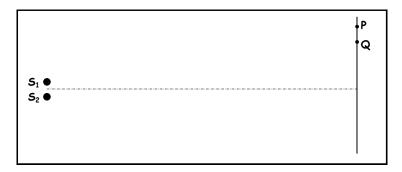
Interference

3

- 2 (a) A detector is moved in front of two identical coherent wave sources and detects regions of constructive and destructive interference. Explain the terms:
 - (i) COHERENCE.
- (ii) PATH DIFFERENCE.
- (b) The diagram below shows two identical light sources S_1 and S_2 placed in front of a screen. The sources emit light in phase with each other.



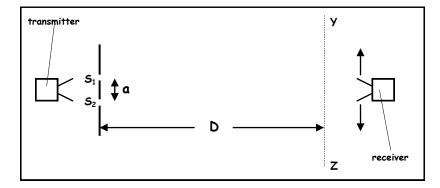
- (i) State, in terms of the path difference of the waves, the conditions necessary to produce:
 - 1. Constructive interference at point P on the screen.
 - 2. Destructive interference at point ${\bf Q}$ on the screen.
- (ii) The light sources S_1 and S_2 are 0.50 mm apart. They each emit light of wavelength 4.86×10^{-7} m. An interference pattern is produced on the screen placed 2.00 m from the sources.

Calculate the distance between two neighbouring bright fringes on the screen.

(iii) Suggest how the appearance of the interference pattern would change if coherent WHITE light sources were used instead of the monochromatic sources.

(OCR AS Physics - Module 2823 - June 2007)

- (a) Two coherent light wavetrains meet at a point and interfere destructively. Explain what this means and state two conditions that must be fulfilled before TOTALLY DESTRUCTIVE interference can occur.
- (b) The diagram below shows an experiment to demonstrate interference effects in microwaves. A transmitter, producing microwaves of wavelength (λ) , is placed in front of two slits separated by a distance (a). A receiver is used to detect the strength of the resultant wave at different points in front of the slits.



- (i) Explain in terms of the path difference between the wave trains, emerging fro the slits S_1 and S_2 , why a series of interference maxima are produced along the line YZ.
- (ii) Assuming that the interference of the microwaves is similar to the double-slit interference using light, state in terms of a, D and A, an expression for the distance xbetween neighbouring minima on the line YZ.
- (iii) Use your answer to (ii) to predict how x would change if the distance a was doubled
- (c) Explain why it is necessary to use a barrier with two slits rather than two separate transmitters.

(OCR AS Physics - Module 2823 - May 2002)

FXA @ 2008