

Unit III

Chapter 13

Wave Aspect of Light - Diffraction

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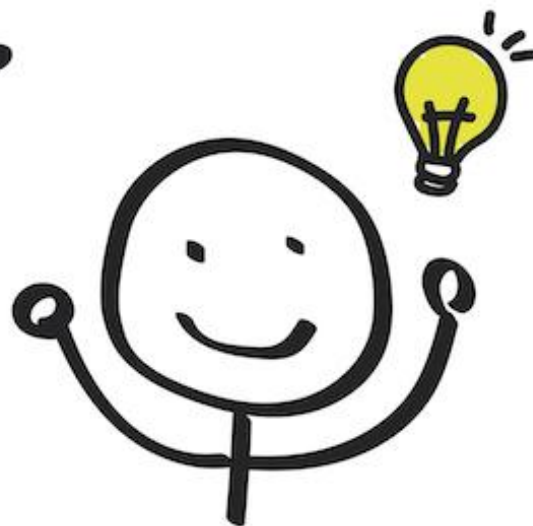
PROBLEM SOLVING



problem



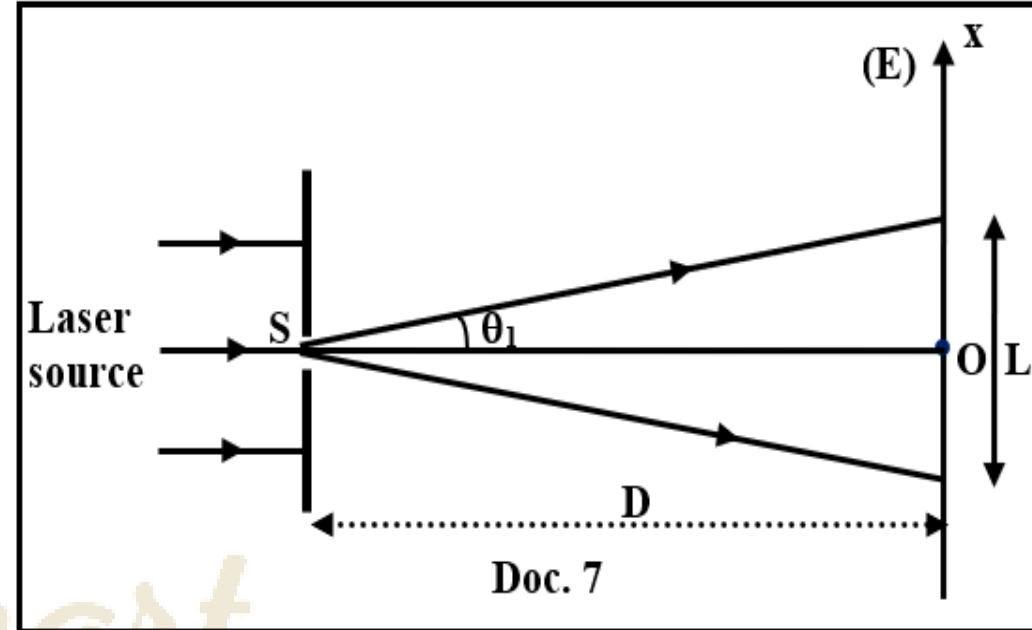
thinking



solution

Exercise 1:

Consider a horizontal slit S of width $a_1 = 0.1\text{mm}$. O is the center of the central bright fringe and $\alpha = 2\theta_1$ where α is the angular width of the central bright fringe (θ_1 is a small angle) (Doc. 7).



The screen (E) is placed parallel to the plane of the slits at a distance $D = 2\text{m}$. A laser source illuminates the slit by a monochromatic light of wavelength $\lambda = 600\text{nm}$ in air, under normal incidence.

Exercise 1:

- 1) Name the phenomenon that takes place at the slit S.
- 2) Show that the width L of the central bright fringe is given by the expression: $L = \frac{2\lambda D}{a_1}$.
- 3) Deduce the distance d between O and the center of the first dark fringe.
- 4) This experiment shows evidence of an aspect of light. Name this aspect.

Exercise 1:

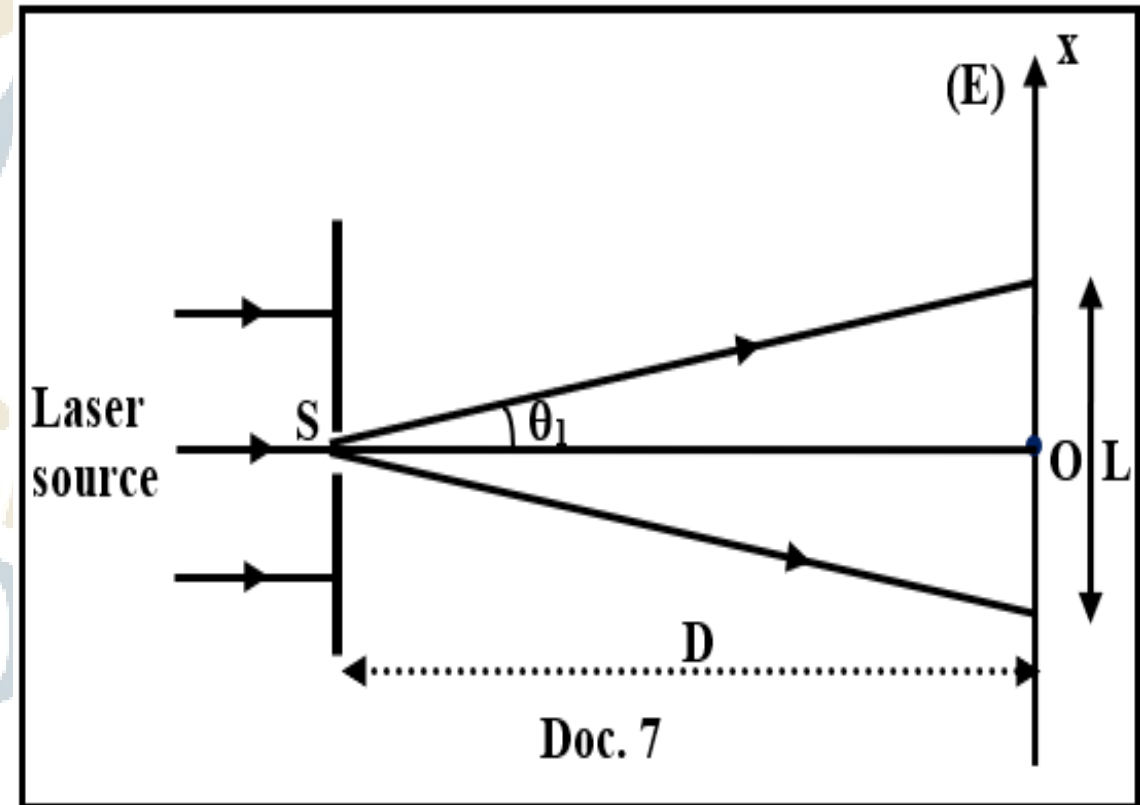
$a_1 = 0.1\text{mm}$; $\alpha = 2\theta_1$; (θ_1 is a small angle); $D = 2\text{m}$; $\lambda = 600\text{nm}$

1) Name the phenomenon that takes place at the slit S.

The phenomenon is **Diffraction of light**.

2) Show that the width L of the central bright fringe is given by the expression: $L = \frac{2\lambda D}{a_1}$.

From the figure $\tan[\theta_1] = \frac{L/2}{D}$



Exercise 1:

$\theta_1 \ll$ then:

$$\theta_1 = \frac{L/2}{D}$$



$$\tan \theta_1 = \theta_1$$

$$\theta_1 = \frac{L}{2D}$$

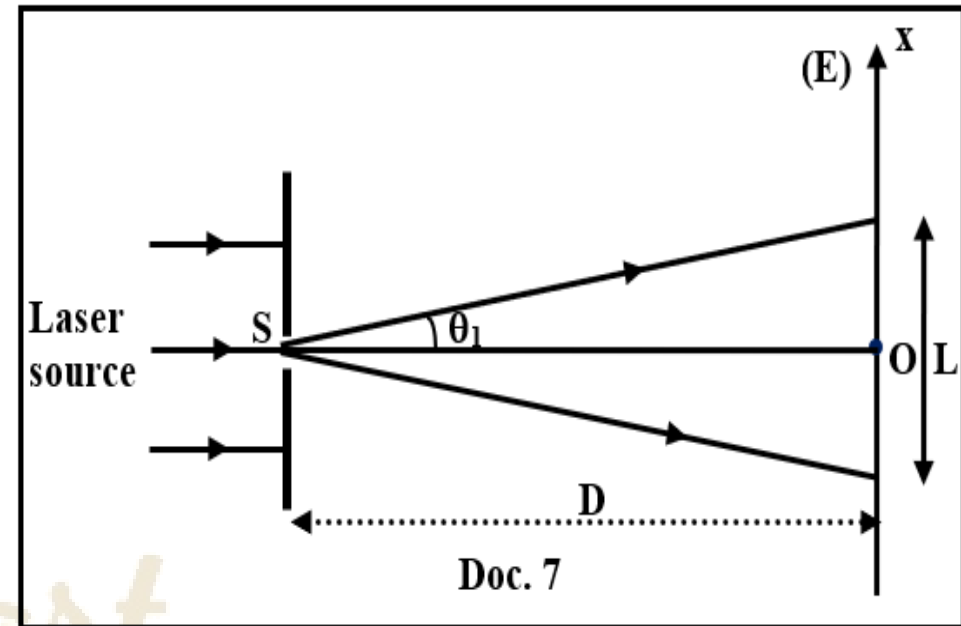
But $\theta_1 = \frac{\lambda}{a_1}$

$$\theta_1 = \theta_1$$

$$\frac{L}{2D} = \frac{\lambda}{a_1}$$



$$L = \frac{2\lambda D}{a_1}$$



Exercise 1:

$$a_1 = 0.1\text{mm}; \alpha = 2\theta_1; (\theta_1 \ll); D = 2\text{m}; \lambda = 600\text{nm}$$

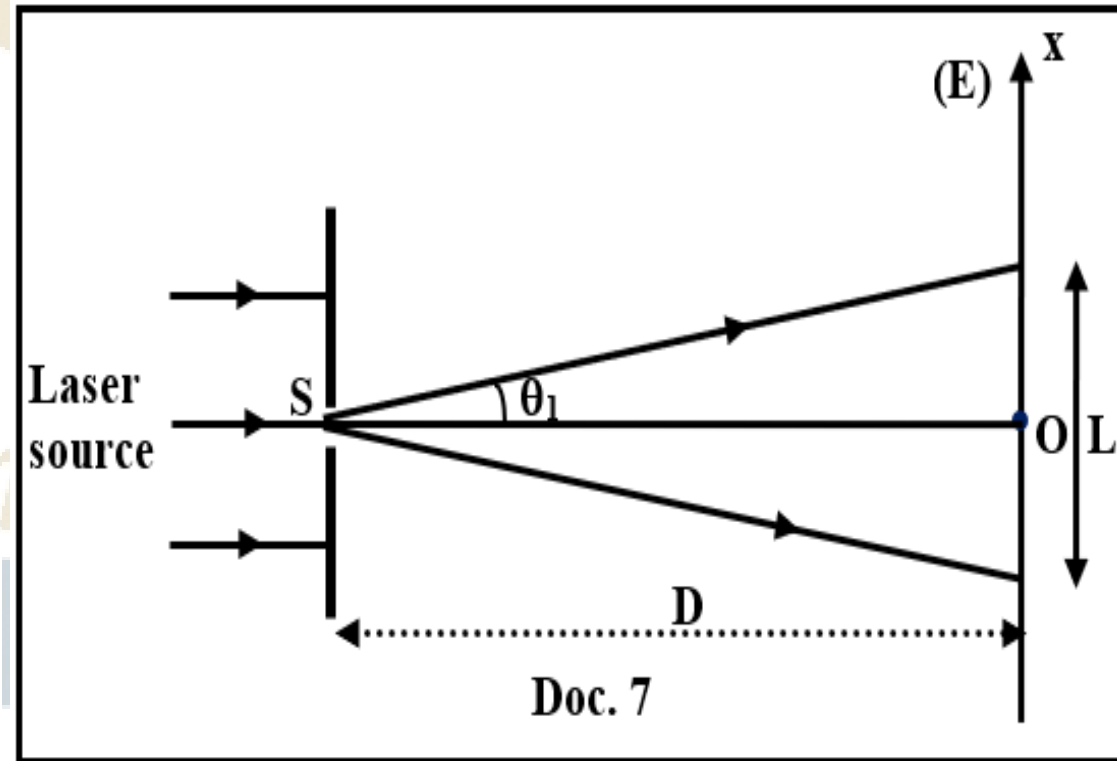
3) Deduce the distance d between O and the center of the first dark fringe.

$$d = \frac{L}{2} \text{ where } L = \frac{2\lambda D}{a_1}$$

$$d = \frac{2\lambda D}{2a_1}$$

$$d = \frac{\lambda D}{a_1}$$

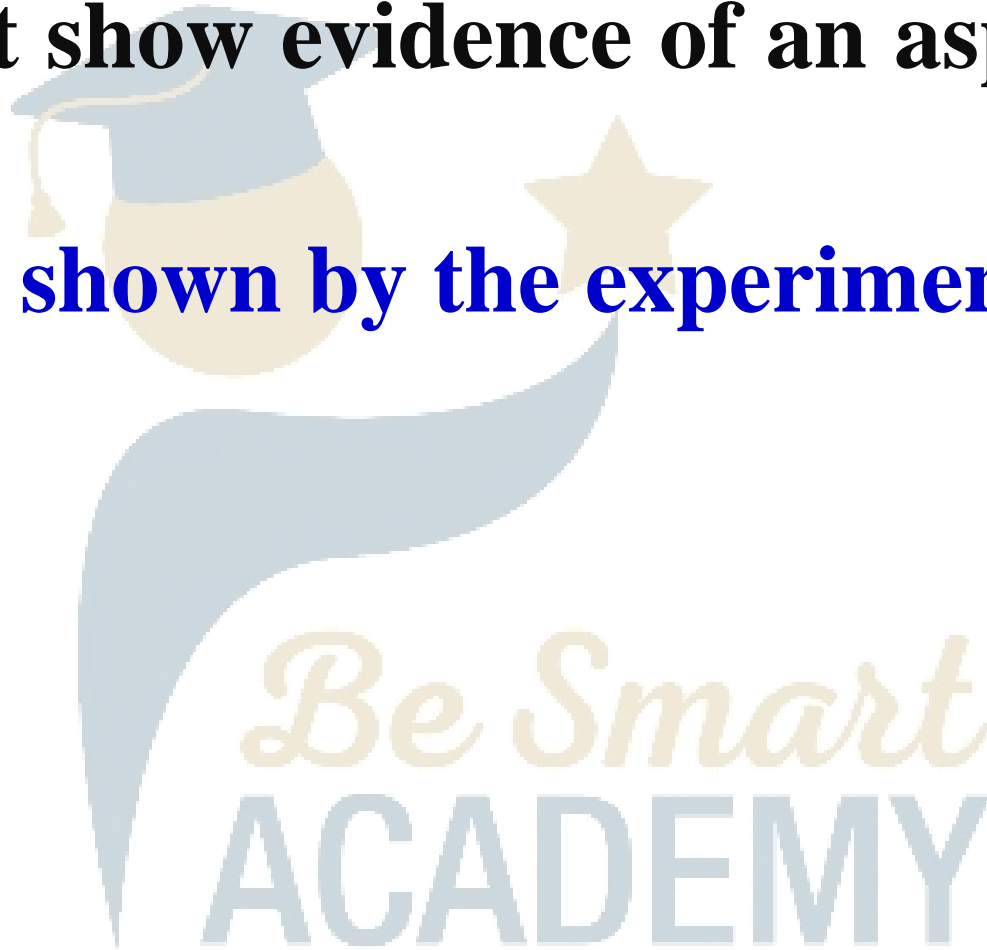
$$d = \frac{600 \times 10^{-9} \times 2}{0.1 \times 10^{-3}} = 0.012\text{m}$$



Exercise 1:

4) This experiment show evidence of an aspect of light. Name this aspect.

The aspect of light shown by the experiment is wave aspect of light



The End





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problem



thinking



solution

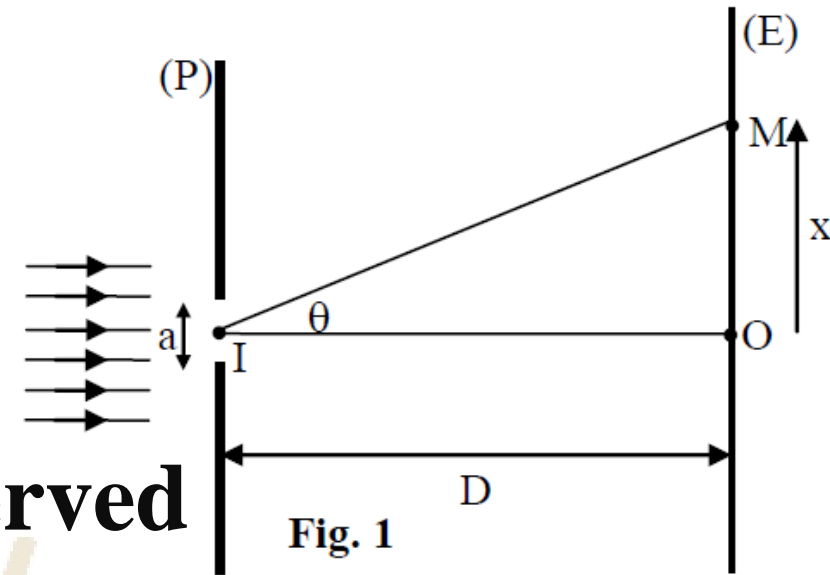
Exercise 2:

A laser source emits a monochromatic cylindrical beam of light of wavelength $\lambda = 640 \text{ nm}$ in air.

This beam falls normally on a vertical screen (P) having a horizontal slit F_1 of width a .

The phenomenon of diffraction is observed on a screen (E) parallel to (P) and situated at a distance $D = 4\text{m}$ from (P).

Consider on (E) a point M so that M coincides with the second dark fringe counted from O, the center of the central bright fringe.



Exercise 2:

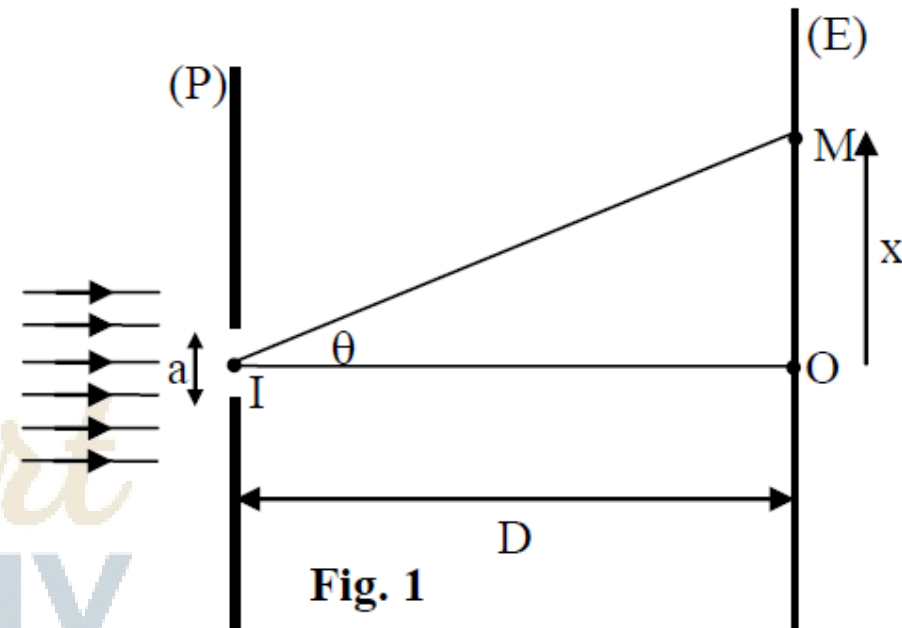
$OIM = \theta$ (θ is very small) is the angle of diffraction corresponding to the second dark fringe (Fig. 1).

1) Write the expression of θ in terms of a and λ .

2) Determine the expression of $OM = x$ in terms of a , D and λ .

3) Determine the value of « a » if $OM = 1.28\text{cm}$.

4) We replace the slit F_1 by another slit F'_1 of width 100 times larger than that of F_1 . What do we observe on the screen (E)?



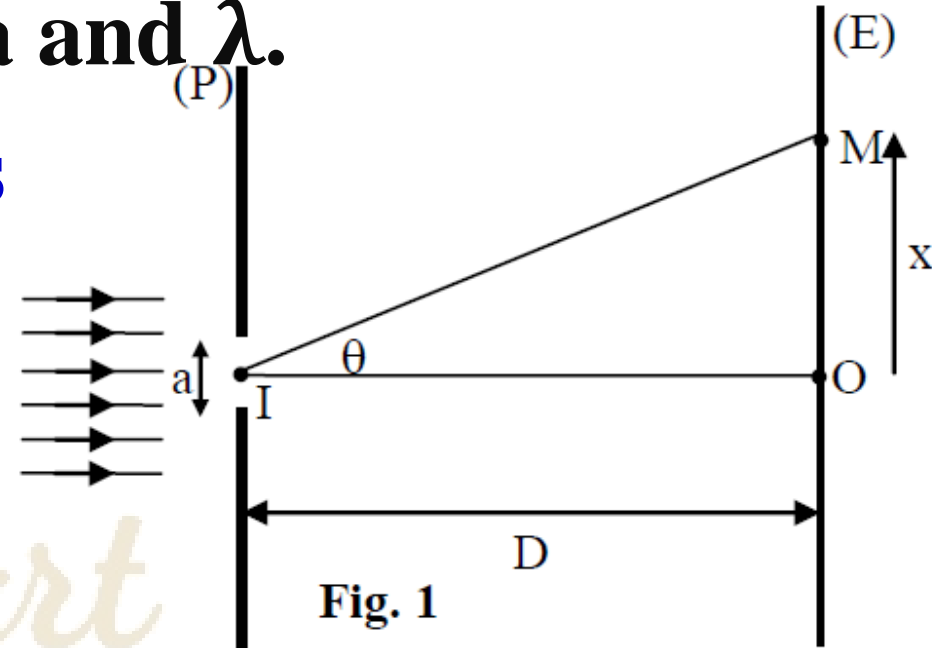
Exercise 2:

$\lambda = 640\text{nm}$; $D = 4\text{m}$; M coincides with 2nd D.F

1) Write the expression of θ in terms of a and λ .

The angle is small, and M coincides with 2nd D.F then:

$$\sin\theta_n \approx \theta_n = \frac{n\lambda}{a} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \theta = \frac{2\lambda}{a}$$



2) Determine the expression of $OM = x$ in terms of a , D and λ .

$$\tan\theta = \frac{\text{opp}}{\text{hyp}} = \frac{OM}{D} = \frac{x}{D} \quad \text{The angle } \theta \ll 1 \text{ is then:} \quad \theta = \frac{x}{D}$$

Exercise 2:

$\lambda = 640\text{nm}$; $D = 4\text{m}$; M coincides with 2nd D.F

$$\theta = \frac{2\lambda}{a}$$

And

$$\theta = \frac{x}{D}$$

$$\theta = \theta$$

$$\frac{2\lambda}{a} = \frac{x}{D}$$

$$x = \frac{2\lambda D}{a}$$

Exercise 2:

$\lambda = 640\text{nm}$; $D = 4\text{m}$; M coincides with 2nd D.F

3) Determine the value of «a» if $OM = 1.28\text{cm}$.

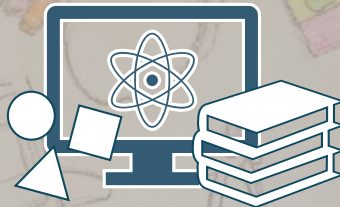
$$OM = x = \frac{2\lambda D}{a} \Rightarrow a = \frac{2\lambda D}{x} \Rightarrow a = \frac{2 \times 640 \times 10^{-9} \times 4}{1.28 \times 10^{-2}}$$

$$a = 0.4 \times 10^{-3}\text{m}$$

4) We replace the slit F_1 by another slit F'_1 of width 100 times larger than that of F_1 . What do we observe on the screen (E)?

We observe a spot of light.

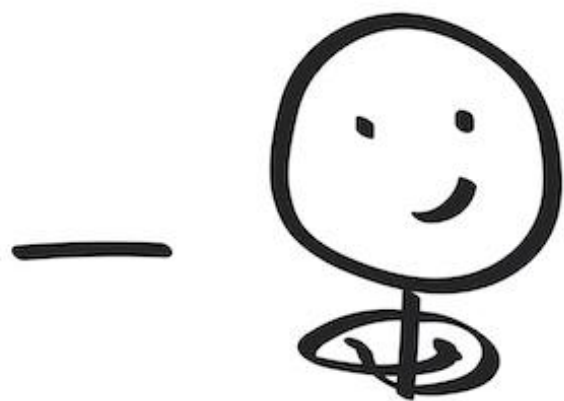
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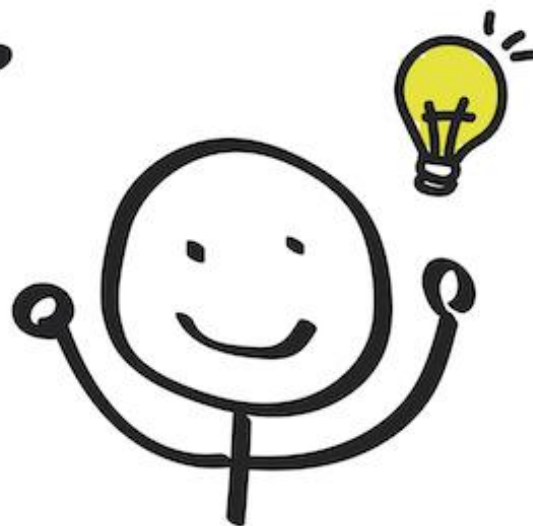
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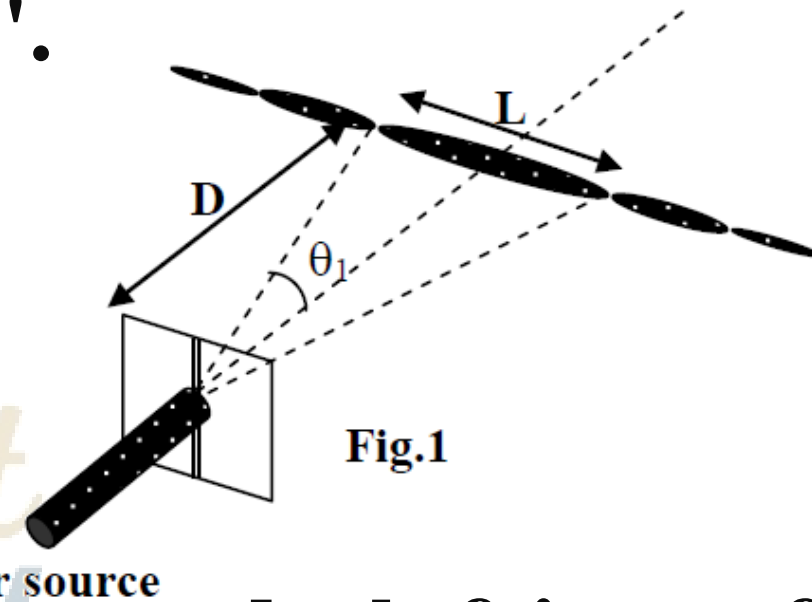
solution

Exercise 3:

Part A: Measurement of the width of a slit

A laser beam of light, of wavelength in vacuum $\lambda = 632.8\text{nm}$, falls normally on a vertical slit of width "a".

The diffraction pattern is observed on a screen placed perpendicular to the laser beam at a distance $D = 1.5\text{m}$ from the slit.



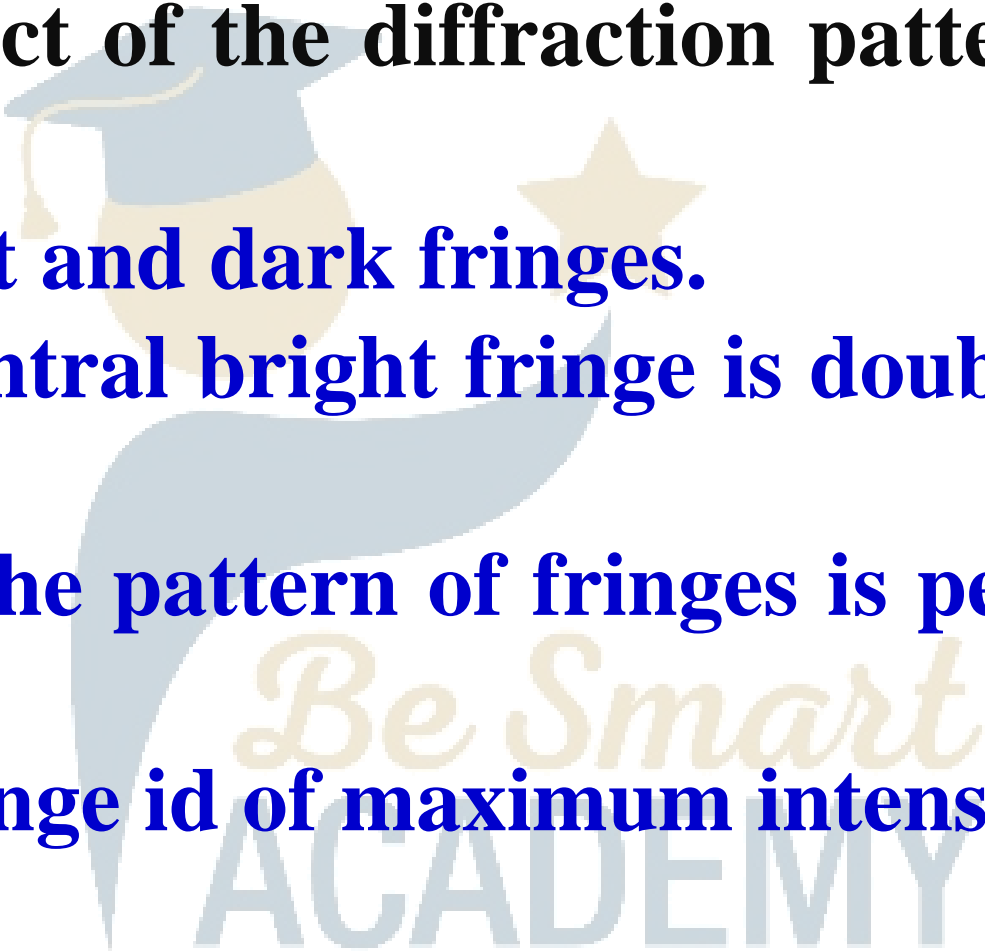
The angle of diffraction θ corresponding to a dark fringe of order n is given by $\sin \theta = \frac{n\lambda}{a}$ where $n = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3 \dots$ For small angles, take $\tan \theta \approx \sin \theta \approx \theta$ in radian.

Exercise 3:

- 1) Describe the aspect of the diffraction pattern observed on the screen.
- 2) Write the relation among a , θ_1 and λ .
- 3) Establish the relation among a , λ , L and D .
- 4) Knowing that $L = 6.3$ mm, calculate the width "a" of the used slit

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Exercise 3:

- 1) Describe the aspect of the diffraction pattern observed on the screen.
- Alternating bright and dark fringes.
 - The size of the central bright fringe is double that of any other bright fringe.
 - The direction of the pattern of fringes is perpendicular to that of the slit.
 - Central bright fringe is of maximum intensity.
- 

Exercise 3:

$$\lambda = 632.8\text{nm}; D = 1.5\text{m};$$

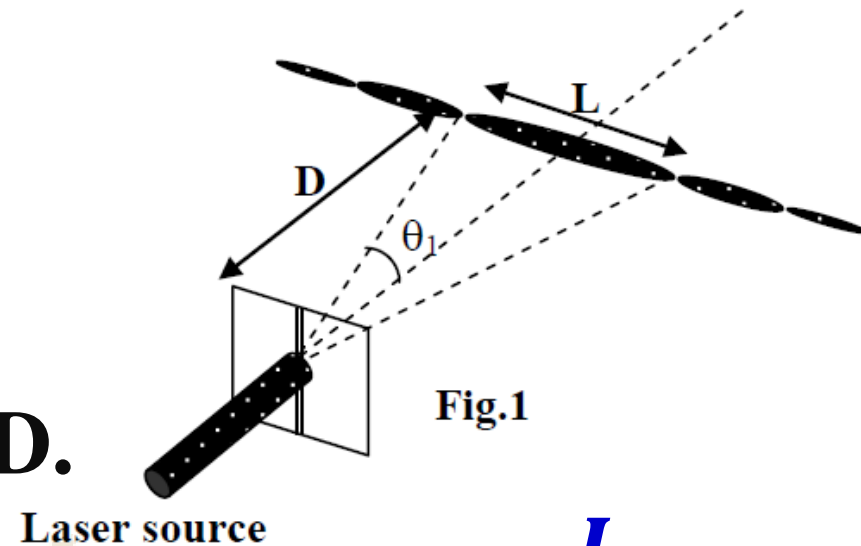
2) Write the relation among a , θ_1 and λ .

$$\sin\theta_n \approx \theta_n = \frac{n\lambda}{a} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \theta_1 = \frac{\lambda}{a}$$

3) Establish the relation among a , λ , L and D .

$$\tan\theta_1 = \frac{L}{2D} \quad \theta \ll 1 \text{ then: } \tan\theta_1 = \theta_1 \quad \theta_1 = \frac{L}{2D}$$

$$\theta_1 = \theta_1$$



$$\frac{\lambda}{a} = \frac{L}{2D}$$

Exercise 3:

$$\lambda = 632.8\text{nm}; D = 1.5\text{m};$$

4) Knowing that $L = 6.3\text{ mm}$, calculate the width "a" of the used slit

$$\frac{\lambda}{a} = \frac{L}{2D}$$

$$a = \frac{2\lambda D}{L}$$

$$a = \frac{2 \times 632.8 \times 10^{-9} \times 1.5}{6.3 \times 10^{-3}}$$

$$a = 3 \times 10^{-4} \text{m}$$

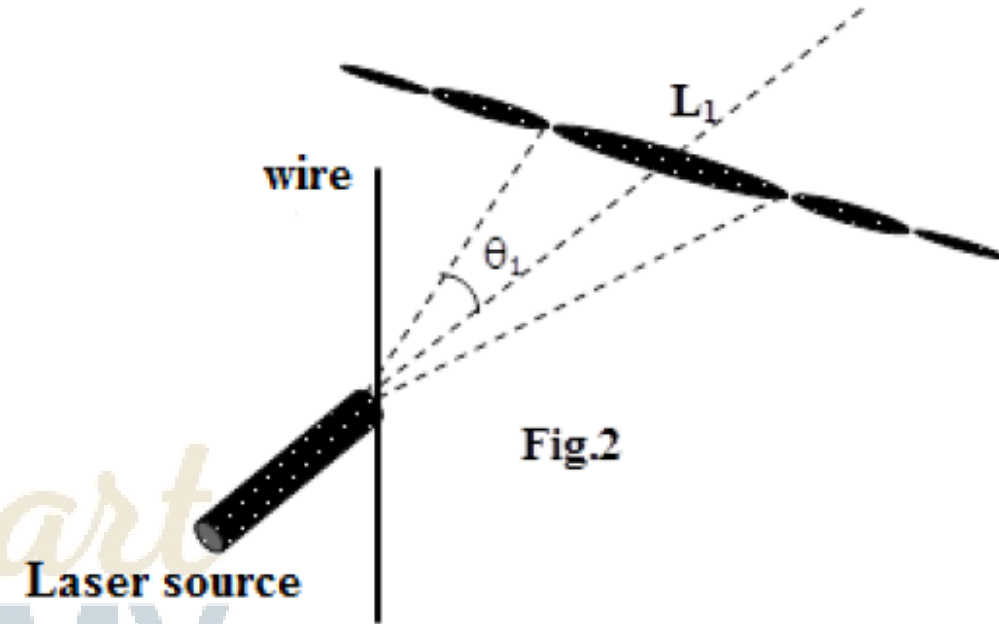
Exercise 3:

Part B: Controlling the thickness of thin wire

A manufacturer of thin wires wishes to control the diameter of his product.

He uses the same set-up mentioned in part (A) but he replaces the slit by a thin vertical wire. He observes on the screen the phenomenon of diffraction (fig. 2).

For $D = 2.60m$, he obtains a central fringe of constant linear width $L_1 = 3.4mm$.



Exercise 3:

- 1) Calculate the value of the diameter " a_1 " of the wire at the illuminated point.
- 2) The manufacturer illuminates the wire at different positions under the same precedent conditions.
Specify the indicator that permits the manufacturer to check that the diameter of the wire is constant.

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Exercise 3:

$$D = 2.60m, L_1 = 3.4mm \text{ mm.}$$

1) Calculate the value of the diameter " a_1 " of the wire at the illuminated point.

$$a_1 = \frac{2\lambda D}{L_1}$$

$$a_1 = \frac{2 \times 632.8 \times 10^{-9} \times 2.6}{3.4 \times 10^{-3}}$$

$$a_1 = 0.967 \times 10^{-4}m$$

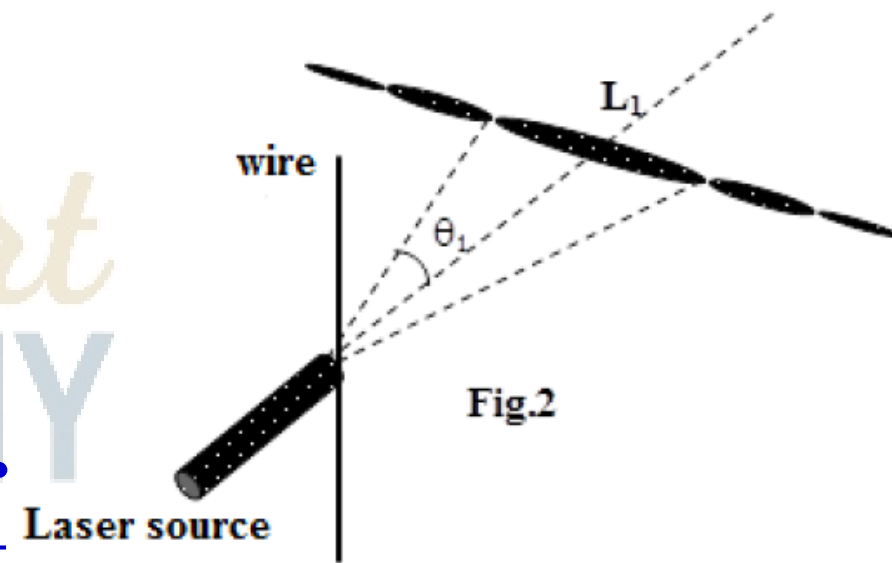
Exercise 3:

$$D = 2.60\text{m}, L_1 = 3.4\text{mm mm.}$$

2) The manufacturer illuminates the wire at different positions under the same precedent conditions. Specify the indicator that permits the manufacturer to check that the diameter of the wire is constant.

$$a_1 = \frac{2\lambda D}{L_1}$$

The linear width of the central fringe (L).
Because if L is constant then a is constant



Exercise 3:

Part C: Measurement of the index of water

We place the whole set-up of part (A) in water of index of refraction n_{water} . We obtain a new diffraction pattern.

We find that for $D = 1.5m$ and $a = 0.3mm$, the linear width of the central fringe is $L_2 = 4.7mm$.

1) Calculate the wavelength λ' of the laser light in water.

2) a) Determine the relation among λ , λ' and n_{water} .

b) Deduce the value of n_{water} .

Exercise 3:

$n_{water}; D = 1.5m; a = 0.3mm; L_2 = 4.7mm.$

1) Calculate the wavelength λ' of the laser light in water.

Apply the same relation we obtain:

$$\lambda' = \frac{0.3 \times 10^{-3} \times 4.7 \times 10^{-3}}{2 \times 1.5}$$

$$\frac{\lambda'}{a} = \frac{L}{2D}$$

$$\lambda' = \frac{aL}{2D}$$

$$\lambda' = 470 \times 10^{-9}m$$

$$\lambda' = 470nm$$

Exercise 3:

$n_{water}; D = 1.5m; a = 0.3mm; L_2 = 4.7mm.$

2) a) Determine the relation among λ , λ' and n_{water} .

$$\lambda' = \frac{V}{\nu}$$

And

$$\lambda = \frac{c}{\nu}$$

$$\frac{\lambda}{\lambda'} = \frac{c}{V}$$

$$\nu = \nu$$

$$\frac{V}{\lambda'} = \frac{c}{\lambda}$$

$$\frac{\lambda}{\lambda'} = n_{water}$$

Exercise 3:

b) Deduce the value of n_{water} .

$$\frac{1}{n_{water}} = \frac{\lambda'}{\lambda}$$

$$n_{water} = \frac{632.8 \times 10^{-9} m}{470 \times 10^{-9} m}$$

$$\frac{1}{n_{water}} = \frac{470 \times 10^{-9} m}{632.8 \times 10^{-9} m}$$

$$n_{water} = 1.34$$

The End

