

A bright fringe in Young's double slit experiment is 1.5 cm from the center of the pattern. The light has a wavelength of 612 nm and falls on a screen 1.4 m from the slits that have a separation of 0.40 mm.

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How many dark fringes are between the center bright fringe and the bright fringe at 1.5 cm?

$$d \sin \theta = m \lambda$$
$$L \tan \theta_m = y_m$$

Use small angle approximation

$$\sin \theta \approx \tan \theta \approx \theta$$

$$d \theta = m \lambda$$

$$m = \frac{d \theta}{\lambda}$$

$$L \theta = y_m$$

$$\theta = \frac{y_m}{L}$$

$$m = \frac{d \left( \frac{y_m}{L} \right)}{\lambda} = \frac{0.40 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m} \left( \frac{1.5 \times 10^{-2} \text{ m}}{1.4 \text{ m}} \right)}{612 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}} = 7.00$$

7 fringes