

Manual PÖNG

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Contents

1	Introduction	3
2	Start PÖNG	4
2.1	Start a server	4
2.2	Connect as a client	4
3	The Main Lobby	5
3.1	The window	5
3.2	Chat with other players	5
3.3	Create or join a lobby	6
3.3.1	Create a lobby	6
3.3.2	Join a lobby	6
3.4	Additional features	6
4	Play a game of PÖNG	8
4.1	Start the game	8
4.2	Play the game	9
4.2.1	Mechanics	9
4.2.2	Game Modes	9
4.2.3	Points	10
4.3	The game is over	10

1 Introduction

Welcome to the Manual of the game PÖNG!

PÖNG is an adaption of the classic game Pong which was published by Atari in 1972.

Pong was the first video game that was popular all across the globe. Even though there were other video games before Pong, it is known as the prime father of video games.

The game rules are fairly simple and similar to the ones in Ping Pong. A ball moves back and forth in the game window. Each player controls a paddle, which he can move up and down to defend his goal from the ball. If the attempt to defend the goal did not go well and the ball went into the goal, the other player gets a point.

In PÖNG we follow these rules and mechanics, but instead of making it a pure 2-player game, we allow up to 4 players to compete against each other at the same time.

PÖNG is implemented by Tobias Beyeler, Philipp Haller and Marc Schäfer in the context of the programming project in the spring semester 2019 at the University of Basel.

To play this game, there are a few steps you have to follow, which are listed in this manual. We wish you a lot of fun playing PÖNG!

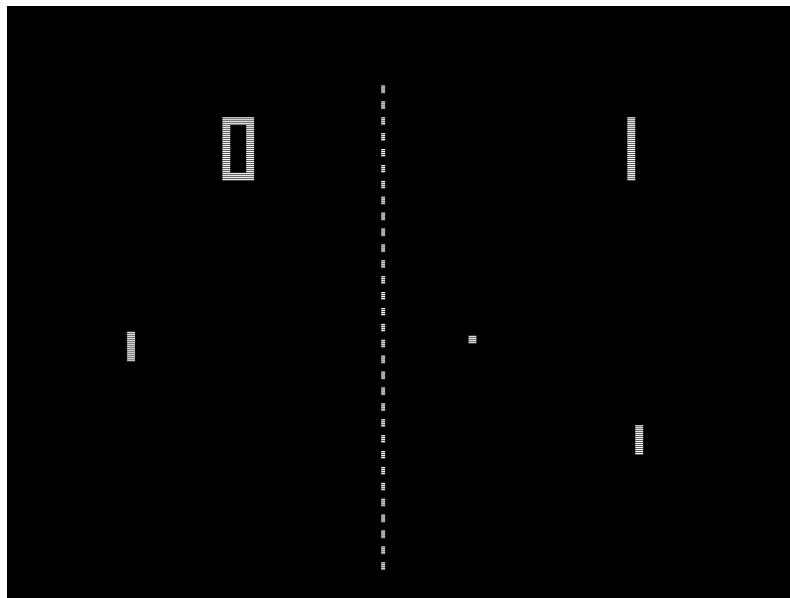


Figure 1: The classic game Pong by Atari

2 Start PÖNG

2.1 Start a server

- Use a command-prompt window at the folder of the jar.
- Type `java -jar Poeng-MS5.jar server <port>`. The `<port>` needs to be replaced by a number between 1024 and 65535.
- Hit enter. The server is now ready for the clients.

2.2 Connect as a client

- Use a command-prompt window at the folder of the jar.
- Type `java -jar Poeng-MS5.jar client <address >:<port> [username]`. `<address>` must be replaced by the servers IP address and the `<port>` by the servers port.
Optional: [username] - Enter your desired name or leave it blank. The username can also be changed later in the chat window.
- A window will appear where you can choose your username. The default username is based on your systems name. Here you also have the option to choose a different color for your paddle. The default color is white. (See Figure 2)
- Press Ok to set the username and color and enter the Main Lobby.

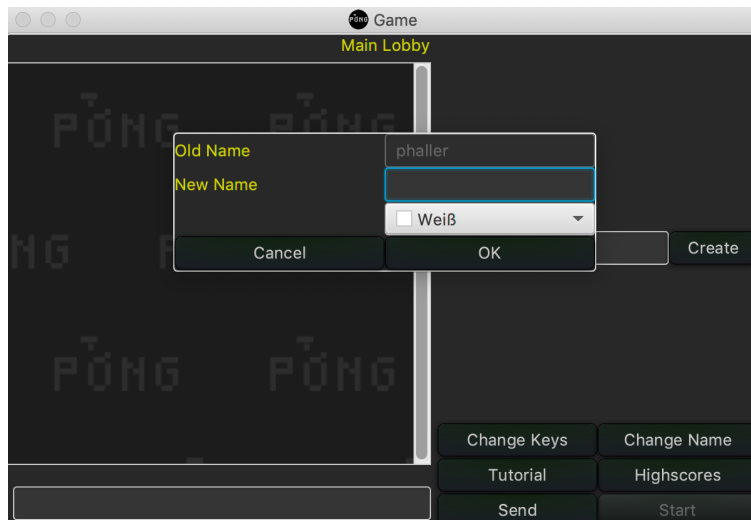


Figure 2: The start screen where you can choose your username

3 The Main Lobby

3.1 The window

See Figure 3:

- 1 - The chat field.
- 2 - The message field.
- 3 - The list of game lobbies. This field is empty when no game lobby was created yet.
- 4 - The list of players that are either in the Main Lobby or in a game.

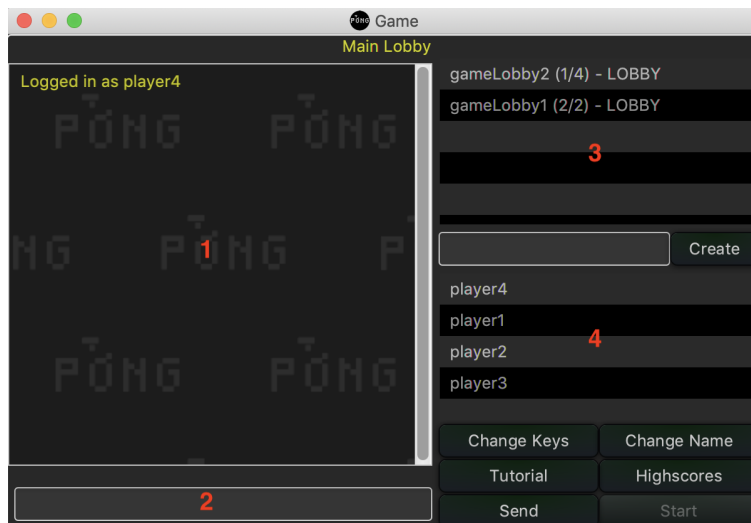


Figure 3: The Main Lobby window

3.2 Chat with other players

To send a chat message to all players that are logged in, simply enter your message into the designated field. When you're finished writing you can either press **Enter** or the **Send** button to send the chat message. It will then get displayed in the chat field.

To send a private message to a specific player use the **whisper** mode. To do so, simply click on the player in the players list. When the player is selected you'll see a confirmation notification above the message field. After sending the private message you can enter the global chat again by clicking on the selected player one more time.

3.3 Create or join a lobby

To be able to play a game of PÖNG you have to be logged in to a lobby.

3.3.1 Create a lobby

If there is no existing lobby or if you don't want to enter an already existing lobby you can create a new one by following these steps:

- Enter the desired name of the lobby into the textfield below the lobby list.
- Press **Enter** or the **Create** button.
- A small window will pop up, where you can choose the amount of players that will be able to join the lobby, the game mode that will be played and the amount of points that a player has to score to win.
- If you successfully created the lobby you will see a confirmation message in the chat field.

3.3.2 Join a lobby

If there already is an existing lobby which has at least one free spot, you can join it. To do so, follow these steps:

- To join an existing lobby, simply click on the name of an existing lobby in the lobby list. If there is a free spot, you will join the lobby directly.
- If you successfully joined the lobby you will see a confirmation message in the chat field.

3.4 Additional features

In the bottom right corner you'll find a set of buttons (See Figure 3). The following bullet points will give a short description about their functions:

- **Change Keys:** This button will allow you to set your own keys to control the paddle in the game. To do so, simply follow the instructions that will pop up on the screen. To get more info about the standard key bindings, please see section 4.2.1 Mechanics.
- **Change Name:** If you forgot to change your username when you started the client, or just want a new one, you can click this button. The same name change window that you saw when you started the client will pop up (See Figure 2).
- **Tutorial:** This button will open a small tutorial that describes the features of the Main Lobby and how they are used.
- **Highscores:** Press this button to open the highscore list.

4 Play a game of PÖNG

4.1 Start the game

You successfully started PÖNG, had a fun time chatting with your friends in the Main Lobby, created or joined a game lobby with the other players you want to play with, and are now ready to start the game - great!

Warning - If you are not in a game lobby you will not be able to start a game!

To enter a game, simply press the **Start** button in the bottom right corner of the Main Lobby window (See Figure 3) and the game window will open (See Figure 4).

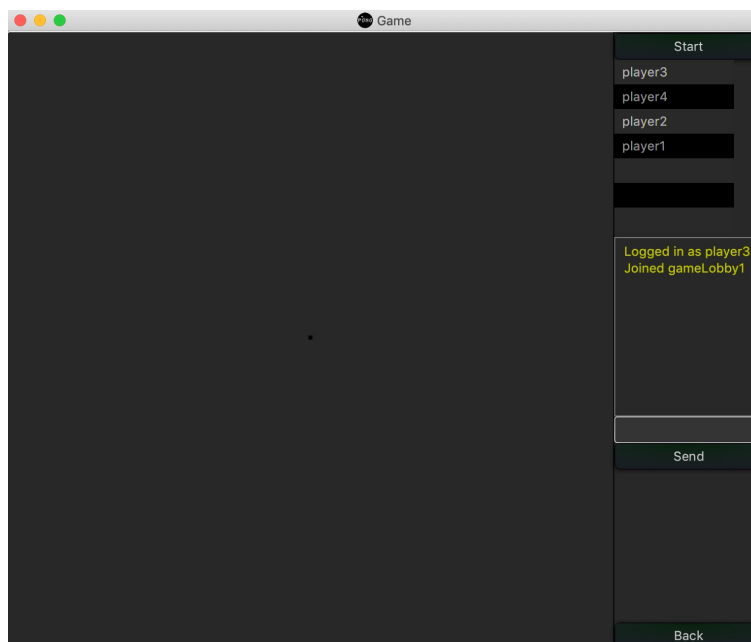


Figure 4: The game window

Good job, you are now in the game!

To make sure that all players, that are competing against each other are ready, every player has to press the **Start** button in the top right corner of the game window (See Figure 4). Once all players pressed that button, the game will start!

4.2 Play the game

4.2.1 Mechanics

The objective in PÖNG is, to try to score a goal and at the same time to defend your own one. This can be achieved by moving your paddle left and right. Therefore the game mechanics in PÖNG are fairly simple:

move **left** - keyboard key **A**
move **right** - keyboard key **D**

While this is the standard configuration, you have the option to set your own keys to control the movement of the paddle. To achieve this you simply click the **Change Keys** button in the Main Lobby (See Figure 3) before you start a game, and follow the instructions.

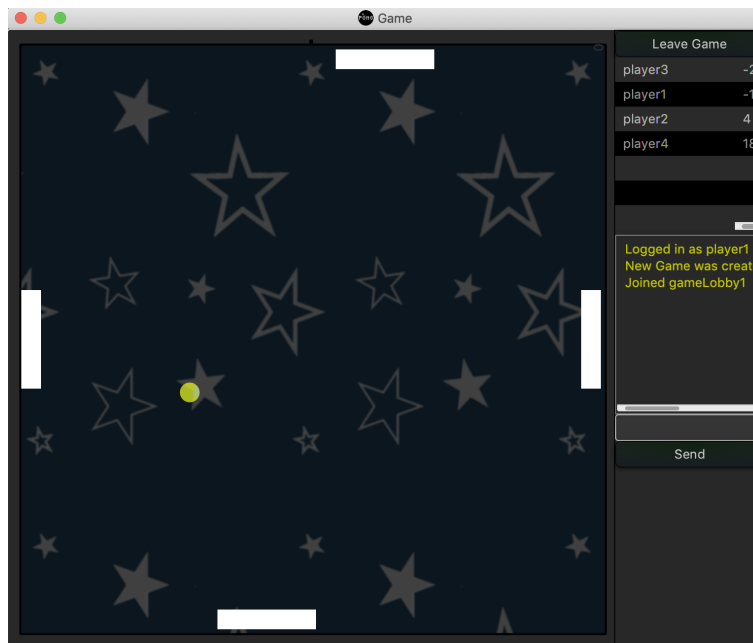


Figure 5: A running game with 4 players

4.2.2 Game Modes

In PÖNG there currently are two different game modes. There is the game mode **Points** where you have to score a predefined amount of goals. The standard amount is set to 5 and can be changed when creating a lobby and choosing the game mode that will be played. The player who scores the set amount of points first, wins!

To play the other game mode, called **Lifes**, select it when creating a lobby. You also have the option to set the amount of lifes you start with, standard is 5. In this game mode you have to try to prevent loosing all your lifes. When one player lost all his lifes the game will end and the player who has the most lifes left wins.

4.2.3 Points

For every game that you win you'll get **1** point. These points then get added to a permanent highscore list, meaning that your points are stored under your username, even after you're leaving the game. The next time you play a game of PÖNG, choose the same username and win, your points on the highscore list get updated. To access the highscore list and see your current place and points, click on the **Highscores** button in the Main Lobby (See Figure 3). Can you defeat your friends and claim the number one spot on the highscore list? We wish you good luck and a lot of fun trying!

4.3 The game is over

Once a player has won the game, it will stop and the name of the winner will be announced.

You liked played PÖNG with your friends so much that you want to jump right into the next game? Click the **Leave Game** button in the top right corner of the game window and you'll get back to the Main Lobby. Now create a new game lobby and you're ready to go!

We wish you a lot of fun playing our game PÖNG!