

- 5 Microwaves with the same wavelength and amplitude are emitted in phase from two sources X and Y, as shown in Fig. 5.1.

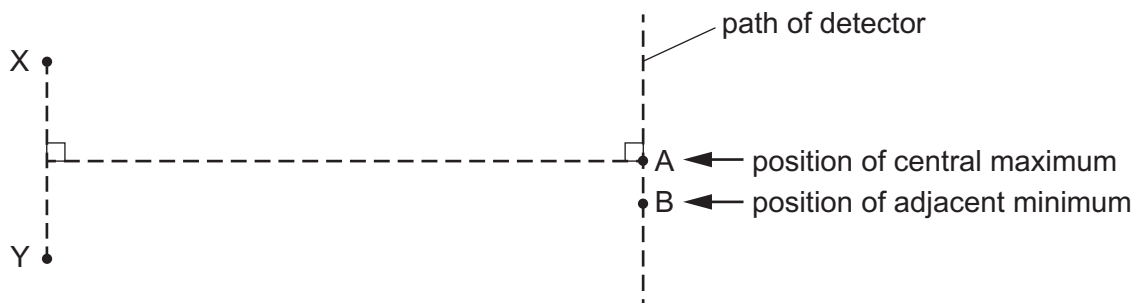


Fig. 5.1 (not to scale)

A microwave detector is moved along a path parallel to the line joining X and Y. An interference pattern is detected. A central intensity maximum is located at point A and there is an adjacent intensity minimum at point B. The microwaves have a wavelength of 0.040 m.

- (a) Calculate the frequency, in GHz, of the microwaves.

frequency = GHz [3]

- (b) For the waves arriving at point B, determine:

- (i) the path difference

path difference = m [1]

- (ii) the phase difference.

phase difference =° [1]

- (c) The amplitudes of the waves from the sources are changed. This causes a change in the amplitude of the waves arriving at point A. At this point, the amplitude of the wave arriving from source X is doubled and the amplitude of the wave arriving from source Y is also doubled.

Describe the effect, if any, on the intensity of the central maximum at point A.

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 [2]

- (d) Describe the effect, if any, on the positions of the central intensity maximum and the adjacent intensity minimum due to the following separate changes.

- (i) The separation of the sources X and Y is increased.

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 [1]

- (ii) The phase difference between the microwaves emitted by the sources X and Y changes to 180° .

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 [1]