



**WORLD FEDERATION
FOR CHESS COMPOSITION**

**10th WORLD CHESS COMPOSITION
TOURNAMENT 2016-2017**

**FINAL
AWARD**

December 2017



**WORLD FEDERATION
FOR CHESS COMPOSITION**

**10 КОМАНДНЫЙ
ЧЕМПИОНАТ МИРА 2016-2017**

ОКОНЧАТЕЛЬНЫЕ РЕЗУЛЬТАТЫ

Декабрь 2017

In Memoriam

Aleksandr Manvelyan	ARM	(04.06.1946 - 21.06.2015)
Philippe Robert	FRA	(02.08.1938 - 17.04.2016)
Miroslav Šindelář	CZE	(28.09.1948 - 09.06.2016)
Albert Ivanov	MDA	(05.10.1937 - 07.11.2016)
Viktor Aberman	USA	(03.10.1953 - 08.11.2016)
Josef Kupper	SUI	(10.03.1932 - 05.06.2017)

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The 10th World Chess Composition Tournament (WCCT) of the WFCC is completed. In total 38 countries participated in the tournament with 684 compositions in eight sections. This booklet contains 489 problems of 258 authors which were included in the final award.

My sincere thanks to the team captains, the coordinators and judges in the countries as well as to Harry Fougiaxis (the WFCC President and the Director of previous WCCT), all of whom helped to ensure that the tournament was concluded successfully.

This document contains final results together with judges' comments and additional statistical data.

Several big changes were made to the tournament rules. First, this tournament has included a new section (retros), while only 7 best section results are taken into account for team score. Second, the highest and lowest marks for the problem are discarded in all cases and if a composition belongs to a judging country, the sum of the two middle scores multiplied by one and a half becomes the score for the problem. Third, the scale step of 0.2 was introduced instead of 0.5 in previous tournaments. It is yet to determine if the latter change is an improvement, though I have received one complaint that it is more difficult to judge using new scale.

According to the rules only the best two compositions score the points for the country, while the third, if it does not make in "Top 20" is not included in the award at all and not considered published. Similarly if a composition has received a zero score from two or more judging countries it is excluded from the tournament and receives no points. Such problems are stroked through in the tables; their placement is not taken into account. There were a number of cases when second and third problems of the same country scored equal points. In such cases the problem with higher best mark was left in the award.

Georgy Evseev
The Director of 10th WCCT

10-й Командный Чемпионат мира по шахматной композиции WFCC завершен. Всего в турнире приняли участие 38 стран с 684 композициями в восьми разделах. Этот буклет содержит 489 задач 258 авторов, вошедших в окончательный зачет.

Я искренне благодарю капитанов команд, координаторов и судей в странах, а также Гарри Фуджиаксиса (президента WFCC и Директора предыдущего WCCT), все из которых помогли обеспечить успешное завершение турнира.

Этот документ содержит окончательные результаты турнира, а также комментарии и дополнительные статистические данные.

В правила турнира было внесено несколько больших изменений. Во-первых, этот турнир включает в себя новый раздел (ретро), но в то же время только 7 лучших результатов по разделам учитываются для команды. Во-вторых, наивысшие и самые низкие оценки для каждой задачи отбрасываются во всех случаях, и если композиция принадлежит стране-судье, сумма двух средних баллов, умноженная на полтора, становится оценкой задачи. В-третьих, был введен шаг шкалы 0,2 вместо 0,5 в предыдущих турнирах. Пока еще не ясно, является ли последнее изменение улучшением, хотя я получил одну жалобу, согласно которой судить по новой шкале сложнее.

Согласно правилам только лучшие две композиции оценивают баллы для страны, а третья, если она не делает в «Топ-20», вообще не включена в присуждение и не считается опубликованной. Точно также, если композиция получила нулевой балл от двух или более судейских стран, она исключается из турнира и не получает очков. Такие проблемы вычеркнуты в таблицах, занятое ими место не учитывается. Был ряд случаев, когда вторая и третья композиции одной и той же страны набрали равные баллы. В таких случаях задача с высшим лучшим баллом оставлена в присуждении.

Георгий Евсеев
Директор 10-го WCCT

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BEST INDIVIDUAL SCORES

1.	Gavrilovski Zoran	MKD	87,7
2.	Khramtsevich Mikhail	BLR	68,93
3.	Lois Jorge	ARG	61,1
4.	Zidek Alexander	AUT	58,4
5.	Paavilainen Jorma	FIN	50,45
6.	Gasparyan Alexey	ARM	48,5
7.	Nielsen Steffen Slumstrup	DEN	41,7
8.	Miloseski Bosko	TUR	35,4
9.	Caillaud Michel	FRA	35,3
10.	Šivic Klemen	SLO	35,3
11.	Narayanan C. G. S.	IND	33,3
12.	Bourd Evgeni	ISR	32,9
13.	Taylor Stephen	GBR	30,8
14.	Kovačević Marjan	SRB	30,4

Only problems that score points were counted (in all sections). The points for joint compositions were equally divided between co-authors. The composers with at least 30 points are listed.

BEST INDIVIDUAL PRESENTATION RATING

1.	Khramtsevich Mikhail	BLR	20,19
2.	Gavrilovski Zoran	MKD	15,06
3.	Maranduk Mikhail	UKR	14,72
4.	Bourd Evgeni	ISR	14,46
5.	Volchek Viktor	BLR	14,3
6.	Semenenko Aleksandr	UKR	14,08
7.	Kuzovkov Alexander	RUS	13,35
8.	Zaitsev Viktor	BLR	13,2
9.	Semenenko Valery	UKR	12,85
10.	Grinblat ArieH	ISR	12,68
11.	Kovačević Marjan	SRB	12,64
12.	Comay Ofer	ISR	12,63
13.	Kopyl Valery	UKR	12,58
14.	Gurov Valery	RUS	12,5
15.	Klemanič Emil	SVK	12,20
16.	Salai jr. Ladislav	SVK	12,20
17.	Kryzhanivskiy Vasyl	UKR	11,95
18.	Narayanan C. G. S.	IND	11,93
19.	Becker Richard	USA	11,67
10.	Paavilainen Jorma	FIN	11,58
21.	Shanshin Valery	RUS	11,47
22.	Belchikov Nikolaj	BLR	11,37
23.	Lois Jorge	ARG	11,33
24.	Tribowski Marcel	GER	11,07
25.	Hurme Harri	FIN	10,27

Only problems in "Top 20" were counted. The score is calculated as a sum of average points for "Top 20" problems and a number of such problems. The points for joint compositions are fully accounted for each co-author. The composers with at least 3 problems in "Top 20" are listed.

RESULTS

The winner of the 10th WCCT is Russia, ahead of Ukraine and Germany. All 38 participating countries received points. The table with the full results is as follows:

Place	Country	Code	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	Total
1	Russia	RUS	17.2	19.4	19.2	16.8	17.4	18.4	16.6	16.4	125.0
2	Ukraine	UKR	15.3	17.2	18.3	17.4	16.4	18.3	18.0	18.0	123.6
3	Germany	GER	16.6	15.4	12.4	19.5	13.0	17.1	17.0	15.9	114.5
4	Israel	ISR	14.4	15.8	15.4	14.1	18.9	14.0	16.6	15.6	110.8
5	Belarus	BLR	17.0	18.3	15.0	15.0	13.2	17.4	13.5	12.4	109.4
6	Serbia	SRB	15.3	10.4	12.4	12.4	14.4	17.0	17.8	10.0	99.7
7	United States	USA	9.4	11.0	12.2	19.4	14.0	11.4	15.2	15.6	98.8
8	Slovakia	SVK	12.8	10.6	14.6	12.6	15.0	13.8	12.8	12.6	94.2
9	Finland	FIN	14.0	16.8	11.4	9.3	13.4	12.8	11.0	13.5	92.9
10	Macedonia	MKD	13.6	13.6	16.6	7.0	14.6	16.2	9.6	8.4	92.6
11	France	FRA	11.8	9.8	8.8	0.0	12.2	13.4	11.0	19.5	86.5
12	Netherlands	NED	8.4	12.0	9.2	13.5	11.8	6.6	15.0	15.0	84.9
13	Poland	POL	0.0	10.0	11.6	15.0	13.8	14.6	10.8	7.4	83.2
14	India	IND	12.2	17.1	6.4	0.0	13.2	14.4	14.4	5.4	83.1
15	Argentina	ARG	10.8	10.4	9.8	3.0	13.6	9.2	10.4	17.4	81.6
16	Great Britain	GBR	13.2	12.8	6.2	0.0	12.8	12.0	13.4	10.8	81.2
17	Hungary	HUN	8.0	9.0	6.8	12.0	12.6	12.0	10.2	12.8	76.6
18	Austria	AUT	10.2	11.0	10.0	1.0	11.2	14.8	7.6	7.0	71.8
19	Armenia	ARM	2.0	12.6	6.6	12.0	11.6	10.4	9.0	9.4	71.6
20	Czech Republic	CZE	11.4	11.0	6.4	13.4	6.4	10.8	7.8	8.4	69.2
21	Switzerland	SUI	11.0	8.7	11.0	0.0	11.0	13.4	13.5	0.0	68.6
22	Italy	ITA	13.4	9.0	3.0	3.6	12.2	7.0	9.0	11.4	65.6
23	Georgia	GEO	9.8	2.8	7.6	13.6	8.6	7.8	7.6	7.4	62.4
24	Romania	ROU	6.4	6.4	3.6	8.6	6.6	2.8	14.4	10.2	56.2
25	Slovenia	SLO	8.2	0.0	0.0	6.0	9.4	9.0	12.0	8.6	53.2
26	Denmark	DEN	6.2	0.0	5.2	17.8	8.2	0.0	9.6	4.4	51.4
27	Sweden	SWE	5.2	0.0	2.1	0.0	10.4	8.6	9.6	13.8	49.7
28	Croatia	CRO	1.5	6.3	8.0	0.0	9.2	13.0	11.0	0.0	49.0
29	Spain	ESP	6.4	3.4	1.4	13.0	4.2	11.0	4.4	4.6	47.0
30	Turkey	TUR	7.2	4.4	8.4	2.6	0.0	7.0	6.8	5.4	41.8
31	Lithuania	LTU	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.0	0.0	11.2	9.2	34.4
32	Azerbaijan	AZE	9.0	3.8	0.0	0.0	12.2	7.6	0.0	0.0	32.6
33	Japan	JPN	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	10.6	4.5	0.0	21.3
34	Brazil	BRA	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.2
35	Greece	GRE	5.8	0.0	2.6	0.0	4.2	0.0	4.8	0.0	17.4
36	Mongolia	MGL	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.4	9.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.2
37	Belgium	BEL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	11.0	0.0	14.0
38	Moldova	MDA	3.2	0.0	2.2	0.0	4.6	3.6	0.0	0.0	13.6

NUMBER OF ENTRIES PER COUNTRY

Country	Code	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	Total
Argentina	ARG	3	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	18
Armenia	ARM	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	24
Austria	AUT	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	24
Azerbaijan	AZE	3	2	-	-	3	3	-	-	11
Belarus	BLR	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	24
Belgium	BEL	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	3
Brazil	BRA	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	3
Croatia	CRO	1	1	2	2	3	3	3	-	15
Czech Republic	CZE	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	24
Denmark	DEN	3	-	1	3	3	-	3	3	16
Finland	FIN	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	24
France	FRA	3	3	3	-	3	3	3	2	20
Georgia	GEO	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	23
Germany	GER	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	24
Great Britain	GBR	3	2	3	-	3	3	3	3	20
Greece	GRE	3	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	7
Hungary	HUN	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	24
India	IND	3	3	2	1	3	3	3	2	20
Israel	ISR	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	24
Italy	ITA	3	3	1	1	3	3	3	3	20
Japan	JPN	2	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	6
Lithuania	LTU	1	-	-	-	3	-	3	3	10
Macedonia	MKD	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	23
Moldova	MDA	2	-	1	-	2	1	-	1	7
Mongolia	MGL	-	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	5
Netherlands	NED	3	3	3	3	3	1	2	3	21
Poland	POL	-	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	21
Romania	ROU	2	1	1	3	3	1	3	3	17
Russia	RUS	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	24
Serbia	SRB	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	24
Slovakia	SVK	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	24
Slovenia	SLO	3	-	-	3	3	2	3	3	17
Spain	ESP	3	1	1	3	3	2	3	1	17
Sweden	SWE	1	-	3	-	3	3	3	3	16
Switzerland	SUI	3	3	3	-	3	3	3	-	18
Turkey	TUR	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	3	18
Ukraine	UKR	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	24
United States	USA	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	24
Total		93	74	78	73	104	85	95	82	684

SECTION A: TWOMOVERS

Judging countries

Croatia, Great Britain, Israel, Serbia, Ukraine (Slovakia as reserve).

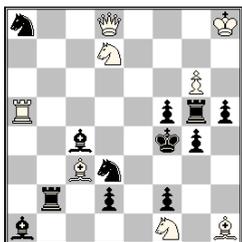
Theme: Anticipatory unpin of a white piece. In the diagram position a white piece A is not pinned. The first move of a try and/or solution ensures that this white piece A is not pinned later, in order to provide a mate.

General

We were disappointed to find a relatively small number of high-quality entries for this WCCT. Perhaps the set theme did not inspire composers to search for novelty? With a few exceptions, we found ourselves unable to award high scores. Some of the weaker entries, and even a few of the better ones, are marred by the presence of white units with no function in the post-key play, a defect that invariably led to a reduction in the score awarded. In many of the problems the set theme appears as an incidental feature. This approach is valid only if the work is otherwise interesting and original, but sadly this is not often the case. (GBR)

1st place – A049

Andreas Witt, Wieland Bruch
Germany



♠2 (8+12)
9.0 points

1... ♖c5 2. ♗e5♯

I.

1. ♗d~? (1. ♗b8) [2. ♖d4♯]
1... ♗c5 c 2. ♖d6♯
but 1... ♗b8/ ♗d5/ ♗xg6!

II.

1. ♗b6? [2. ♖d4♯] (1... ♗b8??)
1... ♗d5 2. ♗xd5♯
but 1... ♗xg6!

III.

1. ♗f8? [2. ♖d4♯]
(1... ♗b8? 2. ♖d4♯)
1... ♗xg6 2. ♗xg6♯
but 1... ♗d5!

IV.

1. ♗e5? [2. ♖d4♯]
1... ♗b8 2. ♗xd2♯
1... ♗d5 a 2. ♗xd3♯
1... ♗xg6 b 2. ♗xg6♯
but 1... ♗c5! (2. ♖d6♯??)

V.

1. ♗f6! [2. ♖d4♯]
1... ♗b8 2. ♗xd2♯
1... ♗d5 a 2. ♗xd5♯
1... ♗xg6 b 2. ♗xh5♯
1... ♗c5 c 2. ♖d6♯

Multistage attempt against the pinning defence 1... ♗b8!, first preventing the move, then anticipatory unpin of the W♖ and anticipatory unpin of the indirectly pinned Bishop! White correction. Avoidance of selfobstruction. three changed mates (Country)

A most attractive idea: the BR can safely play to b8 to pin the WQ as long as the wBc3 is pinned by this move, but as soon as the long diagonal is occupied by the WS from d7, 1...Rb8, though still playable, becomes ineffective because of 2.Bxd2#. Other attempts to deal with 1...Rb8 through line-closure lead to a number of changed mates in answer to Black's principal defences. (GBR)

A049 (continued)

The problem contains two thematic lines and four pin-avoidance moves. The first couple of tries prevent the pin move 1...Rb8 but fail to provide mates on either 1...Rxb6 or 1...Bd5. The next try and the solution abandon the attempt to avoid the 1...Rb8 pin but instead make a thematic anticipatory unpin of Wb3, enabling the mate 2.Bxd2#. The problem has the highest thematic content, which is combined with clear logic, mate changes and good construction. (ISR)

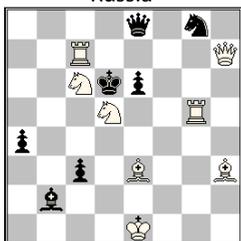
A logical fight against pinning, step by step. (SRB)

White correction, choice of the key, change of mates. (UKR)

2nd-3rd place – A006

Valery Shanshin

Russia



♠2

(8+7)

8.8 points

1. ♖cb4? [2. ♜c5# A]
 1...exd5 a 2. ♖xd5#
 (2. ♜c5? - pin)
 1...♙c6 2. ♖xc6#
 but 1...♙b5!

1. ♖ce7? [2. ♜c5# A]
 1...exd5 a 2. ♜f4#
 (2. ♜c5? ♙xc7!)
 1...♙c6 2. ♖c8#
 but 1...♜a3!

1. ♜e5! [2. ♖c4#]
 1...exd5 a 2. ♜c5# A
 1...♙c6 2. ♖f7#
 1...♙xd5 2. ♙d3#

Choice of anticipatory unpin of ♜e3 by ♖c6 with threat correction and Dombrovskis effect. Zagoruiko 3x2. (Country)

Threat correction and Dombrovskis effect, neatly constructed, though the BPa4 seems to be superfluous. (GBR)

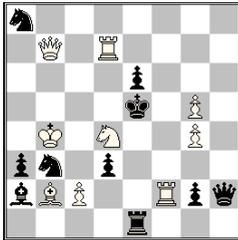
The try 1.Sc6? presents a prevention of the threat 2.Bc5# which appears as a mate on the thematic defense 1...exd5 in the solution (a Dombrovskis paradox element). The theme is presented in both try 1.Sce7? and solution showing a full 3x2 Zagoruiko. The construction and economy are excellent, the key grants a flight, the refutations are good, and the only slight blemish are the mates after the defense 1...Qc6. (ISR)

A successful Zagoruiko 3x2. (SRB)

Change of mates in three phases (Zagoruiko), choice of the key, Dombrovskis paradox. (UKR)

2nd-3rd place – A040

Nikolaj Bykov
Nikolaj Belchikov
Belarus



♯2 (9+10)

8.8 points

Dombrovskis, defense-based, Hannelius, Zagoruiko, critical moves, theme B2. (Country)

Three tries (the third is thematic) are the frame of Hannelius-theme; Zagoruiko on thematic defences is spread over all phases; from this elegant position emerge, moreover, the elements of Dombrovskis and Bikos quite naturally. (CRO)

Intricate line-play lies at the heart of this attractive Zagoruiko with the Hannelius pattern. Several entries make use of the mechanism where black line-pieces play to squares adjacent to the BK, with ensuing captures or self-blocks; this is one of the best of them. (GBR)

An excellent ideal Hannelius with inherent Dombrovskis paradox elements. The thematic defenses/refutations are extended into Zagoruiko over the four phases. The problem would score even higher if the 1.Kxa3 phase had been the solution. Problems with versions of the same matrix are A062 and A075 and we think that A040 is better than both. (ISR)

Hannelius theme, Dombrovskis in the form of defences, multiphase change of mates, anicritical moves, theme B2. (UKR)

1.cxd3? [2. ♖c6♯ A]
1... ♜e4 b 2. ♜xe4♯
1... ♘xd4 2. ♘xd4♯
but 1... ♜f4! a

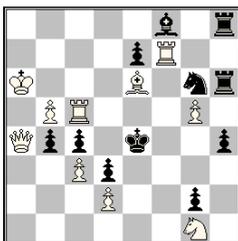
1. ♜f6? [2. ♘f3♯ B]
1... ♜f4 a 2. ♜xe6♯
1... ♘xd4 2. ♘xd4♯
but 1... ♜e4! b

1. ♙xa3? [2. ♘xb3♯]
1... ♜f4 a 2. ♘f3♯ B
1... ♜e4 b 2. ♘c6♯ A
1... ♘xd4 2. ♘xd4♯
but 1... ♜b1!

1. ♜f3! [2. ♘c6♯ A]
1... ♜f4 a 2. ♜xf4♯
1... ♜e4 b 2. ♜f6♯
1... ♘xd4 2. ♘xd4♯

4th-6th place – A065

Marco Guida
Italy



♯2 (10+11)

8.4 points

2x Dombrovskis paradox, Hannelius. Zagoruiko distributed across 6 phases: 3 different mates after each thematic defence in the first 4 thematic tries + solution; an additional, not strictly thematic try 1.Qd1? that introduces another 4th different mate after each thematic defence. (Country)

1... ♘e5 a 2. ♘d5♯ A ?
1... ♘f4 b 2. ♘f5♯ B ?

1. ♜f3? [2. ♘f5♯ B]
1... ♘f4 b 2. ♜e3♯ C
1... bxc3 2. ♜xc4♯
but 1... ♘e5! a

1. ♜cf5? [2. ♘d5♯ A]
1... ♘e5 a 2. ♜5f4♯ D
1... bxc3 2. ♜xc4♯
but 1... ♘f4! b

1. ♜ff5? [2. ♜xc4♯]
(not 2. ♘d5? A)
1... ♘e5 a 2. ♜cxe5♯ E
but 1... ♘g7!

1. ♘h3? [2. ♘f2♯]
(not 2. ♘f5? B)
1... ♘f4 b 2. ♜7xf4♯ F
1... bxc3 2. ♜xc4♯
but 1...g1 ♜/♘!

1. ♙d1? [2. ♜e1♯ G/2. ♜f3♯ H]
1... ♘e5 a 2. ♜e1♯ G
1... ♘f4 b 2. ♜f3♯ H
but 1...bxc3!

1.b6! [2. ♜c6♯]
1... ♘e5 a 2. ♘d5♯ A
1... ♘f4 b 2. ♘f5♯ B
1... bxc3 2. ♜xc4♯

A065 (continued)

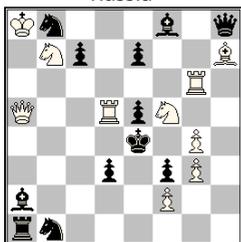
The basic pattern of white rooks and bishop is familiar, but the Dombrovskis and Hannelius effects are nonetheless striking. However, the very obvious key and threat detract from the overall impression of the problem. (GBR)

An original mix of Dombrovskis & Hannelius making something new from a well known mechanism. The position of the WQ invites the key and 1.Qd1? is weak as the half-defenses are not convincing here. (ISR)

Hannelius theme, Dombrovskis in the form of defences, multiphase change of mates. (UKR)

4th-6th place – A072

Pavel Murashev,
Valery Shanshin
Russia



♯2 (10+12)

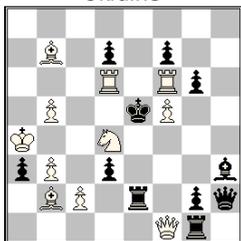
8.4 points

Choice of anticipatory unpin of ♖a5 or ♜b7, changed mates 3x1. Dombrovskis with double threat. Pseudo Burmistrov combination. (Country)

Dombrovskis with a double threat in the form of a refutation and defence, double pseudo-le Grand, change of mates. (UKR)

4th-6th place – A075

Vasyl Kryzhanivskiy,
Valery Kopyl
Ukraine



♯2 (11+11)

8.4 points

Three-phase change of mates after two defenses. Dombrovskis-Hannelius in the form of defenses. Bikos theme in the tries. Theme B2. (Country)

1. ♖gd6? [2. ♖e1♯ **A**,
2. ♜c5♯ **B**] (2. ♜fd6?)
1... e(c)xd6 2. ♜fxd6♯ **C**
but 1... ♜xd5! **A**
(2. ♖e1, ♜c5? – pin)

1. ♜g8? [2. ♖e1♯ **A**
2. ♜c5♯ **B**]
1... ♜xd5 **a** 2. ♜xd5♯
(2. ♖e1, ♜c5? – pin)
1... ♖xg8 2. ♜xe5♯
but 1... e6!

1. ♜a6? [2. ♜fd6♯]
1... ♜xd5 **a** 2. ♖e1♯ **A**
(2. ♜c5? – pin)
1... ♖xh7 2. ♜xe5♯
but 1... c5!

1. ♜c6! [2. ♜fd6♯]
1... ♜xd5 **a** 2. ♜c5♯ **B**
(2. ♖e1? – pin)
1... ♖xh7 2. ♜xe5♯

1. ♖f3? [2. ♜c6♯ **A**]
1... ♜e4 **a** 2. ♖xe4♯
1... ♖f4 **b** 2. ♖d5♯
but 1... axb2!

1. fxg6? [2. ♜f3♯ **B**]
1... ♜e4 **a** 2. ♜d5♯
1... ♖f4 **b** 2. ♖xf4♯
1... ♜f5 2. ♖xf5♯
but 1... ♜e6!

1. ♜xa3! [2. ♜xe2♯]
1... ♜e4 **a** 2. ♜c6♯ **A**
1... ♖f4 **b** 2. ♜f3♯ **B**
1... ♜xc2 2. ♜xc2♯

A075 (continued)

Excellent line-play and Dombrovskis. The weakness is that the try 1.Qf3? is clearly refuted by 1...axb2!, which leads the solver to play 1.Kxa3! immediately, with the risk that the second try 1.fxg6? might be overlooked. (GBR)

Thematic Dombro-Zagoruiko with same mechanism as **A062**. Here the key is better and only the refutation to the first try is a minus. (ISR)

The same mechanism as in **A040**, but better used. (SRB)

7th-8th place – A052

Mikhail Khramtsevich
Belarus



≠2 (10+10)

8.2 points

Zagoruiko, dual avoidance, theme is expressed twice. (Country)

Two thematic lines used for neat dual avoidance in the set and solution. The keys of both try and solution are thematic and the 3x2 Zagoruiko includes three different mates on e3. (ISR)

A clear-cut thematic Zagoruiko 3x2 in a good constructed position. (SRB)

Change of mates in three phases (Zagoruiko), changing the type of mating piece. (UKR)

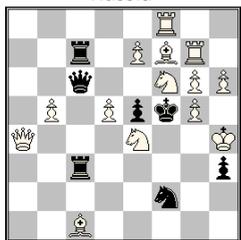
1... ♖xg6 2. ♜e6♯ (♜xd5?)
1... ♜h2 2.dxe3♯

1. ♖d6? [2. ♜e5♯]
1... ♖xg6 2. ♖xd5♯
1... ♜h2 2. ♜xe3♯
1... gxf4 2. ♖xf4♯
1... ♜xc4/♜c6 2. ♜c6♯
but 1... ♖e8!

1. ♖e7! [2. ♜e5♯]
1... ♖xg6 2. ♜xd5♯
1... ♜h2 2. ♖xe3♯ (♜xe3?)
1... ♖e6 2. ♜xe6♯
1... gxf4 2. ♖xf4♯
1... ♜xc4/♜c6 2. ♜c6♯

7th-8th place – A071

Valery Shanshin
Russia



≠2 (14+7)

8.2 points

not counted for team score

Anticipatory unpin of Se4 (2 variations), Mochalkin combination, Rudenko theme. Exchange of defences and refutations, Zagoruiko 3x2 in 4 phases. (Country)

1. ♖c2? [2. ♜d6♯ **A**/2. ♜g3♯ **B**]
1... ♖c4 **a** 2. ♜e6♯ **C**
1... ♖c4 **b** 2. ♖xf2♯
but 1... ♖e3!

1. ♜e8? [2. ♜e6♯ **C**]
1... ♖c4 **a** 2. ♜8d6♯
but 1... ♖c4! **b**

1. ♜h5? [2. ♜e6♯ **C**]
1... ♖c4 **b** 2. ♜hg3♯
but 1... ♖c4! **a**

1. ♜g4! [2. ♜e6♯ **C**]
1... ♖c4 **a** 2. ♜d6♯ **A**
1... ♖c4 **b** 2. ♜g3♯ **B**
1... ♖xd5 2. ♜xd5♯

A071 (continued)

Triple change of mates on two thematic defences is spread over three tries and solution; double threats of the first try reappear as mates after the same defences in the solution; by half-battery openings black moves acquire additional defensive motive, line closing, that enables them to refute the second and third try. (CRO)

An interesting Dombro-Zagoruiko (spread over 4 phases) with the solution's threat also appearing as mate after one of the thematic defenses. The try 1.Qc2? with the threats by the thematic knight is essential in emphasizing the thematic anticipatory unpin in the solution, but the role of the WQ in the solution is minor. (ISR)

Not economical, 3 pieces could have been saved. (SRB)

Mochalkin combination, multiphase change of play, choice of the key. (UKR)

9th place – A067

Marjan Kovačević
Serbia



♯2

(11+10)

7.8 points

- 1... ♖c5 2. ♗xg6♯
(2. ♘dxc5?, 2. ♘e5?)
- 1... ♖e5 2. ♘fxe5♯
(2. ♘dxe5?, 2. ♗xg6?)
- 1... ♖b7 2. ♗c4? 1... ♗g2 2. ♘e1?
- 1. ♖e6!** [2. ♗d5♯]
- 1... ♖c5 2. ♘xc5♯
(2. ♘de5?, 2. ♗xg6?)
- 1... ♖e5 2. ♘dxe5♯
(2. ♘c5?, 2. ♘fxe5?)
- 1... ♖b7 2. ♗c4♯
- 1... ♗xg2 2. ♘e1♯
- 1... ♘xb3/♘c2 2. ♗c2♯
- 1... ♖c4+ 2. ♗xc4♯

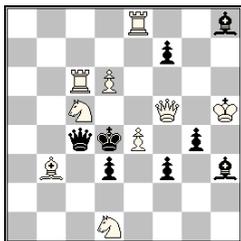
Quadruple anticipatory self-unpin (2+2). Java theme with changed mates. Mating pieces from the set play perform additional thematic mates in the solution. (Country)

An ingenious and amusing matrix, with entertaining changed play. (GBR)

A task of three thematic lines with four thematic black defenses and two mate changes. When the theme is executed without try play emphasizing the pin-lines it is of lesser value. (ISR)

10th-11th place – A019

Nikolaj Bykov,
Mikhail Khramtsevich,
Nikolaj Belchikov
Belarus



±2 (9+8)

7.6 points

not counted for team score

Zagoruiko, Salazar. (Country)

The thematic phase, the solution 1.e5! is an excellent addition to the two other phases which were shown by H. Ahues in 1986. While the problem now is more “complete” and the added phase is highly significant, the anticipation cannot be ignored and reduces the score. (ISR)

Pin-check-unpin combination with 3x2 change. (SRB)

Change of mates in three phases (Zagoruiko), Salazar. (UKR)

1... ♖xc5 2. ♗xc5#
1... ♗d5 2. ♗xd5#
(1. ♗g5? [2. ♗e3#] ♗e6!)

1. ♗f4? **B** [2. ♗e3#]
1... ♗xc5+ 2.e5# **A**
1... ♗d5+ 2.exd5#
1... ♗xb3 2. ♘xb3#
but 1... ♗c1!

1.e5! A [2. ♗e4#]
1... ♗xc5 2. ♗f4# B
1... ♗d5 2. ♗xd3#
1... ♘d5 2. ♗e4#

10th-11th place – A066

Klaus Förster
Germany



±2 (10+11)

7.6 points

Zagoruiko with twofold Dombrovskis paradox and pseudo-le-Grand, Bikos, flightgiving key. (Country)

The pin of the WQ prevents the mate 2.Qe5# until the square d3 is occupied. Along with other effects, this results in an attractive Zagoruiko in which the only serious weakness is the initial position of the key-piece. (GBR)

Good Zagoruiko with good flight-giving key. While the Dombrovskis element concerning Qxe5 is thematic, the one involving Rxc5 is not. The relative minority of the thematic elements here is the reason for a relatively low score for this good problem. (ISR)

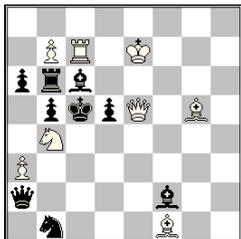
1. ♗d3? [2. ♖xc5# **B**]
1... ♘xc4 **a** 2.c7#
1... cxd4 **b** 2. ♗xd4#
but 1... ♘d7!

1. ♖bc3? [2. ♗e5# **A**]
1... ♘xc4 **a** 2. ♗xc4#
1... cxd4 **b** 2. ♖c5#
1... ♘hg6 2. ♗f3#
1... ♘fg6 2. ♗xe6#
but 1... ♘e3!

1. ♖d3! [2. ♖xc5# **B**]
1... ♘xc4 2. ♗e5# **A**
1... cxd4 2. ♖dx4#
1... ♘xc4 2. ♘b6#
1... ♘d7 2. ♗xe6#

12th-14th place – A018

Dragan Stojnić
Serbia



♠2

(8+9)

7.5 points

1. ♖e6? [2. ♗e7#]
1... ♜xb7 2. ♜xc6#
1... ♗h4 2. ♗e3#
but 1... ♖e2!

1. ♖d8? [2. ♗e7#]
1... ♖e2 2. ♖xd5#
1... ♜xb7 2. ♜xc6#
but 1... ♗h4!

1. ♖f7? [2. ♗e7#]
1... ♖e2 2. ♖xd5#
1... ♗h4 2. ♗e3#
but 1... ♜xb7!

1. ♜f8! [2. ♗e7#]
1... ♖e2 2. ♖xd5#
1... ♜xb7 2. ♜xc6#
1... ♗h4 2. ♗e3#

The most economical presentation of 3 thematic variations with 3 thematic tries on 3 different lines. (Country)

By leaving the focal point of three pin-lines WK must not remain on any of them in order to avoid harmful pinning; this is a most extensive presentation of the theme. (CRO)

The choice of the key, three precise variations with moves of analogous pieces. (UKR)

12th-14th place – A044

John Rice
Great Britain



♠2

(10+9)

7.5 points

1. ♖e7? [2. ♗d4# / ♗c5# / ♗g5#]
1... ♜xe3 2. ♖h4#
1... d4 2. ♗ef4#
1... ♗e5 2. ♗c5#
but 1... ♜a6!

1. ♖d6? [2. ♗c5#]
1... ♜xe3 2. ♖f4#
1... ♗b4 2. ♖e5#
but 1... ♗d4!

1. ♖a3? [2. ♗c5#]
1... ♗b4 / ♗d4 2. ♖d3#
1... d4 2. bxa8 ♖ / ♗#
but 1... ♜xe3!

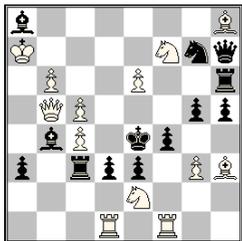
1. ♖b6! [2. ♗c5#]
1... ♗b4 / ♗d4 2. ♖xd4#
1... ♜xe3 2. ♖xe3#
1... d4 2. ♖c6#

The white ♖ closes the bent line a2-g6 to prevent pin of the threat-piece. Three different replies each to 1... ♗b4, 1... ♜xe3 and 1... d4 across four phases. Change of mates in three phases (Zagoruiko), choice of the key, Dombrovskis paradox. (Country)

Two thematic tries show anticipatory interference on the pin line and the third is an interference on the approach line. Good logic and various changes after 1... Rxe3 & 1..Bb4 which act also as refutations. (ISR)

12th-14th place – A092

Paz Einat
Israel



♯2 (13+13)
7.5 points

1.gxf4? [2. ♖d6♯ A/♜xg5♯ B]
1... ♜xe6 a 2. ♜g3♯
1... ♜f5 b 2. ♜g2♯
1...g4 c 2. ♜d6♯ A
1... ♜xc5 d 2. ♜xg5♯ B
1...gxf4 2. ♜xf4♯ C
1... ♜xc4 e 2. ♜xc4♯
but 1...d2!

1. ♜d7! [2. ♜d4♯]
1... ♜xe6 a 2. ♜d6♯ A
1... ♜f5 b 2. ♜xg5♯ B
1...g4 c 2. ♜xf4♯ C
1... ♜xc5 d 2. ♜xc3♯
1... ♜xc4 e 2. ♜xd3♯
1... ♜d5 2. ♜xd5♯

Dombrovskis paradox. Ideal Rukhlis involving two half-defenses in the try. 3-fold condensed Rukhlis. A total of 5 mate changes. (Country)

The combination of Dombrovskis paradox and ideal Rukhlis, along with additional changed play, is a notable achievement. (GBR)

Rudenko theme with change of mates and antidual choice of mates. There is no ideal Rukhlis. This is also not the change of five mates: there is a change of three mates and separation of threats in partial defences. (UKR)

15th-16th place – A039

Janne Syväniemi,
Harri Hurme
Finland



♯2 (9+10)
7.4 points

1... ♜h2 a 2. ♜xe3♯ A1
1...dxc4 2. ♜xc4♯
1...e4 2. ♜d2♯

1. ♜c~? [2. ♜d3♯] ♜h2!/♜c5!
1. ♜d6? [(♜c3) 2. ♜d3♯,
(e4) 2. ♜d2♯]
1... ♜c5 2. ♜xc5♯
but 1... ♜h2!

1. ♜a3? [2. ♜d3♯]
1... ♜c5 2. ♜xb4♯
1...e4 2. ♜d2♯
but 1... ♜h2! a

1. ♜b2? [2. ♜d3♯]
1...e4 2. ♜d2♯
but 1... ♜c5! b

1. ♜d2? [2. ♜d3♯]
1... ♜c5 b 2. ♜xc5♯ B1
but 1...e4!

1. ♜a5! [2. ♜d3♯]
1... ♜h2 a 2. ♜c6♯ A2
1... ♜c5 b 2. ♜xb4♯ B2
1...e4 2. ♜d2♯

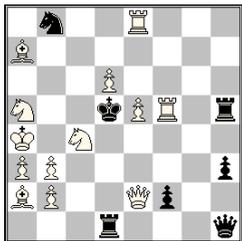
White correction. Changed mates. (Country)

White corrective play at four squares on two thematic lines is very interesting: by moving to a3 and b2 the knight only separates two thematic defences as refutations, its arrival to d2 fails on a side-defence, while after the key the mates for all three defences are provided for. (CRO)

Black has two thematic ways of parrying the threatened 2.Qd3♯. 1.Sa3? and 1.Sb2? deal with one defence but not the other, while 1.Sd2? deals with both but fails to a different defence through self-obstruction. The key provides a new mate in reply to 1...Qh2. (GBR)

15th-16th place – A062

Zoran Gavrilovski
Macedonia



±2 (13+7)

7.4 points

1. ♖e3? [2. ♜b6# **A**]
1... ♜d4 2. ♖xd4#
1... ♖e4 2. ♖c5#
(1... ♜h4 2.e6#)
but 1... ♜d7!

1. ♜f4? [2. ♜e3# **B**]
1... ♜d4 2. ♖xd4#
1... ♖e4 2. ♖xe4#
(1... ♜d3 2. ♖xd3#
1... ♜xe5 2. ♜xe5#/♖xe5#
1... ♖f3 2. ♖xf3#)
but 1... f1 ♜!

1.b4! [2. ♜d2#]
1... ♜d4 2. ♜b6# **A**
1... ♖e4 2. ♜e3# **B**
(1... ♜a1/♜c1/♜d3 2. ♖xd3#
1... ♜h4 2.e6#
1... ♖f3 2. ♖xf3#)

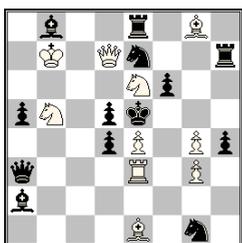
Zagoruiko 3x2 with Dombrovskis paradox after defences in which: 1) defensive motive is changed from pinning in the tries to direct guard in the solution; 2) harmful effect of the defences is changed from sacrifice or selfblock in the tries to Somov selfblock in the solution. (Country)

Thematic Dombro-Zagoruiko - elegant but the obvious key due to position of WBa2 is a minus. Very similar to A075 which, in our opinion, is better. (ISR)

Rf5 doesn't play in solution, Ba2 in the tries. (SRB)

17th-18th place – A082

Paz Einat, Emanuel Navon
Israel



±2 (10+13)

6.9 points

1. ♜xd4? [2. ♖e6#]
1... ♜e~ a 2. ♜c6#
1... ♖d6 **b** 2. exd5#
1... hxg3 2. ♜xg3#
but 1... dxe4!

1. ♜f4? [2. ♖e6#]
1... ♜e~ a 2. ♜g6#
1... ♖d6 **b** 2. ♜d3#
1... dxe4 2. ♖xd4#
but 1... hxg3!

1. ♜g7? [2. ♖e6#]
1... ♜e~ a 2. ♖xf5#
but 1... ♖d6!

1. ♜f8, ♜d8? ♖d6!

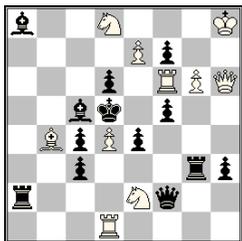
1. ♜ec7! [2. ♖e6#]
1... ♜e~ a 2. ♖xf5#
1... ♖d6 **b** 2. ♖xd6#
1... dxe4 2. ♖xd4#
1... hxg3 2. ♜xg3#

Zagoruiko 3x2. (Country)

Zagoruiko 3x2. (SRB)

17th-18th place – A083

Vasyl Dyachuk,
Vladimir Ryabtsev,
Dmitry Grinchenko
Ukraine



♯2 (10+13)
6.9 points

1.e8♔? [2.♖xf7♯]
1...♗xd4 a 2.♘f4♯
1...♙xd4 b 2.♗b5♯
1...e3 2.♘xc3♯
but 1...♖a7!

1.♗f4? [2.♖xf5♯ A]
1...♗xd4 a 2.♗xf5♯
1...♙xd4 b 2.♗xd6♯
1...♖g5 2.♘xc3♯
1...♗xf4 2.♘xf4♯
but 1...fxg6!

1.♖g7! [2.♗xf7♯]
1...♗xd4 a 2.♖xf5♯ A
1...♙xd4 b 2.♖xd6♯
1...e3 2.♘xc3♯

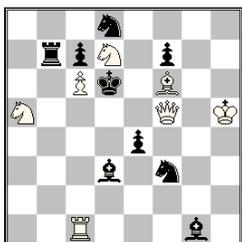
Dombrovskis paradox; Zagoruiko. Thematic defenses on the same square. Change of type of mating pieces. (Country)

Fine unity is achieved through the captures on d4, with ingenious changed play across three phases. (GBR)

Good Zagoruiko involving five pin-mates with nice refutations. The WQ/QR mates on f5 & d6 are very nice. Thematically, only Rxf5 is emphasized by the try and we preferred problems in which both mates by the thematic piece are emphasized. (ISR)

19th-22nd place – A010

C. G. S. Narayanan
India



♯2 (7+9)
6.6 points

1.♘b8? [2.♗d7♯]
1...♙c4 2.♘axc4♯
1...♘e6 2.♘axb7♯
but 1...♖b5!

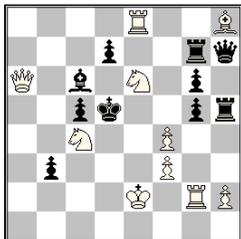
1.♘c5? [2.♗d7♯]
1...♙c4 2.♘xe4♯
1...♘e6 2.♘cxb7♯
but 1...♙c2! (1...♖b5?)

1.♘e5! [2.♗d7♯] (1...♖b5?)
1...♙c4 2.♘exc4♯
1...♘e6 2.♘xf7♯
1...♘xe5 2.♗xe5♯
1...♙d5 2.♗d7♯

Anticipatory unpin of W♗ by 1.♘c5 and 1.♘e5. Zagoruiko theme (changed mates in three phases after 1...♙c4/♘e6). (Country)

19th-22nd place – A055

Dragan Stojnić
Serbia



♠2 (10+10)

6.6 points

not counted for team score

1... ♖h~ 2. ♜xg5♠ **A**
(1... ♜xh2! **x**)

1... ♗~ 2. ♘e3♠ **B**
(1... ♗b5! **y**)

1... ♖g~ 2. ♘c7♠ **C**
(1... ♖e7! **z**)

1. ♘d1! [2. ♖d2♠]

1... ♜xh2 **x** 2. ♜xg5♠ **A**

1... ♗b5 **y** 2. ♘e3♠ **B**

1... ♖e7 **z** 2. ♘c7♠ **C**

1. ♗f1? [2. ♖d2♠] ♗b5! **y**

1. ♗e1? [2. ♖d2♠] ♖e7! **z**

Triple secondary Dombrovskis with pinning on 3 lines. (Country)

19th-22nd place – A069

Janne Syväniemi,
Harri Hurme
Finland



♠2 (11+10)

6.6 points

Tries refuted by pinning W♖:

1. ♜f7? [2. ♖g4♠] ♜a2!

1. ♘d~? [2. ♖xc4♠] ♜a2!

1. ♘e~? [2. ♖xe5♠] ♜a2!

1. ♖c2? [2. ♖xc4♠] ♜a2!

1. ♖b2? [2. ♖xe5♠] ♜a2!

Tries/solution with anticipatory unpin:

1. ♜3f2? [2. ♖g4♠] ♜f8!

1. ♘f2? [2. ♖xc4♠]

but 1... ♗f6! **a** guard

1. ♘b2? [2. ♖xc4♠] e4! **b**

1. ♘g2? [2. ♖xe5♠]

but 1... ♗f6! **a** interference

1. ♘c2! [2. ♖xe5♠]

1... ♗f6 **a** 2. ♜xf6♠

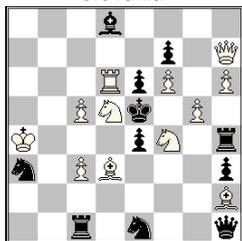
1... ♗d5 2. ♖xe5♠

White correction. Flight giving key. (Country)

An interesting logical problem. Three of the four anticipatory unpins are injurious to White. Flight giving key. (ISR)

19th-22nd place – A084

Emil Klemanič,
Ladislav Salai jr.,
Slovakia



♯2

(12+11)

6.6 points

1. ♖c2? [2. ♜d3♯ **A**]
1... ♜xf4 2. ♜xf4♯
but 1...e3! **a** (1...exd3??)

1. ♜e3? [2. ♜g6♯ **B**]
1... ♜xf4 2. ♜g4♯
but 1...exd3! **B** (1...e3??)

1. ♜b4! [2. ♜c6♯]
1...e3 2. ♜g6♯ **B**
1...exd3 2. ♜fxd3♯ **A**
1... ♜xh2 2. ♜xe4♯

Hannelius theme (within WCCT theme). Changed mate (next-to WCCT theme). (Country)

Hannelius theme with an additional change of mate. (UKR)

Further placement

23rd place – A056 – Roland Baier, Switzerland – 6.4 points.

The basic scheme is shared by **A004**, **A012** and **A054**. In all four problems there is a Hannelius with inherent Dombrovskis paradox due to the pin in the tries. The mate changes are all the same. Here, the try keys are to the same square making a better artistic impression. (ISR)

24th-26th place – A056A035 – Miroslav Svítek, Czech Republic – 6.2 points.

At first glance this looks to be a high-class entry, with Banny, Zagoruiko and original effects. However, closer examination reveals a try introduced by an otherwise useless unit (wP7) and a wRa7 and wSe4 with very limited functions. The multiple appearance of the obvious refutation 1...d3! is a serious weakness. (GBR)

24th-26th place – A054 – Zoran Gavrilovski, Macedonia – 6.2 points.

24th-26th place – A064 – Emil Klemanič, Ladislav Salai jr., Štefan Sovík, Slovakia – 6.2 points.

27th place – A005 – Philippe Robert, France – 6.0 points.

28th place – A042 – Philippe Robert, France – 5.8 points.

29th place – A017 – Michael Lipton, Great Britain – 5.7 points.

30th-32nd place – A008 – Robert Burger, United States – 5.6 points.

By playing onto 3 squares on the potential pin-line the WQ ensures that the Sh2 cannot be pinned. This results in some attractive changed play. (GBR)

30th-32nd place – A009 – C. G. S. Narayanan, India – 5.6 points.

30th-32nd place – A043 – Jorge Lois, Jorge Kapros, Argentina – 5.6 points.

33rd-34th place – A011 – Alexander Zidek, Austria – 5.4 points.

33rd-34th place – A081 – Givi Mosiashvili, Georgia – 5.4 points.

35th-37th place – A074 – Jorge Lois, Jorge Kapros, Argentina – 5.2 points.

35th-37th place – A076 – Rolf Uppström, Ingemar Lind, Sweden – 5.2 points.

Sc1 idle. (SRB)

35th-37th place – A093 – Miroslav Svítek, Czech Republic – 5.2 points.

38th-39th place – A024 – Vladas Ramanauskas, Lithuania – 5.0 points.

38th-39th place – A070 – Marcello Ragonesi, Stefano Mariani, Italy – 5.0 points.

40th-43rd place – A025 – Tibor Érsek, Hungary – 4.8 points.

40th-43rd place – A031 – Janez Nastran, Slovenia – 4.8 points.

40th-43rd place – A041 – Suleyman Abdullayev, Azerbaijan – 4.8 points.

40th-43rd place – A047 – Alexander Zidek, Austria – 4.8 points.

44th place – A003 – Andreas Schönholzer, Chris Handloser, Switzerland – 4.6 points.

45th place – A012 – Givi Mosiashvili, Georgia – 4.4 points.

46th-49th place – A026 – Suleyman Abdullayev, Azerbaijan – 4.2 points.

46th-49th place – A061 – Bosko Miloseski, Umut Sayman, Turkey – 4.2 points.

46th-49th place – A068 – Henk le Grand, Netherlands – 4.2 points.

46th-49th place – A089 – Henk le Grand, Netherlands – 4.2 points.

50th-52nd place – A023 – Nicolae Popa, Romania – 3.8 points.

The interesting play is achieved at the cost of two white bishops that have no post-key function. (GBR)

50th-52nd place – A057 – Robert Burger, United States – 3.8 points.

50th-52nd place – A080 – Luis Gomez Palazon, Spain – 3.8 points.

53rd place – A036 – Janez Nastran, Slovenia – 3.4 points.

54th-57th place – A013 – Tibor Érsek, Gábor Tar, Hungary – 3.2 points.

54th-57th place – A038 – Albert Ivanov, Moldova – 3.2 points.

54th-57th place – A045 – Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen, Denmark – 3.2 points.

54th-57th place – A046 – Nikos Pergialis, Greece – 3.2 points.

58th-60th place – A020 – Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen, Denmark – 3.0 points.

58th-60th place – A048 – Almiro Zarur, Brazil – 3.0 points.

58th-60th place – A077 – Umut Sayman, Bosko Miloseski, Turkey – 3.0 points.

61st-63rd place – A028 – Luis Gomez Palazon, Spain – 2.6 points.

61st-63rd place – A030 – Nicolae Popa, Romania – 2.6 points.

61st-63rd place – A051 – Emmanuel Manolas, Greece – 2.6 points.

64th place – A063 – Toshiji Kawagoe, Japan – 2.2 points.

65th place – A032 – Alexey Gasparyan, Armenia – 2.0 points.

66th place – A002 – Toshiji Kawagoe, Japan – 1.6 points.

67th place – A060 – Ljubomir Branković, Croatia – 1.5 points.

To make the scheme work the composer has resorted to the use of white units (Rb3 and Be1) without a function after the key. (GBR)

The following compositions are not considered published and are at the disposal of their authors: A001, A004, A007, A014, A015, A016, A021, A022, A027, A029, A033, A034, A037, A050, A053, A058, A059, A073, A078, A079, A085, A086, A087, A088, A090, A091.

Section A: Twomovers - Table

Place	No	Country	CRO	GBR	ISR	SRB	UKR	Points
1	049	GER	2.6	3.8	3.4	3.0	2.6	9.0
2	006	RUS	2.2	2.8	3.2	3.4	2.8	8.8
	040	BLR	3.4	3.0	3.2	2.4	2.6	8.8
4	065	ITA	3.0	3.0	2.6	1.4	2.8	8.4
	072	RUS	3.0	2.2	2.4	3.0	3.0	8.4
	075	UKR	2.4	3.2	3.0	2.6		8.4
7	052	BLR	2.0	2.2	3.2	3.0	3.0	8.2
	071	RUS	3.2	2.2	3.0	1.4	3.0	8.2
9	067	SRB	2.6	2.6	2.8		2.4	7.8
10	019	BLR	2.2	2.0	2.4	3.6	3.0	7.6
	066	GER	2.8	2.8	3.0	2.0	2.0	7.6
12	018	SRB	3.2	2.2	2.4		2.6	7.5
	044	GBR	2.6		3.0	1.6	2.4	7.5
	092	ISR	2.2	2.6		2.4	2.6	7.5
15	039	FIN	3.4	2.6	2.4	1.4	2.4	7.4
	062	MKD	2.8	2.4	2.8	1.8	2.2	7.4
17	082	ISR	2.2	2.0		2.8	2.4	6.9
	083	UKR	2.0	2.6	2.8	1.8		6.9
19	010	IND	2.4	2.2	1.6	2.0	2.4	6.6
	055	SRB	2.2	1.6	2.2		2.4	6.6
	069	FIN	2.6	1.0	2.6	2.0	2.0	6.6
	084	SVK	2.0	2.2	2.4	2.0	2.6	6.6
23	056	SUI	3.0	2.4	2.6	1.4	0.8	6.4
-	087	GER	1.6	3.4	2.8	1.6	2.0	6.4
24	035	CZE	2.8	2.0	2.4	1.0	1.8	6.2
	054	MKD	2.4	2.4	2.2	1.6	1.4	6.2
	064	SVK	2.0	1.8	2.4	1.4	2.4	6.2
27	005	FRA	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.8	2.2	6.0
-	037	SVK	2.0	1.8	2.2	1.0	2.0	5.8
28	042	FRA	1.8	2.0	2.0	0.6	2.0	5.8
29	017	GBR	1.8		2.0	1.0	2.0	5.7
30	008	USA	1.6	2.6	1.4	2.0	2.0	5.6
	009	IND	1.2	2.0	2.0	1.6	2.0	5.6
	043	ARG	2.2	1.2	2.2	1.4	2.0	5.6
33	011	AUT	1.4	1.8	2.4	1.6	2.0	5.4
	081	GEO	1.8	2.0	1.8	0.4	1.8	5.4
35	074	ARG	2.2	2.0	1.8	0.8	1.4	5.2
	076	SWE	1.8	2.0	2.4	1.0	1.4	5.2
	093	CZE	1.8	1.6	2.2	1.0	1.8	5.2
-	053	FIN	1.8	0.8	1.8	2.0	1.6	5.2
-	085	UKR	2.8	1.4	2.0	1.4	-	5.1
-	090	GBR	2.6	-	1.8	0.6	1.6	5.1
38	024	LTU	2.0	2.0	1.2	0.8	1.8	5.0

	070	ITA	2.0	1.0	2.2	1.6	1.4	5.0
-	021	FRA	2.4	0.8	2.0	1.4	1.6	5.0
40	025	HUN	1.8	1.0	1.8	1.2	1.8	4.8
	031	SLO	1.8	0.8	2.0	1.0	2.0	4.8
	041	AZE	2.0	1.6	2.0	1.0	1.2	4.8
	047	AUT	2.2	1.2	1.4	1.0	2.2	4.8
44	003	SUI	1.8	1.0	1.2	1.6	1.8	4.6
45	012	GEO	2.6	1.6	1.8	1.0	0.8	4.4
-	004	IND	1.6	1.6	2.0	1.2	0.8	4.4
-	014	SUI	2.0	1.2	1.4	1.0	1.8	4.4
46	026	AZE	1.6	0.8	1.4	1.4	1.4	4.2
	061	TUR	1.8	1.0	1.6	0.8	1.6	4.2
	068	NED	2.0	1.6	1.8	0.8	0.4	4.2
	089	NED	2.0	1.0	2.0	0.6	1.2	4.2
-	022	ISR	1.2	1.6	-	1.0	2.2	4.2
-	033	AUT	2.0	0.6	1.4	1.0	1.8	4.2
-	059	CZE	1.6	0.8	2.0	1.0	1.6	4.2
-	027	MKD	1.6	1.0	1.4	0.4	2.2	4.0
-	073	ARG	1.6	1.2	2.0	1.0	1.2	4.0
50	023	ROU	1.8	0.4	2.0	0.8	1.2	3.8
	057	USA	1.4	1.0	2.0	0.8	1.4	3.8
	080	ESP	1.6	0.8	2.0	0.4	1.4	3.8
-	008	GEO	2.2	0.8	1.6	0.4	1.4	3.8
-	034	AZE	1.6	0.8	2.0	1.0	1.0	3.6
-	079	ITA	1.6	1.0	2.4	1.0	1.0	3.6
53	036	SLO	1.8	1.0	1.2	0.6	1.2	3.4
-	015	USA	1.8	1.0	1.4	1.0	0.6	3.4
54	013	HUN	1.4	0.8	1.4	0.4	1.0	3.2
	038	MDA	1.6	0.6	1.6	0.4	1.0	3.2
	045	DEN	1.6	1.0	1.2	0.6	1.0	3.2
	046	GRE	1.4	1.0	1.2	0.4	1.0	3.2
-	029	SLO	1.4	0.8	1.2	0.6	1.2	3.2
-	050	NED	1.4	0.8	1.4	0.4	1.0	3.2
58	020	DEN	1.8	0.6	1.2	0.6	1.2	3.0
	048	BRA	1.4	0.4	1.2	0.4	1.4	3.0
	077	TUR	1.4	0.8	1.4	0.4	0.8	3.0
-	058	HUN	1.8	0.4	1.6	0.2	1.0	3.0
61	028	ESP	1.6	0.4	0.8	0.6	1.2	2.6
	030	ROU	1.4	0.6	1.0	0.6	1.0	2.6
	051	GRE	1.4	0.4	1.2	0.2	1.0	2.6
-	007	DEN	1.4	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.8	2.4
64	063	JPN	1.8	0.4	1.6	0.2	0.2	2.2
65	032	ARM	1.4	0.4	1.2	0.4	0.2	2.0
66	002	JPN	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.2	0.6	1.6
-	006	GRE	1.0	0.4	0.6	0.2	0.6	1.6
-	001	ESP	1.4	0.2	0.8	0.2	0.6	1.6
67	060	CRO		0.4	1.4	0.2	0.6	1.5
-	001	MDA	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
-	016	ARM	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
-	078	ARM	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0

SECTION B: THREEMOVERS

Judging countries

Belarus, Croatia, India, Sweden, Switzerland (France as reserve)

Theme: In a directmate in 3 moves in the same variation the black defensive motive and the white response are of the same tactical nature. For example, if Black is making a square evacuation defence then White is making a square evacuation on second move. Black unpin is replied by white unpin, black flight provision (unblock, capture or interference) is replied by a flight provision on W2 move.

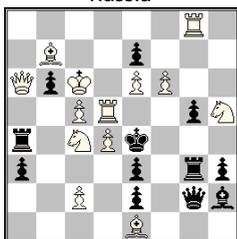
Purely geometrical unity (like in magnet or monkey theme) is not considered thematic. Zugzwang problems are not thematic for this section. It is allowed to have different tactical motives in different variations.

General

The section was moderately successful, with some good problems anticipated, with many routine works, but also with at least a dozen excellent problems. The stipulated theme proved not quite easy to interpret. Some composers missed that it was Black's defence motive (the reason why the black moves defend against the threat) that was to be echoed by White's continuation. It happened quite often that the black move defended in several ways, so that the defense would work equally well if the thematic motive weren't there. We don't consider such problems not thematic, but we regard this situation as a clear flaw. On White's side, we consider it necessary that the thematic motive is used in at least one mate (threat or variation on W3) or to stop a refutation in B2; if that is not the case, the problem has a serious flaw. We also believe it is reasonably clear from the wording of the stipulation that the thematic motives should occur at B1+W2, not at B2+W3. (SWE)

1st place – B067

Alexander Kuzovkov
Russia



#3 (13+12)

10.2 points

1. ♖g8? A [2. ♖c7 B ♖f3+/ ♖g4+ 3. ♜e5#]
 1... ♜f3 2. ♜d6+ exd6 3. ♖d3# (2. ♜d2+?)
 1... ♜g4 2. ♜d2+ exd2 3. ♖d3# (2. ♜d6+?)
 1... ♜f3 2. ♜e5+ ♜e4 3. ♖d3#
 but 1... ♜xc4 2. ♖c7 ♜xd4!

1. ♜c7! B [2. ♜gd8 A ♖f3+/ ♖g4+ 3. ♜e5#]
 1... ♜f3+ 2. ♜e5+ ♜xd4 3. ♜d8# A
 1... ♜g4+ 2. ♜d6+ ♜f5 3. ♜xe3#
 1... ♜f3 2. ♜d6+ exd6 3. ♖d3#, 1... ♜xc4 2. ♖xc4 ♜f3 3. ♜dxg5#

Thematic variations in try and solution with changed play. Changed tactical motives: line activations in try vs. battery checks in solution. Reversal 2 in specific threemover form with quiet threat (Country)

Change of thematic tactical motives: line opening vs. cross-checks with a change of play in two variations and Rukhlis in one. Rough refutation. (BLR)

B067 (continued)

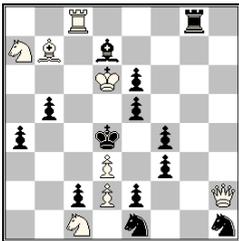
Black line opening and white line opening. Two interesting changed mates. Try play is also thematic. (IND)

2x line-opening vs. line-opening + 2x discovered check vs. discovered check, with changed continuations between try and solution. The two phases use partly different thematic motives even though the black moves are the same. In the set, Rf3 is a block and Rg4 is an anticipatory unguard of d3; in the solution, Rf3 interferes with the BQ and Rg4 gives up the guard of e3. So the contents are rich and varied, but the problem still feels homogenous. The key activates the white B/R battery, but it cannot be said to be weak when there is the very realistic alternative 1.Rgd8? The refutation Rxc4 also cannot be said to be too strong, as the move is playable in the solution too (but then White has a good reply). (SWE)

Perfect realization of two changed continuations with crosschecks. Good harmony between try and solution. 25 pieces ... (SUI)

2nd-3rd place – B023

Mikhail Khramtsevich,
Viktor Volchek,
Aleksandr Varitskij,
Belarus



♠3 (8+13)
9.6 points

1. ♠c3? [2. ♠xe2 [3. ♠e4†, ♠xe5†] fxe2 3. ♠xe2†]
1... ♠g2 a 2. ♠c6 A (2. ♠c6? B ♠b8!) [3. ♠xb5†] ♠xc6 3. ♠xc6†
1... ♠g2 b 2. ♠c6 B (2. ♠c6? A ♠xd3!) [3. ♠xb5†] ♠xc6 3. ♠xc6†
 1... ♠c8/♠d8 2. ♠g1+ ♠f2 3. ♠xf2†, 2...f2 3. ♠xe2†
 but 1... ♠xd3!

1. ♠xf3! [2. ♠xe2 ♠g5 3. ♠e4†]
1... ♠g2 a 2. ♠c6 B (2. ♠c6? A ♠b8!) [3. ♠xb5†] ♠xc6 3. ♠xc6†
1... ♠g2 b 2. ♠c6 A (2. ♠c6? B ♠xd3!) [3. ♠xb5†] ♠xc6 3. ♠xc6†
 1... ♠xc8/♠d8 2. ♠g1+ ♠f2 3. ♠xf2†

Reciprocal change with interference, critical moves, anticritical moves. (Country)

Line closing. Excellent reciprocal change. Also shows reciprocal change of Black refutations on the second move tries in each phase. (IND)

Reciprocal change with interference vs. interference in both try and solution, with anticritical key moves. Rg2 gives up 2... Rb8 so the one from the pair WR/WB that hasn't moved in W1 can now move; Sg2 gives up Sxd3 so the one that has moved in W1 can move again. An ambitious work, but in a somewhat heavy position with eight black pawns. (SWE)

Interesting mechanism with reciprocal change by critical/anticritical moves and a lot of content. The key takes a BP, but this BP is part of the mechanism. (SUI)

2nd-3rd place – B054

Marcel Tribowski
Germany



±3

(14+9)

9.6 points

1. ♖f4! [2. ♗xe6+ **A** ♖xe6 3. ♖d5#/3. ♗d5#]

1... ♗xb5 2. c3+ **B** ♖xc3 3. dxc3#

1... g6 2. ♗d6 [3. ♗xe6# **A**]

2... ♖xd6 **a** 3. c3# **B**

2... ♖c5 b 3. ♖e4# **C**

2... ♗g4 3. ♖e4#

1... ♖g6 2. ♗c5 [3. c3# **B**]

2... ♖d6 a 3. ♖e4# **C**

2... ♖xc5 **b** 3. ♗xe6# **A**

2... ♖xc7 3. ♗cxe6#

1... ♖xc2 2. ♖d5/ ♖d5+ exd5 3. ♖xd5#/ ♖xd5#

Theme F interferences vs. interferences vs. interferences, Shedy cycle. (Country)

An interesting interpretation of the twomover idea. Duals after the thematic defense 1...g6 2.Sd6 [3. Sxe6#] 2...Bc4 3.c3# / Re4#; 2...Bxb5 3.Sxb5# / Re4# with intended mates from the Shedy cycle. (BLR)

Interference vs. interference. Duals after 1...Bg4 and in the main variation after 1...g6. Very interesting mechanism to show an "inset" (second move) Shedy cycle. Theme extended to black second move (line closing). (IND)

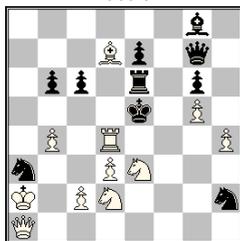
2x interference vs. interference, with further interferences in B2. From the point of view of the stipulated motive, this is not much. But the white interferences are used in an interesting and complex way, related to the Theme F of twomovers: white closes one line towards e5, in response Black closes another line towards that square (in #2, the white moves are normally tries and the black ones are refutations; here we have continuations and defences instead). And best of all, on top of these interferences, the composer has built a full Shedy cycle, using the focal position of BRc6. A great problem, with only a few technical weaknesses: the fact that Rxh7 leads to exactly the same result as the thematic interference g7-g6 (the composer must have regretted the fact that WK had to be on a7), the duals Q/Rd5 in threat and by-variation, and the en prise position of WSd5 before the key. The greatest drawback is perhaps that so much of the merit lies outside of the stipulated motive. (SWE)

Only example with complex white line combination. Also a Shedy cycle is realized. A very fine combination of 2 themes. (SUI)

4th place – B028

Valery Shavyrin

Russia



♯3

(11+10)

9.2 points

Thematic variations in try and solution with changed play. Flight giving key. (Country)

Pure realization of the theme at the background of battery play with checks from both sides. Change of mates and batteries. (BLR)

Changed play after two cross-checks. Switchback. (IND)

2x + 2x discovered check vs. discovered check, using two different white batteries for changed replies to the same two black checks. Excellent flight-giving and sacrificial key. (SWE)

Battery change and change of continuation after self-block and interference with crosschecks. Piece sacrifice in the key. (SUI)

1. ♖c3? [2. ♖e4+ ♔d6 3. ♗xc6♯]
1... ♜d6+ 2. ♜c4+ ♜d4 3. ♗xd4♯
1... ♜f6+ 2. ♜d5+ ♔f4 3. ♗e5♯
but 1...c5!

1. ♖e1! [2. ♜f5+ ♔xf5 3. ♗e4♯]
1... ♜d6+ 2. ♜d5+ ♔xd4 3. ♗e4♯
1... ♜f6+ 2. ♜ec4+ ♔xd4 3. ♗e5♯
1... ♔xd4 2. ♜b3+ ♔e5 3. ♗g3♯
1... ♔xc2 2. ♜xc2+ ♔f5 3. ♗e4♯
1... ♜c4 2. ♜dxc4+ ♔xd4 3. ♗a1♯ - switchback

5th-6th place – B051

Jorma Paavilainen

Finland



♯3

(10+13)

9.0 points

Unblock vs. unblock. The key and threat are also unblocks. (Country)

Four thematic variations with vacating the square at the background of black knight half-wheel. (BLR)

White sacrifices and the closing of black lines by thematic knight contribute to the compactness of a mutual fourfold square vacation. (CRO)

Unblock vs. unblock in four nice variations. 1...Sf5 variation is good. (IND)

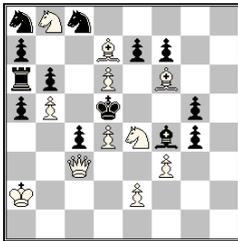
4x unblock vs. unblock. One variation is different in that white quietly unblocks d7 instead of unblocking g4 with check (this is not a great flaw, perhaps no flaw at all), but black play is fully harmonious with interferences by Sd4 throughout. That the threat is another white unblock (a sacrificial clearance of d7) adds some thematic value, but the problem would have been good enough even without it. (SWE)

1. ♜f6! [2. ♜d5+ ~xd5 3. ♜d7♯]
1... ♜f3 2. ♗f4+ ♜xf4 3. ♜g4♯
1... ♜de2 2. ♗xe4+ ♜xe4 3. ♜g4♯
1... ♜b3 2. ♗xe6+ fxe6 3. ♜g4♯
1... ♜f5 2. ♜d3 [3. ♜d7♯]
1... ♜xf6 2. ♜xf6+ ♔xf6 3. ♗g5♯

5th-6th place – B056

Alexander Feoktistov

Russia



♠3

(11+13)

9.0 points

not counted for team score

Fourfold vacation of the square e7 (Pickaninny) is answered with vacation of four different squares. (Country)

Four variations with square vacation and Pickaninny for black. White uses square vacation on the mating move. Second moves are quiet. (BLR)

White occupation of four squares is completed by the key; their vacation unfolds through quiet continuations answering the four e7-vacations by BP. (CRO)

Pickaninny square vacation. Third move duals after three main variations. (IND)

4x unblock vs. unblock with the black play forming a Pickaninny. Quiet variations, in most cases with an extra threat beside the thematic unblock. The position is very compact and almost ugly, but there is beauty in the square-vacations by four different white pieces with often subtle differentiation. (SWE)

1. ♖a3? e5!
1. ♙xe7? ♜xe7!

1. ♜c6! (gxf3) [2. ♜d8 [3. ♙c6♠] ♙xe4 3. ♖xf3♠]
(2. ♖a3? ♙d2!, 2. ♙xe7? ♙e5!)

1...exd6 2. ♜d2 - 2... ♙xd2 **3.e4♠**; 2... ♙e3 3. ♖xc4♠
(2. ♜e~? ♙e3!, 2. ♖e3? c3!)

1...e6 2. ♜e5 - 2... ♙xe5 **3. ♙c6♠**; 2... ♜e7 3. ♖xc4♠

1...exf6 2. ♖a3 - 2... ♙e5 **3. ♜c3♠**; 2... ♙d2 3. ♜xf6♠ (2...c3
3. ♖b3♠)

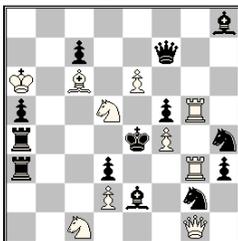
1...e5 2. ♙e7 - **3. ♜f6♠**; 2... ♜xe7 3. ♜xe7♠; 2...exd4 3. ♖xd4♠
(2.dxe5? 3. ♖d4♠; 2... ♙e3!)

7th place – B048

Mikhail Marandyuk,

Valery Kopyl

Ukraine



♠3

(10+13)

8.8 points

Two pairs of variations. In the defences black close the lines for W ♖g3 and W ♖c5. On the second move, white battery plays, closing lines for four different black pieces. (Country)

Four thematic variations with interference. Repeat of the second white move, although its use is different. (BLR)

Line closing of white and black in four variations. Move Sf6+ repeats. (IND)

4x interference vs. interference with checking continuations in a very clear setting. It is a pity that the same W2 continuation Sf6+ is played twice (but interfering with different black pieces). (SWE)

1. ♖c5! [2. ♖e3+ ♜xe3 3. ♖xe3♠]

1...♜f3 (line-closing for ♖g3) **2. ♜f6+** (line-closing for ♖f7) ♜xf4
3. ♖xf5♠

1...♙f3 (line-closing for ♖g3) **2. ♜c3+** (line-closing for ♖a3) ♜xf4
3. ♜xd3♠

1...♜d4 (line-closing for ♖c5) **2. ♜f6+** (line-closing for ♙h8) ♜xf4
3. ♖xd4♠

1...♙d4 (line-closing for ♖c5) **2. ♜b4+** (line-closing for ♖a4) ♜xf4
3. ♖xd4♠

8th-9th place – B032

C. G. S. Narayanan
India



♯3 (14+7)

8.7 points

Black pinning vs. white pinning. Three different black defences pinning W ♖g5. In reply Three different white moves pin the black pieces which pin W ♖g5. Dual avoidance play on W2 move, pseudo-Le Grand. Two pinmates including threat in each variation. (Country)

Three variations with use of pinning. (BLR)

One of the heaviest motives for execution, the direct pinning, is shown in three variations (with two pin-mates in each); those by WQ are nicely differentiated. (CRO)

3x pin vs. pin, with an additional pinmate in each variation. Obviously much better than some entries with similar pins only twice. It is a slight pity that 2.Bd6 is possible only after R7xe5, but otherwise the separation of the white continuations is well done. (SWE)

- 1. ♖c6!** [2. ♖g4+ ♗f5 3. ♖g6♯]
1... ♖7xe5 2. ♗d6 [3. ♗e6♯ **A**] (2. ♖d6? ♖Rxd3! 2. ♖c7? ♖xc7!)
 2... ♖d5/♖xd8 3. ♗d5♯ **B**, 2... ♖xd3 3. ♖e4♯
1... ♖3xe5 2. ♖d6 [3.e3♯] (2. ♖c7? ♖xc7!)
 2... ♗xe2 3. ♗xe2♯
1... ♖xe5 2. ♖c7 [3. ♗d5♯ **B**] (2. ♖d6? ♖xd6!)
 2... ♖xd7 3. ♗e6♯ **A**, 2... ♖xf3 3. ♖xf3♯

8th-9th place – B055

Mikhail Khramtsevich
Viktor Zaitsev
Belarus



♯3 (14+9)

8.7 points

Reciprocal exchange with pins. (Country)

Reciprocal exchange with pins. Triple after 1...Qxd4 post key. (IND)

1. ♖gxg6? [2. ♖d6+ cxd6 3. ♖xd6♯]
1... ♗xd4 a 2. ♗f2 A [3. ♗xe4♯]
1... ♖xd4 b 2. ♗c5 B [3. ♗xe4♯]
 but 1... ♖b8!
1. ♖c2! [2. ♖d6+ cxd6 3. ♗f6♯]
1... ♗xd4 a 2. ♗c5 B ♖xc5 3. ♖xc5♯
1... ♖xd4 b 2. ♗f2 A ♗xf2 3. ♖c5♯
 1... gxf5 2. ♖h5 ♗xd4/♖xd4 3. ♖f7♯

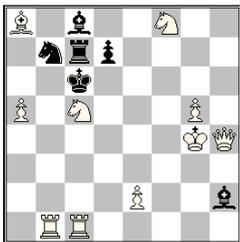
B055 (continued)

2x + 2x pin vs. pin, with reciprocal change. 1.Rxg6? stops gxf5 so it suffices to threaten Bxe4#; 1.Rc1! sets up Rc5# so White can interfere with the non-pinned black piece without fearing a capture of the moving WS. The multiple threats in the variations are somewhat regrettable, especially the fact that two of the three threats after Qxd4 2.Sf2 are not separately forced: only 3.Rc5# occurs as a unique mate. (SWE)

Interesting reciprocal change, but the double threats in the 2nd white moves of the solution are too simple. (SUI)

10th-12th place – B003

C. G. S. Narayanan
India



±3 (10+6)

8.4 points

1. ♖h7? [2. ♖b6+ ♔d5 a 3. ♗e4# P]
1...d6+ 2. ♘cd7+ B ♔d5 a 3. ♗d3# Q
1...d5+ 2. ♘ce6+ A ♔d6 b 3. ♗xc7# R
but 1... ♔d6!

1. ♗h8! [2. ♖b6+ ♔d5 a 3.e4# X]
1...d6+ 2. ♘ce6+ A ♔d5 a 3. ♗d4# Y
1...d5+ 2. ♘cd7+ B ♔d6 b 3. ♗f6# Z
1... ♔d6 2. ♗f6+ ♔d5 3.e4#

Black battery check vs. white battery check. Reciprocal change of W2 moves (for 1...d5/d6) after the try & key. Four different mates after 2... ♔d5. Changed mates after 2... ♔d5/♔d6 in the try-play and post-key play. (Country)

No answers to thematic checks in diagram position. In fact, anticipated by <http://www.yacpdb.org/#48493> A.Kozlov & V.Udartsev, Šahs / Chess (Rīga) 1976 2nd HM. (BLR)

A very elegant reciprocal change between set and solution. We agree that **B003/a** in Claims is not an anticipation, although built on similar lines, because of several differences in the matrix. But the fact that the thematic checks are unprovided in the diagram (unlike in B003/a) is a serious drawback, however. (SWE)

The try 1.Qh7? is very fine, the comparing example is different enough. Maybe the set play after the checks is missing, but the position of **B003** is more economic (3 pieces). (SUI)

B059 (continued)

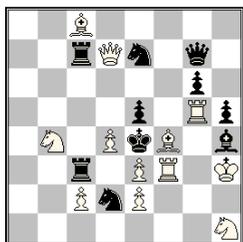
Two thematic variations with square vacation for the king are strengthened by self-pinning effect and change of mate. White king cross is an interesting addition. (BLR)

The problem with strategic depth: self-pin of white, unpin of white and dual avoidance. (IND)

2x creation of king flight vs. the same, but in different ways: black captures a guarding piece, white unblocks a square. So the stipulated motive is not very strong here, but there is added unity in the fact that both B1 and W2 are self-pins (the black self-pin is not a defence motive but a weakening effect). The white self-pins are followed by unpins on B2, and these unpins separate the variations. A homogenous and probably original combination. (SWE)

13th place – B044

Evgeni Bourd, Arieh Grinblat
Israel



♠3 (12+10)

8.0 points

1. ♖a6! [2. ♙d3+ ♜xd3 3.cxd3#]

1... ♜7c4 2. ♜gg3 [3. ♘f2#] ♙xg3 3. ♘xg3#

1... ♜3c4 2. ♜fg3 [3. ♘f2#] ♙xg3 3. ♘xg3#

1... ♘c4 2. ♙g3 [3. ♘f2#] ♙xg3 3. ♘xg3#

Three variations showing line closing of a white bishop on the same square answered by line closing of a black bishop on the same square. (Country)

Three thematic variations with interference. Both white and black play to same square. There is not enough variety on the third white move. (BLR)

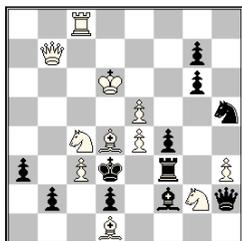
Line closing of black vs. line closing of white, both on single squares. Three good variations. (IND)

3x interference vs. interference. Very unified motivations for the continuations: black gives up the possibility to capture one guarding piece, which allows white to move away another guarder of the same square. (SWE)

14th-17th place – B038

Harri Hurme

Finland



♠3 (11+11)

7.8 points

Flight giving key, threefold theme (unblock of f3 vs. unblock of d6). (Country)

Three thematic variations with field vacation. The idea is interesting, but there is not enough variety of play on the third white move. (BLR)

Three unblocks. BR vs. WK duel. Flight-giving key. (IND)

3x unblock vs. unblock, using a single thematic square for Black and for White. The black error is block or interference, allowing the WK to step aside without being checked. The flight-giving key enhances the problem. (SWE)

1... ♖g3 2.e6
1... ♖e3 2. ♗b3

1. ♗b5! [2. ♖ce3+ ♗xe4 3. ♖c2#]
1... ♖e3 2. ♗c5 [3. ♖d6#] b1 ♗ 3. ♗xb1#
1... ♖g3 2. ♗e7 [3. ♖d6#] b1 ♗ 3. ♗xb1#
1... ♖xh3 2. ♗e6 [3. ♖d6#] b1 ♗ 3. ♗xb1#
 1... ♗xe4 2. ♖xd2+ ♗f5 3.e6#

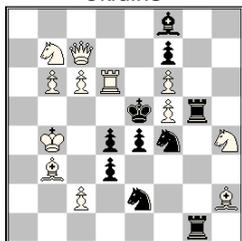
14th-17th place – B041

Vladimir Samilo,

Anatoly Bezgodkov,

Vasyl Kryzhanivskiy

Ukraine



♠3 (12+10)

7.8 points

not counted for team score

Unpin by Black of a black piece on the first move, unpin by White of a white piece on the second move. (Country)

Three thematic variations with unpin. There is not enough variety of play on the third white move. (BLR)

Unpin of black and of white. Three variations by WK. (IND)

3x unpin vs. unpin. Thematically very clear and done in logical form (the white continuations can be tried on W1). That Black twice gives up a potential check and once a capture of a guarding piece (Pf5) cannot be regarded as a flaw. (SWE)

1. ♗b5? [2. ♖e6#] ♖c3+!
 1. ♗a5? [2. ♖e6#] ♖a1+!
 1. ♗c4? [2. ♖e6#] ♖xf5!

1. ♗b8! [2. ♗e8+ ♖e7 3. ♗xe7#]
1... ♖g3 2. ♗b5 [3. ♖e6#] ♖xd6 3. ♗xd6#
1... ♖g3 2. ♗a5 [3. ♖e6#] ♖xd6 3. ♗xd6#
1... ♖g3 2. ♗c4 [3. ♖e6#] ♖xd6 3. ♗xd6#
 (1... ♖e7 2.fxe7 ♖g8 3. ♖e6#)

14th-17th place – B062
 Evgeni Bourd, Arieh Grinblat
 Israel



♠3 (13+11)

7.8 points

Black providing a flight square for his king is answered by white providing a flight square for his king. All thematic white king moves appear again in an extra variation. (Country)

Three thematic variations with the square vacation for the king in combination with the change of function of three white moves. The second move of white in variation 1...Qxb5 2.Sh6 [3.Kg4#] 2...gxf4+ 3.Kxf4# looks wrong; ideally it should be 2.Rxg5. Rough key. (BLR)

Flight square for BK created by capture of WS is answered by creation of flight square for WK in three variations. Heavy setting. (IND)

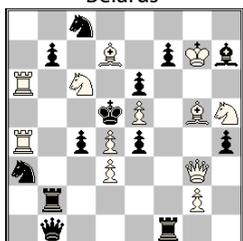
3x creation of king flight vs. the same. As in **B059**, the flights are created differently by black (capture of a guarding piece) and white (unblock, in two cases combined with capture of a guarding piece). The logic is simple but harmonious: B1 gives up the possibility of guarding the flight that W2 creates. It is a neat detail that Kc3 does not refute the variations, but it works if white tries to play the threat because of the anticipatory unpin of Bpd4. The technically necessary by-variation 1...Qc8 is also good, repeating the three WK mates from the thematic variations. (SWE)

1... ♖xb5 2. ♜xf6 [3. ♚g4#] gxf4+ 3. ♜xf4#, 2... ♚c3/♜e3 3. ♚g4#
 1... ♜xe5 2. ♜xe5+ ♜e3 3. ♚g4#

1. ♜xf6! [2. ♜e5+ ♜e3 3. ♚g4#]
 1... ♜xb5 **2. hxg5** [3. ♜h4# **A**] ♚c3 3. ♜h4# (2. ♜e5? ♚c3!)
 1... ♜xb5 **2. fxg5** [3. ♜f4# **B**] ♚c3 3. ♜f4# (2. ♜e5? ♚c3!)
 1... ♖xb5 **2. ♜h6** [3. ♚g4# **C**] ♚c3/♜e3 3. ♚g4# (2. ♜e5? ♚c3!)

1... ♖c8 2. ♜xd4 [3. ♖c2#]
 2... gxh4+ 3. ♚xh4# **A**
 2... gxf4+ 3. ♚xf4# **B**
 2... ♖xg4+ 3. ♚xg4# **C**
 2... ♚c3 3. ♖c2#

14th-17th place – B065
 Mikhail Khramtsevich,
 Viktor Zaitsev,
 Vladimir Sychov
 Belarus



♠3 (12+13)

7.8 points

not counted for team score

Reciprocal change with interference. (Country)

1. ♜e3? [2. ♜e7+ ♜xe7 3. ♖d6#]
 1... ♜b6 **a 2. ♖f4 A** [3. ♜f6#] ♜xf4 3. ♜xf4#
 1... ♜b6 **b 2. ♜f4 B** [3. ♜f6#] ♜xf4 3. ♜xf4#
 but 1...exd3!

1. ♜e3! [2. ♜e7+ ♜xe7 3. ♖d6#]
 1... ♜b6 **a 2. ♜f4 B** [3. ♜f6#] ♜xf4 3. ♜xf4#
 1... ♜b6 **b 2. ♖f4 A** [3. ♜f6#] ♜xf4 3. ♜xf4#

B065 (continued)

Excellent reciprocal change. Line closing for white and black. Key, defences and white second moves are each on the same squares e3/b6/f4. Reciprocal change mechanism includes potential half-pin on bent line b2-g7. (IND)

2x +2x interference vs. interference, with reciprocal change. Rb6 gives up Rxb2 and allows the piece that didn't make the key to play; b6 gives up bxa6 and allows the piece that did make the key to play. A simple and traditional kind of change mechanism. Unfortunately for the clarity of the thematic motive, bxa6 has exactly the same effect as b7-b6 (but is no interference). (SWE)

18th place – B069

Don Smedley
Great Britain



±3 (15+10)
7.6 points

1. ♖h8! [2. ♘xa3+ bxa3 3. ♚c3#]

1... ♜b7 2. ♜h4 [3. ♘e5# **A**] ♙e4 3. ♚xe4# **B** (2. ♜g8? ♜xe7!)

1... ♜b8 2. ♜g8 [3. ♚e4# **B**] ♙e5 3. ♘xe5# **A**, 2... ♙xe6 3. ♜xe6# (2. ♜h4? ♜xd6!, 2. ♙f7? ♜xh8!)

The black ♜ sets up two direct masked batteries, and White replies by also setting up two direct masked batteries with his ♜, leading to dual avoidance and pseudo-Le Grand. (Country)

Two thematic variants with masked pinning. Dual after the defence 1...Qb8 2.Qg8! Bxe3 3.Sxe3#/Se5#. (BLR)

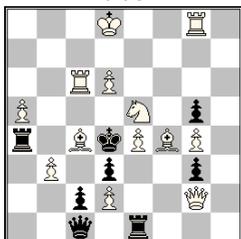
Masked battery is set up in two variations. Heavy. (IND)

2x creation of masked battery vs. the same, with dual avoidance between the variations. The pseudo-Le Grand motive adds some unity, even though those variations are primitive. The thematic motive is satisfactorily complex and is realized in a harmonious way. The role of WBe8 is limited (it closes the 8th rank, and deals with cxb5). (SWE)

19th place – B031

Evgeni Bourd, Arieh Grinblat

Israel



♯3 (13+8)

7.2 points

not counted for team score

Battery creation of black is answered by battery creation of white. Transfer of the thematic white moves into mates. Four variations showing two reciprocal systems of 2nd/3rd move exchange

Non-standard tactical motive - covert defence from linear piece by building a battery. A good addition to the problem are the variations with exchange of second and third white moves. (BLR)

Battery creation with dual avoidance. Exchange of second and third moves. (IND)

2x indirect battery creation vs. indirect battery creation. The thematic variations are differentiated in an interesting way: Qa1 gives up Qxd2 and thereby allows 2.Rxg5; Qb2 is a correction compensating by preparing 2.Rxg5? Qxb3, but gives up Qd1 allowing 2.Re8. It is a great advantage (though unthematic in this tourney) that the W2+W3 moves from the thematic variations occur in reverse order in two other variations. Good construction. (SWE)

1. ♖c8! [2. ♘c6+ **A** ♙c5 3. ♜xg5+ **B**]

1...gxf4 2. ♘f3+ **C** ♙xe4 3. ♜e8+ **D**

1... ♙a1 2. ♜xg5 **B** [3. ♘c6+ **A**] ♜xc4 3. ♜xc4+]

1... ♜b2 2. ♜e8 **D** [3. ♘f3+ **C**] ♜e3/♜f1 3. ♘e3+]

1... ♜xa5 2. ♘d5 [3. ♘f3+/♜c4+] ♜xe4 3. ♙xe4+]

20th place – B017

Alexey Gasparyan

Armenia



♯3 (9+11)

7.0 points

Three thematic variations with interference. The play in them is somewhat heterogeneous.

Unpleasant duals tries after 1...Re6 and 1...Rb2. (BLR)

Closing of lines. Three interesting variations with good tries. (IND)

3x interference vs. interference. Two variations are analogous in that white interferes with the BR that just moved, preventing it in a mousetrap-like manner from returning to guard the threat by white unblock. The third variation is different, with another reason (giving a new use for the WQ) why the interfered black piece cannot simply capture the interferer. The key is not ideal, as it stops a powerful dxex4. (SWE)

1... ♘xf5 2. ♜xf5+ 1... ♜b~ 2. ♘d6+]

1. ♘f2? [2. ♜e3+ ♙f4 3. ♙xd4+]

1... ♜b2 2. ♘b5, 1... ♜e6 2. ♘xe6, 1...c3 2. ♜c2
but 1... ♜f6!

1. ♘d6? [2. ♜e3+ ♙f4 3. ♙xd4+]

but 1...c3!

1. ♘g5! [2. ♜e3+ ♙f4 3. ♙xd4+]

1... ♜b2 2. ♘b5 [3. ♘d7+]

1... ♜f6 2. ♘e6 [3. ♘d7+] (1... ♜e6 2. ♘xe6)

1...c3 2. ♜c2 [3. ♘xd3+] ♜xc2 3. ♙e1+]

Further placement

21st-24th place – B015 – Emil Klemanič, Ladislav Salaj jr., Slovakia – 6.4 points.

A pleasant problem with pinning of thematic pieces is adorned with the pseudo-Le Grand theme. (BLR)

Pin vs. pin. Two variations. (IND)

2x pin vs. pin, with white pinning the black pinner, and without black or white captures in the thematic moves. So white could try his thematic moves on the first moves as apparently stronger checks, but they are in fact weaker before black has played to g6/d4. (SWE)

21st-24th place – B021 – Gerard Smits, Netherlands – 6.4 points.

Vacation of square in three variations. (BLR)

Three square vacations: black and white. (IND)

3x unblock (square vacation) vs. unblock. The play is very nice, but it is a pity that one variation is impure: 1...Sb5 defends also by 2...Sa3+, so Pa4>a2 and +bPa3 would have been better. Wb2 and the key are also weak points. (SWE)

21st-24th place – B034 – Rauf Aliovsadzade, United States – 6.4 points.

At first there are no answers to the checks to the white king. (BLR)

Two cross checks. No doubling of theme. (IND)

2x discovered check vs. discovered check. The composer claims a doubling of the theme in each variation, but we don't see that: the bivalve motive (which he may be thinking of) is a black error, not a defence motive, and is not very clear on white side. There is a lovely open position with dramatic play and an excellent key, but some points must be deducted because the checks are unprovided before the key. (SWE)

21st-24th place – B042 – Gheorghe Tănase, Virgil Nestorescu, Árpád Ruzs, Romania – 6.4 points.

Three variations with cross-checks, but in the diagram position there are two unprovided flights. (BLR)

Three cross-checks. Unprovided flight. (IND)

3x discovered check vs. discovered check. The black defences allow three different mates for Kf5. Two checks are provoked by the key; one is present already in the diagram. The economy is good, although Ra6 is only used in one (thematic) variation. A funny detail is that Bh6 is fully used, but never as a battery piece. (SWE)

25th place – B025 – Ivo Tominić, Croatia – 6.3 points.

A complicated thematic idea. The second threat is a serious drawback. (BLR)

Square vacation in three variations. Double threat is a weakness. (IND)

3x unblock (square vacation) vs. unblock. The thematic effect is somewhat weakened by the existence of a second, unthematic threat, but the three BP moves onto the a7-g1 diagonal, each blocking a square for a BS, are quite impressive. The key activates the displaced Ba7, but in fact 1.Bb8? looks much more likely, so the key is not bad after all. (SWE)

26th place – B004 – Michel Caillaud, Jean-Marc Loustau, France – 6.2 points.

Three good variations. Black defensive motives are not fully identical. Repeat of mating move. (BLR)

Rook opening met by rook line opening. Three variations with a flight giving key. (IND)

3x line-opening vs. line-opening. The variations are too similar to be really interesting, and the WQ is used only for the threat. (SWE)

27th place – B066 – Branislav Djurašević, Dragan Stojnić, Serbia – 6.0 points.

Pawn Bristol is used as a tactical motive in two variations. (BLR)

Pawn vs. pawn opening lines. Bristol defence. (IND)

2x Bristol vs. Bristol, the only setting of that motive in the tourney. The play is crystal clear. (SWE)

28th-30th place – B013 – Alexander Zidek, Austria – 5.8 points.

Two clear variations and a star of black bishop. It's nice that there is an answer to 1...Kxc3+ in diagram position. In variation 1...Bxe3, the defensive motive includes unblocking of square d4. (BLR)

Line opening by black and white. Three thematic variations. (IND)

3x line-opening vs. line-opening. One of the variations is impure, as Bxe3 defends also by removing the guard from d4. The problem has many similarities with **B072**, but we think the differences are big enough to regard them as separate even if they would happen to come from the same country. (SWE)

28th-30th place – B061 – Michael Schreckenbach, Peter Sickinger, Germany – 5.8 points.

Three thematic variations with line opening by pawns. The theme is not entirely pure, since white rather fire a direct battery than open the line. (BLR)

Line opening vs. line opening. Symmetry in 2 variations. (IND)

3x line-opening vs. line-opening. The openings are different in character as black opens a line of guard while white gives a discovered check. The three thematic variations are entirely separate, each requiring a black and a white officer, and the WQ is only used in the threat. That all thematic variations end in pin-mates is a bonus. (SWE)

28th-30th place – B063 – Jan Rusinek, Poland – 5.8 points.

Two variations with pinning are supplemented by change of mate with unpinning. (BLR)

Pin vs. pin. Interesting unpins on black's second move with further pin mates. (IND)

2x pin vs. pin. After 1...c4, the white pin produces the threat, but after 1...cxb4, there is a double pin where one produces the threat and the other only serves to stop the refutation Rxb5+. There is dual avoidance where c4 unguards d3 whereas cxb4 unguards c5. A valuable detail is the unpinning defence 2...c5, which works in both variations and produces two different new pin-mates. Ba2 is a bit weak, used only (but essentially) in the threat. (SWE)

31st – B057 – Andreas Schönholzer, Chris Handloser, Switzerland – 5.7 points.

Two thematic variations with a thematic motive of unpinning in combination with Grimshaw. (BLR)

Unpin vs. unpin in two variations. Heavy setting. Black Grimshaw on d2. (IND)

2x unpin vs. unpin, with quiet play and with the black defences forming a Grimshaw. Very clear, but a little bit heavy. (SWE)

32nd-34th place – B039 – Miroslav Šindelář, Czech Republic – 5.6 points.

Three thematic variations with interference. There is a dual after 1...Re5 2.Se6+ Rxe6 3.Qd7# / Qxa8#. (BLR)

Line closings. Three variations. Continuations on same square. (IND)

3x interference vs. interference. There is one excellent variation (2.Re6), one decent (2.dxe6 e.p.), and one fairly weak (2.Se6+, where the thematic interference with BQ is only used in a dualistic mate). (SWE)

32nd-34th place – B045 – Henk le Grand, Netherlands – 5.6 points.

Two identical orthogonal-diagonal variations with line opening. (BLR)

Two line opening variations. (IND)

2x line-opening vs. line-opening. The original feature is the use of black thematic lines also for white mates – so opening them was a double-edged sword for black. (SWE)

32nd-34th place – B047 – Alexey Gasparian, Armenia – 5.6 points.

Two thematic options with interference are supplemented by two Nowotnys with different mates. The presence of additional phases is also interesting. (BLR)

Line closing in two variations. Heavy construction. Two-fold Nowotny. (IND)

2x interference vs. double interference (Nowotny). There is homogeneity in the exchange of functions between WQ and WB, and also in the two BP moves to the a8-e4 diagonal. The position is a bit heavy for the content. (SWE)

35th-37th place – B019 – Miroslav Svítek, Czech Republic – 5.4 points.

Two thematic variations with pinning of pieces. In fact, the play ends after the second move. (BLR)

Pin vs. pin. Two variations, unguard error only. (IND)

2x pin vs. pin. Very clear with analogous variations, but black defences are impure as Rb7/Rc7 defend also by interfering with Ra7 and by guarding f7 – so they would defend even if the WK were non-royal. (SWE)

35th-37th place – B043 – Jorge Joaquín Lois, Argentina – 5.4 points.

Two thematic variations line openings by pawns. The idea would have been completed in case of Albino play of white pawn d. (BLR)

Well known idea. (IND)

2x line-opening vs. line-opening, with pawn one-two-play and closing of a black bishop line on both sides. The play makes a unified but not very original impression. The key is good, stopping Qc8 without losing sight of d2. (SWE)

35th-37th place – B058 – Stefano Mariani, Italy – 5.4 points.

Two thematic variations with cross-checks. (BLR)

Two cross-checks and unpins. (IND)

2x discovered check vs. discovered check. 1...Sxe3+ shows a fine Brede cross-check: 2.Sf5+ self-pins, but Black unpins the WS again so it can mate. 1...Sxe5+ does not allow the same Brede effect, as the unpin of Se6 cannot be used, so another WS mates instead. This is a pity, but is perhaps what saves the matrix from anticipation. (SWE)

38th-40th place – B024 – Zoran Gavrilovski, Macedonia – 5.2 points.

Tactical motive is the destruction of a piece. Four variations. Thematically powerful, but all the idea and the play is anti-artistic. (BLR)

Four simple unguard capture variations. (IND)

4x capture vs. capture. The logic is fairly primitive, but it is systematical and the capturing even extends into the last half-moves B2+W3. (SWE)

38th-40th place – B060 – Stephen Taylor, Great Britain – 5.2 points.

Two thematic variations with unpinning. (BLR)

Unpins vs. unpins. Unpinning tries refuted by re-unpinning captures. ODT. White immediately captures the unpinned black piece. (IND)

2x unpin by capture of the pinner vs. the same, with the white thematic pinner pinning the black ones. The most original feature is that the variations are linked so that the black unpinner loses the possibility to replace the other black pinner when the other white pinner captures it. The interesting play has required a crowded position, and the key activating a WB is weak. (SWE)

38th-40th place – B072 – Alexander Zidek, Austria – 5.2 points.

Four variations in synthesis with a black bishop star. No purity, the theme is formal - primary defensive motive is vacation of d4 square. (BLR)

Bishop star. Duals on the mating move. Symmetric. (IND)

5x line opening vs. line opening, including the variation 1...g2 which was not marked as thematic but fits the stipulated theme. But there are several drawbacks: the four moves by Bd4 are thematically impure as the threat is defeated just by moving the B, the opening for Qd8 is not necessary at all; the white line opening is almost unnoticeable among the various additional threats; the position is almost symmetrical and fairly heavy. The problem is similar to **B013**, but has enough differences to count as a separate problem. (SWE)

41st-42nd place – B026 – Jorge Joaquín Lois, Argentina – 5.0 points.

Two thematic options with the vacating of the field. There is no answer to the taking king's flight in diagram position. (BLR)

Square vacation in two variations. (IND)

41st-42nd place – B035 – Tibor Érsek, Hungary – 5.0 points.

Two variations with line opening. (BLR)

Two line opening variations. (IND)

43rd place – B046 – Mike Prcic, Rauf Aliovsadzade, United States – 4.6 points.

Two thematic variations with two tactical motives (pinning and capture of the piece)

In this case, capture of the white pawn is not a defensive motive. The play is rough. (BLR)

Pin vs. pin in two variations. Black rook captures are crude. (IND)

2x pin vs. pin, both with captures (which is not in itself a plus). There is some disharmony in that Rxe3 threatens the thematic pin-mate directly, while Qxe3 threatens another pin-mate and the thematic pin-mate follows in a variation. The separation between the continuations is not by ordinary dual-avoidance but rather similar to the Mari theme: Bxe4 potentially allows Ra6#, so White may not give up that mate by playing Rxe3?; Qxe4 potentially allows Qxg4#, so White may not give up that mate by playing Qxe3?. (SWE)

44th place – B022 – Srećko Radović, Serbia – 4.4 points.

Unblocking a square for own king in two variations. (BLR)

Vacation of flight square in two variations. Bivalve. Simple. (IND)

45th-46th place – B008 – Juraj Brabec, Marián Križovenský, Štefan Sovík, Slovakia – 4.2 points.

The simplest thematic play: direct guard - direct attack. (BLR)

Anticipatory guard of mating square. Tries of no value. Symmetric. (IND)

2x two-move access to the mating square vs. the same. This is one of the most pale thematic motives imaginable (outside of this tourney, nobody would notice the similarity between Black's and White's play), but the problem in itself is well organized. A pity that two important tries are refuted by the same move g3-g2. (SWE)

45th-46th place – B020 – Stefan Milewski, Poland – 4.2 points.

Two thematic variations with cross-checks. A fragment of the problem of A. Kuzovkov in the examples. (BLR)

Battery check vs. battery check. Two variations. (IND)

2x discovered check vs. discovered check. Simple and uncomplicated: selfblocks allow white discovered checks; black checks determine where to go. The byplay is inherent in the matrix, and it's nice to see two new mates including a second use for Rd1. (SWE)

47th place – B006 – Gábor Tar, Hungary – 4.0 points.

A short threat in two phases. Two thematic variations. Change in one variation. (BLR)

Line closing vs. line closing in two variations. Short threat. (IND)

The variation 2.Rf5 is just a threat. (SUI)

48th place – B040 – Mubariz Safarov, Azerbaijan – 3.8 points.

Two variations with cross-checks and the play of Siers batteries. Unpleasant dual in the threat. Anticipated by <http://www.yacpdb.org/#48493> A.Kozlov & V.Udartsev, Šahs (Rīga), 1976, 2nd HM. (BLR)

Two cross-check variations. Partial anticipation **B003/a**. (IND)

2x discovered check vs. discovered check. Good, check-provoking key. Sc2 is not active in the thematic play, but in both by-variations. **B003/a** in Claims has similar cross-checks with reciprocal changes – compared to that, this is a modest effort. (SWE)

49th-50th place – B002 – Valerio Agostini, Stefano Mariani, Italy – 3.6 points.

Flight-taking key (with no answer in diagram position). (BLR)

Black self pins, white self pins (one change). Self-pin motive in set changed to pin in actual, followed by a Gamage unpin but only 1 variation. (IND)

The set-play is automatically not thematic, as there can be no defence motive in B1 when there is no threat. We do not consider the sequence 2.Qb8+ Sc7+ thematic: the white check is played before the black one, and the black check is not what saves the Black king from immediate capture. This variation does not add much value anyway, as 2.Qb8 is repeated from the main variation. The single main variation is quite fine however, with the thematic pin also involved in a Gamage unpin on B2+W3. The setplay is also good though unthematic. A pity that so little of the content deals with the stipulated theme. (SWE)

49th-50th place – B016 – Maryan Kerhuel, France – 3.6 points.

The play in two variations is dissimilar. (BLR)

Simple square vacations. (IND)

51st place – B050 – José Antonio Lopez Parcerisa, Spain – 3.4 points.

Three variations with a dubious thematic motive: check to the white king and capture. Variation 1...Rxf3+ 2.Qxf3+ has different defensive motive - no flight for black king. Also, there is no answer to this check initially. (BLR)

Black checks in three variations. Simple recaptures. (IND)

3x check vs. check. But Bxf5+ is unthematic as the move actually doesn't parry the threat by checking (2.e4+ is still possible) but by guarding e4 and removing a guard from e6. The other two thematic moves defend both by checking and by some other effect. (SWE)

52nd-53rd place – B052 – Bosko Miloskeski, Turkey – 3.0 points.

Two variations with cross-checks. The key and second moves with the capture. (BLR)

Two checks. Simple recaptures. (IND)

52nd-53rd place – B073 – Josef Kupper, Switzerland – 3.0 points.

Two variations with line opening. Tactical moments are not fully uniform. (BLR)

Two variations. (IND)

2x line opening vs. line opening. Very heavy for the simple thematic play. The threat is the best feature. (SWE)

54th place – B033 – Givi Mosiashvili, Georgia – 2.8 points.

Five variations with cross-checks, but with severe drawbacks (short threat, no answer to the checks to the white king in the diagram position). (BLR)

Five checks, three of them unprovided in the set. Short threat, symmetry & 1...exf2+ forces threat only. (IND)

5x discovered check vs. discovered check, but the play is very simple and the black checks are impure: they would defend against the threat even if there were no check (if the WK were non-royal, say). The checks are also unprovided in the diagram. (SWE)

55th place – B001 – Bosko Miloskeski, Turkey – 1.4 points.

Weak. The same third mating move. (BLR)

Two checks, recapture of checking piece. (IND)

The following compositions are not considered published and are at the disposal of their authors: B005, B007, B009, B010, B011, B012, B014, B018, B027, B029, B030, B036, B037, B053, B064, B068, B070, B071, B074.

Section B: Thremovers - Table

Place	No	Country	BLR	CRO	IND	SWE	SUI	Points
1	067	RUS	3.2	3.2	2.8	3.8	3.8	10.2
2	023	BLR		3.2	3.6	3.2	3.2	9.6
	054	GER	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.6	4.0	9.6
4	028	RUS	2.8	3.0	2.6	3.6	3.4	9.2
5	051	FIN	2.6	3.8	3.0	3.2	2.8	9.0
	056	RUS	3.0	3.6	2.6	3.4	2.4	9.0
7	048	UKR	2.8	3.4	2.6	3.4	2.4	8.8
8	032	IND	2.6	4.0		3.0	2.8	8.7
	055	BLR		3.0	3.0	2.8	2.8	8.7
10	003	IND	0.8	2.8		2.8	3.4	8.4
	049	UKR	2.6	3.8	3.0	2.8	1.4	8.4
	059	MKD	2.4	2.8	3.2	3.2	2.2	8.4
13	044	ISR	2.4	3.0	3.0	2.6	2.0	8.0
14	038	FIN	2.0	3.0	3.0	2.8	1.2	7.8
	041	UKR	2.2	3.0	3.0	2.6	1.4	7.8
	062	ISR	1.8	2.8	2.6	2.4	2.8	7.8
	065	BLR		2.4	3.4	2.6	2.6	7.8
18	069	GBR	1.0	2.8	2.0	2.8	2.8	7.6
19	031	ISR	2.0	2.8	2.2	3.4	2.2	7.2
20	017	ARM	2.0	2.4	2.6	2.4	2.2	7.0
21	015	SVK	1.8	2.0	2.4	2.4	2.0	6.4
	021	NED	2.2	2.4	2.6	1.8	1.8	6.4
	034	USA	1.2	2.0	2.0	2.4	2.4	6.4
	042	ROU	1.8	2.4	1.8	2.4	2.2	6.4

25	025	CRO	2.0		2.0	2.4	2.2	6.3
26	004	FRA	1.6	2.4	2.6	1.8	2.0	6.2
27	066	SRB	1.4	2.2	2.4	2.4	1.2	6.0
28	013	AUT	2.0	2.0	2.4	1.8	1.8	5.8
	061	GER	1.8	2.4	1.2	1.6	2.8	5.8
	063	POL	1.6	2.0	2.2	2.2	1.2	5.8
-	037	GER	1.6	1.8	2.2	2.4	1.8	5.8
31	057	SUI	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.4		5.7
32	039	CZE	1.0	3.0	2.2	1.6	1.8	5.6
	045	NED	1.4	1.8	2.0	3.0	1.8	5.6
	047	ARM	2.0	2.2	1.4	2.4	1.4	5.6
35	019	CZE	1.2	2.0	2.0	1.6	1.8	5.4
	043	ARG	1.6	2.4	1.8	1.4	2.0	5.4
	058	ITA	1.6	2.0	1.2	1.8	2.0	5.4
38	024	MKD	1.6	2.4	1.4	1.6	2.0	5.2
	060	GBR	1.0	2.0	1.8	2.6	1.4	5.2
	072	AUT	1.6	2.8	1.8	1.6	1.8	5.2
41	026	ARG	1.4	1.8	1.8	1.2	2.0	5.0
	035	HUN	1.4	1.8	1.6	1.6	2.0	5.0
-	068	NED	1.6	1.6	1.2	2.2	1.8	5.0
-	010	ARM	1.0	1.8	1.8	2.0	1.2	4.8
43	046	USA	1.2	2.0	1.6	1.8	1.2	4.6
44	022	SRB	1.2	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.2	4.4
-	030	FIN	1.6	2.0	1.2	1.6	1.2	4.4
-	070	CZE	1.2	1.8	1.0	1.4	2.2	4.4
45	008	SVK	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.8	0.8	4.2
	020	POL	1.0	2.0	1.4	1.8	1.0	4.2
47	006	HUN	1.4	0.8	1.2	1.4	1.8	4.0
48	040	AZE	0.6	1.8	1.2	1.6	1.0	3.8
49	002	ITA	0.6	1.0	1.4	1.2	2.0	3.6
	016	FRA	0.8	1.4	1.0	1.2	1.8	3.6
-	071	HUN	1.2	2.0	1.2	1.2	1.0	3.6
51	050	ESP	1.6	2.2	1.0	0.6	0.8	3.4
52	052	TUR	0.8	1.4	1.0	1.0	1.0	3.0
	073	SUI	1.0	1.8	1.0	1.0		3.0
-	018	USA	0.8	1.2	1.0	0.8	2.0	3.0
54	033	GEO	1.2	2.0	0.8	0.8	0.8	2.8
-	005	ITA	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.8	1.4	2.4
55	001	TUR	0.6	1.0	0.4	0.4	0.2	1.4
-	007	FRA	0.8	1.2	0.0	2.2	0.0	0.0
-	009	MKD	0.0	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
-	011	GEO	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0
-	012	SUI	0.4	1.4	0.0	0.0	-	0.0
-	014	AZE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
-	027	POL	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
-	029	AUT	0.0	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
-	036	GEO	0.6	1.2	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0
-	053	SVK	0.0	2.8	1.6	3.6	0.0	0.0
-	064	SRB	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
-	074	IND	0.0	0.0	-	0.0	0.0	0.0

SECTION C: MOREMOVERS

Judging countries

Armenia, Belarus, Finland, Sweden, Ukraine (Germany as reserve)

Theme: In a variation of a moremover ($\neq n, n \geq 4$) there is a sequential play of at least two different direct white batteries. Two (or more) different rear battery pieces must be used. In the diagram position there should not be more than one white battery aimed at the black king.

General

The theme was quite successful, with many excellent compositions in different styles, with only a few cases of similar entries and few close anticipations from earlier work. Only one entry was unthematic, and one more had an illegal position. (SWE)

1st-2nd place – C016

Alexander Kuzovkov
Russia



$\neq 4$ (10+13)

10.2 points

1. ♖b2! [2. ♘e3+ ♙xd4 3. ♘c2+ ♙e5 4. ♜e3#]
 1...f2 2. ♘h4+ ♙xd4 3. ♜c4+ ♙e3 4. ♘c1# - switchback
 1...e1 2. ♘g3+ ♙xd4 3. ♜c2+ ♙e3 4. ♘f1#
 1...dxc6 2. ♘d6+ ♙xd4 3. ♜b3+ ♙c5 4. ♘xb7#
 1...♙b1 2. ♘e7+ ♙xd4 3. ♜d3+ ♙c5 4. ♜xd5#
 1...dxe6 2. ♘g7+ ♙xd4 3. ♘xe6+ ♙e5 4. ♜e3#
 1...♙c4 2. ♘e7+ ♙xd4 3. ♜b3+ ♙c5 4. ♘a4#

All seven variations are thematic. Cross of the W ♜ on the third move. (Country)

All 7 variations are thematic. Sf5 plays on the second move on six of the seven available squares. Excellent use of pieces. A tremendous problem. (ARM)

Four thematic variations are united by a white rook cross on the third move and supplemented by three more variations with some repetitions. Large scale design. (BLR)

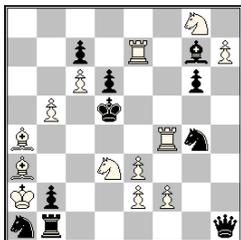
The variations are not perfectly unified, but the impressive presentation deserves a high score. (FIN)

Fantastically rich contents with seven thematic variations including a WR cross, with only three thematic white moves repeated. Key and construction is wonderful. (SWE)

Seven thematic variations with sequential play of two white batteries. Six different jumps of the white knight on the second move and the cross of the white rook on the third move. There are some repetitions on the second, third and fourth moves. (UKR)

1st-2nd place – C049

Mikhail Maranduyk
Ukraine



♠6 (13+10)
10.2 points

1. ♖e8! [2. ♖e7+ A ♖e6 3. ♖c8+ ♖d5 4. ♖b4+ B ♖c5 5. ♖a6+ ♖d5 6. ♖xc7#]
1... ♖h4 2. ♖b4+ B ♖c5 3. ♖c2+ ♖d5 4. e4+ C ♖c4 5. e5+ ♖c3
6. ♖b4#, 5... ♖d5 6. ♖d4#
1... ♖e1 2. e4+ C ♖c4/♖d4 3. e5+ ♖d5 4. ♖e7+ A ♖e6 5. ♖f5+ ♖f7 6. ♖xd6#, 5... ♖d5 6. ♖d4#
(1... ♖e4 2. ♖fxe4 [3. ♖f4#] g5 3.f3 [4. ♖e7#] ♖e5 4.h8 ♖ [5. ♖d4+ ♖xd4 6. ♖xd4#])

First ever successive cyclic formation and play of three white batteries with a cycle of second and fourth moves AB-BC-CA. (Country)

The cycle of second and fourth moves is shown very clearly in the play of three batteries. Topnotch. (ARM)

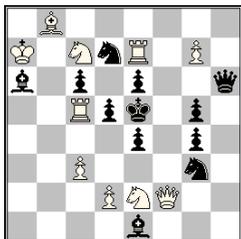
Good idea with cyclic play of three batteries on the third and fifth moves of white in three variations. (BLR)

Cyclic white play. (FIN)

Cyclic formation of batteries Re8+Ba3, Ba3+Rf4, Rf4+Re8 with three fully separate batteries. This means that the mechanism alone uses 6 white pieces so there is very little left for controlling the black king's field. It is a miracle that the problem works without a refutation or a cook. There is also unity in Black's play: both main variations (beside the threat) are started by the BQ, defending and also separating the continuations by guarding b4 or e7, but at the same time giving up e4. A monumental problem. (SWE)

3rd place – C009

Alexander Kuzovkov
Russia



♠4 (10+12)
9.0 points

1... ♖xe2 2. ♖xd5+ A ♖xb8 3. ♖b6+ ♖d6 4. ♖c8#
1... ♖xe2 2. ♖xe6+ B ♖xb8 3. ♖d4+ ♖d6 4. ♖f5#;
3... ♖e6 4. ♖xe6#
1... ♖d6 2. ♖xd7+ ♖xd7 3. ♖f7+ ♖c8/♖d8 4. ♖e8#;
(3... ♖d6 4. ♖xa6, ♖xe6#)

1. ♖f7! [2. ♖xe6+ ♖xe6 3. ♖xe6#]
1... ♖xe2 2. ♖xe6+ B ♖xb8 3. ♖d8+ ♖d6 4. ♖b7#;
3... ♖e6 4. ♖xe6#
1... ♖xe2 2. ♖xd5+ A ♖xb8 3. ♖f6+ ♖d6 4. ♖xe4#;
3... ♖f4 4. ♖h5#
1... ♖d6 2. ♖xa6+ ♖xb8 3. ♖xe6+ ♖xe6 4. ♖c7#

Reciprocal change of the second white moves and changed third and mating moves. Dual avoidance on the second white move. Defences on the same square. (Country)

Quite interesting and original. Exchange of second moves of white and change of the squares, from which white give mate. (ARM)

C009 (continued)

Defences on the same square at the background of exchange of second moves in setplay and solution with a diverse play without repetitions for white. Good achievement. Full-fledged threat was not available. (BLR)

A very good presentation of the theme in both setplay and solution in spite of the short threat and symmetric features. (FIN)

Reciprocal change based on the guard of Rc5 or Re7 by the WQ, the guard of b7+c8 by Ba6, and the guard of f5+e4 by Sg3. After Bxe2, the correct discovered check is determined by which of d5/e6 the WS can reach the mating square for; after Sxe2, the continuation is determined by the need to capture the BP that guards the mating square. And the correct mating square is determined by which WR is unguarded. It's a good change mechanism, albeit symmetrical. The WQ is en prise in the diagram, and the threat is short – but apart from these minor weaknesses, the construction is excellent. (SWE)

In set play and solution there is an exchange of second white moves with change of third and mating moves. There is also a change of play for the move of the black king. We also note the obvious key with white queen leaving the attacked square, short three-move threat and diagonal symmetry of mechanism. (UKR)

4th place – C017

Viktor Volchek,
Mikhail Khramtsevich,
Nikolai Belchikov,
Viktor Zaitsev
Belarus



±4 (10+13)

8.7 points

1. ♖g3! [2. ♜f4+ ♔xe5 3. ♜e4+ ♔d5 4. ♙e6#
2... ♔d5 3. ♖xf3+ ♔xe5 4. ♖e4#]
1... dxe5 2. ♜xe5+ ♔d6 3. ♜h5+ ♙e5 4. ♖xe5#
1... ♘g5 2. ♜xg5+ ♔e7 3. ♜h5+ ♔e8/♔f8 4. ♜h8#
2... ♔d5 3. exd6+ ♔d4/♙e5 4. ♖e5#
1... ♗f6 2. ♜xf6+ ♔e7 3. ♜xd6+ ♔e8/♔f8 4. ♜d8#
2... ♔d5 3. ♖f4 c3 4. ♙e6#
1... ♗f8 2. ♜h5+ ♔d5 3. exd6+ ♔d4/♙e5 4. ♖xe5#
1... e3 2. ♜h5+ ♖xg4 3. ♖xg4+ ♔d5 4. ♖c4#
2... ♔d5 3. ♖xf3+ ♔d4/♜e4 4. ♖xe4#

Five thematic variations, cross of w♖. (Country)

Five thematic variations - very solid idea. (ARM)

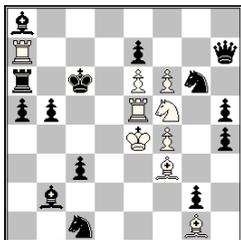
A rook cross with varied play, but many captures do not give a favorable impression. (FIN)

Very rich contents: Five thematic variations including a WR cross, plus some byplay – all almost completely dual-free. exd6+ is a fresh detail. The key activates the out-of-play WQ, but as there is the seemingly stronger option 1.Qxe3? (dxe5!), the key is OK. The only regrettable feature is the brutal captures after 1...Sf6/Sg5. (SWE)

Five thematic variations with consecutive play of batteries with the active participation of the white rook, showing the cross on the second move. (UKR)

5th-6th place – C014

Zoran Gavrilovski
Macedonia



♯4 (9+14)

8.6 points

A fourfold sequential battery play and a fourfold battery creation on the g1-b6 line in a “Theme of the Future” form: I) in the threat and after 1... ♖g~ cross-checking sacrifices by front battery pieces with Umov effect (W3 move) and delayed W♙’s arrival on a vacated square (W4 move); II) after 1... ♗a3 and 1...c2 Siers battery play by the w♙ (W2 & W3 moves). (Country)

Clear and beautiful. The solid idea. (ARM)

Two pairs of thematic variations are combined with the play of royal battery. White effect of “go away-come”, selfpinning, checks to the white king. The key is unlucky. (BLR)

2 x 2 variations with good analogy. (FIN)

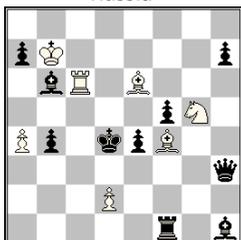
A harmonious “MOTF”: the two pairs of lines fit very nicely together. The difference between the pairs is in which WB battery fires first. They key unfortunately is weak, moving an important WR out of danger. (SWE)

Two systems of variations with sequential battery play are united by the active participation of the white king. The first pair of variations with cross-checks was implemented in the problem of V.Karpov (JT R.Kofman-75 1984 4 prize). The author added a second pair with the play of king on the second and third moves. (UKR)

1. ♖d7! [2. ♖d4+ ♗b6+ 3. ♗c6+ ♗xc6 4. ♗f5♯]
1... ♗f8/♗h8 2. ♗c5+ ♗b6+ 3. ♗c6+ ♗xc6 4. ♗e5♯
1... ♗a3 2. ♗d4+ ♗b6 3. ♗xc3+ ♗c5 4. ♗xc5♯
1...c2 2. ♗e3+ ♗b6 3. ♗d2+ ♗d4 4. ♗xd4♯

5th-6th place – C073

Grigory Popov
Russia



♯17 (7+10)

8.6 points

not counted for team score

Different batteries play sequentially four times. (Country)

1. ♗c4♯? (plan-0), but 1... ♗d3! Need d4 exd3 e.p. (plan-1)
a) 1. ♗d6+ ♗c5 2.d4+?, but 2...exd3 e.p.+! Need ♗f3 ♗xf3 (plan-2)
b) 1. ♗d6+ ♗c5 2. ♗f3? (3. ♗c6♯) ♗xf3? (plan-1) 3.d4+ exd3 e.p. (plan-2) 4. ♗c6+ ♗d4 5. ♗c4♯ (plan-0), but 2... ♗xf3! Need ♗g3 (plan-3)

1. ♗d6+! ♗c5 2. ♗d5+ ♗c4 3. ♗d7+ ♗c5 4. ♗d6+ ♗d4 5. ♗g3+ (plan-3) ♗c5 (It's still too early for 6. ♗f3? (plan-2) f4! (6... ♗xf3?) - the threat must be ♗c6♯ (plan-2a)) 6. ♗d5+ ♗c4 7. ♗d6+ ♗c5 8. ♗f3! [9. ♗c6♯, plan-2a] ♗xf3 (plan-2) (8... ♗xf3/b3 - ♯13) 9. ♗d5+! ♗c4 (9. ♗e5? b3!) 10. ♗d7+ ♗c5 11. ♗d6+ ♗d4 12. ♗f4+ ♗c5 13. ♗d5+! (13.d4+? exd3 e.p. 14. ♗d5+ ♗c4 15. ♗d6+ ♗c3!) ♗c4 14. ♗d6+ ♗c5 15.d4+ exd3 e.p. (plan-1) 16. ♗c6+ ♗d4 17. ♗c4♯ (plan-0), model mate.

C073 (continued)

A good problem with a significant drawback: tries as well as the solution begin with 1.Rd6. (ARM)

A beautiful logical problem with multiple plans. Batteries play six times. (BLR)

A logical problem with clever and interesting play ends with a nice model mate. A pity that the play is of a forcing nature with almost every white move being a check.

Six discovered checks in the main variation, with interesting systematic pendulum maneuvers: the WR moves between d6 and d7, the WB between f4 and g3. The procedure to force Rxf3 even though four black pieces guard the square is elegant. The play ends in a pretty model mate. This is the kind of logical moreover that we hoped to see more of in the tourney. (SWE)

7th place – C039

Mikhail Marandiyuk,
Valery Kopyl
Ukraine



±5 (7+15)
8.1 points

1. ♖f3! [2. ♘a2+ ♔d5 3. ♜xa4+ ♔e5/♔e6 4. ♞e4+ ♔d5
5. ♘xc3#]

1... ♙e1 2. ♘c2+ ♔d5 3. ♞xf4+ ♔e5/♔e6 4. ♞e4+ ♔d5 5. ♘e3#
1... ♜b3 2. ♘a6+ ♔d5 3. ♞xe8+ ♔c4/♔d4 4. ♞e4+ ♔d5 5. ♘c7#
1... ♜c4 2. ♘xc6+ ♜b4+ 3. ♙xb4+ ♔d5 4. ♞e5+ ♔c4 5. ♙d5#
1... ♜f5 2. gxf5 gxf5 3. ♘xc6+ ♔d5 4. ♞e5+ ♔c4 5. ♙d5#

A task: five variations with successive play of white batteries. (Country)

A good problem with five variations and four different mates. (ARM)

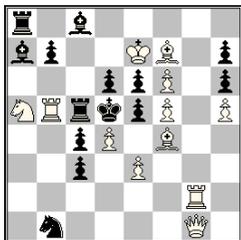
Three thematic variations with uniform play, two other ones are heterogeneous. The repeat of the fourth moves also reduces the impression. (BLR)

Three good variations, in which the WR removes black guarding units. The remaining two variations are thematic, but neither related to each other nor to the three main variations. (FIN)

Four or five variations with the WBa3 battery firing first, then the WBf3 battery – in three cases with a delayed Siers effect after Re4 captures a guarding piece. The repetition of 4.Re4+ is inherent in the matrix, but still unfortunate. The variations Qc4 and Qf5 have the same two discovered checks and the same mate, so they should not really be counted as two separate thematic variations. (SWE)

8th-9th place – C029

Zoran Gavrilovski
Macedonia



♯4 (12+14)
8.0 points

1. ♖e2? [2.e4♯, 2. ♖g8?]
1...e4 2. ♖g8 [3. ♕xe6+ /3. ♖xc8] ♕d7 3. ♕xe6+ ♕xe6 4. ♖xe6♯
but 1... ♕e4! 2. ♖g2+ ♕d3! (2... ♕xf5? 3. ♕g6+ hxg6 4. ♖xg6♯)

1. ♖h1! [2. ♖g8+ e4 3. ♖xc8 [4. ♕xe6♯]]
1... ♕b6 2. ♖d2+ e4 3. dxc5+ ♖xd2/cxd2 4. cxb6♯
1... ♕d7 2. ♖g5+ e4 3. fxe6+ hxg5 4. exd7♯
1... ♕e4 2. ♖f2+ ♕xf5 3. ♕g3+ ♕g4/ ♕g5 4. ♖h4♯
2... ♕d3 3. ♖xb1+ c2 4. ♖xc2♯
1...e4 2. ♖f1 A [3. ♖xc4♯] ♖d2 3. ♖xd2 B [4. ♖xc4♯]
2... ♖a3 3. dxc5 [4. ♖d1♯] ♖b1/ ♖c2/ ♖xb5 4. ♖xc4♯,
3...c2 4. ♖d2♯
1... ♖d2 2. ♖xd2+ B e4 3. ♖f1 A [4. ♖xc4♯]

Three thematic variations with Zabunov theme (a front piece of an initial battery becomes a rear piece of a newly created battery) and further battery creation at W3 moves after 1... ♕b6/ ♕d7. A changed continuation and thematic refutation in the try. (Country)

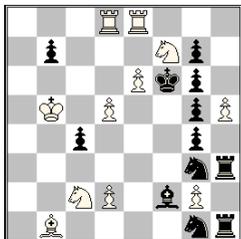
Zabunov theme in three variations with additional play. Great problem and composed "at the limit". (ARM)

Two main variations with the play of three batteries are supplemented by the third one with two thematic moves. No answer for taking the king's flight. (BLR)

Zabunov theme fits very naturally to the requirement of this tourney. Here we have three Zabunov variations, in two of them with the very special feature that the front piece of the second Zabunov battery (WP) becomes the front piece of a third battery – which finally mates. The interesting play excuses the very crowded position. The try 1.Re2? does not add much, even though the reply to 1...e4 is changed. (SWE)

8th-9th place – C040

Evgeni Bourd, Arieh Grinblat
Israel



♯5 (11+12)
8.0 points

1. ♖f8! (♕f5) [2. ♖d6+ ♕e5 3. ♖xc4+ ♕e4 4. ♖a1+ ♕d4 5. ♖b3♯]
1... ♖3~ 2. ♖h8+ ♕e5 3. ♖xg6+ ♕e4 4. ♖e3+ ♕d4 5. ♖f5♯
1... ♖1~ 2. ♖h6+ ♕e5 3. ♖xg4+ ♕e4 4. ♖e1+ ♕d4 5. ♖f3♯

Three thematic variations where the first Siers battery eliminates a black pawn and the second battery uses the unguarded square for the mate. Flight giving key. (Country)

Clear, topnotch, without "garbage". Coordinated actions of batteries. (ARM)

Three thematic variations with uniform play of double Siers battery. Unpleasant overload of g-file. (BLR)

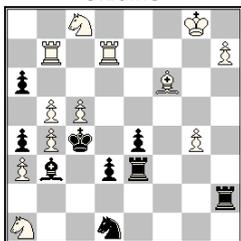
C040 (continued)

The good key gives a flight. The thematic threat and two variations form a unified whole. (FIN)

Double Siers play in threat and two variations – one thematic line more than C036 which also shows double Siers batteries. The first Siers captures a guarding BP so that the second Siers can mate, with logic reminiscent of the Popandopulo mechanism. (SWE)

10th place – C047

Mikhail Marandyuk,
Yury Gordian
Ukraine



♯6 (12+9)

7.8 points

not counted for team score

Three variations with successive formation and play of four white batteries. (Country)

While not very significant, the duals still spoil the idea. (ARM)

Three thematic variations with uniform play. Unpleasant dual on the mating move in the threat. (BLR)

Cyclic formation of batteries Rb7+Rd7, Rd7+Bf6, Bf6+Rb7 – a very impressive concept (but see also C049). There is a small unevenness in that Rb7 and Rd7 have the same front piece both times, whereas Bf6 has two different front pieces. Good construction despite the many pawns in the west. (SWE)

11th-13th place – C035

Srećko Radović
Serbia



♯5 (10+10)

7.4 points

Two main variations present reciprocal triple successive exchange of two batteries. Other two involve two more battery lines each. (Country)

Good problem. Unfortunately, 2. Se7 is repeated in two variations. (ARM)

1. ♖f8! [2. ♖b6+ ♖xb5 **3. ♜c8+** ♖c4 4. ♜d6+ ♖d5 **5. ♜b5+** ♖c4 6. ♜d4♯, 5... ♜e6 6. ♜d6♯, 5... ♜c6 6. ♜d4♯/♜a7♯]
1... ♜xh7 2. ♜d6+ ♖d5 **3. ♜f7+** ♖c4 4. ♜e5+ ♖c3 **5. ♜f3+** ♖c4 6. ♜d2♯
1... d2 2. ♜d4+ ♖c3 **3. ♜d6+** ♖c4 4. ♜b6+ ♖xb5 **5. ♜xa4+** ♖c4 6. ♜d4♯, 5... ♜xa4 6. ♜xa6♯

1. ♜h5! (cxb3) [2. ♜e6+ ♖e4 **3. ♜e5+** ♖d5 4. ♜xc4+ ♖c6 5. ♜d8♯, 4... ♖c4 5. ♜c5♯]
1... d2 **2. ♜f4+** ♖e5 **3. ♜e4+** ♖d4 4. ♜e2+ ♖d3 **5. ♜4c3♯**
1... ♜xb3 **2. ♜e7+** ♖e5 **3. ♜f3+** ♖d6 4. ♜d2 [5. ♜e4♯] ♜b7 5. ♜xc4♯
1... ♜a1/♜c8 **2. ♜e7+** ♖e5 **3. ♜e6+** ♖d6 4. ♜c8+ ♖c6 5. ♜d8♯

C035 (continued)

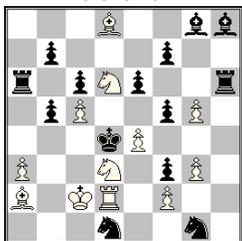
Three thematic moves in the first pair of variations with change of battery along the line. Repeat of second move in two other variations reduces the impression. (BLR)

Interesting, though the variations are of different kind. (FIN)

Very impressive main variations: The two white knights successively act as a front piece to Rh5 (and one of them to Bh7) in the threat, with the roles of WR/B and WS/S interchanged after 1...d2. The mechanism requires that White voluntarily closes the lines of Rh5 and Bh7, respectively, in W3 to form the last battery – an “antiziel” element that adds much interest. The other two thematic variations are simpler, but the end result is that both white knights make three different discovered checks from the g file and a forth one from the e file. For such contents, the position is amazingly open. White has two direct batteries, but this does not violate the requirements of this tourney as one of them is created by the key. (SWE)

11th-13th place – C043

Štefan Sovík
Slovakia



♯5

(12+14)

7.4 points

1. ♖c7! [2. ♖b2+ ♔e5 (2... ♗xc5 3. ♖xb7#) 3. ♖xb5+ ♔xe4
4. ♖d6+ ♔e5 5. ♖bc4#]
1... ♖a4 2. ♖b4+ ♔e5 (2... ♗xc5 3. ♖xb7#) 3. ♖xb7+ ♔xe4
4. ♖d6+ ♔e5 5. ♖xc6#
1... ♖h4 2. ♖f4+ ♔e5 (2... ♗xc5 3. ♖xb7#) 3. ♖xf7+ ♔xe4
4. ♖d6+ ♔e5 5. ♖g6#

Opening and closing of battery with aim to unguard mating squares, combined with delayed Siers checkmates. Switchback of the same piece from three different squares. (Country)

Three thematic variations with uniform play and return of the knight to square d6. (BLR)

A good presentation of the theme with removal of the guarding units as the main feature. (FIN)

This could be seen as double Siers play in threat and two variations, as in C040. But the batteries don't play successively; instead, the second battery plays a switchback maneuver to remove a guarding BP so that the first battery can mate. This means that the second battery isn't really of the Siers type (which is not important). The play is rather symmetrical and the position is heavy with 6+7 pawns. (SWE)

11th-13th place – C052

Evgeni Bourd, Arieh Grinblat
Israel



♠6 (12+14)
7.4 points

1... ♖xc2! [2. ♖b3♯]
4... ♖xd5 5. ♖xf3+ ♖f5 6. ♖xf5♯, 5... f5 6. ♖e5♯
4... ♖d4 5. ♖e4+ ♖xd5 6. ♖c4♯, 5... ♖xe4 6. ♖e6♯
1... ♖xc2 2. ♖bd6+ ♖d4 3. ♖f5+ ♖xd5 4. ♖e7+
4... ♖xe4 5. ♖xc6+ ♖e7 6. ♖xe7♯
4... ♖d4 5. ♖d5+ ♖xe4 6. ♖xd3♯, 5... cxd5 6. ♖f5♯

Two variations showing mutual battery play of the white knight between the two rooks motivated by the un-guard of either d3 or c4. Two sub-variations in each of the main variations, decided by the black king fourth move. Two switchbacks of the white knight, one in each variation. Sacrificial key. (Country)

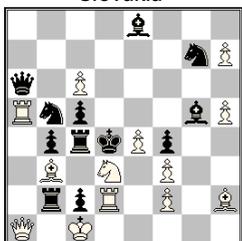
Classic sixmover with two clear variations. High technique. Three batteries fire in each variation. (ARM)

Two variations with three thematic moves and a change of play of two batteries on the fourth and fifth moves. The key with queen sacrifice. Short threat. (BLR)

Good play where the WS (after an initial battery check with Ba6) builds batteries with both white rooks in reverse order. The half-thematic sub-variations after 2...Kd4 are the reasons why the foreplan with WQ sacrifice is necessary. But the whole setup is a little too symmetric. (SWE)

14th place – C028

Emil Klemanič, Oto Mihalčo,
Ladislav Salaj jr.
Slovakia



♠4 (13+12)
7.2 points

1.h8♖! [2. ♖xb2+ ♖e5 3. ♖xc4+ ♖e6 4. ♖e5♯]
1... ♖c3 2. ♖xf4+ ♖e5 3. ♖fg6+ ♖f6 4. ♖e5♯
1... ♖c3 2. ♖xc5+ ♖e5 3. ♖d7+ ♖e6 4. ♖e5♯

Defences on the same square (c3) and mates on the same square (e5). Annihilation of black mass to enable mating moves. (Country)

An interesting idea: knight promotion as a key and mates from same square. (ARM)

Three uniform thematic variations with mates from the same square. Unpleasant promotion key, though still in the limits of standard chess set. (BLR)

C028 (continued)

Interesting variations, which have required a lot of material. (FIN)

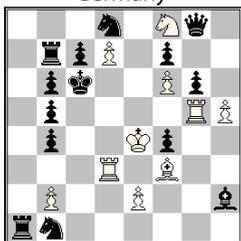
Fine unity through mates by three different pieces on the same square e5 in threat and after defences by two different pieces on the same square c3. Black errors are not quite analogous: Rc3 is a line-opening for a guarding piece; Sc3 is an opening for a rear battery piece. Very good key, as a WS on h8 looks useless. (SWE)

The same forward piece (knight) forms new batteries with three different linear white pieces and all mating moves are on the same square e5. (UKR)

15th place – C050

Marcel Tribowski

Germany



♠6

(10+14)

6.8 points

1.b3! [2. ♖e5+ ♗c5 3. ♜d5+ ♗c6 4. ♜d4+ ♗c5 5. ♖e4+ ♗c6 6. ♖d3#]

1... ♗xh5 2. ♖d4+ ♗d6 3. ♜d5+ ♗c6 4. ♜e5+ ♗d6 5. ♖e4+ ♗c6 6. ♖f5#

(1... ♗d2+ 2. ♜xd2 ♜c1 3. ♖e5+ ♗c5 4. ♜d5+ ♗c6 5. ♜d1+ ♗c5 6. ♜xc1#

1... ♗c3+ 2. ♜xc3+ ♖xc3 3. ♖d3+ ♗d6 4. ♜d5+ ♗c6 5. ♜d4+ ♗c5 6. ♖b4#)

W♖-batteries, Rehm mechanism. (Country)

Very complex mechanism (of H.-P. Rehm). The author has overcome all the technical difficulties. A unique problem of this kind. (ARM)

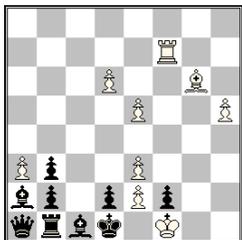
Two symmetrical variations with four thematic moves in each with a change of the battery are supplemented with two more with less interesting play. Initially, there is no answer to 1...Sd2+. (BLR)

An ingenious mechanism, but symmetry and the unprovided 1...Sd2+ are drawbacks. (FIN)

Four discovered checks in each variation, but the play is too symmetrical. (SWE)

16th-17th place – C076

Jan Rusinek
Poland



♯19 (9+9)

6.6 points

1. ♖f7??

1. ♖f5! ♖c2 2. ♜f8+ ♖d1 3. ♖f7 ♖c2 4. ♜c8+ ♖d1 5. ♖c4 ♖c2
6. ♖g8+ (6. ♖d3+? ♖d1 7. ♖c2+ bc2 8. ♜g8 ♖xg8) ♖d1 7. ♜f8
♖c2 8. ♖h7+ ♖d1 9. ♜f5 ♖c2 10. ♜f7+ ♖d1 11. ♖g8 ♖c2
12. ♜c7+ ♖d1 13. ♖c4 ♖c2 14. ♖d3+ ♖d1 15. ♖c2+ bxc2 16. ♜g7
♖~ 17. ♖xf2 ♖g6(g4,g2) 18. ♜x♖ - 19. ♜g1♯
16... ♖c4 17. ♖xf2 ♖xe2 18. ♜g1+ ♖f1 19. ♜xf1♯

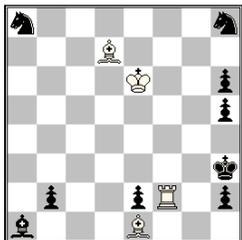
A good problem with interesting maneuvers. (ARM)

Fourfold battery play with witty maneuvers and unexpected finale. An interesting problem. (BLR)

Only four discovered checks, but with a sophisticated logic. If Bg6 were at h7, there would be #9 by Bg8-Rc7-Bc4-Bd3 etc. So the first ten moves are used to bring it there. This foreplan is very close to the main plan, so White could play the decisive Bc4-d3 already at move 6 – but the WR has to return to the 7th row to stop a later Bxg8. For this tourney, it would have been nice to have Kxf2# as a thematic battery mate, but one cannot have everything. (SWE)

16th-17th place – C078

Richard Becker
United States



♯39 (4+9)

6.6 points

1. ♖f5? ♖b6! 2. ♖e5 ♖g3

1. ♖f6+!

1... ♖g3 2. ♜f5+ ♖g2 (2... ♖h3 3. ♜g5♯, 2... ♖g4 3. ♜f1♯)
3. ♖c6+ ♖g1 4. ♖f2+ ♖f1 5. ♖c5+ ♖e1 6. ♖b4+ ♖d1 7. ♖a4+
♖c1 8. ♖c5+ ♖b1 9. ♖c2+ ♖c1 10. ♖e4+ ♖d1 11. ♜d5+ ♖c1
12. ♖d2+ ♖d1 13. ♖xh6+ ♖e1 14. ♖d2+ ♖d1
(14... ♖f2 15. ♜f5+ ♖g3 16. ♖e1+)
15. ♖g5+ ♖e1 16. ♖h4+ ♖f1 17. ♜f5+ ♖g1 18. ♜g5+ ♖f1
19. ♖g2+ ♖g1 20. ♖xa8+ ♖f1 21. ♖g2+ ♖g1 22. ♖e5+ ♖f1
23. ♜f5+ ♖g1 24. ♖f2+ ♖f1 25. ♖c5+ ♖e1 26. ♖b4+ ♖d1
27. ♖b3+ ♖c1 28. ♖c5+ ♖b1 29. ♜xh5 ♖c1 30. ♜c5+ ♖b1 31. ♖d5
♖g6 32. ♖xg6 h1 ♜ 33. ♖xh1 ♖a2 34. ♖d5+ ♖b1 35. ♜c4 e1 ♜
36. ♖xe1 ♖a2 37. ♜d4+ ♖a3 (37... ♖b1 38. ♖b3) 38. ♜d3+ ♖a4
39. ♖c6♯

A good finding in a literal sense, but the solution is not impressive. (ARM)

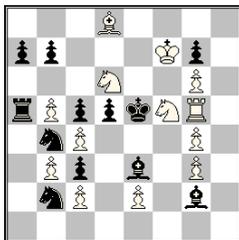
Tenfold play of batteries with a diverse maneuvers and an unexpected resolution on the 29th move. (BLR)

Familiar elements, perhaps still original enough for publication. (FIN)

10 discovered checks in an elegant matrix that originates with Josif Kricheli in 1974-75 but has also been used by Olivier Schmitt in Troll 2011 (WinChloe 460742) and presumably by others. But this must be the fantastic letzform of the idea, with long and complex play, no white pawns and a beautiful model at the end. All discovered checks are unique without extra force, note especially 6.Bc5+! (Bb6?), 22.Bd5+! (Bc6?), and 25.Bc5+! (Bb6?). The key is fine, anticipating a zugzwang thirty moves later. Only the various forerunners lower the score a bit. (SWE)

18th-19th place – C041

Viktor Volchek
Belarus



♯5 (13+12)
6.3 points

- 1. ♖c7!** [(1... ♖a1) 2. ♜xe3+ ♖d4 3. ♜ef5+ ♖e5 4. ♜xb7+ ♖e4 5. ♜xc5#]
 1... ♖g1/ ♖f2 2. ♜xg7+ ♖d4 3. ♜gf5+ ♖e5 4. ♜e8+ ♖e4 5. ♜f6#
 1... dxc4 2. ♜xb7+ ♖d5 3. ♜e7+ ♖e4 4. ♖e5+ ♖d4 5. ♜f5#
 3... ♖d4 4. ♖e5+ ♖e4 5. ♜d6#
 2... ♖e4 3. ♖e6 [4. ♜bd6#] ♖a6+ 4. bxa6 [5. ♜bd6#] ♖f4 5. ♜xc5#
 1... ♜xc4 2. ♜xc4+ ♖e4 3. ♖e5 [4. ♜fd6#] d4 4. ♜fd6+ ♖d5 5. ♖f4#
 3... dxc4 4. ♜d6+ ♖d5 5. bxc4#
 3... ♖a6 4. ♜fd6+ ♖xd6 5. ♜xd6#
 1... ♖a6 2.b6 [3. ♜b5+ ♖e4 4. ♜fd6#/ ♜xc3#] dxc4 3. ♜b5+ ♖d5 4. ♜e7+ ♖e4 5. ♖e5#
 2... ♜xc4/ ♖xb6 3. ♜b5+ ♜d6+/ ♖d6 4. ♖xd6+ ♖e4 5. ♜xc3#

Five thematic variations, switchback. (Country)

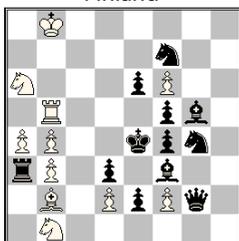
Excellent problem with 5 thematic variations. (ARM)

Varied play leaves a slightly confusing impression. (FIN)

Very rich but confusing play with no connecting idea, except that both white knights go to four different squares which gives good variety. We don't mind the late dual in the threat when there is a move (Ra1) that makes the continuation unique. The logic of the quiet 1...Ra6 variation is obscure but interesting: the defence makes 2.b6 possible both by blocking a6 against 2...Sa6, and by unguarding c5 for 2...Bd2 3.Sxb7+ Ke4 4.Sxc5#; 2.bxa6? looks strong but is refuted by 2...Sxa6! As in **C035**, it is all right to have two direct batteries when one is created by the key. (SWE)

18th-19th place – C056

Jorma Paavilainen
Finland



♯7 (11+12)
6.3 points

- 1. ♖c7!** [2. ♖e5+ ♜gx5/ ♜fx5 3. ♜c5+ ♖d5 4. ♜c3+ ♖d4 5. ♜xe6#]
 1... ♖xf6 2. ♜c5+ ♖d5 3. ♜d7+ ♖e4 4. ♖xf6+ ♜xf6 5. ♜c3+ ♖d4 6. ♜d5+ ♖e4 7. ♜xf6#
 1... ♖xf2 2. ♜c3+ ♖d4 3. ♜d1+ ♖e4 4. ♖xf2+ ♜xf2 5. ♜c5+ ♖d5 6. ♜xd3+ ♖e4 7. ♜xf2#

Excellent sevenmover with two beautiful variations. (ARM)

Two thematic variations with change of play of two Siers batteries. (BLR)

Popandopulo-like play from the white knights, but using two different rear pieces rather than a single one as in a real Popandopulo. There is a dual avoidance between the two variations: Bf6 guards c3, and Qf2 guards c5. The threat is good, albeit one move short, but a clear weakness is that the thematic play is almost completely symmetrical around the fourth row. (SWE)

20th-21st place – C036

Evgeni Bourd
Israel



±5 (12+8)

6.2 points

not counted for team score

Two thematic variations ending with echo model mates. Full length threat with sacrificial play. (Country)

Two thematic variations use the blocking of c3 square with uniform play. (BLR)

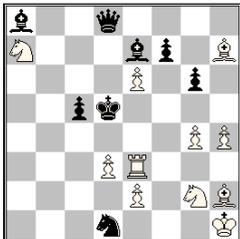
A balanced theme presentation with a good key and a full-length threat. Black unguard errors are slightly different, but this is not a major flaw. (FIN)

Double Siers play in both variations, with beautiful economic mates (but not model mates because of Ra8+b8). The play is motivated by simple unguards of e3 and f4. It is a pity that WBh8 is out of play, which gives a clear indication that the BK must be driven eastwards. The threat is excellent, but of course outside of the stipulated theme. (SWE)

1. ♖c7! [2. ♖a5+ ♖xa5 3. ♖c4+ ♖a6 4. ♖a8+ ♖b5 5. ♖d6‡]
1... ♖dx3 **2. ♖bd5+** ♖c4 3. ♖e3+ ♖xd4 **4. ♖h7+** ♖e4 5. ♖g5‡
1... ♖exc3 **2. ♖c8+** ♖c4 3. ♖d6+ ♖xd4 **4. ♖h5+** ♖d5 5. ♖f4‡

20th-21st place – C074

Dieter Werner,
Martin Hoffmann,
Anton Baumann
Switzerland



±17 (11+8)

6.2 points

Interesting, but with forced play. Eight thematic moves. (ARM)

The batteries play eight times. The play is completely forced. (BLR)

Eight discovered checks in the main variation, with pendulum play by WR and WS. The final aim is for the WS to guard d4 from e6 so that the WR can be sacrificed. The main reason for the WS to return from g6 to g2 is to guard e3, so the check from Ba8 is superfluous at this stage – but the BB is still necessary to stop other duals such as 16.Rxc5+. The problem is less harmonious than the other pendulum problem C073, and does not end in a model, but is still a very good logical moreover. (SWE)

1. ♖e5+!
1... ♖d6 (1... ♖d4 2. ♖b5‡) **2. ♖e4+** ♖d5 3. ♖f4+ ♖d6 **4. ♖xg6+**
♖d5 5. ♖f4+ ♖d6 **6. ♖g2+** ♖d5 7. ♖e5+ (7. ♖f5? too slow,
7. ♖e4??) ♖d6 **8. ♖e3+** ♖d5 9. ♖e4+ ♖xe6 **10. ♖f5+** ♖d5
(10... ♖f6 11. ♖e5‡) 11. ♖e5+ (11. ♖f4+? ♖d4+!) ♖d6 **12. ♖e4+**
♖d5 13. ♖f4+ ♖d6 **14. ♖e6+** ♖d5 (14... ♖d7 15. ♖c7, ♖g7‡)
15. ♖e5+ ♖d6+ **16. ♖d5+** ♖xd5 17.e4‡

Further placement

22nd-24th place – C023 – Maryann Kerhuel, Alain Bienabe, France – 6.0 points.

Three thematic variations are supplemented with the fourth with the battery play on the mating move. Defensive motives in the black play are different. A short threat is unjustified. (BLR)

The variations are not unified. (FIN)

Four variations where first the Rf5 battery fires, then the Rh4 battery (in one case with the front piece changed from WS to WB). The play is lively, but there is no thematic connection beside the discovered checks. (SWE)

22nd-24th place – C070 – Ruzvelt Martshalashvili, David Gurgeniđze, Georgia – 6.0 points.

An interesting problem. (ARM)

Maneuver with five-fold battery play and white effect “go away-come”. Technically flawless. (BLR)

Four battery checks from the WB and just one from the WR, somewhat unbalanced for this tourney. The type of strategy used is familiar, but 5.e4 is a good move – one does not expect the BK to get access to all of three squares f2-f4. (Note that 6.Rc5 Kg2 is met by 7.Ke2 Kg1 8.Rc3+ Kg2 9.Re3 Kg1 10.Rxg3#.) Good also that both WR and WK act as front pieces for WB. (SWE)

22nd-24th place – C071 – Jorge Joaquín Lois, Argentina – 6.0 points.

A good problem with interesting content. (ARM)

The fourfold play of batteries on two lines. Both batteries are formed and fire twice. (BLR)

Two battery checks R/B and two checks B/R, so the balance is better than in **C070** for example and the whole maneuver is more complex here. The ending 13.Be3 is quite good. The price to pay is in the heavy black material. (SWE)

25th place – C026 – Henk le Grand, Gerard Smits, Netherlands – 5.8 points.

Only two variations with three thematic moves in each - quite neatly. (ARM)

Two thematic variations with the play of three batteries. It is a pity it was not possible to avoid repeat of mating move. (BLR)

Very clear play of five white batteries, three of them firing in each line. The drawback of the mechanism is that two batteries are unused in each variation, which causes the whole to make a somewhat uneconomical impression. (SWE)

26th-27th place – C015 – Volker Zipf, Germany – 5.6 points.

A reasonably good problem. (ARM)

Three thematic variations with technical drawbacks: short threat, repetitions of moves, rough key. (BLR)

Traditional play on three adjacent diagonals in three variations, two of them with three battery firings. (SWE)

26th-27th place – C033 – Rauf Aliovsadzade, Victor Aberman, United States – 5.6 points.

Underused pieces. Also, a welter in the solution.

Short threat. There is no variation with the play of white batteries on the second and fifth moves.

Thematic variations are not uniform. (BLR)

The variations are too different. (FIN)

A bit unsystematic despite all the discovered checks. SxBg4+ is a brutal continuation, but it is nice to see the BK mated on such distant squares as h4, b1, and b5. This could have cost much material, but the composer has managed to control the BK with just a few white pieces. Even WBB1 has several functions. The very short threat is a flaw. (SWE)

28th place – C072 – Bosko Miloskeski, Turkey – 5.4 points.

A very good problem with the synthesis of several themes. (ARM)

Fourfold play of batteries. Long rook maneuver makes an impression. (BLR)

Similar in concept to **C062**, but with a much more complex maneuver by the WR and the two white bishops to get Ba8 to f5 for the final discovered check and mate. The play is worth the additional black and white material. Unfortunately, the WR and one WB are passive in the mate. (SWE)

29th-30th place – C030 – Alexander Zidek, Austria – 5.2 points.

An average problem, further spoiled by duals after 1...Bf1, which do not allow a higher mark. (ARM)

Two thematic variations with the play of three batteries. Unfortunately, the author could not avoid the duals with the battery play in an additional variation 1...Bf1 2.Qb1+, Qc2+, Sg5+. (BLR)

The dualistic variation 1.-Bf1 is unpleasant. (FIN)

Play of five batteries, three in each line, as in **C026**. The play is less homogenous here, so the problem is less convincing. The pair of by-variations where BS loses control of b6 or e7 by capturing on the other of those squares is a very nice (unthematic) addition, however. (SWE)

29th-30th place – C077 – Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen, Denmark – 5.2 points.

Record idea - 17 discovered checks from two 2 batteries. (ARM)

Two ladders of white king with seventeen royal batteries. Pleasant nuance on the ninth white move. Naturally, the play is monotonous. (BLR)

Forcing play and not enough artistic value. (FIN)

17 discovered checks in the form of familiar staircase play up and down two adjacent diagonals. The staircase motive is very familiar, but the there-and-back-again play on two WB lines is uncommon and perhaps new. The best feature is the surprising quiet and distant move 9.h4! This does not work at once, as 1.h4? is refuted by four moves Bb7+/Bc8/Ba7/c6 (so the logic is not quite pure). All obstacles are eliminated by placing the WK on c6, most notably (9.h4) Bb7+ 10.Rxb7 Rxa4 11.Ra7+ Rxa7 12.Kb5+ Rb7+ 13.Ka6 c6 14.Bxc6 B~ 15.Ba7 ~ 16.Bxb7#. After the best black defence Rxa4, White has to go back down to use the new hole on h3. The WSe1 is a tolerable weakness. (SWE)

31st place – C034 – Janne Syväniemi, Finland – 5.1 points.

Quite good, but not enough amplitude. (ARM)

Two thematic variations with a change of the functions of the moves of white pieces. (BLR)

Good economy: all white officers are active in both variations. The flight-giving key is a plus, but the content is limited. (SWE)

32nd-34th place – C013 – Dragan Stojnić, Serbia – 5.0 points.

It is interesting (chameleon echo), but not economic, and the first move is not aesthetic. (ARM)

Two uniform thematic variations with square vacation for the black king and play of pawn batteries. Mates with queen promotion. (BLR)

Discovered pawn checks with promotion mates. Most interesting are the reasons why white must select a particular W2 check (Rd3+, Sc2+ or e3+) in threat and variations. (SWE)

32nd-34th place – C042 – Andrzej Jasik, Poland – 5.0 points.

An interesting and beautiful task with good contents. (ARM)

Two thematic variations with change of function of pieces. Repeat on the third and mating moves and short threat reduce the mark. (BLR)

The variations are very symmetrical and not interesting enough. (FIN)

A very daring concept with the complete set of white and black officers in an open position in a five-mover, and with long discovered checks to h2 and b8. The downside is that the position is essentially symmetrical, with Ra7+Ba8 replacing Qg2 on the other side. So the second thematic variation has no element of surprise. (SWE)

32nd-34th place – C068 – K. Seetharaman, S. N. Ravishankar, India – 5.0 points.

Batteries play four times in switchback maneuver to remove the black piece. (BLR)

Familiar elements from logical compositions, unfortunately the play is forcing and black has very limited options. (FIN)

The WS first decoys the BQ by threatening on f2, then takes a battery-supported walk all the way to e6 to capture a guarding BR, and finally walks all the way back to decoy the BS that was unpinned by the BQ, so that Rxe5# will work at last. Fairly simple strategy, but nicely realized. (SWE)

35th-36th place – C031 – Alexander Zidek, Austria – 4.8 points.

Unpleasant repetition of the move 2.Sc5. (ARM)

Two thematic variations are supplemented by two more repetitions of the second move of the threat. (BLR)

The repetition of 2.Sc5+ is unfortunate. (FIN)

Four thematic variations, but with only two different W2 moves and in a very stiff position. There are obvious similarities with **C030** (the variation 1...axb3 here is the same as the threat there), but the two problems are clearly separate. (SWE)

35th-36th place – C066 – Dieter Werner, Switzerland – 4.8 points.

A simple problem with elements of logic. (ARM)

Logical problem with four batteries. But the first battery does not look good due to forced introduction. (BLR)

The idea is unclear. (FIN)

Good cooperation between white three line-pieces, with a subtle choice of the right moment to decoy the BQ away by playing Sc6: not too early so that the BQ is activated as a defender; but also not too late because the WB must remain on f3 so that BPF5 has to stay put. The two quiet moves 3.g3! and 4.Sc6! are a good feature for a problem in a style which is most often all-checking. (SWE)

37th place – C054 – Branko Udovčić, Croatia – 4.4 points.

Two thematic variations. (BLR)

Two variations with two battery checks each, after a good (flight-giving and sacrificial) key with a subtle quiet threat. (Note in this threat 2.Rd1 Kxd5 3.Bb5+ Ke6 4.Re1+ Kd5 5.Re5+ Kd4 6.Bc5#; this does not work after 1...Kxd5 as Black has Re2+ fxe2.) One of the thematic variations (1...Bg7), however, is partly identical to the threat, deviating only at move four. A more serious weakness is that there is no strategic connection between the two variations. (SWE)

38th place – C027 – Josef Burda, Miroslav Svítek, Czech Republic – 4.0 points.

In fact, only two thematic variations, since the third one repeats the play of the threat. (BLR)

The changed order of three white moves from threat to variation Kxd5 is only of minor interest. (SWE)

39th place – C059 – Jorge Joaquín Lois, Argentina – 3.8 points.

Average problem (two consecutive batteries on same one line). (ARM)

Replacement of the battery with different pieces on the same squares. Unconventional idea, but still the minimal presentation of the theme. (BLR)

An original motive in this tourney: white forms (and fires) two completely different batteries on the exact same two squares. The most interesting detail is that white must play 2.Kc5; not 2.Kc4/e6? because of check from Ba2; also not 2.Ke4/f5? because of the need for Qh7+ in a by-variation. This last point explains why the key cannot be 1.Ke5?, and it also motivates why White must replace Bh8 with a WQ. An unfortunate detail, inherent in the matrix, is that both white knights are unused in the mate. (SWE)

40th-43rd place – C004 – Gábor Tar, Hungary – 3.6 points.

From two variations only one defends against the threat. (ARM)

Two thematic variations with the play of different batteries. Different motivation of the defences and a two-move threat reduces the impression. (BLR)

A rather unharmonious way of activating three batteries. (SWE)

40th-43rd place – C008 – Alexey Gasparyan, Armenia – 3.6 points.

Two uniform thematic variations with the formation and play of the batteries. Capture of black pieces reduces the impression. (BLR)

Both battery mates are thematically impure, as the rear pieces of the batteries (Bb6/Rg4) are not needed. It would have been worthwhile to add a BPF7. (SWE)

40th-43rd place – C032 – Nikola Predrag, Croatia – 3.6 points.

The problem is below average due to a key with check. (ARM)

Two thematic variations with forced play. (BLR)

40th-43rd place – C062 – Paul Răican, Romania – 3.6 points.

The problem is spoilt by unpleasant “trial”: 4...Kxe3 5.Re1 Kxd3 6.Bf5 Kd4 7. Bf6 Kpd5 8. Rd1 (Re7, Re8). (ARM)

Interesting maneuver, but impression is significantly reduced by the dual in one of the branches. (BLR)
Traditional play where the BK is allowed to step out of his prison and then forced back in with a check, while white step by step improves his position for the final attack. There are much more complex examples of this kind of tactics in earlier problems. This problem does not fit this tourney quite naturally, as the play centers around a WR as a rear piece and only fulfils the theme when the mate more or less incidentally occurs with a battery check from a WB. A very attractive feature is the fact that White can afford to let the BK out to e3, which leads to two (unthematic) full-length sub-variations – and those variations actually determine both 2.Bg4+! (Bh5?) and 3.Rc6! (Rb6?). The try 2.Bb4, on the other hand, does not really increase the value of the problem. (SWE)

44th-45th place – C021 – Henk le Grand, Netherlands – 3.4 points.

There are duals that destroy the intent. (ARM)

Three thematic variations with a repetitive play. A short threat in this case is not justified technically. (BLR)

The WS walks along a square e4-f6-d7-c5 in both directions, a neat geometrical motive. Both variations are motivated simply by black unguard of the mating square c5 or f6. The very short threat is a clear weakness. (SWE)

44th-45th place – C053 – John Nunn, Great Britain – 3.4 points.

The problem with multiple threats (in our opinion, it is unfinished). (ARM)

One thematic variation, branching without purity. (BLR)

Multiple threats and only one variation. (FIN)

Very open and economic, with good cooperation between white S and RR but without strategy. The key is wonderfully paradoxical for this tourney: white gives up a set battery. The multiple threats are not very annoying, as the whole idea is to play Re1+ very soon. All the sub-variations emphasize the economy of White’s force, but they also tend to obscure the thematic idea. (SWE)

46th place – C057 – Zoltán Laborczi, Gábor Tar, Hungary – 3.2 points.

Four batteries fire along two lines, but not impressive. (ARM)

King's ladder with four royal batteries in a Meredith. (BLR)

47th-49th place – C012 – Stefano Mariani, Marcello Ragonesi, Italy – 3.0 points.

Weak implementation of the theme. (ARM)

Two variations with sequential play of royal batteries. The presence of a two-move threat extended to the main variation and a rough key reduce the score. (BLR)

Quiet formation of the second battery to play, an unusual feature. Luckily both white bishops have a function in both variations. (SWE)

47th-49th place – C060 – Bosko Miloseski, Turkey – 3.0 points.

A decent content for one variation, but still the minimal presentation of theme. (BLR)

47th-49th place – C065 – Alexey Gasparyan, Armenia – 3.0 points.

Batteries play five times in the solution and two times in the setplay. Very poor key with capture also takes the flight. (BLR)

The flight-taking and capturing key is very bad; the rest of the play is fine. (FIN)

Five battery checks in the solution and a further two in the set (which excuses the flight-taking key). This type of play is common both in this tourney and earlier, but the thematic battery mate with the WK as a front piece is a nice feature. (SWE)

50th-51st place – C051 – Stephen Taylor, Great Britain – 2.8 points.

Very weak presentation of the theme - it is too easy to miss. (ARM)

One thematic variation with the play of four batteries. Initially, there is no answer to 1...Bc7+. Byplay and a threat with duals. (BLR)

The WS makes four successive discovered checks with different rear pieces. This sequence is completely forced, so the composer chose to introduce it with a quiet key and a WQ sacrifice. With good construction and good luck, the many by-variations are almost dual-free, and two of them are in full length. But the by-play and the extension from four to six moves serve to dilute the thematic idea. Nevertheless, this is one of the best entries with just a number of battery checks in sequence without any strategic subtlety. (SWE)

50th-51st place – C064 – Michel Caillaud, France – 2.8 points.

Play of three batteries on two lines. (BLR)

Familiar stalemate-avoiding play. The best part is the surprising 6.Rxc2, which leads to a new thematic battery on the first rank. (SWE)

52nd place – C044 – Emmanuel Manolas, Greece – 2.6 points.

One thematic variation with a minimal realization of theme. (BLR)

53rd place – C006 – Miroslav Šindelář, Czech Republic – 2.4 points.

A lot of duals that destroy the problem. (ARM)

Three heterogeneous thematic variations. Duals. (BLR)

The dualistic variations are distracting. (FIN)

The play is rich, but leaves a disorganized impression. It is doubtful whether exd6e.p. can count as play of a direct white battery, but luckily the threat is thematic anyway. There are brutal captures of the BR in the threat and one variation. Another flaw is that the WQ is not needed for Sc7#, so this is only formally an example of battery play. (SWE)

54th place – C001 – Mihail Croitor, Moldova– 2.2 points.

Only one variation. (ARM)

Pleasant miniature. The theme is minimal. (BLR)

55th place – C037 – Boris Chabradze, Georgia– 1.6 points.

Duals and multiple threats. (ARM)

One thematic variation with a minimal realization of theme. Multiple threat is a serious drawback. (BLR)

With Black threatening dxc1Q+, the key is very weak. (SWE)

56th-57th place – C011 – José Antonio Lopez Parcerisa, Spain – 1.4 points.

The theme is very weak. (ARM)

Minimal presentation of the theme – only one thematic variation. (BLR)

Only one thematic variation. (FIN)

56th-57th place – C048 – K. Seetharaman, India – 1.4 points.

One thematic variation with the destruction of white pawns with two white batteries and forced play. (BLR)

The first battery annihilates WPd4 and interferes with Ra6; the second one annihilates WPe4 to prepare for Rxd3#. It is a sensible idea, but the content is limited. (If the diagram had Sc7 on b6, with two switchbacks in the play, the batteries could also play in reverse order.) (SWE)

58th place – C019 – Ingemar Lind, Rolf Upström, Sweden – 1.2 points.

Variation with rough and unclean play in the branches. (BLR)

59th place – C002 – Göran Wicklund, Sweden – 0.9 points.

Only one variation and with checking play. (ARM)

Minimal realization of the theme. The play is forced. (BLR)

The following compositions are not considered published and are at the disposal of their authors: C003, C005, C007, C010, C018, C020, C022, C024, C025, C038, C045, C046, C055, C058, C061, C063, C067, C069, C075.

Section C: Moremovers - Table

Place	No	Country	ARM	BLR	FIN	SWE	UKR	Points
1	016	RUS	3.4	3.4	3.2	3.4	3.4	10.2
	049	UKR	3.2	3.0	3.6	3.8		10.2
3	009	RUS	3	3.0	3.4	3.0	2.8	9.0
4	017	BLR	3.2		2.8	2.6	3.0	8.7
5	014	MKD	3	2.8	2.8	3.0	2.6	8.6
	073	RUS	2.4	2.8	3.4	3.6	1.4	8.6
7	039	UKR	2.6	2.8	3.0	2.6		8.1
8	029	MKD	3.6	2.4	3.0	2.6	2.4	8.0
	040	ISR	2.8	2.4	3.2	2.8	2.2	8.0
10	047	UKR	2.8	2.2	2.4	3.4		7.8
11	035	SRB	2.4	2.8	2.2	3.4	1.6	7.4
	043	SVK	2.8	2.6	2.6	2.2	1.6	7.4
	052	ISR	3	2.2	2.2	3.0	2.2	7.4
14	028	SVK	2.2	2.4	2.0	2.6	3.0	7.2
15	050	GER	3.4	2.2	2.4	2.2	1.4	6.8
16	076	POL	2.8	2.4	1.4	2.8	0.8	6.6
	078	USA	2.4	2.6	1.6	3.4	1.2	6.6
18	041	BLR	2.8		2.2	2.0	0.4	6.3
	056	FIN	3.2	2.0		2.2	1.6	6.3
20	036	ISR	2	2.0	2.6	2.2	1.6	6.2
	074	SUI	1.6	2.2	2.4	3.4	1.0	6.2
22	023	FRA	2.2	2.2	1.6	2.2	1.6	6.0
	070	GEO	2.6	2.4	1.2	2.2	1.4	6.0
	071	ARG	2.6	2.2	1.2	2.6	1.2	6.0
25	026	NED	2	1.8	2.0	3.0	0.4	5.8
-	025	BLR	1.8	-	2.0	2.2	1.6	5.7
26	015	GER	2.8	1.0	2.2	2.2	1.2	5.6
	033	USA	2	1.8	1.8	2.0	1.4	5.6
28	072	TUR	3	2.2	1.0	2.2	1.0	5.4
	007	SVK	2.2	1.6	1.6	2.6	0.6	5.4
29	030	AUT	0.8	1.6	1.6	2.6	2.0	5.2
	077	DEN	2.2	2.0	1.0	2.6	1.0	5.2
-	005	MKD	1	1.6	2.0	2.2	1.6	5.2
-	075	USA	1.6	2.0	1.6	3.8	1.2	5.2

31	034	FIN	1.8	1.6		2.4	1.0	5.1
32	013	SRB	1.4	1.6	2.0	1.8	1.6	5.0
	042	POL	3	1.2	1.4	2.4	0.8	5.0
	068	IND	1.8	1.8	1.4	2.0	0.8	5.0
35	031	AUT	1.2	1.8	1.4	2.0	1.6	4.8
	066	SUI	1.4	2.0	1.4	3.0	0.6	4.8
-	061	SRB	1.8	1.8	0.4	1.4	1.4	4.6
-	067	FIN	1.4	2.0	-	1.6	0.4	4.5
37	054	CRO	1.4	1.8	1.0	1.8	1.2	4.4
-	020	GER	0	1.8	1.6	1.4	1.0	4.0
38	027	CZE	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.4	0.6	4.0
39	059	ARG	1.8	1.2	0.6	2.4	0.8	3.8
40	004	HUN	1.2	1.0	1.6	1.4	0.6	3.6
	008	ARM		1.0	1.6	1.4	1.0	3.6
	032	CRO	1.6	1.2	0.6	1.4	1.0	3.6
	062	ROU	1	1.8	0.8	2.0	0.4	3.6
-	055	POL	1.2	1.6	0.6	1.4	1.0	3.6
44	021	NED	0	1.0	1.4	1.6	1.0	3.4
	053	GBR	1.4	1.4	0.6	2.2	0.4	3.4
46	057	HUN	1.4	1.2	0.4	1.2	0.8	3.2
47	012	ITA	1	1.0	1.0	1.4	0.8	3.0
	060	TUR	1.2	1.6	0.6	1.0	0.8	3.0
	065	ARM		0.8	1.2	2.2	0.6	3.0
-	022	NED	0.4	1.0	1.0	1.6	1.0	3.0
50	051	GBR	0.6	1.0	0.4	2.0	1.2	2.8
	064	FRA	1	1.0	0.8	1.6	0.4	2.8
-	018	SUI	0	1.0	1.4	1.2	0.6	2.8
-	038	HUN	0.6	1.0	0.4	1.6	1.2	2.8
52	044	GRE	1.6	0.6	0.4	1.4	0.6	2.6
-	046	FRA	0.8	1.0	0.4	1.4	0.8	2.6
53	006	CZE	0.6	1.0	0.8	2.0	0.4	2.4
-	003	CZE	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.0	0.4	2.4
-	058	ARM	-	1.0	0.6	1.4	0.6	2.4
54	001	MDA	0.4	0.8	0.4	1.2	1.0	2.2
-	045	TUR	0.6	1.0	0.6	1.4	0.4	2.2
55	037	GEO	0.6	0.6	0.2	1.0	0.4	1.6
56	011	ESP	1	0.4	0.2	0.6	0.4	1.4
-	048	IND	0.4	0.6	0.4	1.6	0.4	1.4
58	019	SWE	0.4	0.4	0.6		0.4	1.2
-	063	GBR	0.6	0.0	0.4	0.6	0.2	1.2
59	002	SWE	0.2	0.4	0.2		0.6	0.9
-	010	GEO	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
-	024	AUT	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
-	069	SWE	0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0	0.0

SECTION D: STUDIES

Judging countries

Finland, Germany, Great Britain, Israel, Netherlands (Armenia as reserve)

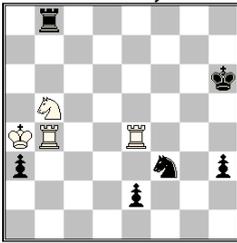
Theme: A logical study with the foresight theme. In a win or a draw study, there is at least one logical try. In this try a critical position B occurs that is very similar to a critical position A in the solution, except for a small difference.

Studies in which the critical positions are based on a reciprocal zugzwang (i.e. the difference is that position A has BTM and position B has WTM) are non-thematic. Further, studies that only feature the 7th WCCT theme as the foresight theme (passive removal of a white piece as a Vorplan and returning to the position and executing the main plan) are also non-thematic.

Judges and composers are advised to let artistic content prevail over numbers (number of moves, multiple positions A/B, tasks).

1st place – D053

Martin Minski
Germany



= (4+6)
10.2 points

Thematic try: 1. ♖xe2? ♜a8+/a2 2. ♘a7?! (2. ♘b3 a2 3. ♜xa2 ♜xa2 4. ♘xa2 h2 5. ♜b1 ♘g1 6. ♘d4 h1 ♖+ B2, B ♘h6) ♜xa7+ 3. ♘b3 a2 4. ♜xa2 ♜xa2 5. ♘xa2 h2 6. ♜b1 ♘g1 **B1** (B ♘h6) 7. ♜b8 ♘g7/♘h7 8. ♜b7+ ♘g6 9. ♜b6+ ♘g5 10. ♜b5+ ♘g4 11. ♜b4+ ♘g3 12. ♜b3+ ♘f2 13. ♜b2+ ♘e2 14. ♜b1 ♘c3+ +-]

1. ♜e6+!

1... ♘h5 2. ♜xe2 ♜a8+

Thematic try: 3. ♘b3? a2 4. ♜xa2 ♜xa2 5. ♘xa2 h2 6. ♜b1 ♘g1 **B3** (W ♘b5) 7. ♘d4 h1 ♖+ **B4** (B ♘h5)

3. ♘a7!! ♜xa7+ 4. ♘b3 a2 5. ♜xa2 ♜xa2 6. ♘xa2 h2 7. ♜b1!

(7. ♜b8? ♘g4! 8. ♜h8 ♘h4++) ♘g1 **A1/A3/A5 8. ♜b8! ♘g4** (8... ♘g6 9. ♜h8=) **9. ♜g8+ 1/2** (9. ♜h8? ♘h3+)

1... ♘g5 2. ♜xe2 ♜a8+

Thematic try: 3. ♘a7? ♜xa7+ 4. ♘b3 a2 5. ♜xa2 ♜xa2 6. ♘xa2 h2 7. ♜b1 ♘g1+ **B5** (B ♘g5)

3. ♘b3! a2 4. ♜xa2 ♜xa2 5. ♘xa2 (5. ♘d4? ♜f2!-) **h2 6. ♜b1 ♘g1 7. ♘d4! h1 ♖ A2/A4 8. ♜xg1+! ♖xg1 9. ♘f3+ 1/2**

1... ♘h7

Thematic try: 2. ♜xe2? ♜a8+/a2 3. ♘b3 a2 4. ♜xa2 ♜xa2 5. ♘d4 ♜f2!

6. ♘xf3 ♜xf3+ 7. ♘c2 **B6** (B ♘h7) ♘g6/♘h6 +-]

2. ♜e7+! ♘h8 3. ♜xe2 ♜a8+ 4. ♘b3 a2 5. ♜xa2 ♜xa2 6. ♘d4!

♜f2 (6...h2 7. ♘xf3 h1 ♖ 8. ♜h4+ ♖xh4 9. ♘h4=)

7. ♘xf3 ♜xf3+ 8. ♘c2! 1/2 A6

Interesting variations. (FIN)

Splendid. Multiple thematic tries, with the play in each differentiated from the others by clever tactics; multiple echoes too. This is a fine study in any context, but in this particular theme tournament it is outstanding, displaying the theme to maximum advantage.

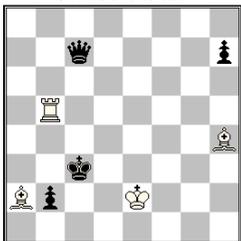
Rook studies tend to have difficult, if not obscure, supporting variations that are not to everyone's taste. However, one cannot but be impressed by the variety of play following the three moves of the black Kh6 in reply to 1 Re6+. (GBR)

D053 (continued)

The basic known matrix has been elaborated with multiple 'thematic' tries. The important and interesting one shows knight annihilation by white to open a line for his rook. (ISR)

In total 6 positions A/B with minor differences. White has two main defences against the promotion of the h-pawn: either by playing Rb8 threatening Rh8+, which only works if the BK is on the h-file (A5/B5), but not too close to the 8th line (A1/B1) and if there is no WS on b5 (A3/B3). The other defence is playing Rxfg1+ followed by a knight fork. This only works if BK is at g5 (A2/B2 and A4/B4). As a bonus there are positions A6/B6 where White only draws the rook ending if the BK now is as far off as possible. All this is accomplished by subtle checks (1.Re6+, 1...Kh7 2.Re7+), and a surprising sacrifice (3.Sa7!) in the 1...Kh5 main line, which turns out to be the thematic try in the 1...Kg5 main line. It takes some time to comprehend the study, but all lines are crystal clear. A thematic masterpiece. (NED)

2st place – D012
Richard Becker
United States



+ (4+4)
10.0 points

1. ♖f6+! (1. ♖g3? b1 ♖! =) ♜c2 2. ♙e5 (2. ♜xb2+? ♖c1 3. ♜b1+ ♖c2 4. ♜b4 ♜h2+ =) ♜e7 (2... ♜c8 3. ♜xb2+ ♖c1 4. ♜b1+ ♖c2 5. ♜b4! +, 2... ♜c6 3. ♙b3+! ♖c1 4. ♚d5 ♜xd5 5. ♙f4+! ♖b1 6. ♙xd5 +-) 3. ♜xb2+ (3. ♙b3+? ♖c1 4. ♚d5? ♜xe5+ 5. ♜xe5 b1 ♜+) ♖c1 4. ♜b1+! (Try 4. ♜b5? ♜a3! 5. ♙b3 (5. ♙c4 ♖c2! =, 5. ♙e6 ♜a4! 6. ♚c5+ ♖b1 7. ♙f5+ ♖a2 8. ♙e6+ ♖b1 =) ♜a6! (5... h5? 6. ♙d4! as in main line) 6. ♙c4 ♜a3! (not 6... ♜g6? 7. ♙f4+ ♖c2 8. ♙b3+ ♖c3 9. ♙e5# model mate, 6... ♜h6? 7. ♙b2+ ♖c2 8. ♙d3# model mate) 7. ♚d5 (Here 7. ♚c5 is not protected - W ♙e5 instead of d4) (7. ♙d3 ♜a2+ 8. ♙e3 (8. ♙f3 ♖d2 =) ♜d2+ 9. ♙e4 ♜g2+ =) ♜a4! 8. ♚c5 ♜c2+ 9. ♖f3 h5! (9... h6? 10. ♙d4 ♖d2 11. ♙e3+ ♖e1 12. ♙b5! ♜d1+ 13. ♖g3 ♜d6+ 14. ♖g2 ♜g6+ 15. ♖h2 ♜d6+ 16. ♖h1 +-) 10. ♙d4 (10. ♙f6 h4! =) ♖d2! (10... ♖d1? 11. ♙b5! ♜a2! ♜b3+) 12. ♙e3 +-) 11. ♙e3+ ♖e1 12. ♙b5 (12. ♜g5 ♜d1+ 13. ♖e4 ♜b1+ 14. ♖f4 ♜b8+ =) ♜d1+ = (13. ♖g3? ♜g4+ 14. ♖h2 ♜h4+ +-) ♜c2 5. ♜b5 ♖c1

Thematic try I: 6. ♙b3? ♜a3! 7. ♖d3 ♜f8! 8. ♖e2 ♜a3 9. ♙f4+ ♖b2 10. ♙e5+ (10. ♙g8+ ♖c2 11. ♙xh7+ ♖c3 12. ♙g8 ♖c2 =) ♖c1 11. ♙d4 ♜a6! 12. ♙c4 ♜g6! (not 12... ♜a3? 13. ♖c5! ♖b1 14. ♙d3+ ♖a2 15. ♜c2+ ♖b3 16. ♜c3+ +, 12... ♜d6? 13. ♙d3 ♜h2+ 14. ♙f2+ -) 13. ♙e3+ (13. ♙b2+ ♖c2 14. ♙b3+ ♖b1 =) ♖c1 14. ♙b3+ ♖c3 15. ♙d2+ (15. ♙e5# is not possible - W ♙e3 instead of f4) ♖d4 16. ♚d5+ ♖e4 17. ♙c2+ ♙xd5 (b ♖ is protected by pawn) 18. ♙xg6 B1 hxg6 =

6. ♚d5! ♖c2 (6... ♜b4 7. ♚d1+ ♖c2 8. ♚d4! +-) 7. ♚d2+ ♖c1 8. ♚d1+ ♖c2 9. ♚d5! h5 (9... ♖c1 10. ♙b3 +, 9... ♜a3 10. ♚d2+ +-)

Thematic try II: 10. ♙d2+? ♖c1 11. ♚d1+ ♖c2 12. ♚d5 h4 13. ♜b5 ♖c1 14. ♙b3 ♜a3 15. ♙d4 B2 h3! =)

10. ♙b5! ♖c1 11. ♙b3! ♜a3 12. ♙d4! A2 (12. ♖d3? ♜f8! 13. ♖e3 ♜e7! 14. ♖e2 ♜a3 15. ♙f4+ ♖b2 16. ♙e5+ ♖c1 loss of time) ♜a6 (12... h4 13. ♚c5+ (♙e6) +, 12... ♜e7+ 13. ♙e5! ♜b4 14. ♚c5+ ♖b1 15. ♙c4! ♜a4 16. ♚b5+ +-) 13. ♙c4 ♜g6 (13... ♜a3 14. ♚c5! (W ♚ is protected by ♙d4) ♖b1 15. ♙d3+ ♖a2 16. ♚c2+ ♖b3 17. ♚c3+ +-) 14. ♙e3+ ♖c2 15. ♙b3+ ♖c3 16. ♙d2+ ♖d4 17. ♚d5+ ♖e4 18. ♙c2+ ♙xd5 (b ♖ is not protected) 19. ♙xg6 A1 1-0

An economical pendulum play, in which the black h-pawn is forced to move and to guard the square g6. (FIN)

White must wait until the black pawn on h7 moves to h5 (A1/B1), but not to h4 (A2/B2). The play looks a little bit too mechanical and analytic. (GER)

This shows a complex zugzwang at move 9, and it seems to be reciprocal zz, which is not allowed by the Theme. We nonetheless allow this study, because there are some differences in the play between the solution line and the tries. (GBR, continued on next page)

D012 (continued)

The play is interesting and the way White controls the black queen particularly so. There is a non-human feel to it – the justification of many of the moves is only comprehensible with extensive analysis.

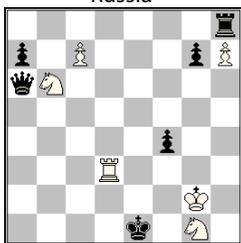
After 3 Rxb2+, there are seven men on the board for the capture-less main line all the way to move 18. What White does is invoke a virtual zugzwang by engineering a mating net, so Black 'succumbs' by advancing the onlooker pawn on h7 that is standing idle in the wings. That most insignificant chessman, the h7-pawn, decides the outcome. (GBR)

White loses a move to force ...h5 which removes a future protection from the black queen. The RBB-Q domination is impressive and the economy is excellent. (ISR)

Interesting idea. For position A1/B1 White maneuvers to force black to put his h-pawn at an unfavorable square. This is echoed in A2/B2 with the difference that White should not perform this maneuver as black then puts his h-pawn at a favorable square. (NED)

3rd-4th place – D027

Mikhail Gromov,
Oleg Pervakov
Russia



+ (6+6)
9.4 points

1. ♖f3+!

Thematic try I: 1.c8♖? ♜xc8! (1...♙xd3 2.♙c1+ ♙d1 3.♖f3+ ♖e2 4.♙c4+ ♙d3 5.♙a2+! ♖d1 6.♙a1+; 1...♙a2+ 2.♖h1! ♜xh7+ 3.♖h3+!) 2.♖f3+ ♖e2 3.♜d2+ ♖e3 4.♖d5+ (4.h8♙!?! **B1** ♙f1+!! 5.♖xf1 ♜xh8 6.♖g2 axb6=) ♖e4 5.♜d4+ (5.h8♙ ♙g6+!)= ♙f5 6.♙xf4+ ♖g6! 7.♖e7+ (7.h8♖+!?! ♖h7!); 7.h8♙ ♙e2+!+ ♖xh7 8.♜h4+ ♙h6 **B2** 9.♖g5+ (9.♜xh6+ ♖xh6! 10.♖xc8 a5! 11.♖b6 a4 12.♖c4 a3!)= ♖h8 10.♖f7+ ♖h7 11.♜xh6+ (11.♖xh6 ♜c2+)= gxh6 12.♖xc8 a5! 13.♖b6 a4 14.♖xa4 ♖g8! =

1...♖e2 2.♜d2+ ♖e3 3.♖d5+ ♖e4 4.♖e7!

Thematic try II: 4.♜d4+? ♙f5 5.♙xf4+ ♖e6! = **B3**. No 6.♖c7+ **4...♖e3! 5.c8♙!** (5.♖f5+? ♖e4 6.♖5h4 ♖e3! 7.♜d8 ♙a2+! 8.♖h3 ♙e6+; 5.♜c2? ♖d3! 6.c8♙ ♜xc8 7.♜xc8 ♙a2+)= **5...♙xc8 6.h8♙! **A1** ♜xh8** (6...♙f1+ 7.♖xf1 ♜xh8 8.♖g2+!) **7.♖d5+ ♖e4 8.♜d4+ ♖f5 9.♙xf4+ ♖g6** (9...♖e6 **A3** 10.♖c7+) **10.♖e7+! ♖h7 11.♜h4+ ♙h6 **A2** 12.♖g5#!**

Excellent tries and the main variation ends with a mate. (FIN)

Solid logical study. The black rook has to move to h8 (instead of c8) in order to complete the nice pin model mate with selfblock on h8. (GER)

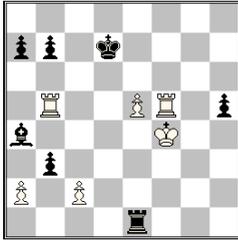
Exciting play, culminating in a mating finish and preceded by White sacrificing both his advanced pawns merely to clear the c7 square and then force Black to re-block the h8 square. The A3/B3 pair is not thematic, having two differences, but the A2/B2 pair is thematic and is also central to the study. Particularly appealing is the fact that White dispenses with the two pawns which seem to embody his winning chances. (GBR)

White checks the black king all the way to a mate with two active selfblocks. The general economy is good, but the thematic component is average and the black pieces hardly play, which make it feel more like a direct mate than a study. (ISR)

Three critical positions with very different points: A2/B2 with the bRh8 as a selfblock in a mate, A3/B3 with a WPc7 blocking a square for a fork, and A3/B3 with the WS or e7 or b6. The crucial difference between A1 and B1 is shown after 6...Qf1+ 7.Kxf1 Rxh8 8.Kg2 (WSe7), while in the thematic try 4...Qf1+ 5.Kxf1 Rxh8 6.Kg2 (WSb6) Black plays 6...axb6. But there is a cook in the line 6...Qf1+; also 8.Sg6 or 8.Rf2 win. So one thematic position (A1/B1) is lost. Otherwise a very good study when we only consider A2/B2. (NED)

3rd-4th place – D029

Richard Becker
United States



+ (6+7)

9.4 points

A clear-cut solution and the try is beautifully shown. (FIN)

Amusing trip of the white king across the board in order to open the long diagonal. However a very forced play. (GER)

A fine work throughout. 1 Rd5+ is unexpected, allowing the eventual king-fork of the two white rooks; the white king marches to the queenside just to force the apparently-irrelevant move ...b6+, and then marches all the way to the h-file. The reason for forcing the move ...b6+ is only revealed on the last move of the solution. That forcing of Black to play b7-b6+ opens the a8-h1 diagonal. Long-range foresight sets up a long-range skewer.

The claimed anticipation by Rossi is a marginal anticipation at most. (GBR)

Foresight to open a diagonal has been accomplished even in pawn studies (Rossi 1961). Here the foresight distance is extended at the cost of three rooks, a bishop and two pawns. (ISR)

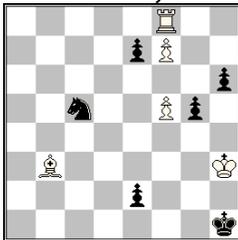
Excellent thematics. White forces black to open the a8-h1 diagonal for a queen skewer 14 moves later. Further merits are: a long WK march from kingside to queenside and back, and a remarkable BK forking two rooks. (NED)

1. **Rd5+**! (1. ♖xb7+? ♜c8 axb3 (2. ♜xb3 ♜xb3 3. axb3 ♜f1+ 4. ♜g5 ♜xf5+ 5. ♜xf5 ♜d7! etc.) ♜f1+! 3. ♜g5 ♜xf5+ 4. ♜xf5 ♜d7+ 5. ♜xd7 ♜xd7 6. ♜f6 h4 7. ♜f7 h3 8. e6+ ♜c7 9. e7 h2 10. e8 ♜h1 ♜ ⇒) ♜e7 2. **axb3** ♜f1+ (2... ♜xb3 3. ♜c5 +-) 3. **♜e4** ♜e1+ 4. **♜d4** ♜d1+

Thematic try: 5. ♜c4? ♜xb3+ 6. cxb3 ♜c1+ 7. ♜d4 ♜d1+ 8. ♜e4 ♜e1+ 9. ♜f4 ♜f1+ 10. ♜g5 ♜g1+ 11. ♜h6 ♜e6 12. ♜g5 ♜xg5 13. ♜xg5 ♜xd5 14. ♜f6 h4 15. e6 h3 16. e7 h2 17. e8 ♜h1 ♜ = **B**
5. ♜c5! b6+ 6. ♜c4 ♜xb3+ 7. cxb3 ♜c1+ 8. ♜d4 ♜d1+ 9. ♜e4 ♜e1+ 10. ♜f4 ♜f1+ 11. ♜g5 ♜g1+ 12. ♜h6 ♜e6 13. ♜g5 ♜xg5 14. ♜xg5 ♜xd5 15. ♜f6 h4 16. e6 h3 17. e7 h2 18. e8 ♜h1 ♜ **A**
19. ♜a8+! 1-0

5th place – D020

Helmut Waelzel
Germany



+ (5+6)

9.3 points

Probably a completely novel way to show foresight – we doubt that a final en passant move has been so employed before. The reason why 5 Kxh5 fails is deeply hidden. The intro has some attractive tactical points and the subsequent play is at once understandable and subtle. Every man has a critical role in this quite game-like position with play over the whole chessboard.

Tightrope play strung between an otb Master Class and thematic artistry... somehow getting away with it! Only at move 9 do we enter tablebase territory. (GBR)

1. **Rd8 h5!** (1...e1 ♜ 2. ♜d1 +) 2. **♜d1+**! (2.f8 ♜? e1 ♜ 3. ♜d1 g4+) **exd1 ♜** 3. **♜xd1 g4+** 4. **♜h4** ♜d7

Thematic try: 5. ♜xh5? g3 6. ♜a4 ♜f8 (6...g2? 7. ♜xd7 g1 ♜ 8. ♜c6+ ♜h2 9.f8 ♜+ -) 7. ♜h6 g2 8. ♜c6 e5! 9. ♜g7 (9.fxe6 ♜xe6=) ♜d7 10.f8 ♜ ♜xf8 11. ♜xf8 ♜h2 12. ♜xg2 ♜xg2 **B** 13.f6 e4 14.f7 e3 15. ♜g8 e2 16.f8 ♜ e1 ♜ =

5. **♜a4!** ♜f8 6. **♜c6+** (6. ♜xh5? g3 7. ♜c6+ g2 8. ♜h6 e5=) ♜h2 7. **♜xh5 g3** 8. **♜h6 g2** (8...e5 9. ♜g7+-) 9. **♜xg2** ♜xg2 10. **♜g7** ♜d7 11.f8 ♜ ♜xf8 12. **♜xf8 e5** **A** (same as **B**), but 13.fxe6 en passant! 1-0

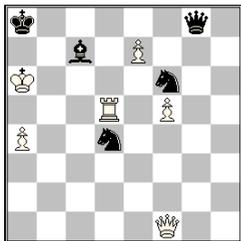
D020 (continued)

In the solution 12...e5 appears at the end and allows an immediate winning en-passant capture. In the try the move order is different and 8...e5 happens 4 moves earlier, so by move 12 white's en-passant opportunity is long gone. (ISR)

Excellent idea: the positions A and B are identical, with the difference whether en-passant capture is allowed. In general the play leaves a pleasant impression: satisfactory introduction, good thematic try with an important move order difference and natural ending. (NED)

6th place – D064

Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen
Denmark



= (6+5)

9.0 points

Fine choice 2.Qh1+! instead of 2.Qg2+? in order to avoid a classic mate with block on a5. Dynamic play and high economy. (GER)

Astonishing zugzwang in an open position with many pieces. One has to look several times before one believes it. Fully thematic, with the apparently trivial difference in the a-pawn position being what allows a mate. The 'anticipation' in Claims seems to us irrelevant.

Neatness upon neatness. Pelion on Ossa. The very unexpected reciprocal zugzwang is acceptable because it is not thematic. (GBR)

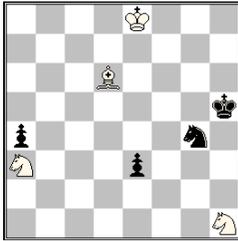
White wastes a move with his queen, so he does not have to move his pawn, which would lead to mate. Highly original. (ISR)

Excellent thematic study with apparently small difference between the move of the solution and the TT. The central idea is a zz, which forces WTM to advance a pawn, which is an active self-block in the stalemate. The fact that the mate in the try is anticipated (see Claims) is not very relevant indeed (replies) as there is no such active self-block. (NED)

- 1. ♖d8+** (1. ♖xd4? ♜c8+ 2. ♜b5 ♜b7+ 3. ♜c4 ♜a6+ -+) **♜xd8**
Thematic try: 2. ♜g2+? ♜d5 zz 3.a5 (3. ♜xg8 ♜b4‡; 3. ♜h1 ♜xe7! -+; 3.e8 ♜xe8 -+; 3.f6 ♜e6+ -+) ♜b8 4.exd8 ♜+ ♜xd8 5. ♜b2+ ♜c7! 6. ♜xd4 ♜b4! 7. ♜xb4 ♜a8+ 8. ♜b5 ♜c6‡ **B**
2. ♜h1+! ♜d5 **3. ♜g2!** zz ♜b8 (3... ♜xg2 4.exd8 ♜‡, 3... ♜xe7/ ♜c7 4. ♜xg8+, 3... ♜d4~ 4. ♜xg8) **4.exd8 ♜+ ♜xd8**
5. ♜b2+ ♜c7 **6. ♜xd4 ♜b4+** **7. ♜xb4 ♜a8+** **8. ♜b5 ♜c6+** **A**
9. ♜a5! 1/2
 No mate, as square a5 is available.

7th-8th place – D011

Vladislav Tarasyuk,
Sergey N. Tkachenko,
Ukraine



+ (4+4)
Black to move
8.8 points

1... ♖f6+!

Thematic try I: 2. ♖e7? ♜e4! 3. ♜g3+ ♜xg3 4. ♜xg3 ♜g4 5. ♜e1 ♜f3 6. ♜c2 ♜e2 7. ♜a5! ♜d3 8. ♜a3 ♜e2 9. ♜b6 ♜f3! 10. ♜c2 e2 11. ♜e1+ ♜e4 12. ♜c5 ♜d5 **B1** 13. ♜d6 (13. ♜e7??) ♜e4 14. ♜e6 ♜e3 15. ♜d5 ♜f2 16. ♜g3+ ♜xg3=

2. ♜f7!! ♜e4! 3. ♜g3+! (3. ♜e5? ♜g4 4. ♜c2 ♜f3 5. ♜g6 ♜f2 6. ♜g3 ♜d3 7. ♜c7 a3 8. ♜xa3 e2=) **♜xg3 4. ♜xg3 ♜g4 5. ♜e1 ♜f3 6. ♜c2!** (6. ♜e6? ♜e2 7. ♜a5 ♜f1 8. ♜c2 e2 9. ♜d5 a3=) ♜e2

Thematic try II: 7. ♜b4? ♜d3 8. ♜a3 ♜e2! 9. ♜c5 ♜d2 10. ♜c4+ ♜d3! 11. ♜b2+ ♜c2! 12. ♜xa4 e2 13. ♜b4 ♜b3 **B2** = (or 13... ♜d1 14. ♜b2+ ♜c2 15. ♜c4 ♜b3=)

7. ♜a5! ♜d3 8. ♜a3 ♜e2 9. ♜b6! (9. ♜e6? ♜f1! 10. ♜c2 e2 11. ♜d5 a3=) ♜f3! (9... ♜d2 10. ♜c4+ ♜d3 11. ♜b2+ ♜c2 12. ♜xa4 e2 13. ♜a5 ♜d1 14. ♜b2+ ♜c2 15. ♜c4 ♜b3 **A2** (W ♜a5 - 16... ♜xb4??) 16. ♜~) **10. ♜c2!** (10. ♜c5? e2 11. ♜c2 ♜g2! 12. ♜e6 ♜f1!)= **e2 11. ♜e1+ ♜e4 12. ♜c5 ♜d5 A1** (W ♜f7) **13. ♜e7!! ♜e4 14. ♜e6 ♜e3 15. ♜d5 ♜f2 16. ♜h4+!** (WBh4 - 16... ♜xg3??) **♜e3 17. ♜c4 1-0**

A profound try. (FIN)

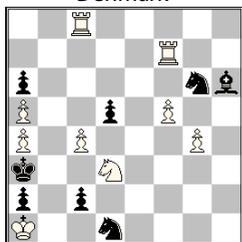
Profound foresight effect in A1/B1: thanks to the right choice of the king square there is an avoidance of block after 13(!) moves. The logical content in A2/B2 is not clear. (GER)

This is a good example of a study where BTM is justified. The Foresight Theme is shown at great depth – White’s choice at move 2 is justified at moves 13 and 16, and the reason is most unexpected. The play is somewhat ‘database-ish’, but doesn’t go beyond comprehension at any stage. The study is devoid of sacrifice or embellishment, but is an outstanding example of the WCCT10 Theme. If Magnus Carlsen were to annotate and comment the play, where would he place exclamation marks?(GBR)

Pretty setting, active play, and great foresight to avoid a future obstruction on e7. The try is slightly less natural than the solution but one must respect what is possible. A high quality study. (ISR)

Distinct point A1/B1: the WK must leave square e7 unblocked for the WB. The other critical positions A2/B2 indicated are not-thematic because of duals (e.g. also 9.Se3 wins). (NED)

7th-8th place – D072
Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen
Denmark



= (9+8)
 8.8 points

Thematic try: 1.fxg6? ♖e3 2.♖f3 ♜d4+ 3.♜b2+ ♜c3 4.♜d3 ♜xa4+ 5.♜b2+ ♜c3 6.♜d3 ♜d1+ 7.♜b2+ ♜e3 8.♞xe3+ ♞xe3 9.cxd5 c1♚+ 10.♞xc1 ♞xc1 11.♜c4+ ♜b3 12.g7 ♜g5 13.g8♜ ♜xc4 14.♜xa2 ♜xd5 15.♜b3 ♜c5 16.♜a4 (16.♜c3 ♜b5 17.♜d4 ♜xa5 18.♜c5 (18.♜e5 ♜b4 19.♜f5 (19.♜f6 a5 20.♜e4 a4 21.♜xg5 a3 -+) a5 20.♜xg5 a4 -+) ♜a4 19.♜d6 ♜b3 20.♜e7 a5 21.♜c6 a4 22.♜d4+ ♜c3 23.♜b5+ (23.♜d5 eg ♜h6 24.♜b5+ ♜b4 25.♜d4 ♜e3 26.♜c2+ ♜b3 27.♜xe3 a3+ ♜b4 24.♜c6 ♜e3 25.g5 ♜xg5 -+) ♜c4 17.♜e7 (17.♜a3 ♜b5 -+) ♜xe7 **B** No stalemate

1.g5! (1.cxd5? ♖e3 2.♞c4 ♜e5! 3.♞fc7 ♜xc4 (3...♜xd3) 4.♞xc4 ♜b3 5.♞b4+ ♜c3 6.♜xa2 ♜xd3 -+) ♜xg5 (1...♜e5 2.cxd5) **2.fxg6 ♜e3 3.♞f3** (3.♞f4 ♜xf4 4.cxd5 ♜e3 5.♞c4 ♜b3! 6.g7 ♜xc4 7.g8♚ ♜xd3 -+) **♜d4+ 4.♜b2+ ♜c3** (4...♜c3 5.♞xc3+ ♜xc3 6.♜d3) **5.♜d3** (5.♞f1? c1♚+! 6.♞xc1 ♜xa4 -+ (6...♜d1)) **♜xa4+ 6.♜b2+ ♜c3 7.♜d3 ♜d1+ 8.♜b2+ ♜e3 9.♞xe3+ ♜xe3 10.cxd5 c1♚+ 11.♞xc1 ♞xc1 12.♜c4+ ♜b3 13.g7 ♜g5 14.g8♜ ♜xc4 15.♜xa2 ♜xd5 16.♜b3** (16.♜a3? ♜c4 17.♜a4 ♜c5 -+) **♜c5** (16...♜e6 17.♜c4 ♜f7 18.♜c5 =) **17.♜a4 ♜c4 18.♜e7!** (18.♜a3? ♜b5 -+) **♜xe7 **A**** = stalemate

A similar kind of an idea as in **D070**, but here the play is more interesting. (FIN)

A logical sacrifice of the WPg4 in order to create a stalemate only 17 moves later. Unfortunately there are too many captures; in particular 2.f5x5g6 is a real weakness. (GER)

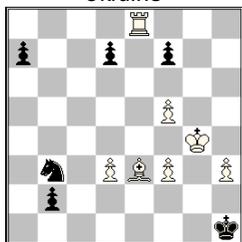
Confusing initial position, but necessary to set up the complex tactics that are the heart of this study. The foresight is long-distance. The stalemate finish rounds it off in good style.

In the diagram, the white king is already stalemated, but this is an illusion, shattered as an artillery battery's barrage is met by a counter-barrage, making nonsense of barbed wire. All hell is let loose. When the smoke of battle clears, the white king emerges into no-man's-land until a surprise Armistice is declared. (GBR)

Another early pawn sacrifice, this time for stalemate avoidance. The play is refreshingly double-edged with interesting moments like the knights dance on moves 4-8 and even a knight promotion. The 10 non-thematic captures are a lot, but they are spread over 18 moves. (ISR)

Surprising key, featuring active removal of WPg4, so that no less than 18 moves later, white is stalemated. Capturing the passive BSg6 is a drawback, the S-promotion a bonus. (NED)

9th-10th place – D030
Sergey Didukh
Ukraine



+ (7+6)
8.6 points

Thematic try I: 1. ♖f2? ♔g2! 2. ♚e2 (2. ♚e1 ♖c1) b1 ♖ 3. ♖g3+ ♔f1
4. ♚e1+ ♖xe1 5. ♖xe1 ♔xe1 6.h4 a5! 7.h5 a4 8.h6 a3 9.h7 a2
10.h8 ♖ a1 ♖ 11. ♖xa1+ **B1** ♖xa1=

1. ♖d2! ♖xd2 (1...b1 ♖ 2. ♚e1+)

Thematic try II: 2. ♚b8? b1 ♖ 3. ♚xb1+ ♖xb1 4.h4 ♖c3 5.h5 ♖d5
6. ♔g5 f6+ 7. ♔g4 ♖e3+ 8. ♔f4 **B2** ♖g2+! 9. ♔e4 (9. ♔g3 ♖e3
10. ♔f4 ♖g2+) 9...d5+ 10. ♔d4 ♖h4! =

2. ♚e1+! ♔g2 (2...♔h2 3.h4) 3. ♚d1! (3.h4? ♔f2 4. ♚d1 ♔e2
5. ♚g1 ♔f2=) **b1 ♖** 4. ♚xb1 ♖xb1 5.h4 ♖c3! (5...a5 6.h5 a4 7.h6

a3 8.h7 a2 9.h8 ♖ a1 ♖ 10. ♖xa1 **A1** (B ♖b1 - 10... ♖xa1??) 6.h5
♖d5 7. ♔g5! f6+ 8. ♔g4! (8. ♔g6? ♖f4+) ♖e3+ (♖f6??) 9. ♔f4 **A2**
(B ♔g2 - 9... ♖g2+??) ♖d5+ 10. ♔e4 ♖c3+ 11. ♔d4 (11. ♔e3? ♖b5
12.h6 ♖d6) ♖e2+ Thematic try III: 12. ♔c4? ♖g3 13.h6 ♖xf5 14.h7
B3 ♖d6+! 15. ♔d5 ♖f7 win.; 12. ♔e3? ♖g3 13.h6 ♖xf5+]

12. ♔c5! d6+ 13. ♔c4! ♖g3 (13... ♖g1 14.f4! (14.h6? ♖xf3 15.h7
♖e5+ 16. ♔d5 ♖f7 17. ♔e6 ♖g5+)) 14.h6 ♖xf5 15.h7 **A3** (B ♖d6 -
15... ♖d6+??) **1-0**

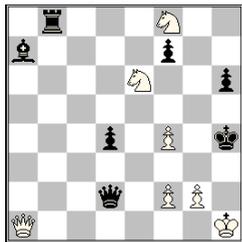
Several thematic tries during the course of the whole solution. The best entry in this section. (FIN)

Nice sacrifice key. Particularly the right choice of the king square g2 instead of h1 is profound. (GER)

White forces black's king to obstruct a future defense. The prolonged duel between the white king and the black knight within the trenches along the 4th rank is both interesting and unusual. (ISR)

Two excellent thematics: the positions A2/B2 and A3/B3 echo the idea of a black piece obstructing the B5 to check (on g2 or d6). In both instances the move choice (2.Re1+! 12.Kc5!) is not so obvious. As an extra the composer gave 1.Bf2? as a thematic try, but this rather distracts from his great idea. (NED)

9th-10th place – D035
Sergey Didukh
Ukraine



+ (7+7)
8.6 points

not counted for team score

A fine, profound try and lively play in the main variation. (FIN)

Spectacular sacrifices by black and white. 3.Sc5!! instead of 3.Sd4? is very fine. Only after 9 moves we see the reason on the c-line. (GER)

Foresight in closing the c-file. Active play and good technique. (ISR)

Very good introduction (1...Rb3!) with amazing difference between thematic try and solution: the BQd2 eventually ends up at c8, and the Bc5 is obstructing her file. Far foresight effect. Many surprise moves (4.Sg6+ 10.Qh1 12.f5). (NED)

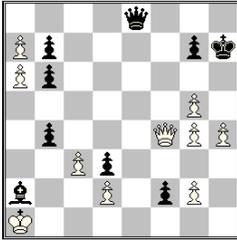
1. ♖a3! (1. ♖g1? ♔g4; 1. ♖xa7? ♚b1+ 2. ♔h2 ♖xf2 3. ♖e7+ ♔g4)
♚b3! (1...d3 2. ♖xa7 ♚b1+ 3. ♔h2 ♖e1 (3... ♖xf2 4. ♖xf2+) 4. ♖e7+
♔g4 5.f3+) 2. ♖xb3 (2. ♖e7+? ♔g4 3. ♖xf7 (3. ♖d7 ♚h3+ 4.gxh3+
♔f3 5. ♖b7+ ♔xf2 6. ♖g2+ ♔e3=) ♚b5! 4. ♖g7+ ♚g5 5.fxg5 ♖c1+
6. ♔h2 ♚b8+ 7.g3 ♖xg3+ 8. ♔g2 ♖c6+=) **d3**

Thematic try: 3. ♖d4? ♖xd4! (3... ♔g4 4. ♖f3 ♖c1+ 5. ♔h2 ♖xf4+
6.g3 ♖xf3 7. ♖a4+ ♔f5 8. ♖xa7+) 4. ♖g6+ fxg6 5. ♖e6 ♖d1+
6. ♔h2 ♖g4 7.g3+ ♔h5 8. ♖d5+ ♖f5 9. ♖f3+ ♖g4 10. ♖h1 g5 11.f3
♖c8! 12.f5 **B** ♖c2+! 13. ♔h3 g4+ 14.fxg4+ ♔g5 15. ♖d5 ♔f6
16. ♖xd4+ ♔e7=

3. ♖c5!! ♖xc5 (3... ♖xf2 4. ♖xd3 ♖xc5 5. ♖h3♯) 4. ♖g6+! (4. ♖xf7?
♖xf2=) fxg6 5. ♖e6 ♖d1+ (5... ♖xf4 6.g3+) 6. ♔h2 ♖g4 7.g3+
♔h5 8. ♖d5+ ♖f5 9. ♖f3+ ♖g4 10. ♖h1! g5 11.f3 ♖c8
(11... ♖e6 12.g4+ ♔g6 13.f5+) 12.f5! **A** (B ♖c5 - 12... ♖c2+??) **g4**
(12... ♖xf5 13.g4+) 13. ♔g2+ ♔g5 14. ♖h4+ ♔xf5 15. ♖xg4+ **1-0**

11th place – D047

Gady Costeff
Israel



+ (10+9)
8.1 points

1.g6+ (1.axb7 ♖e1+ 2.♔xa2 f1 ♖3. ♖xf1 ♖xd2+ 4.♔b3 ♖xc3+ 5.♔a4 ♖c6+ 6.♔xb4 ♖c5+ 7.♔b3 ♖c2+ with perpetual check) ♔h8 (1... ♖xg6 2. a8♖, 1... ♔xg6 2. a8♖) **2.axb7** (2.a8♖ ♖xa8 3. ♔xa2 bxc3) ♔g8!

Thematic try: 3.a8♖ ♖e1+ 4.♔b2 bxc3+ 5.♔xc3 ♖c1+ 6.♔d4 ♖c4+ 7.♔e3 ♖xf4+ 8.♔xf4 f1♖+ 9.♔g5 ♖f6+ 10.♔h5 ♖e5+ 11.g5 ♖e2+ 12.g4 ♖e5 (12... ♖f3? 13.b8♖!! wins as in the main line) 13.b8♖ ♖xb8 14.♖xb8 b5 15.♖b5 ♔a2 16.♖xd3 ♔g8 17.♖d6 ♔b3 18.d4 ♔a2 19.d5 ♔xd5 20.♖xd5 **B** stalemate
3.a8♖!! ♖e1+ 4.♔b2 bxc3+ 5.♔xc3 ♖c1+ 6.♔d4 ♖c4+ 7.♔e3 ♖xf4+ 8.♔xf4 f1♖+ 9.♔g5 ♖f6+ 10.♔h5 ♖e5+ 11.g5 ♖e2+ 12.g4 ♖f3! 13.b8♖!! (13.b8♖? ♖xa8! 14.♖xa8 b5 draws as in the thematic try) ♖xa8 (13... ♖d5 14.♖d8 ♖b3 15.♖d4 b5 16.♖ad8 ♖a2 17.♖xd3 ♖a5 18.♖e8 b4 19.♖dd8 ♖a2 20.d4 ♖c4 21.d5) **14.♖xa8 b5 15.♖b8 b4 16.♖xb4 ♔a2 17.♖d4 ♔b3 18.♖xd3 ♔e6 19.♖d6 ♔g8 20.d4 ♔a2 21.d5 ♔xd5 22.♖xd5 **A** 1-0** Same position as in the thematic try, but with a rook instead of a queen there is no stalemate

3.a8R!! is very surprising with the nice echo 13.b8R!!. Unfortunately there is a partial anticipation by Costeff 2007. (GER)

The anticipation is significant, but only for the final phase – the rest is original and excellent. This adds to the Costeff, by having two rook underpromotions and the thematic try. The foresight is impressively long: 19 moves.

Does the content atone for the diagram's 14 pawns? It does. The two promotions to rook ooze charm, without mentioning the white monarch's trek across the board to self-incarcerate on h5. (GBR)

Two rook promotions. After the first rook promotion, the critical position (stalemate or not) occurs 19 moves later. The scheme is anticipated (see Claims). (NED)

12th place – D060

Andrzej Jasik
Poland



= (5+5)
7.8 points

1.♔g7 (1.b4+? ♔d5 2.♔g7 f6 3.♔xf6 ♖f7+ 4.♔e7 ♖e5 5.♔xe5 ♔xe5 6.♖d3 ♔d5 →) ♔d5

Thematic try: 2.b4? f6 3.♔xf6 ♖f7+ 4.♔e7 ♖e5 5.♔xe5 ♔xe5 6.♖d3 **B1** ♔d5 → 7.♖b4??

2.b3! f6 3.♔xf6 ♖f7 4.♔e7 ♖e5 5.♔xe5 ♔xe5 6.♖d3+ **A1 ♔d4 7.♖b4 1/2**
or 1... ♔d6

Thematic try: 2.b3? f6 3.♔xf6 ♖f7 4.♔c8 ♖e5 5.f4 ♖g4 6.♖xg4 fxd4 **B2** 7. ♔e5+ ♔c6+→

2.b4! f6 3.♔xf6 ♖f7+ 4.♔c8 (4.♔e8 ♖e5 5.f4 ♖g4 6.♖xg4 fxd4 7.♔e5 ♔e6) ♖e5 5.f4 ♖g4 6.♖xg4 fxd4 **A2 7.♔e5+ ♔c6 8.b5+!** (8.f5? ♔d5 9.f6 ♔xe5 10.f7 a1 ♖ 11.f8 ♖ a8+ →) **♔b5 9. f5 g3 10. f6 g2 11.f7 ½**

A clever study with two variations. (FIN)

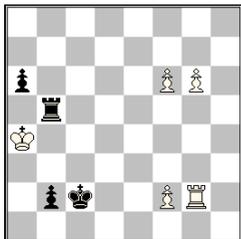
Very interesting reciprocal exchange of b3/b4 in the try and the solution. (GER)

Two thematic variations with reciprocal change of b3/b4 as the thematic try and solution. (ISR)

Intended as a study with two exchanged TT and solutions. However, one of the thematic tries is unsound because of black duals and position A2/B2 drops out, despite the reply of the author. Otherwise, this would have scored much more points. Now we "only" have a festina lente study with the point that square b4 must not be obstructed. (NED)

13th-14th place – D013

Ivan Bondar,
Mikhail Khramtsevich
Belarus



+ (5+4)

7.6 points

Clear idea with the paradoxical festina lente 1.f3+!! instead of 1.f4+?. Profound foresight effect, only 15 moves later we see the reason and there is a classical play à la Moravec. (GER)

The underlying mechanism (Moravec 1924) has been used many times including for various logical effects. Here the key 1.f3+ is used to avoid a future black hideaway (15...Kxf3?). In (Gurgenidze & Kalandadze 1997) 2.f5!! avoids a future obstruction. A very clean study. (ISR)

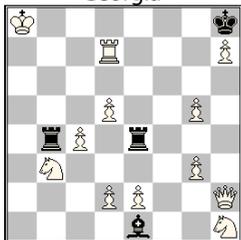
The solution should read 15...Kxf3 16.f8Q(R)+ wins. Then it is possible to correctly indicate the critical positions (after 15...Kxf3 in the main line or 15...Kf3 in the TT). Nice key move with far foresight. (NED)

Thematic try: 1.f4+? **B** ♖c3 2. ♜xb2! ♜xb2 3. ♖a5 ♜b5+ 4. ♖xa6 ♜f5 5.f7 ♖c4 6.g7 ♜f6+ 7. ♖a5 ♜f5+ 8. ♖a4 ♜f6 9. ♖a3 ♖c3 10. ♖a2 ♜a6+ 11. ♖b1 ♜b6+ 12. ♖c1 ♖a6 13. ♖d1 ♖d3 14. ♖e1 ♖e3 15. ♖f1 ♖f3 (no check from f8) 16. ♖g1 ♜g6+ 17. ♖h2 ♜h6+=

1.f3+ A ♖c3 2. ♜xb2 [2. ♜g1? ♜g5! 3. ♖e1 ♜xg6 4.f7 ♜f6=] ♜xb2 3. ♖a5 ♜b5+ 4. ♖xa6 ♜f5 5.f7 ♖c4 6.g7 ♜f6+ 7. ♖a5 ♜f5+ 8. ♖a4 ♜f6 9. ♖a3 ♖c3 10. ♖a2 ♜a6+ 11. ♖b1 ♜b6+ 12. ♖c1 ♖a6 13. ♖d1 ♖d3 14. ♖e1 ♖e3 15. ♖f1 1-0

13th-14th place – D043

Beka Akhaladze,
David Gurgenidze
Georgia



+ (12+4)

Black to move

7.6 points

1... ♜e8+ 2. ♖a7 ♜f2+

Thematic try: 3.c5!? ♜xc5+ 4. ♖xc5 ♜a8+ 5. ♖xa8 ♜b8+ 6. ♖a7 ♜b7+ 7. ♖a6 ♜b6+ 8. ♖a5 ♜b5+ 9. ♖a4 ♜b4+ 10. ♖a3 ♜b3+ **B1** 11. ♖a2 ♜b2+ 12. ♖a1 ♜b1+ perpetual check

3.e3! ♜xe3+

Thematic try: 4.dxe3!? ♜a8+ 5. ♖xa8 ♜b8+ 6. ♖a7 ♜b7+ 7. ♖a6 ♜b6+ 8. ♖a5 ♜b5+ 9. ♖a4 ♜b4+ 10. ♖a3 ♜b3+ 11. ♖a2 ♜a3+ 12. ♖b1 ♜b3+ 13. ♖c1 ♜c3+ 14. ♖d1 ♜d3+ 15. ♖e1 ♜xe3+ 16. ♖f1 ♜f3+ 17. ♖g2 ♜xg3+ 18. ♖f1 ♜f3+ 19. ♖f2 ♜xf2+ 20. ♖e1 ♜e2+ 21. ♖d1 ♜d2+ 22. ♖c1 ♜c2+ 23. ♖b1 ♜c1+ 24. ♖a2 ♜c2+ 25. ♖a3 ♜c3+ 26. ♖a4 ♜xc4+ 27. ♖a5 ♜c5+ 28. ♖a6 ♜c6+ **B2** 29. ♖a7 ♜c7+ 30. ♖a8 ♜c8+ perpetual check !]

4.d4! ♜xd4+

Thematic try: 5. ♖xd4!? ♜a8+ 6. ♖xa8 ♜b8+ 7. ♖a7 ♜b7+ 8. ♖a6 ♜b6+ 9. ♖a5 ♜b5+ 10. ♖a4 ♜b4+ 11. ♖a3 ♜b3+ **B3** 12. ♖a2 ♜b2+ 13. ♖xb2 stalemate

5.c5! ♜xc5+ 6. ♖xc5 ♜a8+ 7. ♖xa8 ♜b8+ 8. ♖a7 ♜b7+ 9. ♖a6 ♜b6+ 10. ♖a5 ♜b5+ 11. ♖a4 ♜b4+ 12. ♖a3 ♜b3+ **A1/A3 13. ♖a2 ♜a3+ 14. ♖b1 ♜b3+ 15. ♖c1 ♜c3+ 16. ♖d1 ♜d3+ 17. ♖e1 ♜e3+ 18. ♖f1 ♜f3+**

Thematic try: 19. ♖f2!? ♜xf2+ 20. ♖e1 ♜e2+ 21. ♖d1 ♜d2+ 22. ♖c1 ♜c2+ 23. ♖b1 ♜c1+ 24. ♖a2 ♜c2+ 25. ♖a3 ♜c3+ 26. ♖b3 ♜b3+ 27. ♖a4 ♜b4+ 28. ♖a5 ♜b5+ 29. ♖a6 ♜b6+ **B4** 30. ♖a7 ♜b7+ 31. ♖a8 ♜b8+ perpetual check

19. ♖g2! ♜xg3+ (19... ♜f2+ 20. ♖h3 ♜xh2+ 21. ♖g4 ♜h4+ 22. ♖f5 ♜f4+ 23. ♖e6 ♜f6+ 24. ♖e7+ -)

20. ♖f1 ♜f3+ 21. ♖f2!! ♜xf2+ 22. ♖e1 ♜e2+ 23. ♖d1 ♜d2+ 24. ♖c1 ♜c2+ 25. ♖b1 ♜c1+ 26. ♖a2 ♜c2+ 27. ♖a3 ♜c3+ 28. ♖b3!! ♜b3+ 29. ♖a4 ♜b4+ 30. ♖a5 ♜b5+ 31. ♖a6 ♜b6+ **A2/A4 32. ♖a7 ♜b7+ 33. ♖a8 ♜a7+ 34. ♖b8 ♜b7+ 35. ♖c8 ♜c7+ 36. ♖d8 ♜c8+ 37. ♖e7 1-0**

D043 (continued)

Several thematic tries, but partially with 2 differences. The long play is very forced with checks and captures. (GER)

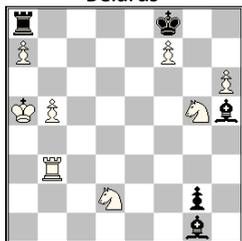
The desperado rook has a long history, for example Gygli (Wochenschach 1920), but this study adds substantially to early such works.

The composer did not analyze various alternatives, but this study does seem to stand up to examination. For example: 2.Rd8 doesn't work; the knight sacs do seem necessary, to force the black rook onto the correct circuit; and in the final position, 37...Re8+ 38.Kf6 Re6+ 39.Kf7 Rf6+ 40.Ke7 Rf7+ 41.Kd8 Rf8+ 42.Kc7 Rc8+ 43.Kd6 Rc6+ 44.Ke7 1-0. (GBR)

In this type of familiar anti-stalemate battle, black's is fed a meal of white pieces to arrange just the right refutation. An accurate specimen of the concept. (ISR)

Four different critical positions is quite an achievement. Good moves 3.e3! 4.d4! 19.Kg2! to open ranks and diagonals for the WQ. Also, the echoes 21.Sf2!! and 28.Sb3!! to get the BR on the second rank or on the b-file are excellent. It is a pity that the study starts with BTM. This also goes for the black dual in TT1 (also 11...Ra3+, so Black does not need square b2 now!). (NED)

15th-16th place – D033 Mikhail Khramtsevich Belarus



+ (8+5)
7.4 points

1.b6! (1. ♖b1? ♙xa7 2.b6 ♙xf7 3.bxa7 (3.b7 ♖b8 4.h7 ♙d4 5. ♖df3 ♙c3+ 6. ♙a6 ♙d5 7. ♙a7 ♖xb7+ 8. ♖xb7 ♙xb7 9. ♙xb7 ♙g7 =) 3... ♖xa7+ 4. ♙b6 ♖e7 5. ♖df3 ♙d5 6. ♙c5 ♙xf3 7. ♖xf3 ♙g8 8. ♖b2 ♙h7 =) **1... ♙xb6+ 2. ♖xb6 ♖xa7+**
Thematic try: 3. ♙b5? ♖xf7 4.h7 ♖xh7 5. ♖xh7+ ♙g8 6. ♖f3 ♙xf3 7. ♖g5 B ♙c6+! 8. ♖xc6 g1 ♖ 9. ♖g6+ ♙h8 10. ♖f7+ ♙h7 11. ♖xg1 stalemate.
3. ♙b4! ♖xf7 **4.h7!** (4. ♖b8+? ♙e7 5. ♖h3 ♙g6! 6. ♖b7+ ♙e8 7. ♖b6 ♙h7! 8. ♖e6+ ♖e7 9. ♖xe7 ♙xe7 = or 4. ♖h3? ♖f4+ 5. ♖xf4 g1 ♖ 6. ♖b8+ ♙e8 7.h7 ♙g7 8.h8 ♖+ ♙xh8 9. ♖xe8+ = **EGTB**) **♖xh7 5. ♖xh7+ ♙g8!** (5... ♙g7 6. ♖b7+ ♙g8 7. ♖f6+ ♙f8 8. ♖b8+ ♙f7 9. ♖g8 ♙g6 10. ♖f3 ♙xf6 11. ♙c5 +) **6. ♖f3! ♙xf3** (6... ♙xh7 7. ♖g1 = **EGTB**) **7. ♖g5! A ♙g4!** (7...g1 ♖ 8. ♖g6+ ♙h8 (8... ♙f8 9. ♖h7+ ♙~ 10. ♖xg1 +-) 9. ♖f7+ ♙h7 10. ♖xg1 +- or 7... ♙~ 8. ♖h3 +- **EGTB**) **8. ♖g6+ ♙h8** (8... ♙f8 9. ♖h7+ ♙~ 10. ♖xg4 +-) **9. ♖f7+ ♙h7 10. ♖xg4 g1 ♖ 11. ♖g5+!** (11. ♖xg1 stalemate) **♙g6 12. ♖xg1 1-0**

Interesting play, also in the refutation of the try 3.Kb5. The position of the rook on g4, instead of g6, is decisive. (FIN)

The introduction with three captures isn't optimal. The thematic try with 7...Bc6+! and stalemate is better than the solution. (GER)

Thematic, and ...Bc6+ is a fine refutation of the thematic try. Plenty of unusual and entertaining tactics in the middle phase. The play after 6...Bxf3 is so fresh – fabulous interaction of the two sides more than making up for the six captures that precede it – fine disguise too. (GBR)

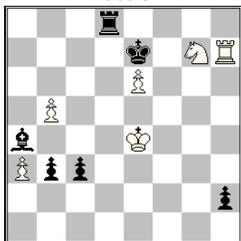
Too many captures for the content. (ISR)

Good idea (position B allows black to get rid of the BB). Quite a few captures, but also good moves (1.b6! 4.h7! 6.Sf3!). (NED)

15th-16th place – D066

Pavel Arestov

Russia



= (6+6)

7.4 points

4.a4!! is the great point in order to avoid a block on a3 only 11 moves later. Good play with mutual sacrifices. (GER)

4.a4! frees a3 for a future knight escape route. (ISR)

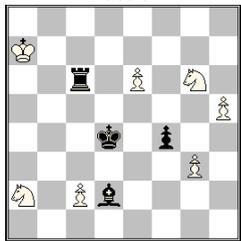
Excellent study with multiple surprising sacrifices featuring active removal of WPa3. A good example of a far foresight effect. (NED)

1. ♖e5! ♜d5+! 2. ♗xd5 ♜f6! [2... b2 3. ♖h5+!+] 3.e7! [3. ♜xh2? b2 4. ♖e8+ ♜g6+!] 3... ♜xb5! [3... ♜xe7? 4. ♖e5!+] 4.a4!!
 Thematic try: 4.e8♖? ♜xe8 5. ♖xe8+ ♜g5 6. ♜xh2 b2! 7. ♜g2+ ♜f4 8. ♜f2+ ♖e3! (8... ♜g3? 9. ♜c2!)= 9. ♜f6!?! (9. ♜c2 ♖d3+) 9... ♜xf2! (9... b1 ♖? 10. ♖g4+ ♖d3 11. ♖e5+=) 10. ♖e4+ ♖e3 11. ♖xc3 ♖d3! 12. ♖b1 ♖c2+ B (No 13. ♖a3+)
 4... ♜xa4 5.e8♖ ♜xe8 6. ♖xe8+ ♜g6 7. ♜xh2 b2! [7... c2 8. ♜g2+! ♖h6 9. ♜h2+ ♜g5 10. ♖d6! c1 ♖ 11. ♖c4! ♜c2!?] 12. ♖d2!]= 8. ♜g2+ ♖h6! 9. ♜h2+ ♜g5 10. ♖d6! c1 ♖ 11. ♖c4! ♜c2! 11. ♜f2+ ♖e3! [11... ♜g3 12. ♜c2!]= 12. ♖f6!! [12. ♜c2? ♖d3+] 12... ♜xf2 [12... b1 ♖ 13. ♖g4+ ♖d3 14. ♖e5+ ♖e3 15. ♖g4+= Perpetual check] 13. ♖e4+ ♖e3 14. ♖xc3 ♖d3 15. ♖b1 ♖c2 A 16. ♖a3+! ½

17th-20th place – D022

Pavel Arestov

Russia



7.2 points

not counted for team score

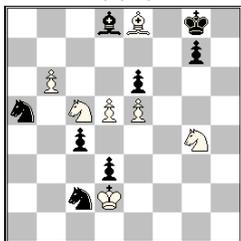
2.Ka8!! is very surprising because the white king avoids checks by a still invisible black knight only 11 moves later. (GER)

2.Ka8! is the star thematic move and the hideaway idea is known from other studies (Hoch-Dobrescu60, Afek-Koranyi mem.). The black underpromotion and its subsequent travels help the study significantly. (ISR)

Two thematic tries with echo forks, where the solution move 2.Ka8!! is excellent. In addition, some other fine moves (8.Sg4) and a black underpromotion. (NED)

17th-20th place – D036

Andrzej Jasik
Poland



+ (7+8)

7.2 points

An interesting setting with related tries and play in the main variation. (FIN)

Two fully thematic lines, with a reciprocal change of the Sf6/Sh6 moves between them. The thematic architecture is more interesting than the play. (ISR)

Nice exchanged TT and solution in two main lines. For a better understanding of the thematic differences the positions A1/B1 should also have been marked after the move Bxd1. (NED)

1.f7 ♖xb7 (1... ♕g5 2. ♖c3 ♖xb7 3. ♖xb7 +-) **2. ♖xb7 ♕g5+**
(2... ♕h4 3.d6 ♕e1+ 4. ♖d1) **3. ♖c3** (3... ♖d1 ♖b4 4. d6 c3+-) **♕h4**
(3... exd5 4. ♕c6 d4 5. ♖xc4 d2 6. ♕f3 d3 7. ♖d6 ♕f4 8. ♖d5+-) **4.d6**
(4.dxe6? ♕e1+ 5. ♖xc4 d2 6. ♕h5 d1 ♖7. ♖f6+ gxf6 8. ♕xd1 ♖a3
9. ♖b3 ♖b5 =) **♕e1+** **5. ♖xc4 d2** **6. ♕h5 d1 ♖**

Thematic try: 7. ♖h6+? gxf6 8. ♕xd1 ♖e3+ 9. ♖d3 ♖xd1 10. d7 **B1**
♕h4 =

7. ♖f6+! gxf6 **8. ♕xd1 ♖e3+** (8... ♖a3 9. ♖b3 ♖b5 10.d7) **9. ♖d3**
♖xd1 10.d7 A1 ♕h4 11 d8 ♖ 1-0

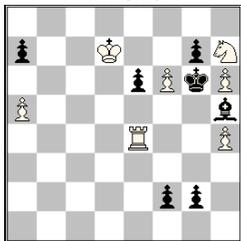
or **6... ♖a3+** **7. ♖c5 d1 ♖**

Thematic try: 8. ♖f6+? gxf6 9. ♕xd1 **B2** fxe5 10. d7 ♕h4 =

8. ♖h6+! gxf6 **9. ♕xd1 A2 ♕f2+** (9... fe5??) **10. ♖b4 1-0**

17th-20th place – D069

Alexey Gasparyan
Armenia



= (7+7)

7.2 points

Good choice 4.Rc4! instead of 4.Rb4? It's interesting (and not a weakness) that the play isn't the same between solution and try. Nice black sacrifices. (GER)

Careful choice of square by the white rook but there is little surprise. (ISR)

Very good introduction to get the BK into its cage. Excellent solution/TT move (4.Rc4!/4.Rb4?) with far-sight effect: the promoted BQ has an eye at g6 or not. Black counterplay: 4... Be8+! (NED)

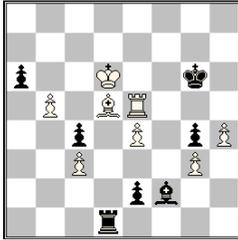
1.f7! ♖xf7 (1... f1 ♖ 2.f8 ♖ ♖xh6 3. ♖h8! ♖b5+ [3... ♖d3 4. ♖e7 =]
4. ♖c8 or ♖e7 =) **2. ♖g5 ♖g8!** (2... ♖f6? 3.h7 f1 ♖ 4.h8 ♖ ♖b5
5. ♖c8 ♖c6 6. ♖b8! = or 2... ♖g6? 3.h7 f1 ♖ 4.h8 ♖ =) **3.h7+!** ♖h8
Thematic try: 4. ♖b4?! ♕e8+! 5. ♖xe8 f1 ♖ 6. ♖b8 ♖f4! 7. ♖c8
♖xg5 8.hg g1 ♖! **B** - and no 9.g6

4. ♖c4! ♕e8+! **5. ♖xe8 g1 ♖!** (or 5... f1 ♖ 6. ♖c8 ♖a6 7. ♖b8 etc. =)

6. ♖c8 ♖xg5! **7.hg f1 ♖ A** (B ♖f1) and now **8.g6!** ♖a6 **9. ♖b8 ♖d6**

10. ♖c8 ♖a6 - positional draw!

17th-20th place – D070
 Emil Klemanič,
 Ladislav Salaj jr.
 Slovakia



= (8+7)
 7.2 points

Thematic try: 1. ♖e6+? ♜g7 2. ♖e7+ ♜f8 3. ♜f7+ ♜e8 4. ♖e7+ ♜d8 5. ♜d7+ ♜c8 6. ♜c7+ ♜b8 7. ♜b7+ ♜a8 **B** 8. ♖e7+ (8. ♜c7 ♜xg3+ 9. ♜c8 ♜xd5 -+) ♜xd5+ 9.exd5 ♜xg3+ 10. ♜c6 e1 ♖ 11. ♜xe1 ♜xe1 12.h5 g3 -+
1.h5+!! ♜h6 (1... ♜f6 2. ♖e6+ ♜f7 3. ♖e7+ ♜f8 4. ♜f7+ (4. ♜d7 ♜c5! -+) ♜e8 5. ♖e7+ ♜d8 6. ♜d7+ ♜c8 7. ♜c7+ ♜b8 8. ♜b7+ ♜a8 **A1** 9. ♖e7+! ♜xd5+? 10.exd5 ♜xg3+ 11. ♜c6 e1 ♖ 12. ♜xe1 ♜xe1 13.d6 ♜xc3 14.d7 ♜f6 15.h6 +-)
2. ♖e6+ ♜xh5 3. ♖e5+ ♜g6 4. ♖e6+ ♜g7 5. ♖e7+ ♜f8 6. ♜f7+ ♜g8 7. ♖e7+! ♜h8 (7... ♜xd5+? 8.exd5 ♜xg3+ 9. ♜c6 e1 ♖ 10. ♜xe1 ♜xe1 11.bxa6 ♜f2 12.d6 +-)
8. ♖e8+ ♜g7 9. ♖e7+ ♜f8 10. ♜f7+ ♜e8 11. ♖e7+ ♜d8 12. ♜d7+ ♜c8 13. ♜c7+ ♜b8 14. ♜b7+ ♜a8 **A 15. ♜c7!** (15. ♖e7+? ♜xd5+ 16.exd5 ♜xg3+ 17. ♜c6 e1 ♖ -+) **15... ♜xg3+ 16.e5! ♜xe5+ 17. ♜c8 ♜xd5 18. ♖a7+! ♜xa7 19.b6+ ♜a8** (19... ♜xb6 stalemate) **20.b7+ ♜a7 21.b8♖+! ♜xb8 model stalemate**

Triple theme treatment. (Country)

The first move anticipates the final stalemate. (FIN)

A logical sacrifice of the WPh4 in order to create a classic stalemate 11 moves later. Unfortunately the play is very forced and the Wb5 doesn't move. (GER)

The thematic motivation is well known - elimination of material for a stalemate much later. White's first 14 moves are checks, and the few moves black gets are with his pieces are completely forced. (ISR)

Probably non-thematic: WCCT7-theme (Vorplan to passively remove a white piece; see announcement). Here WPh4 is removed both actively (1.h5+) and passively (2...Kxh5). Otherwise, the thematic try diverts from the main line; there is no critical position with BTM showing the critical difference. (NED)

Further placement

21st-22nd place – D015 – János Mikitovics, Hungary – 7.0 points.

In comparison to the partial anticipation of Van Reek 1988 there are many other fine points. (GER)

An impressive work. It meets the theme requirements well; indeed there are a lot of positions in the sidelines which have the necessary small differences. Good finish, including an underpromotion, too.

How the white king outmaneuvers the black knight (on e6, poised for both Sg5+ and Sd8) in cosmic open space is hypnotic.

The anticipation in Claims is minor. (GBR)

Only the introduction is new here but it is better than its predecessor (Van Reek 1988). (ISR)

Excellent study with accurate king moves, where the right move is the surprise move (4.Kg2! 6.Kg4! 7.Kg3!). The difference between A1/A2 is that the WK must be able to play to g4. This is organically linked to the A2/B2 critical positions where the WK has to be at distance to avoid a check. The (known) underpromotion is a welcome bonus. (NED)

21st-22nd place – D042 – Zlatko Mihajloski, Zoran Gavrilovski, Macedonia – 7.0 points.

Refusing to capture the BPa5 does not give black the chance to pin the WPC7 in the later stage of the solution. (FIN)

Pa5 capture avoidance makes the diagonal d8-b6 too short for the black queen. Clear logic. (ISR)

Refusal of capture. White must keep the BPa5 on the board, which blocks this square for the BQ, which then cannot keep a pin on WPC7. The second TT, trying to distract the BQ in a different way, is a bonus. (NED)

23rd place – D062 – Jan Timman, Netherlands – 6.9 points.

Surprising choice 3.Kg1!! instead of 3.Kg3? in order to avoid checks by a black knight. (GER)

Black 'mates' the promoted white queen, providing a piquant moment and interesting play. The logic is well known, moving to the edge to avoid a future tempo winning knight check. (ISR)

24th-26th place – D054 – Rodrigo Manuel Sanz Cabrero, Spain – 6.8 points.

The white pawn must remain on c2 (instead of b3) in order to have the in-between move c3. A solid logical study but no masterpiece. (GER)

Retaining the defensive resource c3 motivates the correct square for exchanging queens. (ISR)

Good introduction to the position in which white must exchange queens. The difference between the TT and the solution is well-hidden. (NED)

24th-26th place – D057 – Mirko Miljanić, Serbia – 6.8 points.

White clears Pe3 so he can use the square 9 moves later. Good economy and technique. (ISR)

Active removal of WPe4. Good example of (very) far foresight theme. (NED)

24th-26th place – D071 – Jaroslav Polášek, Emil Vlasák, Czech Republic – 6.8 points.

This develops the thematic ideas of **D016**, at the cost of extra material. (ISR)

Good introduction. Excellent move 11.f3!! White needs to get rid of the pawn so that the WR can attack BPf7. Of course the TT should run: 11.Rf1 (not 11.Rg1) 11...Kxa2. (NED)

27th-28th place – D016 – Jaroslav Polášek, Zdeněk Zach, Czech Republic – 6.6 points.

Good introduction and clear logical content with refusal of capture the bPf5 in order to not open the f-line. The end is rather simple. (GER)

A short study motivated by the clearance avoidance 4...f4!(ISR)

A1/A2 is not a separate critical position. Of course the main line should run 5...Rf8 (instead of 5...Rg8)

6.Kxa7. Nice BP sacrifice in the thematic try to clear the f-file. Good key, and excellent 2.Kd6! and good counterplay by Black 2...Se5 in the TT. (NED)

27th-28th place – D046 – Harold van der Heijden, Jan Timman, Netherlands – 6.6 points.

Fine tries and a model mate 22.Qd7 in the end of the second main variation. (FIN)

A lively study. The thematic point is simple, but interestingly twice white plays Kb8 instead of Kb7. A long battle with 11 captures. (ISR)

29th place – D028 – Luis Miguel Gonzalez, Spain – 6.2 points.

The choice of the right knight square g3 instead of e3 is paradoxical. (GER)

Capture avoidance to keep g3 available for the knight. The classic (Gurgenidze 1970) 1.Ka3! accomplishes the same obstruction avoidance in a much more compelling fashion. (ISR)

A good thematic try move (10.Kg2!!) instead of capturing the pawn. Unfortunately, the composer decided to select the longest winning sequence, instead of the right way to present a logical try. The solution should have run: 14.Kf3 Kd4 (as in the thematic try) 15.Ke2 c2 16.Kd2 c1Q+ (position A) 17.Kxc1 wins, and in the thematic try: 14.Kf3 Kd4 15.Ke2 c2 16.Kd2 c1Q+ (position B) 17.Kxc1 Kxe3 draws. (NED)

30th-31st place – D010 – David Gurgenidze, Georgia – 6.0 points.

This is a knight ending (with a pre-ambler); the intro adds no value. 5.Kd7, however, is superb, fully worthy of a major tourney: it combines surprise, depth and paradox. The Foresight Theme is shown in good style – the obvious move 5.Kxc8? fails only because it blocks Qh8–a8 much later. There is also black sacrifice – ...Se7 is not obvious and enhances the subtlety of an apparently simple position.

The intro play with the white rook eliminating the pawn on c2 balances the finale with the white queen dealing with the h2 pawn, the non-capture of the knight c8 subliminally and centrally binding the two.

The comments in Claims are not relevant. (GBR)

5.Kd7!! Is a beautiful capture avoidance that also clears the critical 8th rank. (Yakovenko 1961) shows a similar idea but is not an anticipation. (ISR)

The critical positions A1/B1 are after 10...Kxg3 in the main line and 9...Kxg3 in the TT 5.Kxc8. The difference is that the 8th rank is blocked, which is accomplished by a refusal of capture. However, the yes/no blocking is anticipated (see Claims). The second TT has black cooks and is therefore unsound (despite the opinion of the author). (NED)

30th-31st place – D050 – Yochanan Afek, Israel – 6.0 points.

The composer fails to show the difference between the critical positions. The main line should run 13...f2 14.Ke2 and Black cannot play Kg3 as in TT2. The TT1 should continue: 12.Kc2 Rc5+ and White loses the c6-pawn. (NED)

32nd place – D017 – Mirko Miljanić, Serbia – 5.6 points.

The choice between 4.Kh6! and 4.Kh7? is logical but not very paradoxical. Good play until the famous mate picture. (GER)

Concluding 7 moves anticipated (Pye 1981). The thematic choice is not surprising and the introduction average at best, but there is a pretty additional model mate in a variation. (ISR)

Thematic try OK, with the WK covering a crucial square in the final mate in position A. Unfortunately, the final play and mate are completely anticipated. (NED)

33rd-36th place – D025 – Ľuboš Kekely, Michal Hlinka, Slovakia – 5.4 points.

6.Kg8 avoids a 6th rank future pin. The many captures are a pity. (ISR)

After a long introduction with black piece sacrifices, there is a good thematic try: a surprising move by the WK to the edge of the board. The long foresight difference in the critical position is whether WS is pinned or not. (NED)

33rd-36th place – D031 – Árpád Ruzs, Romania – 5.4 points.

Adds a logical component to (Benko 1988), but loses the bishop promotion and adds many captures. (ISR)

After a violent introduction, the critical position occurs after 7...Be6. Then 8.Ba1!! is an excellent move, as this is the only square where the WB is far enough to avoid it to be attacked by the BS. The composer does not indicate critical positions, and it is doubtful whether all tries are thematic. (NED)

33rd-36th place – D061 – B. Buyannemekh, Mongolia – 5.4 points.

The beginning of the try is rather crude, but the ingenious main variation compensates for this. (FIN)

Accurate and economical. The changes between A and B, black king's square and the existence or not of Pb3 are not so minimal and therefore the thematic effect is lessened. (ISR)

A2/B2 not thematic: the only difference is a reciprocal zugzwang. (NED)

33rd-36th place – D065 – Jorma Paavilainen, Finland – 5.4 points.

An initial check forces black king into a future pin. (ISR)

The composer does not show the point of the difference between TT and solution. Then the TT should continue 4.Kd2 B- 5.Bg3 and this is position B, while in the main line after 6.Bg3 we have position A with the B5f4 is pinned. The fact that Black has other winning moves by the BB in the TT is not very important. Good key (Vorplan, but not WCCT7). It is pity that there must be a pawn on d6. (NED)

37th place – D059 – János Mikitovics, Hungary – 5.0 points.

Lots of variations, many 'thematic' tries. The double pawn jump is much more natural than a single jump so it has zero paradox. (ISR)

Line 1.a3? Is not a thematic try (no critical position). Two critical positions A/B with WKc7/WKc8 and BKg4/BKg3. (NED)

38th place – D026 – Alexandr Manvelyan, Alexey Gasparyan, Armenia – 4.8 points.

Sadly, the anticipation in Claims is near-complete, only the intro remains and the antecedent is more economical. (GBR)

The finale is identical with (Gurgenidze 1991). However, the author added a paradoxical try where removing the black queen from the critical position, secures black a draw. (ISR)

Excellent idea: in position A, Black has an extra queen, but loses! Very good thematic try with BQ sacrifice. Unfortunately, both mates are anticipated (without a TT) and the introduction is very poor (with WK in check). Although the intro has an echo of the BQ sacrifice in the TT, this study would have got more points if the solution started at move 3, if a better intro is not possible. (NED)

39th place – D068 – Pauli Perkonjoja, Jorma Paavilainen, Finland – 3.9 points.

The choice of white knight determines the placement black knight, which in turn, determines black's followup knight fork on c1/d4 which in turn determines white king's access to square c2. An interesting chain of logic. The static Na5/Bb6 and the crude introduction are unfortunate. (ISR)

The difference is somewhat disappointing: with WKc4 the BK escapes and there is no exchange of knights on c1. (NED)

40th place – D024 – Klemen Šivic, Slovenia – 3.8 points.

Capture avoidance to lock the queenside cage. The captures on c6 are jarring. (ISR)

The critical positions A/B are wrongly indicated: after 8.Sxe7 when BPa6 is blocked or not. The real point is not shown in the solution: ...a6-a5 as there are duals. Otherwise: good key with refusal of capture. (NED)

41st place – D004 – Marcello Ragonesi, Italy – 3.6 points.

Economical, but simple motivation and the solution is more natural than the try. (ISR)

42nd place – D023 – Emilian Dobrescu, Romania – 3.2 points.

4.Kd7 is much more natural than the try 4.Kd8 and other than the economy, there is little to compensate for this. (ISR)

The small difference is that with WKd7, white has 10.Bd5, which fails to 10...Rd4 in the thematic try. This difference is spoiled by the black dual: 10...Kb6 (indicated by the composer himself). (NED)

43rd place – D005 – Eduardo Iriarte, Argentina – 3.0 points.

No thematic try. The positions specified are not thematic: it requires at least a half move to the beginning of the variation. (GER)

Obstruction avoidance. Anticipated from move 4. (Iriarte 1999) (ISR)

The critical positions A/B are after 7...h1Q in the main line and in the thematic try 2.Ka7? The other moves are not thematic tries (no small difference). (NED)

44th place – D058 – Bosko Miloseski, Turkey – 2.6 points.

Trivial 'thematic' try. (ISR)

Choice of right square for WK. (NED)

45th place – D008 – Ljubomir Ugren, Slovenia – 2.2 points.

A very well-known mechanism, which has been shown with multiple king file-walks instead of just the two in this study. This study is non-thematic, has a dual and is anticipated. (GBR)

Simplistic differentiation. The partial anticipation (Troitzky 1896) is much better. (ISR)

Nice idea with the required small difference (position B2: Rd6!). It is unfortunate that the solution is the capture and the TT the quiet key instead of the other way around. After the key the play is anticipated. (NED)

46th place – D044 – Alexander Zidek, Alexander Kostka, Austria – 1.0 points.

The following compositions are not considered published and are at the disposal of their authors: D001, D002, D003, D006, D007, D009, D014, D018, D019, D021, D032, D034, D037, D038, D039, D040, D041, D045, D048, D049, D051, D052, D055, D056, D063, D067, D073.

Section D: Studies - Table

Place	No	Country	FIN	GER	GBR	ISR	NED	Points
1	053	GER	3.0		3.8	2.0	4.0	10.2
2	012	USA	4.0	2.6	3.6	3.4	3.0	10.0
3	027	RUS	3.8	3.0	3.2	2.2	3.2	9.4
	029	USA	4.0	2.6	3.4	1.8	3.4	9.4
5	020	GER	2.2		3.6	3.0	3.2	9.3
6	064	DEN	0.6	2.8	3.6	3.4	2.8	9.0
7	011	UKR	3.0	2.6	3.0	3.4	2.8	8.8
	072	DEN	3.8	2.6	3.4	2.8	2.4	8.8
9	030	UKR	4.0	2.6	2.6	2.2	3.4	8.6
	035	UKR	2.6	3.0	1.8	3.0	3.8	8.6
11	047	ISR	2.4	2.6	3.4		2.8	8.1
12	060	POL	3.2	3.0	2.2	2.4	2.4	7.8
13	013	BLR	1.4	2.6	2.4	3.2	2.6	7.6
	043	GEO	1.6	2.6	3.0	2.0	3.2	7.6
15	033	BLR	2.8	2.2	3.2	2.0	2.4	7.4
	066	RUS	2.4	3.2	2.4	2.0	2.6	7.4
17	022	RUS	1.8	2.8	1.6	2.6	2.8	7.2
	036	POL	3.4	1.6	2.0	2.0	3.2	7.2
	069	ARM	2.2	2.8	2.6	2.0	2.4	7.2
	070	SVK	3.0	2.4	2.8	2.0	1.8	7.2
21	015	HUN	1.4	2.4	3.4	1.4	3.2	7.0
	042	MKD	3.0	2.0	2.4	2.0	2.6	7.0
23	062	NED	2.0	2.4	2.2	2.6		6.9
-	021	GER	2.0	-	1.8	2.6	2.6	6.9
24	054	ESP	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.0	2.2	6.8
	057	SRB	1.6	2.0	2.4	2.4	2.4	6.8
	071	CZE	2.2	2.0	2.8	2.2	2.4	6.8

27	016	CZE	1.0	2.2	2.4	2.0	2.8	6.6
-	046	NED	3.4	1.8	2.4	2.0		6.6
29	028	ESP	1.0	2.2	2.6	1.8	2.2	6.2
30	010	GEO	1.6	1.8	3.2	2.6	1.2	6.0
	050	ISR	1.8	1.4	2.2		2.2	6.0
-	019	BLR	1.8	1.2	2.6	1.6	2.4	5.8
-	063	ISR	1.0	1.6	2.2	-	2.2	5.7
32	017	SRB	2.0	2.2	1.4	2.0	1.6	5.6
-	038	ESP	1.6	1.8	2.0	1.8	2.2	5.6
33	025	SVK	1.0	1.8	1.6	2.0	2.0	5.4
	031	ROU	2.0	0.8	1.8	1.6	2.2	5.4
	061	MGL	2.8	1.6	1.8	2.0	1.2	5.4
	065	FIN		1.4	2.2	1.8	1.8	5.4
-	048	NED	1.4	2.0	2.4	0.4	-	5.1
-	006	HUN	2.0	1.6	1.0	2.4	1.4	5.0
37	059	HUN	1.4	1.6	2.8	1.4	2.0	5.0
38	026	ARM	1.6	2.0	0.0	1.8	1.4	4.8
-	056	DNB	1.4	1.6	1.0	1.6	1.8	4.6
-	014	CZE	1.6	1.0	2.2	1.8	0.0	4.4
-	039	ARM	1.2	1.8	1.0	1.4	3.0	4.4
-	055	SVK	1.4	1.6	2.2	1.0	1.4	4.4
-	001	USA	1.4	1.0	1.2	2.0	1.6	4.2
-	032	SRB	1.6	1.4	0.0	1.6	1.2	4.2
39	068	FIN		1.6	0.8	2.2	1.0	3.9
40	024	SLO	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.8	1.2	3.8
41	004	ITA	1.0	0.6	1.2	1.4	1.8	3.6
42	023	ROU	1.0	0.8	1.2	1.8	1.0	3.2
43	005	ARG	2.0	0.0	1.2	0.2	1.6	3.0
-	037	FIN	-	0.8	1.2	1.6	0.0	3.0
44	058	TUR	0.6	0.6	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.6
45	008	SLO	0.4	0.8	0.0	1.0	1.0	2.2
46	044	AUT	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.2	1.4	1.0
-	002	MGL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0
-	003	IND	1.0	0.0	1.4	0.6	0.0	0.0
-	007	TUR	0.8	1.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
-	009	ERO	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0
-	018	ARG	1.4	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.0	0.0
-	034	AUT	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
-	040	GEO	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0
-	041	SLO	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
-	045	ERO	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0
-	049	POL	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
-	051	ROU	1.2	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
-	052	AUT	0.4	1.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
-	067	MKD	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
-	073	MKD	0.6	0.0	1.2	1.0	0.0	0.0

SECTION E: HELPMATES

Judging countries

Greece, India, Israel, Serbia, Slovakia (Ukraine as reserve)

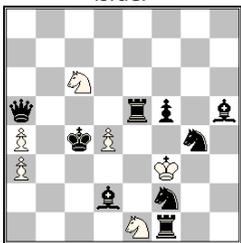
Theme: In each line of play of a helpmate in 3 moves, Black gives a battery check to the white king.

At least two lines of play are required. Set play, multi-solutions and twins are allowed, but not duplex, Polish-type twins (all pieces change color) or zero-positions.

1st place – E053

Ofer Comay

Israel



h#3

(6+9)

b) ♖e1 → b7

10.2 points

Six cross checks, six line closures and four batteries are created and executed during the solutions. Two 2-direction line closure: in a) the move 2. ♜d5+ closes a5-e5 and allows capture of b♖ (♔xe5) and in b) the move 3. ♜d5+ closes e5-a5 and allows capture of b♗. Similar strategy appears on the line d2-a5. (Country)

A composition for the anthologies. (GRE)

3x2 battery checks, six different battery lines, six interferences, ODT. (IND)

All black moves are thematic, using batteries on 6 different lines, and reciprocal interferences on d5 and c3. (SRB)

Elegant composition, economical construction with three thematic battery checks. There is a weak point, Rf1 and Bh5 are not an inherent part of the scheme, they are added artificially and the mechanism works well without them. Mate with capture at a5 is rough. (SVK)

a)

1. ♜e3+ (1. ♜f6+? ♔f4?) ♔f4 2. ♜d5++ (2. ♜ed1+? ♔xe5?) ♔xe5

3. ♜c3+ (3. ♜b4+? ♜c3?) ♜xa5#

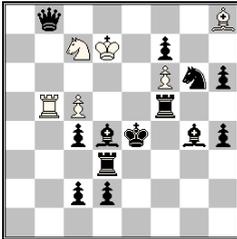
b)

1. ♜e4+ (1. ♜d1+? ♔e2?) ♔e2 2. ♜c3++ (2. ♜ef6+? ♔xd2?)

♔xd2 3. ♜d5+ (3. ♜b5+? ♜d5?) ♜bxa5#

2nd place – E087

Mykola Kolesnik,
Aleksandr Semenenko,
Valery Semenenko,
Ukraine



h≠3 (6+13)

2.1...

9.2 points

1. ♖xf6+ ♜d5 2. ♜d4 ♜xf6 3. ♜c3+ ♜d5≠
1. ♜xc5+ ♜e6 2. ♜f5 ♜xc5 3. ♜g5+ ♜e6≠

Creation of white and black batteries. Play of two black batteries and a white one in each of the solutions. Switchback of the W♜. Diagonal-orthogonal echoed play. (Country)

Creation of batteries. Capture of thematic pieces BB/BR. (IND)

Very rich problem with selfpins, unpins, and batteries are created by both sides. (ISR)

Very condensed mechanism, changing functions of white rear battery pieces. (SRB)

In the diagram position there are two batteries aimed at WK, in each solution one of them is used twice, with change of firing unit. A creation of white batteries is a nice non-thematic analogy to the black play. Thematic battery checks can be found in the first and the third moves, the latter being answered by switchback crosschecks. (SVK)

3rd-4th place – E026

Valery Gurov,
Vitaly Medintsev,
Boris Shorokhov
Russia



h≠3 (4+9)

2.1...

8.8 points

1. ♜f6+? ♜c1 2. ♜e6 ?? 3. ♜e5+ ♜e3≠
1. ♜e6 ♜d1! (♜c1?) 2. ♜f6+ a (♜e5?) ♜c1 3. ♜e5+ b ♜e3≠

1. ♜e5+? ♜d1 2. ♜g4 ?? 3. ♜f6+ ♜d4≠
1. ♜g4 ♜c1! (♜d1?) 2. ♜e5+ b (♜f6?) ♜d1 3. ♜f6+ a ♜d4≠

Play of two black batteries. Tempo-tries. The choice of tempo move. Reciprocal change of the black 2nd and 3rd moves. Model mates. (Country)

Nice tempo play in good construction. Better form and economy than E045. (GRE)

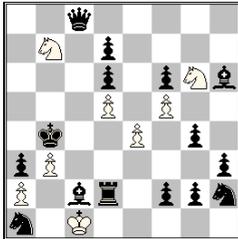
Two battery checks in two phases with unpins, WK tempo moves, tries and model mates. (IND)

White and black must play carefully to avoid zugzwang. Very elegant duplication of the theme. Interesting that a similar idea was demonstrated in E045. (ISR)

Tempo strategy with thematic checks serving to determine very precise order of self-blocks. (SRB)

3rd-4th place – E102

Ricardo de Mattos Vieira
Brazil



h#3 (8+15)

b) ♔b4 → g3

8.8 points

3x2 battery checks, critical black Grimshaw, WP annihilation by black, self-blocks, unpins by WK, ODT. Good WK tempo. (IND)

Thematic task, it is impossible to show more of the theme. Two batteries are prepared; two other appear in the course of solutions after interference on d3. The price to pay is difficult position with twinning by moving the BK to the trap prepared at g3. (SVK)

a)

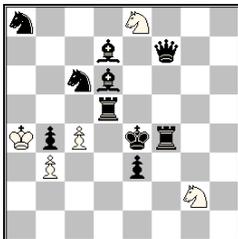
1. ♜xd5+ ♜f4 2. ♙d3+ ♔d1 3. ♙b5+ ♜xd5#

b)

1. ♙xe4+ ♜c5 2. ♜d3+ ♔b1 3. ♜f3+ ♜xe4#

5th place – E049

Ofer Comay
Israel



h#3 (5+10)

b) ♔e4 → e6

8.7 points

Two cross checks in each solution, zugzwang tries, black Grimshaw, and Zig-Zag (♙d6-c5-e7 and ♜d5-c5-e5). (Country)

2x2 battery checks, black Grimshaw, zugzwang tries and zig-zag moves. Capture mates. (IND)

A most sophisticated motivation for black battery creation, to allow tempo moves by WK. (SRB)

Grimshaw at c5 is only exploited in the second white move, where WK moves after the first battery check are differentiated. At the same time the second battery is created to be used in the third move. Successful construction, twin by moving the BK is a minus. (SVK)

a)

1. ♜e5? ♜e1 2. ♜d4 ♜xd6#? white is in mate

1. ♙c8? ♜e1 2. ♜d4 ?? 3. ♜e5 ♜d6#, but White is in zugzwang

1. ♜d4? ♜e1 2. ♜e5+ ♙a5 3.?? ♜d6#? 4. ♜xd6!

1. ♜c5! ♜e1 2. ♜d4+ ♙xb4 3. ♜e5+ ♜xd6#

b)

1. ♙e7? ♜xe3 2. ♜e5 cxd5#? white is in mate

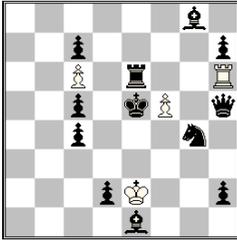
1. ♙e7? ♜xe3 2. ♜f7 ?? 3. ♙e5 cxd5#, but White is in zugzwang

1. ♙e5? ♜xe3 2. ♜e7+ ♙xb4 3.?? cxd5#? 4. ♜xd5!

1. ♙c5! ♜xe3 2. ♜e5+ ♙a5 3. ♙e7+ cxd5#

6th place – E062

Valery Gurov
Russia



h#3 (4+12)

b) ♖e5 ↔ ♞g4

8.6 points

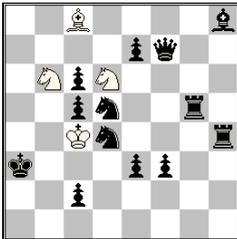
Task: only thematic black moves. Thematic twins. (Country)

3x2 battery checks, two different battery lines, two interferences, ODT. But BQ is not needed for part a). (IND)

Three pairs of thematic checks. (SRB)

7th-8th place – E067

Jean Haymann, Shaul Shamir
Israel



h#3 (4+13)

b) ♜d6 → c1

8.1 points

not counted for team score

First black moves show theme + "anti-theme" - anticipatory battery destruction in order to avoid cross-check in the last move. Critical black moves. Anticipatory line closures in W2. (Country)

Two battery checks, line opening and closing, distant self-blocks with critical move, WB masked interferences on black lines, white mates on initial WK square, ODT. (IND)

Reciprocal play of thematic batteries. (SRB)

a)

1. ♜d6+ ♜f3 2. ♜e5++ ♜e4 3. ♜f7+ ♜xe6#

b)

1. ♜h3+ ♜e3 2. ♜g4++ ♜f3 3. ♜f2+ ♜xh5#

a)

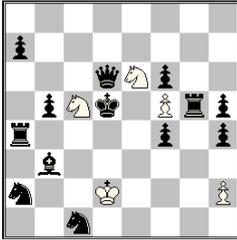
1. ♜f6+ (1... ♜5~+?) ♜c3 2. ♜a2 ♜g4 (♜~?) 3. ♜b3 ♜dc4#

b)

1. ♜f5+ (1... ♜4~+?) ♜xc5 2. ♜a4 ♜e6 (♜~?) 3. ♜b4 ♜c4#

7th-8th place – E083

Emil Klemanič, Ján Kovalič,
Ladislav Salaj jr.
Slovakia



h#3 (5+13)

4.1...

8.1 points

3-move HOTF with 4 thematic solutions. (Country)

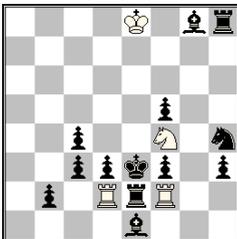
Ke5+, Kc5+ repeats. (IND)

Skillfully organized two pairs of solutions. (SRB)

1. ♖c4+ ♜d4 2. ♜b4 ♜d3+ 3. ♖a3 ♜xb5#
1. ♜e5+ ♜d3+ 2. ♜xf5 ♜d4+ 3. ♖g4 ♜f2#
1. ♜xf5 ♜xf4+ 2. ♜e5+ ♜e3 3. ♜d5 ♜g6#
1. ♜b4 ♜xb3 2. ♖c4+ ♜c2 3. ♜d5 ♜a5#

9th place – E069

Viktor Zaitsev
Belarus



h#3 (4+13)

3.1...

8.0 points

Cyclic Zilahi, line opening, black-black FML, no white pawns. (Country)

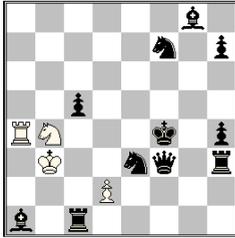
Three battery checks, cyclic Zilahi, B3 Umnov move, self-blocks. (IND)

Cyclic Zilahi, all defences from checks on e2. (SRB)

Cyclical Zilahi with the white play on the same square in the first moves. Nice and constructionally successful composition, but thematically poorer compared to competition. (SVK)

1. ♜xd2+ ♜xe2 2. ♜c2 ♜f1 3. ♜d2 ♜d4#
1. ♜xf2+ ♜xe2+ 2. ♜f1 ♜h2 3.f2 ♜h1#
1. ♜xf4+ ♜fxe2 2. ♜g3 ♜e5 3.f4 ♜g5#

10th-12th place – E045
 Jorge Kapros, Jorge Lois
 Argentina



h‡3 (4+11)

b) ♖d2 → h2

7.6 points

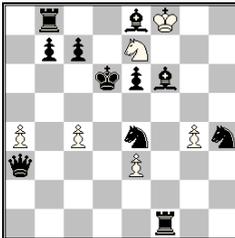
Battery checks occur in the second and third moves in each phase. Successive exposure of W♔ to check at W1& W2. Paradoxical tempo W1 moves along the checking line. Exchange of W1-W2 moves. Exchange of B2-B3 moves. Self-blocks at B1-B2-B3. Crosscheck mates. Model mates. (Country)

See **E026**. (GRE)

2x2 battery checks, 2x WK tempo moves, exchange of W1/2 and B2/3 moves, model mates. (IND)

Same as in **E026**, but on rows instead of diagonals. (ISR)

10th-12th place – E075
 Jorma Paavilainen
 Finland



h‡3 (6+11)

2.1...

7.6 points

2x2 thematic moves. (Country)

Capture mates. (IND)

a) 1. ♖g3 (♜g5+?) ♔a2 **A** (♔a3?) 2. ♜g5+ a ♔a3 **B** 3. ♜f5+ b ♜d3‡

b) 1. ♙e5 (♜f5+?) ♔a3 **B** (♔a2?) 2. ♜f5+ b ♔a2 **A** 3. ♜g5+ a ♜d5‡

10th-12th place – E079
 Zoran Gavrilovski
 Macedonia

1. ♖xb4+ ♜e2 (1... ♜f3??, 1... ♜xa4??) 2. ♜e3 ♜xa4 3. ♜bd3 ♜c3+
 1. ♜xd5+ ♜f3 (1... ♜e2??, 1... ♜xd6??) 2. ♜e3 ♜xd6 3. ♜5f4 ♜g5+



h#3 (8+9)

2.1...

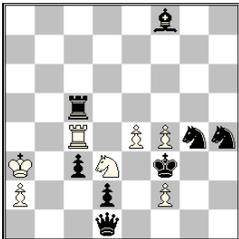
7.6 points

Self-pin after battery check and unpin of the self-pinned W♖ by B♜ switchback after allowing a black line piece to pass across the switchback square (Klasinc theme) in order to self-block e3, annihilation of W♜b4 or W♜d5 by the respective B♜, ambush by W♜, mates on a square vacated by a black piece at B2 move (delayed Umnov effect). (Country)

Two battery checks, WP annihilation, indirect WR guard of BK flights, critical moves, switchback and unpins, ODT. (IND)

13th place – E054
 Marjan Kovačević
 Serbia

1. ♜f5+ ♜c5 2. ♜xe4 ♜b4 3. ♜f3 (♜f3?) ♜c4+
 1. ♜g5+ ♜c5 2. ♜xf4 ♜b4 3. ♜f3 (♜f3?) ♜d3+



h#3 (7+8)

7.5 points

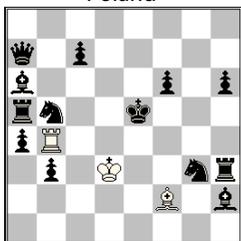
Distant self-blocks on guarded squares (B1). Umnov on the same squares c5 (W1). Exchanged roles of WPs (B2). Unpins on the same square b4 (W2). Anti-dual self-blocks on the same square f3 (B3). Switchback. Model mates (W3). Checks determining pin-unpin strategy. (Country)

Very good unity, but sadly partially anticipated by **E054/a** in the Claims document. (GRE)

Two battery checks, same square self-pins, unpins and self-blocks, switchbacks. **E054/a** has a strong resemblance, but is sufficiently different. (IND)

14th-16th place – E057

Jakub Marciniszyn
Poland



h≠3

(3+13)

b) ♠f6 → e6

7.2 points

Two battery checks, reciprocal WR/WB batteries, ODT. (IND)

Reciprocal functions of the rear battery pieces. (SRB)

a)

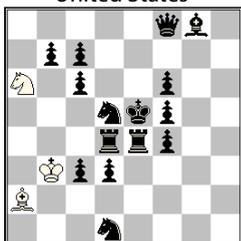
1. ♗b7 ♖f4 2. ♘f5+ ♙g3 3. ♚d5 ♜e4‡

b)

1. ♜h4 ♙c5 2. ♘d6+ ♖b5 3. ♜f4 ♙d4‡

14th-16th place – E081

Kostas Prentos
United States



h≠3

(3+15)

b) ♜d4 → d6

7.2 points

Two thematic battery checks in each phase. The white Knight is pinned and unpinned in the course of the play. (Country)

Firing piece forms second battery. (IND)

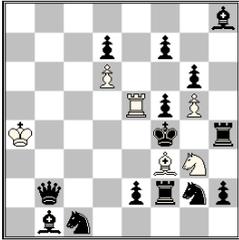
a)

1. ♘e7+ ♙a3 2. ♘c8+ ♙c5 3. ♘d6 ♘d7‡

b)

1. ♘b4+ ♙a4 2. ♘c2+ ♙b4 3. ♘d4 ♘xd3‡

14th-16th place – E090
 Vasyly Kryzhanivskyy
 Ukraine



h#3 (6+14)

3.1...

7.2 points

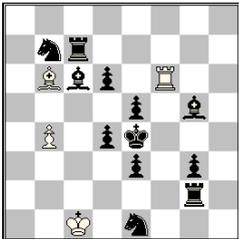
Cyclic interchange of functions involving three white pieces. Cyclic Zilahi. Three white pieces playing to the same square e4. (Country)

Unconnected play in two phases. (IND)

Valuable as a whole, cyclical Zilahi with three different white units. But thematically it is sparser; there are battery checks only in the first black moves. (SVK)

1. ♖xf3+ ♜e4 2. ♚e5 ♘f1 3. ♚g3 ♘d2+
 1. ♖xg3+ ♙e4 2. ♜ff4 ♜xf5 3. ♜fg4 ♜f3+
 1. ♖xe5+ ♘e4 2. ♚e6 ♙e2 3. ♙e5 ♙c4+

17th-18th place – E060
 John Nunn, Chris Tylor
 Great Britain



h#3 (4+12)

b) ♚e4 → d5

7.0 points

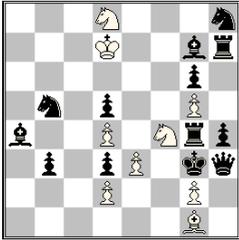
In each phase a set battery fires so that black can replace the firing unit with his ♚, which then moves to fire the battery again. (Country)

While in a) the black battery is justified (Tf4+ and not Txd6?), in b) Btc7 can be replaced with a pawn (also adding a BPa6 to avoid cooks). (GRE)

Two battery checks followed by white self-pins and unpins by BK which re-fires the original battery. The unpinned W pieces form mutual batteries with switchbacks. (IND)

a)
 1. e2+ ♜f4+ 2. ♚e3 ♜xd4 3. ♖f2+ ♜f4+
 b)
 1. ♙b5+ ♙c5 2. ♚c6 ♙xd6 3. ♖b6+ ♙c5+

17th-18th place – E101
 Zoran Gavrilovski
 Macedonia

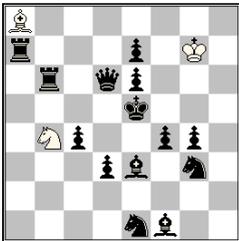


h#3 (9+13)

- a) ♙xd4 ♜f7 2. ♙g7 ♜d6 3. d4 $\text{♜e4}\#$
 b) 1. ♜xg5+ ♜de6 2. ♜g4 ♜xd4 3. g5 $\text{♜f5}\#$
 c) 1. ♜xd4+ ♜c6 2. ♜b5 ♜d4 3. d2 $\text{♜de2}\#$
- b) ♜d4
 c) $\text{♜d2} \rightarrow \text{e5}$
 7.0 points

Three battery checks, triple self-pin of the W♜d8 and three unpinning switchbacks. (Country)
 Good unity, same WS is pinned & unpinned. But two batteries are superfluous in each phase. (IND)
 Triple thematic switchback with unusual motivations. (SRB)

19th-21st place – E066
 Marjan Kovačević
 Serbia

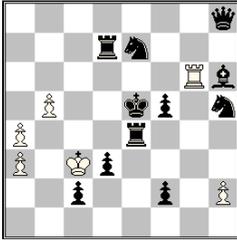


h#3 (3+14)

- a) 1. ♜d4 ♜d5 2. ♜e4+ ♜g6 3. e5+ $\text{♜f6}\#$
 b) 1. ♙d4 ♜c6+ 2. ♜d5+ ♜f7 3. e5+ $\text{♜e7}\#$
- b) $\text{♜e6} \rightarrow \text{c5}$
 6.9 points

Black & white battery creation. Two pairs of self-blocks on d4&e5. Cross-check. Two pairs of thematic moves. (Country)
 2x2 battery checks with self-pin, white battery formation and unpins. (IND)

19th-21st place – E072
 Emil Klemanič,
 Ladislav Salaj jr.
 Slovakia



h#3 (6+11)

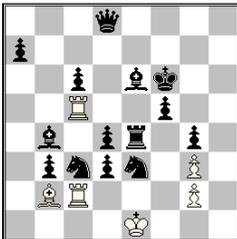
2.1...

6.9 points

Black-black Umnov on f4/d5. (Country)

1. ♖f4+ ♔d2 (1... ♜g7?) 2. ♜f3+ ♜g5 3. ♜f4 ♜g3#
 1. ♜d5+ ♜xd3 (1... ♜f6?) 2. ♜c5+ ♜d6 3. ♜d5 ♜c6#

19th-21st place – E091
 S. K. Balasubramanian
 India



h#3 (6+14)

b) ♔f6 → b6

6.9 points

Two anticipatory self-pins and double pinmate in each solution. Model mates. White moves to the same square c1. (Country)

Double anticipatory self-pins and anticipatory pins in both twins. (SRB)

a)
 1. ♜ed5+ ♜e2 2. ♔e5 ♜c1 3. ♜f6 ♜f4#
 b)
 1. ♜b5+ ♜c3 2. ♔a5 ♜c1 3. ♜b6 ♜a1#

Further placement

22nd-23rd place – E051 – Kostas Prentos, United States – 6.8 points.

2x2 battery checks, critical moves and interferences by BK, white battery mates. (IND)

22nd-23rd place – E052 – János Csák, Hungary – 6.8 points.

A play of three black batteries, one of them is prepared and two are created in the course of solution.

The second battery check by the BS is also used as a self-block. Model mates. (SVK)

2x2 battery checks with Umnov move interferences. (IND)

24th-25rd place – E056 – Eligiusz Zimmer, Poland – 6.6 points.

Two battery checks, but additional content is weak. (IND)

Active sacrifices by both black and white in the first move. (ISR)

24th-25rd place – E061 – Michael Barth, Daniel Papack, Rolf Wiehagen, Germany – 6.6 points.

Sadly the sacrifice Sxf6 is impure as BQf6 guards the mating square. (GRE)

Two battery checks with self-pins, selfblocks on d2, white sacrifice to enable black unpin. (IND)

Active Zilahi to allow hideaway unpinning. (SRB)

26th-32nd place – E018 – Johan de Boer, Netherlands – 6.4 points.

Cycle of self blocks by BQ/BR on e6/d7/c6. Just barely thematic. (IND)

The solutions are all connected extensively to the long diagonal h8-a1. The only way to solve the move order of the first black two moves is via cross check. And all that is done with cyclic self blocks. (ISR)

Thematic checks from masked battery determine the cyclic order of self-blocks on e6, d7 and c6. (SRB)

26th-32nd place – E030 – Christer Jonsson, Sweden – 6.4 points.

Four solutions. Only one unpin. (IND)

Two pairs of solutions linked by BK star. One pair uses thematic checks to determine the road for BK, another one – to determine the order of black moves. (SRB)

26th-32nd place – E077 – Mario Parrinello, Italy – 6.4 points.

The claimed dual avoidance is debatable. (GRE)

Delayed Umnov. (IND)

26th-32nd place – E078 – Ricardo de Mattos Vieira, Brazil – 6.4 points.

26th-32nd place – E086 – Klemen Šivic, Slovenia – 6.4 points.

Twin moving thematic piece. (IND)

26th-32nd place – E089 – Michel Caillaud, France – 6.4 points.

W2 move repeats. Part b) sound without Qb4, Rc5 & Sh2. One check is artificial. (IND)

26th-32nd place – E092 – Peter Sickinger, Michael Schreckenbach, Germany– 6.4 points.

White and black Grimshaw. (IND)

33rd place – E050 – K. R. Chandrasekaran, S. K. Balasubramanian, India – 6.3 points.

Checks and unpins by the front battery pieces, play on the same squares e5&g5. (SRB)

34th-35th place – E059 – Kenan Velikhanov, Azerbaijan – 6.2 points.

Two battery checks, self blocks on BK initial square, Zilahi, moves to same squares on first and second moves by the white knights. (IND)

34th-35th place – E095 – Georg Pongrac, Alexander Zidek, Austria– 6.2 points.

Move Sd6 is repeating. WK moves are also repeating. (IND)

36th-37th place – E021 – Jorge Joaquín Lois, Argentina – 6.0 points.

Repetition of W2 move is very weak. (GRE)

Two battery checks in two phases. (IND)

Self-blocks by front- and rear-piece of the thematic black battery. (SRB)

36th-37th place – E094 – Kenan Velikhanov, Azerbaijan – 6.0 points.

Twin moves active Rc8. (IND)

38th-45th place – E033 – Jorma Paavilainen, Finland – 5.8 points.

Two battery checks in two phases. (IND)

38th-45th place – E040 – János Csák, Hungary – 5.8 points.

E040/a in the Claims document is only a partial anticipation. (GRE)

Two battery checks in each phase with Grimshaw unpins on initial WK square. Partial anticipation by **E040/a**. (IND)

38th-45th place – E042 – Alexey Gasparyan, Armenia – 5.8 points.

Matched sequence of battery checks, self pins and BK flight unguards, BK moves, self unpin by WK, self blocks on initial BK square and switchbacks by white. (IND)

Complete analogy of pin-unpin strategy and different switchback mates. (SRB)

38th-45th place – E044 – Ashot Egyazaryan, Armenia – 5.8 points.
 Strange-looking HOTF. All mates are model. Sadly very drastic twinning. (GRE)
 Four solutions each with one battery check, but not fully unified. (IND)

38th-45th place – E046 – Michael McDowell, Great Britain – 5.8 points.
 2x battery checks, 2x platzwechsel by black battery pieces. (IND)

38th-45th place – E064 – Nikola Predrag, Croatia – 5.8 points.
 2x2 battery checks, self-pins, unpins and white battery formation by white knights. (IND)

38th-45th place – E070 – Francesco Simoni, Italy– 5.8 points.
 2x2 battery checks, unpins, self-blocks on f4, ODT. (IND)
 Change on the battery line. (SVK)

38th-45th place – E074 – Alain Bienabe, Sébastien Luce, France – 5.8 points.
 See **E097**. (GRE)
 In part b) Rh6, Sd8, Sf4 & Bh8 are not needed. (IND)

46th place – E076 – Andreas Schönholzer, Switzerland – 5.6 points.
 Good tries. (IND)

47th-49th place – E037 – L. Togookhuu, Mongolia – 5.4 points.
 One battery check in each phase with unpin, B1/B2/B3 on same squares f6/e5/e6, W2 Umnov. (IND)
 Two triplets of self-blocks on the same squares, and in the same order, each pair of thematic battery-pieces uses the same thematic motivation to determine the order. (SRB)

47th-49th place – E080 – Gerold Schaffner, Switzerland – 5.4 points.
 No interplay. Almost like serieshelpmate. (IND)

47th-49th place – E082 – Gerard Smits, Netherlands – 5.4 points.
 Providing WK moves. (IND)

50th-51st place – E011 – Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen, Denmark – 5.2 points.
 Battery check followed by self-pin and unpin. The comparison for anticipation is not valid. This problem is different. (IND)

50th-51st place – E012 – Mikhail Khramtsevich, Belarus – 5.2 points.
 Original WK walks into royal batteries, but BDg1 can be removed if we add a BPb6. (GRE)
 Two battery checks in two phases. (IND)

52nd place – E029 – Alexander Zidek, Austria– 5.0 points.
 Mechanical. (GRE)
 Four solutions with matching moves. (IND)

53rd place – E003 – Viktoras Paliulionis, Lithuania – 4.6 points.
 Two model mate chameleon echoes. (IND)

54th-56th place – E023 – L. Togookhuu, Mongolia – 4.4 points.
 Battery check followed by self-pin and unpin. (IND)

54th-56th place – E043 – Antanas Vilkauskas, Lithuania – 4.4 points.
 The twinning is not thematically necessary; it only avoids the cook 1.Sd3+ Sc5 2.Sb4 Bxg5 3.Bg4 Bc1. (GRE)
 Pins and unpins, but not fully unified. (IND)

54th-56th place – E065 – Temur Chkhetiani, Georgia – 4.4 points.
 Two battery checks with self-blocks on the same square by rear piece. (IND)

57th-58th place – E020 – Temur Chkhetiani, Georgia – 4.2 points.
 Too simple. (IND)

57th-58th place – E058 – Emmanuel Manolas, Greece – 4.2 points.
 Three battery checks from three different lines but not much else. (IND)

59th-60th place – E022 – Christer Jonsson, Sweden – 4.0 points.
 Simple and symmetric. (IND)

59th-60th place – E084 – Nicolae Chivu, Virgil Nestorescu, Romania – 4.0 points.

Not unified. (IND)

61st place – E028 – Josef Burda, Alexander Fica, Czech Republic – 3.6 points.

Unbalanced black play. (GRE)

Simple. BQ is a cookstopper. (IND)

62nd place – E017 – Branko Koludrović, Croatia – 3.4 points.

Too simple. (IND)

63rd place – E093 – Anatolii Ghinda, Mihail Croitor, Moldova – 3.2 points.

Se3 repeated. Unconnected play. (IND)

64th-65th place – E004 – Steen Christensen, Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen, Denmark – 3.0 points.

Battery check followed by self-pin and unpin. But BQ not needed in part b, artificial check. (IND)

64th-65th place – E096 – Ljubomir Ugren, Slovenia – 3.0 points.

Many blemishes. Moves Ra8, Ke4, Bh7 are repeated. (IND)

66th place – E071 – Miroslav Svítek, Czech Republic – 2.8 points.

Two solutions are in fact not thematic (remove BQh3 and move BRa1 to h6). (GRE)

First solution works without Ra1. (IND)

67th-68th place – E036 – Jordi Breu, Spain – 2.6 points.

Clumsy repetition of the B3 move. (GRE)

Two battery checks with annihilation and unpin by B2. Common B3 move detracts. (**E036/a,b** are similar, but have different settings.) (IND)

67th-68th place – E047 – Nicolae Chivu, Romania – 2.6 points.

Anticipated by example 4 in the announcement document. (GRE)

Reciprocal white B/R batteries. The 4th example in the announcement is similar but not an anticipation. (IND)

69th place – E005 – Toshiji Kawagoe, Japan – 2.4 points.

Mates are not ideal. (IND)

70th place – E088 – Jordi Breu, Spain – 1.6 points.

Move Re7 repeats. Same mate in all solutions. (IND)

71st place – E006 – Mihail Croitor, Albert Ivanov, Moldova – 1.4 points.

WSb7 is idle in one solution. (GRE)

Battery formation with Grimshaw, WK walk, self block by firing piece. WS is idle in one phase. (IND)

The following compositions are not considered published and are at the disposal of their authors: E001, E002, E007, E008, E009, E010, E013, E014, E015, E016, E019, E024, E025, E027, E031, E032, E034, E035, E038, E039, E041, E048, E055, E063, E068, E073, E085, E097, E098, E099, E100, E103, E104.

Section E: Helpmates - Table

Place	No	Country	GRE	IND	ISR	SRB	SVK	Points
1	053	ISR	4.0	3.0		3.8	2.8	10.2
2	087	UKR	3.4	2.8	2.8	3.4	3.0	9.2
3	026	RUS	2.8	3.4	3.4	2.6	2.4	8.8
	102	BRA	3.4	3.6	2.8	2.2	2.6	8.8
5	049	ISR	3.0	2.8		3.2	2.6	8.7
6	062	RUS	3.2	3.0	2.6	3.0	2.4	8.6
7	067	ISR	3.4	2.6		2.8	1.0	8.1
	083	SVK	3.4	1.2	2.0	3.6		8.1

9	069	BLR	3.0	2.0	2.6	2.8	2.6	8.0
10	045	ARG	2.4	3.4	2.8	2.2	2.4	7.6
	075	FIN	2.8	3.0	2.0	2.4	2.4	7.6
	079	MKD	3.0	3.2	2.2	2.4	1.4	7.6
13	054	SRB	2.6	2.6	2.4		1.4	7.5
14	057	POL	2.4	2.6	2.2	3.0	1.6	7.2
	081	USA	2.4	2.8	2.4	2.4	1.8	7.2
	090	UKR	3.6	2.0	2.6	2.0	2.6	7.2
17	060	GBR	1.4	3.0	2.2	2.4	2.4	7.0
	101	MKD	2.2	2.6	2.0	3.4	2.2	7.0
19	066	SRB	2.4	2.6	2.2		2.2	6.9
	072	SVK	2.6	2.4	2.0	2.2		6.9
	091	IND	2.6		2.0	2.6	0.6	6.9
22	051	USA	2.8	2.4	2.0	1.8	2.4	6.8
	052	HUN	1.6	2.4	2.0	2.4	2.6	6.8
24	056	POL	2.4	1.6	2.4	2.4	1.8	6.6
	061	GER	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.8	1.4	6.6
-	016	SVK	1.4	2.2	2.2	3.2	-	6.6
-	098	UKR	3.0	1.0	2.8	1.6	2.2	6.6
-	100	RUS	4.0	2.2	2.4	1.6	2.0	6.6
26	018	NED	1.6	2.0	2.4	3.0	2.0	6.4
	030	SWE	2.0	2.0	1.6	3.0	2.4	6.4
	077	ITA	1.8	2.6	2.2	2.4	0.6	6.4
	078	BRA	2.8	2.0	2.0	2.4	0.8	6.4
	086	SLO	2.6	1.8	2.2	2.4	1.8	6.4
	089	FRA	3.2	1.4	2.2	2.4	1.8	6.4
	092	GER	2.0	3.0	2.2	2.2	0.8	6.4
33	050	IND	2.2		2.0	3.2	1.6	6.3
34	059	AZE	2.6	1.6	1.8	2.4	2.0	6.2
	095	AUT	3.0	1.0	2.0	2.4	1.8	6.2
36	021	ARG	1.0	2.0	1.8	2.6	2.2	6.0
	094	AZE	2.4	2.0	2.4	1.6	0.6	6.0
-	025	GER	1.6	2.6	1.8	3.2	1.6	6.0
38	033	FIN	2.0	2.4	1.2	1.8	2.0	5.8
	040	HUN	1.6	2.4	1.8	2.4	1.6	5.8
	042	ARM	1.8	2.2	1.8	3.0	1.4	5.8
	044	ARM	2.8	2.0	1.2	1.8	2.0	5.8
	046	GBR	2.4	2.8	1.8	1.6	1.4	5.8
	064	CRO	1.8	3.0	2.0	2.0	1.8	5.8
	070	ITA	1.6	2.2	2.0	2.4	1.4	5.8
	074	FRA	2.4	2.0	1.8	2.0	1.6	5.8
46	076	SUI	1.6	3.0	2.2	1.8	0.8	5.6
-	013	POL	2.0	2.2	1.8	1.6	1.8	5.6
-	039	ITA	1.6	2.0	1.8	2.0	1.8	5.6
47	037	MGL	1.0	2.4	1.6	3.4	1.4	5.4
	080	SUI	1.8	2.0	1.4	2.4	1.6	5.4
	082	NED	2.0	2.0	1.2	1.8	1.6	5.4
	031	ARG	2.0	1.4	1.4	2.0	2.2	5.4
50	011	DEN	1.0	1.4	2.0	2.0	1.8	5.2
	012	BLR	1.8	2.0	1.4	2.0	1.0	5.2

-	085	MKD	1.4	2.0	1.8	2.0	1.2	5.2
52	029	AUT	1.0	2.8	1.4	2.0	1.6	5.0
-	097	FRA	3.0	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.2	5.0
-	063	AUT	1.8	2.0	1.2	1.2	1.8	4.8
53	003	LTU	1.0	2.2	1.2	3.0	1.2	4.6
-	024	USA	1.0	2.0	1.4	2.6	1.2	4.6
-	041	NED	1.4	2.2	1.6	1.6	1.4	4.6
-	007	SRB	2.2	0.8	1.8	-	1.2	4.5
-	014	IND	1.4	-	1.6	1.8	0.6	4.5
54	023	MGL	1.0	2.0	1.6	1.8	0.8	4.4
	043	LTU	1.6	1.6	1.2	2.0	0.8	4.4
	065	GEO	0.8	1.8	1.4	1.8	1.2	4.4
-	073	GBR	0.0	2.0	1.8	0.8	1.8	4.4
57	020	GEO	1.6	0.8	1.6	1.8	1.0	4.2
	058	GRE		1.4	1.4	2.0	0.8	4.2
-	027	AZE	0.6	1.8	0.4	1.8	1.8	4.2
-	038	SUI	1.4	1.6	1.2	1.8	0.8	4.2
59	022	SWE	0.6	1.4	1.4	2.0	1.2	4.0
	084	ROU	1.0	1.6	1.4	1.8	0.8	4.0
-	048	ARM	1.6	1.2	1.4	1.4	1.0	4.0
61	028	CZE	1.0	1.6	1.0	2.0	1.0	3.6
-	032	SWE	1.0	1.4	1.0	2.0	1.2	3.6
-	099	BLR	0.2	1.0	1.6	1.0	1.6	3.6
62	017	CRO	1.0	1.4	1.0	2.0	1.0	3.4
-	034	LTU	0.0	2.0	1.2	1.0	1.2	3.4
-	035	FIN	0.0	1.2	1.2	1.8	1.0	3.4
-	068	HUN	0.8	1.4	1.2	2.0	0.4	3.4
63	093	MDA	0.8	0.4	1.0	1.4	1.4	3.2
-	010	MGL	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.2	0.8	3.2
-	015	GEO	0.4	1.4	0.8	2.0	1.0	3.2
64	004	DEN	1.2	0.8	1.4	1.0	0.6	3.0
	096	SLO	1.0	0.4	1.4	1.6	0.6	3.0
66	071	CZE	0.2	1.0	1.0	1.6	0.8	2.8
-	104	CZE	0.8	1.0	1.0	0.8	1.0	2.8
67	036	ESP	0.2	1.0	1.0	1.4	0.6	2.6
	047	ROU	0.0	2.0	1.0	0.8	0.8	2.6
69	005	JPN	0.2	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.6	2.4
70	088	ESP	0.2	0.4	1.0	1.0	0.2	1.6
-	002	DEN	0.2	0.6	0.6	1.8	0.4	1.6
-	019	SLO	0.0	0.4	1.0	0.2	1.6	1.6
71	006	MDA	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.2	1.4
-	103	ROU	0.2	1.0	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.8
-	001	TUR	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
-	008	ESP	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.0
-	009	CRO	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
-	055	TUR	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.0

SECTION F: SELFMATES

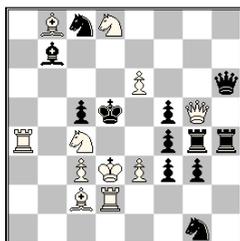
Judging countries

Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Germany, Slovakia, Ukraine (Croatia as reserve)

Theme: In a selfmate in 2 to 6 moves, at least two variations end with Black mating move made to the same square, played by different black pieces. The threat may be treated as a thematic variation.

1st-2nd place – F046

Zoran Gavrilovski
Macedonia



s#3 (11+12)

9.4 points

1.e7! [2. ♖g8+ ♜xg8/♞e6 3.e4+ ♜xe4#]

1... ♞g7 2. ♜xf5+ ♞e5 3. ♞e4+ ♜xe4#

1... ♘d6 2. ♘b6+ ♙e5 3. ♞e4+ ♜xe4#

1... ♜xe3 2. ♙e3+ ♜d4 3. ♙e4+ ♜xe4#

(1... ♞g6 2. ♜xf5+ ♜xf5+ 3.e4+ ♞xe4#)

Fourfold play on the same square (e4) at W3 and B3 moves in a “Theme of the Future” form. Play by the same type of pieces in the threat (3.P+P#) and after 1... ♞g7 (3. ♞+♞#), with unpin of the black pieces. Exchange of the types of pieces after 1... ♘d6 (3. ♜+♙#) and 1... ♜xe3 (3. ♙+♜#), with exchanged strategy (W ♞’s line opening & B ♙’s arrival on the e-file after 1... ♘d6; B ♜’s line opening & W ♙’s arrival on the e-file after 1... ♜xe3) and double pin of black units in the final position. (Country)

Four black mates by different pieces and four white pieces play on the same square in SOTF form type 2x2. (BUL)

Good strategy opening lines, four thematic mates by four different black pieces. (CZE)

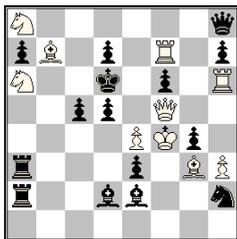
Good setting, would have received a higher rating without the unpleasant variations 1... Qg6/Qg7. (GER)

Fourfold showing of the theme with good strategy and black-and-white geometry of pieces on the thematic squares. (SVK)

1st-2nd place – F055

Andrey Selivanov
Alexander Azhusin
Igor Agapov

Russia



s±3 (10+15)

9.4 points

1. ♖8c7! [2. ♗e8+ ♜xe8 3. ♜e5+ ♜xe5±]

1... ♜g7 2. ♜e6+ dx6 3. e5+ fxe5±

1... ♗c3 2. ♗b5+ ♗xb5 3. ♗xe3+ ♗e5±

1... ♗f3 2. ♜xf6+ ♜xf6+ 3. ♗xg4+ ♗e5±

(1. ♗6c7? c4!)

SOTF. Two checkmates by direct attack and two checkmates delivered by battery. Twice W♗c7 is sacrificed on the second move and twice the W♜. The choice of key. (Country)

Excellent SOFT with two pairs thematic connected variations - direct mates and creation of black batteries, white royal battery play and four mates by different black pieces on e5. (BUL)

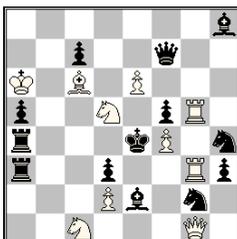
Two BS and two WQ sacrifices, 4 thematic mates. (CZE)

Original combination of 2x2 battery play and direct black mating moves. (GER)

Two pairs of thematic variations. There are direct mates in the first pair and battery mates in the second one. (UKR)

3rd-4th place – F038

Frank Richter, Peter Sickinger
Germany



s±3 (9+13)

9.3 points

1. ♜g6! [2. ♜xg3+ ♗xg3 3. e5+ fxe5±]

1... ♜xg8 2. ♜xf6+ ♜e6 3. ♜e5+ ♜xe5±

1... ♗xc5 2. ♗d7+ ♜xd7 3. ♗f4+ ♗e5±

1... ♗b8 2. ♗f5+ ♗e6 3. ♗e5+ ♗xe5±

Economical fourfold setting with four distinct white third moves. (Country)

Very good realization of four mates by different pieces on the same square without repetition of moves, but the play between variations is with different motives. (BUL)

Four thematic mates by four different pieces. (CZE)

Fourfold differentiated attack with black-white clash of pieces. (SVK)

Clear presentation of the given theme in four variations. (UKR)

3rd-4th place – F084

Gennady Kozyura
Ukraine



s±6 (13+6)

9.3 points

Model mates. (Country)

Model mates, 3/4 Albino, three mates by different pieces on e2 after three different white pieces plays on the same square. (BUL)

Three thematic mates (models) being a maximum at Bohemian school for such a specific theme. One of the best selfmates in the tourney. (CZE)

Nice Bohemian sixmover with three variations, economically constructed. The defences are unified by moves of single pawn. (SVK)

1. ♖f1!

1...g5 2. ♗g4 gxf4 3. ♜f6 f3 4. ♛c2+ ♜xc2 5. ♝xc5+ ♚d3 6. ♙e2+
fxe2±

1...g6 2. ♜g5 gxh5 3. ♙f3 h4 4. ♙g2 hxg2+ 5. ♚g1 h3 6. ♝e2+
♜xe2±

1...gxh6 2. ♙xd4 cxd4 3. ♝c6+ ♚d3 4. ♜c1+ ♚d2 5. ♙b3 d3 6. ♜e2
dxex2±

5th-6th place – F042

Valery Kopyl,
Mikhail Marandiyuk
Ukraine



s±3 (10+13)

9.0 points

Six thematic variations and three groups of events occurring on the same square (known as “same-square mechanisms”): black defenses on c1 and mating moves on e2 and d2. (Country)

2x3 mates by different pieces on the same squares, creation of 3 black batteries, but with repetition of 3.Rxd2 and three variations are without B2. (BUL)

Six thematic mates by six different pieces, two minor promotions. (CZE)

Interesting processing of the theme on neighboring squares. (SVK)

1. ♜f2! [2. ♜xf3+ ♙xf3+ 3. ♝e2+ ♙xe2±]

1... ♙xg6 2. ♝xd5+ ♚e3 3. ♝e2+ **fxe2±**

1... dxc1 ♜ 2. ♜b5 [3. ♙f1+ ♜e2±]

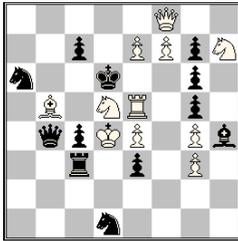
1... ♜e8 2. ♜xf4+ ♝xf4 3. ♝xd2+ ♝xd2±

1... ♙xc1 2. ♙a5 [3. ♝xd2+ ♙xd2±]

1... dxc1 ♙ 2. ♝e1 [3. ♝d2+ ♙xd2±]

5th-6th place – F075

Andrey Selivanov,
Alexander Feoktistov
Russia



s♣5 (11+12)

9.0 points

Flight-giving sacrifice key. A UW. Four thematic variations and four different black moves to the same square. Switchback of W ♖. (Country)

Very difficult idea of four mates on the same square in combination with white A UW, but the repetitions of 5.Re5 detract. (BUL)

A UW in combination with four different black moves on the mating square, flight giving key. One of the best selfmates in the tourney. (CZE)

3x 3.Re5+, and the theme is stifled by the byplay. (GER)

Four variations in five moves with a complete set of promotions of white pawn on the second move and a good key. But the triple repeat of white's final move did not allow, unfortunately, to reward this task with a higher mark. (UKR)

1. ♖f5! [2.e8 ♖+ ♗e6 3. ♘xg5+ ♙xg5 4. ♚f4+ ♜xf4 5. ♞e5+ ♟xe5♣]

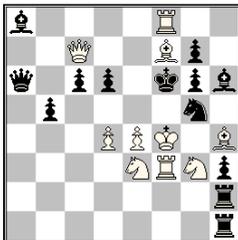
1...gxf5 2.e8 ♙+ ♗e6 3. ♞e7+ ♞xe7 4.gxf5+ ♗d6 5.e5+ ♞xe5♣

1...c6 2.e8 ♙+ ♗d7 3. ♚hf6+ gxf6 4. ♞d8+ ♗e6 5. ♞e5+ ♟xe5♣

1... ♗e6 2.e8 ♞+ ♞e7 3. ♞c6+ ♞d6 4. ♞cxd6+ cxd6 5. ♞e5+ ♟dx5♣

7th-8th place – F045

Miodrag Mladenović
Serbia



s♣3 (10+13)

8.8 points

Five black pieces mate on f3. (Country)

Five mates by different black pieces on the same square, but with repetitions of 2.Sd5 and 3.Kg4. (BUL)

Five thematic mates by five black different pieces, extremely active WK as a front battery officer. (CZE)

Task with five different pieces on f3, but dearly bought with unpleasant move repetitions. It would have received a higher rating without 1...Qa3 (this shows nothing new) and the unnecessary byplay 1...Qa2. (GER)

1. ♖d8! [2. ♞xd6+ ♗xf7 3. ♗e5+ ♚xf3♣]

1... ♞f2 2. ♚h5+ gxh5 3. ♗g3+ ♞xf3♣

1... ♞f1 2. ♚d5+ cxd5 3. ♗e3+ ♞xf3♣

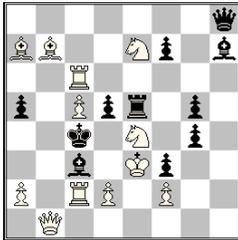
1...c5 2.e5+ dxe5+ 3. ♗g4+ ♞xf3♣

1... ♞a3 2. ♚d5+ cxd5 3. ♗g4+ ♞xf3♣

1... ♞a2 2. ♞xd6+ ♗e6 3. ♚xg5+ ♞xg5♣

7th-8th place – F048

Mikhail Khramtsevich,
Viktor Volchek
Belarus



s#3 (12+11)

8.8 points

Four thematic black pieces. (Country)

Nice problem with four different mates on d3 - two direct and two after black batteries creation. (BUL)

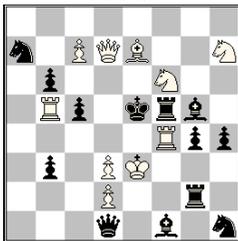
Four thematic mates, e.p. play, two mates by created battery. (CZE)

Again a fourfold setting, but no good use of white pieces and it lacks unity. (GER)

Four clear thematic variations with a good key. (UKR)

9th place – F043

Viktor Volchek
Mikhail Khramtsevich
Belarus



s#3 (10+13)

8.6 points

Four thematic black pieces. (Country)

Four different white pieces and black mates on the same square. (BUL)

Four thematic mates by four different pieces. (CZE)

Very complete and economic fourfold setting. (GER)

1. ♖b6! [2. ♙xd5+ ♜xd5 3.d3+ ♜xd3#]

1... dxe4 2. ♙a6+ ♜xc5 3.d4+ exd3 e.p.#

1... ♜xe7 2. ♜xc3+ ♜xc3+ 3. ♜d3+ ♜xd3#

1... ♙xe4 2. ♜b4+ axb4 3. ♜f1+ ♙d3#

1. ♘f8! [2. ♜xc5+ bxc5 3. ♜d4+ cxd4# (original ♙b6)]

1... ♘xb5 2. ♜d6+ ♘xd6 3.d4+ (original ♙d3) cxd4# (original ♙c5)

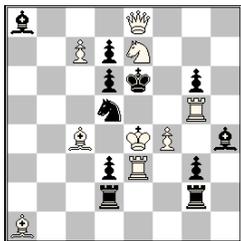
1... ♙xd3 2. ♜xf5+ ♙xf5 3.d4+ (original ♙d2) ♜xd4#

1... ♙xf6 2. ♙d6+ ♙d5 3. ♜d4+ ♙xd4#

1... ♘c6 2.d4+ ♘xd4 3. ♜xf5+ ♘xf5#

10th place – F030

Rade Blagojević,
Milomir Babić
Serbia



s#3 (9+11)

8.2 points

Four different mates on e3, four different checks by W♔. (Country)

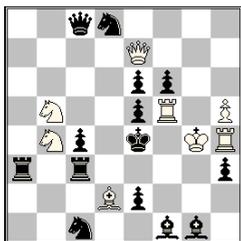
Extraordinarily active WK and four thematic mates. (CZE)

Very good construction, fine differentiation of battery play, it would have been the perfect setting without the repetition of 2.f5+. (GER)

Partially anticipated by example **F4** in the announcement. (SVK)

11th-12th place – F037

C. G. S. Narayanan,
K. Seetharaman
India



s#3 (8+14)

8.0 points

Three thematic mating moves on f4 by three different black pieces. Three black defences on the same rank. Three different W2 moves of the W♖/W♗ battery with dual avoidance. White king mated on three different squares. (Country)

Three thematic mates by three black officers, black defences on neighboring squares of the same rank, active WK. (CZE)

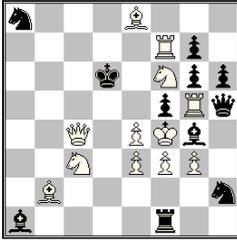
Similar to F055, but we don't like the repetitions 2.Rxe5+ and 2...f5+, and no dual avoidance after 1...Be3/Sd3 here. (GER)

The threat and three thematic variations are united by play of the white rook on the second move. Unfortunately, White's second move is repeated in the threat and the first variation. (UKR)

1. ♖g7! [2. ♖xg6+ ♔xe7 3. ♖f5+ ♜xe3#]
1... ♜ge2 2.f5+ gxf5+ 3. ♖f3+ ♜xe3#
1... ♜de2 2. ♖xg6+ ♖f6 3. ♖xd3+ ♜xe3#
1... ♖xg5 2.f5+ gxf5+ 3. ♖d4+ ♜xe3#

1. ♜h7! [2. ♜xe5+ ♔xe5 3. ♜f5+ exf5#]
1... ♜f3 2. ♜xe5+ ♔xe5 3. ♜f4+ ♜xf4#
1... ♖e3 2. ♜f2+ (2. ♜f1+? 3. ♖xh3+?) f5+ 3. ♖g3+ ♖f4#
1... ♜d3 2. ♜xf1+ (2. ♜f2+? 3. ♖g3+?) f5+ 3. ♖xh3+ ♜f4#

11th-12th place – F049
Alexander Kuzovkov
Russia



s±3 (12+11)

8.0 points

not counted for team score

Four thematic variations and four different third white moves to the same square. (Country)

Four white pieces and four mates on the same square, but the play between variations is not identical. (BUL)

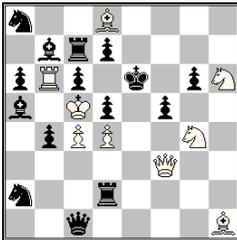
Four thematic mates by four different black pieces. (CZE)

The material in the lower left corner is used only for 1...Sc7, this is too expensive. (GER)

Four clear thematic variations. (UKR)

1. ♖g8! [2. ♖f6+ gxf6 3.e5+ fxe5#]
1... ♗xf3 2. ♖d4+ ♕e6 3. ♖e5+ ♗xe5#
1... ♗c7 2. ♗b5+ ♗xb5 3. ♗e5+ ♗xe5#
1... fxe4 2. ♖b4+ ♕e6 3. ♖e5+ ♖xe5#

13th-14th place – F052
Viktor Zaitsev, Viktor Volchek
Belarus



s±3 (9+15)

7.8 points

not counted for team score

Six thematic black pieces. (Country)

Seven thematic mates in six variations, almost complete set of black pieces (P, S, B, R, Q) move on the same square in the mate – task. However, repeated white second moves by WQ. (CZE)

Yes, 6 black pieces on d5, but the white play is too monotonous. (GER)

Six thematic variations, but there are repetitions on the second and third moves of white. (UKR)

1. ♗f6? ffg4!
1. ♗h4? 1...g5!
1. ♗g5! [2. ♖xc6+ ♗xc6 3. ♖xd5+ ♗xd5#, 2...dxc6 3. ♖xd5+ cxd5#]
1... dxc4 2. ♖e4+ fxe4 3.d5+ ♖xd5#
1... ♗xb6 2. ♖xd5+ ♗xd5 3. ♗xd5+ cxd5#
1... ♗c3 2. ♖xf5+ gxf5 3.cxd5+ ♗xd5#
1... ♖xd4 2. ♖xf5+ gxf5 3. ♗xd5+ ♖xd5#
1... ♖xh1 2. ♖xf5+ gxf5 3.cxd5+ ♖xd5#

13th-14th place – F077

Marcel Tribowski
Germany



s#5 (12+13)

7.8 points

1.a8♙? b6/bxa6!

1.a8♙! [2. ♖d6+ cxd6 3. ♜a5+ ♜xc5 4. ♜xc3+ ♜xd5 5. ♜d4+ ♜xd4#]

1...exd5 2. ♜xc3+ ♜xc5 3. ♜b4+ ♜b5 4. ♜d2+ ♜c5 5. ♜xe3+ d4#

1... ♖f3 2. ♖a3+ ♜a4 3. ♖b6+ ♖xb6/cxb6 4. ♖c2+ ♜b5 5. ♖d4+ ♖xd4#

Three different black pieces mate on d4. Underpromotion key with selfmate-specific motivation. Black battery in the threat and in the defences. Siers-like white battery play. (Country)

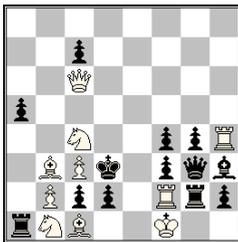
Three thematic mates thanks to creation of three different batteries with a BB as rear piece. (CZE)

Combination of white battery with triple created black battery. The key is good; the economy of rooks is weaker. (SVK)

Three thematic battery mates - this is a good point. A bad point - the promotion key and a large number of pieces, some of which are underused. (UKR)

15th-16th place – F044

Evgeni Bourd
Israel



s#3 (10+13)

7.6 points

1. ♖h6! [2. ♖d6+ cxd6 3. ♖xd2+ ♜xd2#]

1...cxb1 ♖ 2. ♖e5+ ♜e3 3. ♜xd2+ ♖xd2#

1...dxc1 ♗ 2. ♜d7+ ♜e4 3. ♖bd2+ ♜xd2#

Black defends the thematic square with a minor promotion, white uses the newly created battery to deliver mate using the black defensive motive. (Country)

Clear realization of three mates on the same square with white half-pin mechanism, passive and active annihilations and creation of black batteries. (BUL)

Three thematic mates, two minor black promotions and battery play resulting thereof. (CZE)

Nice idea with color change of pieces on b1, c1, but bad key by the rook from offside. (GER)

15th-16th place – F050Waldemar Tura
Poland

s#3 (13+10)

7.6 points

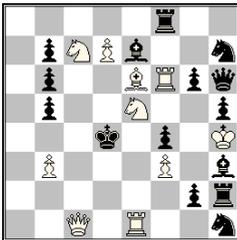
1. ♖4f6? ♜xg3!

1. ♖f2! [2. ♖d5+ exd5 3. d4+ **cx**d4#] (♠-♠)1... ♜xf2 2. ♖xc5+ ♜xc5 3. ♜d4+ ♜**x**d4# (♜-♜)1... ♜xc4 2. ♖f4+ ♜d5+ 3. ♖d4+ ♖**x**d4# (♖-♖)1... ♜c2/♜1b3/♜5b3/♜c6 2. d4+ ♜**x**d4 3. ♖e2+ ♜**x**e2#

Same white and black pieces play on d4. Opening the white line (after 1... ♜xf2) and black line (after 1... ♜xc4). (Country)

Interesting matched W/B pieces play on the same squares in all three thematic variations. (BUL)

Three thematic mates by three black pieces. (CZE)

17th place – F056Štefan Sovík
Slovakia

s#3 (10+15)

7.5 points

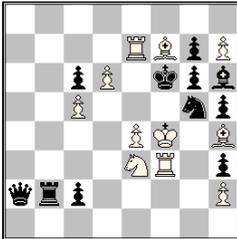
1. ♜g4! [2. ♜xb5+ ♜d5 3. ♜e6+ ♜**x**e6#]1... ♜g5 2. ♜d1+ ♜xe5 3. ♜e6+ ♜**x**e6#1... ♜xf6 2. ♖d2+ ♜c5 3. ♜e6+ ♜**x**e6#

Delayed Umnov effect between the 1st and 3rd white move. Switchback of white bishop. (Country)

Nice delayed Umnov effect and three mates on e6 after three different white pieces play on the same square. (BUL)

Three thematic mates and delayed Umnov on e6. (CZE)

18th-19th place – F039
 Camillo Gamnitzer
 Austria



s#3 (11+11)
 7.4 points

Thematic tries 1. ♖c4? and 1. ♖xa2? [2. ♖e6+ ♖f7 3. ♖e5+ ♖xf3#] are parried by 1... ♗xc4! and 1... ♖xa2!

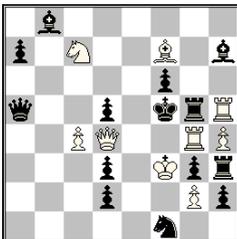
1. ♖b3! [2. ♖e6+ ♖f7 3. ♖e5+ ♖xf3#]
 1... ♗xb3 2. ♖g4+ hxg4 3. ♖xg4+ ♗xf3# (not 2. ♖d5+? ♗xd5! 3.?)
 1... ♖xb3 2. ♖d5+ cxd5 3. ♖g3+ ♖xf3#

Three mates on the same square with white Royal battery play, sacrifices and excellent key. (BUL)

Three thematic mates and active WK. (CZE)

Anticipated by example **F4** in the announcement. (SVK)

18th-19th place – F041
 Alexander Zidek
 Austria



s#3 (9+14)
 7.4 points

1. ♖b5! [2. ♖f4+ ♖xf4 3. ♗e4+ dxe4#]
 1... dxc4 2. ♗d7+ ♖e5 3. ♖e4+ ♖xe4#
 1... ♗c7 2. ♖gxg5+ fxg5 3. ♗f4+ ♗xf4#
 1... ♖xh4 2. ♗xd5+ ♖e5 3. ♖f4+ ♖xf4#

Sacrifice of W♗ and W♖ on e4/f4 in threat and three variations. Mate by four different black units (♖e4/♖e4 and ♗f4/♖f4). (Country)

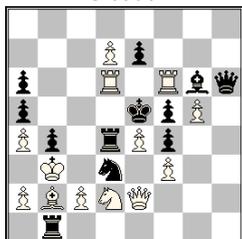
2x2 mates by different pieces on the same squares with good connected effects between the variations. (BUL)

Four thematic mates by four different pieces, WQ and WR sacrifices on neighboring squares of the same rank. (CZE)

20th-22nd place – F057

Branko Udovčić

Croatia



s#3

(13+12)

7.2 points

1.d8!1... ♖~ 2. ♖b5+ axb5 3. ♖c4+ **bxc4#**1... ♗xb2 2. exf5+ ♖e4 3. ♖c4+ **♗xc4#**1... ♙h7 2. ♖fe6+ ♗xe6+ 3. ♖c4+ **♗xc4#**1... e6 2. ♖d5+ exd5 3. ♖c4+ **dxc4#**

Five thematic mates, but repeated move by WS on third move. (CZE)

Bad key and 3.Sc4+ only. (GER)

Five thematic variations, but many repetitions of the third move of the white. And the promotion key is not very beautiful. (UKR)

Further placement**23rd-25th place – F018** – Michel Caillaud, France – 7.0 points.

Fantastic play by WK as a front battery piece, three nice mates. (CZE)

The king battery fires three times, nice, but this is comparable to F4 in the announcement. (GER)

23rd-25th place – F047 – Jan Rusinek, Poland – 7.0 points.

Five thematic mates and e.p. play as a bonus. (CZE)

Never ending 3.e4+ in play. (GER)

Five thematic variations, a good key, but a lot of repetitions of the third white move. (UKR)

23rd-25th place – F078 – Jorma Paavilainen, Finland – 7.0 points.

Three thematic mates, two blocks of the square b4 left by WB in the key move, and one guard thanks to a double-step by of a BP in defence. (CZE)

26th-27th place – F029 – Anton Baumann, Switzerland – 6.8 points.

Dual avoidance, three thematic mates by heavy black officers. (CZE)

The double threat is unpleasant. (GER)

26th-27th place – F053 – Zoran Gavrilovski, Macedonia – 6.8 points.

Rich thematic complex - three mates on c5, lines opening, pseudo-Bristols, active annihilations, exchange of functions. (BUL)

The bi-colored line clearances are not fully harmonious, "their" pieces are used only for "their" variation and they would work also in an orthodox #3. (GER)

28th-31st place – F013 – Peter Bakker, Henk le Grand, Gerard Smits, Hans Uitenbroek, Koen Versmissen, Netherlands – 6.6 points.

Very active WQ. (CZE)

The theme 2x2 after WQ moves, nice idea in good presentation. (GER)

28th-31st place – F062 – János Csák, Hungary – 6.6 points.

Exchange of roles among white officers on one hand and black officers on the other hand. (CZE)

28th-31st place – F073 – Dieter Werner, Switzerland – 6.6 points.
 Good tries, nice key and different white promotions. (CZE)
 White correction with logical tries in the five-mover selfmate. Original. (SVK)

28th-31st place – F074 – Stephen Taylor, Great Britain – 6.6 points.
 Nice tries and exchange of white attack, black half-battery is cleverly applied. (CZE)
 WPC6 is not needed. (GER)

32nd-35th place – F005 – Michel Caillaud, France – 6.4 points.
 Exchange of white attack after two same black defences. (CZE)

32nd-35th place – F014 – K. R. Chandrasekaran, India – 6.4 points.
 Two pairs of thematic mates and dual avoidance in addition. (CZE)

32nd-35th place – F028 – Jorge Joaquín Lois, Argentina – 6.4 points.
 Flight giving key, three BP mates on same square. (CZE)

32nd-35th place – F032 – Evgeni Bourd, Israel – 6.4 points.
 Mates by two BQ and two BB on same square, five thematic mates altogether. (CZE)
 Motive inversion regarding covering/moving on d4. Good specific idea and good play on second moves, but 5x 5.Rd4+ is too monotonous. (GER)

36th place – F067 – Jozef Havran, Slovakia – 6.3 points.
 Good white line openings. (CZE)

37th-38th place – F017 – Alexey Gasparyan, Armenia – 6.2 points.
 Three thematic mates and good play by WSD6. (CZE)
 Interesting two-mover, but uncovered flight (1...Kxb8) in diagram position. (GER)

37th-38th place – F024 – Mike Prcic, United States – 6.2 points.
 Dual avoidance, Zilahi, good flight giving key, both white knights mate on same square. (CZE)
 Good idea, but 1...Kb3 is uncovered in diagram position. (GER)

39th-41st place – F016 – José Antonio Lopez Parcerisa, Spain – 5.8 points.
 A lot of material for two well-known variations. (GER)

39th-41st place – F076 – Jorma Pitkänen, Finland – 5.8 points.
 Castlings and two thematic mates by different BS. (CZE)

39th-41st place – F081 – Nikola Predrag, Croatia – 5.8 points.

42nd place – F033 – Alexander Fica, Miroslav Svítek, Czech Republic – 5.7 points.

43rd-44th place – F020 – Stephen Taylor, Great Britain – 5.4 points.
 Not complex, but a very harmonious and sophisticated setting with change of functions on both sides (SS - QT). (GER)

43rd-44th place – F031 – Tibor Érsek, Hungary – 5.4 points.

45th-46th place – F019 – José Antonio Lopez Parcerisa, Spain – 5.2 points.

45th-46th place – F059 – Mark Kirtley, United States – 5.2 points.

47th place – F072 – Jiří Jelínek, Czech Republic – 5.1 points.

48th place – F071 – Klemen Šivic, Marko Klasinc, Slovenia – 4.8 points.
 Underpromotions, nice route by BS from f1 to d3. (CZE)

49th place – F064 – Araz Almammadov, Azerbaijan – 4.6 points.
 Three thematic mates, quiet second moves by WB. (CZE)

50th place – F015 – Rolf Uppström, Göran Wicklund, Sweden – 4.4 points.

Four thematic mates, 10 variations, task. (CZE)

Uncovered check (1...Se6+) in diagram position. (GER)

51st-53rd place – F008 – Rolf Uppström, Sweden – 4.2 points.

Two mates on one square, four mates on another square. (CZE)

51st-53rd place – F027 – Ashot Uzunyan, Alexey Gasparyan, Armenia – 4.2 points.

Key piece is badly used. (GER)

51st-53rd place – F054 – Marko Klasinc, Klemen Šivic, Slovenia – 4.2 points.

Three thematic mates and black half-battery, set play. (CZE)

54th-55th place – F012 – Alberto Armeni, Italy – 4.0 points.

54th-55th place – F065 – Temur Chkhetiani, Georgia – 4.0 points.

56th-57th place – F004 – David Gurgenzidze, Georgia – 3.8 points.

56th-57th place – F069 – Bosko Miloseski, Turkey – 3.8 points.

58th place – F070 – Anatolii Ghinda, Moldova – 3.6 points.

59th place – F025 – Atsuo Hara, Japan – 3.4 points.

60th place – F003 – Bosko Miloseski, Turkey – 3.2 points.

61st-63rd place – F006 – Alberto Armeni, Italy – 3.0 points.

61st-63rd place – F011 – Araz Almammadov, Azerbaijan – 3.0 points.

61st-63rd place – F021 – Fernand Joseph, Belgium – 3.0 points.

Uncovered check (1...cxd4+) in diagram position. (GER)

64th-65th place – F060 – Nicolae Chivu, Romania – 2.8 points.

64th-65th place – F080 – Jorge Joaquín Lois, Argentina – 2.8 points.

Underpromotions of two BP on same square d1, two pairs of thematic mates. (CZE)

Unthematic. (GER)

The following compositions are not considered published and are at the disposal of their authors: F001, F002, F007, F009, F010, F022, F026, F034, F035, F036, F051, F058, F061, F063, F066, F068, F079, F082, F083, F085.

Section F: Selfmates – Table

Place	No	Country	BUL	CZE	GER	SVK	UKR	Points
1	046	MKD	3.6	3.2	3.0	3.2	2.8	9.4
	055	RUS	3.6	3.0	3.4	2.8	3.0	9.4
3	038	GER	2.8	3.2		3.2	3.0	9.3
	084	UKR	2.8	3.4	2.0	3.8		9.3
5	042	UKR	2.8	3.2	2.2	3.2		9.0
	075	RUS	2.8	3.6	2.6	3.0	3.2	9.0
7	045	SRB	2.6	3.2	3.2	3.0	1.6	8.8
	048	BLR	3.0	3.0	2.4	2.8	3.0	8.8
9	043	BLR	2.8	2.8	3.6	3.0	2.8	8.6
10	030	SRB	2.2	3.2	3.6	2.8	1.0	8.2
11	037	IND	1.8	2.8	2.6	2.8	2.6	8.0
	049	RUS	2.6	2.8	2.6	2.6	2.8	8.0
13	052	BLR	2.0	3.0	2.8	1.8	3.0	7.8
	077	GER	2.0	2.6		3.2	2.6	7.8
15	044	ISR	2.8	2.6	2.4	2.6	2.4	7.6
	050	POL	2.6	2.6	2.0	3.0	2.4	7.6
17	056	SVK	2.6	2.6	2.4		2.4	7.5
18	039	AUT	2.8	3.0	2.4	2.2	1.0	7.4
	041	AUT	2.8	2.8	1.8	2.4	2.2	7.4
20	023	JPN	1.8	3.0	2.4	2.2	2.6	7.2
	040	AUT	2.8	2.8	2.0	2.0	2.4	7.2
	057	CRO	1.2	2.6	2.6	2.0	2.8	7.2
23	018	FRA	2.4	2.8	2.2	2.4	2.2	7.0
	047	POL	1.6	3.2	2.6	1.8	2.6	7.0
	078	FIN	1.0	2.8	2.6	2.0	2.4	7.0
26	029	SUI	1.4	2.4	2.4	2.8	2.0	6.8
	053	MKD	2.8	2.2	2.2	2.4	2.0	6.8
28	013	NED	2.2	2.0	2.4	2.4	1.8	6.6
	062	HUN	1.0	2.4	2.2	2.2	2.2	6.6
	073	SUI	2.0	2.4	0.8	3.2	2.2	6.6
	074	GBR	2.4	2.0	1.6	2.8	2.2	6.6
32	005	FRA	2.0	2.6	2.0	2.4	2.0	6.4
	014	IND	2.4	2.4	2.0	2.0	1.8	6.4
	028	ARG	2.4	2.4	1.6	2.0	2.0	6.4
	032	ISR	1.0	2.8	3.2	1.4	2.2	6.4
36	067	SVK	1.2	2.6	2.2		2.0	6.3
37	017	ARM	2.4	2.4	1.6	1.8	2.0	6.2
	024	USA	1.6	2.8	2.0	2.6	1.6	6.2
	026	MKD	2.0	2.6	1.6	2.2	2.0	6.2
-	009	SVK	2.0	1.4	2.0		2.0	6.0
-	022	POL	1.6	2.8	2.0	1.8	2.2	6.0
-	066	UKR	2.0	3.2	2.0	1.8		6.0
39	016	ESP	2.0	2.0	1.6	1.8	2.0	5.8
	076	FIN	1.4	2.4	1.0	3.0	2.0	5.8
	081	CRO	1.8	2.2	1.2	2.0	2.0	5.8
42	033	CZE	1.8		1.6	2.0	2.4	5.7

-	036	GER	2.0	1.4		1.8	2.0	5.7
43	020	GBR	1.6	2.2	2.8	1.6	1.4	5.4
	031	HUN	1.2	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.8	5.4
-	034	ISR	1.2	2.6	1.4	1.4	2.8	5.4
-	083	CRO	1.4	2.2	1.0	2.0	2.0	5.4
45	019	ESP	1.8	1.8	0.4	1.6	2.0	5.2
	059	USA	0.8	2.0	1.8	1.6	1.8	5.2
47	072	CZE	1.6		0.8	1.8	2.0	5.1
-	001	IND	1.6	1.8	1.6	2.2	1.0	5.0
-	063	HUN	1.0	2.2	0.4	2.2	1.8	5.0
48	071	SLO	1.2	2.4	1.0	2.0	1.6	4.8
-	010	FRA	2.0	2.0	0.2	1.8	1.0	4.8
49	064	AZE	1.0	2.4	0.8	1.4	2.2	4.6
-	082	GBR	1.0	2.0	1.2	1.6	1.8	4.6
-	068	CZE	1.2		0.6	2.2	1.8	4.5
50	015	SWE	0.8	2.6	0.2	1.6	2.0	4.4
51	008	SWE	1.0	2.4	0.4	1.4	1.8	4.2
	027	ARM	1.0	2.0	1.8	0.8	1.4	4.2
	054	SLO	1.0	2.6	0.6	1.4	1.8	4.2
-	002	USA	1.4	2.2	1.0	1.0	1.8	4.2
-	007	SWE	1.0	2.0	1.4	1.4	1.4	4.2
-	035	SRB	1.0	2.4	0.6	1.2	2.0	4.2
-	061	FIN	0.8	2.4	0.8	1.4	2.0	4.2
54	012	ITA	0.8	2.2	0.4	1.4	1.8	4.0
	065	GEO	1.0	2.2	0.8	1.0	2.0	4.0
56	004	GEO	1.0	1.2	0.8	1.6	2.0	3.8
	069	TUR	1.0	1.4	0.4	1.4	1.8	3.8
-	051	ARM	1.0	2.6	1.0	1.0	1.8	3.8
58	070	MDA	1.0	1.4	0.4	1.2	1.8	3.6
59	025	JPN	0.4	1.8	1.0	0.6	1.8	3.4
60	003	TUR	1.4	1.0	0.2	0.8	1.4	3.2
61	006	ITA	1.2	1.4	0.6	0.8	1.0	3.0
	011	AZE	1.2	2.0	0.8	0.6	1.0	3.0
	021	BEL	0.8	1.2	0.2	1.0	1.4	3.0
64	060	ROU	1.0	1.8	0.2	0.8	1.0	2.8
	080	ARG	0.4	2.6	0.0	1.4	1.0	2.8
-	085	SUI	1.0	2.4	0.6	0.6	1.0	2.6
-	058	ITA	0.0	2.2	0.0	1.2	1.0	0.0
-	079	AZE	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0

SECTION G: FAIRIES

Judging countries:

Belarus, Bulgaria, Japan, Slovenia, Switzerland (India as reserve)

Theme: In a solution of a helpmate ($h\pm 2$, $h\pm 2.5$ or $h\pm 3$) with Take & Make fairy condition an "invisible capture" takes place.

An "invisible capture" occurs when a unit standing on a square A can move to a square B, but in fact it arrives to square B in the "make" part of the move. The result looks like an orthodox move with the additional effect of disappearance of the captured piece. The theme may be implemented by White and/or Black. It is also considered thematic if A and B are the same square. The move which would have been illegal without the "invisible capture" is also considered thematic.

Set play, multi-solutions and twins are allowed, but not duplex, Polish-type twins (all units change color) or zero-positions. Only an orthodox set without extra ("promoted") pieces may be used. Any side may have two bishops on squares of the same color in the diagram position.

Take & Make: Having captured, a piece must immediately, as part of its move, play a non-capturing move in imitation of the captured unit from the capture square ("make" move). If no such move is available, the capture is illegal. Promotion by capture occurs only when a pawn arrives on the promotion rank as the result of a "make" part of move. Checks are as in normal chess: after the notional capture of the checked King, the checking unit does not have to move away from the King's square.

Pawns can never move to the first rank of their own colour and cannot be placed on such rank in diagram position.

General

I received 95 fairy-problems (section G of the 10th WCCT) from the Director of the Tournament Mr. Evseev, who showed great precision and competence in performing his functions.

Unfortunately, I have to admit, that I am surprised from the low overall level of the tournament. The quality of a large part of the presented problems does not correspond to the high rank of this elite competition of WFCC. Probably one of the reasons for this negative phenomenon is the choice of the theme. It proved to be insufficiently fruitful and to a great extent exhausted given the numerous previous publications with analogous effects. Of course, the organizers have never insured against such negative trends - because it is always supposed, that the world's elite will find enough new and interesting opportunities for interpretation. But this time the expectations did not come true so we have to accept reality as it is.

After a thorough and comprehensive analysis of the originals, I consider it necessary to inform about my main conclusions as a judge of the tournament.

I had to eliminate a number of problems because of predecessors. They received from me score 0.

One of the weak scores according to the new scale: 0.6 points many problems had received that (at least in one of the cases mentioned below):

a) represent banal and elementary ideas and mechanisms, slightly modified (using patterns from already known publications) but in fact almost giving grounds for elimination, due to predecessors.

b) Present the theme only in one half-move (25% thematic content!) from four possible for problems in two moves! Such performances are extremely insufficient as an idea and quality - especially in a world tournament of the rank of WCCT.

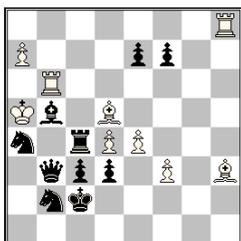
c) Present the theme in only one solution or in two simple solutions - even without a sufficient analogy between them.

The shortcomings of these problems (quoted in a, b, c) are obvious. Their minuses can be seen at first sight on their diagrams.

There is an unpleasant statistic and it should be borne in mind: In the database of WinChloe there are 360 problems (!) by Pierre Tritten (h#2 T&M) in most of which exist one or more half-move elements of the 10th WCCT fairy theme. The total number (of all authors) of such tasks in the base is 570. According to my analysis, at least 50% of these problems contain elements of the 10th WCCT G theme that can easily be modified, even in small details, according to the conditions of 10th WCCT G theme. Other bases also have a lot of similar problems and it will not be a surprise, if new predecessors are discovered. (BUL)

1st place – G088

Ofer Comay
Israel



h#2.5 (9+10)

Take & Make

2.1...

10.0 points

Grimshaw, black sacrifice, white sacrifice. The theme appears twice in the white moves and once in the refutation of the try in the mating move. (Country)

Unconventional battery mates, specific for the condition. Grimshaw. Thematic antidual play. Complete analogy of solutions. However, a group of white pawns in the center of the board, which is not playing in the first solution, reduces the impression. (BLR)

A lot of contents are nicely packed. Good correspondence. (JPN)

Again active self-blocks on c7 and d7 with antidual play. (SLO)

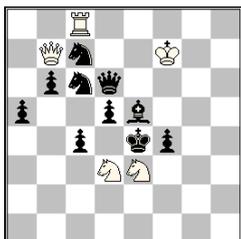
Economical usage of the thematic pieces in both solutions, but a lot of material is used for the two mating nests. (SUI)

1... ♖xb5-c6 2. ♔b8 ♜xb8-b3 3. ♙xb3-b7 ♜xc4-c7#
(3... ♜xc4-b4#? 4. ♙c7!, 3... ♜c7#? 4. ♜xc7-c6!)

1... ♙xc4-c6 2. ♔e6 ♙xe6-b3+ 3. ♙xb3-e6 ♙xb5-d7#
(3... ♙xb5-c4#? 4. ♙d7!, 3... ♙d7#? 4. ♙xd7-c6!)

2nd place – G041

Borislav Gadjanski
Serbia



h#2 (5+10)

Take & Make

2.1...

9.6 points

1. d4 ♖xc7-a8 2. ♜xe3-d5 ♜xc6-d8#
1. ♜d4 ♖xc6-b8 2. ♜xd3-e5 ♜xc7-e8#

Chameleon echo pin-mates. Self-blocks on d4 with FML effects. 3 pairs of thematic moves. (Country)

Three thematic moves in each of two solutions. Destruction of unmoving black pieces with virtual thematic moves of the black king. (BLR)

The strategy is surprisingly beautiful and unusual, and the construction (only 15 pieces!) seems optimal for such very difficult content. The limited mobility of the white queen looks like a small minus. (BUL)

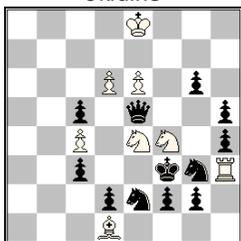
Nice chameleon echo pinmates, but the motivation of W1 is not the same. (JPN)

Very original creations of white R-Q masked battery which mates once with a front and once with a rear piece. Unfortunately white knights are artificial and can be replaced by black Pc5,f5. (SLO)

Very ambitious ODT. (SUI)

3rd place – G079

Aleksandr Semenenko
Valery Semenenko,
Anatoly Karamanits
Ukraine



h#2 (8+12)

Take & Make

2.1...

9.2 points

1. ♖xd6-d7+ ♜xd7-d3 2. ♜xe4-g3 ♜xe2-f4#
(3. ♜xf4-e6??, 3. ♜xf4-d3??)
1. ♖xe6-e7+ ♜xe7-g5 2. ♜xf4-e2 ♜xg3-e4#
(3. ♜xe4-d6??, 3. ♜xe4-g5??)

Interchange of functions of four pairs of pieces (W♜e4/W♜f4, W♜d1/W♜h3, W♜d6/W♜e6, B♜e2/B♜g3). Reciprocal thematic captures of pieces with switchbacks. (Country)

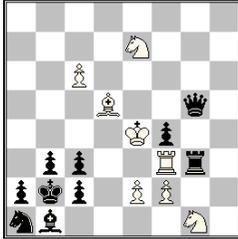
The main thematic mechanism built by the four knights, Bd1 and Rh3 is undoubtedly interesting and fruitful, as shows the play of this sextet. The harmony is complemented of the white blockades of Se4/Sf4 made by the white king. But let's not forget that here are only two thematic invisible half-moves in each solution. (BUL)

Very good constructed "wheel" of pawns to prevent BK escape after self-blocks of WS. (SLO)

Admirable constructional power, but this idea necessarily results in a monster. (SUI)

4th-5th place – G065

Manfred Rittirsch,
Norbert Geissler
Germany



h#2 (8+10)

Take & Make

2.1...

8.8 points

Extended Zilahi with reciprocal captures and unified double line openings (pairwise reciprocal). (Country)

Non-standard presentation of Zilahi with two thematic moves in each solution. However, three technical white pawns reduce the impression. (BLR)

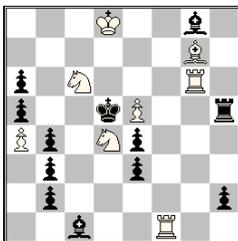
Very pleasing presentation of reciprocal captures. (JPN)

Zilahi, double line openings, exchanged functions of black pieces, good construction. (SLO)

Very ambitious. (SUI)

4th-5th place – G078

Aleksandr Semenenko,
Valery Semenenko
Ukraine



h#2 (8+12)

Take & Make

b) ♖e5 → e6

8.8 points

Exactly same final positions with BK on e5 and e6 but with totally different play which leads to move WS to d5 where it self-blocks BK. (SLO)

Very ambitious ODT. Heavy. (SUI)

1. ♖xe7-g8 ♘xg8-f8 2. ♜xf3-h3 ♘xh3-d3#
1. ♜xg1-h3 ♘xh3-h1 2. ♖xd5-g8 ♘xg8-c4#

a)
1. ♜xe5-e6 ♘xe6-f6+ 2. ♜xc6-e5 ♘xg8-d5# (2... ♘d5? 3. ♘xd5-f6!)
b)
1. ♘xe6-e7+ ♘xe7-f6+ 2. ♜xd4-e6 ♘xh5-d5# (2... ♘d5?
3. ♜xd5-f6!)

Creation and play of white batteries. Interchange of functions of three pairs of pieces. Diagonal-orthogonal echo play. (Country)

The formation of white batteries and their play on a mating move with an antidual choice. Two thematic moves in each twin, although the king moves are virtual. (BLR)

Heavy position is amply compensated by the thematic mating moves with the motivation of preventing Take&Make defences. (JPN)

6th place – G080

Lev Grolman, Valery Gurov,
Vladislav Nefyodov
Russia



h#2 (9+11)

Take & Make

2.1...

8.6 points

1. ♖e4xg4-e3! (-h2?) ♜h6xe3-g5 2. ♛d4xc4-e5 ♜g5xc1-e3 ‡
(2... ♜g5-e3+? 3. ♜c1xe3-g5!)

1. ♖e4xg4-e5! (-h2?) ♜h5xe5-g5 2. ♛d4xc4-e3 ♜g5xb5-d5 ‡
(2... ♜g5-d5+? 3. ♜b5xd5-g5!)

Task: only thematic moves. Orthogonal-diagonal transformation. Antizielelement. (Country)

All four moves in two solutions are thematic. A complete diagonal-orthogonal analogy of solutions with an antidual choice of the mating moves of white linear pieces. The moves of the black king are virtual. Anticipation claim does not seem obvious. (BLR)

An interesting and difficult complex, although such use of white Grimshaw is not new (see for example problem G2 from the announcement). But here the play is much richer and more strictly motivated. Curious are, for example, the moves of the black king and the black Q (after the key-sacrifices!) who arrive reciprocally on e3 and e5 squares in both phases. Minus of this task, however, is the heavy construction. (BUL)

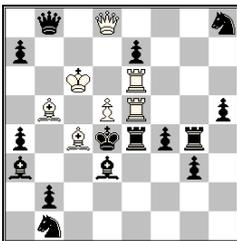
The Idea of sweeping QR/QB with the motivation of preventing Take&Make defences is certainly difficult to realize, but the position is too heavy. (JPN)

A bit symmetric position leads to asymmetric creating of white batteries with antidual play. (SLO)

Very hard to judge: a very simple h#1.5 (W: Kf1 Rh5 Bh6 Pf3 B: Kd4 b) f1>e7) with tons of whipped cream resulting in a harmonious ODT. (SUI)

7th place – G082

Kostas Prentos
United States



h#2 (7+15)

Take & Make

2.1...

8.4 points

1. ♜xe5-e1 ♜xb8-g8 2. ♜xc4-e2 ♜xg4-g7‡

1. ♜xc4-f1 ♜xb8-d6 2. ♜xe5-e2 ♜xa3-b4‡

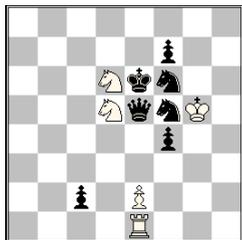
Four thematic moves in two solutions with excellent analogy and Grimshaw on square e2. A small minus: there is a seemingly superfluous pawn d5, but it is unavoidable. (BLR)

Creation of Grimshaw by invisible thematic moves. A bit too separated white and black play. (SLO)

The best entry with only thematic moves, even if the thematic elements in W1 and W2 give an artificial impression. (SUI)

8th-11th place – G014

Aleksandr Semenenko,
Valery Semenenko
Ukraine



h#2 (5+7)

Take & Make

2.1...

8.2 points

not counted for team score

All moves are thematic. Zilahi. Kniest. Chameleon echoed model mates. (Country)

All four moves in each solution are thematic with an excellent analogy of the solutions. The mark is reduced due to the symmetry of position and two virtual thematic moves of the each king. (BLR)

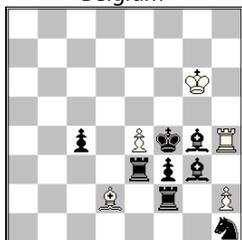
Everything is so natural and aesthetically pleasing. (JPN)

Complete chameleon echo play in a light position. (SLO)

Very intensive play, but a bit symmetrical. (SUI)

8th-11th place – G020

Gilles Regniers
Belgium



h#2 (5+8)

Take & Make

2.1...

8.2 points

1. ♖xh4-h8 ♜xe3-e1 2. ♜e5 ♜xf2-d2#

1. ♜xd2-a5 ♜xg4-h3 2. ♜e5 ♜xg3-h4#

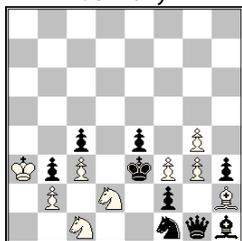
Zilahi. Switchback. Mutual self-blocks on e5. 2x2 thematic moves. (Country)

Two thematic switchbacks in two solutions are supplemented with Zilahi. A complete orthogonal-diagonal analogy. (BLR)

Only two thematic half-moves in each solution but very interesting and non-standard white switchbacks (by the WB in the first phase and by the WR in second solution) combined with invisible (pseudo) rundlaufs by the same white pieces. Light form. (BUL)

Good Zilahi, but white play is not so interesting. (JPN)

Very intensive play with thematic switchbacks. The construction looks optimal. (SUI)

8th-11th place – G067Daniel Papack
Germany

h#2 (9+9)

Take & Make

b) - ♠f2

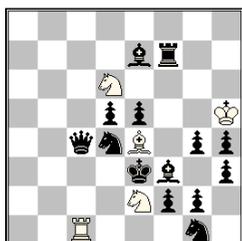
8.2 points

2x2 thematic move; reciprocal captures followed by switchbacks. (Country)

Two thematic moves in each twin with switchback. All moves show exchange of squares and pieces. Non-standard presentation of the change of the function of moves. There are some technical white pawns which in this case slightly influence the mark. (BLR)

Highly original idea of reciprocal captures with the motivation of make-prevention. (JPN)

Invisible captures in B1 and W1 are used for clearing the squares for BQ escape and for white mating move. Reciprocal play. (SLO)

8th-11th place – G068Marjan Kovačević
Serbia

h#2 (5+14)

Take & Make

2.1...

8.2 points

A non-standard and very complex set of ideas, in which probably the most interesting are the blockades of WSe2 in first solution and WBe4 in second solution. The construction is rather heavy but probably better form here is not possible. (BUL)

Nothing to add to author's comment. (SLO)

Extremely ambitious – it's a miracle that a correct setting could be found. (SUI)

a)

1. ♖xh2-g1 ♜xf1-d2 2. ♚h2 ♜f1#

b)

1. ♜xd2-f1 ♞xg1-h2 2. ♜d2 ♞g1#

1. ♜f4 ♞xf3-e4 2. ♜xe4-f3 ♞xc4-c3#

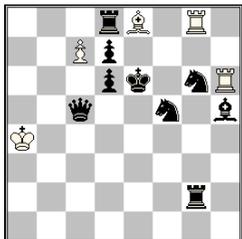
1. ♚d3 ♜xd4-e2 2. ♜xe2-d4 ♜xf7-f5#

Active self-blocks (d3&f4) and distant passive self-blocks (on f3&d4) on seemingly guarded squares. "White self-blocks" of Take&Make type (on e4&e2). Three pairs of thematic moves. Four pairs of pieces interchange functions (♚c4&♜f7, ♜e2&♞e4, ♜d4&♞f3, ♜d6&♜c1). (Country)

Three thematic moves in each solution. Only the moves of the black king are virtual. White thematic play is not uniform. (BLR)

12th-13th place – G031

Thomas Maeder
Switzerland



h#2 (5+9)

Take & Make

b) ♖f5 → f8

8.1 points

Non-standard two-fold presentation of the theme in twins. Antidual choice of mating moves with weak promotions and pins of different black pieces on square g6. (BLR)

Superb realization of Take&Make specific mate by underpromotions (RB). (JPN)

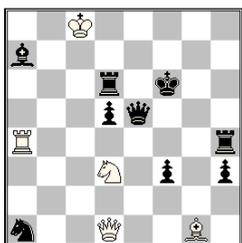
Very original use of minor promotions with thematic tries with Q-promotions. Only one invisible capture prevents higher mark.. (SLO)

a)
1. ♖e5 ♗xg6-h4+ 2. ♖gxg8-g6 cxd8-g8 ♗+
(2...cxd8-g8 ♖+? 3. ♖xg8-g6!)

b)
1. ♖d5 ♖gxg6-f4+ 2. ♗xe8-g6 cxd8-e8 ♖+
(2...cxd8-e8 ♖+? 3. ♗xe8-g6!)

12th-13th place – G033

Mikhail Khramtsevich
Belarus



h#2 (5+9)

Take & Make

2.1...

8.1 points

Orthogonal-diagonal transformation. (Country)

Fine ODT using Take&Make with the motivation of unblock (B1) for white mating move. (JPN)

ODT in light position. (SLO)

ODT with reserved make parts in the thematic captures. The two mating nests require some material. (SUI)

1. ♖xa4-d4 ♗xe5-e7 2. ♗xe7-c6 ♖xd4-a4+
1. ♗xg1-d4 ♗xe5-f5 2. ♗xf5-g3 ♖xd4-g1+

14th place – G081

Lev Grolman, Valery Gurov,
Vladislav Nefyodov
Russia



h#2 (8+13)

Take & Make

2.1...

8.0 points

Rich and beautiful content, but unfortunately here we see a model mate only in the second solution (after 1.Bxb6-c7). The heavy construction with 21 figures does not allow more points than 2.6. (BUL)

Nice switchback mates with Zilahi. (JPN)

Reciprocal captures but white and black play separately each in his corner.

Enormous cost for 2 mating nests and the T&M switchbacks. (SUI)

1. ♖xe3-f3 ♜xd8-c7 2. ♔xd5-e3 ♜xb8-b6#

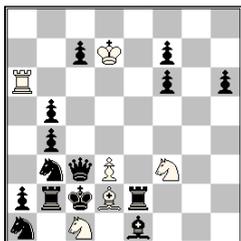
1. ♜xb6-c7 ♜xg3-f3 2. ♔xd5-b6 ♜xf1-e3#

Reciprocal captures of black and white pieces. Play on same squares (f3&c7). Zilahi. Orthogonal-diagonal correspondence of solutions. Take&Make specific switchbacks by white. (Country)

All moves in the two solutions are condition-specific. Three thematic moves with exchange. Zilahi with a good analogy of solutions. There is a pair of non-playing white pawns. (BLR)

15th place – G077

Marjan Kovačević
Serbia



h#2 (6+14)

Take & Make

2.1...

7.8 points

not counted for team score

1. ♖e5 ♜xb3-c1 2. ♔xc1-b3 ♜xe5-d4#

1. ♜a5 ♜xc3-d2 2. ♔xd2-c3 ♜xa5-c6#

1. ♜~? ♜xc3-d2 2. ♔xc1-b3 ♜d4#

1. ♜~? ♜xc3-d2 2. ♔xd2-c3 ♜c6#

1. ♖~? ♜xb3-c1 2. ♔xd2-c3 ♜c6#

1. ♖~? ♜xb3-c1 2. ♔xc1-b3 ♜d4#

Thematic Black corrections determine anti-dual effects. Three pairs of thematic moves. (Country)

Three thematic moves in each solution. The moves of the black king are virtual. Antidual choice of the first black move. The play is not exactly uniform. Position is heavy. (BLR)

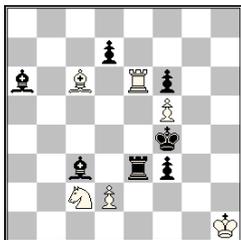
Fine black corrections, but this would be much more interesting if this has a S try that corresponds to 1.Qd4?. (JPN)

The whole play is based on lack of black tempo. Possible double mates after each of random moves by BQ and BS are separated in solutions. Corrections in B1 lead to another invisible captures. (SLO)

Original concept. A lot of material is necessary to prevent unwanted hideaways. (SUI)

16th-18th place – G023

Michael McDowell
Great Britain



h#2 (6+7)

Take & Make

b) ♖f3 → e5

7.6 points

An ambitious and difficult combination between invisible (pseudo) Pickaninny and invisible (pseudo) Albino in a light position. Unfortunately, the play in both phases is not entirely identical: it is better in position b) where there is a line-opening for the WR after the key-move. Such an element is missing in position a). (BUL)

Highly original pseudo-Pickaninny and pseudo-Albino. If B1's motivation were the same, this is perfect. (JPN)

This entry doesn't have any of the weaknesses that are typical for many task problems. (SUI)

a)

1.dxe6-d6 ♗xe3-e2+ 2.♔e5 dxc3-d4#

b)

1.dxc6-d5 ♖xa6-f1+ 2.♔e4 dxe3-d3#

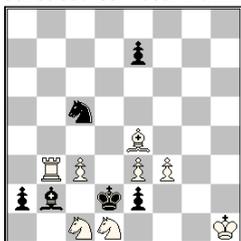
Pseudo-Pickaninny and pseudo-Albino with the black ♔ mated on adjacent e-file squares; two thematic captures in each phase. (Country)

Synthesis of the themes of pseudo-Pickaninny and pseudo-Albino in two twins with two thematic pawns. Homogeneous play with condition-specific pawn mates. (BLR)

16th-18th place – G037

Gerard Smits
Netherlands

Dedicated to Peter Bakker



h#2 (8+6)

Take & Make

b) ♖c3 → d3

7.6 points

Zilahi. The black moves are thematic. (Country)

Zilahi. All four moves in two twins are "take&make". Two of them are thematic. Everything is harmonious. Thematic moves of the black king are virtual. (BLR)

Very economic Zilahi with perfect OD play. (SLO)

Very specific reciprocal Zilahi. (SUI)

a)

1.♗xe4-b7 ♗xb2-a3 2.♔xc1-d3 ♖xb7-d8#

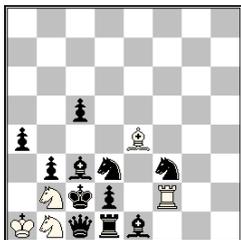
b)

1.♗xb3-b7 ♗xa2-a1 2.♔xd1-c3 ♗xb7-a5#

16th-18th place – G047

Ivo Tominić

Croatia



h#2

(5+11)

Take & Make

b) ♗d2 ↔ ♘d3

7.6 points

Quiet B1 pawn moves (with the intention of preventing BK escape by Take&Make in the final positions) add a nice touch. (JPN)

Another original setting with antidual play and much hidden self-blocks created by opening of white battery. The same remark regarding only one invisible capture as for **G031**. (SLO)

Original hidden capture evacuating a square for a later make. (SUI)

a)

1.a3 ♖xf3-d4 2. ♘xb2-d3+ ♗xd3-b2±

b)

1.c4 ♗xf3-g5 2. ♘b1-d2+ ♗xd2-b1±

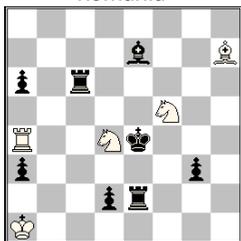
Distant self-blocks by the black pawns. White batteries (with the roles of rook and bishop reciprocally changed) are forming and acting through the mediation of black knights. Square-clearance (annihilation) by the black thematic moves and cross-checks. (Country)

Battery mates in twins. Only one thematic move. A cumbersome position with black-and-white "Tamerlane cell" on diagram. (BLR)

19th-21st place – G017

Vlaicu Crisan

Romania



h#2

(5+8)

Take & Make

2.1...

7.4 points

Orthogonal-diagonal theme. (Country)

A complete diagonal-orthogonal analogy of solutions with two thematic moves in each. However, the black king's thematic moves are contrived. (BLR)

Visually striking trajectory of pieces (including BK) by Take&Make effects. Perfect ODT. (JPN)

Very good economy with perfect ODT. (SLO)

Harmonious ODT in an economic realization. (SUI)

1. ♖g6 ♗xg6-b6 2. ♗xd4-f3 ♘xe7-h4±

1. ♗b4 ♖xb4-f8 2. ♗xf5-e3 ♘xc6-c2±

19th-21st place – G052

Gerard Smits,
Hans Uitenbroek
Netherlands



h#2 (6+10)

Take & Make

2.1...

7.4 points

1. ♖f5+ ♕xf5-f6 2. ♖xb4-d5 exd3-e4#
1. ♖f3 ♕xf6-f5 2. ♖xb3-d4 exf3-e3#

Three thematic moves in both solutions. Take&Make-Albino on the mating moves. (Country)

Three moves in each solution are thematic. Only two of them (king moves) are virtual. Chameleon pawn mates ion adjacent squares. (BLR)

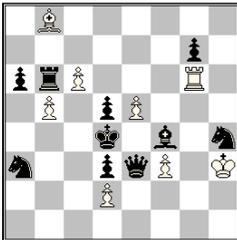
Pseudo-Albino on the mating moves, but something more is desired in B1 and W1 moves. (JPN)

A bit artificial Albino in good position. (SLO)

The best entry with Pseudo-Albino. (SUI)

19th-21st place – G066

Jorma Paavilainen
Finland



h#2 (8+10)

Take & Make

b) ♖e3 → a5

7.4 points

a)
1. ♖xe5-e6+ ♜xe6-g4+ 2. ♖xf3-f4 ♜xf4-d6#
(2. ♖f4? ♜xf4-d6+ 3. ♜xf3-f4)

b)
1. ♖xc6-c7 ♜xc7-a7+ 2. ♖xb5-b6 ♜xb6-c6#
(2. ♖b6? ♜xb6-c6+ 3. ♜xb5-b6)

Thematic captures on W1, B2 and W2 moves. (Country)

Three thematic moves in each twin. Creation and play of white batteries. Antidual choice of thematic moves of the black queen. Radical formation of a twin with a shift of a thematic black piece to the distant square significantly reduces the impression. (BLR)

The try in b) can be also defeated by 2.axb5-b6!(JPN)

A lot of invisible captures, but two separated systems in both solutions. (SLO)

Good tries. (SUI)

Further placement

22nd-23rd place – G062 – S. K. Balasubramanian, India – 7.2 points.

Two thematic moves in each twin. Mates from different directions to the black king on the same square with a pin of black queen. A lot of black technical pieces. (BLR)

Nothing to add to author's comment. Very radical change in twin. (SLO)

Very ambitious ODT. Heavy. (SUI)

22nd-23rd place – G075 – S. K. Balasubramanian, K. Seetharaman, India – 7.2 points.

Two thematic moves in each solution. The choice of antidual mating moves of the white king, which, unfortunately, are virtual. Mates by a royal battery in different directions. In general, a good, harmonious problem. (BLR)

Clever opening of king battery in a mating move with dual-avoidance based on anticipatory line closing. (SLO)

Original idea, realized at gigantic cost. (SUI)

24th place – G090 – Vlaicu Crisan, Romania – 7.0 points.

Three thematic moves in two solutions with an excellent analogy. Light position. Beautiful, harmonious problem. (BLR)

The black „victims“ are very passive. (SUI)

25th place – G044 – Mark Kirtley, United States – 6.8 points.

Three thematic moves in two solutions with an antidual choice of thematic moves of linear black pieces. However, the main (and anti-dual) play is not uniform. (BLR)

Daring attempt to realize 3 thematic reciprocal captures (RBS). Particularly interesting is black capture by RB with the motivation of avoiding Take&Make defences. (JPN)

Reciprocal captures but not very harmonic play. (SLO)

26th-27th place – G046 – Emil Klemanič, Ján Kovalič, Ladislav Salai jr., Slovakia – 6.6 points.

Three thematic moves in each solution. Chameleon knight mates on adjacent squares.

Zilahi with a good analogy of solutions. Thematic moves of the black king are virtual. (BLR)

Nice chameleon echo with Zilahi. (JPN)

26th-27th place – G057 – Menachem Witztum, Evgeni Bourd, Israel – 6.6 points.

Two thematic moves in each solution. Black king moves are virtual. (BLR)

Destruction of both white batteries. Good motivation for B2. (SLO)

ODT with specifically motivated thematic sacrifices (a kind of Umnov). (SUI)

28th place – G059 – Klemen Šivic, Slovenia – 6.3 points.

Two thematic moves in each twin. Pawn echo mates on adjacent squares. The play in the twins is balanced. Only the moves of the black king are virtual. (BLR)

29th place – G024 – Karol Mlynka, Slovakia – 6.2 points.

Two solutions where all moves are condition-specific. Three of the four are thematic. Zilahi with distant self-blocks. In the second solution, two white pawns are not used. (BLR)

Good Zilahi, but the correspondence of B1 moves is not so exact. (JPN)

WPb4 and BRd1 are completely artificial. (SUI)

30th-32nd place – G011 – Waldemar Tura, Poland – 6.0 points.

Two thematic moves in solutions. Zilahi theme. Diagonal-orthogonal analogy of solutions. Everything is clean. Model mates. (BLR)

Each victim of a hidden capture performs a hidden capture in the other solution. (SUI)

30th-32nd place – G060 – Zoltán Laborczi, Hungary – 6.0 points.

All moves in two twins are thematic. The moves of kings are virtual. The play is not uniform. Radical formation of twin by moving white thematic piece to the distant square. (BLR)

The correspondence of W1 moves is not so exact. (JPN)

All moves are invisible, but not very harmonic play. (SLO)

Four(!) black pieces are artificial. (SUI)

30th-32nd place – G087 – Sébastien Luce, Pierre Tritten, Maryan Kerhuel, France – 6.0 points.

Four pairs of thematic moves in two twins. Echo knight mates. (BLR)

Neat presentation of Kniest with monochrome echo (almost). (JPN)

Specific mates, but 5(!) black pieces can easily been saved. (SUI)

33rd-35th place – G049 – Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen, Denmark – 5.8 points.

All moves in the two solutions are thematic. However, three moves of the black king are virtual. The play in the solutions is not balanced. All this reduces the impression. (BLR)

33rd-35th place – G063 – Antanas Vilkauskas, Lithuania – 5.8 points.

Three thematic moves in each solution. The moves of the black king are virtual. Abundance of black technical pawns. (BLR)

33rd-35th place – G086 – Chris Tylor, Great Britain – 5.8 points.

Four thematic moves in two solutions. The play in the solutions is interesting, but not exactly uniform. Subtle third black moves. (BLR)

36th place – G043 – Klemen Šivic, Slovenia – 5.7 points.

Two thematic moves in each twin, but the thematic moves of the black king are virtual. Abundance of black technical figures (4-5 in each solution). (BLR)

Mate by two white pawns is too easy. (JPN)

37th-41st place – G027 – Zoran Gavrilovski, Macedonia – 5.4 points.

A sufficient argument is the already shown example **G027/a** by Tritten. (BUL)

Two thematic moves in each solution with exchange of these moves. A good diagonal-orthogonal analogy. Closing the lines for the black queen in different directions. The construction is similar to the claimed anticipation, however, the play here is different. (BLR)

Elegant ODT in perfect construction. The identical white moves („ABBA“) are no asset but intrinsic to the matrix. (SUI)

37th-41st place – G034 – Dieter Werner, Switzerland – 5.4 points.

Two thematic black moves in twins with exchange. Exchange of white “take&make” moves. Chameleon pawn condition-specific mates. (BLR)

37th-41st place – G036 – Sergey Sagatelyan, Eduard Kuloyan, Armenia – 5.4 points.

Unconventional implementation of Zilahi with the replacement of white bishops with knights at their diagram positions. Two thematic moves. Black play is not fully uniform. (BLR)

37th-41st place – G072 – Mikhail Khramtsevich, Belarus – 5.4 points.

The make part of B1 has to go to the square where the piece serves as victim of the mating move. Quite a lot of bystanders. (SUI)

37th-41st place – G076 – Antanas Vilkauskas, Lithuania – 5.4 points.

All four moves in two twins are condition-specific. Three of them are thematic. However, the moves of the black king are virtual. The play in the twins is not exactly uniform. (BLR)

Seven(!!) artificial pieces. (SUI)

42nd-43rd place – G004 – Jorge Lois, Roberto Osorio, Argentina – 5.2 points.

Two thematic moves in two solutions. Mats with pins of two different black pieces. White pieces "draw" some geometrical shapes with switchback to their initial positions. (BLR)

42nd-43rd place – G026 – Jorge Joaquín Lois, Argentina – 5.2 points.

Two thematic moves in each solution. Zilahi theme with a diagonal-orthogonal analogy. The choice of black play on the first move. Model mates. Anticipation claim is not justified. (BLR)

A sufficient argument is the already shown example **G008/a** by Tritten. (BUL)

44th place – G042 – Sébastien Luce, Pierre Tritten, France – 5.0 points.

Three thematic moves in two solutions in a diverse game. In the first solution two white linear pieces are destroyed, in the second solution - only one. Two white pawns do not play in the first solution. (BLR)

Most of black pieces are only onlookers. (JPN)

BBh5 is completely artificial. (SUI)

45th-48th place – G029 – Gabriele Brunori, Valerio Agostini, Antonio Garofalo, Italy – 4.8 points.

Zilahi with two thematic moves and an excellent analogy of the play in the twins. Rough twinning with a shift of the white thematic piece to the distant square. (BLR)

A sufficient argument is the already shown example **G029/a** by Tritten. (BUL)

45th-48th place – G038 – Göran Wicklund, Sweden – 4.8 points.

Triple-check mates from two white batteries with thematic moves of different white linear pieces. Minimal presentation of the theme. (BLR)

45th-48th place – G064 – Jan Rusinek, Poland – 4.8 points.

Two thematic moves in each twin. Model echo mates on same square. A simple play. White bishop does not play, but controls the necessary squares. (BLR)

45th-48th place – G093 – Göran Wicklund, Sweden – 4.8 points.

Two thematic moves in each solution with battery mates. Two non-playing white pawns. (BLR)

49th place – G012 – Atsuo Hara, Japan – 4.5 points.

A single presentation of theme in two solutions with the elimination of black pieces. (BLR)

50th place – G056 – Ján Dučák, Czech Republic – 4.4 points.

Two thematic moves in each solution. Echo mates by queen promotion with black king on same square. One mate is not model. (BLR)

51st-55th place – G021 – Temur Chkhetiani, Georgia – 4.2 points.

One thematic move and one unused white pawn in each solution. (BLR)

51st-55th place – G039 – Alexander Zidek, Austria – 4.2 points.

Cyclic Zilahi. The play of white and black on the first move in the twins is not exactly uniform. The twin b) is not formed well. (BLR)

51st-55th place – G055 – Zoran Gavrilovski, Macedonia – 4.2 points.

Two thematic moves in each solution. Zilahi with a choice of anti-dual thematic mating moves. Diagonal-orthogonal analogy. (BLR)

51st-55th place – G070 – Zoltán Laborczi, Gábor Tar, Hungary – 4.2 points.

Cyclic Zilahi. Seven thematic moves in three solutions. However, king moves (four) are virtual. The game in the solutions is not uniform. Many non-playing white pawns. There is a partial anticipation (see **G070/a**). (BLR)

BRC4 is artificial. (SU)

51st-55th place – G089 – Mario Parrinello, Italy – 4.2 points.

One thematic move in each twin. Active play of the promoted queen. Cumbersome position. Black Qb5 and Rh6 perform the function of pawns. (BLR)

56th place – G069 – Bosko Miloskeski, Turkey – 4.0 points.

Two thematic moves in each solution. A lot of white non-playing pawns. Non-model mates by promoted white queen. (BLR)

57th place – G092 – Per Grevlund, Denmark – 3.8 points.

All six moves are thematic in just one solution. The second move of the white king is virtual. (BLR)

58th-59th place – G025 – Janne Syväniemi, Finland – 3.6 points.

Three solutions with a heterogeneous general and thematic play. (BLR)

58th-59th place – G048 – Alexey Gasparyan, Armenia – 3.6 points.

All four moves in both twins are condition-specific. Of these, only one move is thematic. Zilahi. Black Rg5 is superfluous in both solutions. (BLR)

60th-63rd place – G005 – Ivo Tominić, Croatia – 3.4 points.

Two thematic moves in each twin. The play is simple, for the black it is not uniform. Pawn mates use the specifics of the given condition. (BLR)

60th-63rd place – G009 – Pavel Kameník, Czech Republic – 3.4 points.

Exchange of black pieces playing to squares h6 and g5. Exchange of ordinary and thematic “take&make” moves of white pieces. However, the theme is shown minimally. (BLR)

60th-63rd place – G030 – Temur Chkhetiani, Georgia – 3.4 points.

One thematic move in each solution with the thematic motive already known. (BLR)

A sufficient argument is the already shown example G029/a by Tritten. (BUL)

60th-63rd place – G074 – Klaus Wenda, Austria – 3.4 points.

Four twins with single thematic move in each and antidual choice. However, the play in the twins, including thematic, is chaotic. (BLR)

64th-65th place – G007 – Umut Sayman, Turkey – 2.8 points.

Exchange of thematic black moves with annihilation of white pawns. Simple linear mates. (BLR)

64th-65th place – G040 – Fernand Joseph, Belgium – 2.8 points.

The play in twins is too different. As a result, a good set of thematic moves is not interesting. (BLR)

66th place – G050 – Emmanuel Manolas, Greece – 2.6 points.

The play in two solutions, including thematic, is completely heterogeneous. (BLR)

67th place – G019 – José Antonio Lopez Parcerisa, Spain – 2.4 points.

One thematic move in two solutions. At the same time, in the second solution, the white king's thematic move is virtual. And more importantly, white rook is not used in the first solution. (BLR)

68th place – G022 – Emmanuel Manolas, Greece – 2.2 points.

One solution with all four thematic moves. The black king's thematic move is virtual. The white pawn e4 could have been black. (BLR)

69th place – G053 – José Antonio Lopez Parcerisa, Spain – 2.0 points.

One thematic move in each solution. Heterogeneous play. White rook is not used in the first solution. (BLR)

The following compositions are not considered published and are at the disposal of their authors: G001, G002, G003, G006, G008, G010, G013, G015, G016, G018, G028, G032, G035, G045, G051, G054, G058, G061, G071, G073, G083, G084, G085, G091, G094, G095.

Section G: Fairies – Table

Place	No	Country	BLR	BUL	JPN	SLO	SUI	Points
1	088	ISR	3.4	1.8	3.2	3.6	3.4	10.0
2	041	SRB	1.6	3.4	3.0	3.2	3.4	9.6
3	079	UKR	2.8	3.2	2.2	3.4	3.2	9.2
4	065	GER	2.4	1.4	3.2	3.6	3.2	8.8
	078	UKR	2.4	0.8	3.0	3.8	3.4	8.8
6	080	RUS	2.8	3.2	2.6	3.4	1.8	8.6
7	082	USA	3.4	1.0	2.0	3.4	3.0	8.4
8	014	UKR	2.2	2.0	3.6	3.2	2.8	8.2
	020	BEL	2.6	3.0	2.6	2.4	3.4	8.2
	067	GER	2.8	0.8	3.6	3.0	2.4	8.2
	068	SRB	1.8	3.0	2.0	3.6	3.2	8.2
12	031	SUI	2.4	0.6	3.6	3.0		8.1
	033	BLR		2.0	2.8	2.6	3.2	8.1
14	081	RUS	2.2	2.6	2.6	3.0	2.8	8.0
15	077	SRB	2.0	2.0	3.0	3.4	2.8	7.8
16	023	GBR	2.2	2.8	3.8	1.8	2.6	7.6
	037	NED	2.0	1.0	2.4	3.2	3.2	7.6
	047	CRO	1.4	0.8	3.2	3.0	3.6	7.6
19	017	ROU	1.8	0.8	3.2	2.6	3.0	7.4
	052	NED	1.2	2.0	3.2	2.6	2.8	7.4
	066	FIN	2.2	1.4	2.6	2.6	3.2	7.4
22	062	IND	2.2	2.4	2.0	2.8	2.6	7.2
	075	IND	2.8	0.8	1.8	3.6	2.6	7.2
-	074	RUS	2.0	0.6	2.4	2.8	3.8	7.2
24	090	ROU	3.8	2.0	2.4	2.0	2.6	7.0
25	044	USA	1.8	2.0	3.2	2.8	2.0	6.8
26	046	SVK	2.2	2.0	2.6	2.4	1.0	6.6
	057	ISR	1.6	1.4	2.4	2.6	3.2	6.6
-	035	IND	2.6	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.6	6.6
-	054	GER	2.2	0.8	2.4	3.2	1.8	6.4
28	059	SLO	2.0	1.6	2.2		2.2	6.3
29	024	SVK	2.8	2.2	2.6	1.4	1.2	6.2
30	011	POL	2.0	0.8	2.0	2.0	2.8	6.0
	060	HUN	1.4	2.0	2.6	2.6	1.0	6.0
	087	FRA	3.0	1.2	3.0	1.8	1.2	6.0
33	049	DEN	2.0	1.8	2.2	2.0	1.0	5.8
	063	LTU	1.8	1.4	2.2	2.4	1.8	5.8
	086	GBR	3.4	1.8	1.8	2.2	1.6	5.8
-	085	ISR	2.0	0.8	2.2	1.6	2.8	5.8
36	043	SLO	1.2	1.4	2.6		2.4	5.7
-	028	ROU	1.8	0.8	2.0	1.8	4.0	5.6
37	027	MKD	2.0	0.6	1.0	2.4	3.2	5.4
	034	SUI	1.8	1.0	1.8	2.4		5.4
	036	ARM	2.0	1.2	2.4	1.8	1.6	5.4
	072	BLR		0.6	1.6	2.0	3.0	5.4
	076	LTU	1.8	1.8	2.0	1.8	1.0	5.4

-	051	SVK	1.4	2.0	2.4	2.0	1.2	5.4
42	004	ARG	2.0	1.8	1.4	1.4	2.2	5.2
	026	ARG	2.2	0.6	0.8	2.2	2.4	5.2
-	015	GBR	1.0	1.4	2.0	1.8	2.4	5.2
44	042	FRA	1.6	1.4	3.0	2.0	1.0	5.0
45	029	ITA	1.4	0.6	1.8	2.2	1.6	4.8
	038	SWE	1.6	0.8	1.4	2.2	1.8	4.8
	064	POL	1.6	1.0	1.6	1.6	2.0	4.8
	093	SWE	2.4	1.4	1.6	1.8	1.4	4.8
49	012	JPN	1.4	0.6		1.6	2.2	4.5
-	084	BLR	-	0.8	0.8	2.2	3.0	4.5
50	056	CZE	1.4	1.0	1.6	1.6	1.4	4.4
-	061	FRA	1.8	0.0	1.0	1.6	2.4	4.4
51	021	GEO	1.0	0.8	1.4	1.8	1.8	4.2
	039	AUT	2.2	0.6	1.4	1.8	1.0	4.2
	055	MKD	2.0	1.0	1.8	1.4	1.0	4.2
	070	HUN	1.6	0.6	1.4	1.6	1.2	4.2
	089	ITA	1.8	0.8	1.4	1.6	1.2	4.2
-	010	SLI	1.8	0.6	1.2	1.6	-	4.2
-	095	USA	1.6	1.2	1.6	1.4	1.2	4.2
56	069	TUR	1.4	1.8	1.6	1.0	0.8	4.0
-	045	MKD	1.4	0.6	1.2	2.4	1.4	4.0
57	092	DEN	1.6	0.8	1.2	1.2	1.4	3.8
-	094	SWE	1.8	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.2	3.8
58	025	FIN	0.8	0.8	1.4	1.4	1.8	3.6
	048	ARM	1.6	0.6	1.0	1.6	1.0	3.6
-	013	FIN	1.6	1.0	1.2	1.0	1.4	3.6
-	091	ITA	1.4	0.8	1.4	0.6	1.6	3.6
60	005	CRO	1.0	1.0	1.4	1.6	0.8	3.4
	009	CZE	1.6	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.4	3.4
	030	GEO	0.8	0.0	1.0	1.6	1.8	3.4
	074	AUT	0.4	0.6	1.4	1.6	1.4	3.4
-	018	AUT	1.6	0.6	1.2	1.2	1.0	3.4
-	058	LTU	1.2	0.8	1.4	1.0	1.0	3.2
-	016	HUN	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.4	3.0
64	007	TUR	1.6	0.8	1.2	0.8	0.8	2.8
	040	BEL	0.8	0.6	1.4	1.0	1.0	2.8
-	003	GEO	1.0	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.0	2.8
66	050	GRE	1.0	0.6	1.2	0.8	0.8	2.6
-	032	ARM	0.4	0.6	1.0	1.8	1.0	2.6
67	019	ESP	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.8	2.4
-	006	DEN	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.8	0.6	2.4
-	008	SL0	0.4	0.6	1.0	-	3.0	2.4
68	022	GRE	0.6	0.6	1.4	1.0	0.6	2.2
-	002	CZE	0.6	0.6	1.2	0.8	0.8	2.2
69	053	ESP	0.4	0.6	1.2	1.0	0.4	2.0
-	073	ESP	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.6	2.0
-	083	POL	0.0	0.6	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
-	001	CRO	0.6	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0

SECTION H: RETROS

Judging countries

Finland, France, Germany, Japan, USA (Sweden as reserve)

Theme: In an orthodox proof game several pieces exchange their places.

In position **A** in the course of proof game a number of pieces occupy a set of squares. Later in position **B** the same pieces occupy the same squares, but every piece stands on another square. It is allowed to have exchange between pieces of any color and any nature, direct or cyclic.

Position **A** may be an initial game array, though this is not required. Position **B** may be a final position of a proof game, but this is also not required. It is allowed to have additional promoted pieces in diagram position. The promoted piece is considered a unit different from original pawn.

General

Comments marked (MK) are written by Mark Kirtley, United States.

1st place – H069

Andrey Frolkin,
Aleksandr Semenکو
Ukraine



PG 23.0 (14+14)
10.0 points

A 1.a4 f5 2.a5 f4 3. ♖a4 f3 4. ♜e4 fxe2 5.f4 e5 6.f5 ♘b4 7.f6 d6 8.f7+ ♙e7 9.f8 ♚ ♙h3 10.g4 c5 11. ♙g2 c4 12. ♜f1 c3 13. ♙f2 e1 ♜ 14. ♜f3 cxd2 15. ♘e2 d1 ♜ **B** 16. ♘h6 ♜e8 17. ♘c1 ♜d2+ 18. ♜e2 ♜d1 19. ♜e3 ♜e1+ **C** 20. ♙f3 ♜g3+ 21.hxg3 ♜d4 22. ♜h2 ♜f4+ 23.gxf4 ♙d8 **D**

Hidden theme implementation: black pawns promote to Rook on e1 and to Queen on d1, then these promoted pieces exchange their places before they are captured (Ceriani-Frolkin). Exchange of places by two Ceriani-Frolkin pieces has never been shown in a proofgame before. Impostor pawn on f4 (from h2!) captures both thematic Ceriani-Frolkin pieces. Capture of a Ceriani-Frolkin piece (B ♜) on a square visited by the pawn that later promoted to that piece. (Country)

An amazing construction. (FIN)

Two Ceriani-Frolkin pieces exchanged on promotion square. A major achievement. (FRA)

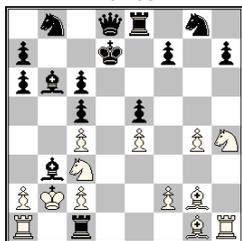
Interchange of two promotees, which disappear afterwards by captures of an impostor pawn. This is an extraordinary and difficult-to-motivate content and, thus, deserves a high distinction despite the visible promotee Rf1, which is placed behind the impostor pawn. But how to motivate it in a different way? The interchange of black king and queen is not so important, but very thematic. (GER)

The hidden theme with the promotees is not easily seen through. A pleasant surprise for solvers. (JPN)

Switching of promoted units on their promotion squares before they move on to vanish. (MK)

2nd place – H074

Nicolas Dupont
France



PG 25.0 (13+15)
9.9 points

A 1.e4 ♖c6 2.♔e2 ♜b8 3.♗a6 bxa6 4.♞f3 ♜b3 5.♞h4 ♜c3 6.b4 e5 7.b5 ♜c5 8.b6 ♞ce7 9.b7 ♜b6 10.b8 ♞c5 11.♞c6 dxc6 12.dxc3 ♜e6 13.♞f4 ♜b3 14.c4 ♞f6 15.♞c3 ♞d7 16.0-0-0 g5 17.♞d3 g4 18.♞h3 g3 19.♞b2 gxh2 20.g4 ♞b8 21.♞g2 ♞d7 22.♜a1 h1 ♜ 23.♞h2 ♜c1 24.♞g1 ♜e8 25.♞h1 ♞g8 B

Two difficult themes are well combined. (FIN)

It is clear that Rh1 and the black knights have moved. However, the interchange of both pairs is not obvious at all. Capture-free interchanges of pieces of the same type and color are always interesting and there are only very few examples with two independent pairs. Thus, this is a very good proof game. The claimed predecessor shows some elements, but the collection of the thematic pieces is new and very intricate. (GER)

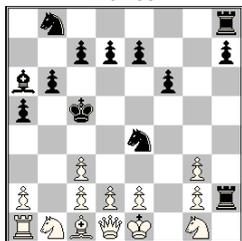
White rooks and black knights exchanged their places respectively. Are there any predecessors? (JPN)

This impressive achievement might be compared with P1080580, but the two are organically distinct. (MK)

Lois and Osorio have achieved the interchange of two knights in similar fashion, a few times before. The echoed switch of the rooks suits the thematic requirements perfectly. The flow of the solution is breathtaking. (USA)

3rd-5th place – H052

Michel Caillaud
France



PG 19.5 (13+13)
9.6 points

A 1.f4 ♞f6 2.f5 ♞e4 3.f6 a5 4.fxg7 ♜xg7 5.♞f3 ♜c3 6.bxc3 ♜a6 7.♞a3 ♜f6 8.♔c1 b6 9.♞d1 ♞a6 10.♞e1 ♜xf1 11.♞c5 ♜xh1 12.♞g1 B f6 13.♞f3 ♞f7 14.♞e1 ♜g8 15.♔d1 ♜g3+ 16.hxg3 ♞h2 17.♞c5 ♞e6 18.♞a3 ♞d5 19.♞c1 ♞c5 20.♞g1 C

A difficult theme and a clear realization. (FIN)

This seems to be the first fourfold cyclic Lois, which is a great technical achievement. The motivation of the shielding of the white king from a check on f1 is well-known. However, the path of the black rook via h1 with an additional shield on g1 is beautiful and original. (GER)

The basic scheme seems not new, but cleverly enhanced. (JPN)

Clever lengthening of the loop idea that can be found in P1257231. (MK)

Several examples have showed a 3-piece shift and back, but **H052** is the first to achieve a 4 piece cycle. (USA)

3rd-5th place – H071
Dirk Borst
Netherlands



PG 23.5 (15+14)
9.6 points

A 1. ♖f3 b5 2. ♗e5 b4 3. ♘xd7 b3 4. ♘c5 ♔d4 5. ♗e6 ♖d7 6. h4 ♖c6
7. ♖h3 ♗b5 8. ♖f3 ♗a4 9. ♖f6 gxf6 10. d3 ♗h6 11. ♘g7 ♗e6
12. ♔d2 B ♘d7 13. ♗d1 C ♖b8 14. ♔e1 D ♗d2 15. ♘a3 ♗b4
16. ♗h6 ♔c3 17. bxc3 b2 18. ♗d2 E b1 ♔ 19. ♔d1 F ♔c1+ 20. ♗e1 G
♔f4 21. ♔d2 H ♖b5 22. ♗d1 I ♖e5 23. ♔e1 J ♖e3 24. ♗d2 K

Phoenix theme. (Country)

The last move 24.Kd2 is disturbing. (FIN)

One a half Lois. The magic roundabout. (FRA)

As in **H055** a threefold interchange of white king and queen. The additional Kd2 shows this theme also on the squares d2 and e1. Compared to **H055** the final position of **H071** looks more aesthetical, since the black pieces left the first two rows after their invasion. (GER)

Repeated exchanges of WK & WQ. The motivation is rather simple, but well-concealed. (JPN)

A Lois and a half. (MK)

The long introduction sets the scene for a royal feast in the triangle d1-d2-e1. Almost every white move on the second half of the game is thematic. (USA)

3rd-5th place – H076
Rustam Ubaidullaev
Russia



PG 25.5 (14+16)
9.6 points

A 1.f3 d5 2. ♖f2 d4 3. ♔e1 d3 4. ♖e3 ♗h3 5. ♔g3 ♘d7 6. ♔g6 hxc6
7.g4 ♗g2 8.b3 ♖h3 B 9. ♖a3 ♖g3 C 10. ♗d6 ♗h3 11. ♘a3 ♖g2 D
12. ♖b1 ♖f2 13. ♗g2 ♖f1 E 14. ♖b2 ♖a1 15. ♖b1 exd6 16. ♖f1 F
♖e7 17. ♖f2 ♖f6 18. ♗f1 ♖g5 19. ♖g2 G ♖f6 20. ♖g3 H ♗g2
21. ♖h3 I ♗e7 22. ♖h8 J ♘h6 23. ♖b8 b6 24. ♖b7 ♖h8 25. ♖b8
♗d8 26. ♖a8 K

After successive exchanges ♖a1/♖h8, ♖h8/♖a8, cyclic exchange ♖a1/♖h8/♖a8 is obtained. Also, during solution there are multiple simple and cyclic exchanges with the participation of ♖a1, ♖h8, ♗f1 and ♗c8. Altogether there are 16 occurrences of theme with permutations of two, three or four pieces. (Country)

The best and more original problem in the “task zone”. (FRA)

Very nice shunting of the two rooks on a narrow path with a nice echo Rb2/Rb7. This leads to many interchanges. The valve Bg2 fits very well. (GER)

Successive and multiple exchanges. The mechanism of southeast corner is impressive. (JPN)

A masterpiece of extensive journeys in opposite directions, with two polite swinging doors. (MK)

6th place – H055

Mark Kirtley
United States



PG 19.5 (13+16)

9.3 points

A 1.e4 b6 2.e5 ♘a6 3.e6 dxe6 4.♘c4 ♖d3 5.♖e2 ♘d7 6.♘d1 ♘d6
7.♖e1 B ♖f1 8.♘h3 ♖g1 9.♘b3 ♘f1 10.♖e2 ♘a6 11.♘e1 ♖d8
12.♖d1 C ♘e5 13.a4 ♖d4 14.a5 ♖a4 15.♘c3 ♖xa1 16.♘a2 ♖xc1
17.c3 ♖c2 18.♖e2+ ♘f6 19.♘d1 b5 20.♖e1 D

Two (or is it one and half?) Lois themes, that's very good. (FRA)

A Lois of king and queen is shown several times. Here we see a third interchange of these two pieces. Without the help of a promoted pawn this is very difficult and deserves a great honor. Only the capture Rxa1 detracts a little. (GER)

7th place – H065

Roberto Osorio, Jorge Lois
Argentina



♠2 (10+13)

9.2 points

1.b4 f5 2.♘b2 f4 3.♘d4 f3 4.♘c3 fxe2 5.f4 h5 6.♘f2 e1 ♖ 7.♘c4
♖h6 8.♖xh5 ♖g6 9.♘f3 ♖b1 10.♖e1 ♖b3 11.axb3 b6 12.♖a5
♘b7 13.♖g5 ♘d5 14.f5 ♘f7 A 15.♖e6 ♖f6 16.♘e3 ♘g6 17.♘e4
♖f7 B 18.♘f2 ♘h7 19.♖h6 ♘g6 20.♘e6 ♖f6 21.♘d5 ♘f7 22.c4
♖g6 C

Come-and-go Platzwechsel (Lois Theme) by B ♖ & B ♘ on the pinning line. The feature is shown by a continuous eight moves sequence that closes the game. Probably the first mono-color rendition on squares other than home-squares. B ♖ Ceriani-Frolkin. (Country)

Lois theme achieved outside original squares. A difficult idea managed without captures. Very good. (FRA)

Capture-free Lois settings are always remarkable. The motivation is the well-hidden path of the white rook to h6, which even requires an additional switchback of the black bishop. The near-homebase of the remaining black army is nice and the additional Ceriani-Frolkin rook adds some value. (GER)

Doubled monocolour exchange. The preparatory moves are well organized. (JPN)

No time is wasted in properly crowding the thematic area of the board, and no captures are made by the thematic bishop and rook, not even before they perform the theme. Bravo! (MK)

8th-9th place – H066

Dmitrij Baibikov
Israel



PG 22.5 (11+12)

8.4 points

Phoenix, AUW. (Country)

Cyclic exchange of three promoted pieces, with non -thematic bonuses (AUW, phoenix). (FRA)

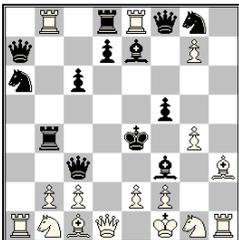
Again a threefold interchange of phoenix pieces. As in **H059** the path of the black king determines the types of the promotions. Three adjacent squares are a little nicer and perhaps more difficult to achieve. The additional black promotion adds an additional phoenix and completes the AUW, which results in a slightly higher ranking compared to **H059**. (GER)

Terrific paradox: Why not choose the correct promotions in the first place? Answer: to accommodate the BK moves. (MK)

1.e4 h5 2.♖g4 hxg4 3.b4 g3 4.b5 gxh2 5.b6 hxg1 ♗ 6.bxa7 ♖xh1
7.axb8 ♜ ♜a5 8.a4 ♜ah5 9.a5 g5 10.a6 ♙g7 11.a7 ♙e5 12.♙a6
bxa6 13.d4 ♙b7 14.d5 ♙c6 15.d6 ♙a4 16.dxc7 ♙d6 17.c8 ♙ ♖b6
18.a8 ♖ A ♖e3+ 19.fxe3 ♙d8 20.♙b7+ ♙c7 21.♖c8+ ♙b6
22.♖b8 ♙a5 23.♙a8 B

8th-9th place – H080

Silvio Baier
Germany



PG 27.5 (16+13)

8.4 points

Exchanges of original rooks and promoted rooks. Original and not easy. (FRA)

Two pairs of white rooks are exchanged. (JPN)

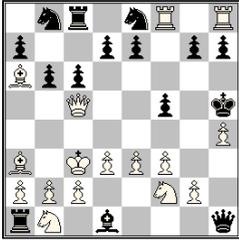
Two pairs of white rooks change places for purely clearance reasons. Leaving the two promoted black queens uncaptured refreshingly reduces solver noise in a blockbuster signal. (MK)

Both parts of the thematic content are familiar, but the combination is powerful, despite the extra-set queens. (USA)

A 1.h4 f5 2.h5 ♙f7 3.h6 ♙f6 4.hxg7 h5 5.♜h3 h4 6.♜b3 h3 7.a4 h2
8.a5 h1 ♖ 9.♜a4 ♖h3 10.♜h4 ♖c3 11.♜h1 ♜h4 12.a6 ♜b4
13.axb7 a5 14.g4 a4 15.♙h3 a3 16.♙f1 a2 17.d4 a1 ♖ 18.d5 ♖a7
19.d6 ♗a6 20.b8 ♜ ♙b7 21.dxe7 ♙f3 22.e8 ♜ B c6 23.♜e5 ♙e7
24.♜eb5 ♖f8 25.♜e8 ♜d8 26.♜b8 ♙e5 27.♜a3 ♙e4 28.♜a1 C

10th place – H081

Jorge Lois, Roberto Osorio
Argentina



PG 28.5 (16+15)
8.2 points

A 1.e3 b6 2.♖h5 ♜b7 3.♗c5 f5 4.h4 ♘f7 5.♗h3 B ♜g6 6.♗g3+ C ♘h5 7.♗g6 D ♘f3 8.♗f6 E ♘c6 9.♗xf8 F ♘f6 10.♗e8! G ♗f8 H 11.♘a6 ♗f7 12.♗h8 ♘e8 13.d3 ♗f6 I 14.♘d2 ♗g6 J 15.♘b4 ♗g3 K 16.♘d2 ♗h3 L 17.♘c3 ♗h1 M 18.♘h3 ♗e1! 19.♘d2 ♗e2 20.♗h1 ♗e1 21.♘a3 ♗a1 N 22.♘b1 ♘d1 23.f3 ♗c8 24.♘f2 ♘b8 25.♗h3 O c6 26.♗g3 P ♗c7 27.♗g6 Q ♗h2 28.♗f6 R ♗h1 29.♗ff8 S

Multiple exchanges (PW) between W ♗♗ and B ♗ from h8. White knight & black knight switchbacks. (Country)

Slightly less “intense” than **H076** but very similar anyways. (FRA)

Similar to **H076** in concept and more or less the same comments fit. The switchbacks of Sb1 and Sb8 are an adequate replacement for Rb2/Rb7 in **H076**. So the same rating is given. (GER)

Highly concentrated thematic play between two white and one black rook bypassing each other along a narrow path. (USA)

11th place – H056

Andrey Frolikin
Ukraine



PG 20.0 (14+13)
8.0 points

A 1.e4 d6 2.e5 ♗d7 3.e6 ♘d8 4.exf7 ♗e8 B 5.fxe8 ♘a5 6.♘h5 g6 7.♘e2 ♘g7 8.♘f3 ♘c3 9.dxc3 a4 10.♘d2 a3 11.♘e1 axb2 12.♘d2 b1 ♗ 13.♘e2 ♗b5 14.♗b1 ♗e8 C 15.♗b5 ♘d7 16.♗a1 ♘c6+ 17.♘g4 ♘d7 18.♘f3 ♗d8 19.♘e2 ♘e8 D 20.♗f1 gxh5+

Moving counterclockwise in the d8-d7-e8 triangle, the black king exchanges places first with the original black queen and then with a promoted one. In the diagram position nothing hints at the previous black king-and-queen ‘waltzing’. (Country)

Original idea. (FRA)

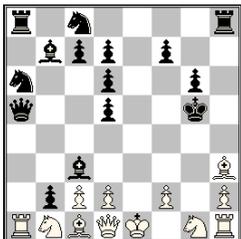
The black king exchanges places with two different(!) queens. (JPN)

The most imaginative and entertaining problem of the set! (MK)

High marks for originality, even though the thematic content is less intensive than in other top ranked entries. (USA)

12th-13th place – H067

Silvio Baier
Germany



PG 23.0 (12+15)

7.5 points

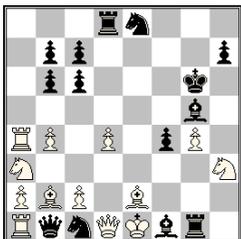
Ceriani-Frolkin (♔♚♛). (Country)

The three Ceriani-Frolkin queens overshadow the thematic content. (FRA)

Exchanging black rooks motivated by white promotions and the promotees are sacrificed. A convincing story. (JPN)

12th-13th place – H068

Unto Heinonen
Finland



PG 23.0 (13+14)

7.5 points

Combined with double Ceriani-Frolkin theme. (Country)

A 9-move cyclic exchange in Umnov form, without pawn moves. (FRA)

8-fold consecutive follow-my-leader. Two Ceriani-Frolkins are nice plus. (JPN)

A smooth 8-piece loop in consecutive moves, complimented by two Ceriani-Frolkin promotions. (USA)

14th-15th place – H031

Marek Kolčák
Slovakia



PG 15.5 (14+14)

7.2 points

Switchback of ♔e1, ♕f1, ♖g1, ♗h1. Hidden castling (castling paradox). (Country)

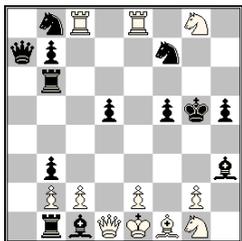
The double exchange king/rook has already been done, with or without the hidden castling. Good economy though. (FRA)

Beautiful K/R Lois, with no captures in thematic moves. (MK)

A 1. ♖c3 g5 2. ♗d5 g4 3. ♗xe7 g3 4. ♖c6 dxc6 5. ♗f3 ♕h3 6. gxh3
 ♗e7 7. ♕g2 ♗g8 8. 0-0 gxf2+ 9. ♕h1 ♗g3 10. ♗e1 B f1 ♗ 11. ♕g1
 ♗e3 12. ♕f2 ♗d4 13. ♗h1 ♗g4+ 14. ♕e1 C ♗f2 15. ♗g1 ♗f3
 16. ♕f1

14th-15th place – H059

Dmitrij Baibikov
Israel



PG 21.0 (11+13)

7.2 points

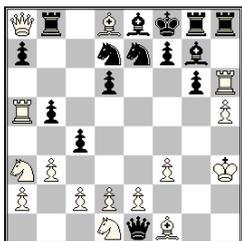
Phoenix, echo-excelsior's, white homebase for unthematic pieces. (Country)

Nice cyclic exchanges of three phoenix pieces on promotion squares. (FRA)

A threefold cyclic interchange of phoenix pieces. This is done without the typical Bristol maneuvers. Instead the motivation is much deeper: the position of the black king determines the types of the promotion. If white Rh1 would be captured on its home square, the harmony would be completed. The capture Bxc1 seems to be avoidable and permits an even higher rating. (GER)

1.h4 a5 2. ♗h3 a4 3. ♗b3 axb3 4.d4 ♗xa2 5.d5 ♗xa1 6.d6 ♗xb1
 7.dxc7 d5 8.h5 ♕h3 9.c8 ♗ ♗b6 10.h6 ♗a7 11.hxg7 h5 12.f4 ♗h6
 13.f5 ♗b6 14.f6 ♗h6 15.fxg7 f5 16.g8 ♗ ♗f7 17.e8 ♗ A ♕f6
 18. ♗e7 ♗f7 19. ♗c8 ♕h6 20. ♗ge8 ♕xc1 21. ♗g8+ B ♕g5

16th place – H075
 Göran Wicklund
 Sweden



PG 25.0 (15+15)
 7.0 points

Another “quantitative” problem. (FRA)

15-fold cyclic position change. The longest achievement in the entries. (JPN)

1.b3 h5 2.♙a3 h4 3.♙xe7 h3 4.♘a3 hxg2 5.h4 d6 6.♘h3 g1 ♖7.h5
 ♗g6 8.♗g1 ♗gh6 9.♗g6 A ♙d7 B 10.♙g2 ♗c8 11.♙d8 ♘e7
 12.♙f1 ♗g8 13.♙g1 ♗hh8 14.♗h6 g6 15.♙h2 ♙g7 16.♗h1 ♙f8
 17.♗g1 ♙e8 C 18.♙f1 ♘d7 19.♗g5 ♗b8 20.♗a5 b5 21.♗a8 c5
 22.f3 c4 23.♘f2 ♗c5 24.♘d1 ♗f2+ 25.♙h3 ♗e1 D

17th-19th place – H030
 Mikhail Khramtsevich
 Belarus



PG 15.0 (15+15)
 6.8 points

First rendering of a complete cycle (three pieces of three squares) with pieces of same colour. Only other known example is Frolkin & Prentos, 2nd prize, Lois-60 Jubilee, but with promoted piece. (FRA)

Three black units elegantly cycle twice, based on clearance and check-parrying motivations. (MK)

1.h4 f6 2.h5 ♙f7 A 3.h6 ♗e8 4.hxg7 ♘h6 5.g8 ♘g7 6.e3 ♘f7
 7.♘h6 ♗g8 8.♗g4+ ♙h8 B 9.♗a4 ♗g7 10.♘g4 ♙g8 11.♘c3
 ♘h8 12.♙c4+ ♗f7 13.♙b3 ♗c4 14.♘d5 ♗f7 C 15.♘b6 axb6

17th-19th place – H039
 Rustam Ubaidullaev
 Russia

1.d4 ♘h6 2.♙xh6 d5 3.e3 ♘f5 4.♖h5 ♘xc2 5.♙d3 g5 6.♗e2 g4
 7.O-O g3 8.♗h1 gxf2 9.♖g1 f1 ♗ 10.g4 ♗d2 11.♖g3 ♗b3 12.♗d2
 e6 13.♖c1 **A** ♙a3 14.♙f8 h6 15.♙h7 ♙d3 16.♖c2 ♗c1 17.b3
 ♙b2 **B**



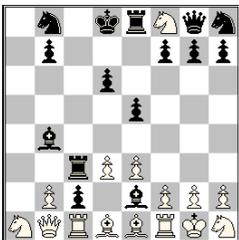
PG 17.0 (14+15)
 6.8 points

Eight-piece cycle in Umnov form, although the pawns being involved lessen the achievement. (FRA)

A focused and economical 8-piece loop in consecutive moves. (USA)

17th-19th place – H072
 Göran Wicklund
 Sweden

A 1.e3 e5 2.♗e2 **B** ♙b4 3.♗g3 d6 4.♙e2 ♙f5 5.O-O ♙xc2 6.♗h1 **C**
 ♙d3 7.♖c2 a5 8.♙d1 ♙e2 **D** 9.d3 a4 10.♙d2 a3 11.♗xa3 c5
 12.♖c1 c4 13.♖b1 c3 14.♗c2 **E** ♖a3 15.♗a1 c2 16.♙e1 ♖c3 17.a4
 ♗e7 18.a5 ♗g6 19.a6 ♖e7 20.a7 ♗d8 21.a8 ♗ 22.♗b6 ♖f8
 23.♗d7 ♖g8 24.♗f8 ♗h8 **F**



PG 24.0 (15+15)
 6.8 points

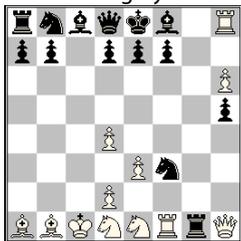
An 8-cycle on the 1st rank + a 4-cycle on the 8th rank. (Country)

20 exchanges is a lot. (FRA)

Twelve officers interchanging on home squares is more than for any other problem in this tourney, and apparently, for any problem in the PDB. (MK)

20th-21st place – H061

Zoltán Laborczi,
János Mikitovics
Hungary



PG 21.0 (12+14)

6.6 points

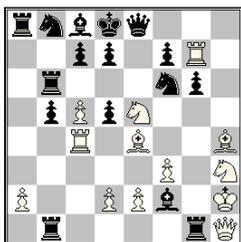
8-fold cyclic exchange extended by an additional exchange to a 9-fold cycle. White back rank permutation with pieces lexicographically sorted by their English names. Ceriani-Frolkin (5...b1♙, 9.cx♙d3). Anticipated Phoenix (13...f1♗, 19.gx♗h6). Tempo move (15...h6). 2/3 Valladao, where the e.p. capture is impossible because of a previous tempo move, with a similar capture later. Long castling. (Country)

The 8-cycle permutation is achieved without captures by thematic pieces or promotions. The extra exchange adds more quantity than quality. Note that the pieces are NOT sorted in alphabetical order. (FRA)

A 1.e3 c5 2.♖h5 c4 3.♗f3 c3 4.♖g1 cxb2 5.♗c3 b1♙ 6.♙b2 ♙xa2 7.0-0-0 ♙c4 8.♙a1 ♙d3 9.cxd3 g5 10.d4 g4 11.♙d3 g3 12.♙b1 gxf2 13.g4 f1♗ 14.g5 ♗xh2 15.♖df1 h6 16.♗e1 ♗f3 17.♖h1 h5 18.♗d1 B ♗h6 19.gxh6 ♖h7 20.♖g8 ♖g7 21.♖h8 ♖g1 C

20th-21st place – H077

Paul Răican
Romania



PG 26.0 (13+16)

6.6 points

A difficult theme and a fluent realization. (FIN)

Exchanging three rooks is not new. The QK switch adds little content. (FRA)

A 1.♗a3 h5 2.♗c4 h4 3.♗e5 h3 4.c4 hxg2 5.h4 ♖h6 6.h5 ♖b6 7.h6 a5 8.h7 a4 9. h8 ♙ a3 10.♖h7 axb2 11.♗h3 b1♖ 12.♙a3 g1♖ B 13.♙d6 ♖g6 14.♙g2 exd6 15.♗f1 d5 16.♗g1 ♙c5 17.♗h2 ♖e7 18.♖h1 ♖g1 19.♖c1 ♖bb1 20.♙e4 b5 21.f3 ♙f2 22.c5 ♖b6 C 23.♖c4 g6 24.♙f6 ♗d8 25.♙h4 ♗f6 26.♖g7 ♖e8 D

Further placement

22nd place – H054 – Mark Kirtley, United States – 6.3 points.

Eight-fold cycle on original squares. The impostor knight adds a touch of novelty. Black switch of queen and king is a little plus. (FRA)

23rd place – H032 – Zoltán Laborczi, Hungary – 6.2 points.

Four exchanges on original squares. The rest of the content adds few value if any. (FRA)

24th place – H073 – Per Olin, Unto Heinonen, Finland – 6.0 points.

The mate by thematic pieces adds a touch a wit. (FRA)

25th place – H057 – Mario Parrinello, Italy – 5.8 points.

Basic. (FRA)

26th-30th place – H015 – Mario Parrinello, Italy – 5.6 points.

Double exchange. (FRA)

26th-30th place – H028 – Radovan Tomašević, Serbia – 5.6 points.

Four switchings plus Pronkin. (FRA)

26th-30th place – H034 – Mikhail Khramtsevich, Belarus – 5.6 points.

Ten-fold cycle. (FRA)

26th-30th place – H037 – Ashot Egyazaryan, Armenia – 5.6 points.

26th-30th place – H044 – Stephen Taylor, Great Britain – 5.6 points.

Four exchanges on original squares. (FRA)

31st-32nd place – H047 – Peter van den Heuvel, Netherlands – 5.4 points.

31st-32nd place – H070 – Daniel Novomeský, Slovakia – 5.4 points.

Strong thematic content. There is somewhat more quantity than quality. (FRA)

33rd place – H036 – Stephen Taylor, Great Britain – 5.2 points.

34th-36th place – H014 – Pavel Kameník, Czech Republic – 4.8 points.

34th-36th place – H049 – Vidmantas Satkus, Lithuania – 4.8 points.

Elementary, and the exchanges of both queen and king are not new. (FRA)

34th-36th place – H064 – Ivan Denkovski, Macedonia – 4.8 points.

37th place – H027 – Joaquim Crusats, Spain – 4.6 points.

38th-41st place – H010 – Vidmantas Satkus, Lithuania – 4.4 points.

Fine cyclic exchange of six units, but ten exchanges have already been achieved. (FRA)

38th-41st place – H026 – Alexander Zidek, Austria – 4.4 points.

38th-41st place – H045 – Klemen Šivic, Slovenia – 4.4 points.

It is only a partial anticipation, yet this diminishes the value of the achievement. (FRA)

38th-41st place – H051 – Radovan Tomašević, Serbia – 4.4 points.

Lots of exchanges, but it looks rather “automatic”. (FRA)

42nd place – H029 – Klemen Šivic, Slovenia – 4.2 points.

Not very original. The intermediate exchanges do not add much. (FRA)

43rd-45th place – H021 – Sergey Kasparyan, Eduard Kuloyan, Sergey Sagatelyan, Armenia – 3.8 points.

43rd-45th place – H033 – Henryk Grudziński, Poland – 3.8 points.

Not very original. (FRA)

43rd-45th place – H046 – Temur Chkhetiani, Georgia – 3.8 points.

46th-51st place – H008 – R. Ganapathi, K. Seetharaman, India – 3.6 points.

Castling and Pronkin do not bring much more value to this problem. (FRA)

46th-51st place – H016 – Pavel Kameník, Czech Republic – 3.6 points.

Two consecutive cycles of moves, but it is rather automatic.. (FRA)

46th-51st place – H040 – Henryk Grudziński, Poland – 3.6 points.

46th-51st place – H041 – Temur Chkhetiani, Georgia – 3.6 points.

46th-51st place – H050 – Ivan Denkovski, Macedonia – 3.6 points.

46th-51st place – H053 – Paul Răican, Romania – 3.6 points.

Classic. (FRA)

52nd place – H002 – Bosko Miloseski, Turkey – 2.8 points.

53rd-54th place – H007 – Bosko Miloseski, Turkey – 2.6 points.

53rd-54th place – H020 – Alexander Zidek, Austria – 2.6 points.

55th-56th place – H003 – Henrik Juel, Denmark – 2.2 points.

55th-56th place – H009 – Henrik Juel, Denmark – 2.2 points.

57th place – H004 – K. Seetharaman, India – 1.8 points.

The following compositions are not considered published and are at the disposal of their authors: H001, H005, H006, H011, H012, H013, H017, H018, H019, H022, H023, H024, H025, H035, H038, H042, H043, H048, H058, H060, H062, H063, H078, H079, H082.

Section H: Retros - Table

Place	Number	Country	FIN	FRA	GER	JPN	USA	Points
1	069	UKR	3.4	3.4	3.2	3.0	3.4	10.0
2	074	FRA	3.4		3.2	2.8	4.0	9.9
3	052	FRA	3.8		3.2	2.8	3.2	9.6
	071	NED	3.4	3.6	3.0	2.6	3.2	9.6
	076	RUS	3.2	3.0	3.2	3.2	3.4	9.6
6	055	USA	3.4	3.2	3.0	2.4		9.3
7	065	ARG	3.6	3.4	2.8	2.6	3.0	9.2
8	066	ISR	3.0	2.2	3.0	2.4	3.4	8.4
	080	GER	2.8	2.8		2.6	3.6	8.4
10	081	ARG	2.8	3.0	3.2	2.0	2.4	8.2
11	056	UKR	3.2	2.2	2.2	2.6	3.4	8.0
12	067	GER	2.8	1.8		2.6	2.4	7.5
	068	FIN		2.2	2.0	3.0	2.8	7.5
14	031	SVK	2.6	2.2	2.2	2.4	2.6	7.2
	059	ISR	2.6	2.4	2.8	2.2	2.2	7.2
16	075	SWE	3.4	2.4	2.0	2.6	2.0	7.0
17	030	BLR	2.2	2.6	2.0	1.6	2.6	6.8
	039	RUS	3.0	2.0	1.2	2.0	2.8	6.8
	072	SWE	2.8	2.4	1.6	2.0	2.4	6.8
20	061	HUN	2.6	2.2	1.8	2.2	2.2	6.6
	077	ROU	3.0	2.0	1.8	2.4	2.2	6.6
-	062	SWE	3.2	2.0	2.0	2.4	2.0	6.4
22	054	USA	2.8	2.2	1.0	2.0		6.3
23	032	HUN	2.8	2.4	1.8	2.0	1.8	6.2
24	073	FIN		2.0	2.2	2.0	1.8	6.0
25	057	ITA	2.8	1.4	2.0	2.4	1.2	5.8
-	058	FIN	-	2.6	1.8	2.0	1.2	5.7
26	015	ITA	2.2	2.0	1.8	1.2	1.8	5.6
	028	SRB	2.4	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.6	5.6
	034	BLR	2.4	1.8	1.8	2.0	1.8	5.6
	037	ARM	2.2	1.8	2.0	1.8	1.4	5.6
	044	GBR	2.6	1.6	2.2	1.8	1.0	5.6

31	047	NED	1.8	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.4	5.4
	070	SVK	2.0	2.4	1.6	1.8	1.2	5.4
33	036	GBR	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.2	5.2
-	035	ISR	2.0	1.0	2.2	1.4	1.8	5.2
-	060	SVK	2.4	1.6	1.2	2.2	1.0	5.0
34	014	CZE	2.0	1.6	1.0	1.4	1.8	4.8
	049	LTU	2.8	1.4	1.6	1.8	1.0	4.8
	064	MKD	1.0	1.4	1.6	1.8	2.0	4.8
-	043	GER	1.4	1.8	-	2.0	1.4	4.8
-	048	ITA	1.8	1.4	1.6	1.8	1.2	4.8
37	027	ESP	1.4	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.2	4.6
-	063	RUS	0.6	1.8	0.8	2.0	2.2	4.6
38	010	LTU	2.2	1.6	1.6	1.2	1.0	4.4
	026	AUT	1.8	1.8	0.8	1.6	1.0	4.4
	045	SLO	2.4	1.4	1.4	1.6	0.6	4.4
	051	SRB	1.6	2.0	1.2	1.6	1.0	4.4
42	029	SLO	2.2	1.2	1.6	1.4	0.2	4.2
-	024	HUN	0.8	1.4	1.2	1.6	1.6	4.2
-	042	GBR	2.0	1.4	1.2	1.6	1.0	4.2
-	023	SLO	1.4	1.0	2.2	1.6	0.8	4.0
43	021	ARM	2.0	1.2	1.0	1.4	1.2	3.8
	033	POL	2.2	1.0	1.0	1.6	1.2	3.8
	046	GEO	1.6	1.4	0.8	1.4	1.0	3.8
46	008	IND	1.0	1.0	1.6	1.8	1.0	3.6
	016	CZE	1.0	1.4	1.0	1.4	1.2	3.6
	040	POL	1.6	0.8	1.6	1.2	0.8	3.6
	041	GEO	1.6	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.0	3.6
	050	MKD	0.8	1.8	1.2	1.6	0.8	3.6
	053	ROU	2.0	1.2	0.4	1.6	0.8	3.6
-	025	LTU	1.6	1.4	1.0	1.2	1.0	3.6
-	013	CZE	1.6	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.0	3.4
-	011	POL	0.8	1.2	1.6	1.0	1.0	3.2
-	019	SRB	2.0	0.6	1.0	1.2	1.0	3.2
-	018	GEO	1.0	1.0	0.6	1.2	1.0	3.0
-	022	ARM	1.4	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.4	3.0
52	002	TUR	0.8	1.0	0.8	1.0	1.0	2.8
-	006	NED	0.6	1.2	0.8	1.2	0.8	2.8
53	007	TUR	0.8	1.0	0.6	1.0	0.8	2.6
	020	AUT	1.0	0.8	0.8	1.0	0.6	2.6
-	012	BEL	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.0	0.8	2.4
55	003	DEN	0.6	1.2	0.6	0.8	0.8	2.2
	009	DEN	0.6	0.8	0.6	1.0	0.8	2.2
-	001	DEN	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.8	1.2	2.0
-	017	AUT	1.0	0.6	0.4	1.0	0.0	2.0
57	004	IND	0.6	1.0	0.6	0.6	0.2	1.8
-	005	TUR	0.0	0.6	0.2	1.0	0.0	0.0
-	038	MDA	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
-	078	USA	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0
-	079	ROU	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
-	082	UKR	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

