

68. Employing Eq. 37-3, we find (with $m = 3$ and all lengths in μm)

$$\theta = \sin^{-1} \frac{m\lambda}{a} = \sin^{-1} \frac{(3)(0.5)}{2}$$

which yields $\theta = 48.6^\circ$. Now, we use the experimental geometry ($\tan \theta = y/D$ where y locates the minimum relative to the middle of the pattern) to find

$$y = D \tan \theta = 2.27 \text{ m} .$$