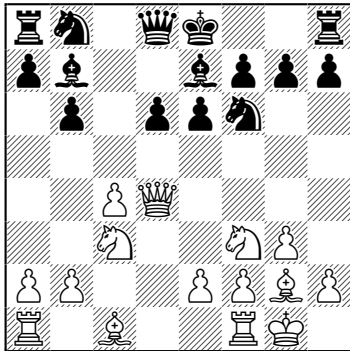


Curitiba Chess Club - Cycle of Chess Lectures - April 2, 2008
HEDGEHOG - A CLASSIC AND OPERATIONAL STUDY - PART 2

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Translated from Portuguese by Randy Kent Plampin (Sunnyvale, CA, USA)

1.c4 c5 2.♘f3 ♗f6 3.♗c3 e6 4.g3 b6 5.♙g2 ♙b7 6.
 O-O ♗e7 7.d4 cxd4 8.♖xd4 d6



D1

White has three basic ideas in the planning of their victory:

- Classic offensive: e4-♖d1-♗d2-h3-f4-g4 (or e5)
 POLUGAEVSKY-FTACNIK, 1982
 KARPOV-RIBLI, 1986
- Piece offensive: ♖d1-♗g5-♖f4-♗ce4
 KRAMINIK-CARLSEN, 2008
- Final superior maneuver: e4-b3-♙a3-e5
 RIBLI-AMBROZ, 1982
 LAUTIER-KAMSKY, 1977
 KARPOV-GHEORGHIU, 1977

CLASSIC OFFENSIVE (1)

The greater space favors the pawn avalanche on all fronts, especially in the center (e5) and black's king-side, a classical concept based on two points:

a - maintaining the black divide under control, without exchanging pieces, but limiting their dynamic potential by the principle of domination ("the restraining of the movement of the opponent's pieces;" "; Matsukevich no date, p. 5) and by the prophylaxis of the "liberating pawn movement;" Nimzowitsch 2007, p. 162);

b - by the use of superior mobility of white's pieces occurring from the space advantage and advance gradually their pawns in avalanche against the black king and the center without losing sight of a possible unfolding to the opposite wing which the greater liberty of action of his device permits.

POLUGAEVSKY - FTACNIK
 Lucerne Olympics, Lucerne 1982

1.♗f3 ♗f6 2.c4 c5 3.♗c3 b6 4.g3 ♙b7 5.♙g2 e6 6.
 O-O ♗e7 7.d4 cxd4 8.♖xd4 d6 9.♖d1 a6 Cuts the

ELC of the c3 Knight and defending one of their weaknesses at d6; the other is at b6.

10.b3 ♗bd7 "The knight must be here after b3, in order that ♙a3 can be answered with ♗c5" (Suba 1991, p. 20). This Hedgehog rule by Suba is an example of a white ELC cut.

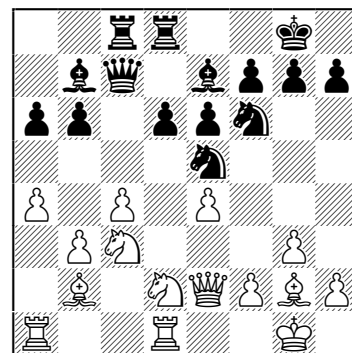
11.e4 ♖b8 12.♙b2 Polugaevski, obliged to win (Olympics, playing with white), opts for the classic treatment of the pawn avalanche.

12...O-O 13.♗d2 "White's philosophy is the traditional one: the player with the greatest space must concentrate himself on the prevention of his adversary's liberating moves, so that later he can slowly expand and pressure the adversary's position. 13.♗d2 prevents ...b5 by protecting the e-pawn and directing another piece to the d5-square." (Watson ob. cit., p. 46).

13...♖d8 14.a4 The move is a "prophylactic liberating pawn move" (Nimzowitsch 2007, p. 162), in case of ...b5, one of the Hedgehog thematic ruptures. In case of a future unfolding on the queen-side, this pawn would be aggressively positioned by having at the ready the a5-pawn advance creating an ELC on this wing.

14...♖c7 15.♖e3 ♖ac8 16.♖e2! Maneuver within interior lines to control the b5 square and prepare f4, the beginning of the pawn avalanche, not worrying about black's ♙c5 or ♗g4.

16...♗e5



D2

17.h3? Taking precautions against ...♗eg4 after f4. If now 17.f4 there could follow 17...♗eg4 (threatening ...♖c5+) 18.♖f1 ♖c5+ 19. ♔h1 ♗e3 20. b4 ♖xb4 21.

♖xc3 ♖xb2 22. ♜fb1 ♖c2 (22...♗g4!) 23. ♜a2 ♗g4 24. ♖f3 ♖d3 25. ♖xd3 ♗f2+ (Ftacnik).

The move 17.h3 deserves a question mark because it proceeds from the intention of following as soon as possible with f4 in avalanche with which he disdains the entire preparatory process in terms of the domination that would result by playing 17.♞ac1 and ♞h1, for example.

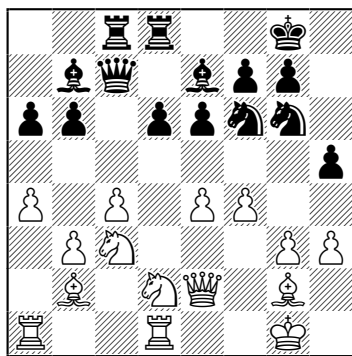
17...h5! A risky move for weakening the king-side, nevertheless in absolute modernity of form. However, was it played by having calculated all their variations? Or ideally was it glimpsed:

a - for 17...h5 maintaining a priori the coherence with the objective of drawing because white responds to the future ...h4 with g4, following the future white avalanche with ...♗g6, ...♗f4, and ...g5 hindering their victory plan;

b - since white desires the win, soon he will try to avoid the afore-mentioned blockade, so much with the idea of weakening the black-colored squares after ...h4 followed by ...hxg3, visualizing in this case the possibility of an OCF upon the white king, the counter-attack, after the pieces have travelled through the ELCs (black-colored squares) now weakened.

It is important to emphasize once again the presence of the queens and other pieces on the board that, maintained by white since the beginning of the game to their advantage, is now the factor that allows the outline of black's counter-attack by having maintained the Hedgehog's dynamic potentials.

18.f4 ♗g6



D3

19.♗f3?! "If 19.h4 there follows ...♗g4. White probably had knowledge of his problems but should have counterattacked [!] with 19.f5!? ♗e5 20.♗f3, in spite that black should have been better by controlling the black-colored squares and the bishop at g2 appearing dispirited." (Watson, ob. cit. p. 46).

The text move 19.♗f3, apparently normal, and to which would follow Rac1 reinforcing himself for the following pawn avalanche gives to black, however, the opportunity for a strong counterattack that starts precisely with the thematic rupture ...d5.

19...d5!! White was counting on 19...h4? 20.f5! exf5 21.exf5 ♗xf3 22.♖xf3 ♗e5 23.♖e3 ♖c5 24.♞d4! with

advantage given the threats g4-g5 and ♗a3" (Watson ob. cit. p.47).

Ftacnik had this sensational rupture "in the sleeve of his coat," or did he find it at this time as is proper from dynamic operational chess? We will never know, however, 19...d5!! exposes all the dynamic potentials of black's position by making of the b8-h2 diagonal an important ELC oriented toward the white king, afterwards will become the OCF and finally the sector's tactical decision.

20.cxd5 If 20.e5 ♗e4 (pointing toward white's weaknesses at c3 and specially at g3) 21.♗xe4 dxe4 22.♗d4 (if 22.♗d2 ♞d3! and black is superior) 22...h4 23.♗xc4 hxg3! (threatening the f4 pawn).

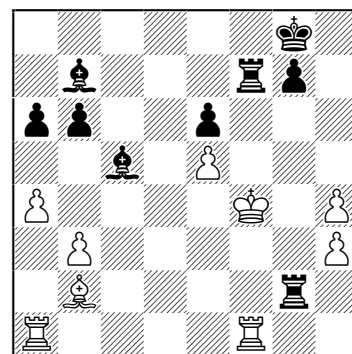
20...h4 21.♗xh4 ♗xh4 22.gxh4 ♖xf4! The presence of the queen near the white king's position already represents the beginning of black's OCF.

23.dxe6 fxe6 24.e5? Polugaevsky donates the great a8-h1 diagonal as a black ELC. Ftacnik, thankful, increases his OCF until exposing his planned counterattack to the tactical decision!

24...♗c5+! The tactical decision of black's counterattack.

25.♞h1 ♗h5! Sacrifices and threatens ...♗g3.

26. ♖xh5 ♖g3 27. ♗d5 ♞xd5 28 ♞f1 ♖xg2+!! 29. ♞xg2 ♞d2+ 0-1 In a tactical decision, an analytical solution, everything is calculated! Implemented by the forced sequence of moves (variant, combination and ambush) serves for the indispensable visualization of the "post-variant position" (Romanovsky 1971, p. 174), which was seen by Ftacnik since 24...♗c5+ which would reveal itself after 30.♞g3 ♞g2+ 31.♞f4 ♞f8+ 32.♖f7+ ♞xf7#.



D4: post-variant position

The a1 rook and the b2 bishop, a dispersal of forces on the queen-side, observe from afar the drama which fell upon the head of the white king.

CLASSIC OFFENSIVE (2)

The "kernel" of the operation (chess position) is the interface between the game plane (intermediate objective) and its operationalization (operational constant). The "kernel" is the

operationalization's motor and has the following structural formula:

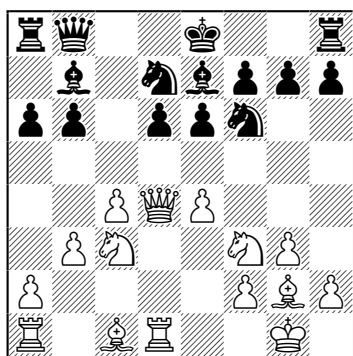
- 1- Initiative
 - 1.1- Offensiveness
 - 1.1.1- Domination
 - 1.1.2- Severity
 - 1.2- Counter-offensiveness
 - 1.2.1- Prophylaxis
 - 1.2.2- Resistance
- 2- Coordination of pieces

The principle of domination was defined dryly as an offensive process that aims for the "limitation of movement of the opponent's pieces" (Matsukevich 1982, p. 5). In the domination there occurs an accumulation of limited advantages, not of strategic advantages, which is to say an accumulation of limited or operational objectives. Do not confuse this with the "accumulation of small advantages," a theory rejected by the hypermodernists (Nimzowitsch 2007, p. 162). For example, if the player cuts the line of communications of an opponent's piece this cut line is a limited and captured objective which creates the respective dispersal of forces, an operational deficit in the opposing device. This situation favors the player as the famous aphorism demonstrates that "maintaining the liberty of action of one's own pieces while at the same time limiting the action of the opponent's pieces." (Capablanca 1942, p. 95).

The domination is, therefore, primarily an offensive operational concept, for example, the prophylaxis of the "liberating pawn move" (Nimzowitsch ob. cit., p. 162) is primarily defensive.

KARPOV - RIBLI
 Dubai Olympics, Dubai 1986

1.c4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘f6 3.♙c3 e6 4.g3 b6 5.♙g2 ♙b7
 6.O-O d6 7. d4 cxd4 8. ♖xd4 a6 9. ♞d1 ♙e7 10. b3
 ♘bd7 11. e4 ♖b8



D5

This position with black's ♖b8 is a key in this variation of the Hedgehog: white has available ♙b2 or ♙a3. In this game Karpov plays to win; he has white in a team tournament.

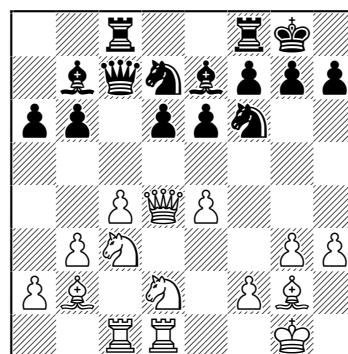
12.♙b2 The ♙a3 alternative carries out the final superior plan which we will see further on. The ♙b2 in the text is Karpov's obvious preference in this position with which he avoids exchanging pieces in search of total situational

domination (positional moment plus psychological moment) to only afterwards, remote from the jeopardy of paths with no return, i.e., removed all risks of counterattacks emanating from the same Hedgehog, to unleashing their classic offensive. Watson wrote in regard to 12.♙b2 that "when one has more space one must concentrate oneself in the prevention of liberating moves and then slowly expanding and putting pressure on the opponent's position." (Watson 2003, p. 46). In view of all this Karpov always adopted the domination in detriment to simplification (♙a3) in order to attain a superior endgame.

Perforce of domination it is common for the classic offensive not to take place because the opponent, subject to the pressures of domination, much sooner ends making a mistake favoring, without white's efforts, the outcome of the game.

12...O-O 13.♘d2 A maneuver within interior lines increasing the control over the d5 square, liberating the influence of the ♙g2, being able to arrive if the case may be of a4-♘f1-♘e3, to a complete restriction of black's ruptures.

13...♖c7 14.♞ac1 ♞ac8 15.h3!



D6

Polugaevski's 17.h3? move in the previous game does not have the animus of engagement in the operation's "kernel," but rather in the operational constant of the game plan as a cut in the f6 Knight's ELC.

On the other hand, Karpov's 15.h3! was played in the position's chess-wise ("kernel") aiming for the full spectrum of situational domination. Playing 15.h3, Karpov, contrary to Polugaevski, did not create for himself any jeopardy of a pawn avalanche a outrance presented by the necessity of victory.

15...♞fe8 16.a3 ♖b8 17.b4 White advances parsimoniously and on the queen-side to only increase his already advantageous operational space denying it to black. In an endgame this advantage could be very favorable.

17...♞ed8 18.♖e3 ♙a8 19.♖e2 Avoiding exchanges and impeding ...b5 white makes a new step in the direction of the process of domination.

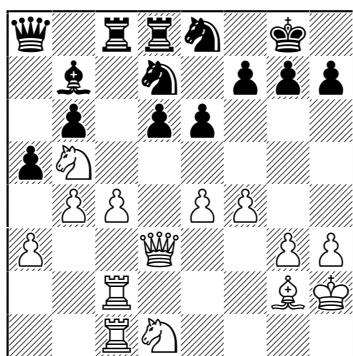
19...♘e8 20.♘f1 ♙b7 21.♙h2 ♘ef6! By attacking the e4 pawn black attempts to force white to play f3 which

would make the cut in the g2 bishop's line of communications with d5, favoring a rupture on this square.

22. ♖d2 ♗e8 23. ♜e1 ♙a8 24. ♗b3 ♙g5 25. ♜c2 ♜c7 26. f4! At this time the f4 move is interesting because it has the same characteristics as 16.a3 followed by 17.b4 merely a precaution gaining more space.

26... ♙f6 27. ♜e1 ♜dc8 28. ♗d1 ♙b7 29. ♖d3 ♙xb2 30. ♗xb2 ♖a8 31. ♗d1 a5?! "Patience is a keyword in the Hedgehog!" (Kibitzer, chessgames.com), which Ribli lacked at this time. The ...a5 move releases the b5 square, or in operational learning, it yields the ELC (b3-d4-b5-d6) to the ♗b3 directed against their own d6 weakness. Better would have been the prophylactic 31... ♜d8 preventatively defending the d6 pawn staying in the dispute for the domination.

32. ♗d4! ♜d8 33. ♗b5 ♜cc8!



D7

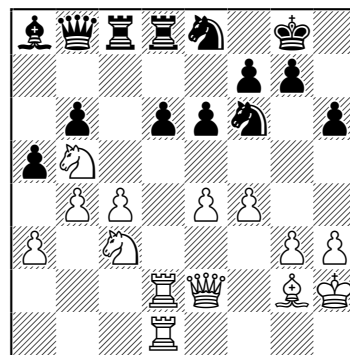
34. ♗dc3! 33... ♜cc8, the beginning of an ambush that attempts to justify or benefit, we do not know, the 31...a5 mistake. However, Karpov is not in a hurry since if now 34. ♗xd6? ♗xd6 35. ♖xd6 ♗c5! 36. ♖xb6 ♗b3! 37. ♗f2 (If 37. ♜b1? ♗d4! 38. ♜cb2 ♙xe4 39. ♙xe4 ♖xe4 40. ♗f2 ♗f3+ Hiarc: -0.80) 37... ♗xc1 38. ♜xc1 axb4 (Hiarc: -0.44) winning the exchange. This ambush operates at the operation's "kernel" as a "resistance" to white's operations. With the winning of the exchange (ambush) there would take place a strategic recycling of the game. Not having this tactical decision, the game advances more channeled toward the unfolding of the actual game plan. This is the sense of the association between the operational constant and the chess ("kernel") in the operation of the game plan.

This is an immanent tactical action (only in potential) without strength to characterize the game as tactical.

34... ♖b8 35. ♜d1 ♗df6 36. ♜cd2 h6? 37. ♖e2? Karpov, who must have been hurried for time, did not perceive that he could have gained some material from 37.e5 since 37... dxe5 is not possible.

37... ♙a8

(see diagram 8)



D8

38. ♗g1? Karpov lets slip a new tactical decision which would have begun with 38.bxa5! bxa5 39. ♖b2 ♙b7 40. e5 dxe5 41. ♙xb7 ♖xb7 42. ♗d6 winning material and the game. Certainly, given so many errors, Karpov is in dire straights pressed for time!

38... ♙c6 39. ♗h2 e5! Any idea to activate black's game such as the move 39...e5 must be made now with Karpov pressed for time, because in spite of white errors the position is still critical for black.

40. f5?! This move recycles the game to an attack by the qualitative majority directly against the black king, but the impression remains that white was careless with their domination strategy until then perfect.

40... ♖a8 41. g4 ♖b8 42. h4!? An apparently perfect qualitative majority attack, yet even then white should have been attentive to black's countermeasures since a Hedgehog is never really dead!

42... ♖b7 43. ♙f3 ♖e7 44. ♗g3 axb4 45. axb4 d5! This Hedgehog thematic rupture is still powerful even late, however, black does not find the correct continuation.

46. cxd5 ♙xb5 47. ♗xb5 ♖xb4? It was said that 47... ♗d6 would give black drawing chances even down one pawn.

48. g5! hxg5 49. hxg5 ♗h7 50. d6! Threatening the d7 fork and mainly cutting the important ILC of black's king on the e7 square which, now confined to his own wing, favors white an elegant finish, the tactical decision of the game.

50... ♜c5 51. ♜b2 ♖c4 52. ♖h2 ♜xb5 53. ♖xh7+!! The tactical decision of white's game plan, the qualitative majority attack, in this case the game.

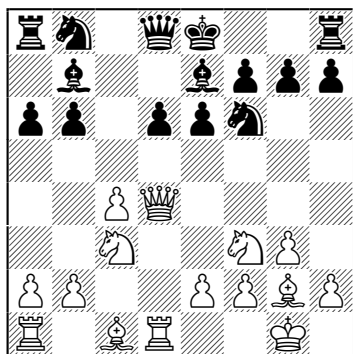
53... ♗xh7 54. ♜h2+ ♗g8 55. ♜dh1 f6 56. ♜h8+ 1-0 If 56... ♗f7 then 57. g6#

OFFENSIVE WITH PIECES

The absence of a white pawn on the e4 square bestows a certain agility to white's pieces in the center and on the king-side.

KRAMNIK - CARLSEN
 Corus - Wijk aan Zee 2008

1.♖f3 ♖f6 2.c4 e6 3.♗c3 c5 4.g3 b6 5.♙g2 ♙b7
 6.O-O ♙e7 7.d4 cxd4 8.♗xd4 d6 9.♗d1 a6



D9

This Hedgehog is characterized by the fianchettoed ♗g2 and the e-pawn still on e2. In this fashion the white pieces become agile in the center and on the king-side, being able from the beginning to exert pressure upon the d6 weakness with ♗f4, ♗g5-♗e4, b3-♗a3, and ♗d2-♗ad1.

At the same time comes a treatment different from the prevention-restriction of black's ...d5 rupture. With the c4 pawn the classic restriction remains to which unites the antecedent of a reciprocity of actions favorable to white due to the greater liberty of action bestowed by their advantage in space and centralization of their pieces.

10.♗g5!? With the idea of returning 11.♗ge4 and if 11...♗xe4 follow with 12.♗xe4 and continuing with pressure on the d6 pawn. Carlsen, confessed guilty of playing for the draw considered this idea harmless!

10...♗xg2 11.♗xg2 ♗c6 12.♗f4 O-O 13.♗ce4 ♗e8! The move in itself is not a novelty but becomes exceptional in expressing the entire sense of black's resistance, a priori defends his d6 pawn, afterwards leaves the white knights overextended and exposed to pawn attacks which they richly deserve.

14.b3 ♗a7! 15.♙b2 ♗d7! This efficient maneuver with interior lines is also not original. Bringing the rook into the game gives strength to the ...d5 rupture which added to the superextended knights and to the ...b5 potential rupture can generate reciprocities of actions favorable to black.

However, among these considerations, hidden, is the liberation of the ♗e8 from its defensive function of d6.

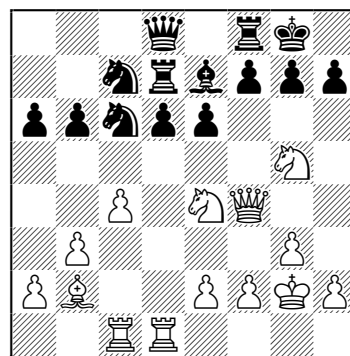
16.♗ac1 ♗c7!!

(see diagram 10)

With this move the maneuver via ILC starting with 13...♗e8 acquires strength and great originality! On c7 the knight exerts a double objective:

a - first, he gives support to the ...d5 and ...b5 ruptures, i.e., that it emerged from its ancient defensive position to an offensive one; and

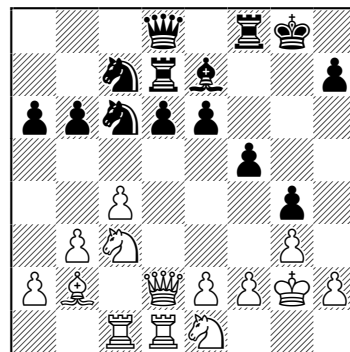
b - at another time he will sponsor the defense of the queen-side under the principle of the conservation of energy. In regard to this subject it has been said that "the principle of the conservation of energies is followed by mastery (by the Russians), in the sense that (given their immense territory) one must apply the greater methods at the place and at the decisive moment, courtesy to parsimony (economic) at the other locations along the front." (Santos 1998, p. 330) If an equivalent thought passed through the mind of Carlsen when he played ...♗c7 in this position we can conclude that he had in mind the idea of a pawn avalanche on the opposite wing, since from his conservation of energy in the defense of the queen-side, a minimum of pieces, it results in a maximum of pieces for the OCF on the king-side. The operationality of such a game plan joins with the presence of the knights and queen superextended on this wing and given they are much exposed to a withering fury from the pawn avalanche, it will result in an operationalization with severe moves (severity) made with tempo gains.



D10: superextended white pieces

But the subtlety of 16...♗c7 is not exhausted in these commentaries; the defense of the queen-side with a conservation of energies will induce Kramnik, that needs the win, to commit his great strategic error which leads to the operational and tactical disaster seen later on.

17.♗f3 f5! 18.♗c3 g5 19.♗d2 g4 20.♗e1



D11

Black won space on the king-side with tempo gains at the cost of white's superextended pieces, but weakened their own king's position. Now black is concentrated in the

middle, ready for the central counterattack that will certainly reflect upon the black king, so much so that Carlsen came to observe that he would have accepted the draw at this time if Kramnik had proposed it.

20...♙g5! A highly important move that justifies the acceptance of the draw on Carlsen's part! By forcing the response 21.e3 it creates two types of situations:

- a - a prophylaxis of white's possible ruptures to be executed with the e-pawn and the f-pawn; and
- b - a network of weak squares on the king-side (operational space) that may be used to advantage by the knights in a possible direct attack against the king.

But all this depends on what Kramnik will do.

21. e3 ♜ff7 22. ♔g1 ♞e8!!! There is no doubt of IL-C/ELC traffic by the Nc7 formed by the squares g8-f6-e8-c7-e8-f6-e4 in passing showing itself a DCF on the queen-side and now on the king-side. Depending upon what Kramnik will do, it could result in a OCF against the white king.

In any case, the text move ♞c7 relinquishing the queen-side and the support of their own ...b5 and ...d5 thematic ruptures must have greatly stimulated Kramnik to seek the path to victory.

23. ♞e2?! Kramnik reveals that he truly desires to win (the modest Carlsen wants the draw!) and starts his aggressive planning, recognizing the difficulty of breaking through the center, even because it would no longer have repercussions on the king-side due to black's DCF in that sector; there remains the attack on the queen-side presently abandoned!

Commentators have advised 23.f4 to guarantee control over e5 but this would be defensive distancing himself from victory, his planned sporting result.

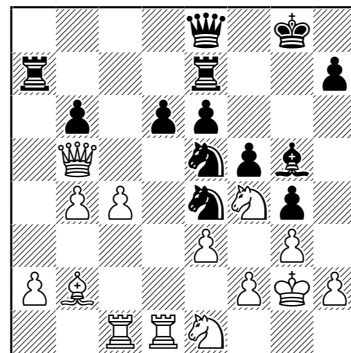
23... ♞f6 24. ♞f4 ♖e8 25. ♗c3 ♜g7! Allows ... ♞e4 by avoiding the threat of mate that would have occurred now with 25... ♞e4 26. ♗h8#

26.b4 Opening an ELC for the queen on this wing (♗b3-♗a4), trusting Ne1 in the defense of his white-colored squares within the principle of the conservation of energies.

26... ♞e4 27. ♗b3 ♜ge7 28. ♗a4 "Kramnik, usually magnificent in the coordination of pieces, puts his queen out of play." (Kavalek) Our explanation: Kramnik, who knows that black's pawn avalanche does not decide anything and that his ♞e1 defends his white-colored squares, attacks on the queen-side in order to win a pawn and thus attain the victory.

28... ♞e5!! Brilliant from the operational point of view by concentrating forces for an eventual attack with pieces against the white king. From the tactical point of view it is absolutely splendid, as we will see later on.

29. ♗×a6 ♜a7! 30. ♗b5



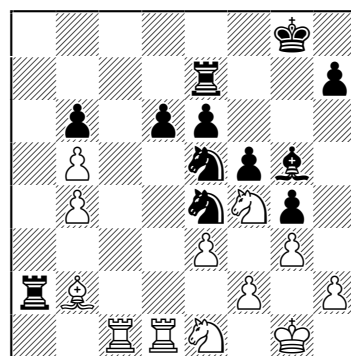
D12

Now white takes account of the fact that he could not take the pawn 30. ♗×b6?? because of 30... ♜eb7 31. ♗d4 ♙f6 and losing the queen. Due to this he offered the draw that was swiftly refused by Carlsen. This is a variation that did not occur in the game but that had a powerful influence due to its severity ("kernel") in the partitioning of events.

Carlsen, who up to this point would accept the draw, now no longer accepts it because he knows that with the capture on a6 there was created an important ELC, the a-column, through which his rooks will infiltrate white's game casting a checkmate net by attacking the white king in a pincer fashion.

Observing a posteriori this game, through the rearview mirror, we remain struck with the profoundness of the logic of moves 16... ♞c7 and 22... ♞c8 which, having instigated white (Kramnik) to attack on the queen-side, ended by originating all these events.

30... ♗×b5! 31.c×b5 ♜×a2



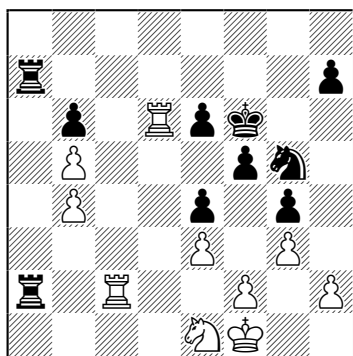
D13

Black's invasion via the queen-side, besides the total domination, forms a pincer with the frontal advance proceeding from the king-side. Threatening checkmate nets are established yet defensible due to the absence of the queens. Precisely due to this lack, the tactical decision requires an alternate objective which Carlsen finds in his b6 pawn as a future passed pawn, it is obvious, after the capture of the white pawns b4-b5.

32. ♜c8+ ♙f7 33. ♞fd3 ♙f6 34. ♞×e5+ d×e5 35. ♜c2 ♜ea7!

The rooks advance through the queen-side and the ♖e4 through the king-side pressuring with checkmate nets.

36.♙g2 ♖g5 37.♞d6 e4! 38.♙xf6 ♙xf6 39.♙f1



D14

39...♞a1! 40.♙e2 ♞b1! 41.♞d1 ♞xb4 42.♖g2 ♞xb5
 The checkmate snare avoided as much the capture of black's b6 as the defense of white's b4-b5. Now with the passed b-pawn the game is decided.

43.♖f4 ♞c5 44.♞b2 b5 45.♙f1 ♞ac7 46.♞bb1 ♞b7
 47.♞b4 ♞c4 48.♞b2 b4 49.♞db1 ♖f3 50.♙g2 ♞d7!
 51.h3 If 51...♞xb4 ♞xb4 52.♞xb4 ♞d1 53.♖e2 ♖e1+ and wins by capturing the ♞b4.

51...e5 52. ♖e2 ♞d2! 53. h×g4 f×g4 54.♞×d2 ♖×d2
 55.♞b2 ♖f3 56.♙f1 b3 57.♙g2 ♞c2 0-1

According to commentators, Carlsen would have accepted the draw if Kramnik had offered it until the 25th move. But one has to ask the question: Why didn't Carlsen himself offer the draw? Answer: Because he was playing with black, he still was very young and his opponent an ex-world champion, a great winner against the mighty Kasparov, and still needing to win to vanquish one more leader! Even for a great master of Carlsen's caliber, respect had the last word!

FINAL SUPERIOR MANEUVER e4-b3-♙a3-e5

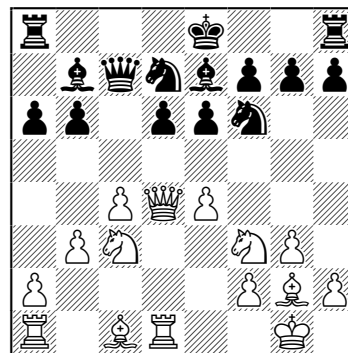
RIBLI - AMBROZ
 Baile Herculane, 1982

1. c4 c5 2. ♖f3 ♖f6 3. ♖c3 e6 4. g3 b6 5. ♙g2 ♙b7
 6. O-O d6 7. d4 c×d4 8. ♙×d4 a6 9. ♞d1 ♙e7 10. b3
 ♖bd7 11. e4 ♙c7?

(see diagram 15)

11...♙b8 has been played and even recommended which, in spite of allowing the exchange of queens, black is able to equalize according to Watson seeing that "if 12.♙a3 ♖c5 13.e5 dxe5 14. ♙xe5 ♖cd7! and black has no problems with or without the exchange of queens," (Watson 2003, p. 46), but this is not definitely established as is well demonstrated by the game Schneider-Eperjesi, Hungary ChT 1996, that followed with 15. ♙xb8+ ♞xb8 16. ♙c1 ♞c8 17. ♙f4 h6

18. ♖e5 ♙xg2 19. ♙xg2 g5 20. ♖xd7 ♖xd7 21. ♙e3 ♞c6
 22. ♞ac1 ♙d8 23. ♙d4 ♞g8 24. ♞d3 ♙c7 25. ♞cd1 ♙c5
 26. ♖e4 f5 27. ♙xc5 ♖xc5 28. ♖xc5 bxc5 29. ♞d7+ ♙b6
 30. ♞h7 1-0. In addition the game Lautier - Kamsky, shown further down, is another example that makes one think! In any case, the text move 11...♙c7 is inferior to 11...♙b8.



D15

12.♙a3! ♖c5 13.e5 d×e5 14. ♙×e5 ♞c8 15. ♙×c7!
 ♞×c7 16. ♙c1! ♖fe4 17. ♙f4 ♞c8 18. ♖×e4 ♙×e4 19.
 ♙d6! White is operating on the chess-wise operationalization ("kernel"); he has initiative given the lack of coordination of black's pieces which results in a very favorable reciprocity of actions.

19...♙f6 20. ♖e5 ♙×g2 21. ♙×g2 With the exchange on g2, the king enters upon the scene approaching the center, we have the official start of the end.

21...♙×e5 22. ♙×e5 f6 23. ♙d6 ♞c6 24. ♞d4 e5
 25. ♞d5 ♖e6 26. f4! e×f4 27. g×f4 White dominates the situation with black's pieces dispersed and uncoordinated.

27...g6 28. ♙f3 ♙f7 29. ♙a3 ♖c5 30. ♙×c5! ♞×c5
 31. ♞d7+! An invading rook versus a non-invading rook results in a major positional disequilibrium, an intermediary objective with many game plans in the determination of the sporting result of the game.

31...♙e6 32. ♞ad1 Threatens 33. ♞1c6+ followed by 34. ♞f7

32...♞c6 33. ♞b7 h5 34. h4 ♞g8 35. ♞e1+ ♙d6 36. a3
 ♞gc8 37. ♞g1 ♞8c7 If 37...♞g8? 38. f5 g5? 39. ♞d1+ ♙c5
 40. ♞d5#

38. ♞b8 ♞c8 39. ♞×c8 ♞×c8 40. ♞×g6 The rest is a question of technique.

40...♙e6 41. ♞h6 b5 42. ♞×h5 b×c4 43. b×c4 ♞×c4
 44. ♞a5 ♞c3+ 45. ♙g4 f5+ 46. ♙h5 ♞g3 47. ♞×a6+ ♙f7
 48. ♙h6 ♞g4 49. h5 ♞×f4 50. ♙g5 ♞f1 51. a4 ♙e7 52.
 h6 ♞g1+ 53. ♙×f5 ♞f1+ 54. ♙g6 ♞g1+ 55. ♙h7 1-0

FINAL SUPERIOR MANEUVER e4-b3-♙a3-e5
 Space gain with ...g5

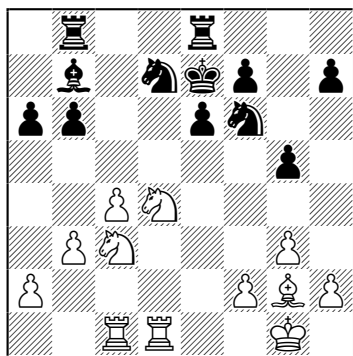
Black finds a surprising form of resistance to white's plans of a "superior endgame with the maneuver e4-b3-♔a3-e5" by an advance of the pawns on the king-side.

LAUTIER - KAMSKY
 Groningen, 1995

1.c4 ♖f6 2.♗c3 c5 3.♗f3 e6 4.g3 b6 5.♔g2 ♔b7 6.0-0 ♙e7 7.d4 cxd4 8.♖xd4 d6 9.♗d1 a6 10.b3 ♗bd7 11.e4 ♖b8 This position is the same one as in diagram 5, the same that happened in games Polugaevsky-Ftacinik and Karpov-Ribli, but differ from diagram 11 (Ribli-Ambroz) due to the black queen's position on c7. As in this game, ♖b8 was taken as black's most favorable placement after the sequence:

12.♔a3 ♗c5 13.e5 dxe5 14.♖xe5 ♗cd7 15.♖xb8+ ♗xb8 16.♔xe7 Schneider-Eperjesi, 1996 played 16. ♔c1.

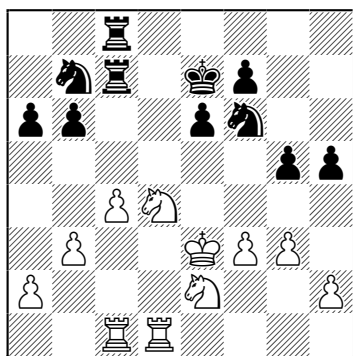
16...♗xe7 17.♗d4 ♗hc8 18.♗ac1 g5!!



D16

Kamsky, in spite of the exchange of pieces, finds this plan very original and powerful to recover the Hedgehog's dynamic potentials, confirming the system's vitality. There are no tactical threats on the horizon and black desires to win space on the king-side; the start of a surprising positional domination.

19. ♔xb7 ♗xb7 20. f3 ♗bc7 21. ♗ce2 h5 22. ♗f2 ♗c5 23. ♗e3 ♗b7!



D17

Suddenly the white pieces are lacking lines of communication, f5 and f4 are being controlled by the black pawns; on the queen-side b5 and c6 are also under black's control. The ELC of access to a knight on e5 does not exist, and the d-column can be challenged at any moment depending on black's interests. However, black maintains the ELC, as for example, ♗b7-d6, ♗f6-d7-e5, and ♗c7-c5-e5+, in addition to the ...b5 and ...g4 ruptures.

The conclusion arrived at is that black is exerting his domination of the game.

24.h3 ♗d6 25.f4 ♗c5 26.♗f3 ♗fe4 27.♗e1 ♗f6 28. ♗c3 g4+ 29.hxg4 hxg4+ 30.♗g2 If 30. ♗xg4 ♗g8+ and black definitely owns the initiative.

30...♗xc3 31.♗xc3 b5! Taking advantage of the undefended ♗c3 the delayed thematic rupture arrives, however, rupture with new ELCs!

32.♗ce3 bxc4 33.♗xe6 If 33.bxc4 ♗xc4 34.♗xe6 ♗f5.

33...♗d5! Defending the ♗d6 and threatening the capture fxe6. The knight must retreat but does so with a dispersal of forces while the ♗d5 concentrates in the center and the king-side.

34.♗g5 cxb3! 35.axb3 ♗c2+! 36.♗1e2 ♗dd2 37.♗f2 ♗xe2+ 38.♗xe2 ♗xe2+ 39.♗xe2 ♗f5 The pawn endgame is lost for white.

40.♗e3 a5 41.♗h7 A type of zugzwang that compels the increase of dispersal of white's forces seeing that if the king moves then black plays ♗e4 forcing the exchange of knights and winning.

41...♗e4 42.♗f8 ♗c5! 0-1

Until the last move black demonstrates their domination. Great game!

FINAL SUPERIOR MANEUVER ♖e3-♗d4

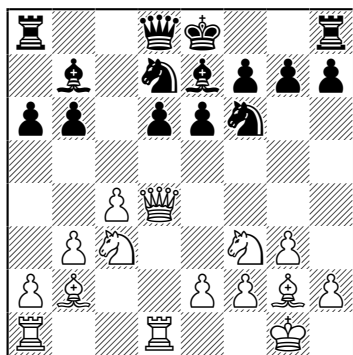
In this game Karpov delays his e4 move in order to exchange the bishops and queens on the great white diagonal. Starting from this new situation, perpetrated by the classic prescription of space advantage, the Hedgehog's dynamic potentials nearly disappear.

KARPOV- GHEORGHIU
 Moscow, 1977

1.c4 c5 2.♗f3 ♗f6 3.♗c3 e6 4.g3 b6 5.♔g2 ♔b7 6.0-0 ♙e7 7.d4 cxd4 8.♖xd4 d6 9.♗d1 a6 10.b3 ♗bd7 11 ♔b2

(see diagram 18)

Karpov has a preference of ♔b2 instead of ♔a3. The text move, without white's e4 will be played later after the exchange of bishops and queens, initiates de operationalization "final superior" plan based on white's spatial advantage.



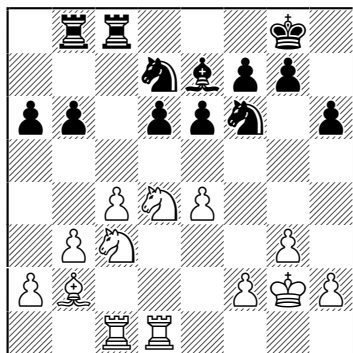
D18

11 ...O-O 12. ♖e3 ♗b8 13. ♘d4 ♙xg2 14. ♙xg2 ♗b7+ 15. ♗f3 ♗xf3+ 16. ♘xf3 Exchanging queens according to the classic prescription of benefiting from greater space.

16... ♗fc8 17. ♘d4 ♗ab8 If 17...d5? the reciprocity of actions is favorable to white after 18.cxd5 ♘xd5 19. ♘xd5 exd5 20. ♘f5! ♙f8 (if 20... ♙f6 21. ♙xf6 followed by ♘c7+ winning) 21. ♗xd5 with superiority.

18. ♗ac1 h6 Once again if 18...d5 19.cxd5 ♘xd5 20. ♘xd5 ♗xc1 21. ♗xc1 cxd5 22. ♗c7! followed by ♘c6.

19.e4!

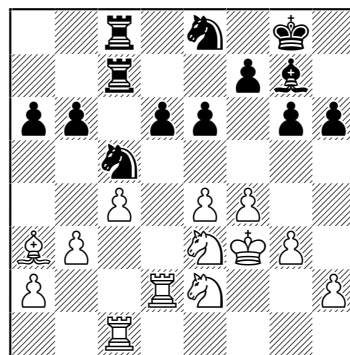


D19

After the exchange of queens, which diminishes black's dynamic potentials, Karpov returns to the normal game of domination now performing the ...d5 rupture prophylaxis. In play is the aphorism, "the struggle for the liberty of action is in fact the essence of strategy." (Beaufre 1982, p.131)

19... ♘e8 20.f4 ♙f6 21. ♙f3 Once again we must consider that the exchange of queens has greatly reduced the Hedgehog's dynamic potentials, this move being made for the purpose of gaining more space and the advance with the king, which at the hands of Karpov is always an active piece.

21... ♗b7 22. ♙a3 ♗bc7 23. ♘ce2 ♘c5 24. ♗d2 g6 25. ♘c2 ♙g7 26. ♘e3



D20

With the knight maneuver (♘c2-♘e3) Karpov demonstrates his intention of playing f5. This demonstration was so clear that it suggests that he himself wanted that it be anticipated with ...f5

26...f5 I put the alternative of 26...a5 for the Hiarc 10 to analyze: 27.h3 a4 28.b4 ♘a6 29. ♘d4 ♙xd4 30. ♗xd4 ♗b7 31. ♗d2 b5 32.cxb5 ♘ac7 33. ♙b2 ♗cb8 34.b6 ♗xb6 35.a3 ♘b5 36.g4 g5 37.f5 and there are many weaknesses in black's game which compensate for the a3-pawn's weakness.

27.exf5 gxf5 28.h3 h5 29. ♗g1 ♗f7 30.g4 hxg4+ 31.hxg4 fxg4+ 32. ♗xg4 White opens an ELC upon the opponent's king, king-side, and the alternate objectives in the d6-e6 pawns.

33... ♙f8 33. ♘g3 a5 34. ♗g6 ♙e7 35.f5! Now it is white that bursts forth to put new pieces upon the black king.

35... ♗f6 36. ♗xf6 ♘xf6 If 36... ♙xf6, Hiarc 10 would play 37. ♘h5+ ♙e7 38. ♘f4 ♙h6 39.fxe6 ♙xf4 40. ♘d5+ ♙xe6 41. ♘xf4+ ♙f7 42. ♘d5 ♗b8 43. ♗f2 a4 44. bxa4 ♗b7 45. ♙e3+ ♙e6 46.a5 bxa5 47. ♙d4 ♗b1 48. ♘c3 ♗b8 49. ♙xc5 dxc5+ 50. ♙xc5.

37. ♗e2 ♗f8 If 37...e5, Hiarc 10 recommends: 38. ♙xc5 bxc5 39. ♘e4 ♗h8 40. ♘xf6 ♙xf6 41. ♗g2 ♗h3+ 42. ♙e4 ♗h4+ 43. ♙d5 ♗h3 44. ♘g4

38. ♙xc5 bxc5 39. fxe6 ♙xe6 40. ♘ef5+ 1-0 If 41... ♙f7 or 41... ♙d7 white plays 42. ♗e7+ winning.

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We do not know if the author, MI Anatoly Matsukevich, referred to the term "domination" (from the Brazilian translation, unknown translator) or to the "limitation" (from the English translation). In spite of the appalling Portuguese, we have opted for "domination" in our translation, for its aggressive content associated with the term, which is lacking in "limitation," turned more toward the concept of Nimzowitsch's "restriction."

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APPENDIX 1

Kramnik - Carlsen, Wijk aan Zee 2008
by Seven Commentators"

1.Nf3 Nf6 "The journey of this heroic knight begins modestly" (Kavalek).

2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.g3 b6 5.Bg2 Bb7 6.0-0 Be7 7.d4 cxd4 8.Qxd4 d6 "The Hedgehog is a somewhat risky choice against Kramnik, who plays such quiet maneuvering positions so well" (de Castro).

"From the English Opening we have transposed to the Hedgehog System" (Ang).

9.Rd1 a6 "The Hedgehog formation is a respectable method of opening nowadays. Such positions for all their modest appearance, have great resistive power, though handling them properly requires great skill" (de Castro).

"This is also standard in the Hedgehog. Black's knight wants to go from b8-d7, but first he must prevent White from playing Nb5" (Ang).

"Black's Hedgehog formation is complete" (Pein).

"The unusual name for this defense comes from Black's adoption of many pawns on the 3rd rank. Like a hedgehog's quills, Black's position can spring open in many ways if White tries to exert his space advantage too quickly" (Hergott).

10.Ng5 "Normally White's move here is either 10.Be3 or Bg5 followed by 11.Qd2. Kramnik's maneuver is designed to exchange off the fianchettoed bishops" (Ang).

"Kramnik's 10.Ng5 attempted to exert pressure against the vulnerable d6 pawn. Carlsen reacted astutely, first with 13 ... Nc8, preserving a useful defender, then with 14 ... Ra7 and 15 ... Rd7" (Benjamin).

"If I remember correctly, isn't considered especially dangerous" (Carlsen).

10 ... Bxg2 11.Kxg2 Nc6 But now, with the bothersome white bishop on g2 gone, Black can place his knight more actively on c6 (Ang).

12.Qf4 "White's idea is to pressure the d6 pawn with Ne4" (de Castro).

"White's plan is to pressure d6 and prevent Black from breaking out with d6-d5 or b6-b5 (Pein).

"Not the most pressing approach by White, but very solid. White plays to restrain Black's pawn breaks (Hergott).

12 ... 0-0 13.Nce4 "13.Nge4 seems better, although the text is not bad, it is hardly commendable judging from what occurred in the game, and in any event one should not consider it to be the decisive mistake as some annotators claimed" (de Castro).

13...Ne8! "Keeping the white horses entangled" (Kavalek).

"A good plan, which aims to push back the overextended knights" (de Castro).

"Remember the "coiled spring"? Magnus hits upon a nice maneuver. He brings this knight to c7 to watch over his soon-to-be weak e6 square, then snaps back with ...f5 and ...g5" (Ang).

14.b3 Ra7 15.Bb2 "At each move I have to calculate e5" (Carlsen).

"But here it doesn't work" (Ang).

15 ... Rd7 16.Rac1 "The Hedgehog is a deceiving defense. It seems white is completely in charge at this point, but the luck can turn quickly (Kavalek).

"The position is deceiving and difficult to assess. At first glance, White has the space advantage, but Black's position is solid" (de Castro).

16...Nc7!? "Threatening to win with f7-f5, Carlsen finds an original way to push Kramnik's pieces back" (Kavalek).

"Black finds a way to seize the initiative. The threat of 17...f7-f5 completely changes the complexion of the game" (de Castro).

16 ... Nc7, prepared a new plan that seemed to catch Kramnik unaware" (Benjamin).

"An excellent plan the knight is ideally placed to support d6-d5 or b6-b5 (Pein).

17.Nf3 f5 "Black's hopes for counterplay normally lie in preparing a break with b5 or d5. The first new move of the game" (Kavalek).

"Carlsen's Hedgehog mimicked a cobra, with sudden, opportunistic strikes. Beginning with 17 ... f5, Carlsen used his kingside pawns to send white pieces flying" (Benjamin).

"Quite unexpected and possibly underestimated by Kramnik. Carlsen expands on the kingside and weakens his position considerably but forces his opponent back" (Pein).

"An interesting decision, and probably an unexpected one. Black weakens his K-side, but also grabs a considerable amount of space (Hergott).

18.Nc3 "Here, Carlsen decided that he had been passive for long enough, and launched an interesting bid for counterplay" (de Castro).

18 ... g5 19.Qd2 g4 "Perfect! Would you believe now it is Black who is attacking?" (Ang).

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20.Ne1 Bg5! "Forcing white to weaken the square f3" (Kavalek).

"A fine move that will create holes on White's light squares" (de Castro).

"Forcing e2-e3, weakening both the white squares around the White king but also the long diagonal" (Ang).

"Black gained a lot of space and forced a weakening of the light squares with 20 ... Bg5" (Benjamim).

21.e3 Rff7 22.Kg1 Ne8 "Having accomplished its job, this knight now heads for an even stronger position on e4" (Ang).

23.Ne2 "Kramnik's counter is to place his knight on f4 and at the same time clear the long diagonal a1-h8" (Ang).

"Kramnik decides to attack the weakened e6 pawn and line up his queen on the long diagonal but Carlsen deals with this. Perhaps 23.f4 taking the e5 square was best and if 23...gxf3 24.Nxf3 Bf6 25.Ne2 when Black is considerably less active than in the game" (Pein).

23...Nf6 24.Nf4 "Here, John Nunn felt that White was definitely better, and that Black's position was beginning to creak. However, it proves not to be so easy to crack the defense" (de Castro).

24...Qe8 "24...Ne4 25.Nxe6 is quite strong 25...Qc8 26.Nxg5 (26.Qd5 Nb4) 26...Nxd2 27.Nxf7 This should be good for white because I have so many weaknesses" (Carlsen).

25.Qc3 "I thought Kramnik was slightly better here but I wasn't sure" (Carlsen).

25 ...Rg7 "Of course not 25...Ne4?? 26.Qh8#" (Ang).

"Carlsen's rook moves are very original. This is played to prevent Qh8. Ne4 cannot be prevented now) 26.b4 Ne4 27.Qb3 Rge7 28.Qa4 (28.f3!?)" (Pein).

"Before finding this move, Carlsen thought that White might still hold a small advantage, but this original rook move blocks the threats on the long diagonal and continues an interesting battle of ideas" (Hergott).

26.b4 Ne4 "Suddenly, the knight becomes a dominant piece in the center" (Kavalek).

"This centralized knight will be a major factor in exploiting the weak light squares" (de Castro).

27.Qb3 Rge7 28.Qa4 "Kramnik, who is usually great in coordinating his pieces, takes his queen out of play. He should have tried either 28.f3 or even 28.h4" (Kavalek).

"A highly dubious move which simply loses time. Better perhaps is 28. h4 Bf6 29. Bxf6 Nxf6 with chances of staying in the game. This grab of the a-pawn rebounds badly, but it is not clear what other targets White can find" (de Castro).

"White starts to go adrift. Carlsen, with true modesty, claimed that Kramnik was known to have been suffering from a cold during the last rounds of this event, and this explains his poor concentration for the next few moves. Notwithstanding, there is no debating Carlsen's achievement in Kramnik's defeat. 28.f3!? or 28.h4!? were suggestions

afterwards, attempting to contest Black's K-side grip" (Hergott).

28...Ne5! "Defending tactically. After 28...Nb8? 29.f3 white is slightly better" (Kavalek).

"Indirectly defending a6, Black starts occupation of f3" (de Castro).

29.Qxa6? "The pawn-hunting gets Kramnik in trouble." (Kavalek)

"A fatalistic reply, but what can one suggest in its place at this point?" (de Castro)

"A mistake, but an understandable one. Kramnik has a bad position and decides to grab a pawn so that at least he would be material ahead. What he does not see is that Black can trap the queen" (Ang).

"Kramnik probably should have fought harder to keep the black knight from reaching the powerful outpost on e4. Black's advantage went from slight to significant after Kramnik's foolish pawn grab 29 Qa6. He overlooked that 30 Qb6 Re7 31 Qd4 Bf6 would trap the queen; White would have to jettison a piece with 32 Ne6 to save her" (Benjamin).

"Almost the decisive mistake. 29.c5 Nc4 should be good for black" (Carlsen).

29...Ra7 "White's 29th proves a disastrous error. Almost certainly Kramnik had missed that 30.Qxb6 Re7 31.Qd4 Bf6! traps the Queen in mid-board, with ...Nf3 an unstoppable threat. White's next is therefore forced, and leads to a very passive position" (Hergott).

30.Qb5 "Forced, since after 30.Qxb6? Re7 31.Qd4 Bf6, threatening 32...Nf3+, and black wins. Kramnik offered a draw that was promptly declined. Black is already better" (Kavalek).

"Kramnik offered a draw which Carlsen politely refused. The text is forced since 30. Qxb6 loses to 30...Re7 31. Qd4 Bf6 and the threat of 32...Nf3+ is hard to meet. After the game, it was revealed that Kramnik had missed the simple point that he cannot play 30.Qxb6, because of 30.Rgb7 31.Qd4 Bf6. He actually offered a draw with the text move, but Carlsen was having none of it." (de Castro).

"Not 30.Qxb6? Re7 31.Qd4 Bf6! Black's threat of ...Nf3+ is hard to meet. At this point Kramnik offered a draw, but Carlsen decided to go for a win" (Ang).

"Kramnik missed that after 30.Qxb6 Re7 31. Qd4 Bf6 wins because Nf3 follows and the queen has nowhere to hide" (Pein).

30...Qxb5 31.cxb5 Rxa2 "Suddenly, Black is better" (de Castro).

32.Rc8+?! "After 32.Bxe5 dxe5 33.Nfd3 Bf6, Black clearly has the advantage" (de Castro).

32 ...Kf7 33.Nfd3 Bf6 34.Nxe5+ dxc5 35.Rc2 "White has to defend an inferior endgame. After 35.Nd3 Nxf2! 36. Kxf2 e4, Black is winning" (de Castro).

Nd3 does not win a pawn: 35...Nxf2! 36.Kxf2 e4 regain everything with interest" (Ang).

"Kramnik is forced into passivity, if 35.Nd3 Nxf2! 36.Kxf2 e4 winning back bishop or knight with a big advantage" (Pein).

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"Unfortunately 35.Nd3 Nxf2! is not playable, so White is forced backwards" (Hergott).

35...Rea7 36.Kg2 Ng5 37.Rd6?! "37.Nd3? e4 wins" (Ang).

37...e4! "And now it is all over. With his hopelessly passive pieces and seriously-endangered king, White is helpless" (de Castro).

38.Bxf6 Kxf6 "Carlsen is winning. He can combine mating threats on the kingside with material gains on the queenside" (Kavalek).

"This had to be calculated very carefully, since Black could lose the b6-pawn and maybe even the game if White is given half a chance" (Ang).

"Carlsen wove a decisive mating net in the endgame. After 38 ... Kf6, Kramnik could not afford to grab the b6 pawn: 39 Rb6 Ra1 40 Re2 Nf3 41 Kf1 Rd7 42 Ra6 Rb1 and 43 ... Rd1 will mate shortly" (Benjamin).

39.Kf1 "39. Rxb6? allows mating net on the back rank after 39...Ra1 40.Kf1 Nf3 41.Rc1 Rb1 followed by ...Ra7-a1" (de Castro).

"Or 39.Rxa2 Rxa2 40.Rxb6 Nh3! or 39.Rxb6 Ra1 40.Re2 Nf3" (Ang).

"39.Rxb6 Ra1 40. Kf1 Nf3 41.Re2 Rb1 and Ra7a1 mates" (Pein).

"39.Rxb6? allows Black to activate his forces with a mating net after 39...Ra1, with ...Nf3 and doubling rooks on the 8th to follow" (Hergott).

39 ...Ra1! 40.Ke2 "40.Rxb6 Nf3 41.Re2 Rd7! followed by ...Rdd1 (41...R7a2? 42.Ra6!)" (Ang).

40 ...Rb1 41.Rd1 "After 41.Rxb6? white loses either after 41...Raa1 42.Ng2 Nf3, threatening 43...Re1+!; or after 41...Rd7 42.Rcc6? Rxe1+! 43.Kxe1 Nf3+ and black mates (Kavalek).

"Tantamount to resignation, but there is nothing better. For instance 41. Rxb6? Raa1 42.Ng2 Nf3 and mates on e1" (de Castro).

"Black still can't take the pawn. 41.Rxb6 Rd7! the threat of ...Nf3 is a killer" (Ang).

"41.Rxb6 Raa1 wins so Kramnik has to retreat and pawns fall" (Pein).

"Time control has been reached, but with White's b-pawns dropping off, the result has already been decided" (Hergott).

41...Rxb4 42.Ng2 Rxb5 "Black is two pawns up. The end is near" (Kavalek).

"Black is two pawns ahead in an advantageous position. The rest is technique" (de Castro).

"Black is two pawns up but the presence of rooks gives White chances. Remember the old saying 'all rook endings are drawn'" (Ang).

43.Nf4 Rc5 44.Rb2 b5 45.Kf1 Rac7 46.Rbb1 Rb7 47.Rb4 Rc4 48.Rb2 b4 49.Rdb1 Nf3 50.Kg2 Rd7! 51.h3

After 51.Rxb4 Rxb4 52.Rxb4 Rd1 53.Ne2 Nc1+ 54.Kf1 Nc2+ wins (Kavalek).

"The pawn is taboo: 51.Rxb4? Rxb4 52.Rxb4 Rd1 53.Ne2 Ne1+! 54.Kf1 Nd3+ wins the rook" (Ang).

51...e5 52.Ne2 Rd2 53.hxg4 fxg4 54.Rxd2 Nxd2 55. Rb2 Nf3 "Basically white is in zugzwang here" (Carlsen).

56.Kf1 b3 57.Kg2 Rc2 0-1 "After 58.Rxc2 bxc2 59.Kf1 Nd2+ 60.Ke1 Nb3 the knight finally finishes his victorious journey (Kavalek).

"Kramnik managed to protect his king but lost both queenside pawns. After 57 ... Rc2, faced with the imminent loss of a knight, he resigned" (Benjamin).

Commentators

GMI LUBOMIR KAVALEK (In Washington Post)
 MN EDGAR DE CASTRO (In Let's Play Chess)
 BOBBY ANG (In Businessworld - Philippines)
 MI MALCON PEIN (In Telegraph)
 MI DEEN HERGOTT (In The Citizen - Ottawa)
 GMI JOEL BENJAMIN (In New York Times)
 GMI MAGNUS CARLSEN (In www.chess.co.uk)

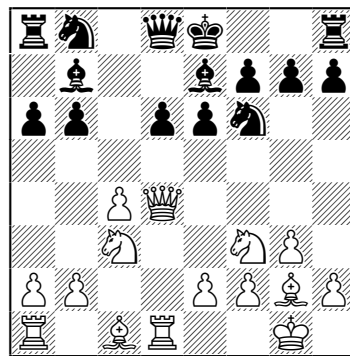
APPENDIX 2

Small Hedgehog Theory with Bg2 and e2 pawn

ECO A30- SYMMETRICAL ENGLISH

Hedgehog with Bg2 and the e2-pawn

1.c4 c5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nc3 e6 4.g3 b6 5.Bg2 Bb7 6.O-O Be7 7.d4 cxd4 8.Qxd4 d6 9.Rd1 a6

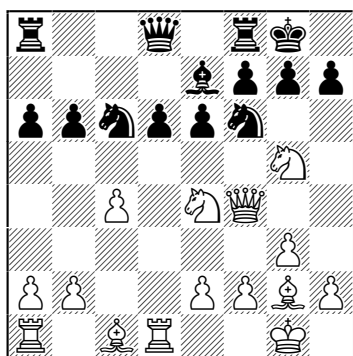


D1

In the Hedgehog with the Bg2 fianchetto and the e2-pawn, white's pieces are agile in the center and the king-side, from early on being able to exert pressure on the d6 weakness with Qf4; Ng5-Nc4; b3-Ba3; Rd2-Tad1.

Another aspect is the different treatment given to the prevention-restriction of black's ...d5 rupture; it remains the classic restriction only with the c4-pawn on the presumption that with the reciprocity of actions emanating from the ...d5 rupture it would be favorable to white due to the greater liberty of action conferred by their advantage in space and piece centralization.

10.Ng5 Bxg2 11.Kxg2 Nc6 12.Qf4 0-0 13.Nce4



D2

13...Ne8

A) 13...d5 14.Nxf6+ Bxf6 15.cxd5 exd5 16.Qf5 g6 17.Qxd5 Qxd5+ 18.Rxd5 Rfd8 19.Ne4 Bg7 20. Rxd8+ Rxd8 21.Be3 f5 22.Nc3 b5 23.Rc1 Nb4 24.a3 Bxc3 25.Rxc3 Nd5 26.Rd3 Kf7 27.Bc5 Ke6 28.f3 Rd7 29. Kf2 a5 30.h3 Rc7 31.b4 Rc6 32.e4 fxe4 33. fxe4 Nf6 34.Ke3 Nd7 35.Rd5 a4 36.Kd4 h6 37.g4 Rc7 38.Rd6+ Kf7 39.e5 1-0 (Jirovsky - Kristensen, Copenhagen 1993).

B) 13... Ne5 14.Nxf6+ Bxf6 15.Ne4 Be7 16.b3 Qc7 17.Kg1 Rfd8 18.Bb2 Ng6 19.Qe3 Bf8 20.Rac1 Qb7 21.h4 d5 22.cxd5 Rxd5 23.Rxd5 Qxd5 24.Ng5 h6 25.Nf3 b5 26.Qd4 Qxd4 27.Bxd4 Ne7 28.h5 Rc8 29.Rxc8 Nxc8 30.Ne5 f6 31.Nd7 Bd6 32.Nc5 e5 33. Be3 a5 34. g4 Kf7 35.Kg2 Ne7 36.Ne4 Ke6 37.Kf3 f5 38.Nxd6 Kxd6 39.Bb6 a4 40.bxa4 bxa4 41.gxf5 Nxf5 42.Ke4 Ne7 43.Ba5 Nd5 44.Kf5 Ne7+ 45. Ke4 Nd5 46.Kf5 Ne7+ 47.Ke4 1/2 (Splosnov - Zabystrzan, 35th Trinec Open, Trinec 2002).

C) 13... Nxe4 14.Qxe4 Bxg5

C1- 15.Qxc6 Be7 16.Be3 Rc8 17.Qa4 Ra8 18.Qb3 Qc7 19.Rac1 Rab8 20.Bf4 Rfc8 21.e4 Qc6 22.Qf3 h6 23.b3 a5 24.a4 Rd8 25.Rd3 Bg5 26.Rcd1 Bxf4 27.Qxf4 e5 28.Qg4 Rd7 29.Rd5 Re8 30.Kf1 Re6 31.Ke2 Qc7 32.Kd3 Rg6 33.Qh3 Rf6 34.Rd2 Qb7 35.Kc2 b5 36. axb5 a4 37.f4 exf4 38.e5 Re6 39.gxf4 a3 40.Kb1 a2+ 41.Kxa2 Qa8+ 42.Kb1 Ra7 43.Qc3 Rg6 44.Rd1 Rg2 45.Rxd6 Qe4+ 46.Qd3 Qxd3+ 47.R1xd3 Raa2 48.Rd8+ Kh7 49.b6 Rab2+ 50.Kc1 Rgc2+ 51.Kd1 Rxh2 52.Rd2 Rh1+ 53.Ke2 Rxb3 54.c5 Rh2+ 55.Kd1 Rh1+ 56.Kc2 Rhb1 57.c6 R3b2+ 58.Kd3 Rb3+ 59.Ke2 Rh1 60.c7 Rh2+ 61.Kd1 Rh1+ 62.Kc2 1-0 (Jirovsky - Morchiashvili, Batumi 2002).

C2- 15.Bxg5 Qc7 16.Bf4 Rad8 17.Rd2 Rd7 18.Rad1 Rfd8 19.Qd3 e5 20.Be3 Ne7 21.Qb3 b5 22.cxb5 Qb7+ 23.Kg1 axb5 24.Bg5 Kf8 25.Bxe7+ Kxe7 26.Qb4 Qc6 27.Rd5 Rb8 28.Rxe5+ Kd8 29.Red5 Qc4 30.Qxc4 bxc4 31.Rxd6 Rxd6 32.Rxd6+ Kc7 33.Rd2 Kc6 34. Kg2 Kc5 35.e4 Rb7 36.f4 Kb4 37.e5 Ra7 38.a3+ Kb3 39.f5 c3 40.bxc3 Kxc3 41.Re2 Kd4 42.e6 fxe6 43.fxe6 1-0 (Amann - Kranz, Goetzis Open, Goetzis 1997)

14.b3 Ra7

A) 14...b5 15.cxb5 axb5 16.Nf3 f5 17.Nc3 Nc7 18. Bb2 b4 19.Na4 Nd5 20.Qd2 Bf6 21.Rac1 Rc8 22.Nd4 Bxd4 23.Bxd4 f4 24.Bb2 Qg5 25.Rc4 Nce7 26.Qd3 Nf5 27.Bc1 Qg6 28.Kh1 fxg3 29.hxg3 Nf6 30.Qf3 Rxc4 31.bxc4 Nd4 32.Qg2 Nxe2 0-1 (Olivier - Prie, Lugano, 1989).

B) 14...h6 15.Nf3 b5 16.Ba3 b4 17.Bb2 f5 18.Nc5 Qc8 19.Na4 Rb8 20.Qe3 e5 21.c5 e4 22.cxd6 Nxd6 23.Ne5 Nxe5 24.Bxe5 Rd8 25.Rac1 Qb7 26.Bf4 g5 1/2 (Draeger - Grott, DESC SE045 email 2001)

15.Bb2

A) 15.Nf3 Rd7 16.Bb2 Nf6 17.Rd2 Nxe4 18.Qxe4 Qc7 19.Qg4 g6 20.h4 Rfd8 21.Ng5 Ne5 22.Qf4 b5 23.cxb5 axb5 24.Rad1 Qc6+ 25.f3 Qc7 26.h5 h6 27.Ne4 g5 28.Qe3 f6 29.Nc3 b4 30.Nb5 Qb7 31.Nd4 Kf7 32.Kg1 d5 33.f4 gxf4 34.gxf4 Rg8+ 35.Kh1 Ng4 36.Qxe6+ Kf8 37.Rf1 Bc5 38.Qf5 Bxd4 39.Bxd4 Qc6 40.Rc2 Qb7 41.Rfc1 Kf7 42.Rg1 1-0 (Stangl - De Boer, Tel Aviv 1987).

B) 15.Nc3 Bf6 16.Qe4 Bxg5 17.Bxg5 Qc8 18.f3 f5 19.Qd3 Ne5 20.Qd4 1/2 (Rogozenko - Schuster, URS-chT10 corr9194, Russia 1991).

15...Rd7

A) 15...Bb2 b5 16.Nf3 Qa8 17.Rac1 h6 18.Ned2 Rd7 19. Kg1 Qb7 20.Qe4 bxc4 21.Qxc4 Rc7 22. Qd3 d5 23. Qb1 Nf6 24.e4 Qb6 25.exd5 exd5 26. Qf5 Rd8 27.Ne5 Bc5 28.Ndc4 dxc4 29.Nxc4 Rxd1+ 30.Rxd1 Qa7 31.Bxf6 gxf6 32.Qxf6 Bf8 33.Ne3 Bg7 34.Qd6 Nd4 35. Qd8+ Kh7 36.Qd5 Qb7 37. Rxd4 Bxd4 38.Qxd4 Rc1+ 39.Nf1 Qf3 40.Qd7 Rc2 41.Nd2 Rc1+ 42.Nf1 Ra1 43.a4 Rd1 44.Qa7 a5 45.Qe7 Kg6 46.h4 Rc1 47.Qd6+ Kh5 48.Qd7 Rd1 49. Qc8 Qd3 50.Qh3 Kg6 51.Qg2 Kg7 52.g4 Qxb3 53.Kh2 Qxa4 54.Ng3 Qf4 55.Kh3 Rd3 56.Qg1 Qf3 57.Qa1+ Kg8 58.Qxa5 Qh1+ 0-1 (Wojtkiewicz - Ftacnik, Budapest zt playoff, Budapest 1993).

16.Rac1 Nc7

A) 16...Qa8 17.Kg1 b5 18.Nf3 bxc4 19.Rxc4 d5 20.Nc5 Rd8 21.Rcc1 Nf6 22.Qa4 Nb8 23.Be5 Rc8 24.b4 Bxc5 25.bxc5 Ne4 26.Nd2 Nc6 27.Nxe4 Nxe5 28.Nd6 Rc7 29.Qf4 Nd7 30.Nf5 Rxc5 31.Rxc5 Nxc5 32.Nxg7 Kxg7 33.Qd4+ Kg8 34.Qxc5 Rc8 35.Qe7 Rc2 36.Rd4 Rc1+ 37.Kg2 Rc4 38.Qg5+ Kf8 39.Qf6 Kg8 40.Qg5+ Kf8 41.Qf6 Kg8 42.Rd3 a5 43.Rf3 Qf8 44.Qg5+ Kh8 45.Qe5+ Kg8 46.Rb3 Rb4 47.Rc3 Rc4 48.Rxc4 dxc4 49.Qg5+ Kh8 50.Qxa5 Qc8 51.Qc3+ Kg8 52.f3 Qa6 53.a3 Qa4 54.Kf2 Qb3 55.Qb4 Qc2 56.a4 c3 57.a5 Qb2 58.Qg4+ Kf8 59.Qd4 Qa3 60.a6 c2 61. a7 c1=Q 62.a8=Q+ Qxa8 63.Qh8+ Ke7 64.Qxa8 Qh1 65.Qa7+ Kf8 66.Qc5+ Kg7 67.Qg5+ Kf8 68.Qh6+ Kg8 69.Qg5+ Kf8 70.Qh6+ Kg8 71.g4 Qa1 72.h4 Qh1 73.Qg5+ Kf8 74.Qd8+ Kg7 75.Qg5+ Kf8 76.Qf6 Kg8 77.h5 h6 78.Qf4 Kg7 79.Qd4+ Kg8 80.Ke3 Qc1+ 81.Kf2 Qh1 82.Qf4 Kg7 83.Qg3 Kh7

84.f4 Kh8 85.Qg2 Qh4+ 86.Kf3 Kg7 87.Qg1 Kg8 88.f5
 exf5 89. gxf5+ Kh7 90.Qg4 Qh1+ 91.Kf2 Qh2+ 92.Kc3
 Qe5+ 93.Kf3 Qc3+ 94.Kg2 Qb2 95.Kh3 Qa1 96.Qg2 Qe5
 97.Qf3 Kg7 98.Kg4 Qd4+ 99.Kh3 Kf6 100.e3 Qa1 101.c4
 Qc1 102.Qd3 Qh1+ 103.Kg3 Qg1+ 104.Kf3 Qh1+ 1/2
 (Van der Sterren - Kindermann, Munich 1988).

17.Nf3 f5 18. Nc3 g5 19.Qd2 g4 20.Ne1 Bg5 21.e3
 Rff7 22.Kg1 Ne8 23.Ne2 Nf6 24.Nf4 Qe8 25.Qc3 Rg7
 26.b4 Ne4 27.Qb3 Rge7 28.Qa4 Ne5 29.Qxa6 Ra7
 30.Qb5 Qxb5 31.cxb5 Rxa2 32.Rc8+ Kf7 33.Nfd3 Bf6
 34.Nxe5+ dxe5 35.Rc2 Rea7 36.Kg2 Ng5 37.Rd6 e4
 38.Bxf6 Kxf6 39.Kf1 Ra1 40.Ke2 Rb1 41.Rd1 Rxb4
 42.Ng2 Rxb5 43.Nf4 Rc5 44.Rb2 b5 45.Kf1 Ra7
 46.Rbb1 Rb7 47.Rb4 Rc4 48.Rb2 b4 49.Rdb1 Nf3
 50.Kg2 Rd 7 51.h3 c5 52.Nc2 Rd2 53.hxg4 fxg4
 54.Rxd2 Nxd2 55.Rb2 Nf3 56.Kf1 b3 57.Kg2 Rc2 0-1
 (Kramnik - Carlsen, Corus, Wijk aan Zee 2008).

APPENDIX 3

Enter The Hedgehog
 by Andrews Martin

Chess openings sometimes acquire strange names. The hedgehog system of defense describes the idea of playing on three ranks, setting up a flexible defensive formation and waiting for the opponent to run aground against the "hedgehog spines." The coming game is a perfect example of all the good things about the system. White thinks he has the initiative with his slight advantage in space and plays accordingly. He does not realize that Black lies in wait, ready to "rope that dope." And as usual, once the Grandmaster gets even a glimmer of an opportunity, he takes it.

GSCHNITZER (2427) - LUTZ (2609)
 Bundesliga 2006

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 b6 3.g3 c5 A prelude to developing on three ranks. Black anticipates d2-d4 after which he will reply ...cxd4, dissolving the center.

4.Bg2 Bb7 5.Nc3 e6 6.0-0 Be7 7.d4 One of two moves if White wants to genuinely play for an advantage. With 7.d4 White opens the center, activating his Queen and hoping to tie Black down to the defense of his backward d-pawn. 7.Re1 is the other try, intending e2-e4. That's another story entirely.

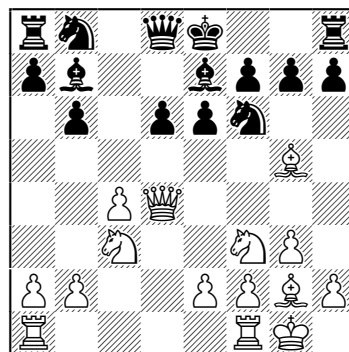
7...cxd4 8.Qxd4 d6 Why not 8...Nc6? It looks natural enough. Yet repeated practice has shown that White is at least a little better after 9.Qf4! Qb8 10.Rd1. A position is reached where it is virtually impossible for Black to play for a win and this is why most masters don't go for it.

9.Bg5

(see diagram 1)

Positional. White wants to take on f6 and then pile up against either d7 or d6, depending on what Black plays. He will have to cede the two bishops but hopes to station a

Knight effectively on either b5 or e4, increasing the pressure.



D1

9...a6 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 11.Qd3 11.Qf4 is the other move, targeting d6 again. A representative sample might be 11...0-0 12.Rfd1 Be7 13.Ne4 Bxe4 14.Qxe4 Ra7 15.Nd4 Qc8 16.b3 Re8 17.a4 Qc5 =, Karpov-Kasparov, USSR 1981.

11...Ra7 12.Rfd1 Either this or 12.Rad1 which I must say I prefer. The idea of keeping the Rook on f1 is to play f2-f4 somewhere, but maybe that's what the Hedgehog player wants anyway! Nevertheless, Greenfeld-Pasman, Bersheva 1984 continued 12...Be7 13.Nd4 Bxg2 14.Kxg2 Qc8 15.f4 g6 16.b3 (Extremely interesting is 16.f5!? gxf5 17.e4 fxe4 18.Nxe4 f5 19.Ng5! [19.Rxf5 exf5 20.Nxf5 Qc6!; 19.Nc3 Nc6 20.Qe2 Nxd4 =] 19...Bxg5 20.Nxe6 Qxe6 21.Rde1 Qxe1 22.Rxe1+ Re7 23.Qd4 Rg8 24.Rxe7+ Kxe7 25.Qxb6 Nd7 26.Qxa6, Tal-Short, Naestved 1985) 16...0-0 17.h4 b5 18.cxb5 Rc7 19.Rf3 e5? 20.Nd5!! Qb7 21.b6 Qxd5 22.bxc7 ±.

12...Be7 13.Nd2 Another natural series of moves is 13.Ne4 0-0 14. Rd2 Nd7 15.Rad1. This looks like it's better for White, but over the next few moves Black gives an object lesson in sapping White's strength and eventually takes the initiative himself! 15...Nc5 16.Nxc5 bxc5 17.Ne5 Qc7 18. Bxb7 Rxb7 19.Nf3 Rfb8 20.b3 a5 21.Qc2 a4 (Showing how rigid the queenside white pawn structure really is.) 22.Rd3 axb3 23.Rxb3 Rxb3 24.axb3 Qb6 25.Rb1 Ra8 26.Ne1 Bf6 27.Nd3 g6. Every Black piece is better than his White counterpart.

13...Bxg2 14.Kxg2 0-0 15.Nde4 A new move. Previously played was 15.Rac1 Rc7 16.Nf3 Qc8 17.b3 Nd7 (=) 18.a4 Nc5 19.Qb1 Rd8 20.Kg1 h6 21.h4 Qb7 22.b4 Nd7 23.Ne4 Nf6 24.Nxf6+ Bxf6 25.b5 Qc8 26.Nd4 Bxd4 27.Rxd4 e5 28.Rdd1 Rxc4 29.bxa6 Rxc1 30.Qxc1 Qxa6 31.Qc7 Rc8 32. Qd7 Ra8 33.Rxd6 Qxe2 34.Rxb6 Qe1+ 35.Kg2 Qe4+ 36.Kh2 Qd4 37.Qxd4, 1/2-1/2, Chernin-Dorfman, Lvov 1984.

15...Rd7 Calmly defending. We reach a deceptive position where White appears to hold an edge, but how should one make further progress? Black is quite content to garden his own back door and all is tidy at the moment.

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16.Rac1 Maybe 16.Rd2 Nc6 17.b3 Qb8 18.Rad1, but even there Black is comfortable after 18...Rfd8.

16...Nc6 17.f4 Qb8 18.h4?! Around here White starts to run out of good ideas. Perhaps he should get the draw offer in quickly, because in reality, he has no advantage. Note the no-man's land on the fifth rank, typical of Hedgehog positions. Whoever has command of this territory usually gets the upper hand in Hedgehog battles. Black can break out with moves such as ...d6-d5! or ... b6-b5! whereas White is trying to prevent these breaks and at the same time drum up something himself.

18...Qb7 19.Kh2 Hurriedly vacating the long diagonal.

19...Rfd8 It looks like Lutz has ...d6-d5! in mind.

20.Ng5 g6 21.e4 Bf6 Again very calm. Black will not break open the position until he is absolutely ready, with his pieces on the best squares.

22.b3 Nb4 23.Qe2 h6 24.Nf3 Bg7 25.h5 He is afraid of the impending ...d6-d5 and tries to distract Black. But now Lutz starts to play very strong moves.

25...gxh5! Unstereotyped, but White has to spend time regaining this pawn, which will in turn decrease his control of the center. 25...gxh5 is a complex solution to the position. Note in the end how it is White's King that gets hounded on the kingside open lines.

26.Nd4 Nc6 27.Nxc6 Qxc6 28.Rf1 Bxc3! 29.Rxc3 d5! You could say this was the culmination of Black's opening strategy.

30.Qxh5 30.e5 dxc4 31.Rxc4 Rd2 32.Rxc6 Rxe2+ 33.Kh3 Rxa2 34.Rxb6 Rdd2 35.Rh1 Rdb2 does not look too friendly for White, but he might be able to hang on for a draw. Rook endings depend almost exclusively on activity and here White is very passive. Meanwhile 30.exd5 exd5 31.Rd1 dxc4 32.Rxd7 Qxd7 33.Rxc4 Qg4! 34.Qxg4+ hxg4 35.Rc6 Rd2+ 36.Kg1 Rxa2 37.Rxb6 Kg7 leaves White toiling for a draw.

30...dxe4 31.Qxh6 f6!! Excellent. White's King comes under direct threat.

32.Qxf6 Rh7+ 33.Kg1 Qc5+ 34.Rf2 Rd1+ 35.Kg2 Rh2+! 36.Kxh2 Qxf2+ 37.Kh3 Rh1+ 0-1 The final attack is easy work for a Grandmaster, but this does not diminish the achievement in this game. Black played perfectly.

Lest the last game gives an unbalanced impression, here is another recent tussle where White manages to crash through.

MALAKHOV (2670) - NISIPEANU (2707)
Benidorm, 2005

1.Nf3 c5 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 e6 4.g3 b6 5.Bg2 Bb7 6.0-0 Be7 7.d4 cxd4 8.Qxd4 d6 9.Bg5 This seems like the

move of the day. I wonder how long it will be before attention moves elsewhere? Certainly 9.Bg5 obliges Black to be accurate, but as we have seen and as we will see later in this game, there is no objective reason for Black to feel too threatened.

9...a6 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 11.Qf4 Malakhov finds a different square for his Queen. The White position certainly looks less cluttered than after 11 Qd3, but I would be a little worried about 11...Bxc3.

11...0-0 11...Bxc3 has been played only rarely, perhaps thanks the influence of the following game, where Black never really got going: 12.bxc3 Bxf3 (Black's problem is d6.) 13.Bxf3 Ra7 14.Rfd1 Rd7 15.Rab1 Qc7 16.Qd4! (He could not shore up all the weaknesses.) 16...0-0 17.Qxb6 Rc8 18.Qxc7 Rdx7 19.Rxd6 Rxc4 20.Bb7 Rf8 21.Rb3 Ra4 22.a3 g6 23.Bf3 Rc4 24.Rdb6 Rcc8 25.Rb1 Kg7 26.a4 Nd7 27.Rxa6 Rxc3 28.Ra1 Ne5 29.Be4 Rfc8 30.a5 R8c4 31.f3 f5 32.Bb7 Rc1+ 33.Rxc1 Rxc1+ 34.Kf2 Ra1 35.Ra8 Ra2 36.a6 Nd3+ 37.Ke3 Nc5 38.Kd4 Rc2 39.Re8 Nb3+ 40.Ke3 Ra2 41.Rxe6, 1-0, Kramnik-Ljubojevic, Monaco 1998.

12.Rfd1 Be7 13.Ne4 Bxe4 14.Qxe4 Ra7 15.Nd4 The exchange of two pairs of minor pieces should help Black, who has less space, but he still has to be very precise. The pawn breaks ...d6-d5 and ...b6-b5 look a long way off and he has to be very careful that he does not get tied down to a game-long defense of the backward pawn. That is the Hedgehog player's darkest nightmare.

15...Rc7 15...Qc8 appears slightly more accurate, intending to activate with ...Qc5 at some point. Even Anand could not make further inroads: 16.b3 Bf6 17.e3 Rd8 18.Qg4 g6 19.Rd2 h5 20.Qe2 Bg7 21.Rad1 Qc5 22.h4 Rad7. (White has only a nominal advantage now. The opposite-colored Bishops tend to move the game towards a draw.) 23.Bh3 Re7 (Unlike Nisipeanu, Adams is alert to the possibility of a sacrifice on e6.) 24.Qf3 Ree8 25.Qe4 d5! (If Black continues maneuvering with 25...Nd7 there is little White can do. Now the game flares up!) 26.Nxe6! (Quite a move!) 26...dxe4 (26...Rxe6 27.Bxe6 dxe4 28.Rxd8+ Kh7 29.Rxb8 fxe6 30.Rd7 Kh6 31.Rbb7 is the splendid point of the combination. Black is lost.) 27.Rxd8 Qe7 28.Rxe8+ Qxe8 29.Rd8 Qxd8 30.Nxd8 Bf6 31.Nb7 Be7 (So White has won a pawn, but to win the game is something else. He first has to worry about his Knight!) 32.c5 (32.Bg2 f5 33.f3 exf3 34.Bxf3 Nd7 35.Kf2 Nc5 steers the game towards equality.) 32...Bxc5 33.Nxc5 bxc5 34.Bc8 Kg7 35.Bb7 f5 36.f3 exf3 37.Kf2 a5 38.Kxf3 Nd7 (It is doubtful whether the White King can reach b5 in peace.) 39.e4 Ne5+ 40.Ke3 c4! (Liquidating weaknesses.) 41.exf5 cxb3 42.axb3 gxf5 43.Ba6 Ng6 44.Be2 Kh6 45.Kd4 f4 46.gxf4 Nxf4 47.Bf3 Ng6 48.Kc5 Nxh4 49.Bxh5 Kxh5 50.Kb5 Nf5 51.Kxa5 Nd4 52.b4 Nc6+ 53.Ka4 Nxb4 54.Kxb4, 1/2-1/2, Anand-Adams, Sofia 2005. A superb fight.

16.b3 Bf6 17.e3 Nd7 18.Rac1 Qc8 The no-man's land on the fifth rank is an interesting feature of Hedgehog position. Whoever commands more of this territory usually holds

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the advantage. Yet control and occupation are totally different ideas. Note that as soon as Black steps forward on to the fifth rank, he immediately gets downed by a tactic.

19.Rb1 Rc5? 19...Ne5 would have been very satisfactory: 20.f4 (20.Rd2 Rd8 21.Rbd1 Rc5 22.f4 d5! =) 20...Ng6 21. Bh3 Re8 =.

20.Nxe6! Ouch! Black forgot about this one!

20...fxe6 Point being that after 20...Re5 White is much better: 21.Nxf8 Rxe4 22.Nxd7 Re6 (22...Qxd7 23.Bxe4 g6 24.Rd3) 23.Nxb6 Qc5 24.Nd5.

21.Qxe6+ Kh8 22.Bh3! Rd8 23.Rxd6 Ne5 24.Qxc8 Rxc8 25.Rxb6 White sweeps away all the Black pawns.

25...Rb8 26.Rxa6 Nxc4 27.Bg2 Rd2 28.b4 The game becomes much easier to understand. It's a simple case of pushing the queenside pawns all the way.

28...h5 29.b5 h4 29...Bb2 is an attempt to hold up the advance, but with care White consolidates: 30.a4 h4 31.Bf1 Na3 32.Re1 hxg3 33.hxg3 Nc2 34.Re2 Rxe2 35.Bxe2 Nb4 36.Rd6! + -.

30.a4 Nb2 31.b6 Nd3 32.b7 Nxf2 33.Ra8 Be5 34. Rb5 1-0 What can we do in an article other to provide a snapshot of current play and some encouraging words? Here's a final game where Black takes over, almost miraculously it seems to me. White appears to have a fine position, but it goes downhill very fast.

ROSEN (2310) - BROMBERGER (2481)
Bundesliga 2005-6

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e6 3.Nf3 c5 4.g3 b6 5.Bg2 Bb7 6.0-0 Be7 7.d4 cxd4 8.Qxd4 d6 9.Rd1 An older main line that has been largely superseded by 9.Bg5. Nevertheless 9.Rd1 is natural, targeting d6 as usual.

9...a6 10.b3 Nbd7 Intending to answer 11.Ba3 with 11...Nc5

11.Bb2 Qc7 12.Rac1 All very logical, but Black is comfortable on three ranks. He continues with moves such as ...0-0, ...Re8, ...Rac8, ...Qb8 etc, waiting to see what develops.

12...0-0 13.Ng5 White exchanges light-squared bishops as a prelude to Ne4. You should be getting used to the idea of attacking d6 by now.

13...Bxg2 14.Kxg2 Rfd8 15.Nge4 Qb7 16.f3 Ne8

Another new move, this time covering d6 and g7. It looks a little passive, but turns out very well! 16...Nc5 appears well playable too. Perhaps it's even preferable due to its active nature: 17.Nxc5 (17.Nf2 b5! is thematic. Black breaks free! 18.cxb5 axb5 19.b4 Ncd7 20.Ba1 d5 21.Nd3 Rdc8 22.Nb2 Ne8 23.e4 Bf6 24.Qd3 Bxc3 25.Rxc3 dxe4 26.fxe4 Ne5 27.Qd4 Rxc3 28.Qxc3 Qxe4+ 29.Kf2 Nf6, 0-1, Osterman-Gostisa, Bled 2002) 17...bxc5 (17...dxc5 18.Qe5 Ng4 19.Qf4 Nf6 =, Graeber-Heckoetter, Oberhausen 1999) 18.Qd3 d5 19.cxd5 Nxd5 20.Nxd5 exd5, 1/2-1/2, Dunsbach-Schutz, Luebeck 2001.

17.Rc2 b5! It is amazing how a well timed ...b5 or ...d5 can completely disrupt White's entire game plan in this type of position. The c4-pawn is very important to White because it restrains Black. So Black simply dissolves that pawn and with it any cramp that he may be experiencing.

18.cxb5 axb5 19.Nf2 Ne5 20.Qe4 Nc6 21.a3 b4 Black is much better now thanks to his more compact pawns.

22.axb4 22.Na4 d5 23.Qe3 bxa3 cannot help.

22...d5 23.Qf4 d4 23...e5 also seems good: 24.Qf5 (24.Qg4 d4 25. Nce4 Nxb4 26.Rcc1 Nd5) 24...g6 25.Qh3 Nxb4 26. Rcd2 d4 - +.

24.Na4 Nxb4 25.Rcd2 Nd5 26.Qxd4 Qxb3 (- +) The Knight on a4 is short of squares.

27.Rd3 Qxa4 28.Qxa4 Rxa4 29.e4 Ra2! 30.Bc1 Bc5 31.Rf1 Nf4+ 0-1

To summarize, the Hedgehog seems to be very playable for Black and an excellent way of countering the English and the other flank openings. The key points are: 1) Black maneuvers carefully on three ranks, waiting to see what develops. He must not take the game to White in the early stages. 2) Black's d-pawn is his weakness. He has to be careful not to get that pawn nailed down. 3) The breakout moves are ...b6-b5! and ...d6-d5!, although careful preparation is usually needed before either becomes possible.

Reference:

http://www.jeremysilman.com/chess_bits_pieces/040417_Martin_Hedgehog.html