

Physics 102: Lecture 21

Thin Films & Diffraction Gratings



Fraunhofer's solar spectrum (1814)



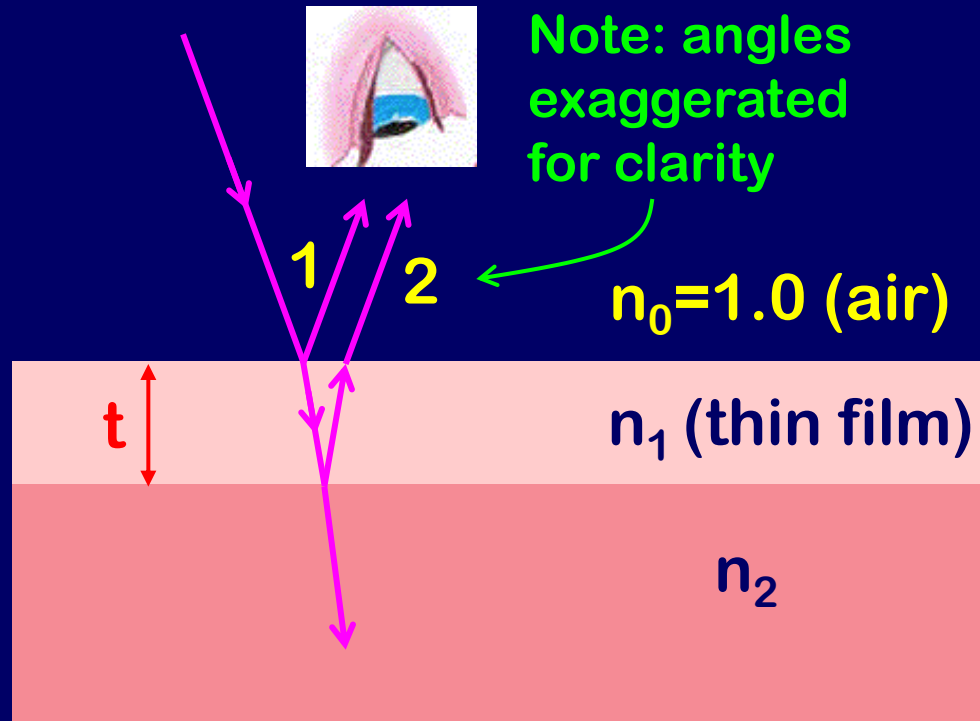
Name	Wavelength	Origin	Name	Wavelength	Origin
A	7594	O ₂	E	5270	Fe 1
a	7165	H ₂ O	b	5170,5180	Mg 1
B	6867	O ₂	F	4861	H _β
C	6563	H _α	G	4300	CH
D	5890,5896	Na 1	H	3968	Ca 2

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

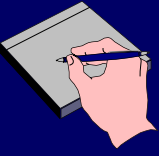
Light is incident normal to a thin film



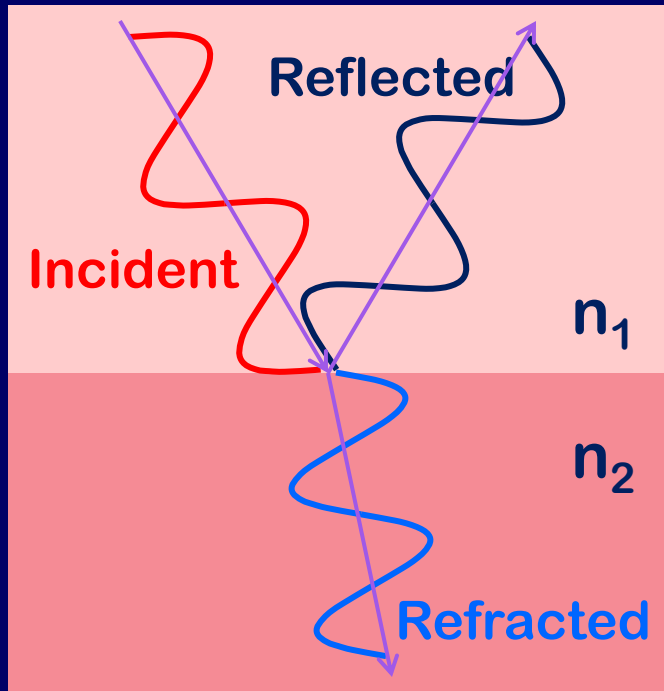
Get two waves by reflection off two different interfaces: interference!

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

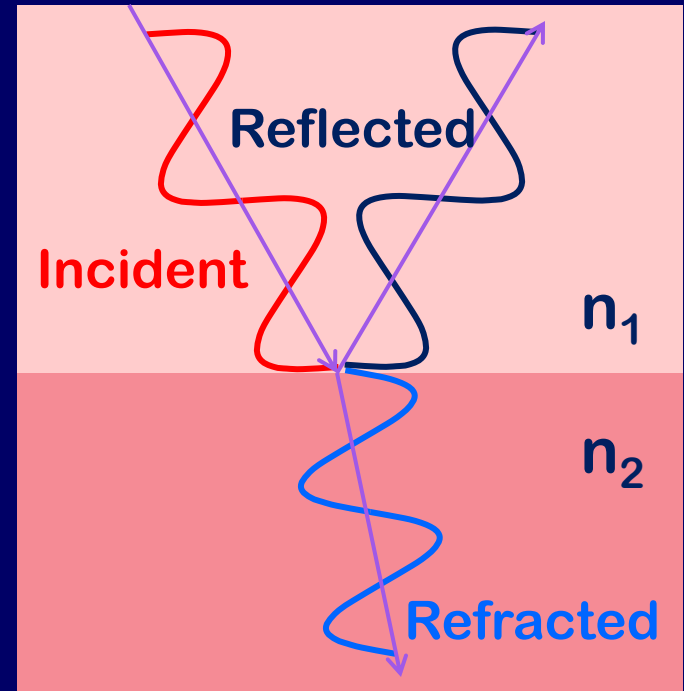
Reflection & Phase Shifts



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



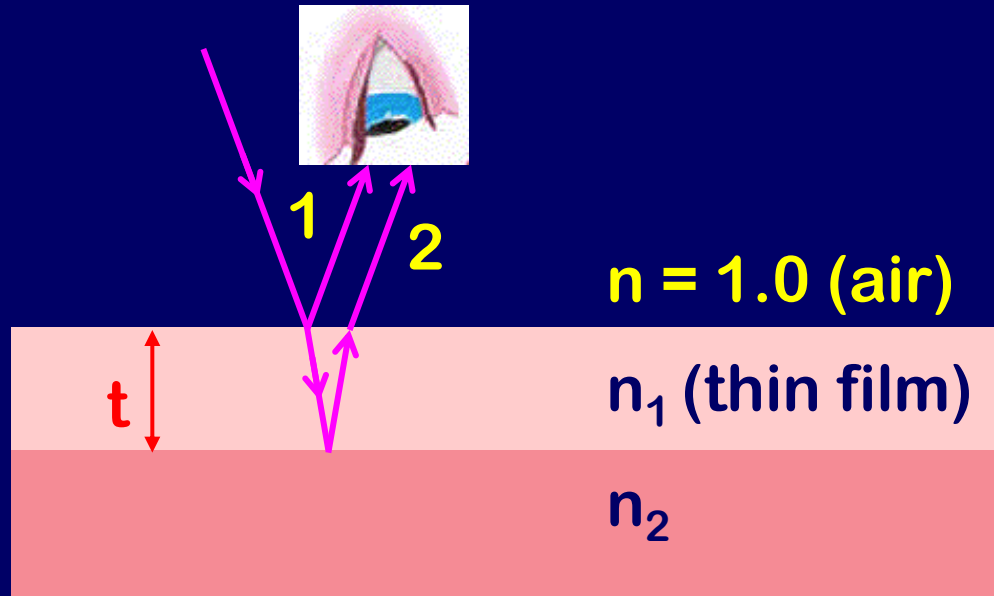
- If $n_1 > n_2$ – no phase change upon reflection



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

Thin Film Summary

Determine δ , 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! ($\lambda_{\text{film}} = \lambda_o / n_1$)

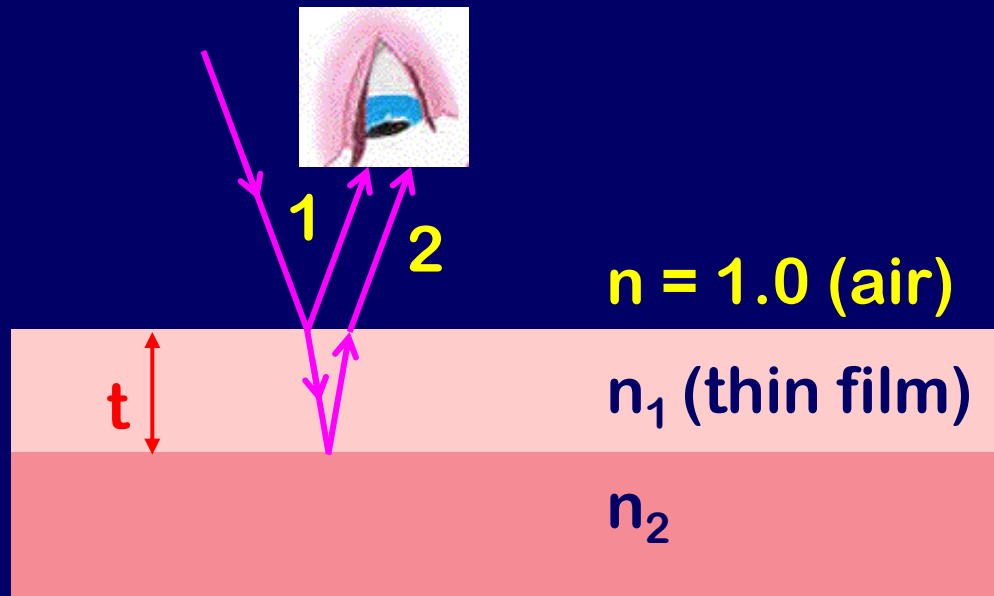
If $|\delta_2 - \delta_1| = 0, 1, 2, 3 \dots$ (m) **constructive**

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



What is δ_1 , the total phase shift for ray 1

A) $\delta_1 = 0$

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

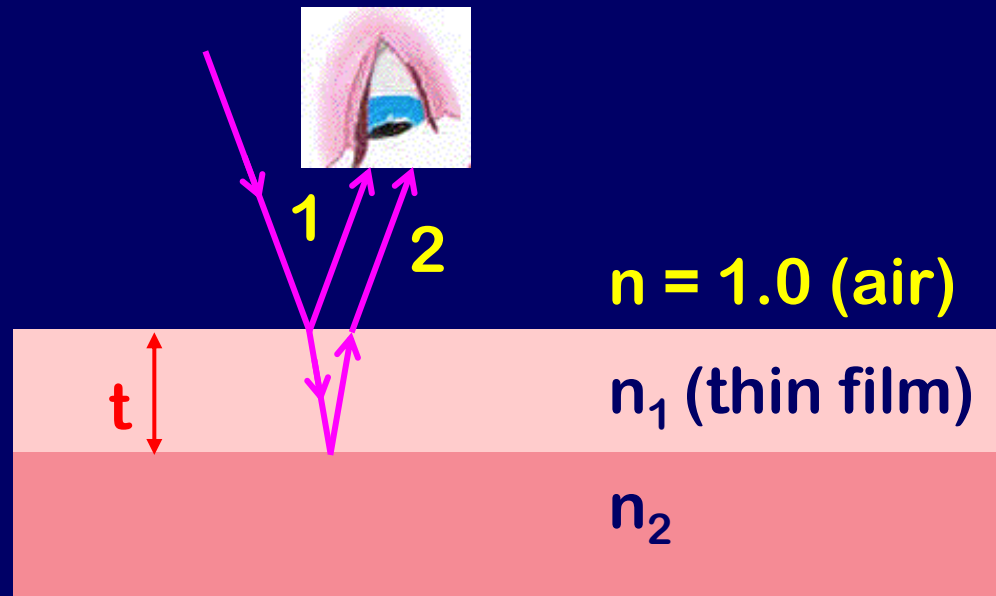
C) $\delta_1 = 1$

Example

Thin Film Practice



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



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

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

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

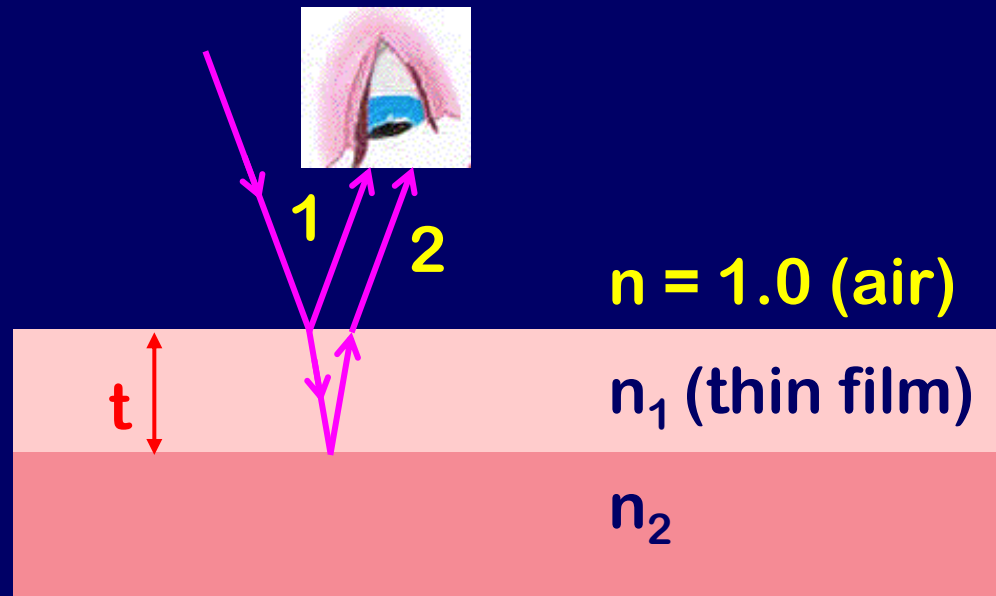
$$\text{Phase shift} = |\delta_2 - \delta_1| = \frac{1}{2} \text{ wavelength}$$

Example

ACT: Thin Film Practice II



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



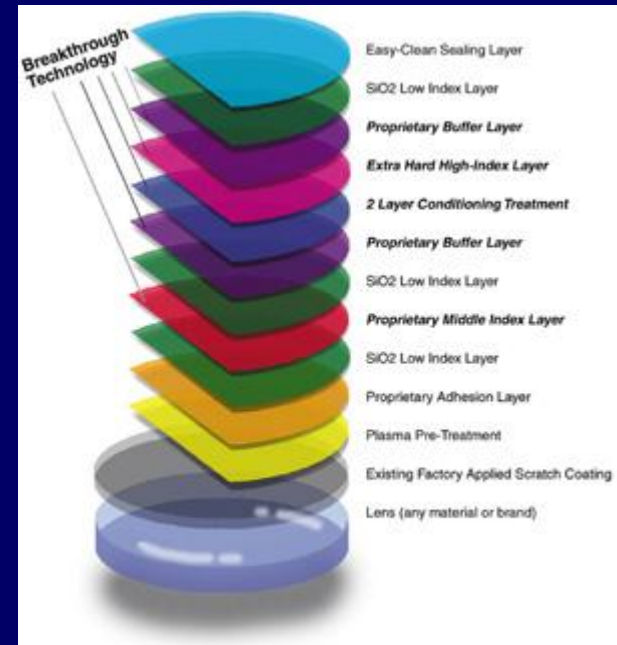
Is the interference : A) constructive B) destructive
C) neither?

$$\delta_1 =$$

$$\delta_2 =$$

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

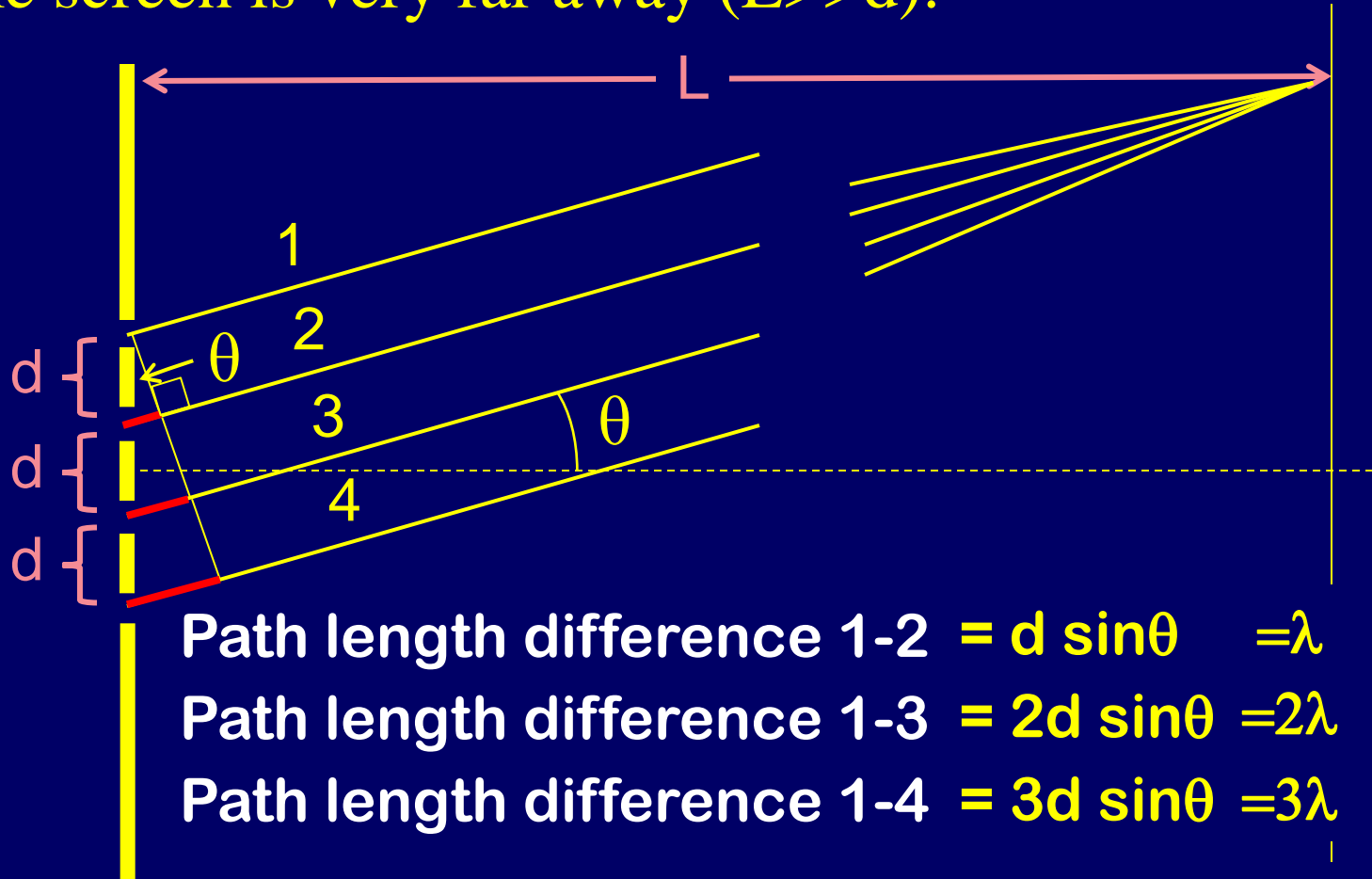
Thin film application: Anti-reflection coatings



Diffraction Gratings: multiple slits

(N slits with spacing d)

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



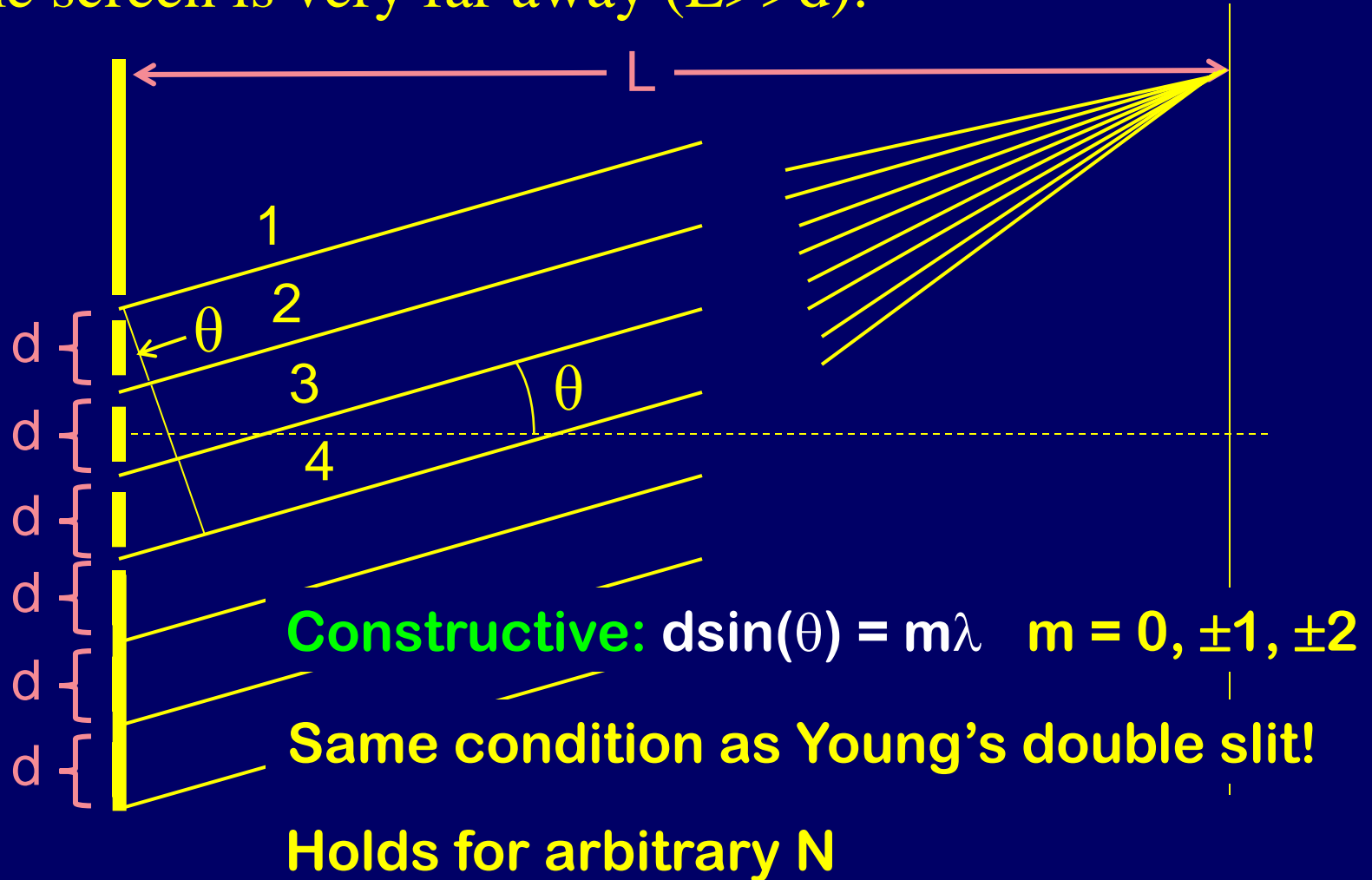
Constructive interference for all paths when

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

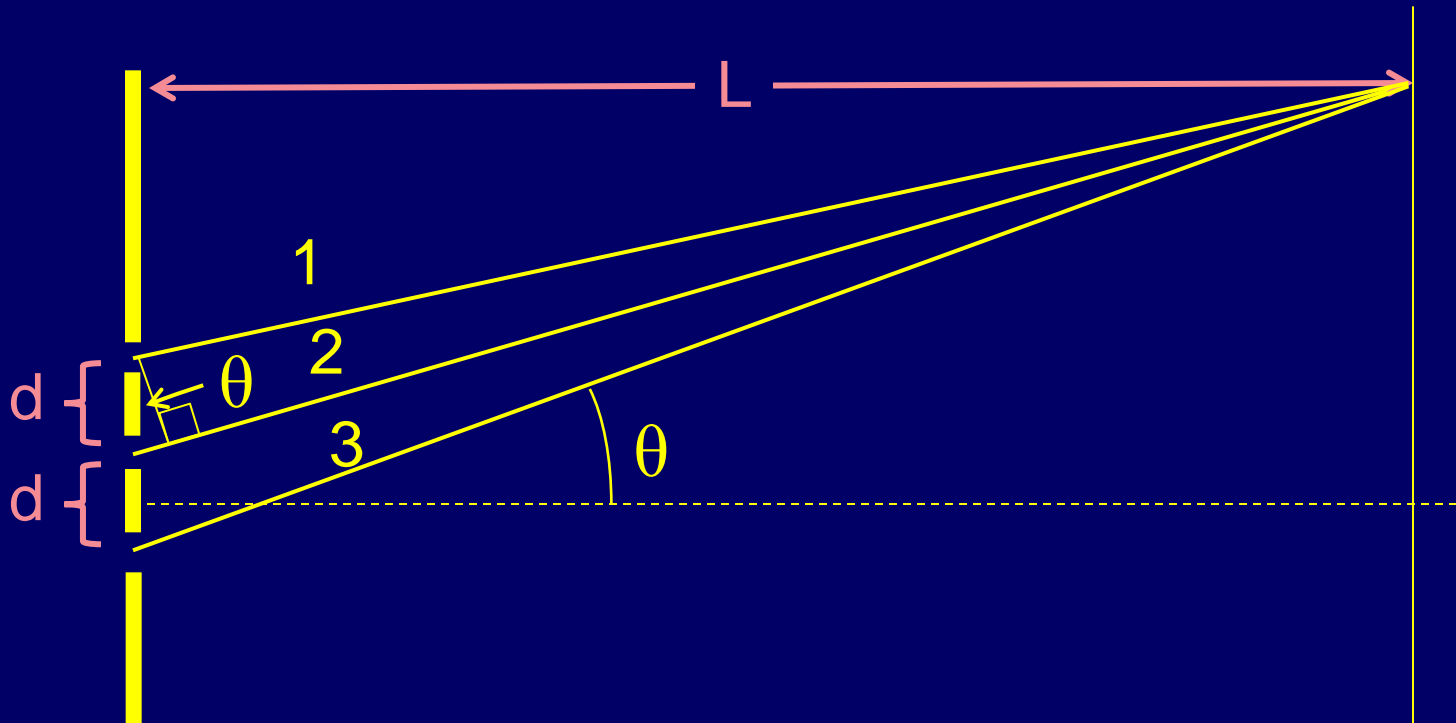
Multiple Slits:

(Diffraction Grating – N slits with spacing d)

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



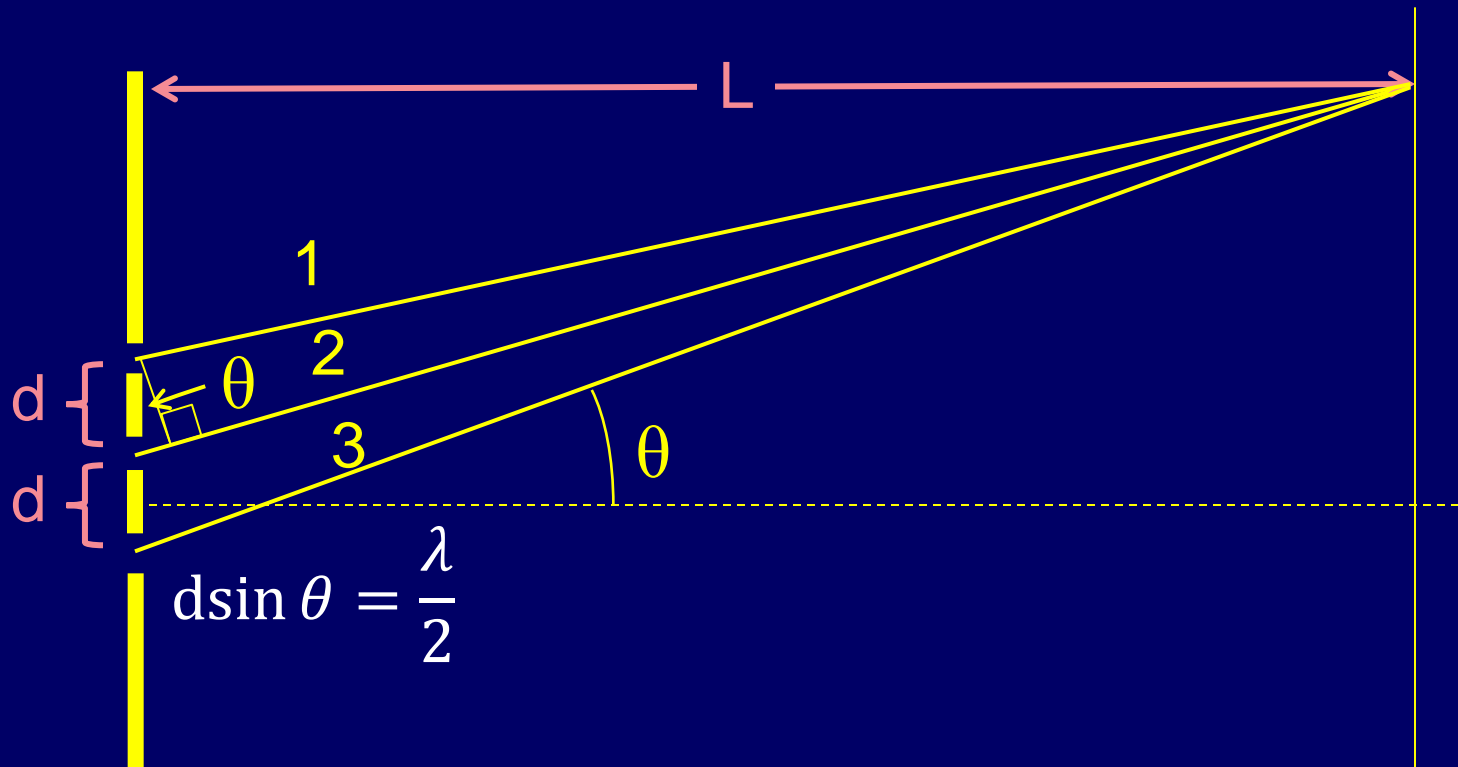
Checkpoint 2



All 3 rays are interfering constructively at the point shown. If the intensity from ray 1 is I_0 , what is the combined intensity of all 3 rays? 1) I_0 2) $3 I_0$ 3) $9 I_0$



ACT/Checkpoint 3



When rays 1 and 2 are interfering destructively, is the intensity from the three rays a minimum? A) Yes B) No

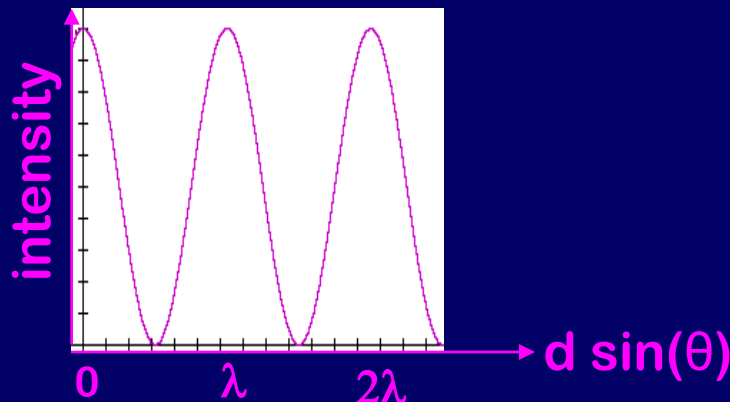
Multiple Slit Interference (Diffraction Grating)

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

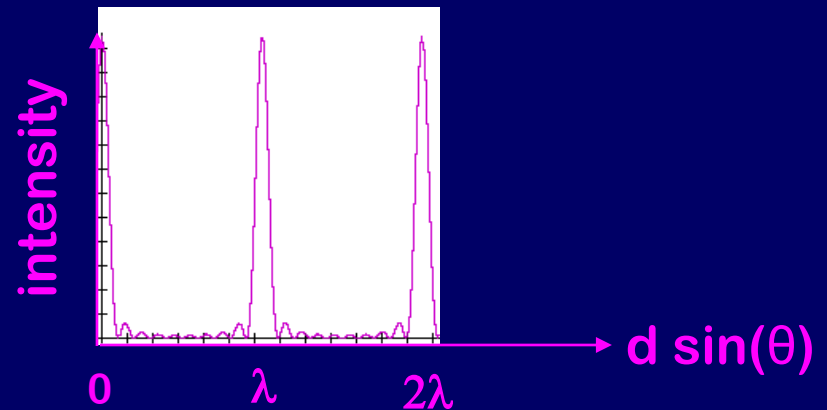
Peak location
depends on
wavelength!

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

2 slits (N=2)



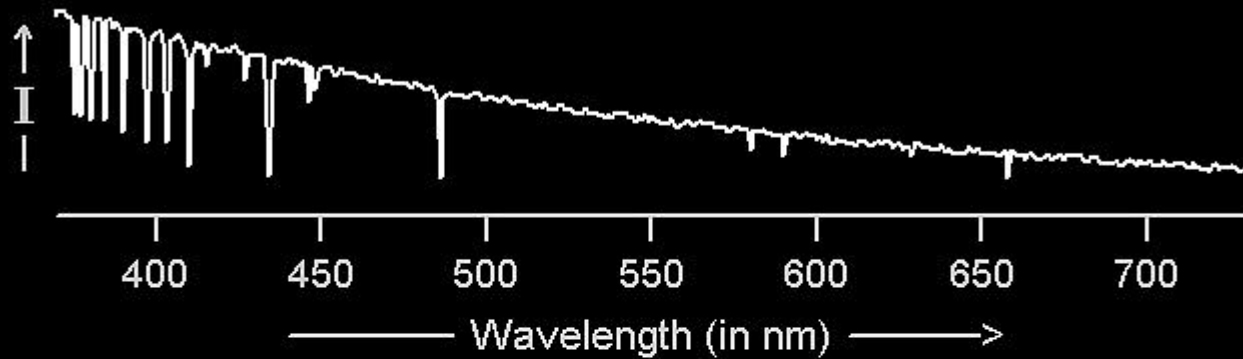
10 slits (N=10)



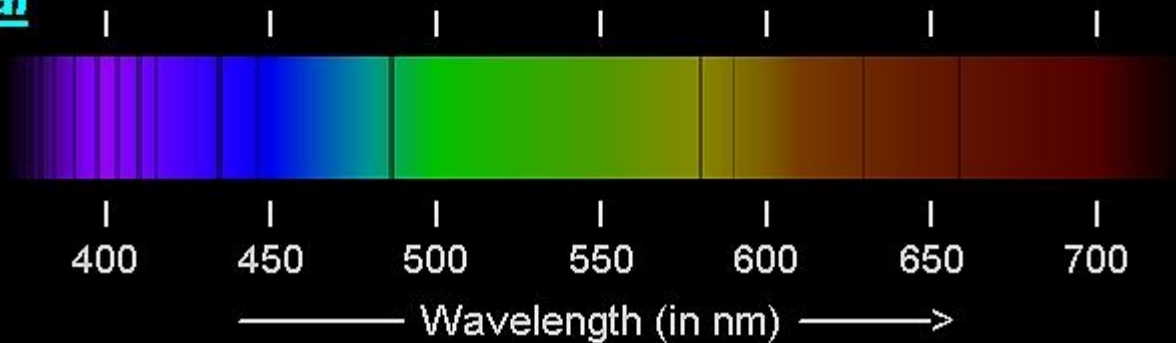
Diffraction grating:
spreads out different wavelengths, determine spectrum

Solar spectrum!

Graphical

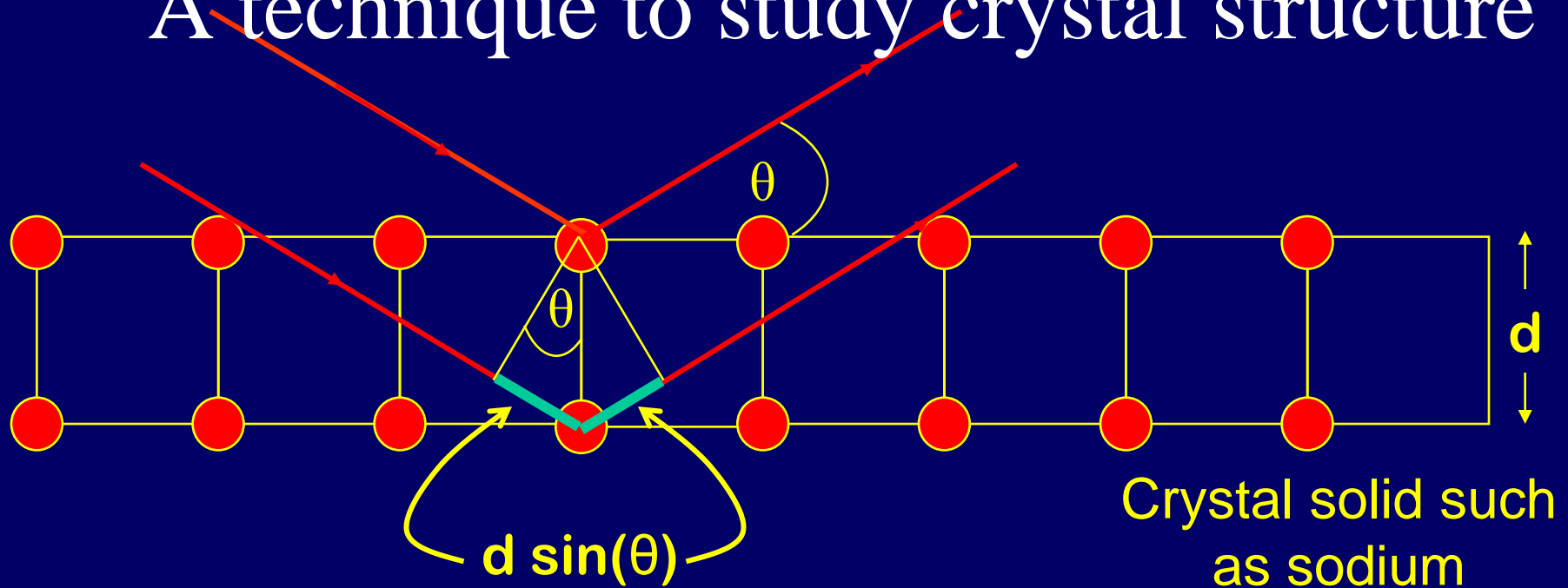


Visual



X-Ray Diffraction:

A technique to study crystal structure



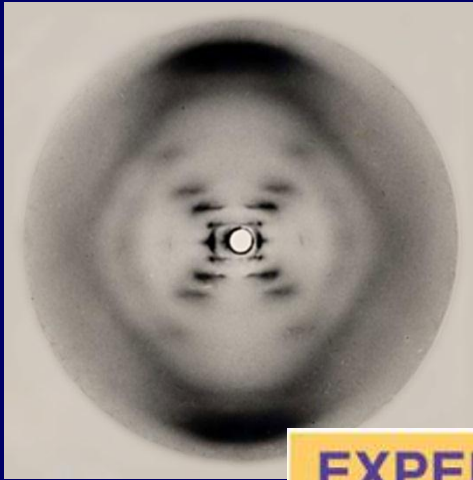
Constructive interference: $2d \sin(\theta) = m\lambda$

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

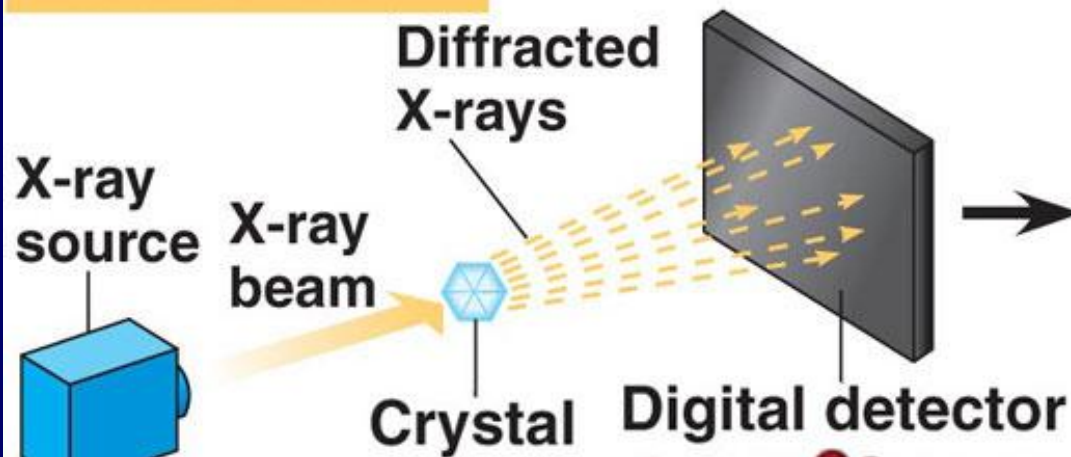
For $\lambda = 0.017\text{nm}$
X-ray

1st maximum will be at 10°

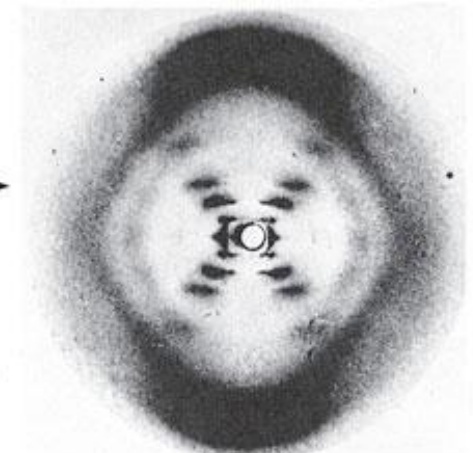
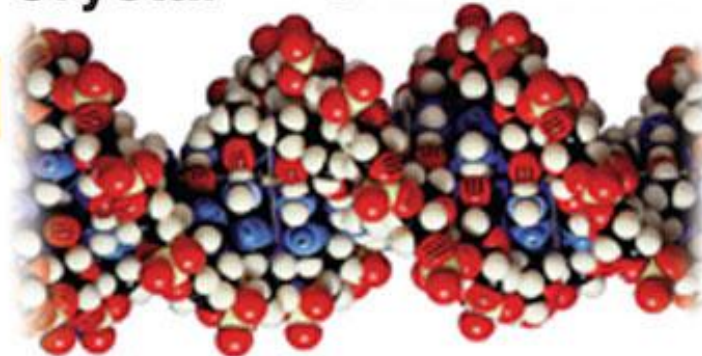
Measure θ , determine d



EXPERIMENT



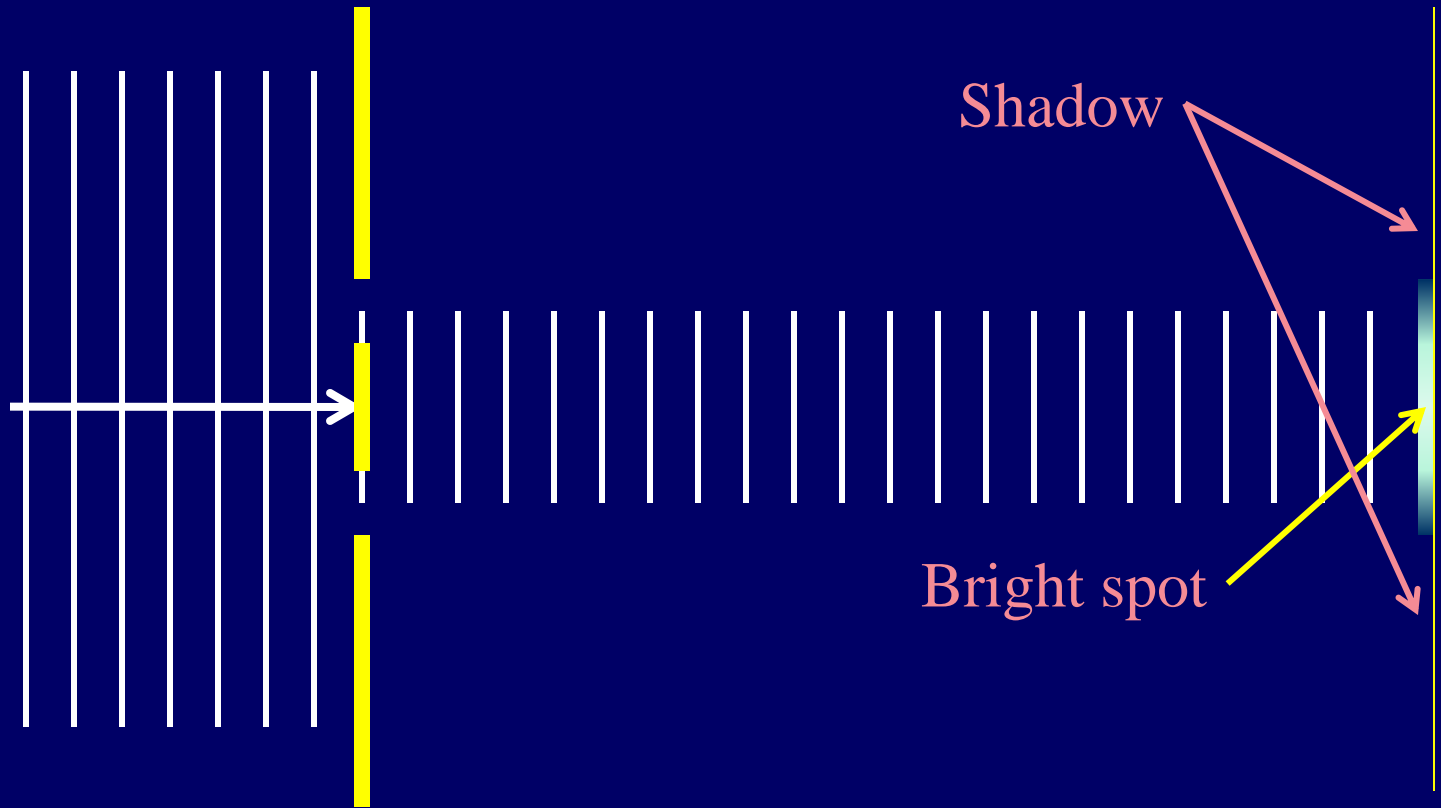
RESULTS



Franklin's X-ray diffraction photograph of DNA

Single slit interference?

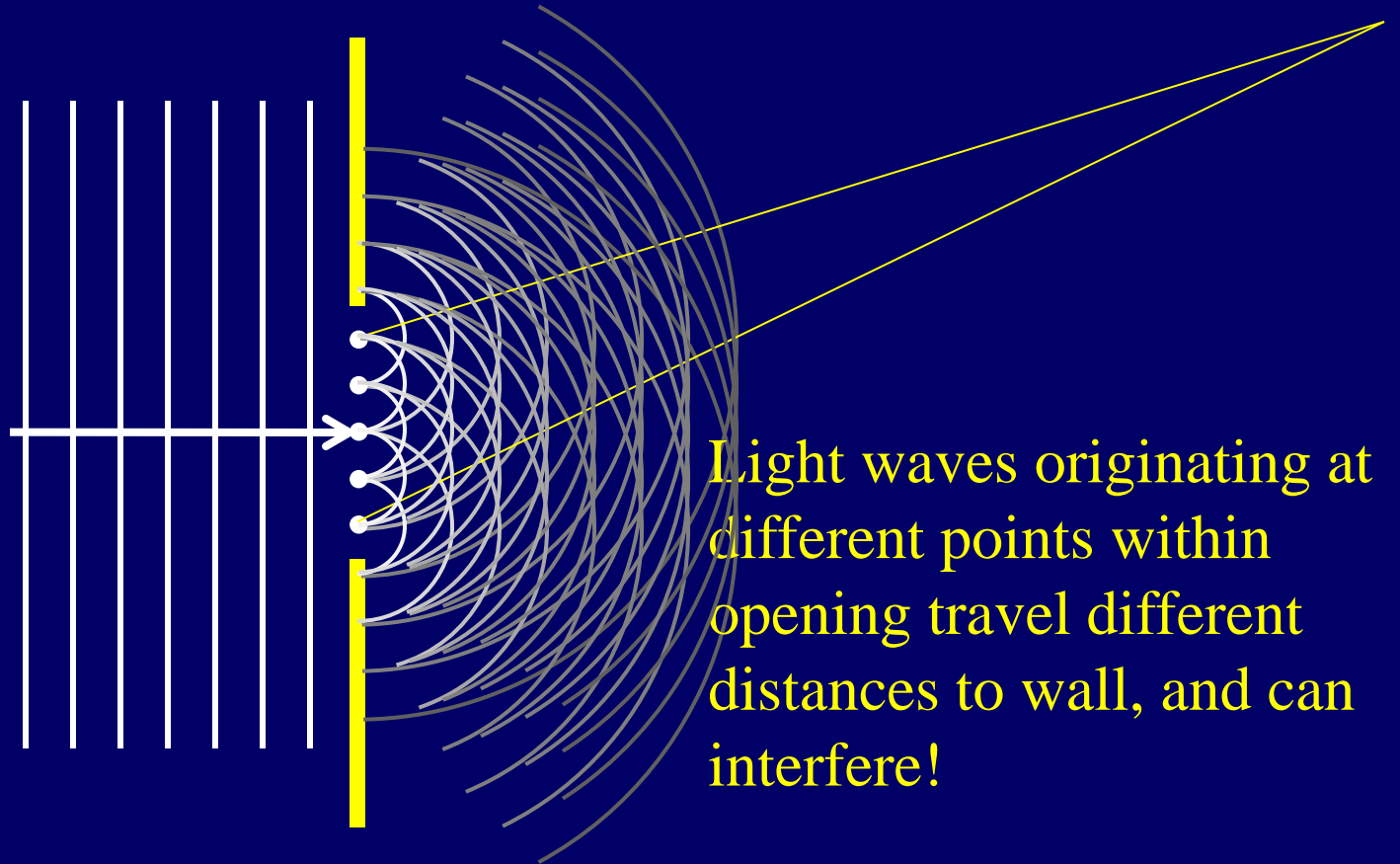
Monochromatic light travels through a screen with opening



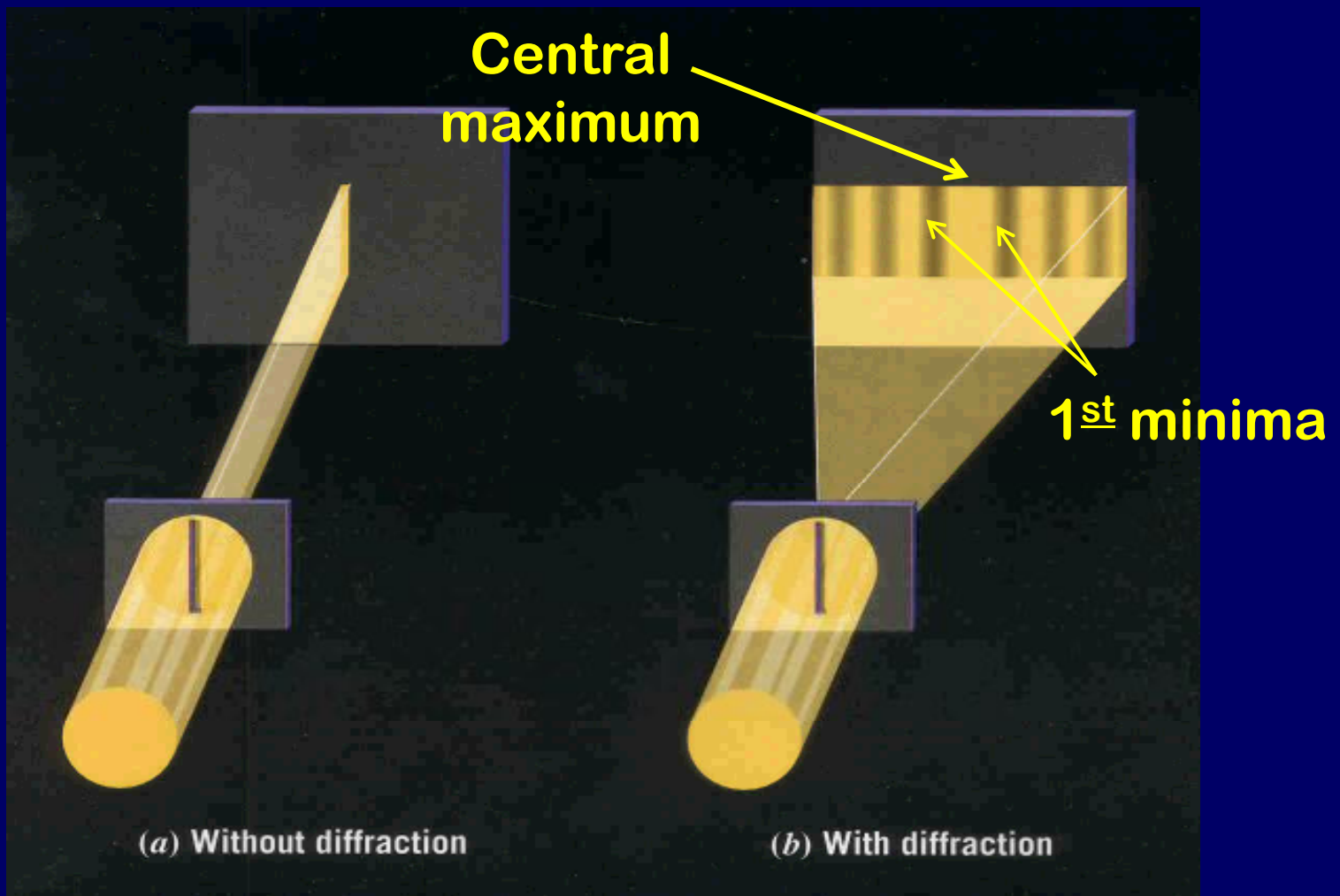
This is not what is actually seen!

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**