

76. If the mercury level in one arm of the tube is lowered by an amount x , it will rise by x in the other arm. Thus, the net difference in mercury level between the two arms is $2x$, causing a pressure difference of $\Delta p = 2\rho_{\text{Hg}}gx$, which should be compensated for by the water pressure $p_w = \rho_w gh$, where $h = 11.2$ cm. In these units, $\rho_w = 1 \text{ g/cm}^3$ and $\rho_{\text{Hg}} = 13.6 \text{ g/cm}^3$ (see Table 15-1). We obtain

$$x = \frac{\rho_w gh}{2\rho_{\text{Hg}}g} = \frac{(1.00 \text{ g/cm}^3)(11.2 \text{ cm})}{2(13.6 \text{ g/cm}^3)} = 0.412 \text{ cm} .$$