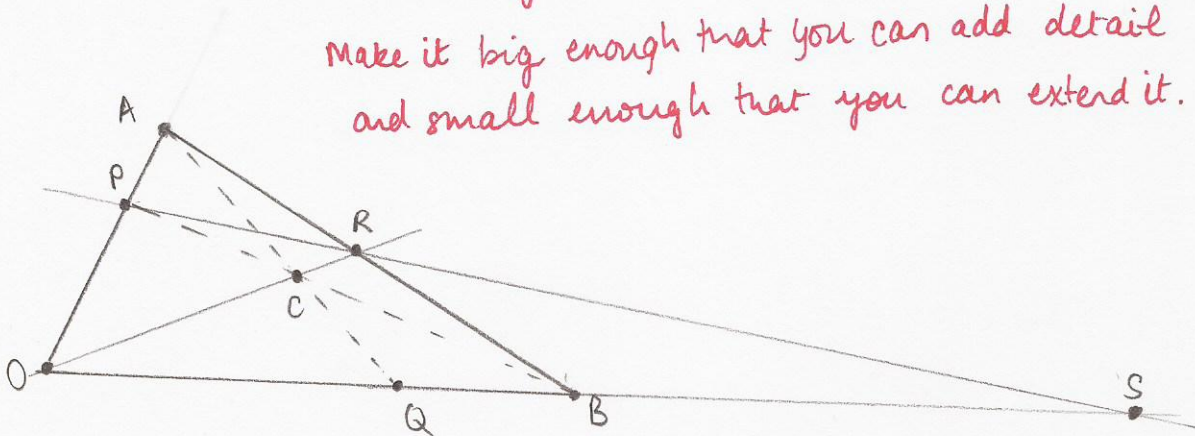


Draw a diagram!!!

Make it big enough that you can add detail inside later,
and small enough that you can extend it.



$$\vec{OA} = \underline{a}, \quad \vec{OB} = \underline{b}.$$

We have P at the intersection of OA and BC. ← Alternatively we could show that P has the correct form to satisfy equations for the lines OA and BC.

$$P \text{ lies on } OA \Rightarrow p = \mu \underline{a}$$

$$P \text{ lies on } BC \Rightarrow p = \underline{b} + \lambda(\underline{c} - \underline{b}) \\ = \underline{b} + \lambda(\alpha \underline{a} + (\beta - 1)\underline{b}).$$

$$\text{so } \mu \underline{a} = \underline{b} + \lambda(\alpha \underline{a} + (\beta - 1)\underline{b}).$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu = \lambda \alpha \quad \text{and} \quad 1 + \lambda(\beta - 1) = 0. \quad (\text{by comparing coefficients of } \underline{a} \text{ and } \underline{b}). \\ \Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{1}{1 - \beta}.$$

$$\text{so } \mu = \frac{\alpha}{1 - \beta}$$

$$\text{and } p = \frac{\alpha \underline{a}}{1 - \beta}.$$

Likewise, Q at intersection of OB and AC.

$$Q \text{ lies on } OB \Rightarrow q = \mu \underline{b}.$$

$$Q \text{ lies on } AC \Rightarrow q = \underline{a} + \lambda(\underline{c} - \underline{a}) \\ = \underline{a} + \lambda((\alpha - 1)\underline{a} + \beta \underline{b}).$$

$$\text{so } \mu \underline{b} = \underline{a} + \lambda((\alpha - 1)\underline{a} + \beta \underline{b}). \\ \Rightarrow \mu = \lambda \beta, \quad 1 + \lambda(\alpha - 1) = 0.$$

$$\text{so } \lambda = \frac{1}{1-\alpha}$$

$$\text{so } \mu = \frac{\beta}{1-\alpha}$$

$$\text{so } \underline{r} = \frac{\beta \underline{b}}{1-\alpha}$$

Now show that $\underline{r} = \frac{\alpha \underline{a} + \beta \underline{b}}{\alpha + \beta}$ lies on OC and AB. ← Alternatively we could find the intersection of OC and AB and show that it is at R.

First, $\underline{r} = \frac{1}{\alpha + \beta} \cdot \underline{c}$ so R lies on OC.

$$\text{Now on AB, } \underline{x} = \underline{a} + \lambda(\underline{b} - \underline{a})$$

$$\underline{x} = (1-\lambda)\underline{a} + \lambda\underline{b}$$

$$\text{set } \lambda = \frac{\beta}{\alpha + \beta} \quad \text{so } 1-\lambda = \frac{\alpha + \beta - \beta}{\alpha + \beta} = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha + \beta}$$

so \underline{r} satisfies $\underline{r} = (1-\lambda)\underline{a} + \lambda\underline{b}$ when $\lambda = \beta/\alpha + \beta$.

so \underline{r} lies on AB.

Lines OB and PR intersect at S.

Write \underline{s} for position vector of S. ← Although obvious, this is worth saying since they haven't defined the notation in the question.

S lies on OB so $\underline{s} = \mu \underline{b}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Equation of PR: } \underline{x} &= \underline{p} + \lambda(\underline{r} - \underline{p}) \\ &= \frac{\alpha \underline{a}}{1-\beta} + \lambda \left(\frac{\alpha \underline{a} + \beta \underline{b}}{\alpha + \beta} - \frac{\alpha \underline{a}}{1-\beta} \right). \end{aligned}$$

S lies on PR so

$$\mu \underline{b} = \frac{\alpha \underline{a}}{1-\beta} + \lambda \left(\frac{\alpha \underline{a}}{\alpha + \beta} - \frac{\alpha \underline{a}}{1-\beta} + \frac{\beta \underline{b}}{\alpha + \beta} \right).$$

$$\text{so } \frac{\alpha}{1-\beta} + \lambda \left(\frac{\alpha}{\alpha + \beta} - \frac{\alpha}{1-\beta} \right) = 0, \quad \mu = \frac{\beta \lambda}{\alpha + \beta}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\alpha}{1-\beta} + \lambda \left(\frac{\alpha - 2\alpha\beta - \alpha^2}{(\alpha + \beta)(1-\beta)} \right) = 0.$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{\alpha + \beta}{1 - 2\beta - \alpha} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mu = \frac{\beta}{1 - 2\beta - \alpha}$$

$$\text{so } \underline{s} = \frac{\beta \underline{b}}{1-2\beta-\alpha}$$

write $|\underline{a}| = a$, $|\underline{b}| = b$. \leftarrow Again, worth saying although obvious.

$$\text{Now } \vec{OQ} = \frac{\beta \underline{b}}{1-\alpha}$$

$$\text{so } OQ = \frac{\beta b}{1-\alpha}$$

and $BQ = b - \frac{\beta b}{1-\alpha}$ \leftarrow B and Q collinear, the diagram is a good reminder!

$$= \frac{(1-\alpha-\beta)b}{1-\alpha}$$

$$\text{so } \frac{OQ}{BQ} = \frac{\beta b}{1-\alpha} \cdot \frac{1-\alpha}{(1-\alpha-\beta)b}$$

$$= \frac{\beta}{1-\alpha-\beta}$$

And $OS = \frac{\beta b}{|1-2\beta-\alpha|}$ \leftarrow be careful, there is no reason why we should not have $2\beta+\alpha > 1$.

and $BS = \left| \frac{\beta b}{1-2\beta-\alpha} - b \right|$ (Although this cancels out. But that's not the point!).

$$= \frac{|\beta+\alpha-1| b}{|1-2\beta-\alpha|}$$

$$= \frac{(1-\beta-\alpha)b}{|1-2\beta-\alpha|}$$

$$\text{so } \frac{OS}{BS} = \frac{\beta b}{|1-2\beta-\alpha|} \cdot \frac{|1-2\beta-\alpha|}{(1-\beta-\alpha)b}$$

$$= \frac{\beta}{1-\alpha-\beta}$$

$$\text{so } \frac{OQ}{BQ} = \frac{OS}{BS}$$