

## In this issue

Even in this strange year the Slovak magazine PAT A MAT has continued with regular publication rhythm. The bulk of this issue is therefore dedicated to its two latest PaM issues. One was available in early October, while the current is just off the printer. Many attractive problems inside, I had to be very selective.

We have also the last - and very good - original for competition 2020. I hope you find Hubert's original attractive as well.

But before that I have included also one very recent orthodox threemover from the Azerbaijani jubilee tourney. I simply love it.

There was no submission for the 3rd TT Conflictio for Jacobs-themed problems. The tourney thus has to be cancelled. To slightly compensate, in the near future there will be small addendum showing some position not yet included in the articles on the theme.

On the other hand, there is much interest in the repelling/antipin theme, following the article in Conflictio 28. I have received multiple remarks from readers, so there surely will be follow-up, as soon as I again sort out the input.

Finally, let me wish you much better year 2021!

Stay safe and enjoy Conflictio!

Juraj Lörinc

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### Published not so recently: PAT A MAT 113

Issue No 113 of Slovak magazine appeared in early October. The content includes:

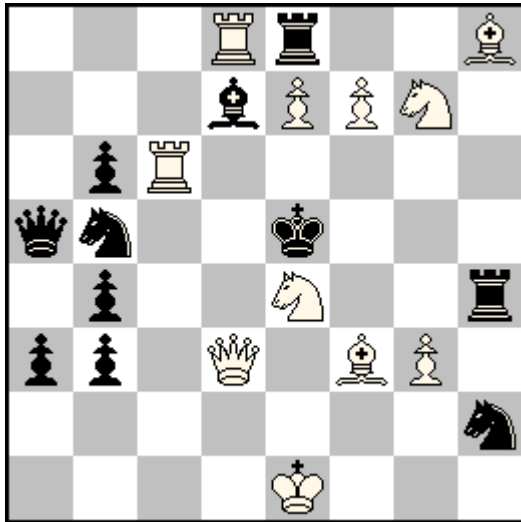
- preliminary awards of PaM tourneys:
  - 2019 fairies,
  - 2016-2017 selfmates,

- an article on the solving championship by Marek Kolčák,
- originals,
- regular Selections,
- review of Slovak successes,
- some final awards.

13 problems from the issue are reprinted here. We commence with just three originals. **631** is a kind of experimental single-phase twomover.

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**631 - Miroslav Svítek**  
PAT A MAT 2020



#2 (11+11) C+

- 1.Sd2!** [2.Qd5#]  
 1...Sxf3+ **AB** 2.Sxf3#  
 1...Re4+ **BC** 2.Qxe4#  
 1...Sd6 **CD** 2.Qxd6#  
 1...Sd4 **DE** 2.Sc4#  
 1...Rd4 **EF** 2.Sxe8#  
 1...Bxc6 **FA** 2.Qf5#  
 1...Sc3 **DF** 2.Qd6#  
 1...Be6 **FC** 2.Rxe6#  
 1...Sa7 2.Qd6#

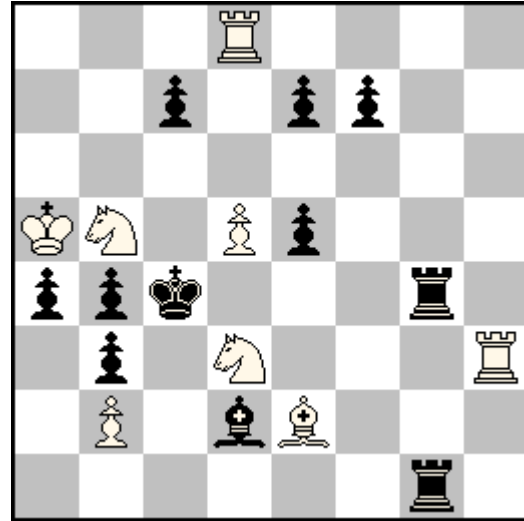
There is just one threat, but eight defences share the property that is frowned upon in twomovers focused on defence motifs. These defences have dual motivation, with individual motifs being:

- A** = unguarding by capture
- B** = checking
- C** = unguarding by line closing
- D** = guarding by line opening
- E** = gate closing
- F** = direct guarding

There is a sixfold cycle (and some shorter cycles too) of dual motivation. Can this be extended? Can this be a fruitful creative direction?

632 is more traditional.

**632 - Stanislav Vokál**  
PAT A MAT 2020



#3 (8+11) C+

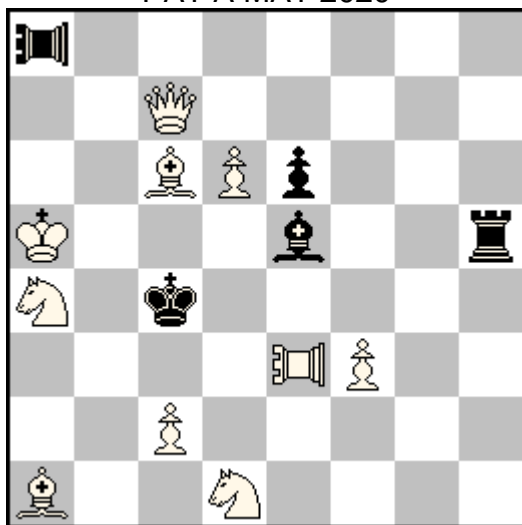
- 1.Rh6? [2.Rc6#]  
 1...Bxh6 2.Sxb4+ Kc5 3.Sa6#  
 1...Rg6 2.Sf2+ Kc5 3.Se4#  
 1...f6 2.Sf4+ Kc5 3.Se6#  
 1...e6!

- 1.Rh5!** [2.Sxe5+ Kc5 3.Sd7#]  
 1...Bg5 2.Sxb4+ Kc5 3.Sa6#  
 1...Rg5 2.Sf2+ Kc5 3.Se4#  
 1...f5 2.Sf4+ Kc5 3.Se6#

The author claims "3× Barulin + attack transference". In my view the solution variations show Levman defences (masked theme A) instead of Barulin defences (theme A), moreover in the threemover specific form with annihilation of the black piece already standing on the defence line. On the other hand, there is no attack transference ("change of defence" in the Slovak terminology) as in all phases 1...Bd2~ allows 2.Sxb4+, and so on.

Alexandr Azhusin is not often working with fairy pieces, selfmate **633** is one of exceptions.

**633 - Alexandr Azhusin  
& Sergej Smotrov**  
PAT A MAT 2020



s#13 (10+5)

= eagle

1.Sac3+? K~! 2.Se4+ Kc4 3.Sdc3#

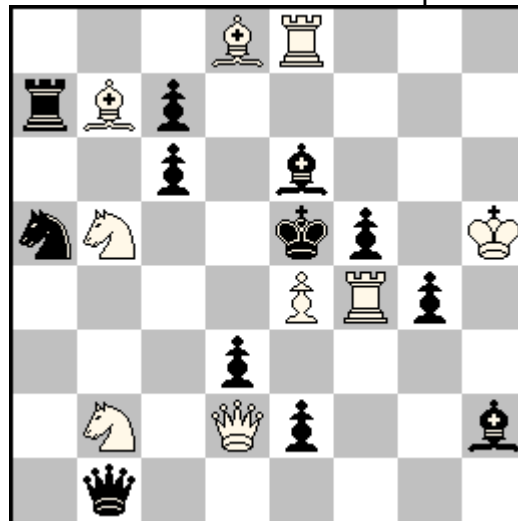
**1.Sdc3+!** Kd4 2.Sd5+ Kc4 3.Sac3+ Kd4  
4.Se4+ Kc4 5.Sd2+ Kc5 6.Qb6+ Kxd6  
7.Qc7+ Kc5 8.Se4+ Kc4 9.Sec3+ Kc5  
10.Sa4+ Kc4 11.Sdc3+ Kd4 12.Sd1+ Kc4  
13.Bb7+ Bxc7#  
(3...Kc5 4.Qb6+ Kxd6 5.Qc7+ Kc5  
6.Sa4+ Kc4 7.Sdc3+ Kd4 8.Sd1+ Kc4  
9.Bb7+ Bxc7#)

Switchbacks à la Smotrov are motivated by the need to annihilate Pd6 as well as need to avoid checkmating Black. The role of eagles is important even if they do not move at all. (Once upon a time I was toying with the idea to compose fairy problems where the presence of the fairy elements cannot be identified from the solution notation, even if they play key role. No captures with rebirths in Circe problems, no moves of fairy pieces, there was even a [TT dedicated to Circe](#)

[variants with no captures occurring in the play.](#))

Next six problems are chosen from Selections ("Okienko do sveta").

**634 - Anatolij Slesarenko**  
1st Prize 5th FIDE World Cup 2017



#2 (9+12) C+

1.Kg5? [2.Bf6# **B**, 2.Bxc7# **C**, 2.Qc3# **D**]  
1...fxe4 **a** 2.Rf5# **A**  
1...Bxf4+ **b** 2.Qxf4# **E**  
1...cxb5!

1.Qxd3? [2.Rxf5# **A**]  
1...fxe4 **a** 2.Bxc7# **C**  
1...Bxf4 **b** 2.Qd4# **F**  
1...Qxd3 2.Sxd3#  
1...Qf1!

**1.Bxc6!** [2.Rxf5# **A**]  
1...fxe4 **a** 2.Bf6# **B**  
1...Bxf4 **b** 2.Qc3# **D**  
1...Sxc6 2.Sc4#  
1...Qf1 2.Sxd3#

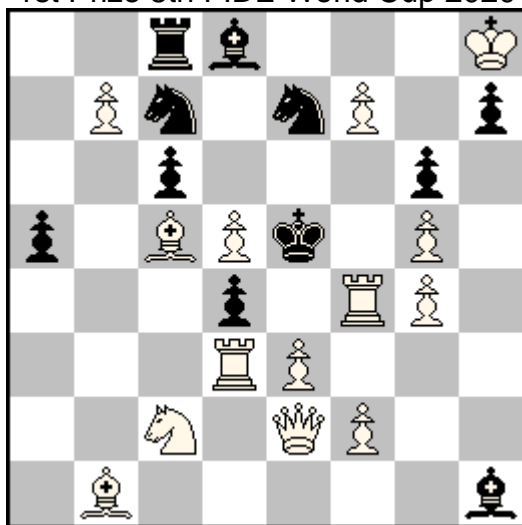
Change of 2 mates in three phases is enriched by threat paradoxes in a way hardly seen earlier – thanks to the triple threat there are 4 different mates **ABCD**

in the function of threat and variation mate, with the following table:

key	threat	a	b
	BCD	A	E
	A	C	F
	A	B	D

While **634** has earned the World Cup in 2017, threemover **635** did the same this year.

**635 - Alexandre Kuzovkov**  
1st Prize 8th FIDE World Cup 2020



#3 (14+11) C+

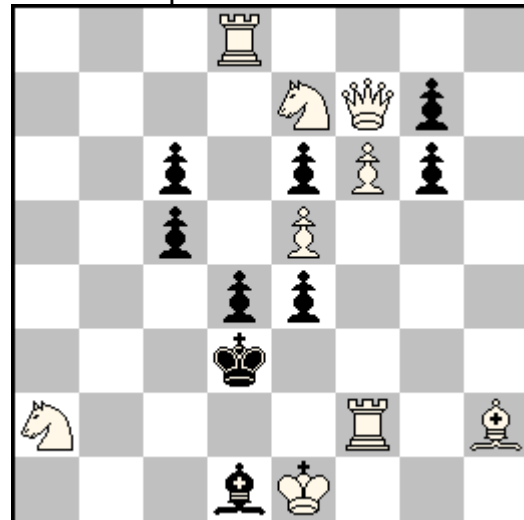
**1.f8=S!** [2.Sd7+ Kxd5 3.Ba2#]  
 1...Scxd5 2.exd4+ Kxf4 3.Se6#  
 1...Sexd5 2.Bxd4+ Kd6 3.bxc8=S#  
 1...Bxd5 2.Rfxd4 [3.f4#] Bf3 3.Bd6#  
 2...Se6 3.Sd7#  
 1...Kxd5 2.Rdxd4+ Kxc5 3.Sd7  
 2...Ke5 3.Bd6#  
 1...cxd5 2.Sxd4 [3.Sd7#]

The theme is obvious – 5 different black defences at d5 (providing flight e6 by pawn capture) are met by 5 different white's second moves to d4.

Moremovers were chosen to show the king plus single black officer against

stronger white force. Single black bishop in **636**.

**636 - Alexandr Jelcov  
& Alexandr Sygurov**  
SuperProblem 2019



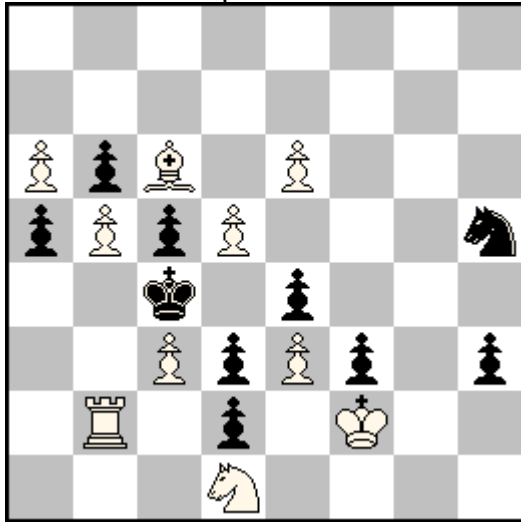
#4 (9+9) C+

**1.Rb8!** [2.Rd2+ A Ke3 3.fxg7! [4.Bg1#, Qf2#, Qf4#]]  
 1...Be2 2.Rb3+ B Kc2 3.Qxe6 [4.Rxe2#, Qc4#]  
 1...Ke3 2.Bf4+ Kd3 3.Rd2+ A Kc4  
 4.Qxe6#  
 1...Bg4 2.Sc1+ Kc3 3.Rb3+ B Kc4  
 4.Rc2#  
 1...Kc4 2.Qxe6+ Kd3 3.Rb3+ Bxb3  
 4.Qxb3#  
 1...e3 2.Qxg6+ Kc4 3.Rc2+ Bxc2  
 4.Qxc2#

It can be argued that there are three pairs of thematically connected variations here. In the first two variations are checks by rooks to d2 and b3 played in the 2nd moves, followed by the quiet 3rd moves. In the second pair the same moves are played only after some preparation. Finally, in the third pair are the same moves played as sacrifices in the cooperation with the white queen.

**637** is longer and quite different.

**637 - Ralf Krättschmer**  
 Hounourable Mention  
 84th TT SuperProblem 2013



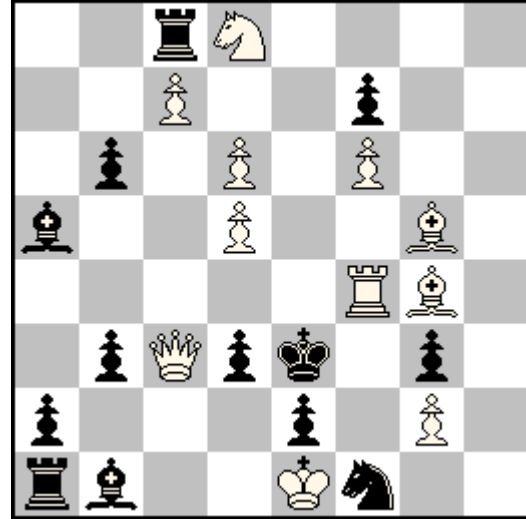
#8 (10+10) C+

- 1.a7!** [2.a8=S [3.S×b6#]] Sf6  
 2.a8=S [3.S×b6#] S×d5  
 3.e7 [4.e8=Q, e8=S, e8=R] h2  
 4.e8=S [5.Sd6#] h1=S+  
 5.Kg1 [6.Sd6#] f2+  
 6.Kh2 [7.Sd6#] f1=S+  
 7.Kg1 [8.Sd6#]

The solution shows rather straightforward play of both sides. White first gets some additional material to create strong threats and when the mate is inevitable, black prolongs the play by chasing the wK. The point is in the promotions – altogether there are 4 knight promotions in the play.

You might not be a fan of the style of Camillo Gamnitzer, but even then one must admit that his selfmates are never boring. Just like **638**.

**638 - Camillo Gamnitzer**  
 1st Prize Probleemblad 2016



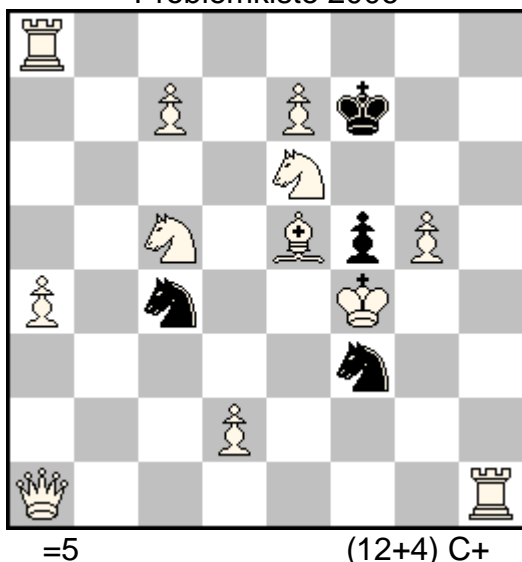
s#5 (11+13) C+

- 1.Se6!** [2.Rf3+ Ke4 3.Bf5+ K×d5 4.Sf4+ K×d6 5.R×d3+ B×d3#]  
 1...f×e6 **2.B×e6!** [3.R×f1+ Ke4 4.Rf4+ Ke3 5.Qd2+ B×d2#]  
 2...Rg8 **3.Bf5!** [4.Rb4+ R×g5 5.Q×d3+ B×d3#]  
 3...R×g5 4.Qd2+ S×d2 5.Re4+ S×e4#  
 3...Rg~8 **4.B×d3!** [5.Bd~+] Sd2 5.Q×d2+ B×d2#

In the main line White makes **multiple quiet moves** carrying threats with mates in the 5th move. Additionally, Rf4 opens diagonal battery by moves to 4 different squares.

Fairy selection concentrated on stalemates of all kinds. They are even less usual in the direct form, but **639** shows stunning idea nevertheless.

**639 - Horst Backer**  
Problemkiste 2006



**1.e8=B+!**

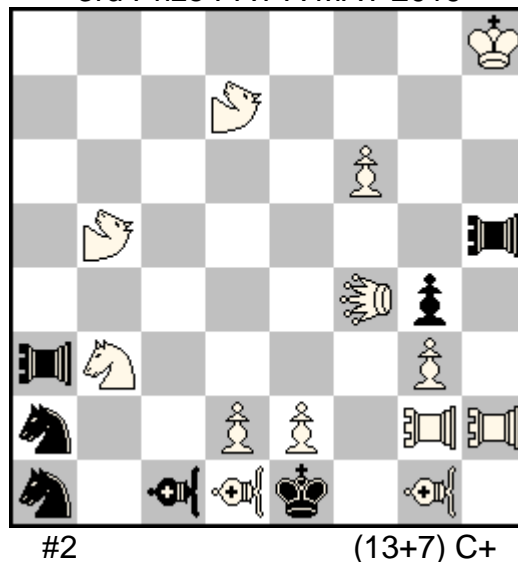
1...Kg8 2.Bh5+ Kh7 3.Bf7+ Sh4 (Sh2)  
4.Qb2 and now  
4...Sb6, Sxd2, Sa3, Sxe5, Sa5, Se3,  
Sxb2, Sd6 5.Qxb6=, Qxd2=, Qxa3=,  
Qxe5=, Rxa5=, dxe3=, Bxb2=, Bxd6=  
1...Ke7 2.Bf6+ Kd6 3.c8=S+ Kd5 4.Qa2  
and now  
4...Sfe5, Sg1, Sfxd2, Sh4, Sd4, Sh2,  
Se1, Sxg5 5.Bxe5=, Rxg1=, Rd1=,  
Rxh4=, Bxd4=, Rxh2=, Rxe1=, Bxg5=

The checking key initiates two walks of the bK ending at h7 and d5. In the meantime, White reorganizes and after the 4th moves of White one of black knights becomes pinned, while the other is able to make all 8 possible moves (knight wheel). They lead to 2x8 captures and pin stalemates. But just imagine: two knight wheels of knights initially unrelated to the black king. Do you know of other similar work?

Geoff Foster has quickly prepared the award of annual fairy tourney. Not surprisingly, some awarded antagonistic problems were already presented in

Conflictio. But the third-prize-winner **640** might be unknown to you.

**640 - Michel Caillaud**  
3rd Prize PAT A MAT 2019



♘ = rao, ♙♜ = vao  
♙♞ = leo, ♖♞ = pao

1.LEd4? [2.PAh1#]  
1...VAb2 **a** 2.LEe5# **A**  
1...PAa4 **b** 2.LEe4# **B**  
1...PAf5!

1.Sd4? [2.PAh1#]  
1...VAb2 **a** 2.LEe3# **C**  
1...PAa4 **b** 2.LEe5# **A**  
1...PAf3!

**1.d4!** [2.PAh1#]  
1...VAb2 **a** 2.LEe4# **B**  
1...PAa4 **b** 2.LEe3# **C**

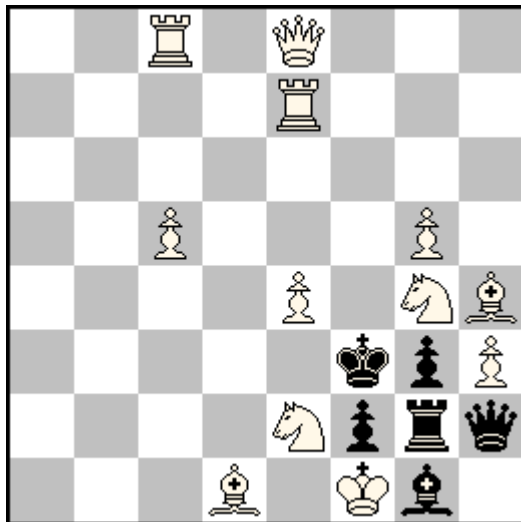
Placing anything at d4 activates RAb5 to e2, hence the threat unguarding that square. Two thematical defences to a4 and b2 interfere with RAD7 with respect to f2, this is the defence motif. However, at the same time these new hurdles cause guard of d1 by RAD7, allowing mates by wLE. And then a wealth of additional motifs of both keys and defences come into consideration. When

the dust settles, we get a nicely presented Rice cycle (also known as cyclic Zagorujko).

Next three orthodox selfmates are chosen from the award of an older biannual tourney.

### 641 - Ivan Soroka

1st Prize PAT A MAT 2016-2017



s#9

(12+6) C+

#### 1.Qh5! zz

1...Qh1 2.Sd4+ Kf4 3.Se6+ Kxe4 4.Qg6+ Kd5 5.Se3+ Ke5 6.Bxg3+ Rxg3 7.Qf6+ Ke4 8.Bc2+ Kxe3 9.Qxf2+ Bxf2#  
 1...Qxh3 2.Sxg3+ Kf4 3.Se2+ Kf3 4.Qf7+ Kxg4 5.Qf4+ Kh5 6.Rh7+ Kg6 7.Rh6+ Kg7 8.Qe5+ Kf7 9.g6+ Rxg6#

Very constrained black material allows just two first black moves, both by bQ and more importantly both setting up battery with bQ as a rear piece. As a reaction, White drives bK around to set up the position in which the black battery can be fired for checkmate. Not very deep, but quite tidy and long.

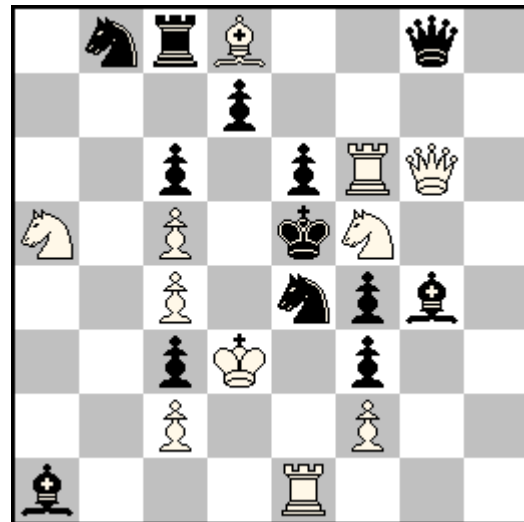
Not surprisingly, there are multiple selfmates employing the similar idea with constellation like Kf1-Qh2Rg2Bg1Pf2g3,

but most of them use other black material besides bK. One exception to be compared is s#6 by Dijan Kostadinov from Batumi 2013 Vodka tourney (see [bulletin](#)).

### 642 - Emil Klemanič & Peter Gvozdják & Juraj Lörinc

5th Honourable Mention

PAT A MAT 2016-2017



s#3

(11+13) C+

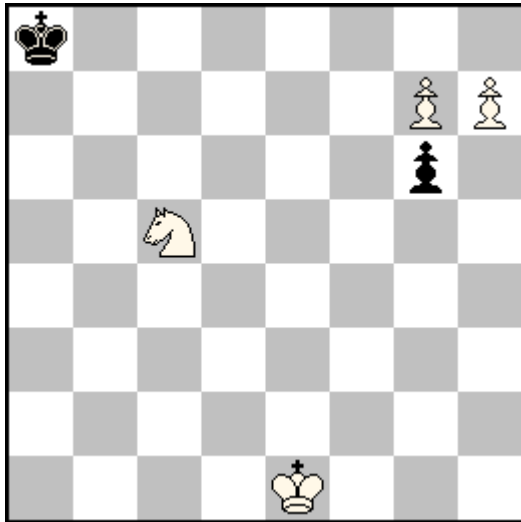
#### 1.Sd4! [2.Qf5+ Bxf5 3.Rxe4+ Bxe4# 2...exf5 3.Rxe4+ fxe4#]

1...Rx d8 2.Sdxc6+ Sxc6 3.Sxc6+ dxc6#  
 1...Qxd8 2.Sxf3+ Bxf3 3.Rxe6+ dxe6#

Also this selfmate is connected to WCCC. It was composed for the [Beograd 2016 Vodka tourney](#), but somehow failed to reach the judge's hands. The theme of the tourney was creation of black batteries in s#3. Here the batteries are created on the d-file. In addition to the arrival of rear pieces to d8, there is also anti-ziel-element key move obstructing the battery line. (The authors are ordered by amount of contribution to the final position, I remember that mine was really minor.)

Don't be surprised by r# stipulation in **643**, PaM selfmate tourney is usually announced for both genres together.

**643 - Torsten Linss**  
5th Commendation  
PAT A MAT 2016-2017



r#10 (4+2) C+

b) ♔c5

a) **1.g8=Q+!** Ka7 2.Qd8 g5 3.h8=B g4 4.Bd4 g3 5.Bg1 g2 6.Qc8 Kb6 7.Qb7+ Ka5 8.Qa6+ Kb4 9.Kd1 Kc3 10.Qf1 gxf1=Q#

b) **1.Qb5!** Ka7 2.h8=R g5 3.Re8 g4 4.g8=S g3 5.Sf6 g2 6.Qd7+ Kb6 7.Re6+ Kc5 8.Qd5+ Kb4 9.Qd2+ K~ 10.Re2 g1=Q#

Very limited material did not prevent Torsten from showing AUW divided between two positions. He managed even to differentiate mating nets. Very good miniature having some bad luck in the tourney.

Juraj Lörinc

**Published recently:  
PAT A MAT 114**

Issue No 114 of Slovak magazine appeared in December. The content includes:

- multiple articles, among them
  - multiphase changes in =2,
  - new motivation ideas for h#,
  - celebration of L. Salai 60,
  - magic tours celebration 36 years of PAT A MAT,
- preliminary award of PaM tourney selfmates 2018-2019,
- originals,
- regular Selections.
- 

11 problems from the issue are reprinted here.

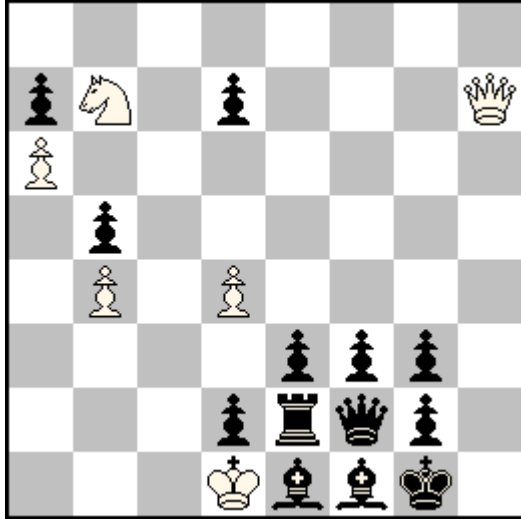
Ladislav Salai jr. is already among GMs and continues to compose on the highest level now when he turns 60 in January 2021. Juraj Brabec has selected 12 his problems for a celebration article and I have chosen three of them to be shown here:

- long moreover **644**,
- very successful threemover **645**,
- rich fairy twomover **646**.

Not surprisingly, two of them have some co-authors, Laco often cooperates with other authors, especially with Michal Dragoun and Emil Klemanič.



**644 - Ladislav Salai jr.**  
Prize Mat-64 2000



#19

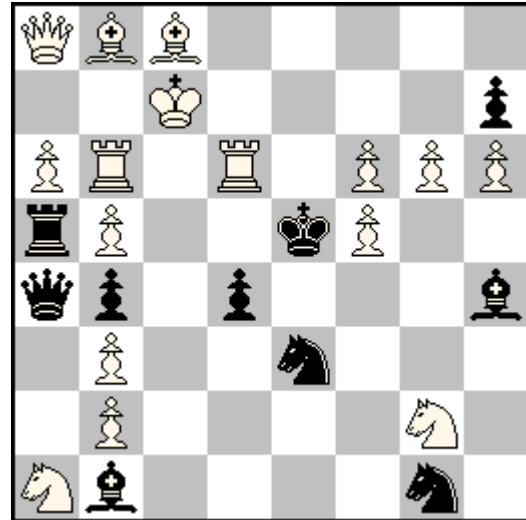
(6+13)

**1.d5!** d6 2.Sc5 dxc5 3.bxc5 b4 4.c6 b3  
5.c7 b2 6.c8=Q b1=Q+ 7.Qxb1 K~  
8.Qh8+ Kg1 9.Qb6 axb6 10.d6 b5 11.d7  
b4 12.d8=S b3 13.Sf7 b2 14.Qxb2 K~  
15.Qh8+ Kg1 16.Sh6 K~ 17.Sf5+ Kg1  
18.Sh4 K~ 19.Sxf3#

An empty outer file controlled by white R/Q with the bK limited to the cage next to the file in question and otherwise limited black mobility - this idea was worked many times with various mechanisms allowing White to checkmate Black. Creating the battery on the file is usual technique and underpromotions are not unusual. However, the concept presented here is very strong – both white officers Q+S present on the diagram are replaced by the second pair created by promotion.

**645 - Emil Klemanič  
& Ladislav Salai jr.**

1st Prize M. Vukceovich 60 JT 1999-2000



#3

(16+10) C+

**1.Kd8!** zz

1...Bg5 2.**Rd7+** Kxf5 3.Rg7#  
1...hxc6 2.**Re6+** Kxf5 3.Re5#  
1...Sxg2 2.**Rdc6+** Ke4 3.Rc3 #  
1...Bd3 2.**Rd5+** Ke4 3.Re5#  
1...Be1,Bf2,Bg3 2.f7 [3.**Rf6#**]  
1...Qxa1,Qa2,Qa3 2.Ke8 [3.**Rd8#**]  
1...Ba2,Bc2 2.S(x)c2 [3.**Rxd4#**]  
1...Rxa6 2.Rxa6 [3.**Rdb6#**]  
1...Qxb3 2.Sxb3 [3.**Rxd4#**]  
1...Sg~ 2.Qf3! [3.Rdc6#, Re6#, Rd5#, Rd7#, Qf4#]  
1...Qxb5,Qxb5 2.Rxb5+ Sd5 / Rxb5, Qxb5 3.Qxd5# / Rb6#

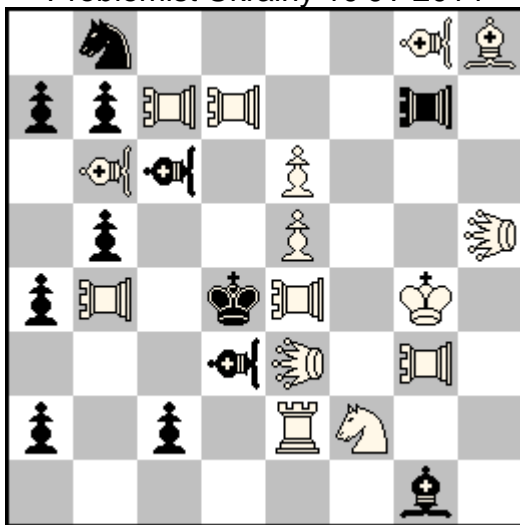
Looking at the diagram of **645** it is hardly believable that it has zugzwang solution as a threemover, it has so many freely standing black pieces. Yet, the zugzwang is not an aim, it is merely a tool to have enough different variations. The first quartet has a **small cross of wR in the second moves**, while the second quartet includes a **larger cross of wR in the third move threats**.

And looking into FIDE Album 1998-2000, where **645** is under No **B165**, it is hardly believable that it got only 9 points. It seems that among judges Alexandr Kuzovkov was not sure if the problem belonged to the Album as he had awarded it 2,5 points. Did he know something that is not generally known?

**646 - Ladislav Salai jr.  
& Michal Dragoun**

2nd-4th Prize ex aequo

Problemist Ukrainy 10 JT 2014



#2 (15+12) C+  
 ♖♜ = vao, ♙ = leo, ♖♜ = pao

- 1.VA×a2? [2.VAc4#]  
 1...PAg5 **a** 2.LEd2# **A**  
 1...PA×c7 **b** 2.LEf4# **B**  
 1...Sa6 **x** 2.VAd5# **K**  
 1...a5! **y**
- 1.PA×c2? [2.PAcc4#]  
 1...PAf7 **c** 2.LEf4# **B**  
 1...PAg5 **a** 2.LE×g1# **C**  
 1...a5 **y** 2.PAc5# **L**  
 1...Sa6! **x**
- 1.LE×b5!** [2.LEc4#]  
 1...PA×c7 **b** 2.LE×g1# **C**  
 1...PAf7 **c** 2.LEd2# **A**  
 1...Sa6 **x** 2.LEd5# **M**  
 1...a5 **y** 2.LEc5# **N**

The new-strategical theme can be characterized by the following table:

Key	Threat	a	b	c	x	y
		A	B		K	!
		C		B	!	L
			C	A	M	N

The strategy underlying the carousel change and further changes is the following.

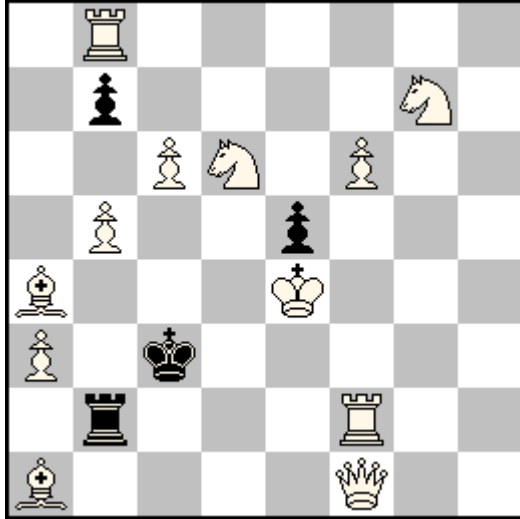
All threats activate antibattery PAb4-Kd4, however the respective keys abandon always one of lines of VAg8, PAc7 or LEh5 aimed at d5, c4 and c5. PAg7 defends by deactivating another of these lines, effectively creating a flight. But it simultaneously opens Bh8 to e5, freeing LLe3 from guarding duties and allowing it to checkmate, taking also the case of the flight created by PAg7. This makes the carousel change work.

Two additional defences by Sb8 and Pa7 guard rear piece of the threat antibattery, but simultaneously unguard other rear antibattery pieces PAd7 and VAb6. If the piece making key is able to activate the antibattery, then we have mate, if it is unable, then we have the refutation. After 1.LEb5 this leo can move to both c5 and d5, thus we have the solution.

Very good fairy twomover.

Next two diagrams are chosen from among originals.

**647 - Gennadij Kozjura**  
PAT A MAT 2020



s#7

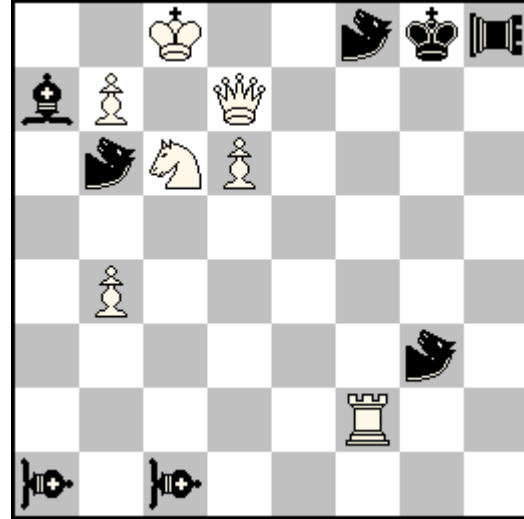
(12+4) C+

**1.Sde8!** zz

1...b6 2.Ke3 e4 3.Re2 Kc4 4.Rc2+ Kd5  
5.Qd1+ Ke5 6.Rc5+ bxc5 7.Qd4+ cxd4#  
1...bxc6 2.Qh3+ Kc4 3.Sd6+ Kc5 4.Se6+  
Kxd6 5.Qd3+ Kxe6 6.Bb3+ Rxb3 7.Qd5+  
cxd5#

Exact dynamic echo of middle-board model checkmate with 4 black pieces. The variations are differentiated by the humble moves of Pb7, the black pieces are then manoeuvred to required positions.

**648 - Juraj Lörinc**  
PAT A MAT 2020



#2

(7+8) C+

Take & Make

♞ = nightrider lion,

♝ = bishop lion, ♖ = rook lion

1.b8=B? zz

1...Bxb8(Bc7) **a** 2.dxc7(RLd8)# **A**

1...Bxb8(Ba7)!

1.b8=RL? [2.RLe8#, 2.RLd8#, 2.Kb7#]

1...Bxb8(Be8) **b** 2.Qxe8(Qg6)# **B**

1...Bxb8(Bd8) **c** 2.Sxd8(Sf6)# **C**

1...Bxb8(Bb5)!

1.b8=NL? zz

1...Bxb8(Be2) **d** 2.Rxe2(Rg4)# **D**

1...Bxb8(Bd4) **e** 2.Sxd4(Sf6)# **E**

1...Bxb8(Bf6) **f** 2.Rxf6(Rg5)# **F**

1...Bxb8(Bh5)!

**1.b8=BL!** zz

1...Bxb8(Bf4) **g** 2.Rxf4(Rg5)# **G**

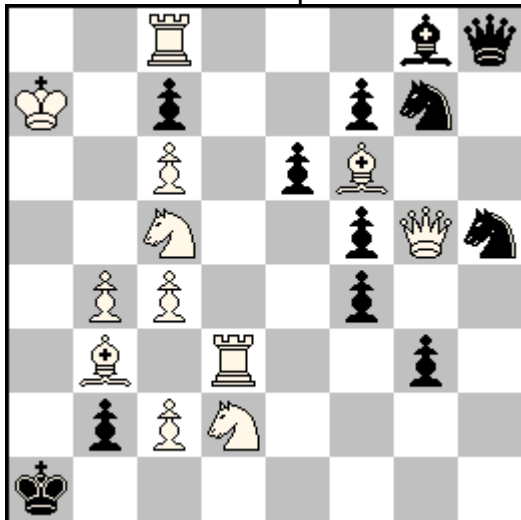
1...Bxb8(Be5) **h** 2.Sxe5(Sf6)# **H**

Although bK is well trapped at g8, it is only necessary to check high properly. Curiously, White is unable to make two-move manoeuvre without resorting to the help of Black. Thus, the promotion at b8 provides meat for the Black capture that consequently allows White capture. Not a single move by either side repeats.

Next four problems appeared in Selections (“Okienko do sveta”).

**649 - Solaiappan Manikumar  
& C.G.S. Narayanan**

1st Prize 245th TT SuperProblem 2020



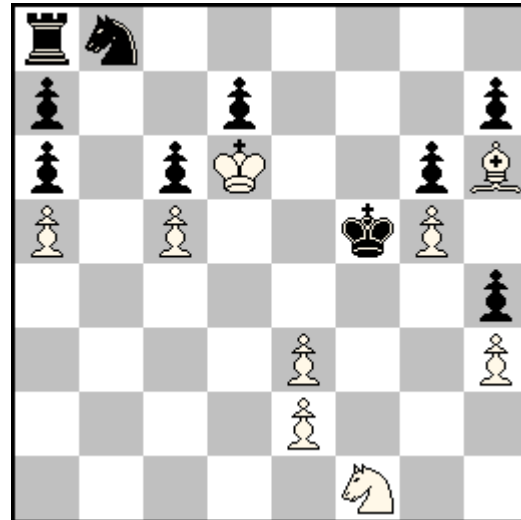
#3 (12+12) C+

**1.Bc3!** [2.Sd2~ [3.Rd1#]]  
 1...Sf6 2.Sa4 [3.Bxb2#]  
 1...Se8 2.Ra8 [3.Kb7#, 3.Kb8#]  
 1...Bh7 2.Qh4 [3.Qh1#] g2 3.Qe1#

While some tries were provided in the [award of the TT](#) dedicated to the masked valve, in my view the play in the three main variations is much more valuable (the tries are mostly refuted by captures).

The quiet threat provides possibility for Black to defend by activating the bQ. Three its lines h1-h8 (A), h8-c3 (B) and h8-c8 (C) are opened by defenders Sh5, Sg7 and Bh7, but the defending moves place the second obstruction on the lines B, C, A, respectively. It allows White to use other continuations, fully exploiting the fact that Black is unable to open double-closed lines. Cyclic masked valve.

**650 - Michael McDowell**  
 2nd Prize The Problemist 2014



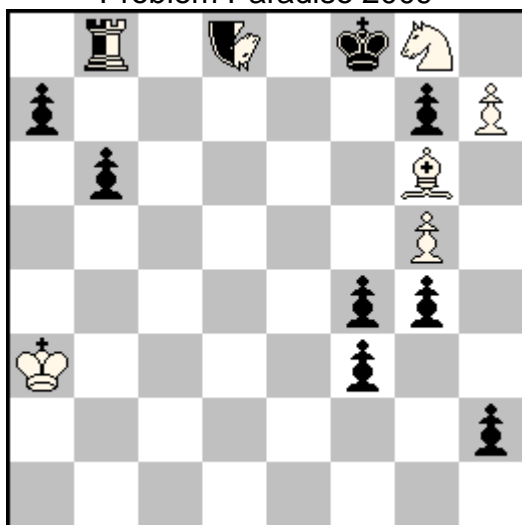
#19 (9+10)

**1.Sh2!** Ke4 2.Sg4 Kf5 3.Se5 Ke4 4.Sc4 Kf5 5.Sa3 Ke4 6.Sc2 Kf5 7.Se1 Ke4 8.Sg2 Kf5 9.Sxh4+ Ke4 10.Sg2 Kf5 11.Se1 Ke4 12.Sc2 Kf5 13.Sa3 Ke4 14.Sc4 Kf5 15.Se5 Ke4 16.Sg4 Kf5 17.Sh2 Ke4 18.Sf1 Kf5 19.Sg3#

Back in 2007 there was a thread on the MatPlus forum dedicated to J. G. Campbell's work. M. McDowell has showed there [the idea of knight's zig-zag gallop](#) pioneered by Campbell in 5 moves, together with his development to 11 moves. The question of further prolongation was opened – and **650** provides very strong answer. The white knight makes 19 consecutive moves to checkmate. This gallop involves measuring the board width 4 times, surely a considerable improvement.

Fairy selections were dedicated to problems where the mating move is done by neutral piece. It is therefore important to look at the motivation underlying the irreversibility of the mating move, see **651** and **652**.

**651 - Petko A. Petkov**  
in memoriam my father Andon  
Problem Paradise 2009



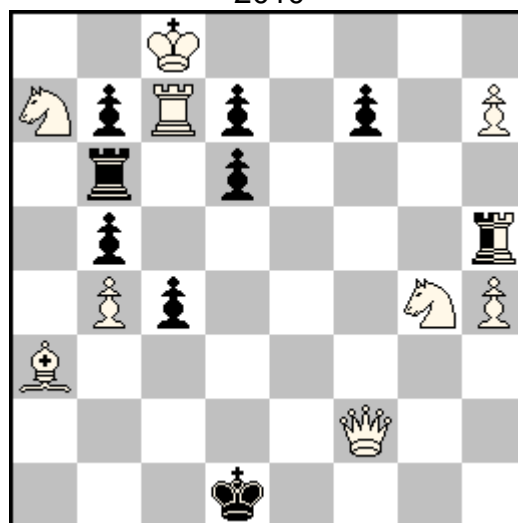
#3 (5+8+2) C+

Supercirce  
♞ = nightrider

**1.Kb3!** [2.nRxd8(nNc2)+ nRd4  
3.nRxf4(e4)#]  
1...nRxd8(nNe8) 2.nNxg4(d7)+ nNe8  
3.nNhx2(g4)#  
1...nRb7 2.nNxb7(nRa8)+ nNd8  
3.nNxf4(e6)#

A capture is usually irreversible in a wide sense, but once the variable rebirth of the captured piece is involved, things can get pretty complicated. In the threat the mate is given by rook battery doublecheck, with opened nightrider line and the black rook closing the door behind itself by the captured pawn. In two variations, the mate is given from the nightrider battery opening the rook on the eight rank. Also the nightrider captures the pawn, closing the door behind. The soundness of the setting seems to be a small miracle.

**652 - Leonardo G. Perrone & Gaspar J. Perrone**  
1st Honourable Mention Gaudium 2009-2010



s#4 (9+8+1) C+

Anticirce type Calvet

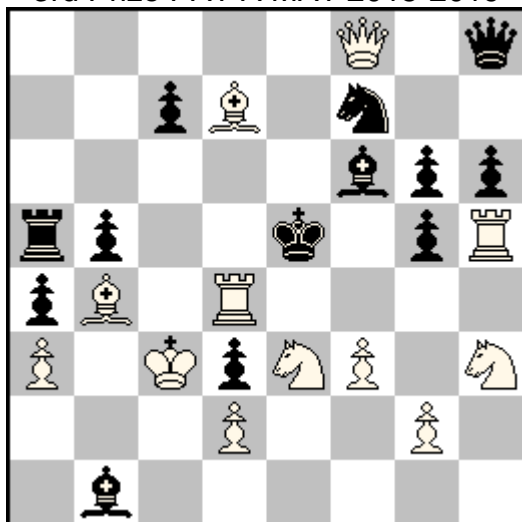
1.nRxb5(nRh1)+? nRh2!  
1.Sh2? f5!  
**1.Qh2!** [2.nRxb5(nRh1)+ nRhx2(nRh8)#]  
1...nRh6  
2.Qa2 [3.nRxd6(nRa1)+ nRxa2(nRa8)#]  
2...nRh5  
3.Sh2 [4.nRxb5(nRh1)+ nRhx2(nRh8)#]  
3...nRh6  
4.nRxd6(nRa1)+ nRxa2(nRa8)#  
3...f5  
4.nRxf5(nRh1)+ nRhx2(nRh8)#  
3...d5  
4.nRxd5(nRh1)+ nRhx2(nRh8)#

The White's attack is based on forcing Black to capture by nR, resulting in the rebirth on a8 or h8. The quick action to b5 fails solely to 1...nRh2! due to 1...nRh3 2.Se3+nRxe3(nRg8)#. The other try has the same idea as the solution, but Black manages to clear f-file. That is why White moves the queen away from f2 with tempo and then 3.Sh2! succeeds. Quite well staged performance.

**653** is chosen from the latest selfmate award.

### 653 - Jozef Havran

3rd Prize PAT A MAT 2018-2019



s#3

(12+13) C+

1.Rc4? [2.Sg4+ Kd5+ 3.Rd4+ Bxd4#]  
 1...g×h5 2.f4+ g×f4 3.Re4+ K×e4#  
 1...Ba2 2.Rc5+ Bd5 3.f4+ Ke4#  
 1...b×c4 2.Qc5+ R×c5 3.f4+ Ke4,Kd6#  
 1...c5!

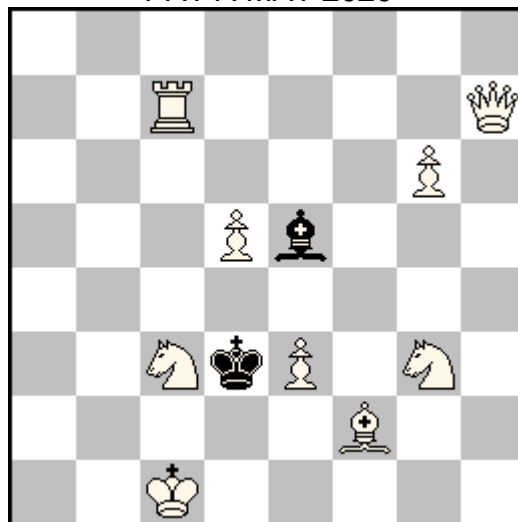
**1.Rd6!** [2.f4+ Ke4+ 3.Rd4+ Bxd4#]  
 1...g×h5 2.Sg4+ h×g4 3.Rd5+ K×d5#  
 1...S×d6 2.Q×d6+ c×d6 3.f4+ Ke4#  
 1...c5 2.Sc4+ b×c4 3.Rd5+ K×d5#

The judge Stanislav Vokál focused in his comment on the strategic content of both phases (opening of the long diagonal either for the capture on d4 by the bB, creation and firing of the royal battery), while le Grand paradox between the try and solution was mentioned only by the way. This is another proof that strategy (motivation) and new-strategy (alphabetic themes) are strongly mutually dependant,

654 was included in the article showing multiphase grab theme resulting in the change of stalemates of the Z-mn-m(mn) types.

### 654 - Gerhard Maleika

PAT A MAT 2020



=2

(9+2) C+

1.Qe7? [2.Q×e5=], 1...Bh8!  
 1...B×c3 2.Qa3=  
 1...B×g3 2.B×g3=  
 1...Bd6 2.Q×d6=  
 1...Bf6 2.Q×f6=

1.Sce4? zz, 1...Ba1!  
 1...Bc3 2.S×c3=  
 1...B×g3 2.S×g3=  
 1...Bd6 2.S×d6=  
 1...Bf6 2.S×f6=

**1.Sge4!** zz  
 1...B×c3 2.S×c3=  
 1...Bg3 2.S×g3=  
 1...Bd6 2.S×d6=  
 1...Bf6 2.S×f6=

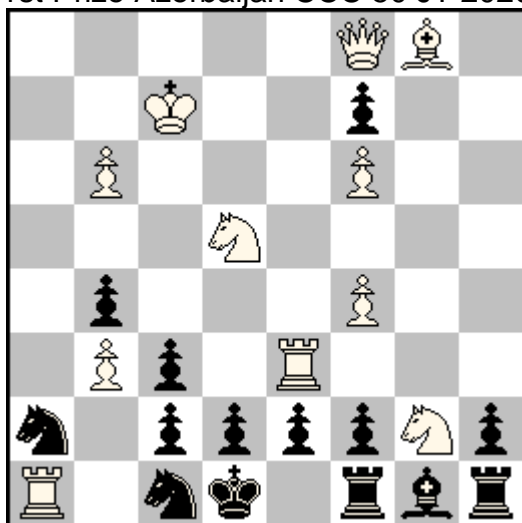
Among the originals in the article this one is standing out by not using any promotion key to cheat in a similar-moving piece. As a queen is significantly different from knights, two variations are rather different to form closed Z-34-4(12).

Juraj Lörinc

## Just awarded

In December the website ChessStar has published the [award of Azerbaijani jubilee tourney in four sections](#) (#2, #3, #n, studies). **655** has won the threemover section.

**655 - Alexandr Sygurov**  
1st Prize Azerbaijan CCC 50 JT 2020



#3

(11+14)

1.Qa8? zz  
 1...e1=Q 2.Qa6 Qe2 3.Qxe2#  
     2...Qxe3 3.Sdxe3#  
 1...e1=S 2.Se7 Se1~ 3.Qf3#  
 1...e1=B 2.Sxb4 [3.Qf3#]  
 1...Re1!

1.Qe8? zz  
 1...e1=Q 2.Qb5 Qe2 3.Qxe2#  
     2...Qxe3 3.Sdxe3#  
 1...e1=S 2.Qe4 Se1~2 3.Qf3#  
 1...e1=B 2.Re6 fxe6 3.Qh5#  
 1...Re1!

**1.Bh7!** zz  
 1...e1=Q 2.Bd3 Qe2 3.Bxe2#  
     2...Qxe3 3.Sdxe3#  
 1...e1=S 2.Be4 S~ 3.Bf3#  
 1...e1=B 2.Qxb4 Sxb4 3.Sxc3#  
 1...Re1 2.Rxc3 [3.Sge3#, Sde3#, Bxc2#]

Two tries and the solution show similar play. While Black is almost stalemated, White has many mobile units. He tries to exploit the fact that Black must move to e1 – either by promoting Pe2 or by Rf1. So what happens?

The strongest black promotion 1...e1Q guards e2, so that mate along opened diagonal h5-d1 is not an option, except the capture on e2 that must be prepared. That is why 1.Qa8 is followed by 2.Qa7, 1.Qe8 by 2.Qb5 and 1.Bh7 by 2.Bd3.

Knight promotion 1...e1S attacks d3 as well as f3, but White can count upon following unguard of f3. That is 1.Qa8 requires then line opening 2.Se7 (single move not allowing Black a new defence), 1.Qe8 is followed by 2.Qe4 and 1.Bh7 by 2.Be4.

On the other hand, bishop promotion autostalemates Black. White has to provide him some movement possibility and simultaneously prepare the checkmate. 2.Sxb4 opens Qa8 to f3, 2.Re6 forces pawn to open line e8-h5 and 2.Qxb4 ensure proper unguarding of c3 in the right moment.

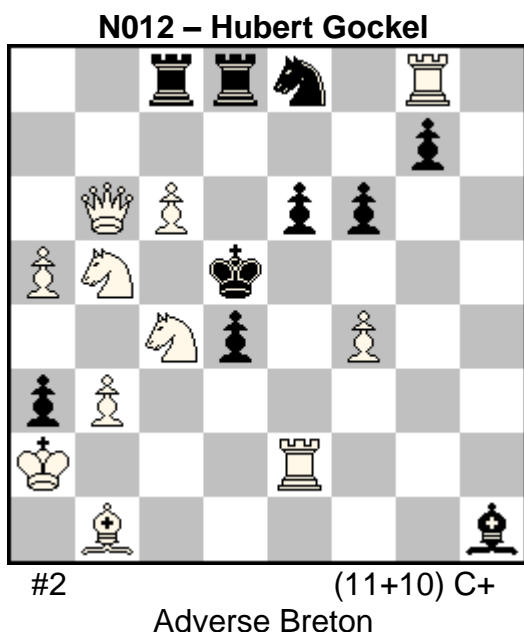
Altogether there is a pure change Z-33-39 with all defences being varying promotions at e1.

Then, to have a standard one-solution position, White is able to cope with additional defence 1...Re1 only once. Repeated refutation is surely a small minus, but in this great complex I am ready to disregard it.

Juraj Lörinc

## Fresh clash 7

This time there is one new original **N012**. In Adverse Breton the capture of a piece causes that another piece of the same type and colour as the captured piece has to disappear from the board (capturing side decides in case of more options, no disappearance if there is no such piece).



1.Kxa3(xd4)? [2.Sc3# **A**, Se3# **B**, Rd2# **C**]  
1...Sd6! **x** (2.Sc3+? Sxc4(xc3)+!, 2.Se3+?  
Sxb5(xe3)+!, 2.Rd2+? Rxc8(xd2)!)

1.Rxc6(xd4)? [2.Sc3# **A**, Se3# **B**] (2.Rd2+?  
Sxc8(xd2)!)

1...Sd6 **x** 2.Rd2# **C**

1...e5! (2.Rxe5(xf6)+? Sxc8(xe5)!)

1.Sbxa3(xd4)? [2.Rd2# **C**] (2.Se3+? Kd6!)

1...Sd6 **x** 2.Se3# **B**

1...Rxc6(xb3)! (2.Rd2+? Kxc4(xa3)!)

**1.Scxa3(xd4)! [2.Rd2# **C**] (2.Se3+? Kd6!)**

1...Sd6 **x** 2.Sc3# **A**

1...Sc7 2.Rxd8(xc8)#

1...Rxc6(xf4) 2.Qd4#

1...e5 2.Rxe5(xf6)#

1...Be4 2.Bxe4#

The author claims two main themes:

- Le Grand (Burmistrov combination)
- Dombrovskis with triple threat.

It is however important to consider also motivation for these two themes from the move function change area.

Random disappearance of Pd4 causes three threats, then 1...Sd6 refutes in the Breton fashion. Specific tries by Rg8, Sb5 and Sc4 prevent some mates a la Sushkov, and the defence 1...Sd6 switches defended and available checkmates, again very specifically. Fantastic!

Juraj Lörinc

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## Annual tourney Conflictio 2021

All kinds of antagonistic problems will be accepted for Originals column (orthodox and fairly direct, self-, reflex mates and other aims of any length, any fairy elements), the main criteria for publication being antagonistic stipulation and sufficient quality. Possible originals from other articles will be included in the competition as well. The tourney judge will be announced soon, multiple sections might be created based on the quality and quantity of entries. Please, send the originals to Juraj Lörinc (address below).

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**Conflictio** is an e-zine dedicated to chess problems with antagonistic stipulations

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