

4092. *Proposed by Mihaela Berindeanu.*

Show that

$$\left[\frac{a^2 + 16a + 80}{16(a+4)} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{2(b^2 + 16)}} \right] \left[\frac{b^2 + 16b + 80}{16(b+4)} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{2(a^2 + 16)}} \right] \geq \frac{9}{4}$$

for all $a, b > 0$. When does equality hold?

We received ten correct submissions. We present two solutions.

Solution 1, by Arkady Alt.

Since

$$\frac{a^2 + 16a + 80}{16(a+4)} = 1 + \frac{a^2 + 4^2}{16(a+4)},$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{a^2 + 16a + 80}{16(a+4)} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{2(b^2 + 16)}} \right) \left(\frac{b^2 + 16b + 80}{16(b+4)} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{2(a^2 + 16)}} \right) \\ &= \left(1 + \frac{a^2 + 4^2}{16(a+4)} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{2(b^2 + 4^2)}} \right) \left(1 + \frac{b^2 + 4^2}{16(b+4)} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{2(a^2 + 4^2)}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

and, combining Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality and inequality $\sqrt{2(u^2 + v^2)} \geq u + v$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(1 + \frac{a^2 + 4^2}{16(a+4)} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{2(b^2 + 4^2)}} \right) \left(1 + \frac{2}{\sqrt{2(a^2 + 4^2)}} + \frac{b^2 + 4^2}{16(b+4)} \right) \\ & \geq \left(1 \cdot 1 + \sqrt{\frac{a^2 + 4^2}{16(a+4)}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{2}{\sqrt{2(a^2 + 4^2)}}} + \sqrt{\frac{2}{\sqrt{2(b^2 + 4^2)}}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{b^2 + 4^2}{16(b+4)}} \right)^2 \\ &= \left(1 + \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{\sqrt{2(a^2 + 4^2)}}{a+4}} + \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{\sqrt{2(b^2 + 4^2)}}{b+4}} \right)^2 \\ & \geq \left(1 + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} \right)^2 = \frac{9}{4}. \end{aligned}$$

Since in inequality $\sqrt{2(u^2 + v^2)} \geq u + v$ equality occurs if and only if $u = v$, it is easy to see that the equality holds if and only if $a = b = 4$.

Solution 2, by AN-anduud Problem Solving Group.

Using AM-GM inequality, we get

$$\sqrt{2(b^2 + 16)} = \sqrt{8 \cdot \frac{b^2 + 16}{4}} \leq \frac{1}{2} \left(8 + \frac{b^2 + 16}{4} \right) = \frac{b^2 + 48}{8}. \quad (1)$$

Applying AM-GM inequality and using (1), we have