

Optics-Butterfly-Phenomenon --- Double-slit, No-parallel-double-slit, Curve-double-slit, No-parallel-curve-double-slit

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Abstract: In this article, to study the mystery, we extend: the single-slit to curve-single-slit, and double-slit to non-parallel-double-slit to curve-double-slit to non-parallel-curve-double-slit experiments. We show the phenomena that the slight differences in the structures/shapes of slits produce profound different patterns, referred to it as “Optics-Butterfly-phenomenon”. The “Optics-Butterfly-Phenomenon” is helpful for thoroughly understanding the interference/diffraction phenomena of the optics. It is challenge to interpret “Optics-Butterfly-Phenomenon”.

Keywords: Optics-Butterfly-phenomenon, pattern evolution

INTRODUCTION

The interference and diffraction are two fundamental phenomena in optics. Feynman called the double slit experiment the only mystery in the quantum mechanics [1]. The standard interpretation of the double slit experiment is: the light propagates as plane waves before passing through the double slit, and, after passing the double slit, propagates as two waves that interfere with each other (Figure 1).

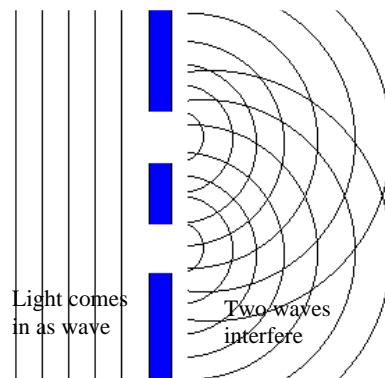


Figure 1: Standard wave interpretation of double slit experiment

In this paper, we show that the slight differences in the structures/shapes of slits produce profound different patterns, referred to it as “Optics-Butterfly-phenomenon”.

We suggest that the “Optics-Butterfly-Phenomenon” would be helpful for consistently and completely studying the interference/diffraction phenomena of optics.

OPTICS-BUTTERFLY-PHENOMENON

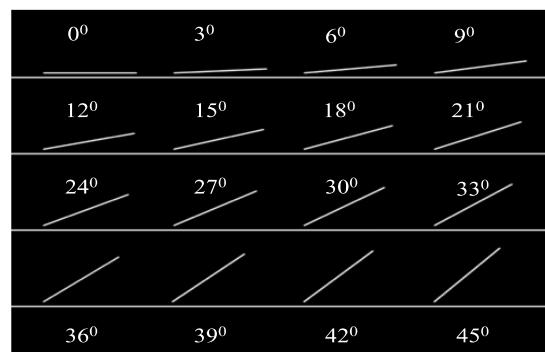
We extended the single-slit to cross-single-slit to curve-single slit, and the double slit to cross-double slit to non-parallel-double slit to curve-double slit to non-parallel-curve-double slit experiments (Figure 2).



Single-slit-cross-single-slit and Curve-single-slit



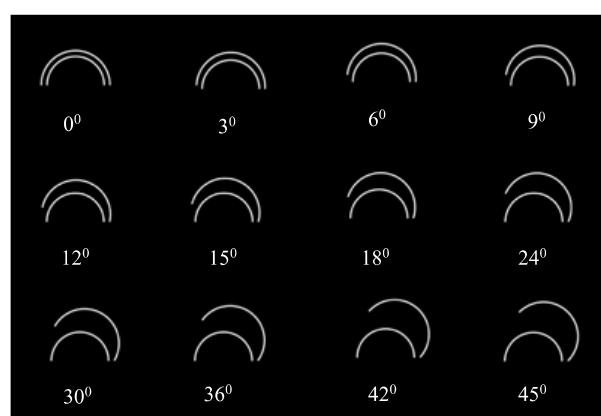
Cross-double-slit



Non-parallel-double-slit



Curve-double-slit

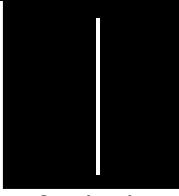
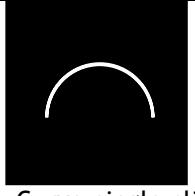
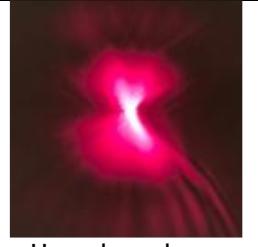
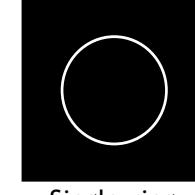
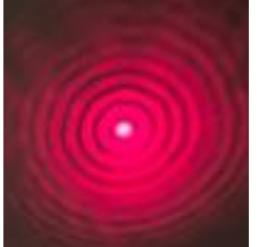
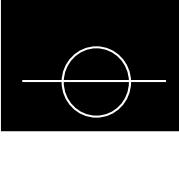
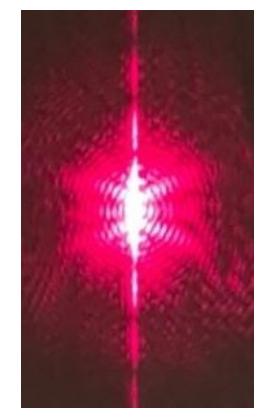
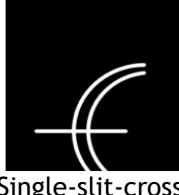
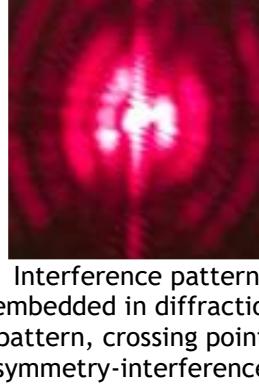
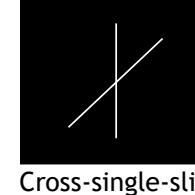


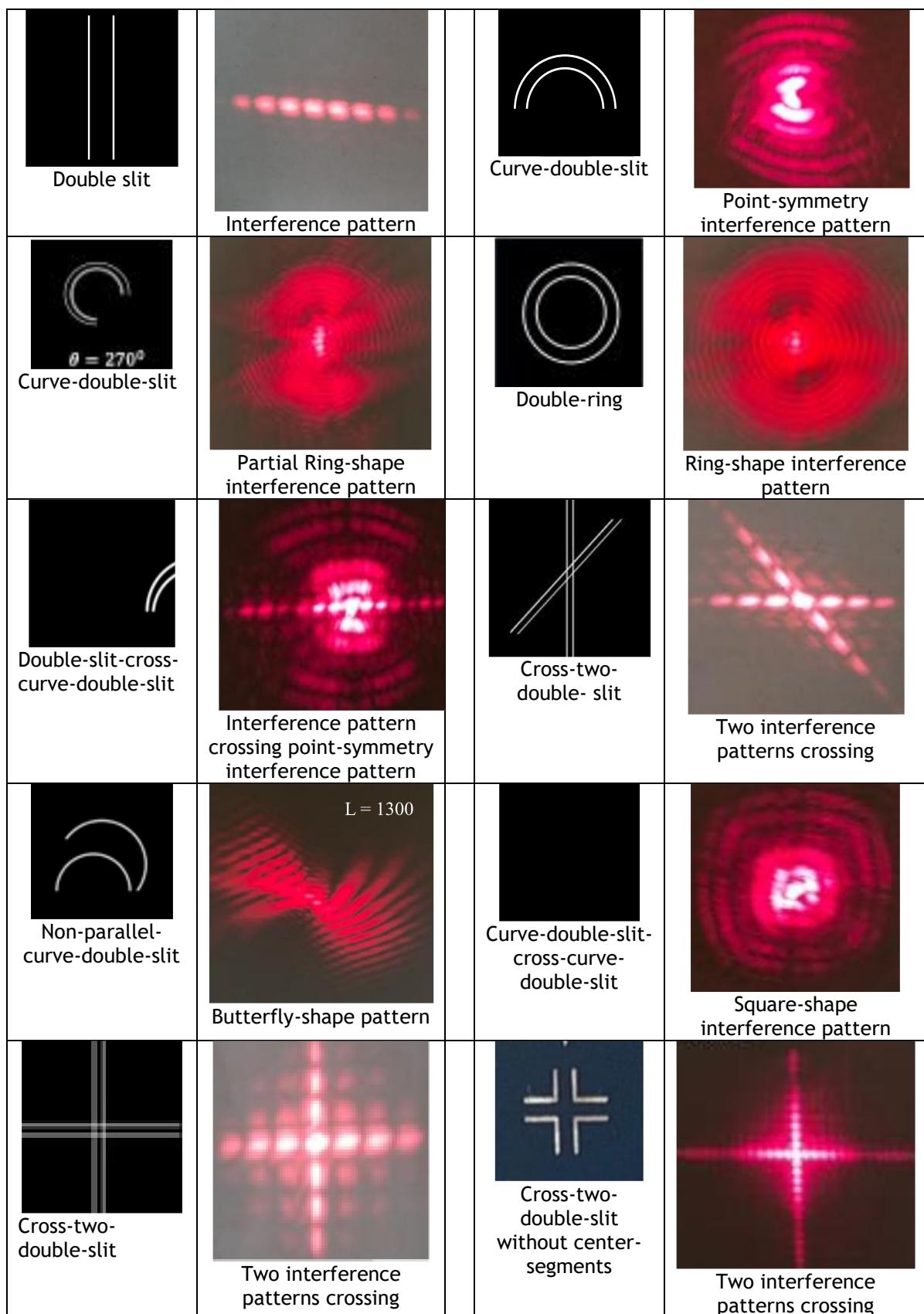
Non-parallel-curve-double-slit

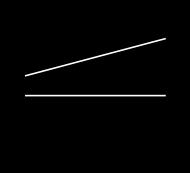
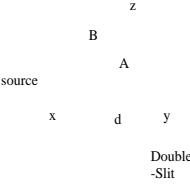
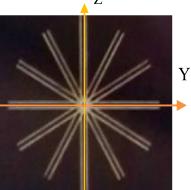
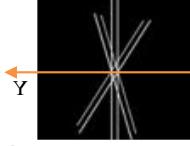
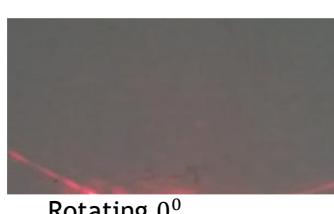
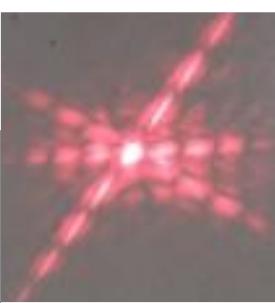
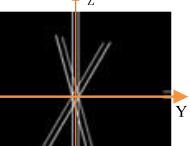
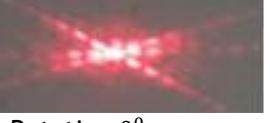
Figure 2: Different Slits

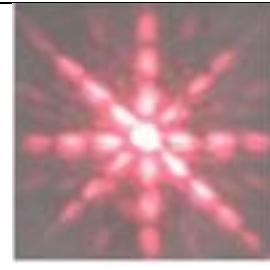
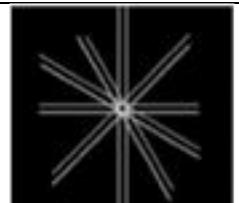
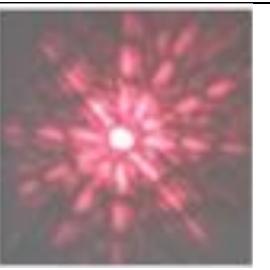
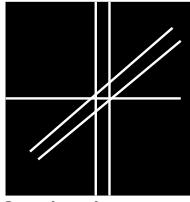
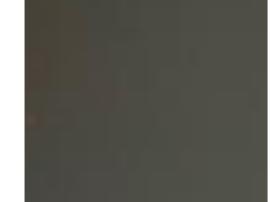
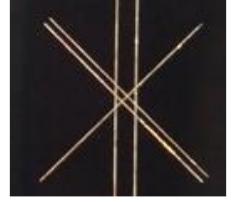
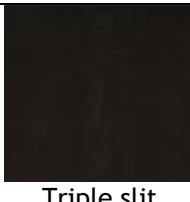
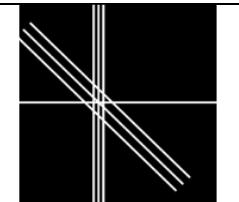
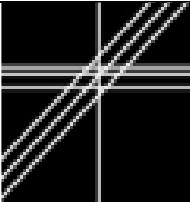
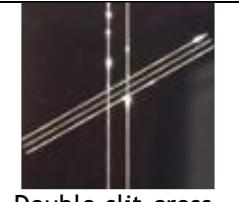
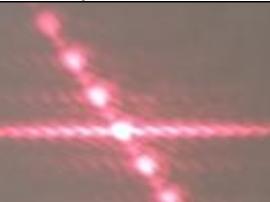
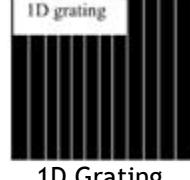
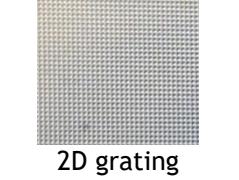
Now, we show the experiments utilizing above different slits. The experiments show that the slight differences in the structures/shapes of the slits produce profoundly different patterns (Table 1), we referred to it as “Optics-Butterfly-Phenomenon”.

Table 1: “Optics-Butterfly-Phenomenon”

Slit	Pattern	Slit	Pattern
			
Single slit	Diffraction pattern	Curve-single-slit	Hourglass-shape diffraction pattern
			
Curve-single-slit	Partial Ring-shape interference pattern	Single-ring	Ring-shape interference pattern
			
Single-slit-cross-ring	Interference pattern crossing ring-interference pattern	Single-slit/curve-single-slit	Interference pattern crossing Hourglass-shape pattern
			
Single-slit-cross-curve-double-slit	Interference pattern embedded in diffraction pattern, crossing point-symmetry-interference-pattern	Cross-single-slit	Two diffraction patterns crossing



 <p>Non-parallel-double-slit</p>	<p>Diffraction pattern</p> <p>Interference pattern</p> <p>Interference pattern embedded in diffraction pattern, cross another diffraction pattern</p>	 <p>Non-parallel-triple-slit</p>	 <p>Interference pattern embedded in diffraction pattern, cross another diffraction pattern</p>
 <p>source</p> <p>B</p> <p>A</p> <p>x d y</p> <p>Double -Slit</p> <p>Rotating double slit around y axis 75^0</p>	 <p>Curve interference patterns</p>	 <p>Rotating cross-double-slit around y axis 60^0</p>	 <p>Expanded-inclined interference pattern</p>
 <p>Rotating cross-double-slit around y axis</p>	 <p>Rotating 0^0, rotating 60^0, rotating 75^0</p> <p>Expanded-inclined interference pattern</p>		
	 <p>Rotating 0^0, rotating 60^0, rotating 75^0</p> <p>Expanded-inclined interference pattern</p>		

The “Optics-Butterfly-Phenomenon” is helpful for thoroughly studying the interference/diffraction phenomena of optics. It is challenge to completely interpret “Optics-Butterfly-Phenomenon”.

PATTERN EVOLUTION

Pattern Evolution of Single Slit Experiment

To study the pattern evolution, we utilize a lens.

Experiment setup: Figure 3 shows the experimental setup.

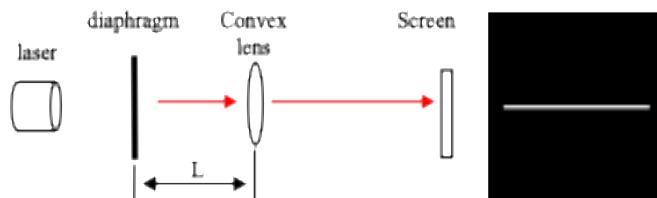


Figure 3: Experimental setup

Observation: Figure 4 shows the pattern evolution.

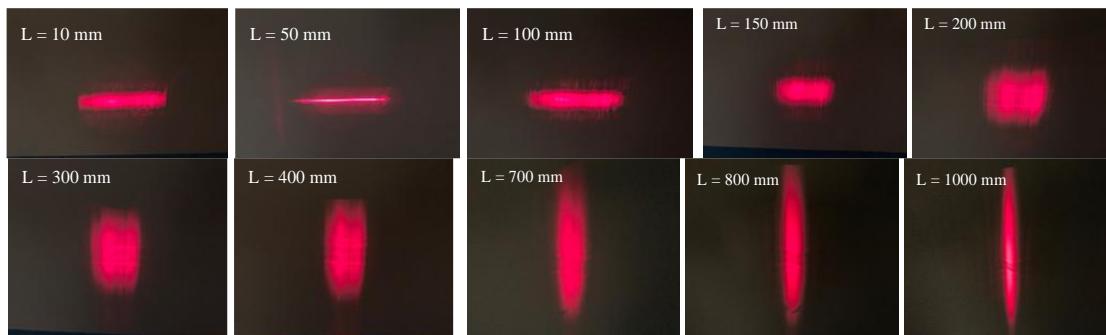


Figure 4: Evolution of pattern of single slit experiment

Figure 4 shows the Particle patterns at $L = 10 - 100$ mm; the Transition patterns at $L = 150 - 700$ mm; and the diffraction patterns at $L \geq 1000$ mm.

Discussion: it is a challenge to interpret how the horizontal Particle pattern (for example, at $L = 50$ mm) gradually evolves to the vertical diffraction pattern (for example, at $L = 1000$ mm)

Pattern Evolution of Double Slit Experiment

Experimental setup: Figure 5 shows the experimental setup.

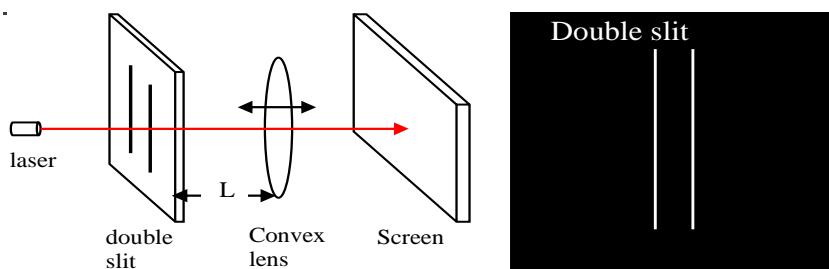


Figure 5: Experimental setup and double slits

When placing the lens at different positions L , we have the following patterns.

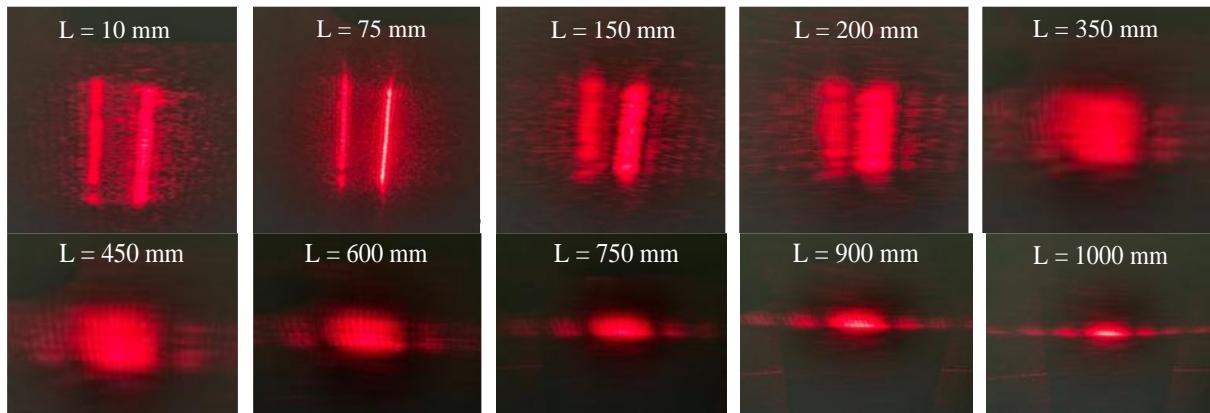


Figure 6: Evolution of patterns of double slit experiment

Observation (Figure 6): When $L = 75$ mm, the vertical pattern is the typical image of double-slit, referred to it as “Particle pattern”. When $L = 350$ mm, the pattern is the typical “Transition patterns”. Both the Particle pattern and the Transition patterns are the non-interference patterns and thus, indicate that the light is particles after passing through the double slit (from $L = 10$ mm to $L = 600$ mm). When $L \geq 750$ mm, the patterns are the horizontal Interference patterns.

DISCUSSION

In this article, we show: (1) the “Optics-Butterfly-Phenomenon”; (2) The pattern evolution, i.e., from the non-interference pattern evolves to interference pattern in the same experiment. To completely and consistently interpret both the “Optical-Butterfly-Phenomenon” and the pattern-evolution is a challenge. “Optical-Butterfly-Phenomenon” is helpful for further understanding the double slit and interference phenomena of the optics.

REFERENCES

[1]. R. Feynman, R. Leighton, and M. Sands, “The Feynman Lectures on Physics” (Addison-Wesley, Reading), Vol. 3. (1965).