

A Fabry-Perot etalon is used to resolve two spectral lines of equal intensity, and wavelengths  $\lambda$  of 670.776nm and 670.791nm. The etalon plates have a reflectivity  $R = 0.85$ . Determine the minimum separation of the plates,  $d$ , for which the two lines are just resolved.

[At angle  $\theta$  between the incident light ray and the normal to a Fabry-Perot etalon of plate separation  $d$ , the transmitted intensity is

$$I \cong \frac{1}{1 + \frac{4R}{(1-R)^2} \sin^2(\delta/2)} \quad \text{where} \quad \delta = \frac{(4\pi d) \cos(\theta)}{\lambda}$$