

PULZE

BREATHING LIFE INTO PUZZLES

Welcome Issue



OVER
90
PUZZLES

PULZE

ようこそ

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OF PUZZLES

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Welcome Issue



PUZZLES

WEATHER FORECAST



SUNNY

NICE & SIMPLE.
BEGINNER FRIENDLY.



CLOUDY

USE PEN AT
YOUR OWN RISK.



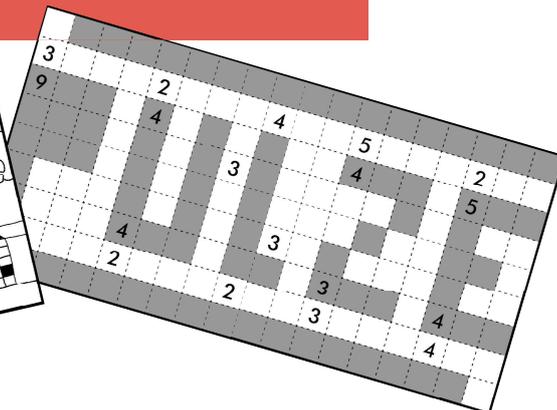
RAIN

BRING UMBRELLA.



STORM

SEEK SHELTER
AND ERASERS.



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DETUNED RADIO



At least two World Championships have now been cancelled by the coronavirus pandemic. With no signs of face-to-face puzzle events in the near future, UK puzzle team member **TOM COLLYER** shares how puzzlers have been adjusting to the new normal.

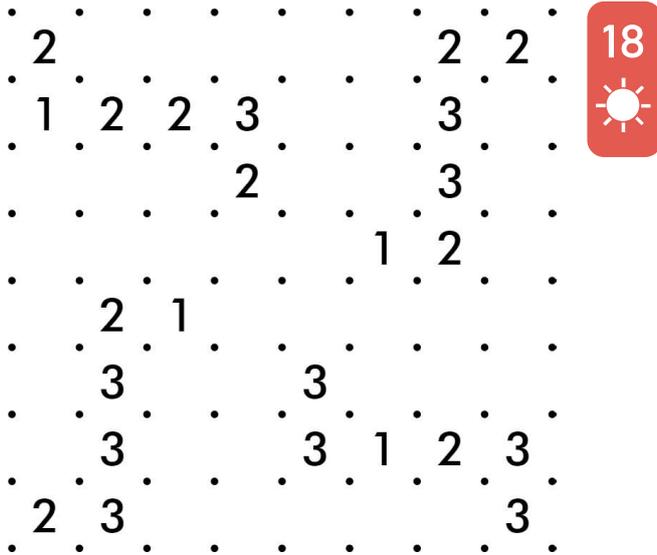
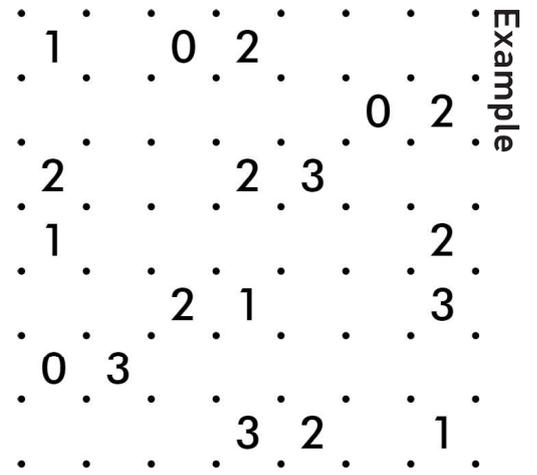
Puzzling during the Pandemic

I'd like to start my first column by thanking the Pulze team for giving me the opportunity to be a part of such an exciting project, and to briefly interrupt you as you solve these wonderful puzzles. As I write here in London, the Spring is ahead of us and there are signs that the miseries of the pandemic will soon be behind us. It's amazing to think that the last time I crossed a border was during a trip to Germany for the World Championships in 2019. A lot has changed in the world of puzzling since then!

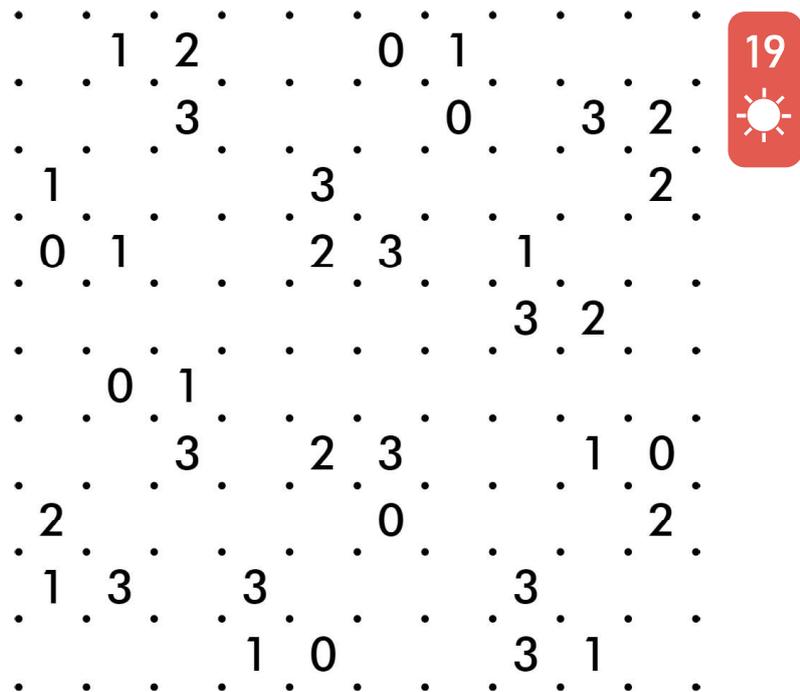
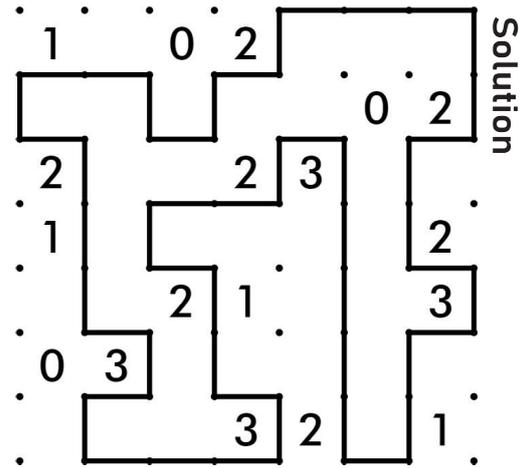
Today the idea of gathering a couple of hundred of brilliant puzzle solving enthusiasts from all corners of the globe under a single roof for a whole week still feels like the final piece in the jigsaw puzzle of returning to normal. In-person puzzle competitions have been one of the most obvious casualties of the pandemic, and for those of us lucky enough to have previously participated, I think I speak for us all in saying I cannot wait to have the opportunity to meet again.

Slitherlink

Draw a single, non-intersecting loop by connecting horizontally or vertically adjacent dots. Numbers indicate how many edges of that cell are used by the loop. The loop cannot touch itself at any point and never branches off.



 Murat Can Tonta



 Tawan Sunathvanichkul

Tapa

Shade some empty cells black to create a single contiguous wall. Numbers in a cell indicate the length of consecutive shaded blocks in the eight-surrounding cells. If there is more than one number in a cell, then there must be at least one white (unshaded) cell between the black cell groups. Cells with numbers cannot be shaded, and shaded cells cannot form a 2x2 square anywhere in the grid.

			1 ₁	4	
		6			
5			1 ₂ 2 ₂		
		2 ₃			5
0		1 ₁			

Example

			1 ₁	4	
		6			
5			1 ₂ 2 ₂		
		2 ₃			5
0		1 ₁			

Solution

	3							43
			1 ₄					
				3 ₃				
						2 ₂		
3								
		1 ₄						
				3 ₃				
						2 ₂		

Bram de Laat

Eric Fox

								44
		4		1 ₃				
	3					4		
				1 ₃				
			2 ₃					
	1 ₃					4		
		5		1 ₂				

Joseph Howard

	2 ₂			2				1 ₁ 1 ₁	
					7				
	2 ₄							1 ₄	
	2 ₃							2 ₃	
				2					
	1 ₄				7			1 ₄	

45





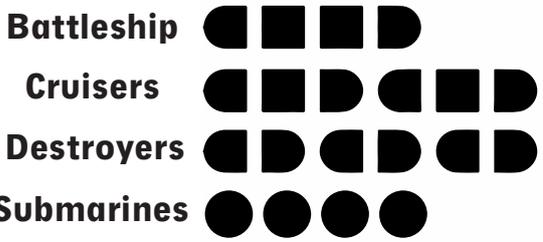
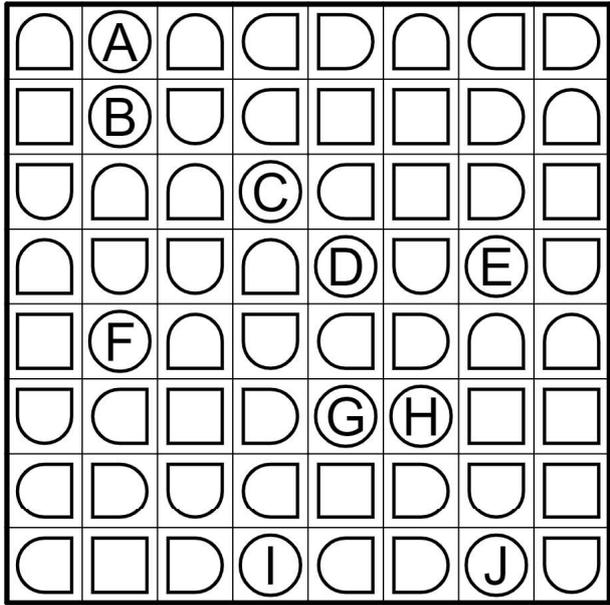
MASTERCLASS

Take your seats!

Masterclass offers readers to crane over the shoulders of expert puzzle solvers as they take you through their thought process while solving a competition puzzle. Veteran **Nikola Zivanovic** shares a very nice hack to a hard Retrograde Battleships from last year's World Sudoku + Puzzle Convention. Over at page 42, world top ten solver **Sinchai Rungsangrattanakul** shows how to take down Bust Sudoku.

Retrograde Battleships

Locate a fleet of battleships in the grid. Each ship segment occupies a single cell. Ships can be placed horizontally or vertically but not diagonally. Different ships cannot touch each other, not even diagonally. Possible outlines of ship segments are given in the grid. If a cell is used, it must be of that given segment. (Letters are only for answer key purposes, ignore while solving.)



Tawan Sunathvanichkul 
WS+PC 2021 / Bonus Round

For more information on the World Puzzle Convention, visit logicmastersindia.com/WSPC2021



Moving over to the right side there is an outside 7. We know that the furthest 3 cells are 7,8 and 9 so these can be filled in.

			6	5	5				
3	6 ⁹	6 ⁹	7	2 ¹	4			8	
			8				2	9	6
	2	13						7	
		123							
4	5 ²	23		1	2 ²				9
	3							5	
6		6					9		
				3					4
			4	6	3	7			

We can also fill in 5 in R2C2. Consider the second row with an outside 6. Again, we must take the conservative approach and not reach 21 before the sixth cell. The best we can do is to minimize R2C5, R2C6 and R2C9. This results in 6 in R2C5, while 1 and 3 will be housed in the other two cells. This combination adds up to 21 and must be correct, because if we go any higher the outside clue cannot be a 6.

			6	5	5				
3	6 ⁹	6 ⁹	7	2 ¹	4			8	
	5	8		6	13	2	9	13	6
	2	13						7	
		123							
4	5 ²	23		1	2 ²				9
	3							5	
6		6					9		
				3					4
			4	6	3	7			

Now only the (2,9) combination can satisfy the 21-cage of column 5. We can also fill in a few numbers in the top using basic Sudoku techniques.

			6	5	5				
3	6 ⁹	6 ⁹	7	2 ¹	4			8	
	4	5	8	7	6	13	2	9	13
	13	2	13		9			7	
		123			2				
4	5 ²	23		1	2 ²				9
	3							5	
6		6					9		
				3					4
			4	6	3	7			

We have already established that an outside 3 meant the first three cells must sum to 22 or more. Thus, the first three bottom cells from column 6 cannot take in low numbers like 1 or 2. Therefore, R1C6 is 2 and R2C6 is 1. The left hand 22-cage can now be filled in after placing 2 in R5C3, only the (7,8) combination can satisfy the cage.

			6	5	5				
3	6 ⁹	6 ⁹	7	2 ¹	4	2		8	
	4	5	8	7	6	1	2	9	3
	13	2	13		9			7	
		13			2				
4	5 ²	7	2	8	1	2 ²			9
	3							5	
6		6					9		
				3					4
			4	6	3	7			

The central top 3x3 region can now be filled in which leaves only (6,7,9) to satisfy the outside 3 of the sixth column. We can fill in 5 and 8 in the central bottom 3x3 region forcing 7 into R6C5.

Repeating the same conservative strategy on the outside 6 on the eighth row, we see that it already contains 6 and 5. Squeezing in 8 would have the sum exceeding 21 so 8 is pushed into R8C9.

67 

6	2					3
						5
3						
3					2	4

 Murat Can Tonta

Prasanna Seshadri 

68 

			2				
	3						
			5			4	
1							
				5			1
	3			3			
							4
		4		3			
							3
					1		

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3			2			4			5					2			
9			4						4					5			
						3											
							3										
9			4						3					4			
3			2			2			3					4			

Chiel Beenhakker 

CONTEST



ORDER UP!

Table for one please. The listed foods can be found in the grid on the next page. However, this is not a typical word search. It is part of the puzzle to figure out the correct approach to this multicourse meal. If done correctly, whatever remains in your plate, when read from top to bottom and left to right, will give a hint to the contest question: **Where are you having this dinner?**

Submit your answer to www.tam-box.com/contest to enter the competition. One entry per person please. 1 lucky winner will win a \$50 Grandmaster Puzzles gift card. 3 runners-up will receive a copy of Nikoli Pencil Puzzles 2022. Winners are decided by random draw. Submissions close on 29th July 2022. Winners will be announced in the next issue of PULZE as well as the magazine's website. Terms and conditions are on page 3.



Desserts

CARROT CAKE
COCKTAILS
ORANGE JUICE
PANCAKES
SUNDAE
YOGHURT

Hors d'oeuvre

CHEESE PLATE
JULIENNE
LOW SALT SALMON
MUSHROOMS
SOFT CAVIAR
STOLICHNYI SALAD

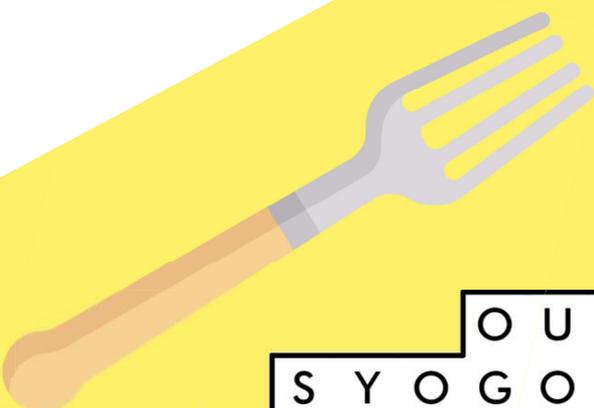
Palate Cleanser

BOILED RICE
BORSCH
BROWN BREAD
CUCUMBERS
SMOKED SAUSAGE
VEAL LEG

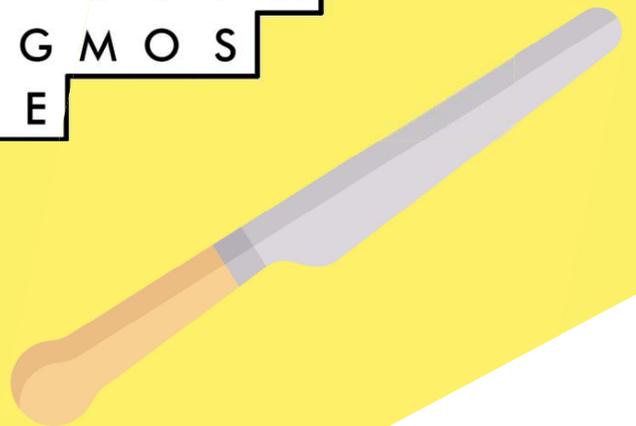
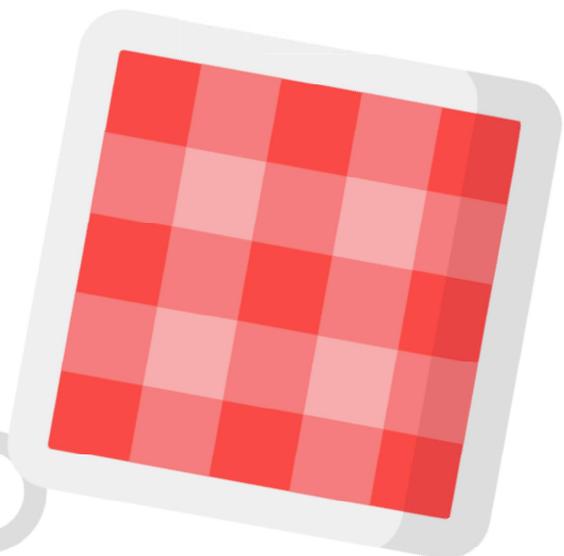
Main Course

FILLET CHICKEN
NOODLE SOUP
OMELETTE
PORK ESCALOPE
SICILIAN SCHNITZEL
UNDERCUT STEAK

CONTEST



O U B T S
S Y O G O C H M U R T
K S M O O R H S U M T H E
D A A E R B N E W O R B E C C
W I E E S N D D E O K W I E I U F
E S T C V L A E S A E D N P U I S
A T S B O I L L E E D R I O L C E
L E Z T I N H A C P S N A I L I C I S
L O W S A L T S A L M O N E A R U P D
H I V U K E O I S A T S T O A J U K I
S L I C A T L Y K T C C O I C O M C N
S I J U L I E N N E H A V X S E B D A
Y S R C F R H E I O A M E E G E N
O W E N T H C C M C U L E K N R V
E K D A C T I O T O D R R R A S C
I N P E K L F W O S W I O R L
U G E E O L O L A E V P O
N L S T N B E G M O S
S C O W E



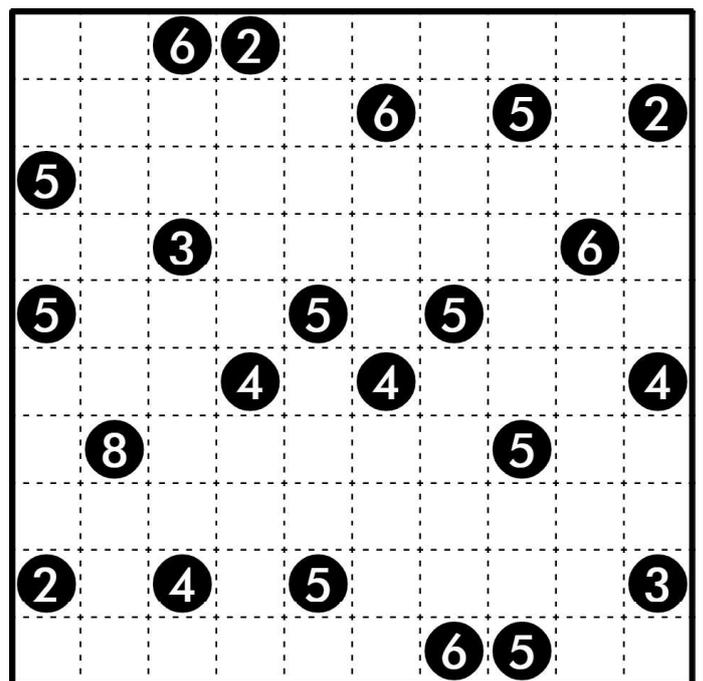
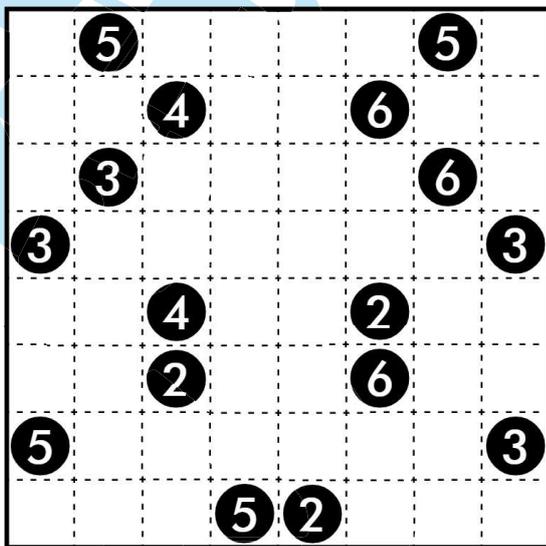
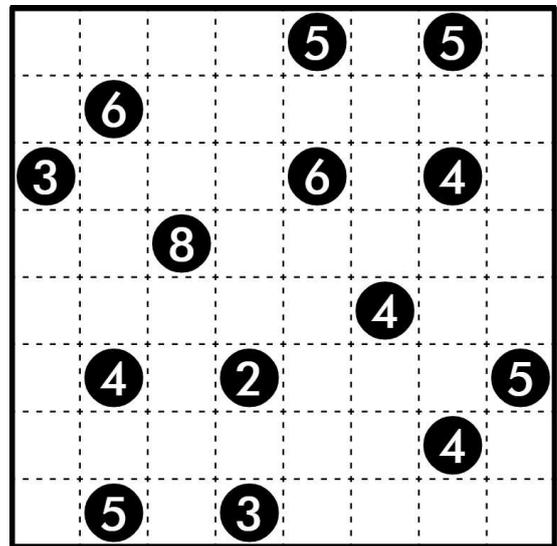
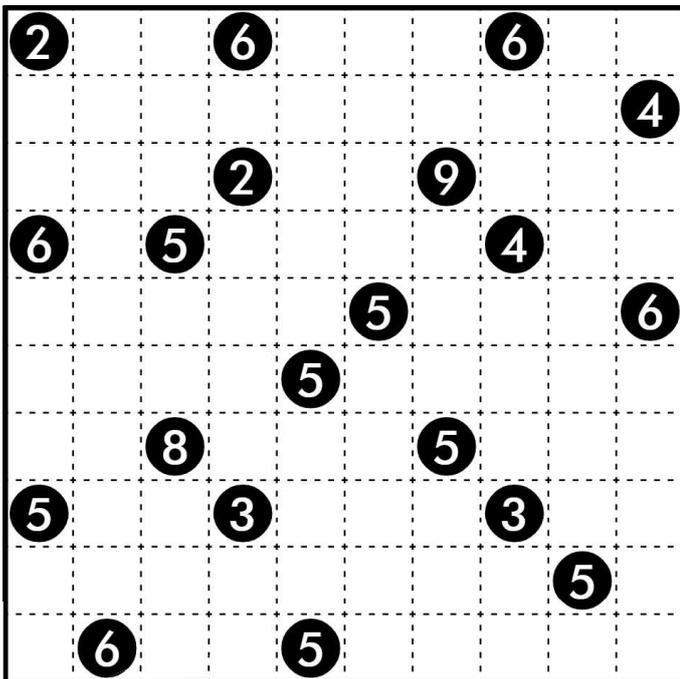
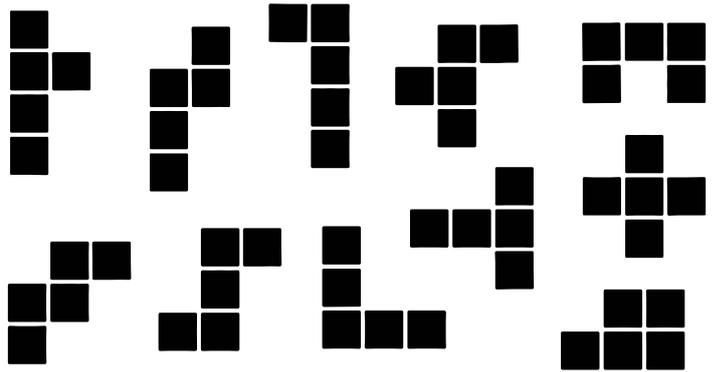
TITANOMACHY

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Shikaku Impostors

Normal Shikaku rules apply. (See page 48). However, across the four grids there are 11 impostors disguised as Shikaku clues. 11 of the "5" clues are actually pentomino pieces and all the pieces appear exactly once across all four grids. The remaining "5" clues are normal Shikaku clues (shaped like the "I" piece).



Tawan Sunathvanichkul