

# Mirror Holder 3D Print Test Grid

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# How to hold the mirrors in place

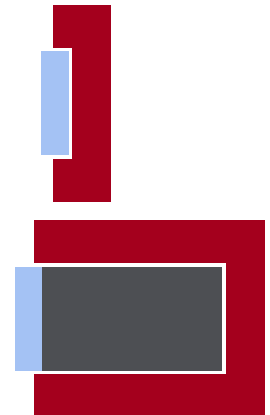
3D Modelling Studies

Front vs Rear mounting?

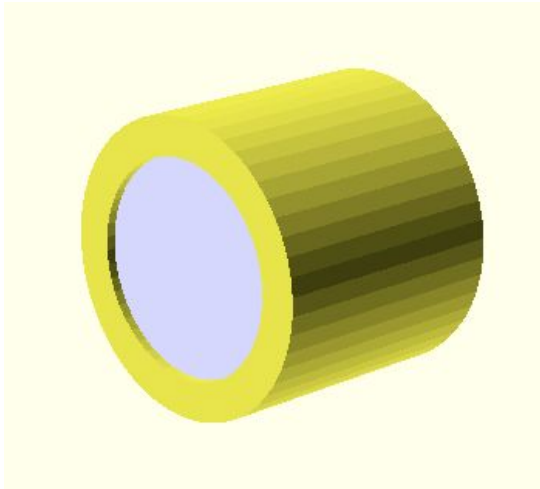
- Pushing in from the front has added benefit of no front lip, -> no light cone shaping
- Both designs require some mechanisms to maintain mirrors in place -> how do we do this?
- Errors on ring vs disk?

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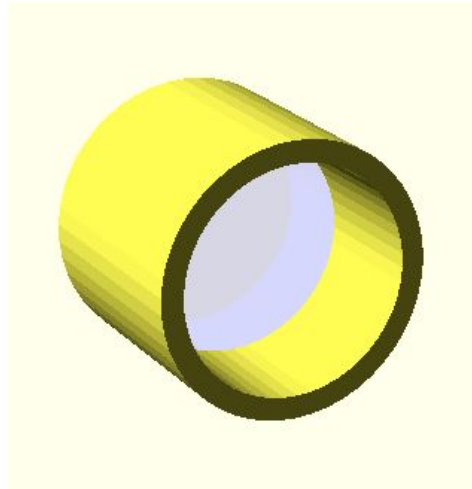
- Mirror thickness of O(mm)
  - Rear-stop: not much room to “click in” precisely or grab & control
    - Could use a long screw/glass rod or something
  - Glue isn't really an option (I don't want to...)
- Will focus on **front stop design** for now
  - More parameters to test & study



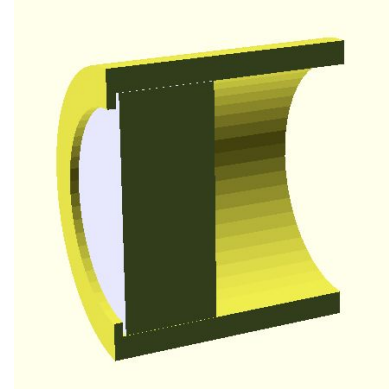
# Mirror Holder Design: Overview



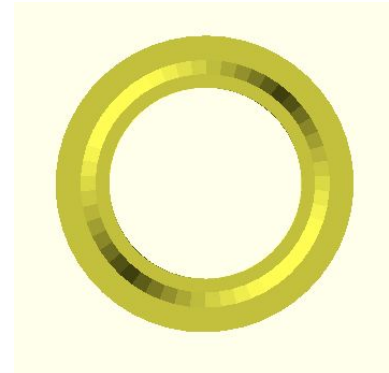
Front (angled)



Back (angled)



Cross-section (side)



Back (no mirror)

Example parameters:

- Mirror thickness: 2mm
- Mirror radius: 2.5mm
- Aperture radius: 2.2mm

# Mirror Holder Design: Main Parameters

## Front-stop depth

- If too thick, blocks/carves lightcone
  - No thicker than 1mm?
- If too thin, too weak mechanically

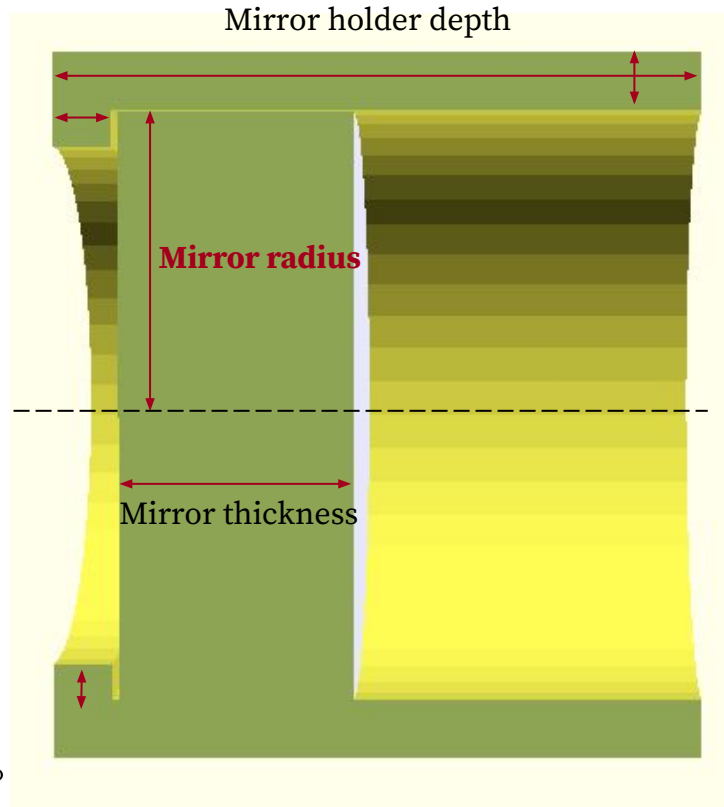
## Front-stop / Aperture shape

- Doesn't have to be circular?  
(see later slides)

## Front-stop overlap

- Mechanical stability
- Determines:

$$R_{\text{mirror}} = R_{\text{aperture}} + R_{\text{overlap}}$$



## Outer thickness

- Limits packing efficiency

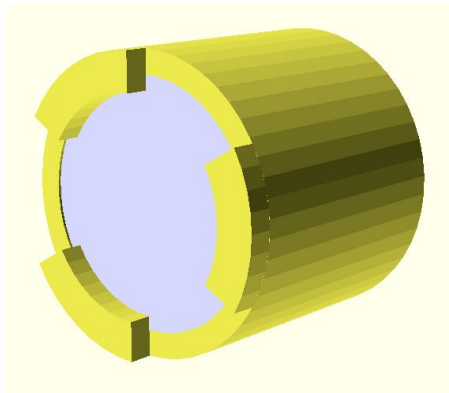
## Inner radius (regular $n$ -gon)

- Impacts how the mirror clicks in
  - Strength, alignment, etc.
- Radius  $\sim$  mirror  $R$
- Optimal size for friction holding?

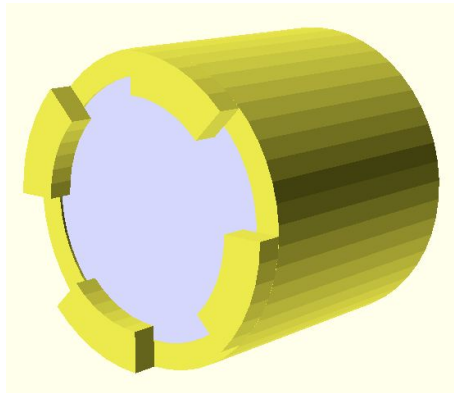
# Mirror Holder Design: Front-stop Shape

## Front-stop

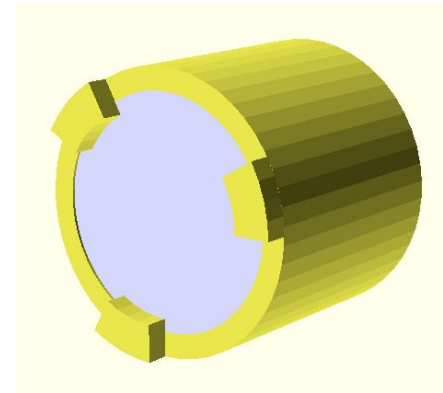
- Size limits aperture
- Smoothness impacts angular alignment
- Doesn't have to be a full "ring"---worth exploring different designs



$n = 3$



$n = 4$



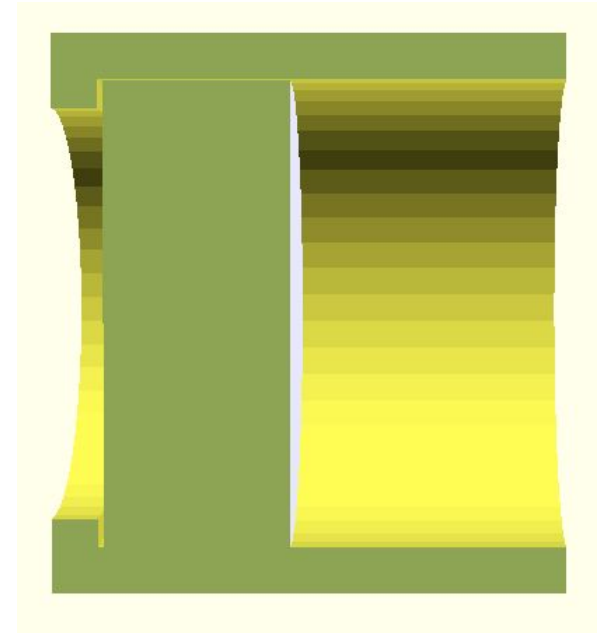
$n = 3$

smaller span

# Parameter Relevant for Mechanical Testing

Main goal: friction holding mechanism & overall stability

- Mirror
  - Thickness: 2mm
  - Radius: 2.5mm
- Hole
  - Inner radius: {2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 2.7} mm
- Front-stop
  - Depth: 0.5mm  
(not too thick, not too thin)
  - Overlap: {0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8, 1.0} mm
  - Shape:  $n = \{1, 3, 4\}$



$$R_{\text{mirror}} = R_{\text{aperture}} + R_{\text{overlap}}$$

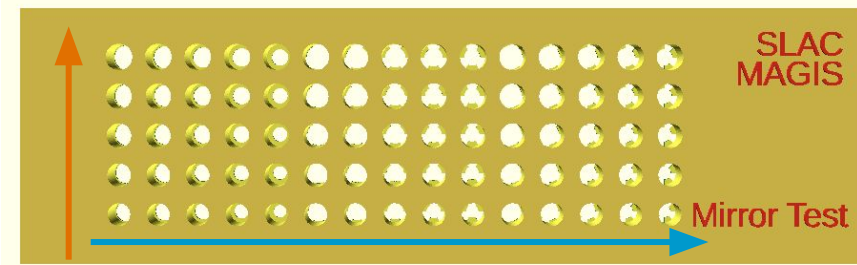
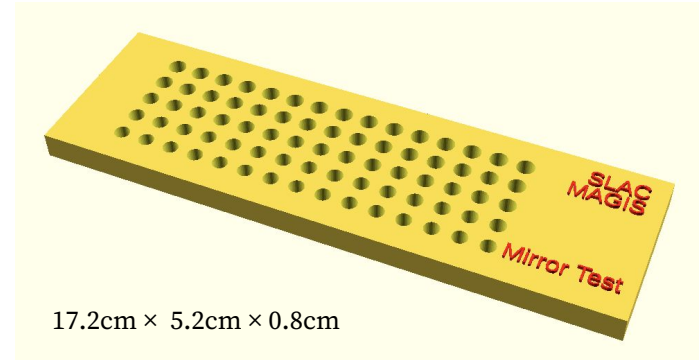
# 3D Print Test Grid

3D-print a grid for mirror holder, mainly testing:

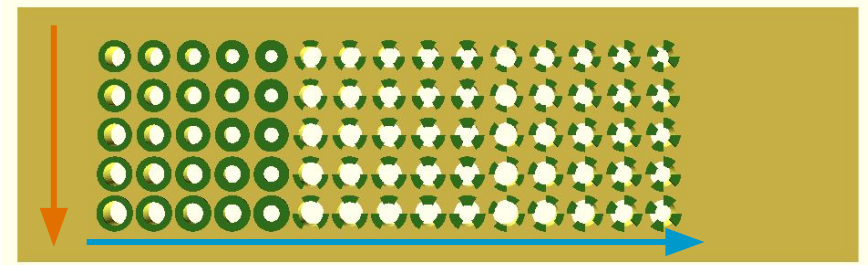
- Friction holding
- Angular alignment
- Overall mechanical stability

Inner Radius

R +/- 0.2mm



Front-stop design (size & shape)



$n = \{1, 3, 4\} \times \text{Overlap } [0.2, 1.0] \text{ mm}$

## My questions

- Precision, min. feature size, etc. depends on **specific printing technology**
  - Overview of printing tech. & tolerances
  - Which one should we go with? Is cost a factor too?
- Do the parameters seem reasonable?
- If so, which companies shall we consider?

## Plans going forward

- Finalize the test grid
- Order the test grid + ~10 mirrors for testing
- Study the mechanical properties & angular alignment

