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[Gustave Doré](#): Don Quixote and Sancho Panza ^[5]

Rocinante,

an [UCI](#) compliant, experimental [open source chess engine](#) by [Antonio Torrecillas](#), written in [C++](#) and licensed under the [GNU General Public License](#). Rocinante was developed as test bed for [best-first](#) search algorithms, notably [PB*](#) by [Hans Berliner](#) and [Chris McConnell](#) ^[1], and was first released in August 2009 ^[2]. Rocinante **2.0**, released in May 2012, was a rewrite changing the board representation from [bitboards](#) to [mailbox](#), and further added a [greedy Monte-Carlo Tree Search](#) without random playouts, dubbed [MCαβ](#), as additional search algorithm ^[3]. Both, MCαβ and PB* Rocinante may be configured to apply a shallow [alpha-beta search](#) as a replacement for the [static evaluation](#) ^[4]. Rocinante source can be compiled to run under various platforms and operating systems such as [Windows](#), [Linux](#) and [Android](#).

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Etymology

[Rocinante](#) is [Don Quixote's](#) horse in the novel [The Ingenious Gentleman Don Quixote of La Mancha](#) by [Miguel de Cervantes](#). In many ways, Rocinante is not only Don Quixote's horse, but also his [double](#): like Don Quixote, he is awkward, past his prime, and engaged in a task beyond his capacities. Rocín in [Spanish](#) means a [work horse](#) or low-quality horse, but can also mean an illiterate or rough man. The name is a complex pun. In Spanish, [ante](#) has several meanings and can function as a standalone word as well as a [suffix](#). One meaning is "before" or "previously". Another is "in front of". As a suffix, [-ante](#) in Spanish is [adverbial](#); rocinante refers to functioning as, or being, a rocín. "Rocinante," then, follows Cervantes' pattern using ambiguous, multivalent words, common throughout the novel ^[6].

See also

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- [Fiction](#)
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- [Simplex](#)

Forum Posts

- [engine Rocinante is available](#) by [Antonio Torrecillas](#), [CCC](#), August 12, 2009
- [Rocinante, why ?](#) by [Antonio Torrecillas](#), [CCC](#), November 20, 2011
- [Rocinante 2.0 Release](#) by [Antonio Torrecillas](#), [CCC](#), May 30, 2012
- [Whish list for Rocinante](#) by [Antonio Torrecillas](#), [CCC](#), November 21, 2012

External Links

Chess Engine

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- [Index of /chess/engines/Jim Ablett/ROCINANTE](#) by [Jim Ablett](#), hosted by [Kirill Kryukov](#)
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- [Rocinante 2.0 64-bit \(PB*\)](#) in [CCRL 40/4](#) in [CCRL 40/4](#)

Misc

- [Rocinante from Wikipedia](#)
- [Rocinante \(disambiguation\) from Wikipedia](#)
- [If - Don Quixote's Masquerade](#), 1975, [YouTube](#) Video

References

1. [^](#) [Hans Berliner](#), [Chris McConnell](#) (1995). *B* Probability Based Search*. [Carnegie Mellon University](#) Computer Science research report
2. [^](#) [engine Rocinante is available](#) by [Antonio Torrecillas](#), [CCC](#), August 12, 2009
3. [^](#) [MCTS without random playout?](#) by [Antonio Torrecillas](#), [CCC](#), January 01, 2012
4. [^](#) [Rocinante 2.0 Release](#) by [Antonio Torrecillas](#), [CCC](#), May 30, 2012
5. [^](#) [Don Quixote](#) and [Sancho Panza](#), in an 1868 edition of [Miguel de Cervantes' Don Quixote](#) with illustrations by [Gustave Doré](#), [Gustave Doré's Exquisite Engravings of Cervantes' Don Quixote](#) | [Open Culture](#), December 10, 2013, [Wikimedia Commons](#)
6. [^](#) [Rocinante from Wikipedia](#)

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