

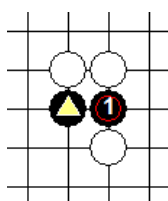
Chapter Three Connection and Disconnection

2000 Connection and Cutting

It is important to understand connection and disconnection of stones. In this section, we shall explain basic patterns of connection and disconnection.

2010 Neighboring Point

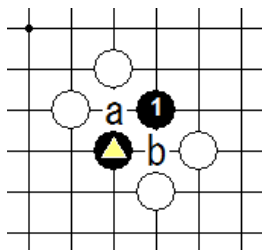
The basic connection pattern is a stone and a stone at the neighboring point. At any place on the board, the connection is 100% sure if this pattern is made.



Here is an example. From the black stone marked \triangle , a move (1) is sure to be connected to the original stone \triangle .

2020 Diagonal Move

If there is a stone on the board and you make a move at a diagonal point, those two stones are almost sure to be connected if the two adjacent points are vacant.

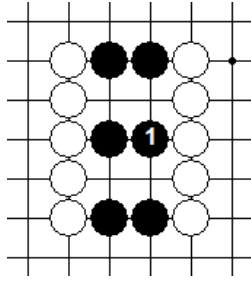


In this chart, black's move at (1) will ensure connection of the original stone \triangle , and the stone at (1) if "a" and "b" are vacant. If a white stone is already sitting at "a" or "b", the connection is not guaranteed. The reason why the two black stones are sure to be connected is because black will be able to play at "a" or "b" as two players make moves alternately. The reason why we do not say the connection is not 100% sure is because there is a slight chance of the white to make two moves "a" and "b" for some other reason.

2030 Bamboo Joint Move

Here is another pattern in which connection is almost sure. See the chart below. The

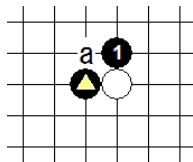
move at (1) will connect top two black stones with bottom two black stones.



For the white, it is impossible to cut these black stones if moves are made alternately. As it was in the last pattern of diagonal move, white has a slight chance of cutting the black stones if he can make two consecutive moves for some reason.

2040 Diagonal Move where there is your opponent's stone

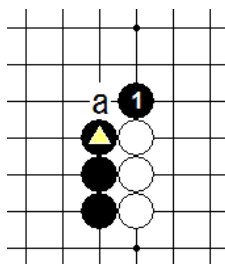
Diagonal move is safe if there are two vacancies but what happens if there is one opponent's stone there.



Here is a good sample. From the black stone marked Δ , the black made a diagonal move at (1). In this case, there is an existing white stone already. In this case, the connection of the original black stone marked Δ , and the black stone (1) is uncertain. If the black has chance to move at "a", then three black stones including a will be securely connected. However, if white makes a move at "a", then the connection of two black stones is rejected. As a result, the two black stones are separate. See that the two white stones are also separate.

2050 A Move of Connection

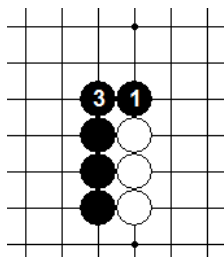
Look at the chart below.



This situation of white stones and black's stones marked with Δ , and (1) occurs quite often on the board. If the black is able to make a move at "a", then all five stones will

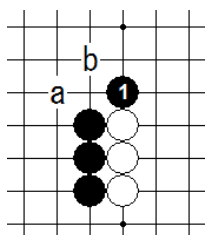
be connected as a group. On the other hand, if white has chance to make a move at “a”, the white stone at “a” will refuse black’s connection.

Black’s move at “a” is considered the surest way of connection. After the move of connection, the result would look like this.

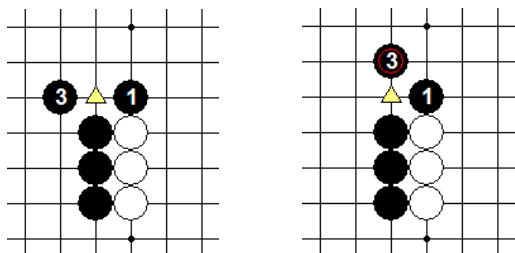


2060 V shaped Connection

In the last chart, the move (3) is the basic and surest move of connection. However, there are two “V shaped moves” to prevent the white from cutting the black group into two. They are marked “a” and “b” in the following chart.

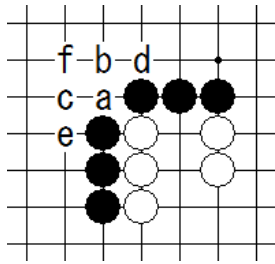


The result would be like the charts below:



In either case, the white cannot cut black groups because the white’s stone at Δ , will be instantly captured by the black.

2070 Indirect Connection



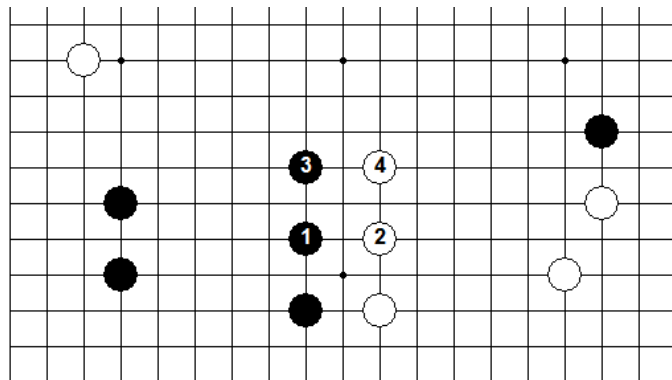
See the chart above. White has chance to cut the black into two groups by making a move at “a”.

If it is the black’s turn to play, black’s move at “a” is the surest move of connection. Moves at “b” and “c” are safe which we called “V shaped connection”. Furthermore, a move at “d”, “e”

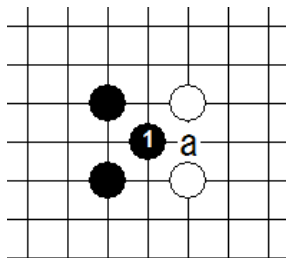
and even “f” has a function of connection. After “d”, “e”, “f”, white’s move of cutting at “a” would not succeed in most cases.

2080 One Space Jumping

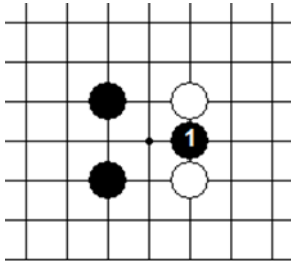
When you intend to form a wall from a side of the board towards the center of the board, a move of placing a stone two points from the original stone towards the center of the board is considered a standard move. See the chart below.



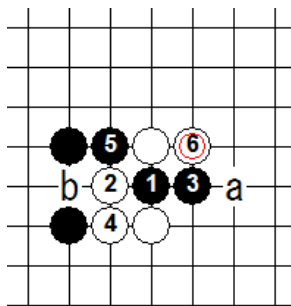
Black’s move (1), whites following move (2), then black’s (3) and white’s (4) are all such standard moves. Then the question is if it is possible to break such a wall?



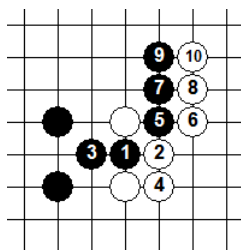
In the pattern shown above, black's move (1) is to try to cut the white stones into two. However, if white makes a move (2) at "a", white stones are all connected and there is no risk of being cut.



The only possibility of cutting is to make a move (1) shown above. After black's (1), there would be many variation of moves but the next chart shows one example.



White's move (2) tries to capture (1), and black's (3) is to avoid the capture. The white's (4) is connection. The black's (5) finally succeeded cutting white stones into two separate groups. White may play at (6). What was the result? Black needs a stone at "a" to avoid its risk. Then white can play at "b" which will cut the black stones to pieces. The conclusion is that black succeeded in cutting two existing white stones, yes. But if the result is satisfactory to the black or not is another question.



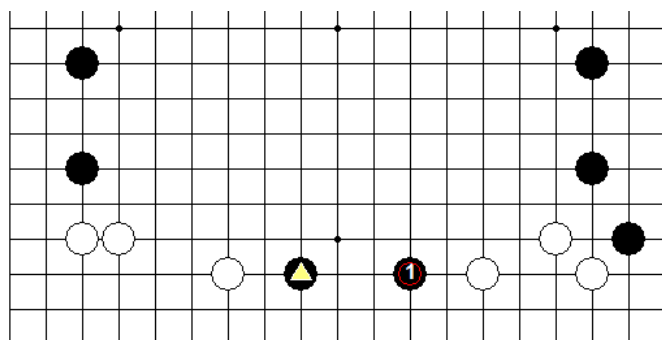
Here is another variation. White can play (2) and (4) and black can cut at (5). At this point, white can move from the existing stone of the left hand side of (5) to continue the battle. But if white chooses, white can play (6) (8) (10). The result would be for the

white to have made a concession to be happy with a new wall situated a little to the right from the original wall.

2090 Two Point Space Leaping

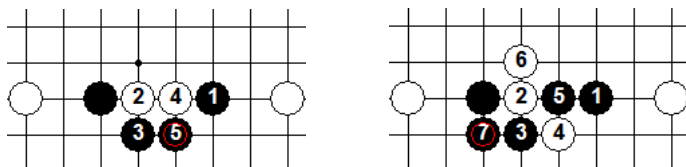
When there is a stone on the third or fourth line from the edge of the board, it is a standard move to place the second stone with two points space in between.

See the chart below.



The black's move (1) is such a typical leaping from the black stone marked Δ .

See that there is another similar leaping on the left hand side of the board.

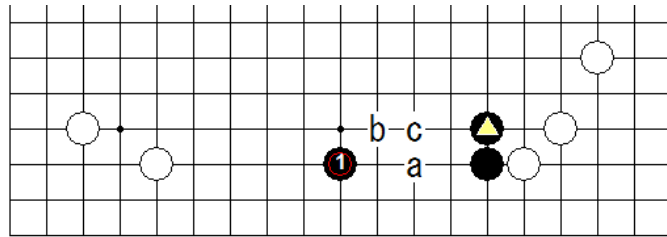


In this case, the white cannot refuse the connection of two black stones by (2)and(4)

As in the sequence of moves of the left hand chart of (2) to (5) or moves of the right hand chart of (2) to (7) as in the moves of the right hand chart. The connection of the black stone marked Δ and (1) is almost certain.

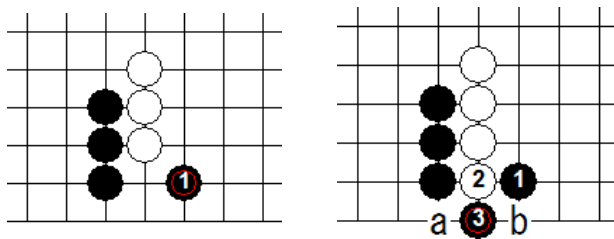
2100 Three Point Space Leaping from a Pillar of Two Stones

See the chart below. From a pillar made of piling of two stones shown with the stone marked Δ , a move (1) which is three points space leaping is possible without too much risk. If white plays at "a", black's connection is not difficult by a move at "b" or "c".



If a pillar is made of piling of three stones, they say the next move of four points space leaping is possible.

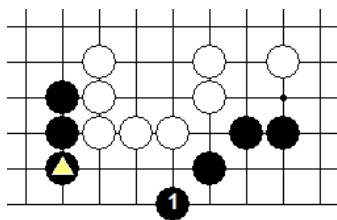
2110 Connection at the edge of the board.



At the very edge of the board, the black stone (1) is sure to be connected to the stones on the left.

If the white tries to cut the black stones by a move (2), the black can respond at (3). Now the white's stone at "a" or "b" trying to cut black stones will fail since a white stone at "a" or "b" will be captured at once.

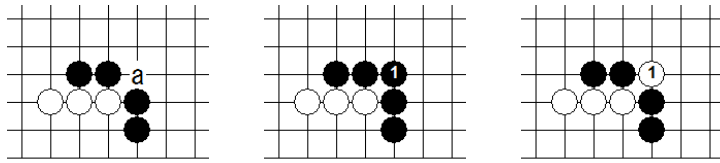
2120 Monkey Slide Move



The move shown as (1) by the black is an interesting way to connect the group of stones on the right to the group of left with the stone marked Δ . This connection is perfect and there is no way to reject the connection for the white.

2130 Two distinct Patterns of Disconnection

Before finishing this chapter, we shall clarify that there are two distinct patterns of disconnection.



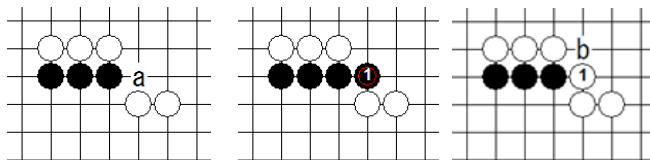
“a” is vital.

Black’s connection

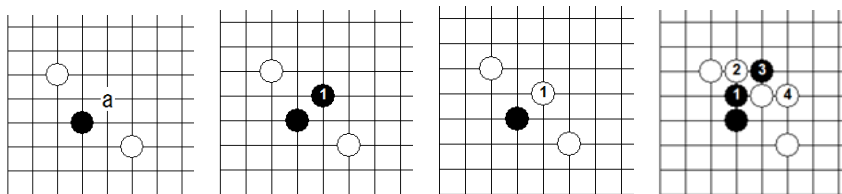
Black’s disconnection

If the chart above is the situation, the point “a” is very vital. If black can play at “a”, the result would be like the center chart and the black stones are all connected. If white plays at “a”, the result would be like the right hand chart and the black groups are cut to two groups and they are disconnected unless the white stone at “a” is captured later.

However, note that in the right hand chart, the black groups were disconnected and at the same time, the white stone (1) is also disconnected to the group of three stones.



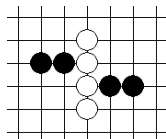
What about this situation? Here also, the point “a” is vital. If black plays at “a”, white stones are not only separated into two groups but the black stones are all connected. This result of white’s disconnection and black’s connection is one-sided. If white had chance to play (1) as in the right hand chart, this one sided situation would be avoided. Black can still cut the white stones at “b”, but even when the black does it, it is not so one-sided, as white may be cut to two groups but the black stone at “b” is not connected to group of three black stones. This distinction is very important to note. Here at this point, we will show you a good example of this difference



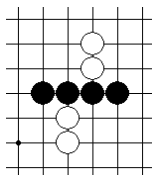
If two white stones come near the single black stone as shown in chart on the left, the point marked “a” becomes important. If “a” is played by the black, the result would look like the chart on the middle left. In this case, the black stones are connected but white stones are disconnected. However, if “a” is played by the white as shown in the chart on the middle right, the black cannot step out towards the center as a connected single group of stones. The chart on the extreme right shows a possible sequence of

moves following it and the result is the situation in which the black is cutting the white, but the white is also cutting the black.

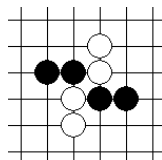
Here are the three patterns which we must see the difference



Black cut,
White connected.



Black connected,
White cut.



Black cut,
White also cut.