User Manual

Family Friendly Poker

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Table of Contents

Glossary ……pg 2

1. Online Poker ……pg 4

1.1 Usage scenario ……...pg 4

1.2 Goals ……..…..pg 5

1.3 Features …….……pg 6

2. Installation …….……..pg 6

2.1 System requirements ……pg 6

2.2 Setup and configuration …….……..pg 6

2.3 Uninstalling …….……..pg 6

3. Program Functions and Features …….pg 7

3.1 Detailed description of client and server communication ……pg 7

3.2 detailed description of dealer choice and card distribution …….pg 7

3.3 detailed description of poker game integration …….pg 7

Glossary

Suit: One of the categories the cards of a deck are divided into. The cards typically display symbols that denote which suit they belong to. There are four suits, which are Clubs, Diamonds, Hearts, and Spades.

Hand: The name for the set of cards each player plays with in Poker. Each hand consists of five cards.

Rank: Another category by which the cards of a deck are divided into. There are thirteen ranks, with 2 as the lowest and A as the highest.

Call: Calling is the act of matching a bet or raise during a betting round to stay in the game.

Check: An action during a betting round where the player chooses to not bet or raise when given the opportunity.

Raise: An action during a betting round where the player increases the stakes by wagering more points than are currently needed to match.

Fold: An action during a betting round where the player chooses to forfeit their chances at winning the game in order to not have to further bet.

Board: The community cards dealt by the dealer that the players must play off of.

Flop: The first three cards that the dealer reveals after the initial round of betting.

Turn: The fourth community card revealed after the flop.

River: The fifth community card revealed after the river.

Royal Flush: The highest-ranking combination of straight flush is given a special name, the Royal Flush. It consists of A, K, Q, J, and 10 all in the same suit.

Straight Flush: This hand consists of five cards of the same suit in sequence, excluding the highest-ranking combination, which is given a different name. Example: 5♣, 6♣, 7♣, 8♣, 9♣

Four of a Kind: This hand contains four cards of the same rank and a fifth card of a different rank. Example: 3, 3, 3, 3, 10

Full House: This hand consists of three cards of one rank and two cards of another rank. Example: 2, 2, 2, J, J

Flush: Five cards all of the same suit, but not in sequence. Example: 3♠, 7♠, 10♠, Q♠, A♠

Straight: A hand where the five cards are in sequence, but they don't all have the same suit. Example: 4♦, 5♣, 6♠, 7♥, 8♣

Three of a Kind: A combination where three cards are of the same rank, and the last two cards are each a different rank from any other. Example: 5, 5, 5, Q, 9

Two Pair: This hand contains a pair of one rank and a second pair of a different rank, with the fifth card being a different rank from the two pairs. Example: A, A, 2, 2, 8

Pair: A combination that consists of two cards with the same rank with the other three cards being different and unique ranks. Example: 1, 1, K, 4, 7

No Pair: A hand that has no pairs or otherwise matching cards, do not have the same suit, and are not in sequential order.

High Card: A hand where the only valuable thing is the card with the highest rank.

Small Blind: This is the amount (as determined by the group) the person to the immediate left of the dealer has to put in the pot before any cards have been revealed.

Big Blind: This is the amount the person two to the left of the dealer has to put in the pot before any cards have been revealed; it is two times the small blind.

1 Online Poker

1.1 Usage scenario

A user will connect to the host server and choose where they want to sit and what their name will be displayed as. Simultaneously, the user's friends may also join the server and take their seats. In conjunction with joining the game, users and their friends may join a video call together through an application such as Zoom, in order to communicate with one another and create a more sociable gaming environment. Once everyone has joined, two cards will be dealt to each player, one of which will place the starting bet. Now, the next player may choose to fold if they have a seemingly weak hand such as a 2 of Hearts and a 5 of Spades. Then, the next may choose to call if they are content with their hand; or if they are feeling particularly good about their hand (say 2 Aces), they may opt to raise the stakes. After everyone has bet or folded, the dealer will reveal the first three community cards (the flop), at which point everyone will make another decision: call, raise, or fold. Then, the dealer will reveal the fourth card (the turn) and another round of betting will commence. Finally, the dealer will reveal the fifth and final card (the river) and the remaining players will make a final bet. Whoever has the winning hand will win the round and receive the prize points. The game will be displayed to the user using a GUI in order to allow for ease of play; they will just have to click on whichever decision they want to make in each betting round.

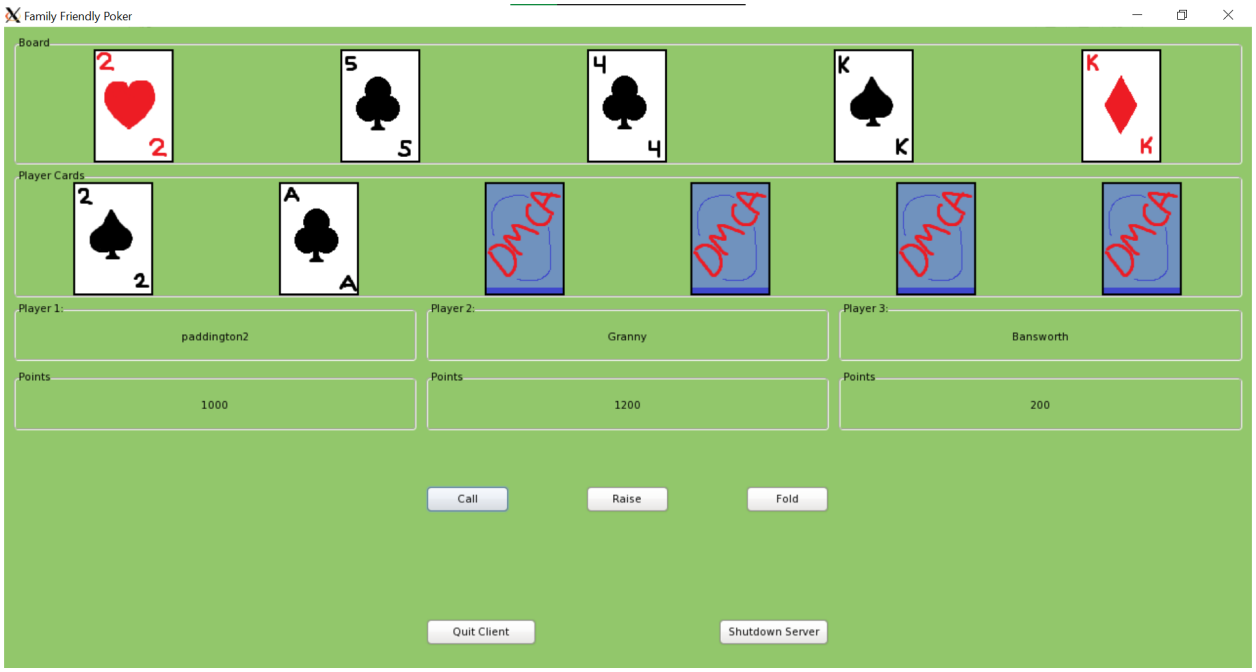

Figure 1. (GUI displaying showdown between three players: paddington2, Granny, and Bansworth)

1.2 Goals

The goal of this software is to provide a space where friends can come together and play a fun game of poker. Friends will be able to connect with each other over Zoom and play a fair game of Texas Hold'em.

1.3 Features

This poker application will follow and implement the rules of Texas Hold'em. At the start of the game each player is prompted to insert their name and to choose the "seat" they would like to play at. Each player will start off with a specific number of points that will be used throughout the game. The dealer of the game will be selected randomly and the deck of cards will also be randomly shuffled. The player is able to view the board and their cards as they decide whether to call, raise, or fold. The game progresses until the 'showdown' round where the winner is declared and all of their points are added up. The whole program will be displayed to the user through GUI.

2 Installation

2.1 System Requirements

1. Computer with PC hardware and internet connection
2. Linux platform for running the program

2.2 Setup and configuration

1. The program comes in a tar.gz package named Poker_V1.0.tar.gz
2. Install the package and extract it
3. Unpack the archive and type make to start the program
4. ./Server 10090 to start the host Server
5. ./Client to connect to host (server name: bondi.eecs.uci.edu ; port number: 10090)

2.3 Uninstalling

Uninstall the program by typing make clean in the terminal

3 Program Functions and Features

3.1 Detailed description of client and server communication

The user will enter their username and password on the client server which will then communicate with the host server to verify that the username and password match. After every user logs in and chooses their seat, the game will begin. The host server holds the information regarding which cards every player has and which cards are on the board.

3.2 Detailed description of dealer choice and card distribution

At the start of the game, the dealer is randomly selected from the group of players. The dealer will have a special icon that denotes their status as the dealer. After this point, the person who is the dealer is decided through a clockwise rotation after each game is over. Cards are distributed randomly from the deck, two to each player, and are not seen/known by the dealer, except for their own cards.

3.3 Detailed description of poker game integration

Before any cards are dealt, the small blind and the big blind must add their points to the pot. Then the “dealer” will distribute two cards to each player so that they may make any new decisions in the betting round before the flop. After this round of betting, the flop will be revealed and another round will take place, at which point, players can check, call, raise, or fold. Next, the turn will be revealed and another round of betting begins with the same actions available. Afterwards, the river is revealed and a final round of betting occurs. Once the round is over, players reveal their cards and whoever has the best hand wins the points in the pot. Then, cards are reshuffled and the person to the left of the dealer becomes the new dealer. Play continues until the players want to stop.

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Error messages

You do not have enough points to make that raise: This may occur if the user tries to raise the stakes to an amount higher than their current point total. (Raising to 500 points when they only have 388 points).

Index

Big Blind pg. 3, 7

Board pg. 2, 6

Call pg. 2, 4, 6

Check pg. 2

Dealer pg. 4, 7

Flop pg. 2, 4

Flush pg. 3

Fold pg. 2, 4, 6

Four of a Kind pg. 2

Full House pg. 2

GUI pg. 4, 5, 6, 7

Hand pg. 2, 3, 4

High Card pg. 3

Host Server pg. 4, 6

No Pair pg. 3

Pair pg. 3

Raise pg. 2, 4, 6

Rank pg. 2

River pg. 2, 4

Royal Flush pg. 2

Seat pg. 4, 6

Small Blind pg. 3, 7

Straight pg. 3

Straight Flush pg. 2

Suit pg. 2

Three of a Kind pg. 3

Turn pg. 2, 4

Two Pair pg. 3

Zoom pg. 4