Assignment 1

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Q10(b): A man observes the angle of elevation of the top of the tower to be 45°. He walks towards it in a horizontal line through its base. On covering 20 m the angle of elevation changes to 60°. Find the height of the tower correct to 2 significant figures.

... The height of the tower is 47.32 m

Input parameters:

Variable	value
$\angle CAD = \theta_1$	45°
$\angle CBD = \theta_2$	60°
$AB = x_1$	20m

Solution: Let the height of the tower be 'h' and total distance between man and the tower be 'd'.

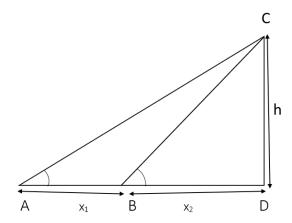


Fig. 1.

Let the given angles be $\theta_1 = 45^{\circ}$ and $\theta_2 = 60^{\circ}$. From the given information,

$$d = x_1 + x_2 \tag{1}$$

$$h \cot \theta_1 = d \tag{2}$$

$$h \cot \theta_2 = x_2 \tag{3}$$

Solving the equations (1),(2),(3), we get

$$h \cot \theta_1 = x_1 + h \cot \theta_2$$

$$h = \frac{x_1}{\cot \theta_1 - \cot \theta_2}$$

$$h = \frac{20}{\left(1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\right)}$$

$$h = 47.32m$$