

Chess Winner Prediction

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Introduction

Imagine that we have a chess competition to prepare for and we need to find each player favorite opening move, to increase our chance of winning through data. The main goal of this data science research is to answer the following question:

Can I Predict the winner of a chess match using ML and past games dataset?

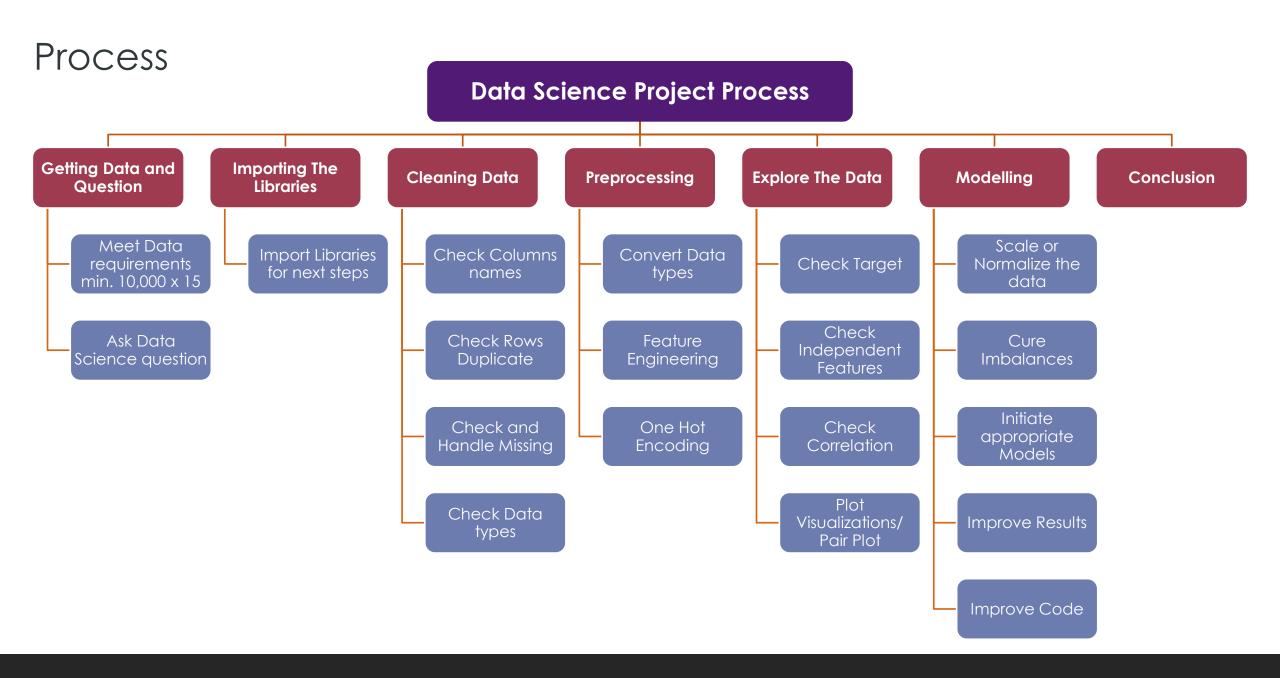
Dataset

The dataset was obtained from Kaggle, it's rich in information which needs to be handled with first before performing nay modellings it contains 20,000 datapoints and 16 features.

Data Feature	Description					
Game ID	System generated game ID.					
Rated (T/F)	Either the game is rated for points or casual					
Start Time	start time of the game					
End Time	end time of the game					
Number of Turns	number of turns the game took					
Game Status	game end status (mate, out of time, draw, resign)					
Winner	White, Black or Draw					
Time Increment	A fixed amount of time (in minutes) assigned at move 0 for the entire game, and increment (in seconds) is the Amount added after each move., more info increment methods					
White Player ID	White player name					
White Player Rating	White player level - the higher the more victories and experience					
Black Player ID	Black player name					
Black Player Rating	Black player level - the higher the more victories and experience					
Moves	All Moves in Standard Chess Notation;					
Opening Eco	Standard Code for opening moves					
Opening Name	A set of moves in the beginning of the game which form into a move					
Opening Ply	Number of moves in the opening phase which belongs to the opening moves					

Tools to be used

Programmin g Language	Data Handling Libraries	Modelling Libraries	Visualizations Libraries
	pandas	XGBoost	matpletlib
python™	NumPy	learn	seaborn



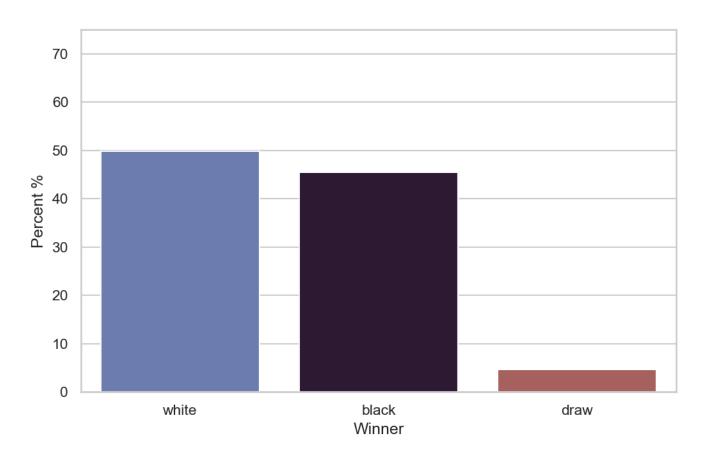
Cleaning Data

- √ 400 + Duplicated data records
- ✓ Converted timestamp feature(created_at, last_move_at) which was in Unix format.
- ✓ Decode increment_code column
- ✓ Shorten opening names which had many sub variations
- ✓ Extracted rating difference for each game
- ✓ Categorized games based on rating average.

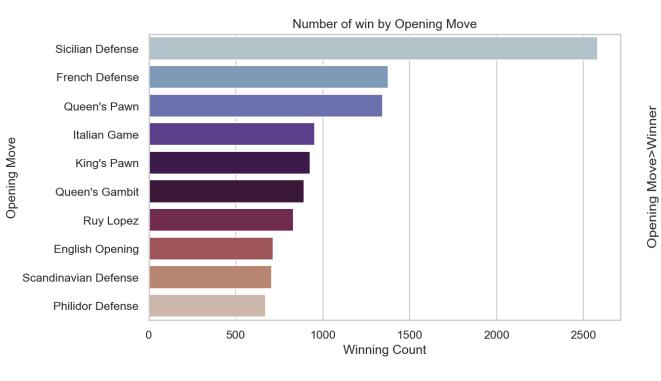
Target data

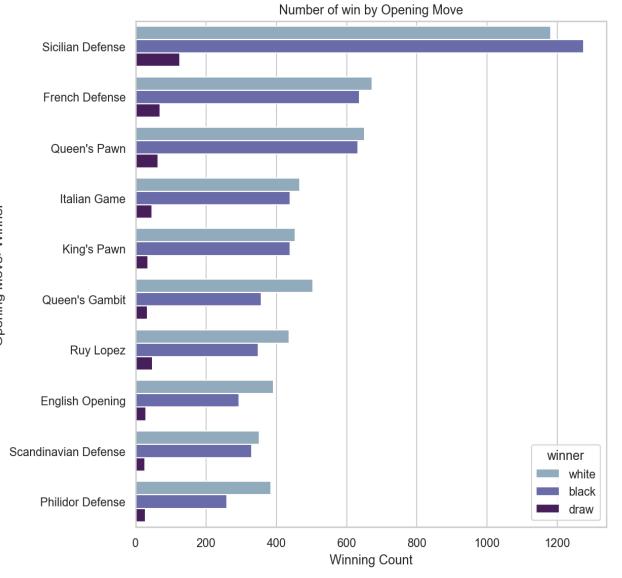
The fight between white and black is a close call, white edges a little bit.

This a multi-classification problem



Opening moves data





Features Correlation Heatmap

rated	1	0.09	0.02	0.0026	0.031	-0.0025	-0.1	-0.1	-0.029	-0.22
turns	0.09	1	-0.057	0.13	0.16	0.055	-0.06	-0.062	0.059	-0.13
winner	0.02	-0.057	1	-0.14	0.12	-0.027	-0.025	-0.026	-0.014	0.007
white_rating	0.0026	0.13	-0.14	1	0.63	0.28	-0.072	-0.023	0.0092	0.072
black_rating	0.031	0.16	0.12	0.63	1	0.26	-0.079	-0.029	0.0072	0.023
opening_ply	-0.0025	0.055	-0.027	0.28	0.26	1	-0.035	-0.014	0.0077	-0.016
game_time	-0.1	-0.06	-0.025	-0.072	-0.079	-0.035	1	0.48	0.1	0.054
increment	-0.1	-0.062	-0.026	-0.023	-0.029	-0.014	0.48	1	0.12	0.072
time	-0.029	0.059	-0.014	0.0092	0.0072	0.0077	0.1	0.12	1	0.00056
rating_diff	-0.22	-0.13	0.007	0.072	0.023	-0.016	0.054	0.072	0.00056	1
	rated	turns	winner	white_rating	black_rating	opening_ply	game_time	increment	time	rating_diff

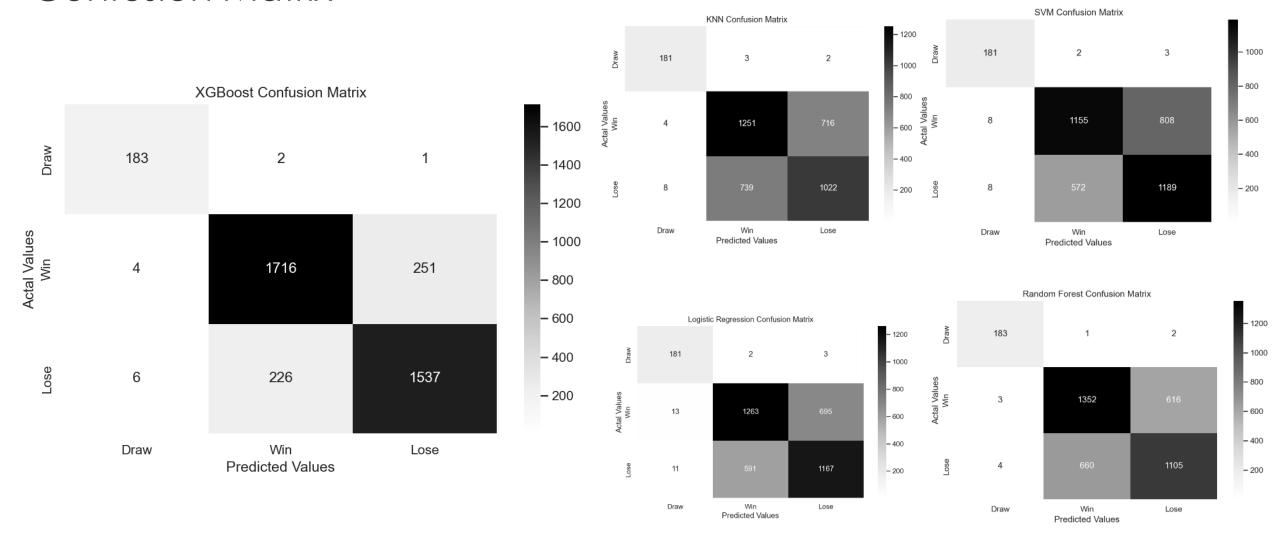
- 0.8

- −0.2

Scorings

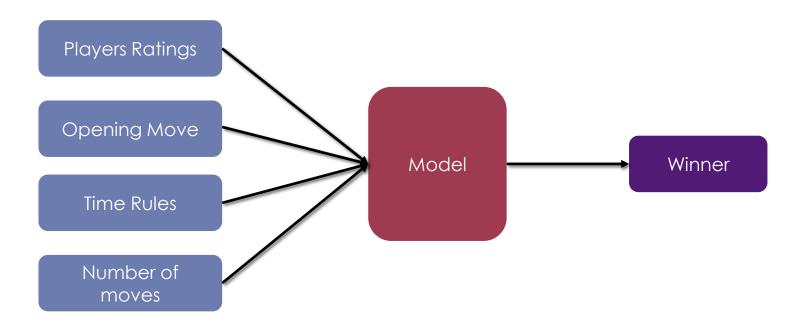
MODELS	ACCURACY SCORE	F1 SCORE
Logistic Regression	0.665053	0.664628
Random Forest	0.67244	0.672021
XGBoost	0.875191	0.875144
SVM	0.643148	0.642504
KNN	0.625064	0.624595

Confusion Matrix



Future Direction

- Connect the model with the original lichess.org API to be updated with realtime data.
- Deploy to production on a webapp using Flask.
- > Apply the model on different sport games.
- Upgrade the model to including detailed movement analysis using on Neural Network models.



Thank you

