Mirror Equation Questions

• based on the geometry of the rays theoretically reflecting from a curved mirror, the *mirror* equation is derived to be:

| 1 | 1 | 1 |
|----------------|---|---|
| d _o | d | f |

d_o = distance to object d_i = distance to image f = focal length

- the conventions for this equation include:
 - all distances are measured from the vertex of a curved mirror
 - distances of real objects and images are positive
 - object heights and image heights are positive when measured upward from the principal axis, and negative when measured downward
- magnification equation: the -ve sign is added to agree with the sign convention used above



Practice:

- 1. Determine the image distance in each of the following.
 - a) A converging mirror has a focal length of 15 cm. An object is placed (i) 40 cm, and (ii) 10 cm from the mirror. (24 cm, -30 cm)
 - b) A diverging mirror has a focal length of -20 cm. An object is placed (i) 10 cm, and (ii) 30 cm from the mirror. (-6.7 cm, -12 cm)
- A candle 3.0 cm high is placed 30 cm from a converging mirror with a focal length of 20 cm. Using the mirror and magnification equations, determine the image position and its height. From these results, provide the image characteristics (S.A.L.T.) (d = 60 cm; h = -6.0 cm)
- 3. A converging mirror has a focal length of 20 cm. Where should an object be placed so that its virtual image will be twice as tall as the object? (10 cm)
- 4. A woman looks at herself in a magnifying converging mirror whose focal length is 20 cm. If her face is 10 cm from the mirror,
 - a) at what distance from the mirror is her image? (-20 cm)
 - b) what is the magnification of her face? (+2)
- 5. A 2.0 cm high candle is placed 15 cm in front of a concave mirror with a focal length of 30 cm. How far "behind" the mirror does the candle appear, and how large is it? (-30 cm, 4 cm)
- 6. A trucker sees the image of a car passing her truck in her diverging rear-view mirror, whose focal length is -60 cm. If the car is 1.5 m high and 6.0 m away, what is the size and location of the image? (13.5 cm, 54 cm)
- 7. A spherical, polished metallic ball is used as a diverging mirror (f = -20 cm) over a birdbath. A bird, 25 cm tall, standing 50 cm away, looks directly at the mirror. What are the size and position of the bird's image? (7.2 cm, -14 cm)
- 8. When standing 2.0 m in front of an amusement park mirror, you notice that your image is three times taller. What is the radius of curvature of the mirror? (6.0 m)
- 9. A child looks at his reflection in a spherical Christmas tree ornament 8.0 cm in diameter, and sees that the image of his face is reduced by one-half. How far is his face from the ornament? (2.0 cm)
- 10. A converging mirror has a focal length of 15 cm. Where would you place an object in order to produce an erect virtual image twice as tall as the object? (d_o = 7.5 cm)

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