Chess Patterns Through Data Visualization of 50,000 Lichess Games

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Data: A. Revel from Kaggle





○ 🖒 🗝 www.kaggle.com/datasets/arevel/chess-games

chess_games.csv (4.38 GB)

Compact Column

8 of 15 columns Y

About this file

This csv file contains 6.25M chess games.

▲ Event Game type	▲ White White's ID	▲ Black Black's ID	▲ Result Game Result (1-0 White wins) (0-1 Black wins)	# WhiteElo White's ELO	# BlackElo Black's ELO	△ Opening Opening name	△ AN Movements in Movetext format.
Blitz 37% Classical 24% Other (2405818) 38%	118945 unique values	115946 unique values	1-0 50% 0-1 46% Other (240218) 4%	737 3110	728 3108	Van't Kruijs Opening 2% Scandinavian Defe 2% Other (6010845) 96%	6188849 unique values
Classical	eisaaaa	HAMID449	1-0	1901	1896	Slav Defense	1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. e3 a6 4. Nf3 e5 5. cxd5 e4 6. Ne5 cxd5 7. Qa4+ Bd7 8. Nxd7 Nxd7 9. Nc3 Nf6 10.
Blitz	go4jas	Sergei1973	0-1	1641	1627	King's Pawn Opening: 2.b3	1. e4 e5 2. b3 Nf6 3. Bb2 Nc6 4. Nf3 d6 5. d3 g6 6. Nbd2 Bg7 7. g3 Be6 8. Bg2 Qd7 9. 0-0 0-0 10. c3
Blitz tournament	Evangelistaizac	kafune	1-0	1647	1688	Scandinavian Defense: Mieses- Kotroc Variation	1. e4 d5 2. exd5 Qxd5 3. Nf3 Bg4 4. Be2 Nf6 5. Nc3 Qd8 6. 0-0 Nc6 7. Bc4 e6 8. h3 Bh5 9. d3 Bd6

Feature Engineering

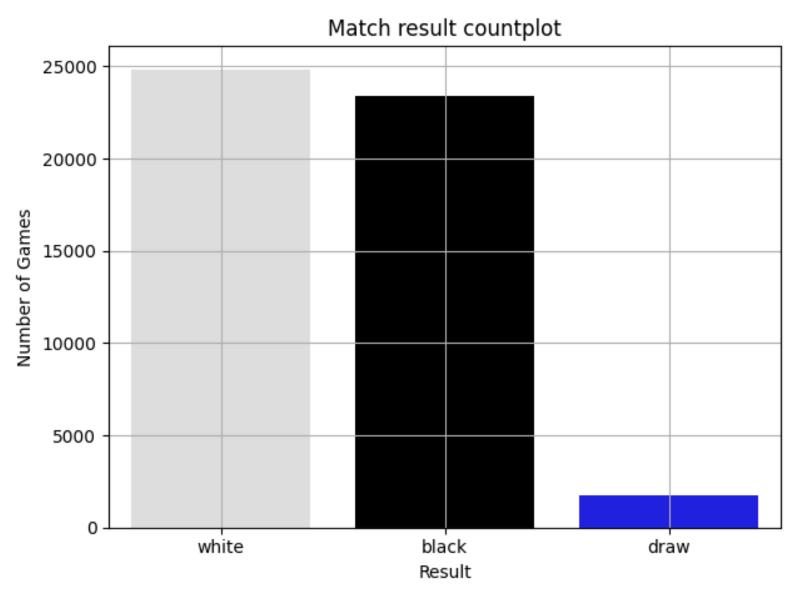
- Created 19 new columns
- Main ones:
 - First turn someone castles (minimum: 4 turns)
 - First turn someone captures a piece
 - First turn someone moves their queen
 - Type of castle each player performed (Kingside, Queenside, Neither)
 - Total checks
 - Total captures (maximum: 30)
- '1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Qe7 3. Bb5 Nc6 4. O-O Nxe4 ...'

Feature Engineering

All new features created

- first_castle_color The color of the first player to castle.
- first_castle_turn The earliest castle turn in the game by either player.
- white_castle The type of castle performed (long, short, or neither) by white.
- black_castle The type of castle performed (long, short, or neither) by white.
- first_white_capture The turn of the first white capture.
- first_black_capture The turn of the first black capture.
- first_capture_turn The earliest capture turn in the game by either player.
- first_capture_color The color of the player who made the first capture.
- num_white_captures Total number of captures by white.
- num_black_captures Total number of captures by black.
- total_captures Total number of captures in the game (white + black).
- num_white_checks Total number of checks by white.
- num_black_checks Total number of checks by black.
- total_checks Total number of checks in the game (white + black).
- first_white_queen_move Turn of white's first queen move.
- first_black_queen_move Turn of black's first queen move.
- first_queen_move_turn Earliest queen move turn in the game by either player.
- first_queen_move_color The color of the player who moved the queen first.

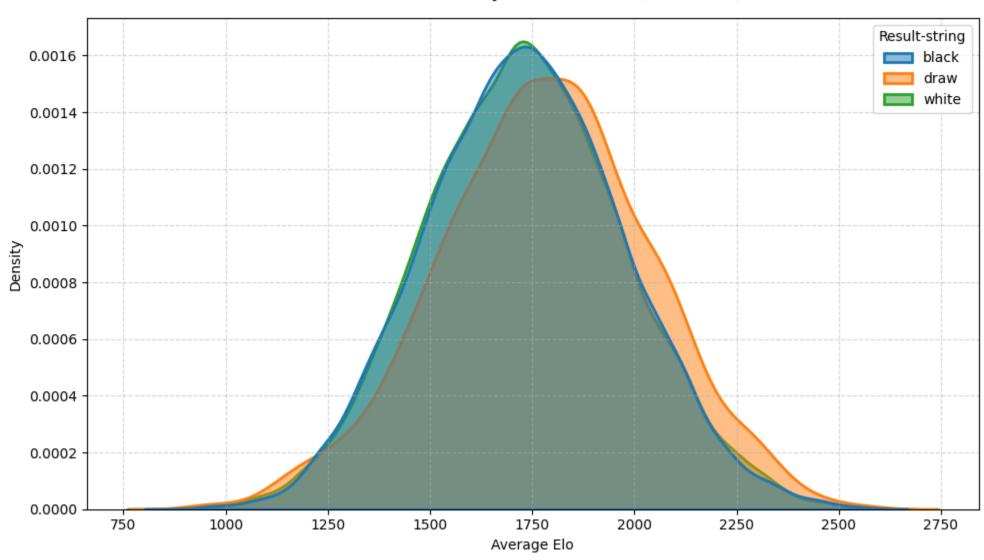
Simple Bar plot



Conclusion: White wins at a higher rate than black, and draws are relatively uncommon.

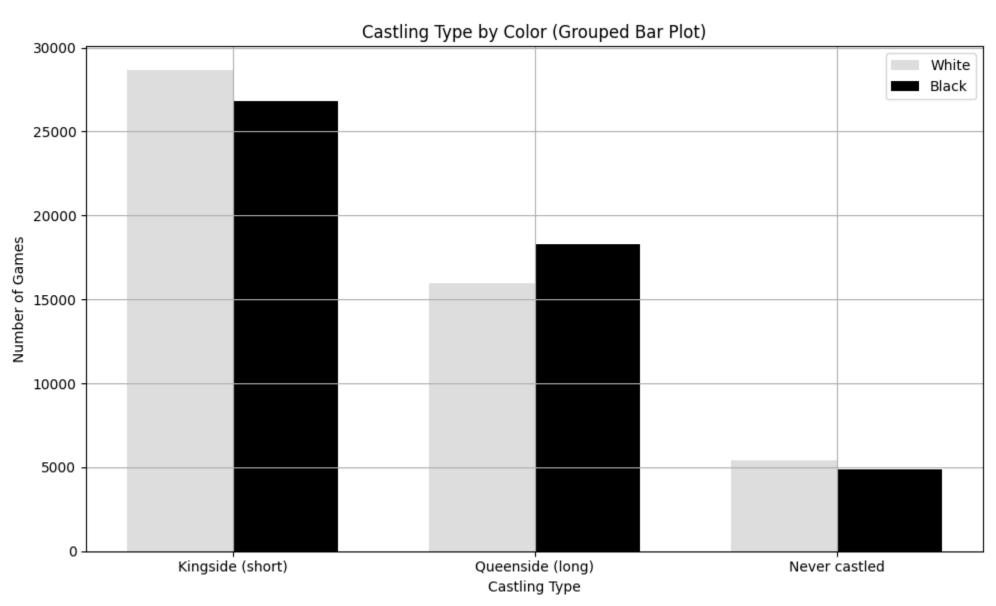
Area plot

Elo Distribution by Game Result (Area Plot)



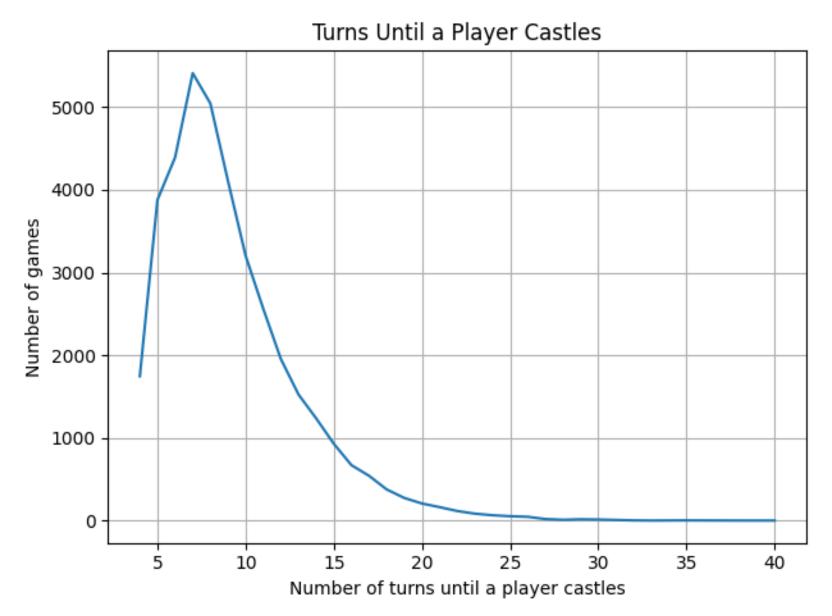
Conclusion: Higher rated players tend to draw games more often.

Grouped bar plot



Conclusion: Black tends to castle queenside more often than white.

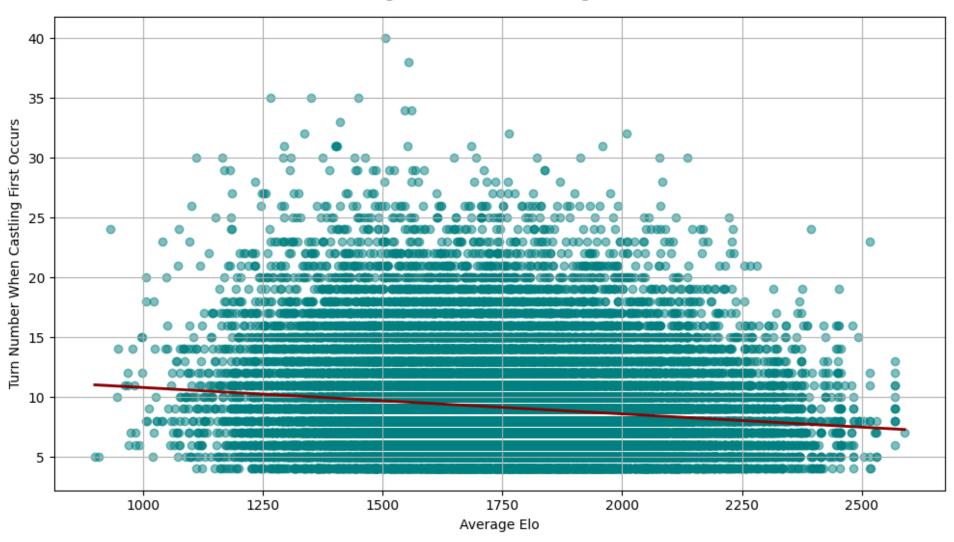
Line plot



Conclusion: Turn 7 is the most common turn for either player to be the first one to castle.

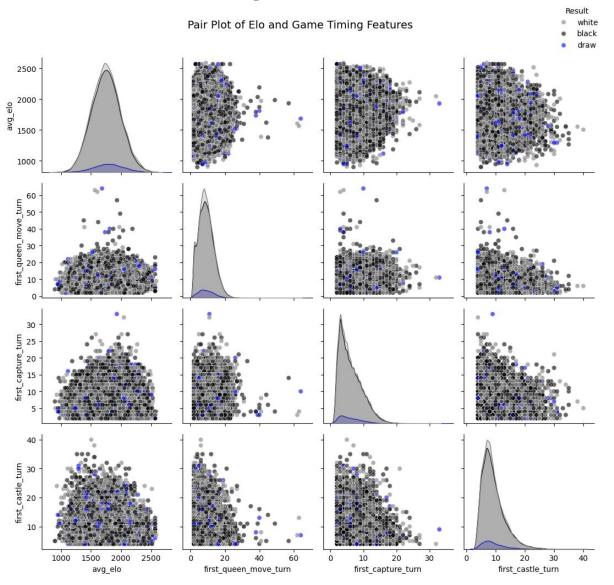
Reg plot

Avg Elo vs. First Castling Turn



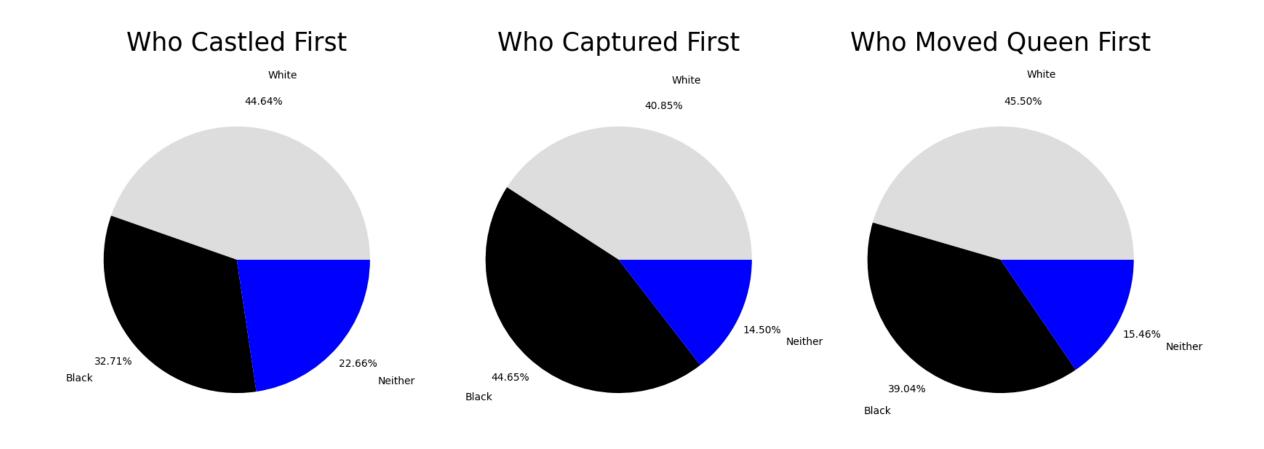
Conclusion: Higher rated players tend to castle earlier.

Pair plot



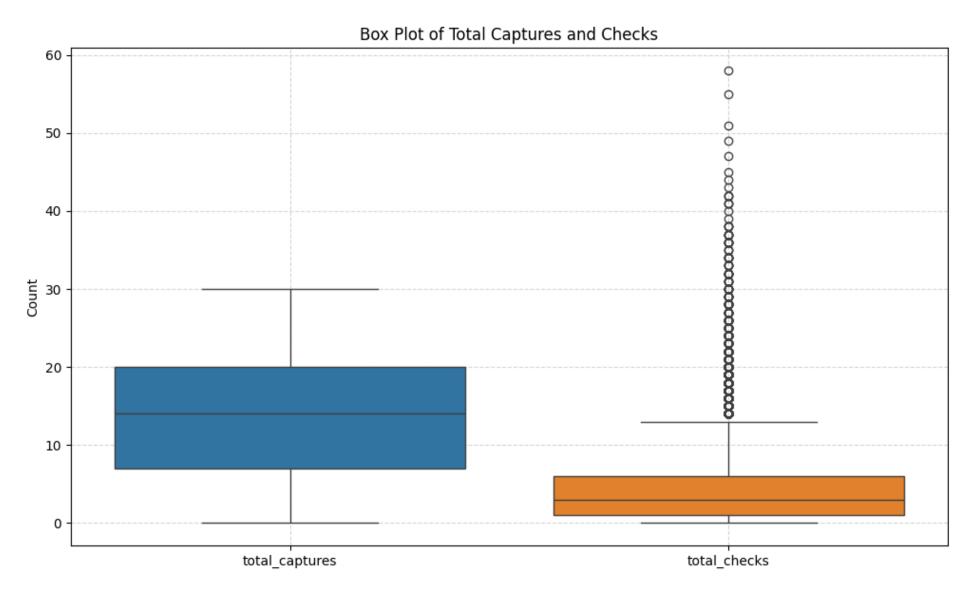
Conclusion: First capture and first castle are negatively related, and first queen move and first castle are negatively related.

Pie charts



Conclusion: White tends to castle and move their queen first, but black tends to capture the first piece.

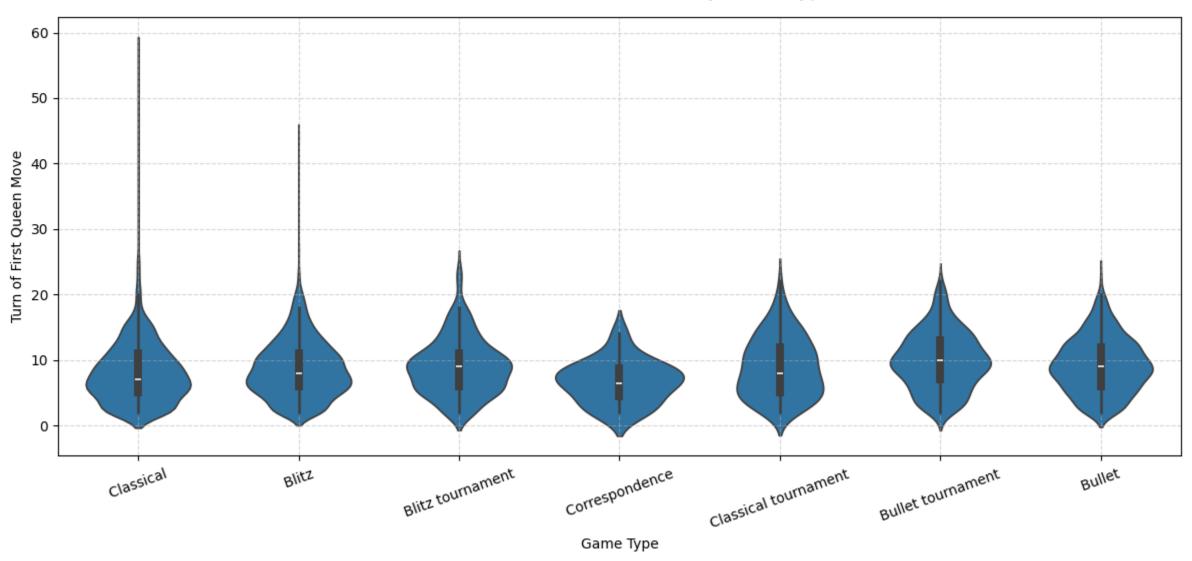
Box plot



Conclusion: Total captures is roughly evenly distributed, while total checks are skewed right with outliers.

Violin plot

Turns Until a Queen is Moved by Game Type



Conclusion: A queen is brought out earlier in longer games like Classical compared to short games like Blitz and Bullet.