

Last time we were talking about interference

constructive 2 waves differ by $\lambda, 2\lambda$

destructive 2 waves differ by $\frac{\lambda}{2}, \frac{3\lambda}{2}$

or, phase $\phi = \frac{2\pi\delta}{\lambda}$

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mention there is a phase change of 180° upon reflection from a medium with higher n .

Then we demonstrated 2 slit interference & briefly mentioned the effect of finite slit width on the intensity distribution.

We said for a single slit you can remember where minima occur with the following trick.

Successively split the slit into halves
1st minima



$$\left(\frac{a}{2}\right) \sin \theta = \frac{\lambda}{2} \quad a \sin \theta = \lambda$$



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So it's a little different from the double slit case

Double slit Maxima @ $d \sin \theta = m\lambda$

Single slit minima @ $a \sin \theta = m\lambda$

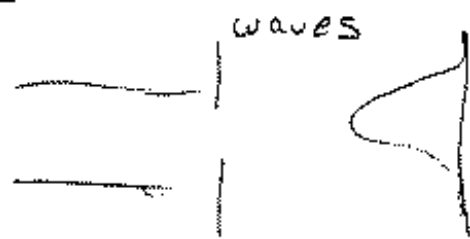
The actual intensity pattern produced is beyond the scope of this course, but suffice to say it looks like



lets examine this a bit, the first order especially

$$a \sin \theta = \lambda \quad \sin \theta = \frac{\lambda}{a}$$

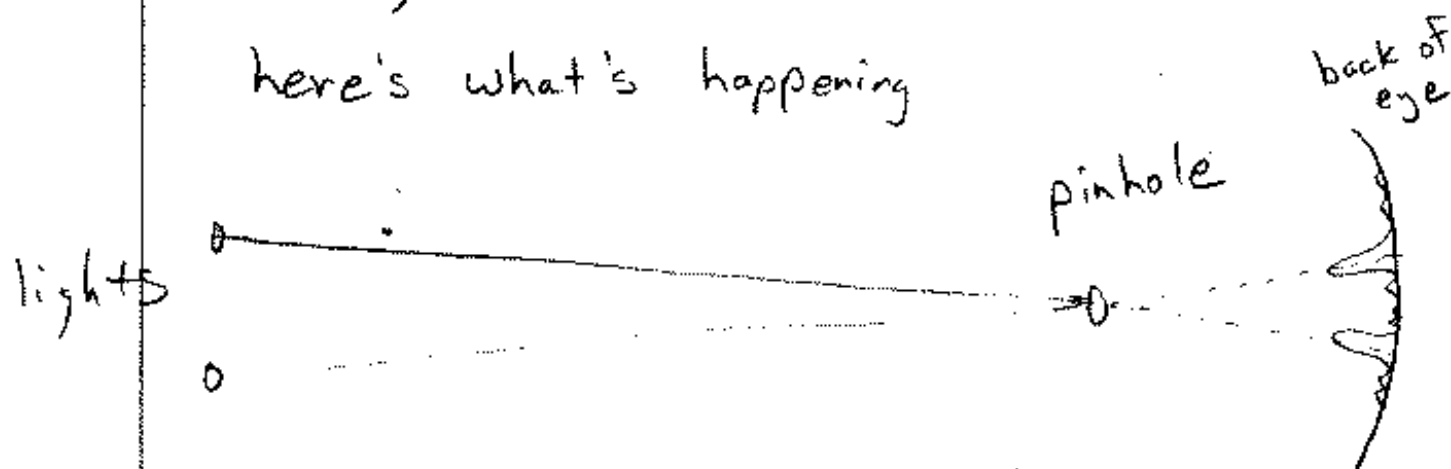
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leads to an interesting problem.

Suppose you were to use your pinhole to look @ car lights. How far away would the car need to be in order for you to see 2 head lights.

here's what's happening



get 2 diffraction patterns on your retina, since these patterns are pretty alike, we say you can see 2 spots if you satisfy the Rayleigh Criteria



For 2 identical peaks minime of one spot when the maxima of one sits at the minima of the other

so, the angle between the 2 is just
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now, for circular holes, the condition is just a little different

$$\Theta \sim 1.22 \frac{\lambda}{D}$$

D = diameter of opening
(our pinhole)

lets calculate

$$D = 0.5 \text{ mm}$$

$$\lambda \approx 550 \text{ nm}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Theta &= 1.22 \frac{\lambda}{D} = 1.22 \frac{550 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}}{5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}} \\ &= 1.34 \times 10^{-3} \end{aligned}$$

(without the pinhole $\Theta \sim 10^{-4}$)

If the head lights are 1.5 m apart, you can see 2 of them if they are

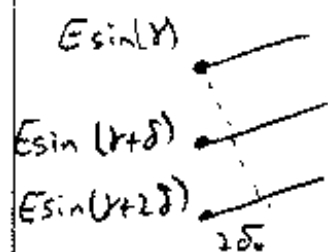
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you should be able to see 2 head lights
about 10 times farther away.

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Consider, 3 sources or slits



we want

$$E \sin(x) + E \sin(x + \phi) + E \sin(x + 2\phi)$$

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this happens when $\phi = 120^\circ$

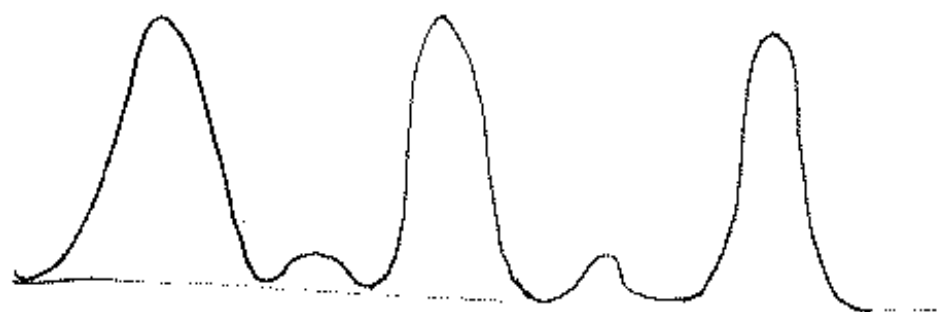
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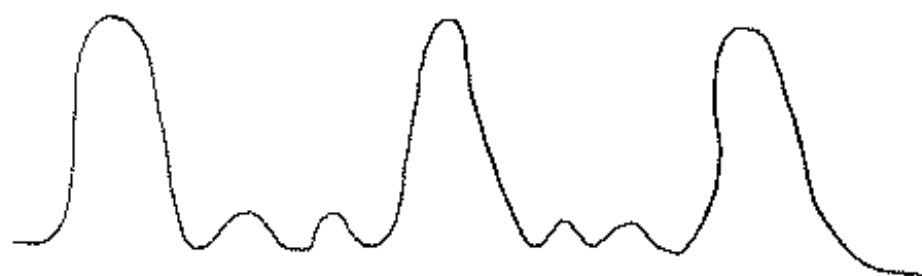
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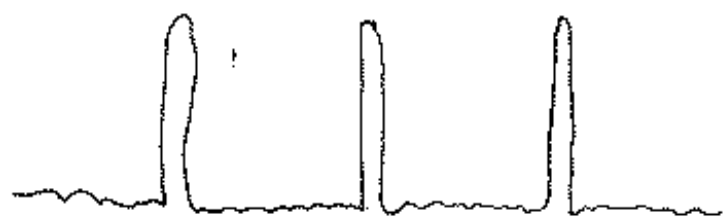
Pattern looks like



4 slits



until you get many slits



§ only the Major maxima survive

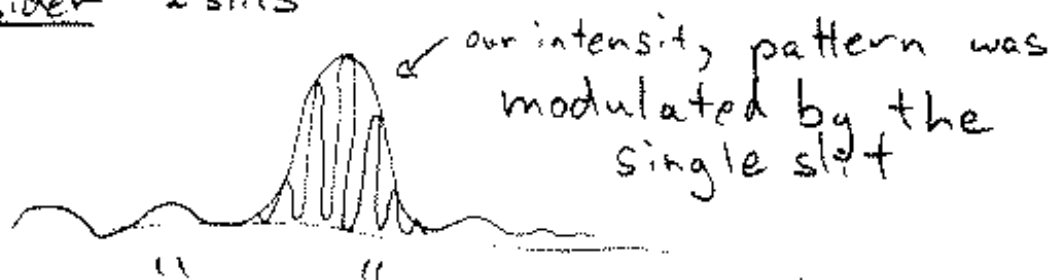
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It blends in features of a single slit and many slits.

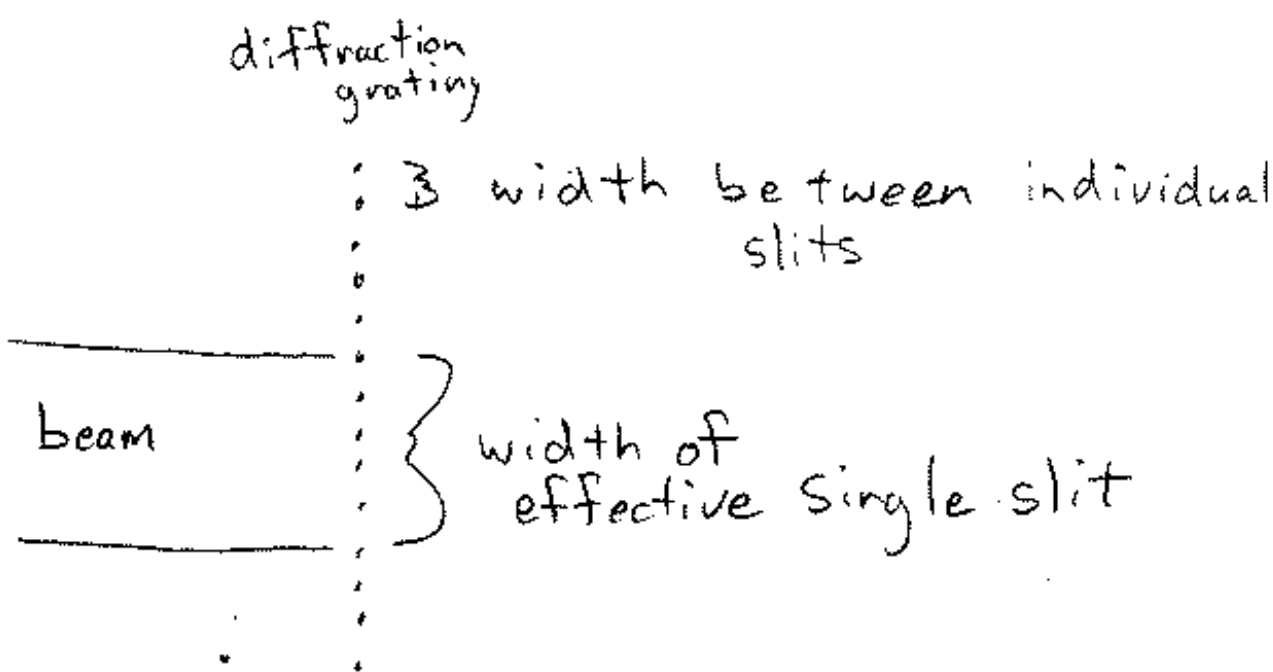
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The narrowness of the maxima depend on how many of those little slits you hit with your incoming beam!

Consider 2 slits



now, the "single" slit is much wider than the individual slits



The width of the central peak will be governed by the single slit criteria

$$a \sin \theta = \lambda$$

$$a = N (\text{width between gratings})$$

or, if you like, the angular width of a peak, $\Delta \theta = \frac{\lambda}{a} \approx \left(\frac{\lambda}{Nd} \right)$

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so, suppose we want to distinguish 2 wave lengths, how many slits do we need to illuminate to resolve

2 different λ 's

well, the angular difference between the 2 wavelengths is (at the 1st maxima)

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small
angles

$$\theta_1 \sim \frac{\lambda_1}{d}, \quad \theta_2 \sim \frac{\lambda_2}{d}$$

$$\therefore \Delta \theta = \left(\frac{\lambda_1}{d} - \frac{\lambda_2}{d} \right) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{interesting} \\ \text{case when} \\ \lambda_1 \text{ \& \# } \lambda_2 \text{ are} \\ \text{close} \end{array} \right\}$$

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This is very useful to separate different wavelengths of light.

(Evidence that there is some discrete behavior in atomic systems)

Excited atomic mercury

Excited atomic sodium has 2 "lines" that are very close $\lambda_1 = 589.59 \text{ nm}$ $\lambda_2 = 589.00 \text{ nm}$

$$R \approx \frac{589.59 \text{ nm}}{589.59 - 589.00} \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{most conservative} \\ \text{(some use average)} \end{array} \right)$$

$$= 999$$

at 1st order, how many lines do we need to illuminate 999 2nd order 499 3rd 333 etc
if our source is 3mm in size, what should the distance be between gratings

$$3 \text{ mm} = (999) d$$

$$d = 3 \text{ mm} / 999 = 3 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}$$

$$3 \mu\text{m}$$

$$\text{2nd order } 6 \mu\text{m}$$

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can we see 3rd order?

$$\sin \theta = \frac{3(589.6 \text{ nm})}{9 \mu\text{m}} \approx \frac{1.8}{9} \quad \text{OK}$$

$$\text{if } d = 3 \mu\text{m} \quad \sin \theta = \frac{3(589 \text{ nm})}{3000 \text{ nm}} \approx \frac{1.8}{3}$$

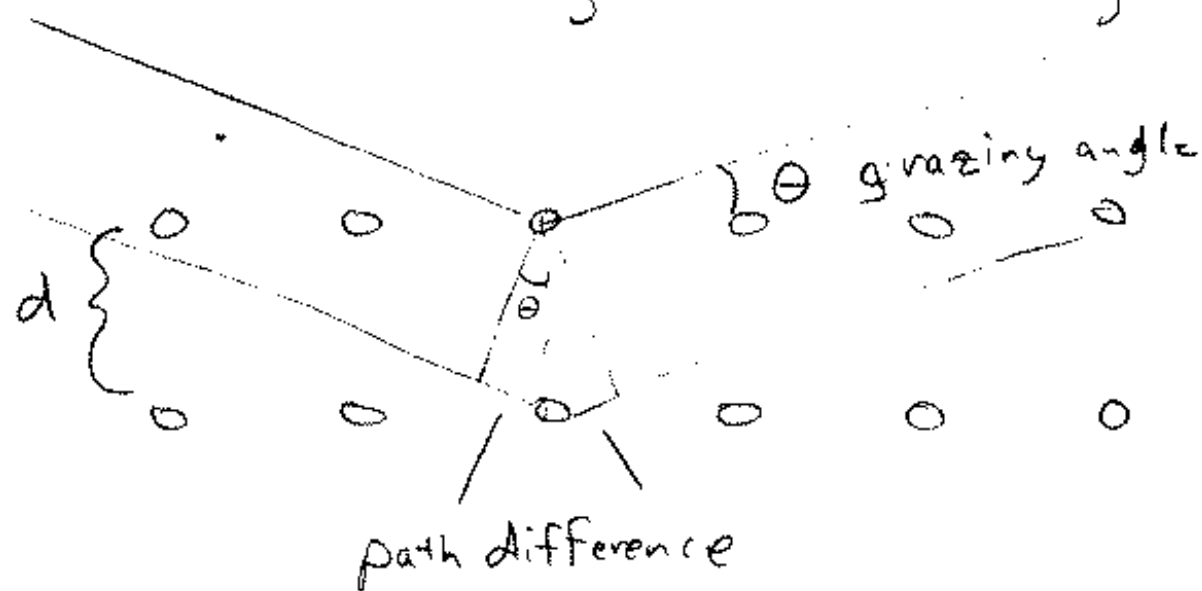
can go no higher than 5th order

Diffraction gratings are all over the place

CD's for instance are a diffraction grating

Can have diffraction of x rays too

Consider a crystal that has layers



$$\delta = 2(d \sin \theta)$$

get constructive interference when
 $\delta = \lambda$

$$2d \sin \theta = m\lambda$$

λ x rays $\sim 0.01 \text{ nm}$

so can measure d's if
 $(2d > \lambda) \quad d > \frac{\lambda}{2}$

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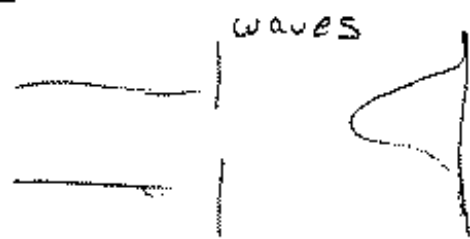
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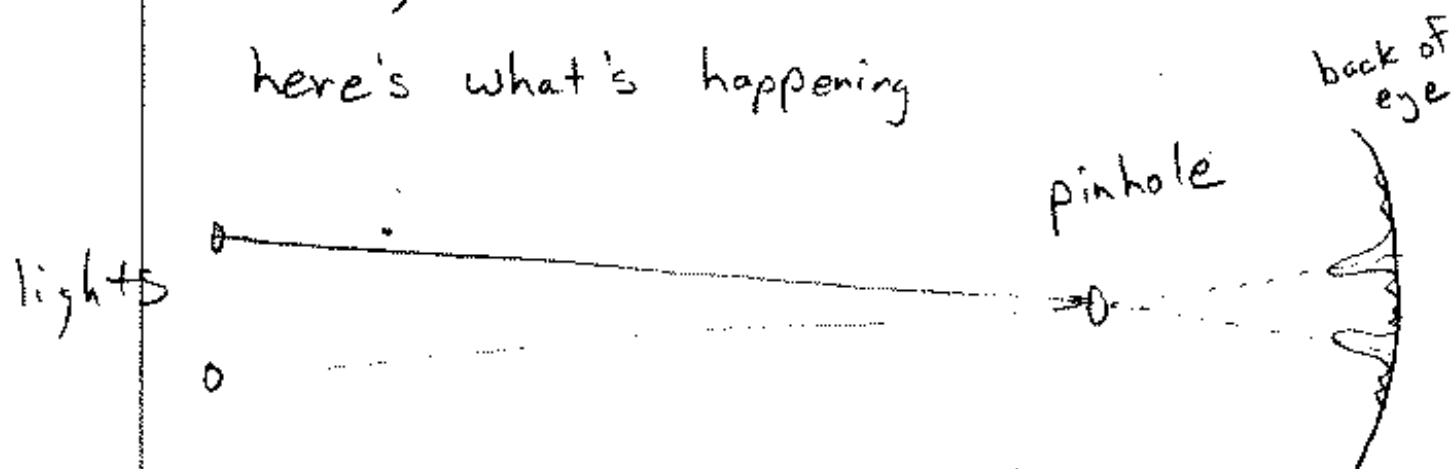
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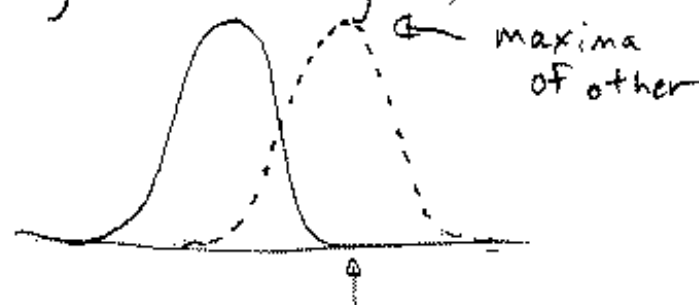
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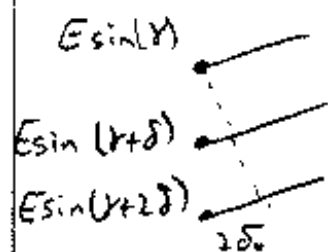
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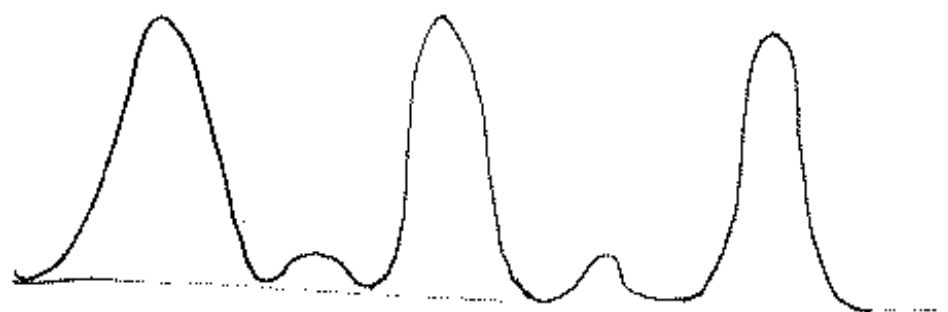
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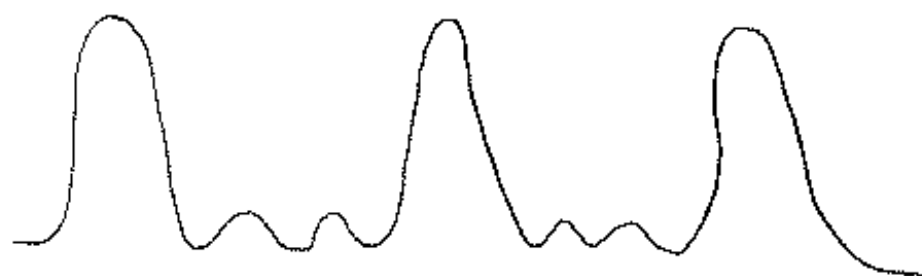
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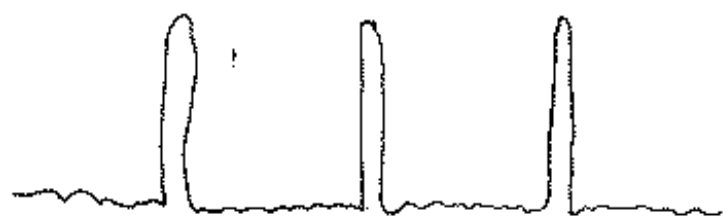
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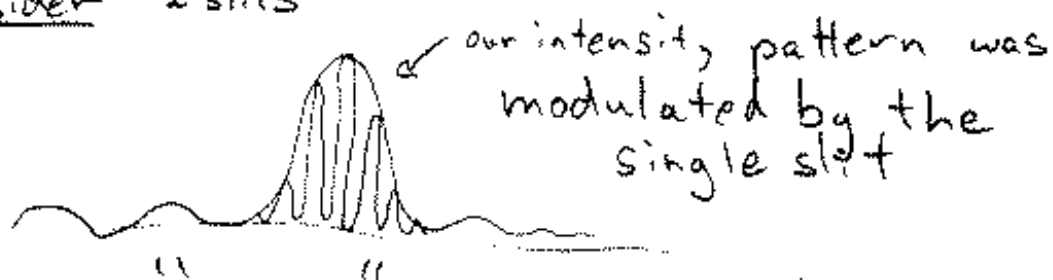
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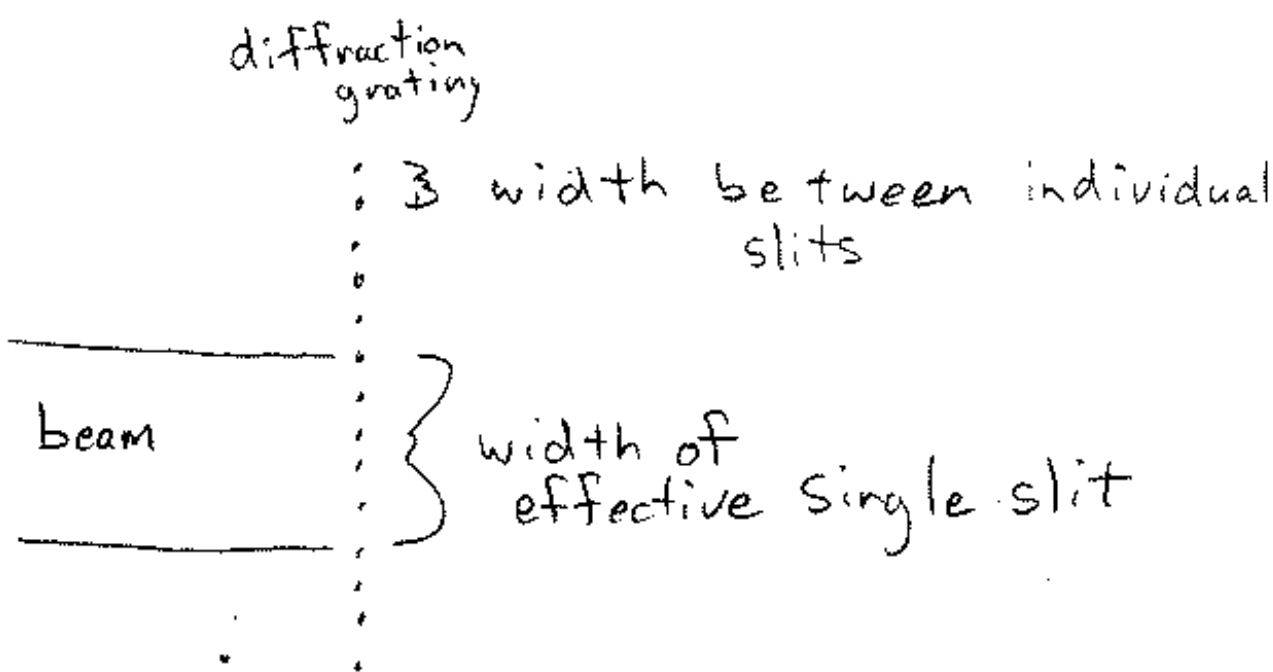
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