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Distinguish between interference and diffraction phenomena.

Interference

i) For interference two coherent sources are needed.

ii) Interference fringes are of equal width and intensity.

iii) Due to two sources the general intensity of the interference fringes is more.

Diffraction

i) For diffraction different points of the same wave front produces diffraction.

ii) Diffraction bands are of decreasing intensity and width.

iii) Due to distribution of parts of intensity of one source, the bands are of less intensity.

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Distinguishing between interference  
and diffraction phenomena

Diffraction	Interference
1. For diffraction, the path difference between rays from different parts of the wave front is not constant.	1. For interference, the path difference between rays from two slits is constant.
2. Diffraction takes place in all directions.	2. Interference fringes are seen only in certain directions.
3. The distribution of light is continuous.	3. The fringes are discrete.