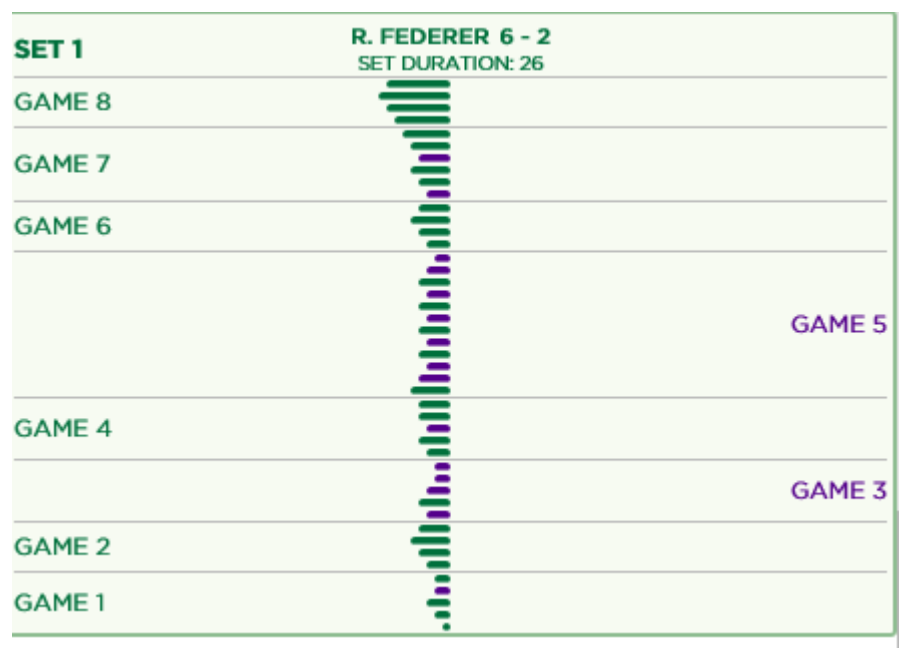


The Wimbledon website notes the following:

As a match continues and as points are won or lost, the momentum of a match changes. This feature [graph] is a visual depiction of the shifts in momentum so at a glance you can spot who has the momentum and how it may have changed throughout the match. Lines are drawn from the midline towards the winning player's "side" of the central axis. The more consecutive points or games that are won by a given player, breaks of serve, the more the momentum is in favor of that player.

Federer is on the left and colored green. Anderson is on the right and colored purple. If a bar is on a player's side it means he has the momentum. The larger the bar, the larger is the momentum.

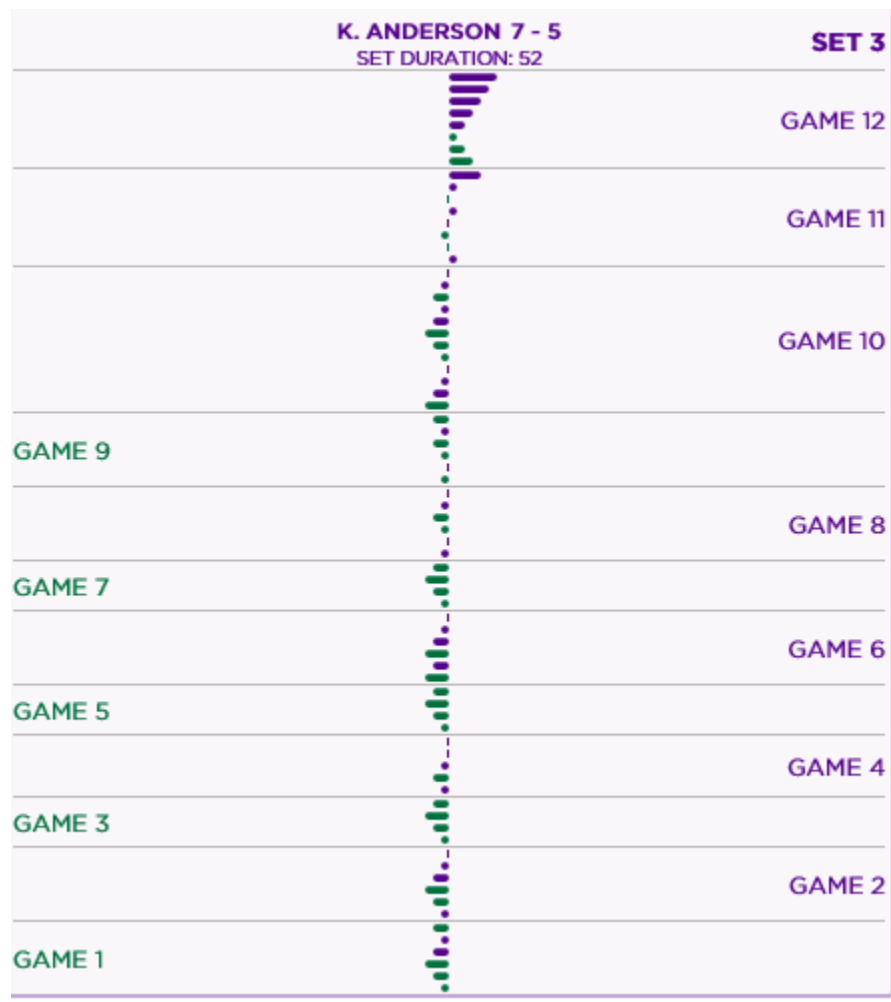
Recall, that my claim is that momentum tells us NOTHING about where a match is going. This is because top pros are continually RESETTING between points, i.e. making adjustments. The past does NOT determine the future.



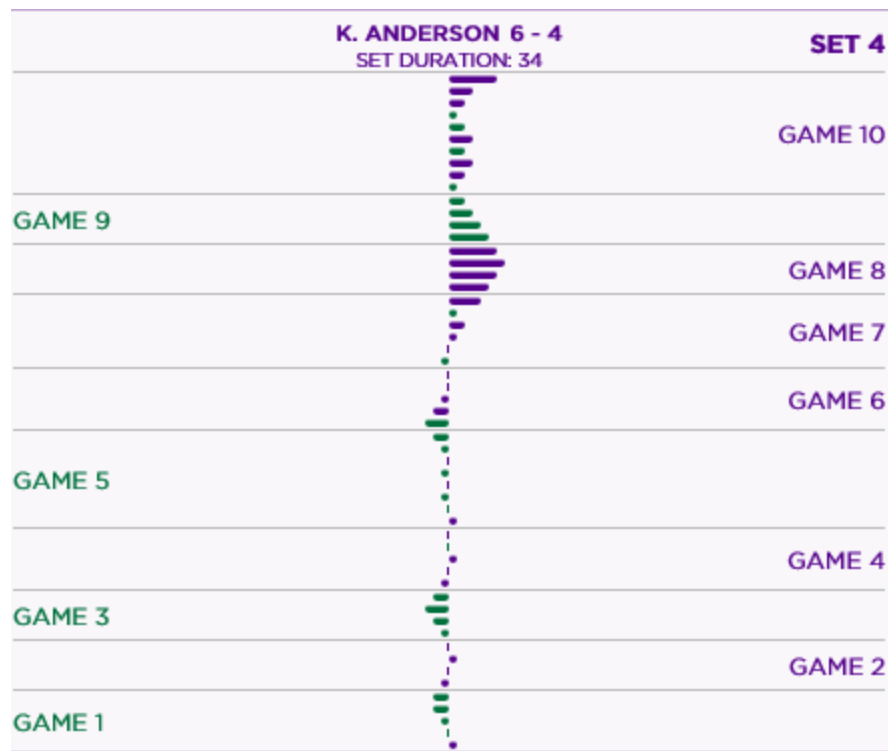
Here in the first set, Fed broke in the first game and maintained momentum throughout the set. Alternatively, you could view the score line as I do. It simply means that a player in the lead tends to win. It's possible that this early break generated momentum, but there is no proof to contradict my hypothesis as well.



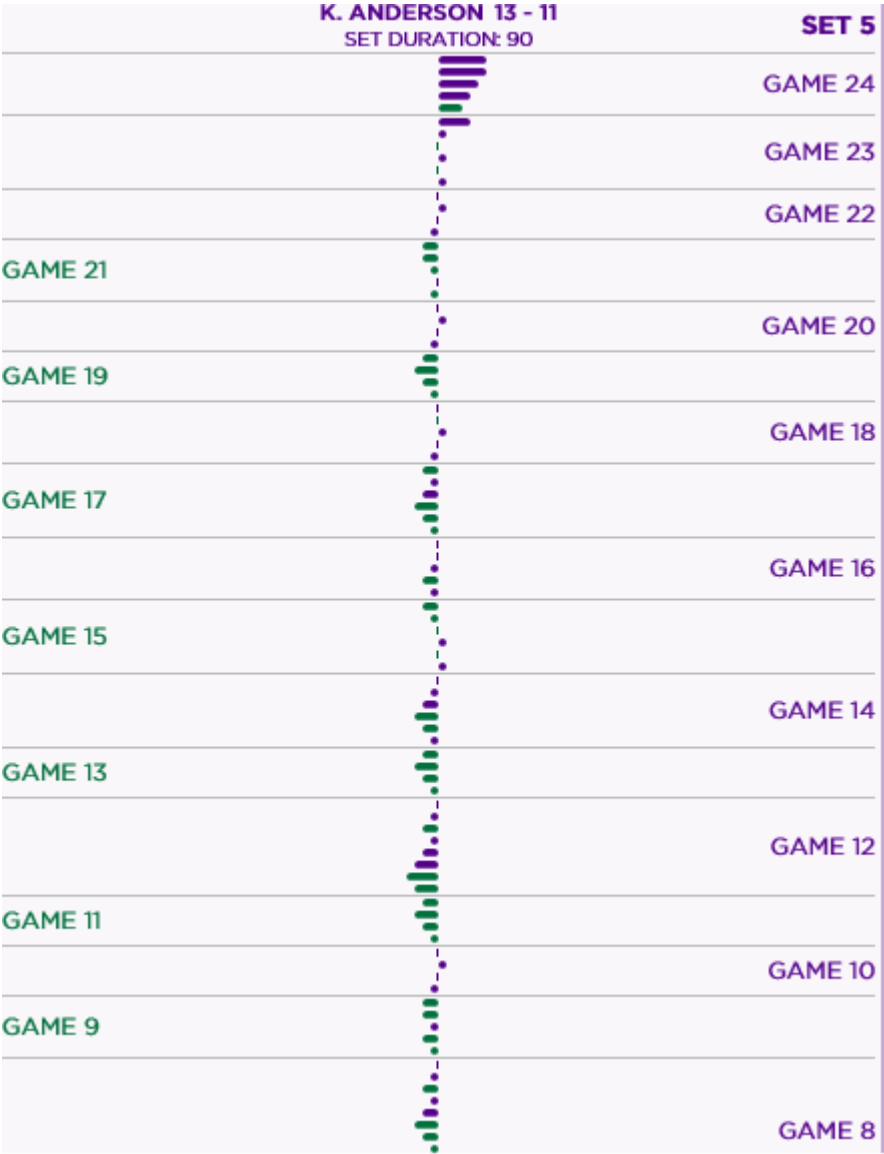
Here in set 2, with his early break, Anderson had the momentum for the entire set ... until he lost it in the tiebreak by 7-5. In this set, momentum is **WRONG** for all twelve games of the set. By **WRONG** I mean that momentum was suggesting an Anderson victory.

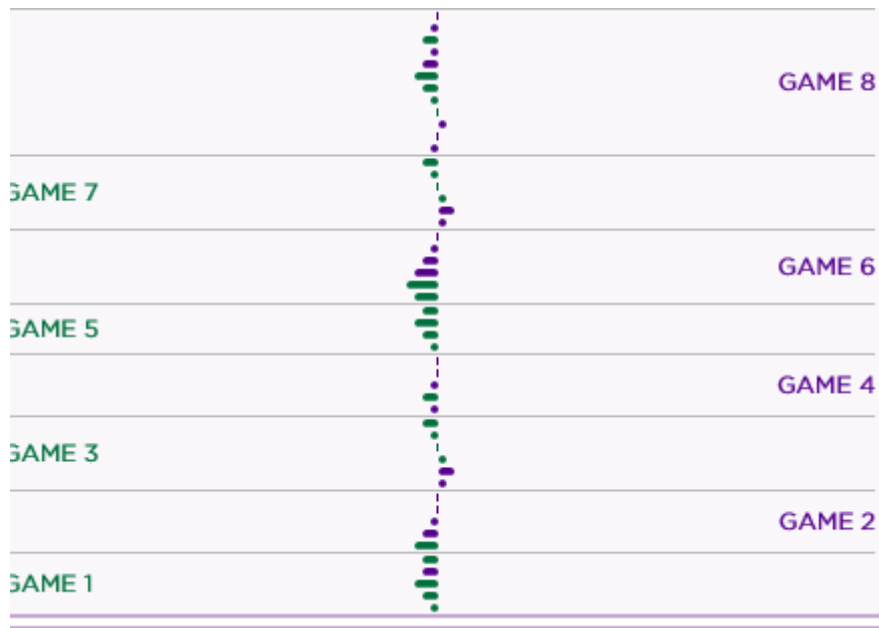


In Set 3, Fed had the momentum for the entire set until 5-all when he was broken. Once again, momentum did a poor job of predicting the winner of the set.



In set 4, Fed had the momentum until the 7th game when he was broken. Anderson maintained momentum (the lead?) and went on to win. Once again, Fed's momentum is a chimera as he loses the set.





Here in Set 5, Fed had the momentum until 11-all when it evened out. Anderson grabbed the momentum when he broke and went up by 12-11. Once again, momentum does NOTHING to help us to understand the result.

If momentum means nothing as I claim, this means that what's going on in a tennis match is eluding some of the top commentators. The discussion would be far more sophisticated if it included the relationship between point importance and a player's choice of risk level.