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[Gustave Doré](#): Arachne ^[8]

Arachne,

an experimental chess program by [Maarten van der Meulen](#) and chess testbed of his research on [search algorithms](#), like [Alpha-Beta](#), and the [best-first](#) algorithms [SSS*](#), [Conspiracy number](#) and [Proof-number search](#), including [parallel](#) Conspiracy number search ^[4] for instance in [1988](#) on a 10-processor system ^[2], and [evaluation](#) ^[3]. In his [ICCA Journal](#) paper ^[4], Maarten van der Meulen mentions experiments with cn-search as published in 1988 by [David McAllester](#) ^[5] in Arachne not encouraging ^[6], and introduced a new variation dubbed *applied cn-search* ^[7]. Arachne played six consecutive [Dutch Computer Chess Championships](#) from [1985](#) until [1990](#).

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Selected Games

Dappet

[DOCCC 1989](#), round 1, [Dappet](#) - [Arachne](#) ^[9]

```
[Event "DOCCC 1989"]
[Site "Leiden NED"]
[Date "1989.10.??"]
[Round "01"]
[White "Dappet"]
[Black "Arachne"]
[Result "1-0"]
```

```
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 d5 5.exd5 Nxd5 6.d4 f6
7.dxe5 Ncb4 8.exf6 Nxf6 9.Bf7+ Ke7 10.Qe2+ Kd6 11.Qd2+ Nbd5
12.Bxd5 Qe8+ 13.Ne4+ Ke7 14.O-O Nxe4 15.Bxe4 Qa4 16.Re1 Be6
17.Bd5 Qd7 18.Rxe6+ Kd8 19.Bxb7 Qxd2 20.Nxd2 Rb8 21.Bc6 Be7
22.Nb3 Rf8 23.Be3 Bd6 24.Bxa7 Rb4 25.Rae1 Bxh2+ 26.Kxh2 Rbf4
27.Re8+ Rxe8 28.Rxe8# 1-0
```

Duck

[DOCCC 1989](#), round 2, [Arachne](#) - [Duck](#) ^[10]

```
[Event "DOCCC 1989"]
[Site "Leiden NED"]
[Date "1989.10.??"]
[Round "2"]
[White "Arachne"]
[Black "Duck"]
[Result "1-0"]
```

1.d4 a6 2.e4 Nf6 3.e5 Nd5 4.c4 Nb4 5.Qd2 e6 6.Be2 d5 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.Nf3 Nc6
9.O-O Be7 10.Nc3 Rf8 11.Qc2 Nxc3 12.bxc3 h5 13.Qh7 g5 14.Qxh5 Rg8
15.Be3 Bd7 16.h3 Na5 17.Qg4 Kf8 18.h4 Bc6 19.Nxg5 Rg7 20.Nxe6+ fxe6
21.Bh6 Bf6 22.exf6 Qxf6 23.Qxg7+ Qxg7 24.Bxg7+ Kxg7 25.Bg4 Rh8
26.h5 Be8 27.Rab1 Bxh5 28.Bxe6 Bg6 29.Rb2 Re8 30.Re1 Bf5 31.Re5 Rxe6
32.Rxf5 b6 33.g3 Re1+ 34.Kg2 Rc1 35.Rf3 Re1 36.Rb4 Re2 37.a3 Ra2 38.a4 Rd2
39.Re3 Kf6 40.Kf3 Kf7 41.g4 Rc2 42.d5 Rd2 43.Rf4+ Kg8 44.c4 c6 45.Re8+ Kg7
46.Re7+ Kg8 47.Rf6 cxd5 48.cxd5 Nc4 49.Rc6 Kf8 50.Re4 b5 51.Re2 Rxd5
52.Rxa6 bxa4 53.Rxa4 Rd4 54.Ra7 Rd5 55.Kf4 Rd6 56.g5 Nb6 57.f3 Nd7
58.Kf5 Rd4 59.Ra8+ Nb8 60.Rxb8+ Kf7 61.g6+ Kg7 62.Re7+ Kh6 63.Rh8# 1-0

See also

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- [m1.0](#)
- [P.ConNerS](#)
- [SpiderChess](#)
- [Ulysses](#)
- [Arthropod](#)
- [Mythology](#)

Publications

Arachne

- [Maarten van der Meulen](#) (1988). *Parallel Conspiracy-Number Search*. **M.Sc. thesis**, Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, [Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam](#).
- [Maarten van der Meulen](#) (1989). *Weight Assessment in Evaluation Functions*. [Advances in Computer Chess 5](#)
- [Maarten van der Meulen](#) (1990). *Conspiracy-Number Search*. [ICCA Journal, Vol. 13, No. 1](#)
- [Maarten van der Meulen](#), [Victor Allis](#), [Jaap van den Herik](#) (1990). *A Comment on 'Conspiracy-Number Search'*. [ICCA Journal, Vol. 13, No. 2](#)

Arachne elsewhere

- [Raphael Finkel](#), [Marvin Solomon](#) (1980). *The Arachne Kernel*. Version 1.2 Technical Report 380, [University of Wisconsin-Madison](#), [pdf](#)
- [Raphael Finkel](#), [John Philip Fishburn](#) (1980). *Parallel Alpha-Beta Search on Arachne*. IEEE International Conference on Parallel Processing, pp. 235-243. [pdf](#)

External Links

Chess Program

- [The chess games of Arachne \(Computer\)](#) from chessgames.com

Misc

- [Arachne from Wikipedia](#)
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- [Arachne - Dictionary of Greek Mythology](#)
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References

1. [^](#) [Maarten van der Meulen](#) (1988). *Parallel Conspiracy-Number Search*. **M.Sc. thesis**, Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, [Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam](#)
2. [^](#) [Dap Hartmann](#) (1988). *Report on the 8th Dutch National Computer-Chess Championship*. [ICCA Journal](#), Vol. 11, No. 4 » [DOCCC 1988](#)
3. [^](#) [Maarten van der Meulen](#) (1989). *Weight Assessment in Evaluation Functions*. [Advances in Computer Chess 5](#)
4. [^](#) [Maarten van der Meulen](#) (1990). *Conspiracy-Number Search*. [ICCA Journal](#), Vol. 13, No. 1
5. [^](#) [David McAllester](#) (1988). *Conspiracy Numbers for Min-Max Search*. *Artificial Intelligence*, Vol. 35, No. 1, pp. 287-310. ISSN 0004-3702.
6. [^](#) [Dap Hartmann](#), [Peter Kouwenhoven](#) (1989). *The 9th Dutch Computer-Chess Championship*. [ICCA Journal](#), Vol. 12, No. 4 » [DOCCC 1989](#)
7. [^](#) [Maarten van der Meulen](#), [Victor Allis](#), [Jaap van den Herik](#) (1990). *A Comment on 'Conspiracy-Number Search'*. [ICCA Journal](#), Vol. 13, No. 2
8. [^](#) Illustration by [Gustave Doré](#), 1861, for [Dante's Inferno](#), [Cultural depictions of spiders from Wikipedia](#), [Arachne from Wikipedia.de](#) (German)
9. [^](#) [The chess games of Arachne \(Computer\)](#) from chessgames.com
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Dec 29, 2017

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