

# WAVELENGTH OF LASER LIGHT USING DIFFRACTION GRATING

Presented by  
Department of BSHU (Physics)  
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# WAVELENGTH OF LASER LIGHT USING DIFFRACTION GRATING



## OBJECTIVE, AIM & APPARATUS

### Objectives

- To determine the concept of diffraction
- To determine the wavelength of the given Laser source
- To learn about the characteristics of Laser
- To study the various types of Laser

### Aim

- To determine the wavelength of laser light using diffraction grating.
- Apparatus required
- Optical bench, semiconductor laser, Diffraction grating and screen or scale arrangement.

The laser is mounted on its saddle on the optical bench.

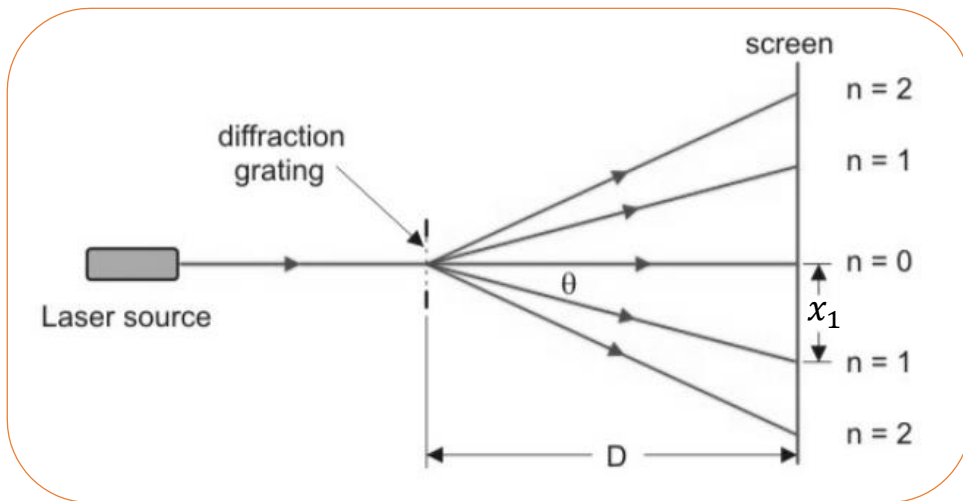
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### EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

- The grating is mounted on an upright next to laser.
- The screen is placed next to the grating as shown in figure.
- The laser is switched on.
- The relative orientation of laser with respect to grating is adjusted such that spectral spots are observed on the screen.
- The screen is moved towards and away from the grating till at least three (for 200 lines/mm) spots are clearly seen on the screen on either side of the central spot.
- The central maximum and other maxima corresponding to different orders of the spectrum on either side of the central maximum are identified.
- A scale is adjusted in such a way that the central spot coincides with the zero in the scale.
- If the diffraction grating is not labelled with the line spacing it will be necessary to measure the line separation using a microscope.
- Be careful to convert any stated line spacing given in lines/mm to a line separation in meter or mm.

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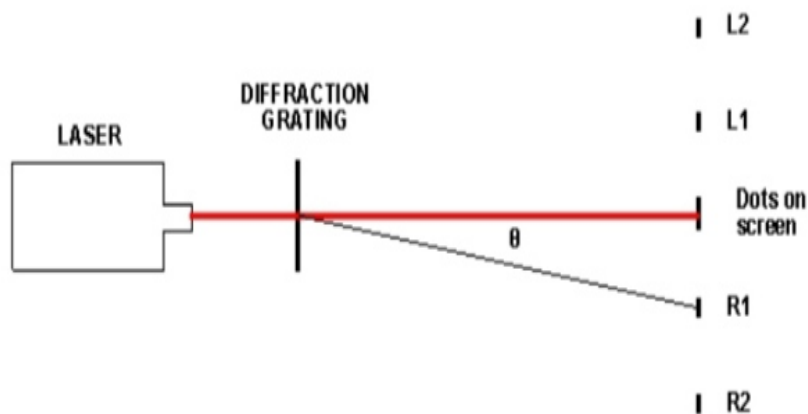
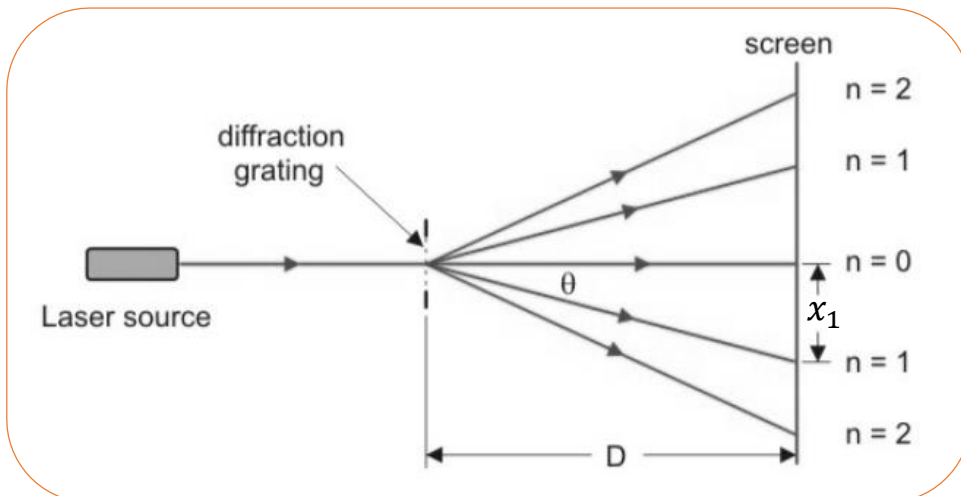


- Now the distances ( $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n$ ) of the spots corresponding to 1st order, 2nd order etc. on the either side of central maxima are noted.
- On the screen, measure the distance between corresponding dots i.e. L1 and R1 (According to diagram)
- The distances between the grating and the screen ( $D$ ) is measured.
- The readings are tabulated.
- The experiment is repeated for at least three values of  $D$  (20cm, 30cm, 40cm).

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- The value of  $x_n$  ( $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n$ ) is calculated for each case and calculated  $\theta_n$  ( $\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \dots, \theta_n$ ) using the formula  

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{x_n}{D} = \tan^{-1} \frac{L1R1}{2D}$$
 (According to diagram)
- Using this formula calculated  $\sin \theta$



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## EXPERIMENTAL OBSERVATION

No of obs	Order no	Distance of n th order maxima from the principal maxima (m)			Distance of screen from grating (D) m	$\theta_n = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{x_{nl} + x_{nr}}{2} \right)$	$\sin \theta_n$	$(\lambda) = \frac{\sin \theta}{nN}$
		Left side ( $x_{nl}$ )	Left side ( $x_{nr}$ )	Average $\frac{(x_{nl} + x_{nr})}{2}$				
1.	1.							
	2.							
	3.							
2.	1.							
	2.							
	3.							
3.	1.							
	2.							
	3.							

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### CALCULATION & RESULT

#### CALCULATION(S)

Distance of the spot from the central maxima ( $x_n$ ) = --  
----- m

Perpendicular distance between grating and the  
screen (D) ----- m

Number of lines per metre in the grating (N) = -----  
--- lines/m

Angle of diffraction ( $\theta$ ) =  $\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x_n}{D}\right) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{L1R1}{2D}\right)$   
(According to diagram)

Wavelength of laser light ( $\lambda$ ) =  $\frac{\sin \theta}{nN}$  = ----- m,  
where n is the order of spectrum

#### RESULT

Wavelength of laser light,  $\lambda$  = ----- m

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### CALCULATION & RESULT

At the end of the experiment, the students would be able:

- To determine the wavelength of the given laser source.
- To understand the importance of laser beam compared to ordinary light.
- To provide the use of Laser for different applications.
- To understand the application of lasers in engineering and medical fields.
- To get depth in knowledge about the Lasers and its applications in various fields.