

AS and A-level Physics practicals: Equipment set up

Practical 2: Investigation of interference effects to include the Young's slit experiment and interference by a diffraction grating

Part 1: Double slit separation

V1.0 – September 2016

Contribution from Marcin Poblocki, Senior Physics Technician at Manchester Grammar School

Setting up the apparatus as in the diagram





The laser is now positioned...



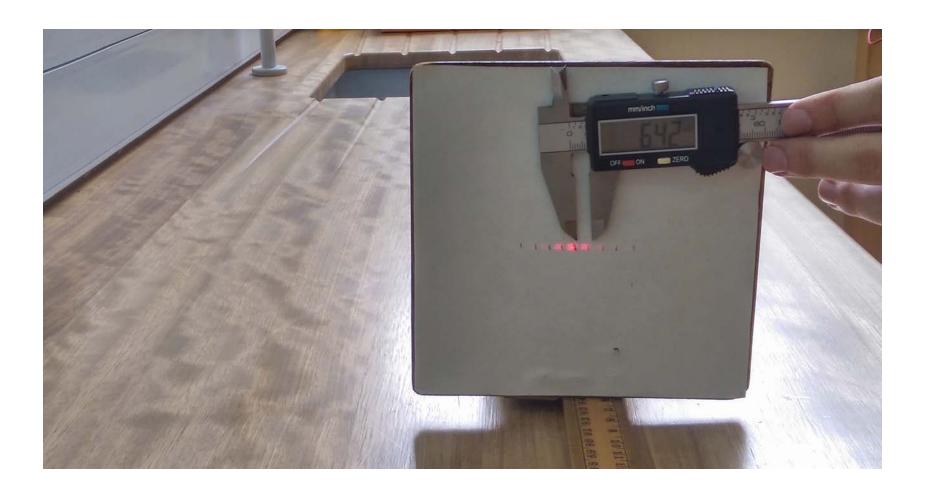


...and illuminated





A measurement of the slit separation can be taken using vernier calipers, for example





Fringe width can be measured more easily in a darkened laboratory







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Practical 2 - Part 2: Diffraction with a plane transmission diffraction grating at normal incidence

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The apparatus set up as in the diagram





Placing the diffraction grating perpendicular to the beam of light





...now seen in the correct position





Measuring distances with vernier calipers, for example, to allow calculation of angles

