Pressure Point Patterns: A Look Into Tennis Tactics at The French Open

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Abstract

At the highest level of tennis, a player's mental skillset is as – if not more – important than their physical and technical abilities. This paper investigates whether elite players manage pressure situations differently and how those responses set them apart from their competition. Using shot placement data from the French Open – captured via trajectory-tracking technology – this study explores tactical decision-making on the most important points in a match. After a rigorous data preparation process, including scraping, cleaning, and merging datasets, I created effective visualizations of serve and return patterns under pressure. In this paper, I examine six case studies that reveal how elite players rarely abandon their core strategies under pressure. Instead, they refine them – choosing either increased aggression or tighter consistency, depending on the situation. On serve, this often means doubling down on tried and true patterns; on return, it typically involves minimizing risk. The ability to execute with clarity and precision in these high-stakes moments, more than the strategy itself, is what ends up separating great players from true champions.

Introduction

Tennis' its unique scoring system sets it apart from sports with more traditional scoring structures. Tennis scoring can be compared to a Chinese nesting doll: a player must win points to win a game, win games to win a set, and win sets to win a match. This layered system creates several natural "reset" points throughout a match (e.g., after the conclusion of a game or set),

offering players a chance to regain momentum if they start poorly. However, it also creates specific points that carry significantly more weight – particularly those late in a set when the score is close. These pressure points – also referred to as *important points* – are relatively rare but have a disproportionately large impact on the trajectory of an entire match.

The importance of handling these pressure moments cannot be overstated. In the words of Roger Federer during his recent commencement address at Dartmouth College, he explained to the audience that he – one of the the greatest champions in the history of tennis – has only won 54% of the points he played, but he ended up winning nearly 80% of all his matches throughout his career. Winning in tennis is not about dominance at every moment; it is about winning the right points at the right time. This statistic – coming from Federer himself – underscores the idea that the difference between the game's legends and their competitors often lies in their ability to excel in the moments that matter most.

While traditional tennis statistics – like first serve percentage or total winners – offer a high-level view of performance, they rarely capture the nuances of tactical adaptations during pressure points. As a solo sport, the gravitational pull of pressure during big moments is intense, and some players have proven they can handle it better than others. While mental toughness is often cited as the key to thriving under pressure, it has historically been difficult to measure objectively. In Stephanie Kovalchik's study of clutch performance and mental toughness among top tennis athletes, she points out that although mental toughness is frequently credited for strong performances in clutch moments, there has been little objective evidence to back up this belief. This gap – the need to identify and visualize the tactical signs

of mental resilience – is precisely what this paper aims to explore.

The goal of this project is to move beyond simple outcome-based measures and use shot placement data – capturing the exact coordinates of ball trajectories – to analyze how elite players such as Federer, Nadal, and Djokovic adapt their strategies under pressure. Rather than asking whether players succeed in important moments, this project focuses on how they succeed: by examining whether they alter their serve placement, shot selection, or return tactics during critical points. Identifying these tactical shifts offers insight into the mental and strategic adjustments that underlie elite performance.

By leveraging tennis tracking technology, point importance scoring models, and visual analysis, this paper brings a data-driven perspective to a topic traditionally discussed in broad, subjective terms. In doing so, it aims to provide objective evidence of how the greatest players in tennis consistently manage to win the points that shape matches and, by extension, careers. Through careful examination of their shot patterns under pressure, this work reveals the subtle yet powerful ways that mental toughness and strategic clarity manifest themselves during the *most important* moments in tennis.

Data and Methods

To uncover how elite players respond to pressure in measurable ways, we need access to detailed shot-level data and contextual match information. This section outlines the data sources, key variables of interest, and the data cleaning and processing pipeline used to prepare the dataset for analysis.

Data and Variables of Interest

CourtVision Data

The foundation and motivation for this project lies in the powerful data collected at the French Open using Infosys CourtVision tracking technology. We scraped this data from the Roland Garros (French Open) website from the years of 2019 through 2023. Every match recorded is stored as an individual `.csv` file. In each `.csv` file, each row represents an individual point in the match. In this project, there are data from 180 matches which I combined into one main dataset I called `all_matches` which contains 45,672 rows.

`trajectoryData` Variable

This CourtVision data includes a uniquely important variable, aptly named `trajectoryData`, which includes the exact coordinates (`x`, `y`, `z`) and `position` of every ball hit from the majority of stadium-court and some satellite-court matches at the French Open. The `x` coordinate

represents the length of the court, the `y` coordinate represents the width of the court, the `z` coordinate represents the height of the ball above the ground, and `position` refers to the location of the ball when the coordinates are tracked: either at contact (`hit`), at the ball's peak (`peak`), when the ball crosses or hits the net (`net`), when the ball bounces (`bounce`), and the last tracked location of the ball (`last`). All coordinates are measured in meters from the center of the court shown in Figure 1.

The primary focus of this project is on the *shot placement* of the serve and return of serve, meaning we want to use the `x` and `y` coordinates at the `bounce` position on the first and second `hit` of each point to get the serve location and return location, respectively.

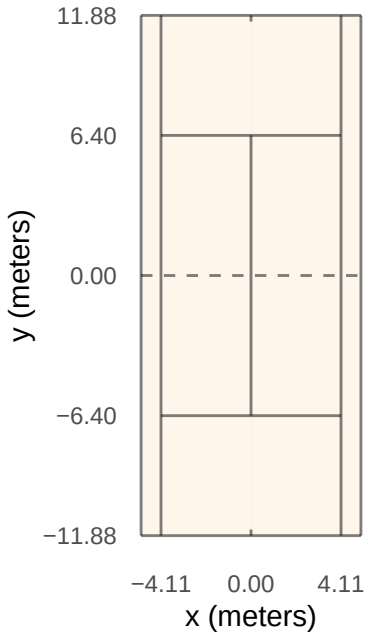

Figure 1: Bird's eye view of a tennis court. The dashed line represents the net. Refer to draw_court() in the Appendix for R code for drawing the scaled court.

Other Variables of Interest

`matchScore` is the score of the match after the point was played. This variable needed a significant amount of processing to get it formatted for the importance joining (see Data Processing section).

`atp_importance` and `wta_importance` are the calculated importance values of the current point based on the current score of the match. These importance values are calculated for every possible tennis score and stored in the `atp_importance` dataset in Kovalchik's `deuce` R package (see References section for the GitHub repository). Importance values range from a minimum of 0.0001 and to a maximum of 0.5. Point importance is calculated differently for ATP and WTA matches since ATP French Open matches are best 3 out of 5 sets while WTA French Open matches are best 2 out of 3 sets. Regardless, the calculation for point importance follows the same general probability equation:

$$P(\text{server wins the match} \mid \text{server wins the point}) - P(\text{server wins the match} \mid \text{receiver wins the point}),$$

assuming that each player has a 68% chance to win a point on their own serve and that all points are considered independent from one another.

To characterize points that pass a certain level of importance, I created `atp_is_important` and `wta_is_important` logical variables. I decided – somewhat arbitrarily – that all points with an importance value of 0.1 or higher are *important* (`atp_is_important = TRUE`) and all points with an importance value below 0.1 are *non-important* (`atp_is_important = FALSE`).

`serverId`, `receiverId`, and `scorerId` are the unique identification numbers of the player serving, receiving, and who won the point, respectively. These values are used to join with Jeff Sackmann's player information file (see References section for the GitHub repository) to get player names instead of identification numbers.

`breakPoint` is another important logical variable I used in this analysis. When the serving player is facing a break point (the server is a point away from getting their serve broken), `breakPoint = TRUE`; otherwise, `breakPoint = FALSE`. Break points typically have a high importance value, especially when the match score is close.

Data Processing

With the key variables identified, the next phase of the analysis focused on transforming raw data into a clean and analyzable format. This section walks through the full data processing pipeline – from parsing match scores and joining for point importance values, to extracting and cleaning shot trajectory coordinates. This section also describes how specific matches were filtered for case studies, how shot placement will be visualized on a scaled tennis court, and concludes with a set of high-level summary statistics that frame the tactical analysis to follow.

`matchScore` Parsing and Augmentation

The first stage of data processing was parsing the current match score from the `matchScore` variable which initially is stored as a semi-structured data object. The following example represents a score of 6-3, 6-3, 4-0, 40-15:

{'p1Set1Score': '6', 'p1Set2Score': '6', 'p1Set3Score': '4', 'p1Set4Score': '-1', 'p1Set5Score': '-1', 'p1Set1TBScore': '-1', 'p1Set2TBScore': '-1', 'p1Set3TBScore': '-1', 'p1Set4TBScore': '-1', 'p1Set5TBScore': '-1', 'p2Set1Score': '3', 'p2Set2Score': '3', 'p2Set3Score': '0', 'p2Set4Score': '-1', 'p2Set5Score': '-1', 'p2Set1TBScore': '-1', 'p2Set2TBScore': '-1', 'p2Set3TBScore': '-1', 'p2Set4TBScore': '-1', 'p2Set5TBScore': '-1', 'p1GameScore': '40', 'p2GameScore': '15'}

I parsed this semi-structured data object to obtain the clean form required to join my main `all_matches` dataset with the `atp_importance` dataset. The goal of this step in data processing was to obtain a clean form of the score through a series of steps involving numeric data parsing, filtering and lagging to fix the fact that `matchScore` initially represented the score of the match after the point was played while also handling the issue of first and second serves from the same point being separate rows in `all_matches`, controlling the data types (e.g., having `"GAME"` and `"AD"` as part of the original `matchScore` variable posed several issues), and correcting several small systematic errors in the endings of tiebreak sets (see `clean_point_level()` in the Appendix for the R code). The resulting cleaned score from the above example is illustrated in Table 1.

Table 1: Cleaned and separated match score.

situation	player1_score	player2_score
set1	6	3
set2	6	3
set3	4	0
game	40	15

Importance Joining

Once the `all_matches` dataset contained variables holding the cleaned score of the match, further score processing was required to obtain the score format needed to join with `atp_importance`. The following data processing steps allowed me to create the main `all_matches_importance` dataset with importance values for nearly every point in the `all_matches` dataset – apart from all 2019 matches where the `matchScore` variable was null. I corrected data inconsistencies in player names, augmented the overall match score using the previous set scores of the current match, and combined and reordered the server and receiver scores to follow the tennis scoring convention (i.e., the server's score always comes first). Refer to the Importance Joining section in the Appendix for the R code. The resulting three variables (`game_score`, `set_score`, `match_score`) needed to uniquely identify the current score of the match from the example above are shown in Table 2, and as you might be able to tell from the score, the importance of this particular point is very low. For some additional intuition, this is because the current match score is very lop-sided – the serving player has a commanding lead in the match so we expect that he has a high probability of winning the match regardless of who wins the current point.

Table 2: Cleaned match score after joining for importance calculation.

game_score	set_score	match_score	atp_importance	atp_is_important
40-15	4-0	2-0	0.0018507	FALSE

`trajectoryData` Parsing

After cleaning the match score to calculate importance, the `all_matches_importance` dataset is ready for the final step of data processing: `trajectoryData` parsing to obtain shot placement data. The `trajectoryData` variable was initially stored as a JSON object. The following example shows the trajectory data of a missed serve that crossed the net and landed outside of the service box:

[{'x': 11.54, 'y': -1.039, 'z': 2.568, 'position': 'hit'}, {'x': 11.54, 'y': -1.039, 'z': 2.568, 'position': 'peak'}, {'x': 0.0, 'y': 0.915, 'z': 0.946, 'position': 'net'}, {'x': 3.501, 'y': 3.428, 'z': 0.038, 'position': 'bounce'}, {'x': 5.172, 'y': 4.968, 'z': 0.047, 'position': 'last'}]

I parsed this JSON object using the clear delimiters to obtain the cleaner format illustrated in Table 3 (see `clean_shot_level()` in Appendix for the R code).

Table 3: Formatted trajectory data after cleaning, measurements are in meters. For reference, the net height is 0.914 meters in the center (x = 0, y = 0, z = 0.914).

Position	x	y	z
hit	11.540	-1.039	2.568
peak	11.540	-1.039	2.568
net	0.000	0.915	0.946
bounce	3.501	3.428	0.038
last	5.172	4.968	0.047

`filter_matches()` Function

For the purpose of this project, I focused on several case studies of elite champions and other strong competitors. To do so, it was important to have a quick way to access certain matches from the main `all_matches_importance` dataset. The `filter_matches()` function takes player and year inputs to select the matches of interest from `all_matches_importance`, sets the `atp_is_important` and `wta_is_important` logical variables, and creates the labels for the visualizations (see `filter_matches()` section of the Appendix for the R code).

Visualization

The primary method of tactical analysis in this project involves visualizing shot placement on the tennis court. The first step was to obtain the dimensions of a tennis court (Figure 1) to preserve the scale and accurately depict the geometry of the tennis court in two dimensions (see `draw_court()` for the R code I used to draw the tennis court). I then plotted the shot placement data (for serves and returns) on top of the tennis court `ggplot` object. To visualize the distribution of serve and return shot placement, I added a 2-dimensional density plot to fill in the tennis court with a color scale corresponding to the concentration of shots.

Finally, I colored the points to compare a player's tactics based on situational importance in two different ways: 1. color points by `atp_is_important` (or `wta_is_important`) and 2. color points by `breakPoint`. Using both of these coloring techniques, I created effective visuals to observe any strategic differences based on the match score and situation. Additionally,

I plotted a particular player's matches in a given tournament sequentially, allowing for an opponent-specific strategic analysis as well (see Case Studies section for visuals).

Data Summary Statistics

The data I used for this project are relatively new since CourtVision has only been operational since 2019. In this analysis, I focus on the years of 2020-2023 since these years have fully operational and accurate `matchScore` and `trajectoryData` variables. Tables 4 and 5 show point-level and shot-level summary statistics by year and in total, respectively.

Table 4: Year-by-year (and accumulated) point-level data summary statistics.

Year	Total Matches	Total Points	Important Points	% Important Points
2019	29	5345	0	0.0%
2020	24	4361	864	19.8%
2021	42	7848	1432	18.2%
2022	49	9286	1975	21.3%
2023	36	6804	1474	21.7%
All Years	**180**	**33644**	**5745**	**20.2%**

Table 5: Year-by-year (and accumulated) shot-level data summary statistics.

Year	Total Matches	Total Shots	Important Shots	% Important Shots
2019	29	29768	0	0.0%
2020	24	26168	5578	21.3%
2021	42	39957	7389	18.5%
2022	49	52393	10960	20.9%
2023	36	37416	8145	21.8%
All Years	**180**	**185702**	**32072**	**20.6%**

Out of the 180 total matches tracked in this dataset, a total of 33,644 points were recorded. Across those points, 185,702 shots were tracked – yielding an average rally length of approxi-

mately 5.5 shots per point. However, not all points carry the same weight. Only 20.2% of all points reached the threshold to be classified as important (i.e., an importance value of 0.1 or higher), meaning just 1 in every 5 points played held greater implications for the outcome of a match. Within those 5,745 important points, players hit a combined 32,072 shots, averaging 5.6 shots per point – a rally length nearly identical to the overall average. Similarly, only 20.6% of all shots hit in the dataset occurred during important points. In short, important points are relatively few and far between, but they represent the critical moments that can ultimately decide the outcome of a match.

Case Studies

While important points make up just a fifth of total points played (according to this), their outsized influence on match outcomes makes them especially worthy of closer examination. To uncover how top players respond in these high-pressure moments, we now shift focus from raw statistical counts to tactical behaviors – beginning with how they use one of their most controlled weapons: the serve.

Serve Placement Analysis

One of the clearest opportunities a player has to control a point is on serve. At the professional level, the serve is not just a way to start the point – it's a weapon and often the first step in an

intentional tactical sequence. Under pressure, however, even the most elite servers must make a choice: do they lean into their strengths, or do they adapt in response to the moment?

This section explores that decision through the lens of three standout performances at the French Open: Rafael Nadal's 2022 title run, Alexander Zverev's 2021 semifinal campaign, and Iga Świątek's dominant 2023 championship. Each case study provides a unique perspective on how elite players adjust their serving strategy – both in terms of placement and speed – on important points compared to routine ones.

As we will see in the following analysis, some players double down on their current strategy and increase their aggression under pressure while others choose to add margin. These serve placement visuals shed light on how pressure shapes elite tactics and highlights how champions respond to critical moments with clarity.

Rafael Nadal Serves (2022 Title Run)

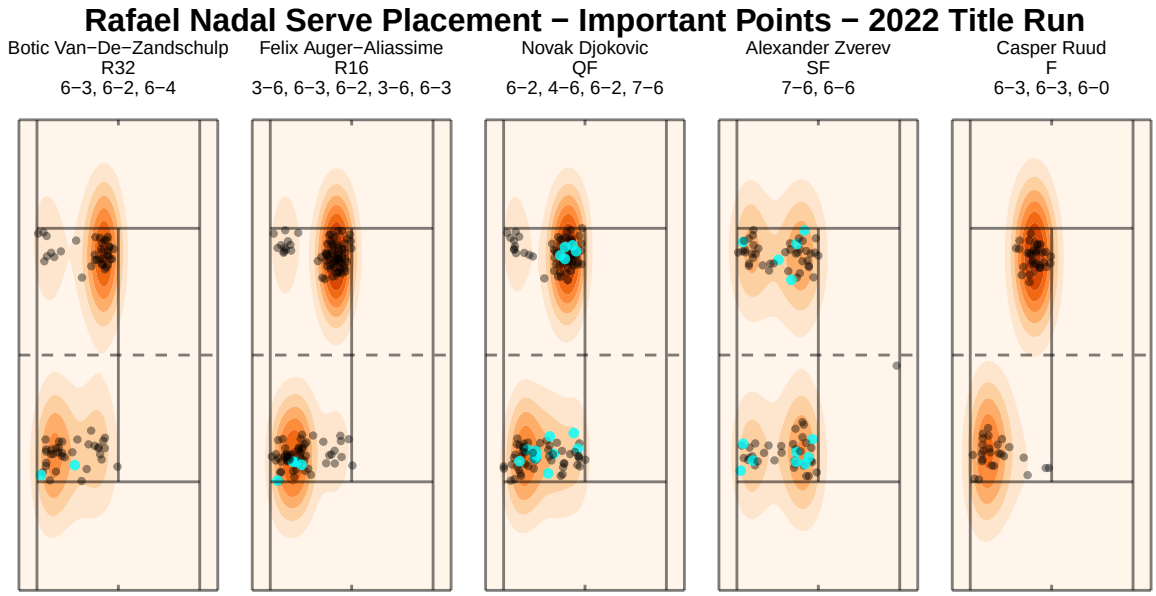

Figure 2: Rafael Nadal's serve placement in his last five rounds to the 2022 French Open title. Blue dots represent serves on important points; black dots represent serves on non-important points. Note that the dots above the net are all serves to the deuce court and the dots below the net are all serves to the ad court.

Nadal's serve placement throughout his 2022 French Open run offers a masterclass in tactical consistency under pressure. His primary strategy is clear: relentlessly target his opponent's backhand side. This approach is especially pronounced in the final against Casper Ruud, whose backhand is a known weakness. The resulting score in the final (6-3, 6-3, 6-0) is reflective of both the effectiveness of Nadal's strategy, his ability to execute this strategy to a tee, and his dominant – and honestly intimidating – reputation on the red clay.

Across all matches in this 2022 title run (one out of his fourteen titles over the course of his

record-breaking career), Nadal largely sticks with his established patterns even on important points – but he does so with greater precision and slightly more risk. This is most evident in his quarterfinal match against Novak Djokovic, where his serve locations on important points are clustered closer to the lines. However, against elite returners like Djokovic and Zverev – who was known to have a more consistent and effective backhand wing with a weaker forehand (this is uncommon among top ATP players) – Nadal's patterns show more variety. These tactical adjustments likely reflect a heightened awareness of these players' ability to anticipate and redirect familiar serves. This subtle unpredictability under pressure is a hallmark of Nadal's tactical brilliance and of his dominance on the red clay.

Alexander Zverev Serves (2021 Semifinal Run)

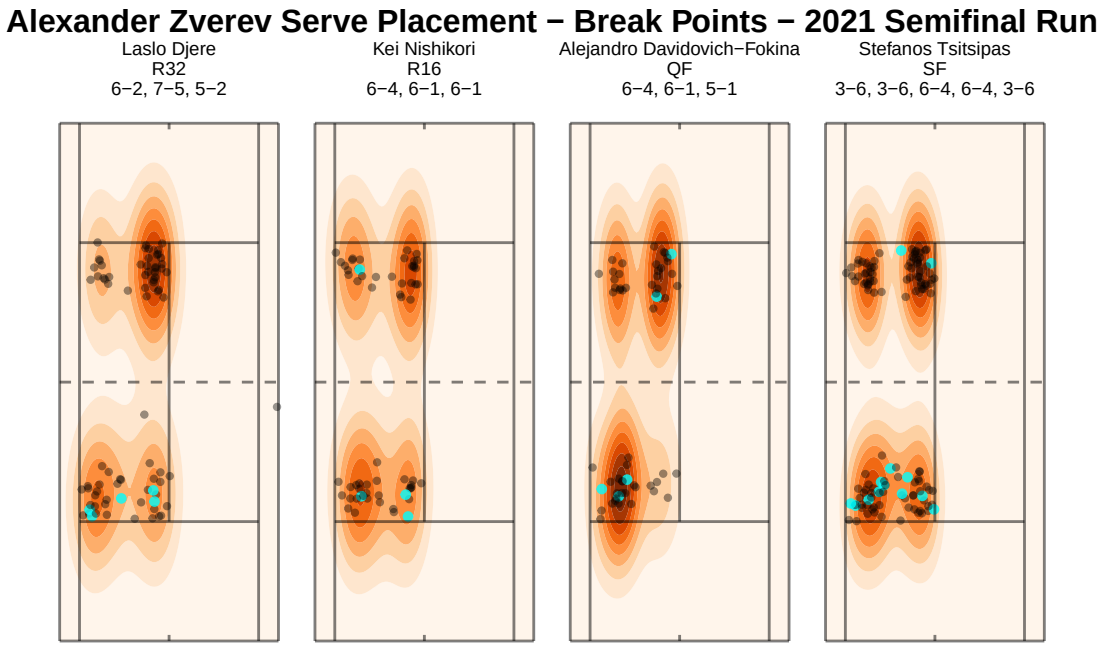

Figure 3: Alexander Zverev's serve placement in his last four rounds to the 2021 French Open semifinal. Blue dots represent serves on break points; black dots represent serves on non-break points.

Zverev's serve patterns present a sharp contrast to Nadal's. Rather than favoring one side, Zverev displays a strikingly bimodal pattern, targeting both corners of the service box equally – a tendency especially apparent in his five-set semifinal against Stefanos Tsitsipas.

Like Nadal, however, Zverev does not deviate from his primary tactics on pressure points, but his serve placement get bolder. Not only does he generally target the corners of the service box more on break points, but his serve speed increases as well (Table 5). On average, Zverev's first serve speed jumps by about 5 km/h when facing break points – a sign that he's leaning into his biggest weapon when it matters most. In the men's game, where just one break of

serve can tilt an entire set or match, this willingness to go bigger under pressure reflects a calculated risk that often pays off.

Table 6: Zverev's 1st serve speed (km/h) from the 2021 French Open.

breakPoint	Average Serve Speed	Standard Deviation
FALSE	206.8	8.7
TRUE	212.0	4.5

Iga Świątek Serves (2023 Title Run)

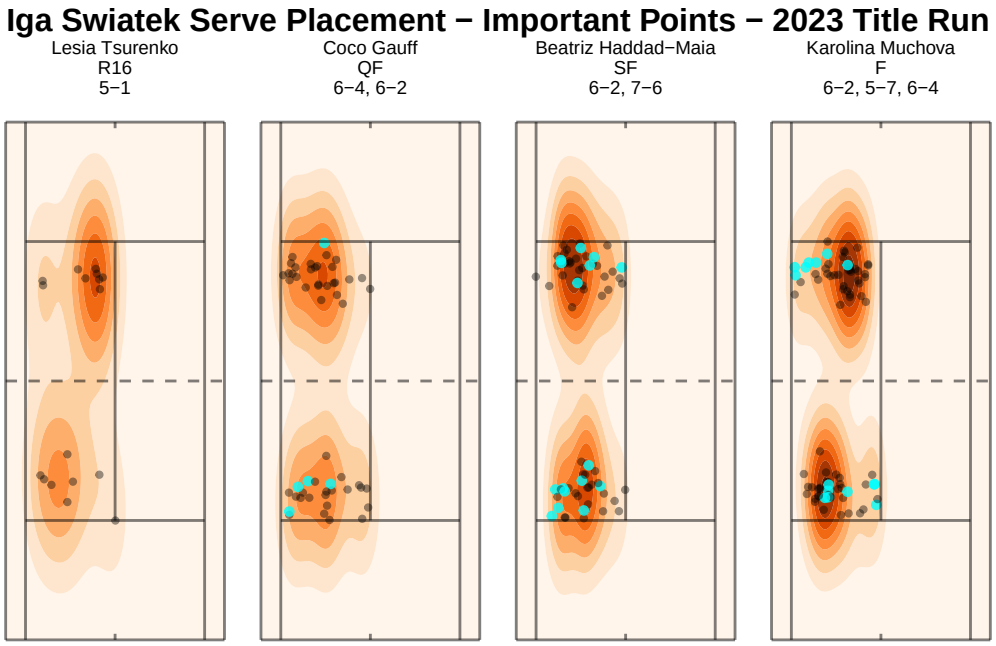

Figure 4: Iga Świątek's serve placement in her last four rounds to the 2023 French Open title. Blue dots represent serves on important points; black dots represent serves on non-important points.

Świątek's serve strategy offers a compelling contrast to both ATP examples. Rather than consistently aiming for the corners, she targets the center of the box with "body serves" that

jam her opponent and reduce their return angles. This high-margin strategy is especially visible in the early rounds of her 2023 title run.

Yet even Świątek exhibits a subtle shift under pressure. While she maintains her central placement in most matches, her final against Karolína Muchová tells a slightly different story. With the match hanging in the balance, Świątek opted to go out wide more frequently on important points, a possible indication of both the heightened pressure and the need to disrupt her opponent's rhythm. The fact that her serve strategy evolves in the final round, while remaining grounded in her broader approach, highlights her tactical flexibility and mental acuteness when the pressure mounts – an incredibly valuable trait that sets her apart from the rest of the WTA.

Together, these case studies reveal a common thread: elite players rarely abandon their core serving strategies under pressure. Instead, they double down with heightened precision, increased aggression, or subtle unpredictability, depending on their opponent and the context. But when players are on the receiving end, the question becomes: how do the game's best adjust their return strategies when their opponents are serving even more aggressively when the pressure is on? The next section explores this dynamic by analyzing return placement on important points across several noteworthy case studies.

Return Placement Analysis

While the serve is about initiating control in the point, the return is about reclaiming it. Unlike on serve, where we observed elite players ramping up aggression under pressure, returners tend to embrace a different strategy: one rooted in discipline and consistency.

To highlight this, we'll analyze the return patterns of Novak Djokovic – debatably the greatest returner of all time – during his 2021 title run, Stefanos Tsitsipas in his 2021 final appearance, and Coco Gauff during her impressive journey to the 2022 French Open final. Their performances reveal a shared tactical blueprint: prioritize consistency, target high-percentage areas, and apply relentless pressure by simply keeping the ball in play on the biggest points. This is something that Novak Djokovic does at the highest level and has become a staple of his excellence on the tennis court. With that being said, before moving on to the return placement visuals, it is important to mention that there will inherently be more variability in return placement compared to serve placement since the return is a reactive and typically defensive shot.

Novak Djokovic Returns (2021 Title Run)

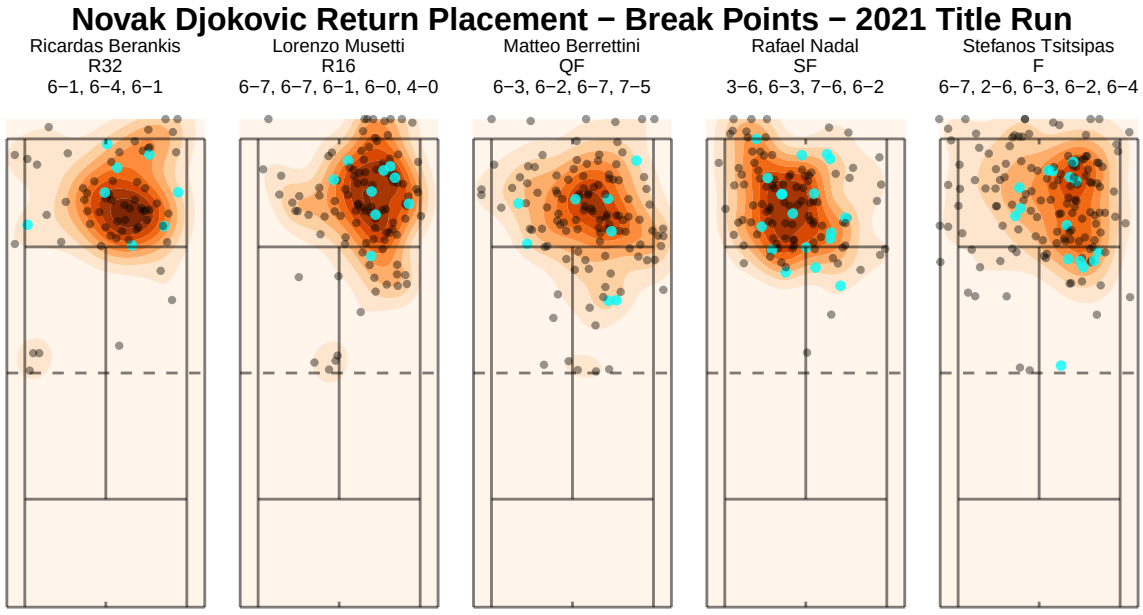

Figure 5: Novak Djokovic's return placement in his last five rounds to the 2021 French Open title. Blue dots represent returns on break points; black dots represent returns on non-break points.

Novak Djokovic's return game is legendary, and his 2021 French Open title run offers textbook examples of why. On break points – arguably the most pressure-filled moments for a returner – Djokovic did not miss a single return. Across 58 break point chances, he successfully put every return back into play (Table 6), applying immense pressure on his opponents to win the point outright. His returns weren't just in – they were placed with surgical precision, often deep and toward the backhand side.

In matches against right-handed players like Berrettini and Tsitsipas, his returns frequently pinned opponents to their weaker backhand wing even though these opponents are known to

have some of the best serves in the sport. Against the left-handed Rafael Nadal, Djokovic adjusted his return placement to continue targeting the lefty's backhand, reflecting a high degree of tactical awareness and adaptability. This elite depth and accuracy – particularly under pressure – exemplify his ability to outmaneuver opponents mentally as well as physically.

Table 7: Novak Djokovic's returns on break points during the 2021 French Open.

Break Point	Returns Hit	Returns Made	Percent Returns in Play
FALSE	507	439	86.59
TRUE	58	58	100.00

Stefanos Tsitsipas Returns (2021 Final Run)

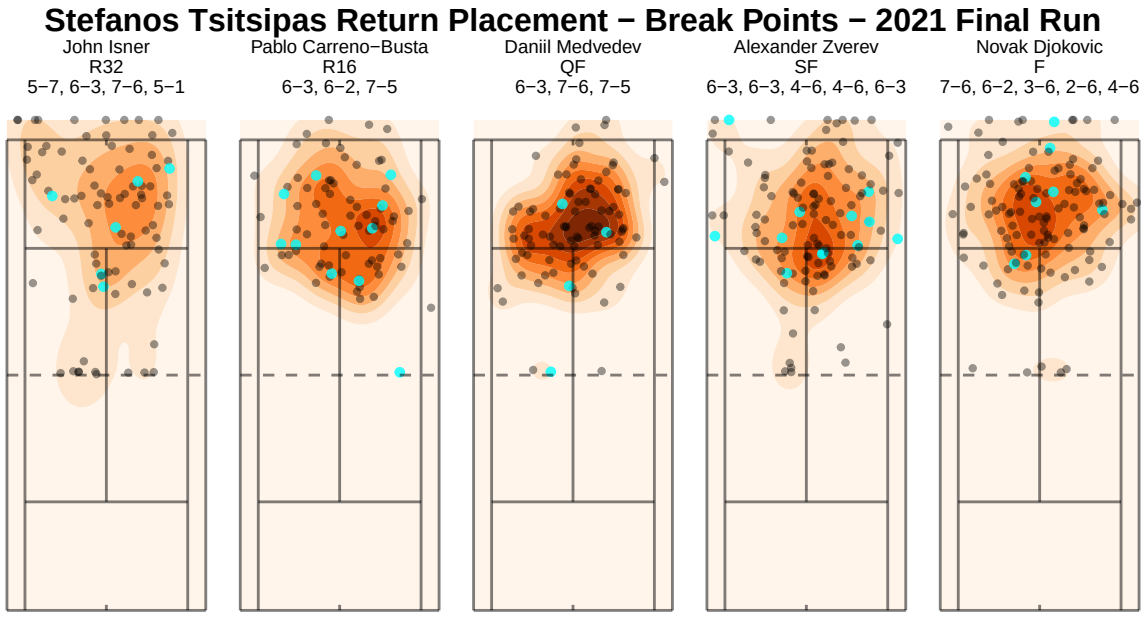

Figure 6: Stefanos Tsitsipas' return placement in his last five rounds to the 2021 French Open final. Blue dots represent returns on break points; black dots represent returns on non-break points.

Tsitsipas followed a similar return strategy during his run to the 2021 final, albeit with less precision than Djokovic. His returns often funneled through the middle of the court – an approach that limits angles and forces the server to generate offense from neutral positions. While not as deep or targeted as Djokovic's, Tsitsipas's returns still prioritized safety over risk.

In his match against big-serving John Isner, Tsitsipas clearly focused on just getting returns in play rather than placing them with precision and intent, highlighting how overwhelming serve power can alter return strategy. However, like Djokovic on break points, Tsitsipas still elevated his consistency and margin for error (Table 7). Tsitsipas rarely risked going for the lines and instead aimed for high-percentage zones to build pressure and extend the rally.

Table 8: Stefanos Tsitsipas' returns on break points during the 2021 French Open.

Break Point	Returns Hit	Returns Made	Percent Returns in Play
FALSE	457	404	88.40
TRUE	41	37	90.24

Coco Gauff Returns (2022 Final Run)

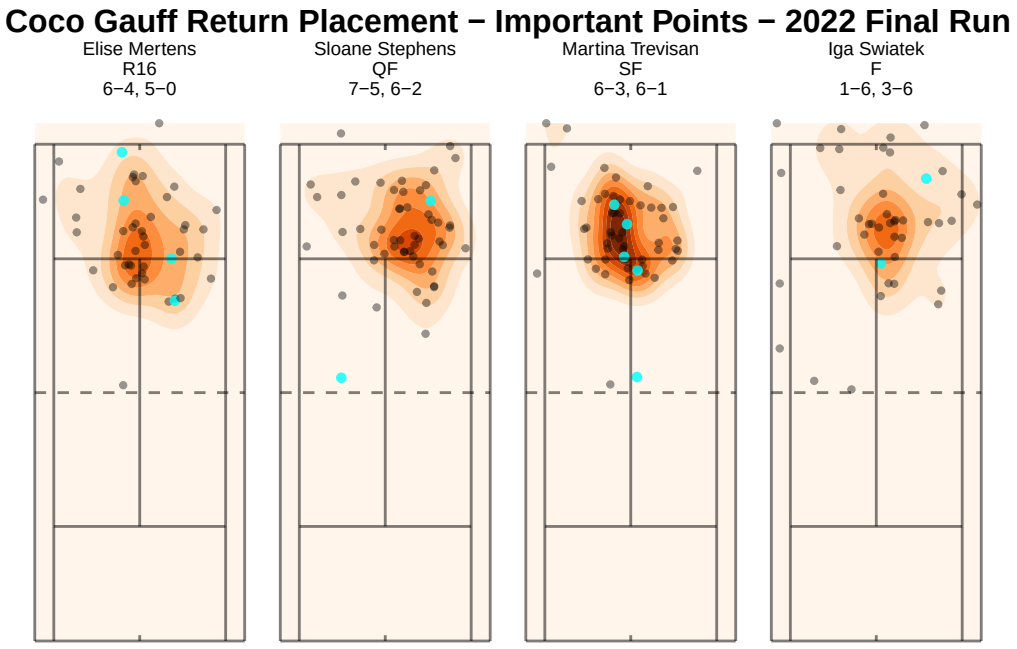

Figure 7: Coco Gauff's return placement in her last four rounds to the 2022 French Open final. Blue dots represent returns on important points; black dots represent returns on non-important points.

Coco Gauff's return patterns during her 2022 French Open final run mirror those of her ATP counterparts. Gauff, a young but tactically mature player, embraced the same middle-targeting strategy to limit return errors and neutralize the serve. Her returns on important points were focused and consistent – particularly in her semifinal win over Martina Trevisan, where her accuracy contributed to a dominant straight-sets victory.

However, in the final against Iga Świątek, Gauff's return execution wavered. Her shot distribution became noticeably scattered, despite her continued attempt to hit through the middle. This contrast underscores a key insight: the strategy itself may not change under pressure,

but a player's ability to execute it consistently is what separates great competitors from elite champions on the biggest stages.

Conclusion

While only about 20% of all points in this dataset meet the threshold to be classified as important, their influence on match outcomes is undeniable. These are the moments when the mental and tactical makeup of a player is put to the test. Through this primarily visual analysis, we've seen how shot placement data – particularly from serves and returns – can illuminate the subtle ways elite players navigate pressure differently than the great players who haven't yet broken through to greatness.

On serve, players like Rafael Nadal, Alexander Zverev, and Iga Świątek each responded to pressure differently, yet they shared a commitment to their core strategies. Nadal demonstrated unwavering consistency, pinpoint precision, and selective risk-taking. Zverev chose to escalate his aggression, both in placement and speed. Świątek embraced a high-margin, central strategy that evolved to serving closer to the corners when the stakes were highest. Together, these case studies showed that elite servers generally do not overhaul their approach under pressure – they refine it.

On return, the narrative was notably different. Novak Djokovic's unmatched ability to neutralize even the biggest serves – evidenced by his 100% return-in-play rate on break points in his 2021 title run – underscored his status as one of the game's greatest defenders. Tsitsipas

and Gauff mirrored his discipline, opting for safety and control rather than risk. Although, as seen in Gauff's final and Tsitsipas' slight execution dips, even the best-laid strategies can falter without precise execution.

Looking ahead, this type of shot placement analysis opens the door for further research into pressure-driven tactical behavior across longer rallies. While this paper focused on serves and returns (the two most consequential shots in tennis), future work could examine elite players' shot-by-shot strategy during pressure-filled important points. This in-depth strategic analysis could include directional changes mid-rally, transitions to the net, net clearance throughout the rally in response to the player's contact location, and modeling to analyze and predict point win probability based on these shot trajectory and placement parameters. These layers would provide even deeper insights into how tactics evolve beyond the opening shots of each point.

As discussed earlier, pressure rarely forces a complete overhaul of strategy, but it does demand heightened mental acuity. What truly distinguishes elite champions from the game's top competitors is not just *what* they do under pressure, but *how* they execute their plan. The ability to maintain clarity, focus, and precision in the most important moments is what ultimately sets the legends apart.

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Appendix

The following appendix sections are the primary R functions I wrote for data processing and visualization. I loaded these functions and the primary datasets I created for this analysis (i.e., `all_matches`, `all_matches_importance`) into an R package called `courtvisionr`.

clean_point_level()

```
#' Clean Point Level
#'
#' This is a function that cleans the Court Vision data to the
#' *point* level of granularity.
#'
#' @param raw_data is a data frame of a single match of the raw
#' Court Vision data
#' @param player_of_interest is a string of the player's name we want
#' as player1 - first or last name (case insensitive)
#' @return returns a data frame with a row for each point played
#' in the match/matches of interest
#'
#' @examples
#' nadal_final_2022 <- fetch_all_matches(player = "Nadal",
#'                                       year = "2022",
#'                                       round = "F")
#'
#' clean_point_level(nadal_final_2022[[1]])
#'
#' @import tidyverse
#' @export

clean_point_level <- function(raw_data,
                              player_of_interest = "(.|\\s)*\\S(.|\\s)*") {

  all_players <- read_csv("inst/data/all_players.csv")

  second_serve_points <- raw_data |>
    ## must use fetch_all_matches(player, year, round) function to get dataset
    ## with match_id variable
    group_by(match_id) |>
    ## match_info parsing:
    separate(match_info, into = c("label",
                                  "round",
                                  "opponents",
                                  "year",
                                  "court_number",
                                  "file_ending"), sep = "_") |>
    separate(opponents, into = c("player1", "player2"), sep = "-vs-") |>
    mutate(player1 = sub("-", " ", player1),
           player2 = sub("-", " ", player2)) |>
    mutate(point_index = row_number()) |>
    ## pointId parsing:
```

```
    separate(pointId, into = c("set", "game", "point", "serve"), sep = "_") |>
    mutate(set = as.numeric(set),
           game = as.numeric(game),
           point = as.numeric(point),
           serve = as.numeric(serve)) |>
    ## matchScore parsing:
    mutate(matchScore = sub("^.", "", matchScore)) |>
    mutate(matchScore = sub(".$", "", matchScore)) |>
    separate(matchScore, into = c("player1_set1_score",
                                  "player1_set2_score",
                                  "player1_set3_score",
                                  "player1_set4_score",
                                  "player1_set5_score",
                                  "player1_set1_tbscore",
                                  "player1_set2_tbscore",
                                  "player1_set3_tbscore",
                                  "player1_set4_tbscore",
                                  "player1_set5_tbscore",
                                  "player2_set1_score",
                                  "player2_set2_score",
                                  "player2_set3_score",
                                  "player2_set4_score",
                                  "player2_set5_score",
                                  "player2_set1_tbscore",
                                  "player2_set2_tbscore",
                                  "player2_set3_tbscore",
                                  "player2_set4_tbscore",
                                  "player2_set5_tbscore",
                                  "player1_game_score",
                                  "player2_game_score"), sep = ",") |>
    separate(player1_set1_score,
             into = c("label", "player1_set1"),
             sep = ": ") |>
    separate(player1_set2_score,
             into = c("label", "player1_set2"),
             sep = ": ") |>
    separate(player1_set3_score,
             into = c("label", "player1_set3"),
             sep = ": ") |>
    separate(player1_set4_score,
             into = c("label", "player1_set4"),
             sep = ": ") |>
    separate(player1_set5_score,
             into = c("label", "player1_set5"),
             sep = ": ") |>
    separate(player1_set1_tbscore,
             into = c("label", "player1_set1_tb"),
```

```
            sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player1_set2_tbscore,
            into = c("label", "player1_set2_tb"),
            sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player1_set3_tbscore,
            into = c("label", "player1_set3_tb"),
            sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player1_set4_tbscore,
            into = c("label", "player1_set4_tb"),
            sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player1_set5_tbscore,
            into = c("label", "player1_set5_tb"),
            sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player2_set1_score,
            into = c("label", "player2_set1"),
            sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player2_set2_score,
            into = c("label", "player2_set2"),
            sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player2_set3_score,
            into = c("label", "player2_set3"),
            sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player2_set4_score,
            into = c("label", "player2_set4"),
            sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player2_set5_score,
            into = c("label", "player2_set5"),
            sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player2_set1_tbscore,
            into = c("label", "player2_set1_tb"),
            sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player2_set2_tbscore,
            into = c("label", "player2_set2_tb"),
            sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player2_set3_tbscore,
            into = c("label", "player2_set3_tb"),
            sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player2_set4_tbscore,
            into = c("label", "player2_set4_tb"),
            sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player2_set5_tbscore,
            into = c("label", "player2_set5_tb"),
            sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player1_game_score,
            into = c("label", "player1_game"),
            sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player2_game_score,
```

```
            into = c("label", "player2_game"),
            sep = ": ") |>
  mutate(player1_set1 = parse_number(player1_set1),
         player1_set2 = parse_number(player1_set2),
         player1_set3 = parse_number(player1_set3),
         player1_set4 = parse_number(player1_set4),
         player1_set5 = parse_number(player1_set5),
         player2_set1 = parse_number(player2_set1),
         player2_set2 = parse_number(player2_set2),
         player2_set3 = parse_number(player2_set3),
         player2_set4 = parse_number(player2_set4),
         player2_set5 = parse_number(player2_set5),
         player1_game = sub("^.", "", player1_game),
         player1_game = sub(".$", "", player1_game),
         player2_game = sub("^.", "", player2_game),
         player2_game = sub(".$", "", player2_game)) |>
  filter(serve == 2)

formatted_point_level <- raw_data |>
  ## must use fetch_all_matches(player, year, round) function to get dataset
  ## with match_id variable
  group_by(match_id) |>
  ## match_info parsing:
  separate(match_info, into = c("label", "round", "opponents",
                                "year", "court_number", "file_ending"),
           sep = "_") |>
  separate(opponents, into = c("player1", "player2"), sep = "-vs-") |>
  mutate(player1 = sub("-", " ", player1),
         player2 = sub("-", " ", player2)) |>
  mutate(point_index = row_number()) |>
  ## pointId parsing:
  separate(pointId, into = c("set", "game", "point", "serve"), sep = "_") |>
  mutate(set = as.numeric(set),
         game = as.numeric(game),
         point = as.numeric(point),
         serve = as.numeric(serve)) |>
  ## matchScore parsing:
  mutate(matchScore = sub("^.", "", matchScore)) |>
  mutate(matchScore = sub(".$", "", matchScore)) |>
  separate(matchScore, into = c("player1_set1_score",
                                "player1_set2_score",
                                "player1_set3_score",
                                "player1_set4_score",
                                "player1_set5_score",
                                "player1_set1_tbscore",
                                "player1_set2_tbscore",
                                "player1_set3_tbscore",
```

```
                                "player1_set4_tbscore",
                                "player1_set5_tbscore",
                                "player2_set1_score",
                                "player2_set2_score",
                                "player2_set3_score",
                                "player2_set4_score",
                                "player2_set5_score",
                                "player2_set1_tbscore",
                                "player2_set2_tbscore",
                                "player2_set3_tbscore",
                                "player2_set4_tbscore",
                                "player2_set5_tbscore",
                                "player1_game_score",
                                "player2_game_score"), sep = ",") |>
  separate(player1_set1_score, into = c("label", "player1_set1"),
           sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player1_set2_score, into = c("label", "player1_set2"),
           sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player1_set3_score, into = c("label", "player1_set3"),
           sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player1_set4_score, into = c("label", "player1_set4"),
           sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player1_set5_score, into = c("label", "player1_set5"),
           sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player1_set1_tbscore, into = c("label", "player1_set1_tb"),
           sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player1_set2_tbscore, into = c("label", "player1_set2_tb"),
           sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player1_set3_tbscore, into = c("label", "player1_set3_tb"),
           sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player1_set4_tbscore, into = c("label", "player1_set4_tb"),
           sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player1_set5_tbscore, into = c("label", "player1_set5_tb"),
           sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player2_set1_score, into = c("label", "player2_set1"),
           sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player2_set2_score, into = c("label", "player2_set2"),
           sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player2_set3_score, into = c("label", "player2_set3"),
           sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player2_set4_score, into = c("label", "player2_set4"),
           sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player2_set5_score, into = c("label", "player2_set5"),
           sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player2_set1_tbscore, into = c("label", "player2_set1_tb"),
           sep = ": ") |>
  separate(player2_set2_tbscore, into = c("label", "player2_set2_tb"),
```

```
          sep = ": ") |>
separate(player2_set3_tbscore, into = c("label", "player2_set3_tb"),
          sep = ": ") |>
separate(player2_set4_tbscore, into = c("label", "player2_set4_tb"),
          sep = ": ") |>
separate(player2_set5_tbscore, into = c("label", "player2_set5_tb"),
          sep = ": ") |>
separate(player1_game_score, into = c("label", "player1_game"),
          sep = ": ") |>
separate(player2_game_score, into = c("label", "player2_game"),
          sep = ": ") |>
mutate(player1_set1 = parse_number(player1_set1),
       player1_set2 = parse_number(player1_set2),
       player1_set3 = parse_number(player1_set3),
       player1_set4 = parse_number(player1_set4),
       player1_set5 = parse_number(player1_set5),
       player2_set1 = parse_number(player2_set1),
       player2_set2 = parse_number(player2_set2),
       player2_set3 = parse_number(player2_set3),
       player2_set4 = parse_number(player2_set4),
       player2_set5 = parse_number(player2_set5),
       player1_game = sub("^.", "", player1_game),
       player1_game = sub(".$", "", player1_game),
       player2_game = sub("^.", "", player2_game),
       player2_game = sub(".$", "", player2_game)) |>
filter(serve == 1) |>
## lag the game score to get accurate game score:
mutate(player1_game_lag = lag(player1_game, default = "0"),
       player2_game_lag = lag(player2_game, default = "0")) |>
## fill in the second serve points:
bind_rows(second_serve_points) |>
arrange(set, game, point, serve) |>
fill(player1_game_lag, player2_game_lag, .direction = "down") |>
mutate(player1_game_score = if_else(player1_game_lag == "GAME" |
                                      player2_game_lag == "GAME",
                                    true = "0",
                                    false = player1_game_lag)) |>
mutate(player2_game_score = if_else(player1_game_lag == "GAME" |
                                      player2_game_lag == "GAME",
                                    true = "0",
                                    false = player2_game_lag)) |>
## fix tiebreak ending:
mutate(
  # Safely convert to numeric, assigning NA if conversion fails
  player1_score_numeric = suppressWarnings(
    as.numeric(player1_game_score)),
  player2_score_numeric = suppressWarnings(
```

```
      as.numeric(player2_game_score)),
    # Create a flag for the condition
    reset_scores = !(player1_game_score %in% c("0", "15", "30", "40")) &
      !(player2_game_score %in% c("0", "15", "30", "40")) &
      !is.na(player1_score_numeric) & !is.na(player2_score_numeric) &
      player1_score_numeric + player2_score_numeric >= 12 &
      abs(player1_score_numeric - player2_score_numeric) == 2,
    # Use the flag to set both scores
    player1_game_score = if_else(reset_scores, "0", player1_game_score),
    player2_game_score = if_else(reset_scores, "0", player2_game_score)) |>

  ## set score lag:
  mutate(player1_set1_lag = ifelse(serve == 2,
                                   lag(player1_set1, 2, default = 0),
                                   lag(player1_set1, default = 0)),
         player1_set2_lag = ifelse(serve == 2,
                                   lag(player1_set2, 2, default = 0),
                                   lag(player1_set2, default = 0)),
         player1_set3_lag = ifelse(serve == 2,
                                   lag(player1_set3, 2, default = 0),
                                   lag(player1_set3, default = 0)),
         player1_set4_lag = ifelse(serve == 2,
                                   lag(player1_set4, 2, default = 0),
                                   lag(player1_set4, default = 0)),
         player1_set5_lag = ifelse(serve == 2,
                                   lag(player1_set5, 2, default = 0),
                                   lag(player1_set5, default = 0)),
         player2_set1_lag = ifelse(serve == 2,
                                   lag(player2_set1, 2, default = 0),
                                   lag(player2_set1, default = 0)),
         player2_set2_lag = ifelse(serve == 2,
                                   lag(player2_set2, 2, default = 0),
                                   lag(player2_set2, default = 0)),
         player2_set3_lag = ifelse(serve == 2,
                                   lag(player2_set3, 2, default = 0),
                                   lag(player2_set3, default = 0)),
         player2_set4_lag = ifelse(serve == 2,
                                   lag(player2_set4, 2, default = 0),
                                   lag(player2_set4, default = 0)),
         player2_set5_lag = ifelse(serve == 2,
                                   lag(player2_set5, 2, default = 0),
                                   lag(player2_set5, default = 0))) |>
  mutate(player1_set_score = case_when(set == 1 ~ player1_set1_lag,
                                       set == 2 ~ player1_set2_lag,
                                       set == 3 ~ player1_set3_lag,
                                       set == 4 ~ player1_set4_lag,
                                       set == 5 ~ player1_set5_lag)) |>
```

```
    mutate(player2_set_score = case_when(set == 1 ~ player2_set1_lag,
                                         set == 2 ~ player2_set2_lag,
                                         set == 3 ~ player2_set3_lag,
                                         set == 4 ~ player2_set4_lag,
                                         set == 5 ~ player2_set5_lag)) |>

    # Replace serverId, scorerId, receiverId with player names instead of ids
    left_join(all_players, by = c("serverId" = "id")) |>
    mutate(serverId = fullName) |>
    select(-fullName) |>
    left_join(all_players, by = c("scorerId" = "id")) |>
    mutate(scorerId = fullName) |>
    select(-fullName) |>
    left_join(all_players, by = c("receiverId" = "id")) |>
    mutate(receiverId = fullName) |>

    # Store original player names and scores
    mutate(
      original_player1 = player1,
      original_player2 = player2,
      original_player1_game_score = player1_game_score,
      original_player2_game_score = player2_game_score,
      original_player1_set_score = player1_set_score,
      original_player2_set_score = player2_set_score) |>

    # Rearrange players and scores based on whether they match
    # the player_of_interest
    mutate(
      player1 = case_when(
        str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player1),
                   str_to_lower(player_of_interest)) ~ original_player1,
        str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player2),
                   str_to_lower(player_of_interest)) ~ original_player2),
      player2 = case_when(
        str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player1),
                   str_to_lower(player_of_interest)) ~ original_player2,
        str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player2),
                   str_to_lower(player_of_interest)) ~ original_player1),
      player1_game_score = case_when(
        str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player1),
                   str_to_lower(player_of_interest))
        ~ original_player1_game_score,
        str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player2),
                   str_to_lower(player_of_interest))
        ~ original_player2_game_score),
      player2_game_score = case_when(
        str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player1),
```

```
                    str_to_lower(player_of_interest))
        ~ original_player2_game_score,
        str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player2),
                    str_to_lower(player_of_interest))
        ~ original_player1_game_score),
      player1_set_score = case_when(
        str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player1),
                    str_to_lower(player_of_interest))
        ~ original_player1_set_score,
        str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player2),
                    str_to_lower(player_of_interest))
        ~ original_player2_set_score),
      player2_set_score = case_when(
        str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player1),
                    str_to_lower(player_of_interest))
        ~ original_player2_set_score,
        str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player2),
                    str_to_lower(player_of_interest))
        ~ original_player1_set_score)) |>
    relocate(set, player1_game_score, player2_game_score,
             player1_set_score, player2_set_score, player1, player2)

  return(formatted_point_level)
}
```

Importance Joining

```
## Join all_matches and atp_importance
join_ready_df <- all_matches |>

  ## Correct Player Names
  mutate(
    serverId = case_when(
      serverId == "Cori Gauff" ~ "Coco Gauff",
      serverId == "Alejandro Davidovich Fokina"
      ~ "Alejandro Davidovich-Fokina",
      serverId == "Tomas Martin Etcheverry" ~ "Tomas Martin-Etcheverry",
      serverId == "Beatriz Haddad Maia" ~ "Beatriz Haddad-Maia",
      serverId == "Pablo Carreno Busta" ~ "Pablo Carreno-Busta",
      serverId == "Bernabe Zapata Miralles" ~ "Bernabe Zapata-Miralles",
      serverId == "Anna Karolina Schmiedlova" ~ "Anna Karolina-Schmiedlova",
      serverId == "Jan-Lennard Struff" ~ "Jan Lennard-Struff",
```

```
      serverId == "Irina-Camelia Begu" ~ "Irina Camelia-Begu",
      serverId == "Juan Pablo Varillas" ~ "Juan Pablo-Varillas",
      serverId == "Sara Sorribes Tormo" ~ "Sara Sorribes-Tormo",
      serverId == "Botic Van De Zandschulp" ~ "Botic Van-De-Zandschulp",
      serverId == "Genaro Alberto Olivieri" ~ "Genaro Alberto-Olivieri",
      serverId == "Thiago Seyboth Wild" ~ "Thiago Seyboth-Wild",
      TRUE ~ serverId
    ),
    receiverId = case_when(
      receiverId == "Cori Gauff" ~ "Coco Gauff",
      receiverId == "Alejandro Davidovich Fokina"
      ~ "Alejandro Davidovich-Fokina",
      receiverId == "Tomas Martin Etcheverry"
      ~ "Tomas Martin-Etcheverry",
      receiverId == "Beatriz Haddad Maia" ~ "Beatriz Haddad-Maia",
      receiverId == "Pablo Carreno Busta" ~ "Pablo Carreno-Busta",
      receiverId == "Bernabe Zapata Miralles" ~ "Bernabe Zapata-Miralles",
      receiverId == "Anna Karolina Schmiedlova" ~ "Anna Karolina-Schmiedlova",
      receiverId == "Jan-Lennard Struff" ~ "Jan Lennard-Struff",
      receiverId == "Irina-Camelia Begu" ~ "Irina Camelia-Begu",
      receiverId == "Juan Pablo Varillas" ~ "Juan Pablo-Varillas",
      receiverId == "Sara Sorribes Tormo" ~ "Sara Sorribes-Tormo",
      receiverId == "Botic Van De Zandschulp" ~ "Botic Van-De-Zandschulp",
      receiverId == "Genaro Alberto Olivieri" ~ "Genaro Alberto-Olivieri",
      receiverId == "Thiago Seyboth Wild" ~ "Thiago Seyboth-Wild",
      TRUE ~ receiverId
    ),
    scorerId = case_when(
      scorerId == "Cori Gauff" ~ "Coco Gauff",
      scorerId == "Alejandro Davidovich Fokina"
      ~ "Alejandro Davidovich-Fokina",
      scorerId == "Tomas Martin Etcheverry" ~ "Tomas Martin-Etcheverry",
      scorerId == "Beatriz Haddad Maia" ~ "Beatriz Haddad-Maia",
      scorerId == "Pablo Carreno Busta" ~ "Pablo Carreno-Busta",
      scorerId == "Bernabe Zapata Miralles" ~ "Bernabe Zapata-Miralles",
      scorerId == "Anna Karolina Schmiedlova" ~ "Anna Karolina-Schmiedlova",
      scorerId == "Jan-Lennard Struff" ~ "Jan Lennard-Struff",
      scorerId == "Irina-Camelia Begu" ~ "Irina Camelia-Begu",
      scorerId == "Juan Pablo Varillas" ~ "Juan Pablo-Varillas",
      scorerId == "Sara Sorribes Tormo" ~ "Sara Sorribes-Tormo",
      scorerId == "Botic Van De Zandschulp" ~ "Botic Van-De-Zandschulp",
      scorerId == "Genaro Alberto Olivieri" ~ "Genaro Alberto-Olivieri",
      scorerId == "Thiago Seyboth Wild" ~ "Thiago Seyboth-Wild",
      TRUE ~ scorerId
    )
  ) |>
  group_by(match_id) |>
```

```
  mutate(server_game_score = case_when(serverId == player1
                                       ~ player1_game_score,
                                       serverId == player2
                                       ~ player2_game_score),
         receiver_game_score = case_when(receiverId == player1
                                         ~ player1_game_score,
                                         receiverId == player2
                                         ~ player2_game_score),
         server_set_score = case_when(serverId == player1
                                      ~ player1_set_score,
                                      serverId == player2
                                      ~ player2_set_score),
         receiver_set_score = case_when(receiverId == player1
                                        ~ player1_set_score,
                                        receiverId == player2
                                        ~ player2_set_score)) |>
  mutate(is_tiebreak = if_else(server_set_score == 6
                               & receiver_set_score == 6,
                               true = TRUE, false = FALSE)) |>
  relocate(server_game_score, receiver_game_score,
           server_set_score, receiver_set_score, is_tiebreak) |>

  mutate(
    server_game_score2 = case_when(
      (server_game_score == "AD" & receiver_game_score == "40") ~ "40",
      (server_game_score == "40" & receiver_game_score == "AD") ~ "30",
      TRUE ~ server_game_score
    ),
    receiver_game_score2 = case_when(
      (receiver_game_score == "AD" & server_game_score == "40") ~ "40",
      (receiver_game_score == "40" & server_game_score == "AD") ~ "30",
      TRUE ~ receiver_game_score
    )
  ) |>
  mutate(server_game_score = server_game_score2,
         receiver_game_score = receiver_game_score2) |>

  mutate(server_game_score = as.numeric(server_game_score),
         receiver_game_score = as.numeric(receiver_game_score)) |>


  ## Calculate match scores
  mutate(player1_match_score = 0,
         player2_match_score = 0) |>
  mutate(player1_match_score = case_when(
    set == 1 ~ 0,
    (player1_set1_lag >= 6 & player1_set1_lag > player2_set1_lag)
```

```
    ~ (player1_match_score + 1),
    (player1_set2_lag >= 6 & player1_set2_lag > player2_set2_lag)
    ~ (player1_match_score + 1),
    (player1_set3_lag >= 6 & player1_set3_lag > player2_set3_lag)
    ~ (player1_match_score + 1),
    (player1_set4_lag >= 6 & player1_set4_lag > player2_set4_lag)
    ~ (player1_match_score + 1),
    (player1_set5_lag >= 6 & player1_set5_lag > player2_set5_lag)
    ~ (player1_match_score + 1),
    TRUE ~ player1_match_score)) |>
  mutate(player2_match_score = case_when(
    set == 1 ~ 0,
    (player2_set1_lag >= 6 & player2_set1_lag > player1_set1_lag)
    ~ (player2_match_score + 1),
    (player2_set2_lag >= 6 & player2_set2_lag > player1_set2_lag)
    ~ (player2_match_score + 1),
    (player2_set3_lag >= 6 & player2_set3_lag > player1_set3_lag)
    ~ (player2_match_score + 1),
    (player2_set4_lag >= 6 & player2_set4_lag > player1_set4_lag)
    ~ (player2_match_score + 1),
    (player2_set5_lag >= 6 & player2_set5_lag > player1_set5_lag)
    ~ (player2_match_score + 1),
    TRUE ~ player2_match_score)) |>
  mutate(server_match_score = case_when(serverId == player1
                                        ~ player1_match_score,
                                        serverId == player2
                                        ~ player2_match_score),
         receiver_match_score = case_when(receiverId == player1
                                          ~ player1_match_score,
                                          receiverId == player2
                                          ~ player2_match_score)) |>

  mutate(score_diff = if_else(is_tiebreak == TRUE,
                              if_else(pmax(server_game_score,
                                           receiver_game_score) > 6,
                                      pmax(server_game_score,
                                           receiver_game_score) - 6, 0),
                              0)) |>
  mutate(server_game_score = server_game_score - score_diff,
         receiver_game_score = receiver_game_score - score_diff) |>

  ## Flip server and receiver scores for game_score and set_score
  mutate(
    # Preserve original values
    server_game_score_og = server_game_score,
    receiver_game_score_og = receiver_game_score,
    server_set_score_og = server_set_score,
```

```
    receiver_set_score_og = receiver_set_score,

    # Swap server and receiver scores
    server_game_score = receiver_game_score_og,
    receiver_game_score = server_game_score_og,
    server_set_score = receiver_set_score_og,
    receiver_set_score = server_set_score_og
  ) |>

  ## Combine scores
  mutate(game_score = paste(server_game_score, receiver_game_score,
                            sep = "-"),
         set_score = paste(server_set_score, receiver_set_score, sep = "-"),
         match_score = paste(server_match_score, receiver_match_score,
                             sep = "-")) |>

  ## Handle AD-40 and 40-AD game scores:
  mutate(game_score = case_when(game_score == "AD-40" ~ "40-30",
                                game_score == "40-AD" ~ "30-40",
                                set_score == "0-0" &
                                  !(game_score %in% c("0-0", "0-15",
                                                      "0-30", "0-40",
                                                      "15-0", "15-15",
                                                      "15-30", "15-40",
                                                      "30-0", "30-15",
                                                      "30-30", "30-40",
                                                      "40-0", "40-15",
                                                      "40-30", "40-40"))
                                ~ "0-0",
                                TRUE ~ game_score)) |>
  relocate(server_game_score, receiver_game_score,
           game_score, server_set_score, receiver_set_score,
           set_score, server_match_score, receiver_match_score, match_score)

atp_importance_5 <- atp_importance |>
  filter(bestof == 5) |>
  distinct(point_score, game_score, set_score, .keep_all = TRUE) |>
  mutate(atp_importance = importance) |>
  select(-importance)

wta_importance_3 <- atp_importance |>
  filter(bestof == 3) |>
  distinct(point_score, game_score, set_score, .keep_all = TRUE) |>
  mutate(wta_importance = importance) |>
  select(-importance)

all_matches_importance <- join_ready_df |>
```

```
  left_join(atp_importance_5, by = c("game_score" = "point_score",
                                     "set_score" = "game_score",
                                     "match_score" = "set_score")) |>
  left_join(wta_importance_3, by = c("game_score" = "point_score",
                                     "set_score" = "game_score",
                                     "match_score" = "set_score")) |>
  relocate(game_score, set_score, match_score, atp_importance, wta_importance)
```

clean_shot_level()

```
#' Clean Shot Level Function
#'
#' This is a function that parses the trajectory data from the
#' Court Vision data - breaking the match/matches down to the
#' *shot* level of granularity.
#'
#' @param cleaned_data is a data frame of cleaned point-level data
#' @return returns a data frame with several rows (hit, net, peak, bounce) for
#' each shot in the match/matches of interest
#'
#' @examples
#' nadal_2022_cleaned <- clean_and_combine(nadal_2022,
#'                                         player_interest = "Nadal")
#' clean_shot_level(nadal_2022_cleaned)
#'
#' @import tidyverse
#' @export

clean_shot_level <- function(cleaned_data) {
  formatted_shot_level <- cleaned_data |>
    ## trajectoryData parsing:
    mutate(trajectoryData = sub("^..", "", trajectoryData)) |>
    mutate(trajectoryData = sub("..$", "", trajectoryData)) |>
    separate_longer_delim(trajectoryData, delim = "}, {") |>
    group_by(point_index) |>
    mutate(shot_index = row_number()) |>
    separate(trajectoryData, into = c("x", "y", "z", "position"),
             sep = "\\,") |>
    mutate(x = parse_number(x),
           y = parse_number(y),
           z = parse_number(z),
           position = sub("^............", "", position)) |>
```

```
    mutate(position = gsub("'", "", position)) |>
    ## player_hit variable construction:
    mutate(is_hit = if_else(position == "hit", true = 1, false = 0)) |>
    group_by(point_index) |>
    mutate(hit_count = cumsum(is_hit)) |>
    mutate(player_hit = if_else(hit_count %% 2 == 1, serverId, receiverId)) |>
    ## net_height and net_clearance variables:
    mutate(net_height = 0.00619 * (y^2) + 0.914) |>
    mutate(net_clearance = z - net_height) |>
    relocate(player1_game_score, player2_game_score, player1_set_score,
             player2_set_score, player1, player2, x, y, z, position,
             hit_count, net_clearance)

  return(formatted_shot_level)
}
```

filter_matches()

```
#' Filter Matches Function
#'
#' This is a function that finds all matches of a specified player, year,
#' and/or round using the all_matches_importance data frame
#'
#' @param player is a string of the player's name,
#' first and last name (case sensitive)
#' @param year_of_interest is a string of the year the match was played,
#' between 2019 and 2023
#' @return returns a point-level data frame of all matches given the
#' specified player and year
#'
#' @import tidyverse
#' @export

filter_matches <- function(player = "(.|\\s)*\\S(.|\\s)*",
                           year_of_interest = "(.|\\s)*\\S(.|\\s)*") {

  filtered_df <- all_matches_importance |>
    # is_important variables
    mutate(atp_is_important = if_else(atp_importance >= 0.1, 1, 0),
           atp_is_important = as.logical(atp_is_important),
           wta_is_important = if_else(wta_importance >= 0.1, 1, 0),
           wta_is_important = as.logical(wta_is_important)) |>
```

```
  # Filter based on the parameters of the function
  filter(player1 == player | player2 == player) |>
  filter(year == year_of_interest) |>

  # Parse and combine match_score_overall for plot label
  mutate(
    set1_score = if_else(player == player1,
                         paste(player1_set1, player2_set1, sep = "-"),
                         paste(player2_set1, player1_set1, sep = "-")),
    set2_score = if_else(player == player1,
                         paste(player1_set2, player2_set2, sep = "-"),
                         paste(player2_set2, player1_set2, sep = "-")),
    set3_score = if_else(player == player1,
                         paste(player1_set3, player2_set3, sep = "-"),
                         paste(player2_set3, player1_set3, sep = "-")),
    set4_score = if_else(player == player1,
                         paste(player1_set4, player2_set4, sep = "-"),
                         paste(player2_set4, player1_set4, sep = "-")),
    set5_score = if_else(player == player1,
                         paste(player1_set5, player2_set5, sep = "-"),
                         paste(player2_set5, player1_set5, sep = "-")),
    match_score_overall = pmap_chr(
      list(set1_score, set2_score, set3_score, set4_score, set5_score),
      ~ str_c(
        discard(
          c(...),
          ~ str_count(.x, "-") != 1),
        collapse = ", "
      )
    )
  ) |>

  # Store original player names and scores
  mutate(
    original_player1 = player1,
    original_player2 = player2,
    original_player1_game_score = player1_game_score,
    original_player2_game_score = player2_game_score,
    original_player1_set_score = player1_set_score,
    original_player2_set_score = player2_set_score) |>

  # Rearrange players and scores based on whether they match the player
  mutate(
    player1 = case_when(
      str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player1), str_to_lower(player))
      ~ original_player1,
```

```
      str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player2), str_to_lower(player))
      ~ original_player2),
    player2 = case_when(
      str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player1), str_to_lower(player))
      ~ original_player2,
      str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player2), str_to_lower(player))
      ~ original_player1),
    player1_game_score = case_when(
      str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player1), str_to_lower(player))
      ~ original_player1_game_score,
      str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player2), str_to_lower(player))
      ~ original_player2_game_score),
    player2_game_score = case_when(
      str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player1), str_to_lower(player))
      ~ original_player2_game_score,
      str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player2), str_to_lower(player))
      ~ original_player1_game_score),
    player1_set_score = case_when(
      str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player1), str_to_lower(player))
      ~ original_player1_set_score,
      str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player2), str_to_lower(player))
      ~ original_player2_set_score),
    player2_set_score = case_when(
      str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player1), str_to_lower(player))
      ~ original_player2_set_score,
      str_detect(str_to_lower(original_player2), str_to_lower(player))
      ~ original_player1_set_score)) |>

  # Create plot_label variable
  mutate(plot_label = str_c(player2, round, match_score_overall,
                            sep = "\n")) |>

  # Add numeric round before grouping
  mutate(round = factor(round,
                        levels = c("R64", "R32", "R16", "QF", "SF", "F")),
         round_num = as.numeric(round)) |>

  # Create plot label and final plot label per match
  mutate(plot_label = str_c(player2, round, match_score_overall,
                            sep = "\n")) |>
  group_by(match_id) |>
  mutate(plot_label_final = last(plot_label[!is.na(plot_label)])) |>
  ungroup() |>
  mutate(
    plot_label_final = as_factor(plot_label_final),
    plot_label_final = fct_reorder(plot_label_final, round_num)
  ) |>
```

```
    relocate(plot_label_final, set, player1_game_score, player2_game_score,
             player1_set_score, player2_set_score, player1, player2)

  return(filtered_df)

}
```

draw_court()

```
#' Draw Court
#'
#' This is a function that draws the tennis court (dimensions are to scale)
#'
#' @return returns ggplot layers drawing solid lines representing the lines
#' on the tennis court, dashed line represents the net
#'
#' @examples
#' draw_court()
#'
#' @import tidyverse
#' @export

draw_court <- function() {
  list(
    annotate(geom = "segment", x = 5.02, xend = 5.02,
             y = -11.88, yend = 11.88, alpha = 0.5),
    annotate(geom = "segment", x = 4.11, xend = 4.11,
             y = -11.88, yend = 11.88, alpha = 0.5),
    annotate(geom = "segment", x = -5.02, xend = -5.02,
             y = -11.88, yend = 11.88, alpha = 0.5),
    annotate(geom = "segment", x = -4.11, xend = -4.11,
             y = -11.88, yend = 11.88, alpha = 0.5),
    annotate(geom = "segment", x = 0, xend = 0, y = -6.4,
             yend = 6.4, alpha = 0.5),
    annotate(geom = "segment", y = 0, yend = 0,
             x = -5.02, xend = 5.02, linetype = 2, alpha = 0.5),
    annotate(geom = "segment", y = -11.88, yend = -11.88,
             x = -5.02, xend = 5.02, alpha = 0.5),
    annotate(geom = "segment", y = 11.88, yend = 11.88,
             x = -5.02, xend = 5.02, alpha = 0.5),
    annotate(geom = "segment", y = -6.4, yend = -6.4,
```

```
            x = -4.11, xend = 4.11, alpha = 0.5),
    annotate(geom = "segment", y = 6.4, yend = 6.4,
            x = -4.11, xend = 4.11, alpha = 0.5),
    annotate(geom = "segment", x = 0, xend = 0,
            y = -11.88, yend = -11.6, alpha = 0.5),
    annotate(geom = "segment", x = 0, xend = 0,
            y = 11.88, yend = 11.6, alpha = 0.5),
    theme_void(),
    coord_fixed()
  )
}
```