

- 4 An optical telescope detects light in the visible spectrum. It has an aperture of width 20.0 cm which is 1.50 m from the eyepiece. It is pointed at a binary star system 8.14×10^{16} m away, as shown in Fig. 4.1.

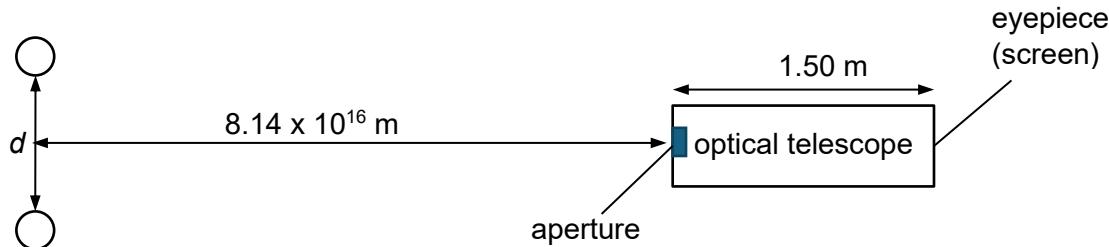


Fig. 4.1 (not drawn to scale)

- (a) State Rayleigh's Criterion.
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..... [2]

- (b) The two stars are **just** resolvable on this telescope for wavelength of 600 nm.
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Calculate the separation d of the stars if the plane of the stars' orbits is perpendicular to the earth (i.e. "face-on") as shown in Fig. 4.1.
Show your working clearly.

$$d = \dots \text{ m} [2]$$

- (c) The light of the entire visible spectrum (400 nm to 700 nm) collected by the telescope is passed through a diffraction grating with 500 lines per mm.
- (i) Find the angular width of the second order spectrum.

angular width = ° [3]

- (ii) State an advantage of using the second order spectrum instead of the first order spectrum to determine the wavelength of a radiation.

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[Total: 8]

