

## 大变倍比中波红外连续变焦光学系统设计

张洪博<sup>1</sup>, 闫阿奇<sup>2\*</sup>, 何双亮<sup>1</sup>, 张轲贻<sup>3</sup>, 王浩<sup>2\*\*</sup><sup>1</sup>中国航天员科研训练中心, 北京 100094;<sup>2</sup>中国科学院西安光学精密机械研究所, 陕西 西安 710119;<sup>3</sup>北京理工大学, 北京 100081

**摘要** 针对新一代光电吊舱对轻小型长焦距高清红外变焦成像系统的迫切需求,采用分辨率为 $1280 \times 1024$ 、像元尺寸为 $15 \mu\text{m}$ 大面阵中波制冷红外探测器,设计了一款变倍比为48、焦距范围为 $25 \sim 1200 \text{ mm}$ 的中波红外连续变焦光学系统。为了实现小型化设计,采用二次成像、正组机械补偿、平滑换根、结合后组温阑切换变F数,以及光路巧妙折转的设计思路及方法,在保证100%冷阑效率的同时,实现了红外变焦系统的大变倍比与小型化设计。结果表明,该光学系统在 $-40 \text{ }^\circ\text{C} \sim +60 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ 温度范围内具有良好的成像质量,且光学最大口径为 $230 \text{ mm}$ ,光学总长仅为 $350 \text{ mm}$ ,该系统具有结构紧凑、变倍比大、焦距长、分辨率高、成像质量好等优点,可满足新一代红外成像系统的要求。

**关键词** 光学设计; 红外变焦系统; 中波红外; 机械补偿; 温阑; 小型化

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## 1 引言

红外成像技术具有全天时工作、穿透烟雾能力强和探测隐蔽性好等优点,已成为各国研究热点,尤其是军事领域的迫切需求,使得红外成像相关技术,例如高性能成像器件、先进红外系统等发展迅速。近年来,随着红外大面阵探测器的发展以及红外高清成像、边海防等远距离观测任务对高性能高清红外设备需求的日益增长,国内外相继开展了大变倍长焦距连续变焦系统的研究,各种红外变焦系统层出不穷。红外变焦系统既可实现大视场目标搜索,又可观察远距离目标细节,在军民领域得到广泛应用。

为了提高红外系统对目标的识别能力,往往希望光学系统具有更长焦距和更高分辨率,焦距的增加使得光学系统口径急剧增大,除固有的二级光谱外,将引入大量色差及高级球差,而光学系统像差校正困难。一些学者开展了相关的研究与设计工作:付艳鹏等<sup>[1]</sup>基于 $15 \mu\text{m}$ 、 $640 \times 512$ 中波制冷探测器设计了30倍连续变焦系统,焦距范围为 $25 \sim 750 \text{ mm}$ ,F数为4,但该系统采用三组元变倍形式,三次成像结构复杂、体积大;姜凯等<sup>[2]</sup>基于 $30 \mu\text{m}$ 、 $320 \times 240$ 中波制冷探测器设计了30倍连续变焦系统,焦距范围为 $30 \sim 900 \text{ mm}$ ,F数为4,系统总长为 $750 \text{ mm}$ ;杨明洋等<sup>[3]</sup>基于 $15 \mu\text{m}$ 、 $640 \times 512$ 中波制冷探测器设计了80倍变焦系统,焦距

范围为 $9 \sim 740 \text{ mm}$ ,该系统采用3组元复合变焦设计思路;彭章贤等<sup>[4]</sup>基于 $10 \mu\text{m}$ 、 $1024 \times 768$ 中波制冷探测器设计了14倍变焦系统,焦距范围为 $110 \sim 1500 \text{ mm}$ ,F数为4。目前中波红外变焦系统长焦焦距多在 $1000 \text{ mm}$ 以下,探测器靶面以 $640 \times 512$ 居多,且光路结构复杂、体积大,难以满足日益增长的高分辨率红外侦查设备对系统小型化、轻量化的要求。

针对以上问题,本文在前人研究的基础上,采用二次成像、正组机械补偿、平滑换根、合理光焦度分配、结合后组温阑切换变F数,以及光路巧妙折转的设计思路及方法,基于 $1280 \times 1024$ 大面阵中波制冷红外探测器,设计了一款变倍比达48、焦距范围为 $25 \sim 1200 \text{ mm}$ 、F数为4的大变倍比紧凑型中波红外连续变焦光学系统,有效解决了小型化难题。该系统具有结构紧凑、变倍比大、焦距长、成像质量好等优点。

## 2 设计原理

变焦系统通过改变运动组元之间的间隔,使各运动组元按照不同的运动规律移动,实现焦距的连续变化,同时保持像面位置稳定。变焦系统大体上可分为光学补偿和机械补偿,由于机械补偿在实现焦距连续变化的同时,像面位置始终保持稳定,因此得到广泛应用。机械补偿又分为很多种,例如正组补偿、负组补偿、双组联动、多组联动、复合变焦等,不同结构形式各

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通信作者: \*yanqi@opt.ac.cn; \*\*wanghao@opt.ac.cn

有优缺点。为了实现大变倍比、小型化设计,采用二次成像、正组机械补偿平滑换根、后组温阑切换变 F 数,以及光路折转的设计思路。为了实现 100% 冷阑效率,把探测器冷光阑作为红外变焦系统的孔径光阑再结合后组温阑切换变 F 数,既减小了变焦行程,又减小了光学系统口径大小,从而有效减小了系统体积与质量。

系统设计原理如图 1 所示。变焦系统由前组 1、负光焦度的变倍组 2、正光焦度的补偿组 3,以及后组 4 等组成,变倍组与补偿组相互配合做线性或非线性移动,实现焦距的连续变化,并保持像面位置稳定不变。由于需要实现 100% 冷阑效率,系统采用二次成像或多次成像结构形式,通过在系统中增加折转反射镜(5、6)实现光路折转,保证了结构的紧凑性。后组 4 可切换,实现温阑变 F 数设计。

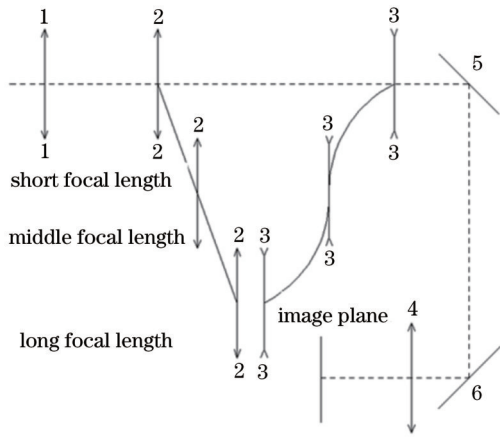


图 1 设计原理图

Fig. 1 Design method

在变焦系统中,假设变倍组和补偿组焦距为  $f'_2$  和  $f'_3$ ,变倍组放大倍率为  $m_2$ ,变倍组长焦位置初始放大倍率为  $m_{2l}$ ,补偿组放大倍率为  $m_3$ ,补偿组长焦位置初始放大倍率为  $m_{3l}$ ,根据变焦微分方程<sup>[5]</sup>,有

$$\frac{1-m_2^2}{m_2^2} f'_2 dm_2 + \frac{1-m_3^2}{m_3^2} f'_3 dm_3 = 0. \quad (1)$$

变倍组移动量  $q$  为

$$m_2 = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{m_{2l}} + \frac{q}{f'_2}}. \quad (2)$$

补偿组倍率  $m_3$  构成二次方程:

$$m_3^2 - bm_3 + 1 = 0, \quad (3)$$

$$b = -\frac{f'_2}{f'_3} \left( \frac{1}{m_2} - \frac{1}{m_{2l}} + m_2 - m_{2l} \right) + \left( \frac{1}{m_{3l}} + m_{3l} \right). \quad (4)$$

则补偿组  $m_3$  及补偿组移动量  $\Delta$  的表达式为

$$m_3 = \frac{b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4}}{2}, \quad (5)$$

$$\Delta = f'_3 (m_3 - m_{3l}). \quad (6)$$

最终,系统变倍比  $\Gamma$  的表达式为

$$\Gamma = \frac{m_{2l} m_{3l}}{m_2 m_3}. \quad (7)$$

给定变倍组移动量  $q$ 、变倍组初始放大率  $m_{2l}$  和补偿组初始放大率  $m_{3l}$  的情况下,可求得当时的  $m_2$ ,进而求得补偿组放大倍率  $m_3$ 、补偿量  $\Delta$  及动组间隔数据  $d$ 。为了实现平滑换根,换根点处  $b$  值应该取最小值  $-2$ ,即当  $m_2 = -1$  时,  $m_3 = -1$ ,即可实现平滑换根<sup>[5]</sup>。反复利用式(1)~(7),即可对变焦过程进行求解。

## 3 设计实例

### 3.1 光学设计指标

红外变焦光学系统设计指标如表 1 所示。红外变焦系统采用国产大面阵制冷型中波红外探测器,分辨率为  $1280 \times 1024$ ,波长为  $3.7 \sim 4.8 \mu\text{m}$ ,像元大小为  $15 \mu\text{m}$ 。

表 1 变焦光学系统设计指标

Table 1 Design specifications for zoom optical system

Wavelength /nm	3.7-4.8
MW cooled infrared detector	1280×1024
Pixel size /( $\mu\text{m} \times \mu\text{m}$ )	15×15
Effective focal length(EFL) /mm	25-1200
F-number	F4(cold shield)/F5.5(warm shield)
Distortion	Less than 2%
Temperature /°C	-40+60
Dimensions (mm×mm× mm)	≤360×238×290

### 3.2 光学系统设计结果

根据第 2 节变焦系统理论分配光焦度,得到各组元焦距值,前组焦距为 238.1 mm,变倍组焦距为  $-41.1 \text{ mm}$ ,补偿组焦距为 80.7 mm,后组焦距为 32.9 mm,变倍组长焦初始放大率  $m_{2l}$  取  $-2.07$ ,补偿组长焦初始放大率  $m_{3l}$  取  $-1.69$ ,根据式(1)~(7)求解运动组元位置及间隔数据,直到满足要求的变倍比。通过计算得到变焦系统的多焦距位置的初始结构,利用 CODEV 软件进行像差校正及优化,最终的系统设计结果如图 2、3 所示。红外变焦系统采用正组补偿,二次成像结构形式,利用两片反射镜实现光路折转,两片折转反射镜角度分别为  $45^\circ$  与  $37^\circ$ ,光学口径为 230 mm,光路折转后长度仅为 350 mm。为了实现平滑换根,设计过程中控制变倍组与补偿组放大倍率,使得当变倍组放大倍率为  $-1$  时,补偿组放大倍率也为  $-1$ ,变焦系统换根点位于焦距 260 mm 处。光学系统共采用了 4 个非球面、1 个衍射面,主要采用 Si、Ge、ZNS、IRG209 红外材料。前组采用 Si 和 Ge 两种材料透镜,主要用于消除系统长焦位置色差,变倍组负透镜

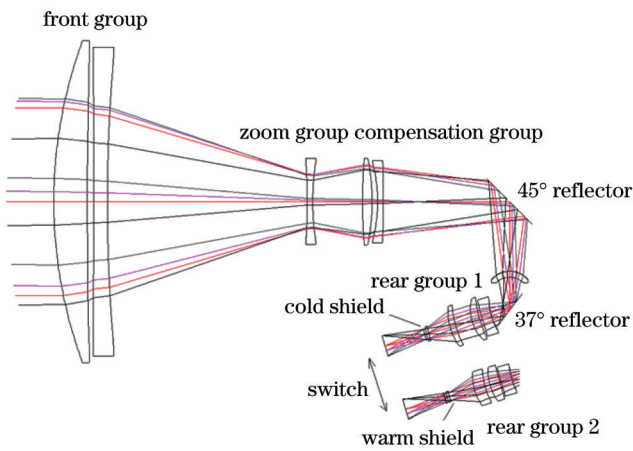


图 2 变焦系统图

Fig. 2 Schematic of the zoom lens

第一面采用衍射面进一步校正系统中长焦色差,后组

用于校正系统残余像差<sup>[6-9]</sup>。为了使衍射面在变焦过程中始终保持较高的衍射效率,选用高折射率的 Ge 作为衍射面基底材料,衍射面参数  $A_1 = -0.0001282$ 、 $A_2 = -8.38 \times 10^{-9}$ , 通过计算可知衍射面最小特征尺寸为 0.45 mm, 完全可以加工出来。变焦过程中,短焦位置边缘视场主光线入射角最大为  $36.85^\circ$ , 在中心波长  $4.2 \mu\text{m}$  处,衍射效率仍然高达 99.13%。

系统采用高精度导轨和电机伺服控制变倍组与补偿组移动,实现连续焦距变化,变倍组与补偿组在各自伺服电机的控制下单独运动。通过在后组引入切换机构,可以在保持前组光学口径不变的情况下,实现更大的焦距变化。温阑位于后固定组中,中波制冷探测器保护窗口前 1 mm 处,在电机带动下其随后组整体切换,温阑切换前红外系统焦距连续变化范围为 25~900 mm, 光圈为 F4。温阑切换后,光圈为 F5.5, 系统

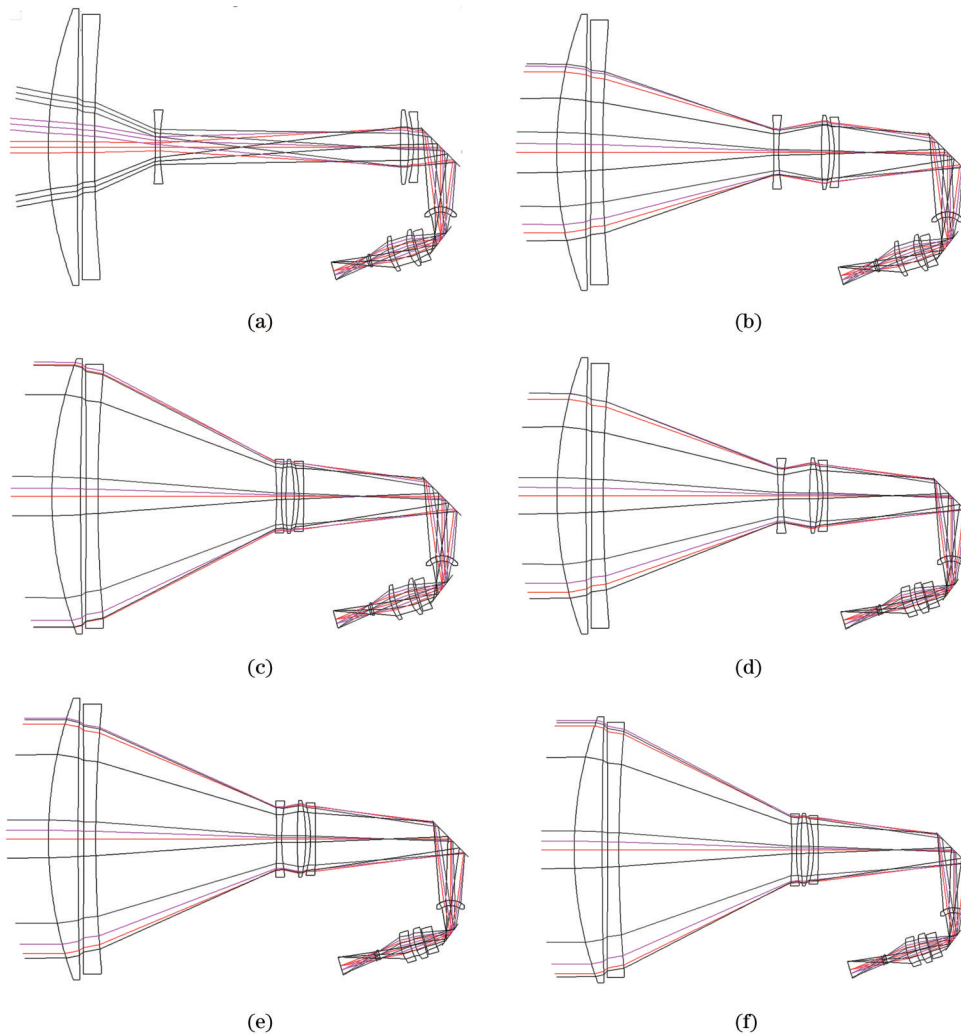


图 3 光学系统二维结构图。(a)短焦(焦距 25 mm, F4);(b)中焦(焦距 550 mm, F4);(c)中长焦(焦距 900 mm, F4);(d)中长焦(焦距 900 mm, F5.5);(e)中长焦(焦距 1050 mm, F5.5);(f)长焦(焦距 1200 mm, F5.5)

Fig. 3 2D structural diagrams of the optical zoom system. (a) Short focal length position (focal length 25 mm, F4); (b) middle focal length position (focal length 550 mm, F4); (c) middle focal length position (focal length 900 mm, F4); (d) middle focal length position (focal length 900 mm, F5.5); (e) middle focal length position (focal length 1050 mm, F5.5); (f) long focal length position (focal length 1200 mm, F5.5)

焦距连续变化范围为 900~1200 mm。选择补偿组作为调焦组进行温度调焦,以满足系统-40℃~+60℃高质量成像要求。

焦距为 25 mm 时,变倍组、补偿组及后组之间间隔分别为 51.82 mm、204.65 mm、70.07 mm;焦距为 550 mm 时,其间隔分别为 146.42 mm、36.48 mm、143.64 mm;焦距为 900 mm (F4) 时,间隔分别为

153.07 mm、4 mm、169.47 mm;焦距为 900 mm (F5.5) 时,间隔分别为 148.27 mm、22.69 mm、155.58 mm;焦距为 1200 mm (F5.5) 时,间隔分别为 152.37 mm、4 mm、170.17 mm。

变焦系统短焦、中焦、长焦调制传递函数(MTF)如图 4 所示。变焦系统各焦距成像质量接近衍射极限。

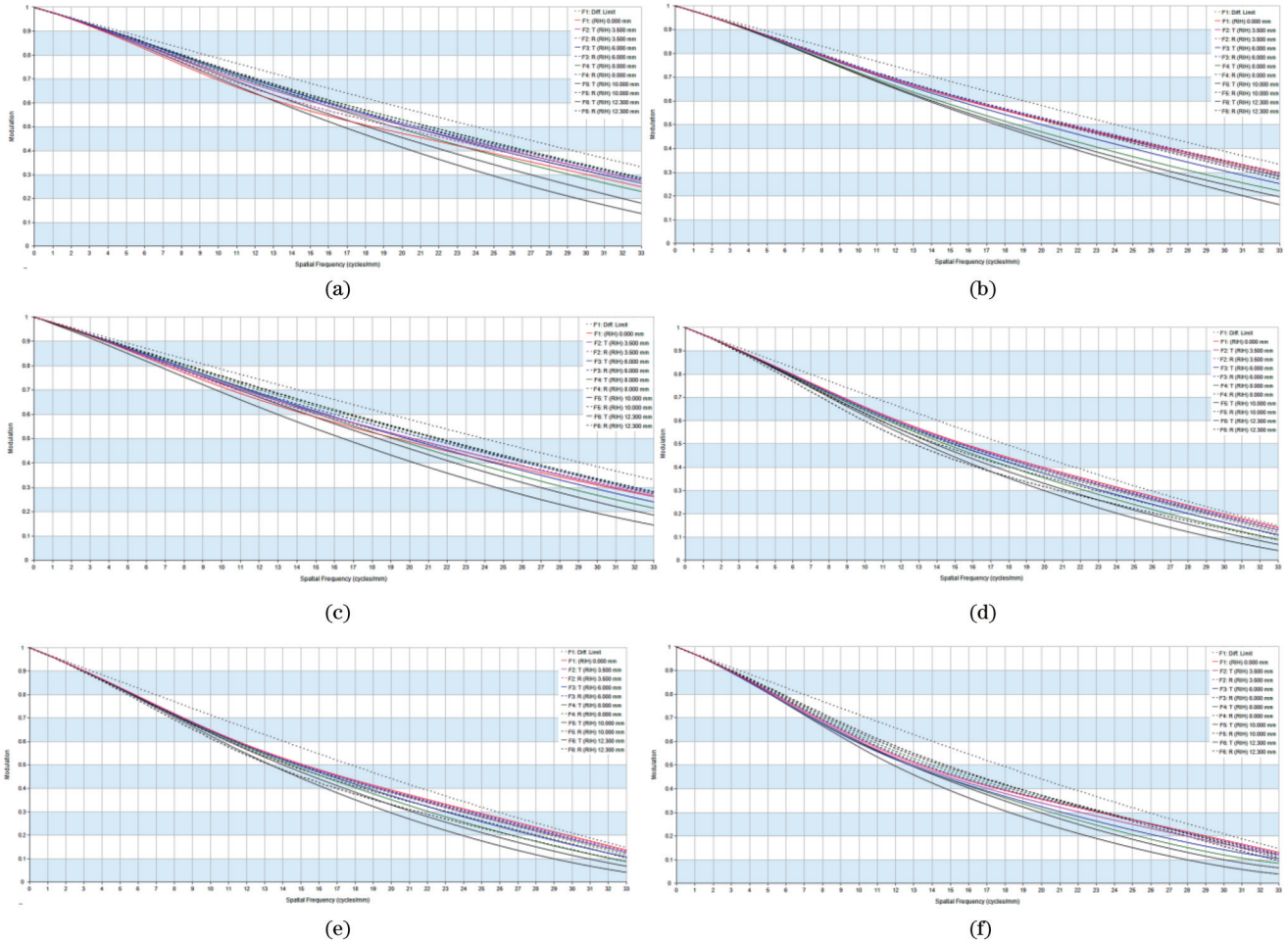


图 4 MTF。(a)短焦(焦距 25 mm, F4);(b)中焦(焦距 550 mm, F4);(c)中长焦(焦距 900 mm, F4);(d)中长焦(焦距 900 mm, F5.5);(e)中长焦(焦距 1050 mm, F5.5);(f)长焦(焦距 1200 mm, F5.5)

Fig. 4 MTF. (a) Short focal length position (focal length 25 mm, F4); (b) middle focal length position (focal length 550 mm, F4); (c) middle focal length position (focal length 900 mm, F4); (d) middle focal length position (focal length 900 mm, F5.5); (e) middle focal length position (focal length 1050 mm, F5.5); (f) long focal length position (focal length 1200 mm, F5.5)

变焦系统畸变如图 5 所示。短焦畸变小于 1.6%,中焦畸变 1%,长焦畸变小于 1%。

红外材料光学特性受温度影响很大,材料的热胀冷缩以及折射率随温度变化都将造成系统像面离焦<sup>[10-13]</sup>。本系统采用高精导轨和电机伺服控制变倍组与补偿组移动,温度引起的像面离焦通过移动补偿组补偿,即补偿组也为调焦组。根据所用红外材料温度折射率数据、线膨胀系数及结构件镁铝合金膨胀系数,在光学设计软件 Code V 中分析该变焦光学系统在不同温度(-40℃~+60℃)下的调焦量,具体如表 2、

3 所示,“+”表示调焦镜组靠近探测器方向,“-”表示相反方向。

红外变焦光学系统短焦、长焦在-40℃和+60℃下的 MTF 如图 6 所示。

图 7 给出了红外变焦系统长焦 1200 mm 处公差分析曲线。从图中可以看出,各视场公差一致性较好,公差 MTF 曲线较陡,光学系统各视场在探测器最大空间频率 33 lp/mm 处,80% 概率 MTF 可以达到设计值,说明该变焦光学系统对公差不敏感。主要公差为光圈 3,局部光圈 0.5,透镜厚度公差 ±0.03 mm,镜片

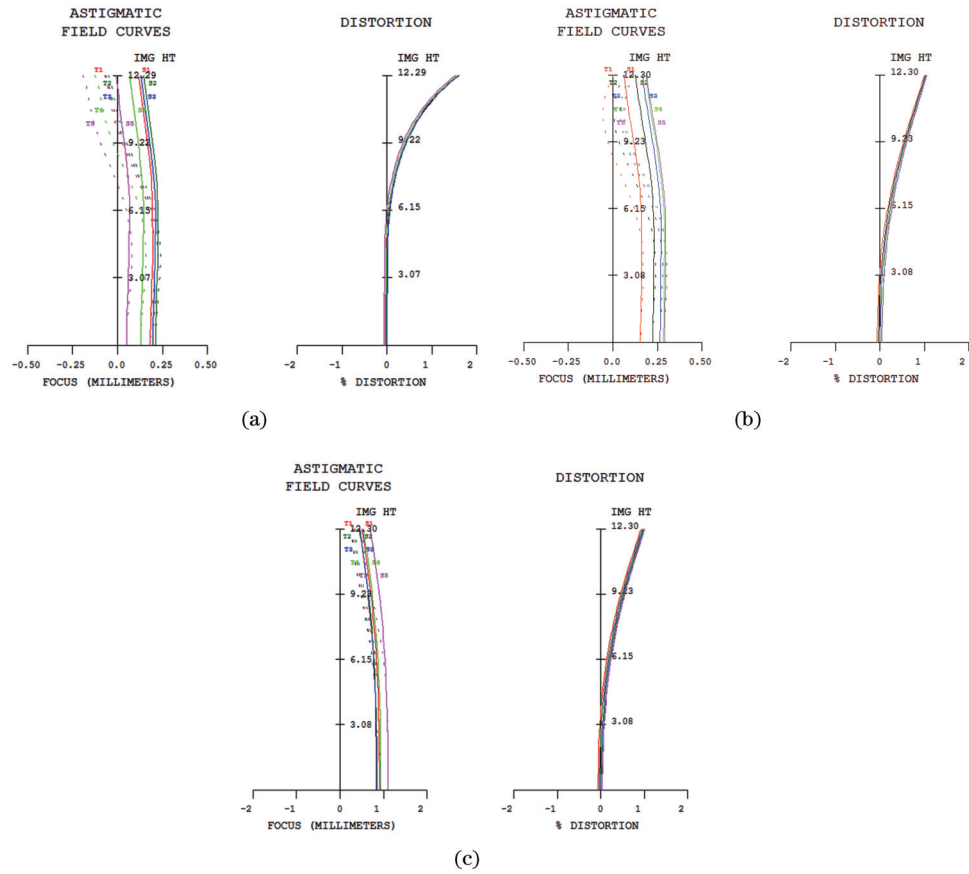


图 5 像差曲线。(a)短焦(焦距 25 mm, F4);(b)中焦(焦距 550 mm, F4);(c)长焦(焦距 1200 mm, F5.5)

Fig. 5 Aberration curves. (a) Short focal length position (focal length 25 mm, F4); (b) middle focal length position (focal length 550 mm, F4); (c) long focal length position (focal length 1200 mm, F5.5)

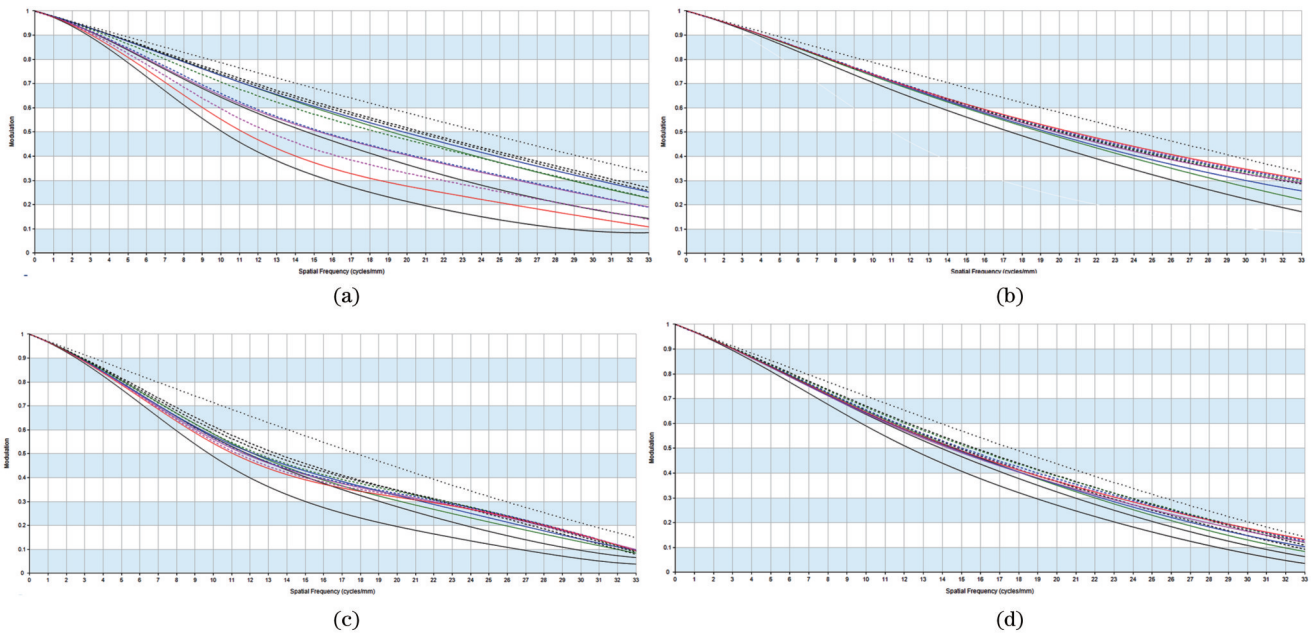


图 6 变焦系统不同温度调焦后 MTF 曲线。(a)短焦低温(焦距 25 mm, F4, -40 °C);(b)短焦高温(焦距 25 mm, F4, +60 °C);(c)长焦低温(焦距 1200 mm, F5.5, -40 °C);(d)长焦高温(焦距 1200 mm, F5.5, +60 °C)

Fig. 6 MTF of different focal length position after temperature focusing. (a) Short focal length position (focal length 25 mm, F4, -40 °C); (b) short focal length position (focal length 25 mm, F4, +60 °C); (c) long focal length position (focal length 1200 mm, F5.5, -40 °C); (d) long focal length position (focal length 1200 mm, F5.5, +60 °C)

表 2 长焦位置调焦量

Table 2 Focusing amount of zoom lens at long focal length position

Object distance	Focusing amount /mm		
	-40 °C	20 °C	+65 °C
Infinity	+1.45	0	-0.91

表 3 短焦位置调焦量

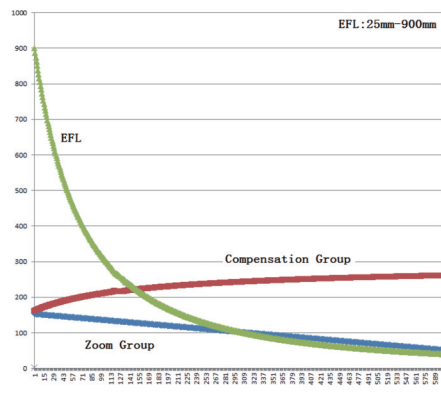
Table 3 Focusing amount of zoom lens at short focal length position

Object distance	Focusing amount /mm		
	-40 °C	20 °C	+65 °C
Infinity	-2.42	0	+1.59

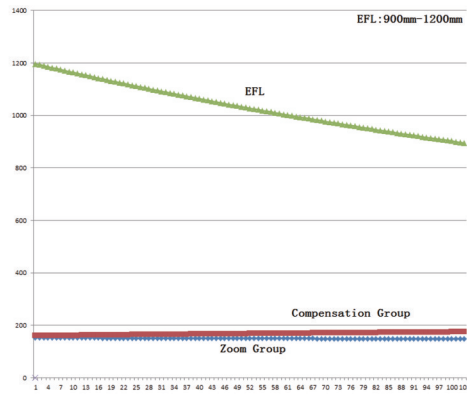
倾斜±0.0005, 偏心±0.02 mm, 这些公差在红外透镜加工、镜头装配中均很容易得到保证。

### 3.3 变焦曲线数据

设计的变焦系统采用高精度导轨和电机伺服控制变焦组与补偿组移动, 实现焦距连续变化, 为了减轻整机质量, 不采用传统的机械凸轮, 而是数字凸轮。现利



(a)



(b)

图 8 变焦数据。(a) 25~900 mm; (b) 900~1200 mm

Fig. 8 Zoom data. (a) 25~900 mm; (b) 900~1200 mm

图 8 给出了变焦组和补偿组变焦数据以及焦距随变焦组变化情况, 横坐标为优化的位置点数, 纵坐标为焦距或者间隔(mm)。其中, 变焦组按线性运动, 变焦最大行程为 51.82 mm~153.07 mm, 补偿组为非线性运动, 由于系统后组存在切换, 分别按 25~900 mm 和 900~1200 mm 给出变焦数据。可以看出, 900~1200 mm 段焦距几乎线性变化。

基于该紧凑型大变倍比中波红外连续变焦光学系统所设计的轻小型中波红外变焦热像仪如图 9 所示。该轻小型中波红外变焦热像仪整机结构包络尺寸小于 360 mm(长)×238 mm(宽)×290 mm(高), 结构非常紧凑。为进一步减轻整机质量, 热像仪主壳体结构件材料采用镁铝合金, 产品整机总质量仅为 10.6 kg。

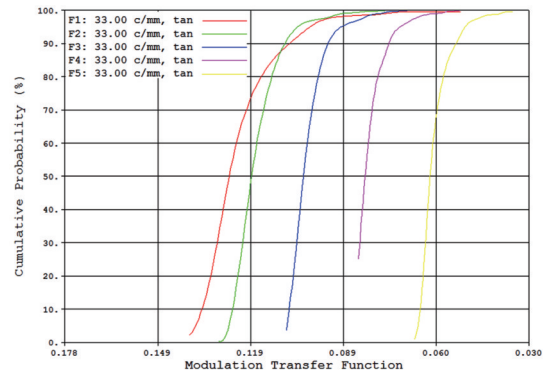


图 7 公差分析

Fig. 7 Tolerance analysis

用光学设计软件 CODEV 给出变焦系统变焦组和补偿组位置数据。优化时在变焦组和补偿组的运动行程中分别插入 600 (25~900 mm) 和 103 个点 (900~1200 mm), 变焦组与补偿组位置一一对应, 从而使光学系统在快速变焦的过程中, 既能保证像面位置不变, 又能保证各变焦位置的成像质量, 变焦数据如图 8 所示。

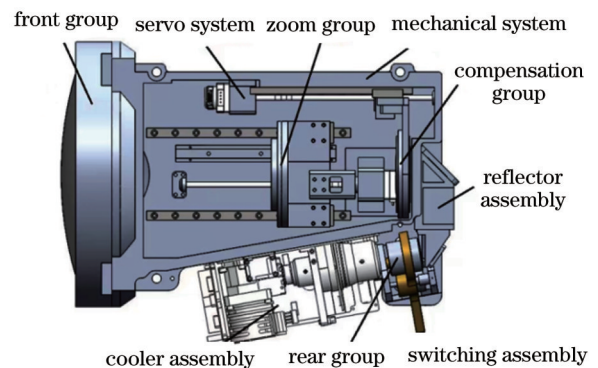


图 9 轻小型中波红外变焦热像仪

Fig. 9 Compact mid-wave infrared zoom imager

## 4 结 论

设计了一款大变倍比长焦距中波红外连续变焦光

学系统,基于国产大面阵、高分辨率制冷红外探测器,采用正组机械补偿与平滑换根,并结合后组切换、温阑变F数以及光路巧妙折转的设计思路及方法,实现了中波红外变焦系统焦距25~1200 mm连续变化以及小型化设计的目的。该红外变焦光学系统在-40℃~+60℃温度下成像质量优良,光学口径为230 mm,光路折转后长度仅为350 mm,具有结构紧凑、变倍比大、焦距长、分辨率高、成像质量好等优点,可广泛应用于各类型高性能光电侦查吊舱中。

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## Optical System Design of MWIR Continuous Zoom Lens with High Zoom Ratio

Zhang Hongbo<sup>1</sup>, Yan Aqi<sup>2\*</sup>, He Shuangliang<sup>1</sup>, Zhang Keyi<sup>3</sup>, Wang Hao<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>China Astronaut Research and Training Center, Beijing 100094, China;

<sup>2</sup>Xi'an Institute Optics and Precision Mechanics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Xi'an 710119, Shaanxi, China;

<sup>3</sup>Beijing Institute of Technology, Beijing 100081, China

### Abstract

**Objective** Infrared (IR) imaging technology has become a research hotspot in different countries because of its advantages such as not being limited by day and night, being able to work all day, strong ability to penetrate smoke, and good detection concealment. In recent years, with the development of high-performance and high-resolution large-array IR detector technologies and the requirements of remote observation tasks such as border and coastal defense, various advanced IR imaging systems have emerged. The IR continuous zoom optical system is widely used in military and civilian fields. It can search for targets with a large field of view and observe distant targets with high resolution. In order to improve the IR system's ability to identify distant targets at long focal lengths while ensuring target search with a large field of view at short focal lengths, it is hoped that IR zoom optical system has a longer focal length and large zoom ratio.

However, the longer focal length makes the diameter of the zoom optical system increase sharply. In addition to the inherent secondary spectrum, a large number of chromatic aberrations and advanced spherical aberrations in optical systems with long focal lengths will be introduced, which makes it difficult to design mid-wave infrared (MWIR) continuous zoom system with a large zoom ratio. Some scholars have also carried out relevant research and design work, but at present, the long focal length of the MWIR zoom system is less than 1000 mm; the detector resolution is mostly  $640 \times 512$ , and the optical path structure of the MWIR zoom optical system is complex and large. It is hard to meet the urgent demand of the new generation of photoelectric pods for high-definition MWIR zoom imaging systems with compact sizes.

**Methods** In order to realize a compact design of IR zoom lens with a large zoom ratio, we propose a design idea and method which adopt secondary imaging, positive group mechanical compensation of zoom lens, and smooth root replacement and introduce a warm shield by switching the rear group of the zoom lens to change F-Number of the optical system at long focal length. The optical path of the MWIR zoom lens is ingeniously folded by two mirrors. First, the IR zoom optical system adopts a kind of optical path structure form with intermediate image planes and uses the zoom differential equation to solve the initial structure of the zoom lens to meet the required zoom ratio (Fig. 1); second, pupil aberration, especially pupil coma, is controlled in the optimization of the optical system to minimize the diameter of the front group; third, the optical system adopts positive group compensation zoom lens. It has a negative zoom group and a positive compensation group. The magnification of the zoom group and compensation group at a certain focal length position during optimization is controlled to keep zoom group magnification and compensation group magnification at  $-1$ , so as to reduce zoom travel length and overall length of the MWIR zoom optical system as much as possible. Finally, two mirrors are cleverly used to fold the optical path, and by switching the rear group of the zoom lens, a warm shield is introduced to change F-number at a long focal length, which further reduces the diameter of the front group and keep IR zoom lens more compact.

**Results and Discussions** Based on the proposed design method of a compact MRIR zoom lens, this paper uses a high-resolution MWIR-cooled detector with a resolution of  $1280 \times 1024$ . The pixel size is  $15 \mu\text{m}$ , and an MWIR continuous zoom optical system with a zoom ratio of 48 times and focal length from 25 mm to 1200 mm has been designed (Figs. 2 and 3). While ensuring 100% efficiency of cold shield, the compact IR zoom lens is realized. The optical system has good imaging quality within the operating temperature range of  $-40$ – $60 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  (Fig. 6), and the maximum optical diameter of the front group is 230 mm. The total optical length after folding is only 350 mm. This compact MWIR zoom optical system has many advantages, such as a compact structure, large zoom ratio, long focal length, high resolution, and good imaging quality, which can meet the requirements of the new generation of IR imaging systems (Fig. 9).

**Conclusions** In this paper, an MWIR continuous zoom optical system with a large zoom ratio and long focal length is designed. The secondary imaging, positive group mechanical compensation, and smooth root replacement are used, and a warm shield by switching the rear group of the zoom lens is introduced to change F-Number of the optical system at a long focal length. The optical path is ingeniously folded by two mirrors, which realizes the compact and miniaturization design of the MWIR continuous zoom system with a focal length from 25 mm to 1200 mm. The MWIR continuous zoom lens has excellent imaging quality within the operating temperature range of  $-40$ – $60 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ . The optical diameter of the front group is 230 mm, and the overall length after folding is only 350 mm. The overall size of the zoom thermal imager based on this optical system is less than 360 mm (L)  $\times$  238 mm (W)  $\times$  290 mm (H). This compact MWIR zoom optical system has many advantages, such as a compact structure, large zoom ratio, long focal length, high resolution, and good imaging quality, which can be used in the new generation of high-performance photoelectric pods.

**Key words** optical design; infrared continuous zoom lens; mid-wave infrared; mechanical compensation; warm shield; miniaturization