

**Problema J109.** Let  $a, b, c$  be positive real numbers. Prove that

$$\frac{(a+b)^2}{c} + \frac{c^2}{a} \geq 4b$$

*Proposed by Titu Andreescu, University of Texas at Dallas, USA*

*Solution by Ercole Suppa, Teramo, Italy*

The proposed inequality follows from:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{(a+b)^2}{c} + \frac{c^2}{a} - 4b = \\ &= \frac{a^3 + 2a^2b + ab^2 + c^3 - 4abc}{ac} = \\ &= \frac{a[b^2 + 2(a-2c)b + a^2] + c^3}{ac} = \\ &= \frac{a[b^2 + 2(a-2c)b + (a-2c)^2 - (a-2c)^2 + a^2] + c^3}{ac} = \\ &= \frac{a[(b+a-2c)^2 + 4ac - 4c^2] + c^3}{ac} = \\ &= \frac{a(a+b-2c)^2 + 4a^2c - 4ac^2 + c^3}{ac} = \\ &= \frac{a(a+b-2c)^2 + c(4a^2 - 4ac + c^2)}{ac} = \\ &= \frac{(a+b-2c)^2}{c} + \frac{(2a-c)^2}{a} \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

The equality holds if and only if  $a+b=2c$ ,  $c=2a$  that is if and only if  $(a, b, c) = (k, 3k, 2k)$  for some real positive number  $k$ .  $\square$