

681.

Problem 47.27 (RHK)

A grating has 40,000 *rulings spread over 76 mm.*

(a) *We have to estimate the dispersion in $^{\circ}/\text{nm}$ for sodium light ($\lambda = 589 \text{ nm}$) in the first three orders; and*

(b) *the resolving powers in these orders.*

Solution:

(a)

The dispersion of a grating is defined by the relation

$$D = \frac{m}{d \cos \theta},$$



where m is the order of the spectrum and d is the spacing of the grating rulings.

As 40,000 rulings are spread over 76 mm, the grating spacing is

$$d = \frac{76 \times 10^6 \text{ nm}}{40,000} = 1900 \text{ nm}.$$

The angles from the incident normal at which the lines in the first, second, and third orders for wavelength

$\lambda = 589 \text{ nm}$ will be observed are as follows;

$$(1) \quad \sin \theta_1 = \frac{589 \text{ nm}}{1900 \text{ nm}}, \text{ and } \theta_1 = 18.0^\circ;$$

$$(2) \quad \sin \theta_2 = \frac{2 \times 589 \text{ nm}}{1900 \text{ nm}}, \text{ and } \theta_2 = 38.3^\circ;$$

and

$$(3) \quad \sin \theta_3 = \frac{3 \times 589 \text{ nm}}{1900 \text{ nm}}, \text{ and } \theta_3 = 68.4^\circ.$$

The dispersions in the first, second, and third orders for the sodium light in this grating can be calculated from the relation

$$D = \frac{\tan \theta}{\lambda}.$$

(1)

$$D_1 = \frac{\tan \theta_1}{\lambda} = \frac{\tan 18^\circ}{589} \text{ rad nm}^{-1} = 5.516 \times 10^{-4} \text{ rad nm}^{-1}$$

$$= \frac{5.516 \times 10^{-4} \times 180}{\pi} \text{ }^\circ/\text{nm}$$

$$= 0.032^\circ \text{ nm}^{-1}.$$

(2)

$$D_2 = \frac{\tan \theta_2}{\lambda} = \frac{\tan 38.3^\circ}{589} \text{ rad nm}^{-1} = 0.077^\circ \text{ nm}^{-1}.$$

(3)

$$D_3 = \frac{\tan \theta_3}{\lambda} = \frac{\tan 68.4^\circ}{589} \text{ rad nm}^{-1} = 0.25^\circ \text{ nm}^{-1}.$$

(b)

The resolving power of the grating in the first, second, and third orders can be determined from the definition

$$R = mN.$$

As $N = 40,000$, the resolving power of this grating in the first, second, and third orders will be 40,000, 80,000, and 120,000, respectively.

