

**HIGH ANGULAR RESOLUTION
STELLAR INTERFEROMETRY**



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HIGH ANGULAR RESOLUTION
STELLAR INTERFEROMETRY

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The investigation of the size and structure of the heavenly bodies is limited by the resolving power of the observing telescope. When the bodies are so small or so distant that this limit of resolution is passed, the telescope can give no information concerning them. But an observation of the visibility curves of the interference fringes due to such sources, when made by the method of the double slit or its equivalent, and properly interpreted, gives information concerning the size, shape, and distribution of the components of the system. Even in the case of a fixed star, which may subtend an angle of less than one-hundredth of a second, it may not be an entirely hopeless task to attempt to measure its diameter by this means.

A.A. Michelson, *Light Waves and Their Uses*,
The University of Chicago Press, Chicago,
1903, pp. 144, 145.

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