## Lecture 16 Diffraction Chp. 36

- Topics
- Young's double slit interference experiment
- Diffraction and the wave theory
- Single slit diffraction
- Intensity of single slit diffraction
- Circular aperture and double slit diffraction
- Diffraction grating
- Dispersion and resolving power
- Demos
- laser pointer internal reflected in water flow
- laser pointer interference from many reflections
- Youngs double slit interference with narrow slits
- Newtons rings
- Laser diffracted from bead
- Laser defracted from single slit
- Laser diffracted from single slits of different widths
- Now show diffraction and interference together using two slits whose width is a few wavelengths
- Measure diameter of hair using laser .
- Show diffraction using gratings with different number of lines
- Set up discharge tubes and view light through a diffraction grating with telescope


Actual ray diagram purple.
Dashed lines are virtual rays

Thus, the image formed by lens 2 is located 30 cm to the left of lens 2. It is virtual (since $\mathrm{i}_{2}<0$ ).

The magnification is $m=\left(-i_{1} / p_{1}\right) \times\left(-i_{2} / p_{2}\right)=(-40 / 40) \times(30 /-30)=+1$, so the image has the same size orientation as the object.

## Young's Double Slit Interference Experiment



If you now send the light from the two openings onto a screen, an interference pattern appears, due to differing path lengths from each source

- we have constructive interference if paths differ by any number of full wavelengths
- destructive interference if difference is half a wavelength longer or shorter


Constructive interference


Constructive interference


Destructive interference


Geometry


Path length difference
$\delta=d \sin \theta=m \lambda, m=0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3$
Constructive interference

$$
\delta=d \sin \theta=\left(m+\frac{1}{2}\right) \lambda, m=0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3
$$

Destructive interference


How do we locate the vertical position of the fringes on the screen?

1) $L \gg d$

2) $d \gg$

These tell us that _ is small
Therefore,
$\sin \theta \approx \tan \theta=\frac{y}{L}$

$d \sin \theta=m \lambda \quad \mathrm{~m}=0,1,2,3 \ldots$ Maximum

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \tan \theta=\frac{y_{m}}{D} \\
& \sin \theta \approx \tan \theta \\
& \sin \theta \approx \frac{y_{m}}{D}=\frac{\mathrm{m} \lambda}{\mathrm{~d}}
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
y_{m}=\frac{m \lambda D}{d}
$$



## Example

13E. Suppose that Young's experiment is performed with blue-green light of 500 nm . The slits are 1.2 mm apart, and the viewing screen is 5.4 m from the slits. How far apart the bright fringes?

From the table on the previous slide we see that the separation between bright fringes is $S=D \frac{\lambda}{d}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& S=D \frac{\lambda}{d}=(5.4 \mathrm{~m}) \frac{500 \times 10^{-9} \mathrm{~m}}{0.0012 \mathrm{~m}} \\
& S=0.00225 \mathrm{~m}=2.25 \mathrm{~mm}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Intensity Distribution



The electric field at $P$ is sum of $\mathrm{E}_{1}$ and $\mathrm{E}_{2}$. However the Poynting vector is

$$
S \propto E^{2}=\left(\vec{E}_{1}+\vec{E}_{2}\right)^{2}=E_{1}^{2}+E_{2}^{2}+2 \vec{E}_{1} \cdot \vec{E}_{2}
$$

Taking the time average, the intensity I

$$
1=\langle S\rangle \alpha\left\langle E_{1}^{2}\right\rangle+\left\langle E_{2}^{2}\right\rangle+2\left\langle\vec{E}_{1} \cdot \vec{E}_{2}\right\rangle
$$

$\left\langle\vec{E}_{1} \cdot \vec{E}_{2}\right\rangle$ represents the correlation between the two waves. For incoherent light, as there is no definite phase relation between $E_{1}$ and $E_{2}$ and cross term vanishes
and incoherent sum is $I_{\text {inc }}=1_{1}+1_{2}$

For coherent sources, the cross term is non-zero. In fact, for constructive interference $E_{1}=E_{2}$ and $I=4 I_{1}$

For destructive interference $E_{1}=-E_{2}$ and and correlation term $=-$ $I_{1}$, the total intensity becomes $I=I_{1}-2 I_{1}+I_{1}=0$

Suppose that the waves emerged from the slits are coherent sinusoidal plane waves. Let the electric field components of the wave from slits 1 and 2 at $P$ be given by

$$
E_{1}=E_{0} \sin \omega t \quad E_{2}=E_{0} \sin (\omega t+\Phi)
$$

We have dropped the $k x$ term by assuming that $P$ is at the origin ( $x$ $=0)$ and we have acknowledged that wave $E_{2}$ has traveled farther by giving it a phase shift (_) relative to $\mathrm{E}_{1}$

For constructive interference, with path difference of _ = _ would correspond to a phase shift of $\quad=2 \pi$. This then implies

For constructive interference, with path difference of _ = _ would correspond to a phase shift of $=2 \pi$. This then implies

$$
\begin{gathered}
\frac{\delta}{\lambda}=\frac{\Phi}{2 \pi} \\
\Phi=\frac{2 \pi}{\lambda} \delta=\frac{2 \pi}{\lambda} d \sin \theta
\end{gathered}
$$

Superposition principle allows
$E_{1}+E_{2}=E_{0}[\sin \omega t+\sin (\omega t+\Phi)]=2 E_{0} \cos \left(\frac{\Phi}{2}\right) \sin \left(\omega t+\frac{\Phi}{2}\right)$
The intensity I is proportional to the square of the amplitude of the total electric field

$$
\sin \alpha+\sin \beta=2 \sin \left(\frac{\alpha+\beta}{2}\right) \cos \left(\frac{\alpha-\beta}{2}\right)
$$

$I \propto E^{2}$

$$
I=4 E_{0}^{2} \cos ^{2}\left(\frac{\phi}{2}\right)
$$

Let $I_{0}=E_{0}^{2}$
Then.. $\quad I=4 I_{0} \cos ^{2} \frac{1}{2} \phi$

## What about the intensity of light along the screen?

$$
\begin{aligned}
& I=4 I_{0} \cos ^{2} \frac{1}{2} \phi \\
& \phi=\frac{2 \pi d}{\lambda} \sin \theta
\end{aligned}
$$



- Double slit experiment produces interference pattern if light is coherent

For constructive interference:
$\sin \theta=n \frac{\lambda}{d}, \quad 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3 \ldots$
For destructive interference:
$\sin \theta=\left(n+\frac{1}{2}\right) \frac{\lambda}{d}, n=0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \cdots$
Intensity:

$$
1=410 \cos ^{2}\left(\frac{\pi d}{\lambda} \sin \theta\right)
$$

## Newton's rings are similar, but with curved glass:



Why different colors? for any given difference in path length, the condition _L =n ( $\mathrm{m}+1 / 2$ ) _ might be satisfied for some wavelength but not for some other. A given color might or might not be present in the visible image.

Pass around Newtons Rings

## Diffraction

In his 1704 treatise on the theory of optical phenomena (Opticks), Sir Isaac Newton wrote that "light is never known to follow crooked passages nor to bend into the shadow".

He explained this observation by describing how particles of light always travel in straight lines, and how objects positioned within the path of light particles would cast a shadow because the particles could not spread out behind the object.
True, to a point.
On a much smaller scale, when light waves pass near a barrier, they tend to bend around that barrier and spread at oblique angles.

This phenomenon is known as diffraction of the light, and occurs when a light wave passes very close to the edge of an object or through a tiny opening, such as a slit or aperture.



## Diffraction is a wave effect

Interference pattern of light and dark bands around the edge of the object.

Diffraction is often explained in terms of the Huygens principle, which states that each point on a wavefront can be considered as a source of a new wave.

All points on a wavefront serve as point sources of spherical secondary wavelets. After a time $t$, the new position of the wavefront will be that of a surface tangent to these secondary wavefronts


In 1818, Augustin Fresnel submitted a paper on the theory of diffraction for a competition sponsored by the French Academy. His theory represented light as a wave, as opposed to a bombardment of hard little particles, which was the subject of a debate that lasted since Newton's day. S.D. Poisson, a member of the judging committee for the competition, was very critical of the wave theory of light. Using Fresnel's theory, Poisson deduced the seemingly absurd prediction that a bright spot should appear behind a circular obstruction, a prediction he felt was the last nail in the coffin for Fresnel's theory.

However, Dominique Arago, another member of the judging committee, almost immediately verified the spot experimentally. Fresnel won the competition, and, although it may be more appropriate to call it "the Spot of Arago," the spot goes down in history with the name "Poisson's bright spot" like a curse

The Fresnel bright spot


## Babinets Complementarity Principle

In the diffraction region the intensity is the same whether you have an aperture or opaque disk.
You can also replace a slit with a wire or hair strand.
A compact disk is an example of a diffraction grating in reflection instead of transmission.

## Diffraction by a Single Slit - Locate the First Minima


(b)

D >> a, rays are parallel
Divide the screen into two zones of width $a / 2$
Find the first minima above the midpoint by pairing up rays from the top point of the top zone and the top point of the bottom zone

Rays are in phase at the slit but must be out of phase by by _/2 at screen

The path length difference $=a / 2$ sin _
Repeat for other pairs of rays in the upper zone and lower zone: $a / 2 \sin \ldots=\ldots / 2$

$$
a \sin { }_{-}=\text {first minima }^{2}
$$

If we narrow the slit the angle must get bigger

- more flaring - - what happens when $a=$ _?

(a)



## Diffraction by a Single Slit -

## Subsequent Minima

Repeat the process for paired rays (4) from corresponding points from each of the zones

Rays are in phase at the slit but must be out of phase by by _/2 at screen
$\frac{a}{4} \sin \theta=\frac{\lambda}{2}$
$\operatorname{asin} \theta=2 \lambda$
second minimum
$a \sin \theta=m \lambda \quad$ for $m=1,2,3, \ldots$
Dark fringes - minima

## Intensity in Single Slit Diffraction - Derive using phasors - see text <br> $I(\theta)=I_{m}\left(\frac{\sin a}{a}\right)^{2}$ <br> $$
a=\frac{1}{2} \Phi=\frac{\pi a}{\lambda} \sin \theta
$$

_ is just a convenient connection between the angle _ that locates a point on the screen and the light intensity I()$\left._{-}\right)$
$\mathrm{I}=\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{m}}$ occurs at the central maximum $\left({ }_{-}=0\right)$ and ${ }_{\mathrm{Z}}$ is the phase difference (in radians) between the top and bottom rays from the slit of width a

Studying the expression above reveals that the intensity minima occur at

$$
a=m \pi \quad \text { for } m=1,2,3 \ldots
$$

Plug this into the expression for _ above and we find

$$
m \pi=\frac{\pi a}{\lambda} \sin \theta \text { or } a \sin \theta=m \lambda \text { all for } m=1,2,3 \ldots
$$

$$
\begin{array}{lr}
\frac{\pi}{\lambda} a \sin \theta=m \pi, \quad m= \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \ldots & (\theta)=I_{m}\left(\frac{\sin a}{a}\right)^{2} \\
\sin \theta=m \frac{\lambda}{a}, m= \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \ldots & a
\end{array}
$$



## Where are the diffraction Maxima?

After the central maximum the next maximum occurs about halfway between the first and second minimum.
$\operatorname{minima} \quad a \sin \theta=m \lambda \quad \mathrm{~m}=1,2,3 .$.
$\operatorname{maxima} \quad a \sin \theta \approx\left(m+\frac{1}{2}\right) \lambda \quad \mathrm{m}=1,2,3 .$.


## Exact solution for diffraction maxima

Recall

$$
I(\theta)=I_{0}\left(\frac{\sin ^{2} \alpha}{\alpha^{2}}\right)=I_{0}\left(\sin ^{2} \alpha\right)\left(\alpha^{-2}\right)
$$

To find maxima of a function, take derivative and set equal to 0

$$
\frac{d I}{d \alpha}=0
$$

$$
I_{0} 2 \sin \alpha \cos \alpha \alpha^{-2}-I_{0} 2 \sin ^{2} \alpha \alpha^{-3}=0
$$

$$
\cos \alpha=\sin \alpha / \alpha
$$

$\alpha=\tan \alpha$
Transcendental equation. Solve graphically

## Experiment to measure diameter of Teachers hair using first diffraction minimum.

```
\(a \sin \theta=\lambda \quad\) for the first diffraction minimum
```

$$
a=\frac{\lambda}{\sin \theta}
$$

$$
\sin \theta \approx \tan \theta=\frac{y_{1}}{D}
$$

$$
a=\frac{\lambda D}{y_{1}}
$$

$$
a=560 \mathrm{~nm}\left(\frac{D}{y_{1}}\right)
$$



## Location of first

 diffraction minimumscreen

## Diffraction by a circular aperture (lens ...)



When light from a point source passes through a small circular aperture, it does not produce a bright dot as an image, but rather a diffuse circular disc known as Airy's disc surrounded by much fainter concentric circular rings. This example of diffraction is of great importance because the eye and many optical instruments have circular apertures.

A complex analysis leads to $\sin \theta=1.22 \frac{\lambda}{d}$
First minimum

Compare to the relation for a single slit $\sin \theta=\frac{\lambda}{d}$

## Resolvability

The fact that a lens image is a diffraction pattern is important when trying to resolve distant point objects







When the angular separation for two objects is such that the central maximum of one diffraction pattern coincides with the first minimum of the other we have a condition called the Rayleigh's

$$
\theta_{R}=\sin ^{-1} \frac{1.22 \lambda}{d}=\frac{1.22 \lambda}{d}
$$ criterion for resolvability

Example 15E. The two headlights of an approaching automobile are 1.4 m apart. Assume the pupil diameter is 5.0 mm and the wavelength of light is 550 nm . (a) At what angular distance will the eye resolve them and (b) at what distance?
(a)

$$
\begin{aligned}
\theta_{R} & =1.22 \lambda / d \\
\theta_{R} & =1.22\left(550 \times 10^{-6} \mathrm{~mm}\right) / 5.0 \mathrm{~mm} \\
\theta_{R} & =134.2 \times 10^{-6} \mathrm{rad}
\end{aligned}
$$

(b)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \theta_{R}=s / D \\
& D=s / \theta_{R} \\
& D=1.4 \mathrm{~m} / 134.2 \times 10^{-6} \mathrm{rad} \\
& D=0.010 \times 10^{6} \mathrm{~m}=10 \mathrm{~km}
\end{aligned}
$$


$\theta_{R}=1.22 \lambda / d$

Note that as the slit gets wider the central maximum gets smaller contrary to expectations- Now see what happens when we add more slits.

(a)

(b)

(c)

$$
\sin \theta=m \frac{\lambda}{a}=m \frac{\lambda}{\lambda}=m=1
$$

$$
\sin \theta=m \frac{\lambda}{a}=m \frac{\lambda}{5 \lambda}=\frac{m}{5}
$$

$$
\sin \theta=m \frac{\lambda}{a}=m \frac{\lambda}{10 \lambda}=\frac{m}{10}
$$

## Diffraction and Interference by a double slit

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{I}=\mathrm{I} \text { (double slit interference) } \times \mathrm{I} \text { (diffraction) } \\
& I(\theta)=I_{m} \cos ^{2}(\beta) \times \frac{\sin ^{2} \alpha}{\alpha^{2}} \\
& \beta=\frac{\pi d \sin \theta}{\lambda} \quad \mathrm{~d} \sin \theta=\mathrm{m} \lambda \quad \mathrm{~m}=0,1,2 . . \text { maxima } \\
& \alpha=\frac{\pi a \sin \theta}{\lambda} \quad \operatorname{asin} \theta=\mathrm{m} \lambda \quad \mathrm{~m}=1,2,3 . . \text { minima }
\end{aligned}
$$




## Sample problem 36-5

(a) How many bright interference fringes fall within the central peak of the diffraction envelope?

$$
\lambda=405 \mathrm{~nm}
$$

Given

$$
\begin{aligned}
& d=19.44 \mathrm{~nm} \\
& a=4.050 \mathrm{~nm}
\end{aligned}
$$



The idea here is to find the angle where the first minimum occurs of the diffraction envelope.
$a \sin \theta=\lambda$

$d \sin \theta=m_{2} \lambda$$\quad$| 2 refers to double |
| :---: |
| slit interference |

$$
m_{2}=d / a=19.44 / 4.050=4.8
$$

We have $\mathrm{m}=0$ and $\mathrm{m}=1,2,3$ and 4 on both sides of central peak.

Answer is 9

## Diffraction Gratings



Like the double slit arrangement but with a much greater number of slits, or rulings, sometimes as many as several 1000 per millimeter

Light passed through the grating forms narrow interference fringes that can be analyzed to determine the wavelength

As the number of rulings increases beyond 2 the intensity plot changes from that of a double slit pattern to one with very narrow maxima (called lines) surrounded by relatively wide dark regions

(a)

(b)

## Diffraction Gratings

Principal maxima, where all waves
 interfere constructively are found with what is now a familiar procedure:

$$
d \sin \theta=m \lambda \quad \text { for } m=0,1,2, \ldots
$$

Rewriting the above we find

$$
\theta=\sin ^{-1} \frac{m \lambda}{d}
$$

So the angle to a particular line (say $m=3$ ) depends on the wavelength being used

## Dispersion

In order to distinguish different wavelengths that are close to each other a diffraction grating must spread out the lines associated with each wavelength. Dispersion is the term used to quantify this and is defined as

$$
D=\frac{\Delta \theta}{\Delta \lambda}
$$

__ is the angular separation between two lines that differ by __. The larger $D$ the larger the angular separation between lines of different _.

It can be shown that $D=\frac{m}{\operatorname{docs} \theta} \begin{aligned} & \text { and } D \text { gets larger for higher } \\ & \text { order }(m) \text { and smaller grating } \\ & \text { spacing (d) }\end{aligned}$

## Resolving Power

To make lines that whose wavelengths are close together (to resolve them) the line should be as narrow as possible

The resolving power is defined by $\quad R=\frac{\lambda_{\text {avg }}}{\Delta \lambda}$
where _avg is the average of the two wavelengths studied and __ is the difference between them. Large R allows two close emission lines to be resolved

It can be shown that $R:=N m$
To get a high resolving power we should use as many rulings.

## Dispersion and Resolving Power

Three gratings illuminated with light of
_=589 nm, m = 1

| Grating | $N$ | $d(n m)$ | - | $D(\% / m)$ | $R$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $A$ | 10000 | 2540 | 13.4 | 23.2 | 10000 |
| B | 20000 | 2540 | 13.4 | 23.2 | 20000 |
| C | 10000 | 1360 | 25.5 | 46.3 | 10000 |

$R=N m$
$D=\frac{m}{d \cos \theta}$

## X-Ray Diffraction

Spacing between atomic layers in a crystal is the right size for diffracting $X$-rays; this is now used to determine crystal structure

(a)

(c)

(b)
$2 d \sin \theta=m \lambda$ for $m=1,2,3 \ldots$

Bragg's law, _ is Bragg's angle

