

## INTERFERENCE OF LIGHT

(1)

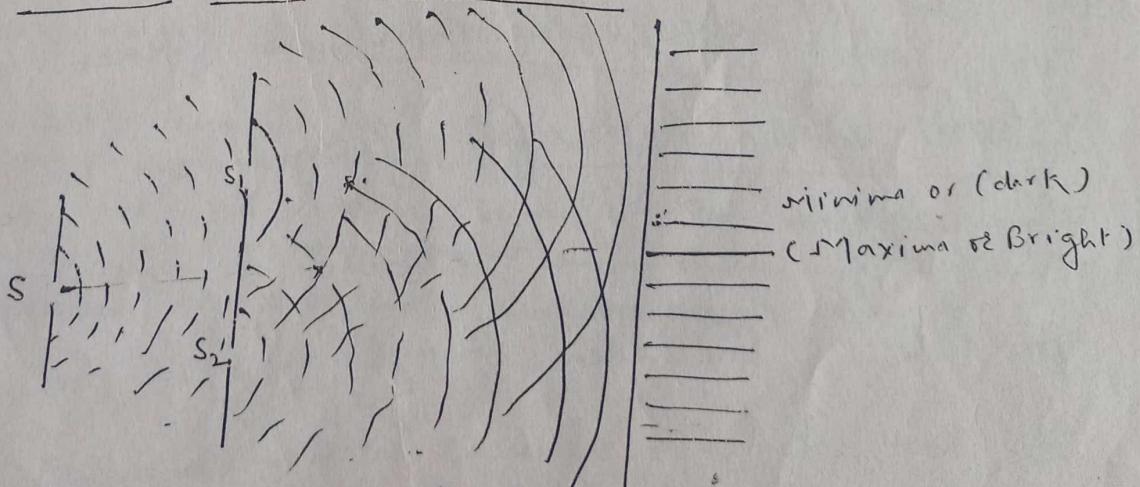
The phenomenon of modification in intensity due to two light waves (or more) having same frequency, nearly equal amplitude and constt phase difference in the region of superposition is called the interference.

1. Constructive Interference:- At certain points, the waves superimpose in such a way that the resultant intensity is greater than the sum of the intensities due to individual waves. The interference produced at these points is called "constructive interference."

2. Destructive Interference:- At certain points, the waves superimpose in such a way that the resultant intensity is less than the sum of the intensities due to individual waves. The interference produced at these points is called "Destructive Interference."

The phenomena of Interference of light has proved the validity of wave theory of light. Wave theory of light was first put forward by Huygen in 1678.

Young's Double Slits Experiments:-



On this, he explained the phenomena of reflection, refraction and TIR.  
According to this a luminous body is a source of disturbances in a hypothetical medium called ether which propagate in the form of waves through space and energy is distributed equally in all directions.

*in front* → *which are vibrating*

In 1801, Thomas Young demonstrated the phenomenon of interference of light. Arrangement is shown in figure.

Let  $s$  be a monochromatic source of light, and  $s_1, s_2$  be the two narrow slits placed equidistance from source  $s$ . When light passes through the slits, the cylindrical waves spread out from  $s$ . According to Huygen's principle, each point of a wavefront becomes the source of secondary waves and spread out in all directions. Hence, the waves also spread out from closely spaced holes  $s_1$  and  $s_2$ , and they superimpose on each other. At points where a crest falls over a crest or trough over a trough, the vibrations are large and the resultant amplitude is greater and hence result in constructive interference. At some points, where a crest falls over trough of the other, the intensity is minimum. This is the case of destructive interference. Hence, we get alternate dark and bright fringes on the screen.

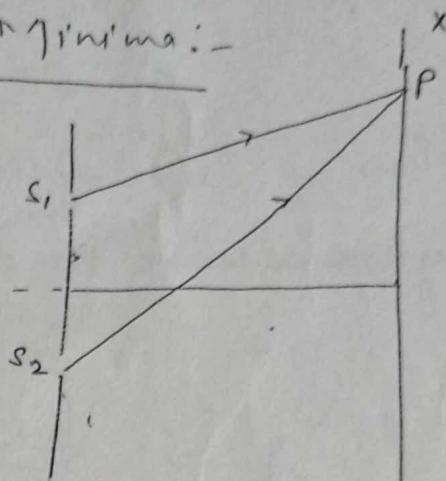
→ Sunlight was first allowed to pass through a pinhole  $s$  and then through two pin holes  $s_1$  &  $s_2$ . The two sets of spherical waves emerging from  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  interfere with each other and a few colored fringes of varying intensity were seen on the screen.

Improvement of the original arrangement. (3)  
the pinholes  $s_1$  &  $s_2$  are replaced by narrow slits  
and sunlight by monochromatic light.

### Theory of Interference:-

#### Condition of Maxima and Minima:-

Let us consider a monochromatic source of light  $S$  emitting waves of wavelength  $\lambda$ .  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  are the two



similar parallel slits of very close together and equidistant from  $S$ . Let  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  be the amplitudes of the waves from  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  respectively.

The displacement due to one wave is

$$y_1 = a_1 \sin \omega t \quad \dots \quad (1)$$

and the displacement due to second wave is

$$y_2 = a_2 \sin(\omega t + \delta) \quad \dots \quad (1)$$

where,  $\delta$ , is the phase difference between the two waves reaching at  $P$  at instant  $t$ .

Now, according to principle of superposition, the resultant displacement at any point due to a number of waves, is the algebraic sum of the displacements of the ~~addition~~ individual ~~superposition~~ waves.

$$\therefore Y = y_1 + y_2$$

$$= a_1 \sin \omega t + a_2 \sin(\omega t + \delta)$$

$$= a_1 \sin \omega t + a_2 (\sin \omega t \cos \delta + \cos \omega t \sin \delta) \quad (4)$$

$$= (a_1 + a_2 \cos \delta) \sin \omega t + (a_2 \sin \delta) \cos \omega t$$

Let -  $a_1 + a_2 \cos \delta = A \cos \phi \quad \dots \dots \quad (3)$

$$a_2 \sin \delta = A \sin \phi \quad \dots \dots \quad (4)$$

where  $A$ , is amplitude and  $\phi$  is phase difference.

using equations (3), (4),

$$y = A \cos \phi \sin \omega t + A \sin \phi \cos \omega t$$

$$y = A \sin(\omega t + \phi) \quad \dots \dots \quad (5)$$

This is the equation of the resultant wave.

Now, squaring eqn (4) and (5) in both side and then adding

$$(a_1 + a_2 \cos \delta)^2 + (a_2 \sin \delta)^2 = A^2 (\cos^2 \phi + \sin^2 \phi)$$

$$A^2 = a_1^2 + a_2^2 + 2a_1 a_2 \cos \delta. \quad \dots \dots \quad (6)$$

Dividing eqn. (4) by (3)

$$\tan \phi = \frac{a_2 \sin \delta}{(a_1 + a_2 \cos \delta)} \quad \dots \dots \quad (7)$$

$\therefore$  Intensity  $\propto$  (amplitude)<sup>2</sup>

$$\therefore I = A^2 = a_1^2 + a_2^2 + 2a_1 a_2 \cos \delta$$

$$\boxed{\therefore I = a_1^2 + a_2^2 + 2a_1 a_2 \cos \delta} \quad \dots \dots \quad (8)$$

This is the resultant intensity at any point 'P'

## Condition for Maxima and minima.

(5)

for maxima.  $\cos \delta = +1$

$$\therefore \boxed{\delta = 2n\pi} \quad \dots \dots (8)$$

Where  $n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$

$$\therefore I_{\max} = a_1^2 + a_2^2 + 2a_1 a_2$$

$$\boxed{I_{\max} = (a_1 + a_2)^2} \quad \dots \dots (9)$$

$$\text{or } \boxed{I_{\max} > I_1 + I_2} \quad \dots \dots (10)$$

$$\therefore \text{path diff} = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \times \text{phase diff.}$$

$$= \frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \times 2\pi n$$

$$= n\lambda$$

$$\text{or } \boxed{\Delta = (2n) \lambda/2} \quad \dots \dots (11)$$

$\Rightarrow$  Intensity is maximum when phase difference is even multiple of ' $\pi$ ' or the path difference is even multiple of half wavelength ( $\lambda/2$ ).

for minima.

$$\cos \delta = -1$$

$$\boxed{\delta = (2n-1)\pi} \quad \text{where } n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad \dots \dots (12)$$

$$I_{\min} = a_1^2 + a_2^2 + 2a_1 a_2 (-1)$$

$$\boxed{I_{\min} = (a_1 - a_2)^2} \quad \dots \dots (13)$$

(6)

$$\therefore \Delta = \frac{\lambda}{2n} \times s$$

$$\Delta = \frac{\lambda}{2n} \times (2n-1) \pi$$

$$\boxed{\Delta = (2n-1) \lambda/2} \quad \dots \quad (12)$$

where  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$   
or  $\boxed{I_{\min} < a_1^2 + a_2^2 \text{ or } < I_1 + I_2} \quad \dots \quad (13)$

If  $(2n+1)$ , then  $n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$

⇒ The intensity is minimum when phase difference is odd multiple of  $\pi$  or path difference is odd multiple of half wavelength ( $\lambda/2$ ):

$$\therefore \boxed{I_{\max} \geq I_1 + I_2}$$

$$\boxed{I_{\min} < I_1 + I_2}$$

If  $a_1 = a_2 = a$ ,

then  $I_{\max} = a^2 + a^2 + 2a^2$

$$I_{\max} = 4a^2$$

$$I_{\min} = a^2 + a^2 - 2a^2$$

$$I_{\min} = 0$$

Conservation of Energy in Interference :-

Average Intensity :- The average energy at any point in the region of superposition may be shown analytically by averaging the energy corresponding to one wave is

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_{av} &= \frac{\int_0^{\pi} I d\delta}{\int_0^{\pi} d\delta} \\
 &= \frac{\int_0^{\pi} (a_1^2 + a_2^2 + 2a_1 a_2 \cos \delta) d\delta}{\int_0^{\pi} d\delta} \\
 &= \frac{\left[ a_1^2 \delta + a_2^2 \delta + 2a_1 a_2 \sin \delta \right]_0^{\pi}}{\left[ \delta \right]_0^{\pi}} \\
 &= \frac{\left[ a_1^2 + a_2^2 \right] \pi}{\pi}
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{7}$$

$$I_{av} = a_1^2 + a_2^2$$

$$I_{av} = I_1 + I_2$$

$$\text{if } a_1 = a_2$$

$$I_{av} = 2a^2$$

$\Rightarrow$  The average intensity is equal to the sum of the separate intensities. i.e., the energy disappears at the minima is actually present at maxima. (This simply means that in interference pattern the energy  $a_1 a_2$  is simply transferred from minima to maxima.) Thus, the phenomenon of interference is based on conservation of energy.

## (8)

### Theory of Interference fringes:-

Let us consider two coherent sources  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  separated by a distance  $2d$ .

Now consider a point  $P$

on the screen (which is

placed at a distance 'D'

from the sources) at a vertical distance 'y' from 'O' at which the conditions of bright or dark fringes are to be determined.

$$PM = y-d \quad PN = y+d$$

$$\therefore S_2 P N,$$

$$(S_2 P)^2 = (S_2 N)^2 + (N P)^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_2 P &= \left[ (D)^2 + (y+d)^2 \right]^{1/2} \\ &= D \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{y+d}{D} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

using binomial theorem and neglecting the higher terms

$$\because D \gg y \text{ or } d$$

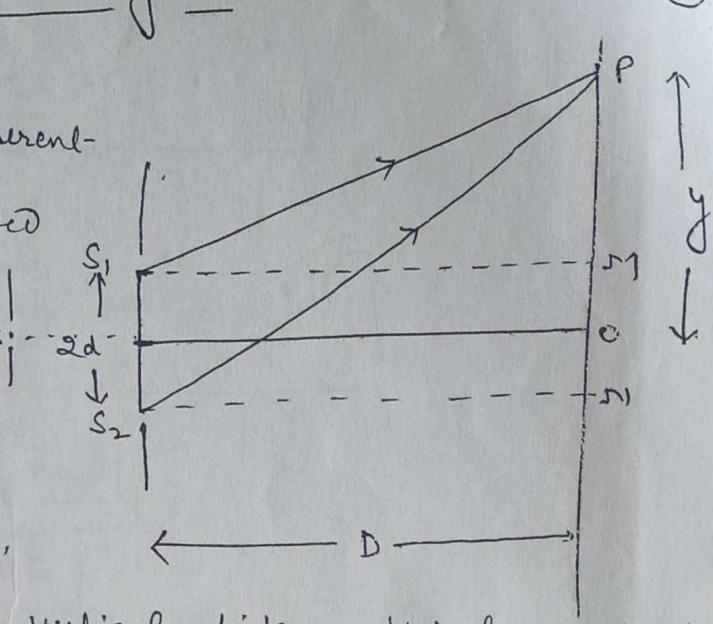
$$S_2 P = D \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{(y+d)^2}{2D^2} \right) \right]$$

$$S_2 P = D + \frac{(y+d)^2}{2D} \quad \dots \quad (1)$$

Similarly in  $\Delta S_1 MP$

$$S_1 P = \left[ (S_1 M)^2 + (M P)^2 \right]^{1/2}$$

$$= D + \frac{(y-d)^2}{2D} \quad \dots \quad (2)$$



$$\text{Path drift } \Delta = s_2 p - s_1 p \quad (9)$$

$$= \left[ D + \frac{(y+d)^2}{2D} \right] - \left[ D + \frac{(y-d)^2}{2D} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2D} [ y^2 + d^2 + 2yd - y^2 - d^2 + 2yd ]$$

$$\Delta = \frac{2yd}{D} \quad \longleftarrow \quad (3)$$

$$\delta = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \cdot \Delta$$

$$\delta = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \cdot \left( \frac{2yd}{D} \right) \quad (4)$$

① Position of Bright fringes:- for maxima of bright fringe, path drift must be even multiple of  $\lambda/2$

$$\frac{2yd}{D} = 2n \cdot \frac{\lambda}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \frac{nD\lambda}{2d}$$

This equation gives the distance of  $n^{th}$  bright fringe from 'b', i.e.  $y = y_n$

$$y_n = \frac{nD\lambda}{2d} \quad \text{where } n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

② Position of Dark fringe:- for minimum intensity or dark fringe, the path drift must be an odd multiple of  $\lambda/2$ .

(10)

$$\frac{2y d}{D} = (2n-1) \lambda_1$$

$$y = \frac{(2n-1) \lambda D}{4d}$$

$$y = \left(n - \frac{1}{2}\right) \frac{D\lambda}{2d}$$

Let.  $y = y_n$  for position of  $n^{\text{th}}$  dark fringe

$$\boxed{y_n = \left(n - \frac{1}{2}\right) \frac{D\lambda}{2d}} \quad \dots$$

where  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

(iii) fringe width (वर्षा विस्तार) :- The distance between any two consecutive bright fringe or dark fringes is called fringe width.

(a) Dark fringe width :- If  $y_n$  and  $y_{n+1}$  denote the distances of two consecutive bright fringes from 'o' then

$$\beta = [y_{n+1} - y_n]_{\text{bright.}}$$

$$= (n+1) \frac{D\lambda}{2d} - n \frac{D\lambda}{2d}$$

$$\boxed{\beta = \frac{D\lambda}{2d}}$$

(11)

for ~~dark~~ bright fringe:-

$$\beta = [y_{n+1} - y_n]_{\text{dark}}$$

$$= \left( n - \frac{1}{2} + 1 \right) \frac{D\lambda}{2d} - \left( n - \frac{1}{2} \right) \frac{D\lambda}{2d}$$

$$\boxed{\beta = \frac{D\lambda}{2d}}$$

$\Rightarrow$  fringe width is independent of  $n'$ . Hence the spacing between any two bright or any two dark fringes is same.

Angular fringe width ( $\omega_0$ ):- Angular separation between consecutive bright or dark fringes.

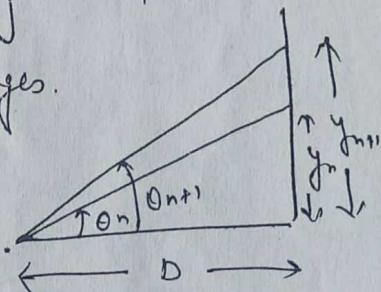
$$\omega_0 = \theta_{n+1} - \theta_n$$

$$= \frac{y_{n+1}}{D} - \frac{y_n}{D}$$

$$= \frac{\omega \beta}{D}$$

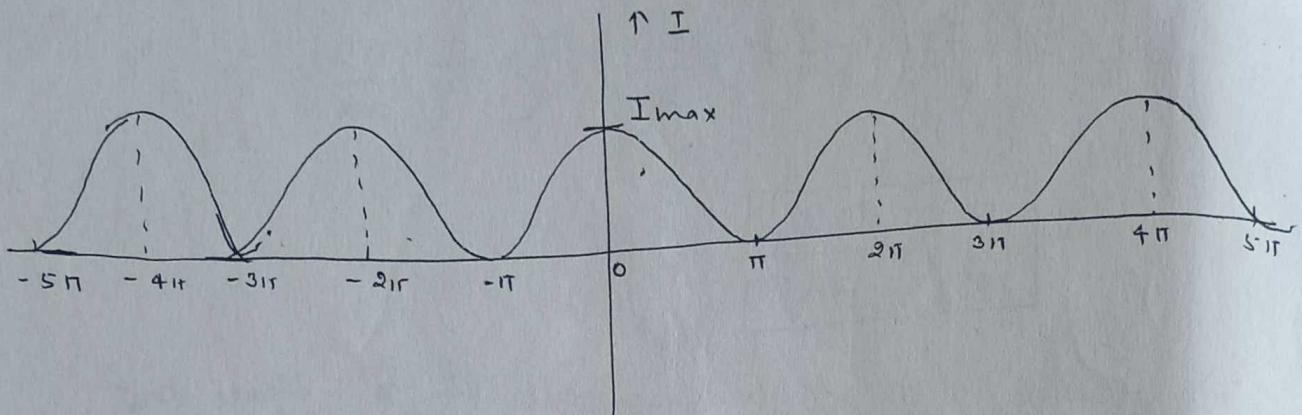
$$= \frac{D\lambda}{2d} \cdot \frac{1}{D}$$

$$\boxed{\omega_0 = \frac{\lambda}{2d}}$$



## Energy Distribution

(12)



Coherent Sources:- Two sources which have a constant phase difference between them are called Coherent sources.

Q. Why two independent sources of light of same wave length cannot show interference?

Ans. Sustained interference can never be obtained with two independent sources of light, such as two bulbs or two candles. Actually a beam of light is built up of waves radiated from millions of excited atoms or molecules, whose vibrations are completely independent of each other. Each atom emitting light for about  $10^{-8}$  sec. i.e. light emitted by an atom is essentially a pulse lasting for only  $10^{-8}$  sec. so light coming out from the two independent sources will have a fixed phase relationship for a period of  $10^{-8}$  sec. So Interference pattern will change after  $10^{-8}$  sec. and we observe a uniform intensity.

for a period of about  $10^{-8}$  sec., hence interference pattern will change after  $10^{-8}$  sec. The eye cannot notice this, and we observe a uniform intensity over the screen. (13)

Q. How the coherent sources are obtained in practice?

Ans. In general there are two methods of obtaining coherent sources

(i) Division of wavefront:- In this case, the wave front originating from a common source is divided into two parts by using mirrors, prism or lenses. This class of interference requires essentially a point source or a narrow slit-source. The instruments used to obtain interference by division of wavefront are Fresnel Bi-prism, Lloyd's mirror, Laser etc.

(ii) Division of amplitude:- In this case, the amplitude of the incident beam is divided into two or more parts either by partial reflection or refraction. This class of interference requires broad light source, so that interference effects are in general of greater intensity than the division of wave front. The effect resulting from the superposition of two beams is called as two beam interference, and from the superposition of more beams is called as multiple beam interference.  
Ex. Newton's Rings, Michelson Interferometer (2 beams), Fabry-Perot Interferometer etc (multi-beam).

## Conditions for Sustained Interference of light :-

(17)

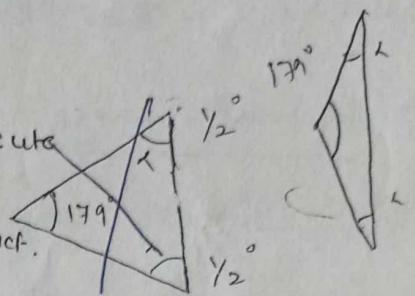
To obtain well defined interference pattern, the intensity at points corresponding to destructive interference must be zero, and corresponding to constructive interference must be maximum. following condition must be satisfied:

1. The two interfering sources must have same frequency and they must be coherent. If this condition is not satisfied, the phase difference between the interfering waves will vary continuously and position of maxima and minima will change with time.
2. It must have equal amplitude. If  $a_1 \neq a_2$ , then min intensity  $I_0$  and there will very poor contrast between maxima and minima.
3. The two sources must be narrow. Because a broad source is equivalent to a large number of fine sources. Each pair of fine sources will give its own interference pattern. That will overlap and we get a very dim illumination on the screen.
4. The separation between the coherent source ( $z_{el}$ ) must be small as possible.  $\therefore \beta < \frac{1}{2d}$ , so, if ' $z_{el}$ ' is not small, the fringe width will be very small. As a result bright and dark fringes will be very close to each other and will not be visible separately.

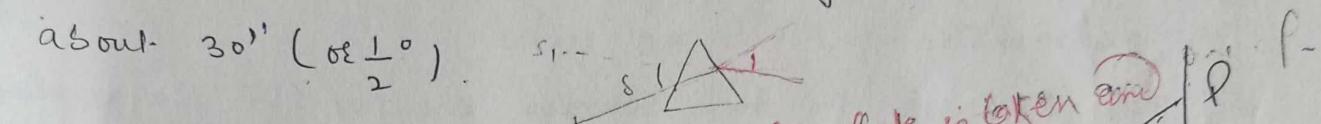
RESNEL'S BI-PRISM :- Fresnel used a biprism

Obtain two coherent sources for producing interference fringes.

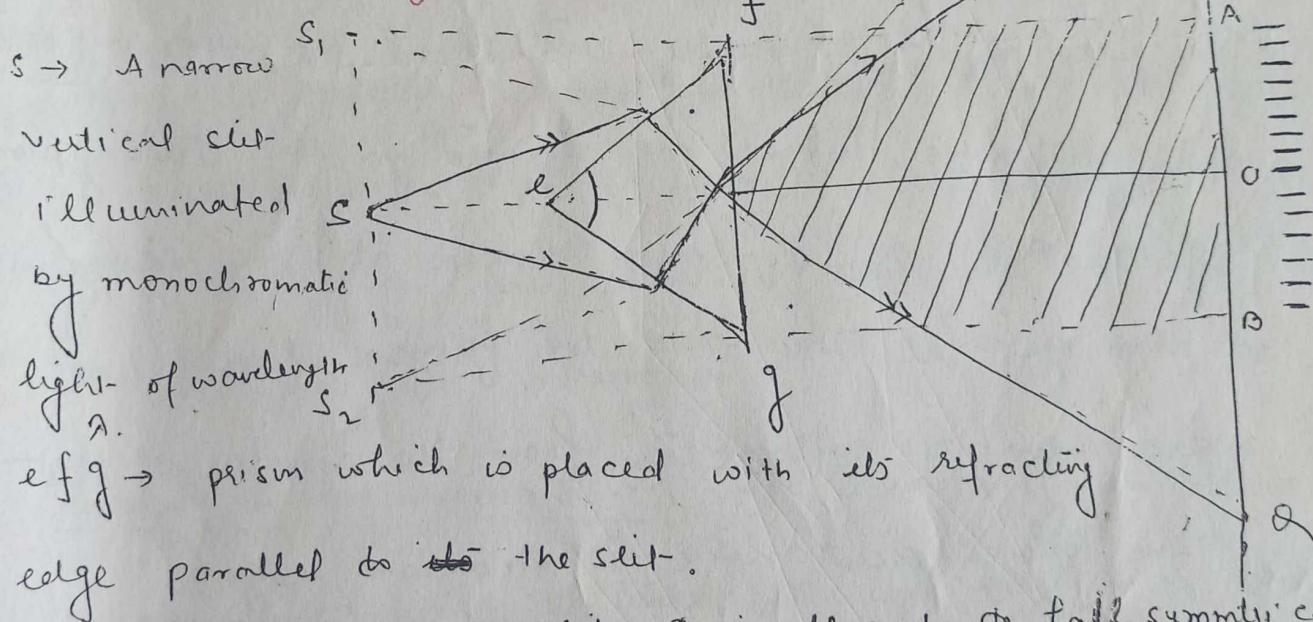
Construction :- It consists of two acute angled prism with their bases in contact.



It is actually a simple prism ~~with two base~~ of obtuse angle of about  $179^\circ$ . The acute angle  $\angle$  on both sides is about  $30^\circ$  ( $\approx \frac{1}{2}^\circ$ ).



Working :- (In practice, a thin glass plate is taken and its faces are ground and polished till a prism)



efg → prism which is placed with its refracting edge parallel to ~~the~~ the slit.

The light from the slit S is allowed to fall symmetrically on the refracting edge of biprism. When falls on the lower half of the biprism, it is bent upwards and appears to come from source  $S_2$ . Similarly, when the light falls on the upper half of the biprism, it is

(22)

bent in downwards and appears to come from the source  $s_1$ . Thus, each half of the biprism produces a virtual image. The virtual images  $s_1$  &  $s_2$  act as two coherent sources, because -

\* The light-rays coming from two sources  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  are of same wavelength, i.e. both the sources are monochromatic.

\* The phases of the two sources are in the same phase because both the images are of the same source.

The cones of light  $AS_1Q$  and  $BS_2P$  are superimposed and interference fringes are formed in the overlapping region  $AB$  on a screen placed at 'O'. Along with we also get at the ends the fringes of unequal width due to diffraction from the vertex of the prism which acts like a straight-edge.

Theory:- The point 'O' is equidistance from the sources  $s_1$  and  $s_2$ . Therefore at point 'O', the intensity is maximum. On both sides of point 'O' alternatively dark and bright fringes are produced.

(20)

$$\text{The fringe width } \beta = \frac{D\lambda}{2d} \quad \dots \quad (1)$$

Distance of  $n^{th}$  bright fringe from 'o'

$$y_n = \frac{n D \lambda}{2d} \quad \dots \quad \text{where } n = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad (1)$$

and the distance of  $n^{th}$  dark fringe from 'o'

$$y_n = \left(n - \frac{1}{2}\right) \frac{D \lambda}{2d} \quad \dots \quad (1)$$

where  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

from eqn. (1),

$$\lambda = \beta \cdot \frac{2d}{D} \quad \dots \quad (2)$$

Fresnel's biprism is used to determine the wavelength of a monochromatic light. Hence, as the wavelength of light  $\lambda$ , the fringes are obtained and the value of  $\beta$   $D$  and  $2d$  are measured.

Experiment Arrangement :- It consists of an optical arrangement bench of about one and half meter long. This bench is in millimetres and carries four upright stands supporting an adjustable slit, biprism, a lens and a micrometer eye-piece. Each of the uprights can be easily moved vertically and adjusted to

(24) any desired height. The slits and biprism can be made to move and along  $\perp$  to the length of the bench. The slit is made narrow and is illuminated with a monochromatic light whose wavelength is determined.

### Measurements:-

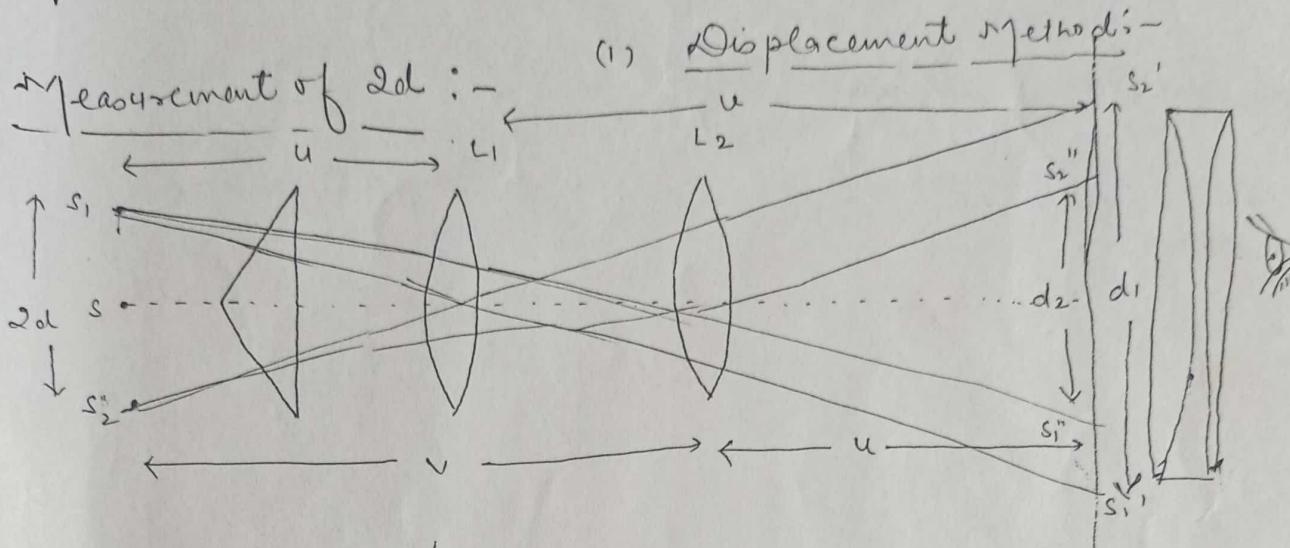
(i) Measurement of fringe width ( $\beta$ ):- The stand

carrying the eye-piece is fixed at such a distance from the biprism the bright and distinct fringes are visible in the field of view of eye-piece. Now the vertical cross-wire of the eye-piece is set on a bright fringe on one side of the interference pattern.

The reading of micrometer screw is noted. Then the eye-piece is moved and fixed the cross-wire at every bright fringe and readings are noted and measure the fringe width given by

$$\beta = \frac{\text{Distance moved.}}{\text{No. of fringes passed.}}$$

Measurement of D :- The distance between slit and eye-piece is directly measured on the scale of the optical bench.



A convex lens is placed between biconvex and the eye-piece. The upright carrying lens is brought very close to the biconvex so as to get the position  $L_1$  of the lens such that the sharp and real images  $s'_1$  and  $s'_2$  are obtained in the field of eye-piece. The distance (say  $d_1$ ) between these images measured with the help of micrometer eye-piece.

Now keeping the position of the eye-piece and biconvex fixed, the upright carrying lens is moved towards the eyepiece to obtain the position  $L_2$  of the lens such that the images of  $s'_1$  and  $s'_2$  are obtained in field of eye-piece. The distance (say  $d_2$ ) between these images is again measured and then using the lens magnification formula -

distance of eye piece to slit becomes  $> 4f$

(25)

$$m = \frac{I}{O} = \frac{V}{U} = \frac{s_1' s_2'}{s_1 s_2}$$

$$\frac{d_1}{2d} = \frac{v}{u}$$

$$2d = \frac{u}{v} d_1 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

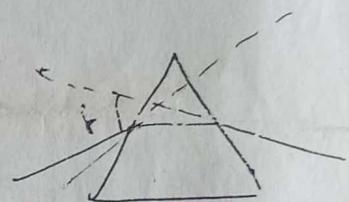
As the two positions of the lens are conjugate

Do for lens L<sub>2</sub>

$$\frac{u}{v} = \frac{d_2}{2d} \quad \text{--- (2)} \Rightarrow 2d = \frac{u}{v} d_2$$

$$\frac{u}{v} \times \frac{v}{u} \times d_1 d_2 = 4d^2$$

$$2d = \sqrt{d_1 d_2}$$



### (ii) Deviation method :-

The small deviation  $s_1$  produced in a ray of light by a prism of very small refractive angle  $\lambda$  is given by

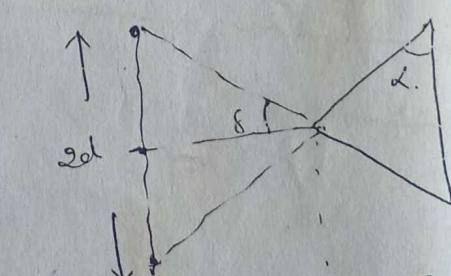
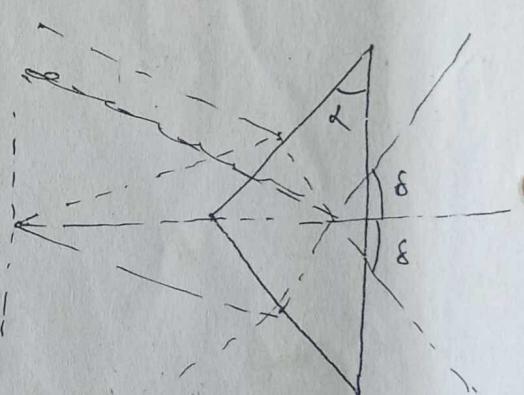
$$s = (\mu - 1) \lambda$$

where  $\mu$  - refractive index

$$s = \frac{d}{a}$$

$$\therefore \frac{d}{a} = (\mu - 1) \lambda$$

$$2d = 2a(\mu - 1) \lambda$$



$D = a + b$   
 $a \rightarrow$  slit - to biprism  
 $b \rightarrow$  prism to screen

(27)

The refractive index  $\mu$  and refractive angle of an  
object with the help of spectrometer.

## INTERFERENCE BY DIVISION OF AMPLITUDE

Interference in a Thin film:- When monochromatic light falls on a thin transparent film (such as glass film, oil film, soap film etc) we observe either formation of maxima or minima or fringes. The interference in thin film is based on the division of amplitude phenomenon.

Principle of Interference in Thin films:-

Let a ray of light (monochromatic)

from an extended source  $S$

$S$  is incident on a upper surface of a thin film.

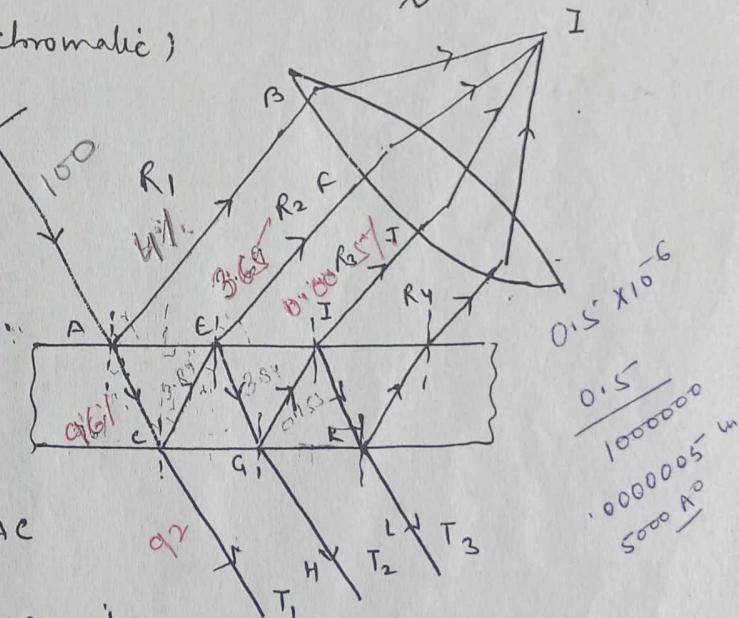
Then it will be partly reflected along  $AB$  and

partly transmitted along  $AC$

At the lower surface (point  $c$ ), it

will again reflected along  $ce$  and transmitted along  $cd$ .

At point  $E$ , we again get two rays one due to reflection and other due to refraction. This process continues at different points of the film and as a result of multiple reflections and transmission in the film



(25)

we get the following two systems of rays.

1. Reflected System -

2. Transmitted system.

If the rays of any system are focussed by a convex lens, we get the effect of interference. As shown in fig. the different rays reaching I will travel different paths.

The path difference between any two rays may be such that they produce either maximum or minimum at the point.

It should be remembered that interference pattern will not be perfect because the intensities of rays will not be the same and their amplitudes are different. The amplitudes will depend on the amount of light reflected and transmitted through the film. It has been found that for normal incident, about 4% of the incident light is reflected and 96% is transmitted. Therefore the intensity never vanishes completely and perfectly dark fringes will not be observed. But in case of multiple reflection, the intensity of the minima will be zero.

\* A thin film is an optical medium whose thickness is comparable to the wavelength of light in visible region. A film of 0.5  $\mu\text{m}$  to 10  $\mu\text{m}$  may be considered as a thin film.

## (29)

### (1) Interference Due to Reflected light:-

Consider a transparent film

of thickness  $t$  and refractive index  $\mu$ .

A ray  $SA$  is

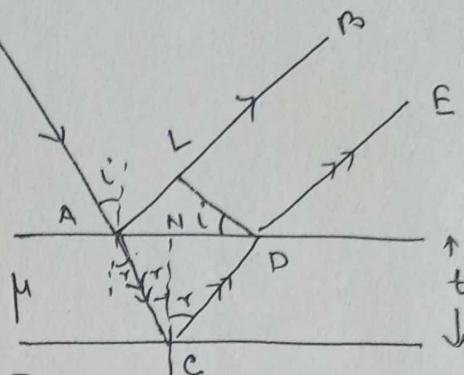
incident on the upper surface

of film is partly reflected

along  $AB$  and partly refracted

along  $AC$ . At point  $C$ , the ray is again reflected

along  $CD$  and finally emerged out along  $DE$ .



The first two rays of reflected system  $AB$  and  $DE$  have nearly the same intensity, while the intensities of the other reflected rays go on decreasing. Thus, we study the effect of interference between first two rays and hence, calculate the path difference between first two rays only. Since, they are obtained from the same parent ray  $SA$ , hence they are coherent.

Draw a perpendicular  $DL$  and  $CN$  to  $AB$  and  $AD$  respectively.

The paths of the rays  $AB$  and  $DE$  beyond  $DL$  are equal.

The path diff between them -

$$P = \text{Path } ACD \text{ in film} - \text{Path } AL \text{ in air}$$

$$= \mu(AC + CD) - AL \quad (1)$$

$$\mu = \frac{c}{v}$$

(30)

$$\text{In } \triangle ACN, \cos r = \frac{CN}{AC}$$

$$\Rightarrow AC = t / \cos r \quad \text{--- (ii)}$$

$$\text{In } \triangle NCD, \cos r = \frac{CN}{CD}$$

$$\Rightarrow CD = t / \cos r \quad \text{--- (iii)}$$

$$\text{In } \triangle ADL, \sin i = \frac{AL}{AD}$$

$$\begin{aligned} AL &= AD \sin i = (AN + ND) \sin i \\ &= (t + tan r + t \tan r) \sin i \\ &= 2t \tan r \sin i \\ &= 2t \frac{\sin r}{\cos r} \mu \sin r \end{aligned}$$

$$AL = 2\mu t \frac{\sin^2 r}{\cos r} \quad \text{--- (iv)}$$

$$\therefore P = \mu \left[ \frac{t}{\cos r} + \frac{t}{\cos r} \right] - 2\mu t \frac{\sin^2 r}{\cos r}$$

$$= \frac{2\mu t}{\cos r} (1 - \sin^2 r) = \frac{2\mu t}{\cos r} \cos^2 r$$

$$= 2\mu t \cos r \quad \text{--- (v)}$$

$\therefore$  from the Stoke's treatment -

if the ray is reflected from the surface of the denser medium then occurs a phase change of  $\pi$  or path difference of  $\lambda_2$ .

$$\therefore \Delta = 2\mu t \cos r - \lambda_2 \quad \text{--- (vi)}$$

for maximum intensity  $\Delta = n\lambda$

$$2\mu t \cos r - \lambda_2 = n\lambda$$

$$2\mu t \cos r = n\lambda + \frac{\lambda}{2}$$

$$\boxed{2\mu t \cos r = (2n+1) \frac{\lambda}{2}}$$

where  $n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$

for minimum intensity

$$\Delta = (2n+1) \frac{\lambda}{2}$$

$$2\mu t \cos r - \frac{\lambda}{2} = 2n \times \frac{\lambda}{2} - \frac{\lambda}{2}$$

$$\boxed{2\mu t \cos r = n\lambda}$$

where  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

### Interference Due to Transmitted light :-

Consider a thin transparent film of thickness 't' and refractive index  $\mu$ . Let a ray of light of wavelength  $\lambda$

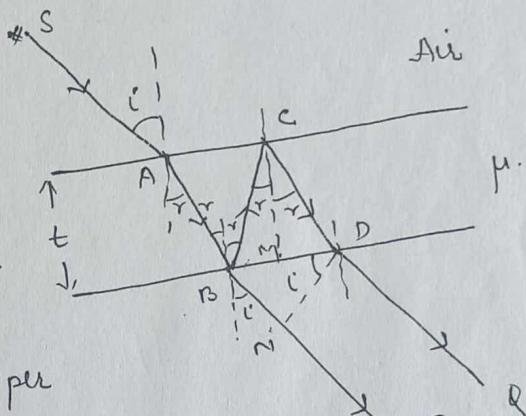
$\lambda$  be incident on the upper

surface of a thin transparent film. This ray  $sA$  is reflected along  $AB$  at an angle  $r$ . The reflected part  $AB$  is partly

reflected along  $BC$  and partly refracted along  $BP$  at

an angle of  $i$ . Reflected part  $BC$  is again reflected from  $C$  along  $CD$  and finally emerges out along  $DQ$ .

The rays  $BP$  and  $DQ$  are derived from the same incident ray and hence they are coherent.



(32)

To evaluate the path difference between  $BP$  and  $DQ$   
 the perpendiculars  $DN$  and  $CM$  are drawn on  $BP$  and  $BQ$   
 respectively. As the paths of the rays  $BP$  and  $PQ$  beyond  
 $DN$  are equal, the optical path diff.

$$\Delta = \text{path } BCD \text{ in film} - \text{path } BN \text{ in air}$$

$$= \mu (BC + CD) - BN \quad \dots \textcircled{1}$$

$$\text{In } \triangle BCM, \operatorname{Cot} r = \frac{MC}{BC} \Rightarrow BC = t / \operatorname{Cot} r \quad \textcircled{11}$$

$$\text{In } \triangle MCD, \operatorname{Cot} r = \frac{MC}{CD} \Rightarrow CD = t / \operatorname{Cot} r \quad \textcircled{12}$$

$$\text{In } \triangle BDN, \operatorname{Sin} i = \frac{BN}{BD} \Rightarrow BN = BD \operatorname{Sin} i$$

$$= (BM + MD) \operatorname{Sin} i \quad \textcircled{13}$$

$$\text{In } \triangle BCM, BM = \operatorname{Cot} i \operatorname{tan} r = t \operatorname{tan} r$$

$$\text{In } \triangle COM, MD = \operatorname{Cot} r \operatorname{tan} r = t \operatorname{tan} r$$

$$\therefore BN = 2t \operatorname{tan} r \operatorname{Sin} i$$

$$= 2t \frac{\operatorname{Sin} r}{\operatorname{Cot} r} \cdot \mu \operatorname{Sin} i$$

$$= 2t \mu \frac{\operatorname{Sin}^2 r}{\operatorname{Cot} r} \quad \textcircled{4}$$

$$\therefore \Delta = \mu \left[ \frac{t}{\operatorname{Cot} r} + \frac{t}{\operatorname{Cot} r} \right] - 2\mu t \frac{\operatorname{Sin}^2 r}{\operatorname{Cot} r}$$

$$= \frac{2\mu t}{\operatorname{Cot} r} (1 - \operatorname{Sin}^2 r)$$

$$= \frac{2\mu t}{\operatorname{Cot} r} \cdot \operatorname{Cot} r$$

$$\Delta = 2\mu t \cos r \quad \text{--- (vi)}$$

(33)

for maximum intensity

$$\Delta = n\lambda$$

$$2\mu t \cos r = n\lambda \quad \text{when } n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

for minimum intensity-

$$\Delta = (2n-1)\frac{\lambda}{2}$$

$$\text{or } 2\mu t \cos r = (2n-1)\frac{\lambda}{2} \quad \text{when } n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$\text{or } 2\mu t \cos r = (2n+1)\frac{\lambda}{2} \quad \text{when } n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

These conditions of maxima and minima in transmitted light are just opposite to those for reflected light.

Hence, the point of the film which appears bright in reflected light, appears dark in transmitted light.

Hence, the interference patterns of reflected and transmitted monochromatic light are complementary.

$$\Delta = 2\mu t \cos r - \frac{\lambda}{2} \Rightarrow \text{Constt}$$

$\Rightarrow$  Locus of the points with same thickness is constt over a circle, hence the fringes are circular.

## Interference in wedge shaped film:-

we have seen that when a monochromatic ray of light is incident on a thin film then due to multiple reflections and refractions on the outer and inner surface of the film we get two system of rays. first

the reflected system and is

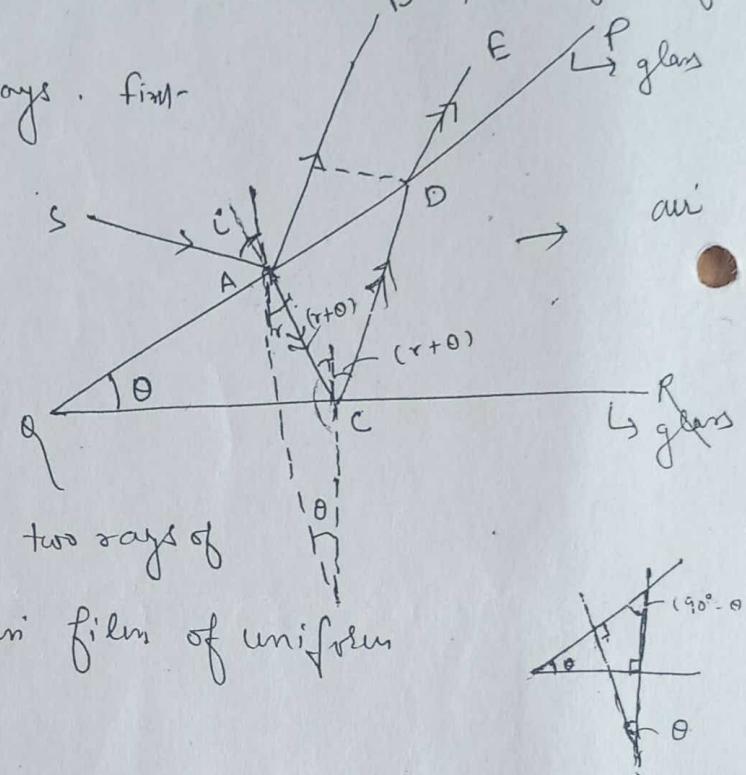
Second the transmitted

system.

we know that the path

difference between first two rays of

reflected system of thin film of uniform thickness is given by



$$P = \text{path difference} - \pi/2 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

where,  $r$  is angle of refraction for the incident ray

$\pi/2$  is the extra path of the first ray which is introduced in the first ray due to its reflection at the optically denser medium.

✓ A wedge shaped film is a thin transparent film of gradually varying thickness as shown in fig..

✓ Here, the wedge shaped transparent film lies between two inclined surfaces QP and QR. The point Q is

\* The thickness of the glass plate is large compared with the wavelength of the incident light. We will take the thickness of the plate to be large enough so that the thickness of the plate is much larger than the wavelength of the light.

(35)

called wedge of the film.

When a ray of monochromatic light SA is incident on the upper surface of the film, it gets splitted up into two rays. One reflected ray AR, and other refracted ray AB. The ray AB further gets reflected giving the ray BC. On refraction at C we get the ray CR<sub>2</sub>. Thus, we get two systems of rays.

The angle of incidence, at the lower surface = ( $\gamma + \theta$ )

Mathematically, it can be proved the optical path diff. between the first two rays of reflected system is given

$$P = 2\mu t \cos(\gamma + \theta) - \lambda_{1/2} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Where  $\theta \rightarrow$  wedge angle of the film

$t \rightarrow$  thickness of the film at point A

$\mu \rightarrow$  refractive index

for air film,  $\mu = 1$

$$P = 2t \cos(\gamma + \theta) - \lambda_{1/2} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

for maximum intensity

$$P = n\lambda$$

$$2t \cos(\gamma + \theta) - \lambda_{1/2} = n\lambda$$

$$\boxed{2t \cos(\gamma + \theta) = (2m+1)\lambda_{1/2}} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

where  $m = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

(36)

for minimum intensity

$$2t \cos(r + \theta) = \lambda l_2 = (2m-1)\lambda l_2$$

$$\boxed{2t \cos(r + \theta) = n\lambda} \quad \rightarrow \textcircled{v}$$

where  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ 

If light is incident normally on the film

$$r = 0$$

~~$2t \cos\theta = (2n+1)\lambda l_2$~~

$$\boxed{2t \cos\theta = n\lambda}$$

Nature of Interference fringes:- Since, the thickness of the wedge shaped film varies from point to point, the value of  $2t \cos\theta$  i.e. Path difference also varies accordingly. For any ~~value of~~ bright or dark fringe the value of path difference should remain constant. At a particular point, thickness is constant so we get a bright or dark fringe at that point.

In a wedge shaped film the locus of the points with same thickness of the film are straight lines parallel to the edge of the film, hence, in this case we get bright and dark straight fringes parallel to the edge of the film.

## Newton's Ring:-

### Necessity of an Extended Source:-

To see the interference effects

Over the entire film simultaneously

a broad source of light is necessary.

When a thin film is illuminated with monochromatic light from a point

source and is viewed with a lens

of small aperture, the light

reflected from a point source extended

and all corresponding points on the film does not reach

the eye simultaneously as

shown in fig (a). Thus, only a

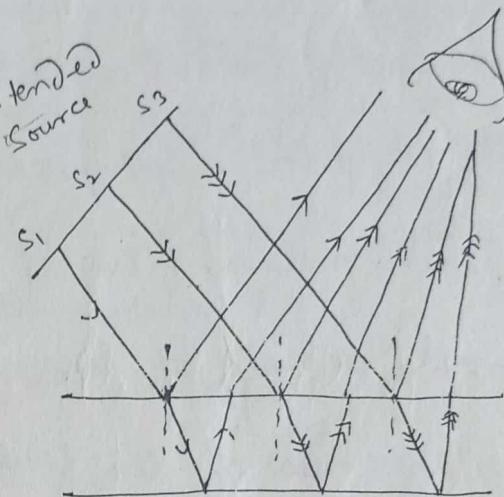
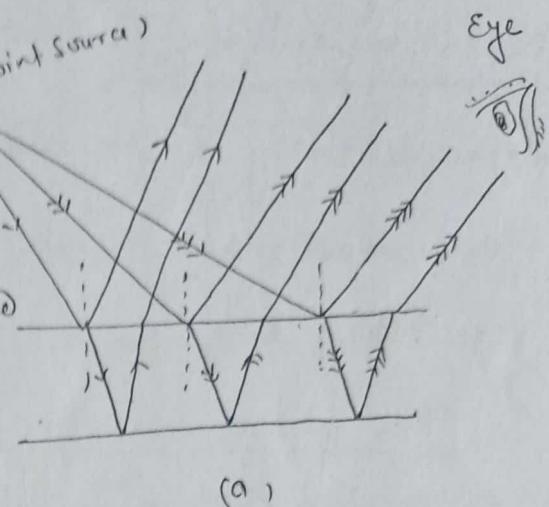
small portion of the film will be visible. To see the whole

film, the eye will have to be moved from one position to the other. If we employ an extended source, the light-

reflected by every point of film reaches the eye.

Hence, the entire film can be viewed simultaneously by keeping the eye at one place only.

Hence, an extended source of light is necessary to view a film simultaneously.



(40)

Newton's Ring :- Newton's was the first to obtain experimentally bright and dark interference rings due to interference in a wedge shaped film, which are called Newton's Ring.

The phenomena of Newton's ring is a special case of interference in air film of variable thickness.

If we place a planoconvex lens on a plane glass surface, a thin film of air is formed between the curved surface of lens AOB and plane glass plate POQ.

The thickness of air film is zero at point O and increase as move away from the point of contact. Since the curved side of the lens is a spherical surface, the thickness of the air film be constant over a circle (whose centre will be at O). When monochromatic light falls normally on such a film, we get inner dark spot surrounded by alternatively bright and dark circular rings, when seen by reflected and vice-versa by transmitted light. These rings are known as Newton's Rings.

When white light is used, a few coloured circular rings are seen around the point of contact - with violet and red colour bands in both reflected and transmitted light.

(41)

### Experimental Arrangement :-

$S \rightarrow$  An extended monochromatic source  
 $L \rightarrow$  Convex lens  
 $G \rightarrow$  Glass plate inclined at  $45^\circ$   
 light rays from an extended source

are made parallel by lens L.

These horizontal parallel rays fall on a glass plate G at  $45^\circ$

and are partly reflected from it. These reflected rays fall normally on the lens L placed on the glass plate G.

Interference occurs between the rays reflected from the upper and lower surfaces of the film. The interference rings are viewed with a low-power microscope by focussing on the air film where the rings are formed.

Theory :- If a monochromatic ray S of light falls on an air film at E where the thickness of the film is t,

this ray gets reflected at E and

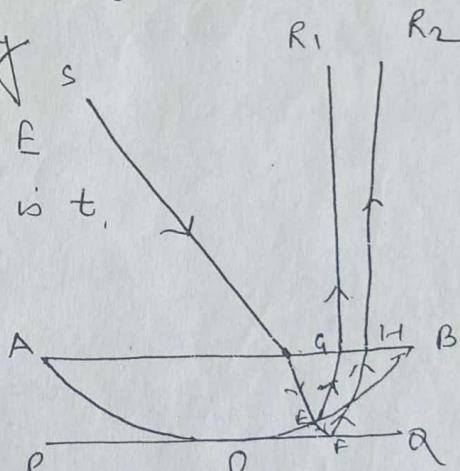
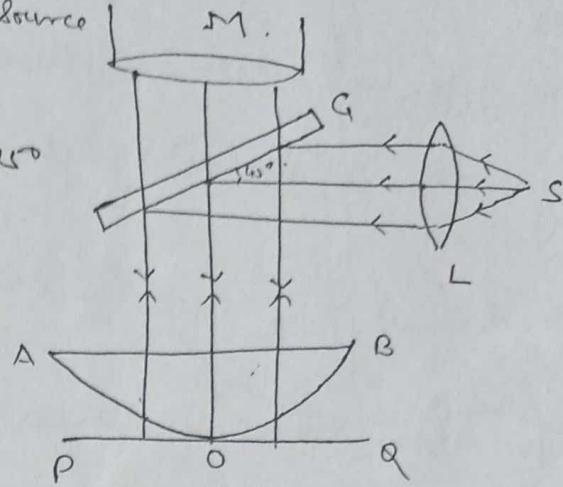
gives GR<sub>1</sub>. The other ray EF at

E is due to refraction which

gets reflected at F and finally comes on the side

of GR<sub>1</sub> as the ray HR<sub>2</sub>.

These two rays are coherent, producing bright



These two rays are coherent, producing bright

(42)

The effective path difference between the interfering rays in reflected light is given by

$$\Delta = 2\mu t \cos(r + \theta) \pm \lambda/2$$

for normal incidence,  $r = 0$ , for air film ( $\mu = 1$ )

$$\cos(r + \theta) = \cos 0$$

for very small angle  $\cos \theta \approx 1$

$$\therefore \Delta = 2\mu t \pm \lambda/2 \quad \text{--- (i)}$$

At point of contact,  $t = 0$

$$\Delta = \lambda/2 \quad (\text{which is the condition for darkness})$$

Hence, the central ring or spot is dark

for bright ring  ~~$\Delta = 2t \pm \lambda/2 = n\lambda$~~

$$\Delta = 2t = (2n+1)\lambda/2 \quad \text{--- (ii)}$$

for dark ring  $\Delta = 2t \pm \lambda/2 = (2n-1)\lambda/2$

$$2t = n\lambda \quad \text{--- (iii)}$$

# Diameter of Bright- and Dark Rings :-

(43)

To evaluate the diameter of Bright- and dark rings, consider a plane-convex lens AOB placed on a plane glass plate MON. Let 't' be the thickness of the film at any point Q and R be the radius of curved surface AOB.

From the property of circle

$$PL \times QL = OL \times GL \quad \text{--- (i)}$$

$$r \times r = t (2R-t)$$

$$r^2 = 2Rt - t^2$$

$t \ll R$ ,  $t^2$  may be neglected

$$r^2 = 2Rt$$

$$t = \frac{r^2}{2R} \quad \text{--- (ii)}$$

for bright fringe  $2t = (2n+1)\pi/2$   
substitute the value of 't' from eqn (ii)

$$\frac{r^2}{R} = (2n+1)\pi/2$$

if this point 'Q' gives the  $n^{th}$  bright ring.

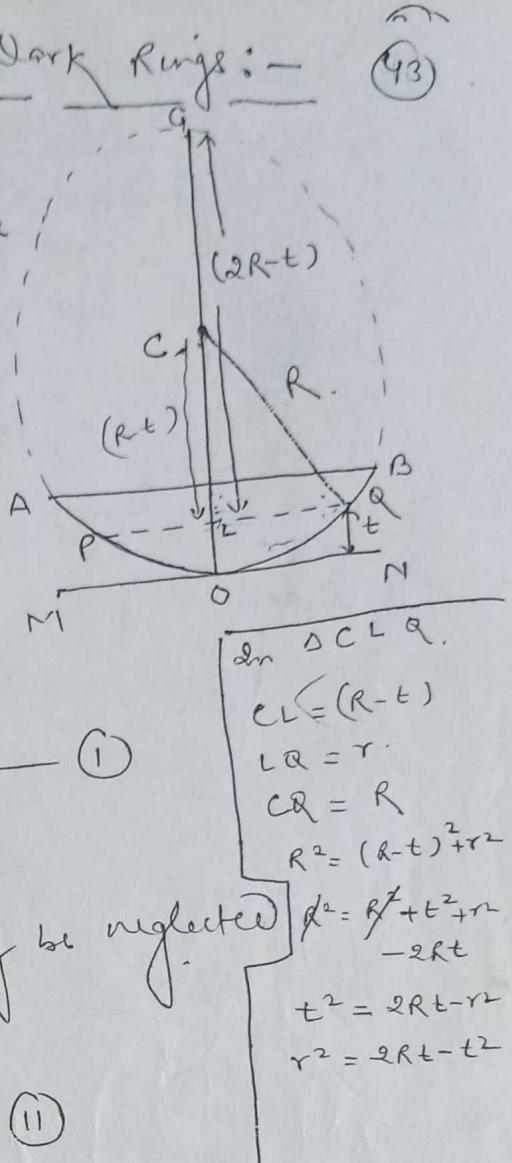
$$r_n^2 = \frac{(2n+1)\pi R}{2}$$

If  $D_n \rightarrow$  Diameter of  $n^{th}$  bright ring

$$D_n^2 = 2(2n+1)\pi R$$

or  $D_n = \sqrt{2(2n+1)\pi R} \quad \text{--- (iii)}$

where  $n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$



(44)

$$D_n < \sqrt{2n+1}$$

If 'n' is starting from '1'

Then,  $D_n < \sqrt{2(2n-1)\pi R} \quad (iv)$

for Dark rings.

$$2t = n\lambda$$

$$\frac{\pi r_n^2}{R} = n\lambda$$

$$\pi r_n^2 = n\lambda R$$

$$D_{n^2} = 4n\lambda R$$

$$D_n = \sqrt{4n\lambda R} \quad (v)$$

If  $D_n$  and  $D_{n+1}$  are the diameters of  $n^{\text{th}}$  and  $(n+1)^{\text{th}}$  dark rings then the spacing between the consecutive rings -

$$\begin{aligned} D_{n+1} - D_n &= \sqrt{4(n+1)\lambda R} - \sqrt{4n\lambda R} \\ &= \sqrt{4\lambda R} [\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n}] \end{aligned}$$

Putting  $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots$

$$D_2 - D_1 = \sqrt{4\lambda R} [\sqrt{2} - \sqrt{1}] = 0.414 \sqrt{4\lambda R}$$

$$D_3 - D_2 = \sqrt{4\lambda R} [\sqrt{3} - \sqrt{2}] = 0.318 \sqrt{4\lambda R}$$

$$D_4 - D_3 = \sqrt{4\lambda R} [\sqrt{4} - \sqrt{3}] = 0.268 \sqrt{4\lambda R}$$

{                  }                  }

Hence, it is clear from the above values that the spacing between the consecutive rings decrease with increasing the order of the ring.



### Newton's Rings by Transmitted Light:-

The effective path diff. in transmitted light.

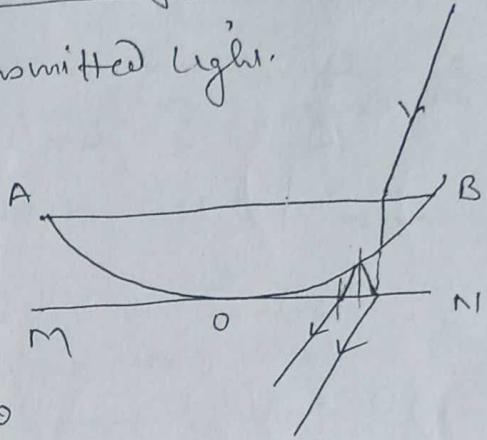
$$\Delta = 2\mu t (\cos r + \theta)$$

for air film  $\mu = 1$

normal incidence  $r = 0$

$$\cos(r+\theta) \approx \cos\theta$$

when  $\theta \sim \text{very small}$   
 $\cos\theta = 1$



$$\therefore \Delta = 2t$$

for bright ring

$$\Delta = n\lambda$$

$$2t = n\lambda$$

where

$$n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

for dark

$$\Delta = (2n-1)\frac{\lambda}{2}$$

$$2t = (2n-1)\frac{\lambda}{2}$$

$$n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

On comparing these equations with equations obtained in reflected system, it is obvious that the rings are observed in transmitted light are complementary to the rings observed in reflected light.

(46) ① Experimental Determination of wavelength of light - By Newton's Rings :-

The experimental arrangement used is the same as we have discussed in the beginning.

If  $D_n$  is the diameter of  $n^{\text{th}}$  dark ring, then

$$D_n^2 = 4n\lambda R \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$D_{n+m}$  is the diameter of  $(n+m)^{\text{th}}$  order dark ring

$$D_{n+m}^2 = 4(n+m)\lambda R \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$(2) - (1)$$

$$D_{n+m}^2 - D_n^2 = 4m\lambda R$$

$$\lambda = \frac{D_{n+m}^2 - D_n^2}{4mR} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

The cross-wire of eye-piece is focussed on the any dark ring (say  $10^{\text{th}}$ ) in left hand side, and reading of the microscope is noted.

The microscope is now moved to right-hand right-side and reading of each dark rings are noted. On

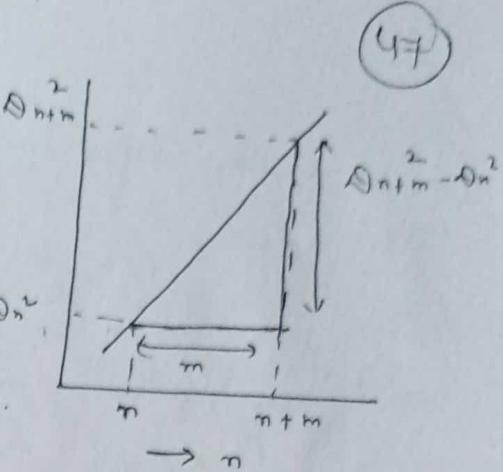
reaching the centre of Newton's ring, the microscope is further moved to the right side and the reading is recorded till we reach again  $10^{\text{th}}$  order dark

ring. A graph is plotted. The diameters of successive rings are measured and a graph between  $n$  &  $D^2$  (ie order and square of diameter) is plotted.

The slope of this graph gives  $\frac{D_{n+m}^2 - D_n^2}{m}$

$$\therefore \text{Slope} = \frac{D_{n+m}^2 - D_n^2}{m}$$

$R \rightarrow$  radius of curvature is determined with the help of spherometer, and using formula (iii), we can measure  $\lambda$ . i.e wavelength of light.



### (ii) Refractive Index of a liquid using Newton's Rings:-

The liquid whose refractive index  $\mu$  is to be determined is introduced between the lens and the glass plate.

$$\therefore \text{Diameter of } n^{\text{th}} \text{ dark ring } D_n^2 = \frac{4m\lambda R}{\mu} - (i)$$

$$\text{Similar for. } (n+m)^{\text{th}} \text{ dark ring } D_{n+m}^2 = \frac{4(n+m)\lambda R}{\mu} - (ii)$$

$$(iii) - (i)$$

$$[D_{n+m}^2 - D_n^2]_{\text{liquid}} = \frac{4m\lambda R}{\mu} - (iii)$$

for air film  $\mu = 1$

$$[D_{n+m}^2 - D_n^2]_{\text{air}} = 4m\lambda R - (iv)$$

Dividing (iv) by (iii), we get-

$$\mu = \frac{[D_{n+m}^2 - D_n^2]_{\text{air}}}{[D_{n+m}^2 - D_n^2]_{\text{liquid}}} - (v)$$

This relation also holds for bright rings

(48) with liquid film the diameter of  $n^{th}$  dark ring is

$$(D_n)^2 \text{ liquid} = \frac{4n\pi R}{\mu} - \textcircled{1}$$

with air film

$$(D_n)^2 \text{ air} = 4n\pi R - \textcircled{11}$$

$$\frac{(D_n)^2 \text{ liquid}}{(D_n)^2 \text{ air}} = \frac{1}{\mu} \Rightarrow \frac{(D_n) \text{ liquid}}{(D_n) \text{ air}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu}}$$

$$\therefore \mu > 1$$

$$(D_n) \text{ liquid} < (D_n) \text{ air}$$

Thus, when the liquid is introduced between the lens and the plate the diameter of the ring decrease.

Newton's Rings with Both curved Surfaces

Case-1. when the lower surface is convex

Let the radii of curvature of

the convex faces of the above

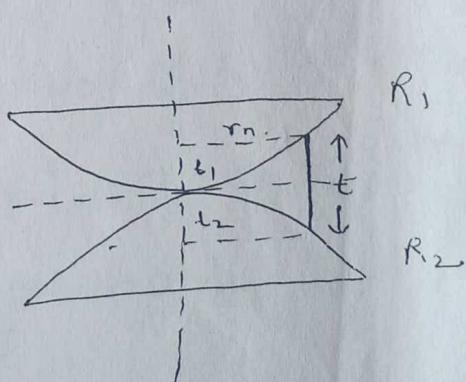
2 lenses be  $R_1$  &  $R_2$

respectively.

From fig  $t = t_1 + t_2 - \textcircled{1}$

$$= \frac{r_n^2}{2R_1} + \frac{r_n^2}{2R_2}$$

$$2t = r_n^2 \left[ \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \right] - \textcircled{11}$$



(49)

where  $r_n$  is the radius of  $n^{th}$  ring corresponding  
to thickness 't'.

The condition for dark ring

$$2t = n\lambda \quad \text{--- (iii)}$$

$$\gamma r_n^2 \left[ \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \right] = n\lambda$$

$$r_n^2 = \frac{n\lambda}{\left[ \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \right]}$$

$$\boxed{D_n^2 = \frac{4n\lambda}{\left[ \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \right]}} \quad \text{--- (iv)}$$

where  $D_n \rightarrow$  diameter of  $n^{th}$  dark ring.

where  $n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$

The condition for bright ring

$$2t = (2n+1)\lambda/2$$

$$\gamma r_n^2 \left[ \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \right] = (2n+1)\lambda/2$$

$$r_n^2 = \frac{(2n+1)\lambda}{2 \left[ \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \right]}$$

$$\boxed{D_n^2 = \frac{2(2n+1)\lambda}{\left[ \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \right]}}$$

if  $D_n^2 = \frac{2(2n+1)\lambda}{\left[ \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \right]}$ , where  $n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$

50

Case. II when the lower surface is concave:- ( $R_2 > R_1$ )

$$PQ = t, \quad PA = u, \quad QA = v$$

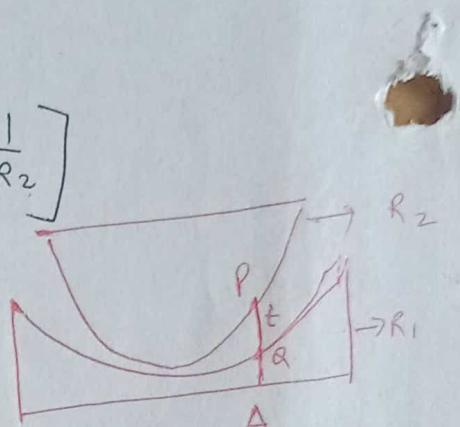
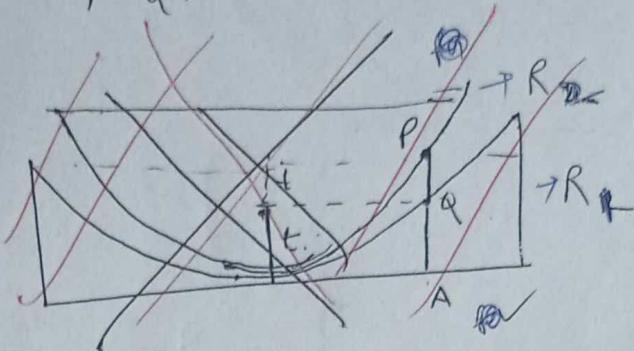
$$t = PA - A Q.$$

$$PA = \frac{n^2}{2R_1}$$

$$QA = \frac{n^2}{2R_2}$$

$$t = \frac{n^2}{2R_1} - \frac{n^2}{2R_2} = \frac{n^2}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{R_1} - \frac{1}{R_2} \right]$$

$$2t = n^2 \left[ \frac{1}{R_1} - \frac{1}{R_2} \right]$$



Condition for dark ring

$$2t = n\lambda$$

$$n^2 \left( \frac{1}{R_1} - \frac{1}{R_2} \right) = n\lambda$$

$$\boxed{D_n^2 = \frac{4n\lambda}{\left( \frac{1}{R_1} - \frac{1}{R_2} \right)}}$$

$$PQ = t$$

$$PA = \frac{n^2}{2R_1}$$

$$QA = \frac{n^2}{2R_2}$$

where  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

Condition for bright ring

$$2t = (2m-1)\lambda/2$$

$$n^2 \left( \frac{1}{R_1} - \frac{1}{R_2} \right) = (2m-1)\lambda/2$$

$$n^2 = \frac{(2m-1)\lambda}{\left( \frac{1}{R_1} - \frac{1}{R_2} \right)^2}$$

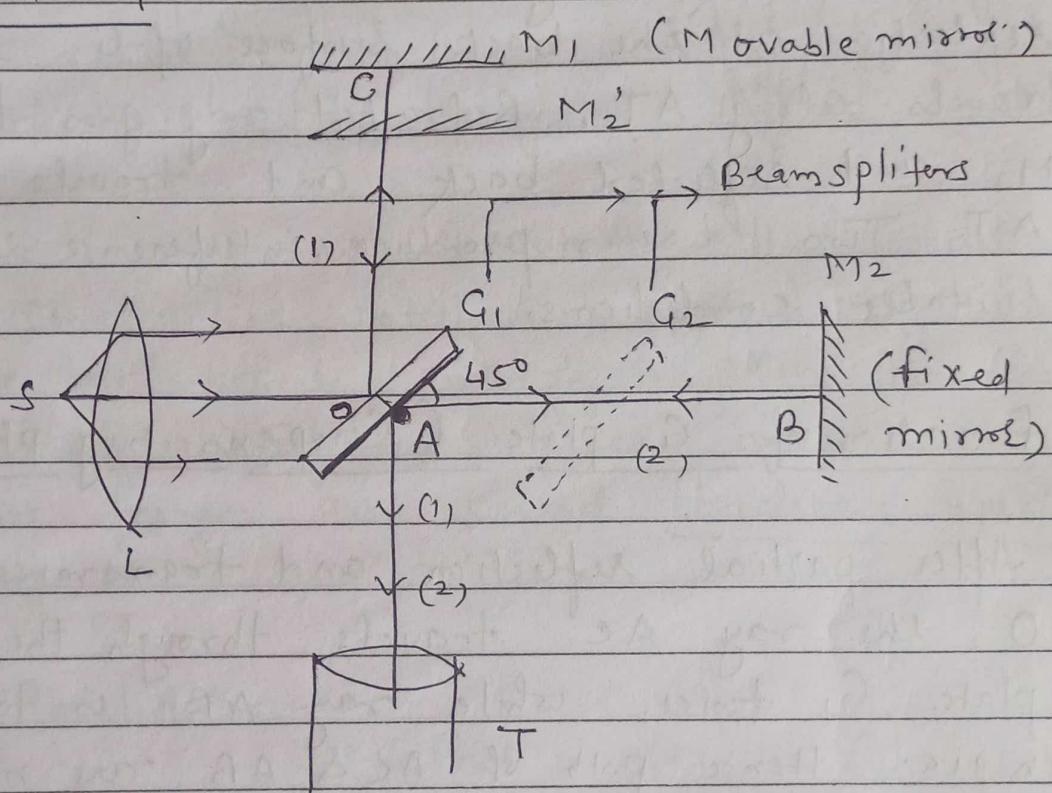
$$\Rightarrow \boxed{D_n^2 = \frac{2(2m-1)\lambda}{\left[ \frac{1}{R_1} - \frac{1}{R_2} \right]^2}}$$

$m = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

## The Michelson Interferometer

Principle:- The amplitude of light beam is divided into two parts of nearly equal intensity by partial reflection and refraction.

### Construction:-



$M_1, M_2$  — Two highly polished front silvered plane mirrors. ~~and~~ ~~and~~

$G_1, G_2$  — Two parallel plates of same thickness

$G_1$  — Semisilvered on the backside and function as a beam splitter.

$G_2$  — inclined at an angle of  $45^\circ$  to the incident beam. The glass plate  $G_2$  is called the compensating plate.

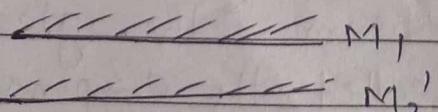
Working:- Light from an extended source  $S$  rendered nearly parallel by a lens  $L$ , falls on  $G_1$ , which is inclined at an angle  $45^\circ$  to the incident beam. A ray of light incident on  $G_1$  is partially reflected and partially transmitted as  $AC$  and  $AB$ .  $AC$  moves towards  $M_1$ , and reflected back along the same path. After reflection at the back surface of  $G_1$ , it travels along  $AT$ . Refracted ray goes towards  $M_2$  and reflected back and travels along  $AT$ . Two beams produce interference under suitable conditions.

### function of $G_2$ plate (Compensating plate):-

After partial reflection and transmission at  $O$ , the ray  $AC$  travels through the glass plate  $G_1$  twice, while ray  $AB$  is totally in air. Hence path of  $AC$  &  $AB$  are not equal. To equalize these path a glass plate  $G_2$  (having same thickness) is placed parallel to  $G_1$ .

### formation of fringes:-

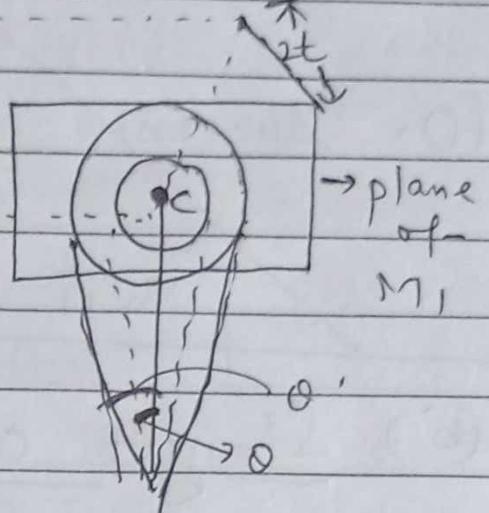
$M'_2$  - Image of  $M_2$



$M_1$  and  $M'_2$  will treat as two surfaces of a thin film giving reflected beam of

to interference.

(a) Circular fringes: - When  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are parallel, if distances of mirror  $M_2$  and  $M_1$  from G, differ by distance  $t$ , - Then separation between  $2t$ . The path difference along a circle with centre C as the foot of the + from the eye is constant.

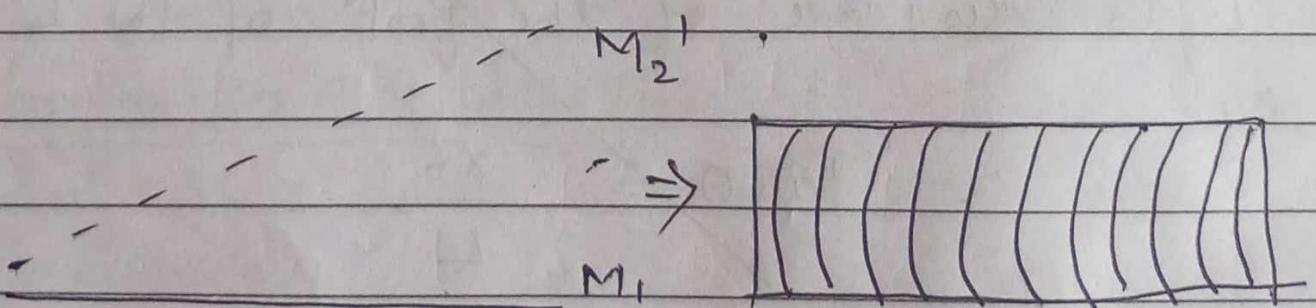
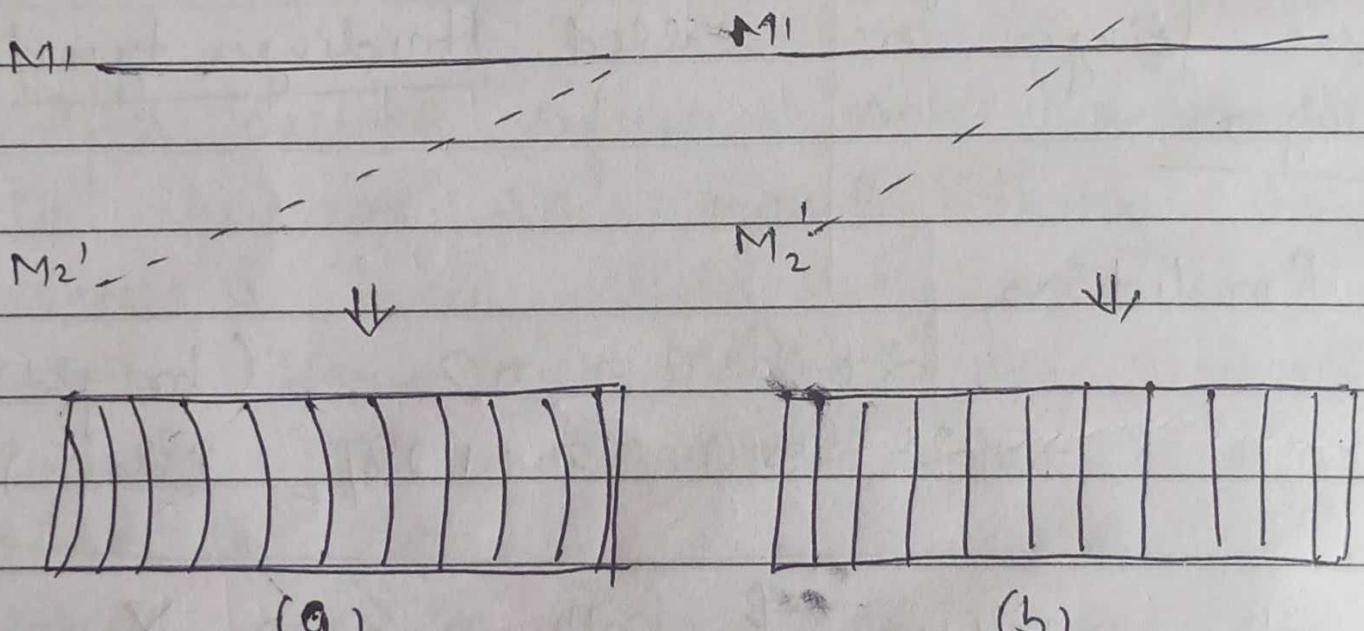


- Hence a ring which satisfies the condition for constructive interference appears bright and one which satisfy the condition for destructive interference appear dark.

These fringes are called Heidinger type of fringes

## (b) Straight and Curved fringes

When  $M_1$  is not  $\perp M_2$  i.e.  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  (image of  $M_2$ ) are inclined, the air film between  $M_1$  and  $M_2'$  is wedge shaped.



In general, the fringes are curved and always convex towards thin edges of wedge (a) & (c) and straight (b).