

Towards a Problem Chess Bibliography

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A Few Use Cases

“A **use case** is a structured description of a system’s behavior as it responds to requests from external actors, aiming to achieve a specific goal.” (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Use_case)

Let’s put together some possible *requests* from *external actors* (here not so surprising: *problemists*) when they prepare any kind of publication, the *specific goal*.

Use Case 1

- As an author writing about problem chess (*actor*)
- I want to dive into the work of a specific problemist (*request*)
- To be able to follow his career as a composer of excellent selfmates (*goal*).

Use Case 2

- As a chess problem composer (*actor*)
- I want to learn about the development of a specific two movers theme (*request*)
- To get a accurate and deep understanding of its historical development (*goal*).

How to Reach these Goals?

- Find relevant chess problems (by the problemist / of the theme) – supported by huge problem databases (PDB, YACPDB, WinChloe, ...)
- Find relevant information (by or about the problemist / of the theme) – supported by ???

So Wouldn't it be Nice

- To have something like the problem database for articles on problem chess?
- A problem article database with information on information in published texts, articles?
- Just a Problem Chess Bibliography ...

Problem Chess Bibliography

- Huge task to collect and document it
- Most important: Make it possible to retrieve relevant information from the collection
- Different perspectives on the collection, e.g.
 - names (authors / “objects” of an article)
 - formal properties
 - content-related properties
- INDEXING!!

Problem Chess Bibliography: First Thoughts

- Valuable contribution to problem chess development and (historical) research.
- It's all but a one-man-show; in the first step a Concept Team is required to develop a viable concept
 - organisation of the work
 - technical foundation
- And, in the next step, a Collecting Team will be necessary to collect and document the articles in a reusable form.

Concept Team

- To avoid an unstructured mass of information partition the huge amount of articles into handier subsets, e.g.
 - according to Album sections A to H – with any subsections?
 - additional grouping?
- To be able to retrieve information well structured INDEXING is absolutely necessary!

Concept Team (II)

- Concepts for organisation of the work
 - avoid double gathering
 - “put all together”
- Technical base and concept for data recording
 - first idea: based on BibLaTeX, putting together via git
 - Free (quasi-)standards with excellent support by tools

Next steps

- Find volunteers (3 – 5 people) for the Concept Team
- Sharpen the first ideas
 - organisation
 - technique
- Think about “staffing” the Collecting Team
- First “strategy meeting”: second half of September as a video conference

Further Info

- These slides will be provided for download at the WCCC website:

<https://www.wccc2026.de/lectures/>



- For further questions and ideas just mail me:

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