



# Can The Macula Be Attached If View is Obscured By A Bullous Retinal Detachment?

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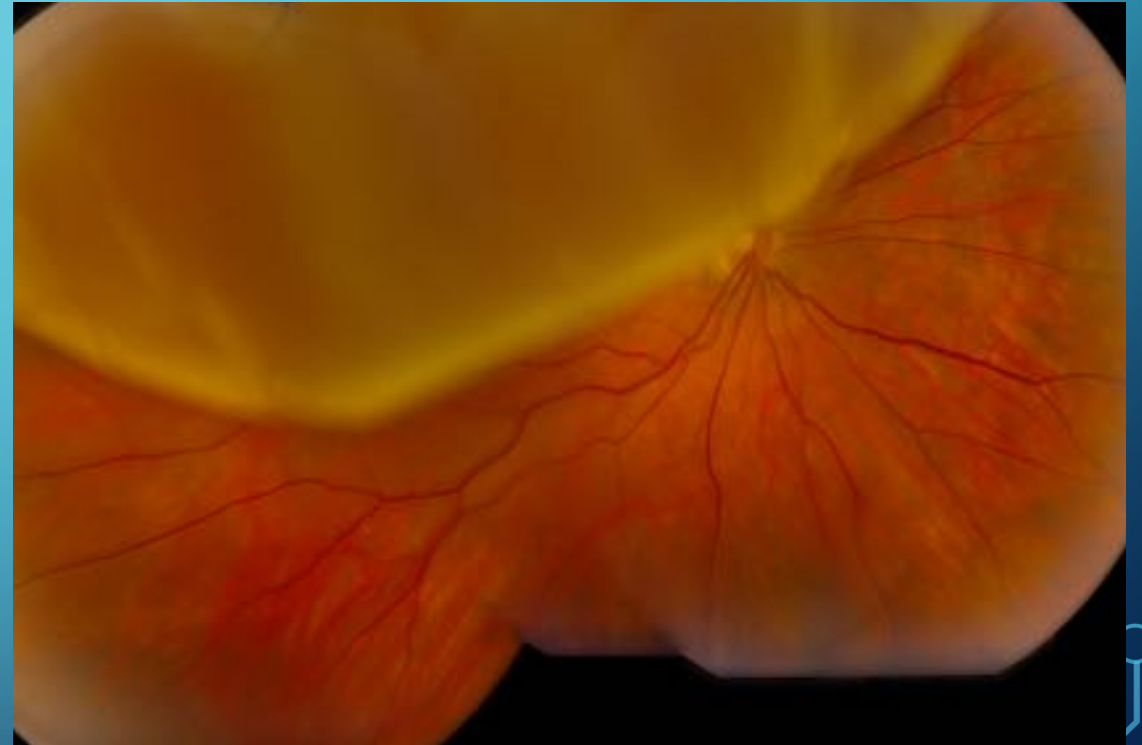
The background is a blue gradient. In the corners, there are decorative white line art elements resembling circuit boards or neural networks, with lines and small circles.

NONE OF THE AUTHORS HAS ANY PERTINENT  
FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES

# Summary: Can The Macula Be Attached If View is Obscured By A Bullous Retinal Detachment?

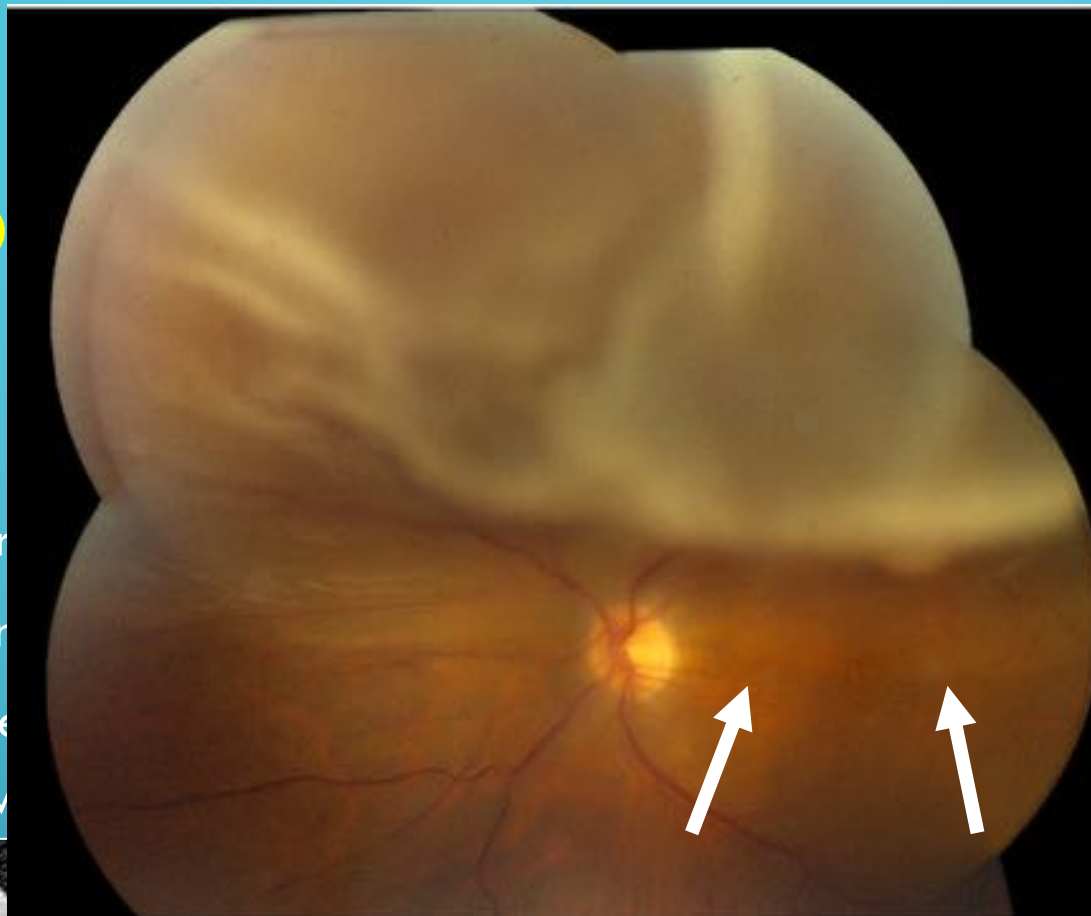
- Shape of retina modeled as oblate ellipsoid
- Sagittal section considered
- Retina hanging catenary
- Evaluated for various degrees of myopia
- Position of ora serrata estimated/measured
- Stretch of the retina probably not significant

**Maybe, but ...**

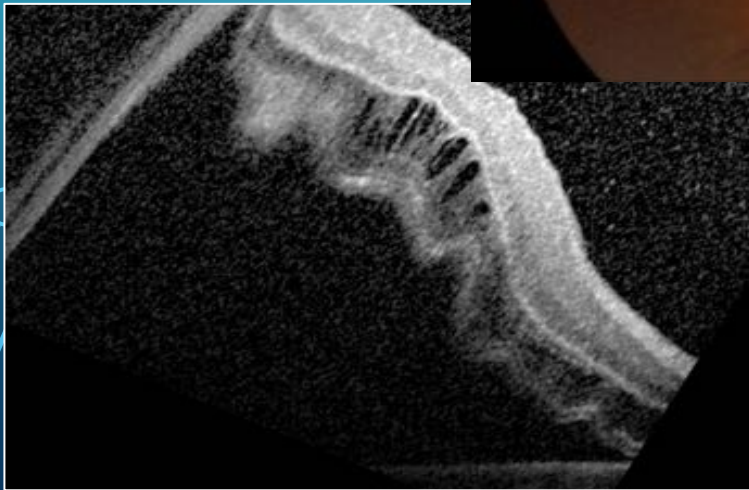
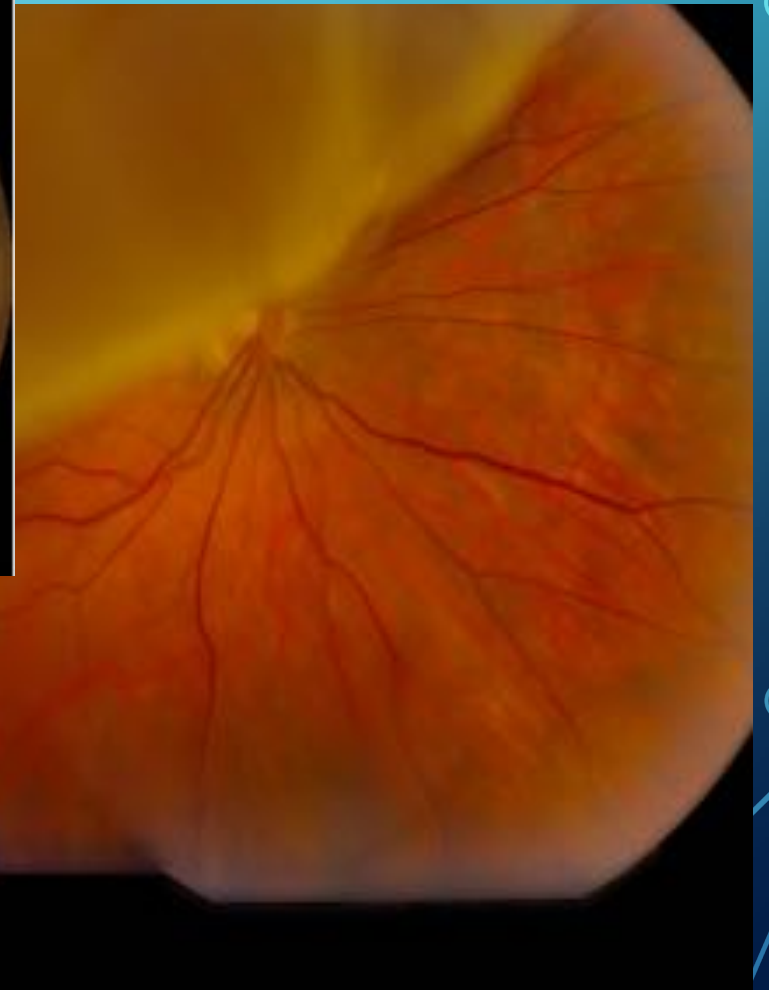


# THE PRO Macula

- Implications:
  - urgency of r
  - Visual progr
  - (of course ne
  - for a shallow



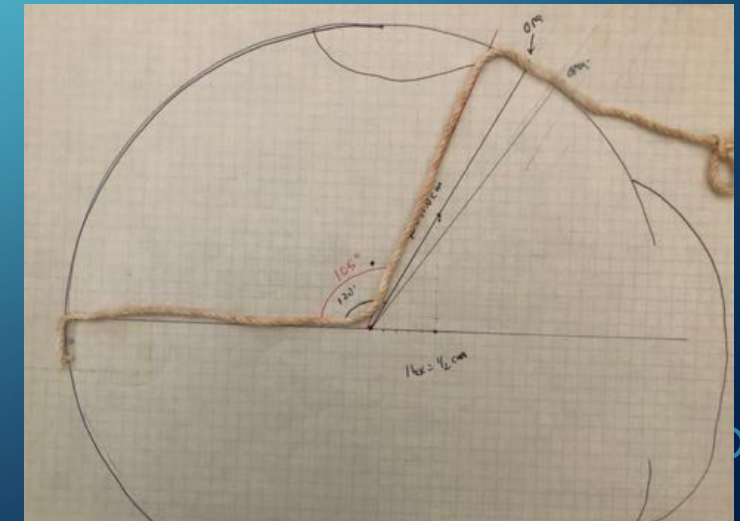
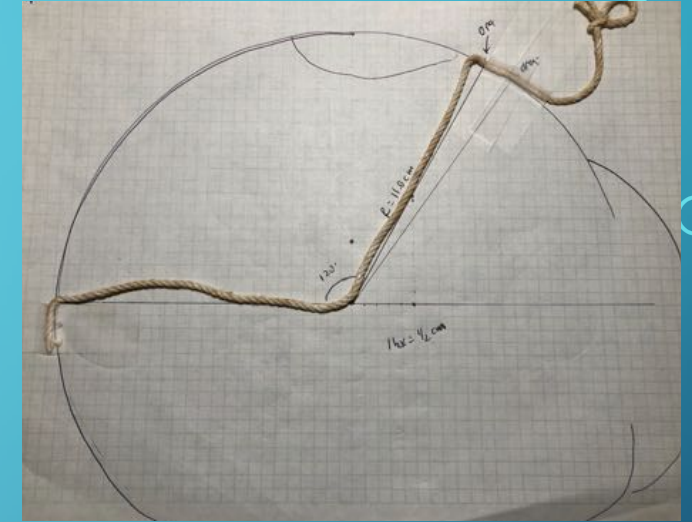
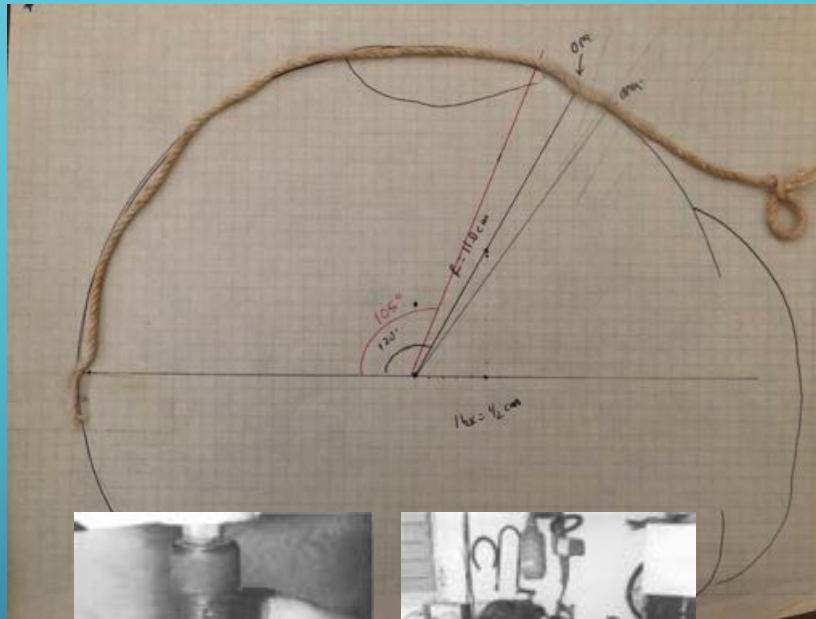
locks View Of



Courtesy of H Flynn, MD

# 1ST ITERATION: Retina Surface Forms A Sphere and Follows Legs

- Gullstrand's eye
  - $R = 12.0 \text{ mm}$
  - When is retinal arc length  $< 2R$ ?
  - $(\text{arc angle}/360^\circ)(\pi R) > 2R$
  - so it is possible for the retina to hang over the optical axis if the ora is  $> 115^\circ$  from the fovea



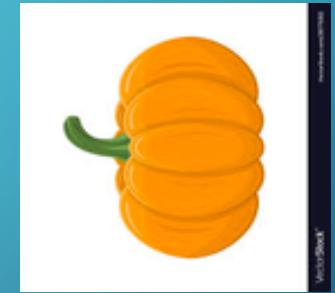
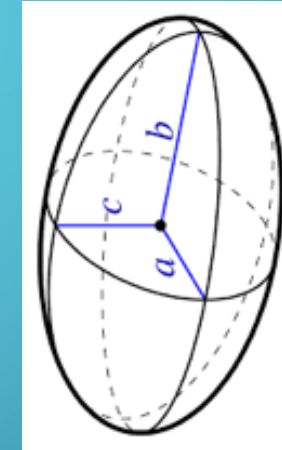
**BUT, the retina is not a sphere**



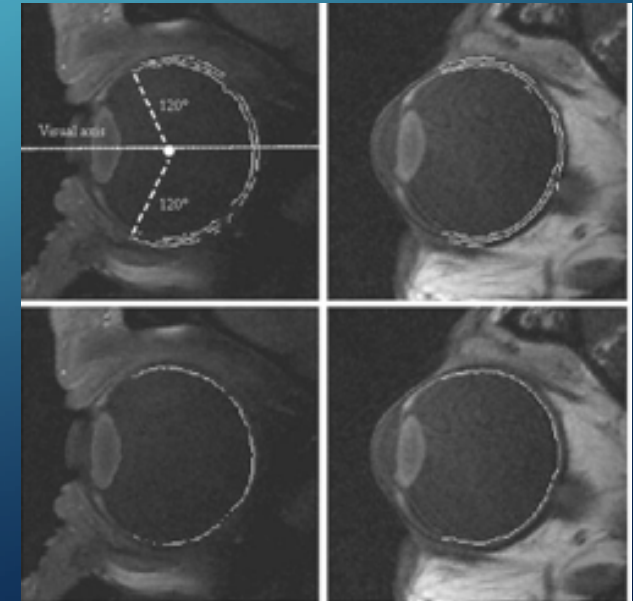
# The Shape Of The Retina Approximates An Ellipsoid

Atchison DA, et al. Invest Ophth Vis Sci 2005;46:2698

- MRIs of 21 emmetropic and 66 myopic eyes (to -12)
  - Ellipsoid model (second iteration)
  - $x^2/a^2 + y^2/b^2 + z^2/c^2 = 1$
  - X-axis is transverse, width; Y-axis is sagittal, height; Z-axis is visual axis, length
- 
- Tilted  $11^\circ$  vertically (agrees well with macular tilt)
  - Decentered 0.5/0.2mm nasally/inferiorly relative to fovea (ie negligibly)
  - Problems: How fovea/ora ID'd not clear/MRI resolution only about 1mm

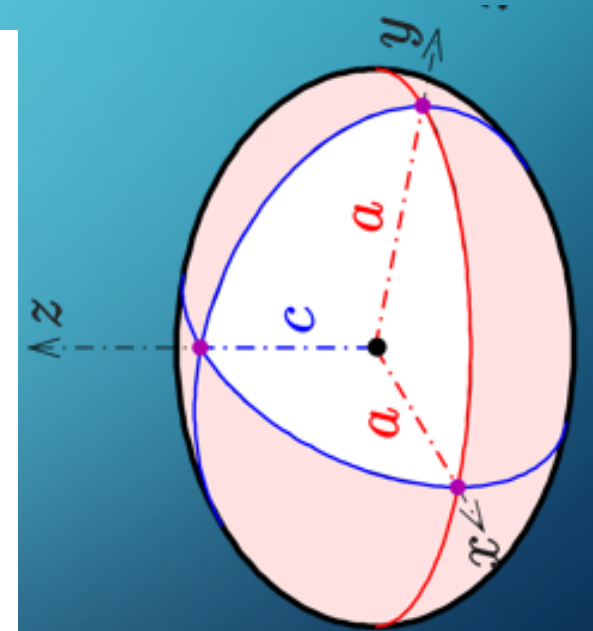
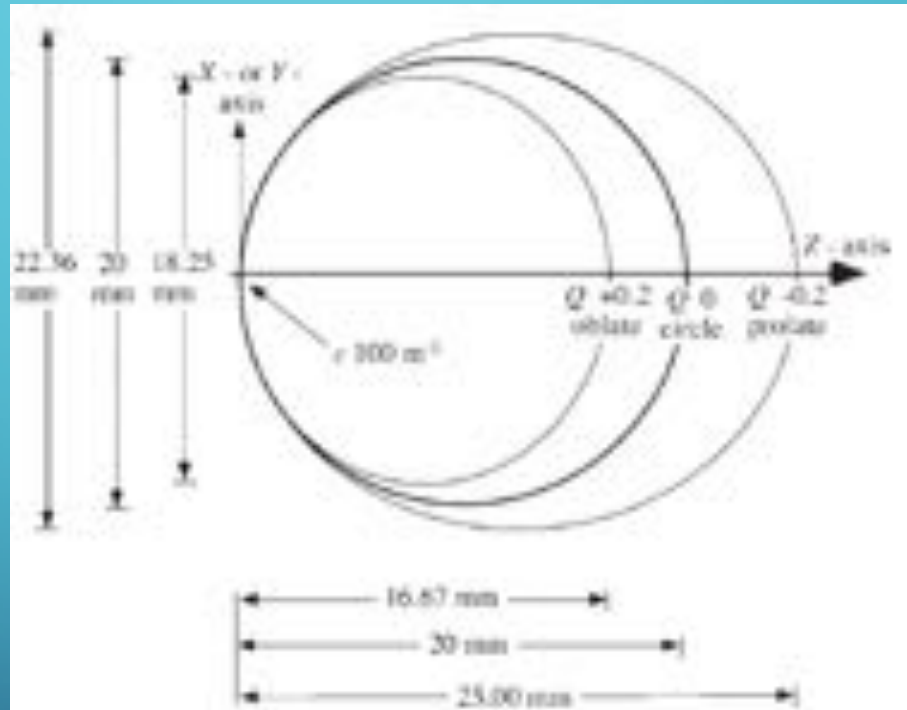


Oblate



## But we can consider just the sagittal (yz) plane

- $R_x = 11.40$  mm
- $R_y = 11.18$  mm
- $R_z = 10.04$  mm
- change (mm/diopter):
  - 0.04/0.09/0.16
- Q is measure of asphericity
  - Prolate ( $<0$ ): football
  - Oblate ( $>0$ ): pumpkin



Atchison, IOVS 2005

# So how to measure arc length vs distance to obscure the visual axis (z-axis)

First, the arc length:  $z = R(\theta) \cos \theta$ ,  $y = R(\theta) \sin \theta$ , but  $R$  changes, so need to parameterize:

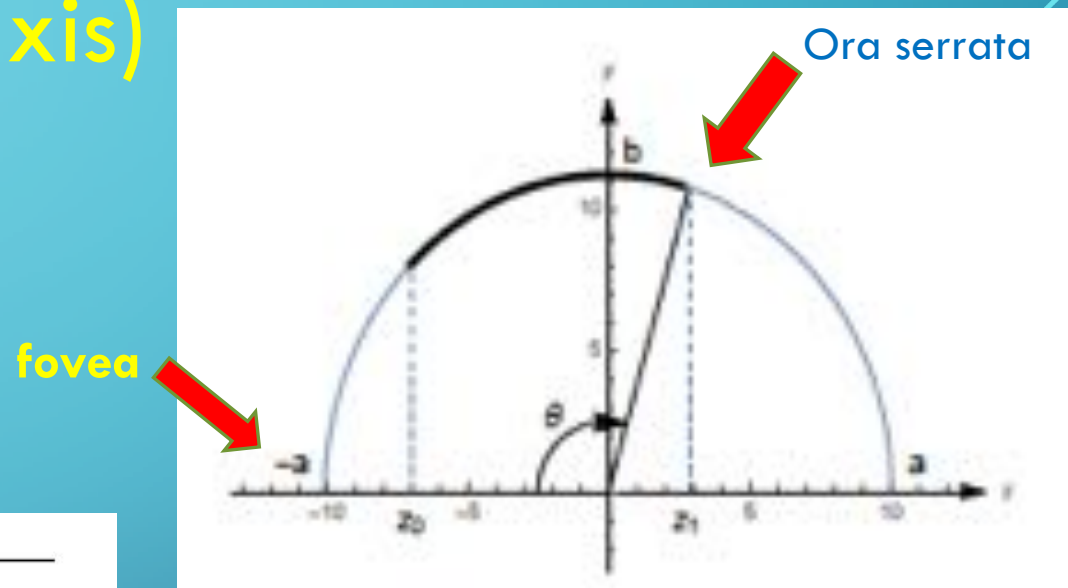
$$x(t) = a \cos t, \quad y(t) = b \sin t$$

$$L_e(z_1) = \int_{-a}^{z_1} \sqrt{1 + \left( \frac{df(z)}{dz} \right)^2} dz \stackrel{x = -a \cos t}{=} b \int_0^{\arccos(-z_1/a)} \sqrt{1 - \left(1 - \frac{a^2}{b^2}\right) \sin^2 t} dt.$$

$$L_e(z_1) = b E \left( \arccos\left(-\frac{z_1}{a}\right), 1 - \frac{a^2}{b^2} \right).$$

An “elliptic integral of the second kind”

Can't directly solve; use Mathematica to compute



$$E(\phi, m) = \int_0^\phi \sqrt{1 - m \sin^2 t} dt,$$

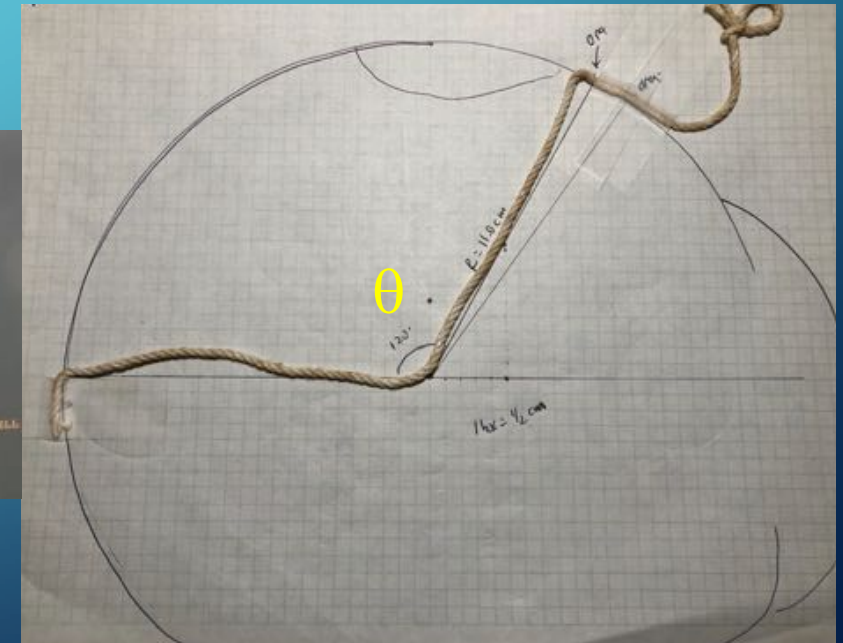
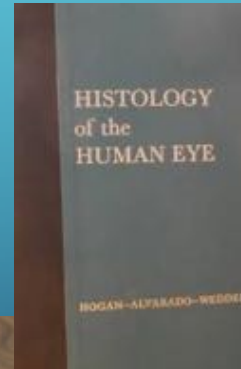


# Arc value from fovea to ora is not well established; Some calculations

- If assume  $R=12.0$  mm, and superiorly arc length from the visual axis to the ora,  $s$ , is  $8+7=15$  mm
- $\frac{1}{2} C = 12 \pi = 37.7$  mm; then the arc length,  $S$ , from the fovea to ora is 22.7 mm
- Solving as if circle,  $\theta = 108$
- If assume  $s=14$ , then  $\theta = 113$

- If assume  $R=11.0$ ,
  - $\theta = 107$  for  $s=15$
  - $\theta = 112$  for  $s=14$

- If adjust for arc length vs chord length,  $R=11.0$ , 7.7 and 6, then  $\theta =$  is 105 (at the most)



We need to calculate the maximal path the retina could hang down to obscure the visual axis

$$a(m) = 10.04(\pm 0.49) + 0.16 m, \quad b(m) = 11.18(\pm 0.50) + 0.09 m$$

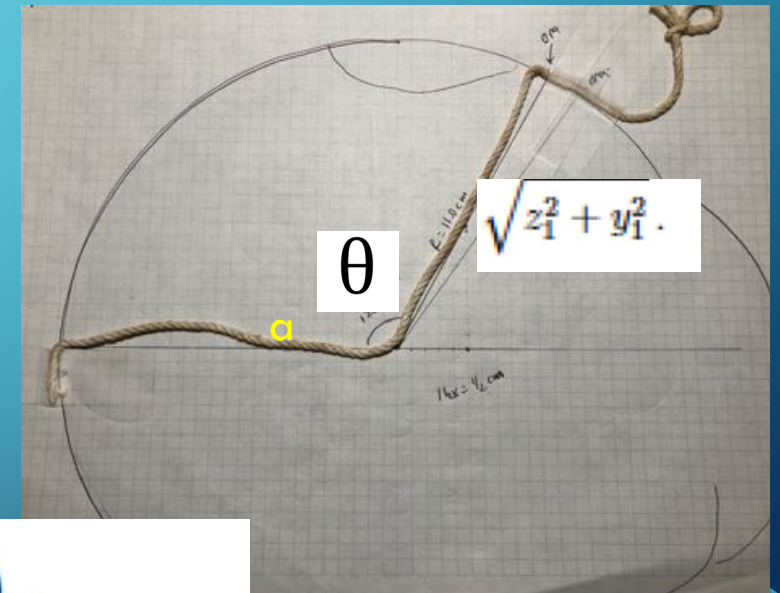
$$L_{legs}(z_1) = a + \sqrt{z_1^2 + y_1^2}.$$

$$t = \arccos\left(-\frac{z_1}{a}\right)$$

So the quantity we are interested in is:

$$L_e(z_1) - L_{legs}(z_1) = b E\left(t, 1 - \frac{a^2}{b^2}\right) - \left(a + \sqrt{a^2 \cos^2 t + b^2 \sin^2 t}\right).$$

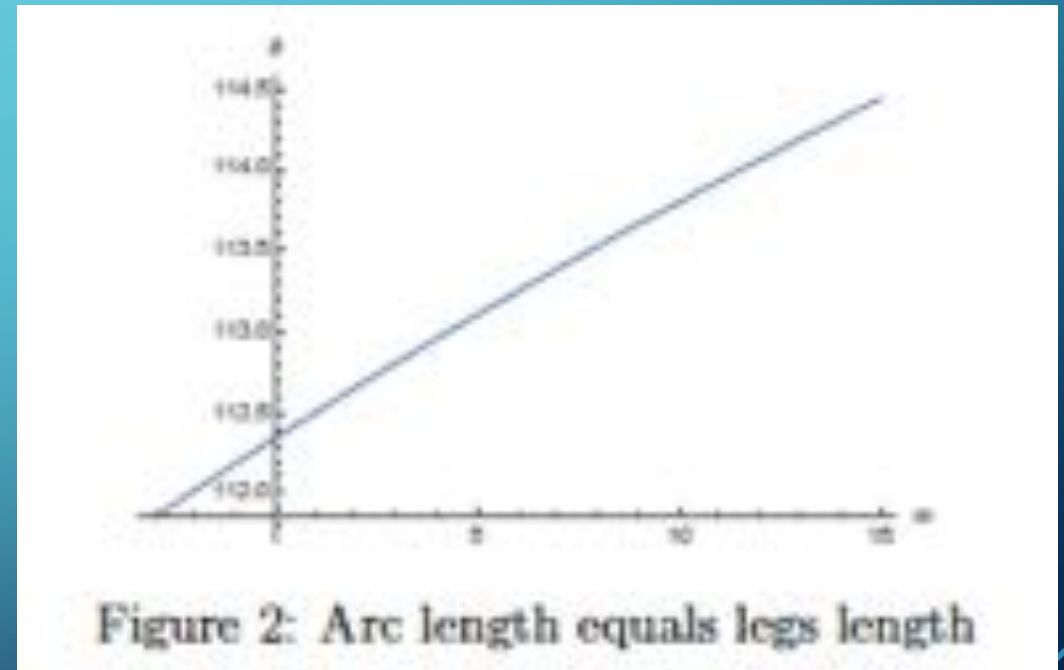
If this is  $>0$  the the retina COULD hang down and obscure view to fovea



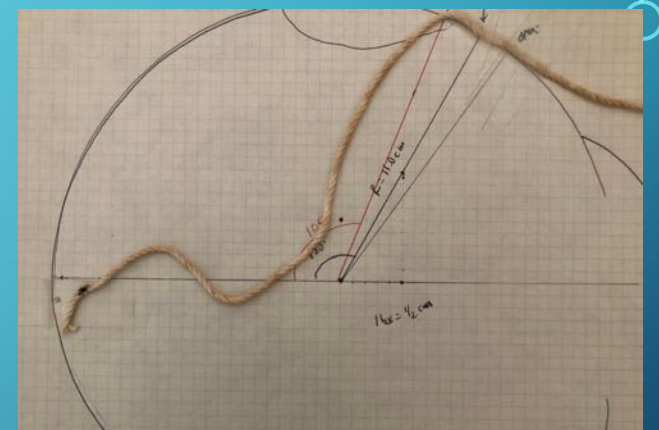
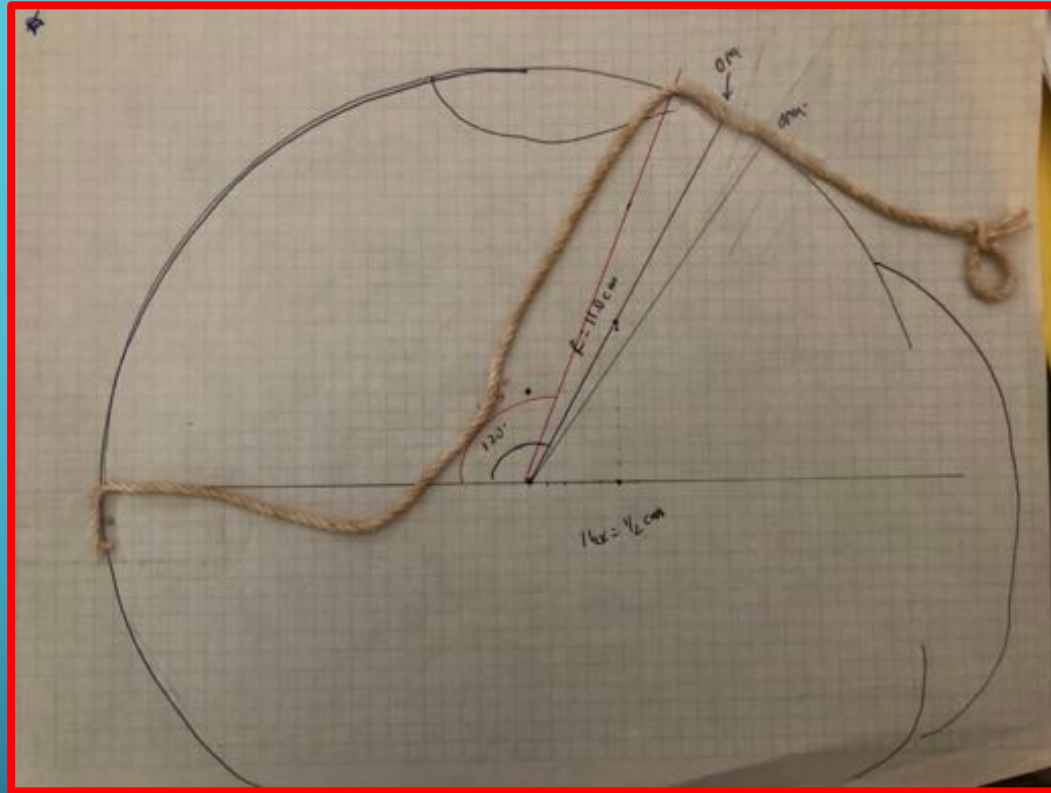
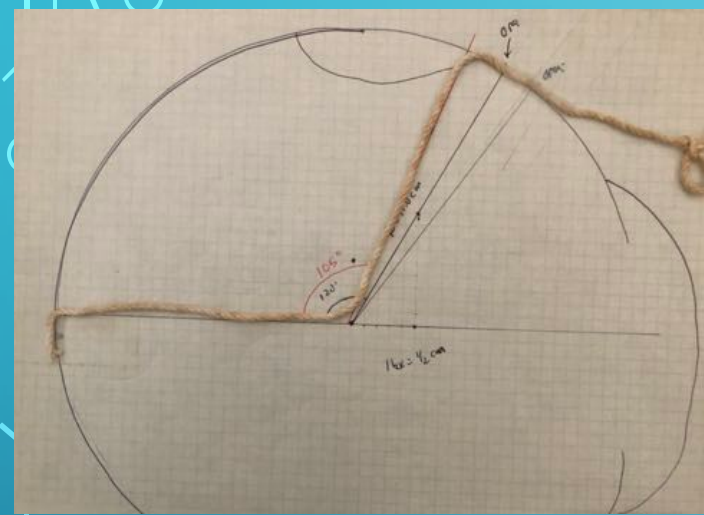
# Does this vary with myopia degree? NO!

$$L(m, T) = (a + 0.16m) + [(a + 0.16m)^2 \cos^2(T) + (b + 0.09m)^2 \sin^2(T)]^{1/2}$$

- This plots values of  $m$  (refractive error) vs the difference of arc length vs length of legs: minimal variation with more myopia
- Conclusion: for all values of arc angle from fovea to ora  $< 114^\circ$ , the retina **CANNOT** obscure the view to the fovea and still be attached at the fovea
- **BUT this assumes the retinal configuration along straight legs at center**



But straight “legs” is not actual (string model is sphere)...

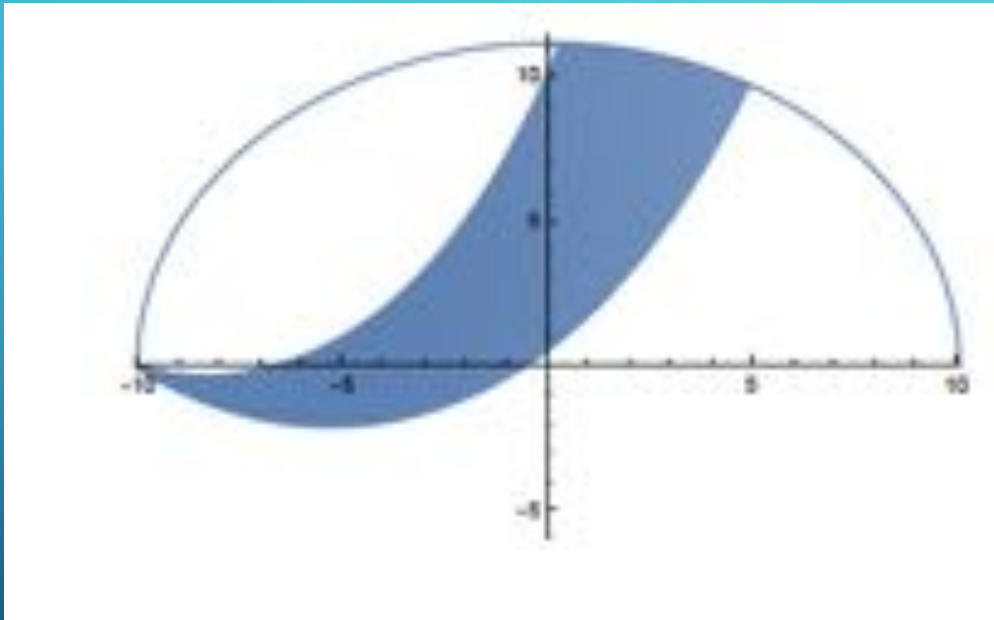


Other less than maximal, but more common instance

Retina can take a “short cut”



3<sup>rd</sup> iteration: The retina does not hang as 2 legs, more of a catenary. What is impact on intersection with the optical (z) axis?

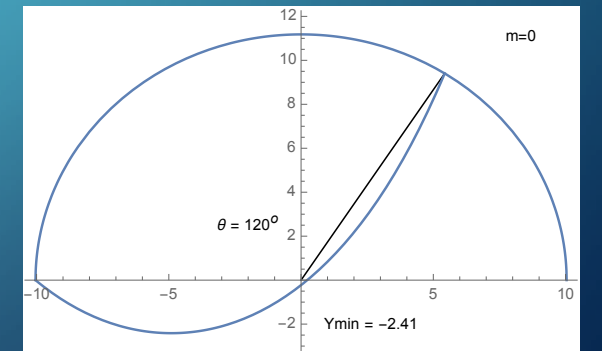
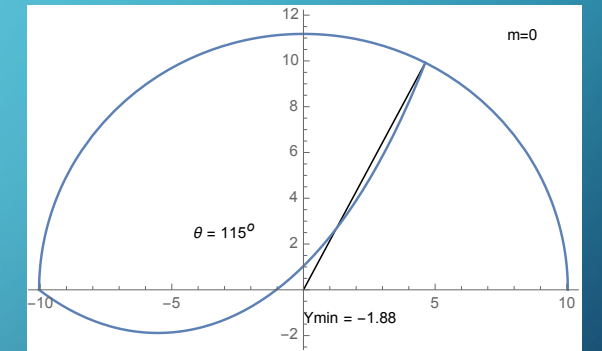
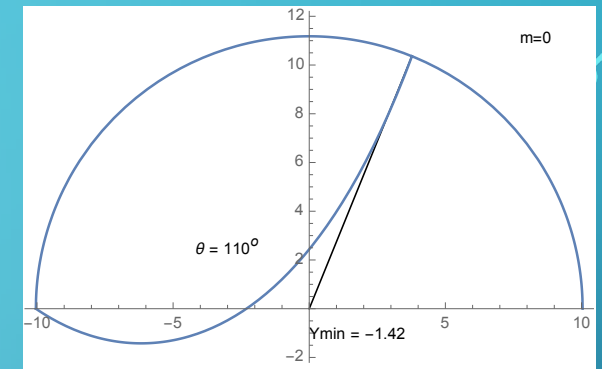
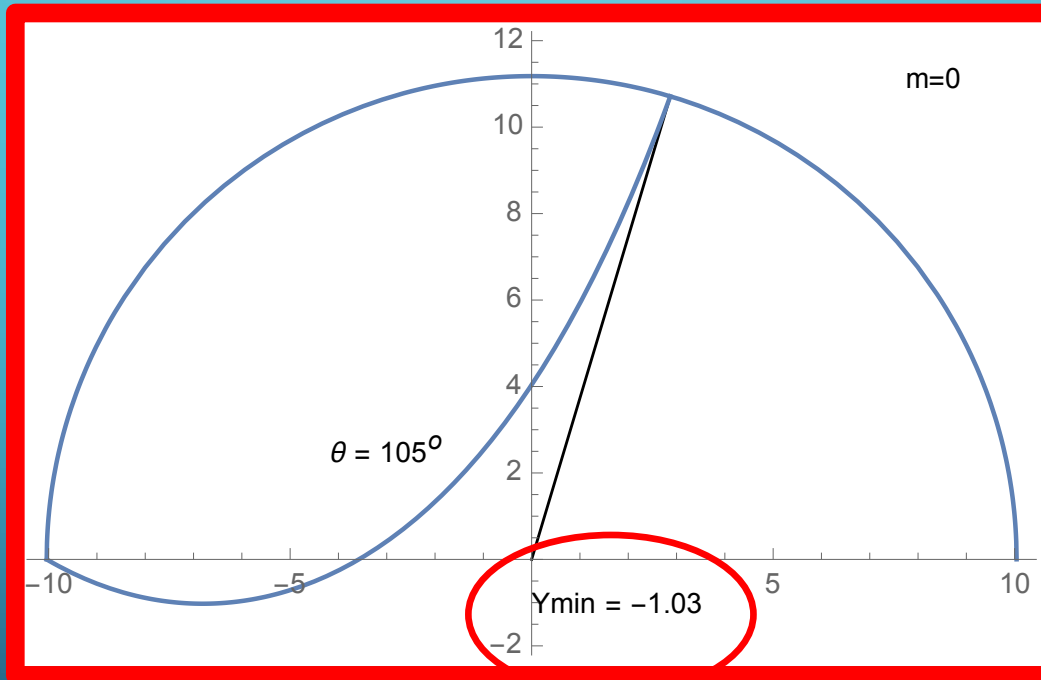
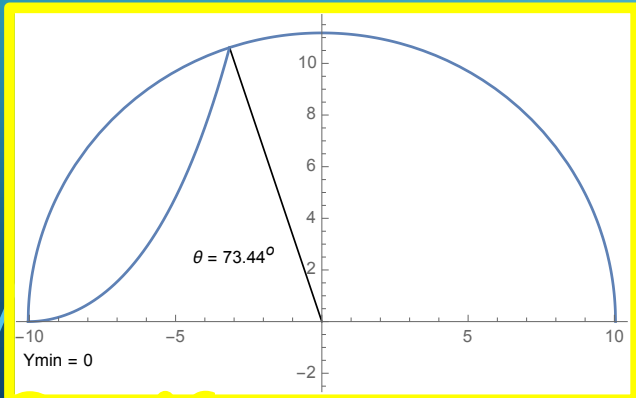




# The retina as a hanging cable (catenary)

$$y(z) = -\lambda + s \cosh\left(\frac{z + \alpha}{s}\right)$$

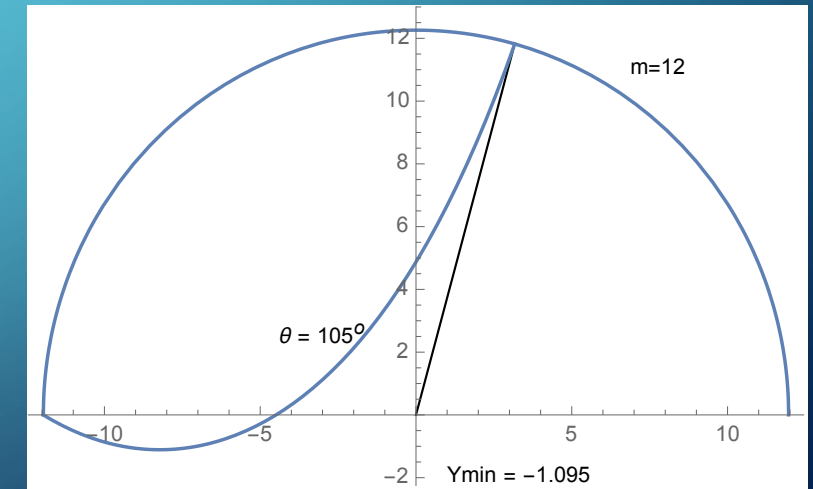
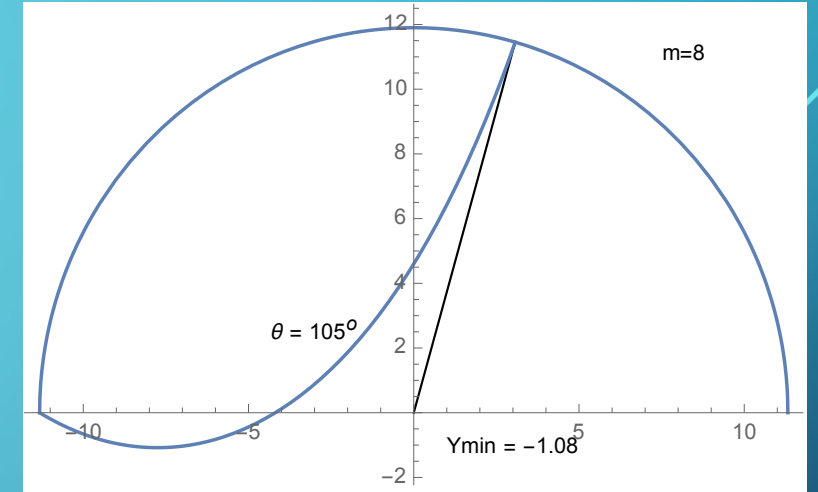
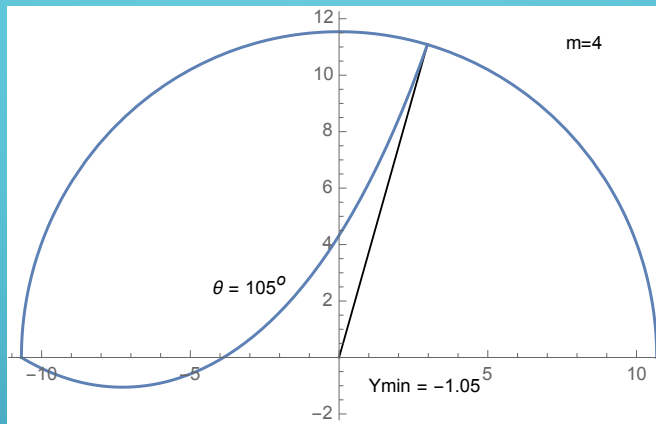
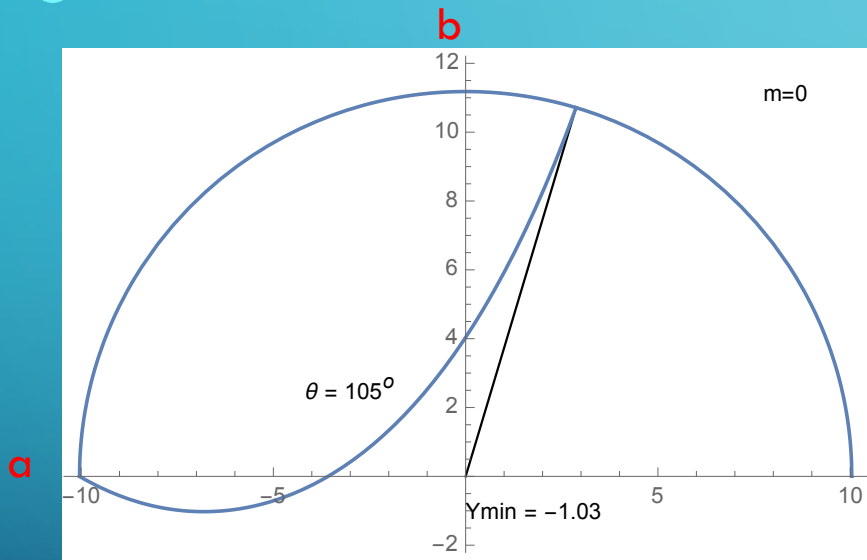
$$L_{cat}(z_0, z_1) = s \left[ \sinh\left(\frac{z_1 + \alpha}{s}\right) - \sinh\left(\frac{z_0 + \alpha}{s}\right) \right]$$



So it cannot see to within 1dd of the fovea, it might be attached

$$L_e(z_1) = b E \left( \arccos\left(-\frac{z_1}{a}\right), 1 - \frac{a^2}{b^2} \right).$$

# How does this vary with increasing myopia? (For $105^\circ$ )

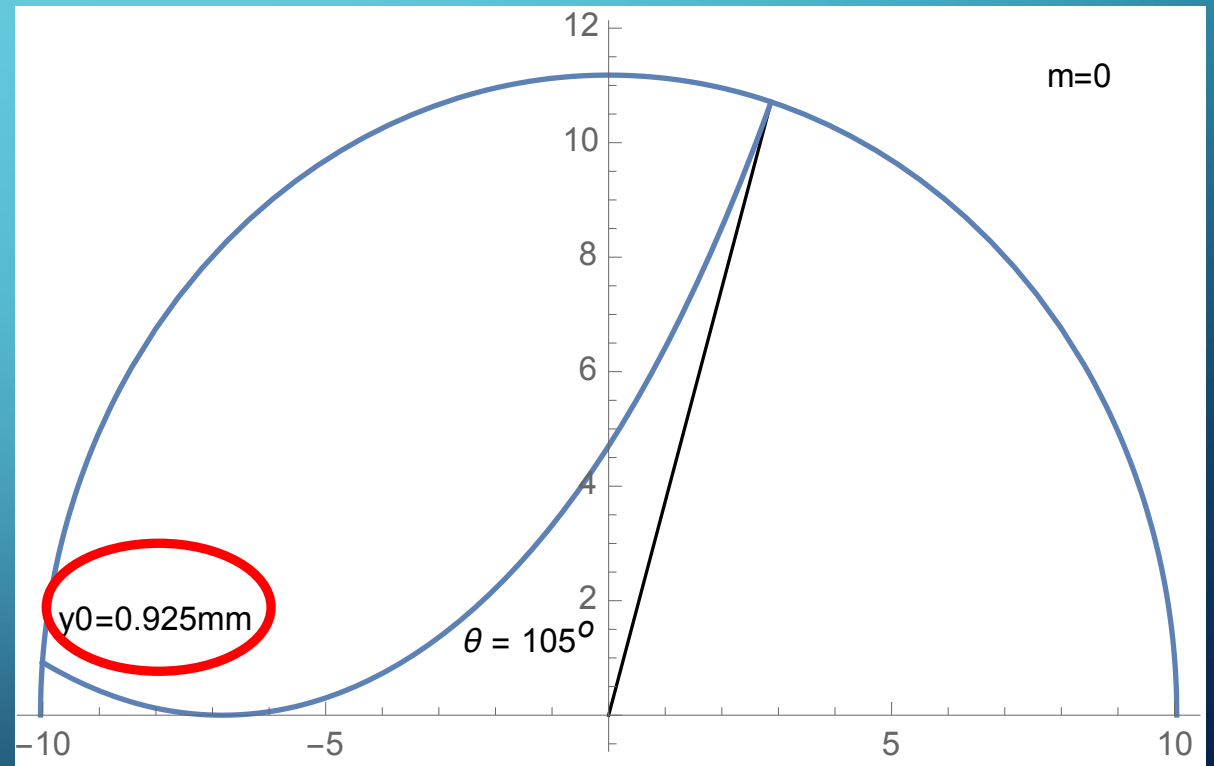
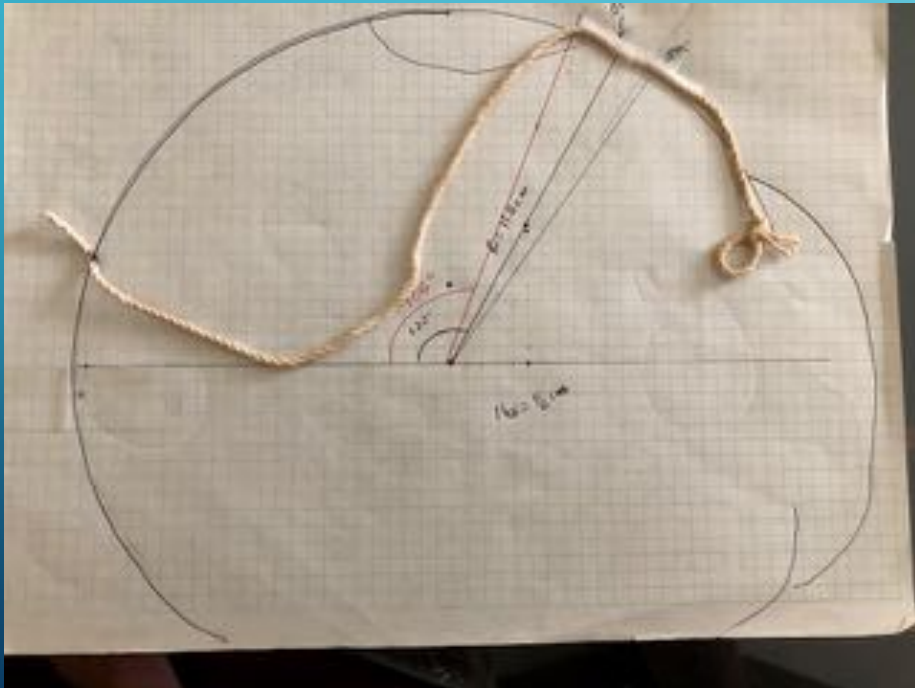


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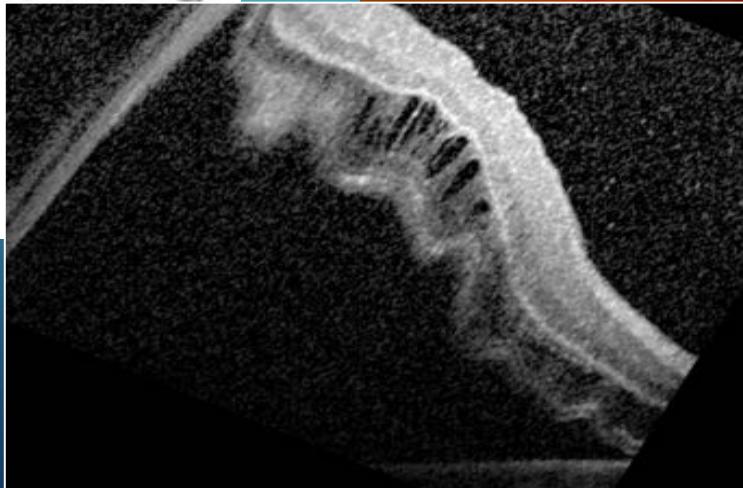
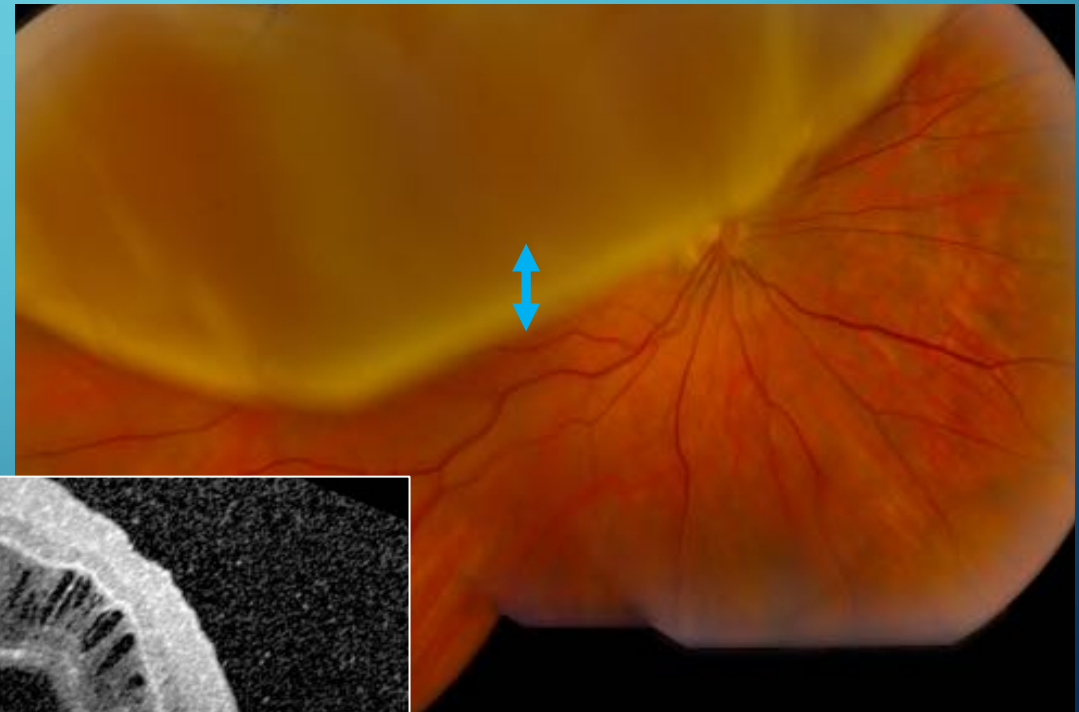
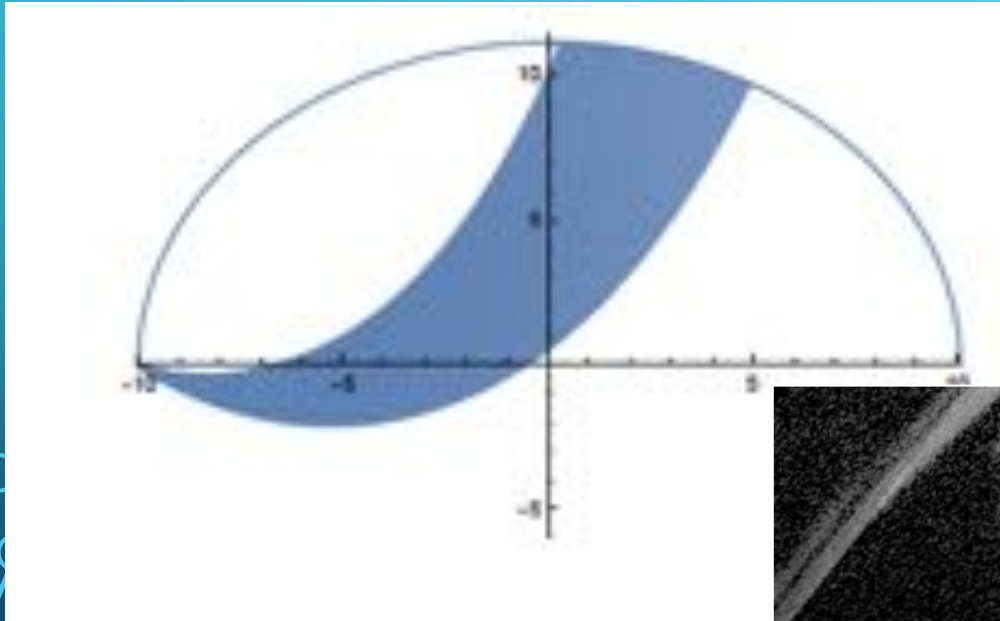
$$b(m) = 11.18(\pm 0.50) + 0.09 m$$

Not that much, since whole eye expands only slightly asymmetrically

So how **above** the macula would a mac on tether point have to be to just reach the optical axis?

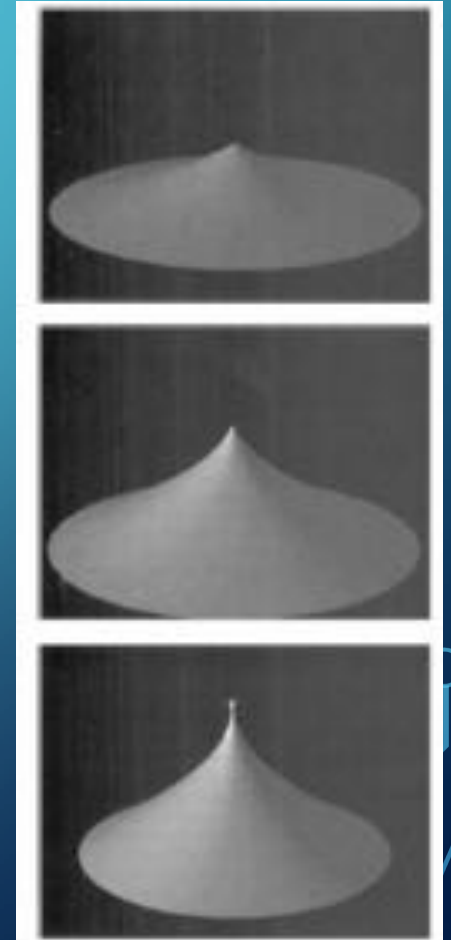


If we can see a certain (extrapolated) distance below the fovea, how might that strengthen our assertion that the macula must have become detached?



F depends upon specific gravity of SRF vs vitreous; depending upon chronicity, this gradient is minimal

- Bovine retina, excised, glued to end of suture at center of mounted specimen
- Concluded: Young's modulus,  $2 \times 10^4$  Pa which is about 100X sheet of typical rubber
- But retina is not homogeneous, etc but assumed weak incompressible solid,  $\nu = 1/2$

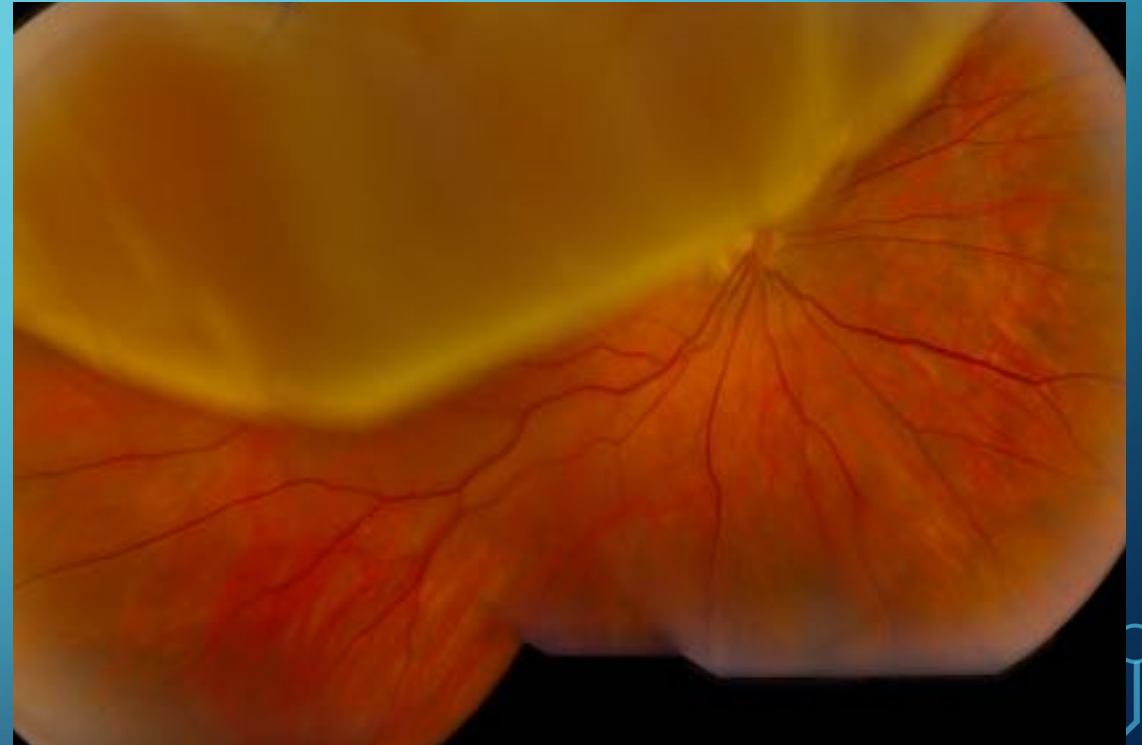




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- Sagittal section considered
- Retina hanging catenary
- Evaluated for various degrees of myopia
- Position of ora serrata estimated/measured
- Stretch of the retina probably not significant

**Maybe, but ...**



## Conclusions:

- If the retina is blocked  $>1$  dd from center it is detached
- Otherwise, it may be attached
- myopia has a minimal effect on this

