Djokovic – Nadal Australian Open 2019 Final

Match analysis

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Conclusion

The Machine won against the Bull in straight sets.

Picture: http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-01/27/c_137779255_68.htm

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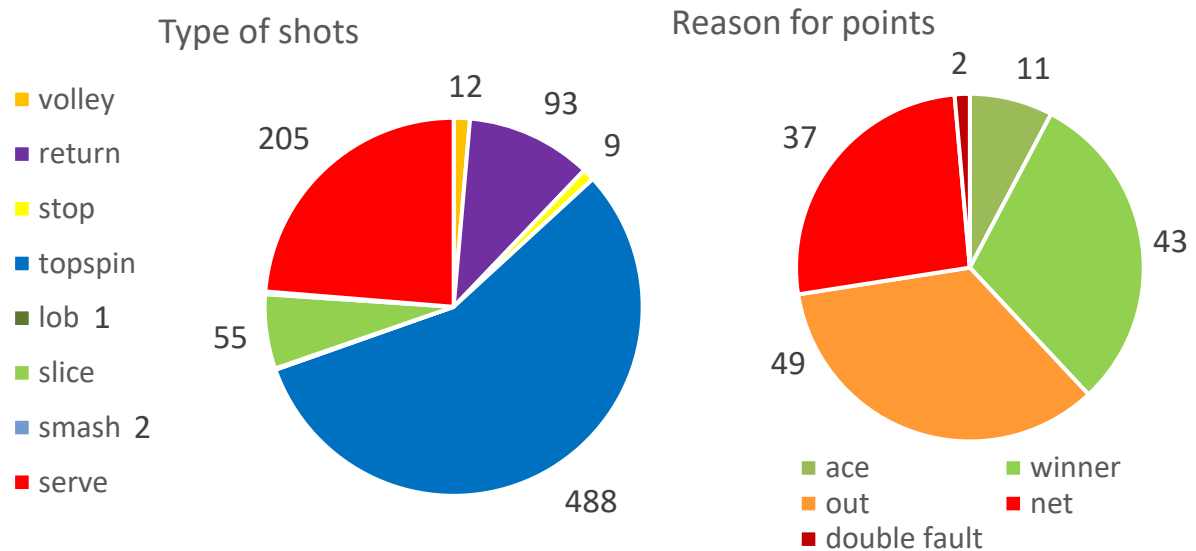| DJOKOVIC	6:3 6:2 6:3	NADAL
8	ace	3
0	double faults	2
72%	1st serve in %	66%
80%	1st serve points won %	54%
84%	2nd serve points won %	56%
26	winners	17
33	errors	53
1/5	volley won	2/7
5/8	break points won	0/1
89	total points won	53

Data

The analysis is based on a unique dataset manually collected by the provider. (It is not from official sources).

- Source: https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/robseidl/tennis-atp-tour-australian-open-final-2019
- As a proof of concept and a tribute to Novac Djokovic and Rafael Nadal, two of the greatest tennis players of all time, **the provider manually annotated each rally and stroke** of their AO Final in 2019.
- It is built hierarchically from **events** to **rallies** to actual **points**.
- The dataset is in **csv** format.
- **Points**: a list of all points played in the final with information about the server, receiver, point type, number of strokes, time of rally, new score of the game.
- **Rallies**: A list of all rallies with Server, Returner, etc.
- **Events**: Each time a player hit the ball, the stroke type, position of the player, and position of the opponent were recorded.
- **Serves**: For each successful serve, which was no failure, the position of the serve in the serve box was recorded (whenever possible).
- The provider has already done the hard part of data cleaning.
- It includes altogether 1,346 rows and 43 columns.
- Serve: Forehand.
- Return: It follows a serve but not clear what kind of shot it is.
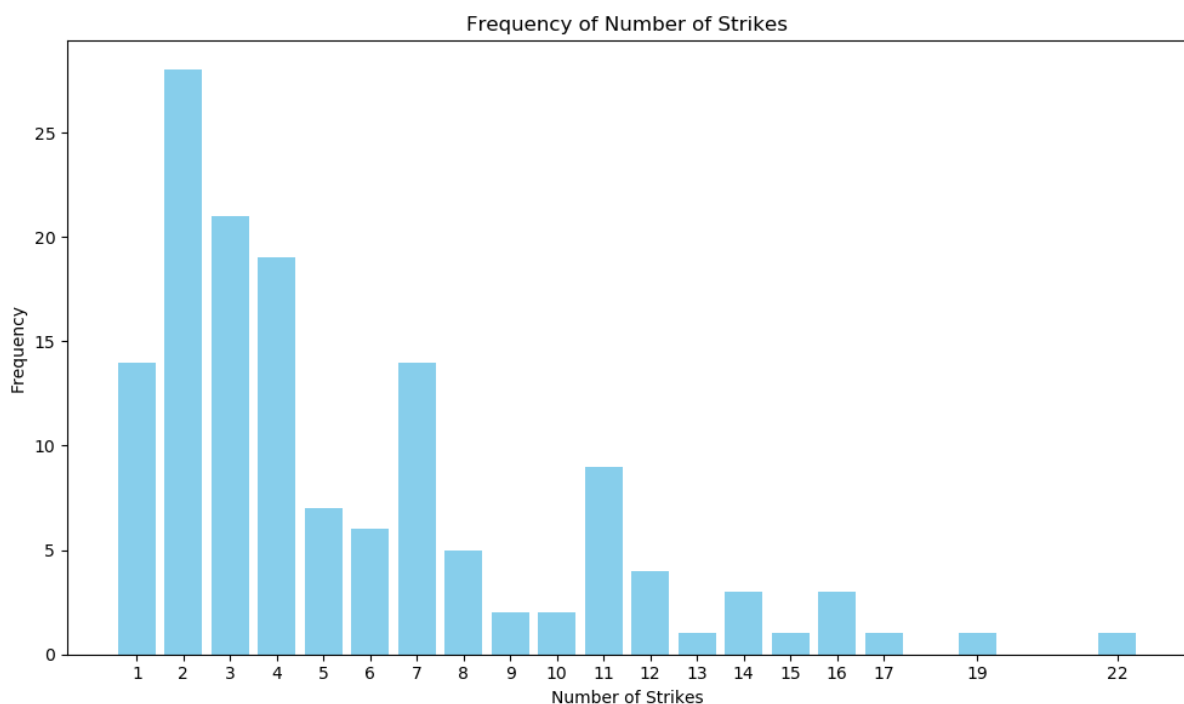- Error: It is not specified whether it was forced or unenforced.

About the match in general

It was not an exciting match.

They mainly hit serves and groundstrokes, with more errors than winners (88 vs. 54).

There were not many long points in this match, with an average of 5.5 shots in 4.2 seconds. The three sets lasted 124 minutes.
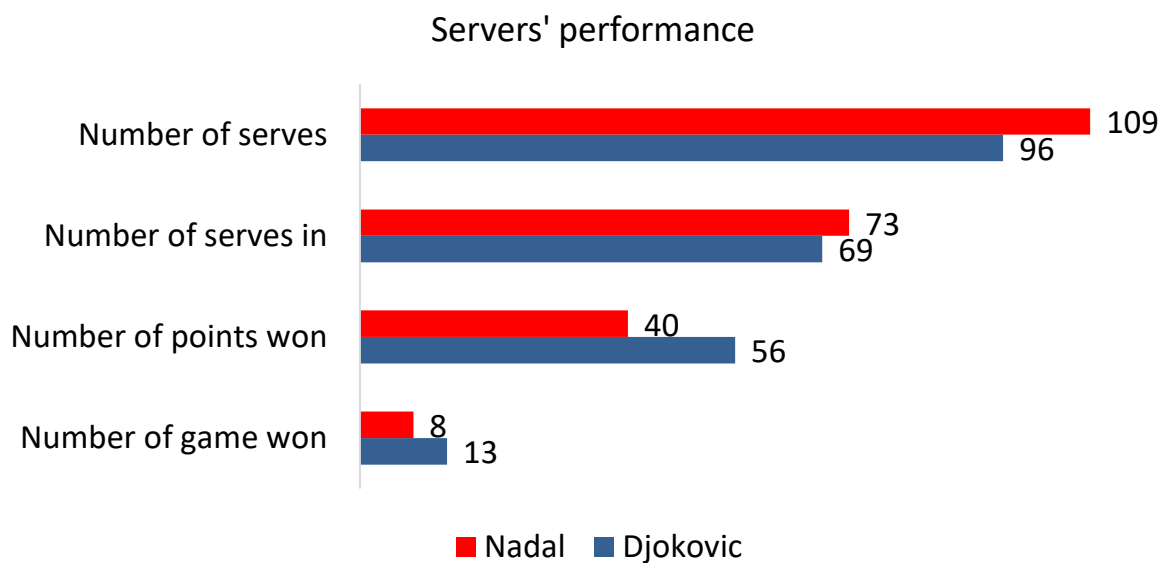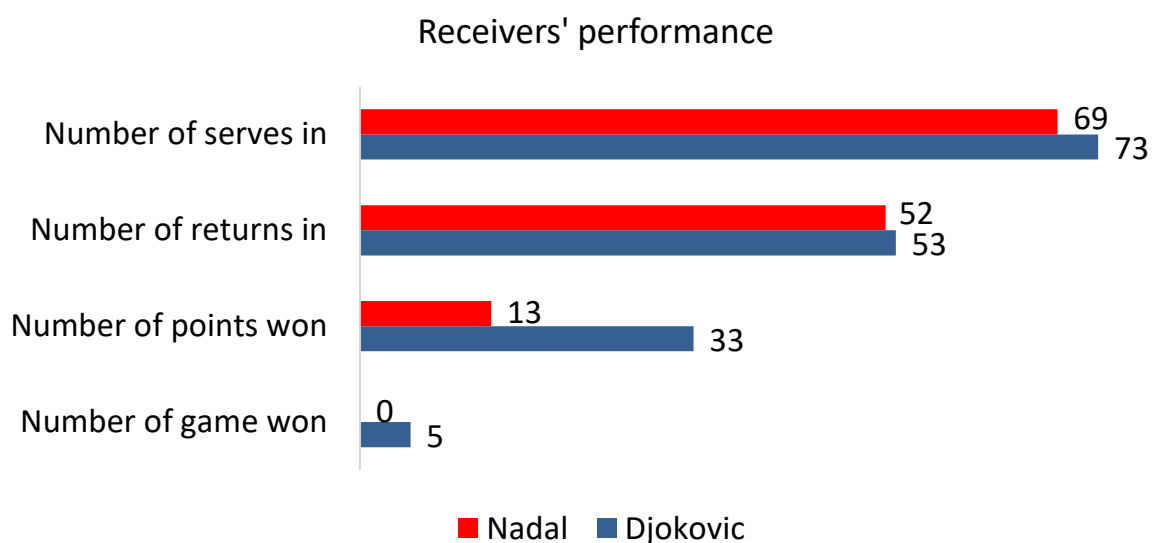
Servers' and receivers' performance

Djokovic was very effective both as a server and as a receiver.

In 81% of the cases, Djokovic won the point after he served in. He won all of his 13 service games.
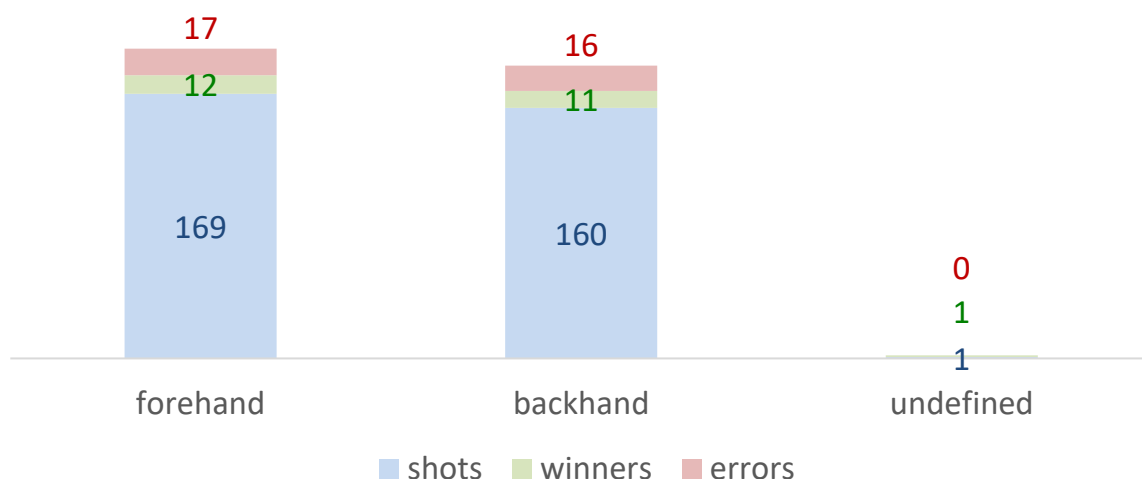
Nadal won half of the points after a successful serve.

Servers' performance

	Nadal	Djokovic
Number of serves	109	96
Number of serves in	73	69
Number of points won	40	56
Number of game won	8	13

Nadal won only the 19% of the points when Djokovic served. He had only one break point during the entire match, but he missed it.

Receivers' performance

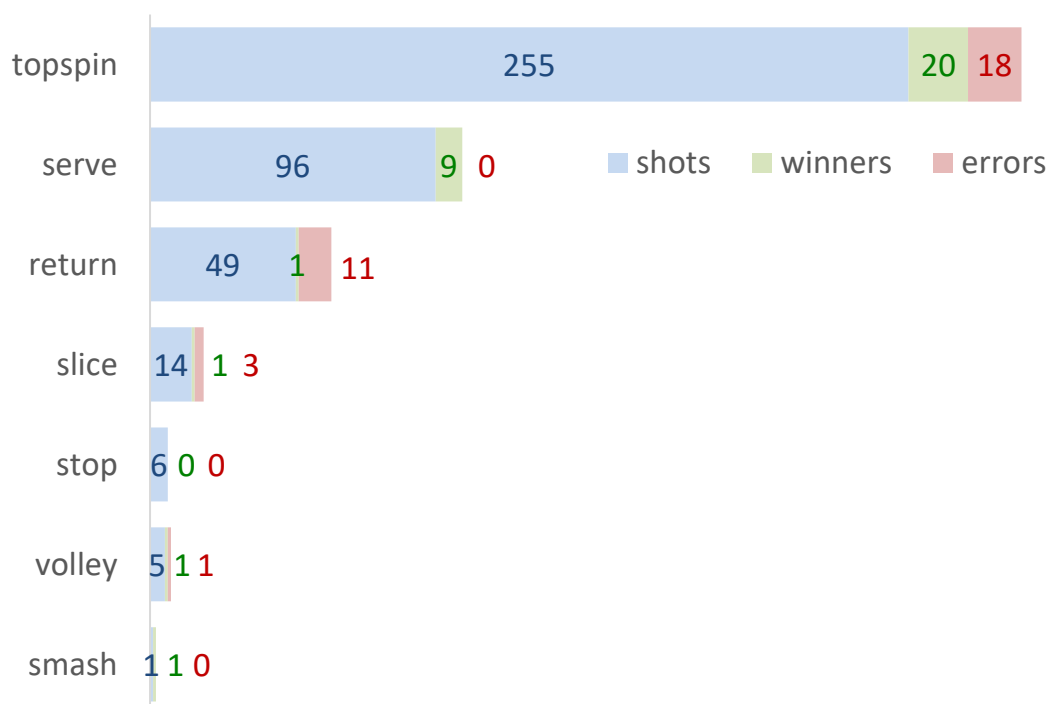|	Nadal	Djokovic
Number of serves in	69	73
Number of returns in	52	53
Number of points won	13	33
Number of game won	0	5

Djokovic's performance in numbers

He was confident in both forehand and backhand groundstrokes.

His performance on both sides was similar, as he used them equally effectively, with errors slightly outnumbering winners.
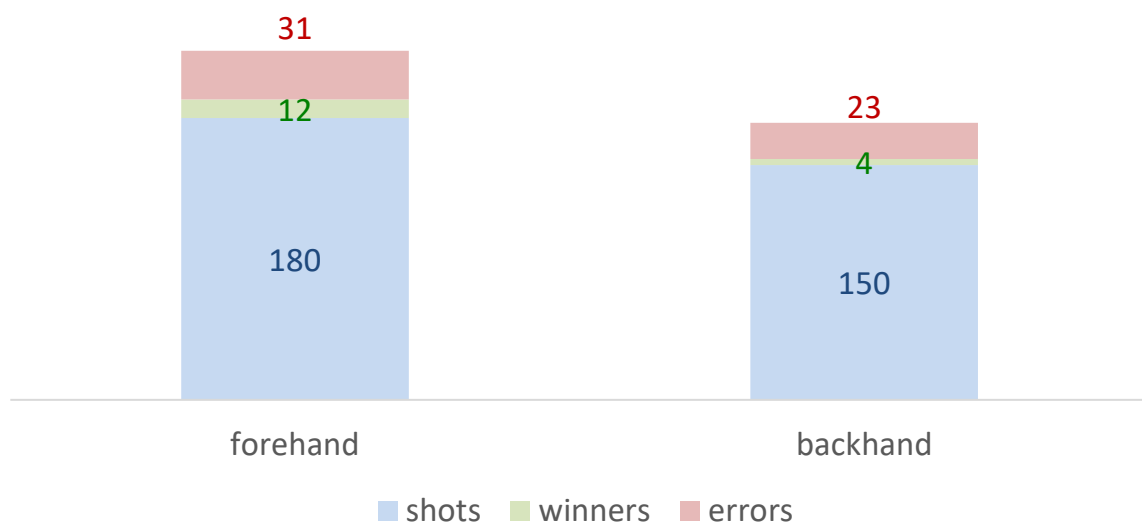

He did not vary his strokes too much, mainly, he hit groundstrokes. Excluding serves, more than 77% of his shots were topspin.
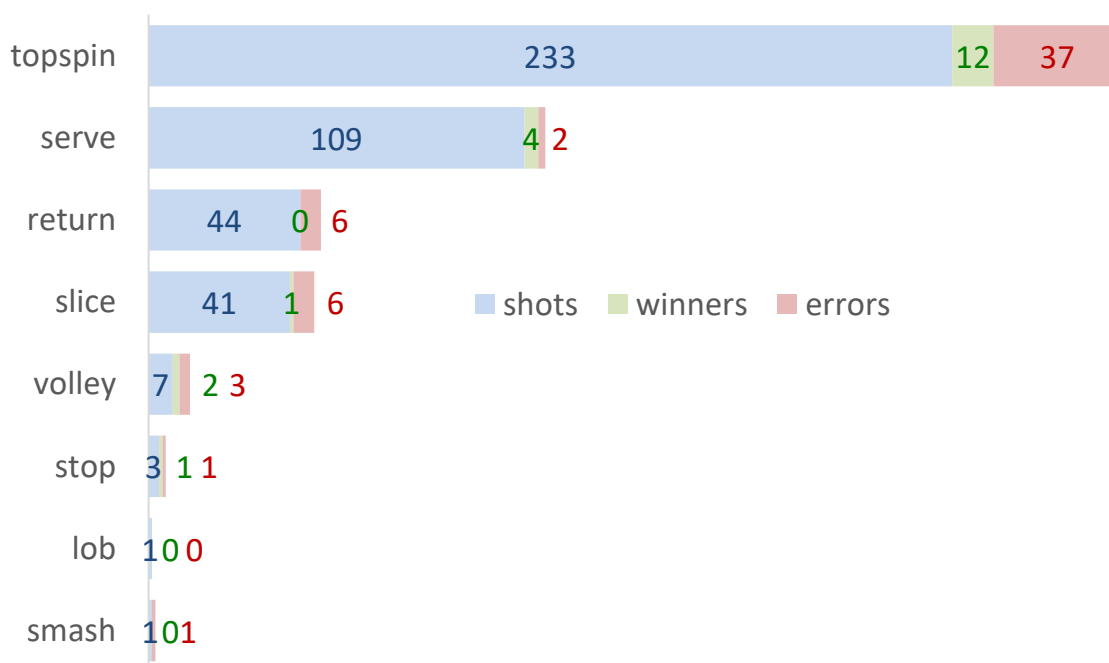
Nadal's performance in numbers

He hit fewer winners and significantly more errors than Djokovic.

While he used his forehand slightly more than his backhand, both were similarly effective. However, he had three times as many errors as winners.

Nadal used more strokes than Djokovic, particularly employing slices to slow down the pace of the ball, although groundstrokes still dominated his game. However, he hit fewer winners and significantly more errors than Djokovic.

The first set in numbers

Nadal won only one point when Djokovic served.

Every figure demonstrates an incredible serving performance and solid offensive play from Djokovic. He won four love games out of his five service games. Winning the set took him 35 minutes.

DJOKOVIC	First set (6:3)	NADAL
4	ace	0
0	double faults	0
70%	1st serve in %	61%
100%	1st serve points won %	64%
83%	2nd serve points won %	56%
8	winners	5
10	errors	16
0/3	volley won	0/1
1/2	break points won	0/0
28	total points won	15

Djokovic's serve and backhand topspin were key in winning points for him. Despite this, Nadal's serve performed relatively well, as Djokovic struggled with returns.

Nadal managed to hit topspin winners exclusively, but he also had a higher rate of misses compared to Djokovic.

Djokovic's winners	forehand	backhand
serve	4	
topspin	1	6

VS

Djokovic's errors	forehand	backhand
return	7	2
volley	1	

Nadal's winners	forehand	backhand
topspin	4	1

VS

Nadal's errors	forehand	backhand
topspin	10	4
slice		2
smash		1

The second set in numbers

Nadal attempted to break Djokovic's dominance but was unsuccessful.

Djokovic maintained a consistent game, while Nadal continued to make numerous errors. Both players' serve figures decreased compared to the first set. Winning the second set took Djokovic 36 minutes.

DJOKOVIC	Second set (6:2)	NADAL
4	ace	1
0	double faults	1
70%	1st serve in %	68%
75%	1st serve points won %	40%
86%	2nd serve points won %	57%
7	winners	7
7	errors	18
0/0	volley won	0/4
2/2	break points won	0/0
30	total points won	15

In the second set, Nadal began to vary his game, but he was unable to put more pressure on Djokovic than before. Djokovic persisted in unleashing groundstrokes.

Djokovic's winners

	forehand	backhand
serve	5	
topspin	5	1

VS

Djokovic's errors

	forehand	backhand
topspin	1	3
return		3

Nadal's winners

	forehand	backhand
serve	2	
topspin	5	
stop	1	

VS

Nadal's errors

	forehand	backhand
topspin	5	7
return	2	
volley	2	1
serve	1	
slice		1

The third set in numbers

Djokovic increased the pace to finish the match.

Djokovic played an offensive game, resulting in more winners and errors compared to the previous set. Although Nadal reached a break point, he failed to capitalize on it. Djokovic clinched the third set in 43 minutes.

DJOKOVIC	Third set (6:3)	NADAL
0	ace	2
0	double faults	1
76%	1st serve in %	68%
68%	1st serve points won %	58%
83%	2nd serve points won %	55%
11	winners	5
16	errors	18
1/2	volley won	2/2
2/4	break points won	0/1
30	total points won	23

Both players diversified their shots. Djokovic made more errors than before, but Nadal was unable to mount a significant challenge.

Djokovic's winners

	forehand	backhand
topspin	5	2
return	1	
volley		1
slice		1

VS

Djokovic's errors

	forehand	backhand
topspin	3	4
return	3	3
slice	2	
volley		1

Nadal's winners

	forehand	backhand
serve	2	
topspin	1	1
volley	1	1
slice		1

VS

Nadal's errors

	forehand	backhand
topspin	6	4
return	3	1
slice	1	2
serve	1	
stop	1	

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