Radiationless Electromagnetic Interference: Perfect Focusing with Evanescent-Field Plates\textsuperscript{1} R. MERLIN, U. Michigan — Planar subwavelength structures are described, which rely on a hitherto unrecognized property of Maxwell’s equations to provide superlensing, i.e., electromagnetic focusing well beyond the diffraction limit, at arbitrary frequencies \cite{1}. The resulting fields bear a striking resemblance to those of negative-index slabs. The structures’ design is related to that of the Fresnel plates in that diffraction forces the input field to converge to a spot on the focal plane. Unlike the diffraction-limited zone plates, for which focusing results from standard interference of traveling waves, the subwavelength plates control the near field and, as such, their superlensing properties originate from a new, static form of interference. \textsuperscript{1}R. Merlin, \textit{Science} \textbf{317}, 927 (2007).

\textsuperscript{1}Supported by AFOSR-MURI

R. Merlin
U. Michigan

Date submitted: 27 Nov 2007

Electronic form version 1.4