

Belgrade Internet Tournaments 2019

Group B – h#2 – Award

by Vitaly Medintsev

Thematic condition: Avoidance of wrong move order.

In the initial position of an orthodox helpmate in two, the 1st and the 2nd Black's moves are legal in each solution. The wrong order of Black's moves (try) fails due to specific harmful effect which occurs in the 1st White's move. The 1st and the 2nd Black's moves must be played by different units in each solution. At least two solutions showing the harmful effect of the same kind in tries are required. Set play, duplexes, twins, zeropositions are not allowed.

Participants:

Fadil Abdurahmanović - BIH (25,37), Anton Bidleň - SVK (2), Gennady Chumakov - RUS (3,15), Ofer Comay - ISR (4), János Csák - HUN (5,16), Krzysztof Drażkowski - POL (6,17), Valery Gurov - RUS (24*), Antal Harl - (7), Jorge Kapros – ARG (8), Marko Klasinc - SLO (37*,43), Manikumar S – IND (26). Ricardo de Mattos Vieira - BRA (23*,36), Miodrag Mladenović - SRB (27), Karol Mlynka - RUS (9,18), Dieter Müller (†) - GER (10,19), Emanuel Navon - ISR (28,38), Vladislav Nefyodov - RUS (11,20), Aleksandr Pankratyev - RUS (29,39), Mario Parrinello - ITA (1), Pietro Pitton - ITA (30, 40), Bhushan Ramasastry – IND (31,41), Aleksandr Semenenko - UKR (32), Ilija Serafimović – SRB (33), Boris Shorokhov - RUS (24*), Francesco Simoni - ITA (12, 21), Dragan Stojnić - SRB (34,42), Gábor Tar – HUN (13,22), Ivo Tominić – CRO (35), Menachem Witztum - ISR (14,23*)*

First I would like to thank Marjan Kovačević for his invitation to judge group B of the Belgrade Internet Tourney 2019.

I received 43 anonymized entries from the tourney director Marko Ložajić to whom I am also thankful. In my estimation, the overall quality of the entries is rather low. A large number of works (19) turned out to be non-thematic for several reasons, although I was sure the theme conditions were described and exemplified quite clearly. Among the thematic problems, there were none showing four or more thematic solutions as well as cyclic forms, even though the last thing is possible, see for example [P1334855](#).

Before viewing particular problems, I wish to make a clarification regarding the tourney theme. The order of Black's moves must be motivated *solely* by the avoidance of specific harmful effect that occurs in the first White's move (W1). This means that the specific harmful effect is caused by a white unit in each solution

Below I give two main criteria for verifying whether an entry is thematic or not:

- 1) Black's reverse (wrong) move order must be legal (possible) if we skip W1, otherwise the harmful effect loses its thematic meaning.
- 2) In Black's reverse move order, W1 must be legal (possible) after Black's first move (B1) in a try

At least one solution of the problems listed below mismatches at least one of these two criteria:

B02, B05, B06, B09, B10, B12, B14, B17, B18, B19, B21, B29, B39, B41.

Besides,

- **B01** and **B21** show helpful (positive) rather than harmful (negative) effects; these problems are also considered non-thematic.
- **B07** – different types of harmful effect (line-closure for black unit/prevention of black castling) in two solutions.
- **B11** – a very clever problem (which, normally, could win a prize) presenting thematic feature in twin form that is not allowed by theme conditions.

- B20 – the same reason as in previous work; additionally, I haven't recognized any harmful effect by White in any of the three twins.
- B22 – different types of harmful effect in two pairs of solutions (occupation of a square needed for black unit/line-closure for black unit).

All these problems are considered non-thematic.

Within the remaining works, I have selected those that are of satisfactory quality in terms of originality, complexity and unity

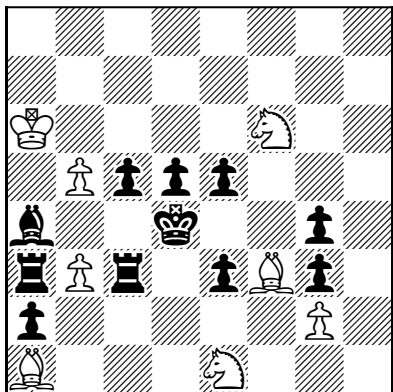
Some remarks on several competing problems that were not included in the award

- B04 – pretty good for Black but White's play is not well-matched in solution.
- B16 – anticipated: yacpdb/399051.
- B33 – imbalanced B2. Also there is an unnecessary pin on WS which causes an impurity of aim in B1.
- B34 – rather sophisticated idea based on the lack of White's tempo, but, unfortunately, WSg4 is superfluous in the solution starting with 1.Re4, which should be considered as a serious defect.

I propose the following ranking

Dragan STOJNIĆ

Prize, BIT 2019 B



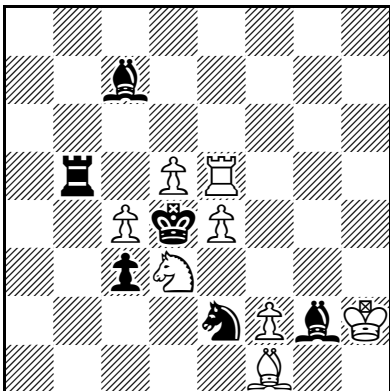
h#2 2.1.1.1 8+11

1.e2 tempo! (Rxb3?) Bxe2 2.Rxb3 tempo! Sc2#
1.e4 tempo! (c4?) Sxe4 2.c4 tempo! Bxc3#.

Unique presentation of thematic feature: White occupies the square which is needed for Black tempo move! Probably the first H#2 showing four different Black tempo moves by four different units in two solutions - an incredible finding! My congratulations to the incontestable winner of the group.

Ricardo de MATTOS VIEIRA

1st Hon.Mention, BIT 2019 B

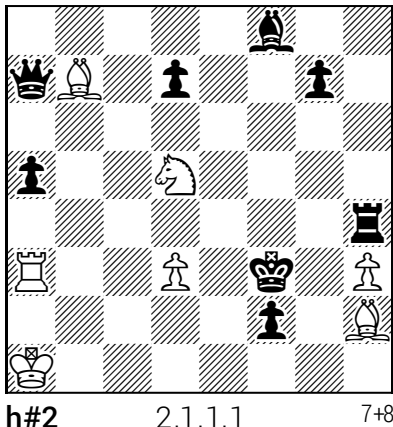


h#2 2.1.1.1 8+6

1.Rxd5 (Sg3?) Sc5 2.Sg3! (Sf4?) Rxd5#
1.Bxe4 (Sf4?) f3 2.Sf4! (Sg3?) Rxe4#

Unblocking sacrifice of linear officer (B1) has to be done before line-opening with accurate indirect unpinning (B2). I like the additional feature - in each solution, the moving white pieces exchange the squares they guard in the diagram position and in the mate position: wS/wR – c5/e4; wP/wR – e3/e4. Rather complex content is presented in a position without technical units.

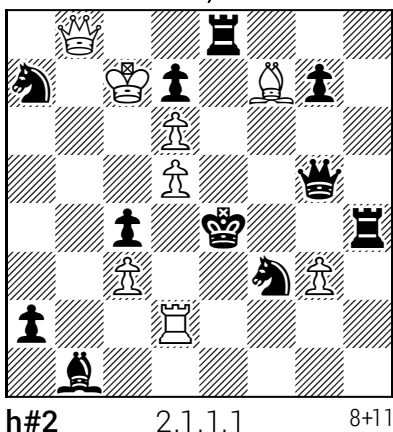
Menachem WITZTUM
 Ricardo de MATTOS VIEIRA
 2nd Hon.Mention, BIT 2019 B



1.Re4 (d6?) Sf4(a) 2.d6 d4(b)#
 1.Qe3 (Bd6?) d4(b) 2.Bd6 Sf4(a)#

Here, self-block of the square e4/e3 has to be done before Pickabish on d6. It is curious that the anti-critical B1 (which is, accidentally, check prevention) in one solution is exactly the move that White must avoid in the other solution. Nice reciprocal battery play with interchange of white moves. Pin-mates. Compare to: yacpdb/423727, yacpdb/304147.

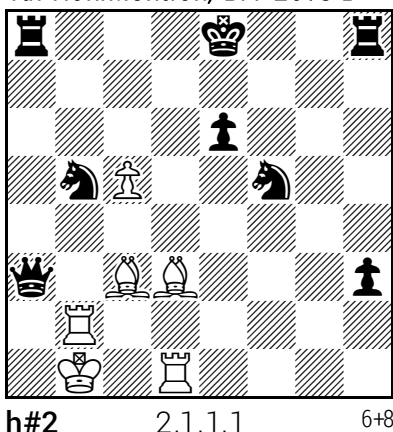
Emanuel NAVON
 3rd Hon.Mention, BIT 2019 B



1.Re5 (Qe3?) Qe8 2.Qe3 Bg6#
 1.Bd3 (Qf5?) Qb1 2.Qf5 Re2#

Orthogonal-diagonal correspondence with function permutation between WR/WB (guarding d5/delivering mate). Pin-mates. It is a pity that d3 is initially guarded while d6 is free. Compare to P0539155

Valery GUROV
 Boris SHOROKHOV
 4th Hon.Mention, BIT 2019 B

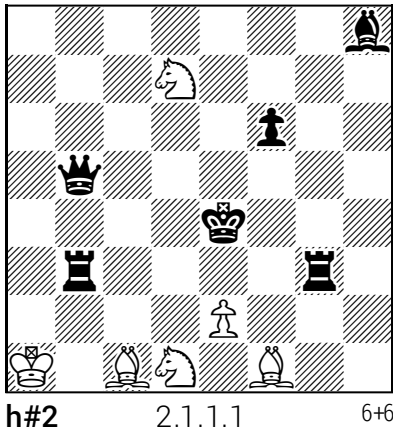


1.O-O-O (Sa7?) Ba5 2.Sa7! Ba6#
 1.O-O (Sfd6?) Rf2 2.Sfd6! Rg1#

In my opinion, this is the best problem among the group demonstrating prevention of black castling as a specific type of harmful effect. I like the reciprocally changed functions of white linear officers and black hideaways.

S. MANIKUMAR

1st Commend., BIT 2019 B

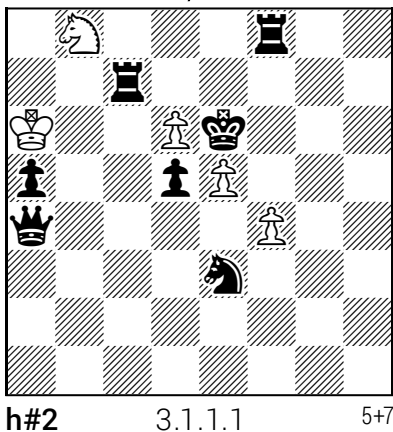


- 1.Rbf3 (Qf5?) e3 2.Qf5 Sc3#
- 1.Rgc3 (f5?) Be3 2.f5 Bg2#

A well-constructed Meredith showing nice additional features like mirrored black king, magnetic rook moves and the play by different units on the same square e3/f5 in W1/B2. However, the inhomogeneous arrival effect in B1 detracts so much.

Bhushan RAMASASTRY

2nd Commend., BIT 2019 B



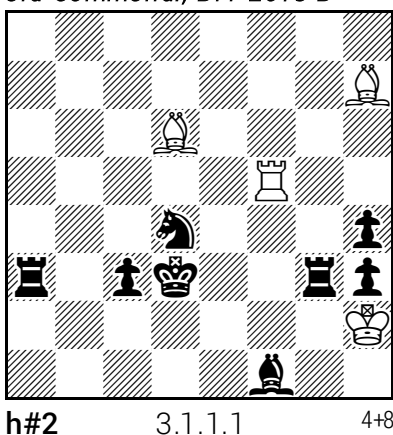
- 1.Qd7! Sc6 2.Rf7 Sd4#
- 1.Rcf7! Sd7 2.Sf5 Sc5#
- 1.Re7! d7 2.Rf5 d8=S#

Pure presentation of line-closure avoidance in three solutions in a Meredith position. However, the strategy is quite simple. Compare to [P1097322](https://www.chess.com/problem/P1097322).

Fadil ABDURAHMANOVIĆ

Marko KLASINC

3rd Commend., BIT 2019 B

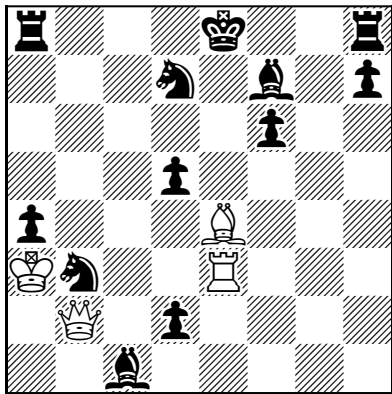


- 1.Be2 (Ke3?) Rf1+ 2.Ke3 Bf4#
- 1.Rb3 (Kc4?) Ba3 2.Kc4 Rc5#
- 1.Rf3 (Ke4?) Bg3 2.Ke4 Re5#

Another Meredith showing anti-critical White play in each solution. The problem could have been ranked higher if not for the almost complete symmetry of the play in two of the three solutions

Jorge KAPROS

4th Commend., BIT 2019 B



h#2

2.1.1.1

4+12

1.0-0-0 (Sa1?) Bf5 2.Sa1! Rc3#

1.0-0 (f5?) Bxd5 2.f5 Rg3#

In tries we see indirect check to black king as a subtype of black castling prevention. Looks fresh in combination with pin-mates. Symmetry in White's play is a blemish, and a non-alternative arrival square in the move f6-f5 reduces the impression a little.

Vitaly Medintsev, IM

17th May 2019, Krasnodar

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