

Hungry Hunter and Racing Rabbit

Suppose a hunter is chasing down a rabbit. The rabbit finds itself in the center of a circular pond. The hunter has pursued it, and is waiting at the edge of the pond armed with a small net to ensnare the swimming rabbit as it touches the edge. The net will only work while the rabbit is in the water. If the rabbit can make it to the edge of the pond before the hunter, it will escape; otherwise, if the hunter gets there first, the rabbit will be captured. The hunter can run four times as fast as the rabbit can swim, so can the rabbit escape? If so, how?