

**Problem statement** A thin plate (lamina) of uniform density  $\rho$  covers the portion of the  $xy$  plane lying in the first quadrant and between two circles centered at the origin. The inner circle has radius  $a$  and the outer,  $b$ . The coordinates of points covered by this plate satisfy  $x, y \geq 0$  and  $a^2 \leq x^2 + y^2 \leq b^2$  as shown.

a) Find the coordinates  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  of the center of mass  $P$  of this plate. (How can symmetry simplify this problem?)

b) Suppose now that  $b = 1$ . From your answer in a) determine for what values of  $a$  the center of mass  $P$  lies inside the area covered by the plate (as shown in the figure).

