

2. (6 points) Two point sources of EM radiation are located  $1.00 \mu\text{m}$  apart and emit the same wavelength in phase with one another. For what range of wavelengths is it possible to find a point in space where the two waves destructively interfere (i.e.,  $180^\circ$  out of phase)? Express your answer as an inequality.

$$|\Delta L| \leq d \quad (\text{all values } -d \leq \Delta L \leq d \text{ are attainable})$$

$$180^\circ \text{ destructive interference} \Rightarrow \frac{\Delta L}{\lambda} = \text{integer} + \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{|\Delta L|}{\lambda} \geq \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda \leq 2|\Delta L| \leq 2d = 2(1.00 \mu\text{m}) = 2.00 \mu\text{m}$$

If  $\lambda \leq 2.00 \mu\text{m}$ , then  $\Delta L = \frac{\lambda}{2} \leq 1.00 \mu\text{m}$  is attainable

$$\Rightarrow \Delta\phi = 2\pi \frac{\Delta L}{\lambda} = \pi \quad (180^\circ \text{ out of phase})$$

If  $\lambda > 2.00 \mu\text{m}$ , then  $\frac{|\Delta L|}{\lambda} < \frac{1.00 \mu\text{m}}{2.00 \mu\text{m}} = \frac{1}{2}$  for all points so  $\Delta\phi = \pi(2m+1)$  is not attainable.

$\lambda \leq 2.00 \mu\text{m}$