Zernike Polynomials

- Application of Zernike polynomials has been used to represent both wavefront shape and corneal topography in the eye.
- Would like to recover basic shape information such as radius of curvature, astigmatism and asphericity based on Zernike coefficients.
- For wavefronts, radius of curvature and astigmatism is related to refractive error, and asphericity is related to spherical aberration.
- For corneal topography, radius of curvature and astigmatism is related to keratometry and asphericity is related to corneal eccentricity.



Axis of Astigmatism

The height of an astigmatic surface will oscillate up and down as it is circumnavigated. The extrema will be along the principal meridia.





Average Conic Constant

Equation of a conic

$$z = \frac{1}{K+1} \left[R - \sqrt{R^2 - (K+1)r^2} \right] \cong \left[\frac{r^2}{2R} + \frac{(K+1)r^4}{8R^3} + \dots \right]$$

Find expansion terms that go as ρ^4

$$\mathbf{K} = \frac{8\mathbf{R}^3}{\mathbf{r}_{\max}^4} \Big[6\sqrt{5}\mathbf{a}_{40} - 30\sqrt{7}\mathbf{a}_{60} + 270\mathbf{a}_{80} + \cdots \Big] - 1$$











