

1 d4 Nf6  
 2 c4 e6  
 3 Nf3 b6  
 4 a3

The theory of this line was in it's infancy at the time. The variation was just starting to become popular due to it's adoption by Garry Kasparov in the early 1980's.

4 ... Bb7  
 5 Nc3 d5  
 6 cxd5 exd5  
 7 g3 Be7  
 8 Qa4+ c6  
 9 Bg2 Nbd7  
 10 O-O O-O  
 11 Rd1 Re8

The opening is over and White has retained the advantage of the move for the forthcoming positional struggle. First he tries for a minority attack. Black responds by counter-attacking White's queenside, knowing that he will leave a hole at c5.

White manoeuvres a knight to this square and prepares to break with pawn to e4. Ideally he would like to play this move at a time when:

- a) if Black does not capture it, White can advance it to e5 with a massive kingside attack in prospect and ...
- b) if Black does capture White will be able to force a pawn advance to d5 smashing the black centre.

In answer to this Black over-protects the square d5 and then uses his a-file initiative to cancel out White's e-file threats.

12 b4 b5  
 13 Qb3 a5  
 14 Bf4 Bf8  
 15 Ne5 Qe7  
 16 Nd3 Nb6  
 17 Nc5 Bc8  
 18 e4 axb4  
 19 axb4 Rxa1  
 20 Rxa1 dxe4  
 21 N3xe4 Nfd5  
 22 Bd6 Qd8  
 23 Bxf8 Kxf8

Black has survived the storm and now has only a slight disadvantage.

White, however, continues to press.

24 h4 h6  
 25 Nc3 Nxc3

26 Qxc3 Nd5  
 27 Bxd5?

White hopes to reach an endgame where the black bishop is hemmed in by his pawns on c6 and b5 and is less powerful than the knight. However this move severely weakens the white squares around his king.

27 ... Qxd5  
 28 Nd3 Qf3  
 29 Qc5+ Kg8  
 30 Nf4?

Continuing with his faulty plan. 30 Ne5 is out of the question due to 30 ... Rxe5 followed by 31 ... Bh3 but 30 Re1 would retain drawing chances, although the defence would be difficult.

The game now enters a tactical phase as Black exploits his won position.

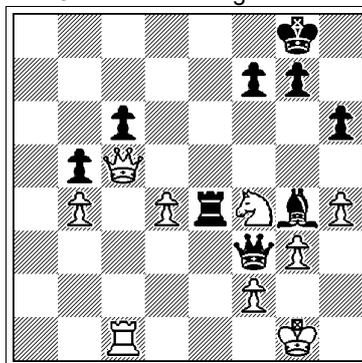
30 ... Re4

Threatening 31 ... Rxf4 32 gxf4 Bh3.

31 Rc1

31 Qxc6 would lose to 31 ... Re1+. The text allows 31 ... Rxf4 32 gxf4 Bh3 to be met by 33 Qxc6.

31 ... Bg4!!



(position after 31 ... Bg4)

Zugzwang!

Black would like to move his bishop to f5 in order to be able to move his rook and follow up by playing the bishop to e4.

White now has 35 legal moves - but no good ones. The rook must stay on the first rank to prevent 32 ... Re1+ and on the c-file to retain the threat of capturing on c6. 32 Qxc6 immediately loses to 32 ... Re1+!. The knight must stay put to prevent 32 ... Bh3. 32 d5 loses to 32 ... Rxf4 33 gxf4 Bh3 as the queen's diagonal would now be blocked. The king cannot move. 32 h5 Kh7! regains the zugzwang and the queen cannot

move and still cover f5.

32 Qd6 Bf5

Now 33 Qxc6 still loses to 33 ... Re1+. The queen must stay on the h2-b8 diagonal to prevent 33 ... Rxf4 34 gxf4 Qg4+ 35 Kh2 Qh3+ 36 Kg1 Be4. 33 Ra1 loses to 33 ... Re8 threatening 34 ... Be4 and forcing 34 Rf1 when Black wins as per the game.

33 h5

Ingenious.

White frees the h4 square for his queen. However this is still insufficient and Black can win immediately with 33 ... Re8 34 Rf1 Re2! 35 Qd8+ Kh7 36 Qh4 Be4 to be followed by 37 ... Rb2.

But Black sees a way to gain a move on this line.

33 ... Kh7

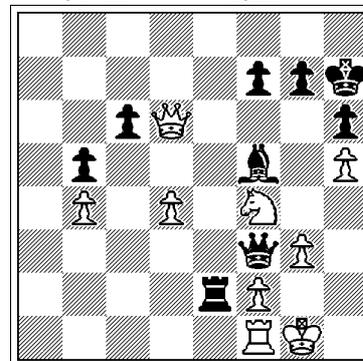
Equally ingenious.

Now 34 Qd8 does not gain a tempo.

34 Rf1

34 Ra1 Re8 would have forced this anyway due to the threat of 35 ... Be4 when White needs his rook on f1 to be able to play his king to h2

34 ... Re2!!



(position after 34 ... Re2)

35 Resigns

35 Nxe2 loses to 35 ... Be4 when White no longer has g2 covered. 35 Qd8 Be4 36 Qh4 saves the kingside, but loses the queenside after 36 ... Rb2. Other White 35th moves lose to 35 ... Be4, as the rook on e2 prevents White from playing king to h2.