

ADVANCED LEVEL PART 2

23. Mating Motif (Mate along open files, Boden's mate)

Mate along open file

An open file in chess is a file with no pawns of either color on it. Mate along open file is a position when two major pieces (rook+queen or two rooks) attacking along with the open files or rank and forcing the opponent king to the edge of the board and performing checkmate.

The following examples will give a better explanation

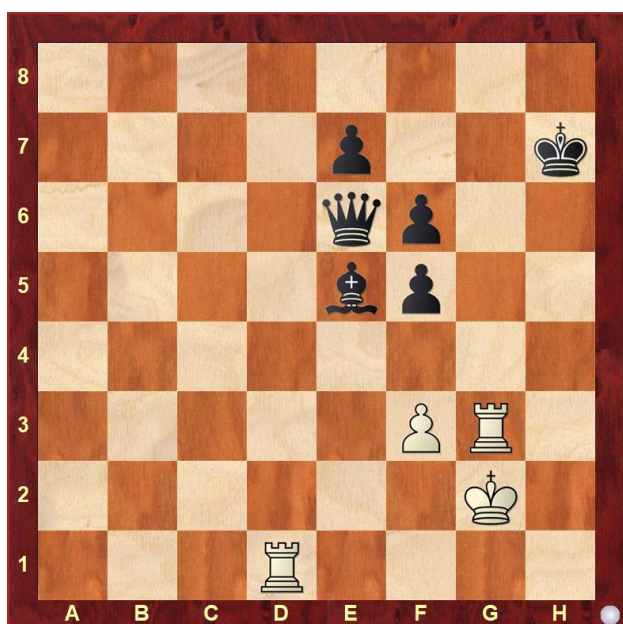


Diagram 8.1

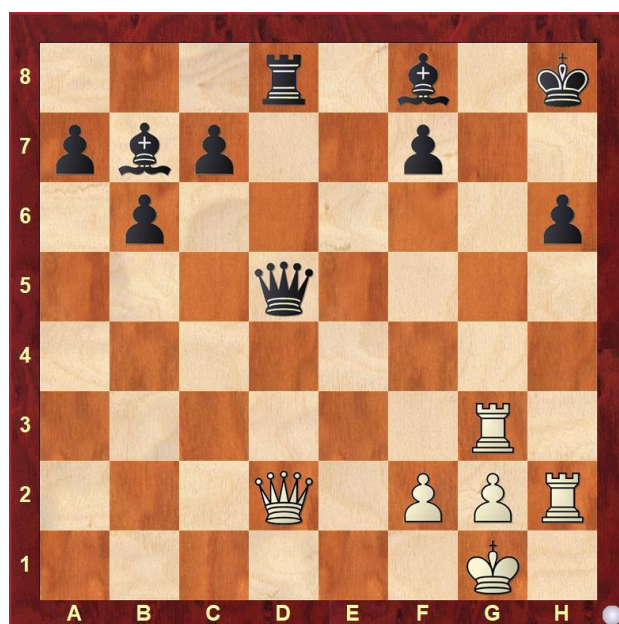


Diagram 8.2

In diagram 8.1, we can observe that the white rook at g3 is blocking the entire 'g' file. Therefore, white can perform mate along open file by playing Rh1#

In diagram 8.2, we can observe that the white rook at g3 is blocking the entire 'g' file. Therefore, white can perform mate along file by playing Rxh6+ forcing the black to play Bxh6 followed by Qxh6#

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Boden's mate

Boden's mate is a position when a bishop pair performs a spectacular checkmate to the opponent king whereas the possible escape squares are blocked by the friendly pieces. Often this mate starts by sacrificing a piece that opens up the diagonal on which the bishop performs checkmate.

The following examples will give a better explanation

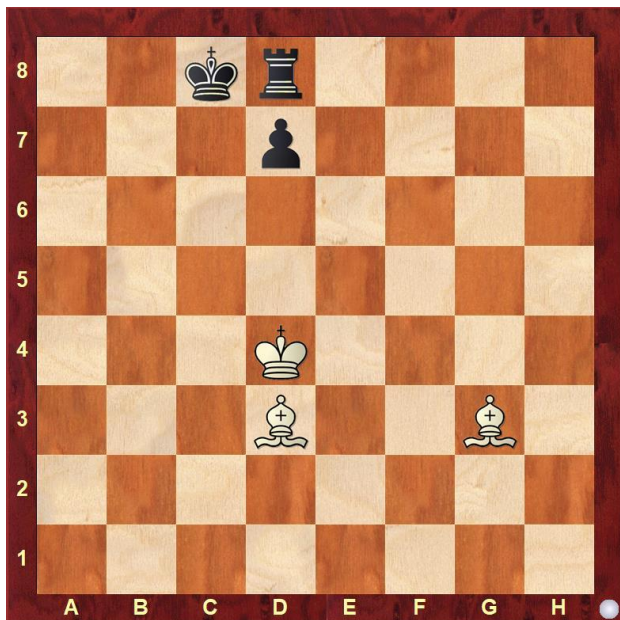


Diagram 8.3

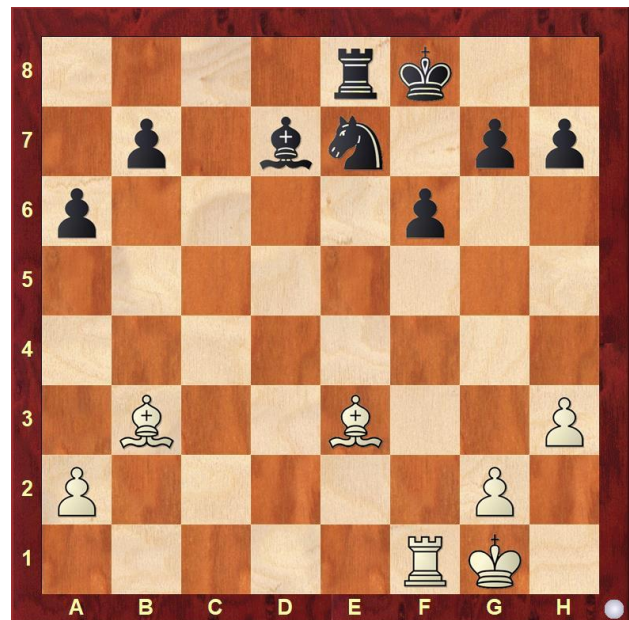


Diagram 8.4

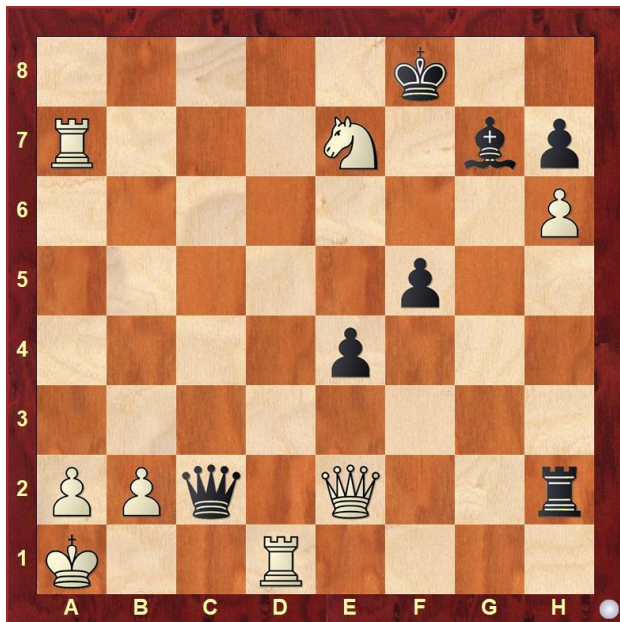
In diagram 8.3 we can observe that the bishop on g3 is blocking the adjacent squares of the black king therefore, the white can perform Boden's mate by playing Ba6#

In diagram 8.4 we can observe that the bishop on b3 is blocking the adjacent squares of the black king therefore, the white can perform Boden's mate by playing Rxf6# forcing the black to play gxf6 followed by Bh6#

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23. Mating Motif (Mate along open files, Boden's mate) Homework

1. White to play & win



2. White to play & win



3. Black to play & win



4. White to play & win

