



PARANOID ASTEROID

SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS SPECIFICATION (SRS)

ECSE 32I

**INTRODUCTION
TO SOFTWARE
ENGINEERING**

GROUP 8:

**ALEX BOURDON
ALEXANDER COCO
PAYOM MESHGIN
DANIEL RANGA
JAD SAYEGH
YI QING XIAO**

CLIENT

**PROF. HAIBO
ZENG**

REV No.: 5

**DATE: FRIDAY,
MARCH 01,
2013**

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I. INTRODUCTION

I.1 PURPOSE

This document is the system's requirement document for the design project of the first release of the "Paranoid Asteroid" (referred to as PA thereafter) video gaming system and describes in details and entirety the specifications and functions of the product.

I.2 SCOPE

The gaming system will be designed to facilitate the game play of the arcade game Asteroids on modern household personal computers. A user interface will allow the user to either access their high scores or game statistic, or play the game which will be graphically implemented.

The end product will allow the user to re-experience the classic arcade game on their own personal computer. The game will adhere to the original's gameplay but will nonetheless support added features not present in the original arcade game. In the game, the user will have control over a ship's heading and movement and firing rate. Game features also include impact detection, two player modes, difficulty adjustment, bonus life drops, a sound system, a physics engine for the asteroids and enemy spaceships, as well as a simple AI implementation for the latter.

I.3 DEFINITIONS, ACRONYMS, AND ABBREVIATIONS

- *Asteroids*: original name of the Atari space game.
- playing field : area with wrap-around edges where game sprites move (star field, outer space)
- PC, spaceship: player animated sprite, controlled via the keyboard
- Asteroid: inanimate game sprite, travels on the field at constant velocity. varies in size (velocity depends on size; smaller, faster)
- Alien, Flying saucer: non-playable character which exists as two different versions, Large Alien and Small Alien, which travel on the field at constant velocity and fire projectiles which cause the PC to lose a life on impact. Exists in 2 formats, large and small (behaviour differs)
- Hyperspeed: player action. When activated (via keypress), spaceship disappears from current location and reappears at a random space in the playing field.

- SRS: Software Requirements Specification document, which specifies the functionalities of the system and its operation constraints.

I.4 REFERENCES

- Source images borrowed from Original 1979 game ROM of Asteroids.
<http://romhustler.net/rom/mame/asteroids-rev-4>
- Flash port of Asteroids. <http://www.play.vg/games/4-Asteroids.html>
- The Making of Asteroids, from Retro Gamer Magazine.
http://www.rawbw.com/~delman/pdf/making_of_Asteroids.pdf

I.5 OVERVIEW

The description will be given in form of text, mock-ups and prototypes of some of the graphical elements displayed by the system. Its intended audience consists of the client company, its project managers, marketing staff, users, tester and documentation writers, in addition to McGill University professor Haibo Zeng and his teaching staff. The rest of the document is organised in two sections and contains all the information about the requirements of the system. Section 2 is primarily intended for users and contains an overall description of the system, its functions, and constraints. It outlines product use assumptions and use cases. Section 3 describes the specifics of the required product characteristics and behaviors relevant to functionality, quality and system testing. It is intended primarily for the product developers.

2.OVERALL DESCRIPTION

2.1 PRODUCT PERSPECTIVE

Our Asteroids remake will be an independent and self-contained computer application. Ideally, the game should run on a majority of platforms such as Microsoft Windows, Mac OS and Linux. The simplicity of this game will not strain any modern personal computer's processor, RAM or memory. The game package should not be bigger than 20 MB. The input devices will be a standard keyboard and mouse. Gameplay controls will implemented on the keyboard and the choice of keys will be programmable. Game configuration will be done with the keyboard and mouse. Naturally, the output will be shown on a computer screen. The game will run on a simple graphical engine.

The game window will be a static size (600 x 800) to make gameplay consistent. This third person shooter set in outer space will be a 2D environment which aims to be a faithful to the original game as possible. The game will have three possible modes, personal high score, two player alternating and two player simultaneous. The game structure will be multi-level with increasing difficulty. Weapon capabilities will also evolve in step with the difficulty.

2.2 PRODUCT FUNCTIONS

2.2.1 OVERVIEW

The entire gameplay revolves around controlling a spaceship while destroying enemies (using a weapon) and dodging them. The main objective of the game is to complete as many levels as possible. Each level consists of clearing the playing field of asteroids by shooting a projectile (or missile) at them.

At the beginning of each level, a number of asteroids appears near the edge of the playing field. The playable character, represented by a spaceship, is placed in the middle of the playing field. The player is able to navigate the spaceship by controlling its direction as well as its thrust using the keyboard. The player can also, at any time, activate a “hyperdrive”, that is, teleport the ship to a random area on the field in order to evade an oncoming enemy. When hit by an enemy or an enemy weapon, the ship explodes and signals the loss of a life. When the player has no more lives left, the game is over.

The player character has a number of weapons to choose from (armor-piercing, spread, bomb) which are powerups that are sometimes dropped when an enemy dies.

All user options, in addition to save game and high score data will be stored in files in the same directory where the game is located.

2.2.2 MODES OF PLAY

The game can be played in three distinct modes.

- The first, called **“single-player” mode**, a user plays alone, controlling a single spaceship as each level is cleared. The player starts out with 3 lives, which can be lost if the player's ship collides with an enemy or an enemy weapon (see game elements). The player accumulates a

score as enemies are destroyed. After the player's game is over and if his score is among the ten high scores, a high score screen appears, allowing the player to enter his name.

- The second mode, called **"two-player contest"**, involves, as its name suggests, two players playing competitively against each other. The gameplay is nearly identical to the single-player mode (each player plays alone and starts off with 3 lives), but in this mode, the two players take turns playing solo. A player loses a turn when he loses a life. When one of the players has lost all their lives, the other player gets to play. When a player regains his turn, he resumes his game exactly how it was left before
- A third mode, called **"two-player co-op"**, allows the players to play cooperatively by playing simultaneously on the same playing field and racking a common score.

2.2.3 GAME ELEMENTS

2.2.3.1 THE USER INTERFACE / MENU SYSTEM

The user interacts with the game through a menu system. There are two different menu systems in the game: the main menu system and the pause menu screen.

2.2.3.1.1 MAIN MENU SYSTEM

The main menu system, which is shown upon the launch of the game, includes the following options:

- Start Game: Starts the game setup screen
- Load Game: Loads a previously saved game
- Options/ Instructions: The options menu changes various personal options, such as controls, volume settings, difficulty and enabling/disabling various bonus game features. Also introduces the controls of the game to the player using text and images.
- High Scores: A new frame shows the top 10 high scores as well as the names of the players who attained those scores.
- Credits: A simple static frame displaying the names of the development team.
- Exit Game: Closes the game software.

2.2.3.1.2 PAUSE MENU SYSTEM

While in-game, the player can pause the game to reveal a pause menu screen. In the menu, the user is able to unpause his game. It will also let the player save the current state of the game and exit to the main menu.

2.2.3.2 IN-GAME:

There are a number of visual elements displayed to the player to track his progression in the game. While in-game, the player is able to view his current game score, his remaining number of lives as well as the current global high score attained in the game.

2.2.3.2.1 PLAYING FIELD

A graphical representation of the playing area that all game elements are bounded by. It is represented by a solid black rectangle spanning the entire game window. The key feature of the playing field is the **wrap-around** effect, that is, any object passes the edge of the field appears at the opposite edge of the field.

2.2.3.2.2 ENEMY

Any non-playable character that harms the player or hinders the player's progress. Some enemies may also be equipped with a weapon. They consist of asteroids, small aliens and large aliens.

ASTEROID

Asteroids are the main obstacle in the game. When they hit something or get hit by a weapon, they explode. There are three stages of asteroids:

1. Large stage
2. Medium stage
3. Small stage

While in the large stage or medium stage, an asteroid splits into two asteroids of a smaller stage (large => middle => small).

LARGE ALIENS

Large aliens are spaceships armed with a missile similar to the PC's weapon. They are slow and non-intelligent, regularly firing their weapon in a random direction while wandering the field on a random path.

SMALL ALIENS

Small aliens are the toughest enemy in the game, since they are the only enemies equipped with an AI. They are four times smaller than large aliens but are just as fast. They are also equipped with a simple missile weapon, and unlike their larger counterparts, they fire in the direction of the PC.

2.2.3.3 Music/Sound

The various sound effects used to enhance the user experience. All sounds will be borrowed from the original 1979 arcade version of Asteroids. In particular, the music beat, as was implemented in the original game (see reference), plays at an increased tempo as the density of asteroids on the field decreases, like the original. Sounds will be used to signal: the explosion of the ship, the firing of a weapon, the pickup of an item and the siren of an alien ship.

2.2.3.4 HIGH SCORE SCREEN:

After the player's game is over and his score is among the ten high scores, a high score screen appears, allowing the player to enter his name.

2.3 USE CASES**2.3.1 PROGRAM LAUNCH**

User case name:	Program Initiate
Participating Actors	Player request game software to start
Entry Conditions:	The player open the software
Flow of Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Player click "open" - Software initialized - Game display main menu - Game waits.
Exit Conditions	Main menu displayed and game is waiting
Quality Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The game must be able to open the main menu and display it with all options of the menu available.

2.3.2 MAIN MENU NAVIGATION

User case name:	Pick main menu choice
Participating Actors	Player select one of the options on the main menu
Entry Conditions:	Player clicks on one of the options
Flow of Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Player clicks on one of the options - Game display the requested section accordingly
Exit Conditions	The correct requested section has been reached
Quality Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The links to the next sections must be correctly associated with each of the options on the main menu

User case name:	Input Control
Participating Actors	Player input in-game commands
Entry Conditions:	Player pushes the correct button for the intended resulting in-game action (shoot, thrust, turn, level clear bomb, hyper drive, pause, save, exit)
Flow of Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Player pushes button - The game output the correct response
Exit Conditions	The expected response from the game occur
Quality Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Buttons must be correctly assigned to their intended purposes. - The response time must be quick, especially when the player is attempting to fire bullets. - If two or more button pushed at once, use a priority list to determine which button dominates.

User case name:	Display score board
Participating Actors	Player playing the game and the game
Entry Conditions:	Player select score board in the main menu
Flow of Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Player select score board - Game displays the score board.

Exit Conditions	The score board has been displayed
Quality Requirements	The score board must be displayed when the button is clicked, and the main menu will disappear, though a button which allows the player to return to the main menu will become available.

User case name:	Display Instructions
Participating Actors	Player playing the game and the game
Entry Conditions:	Player select the display instruction button in the main menu
Flow of Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Player click on “Instructions” in main menu. - Game display the instructions for the gameplay.
Exit Conditions	The instructions are displayed.
Quality Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The displayed instructions must correctly demonstrate how each and every in-game related button functions.

2.3.3 START GAME

User case name:	Start game
Participating Actors	The player playing the game and the game
Entry Conditions:	Player select the “Start Game” option in main menu
Flow of Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Player click on “Start Game” - Game display gameplay options: 1 or 2 player modes coop or alternate modes. - Player select mode - Game display the actual Asteroid game plain, and start the game.
Exit Conditions	The asteroid plain is displayed and the player ship(s) and the asteroids are created.
Quality Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Game modes must correspond to their intended results.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When choosing the 2 player mode, choices between coop and alternate modes must be displayed for the player(s) to choose. - After all choices are made, the asteroid field generation should be slightly delayed after the player ship generation to let the player(s) get ready.
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2.3.4 USE CASES DIRECTLY RELATED TO GAMEPLAY

Input Commands	Player inputs the commands in the actual game: shoot, thrust, turn, level clear bomb, hyper drive, pause, save, exit.
Game Pause	Game pauses, all in-game objects cease their movement.
Activation Cond.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Player press pause button (p by default) - Automatically pause game when saving or when the game just loaded
Save Game	Save the present state of game in a file
Activation Cond.	When player press the save game button.
Include	Game Pause
Load Game	Load a save file and resume the session
Activation Cond.	When player select the “Load Game” button in the main menu.
Include	Game Pause
Control Ship	Turn or thrust the player ship
Activation Cond.	Player pressed the turn or thrust button during game
Create Drops	Create a power-up item

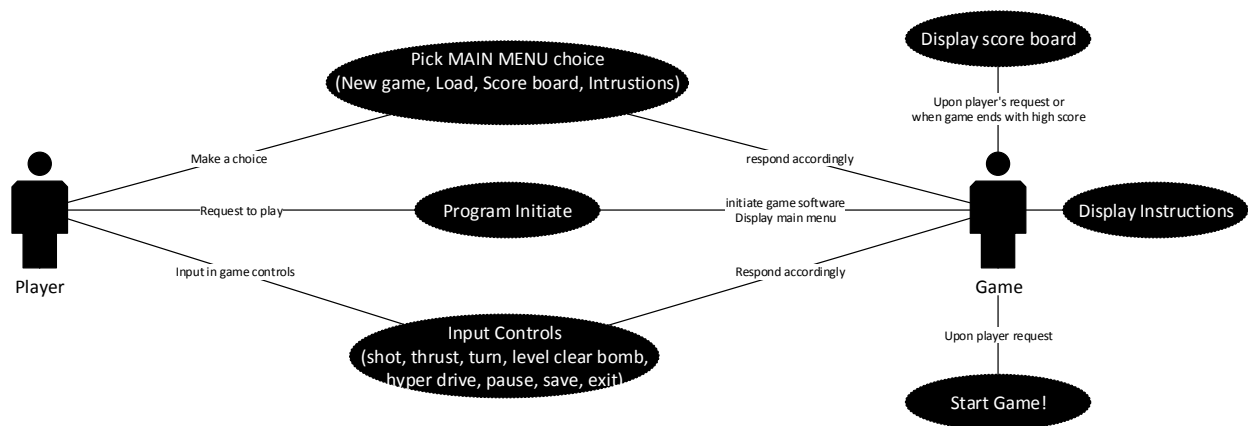
Activations Cond.	When an alien or an asteroid gets destroyed. Frequency of drops must be respected.
Destroy Drops	Destroy a drop item
Activations Cond.	Drop's timeout or picked up by the player's ship.
Destroy Bullets	Destroy a bullet
Activations Cond.	Bullet timeout or bullet impact against any other in game object (even bullets)
Destroy Aliens	Destroy an alien, leaving a chance of generating a drop item.
Activations Cond.	- Collision with any in game objects - Activation of "level clear bomb"
Extends	Create Drops
Destroy Asteroids	Destroy an asteroid, maybe splitting it (depending on original size). May drop power-up when original size was minimal.
Activations Cond.	- Collision with any in game objects - Activation of "level clear bomb"
Extends	Create Drops, Split Asteroids
Split Asteroids	Generate smaller asteroids when a large asteroid got destroyed. Initial momentum and directions of the generated smaller asteroids depend on original asteroid's momentum and direction
Activations Cond.	A large asteroid got destroyed DUE TO COLLISION.
Include	Create Asteroids
Create Bullets	Create a bullet moving in the direction the human ship is facing
Activations Cond.	Player pressed the fire button

Create Aliens	Create an alien (large or small), depending on time.
Activations Cond.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Present level play time has reached a certain length - A set amount of time passed since last creation of an alien
Reset Level	Refill the asteroids in the plain after the previous plain has been cleared.
Activations Cond.	All non-layer vessel objects are destroyed in the present level.
Include	Create Asteroids
Create Asteroids	Create asteroids, whose size depends on the activation conditions.
Activations Cond.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beginning of a level - A large asteroid got destroyed (i.e. Splitting)
Start Game!	Begin brand new session
Activations Cond.	- Player has pressed the “Start Game” button and made choices about the game mode.
Include	Create Asteroids, Create Player Ship
Create Player Ship	Create the player’s ship
Activations Cond.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Player started a new game - Player’s previous ship got destroyed while having non-zero life count - Player used Hyper Drive
Hyper Drive	Change the position of the player’s ship at a random location on the plain.
Activations Cond.	Player pressed the hyper drive button
Include	Create Player Ship, Destroy Player Ship
Destroy Player Ship	Destroy the player’s ship

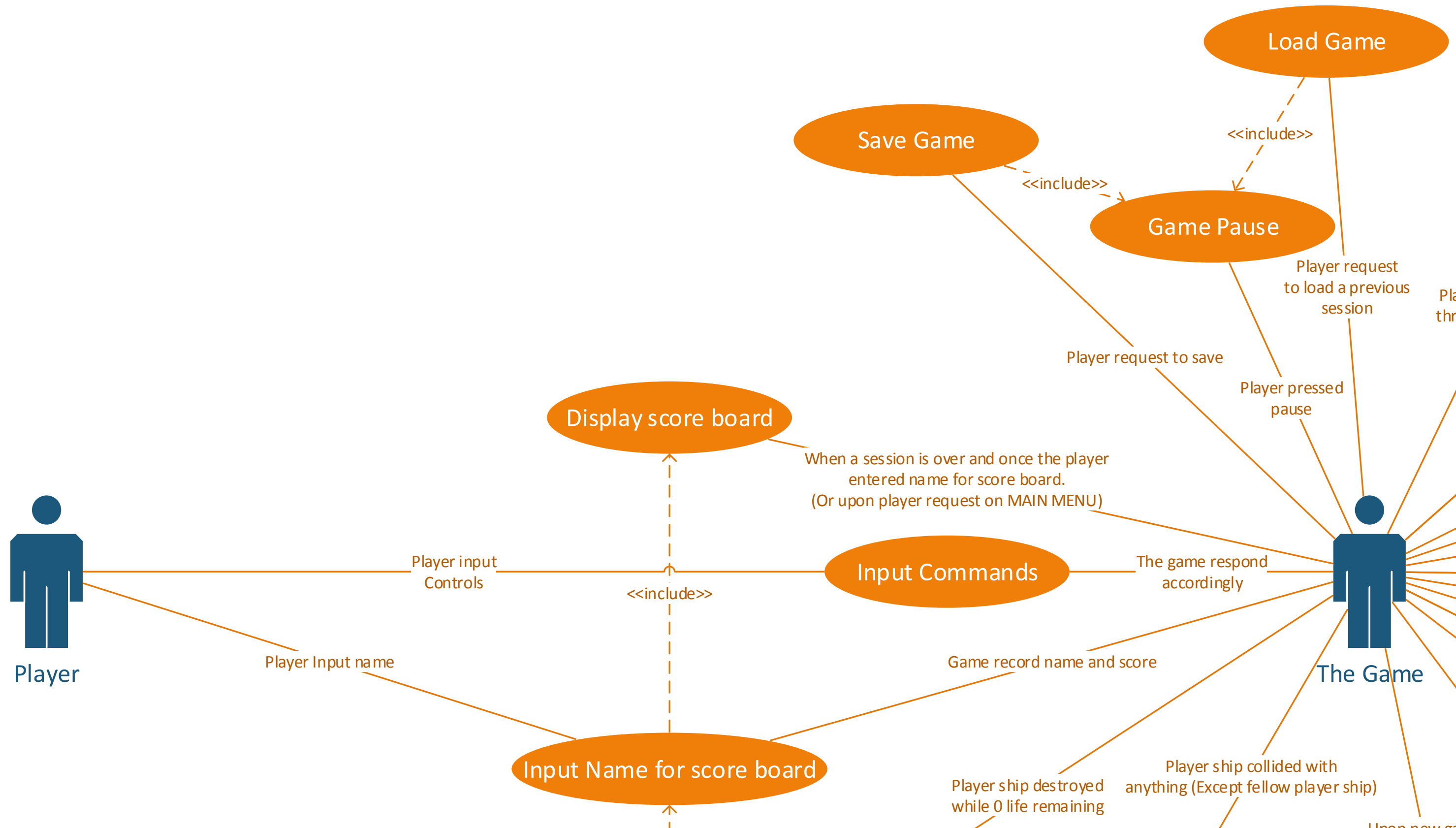
Activations Cond.	- Player's ship collided with any object (Except other player's ship in coop mode)
Extend	- Player used hyper drive Create Player Ship, Drop Life Count
Drop Life Count	Subtract the amount of remaining player's life by 1
Activations Cond.	Player's ship got destroyed DUE TO COLLISION
Extend	End Game
End Game	End the present session
Activations Cond.	Player's LAST ship got destroyed (or negative life count)
Include	Input Name for Score Board

Input Name for Score Board	<p>The game prompts the user to input a name for registering this session's score.</p> <p>The player input a 3 characters long nickname.</p>
Activations Cond.	A game session just ended.
Include	Display Score Board
Display Score Board	Display the high score board
Activations Cond.	<p>- Player clicked the "Score Board" button in the main menu</p> <p>- Player has ended inputting nickname for registering a session's score</p>

2.3.5 USE CASE DIAGRAM FOR GAME LAUNCH AND MENU NAVIGATION



2.3.6 Use Case Diagram for General Gameplay



2.4 USER CHARACTERISTICS

The users of this system are the human players. The human user will be controlling the game start-up and gameplay through the PC's keyboard and mouse. Once the game has begun the player will only have control over the space craft and its weapons. The experience of the human player is paramount. Start-up should be simple and short with easily found parameters. Response to player commands should be quick and forgiving. The reactions of enemies and obstacles should be simplified to make the game play more enjoyable. That is to say they will be more vulnerable than the human player.

2.5 CONSTRAINTS

The major constraints are time and expertise. We have one fifth of a semester and no previous experience with a gaming project. The graphics interface will also be a constraint. This will force us to simplify the game aesthetics and play. Fidelity to the original game also poses constraints on the design. As such the graphics will be two tone, two dimensional and low resolution. The sound will also be simplified to reflect the original game.

2.6 ASSUMPTIONS AND DEPENDENCIES

It is assumed that the user's computer can run provided binary game files either compiled for the specific platform or can run them through an interpreter or virtual machine. The computer must have as a minimum the performances outlined in the product perspective. It is also assumed that the player has basic knowledge of launching programs in their operating system. It is assumed that the player has played a video game before and might not read the instructions before starting the game. It is assumed that the system will have a standard keyboard with US mapping. We also assume that the system will have a built in colour screen. It will be also assumed that the cooperative two player will be played on one shared keyboard.

3. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

I. MODE I: MENU SYSTEM

I.0 GENERAL FUNCTIONALITY

- 1.0.1 The menu system provides a way for the user to access other parts of the game as well as change settings for the game. It is either a separate window or a menu bar embedded into the gameplay window **(essential, easy)**.

I.1 EXTERNAL INTERFACES

- 1.1.1 The main way to interact with the menu will be with the display and the mouse **(essential, easy)**.
- 1.1.2 The menu window includes the following buttons : 'Load Game', 'New Single Player Game', 'New Two-Player Contest', 'New Coop Game', 'High Score', 'Game Instructions and Preferences', 'Credits', 'Exit' **(essential, easy)**.
- 1.1.3 All windows (Menu, High Score, Gameplay, etc.) will include an exit button, in the top right corner, marked as an 'X' which will close the game, cancelling any activities that are occurring **(essential, medium)**.
- 1.1.4 When the user clicks on a button in the menu, the game will respond appropriately and display the correct sub-menu such as an options page or help dialog **(essential, medium)**.

I.2 FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- 1.2.1 Clicking the 'Load Game' button will close the main menu window, open the gameplay window and load a previously stored game **(essential, medium)**.
- 1.2.2 Clicking the 'New Single Player Game' button will close the main menu window, open the playing field window and will start a new single player game **(essential, medium)**.
- 1.2.3 Clicking the 'New Coop Game' button will close the main menu window, open the game play window and will start a new game in which two players play together on the same game play field **(desirable, hard)**.

- 1.2.4 Clicking the 'New Two-Player Contest' button will close the main menu window, open the game play window and will start a new game in which two players play one after the other **(essential, hard)**.
- 1.2.5 Clicking the 'High Score' button will open the High Score window (leaving the main menu open) **(essential, medium)**.
- 1.2.6 Clicking the 'Game Instructions and Preferences' button will open the Control/How-To-Play window (leaving the main menu open) **(desirable, medium)**.
- 1.2.7 Clicking the 'Exit' button will close the program **(essential, medium)**.
- 1.2.8 Clicking the 'Credits' button will open the Credits window (leaving the main menu open) **(desirable, medium)**.

1.3 PERFORMANCE

- 1.3.1 Starting the game (i.e. loading the Main menu screen) will take up to 1 second from the moment the executable starts running **(essential, medium)**.
- 1.3.2 The “hitbox” of any button will correspond to its displayed size **(essential, medium)**.
- 1.3.3 Transitions from the Main menu to any other non-gameplay window will be executed within 500ms **(essential, medium)**.
- 1.3.4 Transitions from the Main menu to any new game gameplay window will be executed within 1 second **(essential, medium)**.
- 1.3.5 Transitions from the Main menu to loading a saved game to the gameplay window will be executed within 1.5 second **(essential, medium)**.
- 1.3.6 Exiting the game will not take more than 5 seconds **(essential, medium)**.

2. MODE 2: IN-GAME

3. MODE 3: HIGH SCORE SCREEN

4. MODE 4: GAME INSTRUCTIONS AND PREFERENCES

5. MODE 5: CREDITS

6. MODE 6: PAUSE MENU

6.0 GENERAL FUNCTIONALITY

- 6.0.1 In the Pause Menu the game is stopped and may either be resumed or saved (**desirable, easy**).
- 6.0.2 While pause menu is open, the game display will not disappear, but will be dampened or blackened to allow focus on the pause menu (**desirable, medium**).

6.1 EXTERNAL INTERFACES

- 6.1.1 The Pause menu interacts with the screen and the mouse, it has a 'Resume Game' button and a 'Save and Exit' button (**essential, easy**).

6.2 FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- 6.2.1 Clicking the 'Resume Game' button will close the Pause menu and return focus to the In-Game screen, continuing the game (**essential, easy**).
- 6.2.2 Clicking the 'Save' button will save the game, close the In-Game window and return focus to the Main menu (**essential, easy**).
- 6.2.3 Clicking the 'Exit' button will close the In-Game window and return focus to the Main menu (**essential, easy**).

6.3 PERFORMANCE

- 6.3.1 Returning to gameplay will be executed within 500ms (**essential, easy**).
- 6.3.2 Saving the game and returning to the Main menu will be executed within 1 second (**essential, easy**).
- 6.3.3 Pausing cannot be done more than once per 5 seconds to prevent abuse of pause ability (**desirable, medium**).

4. APPENDICES

4.1 REFERENCE IN-GAME WINDOWS

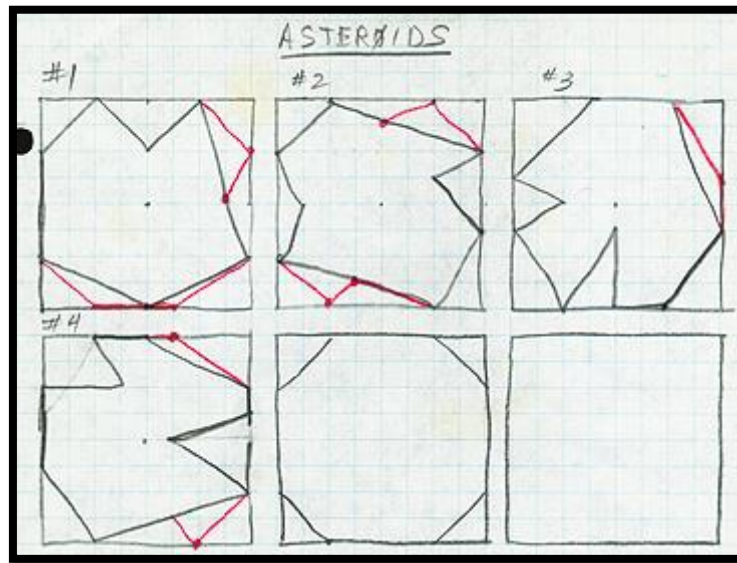
In the screenshot below, notice the placement of the scores of players one and two on either side of the top edge of the screen. Note that the highest score is shown on the top of the screen in the centre.



In the next screenshot, note the representation and placement of the “remaining lives” indicator at the top left of the screen. We also see the three different sizes of asteroids on the playing field as well as a large alien.



4.2 REFERENCE SPRITE DATA



4.3 REFERENCE FONT DATA

