589.

Problem 34.65P (HRW)

As shown in the figure, a 2.00 m long vertical pole extends from the bottom of a swimming pool to a point 50.0 cm above the water. Sunlight is incident at 55.0^o above the horizon. We have to find the length of the shadow of the pole on the level bottom of the pool.



Solution:

The length of the pole above the water is

$$l_1 = 50.0 \text{ cm},$$

and the length of the pole inside the water is $l_2 = 150$ cm.

The sunrays are incident at an angle 55.0° above the horizon.

From the diagram shown above we note that the shadow of the pole on the level bottom of the pool will be given by the line AC.

We note that the angle of incidence of the sunrays with the normal to the surface of water is 35° . Therefore, the angle of refraction of the sunrays inside the water can be determined using the Snell's law.

Index of refraction of water is n = 1.33. Therefore, $\sin \theta_r = \frac{\sin \theta_i}{n} = \frac{\sin 35^0}{1.33} = 0.431$ and $\theta_r = \sin^{-1}(0.431) = 25.54^0$. Therefore, length *AB* will be

 $AB = 150 \times \tan(25.54^{\circ}) \text{ cm} = 71.69 \text{ cm}.$

From geometry we note that the length BC will be

 $BC = 50 \times \tan 35^{\circ} \text{ cm} = 35.0 \text{ cm}.$

Therefore, the length of the shadow of the pole on the bottom level of the pool will be

$$AC = AB + BC = (71.69 + 35.0) \text{ cm} = 106.7 \text{ cm}.$$

