Golois wins Phantom Go tournament

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A computer Phantom Go tournament was held as part of the 2009 Computer Olympiad, on May 12th, in Pamplona, Spain. In Phantom Go, one plays Go without knowing the opponent moves. One discovers the opponent position when the referee tells him a move is illegal as he tries to play it, he is then able to choose another move.

The two programs that participated are BIT by Hao Cui, Liang Li, Ruijian Wang and Siran Lin, from the Beijing Institute of Technology, and GOLOIS by Tristan Cazenave. Both programs are Monte-Carlo programs.

GOLOIS won all of its four games against BIT, so GOLOIS was awarded the gold medal and BIT the silver medal.

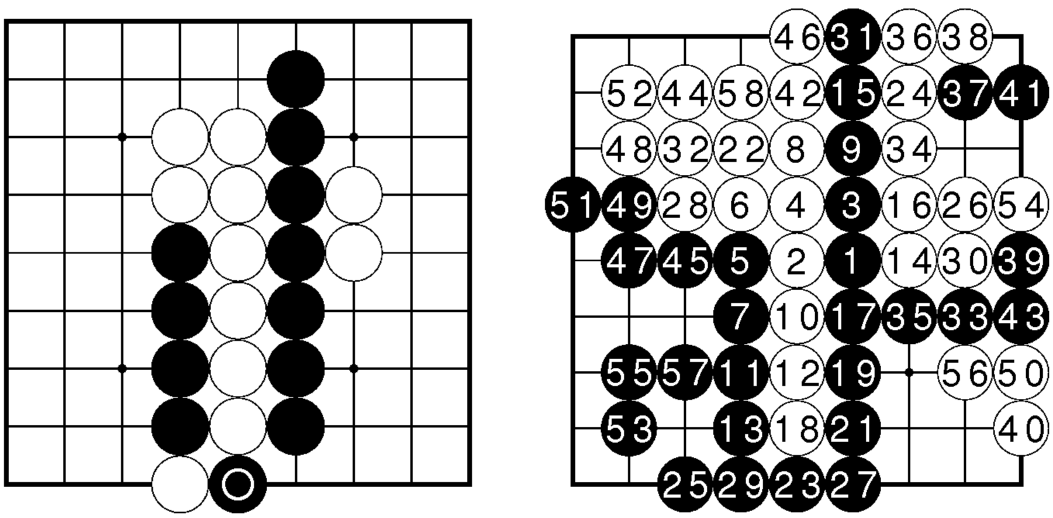

Figure 1: The winning move of game 3 and the complete game.

In the third game, GOLOIS was black and had a bad position until move 25. Figure 1 gives the position at move 23. BIT had the lead in that position but did not bother about closing its boundary on the first line. GOLOIS threatened to connect at move 23 and as the move was not answered, it connected its two groups with move 25 which made the game much easier. The game ended with GOLOIS killing BIT nicely with a nakade in the upper right corner.