

# Physics 102: Lecture 17

## Reflection and Refraction of Light



# Recall from last time....

Last Time

Reflection:

$$\theta_i = \theta_r$$

**Flat Mirror:**

image equidistant behind

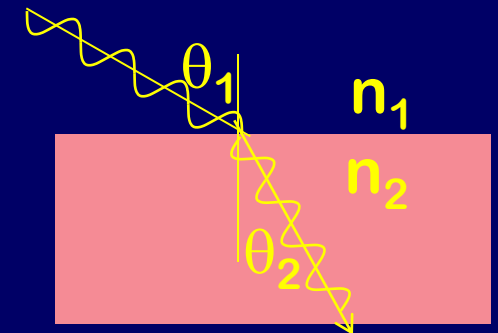
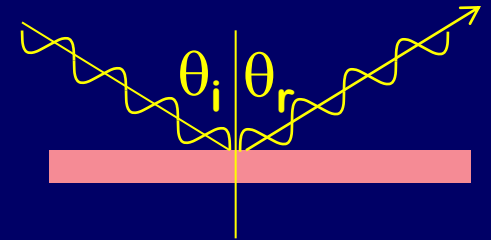
**Spherical Mirrors:**

Concave or Convex

Today

Refraction:

$$n_1 \sin(\theta_1) = n_2 \sin(\theta_2)$$



# Image formation using spherical mirrors



**Why are objects  
“closer than they  
appear”?**

**Key Ideas:**

- **Principal rays**
- **Mirror equation & Magnification**

# Concave Mirror Principal Rays



- 1) Parallel to principal axis reflects through  $f$ .
- 2) Through  $f$ , reflects parallel to principal axis.
- 3) Through center.

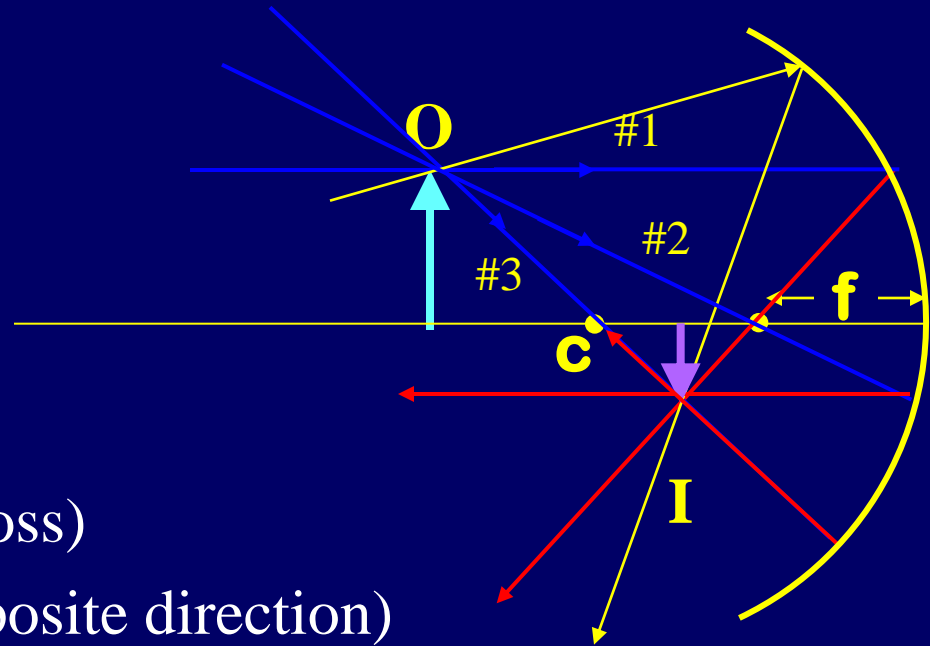


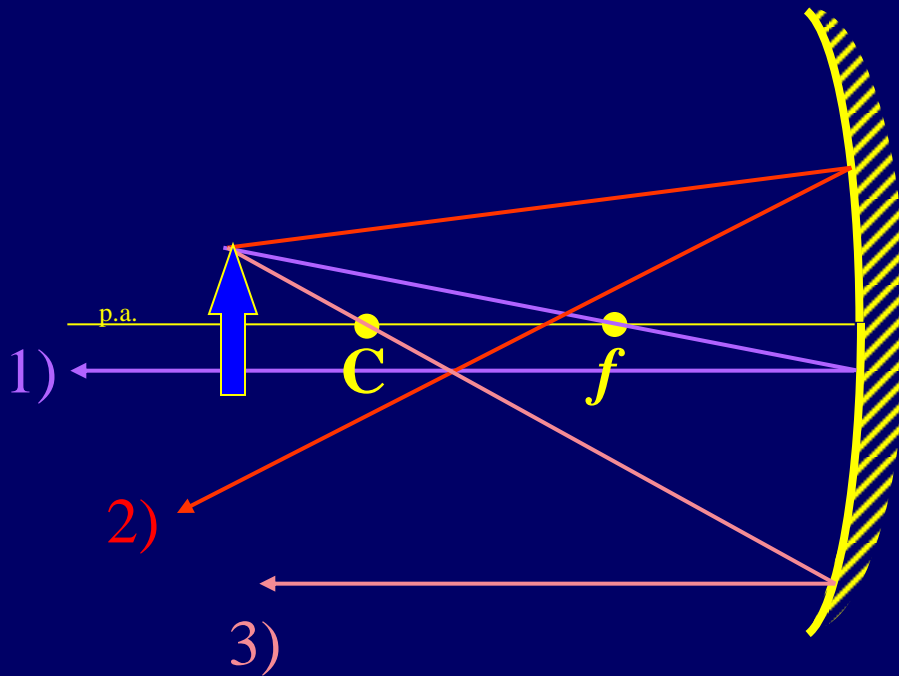
Image is (in this case):

- Real (light rays actually cross)
- Inverted (Arrow points opposite direction)
- Reduced (smaller than object)

**\*\*Every other ray from object tip which hits mirror will reflect through image tip**

# Checkpoint 1.1

Which ray is **NOT** correct?

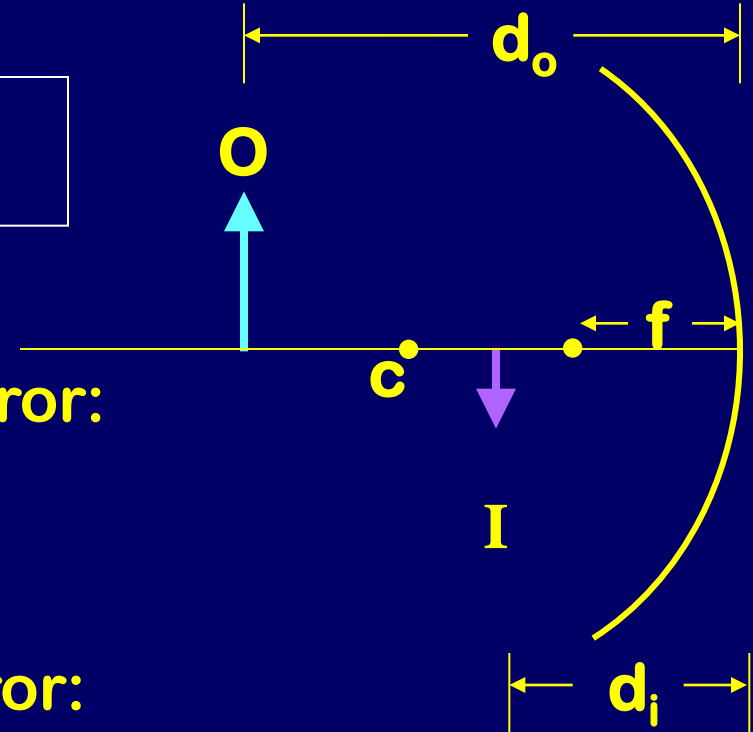


# Mirror Equation



$$\frac{1}{d_o} + \frac{1}{d_i} = \frac{1}{f}$$

Works for concave,  
convex, or flat



- **$d_o$  = distance object is from mirror:**

Positive: object in front of mirror

Negative: object behind mirror

- **$d_i$  = distance image is from mirror:**

- Positive: real image (in front of mirror)

- Negative: virtual image (behind mirror)

- **$f$  = focal length mirror:**

- Positive: concave mirror       **$+R/2$**

- Negative: convex mirror       **$-R/2$**

# Checkpoint 1.3

The image produced by a concave mirror of a real object is:

- 1) Always Real
- 2) Always Virtual
- 3) Sometimes Real, Sometimes Virtual



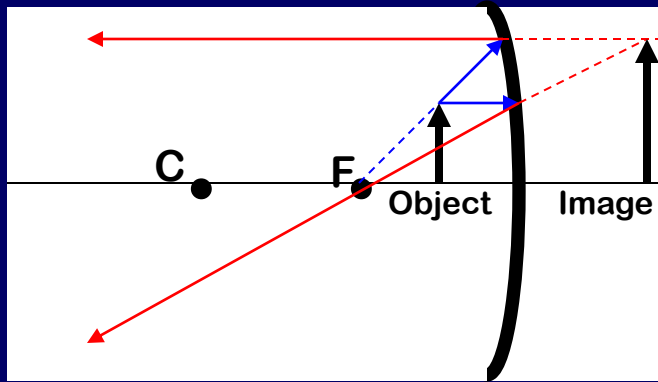
# ACT: Concave Mirror

Where in front of a concave mirror should you place an object so that the image is virtual?

- 1) Close to mirror
- 2) Far from mirror
- 3) Either close or far
- 4) Not Possible

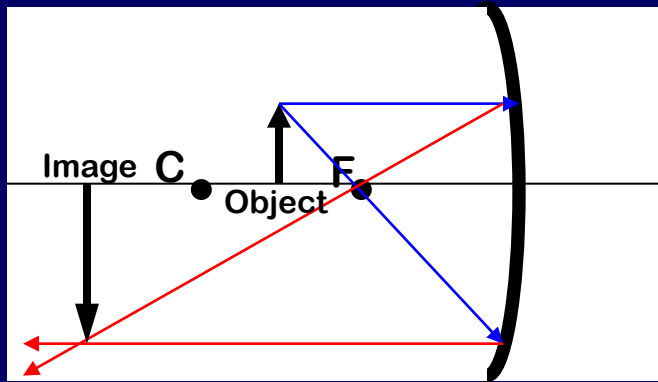


# 3 Cases for Concave Mirrors



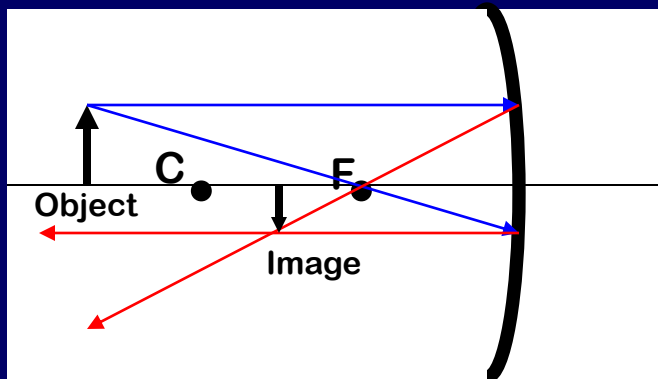
**Virtual**

Inside F



**Real**

Between C&F



**Real**

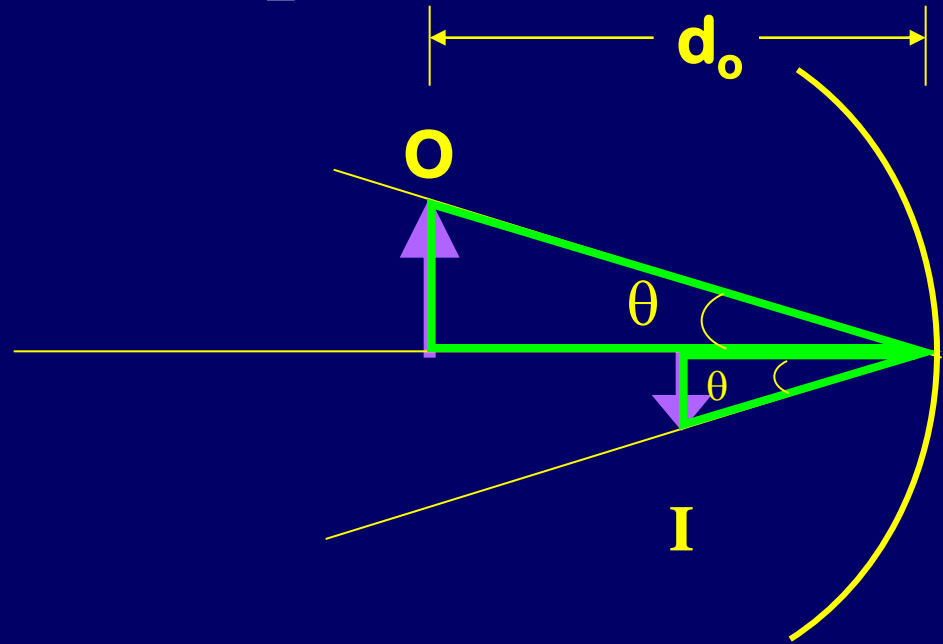
Past C

# Magnification Equation

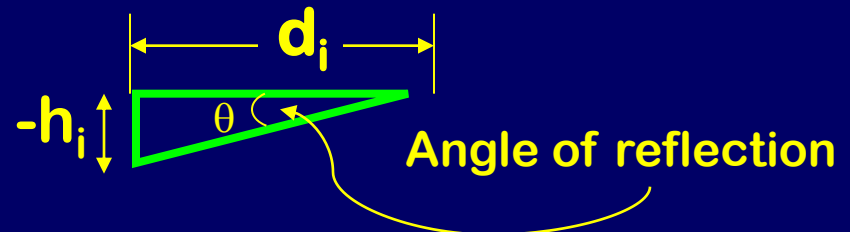
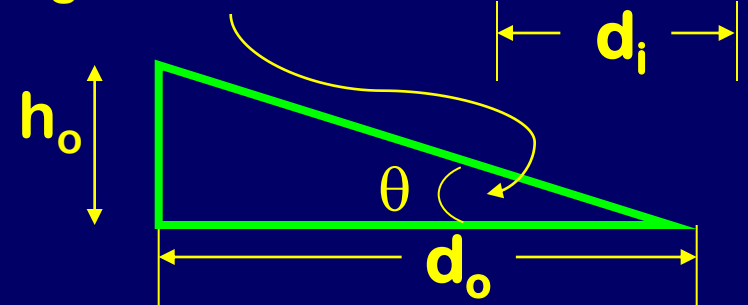
$$m = \frac{h_i}{h_o} = -\frac{d_i}{d_o}$$

- **$h_o$  = height of object:**
  - Positive: always
- **$h_i$  = height of image:**
  - Positive: image is upright
  - Negative: image is inverted
- **$m$  = magnification:**
  - Positive / Negative: same as for  $h_i$
  - $< 1$ : image is reduced
  - $> 1$ : image is enlarged

$$\tan(\theta) = \frac{h_o}{d_o} = -\frac{h_i}{d_i}$$



Angle of incidence



## Example

# Solving Equations

A candle is placed 6 cm in front of a concave mirror with focal length  $f=2$  cm. Determine the image location.

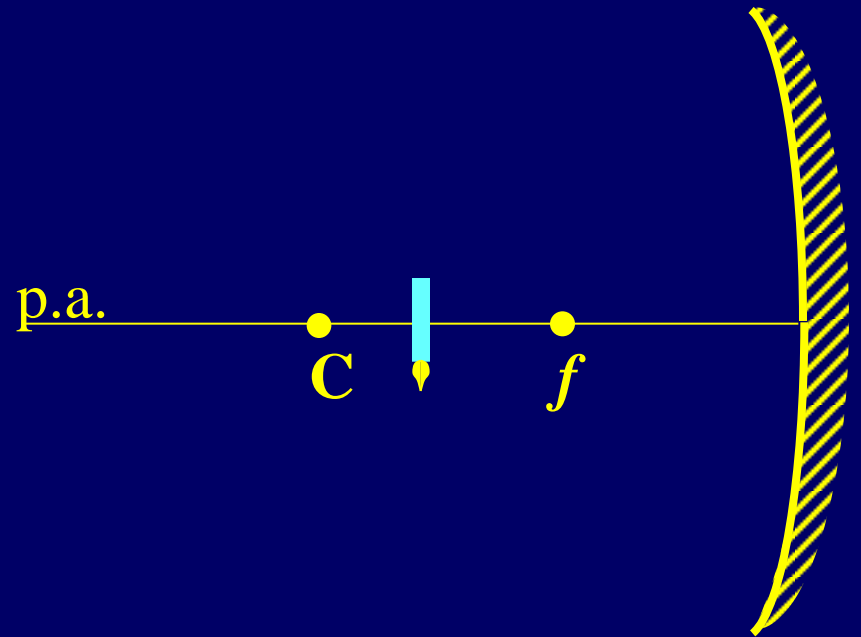
$$\frac{1}{6 \text{ cm}} + \frac{1}{d_i} = \frac{1}{2 \text{ cm}}$$

$d_i = +3 \text{ cm}$  (in front of mirror)  
Real Image!

## Checkpoint 17.2

Compared to the candle, the image will be:

- Larger
- Smaller
- Same Size





# ACT: Magnification

A 4 inch arrow pointing down is placed in front of a mirror that creates an image with a magnification of  $-2$ .

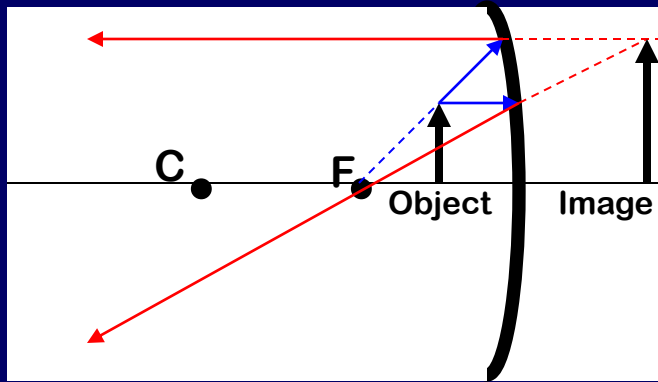
**What is the size of the image?**

- A. 2 inches
- B. 4 inches
- C. 8 inches

**What direction will the image arrow point?**

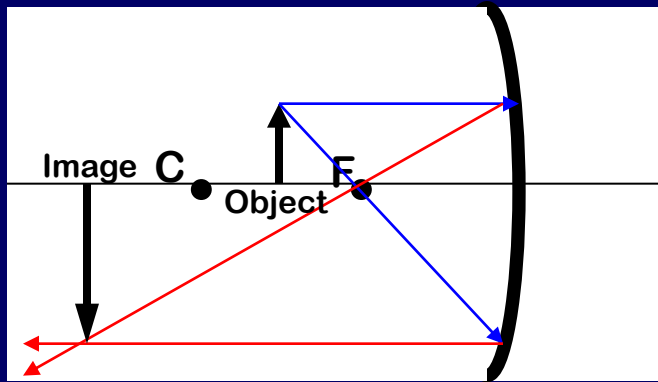
- A. Up
- B. Down

# 3 Cases for Concave Mirrors



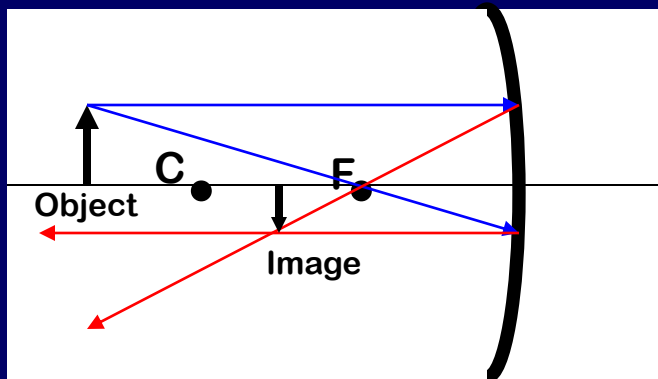
Inside F

**Upright**  
**Enlarged**  
**Virtual**



Between C&F

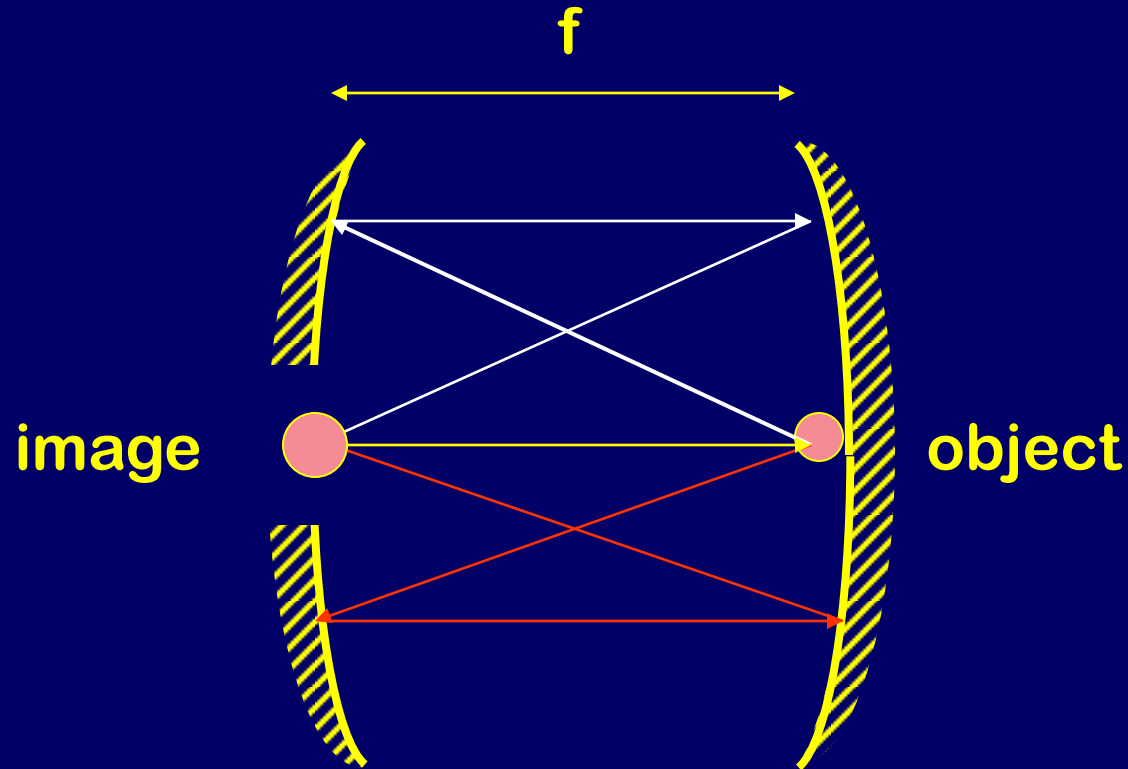
**Inverted**  
**Enlarged**  
**Real**



Past C

**Inverted**  
**Reduced**  
**Real**

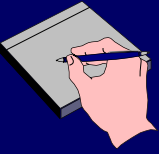
# Demo: optical illusion



## Demo:

- two identical spherical mirrors
- each mirror is positioned at the focal point of the other

# Convex Mirror Rays



- 1) Parallel to principal axis reflects through  $f$ .
- 2) Through  $f$ , reflects parallel to principal axis.
- 3) Through center.

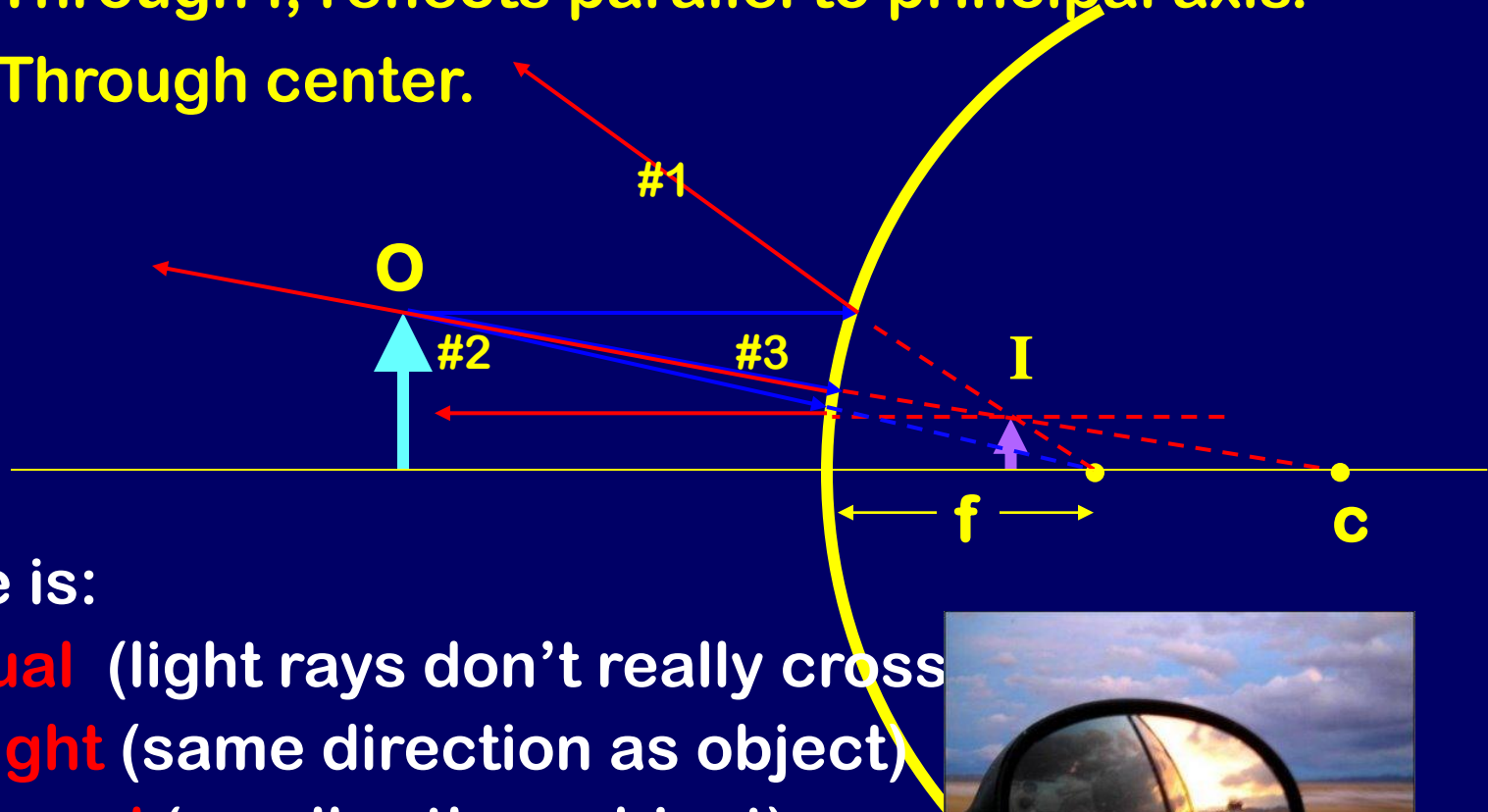


Image is:

**Virtual** (light rays don't really cross)

**Upright** (same direction as object)

**Reduced** (smaller than object)

(always true for convex mirrors!):



## Example

# Solving Equations

A candle is placed 6 cm in front of a convex mirror with focal length  $f = -3$  cm. Determine the image location.

$$\frac{1}{6 \text{ cm}} + \frac{1}{d_i} = \frac{1}{-3 \text{ cm}}$$

$$d_i = -2 \text{ cm (behind mirror)}$$

Virtual Image!

Determine the magnification of the candle.

$$m \equiv -\frac{d_i}{d_o} = -\frac{-2 \text{ cm}}{6 \text{ cm}}$$

$$m = +1/3$$

If the candle is 9 cm tall, how tall does the image candle appear to be?

$$+1/3 = \frac{h_i}{9 \text{ cm}}$$

$$h_i = +3 \text{ cm}$$

Image is Upright!



# Checkpoint 1.4

The image produced by a convex mirror of a real object is

- 1) always real
- 2) always virtual
- 3) sometimes real and sometimes virtual

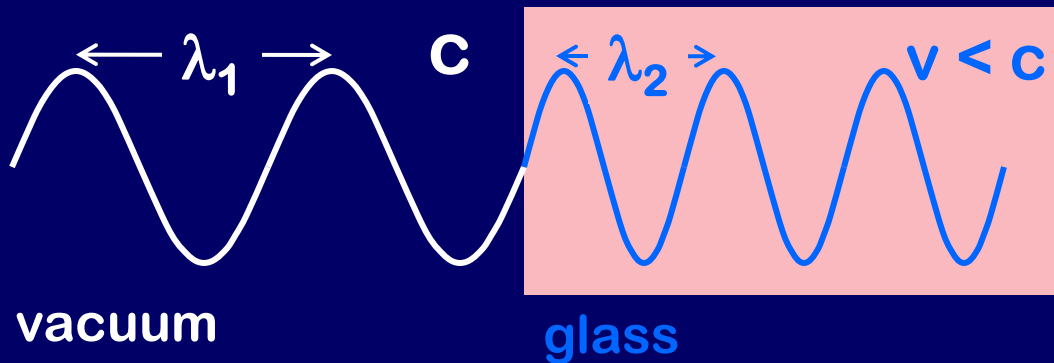
# Mirror Summary

- Angle of incidence = Angle of Reflection
- Principal Rays
  - Parallel to P.A.: Reflects through focus
  - Through focus: Reflects parallel to P.A.
  - Through center: Reflects back on self
- $|f| = R/2$
- $\frac{1}{d_o} + \frac{1}{d_i} = \frac{1}{f}$
- $m = \frac{h_i}{h_o} = -\frac{d_i}{d_o}$

# Index of Refraction

Recall speed of light  $c = 3 \times 10^8$  m/s is in vacuum

In a medium (air, water, glass...) light is slower



Frequency is the same,  
wavelength decreases

$$v = \lambda f$$

“Index of refraction”

Speed of light  
in medium

$$v = c/n$$

Speed of light  
in vacuum

$n$  is a property  
of the medium:

$$n_{\text{vacuum}} = 1$$

$$n_{\text{air}} = 1.0003$$

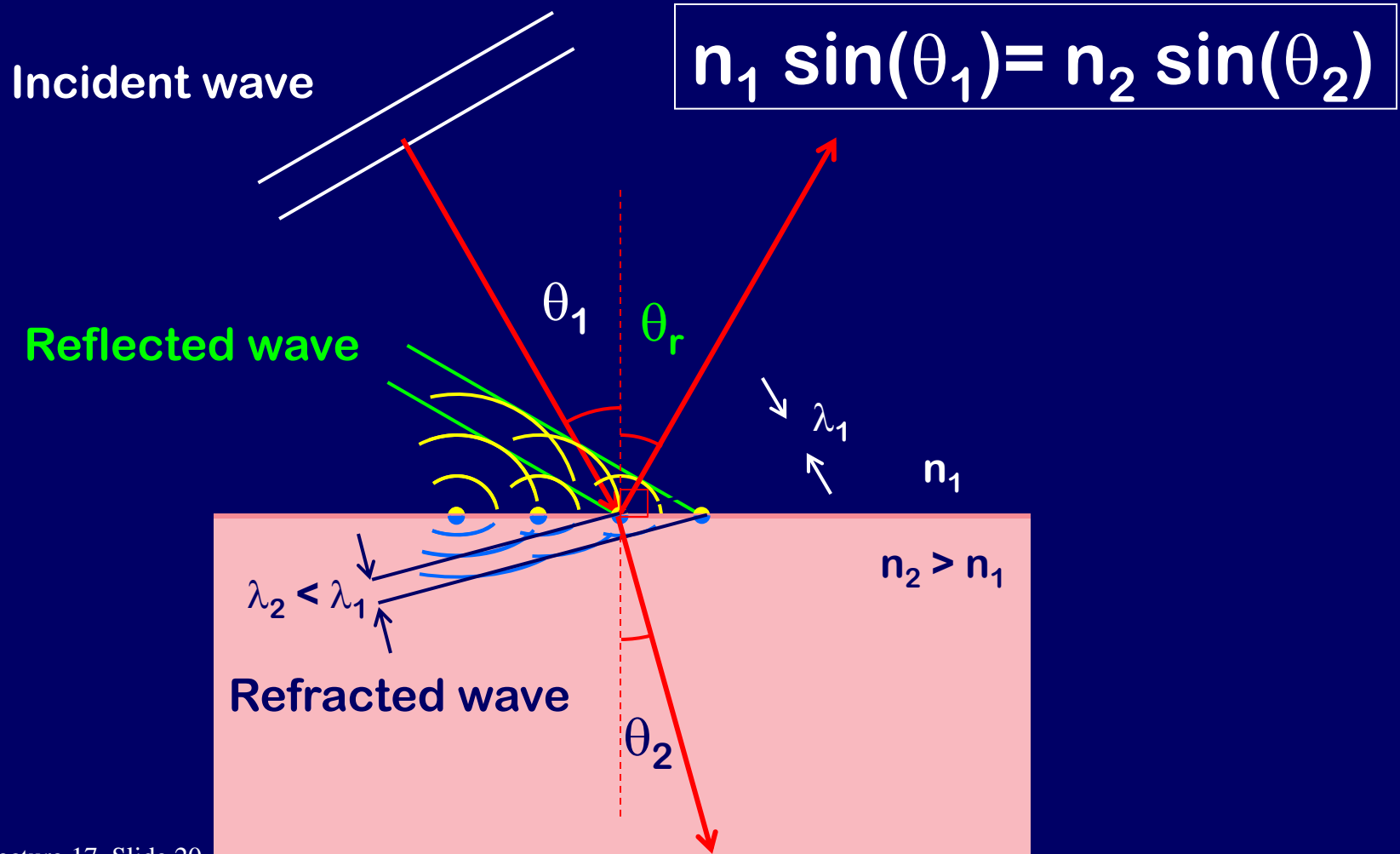
$$n_{\text{water}} = 1.33$$

$$n_{\text{glass}} = 1.50$$

$$n \geq 1$$

# Snell's law of Refraction

When light travels from one medium to another,  $v$  (and  $\lambda$ ) changes ( $v = c/n$ ). So the light bends!



# Example

## Snell's Law Practice



Usually, there is both **reflection** and **refraction**!

A ray of light traveling through the air ( $n=1$ ) is incident on water ( $n=1.33$ ). Part of the beam is reflected at an angle  $\theta_r = 60^\circ$ . The other part of the beam is refracted. What is  $\theta_2$ ?

