

Coherent Sources:-

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Two sources are said to be coherent if they emit ^{light} waves of the same frequency and nearly the same amplitude and are always in phase with each other.

This means that the two ~~waves~~ sources must emit radiations of the same colour (wavelengths).

Since the wavelength of light is extremely small and it is of the order of 10^{-5} cm, two sources must be narrow and must also be close to each other.

For max^m intensity occurs when the phase difference between the two waves reaching the point is a whole number multiple of 2π or path difference between the two waves is a whole number multiple of wavelength.

Minimum intensity :-

Minimum intensity at a point

When the phase difference between the two waves reaching the point ~~is~~ is an odd number multiple of π or the path difference between the two waves is an odd number multiple of half wavelength.

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Phase difference and path difference:-

If the path difference between the two waves is λ the phase difference = 2π

Suppose for a path difference x , the phase diff is ϕ .

For a path difference λ , the phase difference = 2π

For a path difference x , the phase diff = $\frac{2\pi x}{\lambda}$

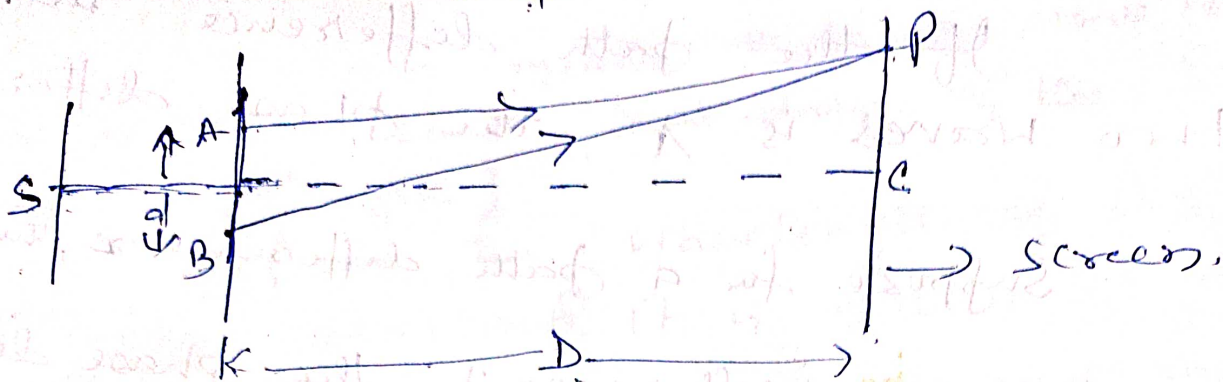
$$\text{Phase difference, } \phi = \frac{2\pi x}{\lambda}$$

$$= \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \times \text{Path difference}$$

Analytical treatment of interference:-

~~(Principle of superpositions)~~

Let us consider a monochromatic source of light S emitting waves of wavelength λ and two narrow pinholes A & B. A & B are equidistant from S and act as two virtual coherent sources.



Let a be the amplitude of the wave and δ is the phase difference between two waves reaching the point P.

If y_1 & y_2 are the displacement

then $y_1 = a \sin \omega t$

and $y_2 = a \sin(\omega t + \delta)$

∴ Resultant displacement

$$y = y_1 + y_2$$

$$= a \sin \omega t + a \sin(\omega t + \delta)$$

$$= a \sin \omega t + a(\sin \omega t \cdot \cos \delta + \cos \omega t \cdot \sin \delta)$$

$$= a \sin \omega t + a \sin \omega t \cos \delta + a \cos \omega t \sin \delta$$

$$= a \sin \omega t (1 + \cos \delta) + a \cos \omega t \sin \delta$$

$\left. \begin{matrix} \cos A \cdot \sin B \\ + \sin A \cdot \cos B \end{matrix} \right\}$

stone taking,

$$a(1 + \cos \theta) = R \cos \theta \quad \text{--- (i)}$$

$$\text{and } a \sin \theta = R \sin \theta \quad \text{--- (ii)}$$

Then $y = R \sin \omega t \cos \theta + R \cos \omega t \sin \theta$
 $= R (\sin \omega t \cos \theta + \cos \omega t \sin \theta)$

or, $y = R \sin (\omega t + \theta) \quad \text{--- (iii)}$

This represents the equation of simple harmonic vibrations of amplitude

Now squaring eqn (i) & (ii) and adding we get

$$R^2 \cos^2 \theta + R^2 \sin^2 \theta = a^2 (1 + \cos \theta)^2 + a^2 \sin^2 \theta$$

$$\text{or } R^2 (\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta) = a^2 (1 + 2 \cos \theta + \cos^2 \theta) + a^2 \sin^2 \theta$$

$$\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1$$

$$\text{or } R^2 = a^2 (1 + 2 \cos \theta + \sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta)$$

$$= a^2 (1 + 2 \cos \theta + 1)$$

$$= a^2 (2 + 2 \cos \theta)$$

$$= 2a^2 (1 + \cos \theta)$$

$$\text{or, } R^2 = 2a^2 \cdot 2 \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} = 4a^2 \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2}$$

- 6 -

$$\text{or, } R^2 = 4a^2 \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2}$$

The intensity at a point is given by the square of the amplitude

$$\therefore I = R^2$$

$$\text{or } \boxed{I = 4a^2 \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2}}$$

(14)