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Modern Benoni

64 times typical tactics and new ideas - part 1

Tactics by IM Nikolay Minev

A60 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6

<i>ECO Place</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>White</i>	<i>Black</i>	<i>Rd</i>
4.g3 exd5 5.cxd5 b5 Petersburg	1977	Ribli	Garcia, Guillermo	St.
Latvia	1953	Mileika	Tal	ch
4.Nf3 exd5 5.cxd5 b5 19 8/59		Bufton	Simmons	Corr.
4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 g6? Baku	1959	Kalantar	Pavlenko	
4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 Bd6?! Cappelle la Gra	1994	Gisbergen	Lupu	
Sochi	1986	Vaganian	Hodgson	

A61-64 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6

7.Nd2 Na6 Aires	1975	Garcia, Raimundo	Kostka	Buenos
Oakham	1988	Sadler	Stratil	
7.Nd2 Bg7 8.Nc4 aan Zee	1971	Van den Berg	Kortchnoi	Wijk
7.Bg5 Adelaide	1988	Piket	Wahls	
7.Bf4 a6 8.e4 Britain	1985	Flear, G.	King	ch Great
7.Bf4 Bg7 8.Qa4+ Hungary	1985	Polgar, Zsuzsa	Hardicsay	
Soest	1996	Vossen	Haan	
Seville	1987	Lopez	Cordoba	
7.g3 Prague	1994	Cech	Stodola	
USA	1985	Alburt	Firmian	pe

GM Zoltan Ribli
GM Guillermo Garcia
St. Petersburg 1977

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 b5 6.a4

The theory recommends 6.Qc2 Bb7 7.e4 Qe7 8.Nbd2! Bxd5 9.Bxb5 Bxe4 10.Nxe4 Qxe4+ 11.Qxe4 Nxe4 12.O-O Nd6 13.Ba4 Be7 14.Re1 Nc8 15.Bf4! with better chances, Polugaevsky-Beliavsky, Las Palmas 1974. 6...Na6!? is proposed by Polugaevsky.

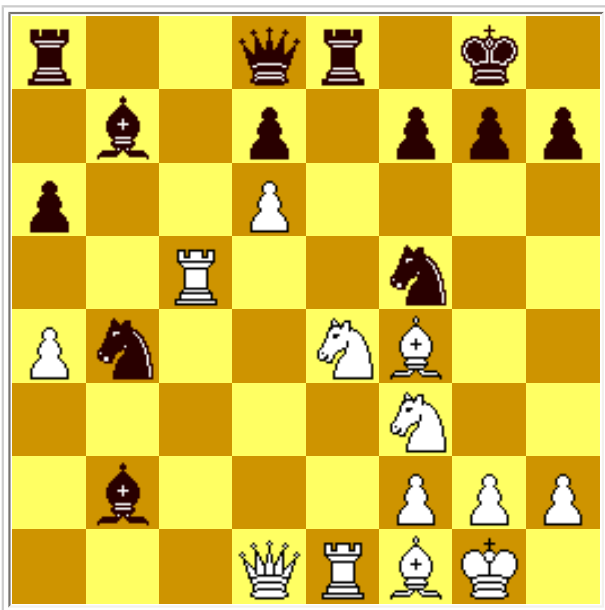
6...Bb7?

For 6...bxa4 or 6...b4!? - see next game.

7.e4! Nxe4 8.Bxb5 Be7 9.O-O O-O 10.Re1 Nd6 11.Bf1 Na6 12.Nc3 Nb4 13.Bf4 Nf5?

Relatively better is 13...Rc8

14.d6! Bf6 15.Rc1 a6 16.Ne4! Bxb2 17.Rxc5 Re8



All Black's minor pieces are unprotected. White wins material by force.

18.Qb1! Nh4 19.Neg5 1-0 For if 19...Nxf3+ 20.gxf3 g6 21.Rxe8+ Qxe8 22.Qxb2.

Mileika
GM Mikhail Tal
Latvia (ch) 1953

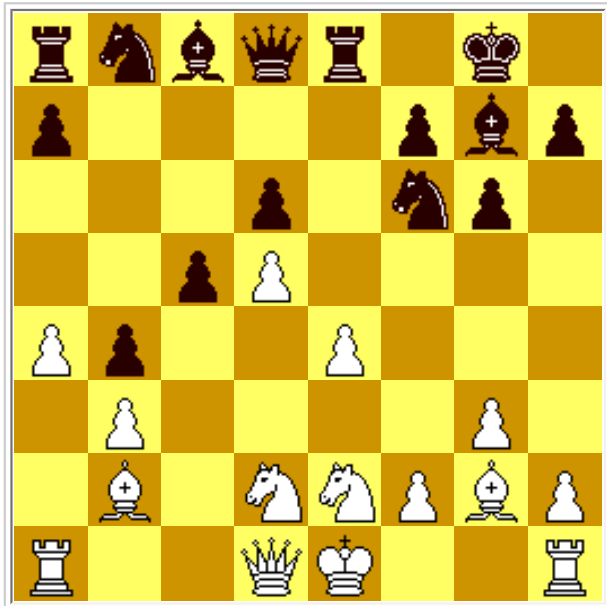
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.g3 exd5 5.cxd5 b5 6.a4 b4!?

ECO shows 6...bxa4 7.Nc3 d6 8.Qxa4+ Bd7 9.Qb3 Qc7 with chances for both sides.

7.b3?!

Developing the Bishop on "b2" is not a good idea in Modern Benoni. Better is 7.Bg2 d6 8.Qc2 Ba6 9.Nd2, intending Nc4

7...g6 8.Bg2 d6 9.e4 Bg7 10.Bb2 O-O 11.Ne2 Re8 12.Nd2



One of the typical tactical trick for Black in Modern Benoni (and King's Indian too!) is feasible now.

12...Nxe4! 13.Bxg7 Nxd2 14.Bh6 Bg4 15.Be3 Nf3+ 16.Bxf3 Bxf3 17.Rg1 Nd7 18.Qd2 Nf6 19.Nf4 g5 20.Ne2 Re5 21.O-O-O Ne4 22.Qc2 Bxe2 23.Qxe2 Nc3 O-1

Bufton

Simmons

Corr. 1958/59

1.c4 e6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nf3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 b5 6.e4!?

A very interesting and forgotten gambit idea.

6...Nxe4 7.Bd3 Nd6

It seems that 7...Nf6 8.O-O (8.Bxb5!?) is in White's favor.

8.O-O c4?

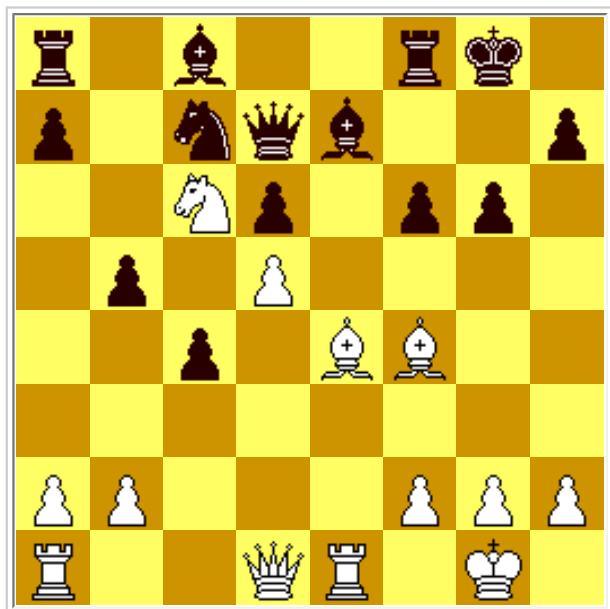
Black should try 8...Be7 9.Re1 O-O 10.Qc2 h6 11.Qxc5 Na6.

9.Re1+ Be7 10.Bg5! f6 11.Bf4 O-O 12.Bc2 Na6 13.Nc3 Nc7 14.Ne4 Nxe4 15.Bxe4 d6 16.Nd4 g6?

A blunder in already difficult position. Now White wins by force.

17.Nc6 Qd7

If 17...Qe8 18.Bxg6! hxg6 19.Rxe7.



18.Bf5! 1-0 Black loses his Queen: 18...Qxf5 19.Nxe7+, or 18...gxf5 19.Rxe7.



Kalantar
Pavlenko
Baku 1959

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 g6? 6.d6! Qb6

The other option is 6...Bg7 7.e4 Nc6 8.f4 O-O 9.e5 Ne8 10.Nf3 (White has the advantage - ECO), and now: Van den Berg - Nievergelt , Berlin 1965: 10...b5 11.Bxb5 Qb6 12.O-O Nd4 13.Bc4 Qb4 14.Qd3 Bb7 15.Nxd4 cxd4 16.Qxd4 Kh8 17.a3 Qa5 18.Be3 Rc8 19.Ba2 1-0

Rades - Bazon ,Rumania (ch-corr) 1991: 10...f6 11.Bc4+ Kh8 12.O-O! fxe5 13.fxe5 h6 (If 13...Nxe5 14.Nxe5 Rxf1+ 15.Qxf1 Bxe5 16.Qf8#) 14.Qd5 Nb4 15.Qe4 1-0 For if 15...Kh7 16.Nh4, or 15...Rf5 16.Nh4, or 15...g5 16.Bxg5 hxg5 17.Qg6 Nf6 18.Nxg5.

7.Bf4!?

Forgotten. ECO's 7.Bg5 Bg7 8.Qd2 O-O 9.O-O-O looks more risky.

7...Bg7

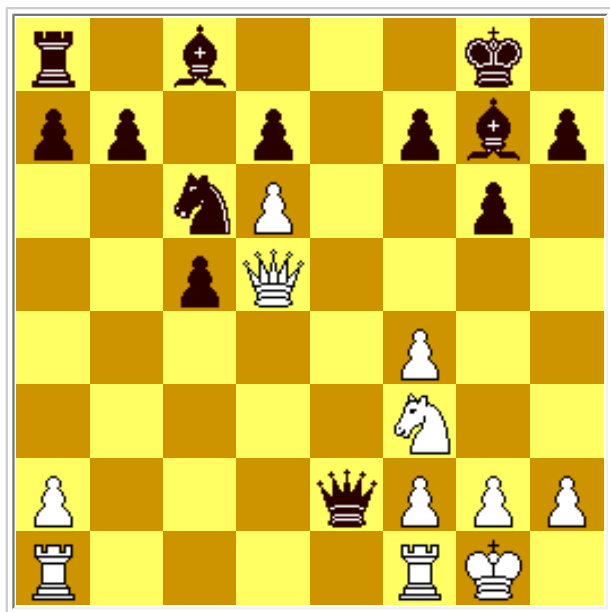
7...Qxb2? 8.Be5 Bg7 9.Rb1 Qa3 10.Nb5 Qa5+ 11.Bc3, or 8...Ne4 9.Bxh8 Nxc3 10.Qc1, in both

cases with advantage for White.

8.Qd2 O-O 9.Nf3 Nc6 10.e3 Re8 11.Be2 Ne4 12.Nxe4 Rxe4 13.O-O! Qxb2 14.Qd5! Rxf4?

Relatively better is 14...Re5, but after White has clearly the advantage.

15.exf4 Qxe2



White wins. Forced variation in five moves!

16.Rae1 Qb2 17.Ng5 Qf6 18.Re8+ Bf8 19.Rxf8+ Kxf8 20.Nxh7+ 1-0



J. van Gisbergen

IM S. Lupu

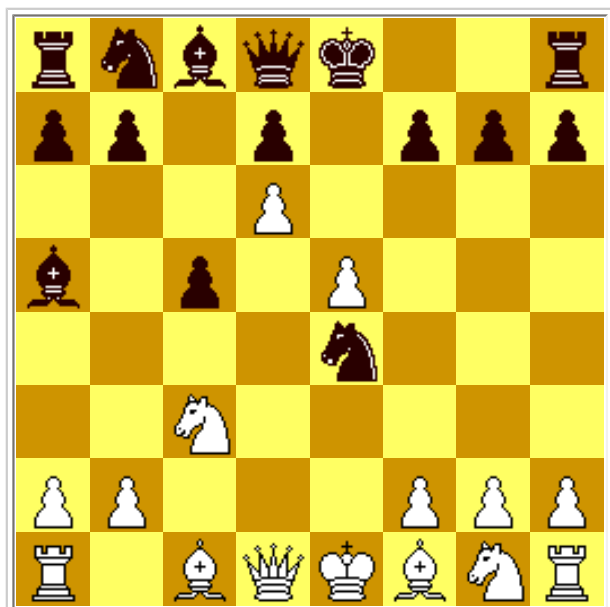
Cappelle la Grande 1994

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 Bd6?! 6.e4 Bc7?

A decisive mistake, refuted very convincingly in this game. Correct is 6...O-O.

7.d6! Ba5 8.e5 Ne4

Or 8...Ng8 9.Qg4 g6 10.Bc4 with a winning position.



9.Qg4!

A typical tactical idea, feasible also in Sicilian and other openings. White sacrifices temporarily a piece, but inevitably restores the lost at a high profit.

9...Nxc3 10.Qxg7 Ne4+ 11.Ke2 f5

If 11...Rf8 12.Bh6

12.Qxh8+ Kf7 13.Qxh7+ Ke6 1-0

Because of 14.f3.

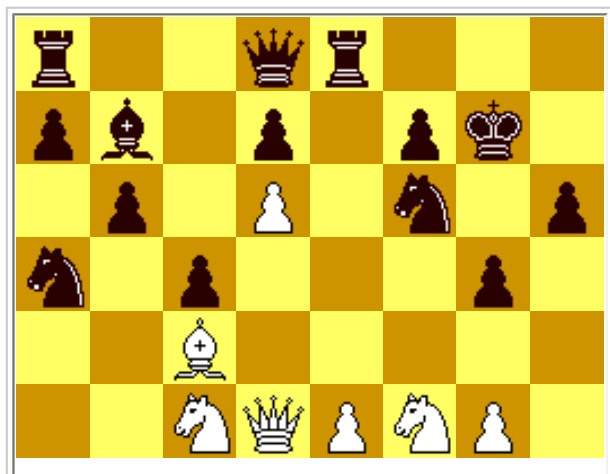


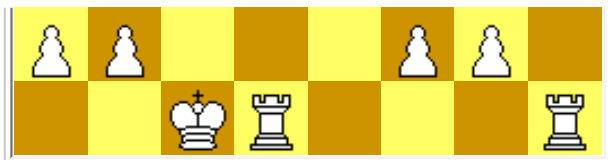
GM Rafael Vaganian

GM Julian Hodgson

Sochi 1986

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 c5 3.d5 e6 4.c4 exd5 5.cxd5 Bd6?! 6.Nc3 O-O 7.Bg5! Re8 8.e3 h6 9.Bh4 g5
10.Bg3 Bxg3 11.hxg3 Kg7 12.d6! b6 13.Bc4 Bb7 14.Qd3 Nc6 15.O-O-O Na5





The shelter of Black's King is weakened. Demolish it!

16.Bxf7! Kxf7 17.Rxh6 Bxf3 18.gxf3 1-0

For if 18...Rg8 9.Qf5 and 10.Ne4, or 18...Ng8 19.Qg6+ Kf8 20.Rh8 and wins.



IM Raimundo Garcia
Kostka
Buenos Aires 1975

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.Nd2

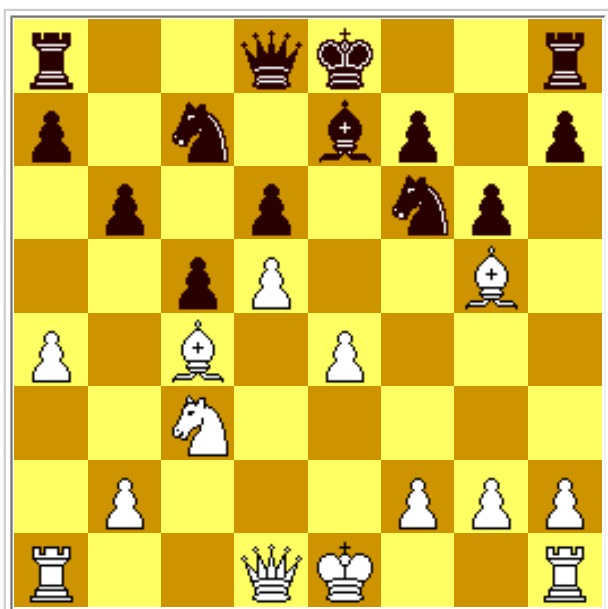
Introduced by Nimzovich.

7...Na6?! 8.Nc4 Nc7 9.a4 b6 10.e4!?

Presumably stronger than ECO's 10.Bg5, followed by e2-e3.

10...Ba6 11.Bg5 Bxc4 12.Bxc4 Be7?

Mistake, but also after 12...Bg7 13.O-O O-O 14.f4 White has the advantage.



Here is feasible the most typical tactical opportunity for White in Modern Benoni.

13.e5! Ng8

If 13...dxe5 14.d6! Bxd6 15.Bxf6 Qxf6 16.Ne4 and White wins a piece.

14.Bf4 dxe5 15.Bxe5 f6? 16.d6! fxe5 17.dxc7 Qd4

If 17...Qxc7 18.Qd5!, or 17...Qxd1+ 18.Rxd1 Rc8 19.Nb5 and 20.Be6 wins.

18.Qf3 1-0



GM M. Sadler

IM L. Stratil

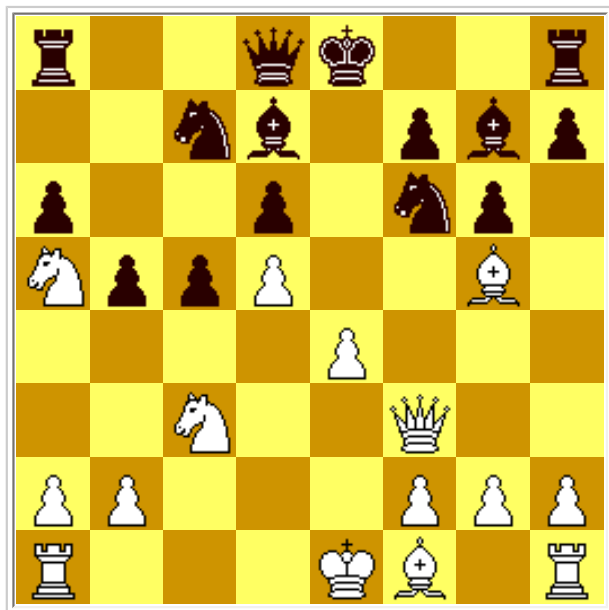
Oakham 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nc3 g6 7.Nd2 Na6?! 8.Nc4 Nc7 9.e4!? b5 10.Na5 a6

If 10...Ncxd5?? 11.Nxd5 Qxa5+ 12.Bd2 Qd8 13.Nxf6+ Qxf6 14.Bc3 and wins, or 10...b4 11.Nc6 Qd7 12.Nb5 Bb7 13.Nxc7+ Qxc7 14.Bb5 with advantage for White.

11.Bg5 Bg7 12.Qf3 Bd7?

Better is 12...O-O.



The same variation as in previous example, and the same tactical shot is available.. The key for success here is White's 14th move!

13.e5! dxe5 14.Nb7! Qe7 15.d6 Qe6 16.Bxf6 Bxf6 17.Nxc5 1-0

For if 17...Qxd6 18.Nce4.



IM Carel van den Berg

GM Viktor Korchnoi
Wijk aan Zee 1971

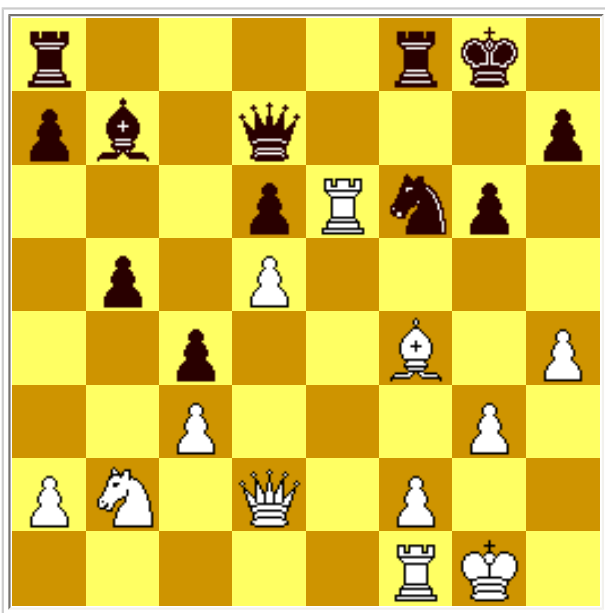
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.Nd2 Bg7 8.Nc4 O-O 9.Bf4 Ne8
 10.Qd2 Bxc3!? 11.bxc3 b5 12.Nb2 Bb7!?

Suppressed in ECO's second edition.

13.g3 Nd7 14.Bg2 f5 15.O-O c4 16.Rae1

16.e4 =, according to ECO First edition, but 16...fxe4 17.Bxe4 Ndf6 18.Bg2 Nc7 looks dangerous for White.

16...Ndf6 17.h4 Qd7 18.e4? fxe4 19.Bxe4 Nxe4 20.Rxe4 Nf6 21.Re6



After 21...Nxd5 22.Rxd6 Qf7 Black has the better chances. Can you find stronger continuation?

21...Nxd5! 22.Rxd6 Qh3! 0-1

Because of 23.Rxd5 Rad8! and Black wins.

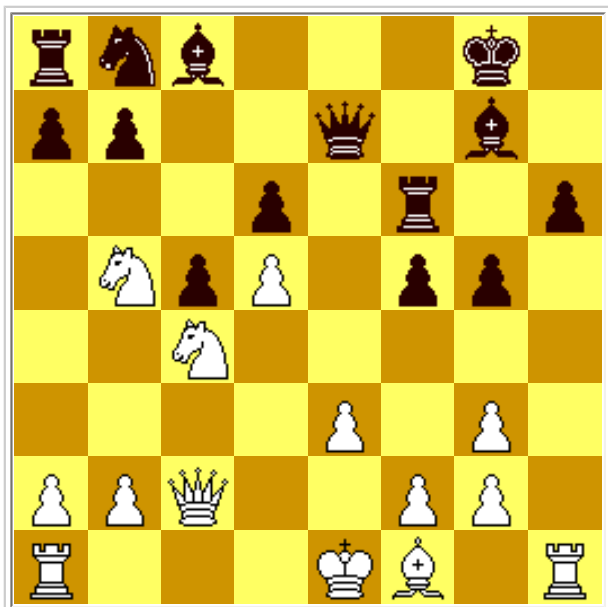


GM Jeroen Piket
 GM M. Wahls
Adelaide 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nc3 g6 7.Bg5 Bg7 8.Nd2 h6 9.Bh4 g5 10.
 Bg3 Nh5 11.Nc4 Nxg3 12.hxg3 O-O 13.e3 Qe7 14.Qc2 f5 15.Nb5?!

Instead 15.Be2 Bd7 16.a4 leads to a position with approximately equal chances.

15...Rf6



Is 16.Ncxd6 good or faulty combination?

16.Ncxd6? Bd7!

Bear in mind, a tempting combination frequently fails to unnoticed opponent's reply! Here White's nice looking idea was 16...Rxd6 17.Qxc5, with a winning double-attack.

17.Qb3 Rxd6 18.Nxd6 Qxd6 19.Qxb7 Qb6! 20.Ba6

Or 20.Qxa8 Qxb2 and Black wins

20...Qa5+! 21.Kd1 Ba4+ 0-1

For if 22.b3 Qxa6 23.Qxa8 Qd3+ 24.Kc1 Qc3+!, or 22.Kc1 Qxa6 23.Qxa8 Qc4+ 24.Kd2 Qb4+!, and wins.



GM G. Flear
GM Daniel King
Great Britain (ch) 1985

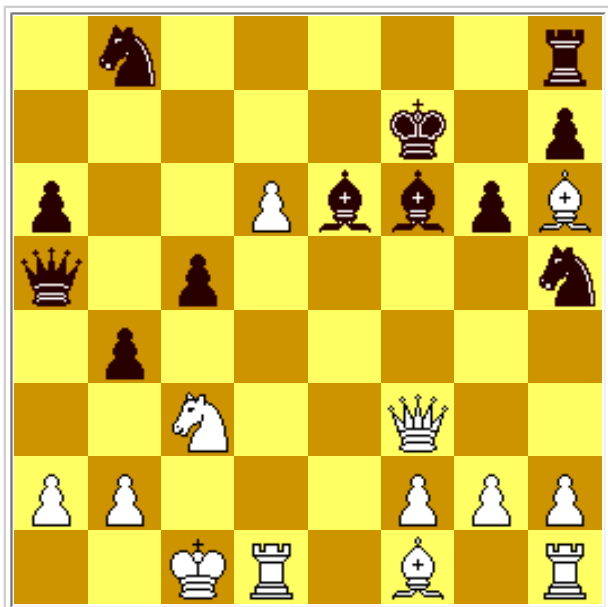
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.Bf4 a6 8.e4 b5 9.Qe2! Be7?

Correct is 9...Nh5

10.e5 Nh5

If 10...dxe5 11.Bxe5 O-O 12.d6! Bxd6 13.O-O-O

11.Bh6 dxe5 12.O-O-O f6 13.Nxe5! fxe5 14.Qxe5 Kf7 15.d6 Bf6 16.Qd5+ Be6 17.Qxa8 Qa5 18.Qf3 b4



Black's counter-play is an illusion. White proves this in only two moves!

19.Bc4!! Bxc4 20.Qb7+ 1-0



GM Zsuzsa Polgar

IM P. Hardicsay

Hungary 1985

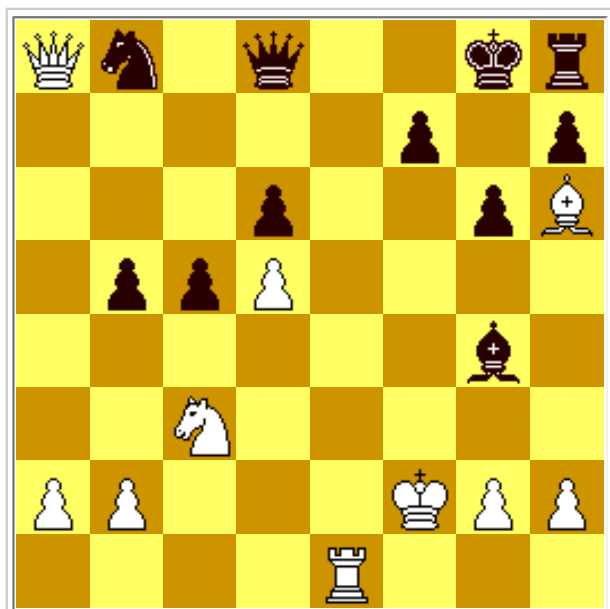
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.Bf4 a6 8.e4 Bg7 9.Qa4+ Bd7 10.Qb3 Bg4?

Leads to wild, but favorable for White complications. The simple retreat 10...Bc8 is probably Black's best try.

11.Qxb7 Bxf3 12.Qxa8 Nxe4 13.Rc1! Bd4 14.Rc2 Nxf2 15.Rxf2 Bxf2+ 16.Kxf2 Bg4 17.Bb5 +! axb5 18.Re1+ Kf8

Or 18...Kd7 19.Qb7+ Qc7 20.Re7+!

19.Bh6+ Kg8



Two attractive tactical shots in a row, and Black's King will be mated. May you find it!

20.Re7! Bd7 21.Qxb8!! Qxb8 22.Ne4 1-0



R. van Vossen

E. de Haan

Soest 1996

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.Bf4 Bg7 8.Qa4+ Bd7 9.Qb3 b5

A controversial, but interesting gambit.

10.Nxb5

For 10.Bxd6 see next example.

10...Bxb5 11.Qxb5+ Nbd7 12.Bxd6 Ne4 13.Be5 O-O 14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.Qa4 Rb8 16.Qxe4 Qa5+ 17.Nd2 Rxb2 18.Rd1 Rfb8!?

Another option is 18...Nf6 19.Qc4 Rfb8 20.e3 Rxa2 21.Be2 Rbb2 =

19.e3?

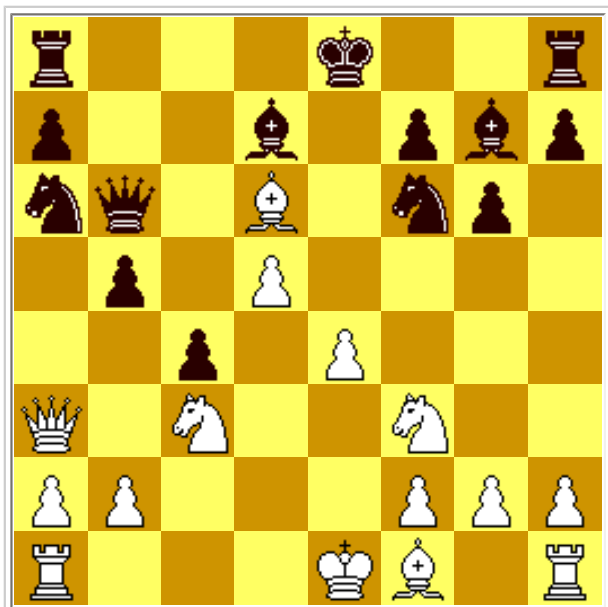
19...Rxd2! 20.Rxd2 Rb2 21.Qd3 Ne5 22.Qe2 Nc4! 23.Qd1 Nxd2 0-1

GM Campos Lopez
GM Illescas Cordoba
Seville 1987

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.Bf4 Bg7 8.Qa4+ Bd7 9.Qb3 b5
10.Bxd6 Na6

Probably not the best. The theory recommends 10...Qb6 11.Be5 O-O 12.e3 c4 13.Qd1 Na6 with compensation for the pawn.

11.e4! c4 12.Qa3 Qb6



The critical moment of the game. Black has two very strong threats: 13...b4 and 13...Ng4. What is White's best response against that?

13.Bxc4!

Tactical solution! While White's King will be in safe place, Black's King will be under decisive attack.

13...bxc4 14.e5 Ng4 15.O-O O-O-O 16.b3!

Black's position is already untenable.

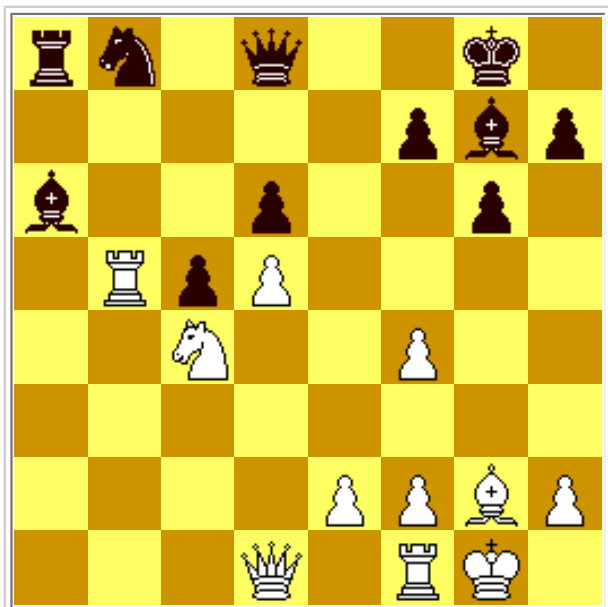
16...Bf5 17.Na4 Qa5 18.Rac1 Bd3 19.Rfd1 Rxd6 20.Qxd6 Nb4 21.Rxd3! Nxd3 22.Rxc4+ Kb7 23.Nc5+! Nxc5 24.Qc6+ Kb8 25.Rxc5 1-0

P. Cech
J. Stodola
Prague 1994

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.g3 Bg7 8.Bg2 O-O 9.O-O a6 10.a4 Re8 11.Bf4 Ne4 12.Nxe4 Rxe4 13.Nd2 Rxf4?

This sacrifice does not bring enough compensation to Black. Better is 13...Rb4.

14.gxf4 Bxb2 15.Rb1 Bg7 16.Nc4 b5 17.axb5 axb5 18.Rxb5 Ba6



What is better here: ECO's recommendation 19.Ra5, or 19.Qa4, played in this game?

19.Qa4!?

ECO's 19.Ra5 is strong, but this based on tactics novelty is even stronger.

19...Bxb5 20.Qxa8 Bc3

The point of White's idea is if 20...Bxc4 21.Rb1! and wins.

21.Rc1 Bb4 22.e4 Qc7 23.e5! Bxc4 24.Rxc4 Kg7

If 24...dxe5 25.fxe5 Qxe5 26.Re4 and wins.

25.e6 1-0



GM Lev Alburt
GM Nick de Firmian
USA (Open) 1985

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.g3 Bg7 8.Bg2 O-O 9.O-O Nbd7 10.Re1 Re8 11.e4 b5?

Usual is 11...a6 12.a4 c4!?, with sharp and unclear position.

12.Nxb5 Nxe4 13.Ng5!?

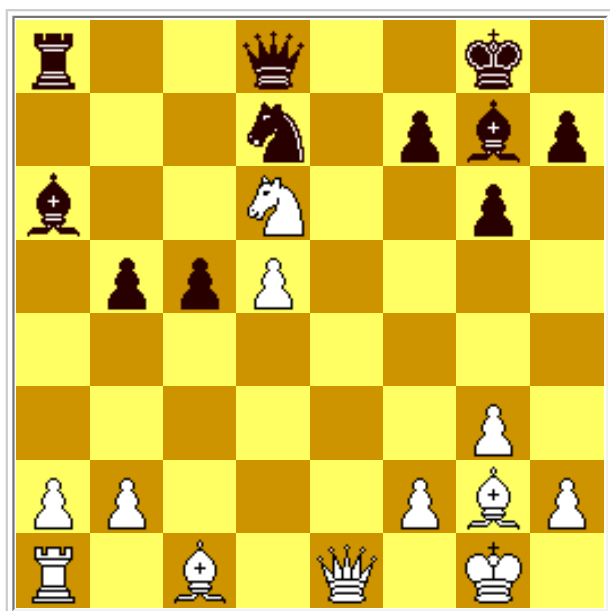
According to Alburt, 13.Nd2! is stronger.

13...a6

If 13...Nxg5 14.Rxe8+ Qxe8 15.Nc7 Qd8 16.Nxa8 h6 17.Qb3 Ba6 18.Bxg5 hxg5 19.Re1! Qxa8 20.

Qa4!, intending 21.Qc6, with advantage - Alburt.

14.Nxe4 axb5 15.Nxd6 Rxe1+ 16.Qxe1 Ba6



Tempting is 17.Nxf7. Is this sacrifice winning? Calculate carefully!

17.Nxf7! Qe8

If 17...Kxf7 18.Qe6+ Kf8 19.Bf4! (The key of the attacking idea. If 19.d6? Qe8!) Bxb2 20.d6, intending 21.Bd5, and wins.

18.Nh6+ Kh8 19.Qe6 Ne5 20.Bf4 1-0

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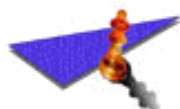
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Modern Benoni

64 times typical tactics and new ideas - part 2

Tactics by IM Nikolay Minev

A65 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4

<i>ECO</i>		<i>White</i>	<i>Black</i>	<i>Rd</i>
<i>Place</i>	<i>Year</i>			
6...Be7.		Kirwald	Beisser	
Corr.	1967			
6...g6 7.Bg5		Hulmes	Subramanian	US
Open	1968			
6...g6 7.Bd3 Bg7 8.Nge2		Bousios	Ilandzis	
Athens	1979			
		Ferencz	Idziak	
Corr.	1992			
		Nielsen	Bergmann	
Vejle	1971			
		Artamonov	Razumov	Corr.
19	7/78			
6...g6 7.Bf4		Borrel	Darga	
Spain	1965			
6...g6 7.f3 Bg7 8.Bg5		Armas, J.	Cordoba	Santa
Catalina	1987			

A66 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f4

7...Qe7		Shamkovich	Zheliandinov	
USSR	1959			
7...Bg7 8.e5 dxe5		Konc	Markovic	
Odzaci	1978			
		Hansen, Cu.	Turk	
Vejle	978)			
		Lputian	Magerramov	
Riga	1980			
7...Bg7 8.e5 Nfd7		Schreiber	Montecatine	
Corr.	1985			
		Smirnov	Kapengut	
Minsk	1979			
		Lotti	Alberti	
Italy	1985			
		Littlewood	Povah	
England	1975			

Kirwald C.
Beisser G.
Corr. 1967

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 Be7?! 7.f4 Nbd7?

Black should play 7...O-O, and if 8.e5 Nfd7.

8.e5! Ng8

If 8...dxe5? 9.d6 Bf8 10.Nb5.

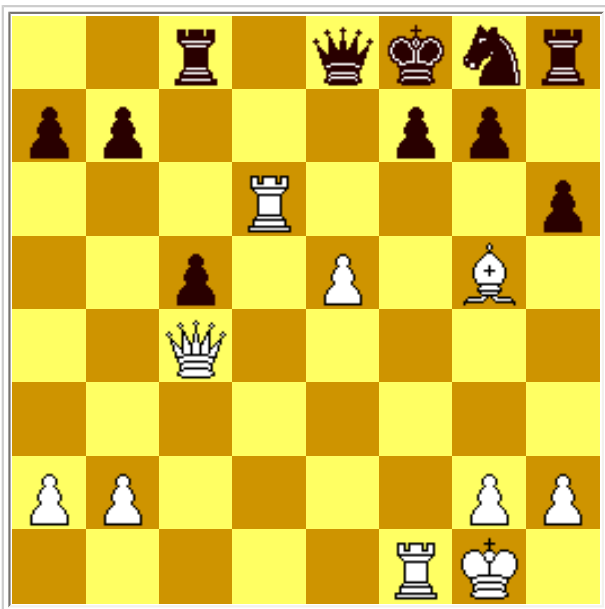
9.Qa4!

Threatening 10.e6.

9...Kf8 10.Nf3 Nb6 11.Qc2 dxe5

Black's position is clearly worse, but opening the f-file is fatal. Relatively better is 11...g6.

12.fxe5 Nxd5 13.Nxd5 Qxd5 14.Bc4 Qc6 15.O-O Be6 16.Ng5 Bxg5 17.Bxg5 Rc8 18.Rad1 Qe8 19.Rd6 Bxc4 20.Qxc4 h6



This should be easy!.. One, two, and White wins.

21.Re6! Qd7 22.Re7! 1-0

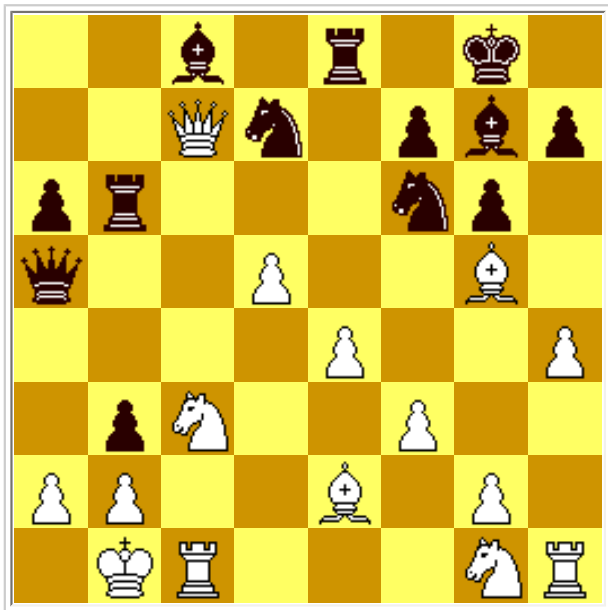
Hulmes
S. Subramanian

US Open 1968

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.Bg5 Bg7 8.Qd2 O-O 9.Bd3 Re8 10.O-O-O?

Almost as a rule, castling long in Modern Benoni is a bad idea. Instead 10.Nge2!? or 10.f3 h6 13.Be3 are the playable options.

10...a6 11.Kb1 b5 12.f3 Nbd7 13.Rc1 Rb8 14.h4 c4 15.Be2 b4 16.Nd1 c3 17.Qf4 Qa5 18.Qxd6 Rb6 19.Qc7 b3! 20.Nxc3



First move is a necessary prelude to the second move, which makes Black's attack irresistible. Can you see these two moves?

20...Nxd5! 21.exd5 Nc5! 22.a3

Or 22.g4 bxa2+ and Black wins.

22...Bf5+ 23.Ka1 Qxa3+! 24.bxa3 Bxc3+ 25.Rxc3 b2+ 0-1



H. Bousios
S. Ilandzis
Athens 1979

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.Bd3 Bg7 8.Nge2 O-O 9.O-O Re8 10.Bf4?!

Usual is 10.Ng3 Na6 11.h3.

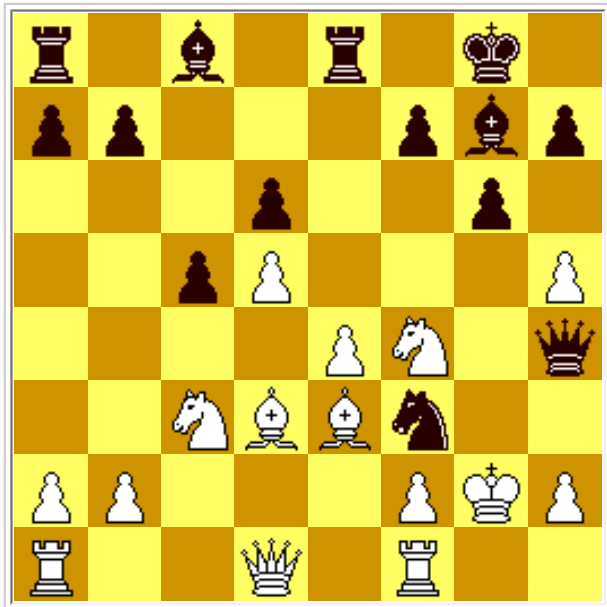
10...Nh5! 11.Be3 Nd7 12.g4?

Don't move the pawns in front of your King if is not necessary!. 12.Ng3=

12...Ne5! 13.gxh5

If 13.f3 Bxg4 14.fxg4 Nxg4 with a powerful attack.

13...Nf3+ 14.Kg2 Qh4 15.Nf4



For the sacrificed piece Black has an attack, and a winning shot too!

15...Bh3+! 16.Kh1

Or 16.Nxh3 Qg4+ 17.Kh1 Qxh3 18.Bf4 Be5 19.Qc1 Nxh2 and Black wins.

16...Bg4! 17.h3 Bxh3 0-1



L. Ferencz

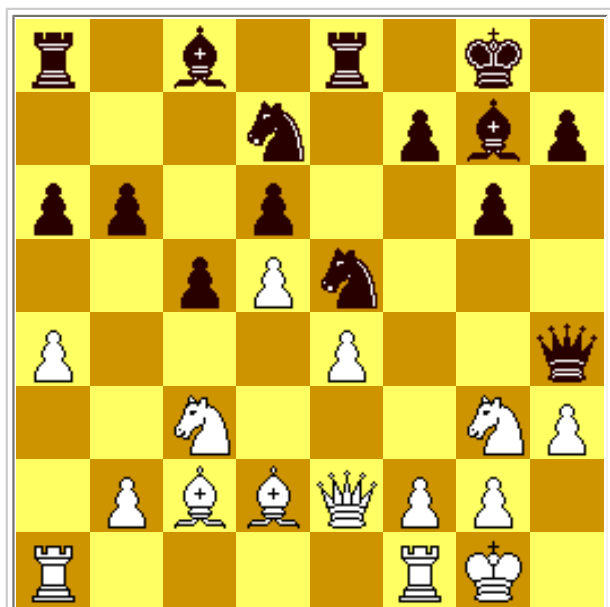
M. Idziak

Corr. 1992

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.Bd3 Bg7 8.Nge2 O-O 9.O-O a6
10.a4 Re8 11.Ng3 Ng4 12.h3 Ne5 13.Bc2!?

A very interesting plan for the advance of f2-f4. ECO shows only 13.Be2 Qh4 14.Qe1 c4 unclear.

13...Qh4 14.Qe2 Nbd7 15.Bd2 b6



How to promote the planned "f2-f4" and "e4-e5"?

16.f4!

Feasible immediately because of a tactical detail - if now 16...Qxg3 17.Be1!, and Black loses the Queen.

16...Nc4 17.Qxc4 Qxg3 18.e5! dxe5 19.f5!

Threatening to win the Queen by 20.Ne4 Qh4 21.Bg5 Qh5 22.Bd1.

19...e4 20.Nxe4 Qh4 21.fxg6

But not 22.Bg5? Rxe4.

21...Bd4+? 22.Qxd4! 1-0

For if 22...cxd4 23.gxf7+ Kf8 24.fxe8=Q+ Kxe8 25.Bg5 Qh5 26.Nd6#



GM Pe. Nielsen
J. Bergmann
Vejle 1971

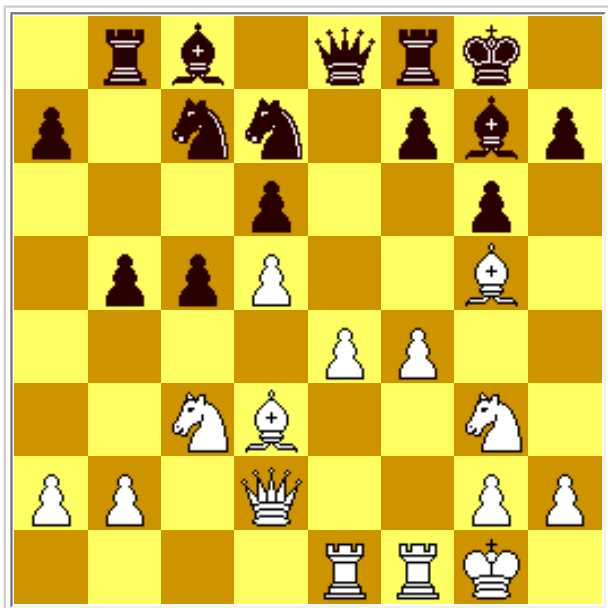
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.Bd3 Bg7 8.Nge2 O-O 9.O-O Na6 10.Bg5!?

Initiating very interesting and forgotten plan for quick assault against Black's King's wing.

10...Nc7?!

Worthy of consideration and probably necessary is 10...h6!?

11.Qd2 Rb8 12.Rae1! b5 13.f4 Qe8 14.Ng3 Nd7



White has decisive tactical shot. Pay attention of Black's Queen!

15.Nf5! gxf5 16.exf5 Bd4+ 17.Kh1 Ne5 18.fxe5 Bxe5 19.Bf6 Bxf6 20.Rxe8 Rxe8 21.Qh6 1-0

If 21...Bg7 22.Qh5 (intending 23.f6) Bf6 23.Ne4.



Artamonov

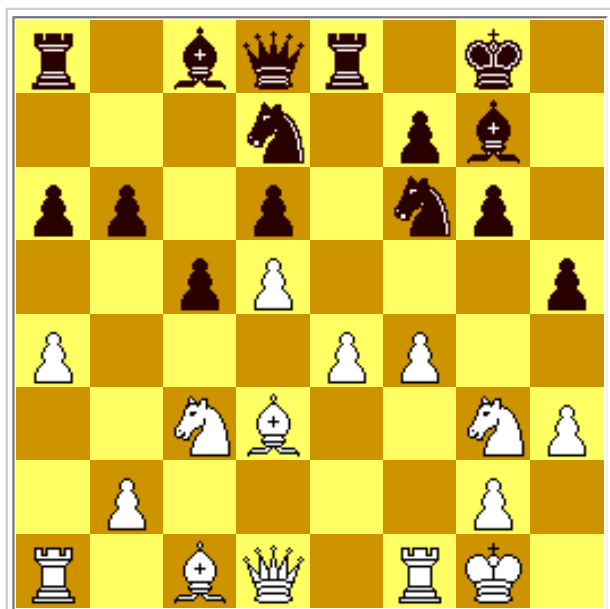
Razumov

Corr. 1977/78

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 d6 4.Nc3 g6 5.e4 Bg7 6.Bd3 O-O 7.Nge2 e6 8.O-O exd5 9.cxd5 a6 10.a4 b6?

Waste of time. Black's best is 10...Nbd7 11.h3 Qc7 12.Ng3 Re8 13.f4 c4! 14.Bc2 Rb8 with chances for both sides.

11.h3 Nbd7 12.f4 Re8 13.Ng3 h5?



Do you know White's most typical attacking idea in the Modern Benoni?

14.e5! dxe5 15.f5!

That's that! The most typical attacking idea is here especially very effective, because of the already weakened Black's fianchetto.

15...gxf5 16.Bxf5!

But not 16.Nxf5 e4!

16...Nf8 17.Bg5 Bxf5 18.Nxf5 N8h7 19.Nxg7 Kxg7 20.Qc1! Kh8 21.Bxf6+ 1-0

For if 21...Nxf6 22.Qh6+ Nh7 23.Rxf7 and wins.



Borrel

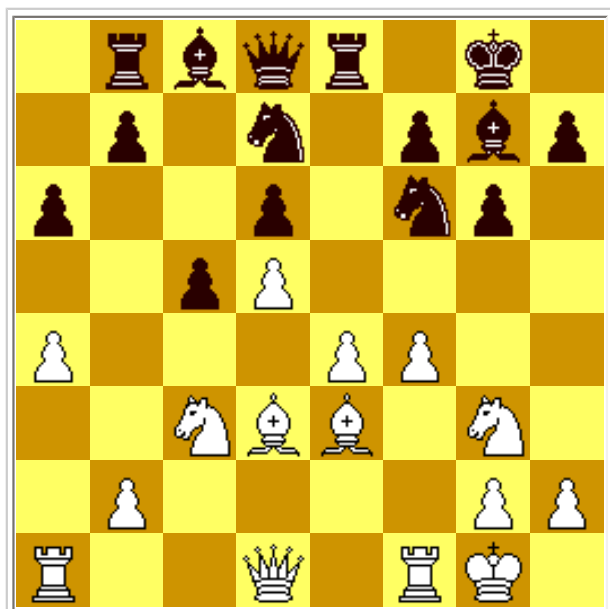
GM Klaus Darga

Spain 1965

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.Bf4 a6 8.a4 Bg7 9.Bd3 O-O 10.Nge2

Better is 10.Qd2!?

10...Nh5 11.Be3 Nd7 12.Ng3 Nh6 13.f4 Rb8 14.O-O Re8



Is the most typical attack by 15.e5 dxe5 16.f5! here feasible?

15.e5?

Before launching any tactical action, consider carefully all details of the position! Here the idea for the most typical attack runs into surprising tactical refutation.

15...Ng4!! 16.Bf2

If 16.Qxg4 Nxe5 17.Qe2 Nxd3 18.Qxd3 Rxe3! 19.Qxe3 Bd4 and Black wins.

16...Qh4 17.h3 Nxf2 18.Rxf2 Nxe5!

Stronger than 18...Qxg3 19.Ne4 and 20.Nxd6, with some counter-play for White.

19.fxe5 Qxg3 20.e6 fxe6 21.Ne4 Qe5 22.dxe6 Bxe6 23.Qf1 c4 24.Bc2 Rf8 25.Re1 Qxb2 0-1

IM J. Armas
GM Illescas Cordoba
Santa Catalina 1987

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f3 Bg7 8.Bg5 h6

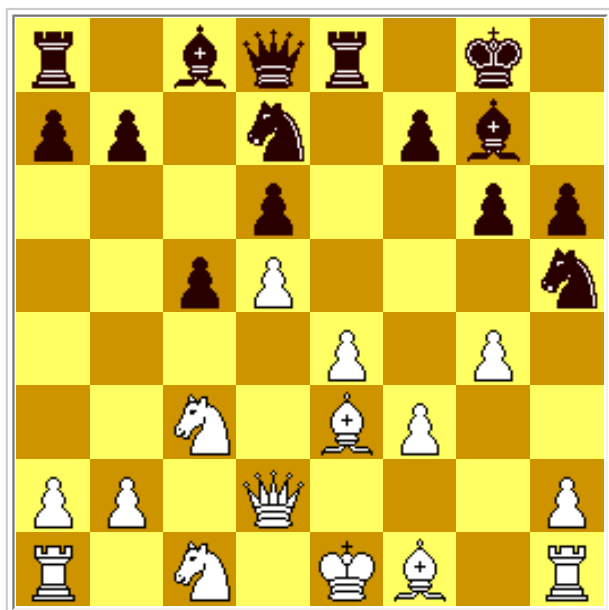
Also possible is 8...O-O 9.Nge2 Re8!? and now 10.Ng3? Nxe4! 11.Ncxe4 (If 11.Bxd8 Nxc3+ and Black wins a piece) Qxg5 12.Bb5 Bd7 13.Bxd7 Nxd7 14.O-O Qe7 15.Qb3 f5 16.Nf2 b6 17.Rad1 Bd4 18.Rd2 Nf6 19.Ne2 Be3 20.Rd3 Rac8 21.Qd1 c4 22.Rc3 Rc5 0-1 Arlandi-Yap, Roma 1985, while 10.Qd2 h6! 11.Be3 Nbd7 transposes into our game.

9.Be3 O-O 10.Qd2 Re8 11.Nge2

If 11.Bxh6? Nxe4! and 12...Qh4+ with better chances for Black.

11...Nbd7 12.Nc1 Nh5!? 13.g4?

13.Be2 unclear, and that's all in ECO!



White's last move 13.g4 is a leap in the dark. Can you find how to punish him? It is a long, but forced combination.

13...Ne5 14.Be2 Qh4+!

Well calculated sacrifice of a piece

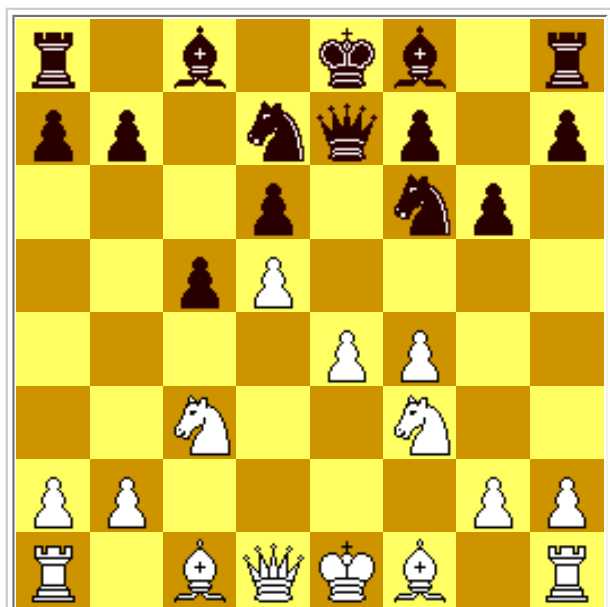
15.Bf2 Qf6 16.gxh5 Nxf3+ 17.Bxf3 Qxf3 18.Rf1 Bxc3 19.Qxc3 Rxe4+ 20.Kd2 Qf4+ 0-1



GM Leonid Shamkovich
Zheliandinov
USSR 1959

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f4 Qe7? 8.Nf3 Nbd7

If 8...Nxe4?? 9.Qa4+ winning a piece. Other option is 8...Bg4 9.Bb5+!? (New idea, instead of ECO's 9.h3) Nfd7 (If 9...Nbd7 10.O-O Bg7 11.e5!) 10.O-O a6 11.Be2 b5? (Decisive waste of time) 12.e5! Bxf3 13.Bxf3 dxe5? 14.d6 1-0 Tataev-Frenzel, Moscow 1990.



9.e5!

This typical pawn sacrifice is here sharper and seems to be stronger than the positional 9.Bd3.

9...dxe5 10.fxe5 Nxe5 11.Bb5+ Ned7+ 12.Kf2! Ng4+ 13.Kg3 Nge5 14.Nxe5 Qxe5+ 15.Bf4 Qf6 16.Qe2+ Be7

If 16...Qe7 17.Qf3, or 16...Kd8 17.Ne4 Qe7 18.Bc7+! and wins.

17.d6 g5 18.Be5 Bxd6 19.Bxd6+ Kd8 20.Bc7+! 1-0



V. Konc
M. Markovic
Odzaci 1978

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f4 Bg7 8.e5 dxe5 9.fxe5 Nh5?
10.Bb5+ Kf8

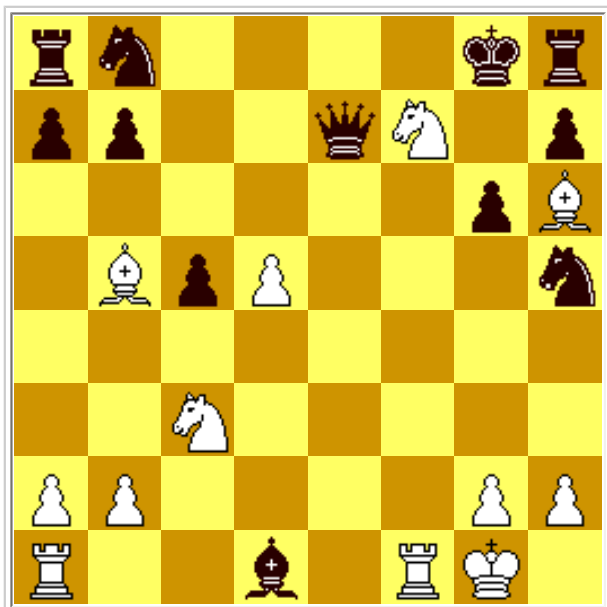
Instead of ECO's 10...Bd7 11.Nf3 with advantage for White.

11.Nf3 Bg4 12.O-O! Bxe5 13.Nxe5!

Well calculated sacrifice of a Queen.

13...Bxd1 14.Bh6+ Kg8 15.Nxf7 Qe7

In case of 15...Qc8 White has many winning options, spectacular is ,for example, 16.d6 Bg4 17.Nd8!



Black is threatening by 16...Qxf7 to return the Queen and refute White's combination. How to convince him, that his position is already lost?

16.d6! Qxf7 17.Bc4! 1-0



GM Cu. Hansen

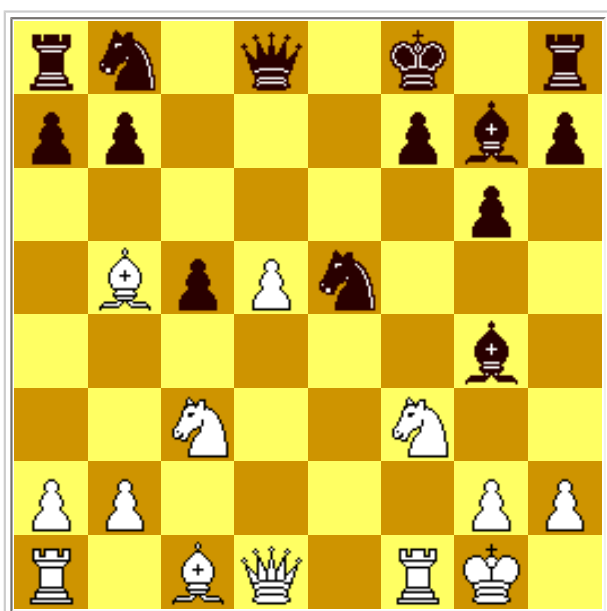
H. Turk

Vejle 1978)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f4 Bg7 8.e5 dxe5 9.fxe5 Ng4?
10.Bb5+!?

ECO shows only 10.e6 with attack

10...Kf8 11.Nf3 Nxe5 12.O-O Bg4?



The typical tactical idea from previous example is again feasible. And very attractive too!

13.Nxe5! Bxd1 14.Nxf7 Qa5

Or 14...Qh4 15.Bg5 Qd4+ 16.Kh1 Kg8 17.Raxd1 Qg4 18.Nh6+ Bxh6 19.Bxh6 Nd7 (Or 19...Na6 20.h3 Qh5 21.Bd7 Nc7 22.d6 and wins) 20.h3 Qh5 21.Bxd7 Qxh6 22.Be6+ Kg7 23.Rf7+ Kg8 24.Ne4 1-0 Scanavino-Cuasnicu, Argentina (ch jr) 1960

15.Nh6+! Ke7 16.Bg5+ Kd6 17.Bf4+ Ke7 18.Re1+ Kd8 19.Nf7+ Kc8 20.Nd6+ Kc7 21.Nc4+ 1-0.



GM S. Lputian
GM E. Magerramov
Riga 1980

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f4 Bg7 8.e5 dxe5 9.fxe5 Nfd7 10.e6 fxe6 11.dxe6 Qe7 12.Be2!?

Unnoticed novelty! The theoretical line is a game between same opponents from 1979: 12.Nd5 Qxe6+ 13.Qe2 Qxe2+ 14.Bxe2 O-O! 15.Nc7 Nc6 16.Nxa8 Nb4 unclear.

12...Nb6

In case of 12...Qxe6 Black must reckon with 13.Nb5.

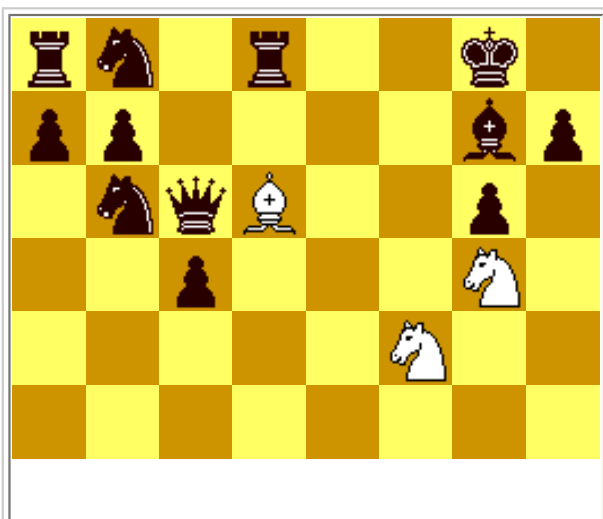
13.Bf4! Bxe6 14.Nf3 Bc4 15.O-O Bxe2 16.Nxe2 O-O 17.Bd6 Qe3+ 18.Kh1 Rd8 19.Nf4!

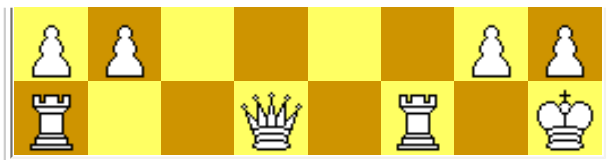
Threatening to trap the Queen by 20.Re1 Qf2 21.Re2.

19...Qe4?

Perhaps 19...Qe8 offers more defensive chances.

20.Ng5 Qc6





Many open files in the center always are in favor of the better developed side! Here only one (but right!) move seals Black's doom.

21.Qb3+! 1-0

For if 21...c4 22.Qh3! and wins.



K. Schreiber
R. Montecatine
Corr. 1985

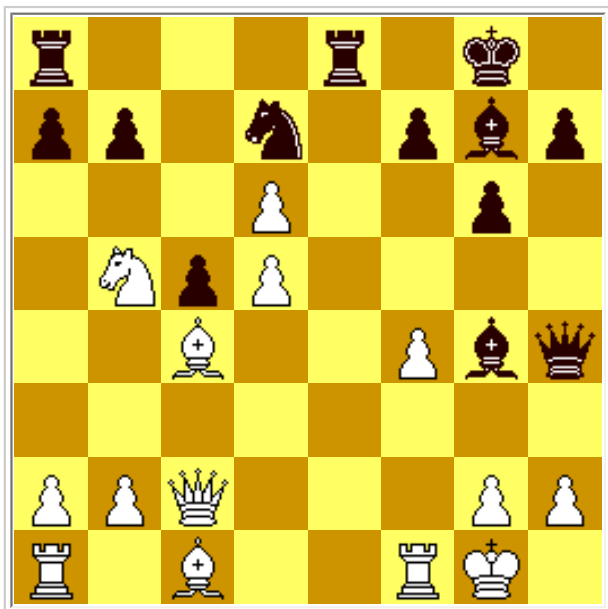
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f4 Bg7 8.e5 Nfd7 9.exd6 O-O 10.Nf3 Nf6 11.Bc4?

11.Be2 a6 12.a4 Qxd6=

11...Re8+ 12.Ne5 Ng4 13.O-O Qh4!

If 13...Nxe5 14.fxe5 Bxe5 15.Bf4 unclear.

14.Nxg4 Bxg4 15.Qc2 Nd7 16.Nb5?



If you are a tactician, you should believe in the relative value of the pieces! After this hint, what is Black's best attacking continuation?

16...a6!!

Sacrificing an exchange, Black secures the square "d4" for his important for the attack dark square Bishop.

17.Nc7 b5 18.Nxe8

If 18.Nxa8 bxc4 19.Nc7 Bd4+ 20.Kh1 Re2 21.Qxc4 Rxg2 22.Kxg2 Qh3+ 23.Kh1 Bf3+ and mate next move.

18...Rxe8 19.Bd3 c4 20.Be4 Bd4+ 21.Kh1 Nf6 22.Bf3 Nh5! 0-1

There is no defense against the mating threat 23...Ng3+.



V. Smirnov
IM A. Kapengut
Minsk 1979

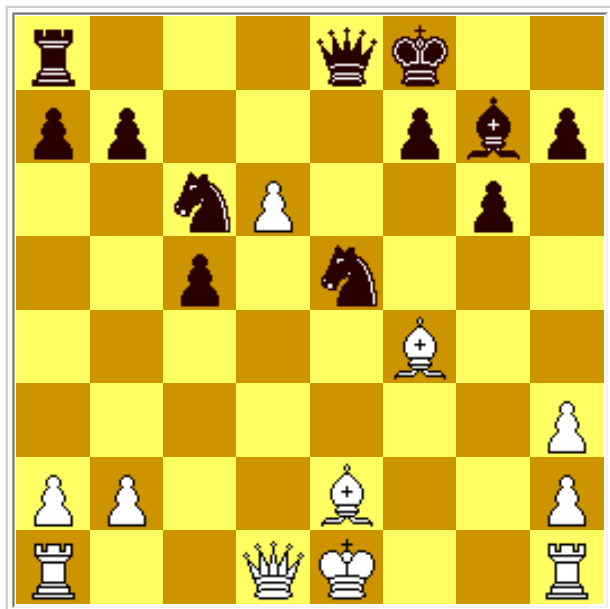
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f4 Bg7 8.e5 Nfd7 9.Nb5 dxe5 10.Nd6+ Ke7

Considered better than 10...Kf8.

11.Nb5?! Re8! 12.d6+ Kf8 13.Nc7 exf4+ 14.Nxe8 Qxe8+!?

This forgotten novelty looks better than ECO's 14...Qh4+ 15.Kd2 Ke8 unclear-Hartston.

15.Be2 Ne5 16.Bxf4 Nbc6 17.Nh3 Bxh3 18.gxh3



Prove that Black has more than enough compensation for the sacrificed exchange!.

18...Nf3+ 19.Kf2 Qe4! 20.Bxf3 Qxf4 21.Kg2 Nd4 22.Rc1

Or 22.Re1 Be5!

22...Nf5! 0-1



F. Lotti

Alberti

Italy 1985

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f4 Bg7 8.e5 Nfd7 9.Nb5 dxe5 10.Nd6+ Ke7 11.Nxc8+ Qxc8 12.d6+ Kf8 13.Nf3 e4

Probably the alternative 13...Nc6 is to be preferred.

14.Ng5 h6 15.Nxf7!? Kxf7 16.Bc4+ Kf8 17.f5 Nc6

According to Larsen and ECO, Black stands better. This assessment and also the whole variation with 13...e4 is questionable.

18.fxg6 Nce5

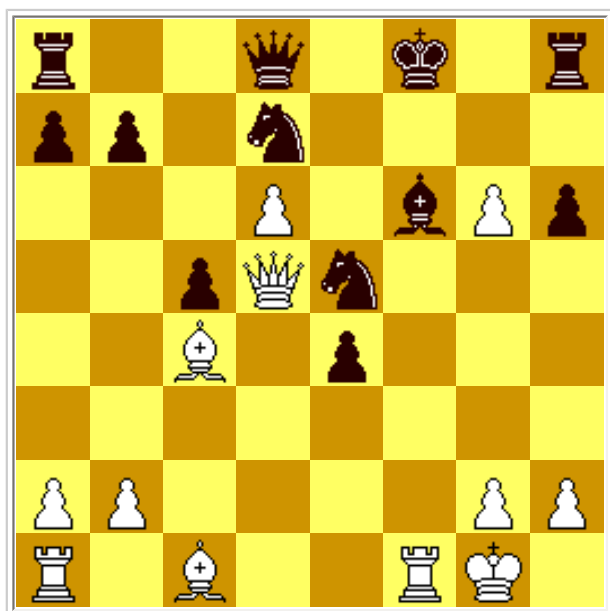
Or 18...Nf6 19.O-O Nd4 20.Be3 Qc6 21.b4! Qxd6 22.bxc5 Qxc5 23.Bxd4 Qxc4 24.Bxf6 Bxf6 25.Qd6+ 1-0 Lotti-La Rosa, Corr. 1986

19.O-O+ Bf6

After 19...Ke8 20.Qd5 Nb6 21.Bb5+ Kd8 22.Qxe4 a6 23.Bf4 White has very strong attacking position.

20.Qd5 Qd8??

Obligatory were 20...Kg7.



Mate in three!

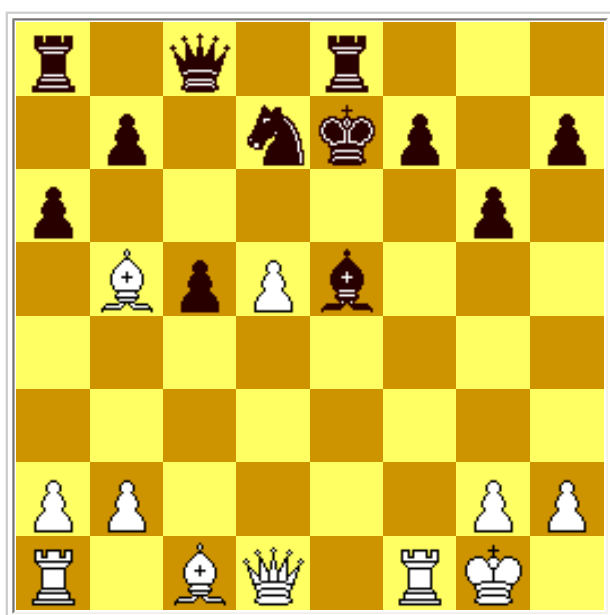
21.Bxh6+! Ke8 22.Qf7+! 1-0

J. Littlewood
IM N. Povah
England 1975

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f4 Bg7 8.e5 Nfd7 9.Ne4 dxe5 10.Nd6+ Ke7 11.Nxc8+ Qxc8 12.Nf3 Re8 13.fxe5 Nxe5 14.Bb5 Nbd7 15.O-O a6?

Correct is 15...Kf8 16.Nxe5 Rxe5 17.Bf4 with sharp and unclear position.

16.Nxe5 Bxe5



The first tactical idea that should come in your mind in such positions is "the kamikaze pawn!"

17.d6+! Kf8

If 17...Bxd6 18.Qd5 (ECO), and probably also 18.Re1+! should win.

18.Qd5 Bd4+ 19.Kh1 Nf6 20.Bh6+ Kg8 21.Rxf6! Bxf6 22.d7 axb5 23.dxc8=Q Raxc8 24.Qxb7 Bxb2 25.Rf1 1-0

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Modern Benoni

64 times typical tactics and new ideas - part 3

Tactics by IM Nikolay Minev

A67 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f4 Bg7 8.Bb5+

8...Bd7		Esposito	Reinhardt	Buenos
Aires	1957			
8...Nbd7		Gibbs	Milnes	England (ch
corr.)	1988			
8...Nfd7 9.a4		Garcia Martinez	Pigusov	
Moscow		1987		
		Kasparov	Nunn	Lucerne
(ol)	1982			
		Crouch	Friedland	
Northampton		1985		

A68-69 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f4 Bg7 8.Nf3 O-O

9.Bd3		Colle	Euwe	Antwerpen-
Rotterdam	1926			
9.Be2		Mavridis	Lampiris	
Athens		1982		

A70 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.Nf3

7...Bg4		Scheffner	Fischbach	Baden
Baden	1987			
7...a6		Kuuskmaa	Salceanu	
Corr.		1978		
		Packroff	Hodac	
Corr.		1991		
		Oestenstad	Bjarnehage	Norway-
Sweden	1984			
		Van Wely	Guseinov	
Pula		1997		
		Petrosian	Tal	Moscow
(g/5)	1975			
7...Bg7 8.Qa4+		Starck	Straatil	
Berlin		1985		
7...Bg7 8.h3		Gomez Esteban	Izeta	
Toledo		1991		
		Lyrberg	Lindfeldt	
Sweden		1994		

A. Esposito
E. Reinhardt
Argentina (ch) Buenos Aires 1957

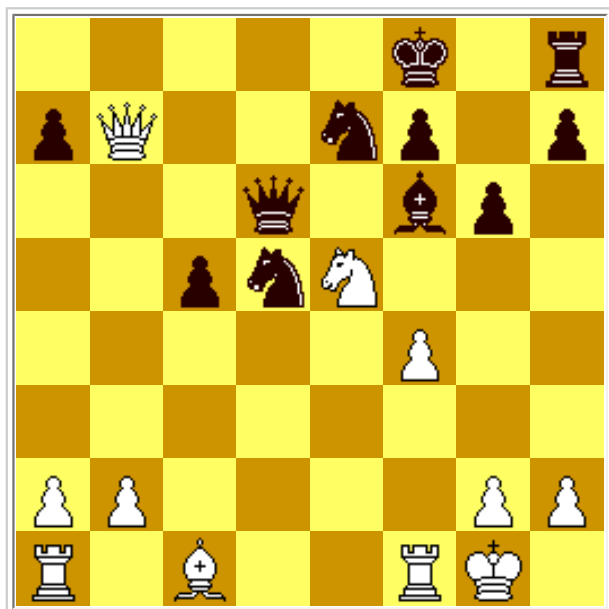
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f4 Bg7 8.Bb5+ Bd7?! 9.e5 Qe7

Relatively better is 9...Nh5.

10.Qe2 Bxb5 11.Nxb5 Nxd5 12.Nxd6+ Kf8 13.Nf3 Nc6 14.O-O Rd8 15.Qb5

ECO stops here. Practically, Black is already lost

15...Rxd6 16.exd6 Qxd6 17.Qxb7 Bf6 18.Ne5 Nce7



Only one move, and Black resigned. If you are able to see this move and the consequences in only 10 seconds, your tactical vision is very good!

19.Qa8+!

1-0

For if 19...Kg7 20.Qxh8+! Kxh8 21.Nxf7+.

Gibbs P.
Milnes A.
England (ch corr.). 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f4 Bg7 8.Bb5+ Nbd7?! 9.e5 dxe5 10.fxe5 Nh5 11.e6 Qh4+ 12.g3

If 12.Kd2!? fxe6 13.dxe6 Bxc3+ 14.bxc3 O-O 15.Nf3 unclear.

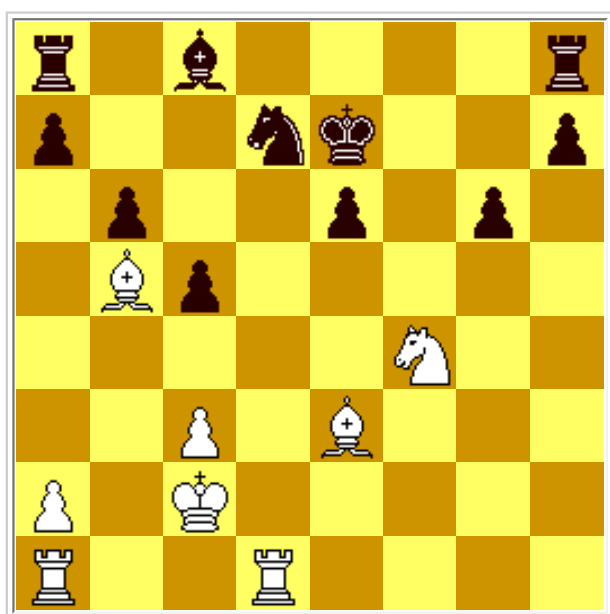
12...Nxg3 13.hxg3 Qxg3+?

Worse than. ECO's 13...Qxh1 14.Be3 Bxc3+ 15.bxc3 Qe4 16.Qf3 Qxf3 17.Nxf3, also favorable to White.

14.Kd2 Bxc3+ 15.bxc3 Qg2+ 16.Ne2 Qxd5+ 17.Kc2 fxe6

Or 17...Qxe6 18.Bh6 a6 19.Nf4 Qe4+ 20.Kb2 Qf5 21.Re1+ Kd8 22.Ba4 Re8 23.Rxe8+ Kxe8 24.Bc2 Qe5 25.Qd2 1-0 Mertens-De Smet, Corr. 1986.

18.Nf4! Qxd1+ 19.Rxd1 Ke7 20.Be3 b6



In this particular position Black's four pawns are not enough compensation for a Bishop. Prove that White wins by force!

21.Nxg6+! hxg6 22.Bg5+ Kf7

If 22...Nf6 23.Rf1 Rf8 24.Rxf6 Rxf6 25.Rf1, or 22...Ke8 23.Rd6 Rh7 24.Rxe6+ Kf8 25.Rf1+ Rf7 26.Rxf7+ Kxf7 27.Re7+ Kf8 28.Bxd7, and White should win in both cases.

23.Bxd7 Ba6 24.Rf1+ 1-0

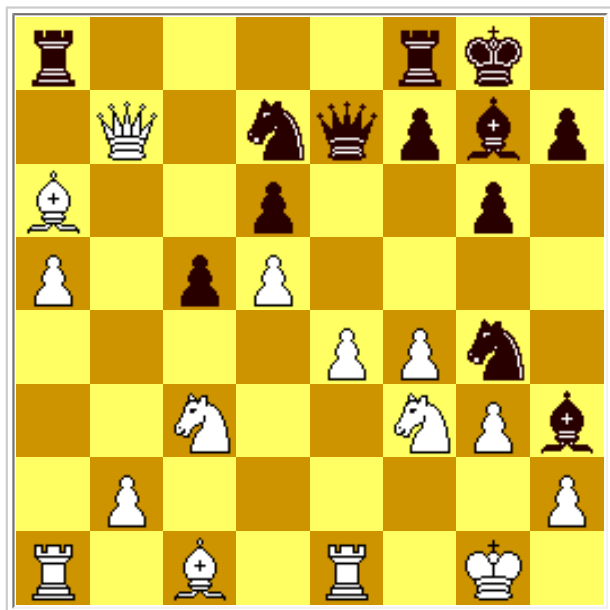
S. Garcia Martinez
GM Evgeni Pigusov
Moscow 1987

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 g6 6.e4 d6 7.f4 Bg7 8.Bb5+ Nfd7 9.a4 a6 10.Bd3 Qh4+ 11.g3 Qd8 12.Nf3 O-O 13.O-O Nf6 14.Qb3 Bh3 15.Re1 Ng4 16.Qxb7?!

16.Bf1! with slightly better game for White - Pigusov.

16...Nd7 17.a5 Qe7 18.Bxa6?

This loses, while 18.Qb3 is unclear



There is only one way for Black to win. Find it!

18...Rab8!

If 18...Rfb8? 19.Qc6!

19.Qc7

No better is 19.Qc6 Rb4!, and the imminent 20...Nb8 wins material.

19...Nde5!! 0-1

For if 20.Qxe7 Nxf3+ 21.Kh1 Nf2 mate.



GM Gary Kasparov

GM John Nunn

Lucerne (ol) 1982

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f4 Bg7 8.Bb5+ Nfd7 9.a4 Na6 10.Nf3 Nb4 11.O-O a6?!

Correct order of moves is 11...O-O 12.Re1 a6 13.Bf1 Re8 14.h3, with only slight edge for White.

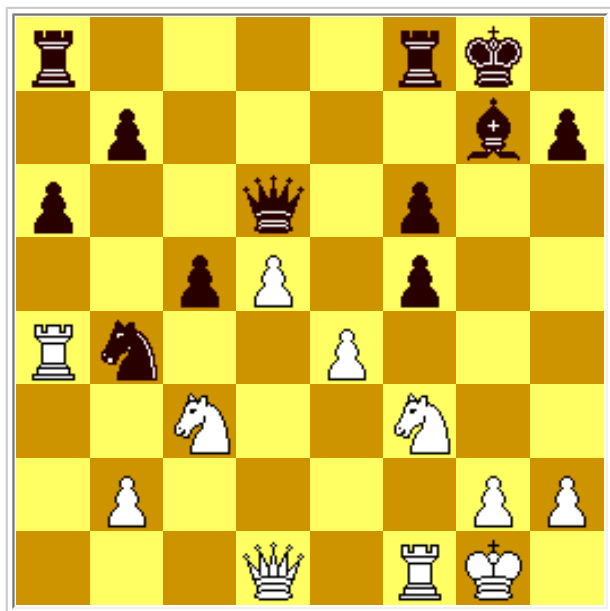
12.Bxd7+ Bxd7 13.f5! O-O 14.Bg5 f6

If 14...Bf6 15.Qd2! - Kasparov.

15.Bf4 gxf5

Or 15...Qe7 16.fxg6 (16.Re1!? - Nunn) hxg6 17.Nh4 Kh7 18.Bg3! - Kasparov.

16.Bxd6 Bxa4 17.Rxa4 Qxd6



Typical play when the initiative on the King's side is in progress. Don't hesitate even a second!

18.Nh4! fxe4 19.Nf5 Qd7 20.Nxe4 Kh8

If 20...Nxd5? 21.Qxd5+! Qxd5 22.Ne7+.

21.Nxc5 1-0

For if 21...Qxd5 22.Qxd5 Nxd5 23.Ne6 and wins.



IM C. Crouch
Friedland
Northampton 1985

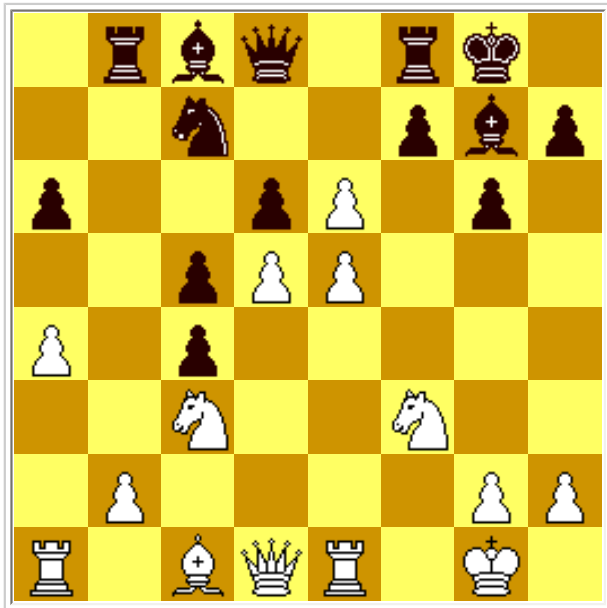
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f4 Bg7 8.Bb5+ Nfd7 9.a4 O-O 10.Nf3 Na6 11.O-O Nc7 12.Bc4 a6?!

The theory recommends 12...Nb6 13.Ba2 Bg4 with approximately equal chances.

13.Re1 Rb8

Relatively better but still inadequate is 13...b5 14.axb5 Nb6 15.Bf1 axb5 16.Rxa8 Nbxa8 17.Nxb5 Nxb5 18.Bxb5 Qb6 19.Bc6! and White's position is preferable.

14.e5! b5 15.e6! Ne5 17.fxe5 bxc4



Nice tactical trick and White wins.

18.Bg5! f6 19.e7!

Stronger than 19.exf6 Rxf6!

19...Qxe7 20.exf6 Qf7 20.Re7 1-0



Edgar Colle

GM Max Euwe

Antwerpen - Rotterdam 1926

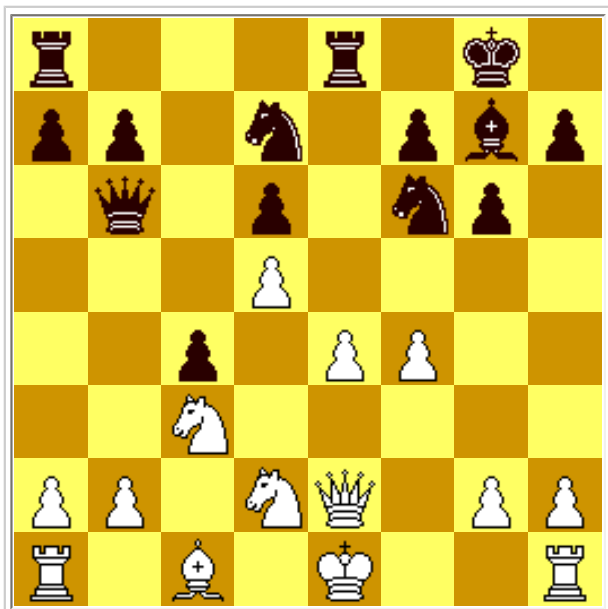
1.c4 Nf6 2.d4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 O-O 5.f4 d6 6.Nf3 c5 7.d5 e6 8.Bd3 exd5 9.cxd5 Qb6!?

Forgotten. ECO deals only with 9...Na6 and 9...b5.

10.Bc2?!

Unclear is 10.Nd2 Ng4 11.Nc4 Qd8 12.Be2 h5 Samisch-Euwe, Wiesbaden 1925. Probably 10.Qb3 should be played - Euwe

10...c4 11.Qe2 Re8 12.Ba4 Bd7 13.Bxd7 Nbxid7 14.Nd2



Is the typical sacrifice 14...Nxe4 here correct? Prove that in both cases: 15.Ndxe4 and 15.Ncxe4.

14...Nxe4! 15.Ncxe4

If 15.Ndxe4 Nc5 16.Be3 Bxc3+ 17.Nxc3 Nd3+! and wins.

15...Rac8!!

This quiet move is the point of the combination. If now 16.Nxc4 Rxc4 17.Qxc4 Nf6 with a decisive attack.

16.Kf1 f5 17.Nxc4 Rxc4! 18.Nf6+

Also hopeless is 18.Qxc4 Rxe4

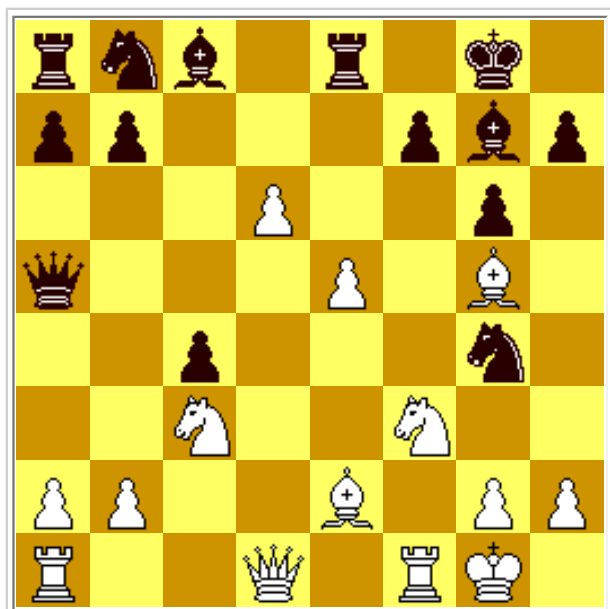
18...Nxf6 19.Qxc4 Ng4 0-1

Mavridis
Lampiris
Athens 1982

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f4 O-O 6.Nf3 c5 7.d5 e6 8.Be2 exd5 9.cxd5 Re8 10.e5 dxe5 11.fxe5 Ng4 12.Bg5 Qa5 13.O-O c4?!

According to the theory, correct is 13...Nxe5 14.Nxe5 Bxe5 15.Bc4 Qb4 unclear.

14.d6!



Something which every fan of Modern Benoni must know. Can Black win an exchange by Qb6+ (or Qc5+) and Nf2+, or this is a trap?

14...Qc5+?

Falling into the most typical trap in Modern Benoni. Black should try 14...Nxe5

15.Kh1 Nf2+? 16.Rxf2 Qxf2 17.Nd5 Bh3

Or 17...Na6 18.Be3 and White wins the Queen.

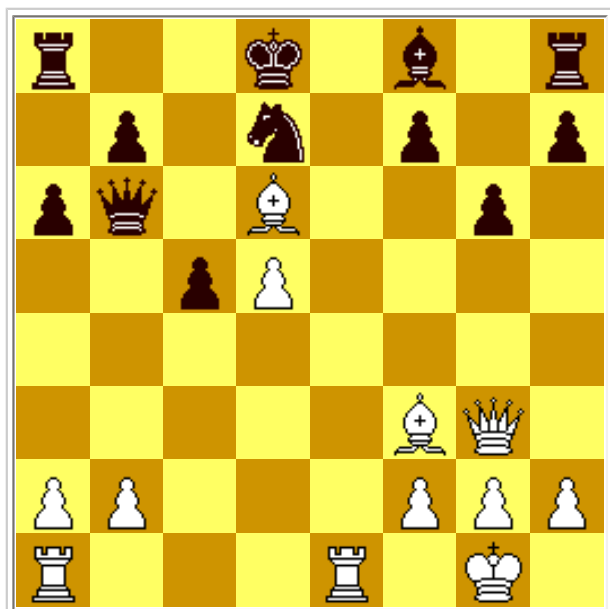
18.gxh3 Rxe5 19.Bxc4 Nc6 20.Nxe5 Bxe5 21.Qe2 1-0

A. Scheffner

Fischbach

Baden Baden 1987

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.Nf3 Bg4?! 8.Bf4 Bxf3? 9.Qxf3 a6 10.Be2 Nbd7 11.O-O Qe7 12.Qg3 Nxe4? 13.Nxe4 Qxe4 14.Bf3 Qb4 15.Rfe1+ Kd8 16.Bxd6 Qb6??



In addition to very poor play in the opening, with his last move Black allows a simple tactical trick. You should see this opportunity instantly!

17.Bc7+! 1-0

For if 17...Qxc7 18.Re8+!



E. Kuuskmaa

V. Salceanu

Corr. 1978

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.Nf3 a6 8.Bf4 b5?! 9.Qe2 Ra7?

Better is 9...Nh5!? 10.Bg5 Be7 11.Bh6 Bf8 12.Qe3 with a slight edge for White.

10.e5 Re7

Perhaps Black should try 10...dxe5 11.Bxe5 Re7 12.d6 Re6 13.Ng5 Bg7.

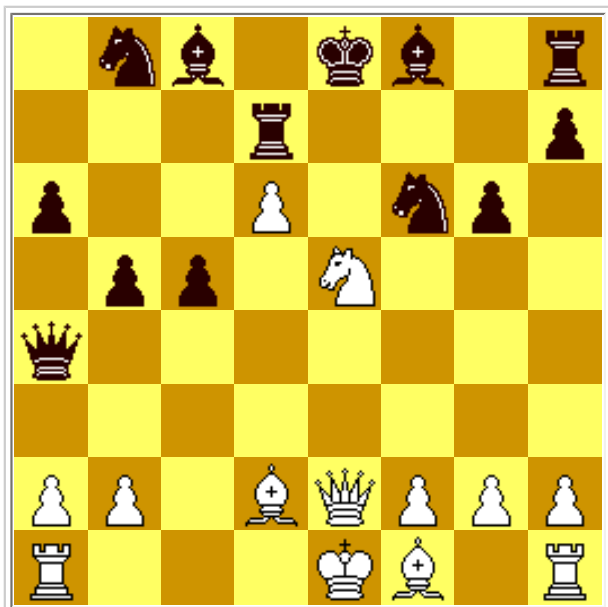
11.Be3 Ng4 12.Ne4! dxe5 13.d6 Rd7

Or 13...Re6 14.Nfg5 Nxe3 15.Qxe3 with a clear advantage for White.

14.Bg5 f6

If 14...Qa5+ 15.Bd2 Qd8 16.h3 f5 17.Neg5 Nf6 18.Nxe5 and wins.

15.Nxf6+! Nxf6 16.Nxe5 Qa5+ 17.Bd2 Qa4



Check, and White wins. Which check?

18.Nc4+! Re7

If 18...Kd8 19.b3, winning the Queen.

19.dxe7 1-0



Packroff
Hodac
Corr. 1991

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.Bf4 a6 8.e4 Bg7 9.Qa4+ Bd7

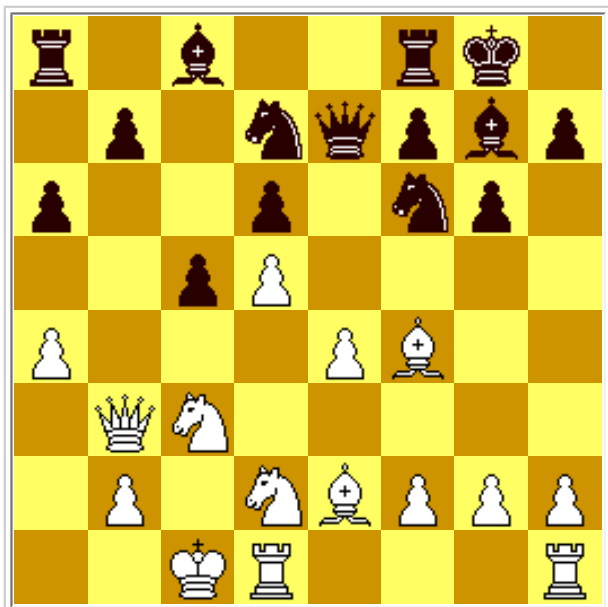
Theory recommends 9...Kf8 10.Be2 Qe7 11.O-O Nbd7, a variation which is not fully analyzed and is listed as unclear.

10.Qb3 Bc8 11.a4 O-O 12.Be2 Qe7!?

An interesting proposition by GM Tarjan, omitted in ECO.

13.Nd2 Nbd7 14.O-O-O?

White should play 14.O-O.



Castling long is usually a bad idea for White. Black has at his disposal a typical attacking source, applicable in any opening with castling on the opposite wings. Don't hesitate, this does not calculations!

14...b5!

Every attack begins with the opening of files!

15.axb5 axb5 16.Bxb5

No better is 16.Nxb5 Nxe4.

16...Ba6 17.Bxa6 Rxa6 18.Bg5 Rb8 19.Qc2 Ra1+ 20.Ndb1 Ne5 21.Qe2 c4 0-1

After the imminent 22...Nd3+ White's position is getting out of hand.



IM B. Oestenstad

P. Bjarnehage

Norway-Sweden, Stockholm 1984

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.Bf4 a6 8.e4 Bg7 9.Qa4+ Bd7 10.Qb3 Qe7!?

A very interesting novelty, probably worthy of further investigation.

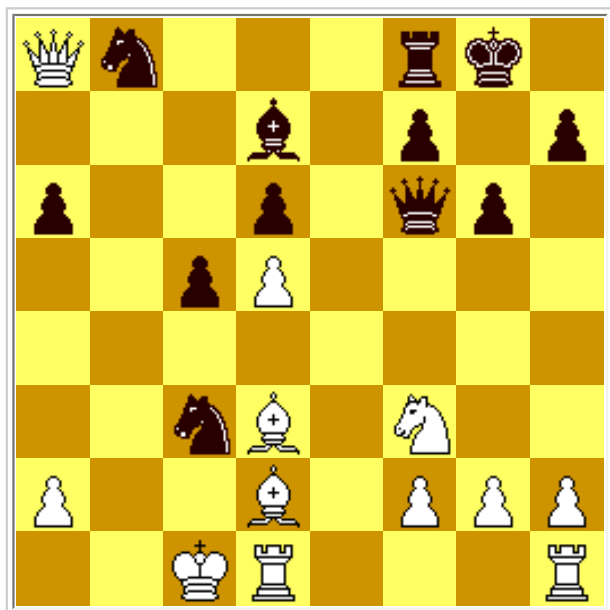
11.Qxb7?!

After 11.Bxd6 Qxd6 12.Qxb7 O-O 13.Qxa8 Qb6 Black has more than enough compensation for the sacrificed exchange. Perhaps White's best continuation is 11.Nd2.

11...Nxe4 12.O-O-O?

As we already know, usually the long castling is not a good idea for White. Instead 12.Nxe4 Qxe4+ 13.Be3, and if 13...Qb4+ 14.Qxb4 cxb4 15.Bd4 (15.Nd4) looks playable.

12...Bxc3! 13.Qxa8 O-O 14.bxc3 Qf6 15.Bd2 Nxc3 16.Bd3



Sacrificing a Rook, Black has achieved winning attack. May you prove that? Next two moves are decisive!

16...Na4! 17.Qb7 Bb5! 18.Bc3 Qxc3+ 19.Bc2 Nb2! 20.Ne1 Nc4 21.Nd3 Na3 22.Ne1 Qa1+ 23.Kd2 Nc4+ 24.Ke2 Qe5+! 25.Kf3

Also hopeless is 25.Kf1 Ne3+ 26.Kg1 Nxd1 27.Nf3 Qe2

25...Na5! 0-1

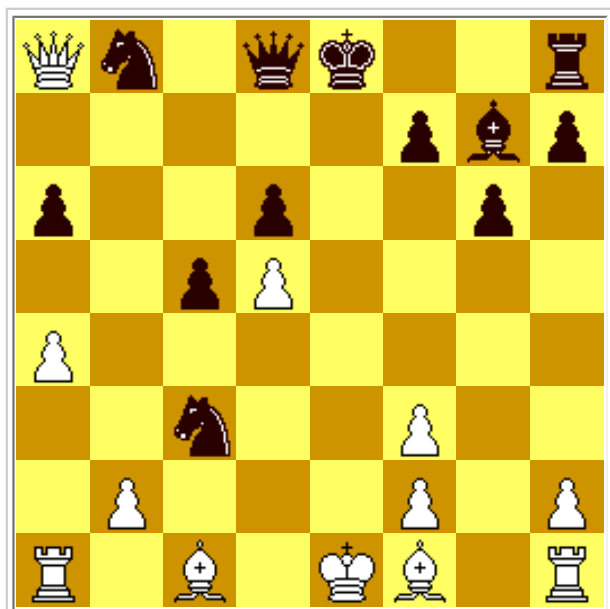


GM Loek van Wely
IM A. Guseinov
Pula 1997

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nc3 g6 7.e4 a6 8.a4 Bg4 9.Qb3 Bxf3 10.Qxb7 Nxe4?

ECO wrongly shows this move as an interesting possibility. Better is 10...Bxg2 11.Bxg2 Nbd7.

11.gxf3 Nxc3 12.Qxa8 Bg7



ECO gives 13.Be3 O-O 14.Ra3 Nb1! unclear. Can you find stronger continuation for White?

13.Ra3!

This novelty refutes the whole variation with 10...Nxe4.

13...O-O 14.bxc3 Re8+ 15.Kd1 Qf6 16.Be2 1-0

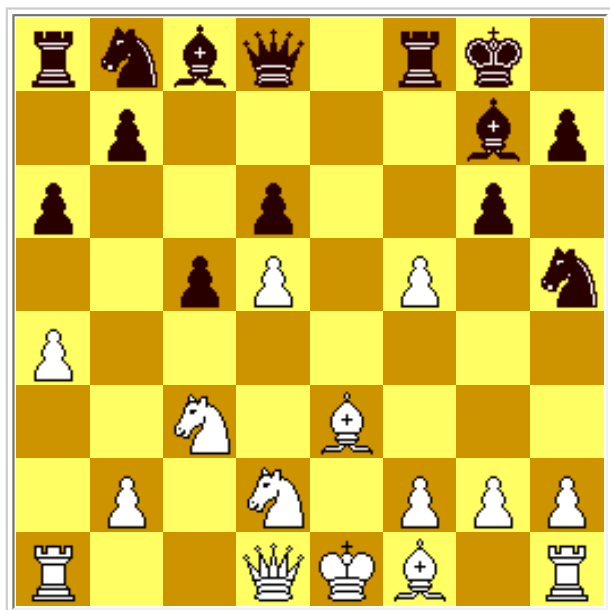


GM Tigran Petrosian

GM Mikhail Tal

Moscow (g/5) 1975

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.Bf4 a6 8.e4 Bg7 9.a4 O-O 10.Nd2 Nh5 11.Be3 f5!? 12.exf5



A critical position for this variation. Both options: 12...Bxf5 or 12...gxf5, involve tactics. Which is correct?

12...gxf5?

Correct is 12...Bxf5!, and if 13...g4 14.Bd4! 14.gxf5 Bxe3 15.fxe3 Qh4+ 16.Ke2 Ng3+ 17.hxg3 Qxh1 18.fxg6 Qh5+ 19.Kd3 Qxg6+ 20.Nde4 Nd7 with a sharp and unclear position.

13.Qxh5 f4 14.Bd3 h6 15.Qg6 Rf6 16.Qh7+ Kf8 17.O-O Bg4 18.Nc4 fxe3 19.fxe3 Nd7 20.Ne4 1-0



B. Starck
IM L. Stratil
Berlin 1985

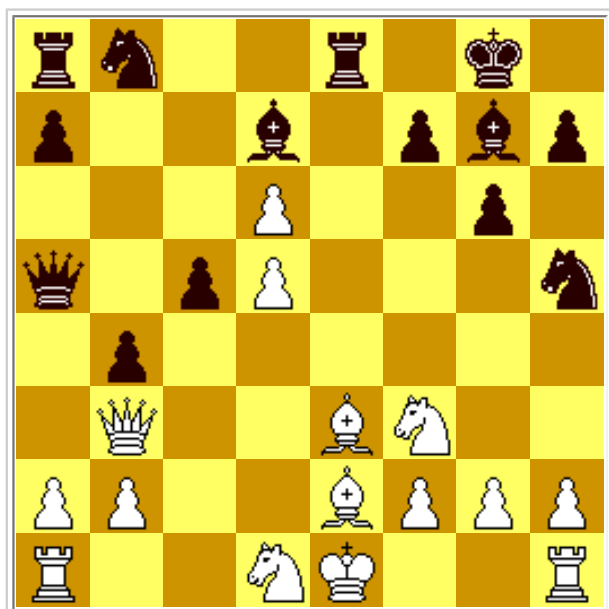
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.Bf4 Bg7 8.Qa4+ Bd7 9.Qb3 Qc7 10.e4 O-O 11.Be2?! b5 12.e5

After 12.Bxb5 Nxe4 13.Nxe4 Qa5+ 14.Bd2 Qxb5 Black has enough compensation for the pawn.

12...Nh5 13.exd6 Qa5 14.Bd2 Re8 15.Nd1 Qb6 16.Be3 Qa5+ 17.Bd2

Or 17.Nd2 Na6 18.Bxh5? c4! 19.Qa3 Qxa3 20.bxa3 Bxa1 21.Be2 Be5 22.O-O c3 23.Nf3 c2 0-1, Zaid-Gofstein, Kiev 1976.

17...b4 18.Be3



Black's pieces are very aggressive. How to take advantage of that?

18...Nf4!! 19.Qc4

If 19.Bxf4 Ba4 and after 20.Qc4 or 20.Qd3 Black wins by 20...Bb5!.

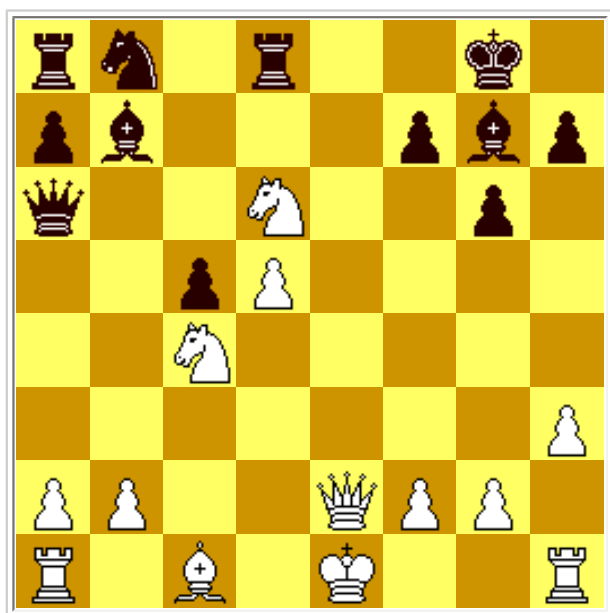
19...Nxb2+ 20.Kf1 Bh3 21.Kg1 Nxe3 22.fxe3 Bf5 23.Qf4 Re4 0-1

IM Gomez Esteban
GM Izeta Txabarri
Toledo 1991

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.h3 Bg7 8.Nf3 O-O 9.Bd3 b5 10.
Bxb5

For 10.Nxb5 - see next example.

10...Nxe4 11.Nxe4 Qa5+ 12.Nfd2 Qxb5 13.Nxd6 Qa6 14.N2c4 Rd8 15.Qe2 Bb7



Is 16.Qe7 a good or a bad move?

16.Qe7?

This loses!. Correct is 16.Nxb7 Qxb7 17.Ne3 with approximately equal chances.

16...Rd7 17.Qe8+ Bf8 18.Nxb7

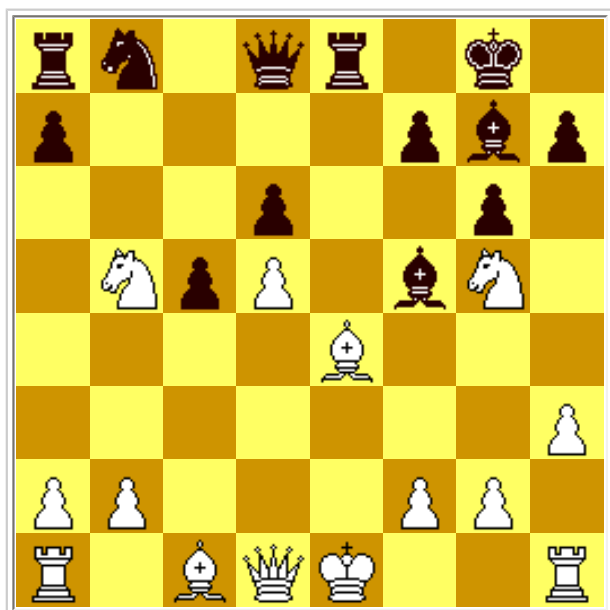
If 18.O-O Rxd6 19.Bh6 Nd7.

18...Qxc4! 19.Nd6 Qxd5 20.Ne4 Qd1+ mate 0-1

IM P. Lyrberg
J. Lindfeldt
Sweden 1994

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.h3 Bg7 8.e4 O-O 9.Bd3 b5 10. Nxb5 Nxe4 11.Bxe4 Re8 12.Ng5!? Bf5?!

A novelty with dubious value. If 12...h6 13.Ne6! Theory recommends 12...Ba6 13.Nc3 h6, but the position after 14.Ne6!? fxe6 15.dxe6 Nd7 16.Qa4 requires further analysis.



White has a clever resource which convincingly refutes Black's novelty 12...Bf5.

13.Qa4! Bd7

If 13...Bxe4 14.Nxd6!

14.O-O Qb6 15.Bd3 f6

If 15...a6 16.Qf4!

16.Nxh7! Re5

Or 16...Kxh7 17.Qh4+ Kg8 18.Bxg6 with a decisive attack.

17.Qh4 Bxb5 18.Bxb5 Qxb5 19.Nxf6+ Kf7 20.Ne4 Rxd5 21.Ng5+ 1-0

For if 21...Ke8 22.Qe4+.

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