

**PHYS-1200 PHYSICS II**  
**HOMEWORK #18 SOLUTIONS**

7. (a) We use Eq. 36-3 to calculate the separation between the first ( $m_1 = 1$ ) and fifth ( $m_2 = 5$ ) minima:

$$\Delta y = D\Delta \sin \theta = D\Delta \left( \frac{m\lambda}{a} \right) = \frac{D\lambda}{a} \Delta m = \frac{D\lambda}{a} (m_2 - m_1) .$$

Solving for the slit width, we obtain

$$a = \frac{D\lambda(m_2 - m_1)}{\Delta y} = \frac{(400 \text{ mm})(550 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mm})(5 - 1)}{0.35 \text{ mm}} = 2.5 \text{ mm} .$$

(b) For  $m = 1$ ,

$$\sin \theta = \frac{m\lambda}{a} = \frac{(1)(550 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mm})}{2.5 \text{ mm}} = 2.2 \times 10^{-4} .$$

The angle is  $\theta = \sin^{-1} (2.2 \times 10^{-4}) = 2.2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ rad}$ .

21. (a) We use the Rayleigh criteria. Thus, the angular separation (in radians) of the sources must be at least  $\theta_R = 1.22\lambda/d$ , where  $\lambda$  is the wavelength and  $d$  is the diameter of the aperture. For the headlights of this problem,

$$\theta_R = \frac{1.22(550 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m})}{5.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}} = 1.34 \times 10^{-4} \text{ rad},$$

or  $1.3 \times 10^{-4} \text{ rad}$ , in two significant figures.

(b) If  $L$  is the distance from the headlights to the eye when the headlights are just resolvable and  $D$  is the separation of the headlights, then  $D = L\theta_R$ , where the small angle approximation is made. This is valid for  $\theta_R$  in radians. Thus,

$$L = \frac{D}{\theta_R} = \frac{1.4 \text{ m}}{1.34 \times 10^{-4} \text{ rad}} = 1.0 \times 10^4 \text{ m} = 10 \text{ km} .$$

41. (a) The first minimum of the diffraction pattern is at  $5.00^\circ$ , so

$$a = \frac{\lambda}{\sin \theta} = \frac{0.440 \mu\text{m}}{\sin 5.00^\circ} = 5.05 \mu\text{m} .$$

(b) Since the fourth bright fringe is missing,  $d = 4a = 4(5.05 \mu\text{m}) = 20.2 \mu\text{m}$ .

(c) For the  $m = 1$  bright fringe,

$$\alpha = \frac{\pi a \sin \theta}{\lambda} = \frac{\pi(5.05 \mu\text{m}) \sin 1.25^\circ}{0.440 \mu\text{m}} = 0.787 \text{ rad} .$$

Consequently, the intensity of the  $m = 1$  fringe is

$$I = I_m \left( \frac{\sin \alpha}{\alpha} \right)^2 = (7.0 \text{ mW/cm}^2) \left( \frac{\sin 0.787 \text{ rad}}{0.787} \right)^2 = 5.7 \text{ mW/cm}^2 ,$$

which agrees with Fig. 36-43. Similarly for  $m = 2$ , the intensity is  $I = 2.9 \text{ mW/cm}^2$ , also in agreement with Fig. 36-43.

**87. Answer not provided.**

**Q38.3) Only "e."**

**Q38.4) Only "b."**