

STEP II, 2015, Q8 EC

Question 8

This was one of the least attempted questions on the paper and the average score for the question was quite low. However, there were a number of very good answers to the question. Part (i) was answered correctly by the majority of candidates, but part (ii) was approached in a much more complicated manner than necessary by many candidates, attempting to work out the equation of the line rather than comparing vectors in its direction. Where the vectors were considered, solutions could have been made clearer by better grouping of the terms. A number of solutions referred to division of vectors rather than comparing coefficients. In the final part some candidates did not identify the simplest relationship between the vectors to ensure that Q lies halfway between P and R. Generally, more complicated relationships did not lead to correct solutions to this part of the question.



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