



**Additional Practice Questions for Chapter 2A: Vectors I**  
**Vector Algebra, Ratio Theorem, Scalar and Vector Products**

- 1 Referred to an origin  $O$ , points  $A$  and  $B$  have position vectors given respectively by

$$\overrightarrow{OA} = \mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k} \text{ and } \overrightarrow{OB} = 2\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j} + 6\mathbf{k}.$$

The point  $P$  on  $AB$  is such that  $AP : PB = \lambda : 1 - \lambda$ . Show that

$$\overrightarrow{OP} = (1 + \lambda)\mathbf{i} + (2 - 5\lambda)\mathbf{j} + (-2 + 8\lambda)\mathbf{k}.$$

- (i) Find the value of  $\lambda$  for which  $OP$  is perpendicular to  $AB$ .
- (ii) Find the value of  $\lambda$  for which angles  $AOP$  and  $POB$  are equal.

**9205/1984/02/Q5**

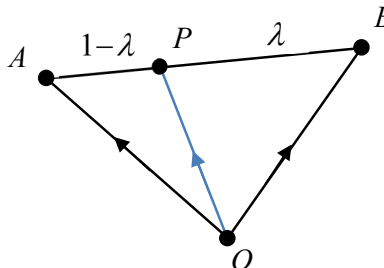
**Solution:**

By Ratio Theorem,

$$\overrightarrow{OP} = \frac{(1 - \lambda)\overrightarrow{OA} + \lambda\overrightarrow{OB}}{(1 - \lambda) + \lambda}$$

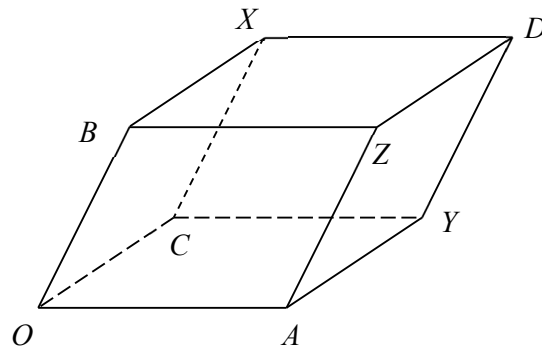
$$= (1 - \lambda) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} (1 - \lambda) + 2\lambda \\ 2(1 - \lambda) - 3\lambda \\ -2(1 - \lambda) + 6\lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 + \lambda \\ 2 - 5\lambda \\ -2 + 8\lambda \end{pmatrix}, \text{ that is, } \overrightarrow{OP} = (1 + \lambda)\mathbf{i} + (2 - 5\lambda)\mathbf{j} + (-2 + 8\lambda)\mathbf{k} \text{ (shown)}$$



|      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| (i)  | $\overrightarrow{AB} = \overrightarrow{OB} - \overrightarrow{OA} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -5 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$ $OP \perp AB \Rightarrow \overrightarrow{OP} \cdot \overrightarrow{AB} = 0$ $\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1+\lambda \\ 2-5\lambda \\ -2+8\lambda \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -5 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix} = 0$ $\Rightarrow (1-10-16) + \lambda(1+25+64) = 0$ $\Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{25}{90} = \frac{5}{18}$                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| (ii) | $\angle AOP = \angle POB \Rightarrow \cos \angle AOP = \cos \angle POB$ $\Rightarrow \frac{\overrightarrow{OP} \cdot \overrightarrow{OA}}{ \overrightarrow{OP}   \overrightarrow{OA} } = \frac{\overrightarrow{OP} \cdot \overrightarrow{OB}}{ \overrightarrow{OP}   \overrightarrow{OB} }$ $\Rightarrow \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 1+\lambda \\ 2-5\lambda \\ -2+8\lambda \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{7} \begin{pmatrix} 1+\lambda \\ 2-5\lambda \\ -2+8\lambda \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$ $\Rightarrow \frac{1}{3} [(1+4+4) + \lambda(1-10-16)] = \frac{1}{7} [(2-6-12) + \lambda(2+15+48)]$ $\Rightarrow 7(9-25\lambda) = 3(-16+65\lambda)$ $\Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{3}{10}$ <p>OR :</p> <p>Use the fact that in a rhombus, the diagonal is an angle bisector.</p> <p>We can form a rhombus with the vectors <math>\frac{\mathbf{a}}{ \mathbf{a} }</math> and <math>\frac{\mathbf{b}}{ \mathbf{b} }</math> which has diagonal <math>\frac{\mathbf{a}}{ \mathbf{a} } + \frac{\mathbf{b}}{ \mathbf{b} }</math>.</p> <p>So <math>OP \parallel \frac{\mathbf{a}}{ \mathbf{a} } + \frac{\mathbf{b}}{ \mathbf{b} }</math> i.e. <math>\overrightarrow{OP} = k \left( \frac{\mathbf{a}}{ \mathbf{a} } + \frac{\mathbf{b}}{ \mathbf{b} } \right)</math> for some <math>k \in \mathbb{R}</math>.</p> <p>By Ratio Theorem, since <math>P</math> on <math>AB</math> is such that <math>AP : PB = \lambda : 1 - \lambda</math>.</p> $\overrightarrow{OP} = (1 - \lambda)\mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{b}$ $(1 - \lambda)\mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{b} = k \left( \frac{\mathbf{a}}{ \mathbf{a} } + \frac{\mathbf{b}}{ \mathbf{b} } \right)$ <p>Since <math>\mathbf{a}</math> and <math>\mathbf{b}</math> are non-zero and non parallel vectors,</p> $(1 - \lambda) = \frac{k}{ \mathbf{a} } \text{ --- (1) and } \lambda = \frac{k}{ \mathbf{b} } \text{ --- (2)}$ $(2) \div (1) \Rightarrow \frac{\lambda}{1 - \lambda} = \frac{ \mathbf{a} }{ \mathbf{b} } = \frac{3}{7} \Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{3}{10}$ |

- 2 Referring to an origin  $O$ , the position vectors of points  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  are given by  $\overrightarrow{OA} = 7\mathbf{i}$ ,  $\overrightarrow{OB} = \mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{k}$  and  $\overrightarrow{OC} = \mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j}$  respectively. A parallelepiped has  $OA$ ,  $OB$ ,  $OC$  as three edges, and the remaining vertices are  $X$ ,  $Y$ ,  $Z$  and  $D$  as shown in the diagram.



- (i) Write down the position vector of  $Z$  in terms of  $\mathbf{i}$ ,  $\mathbf{j}$  and  $\mathbf{k}$ . [1]
- (ii) The point  $P$  divides  $CZ$  such that  $\frac{CP}{PZ} = \lambda$ . Given that  $\overrightarrow{OP}$  is perpendicular to  $\overrightarrow{CZ}$ , find the value of  $\lambda$  and evaluate  $|\overrightarrow{OP}|$ . [6]

**IJCPrelim9233/2006/01/Q14(i), (ii)**

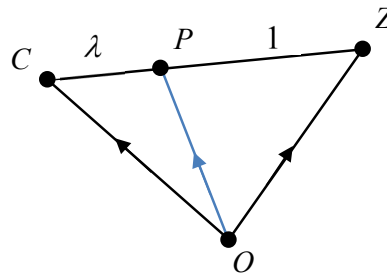
**Solution:**

(i) 
$$\begin{aligned}\overrightarrow{OZ} &= \overrightarrow{OA} + \overrightarrow{AZ} \\ &= \overrightarrow{OA} + \overrightarrow{OB} = 8\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{k}\end{aligned}$$

- (ii) Since  $P$  divides  $CZ$  such that  $\frac{CP}{PZ} = \lambda$ ,

by Ratio Theorem,

$$\begin{aligned}\overrightarrow{OP} &= \frac{\overrightarrow{OC} + \lambda\overrightarrow{OZ}}{1 + \lambda} \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + \lambda} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \right]\end{aligned}$$



Since  $OP \perp CZ$ ,  $\overrightarrow{OP} \cdot \overrightarrow{CZ} = 0$  where  $\overrightarrow{CZ} = \overrightarrow{OZ} - \overrightarrow{OC} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ -4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\frac{1}{1+\lambda} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \right] \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ -4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$7 - 16 + (56 + 16)\lambda = 0$$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{8}$$

$$\therefore \overrightarrow{OP} = \frac{1}{1+\frac{1}{8}} \begin{pmatrix} 1+1 \\ 4 \\ 1/2 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{4}{9} \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 8 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

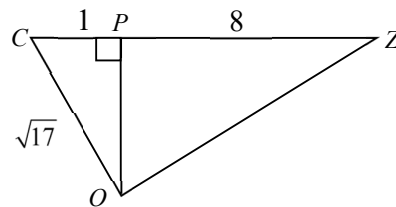
and  $|\overrightarrow{OP}| = \frac{4}{9} \sqrt{4^2 + 8^2 + 1^2} = 4$

**Alternative Method**

From (i),  $\overrightarrow{OZ} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ . So  $\overrightarrow{CZ} = \overrightarrow{OZ} - \overrightarrow{OC} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ -4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$

$$CZ = \sqrt{7^2 + 2(4^2)} = 9$$

Since  $\lambda = \frac{1}{8}$ ,  $\frac{CP}{PZ} = \frac{1}{8} \Rightarrow CP = 1$  and  $PZ = 8$



$$\therefore |\overrightarrow{OP}| = \sqrt{17 - 1} = 4$$

- 3 The position vectors of  $A$  and  $B$  with respect to the origin  $O$  are  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  respectively.  $M$  is the mid-point of  $OA$  and  $C$  is the point on  $MB$  such that  $\overrightarrow{CB} = 2\overrightarrow{MC}$ .

Given that  $|\mathbf{a}| = 6$ ,  $|\mathbf{b}| = 5$  and the angle between  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  is  $45^\circ$ , evaluate the exact value of the scalar product of  $-\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$ .

**MI Prelim 9233/2006/01/Q1**

**Solution:**

Given that  $M$  is the mid-point of  $OA$ ,  $\overrightarrow{OM} = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a}$

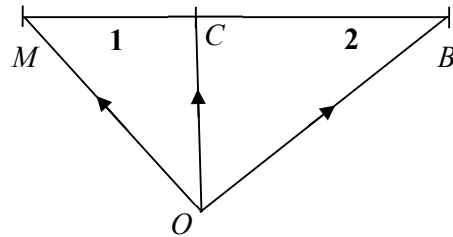
Given  $\overrightarrow{CB} = 2\overrightarrow{MC}$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{CB}{MC} = \frac{2}{1}$$

$$\Rightarrow CB : MC = 2 : 1$$

By Ratio Theorem,

$$\mathbf{c} = \frac{2\overrightarrow{OM} + \overrightarrow{OB}}{3} = \frac{1}{3}(\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b})$$



$$\begin{aligned} -\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c} &= -\mathbf{b} \cdot \frac{1}{3}(\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}) \\ &= -\frac{1}{3}(\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{b}) \\ &= -\frac{1}{3}(|\mathbf{b}||\mathbf{a}|\cos 45^\circ + |\mathbf{b}|^2) \\ &= -\frac{1}{3}\left[(5)(6)\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + 5^2\right] \\ &= -\frac{1}{3}(15\sqrt{2} + 25) \\ &= -\frac{5}{3}(5 + 3\sqrt{2}) \end{aligned}$$

- 4 Referred to the origin  $O$ , the points  $A$  and  $B$  have position vectors  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  such that

$$\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}.$$

- (i) Find the size of angle  $OAB$ . [2]

The point  $C$  has position vector  $\mathbf{c}$  given by  $\mathbf{c} = \lambda\mathbf{a} + \mu\mathbf{b}$ , where  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$  are positive constants.  
Given that the area of triangle  $OAC$  is twice that of triangle  $OBC$ ,

- (ii) find  $\mu$  in terms of  $\lambda$ , [3]

- (iii) hence, if  $OC = \sqrt{118}$ , find the position vector  $\mathbf{c}$ . [4]

**JPJC Prelim 9758/2021/01/Q2**

**Solution:**

(i)

$$\overrightarrow{BA} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\cos \angle OAB = \frac{\overrightarrow{OA} \cdot \overrightarrow{BA}}{|\overrightarrow{OA}| |\overrightarrow{BA}|} = \frac{\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}}{\sqrt{3} \sqrt{2}} = \frac{-2}{\sqrt{6}}$$

$$\angle OAB = 144.7^\circ \text{ (1 d.p.)}$$

(ii)

$$\text{Area of } \triangle OAC = \frac{1}{2} |\underline{a} \times (\lambda \underline{a} + \mu \underline{b})| = \frac{\mu}{2} |\underline{a} \times \underline{b}| \text{ since } \mu > 0$$

$$\text{Area of } \triangle OBC = \frac{1}{2} |\underline{b} \times (\lambda \underline{a} + \mu \underline{b})| = \frac{\lambda}{2} |\underline{b} \times \underline{a}| \text{ since } \lambda > 0$$

Given area of  $\triangle OAC$  is twice that of  $\triangle OBC$ ,

$$\frac{\mu}{2} |\underline{a} \times \underline{b}| = 2 \frac{\lambda}{2} |\underline{b} \times \underline{a}|$$

$$\text{Since } |\underline{a} \times \underline{b}| = |\underline{b} \times \underline{a}|, \mu = 2\lambda$$

|       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| (iii) | <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 48%;"> <math display="block">OC = \sqrt{118}</math> <math display="block"> \lambda \underline{a} + \mu \underline{b}  = \sqrt{118}</math> <math display="block"> \lambda \underline{a} + 2\lambda \underline{b}  = \sqrt{118} \quad \text{since } \mu = 2\lambda</math> <math display="block">\left  \begin{pmatrix} \lambda + 2\lambda \\ \lambda + 4\lambda \\ \lambda + 4\lambda \end{pmatrix} \right  = \sqrt{118}</math> <math display="block">\sqrt{(3\lambda)^2 + (5\lambda)^2 + (5\lambda)^2} = \sqrt{118}</math> <math display="block">9\lambda^2 + 25\lambda^2 + 25\lambda^2 = 118</math> <math display="block">59\lambda^2 = 118</math> <math display="block">\lambda = \pm\sqrt{2}</math> <p>Since <math>\lambda &gt; 0</math>,</p> <math display="block">\lambda = \sqrt{2}, \quad \underline{c} = \begin{pmatrix} 3\sqrt{2} \\ 5\sqrt{2} \\ 5\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}</math> </div> <div style="width: 48%; border-left: 1px solid black; padding-left: 10px;"> <p>OR:</p> <math display="block">\left  \begin{pmatrix} 3\lambda \\ 5\lambda \\ 5\lambda \end{pmatrix} \right  = \sqrt{118}</math> <math display="block">\lambda \left  \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \right  = \sqrt{118} \quad \text{since } \lambda &gt; 0</math> <math display="block">\lambda \sqrt{3^2 + 5^2 + 5^2} = \sqrt{118}</math> <math display="block">\lambda = \frac{\sqrt{118}}{\sqrt{59}} = \sqrt{2}</math> <math display="block">\underline{c} = \begin{pmatrix} 3\sqrt{2} \\ 5\sqrt{2} \\ 5\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}</math> </div> </div> |
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- 5 With respect to the origin  $O$ , the position vectors of the points  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  are  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$  respectively. Point  $C$  lies on  $AB$  such that  $AC : CB = 1 : 2$ . It is given that  $\mathbf{a}$  is a unit vector and the length of  $OB$  is 2 units.
- (i) Give a geometrical interpretation of  $|\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c}|$ . [1]
- (ii) It is given that the angle  $AOB$  is  $60^\circ$ . By considering  $(2\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}) \cdot (2\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b})$ , find  $|2\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}|$ . [3]
- (iii) Find  $\mathbf{c}$  in terms of  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$ . [1]
- (iv) Hence by considering cosine of angle  $AOC$  and cosine of angle  $COB$ , determine if the line segment  $OC$  bisects the angle  $AOB$ . [3]

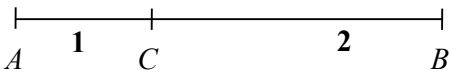
**MI Prelim 9758/2021/01/Q4****Solution:**

(i)  $|\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c}|$  is the length of projection of  $\mathbf{c}$  onto  $\mathbf{a}$ .

(ii)

$$\begin{aligned} (2\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}) \cdot (2\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}) &= 4(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{a}) - 2(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}) - 2(\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{a}) + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{b}) \\ &= 4|\mathbf{a}|^2 - 4(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}) + |\mathbf{b}|^2 \quad (\because \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}) \\ &= 4(1)^2 - 4|\mathbf{a}||\mathbf{b}|\cos 60^\circ + (2)^2 \\ &= 4 - 4(1)(2)\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + 4 = 4. \\ (2\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}) \cdot (2\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}) &= |2\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}|^2 = 4 \Rightarrow |2\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}| = 2. \end{aligned}$$

(iii) Since  $C$  lies on  $AB$  such that  $AC : CB = 1 : 2$ , by Ratio Theorem,  
 $\mathbf{c} = \frac{\mathbf{b} + 2\mathbf{a}}{3}$ .



(iv)

$$\begin{aligned} \cos \angle AOC &= \frac{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c}}{|\mathbf{a}||\mathbf{c}|} \\ &= \frac{\mathbf{a} \cdot \left(\frac{\mathbf{b} + 2\mathbf{a}}{3}\right)}{|\mathbf{a}||\mathbf{c}|} \quad [\text{from (iii)}] \\ &= \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} + 2(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{a})}{|\mathbf{c}|} \right) \quad [\text{since } \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{a} = |\mathbf{a}|^2 = 1^2] \\ &= \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} + 2}{|\mathbf{c}|} \right). \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\cos \angle COB &= \frac{\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c}}{|\mathbf{b}||\mathbf{c}|} \\&= \frac{\mathbf{b} \cdot \left(\frac{\mathbf{b} + 2\mathbf{a}}{3}\right)}{|\mathbf{b}||\mathbf{c}|} \quad [\text{from (iii)}] \\&= \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{2^2 + 2(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b})}{2|\mathbf{c}|} \right) \quad [\text{since } \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{b} = |\mathbf{b}|^2 = 2^2] \\&= \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{2 + \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}}{|\mathbf{c}|} \right) = \cos \angle AOC.\end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  line  $OC$  bisects the angle  $AOB$ .

- 6 Relative to the origin  $O$ , the points  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ , have non-zero position vectors  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $3\mathbf{a}$  respectively.  $D$  lies on  $AB$  such that  $AD = \lambda AB$ , where  $0 < \lambda < 1$ .

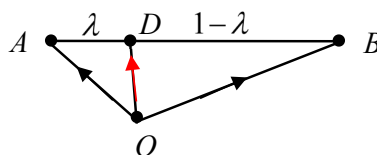
(i) Write down the position vector of the point  $D$ . [1]

(ii) The point  $E$  is the midpoint of  $BC$ . Find the value of  $\lambda$  if  $E$  lies on the line  $OD$ , and write down the ratio  $OE : ED$ . [4]

**NYJC JC2 Prelim 9758/2019/01/Q5 (modified)**

**Solution:**

(i) Since  $AD = \lambda AB$ ,  
by Ratio Theorem,  
 $\overrightarrow{OD} = \lambda \mathbf{b} + (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{a}, \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$



(ii) Since  $E$  is the midpoint of  $BC$ ,  
by Ratio Theorem,  
 $\overrightarrow{OE} = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}) = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{b} + 3\mathbf{a})$

Since  $E$  lies on  $OD$ ,

$$\overrightarrow{OE} = s\overrightarrow{OD} = s[\lambda \mathbf{b} + (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{a}], \quad \text{for some } s, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\text{Hence, } s[\lambda \mathbf{b} + (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{a}] = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{b} + 3\mathbf{a})$$

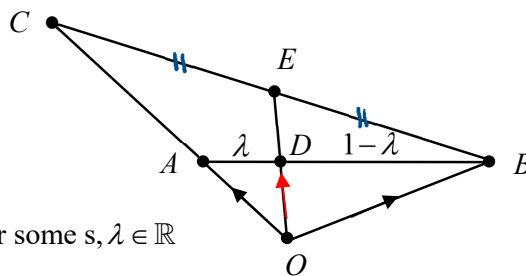
Since  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  are non-zero and non-parallel vectors ( $\lambda > 0$ ),

$$s\lambda = \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad s(1 - \lambda) = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\text{Solving, } \lambda = \frac{1}{4}.$$

$$\text{Since } \overrightarrow{OE} = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{b} + 3\mathbf{a}) \quad \text{and} \quad \overrightarrow{OD} = \frac{1}{4}(\mathbf{b} + 3\mathbf{a}) = \frac{1}{2}\overrightarrow{OE}.$$

$$\text{Hence, } OE : ED = 2 : 1.$$



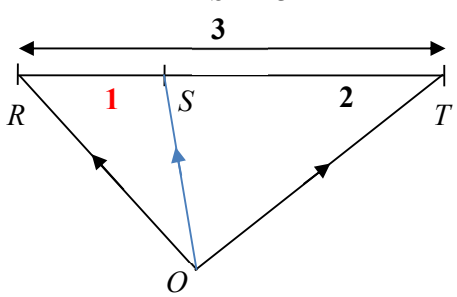
- 7 Referred to origin  $O$ , the points  $P, Q, R$  and  $S$  have position vectors  $\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{r}$  and  $\mathbf{s}$  respectively.
- (i) Given that  $\alpha\mathbf{p} + \beta\mathbf{q} + \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{0}$  and  $\alpha + \beta + 1 = 0$ , where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are non-zero constants. Show that  $P, Q$  and  $R$  are collinear. [3]

It is given that the point  $R$  lies on  $PQ$  produced. The point  $T$  lies on line  $RS$  produced such that  $RT : ST = 3 : 2$ .

- (ii) Find the position vector of the point  $T$  in terms of  $\mathbf{r}$  and  $\mathbf{s}$ . [2]

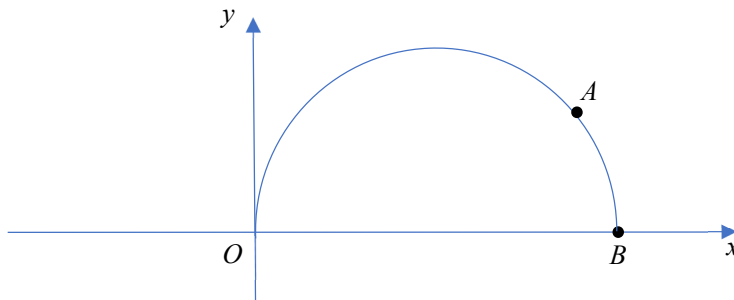
- (iii) Give a geometrical interpretation of  $\frac{|(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{r}) \cdot (\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{r})|}{|\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{r}|}$ . [1]

- (iv) Find the area of triangle  $PRT$  in the form  $\gamma|\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{s} - \mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{s}|$ , where  $\gamma$  is a constant to be determined. [3]

| TMJC Promo 9758/2021/Q10 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
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| Solution:                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| (i)                      | $\alpha + \beta + 1 = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha = -\beta - 1$<br>Substitute into $\alpha\mathbf{p} + \beta\mathbf{q} + \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{0}$ :<br>$(-\beta - 1)\mathbf{p} + \beta\mathbf{q} + \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{0}$<br>$\beta(\mathbf{q} - \mathbf{p}) + (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{p}) = \mathbf{0}$<br>$\beta\overrightarrow{PQ} + \overrightarrow{PR} = \mathbf{0}$<br>$\overrightarrow{PQ} = k\overrightarrow{PR}, \quad k = -\frac{1}{\beta}, \quad \beta \neq 0$<br>Since $\overrightarrow{PQ}$ is parallel to $\overrightarrow{PR}$ , and $P$ is a common point, $P, Q$ and $R$ are collinear. (shown) |
| (ii)                     | Since $T$ lies on line $RS$ produced such that $RT : ST = 3 : 2$ .<br><div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="margin-right: 20px;"> <math display="block">\overrightarrow{OS} = \frac{\overrightarrow{OT} + 2\overrightarrow{OR}}{3}</math> <math display="block">\mathbf{s} = \frac{\overrightarrow{OT} + 2\mathbf{r}}{3}</math> <math display="block">\overrightarrow{OT} = 3\mathbf{s} - 2\mathbf{r}</math> </div>  </div>                                                                   |
| (iii)                    | $\frac{ (\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{r}) \cdot (\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{r}) }{ \mathbf{s} - \mathbf{r} } = \left  (\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{r}) \cdot \frac{(\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{r})}{ \mathbf{s} - \mathbf{r} } \right  = \left  \overrightarrow{RP} \cdot \frac{\overrightarrow{RS}}{ \overrightarrow{RS} } \right $ is the length of projection of $\overrightarrow{RP}$ on $\overrightarrow{RS}$ .                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| (iv)                     | Area of triangle $PRT = \frac{1}{2}  \overrightarrow{RP} \times \overrightarrow{RT} $                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

|  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|--|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | $\begin{aligned}&= \frac{1}{2}  (\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{r}) \times (3\mathbf{s} - 2\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r})  \\&= \frac{1}{2}  (\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{r}) \times (3\mathbf{s} - 3\mathbf{r})  \\&= \frac{3}{2}  \mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{s} - \mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{s} + \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{r}  \\&= \frac{3}{2}  \mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{s} - \mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{s}  \quad (\because \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{0})\end{aligned}$ |
|--|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

- 8 The diagram shows a semi-circle with diameter  $OB$ . Point  $A$  is on the circumference of the semi-circle and point  $C$  lies on chord  $AB$  such that  $AC = 3CB$ .



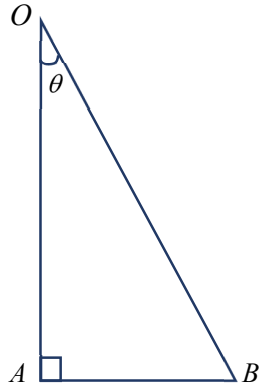
Referred to the origin  $O$ , the points  $A$  and  $B$  are such that  $\overrightarrow{OA} = \mathbf{a}$  and  $\overrightarrow{OB} = \mathbf{b}$  where  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  are non-zero and non-parallel vectors.

- (i) Show that  $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = |\mathbf{a}|^2$ . [2]
- (ii) Find the position vector of  $C$  in terms of  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$ . [1]
- (iii) Hence find the length of projection of  $\overrightarrow{OC}$  onto  $\overrightarrow{OB}$  if  $|\mathbf{a}| = \sqrt{3}$  and  $|\mathbf{b}| = 2$ . [4]

**EJC Promo 9758/2021/01/Q5**

**Solution:**

- (i) Method 1:  
 $\overrightarrow{AB} = \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a}$   
 Since  $\angle OAB = 90^\circ$  (angle in a semi circle),  
 $\overrightarrow{AB} \perp \overrightarrow{OA} \Rightarrow \overrightarrow{AB} \cdot \overrightarrow{OA} = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a}) \cdot \mathbf{a} = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{a} - \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{a} = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{a} = |\mathbf{a}|^2$   
 $\Rightarrow \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = |\mathbf{a}|^2$  ( $\because \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{a}$ ) [shown]
- Method 2:  
 Let  $\theta$  be the angle between  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$ .  
 Note that triangle  $OAB$  is a right angled triangle.



Hence  $OA = OB \cos \theta = |\mathbf{b}| \cos \theta$

Since  $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = |\mathbf{a}| |\mathbf{b}| \cos \theta = |\mathbf{a}| (|\mathbf{a}|) = |\mathbf{a}|^2$  [shown]

(ii)

$$AC = 3CB \Rightarrow \frac{AC}{CB} = \frac{3}{1}$$

By Ratio Theorem,  $\overrightarrow{OC} = \frac{\overrightarrow{OA} + 3\overrightarrow{OB}}{4} = \frac{\mathbf{a} + 3\mathbf{b}}{4}$

(iii)

Length of projection of  $\overrightarrow{OC}$  onto  $\overrightarrow{OB}$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \left| \overrightarrow{OC} \cdot \frac{\overrightarrow{OB}}{|\overrightarrow{OB}|} \right| \\ &= \left| \left( \frac{\mathbf{a} + 3\mathbf{b}}{4} \right) \cdot \frac{\mathbf{b}}{|\mathbf{b}|} \right| \\ &= \left| \left( \frac{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} + 3\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{b}}{4|\mathbf{b}|} \right) \right| \\ &= \left| \left( \frac{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} + 3|\mathbf{b}|^2}{4|\mathbf{b}|} \right) \right| \\ &= \left| \left( \frac{|\mathbf{a}|^2 + 3|\mathbf{b}|^2}{4|\mathbf{b}|} \right) \right| \text{ (from (i))} \\ &= \left| \left( \frac{3 + 3(4)}{4(2)} \right) \right| = \frac{15}{8} \text{ since } |\mathbf{a}| = \sqrt{3} \text{ and } |\mathbf{b}| = 2. \end{aligned}$$

- 9 Referred to the origin  $O$ , points  $A$  and  $B$  have position vectors  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  respectively. Point  $P$  is on the line  $AB$  such that  $AP:PB = m:n$  where  $m$  and  $n$  are positive integers. Point  $C$  is on  $OP$  extended such that  $OP:PC = 1:2$ .
- (i) Show that  $\overrightarrow{AC} = \left(\frac{2n-m}{m+n}\right)\mathbf{a} + \left(\frac{3m}{m+n}\right)\mathbf{b}$ . [3]
- (ii) If  $|\mathbf{a}| = |\mathbf{b}|$  and the angle between vectors  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  is  $\frac{\pi}{3}$ , find the area of the triangle  $ABC$  in terms of  $|\mathbf{a}|$ . [4]
- (iii) Find the ratio  $AP:PB$  such that  $AC$  is parallel to  $OB$ . [2]

**EJC Prelim 9758/2021/02/Q5****Solution:**

|       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (i)   | <p>By Ratio Theorem, <math>\overrightarrow{OP} = \frac{m\mathbf{b} + n\mathbf{a}}{m+n}</math>.</p> $\overrightarrow{OC} = 3\overrightarrow{OP} = 3\left(\frac{m\mathbf{b} + n\mathbf{a}}{m+n}\right)$ $\overrightarrow{AC} = \overrightarrow{OC} - \overrightarrow{OA} = 3\left(\frac{m\mathbf{b} + n\mathbf{a}}{m+n}\right) - \mathbf{a} = \frac{3m}{m+n}\mathbf{b} + \frac{3n}{m+n}\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{a}$ $= \frac{3m}{m+n}\mathbf{b} + \left(\frac{3n}{m+n} - 1\right)\mathbf{a} = \frac{3m}{m+n}\mathbf{b} + \left(\frac{3n - n - m}{m+n}\right)\mathbf{a} = \frac{3m}{m+n}\mathbf{b} + \left(\frac{2n-m}{m+n}\right)\mathbf{a} \text{ (shown)}$                                                                                                                                              |
| (ii)  | <p>Area of triangle <math>ABC = \frac{1}{2} \overrightarrow{AB} \times \overrightarrow{AC} </math></p> $= \frac{1}{2}\left (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a}) \times \left(\left(\frac{3m}{m+n}\right)\mathbf{b} + \left(\frac{2n-m}{m+n}\right)\mathbf{a}\right)\right $ $= \frac{1}{2}\left \frac{3m}{m+n}(\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{a}) - \frac{2n-m}{m+n}(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b})\right  \text{ (since } \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{b} = 0)$ $= \frac{1}{2}\left \frac{3m}{m+n}(\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{a}) + \frac{2n-m}{m+n}(\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{a})\right $ $= \frac{1}{2}\left \frac{2m+2n}{m+n}(\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{a})\right  =  (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{a})  =  \mathbf{a}  \mathbf{b} \sin\frac{\pi}{3} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \mathbf{a} ^2$ |
| (iii) | $\overrightarrow{AC} = \frac{3m}{m+n}\mathbf{b} + \left(\frac{2n-m}{m+n}\right)\mathbf{a}$ <p>Since <math>\overrightarrow{AC}</math> is parallel to <math>\overrightarrow{OB}</math>, <math>\frac{2n-m}{m+n} = 0</math></p> <p>Thus <math>2n - m = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{m}{n} = 2</math></p> <p>Thus, <math>AP:PB = 2:1</math></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

- 10 Referred to the origin  $O$ , three distinct and non-collinear points  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  have position vectors  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$  respectively. Point  $L$  is the mid-point of  $BC$ . The position vector of a point  $P$  is given by  $(1-k)\mathbf{a} + \frac{k}{2}(\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c})$ , where  $k$  is a non-zero constant and  $k \neq 1$ .

(i) Show that  $A$ ,  $L$  and  $P$  are collinear. [3]

(ii) Show that  $\frac{1}{2}|\overrightarrow{CP} \times \overrightarrow{CB}| = \frac{|1-k|}{2}|\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c} - \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{c}|$ . [3]

For the rest of the question, let  $k = \frac{1}{2}$ .

Let point  $Q$  be a point on the line passing through  $A$  and  $L$ .  $P$  and  $Q$  are distinct points and the areas of triangle  $CPB$  and triangle  $CQB$  are equal.

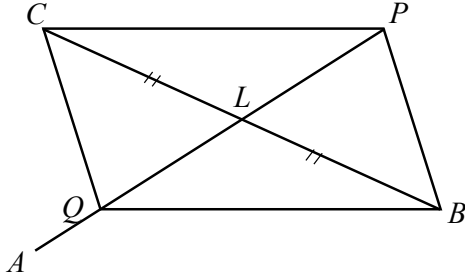
(iii) By considering part (ii), find the position vector of  $Q$  in terms of  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$ . [4]

(iv) Given that  $|\overrightarrow{BC}| = 1$ , interpret geometrically  $|\overrightarrow{LP} \cdot \overrightarrow{BC}|$ . [1]

**NJC Prelim 9758/2021/02/Q3 (modified)**

**Solution:**

|      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (i)  | $\overrightarrow{AL} = \overrightarrow{OL} - \overrightarrow{OA} = \frac{\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}}{2} - \mathbf{a}$ $\overrightarrow{AP} = \overrightarrow{OP} - \overrightarrow{OA} = (1-k)\mathbf{a} + k\frac{\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}}{2} - \mathbf{a}$ $= k\left(\frac{\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}}{2} - \mathbf{a}\right)$ $= k\overrightarrow{AL}$ <p>Since <math>\overrightarrow{AP}</math> is parallel to <math>\overrightarrow{AL}</math> with a common point <math>A</math>, <math>A</math>, <math>L</math> and <math>P</math> are collinear. (shown)</p> |
| (ii) | $\frac{1}{2} \overrightarrow{CP} \times \overrightarrow{CB} $ $= \frac{1}{2} (\overrightarrow{OP} - \overrightarrow{OC}) \times (\overrightarrow{OB} - \overrightarrow{OC}) $ $= \frac{1}{2}\left \left((1-k)\mathbf{a} + k\frac{\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}}{2} - \mathbf{c}\right) \times (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c})\right $ $= \frac{1}{2}\left (1-k)\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c}) + \frac{k}{2}(\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}) \times (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c}) - \mathbf{c} \times (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c})\right $                                  |

|       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|       | $= \frac{1}{2} \left  (1-k)\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b}-\mathbf{c}) + \frac{k}{2}(\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c} + \mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{c}) - \mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{c} \right $ $= \frac{1}{2} \left  (1-k)\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b}-\mathbf{c}) + \frac{k}{2}(\mathbf{0} - \mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c} - \mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c} - \mathbf{0}) + \mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c} + \mathbf{0} \right $ $= \frac{1}{2} \left  (1-k)\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b}-\mathbf{c}) + (1-k)(\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) \right $ $= \frac{ 1-k }{2}  \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c} - \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{c}  \text{ (shown)}$                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| (iii) |  <p>Since areas of triangle <math>CPB</math> and triangle <math>CQB</math> are equal, <math>CPQB</math> is a parallelogram.</p> <p>Given that <math>k = \frac{1}{2}</math>, <math>\overrightarrow{OP} = (1-k)\mathbf{a} + \frac{k}{2}(\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}) = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a} + \frac{1}{4}(\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c})</math></p> <p>Since <math>CPQB</math> is a parallelogram,<br/> <math>\overrightarrow{QC} = \overrightarrow{BP}</math><br/> <math>\overrightarrow{OC} - \overrightarrow{OQ} = \overrightarrow{OP} - \overrightarrow{OB}</math><br/> <math>\overrightarrow{OQ} = \overrightarrow{OB} + \overrightarrow{OC} - \overrightarrow{OP}</math><br/> <math display="block">= \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c} - \left[ \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a} + \frac{1}{4}(\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}) \right]</math><br/> <math display="block">= -0.5\mathbf{a} + 0.75(\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c})</math></p> |
| (iv)  | <p>Since <math> \overrightarrow{BC}  = 1</math>, <math> \overrightarrow{LP} \cdot \overrightarrow{BC} </math> is the length of projection of <math>\overrightarrow{LP}</math> onto <math>\overrightarrow{BC}</math>.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

- 11 With reference to the origin  $O$ , the points  $A$  and  $B$  have position vectors  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  respectively, where  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  are perpendicular. A point  $P$  lies on  $AB$  between  $A$  and  $B$  such that  $AP:PB = \lambda:1-\lambda$ ,  $0 < \lambda < 1$ .

(i) Show that  $\cos(\angle AOP) = \frac{(1-\lambda)|\mathbf{a}|}{|(1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{b}|}$ . [4]

(ii) Prove that  $[(1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{b}] \cdot [(1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{b}] = (1-\lambda)^2|\mathbf{a}|^2 + \lambda^2|\mathbf{b}|^2$ . Hence, given also that  $OP$  bisects  $\angle AOB$ , find the ratio of  $\frac{|\mathbf{a}|}{|\mathbf{b}|}$ , leaving your answer in terms of  $\lambda$ . [6]

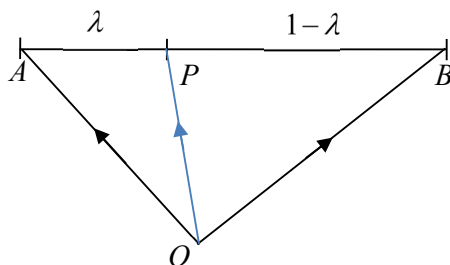
**SAJC Prelim 9758/2022/01/Q6**

**Solution:**

- (i) Given that  $P$  lies on  $AB$  between  $A$  and  $B$  such that  $AP:PB = \lambda:1-\lambda$ ,  $0 < \lambda < 1$ ,

by Ratio Theorem,

$$\begin{aligned}\overrightarrow{OP} &= \frac{(1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{b}}{1-\lambda + \lambda} \\ &= (1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{b}\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}\cos(\angle AOP) &= \frac{\overrightarrow{OA} \cdot \overrightarrow{OP}}{|\overrightarrow{OA}| |\overrightarrow{OP}|} \\ &= \frac{\mathbf{a} \cdot [(1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{b}]}{|\mathbf{a}| |(1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{b}|} \\ &= \frac{(1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}}{|\mathbf{a}| |(1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{b}|} \\ &= \frac{(1-\lambda)|\mathbf{a}|^2 + 0}{|\mathbf{a}| |(1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{b}|} \quad \text{since } \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = 0 \text{ as } \mathbf{a} \perp \mathbf{b} \\ &= \frac{(1-\lambda)|\mathbf{a}|}{|(1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{b}|} \quad (\text{shown})\end{aligned}$$

(ii) 
$$\begin{aligned}& [(1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{b}] \cdot [(1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{b}] \\ &= (1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} \cdot (1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} + (1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} \cdot \lambda\mathbf{b} + \lambda\mathbf{b} \cdot (1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{b} \cdot \lambda\mathbf{b} \\ &= (1-\lambda)^2|\mathbf{a}|^2 + \lambda(1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} + \lambda(1-\lambda)\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{a} + \lambda^2|\mathbf{b}|^2 \\ &= (1-\lambda)^2|\mathbf{a}|^2 + \lambda^2|\mathbf{b}|^2, \text{ since } \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = 0 \text{ given that } \mathbf{a} \perp \mathbf{b} \text{ (proven)}\end{aligned}$$

Given also that  $OP$  bisects  $\angle AOB$ ,  $\angle AOP = \frac{\pi}{4}$ .

$$\therefore \cos \frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{(1-\lambda)|\mathbf{a}|}{|(1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{b}|}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{(1-\lambda)|\mathbf{a}|}{|(1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{b}|}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{(1-\lambda)^2 |\mathbf{a}|^2}{|(1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{b}|^2}$$

$$= \frac{(1-\lambda)^2 |\mathbf{a}|^2}{[(1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{b}] \cdot [(1-\lambda)\mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{b}]}$$

$$= \frac{(1-\lambda)^2 |\mathbf{a}|^2}{(1-\lambda)^2 |\mathbf{a}|^2 + \lambda^2 |\mathbf{b}|^2}$$

$$(1-\lambda)^2 |\mathbf{a}|^2 + \lambda^2 |\mathbf{b}|^2 = 2(1-\lambda)^2 |\mathbf{a}|^2$$

$$\text{Hence } (1-\lambda)^2 |\mathbf{a}|^2 = \lambda^2 |\mathbf{b}|^2$$

$$\frac{|\mathbf{a}|^2}{|\mathbf{b}|^2} = \frac{\lambda^2}{(1-\lambda)^2}$$

$$\frac{|\mathbf{a}|}{|\mathbf{b}|} = \left| \frac{\lambda}{(1-\lambda)} \right|$$

$$\frac{|\mathbf{a}|}{|\mathbf{b}|} = \pm \frac{\lambda}{1-\lambda} = \frac{\lambda}{1-\lambda}, \text{ reject } -\frac{\lambda}{1-\lambda} \text{ since } 0 < \lambda < 1 \text{ and ratio of length is positive.}$$

- 12 Relative to the origin  $O$ , the position vectors of the points  $P$ ,  $Q$  and  $R$  are  $\mathbf{i}$ ,  $2\mathbf{j} - t\mathbf{k}$  and  $t\mathbf{k}$  respectively, where  $t$  is a fixed constant. The points  $A$  and  $B$  divide both line segments  $PQ$  and  $QR$  respectively in the same ratio of  $\mu : 1 - \mu$ , where  $\mu$  is a parameter such that  $0 < \mu < 1$ .

(i) Find the vector  $\overrightarrow{AB}$  in terms of  $t$  and  $\mu$ . [3]

(ii) Determine whether the points  $O$ ,  $A$ ,  $B$  are collinear. [1]

(iii) Find the values of  $\mu$  such that the length of projection of  $\overrightarrow{AB}$  onto  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  is  $\frac{1}{5}$  unit. [2]

(iv) Given that angle  $AOB$  is a right angle, find the set of possible values of  $t$ , justifying your answer clearly. [3]

**DHS Prelim 9758/2022/02/Q4**

**Solution:**

(i)

$$\overrightarrow{OA} = \frac{\mu \overrightarrow{OQ} + (1 - \mu) \overrightarrow{OP}}{\mu + (1 - \mu)} = \mu \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ -t \end{pmatrix} + (1 - \mu) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \mu \\ 2\mu \\ -t\mu \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\overrightarrow{OB} = \frac{\mu \overrightarrow{OR} + (1 - \mu) \overrightarrow{OQ}}{\mu + (1 - \mu)} = \mu \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ t \end{pmatrix} + (1 - \mu) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ -t \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 - 2\mu \\ -t + 2t\mu \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\therefore \overrightarrow{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 - 2\mu \\ -t + 2t\mu \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \mu \\ 2\mu \\ -t\mu \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu - 1 \\ 2 - 4\mu \\ -t + 3t\mu \end{pmatrix}$$

(ii) From (i),  $\overrightarrow{OA} \neq k \overrightarrow{OB}$ .  
 $\therefore$  the points  $O$ ,  $A$ ,  $B$  are not collinear.

(iii) Given that the length of projection of  $\overrightarrow{AB}$  onto  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  is  $\frac{1}{5}$  unit,

|      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|      | $\frac{\left  \overrightarrow{AB} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right }{\left  \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right } = \frac{1}{5}$ $\frac{\left  \begin{pmatrix} \mu-1 \\ 2-4\mu \\ -t+3t\mu \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right }{\sqrt{3^2+4^2}} = \frac{1}{5}$ $ 3\mu-3+8-16\mu =1$ $ -13\mu+5 =1$ $ 13\mu-5 =1$ $13\mu=1+5 \quad \text{or} \quad -1+5$ $\mu = \frac{4}{13} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{6}{13}$                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| (iv) | <p>If angle <math>AOB</math> is a right angle, then</p> $\overrightarrow{OA} \cdot \overrightarrow{OB} = 0$ $\begin{pmatrix} 1-\mu \\ 2\mu \\ -t\mu \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2-2\mu \\ -t+2t\mu \end{pmatrix} = 0$ $4\mu - 4\mu^2 + t^2\mu - 2t^2\mu^2 = 0$ $\mu = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad 4 - 4\mu + t^2 - 2t^2\mu = 0$ <p>(reject <math>\because 0 &lt; \mu &lt; 1</math>) <math>\mu = \frac{4+t^2}{4+2t^2}</math></p> <p>Clearly, <math>\frac{4+t^2}{4+2t^2} &gt; 0</math> since <math>4+t^2 &gt; 0</math> and <math>4+2t^2</math> for all <math>t \in \mathbb{R}</math>.</p> <p>Since <math>0 &lt; \mu &lt; 1</math>,</p> $\frac{4+t^2}{4+2t^2} < 1$ $4+t^2 < 4+2t^2$ $t^2 > 0$ <p>Hence <math>t \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}</math></p> |