1 Project Setup

Game name: Legends of the Three Kingdoms

1.1 Game Introduction

Assume that there are n players in the game, namely we can call them player 1, player 2, ..., player n.

The players sit in a circle, and start their **play** in order of their seats. When the game starts, player 1 plays first. And after player n finishes his **play**, one **round** ends, player 1 (if he is still **alive**) starts the next round.

The **distance** between two players is defined as the minimum difference of their seats' position. For example, initially the **distance** between player 1 and n is 1, and between player 3 and 8 is $\min\{5, n-5\}$. If a player had left the game, his seat is removed so that the calculation of **distance** should skip him. The minimum **distance** between two players is 1.

Before the game starts, shuffle the cards, and each player draws **four cards** from the deck in the above order, initialize their unit of life according to the **generals** they selected (will be introduced later).

When the unit of life of a player is no more than zero, we can say that he is **dying**. Then he **must** request for rescue from all players (including himself) in a round, starting from the current playing player. Note that he himself can play both `peach` and `wine`, while other players can only play `peach` to save him. Each `peach` or `wine` can recover him for 1 unit of life. The request procedure ends when he gets rid of the **dying** state. If all players have been requested but he is still in the **dying** state, the player's game over, remove his seat and all of his cards are moved into the **used card pool**.

Each player has four phases in his turn, which are

- fate phase (judge the delayed scroll card(s))
- draw phase (draw two cards from the deck)
- play phase (player can play cards in this stage)
- discard phase (player can only hold cards no more than their unit of lifes, the exceeding cards will be discarded by himself)

When a player plays or discards a card, or a card is used as a **fate card**, it goes into the **used card pool**, and as soon as the deck is empty, shuffle the **used card pool** to make a new deck.

1.2 Cards

1.2.1 Normal Cards

There are four types of normal cards in the game:

- `Strike`: strike another player, if he doesn't play a "dodge", cause damage (of default: 1)
    - `Lightning Strike`: change the damage to lightning damage
    - `Fire Strike`: change the damage to fire damage
- `Dodge`: dodge from a strike (can not be played initiatively)
- `Peach`: regain a unit of life, can be used on another player only if he is **dying**
- `Wine`: regain a unit of life when **dying**, or add 1 damage to the next `strike` in this stage

`strike` and `wine` can be only used once in the play stage.

1.2.2 Scroll Cards

The scroll cards don't have usage limit in the play stage.

These scroll cards can only be played on another hero:

- `Duel`: Target Hero must play a "Strike". If he/she does, then you must use a `Strike`. Continue until a Hero does not use a `Strike`. That Hero then takes 1 damage. It is possible to damage yourself when "Dueling".
- `Dismantle`: Target: Another Hero with card in his/her fields (Hand, Equipment, Fate); Effect: Discard any one card from target's fields (Hand, Equipment, Fate).
- `Snatch`: Target: Another Hero within one range with card in his/her fields (Hand, Equipment, Fate); Effect: Take any one card from target's fields (Hand, Equipment, Fate).
- `Borrowed Sword`: Target: Another Hero with an equipped weapon; Effect: Order a Hero to use a `Strike` on another Hero within his/her weapon range, if not, you receive his/her weapon card. (Pick a target for Hero A to use `Strike` on, The target (Hero B) needs to be within Hero A's attack range. When Hero A uses `Strike`, Hero A can choose to activate weapon abilities on He)
- `Diplomacy`: The target draws one card and then you draw three cards
- `Know thyself`: Options: 1. Check one of the hero or all of the cards in hand of the target; 2. Draw a card.

These scroll cards can be played on any hero (including yourself):

- `Chain`: Options: 1. Target: One or two heroes; Effect: Change the chain status of the target(s). If the target is not chained, turn him into the chain state; otherwise, cancel the chain state. When a chained player receives fire or lightning damage, all of the chained player will receive the same damage in the order of seats, and then cancel their chain state; 2. Draw a card.
- `Arson`: Target: One hero with cards in hand. Effect: The target shows one card in hand publicly, and if you discard a card in the same suit as the shown card, deal one fire damage to the target. (can be used on yourself and deal damage as usual)

These scroll cards can be played directly:

- `Arrow Barrage`: All other Heroes in turn order must play a `Dodge` or take 1 damage.

- `Barbarian Invasion`: All other Heroes in turn order must play a `Strike` or take 1 damage.
- `Peach Garden`: All Heroes regain 1 unit of life in turn order, starting with the Hero who used this card.
- `Something for Nothing`: Draw two cards.
- `Bountiful Harvest`: Reveal top X cards from the deck where X is the number of Heroes alive. Starting with the Hero who used this card, each Hero chooses and keeps a card in turn order from the revealed cards.
- `Rest`: Draw two cards and then discard two cards.

These are delayed scroll cards, which will be put into the target's Fate Zone and take effect in his fate phase:

- `Lightning`: Put this card in your Fate Zone. **Fate**: Reveal the top card of the deck. If it is a spade card with number from 2 to 9, Lightning deals 3 damage to you; if it is not, put Lightning in the Fate Zone of the player to the next player to take turn.
- `Contentment`: Put this card in another player's Fate Zone. **Fate**: Reveal the top card of the deck, if it is a heart card, he will not be affected; or he will lose the action phase.
- `Starvation`: Put this card in another player's Fate Zone, whose **distance** to you within 1 range. **Fate**: Reveal the top card of the deck, if it is a clubs card, he will not be affected; or he will lose the draw phase.

1.2.3 Equipment Cards

There are three kinds of equipment cards: **weapon**, **armor** and **mount**.

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- `+1 Mount`: when another player is calculating distance with you, the distance + 1.
- `-1 Mount`: when you are calculating distance with another player, the distance - 1. (The minimum distance is 1)

You can equip one weapon, one `+1 mount` and `-1 mount` together.

1.3 Countries and Generals

Before the game starts, each player can select two generals in the same country. There are four countries: **SHU**, **WU**, **WEI** and **QUN**. The game ends when only player(s) from one country is/are alive and every player had claimed his country.

The general cards are placed upside down initially, which means the identities of a player (including his country and generals) are kept secret, and he doesn't belong to any country. When he **reveal** any of his generals, his country is claimed, thus everyone in the game will know it. When a player is dead, all of his generals will be **revealed** and his country will be claimed.

If a player first **reveal** at least one of his generals, he can draw three cards from the deck.

When a player **claims** his country, but the number of players in that country m (including him) exceeds half of the number of game players ($m > n/2$), he will be considered as a **careerist**. A **careerist** doesn't belong to any country, and two **careerists** are also not in the same country. A **careerist** must defeat all of other players to win the game.

2   Project tasks

3   Reference

1. English website: http://www.sanguosha.us
2. Chinese official website: https://www.sanguosha.com