Online Chess Matches - A Brief Analysis

IST 719 - Benjamin Cowan

Distribution of Match Ratings

Low (24%)
High (14%)
Moderate (62%)

Frequent Openings

- Van't Kruijs Opening
- Sicilian Defense
- Sicilian Defense: Bowdler Attack
- French Defense: Knight Variation
- Scotch Game
- Scandinavian Defense: Mieses–Kotroc Variation
- Queen's Pawn Game: Mason Attack
- Scandinavian Defense
- Horwitz Defense
- Queen's Pawn Game: Chigorin Variation
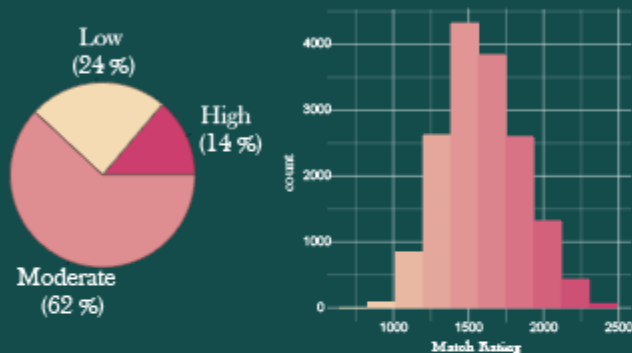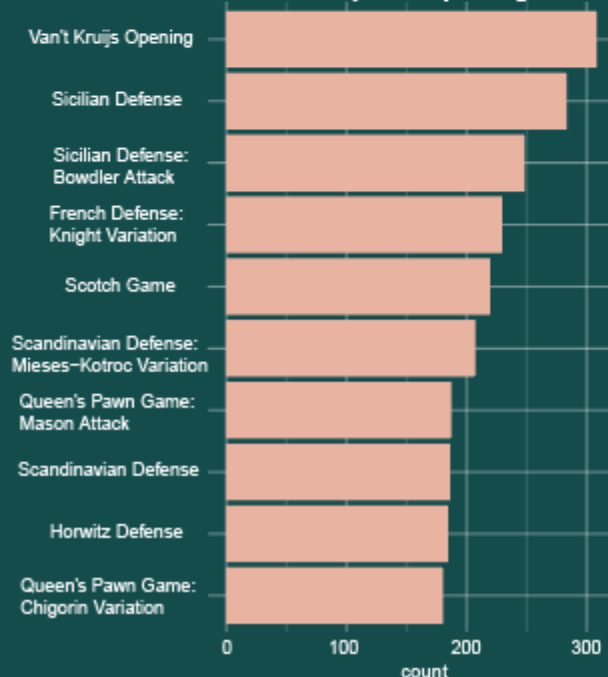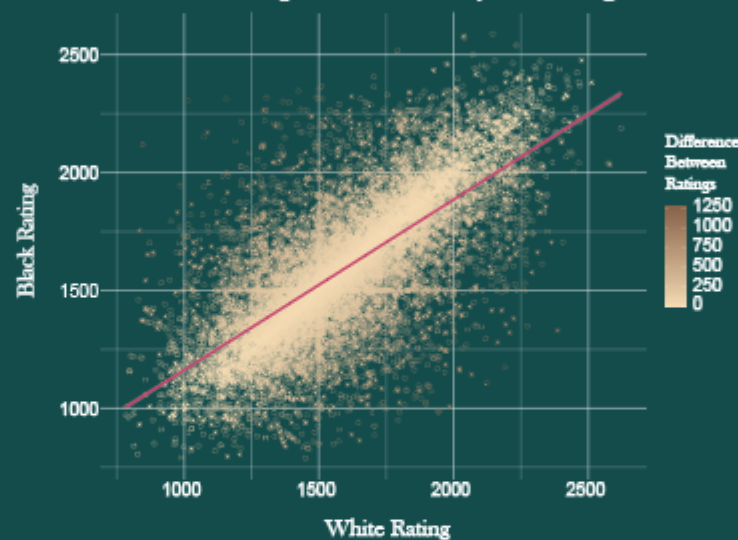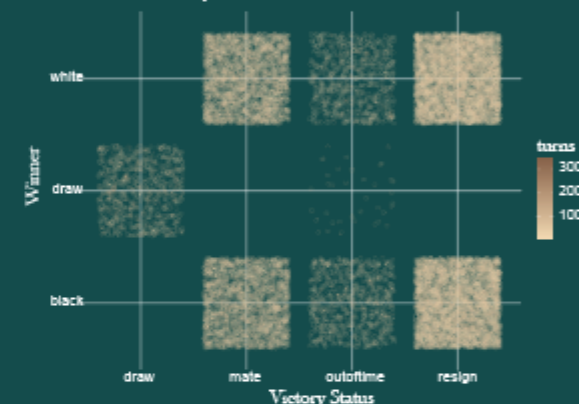
Relationships

Relationship between Player Ratings

Victory Status vs Match Winners

Data & Additional Information

- Data: 20,000+ online chess games collected from Lichess.org. The website has a daily average of 60,000 players.

- Data was cleansed of any non-ranked matches and rows with missing data. The cleaned data contained 16155 ranked games and 16 variables (turns, player rating, opening names, etc.)

- A match rating variable was created by averaging the ratings of players in each match (black & white sides):

  Low rating (<1400), Moderate rating (1400-1900), High rating (>1900)

Motivation & Questions

- Audience: People interested in ranked online chess and learning some of its aspects. They might be interested in where they are ranked compared to other players.

  Questions:
- How well does Lichess match ranked players?

- Are there any differences between match winners and victory status?