

Phys 5B:

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- Light as a wave
 - Electromagnetic field Strength $E(x, t) = E_0 \sin(kx - \omega t + \delta)$
Fixed x: variation with ωt
Two light waves 180° out of phase, then
 $E_1 + E_2 = E_0 \sin(\omega t) + E_0 \sin(\omega t + \pi) = 0$ (destructive interference)
If in phase:
 $E_1 + E_2 = E_0 \sin(\omega t) + E_0 \sin(\omega t + 2\pi) = 2E_0 \sin(\omega t)$ (Constructive interference)
 - Light from two slits:
 $y_{s_2x} - y_{s_1x} = \frac{\lambda}{2}$ path length difference
Path length difference ($l \gg d$), $(\Theta_1, \Theta_2) = d \sin \Theta = m\lambda$ Constructive interference
 $d \sin \Theta = \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right)\lambda$
 - Example:
3rd order fringe of 610nm light observed at angle of 28° . How far apart are the slits?
$$d = \frac{m\lambda}{\sin \Theta} = \frac{3(630 \cdot 10^{-9} m)}{\sin 28^\circ} = 3.9 \times 10^{-6} m$$
 - Example with screen with $l=1m$
- $m = \frac{d \sin \Theta}{\lambda}$