

35. Diffraction and Image Formation

Where was modern optical imaging technology born?

Zeiss



Abbe



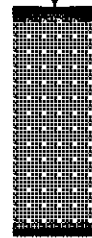
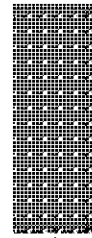
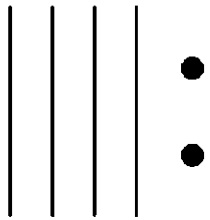
Schott





Physical Optics...

diffracting source

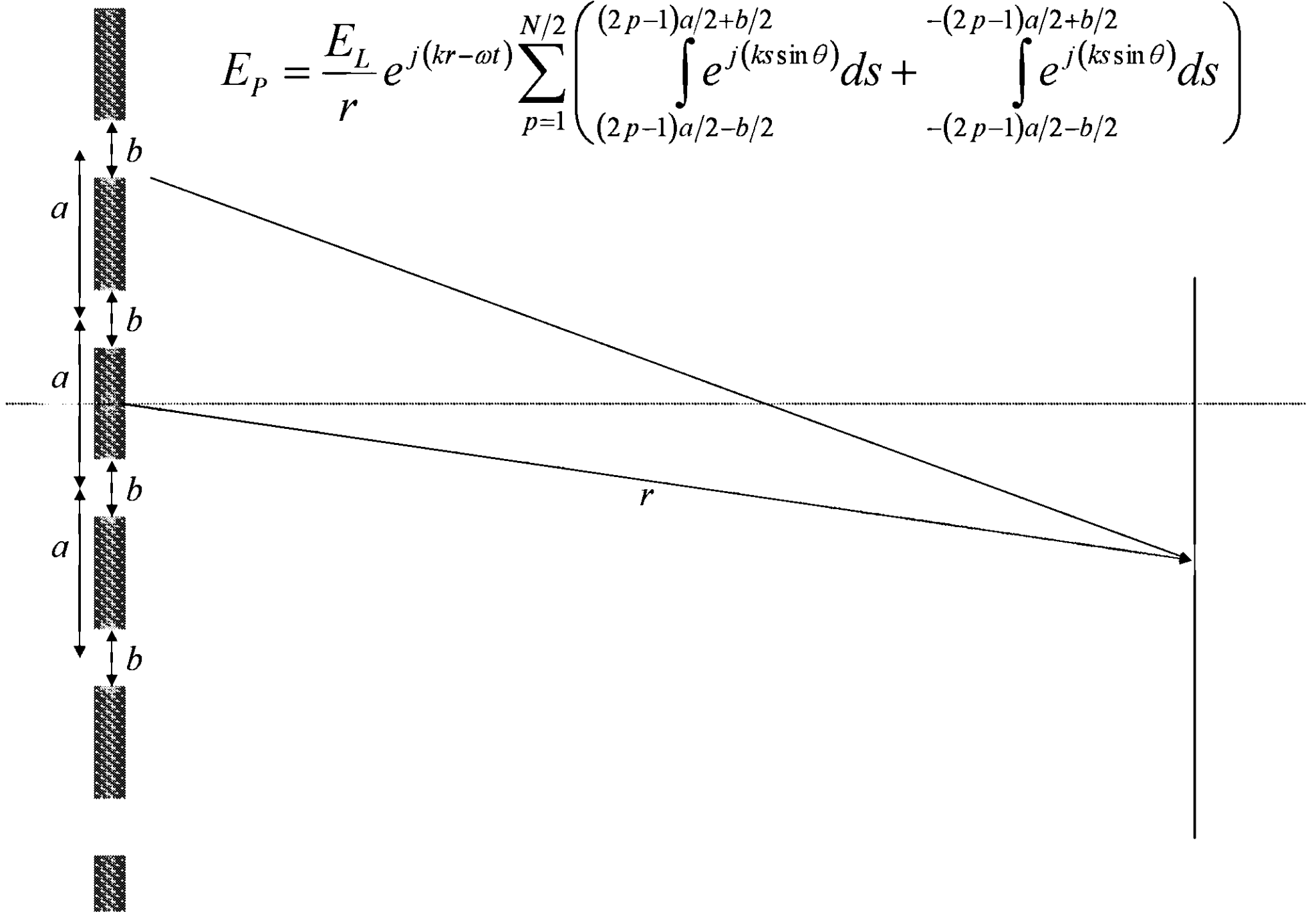


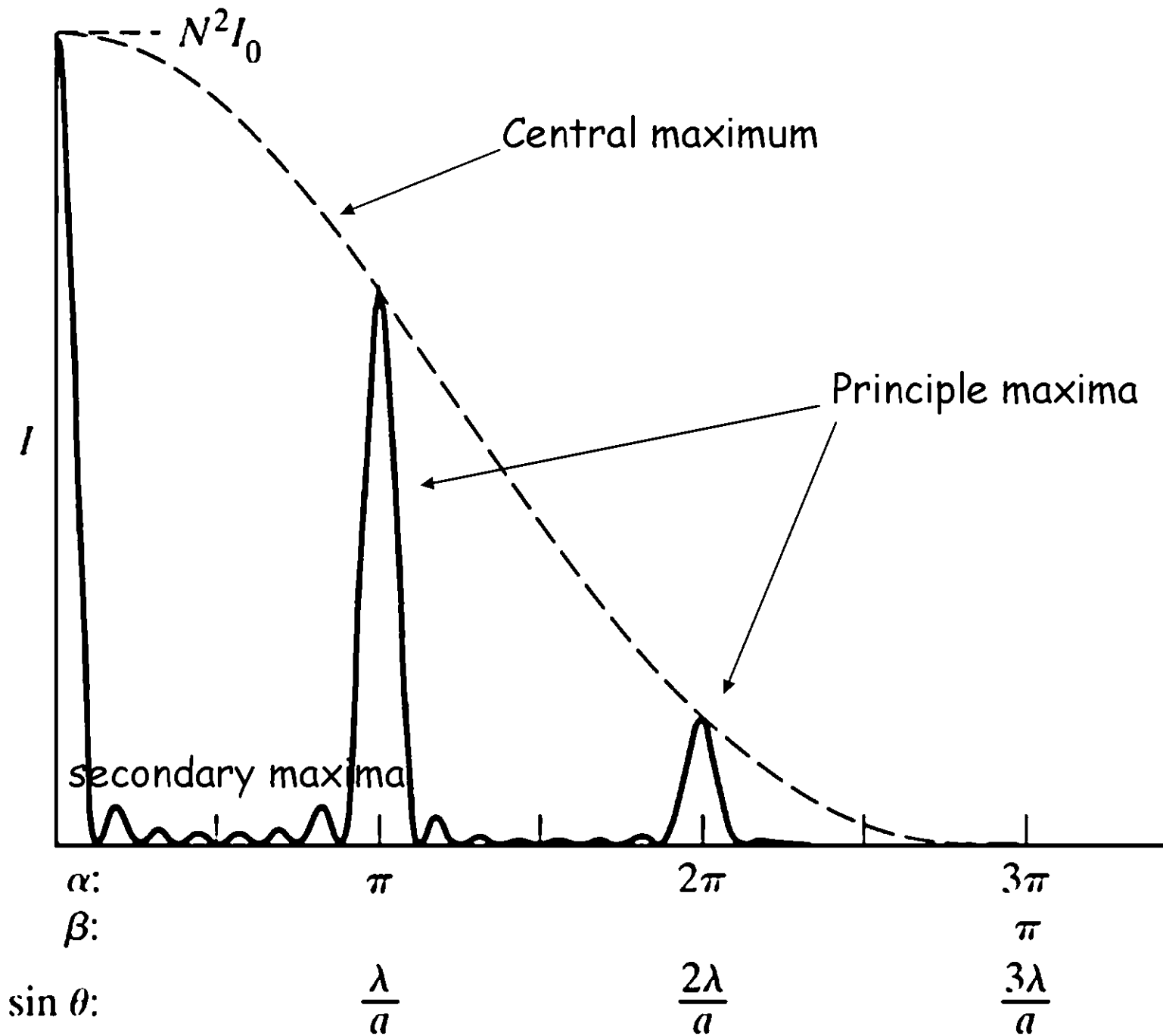
Imperfect
image



Every lens is a
diffracting aperture.

Multiple Slits





Diffraction Grating

A special corner of multi-slit-space: $N \sim 10^4$, $a \sim \lambda$, $b \sim \lambda$

$b \sim \lambda$: central maximum is very large!

$a \sim \lambda$: principle maxima are highly separated!
(most don't exist)

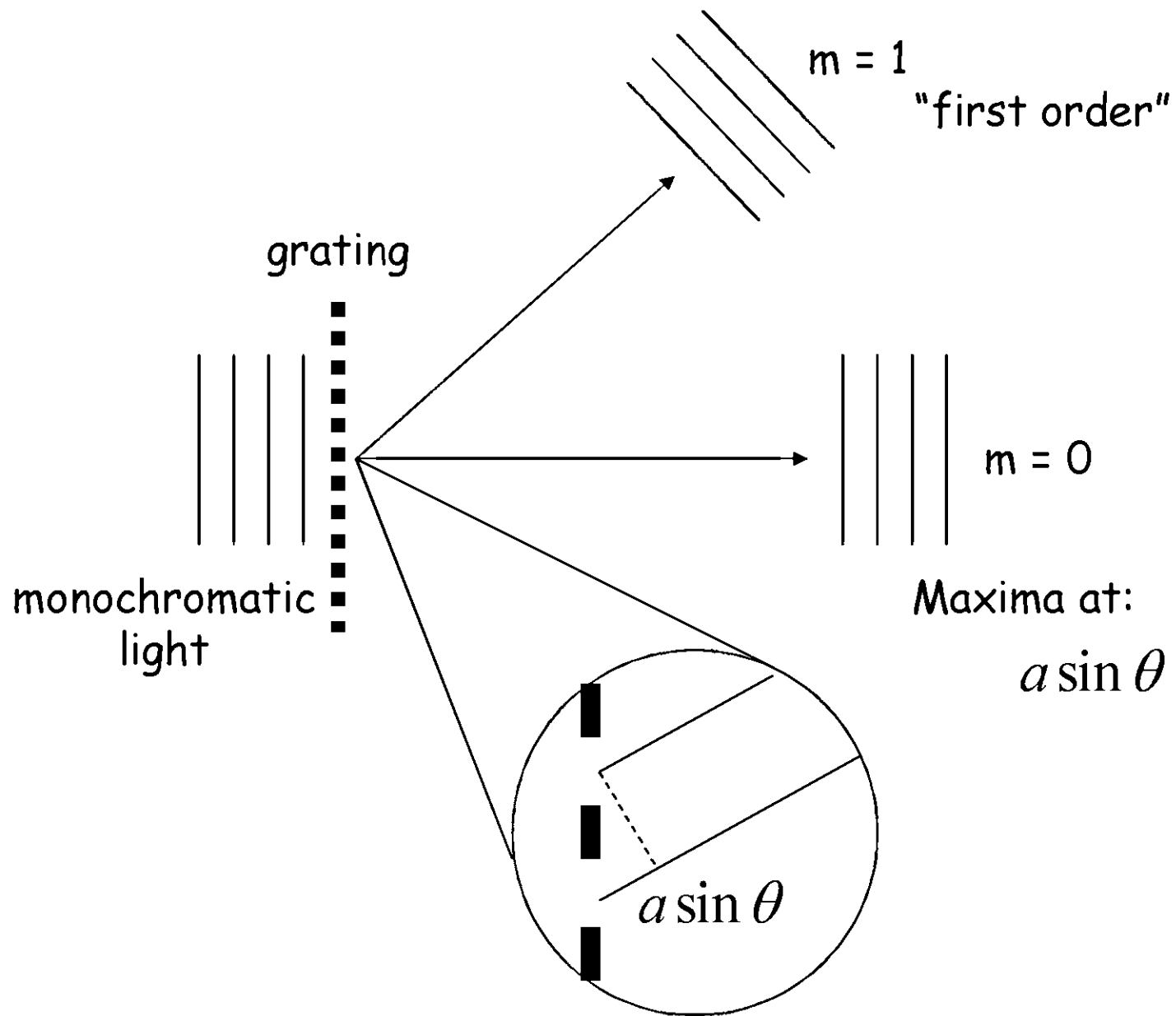
$N \sim 10^4$: Principle maxima are very narrow!
Secondary maxima are very low!

typical grating specs: 900 g/mm, 1 cm grating.

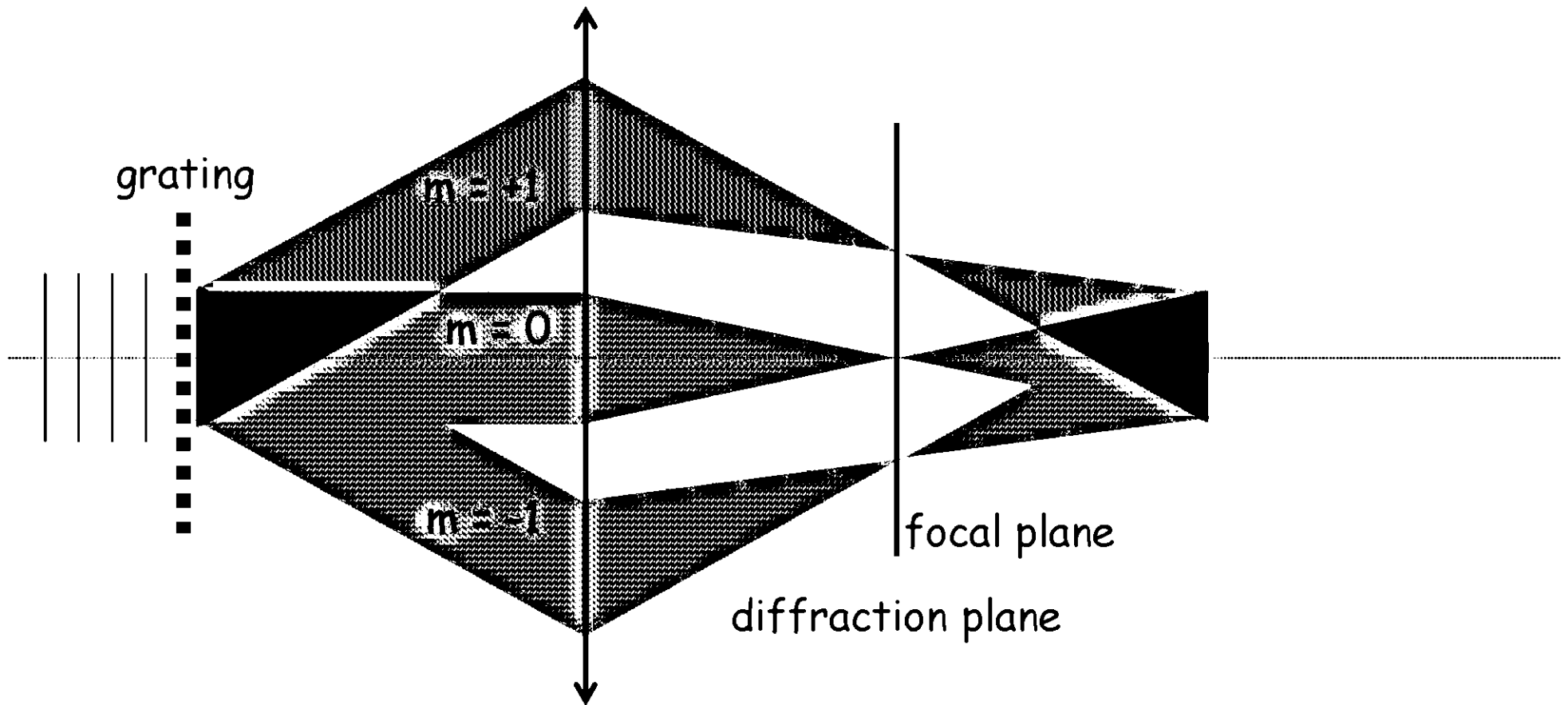
$$N = 9,000$$

$$a = 1.11 \text{ microns} \quad \lambda = 0.633 \text{ microns!}$$

$$b = 1.11 \text{ microns}$$



Abbe Theory of Image Formation



Abbe Theory of Image Formation

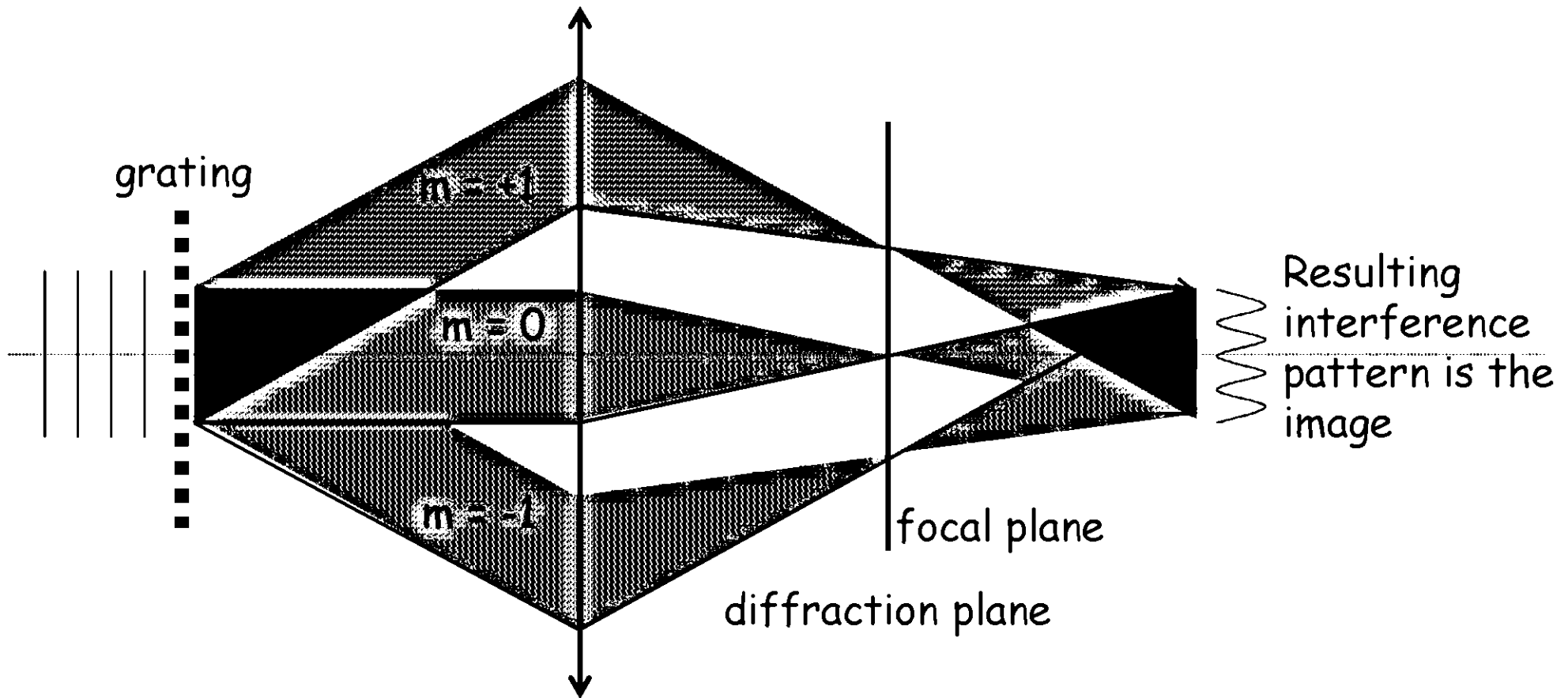
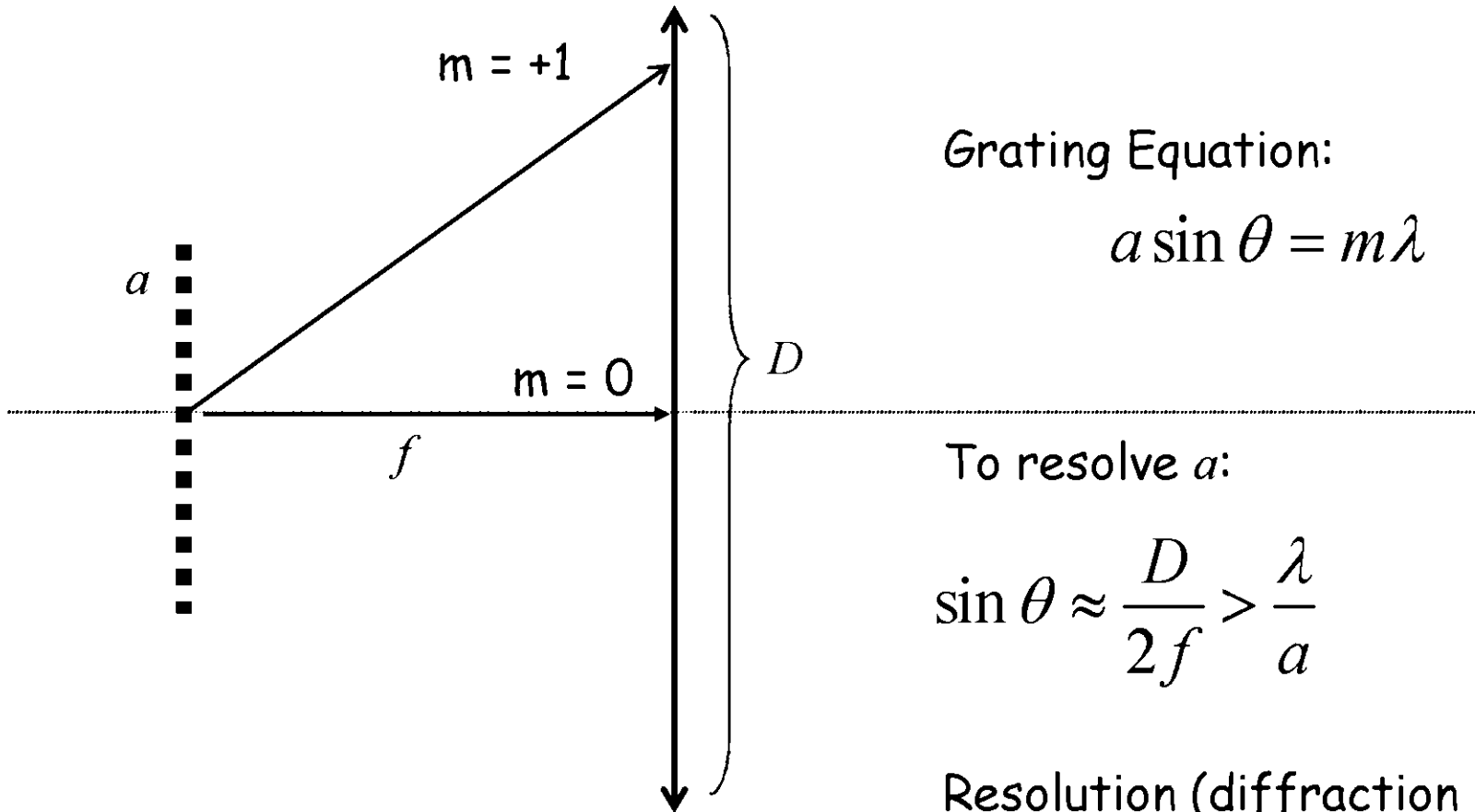


Image formation requires a lens large enough to capture the first order diffraction.



Grating Equation:

$$a \sin \theta = m \lambda$$

To resolve a :

$$\sin \theta \approx \frac{D}{2f} > \frac{\lambda}{a}$$

Resolution (diffraction limited):

$$a \approx \frac{2\lambda f}{D}$$

Rectangular Apertures



$$dE_P = \left(\frac{E_A dA}{r} \right) e^{j(\omega t - kr)}$$

$$E_P = \left(\frac{E_A}{R} \right) e^{j(\omega t - kR)} \iint_{\text{aperture}} e^{jk(Xx+Yy)/R} dA$$

Rather than an aperture, consider an object:

$$E_P = \frac{1}{R} e^{j(\omega t - kR)} \iint_{\text{aperture}} E_{\text{Feynman}} e^{jk(Xx+Yy)/R} dA$$

Remember, the integral is over the aperture area:

$$E_P = \frac{1}{R} e^{j(\omega t - kR)} \iint_{\text{aperture}} E_{\text{Feynman}} e^{jk(Xx+Yy)/R} dx dy$$

Let's rearrange that a little it (this is where the magic happens):

$$E_P = \frac{1}{R} e^{j(\omega t - kR)} \iint_{\text{aperture}} E_{\text{Feynman}} e^{j\left[\left(\frac{kX}{R}\right)x + \left(\frac{kY}{R}\right)y\right]} dx dy$$

THAT'S A FOURIER TRANSFORM!!

$$E_P(X, Y, Z) = \mathfrak{F}\{E_{\text{Feynman}}\}$$

Where does diffraction put the spatial frequencies in E_{Feynman} ?

$$k_x \equiv \frac{kX}{R} \qquad k_y \equiv \frac{kY}{R}$$