Team:

CSCI 154 Simulation

Project: Monte Carlo Blackjack

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Motivation

- Blackjack -> Fun
- Competitive -> not lose
- Win some money
- Best strategy

Rules of the game

Face cards = 10 points

Ace = 11 or 1 point

Win -> hand <=21

Lose -> hand > 21 or hand < dealer

Problem Statement

The five policies that we simulated:

- Policy 1: If your hand >= 17, stick. Else hit.
- Policy 2: If your hand >= 17 and is hard, stick. Else hit unless your hand =21.
- Policy 3: Always stick.
- Policy 4: Hit once.
- Policy 5: If your hand >15, stick. Else hit.

All the policies were simulated 2 versions of the game

- Infinite deck: On every run a card is drawn with equal probability.
- Single deck: One deck of cards is used. The deck is reshuffled after every game.

Approach

- The game was simulated in python.
- Data visualization was done with matplotlib.
- Did different number of iterations for each policy.
- We removed the card after it is dealt for single deck.
- We did not remove the card after it is dealt so every card has 1/52 chance.

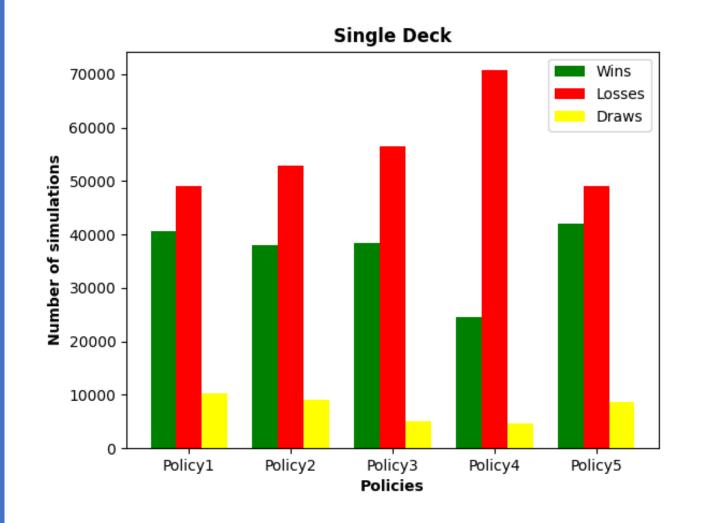
Results

- We done the simulation for each policies and different versions of the game with 1000, 10000, and 100000 iterations.
- The data shows that the results are similar for each policy on different iterations and different version of the game.

```
#single deck 100000
wins = [40678, 37953, 38477,24559,42102]
losses = [49073, 52921, 56534,70755,49116]
draws = [10249,9126,4989,4686,8782]
#infinite deck 100000
wins = [40689, 37903, 38041,32958,41849]
losses = [48784, 52649, 56683,63882,49235]
draws = [10527,9448,5276,3660,8916]
#1000 iterations infinite deck
losses = [487,525,567,740,495]
draws = [101,98,59,57,98]
wins = [412,377,374,203,407]
#1000single deck
losses = [517,539,573,726,465]
draws = [118,81,43,44,84]
wins = [365,380,384,230,451]
#10000 iterations infinite deck
losses = [4836,5189,5696,7127,4931]
draws = [1073,982,529,470,900]
wins = [4091,3829,3775,2403,4169]
#10000 single deck
losses = [4821,5191,5735,7042,4965]
draws = [1031,915,466,420,848]
wins = [4148,3894,3799,2538,4187]
```

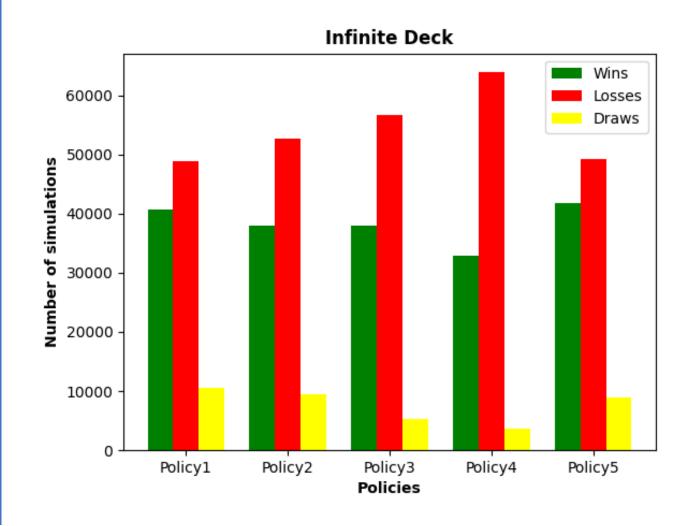
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Conclusion

- The house will always have the upper hand.
- Single deck or infinite deck did not make much of difference.
- Policy 5 has higher chance of winning compared to other policies.
- If we to do something differently, we would spend more time on we want to code it.