

VI-11.02.25

PHYSICS
OPTICS
UNIT-1

B.SC (SEM-IV)
2023-27

TITLE :- Interference of light in thin film :-

* - Condition of maxima and minima in Reflected Light :-

The two rays will reinforce each other if the path difference between them is an integral multiple of λ i.e. when

$$2\mu t \cos r - \frac{\lambda}{2} = n\lambda, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots \text{ etc}$$

$$2\mu t \cos r = (2n+1)\frac{\lambda}{2} \quad (\text{Condition of maxima})$$

When this condition is satisfied, the film will appear bright in the reflected light

Again, the two rays will destroy each other if the path difference between them is the odd multiple of $\frac{\lambda}{2}$ i.e. when

$$2\mu t \cos r - \frac{\lambda}{2} = (2n-1)\frac{\lambda}{2}, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$2\mu t \cos r = n\lambda \quad (\text{Condition of minima})$$

Path difference in transmitted Light :-

The path diff. between the transmitted ~~light~~ rays BT_1 and DT_2 is similarly given by

$$\Delta = \mu(BC + CD) - BL$$

$$= 2\mu t \cos r$$


If Light travels from denser to rarer medium, there is no change in phase due to reflection at B or C .

Hence the effective path difference BT_1 and DT_2 is also $\boxed{2\mu t \cos r}$

11.2.25

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:- Conditions for Maxima and Minima in Transmitted Light :-

The two rays B_2T_2 and D_2T_2 reinforce each other if

$$2\mu t \cos r = n\lambda \quad (\text{Condition of maxima}) \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

When $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

The film will therefore appear bright in the transmitted light.

Again the two rays will destroy each other, if

$$2\mu t \cos r = (2n+1)\frac{\lambda}{2} \quad (\text{Condition of minima})$$

Where $n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$ and the film will appear dark in the transmitted light. (5)

A comparison of equation (2), (3), (4) and (5) shows the conditions for maxima and minima in reflected light are just reverse of those in transmitted light.

Hence the film which appears bright in the reflected light will appear dark in transmitted light and vice-versa.

Production of colours in thin film:

When a thin film is illuminated by monochromatic light and seen in reflected light, it appears bright or dark according to $2\mu t \cos r$ is $(2n+1)\lambda/2$ or $n\lambda$ respectively. If however, the film is exposed to an extended source of white light. It shows beautiful colours

The reason is as follows :-

The eye follows the film receives rays of light reflected at the top and bottom surfaces of the film. These rays are in the position of interference. The path difference between the interfering rays depends upon thickness of film and upon ~~and~~ hence upon the inclination of the incident rays. Now the white light consists of a continuous range of wavelength (colours). At particular range of the film and for a particular position of eye the rays of only certain wavelengths will have a path difference satisfying the condition of maxima. Hence only those wavelengths (colours) will be present with maxima intensity, other hands neighbouring wavelengths will be present with less intensity. While some other of the film which satisfy the condition of minima will be missing. Hence the point of the film will appear coloured.
