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Report

In this project, we have to implement the method `five_in_a_line`. To make sure that there are five stones in a consecutive way either horizontally, vertically or diagonally, then a player will win. A Monte Carlo method is a computerized mathematical technique that allows people to quantitatively account for risk in forecasting and decision-making. At its core, the Monte Carlo method is a way to use random samples of parameters to explore the behavior of a complex system. A Monte Carlo Tree Search (MCTS) is a search technique in the field of Artificial Intelligence (AI). It is a probabilistic and heuristic driven search algorithm that combines the classic tree search implementations alongside machine learning principles of reinforcement learning. Every action might not be the most optimal for example when we can win just by 5 moves it takes 10 moves. MCTS algorithm is sometimes useful as it continues to evaluate other alternatives periodically during the learning phase by executing them, instead of the current perceived optimal strategy.

Inside `def isFiveInLine(self, x, y)`, there will be two if statements one for when player one moves and one for player two move. For each player horizontally and vertically will be controlled by `self.board[i][j]`. In this case `i` will be for consecutive horizontal pieces and `j` will be for vertical.

```
if self.board[i][j] == 2 and self.board[i][j + 1] == 2 and self.board[i][j + 2] == 2 and self.board[i][j + 3] == 2 and self.board[i][j + 4] == 2:  
    return 1  
if self.board[j][i] == 2 and self.board[j + 1][i] == 2 and self.board[j + 2][i] == 2 and self.board[j + 3][i] == 2 and self.board[j + 4][i] == 2:  
    return 1
```

This is for the diagonal.

```
for i in range(3):  
    for j in range(4,7):  
        if self.board[i][j] == 2 and self.board[i + 1][j - 1] == 2 and self.board[i + 2][j - 2] == 2 and self.board[i + 3][j - 3] == 2 and self.board[i + 4][j - 4] == 2:  
            return 1  
for i in range(3):  
    for j in range(3):  
        if self.board[i][j] == 2 and self.board[i + 1][j + 1] == 2 and self.board[i + 2][j + 2] == 2 and self.board[i + 3][j + 3] == 2 and self.board[i + 4][j + 4] == 2:  
            return 1
```

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The range can't be starting from zero like horizontal and vertical since as much as you are going down from the top, is as much as you are going to the left or right.

RESULT

```
play# 12 , Player 2 Best Move: (2, 2)
0010000
0000000
0001210
0102200
1020200
1000000
2000000

No one wins yet
*
play# 13 , Player 1 Best Move: (6, 1)
0010000
0000000
0001210
0102200
1020200
1000001
2000000

No one wins yet
*
play# 14 , Player 2 Best Move: (1, 1)
0010000
0000000
0001210
0102200
1020200
1200001
2000000

Player 2 wins!
```

```
No one wins yet
*
play# 27 , Player 1 Best Move: (3, 4)
0021100
0012010
2011221
1112200
1222002
0021010
1020000

No one wins yet
*
play# 28 , Player 2 Best Move: (5, 3)
0021100
0012010
2011221
1112220
1222002
0021010
1020000

Player 2 wins!
```

Program Performance

I think that the level of performance of the game is very low. Since not every move is optimal, there are many times where both players can win with the better move. However the player picks the other one and it takes much more rounds, that doesn't really make any sense. This can be improved by using other heuristic algorithms that can make the player smarter. By implementing double-free three-in-line, four-in-line-missing-one, free-three-in-line can also make the program better and more efficient. Since it can distinguish the good and bad moves.