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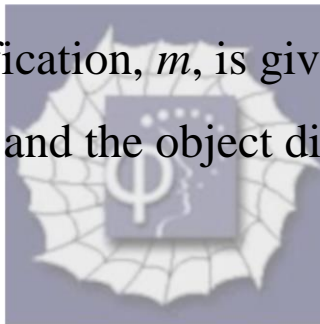
Problem 44.1 (RHK)

A concave shaving mirror has a radius of curvature of 35 cm. It is positioned so that the image of a man's face is 2.7 times the size of his face. We have to find the distance of the mirror from the man's face.

Solution:

The lateral magnification, m , is given in terms of the image distance, i , and the object distance, o , by the relation

$$m = -\frac{i}{o}.$$



In a shaving mirror the image will be erect. Therefore, image distance, i , will be negative and the image will be virtual. As the lateral magnification of the size of the man's face seen in the concave mirror is 2.7, we have

$$i = -2.7 \times o,$$

where o is the distance of the man's face from the mirror (cm).

The mirror equation is

$$\frac{1}{o} + \frac{1}{i} = \frac{2}{r}.$$

In a concave mirror the centre of curvature is in the R -side. In the standard sign convention, textbook Physics by Halliday Resnick and Krane, the radius of curvature r will be positive. We thus have

$$\frac{1}{o} - \frac{1}{2.7o} = \frac{2}{35} \text{ cm}^{-1},$$

or

$$\frac{1.7}{2.7o} = \frac{2}{35} \text{ cm}^{-1},$$

and

$$o = \frac{1.7 \times 35}{2 \times 2.7} \text{ cm} = 11.0 \text{ cm}.$$

