## Contents

**Preface**  XV

### Part One  1

1  **Structure and Function**  3
   1.1  Anatomy of the Human Eye  4
   1.2  Retina: The Optical Sensor  10
   1.2.1  Retinal Structure  10
   1.2.2  Functional Areas  12
   1.3  Recommended Reading  14
   References  14

2  **Optics of the Human Eye**  15
   2.1  Optical Imaging  15
   2.1.1  Entrance and Exit Pupils  17
   2.1.2  Cardinal Points  19
   2.1.3  Eye Axes  20
   2.1.4  Accommodation  21
   2.1.5  Resolution  23
   2.1.6  Adaption  26
   2.1.7  Stiles–Crawford Effect  28
   2.1.8  Depth of Field  29
   2.1.9  Binocular Vision  30
   2.1.10  Spectral Properties  32
   2.2  Schematic Eye Models  33
   2.2.1  Paraxial Model: The Gullstrand Eye  34
   2.2.2  Finite Wide-Angle Models  38
   2.2.3  Applications of Eye Models  44
   2.3  Color Vision  45
   2.4  Recommended Reading  47
   References  47
3 | Visual Disorders and Major Eye Diseases 49
3.1 | Refractive Errors 49
3.1.1 | Axial-Symmetric Ametropia: Myopia and Hyperopia 51
3.1.2 | Astigmatism 51
3.1.3 | Notations of Spherocylindric Refraction in Astigmatic Eyes 53
3.1.4 | Anisometropia 54
3.1.5 | Distribution of Refractive Errors 54
3.1.6 | Refractive Errors Caused by Diseases 55
3.2 | Cataract 56
3.3 | Glaucoma 57
3.4 | Age-Related Macular Degeneration 60
3.4.1 | ARM 60
3.4.2 | Dry AMD 60
3.4.3 | Wet AMD 61
3.5 | Diabetic Retinopathy 64
3.6 | Retinal Vein Occlusions 65
3.7 | Infective Eye Diseases 66
3.7.1 | Trachoma 66
3.7.2 | Onchocerciasis 67
3.8 | Major Causes for Visual Impairment 67
3.9 | Major Causes of Blindness 68
3.10 | Socio-Economic Impact of Eye Diseases 70
3.11 | Recommended Reading 72
Problems to Chapters 1–3 72
References 76

Part Two 79

4 | Introduction to Ophthalmic Diagnosis and Imaging 81
4.1 | Determination of the Eye’s Refractive Status 82
4.2 | Visualization, Imaging, and Structural Analysis 82
4.3 | Determination of the Eye’s Functional Status 85
4.3.1 | Global Functional Status 85
4.3.2 | Local Functional Status 86
4.4 | Light Hazard Protection 86
References 87

5 | Determination of the Refractive Status of the Eye 89
5.1 | Retinoscopy 91
5.1.1 | Illumination Beam Path 92
5.1.2 | Observation Beam Path 93
5.1.3 | Measurement Procedure 96
5.1.4 | Accuracy in Retinoscopy 98
5.1.5 | Applications 99
Contents

5.2 Automated Objective Refractometers (Autorefractors) 100
5.2.1 Common Characteristics of Autorefractors 100
5.2.2 Measuring Methods 102
5.2.3 Measurement Accuracy and Limitations of Automatic Refractometers 120
5.3 Aberrometers 121
5.3.1 Fundamentals of Aberrometry 121
5.3.2 General Measurement Principles for Aberrometers 126
5.3.3 General Remarks on Aberrometry 127
5.3.4 Hartmann–Shack Wavefront Aberrometer (Outgoing Light Aberrometer) 127
5.3.5 Ingoing Light Aberrometers 131
5.3.6 Commercial Aberrometers 133
5.4 Wavefront Reconstruction and Wavefront Analysis 133
5.4.1 From Wavefront to Refraction (Wavefront Analysis) 135
5.4.2 Applications of Wavefront Analysis 140
5.5 Excursus: Refractive Correction with Eye Glasses and Contact Lenses 141
5.6 Recommended Reading 143
5.7 Problems 143
References 144

6 Optical Visualization, Imaging, and Structural Analysis 147
6.1 Medical Magnifying Systems 147
6.1.1 Optics of a Single Loupe 148
6.1.2 Medical Loupes 149
6.2 Surgical Microscopes 151
6.2.1 Requirements for Surgical Microscopes 152
6.2.2 Functional Principle 154
6.2.3 Modular Structure of Surgical Microscopes 160
6.2.4 Prospects 176
6.3 Reflection Methods for Topographic Measurements 177
6.3.1 Keratometer 178
6.3.2 Placido Ring Corneal Topographer 187
6.4 Slit Lamp 200
6.4.1 Functional Principle 201
6.4.2 Modular Structure 202
6.4.3 Types of Illumination for Various Applications 205
6.4.4 Accessories for Other Examinations and Measurements 208
6.4.5 Prospects 212
6.5 Scanning-Slit Projection Devices 212
6.5.1 Lateral Scanning-Slit Projection Techniques 213
6.5.2 Scheimpflug Imaging of Rotating-Slit Projections 217
6.5.3 Clinical Relevance and Applications 223
6.6 Ophthalmoscope 225
## Contents

6.6.1 Functional Principle 226  
6.6.2 Direct Ophthalmoscope 227  
6.6.3 Indirect Ophthalmoscope 230  
6.7 Fundus Camera 236  
6.7.1 Requirements for a Fundus Camera 237  
6.7.2 Functional Principle 238  
6.7.3 Field of View and Magnification 241  
6.7.4 Wide-Field Imaging 241  
6.7.5 Color and Monochrome Imaging 241  
6.7.6 Fluorescence Angiography 242  
6.7.7 Fundus Autofluorescence 244  
6.7.8 Stereoscopic Imaging and Analysis 246  
6.7.9 Equipment Solutions 248  
6.7.10 Prospects 248  
6.8 Scanning-Laser Devices 249  
6.8.1 Confocal Scanning-Laser Ophthalmoscope 250  
6.8.2 Confocal Scanning-Laser Tomograph 259  
6.8.3 Scanning-Laser Polarimeter 261  
6.9 Recommended Reading 267  
6.10 Problems 267  
References 273  

7 Optical Coherence Methods for Three-Dimensional Visualization and Structural Analysis 277  
7.1 Introduction to Optical Coherence Tomography 278  
7.2 Development of OCT and LCI as an Example of Modern Medical Technology Innovation 280  
7.2.1 Academic Research – Conception of OCT (until 1993) 281  
7.2.2 First Generation of Commercial OCTs (1993–2002) 281  
7.2.3 Second Generation of OCTs – ZEISS Stratus OCT (2002–2006) 283  
7.2.4 Third Generation of OCTs – Frequency-Domain OCT (2007–current) 283  
7.3 Principles of Low-Coherence Interferometry and Optical Coherence Tomography 285  
7.3.1 Michelson Interferometry with Coherent Light 285  
7.3.2 Michelson Interferometry with Low-Coherence Light 286  
7.3.3 Time-Domain OCT 289  
7.3.4 Frequency-Domain OCT 291  
7.3.5 Swept-Source OCT 295  
7.3.6 Overview and Comparison of OCT Systems 297  
7.4 Elements of OCT Theory 300  
7.4.1 Theory of Time-Domain OCT – Axial Resolution 301  
7.4.2 Theory of Frequency-Domain OCT 304  
7.4.3 Effect of Group Velocity Dispersion in OCT Systems 309  
7.4.4 Sensitivity and Signal-To-Noise Ratio in TD-OCT and FD-OCT 311
Contents

7.5       Device Design of OCTs 313
7.5.1     Light Sources 313
7.5.2     Commercial Systems 315
7.6       Ophthalmic Applications of OCT 316
7.6.1     Posterior Segment of the Eye 317
7.6.2     Anterior Part of the Eye 320
7.7       Optical Biometry by Low-Coherence Interferometry 324
7.7.1     Dual-Beam Low-Coherence Interferometry 327
7.7.2     Applications of Optical Biometry 329
7.8       Prospects 334
7.9       Recommended Reading 338
7.10      Problems 338

References 341

8       Functional Diagnostics 345
8.1      Visual Field Examination 346
8.1.1    Physiological Aspects and Functional Principles 346
8.1.2    Basic Perimeter Design 351
8.1.3    Alternative Perimetric Concepts 357
8.1.4    Prospects 362
8.2      Metabolic Mapping 363
8.2.1    Microcirculation Mapping 363
8.2.2    Fluorophore Mapping 366
8.2.3    Prospects 367
8.3      Recommended Reading 367
8.4      Problems 368

References 368

Part Three 371

9       Laser–Tissue Interaction 373
9.1      Absorption 374
9.2      Elastic Scattering 375
9.2.1    Rayleigh Scattering 376
9.2.2    Mie Scattering 376
9.3      Optical Properties of Biological Tissue 376
9.4      Interaction of Irradiated Biological Tissue 378
9.4.1    Photochemical Response 379
9.4.2    Photothermal Response 380
9.4.3    Photoablation 383
9.4.4    Plasma-Induced Ablation and Photodisruption 384
9.5      Propagation of Femtosecond Pulses in Transparent Media 391
9.5.1    Self-Focusing 392
9.5.2    Self-Phase Modulation 392
9.5.3 Group Velocity Dispersion  393
9.6 Ophthalmic Laser Safety  394
9.6.1 Laser Classes  396
9.6.2 Safe Use of Ophthalmic Laser Systems  399
9.7 Recommended Reading  401
9.8 Problems  402
References  403

10 Laser Systems for Treatment of Eye Diseases and Refractive Errors  405
10.1 Laser Systems Based on Photochemical Interactions  406
10.1.1 Basics of Photodynamic Therapy  408
10.1.2 Technical Equipment Concepts  409
10.1.3 Treatment Procedure  411
10.1.4 Prospects  411
10.2 Laser Systems Based on Photothermal Interactions  412
10.2.1 Functional Principle  412
10.2.2 Process Parameters  412
10.2.3 Treatment Modes  415
10.2.4 Technical Equipment Concepts  418
10.2.5 Clinical Applications  426
10.2.6 Prospects  430
10.3 Laser Systems Based on Photoablation  431
10.3.1 Basics of Photoablation Treatments  432
10.3.2 Technical Equipment Concepts  441
10.3.3 Surgical Ablation Techniques  446
10.3.4 Prospects  450
10.4 Laser Systems Based on Photodisruption with Nanosecond Pulses  450
10.4.1 Functional Principle  451
10.4.2 Process Parameters  451
10.4.3 Technical Equipment Concepts  454
10.4.4 Clinical Applications  457
10.4.5 Prospects  460
10.5 Laser Systems Based on Plasma-Induced Ablation with Femtosecond Pulses  460
10.5.1 Functional Principle  460
10.5.2 Process Parameters  461
10.5.3 Technical Equipment Concepts  463
10.5.4 Clinical Applications  466
10.5.5 Prospects  472
10.6 Recommended Reading  473
10.7 Problems  473
References  476

Appendix A Basics of Optics  481
A.1 Geometric Optics and Optical Imaging  482
Contents

A.1.1 Refraction and Dispersion 483
A.1.2 Imaging by Spherical Surfaces 486
A.1.3 The Ray Tracing Approach to Paraxial Optical Systems 492
A.1.4 Aperture Stops, Field Stops, and Pupils 496
A.1.5 Limitations of the Paraxial Beam Approximation 499
A.1.6 Aberrations 501
A.1.7 Wavefront Aberration and Image Quality 506
A.1.8 Classification and Expansion of the Wave Aberration Function 510
A.1.9 Chromatic Aberration 518
A.2 Wave Optics 518
A.2.1 Monochromatic Harmonic Waves 519
A.2.2 Paraxial Solutions of the Wave Equation 530
A.2.3 Monochromatic Superposition of Harmonic Waves 535
A.2.4 Polychromatic Superposition of Waves 537
A.3 Recommended Reading 543
A.4 Problems 543

Appendix B Basics of Laser Systems 549
B.1 Einstein’s Two-Level Model of Light–Atom Interaction 550
B.1.1 Absorption 551
B.1.2 Spontaneous emission 551
B.1.3 Stimulated emission 551
B.1.4 Relation of Einstein Coefficients 552
B.2 Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission 552
B.2.1 Conditions for Population Inversion 553
B.2.2 Multilevel Optical Pumping 555
B.3 Laser Oscillator 558
B.3.1 Inversion Threshold 558
B.3.2 Standing Wave Condition 561
B.4 The Gaussian Oscillator 563
B.4.1 Resonator Stability Condition 563
B.4.2 Divergence 565
B.4.3 Polarization 566
B.4.4 Pulsed Laser Operation 567
B.5 Technical Realization of Laser Sources 571
B.5.1 Gas Lasers 572
B.5.2 Semiconductor Lasers 577
B.5.3 Solid-State Lasers 580
B.6 Recommended Reading 583
B.7 Problems 583
References 588

Appendix C Summary of Used Variables and Abbreviations 591
C.1 Chapters 1–3 591