

Chapter 7 Solutions

1. The position of the maximum is given by

$$\tan \theta = \frac{y}{L}$$

For a and b, we have L but the angle must be found.

- a) The angle of the first minimum is

$$\begin{aligned} a \sin \theta &= \lambda \\ 0.01 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m} \cdot \sin \theta &= 500 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m} \\ \theta &= 2.866^\circ \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the position on the screen is

$$\begin{aligned} \tan \theta &= \frac{y}{L} \\ \tan(2.866^\circ) &= \frac{y}{200 \text{ cm}} \\ y &= 10.0 \text{ cm} \end{aligned}$$

- b) The angle of the second minimum is

$$\begin{aligned} a \sin \theta &= 2\lambda \\ 0.01 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m} \cdot \sin \theta &= 2 \cdot 500 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m} \\ \theta &= 5.74^\circ \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the position on the screen is

$$\begin{aligned} \tan \theta &= \frac{y}{L} \\ \tan(5.74^\circ) &= \frac{y}{200 \text{ cm}} \\ y &= 20.1 \text{ cm} \end{aligned}$$

2. The width of the slit will be found with the position of the 1st minimum.

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

If the central maximum is 4 cm wide, then the distance between the first minimum and the centre of the central maximum is 2 cm. So, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\tan \theta &= \frac{y}{L} \\ \tan \theta &= \frac{2\text{cm}}{500\text{cm}} \\ \theta &= 0.2292^\circ\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}a \sin \theta &= \lambda \\ a \cdot \sin(0.2292^\circ) &= 560 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m} \\ a &= 0.14 \text{ mm}\end{aligned}$$

3. The wavelength will be found with the position of the 1st minimum.

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

If the central maximum is 50 cm wide, then the distance between the first minimum and the centre of the central maximum is 25 cm. So, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\tan \theta &= \frac{y}{L} \\ \tan \theta &= \frac{25\text{cm}}{160\text{cm}} \\ \theta &= 8.88^\circ\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}a \sin \theta &= \lambda \\ 0.01\text{m} \cdot \sin(8.88^\circ) &= \lambda \\ \lambda &= 1.544 \text{ mm}\end{aligned}$$

4. The light intensity is calculated with

$$I = I_0 \left(\frac{\sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)}{\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)} \right)^2$$

To calculate the intensity, α is needed. α is

$$\alpha = \frac{a \sin \theta}{\lambda} 2\pi$$

We have λ but we need the angle.

0.5 cm from the centre of the central maximum, the angle is

$$\begin{aligned} \tan \theta &= \frac{y}{L} \\ \tan \theta &= \frac{0.5 \text{ cm}}{200 \text{ cm}} \\ \theta &= 0.1432^\circ \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the value of α is

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha &= \frac{a \sin \theta}{\lambda} 2\pi \\ &= \frac{0.1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m} \cdot \sin(0.1432^\circ)}{600 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}} \cdot 2\pi \\ &= 2.618 \text{ rad} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the intensity is

$$\begin{aligned} I &= I_0 \left(\frac{\sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)}{\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)} \right)^2 \\ &= I_0 \left(\frac{\sin(1.309)}{1.309} \right)^2 \\ &= 0.5445 I_0 \end{aligned}$$

5. The half-length of the central maximum is

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

The 2 wavelength gives us these 2 equations.

At 450 nm, we have

$$\sin \theta_1 = \frac{450nm}{a}$$

At 650 nm, we have

$$\sin \theta_2 = \frac{650nm}{a}$$

Dividing these 2 equations gives

$$\frac{\sin \theta_2}{\sin \theta_1} = \frac{\frac{650nm}{a}}{\frac{450nm}{a}}$$

$$\frac{\sin \theta_2}{\sin \theta_1} = \frac{13}{9}$$

Angle 1 (when the wavelength is 450 nm) can be found.

If the central maximum is 4 cm wide, then the distance between the first minimum and the centre of the central maximum is 2 cm. So, we have

$$\tan \theta_1 = \frac{y}{L}$$

$$\tan \theta_1 = \frac{2cm}{300cm}$$

$$\theta_1 = 0.382^\circ$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{\sin \theta_2}{\sin \theta_1} = \frac{13}{9}$$

$$\frac{\sin \theta_2}{\sin (0,382^\circ)} = \frac{13}{9}$$

$$\theta_2 = 0,5517^\circ$$

So, the position of the first minimum on the screen is

$$\tan \theta_2 = \frac{y}{L}$$

$$\tan(0.5517^\circ) = \frac{y}{300\text{cm}}$$

$$y = 2.889\text{cm}$$

The width of the central maximum is twice this value, so it is 5.778 cm.

- 6.** We need to find the position of the two minimums. As the central maximum is 10 cm wide, we already know that the first minimum is at $y = 5$ cm.

It remains to find the position of the 2nd minimum.

The position of the minimums is given by

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

Thus, we have the following two equations.

First minimum

$$a \sin \theta_1 = \lambda$$

Second minimum

$$a \sin \theta_2 = 2\lambda$$

Dividing these equations gives

$$\frac{a \sin \theta_2}{a \sin \theta_1} = \frac{2\lambda}{\lambda}$$

$$\frac{\sin \theta_2}{\sin \theta_1} = 2$$

We need the angle of the first minimum. As the first minimum is at $y = 5$ cm, the angle is

$$\tan \theta_1 = \frac{y}{L}$$

$$\tan \theta_1 = \frac{5cm}{400cm}$$

$$\theta_1 = 0.716^\circ$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{\sin \theta_2}{\sin \theta_1} = 2$$

$$\frac{\sin \theta_2}{\sin(0.716^\circ)} = 2$$

$$\theta_2 = 1.432^\circ$$

So, the position of the second minimum on the screen is

$$\tan \theta_2 = \frac{y}{L}$$

$$\tan(1.432^\circ) = \frac{y}{400cm}$$

$$y = 10.002cm$$

The distance between the second minimum and the first minimum is therefore

$$\Delta y = 10.002cm - 5cm = 5.002cm$$

7. The angles of the minima are found with

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

The first minimum at 20° indicates that

$$a \sin 20^\circ = \lambda$$

$$\sin 20^\circ = \frac{\lambda}{a}$$

Therefore, the angle of the second minimum is

$$\begin{aligned}
 a \sin \theta &= 2\lambda \\
 \sin \theta &= 2 \frac{\lambda}{a} \\
 \sin \theta &= 2 \cdot \sin 20^\circ \\
 \sin \theta &= 0,68404 \\
 \theta &= 43,16^\circ
 \end{aligned}$$

For the 3rd minimum, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 a \sin \theta &= 3\lambda \\
 \sin \theta &= 3 \frac{\lambda}{a} \\
 \sin \theta &= 3 \cdot \sin 20^\circ \\
 \sin \theta &= 1,026
 \end{aligned}$$

As there is no solution, there is no third minimum.

8. a) We have

$$\frac{d}{a} = \frac{0,2\text{mm}}{0,04\text{mm}} = 5$$

This means that $m_d = 4$. The number of maxima is therefore $2 \cdot 4 + 1 = 9$.

b) The intensity is given by

$$I_{\text{tot}} = 4I_{10} \left(\frac{\sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)}{\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)} \right)^2 \cos^2 \frac{\Delta\phi}{2}$$

To calculate this intensity, $\Delta\phi$ and α are needed. They are

$$\Delta\phi = \frac{d \sin \theta}{\lambda} 2\pi \qquad \alpha = \frac{a \sin \theta}{\lambda} 2\pi$$

To calculate them, θ is needed.

3 cm from the centre of the central maximum, the angle is

$$\begin{aligned}\tan \theta &= \frac{y}{L} \\ \tan \theta &= \frac{3\text{cm}}{240\text{cm}} \\ \theta &= 0.7162^\circ\end{aligned}$$

The value of $\Delta\phi$ is thus

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\phi &= \frac{d \sin \theta}{\lambda} 2\pi \\ &= \frac{0.2 \times 10^{-3} \text{m} \cdot \sin(0.7162^\circ)}{600 \times 10^{-9} \text{m}} \cdot 2\pi \\ &= 26.178 \text{rad}\end{aligned}$$

The value of α is

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha &= \frac{a \sin \theta}{\lambda} 2\pi \\ &= \frac{0.04 \times 10^{-3} \text{m} \cdot \sin(0.7162^\circ)}{600 \times 10^{-9} \text{m}} \cdot 2\pi \\ &= 5.236 \text{rad}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the intensity is

$$\begin{aligned}I_{\text{tot}} &= 4I_{10} \left(\frac{\sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)}{\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)} \right)^2 \cos^2 \frac{\Delta\phi}{2} \\ &= 4I_{10} \cdot \left(\frac{\sin\left(\frac{5.236}{2}\right)}{\left(\frac{5.236}{2}\right)} \right)^2 \cdot \cos^2 \frac{26.178}{2} \\ &= 0.1097 I_{10}\end{aligned}$$

c) The intensity is given by

$$I_{\text{tot}} = 4I_{10} \left(\frac{\sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)}{\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)} \right)^2 \cos^2 \frac{\Delta\phi}{2}$$

To calculate this intensity, $\Delta\phi$ and α are needed. They are

$$\Delta\phi = \frac{d \sin \theta}{\lambda} 2\pi \qquad \alpha = \frac{a \sin \theta}{\lambda} 2\pi$$

To calculate them, θ is needed.

The angle of the first interference maximum is

$$\begin{aligned}d \sin \theta &= \lambda \\ \sin \theta &= \frac{\lambda}{d}\end{aligned}$$

The value of $\Delta\phi$ is therefore

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\phi &= \frac{d \sin \theta}{\lambda} 2\pi \\ &= \frac{d \frac{\lambda}{d}}{\lambda} 2\pi \\ &= 2\pi\end{aligned}$$

The value of α is

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha &= \frac{a \sin \theta}{\lambda} 2\pi \\ &= \frac{a \frac{\lambda}{d}}{\lambda} 2\pi \\ &= \frac{a}{d} 2\pi \\ &= \frac{0.04\text{mm}}{0.2\text{mm}} \cdot 2\pi \\ &= \frac{2\pi}{5}\end{aligned}$$

Thus, the intensity is

$$\begin{aligned}I_{tot} &= 4I_{10} \left(\frac{\sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)}{\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)} \right)^2 \cos^2 \frac{\Delta\phi}{2} \\ &= 4I_{10} \cdot \left(\frac{\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{5}\right)}{\left(\frac{\pi}{5}\right)} \right)^2 \cdot \cos^2 \frac{2\pi}{2} \\ &= 3.5I_{10}\end{aligned}$$

As the intensity of the central interference maximum is $4 I_{10}$, the ratio of intensity is

$$ratio = \frac{3.5I_{10}}{4I_{10}} = 0.875$$

The intensity is thus 87.5% of the intensity of the central interference maximum.

9. a)

The distance between the slits will be found with the position of the interference maxima

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

We notice that the 8th-order interference maximum is close to $y = 5$ cm. (Any maximum or minimum can be used). At this position, the angle is

$$\begin{aligned}\tan \theta &= \frac{y}{L} \\ \tan \theta &= \frac{5\text{cm}}{200\text{cm}} \\ \theta &= 1.432^\circ\end{aligned}$$

For the 8th-order maximum, we have

$$\begin{aligned}d \sin \theta &= 8\lambda \\ d \cdot \sin(1.432^\circ) &= 8 \cdot 650 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m} \\ d &= 2.0806 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m} = 0.20806 \text{ mm}\end{aligned}$$

As this is a little approximate, let's say 0.2 mm.

b) The distance between the slits will be found with the position of the minimum of diffraction.

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

We notice that the 1st-order diffraction minimum is close to $y = 3.2$ cm. (Any minimum can be used). At this position, the angle is

$$\begin{aligned}\tan \theta &= \frac{y}{L} \\ \tan \theta &= \frac{3.2\text{cm}}{200\text{cm}} \\ \theta &= 0.9167^\circ\end{aligned}$$

For the first-order minimum, we have

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

$$a \cdot \sin(0.9167^\circ) = 650 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$$

$$a = 4.063 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m} = 0.04063 \text{ mm}$$

As this is a little approximate, let's say 0.04 mm.

10. The angle of the first-order minimum is

$$\sin \theta = 1.22 \frac{\lambda}{a}$$

$$\sin \theta = 1.22 \cdot \frac{560 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}}{0.1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}}$$

$$\theta = 0.39145^\circ$$

Therefore, the distance between the centre of the diffraction pattern and the first minimum on the screen is

$$\tan \theta = \frac{y}{L}$$

$$\tan(0.3914^\circ) = \frac{y}{200 \text{ cm}}$$

$$y = 1.366 \text{ cm}$$

11. The diameter of the hole will be found with

$$\sin \theta = 1.22 \frac{\lambda}{a}$$

If the central maximum has a 6 mm diameter, then the distance between the first minimum and the centre of the central maximum is 3 mm. So, we have

$$\tan \theta = \frac{y}{L}$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{0.3 \text{ cm}}{180 \text{ cm}}$$

$$\theta = 0.0955^\circ$$

Therefore,

$$\sin \theta = 1.22 \frac{\lambda}{a}$$

$$\sin (0.0955^\circ) = 1.22 \cdot \frac{620 \times 10^{-9} m}{a}$$

$$a = 4.538 \times 10^{-4} m = 0.4538 mm$$

- 12.** According to the Babinet's principle, the diffraction pattern obtained with a hair is identical to the pattern obtained with a slit. Thus, the width of the hair is the same as the width of the slit that corresponds to the same diffraction pattern. So, this problem will be treated as a slit problem.

Thus, the width of the hair can be found with the formula giving the width of a slit

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

The angle of the first minimum is

$$\tan \theta = \frac{y}{L}$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{0.065 m}{9.67 m}$$

$$\theta = 0.3851^\circ$$

The width of the hair is then found with

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

$$a \cdot \sin (0.3851^\circ) = 523 \times 10^{-9} m$$

$$a = 7.78 \times 10^{-5} m$$

$$a = 77.8 \mu m$$

- 13.** The distance will be found with

$$\theta_{c(rad)} = \frac{d}{L}$$

To obtain it, we need the critical angle. This angle is

$$\sin \theta_c = 1.22 \frac{\lambda}{a}$$

$$\sin \theta_c = 1.22 \cdot \frac{550 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m} / 1.33}{3 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}}$$

$$\theta_c = 0.009635^\circ$$

Therefore, the distance is

$$\theta_{c(\text{rad})} = \frac{d}{L}$$

$$1.6817 \times 10^{-4} \text{ rad} = \frac{0.02 \text{ m}}{L}$$

$$L = 118.9 \text{ m}$$

14. The distance will be found with

$$\theta_{c(\text{rad})} = \frac{d}{L}$$

To obtain it, we need the critical angle. This angle is

$$\sin \theta_c = 1.22 \frac{\lambda}{a}$$

$$\sin \theta_c = 1.22 \cdot \frac{550 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}}{0.25 \text{ m}}$$

$$\theta_c = 1.538 \times 10^{-4}^\circ$$

Therefore,

$$\theta_{c(\text{rad})} = \frac{d}{L}$$

$$2.684 \times 10^{-6} \text{ rad} = \frac{d}{200,000 \text{ m}}$$

$$d = 0.5368 \text{ m}$$

15. The diameter will be found with

$$\sin \theta_c = 1.22 \frac{\lambda}{a}$$

To obtain it, we need the angle between the objects. This angle is

$$\begin{aligned}\theta_{c(rad)} &= \frac{d}{L} \\ &= \frac{8 \times 10^7 \text{ km}}{4.73 \times 10^{13} \text{ km}} \\ &= 1.691 \times 10^{-6} \text{ rad}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}\sin \theta_c &= 1.22 \frac{\lambda}{a} \\ \sin(1.691 \times 10^{-4} \text{ rad}) &= 1.22 \cdot \frac{550 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}}{a} \\ a &= 0.3967 \text{ m}\end{aligned}$$

16. The intensity is

$$I = I_0 \left(\frac{\sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)}{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \right)^2$$

At a maximum (or a minimum), we must have $dI/d\alpha = 0$. Thus, we must have

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dI}{d\alpha} &= 0 \\ \frac{d}{d\alpha} \left(I_0 \left(\frac{\sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)}{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \right)^2 \right) &= 0 \\ I_0 2 \left(\frac{\sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)}{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \right) \left(\frac{\cos\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{2}}{\frac{\alpha}{2}} - \frac{\sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{2}}{\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)^2} \right) &= 0\end{aligned}$$

There are two possibilities for this derivative to vanish. First possibility: the first term in parentheses vanishes.

$$\frac{\sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)}{\frac{\alpha}{2}} = 0$$

The solution of this equation is

$$\frac{\alpha}{2} = M \pi$$

where $M = 1, 2, 3, \dots$. We recognize this solution: those are the minimum of intensity.


Second possibility: the second term in parentheses vanishes.

$$\frac{\cos\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{2}}{\frac{\alpha}{2}} - \frac{\sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{2}}{\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)^2} = 0$$

The solution leads to

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\cos\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{2}}{\frac{\alpha}{2}} &= \frac{\sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{2}}{\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)^2} \\ \cos\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) &= \frac{\sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)}{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \\ \frac{\alpha}{2} &= \tan\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

This equation is not easy to solve. Among other things, it can be solved with a software like Maple or with the given internet site. Here is the solution according to Wolfram.

Input:
 $x = \tan(x)$ Open code 


Alternate forms:


$$x = \frac{\sin(x)}{\cos(x)}$$

$$x = \frac{i(e^{-ix} - e^{ix})}{e^{-ix} + e^{ix}}$$
 


Alternate form assuming x is real:

$$x = \frac{\sin(2x)}{\cos(2x) + 1}$$
 


Numerical solutions: More digits 

$$x \approx \pm 10.9041216594289\dots$$
 

$$x \approx \pm 7.72525183693771\dots$$
 

$$x \approx \pm 4.49340945790906\dots$$
 

$$x = 0$$
 

$$x \approx 14.0661939128315\dots$$
 

The first maximum is thus at $x = 4.49341$. (The approximation in which the maxima were assumed to be exactly between the minima gives 4.7124) Thus,

$$\frac{\alpha}{2} = 4.49341$$

$$\alpha = 8.98682$$

Since

$$\alpha = \frac{a \sin \theta}{\lambda} 2\pi$$

the angle is

$$\frac{a \sin \theta}{\lambda} 2\pi = 8.98682$$

$$\frac{0.1 \times 10^{-3} m \cdot \sin \theta}{600 \times 10^{-9} m} \cdot 2\pi = 8.98682$$

$$\sin \theta = 0.00858178$$

$$\theta = 0.4917^\circ$$

Therefore, the distance is

$$\tan \theta = \frac{y}{L}$$

$$\tan(0.4917^\circ) = \frac{y}{2m}$$

$$y = 0.01716m$$

$$y = 1.716cm$$