A-Puzzle-A-Day: Example Move Sequence

A sequence of 18 moves, shown as an edge-annotated path in the configuration graph for A-Puzzle-A-Day, transforms a Mar 4 configuration (upper-left) to the "central" Oct 4 configuration (bottom). This example illustrates how challenging it can be to find a path between some pairs of configurations.

Note the UZ composite in the Mar 4 configuration. Those two pieces must be "decoupled" in order to reach the central Oct 4 configuration, and that is perhaps the most challenging aspect in linking the two configurations. Starting from Mar 4, the first 8 moves set things up, while the 9th "swap P/U" move decouples U from Z.