

# ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If  $a, b, c > 0$ ,  $a + b + c = 3$ ,  $\lambda \geq 0$  then:

$$\frac{a^3}{a^2 + \lambda ab + b^2} + \frac{b^3}{b^2 + \lambda bc + c^2} + \frac{c^3}{c^2 + \lambda ca + a^2} \geq \frac{3}{\lambda + 2}$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$\frac{a^3}{a^2 + \lambda ab + b^2} = a - \frac{a(\lambda ab + b^2)}{a^2 + \lambda ab + b^2} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} a - \frac{ab(\lambda a + b)}{2ab + \lambda ab} = a - \frac{\lambda a + b}{\lambda + 2}$$

$$\frac{a^3}{a^2 + \lambda ab + b^2} + \frac{b^3}{b^2 + \lambda bc + c^2} + \frac{c^3}{c^2 + \lambda ca + a^2} \geq$$

$$\geq \sum \left[ a - \frac{\lambda a + b}{\lambda + 2} \right] = \sum a - \frac{(\lambda + 1)(a + b + c)}{\lambda + 2} =$$

$$= 3 - \frac{3\lambda + 3}{\lambda + 2} \left( \text{as } \sum a = 3 \right) = \frac{3}{\lambda + 2}$$

*Equality for  $a = b = c = 1$ .*