

**Answer on Question #46068 – Math – Algebra**

**Given  $a, b > 0$  such that  $ab = 18$ , check whether their sum is greatest when  $a = b$**

**Solution.**

If  $a$  and  $b$  are equal, then their values are  $3\sqrt{2}$  and their sum  $a + b = 6\sqrt{2}$ .

Consider example . Let  $a = 6, b = 3$  . Evidently  $a > 0, b > 0, ab = 18$ , but  $a + b = 6 + 3 = 9 > 6\sqrt{2}$

So, the

**Answer** : The sum is not the greatest when  $a = b$  .