

CHESS ONLINE

By Daniyil Yevtyushkin

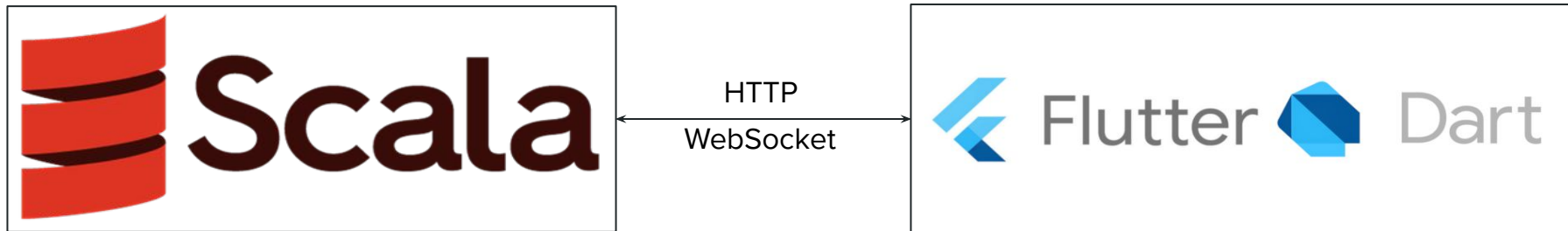
Project's Github: github.com/yevtyushkin/chess_online

Deployed web app: scala-chess-online.web.app

Motivation

- Domain and rules are complex and challenging
- Multiplayer implementation touches most of the taught Scala Bootcamp topics
- Chess is one of my hobbies

Project Components



Backend:

- Chess domain and rules
- Multiplayer:
 - Player creation and authorization
 - Room creation and establishing connections
 - Handling game

Frontend:

- Login page
- Rooms page
- Game and Game Results page
- Supports multiple platforms:
 - Web **(was the main target)**
 - Mobile (iOS, Android)
 - Desktop

Libraries used

- enumeratum
- cats
- cats-effect
- http4s
- fs2
- circe
- scalatest + scalamock

Basic chess rules

- Two sides: White & Black
- 16 pieces for each side of different types
- The goal is to attack the opponent's king so it can't escape (checkmate)

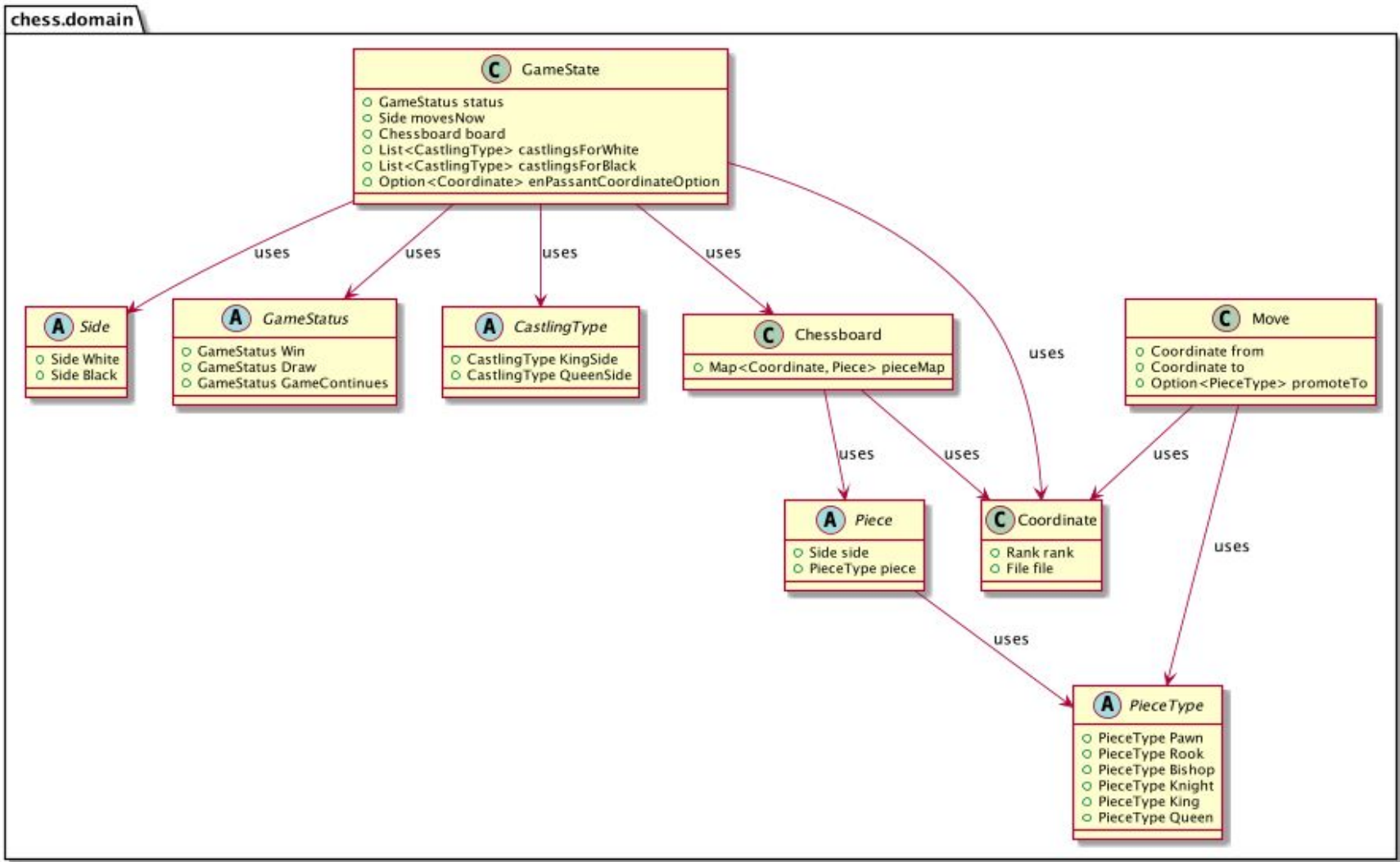
What's implemented

- Basic moves and captures
- Castlings
- Pawn promotions
- Handling En-Passant squares
- Game result determination (Checkmate / Draw)
- Complete validation for moves



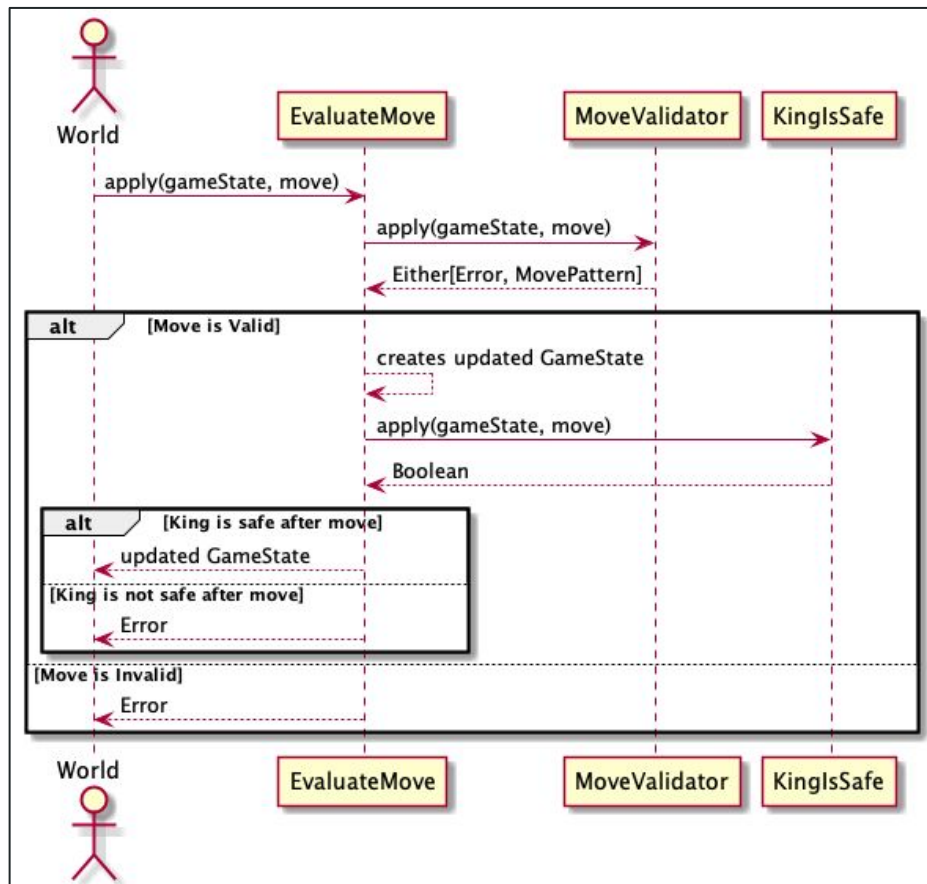
Initial chess board setup

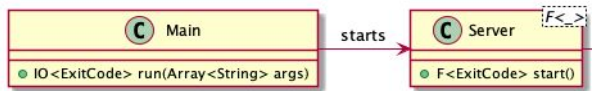
Domain
Modeling



Move validation and evaluation

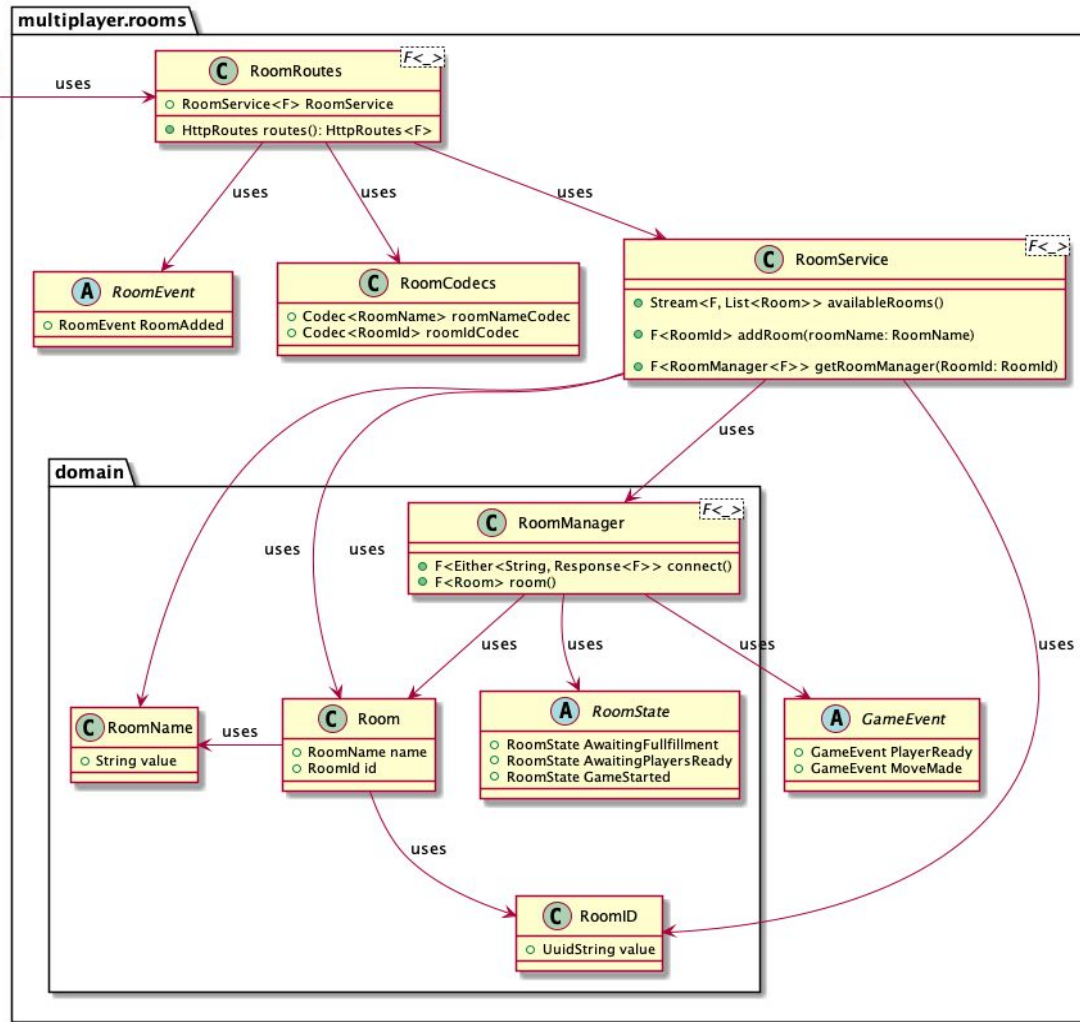
Trait	Responsibility
<u>EvaluateMove</u>	Validates and evaluates the given <u>Move</u> . Returns an updated <u>GameState</u> or an error
<u>MoveValidator</u>	Validates the given <u>Move</u> . Returns a <u>MovePattern</u> or an error
<u>KingsIsSafe</u>	Checks if the <u>King</u> has a safe position. Returns a <u>Boolean</u>





Rooms and game handling

Trait	Responsibility
<u>RoomService</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provides a <u>Stream</u> of available <u>Rooms</u> for joining - Creates <u>Rooms</u> with their <u>RoomManagers</u> - Provides a <u>RoomManager</u> by the given <u>RoomId</u>
<u>RoomManager</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Streams <u>RoomState</u> and its updates to connected players - Handles <u>GameEvents</u> sent by players - Handles connections



Testing

Chess rules implementation has a complete unit test coverage:

- EvaluateMoveSpec.scala (main scenarios):
 - Returns a correct error if validation fails
 - Updates GameState correctly depending on the MovePattern returned by MoveValidator
 - Updates GameState correctly
- ValidateMoveSpec.scala (main scenarios):
 - Returns a correct error if the move is invalid
 - Returns the correct MovePattern if the move is valid (for different piece types)
- KingIsSafeSpec.scala:
 - Returns true/false if the king can/can't be attacked by an enemy piece
- And other domain classes' helper methods

Used mocking for class dependencies

No unit tests for Multiplayer

Tests helped me a lot at early development stages

CI/CD and Deployment

Service used: Github Actions

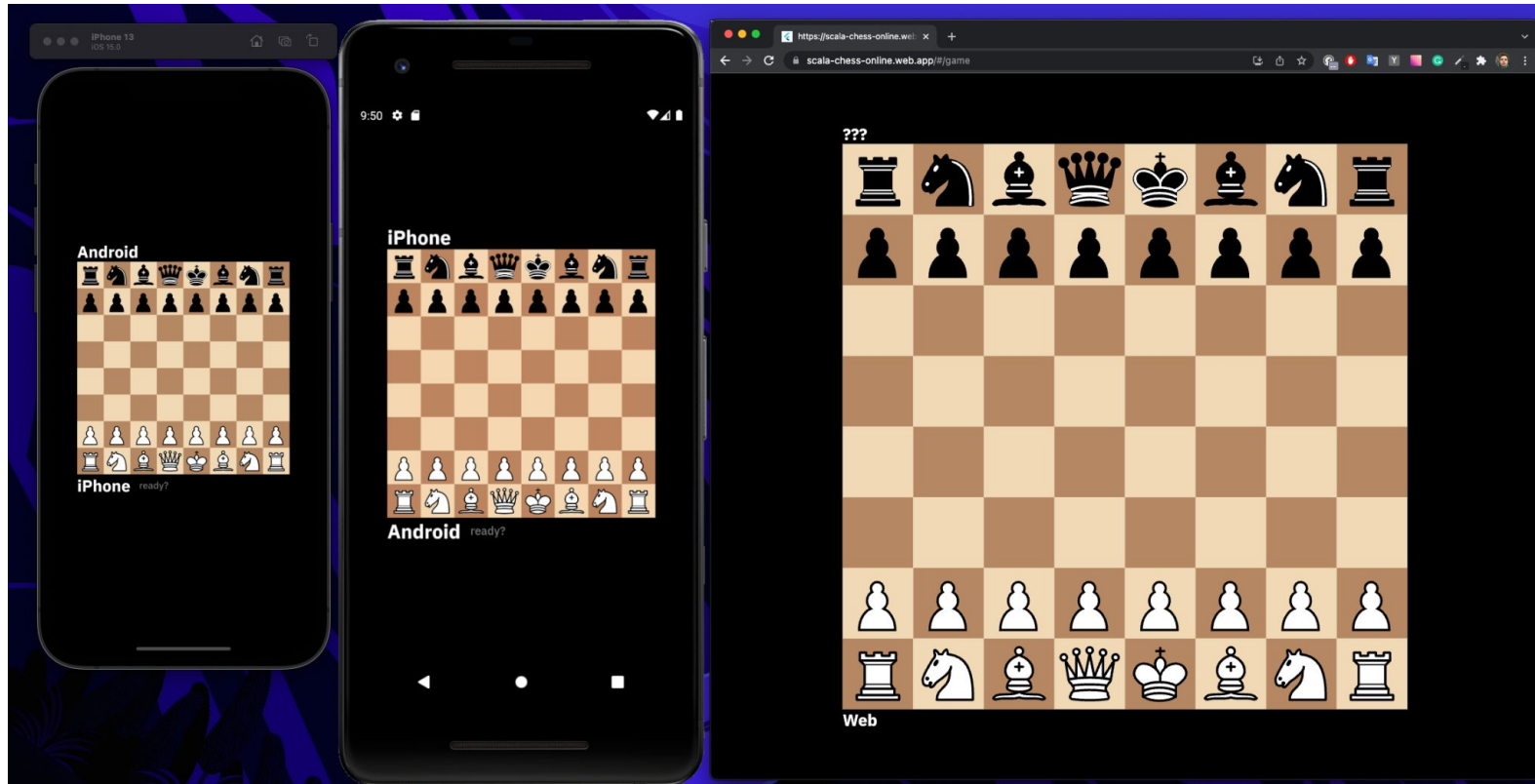
For Backend part:

- Running tests and submitting coverage to Codevocal
- Deployment to Heroku if the workflow succeeds

For Frontend part:

- Running code generation for generated models / codecs
- Compiling the app and its deployment to Firebase

Frontend part



DEMO :)

Interesting code examples

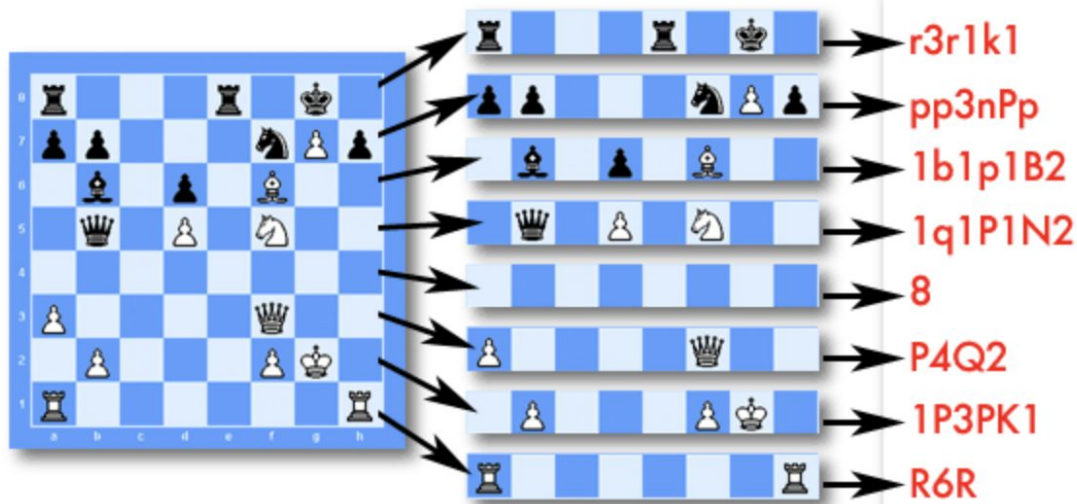
```
def validateForQueen: Either[MoveValidationError, MovePattern] =  
  validateForRook.orElse(validateForBishop)
```

Queen move validation derived from rook and bishop validation

Why? DRY.

Interesting code examples

```
def toFEN: String = {  
  def formatRow(rank: CoordinateRank): String = {  
    @tailrec  
    def loop(  
      acc: String,  
      files: List[CoordinateFile],  
      empty: Int  
    ): String = {  
      files match {  
        case file :: tail =>  
          pieceMap.get(Coordinate(file, rank)) match {  
            case Some(piece) =>  
              val newAcc = acc + s"${formatEmpty(empty)}${formatPiece(piece)}"  
              loop(newAcc, tail, 0)  
            case None => loop(acc, tail, empty + 1)  
          }  
        case Nil => acc + formatEmpty(empty) + (if (rank != `1`) "/" else "")  
      }  
    }  
  }  
  
  def formatPiece(piece: Piece): String = {  
    val tag = piece.pieceType.tag  
    if (piece.side == White) tag else tag.toLowerCase  
  }  
  
  def formatEmpty(empty: Int) = if (empty > 0) empty.toString else ""  
  
  loop("", CoordinateFile.values.toList, 0)  
}  
  
Monoid.combineAll(CoordinateRank.values.reverse.map(formatRow))  
}
```



Converting piece positions to FEN notation

```
s"${board.toFEN} ${movesNow.tag} $availableCastlings $enPassantCoordinate $halfMoveNumber $fullMoveNumber"
```

Full FEN representation of GameState

Why? Compact JSON and compatibility with Frontend libraries.

Future improvements and plans

- There's no end of the game for the RoomManager, so it remains in memory after all players disconnect or the game ends
- Frontend can suddenly disconnect from the WebSocket connection, so reconnection feature for Frontend is a must
- Tests for Multiplayer
- Custom chess modes



Conclusion

- I did a great project that met my expectations. The project was real fun and taught me how to do things in functional Scala.
- The Scala Bootcamp opened me a brand new world of functional programming with Scala. Thanks to all lecturers and organizers for their work and patience!
- Thanks to my mentor Ivan for all his help, knowledge and project suggestions that brought it to the next level!