



Path and Phase Difference 11.1

A Level

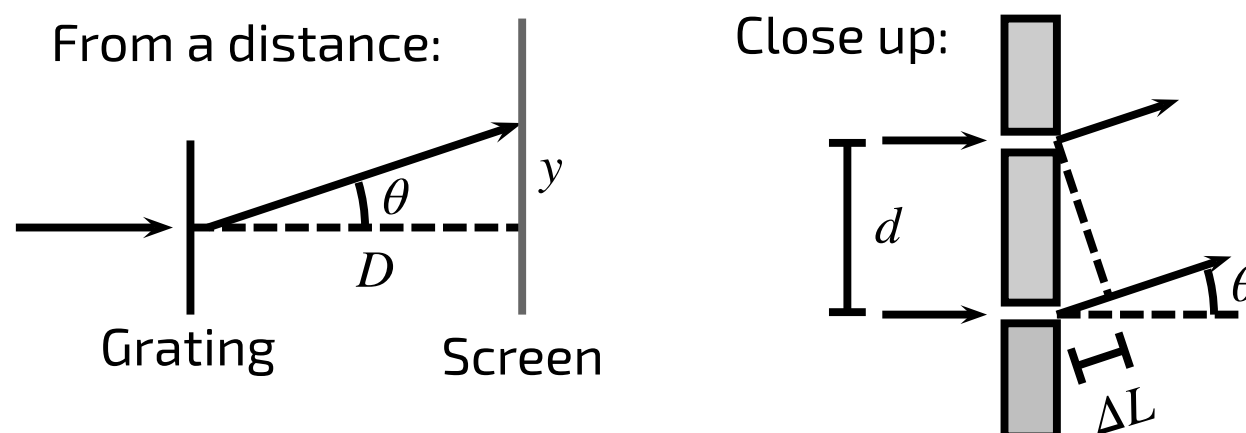


Figure 1: A diffraction grating from a distance and close up.

Quantities:

λ wavelength (m)

v wave speed (m s^{-1})

D distance to screen (m)

d slit separation (m)

θ angle from axis ($^\circ$)

n order of interference (no unit)

$n = 0, 1, 2, 3 \dots$ if constructive

f frequency (Hz)

ΔL path difference (m)

$\Delta\phi$ phase difference ($^\circ$)

N slits per mm (mm^{-1})

y distance from axis (m)

Equations:

$$v = f\lambda \quad \Delta\phi = \frac{\Delta L}{\lambda} \times 360^\circ \quad y = D \tan \theta \quad d = \frac{1 \text{ mm}}{N}$$

For slits: $\Delta L = d \sin \theta$ Small angles: $\tan \theta \approx \sin \theta$

Use the equations above to derive expressions for:

Part A The phase difference $\Delta\phi$

the phase difference $\Delta\phi$ in terms of d , θ and λ .

The following symbols may be useful: `Delta`, `d`, `lambda`, `phi`, `sin()`, `theta`

Part B $\sin \theta$ in terms of λ , n and d

$\sin \theta$ for constructive interference in terms of λ , n and d .

The following symbols may be useful: `d`, `lambda`, `n`, `sin()`, `theta`

Part C $\sin \theta$ in terms of λ , n and N

$\sin \theta$ for constructive interference in terms of λ , n and N .

The following symbols may be useful: `N`, `lambda`, `n`, `sin()`, `theta`

Part D $\sin \theta$ in terms of n , N , f and v

$\sin \theta$ for constructive interference in terms of n , N , f and v .

The following symbols may be useful: `N`, `f`, `n`, `sin()`, `theta`, `v`

Part E y for $n = 1$

y for $n = 1$ in terms of λ , D and d if θ is small.

The following symbols may be useful: D , d , λ , θ , y

Part F y for $n = 5$

y for $n = 5$ in terms of f , v , D and d if θ is small.

The following symbols may be useful: D , d , f , θ , v , y

Part G ΔL for a microphone placed between two speakers

ΔL for a microphone placed between two speakers connected to the same signal. The speakers are a distance D apart, and the microphone is a distance y from the mid point.

The following symbols may be useful: D , Δ , L , y



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Path and Phase Difference 11.3

A Level



A 440 Hz sound wave reaches a microphone by two routes. The sound travels 2.50 m directly and travels 4.00 m if it reflects off a wall on the way. Calculate the phase difference on arrival. Assume that the wave speed $v = 330 \text{ m s}^{-1}$.

Gameboard:

[STEM SMART Physics 44 - Revision - Waves](#)

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Essential Pre-Uni Physics D4.6

A Level



A teacher is trying to demonstrate 'Young's fringes' using green (530 nm) light. Assuming that the slit separation is 0.050 mm , how far away from the slits will she need to put the screen to ensure that the fringe spacing is at least 1.0 mm ?

Gameboard:

[**STEM SMART Physics 44 - Revision - Waves**](#)

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Essential Pre-Uni Physics D4.3

A Level



A diffraction grating has 600 lines/mm. Yellow light from a street lamp is shone onto the grating. The yellow light contains two main wavelengths - of 589.6 nm and 589.0 nm. Calculate the angular separation of the second order ($n = 2$) of these two components as they emerge from the grating. Give your answer to 2 significant figures.

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Essential Pre-Uni Physics D5.2

A Level
P P P

Consider a particle that is at a particular antinode of a standing wave, which we'll call point A. Fill in the table below to state how the motion of certain other particles will compare to this one. [For amplitude, state whether it will be smaller/larger/the same; for phase, state the phase difference in degrees.]

Position of Particle	Amplitude	Difference in Phase
Between point A and the next node along	(a)	(b)

Part A

Amplitude

a) Amplitude compared to point A?

- ☐ The same
- ☐ Larger
- ☐ Smaller

Part B

Phase

b) Phase relative to point A?

Standing Waves on a String 15.4

A Level

A standing wave has 4 nodes including the two at each end. The length of the vibrating string is 85.0 cm, the tension in the string is 75.0 N, and it vibrates at a frequency of 50 Hz. Calculate the linear mass density μ of the string.

Gameboard:

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Essential Pre-Uni Physics D8.3

Physical constants which may be necessary to answer the problems on this page can be found within the hint tabs.

Refractive index of crown glass: 1.51

Refractive index of flint glass: 1.61

Refractive index of water: 1.34

Refractive index of cubic zirconia: 2.16

Refractive index of diamond: 2.42

Take the refractive index of air to be 1.00.

Complete the table to show the missing angles. In some cases, refraction is impossible. **In these cases give your answer as "99" with the unit "none".**

Consider all angles to have been given to 2 significant figures.

Light passing fromto	
Material	Angle of Incidence / °	Material	Angle of Refraction / °
Water	(a)	Air	60
Flint Glass	(b)	Air	90

Part A Water to air

Light passing fromto	
Material	Angle of Incidence / °	Material	Angle of Refraction / °
Water	(a)	Air	60

a) What is the angle of incidence in degrees?

Part B Flint glass to air

Light passing fromto	
Material	Angle of Incidence / °	Material	Angle of Refraction / °
Flint Glass	(b)	Air	90

b) What is the angle of incidence in degrees?

Essential Pre-Uni Physics D8.9



Physical constants which may be necessary to answer the problem on this page can be found within the hint tabs.

Refractive index of crown glass: 1.51

Refractive index of flint glass: 1.61

Refractive index of water: 1.34

Refractive index of cubic zirconia: 2.16

Refractive index of diamond: 2.42

Take the refractive index of air to be 1.00.

When light passes from water into ice at an incident angle of 38.0° , the angle of refraction is 39.0° . Calculate the refractive index of ice. Give your answer to 3 significant figures.