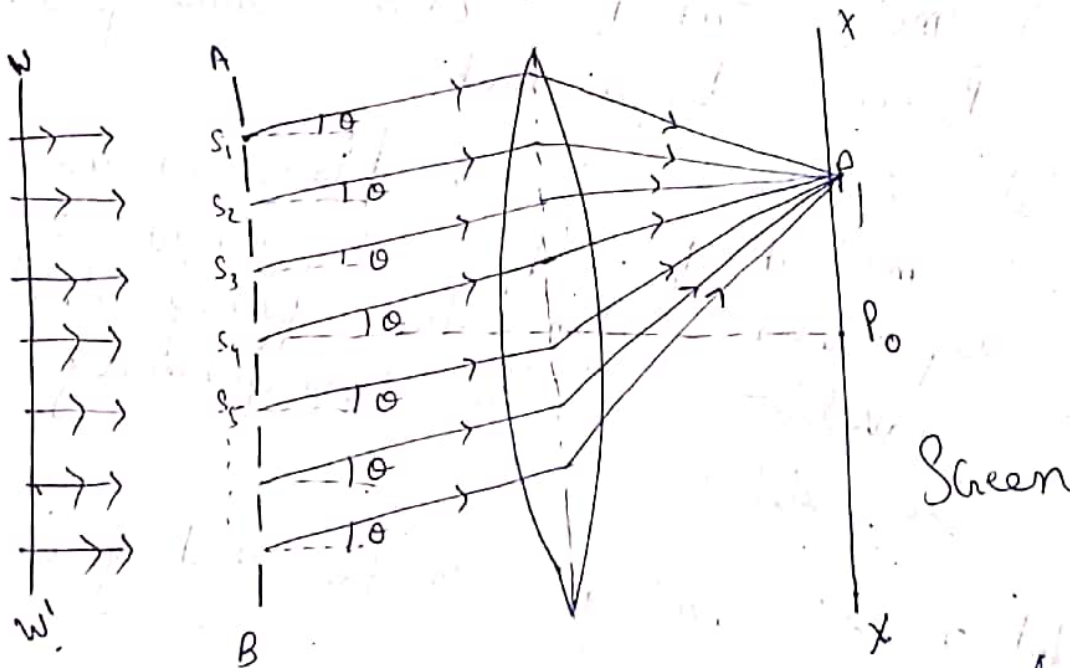


Plane Diffraction Grating

A plane diffraction grating is an arrangement consisting of large number of parallel slits of equal width separated by equal opaque space over a plane surface.

→ Constructed by ruling equidistant lines by a fine diamond point on a plane transparent material such as glass.

→ Ruled portion becomes opaque & the space betⁿ them serves as slits.



Let AB be the section of a plane diffraction grating, length of the slits being \perp to the plane of the paper.

$e \rightarrow$ width of each slit, $d \rightarrow$ width of each opaque space betⁿ the slits.

$(e+d) \rightarrow$ grating element.

\rightarrow Points in two consecutive slits separated by a distance $(e+d)$ are called corresponding points.

\rightarrow A plane wavefront ww' illuminates the grating.

\rightarrow Parallel rays leaving the grating after diffraction are focused on a screen in the focal plane of convex lens L .

\rightarrow Wavelets leaving the grating plane normally ($\theta=0$) meet at P_0 in the same phase. Hence P_0 is a bright point.

\rightarrow Wavelets leaving the grating plane at an angle θ meet at P_1 . P_1 is bright or dark depending upon the phase difference between the wavelets from the corresponding points of the slits.

\rightarrow Total no. of rulings on the grating is N .

By the theory of Fraunhofer diffraction at a single slit, the wavelets from all the points in a slit along the direction θ are equivalent to a single wave of amplitude $A \frac{\sin \alpha}{\alpha}$, starting from the middle point.

of the slit, where $\alpha = \frac{\pi e \sin \theta}{\lambda}$

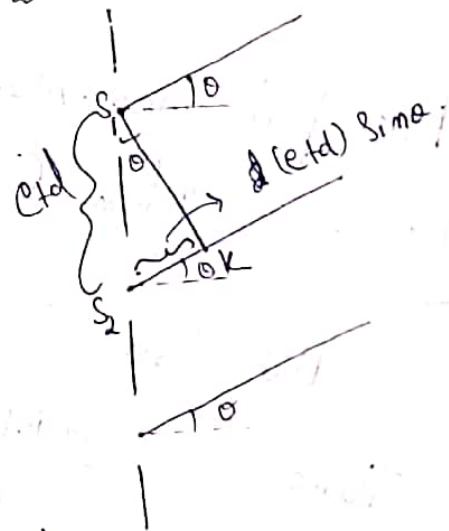
Thus if N be the total no. of slits in the grating the diffracted rays from all the slits are equivalent to N parallel rays, one each from the middle points S_1, S_2, S_3, \dots of the slits.

\therefore The path diff bet wavelets & from any two consecutive slits, $(e+d) \sin \theta$. ($S_2 K$)

The corresponding phase diff,

$$= \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} (e+d) \sin \theta$$

$$= 2\beta \text{ (say)}$$



Hence the resultant amplitude in the direction θ ,

$$R = \frac{a \sin nd/2}{\sin d/2}$$

Here $a = \frac{A \sin \alpha}{\alpha}$, $n = N$,
 $d = 2\beta$

$$\therefore R = A \frac{\sin \alpha}{\alpha} \cdot \frac{\sin N \beta}{\sin \beta}$$

The resultant intensity,

$$I = R^2 = \left(A \frac{\sin \alpha}{\alpha} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\sin N\beta}{\sin \beta} \right)^2$$

The first term $\left(A \frac{\sin \alpha}{\alpha} \right)^2$ gives the distribution of intensity due to a single slit while the factor $\left(\frac{\sin N\beta}{\sin \beta} \right)^2$ gives the distribution of intensity as a combined effect of all the slits.

Principal maxima.

When $\sin \beta = 0$, i.e. $\beta = \pm n\pi$
 $n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$

But then $\sin N\beta = 0$

Thus $\frac{\sin N\beta}{\sin \beta} = \frac{0}{0}$ (indeterminate)

\therefore By L'Hospital's rule,

$$\lim_{\beta \rightarrow \pm n\pi} \frac{\sin N\beta}{\sin \beta} = \lim_{\beta \rightarrow \pm n\pi} \frac{\frac{d}{d\beta}(\sin N\beta)}{\frac{d}{d\beta}(\sin \beta)}$$

$$= \lim_{\beta \rightarrow \pm n\pi} \frac{N \cos N\beta}{\cos \beta} = \pm N$$

The intensity is then,

$$I = A^2 \left(\frac{\sin \alpha}{\alpha} \right)^2 N^2$$

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which is a maximum. These maxima are most intense and are called principal maxima. They are obtained in the diffraction pattern as,

$$\beta = \pm n\pi$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\pi}{\lambda} (e+d) \sin \theta = \pm n\pi$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{(e+d) \sin \theta = \pm n\lambda}$$

Where $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ --- Principal maxima
 $n = 0 \rightarrow$ Zero order
 $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \rightarrow$ First, Second, Third ---
 order ~~max~~ principal maxima
 $\pm \rightarrow$ denotes two principal max^m for each order lying on either side of the zero order maximum

Minima.

It can be shown that betⁿ two consecutive principal maxima, a series of minima are observed.

When $\sin N\beta = 0$ but $\sin \beta \neq 0$, then

$$\frac{\sin N\beta}{\sin \beta} = 0$$

Hence we get.

$$I = A \left(\frac{\sin \alpha}{\alpha} \right) \times 0 = 0 \text{ which is a minimum}$$

These minima are obtained in the direction,

$$\sin N\beta = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow N\beta = \pm m\pi$$

$$\Rightarrow N \frac{\pi}{\lambda} (e+d) \sin \theta = \pm m\pi$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{N(e+d) \sin \theta = \pm m\lambda}$$

Where m can take all integral values except $0, N, 2N, \dots, nN$, because these values of m make $\sin \beta = 0$ which gives principal maximum.

Thus, $m = 1, 2, 3, \dots, (N-1)$ give minima and then $m = N$ gives again a principal maxima. Thus there are $(N-1)$ minima betⁿ two consecutive principal maxima.

Secondary Maxima

ma, there are $(N-1)$ successive principal maxima. Therefore betⁿ two successive principal maxima there should be one secondary maximum. As such, betⁿ two principal maxima the no. of secondary maxima will be $(N-2)$. Their positions are found by using the condⁿ,

$$\frac{dI}{d\beta} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{A \sin \alpha}{\alpha} \right)^2 \cdot 2 \left(\frac{\sin N\beta}{\sin \beta} \right) \cdot \left[\frac{N \cos N\beta \sin \beta - \sin N\beta \cos \beta}{\sin^2 \beta} \right] = 0$$

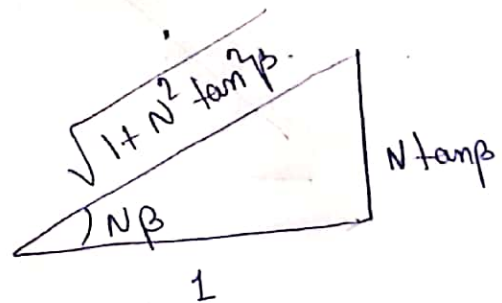
$$\Rightarrow \text{Either } \sin N\beta = 0 \xrightarrow{\text{minima}} \text{ or } (N \cos N\beta \sin \beta - \sin N\beta \cos \beta) = 0$$

$$N \cos N\beta \sin \beta - \sin N\beta \cos \beta = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{N \tan \beta = \tan N\beta}$$

To find the value of $\frac{\sin^2 N\beta}{\sin^2 \beta}$ under the above condition, we make use of triangle as shown in figure.

$$\sin N\beta = \frac{N \tan \beta}{\sqrt{1 + N^2 \tan^2 \beta}}$$



$$\therefore \frac{\sin^2 N\beta}{\sin^2 \beta} = \frac{N^2 \tan^2 \beta}{(1 + N^2 \tan^2 \beta) \sin^2 \beta}$$

$$= \frac{N^2}{(1 + N^2 \tan^2 \beta) \cos^2 \beta}$$

$$= \frac{N^2}{\cos^2 \beta + N^2 \sin^2 \beta} = \frac{N^2}{1 + (N^2 - 1) \sin^2 \beta}$$

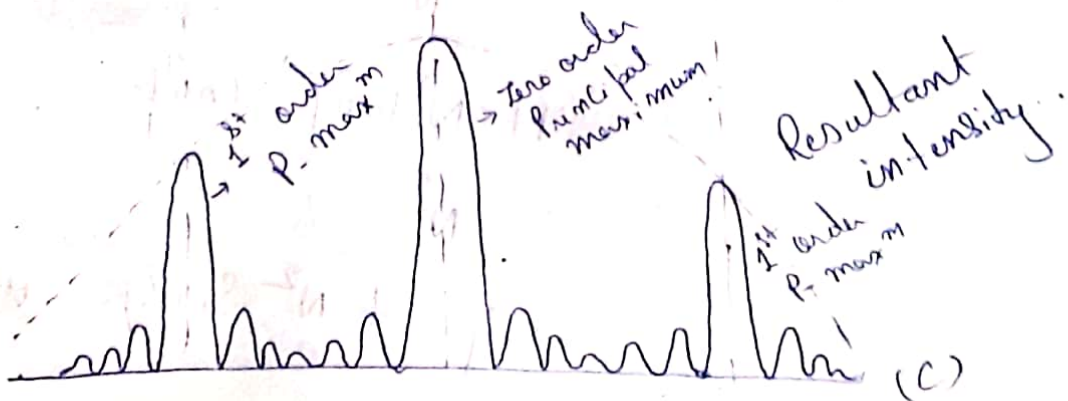
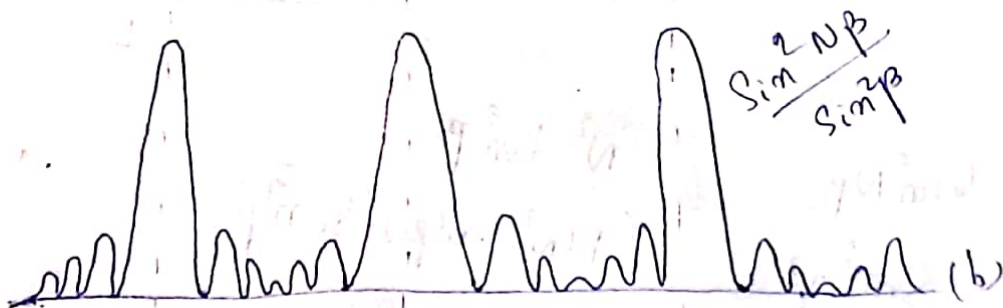
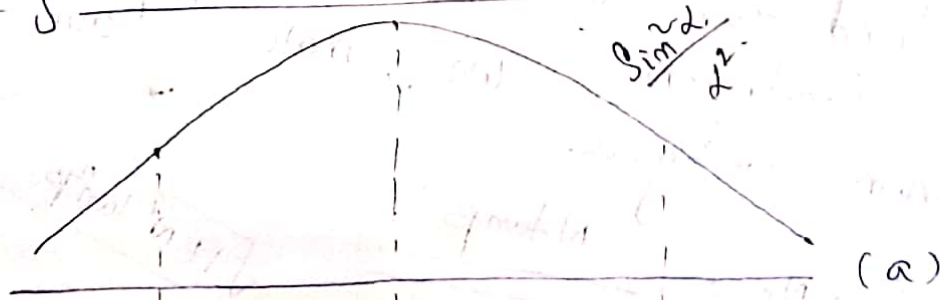
Intensity of Secondary maxima $\propto \frac{N^2}{1 + (N^2 - 1) \sin^2 \beta}$

" " Principal " $\propto N^2$

$$\frac{\text{Intensity of Secondary maxima}}{\text{Intensity of Principal maxima}} = \frac{1}{1 + (N^2 - 1) \sin^2 \beta}$$

Hence, greater the value of N , weaker are Secondary maxima. In actual grating, N is very large, hence the Secondary maxima are not visible in the grating spectrum.

Intensity distribution Curve.



Absent Spectra in a Diffraction grating

$$I = I_0^2 \frac{\sin^2 \alpha}{\alpha^2} \frac{\sin^2 N\beta}{\sin^2 \beta}$$

intensity due to diffraction at a single slit

Combined effect of all the N slits

$$\alpha = \frac{\pi e \sin \theta}{\lambda}$$

$$\beta = \frac{\pi (e+d) \sin \theta}{\lambda}$$

If Condⁿ for maxima for both patterns are satisfied simultaneously, then spectra pattern remains unaffected.

However, when the Condⁿ for the principal max^m of single slit are satisfied simultaneously for a given value of θ , then the principal max^m of that order will be absent or missing. That spectra is called missing spectra or absent spectra.

$$(e+d) \sin \theta = n \lambda \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

(Condⁿ for principal max^m
 $n \rightarrow$ order of spectrum)

$$e \sin \theta = m \lambda \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

(Condⁿ for minima in single slit pattern)
 $m = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

$$\frac{e^{\text{eq (1)}}}{e^{\text{eq (2)}}} \Rightarrow \frac{e+d}{e} = \frac{n}{m} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

Condⁿ for the spectrum of order n to be absent.

If $d = e$, eqⁿ (3) becomes
 $n = 2m$ ($m = 1, 2, 3, \dots$)
 $= 2, 4, 6, \dots$

ie 2nd, 4th, 6th order spectra will be
absent.

If $d = 2e$,
 $n = 3m$
3rd, 6th, 9th -----

order spectra will be
absent.

Dispersive power of a grating

If a light source contains more than one frequency (i.e. a polychromatic source), then a number of bright lines corresponding to the spectra of the same order will be ~~visible~~ observed.

Thus, the lines for different colours will be dispersed. The degree of dispersion or the angular separation betⁿ the spectra of the same order for two neighbouring frequencies gives the dispersive power of the grating.

Mathematically, dispersive power = $\frac{d\theta}{d\lambda}$

where $d\theta$ is the angular separation betⁿ the spectral lines corresponding to a wavelength separation $d\lambda$.

Differentiating the relation,

$$(e+d) \sin \theta = n\lambda, \text{ we get}$$

$$(e+d) \cos \theta d\theta = n d\lambda$$

$$\text{So, dispersive power, } \frac{d\theta}{d\lambda} = \frac{n}{(e+d) \cos \theta}$$

Hence, the dispersive power $\propto n$ (order of spectra)
 $\propto \frac{1}{e+d}$

$$\propto \frac{1}{\cos \theta}$$

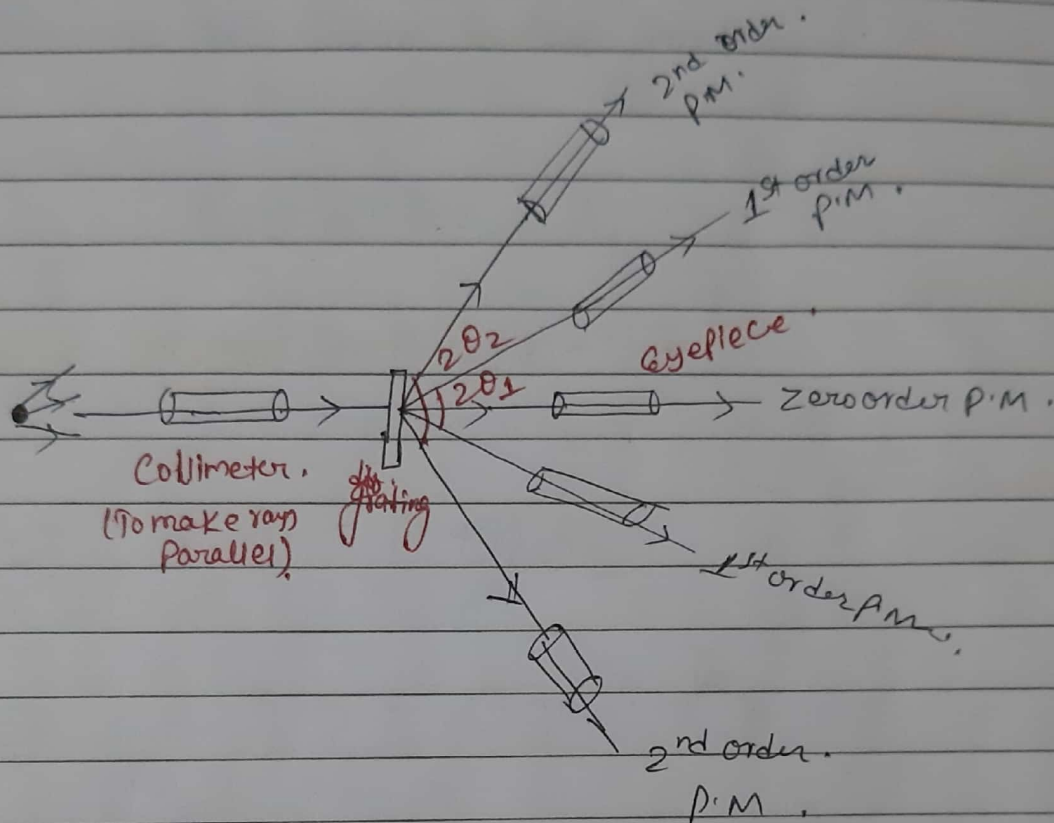
Longer the value of θ , smaller is $\cos \theta$.
& higher is the dispersive power. Red light (more angle or dist), more dispersed than violet light.
Eg. Sodium D lines \rightarrow more separated in 2nd order than in

Determination of ^{1st order} wavelength of light

Date ___/___/___

* Application:-

(i) To determine wavelength of a monochromatic light using a plane diffraction grating.



$$N \text{ lines / inch}$$

$$N(e+d) = 1 \text{ inch} \\ = 2.54 \text{ cm.}$$

$$N \text{ lines/cm.}$$

$$N(e+d) = 1 \text{ cm.}$$

Write yourself.