Bit Board Checkers Game Documentation

Introduction

Description: Bit Board Checkers is a full-functioning classic checkers game. Its implementation allows candidates to compete vigorously on a digital representation of checkers utilizing the standard rules. The game supports both regular and jump moves, including sequences of jumps. Additionally, there is an implementation for Kinging of pieces, allowing players to move forward and backward. This version of checkers calculates each available move and presents it to the user, except when jumps are available. Jumps are considered mandatory to take if they occur, so each user will only have jump options presented to them if they are given. The score of captured pieces is kept and displayed to the players; once a user collects all their opponent's pieces or places their opponent in a position where they cannot move but continue to have pieces on the board, they will automatically forfeit the game.

Fundamental Rules/Features:

- a. Support for single and multiple jumps.
- b. King functionality for backward and forward movement.
- c. Ability to king during a sequence of jumps.
- d. When a king is captured, they will revert to a standard piece.
- e. Win by collecting opponents' pieces and preventing them from moving.
- f. Mandatory jumps move if available.

Purpose: I intend to develop this application to demonstrate and enhance my understanding of bit manipulation in a real-world context. Creating this application increased my comprehension of leveraging bit manipulation to improve the efficiency of my applications and presented my ability to problem-solve and work through a problem from start to finish. Luckily, little information was available to create this specific implementation of a bit of a board game. Requiring me to discover the solution on my own.

Target Audience: Anyone who enjoys a game of checkers.

System Requirements / Tools

Operating System: Cross-Platform

Source Code Language: C++

Integrated Development Environment: VS Code

Compiler: Microsoft Visual C++ (MSVC)

Repository: Github

Installation and Setup

Clone the Repository: git clone https://github.com/ryanMHub/BitboardCheckers.git

Compile the Game: Navigate to the project folder and compile using a C++17 compatible compiler.

Windows:

a. cd BitboardCheckers

b. g++ -o checkers.exe main.cpp Game.cpp Board.cpp -std=c++17

Linux/macOS:

a. cd BitboardCheckers

b. g++ -o checkers main.cpp Game.cpp Board.cpp -std=c++17

Run the Game: After compiling run the game

Windows: checkers.exe

Linux/macOS: ./checkers

Code Structure

Harnessing the object-oriented aspects of C++, this application was broken up into core responsibilities. In addition, classes, structs, constants, and enums were constructed to facilitate easy access for all application parts, utilizing them as libraries. Additionally, all bit manipulation activities have their class called BitUtilities.

Breakdown:

- Checkers.cpp Contains the main function and the overall game controller.
- MoveManager.cpp/.h Is a singleton that handles all the decision-making for determining, presenting, acquiring move, and executing moves
- View.cpp/.h A static class that handles user displays.
- Player.h Is an object used to represent each active player in the game and store player resources.
- o Types.h Contains necessary structs, constants, and Enums used throughout the application.
- o **BitUtilities.cpp/.h** handles all bit manipulation requirements

Game Management

This section of the application handles the core functionality of the checkers game, including initialization, the game flow, and the calling of each subsequent process.

Key Components:

- GameController -
 - Manages the game loop, handling player turns, updating the board, and processing moves with MoveManager. This loop will process until one player is out of pieces or moves.

```
roid gameController(unsigned int* board, unsigned int* kings){
   Player playerOne = Player(PlayerCode::PLAYERONE);
   Player playerTwo = Player(PlayerCode::PLAYERTWO);
   board[playerOne.getCode()] = playerOne.getMain();
   board[playerTwo.getCode()] = playerTwo.getMain();
   kings[playerOne.getCode()] = playerOne.getKing();
   kings[playerTwo.getCode()] = playerTwo.getKing();
   MoveManager * moveManager = MoveManager::getInstance();
   initializeBoard(board); //initialize the starting positions for each players main boards
   PlayerCode current = playerOne.getCode(); //initialize the starting player
   bool running = true; //initialize the state of the game
int scores[] = {0, 0}; //start each player at a score of 0
     TODO: Determine how I'm going to declare winner based on blocked or less pieces
       View::displayCurrentBoard(current, board, kings, scores);
       View::pause();
       View::clear();
       running = moveManager->moveController(current, board, kings, scores);
        //<mark>TODO</mark>: needs to check both king and main boar
       std::tie(scores[0], scores[1]) = checkScore(board, kings);
       running &= (scores[0] == TOTAL_PIECES || scores[1] == TOTAL_PIECES)?false:true;
       current = static_cast<PlayerCode>(BitUtilities::flipNumber(current));
       View::clear();
   gameOver(scores, current);
```

Controls Each Iteration of Game

Board Initialization -

o Set up the initial state of each player's piece at the start of the game.

```
//initialize the game boards of each player with the given array
void initializeBoard(unsigned int* board){
   board[0] = 0x000000FFF; //initialize player 1
   board[1] = 0xFFF00000; //initialize player 2
}
```

Initialize Standard Boards to Starting State

Check Score -

Counts the remaining kings and standard pieces utilizing the bit utility class.
 Returning a tuple of the remaining pieces is deducted from the total pieces. Each value returned represents the number of pieces each player has captured.

```
Player One Player Two
8 8
```

Players Score Display

```
//return each players score by counting
std::tuple<int, int> checkScore(unsigned int* board, unsigned int* kings){
   int playerOne = BitUtilities::countBits(0, board);
   playerOne += BitUtilities::countBits(0, kings);
   int playerTwo = BitUtilities::countBits(1, board);
   playerTwo += BitUtilities::countBits(1, kings);

   return std::make_tuple((TOTAL_PIECES-playerTwo), (TOTAL_PIECES-playerOne));
}
```

Check Score Implementation

• Game Over -

 Determines who and how won the game, builds the required strings, and passes to the View class to display the results to the user.

Determines Who Won Game and How

One of the Game Over Displays

Move Management

The Move Manager is a singleton class responsible for move-related functionality. It determines all available moves, presents them to the user, acquires the user's selection, and executes that move.

Key Components:

• Move Controller - Manages each step through the process of each player's turn. As well as the root of all required collections for the process.

```
//execute all of the required functionality for the move process
bool MoveManager::moveController(PlayerCode current, unsigned int* board, unsigned int* kings, int score[]){
    //initialize int moves, map index to 'Char' increment using above idea, map 'Char' to set of struct move
    unsigned int movesBoard = 0;
    std::map<char, char> indexToChar;
    std::map<char, std::vector<Move>> charToPiece;

    //call function to get moves passing all above as reference.
    buildMovesMap(current, board, kings, movesBoard, indexToChar, charToPiece);

    //if there are no available moves player loses return false for unsuccessful move
    if(movesBoard == 0) return false;

    //display moves with modified displayBoard
    View::displayPlayerMoves(current, board, kings, movesBoard, indexToChar, score);

    char key;
    int index;

    //prompt user for selection
    std::tie(key, index) = getUserSelection(charToPiece);

    //make move on the board
    executeMove(current, board, kings, charToPiece[key].at(index));

    //move was a success
    return true;
}
```

Move Controller Drives Each Step of the Moving Process

Building Moves Mapping - This function steps through each index of a number's bits and
determines if there is a move available for it. Then, it routes it in the proper direction.
After building a vector of all potential moves. Those moves are mapped to their location
on the board using uppercase letters as keys.

```
wold MoveManager::buildMovesMap(PlayerCode current, unsigned int* board, unsigned int* kings, unsigned int% movesBoard, std::map<int, char>% indexToChar, std::map<char, vector<br/>
char moveManager::buildMovesMap(PlayerCode current, unsigned int* board, unsigned int* kings, unsigned int% movesBoard, std::map<int, char>% indexToChar, std::map<char, vector<br/>
kove> moves;<br/>
for(int i = 0; i < 32; i++){<br/>
    if(BitUtilities::checkBit(board[current], i) == 0 && BitUtilities::checkBit(kings[current], i) == 0) continue; //check if there is a piece at the position, if not continue to the next locati<br/>
    Border border = checkBorder(i); //check the position of the piece relative to the borders and store its state<br/>
    bool isKing = BitUtilities::checkBit(kings[current], i); //check if the current piece is a king
```

Initializing Important values

```
//Determine all directions that the current piece can move based on its location
if(border == TOP) | border == RIGHT_TOP) {
    if (border == TOP) | border == RIGHT_TOP) {
        checkHove(current, isKing, border, moves, board, kings, i, (i + steps[0][0][0]));
        checkHove(current, isKing, border, moves, board, kings, i, (i + steps[0][0][1]));
    } else {
        checkHove(current, isKing, border, moves, board, kings, i, (4+i));
    } else if((border == BOTTOM) | border == LEFT_BOTTOM)){
        if (border == BOTTOM) | border, moves, board, kings, i, (i + steps[1][1][0]));
        checkHove(current, isKing, border, moves, board, kings, i, (i + steps[1][1][0]));
        checkHove(current, isKing, border, moves, board, kings, i, (-4+i));
    } else {
        checkHove(current, isKing, border, moves, board, kings, i, ((current == PLAYERONE)?(4+i):(-4+i)));
        if (isKing) checkHove(current, isKing, border, moves, board, kings, i, ((current == PLAYERTNO)?(4+i):(-4+i)));
    } else {
        checkHove(current, isKing, border, moves, board, kings, i, (i + steps[current][((i/4)%2)][0]));
        checkHove(current, isKing, border, moves, board, kings, i, (i + steps[current][((i/4)%2)][0]));
        checkHove(current, isKing, border, moves, board, kings, i, (i + steps[BitUtilities::flipNumber(current)][((i/4)%2)][0]));
        checkHove(current, isKing, border, moves, board, kings, i, (i + steps[BitUtilities::flipNumber(current)][((i/4)%2)][0]));
        checkHove(current, isKing, border, moves, board, kings, i, (i + steps[BitUtilities::flipNumber(current)][((i/4)%2)][1]));
    }
}
```

Determining where to send each index

• Check Move Validity - Checks if the move is valid, a single move, or a potential-jump because there is an enemy within distance.

```
woid MoveManager::checkNove(PlayerCode current, bool isKing, Border border, std::vector
//if there is already the currents player's piece at the destination return
if (BitUtilities::checkBit(board[current], novePosition) || BitUtilities::checkBit(kings[current], movePosition)){
    return;
} else if (BitUtilities::checkBit(board[bitUtilities::flipNumber(current)], movePosition) || BitUtilities::checkBit(kings[BitUtilities::flipNumber(current)], movePosition)){ //if t
    std::vector_int> apponents;
    getJumpMoves(moves, Move(i, -1, false, isKing, apponents), current, board, kings, i, movePosition, BitUtilities::mergeBits(board[BitUtilities::flipNumber(current)], kings[BitU]
} else {
    //else just log a normal move
    std::vector_int> apponents;
    moves.push_back(Move(i, movePosition, false, isKing, apponents));
}
```

Checks Validity routes accordingly

• Handling Jumps - Jumps determination is the most complicated portion of the code base. A recursive depth-first search approach was used to build the graph of each piece that has a single or sequence of jumps available to them. It also makes cases for king directionality and the ability to king during a jump sequence. This process is embodied in four functions: the main driver recursive function getJumpMoves, and three helper functions that determine if it is a valid jump, and the list of opponents that are available for a new location.

```
//recursive function that builds the jump tree for each piece. Stores the individual Move struct for each jump in the moves vector/Nove>.

bool MoveManager: setJumpMoves(std::vector/Nove>. moves, Move move, PlayerCode current, unsigned int* board, unsigned int* kings, int i, int opponent, unsigned int currOpps){

//if no open space or out or bounds return
int dest;

bool success;

std::tie(success, dest) = checkJump(current, board, kings, i, opponent, currOpps);

if(success){

return false;
}
```

Base Case - Test if Jump is Valid

```
//Cycle through available opponents using recursion
bool lastStop = false;
for(auto& opp : opponents){
    //check all leaves if a leaf is successful this is not the last stop.
    lastStop |= getJumpMoves(moves, move, current, board, kings, dest, opp, currOpps);
}
//If no leafs were successful record this jump as the last stop
if(!lastStop) moves.push_back(move);
```

Cycles Through Available Opponents Calling the Recursion for Each Opportunity

```
//checks if the jump is successful returning a success flag and the index of the landing location in a tuple.

std::tuplecbool, intr MoveManager::checkDump(PlayerCode current, unsigned int* board, unsigned int* kings, int i, int appRosition, unsigned int appMap)(
int det - 1;
bool success = true;
Border border = checkBorder(i);
int row = (i/4)%2;
int diff = abs(appRosition-i);

if(border == LEFT || border == LEFT_BOTTOM){
    dest = (i.oppRosition)?(i*9):(i-7);
} else if(border == RIGHT || border == RIGHT_OM){
    dest = (i.oppRosition)?(i*9):(i-9);
} else {
    if(diff > 4) {
        dest = (i.oppRosition)?(i*7):(i-9);
} else if(diff < 4) {
        dest = (i.oppRosition)*(i*7):(i-7);
} else {
    if(diff < 4) {
        dest = (i.oppRosition)*(i*7):(i-7);
} else {
    if(diff < 4) {
        dest = (i.oppRosition)*(i*7):(i-7);
} else {
    if(diff < 4) {
        dest = (i.oppRosition)*(row == 0)(i*7):(i-9):(i-7));
        success &= (i(i*4 == 0 || i*4 == 3)); //food: NOT sure if works. prevents the edge cases that are not on the border but the adjacent side preventing attempt to jump over opp
}

//determine if dest is in bounds
success &= (idest < 31)&&(dest > 0);
//determine if dest is open
success &= (idest < 31)&&(dest) open
success &= (idest < 31)&&(dest) open
success &= (idest < 31)&&(dest) open
//return results
return std::make_tuple(success, dest);
```

Checks the Location of the Piece Relative to its Jump Location to Determine if it is a Success

```
tuple<bool, std::yector<int>> MoveManager::checkForOpponent(PlayerCode current, bool isKing, unsigned int oppNap, int i) {
    bool success = false;
    std::yector*int> oppPositions;
    int locPoInt = -1;
    Border border = checkBorder(i);

if(border == TOP) | border == RIGHT_TOP) {
    if(border == TOP) | border == RIGHT_TOP) {
        if (border == TOP) | border == RIGHT_TOP) {
        if (border == TOP) | border == RIGHT_TOP) {
        if (border == TOP) | border == RIGHT_TOP) {
            if (border == TOP) | border == RIGHT_TOP) {
            if (border == TOP) | border == RIGHT_TOP) {
            if (border == BOTTOM) | border == LEFT_RIGHT_TOP) {
            if (border == BOTTOM) | border == LEFT_RIGHT_TOPPONENT((i + steps[a][a][a]), oppNap, oppPositions);
            success |= MoveManager::registerOpponent((i + steps[a][a][a]), oppNap, oppPositions);
        } else {
            is success |= MoveManager::registerOpponent((i + steps[a][a][a]), oppNap, oppPositions);
        } else if (border == LEFT_RIGHT_TOPPONENT((current == PLAYERONE)*(4+i):(-4+i)), oppNap, oppPositions);
        if (string) success |= MoveManager::registerOpponent(((current == PLAYERONE)*(4+i):(-4+i)), oppNap, oppPositions);
        if (string) success |= MoveManager::registerOpponent(((i + steps[current][((i/A)*2)][a]), oppNap, oppPositions);
        if (string) |
            success |= MoveManager::registerOpponent(((i + steps[current][((i/A)*2)][a]), oppNap, oppPositions);
        if (string) |
            success |= MoveManager::registerOpponent(((i + steps[sutrilities::flipNumber(current)][((i/A)*2)][a]), oppNap, oppPositions);
        }
        return make_tuple(success, oppPositions);
}
```

Similar to the Build Move Map, the Location of the Piece Determines if There are Opponents Adjacent and Adds Them to a Vector

• User Selection - All available moves and jumps are presented to the user using uppercase letters to represent the piece's destination. The user selects a letter used as a key to determine all the pieces and the captured enemies on that move. The user then selects the desired move they would like to make. This selection is then used to execute the move.

The user is prompted for a letter and then a number. Basic input validation is implemented.

Display of letters to choose from to move

```
Enter the letter of the desired move. _>>> a

Below is a list of pieces that can move to your selection.

0 -- G3
----->
```

Prompting the user to select a specific move

• Execute Move - The move is processed after the user has been presented with available moves and chooses a selection. In this process, the pieces' bit index is flipped at the starting and ending points. If there are opponents captured, their bit indexes will be turned off. Additionally, if a piece lands on its base, it will be kinged, as well as if it was kinged during a jump sequence.

```
//filips all the required bit per move based on the Move struct that is passed to the func
void MoveManager::executeNove(PlayerCode current, unsigned int* board, unsigned int* kings, Move move){
    //determines if the player's piece needs to flip the kings board or main board
    if(move.mustking){
        swapPosition(current, board, move);
        kingPiece(current, board, kings, move.end);
    } else if(move.isking) swapPosition(current, kings, move);
    else swapPosition(current, board, move);

//filip all opponents bits that are captured during the move
    if(move.jump){
        for(autok opp : move.opponent){
            if (BitUtilities::flipNumber(current)], opp)) board[BitUtilities::flipNumber(current)] = BitUtilities::flipNumber(current)]        }

        //king the player's piece if necessary
        if(!move.isking){
            Bonder border = checkBorder(move.end);
            if(checkBase(border, current)) kingPiece(current, board, kings, move.end);
        }
}

//checks if piece is in base
```

All that hard work is finally executed.

View Management

The View class is static and primarily responsible for all console displays. It displays the board, scores, player turn, labels, headers, etc. Additionally, it implements color coding and renders all board states.

Key Components:

• **Display Board** — Renders the board based on the given parameters. It will register the location of both players' standard and king pieces, potential moves based on each player's turn, the score of the game, and the board layout.

This function is leveraged by other functions dependent on its use case.

• **Display Current Player**—This displays to the users whose turn it is. It also displays the characters and colors of that player's pieces.

Players Turn Code

```
<______Player One { a , ¥ } Turn_____>
```

Presentation to user

• **Display Current State and Moves** - The different functions display the board by accessing the displayBoard function. One shows the game's current state, and the other shows the game's current state, including the player's available moves.



Including the moves



Current Game State

• **Display Winner** - Receives the given strings from the game controller and displays those parameters to the user.

Winner

 Color Coding - A switch statement combined with an Enum of color names with their indexes assigned to the index of a string array that contains the ANSI escape codes for a given character. So, this function is called using the Enum color name, and the ANSI code is returned.

Switch Selector

```
const string View::colorSequence[4] = {"\033[32m", "\033[34m", "\033[31m", "\033[39m"}; //contains the const ansi escape codes for colors
```

Codes

• Pause and Clear - These two functions serve a general purpose. One pauses the screen, waiting for a button to be pressed, and the other clears the screen.

```
//pause the screen and wait for user to press a key
void View::pause(){
   cout << "Press Any Key.....";
   cin.get();
}

void View::clear(){
   cout << "\033[2J\033[H";
}</pre>
```

Player Object

The player class contains all the essential data structures related to each player. As well as the index code for each player.

Key Components:

- Main and King boards These unsigned integers are used to represent the location of the
 player's pieces, allocated to the instance of each player. They are initialized to 0 until the
 game modifies them at another point. These integers are referenced to an array in the
 game controller that allows them to be modified throughout the game process.
- **Player Code** This is an Enum value that represents the index for the player throughout all game-related arrays.
- Constructor Builds the object.

```
class Player {
private:
    unsigned int main; //main player board for regular pieces
    unsigned int king; //king player board for all kinged pieces
    PlayerCode playerCode; //playerCode is used for index selection

public:
    Player(PlayerCode code) : main(0), king(0), playerCode(code) {}

    //get the reference of the main player board
    unsigned int& getMain() { return main; }
    //return the reference of the king board
    unsigned int& getKing() { return king; }
    //return playerCode
    PlayerCode getCode() { return playerCode; }
};
```

Player Class

Shared Types

This header defines all shared data structures and Enums used throughout the game, including player codes, board boundaries, colors, and moves.

Key Components:

- Total Pieces Stores the number of total pieces a player should start with.
- Player Code Represents the index for each player when calling array values.
- Board Boundaries Stores the state that an index is based on its location in the board
- Color Stores the state of color
- Move Struct Stores all the required information to move a piece. Such as start,
 destination, if it is a jump, whether the piece is a king, whether the piece should be
 kinged, and all defeated opponents.

```
//This enum is used to control boundary state
enum Border {
    100,
    800TOM,
    LEFT,
    LEFT_BOHTOM,
    RIGHT,
    RIGHT_TOP,
    OPEN
    3);

//These enums values will represent the color code
enum Color {
    GREEM,
    BULE,
    REO,
    DEFAULT
};

//this struct will store the coordinates of a move
struct Move {
    int start; //starting position of the move
    int end; //ending location of the move
    int ending location of the move
    int ending location of the move
    int end //ending location of the move
    int end //end //end
```

Displays Some of those Shared Properties

Bit Utilities

The BitUtilities class contains all the required helper functions that perform bit manipulation. This is essential for creating an efficient board state for a checkers game. The abilities of these functions range from checking to counting to flipping bits.

Key Components:

• Flip Number—This function accepts an int and returns an int. Its function is to flip the least significant bit. It is primarily used for index flipping on arrays between players.

```
//return flipped bit value
int BitUtilities::flipNumber(int value){
    return value^1;
}
```

LSB Flip

• **Flip Bit** - This function accepts an unsigned int and an int, then returns an unsigned int. Its purpose is to flip the bit at the given index and return. Primarily used for moving and capturing pieces.

```
//return the unsigned int after flipping the bit at the given location
unsigned int BitUtilities::flipBit(unsigned int value, int position){
    return value ^ (1 << position);
}</pre>
```

Given index flip

• **Set Bit** - This function accepts an unsigned int and an int, then returns an unsigned int. It aims to set the bit at the given index to 1 and return. Primarily used for turning bits on.

```
//set bit at given location to 1
unsigned int BitUtilities::setBit(unsigned int value, int position){
   return value | (1 << position);
}</pre>
```

Only turns bit on

• Check Bit - This function accepts an unsigned int and an int, then returns an int. Its purpose is to check if the bit is equal to 1. Returning 1 if the bit is 1 and 0 if the bit is 0. Primarily used for checking if a piece is at that location.

```
//check value of bit return 1 or 0
int BitUtilities::checkBit(unsigned int num, int position){
   return (num & (1 << position));
}</pre>
```

Am I a 1

• **Count Bits** - This function receives an unsigned int and returns an integer based on how many bits are on. Primarily used for determining the score.

```
//counts the number of 1 bits in the given number
int BitUtilities::countBits(int player, unsigned int* board){
   int count = 0;
   for(int i = 0 ; i < 32 ; i++){
        count += (BitUtilities::checkBit(board[player], i))?1:0;
    }
   return count;
}</pre>
```

Cycles through each bit using checkBit

Merge Bits - This function receives two unsigned integers and returns an unsigned int. It
will create a union based on all bits turned on in each integer. Used to merge the
opponents' king and standard piece locations when determining jump moves.

```
//merge the 1's in two unsigned integers and return a new integer.
unsigned int BitUtilities::mergeBits(unsigned int a, unsigned int b){
    unsigned int merged = 0;
    for(int i = 0; i < 32; i++){
        if(BitUtilities::checkBit(a, i) || BitUtilities::checkBit(b, i)) merged = BitUtilities::flipBit(merged, i);
    }
    return merged;
}</pre>
```

Merger

Testing

Many functions were implemented to test the functionality of each feature before proceeding. Additionally, log statements were inserted at critical locations to determine how the system was reacting at each moment without using the debugger. The VS Code debugger was utilized for more complex solutions to determine how the system performed.

Testing the Collections for Move Controller

```
//test selection function
void testSelection(std::tuple<char, int> selection){
    char row;
    int col;
    std::tie(row, col) = selection;
    cout << "Selected Coordinate: " << row << " " << col;
}</pre>
```

Testing user selection

Future Improvements

- I would like to implement a GUI interface
- Al compatibility for Player
- Implement it so Different Chatgpt and other AI systems can compete against each other
- Determine that all edge cases are covered in the code
- Slim down the decision structures
- Refactor until it is perfect

Citations

There was not a plethora of information on how to do this project. I did it solo, utilizing ChatGPT when I had questions primarily on syntax since I had not coded in C++ in a while.