

Harry Fougiaxis



I was born on April 20th 1966 in Athens. I graduated as an electronic engineer from the National Technical University of Athens and I am currently working as an instrument and industrial automation engineer in oil and gas applications. I am not married.

My father taught me the moves of chess at the age of 7 or so, and three years later I joined a local chess club. I was soon hooked and quite liked the friendly atmosphere there. So I started studying intensively, but after some time I realised that I could not really withstand the pressure of competitive OTB chess.

Meanwhile I was frequently finding that I was more and more thrilled by the chess problems that I encountered in Triantafyllos Siaperas's weekly newspaper columns, even if I was just average as a solver. My very first attempts to compose were when I was about 15. The Greek chess problemists' society had announced a national competition for beginners and I sent in a couple of entries. Thus I came to meet Zappas, Kapralos, Martoudis and Siotis, who used to have regular meetings; they all helped me a lot with their comments and with chess literature. However, my first "true" teacher turned out to be living some 500 km away: it was Pavlos Moutecidis who influenced me the most. We

exchanged letters continuously for more than 5 years and we eventually became close friends, despite the distance and the age difference. Strangely, I was not particularly attracted by selfmates (Pavlos's specialty), but by helpmates, which I have studied continuously for the past 25 years.

I have so far published about 150 problems, certainly not many, the vast majority being h#2s, some with orthodox and some with fairy units. I should admit that I have been rather lazy lately, composing only occasionally (during PCCC meetings, for instance), but my interest to chess problems has never faded. It was a great honour and pleasure to host the PCCC congresses in Greece in 2004 and 2005, with the support of the Greek Chess Federation and of the few, but hard-working Greek problemists. I was awarded the title of International Master in 2001 and I have acted as a FIDE Album judge four times.

HARRY FOUGIAXIS 40 JUBILEE TOURNEY 2006

List of participants

[26 composers from 14 countries with 56 entries]

Austria (K. Wenda 2)

Bulgaria (P.A. Petkov 32, 33)

Croatia (N. Predrag 53)

Czech Republic (M. Dragoun 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 37*, 49*)

France (M. Caillaud 54, 55; G. Sobrecases 1)

Germany (D. Müller 5, 6, 7, 8*, 25; F. Pachl 8*)

Israel (S. Shifrin 27)

Italy (A. Garofalo 3, 4)

Poland (H. Grudzinski 50; W. Tura 35)

Russia (A. Elizarov 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48; G. Evseev 51*, V. Gurov 51*, V. Nefyodov 56)

Serbia (B. Basić 39*)

Slovakia (J. Golha 40, 41, 42; J. Lörinc 36, 37*, 38, 39*, 49*; K. Mlynka 28, 29, 30, 31)

Spain (C. Brull Mayol 10)

Ukraine (Y. Gordian 9; V. Nebotov 23, 24; A. Semenenko 34*; V. Semenenko 34*, A. Vasilenko 52)

Theme

Helpmates in 2 moves with fairy pieces, featuring play of at least two white batteries and/or anti-batteries.

1. At least one of the pieces of the thematic batteries must be fairy.
2. The batteries may already exist in the diagram position, or be created during the solution. The batteries can be direct, indirect, or masked.
3. Fairy conditions are allowed, but they are not mandatory.

Introduction

I received 56 uniform diagrams without authors' names, prepared by Kostas Prentos. His performance as the tourney director was perfect as always, and I should like to thank him for his assistance.

I was very pleased with the exceptionally high quality level and I decided to split the award into two sections, even if the number of the entries featuring anti-batteries was considerably lower. I was quite shocked when the composers' names were revealed: no fewer than 14 problems in the award were by Michal Dragoun, who dominated the prize lists of both sections! The extraordinary performance of the gifted Czech composer shows the great potentialities of helpmates with fairy pieces and proves that there are still lots of mechanisms and ideas to be explored in the field of modern TF-helpmates and cycles.

Many thanks to all the composers who honoured me with their participation and particularly to Michal for the precious present for my birthday!

Cooks, Anticipations, etc.

Before proceeding to the distribution of honours, brief comments about cooked or anticipated entries (and some of the unsuccessful ones) are necessary:

No.23 (Nebotov), **No.44**, **No.47** and **No.48** (Elizarov) are cooked; the remaining 52 entries are computer tested.

No.24 (Nebotov), **No.29** (Mlynka), **No.42** (Golha), **No.46** (Elizarov) and **No.50** (Grudzinski) feature no white fairy batteries / anti-batteries and are clearly not thematic. Similarly, in **No.6** and **No.7** (Müller) the indirect batteries and pin-mates are artificial, and the use of fairy pieces is not justified either, compare for instance these versions: W=Ka7, Sg5, pc2d3e2f2 (6), B=Kd4, Ta3e7, Lb7, Sa4 (5), h#2 2111, and W=Kf2, Sg5, pc2d3e2 (5), B=Kd4, Ta5e6, Lg8, Sb5 (5), h#2 2111. The same goes, more or less, also for **No.25** (Müller) which could have been done with nightriders only, for example: W=Kb1, Nb7f3 (3), B=Kc4, Ng8, Sb5, pc3d4d5 (6), h#2 2111. On a side note, **No.41** (Golha) is surpassed by **A1**, which has three solutions using orthodox means only.

There are idle white pieces in some phase(s) of **No.10** (Brull Mayol), **No.28** (Mlynka), **No.43** and **No.45** (Elizarov), while on the other hand **No.19** (Dragoun) uses 19 black units. Moves are repeated in **No.4** (Garofalo).

The following entries are strategically not so interesting: unbalanced single and multiple checkmates and expensive white VAe2 in **No.1** (Sobrecases); boring black king marches in **No.3** (Garofalo); **No.5** (Müller) pales beside No.55 (fourth commendation); untidy play in **No.27** (Shifrin); mates delivered by an anti-battery along a single line in **No.32** (Petkov), which somehow spoils the final impression; **No.40** (Golha) is quite symmetric; **No.56** (Nefyodov) is rather thin. In **No.52** (Vasilenko) the black Ld3 could simply be a pawn, thus the claimed clash of rebirth squares is not convincing.

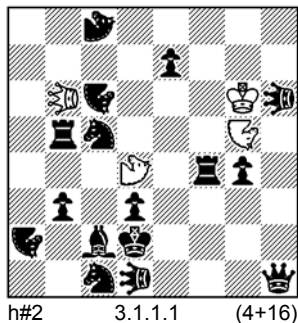
Award

Section I : Batteries

Michal Dragoun

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006

1st Prize

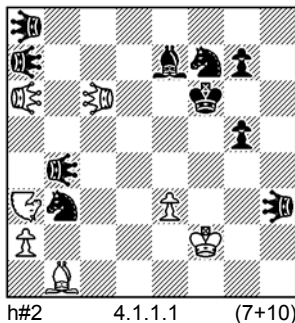


♙♜=Rose
♞♝=Nightrider
♠♣=Lion

Michal Dragoun

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006

2nd Prize

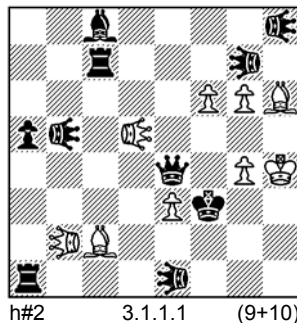


♞♝=Nightrider
♠♣=Lion
♠♣=Locust

Michal Dragoun

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006

3rd Prize



♠♣=Lion
♠♣=Locust

1st Prize: Michal Dragoun (Czech Republic) No.11

1.De1 ROd8 2.Ne2 Ne4#
1.Se2 LId6 2.ROe3 ROxb3#
1.Nc3 Na8 2.LIe3 LIb4#

Probably the most ambitious problem of the tournament: a cycle of batteries among the three white fairy units with nice interplay featuring gate openings for square-blocks carried out by black pieces of the same type. I may accept the argument that double-check mates make the composer's work easier, but in such a task they cannot in my opinion be considered as a significant flaw.

2nd Prize: Michal Dragoun (Czech Republic) No.15

1.LIc3 LIc2+ 2.Kf5 LIa4#
1.Lc5 LIc4+ 2.Ke5 LIg8#
1.Sc5 Nc4 2.LOxc4-d4 LIc3#
1.LId5 Le4 2.LOxe4-f4+ LIf3#

A first-rate TF-helpmate showing a very active lion as the front piece of three different batteries: in the first pair of solutions it abandons the set battery to create two new ones, while in the second pair it delivers two double-check mates from it. The sacrifices to allow the black locust to provide the necessary hurdle for the lion fit nicely and they should be compared to those encountered in the fifth prize.

3rd Prize: Michal Dragoun (Czech Republic) No.26

1.LIg5 LOxg5-h5 2.Df5 gxf5#
1.Tc4 LOxc4-b3 2.Dd4 exd4#
1.Le6 LOxe6-f7 2.De7 fxe7#

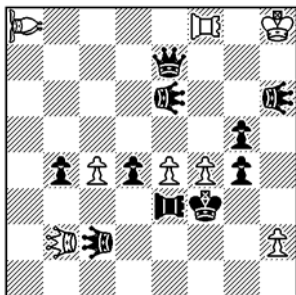
The white locust creates three batteries with different pawns, while at the same time directly unpinning the black queen, which then sacrifices to let the batteries fire. Right after the first review

of the entries, I was intending to award this problem a lower prize, but it quickly climbed up when I fully digested the wonderful cycle of black sacrifices / interferences.

Michal Dragoun

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006

4th Prize



h#2 2.1.1.1 (8+10)

b) ♖b2 (Locust)

♙=Leo

♜=Locust

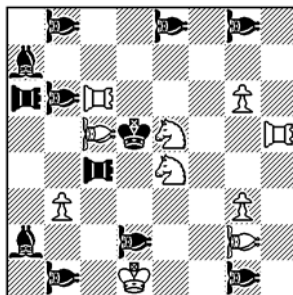
♖♜=Rook-Locust

♝♙=Bishop-Locust

Michal Dragoun

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006

5th Prize



h#2 4.1.1.1 (10+12)

♖♜=Rook-Locust

♝♙=Bishop-Locust

4th Prize: Michal Dragoun (Czech Republic) No.13

a) 1.Db7 LExb7+ 2.Kxe4 LEd7#

1.Df6+ LExf6+ 2.Kxf4 LEe7#

b) 1.LEe2 LOxe2-f2 2.LOxh2-h1 fxg5#

1.LEf2 LOxf2-g2 2.LOxc4-b3 e5#

The clever twin yields another novel TF-helpmate. In the first part the already arranged batteries are transformed with the lion serving as the front piece, while in the second the locust acts as the rear piece along the same lines, but on the opposite direction. I wish the double motivation of 2.LOxh2-h1 had been avoided: sadly, this move is not a pure hideaway for it also takes a bK flight.

5th Prize: Michal Dragoun (Czech Republic) No.20

1.LLOxc6-b5 Sf3 2.Kxe4 Se1#

1.LLOxc5-d4 Sg5 2.Kxe5 Sh7#

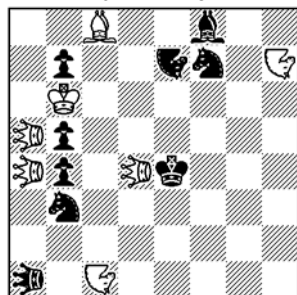
1.TLOxe4-f4 Sf7 2.LLOxf7-e6 TLOxe6-f6#

1.LLOxe5-f4 Sf2 2.LLOxf2-e3 LLOxe3-f2#

Solid strategic play by two white half-batteries in TF-mode: the pair of solutions with the sacrifices to allow the T/L-Locusts to move is superior to the other which is not so original nowadays. The black economy is rather poor though, since the thematic pieces serve only a single role in each solution and there are four cook-stoppers. Further imperfections, like the double purpose of 1.LLOxc5-d4 and the imbalance of the motifs causing Se5/Se4? to fail, prevent a higher placement.

Michal Dragoun

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006

6th-7th Prize

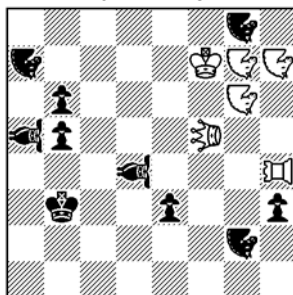
h#2 3.1.1.1 (7+9)

♞=Nightrider

♙=Leo

Waldemar Tura

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006

6th-7th Prize

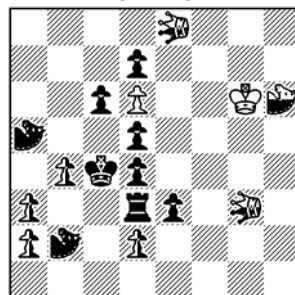
h#2 3.1.1.1 (6+10)

♞=Nightrider

♙=Leo, ♖=Pao, ♜=Vao

**Juraj Lörinc
Michal Dragoun**

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006

8th Prize

h#2 b) ♖d2→a4 (2+9+7)

♞=Rose

♙=Leo

6th-7th Prize: Michal Dragoun (Czech Republic) No.17

1.LExa5 LEf6+ 2.Kd5 LExf8#

1.Sxa5 LEd3+ 2.Ke5 LEda3#

1.Nxa5 LEd7+ 2.Kf5 LEE8#

6th-7th Prize: Waldemar Tura (Poland) No.35

1.Nf4 LEe6 2.Ka4 LEXg8#

1.Ne4 LEf6 2.Kb4 LEf3#

1.Ng4 LEe5 2.Kc4 LEG3#

The same concept in these two problems, but distinctive renderings: the three bK flights are guarded twice by White and in each solution, first a black unit overrides one of the controls (either by capture as in No.17, or by interference as in No.35), and then the white Leo creates an Anderssen-type battery and kicks back to cut off the black king's return to the initial square. The arrangement of the thematic lines is somewhat more varied in No.17 and the captures look, in my opinion, more fascinating, whereas the interferences in the B1 moves of No.35 work as anticipatory self-pins and yield attractive double-pin mates. Even if No.35 seems to have a slight advantage for utilising only fairy units, in the end I decided that the two compositions should share honours.

8th Prize: Juraj Lörinc (Slovakia) & Michal Dragoun (Czech Republic) No.37

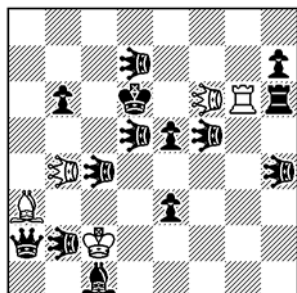
a) 1.nLEee5 nLEh4+ 2.nROg4 nLExb2#

b) 1.nLEge5 nLEg8+ 2.nROf7 nLExa5#

Creation of Anderssen-type batteries with direct pins of the neutral rose, exchange of roles and precise play based on the control of the squares b5/c3 and the captures of the black ROa5/b2, which even if thematically necessary, seem a bit awkward. The white king is ingeniously used to determine the move order.

Michal Dragoun

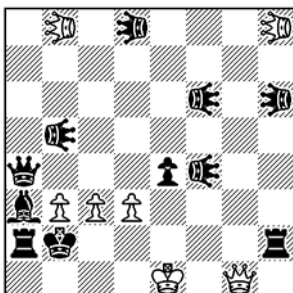
H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006
1st Honourable Mention



h#2 4.1.1.1 (5+14)
♙♜=Lion

Michal Dragoun

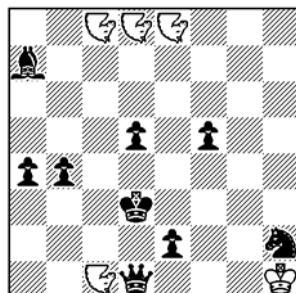
H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006
2nd Honourable Mention



h#2 4.1.1.1 (7+11)
♙♜=Leo
♞=Lion

Petko A. Petkov

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006
3rd Honourable Mention



h#2 2.1.1.1 (5+9)
Anticirce
♞=Nightrider

1st Honourable Mention: Michal Dragoun (Czech Republic) No.22

1.Lld8 Llc6+ 2.Ke7 Llb7#
1.b5 Lle7+ 2.Kc6 Llf3#
1.Dxa3 Llb7 2.Dc5 Llf4#
1.Txg6 Llf3 2.Te6 Llf4#

Another strategic TF-helpmate featuring destruction of the white batteries, so that the front piece can move without giving check in the first pair, and displacement of the black king along the thematic lines blended with anticipatory self-blocks in the other. Half of the content is quite well known (see, for instance, the classic **A2**), but the extension seems novel. All mates are double-checks, a "drawback" which prevented the inclusion of this problem in the prize list.

2nd Honourable Mention: Michal Dragoun (Czech Republic) No.16

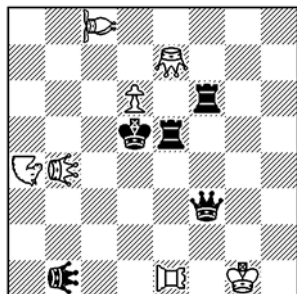
1.Tc2 Db6 2.Kxb3 De6#
1.exd3 Dg7 2.Kxc3 Dc7#
1.LEd4 LEhxd2 2.Llxc3 Kf2#
1.Db4 LEbxd2 2.Llxb3 Ke2#

Anderssen-type batteries ending in double-check mates and royal anti-batteries by the same fairy pieces on a single line with static pin-mates. I was almost ready to condemn the captures of the black rook, when I realised that it is quite hard to arrange efficiently for the block on c2 in some other way.

3rd Honourable Mention: Petko A. Petkov (Bulgaria) No.33

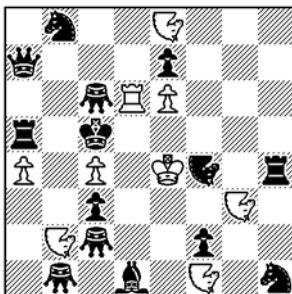
1.Sf1 Ng2+ 2.Ke4 Nh2#
1.Lg1 Ne6+ 2.Kc4 Na7#

Entertaining play of three anticirce-specific white batteries (two of them in reciprocal mode), nicely blended with indirect unpins and delayed FML model mates in an airy setting.

Nikola PredragH. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006
4th Honourable Mention

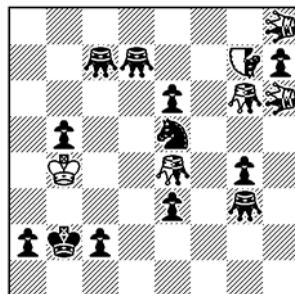
h#2 2.1.1.1 (7+5)

♞=Nightrider
♟=Grasshopper
♞♟=Locust
♞♟=Rook-Locust
♞♟=Bishop-Locust

Aleksandr SemenenkoValery Semenenko
H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006
5th Honourable Mention

h#2 b) ♞f4→g4 (9+14)

♞♞=Nightrider
♞♞=Grasshopper

Juraj LörincH. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006
6th Honourable Mention

h#2 2.1.1.1 (1+12+5)

♞♞=Grasshopper
♞♞=Nightrider
♞♞=Lion

4th Honourable Mention: Nikola Predrag (Croatia) No.53

1.Df5 Gc5 2.Ke6 Gxf5#
1.Tf4 Ne6 2.Ke4 Nxf4#

An appealing Meredith which features reciprocal N/G batteries with the black D/T alternatively providing flights and used as static blocks, nicely blended with self-pins of the same rook on opposite sides along the same line. I should have preferred a black knight on d2, instead of the LOB1, so as to have the white T-Locust not pinned in the diagram.

5th Honourable Mention: Aleksandr & Valery Semenenko (Ukraine) No.34

a) 1.Nxb2+ Ke3+ 2.Kxc4+ Td4#
b) 1.Nxe8+ Kf5+ 2.Kxd6+ c5#

The setup of the two white nightrider batteries along the same line and the core mechanism of alternate destruction and firing are known from **A3**. In this particular case, the composer has filled in the spare W1 move by using a third (royal) battery, thus cleverly adding impressive cross-checks. Some important details that I feel I have to point out, though: whereas in part (a) the wK can choose between e3 and e5 and the reason that the latter fails is that the bK would deliver a discovered check which cannot be parried, there is no equivalent alternative in the other part since the wK must play to f5 to guard squares. I also understand that the temptation to have all moves arranged as checks was great and the visual effect is indeed pleasing, yet I cannot neglect that the black Th4 is, in fact, a mere "weasel". Finally, the idle grasshoppers which serve as cook-stoppers only are a clear sign of the constructional difficulties which were apparently quite hard to cope with.

6th Honourable Mention: Juraj Lörinc (Slovakia) No.36

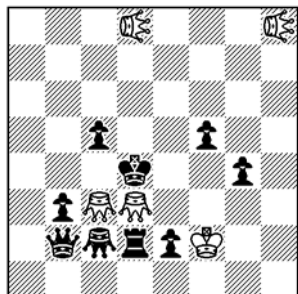
1.nGd3 nNh5+ 2.Sf3 nGa6#
1.nGd6 nNe8+ 2.Sg6 nGa3#

A clever setting of the Zabunov theme (the front piece of a battery becomes the rear piece of another battery by playing behind the front piece of the new battery), nicely mixed with unpins and

interferences. The use of the black Gc7/d7 merely as plugs against the neutral nightrider escape is regrettable, particularly since the former could be replaced by a simple pawn.

Michel Caillaud

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006
1st Commendation



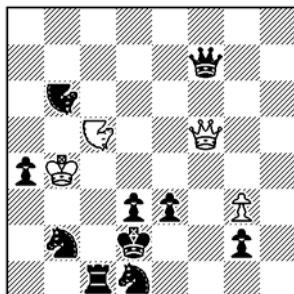
h#2 2.1.1.1 (5+9)

= Grasshopper

= Locust

Michal Dragoun

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006
2nd Commendation

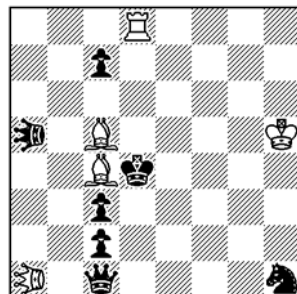


h#2 4.1.1.1 (4+10)

= Nightrider

Klaus Wenda

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006
3rd Commendation



h#2 b) c1 (5+7)

Anticirce Calvet type

= Leo

1st Commendation: Michel Caillaud (France) No.54

1.Ge4 Gc6+ 2.Dc3 Gd1#

1.Gc4 Gg6+ 2.Td3 Ga1#

A very elegant composition with superb orthogonal-diagonal echo play featuring alternate square-block and guard on c4/e4, model pin-mates and virtual pins due to illegal self-check. Excellent construction.

2nd Commendation: Michal Dragoun (Czech Republic) No.21

1.e2 Ng7 2.Ke3 Df4#

1.Tb1 Dc8 2.Kc1 Nb3#

1.Ke1 Dxd3 2.Df1 Dxe3#

1.Kc2 Nxd3 2.Nd2 Ne1#

Two pairs of reciprocal batteries between two white pieces with double-check mates in an elegant setting. The black play sadly consists of square-blocks only.

3rd Commendation: Klaus Wenda (Austria) No.2

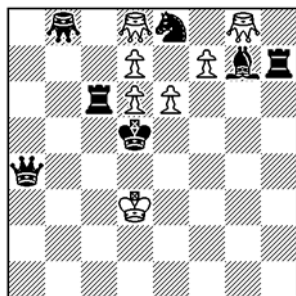
a) 1.LEa7 La3 2.De3 LEe1#, and not 1.Sf2+? Ld6 2.De3 Te8+ 3.Dxe8 (Dd8)!

b) 1.Sf2+ Ld6 2.LEe3 Te8#, and not 1.LEa7? La3 2.LEe3 LEe1+ 3.LExa3 (LEa1)!

Reciprocal anticirce-specific batteries with interesting clash of rebirth squares (the theme of the current WCCT fairies section), but the mismatched motivations of the B1/W1 moves prevented a higher placing.

Michel Caillaud

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006
4th Commendation

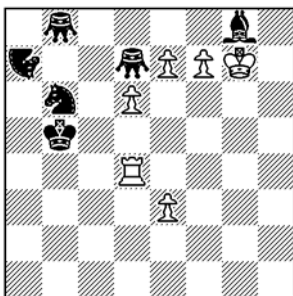


h#2 2.1.1.1 (7+7)

♙♜=Grasshopper

Yuri Gordian

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006
5th Commendation

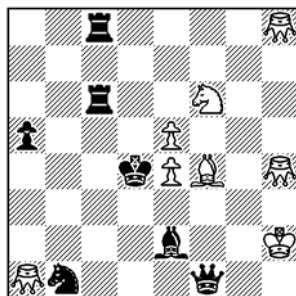


h#2 2.1.1.1 (6+6)

♞=Nightrider
♙♜=Grasshopper

Dieter Müller & Franz Pachl

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006
6th Commendation



h#2 2.1.1.1 (8+7)

♙♜=Grasshopper

4th Commendation: Michel Caillaud (France) No.55

1.Le5 f8=G+ 2.Tf7 dxe8=S#

1.Tc5 dxe8=G+ 2.Dd7 f8=S#

A nice blend of interchanged white promotions, square-blocks / guards on c5/e5 and gate openings followed by direct self-pins.

5th Commendation: Yuri Gordian (Ukraine) No.9

1.Ka5 fxg8=N 2.Nb5 e8=N#

1.Kc5 f8=G 2.Gb5 e8=G#

Reciprocal white promotions to G/N and mutual batteries, accompanied with changed square-blocks on the bK's initial square and model mates in Meredith. The order of the white moves is cleverly dictated by self-unpin.

6th Commendation: Dieter Müller & Franz Pachl (Germany) No.8

1.Lc4 Gc1 2.Dd3 Ld2#

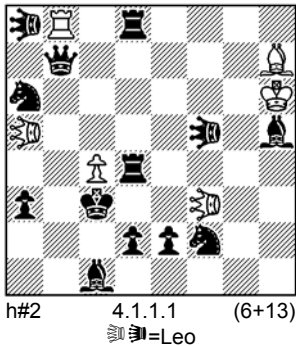
1.Tc4 Ga6 2.T8c5 Sd5#

Two black Bahnung manoeuvres with changed square-blocks on c4 and reciprocal guard/block of the squares d3 and c5 (as in the first and fourth commendations), yet not fairly enough for a higher distinction.

Section II : Anti-batteries

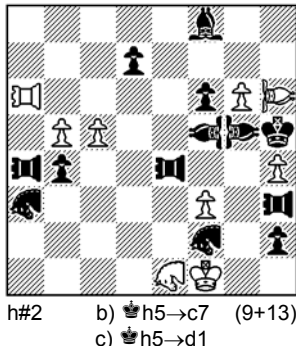
Michal Dragoun

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006
1st Prize



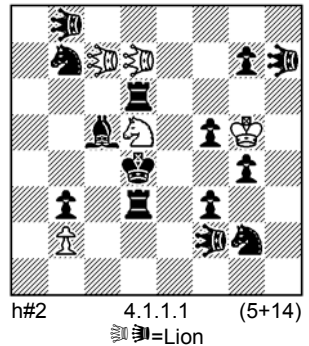
Juraj Lörinc

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006
2nd Prize



Michal Dragoun

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006
3rd Prize



1st Prize: Michal Dragoun (Czech Republic) No.12

- 1.LEc5 LEf8 2.Da7 Tb4#
- 1.Dc7 LExd8 2.LEg4 Ld3#
- 1.LEd5 LExb7 2.Kb2 LEg7#
- 1.Dd5 LExf5 2.Kc2 LEc8#

The most striking entry among the TF-helpmates submitted to the tournament: a fourfold cycle of white batteries and anti-batteries, a great achievement by itself, is ingeniously combined with elegant black play, in which the two thematic pieces exchange their functions (line opening and hurdle for the white Leos in the first pair, gate openings and interferences in the other half). I decided to include this problem in the anti-batteries section of the award, but it could easily have received the first prize in the other section, too.

2nd Prize: Juraj Lörinc (Slovakia) & Michal Dragoun (Czech Republic) No.49

- a) 1.PAe3 NAd3 (LLIf4?) 2.PAxh4 LLIf4#
- b) 1.PAc4 LLIf4 (PA6?) 2.NAc8 PA6#
- c) 1.PAe7 PA6 (NAd3?) 2.VAc2 NAd3#

A cycle of anti-batteries emphasised with cyclic change of white moves and breath-taking bi-valves carried out by a single black unit involving six different lines (interferences on h3-d3, a3-e5, f8-d6 and gate openings of a4-f4-h4, f2-d6-c8, f5-d3-c2). An extraordinary study in geometry, further enhanced by the way in which the order of the white moves is determined: the battery front pieces cannot play at W1, since they should avoid closing the line(s) to be used by Black at B2 in his attempt to self-block! Although this might be a matter of taste, I cannot understand why the composer opted to use a bishop-lion as hurdle on g5; a knight would suffice. If one wishes to have only fairy units on the board, then a VAg8 [with 1.PAe6 in (c)] seems more appropriate than the Lf8.

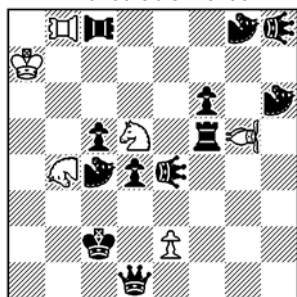
3rd Prize: Michal Dragoun (Czech Republic) No.18

1.Llb4 Llc1 2.Kc4 Sc3#
 1.Llb5 Lla4 2.Te3 Sb4#
 1.Lle4 Llg3 2.Ke5 Sf4#
 1.Llf7 Llxg7 2.Se3 Sf6#

A most fruitful matrix which presents in TF-style four anti-batteries created by the knight and the pair of lions along distinct lines. The geometry of the white play is impressively accurate and the technique to arrange for the lions to move at W1 shows a master at work. The black play is, of course, of lower value, still there are changed self-blocks with dual avoidance (sadly the motifs do not match) and the cleverly avoided 1.Lle7 in one of the solutions. The composer should have persisted a little longer though, since slight modifications, after turning the board, save two black pieces easily, as **A4** shows.

Michal Dragoun

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006
 1st Honourable Mention



h#2 2.1.1.1 (6+12)

b) ♖b4→e3

♖=Nao (Chinese Nightrider)

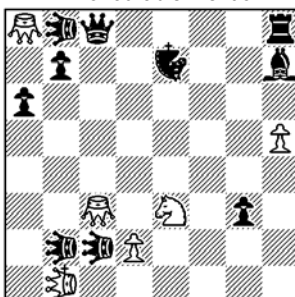
♗=Pao, ♘=Vao

♙=Nightrider-Lion

♚=Lion, ♞=Rook-Lion

Juraj Lörinc & Bojan Basić

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006
 2nd Honourable Mention



h#2 4.1.1.1 (6+10)

♙b1, ♙e7=Royal Pieces

♙=Nightrider

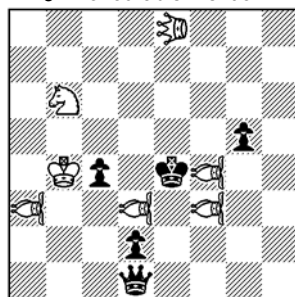
♙=Grasshopper

♙=Lion

Georgy Evseev

Valery Gurov

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006
 3rd Honourable Mention



h#2 b) ♖b6→b7 (7+5)

c) ♖b6→b8

Anticirce Calvet type

♙=Leo

♘=Vao

1st Honourable Mention: Michal Dragoun (Czech Republic) No.14

a) 1.Tf4 NAa6 2.NLlb3 PAb4#
 1.cxb4 e3 2.TLlc3 Sxb4#
 b) 1.Llb7 NAg4 2.NLld2 VAe3#
 1.dxe3 Kb6 2.Llc3 Sxe3#

A nice TF-helpmate with well-arranged play based on a classic setup of white pieces, but thematically not so strong as the prizes, since in one pair of solutions the anti-batteries work indirectly only. The black gate openings, aiming at square blocks, give the proper unity. The composer could have used a white pawn on c4, but this is after all a matter of taste.

2nd Honourable Mention: Juraj Lörinc (Slovakia) & Bojan Basić (Serbia) No.39

1.Lg8 rLle4 2.Lld4 Ge5#
 1.Tg8 rLlxh7 2.Llf6 Gg7#
 1.Dg8 rLlxb7 2.Llc6 Gc7#
 1.Llg8 rLlb4 2.Llc4 Gc5#

Creation of anti-batteries along four lines by the same lion/grasshopper pair after white self-unpins, nicely blended with four different square-blocks. Excellent construction and impeccable technique: both the black L1b2 and L1c2 are utilised in each solution as passive and active hurdles.

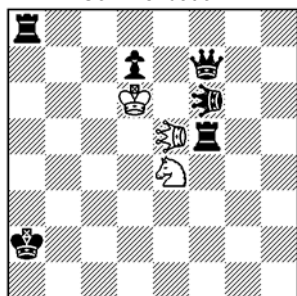
3rd Honourable Mention: Georgy Evseev & Valery Gurov (Russia) No.51

- a) 1.Dxf3(Dd8) LEh5 2.Kxf4(Ke8) VAg6#
- b) 1.gxf4(f7) LEb5 2.Kxd3(Ke8) VAc6#
- c) 1.cxd3(d7) LEa8 2.Kxf3(Ke8) VAb8#

Creation of anti-batteries from scratch again, combined with cyclic Zilahi and cyclic control by the anti-battery / direct guard / anticipatory block on the squares d7, d8 and f7. Charmingly clever!

Juraj Lörinc

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006
Commendation



Commendation : Juraj Lörinc (Slovakia) No.38

- a) 1.L1a1 L1e2 2.Ta3 Sd2#
- b) 1.L1b6 L1e1 2.Ta6 Sc3#
- c) 1.L1f4+ L1e3 2.L1b8 Sc5#

Be prepared once more for creation of anti-batteries, this time along three different lines by the same lion/knight pair with echo model mates. Note the effective little trick that the knight cannot rush first, since the lion needs a hurdle to move. Alas, the black square-block play is basic and the bK-shift twinning rather diminishes the overall impression.

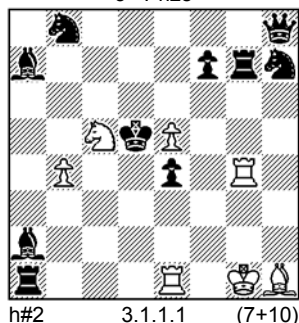
- h#2
- b) ♔a2→a5 (3+6)
- c) ♔a2→a7
- ♘♙=Lion

Athens, November 2006
Harry Fougiaxis

APPENDIX – QUOTED COMPOSITIONS

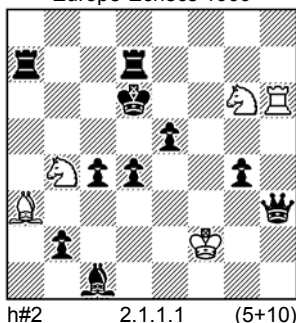
[A1] Josif Krikheli

Sredba na Solidarnosta 1971
3rd Prize



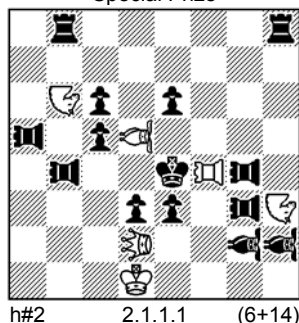
[A2] József Korponai

Europe-Echecs 1969



[A3] Juraj Lörinc

Uralsky Problemist 2001
Special Prize



♞=Nightrider

♖=Lion, ♖=Rook-Lion

♗=Bishop-Lion

[A1] Josif Krikheli, Sredba na Solidarnosta 1971, 3rd Prize

1.Kd4 Sxe4 2.Kd5+ Sc5#

1.Lb1 Texe4 2.La2+ Te1#

1.Sg5 Tgxe4 2.Sh7+ Tg4#

[A2] József Korponai, Europe-Echecs 1969

1.Dxa3 Sd5 2.Dc5 Sgf4#

1.Dxh6 Se7 2.De6 Sa6#

[A3] Juraj Lörinc, Uralsky Problemist 2001, Special Prize

1.Txh3 Llx5 2.Kxf4 LLlb7#

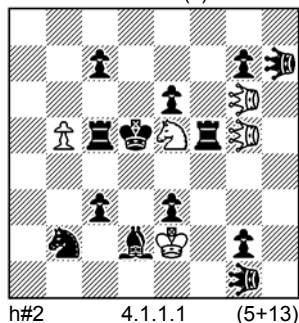
1.Txb6 Llxh2 2.Kxd5 TLlh4#

[A4] Michal Dragoun

version by Harry Fougiaxis

H. Fougiaxis-40 JT 2006

3rd Prize (v)



♞=Lion

1.Lld7 Lla6 2.Kd6 Sc6#

1.Lle7 Lld8 2.Tc4 Sd7#

1.Lld4 Llc2 2.Ke4 Sd3#

1.Llg3 Llxg2 2.Sc4 Sf3#

DEFINITIONS OF FAIRY PIECES AND CONDITIONS

Anticirce: Each piece (incl. Kings), on making a capture, is reborn on its Circe rebirth square, which must be empty for the capture to be legal. Fairy pieces are reborn on the promotion square on the capture-file. Promotion with capture is legal provided the rebirth square of the promoted unit is unoccupied. The captured unit disappears. **Type Calvet:** a capture on the rebirth square is allowed.

Bishop-Lion (LLI): a **Lion** moving on Bishop-lines only.

Bishop-Locust (LLO): a **Locust** capturing on Bishop-lines only.

Grasshopper (G): moves along Queen-lines over another unit of either colour to the square immediately beyond that unit. A capture may be made on arrival, but the hurdle is not affected.

Leo (LE): the Chinese Queen, which moves like a normal Queen but captures like a **Lion**.

Lion (LI): moves and captures like a **Grasshopper**, but its arrival square may be any number of squares beyond the hurdle, provided that the line is clear.

Locust (LO): moves on Queen-lines but only by capturing an enemy unit, arriving on the square immediately beyond that unit, which must be vacant.

Nao (NA): the Chinese Nightrider, which moves like a normal **Nightrider** but captures like a **Lion**, on Nightrider-lines only.

Neutral piece (n): belongs to whichever side chooses to use it. It can therefore be moved or captured by White or Black, and in Circe it is reborn according to the capture. White can move neutral pawns only up the board, Black can move them only down the board. A King may not be moved onto a square controlled by a neutral piece, because of self-check.

Nightrider (N): a Rider along a straight line of squares lying a Knight's move away from each other.

Nightrider-Lion (NLI): a **Lion** moving on **Nightrider**-lines only.

Pao (PA): the Chinese Rook, which moves like a normal Rook but captures like a **Lion**, on Rook-lines only.

Rider: a piece that moves and captures along a line of squares, e.g. Rook, Bishop, Nightrider, etc., without hopping or leaping.

Rook-Lion (TLI): a **Lion** moving on Rook-lines only.

Rook-Locust (TLO): a **Locust** capturing on Rook-lines only.

Rose (RO): moves like a **Nightrider** but on a circular path, e.g. a1-b3-d4-f3-g1, or a1-c2-d4-c6-a7

Royal piece (r): is considered as a King for checks, checkmates and stalemates, but moves with its own power. Thus a royal knight is a king which can make only knight moves.

Vao (VA): the Chinese Bishop, which moves like a normal Bishop but captures like a **Lion**, on Bishop-lines only.