

PP36672. Proposed by Mihaly Bencze.

If $a, b > 0$ then

$$\frac{a^2 + 16ab + 80b^2}{16(a + 4b)} + \frac{b^2 + 16ab + 80a^2}{16(b + 4a)} + \sqrt{2} \left(\frac{a^2}{\sqrt{b^2 + 16a^2}} + \frac{b^2}{\sqrt{a^2 + 16b^2}} \right) \geq \frac{3(a + b)}{2}.$$

Solution by Arkady Alt, San Jose, California, USA.

First we will prove that for any $x, y > 0$ holds inequality

$$(1) \quad \frac{x^2 + 16xy + 80y^2}{16(x + 4y)} + \frac{\sqrt{2}y^2}{\sqrt{x^2 + 16y^2}} \geq \frac{3y}{2}.$$

Proof.

Since $x + 4y \leq \sqrt{2(x^2 + 16y^2)} \Leftrightarrow (x - 4y)^2 \geq 0$ then $\frac{x^2 + 16xy + 80y^2}{16(x + 4y)} =$

$$\frac{x^2 + 16y^2}{16(x + 4y)} + y \geq \frac{x^2 + 16y^2}{16\sqrt{2(x^2 + 16y^2)}} + y = \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + 16y^2}}{16\sqrt{2}} + y \text{ and, therefore,}$$

by AM-GM Inequality

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{x^2 + 16xy + 80y^2}{16(x + 4y)} + \frac{\sqrt{2}y^2}{\sqrt{x^2 + 16y^2}} &\geq \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + 16y^2}}{16\sqrt{2}} + \frac{\sqrt{2}y^2}{\sqrt{x^2 + 16y^2}} + y \geq \\ 2\sqrt{\frac{\sqrt{x^2 + 16y^2}}{16\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{2}y^2}{\sqrt{x^2 + 16y^2}}} + y &= 2\sqrt{\frac{y^2}{16}} + y = \frac{y}{2} + y = \frac{3y}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Applying (1) to $(x, y) = (a, b)$ and $(x, y) = (b, a)$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a^2 + 16ab + 80b^2}{16(a + 4b)} + \frac{b^2 + 16ab + 80a^2}{16(b + 4a)} + \sqrt{2} \left(\frac{a^2}{\sqrt{b^2 + 16a^2}} + \frac{b^2}{\sqrt{a^2 + 16b^2}} \right) &= \\ \left(\frac{a^2 + 16ab + 80b^2}{16(a + 4b)} + \frac{\sqrt{2}b^2}{\sqrt{a^2 + 16b^2}} \right) + \left(\frac{b^2 + 16ab + 80a^2}{16(b + 4a)} + \frac{\sqrt{2}a^2}{\sqrt{b^2 + 16a^2}} \right) &\geq \\ \frac{3b}{2} + \frac{3b}{2} = \frac{3(a + b)}{2}. \end{aligned}$$