

## BULETIN PROBLEMISTIC-50 ANNIVERSARY TOURNEY 2021

Kudos to Dinu-Ioan Nicula for organizing this anniversary composing tourney celebrating the 50 years of the Romanian chess magazine *Buletin Problemistic* and many thanks for inviting me to be the judge. The theme asked for duplex helpmates in 2,5 or 3 moves without fairy pieces or conditions.

35 entries participated, namely 14 in 2,5 moves and 21 in 3 moves. The WinChloe database includes 415 examples only, a relatively low number which could leave space for new matrices and ideas. Yet, duplex form is hard to master in complex schemes, so the ideas shown are in general less ambitious than ordinary helpmates. The award reflects this, so I decided to select 10 problems.

A brief comment to the following entries:

No.9, No.14, No.15, No.19, No.25, No.27, No.28, No.34: simple mate-building

No.10, No.20, No.29, No.30, No.35: unbalanced

No.11, No.23: symmetric

No.24, No.31, No.32, No.33: poor use of the material

No.26: not interesting

The following entries lack originality and are not included in the award (see Appendix):

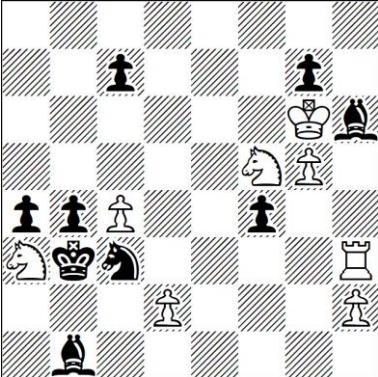
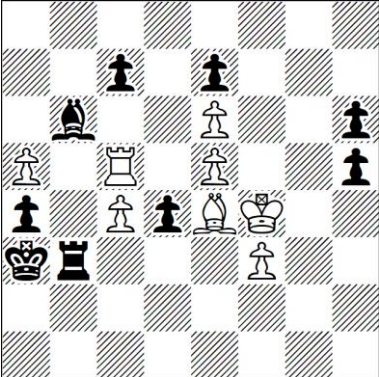
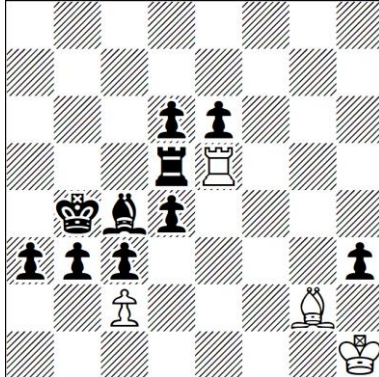
No.4: Interesting Kindergarten with b&w tempo moves, but inferior to the miniature **Diag. 1**

No.7: White bishop/black rook Maslar on the same square with Zilahi and exchanged roles of the other pair of white rook/black bishop in a fine setting, but the idea is familiar (see **Diag. 2, 3 and 4**)

No.8: Compare to **Diag. 5**

No.16: Anticipated by **Diag. 6**

No.17: Less ambitious than **Diag. 7**, which shows changed promotions of two pawns.

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize Menachem Witztum & Ricardo de Mattos Vieira			2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize Emanuel Navon			3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize Menachem Witztum & Ricardo de Mattos Vieira		
								
h≠2,5      duplex      (8+9)	h≠2,5      duplex      (8+9)	h≠2,5      duplex      (4+10)						

### 1st Prize:

1...Rf3 2.Ba2 Se3 3.Sd1 Sxd1†

1...Bd3 2.Rh5 Se4 3.Sd6 Sxd6†

Reciprocal interference unpins of the knights that eventually lead to masked batteries with mutual captures of the front battery pieces and self-blocks by the rear battery pieces in the other solution. Perfect analogy.

### 2nd Prize:

1...Bc2 2.Bxa5 Rxa5 3.Rb2 Rxa4+

1...Re3 2.Rxc7 Bxc7 3.Bf5 Bxe5+

A fine example of complex diagonal-orthogonal echo play involving two pairs of rooks and bishops: Ambushes, active sacrifices for square vacation, reciprocal captures and extended Zilahi.

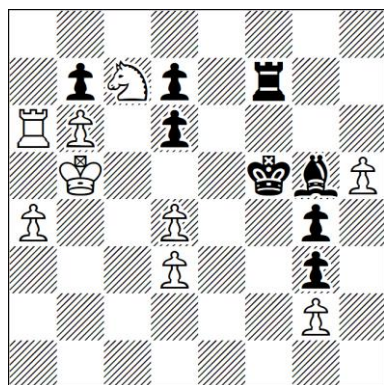
### 3rd Prize:

1...cxb3 2.Bf1 Bxf1 3.Rb5 Rxb5+

1...h2 2.Rh5 Rxh5 3.Bd5 Bxd5+

Another nice rendering of interesting play by two pairs of rooks and bishops: Reciprocal active sacrifices with the feature that the pieces guarding flights and giving mate in one solution are both captured when the opposite side mates.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Hon. Mention Menachem Witztum

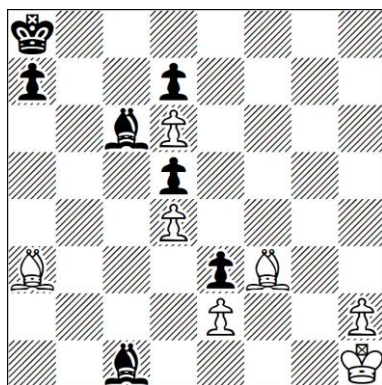


h±2,5

duplex

(9+8)

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Hon. Mention Christer Jonsson

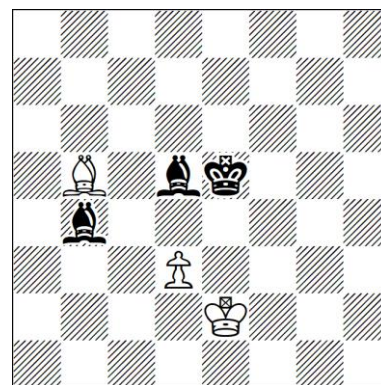


h±3

duplex

(7+7)

### Special Hon. Mention Kaj Engström



h±3

duplex

(3+3)

### 1st Hon. Mention:

1...Ra8 2.Kf4 Rf8 3.Rf5+ Sd5+

1...Re7 2.Ka5 Re5+ 3.Sb5 Bd2+

Pin-mates with the pinned pieces playing to the squares where the kings stood initially.

### 2nd Hon. Mention:

1.Bxa3 Bg4 2.Bxd6 Bxd7 3.Bb8 Bxc6+

1.Bxc1 Bb5 2.Bxe3 Bxe2 3.Bg1 Bxf3+

Once more reciprocal captures of two pairs of pieces (this time, all are bishops), but the strategy is less complex and the setting is symmetric.

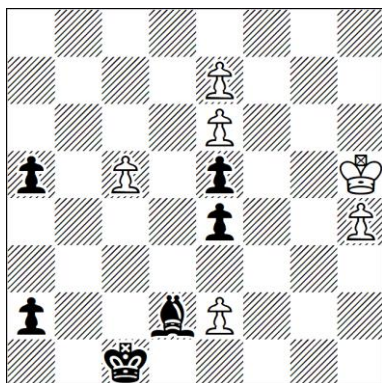
### Special Hon. Mention:

1.Bc6 d4+ 2.Kd5 Kd3 3.Bd6 Bc4+

1.d4+ Kf4 2.Kd3 Kf3 3.Bc4 Be4+

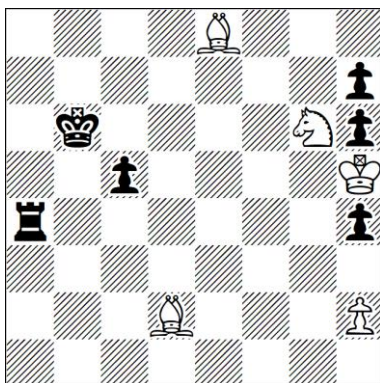
Miniature with ideal mates and the distinct feature that White plays the same moves in both solutions.

**1<sup>st</sup> Commendation**  
Menachem Witztum &  
Ricardo de Mattos Vieira



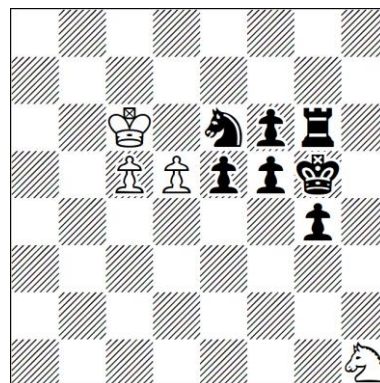
h≠3 duplex (6+6)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Commendation**  
Christer Jonsson



h≠3 duplex (5+6)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Commendation**  
Vladislav Nefyodov



h≠3 duplex (4+7)

**1st Commendation:**

1.a1=R e8=Q 2.Ra2 Qa4 3.Rc2 Qa1†

1.e8=S a1=Q 2.Sf6 Qa4 3.Sg4 Qe8†

The solutions are linked by two formal elements: mates are delivered by the promoted queens on the squares where other promotions occurred, and the moves played by the queens are along the same path but in opposite directions.

**2nd Commendation:**

1.Ra6 Bb4 2.cxb4 Se5 3.Ka5 Sc4†

1.Bg5 h×g5 2.S×h4 h6 3.Bg6 R×h4†

Unexpected wB-sacrifices and exemplary use of material despite the white pawn plug.

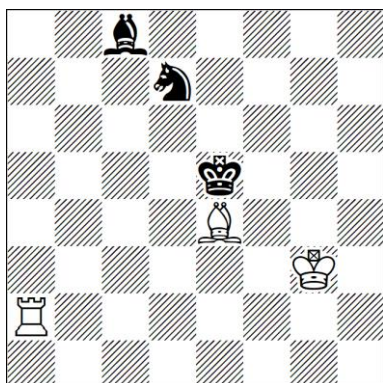
**3rd Commendation:**

1.f4 Sf2 (Sg3?) 2.Kf5 Se4 3.Sg5 Sd6†

1.Sg3 (Sf2?) Rg7 2.S×f5 (Se4+?) Rb7 3.Sd6 Sd8†

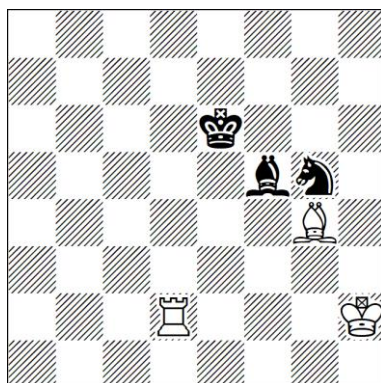
Well-determined manoeuvres of the white knight to a square, once for mate and once for block.

**Special Commendation**  
Marjan Kovacević



h≠3 duplex (3+3)

**[A] Rolf Wiehagen**  
**Ideal-Mate Review 1995**  
**Hon. Mention**



h≠3 duplex (3+3)

### Special Commendation:

1.Sf6 Bb1 2.Be6 Rc2 3.Kf5 Rc5†

1.Kh2 Kf4 2.Bh1 Se5 3.Rg2 Sf3†

Two analogous white B/R manoeuvres (critical move and interference) with different motivations. Ideal mates. The core matrix has been shown in **Diag. A**, but the long-range moves in this tournament give a better impression.

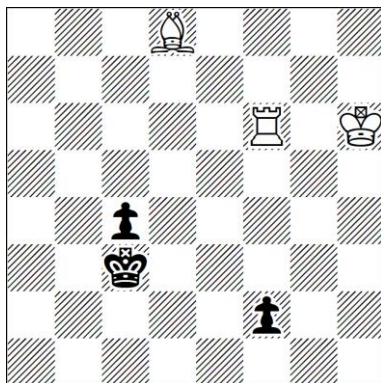
### [A]

1.Ke5 Bd1 2.Kf4 Re2 3.Kg4 Re4†

1.Bf3 Ke5 2.Bh1 Kf4 3.Rg2 Sf3†

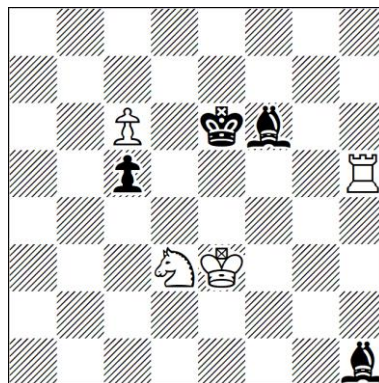
## APPENDIX

**[1] Iosif Krikheli**  
**Sinfonie Scacchistiche 1972**



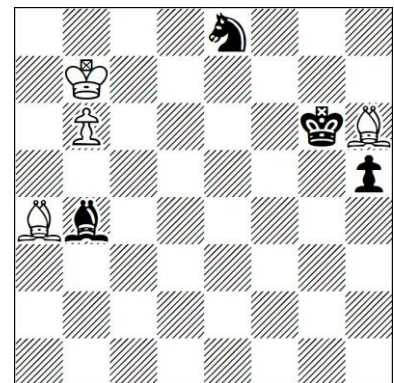
h‡3 duplex (3+3)

**[2] bernd ellinghoven**  
**feenschach 2014**



h‡2,5 duplex (4+4)

**[3] Ken Seehofer**  
**Torsten Linß**  
**Der Landbote 2014**



h‡3 duplex (4+4)

### [1]

1.f1=B Rb6 2.Be2 Rb2 3.Bd3 Bf6†

1.Rg6 f1=Q 2.Bh4 Qf6 3.Bg5 Qh8†

### [2]

1...Rxc5 2.Bd5 Sf4+ 3.Ke5 Rxd5†

1...Bxc6 2.Rd5 Bg5+ 3.Ke4 Bxd5†

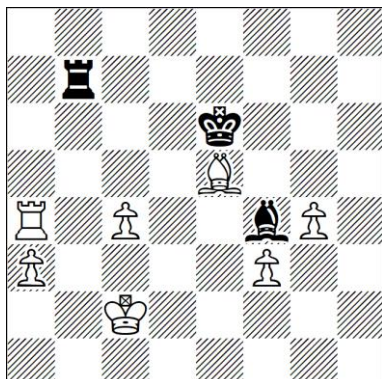
### [3]

1.Sg7 Bc1 2.Bd2 Bc2+ 3.Kh6 Bxd2†

1.Ka6 Be1 2.Bd2 Sc7+ 3.Ka5 Bxd2†

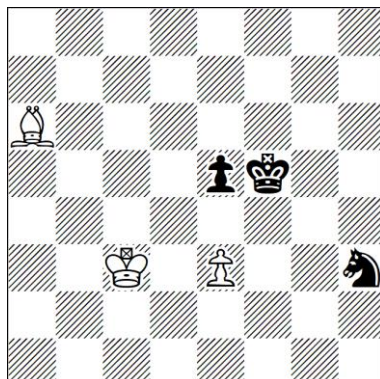


**[4] Christer Jonsson**  
**151st TT SuperProblem 2015**  
**1st Commendation**



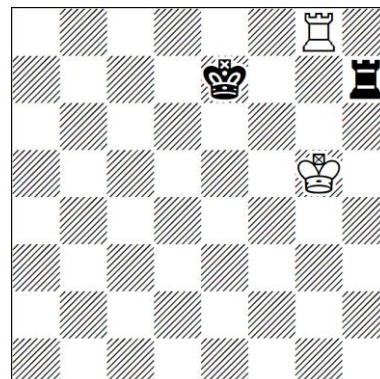
h±2,5      duplex      (7+3)

**[5] Eugene Albert**  
**Ideal-Mate Review 1993**



h±3      duplex      (3+3)

**[6] Eugene A. Dugas**  
**Ideal-Mate Review 1989**



h±2,5      duplex      (2+2)

b) Rg8→g6,  
Rh7→f7

**[4]**

1...Bh8 2.Rg7 Ra6+ 3.Ke5 B×g7±  
1...Rb1 2.Bb2 Be5 3.Kb3 R×b2±

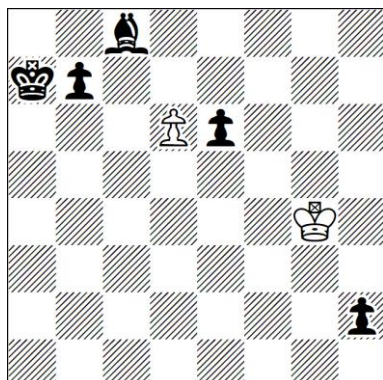
**[5]**

1.Sf4 Kd2 2.Sd5 Ke2 3.Ke4 Bd3±  
1.Kd3 Kf6 2.Ke4 Ke6 3.Bd3 Sg5±

**[6]**

a) 1...Rg6 2.Ke8 Kf6 3.Rd7 Rg8±  
1...Rf7 2.Kh5 Kf6 3.Rg4 Rh7±  
b) 1...Rh6 2.Kf8 Kg6 3.Re7 Rh8±  
1...Rf8 2.Kh6 Kf7 3.Rg5 Rh8±

**[7] Unto Heinonen**  
**Problemkiste 2012**



h±3      duplex      (2+5)

**[7]**

1.h1=Q d7 2.Qh2 d8=Q 3.Qb8 Qa5†

1.d7 h1=R 2.d8=B Rh3 3.Bg5 e5†

**Harry Fougiaxis, 29 January 2022**  
**FIDE International Judge**

Published on [www.frsah.ro/compozitie](http://www.frsah.ro/compozitie) , 24 February 2022