

- 3 (a) Explain the following terms with reference to the light diffracted by a diffraction grating that is used with a monochromatic light source.

(i) Diffraction

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 [1]

(ii) Coherence

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 [1]

(iii) Superposition

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 [2]

- (b) A parallel beam of white light that consists of wavelengths from 350 nm to 650 nm is incident normally on a diffraction grating that has 500 lines per millimetre.

(i) Calculate the maximum angle in the second order spectrum.

maximum angle =° [2]

(ii) Calculate the minimum angle in the third order spectrum.

minimum angle =° [1]



- (iii) Explain a problem with viewing the second or third order maxima of the white light with this diffraction grating.

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..... [1]

- (iv) Describe the changes, if any, in the appearance of the fringes for the wavelength used in (b)(i), when a diffraction grating of 250 lines per millimetre is used.

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..... [2]