

What are the odds?

1. Royal Flush. This consists of a  $\{10, J, Q, K, A\}$  of the same suit. The number of ways that this can come about is (number of ways of choosing 1 suit from 4 suits)  $\times$  (number of ways to choose  $\{10, J, Q, K, A\}$ )  $= C(4,1) \times C(5,5) = 4 \times 1 = 4$ .
2. Straight Flush. This consists of 5 cards in a row of the same suit. The number of ways that this can come about is (number of ways of choosing 1 suit from 4 suits)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing 5 cards in a row)  $= C(4,1) \times (10) = 40$ .
3. Four of a Kind. The number of ways that this can come about is (number of ways of choosing 1 rank from 13 ranks)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing 4 cards from 4)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing the fifth card)  $= 13 \times C(4,4) \times C(48,1) = 13 \times 1 \times 48 = 624$ .
4. Full House. This consists of three of a kind and two of a kind. The number of ways that this can come about is (number of ways of choosing 1 rank from 13)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing 3 cards from 4)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing 1 rank from 12)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing 2 cards from 4)  $= C(13,1) \times C(4,3) \times C(12,1) \times C(4,2) = 13 \times 1 \times 12 \times 6 = 3,744$ .
5. Flush. This consists of 5 cards of the same suit, but not in sequence. The number of ways that this can come about is (number of ways of choosing 1 suit from 4)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing 5 cards from 13 in a suit) - (number of straight flushes)  $= C(4,1) \times C(13,5) - 40 = 4 \times C(13,5) - 40 = 5,108$ .
6. Straight. This consists of 5 cards in a row, but not of the same suit. The number of ways that this can come about is (number of ways of choosing 5 values in a row)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing first card from 4)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing second card from 4)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing third card from 4)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing fourth card from 4)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing fifth card from 4) - (number of straight flushes)  $= 10 \times C(4,1)^5 - 40 = 4^5 \times 10 - 40 = 10,200$ .
7. Three of a Kind (but not full house, or four of a kind). The number of ways that this can come about is (number of ways of choosing 1 rank from 13)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing 3 cards from 4)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing 1 card from remaining 48)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing 1 card from remaining 47) - (number of four of a kind) - (number of full house)  $= C(13,1) \times C(4,3) \times C(49,1) \times C(48,1) - 624 - 3744 = 13 \times 4 \times 49 \times 48 - 624 - 3744 = 117,936$ .
8. Two Pair (but not four of a kind). The number of ways that this can come about is (number of ways of choosing two different ranks from 13)  $\times$

(number of ways of choosing two cards from four)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing two cards from four)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing remaining card) =  $C(13,2) \times C(4,2) \times C(4,2) \times C(44,1) = 78 \times 6 \times 6 \times 44 = 123,552$ .

9. One Pair (but not two pair, or three of a kind or full house). The number of ways that this can come about is (number of ways of choosing 1 rank from 13)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing two cards from four)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing another rank)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing one card from four)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing another rank)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing one card from four)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing another rank)  $\times$  (number of ways of choosing one card from four) =  $C(13,1) \times C(4,2) \times C(12,1) \times C(4,1) \times C(11,1) \times C(4,1) \times C(10,1) \times C(4,1) / 3! = 13 \times 6 \times 12 \times 4 \times 11 \times 4 \times 10 \times 4 = 1,098,240$ .

The total number of 5 card combinations are  $C(52,5) = 2,598,960$ .  
The probabilities are therefore:

1. Royal Flush. 4 in 2,598,960.
2. Straight Flush. 40 in 2,598,960.
3. Four of a Kind. 624 in 2,598,960.
4. Full House. 3,744 in 2,598,960.
5. Flush. 5,108 in 2,598,960.
6. Straight. 10,200 in 2,598,960.
7. Three of a Kind. 117,936 in 2,598,960.
8. Two Pair 123,552 in 2,598,960.
9. One Pair 1,098,240 in 2,598,960.