

preisberichte

idee & form 2008-2009 h#2 award

Mario Parrinello, I – Marcaria

First of all I thank Thomas Maeder for inviting me to act as judge. I decided to split the award in three parts depending on the length of the participating problems; I believe that, if possible, problems with different length should not be judged together. A general remarks for all three my awards: the quoted problems from (most of them from the PDB) must not be considered as anticipations at all, unless otherwise stated, but only as comparison problems for a given idea (different matrix or combination, better strategy etc.).

During the years 2008 and 2009 were published 50 helpmates in 2 moves. Before the award, some remarks only on interesting problems which were excluded for various reasons (those not mentioned here have weak or familiar content or constructional drawbacks):

No. 2349: compare to the problem in brackets by the same author (*Diagrammes* 2003, White: Ka3 Rc4 Rd4 Sd5 Se5; Black Ka5 Re4 h#2 2 sols.) which can be rated as Letzform;
No. 2350: compare to PDB P0547799 which shows the same strategy (and even the same twinning mechanism) and moreover it cleverly avoids an idle thematic black piece in turn by using the ♔; **No. 2352:** a very interesting problem with anticipatory selfpins on the same square (with checks to ♔ at b2) and cyclic exchange of functions of three white pieces (a novel feature in this context); unfortunately this combination is unconvincing since the ♔e5 can be replaced by a black Rook and therefore the pin mate disappears; **No. 2390:** compare to PDB P0503544; **No. 2392:** compare to P. Bakker, *Netanya Pre-Congress Ty* 1999, 6th Comm., White Kb3 Rd1 Bb1 Bd2 Se7; Black Ke6 Rc1 Bf7 pe5 c2, h#2 b) – ♗d2; **No. 2432:** interesting combination but it can be compared to A. Onkoud, *Springaren* 2007, 1st Pr., White Kd8 Qb8 Re8 Rf8 Bb7; Black Ke3 Qh4 Rg5 Ra4 Bf5 Sd5 Sf3 pe4 f4 d3 g3, h#2 2 sols., which shows the same play and also pin mates; **No. 2433:** the Sb7 can be replaced by a black pawn, allowing the removal of the ♙h1, and the solutions remain unchanged; **No. 2473:** anticipated by PDB P0535519; **No. 2475:** familiar thematic motifs (compare to PDB P0518172 or PDB P0535537); **No. 2478:** for a much better realisation of this combination compare to PDB P0537377; **No. 2514:** the economy can be improved by replacing the ♔f4 with a ♖, ♙c6=♗ and removing the ♗b5 and moreover this problem can be compared to PDB P1003544; **No. 2515:** anticipated by V. Medintsev, *StrateGems* 2008, White Ke4 Qg8 Ra8 Be1 Bb3 Sc1 pc2 c3; Black Kd1 Rf6 Rb4 Bf8 Bh5 Sc4 Sf4 pe6 h4 b2 f2, h#2 2 sols.; **No. 2516:** the dual avoidance is unconvincing since in a) 1.Sxc3 fails not only because it is an immediate check to the ♔ but also because White cannot guard the mating square; **No. 2559:** compare to PDB P0540577; **No. 2597:** self-anticipated by *Pat a Mat* 2004, Pr., White Kd1 Rf3 Rh4 Bd4 Bb7 Se3 pf4 d5 f5 d6; Black Ke4 Re2 pc5, h#2 2 sols.; **No. 2598:** besides the static pin of the ♗c3, this black piece can be replaced by a black pawn and the solutions remain unchanged; **No. 2599:** for a much better and complex problem compare to PDB P1002657; **No. 2600:** the idea seems more appropriate for longer problems (compare to PDB P0523949); **No. 2601:** besides the existence of the problem in brackets (V. Medintev, *Probleemblad* 2008, 3rd-4th Pr., White Kb2 Re4 Ra6 Bd7 Sc5 ph4; Black Kf6 Qe6 Rg4 Rd1 Ba8 Bg7 Sf8 pc7 f7 b3, h#2 2 sols.), two pieces can be saved and an aristocratic position can be achieved with the following version: White: Kg8 Rh3 Rd4 Be4 Ba7 Sd6; Black: Kc3 Qd3 Rb3 Rg1 Bf2 Bg2 Sa6 Sa4, h#2 2 sols.; **No. 2640:** compare to PDB P0551482; **No. 2641:** the logic of the black line closings is unconvincing since 2.Sg5 is not pure (in comparison with 2.Se6).

1st Prize: Thomas Maeder (No. 2435)

An old-fashioned problem in the era of helpmates of the future. The W1 moves have tempo purpose since White has to wait the black sacrifices on the mating square which have to be evacuated; the result is a very nice temporary white Grimshaw on e7. The construction is clever and with not too many blocking pawns taking into account that tempo strategy often requires them; moreover the exact correspondence between the sacrificed black piece and the mating one is visually attractive. This tempo strategy is not new of course but the relatively novel feature is that the stationary white piece of the white Grimshaw is 'fully' useful (for guarding purposes), and that to my view enhances the value of this idea allowing to label it as the ideal form; this latter thematic aspect exists in another nearly contemporary problem (H.P. Rehm, *Orbit* 2008/I, 2nd Pr., White Kd1 Rh5 Bh6 pe3 c4; Black Ke4 Qg2 Re6 Rf5 Bc6 Bd2 Sf6 pc5 g4 g3, h#2 2 sols.) but the present work has to be admired for its perfectly homogeneous strategy.

a) 1. Te6 Te7 2. T:e4 T:e4# b) 1. Ld6 Le7 2. L:c5 L:c5#

2nd Prize: Francesco Simoni (No. 2479)

The captures of one of the two white Knights in turn are motivated by the need to abandon the control of the mating square by the two thematic black pieces in turn and at the same time to allow access to another white piece which has to control the ♔'s field; afterwards we see alternated closing of black lines and openings of white ones, with beautiful mates on the same square. Besides the Zilahi, the functioning interchange of four pairs of thematic pieces (Sf2/Sh6, Rd2/Bf8, Sd4/Be7 and Qe2/Rg6) is one of the main features of this problem, if not the best of all. The specific combination of mates on the same square and Zilahi based on vacations of squares is not new and even shown by the same author (compare to his contemporary *Problemaz* 2008, 3rd HM, White Kb7 Rb5 Bg3 Sf2 Sb4 pf3 e4; Black Ke5 Qd5 Sf4 Sd3 pd7 c6 d6 f6, h#2 2 sols.) but here what is more appealing is the very dynamic black play which enhances the logic of the strategy.

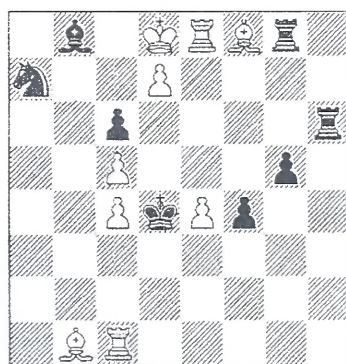
I) 1. T:h6 L:h6 2. Sf3 Sg4# II) 1. D:f2 T:f2 2. Lg5 Sg4#

1st Honourable Mention: Hans Peter Rehm (i&f 99, July 2008, 'hilfsmatts', page 3162):

Another old-fashioned problem and again another white Grimshaw motivated by tempo purpose. Here the black strategy is based on hideaways by the ♔ which has to abandon the control of the mating squares; the Follow-My-Leader effects on the square abandoned by the black Queen are needed to close a black line and block e5 at the same time, leading to a sort of black Grimshaw, thus beautifully echoing that on g6 by White. This problem can be usefully compared to the 1st Prize but the present problem shows more familiar play; by the way, a slightly more economical position (one pawn less) can be achieved with the following version: White Kd1 Rh6 Bh7 Sg8 pe4 h5; Black Ke6 Qe5 Rb5 Re2 Bb2 Sf4 pd7 f7 d6 f6 f5, h#2 2 sols.

Thomas Maeder
idee & form 2008-09

1. Preis

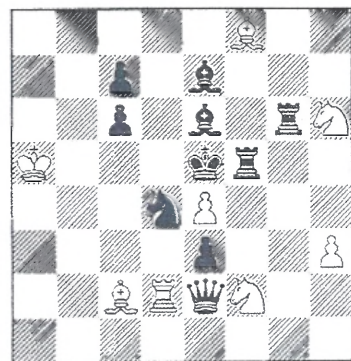


h#2

b) - ♖ c4

Francesco Simoni
idee & form 2008-09

2. Preis

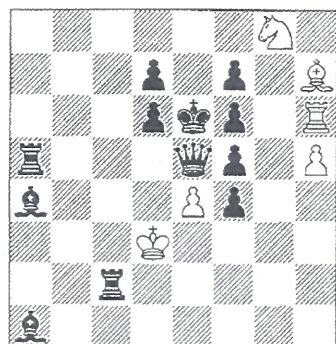


h#2

2 Lösungen

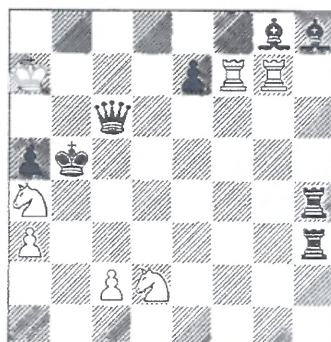
1) 1.Db2 Tg6 2.Te5 Tf6:≠ II) 1.Dc5 Lg6 2.Le5 Lf5:≠

Hans Peter Rehm
 idee & form 2008-09
 1. ehrende Erwähnung



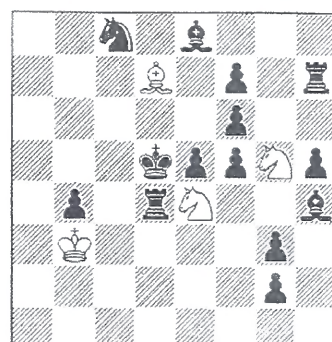
h≠2 2 Lösungen

Christer Jonsson &
 Rolf Wiehagen
 idee & form 2008-09
 2. ehrende Erwähnung



h≠2 b) ♖a4

Andreas Schönholzer
 idee & form 2008-09
 3. ehrende Erwähnung



h≠2 2 Lösungen

2nd Honourable Mention: Christer Jonsson & Rolf Wiehagen (No. 2434):

The authors have achieved a very interesting combination of attractive motifs. The need to selfblock the square c5 leads to pinning of the black blocking piece but what is more interesting is the way to achieve this: both Black and White have to choose carefully their first moves, showing therefore an interesting dual avoidance based for the black side [1.Rc4? in a) and 1.Rc3? in b)] on the need to abandon the control of the mating square and for the white one [1. - Rg5? in a) and 1. - Rf5? in b)] on the right choice of the Rook which pins the black piece on c5 (an undesired opening of a black line is prevented by one of the white Rooks which remains stationary in turn). Another visually attractive feature is the fact that both black Rooks occupy at B1 the mating square in their way to c5, therefore showing a nice FML effect; the Rooks also show a Leibovici interference but this feature seems merely fortuitous. The problem should be ranked much higher but it is a pity that the ♖c2, which mates in b), is idle in one phase.

a) 1.Tc3 (Tc4?) Tf5+ (Tg5+?) 2.T3c5 Sc3≠ b) 1.Tc4 (Tc3?) Tg5+ (Tf5+?) 2.T4c5 c4≠

3rd Honourable Mention: Andreas Schönholzer (No. 2558):

A neat rendering of consecutive Follow-My-Leader effects by Black and White motivated by the need to close a black line; the two thematic white pieces exchange their functions and worth noting is the fact that there are no white pawns. The consecutive FML effects have been shown many times (among many others compare to PDB P0502782) but here what seems novel is the fact that in both solutions the mating piece is the same officer which vacates its square to allow the access of the interfering black one.

I) 1.Tg7 Sh7 2.Tg5 Sh:f6≠ II) 1.Sb6 Lc8 2.Sd7 Lb7≠

1st Commendation: Borislav Gadjaniski (No. 2391):

The best TF problem of the tourney. The most interesting part with no doubt is a) which shows two elegant anticipatory closings of the same black line and (a rather familiar) exchange of function of the white pieces; the other two parts of the problem, each with one solution, have instead critical white moves and selfblocks on the square vacated by the ♖. The mates on the same squares, taken together all four solutions, are a nice feature. Besides the rather familiar play (especially that of b) and c), and in this regard it is useful to compare to

PDB P1084547), the rather weak twinning mechanism, needed to avoid the same ugly selfblocks on d5 by the same black Knight, has prevented a higher placing.

- a) I) 1.Sd2 Lb5 2.Kc5 x T:f5≠A II) 1.Sd4 Tf7 2.Ke6 y L:c4≠B
 b) 1.Kc5 x La6! 2.Sd5 2.Tc4≠B c) 1.Ke6 y Tf8! 2.Sd5 Lf5≠

2nd Commendation: Toma Garai (No. 2430):

The need to pin the ♔f5 leads to the captures of the ♜f4 and consequently the selfpins on f4 of the white capturing piece which is then unpinned at B2 by one of the black Rooks in turn. It is a pity that only after 1.Re8 the dual avoidance (1. - Bxf4?) is convincing since the other 'try' (1.Rd7 Sxf4? 2.Rd2 Sd5+??) fails both by 3.Rxd5! and by 3.Kg7!. The merit of this problem is the fact that it is to my knowledge the first rendering of this combination without weasels and if the dual avoidance had been entirely convincing it could be placed much higher.

- I) 1.Td7 L:f4 2.Td2 Le5≠ II) 1.Te8 S:f4 2.Te3 Sd5≠

3rd Commendation:

Andreas Schönholzer (No. 2476):

Nice passive captures of white pieces by a black pawn which promotes and then self-blocks, thus leading to the Zilahi, and closings of two different black lines by White. This combination is not new (compare to PDB P0552188) but the merit of the present problem is the fact that both line closings are pure.

- a) 1.e:f1T Tb6 2.Tf4 Se3≠
 b) 1.e:d1L Tc6 2.Lg4 Ld3≠

4th Commendation:

Abdelaziz Onkoud (No. 2557):

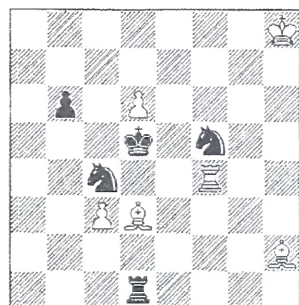
Neat Zilahi with active sacrifices of the thematic white pieces and openings of white lines. The reasons of the captures of the white material are less interesting in comparison to two contemporary and similar problems by the same author (A. Onkoud, *Schachmatna Poesia* 2009, White Kc7 Rd7 Bh1 Sg2 Sd5 pd4 h4 b6 f6 e7; Black Kd3 Qa3 Ra8 Rd2 Be8 Sc4 pb7 f7 h5 c3 e2 f2, h≠2 2 sols. and A. Onkoud & V. Vinokurov & R. Zalococki, *Kudesnik* 2009, White Ke8 Qg8 Bh1 Sg2 Sd5 ph4 b6 f6 c7 e7; Black Kd3 Qc1 Rh8 Bd6 Bg4 Sd2 ph7 c6 d4 c3 e2, h≠2 2 sols.) whose captures show more paradoxical motivations.

- I) 1.Ld4 Se5 2.d:e5 Sd2≠ II) 1.Le5 Sd4 2.c:d4 Sg5≠

5th Commendation: Bert Kölske (No. 2389):

Despite the limited material, the strategy is satisfying and sufficiently complex and based not only on the more familiar dual avoidance at B2 (the blocking piece controls one of the two mating squares) but also on the subtler black manoeuvres 1.Re3? and 1.Bd4? which fail because

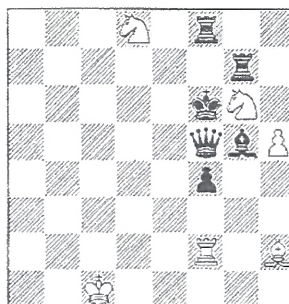
Borislav Gadjanski
 idee & form 2008-09
 1. Lob



h≠2

- a) Diagramm, 2 Lös.
 b) ♜c4→e3, 1 Lös.
 c) ♜f5→e3, 1 Lös.

Toma Garai
 idee & form 2008-09
 2. Lob



h≠2

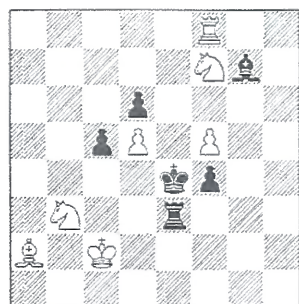
2 Lösungen

Andreas Schönholzer
 idee & form 2008-09
 3. Lob



b) ♜e4→f4

Abdelaziz Onkoud
 idee & form 2008-09
 4. Lob



h≠2

2 Lösungen

they prevent the white pieces from moving. The best miniature of the tourney.

- I) 1. Ta5 (Te3?) e3 2. Te5 Tf4#
 II) 1. Lb8 (Ld4?) Th4 2. Le5 e4#

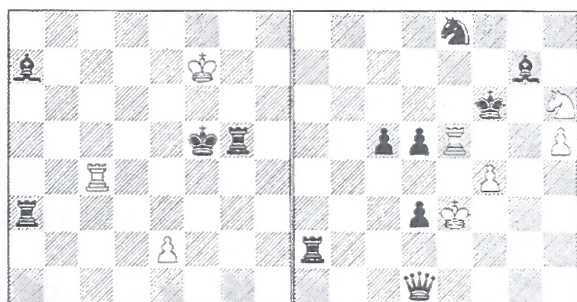
6th Commendation:

Viktor Syzonenko (No. 2512):

The interest lies on the alternative self-blocks (1. Ra6?, 1. Ra7?, 1. Sd6?, 1. Qg4?) which fails for checks to the ♔ (by the way there is also 1. Sd6? W1? 2. Sf7 Sg8+?? which does not work for lacking of a white tempo); besides the unbalanced motivations, there is also an ugly repeated mates but the problem deserves some recognition thanks to the relatively rare multi-solutions form.

- I) 1. Lf8 Tg5 2. Le7 Tg6# II) 1. Ta7 Kf2 2. Tf7 Sg8# (1. - Tg5? 2. Te7+ Tg6??)
 III) 1. Tg2 f5 2. Tg5 Te6# IV) 1. Dg4 Te7 2. Df5 Sg8# (1. - f5? 2. Dg5+ Te6??)
 V) 1. Sc7 Te7 2. Se6 Tf7# (1. Sd6? Te7 2. Sf5+ Sg8?? 1. Ta6? Te7 2. Te6+ Tf7??)

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Bert Kölske | Viktor Syzonenko |
| idee & form 2008-09 | idee & form 2008-09 |
| 5. Lob | 6. Lob |



h#2 2 Lösungen h#2 5 Lösungen

Mario Parrinello, I – Marcaria, December 2010

Die i&f-Redaktion dankt Mario Parrinello ganz herzlich für sein fundiertes Urteil. Es gilt die übliche Einsprachefrist von 3 Monaten. – Der Preisrichter hat seinen Preisbericht für die Hilfsmatt-Abteilung 2008-09 in 3 Teile aufgeteilt: h#2, h#2.5-3, h#n. Die beiden anderen Urteile (i&f 2008-09 h#2.5-3 bzw. h#n) liegen der Redaktion ebenfalls bereits vor; sie werden in i&f 110 publiziert werden.

Autorenverzeichnis idee & form 2010, Hefte 105-108 (fett=Urdruck, normal=Nachdruck)

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