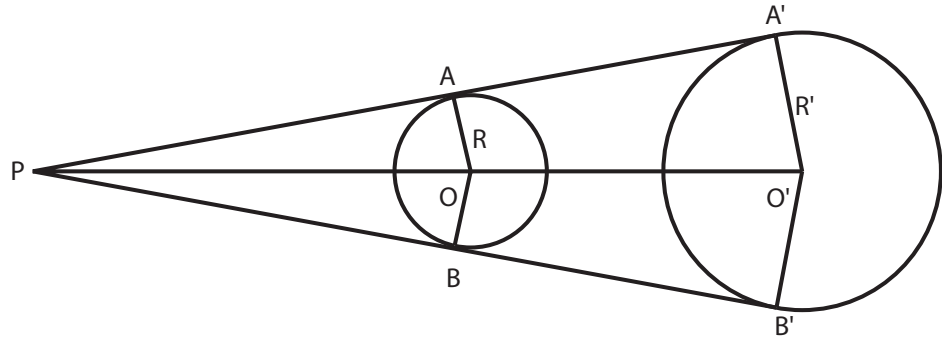


Problem
211

by Benjamin Bloch, Ph.D.



Given:

PA' and PB' are tangent to the circles of radii R and R', respectively

PO' intersects the circle centers O and O'

PO = d, PO' = d'

OA = R and O'A' = R'

Show that:

1. triangles POA and POB are congruent,
2. angles APO and BPO are equal
3. $R/R' = d/d'$

If $R = 1.738 \times 10(6)$ meters. $R' = 6.960 \times 10(8)$ meters,
 $d = 3.844 \times 10(8)$ and $d' = 1.496 \times 10(11)$ meters

4. Do these values satisfy $Rd' = R'd$?
5. Can you think of a real situation for these numbers to apply?
6. What value, d^* , must d become to make $R/R' = d^*/d'$?
7. Determine angle A'PB'
8. Determine angle APB
9. If d were to decrease at the rate of $3.8 \times 10(-2)$ meters per year, how many years would it take for d to have the value of d^* ? What physical significance does this time have?