Recent Advances in the Reversed Modern Opening (6…O-O)

This line was developed using Deep Fritz 8 on two dual processing computers. The desktop computer used 64-bit dual Opteron 240's, 2 GB RAM, and operating system of Windows Professional XP-64. The laptop computer used a 32-bit Intel dual core T2300, 2 GB RAM, and operating system of Windows Home XP. The desktop computer processed about 1800 positions per second, and the laptop computer processed about 2400 positions per second. Therefore, the 32-bit laptop was about 25% faster than the 64-bit desktop. However, the 64-bit desktop found the stronger or better computer lines more quickly in time. This result may be due to the fact that a 64-bit operating system decodes eight instructions concurrently in contrast to a 32-bit operating system that decodes four instructions concurrently. The interplay of the speed of the respective front side bus was not evaluated.

The A07 line of interest is the same as the Reversed Modern[†] through ply 6 for white, 6.Nc3:

> 1.d3 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.g3 d5 4.Bg2 Nf6 5.O-O Bd6 6.Nc3

Instead of continuing 6…d4 where the black pawn attacks the white knight at c3, black delays that tactic and castles first 6… O-O. This move is more obvious to a human player than the farsighted and less intuitive computer continuation of 6…d4 above. What follows is white's pawn ply 7.e4 which mates Black in about 90 moves.

The computer line continues as:

> 6.…O-O 7.e4 d4 8.Ne2 a5 9.c3 Bc5 10.cxd4 exd4 11.Bg5 h6 12.Bxf6
> Qxf6 13.Rc1 Qd6 14.Qc2 Bb6 15.Nf4 Re8 16.a3 Ra6 17.Nd2 Qd8
> 18.Nd5 a4 19.f4 Ba7 20.f5 Bd7 21.Kh1 Ra5 22.f6 g6 23.Nf3 Bb6 24.Qd2
> Kh7 25.Qf4 Rg8 26.g4 g5 27.Qg3 Rb5 (Transposes as 27...Be6 28.Nd2
> Rb5) 28.Nd2 Be6 29.Rb1 Rc5 30.b4 (Transposes as 30.b3) 30...axb3
> 31.Rxb3 Re8 32.Rb2 Bxd5 33.exd5 Rxd5 34.Nc4 Rc5 35.Qh3 Ne5
> 36.Be4+ Ng6 37.Qf3 Re6 38.Re2 Re8 39.Rfe1 Rxe4 40.Rxe4 Qd5
> 41.Rf1 Nh4 42.Qe2 Qc6 43.Qa2 Qd5 44.a4 44...Ng6 45.Rf5 Qc6 46.a5
> Ba7 47.Rxc5 Bxc5 48.Nd6 Nh8 49.Nf5 Qa6 50.Qc2 Qxa5 51.Kg2 Bb6
> 52.h4 Ng6 53.hxg5 hxg5 54.Qb3 Nh8 55.Re7 Qd2+ 56.Kh3 Kg6 57.Re8
> Qf2 58.Rg8+ Kxf6 59.Ng3 Qf3 60.Rxh8 Bc5 61.Qb5 Bd6 62.Rh6+ Ke7
> 63.Qxg5+ Kd7 64.Qf5+ Qxf5 65.Nxf5 Bc5 66.g5 Ke8 67.Kg4 b6 68.Kf4
> Bb4 69.Nxd4 Kd7 70.Kf5 Bc3 71.Nb5 Bb4 72.Rh7 Kc6 73.Na7+ Kb7
> 74.Rxf7 Ka6 75.g6 Bc3 76.Nc6 Bh8 77.Rh7 (#13) [1-0]

[†] See the seminal paper: C.James.2005."The Reversed Modern Opening".[unpublished]

The continuing hypothesis is that e2-e4 puts White's pawn on a poisoned square. However, there are always exceptions to the rule, and in the case of this secondary variation, 7.e4 is the fastest line to neutralize Black.