Lab: Optical Interferometry

### 1)START

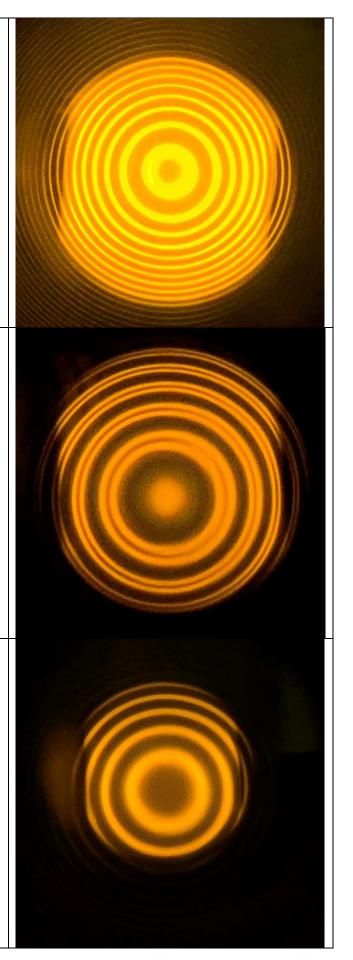
Both sets of rings are evenly spaced. The dark spaces inbetween the fringes are small. As you begin to turn the micrometer, the rings will spread out (or in, depending which way you turn), with one set of rings spreading slightly faster than the other.

### 2)

Now the two sets of rings have become unevenly spaced. There are alternating thick and thin dark regions between the fringes. Keep turning...

## 3) Overlap

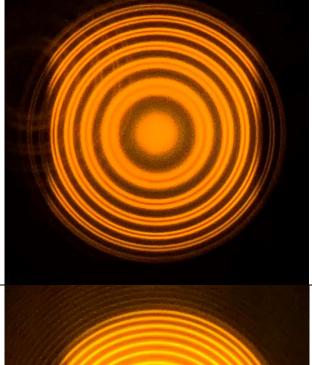
Eventually the 2<sup>nd</sup> set of rings will "catch-up" to the first, and they will overlap. While the rings are evenly spaced, the dark spaces in-between the fringes are larger. (Note: Be careful not to confuse this with your START/STOP configuration.)



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### 4)

As you turn further, the faster set of rings will move past the slower set, and we will get uneven spacing again. Almost there...



# 5) STOP

Finally, the rings become evenly spaced once more. This configuration looks identical to the one you started in.

