



The 1st Youth Chess Composing Challenge



Group C - Studies

Theme: *As long as possible*

(announcement: <http://www.matplus.net/pub/YCCC2016-1.pdf>)

The requirement of this tournament, "as long as possible" with a specific ending position, was invented in the 1980's when I tried to bring young composers to the demanding area of study composition. The idea of creating a "formula" for the study ranking makes the life of the young composers easier - they know what they are aiming and can compare several settings "scientifically". After looking in the entries that were submitted, I think that the final formula could be slightly more complicated and give a kind of "punishment" for every officer that exists on the board but does not move during the solution.

I received 10 studies . Sadly, I had to eliminate problem no. 1 because it was not thematic. The problem could receive high place but the final position is not thematic.

One study had a dual and I decided to make the solution shorter and to select the first position in the original solution which does not contain any flaw. This reduced the length of the solution, obviously, but kept the study in the award.

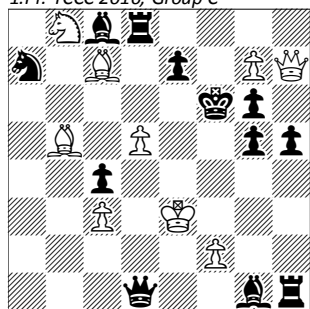
For studies with a repetition of moves or positions, for the purpose of calculating the problem length, I used only the shortest line without any repetition of positions.

Several problems had high level. This is the award:

1st Place

Marko Ložajić

1.Pr. YCCC 2016, Group C



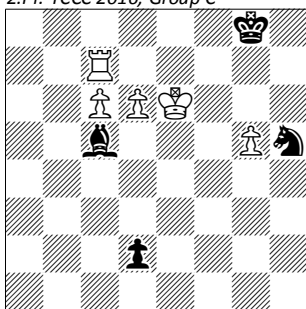
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9+12

2nd Place

Aleksey Abramenko

2.Pr. YCCC 2016, Group C



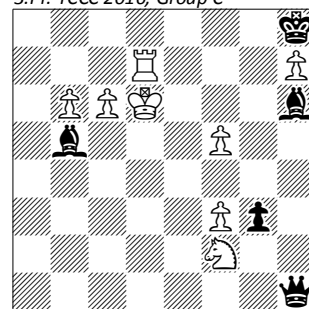
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5+4

3rd Place

Alexey Popov

3.Pr. YCCC 2016, Group C



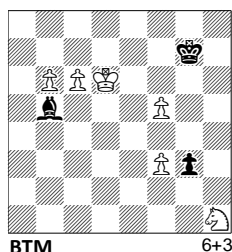
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8+5

1st Prize, Marko Ložajić (Serbia) (length: 16). The artistic quality of this study is not high - a series of checks which ends with a stalemate position which is almost ready in the initial position. However, I admit that the author found a clever way to achieve a very long solution!
1. g8S+ Rxd8 2. Sd7+ Bxd7 3. Be5+ Kf5 4. Qf7+ Kxe5 5. Qxe7+ Kxd5 6. Qd7+ Kc5 (6...Ke5 7. Qe7+ Kf5 8. Bd7+ Qxd7 9. Qxd7+ Kf6 10. Qd4+ =) 7. Qxa7+ Kxb5 8. Qb7+ Ka5 9. Qa7+ Kb5 10. Qb7+ Kc5 11. Qc7+ Kd5 12. Qd7+ Ke5 13. Qe7+ Kf5 14. Qe5+ Kg4 15. Qg3+ Kf5 16. Qe5+ Kxe5 =

2nd Prize, Aleksey Abramenko (Russia) (length: 14). A beautiful problem with a clever try. It is possible to create a longer solution which could shift the problem to the 1st place (e.g.: start with 1.Bc8-e6+ Qc4xe6+ 2.Kf5xe6 d3-d2). But the composer's setting is probably the most elegant way to show his/her idea. After 1.Rc8+ Kh7 white could play 2.Rh8+!? which lose because of 2...Kg6! 3.Rg8+ Sg7+ 4.Rxg7+ Kxg7 and there is an additional wPg5 compared to the main solution after move 6. This pawn destroys the final stalemate. **1. Rc8+ Kh7 2. g6+ Kg7 3.Rg8+ Kh6 4. Rh8+ Kxg6 5. Rg8+ Sg7+ 6.Rxg7+ Kxg7 7. c7 d1Q 8. c8Q Qg4+ 9.Ke7=**

3rd Prize, Alexey Popov (Russia) (length: 11). Another elegant problem. I had to shorten the solution because white could exchange the order of moves 5 and 6 in the original position. White sacrifices 3 pieces to achieve the final stalemate. **1. Rd8+! K:h7 2. Rd7+ Kg8! 3. Rd8+ Kh7 (3. ... Kf7 4. Rd7+ Kf8 5. Rd8+ =; 4. ... Kf6? 5. Se4+ K:f5 6. S:g3+ +-)** **4. Rd7+ Bg7 5. S:h1 g2 6. R:g7+ K:g7 7. f6+ Kg6! 8. f7! K:f7 9. b7 g1Q 10. b8Q Qh2+ 11. Sg3! Q:g3+ 12. f4! Q:f4+ 13. Kd7 Q:b8=** (Try 1. S:h1? g2 2. Rd8+ K:h7 3. Rd7+ Kg8! 4. Rd8+ Kf7! 5. Rd7+ Kf6! -+)



1...g2 2.f6+! Kg6! 3.f7! Kxf7 4.b7 g1=Q! 5.b8=Q Qh2+
6.Sg3! Qxg3+ 7.f4! Qxf4+ 8.Kd7 Qxb8=

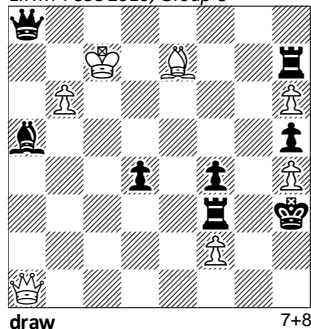
1st HM, Ilija Serafimović (Serbia) (length: 9). A similar approach to the first place - with 9 half moves only. **1.Qh1+ Kg4 2.Qg2+ Kf5 3.Qg5+ Ke6 4.Qf6+ Kd5 5.Qe6+ Kxe6=, 3...Ke4 4.Qg6+ Kd5/Ke5 5.Qe6+ Kxe6=**

2nd HM, Maksim Romanov (Russia) (length: 8). A nice study with several sacrifices. **1. g8Q Bxg8 2. a7 Bd5 3. a8Q Bxc6+ 4. Kxc6 h1Q+ 5. f3 Qxf3+ 6. e4 Qxe4+ 7.Kc7 Qxa8 =**

4th Place

Ilija Serafimović

1.HM YCCC 2016, Group C



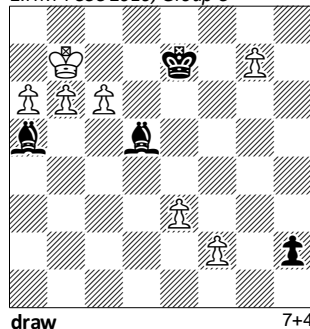
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7+8

5th Place

Maksim Romanov

2.HM YCCC 2016, Group C



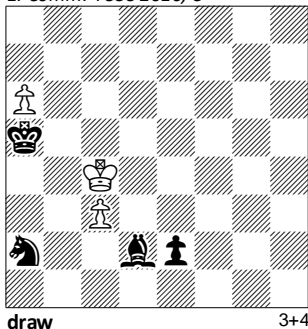
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7+4

6th Place

Maksim Romanov

1. Comm. YCCC 2016, C



draw

3+4

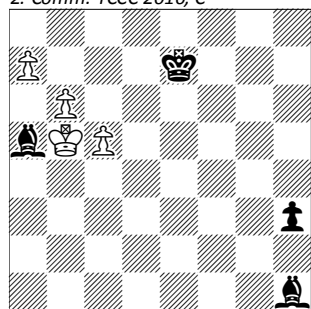
1st Commendation, Maksim Romanov (Russia) (length: 6). **1. a7 e1Q 2. a8Q+ Kb6 3. Qxa2 Qe6+ 4. Kb4 Qxa2 =**

2nd Commendation, Dušan Mijatović (Serbia) (length: 5). **1. c6 Bc6+ 2. Kc6 h2 3. a8Q h1Q+ 4. Kc7 Qa8=**

7th Place

Dušan Mijatović

2. Comm. YCCC 2016, C



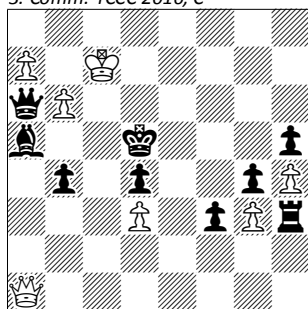
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4+4

8th Place

Ilija Serafimović

3. Comm. YCCC 2016, C



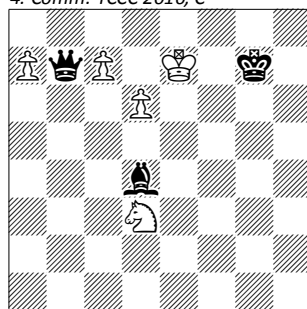
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7+9

9th Place

Dušan Mijatović

4. Comm. YCCC 2016, C



draw

5+3

3rd Commendation, Ilija Serafimović (Serbia) (length: 5). 1.a8Q+ Qxa8 2.Qa2+ b3 3.Qxb3+ Ke5 4.Qe6+ Kxe6=

4th Commendation, Dušan Mijatović (Serbia) (length: 4). 1. Sc5 Bc5 2. a8Q Qa8 3. c8Q Qc8=

Finally, I want to thank Marjan Kovačević for his help in conducting this tourney.

Ofer Comay, Tel Aviv, July 2016.