

# Physics 102: Lecture 21

## Thin Films & Diffraction Gratings



Fraunhofer's solar spectrum (1814)



Name	Wavelength	Origin	Name	Wavelength	Origin
A	7594	$O_2$	E	5270	$Fe\ 1$
a	7165	$H_2O$	b	5170,5180	$Mg\ 1$
B	6867	$O_2$	F	4861	$H_\beta$
C	6563	$H_\alpha$	G	4300	$CH$
D	5890,5896	$Na\ 1$	H	3968	$Ca\ 2$

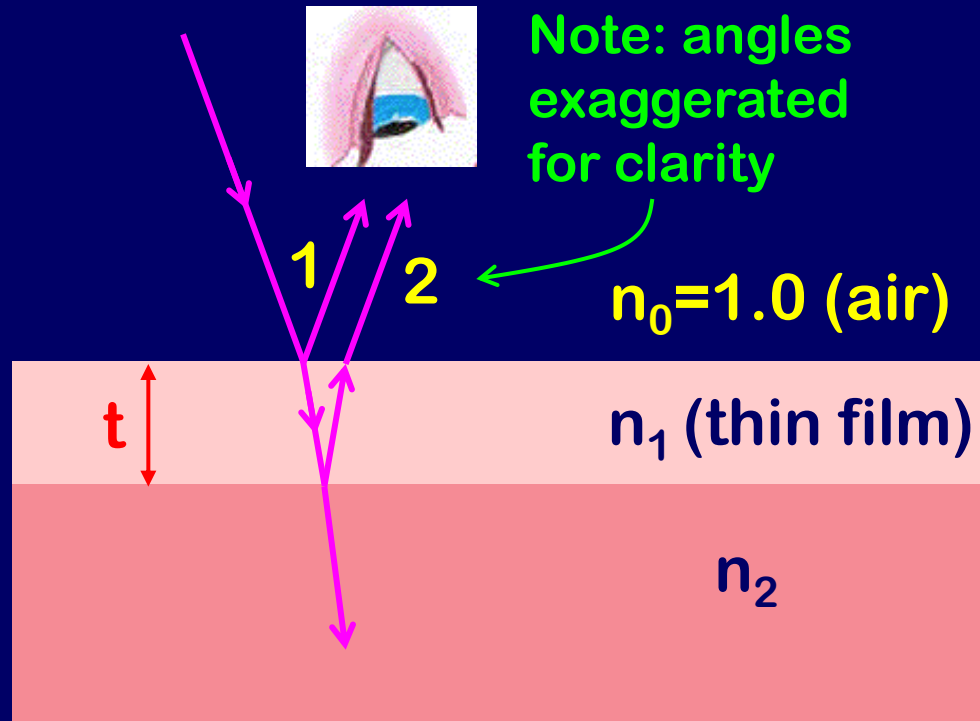
Stelzer moved office hour from April 14<sup>th</sup> (Monday) to April 11<sup>th</sup> (Friday) 4-5 pm See Website.

# Recall

- **Interference** (at least 2 coherent waves)
    - Constructive (full wavelength difference)
    - Destructive (half wavelength difference)
  - **Light** (1 source, but different paths)
    - Young's double slit
    - Thin films
    - Multiple slit
    - X-ray diffraction from crystal
    - Diffraction/single slit
- Last lecture
- Today's lecture

# Thin Film Interference

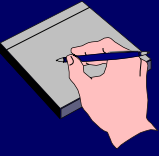
Light is incident normal to a thin film



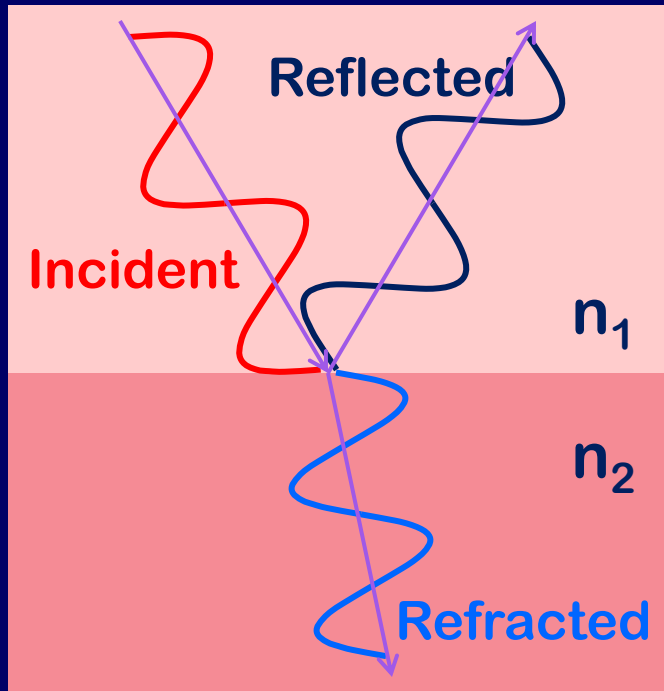
Get two waves by reflection off two different interfaces: interference!

Ray 2 travels approximately  $2t$  further than ray 1.

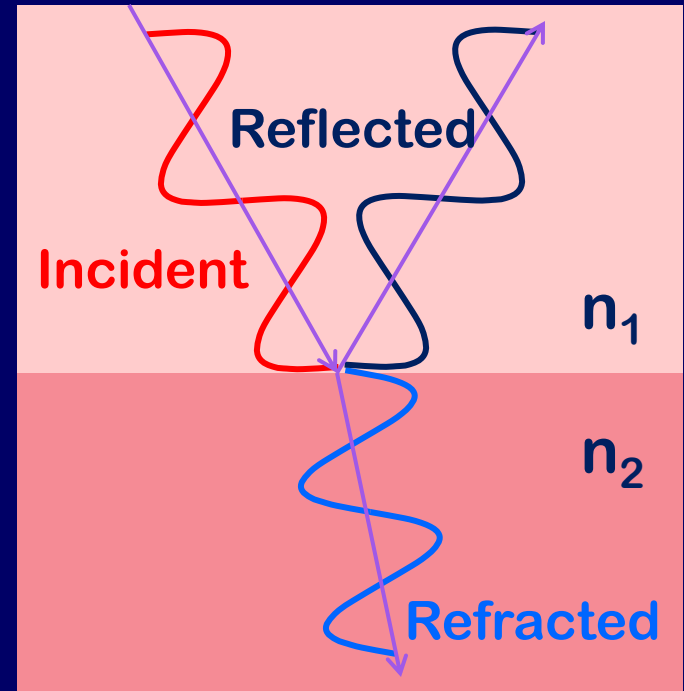
# Reflection & Phase Shifts



Upon reflection from a boundary between two transparent materials, the phase of the reflected light may change.



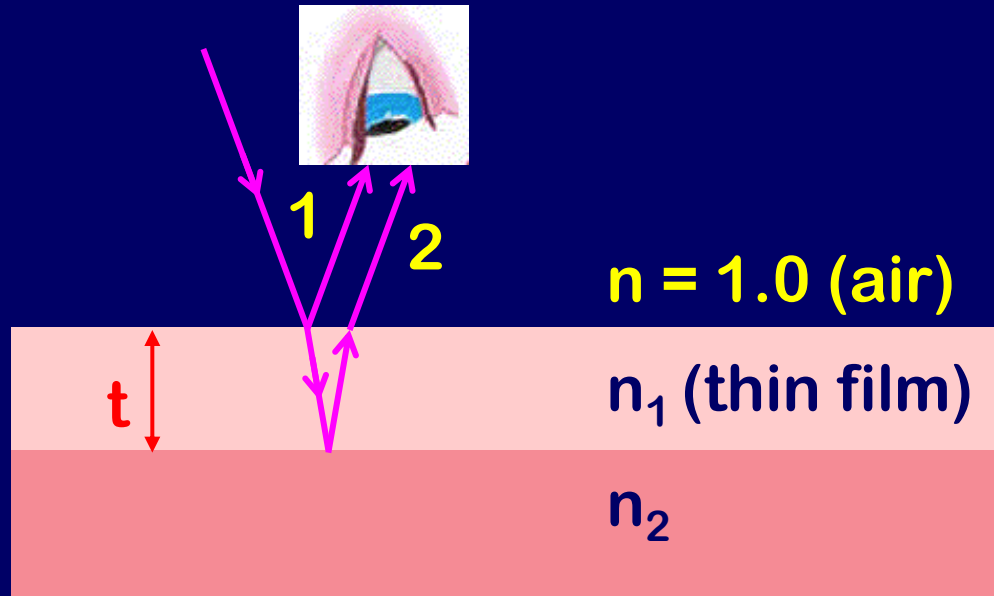
- If  $n_1 > n_2$  – no phase change upon reflection



- If  $n_1 < n_2$  –  $180^\circ$  phase change upon reflection
- This is like the wave went an extra  $\lambda/2$ ;  $\delta=1/2$

# Thin Film Summary

Determine  $\delta$ , number of extra wavelengths for each ray.



This is important!

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ray 1: } \delta_1 &= \underbrace{0 \text{ or } \frac{1}{2}}_{\text{Reflection}} + \underbrace{0}_{\text{Distance}} \\ \text{Ray 2: } \delta_2 &= 0 \text{ or } \frac{1}{2} + 2t / \lambda_{\text{film}} \end{aligned}$$

**Note: this is wavelength in film!** ( $\lambda_{\text{film}} = \lambda_o / n_1$ )

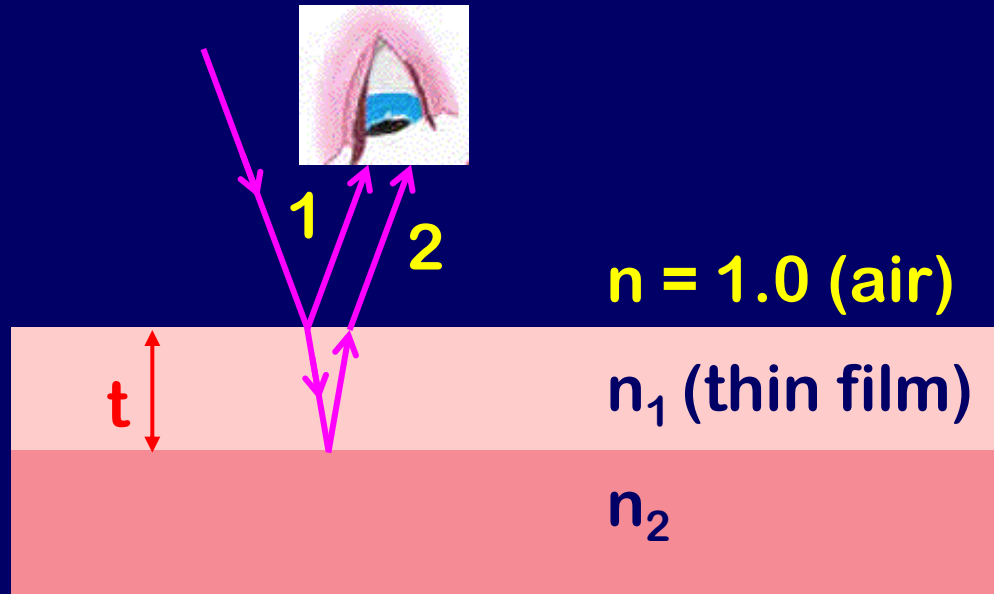
If  $|\delta_2 - \delta_1| = 0, 1, 2, 3 \dots$  (m) **constructive**

If  $|\delta_2 - \delta_1| = \frac{1}{2}, 1 \frac{1}{2}, 2 \frac{1}{2} \dots$  ( $m + \frac{1}{2}$ ) **destructive**



# ACT: Thin Film Practice

Blue light ( $\lambda_0 = 500$  nm) incident on a glass ( $n_1 = 1.5$ ) cover slip ( $t = 167$  nm) floating on top of water ( $n_2 = 1.3$ ).



What is  $\delta_1$ , the total phase shift for ray 1

A)  $\delta_1 = 0$

B)  $\delta_1 = \frac{1}{2}$

C)  $\delta_1 = 1$

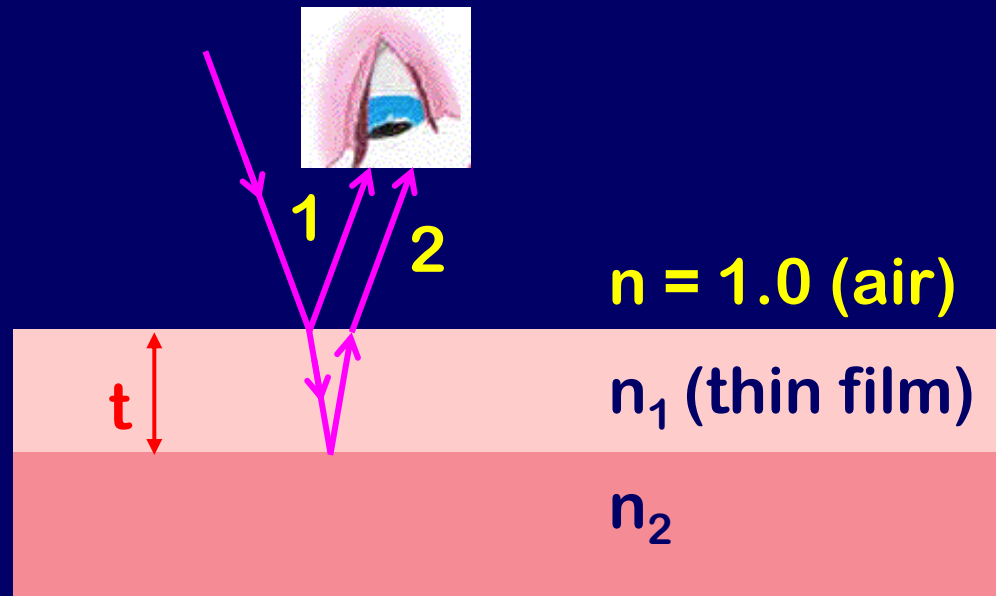
# Example

## Thin Film Practice

### Checkpoint 1.2



Blue light ( $\lambda_0 = 500$  nm) incident on a glass ( $n_1 = 1.5$ ) cover slip ( $t = 167$  nm) floating on top of water ( $n_2 = 1.3$ ).



Is the interference **constructive** or **destructive** or neither?

$$\delta_1 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\delta_2 = 0 + 2t / \lambda_{\text{glass}} = 2t n_{\text{glass}} / \lambda_0 = (2)(167)(1.5)/500 = 1$$

$$\text{Phase shift} = |\delta_2 - \delta_1| = \frac{1}{2} \text{ wavelength}$$

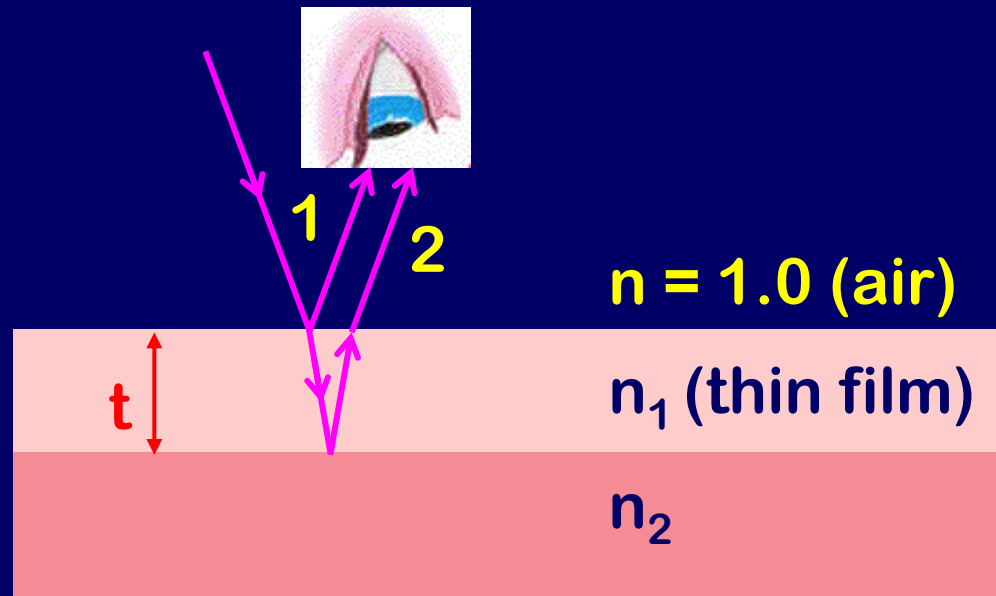
# Example

## ACT: Thin Film Practice II



### Checkpoint 1.1

Blue light ( $\lambda_0 = 500$  nm) incident on a glass ( $n_1 = 1.5$ ) cover slip ( $t = 167$  nm) floating on top of plastic ( $n_2 = 1.8$ ).



Is the interference : A) constructive B) destructive C) neither?

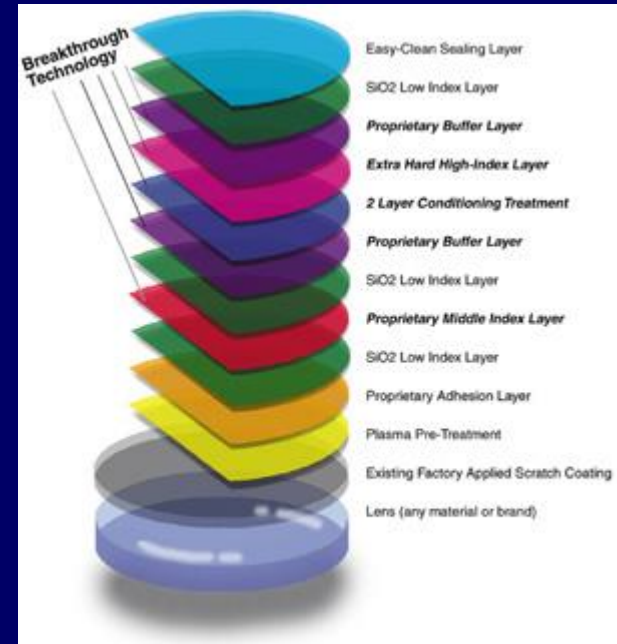
$$\delta_1 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\delta_2 = \frac{1}{2} + 2t / \lambda_{\text{glass}} = \frac{1}{2} + 2t n_{\text{glass}} / \lambda_0 = (2)(167)(1.5)/500 = 3/2$$

$$\text{Phase shift} = |\delta_2 - \delta_1| = 1 \text{ wavelength}$$



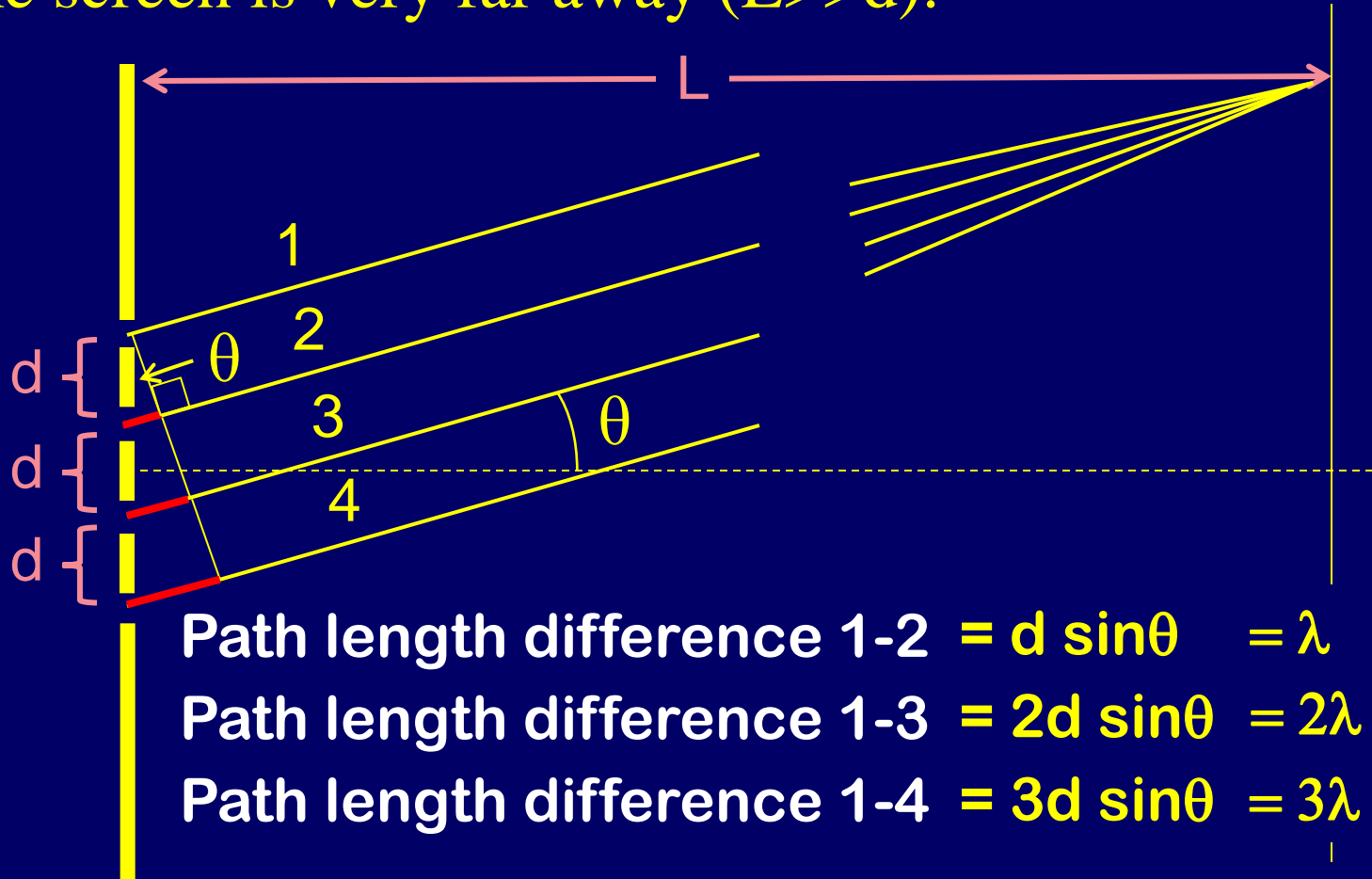
# Thin film application: Anti-reflection coatings



# Diffraction Gratings: multiple slits

(N slits with spacing d)

Assume screen is very far away ( $L \gg d$ ):



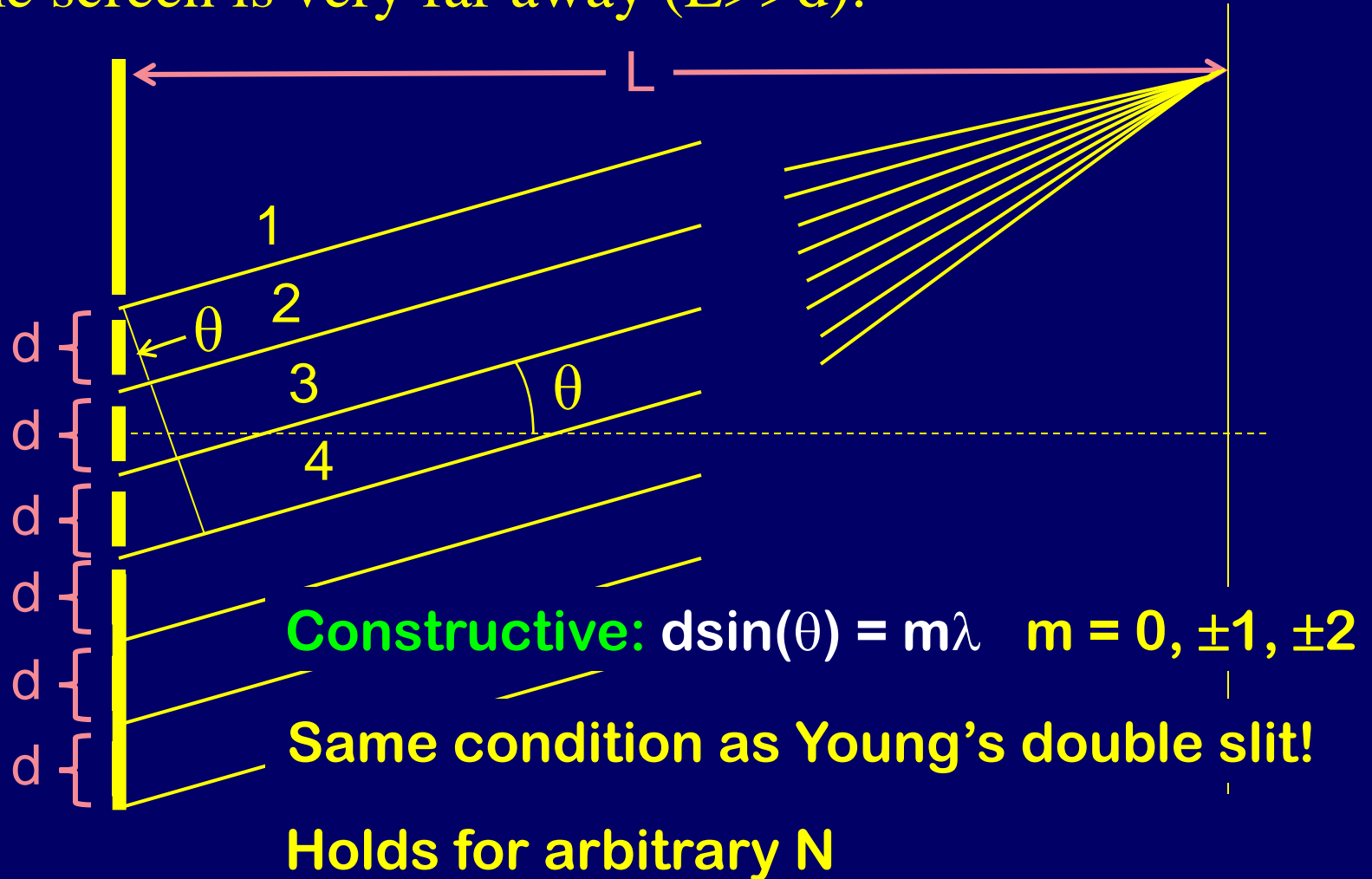
Constructive interference for all paths when

$$d \sin(\theta) = m\lambda \quad m = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2$$

# Multiple Slits:

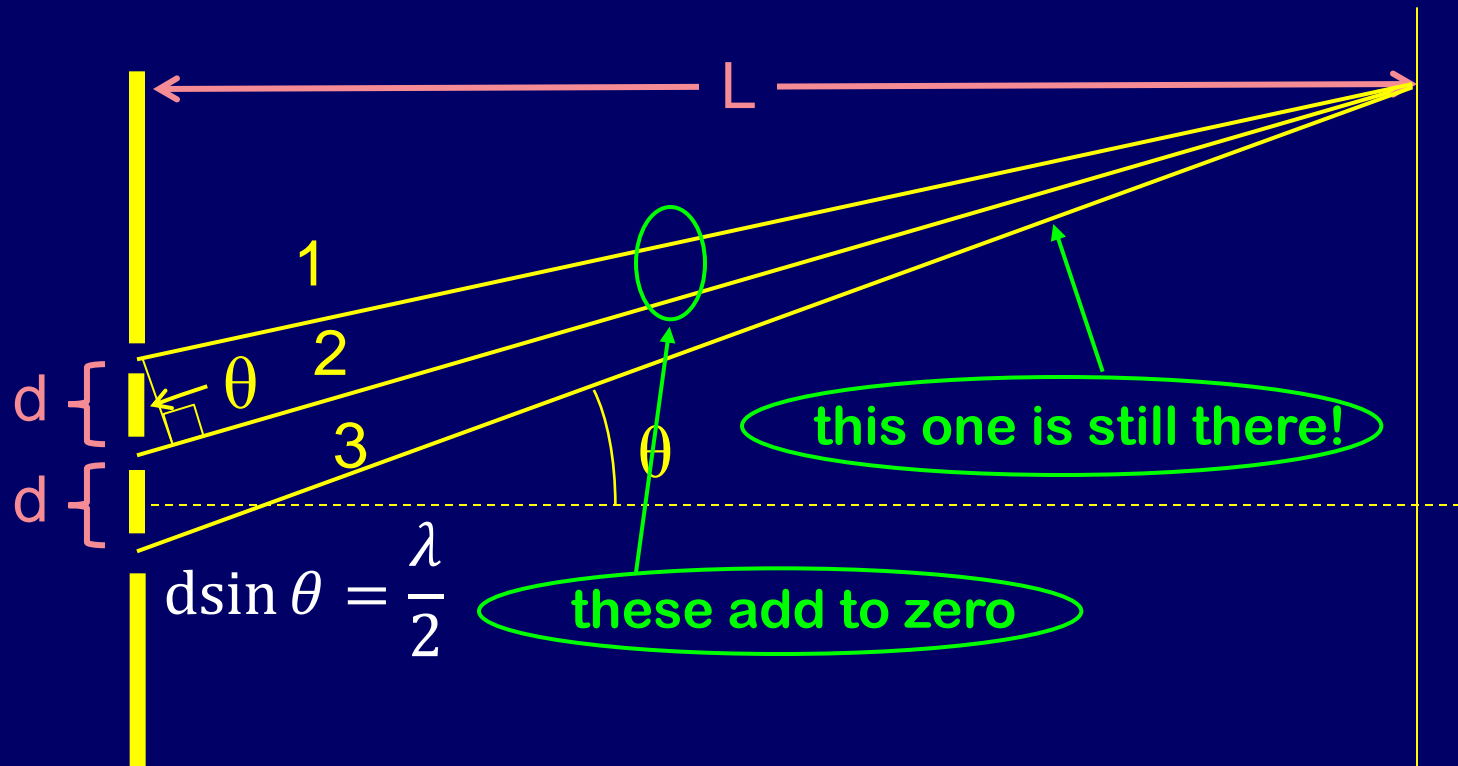
(Diffraction Grating – N slits with spacing d)

Assume screen is very far away ( $L \gg d$ ):





# ACT/Checkpoint 2



When rays 1 and 2 are interfering destructively, is the intensity from the three rays a minimum? A) Yes

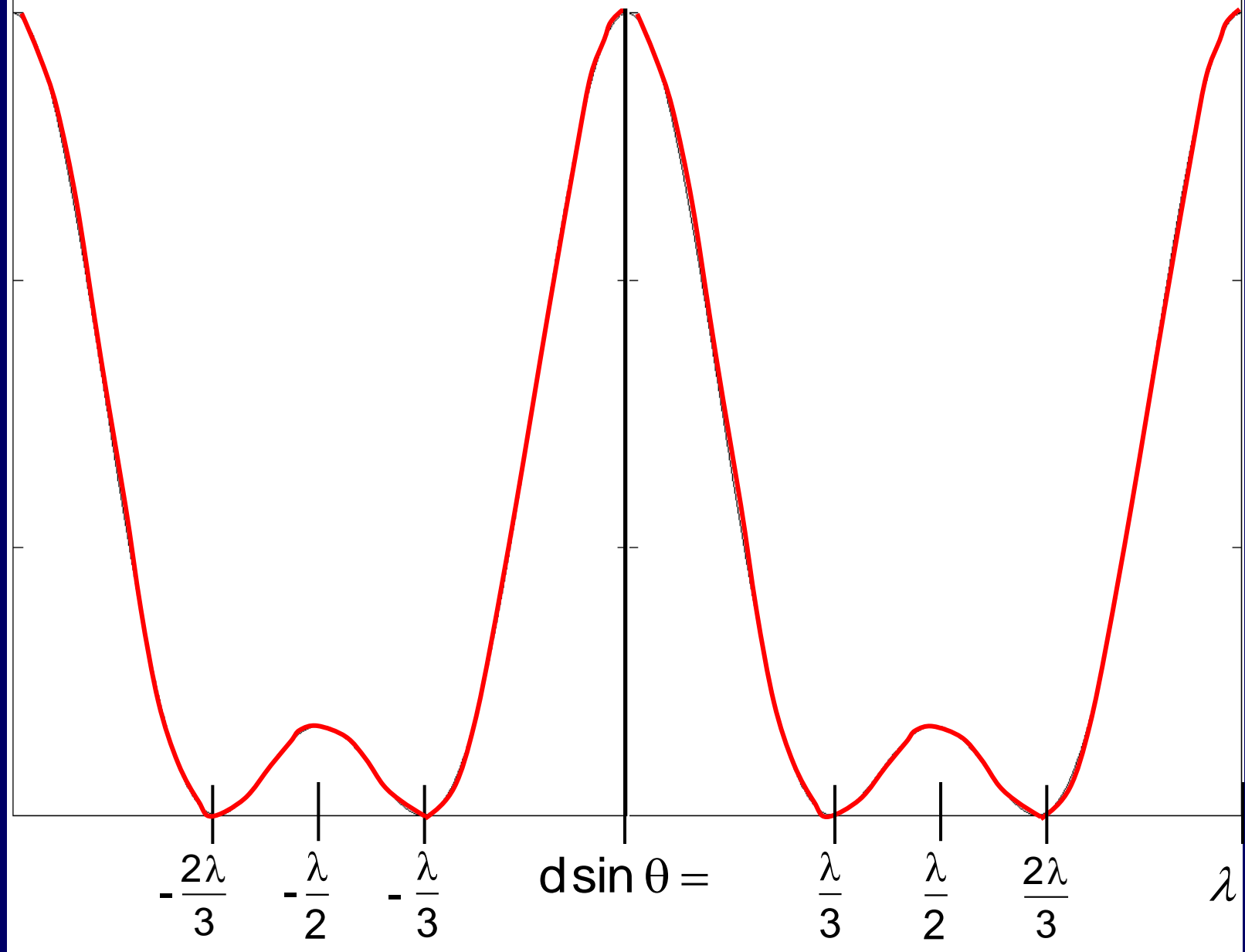
B) No

45%

55%

Rays 1 and 2 completely cancel, but ray 3 is still there.

## Three slit interference



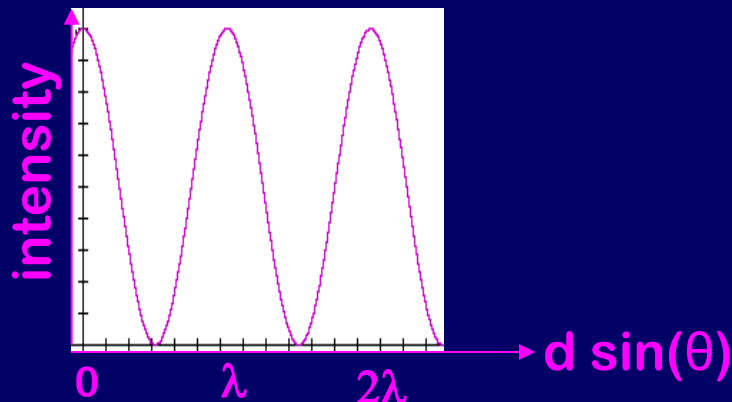
# Multiple Slit Interference (Diffraction Grating)

For many slits, maxima are still at  $\sin \theta = m \frac{\lambda}{d}$

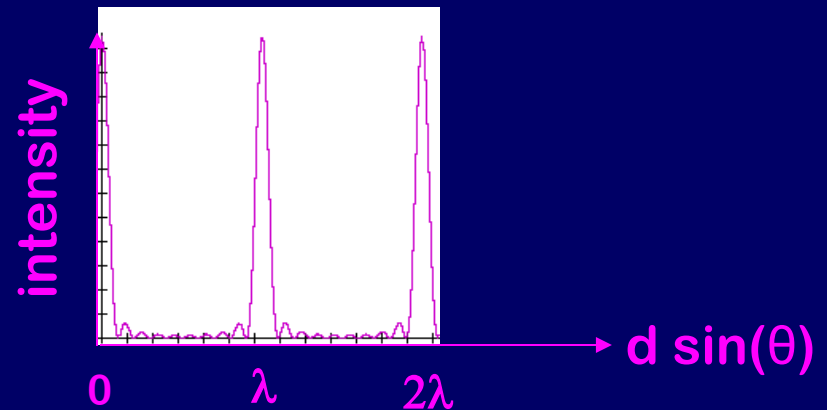
Peak location  
depends on  
wavelength!

Region between maxima gets suppressed more and more as no. of slits increases – bright fringes become narrower and brighter.

2 slits (N=2)



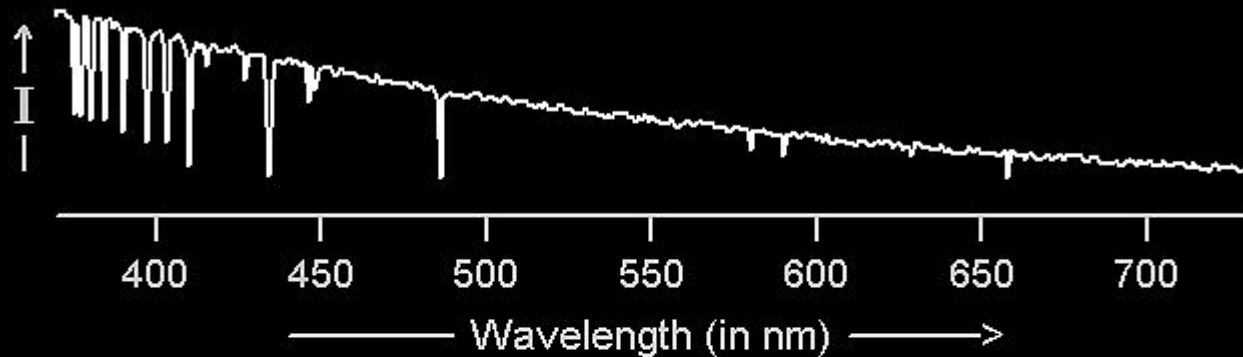
10 slits (N=10)



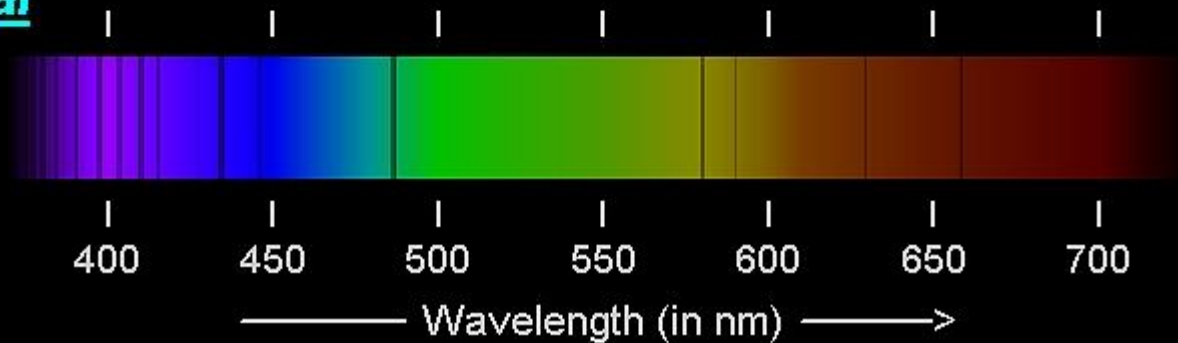
Diffraction grating:  
spreads out different wavelengths, determine spectrum

# Solar spectrum!

## Graphical

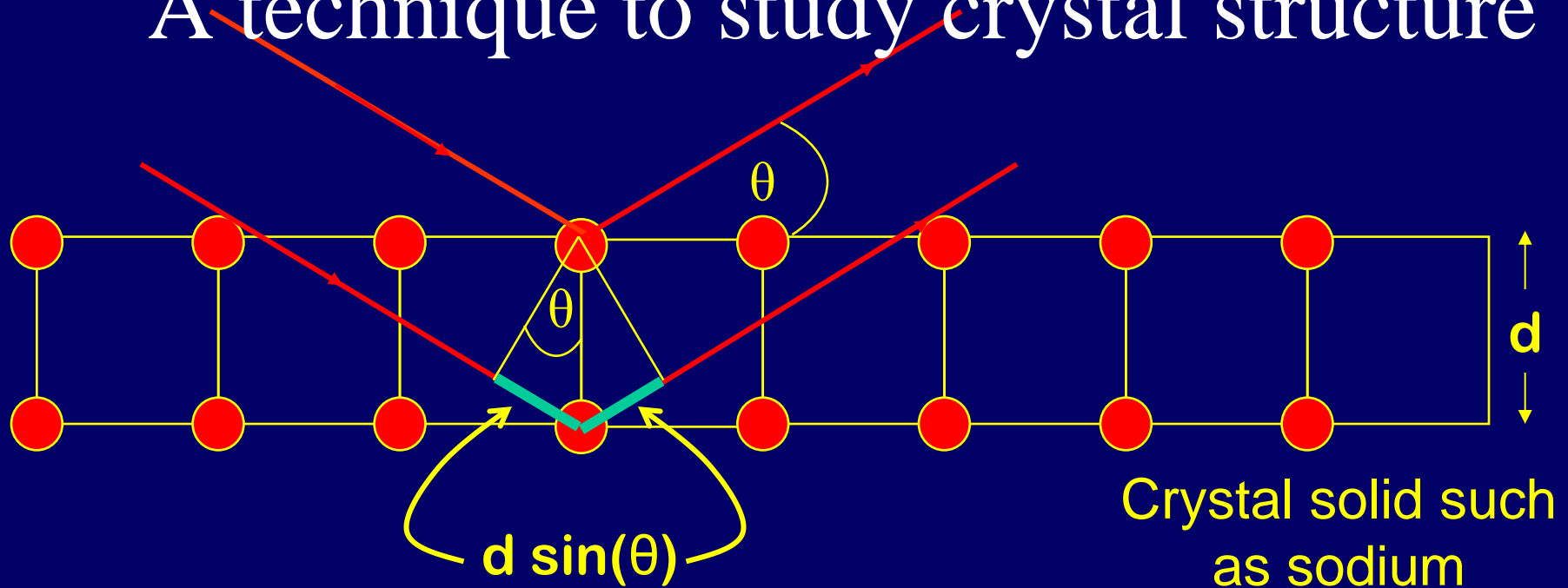


## Visual



# X-Ray Diffraction:

A technique to study crystal structure



**Constructive interference:  $2d \sin(\theta) = m\lambda$**

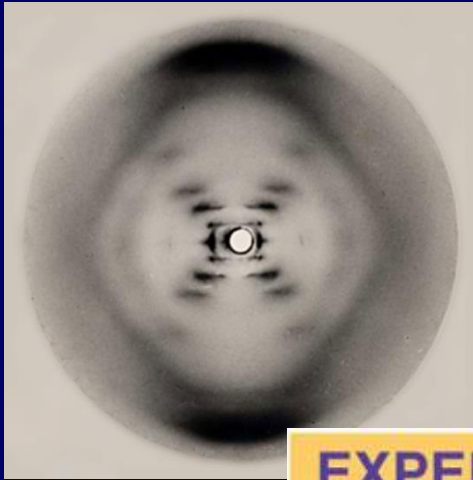
**$d \approx 0.5\text{nm}$  in NaCl**

**For  $\lambda = 0.017\text{nm}$**   
**X-ray**

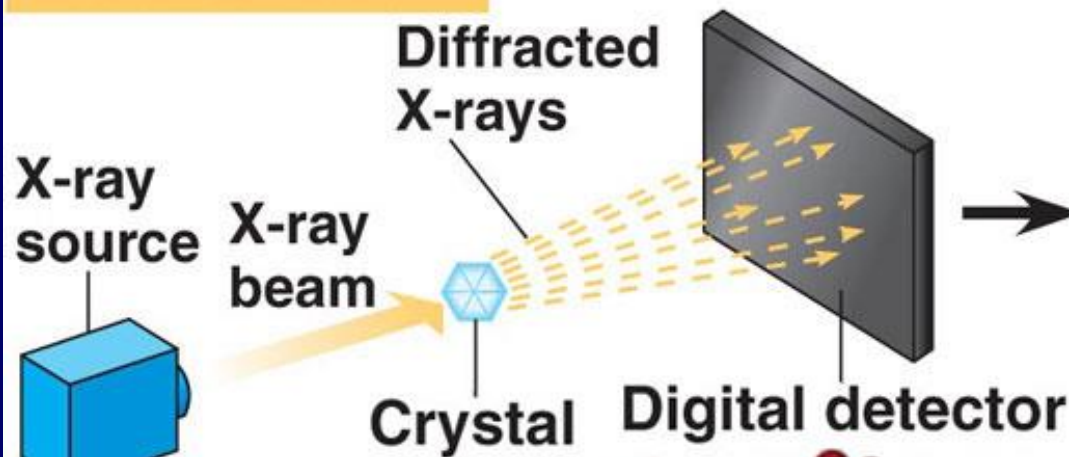
**1<sup>st</sup> maximum will be at  $10^\circ$**

Measure  $\theta$ , determine  $d$

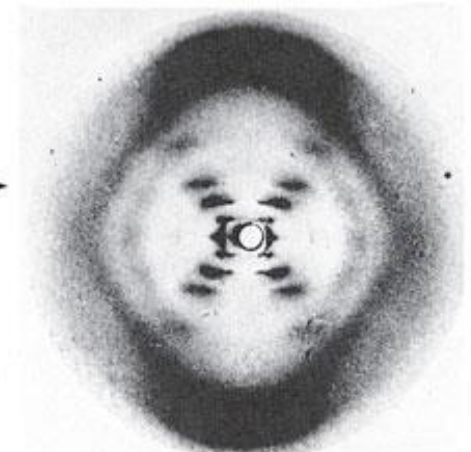
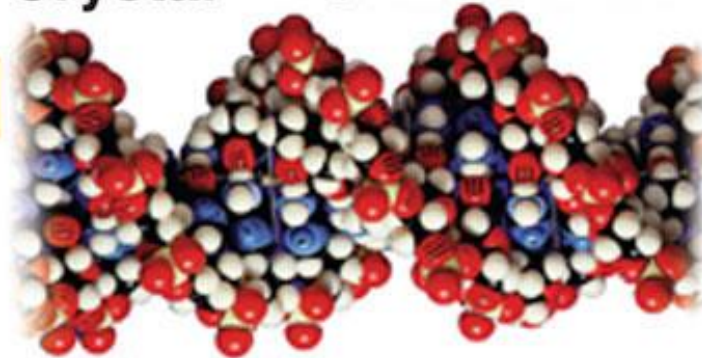




## EXPERIMENT



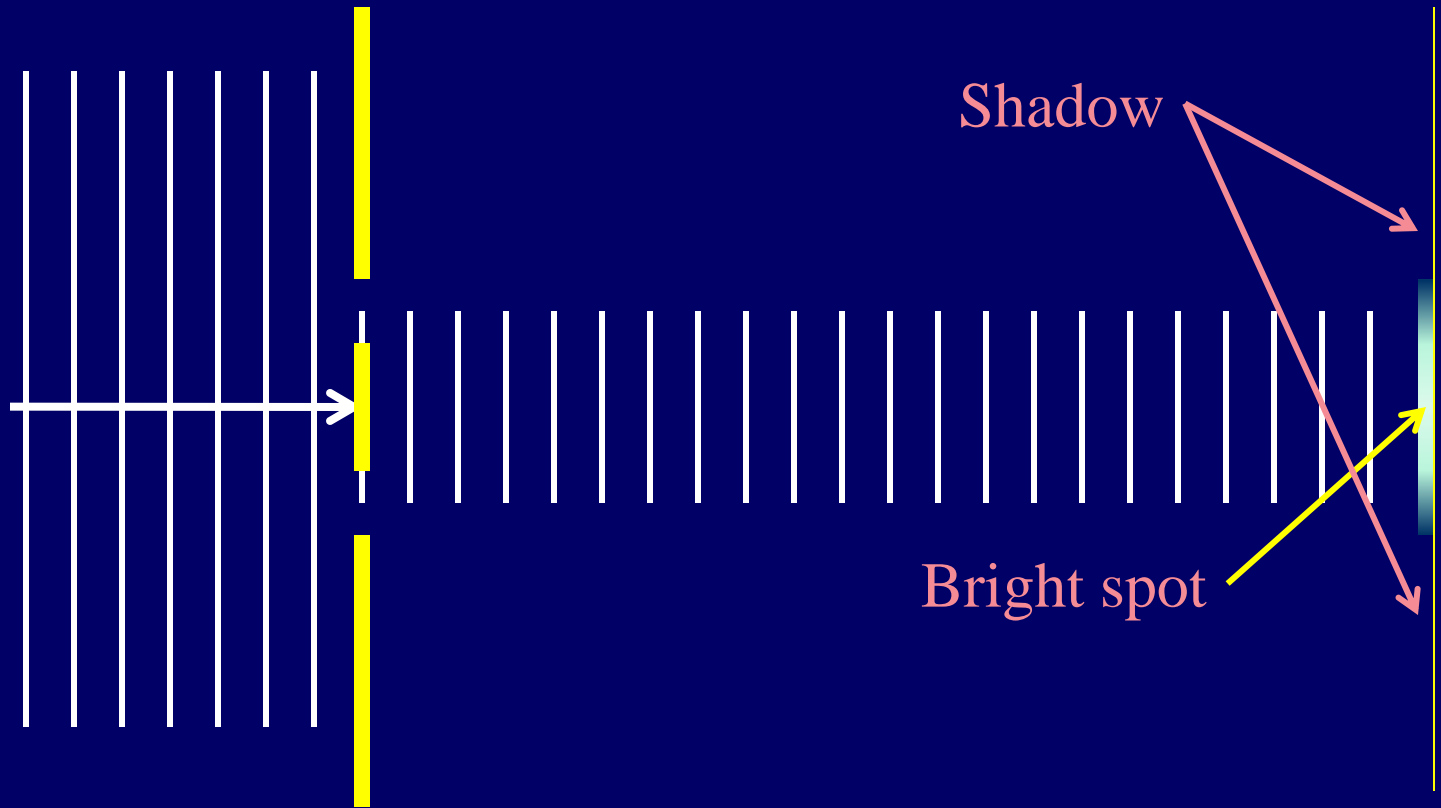
## RESULTS



Franklin's X-ray diffraction photograph of DNA

# Single slit interference?

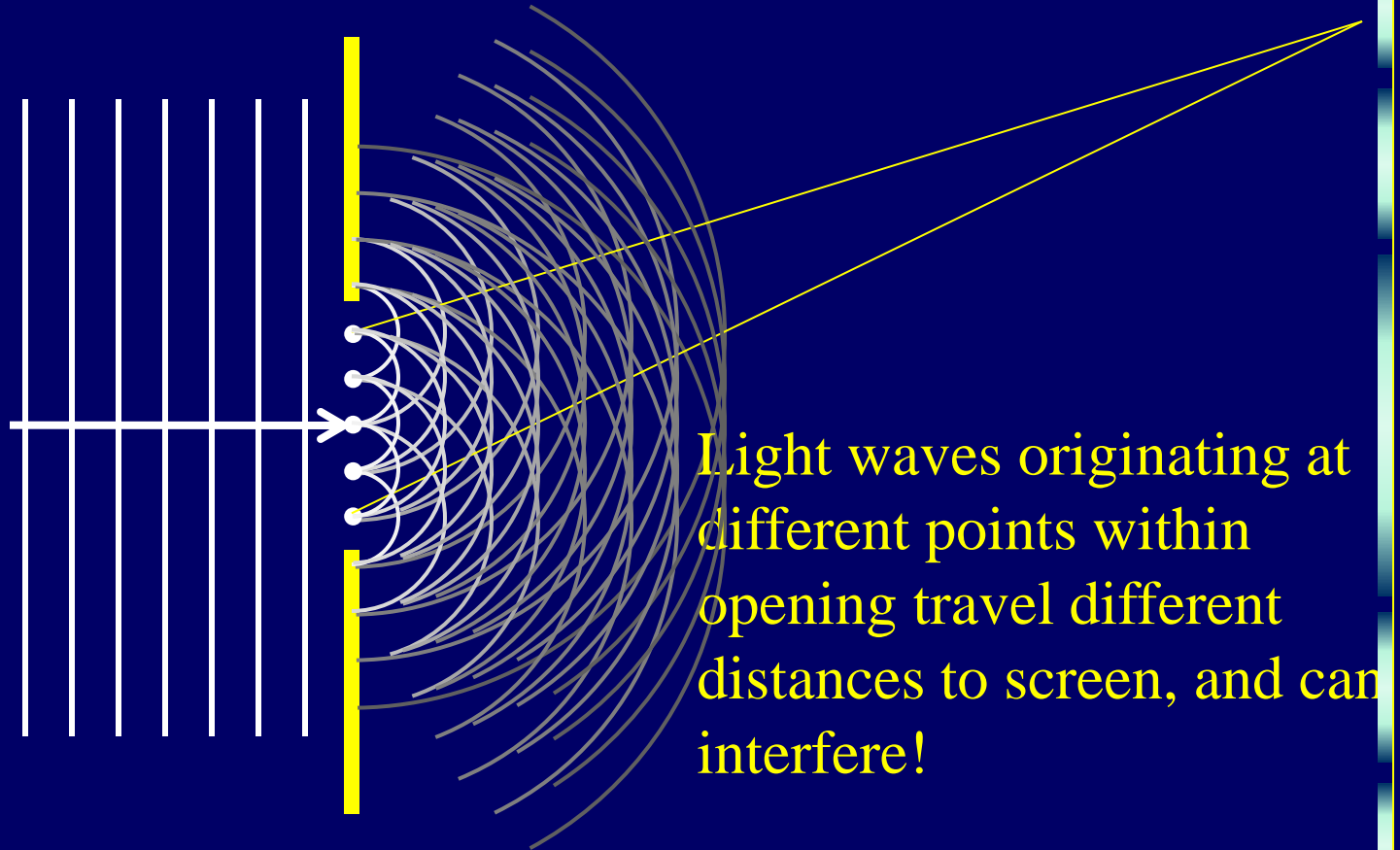
Monochromatic light travels through a screen with opening



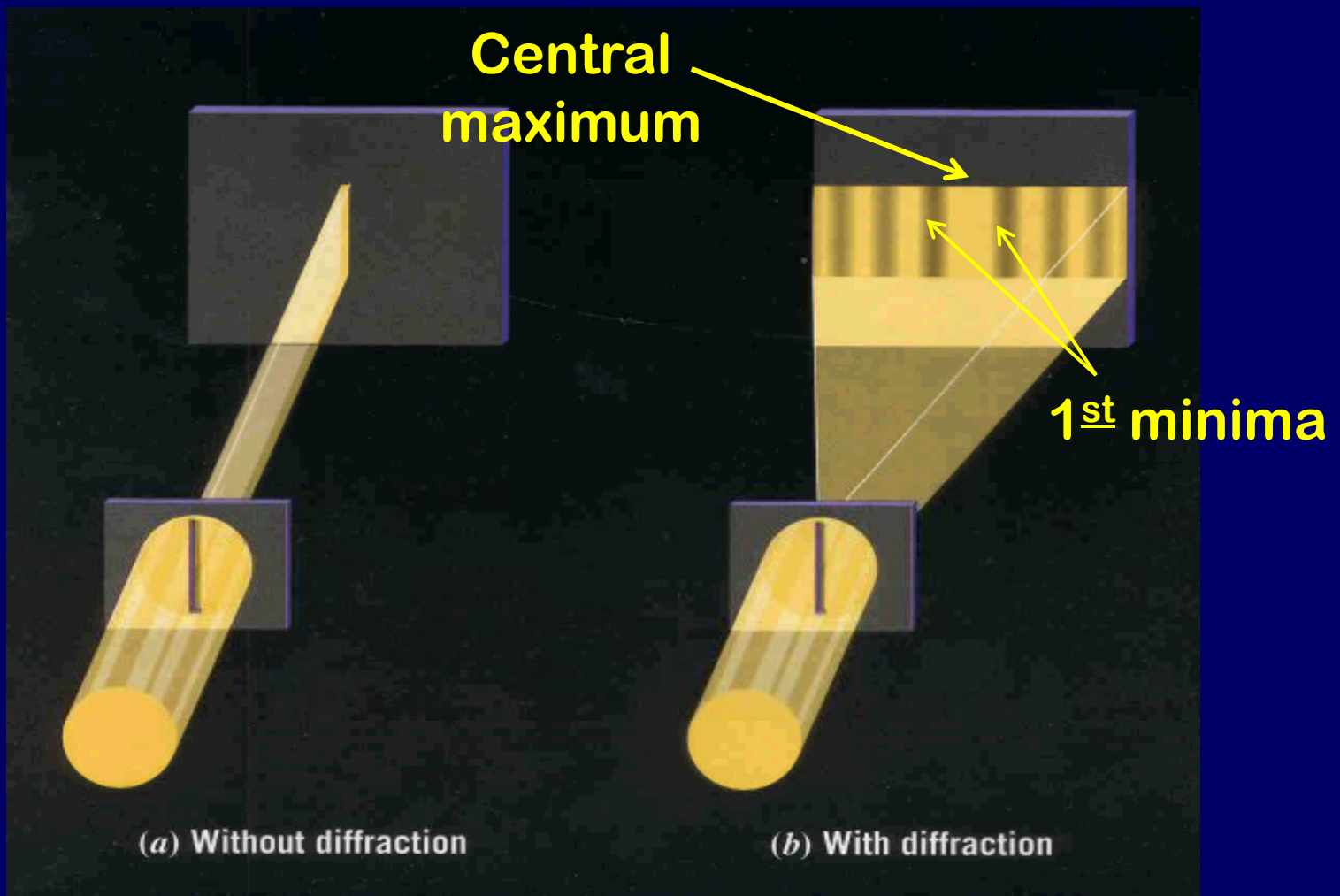
**This is not what is actually seen!**

# Diffraction/Huygens' principle

Huygens: Every point on a wave front acts as a source of tiny wavelets that move forward.



We will see maxima and minima on the wall!



Next lecture: quantitative single-slit diffraction

# Recap

- **Interference: Coherent waves**
  - Full wavelength difference = Constructive
  - $\frac{1}{2}$  wavelength difference = Destructive
- **Multiple Slits**
  - Constructive  $d \sin(\theta) = m \lambda$  ( $m=1,2,3\dots$ )
  - Destructive  $d \sin(\theta) = (m + 1/2) \lambda$  **2 slit only**
  - More slits = brighter max, darker mins
- **Single Slit Interference**