

## In this issue

The first article is a contribution from Ukraine. Viktor Syzonenko lives in Kryvyi Rih, one of the large cities attacked by Russian strikes during the invasion. I am the most grateful for it.

By the way, as the war is continuing, the first wave of solidarity with Ukrainian people has abated, naturally, so I would like to turn your attention to recent initiative of Peter Gvozdják and Vasil Ďačuk to organize financial help for Ukrainian composers and solvers. It was launched after the Ukrainian solvers visit to Bratislava (as Slovak solving championship took place at the beginning of June), the help is organized and guaranteed by Vasil and Peter – anyone interested can [get in touch with Peter Gvozdják](#) to get further details.

Then a brief look into March issue of PAT A MAT (119) follows. One very interesting original from Singapore is compared to its sibling showing similar theme.

Stay safe and enjoy Conflictio!

Juraj Lörintc

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## The 4th addendum to the Jacobs Theme series

Previous articles dedicated to Jacobs themes were published in Conflictio issues 18, 24, 30 and 34.

Viktor Syzonenko has also worked with the theme recently, the already published articles included his compositions **780-782**. Twelve his threemovers **893-904** are shown below, he has accompanied them with the following introductory text:

*Appreciate similarities and respect differences*

*Film "Six Minutes to Midnight" 2020*

*Ценить сходство и уважать различия*

*Фильм "Шесть минут до полуночи" 2020*

*Each cycle is a functional mechanism.  
Each functional mechanism a priori original as original all position mechanisms: 0-0, 0-0-0, en passant, AUW, Albino, Black Albino, Cross, Star etc...*

*Каждый цикл - это функциональный механизм.*

*Каждый функциональный механизм априори оригинальный как оригинальны все механизмы положения: 0-0, 0-0-0, en passant, AUW, Альбино, Пиккенини, Крест, Звезда и т.д...*

*There will be no continuation. Work is complete.*

Everyone can try to create more and better.

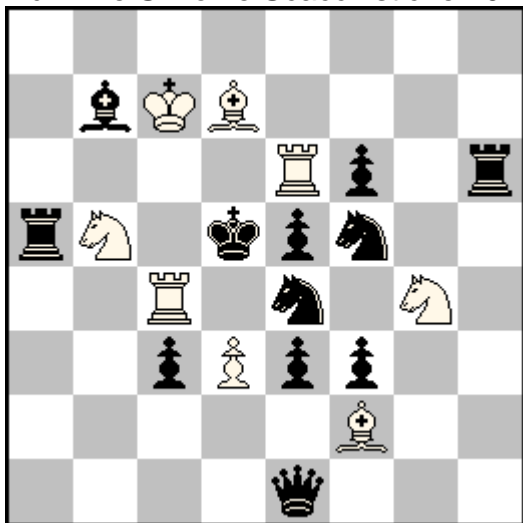
Продолжения не будет. Работа завершена.

Каждый может пробовать создать больше и лучше.

As all compositions **893-904** show the basic form of Jacobs theme, one might argue that putting in so much work into simple orthodox renderings of the theme perhaps might be a waste of energy. But on the other hand, detailed research of all possible schemes might bring some of them having additional possibilities, like e.g. **894** with a good key or multiple instances of additional play, as demonstrated by other examples.

### 893 - Viktor Syzonenko

2nd Prize Sinfonie Scacchistiche 2020



#3

(8+12) C+

**1.Bg3!** [2.Sxf6+ Rxf6,Sxf6 3.Rxe5#]  
 1...Sxg3  
 2.Sxe3+ Qxe3/Sxe3 3.Sxc3#/Rd6#  
 1...Sfxc3  
 2.Sxc3+ Qxc3/Sxc3 3.Sxe3#/Rd6#  
 1...Qxg3  
 2.Rd6+ Sxd6/Sfxd6 3.Sxc3#/Sxe3#

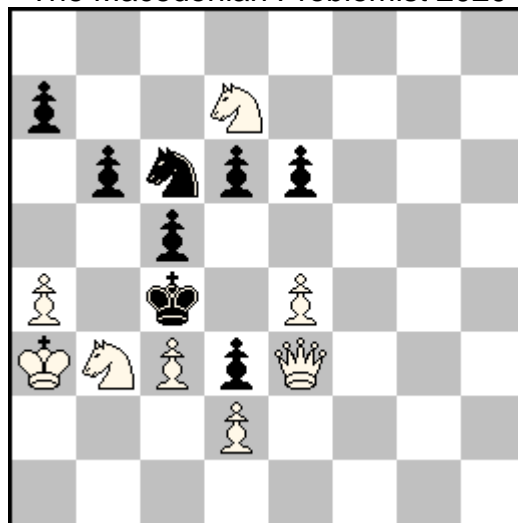
The key sacrifices wB, allowing three thematic defences on the same square g3.

Jacobs type TH+QSS (composition with threat, defences by queen and two knights).

### 894 - Viktor Syzonenko

2nd Prize

The Macedonian Problemist 2020



#3

(8+8) C+

1.Kb2? zz, 1...e5!  
 1.Sc1? [2.Qxd3#, 1...Sb4!  
 1.Sbxc5? [2.Qxd3#, 1...bxc5!  
 1.Qf2? zz, 1...Sd4!

1.Qh3? [2.Qxe6+ d5 3.Qxd5#]  
 1...Sd8 2.Sc1 [3.Qxd3#]  
 1...Sd4!

**1.Qg1!** zz  
 1...b5 2.Se5+ Sxe5/dxe5 3.Sa5#/Qxc5#  
 1...d5 2.Sa5+ Sxa5/bxa5 3.Se5#/Qxc5#  
 1...S~ 2.Qxc5+ bxc5/dxc5 3.Sa5#/Se5#  
 1...Sd4! 2.cxd4 [3.Qc1#]  
 1...e5 2.Qg8+ d5 3.Qxd5#

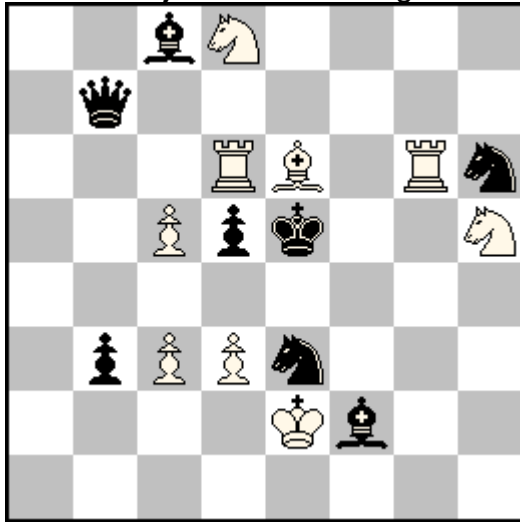
Jacobs cycle and zugzwang and tries.

Jacobs type ZZ+SPP, with a good key.

### 895 - Viktor Syzonenko

3rd Prize

Vechernij Sankt-Peterburg 2020



#3

(9+8) C+

1...Bxe6 2.Rg5+ ~f5 3.R(x)e6#

**1.Rf6!** [2.d4+ Ke4 3.Rf4#]

1...Se~

2.Sf7+ Sxf7/Qxf7 3.Rf5#/Rxd5#

1...Shf5

2.Rxd5+ Qxd5/Sxd5 3.Sf7#/Rxf5#

1...Qb5,Qa6

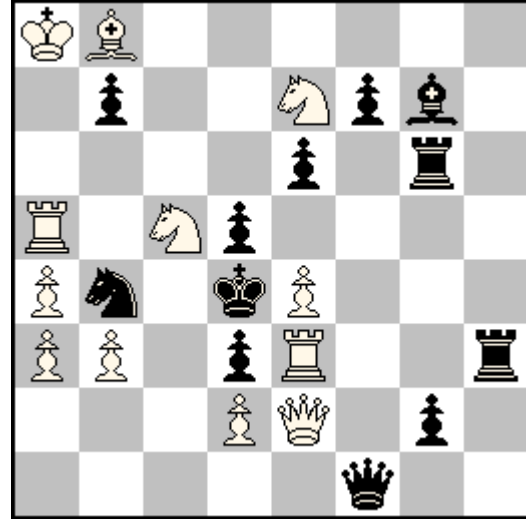
2.Rf5+ Sxf5/Shxf5 3.Rxd5#/Sf7#

*Jacobs cycle and set annihilation and selfpin.*

Jacobs type TH+QSS.

### 896 - Viktor Syzonenko

4th Prize H. Hurme MT 2020-2021



#3

(12+12) C+

**1.Sd7!** [2.Ba7+ b6 3.Bxb6#]

1...Qc1

2.Rxd5+ Sxd5/exd5 3.Qxd3#/Sf5#

1...Sc6

2.Sf5+ Qxf5/exf5 3.Qxd3#/Rxd5#

1...e5

2.Qxd3+ Qxd3/Sxd3 3.Sf5#/Rxd5#

1...Rh8 2.Rxd3+ Sxd3 3.Qe3#

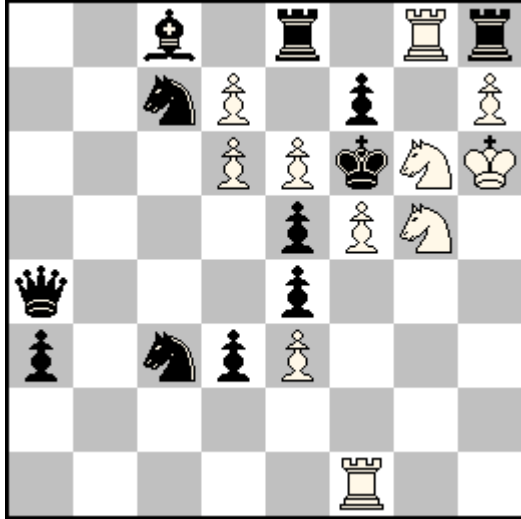
1...b6 2.axb4! [3.Sc6#] Qc1/Rxe3/e5

3.Qxd3/Qxe3/Rxd5#

*Jacobs cycle plus two variants.*

Jacobs type TH+QSP.

**897 - Viktor Syzonenko**  
The Problemist 2020



#3

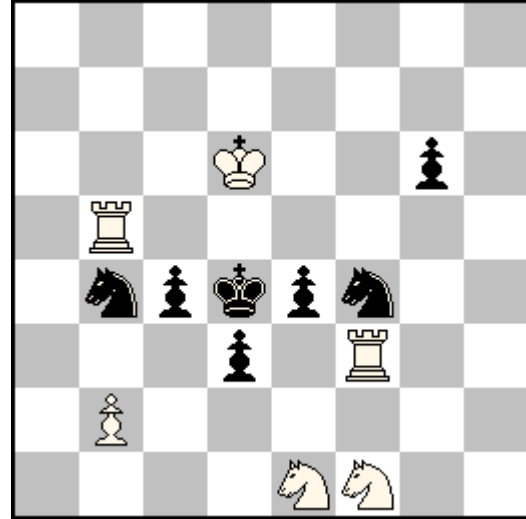
(11+12) C+

- 1.Se7!** [2.Rg6+ f×g6 3.f×g6#]  
 1...Re×g8 2.S×g8+ R×g8 3.h×g8=S#  
 1...Qd1 2.Sd5+ S3×d5 3.S×e4#  
     2...S7×d5 3.d×e8=S#  
 1...S7d5 2.S×e4+ Q×e4 3.d×e8=S#  
     2...S×e4 3.S×d5#  
 1...Sd1 2.d×e8=S+ S×e8 3.Sd5#  
     2...Q×e8 3.S×e4#

*Battery, promotions, cycle.*

Jacobs type TH+QSS.

**898 - Viktor Syzonenko**  
Phénix 2020



#3

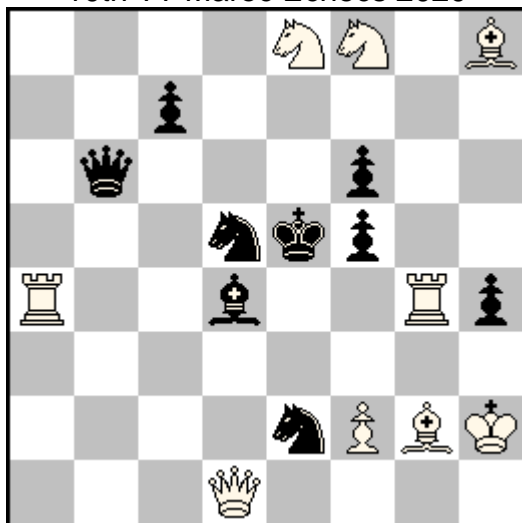
(6+7) C+

- 1.Sg3!** [2.Re5 [3.R×e4#]]  
 1...Sf4 defends 2.Sc2+ d×c2 3.S×e2#  
     2...S×c2 3.Rd5#  
 1...Sb4 defends 2.Se2+ S×e2 3.Rd5#  
     2...d×e2 3.Sc2#  
 1...d2 2.Rd5+ Sb×d5 3.Sc2#  
     2...Sf×d5 3.Se2#

*My first Jacobs cycle. Quiet threat!*

Jacobs type TH+SSP.

**899 - Viktor Syzonenko**  
2nd Honourable Mention  
10th TT Maroc Echecs 2020



#3 (9+9) C+

1.Qd2? [2.Re4+ fxe4 3.Qg5#], 1...Sdf4!

**1.Qd3!** [2.Re4+ fxe4 3.Qxe4#]

1...Sec3, Sg3 2.Bxf6+ Sxf6 3.f4#

2...Qxf6 3.Qxd4#

1...Qb1 2.f4+ Sxf4 3.Qxd4#

2...Sdxf4 3.Bxf6#

1...Sd5 defends 2.Qxd4+ Qxd4 3.Bxf6#

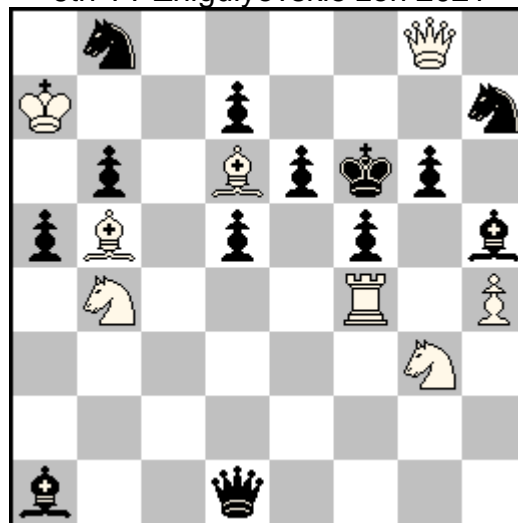
2...Sxd4 3.f4#

1...S~f4! 2.Qe4+ fxe4 3.Rg5#

*Mike Prcic, judge: I like 1...S~f4 2.Qe4 fxe4 3.Kg5#. The rest is all based on removing a guard.*

Jacobs type TH+QSS.

**900 - Viktor Syzonenko**  
Commendation  
6th TT Zhigulyovskie zori 2021



#3 (8+13) C+

1.Qxh7? [2.Qe7#], 1...g5!

1.Qh8+? Kf7! 2.Qxh7+ Bg7!

1.Be7+?

1...Ke5 2.Qxb8+ d6 3.Qxd6#

1...Kxe7!

**1.Bxd7!** [2.Qh8+ Kf7 3.Be8#]

1...Sxd7, Sc6+ 2.Sc6 [3.Be7#]

1...Qa4 2.Rxf5+ exf5 3.Sxd5#

2...gxf5 3.Sxh5#

1...g5 2.Sxd5+ Qxd5 3.Sxh5#

2...exd5 3.Rxf5#

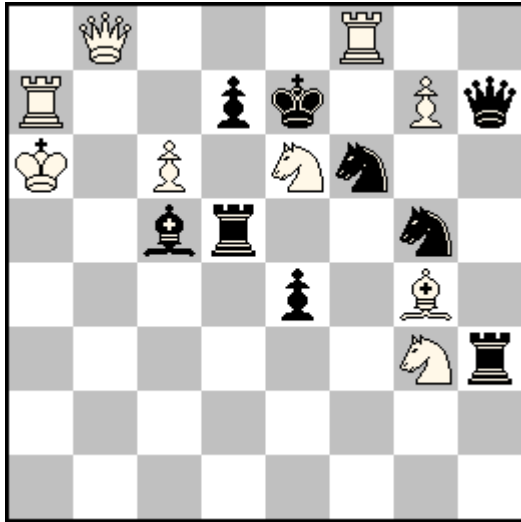
1...e5 2.Sxh5+ gxh5 3.Rxf5#

2...Qxh5 3.Sxd5#

- mates by different Bishops,
- Jacobs cycle,
- task - bQd1: a4, e8, h5, d5 - all 4 edge lines and centre of the chessboard.

Jacobs type TH+QPP.

**901 - Viktor Syzonenko**  
1st Honourable Mention  
L. Szwedowski MT 2021



#3 (9+9) C+

1.Rf7+? Kxf7! 2.Qf8+ Kg6!

**1.Sf4!** [2.Sxd5+ Sxd5 3.Rxd7#]

1...Sf7 2.Re8+ Sxe8 3.Sxd5#

1...Bxa7 2.Rf7+ Kxf7 3.Qf8#

2...Sxf7 3.Qf8#

1...Sxg4 2.Sf5+ Qxf5 3.g8=S#

2...Rxf5 3.Rxd7#

1...Rf5 2.g8=S+ Sxg8 3.Rxd7#

2...Qxg8 3.Sxf5#

1...Qf5 2.Rxd7+ Rxd7 3.Sxf5#

2...Sxd7 3.g8=S#

2...Qxd7 3.Sg6#

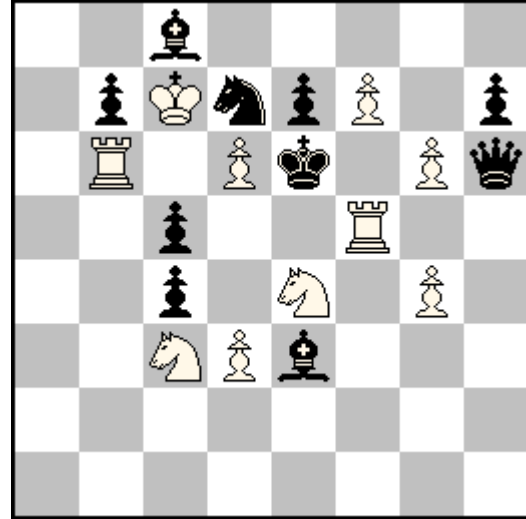
1...Rd1,Rd2,Rd3,Rd4,Re5 2.Qe5+ Se6

3.Qxe6#

- Rook sacrifices in the first two variations,
- Jacobs cycle,
- Keller paradox after 1...Qf5.

Jacobs type TH+QRS.

**902 - Viktor Syzonenko**  
Emil Palkoska 150 MT 2021



#3 (10+10) C+

1.d4? [2.d5#]

1...cxd4 2.Sc5+ Sxc5 3.d7#

1...exd6!

**1.Sd5!** [2.dxe7+ Sxb6 3.e8=Q#]

1...Bf4 2.f8=S+ Sxf8 3.Sxc5#

2...Qxf8 3.Sxf4#

1...Qf4 2.Sxc5+ Sxc5 3.f8=S#

2...Bxc5 3.Sxf4#

1...Sxb6 2.Sf4+ Bxf4 3.Sxc5#

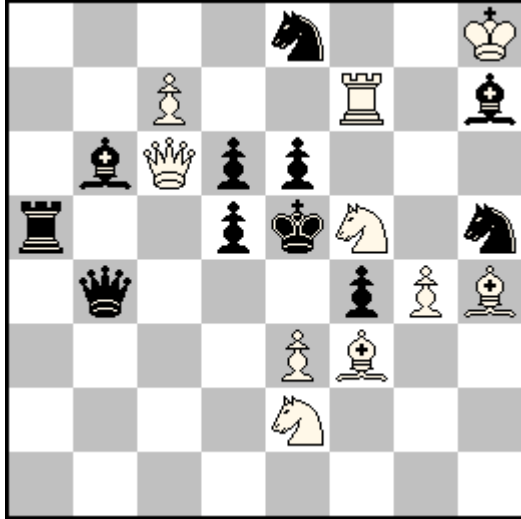
2...Qxf4 3.f8=S#

1...Qh2 2.Kd8 [3.Sc7#]

Jacobs type TH+QBS.

### 903 - Viktor Syzonenko

64 2021



#3

(10+11) C+

1.Qxe8? [2.Qxe6+, 2.c8=Q], 1...Ra8!  
1.c8=Q? [2.Q6xe8, 2.Qxe6+], 1...Bd8!

**1.Qd7!** [2.Qxe6+ Kxe6 3.Re7#]

1...Shg7 2.Qxd6+ Sxd6 3.Bf6#  
2...Qxd6 3.exf4#

1...Seg7, Sxc7 2.exf4+ Sxf4 3.Bf6#  
2...Qxf4 3.Qxd6#

1...Qb2,Qc3 2.Bf6+ Shxf6 3.exf4#  
2...Sexf6 3.Qxd6#

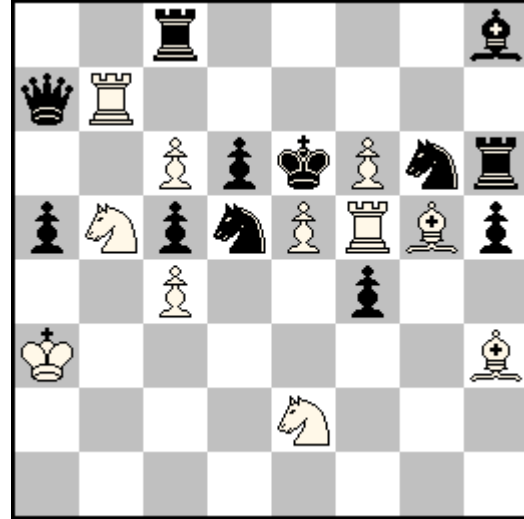
1...Qd4,Bd4 2.Sfxd4 [3.Sc6#, 3.Qxe6#]  
2...Bxd4,Qxd4 3.exd4#

*Feature: the second and third White moves on the "star" squares – d6, f6, f4, d4.*

Jacobs type TH+QSS.

### 904 - Viktor Syzonenko

Die Schwalbe 2021



#3

(11+12) C+

**1.f7!** [2.Rf6+ Kxe5 3.Re6#]

1...Sc7 2.f8=S+ Sxf8 3.Sxf4#  
2...Rxf8 3.Sxc7#

1...Rc7 2.Sxf4+ Sdxf4 3.Sxc7#  
2...Sgxf4 3.f8=S#

1...Sg6~ 2.Sc7+ Rxc7 3.f8=S#  
2...Sxc7 3.Sxf4#

1...Sf8! 2.Sbc3 [3.cxd5#] Sd5~ 3.Sxf4#  
2...dxe5 3.Rf6#

*Jacobs cycle and white battery, black correction, minor promotion.*

Jacobs type TH+RSS.

Diagrams: Viktor Syzonenko

Text contributions: Viktor Syzonenko

Narayan Shankar Ram

Juraj Lörinc

## Published not so recently: PAT A MAT 119

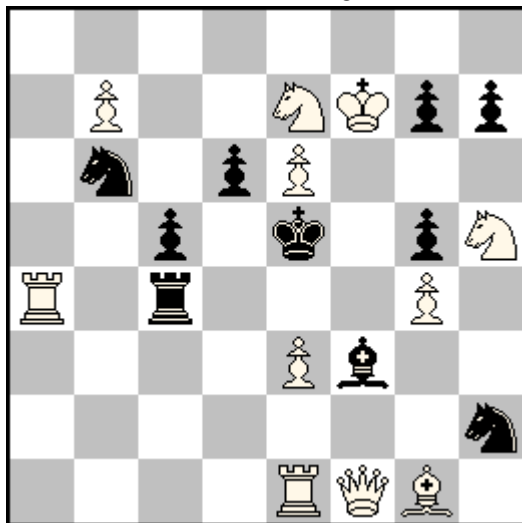
Issue No 119 of Slovak magazine appeared in March 2022. The content includes among other:

- an article by Jozef Ložek about ANDA theme in helpmates
- preliminary awards of PaM tourneys:
  - 2019 #2,
  - 2020-2021 s#,
  - 2020-2021 EG,
- originals,
- regular Selections.

PDF selection from the issue can be downloaded on the [dedicated page](#). 14 problems from the issue are reproduced here.

905-909 are originals in this issue.

### 905 - Daniil Yakimovich & Mikola Chernyavskij PAT A MAT 2022



#2

(11+10) C+

1.Qd3? [2.Qf5# **A**]  
 1...Re4 **a** 2.Sc6# **B**  
 1...Be4 **b** 2.B×h2# **C**  
 1...B×g4 2.Sc6#  
 1...Rf4+ 2.e×f4#  
 1...d5 2.b8=Q#  
 1...g6!

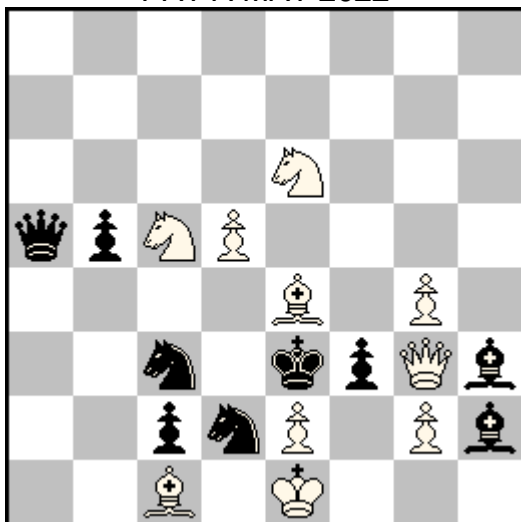
**1.e4!** [2.Sc6# **B**]  
 1...R×e4 **a** 2.B×h2# **C**  
 1...B×e4 **b** 2.Qf5# **A**  
 1...Be2 2.Qf5#  
 1...d5 2.b8=Q#

Authors' comment from the magazine:  
*A classical reciprocal scheme (e.g., <https://yacpdb.org/#221493>) converted to Shedy cycle. Grimshaw interference in one phase is changed to line opening with selfpinning in another phase.*

It is indeed instructive to compare both positions and see how the authors managed to turn the reciprocal change into difficult cyclic theme. The new 1st move 1.Qd3? puts into action threat 2.Qf5# with known triangular mechanism involving also defence 1...Be4 **b**. The other threat 2.Sc6# comes from the reciprocal change and is threatened immediately after 1.e4! The key difference here seems to be the fact that in the reciprocal change the key changes the flight from e4 to f4, here both try and solution simply take flight e4 without compensation. Is it worth the final result?



906 - Jozef Havran  
PAT A MAT 2022



s#2

(10+9) C+

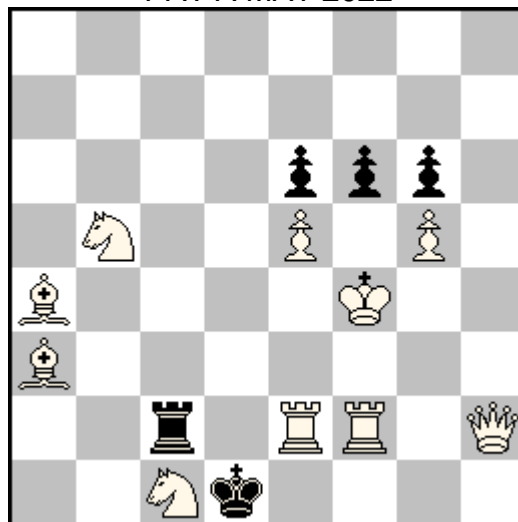
1.gxf3? [2.f4+ Bxg3#]  
1...Sxe2 **a** 2.Bxd2+ **A** Qxd2#  
1...Bxg4 **b** 2.fxg4+ **B** Bxg3#  
1...Bg2!

**1.Bxf3!** [2.Be4+ Bxg3#]  
1...Sxe2 **a** 2.Bxe2+ **C** Bxg3#  
1...Bxg4 **b** 2.Bxg4+ **D** Bxg3#  
1...Bxg2 2.Bxg2+ Bxg3#  
1...Bg1 2.Qf2+ Bxf2#

The solution itself is nothing special: a battery check by single existing firing piece move is defended by three different attacks on the battery, leading to immediate captures by firing piece. This results in the star of wB.

However, there is also a try setting up other firing piece in the same battery. Capture of Pg4 results in the similar 2nd White move, while defence 1...Sxe2 allows selfmate utilizing line opening of Qa5 to d2. Thus the change **Z-22-24** is blended with known geometry theme.

907 - Gennadij Kozyura  
PAT A MAT 2022



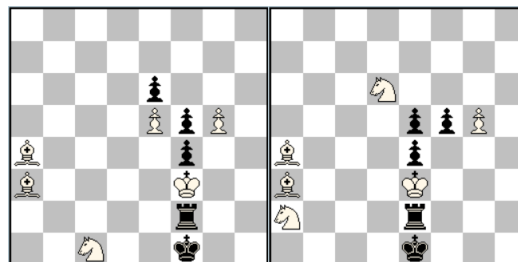
s#6

(10+5) C+

**1.Sd6!**

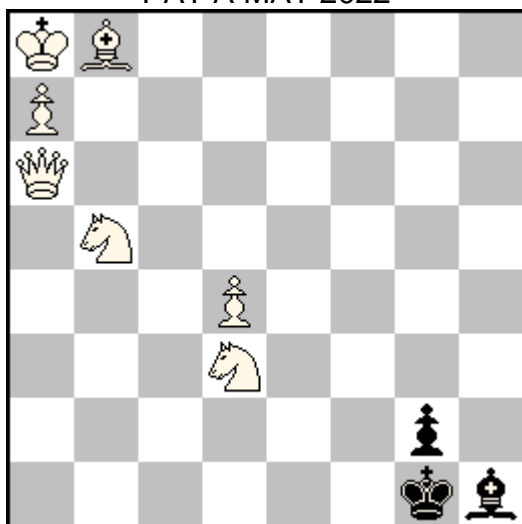
1...f5 2.Kf3 f4 3.Sf5 gxf5,exf5 4.Re1+ Kxe1 5.Rf1+ Kxf1 6.Qf2+ Rxf2#  
1...fxe5+ 2.Ke3 e4 3.Sa2 e5 4.Rf5 gxf5 5.Re1+ Kxe1 6.Qe2+ Rxe2#  
1...fxg5+ 2.Ke4 g4 3.Qg3 g5 4.Rf4 gxf4 5.Re1+ Kd2 6.Sc4+ Rxc4#

The first two variations show almost echo of the non-model mate of vertical type:



The third variation has different rook checkmate and overall the content is very rich.

**908 - Jozef Holubec**  
PAT A MAT 2022



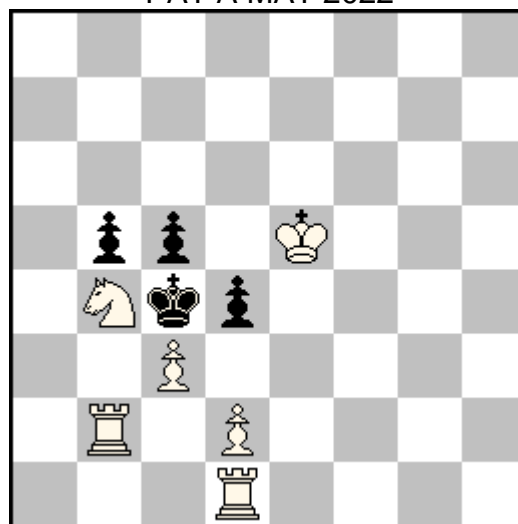
s#11 (7+3)

1.Qa2 [2.Sc3 Kf1 3.Qe2+ Kg1 4.Sf4 Kh2  
5.Se4 Kg1 6.d5 Kh2 7.Qd2 Kg1 8.Sd3  
Kf1 9.Sg3+ Kg1 10.Se2+ Kf1 11.d6  
g1=~#]  
1...Kf1!

**1.Sc3!** [2.d5 Kf1 3.Qf6+ Kg1 4.d6 Kh2  
5.Qh4+ Kg1 6.d7 Kf1 7.Qf4+ Kg1 8.Qd2  
Kf1 9.Se2 g1=~#]  
1...Kf1 2.Qf6+ Kg1 3.Qc6 Kf1 4.Qf3+ Kg1  
5.Sf4 Kh2 6.Sxg2+ Kg1 7.d5 Bxg2  
8.Se2+ Kh1 9.d6 Kh2 10.d7+ Kh1  
11.d8=B! Bxf3#

The comment in PaM remarks the intended opening of the line h1-a8 that should be crossed by wPd4 first and then also the wQ should be well placed to avoid guard on the diagonal. The final pure tempo move 11.e8=B! gained some praise as well.

**909 - Atsuo Hara**  
PAT A MAT 2022



#2 (6+4) C+

Circe Parrain

1.Ke4? zz  
1...cxb4 **a** 2.cxb4(Sa5)#  
1...d3!

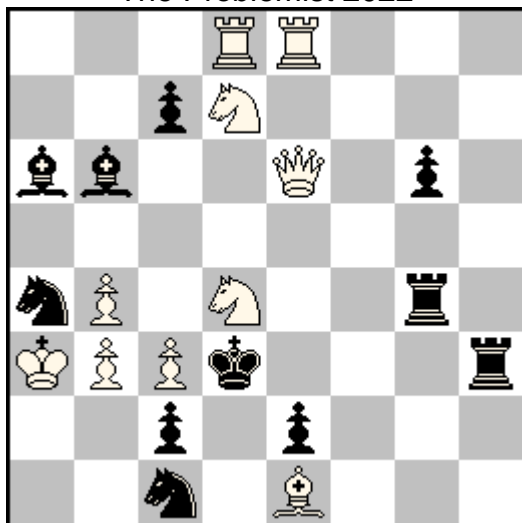
1.Rc1? **B** [2.d3# **C**]  
1...cxb4 **a** 2.cxd4(Sc5)# **A**  
1...d3!

**1.cxd4!** **A** [2.Rc1# **B**]  
1...cxb4(c3) **a** 2.d3# **C**

Djurašević cycle of key, threat and mate after the same defences is very difficult, perhaps impossible in orthodox twomover. On the other hand, there are many fairy compositions showing it, including twomover in Circe Parrain. **909** has two advantages. Besides rather economical position (10 units), it shows one further change after the thematical defence 1...cxb4.

**910-915** were included among the Selections ("Okienko do sveta").

**910 - Jean-Marc Loustau  
& Michel Caillaud & Gérard Doukhan**  
The Problemist 2022



#2 (10+11) C+  
2 solutions

1...Rxd4 2.Qxh3#  
1...Bxd4 2.Qxa6#

1.Sc6? [2.Sc5#]  
1...Rd4 2.Qxh3#  
1...Re4 2.Qxe4#  
1...Bd4!

1.Sf5? [2.Sc5#]  
1...Bd4 2.Qxa6#  
1...Rd4!

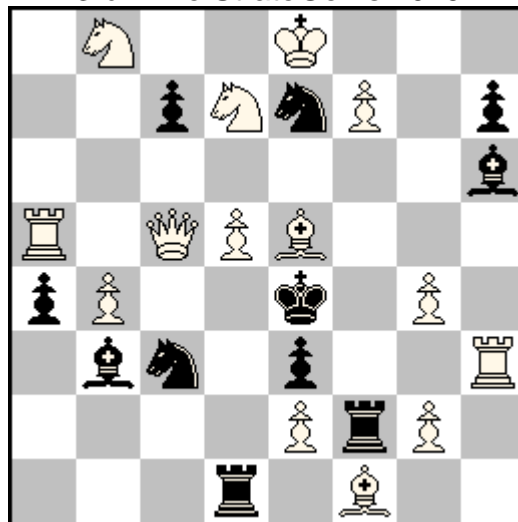
**1.Sb5!** [2.Sc5#]  
1...Rd4 2.Qxh3#  
1...Bd4 2.Qc4#  
1...Re4 2.Qxe4#

**1.Sf3!** [2.Sc5#]  
1...Rd4 2.Qe3#  
1...Bd4 2.Qxa6#  
1...Re4 2.Qxe4#

This seems to be a WCCT-inspired twomover, as four first moves vacate d4 for double-check threat and Black has always two main defences to the vacated

square. Of course, the form is not WCCT-ready, yet the position is interesting enough.

**911 - Felix Rossomacho**  
3rd Prize StrateGems 2019



#3 (14+11) C+

**1.Rf3!** [2.Sf6+ Kxe5 3.Sbd7#]  
1...Scxd5 2.Qc3 [3.Sc5#] Sd~/Rd4  
3.S(x)f6#/Qxd4#  
1...Sexd5 2.Qe7 [3.Sc5#] Sd~ 3.S(x)f6#  
1...Bxd5 2.Qc4+ Bxc4/Rd4 3.Sf6/Qxd4#  
1...Rxd5 2.Qd4+ Rxd4 3.Sf6#  
(1...Sg8 2.fxg8=Q,fxg8=B)

The threat brings bK to e5, that is why Black defends by unguarding of e6 by capture of Pd5.

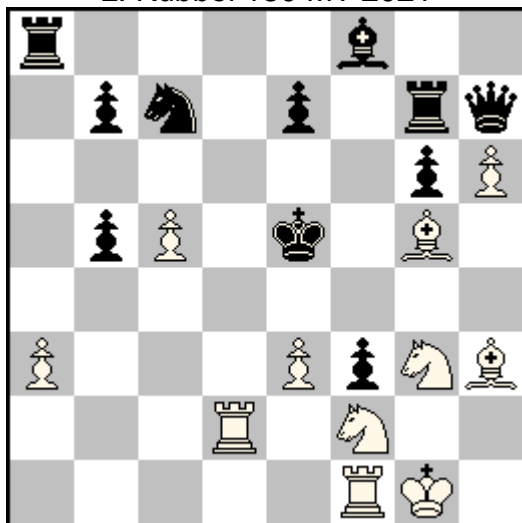
Knight captures then lead to Umnov moves of wQ vacating c5. The knights can then still defend by unblocking d5 (theme A2), but unguard of f6 is lethal.

Captures by line pieces allow other kind of attack – checking sacrifice of wQ, motivating opening of Ra5-e5.

### 912 - Sergej Khachaturov

1st-2nd Prize ex aequo

L. Kubbel 130 MT 2021



#4

(11+11) C+

**1.Rc1!** [2.Sd3+ Kd5 3.Se1+ Kc6/Ke5 4.Bd7#/Sxf3#]

1...Rf7 2.Sg4+ Ke6 3.Sf6+ Ke5 4.Sd7#  
1...Rxa3 2.Bc8 [3.Sg4#] Ra4 3.Rd8 [4.Sd3#] Ra3/Rd4 4.Sg4#/exd4#  
2...Rd3 3.Rxd3 [4.Sg4#]

1...Ra4 2.Rd8 [3.Sd3#] Rxa3 3.Bc8 [4.Sg4#] Ra4 4.Sd3#  
2...Rg4 3.Bxg4 [4.Sd3#]

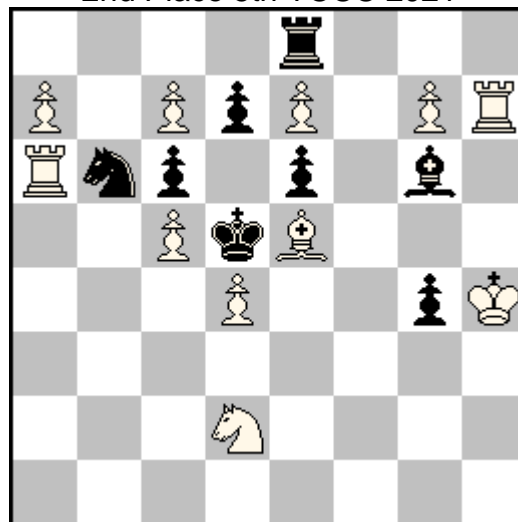
The judge of the competition A. Sygurov has pointed that **912** develops the ideas contained e.g. in YACPD problems No [195754](#), [375798](#) and [482398](#).

It contains two pairs of analogic variations. In the first pair (threat and 1...Rf7) Siers batteries created in the 2nd white move are fired, with mates from the same square d7.

After two bR defences White strengthens his position by quiet anticritical moves to the 8th rank, while the second moves cannot be played to d7, as this would cause mutual obstruction and impossibility to make the 3rd move.

### 913 - Benjamin Defromont

2nd Place 5th YCCC 2021



#5

(11+8) C+

**1.g8=S!** [2.Sf6#] Rxg8 2.e8=S [3.Sf6#] Bxe8 3.c8=S [4.Sxb6,Se7#] Sxc8 4.a8=S [5.Sc7#]

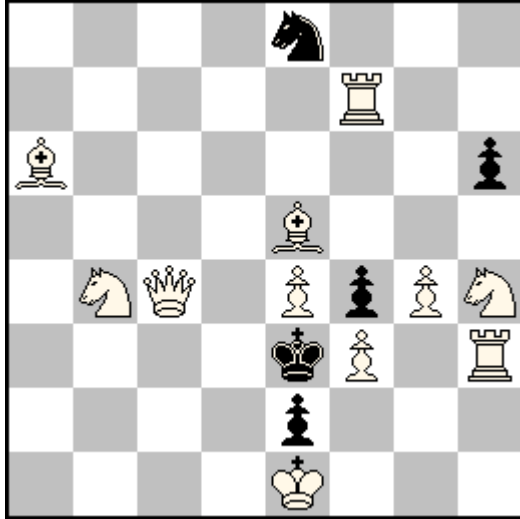
2...Rxe8 3.Ra5 [4.cxb6+ c5 5.Rxc5#] Sc4,Sc8 4.Rxd7+ Sd6 5.Rxd6#  
3...d6 4.cxd6+ c5 5.Rxc5#

**913** appeared in the [free section of the 5th Youth Chess Composing Challenge](#).

The main variation contains four knight promotions – it looks dryly, but in fact there is some fight behind. Two promotion at g8 and e8 allow White strengthening of the position by opening Rh7 to d7, something exploited in the by-play motivating exactly this preparatory combination. This was strongly praised by the international team of judges, experienced composers.

**914 - Zdeněk Libiš**

3rd Prize Zhigulyovskie zori 2021



s#4

(11+5) C+

**1.Rf8!** zz

1...h5 2.R×e8 h×g4 3.f×g4+ f3 4.Rh1 f2#  
 1...Sf6,Sc7 2.Sd5+ S×d5 3.B×f4+ S×f4  
 4.Sg2+ S×g2#  
 1...Sd6,Sg7 2.Sf5+ S×f5 3.Qd4+ S×d4  
 4.Sc2+ S×c2#

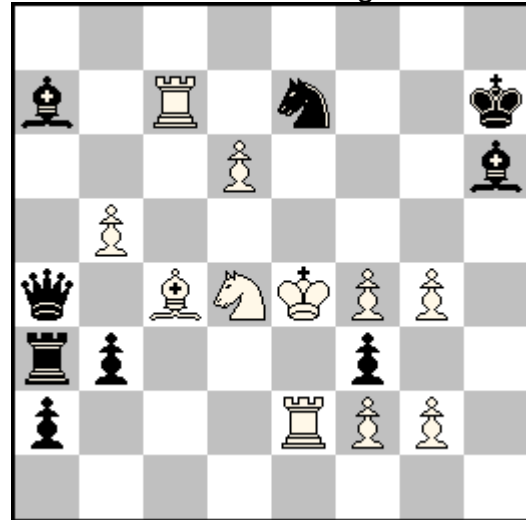
Did you know that theme Zilahi is actually called theme Svoboda in selfmates? Or at least this is the name used by our Czech friend. The reason is [this s#3 by Rudolf Svoboda already from 1915](#) utilizing reciprocal change of functions of black pieces “captured – mating”. It was published much earlier than Zilahi’s h#. Zilahi.

Here theme Svoboda is shown in the first two variations, thematical pieces being Se7 and Pf4. All three variations also end with model mates.

**915** utilizes well known condition Andernach – capturing piece turns after capture its colour to opposite.

**915 - Bernd Ellinghoven & Hans Peter Rehm**

1st Prize TT Sindelfingen 2013



semi-r#2

(11+9) C+

Andernach

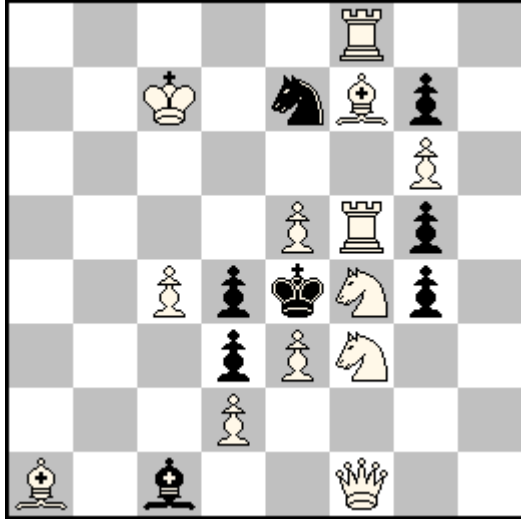
1.B×b3(bB)? [2.K×f3 Bd5#]  
 1...B3~ 2.R×a2(bR) Re2#  
 1...Bc2+ 2.Re×c2(bR) Re2#  
 1...Bd5+ 2.Ke5 Bg7#  
 1...Bc4 2.S×f3(bS) Bd5#  
 1...Qc4!

**1.S×b3(bS)!** [2.K×f3 Sd2#]  
 1...S3~ 2.R×a2(bR) Re2#  
 1...Sd2+ 2.R×d2(bR) Re2#  
 1...Sc5+ 2.Ke5 Bg7#  
 1...Sd4 2.B×a2(bB) Sdc6#  
 1...Be3 2.Kd3 Sc5#

Two phases of semireflex mate are strongly analogous. They both contain provision of pieces to Black by means of captures, check-provoking keys, active halfpin on the 4th rank, 2×3 black corrections, transferences of the 2nd white moves and radical changes. For me this is a FIDE Album level composition.

Three twomovers **916-918** are selected from the award of the annual tourney, judged by Jozef Havran.

**916 - Peter Gvozdják**  
1st Prize PAT A MAT 2019



#2 (13+8) C+

1...gxf3 2.Qxd3#  
1...gxf4 2.Rxf4#

1.exd4? [2.Qxd3# **A**]  
1...Sxf5 **a** 2.Sxg5# **B**  
1...Kxf5 **b** 2.Bd5# **C**  
1...gxf4!

**1.Sg2!** [2.Sxg5# **B**]  
1...Sxf5 **a**, Sd5+ 2.Bxd5# **C**  
1...Kxf5 **b** 2.Qxd3# **A**  
1...gxf3 2.Qxf3#

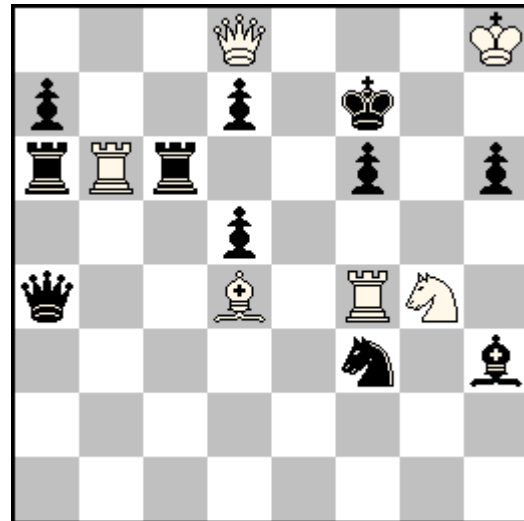
The letters indicate one of Peter's favourite themes: Sheday cycle (also known as Dombro-Lačný). Not every Sheday cycle is a top composition, but **916** surely has some further positive points.

The set play 1...gxf3 hints that any new white guarding of f3 could threaten 2.Qxd3#. This works in the try (where the new guarding is virtual, but anticipatory of opening of the line d3-f3), but surprisingly not in the solution as 1.Sg2 additionally unguards d3, but also opens still masked line f1-f5, threatening something different

(2.Sxg5#). So that's actually a threat correction.

But of course, there are more motifs in the action leading to the cyclic theme: 1.exd4 not only opens d3-f3, but also guards e5 and unguards f4, 1.Sg2 not only opens f5-f3 and f1-f5 and unguards d3.

**917 - Givi Mosiashvili**  
3rd Prize PAT A MAT 2019



#2 (6+11) C+

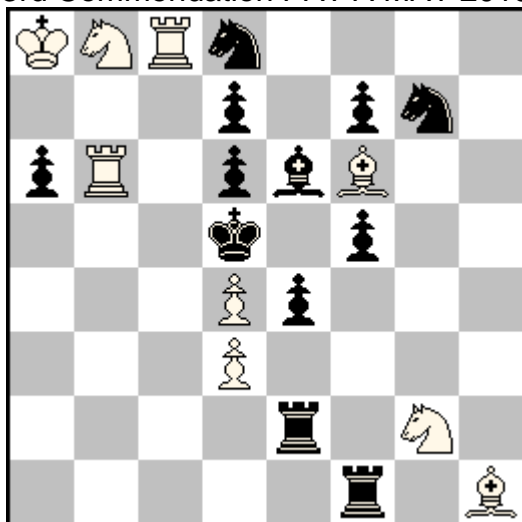
1...Rc8 2.Rfxf6#

1.Sxf6? [2.Qe8# **A**]  
1...Kg6 **a** 2.Qg8# **B**  
1...Rc8 2.Sg4#  
1...Ke6 2.Qxd7#  
1...Re6!

**1.Bxf6!** [2.Qg8# **B**]  
1...Kg6 **a** 2.Qe8# **A**  
1...Rc8 2.Bd4#  
1...Ke6 2.Qe7#  
1...Rxf6 2.Rfxf6#

No White pawns, le Grand with royal move and further changes. Rather elegant position.

**918 - Gerhard Maleika**  
3rd Commendation PAT A MAT 2019



#2

(9+12) C+

**1.Cxa6!** [2.Cb4# **A**, Cc7# **B**, Tb5# **C**]

1...Cb7 2.Cb4# **A**, Cc7# **B**

1...Ce8 2.Cb4# **A**, Tb5# **C**

1...Tc2 2.Cb4# **A**, Ce3# **D**

1...Tc1 2.Cb4# **A**, Cf4# **E**

1...Cc6 2.Cc7# **B**, Tb5# **C**

1...Tb2 2.Cc7# **B**, Ce3# **D**

1...Tb1 2.Cc7# **B**, Cf4# **E**

1...Ta2 2.Tb5# **C**, Ce3# **D**

1...Ta1 2.Tb5# **C**, Cf4# **E**

1...exd3 2.Ce3# **D**, Cf4# **E**

The strong key brings into play three threats **ABC** and Black is almost unable to parry all them at once.

There is only one true defence 1...exd3 providing flight e4, but it allows two other mates **DE**.

There are many other moves available to Black and if one sorts out those allowing less than three mates, suddenly the pattern emerges: there are 10 variations showing different pairs of mates out of five **ABCDE**.

Perhaps not the clearest example of combinatorics, but surely worth studying. While the geometry of orthodox pieces is naturally limited, there might be many fairy schemes showing even more ambitious schemes.

Juraj Lörinc

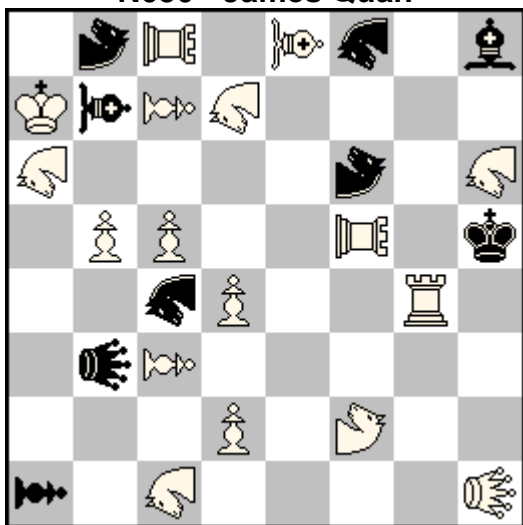
## Fresh clash 14

The original **N030** utilizes various kinds of lions. Ordinary lion, rook lion, bishop lion and nightrider lion are well known, rose lion (utilizing line formed of knights jumps along the convex octagon) might be as well. However, quintessence lion is less known. It is a lion along quintessence lines, as the Fairy Chess Classification project defines it:

Quintessence: Moves on a zigzag path in a series of (1,2) knight steps angled at 90°, e.g. b1-a3-c4-b6-d7..., thus making progress along two parallel (1,3)-lines.

On the diagram, one of the key quintessence lines is e.g. QLc7-e6-d4-f3-e1 – it allows immediate jumps to f3 and e1 over hurdle standing on d4.

### N030 - James Quah



#2 (17+9) C+

- = rose lion (ROL)
- = nightrider lion (NL)
- = bishop lion (BL)
- = lion (LI)
- = rook lion (RL)
- = quintessence lion (QL)

1.ROLf4? **A** [2.QLe1# **B**]  
 1...Lld5 **a** 2.RLf7# **C**  
 1...Llg8 **b** 2.ROLg5# **D**  
 1...Lle6 **c** 2.ROLh2# **E**

1...Llg3 **d** 2.ROLg5# **F**  
 1...Llf3 2.Lld5#  
 1...ROLb4 2.RLxh8#  
 1...QLxe8!

**1.QLe1!** **B** [2.RLf7# **C**]  
 1...Lld5 **a** 2.ROLg5# **D**  
 1...Llg8 **b** 2.ROLh2# **E**  
 1...Lle6 **c** 2.ROLf4# **A**

1...Llg3 **d** 2.ROLh2# **G**  
 1...Llb6 2.ROLh2#

|          |          |          |          |          |          |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|          |          | <b>a</b> | <b>b</b> | <b>c</b> | <b>d</b> |
| <b>A</b> | <b>B</b> | <b>C</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>E</b> | <b>F</b> |
| <b>B</b> | <b>C</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>E</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>G</b> |

As table of moves shows, the composition shows the 5-fold Djurašević cycle with shift of 1 element between key and threat.

The author points to the following important Lines:

- QLC7-e6-d4-f3-e1
- ROLa6-c7-e6-f4
- QLC3-d5-f4-g6
- QLa1-c2-b4-d5-c7-e8
- ROLf8-e6-f4-h3
- ROLc1-b3-c5-e6-g5

James also explains some constructional notes:

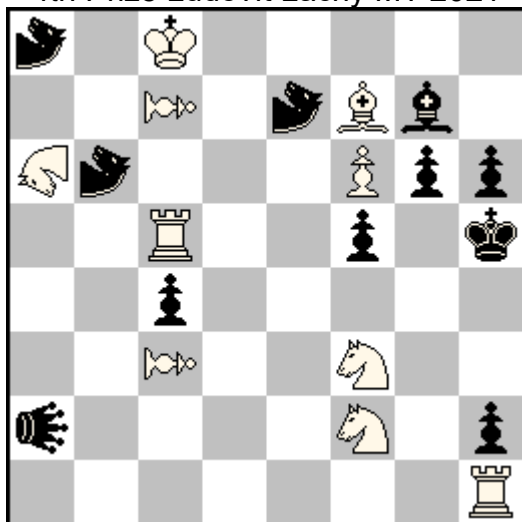
- The only plugs that are intended to be immobile are the four pawns.
- Nightrider lions are not part of the mechanism, but are important for soundness. NLf2 guards h5 over g4 to prevent 2.Rf4 from being a threat. NLb8 guards e2 to prevent 1.RNe2! and also plugs b8 to block NLf6. NLf6 needs to remain immobile except for the cook try 1.QLh3+? NLh2!
- ROLc4 prevents 1.QLxf6?
- Black duals cannot be helped.
- Unfortunately the refutation 1...QLxe8! cannot be prevented, so 1.ROLf4? must be the try. 1...Llf3/ROLb4 are strong defences that need extra resources to be provided with mates.

Our original bears some resemblance to other author's successful composition **919**, as James himself pointed.



## 919 - James Quah

4th Prize Ľudovít Lačný MT 2021



#2

(10+11) C+

= nightrider lion

= lion

= rose lion

= quintessence lion

**1.ROLf4! A** [2.B×g6# **B**]

1...Ll×f7 **a** 2.QLe1# **C**

1...Lle6 **b** 2.R×f5# **D**

1...Lld5 **c** 2.R×h2# **E**

1.QLe1? **C** [2.R×f5# **D**]

1...Ll×f7 **a** 2.R×h2# **E**

1...Lle6 **b** 2.ROLf4# **A**

1...Lld5 **c** 2.B×g6# **B**

1...B×f6!

|          |          |          |          |          |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|          |          | <b>a</b> | <b>b</b> | <b>c</b> |
| <b>A</b> | <b>B</b> | <b>C</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>E</b> |
| <b>C</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>E</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>B</b> |

5-fold Djurašević cycle with shift of 2 elements between key and threat.

Important lines:

QLc7-e6-d4-f3-e1

ROLa6-c7-e6-f4

QLc3-d5-f4-g6

James writes: This problem is an interesting comparison, and shares many features. There are far fewer constructional issues, which seems lucky.

It is instructional example of possible relationship between two forms of 5-fold Djurašević cycle. While they are fundamentally different (no move in functions of key and threat in **919**, but move **B** has those two functions in **N030**), it is possible to conceive them using closely related mechanisms.

Juraj Lörinc

## Annual tourney Conflictio 2022

All kinds of antagonistic problems will be accepted for Originals column (orthodox and fairy 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 will be **judged by Narayan Shankar Ram (India)**, multiple sections might be created based on the quality and quantity of entries. Please, send the originals to Juraj Lörinc (address below).

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

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