



THE PUZZLING SIDE OF CHESS

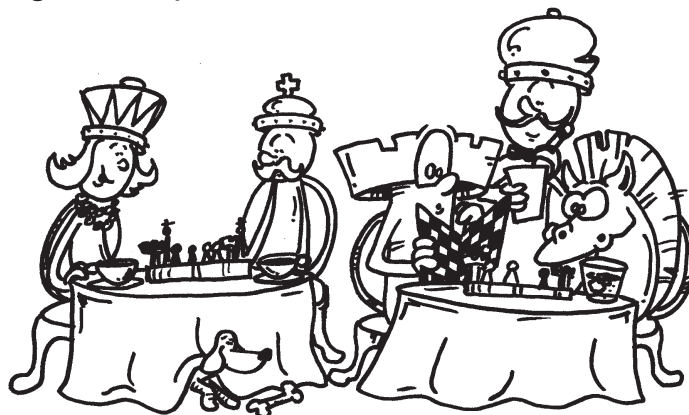
Jeff Coakley

MINOR CONVENIENCE Back Nine

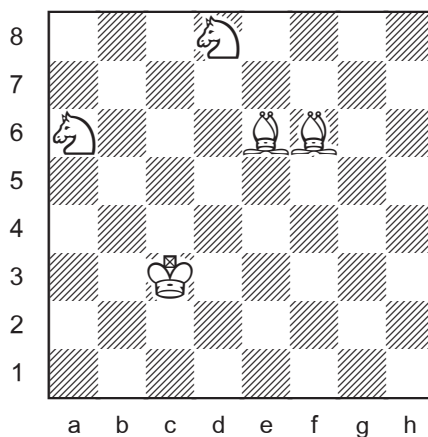
number 71

October 18, 2014

This column picks up where we left off last time, with nine more puzzles involving minor pieces.



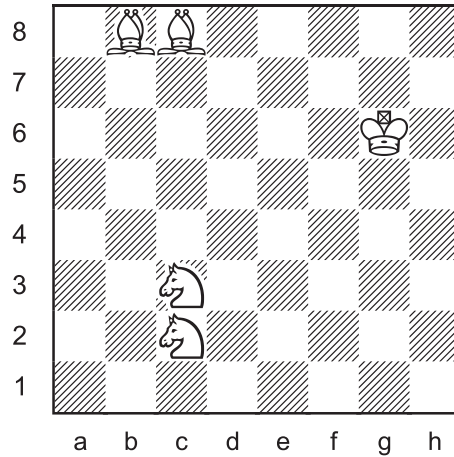
Triple Loyd 37



Place the black king on the board so that:

- Black is in checkmate.
- Black is in stalemate.
- White has a mate in 1.

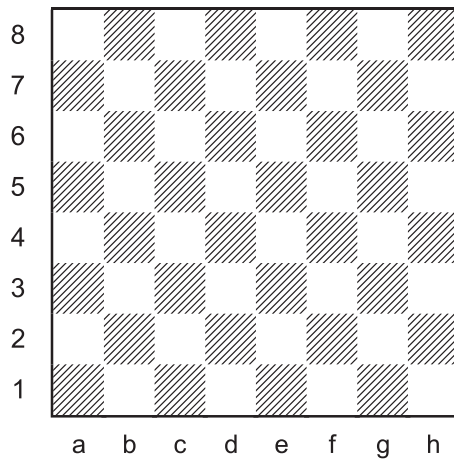
Triple Loyd 38



Place the black king on the board so that:

- A. Black is in checkmate.
- B. Black is in stalemate.
- C. White has a mate in 1.

Eight Minor Defensive Loop

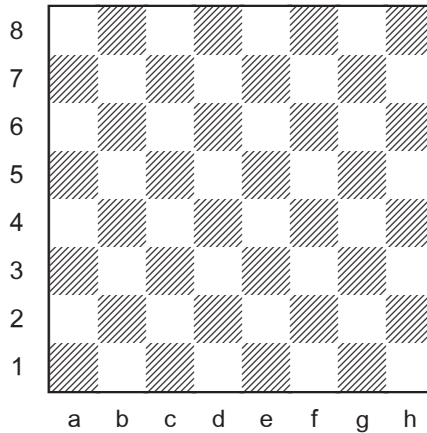


Place four bishops and four knights on the board so that each piece is defended exactly once and each piece defends exactly one other piece. Two of the bishops must be placed on light squares, the other two on dark.

The defensive chain will form a continuous loop.

Throughout the rest of the column, the two bishops must be placed on opposite-coloured squares.

BBNN Square Maximizer

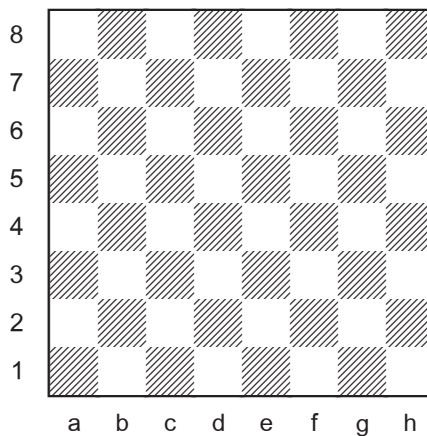


Place two bishops and two knights on the board so that ...

- the most squares are attacked.
- none of the pieces guard each other and the most squares are attacked.
- all of the pieces are guarded and the most squares are attacked.

A reminder for *part a*: a piece does not attack the square it stands on.

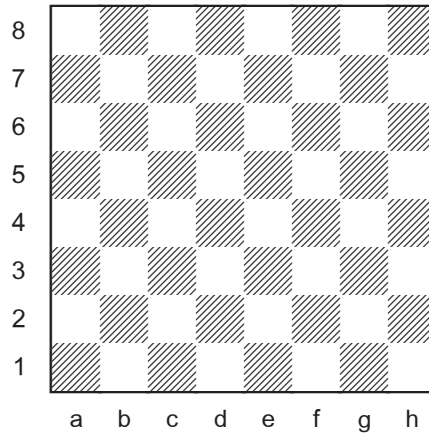
BBNN Square Minimizer



Place two bishops and two knights on the board so that ...

- the fewest squares are attacked.
- none of the pieces guard each other and the fewest squares are attacked.

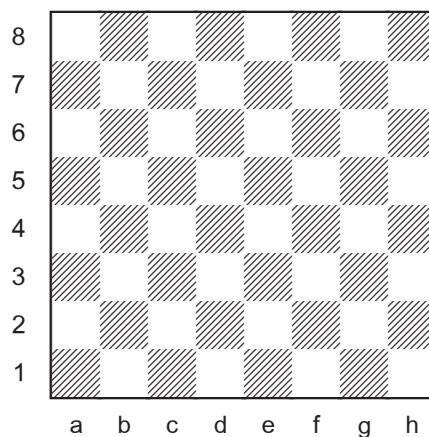
BBNN Rank Attack



Place two bishops and two knights on the board so that ...

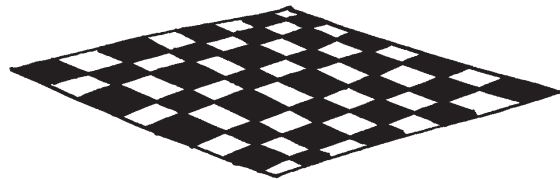
- all squares on the 1st rank are attacked.
- the most squares on the 1st and 2nd ranks are attacked.
- the most squares on the first three ranks are attacked.

BBNN Edge Attack



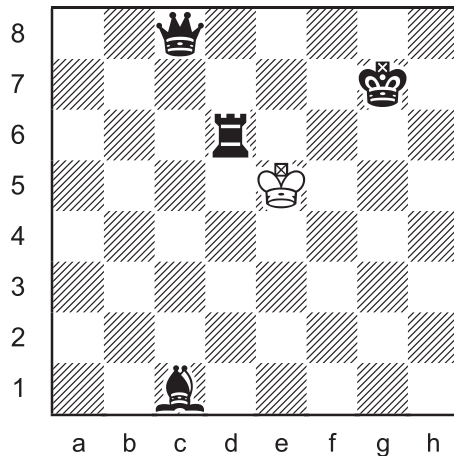
Place two bishops and two knights on the board so that ...

- the most squares along the edge of the board are attacked.
- the fewest squares along the edge of the board are attacked.



Chess rangers to the rescue.

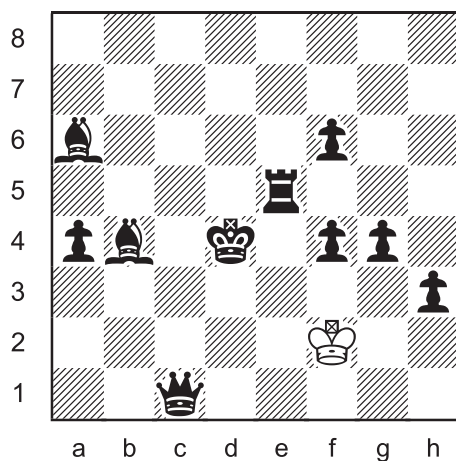
Inverted Loyd 13



Add two white bishops and two white knights so that White has mate in one.

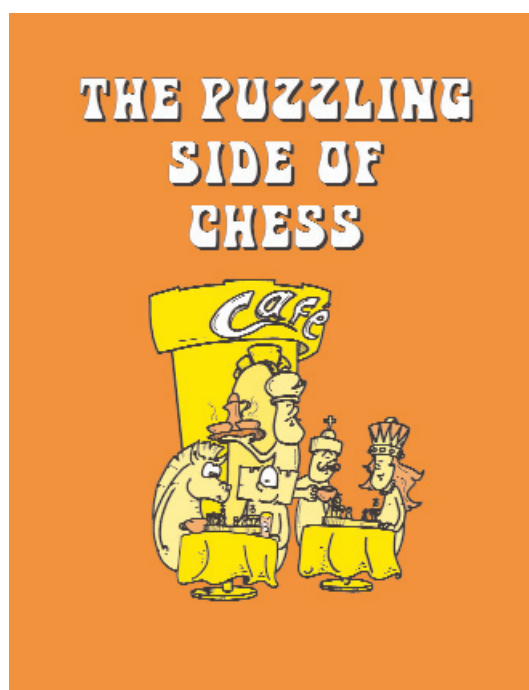
A reminder for anyone who might have skipped ahead to the final problem. The bishops must be placed on different colour squares.

Inverted Loyd 14



Add two white bishops and two white knights so that White has mate in one.

Last call for the *2014 Chess Cafe Puzzlers Cup*.

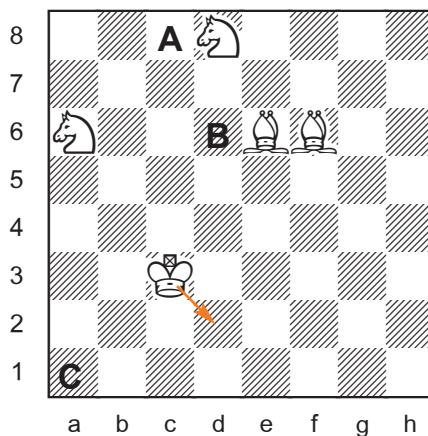


SOLUTIONS

All puzzles by J. Coakley. Triple loyd 37 is from *CoakleyChess.com* (2011), triple loyd 38 from *Winning Chess Puzzles For Kids* (2006). The others are *ChessCafe.com* originals (2014).

PDF Hyperlinks. You can advance to the solution of any puzzle by clicking on the underlined title above the diagram. To return to the puzzle, click on the title above the solution diagram.

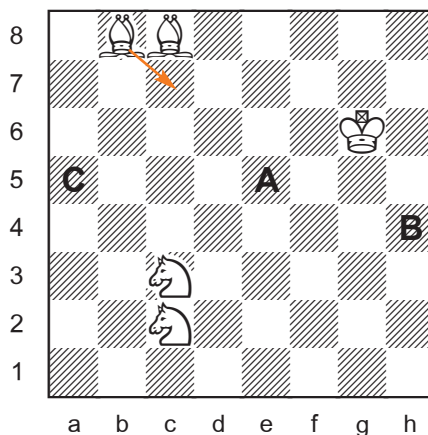
Triple Loyd 37



- A. Kc8#
- B. Kd6=
- C. Ka1 (Kc2#)

Is it possible to get tired of *discovered king mates*?

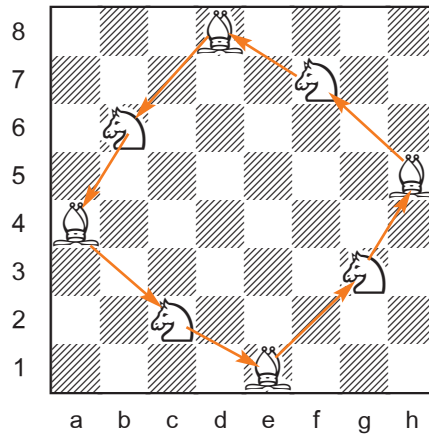
Triple Loyd 38



- A. Ke5#
- B. Kh4=
- C. Ka5 (Bc7#)

Another minor success.

Eight Minor Defensive Loop

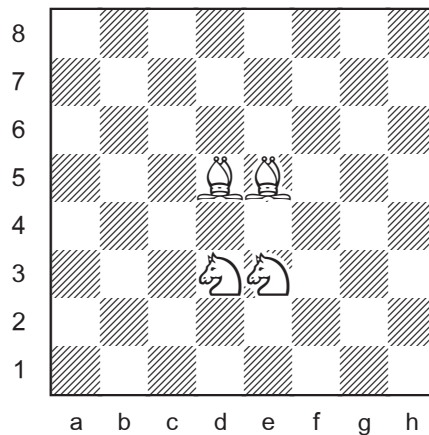


There are numerous solutions. A second symmetrical arrangement is Be1-Nc3-Ba4 Nc6-Bd8-Nf6-Bh5 Nf3.

For other *defensive loops*, see column 67.

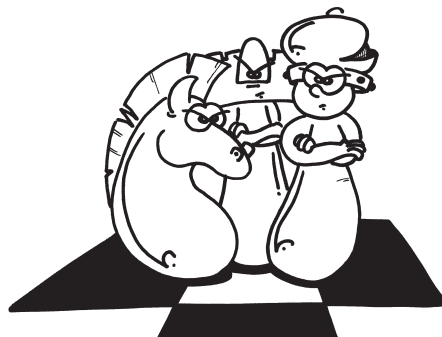
BBNN Square Maximizer

a. most squares attacked



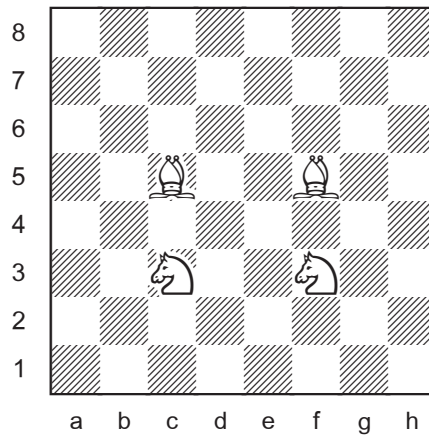
38 attacked squares (including d5 e5)

The pattern is unique. With rotation, there are four different solutions.



BBNN Square Maximizer

b. most squares attacked, no piece guarded

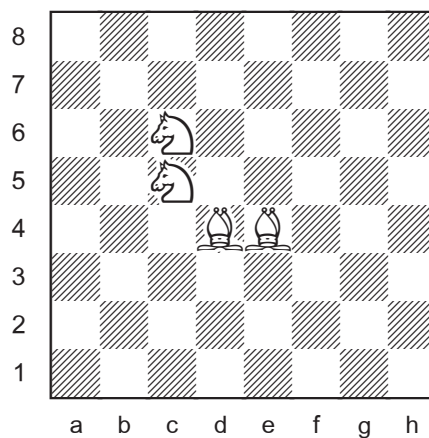


34 attacked squares

There are sixteen patterns (with bishops on opposite colours). Here are the six symmetrical arrangements.

- Nc3 Bc5 Nf3 Bf5 (shown above)
- Bc3 Nc5 Bf3 Nf5
- Nc3 Bd6 Be6 Nf3
- Bc3 Nd6 Ne6 Bf3
- Nc4 Bd4 Be4 Nf4 (solution for “most moves”, column 70)
- Nc7 Bd4 Be4 Nf7

c. most squares attacked, all pieces guarded



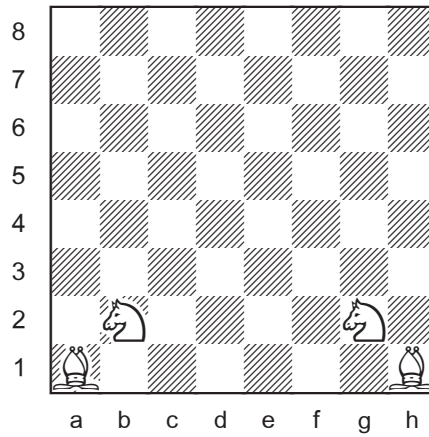
36 attacked squares

There are four patterns. Only the diagrammed position forms a defensive loop.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Bd4 Be4 Nc5 Nc6 (shown above) | Bd4 Be4 Nc5 Ne6 |
| Bd4 Be4 Nb5 Nd6 | Bd4 Bd3 Ne6 Nf4 |

BBNN Square Minimizer

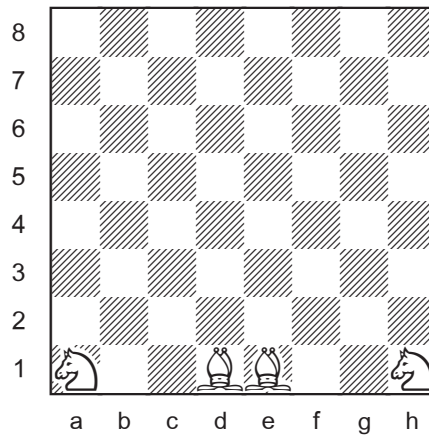
a. fewest attacked squares



10 attacked squares

(Also solution for “fewest moves” column 70).

b. fewest attacked squares, no piece guarded



14 attacked squares

There are three patterns.

Na1 Bd1 Be1 Nh1

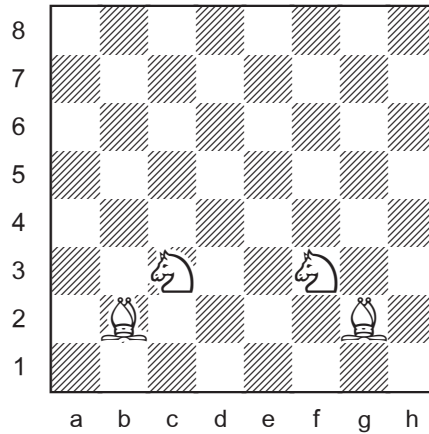
Na1 Ba4 Be1 Nh1

Na1 Ba4 Bh4 Nh1

For more maximizers and minimizers, see columns 63, 67, 70.

BBNN Rank Attack

a. 1st rank



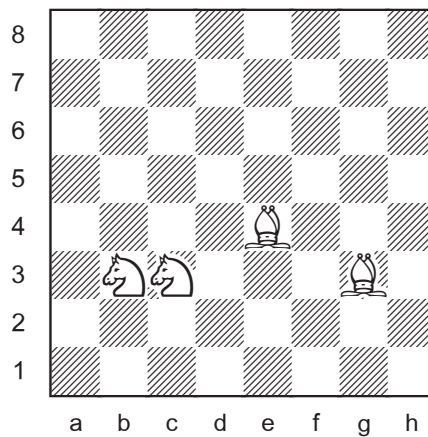
All squares on the 1st rank are attacked.

Other solutions:

Nb3 Bc2 Bf2 Ng3

Bb2 Bc2 Nf3 Ng3

b. 1st & 2nd ranks



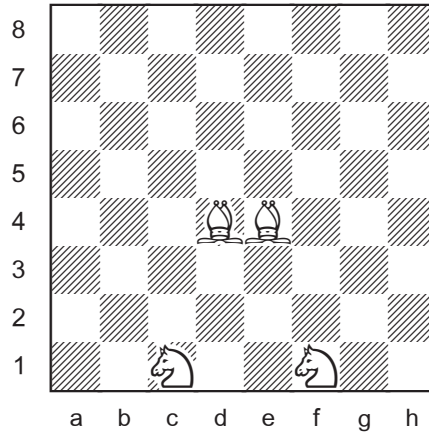
13 squares on the 1st and 2nd ranks are attacked.

Only b2, f1, g1 are not attacked.

The solution is unique (and reflectible).

BBNN Rank Attack

c. 1st, 2nd, & 3rd ranks



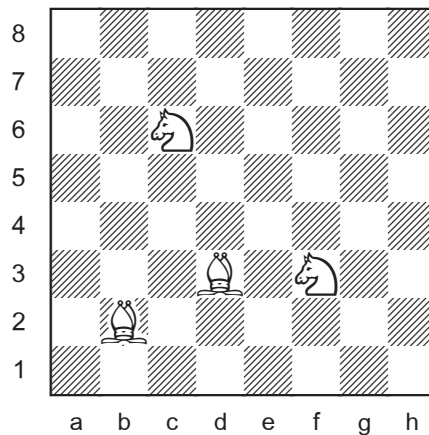
18 squares on the first three ranks are attacked.

The six unattacked squares are a3 c1 d1 e1 f1 h3.

This solution is totally unique (non-reflectible).

BBNN Edge Attack

a. most squares

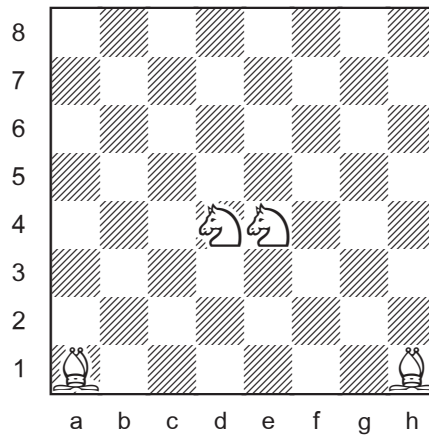


16 edge squares are attacked.

The two knights must either be on f3 and c6, or on c3 and f6. In this diagram, the dark-square bishop could also be on g7. The light-square bishop has eight different options.

BBNN Edge Attack

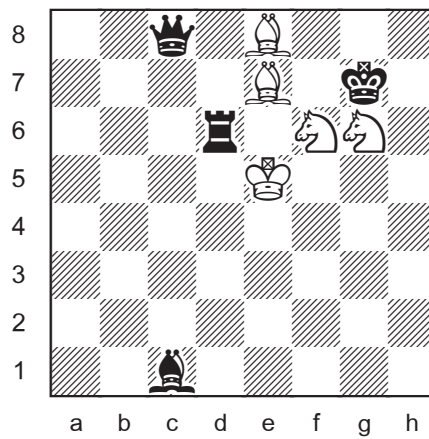
b. fewest squares



Zero edge squares are attacked.

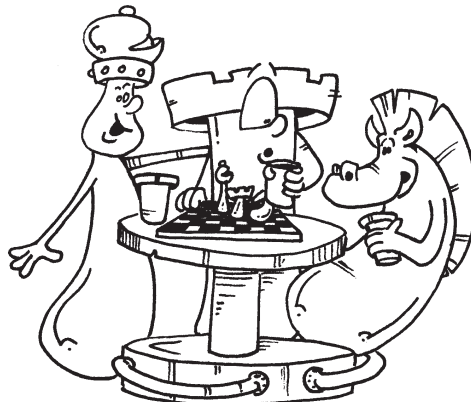
The knights could also stand on d5 e5, on d4 d5, or on e4 e5.

Inverted Loyd 13

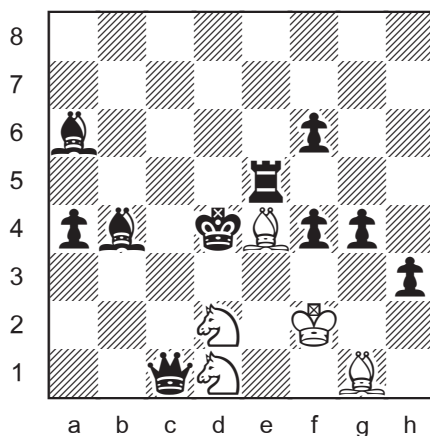


Add Be7 Be8 Nf6 Ng6

1.Bf8#



Inverted Loyd 14



Add Be4 Bg1 Nd1 Nd2
1.Ke1#

Triple obstructions set up the coveted *discovered king mate*.

“Incorrect solutions” with bishops on the same colour include Ba2 Bc2 Ne4 Nb8 (1.Nc6#) and Ba8 Bb5 Ne4 Ng1 (1.Ne2#).

For more *inverted loyds*, see column 68.

Until next time!

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