

Fourth solution. Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{x^2}{a} + \frac{y^2}{b}\right) \sqrt{\frac{\frac{b^2}{x^2} + \frac{a^2}{y^2}}{2}} &\geq \sqrt{2(x^2 + y^2)} \iff \\ \iff \left(\frac{x^2}{a} + \frac{y^2}{b}\right)^2 \left(\frac{b^2}{x^2} + \frac{a^2}{y^2}\right) &\geq 4(x^2 + y^2) \iff \end{aligned}$$

and we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{x^2}{a} + \frac{y^2}{b}\right)^2 \left(\frac{b^2}{x^2} + \frac{a^2}{y^2}\right) &= \left(\frac{x^4}{a^2} + \frac{y^4}{b^2} + \frac{2x^2y^2}{ab}\right) \left(\frac{b^2}{x^2} + \frac{a^2}{y^2}\right) = \\ &= \left(\frac{y^4}{x^2} + \frac{x^4}{y^2}\right) + \left(\frac{b^2x^2}{a^2} + \frac{2ax^2}{b}\right) + \left(\frac{a^2y^2}{b^2} + \frac{2by^2}{a}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Since $\frac{u^2}{v} \geq 2u - v$ for any real u and any positive real v then

$$\frac{y^4}{x^2} + \frac{x^4}{y^2} \geq (2x^2 - y^2) + (2y^2 - x^2) = x^2 + y^2.$$

or, by Cauchy Inequality

$$\begin{aligned} (x^2 + y^2) \left(\frac{y^4}{x^2} + \frac{x^4}{y^2}\right) &\geq \left(x \cdot \frac{y^2}{x} + y \cdot \frac{x^2}{y}\right)^2 \iff \\ \iff \frac{y^4}{x^2} + \frac{x^4}{y^2} &\geq \frac{(x^2 + y^2)^2}{x^2 + y^2} = x^2 + y^2 \end{aligned}$$

Also by AM-GM Inequality

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{b^2x^2}{a^2} + \frac{2ax^2}{b} &= x^2 \left(\frac{b^2}{a^2} + \frac{2a}{b}\right) \geq x^2 \cdot 3\sqrt[3]{\frac{b^2}{a^2} \cdot \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^2} = 3x^2, \\ \frac{a^2y^2}{b^2} + \frac{2by^2}{a} &\geq 3y^2. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\left(\frac{x^2}{a} + \frac{y^2}{b}\right)^2 \left(\frac{b^2}{x^2} + \frac{a^2}{y^2}\right) \geq (x^2 + y^2) + 3x^2 + 3y^2.$$