The world's largest endgame study database - edition 7 (HHdbVII)

Introduction

The seventh edition of the famous Harold van der Heijden endgame study database (HHdbVII) is available now. This edition with 103,157 studies has almost 10,000 additional studies in comparison with HHdbVI, and also the solutions of thousands of studies were corrected or updated. This is by far the most comprehensive collection of endgame studies available.

Chess players can benefit from endgame studies by trying to solve them. That trains both one's calculation ability and tactical performance in the endgame.
For the endgame study enthusiast, either admirer, cook hunter, composer or tourney judge HHdbVII is a must have.

www.hhdbvii.nl

What is an endgame study?

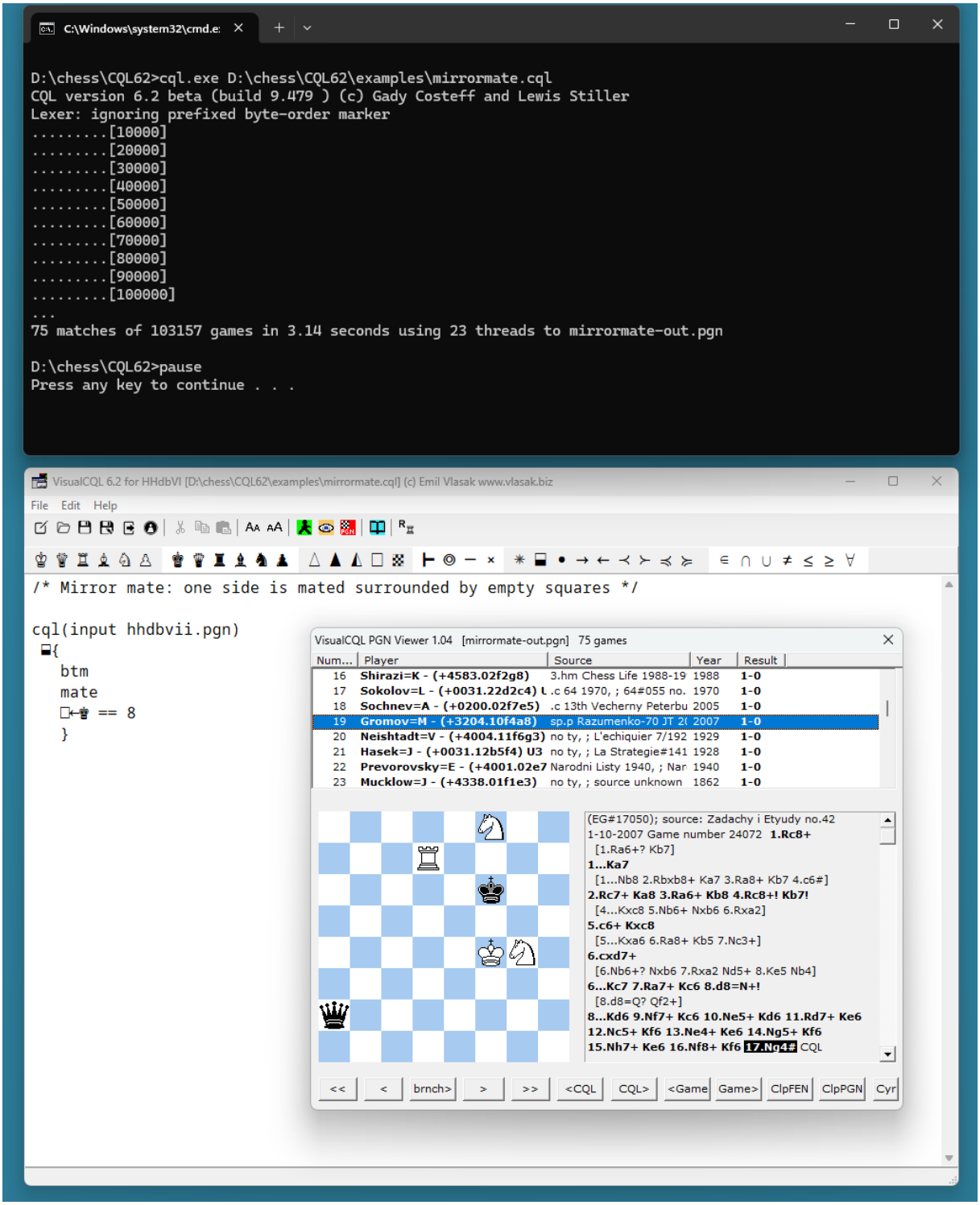
In the game of chess, an endgame study, or just study, is a type of chess problem that starts with a composed position—i.e. one that has been made up rather than played in an actual game—where the goal is to find the essentially unique way for one side (usually White) to win or draw, as stipulated, against any moves the other side plays. If the study does not end in the end of the game, then the game's eventual outcome should be obvious, and White can have a selection of various moves. There is no limit to the number of moves which are allowed to achieve the win; this distinguishes studies from the genre of direct mate problems (e.g. "mate in 2"). Such problems also differ qualitatively from the very common genre of tactical puzzles based around the middlegame, often based on an actual game, where a decisive tactic must be found.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Endgame_study

Software

The database is in PGN-format. That is a standard chess database format and can be accessed by commercial chess database programs (like ChessBase, Chess Assistant), commercial chess playing software (Fritz, Stockfish, etc.) and many freeware programs (e.g. PGN-readers).
The PGN-format was developed for storing chess games but is also suitable for a database of endgame studies. Apart from the initial position and the solution (including sublines or analysis) also additional information is provided: the name(s) of the composer(s), the GBR-code which is an index code denoting the chess force in the initial position, place and date of the primary source (tourney, journal, magazine) and whether it is a win or a draw study.
The chess software mentioned above can be used to find studies in the database by name, year, source, material balance, and numerous other criteria. Most chess software also allows you to find positions or moves.

For advanced users (like judges and composers) a magnificent tool was especially developed for the endgame study database by Lewis Stiller and Gady Costeff for finding complex patterns and manoeuvres: Chess Query Language (CQL). CQL as well as the graphical interface Visual CQL (programmed by Emil Vlasák) are freely downloadable.



Screenshot of Chess Query Language and Visual CQL.

References

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portable_Game_Notation
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ChessBase
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_chess_software
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GBR_code
http://www.gadycosteff.com/cql/
http://www.vlasak.biz/vcql6.htm

Disclaimer

As described below, considerable changes (improvements) were made between HHdbVI and HHdbVII. That involved adding a lot of new information, often manually. Some data specialist estimate the error rate of entering manual data (like numbers, dates etc) up to 5%. I have developed and used many software tools to check the data and probably brought the error rate down to perhaps 1%. But with more than 100,000 studies, that means that still no less than a thousand studies would have a data entry error. While testing the almost-last-version I found that one of the studies had a date in 2029 instead the correct 1929. Such a mistake is easily found, but for instance 10-1-2021 instead of 1-10-2021 is more difficult to spot.

What's new in HHdbVII? (information for experienced users)

HHdbVII has more information than HHdbVI did. Apart from almost 10,000 new studies, also the solutions of thousands of studies have been updated, e.g. by adding sublines from primary sources. Also, many endgame study enthusiasts reported thousands of flaws in studies to me.

Like in HHdbVI sources of corrections, modifications or versions are added as text before the 1st move of the solution. The same goes for the cooks, including the names of the person(s) who cooked the study (and the relevant move is marked with his initials). This information is relevant for people writing about endgame studies. Without HHdbVII it is almost impossible to find out where a certain correction of a study was published, or who managed to first cook that famous prize winner!

A major change is the fact that the **tourney information** (red) was separated from the **publication source** (green) - see picture below. Every study has a source of publication (e.g. magazine, book) but not every study has participated in a tourney. The tourney and the source are given in the Event and Site field of the PGN and are listed (e.g. in ChessBase in the general information. For recent studies often "no ty:" is given although the study does participate in a tourney. The reason is that my current definition of a tourney is that an award should have appeared.
The source details are often truncated (require more space) and hence are also supplied in the text before the first move.

Other details/additions (☑ = new in HHdbVII):
- More publication details (dates, publication month and issue number of newspapers or magazines).
- 100% anticipations: reference to the relevant study.
- For studies that were inspired on a previous study ("after"): reference to the relevant study. The same for a game that inspired the composer ☑.
- **EG**-number.
- Results of more) ring tourneys.
- Source information if a study was submitted to more than one source.
- Sometimes orthodox chess problems were published as win studies. Then the stipulation is provided.

Codes

Similar to HHdbVI, codes are included to be able to identify flaws (cooks, corrections) and other relevant properties of endgame studies. These codes are included in the "Black" field of the PGN.
U1: second solution (at move 1), whereas (the lowercase) u1 indicates a minor dual at move 1, or possible cook at move 1.
U2: cook; extra solution after move 1. The lowercase u2 indicates a minor dual.
U3: incorrect; White is unable to fulfil the stipulation (in a win study Black draws or wins; in a draw study White loses).
U4: "super-cook". White can even win in a study with a draw stipulation.
U5: illegal initial position.
C: correction, i.e. original study was unsound.
M: modification, i.e. original study was sound, the improvement has another motivation.
V: version (perhaps a correction or a modification).
(s): corrected solution (without changing the position).
MC: too many composers to fit the "White" field. All extra names are given as text before the first move.
TW: twin study (also triplicates, quadruplicates, etc).
AN: 100% anticipation: the whole study was published earlier by someone else.
PH: posthumously published.

TE: theoretical ending (i.e. probably not an endgame study).
CR: colours reversed (the original stipulation was: Black to win/draw).
TT: theme tourney.
MR: A tourney with a material restriction (e.g. only for miniatures – 7 pieces or less). ☑

Textual comments
There are some textual comments occurring in the solution of a study:

- Before the first move, there is additional information on the endgame study like stipulation, composer, tourney, source and date. **EG**# points to the diagram number in the famous endgame study magazine **EG**.
- **<main>** this is also a main line of the solution.
- **<or>** an alternative move but very similar to the main line (minor dual).
- **<eg>** the solution has ended with the last white move, the rest is only analytical proof, and may have alternative moves,
- **<cook>** and may have initials. This indicates the move that cooks the study. The initials refer to the person who found the cook. The details are given as textual comments before the first move. In most cases this is self-explanatory, but e.g. **HH** stands for Harold van der Heijden.

In the addendum of this document there is an extensive description on how to perform queries, including exercises!

Statistics (by Harold van der Heijden, December 2025)

The previous editions from 1991, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015. and 2020 contained 23358, 58801, 67691, 76132, 85,619, and 93,839 endgame studies, respectively.
HHdbVI holds 103,157 endgame studies by no less than 5,879 composers, of which a vast 4,801 have less than 10 studies in the database (and 2,553 published only a single study!). All these figures include unsound studies and versions.
The average number of studies per composer is 17.4. The top six of the most prolific composers was unchanged between HHdbV and HHdbVI, but the ranking in HHdbVII (see Table 1) is different.
Zhukov is now the most prolific composer of all times with 2,439 studies. It should be noted that in HHdbVI he only had 139 studies, and in HHdbV only 28! In addition to Zhukov, the other newcomers in the top 10 are: Kekely and Krug, replacing Garcia, Bent, and Akobia.

Table 1: The top ten of composers with the largest number of studies in HHdbVII. Between brackets the number of studies without corrections or versions are given.

1.	Aleksander Zhukov	2,439	(2,093)
2.	Ernest Pogosyants	2,225	(1,918)
3.	Henri Rinck	1,795	(1,569)
4.	Aleksey Troitzky	1,777	(1,046)
5.	Michal Hlinka	1,360	(1,193)
6.	Ladislav Prokes	1,265	(1,085)
7.	Pavel Arestov	1,264	(1,105
8.	David Gurgenidze	1,184	(983)
9.	L'ubos Kekely	1,067	(951)
10.	Peter Krug	1,002	(897)

It is tempting to make a similar list with only the studies that are sound. But as studies of certain composers have been systematically checked using state-of-the-art hardware and software and those of others have not, such a list would have considerable bias.
Some composers made a giant leap in the number of studies (again including corrections) between HHdbVI and HHdbVII: A. Zhukov (+2,300), M. Hlinka (+443), L'Kekely (+380), P. Arestov (+362), P. Krug (+350) added more than 200 studies to their oeuvre (Kuzmichev: +199).
It should be noted that some of the composers in the top ten worked together with other composers: Pogosyants (100), Hlinka (1125!), Arestov (497), Gurgenidze (340), Kekely (832), and Krug (428), in contrast with Prokes (4), Rinck (15), Troitzky (17).

Table 2: The total number of studies per decade in HHdbVII.

1881-1890	616	1951-1960	7,519
1891-1900	930	1961-1970	8,140
1901-1910	1,906	1971-1980	11,044
1911-1920	2,269	1981-1990	11,281
1921-1930	7,085	1991-2000	9,608
1931-1940	6,544	2001-2010	9,933
1941-1950	5,663	2011-2020	11,722
		(2021-2025)	6,127

The numbers of studies per decade gradually increased except for the decade with WWII (see Table 2). Since the 1970's on average approximately 1,000 new studies were published each year.

Some people wonder why I do not "simply check" all the studies in my database by computer when I include them in my database or do that in retrospect. Apart from the work involved (it would take several years just to check every study at a rate of one per 5 minutes and working on this for several hours per day) I would have to repeat this with every generation of hardware, software and EGTB. This would leave me no time to add new studies to my database. No less than 33% of the studies in HHdbVII seem to be cooked (Table 3). It must be noted that it is hardly an exception that, with contemporary facilities, also claims/cooks are refuted, making the study sound again. I have decided to continue to include unsoundness claims in my database, despite the fact that almost anybody is able to check the soundness of endgames studies today. But, especially for organizers for solving events, I underline that studies which are not reported to be unsound in my database, should be thoroughly checked before using them in your event. Of course, if you do find a problem in a candidate study, be sure to let me know.

Table 3: Statistics on cooks and versions in HHdbVII

Total	103,157	(c)	7,867
U1	8,822	(m)	1,575
U2	17,450	(v)	3,010
U3	12,396		
U4	417		
U5	79		
Sound	69,355 (67%)		

Personal profile

Dr. Harold van der Heijden (b. 1960) is one of the world's leading experts on endgame studies. He is: chief editor of the famous international magazine **EG**, FIDE master of chess composition (endgame studies), FIDE judge for endgame studies, was spokesman of the endgame study subcommittee of the WFCC, author of two books about endgame studies, and collector of books with endgame studies. In November the Royal Dutch Chess Federation honoured him with an Award of Merit.

In 2025 he retired as a researcher and a manager from a veterinary R&D-laboratory. He is married and has two sons (b.1989 and 1992).

FAQ

Q: What to do after downloading the HHdbVII-zip file?
A: First of all, copy the compressed (zip) file to your backup (e.g. external disk). For HHdbVI no less than 15-20 people contacted me since 2020 as they had been confronted with a computer (harddisk) crash, had lost their database and had no backup! Another advantage of having a backup that you can always return to the original version, e.g. when you have accidentally deleted studies and as a result the database-numbers do not longer match (for example: the famous Saavedra-study should have number HHdbVII#99461, and the first study with a full Babson-task by Gatti should have number HHdbVII#00322) To uncompress (unzip) the zip file. in Windows explorer right-click on the file and choose for unzip all. On other operating systems the same principle applies.

Q: Who designed that beautiful HHdbVII *logo?*
A: Nanja Toebak, graphical designer and famous for her book covers and logos. www.nanjatoebak.nl

HAROLD VAN DER HEIJDEN
ENDGAME STUDY DATABASE VII

Q: As I already have HHdbVI*, is it possible to obtain only the new studies of* HHdbVII*?*
A: No, that is not an option. HHdbVII not only has many new studies, but also the solutions or information of thousands of studies in HHdbVI have been updated.

Q: I am a registered user of HHdbVI (or previous editions). Do I get a discount on HHdbVII*?*
A: Sorry, no. Only very recent buyers do (and were informed when they ordered HHdbVI). Since we update every 5 years, it means that you only pay 11 EUR per year.

Q: Why do you include unsound studies in the database?
A: Not only to make the collection of published studies as complete as possible, but there is another obvious reason: the flaw often is discovered (much) later. When one comes across the study in the

original or in a secondary source there is no mention of a flaw and would be included as a sound study. All studies that were reported to be unsound are labelled.

Q: Are the studies in HHdbVII which are not labelled to be unsound, always correct?
A: No. Unlike for chess problems, computer checks of endgame studies very often do not allow a final conclusion. Studies with limited material (<= 7 men) could be checked against endgame table databases (EGTB), but still caution is necessary (second solutions or duals could only be waste-of-time duals, and the tester must inactivate the 50-move rule). When you want to use a study, e.g. for a solving event, make sure you examine it thoroughly and use contemporary hardware and software.

Q: There are some "endgame studies" in HHdbVII that are chess problems. Why are those included?
A: These chess puzzles were published with the stipulation "Win" (and often those puzzles are also correct as an endgame study). Later when turns out that it is a chess problem instead, the original stipulation is added to the database. Chess problems that were never presented as endgame studies are not included.

Q: What is the purpose of including the GBR-code in the Black field?
A: It is convenient to query the database for certain endgame studies. For instance, one sees a study by Kasparyan with the wK at a1 and the bK at h8 in the initial position and wants to know it if is present in the database. Then the query is: White: "Kasparyan" and Black: "?a1h8". It will result in 3 hits. Or, you want to have list of all rook endings. Query Black: "?0400". 3,476 hits.

Q: What is the best software to access HHdbVII?
A: Any PGN reader can be used to browse the studies (some freeware PGN readers only allow you access to a limited number of "games"), e.g. chess playing software. Of course, commercial chess *database* software usually has more advanced database options. Finally, Chess Query Language (CQL) is freeware and is by far the most sophisticated software (and was especially developed for HHdb). However, it is aimed at advanced (study and computer) users.

Q: The database is provided as a zip-file (hhdbvii.zip), but my database software cannot access it. What should I do?
A: A zip-file is a compressed file which holds a single PGN-file that is a standard format for most chess software. It is advised to backup the zip-file (e.g. on an external disk) before unpacking it. This also allows you to go back to the original file after you accidentally deleted endgame studies from the database. To unpack, use Windows (file) explorer to navigate to the file, right-click on it, and select "unpack all" (unzip all) and navigate to a folder where you keep your chess data. In the chess software, you select "open database", navigate to the folder and select hhdbvii.pgn. Sometimes it is necessary to set the database type/extension to PGN.

Q: I attempted to download the database, but I do not see it. I tried to enter the download code again but cannot download it anymore. What must I do?
A: The database is provided (downloaded) as a compressed file: hhdbvii.zip Use Windows (file) explorer to go to your download section (downloads). If you see it there, have a look at the previous Q&A. If the file is not there, please contact us. We can check whether the database was downloaded or not. We will guide you through the downloading process after re-activating the download code (a

mistake often made is to “open” the file upon downloading instead of “saving” it). In case the problem cannot be solved easily, we have a possibility for you to download a PGN-file instead of a ZIP-file.

Q: Am I allowed to send parts of the database to my chess friend?
A: No, the user licence is strictly personal. However, if you send no more than 500 endgame studies in total to your friends, that is o.k. Please be fair to us and keep the agreement.

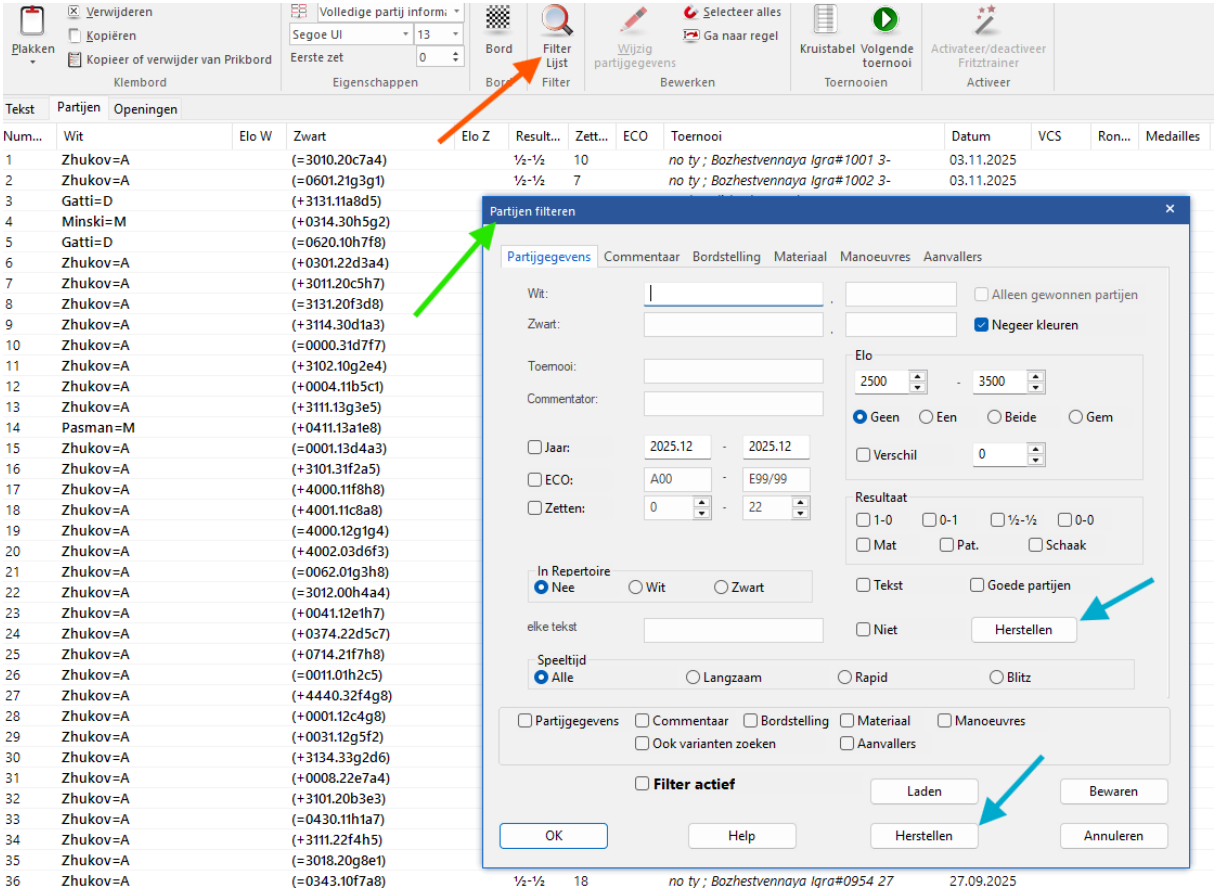
Q: I want to buy a user licence for my chess club/society. Would that be possible?
A: No, we only sell user licences for individual people. Obviously, we could offer discounts to collected orders. Please contact us.

Q: Is it also possible to use the database with other operating system than Windows?
A: Yes, if you are able to transfer the file and have chess software that is able to handle PGN-files.

Q: There is a new error code: U5 indicating an “illegal initial position”. What does that mean?
A: A convention (the so-called CODEX) demands that the initial position of an endgame study could have appeared during an over-the-board game. If that is not the case, the initial position is illegal, and the study is considered to be flawed. Sometimes it is extremely complicated be certain that a position is legal. The simplest demonstration of an illegal initial position is a study which has (among other pieces) wPa2, wPa3, wPb2.

HHdbVII -queries and excercises

The PGN-file can be queried for composers, GBR-code, year, result. In the ChessBase main file menu, double-left-click on HHdbVII to open the file. My version of ChessBase is Dutch, but it should not be difficult to find the right icons/field in your own ChessBase version using this screenshot:



When the pop-up is different from the screenshot above, then check the box *Altijd geavanceerd dialoog* (always advanced dialogue) down left and click on *OK*, and click on *Filter Lijst* again.

Then click on the icon *Filter Lijst* (orange arrow) and the pop-up menu *Partijen filteren* (green arrow) will open. **It is important (after each query) to reset this menu**. To do this, click on *Herstellen* (blue arrow – occurs twice). That clears all query fields. Apart from general information (*Partijgegevens*) there are other option on the top of the menu. But *Commentaar* (comments) does not seem to work for a PGN-file, while for the other options listed, I recommend the much more powerful CQL (see FAQ's). CQL also has a HHdbVII-interface (queries for composer etc).

Main study data queries

Some examples of useful simple queries (in the PGN-file) are (note that all queries are case-sensitive):

Composer: find all studies by Kasparyan by clicking on *Herstellen* (reset) and type '*Kasparyan' (omit 'twice) in the *Wit* field and click on *OK* (button down left). Then the studies are filtered for the name Kasparyan. It should result in 831 studies (counting the hits can be done by selecting all studies in the list with CTRL-A, down-left the number of "games" - also called "variants" is shown. But then you notice that not only the studies by Ghenrikh Kasparyan are listed, but also from his son Sergey Kasparyan. If you want to only list the studies by Ghenrikh, change the *Wit* field to '*Kasparyan=G' and click on *OK* (in this case a reset is not needed). CTRL-A now shows 765 hits.

GBR-code: (for GBR see detailed information). Be sure to note that the GBR-code only describes the **initial position**.

1) Find all studies with white Rook (wR) and 3 pawns against black Rook (bR) and 4 pawns (no other pieces, except for - of course - the kings). Click on *Herstellen* (reset) and type '*0400.33' (omit twice the') in the *Zwart* field and click on *OK*. This results in 131 hits.
2) Find all studies with wB against bS where the bK is on the back rank. Click on *Herstellen* (reset) and type '*0013.?????8' (omit ') in the *Zwart* field and click on *OK*. This results in 259 hits.
3) Find a study by Grunfeld which had wK on h3 and the bK on b2 in the initial position. Click on *Herstellen* (reset) and type 'Grunfeld' (omit ' twice) in the *White* field and 'h3b2' in the *Zwart* field and click on *OK*. One hit (no.98497).

Versions, corrections and modifications.
As V, C or M are added to the *black* field, you might consider to query the *black* field. However, this results in incorrect results (also codes like CR, CE, MC and ME exist. There is a reliable work-around (see section Text queries (comments) below).

Unsound studies. All studies that are known (or claimed) to be unsound have the label U and a number. See detailed documentation (Codes).

1) Find all incorrect (**U3**) win studies. Click on *Herstellen* (reset) and type '*U3' (asterisk and uppercase U and 3 – omit twice the ') in the *Zwart* field, check the *1-0* box under *Resultaat* and click on *OK*. This results in 6756 hits.
1) Find all studies with illegal initial position (**U5)**. Click on *Herstellen* (reset) and type '*U5' (asterisk and uppercase U and 5 – omit twice the ') in the *Zwart* field and click on *OK*. This results in 79 hits. If you forgot to reset, then only 62 studies are found (as the Result box 1-0 is still checked). An example is No.22111 (Minski) which was deliberately published as an example. This position (with bBh8) cannot be reached from the initial position of a chess game. A more complicated example is the recent no.1546 by Costeff – the first full Babson study ever. But this position cannot be reached from the initial position of a chess game. Also in this case the composer was aware of the problem: "The position is unreachable by a single capture. For example, if Ph2 could start on g3, the position would be reachable. I composed

this setting]in 2011 and tried for a decade to make it legal". Robert Gamble wrote a CQL-like script to identify such positions – therefore his name is often listed as the discoverer in the text before the first move. No.99393 by Troitzky shows a very simple pattern which makes a study illegal (pawns on g2, h2, and h3). Garcia, who corrected an older study did not notice the illegality.

CE, CR, TE, TW are study-specific parameters (types).

2) **CE (computer-based ending)** are studies based on endgame databases (Thompson, syzygy). Roughly, in the first 15 years (1991-2005) several composers indicated that they "mined" a study from a database. Click on *Herstellen* (reset) and type '*CE' (asterisk and uppercase CE – omit twice the ') in the *Zwart* field and click on *OK*. This results in 420 hits, e.g. no.24448 (Conrady) with 37 unique white moves to draw.
3) **CR (colours reversed)** are studies which were originally published with reversed colours. In order to standardize the study database (e.g. for CQL queries) the sides were exchanged. Click on *Herstellen* (reset) and type '*CR' (asterisk and uppercase CR – omit twice the ') in the *Zwart* field and click on *OK*. This results in 663 hits, e.g. no.35542 (Kasparyan), which is a twin study to HHdbVI#035541.
4) **TE (theoretical ending)** are usually didactic positions. These are included for anticipation research. Click on *Herstellen* (reset) and type '*TE' (asterisk and uppercase TE – omit twice the ') in the *Zwart* field and click on *OK*. This results in 1865 hits, e.g. no.97064 (Troitzky), one of his examples in his monumental research in the ending of two S vs. pawn(s).
5) **TW (twin study)** are studies that (were published by the same composer in the same source) are closely related. Click on *Herstellen* (reset) and type '*TW' (asterisk and uppercase TW – omit twice the ') in the *Zwart* field and click on *OK*. This results in 1931 hits, e.g. no.9753 and 9754 (Van der Heijden & Dobrescu). Usually, as also in the examples cited, the difference between the initial position of the studies is minimal, but there is a significant difference between the solutions.

MC, AN, PH are study parameters but refer to composers.

1) **MC (more composers)**. Unfortunately, the available space for names in the *Wit* (White) field of the database is limited to 30 characters. There are studies with several co-authors, and the total characters of all authors often exceed the limit. Then only the first authors (in the order as published) are included in the Wit field, and the other authors are transferred to the textual comments before the first move (see also text queries). Click on *Herstellen* (reset) and type '*MC' (asterisk and uppercase MC – omit twice the ') in the *Zwart* field and click on *OK*. This results in 214 hits. E.g. no. 39713 which has 4 authors: Peretyatko, Elenov, Ionov and Kraev (and was published as an original in at least 5 tourneys). See also the text queries section below.
2) **AN (fully anticipated)**. Some composers steal work from others and send it (with often small modifications like mirroring the position) under their own name to a tourney. But there also exist accidental re-compositions. Click on *Herstellen* (reset) and type '*AN' (asterisk and uppercase AN – omit twice the ') in the *Zwart* field and click on *OK*. This results in no less than 773 hits. There are "composers" that are now well-known study plagiarists (e.g. Senkus,

Strebkovs, Carf). An example of an accidental re-composition (I am 100% certain) is no.33943 by the late John Beasley. He had nothing to gain to publish a study by the famous Simkovich (HHdbVII#081226) under his own name in the column of which he was the study editor. John was shocked when I informed him about the forerunner. In the text before the first move, the forerunner is given after "full anticipation: ".

3) **PH (posthumous)**. Some studies are published posthumously (obviously submitted by others). Click on *Herstellen* (reset) and type '*PH' (asterisk and uppercase PH – omit twice the ') in the *Zwart* field and click on *OK*. There are 1043 hits. In some cases, only one of the authors is deceased, e.g. no.11367 by Bazlov and Kovalenko. In such cases, in the extra text before the first move it is indicated for whom the posthumous indication goes. In this example it is: "posthumous: Kovalenko=V").

TT, MR are parameters of the tourney in which the study participated.

1) **TT (thematic tourney)**. Several tourneys have a prescribed theme, e.g. reciprocal zugzwang, mirror mate, etc. Click on *Herstellen* (reset) and type '*TT' (asterisk and uppercase TT – omit twice the ') in the *Zwart* field and click on *OK*. There are 3414 hits (i.e. not 3414 tourneys, but 3414 studies that participated in a theme tourney. The theme descriptions, which often are very lengthy, are **not** included in HHdbVII. An example is the twin study no.9753/9754 (see TW above) which participated in a tourney with the theme: twin study with minimal difference in initial position.
2) **MR (material restriction)**. There are also tourneys which have a restriction on material (e.g. Maliutka's: maximum 5 pieces). Click on *Herstellen* (reset) and type '*MR' (asterisk and uppercase MR – omit twice the ') in the *Zwart* field and click on *OK*. There are 2675 hits. As this is a new feature in HHdb, not all studies are yet correctly labelled. The tourney restriction is **not** included in HHdbVII.
3) **TT and MR.** There also exist theme tourneys **with** a material restriction, e.g. miniature (maximum 7 pieces) ending in mate. Click on *Herstellen* (reset) and type '*TT MR' (asterisk, uppercase TT, space and uppercase MR – omit twice the ') in the *Zwart* field and click on *OK*. There are 187 hits. For instance, no.31226 by Gorbunov & Svichenko which took first place in the 10th Ukraine team championship 1997-1998. The tourney theme was: "Reciprocal zugzwang in a win or draw where one side has pawns only. A try emphasising the zugwang is obligatory".

Text queries (comments)

For some reason, queries in a PGN-file for textual comments do not seem to work (in ChessBase). To be able to perform more advanced queries, and if you have ChessBase, you should convert the database to ChessBase (CBH) format. The safest way to so, extract the database again from the zip-file to a temporary directory, change the name of the file (e.g. HHdbVII – CBH.pgn), and copy it to your database directory.
In the Chessbase main file menu, select that file (open and browse to your database directory), then right-click on HHdbVII and select *convert to CBH-format*. In the CBH-version more advance queries are possible:

Click (in the CBH-file) on *Filter Lijst* (when the pop-up is different from the screenshot above, then check the box *Altijd geavanceerd dialoog* (always advanced dialogue) down left and click on *OK* and click on *Filter Lijst* again.

For text queries, in the pop-up screen (see screenshot above), reset the query (*Herstellen*), and click on the menu on top: *Commentaar* (comments). Type the text to query for in the field *Tekst 1*. Then uncheck the box *Heel woord* (whole word) and click on *OK*.

After. Some studies are inspired by a previous study, problem or game.
1) **after game**. Reset query, text in *Tekst 1*: 'after game' (omit the ' twice) and do not forget to uncheck the box *Heel woord* (whole word).
This results in 228 hits. Then click on one study in the list (e.g. no. 2513 by Sprenger) and look at the text before move 1. This study was inspired by two games, including one from the author himself.
2) **after problem**. Reset query, text in *Tekst 1*: 'after problem' (omit the ' twice), uncheck box *Heel woord*. 9 hits, e.g. no.14177 (Costeff): based on a problem by Vukcevich 1981, which is not in the database as it is a problem.
3) **after**. Reset query, text in *Tekst 1*: 'after' (omit the ' twice). 2231 hits, e.g. no.405 (Aliev): based on a study by Grunfeld h3b2 1903, which can be found a simple query (see GBR-code, no. 3). It is HHdbVII#098497. Note that a query for "after" will also list the games (see first example) and problems (see second example).
4) **after** (certain study). Find all studies from which it is recorded in the database that they are based on the famous Reti study (HHdbVII#094398. *Tekst 1*: 'after Reti=R h8a6'. 23 hits, e.g. no.28759 by Pospisil.

Full anticipation (might be plagiarism).
To list all studies that have a 100% anticipation, also see GBR, MC AN PH, example 2) AN. You could also do that this way: *Tekst 1:* 'full anticipation'. 773 hits.

Possible **dia-error**. There are a handful of studies for which the initial position is uncertain (pieces were omitted in the diagram as published). *Tekst 1:* 'diagram:' (do not forget the :). 7 hits.

Also known as. There are tourneys which have different names (but it is a single tourney). *Tekst 1:* 'also known as:'. 2589 hits (studies that participated in such a tourney). For example: no.525 by Hergert participated in a tourney to commemorate Mario Guido Garcia. But the tourney is also known as the WFCC ty in Alba Iulia 2025. And no.4299 by Tarasiuk won first prize in the 16th UAPA tourney, which also served as the Copié-80 JT. In general (as in this example) the JT or MT name is given priority (listed in the main screen). So, to find the informal 16th UAPA (which had 4 sections) you enter as *Tekst 1*: 'also known as: 16th UAPA'. 126 hits. In order to find only the 3rd section of that tourney, click in the list with studies on *Ronde* (round) and browse to round 3. Do note that no.8489 by Timman and Garcia is a 2019 study of which the correction participated in the 16th UAPA.

Not found in. Some studies that according to secondary sources were published in tourney X or magazine Y were not found by me in the award for tourney X or in magazine Y when I checked the

whole magazine. *Tekst 1:* 'not found in:'. 160 hits. E.g. no. 43714 by Mitrofanov & Razumenko apparently published in *Shakhmaty v SSSR* 1985 could not be found there, and so far, also was not found in other primary sources.

Pseudonym. Some composers used (sometimes/always) a pseudonym when they published studies. *Tekst 1:* 'pseudonym:'. 451 hits. Famous examples are Gulyaev, who often used the pseudonym Grin, and Bagdasarian who published most of his studies under the name Grzeban. A more recent example is Didukh, who sometimes used Rokirovkin=N.

Incomplete name of composer. *Tekst 1:* 'composer:'. 23 hits. For example, no.92873 for which only the initials of the composer (S.S.L.) were given in the source.

Name error. *Tekst 1:* 'name:'. 15 hits. For example, no.74162 by Frotz=J which could be a mistake (no other studies by Frotz are known) and perhaps should read Fritz=J. A different case is e.g. no.38998 by Stavrietksy=A where there could have been a mix-up with a study by the composer Ivanovic=A.

Stipulation. Sometimes problems (moremovers) are published as a win study. Later, it occurs that it was actually a moremover (and hence often dualistic). *Tekst 1*: 'stipulation:'. 247 hits. E.g. no.60640 by Belyakin. This actually had the stipulation "mate in 20". A different type is e.g. no.65344, which had the stipulation "ult in 4".

Composed. In some cases, when composers publish a study (e.g. in a new book), they add the year (date) when the study was composed. Obviously, the publication year is of the book, but sometimes it is interesting to also know the composition year. *Tekst 1*: 'composed'. 1655 hits. For instance, no.14776, posthumously published in *EG* 2014, but composed in 2011. Or no.20528 by Em. Lasker posthumously published in a 2008 book on studies by Lasker, apparently composed in 1905 (but not published at the time).

Solution corrected. Certain studies proved to be unsound with the solution as published, but a small change in the solution makes the study sound (with the study's idea maintained). This could have been the intention of the composer, but with the solution garbled in the source. *Tekst 1*: 'solution corrected:'. 522 hits. That shows the source of the corrected solution. See no.22839 by Hornecker. The improved solution appeared in *EG* no.174. No.38227 is an example of a different case: the study was published *Suomen Shakki* 1945 without solution (also not traced later). Van der Heijden solved the study in 2010.

Source of cooks, corrections (versions or modifications).

1) **U1 – U5**. The sources of the cooks are given in the text before the first move. It is more logical to find the unsound studies as described above (**unsound studies**). But it also be done like this: *Tekst 1*: 'U1:'. 7178 hits. It could be useful to find certain cookhunters: *Tekst 1*: 'U1: Haworth'. 85 hits. But this does not work if more than one cookhunter is involved. In many case then Bleicher was the second name involved, but the query 'U1: Bleicher' yields no hits. An attempt to find the combination is *Tekst 1*: 'U1: Haworth=G Bleicher' which gives 84 hits

(be sure to still have the *Heel woord* box unchecked). So there must be 85-84=1 case in which Haworth was the first U1-cooker and Bleicher not the second cooker. Of course, this works similarly for the other cooks types U2 – U5.

2) **(c), (m), (v)**. The sources of corrections (c), modifications (m), and versions (v) are also listed in the text before the first line.
   Find all study versions: *Tekst 1*: '(c):'. This results in 7867 hits.
   Find all study versions: *Tekst 1*: '(m):'. This results in 1575 hits.
   Find all study versions: *Tekst 1*: '(v):'. This results in 3010 hits.

Note that various combinations can be made in the **main study data queries** (i.e. composer, GBR, result, study/tourney parameters, year(s), tourney) and combined with one query according to the section **text queries (comments)**.