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Nr. 1

Francesco SIMONI

SuperProblem 2019
3ʳᵈ Prize
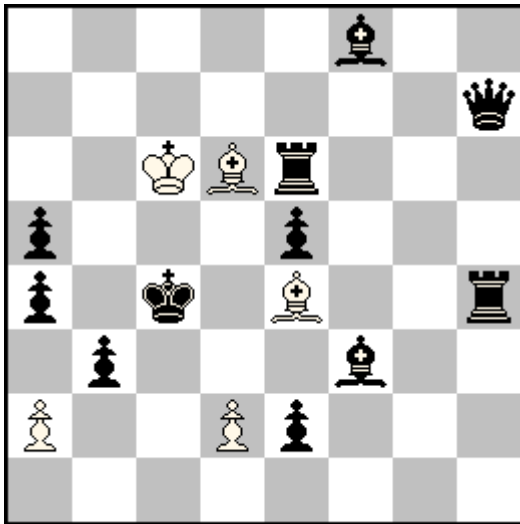
5b2/7q/2KBr3/p3p3/p1k1B2r/1p3b2/P2Pp3/8

h‡2   (5+11) C+

b) ♟a4→e7
c) ♚c4→d4
d) ♛h7→d8

a)
1.♖e8 (♖e7?) ♗×e5 2.♗b4 d3‡
b)
1.♗h5 (♗g4?) ♗c2 2.♖d4 a×b3‡
c)
1.♖e7 (♖e8?) ♗d5 2.♛d3 ♗c5‡
d)
1.♗g4 (♗h5?) ♔b7 2.♚b5 ♗d3‡

- ✓ **HOTF; white direct unpins at B1; two pairs of reciprocal tries**: diagonal-orthogonal echo.
- ✓ In a) and b), each unpinned piece moves to open a gate and to take some flights. Both **in a) and b), a try fails for anticipatory black interference**, preventing the interfered piece to selfblock at B2.
- ✓ **In c) and d),** vice versa, **the unpins are combined with black interference**, to allow the unpinned piece mates.

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Nr.2

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ASIGC 2019
2ⁿᵈ Prize
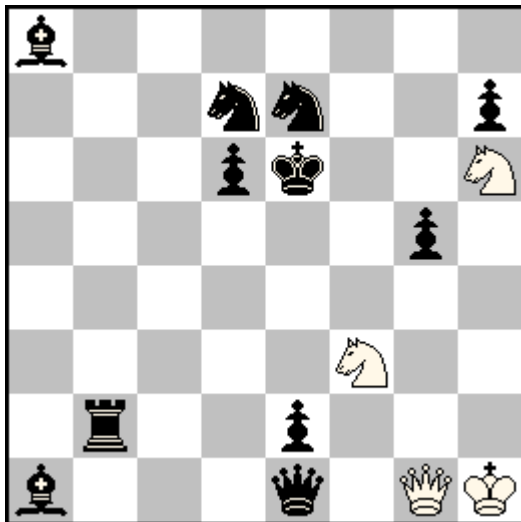
Published:
H25, Newsletter ASIGC (May 2019)

Award: 12-12-2020

b7/3nn2p/3pk2N/6p1/8/5N2/1r2p3/b3q1QK

h‡2   (4+11) C+
4.1.1.1

Tries: 1.♛f2? 1.♛g3? fail due to the interference to a line of the wQ and the guard of one square of mate, in turn. 1.♛h4+? 1.♛d2? 1.♛b4?

1.♛a5! ♕×g5 (♕d4?) 2.♞d5 (♖b7?) ♘d4‡
1.♛c3! ♕d4 (♕×g5?) 2.♖b7 (♞d5?) ♘×g5‡
1.♚f6 ♔h2 (♔g2?) 2.♚g6 ♕×g5‡
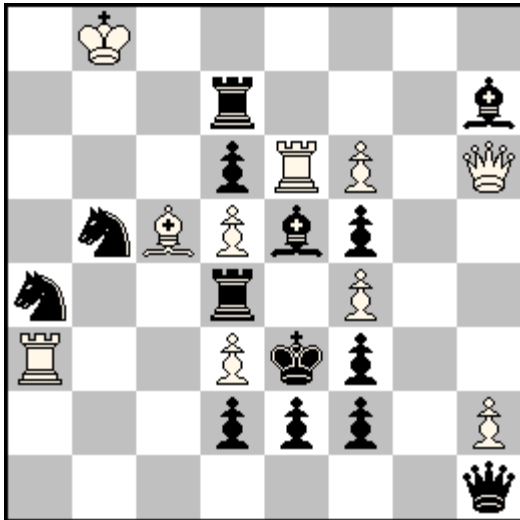1.♚d5 ♔g2 (♔h2?) 2.♚e4 ♕d4‡

- ✓ HOTF with **four unpins** of the ♕g1.
- ✓ Two solutions with **direct unpin** at B1, followed by the **indirect unpin** of the ♘f3 at B2. **Reversal** of the final positions of ♕g1 and ♘f3, several **tries, reciprocal dual avoidance** at W1 and at B2.
- ✓ The other two solutions with **indirect self-unpin** at W1. The ♚ moves twice and the B1 of the first pair become the mating ones.

Nr.3

 Francesco SIMONI

 SuperProblem 2020
 2nd Prize

1K6/3r3b/3pRP1Q/1nBPbp2/n2r1P2/R2Pkp2/3ppp1P/7q

h‡2   (10+14) C+
2.1.1.1
b)♞a4→c4

a)
1.♛×h2 f×e5+ 2.♛f4 e×d6‡
1.♜c7 ♖×d6 2.♝×f4 ♖e6‡
b)
1.♞c3 ♖×e5+ 2.♞e4 d×c4‡
1.♞c7 ♗×d6 2.♜×f4 ♗c5‡

Published:
E937, SuperProblem (25-04-2020)

Award: 21-12-2021

- ✓ **HOTF. Play on the same squares (W1, 2) x 2, four mates with double pin.**
- ✓ In a pair, **a black piece moves twice, to self-pin** at B2 after a check. **Battery mate.**
- ✓ In the other, **anticipatory white indirect unpin** at B1, **black direct unpin** at W1, **self-pin** at B2. Exchange of functions (♗c5/♖e6, Passive pin / Switchback mate).

Nr.4

Francesco SIMONI
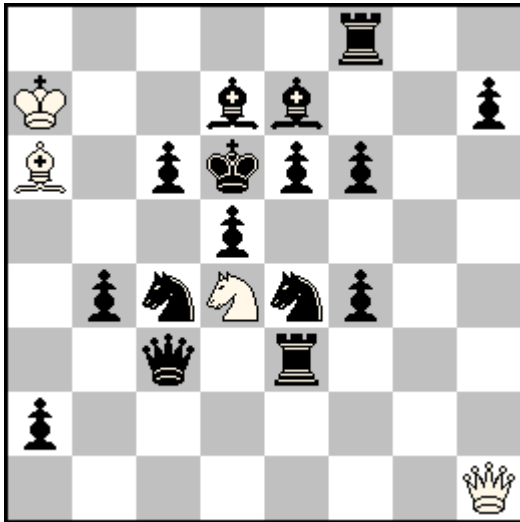
SuperProblem 2021

Published:
E110, SuperProblem (24-08-2021)

5r2/K2bb2p/B1pkpp2/3p4/1pnNnp2/2q1r3/p7/7Q

h‡2   (4+16) C+
2.1.1.1
b)♗a6→g6

a)
1.♚c5 ♕c1 2.♞cd6 ♘b3‡
1.♚c7 ♕xh7 2.♗d6 ♘xe6‡
b)
1.♚e5 ♕e1 2.♞ed6 ♘f3‡
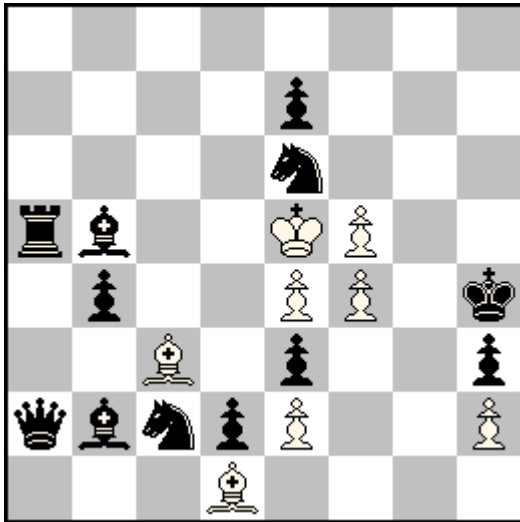1.♗d8 ♕xe4 2.♚e7 ♘f5‡

- ✓ ♚-star.
- ✓ **4 x W1 by ♕** (as far away as possible).
- ✓ **4 x self-blocks** (3 x B2 self-blocks by different pieces on ♚'s initial square + 1 x B1 distant self-block on a different square).
- ✓ **4 x B-B FML.**
- ✓ **4 x pin mates by ♘** (including 3 indirect self-pins at B2), where the ♕ is the pinning unit.

Nr.5

Francesco SIMONI

Pat a Mat 2019
4ᵗʰ Honourable Mention

Published:
43, Pat a Mat 107 (Mar. 2019)

Award: Pat a Mat 111 (Mar. 2020)

8/4p3/4n3/rb2KP2/1p2PP1k/2B1p2p/qbnpP2P/3B4

h‡3	(8+12)	C+
2.1.1...		

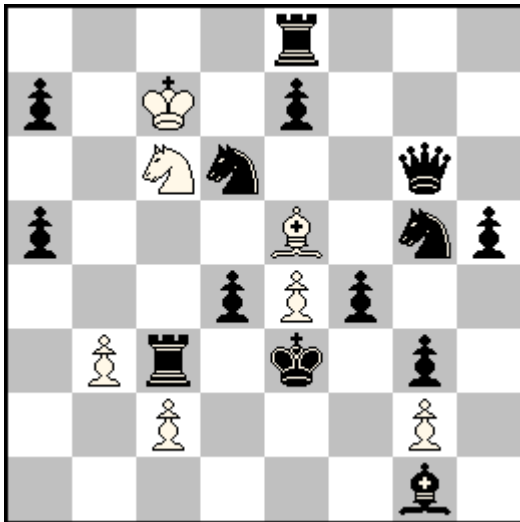1.♞ed4 ♗×b4 2.♗×e2+ ♗c5 3.♗b5 ♗×e7‡
1.♞cd4 ♗×d2 2.♞×e2+ ♗c3 3.♞2d4 ♗e1‡

- ✓ **Indirect W/B unpin** with guard abandonment to specify W1.
- ✓ **Annihilation** of a w♙, with **battery check** to specify W2.
- ✓ **W self-pin.**
- ✓ **W line opening** with again **W/B indirect unpin** and **Switchback** to specify B3.

Nr.6

Francesco SIMONI

SuperProblem 2021

Published:
E1115, SuperProblem (20/09/2021)

4r3/p1K1p3/2Nn2q1/p3B1np/3pPp2/1Pr1k1p1/2P3P1/6b1

h‡3,5   (7+14) C+
b)♞d6→f6

a)
1...♔d7 2.♞6xe4 (♞gxe4?) ♘xd4 (♘b4?) 3. ♛a6 ♘f3 4. ♛e2 ♗d4‡
b)
1...♔b7 2.♞gxe4 (♞6xe4?) ♘b4 (♘xd4?) 3. ♛g4 ♘d3 4. ♛e2 ♗xf4‡

- ✓ The ♔ moves to **self-unpin** the ♘.
- ✓ Reciprocal **dual avoidance**: the position taken by ♔ specifies which of the two ♞ moves at B2, to open a ♛ line and self-block.
- ✓ The ♛ would in fact have **two ways** to reach a square at B4 but must be able to move at B3 without giving check.
- ✓ Reciprocal **dual avoidance** also at the moves W2 of ♘, which must not interfere the ♛ at W3, so as not to prevent ♛ to self-block at B4.
- ✓ **Model** mates.