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Antivirus – virology used

[scheherazade](#) (7:00 Monday, June 27, 2011)



Virology beginnings can be traced back in antiquity, as evidenced by a document written before about 1400 BC, found at Memphis (the capital of ancient Egypt), and showing a man with symptoms of polio. In China, already before 1000 BC started the first attempts at vaccination against smallpox. The turning point in the study of viruses has been the introduction in 1925, methods of cell culture and multiplication of viruses in them, and in 1939 constructed the first electron microscope. Today,

scientists know very much about viruses, methods of propagation, the defense mechanisms of organisms. All this is very complicated, and go into the textbooks of molecular virology will be replaced by solving the biological puzzle. My hypothesis that the series SmartGames antivirus may not be as complicated as the host antiviral defense mechanisms. Although ... it is about time for verification.

Antivirus puzzle was published in 2009, and by publishing Granna also went through the Polish edition. The world has won several awards, including Belgian "Fun Award" in 2010, and the U.S. "Best New Puzzle of 2011" granted by Games Magazine in December 2010 Antivirus has been designed by renowned Dutch designer, spatial puzzles, van Deventer Oskar'a, and inspired by the puzzle of sliding elements and the Rush Hour puzzle. And so in April 2003 was the first draft of a concept, and the prototype in August. Collaboration with James Stephens brought the first job that later were developed. Selection and testing took himself Raf Peeters.

Construction of the virus.

Series SmartGames me accustomed to the high quality of their products. Actually, I never had reservations in relation to the implementation of puzzles, and sometimes just too thin ponarzekąłam pages in the booklet with the tasks, especially those that were intended for children. Antivirus does not deviate from the standards of quality. The elements are made very precyzyjnie and aesthetically. Booklet with tasks is printed on thicker paper, making it more stable. Glory to the publisher for it! The puzzle includes: game board, the virus in red and 11 molecules, instruction and a small bag handy while traveling. The attention attracted by all the elements, but I'll start from the board. It is divided into 25 fields using a corrugated surface – it looks like a snowy land full of hills and valleys. This form is very important in the course of problem solving because it allows a smooth shift of moving parts (the virus and 9 molecules) without removing them from the board. At the same time prevents you from making illegal moves such as rotation in the plane, moving horizontally and vertically. So you can only make a move in 4 directions oblique. The board also has an open corner, which can be extended by a virus or a



Prototype



The board

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Games Fanatic
Karta promocyjna od Dominiona rozdawana na konwencie Origins Game Fair (USA, 11.06). Tera ma być podobno dostępna w różnych językach. Nie wiadomo, czy w polskim również.



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[GRAMY Festival](#) 5-6 November 2011, Gdynia

Game of the Year Award

Game of the Year is awarded to the most important industry award for the best board game published in Poland last year.

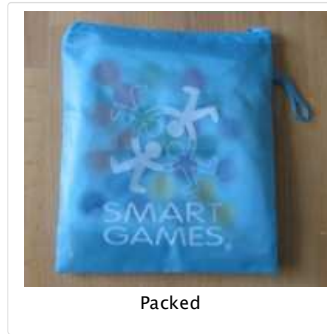


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Game of the Year Award in 2011 received the game [God's Playground](#) (Phalanx Games Poland).



Player award in the public vote coincided with the game [Warhammer: Invasion](#) (Publisher galactans).



Packed



Unpacking

Looking at the appearance of moving parts remind me of a biology lesson on viruses. Virion, the active unit of the virus, is made up essentially of two components: a protein coat (capsid), okrywającego most important part - the nucleic acid. Look looks like our virus: protein (Kowa) and the sheath around a red interior. The red color is energy, awakening, in a negative sense is aggression. Perfectly fits the theme. Other molecules are different, eye-friendly colors. All are made in such a way as to perfectly fit to the corrugated board. In addition, each molecule is divided into several parts - the circular shape and form pits. Another great patent. Just a well put fingers in the depressions to smoothly move the elements around the board. Molecules have different shapes, there are different lengths, so the effect of shifting is also different. All these elements I have are large enough that it does not tire your eyes, as was the case with IQ-Twist puzzle. Standard tasks are divided into levels of difficulty - in Antywirusie get 60 tasks divided into 5 stages: starter, junior, expert, master wizard. The solutions are collected at the end user in the form of description: the number of molecules, the direction and amount of movement.

Defense mechanisms.



Defense mechanisms

In the description of the elements I use the word "molecule", which does not appear in the Polish edition. The rear part of the box suggests that all moving parts are viruses! Bearing in mind the goal of the game, namely the elimination of the virus through the open red corner board and cursory knowledge of biology, I can not agree with this statement. Defense mechanisms against viruses organisms are very complicated and certainly not take place with the participation of other viruses. Yes, they are probably the three known cases of viruses that need to multiply the presence of other viruses,

thereby inhibiting their replication, but do not destroy themselves. Therefore, in our game is a virus, and other moving parts of the molecules, which are substances the body's defense counterparts. Let us return to the mechanics of removing the red virus. The task is to use a variable number of molecules - including the virus is from 3 to 7, different shapes, movable or immovable, or just moving molecules. Maximum number of fields covered is 16 - in this case is only 9 fields allow motion. The more free space, the solution is easier. The task is to maneuver such molecules to create a virus free way to an open grid-cell corners. Earlier I mentioned that the movement is done very smoothly. When you move the items in the wrong direction, but in accordance with the principles of our movement, we can withdraw without any consequences. It turned out that in comparison with computer-calculated movements, for a given task, the number of my moves were every time incomparably great. As a curiosity, I will give that amount of movement varies from 11 to approximately 130th



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The solution time: 7 sec



Time Solutions: shame to admit

Tasks from the starter solved in less than 40 seconds, with subsequent levels of the time is lengthened. Tasks solved with an expert level on average in about 2 minutes. However, already at this level there are tasks that were difficult. The next level will not say, because time resolution moooooo somehow extended. Especially at the level of the wizard. Solving is subjective. Everyone does it differently and with different speed. Time measured only out of curiosity, but on the last page of this manual is a place for his quotation. It is against the dissolution of each task, take a moment to analyze: where to move the molecule, which is the first move, you can move the whole group of molecules (traffic allowed). If you are present on the board stationary items, you need to think which way the virus can be derived, as they restrict the movements of other elements, particularly large ones.

Is it worth to be virologist?

Of all the puzzles in a series SmartGames that resolved, I like best is just Antivirus. Not just me. Topics suitable for the mechanics, the elements are well-made, technical solution to how to move items is amazing. Tasks solved with great pleasure, do not get tired, pull. When the solution of the task is hard, man does not become discouraged. Do not even occurred to me moments of frustration. Slightly - nice, hard and too nice. This puzzle is very dynamic, it has no time for boredom is just hard work of the head and hands. Thanks to improve logical thinking, perception, imagination. Therefore, it is a good tool for the older children (as recommended by 7 years of age), of course, also for adults. With full knowledge of the claim that this is a brilliant idea to spend your time. And how creative!



And I became a virologist

Out of curiosity zagładnełam to "Fundamentals of molecular virology." I tried to read the chapter on the defense mechanisms of organisms against viruses and I decided that this is so complex that will seek solutions to tasks from within the wizard. Match of the task at this level ... I went back to reading. So how do I confirm my hypothesis?

I Liked by 4 people.

Overall rating:



The complexity of the game:



Visuals:



Thank distributor - the company Granna - for handing the game to review.



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2 comments

1. **Furan** 22:33, June 27, 2011

Great review (although it hurts me somehow use the word molecule – to something other than a molecule, but it is a wine *osłuchania*).
And if compares to the Titanic?

2. **scheherazade** 00:00, June 28, 2011

In the English version just use the word molecule, and it is more accurate than the determination viruses. For the average person's imagination also works better this word (something small and associated with chemistry) than eg interferon, protein kinase, dsRNA molecules, and other mysterious names of defense mechanisms.



And what about the Titanic – in 2 weeks will be reviewed, so please be patient.

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