

It is easily read from Table 1 that:

- The number of won positions is 3,776,331
- The number of non-won positions is 1,154,559
- The number of illegitimate positions is 3,457,718

The total number of positions is 8,388,608

As an independent check, we note that  $8,388,608 = 2^{23}$

- Relative to all legitimate positions, the percentage of *wins* amounts to 76.59%.
- Subject to our implicit limitation that neither the WK nor the WR are located on square b2, there are precisely 523 positions in which it takes 51 or more moves to a *win*. One would do well to note at this point that these exceptional positions constitute only some 0.01% of all legitimate positions. Clearly, this touches upon the previous 50-move rule for this endgame in principle, though the feeble number of these positions causes our findings to have only the slightest of impacts on this rule. The wisdom of introducing a 100-move rule for this endgame (Kazic *et al.*, 1985) therefore is open to doubt.

## 8. REFERENCES

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