

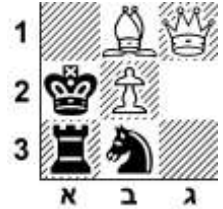
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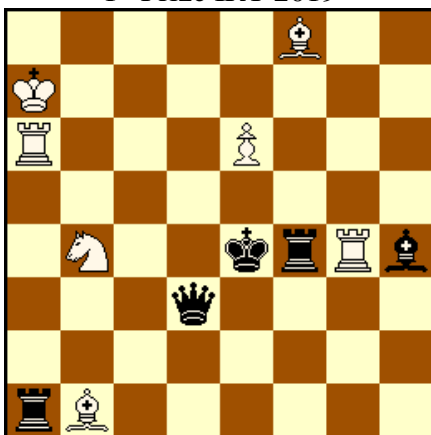
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Jean Haymann

1st Prize IRT 2019



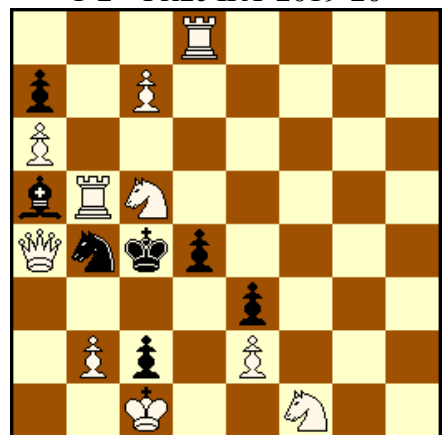
H#2

b) ♖b4→d8

7+5

Mark Erenburg

1-2nd Prize IRT 2019-20



S#3

10+7

The Bright Stars of Alexander Zhukov – Gady Costeff

Alexander Zhukov publishes his studies mostly on Facebook, outside of the traditional problem magazines. As a result, some readers may miss out, so this column is my attempt to correct matters. When we look at a star, it is reduced to a tiny fraction of its size. This gives a bright and beautiful dot in the sky but loses enormous detail. We can do the same to a study, by choosing its most attractive element. We will lose detail, but the single bright point will shine bright.

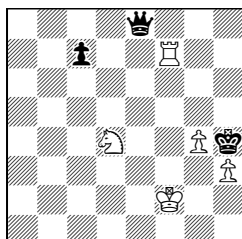
This reduction technique works well for studies in which there is one key position that is easy to understand and is a natural highlight. This describes almost every Zhukov study, which makes his work so appealing to every level of player.

In fact, Zhukov has adopted this technique himself in the following two videos:

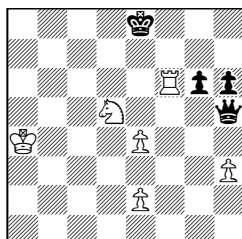
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3LyB6a5yKn8>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9gmyNrUyIKc&t=6s>

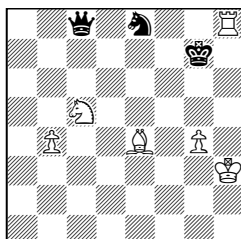
Below are sixteen bright stars by Zhukov. The reward for finding a single move is wonderful.



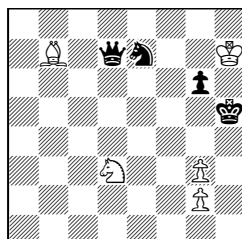
10. ♖f8!! ♜xf8 11. ♖g2



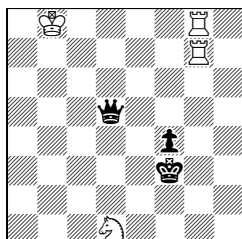
2. ♖f8+!! ♜xf8 3. ♖f4



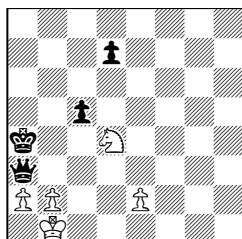
4. ♖f8!! ♜xf8 5. ♖b7



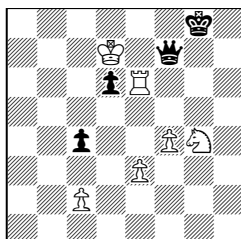
1. ♖c5!!



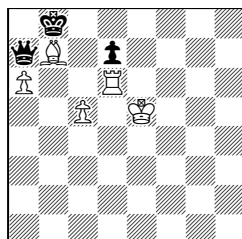
4. ♖g3+!! ♜fxg3 5. ♖f8+



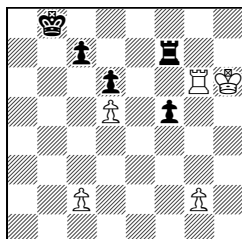
3. ♖b3+!! ♜a5 4. ♖c2



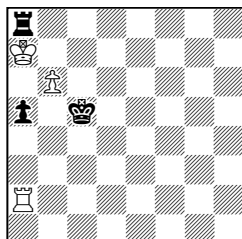
3. ♜d8!! ♜xe6 4. ♖f5



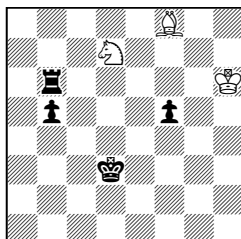
1. ♖c6!!



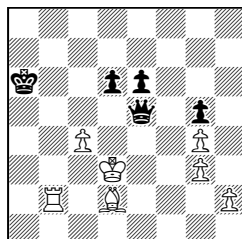
5. ♖f6!! ♜xf6 6. ♜g7



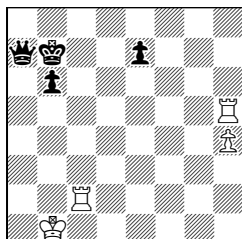
7. ♜b7!! ♜b5 8. ♖b2+



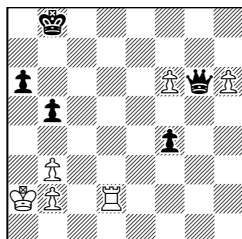
3. ♜g5!!



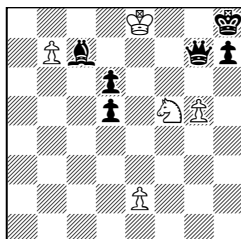
6. ♖b6+!! ♜xb6 7. ♖c3



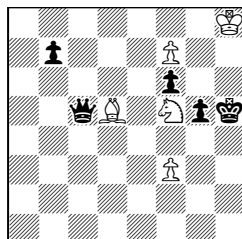
2. ♖hc5!! ♜bxc5 3. ♖a2



2. ♖g2!! ♜f7 3. ♖g7
♜xf6 4. ♖g8+



5. ♖h6!! ♜b2 6. ♜f8
draw



1. ♖f8+!! ♜xf8+ 2. ♜h7
b6 3. ♖c4! b5 4. ♖b3 b4
5. ♖d5

Israel Ring Tourney: Studies 2020

Judge: Amatzia Avni, Israel, December 2020

I received 21 studies of average quality from director Gady Costeff, who also checked for anticipations. In the participants' list, two names stood out: a sensational reappearance of Yehuda Hoch, after an absence of a quarter of a century; and the debut of a new 14-years old Israeli composer, Itay Richardson (pronounced *Rihardson*). The two are connected, as Itay is the grandson of Yehuda, and they also joined forces to compose one study. The lad inherited excellent composition genes and it is to be hoped that in time, he will fulfill his promise.

13 studies appear in the award. The unawarded studies were either too simple, or not interesting enough, or anticipated. In one case a study was left out of the award because it was pure computer work, with no evidence of human involvement.

1st Prize: Var. 3441 Steffen Nielsen & Martin Minski

An enjoyable piece, combining Phoenix, minor promotion, point (5.Be5) and a model mate, in a natural, flowing manner.

1.♠g3! 1.b7 ♖e3+ 2.♗xe3 ♜xa2+ +- **1...♜xg3** **2.b7 ♗f4** 2...♖e3+ 3.♗d4 +- **3.♜xh2 ♜xc3!** **4.♜e2+** 4.♗xc3? ♗xh2 = **4...♜e3** **5.♗e5!!** the point **5...♜a3+** (5...♗xe5 6.♜xe3 +- 5...♜xe5 6.b8=Q+ +- 5...♜xe2 6.b8=Q+ +- **6.♜b6 ♗d7** **7.b8=♗+ !** Phoenix 7.b8=Q? ♜b3+ = **7...♜c8** 7...♗d8 8.♗f6+ **8.♗xf4 gxf4** 8...♜b3+ 9.♜c6 **9.♜e8** model mate.

2nd Prize: Var. 3388 Pavel Arestov & Petr Kiryakov

During a battle of white to achieve a draw, either by fortress, stalemate with an h-pawn, or a positional draw, the WK travels from one corner to another, while offering black a gift of a piece or two. The work leaves a positive impression, both in content and structure.

1.♜b7! 1.h7 ♜xc3 1.♗f6 ♜b6 **1...♜xe2!** 1...♜xh6 2.♗e7 with 3.♗b4 fortress; 1...♜xc3 2.♗d5! ♜c5 (2...♗d4 3.♜c6 ♜c4+ 4.♗d6) 3.e4! **2.♜c6!** 2.h7 ♜b2+ 3.♜c8 ♜xc3 **2...♜c4+** **3.♗d7!** ♗d3+! 3...♜xc3 4.♗g5 ♜e5 5.♗e6 **4.♜e7!** 4.♜e8? ♗d6! 5.♗f7 ♜xd8 **4...♜xc3** **5.♗f7!** ♗d2 5...♜h8 6.♗g5 ♜h7+ 7.♗f6 ♜xc7 8.♜g6 **6.h7!** 6.♜g6 ♗d3+! 7.♜g7 ♜xd8 8.h7 ♜g5+ 9.♗f7 ♜h6 10.♜g8 ♜g6+ 11.♜h8 ♜f7 **6...♜h6** **7.♜g8 ♜g6+** **8.♜h8** white king travelled a8->h8 **8...♜c2** **9.♗e6!** with 2 lines
A) **9...♜c3** **10.♗f6+!** 10.♗e7 ♜c4 11.♗f6 ♜f7 12.♗e7 ♗d5 **10...♜c4** **11.♗e7 ♜f7** 11...♜xe6 12.♜g7! ♜xe7+ 13.♜g8 **12.♗g5 ♜g6** **13.♗e6!** positional draw.

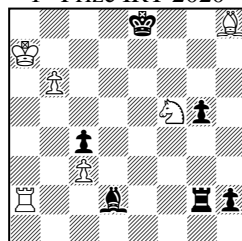
B) **9...♜f7** **10.♗f6!** ♗d2 10...♗d3 11.♗e7 ♜c4 12.♗g5! see line A **11.♗g7 ♜e3** 11...♗d3 12.♗h6 ♜c4 13.♗g5 **12.♗f8** 12.♗h6+? ♗d3 13.♗f8 ♜c4 **12...♜f2** **13.♗d6!** ♜xe6 13...♜g2 14.♗e5 ♜h3 15.♗g5+) **14.♜g7** 1/2-1/2

Special Prize: Var. 3390 Steffen Nielsen

A long journey of WK to find haven from perpetual check, was observed in the past. The fine point here is an exact 3rd move, which uniqueness is revealed only at the end of the solution.

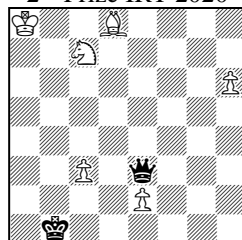
1...♗f3+ **2.♜f1** 2.♜g2? ♜g5+ perpetual **2...♜a1+** Now white has three choices: 3. ♜g2 or 3.♜b1 or 3.♜c1. **3.♜b1!!** Try: 3.♜g2? ♜g1+ 4.♜h3 ♗g5+ 5.♜h4 ♗f3+ 6.♜h5 ♜h1+ 7.♜g4 ♜g1+ 8.♜f5 ♜g5+ 9.♜f6 ♜g6+ 10.♜xf7 ♗e5+ 11.♜f8 ♗d7+ 12.♜e8 ♗e5 13.♗b6+ ♜e2 14.♜d8 ♜d6+ 15.♜c7 (?) (15.♜e8 =) 15...♗d7# The rook on b8 blocks the escape of the White king.
Correction try: 3.♜c1 ♜xc1+ 4.♜g2 ♜g1+ 5.♜h3 ♜h1+ 6.♜g4 ♜g1+ 7.♜f5 ♜g5+ 8.♜f6 ♜g6+ 9.♜xf7 ♗e5+ 10.♜f8 ♗d7+ 11.♜e8 ♗e5 12.♗b6+ ♜e2 (12...♜f4 13.♜d8 d2 14.♗e3+ ♜xe3 15.♜b1) 13.♜d8? (13.♜f8 =) 13...d2! +- 14. ♜b2 is not possible, because the bishop is on b6. 13...♗d6+? 14.♜c8 Unblock of c8. The point of 3...♜c1!? or 14.♜c7 ♜d7+ 15.♜c8

Steffen S. Nielsen Martin Minski 1st Prize IRT 2020



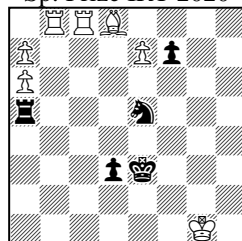
Win 6+6

Pavel Arestov Petr Kiryakov 2nd Prize IRT 2020



Draw 6+2

Steffen S. Nielsen Sp. Prize IRT 2020



Win Btm 7+5

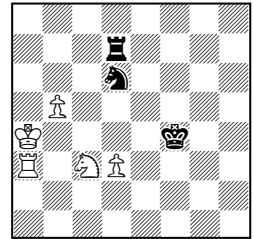
3...**♖xb1**+ 4.**♗g2 ♖g1**+ 5.**♗h3 ♗g5**+ 5...**♖h1**+ 6.**♗g4 ♖g1**+ 7.**♗f5** transfers to the mainline 6.**♗h4 ♗f3**+ 7.**♗h5 ♖h1**+! or 7...**♖g5**+ 8.**♗h6 ♖g6**+ 9.**♗h7 ♗g5**+ 10.**♗h8 ♖h6**+ 11.**♗g7 ♖g6**+ 12.**♗f8** +- 8.**♗g4 ♖g1**+ 9.**♗f5 ♖g5**+ 10.**♗f6 ♖g6**+ 11.**♗xf7 ♗e5**+ 12.**♗f8 ♗d7**+ 12...**♖f6**+ 13.**♗g8 ♖g6**+ 14.**♗h7** +- 13.**♗e8 ♗e5**! Finally White has some breathing space. 14.**♗b6**+ **♗e2** 14...**♗f4** 15.**♖c4**+ **♗f5** 16.**♗d8** +- 15.**♗d8 ♖d6**+ 15...**d2**? 16.**♖c2**! +- The point of 3. **♖b1**! in comparison to 3. **♖c1**!? 16.**♗c7 ♖d7**+ 17.**♗b8** +- Unblock of b8. The other point of 3. **♖b1**! 1-0

1st Honorable Mention: Var. 3389 Janos Mikitovics

Simple, yet very precise play. A neat knight sacrifice paves the way to victory.

1.**♗b4**! (1.b6? **♗c8**! 2.**♗d5**+ **♖xd5** 3.b7 **♗b6**+ 4.**♗b4 ♗d7**! = (4...**♖d8**? 5.**♖a6**!! **♗d7** 6.**♖d6** +-)) 1...**♗e3 2.b6**! (2...**♗c5**? **♗xb5**! =) 2...**♗c8**!
 3.**♗d5**+!! **♖xd5** 3...**♗d4** 4.**♖a8**! **♗xb6** 5.**♗xb6 ♖d6** 6.**♗c4**! **♖h6** 7.**♖d8**+ **♖d6** 8.**♖xd6**# 4.b7 **♗e7 5.♖a6**!! 5.b8=Q? **♗c6**+ = 5.**♖c3**? **♖d8** = 5...**♖d4**+ 6.**♗b3** or 6.**♗c3** 6.**♗b5**? **♖d5**+ 7.**♗b6 ♖d6**+ 8.**♗b5 ♖d5**+ 9.**♗b4 ♖d4**+ 10.**♗b3** loss of time 6...**♖xd3**+ 7.**♗b2** or 7.**♗c2 7...♖d8**! 8.**♖a8**! 8.**♖e6**+? **♗d4**! = 8...**♖d2**+ 9.**♗c1**!! Thematic try 9.**♗c3**? **♖d3**!+ 10.**♗c2** (10.**♗c4 ♖d4**+ 11.**♗c5 ♖d5**+ 12.**♗b6 ♖d6**+ 13.**♗c7 ♖c6**+ 14.**♗d7 ♖b6** =) 10...**♗c6** 11.**♖e8**+ **♗d4** 12.**♖d8**+ **♗xd8** 13.b8=♗ **♗e4**!! 14.**♗b4**+ **♖d4** 15.**♗e7**+ **♗f5**! 16.**♗c5**+ **♗e4** 17.**♗e7**+ **♗f5** positional draw. 9...**♗c6** 10.**♖e8**+! **♗d3** 11.**♖d8**+ +- 1-0

János Mikitovics
1st HM IRT 2020



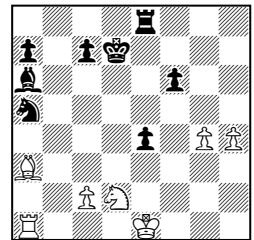
Win 5+3

2nd Honorable Mention: Var. 3444 Sergiy Didukh

An amusing concept – white withdraws his pieces only to re-develop them immediately. It resembles Costeff's Ke1/h8 sp. Prize in Humor ty 2004. One would like to see a final withdrawal to the first rank, as suggested by the composer, but this line is not unique. The author is a chess blogger, who occasionally tries his hand in composing.

1.**♗c1**! 1.O-O-O? **♗c8** = 1.**♗c5**? e3 2.**♗b1** **♗b7**! = 1.**♗b2**? e3 2.**♖xa5** **exd2**+ 3.**♗xd2 ♖e2**+ 4.**♗d1 ♗c4** 5.**♗xf6 ♖e4** = 1...**e3 2.♗b1**! 2.**♗f3**? **♗b7**! = 2...**♖e5** Black can try a sacrifice 2...**♗c6** with the idea to profit from White's intentional underdevelopment 3.**♖xa6 ♗d4** 4.**♗xf6 ♗xc2**+ 5.**♗e2 ♗d4**+ 6.**♗d3** e2 7.**♗d2** e1=Q 8.**♗xe1 ♖xe1** 9.**♗xd4 ♖xb1** 10.**♗e3 ♖e1**+ 11.**♗f2** +- 3.**♗b2 ♖b5** Another attempt to drop a piece 3...**♖c5** 4.**♗c3**! f5! forces White to find several precise moves: 5.**♖xa5 ♖xa5** 6.**♗xa5 f4** 7.**♗a3**! **♗d6** (7...**♗c6** 8.c4 **♗c8** 9.**♗c2 ♗xg4** 10.**♗b4**+ **♗d6** 11.**♗d5** +-) 8.c4 **♗c8** 9.**♗b5**+ **♗c5** 10.**♗xc7 ♗xg4** 11.**♗xf4** +- 4.**♗c3**! (4.**♗xf6**? **♖b4**! 5.**♗g5 ♖xg4** 6.**♗xe3 ♗c4** = 4.**♗d4**? **♖b4** 5.**♗xe3 ♗b7** 6.**♗c3 ♖c4** 7.**♗d2 ♗c6** 8.**♗d5 ♗b4** 9.**♗xf6**+ **♗e6** 10.c3 **♗xf6** =) 4...**♖xb2** 4...**♖c5** 5.h5 **♗e6** 6.h6 **♗f7** 7.h7 **♗g7** 8.**♗e4 ♖xc2** 9.**♖xa5 ♖e2**+ 10.**♗d1 ♖xb2** 11.**♖xa6** +- 5.O-O-O+! The King keeps his promise 5...**♗e6** 6.**♗xb2** wins, e.g. 6...**♗c4**+ 7.**♗c1 ♗e5** 8.**♖e1 ♗xg4** 9.**♗d1** e2 10.**♗c3** 1-0

Sergiy Didukh
2nd HM IRT 2020



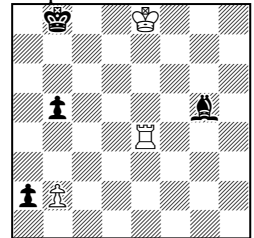
Win 7+8

Special Honorable Mention: Var. 3443 Yochanan Afek

Delicate and aesthetic, presenting a synthesis of two known variations. The solution ends with an identical anticipated De Feijter study (Kg8/Kg2 Deventer Dagblad).

1.**♖e1 b4 2.♗f7**! 2.**♖a1**? b3 3.**♗f7 ♗c7** 4.**♗e6 ♗c6** 5.**♗e5 ♗c5** +- 2.b3? **♗f6** - + 2.**♗d7**? **♗f6** - + 2...**b3** 3.**♗e6 ♗d2** 4.**♖a1**!! Logical try: 4.**♖d1** (**♖f1**/**♖g1**/**♖h1**) **♗c3**! 5.**♗d5 ♗xb2** 6.**♗c4 ♗c1**! - + 4...**♗c3**! 5.**♗d5**! **♗xb2** 6.**♗c4 ♗xa1** 7.**♗xb3 ♗e5** 8.**♗xa2** draw.

Yochanan Afek
Sp. HM IRT 2020



Draw 3+4

1st Commendation: Var. 3440 Yehuda Hoch & Itay Richardson

Lively play leads to a nice domination of the BQ. Unfortunately, this domination was already executed in a stunning way by Zhukov, Kh3/Kc8 1st prize Tbirizi 2016.

1.fxe7 1.ϕxf7 ♖xe3 1.c7+ ♜xc7 2.♙xd4 ϕxd8 1...ϕd6 2.c7+ 2.♙f4 ♖c5 3.♙xd6+ ♙xd6 4.c7+ ♙xc7 2...♙xc7 2...♙xc7 3.♙xd4 ♙xe7 4.♙b6 3.ϕe6+ ♖d7 4.e8=♙! ♙xe8 5.♙xd4 b5+ 6.♙a3 ϕc4+ 7.♙xc4! ♙a5+ 8.♙a4!! bxa4 9.b4! wins as the black queen is dominated.

2nd Commendation: Var. 3438 Itay Richardson

The moves 3.Re8! and 6.Nc7+! are worthwhile.

1.ϕb5 ♖b8 2.g8=♙ ♙xg8 2...♙xg8 3.♙e7 3.♙e8!! ♙xe8 3...♙f7 4.♙xb8+ ♙xb8 5.ϕd6 4.f7 ♙xf7 5.♙xf7 ♙e7 5...♙e7 6.♙xd5+ ♖b8 (6...♖b7 7.♙g8+ ♖b8 8.♙d5+) 7.♙d8+ ♖b7 8.♙d5+ ♖b6 9.ϕd6 = 6.ϕc7+! thematic try: 6.♙xe8+ ♙xe8 7.ϕc7+ ♖b7 8.ϕxe8 ♖c6 9.♖b4 ♙h8 -+ 6...♙b7 7.ϕxe8 ♙xf7 8.ϕd6+ draw.

3rd Commendation: Var. 3387 Michal Hlinka & Lubos Kekely

Black searches for a way to give up his rook for white's two pawns. Clever play by white's knights prevents him from achieving this goal.

1.ϕb2+ 1.ϕc3+? ♖d2 2.ϕb1+ ♖d1 = 1...♙e1 1...♖d2 2.ϕc4+ +- 1...♙e2 2.ϕg1+ +- 2.♙e6 ♙e2+! 2...♙g8+ 3.♙h1! ♙e2 4.ϕc4 ♙xe6 5.fxe6 + 3.♙xe2+ ♙xe2 4.ϕf4+ ♙e3 5.ϕe6 ♙g8+ 6.♙f1! 6.♙h2? ♙e4 7.ϕc7 ♖h8+ 8.♙g3 ♙g8+ 9.♙f2 ♖f8 = 6...♙a8 6...♖b8 7.f6 +- 7.ϕc4+ 7.f6? ♖xa6 8.f7 ♖a8 = 7...♙e4 8.f6 ♙f5 8...♙xa6 9.f7 ♖a8 10.ϕd6+ ♙e5 11.ϕe8 +- 9.ϕb6 ♖a7 9...♖h8 10.ϕc5 +- 9...♙xa6 10.f7 +- 10.ϕc8 ♖xa6 11.f7 and wins 1-0

4th Commendation: Var. 3523 Peter Krug & Mario Garcia

A host of nice combinational ideas not always connected to a coherent picture.

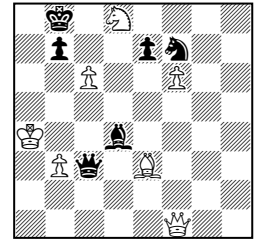
1.g6! with two lines: 1) **1...c2 2.♙g7! 2.♙xc2? ♙xc6 3.♙a4 (3.ϕef6+ exf6 4.g7 f5+ 5.♙xh7 ♙g6+ 6.♙g8 ♖d7 -) 3...♙xa4 4.g7 ♙xe4 5.g8=Q+ ♖d7 6.♙xf7 ♙e6+ 7.♙xe6+ ♙xe6 -+ 2...♙g4 2...fxg6 3.c7 c1=Q 4.♙b5+ ♖d7 5.ϕec3!** = positional draw **3.ϕd6+!** 3.ϕef6+? exf6 4.♙xc2 ♙g5 5.c7 ♖d7 6.♙d3 ♙xd5 7.gxf7 ♙g5+ 8.♙xh7 ♙c5 9.♙g8 a4 10.♙b5+ (10.f8=Q ♙xf8+ 11.♙xf8 a3! -) 10...♙xb5 11.c8=Q+ ♙xc8 12.f8=Q+ ♙c7! -+ 3...exd6 4.c7 fxg6 4...♙xg6+ 5.♙xg6 c1=Q 6.♙d3! ♙g5+ 7.♙h8 ♙e5+ 8.♙g8 ♙g3+ 9.♙h8 = positional draw **5.ϕf6+ ♙e7 6.ϕd5+!** = positional draw
2) **1...♙xc6 2.♙b5! ♙xb5 3.ϕc7+!** 3.g7? ♙xd5 4.g8=Q+ ♖d7 -+ 3...♙f8 4.g7+! 4.ϕxb5? c2 5.♙xh7 (5.gxh7 c1=Q+ -) 5...fxg6 -+ 4...♙g8 5.ϕf6+ exf6 6.ϕd5 ♙xd5 = stalemate

5th Commendation: Var. 3524 Mario Garcia & Vladislav Tarasiuk

It would have been better to delete the first 3 moves. Precise play, but not particularly interesting, except for the accurate choice of a bishop's move on the 9th turn.

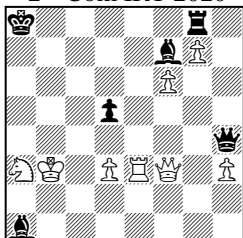
1.f8=Q! 1.b8=Q? ϕxb8 2.f8=Q ϕxc6 -+ 1...ϕxf8 2.b8=♙ ♙xb8+ 3.ϕxb8 3.♙xb8? ♖xc6 -+ 3...♖h8 4.♙f7! 4.♙c4? ϕd7 5.♙xa7 ϕxb8 6.a6 ♖d4 7.♙d3 ϕd7 8.♙b7 ϕc5+ 9.♙b6 ♖h6+ -+ 4...ϕd7 5.♙xa7 ϕxb8 5...♙xb8 6.♙e6 ♖d8 7.♙xd7 ♖xd7+ 8.♙b6! ♖d4 9.a6 = 6.♙b7!! Try: 6.a6? ϕc6+! 7.♙b6 ♖h6 8.a7 ϕxa7+! 9.♙xa7 ♖h7 -+ 6...ϕd7 6...♖d4 7.a6 ϕd7 8.a7 = 7.a6 ♖h6! 7...ϕc5+ 8.♙b6 ϕa4+ 9.♙a5 = 8.a7! 8.♙c7? ϕb6 -+ 8...ϕb6 9.♙b3!! 9.a8=Q? ϕxa8 10.♙xa8 ♖h8+! 11.♙b7 ♖h7 -+ 9.♙a2? ♖d4 10.a8=Q ϕxa8 11.♙xa8 ♖a6+ -+ 9.♙d5/h5 ♖d4! 10.♙f3 ♖c5! 11.a8=Q ϕxa8 12.♙xa8 ♖b6 -+ 9...♙d4 10.a8=Q ϕxa8 11.♙xa8 ♖c5 12.♙a7! draw 12.♙c2? ♖b6! -+

**Yehuda Hoch
Itay Richardson
1st Com IRT 2020**



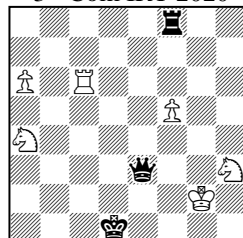
Win 7+6

Itay Richardson
2nd Com IRT 2020



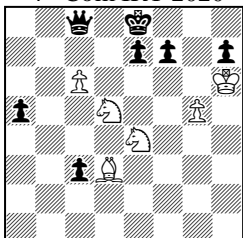
Draw 8+6

M. Hlinka L. Kekely
3rd Com IRT 2020



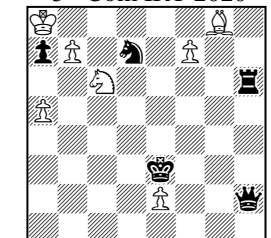
Win 6+3

P. Krug M. Garcia
4th Com IRT 2020



Draw 6+7

M. Garcia V.Tarasiuk
5th Com IRT 2020



Draw 7+5

6th Commendation: Var. 3527 Yehuda Hoch

Short and sweet.

1. ♖a6+ ♜g5 1...e6 2. Raxe6+ ♜xh7 3. ♖xc3 h1=Q+ 4. ♖b8 ♜g7 5. ♖c7+ ♜f8
 6. ♖a6 ♜g1 7. ♖f6+ ♜e8 8. ♖h6 ♜d4 9. ♖h8+ 2. ♖h6!! ♜xh6 3. ♖h3+!! ♜xh3
 4. h8=♚+ 1-0

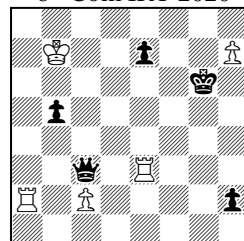
Special Commendation: Var. Michael Pasman

Inventive play, and a sort of 'task', in which white sacrifices his entire army. Yet, an overcrowded starting position, brutal play full of captures, and an anticipation by Kubbel (Kh4/Kf5, 1917) to the Re5+ motive, were against a higher grading.

1. ♜xg7+! 1. ♖d3+? ♖xd3 2. ♜xg7+ ♖d5! 1...♖xg7 1...♖d5 2. c4+! ♜xc4
 3. ♖xa4+ +- 2. ♖d3+! 2. ♖e8+? ♖e6 3. ♖d3+ (3. ♖xc6+ ♖d5! 4. ♖b4+ ♖c4)
 3...♖xd3 4. ♖xc6+ ♖d5! 5. ♖b4+ ♖c4! 2...♖xd3+ 2...♖xd3 3. ♖xc6+ dxc6 (3...♖d5 4. ♖b4+ ♖c4 5. cxd3+) 4. c4+ ♖e6 5. ♖e8+ ♜xf7 6. ♖xe1 3. cxd3 ♖e4+!
 3...♖d2 4. f8=Q +- ♖xd3+ 5. ♜f2 ♖d2+ 6. ♖e2 +- 4. ♜g4!! Try : 4. dxe4? ♖xe4+
 5. ♜f2 ♖h4+ 6. ♜f1 ♖h3+ 7. ♜e2 ♖g2+ = perpetual check 4...♜f2! 4...♖f5+
 5. ♖xf5 ♖e2+ 6. ♜h3! ♖xf5 (6...♖e6 7. ♖e8! ♖d5 8. ♖xe6 ♖h5+ 9. ♖h4 ♖xf7
 10. ♖f6) 7. ♖e8+! ♖ce7! 8. ♖xe7+! ♖xe7 9. c4+! ♖e6 10. f8=Q ♖xd3+ 11. ♜g4
 ♖e4+ 12. ♜f4 ♖g2+ 13. ♜g3 +-) (4...♖d2 5. ♖e8+ ♖e6 6. ♖xe6+ dxe6 7. ♖xc6+
 ♖xc6 8. ♖e1 is the same as the main line 5. ♖e8+! 5. f8=♚ ♖g2+ 6. ♖h4 ♖h2+
 = 5. ♖xc6+ dxc6 6. ♖e8+ ♖e6 7. c4+ ♖xb2 8. f8=♚ ♖g2+ = 5...♖e7 5...♖e6
 6. ♖xe6+! dxe6 7. ♖xc6+ 6. ♖xe7+ ♖e6 7. ♖xe6+! dxe6 8. ♖c6+!! ♖xc6
 8...♖d5 9. ♖e7+ ♖c5 10. ♖a3+ +- 9. ♖e1+!! 9. c4+ ♖xb2 10. ♖e1+ ♖d4 11. f8=♚ ♖g2+ 12. ♖h4 ♖h2+
 = 9...♜d5 9...♜xe1 10. c4+ ♖c3 11. ♖xc3# 10. f8=♚! 10. ♖e5+ ♖xe5 11. f8=♚ ♖g2+ 12. ♖h4 ♖h2+
 = 10...♜xf8 10...♜xe1 11. ♖f4 +- 11. ♖e5+!! dxe5 11...♜xe5 12. c4# 12. c4+ ♜d6 13. ♖a3+ ♜d7
 14. ♖xf8 ♜e8 15. h7 ♜xf8 16. h8=♚+ 1-0

Yehuda Hoch

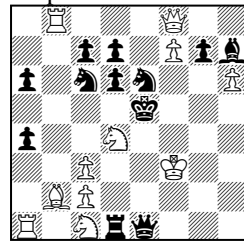
6th Com IRT 2020



Win 5+5

Michael Pasman

Sp. Com IRT 2020



Win 11+12

Israel Ring Tourney: Selfmates 2019-2020

Judge: Gennady Kozyura, International Judge (Ukraine), February 2021

The competition included 26 problems from 13 problem experts from the following countries: Germany, Israel, Russia, Slovenia, Ukraine. I checked all the problems for correctness using the Gustav 4.0c program in the Bruto Force mode.

Problem No. 3229 is carried over to the next cycle, since the judge is the co-author. No. 3280: the lack of an answer to the check in a two-move, without proper content, is a big drawback. No. 3282: it is necessary to finalize and make two full-fledged versions with model mats.

In general, the competition must be considered good; the prize problems have a chance to get into the FIDE album. I would like to thank the editors who entrusted me to judge this competition. The compositions were created to give joy to people! It was nice to award good problems!

I. Selfmates in 2 to 4 moves

1-2nd Prize: Var. 3408 Mark Erenburg.

Cyclic theme of Svoboda (Zilahi) performed for the first time! If it were not for the roughness in the latter variant, then the task would be the sole leader. I would like to note the author's desire for new ideas.

1. ♖e6! - zz

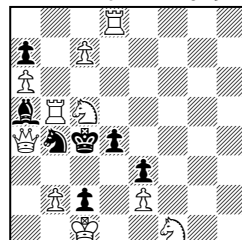
1...♖xc7 2. ♖xc7(A) d3 3. ♜a2+ ♖xa2#(B);

1...d3 2. ♖xb4+(B) ♖xb4 3. ♖d2+ exd2#(C);

1...♖b6 2. ♖xd4+ ♖xd4 3. ♖xe3+(C) ♖xe3#(A)

Mark Erenburg

1-2nd Prize IRT 2019-20



S#3 10+7

1-2nd Prize: Var.3475 Andrey Selivanov.

Another historic record! Pickaninny with the playing of the royal battery. And in total there are six model mates (!), including the try.

1. ♖b6 ? z.z. 1...bxc6 2.c8=♗ zz ♜xe6 3. ♖xc6 + ♗xc6# 2...c5 3. ♖a5 ♜xe6# but 1...bxa6 !

1. ♜e8 ! zz 1...♜xc6 2. ♖xb7 + ♗d7 3. ♖d5 + ♗xd5#

1...b5 2.e6 zz ♜xc6 3. ♖d6 + ♜xd6# 1...b6 2. ♖d4 + ♜xc6 3. ♖d7 + ♜xd7#

1...bxc6 2. ♖a5 + c5 3. ♜e6 ♜xe6# 1...bxa6 2. ♖b5 + axb5 3. ♜c5 + ♜xc5#

3rd Prize: Var. 3353 Hartmut Laue.

A pleasant task: block with alternating second white moves as well as mates.

1...f6 a 2. ♖c4+ A bxc4 3. ♗xe6 c3# 1...fxg6 b 2. ♗xe6 B g5 3. ♖e3+ fxe3#

1. ♗g5 ! zz.

1...f6 a 2. ♗xe6 B fxg5 3. ♖e3+ fxe3# 1...fxg6 b 2. ♖c4+A bxc4 3. ♗xe6 c3#

1st Honorable Mention: Var.3352 Anatoly Stypochkin.

White's 2nd moves in pairs become mating. According to the author, there is SOFT here, but there are clearly not enough points uniting the phases for this.

1. ♖e2 ! [2. ♗xb3+ A cxb3 3. ♖b5+ ♗xb5#]

1...♗d3 2. ♖f2+ ♗xf2 3. ♗xb3+ A cxb3# 1...♗xc1 2. ♖xc4+ B ♜xc4 3. axb3+ ♜c5# 1...♜xb7 2. ♜xc6+ ♜xc6 3. ♖xc4+ B ♗xc4#

2nd Honorable Mention: Var.3554 Valery Kopyl.

Cyclic shift of moves. Two model mates and not the best first move.

1.f8=♖! zz 1....dxc6(A) 2. ♖e8 ♜xa2(B) 3. ♜a8+ ♜b5 4. ♖e2+ ♜xe2(C)#

1....♜xa2(B) 2. ♜a8+ ♜b5 3. ♖ff1+ ♜e2+(C) 4. ♗d5 dxc6(A)#

3rd Honorable Mention: Var.3228 Alexandr Pankratiev.

Feldman's theme.

1. ♜c2! zz 1...♗b4~ 2. ♗e7 A + ♜xe7# 1...♗c6 ! 2. ♗f7 B + ♜xf7#

1...♗c4~ 2. ♗f7 B + ♜xf7# 1...♗d6! 2. ♗e7 A + ♜xe7#

1st Commendation: Var.3407 Anatoly Stypochkin.

According to the author, here is SOFT (selfmate of the future), but in my opinion there are not enough points uniting the first phase.

1. ♗f7 ! [2. ♜b4 ~ 3. ♖d4 + ♗xd4#] 1...♜h5 2.e8=♖ ~ 3. ♖e3 + ♗xe3#

1...♜xf7 2. ♜c4 + ♗d5 3. ♖e4 + ♗xe4# 1...♜h8 2. ♗f6 ~ 3. ♗e4 + ♗xe4#

2nd Commendation: Var.3476 Frank Richter.

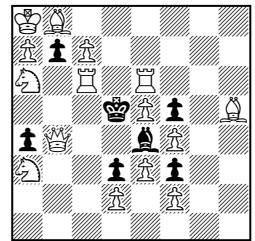
It remains to be regretted that the second pair of variantations in this task clearly failed.

1. ♖e3! (2. ♜e5+ ♜xe5 3. ♖f4+ ♜xf4#) 1...♜e5 2. ♖xf3+ ♗gxf3 3. ♜f4+ ♜xf4#

1...♗b5 2. ♗g7+ ♜f6 3.e8=♗+ ♗xe8# 1...c5 2. ♗f7! ~ 3. ♗g6+ hxg6#

Andrey Selivanov

1-2nd Prize IRT 2019-20

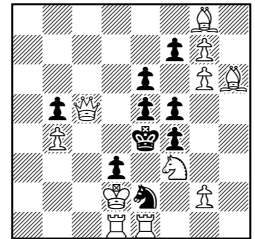


S#3v

15+7

Hartmut Laue

3rd Prize IRT 2019-20

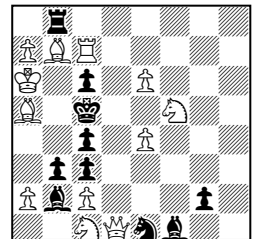


S#3*

11+9

Anatoly Stypochkin

1st HM IRT 2019-20

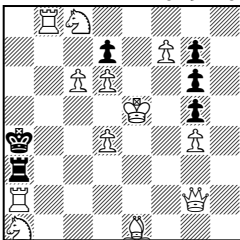


S#3

12+10

Valery Kopyl

2nd HM IRT 2019-20

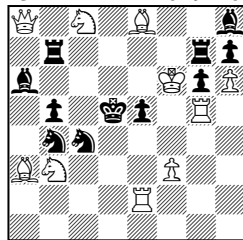


S#4

12+6

Alexandr Pankratiev

3rd HM IRT 2019-20

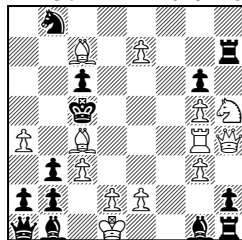


S#2

10+11

Anatoly Stypochkin

1st Com IRT 2019-20

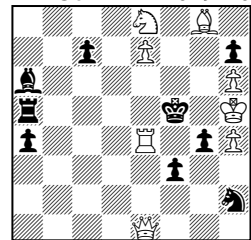


S#3

13+13

Frank Richter

2nd Com IRT 2019-20



S#3

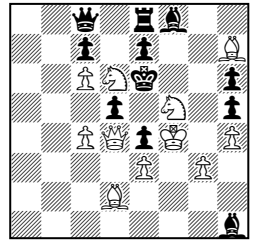
8+9

3rd Commendation: Var.3281Beni Priel.

1.♖b4! [2.♗g7 + ♘xg7 3.♙e5 + ♘xe5#]

1...cxd6 2.cxd5 + ♟f7 3.♗xh6 + ♘xh6# 1...exd6 2.♗g6 ~ 3.♙e5 + dxe5#

Beni Priel
3rd Com IRT 2019-20



S#3 11+11

II. Selfmates in 5 or more moves

1-2nd Prize: Var.3477Andrey Selivanov.

Locking the bishop in two different ways, according to Klasinc and by the obstruction method, leads to two static echo-mats with zugzwang on the mating move. The tries make this problem difficult to solve.

1...♖b1 2.♗f4+ ♘xe4 3.♙e8+ ♟c5 4.b4+! cb3 e.p.5.♗d3+ ♘xd3+ 6.♙b5+ ♘xb5#;

1.♙a3? zz 1...♖b1 2.♗f4+ ♘xe4 3.♙a4+ ♟c5 4.b4+! cb3 e.p.5.♗d3+ ♘xd3+ 6.♙b5+ ♘xb5#; but 1...♖b3!

1.♞h7? zz 1...♖b3 2.♞d6+ ♟c5 3.♗a4+! ♘xa4 4.b4+! cb3 e.p.5.♞c6+ ♟xc6 6.♖b2! (zz) ♖b5#; but 1...♖b1!

1.♞f7! zz 1...♖b1 2.♗f4+ ♘xe4 3.♞f6+ ♟c7 4.♗a8+! ♘xa8 5.♗e6+ ♟c6 6.e4 (zz) ♖b7#;

1...♖b3 2.♞d6+ ♟c5 3.♗a4+! ♘xa4 4.b4+! cb3 e.p.5.♞c6+ ♟xc6 6.♖b2! zz ♖b5#

1-2nd Prize: Var.3558 Ivan Soroka.

Logical style challenge with new fresh motives, two main plans, pendulum maneuvers and returns of white pieces.

1st main plan 1.♙xd3+ ♗xd3# fails because of 1... ♗xd3! 2nd main plan 1.♙e6+ ♟e4 2.♙xc6+ ♗xc6# fails because of 2... ♗d5!

1.♞h3! [~2.♞xd3+ ♗xd3 3.♙xd3+ ♗xd3#] ♗a2 (b3) 2.♙e6+ ♟e4 3.♞e3+ ♟f4 4.♞xd3+ ♟e4 5.♞e3+ ♟f4 6.♞h3+ ♟e4 7.♙f5+ ♟d5. Switchback of white Queen. 8.♞h2! [~9.Dxd3+ ♗xd3#] ♗c4. Switchback of white Rook. Initial position repeated but without b.Pd3. 9.♞d2+ ♗d3 10.♞d1!! ~ [10... cxd1=♗/♗ 11.♙xd3+ ♗xd3#]. Line c1-h6 is opened for white Bishop that controls squares e3 and f4. 11.♙e6+ ♟e4 12.♙xc6+ ♗xc6#

3rd Prize: Var.3480 Anatoly Styopochkin.

This is also a good problem. But the trouble is, after the 9th move, there are two threats: 10.Rb3 Bb3 11.Qb3 Sb3 #, and 10.Qc4 Kc4 11.Be2 Se2 #, and Black's moves only differentiate them.

1.♙c4+? ♟xc4 2.♗e2+ ♟c5!

1.♞b8! [2.♞xb3+ ♘xb3 3.♙xb3+ ♗xb3#] 1...♖b1 2.♖b4 [3.♙xb3+] 2...♗a2 3.♗a3 ♖b1 4.♙e4+ ♟c4 5.♞b4+ ♟c5 6.♞b5+ ♟c4 7.♙d5+ ♟d3 8.♖b4! (8.♙c4+? ♟xc4 2.♗e2+ ♗xe2+ 10.♙d2!) 8...♗a2 9.♗d2 ♖b1 10.♙c4+! ♟xc4 11.♗e2+ ♗xe2#

1st Honorable Mention: Var.3283 Anatoly Styopochkin.

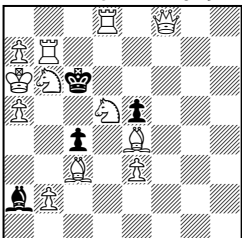
Nice logical problem with minor promotion and gain of tempo.

1.e4+? dxe3 (e.p.) #?

1.♙d6! ♗e4 2.c7 ♟f5 3.c8=♞! ♗e4 4.♞g7 ♟f5 5.♙d5 ♟f6 6.♙b6+ ♟f5 7.♙f6+ ♟xf6 8.♞c6+ ♟f5 9.e4+ dxe3 (e.p.) #

Andrey Selivanov

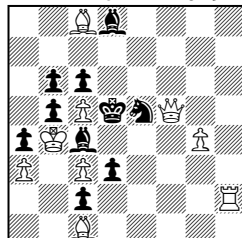
1-2nd Prize IRT 2019-20



S#6*vv 12+4

Ivan Soroka

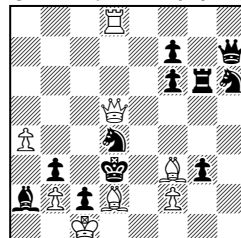
1-2nd Prize IRT 2019-20



S#12v 9+10

Anatoly Stepochkin

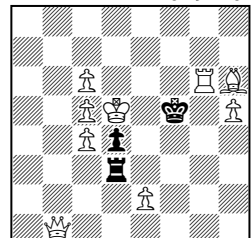
3rd Prize IRT 2019-20



S#11v 8+11

Anatoly Styopochkin

1st HM IRT 2019-20



S#9 9+3

2-3rd Honorable Mention: Var.3355 Udo Degener.

An “engraving” (not more than 10 pieces on the board) with an unexpected solution. Set: 1...hxg3#

1.♖b1! hxg3+ 2.♔g1 ♖h4/h5 3.♗h7+ ♔g4 4.♖h2! gxh2+ 5.♖h1 ♔g3 6.♗h5! g4 7.♗h8! gxh3 8.♗d4! hxg2#

2-3rd Honorable Mention: Var.3284 Anatoly Styopochkin.

This problem is similar to the previous one, but the solution is longer, and there are more pieces.

Set: 1...exf2#

1.♙b3! ♔d3 2.♗f3 ♔d4 3.♙xe3+ ♔d3 4.♗f2 ♖xe4 5.♖h1 ♔d3 6.♗f3 e4 7.♗f4 ♖e2 8.♗xe4 ♖e1(f1) 9.♙d2+ ♖ ~ 10.♗g2+ hxg2#

1st Commendation: Var.3478 Anatoly Styopochkin.

1.d8=♙! ♖h5 2.♗h4+ ♔g6 3.g8=♗+ ♖f5 4.♗hg3 ♖e4 5.♙b6 ♖f5 6.♗g7 ♖e4 7.♖f8 ♖f5 8.♗g8+ ♖f6 9.♙d8+ ♖xd8#

2nd Commendation: Var.3354 Stanislav Vokal.

1.♙d3?, 1.♙e2?, 1.♙f1? **1.♙a6!** ♖f1(♖f3) 2.♗d8+ ♙c7 3.♗d2+ ♖xd2 4.♖e5+ ♙xe5 5.b4+! axb3 e.p. # !

I marked the problems with special distinctions separately:

1st Sp. Honorable Mention: Var.3556 Viktor Yuziuk.

Changing the functions of black's queen and rook.

a) 1.♖xc5+ ♖b4 2.♗d2+ ♖a3 3.♖c3+ ♖b4 4.♙a5+ ♖xa5 5.♖a3+ ♖b6 6.♗a5+ ♖a7 7.♗xa6+ ♖b8 8.♗b6+ ♗b7 9.♖c7+ ♗xc7#
 b) 1.♖xc5+ ♖b4 2.♗b1+ ♖a3 3.♗a1+ ♖b4 4.♖b1+ ♖xc4 5.♗a2+ ♖c3 6.♖c1+ ♖b4 7.♖c4+ ♖b5 8.♗b3+ ♖b4 9.♖e6+ ♖xd5#

2nd Sp. Honorable Mention: Var.3557 Anatoly Styopochkin. AUW.

1.♗b6! ♖e7 2.d8=♗+ ♖f7 3.♗g5! ♖e8 4.♗bd8+ ♖f7 5.g8=♖! ♖e6 6.♙g4+ ♖f7 7.♗f5+ ♖f6 8.♖e8 ♖xf5 9.♙h5+ ♖xh5#
 1.g8=♖! ♖f8 2.d8=♗+ ♖f7 3.♗dd6 ♖e8 4.♖h8 ♖f7 5.♖e7 ♖e8 6.♗c8+ ♖f7 7.♗cd7 ♖f8 8.♗f4+ ♖f6 9.♗h6+ ♖xh6#
 1.d8=♙! ♖e8 2.♗ad6 ♖f7 3.♖h8 ♖e8 4.g8=♖+ ♖f7 5.♖g7+ ♖e8 6.♗d5 ♖f8 7.♖f7+ ♖e8 8.♖h7 ♖f8 9.♗g8+ ♖xg8#

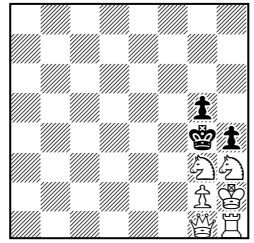
3rd Sp. Honorable Mention: Var.3479 Frank Richter.

The effects in the first twin pointed out by the author are random. If they were clearly repeated in two solutions, then the task would have been place higher.

a) 1.♗h7! ♖b8 2.e8=♗+ ♖c7 3.f8=♗+ ♖f7 4.♗h2+ ♖f4 5.♗g6 ♖d7 6.♙c6+ ♖c7 7.♗gf7+ ♖xc6 8.♗c2+ ♖c4 9.♗a4+ ♖xa4#
 b) 1.♗h4! ♖b8 2.e8=♗+ ♖c7 3.♗c4+ ♖d6 4.f8=♗+ ♖e7 5.♗a5 ♖e5 6.♗b8+ ♖c7 7.♗cb3! ♖d4 8.♗f4+ ♖c5 9.♗a7+ ♖xa7#

Udo Degener

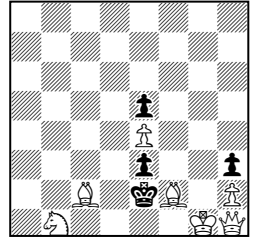
2-3rd HM IRT 2019-20



S#8* 6+3

Anatoly Styopochkin

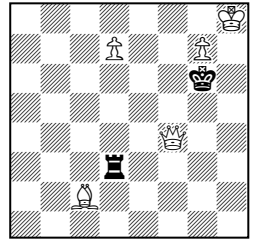
2-3rd HM IRT 2019-20



S#10 7+4

Anatoly Styopochkin

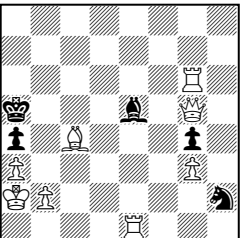
1st Com IRT 2019-20



S#9 5+2

Stanislav Vokal

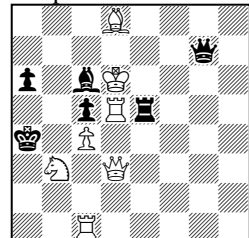
2nd Com IRT 2019-20



S#5 8+5

Victor Yuziuk

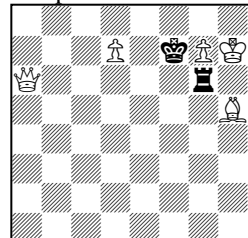
1st Sp.HM IRT 2019-20



S#9 b) c6=♞ 7+6

Anatoly Styopochkin

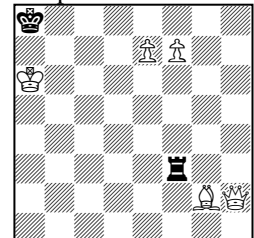
2nd Sp.HM IRT 2019-20



S#9 3.1.1.. 5+2

Frank Richter

3rd Sp.HM IRT 2019-20



S#9 b) ♞f3→b7 5+2

Israel Ring Tourney: Helpmates in 2 to 3 moves 2019

Judge: Ricardo de Mattos Vieira, Rio de Janeiro, January 2021

I was very grateful and honored when I was invited by Michael Grushko and Paz Einat to judge the h # 2 / 2.5 / 3 section of Variantim 2019. Forty-three originals (22 h#2, 7 h#2.5 and 14 h#3) were eligible to take part in the informal tourney. The general level is good and some very interesting ideas were presented by the authors, whom I congratulate.

First I would like to draw some considerations about some entries that did not make it into the award:
 Var. 3221 (Onkoud): Two pairs of solutions connected by squares d3 / f3. Mating white pawns that are useless in one solution, choice of the blocking piece at e4 based uniquely on the bS and some symmetry in one pair of solutions detract from quality.

Var. 3262 (Witztum & Navon): Twinning involving a mating piece is a flaw but even worse is the unpleasant (and even artificial) use given to wR in (b).

Var. 3266 (Navon): 2..Se3 is a block and bRe2 is useless in this solution (accidental interference).

3267 (Gorbatenko): An important feature of this helpmate is the way the moving bQ relates to the passive wR / wB. It is a pity that this does not occur homogeneously: since 1.Q:e2 is a block, wRe2 and bPf3 may be replaced by wPf3.

Var. 3272 (Gershinski & Pankratiev): Were the pins achieved during the solutions, the white play would be improved substantially.

Var. 3328 (Navon): A single white piece should replace the pair of wPs as they remain useless in one solution each and present lack of unity when moving (1...e6 – line opening; 1...g5 – line closing), not to say the accidental interference over the bQ (1...e6).

Var. 3331 (Yuzyuk): bK star and wQ cross. A wP mates in one solution (the single white move not played by the wQ) and is completely useless in the other three.

Var. 3332 (Dragoun): Quality versus quantity. Does the third pair of solutions (1.Kd5 / 1.K:f5) add or affect negatively the content of the helpmate?

Var. 3335 (Drązkowski): bRc1 may be removed and bBf4 is merely a bP.

Var. 3336 (Labai): The third solution with double check mate is not connected to the other two and the pinned bS (that avoid cooks) is an incorrect attempt to justify the presence of the wR in one of the solutions.

Var. 3338 (Witztum): The bQ's line is opened intentionally by the wR, but unfortunately just accidentally by the wS. It seems that the whole content may be achieved in a h#2.

I propose the following award:

1st Prize: Var. 3264 Jean Haymann

Change of pins with reciprocal play between three pairs of pieces. From time to time we come across strategies that are fake and pieces that are just weasels. Here, seemingly artificial interferences at B1 prove to be essential for the presentation of the idea and are a positive surprise.

a) 1.♖e5 ♜g5 + 2.♜f5 ♘g7# b) 1.♖d5 ♘a2 + 2.♜c4 ♜a5#

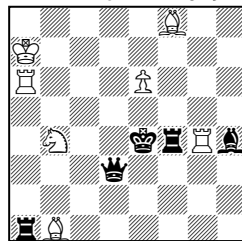
2nd Prize: Var. 3275 Misha Shapiro, Gady Costeff, Ofer Comay

Each single move, either black or white, adds some content to the solution: capture for line opening, self-pin, indirect unpin and minor promotions with dual avoidance. The reason for the white minor promotions is the icing on the cake.

1.♘xe6 + fxc8=♘ 2.♘f8 ♘xd5 3.c1=♘ ♘b3#
 1.♘xg6 + fxc8=♞ 2.♘f8 ♞xg4 3.c1=♞ ♞d4#

Jean Haymann

1st Prize IRT 2019

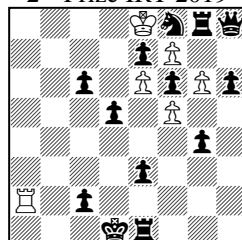


H#2 b)♘b4→d8 7+5

Shapiro Costeff

Comay

2nd Prize IRT 2019



H#3 2.1.1.1 6+13

3rd Prize: Var. 3270 Paz Einat

It is extremely interesting the way the wK relates to the wP (eliminating the masking black pawns of the white battery they fire) and to the bK (moving along the battery in opposite direction).

1.♙e1 ♖xg5 2.fxe3 ♜f4 3.e2 ♜e4# 1.♙g3 exf4 2.♜e3 fxg5 3.♜f4 g6#

4th Prize: Var. 3337 Vitaly Medintsev

The pin of the wQ in the diagram position is responsible for nice active Zilahi sacrifices followed by line opening for this very wQ.

1...♙h5 2.gxh5 ♖d6 + 3.♜e2 ♜e4# 1...♜h4 2.gxh4 ♖d2 + 3.♜c4 ♙d5#

5th Prize: Var. 3268 Christer Jonsson, Ofer Comay, Rolf Wiehagen

The bB and bR move to open white lines, leading to unpinning white Grimshaws. Since these black pieces leave the squares where the wSs will mate, they must present Grimshaw interferences after hideaways with critical capturing (Zilahi) moves (antidual choice of moves). All in a lightweight setting.

a) 1.♙xe3! (1.♙~?) ♜b5 2.♜d4 ♙c5# b) 1.♜xe4! (♜~?) ♙b5 2.♙d4 ♙c4#

Special Prize: Var. 3265 Jean Haymann

When a theme from a different stipulation is brought to helpmates, in case some adaptation is needed, it must be applied to the theme, not to the basic characteristics of the helpmate stipulation. I have seen many helpmates presenting the Goethart theme but in at least one solution (and sometimes in both) no role is given to the white pinning piece, an attempt to turn this terrible flaw into an acceptable aspect in helpmates. Here, the author managed to present the Goethart theme (and a pseudo form, where the indirect unpin by White does not occur on the mating move) in such a way that the white pinning piece (wRh4), although useless in the mating positions, somehow affects the solutions.

1.♜f3 ♙f4 2.♜e6 ♙e3# 1.♜f5 ♖d2 2.♜d5 + ♙d4#

1st Honorable Mention: Var. 3333 Menachem Witztum

Very good interplay in a cyclic (wPc2 / wS / wQ) presentation: W1 and B2 eliminate flights that appear (or would appear) after W1 and W2. Unfortunately, (i) the interesting try 1.d1=R 2.Rd3 c3+ 3.R:c3! has no correspondence in the other solutions (1.b:c5 2.c4 Sc2??? and 1.Bf6 2.B:e5 Qa7???) and (ii) the black play is not explored as it should. I suggest diagram A for comparison.

1.d1=♜ cxb3 2.♜d3 ♙c2# 1.bxc5 ♙g4 2.c4 ♜a7# 1.♙f6 ♖xg6 2.♙xe5 c3#

2nd Honorable Mention: Var. 3329 Emanuel Navon

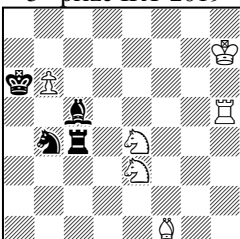
Very good interplay characterized by anticipatory line closing (B1) followed by guard (W1) of a flight that will still be created at B2. The twinning involving a mating piece is a drawback.

1.♙g3 (~?) ♙8f7 2.♜xd4 ♜e5# 1.♙b3 (~?) ♜a4 (♜d2?) 2.♙xd6 c7#

Jonsson Comay

Wiehagen

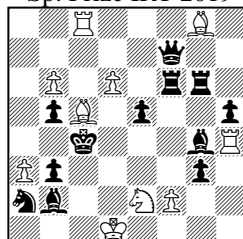
5th prize IRT 2019



H#2 b) ♜a6→a5 6+4

Jean Haymann

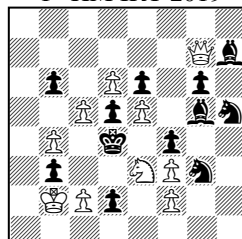
Sp. Prize IRT 2019



H#2 2.1.1.1 10+12

Menachem Witztum

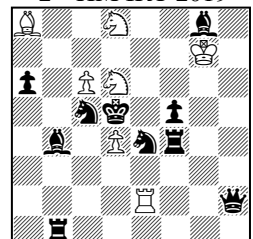
1st HM IRT 2019



H#2 3.1.1.1 10+12

Emanuel Navon

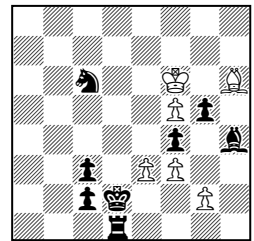
2nd HM IRT 2019



H#2 b) ♜e2→a2 7+10

Paz Einat

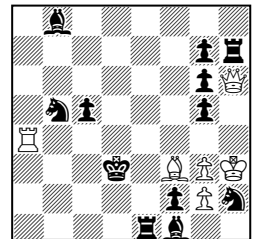
3rd Prize IRT 2019



H#3 2.1.1.1 6+8

Vitaly Medintsev

4th Prize IRT 2019



H#2.5 2.1.1.. 6+12

3rd Honorable Mention: Var. 3345 Misha Shapiro

Two solutions show bicolored Turton moves connected by square g3 with additional black tempo maneuvers. The twinning is unpleasant mainly because it involves a double modification (a piece is removed and another is moved, although someone may consider simply a move with a capture).

- a) 1.♖xg3 ♜f3 2.♖h3 ♜xc3 3.♖d3 ♜c4#
 b) 1.♗xg3 ♗f4 2.♗h2 ♗xc7 3.♗e5 ♗b6#

4th Honorable Mention: Var. 3334 Daniel Papack

Annihilation of white pieces for line opening followed by withdrawal moves for Grinshaw interferences combined with annihilation of black pieces to eliminate control over the mating squares. Reciprocal play between two pairs of pieces. Harmonious. 1.♖xg5 ♗xh2 2.♖f5 ♖g4# 1.♗xg4 ♗xh6 2.♗f5 ♖g5#

5th Honorable Mention: Var. 3327 Emanuel Navon

Interesting idea that needs to be improved. It is a pity that only one solution (1.Sc:d5) presents dual avoidance effect at W1. In addition, W1 is determined by bSc3 in both solutions, never by bSf6.

- 1.♗xc5 ♖xf7 (♖d8?) 2.♗b6 ♗b1# 1.♗fxd5 ♖d8 2.♗e3 ♗f4#

1st Commendation: Var. 3326 Vladislav Nefyodov, Vitaly Medintsev

In my opinion the lack of homogeneity in the departure effect at B1 (unguard twice and line opening once) is compensated by the common concern when choosing the arrival square (avoiding interfering with the mating piece). Anyway this entry seems to me 3 single phase h#2 that are shown in the same diagram since the solutions are presented by three different groups of pieces.

- 1.♗f2 (♗h2?) ♖h1 2.♗xd4 ♖h4# 1.♖g8 (♖g6?) ♗h5 2.♗xd5 ♗xf7# 1.b5 (b6?) ♖a6 2.♗xc5 ♜c6#

2nd Commendation: Var. 3342 Daniel Papack

White must carefully choose which rook to move after a bS has begun its way to e2. White switchback is complemented by a wK's move unfortunately with different motivations (guard / tempo).

- 1.♗xc3 ♖xf2+ (♖xd2+?) 2.♗xd1 ♗b2 3.♗e2 ♖f1#
 1.♗xf4 ♖xd2+ (♖xf2+?) 2.♗xf1 ♗b1 3.♗e2 ♖d1#

3rd Commendation: Var. 3330 Shaul Shamir

One of two controls over the mating battery is eliminated by Black. The other is neutralized by an absolutely correct double motivated W1. The idea ends with battery mates with dual avoidance only at W2, although the white line that might be closed by the wrong move of the wP is created at W1.

- 1.♖c5 ♗e5 2.♖a3 d3# (d4?) 1.♖a6 ♖f3 2.♖a3 d4# (d3?)

4th Commendation: Var. 3218 Ehud Goldberg & Paz Einat (version D. Papack)

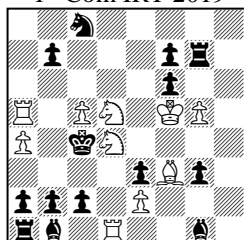
Black Pelle moves for sacrifice and interference are played in reverse order and are combined with wK's moves that fire indirect & direct batteries.

- a) 1.♗d5 ♖xd5 2.♖e3 ♖xd6# b) 1.♖e3 ♖xe3 2.♗d5 ♖xf2#

Vladislav Nefyodov,

Vitaly Medintsev

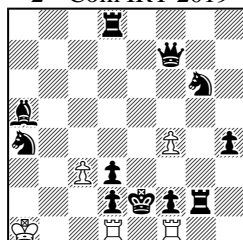
1st Com IRT 2019



H#2 3.1.1.1 10+14

Daniel Papack

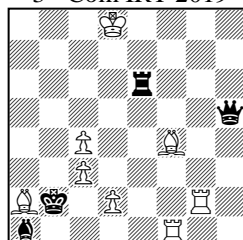
2nd Com IRT 2019



H#3 2.1.1.1 5+11

Shaul Shamir

3rd Com IRT 2019

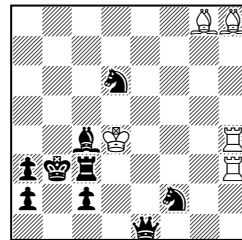


H#2 2.1.1.1 8+4

E. Goldberg P. Einat

(version D. Papack)

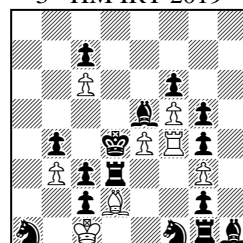
4th Com IRT 2019



H#2 b) ♖g1→b7 5+10

Misha Shapiro

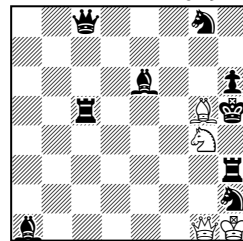
3rd HM IRT 2019



H#3 b) ♖f4→g4 8+15

Daniel Papack

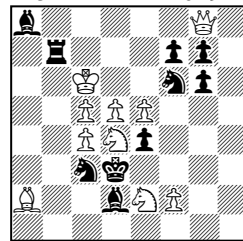
4th HM IRT 2019



H#2 2.1.1.1 4+9

Emanuel Navon

5th HM IRT 2019



H#2 2.1.1.1 10+10

5th Commendation: Var. 3225 Abdelaziz Onkoud

Annihilations for line opening with switchback are well combined with mates by active wPs. Twinning involving a thematic piece is unpleasant.

a) 1.♙xe6 ♖h6 2.♙f5 ♙xg5 3.♙f3 + gxf3# b) 1.♙xf6 ♙xf7 2.♙d5 ♙f3 3.♙d3 exd3#

6th Commendation: Var. 3344 Mykola Kolesnik, Roman Zalokotsky

Complete ODT. Were the captures of the black pieces essential not just accidental, the value of this helpmate would increase a lot.

1.♙f5 ♙xe8 2.♙g6 ♙h3 + 3.♙f5 ♙c8# 1.♙e5 ♙xc8 2.♙d5 ♙e2 + 3.♙e5 ♙e8#

7th Commendation: Var. 3346 Misha Shapiro

Curious solutions with triangular trips by the black pieces, white moves in reverse order, tempo maneuvers and... the bK in check in the diagram position.

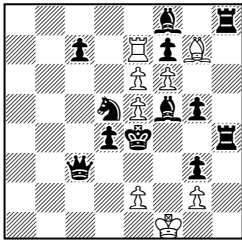
1.♙g4! (♙xg3?) ♙f3 (a) 2.♙g3! (♙h4?) e4 (b) 3.♙h4! ♙f5#

1.♙f5! (♙f4?) e4+ (b) 2.♙f4! (♙g5?) ♙f3+ (a) 3.♙g5! ♙f5#

Syzonenko: 1.d5? ♙c4+? 2.dxc4/d4; 1.♙xe3? ♙xg3+ 2.Txg3; 1.♙f3? ♙f5+ 2.♙xf5

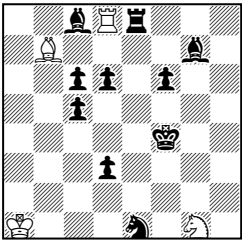
1.dxe6 ♙xe6 2.♙f3 Tc4 # 1.bxc3 ♙xc3 2.d5 Sxg3 # 1.gxh2 ♙xh2 2.♙xe3 ♙f5 #

Abdelaziz Onkoud
5th Com IRT 2019



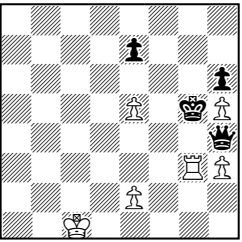
H#3 b) ♙f5→h5 8+12

Mykola Kolesnik
Roman Zalokotsky
6th Com IRT 2019



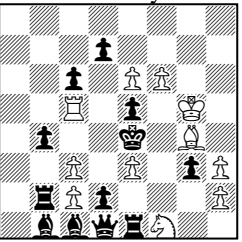
H#3 2.1.1.1 4+10

Misha Shapiro
7th Com IRT 2019



H#3 2.1.1.1 6+4

Viktor Syzonenko
2nd Prize
3rd FRME Ty 2017

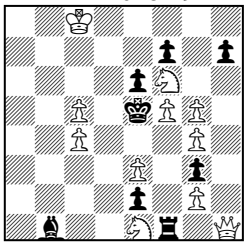


H#2 3.1.1.1 11+12

Correction: Israel Ring Tourney: Three-movers 2018-2019

Erik Zierke (through Daniel Papack) sent us a predecessor for the 3rd Honorable Mention problems by Yosi Retter. Judge, Jiri Jelinek, wrote the following response: "The scheme of both problems is same, but there are some differences: quiet threat and different mates in solution in Retter's three-mover, number of all pieces is lower: 19. I think that the problem enriches the known scheme and has the right to exist, but not to be awarded. To my regret, I have to withdraw it from my award. Mlynka's 4th HM will get 3rd HM. Otherwise the award will remain unchanged."

Yosi Retter
Cancelled 3rd HM
IRT 2018-19

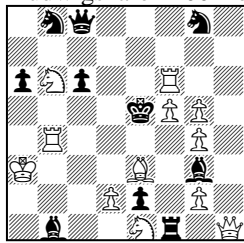


#3 11+8

1...♙xf5 a 2.♙d3+ **A** 1...♙xf5 b 2.♙f3+ **B**
1.♙h7! [2.♙xf7]
1...♙xf5 a 2.♙f3+ **B** 1...♙xf5 b 2.♙d3+ **A**

Stefan Sovik,
4th Prize

Chess Club Ludwigshafen 100 Years 2012-13



#3 12+10

1...♙xf5 a 2.♙f3+ **A** 1...♙xf5 b 2.♙d3+ **B**
1.♙h7! [2.♙c7+ ♙xc7 3.♙e6#]
1...♙xf5 a 2.♙d3+ **B** 1...♙xf5 b 2.♙f3+ **A**
1...♙xf6 2.♙e7+

Israel Ring Tourney: Moremovers 2018-2020

Judge: Gerhard E. Schoen (D-Leuchtenberg), International FIDE Judge

This award is dedicated to Yoav Ben-Zvi, who died on Dec. 31st 2020, a problem friend with an extraordinary personality. During his work as my judge for the 3#-section of "Problem-Forum" in 2014/15 I got to know his profound knowledge in chess problem theory joined with a gentle mind in his correspondence.

During the period of 2018 to 2020 a total of 8 moremovers was published in Variantim. To specify the order of these problems was more difficult than expected: none of the compositions had to be eliminated as being "weak" or "simple" stuff. Therefore a "thanks!" to the editor and of course to the composers.

Prize: Var. 3436 Valery Shavyrin

Definitely the best problem in this three-year period! The core moves Re6 and Rd4 form the framework of the thematic content. The defences of the bB allow nevertheless vice versa usage of the corresponding wR's threats. It can be discussed that the "Rudenko Paradox" is just a subset of the extended definition of the "Keller-Paradox". Therefore, the thematic core moves of the wR fulfil in both variations the consistent form and paradox ideas used. From the observer's view the surprising key, the doubled distant and close blocks, all together combined in an attractive position representing a worthy winner.

1.♖e6 (A)+? 1...♜xe6!(a) 1.♖d4?(B) 1...♜xd4! (b)

1.♜h6! [2.f4+ ♜e4 3.♖e6 (A)+ ♜xf4 4.♖d4 (B)#

1...♙c5! 2.♖d4! (B) ♙xd4 3.f4+ ♜e4 4.♙d3# 2...♜xd4 3.♖f4+ ♜e5/♙e4 4.♖fe4#

1...♙f7 2.♖e6+ ♙xe6 3.♙xg6+ ♜f5 4.g4# ! 2...♜xe6 3.♖xe3+ ♙e4 4.Rexe4#

1st Honorable mention: Var.3318 Michael Pasman

A logical problem with a hidden main plan of the white line-pieces. To prevent the queening of the pawn and avoid the black checks and defences of the new Queen White has to close four lines or diagonals. Nevertheless, the observer can't ignore the facts that both wS are making each just one move and are captured at once. Finally the only strong try 1.Bb3? is simply defeated by 1...d5!

1.d4! [2.♙c7 3.♖f8#] 1...bxa6 2.d5! (3.♖e6#) cxd5 3.♙a4! (4.♙d7 5.♙g3,h4 6.♖e6#) a2 4.♙c3! (5.♙xd5#) ♙xc3 5.♙d7! a1=♙ 6.♙g4 and 7.♖e6#

2nd Honorable mention: Var.3437 Steven B. Dowd

A good example of an old-fashioned Nowotny maneuver with delayed exploitation of the intersection e4. The logical navigation of the black Ra5 and Bc2 to the square e4 is well hidden. The sacrifice of the white Queen and the threat of a "Mate in 1" of this key are surprising, but finally a bit too loud.

1.Qg6! (2.♜xc2#) ♙xg6 2.♖h8 ♖xe5 3.♙e4! ♙xe4 4.♖h1+! ♙xh1 5.♙a4#; 3...♖xe4 4.♙a4+! ♖xa4 5.♖h1#

Commendation: Var.3211 Evgeni Bourd

An active black Queen and a more active King combined with fine battery-play. The variations with the same strategic play and flight of the blK to both sides of the board are well constructed and underline the spacious play of the wRb5. The other wRh5 annoyingly withdraws from the play after the key.

1.♖xb6! [2.♖d6#] 1...♜xb2 2.♙e7+ ♜c4 3.♖c5+ ♜xb4 4.♖c8+ ♜a5 5.♖a8#

1...♜xf2 2.♙d6+ ♜e4 3.♖e5+ ♜xf4 4.♖e7+ ♜g4 5.♖xg7#

Valery Shavyrin
1st Prize IRT 2018-20

#4 12+10

Michael Pasman
1st HM IRT 2018-20

#7 10+10

Steven B. Dowd
2nd HM IRT 2018-20

#5 7+8

Evgeni Bourd
Com. IRT 2018-20

#5 13+8

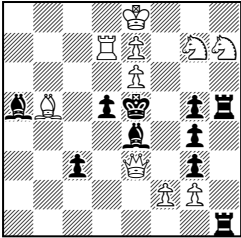
Israeli Successes Abroad – Emanuel Navon

ישראלים מצטיינים בחו"ל – עמנואל נבון

emanuel.navon@gmail.com

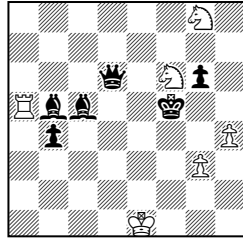
המחברים מתבקשים לשלוח את הצלחותיהם האחרונות אל

A. Leonid Makaronez
2nd Prize
MK Popandoppulo 100
2021



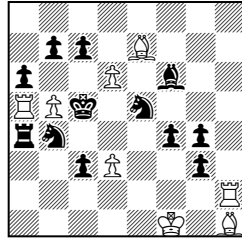
#4 10+10

B. Menachem Witztum
Ricardo d.m. Vieira
3rd Prize
StrateGems 2019



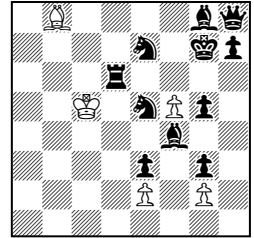
H#2 b) a5=♙ 6+6

C. Menachem Witztum
Emanuel Navon
1st HM SuperProblem
TT246 2020



H#2 2.1.1.1 8+12

D. Emanuel Navon
2nd Prize
TT FRME 2020



H#3* 5+11

Leonid's **A** shows subtle line opening play enabling the queen mates. Note the parallel switchback 3...♙c5 4.♗d6# (threat) and ♗xd5 4.♗e3# after 1...♗5h3. The marvelous variation 1...♗1h3 2.♗c4 also shows line opening after 2...dxc4 **1.♗e2!** [2.♗xg3 + ♗d4 3.♗f5 + ♗xf5 4.♗e3# 3...♙c5 4.♗d6#]

1...♗1h3 2.♗c4 [3.♗xd5#] 2...dxc4 3.♗d4 + ♗f4 4.♗d6# 2...♗xh7 3.♗xd5 + 3...♙f6 4.♗xg5# 1...♗5h3 (♗xh7) 2.♗xg5 + ♗d4 3.♗xd5 + ♗xd5 4.♗e3# 2...♗f5 3.♗xf5 + ♗d4 4.♗xd5#

Judge Vladislav Nefyodov wrote on the lightweight **B** by the Israeli/Brazilian duo: "The BQ self-blocks twice (self-blocks with Bishops are not possible). White makes two ambush moves. Good dual avoidance." The anticipatory self-interferences involving the dual-avoidance are also notable.

a) 1.♗e2 (♗e3?) ♗a6 2.♗e5 ♗h6# b) 1.♗e3 (♗e2?) ♗c7 2.♗e6 g4#

In **C** The theme was: Dual avoidance in the first black move. "The bSs open the line of the blocking black pieces with anti-dual choice of moves that avoids different negative effects. Ambushes battery mates." (Judge Ricardo Vieira). Note that BS_{e5} can move to 1 of 5 available squares and BS_{b4} to 1 or 4!

1.♗d7 (~?) ♗h6 2.♗d4 dxc7# 1.♗a2 (~?) ♗b2 2.♗d4 b6#

The following 5 problems present the Chumakov theme in different forms. D&E's theme: In set play, two or three black officers (not pawns) are captured. In the solution the same officers are used to block squares around the black king. **D** performs the theme with 3 thematic pieces. Judge Ladislav Packa added: "The non-thematic additions of the composition are model mates, the white bishop and king playing on the same squares d6 and e7 and the exchange of functions of the pawn f5 and bishop."

1...♗xd6 2.g4 ♗xe7 3.♗h6 ♗xe5# 1.♗h6 ♗d6 2.♗g6 ♗e7 3.♗f7 f6#

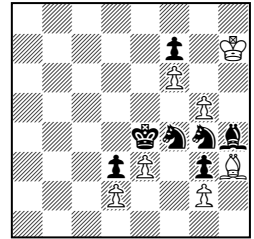
In **E** Special HM was given a problem due to a technical defect, which has since been fixed. The pair of thematic knights is joined by the nonthematic, but analogical sacrifice of the bishop (judge). Note how the active set play sacrifices of the knights parallels their active selfblock play in the solution.

1...♗g7 2.♗xf6 ♗xf6 3.♗xg2 ♗xg2# 1.♗e5 ♗h6 2.♗xg5 + ♗xg5 3.♗d5 ♗f5#

The minimal requirement of three black thematic pieces for the Chumakov theme exist in **F&G**. However, the theme is Doubled by function exchanged among the blacks thematic units... Anticritical move & Umnov move.

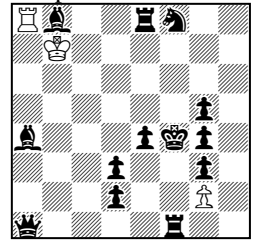
a) 1.e3 ♗xa4+ 2.♗e4 ♗xa1 3.♗e5 ♗xf1# b) 1.♗f2 ♗xb8 2.♗f1 ♗xe8 3.♗d1 ♗xe4#

E. Emanuel Navon
Sp. HM
TT FRME 2020



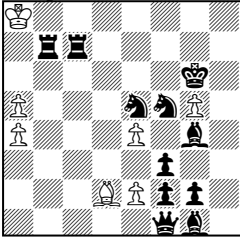
H#3* 7+7

F. Emanuel Navon
2nd Prize TT 251
SuperProblem 2021



H#3 b) ♗f4→e2 3+13

G. Menachem Witztum
Emanuel Navon
1st HM TT 251
SuperProblem 2021



H#3 b) ♖g6→f2 7+11
c) ♖g6→a6

In **G** the trio of Black thematic pieces double the theme in 3 phases: group 1 includes Rc7, Rb7 & Se5 and group 2 includes Pf3 Bg4 & Sf5 In a) group 1 make self-blocks and group 2 is captured passively. In b) group 2, which was captured in a, makes self-blocks. In c) group 1 is captured after active sacrifice. It was the only problem in all three sections of the tourney that double the theme in 3 phases. a) 1. ♖h7 exf3 2. ♖g7 fxg4 3. ♖f7 exf5#

b) 1. fxe2 g6 2. ♖f3 ♖g5 3. ♖e3 ♖h4# c) 1. ♖d3 exd3 2. ♖c4 dxc4 3. ♖b5 axb5#

In **H** the theme was: activation of white pawns by sacrificing a black figure, a thematic pawn should participate in the creation of a mate position. Judge's remark: Chumakov's theme analog linking the play of both sides. Model mates.

a) 1. ♖d3 ♖d4 2. ♖e4 f2-f3 3. ♖b2 fxe4 4. ♖b4 ♖e6#

b) 1. ♖xg5 ♖e1 2. ♖e5 f2-f4 3. ♖f3 fxe5 4. ♖d5 ♖d3#

I's theme: Constant White move in answer to changing Black defenses in several phases. The problem shows 6-fold realization of the theme.

1. ♖e2? [2. ♖b3+ ♖xb3#] 1...fxe2 2. ♖f3+ ♖xf3# but 1...♖xe2! 1. ♖f4?

1...gx f4 2. ♖f3+, but 1...♖xf4! 1. ♖g4? 1...♖xg4 2. ♖f3+ but 1...hxg4!

1. ♖xh4? 1...gxh4 2. ♖f3+ but 1...g4! 1. ♖e6? 1...♖xe6 2. ♖f3+ but 1...♖e5!

1. ♖e5! [2. ♖b3+ ♖xb3#] 1...♖xe5 2. ♖f3+ ♖xf3#

J is a remarkable task of 4-fold Zabunov: the front piece of a battery becomes the rear piece of another battery. The sacrificial and flight-giving key is of note.

1. ♖h6! [2. ♖g2+ ♖xd5 3. ♖g4+ ♖e4#] 1...c4 2. ♖g5+ ♖c5 3. d6+ ♖f5#

1...cxd5 2. ♖g6+ ♖c6 3. exd7+ ♖xg6# 1...♖xd8 2. ♖e3+ ♖e7 3. exd7+ ♖e4#

1...dxe6 2. ♖d3+ e5 3. dxc6+ ♖xd3# additionally:

1...♖e5 2. ♖g6+ ♖d6 3. ♖f5+ ♖xf5# 1...♖b4 2. ♖e3+ ♖f4 3. ♖f5+ ♖xf5#

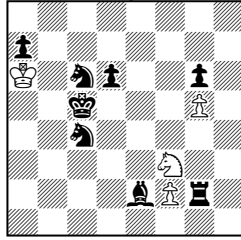
K is a "selfmate of the future" (SOTF) problem: in the first pair of variants, white batteries "fire" and then follow the "side" mates; in the second pair, on the contrary, the "central" mates are given after the complete destruction of the corresponding battery. The defenses are made by the same black piece.

1. ♖h7! [2. ♖d6+ ♖g5 3. ♖xh3+ ♖xh3#] 1...♖xe4 2. ♖e6+ ♖xe6 3. ♖b3+ ♖xb3#

1...♖xf3 2. ♖g6+ ♖xf4/g4 3. ♖xf3+ ♖xf3# 1...♖xd3 2. ♖f7+ ♖xe4 3. exd3+ ♖xd3#

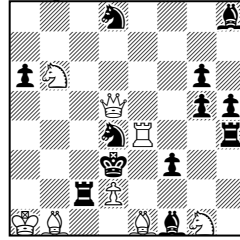
J is a typical jewel by Michael. In AlphabeticChess (ABC) the square order of order a1, a2...a8, b1...b8, c1 requires the piece located earliest in the order to move (but check & mate are normal). In PWC pieces exchange places after capture, in Take&Make the capturing piece must immediately make a move in the nature of the captured piece and neutral pieces can be played by both sides. After an initial repeating maneuver to promote a knight it is positioned for its capture on the mating move just to be repositioned to give the mate in which the king cannot make any capture! 1. ♖xc4-c5[+ ♖b5] ♖xc6-g2[+ ♖b5] 2. ♖Ix d5-d6[+ ♖b5] ♖b6 3. ♖xc5-c6[+ ♖b6] ♖b7 4. ♖xc6-c7[+ ♖b7] ♖b7-b8=♖ 5. ♖c6 ♖e5 6. ♖xd6-g3[+ ♖c7] ♖If4 7. ♖f7 ♖xf7-g5[+ ♖f4] 8. ♖g6 ♖xg6-h4 [+ ♖f6] # Ideal fairy mate

H. Menachem Witztum
Emanuel Navon
4th HM MK "O."
Dashkovsky-64" 2020



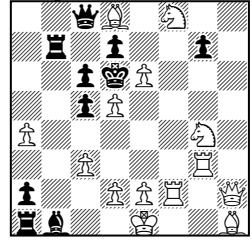
H#4 b) ♖d6→d4 4+8

I.
Mark Erenburg
2nd HM TT-241
SuperProblem 2020



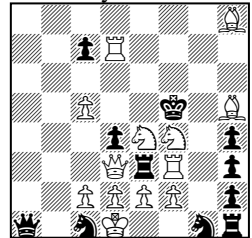
S#2 8+12

J. Mark Erenburg
Andrey Selivanov
1st Prize
SuperProblem 2018



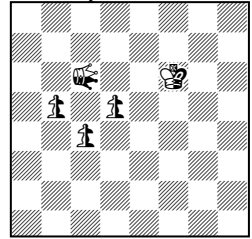
S#3 14+10

K. Mark Erenburg
1-3rd HM e.a JT
G. Kozyura 64 2019



S#3 13+11

L. Michael Grushko
1st Com Shakhmatnaya
Kompozitsia 2020



H#8 ABC PWC 0+5+0
Take&Make Lion ♖

Israeli Study Successes Abroad – Michael Pasman

There was a successful start of the year for Israel study composers. In the last months we received results from several tournaments held during 2020, as well as some late results from 2019.

Amatzia Avni gained first and second prizes in UAPA 12, second prize in Ceskoslovensky Shach 2020, fifth prize in ChessStar 2020, second prize in co-production with Martin Minski in Zadachy i Etyudy 2019 and honorable mentions in 10th Maroc Echecs , UAPA 13 and "64".

Yochanan Afek also gained first prize in UAPA 12, third prize in Razumenko MT 2020 and the first honorable mention in Vratnica-64.

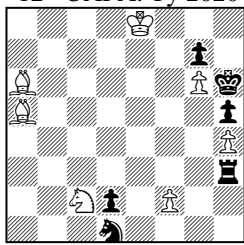
Michael Pasman won first prize in UAPA 13, special prize in UAPA 12 and honorable mentions in Razumenko, UAPA 12, UAPA 13 (in 2 studies) and ChessStar (2 studies).

Here are some studies from these events:

A. Amatzia Avni

1st Prize

12th UAPA. Ty 2020



Win 7+6

Theme: change of sacrifices. The judge Kalashnikov : "A very interesting theme is presented by the author in this study. ..The change of sacrifices theme declared by the author of the study is brilliantly executed!..."

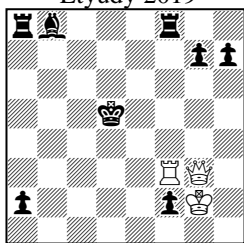
1. ♖e2! (1...♗d2+? ♜xg6=) (1.♞f7? ♖f3+?)+ **1... ♗xf2** (1...♗c3 2.♞f7 ♖xh4 (♗d3 3.♗e3! ♗d7+ 4.♜e6+?) (or : 2...♖h2 3.♗b6 ♗d5 4.♗d4 ♖xh4 5.♗xg7+ ♜g5 6.♗e5 ♖f4+ 7.♗xf4+ ♗xf4 8.g7) 3.♗xc3 ♖f4+ 4.♜g8 ♗xf2 5.♗xd2+ ♜xg6 6.♗d3+ ♜f6 7.♗c3+ ♜g5 8.♜xg7+?) (1...♜xg6 2.♗xd1+?) **2. ♞f7** split **2...d1=Q!** (A) 2...♗d3? 3.♗xd3? d1=Q 4.♗d4 ♜xd3 5.♗d2+ sacrifice of two bishops to pave way for the knight (5.♗f5+?? ♜xf5+!?) 5...♜xd2 6.♗f5 Mate) **3. ♗xd1** (B) **♗d3** (C) 3...♗e4 4.♗d2+? sacrifice of a bishop to enable a knight move (not at once 4.♗d4? ♗d6+ 5.♜e6 ♗d3!)=) 4...♗xd2 5.♗d4 ♖xh4 (♖f3+ 6.♗xf3 ♗xf3 7.♗f5 Mate) 6.♗f5+ ♜g5 7.♗xh4 ♜xh4 8.♜xg7+-) **4. ♗e3!!** sacrifice of a knight to enable a bishop move **4...♖xe3** (4...♗d7+ 5.♜e6 ♗xd1 (♗xd1 6.♜xd7 ♗xe3 7.♗d2+? ♜xg6 8.♗xe3) (♖a7 6.♗b6 ♖b7 (♖a6 7.♞f7+?) 7.♗f5+ ♜xg6 8.♗xf2+?) 6.♗xd1 ♗xd1 7.♞f7+?) **5. ♗d2 ♗xd1 6. ♗c1** wins

B. Amatzia Avni

Martin Minski

3rd Prize Zadachy i

Etyudy 2019



Draw 3+8

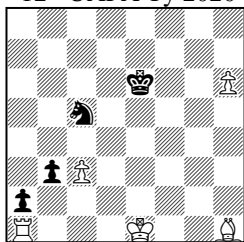
The black King is at the center and the best White can achieve is to move it to 8th rank.

1. ♗d3+ (1.♜g5+? ♗e5) (1.♖xf8? f1=Q+ 2.♖xf1 ♗xg3) **1...♜e6 2. ♖e3+** (2.♜g4+? ♖f5 3.♜e4+ ♜f6 4.♜c6+ ♜g5 5.♜c1+ ♗f4 6.♖g3+ ♜h6 7.♖h3+ ♜g6 8.♜c6+ ♜g5 9.♜xa8 f1=Q+ 10.♜xf1 a1=Q+ 11.♜xa1 ♗e5+) **2...♞f7** (2...♜d5 3.♖d3+) **3. ♖f3+ ♗f4!** (3...♜g8 4.♖xf8+ ♜xf8 5.♖f3+) **4. ♖xf4+** (4.♖xf4+? ♜g8 5.♜c4+ ♜h8 6.♜a4 ♖g8 7.♖a3 ♖xa4) **4...♜g8 5. ♖b3+ ♜h8** Now white starts to play on Black weakness of 7th rank **6. ♖a3!** (6.♜xa2? f1=Q+ 7.♖xf1 (7.♜xf1 ♖xf4+) 7...♖xa2+) **6...♖fd8 7. ♖a4!** (7.♖d4? f1=Q+) 7...♖f8 8.♖f4! (8.♜f1? ♖ae8!) **8...♖g8 9. ♖a4 ♖xa4 10. ♖xa4 ♖f8 11. ♞f1** draw

C. Yochanan Afek

1st Prize

12th UAPA Ty 2020



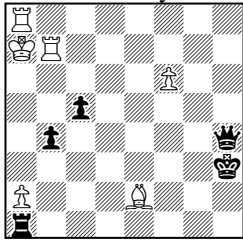
Win 5+4

Afeks's study has four neat active sacrifices. I totally agree with the judge P. Gyarmati: "In the key-move white guides the black king to the wrong place with Bishop sacrifice. After this the white castling is a check. 1. Rd1? not enough, the black passed pawns are unstoppable. After the beautiful Knight sacrifice of the black, the black king has serious threat. White get rid of from his harmful pawn, what closing the diagonal a1-h8, by an active rook sacrifice. In study are two active neat sacrifices on each side. Extraordinary content with small material."

1. ♗d5+! (1.♖d1? ♗d3+! 2.♞d2 b2 3.h7 a1=Q= (b1=Q=)) **1...♜xd5 2.O-O-O+!** ♗d3+! (2...♜c4 3.♜b2 ♗d3+ 4.♜a1+?) **3. ♖xd3+ ♜c4 4. ♖d4+!** (Logical try: 4.♜b2? ♜xd3 5.h7 a1=Q+ 6.♜xa1 ♜c2 7.h8=♖b2+ 8.♜a2 b1=Q+ 9.♜a3 ♜b3 Mate) **4...♜xc3 5. ♖c4+!** (5.♖d3+??) **5...♜xc4 6. ♜b2 ♜d3 7.h7 a1=Q+ 8. ♜xa1 ♜c2 9.h8=Q** wins

D. Michael Pasman
1st Prize

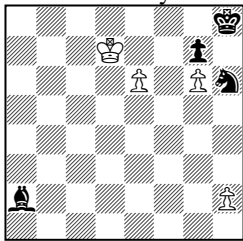
13th UAPA Ty 2020



Draw 6+5

E. Michael Pasman
2nd HM

13th UAPA Ty 2020



Win 4+4

1. ♖c4!! Sacrificing the piece in order to keep important f6 pawn (1.f7? ♖xa2+) (1.♗a6? ♖xa2) **1... ♜xc4** (1...♜xf6 2.♖h7+ ♜g4 3.♖g8+ ♜f5 4.♖f7) **2. ♖h8+** (2.f7? ♖xa2+! (♜xa2+? 3.♜b8) 3.♜b8 ♜f4+!) (2.♖h7+? ♜g4! 3.♖g8+? ♜f5?) **2... ♜g4** **3. ♖g8+** ♜xg8 (3...♜f5 4.f7 ♜xa2+ (♖xa2+ 5.♜b8 ♜f4+ 6.♖c7) 5.♜b8 ♜h2+ 6.♖c7) **4. ♖g7+ ♜h5!** (4...♜f5 5.♖xg8 ♜xf6 6.♜b6! c4 7.♜b5! c3 8.♖c8 ♜e5 9.♜xb4 ♖b1+ 10.♜a5! ♜d4 11.a4! ♜d3 12.♖d8+! ♜c4 13.♖c8+! ♜d3 14.♖d8+ ♜c2 15.♜a6!) (4...♜xg7+? 5.fxg7 ♖xa2+ 6.♜b7) **5. ♖xg8 b3!** **6. ♖b8!** (Not 6.f7? b2! 7.♖g1 ♖xg1 8.f8=♜ b1=♜-) **6... ♖xa2+** (6...c4 7.f7 ♖xa2+ 8.♜b6! ♖f2 9.♜c5!=) (6...bxa2 7.♖b2) **7. ♜b7!** (Try: on 7.♜b6 comes nice move 7...♖a8!! 8.♖xa8 (8.♖b7 c4!) 8...b2 9.♖h8+ ♜g6! 10.♖h1 c4+ 11.♖f1 ♜f7! 12.♜c5 c3 13.♜d4 c2?+) **7...c4** (7...♜g6 8.♜c6! c4 the same as main) **8. ♜c6!** (8.f7 ♖f2) **8... ♜g6** **9. ♜d5!** ♖c2 **10. ♜e6!** pawn protected by Reti's maneuver! **10... ♖e2+** **11. ♜d5!** ♖c2 **12. ♜e6** ♖f2 **13. ♜d5!** ♖f4 **14. ♖f7!** (14.♜c5 ♜xf6+) (14.♖b6 ♖xf6 15.♖b4 ♖f4+)

Judge Sergey Osintsev wrote: "Pawn sacrifice is an excellent draw resource." White sacrifices his so important pawn (see even first move comments). After **14... ♜xf7** the Rook blocks the way for the Black King **15. ♖b6!** **♜g7** (15...♖h4 16.♜c5!= And Black can't improve his position, for example 16...♜e7 17.♜d5 ♜d7 18.♜c5 ♜c7 19.♖c6+ ♜b7 20.♖b6+ ♜a7 21.♖b4) **16. ♜c5!** ♖f6 White has a spare square **17. ♖b4!** (17.♖b7+ ♖f7?+) (17.♖b8 ♖f8!?) **17... ♖f4** **18. ♖b6!**=

1.e7 ♖e6+! **2. ♜xe6!** (Thematic try : 2.♜d8 ♖d7! 3.♜xd7 ♖g8 4.e8=♖ ♖h6= and the knight is out) (2.♜c7 ♖d7!) **2... ♖g8!** **3.e8=♖!** (3.e8=♜ Stalemate) (3.e8=♖ Stalemate) (3.e8=♖) (3.♜f7 ♖xe7=) **3... ♖h6** **4.h3!** blocks the knight (4.♖c7? ♖g4=) **4... ♜g8!** (4...♖g8 5.♜d7! (5.♖d6? ♖f6=) 5...♖h6 6.♖d6! ♜g8 7.♜e7 ♖h8 8.♜f8+-) 5.♜e5? (5.♜e7? ♖f5+?) (5.♖d6? ♜f8!-) (5.♖c7 ♖h8 wastes time - now there is no better then to go back 6.♖e8 (because 6.♜e5? ♖g8! threat ♖e7 7.♖d5 ♖e7?= is draw)) **5... ♜f8** (In case of 5...♖h8 White executes the same plan , but with other path with the knight 6.♖d6! (thematic try : 6.♖c7? ♖g8! 7.♖d5 ♖e7!)=) 6...♜g8 7.♖e4 /b7 7...♜f8 8.♖g5 ♜g8 9.♜e4 /f4 9...♜f8 10.♖e6+! ♜g8 11.♜f4! ♖h8 12.♖g5! ♜g8 13.♖h7!) **6. ♖c7!** (6.♖d6? ♖g8! 7.h4 ♖e7 8.h5 ♖g8 9.♜e6 ♖h6 10.♖f7 ♖g4 is already draw) **6... ♜g8** (6...♖g8 7.♖e6+) **7. ♖e6!** ♖h8 **8. ♖g5/d8** **8... ♜g8** **9. ♜e4 /f4** Triangle with the King (9.♜e6 ♜f8! and the only move is to return to e5, because 10.♖h7+ ♜e8 11.♖g5= ♖g8! Knight is out) **9... ♜f8** (9...♖h8 10.♖f7+) **10. ♖e6+** ♜g8 (10...♜e7 11.♜e5! and ♖xg7) **11. ♜f4!** ♖h8 **12. ♖g5!** (12.♜e5? ♖g8!)= 12...♜g8 13.♖h7! Other moves are just waste of time, for example: (13.♖f3 ♜f8 14.♖d4 ♜g8 15.♖e6 ♖h8 and White has no better then to return to previous position with 16.♖g5) (or 13.♜e4 ♜f8 14.♖e6+ ♜g8 15.♜f4 ♖h8) **13... ♜h8** **14. ♜e5!** (14.♜e4? ♖g8! and ♖e7 next is draw) **14... ♜g8** (14...♖g8 15.♜e6 ♖h6 the same) **15. ♜e6** ♖h8 **16. ♖g5** ♜g8 **17. ♖f7!** (17.♜e5 ♜f8 18.♖e6+ ♜g8 19.♜e4 ♖h8 20.♖g5 ♜g8 21.♖h7 ♖h8 just wastes time - and White has nothing better then to return to main line 22.♜e5 ♜g8 23.♜e6 ♖h8 24.♖g5 ♜g8 25.♖f7) **17... ♖xf7** **18. gxf7+** ♜f8 **19. h4** **g6** **20. ♜f6** **g5** **21. h5+**=



מקוריות Originals

IRT judges: #2: Petr Zabirokhin (2021); #3: Sergey Bilyk (2020-21) #n: Aleksandr Kuzovkov (2021-23); Studies: Geir Sune Tallaksen Østmoe (2021); H#: Abdelaziz Onkoud (2021); S#: Alexandr Azhusin (2021-22); Fairies: Sven Trommler (2021), Michal Dragoun (2022), James Quah (2023)

Editors:

Orthodox: **Ofer Comay**
Studies: **Gady Costeff**

(Please send originals in pgn format)

Fairies: **Michael Grushko**

ofercomay@gmail.com
costeff@gmail.com

bargrushko@bezeqint.net

עורכים:

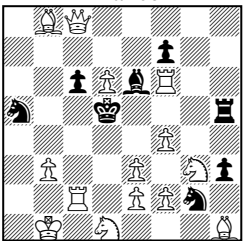
בעיות רגילות: עופר קומאי
סיומים: גדי קוסטף

(pgn לשלוח מקוריות בפורמט)

בעיות אגדתיות: מיכאל גרושקו

All fairy definitions can be found here: <http://www.variantim.org/FairyDefinitions.pdf>

3581
Gerard Doukhan
France



#2vv 14+8

3582
Zoltan Labai
Miroslav Svitek
Slovakia/Czech Rep.



#2* 9+9

3583
Givi Mosiashvili
Georgia



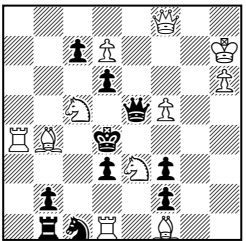
#2*vv 8+10

3584
Alexandr Kuzovkov
Russia



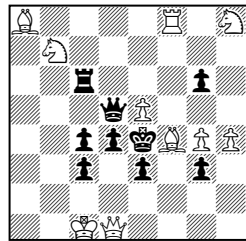
#3 9+13

3585
Leonid Makaronez
Viktor Volchek
Haifa/Belarus



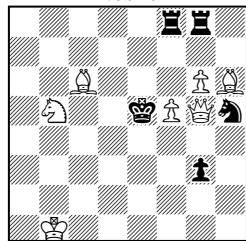
#3* 11+10

3586
Leonid Makaronez
Viktor Volchek
Haifa/Belarus



#3 10+9

3587
Semion Shifrin
Nesher



#3 7+5

3588
Semion Shifrin
Nesher



#3 11+11

3589
Elmar Abdullayev
Azerbaijan



#4 5+2

3590
Elmar Abdullayev
Azerbaijan



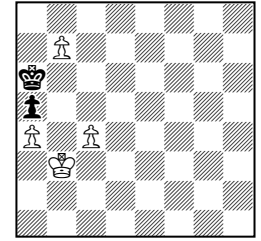
#5 10+10

3591
Bela Majoros
Hungary



#6 4+1

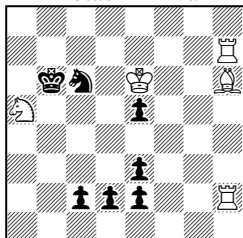
3592
Itay Richardson
Petach-Tikva



#7 4+2

3593

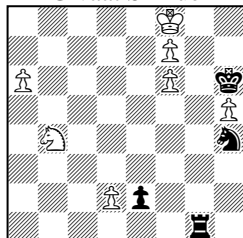
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Yehuda Hoch
Petach-Tikva



Win 5+7

3594

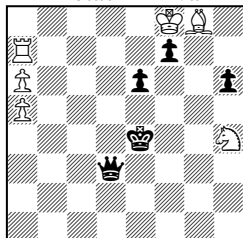
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Givaat Shmuel



Win 7+4

3595

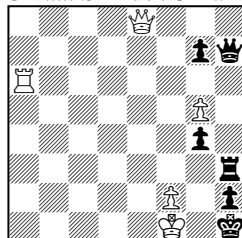
Itay Richardson
Petach-Tikva



Win 6+5

3596

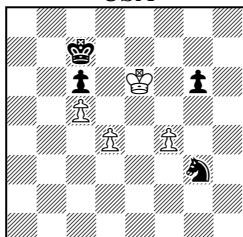
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Vladislav Tarasiuk
Givaat Shmuel/Ukraine



Win 5+6

3597

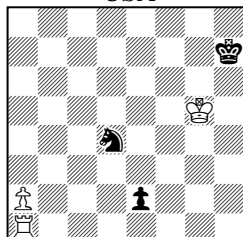
Paul Muljadi
USA



Draw 4+4

3598

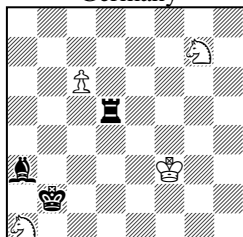
Yechiel Robinson
USA



Win 3+3

3599

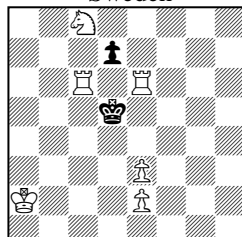
Jan Sprenger
Germany



Draw 4+3

3600

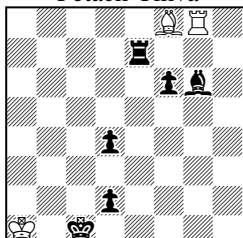
Christer Jonsson
Sweden



H#2 2.1.1.1 6+2

3601

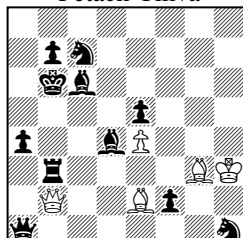
Itay Richardson
Petach-Tikva



H#2 2.1.1.1 3+6

3602

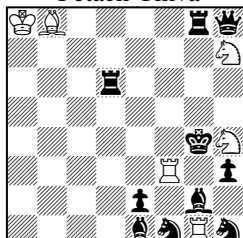
Itay Richardson
Petach-Tikva



H#2 b) ♖b6→b4 5+11

3603

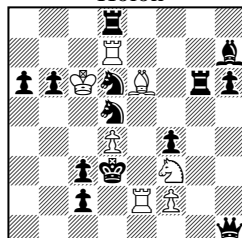
Itay Richardson
Petach-Tikva



H#2 b) ♕g4→g7 6+10

3604

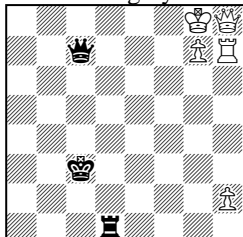
Emanuel Navon
Holon



H#2 2.1.1.1 7+13

3605

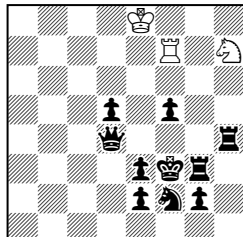
Bela Majoros
Hungary



H#2.5 5+3

3606

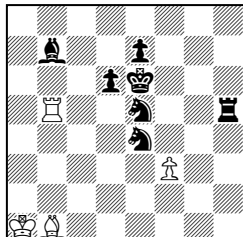
Christer Jonsson
Sweden



H#2.5 2.1.1.. 3+10

3607

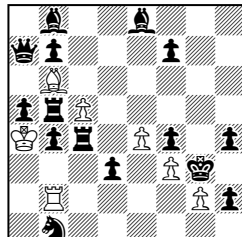
Michail Gershinski
Alexandr Pankratiev
Russia



H#2.5 2.1.1.. 4+7

3608

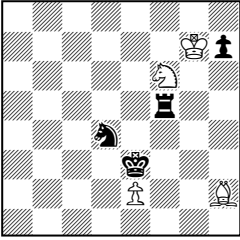
Emanuel Navon
Menachem Witztum
Holon/Tel Aviv



H#2.5 2.1.1.. 7+15

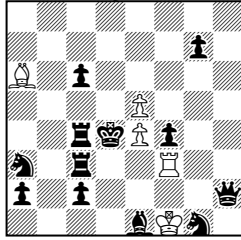
b) ♜d1→d2 c) ♜d1→d3

3609
Semion Shifrin
 Nesher



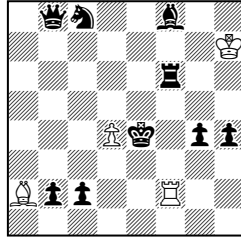
H#3 2.1.1.. 4+4

3610
Vidadi Zamanov
Vladislav Nefyodov
 Azerbaijan/Russia



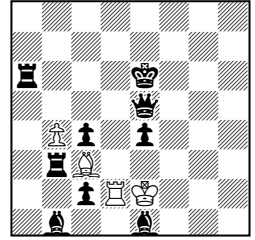
H#3 b) ♗a6→f8 5+12

3611
Alexey Ivunin
Alexandr Pankratiev
 Russia



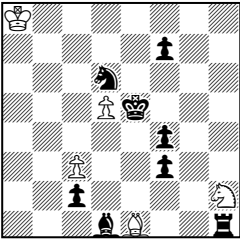
H#3 4.1.1.. 4+9

3612
Alexandr Pankratiev
Ivan Antipin
 Russia



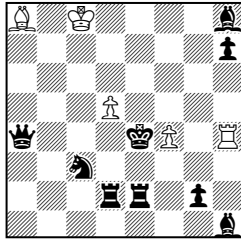
H#3 b) ♜b3→c1 4+9

3613
Alexandr Pankratiev
Ivan Antipin
 Russia



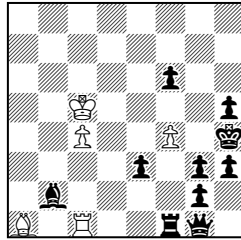
H#3 2.1.1.. 5+8

3614
Michail Gershinski
Alexandr Pankratiev
 Russia



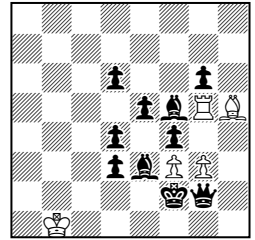
H#3 b) ♙g2→e3 5+9

3615
Alexandr Pankratiev
Michail Gershinski
 Russia



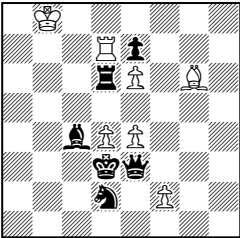
H#3 3.1.1.. 5+10

3616
Alexey Ivunin
Alexandr Pankratiev
 Russia



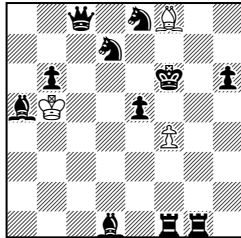
H#3 5.1.1.. 5+10

3617
Christopher Jones
 UK



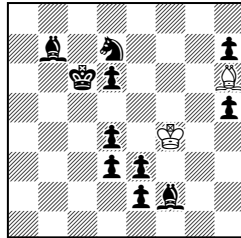
H#3 2.1.1.. 7+6

3618
Zlatko Mihajloski
 Macedonia



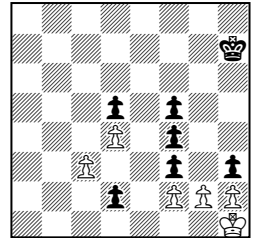
H#4.5 2.1.1.. 3+11

3619
Zlatko Mihajloski
 Macedonia



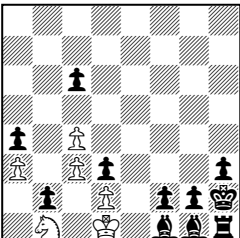
H#5.5 2+11

3620
Christer Jonsson
 Sweden



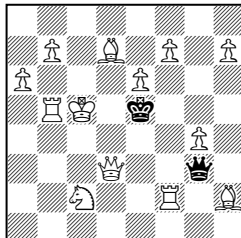
H#6 6+7

3621
F. Abdurahmanovic
Marko Klasinc
 B&H/Slovenia



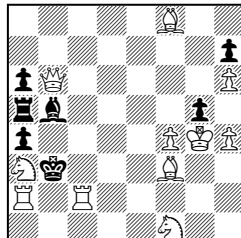
H#6* 6+11

3229 (Var.77)
Valery Kopyl
Gennadi Koziura
 Ukraine



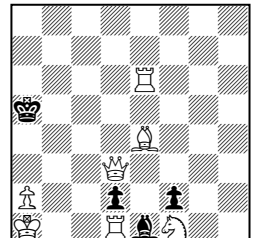
S#5vvv 13+2

3622
Valery Kopyl
 Ukraine



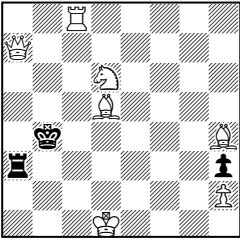
S#5*v.. 11+7

3623
Jozef Holubec
 Slovakia



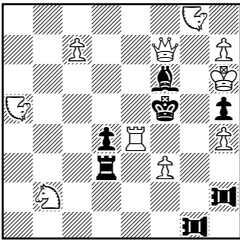
S#7 b) ♘d3→d7 7+4

3624
Jozef Holubec
 Slovakia



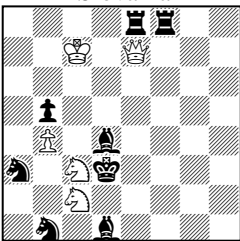
S#10 b) ♖a3→f8 7+3

3628
Semion Shifrin
 Nesher



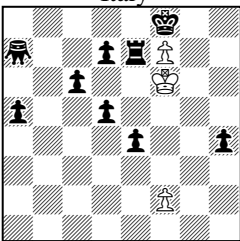
S#4 Nightrider ♞ 10+7
 Rook-lion ♖

3631
Ladislav Packa
Juraj Lörinc
 Slovakia



H#3 2.1.1.. 5+8
 Take&Make absolu

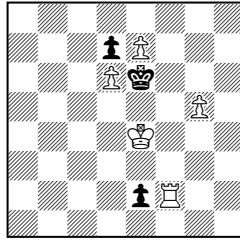
3634
Alberto Armeni
 Italy



H#2 b) a7=zebra 3+9
 c) a7=nightrider

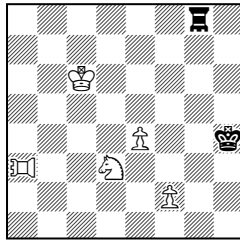
AndernachChess Grasshopper ♟

3625
Itay Richardson
 Petach-Tikva



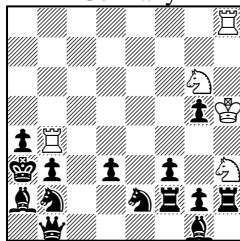
H=2 b) ♖f2→f3 5+3

3629
Semion Shifrin
 Nesher



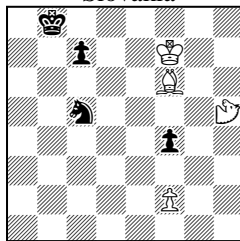
Ser-H#21 Circe 5+2
 ♖-lion ♖ ♞-hopper ♞

3632
Armin Geister
Daniel Papack
 Germany



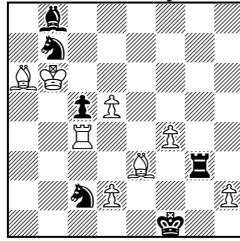
H#2 2.1.1.1 5+14
 Marscirce

3635
Luboš Kekely
 Slovakia



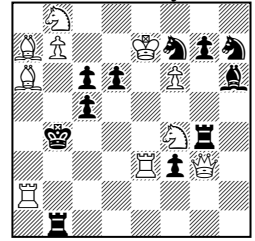
Ser-HS#10 4+4
 bicolors transmutedkings
 Nightrider-hopper ♞

3626
Armin Geister
 Germany



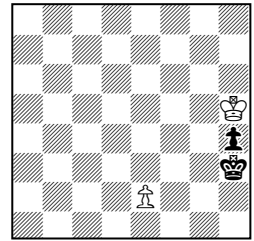
HS#3 Bicolors 8+6

3627
Hubert Gockel
 Germany



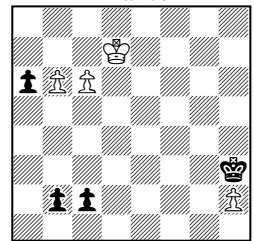
#2v Breton Adv. 10+11

3630
Luboš Kekely
 Slovakia



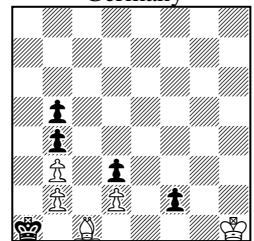
HS+6.5 2+2
 Bicolors

3633
Sébastien Luce
Pierre Tritten
 France



H#2 2.1.1.1 4+4
 PointReflection Antircirce

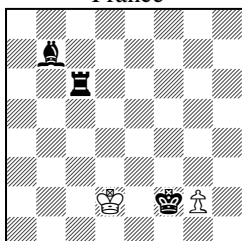
3636
Gunter Jordan
 Germany



HS=6.5 5+5

3638

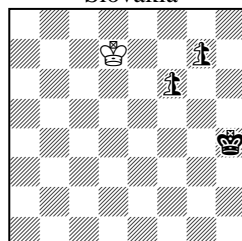
Roméo Bedoni
Sébastien Luce
Pierre Tritten
France



Ser-H#8 2+3
EquipollentsCirce

3639

Karol Mlynka
Slovakia

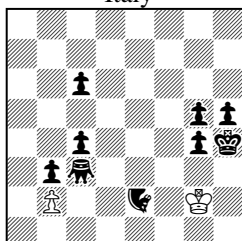


H#3 1+2+1

b) ♖g7→e5
c) ♔d7↔♕h4 d) c+ ♜f6→h8
EinsteinChess
EquipollentsAntiCirce
ParrainCirce KobulKings

3637

Alberto Armeni
Italy

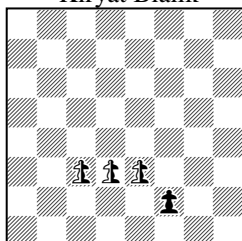


H#2 2.1.1.1 2+9

Take&Make
Grasshopper ♗
Nightrider ♞

3640

Michael Grushko
Kiryat Bialik

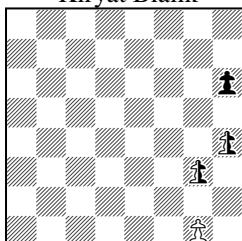


HS#14.5 3+1

AlphabeticChess CirceClone
EinsteinChess RepublicanChess
Neutral ♜

3641

Michael Grushko
Kiryat Bialik

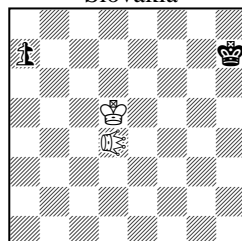


HS#16.5 3+1

AlphabeticChess
CirceDoubleAgents
EinsteinChess RepublicanChess
Neutral ♜

3642

Karol Mlynka
Slovakia

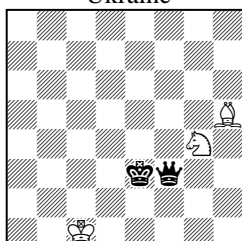


H#2 BackToBack 3+1

b) d4=locust c) ♜a7→g7
d) ♜a7→b2 e) d+ h7→g5
f) e+ d4=BU
Hamster ♞
BU = Bucephale

3643

Oleg Paradzinskij
Ukraine

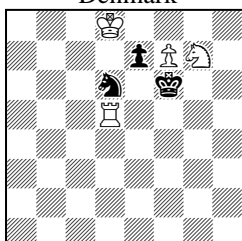


H#4 b) ♗h5→f7 3+2

FunctionaryChess

3644

Niels Danstrup
Denmark

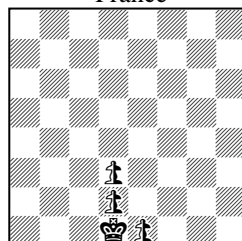


H#2 2.1.1.1 4+3

Take&Make

3645

Sébastien Luce
Ded. Michael Grushko
France



Ser-H#7 b) d2→e2 3+1
EinsteinChess PWC

Ofer Comay

סבא של יואב, מנחם שוורץ, היה שחקן שחמט בירושלים בשנות העשרים של המאה שעברה וזכה במספר תחרויות ש בתקופת המנדט. הוא קנה בית קפה קטן ברחוב המלך ג'ורג' (כיום יש שם חנות סטימצקי) ואת השולחנות הסב לשולחנות שחמט. את בית הקפה, "טוב טעם", פקדו חברים שהרבו לשחק ומכיוון שלא הרגיש נוה לגבות מהם תשלום על הזמנות התה והעוגות שלהם, עד מהרה פשט את הרגל.



Yoav's grandfather, Menachem Schwarz, was a chess player in Jerusalem during the 1920's and won several tournaments during the British mandate period. He bought a small café on King George street (there is a Steimatzky store there today), with the tables turned into chess tables. Café "Tuv Taam" (good taste) was visited by many chess playing friends, and since Menachem felt uneasy to charge them for the tea and cakes they ordered the place soon went bankrupt.

מנחם שוורץ, במרכז התמונה, מביט במשחק שחמט. השחקן מימין בכלים השחורים הוא משה צ'רניאק.

Menachem Schwarz, middle, looking at a chess game. The player on the right with the black pieces is Moshe Cherniak.

יותר לצד האסתטי הפילוסופי והמורכב של המשחק ופחות למשחק התחרותי, וכבר כנער חיבר בעיות מורכבות ויפהפיות ברמה יוצאת דופן. הנה שתי דוגמאות מאלפות שחיבר כבר בתחילת דרכו. בתמונה יואב בילדותו.

He taught his daughter Ada to play chess. In her turn, Ada taught Yoav to play when he was 4 years old. She played with him but soon, according to her, the child beat her. Yoav was attracted to the aesthetic and philosophic side of the game and less to its competitive side, and already as a teenager he composed complex and beautiful high level problems. Here are two examples from his early work. Photo: Yoav during childhood.



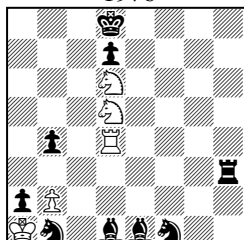
בבעיה מס. 1 צריך לתת מט בשורה השמינית על ידי הצריח הלבן. ההתעיה 1.צג4!?! לא עובדת אחרי 1...צג3. 2.צב4 צב3. 3.צא4 צא3! ולכן הלבן מנסה את אותו רעיון באגף המלך: 1.צו4! צו3. 2.צז4. 3.צז3. 4.צח4! רח5 ועכשיו הוא מפעיל את התכנית המקורית באגף המלכה: 4.צג4! צג3. 5.צב4! צב3. 6.צב3 או 5...צג6. 6.צג4!

In problem No.1 the WR will mate on the 8th rank. Try 1.Rc4! fails to 1...Rc3 2.Rb4 Rb3 3.Ra4 Ra3! So white tries the same idea on the king's side: 1.Rf4! Rf3 2.Rg4! Rg3 3.Rh4! Bh5 and now activating the original plan on the queen's side: 4.Rc4! Rc3 5.Rb4! Rb3 6.Rxb3 Bb4 7.Rxb4. or: 5...Rc8 6.Rf4 and 7.Rf8+.

בעיה 2 היא בעיה רטרוגרדית, והיא הסנונית הראשונה לחיבתו הגדולה של יואב לתחום הזה. הבעיה עמוקה וכדי להבין אותה ולהנות ממנה נצטרך להתאמץ - אבל שווה לעקוב! מהעמדה רואים שרז8 צריך להיכנס דרך ח7 לפני ששחור משחק 7ז6, ולפני שרו8 מגיע ל-א7, ולפני המסע ב7-ב6. צריך גם לראות כיצד המלכה השחורה והצריח 8 מחליפים מקומות.

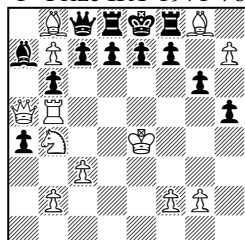
1. Yoav Ben-Zvi

1st HM Probleemblad 1976



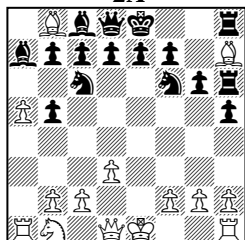
#8 5+9

2. Yoav Ben-Zvi (v) 1st Prize IRT 1971-76



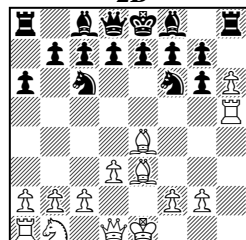
Last moves? 12+13
b) ♖b4→a6

2A



14+16

2B

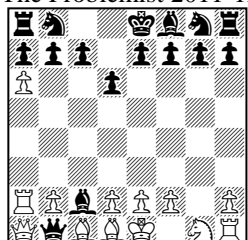


14+16

מסתבר שיש שתי אופציות עקרוניות שונות לחלוטין לבצע את המשימה כשמוצג בדיאגרמות A ו B. לפי אופציה A, המצינת עמדה במהלך המשחק, הרגלי ח' יכה את הפרשים השחורים או פרש ורץ ויגיע לח7. לפני כן המלך השחור ייצא דרך ז7 אל ו6 ויאפשר למלכה והצריח השחור להתחלף. השחור יכול בינתיים גם לשחק ב7-ב6 ולהוציא את רג8. לפי אופציה B, ההמשך יהיה ז:5ח, רה-4ח, ז7-ז6. ואז איך יתחלפו המלכה והצריח השחורים? על ידי זה שלבן ייקח את רג8 בערוגת המוצא שלו, המלכה השחורה תגיע לא7, ואז הם יתחלפו במקומות ויאפשרו לרב8 ורא7 להגיע למקומותיהם. אז מהי האופציה הנכונה בבעיה? כאן צריך לראות כיצד לשחרר את העמדה הסופית שבה צריך לשחרר את השחור באופן מיידי כי אין לו מסעים אחרונים. בעמדת הדיאגרמה, המסע האחרון היחידי האפשרי הוא עם הצריח הלבן. רק צד5-ב5 כפי שנראה עוד רגע. לפניו היה המסע ב5:4א (מכה שם צריח או פרש לבן). והמסע שלפניו היה א6:רב7. ולא א6:פב7 כי אז אין לשחור מסע אחרון! זוהי אופציה A. בתאום, פא6 מונע את הפתרון הקודם, והדרך היחידה לשחרר את השחור היא שהמסע האחרון היה מהב4-5א, ולפניו א5-4א. לפניו פג5-6א ולפניו א6-5א. כאן המסע האחרון היה א6:פב7 (ולא רזן!) כי באופציה B הרץ השחור הוכה על ג8 ללא שנע במהלך המשחק! ולפניו פא5-ב7. יש כאן לא רק משחק רטורוגרדי מעמיק, אלא גם אינטגרציה של שתי האופציות בבעיית תאומים.

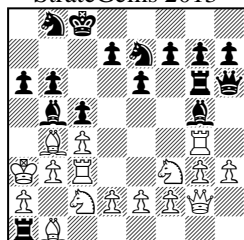
No. 2 is a retroanalysis problem, the first signal of Yoav's great fondness for this field. Understanding this deep problem requires some effort – but it is worthwhile! We can see that Bg8 must enter through h7 before black plays g7-g6, before Bf8 arrives at a7, and before the move b7-b6. We need also to figure out how the BQ and BRa8 exchange places. There are two principal and very different ways to achieve the task as displayed in diagrams A & B. With option A, displaying a position during the game, the h-pawn will capture the black knights (or knight & bishop) and get to h7. Before this the BK will move to f6 via g7, enabling the BQ & BR to exchange places. Black can meanwhile also play b7-b6 and get Bc8 out. With option B the game's continuation will be gxh5, Be4-h7, g7-g6. How will the BQ & BR to exchange places? By white capturing Bc8 on c8, the BQ reaching a7, and after the exchange of places Bb8 and Ba7 can reach their positions. So what is the correct option? We need to see how to untangle the final position in which black must be immediately freed due to unavailability of last moves. The last possible move in the diagram is with the white rook. Only Rd5-b5 as we will soon see. The prior move was b5xa4 (capturing a WR or WS), and the move before was a6xBb7 and not a6xBb7 as black will have no last move! This is option A. In the twin, Sa6 prevent the above solution, and the only way to free black is by the last move Qb4-a5, and before this a5-a4. This is preceded by Sc5-a6 and before this a6-a5. Here the last move was c6xBb7 (not c6xBb7! As in option B the BB was captured on c8 without moving during the game!), and before that Sa5-b7. Not only we have a deep retroanalysis play but also an elegant integration of two options in a twin problem.

3. Yoav Ben-Zvi
5th Com
The Problemist 2011-12



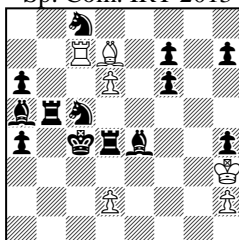
PG 10.5 13+16

4. Yoav Ben-Zvi
StrateGems 2013



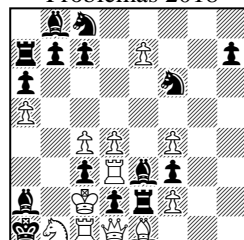
PG 26 16+16

5. Yoav Ben-Zvi
Sp. Com. IRT 2013



H#3 2.1.1.. 6+13

6. Yoav Ben-Zvi
Andrei Frolkin
Problemas 2018



Last 14 bl. Moves 12+15

3. 1.a4 d6 2.a5 ♖h3 3.a6 ♙xg2 4.♙a5 ♙e4 5.♙g2 ♙xc2 6.♙d5 ♙g6 7.♙a4+ ♙d7 8.♙a1 ♙f5
9.♙b3 ♙xb1 10.♙d1 ♙c2 11.♙a2
4. 1.c4 c5 2.♙b3 ♙b6 3.♙h3 ♙h6 4.b3 b6 5.♙a3 ♙a6 6.♙b4 ♙b5 7.♙a3 ♙a6 8.0-0-0 0-0-0
9.♙b2 ♙b8 10.♙c1 ♙c8 11.♙c3 ♙c6 12.♙g3 ♙g6 13.♙g4 e6 14.g3 ♙e7 15.♙g2 ♙g5 16.♙e4 ♙e7
17.♙f3 ♙c8 18.♙c1 ♙c6 19.♙c3 ♙d6 20.♙e3 ♙d3 21.♙g2 ♙c3 22.h3 ♙c1 23.♙c3 ♙a1 24.♙b1
♙c8 25.♙c2 ♙b8 26.♙a3 a6.
5. 1.♙b8 ♙b7 2.♙d5 ♙b3 3.♙b4 ♙c3# 1.♙g6 ♙f5 2.♙b4 ♙b1 3.♙d3 ♙a2#
6. 1...♙a7 -2.a5 ♙b8 -3.a4 ♙a7 -4.e7 ♙c5xb6 -5.e6 ♙c5 -6.e5 ♙f8 -7.b6 ♙g5xh6 -8.b5 ♙g5 -9.b4
♙h4 -10.b3 ♙g3 -11.h6 ♙h2 -12.h5 g2-g1=B -13.h4 g3-g2 -14.h3 g4-g3 -15.g3x♙f4.

יואב למד מתמטיקה באוניברסיטה העברית והקים עם שני שותפים את חברת התוכנה מיקרונט שבשיאה העסיקה 70 עובדים. לפני כעשור חלה יואב במחלה שפגעה במערכת החיסונית שלו והוא נאלץ להיות מרותק לבית. בשנים האחרונות חזר לחבר כאשר הוא מתמקד בבעיות רטרוגרדיות. הנה כמה יצירות מהעשור האחרון.

Yoav studied mathematics in the Hebrew University and established, with two partners, the software company Micronet, employing 70 people at its peak. About a decade ago Yoav got ill with a disease harming his immune system and had to be confined to his house. He returned to composing in the last years, focusing on retrograde analysis problems. Here are several problems from the last decade.



בעיות 3-5 מציגות באופן מגוון תמרון לויד-טורטון. בבעיה 3, שבה צריך להגיע מעמדת ההתחלה של המשחק לעמדת הדיאגרמה תוך 10 וחצי מסעים, משולב הלוייד-טורטון עם בריסטול. התמרון מופיע גם בלבן (צא1-5א, מהד1-4א, מהא4-1א, צא5-2א וגם בשחור (רג2-6ז, מהד7-5י, מהה5-1ב, רז6-2ג). בעיה 4 היא בעיה מקסימה שבה הלוייד-טורטון משולב עם סוויצ'בק פעם אחת בצבעים מעורבים (צג3-3ה, צד6-3ד, צד3-3ג, צג3-1ג, צה3-3ג) ופעם בשחור בלבד עם המלך והצריח ח8. בעיה 5 היא מט עזר שבו הלוייד-טורטון משולב עם בריסטול. ולסיום, בעיה שחיבר יחד עם אנדרי פרולקין, ובה צריך לגלות מה היו 14 המסעים האחרונים של שחור. שימו לב שהשחור צריך להזדרז ולשחרר את בלוק הכלים. המסעים המוצגים בפתרון הם מסעים רטרו – ולכן המיספור שלהם הוא שלילי כלומר עם הסימן מינוס לפני מספר המסע.

Problems 3-5 show a variety of ways to present the Loyd-Turton maneuver. In problem 3, in which the diagram position must be reached in ten and a half moves from the initial game position, the Loyd-Turton is combined with Bristol. The maneuver appears in white (Ra1-a5, Qd1-a4, Qa4-a1, Ra5-a2) and in black (Bc2-g6, Qd7-f5, Qf5-b1, Bg6-c2). The charming No.4 combines the Loyd-Turton with switchback once in mixed colors (Rc3-e3, Rd6-d3, Rd3-c3, Rc3-c1, Re3-c3) and once only by black with the king and Rh8. No.5 is a helpmate in which the Loyd-Turton is combined with Bristol. Finally, a problem Yoav composed with Andrei Frolkin. The task is to find what were the last 14 black

moves. Note that black must hurry to untangle the block of pieces. The move presented in the solution are retro-moves thus, they are negatively numbered with the minus sign before the move number.

בסוף השנה הקודמת חלה יואב בדלקת חריפה והוא אושפז בבית חולים ושם נדבק בנגיף הקורונה. יואב נפטר ביום האחרון של 2020. הנה כמה מילים מתוך ההספד שכתבה ביתו ענת, המעידות על חשיבות בעיות השחמט בחייו.

אבא שלי אהוב.

בשבוע שעבר דיברתי איתך יותר מכל השנה האחרונה.

אמרתי לי שכל אדם צריך להשאיר חותם בלכתו. שלחיים יש משמעות אם אתה מרגיש שהשארית משהו אחרייך. שאלתי אותך איזה חותם אתה משאיר והדבר הראשון שעלה לך לראש היה חידת שח שפירסמת. שאלת אותי אם אני חושבת שזה משמעותי, עניתי שכן, ואיכשהו עברנו נושא בתוך השיחה.

Last year Yoav got sick with a severe inflammation. While he was hospitalized he got infected with the corona virus. Yoav passed away in the last day of 2020. Here are a few words from the obituary written by his daughter Anat, which testify to the importance of chess problems in his life.

My beloved father.

Last week I talked with you more than the entire year.

You told me that every person must leave a mark after he is gone. That life is meaningful if you feel that you left something after you. I asked you what is the mark you are leaving and the first thing that came to your mind was a chess problem you published. You asked me if I think this is meaningful, I said yes, and somehow we moved to another subject.

דבר המערכת

בתחילת הדברים בגיליון זה נציין את כתבתו של עופר קומאי על יואב בן-צבי ז"ל (עמ' 24). כתבה נוספת על יואב כתב יוחנן אפק בגיליון מרץ של המגזין הבריטי החשוב The Problemist.

כנס הפרובלמאים השנתי יערך השנה ב-20 במאי בביתו של פז עינת בנס ציונה. הזמנה רשמית תשלח לכל חברי האיגוד. תחרות החיבור "קדם הכנס" יצאה אל הדרך, השופט הוא פז עינת ומנהל התחרות אליו יש לשלוח את הבעיות הוא עומר פרידלנד.

גיליון זה נפתח במדורו של גדי, והפעם מדור יוצא דופן על המחבר אלכסנדר ז'וקוב המפרסם את סיומיו בעיקר בפייסבוק. גדי מביא רק את ה"כוכבים" מהסיומים שלו – את עמדות המפתח של הסיומים.

בדוח של אמציה לסיומים לשנת 2020 יצירות נהדרות של מיטב המחברים מהעולם שפורסמו אצלנו. נהדר לראות את כניסתם לדוח של יצירותיו הראשונות של המחבר הצעיר איתי ריכרדסון וכניסתו המחודשת של סבו, יהודה הוך.

הדוח למטי לדעת לשנים 2019-2020 מופיע בעמוד 6. ברכתו למרק ארנבורג על הפרס הראשון (המשותף) ולבני פריאל על ציון השבח השלישי.

הדוח למטי עזר ב-2 עד 3 מסעים, בשיפוטו של ידידנו ריקרדו ויירה, מופיע בעמוד 10. מחברנו לקחו את שלושת הפרסים הראשונים! ברכות לז'אן היימן על הפרס הראשון ולמישה שפירו, גדי קוסטף, ועופר קומאי על בעייתם המשותפת שלקחה את הפרס השני. כותב שורות אלה לקח את הפרס השלישי. עופר גם שותף לבעיית הפרס החמישי עם קריסטר יונסון השבדי ורולף ויאהאן הגרמני, ובעיה נוספת של ז'אן היימן זכתה בפרס מיוחד.

הדוח הרביעי בחוברת (עמוד 14) הוא לרב-מסעיות לשנים 2018-2020. עקב מיעוט בעיות בתחום זה הדוח כולל רק ארבעה בעיות. ברכות למיכאל פסמן על ציון הכבוד הראשון לבעיית הבכורה שלו.

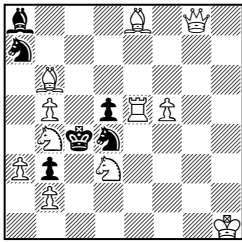
במדור "ישראלים מצטיינים בחו"ל" של עמנואל הצלחות נאות של מנחם ועמנואל במטי עזר ושל מרק במטי לדעת. הבעיה האגדתית של מיכאל, המשלבת מספר תנאים אגדתיים עם כלים ניטרליים, שווה עיון מעמיק.

אנו פותחים במדור חדש בעריכתו של מיכאל פסמן המביא את ההצלחות של מחברי הסיומים שלנו בחו"ל. במדור הצלחותיהם של אמציה אבני, יוחנן אפק ומיכאל פסמן, כאשר 4 מתוך 5 הסיומים במדור הם הצלחות בתחרויות UAPA של האיגוד הארגנטיני.

במדור הבעיות המקוריות רק שלוש בעיות מט ב-2, אך כרגיל שלל של מטי עזר ואגדתיות. המחבר הצעיר והמבטיח איתי ריכרדסון מופיע במדור עם רב מסעית, שני סיומים (אחד משותף עם יהודה הוך), שלושה מטי עזר ואגדתית אחת (פט עזר).

פתרון שלב רבע הגמר אליפות הארץ בפתרון בעיות שחמט – 2021

Zvi Hashavit (v. Paz Einat)
Probleemblad 1958

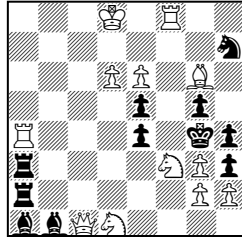


#2 11+6

1. ♖xd5! [2. ♗e5#]
1... ♟f3/♟dc6/♟ac6 2. ♗d4/♗e5/♗c5#
1... ♟xd5+ 2. ♖xd5#
Thematic key, Unpins, dual avoidance

Shlomo Seider

1st Place Israel-Brazil 1969-71



#2 12+11

1. ♖b2 ? hgx3! 1. ♖c3 ? hgx2!
1. ♖c2 ? 1... ♟d4!
1.e7! [2. ♖c8#]
1... ♖c2/♖c2 2. ♗xe4/♟f2#
1... ♖c3/ 2. ♗xe5/♗e3#
1... ♟f6, ♟xf8/♗xf3 2. ♖xg5/gxf3#
Novotny tries, double Grimshaw

בשלב רבע הגמר השתתפו 180 פותרים. מתוכם 130 פתרו נכונה את הבעיה הראשונה, 96 פתרו נכונה את הבעיה השנייה, ו-80 פתרו נכון את שתי הבעיות.

עלו לשלב חצי הגמר 146 משתתפים שפתרו לפחות את אחת מהבעיות. משתתפי חצי הגמר קבלו 6 בעיות מסוגים שונים לפתרון (מט ב-2, מט ב-3, מט ב-4, סיום, מט עזר ומט לדעת). על הפותרים לשלוח את פתרוניהם עד ל-15 באפריל.

עדיין לא נקבע מועד לשלב הגמר המיועד להיערך במרוכז באולם. תוצאות שלב הגמר יקבעו את הרכב נבחרת ישראל לאלופות העולם, אם תקיים.

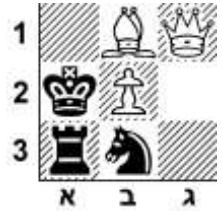
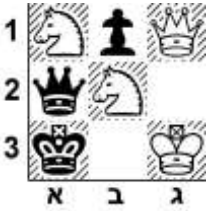
וּרְיָאנְטִים

ביטאון האיגוד לקומפוזיציה שחמטית בישראל

ת.ד. 2078 פתח תקוה 4912002

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מס' 83 – אפריל 2021



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עורכי מדורי בעיות מקוריות:

רגילות: עופר קומאי

סיומים: גדי קוסטף

אגדתיות: מיכאל גרושקו, ת.ד. 363, קרית ביאליק 27019

האיגוד לקומפוזיציה שחמטית בישראל הוא עמותה שמטרתה לקדם את תחום בעיות השחמט בישראל. העמותה עורכת תחרויות חיבור, תחרויות פתרונים, ומפרסמת פרסומים שונים. העמותה משתתפת באירועים בין-לאומיים הכוללים את אליפות העולם בפתרון בעיות שחמט, אליפות העולם בחיבור בעיות שחמט ואירועים נוספים.

הברות באיגוד לקומפוזיציה 2020

החברות באיגוד הקומפוזיציה פתוחה לכל חובבי השחמט ובעיות השחמט.

דמי החבר כוללים קבלת חוברת וריאנטים ופרסומים נוספים והשתתפות במגוון אירועים.

דמי חבר רגילים: 210 ש"ח. דמי חבר לנוער, חיילים בחובה וגמלאים: 160 ש"ח. דמי עמית: 260 ש"ח.

למצטרפים חדשים, או מי שלא היה חבר בשלוש השנים האחרונות, דמי החבר הם 100 ש"ח.

יש לשלוח את דמי החבר בהמחאה לכתובת הרשומה מעלה לפקודת: האיגוד לקומפוזיציה שחמטית בישראל



מפגש חודשי, מרץ 2021. מרימים כוסית לכבוד ההישג של מרק ארנבורג במחלקת המט לדעת של אלבום

פיד"ה 2015-2018. משמאל לימין: נבון, ארנבורג, ויצטום, עינת.

Monthly meeting, March 2021. Celebrating Mark Erenburg's achievement in the selfmate section of the 2015-2018 FIDE Album. Left to right: Navon, Erenburg, Witztum, Einat