

28. In the simplest approach, we set up a ratio for the total increase in *horizontal depth*  $x$  (where  $\Delta x = 0.05$  m is the increase in horizontal depth per step)

$$x = N_{\text{steps}}\Delta x = \left(\frac{4.57}{0.19}\right)(0.05) = 1.2 \text{ m} .$$

However, we can approach this more carefully by noting that if there are  $N = 4.57/.19 \approx 24$  rises then under normal circumstances we would expect  $N - 1 = 23$  runs (horizontal pieces) in that staircase. This would yield  $(23)(0.05) = 1.15$  m, which – to two significant figures – agrees with our first result.