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## Important Questions for Class 12 Physics Chapter 10 Wave Optics Class 12 Important Questions

December 6, 2019 by Sastry CBSE

### Important Questions for Class 12 Physics Chapter 10 Wave Optics Class 12 Important Questions

#### Wave Optics Class 12 Important Questions Very Short Answer Type

Question 1.

How does the fringe width of interference fringes change, when the whole apparatus of Young's experiment is kept in a liquid of refractive index 1.3? (Delhi 2008)

Answer:

▼

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...where [ $\mu$  = refractive index]

Fringe width becomes  $y_L$  times of its initial value.

Question 2.

How does the angular separation of interference fringes change in Young's experiment, if the distance between the slits is increased? (Delhi 2008)

Answer:

$$\text{Angular separation, } \theta = \frac{\lambda}{d} \quad \therefore \theta \propto \frac{1}{d}$$

When separation between two slits is increased, angular separation decreases.



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Question 3.

State the reason, why two independent sources of light cannot be considered as coherent sources. (Delhi 2008)

Answer:

Two independent sources of light cannot be coherent. This is because light is emitted by individual atoms, when they return to ground state. Even the smallest source of light contains billions of atoms which obviously cannot emit light waves in the same phase.



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Question 4.

How does the angle of minimum deviation of a glass prism vary, if the incident violet light is replaced with red light? (All India 2008)

Answer:

We know that  $\lambda_{\text{red}} > \lambda_{\text{violet}}$ , therefore  $\mu_{\text{red}} < \mu_{\text{violet}}$   
and hence  $\delta_{\text{red}} < \delta_{\text{violet}}$ .

When incident violet light is replaced with red light, the angle of minimum deviation of a glass decreases.



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Question 5.

If the angle between the pass axis of polarizer and the analyser is  $45^\circ$ , write the ratio of the intensities of original light and the transmitted light after passing through the analyser. (Delhi 2008)

Answer:

$$I = \frac{I_0}{2} \cos^2 \theta$$

...where  $I_0$  is the original intensity and  $\theta$  is the angle  
between the axis of the polariser and the analyser



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Question 6.

What type of wavefront will emerge from a

- (i) point source, and
- (ii) distant light source? (Delhi 2008)

Answer:

- (i) Point source – Spherical wavefront
- (ii) Distant light source – Plane wavefront.

Question 7.

Unpolarized light is incident on a plane surface of glass of refractive index  $\mu$  at angle  $i$ . If the reflected light gets totally polarized, write the relation between the angle  $i$  and refractive index  $\mu$ . (Delhi 2008)

Answer:

$$\mu = \tan i_p.$$

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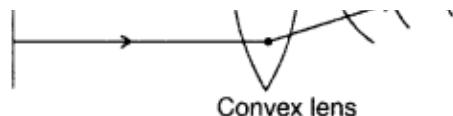
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Question 8.

Draw a diagram to show refraction of a plane wave front incident in a convex lens and hence draw the



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Question 9.

At what angle of incidence should a light beam strike a glass slab of refractive index  $\sqrt{3}$ , such that the reflected and the refracted rays are perpendicular to each other? (Delhi 2008)

Answer:

$$\mu = \tan i_p \text{ under the given condition}$$

$$\therefore i_p = \tan^{-1} (\sqrt{3}) = \frac{\pi}{3} \text{ radian}$$

(i) X

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Question 10.

Differentiate between a ray and a wave front. (Delhi 2008)

Answer:

Ray defines the path of light.

Wave front is the locus of points in the light wave' having the same phase of oscillation at any instant.

Question 11.

How would the angular separation of interference fringes in Young's double slit experiment change when the distance between the slits and screen is doubled? (All India 2008)



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[NCERT SOLUTIONS](#)[RD SHARMA](#)[CLASS 12](#)[CLASS 11](#)[CLASS 10](#)[CLASS 9](#)[CBSE SAMPLE PAPERS](#)[TEXTBOOK SOLUTIONS](#) $v = \frac{c}{d}$ ~~What is the angular separation?~~

When the distance D of separation between the slits and the screen is doubled, the angular separation  $\theta$  remains unchanged.



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Question 13.

In a single-slit diffraction experiment, the width of the slit is made double the original width. How does this affect the size and intensity of the central diffraction band. (All India 2012)

Answer:

If the width of the diffraction slit is doubled, the size of the central diffraction band will become half and its intensity will become four times of its original value.

Question 14.

How does the fringe width, in Young's double-slit experiment, change when the distance of separation between the slits and screen is doubled? (All India 2012)

Answer:

If the distance between slits and screen (D) is doubled, the fringe width in double slit

experiment will become double as  $x = \frac{D\lambda}{2d}$

$\Rightarrow x \propto D$



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In a single slit diffraction experiment, the width of the slit is reduced to half its original width. How would this affect the size and intensity of the central maximum? (Comptt. Delhi 2012)

Answer:

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

$$\therefore \beta' = \frac{\lambda D}{d'} = \frac{2\lambda D}{d} = 2\beta$$

As width reduces to half, i.e.,  $d' = \frac{d}{2}$

Size becomes twice and intensity  $I = a^2$

$$\therefore I' = \left(\frac{a}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{4}a^2 = \frac{1}{4}I$$

Question 17.

Which of the following waves can be polarized

- (i) Heat waves
- (ii) Sound waves? Give reason to support your answer. (Delhi 2013)

Answer:

Heat waves can be polarized as they are transverse in nature.

Question 18.

Define the term 'coherent sources' which are required to produce interference pattern in Young's double slit experiment. (Comptt. Delhi 2014)

Answer:

Two monochromatic sources, which produce light waves, having a constant phase difference are defined as coherent sources.

Question 19.

Define the term 'wavefront'.(Comptt. All India 2013)

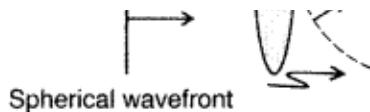
Answer:

The wavefront is defined as the locus of all particles of a medium, which are vibrating in the same phase.

Question 20.



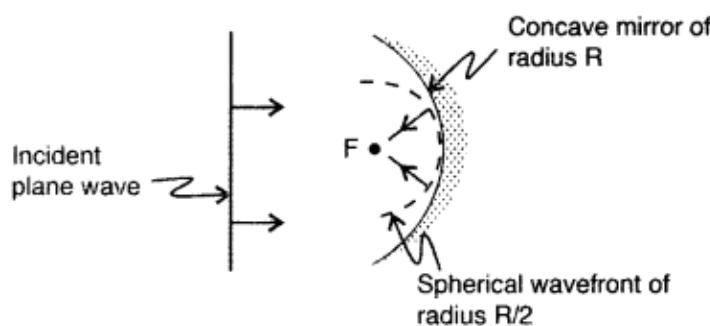
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Question 21.

Draw the shape of the wavefront coming out of a concave mirror when a plane wave is incident on it.  
(Comptt. All India 2013)

Answer:



Question 22.

Why does Sun appear red at sunrise and sunset? (All India 2016)

Answer:

It is due to least scattering of red light as it has the longest wavelength.

[As per Rayleigh's scattering, the amount of light

$$\text{scattered} \propto \frac{1}{\lambda^4}$$

Question 23.

A beam of unpolarised light is incident, on the boundary between two transparent media, at an angle of incidence =  $i_B$ , the Brewster's angle. At what angle does the reflected light get polarised? (Comptt. All India 2016)

Answer:

At an angle of incidence =  $i_B$ , the reflected light gets polarised.

[Waves Optics Class 12 Important Questions Short Answer Type SA 1](#)



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rapidly.

(ii) **Given :**  $\lambda = 600 \text{ nm} = 6 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}$ ,

$$D = 0.8 \text{ m}, \quad \gamma_2 = 15 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}$$

**To calculate :** Width of the slit 'd'

$$\text{Calculations : } \gamma_2 = \frac{5}{2} \times \frac{\lambda D}{d}$$

$$\Rightarrow d = \frac{5}{2} \times \frac{6 \times 10^{-7} \times 0.8}{15 \times 10^{-3}}$$

$$\therefore \text{Distance, } d = 8 \times 10^{-5} = 80 \mu\text{m}$$

Question 25.

Define the term 'linearly polarised light'. When does the intensity of transmitted light become maximum, when a polaroid sheet is rotated between two crossed polaroids? (All India 2008)

Answer:

Linearly polarised light is one in which the vibration of light is present in one line only.

**Law of Malus :**  $I = I_0 \cos^2 \theta$ , at  $\theta = 0^\circ$ ,  $\cos 0^\circ = 1$ ,

Intensity is maximum.

Question 26.

(i) State the principle on which the working of an optical fiber is based.

(ii) What are the necessary conditions for this phenomenon to occur? (All India 2009)

Answer:

(i) Working of an optical fibre is based on the principle of total internal reflection.

(ii) (a) Light should travel from a denser to rarer medium.

(b) Angle of incidence should be more than

**critical angle given by**  $i_c = \sin^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{\mu} \right)$ .

Question 27.

(a) Why are coherent sources necessary to produce a sustained interference pattern?

(b) In Young's double slit experiment using mono-chromatic light of wavelength  $\lambda$ , the intensity of light at a



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$$= 4I_0 \cos^2 \phi/2 \Rightarrow I = 4I_0 \cos^2 \frac{\Psi}{2}$$

When  $p = \lambda$ ,  $\phi = 2\pi$ ,

then  $I = 4I_0 \cos^2 \phi/2 = 4I_0 \cos^2 \pi = 4I_0 = K$

When  $P = \frac{2\pi}{3}$ ,  $\phi = \frac{4\pi}{3}$

$$I = 4I_0 \cos^2 \frac{2\pi}{3} = 4I_0 \left( \cos \left( \pi - \frac{\pi}{3} \right) \right)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow I = 4I_0 \left( -\cos \frac{\pi}{3} \right)^2 = I_0 \therefore I = \frac{K}{4}$$

Question 28.

State two conditions required for obtaining coherent sources.

In Young's arrangement to produce interference pattern, show that dark and bright fringes appearing on the screen are equally spaced. (Comptt. Delhi 2009)

Answer:

Two conditions for obtaining coherent sources: (i) Two sources should give monochromatic light.

(ii) Coherent sources of light should be obtained from a single source by some device.

The fringe width (dark and bright) is given by

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

Hence, it is same for both dark and bright fringes So they are equally spaced on the screen.

Question 29.

Laser light of wavelength 640 nm incident on a pair of slits produces an interference pattern in which the bright fringes are separated by 7.2 mm. Calculate the wavelength of another source of light which produces interference fringes separated by 8.1 mm using same arrangement. Also find the minimum value of the order 'n' of bright fringe of shorter wavelength which coincides with that of the longer wavelength. (Comptt. All India 2012)

Answer:

Distance between two bright fringes = Fringe width

$\sqrt{D}$



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**∴ Minimum order of shorter wavelength**

$$= (n + 1) = (8 + 1) = 9$$

Question 30.

Yellow light ( $\lambda = 6000\text{\AA}$ ) illuminates a single slit of width  $1 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}$ . Calculate

- (i) the distance between the two dark lines on either side of the central maximum, when the diffraction pattern is viewed on a screen kept  $1.5 \text{ m}$  away from the slit;
- (ii) the angular spread of the first diffraction minimum. (Comptt. All India 2012)

Answer:

- (i) Distance between two dark lines, on either

$$\begin{aligned}\text{side of central maxima} &= 2 \frac{\lambda D}{a} \\ &= \frac{2 \times 6000 \times 10^{-10} \times 1.5}{1 \times 10^{-4}} = 18000 \times 10^{-6} \\ &= 18 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m} = 18 \text{ mm}\end{aligned}$$

- (ii) Angular spread of the first diffraction minimum (on either side)

$$\theta = \frac{\lambda}{a} = \frac{6 \times 10^{-7}}{1 \times 10^{-4}} = 6 \times 10^{-3} \text{ radians}$$

Question 31.

A parallel beam of light of  $500 \text{ nm}$  falls on a narrow slit and the resulting diffraction pattern is observed on a screen  $1 \text{ m}$  away. It is observed that the first minimum is at a distance of  $2.5 \text{ mm}$  from the centre of the screen. Calculate the width of the slit. (All India 2013)

Answer:

Given,  $\lambda = 500 \text{ nm} = 500 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$ ,  $D = 1$

$$x_n = 2.5 \text{ mm} = 2.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m} \quad n = 1$$

$$\frac{x_m d}{D} = n\lambda$$

$$d = \frac{n\lambda D}{x_n}$$

$$\sqrt{d} = 1 \times (500 \times 10^{-9}) \times \frac{1}{2.5 \times 10^{-3}} = 2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}$$



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$$\theta_1 = \frac{a}{D}$$

$$\theta_1 = \frac{3 \times 10^{-3} \times 10}{12} = 2.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ rad}$$

We know,  $a \sin \theta_1 = n\lambda$ ,  $n = 1$

$$a \sin \theta_1 = n\lambda$$

Since angle is very small so  $\sin \theta_1 \sim \theta$

$$a = \frac{\lambda}{\theta_1} = \frac{600 \times 10^{-9}}{2.5 \times 10^{-3}}$$

$$a = \frac{6}{2.5} \times 10^{-4} \text{ m} = 2.4 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m} = 0.24 \text{ mm}$$

$\therefore a = 0.24 \text{ mm}$

Question 33.

Write the distinguishing features between a diffraction pattern due to a single slit and the interference fringes produced in Young's double slit experiment?

Answer:

Difference between interference and diffraction of light

	Interference	Diffraction
1.	Interference is due to superposition of two distinct waves coming from two coherent sources.	Diffraction is due to superposition of the secondary wavelets coming from different parts of the same wavefront.
2.	Interference fringes may or may not be of the same width.	Diffraction fringes are not to be of the same width.
3.	The intensity of minima is generally zero.	The intensity of minima is never zero.
4.	All bright fringes are of uniform intensity.	All bright fringes are not of uniform intensity.



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- All bright fringes for diffraction are not of uniform intensity, while for interference, these are of uniform intensity

(ii) Waves from the distant source are diffracted by the edge of the circular obstacle and these diffracted waves interfere constructively at the centre of the obstacle's shadow producing a bright spot.

Question 35.

- (a) Write the conditions under which light sources can be said to be coherent.  
 (b) Why is it necessary to have coherent sources in order to produce an interference pattern? (Comptt. All India 2013)

Answer:

(a) Coherent sources of light. The sources of light, which emit continuously light waves of the same wavelength, same frequency and in same phase are called Coherent sources of light.  
 Interference pattern is not obtained. This is because phase difference between the light waves emitted from two different sodium lamps will change continuously.

(b) Conditions for interference. The important conditions for obtaining interference of light are :

1. The two sources of light must be coherent. i.e. they should exist continuous waves of same wavelength or frequency.
2. The two sources should be monochromatic.
3. The phase difference of waves from two sources should be constant.
4. The amplitude of waves from two sources should be equal.
5. The coherent sources must be very close to each other.

Question 36.

(i) Monochromatic light of frequency  $6.0 \times 10^{14}$  Hz is produced by a laser. The power emitted is  $2.0 \times 10^{-3}$  W. Estimate the number of photons emitted per second on an average by the source.

(ii) Draw a plot showing the variation of photoelectric current versus the intensity of incident radiation on a given photosensitive surface. (Delhi 2014)



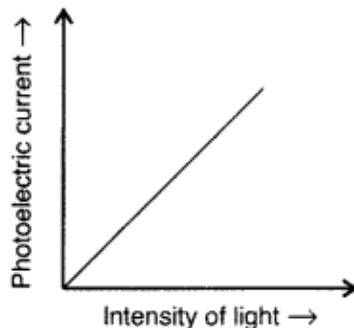
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**Energy of one photon**

$$n = \frac{2 \times 10^{-3}}{(6.6 \times 10^{-34}) \times (6.0 \times 10^{14})}$$

$$\therefore n = 5 \times 10^{15}$$

(ii)

**Question 37.**

For a single slit of width "a", the first minimum of the interference pattern of a monochromatic light of wavelength  $\lambda$  occurs at an angle of  $\frac{\lambda}{a}$ .

At the same angle of  $\frac{\lambda}{a}$ , we get a maximum for a two narrow slits separated by a distance "a". Explain (Delhi 2014)

**Answer:**

For a single slit of width 'a',

the  $n^{\text{th}}$  minimum,  $\sin \theta_n = \frac{n\lambda}{a}$

or  $\theta_n = \frac{n\lambda}{a}$  (when  $\theta$  is small)

$\theta = \frac{\lambda}{a}$  (when  $n = 1$  for the first minimum)

Now, the maximum of two narrow slits separated by a distance 'a'

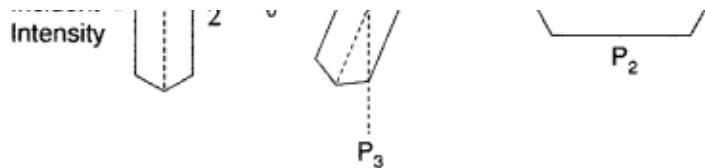
Path difference,  $(x) = \frac{\lambda D}{d}$

angle  $(\theta) = \frac{x}{D} = \frac{\lambda}{d}$  or  $\frac{\lambda}{a}$  ( $\because d = a$ )

This is why, at the same angle  $\frac{\lambda}{a}$ , we get a maximum for two narrow slits separated by a distance 'a'.



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Applying Malus' law between  $P_1$  and  $P_3$

$$I' = I_0 \cos^2 \theta$$

Between  $P_3$  and  $P_2$

$$I'' = (I_0 \cos^2 \theta) \cos^2(90 - \theta) = I_0 \cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \theta$$

$$= \frac{I_0}{4} (2 \sin \theta \cos \theta)^2$$

$$I'' = \frac{I_0}{4} \cdot \sin^2 2\theta$$

$$\therefore \sin^2 (2\theta) = 1 \quad \text{or} \quad 2\theta = \frac{\pi}{2} \quad \text{or} \quad \theta = \frac{\pi}{4}$$

$\therefore$  Transmitted intensity will be maximum

when  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{4}$ .

### Question 39.

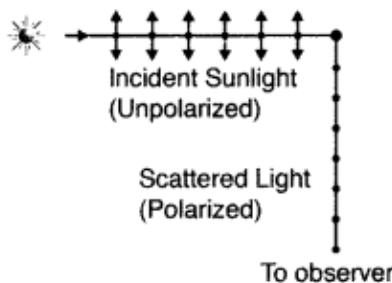
Distinguish between unpolarised and a linearly polarised light. Describe, with the help of a diagram, how unpolarised light gets linearly polarised by scattering. (Comptt. Delhi 2016)

Answer:

Unpolarized light : A light wave, in which the electric vector oscillates in all possible directions in a plane perpendicular to the direction of propagation is known as unpolarized light.

Linearly polarized light : If the oscillations of the electric vectors are restricted to just one direction, in a plane perpendicular to the direction of propagation, the corresponding light is known as linearly polarized light.

It is due to scattering of light by molecules of earth's atmosphere.



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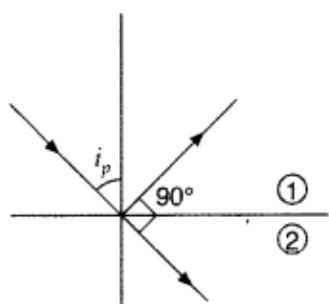
colours. Give reason. (Delhi 2016)

Answer:

(i) Brewster's law : When unpolarised light is incident on the surface separating two media, the reflected light gets (completely) polarized only when the reflected light and refracted light become perpendicular to each other.

The refractive index of denser medium, with respect to rarer medium, is given by

$$\mu = \tan i_p$$



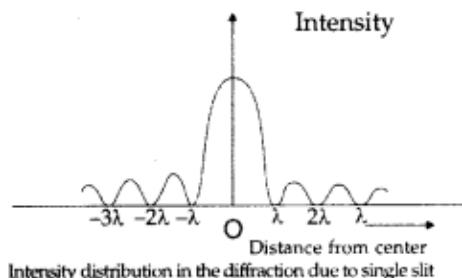
(ii) Since refractive index ( $\mu$ ) of a transparent medium is different for different colours, hence Brewster angle also is different for different colours.

Question 41.

Draw the intensity pattern for single slit diffraction and double slit interference. Hence, state two differences between interference and diffraction patterns. (All India 2017)

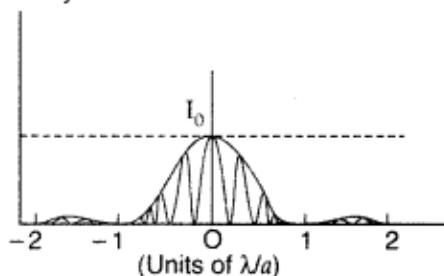
Answer:

(i) Intensity distribution in the diffraction due to single slit



(ii) Intensity pattern for double slit interference.

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Basic features of distinction between interference and diffraction patterns :

- The interference pattern has a number of equally spaced bright and dark bands while diffraction pattern has a central bright maximum which is twice as wide as the other maxima.
- Interference pattern is the superimposition of two waves slits originating from two narrow slits. The diffraction pattern is a superposition of a continuous family of waves originating from each point on a single slit.
- For a single slit of width 'a' the first null of diffraction pattern occurs at an angle of  $\frac{\lambda}{a}$ . At the same angle of  $\frac{\lambda}{a}$ , we get a maxima for two narrow slits separated by a distance 'a'.

**Question 42.**

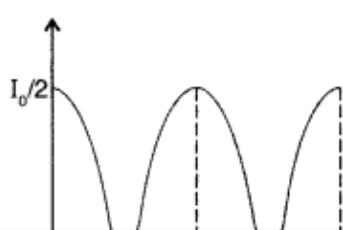
Unpolarised light is passed through a polaroid  $P_1$ . When this polarised beam passes through another polaroid  $P_2$  and if the pass axis of  $P_2$  makes angle  $\theta$  with the pass axis of  $P_1$ , then write the expression for the polarised beam passing through  $P_2$ . Draw a plot showing the variation of intensity when  $\theta$  varies from 0 to  $2\pi$ . (All India 2017)

**Answer:**

Intensity is  $\frac{I_0}{2} \cos^2 \theta$  (If  $I_0$  is the intensity of unpolarised light.)

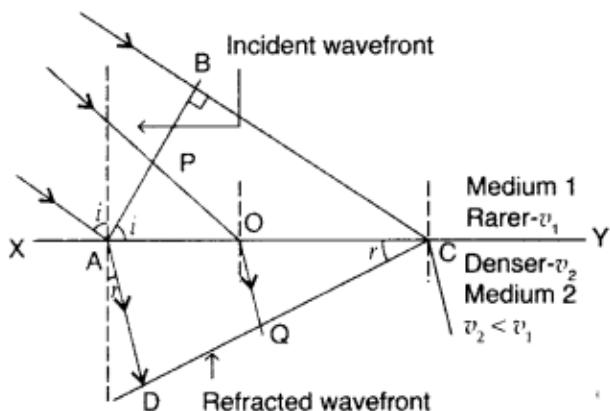
Intensity is  $I \cos^2 \theta$  (If  $I$  is the intensity of polarised light)

**Graph showing the intensity :**



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vibrating in the same phase at any instant.



(ii) We take a plane wavefront AB incident at a plane surface XY. We use secondary wavelets starting at different times. We get refracted wavefront only when the time taken by light to travel along different rays from one wavefront to another is same. We take any arbitrary ray starting from point 'P' on incident wavefront to refracted wavefront at point 'O'. Let total time be 't'.

$$\begin{aligned} t &= \frac{PO}{v_1} + \frac{OQ}{v_2} = \frac{AO \sin i}{v_1} + \frac{OC \sin r}{v_2} \\ &= \frac{AO \sin i}{v_1} + \frac{(AC - AO) \sin r}{v_2} \\ &= \frac{AC \sin r}{v_2} + AO \left( \frac{\sin i}{v_1} - \frac{\sin r}{v_2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

As time should be independent of the ray to be considered

The coefficient of AO in the above equation should be zero

$$i.e. \quad \frac{\sin i}{\sin r} = \frac{v_1}{v_2} = \mu_2$$

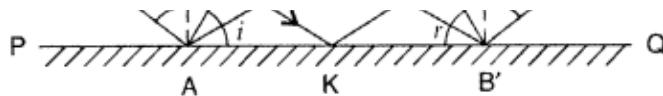
Where  $\mu_2$  is called refractive index of medium 2 w.r.t. medium 1. This is Snell's law of refraction.

Question 44.

How is a wavefront defined? Using Huygen's construction draw a figure showing the propagation of a plane wave reflecting at the interface of the two media. Show that the angle of incidence is equal to the angle of reflection. (Delhi 2008)



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We take any point Q on the incident wavefront. When disturbance from point B on the incident wavefront reaches point B', the disturbance from point Q reaches Q' via point K on the reflecting surface. Since B'A' represents the reflected wavefront, time by light to travel from any point on incident wavefront to the corresponding point on the reflected wavefront should always be same. Let total time be 't'

$$\begin{aligned} t &= \frac{QK}{v} + \frac{KQ'}{v} && \dots \text{where } [v = C] \\ \text{or } t &= \frac{QK}{C} + \frac{KQ'}{C} \\ \text{or } t &= \frac{AK}{C} \sin i + \frac{(AB' - AK) \sin r}{C} \\ \therefore t &= \frac{AB' \sin r}{C} + \frac{AK}{C} (\sin i - \sin r) \end{aligned}$$

As time of the ray to be considered should be independent, the coefficient of AK in the above equation should be zero.

That is,  $\sin i = \sin r$  or  $i = r$

Hence, angle of incidence is equal to angle of reflection.

Question 45.

Distinguish between unpolarised and plane polarised light. An unpolarised light is incident on the boundary between two transparent media. State the condition when the reflected wave is totally plane polarised. Find out the expression for the angle of incidence in this case. (All India 2008)

Answer:

(a) Unpolarised light: A beam of light in which electrical vector oscillates in all possible planes, in a direction normal to the direction of propagation of wave.

(b) Polarised light : A beam of light in which electrical vector oscillates in a direction normal to the direction of propagation of wave on a single plane only.

From Snell's law.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\sin i_p}{\sin r} &= \mu & \Rightarrow \frac{\sin i_p}{\sin(90^\circ - i_p)} &= \mu \\ \Rightarrow \frac{\sin i_p}{\cos i_p} &= \mu & \therefore \mu &= \tan i_p \end{aligned}$$



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spot at the centre of shadow.

	Young's double slit experiment	Single slit experiment
1.	Light originating from two coherent sources.	Light originating from single source.
2.	Fringes are of equal width.	Fringe width decreases with order.
3.	Intensity of all the bright fringes is the same.	Intensity falls with increasing order. The brightness of successive bright fringes goes on decreasing.

Question 47.

In Young's double slit experiment, monochromatic light of wavelength 630 nm illuminates the pair of slits and produces an interference pattern in which two consecutive bright fringes are separated by 8.1 mm. Another source of monochromatic light produces the interference pattern in which the two consecutive bright fringes are separated by 7.2 mm. Find the wavelength of light from the second source. What is the effect on the interference fringes if the monochromatic source is replaced by a source of white light? (All India)

Answer:

Position of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  bright fringe is given by  $\frac{n\lambda D}{d}$  from the central bright,

So the separation between two consecutive bright

fringes is  $\frac{\lambda D}{d}$

With  $\lambda_1 = 630 \text{ nm}$ , we have  $\frac{\lambda_1 D}{d} = 8.1 \text{ mm}$  ... (i)



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When the monochromatic light is replaced by a white light:

1. the central bright remains white and
2. all the other colours will form individual maxima with the least wavelength violet forming its bright close to the central bright.

Question 48.

(a) In a single slit diffraction experiment, a slit of width 'd' is illuminated by red light of wavelength 650 nm.

For what value of 'd' will

(i) the first minimum fall at an angle of diffraction of  $30^\circ$ , and

(ii) the first maximum fall at an angle of diffraction of  $30^\circ$ ?

(b) Why does the intensity of the secondary maximum become less as compared to the central maximum?

(All India 2009)

Answer:

(a) (i) I minimum at  $30^\circ$  satisfies the condition,

$$d \sin \theta = \lambda$$

$$d = \frac{\lambda}{\sin 30^\circ} = 2 \times \lambda = 1300 \text{ nm}$$

(ii) I maxima at  $30^\circ$  satisfies the condition,

$$d \sin \theta = \frac{3\lambda}{2}$$

$$\therefore d = 3 \times \frac{\lambda}{2 \sin 30^\circ} \Rightarrow 3\lambda = 2d \sin 30^\circ$$

$$\Rightarrow 3 \times 650 = 2d \sin 30^\circ$$

$$\Rightarrow 2d \times \frac{1}{2} = 1950$$

$$\therefore d = 1950 \times 10^{-9} \text{ nm}$$

(b) As the order increases only  $1/n^{\text{th}}$  (where n is an odd number) of the slit, will contribute in producing brightness at a point in diffraction. So the higher order maxima are not so bright as the central.

Question 49.

In Young's double slit experiment, mono-chromatic light of wavelength 600 nm illuminates the pair of slits

and produces an interference pattern in which two consecutive bright fringes are separated by 10 mm.

Another source of monochromatic light produces the interference pattern in which the two consecutive



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**Effect:** When the monochromatic light is replaced by a white light:

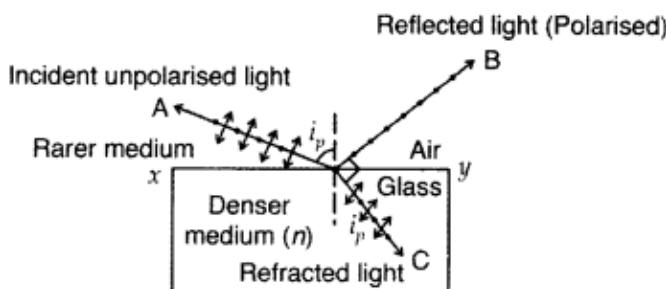
- (i) the central bright remains white and
- (ii) all the other colours will form individual maxima with the least wavelength violet forming its bright close to the central bright.

**Question 50.**

What is an unpolarized light? Explain with the help of suitable ray diagram how an unpolarized light can be polarized by reflection from a transparent medium. Write the expression for Brewster angle in terms of the refractive index of denser medium. (Delhi 2009)

**Answer:**

**Unpolarized light:** A light which has vibrations in all directions in a plane perpendicular to the direction of propagation is said to be unpolarized light.



When unpolarised light is incident on the boundary of two transparent media, the reflected light is polarised with electric vector perpendicular to the plane of incidence when the refracted and reflected rays make a right angle with each other.

Relation between Brewster angle  $i$  and refractive index ( $\mu$ ) is :

$$\mu = \tan i_p$$

**Question 51.**

In Young's double slit experiment, the two slits 0.15 mm apart are illuminated by monochromatic light of wavelength 450 nm. The screen is 1.0 m away from the slits.

- (a) Find the distance of the second
- (i) bright fringe,
  - (ii) dark fringe from the central maximum.



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$$\therefore x_2 = \frac{0.15 \times 10^{-3}}{2 \times 3 \times 10^{-3}} = 6 \text{ mm}$$

(ii) Distance of the second dark fringe,

$$x_2 = \frac{3\lambda D}{2d} = \frac{3 \times 450 \times 10^{-9} \times 1.0}{2 \times 0.15 \times 10^{-3}} = 4.5 \text{ mm}$$

(b) Linear width of a fringe,  $\beta = \frac{\lambda D}{d}$

Angular width of a fringe,  $\Delta Q = \frac{\lambda}{d}$

$\therefore$  With increase in the value of D linear width will increase, while the angular width will remain the same.

Question 52.

(a) How does an unpolarised light get polarised when passed through a polaroid?

(b) Two polaroids are set in crossed positions. A third polaroid is placed between the two making an angle  $\theta$  with the pass axis of the first polaroid. Write the expression for the intensity of light transmitted from the second polaroid. In what orientations will the transmitted intensity by

(i) minimum and

(ii) maximum? (All India 2009)

Answer:

(a) In a polaroid a long chain of molecules is aligned in a particular direction. The electric vectors (of light waves) along the direction of aligned molecules gets absorbed.

An unpolarised light wave incident on such a polaroid gets linearly polarised with the electric vector oscillating along a direction perpendicular to the aligned molecules. This direction is called pass-axis of the polaroid.

(b) Not in syllabus.

Question 53.

In Young's double slit experiment, the two slits 0.12 mm apart are illuminated by monochromatic light of wavelength 420 nm. The screen is 1.0 m away from the slits.

(a) Find the distance of the second



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$$= \frac{2 \times 420 \times 10^{-9} \times 1.0}{12 \times 10^{-5}}$$

$$= 70 \times 10^{-4} = 7 \text{ mm}$$

(ii) Distance of the second dark fringe,

$$x_2 = \frac{3\lambda D}{2d} \quad \dots [ \because x_n = (2n-1) \frac{\lambda D}{2d} ]$$

$$= \frac{3 \times 420 \times 10^{-9} \times 1.0}{2 \times 12 \times 10^{-5}}$$

$$= 52.5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m} = 5.25 \text{ mm}$$

(b) Linear width of a fringe,  $\beta = \frac{\lambda D}{d}$

Angular width of a fringe,  $\Delta Q = \frac{\lambda}{d}$

$\therefore$  With increase in the value of D linear width will increase, while the angular width will remain the same.

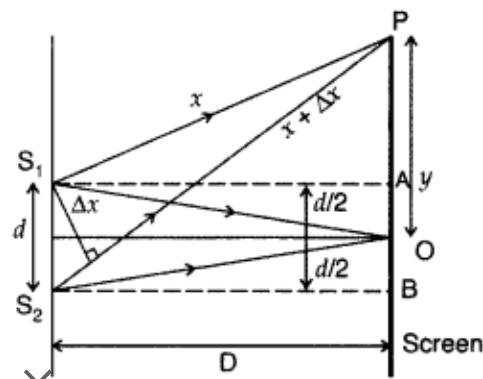
Question 54.

Describe Young's double slit experiment to produce interference pattern due to a monochromatic source of light. Deduce the expression for the fringe width. (Delhi 2011)

Answer:

Consider two coherent sources  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  separated by a distance  $d$ . Let  $D$  be the distance between the screen and the plane of slits  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ .

Light waves emitted from  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  reach point O on the screen after travelling equal distances. So path difference and hence phase difference between these waves is zero. Therefore, they meet at O in phase and hence constructive interference



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$$\Rightarrow S_2P = D \left[ 1 + \frac{y^2 + d^2/4}{2D^2} \right]$$

$$\therefore S_2P = D + \frac{(y + d/2)^2}{2D} \quad \dots(ii)$$

Similarly from right angled  $\Delta S_1AP$ ,

$$S_1P = D + \frac{(y - d/2)^2}{2D} \quad \dots(iii)$$

Substituting these values in (i), we get

$$\Delta x = D + \frac{(y + d/2)^2}{2D} - D - \frac{(y - d/2)^2}{2D}$$

$$= \frac{(y^2 + d^2/4 + yd) - (y^2 + d^2/4 - yd)}{2D} = \frac{2yd}{2D} = \frac{yd}{D} \quad \dots(iv)$$

For constructive interference/maxima:

If path difference is an integral multiple of  $\lambda$ , then bright fringe will be formed at P

$$i.e., \frac{yd}{D} = m\lambda \quad \text{or} \quad y = \frac{m\lambda D}{d} \quad \dots(v)$$

...where  $[m = 1, 2, 3 \dots]$

which is the position of m<sup>th</sup> bright fringe from the central bright fringe.

Fringe width ( $\beta$ ) : The distance between any two successive bright fringes (or successive fringes) is called fringe width.

$$\beta = y_2 - y_1 = \frac{2\lambda D}{d} - \frac{\lambda D}{d} = \frac{\lambda D}{d}$$

Destructive interference/Minima: If path difference is odd multiple of  $\lambda/2$ , then dark fringe is formed at P

$$i.e., \frac{yd}{D} = \left( m + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$\therefore y = \frac{\left( m + \frac{1}{2} \right) \lambda D}{d} \quad \dots\text{where } [m = 1, 2, 3 \dots]$$

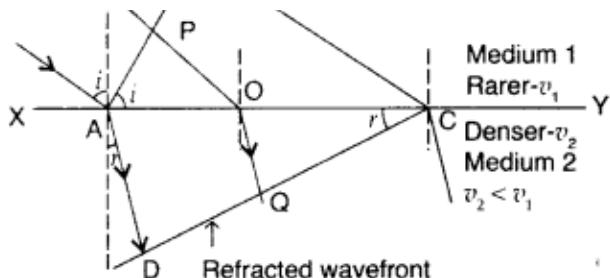
Which is position of m<sup>th</sup> dark fringe from the central bright fringe.

$$\beta(\text{fringe width}) = y_1 - y_0$$

$$= \frac{3\lambda D}{2d} - \frac{\lambda D}{2d} = \frac{2\lambda D}{2d} = \frac{\lambda D}{d}$$



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(ii) We take a plane wavefront AB incident at a plane surface XY. We use secondary wavelets starting at different times. We get refracted wavefront only when the time taken by light to travel along different rays from one wavefront to another is same. We take any arbitrary ray starting from point 'P' on incident wavefront to refracted wavefront at point 'O'. Let total time be 't'.

$$\begin{aligned} t &= \frac{PO}{v_1} + \frac{OQ}{v_2} = \frac{AO \sin i}{v_1} + \frac{OC \sin r}{v_2} \\ &= \frac{AO \sin i}{v_1} + \frac{(AC - AO) \sin r}{v_2} \\ &= \frac{AC \sin r}{v_2} + AO \left( \frac{\sin i}{v_1} - \frac{\sin r}{v_2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

As time should be independent of the ray to be considered

The coefficient of AO in the above equation should be zero

$$i.e. \quad \frac{\sin i}{\sin r} = \frac{v_1}{v_2} = \mu_2$$

Where ' $\mu_2$ ' is called refractive index of medium 2 w.r.t. medium 1. This is Snell's law of refraction.

Question 56.

(a) Describe briefly, with the help of suitable diagram, how the transverse nature of light can be demonstrated by the phenomenon of polarization.

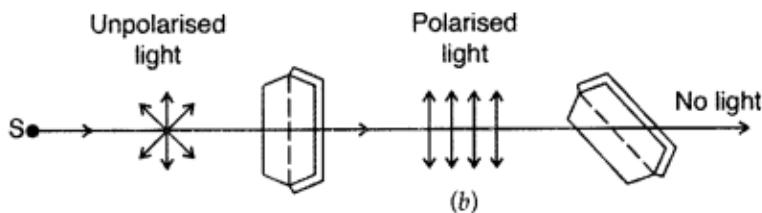
(b) When unpolarized light passes from air to a transparent medium, under what condition does the reflected light get polarized? (Delhi 2011)

Answer:

(a) Light from a source S is allowed to fall normally on the flat surface of a thin plate of a tourmaline crystal, cut parallel to its axis. Only a part of this light is transmitted through A. If now the plate A is rotated, the character of transmitted light remains unchanged. Now another similar plate B is placed at some distance



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If now the crystal A is kept fixed and B is gradually rotated in its own plane, the intensity of light emerging out of B decreases and becomes zero when the axis of B is perpendicular to that of A. If B is further rotated, the intensity begins to increase and becomes maximum when the axes of A and B are again parallel.

Thus, we see that the intensity of light transmitted through B is maximum when axes of A and B are parallel and minimum when they are at right angles.

From this experiment, it is obvious that light waves are transverse and not longitudinal; because, if they were longitudinal, the rotation of crystal B would not produce any change in the intensity of light.

(b) After falling on a transparent medium, unpolarised light will get polarised after reflection only if refracted and reflected rays make a right angle to each other.

Question 57.

(a) Why are coherent sources necessary to produce a sustained interference pattern?

(b) In Young's double slit experiment using monochromatic light of wavelength  $\lambda$ , the intensity of light at a point on the screen where path difference is  $A$ , is  $K$  units. Find out the intensity of light at a point where path difference is  $\lambda/3$ . (Delhi 2011)

Answer:

(a) Need of coherent sources for the production of interference pattern. When two monochromatic waves of intensity  $I_1$   $I_2$  and phase difference  $\phi$  meet at a point, the resultant intensity is given

$$\text{by } I = I_1 + I_2 + 2\sqrt{I_1 I_2} \cos \phi$$

The last term  $2\sqrt{I_1 I_2} \cos \phi$  is called interference term.

There are two possibilities :

(i) If  $\cos \phi$  remains constant with time, the total intensity at any point will be constant. The intensity will be



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$$(b) I = I_1 + I_2 + 2\sqrt{I_1 I_2} \cos \phi$$

Let  $I_0$  be the intensity of either source, then

$$I_1 = I_2 = I_0 \quad \text{and}$$

$$I = 2I_0 (1 + \cos \phi) = 4I_0 \cos^2 \frac{\phi}{2}$$

When  $p = \lambda$ ,  $\phi = 2\pi$

$$\therefore I = 4I_0 \cos^2 \frac{\phi}{2} = 4I_0 \cos^2 \pi = 4I_0 = K$$

When  $p = \frac{\lambda}{3}$ ,  $\phi = \frac{2\pi}{3}$

$$\therefore I = 4I_0 \cos^2 \frac{\pi}{3} = 4I_0 \times \frac{1}{4} = I_0 = \frac{K}{4}$$

Question 58.

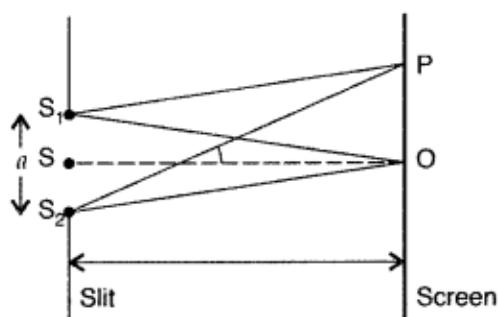
Use Huygens's principle to explain the formation of diffraction pattern due to a single slit illuminated by a monochromatic source of light. When the width of the slit is made double the original width, how would this affect the size and intensity of the central diffraction band?

(Delhi 2011)

Answer:

(a) According to Huygen's principle "The net effect at any point due to a number of wavelets is equal to sum total of contribution of all wavelets with proper phase difference."

The point O is maxima because contribution from each half of the slit  $S_1 S_2$  is in phase, i.e., the path difference is zero.



At point P

(i) If  $S_2 P - S_1 P = n\lambda$   $\Rightarrow$  the point P would be minima.

(ii) If  $S_2 P - S_1 P = (2n + 1)\frac{\lambda}{2}$   $\Rightarrow$  the point would be maxima but with decreasing intensity.



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When widths of slits are doubled, contrast between maxima and minima decreases due to the overlapping of interference patterns formed by various narrow pairs of the two slits.

$\therefore$  Size of central maxima will be reduced to half and intensity of central maxima will be four times.

Question 59.

- (a) Why are coherent sources necessary to produce a sustained interference pattern?
- (b) In Young's double slit experiment using monochromatic light of wavelength  $\lambda$ , the intensity of light at a point on the screen where path difference is  $\lambda$ , is  $K$  units. Find out the intensity of light at a point where path difference is  $\lambda/3$ . (Delhi 2011)

Answer:

(a) Coherent sources are needed to ensure that the positions of maxima and minima do not change with time. These have a constant phase difference and, therefore produce sustained interference pattern.

$$(b) \text{Intensity, } I = 4I_0 \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2}$$

For path difference  $\lambda$ , phase difference,

$$\phi = 2\pi$$

$$\text{Hence, } K = 4I_0 \cos^2 \pi = 4 I_0 = K \quad \dots \text{given}$$

For path differen  $\frac{\lambda}{3}$ , Phase difference

$$\phi_t = \frac{2\pi}{3} \Delta = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \times \frac{\lambda}{3} = \frac{2\pi}{3}$$

$$\text{Intensity, } I' = 4I_0 \cos^2 \frac{\pi}{3} = 4I_0 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = I_0$$

$$\therefore I' = \frac{K}{4}$$

Question 60.

Explain briefly, giving a suitable diagram, how an unpolarised light incident on the interface separating two transparent media gets polarised on reflection. Deduce the necessary condition for it. (Comptt. Delhi 2011)

Answer:

Unpolarized light: A light which has vibrations in all directions in a plane perpendicular to the direction of propagation is said to be unpolarized light.



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When unpolarised light is incident on the boundary of two transparent media, the reflected light is polarised with electric vector perpendicular to the plane of incidence when the refracted and reflected rays make a right angle with each other.

Relation between Brewster angle  $i$  and refractive index ( $\mu$ ) is :

$$\mu = \tan i_p$$

Question 61.

- (a) In what way is diffraction from each slit related to the interference pattern in a double slit experiment?
- (b) Two wavelengths of sodium light 590 nm and 596 nm are used, in turn, to study the diffraction taking place at a single slit of aperture  $2 \times 10^{-4}$  m. The distance between the slit and the screen is 1.5 m. Calculate the separation between the positions of the first maxima of the diffraction pattern obtained in the two cases. (Delhi 2011)

Answer:

- (a) When there are only a few sources, say two interfering sources, then the result is usually called interference, but if there is a large number of them, it seems that the word diffraction is more often used. In the double slit experiment, we must note that the pattern on the screen is actually a superposition of single slit diffraction from each slit and double slit interference pattern. As a result, there appears a broader diffraction peak in which there occur several fringes of smaller widths due to double slit interference.

**(b) Distance of first secondary maximum from**

$$\text{centre of the screen, } x_1 = \frac{3}{2} \frac{D\lambda}{a}$$

∴ Spacing between first secondary maxima on the screen for two given wavelengths,

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta x &= \frac{3D}{2a} (\lambda_2 - \lambda_1) \\ &= \frac{3 \times 15}{2 \times 2 \times 10^{-4}} (596 - 590) \times 10^{-9} \\ &= \frac{4.5 \times 6 \times 10^{-5}}{4} = 6.75 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}\end{aligned}$$

Question 62.

- (a) Write two characteristic features distinguishing the diffraction pattern from the interference fringes



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1. Width of principal maxima is twice the width of other fringes.

2. Intensity goes on decreasing as order of the diffraction bands increases.

1. Width of all fringes are the same.

2. All fringes are of same intensity.

(b) Distance of 1<sup>st</sup> secondary maximum from central maxima

$$x = \frac{3}{2} \frac{D\lambda}{a}$$

Therefore spacing between 1<sup>st</sup> secondary maxima on the screen for two wavelengths

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta x &= \frac{3D}{2a} (\lambda_1 - \lambda_2) \\ &= \frac{3 \times 1.8}{2 \times 10^{-4}} (596 - 590) \propto 10^{-9} \\ &= 16.2 \propto 10^{-5} = 0.16 \text{ mm}\end{aligned}$$

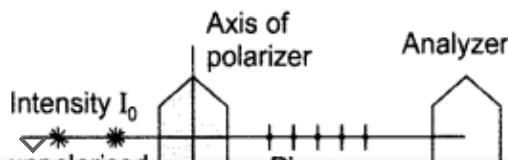
Question 63.

(a) What is linearly polarized light ? Describe briefly using a diagram how sunlight is polarised.

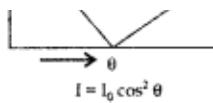
(b) Unpolarised light is incident on a polaroid. How would the intensity of transmitted light change when the polaroid is rotated? (All India 2011)

Answer:

(a) Linearly polarised light : Linearly or plane polarised light is that light in which vibrations of electric field vector are taking place only in one particular plane perpendicular to the direction of propagation of light wave. Sun-light is unpolarised light having electric field vector oscillating in all planes, when it passes through a polariser which can be a nicol prism or tourmaline crystal, only those vibrations of light pass through crystal which are parallel to axis of polarizer and hence we get a plane polarised light having vibrations in one plane. Plane polarized light can be observed by using analyzer.



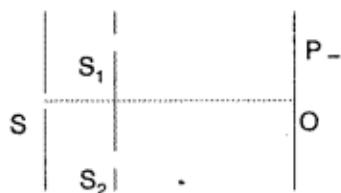
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**Question 64.**

In a modified set-up of Young's double slit experiment, it is given that  $SS_2 - SS_1 = \lambda/4$ , i.e. the source 'S' is not equidistant from the slits  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ .

(a) Obtain the conditions for constructive and destructive interference at any point P on the screen in terms of the path difference  $\delta = S_2P - S_1P$ .



(b) Does the observed central bright fringe lie above or below 'O'? Give reason to support your answer P<sub>3</sub> (Comptt. All India 2011)

Answer:

(a) Conditions for interference

$$(i) S_2P - S_1P = n\left(\lambda + \frac{\lambda}{4}\right) \\ = \frac{5n\lambda}{4} \text{ (constructive)}$$

$$(ii) S_2P - S_1P = (2n + 1) \frac{\lambda}{2} + \frac{\lambda}{4} \\ = \frac{2n\lambda}{2} + \frac{\lambda}{2} + \frac{\lambda}{4} = \left(n\lambda + \frac{3\lambda}{4}\right) \\ = \left(\frac{4n + 3}{4}\right)\lambda \text{ (destructive)}$$

(b) Central fringe will be **above** 'O',

$$\text{since } SS_2 = SS_1 + \frac{\lambda}{4}$$

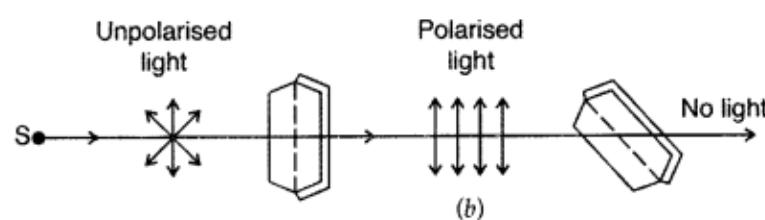
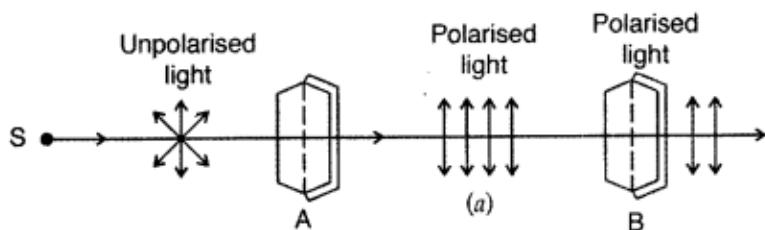
**Question 65.**

(a) Using the phenomenon of polarisation, show how transverse nature of light can be demonstrated?

(b) Two polaroids  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  are placed with their axes axes perpendicular to each other. If unpolarised light of



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If now the crystal A is kept fixed and B is gradually rotated in its own plane, the intensity of light emerging out of B decreases and becomes zero when the axis of B is perpendicular to that of A. If B is further rotated, the intensity begins to increase and becomes maximum when the axes of A and B are again parallel.

Thus, we see that the intensity of light transmitted through B is maximum when axes of A and B are parallel and minimum when they are at right angles.

From this experiment, it is obvious that light waves are transverse and not longitudinal; because, if they were longitudinal, the rotation of crystal B would not produce any change in the intensity of light.



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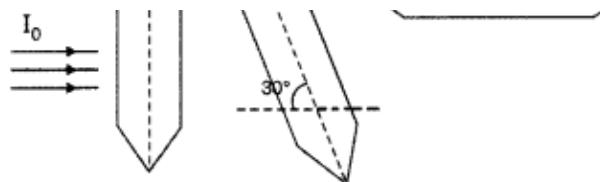
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$$(ii) I_3 = I_1 \cos^2 30^\circ \quad \left[ \cos 30^\circ = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \right]$$

$$= I_1 \times \frac{3}{4} = \left( \frac{I_0}{2} \right) \times \left( \frac{3}{4} \right) = \frac{3}{8} I_0$$

$$(iii) I_2 = I_3 \cos^2 60^\circ \quad \left[ \cos 60^\circ = \frac{1}{2} \right]$$

$$= \left( \frac{3}{8} I_0 \right) \times \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{32} I_0 [ \theta = 90^\circ - 30^\circ = 60^\circ ]$$

Question 66.

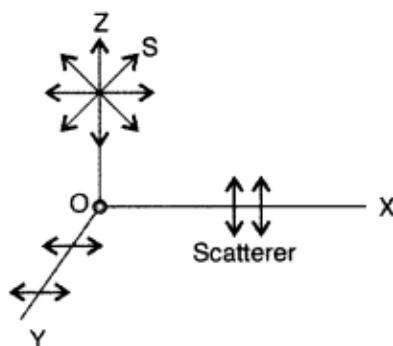
(a) Show, with the help of a diagram, how unpolarised sunlight gets polarised due to scattering.

(b) Two polaroids  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  are placed with their pass axes perpendicular to each other.

Unpolarised light of intensity  $I_0$  is incident on  $P_1$ . A third polaroid  $P_3$  is kept in between  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  such that its pass axis makes an angle of  $45^\circ$  with that of  $P_1$ . Determine the intensity of light transmitted through  $P_1$ ,  $P_2$  and  $P_3$ . (All India 2011)

Answer:

(a) Polarisation by scattering. When a beam of white light is passed through a medium, then the beam gets scattered. When the scattered light is seen in a direction perpendicular to the direction of incidence, it is found to be plane polarised. This phenomenon is called polarisation by scattering



A beam of unpolarised light is incident along Z-axis on a particle. When it is taken along X-axis or Y-axis, then only the vibrations which are parallel to Y-axis or



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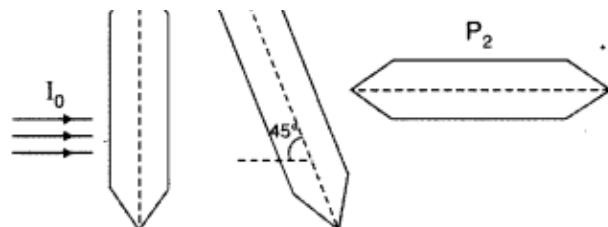
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$$(ii) I_3 = I_1 \cos^2 45^\circ \quad \left[ \cos 45^\circ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right]$$

$$= I_1 \times \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right)^2 = I_1 \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{I_0}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4} I_0$$

$$(iii) I_2 = I_3 \cos^2 45^\circ = I_3 \times \frac{1}{2} \quad [\theta = 90^\circ - 45^\circ = 45^\circ]$$

$$= \frac{I_0}{4} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{8} I_0$$

Question 67.

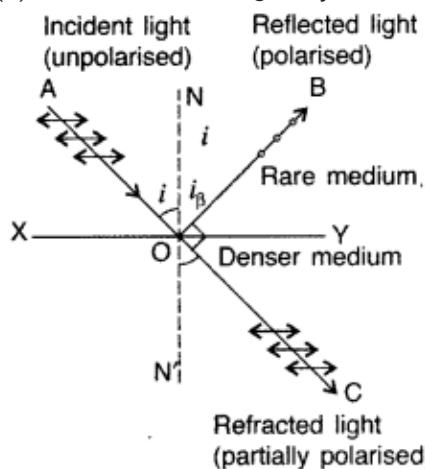
(a) Show, giving a suitable diagram, how unpolarised light can be polarised by reflection.

(b) Two polaroids  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  are placed with their pass axes perpendicular to each other.

Unpolarised light of intensity  $I_0$  is incident on  $P_1$ . A third polaroid  $P_3$  is kept in between  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  such that its pass axis makes an angle of  $60^\circ$  with that of  $P_1$ . Determine the intensity of light transmitted through  $P_1$ ,  $P_2$  and  $P_3$ . (All India 2011)

Answer:

(a) Polarisation of light by reflection. The simplest method to produce plane polarised light is by reflection.



When unpolarised light is reflected from a surface, the reflected light may be completely polarised, partially



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$$(i) I_1 = \frac{I_0}{2}$$

$$(ii) I_3 = I_1 \cos^2 60^\circ$$

$$= I_1 \times \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{4} I_1 = \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{I_0}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{8} I_0$$

$\left(\cos 60^\circ = \frac{1}{2}\right)$

$$(iii) I_2 = I_3 \cos^2 \theta = I_3 \cos^2 30^\circ = I_3 \times \frac{3}{4} = \frac{1}{8} \times \frac{3}{4} I_0$$

$$(\theta = 90^\circ - 60^\circ = 30^\circ)$$

$$= \frac{3}{32} I_0 \quad \cos 30^\circ = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

Question 68.

A parallel beam of monochromatic light falls normally on a narrow slit of width 'a' to produce a diffraction pattern on the screen placed parallel to the plane of the slit. Use Huygens' principle to explain that

(i) the central bright maxima is twice as wide as the other maxima.

(ii) the intensity falls as we move to successive maxima away from the centre on either side.

(Comptt. Delhi 2011)

Answer:

(i) In diffraction pattern, intensity will be minimum at an angle  $\theta = n\lambda/a$

$\therefore$  There will be a first minimum at an angle

$\theta = \lambda/a$ , on either side of central maximum

$\therefore$  Width of central maxima =  $2\lambda/a$

$\therefore$  The central bright maxima is twice as wide as the other maxima.

(ii) The intensity of maxima decreases as the order (n) or diffraction maxima increases. This is because, on dividing the slit into odd number of parts, the contributions of the corresponding (outermost) pairs cancel each other, leaving behind the contribution of only the innermost segment.

For example, for first maximum, dividing slit into three parts out of these three parts of the slit, the



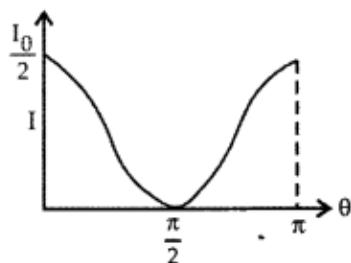
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$I_1$ ,  $I_2$  and  $I_3$  represent the intensities of light transmitted by  $P_1$ ,  $P_2$  and  $P_3$ , determine the values of angle  $\theta$  and  $\beta$  for which  $I_1 = I_2 = I_3$ . (Comptt. All India 2011)

Answer:

**(a) Plotting a graph**



**(b) Using  $I_1 = I_0 \cos^2 \theta$ , we have**

$$I_1 = \text{Light transmitted by } P_1$$

$$I_3 = \text{Light transmitted by } P_3 = I_1 \cos^2 \beta$$

$$I_2 = \text{Light transmitted by } P_2 = I_3 \cos^2(\theta - \beta)$$

$$\text{Given : } I_1 = I_2 = I_3$$

$$\therefore I_2 = I_3$$

$$I_1 \cos^2 \beta \cdot \cos^2(\theta - \beta) = I_1 \cos^2 \beta \quad [\because \theta = \beta]$$

$$\text{Also } I_1 = I_2$$

$$\therefore I_1 = I_1 \cos^2 \beta \cdot \cos^2(\theta - \beta)$$

$$\text{or } \cos^2 \theta = 1 \quad \therefore \theta = 0^\circ \text{ or } \pi$$

$$\therefore \beta = 0^\circ \text{ or } \pi$$

Question 70.

(a) Two monochromatic waves emanating from two coherent sources have the displacements represented by

$y_1 = a \cos \omega t$  and  $y_2 = a \cos (\omega t + \phi)$ , where  $\phi$  is the phase difference between the two displacements.

Show that the resultant intensity at a point due to their superposition is given by  $I = 4I_0 \cos^2 \phi/2$ , where  $I_0 = a_2$ .

(b) Hence obtain the conditions for constructive and destructive interference. (Comptt. All India 2011)

Answer:

(a) (i) Two independent monochromatic

sources of light cannot produce a sustained interference pattern. The phase difference between these two



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$$\text{and hence intensity } (I) = 4a^2 \cos^2 \left( \frac{\phi}{2} \right)$$

$$= 4I_0 \cos^2 \left( \frac{\phi}{2} \right)$$

(b) (i) For constructive interference :

$$\cos \left( \frac{\phi}{2} \right) = \pm 1 \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{\phi}{2} = n\pi$$

or  $\phi = 2n\pi$

(ii) For destructive interference:

$$\cos \left( \frac{\phi}{2} \right) = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{\phi}{2} = (2n + 1) \frac{\pi}{2}$$

or  $\phi = 2(n + 1)\pi$

Question 71.

Answer the following questions:

(i) In a double slit experiment using light of wavelength 600 nm, the angular width of the fringe formed on a distant screen is  $0.1^\circ$ . Find the spacing between the two slits.

(ii) Light of wavelength 5000 Å propagating in air gets partly reflected from the surface of water. How will the wavelengths and frequencies of the reflected and refracted light be affected? (Delhi 2015)

Answer:

(i) Given,  $\lambda = 600 \text{ nm} = 600 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$ ,

$$\theta = 0.1^\circ = 0.1 \frac{\pi}{180}$$

Angular width of fringes is given by,  $\theta = \frac{\lambda}{d}$

[where,  $d$  = separation between two slits]

$$\therefore d = \frac{\lambda}{\theta} = \frac{600 \times 10^{-9} \times 180}{0.1 \times \pi} \text{ m} = 3.43 \times 10^{-4}$$

**= 0.34 mm**

(ii) For reflected light : Wavelength remains same and frequency remains the same.

For refracted light : Wavelength decreases, but frequency remains the same.

Question 72.



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$$\omega_1 = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$I_1$  remains unchanged on rotating  $P_j$ ; while, according to Malus' law,

$$I_2 = I_1 \cos^2 \theta = \left(\frac{I_0}{2}\right) \cos^2 \theta$$

when  $P_1$  is rotated.

(ii) Relation between  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  :  $I_2 = I_1 \cos^2 \theta$

$$\text{or } \frac{I_2}{I_1} = \cos^2 \theta$$

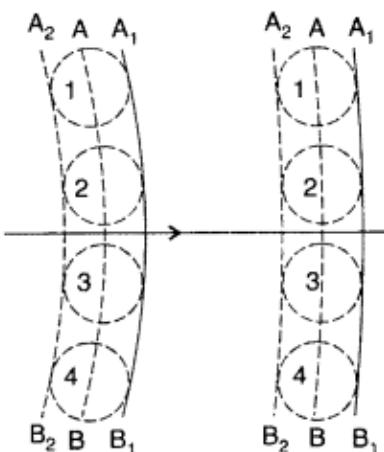
Question 73.

Use Huygens' principle to show how a plane wavefront propagates from a denser to rarer medium. Hence verify Snell's law of refraction. (All India 2015)

Answer:

Huygens' geometrical construction for a plane wave propagation. Let AB be a section of primary wavefront at any instant t. Take points 1, 2, 3, 4, ... on the wavefront AB. Taking each point as centre, draw spheres of radius  $r = ct$ , where c is the velocity of light in the medium.

Draw a surface  $A_1B_1$  touching tangentially at the secondary wavelets in the forward direction. The surface  $A_1B_1$  is the secondary wavefront after time t.

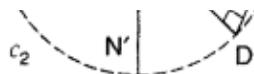


*Huygens' geometrical construction  
for a plane wave*

A surface  $A_2B_2$  touching tangentially all the secondary wavelets in the backward direction can be drawn to



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Let AB be a plane wavefront moving through the surface XY meeting at the point B.

The time taken 't' of A to reach at A'B then

$$AA' = c_1 t \Rightarrow t = \frac{AA'}{c_1}$$

By *Huygen's principle*, the secondary wavelet starts from B and covers a distance

$$BD = c_2 t \Rightarrow BD = c_2 \cdot \frac{AA'}{c_1} = AA' \cdot \frac{c_2}{c_1} \dots (i)$$

To obtain new front, draw a circle with point B as centre and BD as radius in 2nd medium. Draw a tangent A'D from point A'. Then A'D represents the refracted wavefront.

Since PB be incident ray and BD be refracted ray

$\therefore$  Incident angle,  $\angle i = \angle PBN = \angle ABA'$   
and refracted angle,  $\angle r = \angle N'BD = \angle BA'D$

In rt  $\Delta BAA'$ ,  $\sin i = \frac{AA'}{BA}$  and in rt  $\Delta BDA'$ ,

$$\sin r = \frac{BD}{BA'}$$

$$\therefore \frac{\sin i}{\sin r} = \frac{AA'}{BA'} / \frac{BD}{BA'} = \frac{AA'}{BA'} \times \frac{BA'}{BD} = \frac{AA'}{BD}$$

$$\frac{\sin i}{\sin r} = \frac{AA'}{AA' \cdot \frac{c_2}{c_1}} = \frac{c_1}{c_2} = n \text{ (constant)} \dots [From (i)]$$

This constant V is called the refractive index of material which proves Snell's law of refraction.

Question 74.

Explain by drawing a suitable diagram that the interference pattern in a double slit is actually a superposition of single slit diffraction from each slit.

Write two basic features which distinguish the interference pattern from those seen in a coherently illuminated single slit. (Comptt. Delhi 2015)

Answer:

Interference pattern and Diffraction pattern :

The diagram, given here, shows several fringes, due to double slit interference, 'contained' in a broad diffraction peak. When the separation between the slits is large compared to their width, the diffraction



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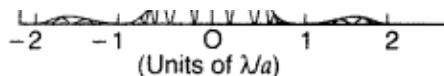
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Basic features of distinction between interference and diffraction patterns :

- (i) The interference pattern has a number of equally spaced bright and dark bands while diffraction pattern has a central bright maximum which is twice as wide as the other maxima.
- (ii) Interference pattern is the superimposition of two waves slits originating from two narrow slits. The diffraction pattern is a superposition of a continuous family of waves originating from each point on a single slit.
- (iii) For a single slit of width 'a' the first null of diffraction pattern occurs at an angle of  $\frac{\lambda}{a}$ . At the same angle of  $\frac{\lambda}{a}$ , we get a maxima for two narrow slits separated by a distance 'a'.

Question 75.

- (a) The ratio of the widths of two slits in Young's double slit experiment is 4 : 1. Evaluate the ratio of intensities at maxima and minima in the interference pattern.
- (b) Does the appearance of bright and dark fringes in the interference pattern violate, in any way, conservation of energy? (Comptt. All India 2015)

Answer:

$$(a) \text{ Given : } \frac{w_1}{w_2} = \frac{4}{1}$$

$$\frac{w_1}{w_2} = \frac{a_1^2}{a_2^2} = \frac{4}{1} \quad \therefore \frac{a_1}{a_2} = \frac{2}{1} = 2$$

$$\text{We know, } \frac{I_{\max}}{I_{\min}} = \frac{(I_1 + I_2)}{(I_1 - I_2)} = \left( \frac{a_1 + a_2}{a_1 - a_2} \right)^2$$

Dividing both numerator and denominator by  $a_2$ , we get

$$\left( \frac{\frac{a_1}{a_2} + 1}{\frac{a_1}{a_2} - 1} \right)^2 = \left( \frac{2+1}{2-1} \right)^2 = \frac{9}{1} \quad \therefore \frac{I_{\max}}{I_{\min}} = \frac{9}{1}$$

- (b) The appearance of bright and dark fringes in the interference pattern does not violate the principle of conservation of energy, because the light energy is distributed. If it reduces in one region, producing a dark fringe, it increases in another region, producing a bright fringe. There is no gain or loss of energy.



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they protect the eyes from the glare.

(b)

Let the rotating Polaroid sheet make an angle  $\theta$  with the first polaroid.

$\therefore$  angle with the other polaroid will be  $(90^\circ - \theta)$



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 $P_3$ Applying Malus' law between  $P_1$  and  $P_3$ 

$$I' = I_0 \cos^2 \theta$$

Between  $P_3$  and  $P_2$ 

$$I'' = (I_0 \cos^2 \theta) \cos^2(90^\circ - \theta) = I_0 \cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \theta$$

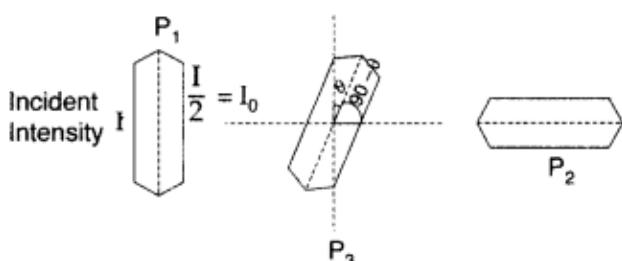
$$= \frac{I_0}{4} (2 \sin \theta \cos \theta)^2$$

$$I'' = \frac{I_0}{4} \cdot \sin^2 2\theta$$

$$\therefore \sin^2 (2\theta) = 1 \quad \text{or } 2\theta = \frac{\pi}{2} \quad \text{or } \theta = \frac{\pi}{4}$$

$\therefore$  Transmitted intensity will be maximum

when  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{4}$ .



$$I'' = \frac{I_0}{4} \cdot \sin^2 2\theta,$$

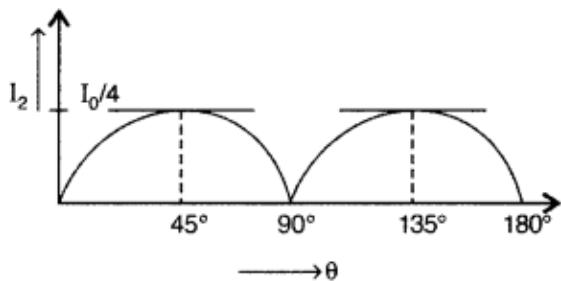
$$I_2 = \frac{I_0}{4} \cdot \sin^2 2\theta \quad [\because I'' = I_2]$$

From here, we have corresponding values of  $I_2$  with  $\theta$ :

$$\theta \rightarrow 0 \quad 45^\circ \quad 90^\circ \quad 135^\circ \quad 180^\circ$$

$$I_2 \rightarrow 0 \quad \frac{I_0}{4} \quad 0 \quad \frac{I_0}{4} \quad 0$$

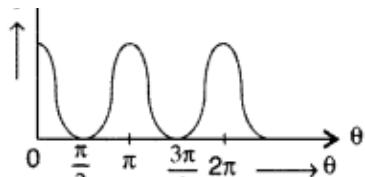
Hence graph will be



▼



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$$(iii) \mu = \tan i_\beta = \tan 60^\circ = \sqrt{3} = 1.7 \quad [\because i_\beta = 60^\circ]$$

Question 78.

Define the term wave front. State Huygen's principle.

Consider a plane wave front incident on a thin convex lens. Draw a proper diagram to show how the incident wave front traverses through the lens and after refraction focusses on the focal point of the lens, giving the shape of the emergent wave front. (All India 2015)

Answer:

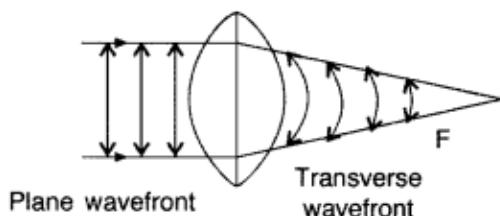
(i) Wave front : It is defined as the locus of all points which oscillate in phase.

(ii) Huygen's Principle :

1 Each point of the wave front is the source of a secondary disturbance and the wavelets emanating from these points spread out in all directions. These travel with the same velocity as that of the original wave front.

2. The shape and position of the wave front, after time Y, is given by the tangential envelope to the secondary wavelets.

(iii) Refraction of a plane wave-front from a convex lens



Question 79.

The figure, drawn here, shows the geometry of path differences for diffraction by a single slit of width a. Give appropriate 'reasoning' to explain why the intensity of light is



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(i) maximum of the central point C on the screen.

(ii) (nearly) zero for point P on the screen when

$$\theta \approx \frac{\lambda}{a}.$$

Hence write an expression for the total linear width of the central maxima on a screen kept at a distance D from the plane of the slit. (Comptt. Delhi 2015)

Answer:

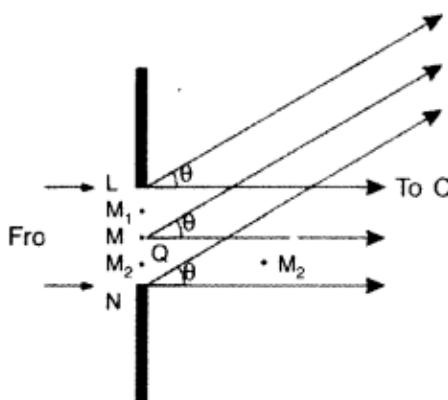
(i) At central point C, angle  $\theta$  is zero, all path differences are zero. Hence, all the parts of the slit contribute in same phase. This gives maximum intensity at point C.

(ii) From the diagram :

$$\begin{aligned} NP - LP &= NQ \\ &= a \sin \theta = a\theta \\ (\because \sin \theta &\approx \theta \text{ for small values of } \theta) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{When } \theta = \frac{\lambda}{a}$$

Path difference  $NP - LP = a\theta = \lambda$



$$\text{Hence, } MP - LP \approx NP - MP \approx \frac{\lambda}{2}$$

It implies that the contribution from corresponding points in two halves of the slit have a phase difference of  $\pi$ . Therefore, contributions from two halves cancel each other in pairs, resulting in a zero net intensity at



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$$\text{screen} = \frac{\pi a^2}{a}$$

Question 80.

Two polaroids,  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ , are 'set-up' so that their 'pass-axis' are 'crossed' with respect to each other. A third polaroid,  $P_3$ , is now introduced between these two so that its 'pass-axis' makes an angle  $\theta$  with the 'pass-axis' of  $P_1$ .

A beam of unpolarised light, of intensity  $I$ , is incident on  $P_1$ . If the intensity of light, that gets transmitted through this combination of three polaroids, is  $I'$ , find the ratio  $\left(\frac{I'}{I}\right)$  when  $\theta$  equals :

- (i)  $30^\circ$ ,
- (ii)  $45^\circ$  (Comptt. Delhi 2015)

Answer:

A beam of unpolarised light of intensity  $I$  is incident on  $P_1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} I_1(\text{through } P_1) &= \frac{I}{2} \text{ and } I_3(\text{through } P_3) \\ &= I_1 \cos^2 \theta \\ I'(\text{through } P_2) &= I_3 \cos^2 (90 - \theta) \\ &= (I_1 \cos^2 \theta \{ \cos^2(90 - \theta) \}) \\ &= \frac{I}{2} \cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \theta \\ &= \left( \frac{4 \cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \theta}{4} \right) \\ &= \frac{I}{8} (2 \sin \theta \cos \theta)^2 \\ &= \frac{I}{8} (\sin 2\theta)^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$I' = \frac{I}{8} (\sin 2\theta)^2 \text{ or } \frac{I'}{I} = \frac{1}{8} (\sin 2\theta)^2$$

(i) When  $\theta = 30^\circ$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } I' &= \frac{1}{8} (\sin 60^\circ)^2 \\ \Rightarrow \frac{I'}{I} &= \frac{3}{32} \quad \because \sin 60^\circ = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \end{aligned}$$

(ii) When  $\theta = 45^\circ$ , then  $I' = \frac{1}{8} (\sin 90^\circ)^2$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{I'}{I} = \frac{1}{8} \quad \because \sin 90^\circ = 1$$



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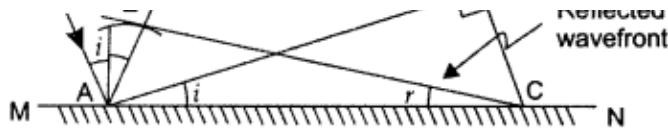
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Since time taken by waves from point B to C and from A to E is same

$$\therefore BC = AE = v\tau$$

In  $\Delta ABC$  and  $\Delta AEC$ ,

$$AC = AC \quad (\text{common})$$

$$\angle ABC = \angle AEC \quad (90^\circ \text{ each})$$

$$AE = BC$$

$$\therefore \Delta ABC \cong \Delta AEC$$

Hence  $\angle BAC = \angle ECA$

$$\angle i = \angle r$$

i.e., **Angle of incidence = Angle of reflection**

Question 82.

- (a) In a Young's double slit experiment, the two slits are illuminated by two different lamps having same wavelength of light. Explain with reason, whether interference pattern will be observed on the screen or not.  
 (b) Light waves from two coherent sources arrive at two points on a screen with path differences of 0 and  $A/2$ . Find the ratio of intensities at the points. (Comptt. All India 2015)

Answer:

- (a) Interference pattern in Young's double slit experiment will not be observed, because two independent lamps do not constitute 'coherent sources'.  
 (b) (i) When path difference is zero, corresponding phase difference will also be zero.

We know,  $I = 4I_0^2 \cos^2 \phi$

$$I_1 = 4I^2 \cos^2 0 = 4I^2 \times 1 = 4I^2$$

(ii) When path difference is  $\frac{\lambda}{2}$ , the corresponding phase difference will be  $\pi$ .

$$I_2 = 4I^2 \cos^2 \pi = 4I^2 \times 0 = 0$$

$$\therefore \frac{I_1}{I_2} = \frac{4I^2}{0} = \infty \text{ (infinity)}$$



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1<sup>st</sup> secondary maxima gets its intensity only from 1/5 of slit.

2<sup>nd</sup> secondary maxima gets its intensity only from 1/5 of slit and so on.

**(b) Given :**  $\lambda_1 = 590 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 596 \text{ nm}$

$$a = 4 \text{ mm} = 4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}, D = 2 \text{ m}$$

Position of 1<sup>st</sup> maxima on the screen :

$$x_1 = \frac{3}{2} \frac{\lambda_1}{a} D : \lambda_1 = 590 \text{ nm}$$

$$\dots \left[ \because x = \left( \frac{2n+1}{2} \right) \frac{\lambda D}{a} \right]$$

$$x_2 = \frac{3}{2} \frac{\lambda_2}{a} D : \lambda_2 = 596 \text{ nm}$$

$$\text{Separation } \Delta x = (x_2 - x_1)$$

$$= \frac{3}{2} \frac{D}{a} (\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)$$

$$= \frac{3}{2} \left( \frac{2}{4 \times 10^{-3}} \right) \times [(596 \times 10^{-9}) - (590 \times 10^{-9})]$$

$$= \frac{3}{2} \left( \frac{2}{4 \times 10^{-3}} \right) (6 \times 10^{-9}) = 4.5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}$$

Question 84.

Why are coherent sources necessary to produce interference in Young's double slit experiment? Light waves from two coherent sources have intensities in the ratio of 4 : 9. Find the ratio of intensities of maxima and minima in the interference pattern. (Comptt. Delhi 2015)

Answer:

If sources are not coherent, the superposition pattern (intensity pattern) is not stable. It keeps on changing with time and hence it is necessary to have coherent sources to observe interference in Young's double slit



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$$I = I_1 + I_2 + 2\sqrt{I_1 I_2} \cos \phi$$

$$I_{\max} = I_1 + I_2 + 2\sqrt{I_1 I_2} \quad [\because \phi = 0, \cos 0 = 1]$$

$$I_{\min} = I_1 + I_2 + 2\sqrt{I_1 I_2} \times (-1) \\ [\because \phi = 180^\circ, \cos 180 = -1]$$

$$= I_1 + I_2 - 2\sqrt{I_1 I_2}$$

$$\frac{I_{\max}}{I_{\min}} = \frac{I_1 + I_2 + 2\sqrt{I_1 I_2}}{I_1 + I_2 - 2\sqrt{I_1 I_2}}$$

$$= \frac{4x + 9x + 2\sqrt{4x \times 9x}}{4x + 9x - 2\sqrt{4x \times 9x}}$$

$$= \frac{4x + 9x + 12x}{4x + 9x - 12x} = \frac{25x}{1x} = \frac{25}{1}$$

Hence the ratio is **25 : 1**

Question 85.

State the two features to distinguish between interference and diffraction phenomena. Two wavelengths of light 600 nm and 610 nm are used in turn, to study the diffraction at a single slit of size 2 mm. The distance between the slits and screen is 2 m. Calculate the separation between the positions of the second order maximum of the diffraction pattern obtained in the two cases. (Comptt. All India 2015)

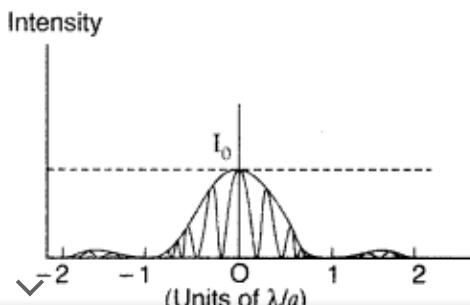
Answer:

For distinction between interference and diffraction :

Interference pattern and Diffraction pattern :

The diagram, given here, shows several fringes, due to double slit interference, 'contained' in a broad diffraction peak. When the separation between the slits is large compared to their width, the diffraction pattern becomes very flat and we observe the two slit interference pattern.

between the slits is large compared to their width, the diffraction pattern becomes very flat and we observe the two slit interference pattern.



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of  $\frac{\lambda}{a}$ , we get a maxima for two narrow slits separated by a distance 'a'.

Given :  $\lambda_1 = 600 \text{ nm} = 600 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$ ,

$$\lambda_2 = 610 \text{ nm} = 610 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m},$$

$$a = 2 \text{ mm} = 2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}, D = 2 \text{ m}$$

**Position of second order maximum is**

$$x_1 = \frac{5}{2} \frac{\lambda_1 D}{a} \text{ for } \lambda_1 = 600 \text{ nm}$$

$$\left[ \because \frac{2n+1}{2}, \text{ given } (n = 2) \right]$$

$$x_2 = \frac{5}{2} \frac{\lambda_2 D}{a} \text{ for } \lambda_2 = 610 \text{ nm} [\because \text{2nd order}]$$

$$\Delta x = x_2 - x_1$$

$$= \frac{5}{2} \times \frac{(610 \times 10^{-9}) \times 2}{(2 \times 10^{-3})} - \frac{5}{2} \times \frac{(600 \times 10^{-9}) \times 2}{(2 \times 10^{-3})}$$

$$= \frac{5}{2} \times \frac{2 \times 10^{-9}}{(2 \times 10^{-3})} [610 - 600] = \frac{5 \times 10^{-9} \times 10}{(2 \times 10^{-3})}$$

$$\Delta x = 2.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}$$

## Wave Optics Class 12 Important Questions Long Short Answer Type

Question 86.

(a) What is plane polarised light? Two polaroids are placed at  $90^\circ$  to each other and the transmitted intensity is zero. What happens when one more polaroid is placed between these two, bisecting the angle between them? How will the intensity of transmitted light vary on further rotating the third polaroid?

(b) If a light beam shows no intensity variation when transmitted through a polaroid which is rotated, does it mean that the light is unpolarised? Explain briefly. (Delhi 2015)

Answer:

(a) Plane polarised light is the light wave in which optical vector (electric vector) oscillates only in a single plane in a direction perpendicular to the direction of propagation of wave.

Obviously, the axis of  $P_3$  is inclined at  $45^\circ$  to the axis of  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ .

Let the maximum intensity transmitted by polarised,

$$P_1 = I_0$$

The intensity transmitted by

$$\checkmark I = I_0 \cos^2 45^\circ = I_0 \left( \frac{1}{2} \right)^2 = \frac{I_0}{2}$$



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any change.

Question 87.

- (a) What are coherent sources of light? Two slits in Young's double slit experiment are illuminated by two different sodium lamps emitting light of the same wavelength. Why is no interference pattern observed?  
(b) Obtain the condition for getting dark and bright fringes in Young's experiment. Hence write the expression for the fringe width.  
(c) If  $s$  is the size of the source and its distance is  $a$  from the plane of the two slits, what should be the criterion for the interference fringes to be seen? (All India 2015)

Answer:

- (a) Two sources of light having same frequency and a constant or a zero phase difference are said to be coherent.

Light wave emitted from an ordinary source (like a sodium lamp) undergoes abrupt phase changes in times of the order of  $10^{-10}$  seconds. Thus two independent sources of light will not have a fixed phase relationship



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**For dark fringes (minima)**

$$\text{Path difference, } \frac{xd}{D} = (2n - 1) \frac{\lambda}{2}$$

$$\therefore x = (2n - 1) \frac{\lambda D}{2d} \quad \dots \text{where } [n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots]$$

The separation between the centre of two consecutive bright fringes is the width of a dark fringe.

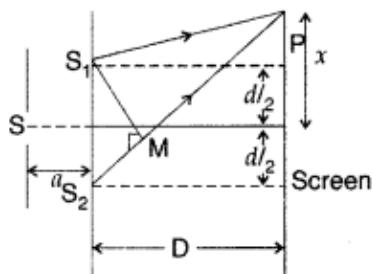
$$\therefore \text{Fringe width, } \beta = x_n - x_{n-1}$$

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

$$\therefore \beta = \frac{\lambda D}{d} \quad \dots \text{Here } \beta \text{ is fringe width}$$

(c) For interference fringes to be seen, the

condition  $\frac{S}{a} < \frac{\lambda}{d}$  should be satisfied.



Question 88.

State Huygens's principle. Show, with the help of a suitable diagram, how this principle is used to obtain the diffraction pattern by a single slit. Draw a plot of intensity distribution and explain clearly why the secondary maxima become weaker with increasing order (n) of the secondary maxima. (Delhi 2010)

Answer:

Huygen's principle :

- "(i) Each point on a wavefront acts as a fresh source of new disturbance called secondary waves or wavelets;
- (ii) The secondary wavelets spread out in all directions with the speed of wave in the given medium;
- (iii) The new wavefront at any later time is given by the forward envelope (tangential surface in the forward direction) of the secondary wavelets at that time.



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$\frac{d}{d} \quad \frac{d}{d} \quad \frac{d}{d} \quad \frac{d}{d} \quad \frac{d}{d}$   
**Variation of intensity with angle  $\theta$  in  
single slit diffraction**

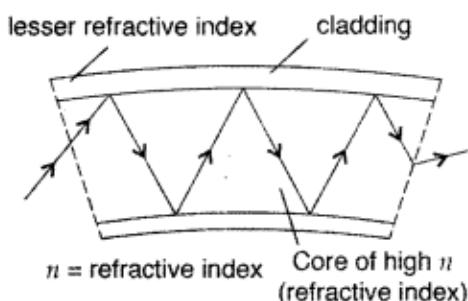
The reason is that the intensity of the central maxima is due to the constructive interference of wavelets from all parts of the slit, the first secondary maxima is due to the contribution of wavelets from one third part of the slit (wavelets from remaining two parts interfere destructively), the second secondary maxima is due to the contribution of wavelets from the one fifth part only (the remaining four parts interfere destructively) and so on. Hence, the intensity of secondary maxima decreases with the increase in the order  $n$  of the maxima.

Question 89.

Explain briefly how the phenomenon of total internal reflection is used in fibre optics. (Delhi 2011)

Answer:

Each optical fibre consists of a core and cladding. Refractive index of the material of the core is higher than that of cladding. When a video signal is directed into an optical fibre at a suitable angle, it undergoes internal reflections repeatedly along the length of the optical fibre and comes out of it with almost negligible loss of intensity.



Question 90.

- State the importance of coherent sources in the phenomenon of interference.
- In Young's double slit experiment to produce interference pattern, obtain the conditions for constructive and destructive interference. Hence deduce the expression for the fringe width.
- How does the fringe width get affected, if the entire experimental apparatus of Young is immersed in water? (All India 2010)

Answer:



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Since the separation between the centres of two consecutive bright fringes is called fringe width. It is denoted by  $\beta$

$\therefore$  Fringe width,  $\beta = x_{n+1} - x_n$

$$\therefore \boxed{\beta = \frac{(n+1)\lambda D}{d} - \frac{n\lambda D}{d} = (n+1-n) \frac{\lambda D}{d} = \frac{\lambda D}{d}}$$

**For destructive interference :** We will have destructive interference resulting in a dark fringe when difference =  $(2n + 1) \frac{\lambda}{2}$

$$\frac{xd}{D} = (2n + 1) \frac{\lambda}{2} \Rightarrow x = \frac{(2n + 1)\lambda D}{2d}$$

$$\therefore x_n = \frac{(2n + 1)\lambda D}{2d} \quad \text{where } [n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2 \dots]$$

Fringe width  $\beta = x_{n+1} - x_n$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{[2(n+1)+1]\lambda D}{2d} - \frac{(2n+1)\lambda D}{2d} \\ &= (2n+2+1-2n-1) \frac{\lambda D}{2d} = \frac{2\lambda D}{2d} = \frac{\lambda D}{d} \end{aligned}$$

Hence all bright and dark fringes are of equal width.

Observations :

- (i) Fringe width is directly proportional to the wavelength of light i.e. p X.
- (ii) Fringe width is inversely proportional to the distance between two sources

$$\text{i.e. } \beta \propto \frac{1}{d}.$$

(iii) Fringe width is directly proportional to the distance between screen and two sources i.e.  $\beta \propto \frac{1}{d}$ .

$$(b) \lambda_1 = 800 \text{ nm} = 800 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m},$$

$$\lambda_2 = 600 \text{ nm} = 600 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$$

$$d = 0.28 \text{ mm} = 0.28 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}, D = 1.4 \text{ m}$$

Suppose at any distance  $x$  from the central maximum,

We have,  $x = n_1 B_1 = n_2 B_2$

$$n_1 \frac{D\lambda_1}{d} = n_2 \frac{D\lambda_2}{d} \Rightarrow n_1 \lambda_1 = n_2 \lambda_2$$



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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{33.6 \times 10^{-9+3+3+2}}{28} \\
 &= 1.2 \times 10^{-1} \text{ m}
 \end{aligned}$$

(iii) Fringe width is given by  $\beta = \frac{\lambda D}{d}$  when whole of the apparatus is immersed in water

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{then, } \lambda' &= \frac{\lambda}{\mu}, & \beta' &= \frac{\lambda' D}{d} \\
 \Rightarrow \beta' &= \frac{\lambda D}{\mu d} & \Rightarrow \beta' &= \frac{\beta}{\mu}
 \end{aligned}$$

Then fringe width becomes  $\frac{1}{\mu}$  times the original fringe width i.e., it will decrease in water.

Question 91.

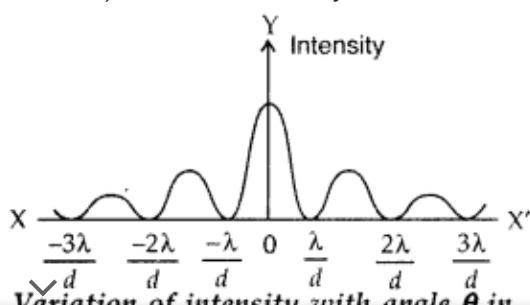
- (a) State Huygen's principle. Using this principle explain how a diffraction pattern is obtained on a screen due to a narrow slit on which a narrow beam coming from a monochromatic source of light is incident normally.  
 (b) Show that the angular width of the first diffraction fringe is half of that of the central fringe.  
 (c) If a monochromatic source of light is replaced by white light, what change would you observe in the diffraction pattern? (All India 2011)

Answer:

(a)

Huygen's principle :

- "(i) Each point on a wavefront acts as a fresh source of new disturbance called secondary waves or wavelets;  
 (ii) The secondary wavelets spread out in all directions with the speed of wave in the given medium;  
 (iii) The new wavefront at any later time is given by the forward envelope (tangential surface in the forward direction) of the secondary wavelets at that time.



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$\theta = \frac{-\lambda}{a}$ . Therefore, Angular width of central

bright fringe  $= 2\theta = \frac{2\lambda}{a}$ . So, 1<sup>st</sup> diffraction

fringe, lies between  $\theta = \frac{\lambda}{a}$  and  $\theta = \frac{2\lambda}{a}$ .

Therefore, Angular width of first diffraction fringe is

$$\frac{2\lambda}{a} - \frac{\lambda}{a} = \frac{\lambda}{a}$$

**Hence proved.**

- (c) If monochromatic source of light is replaced by a source of white light, instead of white fringes we obtain few coloured fringes and then uniform illumination.

Question 92.

(a) In Young's double slit experiment, derive the condition for

(i) constructive interference and

(ii) destructive interference at a point on the screen.

(b) A beam of light consisting of two wavelengths, 800 nm and 600 nm is used to obtain the interference fringes in a Young's double slit experiment on a screen placed 1.4 m away. If the two slits are separated by 0.28 mm, calculate the least distance from the central bright maximum where the bright fringes of the two wavelengths coincide. (All India 2011)

Answer:

(a) For constructive interference : We will have constructive interference resulting in a bright fringe when path difference is equal to  $n\lambda$ .

$$\frac{xd}{D} = n\lambda \Rightarrow x = \frac{n\lambda D}{d}$$

$$\therefore x_n = \frac{n\lambda D}{d} \quad \text{where } [n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2 \dots]$$

Since the separation between the centres of two consecutive bright fringes is called fringe width. It is denoted by  $\beta$



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**fringe when difference =  $(2n + 1) \frac{\lambda}{2}$**

$$\frac{xd}{D} = (2n + 1) \frac{\lambda}{2} \Rightarrow x = \frac{(2n + 1)\lambda D}{2d}$$

$$\therefore x_n = \frac{(2n + 1)\lambda D}{2d} \quad \text{where } [n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2 \dots]$$

Fringe width  $\beta = x_{n+1} - x_n$

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

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

Hence all bright and dark fringes are of equal width.

Observations :

- (i) Fringe width is directly proportional to the wavelength of light i.e.  $\propto \lambda$ .
- (ii) Fringe width is inversely proportional to the distance between two sources

$$\text{i.e. } \beta \propto \frac{1}{d}.$$

(iii) Fringe width is directly proportional to the distance between screen and two sources i.e.  $\beta \propto \frac{1}{d}$ .

$$(b) \lambda_1 = 800 \text{ nm} = 800 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m},$$

$$\lambda_2 = 600 \text{ nm} = 600 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$$

$$d = 0.28 \text{ mm} = 0.28 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}, D = 1.4 \text{ m}$$

Suppose at any distance  $x$  from the central maximum,

We have,  $x = n_1 B_1 = n_2 B_2$

$$n_1 \frac{D\lambda_1}{d} = n_2 \frac{D\lambda_2}{d} \Rightarrow n_1 \lambda_1 = n_2 \lambda_2$$

The bright fringes will coincide at the least distance  $x$ ,

$$\text{if } n_2 = n_1 + 1 \quad \therefore n_1 \lambda_1 = (n_1 + 1) \lambda_2$$

$$\Rightarrow n_1 \times 800 \times 10^{-9} = (n_1 + 1) \times 600 \times 10^{-9}$$

$$\Rightarrow 8n_1 = 6n_1 + 6 \Rightarrow 2n_1 = 6 \quad \boxed{n_1 = 3}$$

Hence, the required distance is

$$x = \frac{n_1 D \lambda_1}{d} = \frac{3 \times 1.4 \times 800 \times 10^{-9} \times 10^3}{28 \times 10^{-3}}$$

$$= \frac{33.6 \times 10^{-9+3+3+2}}{28}$$

$$= 1.2 \times 10^{-1} \text{ m}$$



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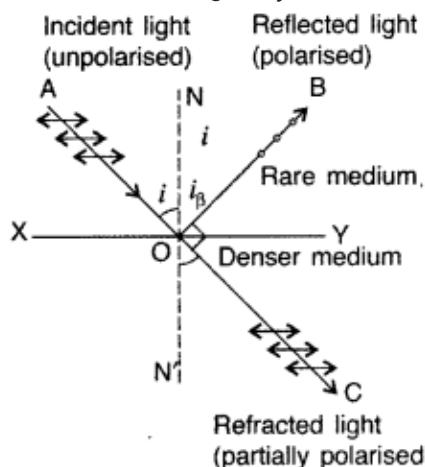
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Answer:

- (a) In a polaroid a long chain of molecules is aligned in a particular direction. The electric vectors (of light waves) along the direction of aligned molecules gets absorbed.

Diagram of polarization of light by reflection.

Polarisation of light by reflection. The simplest method to produce plane polarised light is by reflection.



When unpolarised light is reflected from a surface, the reflected light may be completely polarised, partially polarised or unpolarised depending on the incident angle.

The angle of incidence at which the reflected light is completely polarised, is called polarising angle. It is represented by  $i_p$ .

The value of  $i_p$  depends on the wavelength of light used. Therefore, complete polarisation is possible only for monochromatic light. The reflected light along OB is completely plane polarised. The light refracted along OC is unpolarised.

Hence, the reflected light is completely plane polarised in the plane of incidence.(b) Let the intensity of unpolarized light =  $I_0$



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$$\text{Intensity after passing through B} = \frac{I_0}{2} \cos^2 \theta \cos^2 (90^\circ - \theta) \quad \dots(ii)$$

From equation (i) and (ii), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{I_0}{2} \cos^2 \theta \cos^2(90^\circ - \theta) &= \frac{I_0}{8} \\ \cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \theta &= \frac{1}{4} \Rightarrow 2 \cos \theta \sin \theta = 1 \\ \Rightarrow \sin 2\theta &= 1 \Rightarrow 2\theta = 90^\circ \\ \Rightarrow \theta &= 45^\circ \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the angle between polaroid A and C should be  $45^\circ$ .

Question 94.

(a) State Huygen's principle. Using this principle draw a diagram to show how a plane wave front incident at the interface of the two media gets refracted when it propagates from a rarer to a denser medium. Hence verify Snell's law of refraction.

(b) When monochromatic light travels from a rarer to a denser medium, explain the following, giving reasons :

- (i) Is the frequency of reflected and refracted light same as the frequency of incident light?
- (ii) Does the decrease in speed imply a reduction in the energy carried by light wave? (Delhi 2010)

Answer:

(a) Huygen's principle ; Huygen's principle is based on two assumptions :

(i) Each point on the primary wavefront is a source of a new disturbance called secondary wavelets which travel in all directions with same velocity as that of original waves.

(ii) A surface tangential to the secondary wavelets gives the position and shape of new wavefront at any instant. This is called secondary wavefront.

The principle leads to the well known laws of reflection and refraction.

Verification of Snell's Law, From the figure



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$$\sin i = \frac{BC}{AC} = \frac{v_1 t}{AC}$$

$$\sin r = \frac{AE}{AC} = \frac{v_2 t}{AC}$$

$$\frac{\sin i}{\sin r} = \frac{v_1}{v_2} = \mu$$

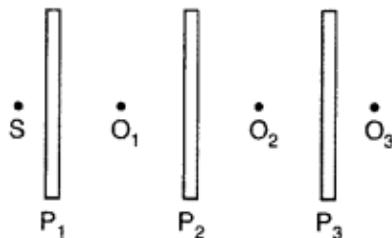
(b) (i) Yes, frequency is the property of source. Hence, frequency does not change when light is reflected or refracted.

(ii) No, decrease in speed does not imply reduction in energy carried by light wave.

This is because the frequency does not change and according to the formula  $E = hv$ , energy will be independent of speed. Energy carried by a wave depends on the amplitude of the wave, not on the speed of wave propagation.

Question 95.

- (a) Describe briefly how an unpolarized light gets linearly polarized when it passes through a polaroid.  
 (b) Three identical polaroid sheets  $P_3$ ,  $P_2$  and  $P_1$  are oriented so that the pass axis of  $P_1$ ,  $P_2$  and  $P_3$  are inclined at angles of  $60^\circ$  and  $90^\circ$  respectively with respect to the pass axis of  $P_1$ . A monochromatic source  $S$  of unpolarized light of intensity  $I_0$  is kept in front of the polaroid sheet  $P_1$  as shown in the figure. Determine the intensities of light as observed by the observers  $O_1$ ,  $O_2$  and  $O_3$  as shown. (Comptt. Delhi 2010)



Answer:

- (a) A polaroid consists of long chain molecules aligned in a particular direction. The electric vectors (associated with the propagating light wave) along the direction of the aligned molecules get absorbed. Thus, if an unpolarised light wave is incident on such a polaroid then the light wave will get linearly polarised



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$$\begin{aligned} I_2 &= I_1 \cos^2 \theta = I_1 (\cos 60^\circ)^2 \\ &= \left(\frac{I_0}{2}\right) \left(\frac{1}{4}\right) = \frac{I_0}{8} \quad (\because \cos 60^\circ = \frac{1}{2}) \end{aligned}$$

(iii) Intensity observed by O<sub>3</sub>:

$$\begin{aligned} I_3 &= I_2 \cos^2 \theta = \left(\frac{I_0}{8}\right) (\cos 30^\circ)^2 \\ &\quad | (\because 90^\circ - 60^\circ = 30^\circ) \\ &= \frac{I_0}{8} \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{3I_0}{32} \end{aligned}$$

Question 96.

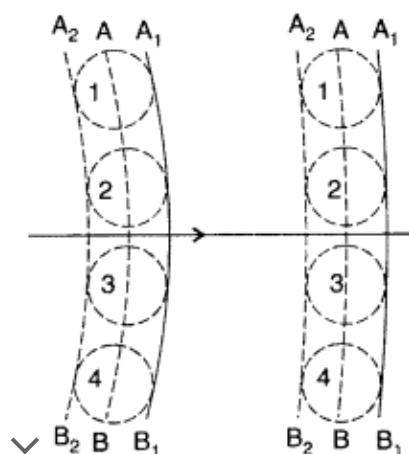
- (a) Use Huygen's geometrical construction to show how a plane wave-front at t = 0 propagates and produces a wave-front at a later time.
- (b) Verify, using Huygen's principle, Snell's law of refraction of a plane wave propagating from a denser to a rarer medium.
- (c) When monochromatic light is incident on a surface separating two media, the reflected and refracted light both have the same frequency. Explain why. (Comptt. Delhi)

Answer:

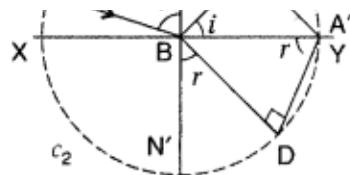
- (a) Huygens' geometrical construction for a plane wave propagation.

Huygens' geometrical construction for a plane wave propagation. Let AB be a section of primary wavefront at any instant t. Take points 1, 2, 3, 4, ... on the wavefront AB. Taking each point as centre, draw spheres of radius r = ct, where c is the velocity of light in the medium.

Draw a surface A<sub>1</sub>B<sub>1</sub> touching tangentially at the secondary wavelets in the forward direction. The surface A<sub>1</sub>B<sub>1</sub> is the secondary wavefront after time t.



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Let AB be a plane wavefront moving through the surface XY meeting at the point B.

The time taken 't' of A to reach at A'B then

$$AA' = c_1 t \Rightarrow t = \frac{AA'}{c_1}$$

By *Huygen's principle*, the secondary wavelet starts from B and covers a distance

$$BD = c_2 t \Rightarrow BD = c_2 \cdot \frac{AA'}{c_1} = AA' \cdot \frac{c_2}{c_1} \dots (i)$$

To obtain new front, draw a circle with point B as centre and BD as radius in 2nd medium. Draw a tangent A'D from point A'. Then A'D represents the refracted wavefront.

Since PB be incident ray and BD be refracted ray

$\therefore$  Incident angle,  $i = \angle PBN = \angle ABA'$   
and refracted angle,  $r = \angle N'BD = \angle BA'D$

In rt  $\Delta BAA'$ ,  $\sin i = \frac{AA'}{BA}$  and in rt  $\Delta BDA'$ ,

$$\sin r = \frac{BD}{BA'}$$

$$\therefore \frac{\sin i}{\sin r} = \frac{AA'}{BA'} / \frac{BD}{BA'} = \frac{AA'}{BA'} \times \frac{BA'}{BD} = \frac{AA'}{BD}$$

$$\frac{\sin i}{\sin r} = \frac{AA'}{AA' \cdot \frac{c_2}{c_1}} = \frac{c_1}{c_2} = n \text{ (constant)} \dots [\text{From (i)}]$$

This constant V is called the refractive index of material which proves Snell's law of refraction.

(b) Laws of refraction using Huygen's principle.

Huygens' geometrical construction for a plane wave propagation. Let AB be a section of primary wavefront at any instant t. Take points 1, 2, 3, 4, ... on the wavefront AB. Taking each point as centre, draw spheres of radius  $r = ct$ , where c is the velocity of light in the medium.

Draw a surface  $A_1B_1$  touching tangentially at the secondary wavelets in the forward direction. The surface  $A_1B_1$  is the secondary wavefront after time t.



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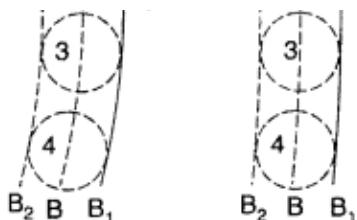
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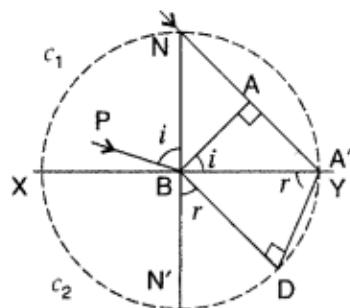
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**Huygens' geometrical construction  
for a plane wave**

A surface  $A_2B_2$  touching tangentially all the secondary wavelets in the backward direction can be drawn to give a backward secondary wavefront.

Laws of refraction using Huygen's principle. Let XY be the refracting surface separating two mediums 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Let  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  be the velocities of light in these mediums.



Let AB be a plane wavefront moving through the surface XY meeting at the point B.

The time taken 't' of A to reach at A'B then

$$AA' = c_1 t \Rightarrow t = \frac{AA'}{c_1}$$

By Huygen's principle, the secondary wavelet starts from B and covers a distance

$$BD = c_2 t \Rightarrow BD = c_2 \cdot \frac{AA'}{c_1} = AA' \cdot \frac{c_2}{c_1} \dots (i)$$

To obtain new front, draw a circle with point B as centre and BD as radius in 2nd medium. Draw a tangent A'D from point A'. Then A'D represents the refracted wavefront.

Since PB be incident ray and BD be refracted ray



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$$\therefore \frac{\sin i}{\sin r} = \frac{v_2}{v_1} / \frac{v_1}{v_2} = \frac{v_2}{v_1} \times \frac{v_1}{v_2} = \frac{v_2}{v_1}$$

$$\frac{\sin i}{\sin r} = \frac{c_2}{c_1} = n \text{ (constant) ...[From (i)]}$$

$$\frac{\sin i}{\sin r} = \frac{c_2}{c_1} = n \text{ (constant) ...[From (i)]}$$

This constant V is called the refractive index of material which proves Snell's law of refraction.

(c) When monochromatic light is incident on a surface separating two media, the reflected and refracted lights both have the same frequency.

In case of refraction, due to change in medium, only wavelength changes by  $\lambda/\mu$  factor.

In case of reflection, both wavelength and frequency remain unchanged.

Question 97.

(a) (i) "Two independent monochromatic sources of light cannot produce a sustained interference pattern".

Give reason.

(ii) Light waves each of amplitude "a" and frequency " $\omega$ ", emanating from two coherent light sources superpose at a point. If the displacements due to these waves is given by  $y_1 = a \cos \omega t$  and  $y_2 = a \cos(\omega t + \phi)$  where  $\phi$  is the phase difference between the two, obtain the expression for the resultant intensity at the point.

(b) In Young's double slit experiment, using monochromatic light of wavelength  $\lambda$ , the intensity of light at a point on the screen where path difference is  $\lambda$ , is K units. Find out the intensity of light at a point where path difference is  $\lambda/3$ . (Delhi 2010)

Answer:

(a) (i) Two independent monochromatic sources of light cannot produce a sustained interference pattern. The phase difference between these two sources will continuously vary; and the positions of maxima and minima will change with time.

(ii)  $y_1 = a \cos \omega t$ , and  $y_2 = a \cos(\omega t + \phi)$

$$y = y_1 + y_2 = a[\cos \omega t + \cos(\omega t + \phi)] \\ = 2a \cos\left(\frac{\phi}{2}\right) \cos\left(\omega t + \frac{\phi}{2}\right)$$

The resultant amplitude is  $A = 2a \cos\left(\frac{\phi}{2}\right)$

and hence intensity ( $I$ ) =  $4a^2 \cos^2\left(\frac{\phi}{2}\right)$

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



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$$\therefore I = 4I_0 \cos^2 \frac{\phi}{2} = 4I_0 \cos^2 \pi = 4I_0 = K$$

$$\text{When } p = \frac{\lambda}{3}, \quad \phi = \frac{2\pi}{3}$$

$$\therefore I = 4I_0 \cos^2 \frac{\pi}{3} = 4I_0 \times \frac{1}{4} = I_0 = \frac{K}{4}$$

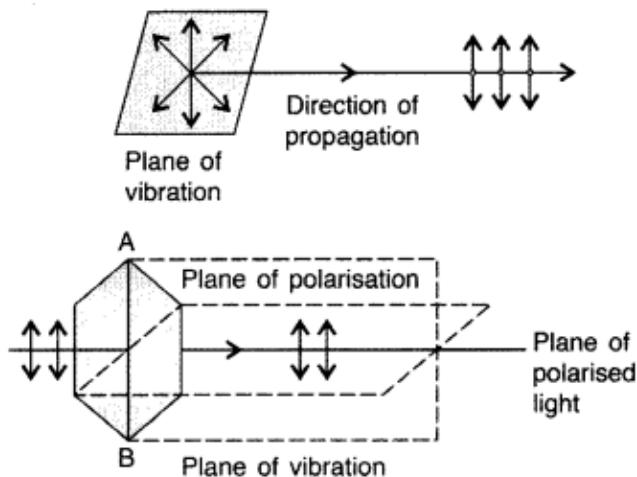
Question 98.

- (a) How does one demonstrate, using a suitable diagram, that unpolarised light when passed through a Polaroid gets polarised?  
 (b) A beam of unpolarised light is incident on a glass-air interface. Show, using a suitable ray diagram, that light reflected from the interface is totally polarised, when  $\mu = \tan i_B$ , where  $\mu$  is the refractive index of glass with respect to air and  $i_B$  is the Brewster's angle. (Delhi 2014)

Answer:

- (a) Polarisation of light. Ordinary light is unpolarised light having vibrations distributed in all directions in a plane perpendicular to direction of propagation of light.

Therefore, the phenomenon of restricting the vibrations of light in a particular direction is called polarisation of light. The tourmaline crystal acts as a polariser.

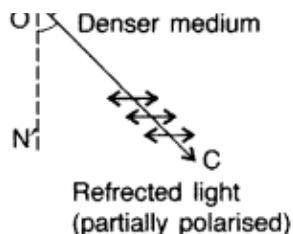


When unpolarised light (ordinary light) is passed through a tourmaline crystal, only those vibrations of light pass through the crystal which are parallel to crystallographic axis AB. All other vibrations are obstructed. The entering light from the crystal is said to be plane polarised light.

- (h) When unpolarised light is reflected from a surface, the reflected light may be completely polarised.



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The angle of incidence at which the reflected light is completely polarised, is called polarising angle. It is represented by  $i_\beta$ .

The value of  $i_\beta$  depends on the wavelength of light used. Therefore, complete polarisation is possible only for monochromatic light. The reflected light along OB is completely plane polarised. The light refracted along OC is unpolarised.

Hence, the reflected light is completely plane polarised in the plane of incidence. Brewster's law. It states that "when light is incident at polarising angle, the reflected and refracted rays are perpendicular to each other". When light is incident at polarising angle, the reflected component along OB and refracted components along OC are mutually perpendicular.

$$\therefore \angle i_\beta + \angle r = 90^\circ \quad \text{or} \quad r = 90^\circ - i_\beta$$

*According to Snell's law,*

$$\frac{\sin i}{\sin r} = \mu \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{\sin i_\beta}{\sin(90^\circ - i_\beta)} = \mu$$

$$\text{or} \quad \frac{\sin i_\beta}{\cos i_\beta} = \mu \quad \therefore \tan i_\beta = \mu$$

Hence, the tangent of the polarising angle is equal to the refractive index of a medium

Question 99.

- (a) In Young's double slit experiment, describe briefly how bright and dark fringes are obtained on the screen kept in front of a double slit. Hence obtain the expression for the fringe width.  
 (b) The ratio of the intensities at minima to the maxima in the Young's double slit experiment is 9 : 25. Find the ratio of the widths of the two slits. (All India 2014)

Answer:

- (a) Young's double slit experiment. The path difference between two rays coming from holes  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  is  $(S_2P - S_1P)$ . If point P corresponds to a maximum,



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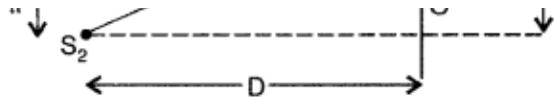
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$$\text{Now } (S_2P)^2 - (S_1P)^2$$

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

$$= 2xd, \text{ where } S_1S_2 = d \text{ and } OP = x$$

$$(S_2P + S_1P)(S_2P - S_1P) = 2xd$$

$$S_2P + S_1P = \frac{2xd}{S_2P + S_1P}$$

If  $x, d \ll D$ , then negligible error will be introduced if  $(S_2P + S_1P)$  in the denominator is replaced by  $2D$ .

$$S_2P - S_1P = \frac{xd}{D} \quad \dots(i)$$

$$\text{For maximum, } S_2P - S_1P = n\lambda$$

$$\text{Thus, } n\lambda = \frac{xd}{D}$$

$$\text{Or, } x = x_n = \frac{n\lambda D}{d}, \quad n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \dots \quad [\text{For maxima}] \quad \dots(ii)$$

$$\text{Now, for minimum, } S_2P - S_1P = (2n - 1) \frac{\lambda}{2}$$

$$\text{Thus } (2n - 1) \frac{\lambda}{2} = \frac{xd}{D}$$

$$\text{or } x = x_n = (2n - 1) \frac{\lambda D}{2d},$$

$$n = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \dots \quad [\text{For minima}]$$

Thus, bright and dark bands appear on the screen. Such bands are called 'fringes'.



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$$\beta = \frac{\lambda D}{2d} \quad \dots[\text{from equation (ii)}]$$

Now the fringewidth is  $\beta = x_{n+1} - x_n = \frac{\lambda D}{2d}$ .  
Thus, the expression for fringe width is

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

$$(b) \text{ Given : } \frac{I_{\min}}{I_{\max}} = \frac{9}{25} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{I_1 - I_2}{I_1 + I_2} = \frac{9}{25}$$

$$\frac{a_1 - a_2}{a_1 + a_2} = \sqrt{\frac{I_1 - I_2}{I_1 + I_2}} = \sqrt{\frac{9}{25}} = \frac{3}{5}$$

$$\text{Solving we get } \frac{a_1}{a_2} = \frac{4}{1}$$

$$\text{Ratio of } \frac{w_1}{w_2} = \frac{a_1^2}{a_2^2} = \frac{16}{1} \quad \therefore \text{ Ratio} = 16 : 1$$

#### Question 100.

(a) Describe briefly how a diffraction pattern is obtained on a screen due to a single narrow slit illuminated by a monochromatic source of light. Hence obtain the conditions for the angular width of secondary maxima and secondary minima.

(b) Two wavelengths of sodium light of 590 nm and 596 nm are used in turn to study the diffraction taking place at a single slit of aperture  $2 \times 10^{-6}$  m. The distance between the slit and the screen is 1.5 m. Calculate the separation between the positions of first maxima of the diffraction pattern obtained in the two cases.

(All India 2014)

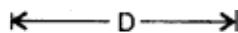
Answer:

(a) Diffraction at a single slit. Suppose a parallel beam of monochromatic light of wavelength X falls normally on a slit AB of width d (of the order of the wavelength of light). The diffraction occurs on passing through the slit. The diffraction pattern is focussed on to the screen by a convex lens. The diffraction pattern consists of a central bright fringe (or band), having alternate dark and bright fringes of decreasing intensity on both sides.

1. Position of central maximum. Let C be the centre of the slit AB. According to Huygen's principle, "when light falls on the slit, it becomes a source of secondary wavelets." All the wavelets originating from slit AB are in same phase. These secondary waves reinforce each other resulting the central maximum intensity at O.



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2. Position of secondary maxima and minima. Consider a point P on the screen. All the secondary waves travelling in a direction making angle  $\theta$  with CO, reach at a point P. The intensity at P depends on the path difference between secondary waves.

$\therefore$  Path difference between the secondary waves reaching P from points A and B is,  $BN = d \sin \theta$

(i) The point P will be the position of  $n^{\text{th}}$  secondary maxima

$$\text{If path difference, } BN = (2n + 1) \frac{\lambda}{2}$$

...where [n is an integer]

$$\therefore d \sin \theta = (2n + 1) \frac{\lambda}{2}$$

$$\text{or } \sin \theta = (2n + 1) \frac{\lambda}{2d}$$

When  $\theta$  is very small, then  $\sin \theta \approx \theta$

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

...where [n is an integer]

for  $n = 1$

$$\theta_1 = \frac{3\lambda}{2d}, \text{ first secondary maximum}$$

(ii) The point P will be the position of  $n^{\text{th}}$  secondary minima,

$$\text{if path difference } BN = n\lambda$$

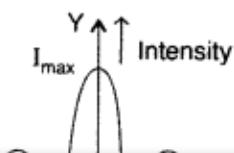
$$d \sin \theta = n\lambda$$

When  $\theta$  is very small, then  $\sin \theta \approx \theta$

$$\therefore \theta = \frac{n\lambda}{d} \quad \dots \text{where [n is an integer]}$$

for  $n = 1$ ,  $\theta = \frac{\lambda}{d}$ , first secondary minima

Hence, the diffraction pattern due to single slit consists of a centre bright maximum at O alongwith secondary maxima and minima on either side. Intensity distribution curve. The intensity distribution on the screen.is represented as shown in the figure.



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$$\therefore \frac{y_n}{D} = \frac{n\lambda}{d} \quad \dots [\text{From (i) and (ii)}]$$

$$y_n = n\lambda \frac{D}{d}$$

Thus width of a secondary minima (and maxima also) (Fringe width) is :

$$\beta = y_n - y_{n-1} = \frac{n\lambda D}{d} - (n-1)\frac{\lambda D}{d}$$

$$= \frac{n\lambda D - n\lambda D + \lambda D}{d}$$

$$\therefore \beta = \frac{\lambda D}{d}$$

$$(b) \text{ Given : } \lambda_1 = 590 \text{ nm}, \quad \lambda_2 = 596 \text{ nm},$$

$$d = 2 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}, \quad D = 1.5 \text{ m}$$

$$\text{First maxima due to } \lambda_1 (\beta_1) = \frac{\lambda_1 D}{d} \times \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\text{First maxima due to } \lambda_2 (\beta_2) = \frac{\lambda_2 D}{d} \times \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\beta_2 - \beta_1 = \frac{3\lambda_1 D}{2d} - \frac{3\lambda_2 D}{2d} = \frac{3D}{2d}(\lambda_2 - \lambda_1)$$

$$= \frac{3}{2} \times \frac{1.5}{2 \times 10^{-6}} (596 - 590) \times 10^{-9}$$

$$= 6.75 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m} = 6.75 \text{ mm}$$

Question 101.

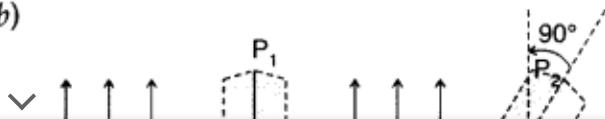
- (a) Distinguish between linearly polarized and unpolarized light.
- (b) Show that the light waves are transverse in nature.
- (c) Why does light from a clear blue portion of the sky show a rise and fall of intensity when viewed through a polaroid which is rotated? Explain by drawing the necessary diagram. (Comptt. Delhi 2014)

Answer:

(a) Unpolarized light : A light wave, in which the electric vector oscillates in all possible directions in a plane perpendicular to the direction of propagation is known as unpolarized light.

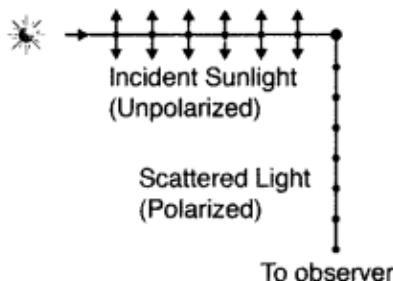
Linearly polarized light : If the oscillations of the electric vectors are restricted to just one direction, in a plane perpendicular to the direction of propagation, the corresponding light is known as linearly polarized light.

(b)



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(c) It is due to scattering of light by molecules of earth's atmosphere.



Under the influence of the electric field of the incident (unpolarized) wave, the electrons in the molecules acquire components of motion in both these directions. Charges, accelerating parallel to the double arrows, do not radiate energy towards the observer since their acceleration has no transverse component. The radiation scattered by the molecules is therefore represented by dots, i.e., it is polarized perpendicular to plane of figure.

Question 102.

- Using Huygen's construction of secondary wavelets explain how a diffraction pattern is obtained on a screen due to a narrow slit on which a monochromatic beam of light is incident normally.
- Show that the angular width of the first diffraction fringe is half that of the central fringe.
- Explain why the maxima at  $\theta = \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right) \frac{\lambda}{a}$  become weaker and weaker with increasing n. (Delhi 2014)

Answer:

- Diffraction Pattern :** We can regard the total contribution of the wavefront LN at some point P on the screen, as the resultant effect of the superposition of its wavelets like LM, MM<sub>2</sub>, M<sub>2</sub>N. These have to be superposed taking into account their proper phase differences. We, therefore, get maxima and minima, i.e. a diffraction pattern, on the screen.



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**(b) Angular width :**

Condition for first minimum on the screen,

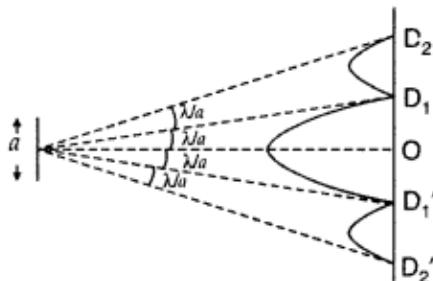
$$a \sin \theta = \lambda$$

$$\text{or } \theta = \frac{\lambda}{a} \quad \therefore \sin \theta \approx \theta$$

$\therefore$  Angular width of the central fringe on the screen (from figure) =  $2\theta = \frac{2\lambda}{a}$

While angular width of first diffraction fringe

$$= \frac{\lambda}{a} \text{ (from figure)}$$

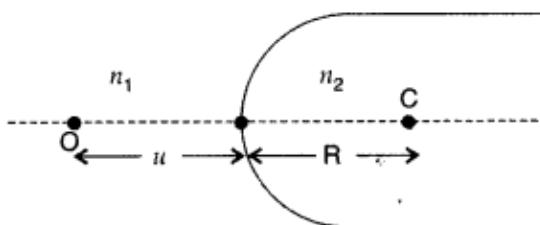


Hence angular width of first fringe is half of the angular width of central fringe.

(c) Maxima become weaker and weaker with increasing n. This is because the effective part of the wavefront, contributing to the maxima, becomes smaller and smaller, with increasing n.

Question 103.

(a) A point object 'O' is kept in a medium of refractive index  $n_1$  in front of a convex spherical surface of radius of curvature R which separates the second medium of refractive index  $n_2$  from the first one, as shown in the figure.



Draw the ray diagram showing the image formation and deduce the relationship between the object



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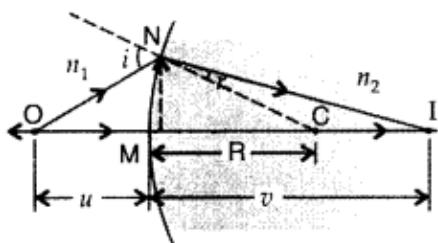
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Now, for  $\Delta NOC$ ,  $i$  is exterior angle  
 $\therefore i = \angle NOM + \angle NCM$



$$i = \frac{MN}{OM} + \frac{MN}{MC} \quad \dots(i)$$

Similarly,  $r = \angle NCM - \angle NIM$

$$\text{i.e. } r = \frac{MN}{MC} - \frac{MN}{MI} \quad \dots(ii)$$

Now by Snell's law,  $n_1 \sin i = n_2 \sin r$ ,

or for small angles  $n_1 i = n_2 r$

Substituting the values of  $i$  and  $r$  from equations (i) and (ii), we get

$$\frac{n_1}{OM} + \frac{n_2}{MI} = \frac{n_2 - n_1}{MC} \quad \dots(iii)$$

By applying Cartesian sign convention,

$$OM = -u, MI = -v, MC = +R$$

Substituting these values in (iii), we get

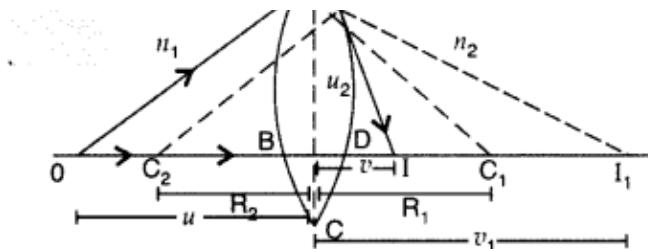
$$\frac{n_2}{v} - \frac{n_1}{u} = \frac{n_2 - n_1}{R}$$

This equation gives us a relation between object and image distance in terms of refractive index of the medium and the radius of the curvature of the curved spherical surface. It holds for any curved spherical surface.

(b) Lens maker's formula : Consider a thin double convex lens of refractive index  $n_2$  placed in a medium of refractive index  $n_2$ . Here  $n_1 < n_2$ . Let B and D be the poles,  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  be the centres of curvature and  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  be the radii of curvature of the two lens surfaces ABC and ADC, respectively. For refraction at surface ABC, we can write the relation between the object distance  $v_1$ , image distance  $v$  and radius of curvature  $R_1$



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### **Refraction through a double convex lens**

For **refraction at surface ADC**, we can write the relation between the object distance  $v_1$ , image distance  $v$  and radius of curvature  $R_2$  as

$$\frac{n_1}{v} - \frac{n_2}{v_1} = \frac{n_1 - n_2}{R_2} \quad \dots(ii)$$

Adding equations (i) and (ii), we get

$$\frac{n_1}{v} - \frac{n_1}{u} = (n_2 - n_1) \left[ \frac{1}{R_1} - \frac{1}{R_2} \right]$$

$$\frac{1}{v} - \frac{1}{u} = \left[ \frac{n_2 - n_1}{n_1} \right] \left[ \frac{1}{R_1} - \frac{1}{R_2} \right] \quad \dots(iii)$$

If the object is placed at infinity ( $u = \infty$ ), the image will be formed at the focus i.e.  $v = f$ ,

$$\therefore \frac{1}{f} = \left[ \frac{n_2}{n_1} - 1 \right] \left[ \frac{1}{R_1} - \frac{1}{R_2} \right] \quad \dots(iv)$$

$$\boxed{\frac{1}{f} = \left[ \frac{n_2}{n_1} - 1 \right] \left[ \frac{1}{R_1} - \frac{1}{R_2} \right]}$$

**This is lens maker's formula.**

Question 104.

(a) Consider two coherent sources  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  producing monochromatic waves to produce interference pattern. Let the displacement of the wave produced by  $S_1$  be given by

$$Y_1 = a \cos \omega t$$

and the displacement by  $S_2$  be  $Y_2 = a \cos (\omega t + \phi)$

Find out the expression for the amplitude of the resultant displacement at a point and show that the intensity at that point will be

$$I \propto 4a^2 \cos^2 \frac{\phi}{2}$$



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$$= 2a \cos\left(\frac{\phi}{2}\right) \cos\left(\omega t + \frac{\phi}{2}\right)$$

The resultant amplitude is  $A = 2a \cos\left(\frac{\phi}{2}\right)$

and hence intensity ( $I$ ) =  $4a^2 \cos^2\left(\frac{\phi}{2}\right)$

### Conditions

For constructive interference

$\phi = 0, \pm 2\pi, \pm 4\pi \dots$  the intensity will be maximum, i.e,

$\phi = 2n\pi$  where  $n = 1, 2, \dots$

For destructive interference

$\phi = \pm \pi, \pm 3\pi, \pm 5\pi \dots$  the intensity will be zero, i.e.,

$\phi = (2n + 1)\pi$  where  $n = 1, 2, \dots$

(b) (i) When width of the source slit is increased, then the angular fringe width remains unchanged, but fringes become less and less sharp, so visibility of fringes decreases. If the condition,  $\frac{s}{S} < \frac{\lambda}{d}$  is not satisfied, the interference pattern disappears.

(ii) When the monochromatic source is replaced by a source of white light, the interference pattern due to different component colours of white light overlap (incoherently). The central bright fringes for different colours are at the same position. Therefore, the central fringe is

white. For a point P for which  $S_2P - S_1P = \lambda_b/2$ , where  $\lambda_b$  ( $\approx 4000 \text{ \AA}$ ) represents the wavelength for the blue colour, the blue component will be absent and the fringe will appear red in colour. Slightly farther away where  $S_2Q - S_1Q = \lambda_b = \lambda_r/2$  where  $\lambda_r$  ( $\approx 8000 \text{ \AA}$ ) is the wavelength for the red colour, the fringe will be predominantly blue.

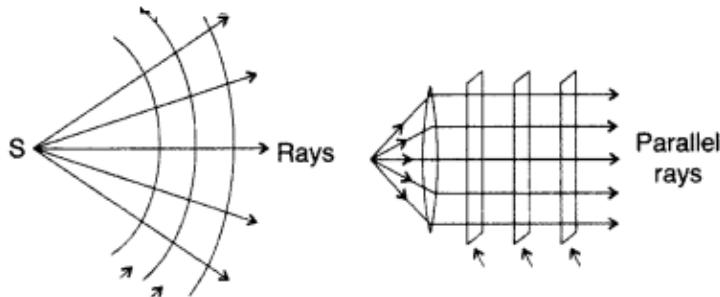
Thus, the fringe closest on either side of the central white fringe is red and the farthest will appear blue. After a few fringes, no clear fringe pattern is seen.

Question 105

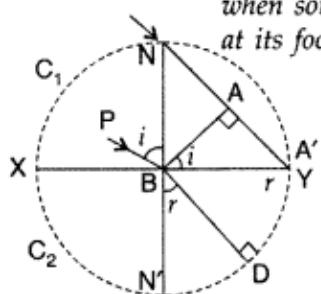


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(b) Shapes of wave-front



(i) from a point source      (ii) from a convex lens

when source kept  
at its focus

Question 106.

(i) In Young's double slit experiment, deduce the condition for

(a) constructive, and

(b) destructive interference at a point on the screen. Draw a graph showing variation of intensity in the interference pattern against position 'x' on the screen.

(ii) Compare the interference pattern observed in Young's double slit experiment with single slit diffraction pattern, pointing out three distinguishing features. (Delhi 2016)

Answer:

(i)

(a) For constructive interference : We will have constructive interference resulting in a bright fringe when path difference is equal to  $n\lambda$ .

$$\frac{xd}{D} = n\lambda \quad \Rightarrow x = \frac{n\lambda D}{d}$$

$$\therefore x_n = \frac{n\lambda D}{d} \quad \text{where } [n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2 \dots]$$

▼



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**fringe when difference =  $(2n + 1) \frac{\lambda}{2}$**

$$\frac{xd}{D} = (2n + 1) \frac{\lambda}{2} \Rightarrow x = \frac{(2n + 1)\lambda D}{2d}$$

$$\therefore x_n = \frac{(2n + 1)\lambda D}{2d} \quad \text{where } [n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2 \dots]$$

Fringe width  $\beta = x_{n+1} - x_n$

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

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

Hence all bright and dark fringes are of equal width.

Observations :

- (i) Fringe width is directly proportional to the wavelength of light i.e.  $\propto \lambda$ .
- (ii) Fringe width is inversely proportional to the distance between two sources

$$\text{i.e. } \beta \propto \frac{1}{d}.$$

(iii) Fringe width is directly proportional to the distance between screen and two sources i.e.  $\beta \propto \frac{1}{d}$ .

$$(b) \lambda_1 = 800 \text{ nm} = 800 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m},$$

$$\lambda_2 = 600 \text{ nm} = 600 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$$

$$d = 0.28 \text{ mm} = 0.28 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}, D = 1.4 \text{ m}$$

Suppose at any distance  $x$  from the central maximum,

We have,  $x = n_1 B_1 = n_2 B_2$

$$n_1 \frac{D\lambda_1}{d} = n_2 \frac{D\lambda_2}{d} \Rightarrow n_1 \lambda_1 = n_2 \lambda_2$$

The bright fringes will coincide at the least distance  $x$ ,

$$\text{if } n_2 = n_1 + 1 \quad \therefore n_1 \lambda_1 = (n_1 + 1) \lambda_2$$

$$\Rightarrow n_1 \times 800 \times 10^{-9} = (n_1 + 1) \times 600 \times 10^{-9}$$

$$\Rightarrow 8n_1 = 6n_1 + 6 \Rightarrow 2n_1 = 6 \quad \boxed{n_1 = 3}$$

Hence, the required distance is

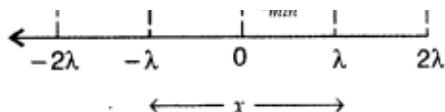
$$x = \frac{n_1 D \lambda_1}{d} = \frac{3 \times 1.4 \times 800 \times 10^{-9} \times 10^3}{28 \times 10^{-3}}$$

$$= \frac{33.6 \times 10^{-9+3+3+2}}{28}$$

$$= 1.2 \times 10^{-1} \text{ m}$$



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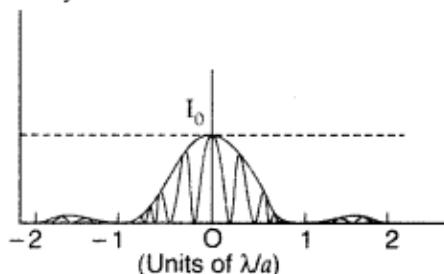
*Variation of intensity against 'x'*

(ii)

Interference pattern and Diffraction pattern :

The diagram, given here, shows several fringes, due to double slit interference, 'contained' in a broad diffraction peak. When the separation between the slits is large compared to their width, the diffraction pattern becomes very flat and we observe the two slit interference pattern.

Intensity



Basic features of distinction between interference and diffraction patterns :

- The interference pattern has a number of equally spaced bright and dark bands while diffraction pattern has a central bright maximum which is twice as wide as the other maxima.
- Interference pattern is the superimposition of two waves slits originating from two narrow slits. The diffraction pattern is a superposition of a continuous family of waves originating from each point on a single slit.
- For a single slit of width 'a' the first null of diffraction pattern occurs at an angle of  $\frac{\lambda}{a}$ . At the same angle of  $\frac{\lambda}{a}$ , we get a maxima for two narrow slits separated by a distance 'a'.

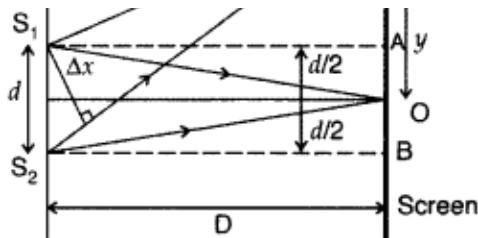
Question 107.

- Draw a diagram showing the 'Young's arrangement' for producing 'a sustained interference pattern'. Hence obtain the expression for the width of the interference fringes obtained in this pattern.
- If the principal source point S were to be moved a little upwards, towards the slit  $S_1$  from its usual symmetrical position, with respect to the two slits  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , discuss how the interference pattern, obtained on the screen, would get affected. (Compt. Delhi 2016)

Answer:



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takes place at O. Thus O is the position of the central bright fringe.

Let the waves emitted by  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  meet at point P and the screen at a distance y from the central bright fringe.

The path difference between these waves at P is given by

$$\Delta x = S_2P - S_1P \quad \dots(i)$$

From right angled triangle  $S_2BP$ ,

$$S_2P = [S_2B^2 + PB^2]^{1/2}$$

$$\Rightarrow S_2P = \left[ D^2 + \left( y + \frac{d}{2} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} = D \left[ 1 + \frac{(y + d/2)^2}{D^2} \right]^{1/2}$$

$$\Rightarrow S_2P = D \left[ 1 + \frac{(y + d/2)^2}{2D^2} \right]$$

$$\therefore S_2P = D + \frac{(y + d/2)^2}{2D} \quad \dots(ii)$$

Similarly from right angled  $\Delta S_1AP$ ,

$$S_1P = D + \frac{(y - d/2)^2}{2D} \quad \dots(iii)$$

Substituting these values in (i), we get

$$\Delta x = D + \frac{(y + d/2)^2}{2D} - D - \frac{(y - d/2)^2}{2D}$$

$$= \frac{(y^2 + d^2/4 + yd) - (y^2 + d^2/4 - yd)}{2D} = \frac{2yd}{2D} = \frac{yd}{D} \quad \dots(iv)$$

For constructive interference/maxima:

If path difference is an integral multiple of  $\lambda$ , then bright fringe will be formed at P

$$i.e., \frac{yd}{D} = m\lambda \quad \text{or} \quad y = \frac{m\lambda D}{d} \quad \dots(v)$$

...where  $[m = 1, 2, 3 \dots]$



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$$\therefore y = \frac{\left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right)\lambda D}{d} \quad \dots\text{where } [m = 1, 2, 3 \dots]$$

Which is position of  $m^{\text{th}}$  dark fringe from the central bright fringe.

$\beta$ (fringe width) =  $y_1 - y_0$

$$= \frac{3\lambda D}{2d} - \frac{\lambda D}{2d} = \frac{2\lambda D}{2d} = \frac{\lambda D}{d}$$

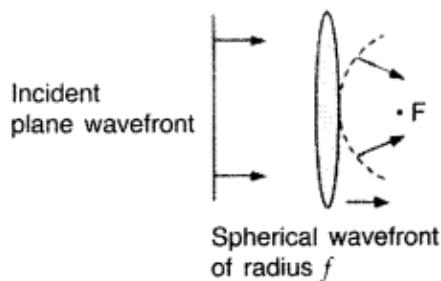
(b) On shifting principal source point 'S' little upwards i.e. towards  $S_v$  the position of the central maximum on the screen will shift downwards on the screen, i.e. below its previous position. Hence, whole interference pattern will get shifted little downwards but fringe width will remain the same as that of . the initial arrangement.

Question 108.

Based on Huygen's construction, draw the shape of a plane wavefront as it gets refracted on passing through a convex lens. (Comptt. All India 2016)

Answer:

The required shape of the wavefront is as shown



Question 109.

When a plane wave front, of light, of wavelength  $X$ , is incident on a narrow slit, an intensity distribution pattern, of the form shown is observed on a screen, suitably kept behind the slit. Name the phenomenon observed.



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(a) At the central maximum : The contributions due to the secondary wavelets, from all parts of the wave front (at the slit), arrive in phase at the central maxima, At the central maxima  $\theta = 0$ .

At the secondary maxima : It is only the contributions from (nearly)  $1/3$  (or  $1/5$ , or  $1/7$ , ...) of the incident wavefront that do not get cancelled at the locations of the secondary maxima. These occur at points for which

$$\theta \approx \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right) \frac{\lambda}{a} \quad (n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots)$$

At the secondary minima : The contributions, from 'corresponding pairs', of the sub-parts of the incident wavefront, cancel each other and the net contribution, at the location of the minima, is zero. The minima occur at points for which

$$\theta = n \frac{\lambda}{a} \quad (n = 1, 2, 3, \dots)$$

(b) There is a significant fall in intensity at the secondary maxima because the intensity there, is only due to the contribution of (nearly)  $(1/3 \text{ or } 1/5 \text{ or } 1/7, \dots)$  of the incident wavefronts.

(c) The size of the central maximum would get halved when width of the slit is doubled.

Question 110.

(a) Distinguish between unpolarised light and linearly polarised light. How does one get linearly polarised light with the help of a Polaroid?

(b) A narrow beam of unpolarised light of intensity  $I_0$  is incident on a polaroid  $P_1$ . The light transmitted by it is then incident on a second polaroid  $P_2$  with its pass axis making angle of  $60^\circ$  relative to the pass axis of  $P_1$ . Find the intensity of the light transmitted by  $P_2$ . (Delhi 2016)

Answer:

(a) Distinction between unpolarised and polarised light: In an unpolarised light, the oscillations of the electric field, are in random directions, in planes perpendicular to the direction of propagation. For a polarised light, the oscillations are aligned along one particular direction.

Alternatively, Polarised light can be distinguished, from unpolarised light, when it is allowed to pass through a polaroid. Polarised light can show change in its intensity on passing through a polaroid:



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[ $\because$  On passing through a polaroid, intensity becomes half]

$$I_2 = I_1 \cos^2 \theta = \left(\frac{I_0}{2}\right) \cos^2 \theta$$

$$I_2 = \frac{I_0}{2} \cos^2 60^\circ = \frac{I_0}{2} \times \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{I_0}{8}$$

$[\because \theta = 60^\circ]$

Question 111.

(a) Explain two features to distinguish between the interference pattern in Young's double slit experiment with the diffraction pattern obtained due to a single slit.

(b) A monochromatic light of wavelength 500 nm is incident normally on a single slit of width 0.2 mm to produce a diffraction pattern. Find the angular width of the central maximum obtained on the screen.

Estimate the number of fringes obtained in Young's double slit experiment with fringe width 0.5 mm, which can be accommodated within the region of total angular spread of the central maximum due to single slit.

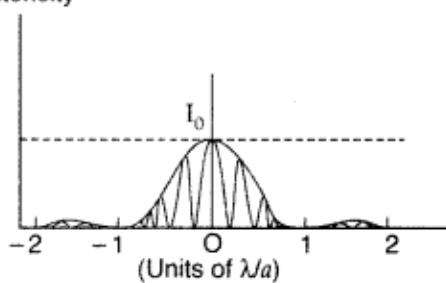
(Delhi. 2016)

Answer:

(a) Interference pattern and Diffraction pattern :

The diagram, given here, shows several fringes, due to double slit interference, 'contained' in a broad diffraction peak. When the separation between the slits is large compared to their width, the diffraction pattern becomes very flat and we observe the two slit interference pattern.

Intensity



Basic features of distinction between interference and diffraction patterns :

(i) The interference pattern has a number of equally spaced bright and dark bands while diffraction pattern has a central bright maximum which is twice as wide as the other maxima.



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### Angular width of central maximum

$$\omega = \frac{2\lambda}{a} = \frac{2 \times (500 \times 10^{-9})}{(0.2 \times 10^{-3})} \text{ radian}$$

**$= 5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ radian}$**

We know,  $\beta = \frac{\lambda D}{d}$  ... (i)

Linear width of central maxima in the diffraction pattern is given by

$$\omega' = \frac{2\lambda D}{a} \quad \dots (ii)$$

Let 'n' be the number of interference fringes which can be accommodated in the central maxima

$$\therefore n \times \beta = \omega' \quad \text{or } n = \frac{\omega'}{\beta}$$

$$n = \left( \frac{2\lambda D}{a} \right) \times \left( \frac{d}{\lambda D} \right) \quad \therefore n = \frac{2d}{a}$$

Question 112.

- (a) Define wavefront. Use Huygens' principle to verify the laws of refraction.  
 (b) How is linearly polarised light obtained by the process of scattering of light? Find the Brewster angle for air–glass interface, when the refractive index of glass = 1.5. (All India 2016)

Answer:

- (a) Wavefront : The wavefront is the common locus of all points which are in phase (surface of constant phase)

Huygens' principle to verify laws of refraction :

Huygens' geometrical construction for a plane wave propagation. Let AB be a section of primary wavefront at any instant t. Take points 1, 2, 3, 4, ... on the wavefront AB. Taking each point as centre, draw spheres of radius  $r = ct$ , where c is the velocity of light in the medium.

Draw a surface  $A_1B_1$  touching tangentially at the secondary wavelets in the forward direction. The surface  $A_1B_1$  is the secondary wavefront after time t.



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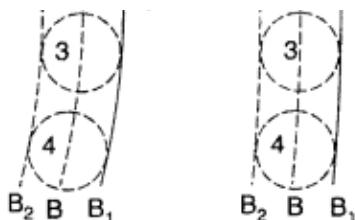
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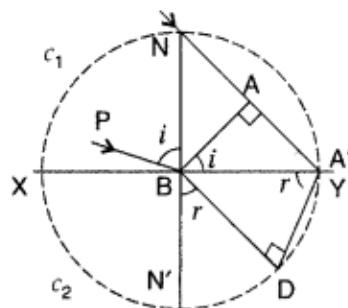
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**Huygens' geometrical construction  
for a plane wave**

A surface  $A_2B_2$  touching tangentially all the secondary wavelets in the backward direction can be drawn to give a backward secondary wavefront.

Laws of refraction using Huygen's principle. Let XY be the refracting surface separating two mediums 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Let  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  be the velocities of light in these mediums.



Let AB be a plane wavefront moving through the surface XY meeting at the point B.

The time taken 't' of A to reach at A'B then

$$AA' = c_1 t \Rightarrow t = \frac{AA'}{c_1}$$

By Huygen's principle, the secondary wavelet starts from B and covers a distance

$$BD = c_2 t \Rightarrow BD = c_2 \cdot \frac{AA'}{c_1} = AA' \cdot \frac{c_2}{c_1} \dots (i)$$

To obtain new front, draw a circle with point B as centre and BD as radius in 2nd medium. Draw a tangent A'D from point A'. Then A'D represents the refracted wavefront.

Since PB be incident ray and BD be refracted ray



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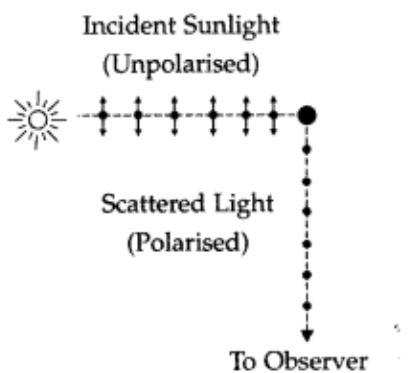
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$$\therefore \frac{\sin i}{\sin r} = \frac{AA'}{BA'} / \frac{BA'}{BD} = \frac{AA'}{BA'} \times \frac{BD}{BA'} = \frac{AA'}{BD}$$

$$\frac{\sin i}{\sin r} = \frac{AA'}{AA' \cdot \frac{c_2}{c_1}} = \frac{c_1}{c_2} = n \text{ (constant) ...[From (i)]}$$

This constant V is called the refractive index of material which proves Snell's law of refraction.

(b) When unpolarised light gets scattered by molecules of earth's atmosphere, the scattered light has only one of its two components in it and hence linearly polarised, as shown in the diagram :



We have,  $\mu = \tan i_B$

$$\therefore \tan i_B = 1.5 \quad \therefore i_B = \tan^{-1} (1.5)$$

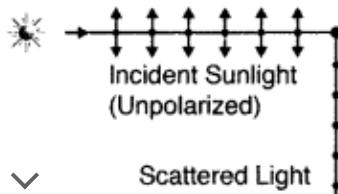
or  $i_B = 56.3^\circ$

Question 113.

Explain with diagram, how plane polarized light can be produced by scattering of sunlight. An incident beam of light of intensity  $IG$  is made to fall on a polaroid A. Another polaroid B is so oriented with respect to A that there is no light emerging out of B. A third polaroid C is now introduced mid-way between A and B and is so oriented that its axis bisects the angle between the axes of A and B. Calculate the intensity of light transmitted by A, B and C. (Comptt. Delhi 2016)

Answer:

(i) (c) It is due to scattering of light by molecules of earth's atmosphere.



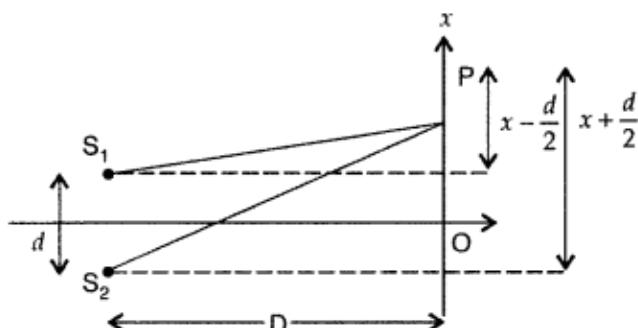
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- (a) In Young's double slit experiment a monochromatic source of light S is kept equidistant from the slits S<sub>1</sub> and S<sub>2</sub>. Explain the formation of dark and bright fringes on the screen.
- (b) A beam of light consisting of two wavelengths, 650 nm and 520 nm, is used to obtain interference fringes in Young's double-slit experiment.
- (i) Find the distance of the third bright fringe on the screen from the central maximum for wavelength 650 nm?
- (ii) What is the least distance from the central maximum where the bright fringes due to both the wavelengths coincide?

Given : the separation between the slits is 4 mm and the distance between the screen and plane of the slits is 1.2 m. (Comptt. Delhi 2016)

Answer:

- (a) Young's double slit experiment. The path difference between two rays coming from holes S<sub>1</sub> and S<sub>2</sub> is (S<sub>2</sub>P – S<sub>1</sub>P). If point P corresponds to a maximum,



Now  $(S_2P)^2 - (S_1P)^2$

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

=  $2xd$ , where  $S_1S_2 = d$  and  $OP = x$

$$(S_2P + S_1P)(S_2P - S_1P) = 2xd$$

$$S_2P + S_1P = \frac{2xd}{S_2P + S_1P}$$

If  $x, d \ll D$ , then negligible error will be introduced if  $(S_2P + S_1P)$  in the denominator is replaced by  $2D$ .



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$$x_1, x = x_n = \frac{d}{n}, n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \dots [For]$$

**maxima]** ...*(ii)*

Now, for minimum,  $S_2P - S_1P = (2n - 1) \frac{\lambda}{2}$

$$\text{Thus } (2n - 1) \frac{\lambda}{2} = \frac{xd}{D}$$

$$\text{or } x = x_n = (2n - 1) \frac{\lambda D}{2d},$$

**$n = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \dots$  [For minima]**

Thus, bright and dark bands appear on the screen. Such bands are called 'fringes'.

These dark and bright fringes are equally spaced.



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Now the fringewidth is  $\beta = x_{n+1} - x_n = \frac{\lambda D}{2d}$ .

Thus, the expression for fringe width is

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

$$(b) \text{ Given : } \frac{I_{\min}}{I_{\max}} = \frac{9}{25} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{I_1 - I_2}{I_1 + I_2} = \frac{9}{25}$$

$$\frac{a_1 - a_2}{a_1 + a_2} = \sqrt{\frac{I_1 - I_2}{I_1 + I_2}} = \sqrt{\frac{9}{25}} = \frac{3}{5}$$

$$\text{Solving we get } \frac{a_1}{a_2} = \frac{4}{1}$$

$$\text{Ratio of } \frac{w_1}{w_2} = \frac{a_1^2}{a_2^2} = \frac{16}{1} \quad \therefore \text{ Ratio} = 16 : 1$$

$$(b) (i) \text{ Given : } n = 3, \lambda = 650 \text{ nm} = 650 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}, \\ D = 1.2 \text{ m}, d = 4 \text{ mm} = 4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{We know } \chi_n &= \frac{n\lambda D}{d} \\ &= \frac{3 \times (650 \times 10^{-9}) \times 1.2}{(4 \times 10^{-3})} \\ &= 585 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m} = 0.585 \text{ mm} \end{aligned}$$

$$(ii) \text{ Given : } \lambda_1 = 650 \text{ nm}, \lambda_2 = 520 \text{ nm}, \\ D = 1.2 \text{ m}, d = 4 \text{ mm} = 4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}$$

Since both fringes coincide, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{n_1 \lambda_1 D}{d} &= \frac{n_2 \lambda_2 D}{d} \\ \Rightarrow n_1 \lambda_1 &= n_2 \lambda_2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{n_1}{n_2} = \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1} = \frac{520}{650} = \frac{4}{5}$$

Therefore, 4<sup>th</sup> bright fringe of  $\lambda = 650 \text{ nm}$   
will coincide with 5<sup>th</sup> bright fringe of  
520 nm.

Least distance from central maximum  
where bright fringes of both  
wavelengths coincide

$$\begin{aligned} \chi &= \frac{4 \times (650 \times 10^{-9}) \times 1.2}{(4 \times 10^{-3})} \text{ m} \\ &= 780 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m} = 0.78 \text{ nm} \end{aligned}$$



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