MACHINE INTELLIGENCE RESEARCH UNIT UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

Subject:

King and Rook vs. King and Knight

Author:

Danny Kopec

Memorandum:

MIP-R-125

Date:

March, 1979

ABSTRACT '

Experiments were conducted with Class A chess players for both the Rook's side and Knight's side of the KRKN ending to learn how hard correct play is. New drawn positions were discovered where the defending king and knight are separated. As a result some additional heuristics have been developed. Further experience with strong master players is reported.

<u>Notation</u>

Symbol	Meaning
!	A very good move
!!	A spectacularly good move
?	A bad move which changes a won position into a draw or a drawn into a lost position
?!	λ bad move inspired by a good idea
+	Check
+-	White wins
=	The position is drawn
K	King
R	Rook
N	Knight
Q	Queen
Р	Pawn
В	Pishon

Advice Language 1 (ALI: Michie, 1976) has provided a vehicle for translating human chess endgame expertise into machine-usable form. The endgame is the phase of chess where it is believed the greatest subtlety and domain-specific knowledge is necessary. An endgame which has received attention is King and Rook vs. King and Knight(KRKN). Both won and drawn positions exist, there being a total of approximately three million legal positions.

Reports on implementations in Advice Language appear elsewhere (Bratko, Kopec & Michie, 1978; Bratko and Michie, 1979). This note discusses the chess in KRKN.

The basic text used for the purposes of our research was the 8 pages in Fine's, <u>Basic Chess Endings</u> (BCE). Bratko had also used the following position, Diag. CORNCASE:WK:a3,BK:a1,WR:b8,BN;cl, from Keres' <u>Practical Chess Endings</u> (PCE) as a special case he called Corncase. Black to move can only draw with 1...Ne2. On 1...Na2 2.Kb3,Kb1 (2...Ncl+ 3.Kc2+-) 3.Rb7!, Ncl+ 4.Kc3+,Kal or Ka2 and 5.Kc2 wins, or if 1...Nd3 2.Kb3,Nc5+ (2...Ncl+ 3.Kc2 +-) 3.Kc4, Ne4 4.Rd8,Kb2 5.Rd4 etc. wins by a technique which will be exemplified a number of times in this report.

In 1977, an experiment was conducted to learn about how hard the play for both sides in KRKN is. In this experiment, which we shall call Experiment 1, there were 3 subjects from the Edinburgh University Chess Club, averaging 1882 in rating. Each subject was assigned two positions; one being a drawn position which the subject was required to defend correctly for the N-side, and the other being a lost position where the subject had to find a winning sequence for the R-side.

Drawn positions were those used in testing the Bratko Advice Table (Bratko & Michie, 1979) and were labelled T1,T2,T3 (T1=Corncase, T2 = WK:e6,WR:a7,BK:f8,BN:g8, T3 = WK:c3,WR:e2,BK:e4,BN:f3). Won positions were carefully chosen from BCE based on the stated longest number of moves required to win the longest being 24 moves in the main variation from Diagram No. 501 (original source Berger), (WK:c6,WR:h8,BK:a7,BN:b7, B to move). The second and third longest were stated as 17 moves (WK:c6,WR:d8,BK:a7,BN:e3, W to move) and 15 moves (WK:d6,WR:d2,BK:b6,BN:f6, W to move). However, the longevity of win in these positions was

not substantiated when verified with a database (See Kopec & Niblett, 1979). All positions were ranked in difficulty and subjects were assigned test positions so that there was an overall balance in difficulty amongst them. Of course length does not necessarily correlate with difficulty, but this method of ranking was chosen for its convenience.

The experiments required that the subjects complete their tasks in 1 hour. That is, they were first to defend KNKR over 30 moves (resignation, loss on time, checkmate, or loss of the N being termination conditions) against the author, who is a U.S. National Master, and then after a short break, they were to try and win their allotted won positions in 30 moves against the same opponent. I also had 1 hour for 30 moves. The subjects were requested to state any specific knowledge they had about KRKN or KNKR (won positions or drawn positions respectively). The experimental sessions averaged about 3 hours.

There were several interesting discoveries for us from this experiment. Subjects seemed to have no trouble defending the drawn positions which the Bratko Table had been tested on. Yet, on going over Corncase with one subject, Philip Edwards (1840), after the experiment, I found that he did not seem to know why the other N moves lost and had chosen 1. ... Ne2 "intuitively" (see Appendix A). This was surprising because 1. ... Ne2 would seem to be the counter-intuitive move, separating BK and BN. In winning won positions the subjects went wrong in 2 of the 3 test cases. However, the one subject who did win, Pat Coleman, did so in 11 moves, 6 less than the variation given by Fine (see Appendix B). A later confirmation with the Thompson KRKN database (a computer generated complete lookup table from which minimaxoptimal play for both sides can be ascertained) indicated that the initial position (WK:c6,WR:d8,BK:a7,BN:e3 (No. 499 BCE)) is in fact won in 10 moves with best play by both sides. The retrospective analysis of subject Philip Edward's play in failing to win proved to be most rewarding. From the position, WK:d6,WR:d2,BK:b6,BN:f6 (15 moves in BCE) W: Edwards B:Kopec, play went:

- 1. Rb2+ Ka5
- 2. Kc6 ?!

White indicates he has some ideas about how he might win, but the correct move was 2.Re2 with a sure win, i.e. 2. ...Kb5 3.Re5+!,Kc4 4.Re6!

Nh5 5.Rh6 (Not 5.Re4+?,Kd3 6.Rh4,Nf6 7.Ke5

further progress), Ng3 (If 5. ...Ng7 6.Ke5 wins quickly) 6.Rh4+!, Kb5

7.Kd5,Ne2 (If 7. ...Nf5 B.Re4 etc.)

8.Rc4,Ng3 9.Rc2,Nf5 10.Re2,Kb4

11.Re5, Ng3 12.Kd4 etc. and it is clear

the N will be picked up in a few moves.

This maneuvering, taking advantage of pins

and forks, is a typical method by which

White wins when the BK and BN get considerable ably separated. Just what is "considerable

separation" is a difficult question. For

Bratko's Advice Table, separation was defined

as when the BK and BN are 4 or more K moves

apart. Of course there are problems in such

an absolute definition since the relative

position of the other pieces will affect the relations between the BK and BN.

The record of the Edwards' sequence continued:

2. ... Ne4

(Main Diagram)

3. Rbl Nc3

4. Rb3 Na4

Now a standard position which we call the "Edge Draw" has been reached. This type of drawn position in KNKR was known 300 years ago (Lolli: Roycroft, 1972).

5. Rbl Nc3

6. Rb8 etc. and White offered a draw after move 22. In many positions of the Edge Draw Black can only play one move, but for this reason the draw is even clearer.

Returning to 2. ...Ne4 (Main Diagram) I was interested in the value of the position. The study of this one position sprouted a whole family of positions which indicated the richness of the ending, even though only 4 pieces are involved. The first move tried was 3. Rb3. Then on 3. ...Ka4? 4.Rd3 Black is in a bad way (4. ...Nf2 5.Rd2) and his stranded knight will soon be captured. Correct was 3. ...Nd2 (Diag. D1) when after 4.Rd3,Nb1 (Not Nc4 5.Kc5+-) draws. Then I decided to investigate an even stronger looking first move from the Main Diagram -- 1.Kd5,Nc3+ 2.Kc4,Ne4 (Not Na4 3.Ra2) and now there is only one winning move which you would select only after performing some considerable

will be discussed fully later. Correct is 3.Re2!, Nd6+ 4.Kc5, Nb7+ 5.Kc6,Nd8+ (5... Ka6 6.Ra2+,Na5+ 7.Kc5 +-) and White soon wins.

Hence from the Main Diagram is White winning after 1.Kd5! ? No, the stunning, counter-intuititive 1.... Nf6+!! draws!

The answers to White's 7 possible K moves are given in counter-clockwise order: (a)Ke6,Ne4 (b)Kd6,Ne4+ (c) Kc6,Ne4 (returning to Main Diag.)

(d)Kc5,Nd7+ or Ne4+ (e)Kc4,Nd7 (f)Kd4,Nd7 (g)Ke5,Nd7+. 1...Nf6+!! is the first case from our experimental work where a counter-intuitive "separating move" is required.

Now turning to Diagram D4, Black has only one drawing move, for if 1. ...Kb6 2.Rd4,Ng5 (On 2. ...Ng3 3.Kd5,Nf5* 4.Re4,Kc7 5.Re5,Nh6 6.Ke6 etc.) 3.Rg4! continuing:

- i. 3. ...Nf7 4.Rg6+,Ka5(forced) 5.Kd5! and White wins in 4 moves (database) or
- ii. 3...Nf3 4.Rg6+,Ka5 5.Kd5 (Now if 5....Nd2 6.Rg2,Nb3 7.Kc4! wins), Kb4 6.Rg4+,Kb5 7Rg2,Kb4 8.Ke4 wins.

Going back to 04, only 1. ...Kb7 draws. After this move it is fairly clear that White cannot prevent the reunion of the BK and BN via Nf6-Ne8-Nc7, Nf6-Kc7-Nd7, Kc6 (c7)-Nd6 or Nf6-Nd7. I have defined these meeting squares as "Common Ground", and White's inability to prevent Black's achievement of Common Ground guarantees a draw. Diagram 3 depicts the possibilities for Common Ground after 1. ...Kb7 from D4. Bratko's Table played the phlegmatic 1. ...Ka7 after which only the problematic 2.Rd7+! wins. Now if 3. ...Ka6 or 3. ...Kb6 we transpose into the variations given above for 1. ...Kb6, so only 3. ...Kb8 needs to be considered seriously (...Ka8 is pointless). Thus 4.Rd4, Nf6 5.Rd6, (our investigation of the perfect play offered by the database has taught us that such direct attacking moves by the R on the fleeing N are frequently very strong) Ne4 6.Re6,Ng5 7.Rg6,Ne4 8.Kd4 wins quickly.

Thus this retrospective analysis stemming from the Main Diagram, has brought out a fact which Bratko and his sources (Fine's BCE and Keres' PCE) had overlooked: namely that there is a whole domain of positions which lie on the boundary of the win-draw territory for KRKN which may entail a somewhat counter-intuitive, separating N move or a subtle K move to avoid forthcoming tactical losses. For example from D4, the move 1...Kb6 brings out a conceptual rule which helps to curtail the amount of "blind" look-ahead necessary, which I formulate: If K and N are 3 or more K moves apart, don't move your K onto a file

With these ideas in mind, I was able to generate quite a number of positions where the original Bratko Table would fail to play the correct defensive move(s) and this was not surprising since such positions had previously been considered lost. Some examples of these positions follow. In Diag D6, only 1....Kc8 draws by ensuring Common Ground. If 1....Nf6 2.Rd6 wins quickly. The same motif arises in D15 where 1....Kd6 draws. If instead 1....Ng3? 2.Re3 wins, but 1....Nh2 also draws. Also in D17, only 1....Kq3 draws. After 1....Nb5? 2.Rh3! wins.

When given a choice, the best path for the N back to its K — the central route or the peripheral one — depends on the precise positioning and interactions between the 4 pieces. For example, in D9 after 1...Nc6+ (Not 1...Nf5+12.Ke5 etc. against which the heuristic could be: "Don't move your N towards both the opposing K and R unless its the only way back to your K.") 2.Kc4 leaving Black with more ways to go wrong than 2.Kc5. Now only the peripheral 2...Na5+ draws, while the central 2...Ne5+? loses similarly to 1...Nf5+ after 3.Kd5. On the other hand in D10, the peripheral 1...Na4? loses after 2.Kb4 since 2...Nc3 is impossible, but 1...Ne4 2.Kd4,Nd2! just draws; or if 2.Kd3,Nc5+ and Black can repeat.

I conclude this section with a position contrived to demonstrate that distance between the BK and BN is not the fundamental measure, but rather the number of paths between them.

The investigation began with Diag. T (for trial) (WK:b3, WR:h8, BK:d1,BN:a7) where I wanted to show: 1) The BK and BN can be quite far apart and the position is still drawn. 2) The path chosen by the N must offer options for Common Ground (usually central) rather than necessarily minimize K and N distance. That is 1... Nc6 over 1...Nb5. In fact, I discovered the position is lost after all! On 1...Nb5 2.Rd8+,Ke2 3.Kb4! (not 3.Rd7,Ke3=), Nc7 4.Rd7 wins handily, while 1...Nc6 also loses to 2.Kc3!, Ne5 (If 2...Ke2 3.Re8+,Kf3 4.Re6,Nd8 5.Rd6,Nb7 6.Rd5,Kf4 7.Kb4! snatches the N) 3.Rd8+,Kc1 4.Re8,Nf3 5.Re3 and wins. Since the mating threats utilizing the positions of the K's play a vital role in the above variations. I tried only altering the position of the BK. The first such position of the control of the BK. The first such position of the control of the BK on fl. (Diag D8). Here after 1...Nc6 it is fairly clear that White cannot cut off both of Black's threatened paths to

Common Ground (Ne5 and Nd4). But after 1. ... Nb5 2.Rd8 (Diag D8.2) (the normal winning try, preventing both ... Nd6 and Nd4), Nc7!! is White winning? International Master Craig Pritchett and I pondered over this position for a half hour, being unable to find a win. fact the position is drawn! After further consideration from White's point of view, 2. ... Nc7 makes more sense; Rd7 winning the N in a few moves was threatened. The N moves directly away from its K into the hinterlands of our 8x8 territory, and yet it can persist in fleeing from the enemy K and R. A continuation might go: 3.Rd6,Kf2 (Not 3. ... Ke2 4.Rd7) 4.Rf6+! (On 4.Kc4,Kf3 5.Kc5,Kf4 (or Ne8) Black draws without much difficulty), (Diag. D8.4) 4. ... Kg3! (not 4. ... Ke3 5. Kc4, Ke4 6.Rc6! +-). Now after 5.Kc4 we reach Diag. D18. Black's drawing move is 5. ... Kh4!! It is the only move which can handle the threatened 1.Rc6,Ne8 2.Re6,Nc7 3.Re7 etc. i.e. 2. ...Ng7 is now possible. The logic of this move may be stated as a heuristic which is an inductive step on one mentioned earlier: "Don't move your K onto a file or rank the N may need to use in order to be united with the K."

This concludes my survey of drawn positions in KRKN. They indicate that further investigation into the results of one aspect of Experiment 1 was necessary: "Are Class A players able to handle the defense of KNKR?"

For this purpose Experiment II was designed. The experimental conditions were similar, except that this time subjects were required to hold 3 drawn starting positions for 20 moves, with 40 minutes for each. Of the 16 benchmark positions which had been accumulated, the original Bratko Table had failed on 13 of them. Study of the concepts involved in these 16 positions facilitated their ranking for difficulty. Since most "A" players will know that they should keep K and N together, positions where counter-intuitive separating moves are necessary were considered most difficult. Of the 9 positions chosen for the Experiment, the Bratko Table had failed on 6 of them. The average rating of the subjects was 1947. In 5 of the 9 test treatments subjects made errors despite playing the correct first move (considered most difficult).

Two of three subjects knew at least that their K and N should be kept together whenever possible.

The results of this experiment gave evidence that at least expert and perhaps master strength may be required to defend KNKR correctly. Some specific concepts, discrete pieces of knowledge, involved in the correct defense of separated K and N positions have been defined. An important aid in the verification of the value of these positions has been the Ken Thompson database. Thompson has written programs which generate databases for all 4-piece endings. Databases also exist for KRP vs. KR, KQP vs. KQ, KRK, KPKP (pawns on same file), and KPK. Readers are referred to Clarke (1977), Kopec & Niblett (1979), and Arlazarov & Futer (1979) for further information on the construction and organization of databases.

One of the two longest wins of 27 moves found by the database follows: (Diag. L, WK:dl,WR:hl,BK:bl,BN:g4) Along the way there may be more than one move, after the first, which is optimal for White. However there are no "improvements" for Black in the sense of variations which lose in more than 27 moves, only less. Readers are invited to do some verification for themselves and see how difficult it is even to keep track of the distinct variations. Note also how the N must wander far afield and then be permitted to reunite with the 8K in this, the best variation.

```
1. Rh4
        Ne5
2. Re4 Nf7
3. Rb4+ Ka2
4. Kc2 Ka3
5. Kc3 Nd6
6. Rb6 Ne4+
7. Kd3 Nf2+
8. Kc4 Ndl
               Here if 9. ... Ka2 10. Rb8, Nb2+ 11. Kc3 transposes into the
9. Rb3+ Ka4
               well-analysed al-Adli position (Averbakh, 1979) whose
               background will be more fully described later.
10. Rf3
         Nb2+
11. Kc3
         Ka3
12. Rq3
               A pretty passing move.
12....
         Na4+
13. Kc4
         Ka2
               A form of the "al-Adli" position has been achieved anyway.
14. Kb4
         Nb2
15. Rq4
         Nd3+
16. Kc3
         Nc5
17. Rc4
         Ne<sub>6</sub>
18. Ra4+ Kbl
19. Ra5
         Nq7
               The rest involves just picking up the trapped N.
20. Re5
20....
         Ka2
21. Kd4
         Kb3
22. Kd5
         Kc3
23. Kc6 Kd4
24. Kd6
         Kd3
25. Ke7 Kd4
               26. Rg5 etc.
```

At this point it seems appropriate to mention a little of the long history of KRKN, which dates back to the ninth century A.D. when it was analysed for the ancient game of Chaturanga. The only pieces whose movements are the same as for chess are the Rook and Knight. At that

time an Arab, al-Adli, analysed the diagrammed position (Diag. AL, WK:b5, WR:h8, BN:b7:a7) correctly as a win. Quoting from Averbakh (1978,pl07), "In 1899, Berger, in his first edition of Theorie und Praxis der Endspiele subjected the position to a detailed analysis, which however, contained a number of mistakes." (See Averbakh for a more complete account).

Fine and others have used this faulty analysis, as the following shows:

1.Rf8:

(Fine's punctuation) Rh5 is best (database) winning in 13 rather than 14 moves. Here Fine's notes say, "Not Rh7 because of ...Kb8 2.Kb6 drawn." However 2.Kc6 wins, and more quickly than in the main variation given by Fine. This is one of two cases where Fine gives the wrong gametheoretic value for a position. (Kopec & Niblett, 1979)

What Fine probably overlooked is that on 2.Kc6!,Nd8+ (If 2...Na5+ 3.Kb6,Nc4+ 4.Kb5!,Nd6+ 5.Kc6 etc.) 3. Kd7,Nb7 (all forced) 4.Rh5, Ka7 5.Kc8!! (Not 5.Kc6, Ka6 6.Rh6!,Na5+ 7.Kc5+,Ka7 8.Kb5 etc. cycling) wins in a few moves.

- 1. ... Nd6+ forced.
- 2. Kc6 Nc4
- 3. Rd8! In spite of Fine's exclamation mark, this move changes the depth of win from 11 to 17 moves in this position (Kopec & Niblett, 1979)

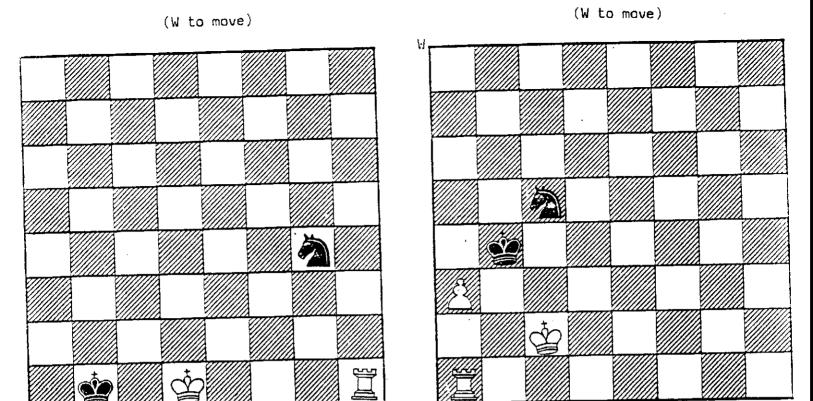
Another long KRKN win from the database (24 moves) which has been used to test humans on, is the position in Diag. R2 (WK:d6,BK:f7,WR:h5,BN:c3) White to play. A.J. Roycroft, a leading endgame analyst, (see Appendix C of Kopec & Niblett, 1979) was given this position along with two others having the same depth of win, and a week to analyse them (similar to completing an adjourned game). He was also given four other "24 movers" and their optimal solutions for training. Then he was asked to play each of the first three 24-movers against the Thompson database, using whatever notes he had, plus an auxiliary board on which he could move pieces around, and a rate of 16 moves per hour. He completed the tasks without an error in each case. Not long after this, I.M. Pritchett was given the position in Diag. R2 to play with tournament time conditions. Pritchett also knew that this entire "miniaturized version" of chess was not to be underestimated from my having shown him numerous positions and tricks. He found the same line which Roycroft had found with a week to study the position. In this case the defense was tackled by an updated version of Bratko's Advice Table. Unfortunately, the Table did not play the optimal defense on move 12. Yet Pritchett had played optimally in the first half of the task, which was The matical commence from DT accord

1.	Ke5	Na4	13.	Re3	Nd4
	Rh7+	Ke8	14.	Re4	Nb3
	Kd6	Nb6	14.	Kd6	Kg7
	Rh8+	Kf7	16.	Kd5	Nd2
5.	Rh4	Nc8+	17.	Rf4	Nbl
6.	Kd7	Nb6+	18.	Rf3	Kg6
7.	Kc6	NcB	19.	Rd3	Kf5
8.	Rh7+	Kf6	20.	Kc5	Ke4
9.	Rh6+	Kg7	21.	Kc4	Ke5
10.	Re6	Na7+	22.	Kb4	Ke6
11.	Kd6	Kf8	23.	Rdl,	'resigns'
12.	Kd7	Nb5			

The experiments with Roycroft and Pritchett show that, given the time and some previous knowledge or experience, humans can find the challenge of optimal play for the stronger side in KRKN positions within reach.

In the recent Llcyd's Bank Master's tournament (August, 1978), after 120 moves and three adjournments, the game Balinas-Benjamin had reached the diagrammed position (Diag. 88: WK:c2,WP:a3,WR:a1,BK:b4,BN:c5, W to play). Grandmaster Balinas, the exchange up for many moves, had now --- made the win difficult by cramping his Rook with the advance of the RP. He came to the analysis room believing the position was now drawn. I showed him the only win which seems to exist in the position: that is by reaching al-Adli's position --- 1.a2,Ka3 2.Rh1, Kxa2 3.Kc3: Now if 3. ...Na4+ 4.Kb4,Nb2 we have the basic al-Adli position, or if 3. ...Nb3 4.Rh5! wins quickly, i.e. (a) 4. ...Na1 (the N in the corner always loses in these positions) 5.Rh2+,Kb1 (or 5....Ka3 6.Rb2) 6.Rg2 +- (b) 4. ...Ka3 5.Rb5 +- (c) 4. ...Nc1 5.Kc2,Nb3 6.Rd5,Na1+ 7.Kc3, Nb3 8.Rb5,Nc1 9.Kc2 +-. After resumption of play Benjamin resigned on move 130.

Ivan Bratko's modified (August, 1978) KRKN Advice Table now plays the correct move(s) in every one of our 20 benchmark positions (Kopec & Niblett, 1979). This is mainly due to a function, NSAFETY, which is based on the mobility and multiplicity of paths to the BK for the N. Niblett, however, has already found six more "separated" positions where it errs (personal communication). The investigation continues.



Diag. L

Diag. BB

APPENDIX A

Experimental Record of subject Edward's play in Corncase Date: October 19th, 1977

Grading: 1840 Rate of Play: 30/lhr. Experimenter: D. Kopec Starting Position: WK:QR3,WR:KN2,BK:QN8,BN:QB8 (See Keres, 1974)
White to Play

1.	R-N2Ch	K-RI	16. R-R1	N-Q7CH	(32)
2.	R-N8	N - K7 (5)	17. K-B4	K-Q6	(34)
3.	K-N6	K-N8	18. R-R8	N-85 ·	(36)
4.	R-QB8	N-Q5Ch(11)	19. R-Q8Ch	K-K7	(39)
5.	K-83	N-N4Ch(14)	20. R-Q4	N-Q7	(41)
6.	K-N4	N-Q5 (16)	21. R-R4	K-Q6	
7.	R-B5	K-N2 (17.5)	22. R-R3Ch	K-Q5	(43)
8.	K-B4	N-K7 (19)	23. R-R8	N-N6	(46)
9.	K-N4	N-B5 (22)	24. R-Q8Ch	K-B6	(48)
10.	R-85	N-Q6Ch(25)	25. K-K5	K-85	(50)
11.	K-84	K-B7 (27)	26. R-88Ch	K-Q6	(52)
12.	R-81	K-Q7 (29)	27. R-87	N-Q7	(53)
13.	R-KR1	N-K4Ch(30)	28. K-Q5	K-K6	(54)
14.	K-Q4	N-B6Ch	29. R-B3Ch	K-85	(55)
15.	K-K4	K-K7	30. R-Q3	N-B6	(56)

Subject had no previous knowledge of experimental domain

Note: Figures in "()" are the cumulative time consumed by the subject.

APPENDIX 8

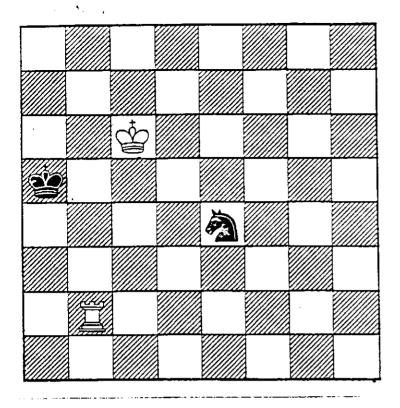
	Colem Kopec	an	Elo Rating (1965) (2350)	Minimax-Opt Value (Mov		Optimal move(s) and their mini- max-optimal path-lengths
1.	Rd4	(13)*		. 9		
1.	1/04	NF5		6		Kb8(9)
2.	Ra4+			6		
2.		Kb8		5		
3.	Re4			5		
3.	• • •	Ka7		3		Ng3(5)
4.	Kd5	,,,,,,		8		Kc7(3)
4.	,	Kb6		8		Nb3,Kb7,Kb6
5.	Ke6	(21)		7		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
6.	Rel			6		
6.	• • •	Kc5		5		Kc7,Kc6(6)
7.	Ke5	(22)		4		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
7 .	•••	Kc4		4		
8.	Kf4			3		
8.		Nh5+		3		
9.	Kg5	,		2		
9.		Ng3		2		
10.	Kg4	(25)		and captur N	es	

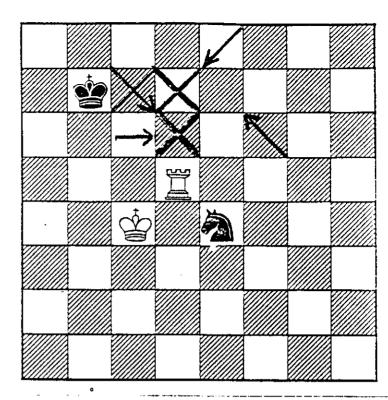
^{*} Figures in "()" after White's moves in this column are the total time from the allotted hour, consumed by subject.

This Appendix is taken from Kopec & Niblett (1979)



(w to move)





MAIN DIAGRAM

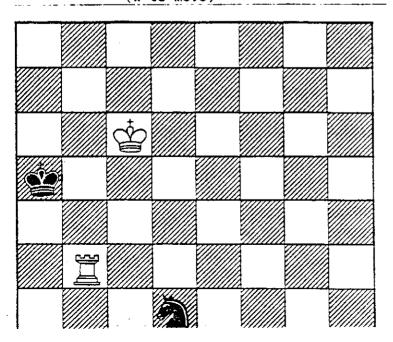
Diag. 3

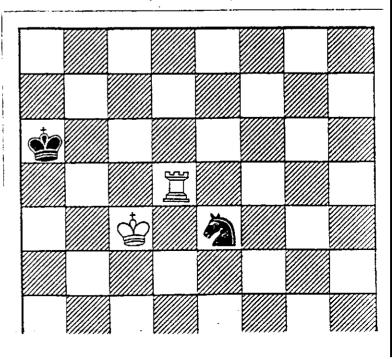
Position after 1. ... Kb7 from D4.

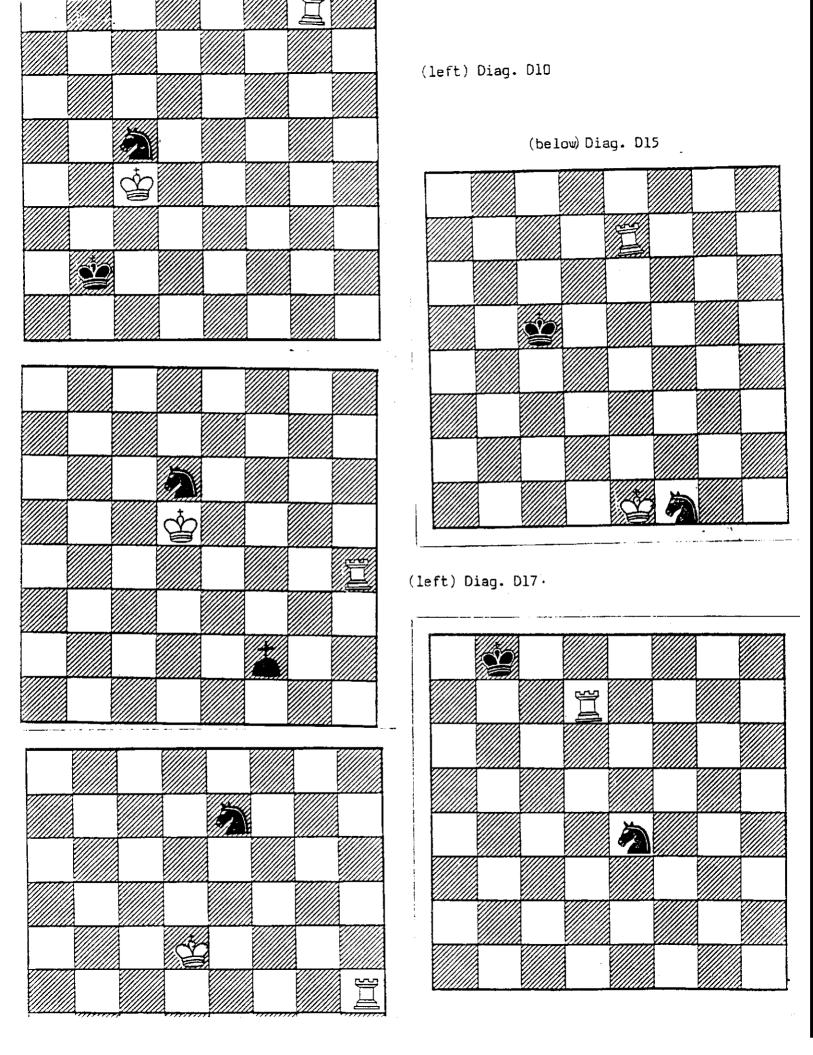
Squares which are "Common Ground" or potential meeting squares for BK and BN are marked with an "X". Paths to these squares are marked with "" also indicating approximate direction to target square(s).

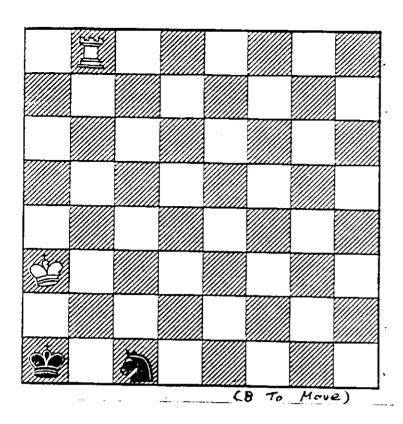
(W to move)

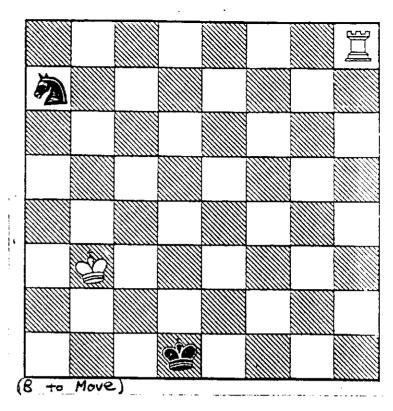
(B to move)





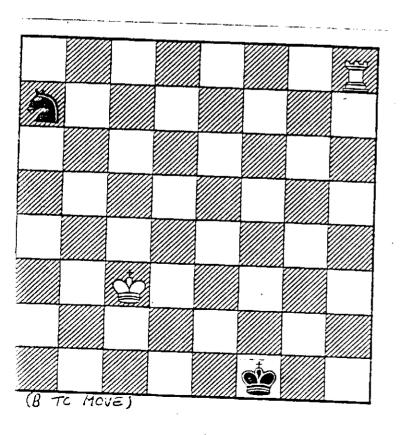


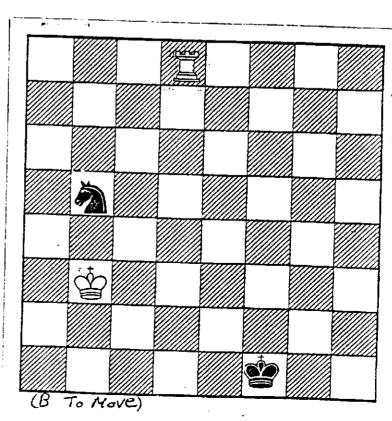




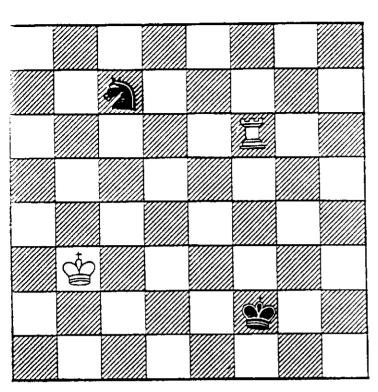
Corncase

Diag. T

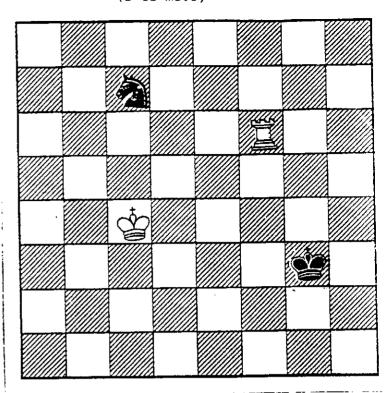




(B to move)

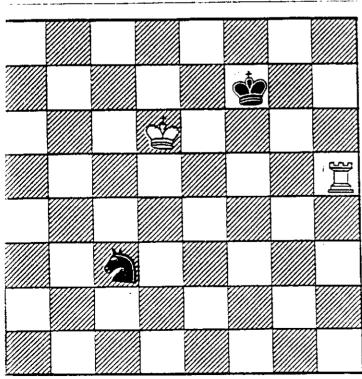


(B to move)



Diag. D8.4

Diag. D18



(W to move)

(B to move)

D: -- D:

REFERENCES

- Arlazarov, V.L. and Futer, A.V. (1979) Computer analysis of a Rook end-game. In <u>Machine Intelligence 9</u> (eds. Hayes, J.E., Mikulich, L.I. and Michie, D.). Chichester: Ellis Horwood and New York: John Wiley. In press.
- Averbakh, Y. (1978) Rook against Minor Piece Endings. London: Batesford Ltd.
- Berger, J. (1899) Theorie und Praxis der Endspiele (first edition)
- Bratko, I., Kopec, D. and Michie, D. (1978) Pattern-based representation of chess end-game knowledge. Computer Journal, 21, No. 2, pp. 149-153.
- Bratko, I. (1979) An Advice Program for the King-Knight vs. King-Rook Ending. MIP-R-128.
- Bratko, I. and Michie, D. (1979) A representation for pattern knowledge in chess end-games. Advances in Computer Chess 2 (ed. M.R.B. Clarke). Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.
- Fine, R. (1941) Basic Chess Endings. New York: David McKay & Co.
- Keres, P. (1974) Practical Chess Endings. London: Batsford Ltd.
- Kopec, D. and Niblett, T. (1979) How hard is the play of the King-Rook-King-Knight ending? Advances in Computer Chess 2 (ed. M.R.B. Clarke). Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.
- Mandler, A. (1970) Studies. Prague: Edice Sachoveho Klubu Ustredniho
 Domu Armady, Vol. 2, pp. 32-55.
- Michie, D. (1976) An advice-taking system for computer chess. <u>Computer Bulletin</u>, Ser. 2, Vol. 10, pp. 12-14.
- Roycroft, A.J. (1972) <u>Test Tube Chess</u>. Harrisburg, PA: Stackpole Books.

<u>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</u>

I wish to express my appreciation to Professor Donald Michie and to the University of Edinburgh for making this work possible.