

# Introduction To Multicasting

Robert Hirsh

NASA/JSC ER6

Software Robotics and Simulation Division

Mar 13<sup>th</sup> 2019

[Robert.L.Hirsh@nasa.gov](mailto:Robert.L.Hirsh@nasa.gov)

# Outline

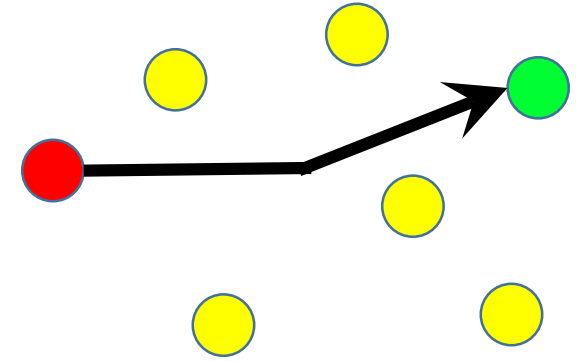
- Background on Multicast
- AA2 Components
- Data Player App (test.jar)
  - Telemetry Player
  - Telemetry Receiver
  - Telemetry Format
    - Units/meaning of data items
- Example Packet Dissection
- Questions?



# Multicast

- Computers communicate by sending Ethernet messages
- Unicast messages are point-to-point
  - One sender and one receiver
  - Like a text or phone call
  - Each computer has a unique IP address (4 numbers)
    - www.google.com is 172.217.15.68
    - www.apple.com is 17.142.160.59
- Multicast is like a radio or TV broadcast.
  - Sender sends out 1 message regardless if one, ten, 1000, or a million clients are receiving
  - Removes overhead of sending individual copy to each one
  - No rebroadcast if a message is missed by one client

## Unicast

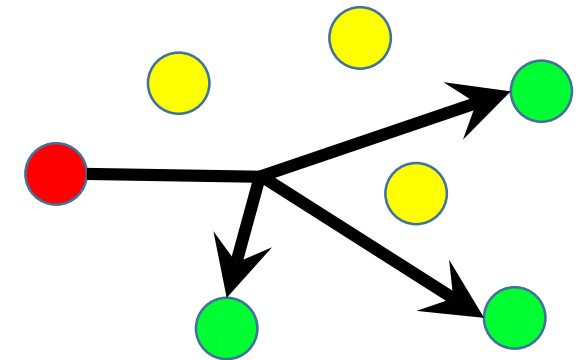


Red is source, Green is destination  
Yellow are other computers.

See more at:

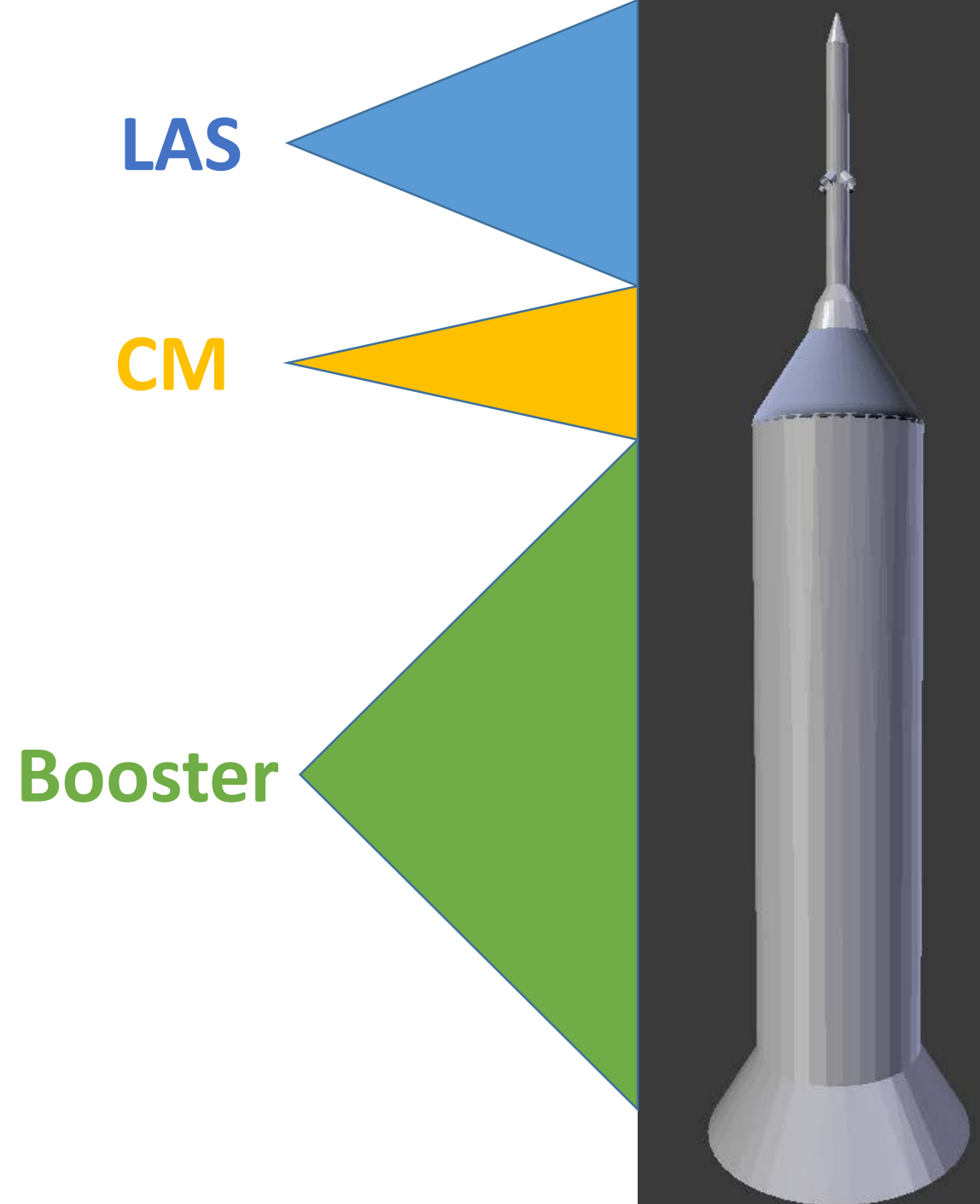
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multicast>

## Multicast



# Vehicle Components

- There are 3 “pieces” of AA2
  - The Launch Abort System (**LAS**)
  - The Command Module (**CM**)
  - The Launching Rocket (**Booster**)
- All 3 Pieces of launch together
- After reaching the test altitude/speed the abort will occur
  - LAS/CM pull away from the Booster
- After LAS/CM are safely away, the LAS jettisons from the CM
- Individual Wavefront (.obj) models for these 3 pieces have been provided



# Telemetry Player

- NASA is providing a telemetry player
  - Sends out a Multicast UDP version of the data in the Data.csv file
  - Each row of file is sent as a separate Ethernet packet
  - Your app needs to read this multicast data
  - Live vehicle data will be sent in same format
- Exact method of receiving multicast data varies based on software you use to design your app.
  - There are many examples of Multicast clients available online
  - Sample Java Multicast Receiver is included in test.jar file
    - Prints out the content of the message, does not do anything with the data
    - Feel free to use the code as a starting point if you are using Java for your application, but don't feel like you need to

# Telemetry Player instructions

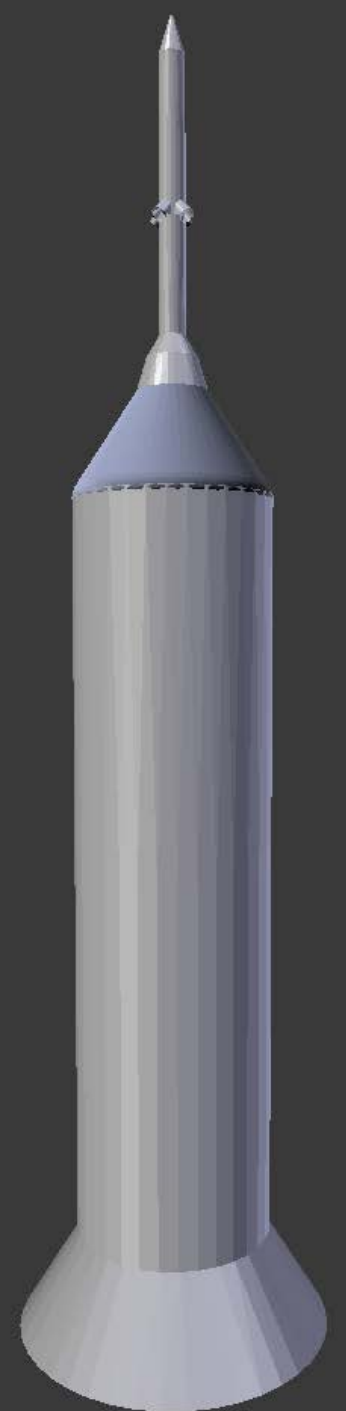
- Once you have downloaded the test.jar and Data.csv files, place them in a folder
- Open a command prompt (in that folder)
- Type the following command:  
**java -jar test.jar**
- That will start the data player and you will see print messages as it sends out each line of the Data.csv file
- You can edit the data file to send other sample data, as you wish
  - Feel free to tweak data trajectory for your final video
- By default, it will send data on Multicast address (237.7.7.7), on port (42055), at normal (1x) rate, from the Dats.csv file.
  - Those parameters can all be changed if needed by using additional command line arguments.
  - For example: to replay the file at 3x normal speed, type the following:  
**java -jar test.jar -s 3**
- To see all command line arguments type  
**java -jar test.jar -h**

# Telemetry Reader

- Open a command prompt (in the folder with test.jar)
- Type the following command:  
**java -cp test.jar receiver**
- That will start the data receiver, and if a telemetry player is running, the receiver app will print out a text version of all the parameters that it receives
  - Note: You can open up multiple instances of the receiver (anywhere in the same local network) and each will receive the data
- To see the source code in the tar file, type the following to extract it:  
**jar -xvf test.jar**
  - Feel free to modify/examine any of the java files insider.
- Note: The player listens to Multicast address (237.7.7.7) on port (42055)
  - Those parameters have no command line arguments
    - Feel free to add that feature to receiver.java if you want to (see sender.java “GetOpts” example)

# Telemetry Format

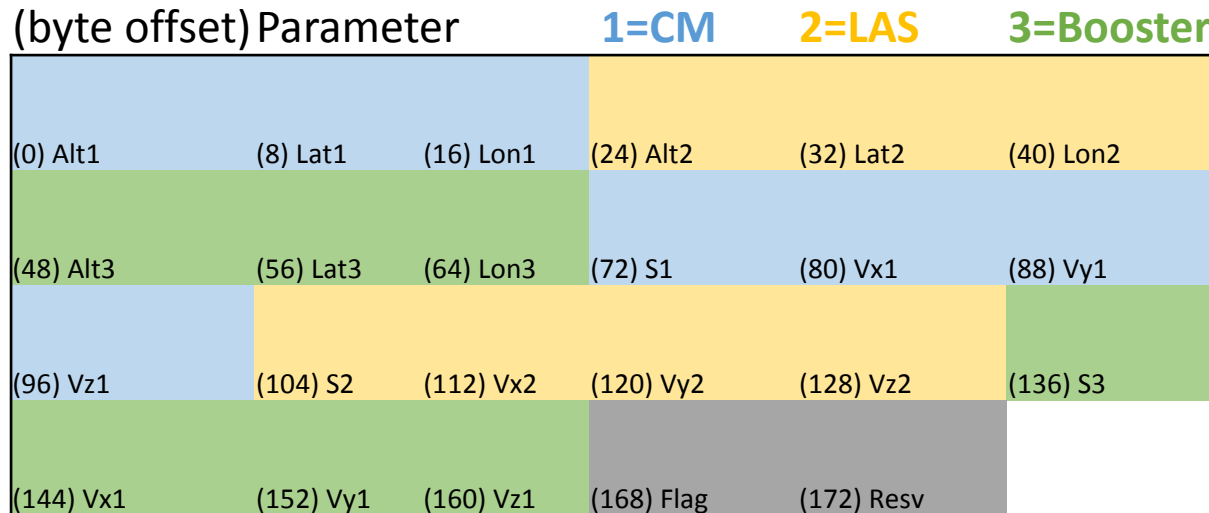
- Data stream has location/orientation for 3 AA2 pieces
- 7 parameters in the telemetry (per piece)
  - 3 for position, and 4 for orientation
  - All of these items are 8-byte floating point numbers (i.e. a double)
  - 3 Positions are: Elevation (meters), and Latitude/Longitude (radians).
  - Orientation is a quaternion: 4 unitless numbers in range between -1 to 1
    - Separate talk concerning quaternions will in Live Connect 3
- In addition to those 21 (3 object, 7 per object) doubles, there are two 4-byte integers at the end of each message
  - One is a flag for when the Booster and LAS are “active”
    - Use for any smoke/fire animations in your application
    - 0 means no engines active, 1 is booster only, 2 is LAS only, and 3 is both.
  - Second parameter is reserved for future use, but may be used in future
    - Let us know ideas for what you think would be useful to put into that slot





# Telemetry Payload

- 176 bytes of data in each message
  - Items are packed same order as Data.csv
  - Shown graphically above
  - Doubles takes up 8 bytes. The last 2 items (in grey) are 4-bytes



Simulated

- Raw byte dump of first rows of data file is shown on next slides
  - For reference on converting 8 raw bytes to doubles, you can use
  - <https://gregstoll.com/~gregstoll/floattohex>
    - Make sure to tic “swap endinness” box

# Packet1 (1<sup>st</sup> row)

CM Altitude = -47.08564

CM Latitude = 0.49669439

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 5e | 9d | 63 | 40 | f6 | 8a | 47 | c0 | df | 06 | 4a | 44 | d7 | c9 | df | 3f |
| 11 | c6 | 4f | e3 | de | 7c | f6 | bf | 5e | 9d | 63 | 40 | f6 | 8a | 47 | c0 |
| df | 06 | 4a | 44 | d7 | c9 | df | 3f | 11 | c6 | 4f | e3 | de | 7c | f6 | bf |
| 5e | 9d | 63 | 40 | f6 | 8a | 47 | c0 | df | 06 | 4a | 44 | d7 | c9 | df | 3f |
| 11 | c6 | 4f | e3 | de | 7c | f6 | bf | 8a | c8 | 37 | 32 | 4b | 06 | dd | 3f |
| b3 | 0e | c3 | 1e | 45 | 63 | e1 | 3f | bc | 35 | 55 | 9c | 0f | f4 | dc | 3f |
| db | d7 | e4 | 9d | 01 | 5d | e1 | bf | 8a | c8 | 37 | 32 | 4b | 06 | dd | 3f |
| b3 | 0e | c3 | 1e | 45 | 63 | e1 | 3f | bc | 35 | 55 | 9c | 0f | f4 | dc | 3f |
| db | d7 | e4 | 9d | 01 | 5d | e1 | bf | 8a | c8 | 37 | 32 | 4b | 06 | dd | 3f |
| b3 | 0e | c3 | 1e | 45 | 63 | e1 | 3f | bc | 35 | 55 | 9c | 0f | f4 | dc | 3f |
| db | d7 | e4 | 9d | 01 | 5d | e1 | bf | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | ff | ff | ff | ff |

Booster Quat Z = -0.54260331

Flags = 0

reserved = -1

# Packet2 (2<sup>nd</sup> row)

CM Altitude = -47.086411

CM Latitude = 0.49669439

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| e0 | 81 | 01 | 84 | 0f | 8b | 47 | c0 | df | 06 | 4a | 44 | d7 | c9 | df | 3f |
| 11 | c6 | 4f | e3 | de | 7c | f6 | bf | e0 | 81 | 01 | 84 | 0f | 8b | 47 | c0 |
| df | 06 | 4a | 44 | d7 | c9 | df | 3f | 11 | c6 | 4f | e3 | de | 7c | f6 | bf |
| e0 | 81 | 01 | 84 | 0f | 8b | 47 | c0 | df | 06 | 4a | 44 | d7 | c9 | df | 3f |
| 11 | c6 | 4f | e3 | de | 7c | f6 | bf | 66 | cd | db | 96 | 19 | 06 | dd | 3f |
| 36 | 19 | d9 | be | 15 | 63 | e1 | 3f | 06 | df | b0 | 44 | d2 | f4 | dc | 3f |
| a1 | b8 | a9 | a2 | f4 | 5c | e1 | bf | 66 | cd | db | 96 | 19 | 06 | dd | 3f |
| 36 | 19 | d9 | be | 15 | 63 | e1 | 3f | 06 | df | b0 | 44 | d2 | f4 | dc | 3f |
| a1 | b8 | a9 | a2 | f4 | 5c | e1 | bf | 66 | cd | db | 96 | 19 | 06 | dd | 3f |
| 36 | 19 | d9 | be | 15 | 63 | e1 | 3f | 06 | df | b0 | 44 | d2 | f4 | dc | 3f |
| a1 | b8 | a9 | a2 | f4 | 5c | e1 | bf | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | fe | ff | ff | ff |

Booster Quat Z = - 0.54259712

Flags = 0

reserved = -2