

2. In Young's double slit experiment using monochromatic light of wavelength  $\lambda$ , the intensity of light at a point on the screen where path difference is  $\lambda$ , is K units. Find out the intensity of light at a point, where path difference is  $\frac{\lambda}{3}$ .

**Sol.** The intensity of light is given by

$$I = 4I_0 \cos^2 \frac{\phi}{2}$$

- i. When path difference is  $\lambda$  : A path difference of  $\lambda$  is equivalent to a phase difference of  $2\pi$ .  
 $\therefore I = 4 I_0 \cos^2 \pi = 4 I_0 (-1)^2 = 4 I_0 = K$
- ii. When path difference is  $\frac{\lambda}{3}$  : A path difference of  $\frac{\lambda}{3}$  is equivalent to a phase difference of  $\frac{2\pi}{3}$ .  
 $\therefore I' = 4 I_0 \cos^2 \frac{\pi}{3} = 4 I_0 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = I_0 = \frac{K}{4}$