

## STEP II, 2018, Q7 EC

This was an unpopular question among the pure questions, with slightly less than two fifths of the candidates attempting it. Many of the responses did not progress far through the problem, although there were some excellent solutions seen. As a result, attempts at this question generally received either very few or most of the marks.

A range of different methods were used, such as consideration of ratios of areas, or parallel lines to the diagram and the use of similar triangles.

The most common difficulties arose from candidates not recognising that  $m$  was parallel to  $a$  and  $n$  was parallel to  $b$ .



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