NOTES

A RESPONSE TO THE BERGEN/STORM KPK ENDGAME RESULT

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I have done an independent construction of the KPK database and have found a similar result to that of van Bergen and van der Storm [1].

My results give a table identical to Clarke's [2] except that I get 12750 depth-zero wins for white and 8405 depth-infinity draws for white. It seems that Clarke should have classified one of his 8406 depth-infinity draws as a depth-zero win. Those readers with access to Clarke's original data should easily be able to locate the offending configuration since my results suggest that of his 8406 legal depth-infinity draws it will be unique in having a white pawn on rank 7.

REFERENCES

[1]
Bergen, A. van and Storm, T. van der (1986). The KPK endgame: A Unit Correction. ICCA Journal, Vol. 9, No. 1, pp. 35-36.

[2]
Clarke, M.R.B. (1977). A Quantitative Study of King and Pawn Against King. Advances in Computer Chess 1 (ed. M.R.B. Clarke), pp. 108-118, Edinburgh University Press, Edinburgh.

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Humans at leisure while machines do the work.
A bird's eye's view of the contest.