

75. As a slit is narrowed, the pattern spreads outward, so the question about “minimum width” suggests that we are looking at the lowest possible values of m (the label for the minimum produced by light $\lambda = 600 \text{ nm}$) and m' (the label for the minimum produced by light $\lambda' = 500 \text{ nm}$). Since the angles are the same, then Eq. 37-3 leads to

$$m\lambda = m'\lambda'$$

which leads to the choices $m = 5$ and $m' = 6$. We find the slit width from Eq. 37-3:

$$a = \frac{m\lambda}{\sin \theta} \approx \frac{m\lambda}{\theta}$$

which yields $a = 3.0 \text{ mm}$.