

BEST PROBLEMS

Rassegna dei migliori problemi

diretta da **Antonio Garofalo**

Col sostegno dell'API (Associazione Problemistica Italiana)

Anno XXVI - n. 102

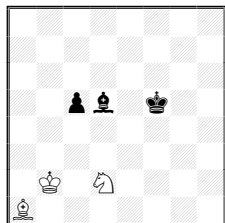
2°/2022 - April

Hanno collaborato a questo numero:

Dragan Stojnic, Francesco Simoni, Marco Guida, Awani Kumar

EDITORIALE

I lettori noteranno che alcuni diagrammi non hanno la nazionalità dell'Autore. Ciò è voluto dal Redattore di questa rivista come piccola e modesta protesta contro l'aggressione di una nazione su una nazione vicina, come tutti sanno bene. Non ho nulla contro i singoli autori, questo deve essere chiaro a tutti, ma un piccolo gesto andava fatto. *[Readers will notice that some diagrams do not have the author's nationality. This is decided by the Editor of this magazine as a little and modest protest against the aggression of a nation by a nearby nation, as everyone well know. I have nothing against the individual authors, this must be clear to everyone, but a small sign was due.]*



← 4772. Ivan Bryukhanov - Ucraina

← Original - 8/8/8/2pb1k2/8/8/1K1N4/B7

H≠3,5 (3+3) C+ b) ♠c5-e5

a) 1... ♖f3 2. ♗e4 ♘a3 3. ♘d3 ♗a4 4. ♗c4 ♖e5†

b) 1... ♗c2 2. ♗f4 ♘c3 3. ♗e3 ♘a5 4. ♘d4 ♗b6†

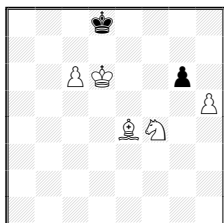
This problem was sent by Ivan while his city, Chaplynka, was besieged.

[Questo problema è stato spedito da Ivan mentre la sua città, Chaplynka, era assediata.]

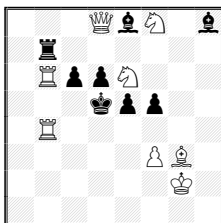
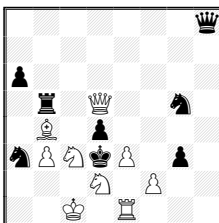


Roméo Bedoni (left) & Sébastien Luce some years ago.

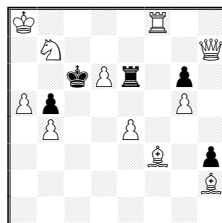
Inediti

4732. A. Armeni
Italia

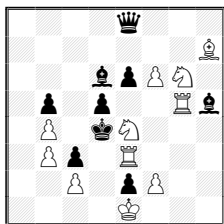
=2 v... (5+2) C+

4733. B. Majoros
Ungheria≠2 (8+8) C+
2 sol.4734. G. Maleika
Germania

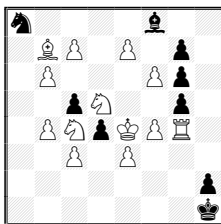
≠2 vvv (9+8) C+

4735. G. Maleika
Germania

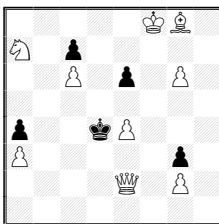
=2* (11+5) C+

4736. F. Simoni &
M. Guida - Italia

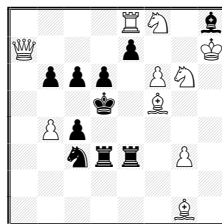
≠2 v... (11+9) C+

4737. D. Gatti
Italia

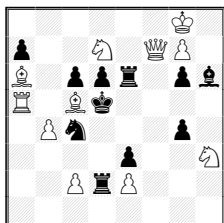
≠2 v (13+9) C+

4738. S.B. Dowd
USA

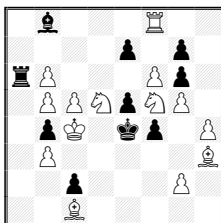
≠3 (9+5) C+

4739. L. Lyubashevsky
& L. Makaronez
Israele

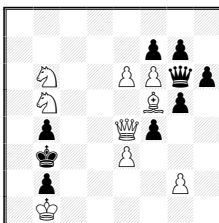
≠3 v (10+10) C+

4740. L. Lyubashevsky
& L. Makaronez
Israele

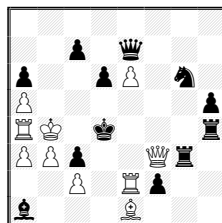
≠3 (11+11) C+

4741. G. Doukhan
Francia

≠3 v... (14+10) C+

4742. G. Jordan
Germania

S≠2 vvv (9+9) C+

4743. V. Koci
Rep. Ceca

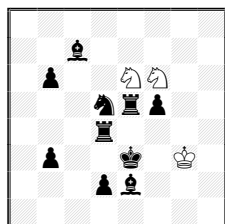
S≠2 v... (10+12) C+

≠2, n. 4732-4737 (Judge 2022: Gérard Doukhan).

≠3, n. 4738-4741 (Judge 2022-2023: Antonio Garofalo).

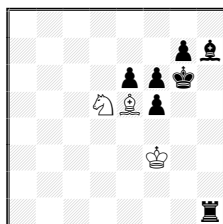
S≠2/3, n. 4742-4743 (Judge 2021-2023: Antonio Garofalo).

4744. F. Magini
Italia



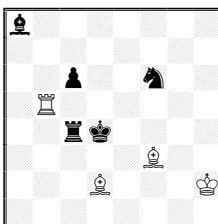
$H \neq 2$ (3+10) C+
4 sol.

4745. S. Hudak
Slovacchia



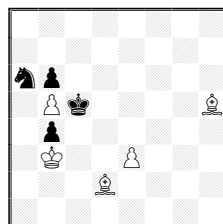
$H \neq 2$ (3+7) C+
3 sol.

4746. V. Barsukov



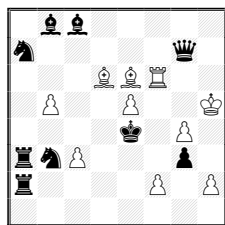
$H \neq 2$ (4+5) C+
3 sol.

4747. E. Zimmer
Polonia



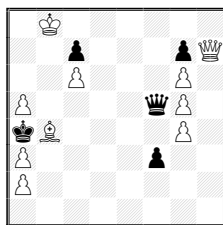
$H \neq 2^*$ (5+4) C+

4748. A. Pankratiev
& E. Gavriliiv
/ Ucraina



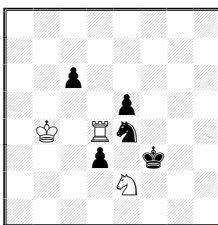
$H \neq 2$ (10+9) C+
4 sol.

4749. K. Cefle
Turchia



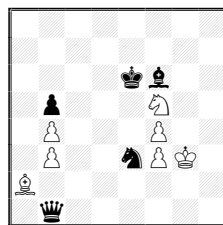
$H \neq 2$ (10+5) C+
3 sol.

4750. A. Pankratiev
& I. Antipin



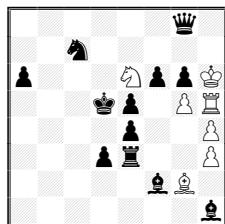
$H \neq 3$ (3+5) C+
2 sol.

4751. C.J.A. Jones
Gran Bretagna



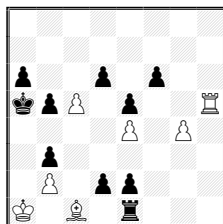
$H \neq 3$ (7+5) C+
2 sol.

4752. A. Pankratiev
& E. Gavriliiv
/ Ucraina



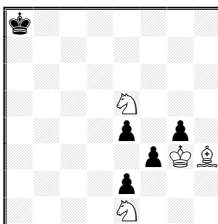
$H \neq 3$ (7+12) C+
b) $\triangleleft g5-d3$

4753. V. Barsukov



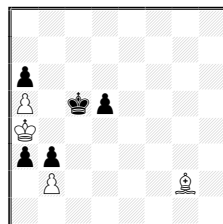
$H \neq 3$ (7+10) C+
b) $\triangleleft c1$

4754. P. Tritten &
R. Wichagen
Francia / Germania



$H \neq 3,5$ (4+5) C+
b) $\triangleleft e1-d2$

4755. V. Barsukov

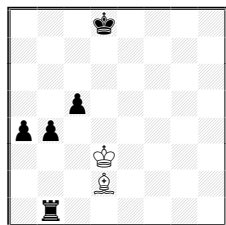
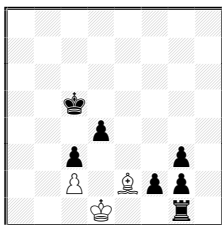
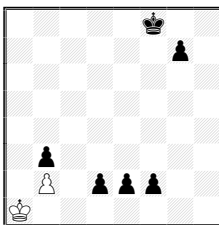
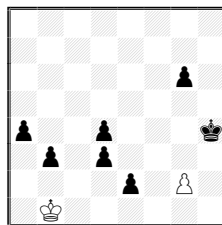
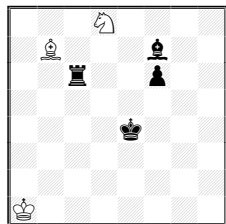


$H \neq 4$ (4+5) C+
b) $\triangleleft g2-a5$

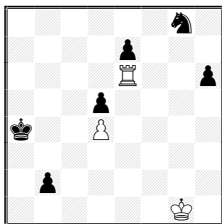
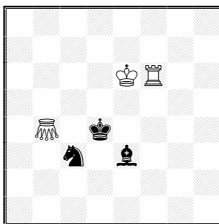
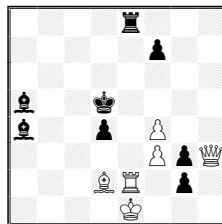
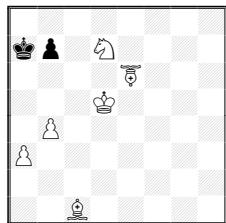
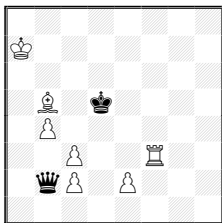
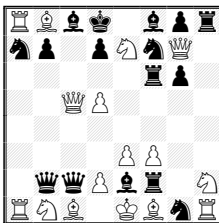
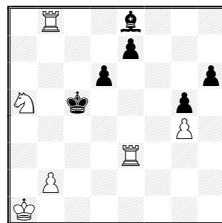
$H \neq 2$, $H=2$, n. 4744-4749 (Judge 2022-2023: NN).

$H \neq 2,5/H \neq 3$, $H=2,5/H=3$, n. 4750-4753 (Judge 2022-2023: NN).

$H \neq n$, n. 4754-4759 (Judge 2022-2023: Antonio Garofalo).

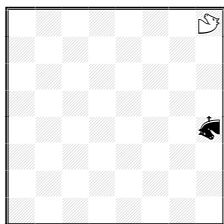
4756. A. Kirichenko
& A. PankratievH≠5 (2+5) C+
1 sol.4757. M. Degenkolbe
GermaniaH≠6,5 (3+7) C+
1 sol.4758. F. Magini
ItaliaH≠7 (2+6) C+
1 sol.4759. G. Jordan
GermaniaH≠7 (2+7) C+
1 sol.4760. H. Nieuwhart
OlandaH≠3 (3+4) C+
2 sol.
Take & Make, PWC

4761. V. Barsukov

sh≠12 (3+6) C+
1 sol.4762. N. Danstrup
DanimarcaH≠3,5 (3+3) C+
2 sol.
♟=Grasshopper4763. A.V.
Styopochkinhs≠3 (6+8) C+
2 sol.4764. L. Kekely
SlovacchiaPser-h≠22 (6+2) C+
♞=Vao
Transmuting Kings4765. O. Pandar
TurchiaH≠2 (7+2) C+
3 sol.
Equipollent Circe4766. H. Grudzinski
PoloniaSPG 17.5 (16+16)
PWC4767. J.F. Carf
FranciaPser-S≠10 (6+6)
C+ dall'autore

H≠n, n. 4754-4759 (Judge 2022-2023: Antonio Garofalo).
 Fairies n. 4760-4771 (Judge 2022: NN).

4768. S. Luce
Francia



H≠12,5 (1+1) C+

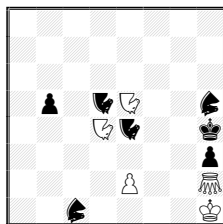
b) ♖h8→h7

[h4 = Royal unit]

Haan, Maximum

♙=Cobra, ♘=Antelope

4769. K. Solja
Finlandia



hs≠3,5 (5+7) C+

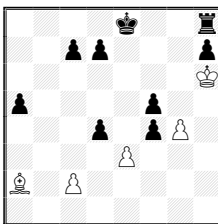
b) ♙h2

Parrain Circe

♙=Gnu, ♘=Zebre

♚=Locusta, ♛=Giraffe

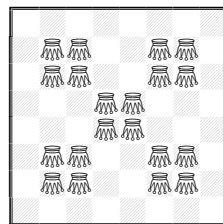
4770. S. Luce
Francia - *Dedicated to*
Alberto Armeni



S=10 (5+9) C+

Maximum

4771. S. Luce
Francia - *Dedicated to*
Roméo Bédoni



sd-auto=29 (20+0) C+

Alphabetic chess

Growing men White

♙=Grasshoppers

Fairies n. 4760-4771 (Judge 2022: Gunter Jordan).

Note agli inediti (Fairy elements)

sh = Problema aiutomatto a serie (Serie helpmate/helpstalemate).

hs = helpselfmate.

sd = Problemi diretti a serie (Serie direct)

• **Alphabetic Chess (Alphabétiques)** - Each move of either side must be by the piece occupying the first square in the order of a1, a2, a3...b1, b2, b3...c1, c2, c3... etc., which is able to make a legal move. Castling is permitted if the King has the right to make a legal alphabetical move, provided the usual other rules for that move are obeyed.

• **Circe equipollent:** Lorsqu'une pièce est capturée (Roi excepté, sauf indication contraire), elle doit effectuer le même mouvement que la pièce capturant à partir de la case où elle se trouvait avant la capture. Si elle arrive sur une case occupée ou en dehors de l'échiquier, la pièce capturée disparaît. [**Equipollent Circe:** When a capture is made, the captured unit (except a King) is immediately reborn equipollent (same distance, same direction) to the capturing move. Example: ♖h1x♙h3, then ♙ is reborn on h5. If the equipollent square is not empty, the captured unit vanishes.]

• **Circe Parrain:** After a capture, the captured piece is reborn only after another piece of its own side has moved. The line between capturing square and rebirth square is parallel with and of same direction and length as the move of this other piece. Pawns can be reborn on 1st and 8th rank. From their own base rank, they may move one-step; if reborn on the promotion rank, the Pawn at once promotes, the promotion piece being determined by the Pawn side.

• **Growing men blanc (White):** Une pièce blanche ne peut jouer un coup plus court que le précédent coup qu'elle a effectué. [A white piece cannot play a shorter move than the previous move it has done.]

• **Haan:** Ogni casa lasciata non può essere più né occupata, né attraversata.

- **Maximum (=Maximumber):** Black must play his geometrically longest move or may choose from among longest moves of equal length, distances being measured from the centre of each square. (**White Maximumber** = Only White must play the longest moves, as says above.)
- **Pser:** Problema a serie, parziale. Durante una normale serie di mosse il Nero può dare scacco, il quale viene parato da una mossa bianca, dopo di che la serie prosegue.
- **PWC - Interchange Circe** (German **PlatzWechselCirce**): A captured unit is reborn, according to **Circe** rules, on the departure square of the capturing unit. (Quando viene fatta una cattura, l'unità catturata viene piazzata nella casa del pezzo che l'ha appena catturata, in pratica scambiandosi il posto con il pezzo catturante.)
- **Transmuting King:** A King which, when in check, takes the power(s) of the checking unit(s) in place of its own.
- **Take & Make:** After any capture, the capturing unit **must** make a move that could be made by the captured unit, and this move cannot be another capture.
- **Antelope (Antilope):** 3:4 Leaper.
- **Cobra:** Double runner (Coureur double) (0,1; 1,1)
- **Giraffa:** 1:4 Leaper. Pezzo saltatore con movimento 1,4. Per esempio a1→b5
- **Gnu:** 1:2 / 1:3 Leaper. Pezzo saltatore; per esempio: a1→b3/b4
- **Grasshopper:** Moves along Queen-lines over another unit of either colour to the square immediately beyond that unit. A capture may be made on arrival square, but the hurdle is not affected.
- **Locust:** Moves on Queen-lines but only by capturing an enemy unit, arriving on the square immediately beyond that unit.
- **Royal unit:** A unit having the function but not the move of a King. A threat to capture it is check, and if this threat cannot be removed the position is one of checkmate.
- **Vao:** The Chinese Bishop, which moves like a normal Bishop but captures like a Bishop-Lion.
- **Zebra:** 2:3 Leaper. Pezzo saltatore; per esempio: a1→c4

Soluzioni Inediti

Fascicolo n. 102

Commenti degli autori e del redattore.

4732. (=2, Alberto Armeni)

3k4/8/2PK2p1/7P/4BN2/8/8/8

1. ♙xg6? Tempo ma 1... ♖c8!

1. ♘xg6? Tempo 1... ♖c8 2.c7= ma 1... ♖e8!

1.c7+? A ma 1... ♖e8! a 1. ♘e6+? B ma 1... ♖c8! b

1.hxg6! Tempo

1... ♖c8 b 2.c7= A 1... ♖e8 a 2. ♘e6= B Theme Banny.

4733. (≠2, Béla Majoros)

3QbN1b/1r6/1RppN3/3kpp2/1R6/5PB1/6K1/8

1. ♖g5! [2. ♖d2†]

1...e4 2.fx4 1...f4 2. ♖d4†

1. ♖a8! [2. ♖a2†]

1... ♖a7 2. ♖b5† 1...c5 2. ♘c7†

Theme Hirlep: "Change of half-pin in two phases of a twomover."

4734. (≠2, Gerhard Maleika)

7q/8/p7/lr1Q2n1/1B1p4/nPNkP1p1/3N1P2/2K1R3

1. ♖db1? [2. ♜d1♯] ma 1... gxf2!

1. ♖f1? [2. ♜d1♯] ma 1... ♜xb4!

1. ♖de4? [2. ♜d1♯] ma 1... ♖f3!

1. ♜d1! (2. ♖d2~♯)

1. ♖e4 2. ♖dxe4♯ ♜xe4♯ 1. ♖f3 2. ♜c4♯ ♖xf3♯

1. ♜h5 2. ♖f3♯ ♜xd4♯ 1. ♜h1 2. ♜xd4♯ ♖f1♯

1. gxf2 2. ♖f1♯ ♖c4♯ 1. ♖c4 2. ♖xc4♯ ♜xc4♯

1. ♖b1 2. ♜c4♯ ♖dxb1♯ 1. ♜xb4 2. ♖db1♯ ♖de4♯

Ein 8 gliedriger Zyklus von Dualen (Author)

Ciclo di duali in 8 varianti.

4735. (=2, Gerhard Maleika)

K4R2/1N5Q/2kPr1p1/Pp4P1/1P2P3/5B1p/7B/8

1... ♜xd6 a 2. ♖xd6= A 1... ♜e7 b 2. ♜xe7= B 1... ♜xe4 c 2. ♜f7= C

1. ♜xh3! [2. ♜xe6=]

1... ♜xd6 a 2. ♖xd6= D 1... ♜e7 b 2. dxe7= E 1... ♜xe4 c 2. ♜e6= F

[1... ♖d7 2.e5= 1... ♜f6 2. ♜xf6= 1... ♜e8+ 2. ♜xe8= 1... ♜e5 2. ♖xe5=]

Suite di stalli cambiati.

4736. (≠2, Francesco Simoni & Marco Guida)

4q3/7B/3bpPN1/lp1p2Rb/1P1kN3/1Pp1R3/2P1pP2/4K3

1. ♖h8? [2. ♜d3♯] 1... dxe4 2. ♜xe4♯ but 1... ♜g6! a, ♖g6! b

1. ♖h4? [2. ♜d3♯] 1... ♖g6 b 2. ♖f3♯ B 1... dxe4 2. ♜xe4♯? but 1... ♜g6! a

1. ♖f8? [2. ♜d3♯] 1... ♜g6 a 2. ♖xe6♯ E 1... dxe4 2. ♜xe4♯? but 1... ♖g6! b

1. ♖e7? [2. ♜d3♯]? 1... ♜g6 a 2. ♖c6# A 1... dxe4 2. ♜xe4♯? but 1... ♖g6! b

1. ♖xc3? [2. ♜d3♯]? 1... ♜g6 a 2. ♖xb5♯ C 1... ♖g6 b 2. ♖xe2♯ D but 1... ♖xb4!

1. ♖e5? [2. ♜d3♯] 1... ♜g6 a 2. ♖c6♯ A 1... ♖g6 b 2. ♖f3♯ B but 1... dxe4!

1. ♖f4! [2. ♜d3♯] 1... ♜g6 a 2. ♖xe6♯ E 1... ♖g6 b 2. ♖xe2♯ 1... dxe4 2. ♜xe4♯

A total of 7 phases, 6 of which showing 2x theme of WCCT-11, with all defenses on the same square and an introductory Try with double-refutation.

Zagoruiko 3x2 across 5th Try (1. ♖xc3?, sole WCCT-11 non-thematic phase), 6th Try (1. ♖e5?) and Solution (1. ♖f4!). All mates are by ♖.Mates (A) in 3rd Try (1. ♖e7?) and (E) in 4th Try (1. ♖f8?) are played by the same ♖ that plays mates (A) and (E) in 6th Try and in Solution respectively, and on the same landing squares, but from different departing squares. (Authors)**4737. (≠2, Daniele Gatti)**

n4b2/1BP1P1p1/1P3Pp1/2pN2p1/1PNpKPR1/2P1P3/7p/7k

1. ♖e5? Tempo, ma 1... d3!

1. ♖d3! Tempo

1... ♖xb6 2. ♖dxb6♯ 1... ♖xc7 2. ♖xc7♯ 1... ♖xe7 2. ♖xe7♯ 1... dxc3 2. ♖xc3♯

1... cxb4 2. ♖xb4♯ 1... gxf4 2. ♖xf4♯ 1... gxf6 2. ♖xf6♯ 1... dxe3 2. ♖dxe3♯

Author Comment: Position legality proofed. The problem's purpose is to show a task which seems not having been composed yet: a white Knight's wheel in which every possible square of the wheel is already occupied by a white pawn on the initial position.

Una Rosa di Cavallo bianco piuttosto originale. (NdR)

4738. (≠3, Steven B. Dowd)

5KB1/N1p5/2P1p1P1/8/p2kP3/P5p1/4Q1P1/8

1. ♖f7! Tempo

1... ♖c3 2. ♜b5+ ♖b3 3. ♜xe6‡1... ♖c5 2. ♜e3+ ♖c4 3. ♜xe6‡ 2... ♖d6 3. ♜d4‡1...e5 2. ♖e7 ♜c3 3. ♜b5‡2... ♜c5 3. ♜e3‡

1... ♖e5 2. ♜e3 ♖d6 3. ♜d4‡ 2... ♖f6 3. ♜f4‡

Babushka theme (white and black), in bold and underlined.

4739. (≠3, Leonid Lyubashevsky & Leonid Makaronez)

4RN1b/Q3p2K/1ppp1PN1/3k1B2/1Pp5/2nrr1P1/8/6B1

1. ♖xb6? [2. ♜c5+ dxc5 3. ♜d8‡]

1... ♜b5 2. ♜d8 [3. ♜c5‡] 1... ♜e6 2. ♜xe6 [3. ♜ef4‡ 3. ♜c7‡]

1...c5 2. ♜e6 [3. ♜b7‡] 2... ♜xe6 3. ♜b7‡ 2. ♜b7+ ♖d4 3. ♜e6‡ ma 1... ♜a4!

1. ♜xe7! [2. ♜e5+ ♜xe5 3. ♜f4‡ 2...dxe5 3. ♜d8‡]

1... ♜xf6 2. ♜f4+ ♖d4 3. ♜xf6‡ 1... ♜d4 2. ♜f7+ ♜e6 3. ♜xe6‡

1... ♜xe7+ 2. ♜xe7+ ♖e5 3. ♜d7‡ 1... ♖d4 2. ♜xd6+ ♜d5 3. ♜e5‡

1...c5 2. ♜b7+ ♖d4 3. ♜e6‡ 1... ♜e2 2. ♜e4+ ♜xe4 3. ♜xe4‡

1... ♜e4 2. ♜xe4+ ♜xe4 3. ♜xe4‡ 1... ♜b5 2. ♜e4+ ♜xe4 3. ♜xe4‡

Changed mates, Pinning, Inclusion. (Authors)

4740. (≠3, Leonid Lyubashevsky & Leonid Makaronez)

6K1/p2N1QP1/B1ppr1pb/R1Bk4/1Pn3p1/4p2N/2PrP3/8

1.c3! [2. ♜f6+ **A** ♖e5 3. ♜d4‡ **B**]1...gxh3 2. ♜d4+ **B** ♜xa5 3. ♜f6‡ **A**

2... ♜e4 3. ♜f3‡ 2...c5 3. ♜b7‡

1... ♜xa5 2. ♜f8 [3. ♜xe6‡]

1... ♜e4 2. ♜xe6+ ♜e5 3. ♜f6‡

1...dxc5 2. ♜xc5 [3. ♜xe6‡] ♖d6 3. ♜b7‡

1... ♜xg7 2. ♜g5 [3. ♜xe6‡]

1... ♜g5 2. ♜xg5 [3. ♜xe6‡]

Babushka theme, indicato in grassetto (bold).

4741. (≠3, Gérard Doukhan)

1b3R2/4p1p1/rP3Pp1/1PPNpNP1/1pK1kp1P/1P5B/2p3P1/2B5

1. ♜g4? **F** [2. ♜dxe7 **E** [3. ♜f3‡]2. ♜fxe7 **D** [3. ♜f3‡]2.fxg7 **C** [3. ♜f3‡]2. ♜xg7 **B** [3. ♜f3‡]2.fxe7 **A** [3. ♜f3‡]ma 1... ♜a3! **a**1.fxe7? **A** [2. ♜g4 **F** [3. ♜f3‡]]1... ♜a3 **a** 2. ♜xg7 **B** [3. ♜f6‡] ma 1... ♜xb6!1. ♜xg7? **B** [2. ♜g4 **F** [3. ♜f3‡]]1... ♜a3 **a** 2.fxe7 **A** [3. ♜f6‡] ma 1...e6!1.fxg7? **C** [2. ♜g4 **F** [3. ♜f3‡]]1... ♜a3 **a** 2. ♜fxe7 **D** [3. ♜f6‡] ma 1... ♜xb6!

1. ♖fxe7? **D** [2. ♖g4 **F** [3. ♖f3♣]]
 1... ♖a3 **a** 2. fxg7 **C** [3. ♖f6♣]
 1... ♖a7 2. fxg7 [3. ♖f6♣] ma 1... ♖d6!
 1. ♖dxe7! **E** [2. ♖g4 **F** [3. ♖f3♣]]
 1... ♖a3 **a** 2. ♖xb8 [3. ♖d6♣] gxf5 3. ♖xf5♣ changed mate.
 1... ♖a7 2. bxa7 [3. a8=♖♣] ♖xa7 3. ♖d6♣

Retro: As the 2 black pawns e7 and g7 have not moved from their squares, the black bishop f8 has been taken from its original square. The black bishop b8 is the promotion of the pawn a7. Black have taken 2 pieces (the Queen and a White Rook). White have taken 5 pieces (the Queen, one Rook, ONE Bishop and the 2 Knights). The position is valid.

- Quiet moves
- Quintuple theme threat reversal (F/A, F/B, F/C, F/D, F/E) for which the refutation is the thematic defense.
- Quadruple theme Dombrovskis between tries 1. ♖g4? & 1. fxe7?, 1. ♖g4? & ♖xg7?, 1. ♖g4? & 1. ♖xg7?, 1. ♖g4? & 1. ♖fxe7?
- The four tries (1. fxe7?, 1. ♖xg7?, 1. fxg7? & 1. ♖fe7?) present Theme Reversal (Salazar) doubled, very rare.
- Change of strategy after the key with a fifth changed mate after defense 1... ♖a3 (Author)

4742. (S≠2, Gunter Jordan)

8/5pp1/1N2PPqp/1N3Bp1/1p2Qp2/1k2P3/1p4P1/1K6
 1. ♖f3? [2. ♖c2+ ♖xc2♣] ma 1... ♖xf5+! **A** ♖xf6! **B**
 1. ♖h3? [2. ♖xc2♣ 2. ♖d3+] ma 1... ♖xf6! **B** ♖h5! **C**
 1. ♖e5? [2. ♖c2+ ♖xc2♣] ma 1... ♖h5! **C** ♖xf5+! **A**
 1. ♖d4! [2. ♖c2+ ♖xc2♣]
 1... ♖xf5+ **A** 2. ♖d3+ ♖xd3♣ 1... ♖xf6 **B** 2. ♖xb2+ ♖xb2♣ 1... ♖h5 **C** 2. ♖d1+ ♖xd1♣
 New (?) selfmate theme: Cyclic double-defences, that re-appear in the solutions. (Author)

4743. (S≠2, Vladimír Koci)

8/2p1q3/p2pP1n1/P6p/RK1k3r/PPp2Qr1/2P1Rp2/b3B3
 1. ♖xc3+? ma 1... ♖xc3+! 1. ♖d3+? ma 1... ♖xd3!
 1. ♖e4+? ma 1... ♖xe4! 1. ♖d5+? ma 1... ♖xd5+!
 1. ♖c6? [2. ♖c5+ dxc5♣] 1... ♖e3 2. ♖d5+ ♖xd5♣ ma 1... ♖g5!
 1. ♖f5! [2. ♖c5+ dxc5♣]
 1... ♖e5 2. ♖xe5+ dxe5♣ 1... ♖e3 2. ♖d5+ ♖xd5♣ 1... ♖g5 2. ♖xc3+ ♖xc3♣

4744. (H≠2, Fabio Magini)

8/2b5/1p2NN2/3nrp2/3r4/1p2k1K1/3pb3/8
 1. ♖b4 ♖f4 2. ♖d3 ♖g2♣ 1. ♖d3 ♖g4+ 2. ♖e4 ♖g5♣
 1. ♖d3 ♖d4 2. b2 ♖c2♣ 1. b5 ♖g4+ 2. ♖e4 ♖c5♣

4745. (H≠2, Stanislav Hudak)

8/6pb/4ppk1/3NBp2/8/5K2/8/7r
 1. ♖h6 ♖xf6 2. ♖h5 ♖f4♣ 1. f4 ♖xf4 2. ♖f5 ♖e7♣ 1. ♖h6 ♖xf6 2. ♖g6 ♖f4♣
 Baltic theme (Author)

4746. (H≠2, Valery Barsukov)

b7/8/2p2n2/1R6/2rk4/5B2/3B3K/8
 1. ♖c5 ♖e4 2. ♖c4 ♖b4♣ 1. ♖d7 ♖b3 2. ♖e5 ♖e3♣ 1. ♖b7 ♖xc6 2. ♖e4 ♖d5♣
 An engraving without white pawns, model rook-bishop mates. (Author)

4747. (H#2, Eligiusz Zimmer)

8/8/np6/1Pk4B/1p6/1K2P3/3B4/8

1... ♖xb4+ 2. ♖xb5 ♖e8† 1. ♜c7 ♖f3 2. ♜xb5 ♖xb4†

4748. (H#2, Alexandre Pankratiev & Evgeny Gavriliv)

1bb5/n5q1/3BBR2/1P2P2K/4k1P1/rnP3p1/r4P1P/8

1. ♜d4 c4 a 2. ♜d3 ♖d5† b 1. ♜xf6 ♖d5+ b 2. ♜f4 hxg3† c

1. ♜d2 hxg3 c 2. ♜d3 ♜f4† d 1. ♖xe6 ♜f4+ d 2. ♖d5 c4† a

Cycle of moves (W1/W2). Cycle of pieces (W1/W2). Play on the same square (B2, 2).

Model mate × 2 (Helpmates Analyzer)

4749. (H#2, Kivanç Cefle)

1K6/2p3pQ/2P3P1/P4qP1/kB4P1/P4p2/P7/8

1. ♜xg5 ♜h5 2. ♜xa5 ♜xa5† 1. ♜xg6 ♜h6 2. ♜xc6 ♜xc6† 1. ♜xg4 ♜h4 2. ♜xb4+ ♜xb4†

4750. (H#3, Alexandre Pankratiev & Ivan Antipin)

8/8/2p5/4p3/1K1Rn3/3p1k2/4N3/8

1. ♖xe2 ♜xe4+ 2. ♖d1 ♖c3 3. ♖c1 ♜e1† 1. ♖e3 ♜d5 2. cxd5 ♜g3 3. ♖d4 ♜f5† Zilahi

4751. (H#3, Christopher J.A. Jones)

8/8/4kb2/1p3N2/1P3P2/1P2nPK1/B7/1q6

1. ♜c4 bxc4 2. ♜b3 cxb5 3. ♖d5 ♖xb3† 1. ♜e4 fxe4 2. ♜d5 exd5+ 3. ♖xf5 ♖b1†

4752. (H#3, Alexandre Pankratiev & Evgeny Gavriliv)

6q1/2n5/p3NppK/3kp1PR/4p2P/3pr2P/5bB1/7b

a) 1. ♖xh4 ♖xe4+ 2. ♖xe4 ♜d4 3. ♜d5 ♜xh4†

b) 1. ♜xh3 ♜xe5+ 2. ♖xe5 d4+ 3. ♖f5 ♖xh3†

Active sacrifice (black, delayed) × 2. Active sacrifice (white) × 2.

Chumakov theme (rp, 2). Exchange of functions (bPe4/bPe5, Captured / Passive self-block).

Exchange of functions (wBg2/wRh5, Active sacrifice / Mate).

Helledie theme × 2. Kniest theme. Play on the same square (W2, 2).

Zilahi (active, RB, 2). (Helpmates Analyzer)

4753. (H#3, Valery Barsukov)

8/8/p2p1p2/kpP1p2R/4P1P1/1p6/1P1pp3/K1B1r3

a) 1. d1=♖ c6 2. ♖b6 ♜h8 3. ♖a7 ♖e3† b) 1. d5 ♜xe5 2. dxe4 ♜xe4 3. d1=♜ ♜xb3†

Forsberg twins with respect to the untied white pieces; the transformation of the black pawn into pieces identical to the untied white pieces; model mates. (Author)

4754. (H#3.5, Pierre Tritten & Rolf Wiehagen)

k7/8/8/4N3/4p1p1/5pKB/4p3/4N3

a) 1... ♜g2 (♜g2?) 2. fxg2 ♜d7 3. g1=♖ ♜g2 4. ♖a7 ♖xe4†

b) 1... ♖f1 (♜f1?) 2. exf1=♖ ♜c6 3. ♖a6 ♜c4 4. ♖b7 ♜b6†

4755. (H#4, Valery Barsukov)

8/8/p7/P1kp4/K7/pp6/1P4B1/8

a) 1. d4 ♖xb3 2. d3 ♖c3 3. ♖b5 b4 4. ♖a4 ♖c6†

b) 1. a2 ♖xb3 2. ♖b5 ♖c3 3. ♖a4 b3+ 4. ♖a3 ♖b4†

Engraving, model mates. (Author)

4756. (H#5, Anatoly Kirichenko & Alexandre Pankratiev)

3k4/8/8/2p5/pp6/3K4/3B4/1r6

1. ♖c7 ♖xb4 2. ♖b6 ♖a3 3. ♖a5 ♖c4 4. ♜b6 ♖xc5 5. ♜a6 ♖b4†

Annihilation. Klasinc theme (wB-bR). Kozhakin theme. Long-trip (wB, 3).

Switchback (wB, captureless, 1). Ideal mate. Epaulette mate. (Helpmates Analyzer)

4757. (H#6.5, Mirko Degenkolbe)

8/8/8/2k5/3p4/2p3p1/2P1Bpp1/3K2r1

1... ♖f1 2.d3 cxd3 3. ♖d4 ♖c2 4. ♖e3 ♖xg2 5. ♖e2 ♖f3+ 6. ♖f1 ♖d1 7.g2 ♖e2†

Return of the white king. Rundlauf of the white Bishop. Every white move has exactly the same length. Block change to g2. Model mate. (Author)

4758. (H#7, Fabio Magini)

5k2/6p1/8/8/1p6/1P1ppp2/K7

1.d1=♖ ♖b1 2. ♖c3+ bxc3 3.e1=♖ c4 4.f1=♖ c5 5. ♖f7 c6 6. ♖h4 c7 7. ♖d8 cxd8=♖†

Ceriani-Frolkin, Excelsior, AUW

4759. (H#7, Gunter Jordan)

8/8/6p1/8/p2p3k/1p1p4/4p1P1/1K6

1.d2 ♖b2 2.d1=♖ ♖c1 3.e1=♖ ♖d2 4. ♖e5 ♖d3 5. ♖h5 ♖e4 6. ♖g4 ♖f4 7. ♖h3 g3†

Kindergarten, Minimal (B), Unterverwandlung (tl), Selbstblock, Mustermatt. (Author)

4760. (H#3, Hans Nieuwhart)

3N4/1B3b2/2r2p2/8/4k3/8/8/K7

1. ♖f3 ♖xc6(♖c2; ♖b7) 2. ♖b3 ♖xb3(♖e3; ♖c2) 3. ♖xe3(♖c1; ♖f3) ♖xf7(♖b3; ♖d8)†

1. ♖d4 ♖xc6(♖c5; ♖b7)+ 2. ♖xc5(♖a3; ♖d4) ♖xb7(♖b6; ♖d8) 3. ♖b3 ♖c5†

4761. (Serie-H#12, Valery Barsukov)

6n1/4p3/4R2p/3p4/k2P4/8/1p6/6K1

1.h5 2. ♖h6 3. ♖f5 4. ♖xd4 5. ♖b5 6.d4 7.d3 8.d2 9.d1=♖ 10.b1=♖ 11. ♖b4 12. ♖b3 ♖a6†

4762. (H#3.5, Niels Danstrup)

1... ♖e4 2. ♖d5 ♖c6 3. ♖b6 ♖f5 4. ♖c4 ♖d5†

1... ♖d7 2. ♖c5 ♖b6 3. ♖d4 ♖b7 4. ♖b5 ♖c6†

4763. (hs#3, Anatoly V. Styopochkin)

4r3/5p2/8/b2k4/b2p1P2/5PpQ/3BR1p1/4K3

1. ♖e7 ♖d6 2. ♖h6+ ♖xe7 3. ♖d6+ ♖xd6†

1. ♖c3 ♖c4 2. ♖e6+ ♖xc3 3. ♖c4+ ♖xc4†

4764. (Pser-h#22, L'ubos Kekely)

1.b5 2. ♖b7 3. ♖c7 4. ♖xd7 (4. ♖d8?) 5. ♖e7 6. ♖f6 7. ♖f5 8. ♖g4 9. ♖f3 10. ♖e2 11. ♖d1 12. ♖xc1 13. ♖b2 14. ♖xa3 15. ♖xb4 16. ♖a4 17.b4 18.b3 19.b2 20.b1=♖ 21. ♖a2+ ♖c6 22. ♖b3 Vd7† Meredith. Long walk of black king. Excelsior. Underpromotion. (Author)

4765. (H#2, Okan Pandar)

8/K7/8/1B1k4/1P6/2P2R2/1qP1P3/8

1. ♖xc2(d2) d4 2. ♖e4 ♖c6†

1. ♖xb4(b6) ♖d3+ 2. ♖c5 ♖d5†

1. ♖xc3(d4) ♖f5+ 2. ♖xd4(d3) e3†

4766. (SPG 17.5, Henryk Grudzinski)

RBBk1bpr/np1pNnQ1/5rp1/2QP4/8/4PP2/1qqPbr1N/RNB1KBnR

1.e3 h5 2. ♖xh5(♖d1) ♖e2 3. ♖f3 ♖xh2(♖h8) 4. ♖xb7(f3) fxg2(f3) 5. ♖xa7(b7) gxh1=♖(♖g2) 6. ♖d4 ♖xa2(♖a8) 7. ♖dxg7(d4) dxe3(d4) 8.d5 exf2(e3)+ 9. ♖xf2(♖e1) ♖xg2(♖h1)+ 10. ♖xe1(♖f2) ♖g6 11. ♖xh2(♖h8) ♖xc2(g6) 12. ♖xc7(h2) hxg1=♖(♖h2) 13. ♖c5 ♖b6 14.gxf7(g6)+ ♖d8 15.fxg8=♖(♖f7) ♖bxb2(b6) 16. ♖xe7(g8) ♖a7 17.bxa7(♖b6) ♖f6 18.axb8=♖(♖a7)

There are four white promotions: 3...wQh8, 6...wRa8, 15...fxg8=wN, 18.axb8=Wb. And there are four black promotions: 2.Qxh5(+BPd1=B), 5...gxh1=bQ(+wRg2), 9.Kxf2(+bPe1=R), 12...hxg1=bN. Babson Task performed by white and black. (Author)

4767. (Pser-S#10, Jean-François Carf)

1R2b3/4p3/3p3p/N1k3p1/6P1/4R3/1P6/K7

1.♖b1 2.♖c2 3.♖d3 4.♖e4 5.♖f5 6.♚e4 7.b4+ ♖d5 8.♚b5+ ♙xb5 9.♚e3 10.♚d3+ ♙xd3‡

4768. (H#12.5, Sébastien Luce)

a) 1...ANe4 2.CORb1 ANb8 3.CORE8 ANf5 4.CORc3 ANc1 5.CORh1 ANg4 6.CORD3 ANc7 7.CORf8 ANf3 8.CORD4 ANb6 9.CORa3 ANe2 10.CORf1 ANa5 11.CORb3 ANd1 12.CORD8 ANg5 13.CORf4 ANc8‡

b) 1...ANd4 2.CORa7 ANh1 3.CORD1 ANe5 4.CORg8 ANa2 5.CORD2 ANd6 6.CORa8 ANh3 7.CORh5 ANe7 8.CORb8 ANa4 9.CORc5 ANe1 10.CORg3 ANb5 11.CORf6 ANf8 12.CORc7 ANc4 13.CORD5 ANg1‡

Definition: *The Cobra is a double rider (0,1 ; 1,1).*

Did you ever see an Antelope devouring a royal Cobra ??! It is possible here with the condition Haan which reduces progressively the freedom of the proud snake, mated both times on the center. (Author)

4769. (hs#3.5, Kenneth Solja)

8/8/8/1p1^n^N2d/3^N^n2k/7p/4P2^Q/2d4K

a) 1...Glg2 2.Za2 Glf6 3.Zc5 Glxe2 4.Zxe2+ Rg4(GId2)‡

b) 1...Zg3 2.Zeg2 GIXg2 3.GNf1(Ze1) Glxd4 4.GNxg3(Ze6)+ Rg5(Zf4)‡

Black King causes the mate in his last move, always to different square. (Author)

4770. (S=10, Sébastien Luce)*Dedicated to Alberto Armeni, see annex.*

4k2r/2pp3p/7K/p4p2/3p1pP1/4P3/B1P5/8

1.c4! 0-0 2.c5+ d5 3.cxd6 e.p.+ ♖h8 4.♙f7 ♚a8 5.♙e8 ♚xe8 6.dxc7 ♚xc3 7.c8=♘ ♚e8 8.♘e7 ♚a8 9.♘g6+ hxg6 10.g5 ♚g8=

Excelsior + Valladao. White promotion has to be to Knight "to cut" "e" file for black Rook on move eight, also to be sacrificed in g6 to force the maximum move 9...hxg6 (Author)

Annex: White: ♖c5 ♙h3 ♙g2; Black: ♚e8 ♚a8 ♚h7 ♙g8 ♙a5 ♙f7 ♙g7 ♙c6 ♙b4 ♙d4 ♙h4

Alberto ARMENI, Best Problems 2012, S=7 (3+11) C+, Maximum

1.g4! 0-0-0 2.g5+ f5 3.gxf6 e.p.+ ♙e6 4.f7 ♙xh3 5.f8=♚ ♙d7 6.♚xc7 ♙h3 7.♚b7+ ♚xb7=

4771. (sd-auto=29, Sébastien Luce)*Dedicated to Roméo Bédoni*

1.Gd2 2.Gd1 3.Ge3 4.Gd7 5.Ge2 6.Ge1 7. Ge8 8.Gf4 9.Gd6 10.Gg8 11.Gd8 12.Gf8 13.Gd8 14.Gg4 15.Gh3 16.Gh7 17.Ge4 18.Gh4 19.Gh1 20.Gh5 21.Gh6 22.Gh8 23.Gf3 24.Gg5 25.Gg1 26.Gd4 27.Gg1 28.Gd3 29.Gc3-auto=

Growing men blanc (White): Une pièce blanche ne peut jouer un coup plus court que le précédent coup qu'elle a effectué.

For the 20 of January, the day of St Sebastian, I wanted to make a twenty piece problem for my friend Roméo Bédoni, 94 years old, but always active in chess composition!

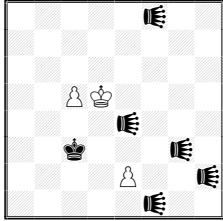
I concorsi su Best Problems:**#2/=2, (2022): Gérard Doukhan****#3/=3, (2022-2023): Antonio Garofalo****S#2/3-S=2/3 (2021-2023): Antonio Garofalo****H#2/H=2, (2022-2023): NN****H#2,5/3-H=2,5/3, (2022-2023): NN****H#n/H=n, (2022-2023): Antonio Garofalo****Fairies (2022): Gunter Jordan**E-mail & web site: perseus@bestproblems.it <http://www.bestproblems.it>

Award Best Problems 2014 - Section Fairies

by Dragan Stojnic

1st Prize

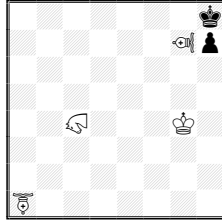
3301. V. Kotesovec
Rep. Ceca



Ser-H#21 (3+6) C+
2 sol. ♭=Kangaroo

2nd Prize

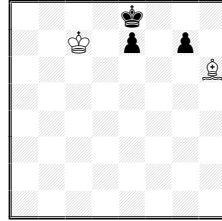
3303. C. J. Feather
Gran Bretagna



Ser-H#33 (4+2) C+
PWC
♞=ContraBishopper
♜=Rose-Lion
♝=Nereid

3rd Prize

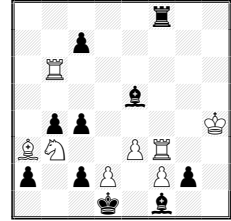
3286. S. Luce
Francia



H#3 (2+3) C+
b) ♖g7
PWC, Take&Make

1st Hon. Ment.

3347. A. Armeni
Italia



H=5 (8+10)
1 sol.
Take & Make

1st Prize 3301. Václav Kotesovec

1. ♖b4 2. KAa3 3. KAd6 4. KAc7 5. KAab8 6. KAa3 7. ♖b5 8. KAa6 9. ♖a5 10. KAa2 11. ♖a6
12. KAa7 13. ♖b7 14. KAa8 15. ♖c8 16. KAd8 17. KAe8 18. ♖d7 19. KAe7 20. KAf8 21. KAc8 c6≠
1. ♖d2 2. KAc2 3. KAf2 4. ♖e3 5. ♖f4 6. ♖f5 7. KAf6 8. KAf7 9. KAf4 10. ♖g6 11. ♖f7 12. ♖e7
13. KAb4 14. KAg4 15. KAh4 16. KAd8 17. KAg5 18. ♖f7 19. ♖g6 20. ♖f5 21. KAg6 e4≠

Analogical self-blocking manoeuvres by Black Kangaroos in both solutions with 21-moves duration! Spectacle with only 9 pieces on the board.

2nd Prize 3303. Chris J. Feather

1... ♜b2≠ 1.h6 2. ♖g8 3. ♖f7 4. ♖xg7(♜f7) 5. ♖f6 6. ♖xf7(♜f6) 7. ♖e6 8. ♖xf6(♜e6) 9. ♖e5
10. ♖xe6(♜e5) 11. ♖d5 12. ♖e4 13. ♖xe5(♜e4) 14. ♖d4 15. ♖c3 16. ♖b2 17. ♖xa1(♞b2) 18. ♖a2
19. ♖b3 20. ♖xb2(♞b3) 21. ♖c3 22. ♖xc4(♞c3) 23. ♖xb3(♞c4) 24. ♖b4 25. ♖c5 26. ♖xc4(♞c5)
27. ♖d4 28. ♖xe4(♜d4) 29. ♖d3 30. ♖e2 31. ♖f1 32. ♖g2 33. ♖h1, ♖g3≠

("A complete rose 360-degree route such as b4-c2-el-g2-h4-g6-e7-c6-b4 does make a kind of octagon, but since most rose moves are shorter than that, being blocked by the board edge or by other pieces, I don't think that it is a very helpful description. Obviously in the present problem a Contragrasshopper on 'a1' would create many cooks." Author)

Nel gioco apparente 1...Neb2≠ (Nereide va in b2). Ma il Nero deve muovere e quindi 1.h6! impedisce al Rose-Lion di controllare g8 usando come "ostacolo" il ♖ bianco; quindi 2. ♖g8 diventa possibile. 30. ♖e2 naturalmente è legale in quanto il Rose-Lion cattura solo i pezzi nemici oltre l'ostacolo.

3rd Prize 3286. Sébastien Luce

4k3/2K1p1p1/7B/8/8/8/8

a) 1. ♖f7 ♖xg7(♖g6;h6)+ 2. ♖f8 ♖f7 3. ♖xf7(♖e8;♖f8) ♖xh6(♖h5;f8)≠

b) 1. ♖xh6(♖g5;♖g7) ♖f6 2. exf6(g7;♖e7) ♖f8 3. ♖e7 ♖xg7(♖g6;f8)≠

Circuiti d'Alfiere.

1st Hon. Ment. 3347. Alberto Armeni

5r2/2p5/1R6/4b3/1pp4K/BS2PR2/p1pP1Pp1/3k1b2

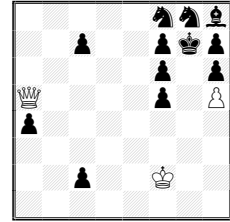
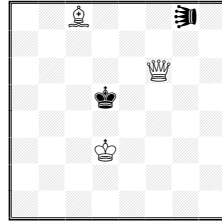
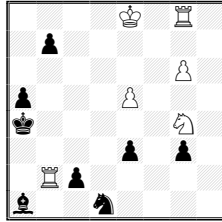
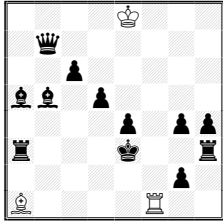
1.cxb3(♖a1) ♜f4 2. ♙c4 ♜xc4(♜f1)+ 3.gxf1(♜e1) f4 4.bxa3(♜c1) fxe5(♜h8) 5.cxb6(♙b1)
 ♜xf8(♜f1)= Allumwandlung, White and Black Excelsior-Take&Make, Umnov in f1 (Author).

2nd Hon. Ment.
3300. G. J. Perrone
 Argentina

3rd Hon. Ment.
3291. T. Ersek
 Ungheria

4th Hon. Ment.
3247. M. Caillaud
 Francia

5th Hon. Ment.
3197. C. J. Feather
 Gran Bretagna



HS=4 (3+12) C+
 b) ♙e8-h8

H=5 (6+8) C+
 1 sol. Circe

hs≠4.5 (3+2) C+
 2 sol. Edgehog

Ser-H≠3 (3+12) C+
 4 sol. PlatzWechselCirce

2nd Hon. Ment. 3300. Gaspar J. Perrone

4K3/1q6/2p5/bb1p4/4p1pp/r3k2r/6p1/B4R2

a) 1. ♙h8 ♜d3 2. ♜f6 ♙d4 3. ♙g7 ♜he3 4. ♜xc6+ ♜xg7=

b) 1. ♜f8 ♙e2 2. ♙f6 ♙f3 3. ♜f7 ♜e3 4. ♙xh4+ ♜xf7=

Indian, Grimshaw, tempo move (Author).

3rd Hon. Ment. 3291. Tibor Ersek

4K1R1/1p6/6P1/p3P3/k5N1/4p1p1/1Rp5/b2n4

1. ♜f2 ♜xc2(c7) 2. ♜xg4(♜b1) ♜xc7 3. ♜xe5(e2) ♜xb7 4. ♜xg6(g2) ♜b2 5. ♜f4 ♜g4=

Circuito di Torre e bella manovra del Cavallo nero per arrivare a uno stallone in parte Circe.

4th Hon. Ment. 3247. Michel Caillaud

1... ♜g2 2. ♙e2 ♜h1 3. ♙f1 ♙e4 4. ♜e5+ ♙f3 5. ♙g1 ♜g2≠

1... ♜g7 2. ♙c2 ♙c4 3. ♜d6 ♜a1 4. ♙b1 ♙c3 5. ♙e6 ♜b2≠

5th Hon. Ment. 3197. Chris Feather

5nnb/2p2pkp/5p1p/Q4p1P/p7/8/2p2K2/8

1.c1=♜ 2. ♜c3 3. ♜xa5(♜c3) ♜xf6(c3)≠ 1.c1=♜ 2. ♜c5 3. ♜xa5(♜c5) ♜xf8(♜c5)≠

1.c1=♙ 2. ♙d2 3. ♙xa5(♙d2) ♜xh6(d2)≠ 1.c1=♜ 2. ♜b3 3. ♜xa5(♜b3) ♜xf7(b3)≠

Un gradevole AUW.

6th Hon. Ment. 3333. Anatoly Styopochkin

a) 1.d1=LI ♙d2 2.LId3 ♙c3 3. ♙d5 ♙b4 4. ♙e4 LIa4≠

b) 1.d1=AN LIh6 2. ♙f5 ANd2 3. ♙g5 ♙e3 4.ANh4 ♙f4≠

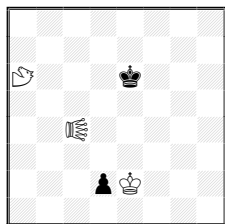
c) 1.d1=♜ ♙d3 2. ♙d5 LIe2 3. ♜f2+ LIg2 4. ♜h3 ♙e4≠

d) 1.d1=♜ LIh1 2. ♜d2+ ♙e3 3. ♜d3 ♙e4 4. ♜d4 ♙f5≠

e) 1.d1=♙ ♙d3 2. ♙c2+ ♙d4 3. ♙e5+ LIc1 4. ♙b1 LIa1≠

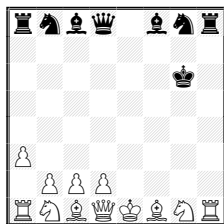
Cinque promozioni diverse, manca solo la Regina.

6th Hon. Ment.
3333. A. Stypochkin



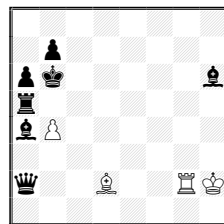
H≠4 (3+2) C+
 b) ♖c4→d6 c) ♜a6→h1
 d) ♜a6→h2 e) ♜a6→h8
 Köko ; ♜=Antelope, ♞=Lion

Comm. without order
3339. H. Grudzinski
 Polonia



SPG 11.0 (12+8)
 Einstein

Comm. without order
3343. V. Agostini
 Italia



H≠2 (4+7) C+
2 sol.
 Take & Make

Commendation 3339. Henryk Grudzinski

rsbq1bsr/8/6k1/8/8/P7/1PPP4/RSBQKBSR

1.e4 f5 2.exf5(♜) h6 3.♜xh6(♞) ♜f7 4.♞xg7(♞)+ ♜f6 5.♞xe7(♞)+ ♜g6 6.♞xd7 ♞h4(♞)
 7.♞xc7 ♞xf2(♞) 8.♞xb7 ♞xg2(♞) 9.♞xa7 ♞xh2 10.♞h7(♞) ♞xh7 11.a3 ♞h8(♞)
 Circuito di torre.

Commendation 3343. Valerio Agostini

8/1p6/pk5b/r7/bP6/8/q2B2RK/8

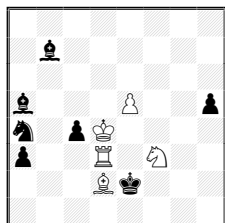
1.♞f4+ ♞xf4(♞b8) 2.♞b5 ♞xa2(♞e6)≠ 1.♞g8 ♞xg8(♞c8) 2.♞b5 ♞xh6(♞e3)≠
 Echo diagonal-orthogonal, black Grimshaw in b5 (Author).

Commendation 3242. Pierre Tritten

8/1b6/8/b3P2p/n1pK4/p2R1N2/3Bk3/8

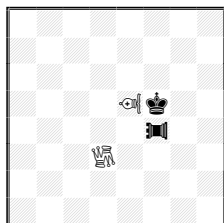
1.♞e4 ♜xe4(♜f5) 2.♜xf3(♜h4) ♞xa5(♞d8)≠
 1.♞d5 ♜xd5(♜g8) 2.♜xd2(♜h6) ♞d6≠ 1.♞c3+ ♜xc3(♜a1) 2.♜xd3(♜b3) ♞d4≠

Comm. without order
3242. P. Tritten
 Francia



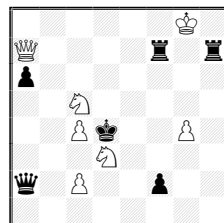
H≠2 (5+7) C+
3 sol.
 Take & Make

Comm. without order
3199. H. Grubert
 Germania



Ser-H≠11 (2+2) C+
2 sol. b) ♞f4-d3, ♞d3-e4
 Equipollents Circe
 ♞=Rook Eagle, ♞=Sparrow,
 ♞=Bishop Moose

Comm. without order
**3302. V. Agostini &
 M. Parrinello - Italia**



HS≠3 (7+6) C+
b) ♞a7-d1

Commendation 3199. Harald Grubert

- a) 1. ♖xe5(♙d5) 2. ♖d4 3. ♖e3 4. ♖xd3(♜c3) 5. ♖c4 6. ♖xd5(♙e6) 7. ♖xe6(♙f7) 8. ♖f6
 9. ♜g6 10. ♖g7 11. ♖h8 ♜g8≠
 1. ♖f6 2. ♖xe5(♙d4) 3. ♜xd3(♜b2) 4. ♖xd4(♙c3) 5. ♖c4 6. ♖xc3(♙c2) 7. ♖b4 8. ♖a3 9. ♜a2
 10. ♖xb2(♜c1) 11. ♖a1 ♜b1≠
- b) 1. ♖e6 2. ♖d5 3. ♜c5 4. ♖xe4(♜f3) 5. ♖f4 6. ♖xe5(♙d6) 7. ♖xd6(♙c7) 8. ♖c6 9. ♜b6
 10. ♖b7 11. ♖a8 ♜b8≠
 1. ♖g4 2. ♖f3 3. ♜f2 4. ♖xe4(♜d5) 5. ♖xd5(♜c6) 6. ♖d6 7. ♖xe5(♙f4) 8. ♖xf4(♙g3) 9. ♖f3
 10. ♖g2 11. ♖h1 ♜h2≠

Commendation 3302. Valerio Agostini & Mario Parrinello

6K1/Q4r1r/p7/2N5/2Pk2P1/3N4/q1P2p2/8

- a) 1. ♖e6+ ♖e4 2. ♜xf2 ♜a5 3. ♖g5+ ♜xc5≠ 1. ♖f4+ ♖e5 2. ♜d8 ♜xc2 3. ♖g6+ ♜xc6≠

International Judge Dragan Stojnic (Valjevo, SERBIA)
 award finished February 10th 2022

Award Best Problems 2017/18 - Section #2

by Dragan Stojnic

In the BP issues n.81-88 were published 78 mate in two moves.

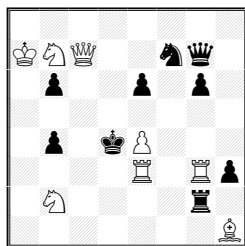
After the first filter I choose 18 the most interesting candidates for inclusion in the the award. Unfortunately for problems 3961, 3995, 4055 and 4057 I found strong anticipatories (see Appendix). So of other 14 candidates for final selection I select 9 – one Prize, three Honourable Mentions and five Commendations.

Prize 4050. P. Murashëv**1st Hon. Mention**

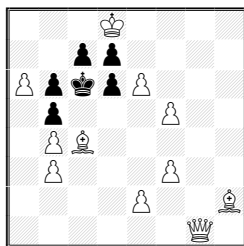
3994. Z. Labai - Slovacchia

2nd Hon. Mention

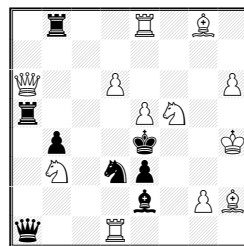
3795. V. Shanshin



≠2 vv (8+9) C+



≠2 vvv (11+6) C+



≠2* (12+8) C+

Prize 4050. Pavel Murashëv

8/KNQ2nq1/1p2p1p1/8/1p1kP3/4R1Rp/1N4r1/7B

1. ♖xb6? [2. ♜c5≠] **X** 1... ♜e5 2. ♜c4≠ **Y** 1... ♜c2 2. ♜d3≠ ma 1... ♜f8!
 1. ♜f4? [2. ♜d3≠] **A** (2.e5?) 1... ♜xb2 a 2.e5≠ **B** 1... ♜xg3 b 2.e5≠ **B** ma 1... ♖e5!
 1.e5! **B** [2. ♜c4≠] **Y**
 1...b5 2. ♜c5≠ **X** 1... ♜xb2 a 2. ♜d3≠ **A** (♜xb6?) 1... ♜xg3 b 2. ♜xb6≠ (♜d3?) 1... ♖xe5
 2. ♜d6≠ Erokhin, Pseudo-le Grand, dual avoidance. (Author)

1st Hon. Mention 3994. Zoltán Labai

3K4/2pp4/PpkpP3/1p3P2/1PB5/1P3P2/4P2B/6Q1

1.exd7? **A** tempo 1...d5 **a** 2.♔g6≠ **B** ma 1...bxc4! **c**1.♔g6? **B** tempo 1...d5 **a** 2.exd7≠ **A** 1...dxe6 **b** 2.♔e8≠ ma 1...bxc4! **c**1.♙d3? **C** tempo 1...d5 **a** 2.♔c1≠ **D** 1...♙d5 2.♙e4≠ ma 1...dxe6! **b**1.♔c1! **D** tempo1...d5 **a** 2.♙d3≠ **C** 1...dxe6 **b** 2.♙xe6≠ 1...bxc4 **c** 2.♔xc4≠

Reversal 2 double AB-BA,CD-DC. Changed mates 1...d5 (a) 4x1 1...dxe6 (b) 2x1 (Author).

2nd Hon. Mention 3795. Valery Shanshin

1r2R1B1/8/Q2P3P/r3PN2/1p2k2K/1N1np3/4b1PB/q2R4

1...♙xf5 2.♙h7≠ 1.♙h7! [2.♙e7≠]

1...♙xe5 2.♙g7≠ (2.♙e7? ♙g6! - Schiffmann)

1...♔xe5 2.♔c6≠ (2.♙e7? ♔f5! - Schiffmann)

1...♔xe5 2.♔c4≠ (2.♙e7? ♔f5! - Schiffmann)

1...♙f4 2.♙g3≠ 1...♙d5 2.♙xe3≠ 1...♙g4 / ♙h5 2.♔xd3≠

Correzione nera, Anti-Somov A1, Schiffmann (parade), Somov B2, Isaev, chiave give and take.

3rd Hon. Mention 3791. Stefano Mariani

5Q2/3p2P1/1NRbp1P1/1bB1kB2/5pK1/3p1P2/4n3/2n1R3

1...exf5+ 2.♔xf5≠

1.♙xd3? [2.♔xf4≠ **A**] 1...♙xd3 2.♔xe2≠ ma 1...♙xf8! **a**1.♙e4? [2.♙xd7≠ **B** (♔xf4?)] 1...♙xc6 2.♙c4≠ ma 1...♙xc5! **b**1.♙xe6! [2.♔f5≠ **C** (♔xf4? ♙xd7?)]1...♙xc5 **b** 2.♔xf4≠ **A** 1...♙xf8 **a** 2.♙xd7≠ **B** 1...♙xe6 2.♔xd6≠ 1...dxe6 2.♔xf4≠

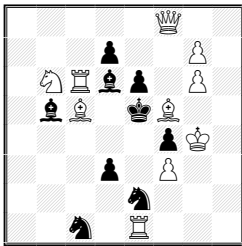
Correzione della minaccia di 3° grado. Antiduale, chiave ampliativa, Hannelius.

3rd Hon. Mention**3791. S. Mariani**

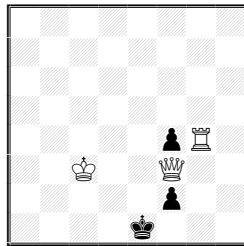
Italia

(Special Comm. for miniature)**3827. M. Chernyavsky**

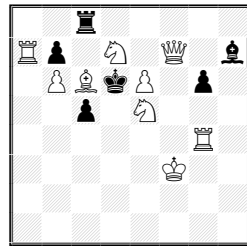
Ucraina

1st Commendation**3955. V. Shanshin**

≠2* vv (10+9) C+



≠2* v... (3+3) C+



≠2 vv (9+6) C+

(Special Comm. for miniature) 3827. Mikola Chernyavsky

8/8/8/8/5pR1/2K2Q2/5p2/4k3

1...♙f1 2.♔d1≠ 1.♙c2? (2.♔d1≠) 1...f1~! 1.♙d3? (2.♔e2≠) 1...f1=♔+!

1.♔g2? 1...f1=♙ 2.♔e2≠ 1...f1=♔! 1.♔h4? 1...♙f1 2.♔h1≠ 1...f1~!

1.♔d3? 1...f3 2.♔e4≠ 1...f1=♔ 2.♔d2≠ 1...f1=♙!

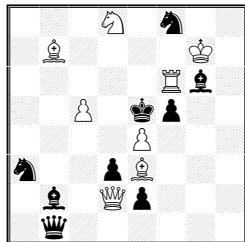
1.♔f4! 1...f1=♔ 2.♔f1≠ 1...♙f1 2.♔f2≠

Summary:

1... ♖f1 2. ♖d1 ♙h1 ♖f2≠ 1...f1 ♘2. ♖e2 ♖f1≠ 1...f1 ♖2. ♖f1 ♖d2≠

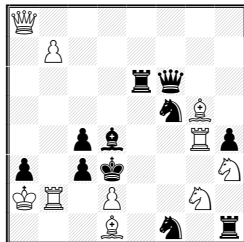
Defences on same square. Changed mates, Zagoruiko, Rukhlis, Reversal (Author).

2nd Commendation
3996. V. Shanshin



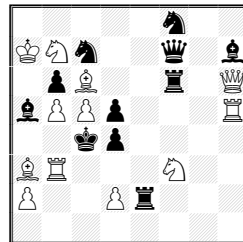
≠2 vv (8+9) C+

3rd Commendation
3832. B. Colaneri - Italia



≠2 v (10+11) C+

4th Commendation
3871. F. Magini - Italia



≠2 v (12+11) C+

1st Commendation 3955. Valery Shanshin

2r5/Rp1N1Q1b/1PBkP1p1/2p1N3/6R1/5K2/8/8

1. ♖xb7? [2. ♘c4≠ **A**] 1...c4 2. ♖d4≠ ma 1... ♖c6! **a**

1. ♖e4? [2. ♘c4≠ **A**] ma 1...c4! (2. ♖d4?)

1.e7! [2. ♖f6≠]

1... ♖xc6 **a** 2.e8=♘≠ **X** [♘c4? **A** ♖xd7!]

1...bxc6 2. ♘c4≠ **A** 1... ♖f8 2.exf8=♖≠ 1... ♖g8 2. ♖xg6≠

New idea: anti-Dombrovskis paradox Aa! – aX(A?) (Author). Correzione nera.

2nd Commendation 3996. Valery Shanshin

3N1n2/1B4K1/5Rb1/2P1kp2/4P3/n2pB3/1b1Qp3/1q6

1. ♖d5? [2. ♘c6≠] **A** ma 1...fxe4! **a**

1. ♖b4? [2. ♘c6≠] **A** 1...fxe4 **a** 2. ♖f4≠ **B** 1... ♖e8 2. ♖xf5≠ 1... ♖d4 2. ♖xd4≠ ma 1... ♘c4!

1. ♖d6! [2. ♖f4≠] **B** 1...fxe4 **a** 2. ♖d5≠ **X** [2. ♘c6?] **A** 1... ♖f1 2. ♖xb2≠ 1... ♘e6+ 2. ♖xe6≠

New idea: anti-Le Grand AaB – BaX(A?) (Author). Somov B2, Dombrovskis (Paradox).

3rd Commendation 3832. Bruno Colaneri

Q7/1P6/4rq2/5nB1/2pb2Rp/p1pk3N/KR1P2N1/3B1n1r

1. ♖e3? [2. ♘e1≠ 2. ♘f2≠] ma 1...cxd2!

1. ♖a4! [2. ♖c2≠] 1... ♘1e3 2. ♘f2≠ 1... ♘5e3 2. ♘e1≠

Tentativo Novotny. Dopo la chiave due difese nere producono antiduale per apertura di linea nera, permettendo uno solo dei due matti minacciati nel tentativo (Author).

4th Commendation 3871. Fabio Magini

5n2/KNn2q1b/1pB2r1Q/bPPp3R/2kp4/BR3N2/P2Pr3/8

1. ♖h4? [2. ♖xd4≠] ma 1... ♘ce6!

1. ♖f4! [2. ♖xd4≠]

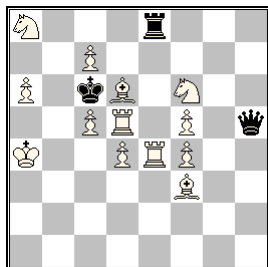
1... ♘xb5+ 2. ♖xb5≠ 1... ♖c3 2. ♖xc3≠ 1... ♖e4 2. d3≠

1...bxc5 2. ♘xa5≠ 1... ♘fe6 2. ♘d6≠ 1... ♖xf4 2. ♘d6≠

1... ♖e4 2. ♘e5≠ 1... ♖xd2 2. ♘e5≠ 1... ♘ce6 2. ♖xd5≠

International Judge Dragan Stojnic (Valjevo, SERBIA)
 award finished March 3rd 2022

Appendix



A - (compare with 3961) – ID 124988

Milan Velimirovic - 1st Prize *Diagrammes* 1979

≠2 (13+3) C+

1. ♖e5? [2. ♜d6+] but 1... ♜xa8!

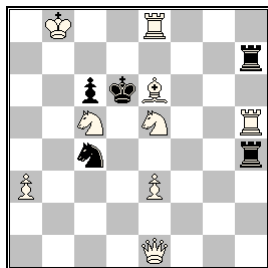
1. ♜de5? [2. d5+] but 1... ♜f7!

1. ♜e6! [2. ♖e7+]

1... ♜xa8 2. ♖e5+ 1... ♜f7 2. ♜de5+ 1... ♜xf5 2. ♜xf5+

1... ♜d8 2. cxd8= ♖+ 1... ♜xe6 2. c8= ♜+

Vladimirov theme.



B - (compare with 4057) – ID 249905

Valery Popov - 1st-2nd Prize e.a. *Kolokol Chernobylya* 1992

≠2 (9+5) C+

1. ♜b4? [2. ♜b7 A, ♜e4+ B]

1... ♜4xh5 a 2. ♜xc4+ C

1... ♜7xh5 b 2. ♜f7+ D

but 1... ♜e7!

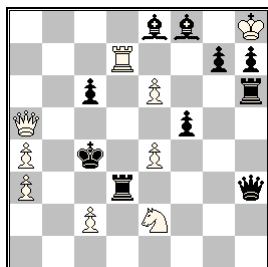
1. ♜g3! [2. ♜xc4 C, ♜f7+ D]

1... ♜4xh5 a 2. ♜e4+ B

1... ♜7xh5 b 2. ♜b7+ A

Odessa theme

1... ♜xc5 2. ♜d7+ 1... ♜xe5 2. ♜xe5+ 1... ♜b7+ 2. ♜xb7+



C - (compare with 4055)

Zoltán Labai - *Kudesnik* 2008

4bb1K/3R2pp/2p1P2r/Q4p2/P1k1P3/P2r3q/2P1N3/8

≠2 (9+10) C+

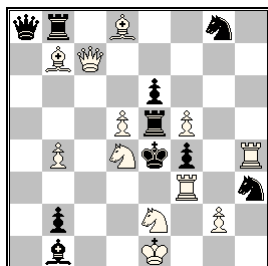
1.e7? [2. ♜b4+] **A** 1...c5 **a** 2. ♜b5+ **B**

1... ♜b3 2. ♜d4+ but 1... ♖xe7!

1. ♜c7! [2. ♜b5+] **B** 1...c5 **a** 2. ♜b4+ **A**

1... ♜b3 2. ♜d5+ 1... ♖c5 2. ♜a6+

Le Grand+changed mate



D - (compare with 3995) – ID 300982

Ruslan Surkov2nd Prize (Russian Chess-problems association-80 JT)*Shakhmatnaya Kompozitsiya* 2006

≠2 (12+10) C+

1. ♜b6? [2. ♜g3, ♜c3+]

1... ♜xd5 2. ♜xe6+ but 1... ♜xf5!

1. ♜c4? [2. ♜g3, ♜c3+] 1... ♜xf5 2. ♜c6+ but 1... ♜xd5!

1. ♜c6! [2. ♜xe5+]

1... ♜xf5 2. ♜c3+ 1... ♜xd5 2. ♜g3+

1... ♜xd5 2. ♜e7+ 1... ♜xf5 2. ♜h7+

I miei più sinceri ringraziamenti a Dragan Stojnic per il suo qualificato verdetto, il quale diverrà definitivo passati 3 mesi dalla pubblicazione. Eventuali reclami vanno inviati al Redattore:

Antonio Garofalo, E-mail: perseus@bestproblems.it

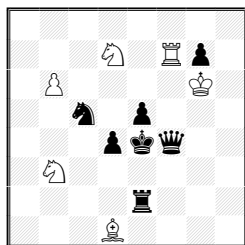
[My most sincere thanks to Dragan Stojnic for his qualified award, which will become definitive 3 months after publication. Possible claims must be sent to the Editor:

Antonio Garofalo, E-mail: perseus@bestproblems.it.]

The Evolution of an idea in composing H#2

by Francesco Simoni

My composing activity led to the position in Diagram A



← **A) Francesco Simoni** - original

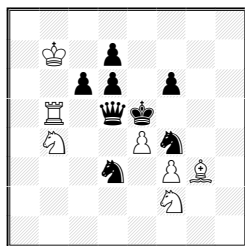
8/3N1R1p1/1P4K1/2n1p3/3pkq2/1N6/4r3/3B4

h#2 (6+7) C+

1. ♖xb3 ♙xb3 2. ♔e3 ♘c5+ 1. ♘xd7 ♙xd7 2. ♔e3 ♘c5+

Problem A shows the capture of a troublesome white piece, Zilahi, delayed FML, mates on the same square.

Not so bad as a first result, but as well not fully convincing: the content is nice but rather linear, and therefore I was not very satisfied. I felt the possibility to improve its strategic content in some ways, so I decided to put it aside in the tray, instead of sending it to some tourney.



← **B) Francesco Simoni** - *Problemaz* 2008

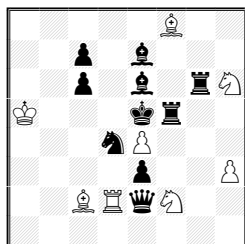
3rd Honourable Mention

8/1K1p4/2pp1p2/1R1qk3/1N2Pn2/3n1PB1/5N2/8

h#2 (7+8) C+

1. ♘xf2 ♙xf2 2. ♘e6 ♘d3+ 1. ♘xb4 ♙xb4 2. ♔e6 ♘d3+

One of the things that I really disliked was that one of the black pieces did nothing, in turn, in each of the two solutions. To eliminate this drawback, I set-up a pin for each of the black pieces that in the course of the solution will have to move. The first White move shall un-pin, in turn, one of them, and the mate will take place leveraging on the static pin of the other black piece. The result is shown in Diagram B.



← **C) Francesco Simoni** - *idee & form* 2008-09

2nd Prize

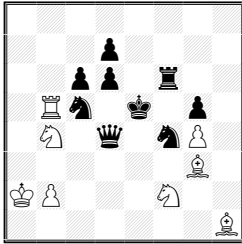
5B2/2p1b3/2p1b1rN/K3kr2/3nP3/4p2P/2BRqN2/8

h#2 (8+10) C+

1. ♙xh6 ♙xh6 2. ♘f3 ♘g4+ 1. ♔xf2 ♙xf2 2. ♙g5 ♘g4+

The core thematic content is the same as before (the capture of a troublesome white piece, Zilahi, delayed FML). While definitely nicer-looking, Problem B is not, however, such a big improvement under the strategic perspective, and someone could still prefer problem A because static pins are ultimately not such an interesting use of black pieces. I studied therefore a more complex mechanism and I ended-up with Problem C.

In Problem C two black pieces guard the mating square: one moves in first to abandon the guard and capture the redundant knight, to clear its square and allow the first White move; the second, in turn, is interfered with the second Black move. Again white pieces alternates in the guard of two squares, with line opening by the second Black move, similarly to what happened in Problem A.



← D) Francesco Simoni & Abdelaziz Onkoud

Best Problems 2022

8/3p4/2pp1r2/1Rn1k1p1/1N1q1nP1/6B1/KP3N2/7B

h♯2 (8+9) C-

1. ♖xf2 ♙xf2 2. ♘fe6 ♘d3♯

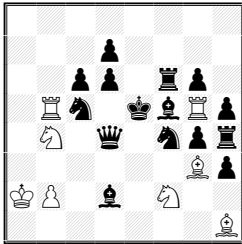
1. ♖xf2 ♚xc5+ 2. ♙d4 ♙xf2♯

1. ♖xb4 ♚xb4 2. ♘ce6 ♘d3♯

1. ♖xb4 ♙xf4+ 2. ♙d4 ♚xb4♯

Cooked: 1. ♚e3 ♘bd3+ 2. ♙d4 ♚b4♯

In an independent way, and in parallel to my efforts, the editor of *Problemaz*, the magazine where Problem B was published, wrote me to suggest a further improvement of Problem B, adding two more solutions to the matrix. He showed me Problem D, that has two variations similar to Problem B (but this time the bQ moves at B1 to capture and two bS are pinned in turn) and other two in which the same W1 moves become mates. Unfortunately the new matrix was cooked, and apparently there wasn't an easy way to correct it. After some unsuccessful tries I abandoned the position and I forgot it for some time.



← E) Francesco Simoni & Abdelaziz Onkoud

Commendation *The Problemist* 2013

8/3p4/2pp1rp1/1Rn1kbRp/1N1q1npr/6Bp/KP1b1N2/7B

h♯2 (8+15) C+ b) ♚g5→d1

a) 1. ♖xf2 ♙xf2 2. ♘fe6 ♘d3♯ 1. ♖xb4 ♚xb4 2. ♘ce6 ♘d3♯

b) 1. ♖xf2 ♚xc5+ 2. ♙d4 ♙xf2♯ 1. ♖xb4 ♙xf4+ 2. ♙d4 ♚xb4♯

Years later, I found again the cooked position in a folder of my hard disk and so the co-author and I worked it again, this time with success.

To avoid the cook, a wR shall be placed on d1 and a bB on d2. After 1.Qe3 Sbd3+ 2.Kd4 Rb4 is not mate because the bishop defends. Instead, after 1.Q×f2 R×c5+ 2.Kd4 and 1.Q×b4 B×f4+ 2.Kd4, the bishop is pinned so that it's possible to mate.

Unfortunately, the wR does nothing in the other two solutions, so a twin form becomes necessary. Since in two solutions the bK moves to d4, and there is no need to guard f5 and f6 in these, an easy idea is to provide a twin moving the wR, in a position where it guards the squares f5, f6; however, it appears more strategic to realize a different pin effect by the wR in both positions.

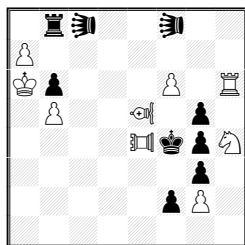
This is a helpmate of the future in twin form: in A) Black sacrifice with square clearance to play W1, b/w direct unpin, self-block by the unpinned black piece, double pin mate, Zilahi; in B) Black sacrifice with square clearance to play W2, self-pin, pin mate, diagonal-orthogonal echo play. W1 moves in A) becomes mates in B). Homogenous roles of the wRg5→wRd1, which pin a different piece in both twins.

I was expecting good success for this problem, so I send it to a strong tourney, but I was quite disappointed when it just got a Commendation. I imagine that the judge did not particularly appreciate the static pins and he did not take into account that such pins are necessary for soundness, as we explained before. Also, the identical keys in the two positions may have influenced, as well as other white moves, which are repeated in a) and b), but translated from W1 to W2. Of course, the random presence of repeated moves in the helpmates is very unpleasant, but in this case the repetitions are perfectly thematic and should be considered as such, also due to the difficulty of the construction!

Francesco Simoni

Affermazioni italiane (Italian award winners)

Da un verdetto lungamente atteso... Tre lavori che hanno ampiamente meritato l'onorificenza.



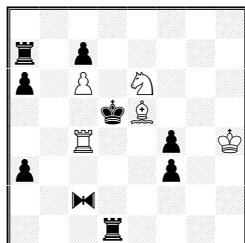
← **Mario Parrinello** - 3° Premio *Springaren* 2011

hs≠3 (9+9) C+ ♚=Leo, ♜=Vao, ♞=Pao

1.PAxg4 LEb4 2.PAxb4 ♚g4 3.Vd4+ LEc4‡

1.Vxg3 LEc7 2.Vxc7 ♚g3 3.PAe5+ LEd6‡

Lovely helpselfmate with fairy pieces. I like especially the mating positions, where one is horizontal and the other is diagonal. The mates are typical for chinese pieces. The mat-ing piece goes between two chinese pieces and the chinese pieces can't capture it. (Judge: Kenneth Solja). Nella prima sol. tre pezzi fairy in fila orizzontale con quello centrale (Leo) che matta. Nella seconda sol. in fila diagonale e matta sempre il Leo centrale. Davvero divertente! (NdR)



← **Rodolfo Riva & Antonio Garofalo** - 2ª M. O. *Springaren* 2011

H≠2 (5+9) C+ b) ♜c2-d3, c) ♜c2-g4

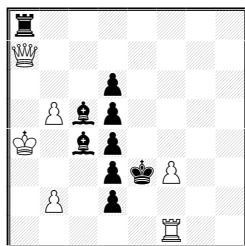
Take & Make, ♜=Equihopper

a) 1.Eg8 ♜c5+ 2.♜xe5(♜h8) ♜h5‡

b) 1.Eb5 ♜c3 2.♜xc4(♜a4) ♜c5‡

c) 1.Ec8 ♜e4 2.♜xe6(♜d8) ♜f6‡

Cyclic Zilahi with a fairy condition and with equihopper is a quite achievement. Black King is also using the captures to his mating position. White pieces also have cyclic functions between captured piece / mating piece / guarding piece. (Judge: Kenneth Solja)



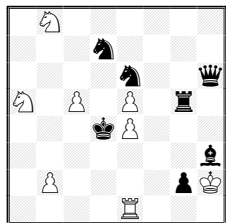
← **Valerio Agostini & Mario Parrinello** - 3ª M. O. *Springaren* 2011

hs≠3,5 (6+9) C+

1...♜xb5+ 2.♜b3 ♜e8 3.♜h7 ♜f7 4.♜e4+ dxe4‡

1...♜b6 2.♜b4 ♜d8 3.♜g7 ♜e7 4.♜e5+ dxe5‡

Another interesting helpselfmate. Black bishops go on the other side of the vertical line of pawns to make a battery, which white Queen is opening by sacrificing herself. (Judge: Kenneth Solja)



← Francesco Simoni - 1° Premio *SuperProblem* 2021

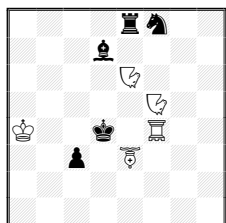
1N6/3n4/4n2q/N1P1P1r1/3kP3/7b/1P4pK/4R3

H≠2,5 (8+7) C+ b) ♖e1

- a) 1... ♖c4 (♖xd7?) 2. ♖xe5 (♖dxe5?) ♖xe5 3. ♖dxc5 (♖exc5?) ♖bc6♯ try: 1... ♖xd7? 2. ♖xe5 ♖xe5 3. ♖xc5 ♖ac6♯??
- b) 1... ♖a6 (♖xd7?) 2. ♖exc5 (♖dxc5?) ♖xc5 3. ♖xe5 (♖xe5?) ♖f2♯ try: 1... ♖xd7? 2. ♖xc5 ♖xc5 3. ♖xe5 ♖f2♯??

Black sacrifice at B2 with square clearance to play W2, self-block at B3. Dual avoidances, model mates. If black sacrificed the bSd7 at B2, the only move left to self-block at B3 would avoid the mate for black line opening. The tries fail because the bSd7, which must self-block, is captured. Cyclical exchange of functions (wSa5/wRe1 (wBe1)/wSb8, capture and guard/passive guard/mate). (Author)

A very unusual scheme for dual avoidance, since the pieces on e1 fulfill different tasks and the roles of the white knights are thus unequally distributed. Nevertheless, the dual avoidance or the choice of moves are correct. The Sd7 is needed for a block at the end, so White has to reach the goal by other means. Then Black has to be careful to sacrifice the right piece, and finally the right piece has to block without opening a black line. The model mates emphasize the elegant presentation. If you have to look at more than 50% of the moves first, why what works and why not, it should be an original and complex work. It therefore meets my criteria for a prize. (Judge: Silvio Baier)



← Mario Parrinello – 3° Premio *StrateGems* 2020

H≠2 (5+5) C+ b) ♖a4-a8 c) ♖a4-g6

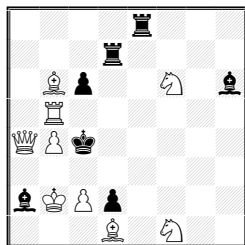
Anti-Kings, Patrol chess

♖=Bishop-Locust, ♘=Nightrider-Locust, ♖=Rook-Locust.

- a) 1. ♖xe6 ♖b5 2. ♖xe3 NLxe3-d1♯
- b) 1. ♖xe6 ♖b8 2. ♖xf4 BLxf4-g5♯
- c) 1. ♖xe6 ♖h7 2. ♖xf5 RLxf5-f6♯

Zilahi ciclico + ciclo di catture

Ricostruzione



← Efrén Petite - *Best Problems* 2007 - Ricostruzione 90 - BP101

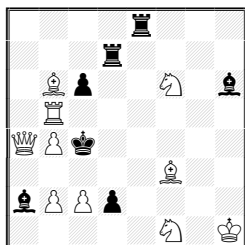
4r3/3r4/1Bp2N1b/1R6/QPk5/8/bKPP4/3B1N2

≠2 (9+7) C+

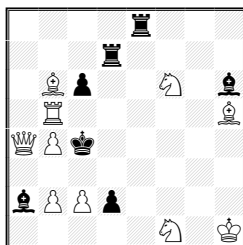
1. ♖g5? [2.b5♯]
- 1... ♖a8 a 2. ♖e3♯ A 1... ♖a7 b 2. ♖xd2♯ B ma 1... ♖f8! c
1. ♖e5? [2.b5♯]
- 1... ♖a7 b 2. ♖e2♯ C 1... ♖f8 c 2. ♖e3♯ A ma 1... ♖a8! a
1. ♖d5! [2.b5♯]
- 1... ♖f8 c 2. ♖xd2♯ B 1... ♖a8 a 2. ♖e2♯ C
- 1... ♖a7 2. ♖d4♯ 1... ♖b3 2.cxb3, ♖xb3♯

Lacny ripartito in 3 fasi.

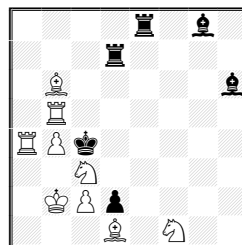
P. Zuvic



M. Uris (1)



M. Uris (2)



Hanno inviato la loro proposta **J.A. Coello Alonso**, **Hans Nieuwhart**, entrambi con una posizione esattamente uguale all'originale. Inoltre hanno pure partecipato **Predrag Zuvic** e **Miguel Uris**. La posizione di Predrag mette il Re bianco all'angolo e perciò ha un pedone in più rispetto all'originale, mentre Miguel propone due posizioni: nel diagramma 1 usa 10+7 pezzi come Predrag, col difetto (in entrambi) del matto duale secondario $1... \text{♙b3} \ 2. \text{♜xb3} \ddagger \ 2.\text{cxb3} \ddagger$ presente anche nell'originale, mentre nel diagramma 2 riesce a sostituire la ♞ bianca con una ♞ e risparmia un ♜ nero, arrivando alla posizione migliore fra quelle presentate avendo tolto il suddetto difetto.

Ricostruzione n. 91 - Ricostruire un problema $\neq 2$ che abbia la seguente soluzione:

$1. \text{♙e1?} \ [2. \text{♞h3} \ddagger] \text{ ma } 1... \text{♞xb5}!$
 $1. \text{♙d4?} \ [2. \text{♞h3} \ddagger] \ 1... \text{♜f3} \ 2. \text{♞xf3} \ddagger \text{ ma } 1... \text{♞xb7}!$
 $1. \text{♞c-?} \ [2. \text{♞xf7} \ddagger] \text{ ma } 1... \text{♞xb7}!$
 $1. \text{♞d4?} \ [2. \text{♞xf7} \ddagger] \ 1... \text{♜f6} \ 2. \text{♞e6} \ddagger \text{ ma } 1... \text{♞xb5}!$
 $1. \text{♜c6!} \ [2. \text{♜d4} \ddagger] \ 1... \text{♞xb5} \ 2. \text{♙c8} \ddagger \ 1... \text{♞xb7} \ 2. \text{♜e6} \ddagger \ 1... \text{♜f3} \ 2. \text{♜g4} \ddagger$

Inviare (send to): **perseus@bestproblems.it**

(last available day for to send: 10/06/2022)

A. Garofalo

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Figured tours of knight on 11x11 Board

by Awani Kumar, Lucknow, India

Figured tours of knight on even size boards, namely 8x8 and 10x10 have been amply looked into but those on odd size boards have got scanty attention. The author wishes to look into 'Figured tours' on 11x11 board. Readers are well aware of Figured tour of knight – view *Best Problems* No. 99 – which is mathematical art on chessboard. Figure 1 has the consecutive square numbers $1^2, 2^2, 3^2 \dots 11^2$, that is, 1, 4, 9 ... 121 along wazir {0, 1} path in the shape of staircase. Square numbers are more amenable for figured tours. Figure 2 has the consecutive square numbers along the fifth row. Here the move segments are alternately above and below the row up to 91. Figure 3 has the consecutive square numbers only up to 100 along the top row. Despite of putting intense effort the author couldn't get 121 in the top right corner. If the 'consecutive' square numbers criterion is relaxed then one can have all the square numbers in the first row as shown in Figure 4. There can't be a knight tour with square numbers along the third row and Figure 7 shows the reason for it. Figure 5 has the consecutive square numbers in knight path in a compact zigzag formation. Figure 6 also has the consecutive square numbers in knight path in a sparse zigzag formation along fifth and seventh rows. Such zigzag formations are not possible along first and third row or third and fifth row as evident from Figure 8 and Figure 9 respectively.

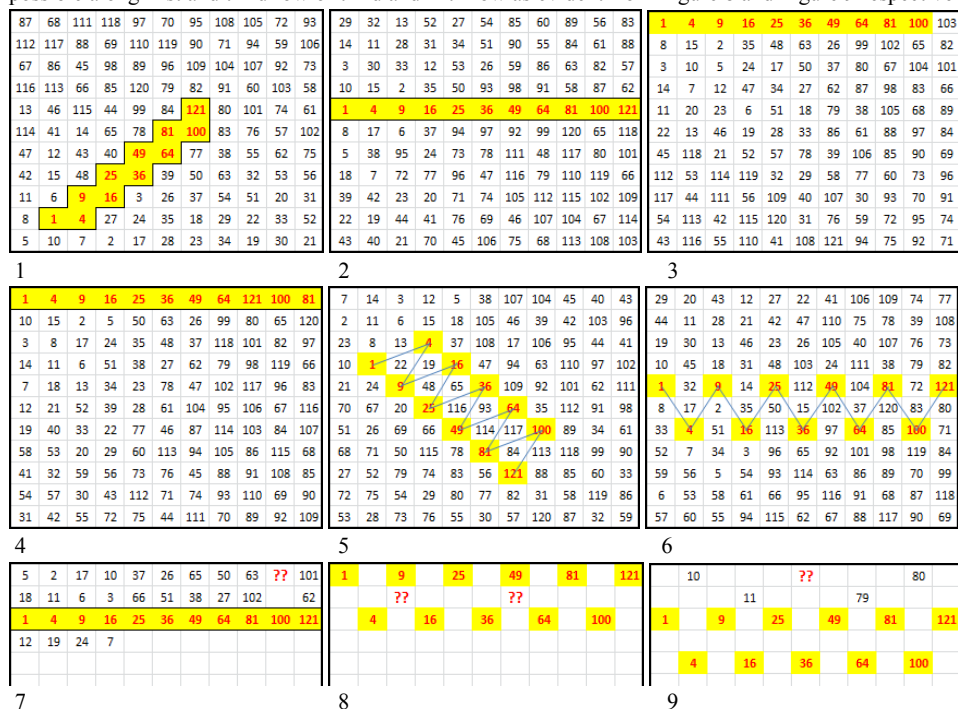
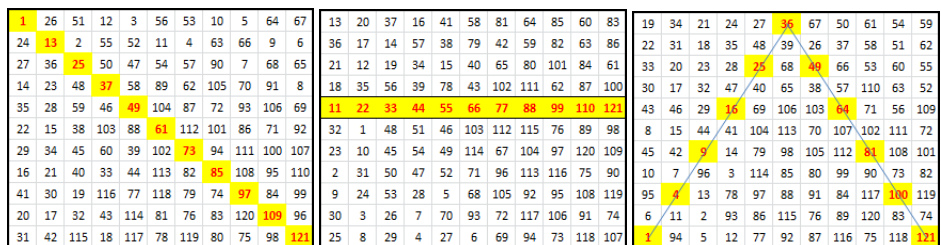
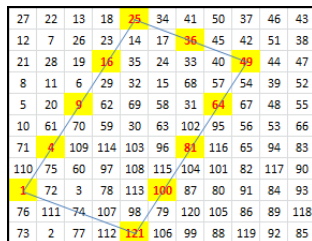


Figure 10 has the numbers in arithmetic progression (AP) with common difference (CD) 12 along the long diagonal. Figure 11 has the numbers in multiple of 11 along the fifth row. The move segments are alternately above and below the row up to 102. Figure 12 to Figure 14 have the consecutive square numbers along the knight path in hill, oblong and square formations respectively.

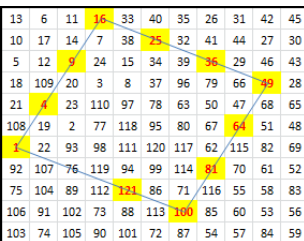


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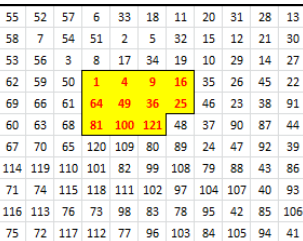
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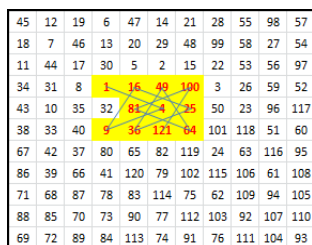
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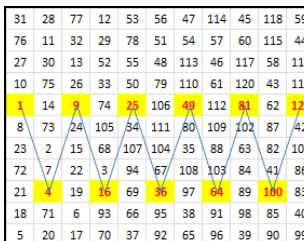
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Figure 15 and Figure 16 have the consecutive square numbers in a compact formation along wazir and knight path respectively. Figure 17 has square numbers arranged in the shape of a cross. Figure 18 and Figure 19 have square numbers in a tree shape. Figure 20 and Figure 21 have consecutive square numbers in a zigzag formation in giraffe {1, 4} and flamingo {1, 6} path respectively.



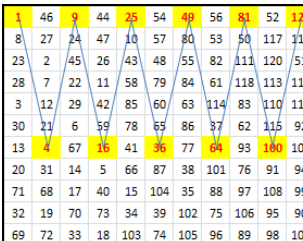
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Figure 22 to Figure 24 have consecutive square numbers in a zigzag formation in zebra {2, 3}, antelope {3, 4} and {4, 5} leaper path respectively.

11	2	7	4	37	20	35	28	31	104	33
8	5	10	21	16	27	38	19	34	29	102
1	12	3	6	39	36	17	30	103	32	105
24	9	22	15	26	41	64	107	18	101	98
13	50	25	40	47	108	87	100	97	106	85
44	23	14	49	42	65	82	63	86	99	96
51	70	43	46	81	48	109	88	95	84	111
54	45	52	71	66	121	62	83	110	89	94
69	72	55	58	61	80	119	78	91	112	115
56	53	74	67	120	59	76	117	114	93	90
73	68	57	60	75	118	79	92	77	116	113

19	14	5	12	17	30	109	58	103	32	111
6	11	18	15	4	57	102	31	110	59	104
27	20	13	38	29	16	63	108	35	112	33
10	7	28	3	56	39	36	101	62	105	60
1	26	21	8	37	96	79	64	107	34	113
24	9	2	55	78	65	40	97	100	61	106
53	48	25	22	95	80	77	66	41	114	99
54	45	54	49	76	91	42	71	98	67	118
47	52	85	92	81	94	75	90	117	72	115
86	83	50	45	88	121	70	43	74	119	68
51	46	87	82	93	44	89	120	69	116	73

29	32	13	6	15	4	35	62	17	20	67
12	7	30	3	34	61	16	21	66	37	18
31	28	33	14	5	21	63	36	19	68	65
8	11	2	23	60	105	118	111	64	103	38
1	24	27	10	91	110	115	104	117	100	69
26	9	92	59	106	119	112	109	102	39	98
57	48	25	90	93	114	107	116	99	70	101
78	53	58	49	120	89	94	113	108	97	40
47	56	79	76	81	74	43	88	95	84	71
52	77	54	45	50	121	82	73	86	41	96
55	46	51	80	75	44	87	42	83	72	85

22

23

24

Now let us look into the polygons with consecutive square numbers in various pieces path. Figure 25 and Figure 26 have consecutive square numbers in knight path and the area of polygons is 8.5 and 62 respectively. Figure 27 and Figure 28 have consecutive square numbers in wazir path and the area of polygons is 4.5 and 12 respectively. Figure 29 and Figure 30 have consecutive square numbers in zebra path and the area of polygons is 12.5 and 55.5 respectively. Figure 31 and Figure 32 have consecutive square numbers in giraffe path and the area of polygons is 24 and 72 respectively. Figure 33 and Figure 34 have consecutive square numbers in antelope path and the area of polygons is 17.5 and 38.5 respectively.

21	92	109	118	19	94	107	98	59	76	105
110	119	20	93	108	97	18	95	106	61	58
91	22	3	120	117	102	99	60	77	104	75
2	111	90	115	100	17	96	103	62	57	78
23	114	121	4	89	116	101	80	83	74	85
8	1	112	37	16	81	88	63	86	79	56
113	24	9	50	5	36	15	82	65	84	73
10	7	38	25	14	51	64	87	72	55	66
29	26	31	6	45	46	35	52	69	42	71
32	11	28	39	34	13	48	41	44	67	54
27	30	33	12	47	40	45	68	53	70	43

21	18	27	14	31	38	35	40	33	54	51
28	13	22	19	26	41	32	37	52	61	56
12	20	15	30	23	36	39	34	55	50	53
12	29	70	25	42	47	68	40	62	57	60
71	16	43	46	69	24	113	66	59	64	83
44	11	8	115	112	67	48	63	82	89	58
9	72	45	110	95	114	97	88	65	84	91
106	7	10	3	116	111	94	101	80	87	90
73	8	107	104	109	96	117	98	85	100	79
6	105	2	75	118	93	102	77	120	91	86
1	74	5	108	103	76	119	92	99	78	121

91	114	87	96	89	112	75	110	105	78	73
86	95	90	113	102	97	104	77	74	109	106
115	92	83	88	99	76	111	60	107	72	79
94	85	120	101	82	103	98	65	80	61	108
119	116	93	84	121	100	81	50	59	68	71
14	5	118	1	16	25	64	69	66	51	62
117	2	15	4	9	36	49	58	63	70	67
6	13	8	17	24	41	26	37	34	56	52
21	18	3	10	29	38	35	48	55	46	33
12	7	20	23	42	47	40	31	44	53	56
19	22	11	28	39	30	43	54	47	32	45

25 Area of polygon = 8.5

26 Area of polygon = 62

27 Area of polygon = 4.5

7	2	39	12	95	28	113	120	111	30	115
40	11	6	27	38	13	96	29	114	119	110
3	8	1	14	5	94	121	112	99	116	31
10	4	1	37	26	97	100	93	118	109	102
17	24	9	50	15	92	81	98	101	32	117
42	51	16	25	36	49	64	91	80	103	108
23	18	57	48	65	62	35	82	107	90	33
52	43	22	61	56	47	86	63	34	79	104
19	58	55	66	75	68	83	106	87	72	89
44	53	60	21	46	85	76	73	70	105	78
59	20	45	54	67	74	69	84	77	88	71

7	14	3	12	29	22	17	60	31	38	19
2	11	6	15	4	27	30	21	18	61	32
121	8	13	28	23	16	59	52	37	20	39
10	1	24	5	26	51	36	75	54	33	62
99	120	9	50	77	58	53	64	35	40	55
92	117	100	25	102	109	76	57	74	63	34
119	98	91	82	49	78	103	110	65	56	41
116	93	118	101	112	81	108	79	104	73	66
90	97	95	48	83	86	111	72	69	42	105
94	115	88	85	46	113	80	107	44	67	70
89	96	47	114	87	84	45	68	71	106	43

111	108	1	58	5	20	3	18	9	22	11
104	59	110	107	2	57	6	21	12	17	8
109	112	105	102	95	4	19	46	7	10	23
60	103	94	121	106	45	56	71	42	13	36
113	116	101	96	93	70	47	44	15	24	41
100	61	118	115	120	67	72	55	50	43	14
117	114	87	92	97	48	69	66	25	40	51
88	99	62	119	68	73	54	49	16	35	26
83	86	81	98	91	76	65	30	37	32	39
80	89	84	63	78	29	74	53	34	27	36
85	82	79	90	75	64	77	28	31	38	33

28 Area of polygon = 12

29 Area of polygon = 12.5

30 Area of polygon = 55.5

95	120	93	12	97	78	115	102	111	76	73
92	11	96	119	116	99	110	77	74	105	112
121	94	13	98	79	118	101	114	103	72	75
10	91	26	117	100	89	80	109	106	113	104
1	14	9	90	25	52	49	86	81	108	71
8	27	24	51	88	57	68	107	48	85	82
23	2	15	56	53	50	87	66	83	70	47
28	7	22	3	58	67	54	69	34	65	84
21	4	19	16	55	36	61	64	41	46	43
18	29	6	59	62	31	38	35	44	33	40
5	20	17	30	37	60	63	32	39	42	45

9	12	5	96	101	78	3	94	1	80	121
6	103	8	11	4	95	100	79	82	93	60
13	10	97	102	77	84	87	2	59	120	81
104	7	14	115	86	99	76	83	118	61	92
27	16	111	98	109	116	85	88	91	58	119
112	105	28	15	114	75	108	117	62	45	90
17	26	113	110	107	38	73	46	89	64	57
34	29	106	37	74	51	68	63	72	47	44
25	18	35	32	39	22	71	52	67	56	65
30	33	20	23	36	41	50	69	54	43	48
19	24	31	40	21	70	53	42	49	66	55

87	78	73	102	85	80	71	6	67	14	69
106	103	86	79	72	3	84	81	70	5	66
77	88	105	74	101	82	7	13	68	15	70
104	107	76	111	2	99	38	83	16	65	12
115	112	89	100	75	8	53	98	11	36	17
108	91	114	1	110	39	10	37	62	51	64
113	116	109	90	9	54	97	52	41	18	35
92	27	120	55	96	25	40	61	50	63	42
121	56	117	26	23	60	49	46	43	34	19
28	93	58	119	30	95	24	21	32	47	44
57	118	29	94	59	22	31	48	45	20	33

31 Area of polygon = 24

32 Area of polygon = 72

33 Area of polygon = 17.5

Figure 35 and Figure 36 have the consecutive square numbers in flamingo {1, 6} path and the area of polygons is 14 and 28.5 respectively. Figure 37 and Figure 38 have the consecutive square numbers in leaper {4, 5} path and the area of polygons is 22 and 22.5 respectively. Figure 39 delineates heart shape.

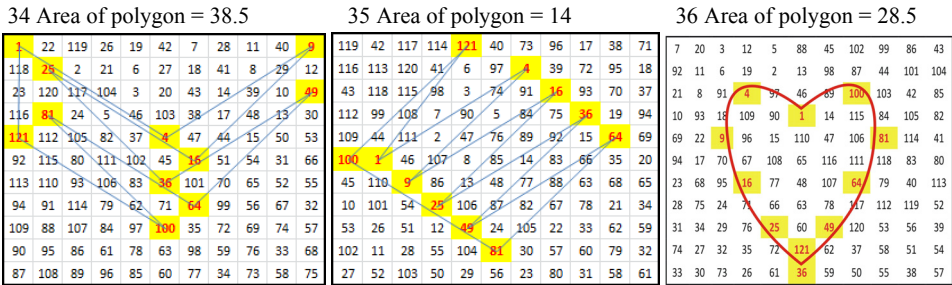
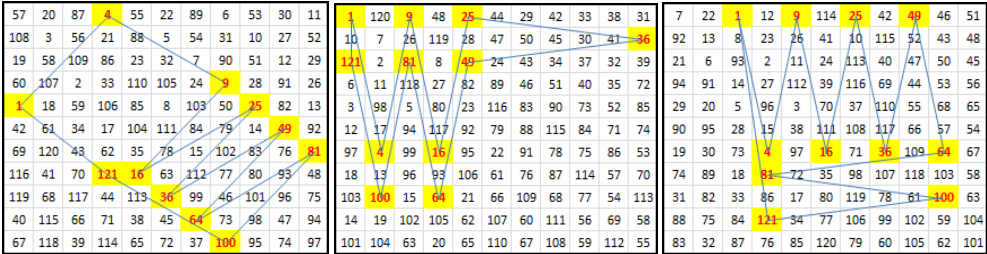


Table below shows the smallest and largest area of the polygons and readers are urged to improve up on it.

Area of polygon with square numbers in various pieces path

Piece	wazir {0, 1}	knight {1, 2}	zebra {2, 3}	giraffe {1, 4}	antelope {3, 4}	flamingo {1, 6}	leaper {4, 5}
Smallest	4.5	8.5	12.5	24	17.5	14	22
Largest	12	62	55.5	72	38.5	28.5	22.5

Dedication: Italy has produced many great mathematicians and Leonardo Fibonacci (1170 – 1250) is one of the most prominent ones. Fibonacci sequence 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21 ... has been fascinating humankind for over eight centuries and Figure 40 is a monogram tour (knight moves delineating letters) with Fibonacci numbers delineating letters ‘L’ and ‘F’ acronym of his name. Luigi Centurini (1820 – 1900) was an Italian jurist, chess player, and a world famous chess composer. Figure 41 and Figure 42 delineate letters ‘L’ and ‘C’ of his name.

The author dedicates this article to commemorate his 121st death anniversary.

