

Notebook 1: Establishing Data

1. Introduction

This notebook introduces the chess openings dataset, describes its source, and provides an overview of its features. This forms the foundation for further exploratory data analysis (EDA) and modeling.

2. Data Acquisition

Source

The dataset was downloaded from Kaggle

- **Link:** <https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/alexandrelemercier/all-chess-openings>
- **Format:** CSV

How to Get the Data

1. Navigate to the dataset link.
 2. Click **Download**.
 3. Save the CSV file as `chess_openings.csv` in your working directory.
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3. Who Produced the Data

The dataset was produced by chess enthusiasts and/or platform users who tracked nearly 3.5 million games from over 1800 openings over time. It contains aggregated statistics for various openings including:

- Opening name
- Number of games played
- Player performance metrics
- Move sequences

It is intended for analysis of opening effectiveness and popularity.

```
In [2]: import pandas as pd
df = pd.read_csv("chess_openings.csv")
df.head()
```

Out[2]:

	Unnamed: 0	Opening	Colour	Num Games	ECO	Last Played	Perf Rating	Avg Player	Player Win %	Draw %	...
0	0	Alekhine Defense, Balogh Variation	white	692	B03	2018- 06-22	2247	2225	40.8	24.3	...
1	1	Alekhine Defense, Brooklyn Variation	black	228	B02	2018- 06-27	2145	2193	29.8	22.4	...
2	2	Alekhine Defense, Exchange Variation	white	6485	B03	2018- 07-06	2244	2194	40.8	27.7	...
3	3	Alekhine Defense, Four Pawns Attack	white	881	B03	2018- 06-20	2187	2130	39.7	23.2	...
4	4	Alekhine Defense, Four Pawns Attack, Fianchett...	black	259	B03	2018- 05-20	2122	2178	37.8	21.2	...

5 rows × 26 columns



Column Name	Description
Opening	Name of the chess opening (e.g., Sicilian Defense)
Colour	Player color (white or black)
Num Games	Number of games recorded for this opening and color
ECO	ECO (Encyclopedia of Chess Openings) code
Last Played	Date the opening was last played in this dataset
Perf Rating	Performance rating of the player using this opening
Avg Player	Average rating of opponents
Player Win %	Win percentage for the player using this opening
Draw %	Percentage of games ending in a draw
Opponent Win %	Win percentage for the opponent

Column Name	Description
Moves	Sequence of moves in standard algebraic notation
moves_list	Moves as a Python list for analysis
move1w, move1b ...	Individual moves by turn (white/black)
White_win%	Overall white win percentage for this opening
Black_win%	Overall black win percentage
White_odds	Odds of white winning (numerical)
White_Wins	Number of games white won
Black_Wins	Number of games black won

```
In [4]: # Basic info
print(df.info())

# Summary statistics
print(df.describe())

# Check for missing values
print(df.isnull().sum())
```

```
<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
```

```
RangeIndex: 1884 entries, 0 to 1883
```

```
Data columns (total 26 columns):
```

#	Column	Non-Null Count	Dtype
0	Unnamed: 0	1884 non-null	int64
1	Opening	1884 non-null	object
2	Colour	1884 non-null	object
3	Num Games	1884 non-null	int64
4	ECO	1884 non-null	object
5	Last Played	1884 non-null	object
6	Perf Rating	1884 non-null	int64
7	Avg Player	1884 non-null	int64
8	Player Win %	1884 non-null	float64
9	Draw %	1884 non-null	float64
10	Opponent Win %	1884 non-null	float64
11	Moves	1884 non-null	object
12	moves_list	1884 non-null	object
13	move1w	1884 non-null	object
14	move1b	1869 non-null	object
15	move2w	1814 non-null	object
16	move2b	1744 non-null	object
17	move3w	1628 non-null	object
18	move3b	1501 non-null	object
19	move4w	1340 non-null	object
20	move4b	1186 non-null	object
21	White_win%	1884 non-null	float64
22	Black_win%	1884 non-null	float64
23	White_odds	1884 non-null	float64
24	White_Wins	1884 non-null	float64
25	Black_Wins	1884 non-null	float64

```
dtypes: float64(8), int64(4), object(14)
```

```
memory usage: 382.8+ KB
```

```
None
```

	Unnamed: 0	Num Games	Perf Rating	Avg Player	Player Win % \
count	1884.000000	1884.000000	1884.000000	1884.000000	1884.000000
mean	941.500000	1846.019108	2235.945860	2236.531847	35.159395
std	544.008272	2739.103462	135.260392	127.723711	9.077139
min	0.000000	100.000000	1583.000000	1577.000000	7.500000
25%	470.750000	314.750000	2157.000000	2166.000000	28.900000
50%	941.500000	788.500000	2252.500000	2255.000000	35.100000
75%	1412.250000	2225.000000	2329.000000	2326.000000	41.125000
max	1883.000000	22482.000000	2536.000000	2492.000000	77.600000

	Draw %	Opponent Win %	White_win%	Black_win%	White_odds \
count	1884.000000	1884.000000	1884.000000	1884.000000	1884.000000
mean	29.914066	34.928715	39.745701	30.342410	1.448725
std	8.043043	9.180450	7.671108	7.976305	0.673991
min	4.000000	6.700000	13.600000	6.700000	0.308642
25%	24.500000	28.900000	34.800000	25.100000	1.037277
50%	29.400000	34.650000	39.100000	29.900000	1.325008
75%	34.625000	40.525000	44.000000	35.000000	1.674116
max	68.500000	77.500000	77.600000	64.800000	9.810127

	White_Wins	Black_Wins
count	1884.000000	1884.000000

```
mean    708.835970    557.051955
std     1037.027669    866.788831
min      21.000000      8.946000
25%     124.740500     91.026250
50%     310.274000    230.952000
75%     824.243000    651.262750
max     8295.858000   8700.534000
Unnamed: 0      0
Opening      0
Colour      0
Num Games    0
ECO         0
Last Played  0
Perf Rating  0
Avg Player   0
Player Win % 0
Draw %       0
Opponent Win % 0
Moves        0
moves_list   0
move1w       0
move1b       15
move2w       70
move2b      140
move3w      256
move3b      383
move4w      544
move4b      698
White_win%   0
Black_win%   0
White_odds   0
White_Wins   0
Black_Wins   0
dtype: int64
```

In []: