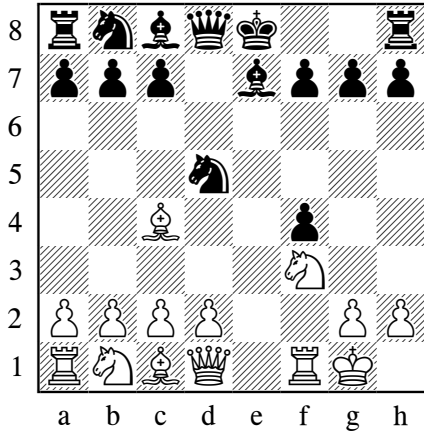


GAME 2

Magnus Carlsen – Wang Yue

Kings' Tournament 2010

1.e4 e5 2.f4 d5 3.exd5 exf4 4.♘f3 ♘f6 5.♙c4
♘xd5 6.0–0 ♙e7



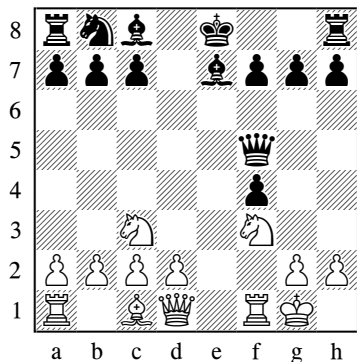
7.♙xd5?!

Even at this point this move is not much good. 7.♘c3 and 7.d4 are considered in games xxx and xxx respectively.

7...♖xd5 8.♘c3 ♖d8!

Compared with the previous game, Black should modify his approach.

8...♖f5

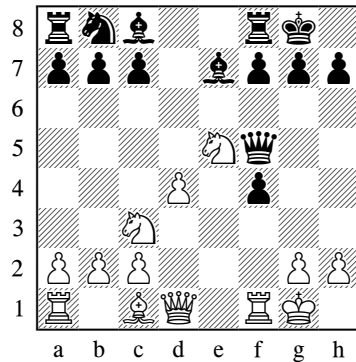


In this particular position this move is slightly less precise, though it remains quite playable.

9.d4

9.♙e1 ♙e6 10.d4 c6 11.♙e5 ♖g6 12.♙xf4 ♘d7 was roughly equal in Gulbe – Petrov, e-mail 1999.

9...0–0 10.♘e5



10...g5?!

This move is principled, but it carries obvious risks.

10...♘d7 11.♙xf4± Hresc – Pinkas, Werfen 1994.

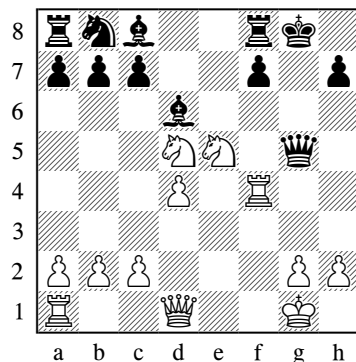
10...f6!N 11.♙xf4 ♖e6 12.♘d3 ♖f7∞ looks like Black's best option.

11.♘d5

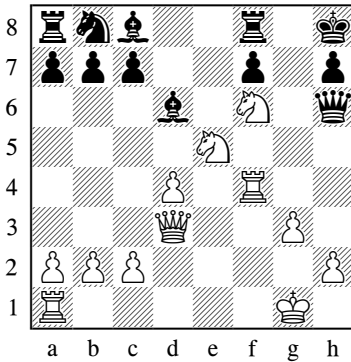
Gaining time against the bishop and preparing a sacrifice on f4.

11...♙d8

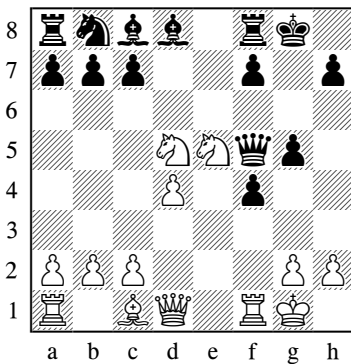
The alternative is 11...♙d6N 12.♙xf4! gxf4 13.♙xf4 ♖g5 when White's best idea looks to be:



14. ♖f6†! (14. ♖d3 ♖h6 15. ♖af1 f5 16. ♖4f3 ♖h8 17. ♖h3 ♖g7 18. ♖g3 ♖h6 19. ♖h3 ♖g7 20. ♖g3 is a draw.) 14... ♖h8 15. ♖d3 ♖h6 16. g3! Threatening to plant the rook on h4. (After 16. ♖af1 White has a strong initiative for the sacrificed piece, but the outcome is still not clear.)



16... ♖xe5 17. dxe5 ♖g6 18. ♖e3 ♖e6 19. ♖h4 ♖d7 20. ♖xh7 ♖xh7 21. ♖xh7† ♖xh7 22. ♖d1 ♖ad8 23. ♖d4 ♖g6± White has at least a draw here, but he has reason to play for more.



12. ♖xf4!N

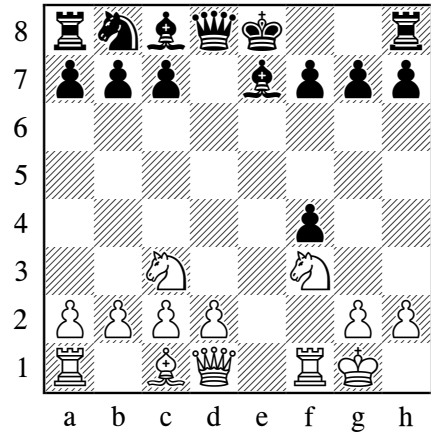
Much better than 12.c4? ♖d7 13. ♖d3 c6 14. ♖c3 ♖g6† as in Koller – Jakel, Germany 2010.

12... ♖xf4 13. ♖xf4

White may not have a forced win, but he obviously has excellent attacking chances for the piece. A possible continuation is:

13... ♖e6 14. ♖d2 ♖d7 15. ♖ae1 ♖f6 16. ♖f3→

Black will have a hard time dealing with the attack.



9.d4 0-0?

Much too timid! Better is:

9...g5!

This principled move has seldom been played, but I have not been able to find any good ideas against it.

10.h4

10. ♖e1 0-0† Hague – Dilleigh, West Bromwich 2003.

10. ♖e1 0-0† Cross – Vnukov, e-mail 1999.

10. ♖e5 0-0 11. ♖e4 ♖f5 12. ♖d3 ♖d5 13. ♖e1 ♖c6† Brazina – Karhanek, Prerov 1995.

10. ♖xg5!?N ♖xg5 11. ♖xf4 (or 11. ♖e2†) gives White some compensation for the missing piece, although I have a hard time believing in it.

10... h6 11. ♖e4

Bromberger – Fischer, Bayern 2004.

11...0-0N†

White does not have enough for the missing pawn – simple as that.

10. ♖xf4

White should be slightly better from here. His lead in development, extra central pawn and open f-file should count for slightly more than Black's bishop pair.

10... ♖f5

10...c6 11. ♖d3 has been played in some games. Here too the evaluation hangs somewhere in the balance between equal and slightly better for White.

11.♙e2

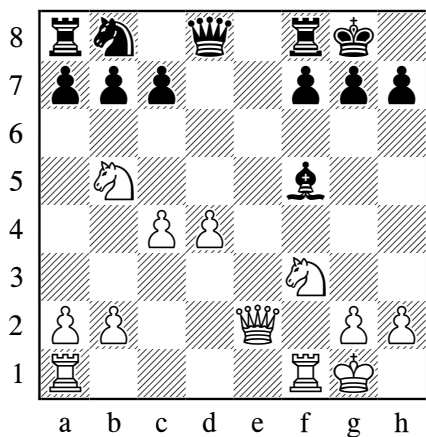
Another direction is 11.♙d2 c6 as in Fedorov – Svidler, Smolensk 2000, and now 12.♖ae1N looks consistent.

11...♙d6

Another possibility is: 11...♘c6 12.♖ad1 ♖e8 (12...♙d7!?N looks like a better chance to equalize) 13.♙b5! ♙c8!N (13...♙d7?! 14.d5 ♘b4 15.d6! ♙xb5 16.♘xb5± R. Jones – Abdulla, Mallorca 2004.) 14.♖de1 (14.♘d5 ♙d6 15.♙xd6 cxd6 16.♖de1 ♙d7=) 14...a6 15.♙b3 and White keeps a modest edge.

12.♙xd6 ♙xd6 13.♘b5 ♙d8 14.c4±

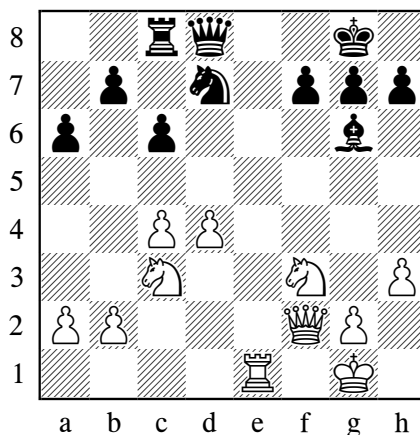
White has emerged with a pleasant advantage thanks to his extra space, central pawn majority and freer development: a success from the opening, although we have seen in the note to move 9 that Black could have done much better. This game received considerable attention from numerous commentators in the chess press, and since I have no wish to take up space reproducing the analysis of others, I will keep the remaining comments brief.

**14...a6**

14...c6 15.♘c3 ♘d7 16.♖ae1±

15.♘c3 ♘d7 16.♖ad1 ♙g6 17.♙f2 ♖e8 18.h3

White continues to build his position patiently.

18...♖c8 19.♖fe1 ♖xe1† 20.♖xe1 c6**21.d5?!**

Slightly premature. White could have kept a pleasant edge with 21.a3 ♘f6 22.♘e5±.

21...♘f6

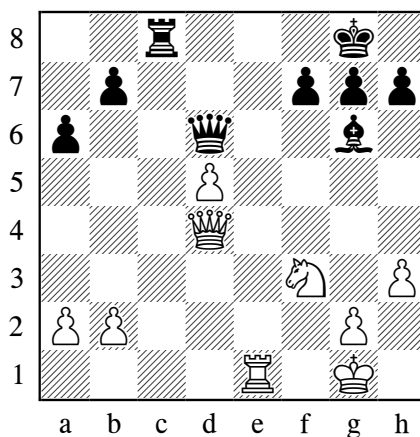
21...cxd5! 22.cxd5 ♙c7 23.♙d4 ♙d6= would have enabled Black to equalize.

22.♙d4

22.dxc6! ♖xc6 23.♙a7 ♖xc4 24.♙xb7 ♙c8 25.♖d1± would have maintained an edge for White.

22...cxd5 23.♘xd5 ♘xd5 24.cxd5 ♙d6

Black is more or less equal here, but Carlsen manages to squeeze the maximum from the position.



25. ♖e5 ♖e8?!

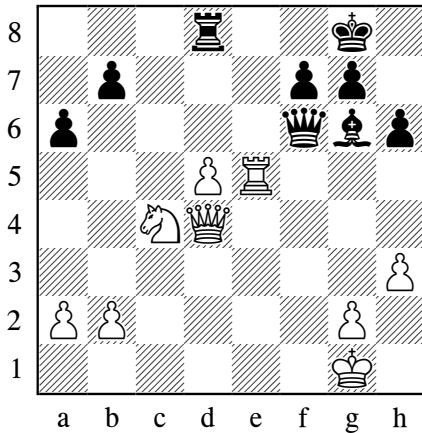
25...f6! 26. ♖xg6 hxg6 27. ♖e6 ♖c1†
(27...♖c5=) 28. ♖f2 ♖c2† 29. ♖f3 ♖d7= is equal.

26. ♖e3 ♖d8 27. ♖c4 ♖f6 28. ♖e5

28. ♖xf6 gxf6 29. ♖e7±

28...h6?

28...b5! 29. ♖a5 h6 would have kept the d-pawn restrained.



29. d6! ♖f5

29...b5 30. d7! ♖h7 31. ♖b6±

30. ♖b6 ♖e6?!

30...♖d3! 31. d7 ♖b5 32. a4 ♖f1† 33. ♖h2 ♖c6
34. ♖d2±

31. d7!±

Now Black is almost paralysed and Carlsen converts his advantage smoothly.

31...♖h8 32. a4 g6 33. ♖c3 ♖g7 34. a5 h5
35. h4 ♖xd7

35...♖g8 36. ♖c5± ♖xc3 37. ♖xc3 ♖f8 38. ♖c7
♖e7 39. ♖xb7 ♖xd7 40. ♖a7+–

36. ♖xd7 ♖xd7 37. ♖d4+– ♖c6 38. b4 ♖b5
39. ♖h2 ♖a4 40. ♖d5 ♖c6 41. ♖xf6† ♖xf6
42. ♖c5 ♖e6 43. ♖g3 f6 44. ♖f2 ♖d5 45. g3 g5?!

Allowing a quick finish.

46. g4! hxg4 47. h5 ♖e4 48. ♖c7 f5 49. h6 f4
50. h7 g3† 51. ♖e1 f3 52. h8=♖ f2† 53. ♖e2
♖d3† 54. ♖e3

1–0

Although the final result was a success for White, the position after 7. ♖xd5?! ♖xd5 8. ♖c3 ♖d8! looks more than satisfactory for Black, and after the improvement 9...g5! I was unable to find anything decent for White. In the next game we will turn our attention to a different approach after 6.0–0 ♖e7.

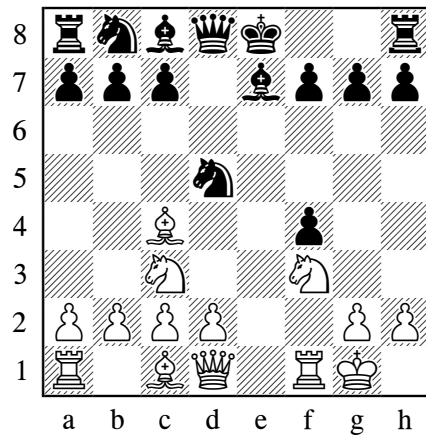
GAME 2

Vadim Zvjaginsev – Evgeny Tomashevsky

Ulan Ude 2009

1. e4 e5 2. f4 exf4 3. ♖f3 ♖e7 4. ♖c4 d5 5. exd5
♖xd5 6.0–0 ♖e7 7. ♖c3

This seems like a better try than 7. ♖xd5, and it can be compared with 6. ♖c3!? as featured in Game xxx in the next chapter.



7... ♖xc3

Black can consider some other moves as well.

7... ♖b6 8. ♖b3 0–0

8...c5?! 9. d3± g5? allows White to launch a dangerous attack: