

# THE MACEDONIAN PROBLEMIST

The best of Macedonia!

Supplement to The Macedonian Problemist № 66, September – December 2021

## “THE MACEDONIAN PROBLEMIST” LEAGUE 2021

Place	Name	Country	#2		#3-n		H#3		S#2-n		Points total
			Place	Pts.	Place	Pts.	Place	Pts.	Place	Pts.	
1.	Zoran Gavrilovski	MKD	1,4,7	12	1,2,5,7,9	12	2,9	10	1,2,3,5,7	12	46
2.	Aleksandr Pankratiev	RUS	5	7	3,4	9	3*,4*,7*	4,5	4,9	8	28.5
3.	Sven Trommler	GER	6, r.	6	6	6	10	2	6	6	20
4.	Evgeny Gavryliv	UKR					1, 4*	12			12
5.	Dieter Muller †	GER	+	1	+	1	5	7	10	2	11
6.	Marco Guida	ITA	2	10							10
7.	Karol Mlynka	SVK			8	4	+	1	+	1	10
8.	Vidadi Zamanov	AZE	3*	4.5	10*,r**	1	6*	3	r*	1	9.5
9.	Zoltán Labai	SVK	+	1	10*,r	1	+	1	8, r*	4	7
10.	Miroslav Svítek	SVK	8, r.	4			+	1			5
11.	Velko Aleksandrov	BUL					8	4	+	1	5
12-13.	Ivan Antipin	RUS					3*	4.5			4.5
12-13.	Charles Ouellet	CAN	3*	4.5							4.5
14.	Christer Jonsson	SWE					6*	3			3
15.	Givi Mosiashvili	GEO	9	3							3
16.	Aleksey Ivunin	RUS					7*	2.5			2.5
17.	Pavel Murashev	RUS	10	2							2
18.	Vladimir Kozhakin	RUS	+	0.5	+	1					1.5
19.	Anastasiya Bazhan	RUS	+	0.5	+	0.5					1
20-21.	Jozef Ložek	SVK					+	1			1
20-21.	Predrag Žuvić	CRO					+	1			1
22-23.	Salman Javadzade	AZE			r.**	0.33					0.33
22-23.	Viktor Volchek	BLR			r.**	0.33					0.33

Explanation of the symbols in the table

- +/r = Participation in one section or reserve: 1 point.
- x = Anticipated or cooked problem: 0 points.
- \* = Joint problem: 1/2 (\*\* = 1/3 etc.) of the points.

We thank: all the participants for their contributions, the judges (including notably Hans Gruber, who replaced Živko Janevski) for their well-done job, Mr Geoff Foster for the language control and Mr Predrag Žuvić for the proof reading.

Please send your anticipation or other claims to [zoran.gavrilovski@gmail.com](mailto:zoran.gavrilovski@gmail.com) until 30 March 2022, when the awards of TMP League 2021 will become final. The authors of the problems placed on the position of reserves are kindly asked not to publish their problems until that date.

## THE MACEDONIAN PROBLEMIST” LEAGUE 2021: MATE IN 2 MOVES

Judge: Karol Mlynka (Slovakia)

### LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

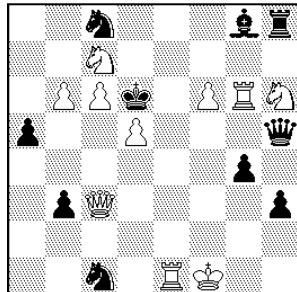
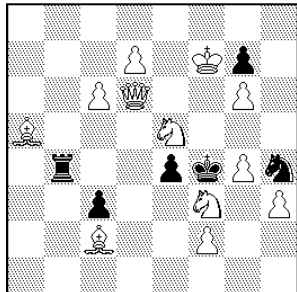
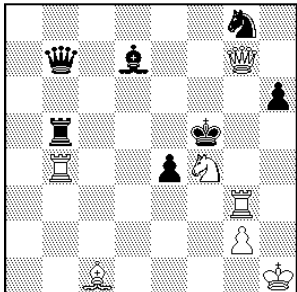
Marco Guida – 1; Vladimir Kozhakin & Anastasiya Bazhan – 2; Zoltán Labai – 3, 4\*; Vidadi Zamanov – 4\*, 5\*; Charles Ouellet – 5\*; Miroslav Svítek – 6, 7; Givi Mosiashvili – 8; Dieter Müller † – 9, 10; Pavel Murashev – 11; Sven Trommler – 12, 13; Aleksandr Pankratiev – 14, 15; Zoran Gavrilovski – 16, 17, 18 19.

### AWARD

In this international tournament, 19 entries were submitted to me anonymously. Thanks to the composers for their participation and also to the director Zoran Gavrilovski for my invitation to judge the tourney

Problems which did not enter the award include, *inter alia*:

- № 9: The changed mates are concurrent and I have seen many and better settings of the same kind;
- № 17: there is no mate after the flight in the set play (1...♙:c5 2.?).

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place
№ 19 – Zoran Gavrilovski	№ 1 – Marco Guida	№ 5 – V. Zamanov & C. Ouellet
		
#2 * v v 10+10	#2 v v 12+6	#2 * v v 7+7
1...♙:d5 x 2.♗b5# A [♘e8+?] 1...♙:d5 y 2.♘e8# B [♗b5+?] 1.♙d1? (2.♗b5# A, ♘e8# B) 1...♙:d5 x 2.♘f7# 1...♙:d5 y 2.♘f5# 1...♙f5+ 2.♘:f5# 1...♙d3! 1.♙c4? (2.♗b5# A, ♘e8# B) 1...♙f5+ 2.♘:f5# 1...♙e2! 1.♙d4! (2.♗b5# A, ♘e8# B) 1...♙:d5 x 2.♙e6# 1...♙:d5 y 2.f7# 1...♙f5+ 2.♘:f5#	1.♙d1? (2.♘d3# A, ♘c4# B) 1...♙:f3 y 2.♘:f3# 1...e3 2.♙:b4# 1...e:f3! x [2.♘:f3+?] 1.♙e7? (2.♙g5#) 1...e:f3 x 2.♘d3# A [2.♘c4? B] 1...♙:f3 y! 1.♙d8! (2.♙g5#) 1...e:f3 x 2.♘c4# B [2.♘d3+? A] 1...♙:f3 y 2.♘d3# A [2.♘c4+? B]	1...h5 x 2.♙g5# A / ♙g5# B 1...♙e5 y 2.♙g6# C 1.♙g6? (2.g4#) 1...h5 x 2.♙g5# A 1...♙f6 2.♙:f6# 1...e3! 1.♙h3? (2.♙h5#, 2.g4#) 1...♙f6! z 1.♙b2! (2.♙g4#) 1...h5 x 2.♙g5# B 1...♙e5 y 2.♙:e5# 1...♙:f4 2.♙f3# 1...♙f6 z 2.♙:f6#

### 1<sup>st</sup> Place: № 19 – Zoran Gavrilovski

An excellent combination of three themes: reversal *Dombrovskis*, *Zagoruko* and *Rudenko*. *Dombrovskis paradox* [x 2] with the reappearance of the set mates as a double threat in two other phases – *Rudenko theme* [x 2]. *Zagoruko theme*: change of mates (Z-32-26) with self-blocks + dual avoidance in the set play, and self-pins in the other phases.

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: № 1 – Marco Guida

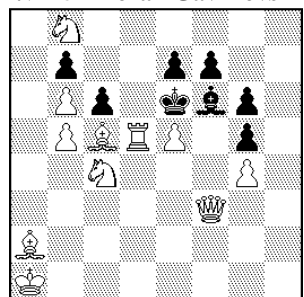
The author commented the content of this high-quality composition very efficiently:

- 2 x *Dombrovskis*: refutation **x** to a double threat **A & B** in the 1<sup>st</sup> try; mates **A & B** follow the defence **x** in the 1<sup>st</sup> try and in the solution, respectively.
- 1 x *Dombrovskis paradox*: defence **y** to threat **A** in the 1<sup>st</sup> try; the mate **A** follows the defence **y** in the solution.
- 2 changes of mates after the thematic defences **x** and **y** (Z-3/112/-23).
- dual avoidance.
- 2 x *anti-Dombrovskis* after **x**: in the 2<sup>nd</sup> try the mate **B** is not possible (the key destroys the ♖/♗ battery, making it impossible to fire after a self-block of the square f3); in the solution the mate **A** is not possible (active effect of **x** that unblocks the square e4).
- 1 x *anti-Dombrovskis paradox* after **y**: in the 1<sup>st</sup> try the defence **y** defends not only against the threat **A**, but also against the threat **B**; in the solution, the mate **B** is not possible after **y** (active effect of a defence that defends against the battery).

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: № 5 – Vidadi Zamanov & Charles Ouellet

*Ellerman-Mäkihovi* theme with different threats on the same square g4 (g5), a flight-giving key, changed mates after 1...h5 and 1...♞e5. Twice black line opening with 1...e3! after 1.♞g6? and after 1...♞:f4 in the solution – *Belliboni* effect (the *Belliboni* theme is based upon the fact that a flight as a defence prevents the threat not by itself, but through additional features).

4<sup>th</sup> Place  
№ 18 – Zoran Gavrilovski



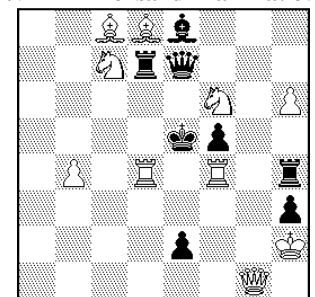
#2 \* ♣ ♣ 11+8

- 1...♙:e5+ 2.♞:e5#  
 1.♗d6? (zugzwang)  
 1...♙f6~ 2.♞:f7#  
 1...♙:e5+ 2.♞d4#  
 1...c:d5 2.♞:d5# A  
 1...e:d6 2.♞:f6#  
 1...c:b5! x  
 1.♞d5~? (zugzwang) ♙f6~!  
 1.♞d7! (zugzwang)  
 1...♙f6~ 2.♞:e7#  
 1...♙:e5+ 2.♗b2#  
 1...c:b5 x 2.♞d5# A

4<sup>th</sup> Place: № 18 – Zoran Gavrilovski

White half-battery and checking *Black correction* with changed mates (Z-3/133/-46); a transferred mate **A**; and change of function of the black move **x**.

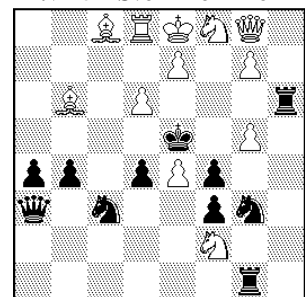
5<sup>th</sup> Place  
№ 14 – Aleksandr Pankratiev



#2 \* 10+8

- 1...♞:d4 2.♞:d4# A  
 1...♞:f6 2.♞g7#  
 1.♞d6! (2.♞d4# A)  
 1...♞:d6 2.♞e3#  
 1...♞:d6 2.♞:f5#  
 1...♞:d6, ♞:f4 2.♞c5#  
 1...♞:f4 2.♞g3#

6<sup>th</sup> Place  
№ 13 – Sven Trommler



#2 ♣ ♣ ♣ 12+11

- 1.♙b7? (2.♗g4# A, ♗d3# B)  
 1...♙c:e4 x 2.♞d5# C  
 1...♙g:e4! y  
 1.♞h7? (2.♗g4# A, ♗d3# B)  
 1...♙g:e4 y 2.♞f5# D  
 1...♞:h7, ♞g6 2.♗(:)g6#  
 1...♙c:e4! x  
 1.♙c7? (2.♗d7#) d3!  
 1.♙c5! (2.♗d7#)  
 1...♙c:e4 x 2.♗g4# A [♗d3+?]  
 1...♙g:e4 y 2.♗d3# B [♗g4+?]  
 1...♞:d6 2.♙:d6#

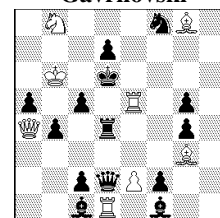
5<sup>th</sup> Place: № 14 – Aleksandr Pankratiev

Twofold radical changes (Z-22-44), self-pin, line opening plus self-block. A double flight-giving sacrificial key which takes one square in turn.

6<sup>th</sup> Place: № 13 – Sven Trommler

Twofold *Dombrovskis* theme with a double threat and changed mates (Z-3/112/-24).

7<sup>th</sup> Place  
№ 16 – Zoran Gavrilovski



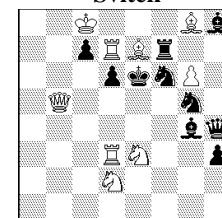
#2 ♣ ♣ ♣ 8+14

- 1.e3? (2.♞e4# A) ♞f4!  
 1...♞d5 2.♞e6# B  
 1...♞:e3 2.♞:e3# C  
 1...♙e6 x, ♙g6  
 2.♞:d7#  
 1.e4? (2.♞e6# B) ♞f4!  
 1...♞:e4 2.♞:e4# A  
 1.♞:a5? (2.♞:c5#)  
 1...♙e6! x  
 1.♞b5! (2.♞:c5#)  
 1...♞c4 2.♞e4# A  
 1...♞c3 2.♞e3# C  
 1...♞d5 2.♞e6# B  
 1...♙e6 x 2.♞:d7#

7<sup>th</sup> Place: № 16 – Zoran Gavrilovski

White battery, black half-pin, shut-off mates, *pseudo le Grand*, transfer of mates and *Fedorovich* theme in the tries – W1 moves eliminate one of two black defences and the remaining one is a refutation; and *vice versa* (Author). Nostalgia for the classic strategy.

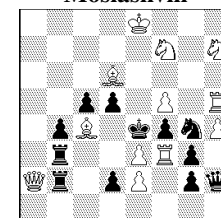
8<sup>th</sup> Place  
№ 6 – Miroslav Svitek



#2 ♣ 9+10

- 1.♙d8? (2.♞e7#)  
 1...♙d5 (dBF)  
 2.♞:d5#  
 1...♙:d7 (eCF)  
 2.♞d5#  
 1...d5!  
 1.♗f3! (2.♗d4#)  
 1...c5 (aAB)  
 2.♞3:d6#  
 1...♙:f3 (bBC)  
 2.♙:f7#  
 1...♙:f3 (cCD)  
 2.♞f5#  
 1...♙d5 (dDA)  
 2.♞:d5#  
 1...♙:d7 (eDE)  
 2.♞:d7#  
 1...d5 2.♞c6#

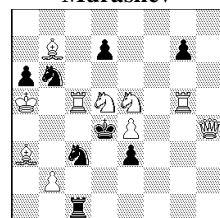
9<sup>th</sup> Place  
№ 8 – Givi Mosiashvili



#2 \* ♣ ♣ 12+12

- 1...♞3~ 2.♙:d5#  
 1...♞:e3! 2.♞:f4#  
 1...♙~ 2.♗f6# D  
 1...♙:e3! 2.♞:f4#  
 1...f:e3 2.♞f4#  
 1.f6? (2.♙:d5# A)  
 1...♙:e3/♙:e3/f:e3  
 2.♞:f4# B  
 1...♞d3 2.♙:d3#  
 1...d:c4 2.♞a8#  
 1...d1 ♞(♞)!  
 1.♗h6? (2.♗g5# C)  
 1...♞:e3/♙:e3/f:e3  
 2.♞:f4# B  
 1...♞:h4!  
 1.♙:c5! (2.♞:f4# B)  
 1...♞:e3 2.♙:d5# A  
 1...f:e3 2.♗hg5# C  
 1...♙:e3 2.♗f6# D  
 1...d:c4 2.♞a8#

10<sup>th</sup> Place  
№ 11 – Pavel Murashev



#2 ♣ ♣ ♣ 10+8

- 1.♞f4? (2.♞:e3#)  
 1...♙b:d5 2.♞c4#  
 1...♙c:d5 x 2.e:d5#  
 1...♞e1 2.b:c3#  
 1...♙d1!  
 1.♗e7? (2.♗f5#)  
 1...♙bd5 2.♞c4#  
 [2.♗f5+? ♙e5!]  
 2.♙:cd5 2.e:d5#  
 1...d5 y 2.♗7c6#  
 1...♞f1 2.b:c3#  
 1...g6!  
 1.♗b4? (2.♗f3#)  
 1...♙bd5 2.♞c4#  
 1...♙c5 2.♗bc6# [♗c2#]  
 1...d5 2.♗bc6#  
 1...♞f1 z 2.♗c2#[b:c3+?]  
 1...e2 2.♞f2#  
 1...♙c5 2.♗bc6# [♗c2#]  
 1...cd5! x [2.e:d5?]  
 1.♗f4! (2.♗f3#)  
 1...♙bd5 2.♞c4#  
 [2.♗f3+? ♙e4!]  
 1...♙cd5 x 2.♗e2#  
 [2.e:d5?]  
 1...d5 y 2.♗e6#  
 1...♞f1 z 2.b:c3#  
 1...e2 2.♞f2#  
 1...♙c4+ 2.♞:c4#

**8<sup>th</sup> Place: № 6 – Miroslav Svitek**

Cyclic duals of 4 defensive motifs AB– BC–CD–DA, spiral pairs of 5 defensive motifs AB–BC–CD–DE. The defensive motifs are as follow: A – creation of a flight by line interference; B – direct guard of the threat square; C – capturing of the threatening unit; D – indirect guard by line-opening; E – creation of a flight by capture (Author). The spiral of motif-duals turns out to chess nonsense. The cycle is better.

**9<sup>th</sup> Place: № 8 – Givi Mosiashvili**

The author’s list of themes includes the following themes: a double *le Grand*, secondary *Dombrovskis*, change of mates 2 x 3, *defence-based Hannelius* and *Luukkonen*.

**10<sup>th</sup> Place: № 11 – Pavel Murashev**

The author listed *Barulin (A1)* defences in the try 1. ♖e7? and *Levmann* defences in the try 1. ♘b4?, 4-phase change of defensive motif after 1... ♗bd5, creation and play of white batteries.

**1<sup>st</sup> reserve: № 12 – Sven Trommler**

**2<sup>nd</sup> reserve: № 7 – Miroslav Svitek.**

Karol Mlynka

Bratislava, November 2021

International judge of FIDE for chess compositions

**“THE MACEDONIAN PROBLEMIST” LEAGUE 2021: MATE IN 3 MOVES**

Judge: *Oleg Efrosinin* (Russia)

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

Salman Javadzade – 1\*\*, Viktor Volchek – 1\*\*, Vidadi Zamanov – 1\*\*, 2\*, Zoltán Labai – 2\*, 3; Karol Mlynka – 4; Dieter Müller† – 5; Sven Trommler – 6; Aleksandr Pankratiev – 7, 8; Zoran Gavrilovski – 9, 10, 11, 12, 13; Vladimir Kozhakin – 14\*, 15 16\*; Anastasiya Bazhan – 14\*, 16\*.

**AWARD**

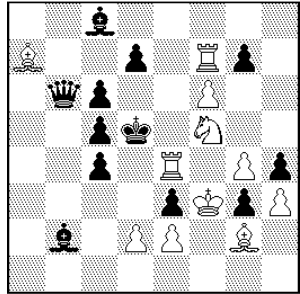
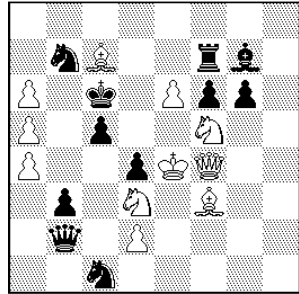
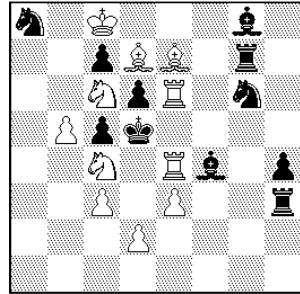
I received 16 problems without authors’ names for judging. In accordance with the tourney rules, the problems were supposed to be placed in distinct places without sharing of distinctions. Overall, I consider the tourney to be of a good quality, especially regarding the problems which won the top five places in the award.

In the evaluation I applied the following main criteria: 1) tactical content; 2) amount of variations with a single tactical content; 3) originality. The numbers below refer to the database YACPD (https://www.yacpdb.org/#static/home). Nowadays it is not easy to find something which is completely new, so in assessing the originality level I used the article by Valentin Rudenko and Viktor Chepizhny «Критерии оригинальности шахматной задач» (“Criteria of originality of a chess composition”, 1983 (https://disk.yandex.ua/i/WZ2yWif94DpP9Q), which is not recognised by many problemists who follow the principle “do it in one’s own way”. Traditionally, there was a wish to include a miniature in the award, but in all three of them (Nos 14, 15 and 16) White unceremoniously pursues the black monarch without any idea. And today this is already the last century.

I have a plea for authors and organisers. Duplicate the problem’s position in FEN-encoding. To do this, just copy the upper line above the diagram in the “Olive” program. And

then your colleagues and judges will simply insert this line into the same program and immediately get the position of the problem, without wasting time on placing the pieces.

I thank the authors who sent their composition for the tourney, as well as the magazine’s editor Zoran Gavrilovski, who successfully combines his own personal creative work with the time-consuming duties of an organizer of the tourney.

<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Place</b> № 9 – Zoran Gavrilovski</p>  <p>#3 ♖ 11+12</p> <p>1. ♖e7? (2. ♖:e3#/♗f4# B/D) 1...c3! 1. ♖fe7! (2. ♖4e5+ A ♖:e5 3. ♖:e3#B) 1...♗c7 2. ♖:e3B (3. ♖e4~#) 2... ♖d4+3. ♖:d4#C 2... ♗e5 3. ♖4:e5#A 1...♗b3 2. ♖d4+C c(♖):d4 3. ♖f4#D 1...g:f6 2. ♖f4D (3. ♖e4~#) 2... ♖e5+ 3. ♖4:e5#A 1...♗b8 2. ♖:e3+ ♗d6 3. ♖:b8#</p>	<p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place</b> № 12 – Zoran Gavrilovski</p>  <p>#3 ♖ 11+11</p> <p>1. ♖c7~? (2. ♗c7+ ♖:c7 3. ♖f4#) ♗e2! 1. ♖b6! (2. ♗c7+ ♖:c7 3. ♖f4#) 1...♗e2 2. ♖b4+ [2. ♖e5+?] 2...c:b4 3. ♖d3# 1...g5 2. ♖e7+ [2. ♖:d4+?] 2... ♖:e7 3. ♖f5# 1... ♖h6 2. ♖e5+ f:e5 3. ♖:e5# 1...♗:d2 2. ♖:d4+ c:d4 3. ♖:d4#</p>	<p><b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place</b> № 8 – Aleksandr Pankratiev</p>  <p>#3 11+11</p> <p>1.d3! (2. ♖4e5+ d(♖/♗):e5 3.e4#) 1... ♖h7 2. ♖:d6+ c(♖):d6 3. ♖e6# 1...♗:e7+ 2. ♖:e7+ ♖:e7 3. ♖c6# 1...♗b6+ 2. ♖:b6+ c:b6 3.c4# 1... ♖:e3/♖:e3 2. ♖:e3+ 2... ♖:e3/♖:e3 3.c4#</p>
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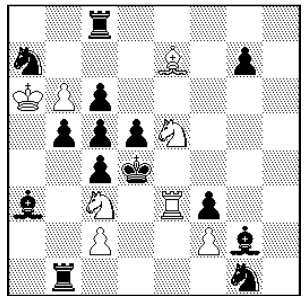
**1<sup>st</sup> Place: № 9 – Zoran Gavrilovski**  
Play by a two-stage ♖-♖ battery with a white moves’ cycle A-B/B-C/C-D/D-A creates a beautiful tactical complex. A top problem! In the problem of Milan Vukcevic, *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* 1979 (1b1NR3/2n1P1p1/Q3Pkp1/rpn1R3/b2K1P1P/1pNP3P/1B3p2/8) another two-stage ♖-♖ battery plays with an analogous cycle.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place: № 12 – Zoran Gavrilovski**  
Square-vacating sacrifices with a royal battery play in five variations. Many problems exist with four variations, for example, by Zoran Gavrilovski, 16<sup>th</sup> Pl. 7<sup>th</sup> WCCT 2001-2004 (https://www.yacpdb.org/#47382). As it was sung in one Soviet song: «Мы должны всем рекордам, наши громкие дать имена!» (“We ought to assign our big names to all records!”). This is exactly the case here.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place: № 8 – Aleksandr Pankratiev**  
Square-vacating sacrifices by white pieces on squares diagonally adjacent to the ♖ (in a *Loyd pipes*-like fashion) in five variations with four different mates.

4<sup>th</sup> Place

№ 7 – Aleksandr Pankratiev



#3 8+14

1. ♔f8? (2. ♖g7 ~ 3. ♗e5-# & 2. ♗:f3+ ♜:f3/♙:f3 3. ♗e2#/♙:g7#) 1... ♗:f8 2. ♗:b5+ ♜:b5/♗:b5 3. ♗:c6#/c3# 1... ♗c7! 1. ♗:f3+? A ♙:f3! 1. ♗e2+? B ♜:e2! 1. ♗:c6+? C ♗:c6! 1. ♗:b5+? D ♜:b5! 1. ♙d6! (2. ♗:f3+A ♜:f3/♙:f3 3. ♗e2# B/♙e5# E) 1... ♙f1 2. ♗e2+B ♜:e2/♙:e2 3. ♗:f3# A/c3# F 1... ♗e1 2. ♗:c6+C ♜:c6/♗:c6 3. ♗:b5# D/♙e5# E 1... ♗e8 2. ♗:b5+D ♜:b5/♗:b5 3. ♗:c6# C/c3# F

4<sup>th</sup> Place: № 7 – Aleksandr Pankratiev

Exchange of white moves AB-BA and CD-DC with the addition of thematic tries and transferred mates after different defences are supported by a single tactical content in the variations: square-vacating sacrifices and decoy. A problem in which the exchange of moves is in perfect harmony with the content.

5<sup>th</sup> Place: № 10 – Zoran Gavrilovski

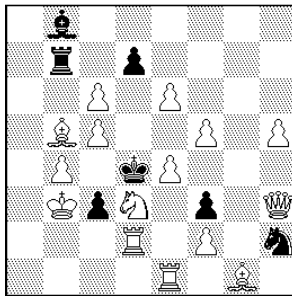
Many excellent problems have been created on the topic of *Pickaninny* with white battery play. For example, with a diagonal battery – Aleksandr Kuzovkov, 1<sup>st</sup> Pr. *Shahmatnoe obozrenie* 1987 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#53690>) or a frontal one – Mikhail Maranduyuk, 2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. *Šahs*, 1989 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#267740>). In this problem by giving up of battery play in two variations, the author added two variations with quiet line-interference: 2.c7 and 2.e5. If the battery variations look harmonious in tactical terms, then in the second pair there is a slight dissonance in terms of the subsequent play. In the future is it worth aiming to show a second *Novotny*!?

6<sup>th</sup> Place: № 6 – Sven Trommler

A similar tactical idea is shown by Ivan Borisenko & Leonid Ljubashevsky, 1<sup>st</sup> H.M. *Kozachka shahivnitsa* 2006 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#371157>) with different pieces. In this #3 the pinning play is unified by moves of ♜ and synchronous sacrifices by ♖ on d6 or d5, and vice versa.

5<sup>th</sup> Place

№ 10 – Zoran Gavrilovski

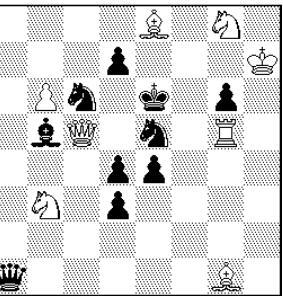


#3 15+7

1. ♖g3! (2. ♖g7+ ♙e5 3. ♖:e5#) 1...d6 2.c7 (3. ♖g7#, ♖:d6#) 2... ♙:c7 3. ♖g7# 2... ♗:c7 3. ♖:d6# 1...d5 2.e5 (3. ♖f4#) 2... ♙:e5 3. ♖:e5# 1...d:c6 2. ♗e5+ c:d2 3. ♗:c6# 1...d:e6 2. ♗f4+ c:d2/♙e5 3. ♗:e6#/♗d5# 1... ♙g4 2. ♗e5+ c:d2 3. ♗:f3# 1... ♙g3 2.f:g3+ f2 3. ♙:f2#

6<sup>th</sup> Place

№ 6 – Sven Trommler

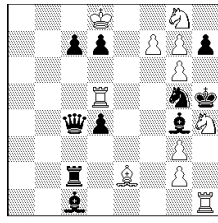


#3 8+10

1. ♙h2! (2. ♗:e5+ ♜:e5 3. ♖:e5#) 1...d6 2. ♖d5+ ♙:d5 3. ♙f7# 1...d5 2. ♖d6+ ♙:d6 3. ♗:g6#

7<sup>th</sup> Place

№ 11 – Zoran Gavrilovski



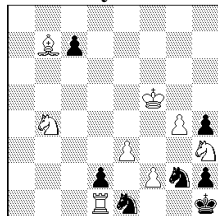
#3 11+10

- 1.f8! (2. ♗f6+ 2... ♙h6 3. ♗f5# A) 1... ♙a6 2. ♗f5+ A 2... ♙h3 3. ♗e3# 1... ♙c6 2. ♗f3+ 2... ♙h3 3. ♗d2#

There are only two variations and that seems quite little by today's standards. But, there is a good tactical content: White unpins a black piece so that it can defend against the battery check by self-pinning. And then a newly formed battery plays, shutting off the black bishop. Original! I understand the technical difficulties for showing such an idea, but in the future it makes sense to try to eliminate the third white knight.

8<sup>th</sup> Place

№ 4 – Karol Mlynka



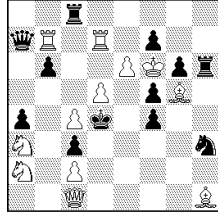
#3 8+7

- a) 1. ♙c6? A stalemate 1. ♙e4? B (2. ♙c6 A ♙f4/♙:e3 3. ♙:f4#/♙:e3#) c5! 1... ♙f4 x 2. ♙:f4+ C c6 3. ♙:c6# 1... ♙:e3 y 2. ♙:e3+ D c6 3. ♙:c6# 1. ♗d2? (zz) c6! 1...c5/♙~ 2. ♗d1(+)/~ ♙e1 3. ♗:e1# 1... ♙f3 2. ♙:f3~ 3. ♗d1# 1. ♙d5! (2. ♙c6 A ♙f4 x/♙:e3+y 3. ♙d:f4# E/♙:e3#F 1... ♙f4 x 2. ♙d:f4+ E c6 3. ♙:c6# A 1... ♙:e3+y 2. ♙:e3+ F c6 3. ♙:c6# A 1...c5 2. ♙df4~ 3. ♙:g2# b) 1.g5? (zz) c6! 1...c5 2. ♗g4~ 3. ♙:g2# 1. ♗c4? G (zz) c6! 1...c5 2. ♙e4 B ♙f4 x/♙:e3 y 3. ♙:f4# C/♙:e3# D 1. ♗e4? (2. ♙c6 A ♙f4 x/♙:e3+y 3. ♗:f4# H/♗:e3#) c5! 1... ♙f4 x 2. ♗:f4+ H c6 3. ♙:c6# A 1... ♙:e3+y 2. ♗:e3+ I c6 3. ♙:c6# A 1. ♙e4! B (2. ♙c6 A ♙f4 x/♙:e3 y 3. ♙:f4# C/♙:e3#D) 1... ♙f4 x 2. ♙:f4+ C c6 3. ♙:c6# 1... ♙:e3 y 2. ♙:e3+ D c6 3. ♙:c6# 1...c5 e 2. ♗c4 G ♙f4 x/♙:e3 y 3. ♙:f4# C/♙:e3# D

The author points out various forms of changes. In this case I was attracted by the unpinning alternation in the *Forsberg* twins: a) Piece (!) – King (?); and b) King (!) – Piece (?). a) 1. ♙d5!, 1. ♙e4? c5!; b) + ♗b4, 1. ♙e4!, 1. ♗e4? c5!. The same refutation is regrettable.

9<sup>th</sup> Place

№ 13 – Zoran Gavrilovski



#3 12+12

1. ♖e1! (2. ♖e5+ A 2... ♙c5 3.d6# B) 1... ♖b8 2.d6 B (3. ♖e5# A) 2... ♗c5 3. ♖:c3# C 1... ♖b7 2.c5 (3. ♖:c3# C) 2... ♗:c5 3. ♖e5# A 2...f3 3. ♖e3# D 1... ♙c5 2. ♖e3+ D 2...f:e3 3. ♙:e3#

The author declares the reciprocal theme *Le Grand*, although the leading two-move experts believe that this is exclusively their theme. I will not argue, letting instead the theorists to think about that. In this case I draw attention to the the variations where white preliminarily opens a lateral or an orthogonal line with 2.d6! or 2.c5!, and then a black self-block on c5 is utilised. Of course, ♗b7 is not a gift, but without it there is no solution. A similar idea was realised by Aleksandr Kuzovkov, *Die Schwalbe* 2010 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#351044>), but in a different constructional set up.



10<sup>th</sup> Place  
 № 2 – Zoltán Labai & Vidadi Zamanov



#3 10+12

1. ♖a3! (2. ♖:d6+ 2...e:d6 3. ♖:f6#)  
 1... ♖g4 2. ♖:a7 ~ 3. ♖d7#  
 2... ♖:f3 3. ♖:e7#  
 1... ♗g4 2. ♖a5 ~ 3. ♖d5#  
 2... ♗ge3, ♗fe3 3. ♗:d4#  
 1... ♖:g5 2. ♖:a7 ~ 3. ♖d7#, ♖:e7#

Unpinning-pinning of black pieces in two variations was realised by Yakov Vladimirov, 3<sup>rd</sup> Pr. *Phénix 3<sup>rd</sup> T.T.* 1991 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#100828>) and in three variations by Valentin Rudenko & Yuri Gordian, 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. *Suomen Shakki* 1995 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#196755>). Originality to this problem is given by the active play of the white queen in the threat and the variations.

1<sup>st</sup> Reserve: № 1 – Salman Javadzade, Viktor Volchek & Vidadi Zamanov

2<sup>nd</sup> Reserve: № 3 – Zoltán Labai

Oleg Efrosinin,  
 International Judge for Chess Compositions

Volgograd (Russia), 6 December 2021

“THE MACEDONIAN PROBLEMIST” LEAGUE 2021: HELPMATE IN 2½-3 MOVES

Judge: Christopher Jones (Great Britain)

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Karol Mlynka – 1; Jozef Ložek – 2; Miroslav Svitek – 3\*; Zoltán Labai – 3\*, 4\*; Vidadi Zamanov – 4\*, 5\*; Christer Jonsson – 5\*; Velko Aleksandrov – 6; Predrag Žuvić – 7; Dieter Müller† – 8, 9; Ivan Antipin – 10\*, 11\*; Aleksandr Pankratiev – 10\*, 11\*, 12\*, 13\*, 14\*, 19\*, 20\*; Aleksey Ivunin – 12\*, 13\*, 14\*, 15; Sven Trommler – 16, 17; Evgeny Gavryliv – 18, 19\*, 20\*; Zoran Gavrilovski – 21, 22, 23, 24, 25

AWARD

1<sup>st</sup> Place: № 18 – Evgeny Gavryliv

A rich mix in which I especially like the fact that Black has to eliminate ♖s at d4 and f4 in order to unmask the sacrificial routes a7-e3 and f7-f3. A slight inequality of effect (1... ♖f8 is a pure unpin, 1... ♗b8 unpins and guards) is a small price for such attractive strategy.

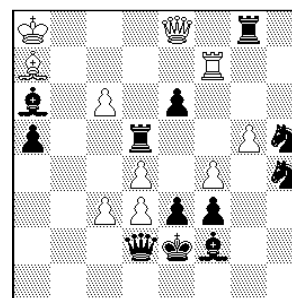
2<sup>nd</sup> Place: № 25 – Zoran Gavrilovski

Cyclic changes of W1 and W3 moves and of functions of white pieces, cyclic *Zilahi*. A tremendous achievement, and again well worth the price paid (diverse motivations for the 1<sup>st</sup> black move, rather diverse twinning, an unappealing mate position in (c)).

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: № 11 – Aleksandr Pankratiev & Ivan Antipin

A rich mix, with reciprocal c4/d4 and g2/f3 captures, and the nice motif that each B1 move opens a line for a B2 move. The only downside is the need for the rather colourless move 1...f5.

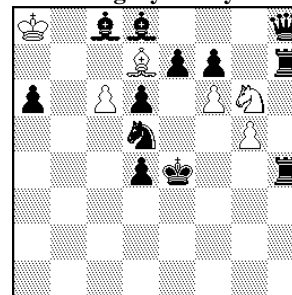
1<sup>st</sup> Place  
 № 18 – Evgeny Gavryliv



H#3 2 solutions 10+12

1. ♖:d4 ♖f8 2. ♖:d3 ♗:e3!  
 3. ♗:e3 ♖:e6#  
 1. ♗:f4 ♗b8 2. ♗g2 ♖:f3!  
 3. ♗:f3 ♖h5#

4<sup>th</sup> Place  
 № 19 – Aleksandr Pankratiev & Evgeny Gavryliv



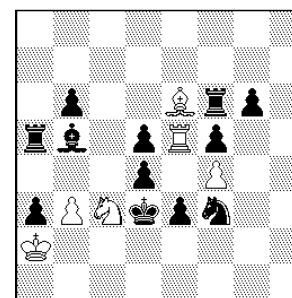
H#3 2 solutions 6+12

1. f:g6 f7 2. ♗e5 f8 ♗  
 3. ♖e4 ♗:g6#  
 1. ♗:d7 f:e7 2. ♗f5 e8 ♗  
 3. ♗e6 ♗:d7#

4<sup>th</sup> Place: № 19 – Aleksandr Pankratiev & Evgeny Gavryliv

The theme of the *Kalotay - 80 JT* (captures on B1 facilitating mating recaptures on W3), with an excellently achieved *Phoenix*. I'd have placed this higher but for recently having seen this strategy packed into 2-mover form in Michael McDowell's H4474 in the September 2021 issue of *The Problemist*.

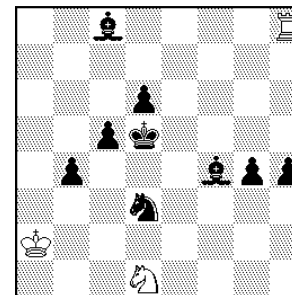
2<sup>nd</sup> Place  
 № 25 – Zoran Gavrilovski



H#2½ b) ♖d3→e7 6+12

c) ♗b3→g3  
 a) 1... ♗:d5 A 2.d:c3 ♗:f3 3. ♗d4 ♖d5# B  
 b) 1... ♖:d5 B 2. ♖:e6 ♖d7+ 3. ♗f6 ♗d5# C  
 c) 1... ♗:d5 C 2. ♗:e5 ♗b4+ 3. ♗e4 ♗d5# A

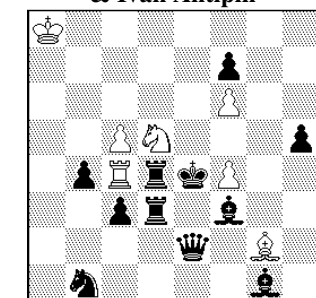
5<sup>th</sup> Place  
 № 9 – Dieter Müller†



H#3 b) ♖d5→e4 3+9

a) 1 ♗e6 ♖c8 2.c4 ♖:c4 3. ♗e5 ♗e3#  
 b) 1.h3 ♖:h3 2. ♗e5 ♖d3 3. ♗f5 ♗f2#

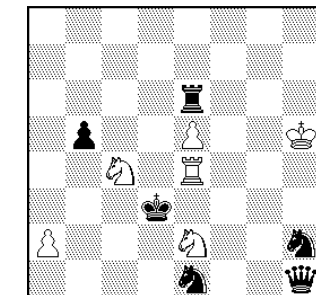
3<sup>rd</sup> Place  
 № 11 – Aleksandr Pankratiev & Ivan Antipin



H#3 2 solutions 7+11

1. ♖:c4 ♗e7 2. ♗:c5 ♗:f3+ 3. ♗d4 ♗f5#  
 1. ♗:g2 f5 2. ♖g3 ♖:d4+ 3. ♗f3 ♖f4#

6<sup>th</sup> Place  
 № 5 – Christer Jonsson & Vidadi Zamanov



H#2½ 3 solutions 6+6

1... ♖e3+ 2. ♗:c4 a3 3. ♖d5 ♖c3#  
 1... ♖g4 2. ♗:e2 ♖g2+ 3. ♗f1 ♗e3#  
 1... ♗b2+ 2. ♗:e4 ♗d3 3. ♗f5 ♗g3#

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Karol Mlynka – 1; Zoltán Labai – 2, 3\*; Vidadi Zamanov – 3\*; Velko Aleksandrov – 4; Dieter Müller† – 5, 6; Sven Trommler – 7, 8; Aleksandr Pankratiev – 9, 10; Zoran Gavrilovski – 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

AWARD

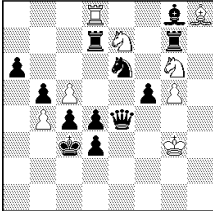
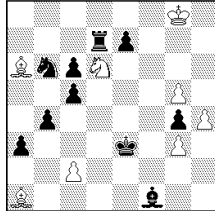
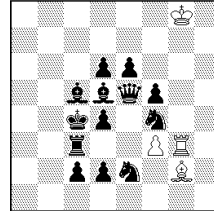
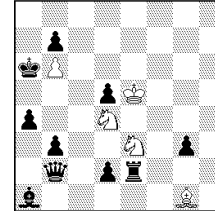
A total of 15 problems was submitted, 2 S#2s, 6 S#3s, 3 S#4s and 4 S#s in 5 or more moves. The originally appointed judge, Zivko Janevski, asked to be replaced. The overall quality was average, some entries had weaknesses like unprovided black set checks. Only a few problems would have been considered to enter the award in an informal tournament, but those were quite strong candidates, in particular the top problem.

5<sup>th</sup> Place: № 9 – Dieter Müller†

The moves of the ♗c5 and ♗h4 to extend the range of the ♖ are a pleasantly recurring motif, as are the FML motifs at c8 in (a) and d3 in (b).

6<sup>th</sup> Place: № 5 – Christer Jonsson & Vidadi Zamanov

An expertly achieved cyclic *Zilahi* with three model mates in a Meredith.

<p>7<sup>th</sup> Place № 13 – A. Pankratiev &amp; Aleksey Ivunin</p>  <p>H#3 2 solutions 8+12</p> <p>1. ♖d:e7 ♖:d4 2. ♖:d4 2... ♗:g7+3. ♖d5 ♗:e7#</p> <p>1. ♖:g6 ♗:d4+ 2. ♖:d4 2... ♖:d7+3. ♖e5 ♗:g6#</p>	<p>8<sup>th</sup> Place № 6 – Velko Aleksandrov</p>  <p>H#3 b) ♗a6→h7 8+10</p> <p>a) 1. ♗d5 c4 2. ♖d3 2... ♗b5 3. ♖:c4 ♗d4#</p> <p>b) 1. e6 ♗f5+ 2. ♖e4 2... g6 3. ♖:f5 g7#</p>	<p>9<sup>th</sup> Place № 21 – Zoran Gavrilovski</p>  <p>H#3 b) ♖e5→e4 4+13</p> <p>a) 1. ♗:f3 ♖g5 2. ♖d5 2... ♖:f5 3. ♖c4 ♗:f3#</p> <p>b) 1. ♖:f3 ♗h3 2. ♖d3 2... ♗:f5 3. ♗c4 ♖:f3#</p>	<p>10<sup>th</sup> Place № 16 – Sven Trommler</p>  <p>H#3 b) ♗d5→e7 5+10</p> <p>a) 1. ♖:d4+ ♗d6 2. ♖c3 2... ♗:d5 3. ♖a5 ♗c7#</p> <p>b) 1. ♖:e3+ ♗f4 2. ♖e5 2... ♗e6 3. ♖a5 ♗c7#</p>
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7<sup>th</sup> Place: № 13 – Aleksandr Pankratiev & Aleksey Ivunin

Another rich blend, with reciprocal sacrificial play as between ♖ and ♗ and between the ♗s. Arguably a small detraction is that the matrix entails two sacrifices (albeit by different pieces) on the same square (d4).

8<sup>th</sup> Place: № 6 – Velko Aleksandrov

A neatly executed illustration of an attractive theme – batteries created on the W1 moves and disarmed in favour of a new battery on W2.

9<sup>th</sup> Place: № 21 – Zoran Gavrilovski

Another example of the theme of the *Kalotay - 80 JT*. The ‘Kalotay theme’ is in itself inherently attractive, and in this case it’s not only quite difficult at move 1 to foresee the eventual recaptures at f3 but also to foresee how the ♖ will come to be pinned.

10<sup>th</sup> Place: № 16 – Sven Trommler

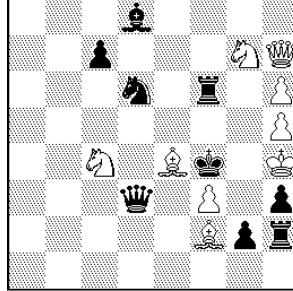
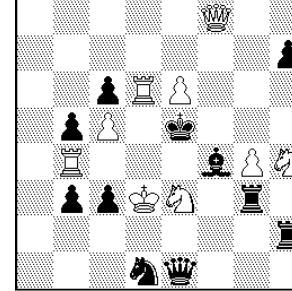
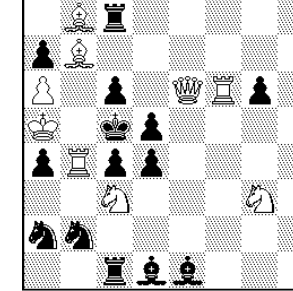
Nicely matched play unmasking the indirect battery on g1→b6. Even though of course different knights go to c7 there is I think some sense of there being a less-than-ideal similarity between the solutions.

1<sup>st</sup> Reserve: № 8 – Dieter Müller†

2<sup>nd</sup> Reserve: № 22 – Zoran Gavrilovski

Christopher Jones,

Bristol (Great Britain), 9 November 2021

<p>1<sup>st</sup> Place № 11 – Zoran Gavrilovski</p>  <p>S#3 * 9+9</p>	<p>2<sup>nd</sup> Place № 13 – Zoran Gavrilovski</p>  <p>S#3 9+11</p>	<p>3<sup>rd</sup> Place № 12 – Zoran Gavrilovski</p>  <p>S#3 9+14</p>
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1... ♗f5+ 2. ♖:f5+ ♖:f5#  
**1. ♖g6!** (2. ♗e6+ A ♖:e6+  
 3. ♖g5+ B ♗:g5#)  
 1... ♖f5+ 2. ♖g5+ B ♖:g5  
 3. ♗g3+ C ♖:g3#  
 1... ♖:e4 2. ♗g3+ C ♖:f3+  
 3. ♖g4+ D ♖:g4#  
 1... ♖:c4 2. ♖g4+ D ♖e5  
 3. ♖g3+ E ♖f4#  
 1... g1 ♖ 2. ♖g3+ E ♖:g3  
 3. ♗e6+ A ♖:e6#

**1. ♖f7!** (2. ♖d5+ c:d5  
 3. ♖e4+ d:e4#)  
 1... ♗e3 2. ♗f3+! ♖:f3  
 3. ♖f5+ ♗:f5#  
 [2. ♗g6+? h:g6 3. ♖f5+? g:f5!]  
 1... ♗e3 2. ♗g6+! h:g6  
 3. ♖f4+ ♗:f4#  
 [2. ♗f3+? ♖:f3 3. ♖f4+? ♖:f4!]

**1. ♖f4!** (2. ♖b5+ c:b5  
 3. ♖b6+ a:b6#)  
 1... ♗c3 2. ♗e4+ d:e4  
 3. ♖:c4+ ♗:c4#  
 1... ♗b4 2. ♗ce4+ d:e4  
 3. ♖e5+ ♗d5#  
 1... ♗c3 2. ♖:c6+ ♖:c6  
 3. ♖b5+ ♗b5#

1<sup>st</sup> Place: № 11 – Zoran Gavrilovski

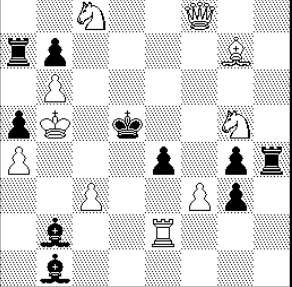
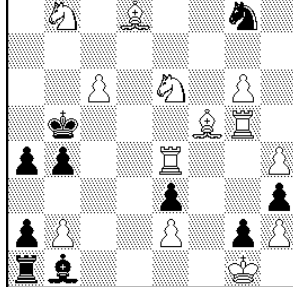
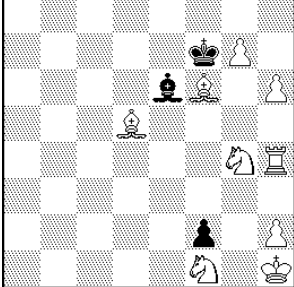
Clearly the winner of this tournament, with an ambitious theme and a breath-taking construction. This problem stands out against other presentations of a fivefold cycle of white moves by the magic focus on the g-file, in particular the play on the same square. For comparison, see for example Zoran Gavrilovski’s 1<sup>st</sup> Place in the *League of The Macedonian Problemist* 2013 (PDB: P1279081) or Mikhail Khramtsevich’s 1<sup>st</sup> Prize in the *Moscow tourney* 2017 (PDB: P1346867). The fresh impression of № 11 is strengthened by the excellent key that all the sudden seems to invalidate the black battery, and by the vivid play offering flights to the black king in two variations.

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: № 13 – Zoran Gavrilovski

In order to defend the threat, Black creates a battery in 2 variations, but White makes use of exactly these batteries. The major strength is the reciprocal dual avoidance at the second white moves. The motives for the sacrifices are not exactly the same in both variations, because the ♘h4 (which is idle in the threat) controls the mating square f5 in the first variation. The reasons why the wrong continuations do not work, are impressive, because only two moves later the black defense is visible. Anticipation research revealed some related problems, none of which seriously affects № 13 (see 2<sup>nd</sup> Place and 5<sup>th</sup> Place in the *League of Macedonian problemists* 2004-2005, by Michael Barth (P1103540) and Sven Trommler (P1103543), and Waldemar Tura's problem from *Phénix* 2013 (P1305359).

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: № 12 – Zoran Gavrilovski

This rendering of a "Selfmate of the Future" with two pairs of thematically connected variations is a bit artificial but leaves a fresh impression. The cost is considerable however, the key rook has to abandon control of b6 and gain control of d4, but otherwise plays no role. In each variation, a number of white pieces are idle.

<p>4<sup>th</sup> Place № 10 – Aleksandr Pankratiev</p>  <p>S#4 * 10+10</p>	<p>5<sup>th</sup> Place № 14 – Zoran Gavrilovski</p>  <p>S#3 v 13+10</p>	<p>6<sup>th</sup> Place № 7 – Sven Trommler</p>  <p>S#7 9+3</p>
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- 1...♙a3 2.♖:a3 (3.♖a2+  
3...♙:a2 4.c4+ ♙:c4#) ♙c2  
3.♖b3+ ♙:b3 4.c4+ ♙:c4#  
**1.♖e3!** (2.f:e4+ ♙:e4  
3.♖d3+ ♙:d3+ 4.c4+ ♙:c4#)  
1...g:f3 2.♖d3+ e:d3  
3.c4+ ♖:c4 4.♖c5+ ♖:c5#  
1...♙:c3 2.♖f5+ ♙e5  
3.♖d7+ ♙d6 4.♖c6+ b:c6#

- 1.♖g4? (zugzwang) ♗h6!  
1...b3 2.♖:a4 ~3.♙d3+ ♙:d3#  
1...a3 2.♖e5+ ♖a4 3.♙c2+  
3...♙:c2#  
1...♗e7, ♗f6 2.♖e5+ ♗d5  
3.♙d3+ ♙:d3#  
**1.♖g4!** (zugzwang)  
1...b3 2.♙e4+ ♖b4, ♖c4  
3.♙f3+ ♙e4#  
1...a3 2.♙d3++ A ♖a4  
3.♙c2+ B ♙:c2#  
1...♗e7/♗f6, ♗h6 2.♙c2+B  
2...♗d5, ♗f5 3.♙d3+A ♙:d3#

- 1.h7!** (zugzwang)  
1...♙g6 2.♙e4+ ♖f7  
[2...♙f5? 3.g8♙ ♙:e4#]  
3.h8♗+ ♖g8 [3...♖e8?  
4.♙c6+ ♙d7 5.h7 ♙:c6#]  
4.♙d5 ♙f7 5.♗g6 ♙e6  
6.♖h8+ ♖f7 7.g8♖ ♙:d5#  
1...♙e8 2.♙c6+ ♖f7  
[2...♙d7? 3.h8♗ ♙:c6#]  
3.h8♗+ ♖g8 4.♙d5 etc.

4<sup>th</sup> Place: № 10 – Aleksandr Pankratiev

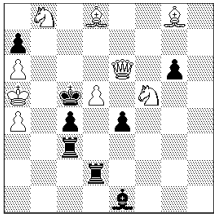
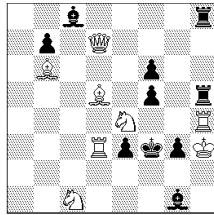
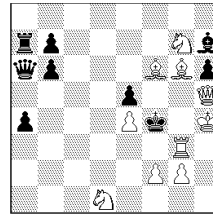
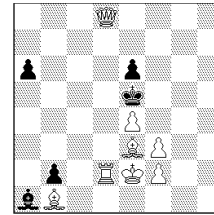
Rich play in which three black pieces are bossed around, but it leaves a bizarre overall impression. I like the open position, but deplore the weak usage of the knight c8 (guarding d6 after 1...♙:c3). The given set-play line does not add value.

5<sup>th</sup> Place: № 14 – Zoran Gavrilovski

Good change of the play in three variations, but the zugzwang presentation is a coarse resource that limits Black's contribution to the solution.

6<sup>th</sup> Place: № 7 – Sven Trommler

A nice presentation, but the key takes an unprovided flight. The shorter by-play variations distract a bit, but at least they contain several different promotions.

<p>7<sup>th</sup> Place № 15 – Z. Gavrilovski (after Hartmut Laue)</p>  <p>S#2 vvv 9+8</p>	<p>8<sup>th</sup> Place № 2 – Zoltán Labai</p>  <p>S#3 8+10</p>	<p>9<sup>th</sup> Place № 9 – Aleksandr Pankratiev</p>  <p>S#4 * v 10+9</p>	<p>10<sup>th</sup> Place № 6 – Dieter Müller†</p>  <p>S#6 8+5</p>
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- 1.♙f6? (2.♖b6+ a:b6#)  
1...♖b3 x 2.♙d4+  
2...♖:d4#  
1...♖b2! y  
1.♙g5? (2.♖b6+ a:b6#)  
1...♖b2 y 2.♙e3+  
2...♖:e3#  
1...♖b3! x  
1.♖e4? (2.♙b6+ a:b6#)  
1...♖b3 x 2.♖d4+  
2...♖:d4#  
1...♖b2 y 2.♖e3+  
2...♖:e3#  
1...g:f5!  
**1.d6!** (2.♙b6+ a:b6#)  
1...♖b3 x 2.♖d5+  
2...♖:d5#  
1...♖b2 y, ♖:d6  
2.♖:c4+ ♖:c4#

- 1.♖d1!** (2.♗g5+ ♖f2  
3.♖:f5+ ♙:f5#)  
1...e2, ♙f2 2.♖:f5+  
2...♖:f5 3.♗c3+ ♖:d5#  
1...f:e4 2.♖f1+ ♙f2  
3.♖g4+ ♙:g4#  
1...♙:d7 2.♗:f6+ ♖f2  
3.♗g4+ f:g4#

- 1...♙g8 2.♗e6+ ♙:e6  
3.♖g4+ ♙:g4 4.♙g5+  
4...h:g5#  
1.♗b2? (2.♗e2+ ♖e2  
3.♖f3+ ♖:f3 4.♖g4+ &  
3.♖f3+ ♖:f3 4.♖g4+)  
1...♙:g6!  
**1.♗c3!** (2.♗e2+ ♖e2  
3.♖f3+ ♖:f3 4.♖g4+  
4...♖:g4# & 3.♖f3+  
3...♖:f3 4.♖g4+ ♖:g4#)  
1...♙:g6 2.♖f5+ ♙:f5  
3.♖g4+ ♙:g4 4.♙g5+  
4...h:g5#  
1...♖a5 2.♖:e5+ ♖:e5  
3.♗e6+ ♖:e6 4.♖g4+  
4...♖:g4#  
1...b5 2.♗e6+ ♖:e6  
3.♖f5+ ♖:f5 4.♖g4+  
4...♖:g4#

- 1.♙d3!** (zugzwang) a5  
2.♖e2 a4 3.♙d2 a3  
4.♙e3 a2 5.♙d3 b1~  
6.♖d4+ ♙:d4#

7<sup>th</sup> Place: № 15 – Zoran Gavrilovski (after Hartmut Laue)

I disagree with the author that this adds value to the Laue problem (1<sup>st</sup> Honourable Mention, *feenschach* 1981). The split presentation dilutes the *Zagoruiko* (I even would not call it *Zagoruiko*), and the tries 1.♙f6? and 1.♙g5? do not add value – these coarse moves control the black battery and thus are anti-thematical. It is indeed a pity that in the Laue problem one of the mates is given by the rear battery piece (the author and the judge regretted this – Michael Keller said that this prevented him from awarding a Prize), but to repair this with less thematic precision is not convincing either..

8<sup>th</sup> Place: № 2 – Zoltán Labai

Some variations with a remarkable flight of the black king. The bishop b6 is rather idle.

9<sup>th</sup> Place: № 9 – Aleksandr Pankratiev

Nice play but the double threat is to be regretted.

10<sup>th</sup> Place: № 6 – Dieter Müller†

A harmless cyclic exchange of places of three white pieces that resembles a series-mover because Black does not play an active role.

1<sup>st</sup> Reserve: № 3 – Vidadi Zamanov & Zoltán Labai

2<sup>nd</sup> Reserve: № 8 – Sven Trommler

Hans Gruber,  
International Judge for Chess Compositions

23 December 2021

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF “THE MACEDONIAN PROBLEMIST” LEAGUE 2022**

*The Macedonian Problemist* announces “*The Macedonian Problemist*” League 2022 in the following sections: #2 – Pavel Murashev (Russia); #3 – Aleksandr Sygurov (Russia); S#2-n – Hartmut Laue (Germany); H#3½-7 – Viktor Syzonenko (Ukraine). Reserve judges (in an event of failure to receive award(s) before the end of 2022): Hans Gruber and Predrag Žuvić.

The themes for this formal tourney are free. In each section 10 problems will be ranked from the 1<sup>st</sup> Place (12 points) to the 10<sup>th</sup> Place (2 points) and two reserves will be identified to serve as possible replacement of anticipated problems (if any). The overall ranking of authors will be based on the sum of their points from particular sections.

Composers may send unlimited number of original problems (including joint problems) until 30 July 2022 to the tourney director at [zoran.gavrilovski@gmail.com](mailto:zoran.gavrilovski@gmail.com) or by snail mail: Zoran Gavrilovski, P. fah 137 (Poshta 2), Skopje MK-1001, North Macedonia.

The tourney brochure with the awards and the overall ladder will be preliminary shared with all participants by e-mail before the official publication of the awards in a supplement to a 2022 issue of *The Macedonian Problemist*. The authors of the winning problems in each section and the three best participants in the overall ranking will receive electronic copies of regular and special issues of *The Macedonian Problemist*.