

# Do you like Texas hold 'em

STAT230 Real World Assignment 2024W

Eason Li, Johnson Ji

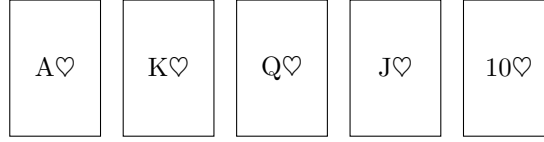


Faculty of Math  
University of Waterloo  
Canada  
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In this report, we consider the case a player uses the best five-card poker hand out of seven cards.

The stages consist of a series of three cards (“the flop”), later an additional single card (“the turn”), and a final card (“the river”). Each player seeks the best five-card poker hand from any combination of the seven cards: the five community cards and their two hole cards.

For a 7-card hand to contain a Royal Flush, i.e.



it must contain the specific set of 5 cards (Ace, King, Queen, Jack, 10 of the same suit), with the other 2 cards being any of the remaining 47 cards in the deck. Therefore, the probability of getting a Royal Flush in a group of seven cards can be evaluated as

$$P(\text{Royal Flush in 7-card poker}) = \frac{4 \times C(47, 2)}{C(52, 7)}$$

## Starting Hands (with 2 players)

Out of the  $\binom{52}{2}$  possible starting hands, there are  $13 \times 13$  distinct types of starting hands since there are 13 ranks, there are 13 distinct pocket pairs (e.g. AA),  $\binom{13}{2} = 78$  distinct suited 2-card combinations (e.g. AKs) and  $\binom{13}{2} = 78$  distinct unsuited 2-card combinations (e.g. AKo). Notice that

$$13 \times 13 = 13 + \binom{13}{2} + \binom{13}{2}$$

It is intended to calculate the pre-flop (before any community cards are dealt) win rate for each distinct 2-card combination. For each distinct combination, there are

$$\left[ \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} \binom{52-2i}{2} \right] \times \binom{52-2n}{5}$$

possible outcomes for  $n$  players. A simulation (Appendix) size of 100 000 is chosen for this section:

```
Pocket Pair: 5976
Suited: 23167
Unsuited: 70857
Contains Ace or King: 28643
Does Not Contain Ace or King: 71357
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Recall that we can in a game consisting two players. In theory, we know that the probability of getting pocket pair in a deck of 52 cards is

$$\frac{52}{52} \cdot \frac{3}{51} \approx \boxed{0.058823}$$

the probability for suited pair is

$$\frac{52}{52} \cdot \frac{12}{51} \approx \boxed{0.235294}$$

while the probability for unsuited pair is

$$\frac{52}{52} \cdot \frac{39}{51} - \frac{52}{52} \cdot \frac{3}{51} \approx \boxed{0.707014}$$

Lmao our simulations are pretty close to our theoretical values.

## Poker Hands

The chance of making, winning and tying with each poker hand is investigated. The total number of possible outcomes for a hand of poker between  $n$  players is given by:

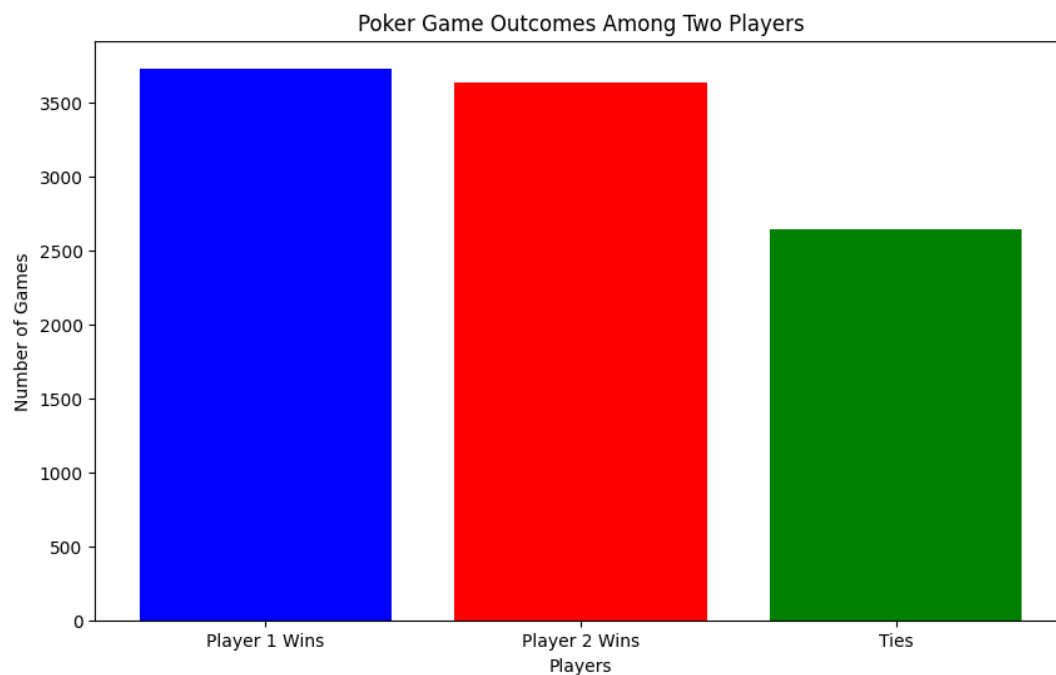
$$\left[ \prod_{i=0}^{n-1} \binom{52-2i}{2} \right] \cdot \binom{52-2n}{2}$$

which is  $2.781 \times 10^{12}$  for just 2 players. Since it isn't realistic to go through all possible outcomes, a simulation (Appendix) size of 100 000 is chosen (with 2 players):

| <i>Player 1 :</i> | <i>Player 2 :</i> |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Straight Flush: 4 | Straight Flush: 5 |
| Quad: 15          | Quad: 11          |
| Full House: 250   | Full House: 259   |
| Flush: 307        | Flush: 274        |
| Straight: 447     | Straight: 439     |
| Triple: 536       | Triple: 461       |
| Two Pairs: 2341   | Two Pairs: 2368   |
| Pair: 4355        | Pair: 4395        |
| High Card: 1745   | High Card: 1788   |

## How many times does each player win in a 2-player poker game

We can also simulate how many times each player wins:



where we can find that the number of wins fairly close among the two players. Moreover, in a game of 4 player, the winning rates are still fairly close among all participants:

