

TOPIC : Hyperfine structure of spectral lines :-

Because of its bearing on the properties of atomic nuclei, the investigation of hyperfine structure with Fabry-Pérot interferometer has become of considerable importance in modern research. Occasionally it is found that a line which appears sharp and single in an ordinary spectroscope, yields a ring system consisting of two or more sets. These multiple ring systems arise from the fact that the line is actually a group of lines of wavelength very close together, differing by perhaps a few hundredths of an angstrom. If  $d$  is sufficient large these will be separated, so that in each order  $m$  we obtain effectively a short spectrum very powerfully resolved. Any given fringe of wavelength  $\lambda_1$  is formed at such an angle that

$$2d \cos \theta_1 = m \lambda_1$$
$$\text{or } m = \frac{2d \cos \theta}{\lambda_1} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

The next fringe farther out for this same wavelength has

$$2d \cos \theta_2 = (m-1) \lambda_1$$

Now let us suppose that  $\lambda_1$  has a component line  $\lambda_2$  which is very close to  $\lambda_1$  so that we may write

$$\lambda_2 = \lambda_1 - \Delta \lambda$$

Let us also suppose that  $\Delta \lambda$  is such that this component line  $\lambda_2$  which is very close

So that,

$$\lambda_2 = \lambda_1 - \Delta\lambda$$

Let us also suppose that  $\Delta\lambda$  is such that this component in order  $m$ , falls on the order  $(m-1)$  of  $\lambda_1$ , then

$$2d \cos \theta_2 = m(\lambda_1 - \Delta\lambda)$$

Equating the R.H.S. of equations (2) and (3), we get

$$(m-1)\lambda_1 = m(\lambda_1 - \Delta\lambda)$$

$$m\lambda_1 - \lambda_1 = m\lambda_1 - m\Delta\lambda$$

$$\lambda_1 = m\Delta\lambda$$

$$m = \frac{\lambda_1}{\Delta\lambda}$$

Substituting the value of  $m$  from eqn. (4) in eqn. (3), we get,

$$\frac{2d \cos \theta_1}{\lambda_1} = \frac{\lambda_1}{\Delta\lambda}$$

$$\text{or } \Delta\lambda = \frac{\lambda_1^2}{2d \cos \theta_1} = \frac{\lambda_1^2}{2d}$$

if  $\theta_1$  is nearly zero.

This is the wavelength interval in a given order when the fringes of the same wavelength in the next higher order is reached. Thus we see that  $\Delta\lambda$  is independent of  $m$  and hence constant. Knowing  $d$  and  $\lambda$ , the wavelength difference of components lines lying in this small range may be evaluated.

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