

Chess Game Visualization

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1 Interpretation

We display 16 line charts, each line chart tracks the moves at positions for a pair of analogous pieces. For example, the ‘a pawn’ line chart shows how the pair of pawns starting on the ‘a’ column, i.e a2 and a7 chess squares move throughout the game. The color channel is chosen to indicate the category of the pawn (Black/White).

The x-axis is marked from 0 to N where N is the number of moves. The initial position 0 for every piece is its starting square.

The y-axis is marked according to the 64 square-positions of the chess board from $a1, a2...a8, b1..$ all the way to $...h7, h8$

Note: Move here means a single round of move which involves a turn for both the white and the black pieces

If a line discontinues after a certain move that indicates that the piece in question has been captured.

2 Applications

We chose to show three games for varying levels of interpretation, the first game, the famous “Gold Coin” game is a complex game of 23 moves, which may not be easy to interpret by novice chess players whereas the last game of Magnus Carlsen should be relatively easy to interpret for all types of visualizers.

Apart from that this visualization also describes how the movement of pairs of pieces on the board throughout the game. Chess Players of various ranks can be asked on what moves were good or blunders.

Given a particular move, which piece to move would have been a better choice is also a good question which can be raised.

3 Authors

Bassam Adnan- 2023121003

Bipasha Garg- 2022111006

Devika Bej- 2022111006