

B19

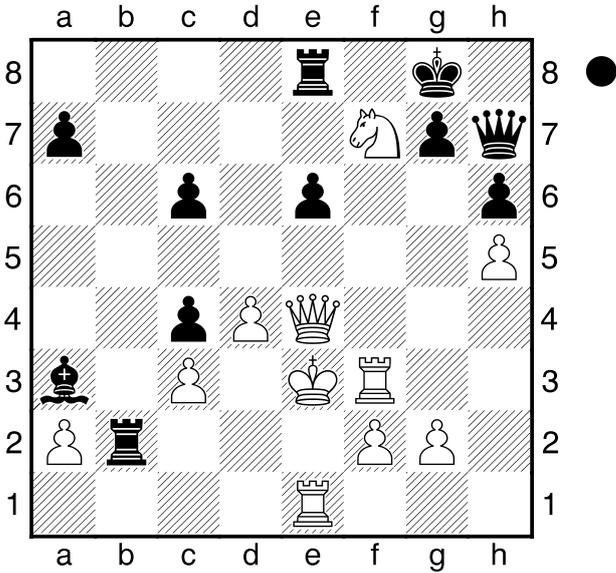
Correia Jimenez, F 2599

1

Stellwagen, D 2635

39th Olympiad Men (7.9) 28.09.2010

[Jacob Aagaard]



Black to play

0-1

D17

Wang Yue 2749

Yu Ruiyuan 2309

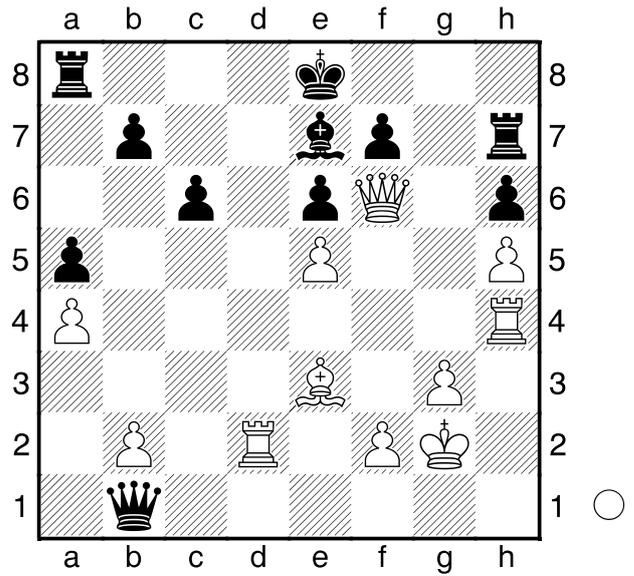
Chinese Chess League (6) 09.06.2010

[Jacob Aagaard]

(Diagram)

White to play

1-0



Korobov, Anton

D87

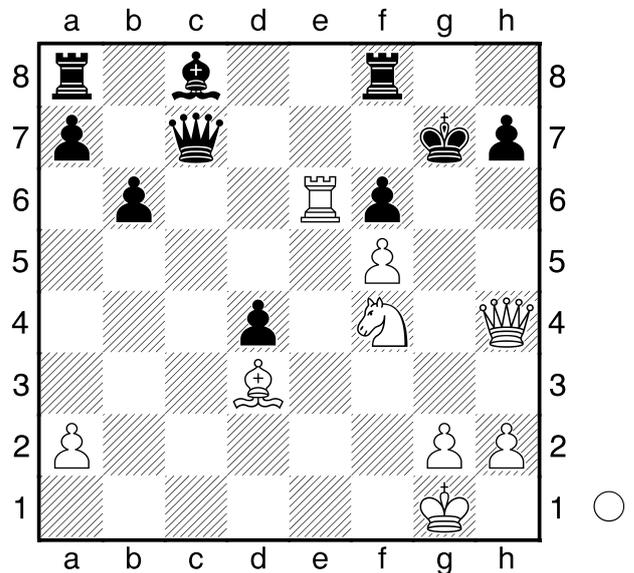
Smith, Axel

2657

21st Czech GM Open (6)

2416

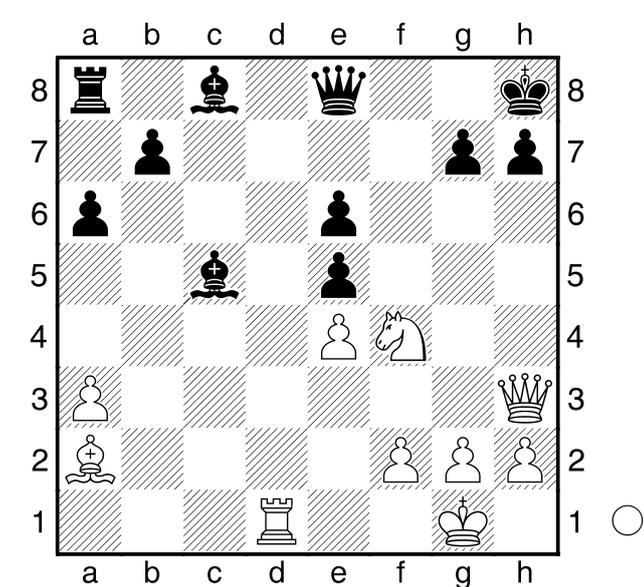
[Jacob Aagaard]



White to play

1-0

B30
 2522
 2114
 111th US Open (2) 01.08.2010
 [Jacob Aagaard]

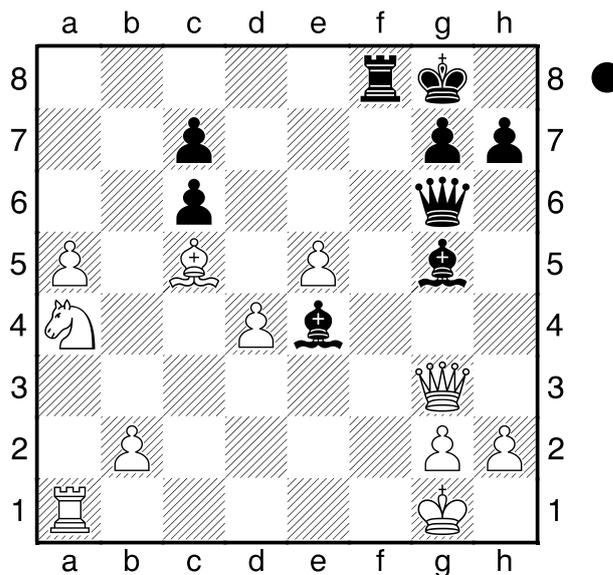


White to play
1-0

C67
 2523
 2649
 39th Olympiad Men (7.10) 28.09.2010
 [Jacob Aagaard]

(Diagram)

Black to play
0-1



D76
 2445
 2475
 39th Olympiad Men (7.29) 28.09.2010
 [Jacob Aagaard]

Our proofreader gets into trouble when following Avrukh. Maybe a hint for Boris when he writes against himself in the Grunfeld book? This is relevant to page 331 of Grandmaster Repertoire 2 - 1.d4 Volume Two. **1.c4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 g6 3.g3 ♙g7 4.♙g2 0-0 5.d4 d5 6.cxd5 ♗xd5 7.0-0 ♖b6 8.♗c3 ♗c6 9.e3 ♜e8 10.♞e1 a5 11.♚e2 ♙e6**

At the time GM2 came out on March 1st, this move had not been played at all. It was first played the 12th of July and has now been tried 10 times, including by some very very good players.

12.♞d1 ♙c4 13.♚c2 ♖b4!N
 The improvement in this game. **14.♚b1**
 This was Boris's move in the book, but he had missed a fantastic queen sacrifice.

[14.♚d2 a4!?♚ is also ok for Black.]
14...e5!! After this move White is certainly not better. Equality is even not

so easy to find. **15.b3**

[15.♘xe5 ♕xe5 16.b3 ♕d3!
17.♖xd3 (17.♚b2 ♕g7 18.a3 ♕c2
19.♖d2 ♕f5 20.axb4 axb4)
17...♘xd3 18.♚xd3 c5 19.♘b5 ♚d7
20.♕a3 cxd4 21.exd4 ♖ad8]
[15.h3 exd4 16.♘xd4 ♕d3 17.♖xd3
♘xd3 18.♚xd3 c5]

15...exd4!! Excellent preparation.

16.exd4

[16.bxc4 dxc3 17.♖xd8 ♖axd8
18.♘d4 (18.♚b3 c2 19.♘d4 ♖xd4
20.exd4 ♖e1+ 21.♕f1 ♕xd4 22.a3
♕xa1 23.♕h6 ♕g7 24.axb4 ♕xh6
25.♚xc2 axb4)

A) 18...♕xd4 19.exd4 ♖e1+
20.♕f1 ♘xc4 (20...♖xd4 21.♚b3
♖xc4 22.a4±) 21.♚b3 ♘d2
22.♕xd2 cxd2 23.♖d1 ♖xd1
24.♚xd1 ♖xd4 25.♕e2 c5 26.♚a4
♘d5 27.♚e8+ ♔g7 28.♕d1± ;

B) 18...♖xd4 19.exd4 ♖e1+
20.♕f1 ♕xd4 21.a3 (21.♕h6 ♖xb1
22.♖xb1 ♘d7) 21...c2 22.♚b3
♕xa1 23.♕h6 ♕g7 (23...c1
24.♕xc1 ♖xc1 25.axb4 axb4
26.♚xb4 ♘xc4 27.♔g2 ♘d6
28.♚a3 ♖d1 29.♚a5 ♖c1=)
24.axb4 ♕xh6 25.♚xc2 axb4 '±'
26.c5 ♖c1 (26...♘d5 27.c6 bxc6
28.♚xc6 ♖d1 29.♔g2) 27.♚e4
♘c4 28.♔g2 ♘d2 29.♚xb7 ♘xf1
30.♚xb4 ♘g3 31.hxg3 ♕f8]

16...♕e6± 17.♕f4 ♕f5 18.♚b2 ♘d3

19.♚d2 ♘xf4 20.♚xf4 a4 21.bxa4

[21.b4]

21...♘xa4 22.♘b5? c6 23.♘d6

♘c3-+ 24.♔h1 ♘d5 25.♘f7 ♔xf7

26.♘g5+ ♔g8

0-1

D76

♖ **Leitao,Rafael** **2624**

♜ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2700**

39th WCO 0:22.31-1:23.09 (9)30.09.2010

[*Jacob Aagaard*]

Two days later this was played again.

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘f3 ♕g7 4.g3

d5 5.cxd5 ♘xd5 6.♕g2 ♘b6 7.♘c3

♘c6 8.e3 0-0 9.0-0 ♖e8 10.♖e1 a5

11.♚e2 ♕e6 12.♖d1 ♕c4 13.♚c2

♘b4 14.♚b1 e5!! 15.a3N

[15.♘xe5 ♕xe5 16.b3 ♕d3!

17.♖xd3 (17.♚b2 ♕g7 18.a3 ♕c2

19.♖d2 ♕f5 20.axb4 axb4)

17...♘xd3 18.♚xd3 c5 19.♘b5 ♚d7

20.♕a3 cxd4 21.exd4 ♖ad8]

[15.h3 exd4 16.♘xd4 ♕d3 17.♖xd3

♘xd3 18.♚xd3 c5]

15...exd4! 16.axb4

[16.♘xd4 ♕d3 17.♖xd3 ♘xd3

18.♚xd3 c5]

16...dxc3!!

[16...axb4 17.♖xa8 ♚xa8 18.♘e4

♚a4 19.♖e1 ♕a2 20.♚d3 ♕c4=]

17.♖xd8 ♖axd8 18.♚c2

[18.bxc3 ♖d1+ 19.♕f1 ♖xf1+

20.♔g2 axb4 21.♚xb4 ♖d1 22.♘d2

♕d5+ 23.e4 ♕c6 24.f3 ♘a4

25.♖xa4 ♖xc1 26.♖a2 ♖xc3]

18...axb4 19.♘d2 cxd2 20.♕xd2

♖a8! 21.♖xa8

[21.♚c1 ♖xa1 22.♚xa1 ♖a8

23.♚b1 ♖a2 24.♕c1 b3 25.♕f1

c5]

21...♖xa8 22.♕xb7

[22.h3 ♖a1+ 23.♔h2 b3 24.♚e4

♕xb2]

22...♖a1+ 23.♕c1

[23.♔g2 ♕f1+ 24.♔f3 ♘c4!→

25.♕xb4 ♕d3!-+]

23...b3 24.♚d1?!

[24.♚d2 ♕e6 25.♔g2 ♘c4 26.♚d1

h6 27.e4 ♔h7-+]

24...♙xb2
0-1

 **Salgado Lopez,I** **D14**
2592
 **Najer,E** **2665**
11th EICC Men (9) 15.03.2010
[John Shaw]

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 c6 3.♗f3 d5 4.cxd5
cxd5 5.♗c3 ♗c6 6.♙f4 ♙f5 7.e3 e6

While preparing to face an Exchange Slav at the Olympiad, I spotted a flaw in the recommended line given in "Play the Semi-Slav". 8.♙b3 ♙b4 9.♗e5 This move scored 2/2 for White in the recent Olympiad. Vigorito, in "Play the Semi-Slav", was not impressed with White's idea: 0-0?! This was the recommended move, but Black must do better.

[9...♙e7 10.♙b5 ♖c8 11.♗xc6 bxc6 12.♙a6 ♖d8 13.0-0 0-0 14.♗e2± White went on to win in Morovic Fernandez-Ragger, Khanty-Mansiysk (ol) 2010.]

[9...♙b6!/? This is my suggestion for Black's best reply, when the play is surprisingly lively. Perhaps "Winning with the Exchange Slav" is a future title? 10.f3N (More tranquil was 10.♗xc6 bxc6 11.♙e2 ♗e4 12.f3 ♗xc3 13.bxc3 ♙e7= Tkachiev-Fressinet, France (ch) 2010, was a fairly quick draw. ; 10.♙e2 is also sensible) 10...♗h5 11.♗xc6 bxc6 12.♙g5 h6 13.♙h4 e5 14.0-0-0! Exciting stuff for an Exchange Slav. (14.g4?! is excessively greedy: exd4 15.exd4 ♙xd4 16.♙f2 ♙e5+ 17.♗d1 ♙f4!/?) 14...♗f6 15.♙d3 ♙xd3 16.♖xd3 ♖b8 (16...♗d7 looks safe and secure) 17.♙c2 ♗d7 18.♙g3

♙a6 19.♙xe5 ♗xe5 20.dxe5 0-0 21.♗a4∞ White won a messy game in VI. Georgiev-Cubas, Khanty-Mansiysk (ol) 2010.] [9...♙a5 was Vigorito's secondary suggestion. 10.♗xc6 bxc6 11.a3 ♙xc3+ (11...c5!/? 12.♖c1 ♙xc3+ 13.♙xc3 ♙xc3+ 14.♖xc3 c4 15.f3 0-0 16.b3 cxb3 17.♖xb3±) 12.bxc3 0-0 13.♙b4± Again, White has a slight niggling edge; just enough to be annoying.]

10.♗xc6 ♙xc3+ 11.♙xc3 bxc6 12.♙a3!± This clever move effectively refutes 9...0-0. White has the bishop pair and the better structure. He plans Ba6 and then a rook to c1. The f4-bishop is safe from harassment: the traditional ...Ne4 no longer wins a tempo, so it would be answered by f2-f3. Or ...Nh5 would be hopeless as Bd6 is strong.

[The old line, as given by Vigorito, was: 12.♙xc6 ♖c8 13.♙a6 ♖c2 Black has plenty of play for the pawn.]

12...♙b6 [12...a5 13.♙e2 ♙b6 14.0-0 ♖fc8 15.♖ac1]

13.♙a6 ♗e4 Black provokes a weakness on e3 to add force to his later ...e6-e5 break. However, White is in control; Black must look for real improvements earlier. 14.f3 ♗f6 15.♖c1 ♗d7 16.♖c3 e5 17.dxe5 c5 18.♙e2

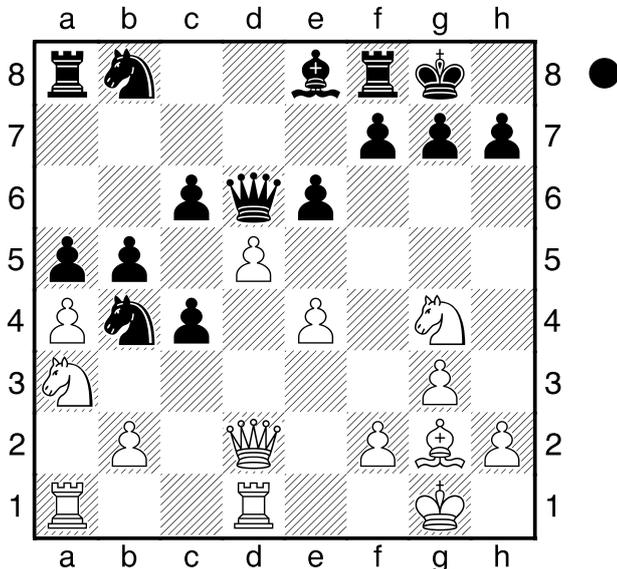
[18.♖b3!/?]

18...d4 19.♖c1 ♖fe8 20.e4 ♙g6 21.0-0 ♖ac8 22.♙a6 ♗b8 23.♙xb6 axb6 24.b4 h6 25.bxc5 bxc5 26.♖fd1 ♗h7 27.a4 ♗d7 28.♙b5 ♖ed8 29.a5 ♗f8 30.a6 ♗e6 31.♙d2 ♖b8 32.♙c4 ♖b2 33.♖b1 1-0

Anand,Viswanathan
 Topalov,Veselin

Line 1 Sofia BUL
[Jacob Aagaard]

2010



Instead of Topalov's 16...♖c5, Giri suggested. **16...exd5**

Here my improvement on Giri's analysis went: **17.♘e3** My move.

[17.exd5 f5 18.♘e3 f4 19.gxf4 ♖xf4 20.dxc6 ♘8xc6 21.axb5 ♖d8 22.♘d5 ♘xd5 23.♙xd5+ ♖xd5 24.♖xd5+ ♔h8 25.♘xc4 (25.bxc6 ♖xf2+ 26.♔h1 ♖f6) 25...♘b4 26.♖d4 ♖g5+ 27.♔h1 ♙xb5 28.♘e5 ♘c6 29.♖c5 ♖f4 30.♘d3 ♖f3+ 31.♔g1 ♖g4+ 32.♔f1 ♖h3+= Giri.]

17...f5

[17...♘8a6 18.exd5 ♘c5 19.dxc6!! ♖xd2 20.♖xd2 ♘b3 21.♖ad1!! ♙xc6 (21...♘xd2 22.axb5 ♘b3 23.c7 ♖c8 24.b6) 22.♙xc6 ♘xc6 23.♖d6 b4 24.♘axc4±]

18.♘xf5

[By the way, it also seems to me that Black has not completely neutralised the white pressure after 18.exf5!? bxa4 (18...♘8a6 19.axb5 cxb5 20.♘xd5±) 19.♘axc4 ♖c7 20.♘a3

♘8a6 21.♘ac2 ♖b6 22.♖xa4 ♘xc2 23.♖xc2 ♘b4 24.♖d2 ♙f7 25.♖da1±]

Giri then pointed out in New In Chess Yearbook 96 that **18...♖c5?!**

not being the strongest move. Instead his idea:

[18...♖f6! is very strong, and indeed it does equalise eventually: 19.♘e3 dxe4 20.axb5 cxb5 21.♘xb5 ♙xb5 22.♘d5 ♘xd5 23.♖xd5+ ♔h8 24.♖xb5 ♘c6=]

19.axb5 cxb5 20.♖d4 ♖c7

This move is indicated by Giri as being fine for Black. His comment goes: "... my engine (one of the strongest on earth) gives an evaluation of = on a very deep level and I must say I myself cannot assess the position. Maybe Mr. Aagaard is about to see without a computer that this is a clear advantage for White and it isn't worth considering any deeper, but I need a concrete variation since the position is very concrete." The famous argumentation method of a) decide how the other side is thinking and then b) demolish this = demolish the other side. Not a very polite form of argumentation, as it inevitably makes the other side look more stupid than he actually is. Also, I don't understand why I have to prove variations to his moves, but he can just say "I own a computer." I was tempted to say 21.♙h3 and by 2020 we could get to the end of the discussion. I don't think that this move equalises, but it is better than I thought - and better than my engine thought when the game was played! Notice that Rybka 4 was only released straight after the match, and this is indeed the engine I have used now, and I think that Giri was using. **21.♙h3 dxe4!** The only move.

[21...♖a6 22.exd5 ♖af6 23.♖e1
 ♔d8 (23...♔h8 24.♖e7 ♔b6
 25.♔xb6 ♖xb6 26.♙g2
 looks promising for White. ; 23...♙d7
 24.♖e7 ♔h8 25.♘xb5 ♔d8 26.♘bd6
 ♙xf5 27.♘xf5 ♘c2 28.♔h4 ♘xa1
 29.♖xg7 h6 30.♖g5) 24.♖e7 ♖f7
 25.♖ae1→]

[21...♖f6 22.exd5 ♔d8 23.♔g4
 also looks very promising for White. A
 possible line is: g6 24.♘h6+ ♔g7
 25.♔g5 ♘d3 26.♘g4 ♖d6 27.♔e3
 h5 28.♘e5 ♘xe5 29.♔xe5+ ♔h7
 30.♙e6 ♘a6 31.♘c2 ♘c5 32.♘d4
 ♖aa6 33.f4→]

22.♘d6 ♔e7 23.♙g2

Not the computer's favourite, but probably the best move. I have analysed a number of lines, but have not found a way for Black to solve all of his problems. Of course you get to a simple point - which is that at some point a position is either won, drawn or lost. A small or big advantage only reflects the problems we are faced with on the way to reach these assessments. Seen from this perspective, Black cannot be said to be equal - but he should hold. ♘8a6

[23...♘8c6 24.♔xe4 ♔xe4 25.♙xe4
 ♙h5 26.♖d2 ♙f3 27.♙xf3 ♖xf3
 28.♘axb5±]

24.♘axb5 ♙xb5 25.♘xb5 ♔c5

26.♖xa5 ♘d3

[26...♖ab8 27.♔xc5 ♘xc5 28.♘d6
 ♘bd3 29.♘xe4 ♘xe4 30.♙xe4 ♖xb2
 31.f4 ♘f2 32.♖b1 ♘h3+ 33.♔h1
 ♘f2+ 34.♔g2 ♖xb1 35.♙xb1 ♘g4
 36.♙a2 ♖c8 37.h3 ♘h6 38.♔f3±]

27.♙xe4 ♖ad8 28.♔xc5 ♘axc5

29.♙c6±

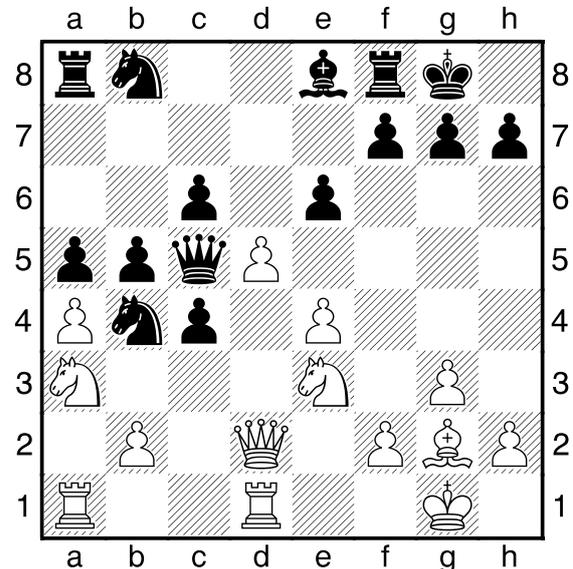
1-0

□ Anand,Viswanathan
 ■ Topalov,Veselin

Line 2

2010

[Jacob Aagaard]



17...♘d3 18.b3 ♘xf2 was given by Giri. Here I gave: **19.♔xf2 cxb3 20.axb5 cxb5 21.e5±** "and it is hard for me to believe that Black has equal chances. He is not active enough." After **a4** Giri does not understand this evaluation - and neither do I. I have no defence.

1-0

□ Anand,Viswanathan
 ■ Topalov,Veselin

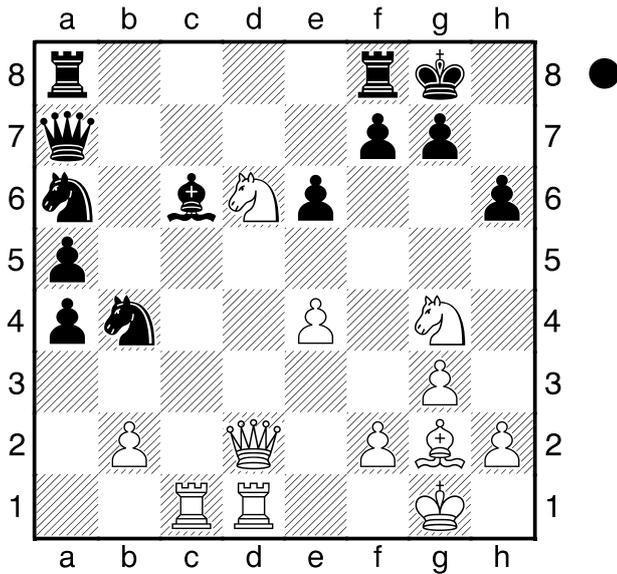
Line 3

2010

[Jacob Aagaard]

(Diagram)

I tried to revive the following variation:
22...f6 23.♖c4 ♖ad8 24.e5 ♙xg2 25.exf6 h5 26.fxg7 ♔xg7 27.♔xg2 ♘d5 28.♘h6+ ♔h7 29.♘hf5 ♖xf5 30.♘xf5 exf5 31.♔xa5 ♔b7 32.♔h3
 "Here White is supposed to be a lot



better according to Giri - but I just cannot see it. For example:" ♞d6
33.♞dd4 f4 34.♞e1 ♞d7+ 35.♔g2
♞f5 36.♞d1 h4 37.g4 ♞e5 38.♞xa4
♞c5

[38...♞ac7 39.♞a7 f3+ 40.♔g1 ♞e6
 41.h3 ♞e7 (41...♞e1+ 42.♞xe1
 ♞xe1+ 43.♔h2 ♔g6 44.♞a3 ♞e2
 45.♞xf3 ♞xb2 46.♔g2 White should
 win this ending.) 42.♞d3 ♞xb2
 43.♞xf3 ♔g7±]

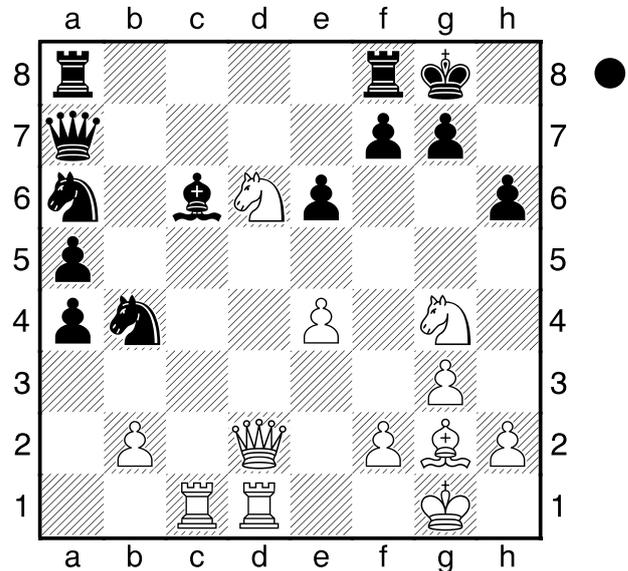
The problem is that I missed: **39.♞a5!**
 as given by Giri. This is

[a strong improvement over my line:
 39.♞a7+ ♞d7 40.♞a6 f3+! 41.♞xf3
 ♞xd4 42.♞f7+ ♔h6 43.♞xd6+ ♞7f6
 44.♞f8+ ♔g6 45.♞g8+ ♔h6
 46.♞xf6+ ♞xf6 47.g5+ ♔h5 48.gxf6
 ♞e4+=]

Rather than just saying that the engine
 says that White is winning, I have
 looked a bit into it. It is the case, as
 you can see: **39...f3+ 40.♔f1 ♔g7**
41.♞xc5 ♞xh2 42.♞xf3 ♞f6 43.♞c7+
♞xc7 44.♞xd5 ♞c1+ 45.♞d1 ♞f4
46.♞d7+ ♔h6 47.♞d4 ♞f3 48.♞d3
♞h1+ 49.♔e2 ♞c6 50.♞d5+-
1-0

□ Anand,Viswanathan
 ■ Topalov,Veselin
 Line 4
 [Jacob Aagaard]

2010



22...♞c5 23.♞c4 This was Giri's line,
 but here Black can improve with my
 move: **♞cd3!** Here Giri thinks that
24.♞c3!? is a better move than **24.♞f1**,
 which leads to a close to winning
 ending. I am not sure if it is better, but it
 is equally viable - only not in the way he
 analyses it. **♞d7?!** This is Giri's main
 move, but it does not hold.

[I had a look at **24...♞ab8 25.♞f1**
 (**25.♞xd3 ♞xd3 26.♞xd3 ♞b5**
27.♞xb5 ♞xb5±) **25...♞fd8** (**25...h5**
26.♞e3 ♞fd8 27.♞xc6 ♞xc6
28.♞xd3 ♞c7 29.♞df5 exf5 30.♞xf5
♞e5 31.♞xd8+ ♞xd8 32.♞xc6+-)
26.e5 (**26.♞xd3 ♞xd3 27.♞xd3 ♞e8**
28.♞d2 h5 29.♞e3 ♞b6 30.e5
♞xb2 31.♞xb2 ♞xb2 32.♞xe8 ♞xe8
33.♞xa4 ♞a8±) **26...h5 27.♞h6+!**
 (**27.♞e3 ♞xf2 28.♔xf2 ♞d5**
29.♞d4 ♞xb2+ 30.♞e2 ♞xd4
31.♞dxd4 ♞b4 32.♞c5 a3 33.♞xa5
a2 34.♞xb4 ♞xb4 35.♞xa2 h4
 with drawing chances, or at least
 more than the ending I was

proposing. ; 27.♙xd3!? hxg4
28.♙e2±) 27...gxh6 28.♙xd3
with a very strong attack.]

25.♖d4?

[It is worth noting that the computer's first love: 25.♖xd3! does indeed win:
♙xd3 26.♖xc6 ♖ab8 27.e5 ♖b3
(27...♙xb2 28.♙e4 ♗d8 29.h4 ♖b4
30.♗e3+-)

A) 28.♗xa5? a3!! 29.♖c3 ♗d8
30.♗a6 (30.♗xd8 ♖xc3!!
31.♗xf8+ ♙xf8 32.bxa3 h5
33.♙e3 ♙xe5 34.♙b5 ♖c1+
35.♙f1 ♙f3+ 36.♙g2 ♙e1+
37.♙h3 ♖a1 and it is not easy for
White to make serious progress.)
30...♖xc3 31.bxc3 ♗g5 32.♙e3
♗xe5 33.♗xa3 ♗c5 34.♗xc5
♙xc5± This ending is not easy for
Black - but it is also not without
hope. If he gets the king out quickly,
he will probably hold with accurate
play. ;

B) 28.♗d4! h5 (28...♗e7 29.♙f1
♙b4 30.♙f6+ ♙h8 31.♖c5+-)
29.♙f6+ gxf6 30.exf6 e5 31.♗e3
♗g4 32.h3+-]

25...e5

[25...♖ab8 does not work.

A) 26.♖1xd3? ♙xd3 27.♗xd3
♖xb2 (27...♖b4 28.♙c4 ♗e7
29.e5 ♙xg2 30.♙f6+ ; 27...♗c7
28.e5 ♙xg2 29.♙f6+ gxf6
30.♖g4+ ♙h8 31.♗d2)

A1) 28.e5 ♙b5! (28...♙xg2
29.♙f6+) 29.♙f6+ gxf6 30.♖g4+
♙h8 31.♗e3 ♖b1+ 32.♙f1 ♖xf1+
33.♙g2 ♗c6+ 34.♙h3 ♗c2! ;

A2) 28.♙e5 ♗c7 29.♗c3
(29.♗c4 a3+-) 29...♖b1+
(29...♗b6 30.♙xc6 a3 31.♗xa3
♖b1+ 32.♙f1 ♗xc6) 30.♙f1 a3
31.♗xa3 ♙b5 32.♙ec4 ♙xc4
33.♖xc4 ♗b6 34.e5± ;

B) 26.♙f5! exf5 27.♖xd7 ♙xd7

28.♙e3 f4 29.gxf4 ♙xf4 30.♗c7
♙e2+ 31.♙h1 ♙b5 32.♙f5 ♙h7
33.♖e1 ♙c6 34.♙f1 ♙ed4
35.♙xb5 ♖xb5 36.♖g1 ♙xf5
37.exf5 ♙d8 (37...♙b4 38.f6+-)
38.♖d1 ♖xb2 39.♖xd8 ♖xd8
40.♗xd8 a3 41.♗xa5 a2 42.♙g2
White should win here, and if not,
then somewhere else.]

[25...h5 26.♙f5 ♗a7 27.♖d7 exf5
28.♖xa7 ♖xa7 29.♙e5 ♙xe5
30.♗xe5 ♙xe4 31.♙xe4 fxe4
32.♗xe4 g6 33.♖d6+-]

[25...♗c7 26.e5 h5 27.♙f6+-]
[25...f5 26.♙xf5 ♗c7 27.♖4xd3+-]

26.♙xh6+ gxh6 27.♖4xd3 ♙xd3

28.♖xd3 "and objectively as well as
practically White has a large advantage.
" Practically, yes, but objectively, I am
not so sure. ♖fd8

[28...♙b5 29.♖d5 ♙c6 30.♖d2 ♗c7
(30...♖fd8 31.♗xe5 ♗e6 32.♗f4
♖a7 33.♙f3±) 31.♙f5 (31.♗xe5
♙d7 32.♗h5 ♗c1+ 33.♖d1 ♗g5
34.♗e2 ♙g4 35.f3 ♗c5+ 36.♙h1
♙e6∞) 31...♖ac8 32.♖c2 ♖fe8
33.♙h3 ♖e6 34.♙e3±]

29.♗xe5 ♗e6 30.♗f4

[30.♗c5 ♖ab8!⇒ Δ31.♗xc6? a3!
32.♖xa3 ♗xd6∓]

30...f6! I think that after this move it will
be very difficult for White to prove a
winning advantage.

[30...♖a7 31.♙f3 ♗g6 32.h4 ♖ad7
33.♙f5 ♙h7 34.♖xd7 ♙xd7 35.♙e7
♗g7 36.♙d5 ♙e6 37.♙f6+ ♙h8
38.e5±]

31.h4!±

[31.♙f1 ♗e5 32.♗g4+ (32.♗xh6
♗g5 gives Black counterchances
because of the counterplay against
b2. ; 32.♗d2 ♖ab8! is also ok for
Black.) 32...♙f8 33.♙f5 ♖xd3
34.♙xd3 ♖b8 35.♙xh6 ♙e8 36.♙f5
♙b5 37.♙b1 ♙c6=]

31...♖ab8

[31...♗e5 32.♗g4+ ♔f8 33.♘c4 ♗e7 34.♖c3 ♘d7 35.♗h5 ♔g7 36.e5 ♖a6 (36...♖ab8 37.♙e4 ♗f7 38.exf6+ ♗xf6 39.♖f3 ♖b5 40.♙d5 ♖xd5 41.♗xd5 ♙c6 42.♖xf6 ♙xd5 43.♖d6 ♖xd6 44.♘xd6 ♔f6 45.f4 and White looks on his way to victory.) 37.♖d3 ♖f8±]

32.♘f5 ♖xd3 33.♗xb8+ ♙e8±
34.♘xh6+ ♔h7 35.♘f5 ♗e5 36.♗a7+ ♖d7± Black is hanging on, but if he can save the endgame or not is hard to determine.

1-0

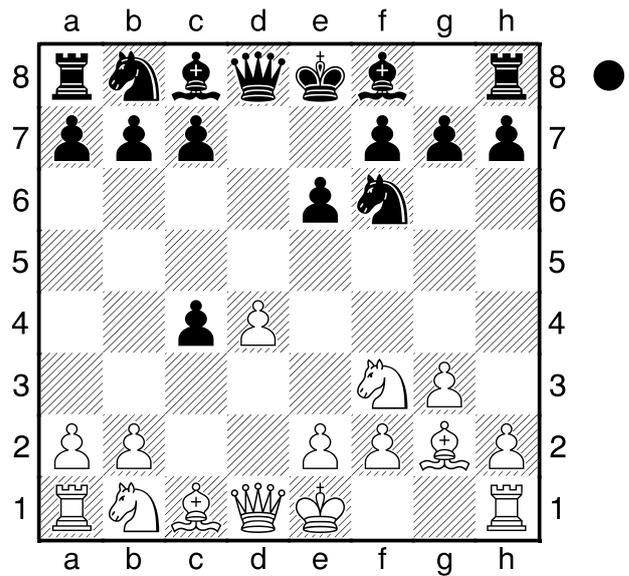
Anand,Viswanathan **E04**
 Topalov,Veselin **2787**
2805
 WCh Sofia BUL (4) 28.04.2010
[Jacob Aagaard]

Anand took the lead in the World Championship match with a win in the fourth game, not too different from his loss in the first game. Decent preparation followed up with a blunder by the opponent and a knight sacrifice. It is not clear how far the preparation of the two players went, but it does feel as if Black had a difficult job on his hands resisting the enduring initiative White obtained with his novelty.

Yesterday Alex analysed this game, but it is a very crucial game for the match, so I decided to look at it again - this time relating a lot to the annotations of GM Giri, published on ChessBase.com.

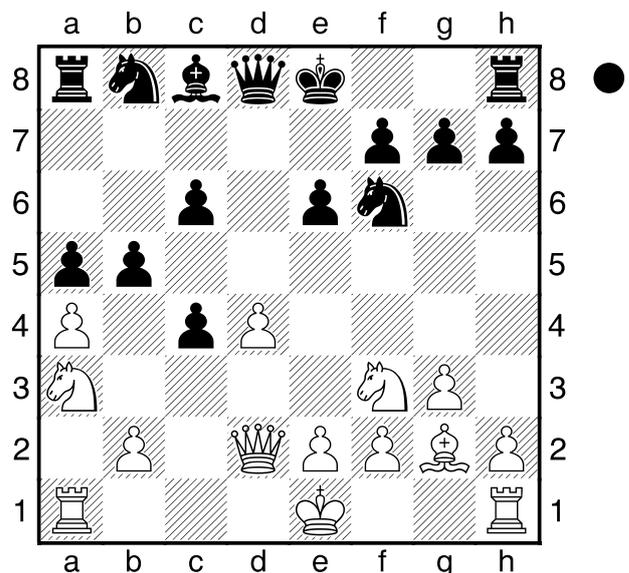
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 d5 4.g3 dxc4 5.♙g2 Diagram
♙b4+ 6.♙d2 a5 7.♗c2 ♙xd2+ 8.♗xd2 c6 9.a4

[9.♘e5 b5 10.♘xc6 ♗c7!∞
 (10...♗b6?? 11.♘e7 ♙b7 12.♘c8!



was a nice trick pointed out by Giri.]
9...b5 10.♘a3!N Diagram

[10.axb5 cxb5 11.♗g5 0-0 12.♗xb5 ♙a6 was played in Kramnik-Topalov, Elista (1) 2006. Black was better later, but blundered and lost. Kramnik has used this line to draw with Black against Leko in 2009.]



This looks like a serious improvement from Anand's team. I would have assumed that Topalov was ready for this move, but to what extent is hard to see. **10...♙d7** The reason for putting the bishop here is that after

[10...♙a6 11.♘e5 ♘d5 White can play 12.♗xc6 ♗xc6 13.axb5 ♙xb5 14.♗xb5 with an edge. Black should be worried about the extra centre pawn, the c-pawn and the strong bishop on g2.]

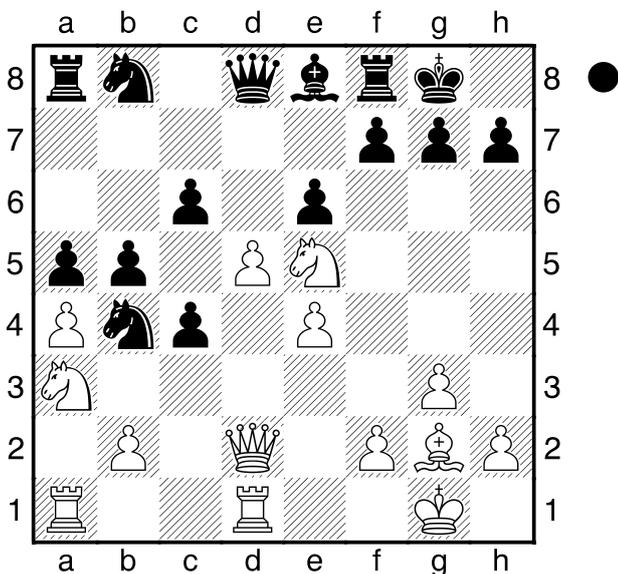
11.♗e5 ♗d5 12.e4 ♗b4

[12...♗f6?! 13.0-0 0-0 14.d5! would have been another direction of Anand's team. Probably it is a worse direction for Black, as the knight seems inactive on f6, and does not help on c6.]

13.0-0 0-0 14.♖fd1 ♙e8!

[14...♙e7 15.♗xd7 ♙xd7 16.d5 ♖d8 17.♙e2! looks very unpleasant for Black. For example: (17.♙g5 h6 18.♙h5 ♗d3 19.b3) 17...♗d3 18.b3! and the Black pawn centre is falling apart, and with it his position.]

15.d5! Diagram



Without this move the white position does not make sense. ♙d6!

[15...♙b6 looks like the move to play. But it is still very difficult for Black to equalise:

A) 16.dxe6 fxe6 17.♙h3 is well answered by ♙c5! (But not 17...♗d3? 18.♙xe6+ ♔h8 19.♗axc4!+- and White wins.)

18.♙xe6+ ♔h8± when only Black has benefitted from the opening of the f-file. ;

B) 16.♗g4! ♗d3 (16...f5 17.♗e5 looks uncomfortable, but maybe something as artificial as this is what Black should be looking at.) 17.dxc6! (17.♗e3 ♗c5 18.dxc6!? ♗xa4! looks like it might equalise after 19.♗axc4 bxc4 20.♖xa4 ♗xc6 21.♖xc4 ♖d8=) 17...♗xc6 18.axb5 ♗cb4 19.♗xc4 ♙c5 and now a move you cannot predict far in advance: 20.e5!! and White probably has a winning attack. ♙xc4 (20...♖b8 is refuted with 21.♗d6 , when to avoid ♖xa5, Black has to involve himself in f5 22.exf6! ♙xd6 23.fxg7 ♔xg7 24.♙e4! ♙g6 25.♙h6+ ♔f7 26.♙xg6+ hxg6 27.♖xa5! and the black king cannot make it.) 21.♗f6+! gxf6 22.exf6 ♔h8 23.♙xa8 ♙xb5 24.♖xa5± and White has very good winning chances in this unbalanced position.]

16.♗g4 Here it was tempting to play: [16.dxc6!? ♙xe5 17.axb5

with positional compensation. For example: ♗8xc6 (17...c3 18.bxc3 ♗4xc6 19.bxc6 ♙xc6= Giri.) 18.bxc6 ♙xc6 19.♗xc4 ♙c5 (19...♙c7 20.♗xa5) 20.♙c3 and the black position is very uncomfortable.]

16...♙c5

[16...exd5 is maybe best met with:

A) 17.exd5 f5 18.♗e3 f4 19.gxf4 ♙xf4 20.dxc6 ♗8xc6 21.axb5 ♖d8 22.♗d5 ♗xd5 23.♙xd5+ ♖xd5 24.♙xd5+ ♔h8 25.♗xc4 (25.bxc6 ♙xf2+ 26.♔h1 ♙f6) 25...♗b4 26.♙d4 ♙g5+ 27.♔h1 ♙xb5 28.♗e5 ♗c6 29.♙c5 ♙f4 30.♗d3 ♙f3+ 31.♔g1 ♙g4+ 32.♔f1 ♙h3+= Giri. ;

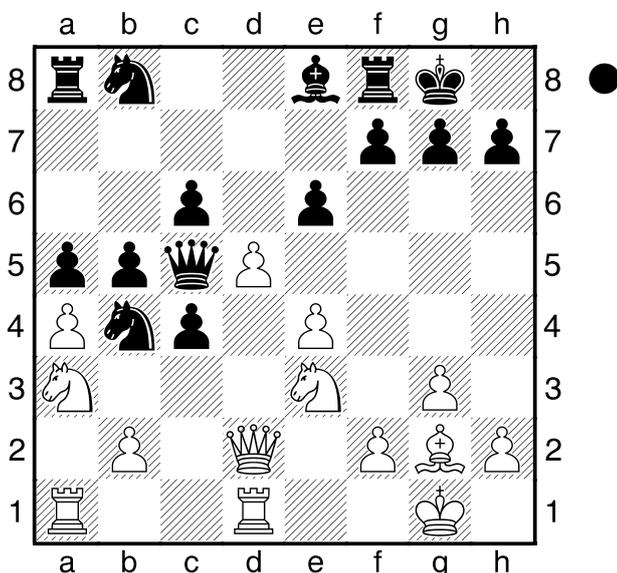
B) 17.♘e3!

B1) 17...♘8a6 18.exd5

looks very convincing too: ♘c5
19.dxc6!! ♖xd2 20.♞xd2 ♘b3
21.♞ad1!! ♙xc6 (21...♘xd2
22.axb5 ♘b3 23.c7 ♞c8 24.b6)
22.♙xc6 ♘xc6 23.♞d6 b4
24.♘axc4± ;

B2) If Black still plays 17...f5
White can continue: 18.♘xf5 ♖c5
19.axb5 cxb5 20.♖d4!±
and the black centre is
collapsing.]

17.♘e3! Diagram



The pressure on the black pawns is intensified. I think this is the point where we start to depart from Anand's preparation and the players are playing for themselves. It is harder to guess exactly where Topalov departs from his lines. ♘8a6! I do not think Black can neutralise the pressure completely.

[17...♞a7 18.dxc6 bxa4 19.♘axc4
♘8xc6 20.♘d6!± is rather nasty.]

[A better option according to Giri was:
17...♘d3!?

A) 18.♖c2 ♘e5 ;

B) 18.axb5 cxb5 19.b3 ♘xf2
20.♖xf2 cxb3 21.♞d3 a4 22.♖b2 ;

C) 18.dxc6 ♘xc6 19.axb5 ♘ce5

20.♘exc4 ♘xc4 21.♖xd3 ♘xa3
22.♖xa3

C1) 22...♖xa3 23.♞xa3 ♙xb5
24.e5 ♞a7 (24...♞ad8 25.♞xd8
♞xd8 26.♞xa5! ♞d1+ 27.♙f1
♞xf1+ 28.♙g2 g5 29.♞xb5 ♞b1
is maybe a draw) 25.h4± ;

C2) 22...♖xb5 according to Giri.
However, I think White still has
some pressure after 23.♞ac1± ;

D) 18.b3 ♘xf2 19.♖xf2
(But I actually think White can
improve here with: 19.♙xf2!? cxb3
20.axb5 cxb5 21.e5± and it is hard
for me to believe that Black has
equal chances. He is not active
enough.) 19...cxb3 20.♞d3 bxa4
21.♖b2∞ Giri]

18.dxc6 bxa4

[18...♙xc6 19.axb5 ♙xb5 20.♘axc4
♙xc4 21.♞ac1± is rather sad as well.
Topalov was probably hoping that he
would find something in the messy
lines.]

19.♘axc4 ♙xc6 20.♞ac1 h6!?

This does not lead to a good place, but
is maybe a good move. I want to admit
that I do not understand the reason for
it.

[20...♖e7 21.♘d6 (21.♘xa5 ♙b5
22.♘ac4 ♞fd8 23.♘d6 ♞ab8±
according to Giri. Maybe White is
actually a lot better, but I am not out
to disagree just to disagree. The
computer proposes 24.♙f1 and the
strong black bishop is exchanged,
after which his pieces are a bit
exposed.) 21...♞fd8± was safer, but
White is of course doing rather well
here too.]

21.♘d6 Diagram

♖a7! On Playchess the crowd was
speculating that this was the losing
move, but I do not think so. Either it
was a good deal earlier, or it is on the

pawn is a pawn.]

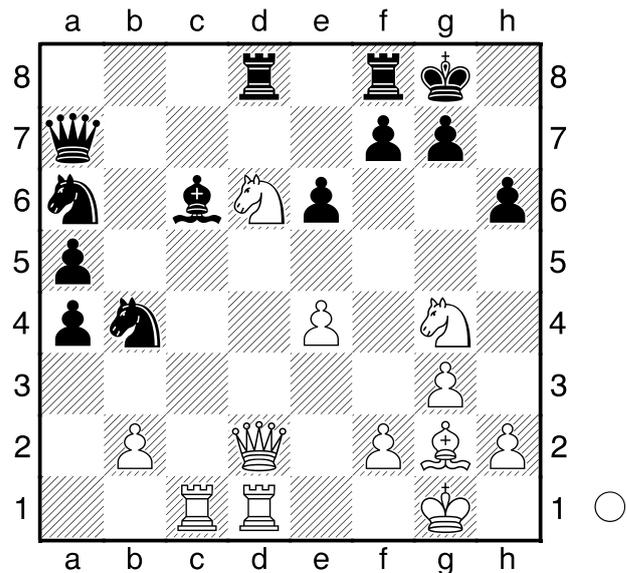
[22...f6! was the best move, and analysed to a considerable depth by Giri. However, I do not think his final evaluation was correct. 23.♖c4 (23.e5?! does not work here. ♕xg2 24.exf6 ♕d5 ♖h8 26.f7 ♗h7 27.♗f4 ♖ad8 28.♘g4 ♖xd6 29.♗xd6 ♗xf7 ; 23.♗e2 ♘c5 24.e5 f5±) 23...♖ad8 (23...♖fd8? 24.e5 ♕xg2 25.exf6 ♕f3 26.♘h6+! is the same old story.) 24.e5!

A) A nice line from Giri goes:

24...♕d5 25.♕xd5 ♘xd5 26.♘h6+ gxh6 27.♗xh6 ♗h7 (27...♗g7 28.♗h4 ♗h7 29.♗g4+! ♗h8 30.♗e2! and the knight on a6 is poorly placed.) 28.♖g4+ ♗h8 29.♗d2 ♗a7 30.h3 ;

B) 24...♕xg2 25.exf6 h5! 26.fxg7 ♗xg7 27.♗xg2 ♘d5 28.♘h6+ ♗h7 29.♘hf5 ♖xf5 30.♘xf5 exf5 31.♗xa5 ♗b7 32.♗h3 Here White is supposed to be a lot better according to Giri - but I just cannot see it. For example: ♖d6! 33.♖dd4 (33.♖xa4 ♘ac7!↔ The knight is heading for g5.) 33...f4!↔ 34.♗e1 (34.gxf4?? ♗d7+ 35.♗g2 ♘xf4+ 36.♖xf4 ♖g6+-+) 34...♗d7+ 35.♗g2 ♗f5± Obviously White has the better chances, but I think the position is quite defensible for Black. For example: 36.♗d1 h4 37.g4 ♗e5 38.♖xa4 ♘c5 39.♖a7+ ♘d7 40.♖a6 f3+! 41.♗xf3 ♗xd4 42.♗f7+ ♗h6 43.♖xd6+ ♘7f6 44.♗f8+ ♗g6 45.♗g8+ ♗h6 46.♖xf6+ ♘xf6 47.g5+ ♗h5 48.gxf6 ♗e4+=]

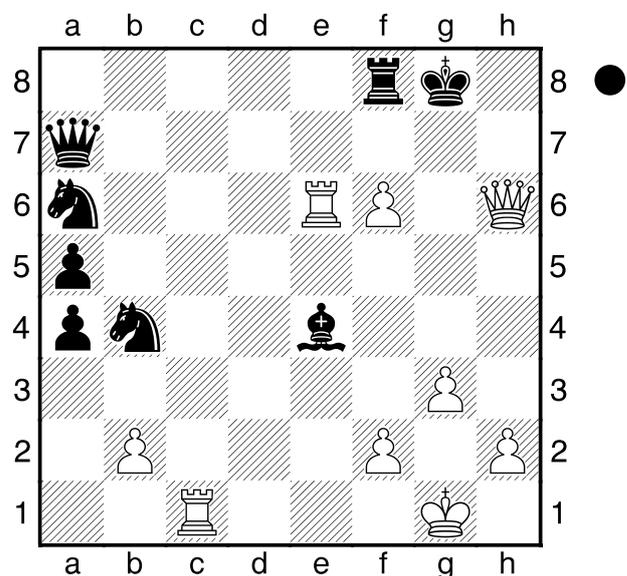
A horrible blunder. Topalov must have missed 25.e5!, it is the only thing that makes sense. **23.♘h6+!**
This combination wins without much



difficulty. It is hard to understand that Topalov missed it. **gxh6 24.♗xh6 f6 25.e5! ♕xg2**

[25...♕e8 loses in various ways, for example to: 26.♕h3 f5 27.♗g5+ and the d8-rook goes.]

26.exf6 ♖xd6 27.♖xd6 ♕e4 28.♖xe6
Diagram



Black has no good defence to ♖e7.
♘d3

[28...♗h7 29.♗g5+ ♗h8 30.♖xe4+-]

29.♖c2 ♗h7 30.f7+ ♗xf7 31.♖xe4 ♗f5 32.♖e7
1-0

B85

10.g4
Missing in GM6

Page 208

07.10.2010

[Jacob Aagaard]

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4
♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.♙e2 e6 7.0-0 ♙e7
8.f4 0-0 9.♙e3 ♖c7 10.g4!?

This dangerous move was forgotten by Ftacnik, mainly because of a move order issue (he went 9.♙h1). Luckily a remedy exists. **d5!** Classical chess. An attack on the flank is met with a strong reply in the centre. **11.e5**

[11.exd5 ♘xd5 12.♘xd5 exd5 looks very safe for me. The d5-pawn might be a bit soft, but White's king is open and there are no longer any dangers to Black's monarch.

A) 13.♙f3 ♘c6 14.♖d2 ♖e8

A1) 15.c3 ♙d7 16.h3 ♘xd4
17.♙xd4 ♙b5 18.♖f2

Polzin-Rotstein, Austria 2005.

(18.♖fe1 ♙d6 19.f5 ♙g3=)

18...♙c6!?N 19.♙e5 ♖d7

20.♙g2 ♖ad8= ;

A2) 15.♖ad1 ♙d7 16.♖fe1

(16.♘b3 ½-½ Cardelli-Nimtz, corr. 1999.) 16...♖ad8= Baches Garcia-Paunovic, Andorra 2002. ;

B) 13.♙d3 ♘c6 14.♖f3 Odd plan.

♙c5 15.♖h3

B1) 15...g6 16.♘f5 ♙xe3+

17.♘xe3 d4 18.f5! dxe3 19.♖h6

gxf5! (19...♘d4 20.f6 ♘e6

21.♖f3 e2 22.♖h3 ♖c5+

23.♙g2+-) 20.♖g5+ (20.gxf5!?

f6 21.♙c4+ ♖f7 22.♖xf6 ♖e7

23.♖xe7 ♘xe7 24.f6 ♘g6

25.♖ae1 ♙d7 26.♖xe3 ♙b5

27.♙xf7+ ♙xf7∞) 20...♙h8

21.♖f6+ ♙g8 ½-½ Graf-Vouldis, Fuerth 2002. ;

B2) 15...h6!?N I don't fully

believe in White's attack. For example: 16.c3 (16.♘f5 ♘b4!∞) 16...♖b6 17.♘c2 ♖e8! (17...♙xg4 18.♖xg4 ♙xe3+ 19.♙h1∞) 18.♙xc5 (18.♖ae1 ♙xe3+ 19.♘xe3 ♙xg4∞) 18...♖xc5+ 19.♖f2 d4∞]

11...♘e4 This is the big main move, but I actually prefer the lesser tested:

[11...♘fd7! 12.g5 ♘c6 13.♘b3

A) 13...b5!?N 14.a4 (14.♙f3

♘b6∞) 14...b4 15.♘b1 a5= ;

B) 13...♖d8 14.♙f2 b5 15.a3

Arias Duval-Rios, corr. 2003 ♘b6N

I cannot back this up in the same

way, but this is what I would play.]

12.g5! This looks like the most dangerous to me.

[12.♘xe4 dxe4 13.c3 b6 14.♖e1

♘d7∞ 15.♖g3 ♖e8 16.♖ad1 ♙f8

17.g5 ♘c5 18.h4 ♙b7 19.h5 ♘d3

20.♖d2 b5 21.a3 ♖ad8 22.g6 fxc6

23.hxc6 h6 24.♙g4 ♙d5 25.♖h3

♖e7 26.♖g2 ♖d7 27.f5 ♘xe5

28.fxe6 ♘f3+ 29.♘xf3 exf3 30.♖d2

♖dd8 31.♖fd1 ♙e4 32.♖xd8 ♖xd8

33.♖xd8 ♖xd8 34.♙xf3 ♙xg6

35.♖g2 ♖d3 36.♙f4 ♙h7 37.♙d5

♖d1+ 38.♙h2 ♖h5+ 39.♙g3 ♙f5

40.♙f2 ♖d1 0-1 Dineley-Kunte, Bled (ol) 2002.]

[12.♙d3 ♘xc3 13.bxc3 ♘d7!

An important point. 13...♖xc3 is

suicidal. We are going for the d3-

bishop and a long-term advantage

because of a better pawn structure.

14.g5 g6 15.♖f3 ♘c5 16.h4 ♙d7

(16...♘xd3 17.♖xd3 h5 18.gxh6

♙xh4 19.♖h3 ♙e7∞ 0-1 Suran,J

(2391)-Spirin,O (2404)/Czechia 2007/

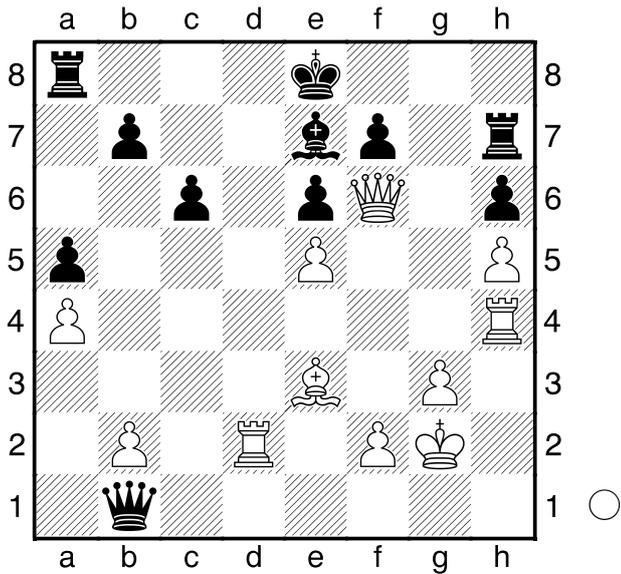
EXT 2009 (48)) 17.♙g2 ♖ac8 18.h5

♘xd3 19.♖xd3 ♖xc3∞ Phillips-

Almasi, Heraklio 1997.]

[12.♖e1 ♘xc3 13.bxc3 ♘d7 14.♖f3

♘c5 15.♖h3 ♘e4 16.♙d3 g6



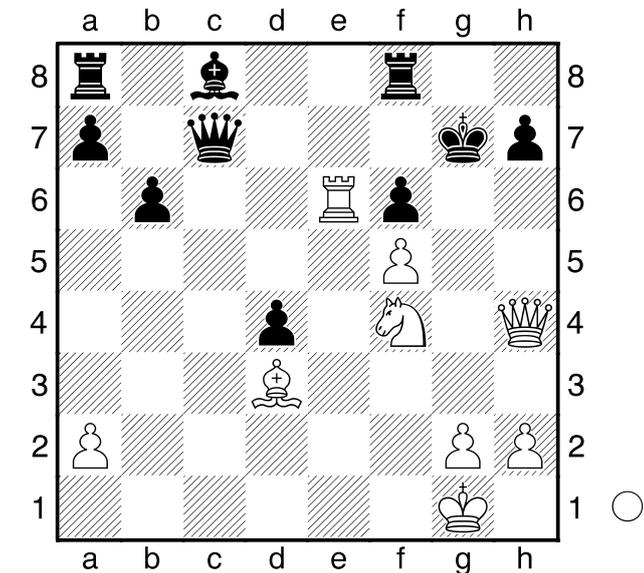
White: Korobov, Anton (2657)
Black: Smith, Axel (2416)
 21st Czech GM Open (6) 28.07.2010
[Jacob Aagaard]

D87

2657

2416

28.07.2010



27. ♖h5+!
 [27. ♕g3+ ♔h6 28. ♖xf6+ ♖xf6
 29. ♕h4+ ♔g7 30. ♖h5+ ♔f8
 31. ♕xf6+ ♕f7 32. ♕h6+ ♔e8
 33. ♕c6+ ♔d8 34. ♕xa8 ♕xh5
 35. ♕d5+ ♗d7 36. ♕xd4±]
27... ♔h8

[27... ♔g8 28. ♖xf6+ ♖xf6 29. ♕g5+!
 ♖g6 (29... ♕g7 30. ♖e8+ ♔f7
 31. ♖e7+!) 30. ♖e8+ ♔f7 31. fxf6+!
 ♔xe8 32. gxh7+]
28. ♕xf6+!! ♖xf6
 [28... ♔g8 29. ♗c4!]
29. ♖e8+ ♖f8 30. ♖xf8#
1-0

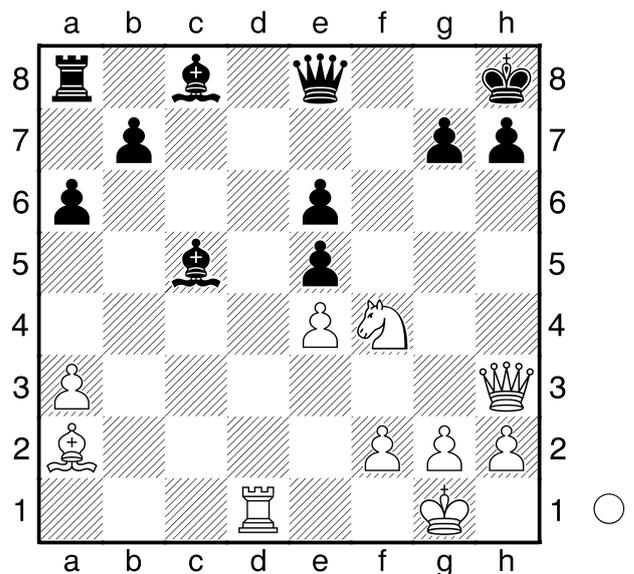
White: Khachiyan, M (2522)
Black: Kleist, F (2114)
 111th US Open (2) 01.08.2010
[Jacob Aagaard]

B30

2522

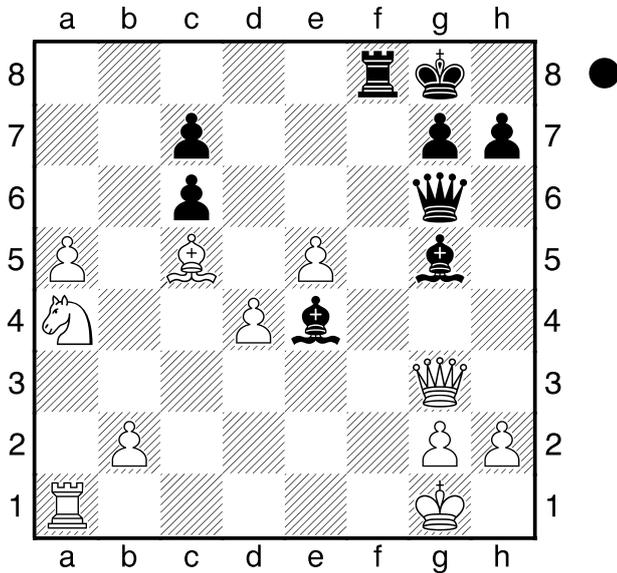
2114

01.08.2010



28. ♖d8! Resigns ♕xd8 29. ♖g6+ ♔g8
30. ♕xe6+
 [30. ♗xe6+]
30... ♗xe6 31. ♗xe6#
1-0

Alsina Leal,D **C67**
 Feller,S **2523**
2649
 39th Olympiad Men (7.10) 28.09.2010
[Jacob Aagaard]



**23...♙e3+ 24.♚h1 ♜f2! 25.♙xg6
hxg6 26.d5**

[White has no defence: 26.♜g1
♙xg2+! 27.♜xg2 ♜f1+ 28.♜g1
♜xg1#]

26...♜xg2 White resigned. It is mate on the next move.

0-1