

# An Introduction to Radio Interferometry

## 4-1 Diffraction grating



You can find relevant material  
on my personal webpage

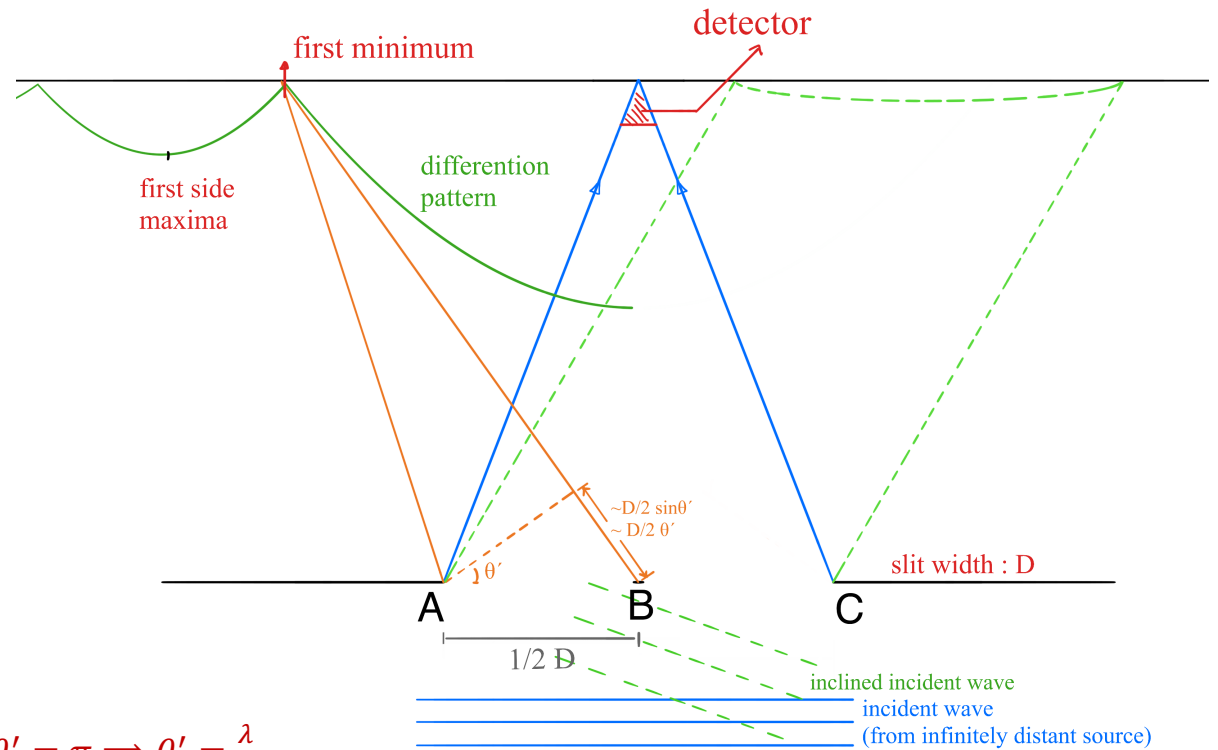
NSYSU EMI Online Lecture Series Haiyu Baobab Liu (吕浩宇),  
Department of Physics

1. EM-wave at long-distance limit: plane wave  $E = E_0 \cos(kx - \omega t + \phi_0)$
2. Energy flux density  $\propto E_0^2$

$$\sqrt{\tilde{P}(\theta)} = \frac{\sin\left(\frac{1}{2}kD \sin \theta'\right)}{\frac{1}{2}k \sin \theta'} \sim \frac{\sin\left(\frac{1}{2}kD \theta'\right)}{\frac{1}{2}k \theta'}$$

Diffraction pattern:  $\tilde{P}(\theta)$

First zero:  $\frac{1}{2}kD\theta' = \pi \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}\frac{2\pi}{\lambda}D\theta' = \pi \Rightarrow \theta' = \frac{\lambda}{D}$

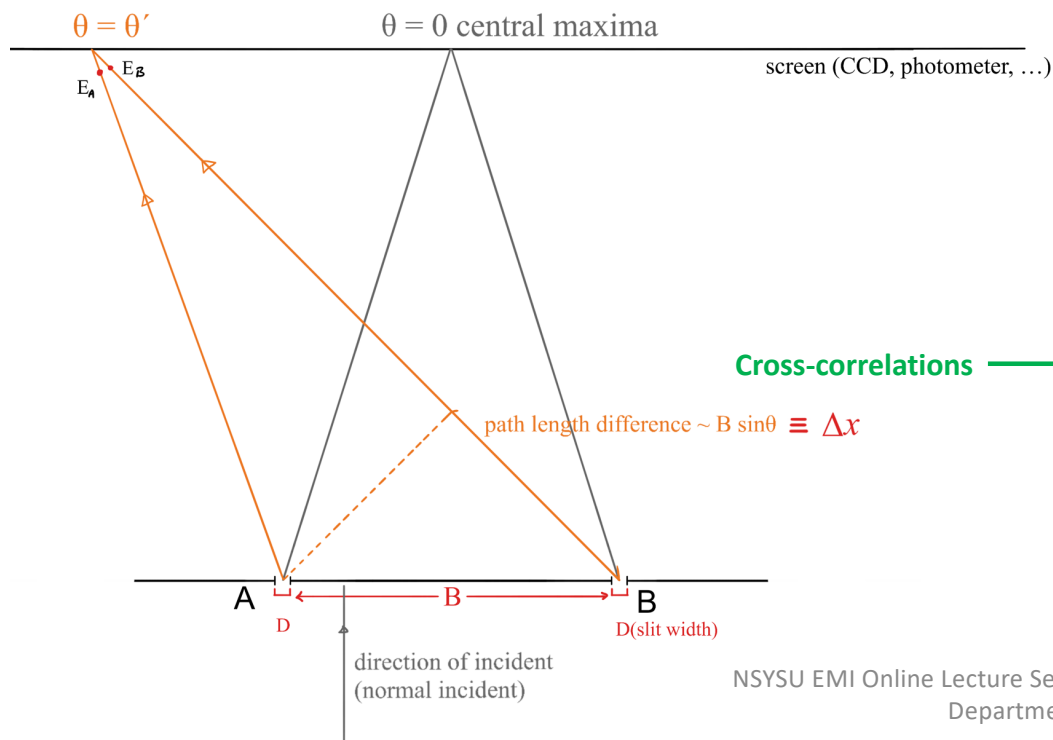


1. EM-wave at long-distance limit: plane wave  $E = E_0 \cos(kx - \omega t + \phi_0)$
2. Energy flux density  $\propto E_0^2$

Lecture Unit 1-2

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Single slit field} &= -\frac{\sin\left(\frac{1}{2}kD \sin \theta'\right)}{\frac{1}{2}k \sin \theta'} \cos\left(kx - \omega t + \frac{1}{2}kD \sin \theta'\right) \\ &\equiv \underbrace{\sqrt{\tilde{P}(\theta)}}_{\text{Amplitude modulation}} \cos\left(\underbrace{kx - \omega t + \phi_s}_{\text{Phase modulation}}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Lecture Unit 2-2

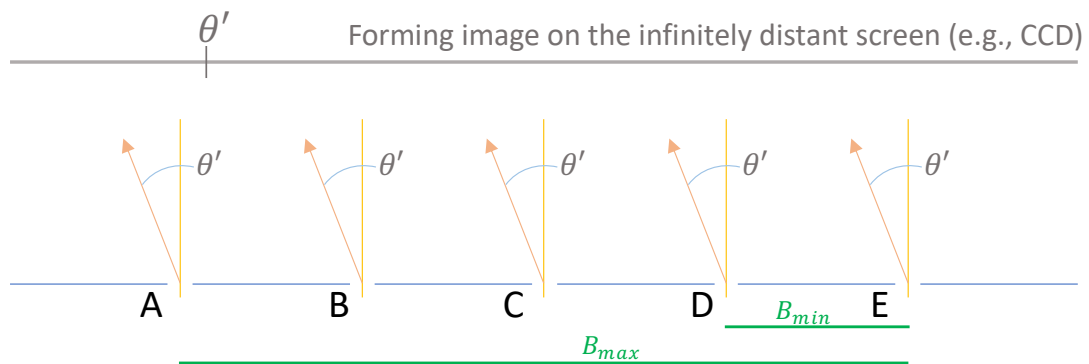


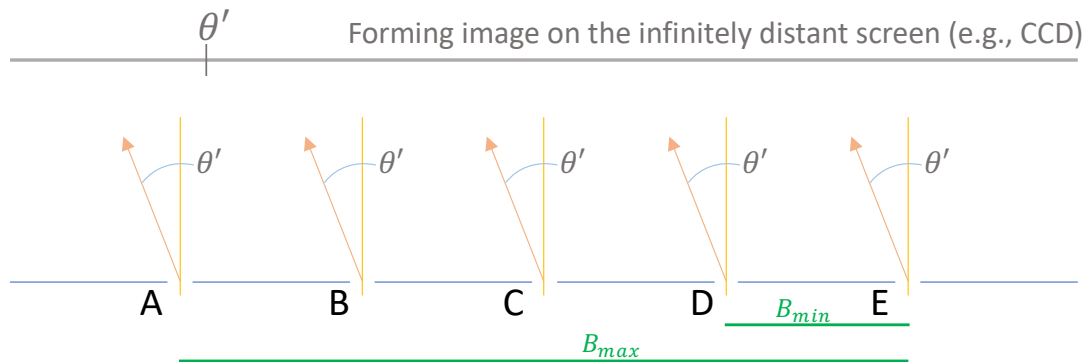
Number of incoming photons in a unit of time and a unit area (at the angle of emergence  $\theta = \theta'$ )

$$\begin{aligned} &\propto \langle [E_A + E_B]^2 \rangle \\ &= \langle [\cos(kx - \omega t + \phi_0) + \cos(k(x + \Delta x) - \omega t + \phi_0)]^2 \rangle \\ &= \left. \begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{2} \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned} \right\} \text{Auto-correlations} \\ &\quad + \underbrace{\langle 2\cos(kx - \omega t + \phi_0) \cos(k(x + \Delta x) - \omega t + \phi_0) \rangle}_{\text{Cross-correlations}} \end{aligned}$$

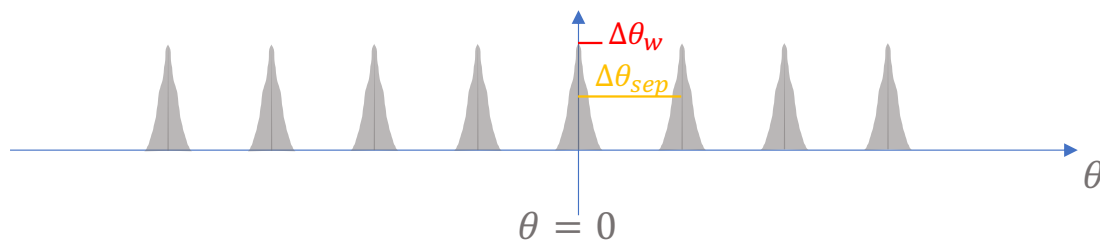
$\phi$   $\psi$

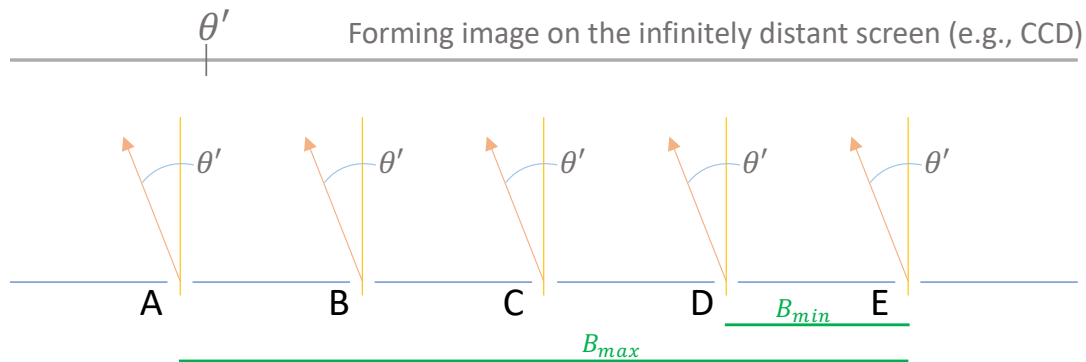
$$\begin{aligned} \langle [E_A + E_B]^2 \rangle &= \tilde{P}(\theta) \left[ 1 + \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{\lambda} B \sin \theta\right) \right] \\ &\sim \tilde{P}(\theta) \left[ \underbrace{1}_{\text{Auto-correlations}} + \underbrace{\cos\left(2\pi \frac{B}{\lambda} \theta\right)}_{\text{Cross-correlations}} \right] \end{aligned}$$





Diffraction pattern  
(proportional to the number of incoming photons  
in a unit of time and a unit of area)



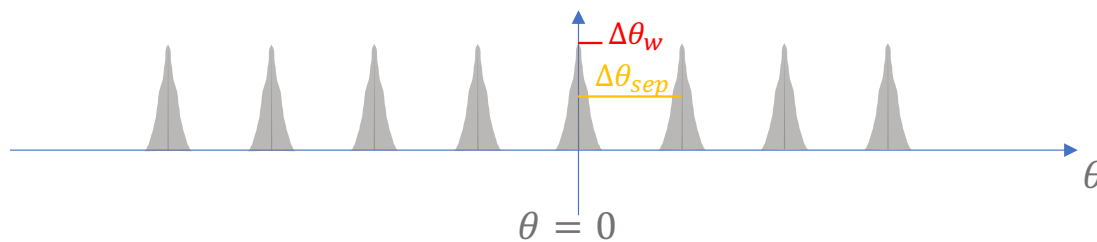


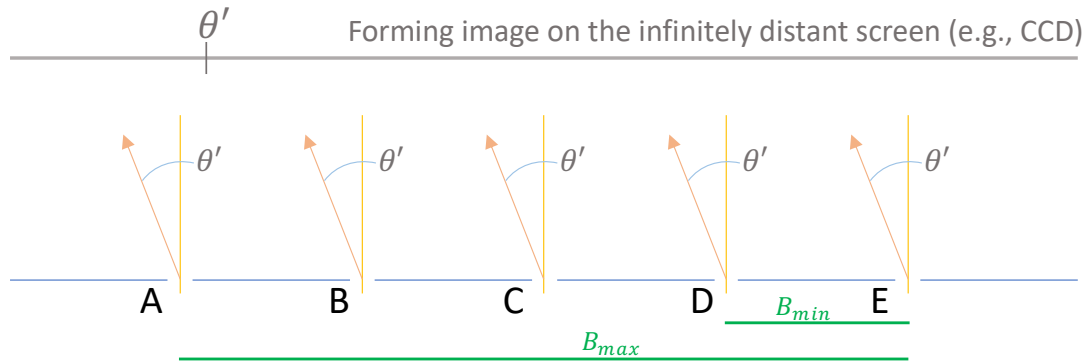
### Diffraction pattern

Location of maxima:  $B_{min} \sin(\theta) = m\lambda$ ,  $m = 0, 1, 2, 3 \dots$   
 (same as the case of a double slit)

### Diffraction pattern

(proportional to the number of incoming photons  
 in a unit of time and a unit of area)





### Diffraction pattern

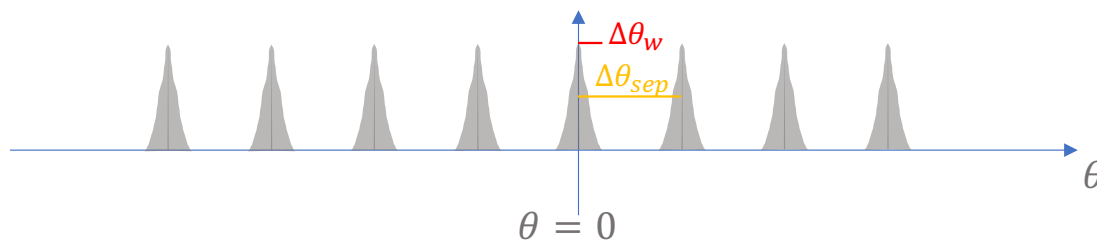
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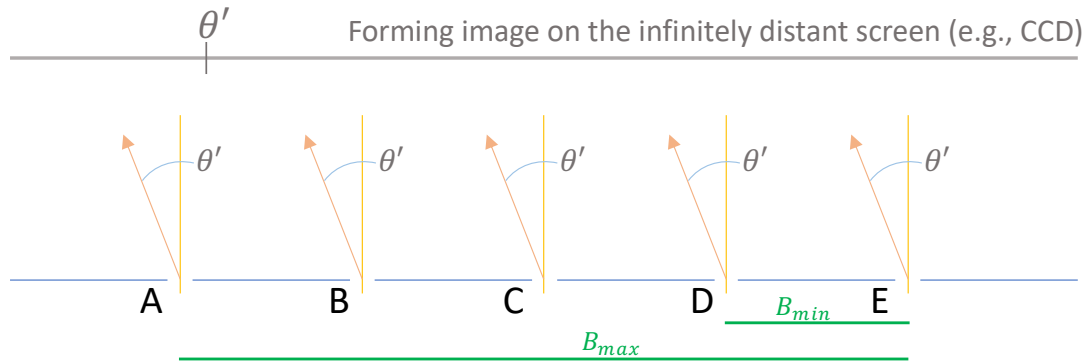
Width of pattern:  $\frac{1}{2} B_{max} \sin(\Delta\theta_w) = \frac{1}{2} \lambda$

(same as the case of a single slit)

### Diffraction pattern

(proportional to the number of incoming photons in a unit of time and a unit of area)





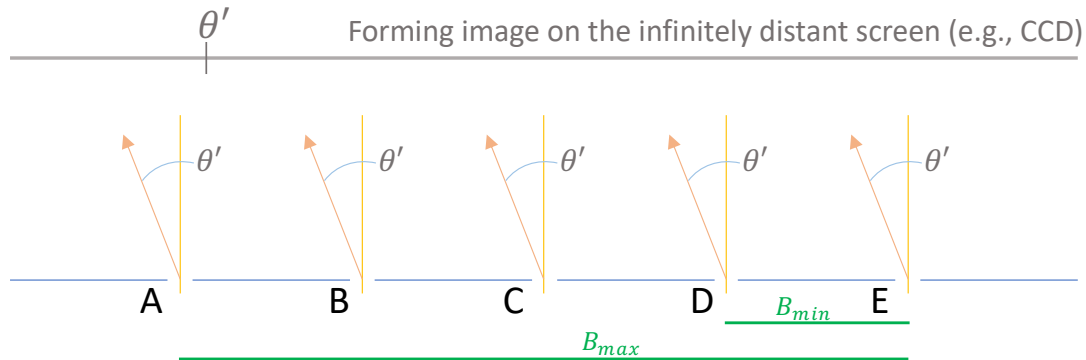
## Evaluation of diffraction pattern

(proportional to the number of incoming photons in a unit of time and a unit of area)

$$E_A = E_0 \cos(kx - \omega t + \phi_0)$$

$$\langle (E_A + E_B + E_C + E_D + E_E + \dots)^2 \rangle$$



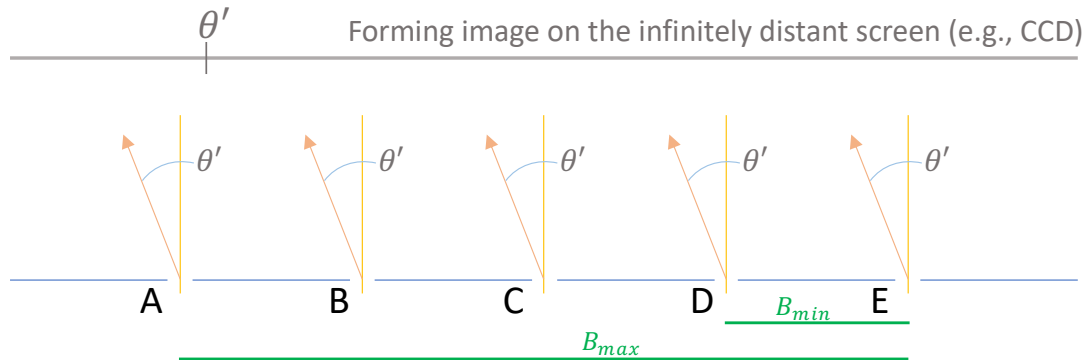


## Evaluation of diffraction pattern

(proportional to the number of incoming photons in a unit of time and a unit of area)

$$E_A = E_0 \cos(kx - \omega t + \phi_0)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle (E_A + E_B + E_C + E_D + E_E + \dots)^2 \rangle = & \langle E_A^2 \rangle + \langle E_B^2 \rangle + \langle E_C^2 \rangle + \langle E_D^2 \rangle + \langle E_E^2 \rangle \\ & + \langle 2E_A E_B \rangle + \langle 2E_A E_C \rangle + \langle 2E_A E_D \rangle + \langle 2E_A E_E \rangle \\ & + \langle 2E_B E_C \rangle + \langle 2E_B E_D \rangle + \langle 2E_B E_E \rangle \\ & + \langle 2E_C E_D \rangle + \langle 2E_C E_E \rangle \\ & + \langle 2E_D E_E \rangle \end{aligned}$$

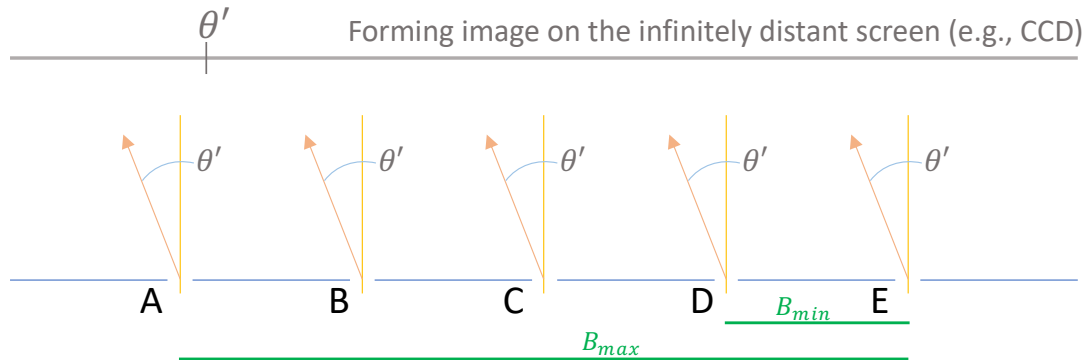


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$$\begin{aligned} \langle (E_A + E_B + E_C + E_D + E_E + \dots)^2 \rangle &= \underbrace{\langle E_A^2 \rangle + \langle E_B^2 \rangle + \langle E_C^2 \rangle + \langle E_D^2 \rangle + \langle E_E^2 \rangle}_{\text{Auto-correlation}} \\ &\quad + \underbrace{\langle 2E_A E_B \rangle + \langle 2E_A E_C \rangle + \langle 2E_A E_D \rangle + \langle 2E_A E_E \rangle}_{\text{Cross-correlation}} \\ &\quad + \langle 2E_B E_C \rangle + \langle 2E_B E_D \rangle + \langle 2E_B E_E \rangle \\ &\quad + \langle 2E_C E_D \rangle + \langle 2E_C E_E \rangle \\ &\quad + \langle 2E_D E_E \rangle \end{aligned}$$



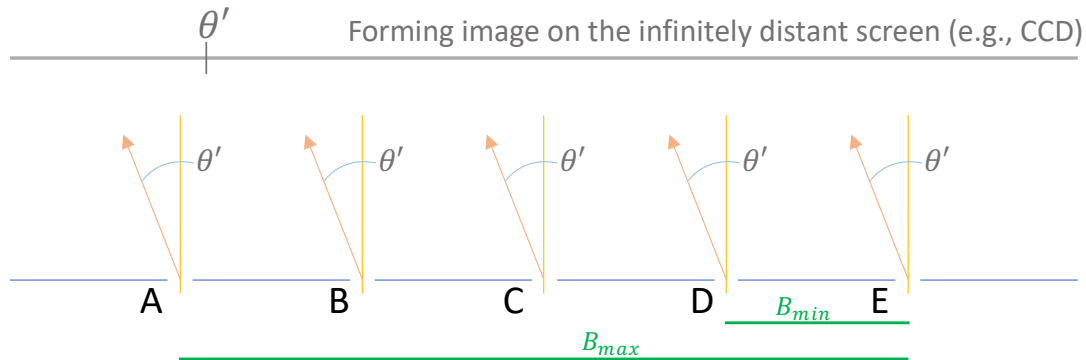
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4 slit-pairs at shortest separation



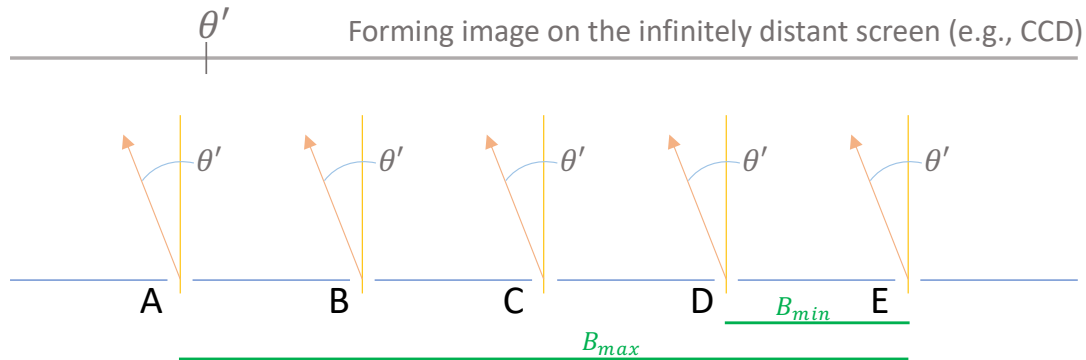
## Evaluation of diffraction pattern

(proportional to the number of incoming photons in a unit of time and a unit of area)

$$E_A = E_0 \cos(kx - \omega t + \phi_0)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle (E_A + E_B + E_C + E_D + E_E + \dots)^2 \rangle &= \underbrace{\langle E_A^2 \rangle + \langle E_B^2 \rangle + \langle E_C^2 \rangle + \langle E_D^2 \rangle + \langle E_E^2 \rangle}_{\text{Auto-correlation}} \\
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 &\quad + \langle 2E_B E_C \rangle + \langle 2E_B E_D \rangle + \langle 2E_B E_E \rangle \\
 &\quad + \langle 2E_C E_D \rangle + \langle 2E_C E_E \rangle \\
 &\quad + \langle 2E_D E_E \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

3 slit-pairs at the 2<sup>nd</sup> shortest separation



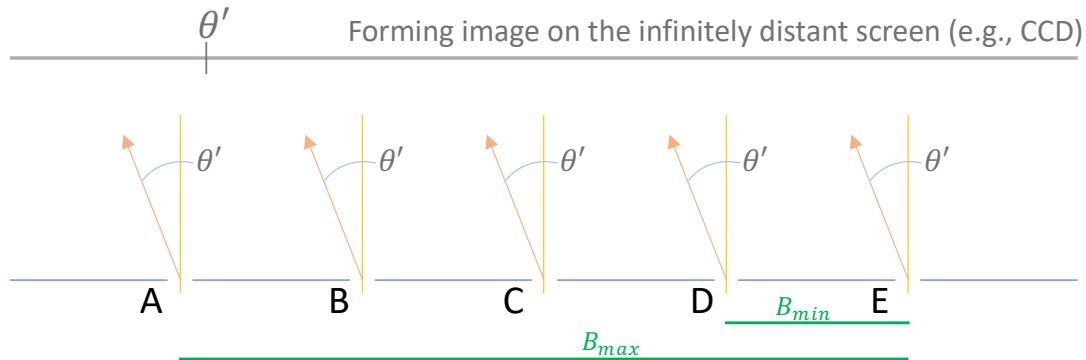
## Evaluation of diffraction pattern

(proportional to the number of incoming photons in a unit of time and a unit of area)

$$E_A = E_0 \cos(kx - \omega t + \phi_0)$$

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 \langle (E_A + E_B + E_C + E_D + E_E + \dots)^2 \rangle &= \overbrace{\langle E_A^2 \rangle + \langle E_B^2 \rangle + \langle E_C^2 \rangle + \langle E_D^2 \rangle + \langle E_E^2 \rangle}^{\text{Auto-correlation}} \\
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 &\quad + \langle 2E_C E_D \rangle + \langle 2E_C E_E \rangle \\
 &\quad + \langle 2E_D E_E \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

2 slit-pairs at the 3<sup>rd</sup> shortest separation



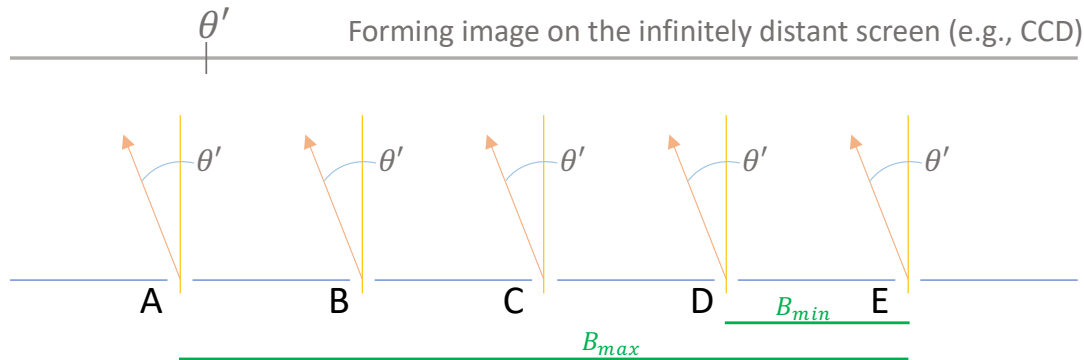
## Evaluation of diffraction pattern

(proportional to the number of incoming photons in a unit of time and a unit of area)

$$E_A = E_0 \cos(kx - \omega t + \phi_0)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle (E_A + E_B + E_C + E_D + E_E + \dots)^2 \rangle &= \underbrace{\langle E_A^2 \rangle + \langle E_B^2 \rangle + \langle E_C^2 \rangle + \langle E_D^2 \rangle + \langle E_E^2 \rangle}_{\text{Auto-correlation}} \\
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 &\quad + \langle 2E_C E_D \rangle + \langle 2E_C E_E \rangle \\
 &\quad + \langle 2E_D E_E \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

1 slit-pair at longest separation



## Evaluation of diffraction pattern

(proportional to the number of incoming photons in a unit of time and a unit of area)

$$E_A = E_0 \cos(kx - \omega t + \phi_0)$$

Auto-correlation

$$\begin{aligned} \langle (E_A + E_B + E_C + E_D + E_E + \dots)^2 \rangle &= \langle E_A^2 \rangle + \langle E_B^2 \rangle + \langle E_C^2 \rangle + \langle E_D^2 \rangle + \langle E_E^2 \rangle \\ &\quad + \langle 2E_A E_B \rangle + \langle 2E_A E_C \rangle + \langle 2E_A E_D \rangle + \langle 2E_A E_E \rangle \\ &\quad + \langle 2E_B E_C \rangle + \langle 2E_B E_D \rangle + \langle 2E_B E_E \rangle \\ &\quad + \langle 2E_C E_D \rangle + \langle 2E_C E_E \rangle \\ &\quad + \langle 2E_D E_E \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Cross-correlation

1 slit-pair at longest separation

Form of each cross-term

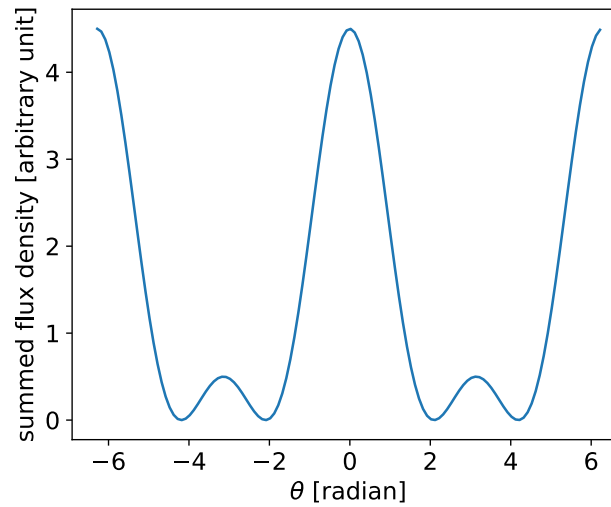
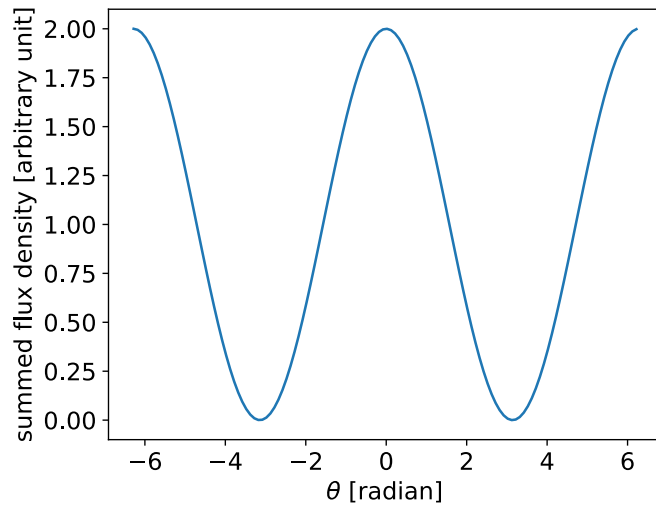
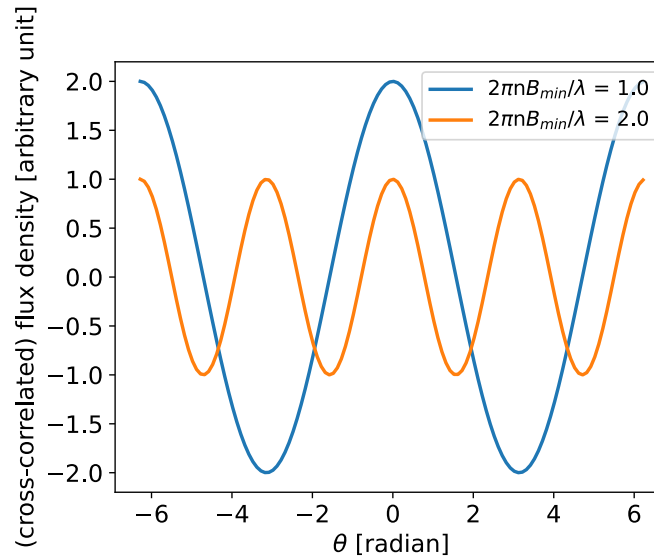
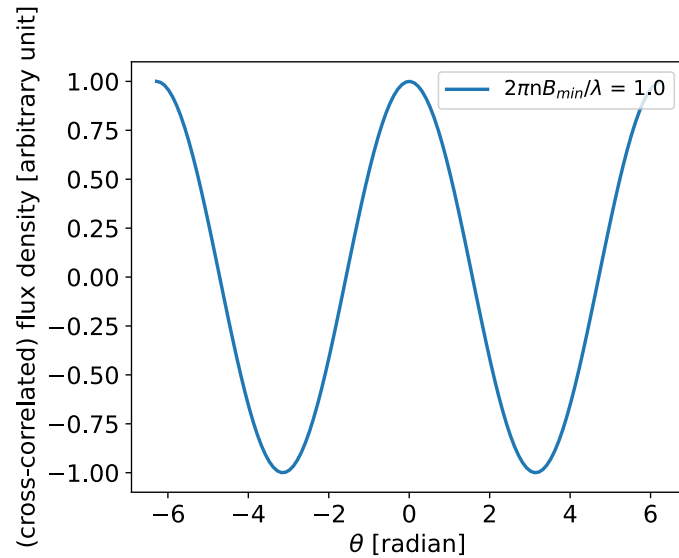
$$\begin{aligned} &\langle 2E_0^2 \cos(kx - \omega t + \phi_0) \cos(k(x + \Delta x) - \omega t + \phi_0) \rangle \\ &= \langle \cos(k\Delta x) \rangle + \langle \cos(2kx - 2\omega t + 2\phi_0 + k\Delta x) \rangle, \quad \Delta x = nB_{\min} \sin \theta' \\ &= \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{\lambda} nB_{\min} \sin \theta'\right) \sim \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{\lambda} nB_{\min} \theta'\right) \end{aligned}$$

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Trigonometric identity:

$$\begin{aligned} &\cos \psi \cos \varphi \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [\cos(\psi - \varphi) + \cos(\psi + \varphi)] \end{aligned}$$

## Assuming a diffraction grating with 2 and 3 slits



Flux density:

$$\cos(k\theta) = \cos\left(2\pi \frac{n B_{min}}{\lambda} \theta\right),$$

$$k = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots, (N-1)$$

Summed flux density:

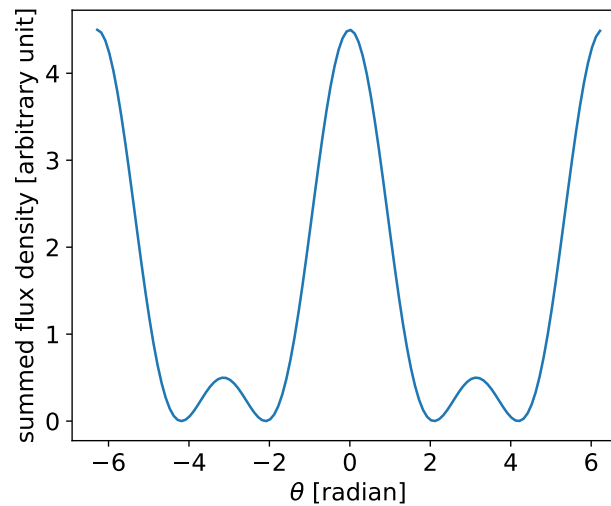
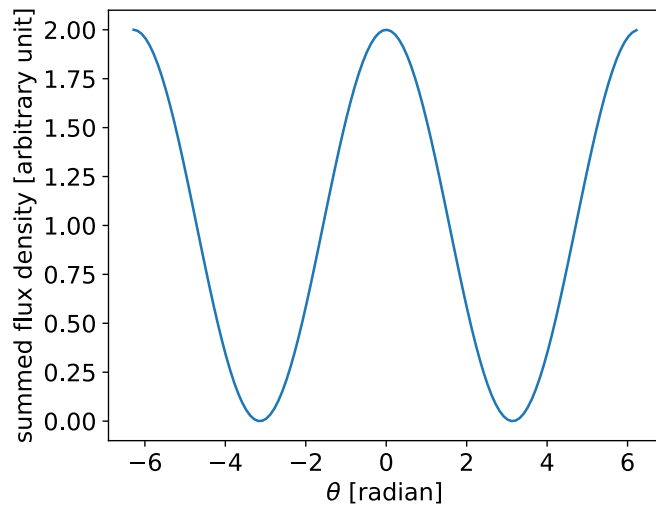
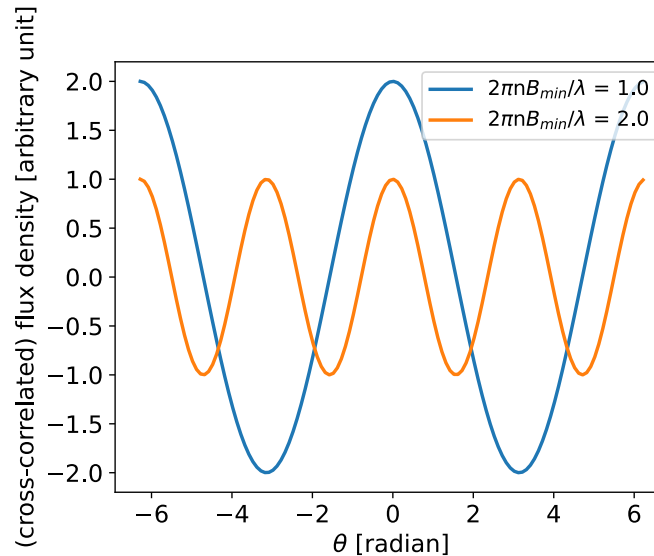
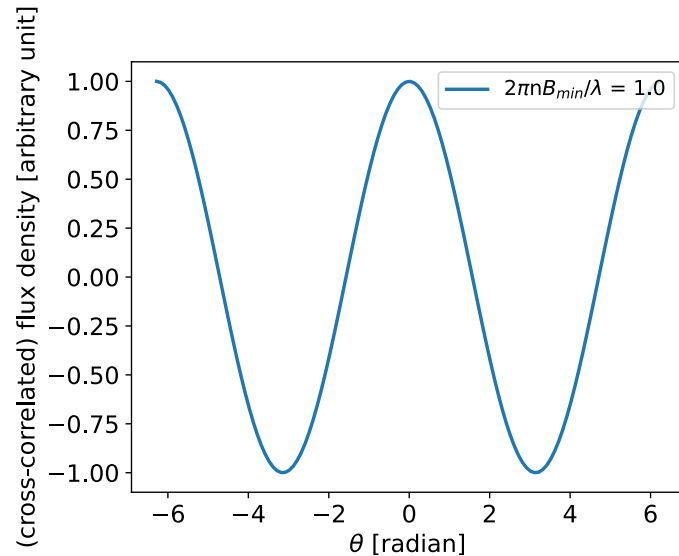
$$\sum_k (N - k) \cos(k\theta) + \text{auto-corr.}$$

**Properties:**

1. For any  $n$ ,  $\theta = 0$  is always the location of the central maximum (i.e., constructive interference)



## Assuming a diffraction grating with 2 and 3 slits



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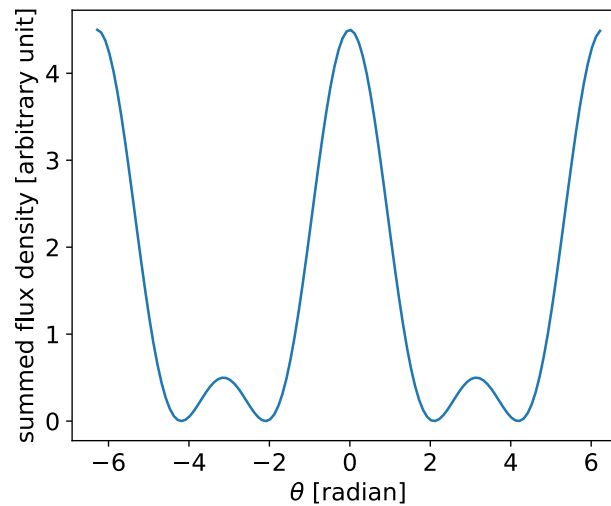
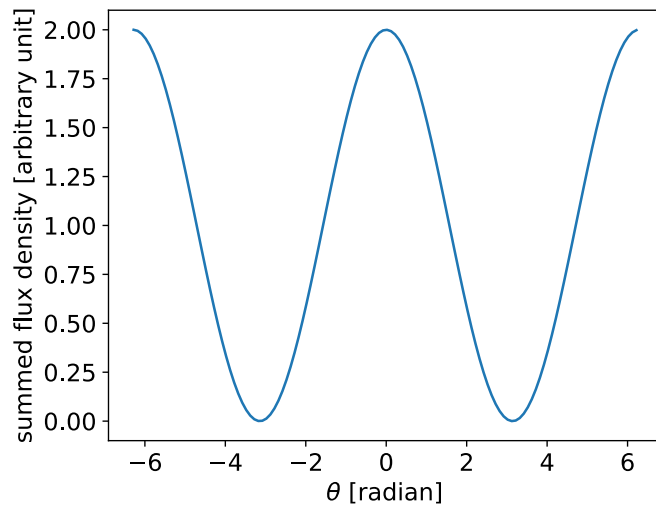
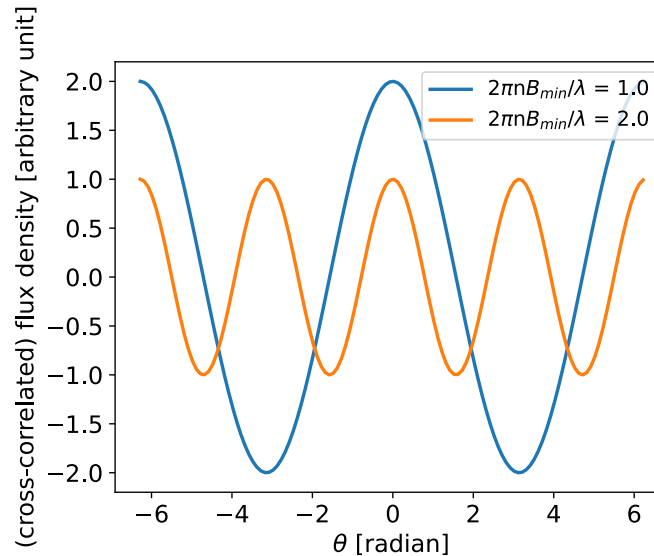
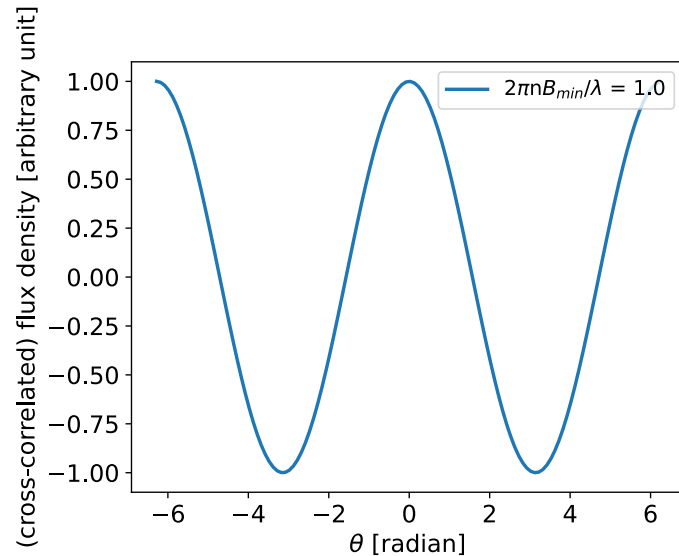
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**Properties:**

1. For any  $n$ ,  $\theta = 0$  is always the location of the central maximum (i.e., constructive interference)
2. The locations of the maxima for the  $n = 1$  slit-pairs are always the locations of the maxima for any other pairs of slits.

## Assuming a diffraction grating with 2 and 3 slits



Flux density:

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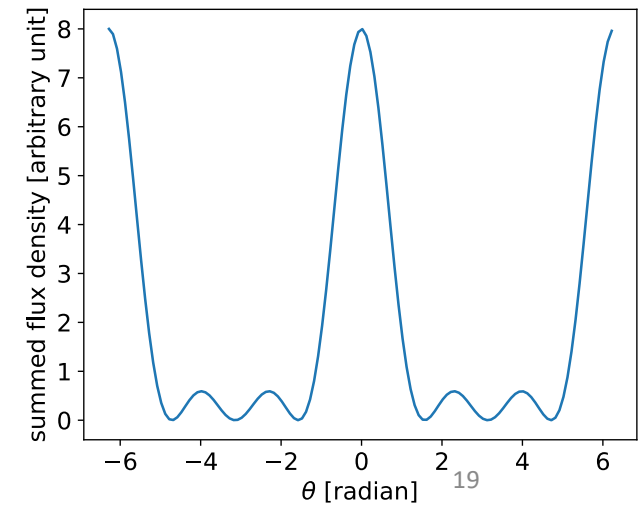
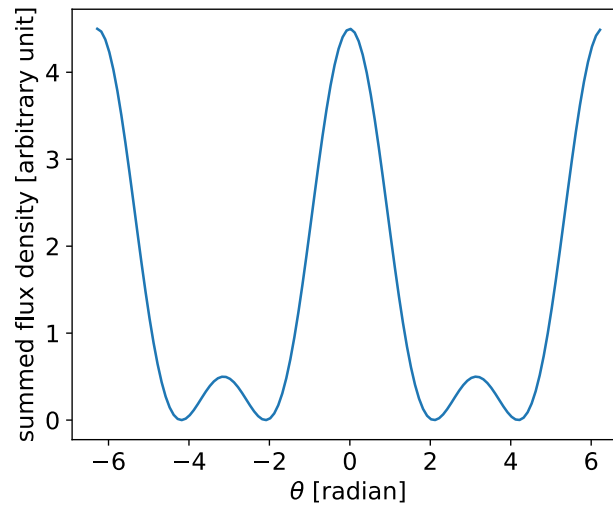
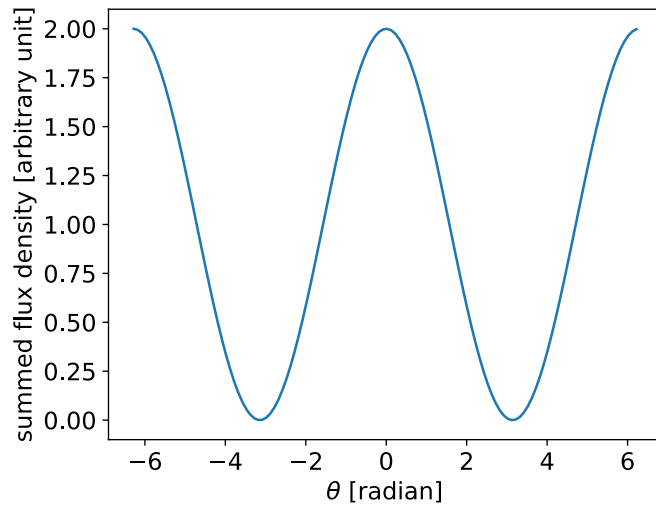
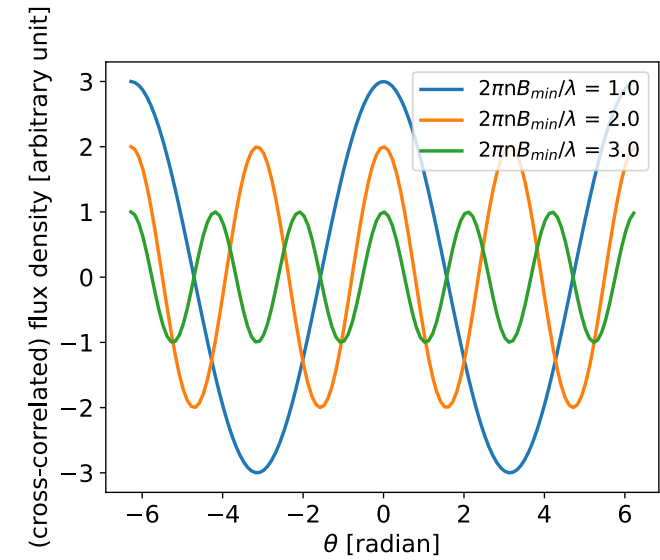
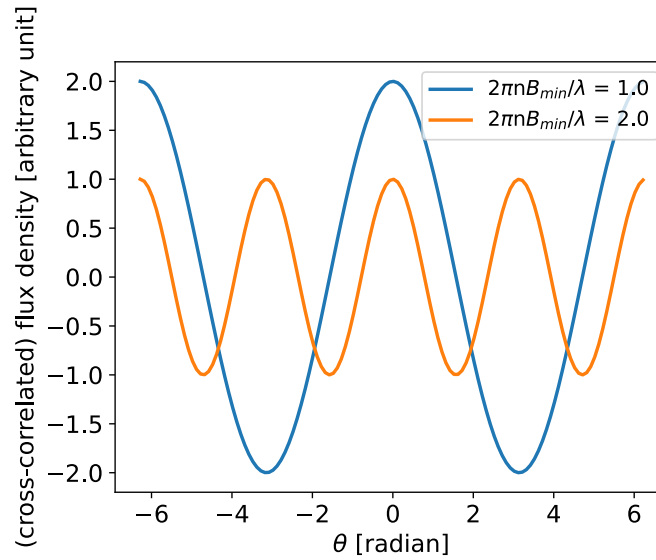
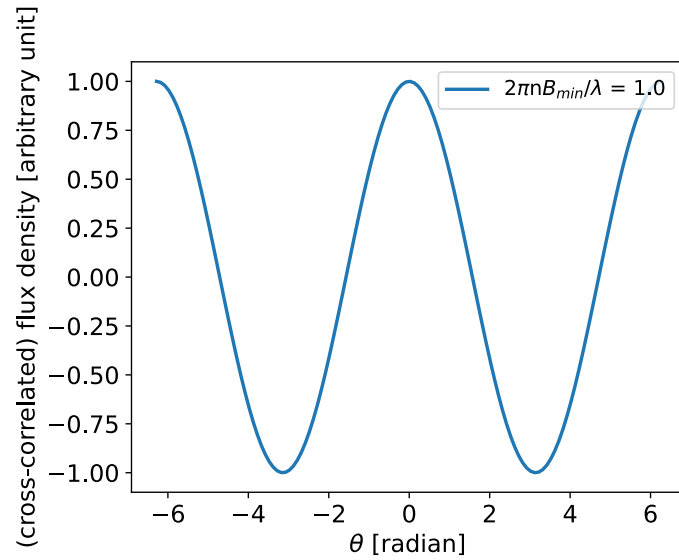
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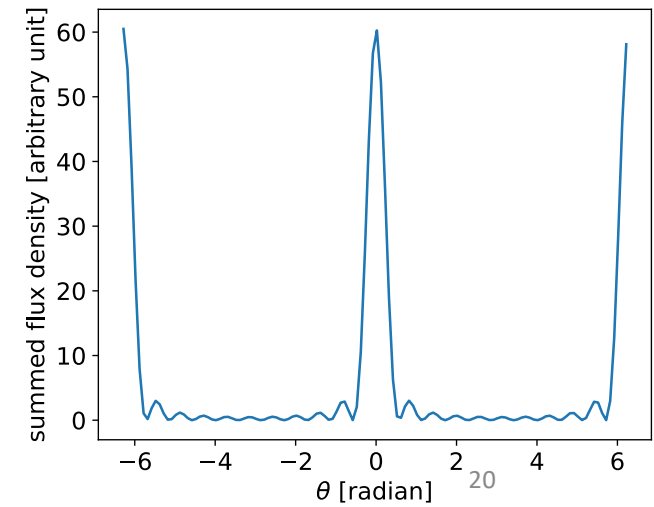
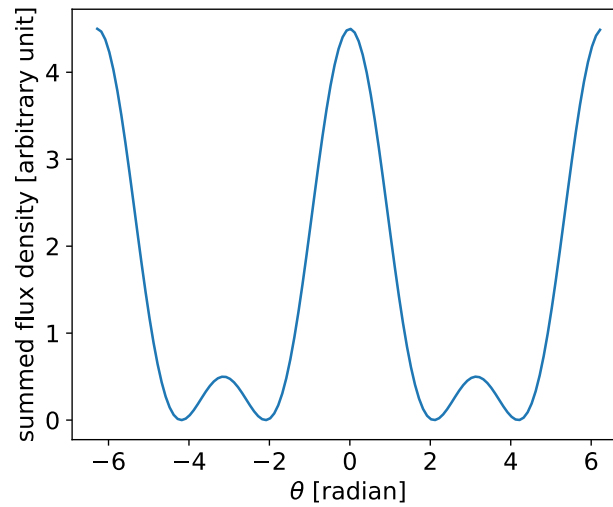
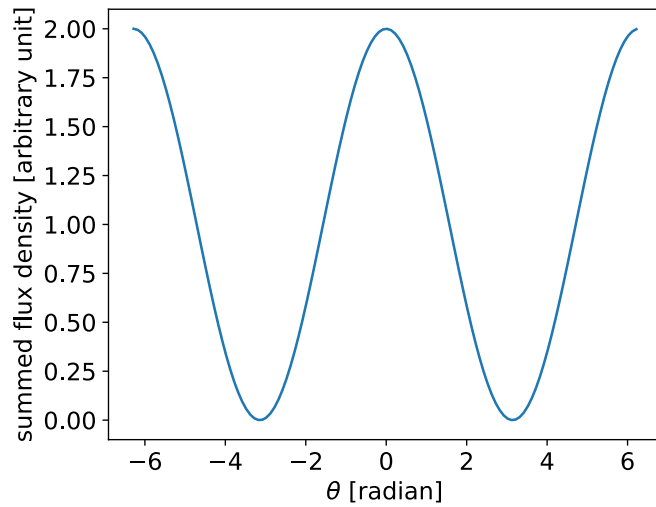
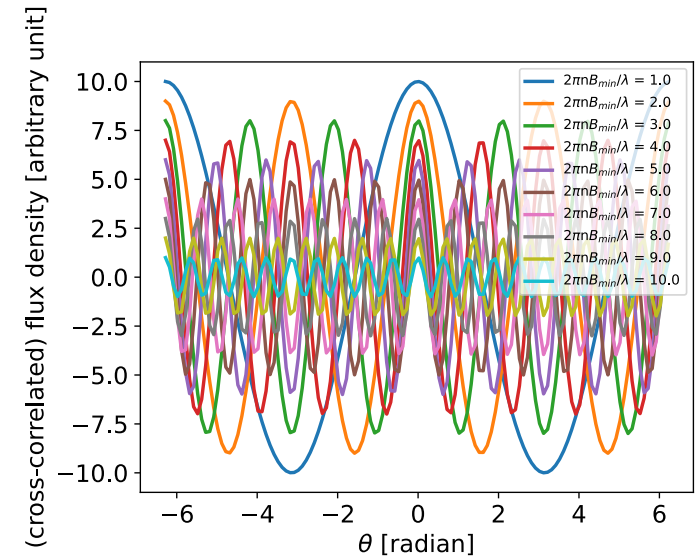
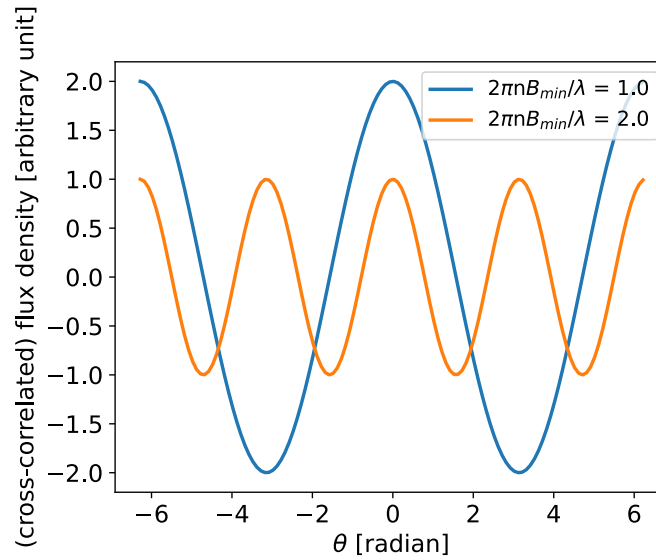
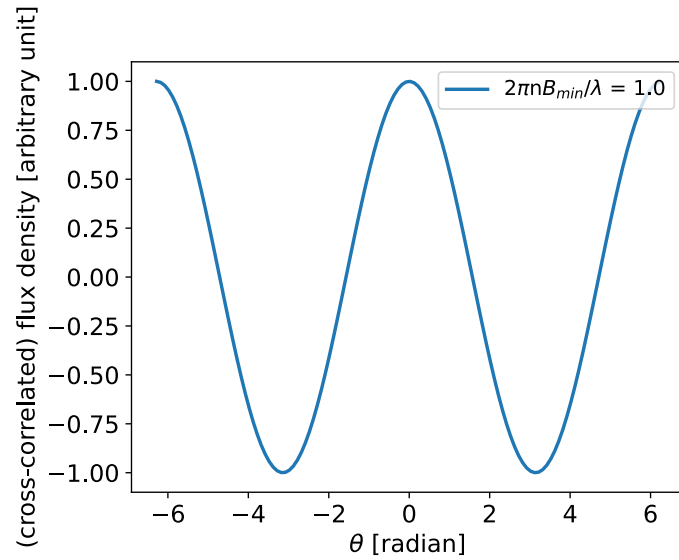
Properties:

1. For any  $n$ ,  $\theta = 0$  is always the location of the central maximum (i.e., constructive interference)
2. The locations of the maxima for the  $n = 1$  slit-pairs are always the locations of the maxima for any other pairs of slits.
3. Between the maxima of the  $n=1$  pairs of slits, the destructive interference makes the photon flux density approach 0. (i.e., the cross-correlation terms cancel each other).

## Assuming a diffraction grating with 2, 3, and 4 slits



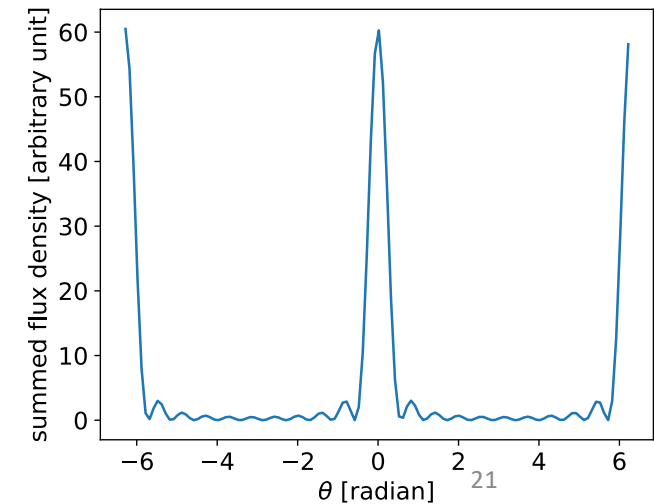
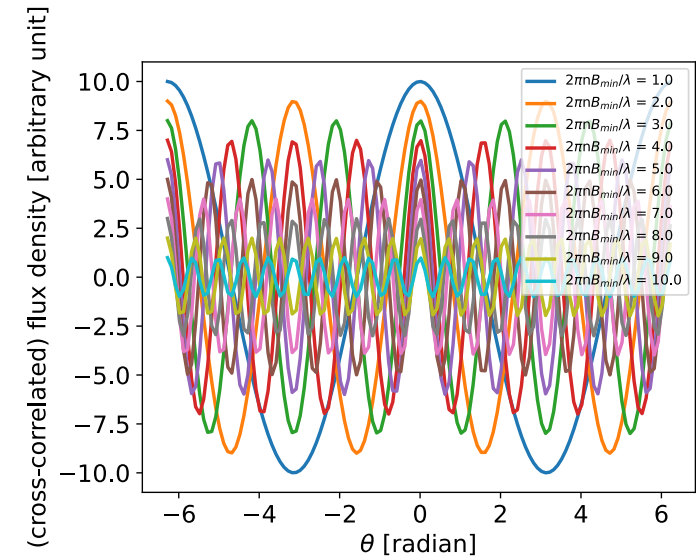
## Assuming a diffraction grating with 2, 3, and 10 slits



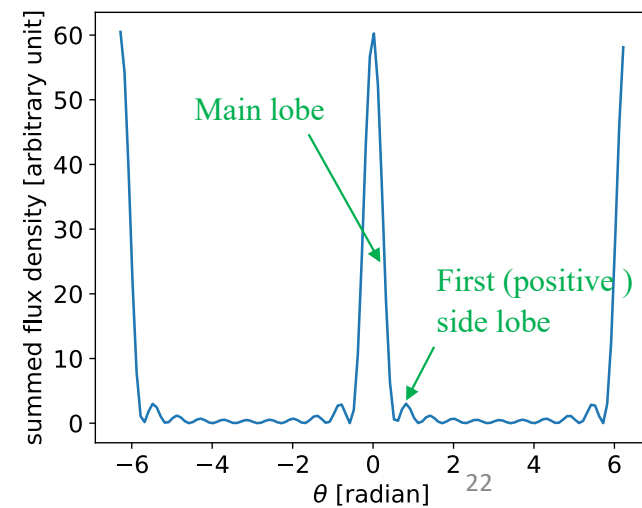
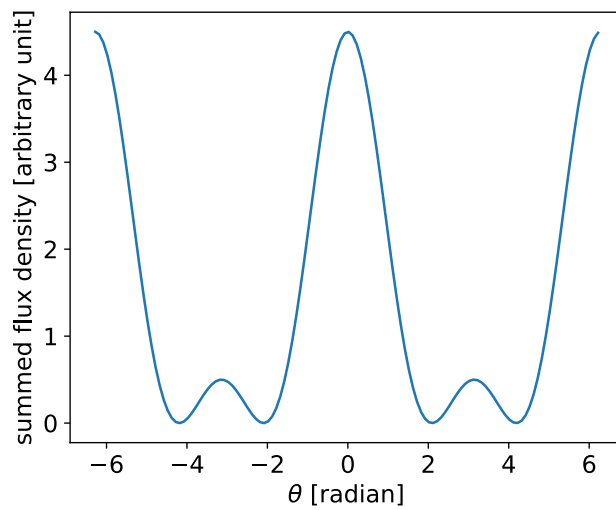
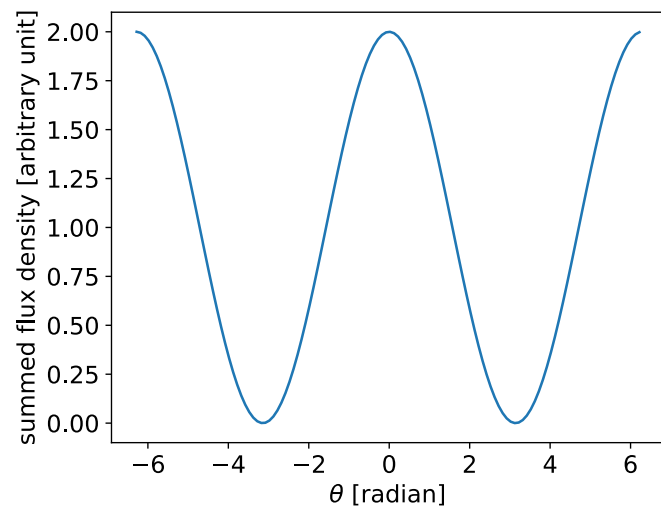
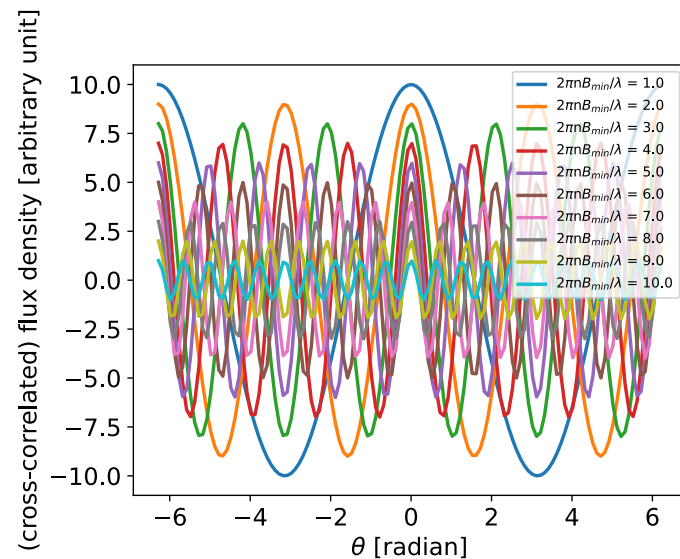
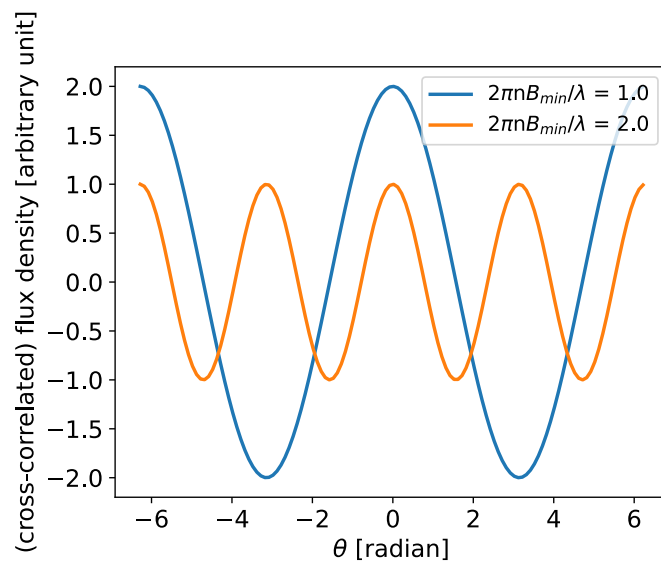
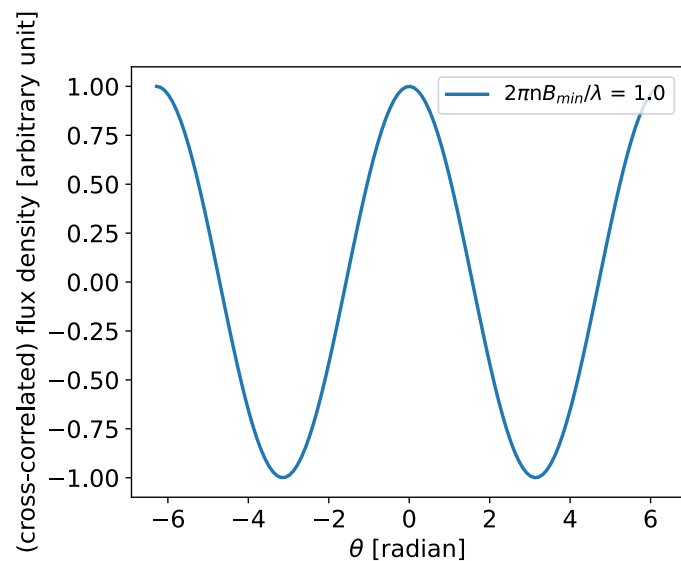
## Assuming a diffraction grating with 2, 3, and 10 slits

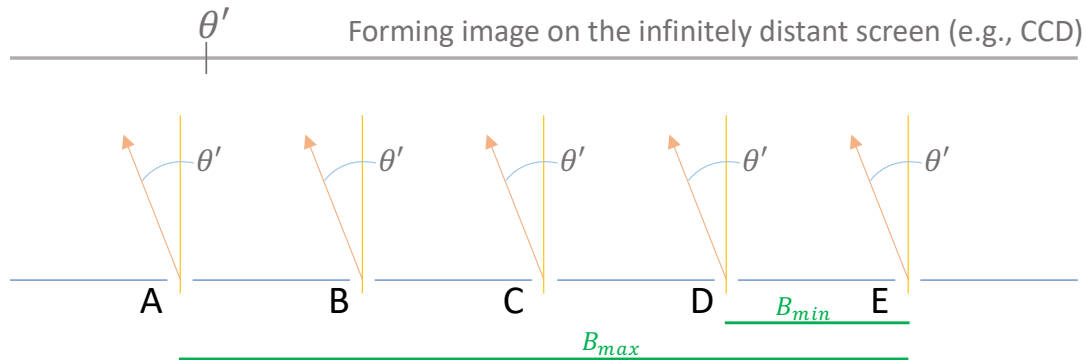
Properties:

1. For any  $n$ ,  $\theta = 0$  is always the location of the central maximum (i.e., constructive interference)
2. The locations of the maxima for the  $n = 1$  slit-pairs are always the locations of the maxima for any other pairs of slits.
3. Between the maxima of the  $n=1$  pairs of slits, the destructive interference makes the photon flux density approach 0. (i.e., the cross-correlation terms cancel each other).



## Assuming a diffraction grating with 2, 3, and 10 slits





### Diffraction pattern

- Location of maxima:  $B_{min} \sin(\theta) = m\lambda, \quad m = 0, 1, 2, 3 \dots$
- Width of pattern:  $\frac{1}{2} B_{max} \sin(\Delta\theta_w) = \frac{1}{2} \lambda$   
(same as the case of a single slit)

### Diffraction pattern

(proportional to the number of incoming photons in a unit of time and a unit of area)

