

13. (a) Prove that for all positive values of a and b

$$\frac{4a}{b} + \frac{b}{a} \geq 4 \quad (4)$$

(b) Prove, by counter example, that this is not true for all values of a and b .

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(1)

(a) Suppose truth (if not true then an error will show)

$$\text{If } \frac{4a}{b} + \frac{b}{a} > 4$$

$$\frac{4a^2 + b^2}{ab} > 4$$

a & b are +ve so ab is +ve so we can multiply by ab without worrying about the direction of the greater sign

$$4a^2 + b^2 > 4ab$$

$$\text{or } 4a^2 - 4ab + b^2 > 0$$

$$(2a - b)^2 > 0$$

This is always true as $(2a - b)^2$ is positive or zero

Hence the original proposition is true.

(b) It will not be true if a or b is -ve

e.g. $a = 1$ $b = -1$

$$\frac{4}{-1} + \frac{-1}{1} = -5 \text{ which is not greater than 4}$$