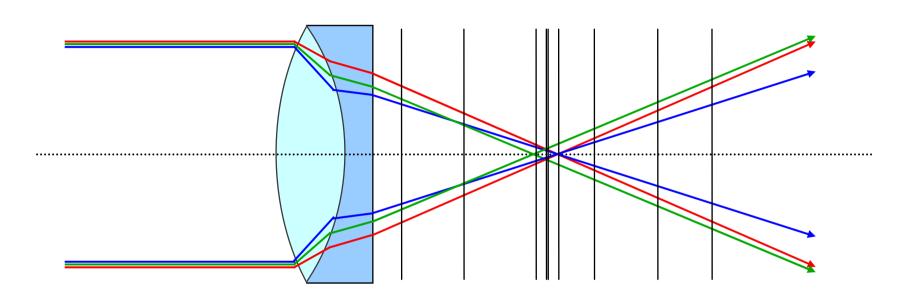


Example of Achromatic Doublet Correction

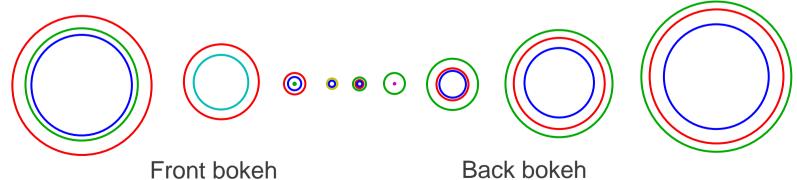




Example of Achromatic Doublet Bokeh

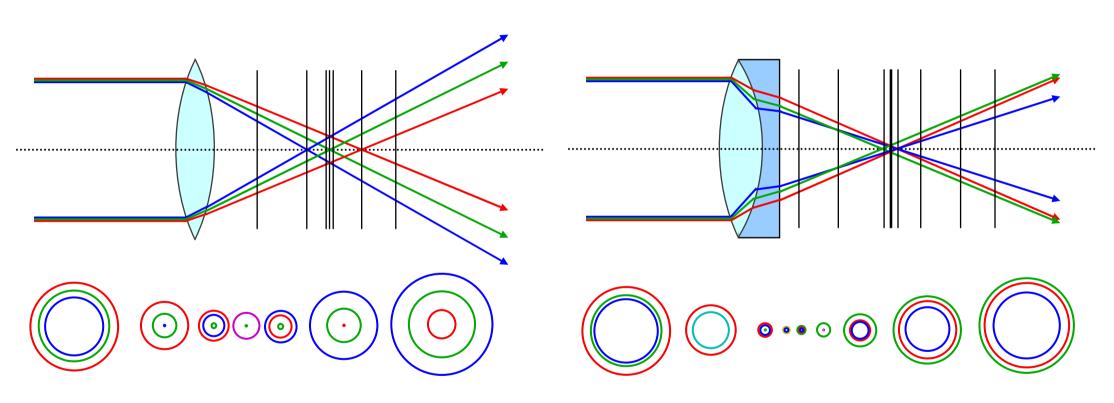


Spot diagram of marginal rays





Comparison



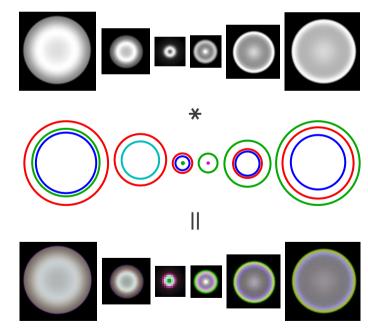
Axial chromatic aberration

Residual chromatic aberration a.k.a. secondary spectrum



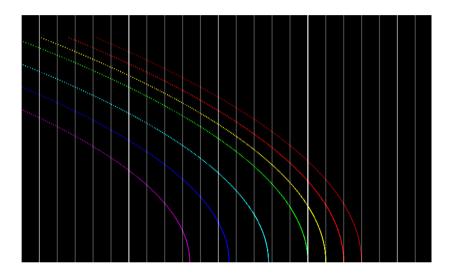
Correction by Achromatic Doublet

- Doublet also corrects spherical aberration
- Combination bokeh of each character
 - Residual aberration of spherical aberration
 - Soft / Sharp edge
 - Dark center / sharp peak
 - Residual aberration of axial chromatic aberration
 - Concentric colored circles
- ⇒Complicated gradation



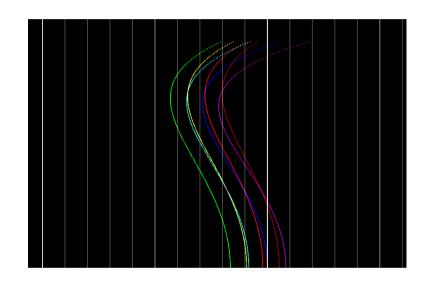


Diagrams and Bokeh with Multiple Wavelengths





Spherical lens without correction



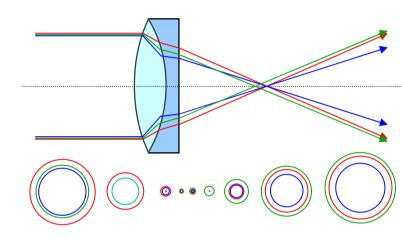


Doublet lens



Corrected Bokeh from Aberrations

- Correction by achromatic doublets
 - Widely used
 - Typical correction example
 - Soft purple fringe on front bokeh
 - Sharp green fringe on back bokeh



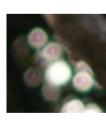




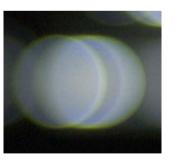










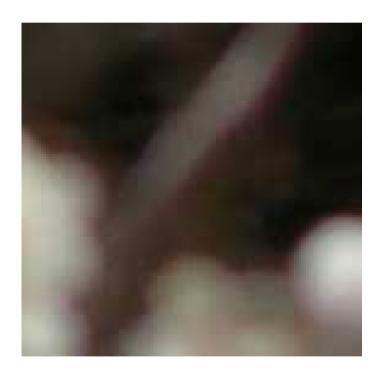


Front bokeh in photographs

Back bokeh in photographs



Front Bokeh with Purple Fringe



Front bokeh in photographs





Back Bokeh with Green Fringe

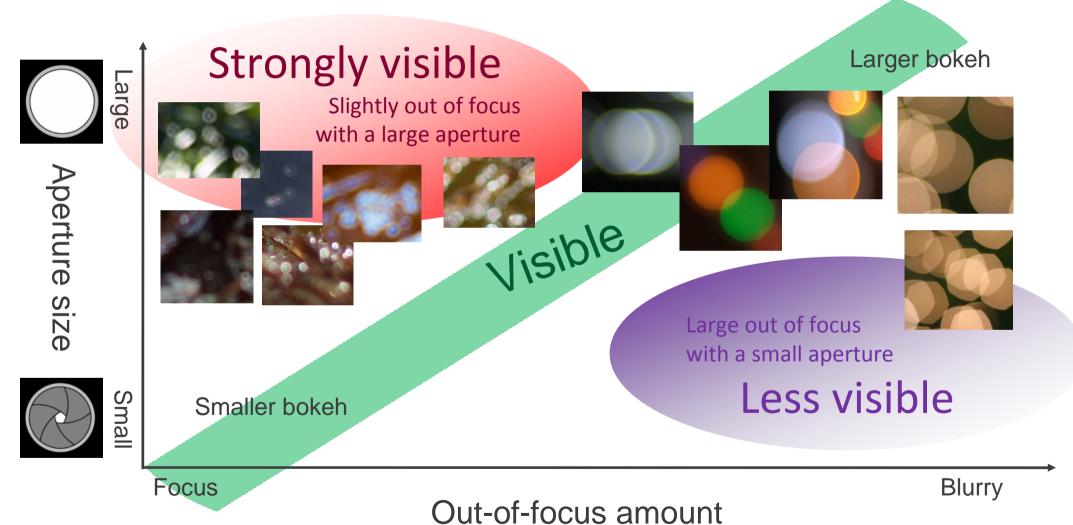


Back bokeh in photographs





Is Residual Aberration Visible or Not?





Is Residual Aberration Visible or Not? (Cont'd)

- Strongly visible
 - Slightly out of focus with a large aperture
- Less visible
 - Large out of focus with a small aperture



Residual Aberrations and Bokeh Characteristics

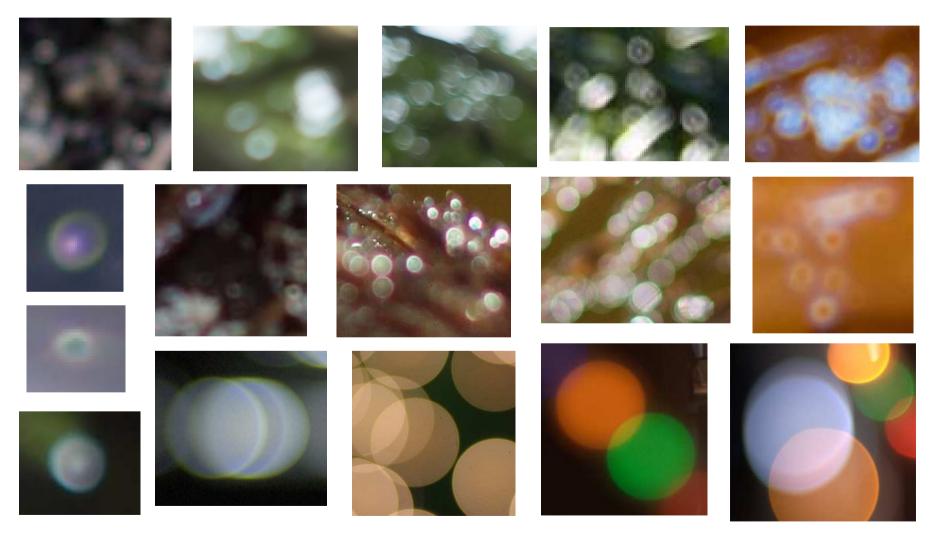


Bokeh Characteristics

- Bokeh Characteristics vary by:
 - Aberrations
 - Residual aberrations
 - Different corrections make different characteristics
- Residual aberrations are essentially undesired
 - But they are characteristics of real photos



Various Bokeh from Photographs





Phenomena of Multiple-Lens Systems



Multiple-Lens Systems

- Actual optical system is composed of multiple lenses in order to:
 - Correct aberrations
 - Zoom
 - Reduce focus breathing
 - Others



Multiple-Lens vs. Single-Lens

- More complex aberrations
- Various bokeh characteristics
- Different focus breathing
- Variable maximum aperture
- Optical Vignetting
- And more ...



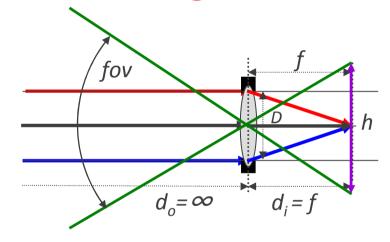
Focus Breathing

- Focus breathing
 - FOV varies when focusing
- Types of focus breathing
 - Single Lens
 - Focusing by shifting lens or sensor
 - Focal length is constant and independent of focus distance
 - At close focus, FOV becomes narrower
 - In spite of constant focal length
 - » Extend image distance (between lens and sensor)
 - » While the F-number is the same, the effective F-number is larger (darker)
 - Multiple-lens system
 - Breathing varies by the focusing mechanism



Focal Length, Sensor Size and FOV

- Field of view is often explained as...
 - Depends on the ratio of sensor size and focal length
 - fov = atan(h / 2f) * 2
 - $f = h / (\tan(fov / 2) * 2)$
 - fov : field of view
 - h : sensor size

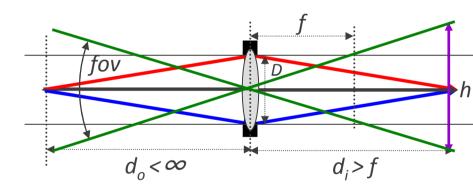


- Not accurate
 - Accurate only when focusing on infinite distance



Accurate FOV Calculation

- Field of view
 - Depends on the ratio of sensor size and image distance
 - $fov = atan(h / 2d_i) * 2$
 - $d_i = h / (\tan(fov / 2) * 2)$
 - Effective calculation only when a lens exists
 - $fov = atan(h(d_o f) / 2d_o f) * 2$
 - $f = (d_0 h / 2) / (\tan(fov / 2) * d_0 + h / 2)$
- Effective F-number
 - $-F_e = d_i/D$
 - Effective calculation only when a lens exists
 - $F_{\rho} = (1 + M) F$
 - $F_{\rho} = (d_i / f) F$



Optical magnification 'M' $M = d_i / d_o$ $M = f / (d_o - f) = d_i / f - 1$

- Focus distance is also required in order to calculate correctly
 - If the focal length is constant, FOV becomes narrower with finite focus



Focusing Mechanisms

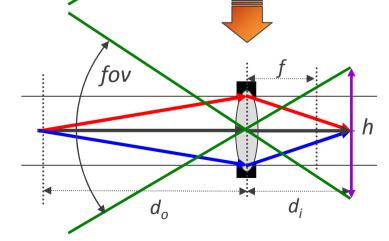
- All-Group Focusing / Film-Back Focusing
 - Same mechanism as single-lens system
 - Used in old lenses
 - FOV becomes narrower when close focus
 - An Effective F-number becomes decreased
- Front-Group Focusing
 - Used in old lenses
 - Usually FOV becomes narrower when close focus
 - An Effective F-number becomes decreased
- Inner (Internal) / Rear Focusing
 - a.k.a. IF / RF
 - Used in recent zoom lenses
 - Usually FOV becomes wider when close focus (less expensive lenses)
 - No-breathing focus (relatively expensive lenses)
 - An Effective F-number is constant





All-Group / Film-Back Focusing FOV becomes narrower

fov finite focus $d_0 = \infty$ $d_i = f$ fov lose focus d_o d_i Inner Focusing (expensive lens)
No breathing
Focal length becomes shrunk fov $d_o = \infty$ $d_i = f$



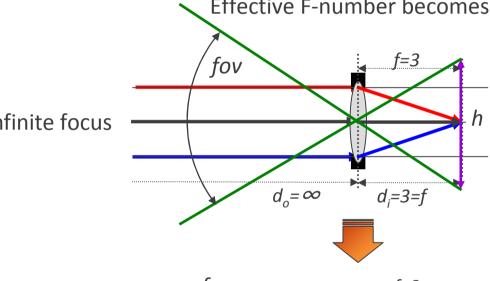
Silicon Studio

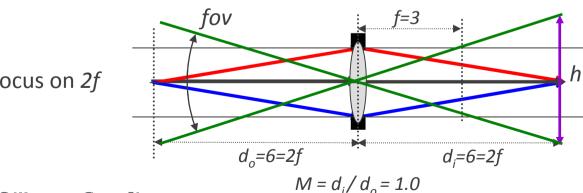


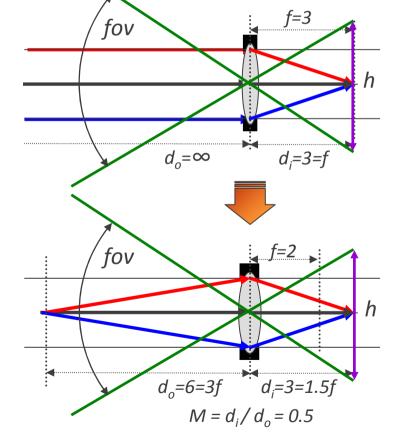
Shift sensor to backward 2f (or shift lens) Focal length is constant

Effective F-number becomes darker

Image distance is fixed Focal length is shrunk to 66.7% FOV and Effective F-number are constant





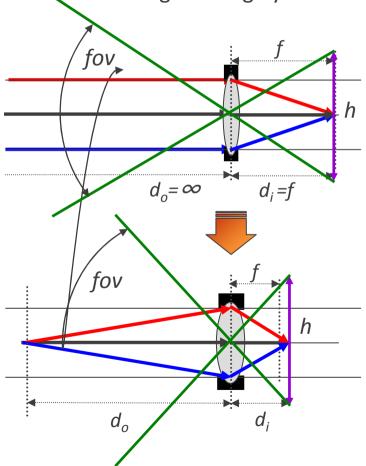


Silicon Studio



All-Group / Film-Back Focusing FOV becomes narrower

fov finite focus $d_0 = \infty$ $d_i = f$ fov d_o d_i Typical Inner Focusing FOV becomes wider Focal length is largely shrunk



Silicon Studio

lose focus



Shift sensor to backward 2f (or shift lens) Focal length is constant

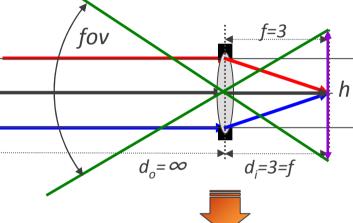
Focal length is constant

Effective F-number becomes darker

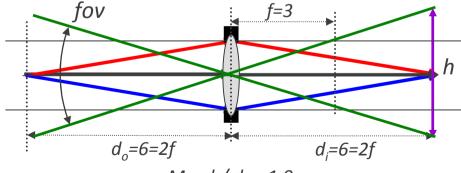
fov

fov

finite focus



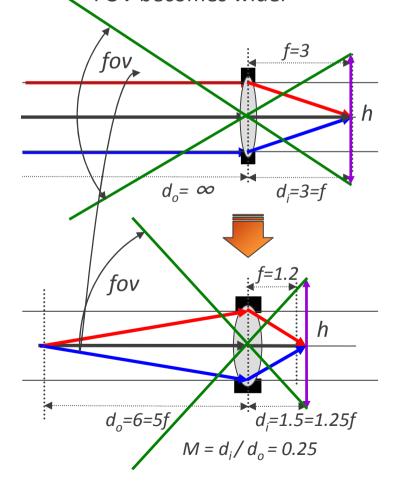
ocus on *2f*



Silicon Studio

 $M = d_i / d_o = 1.0$

Focal length is shrunk to 40% in this case Image distance is also shrunk to 50% FOV becomes wider





Variable Aperture Zoom Lenses

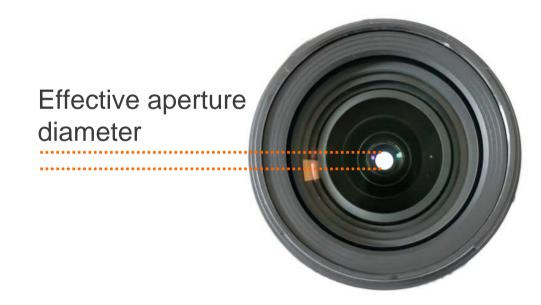


Silicon Studio



Effective Aperture Diameter 'D'

- Diameter of "Entrance Pupil"
 - Virtual image of the aperture as seen from the front
 - NOT a physical aperture diameter





Zooming Varies Virtual Image Diameter

 To keep the exposure, narrower FOV requires larger diameter

$$D = f / F$$





Zoom Lens Types

- Fixed Aperture Zoom Lens
 - Minimum F-number is constant over the entire zoom range
 - Effective diameter is proportional to focal length (D = f / F)
- Variable Aperture Zoom Lens
 - Minimum F-number becomes larger as the FOV becomes narrower
 - Effective diameter is not proportional to focal length

*Note that the "Minimum F-number" means the "Maximum Aperture"



Wide (12mm) f/2.8



Narrow (60mm) f/4.0



Examples of Zoom Lens Products

- OLYMPUS D.ZUIKO (4/3")
 - 14-42mm F3.5-5.6
 - 12-60mm F2.8-4.0
 - 35-100mm F2.0 Fixed aperture
- CANON EF-S (APS-C)
 - 17-55mm F2.8 Fixed aperture
 - 18-135mm F3.5-5.6
 - 55-250mm F4.0-5.6
- DX NIKKOR (APS-C)
 - 17-55mm F2.8 Fixed aperture
 - 18-140mm F3.5-5.6
 - 55-200mm F4.0-5.6
- CANON EF (35mm)
 - 24-70mm F2.870-200mm F2.8Fixed aperture
 - 100-400mm F4.5-5.6
- FX NIKKOR (35mm)
 - 24-70mm F2.870-200mm F2.8Fixed aperture
 - 80-400mm F4.5-5.6

Silicon Studio



Tendency of Actual Lenses

- Lower magnification zoom
- More expensive "Brighter lens"



Minimum F-number varies a little

- Higher magnification zoom
- Less expensive "Darker lens"



Minimum F-number varies a lot



Conclusion



Conclusion

- Actual lenses have various aberrations
 - Many solutions correct aberrations
 - Aberrations cannot be completely corrected
 - Residual aberrations give bokeh its character
- Bokeh is rich in variety
 - Different corrections show different representations
 - Color fringes and gradation vary between front and back bokeh
 - Conspicuousness: smaller out-of-focus > larger out of focus



Conclusion (cont'd)

- Actual optical system is composed of multiple lenses in order to:
 - Correct aberrations
 - Zoom
 - Reduce focus breathing
- Many phenomena do not conform to single lens rules
 - Different focus breathing
 - Different zooming aperture varying

by different mechanisms



References

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- Trávník, J. "On Bokeh." Jakub Trávník's resources. http://jtra.cz/stuff/essays/bokeh/index.html
- 安藤幸司『光と光の記録「レンズ編」』 AnfoWorld http://www.anfoworld.com/LensMF.html
- 吉田正太郎(1997)『カメラマンのための写真レンズの科学』地人書館.
- 永田信一(2002) 『図解 レンズがわかる本』日本実業出版社.