Diffraction and resolution, aberrations

- Last class
 - Microscope components
 - Diffraction
- This class
 - Diffraction and imaging
 - Aberrations

Single slit diffraction





Quick side note



Solution to the diffraction pattern is a sinc function Intensity is given by sinc².

We see INTENSITY of light, measured in watts (energy/sec).

The intensity is the square of the electric field of our plane wave

Electric field can be negative, intensity can not.

Diffraction of light

Airy disc arises from different paths of light Destructive interference creates bands of low intensity



Minimum when length difference d – r = $\lambda/2$ Completely out of phase at that point



Width of aperture determines size of airy disc



Diffraction is necessary to reform image



Increased aperture allows collection of higher order modes, can create a sharper image (higher resolution)



Increasing aperture size

Airy Disk Patterns and PSFs from Diffraction



Increasing resolution



Bigger aperture

Bigger optics are more expensive Take up more room Every downstream optic must also have >= NA

Numerical Aperture and Airy Disc Size



P2-SHR Plan Apo 0.5×
P2-SHR Plan Apo 1×
P2-SHR Plan Apo 1.6×
P2-SHR Plan Apo 2×

Smaller wavelength



Higher energy Damage to sample harder to produce enough intensity

Numerical aperture

NA = nsin(θ) n = 1 (Air) = 1.33 (Water) = 1.48 (Oil) Olympus objective: 60x magnification, NA 1.45

NA = n sin θ θ = sin⁻¹ (NA/n) = sin⁻¹ (1.45/1.48) = 79 ° Olympus objective: 60x magnification, NA 1.35

NA = n sin θ θ = sin⁻¹ (NA/n) = sin⁻¹ (1.35/1.48) = 65 °



Pct of light collected Pct = -1/2 (cos (θ) - 1) = -.5 * (cos(79) - 1) = 40 % Pct of light collected Pct = -1/2 (cos (θ) - 1) = -.5 * (cos(65) - 1) = 28 %

NA and resolution



Numerical Aperture and Image Resolution





Another word on NA

Objective (f_o)

Olympus objectives expect a tube lens of 18 cm.

Consider 6.5 μm pixel size 60x mag -> 108 nm Diffraction Limit:

d = λ/2 * NA = 700 nm / (2*1.45) = 241 nm (AT BEST)

Tube lens (f_t) Nyquist frequency says sample at 2x minimum resolvable feature

100x doesn't buy any additional resolution. Adds noise as each pixel produces noise

Why oil



Oil has the same index as glass Allows a larger cone

Oil objectives cost more money You have to deal with oil

Only way to do TIRF microscopy

 $\theta_{c} = \sin^{-1}(n_{1}/n_{2})$ $= \sin^{-1}(1.33/1.49)$ $= 64^{\circ}$

Because they are index matched, the amount of reflection at each interface is also reduced

Diffraction limits the resolution





Rayleigh criterion for resolution θ_{min} = 1.22 λ /D

Resolution by your eye

Depth of field



Depth of field decreases with cone angle (NA) Can be good (trying to exclude regions, sectioning0 Can be bad (very little is visible)



NA = 0.50

O = 30.0"

NA = 0.80

0 = 53.2"

NA = 0.30

0 = 17.5



Point spread function Defines resolution of entire system Response of a point light emitter







Three dimensional response of all the optics in the microscope.

On to Matlab...