

INTRODUCTION TO SIMULINK

Teaching Design
Support Group

SESSION OUTLINE

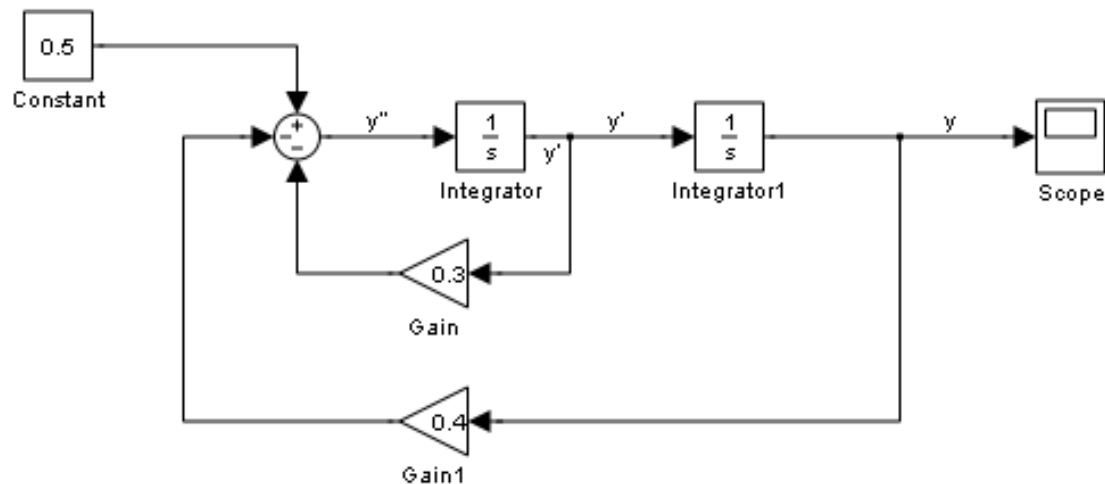
- Short Talk: Simulink Background & Basics
- Exercise 1: Firing a cannon
- Short Talk: Linking MATLAB & Simulink,
Good Coding Practice
Other Features
- Exercise 2: Systems of ODEs
- Exercise 3: Model of Bouncing Ball

WHAT IS SIMULINK?

- Simulink is a visual programming interface built into MATLAB
- A way to solve equations numerically using a graphical user interface

A simple example:

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} = 0.5 - 0.3 \frac{dy}{dt} - 0.4 y$$



WHAT DOES A SIMULINK MODEL LOOK LIKE?

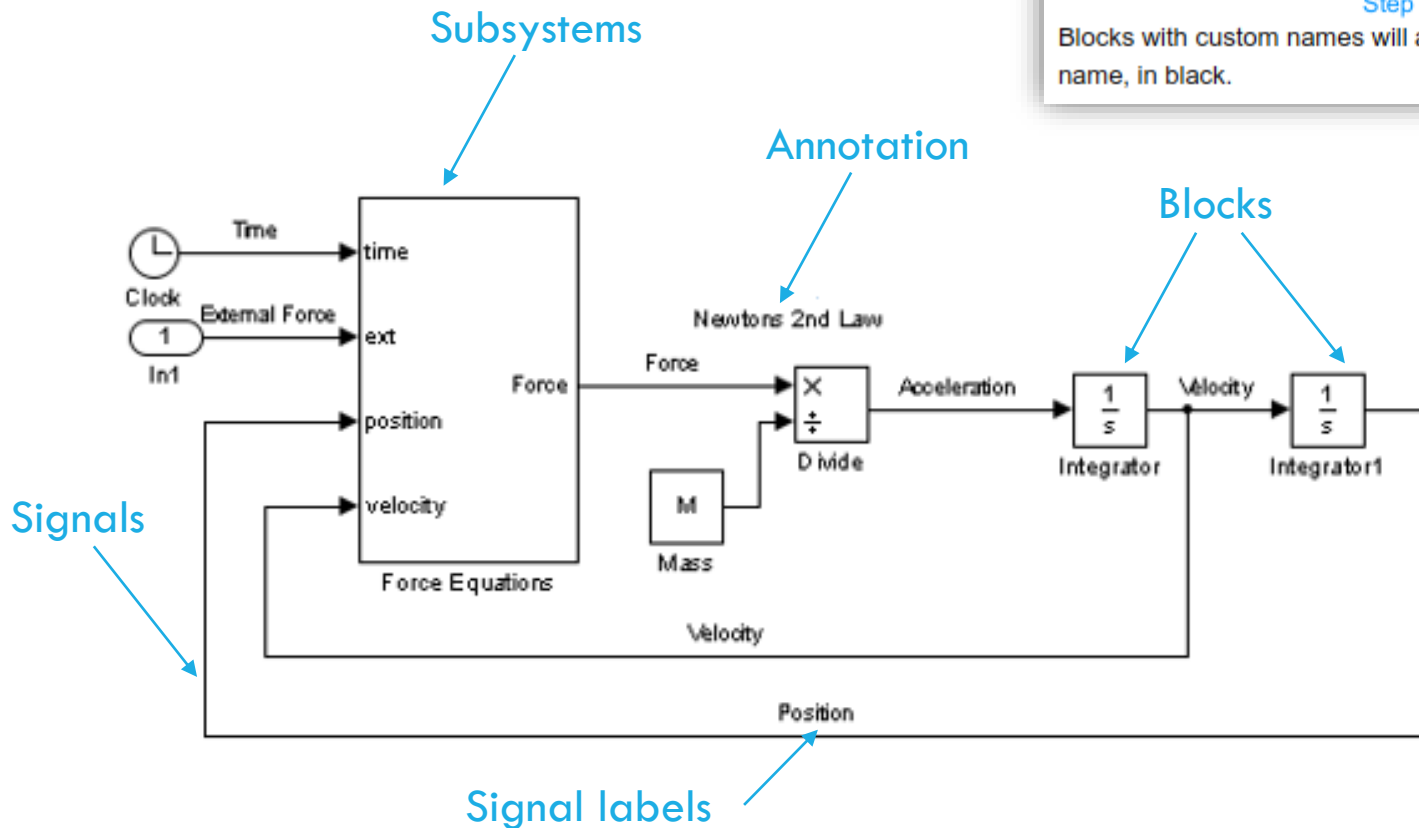
Simulink models are either .slx or .mdl files.

Simulink hides the default names of blocks. Clicking on the block will show the name while the block is selected.

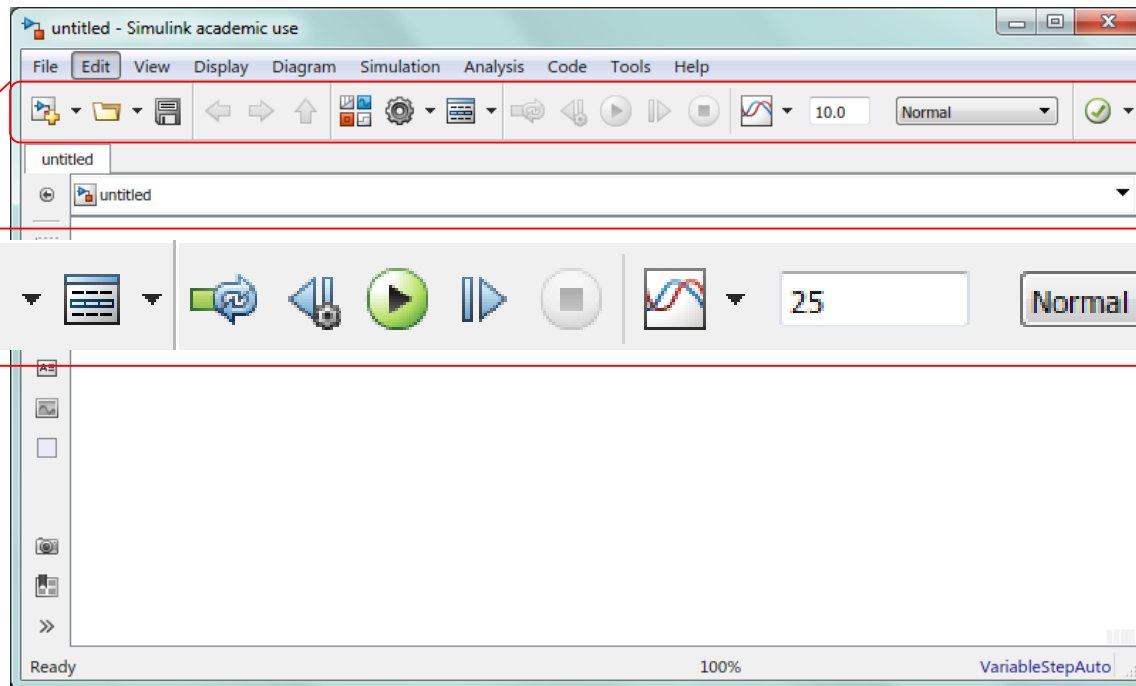
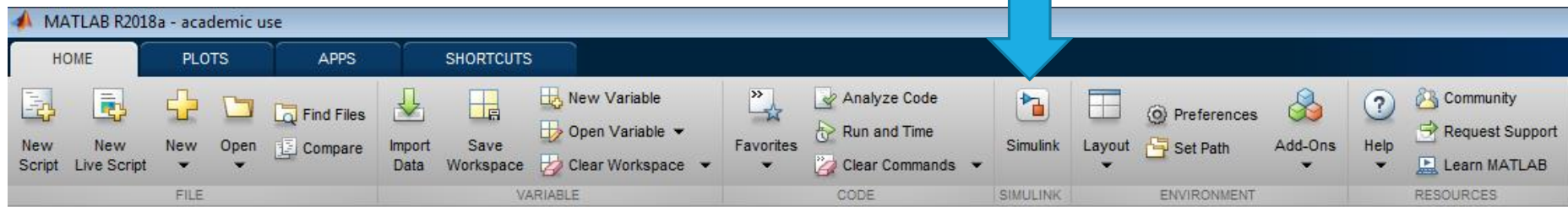


Step

Blocks with custom names will always display their name, in black.



LAUNCHING SIMULINK



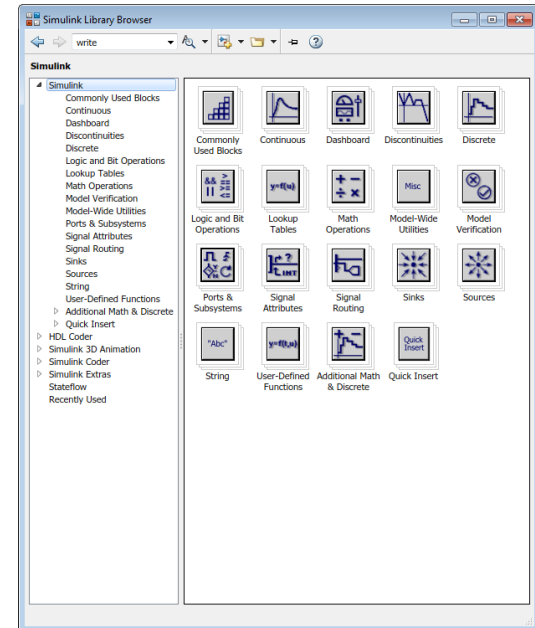
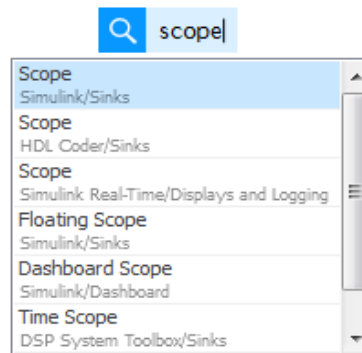
WORKING WITH BLOCKS

There are two ways to add blocks to a model:

- Library Browser



- Quick Search

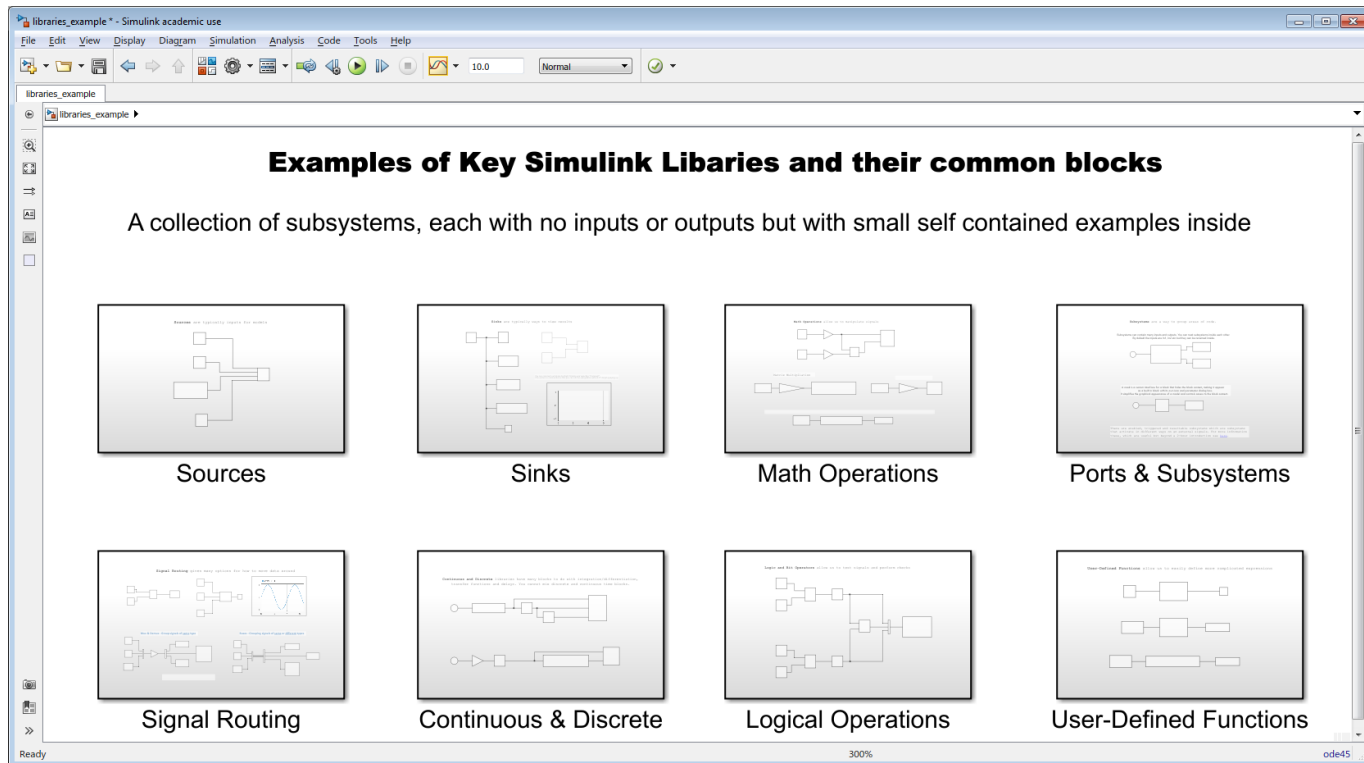


Each block has its own settings:

- **Block Parameters** – values when using the block [Double Click]
- **Block Properties** – how the block looks [Right Click]

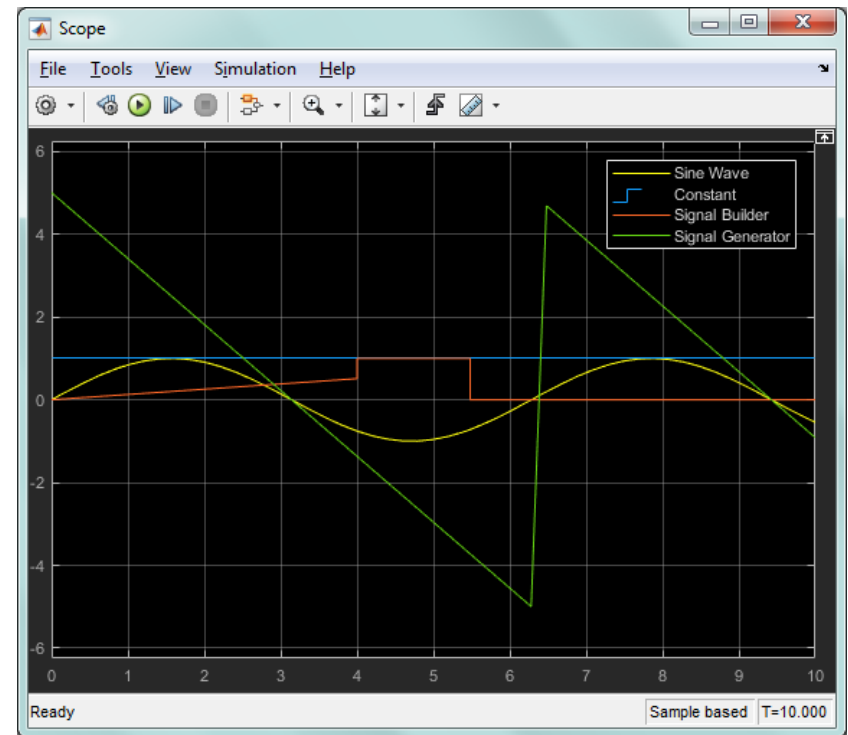
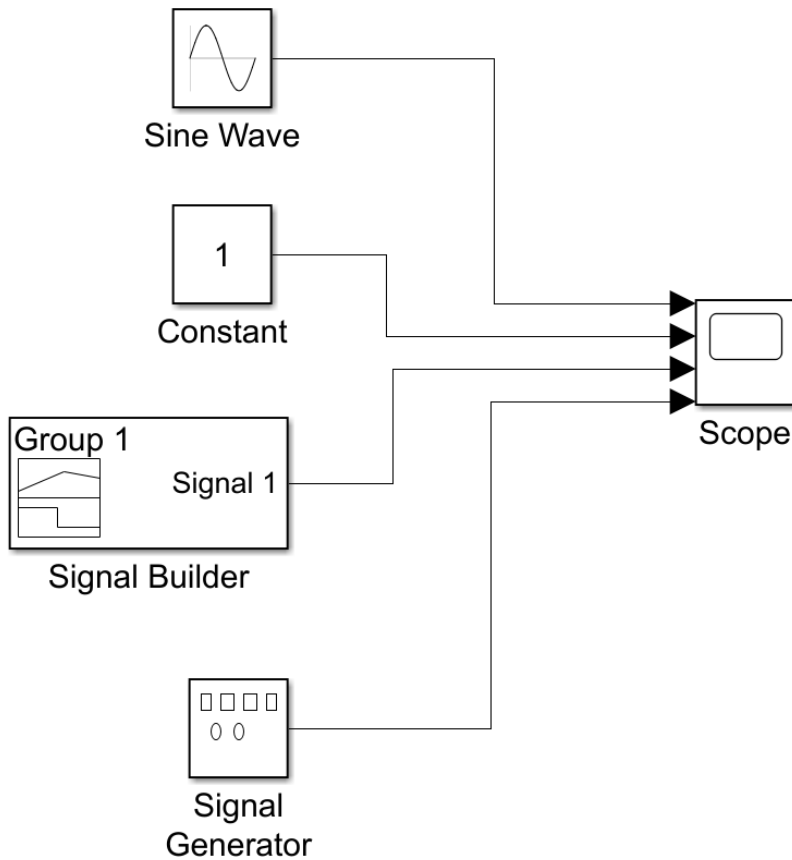
IMPORTANT LIBRARIES

Simulink blocks are sorted into Libraries. Often with Simulink if you want to do something new, you need to search through the documentation to find the name of the block you need.



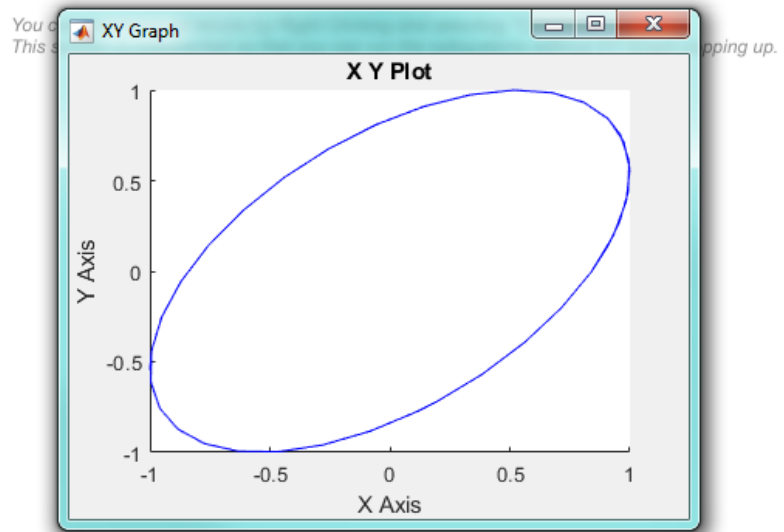
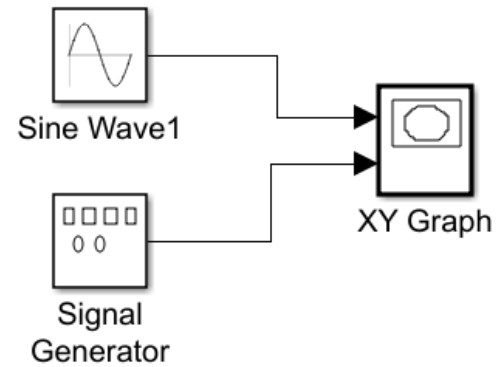
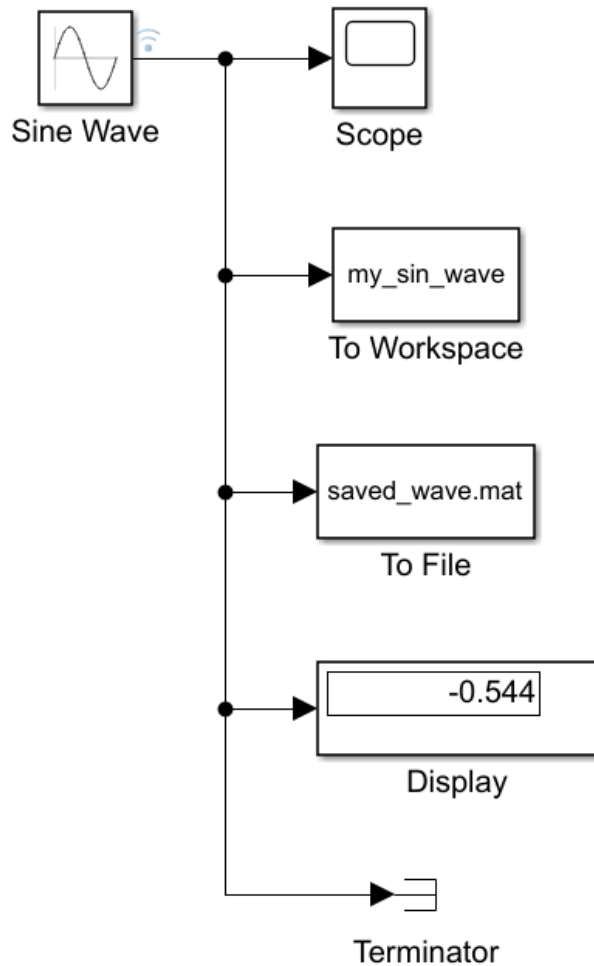
SOURCES

Sources are typically inputs for models



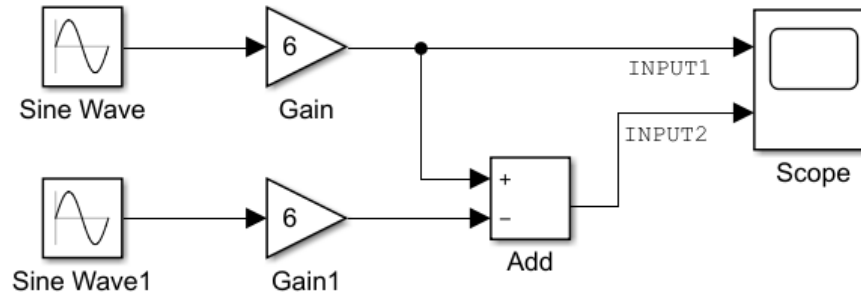
SINKS

Sinks are typically ways to view results

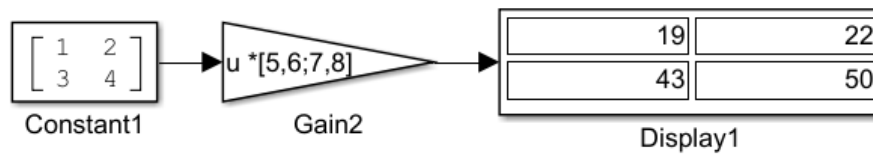


MATH OPERATIONS

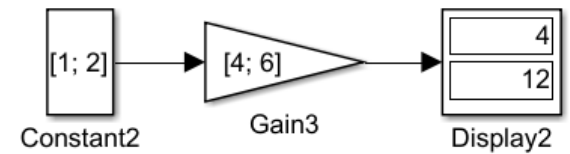
Math Operations allow us to manipulate signals



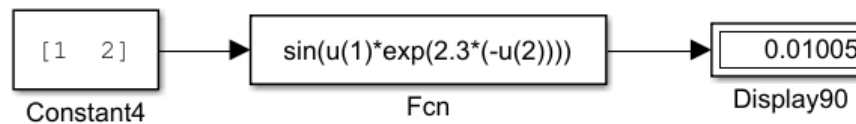
Matrix Multiplication



Array Multiplication

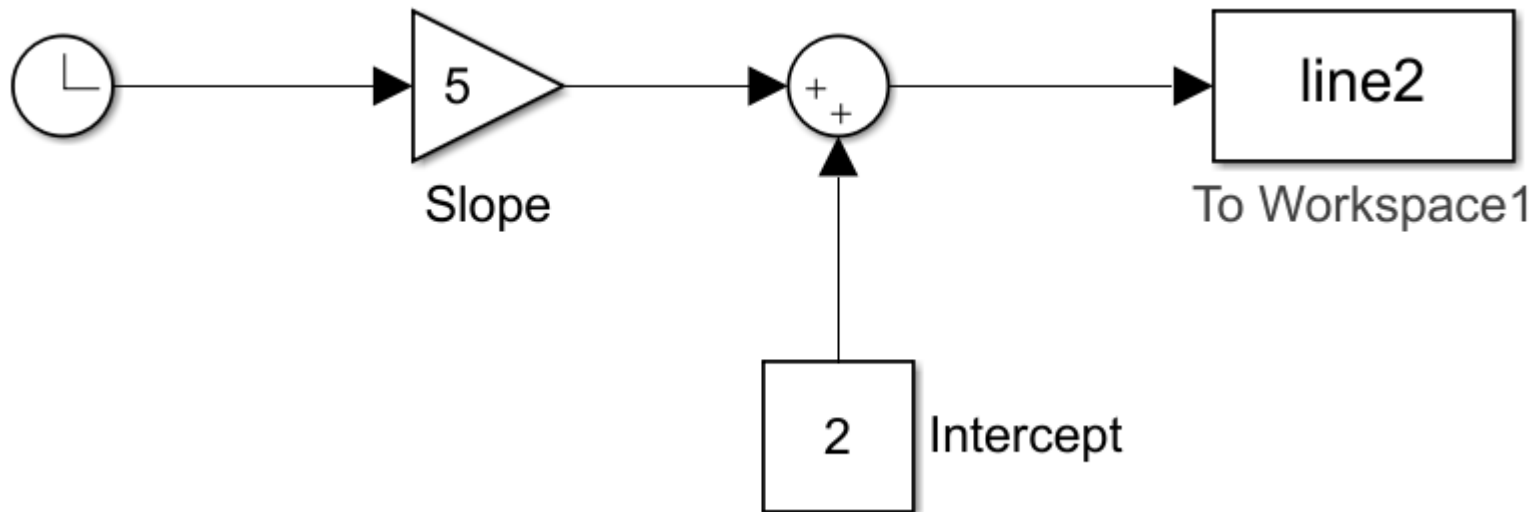


Technically a User-Defined Function, but "Fcn" is useful when thinking about math operations



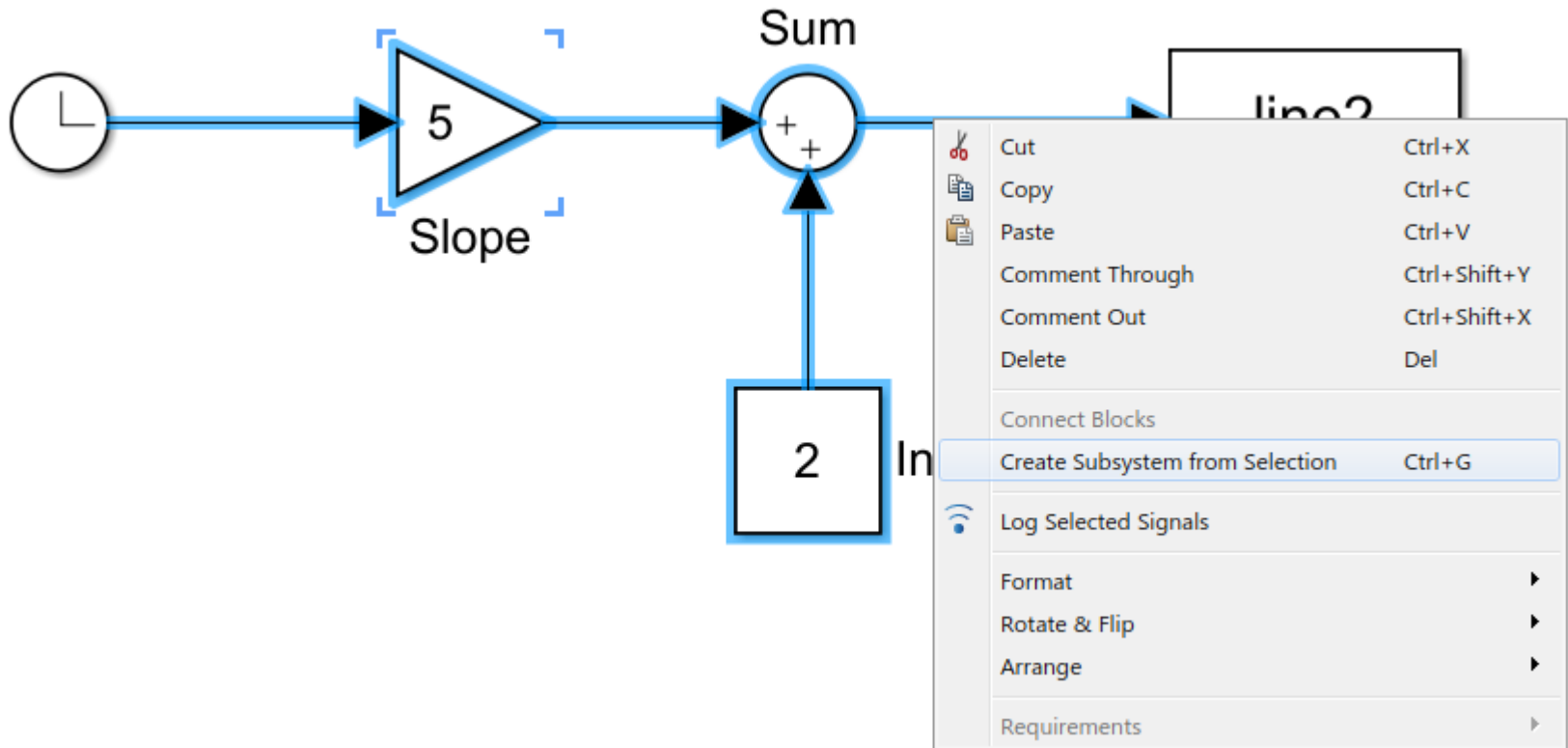
SUBSYSTEMS

Subsystems are a way to group areas of code.



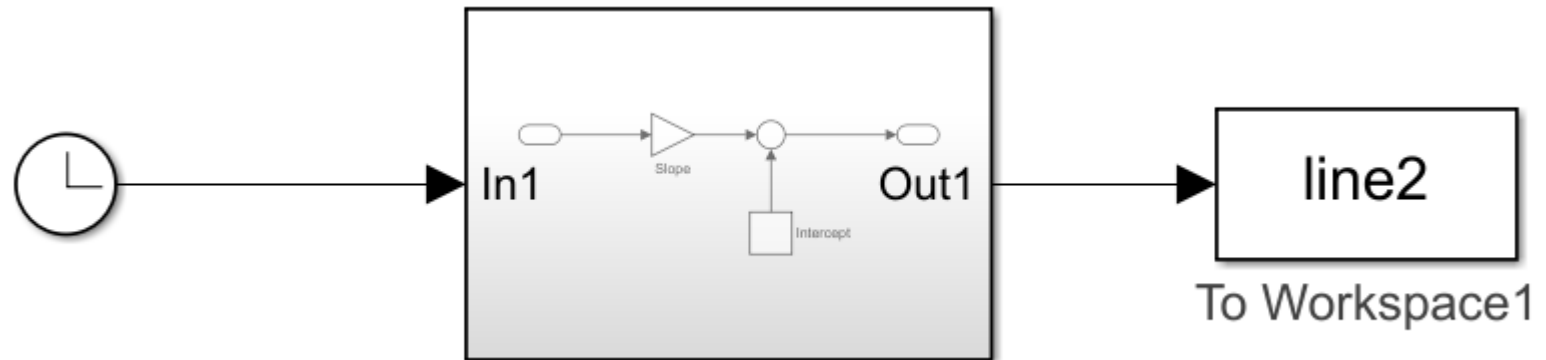
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SUBSYSTEMS

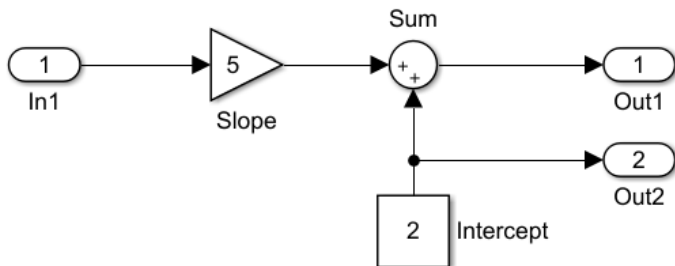
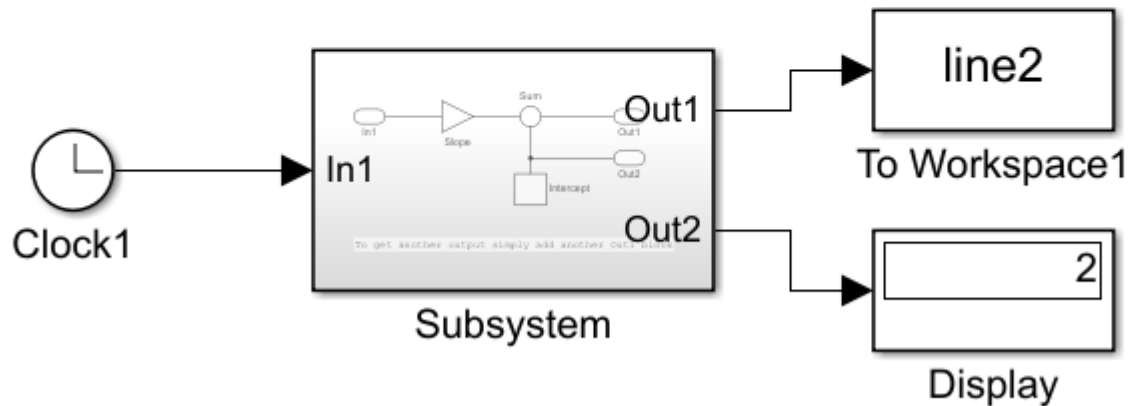
Subsystems are a way to group areas of code.



SUBSYSTEMS

Subsystems are a way to group areas of code.

Subsystems can contain many inputs and outputs. You can nest subsystems inside each other. By default the inputs are In1, In2 etc but they can be renamed inside.



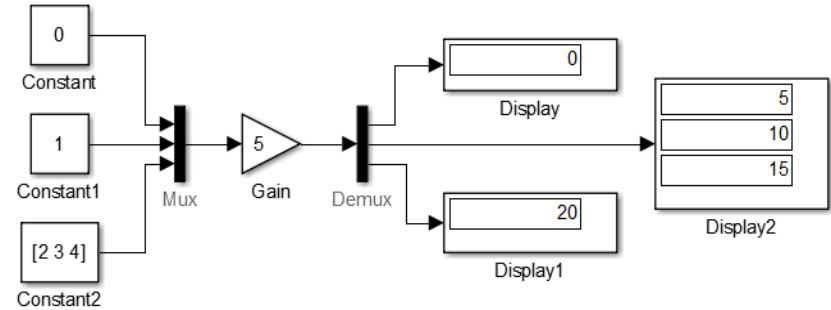
SIGNAL ROUTING

Mux & Demux : Group signals of same type

Mux block groups multiple signals

Demux block separates out individual signals

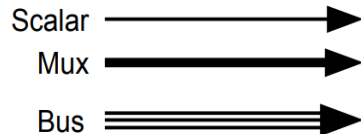
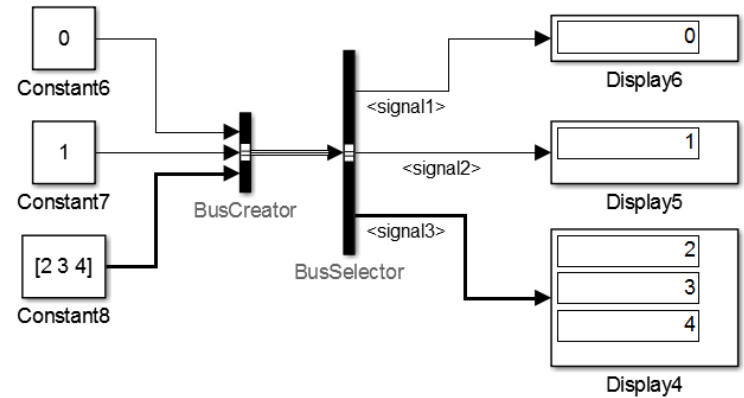
Can generally be used in mathematical operation blocks



Buses : Grouping signals of same or different data types

A **bus** is like cable tidy. Not always possible to feed a bus into a mathematical block.

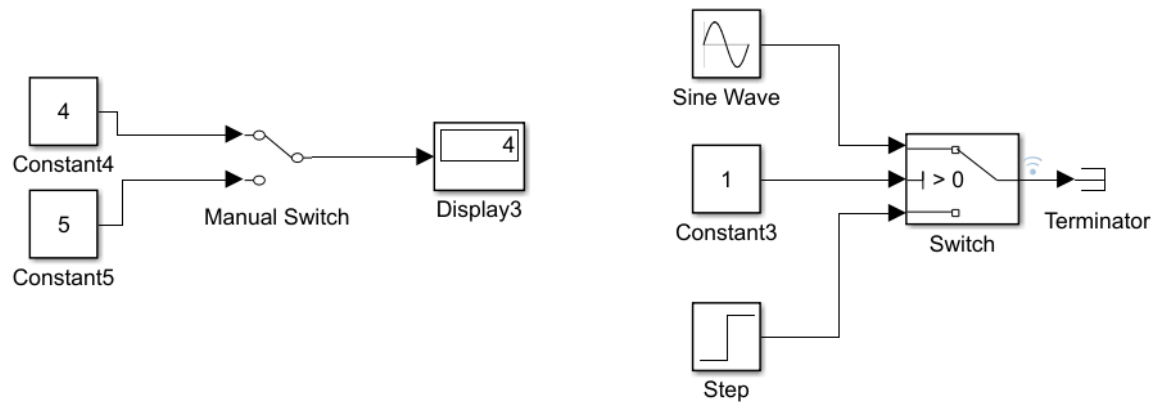
Use **BusCreator** and **BusSelector**.



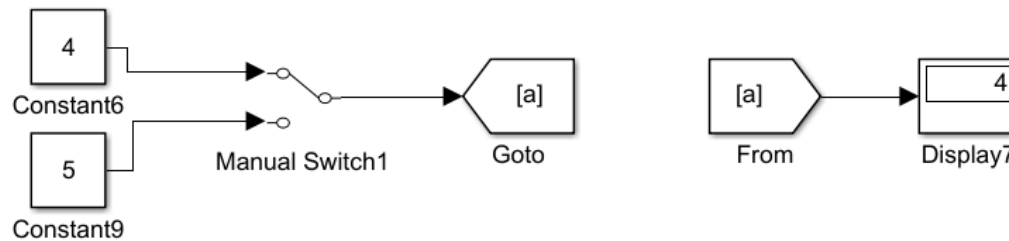
Display > Signals & Ports > Wide Nonscalar Lines

SIGNAL ROUTING

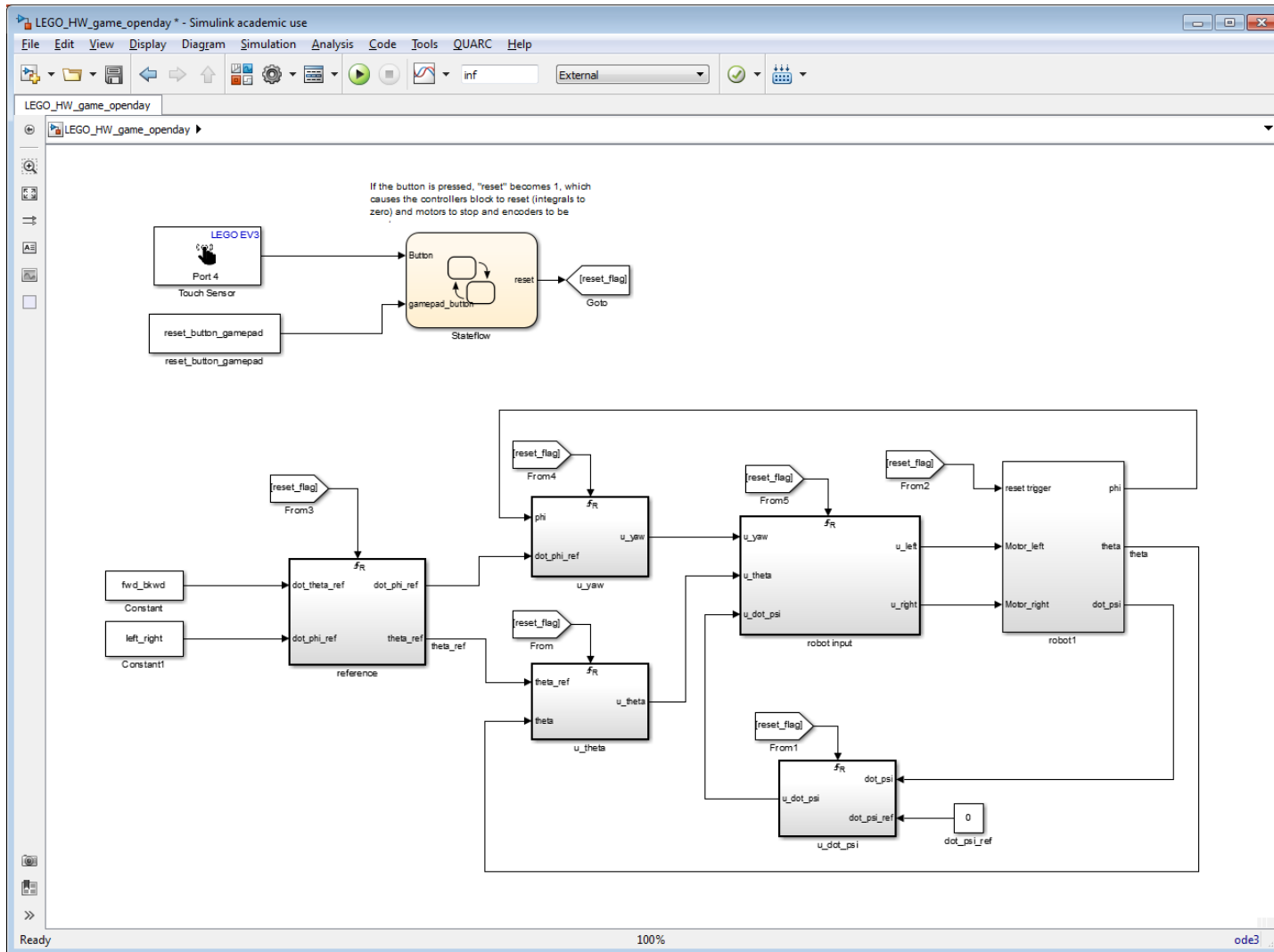
Switches



Goto / From

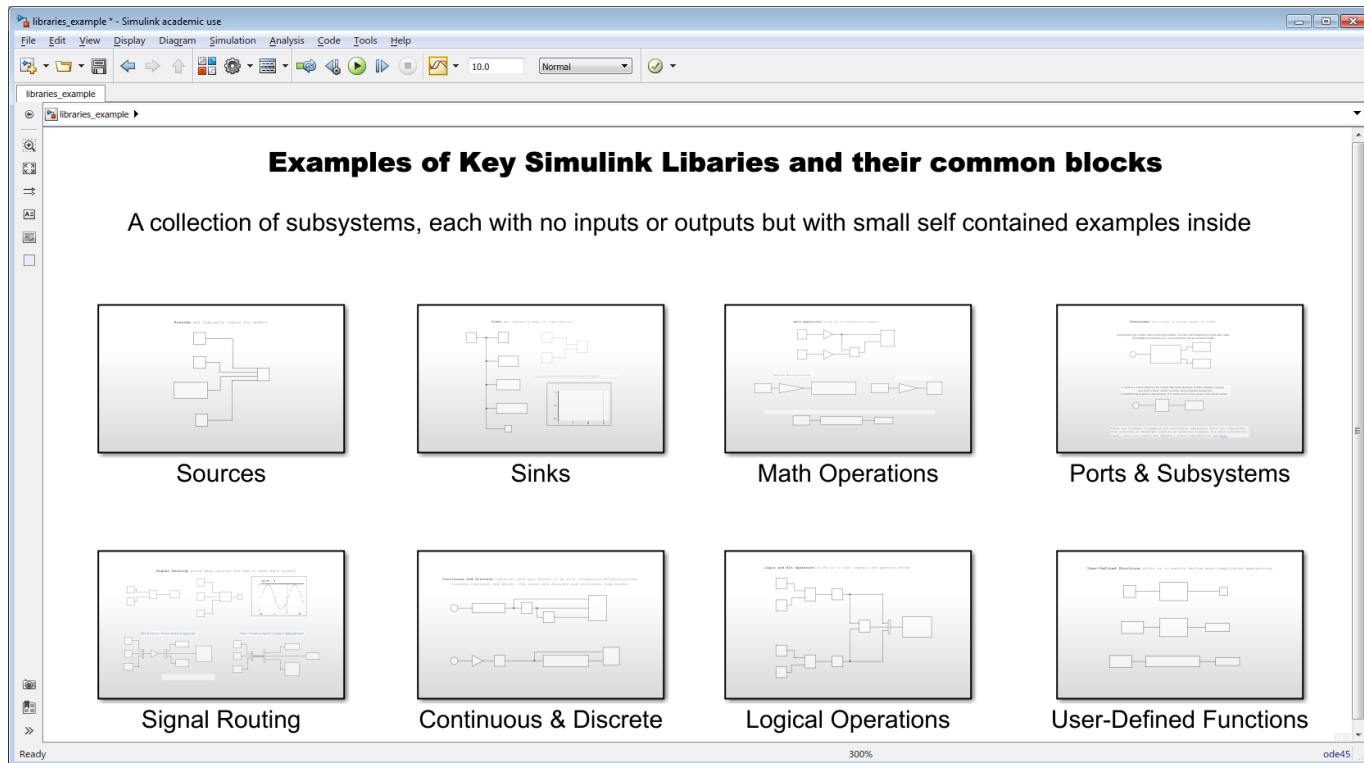


EXAMPLE OF GOTO/FROM



IMPORTANT LIBRARIES

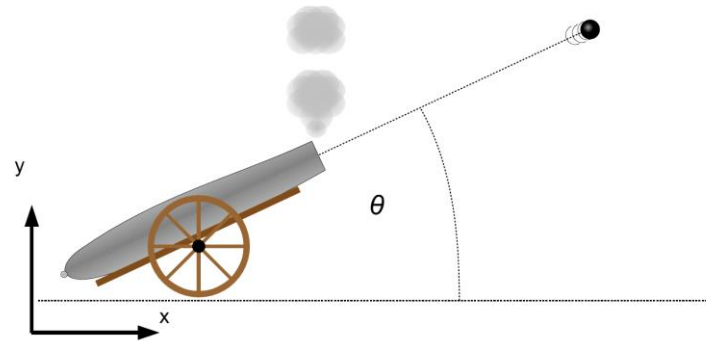
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EXERCISES

➤ Exercise 1: Firing a cannon

- a) Creating a Simple Simulink Cannon Model
- b) Introduction to Subsystems by Modelling Air Resistance
- c) Adjusting Model Parameters
- d) Further Plotting
- e) Using MATLAB Expressions
- f) Combining MATLAB and Simulink



Ask for help! Talk to us about where you need to use Simulink in your work/research!

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- ~~✓ Short Talk: Simulink Background & Basics~~
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Good Coding Practice
Other Features
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SIMULINK & MATLAB TOGETHER

There are many ways in which MATLAB and Simulink interact:

- Run Simulink models programmatically in MATLAB (exercise 1. f)

```
s = sim('cannon5', 'StopTime', '25', 'MaxStep', '0.01');
```

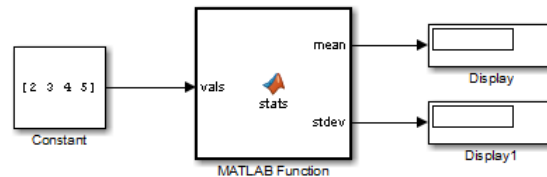
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- MATLAB Function Block in Simulink



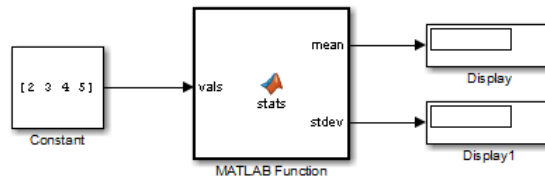
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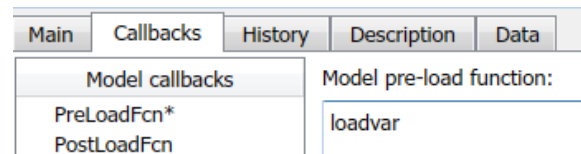
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```
s = sim('cannon5', 'StopTime', '25', 'MaxStep', '0.01');
```

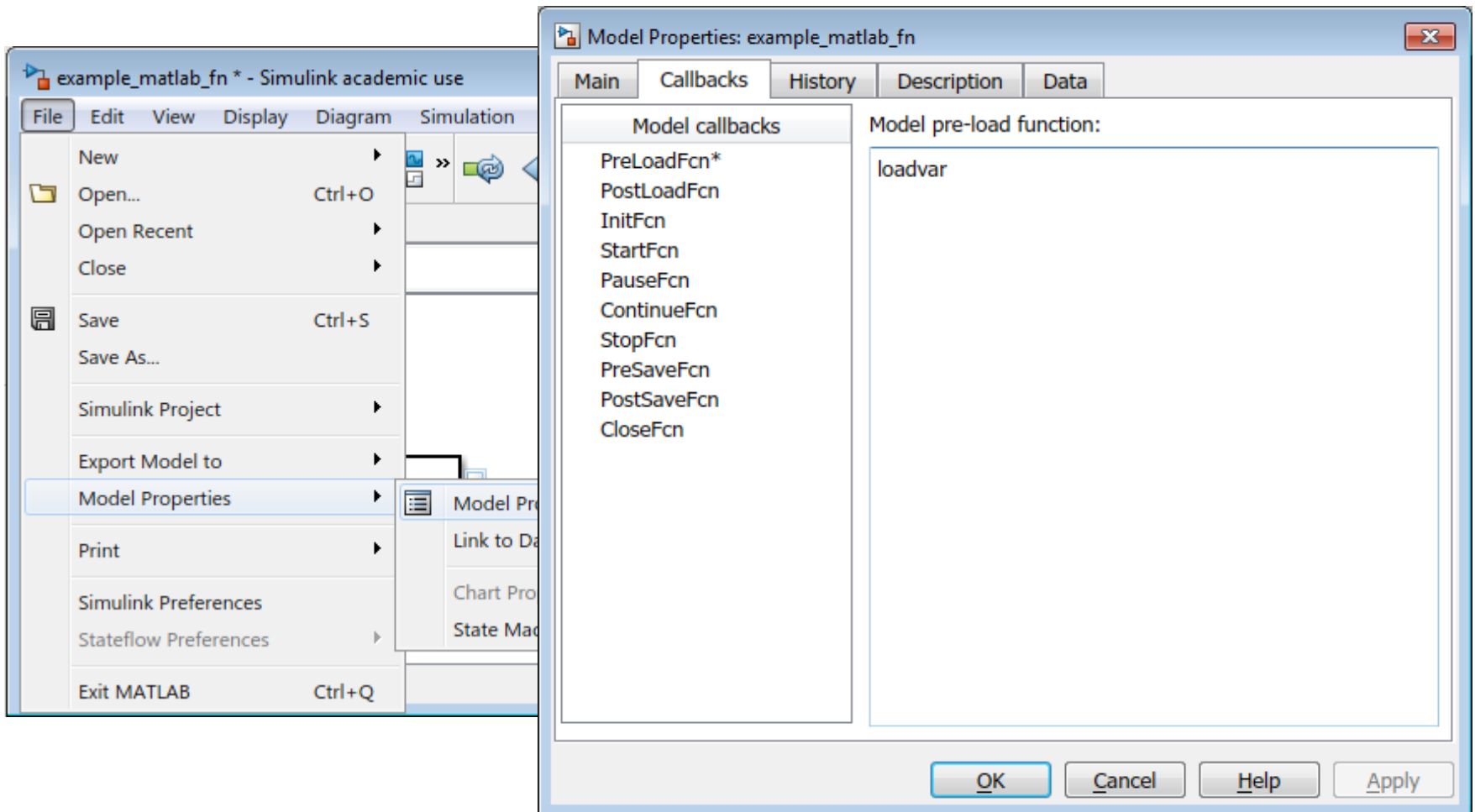
- MATLAB Function Block in Simulink



- Simulink Model Callbacks



MODEL CALLBACKS



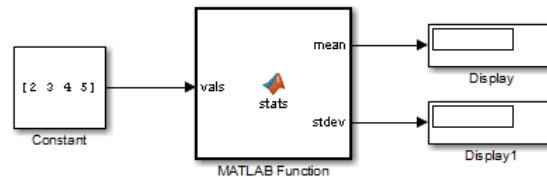
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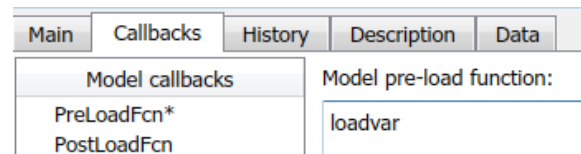
- Run Simulink models programmatically in MATLAB, exercise 1. f)

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s = sim('cannon5', 'StopTime', '25', 'MaxStep', '0.01');
```

- MATLAB Function Block in Simulink



- Simulink Model Callbacks

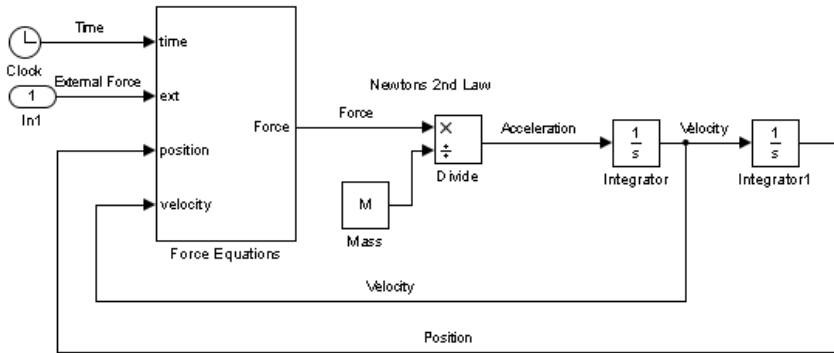


- Create Simulink models programmatically

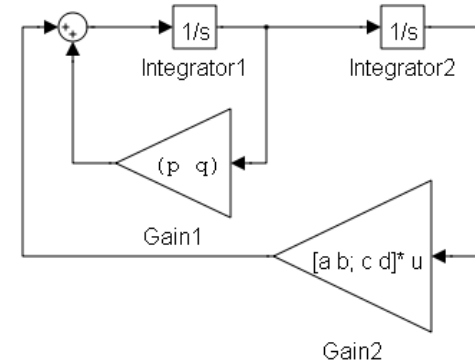
```
set_param('cannon5', 'PreLoadFcn', 'loadvar')
```

EXAMPLES IN NOTES

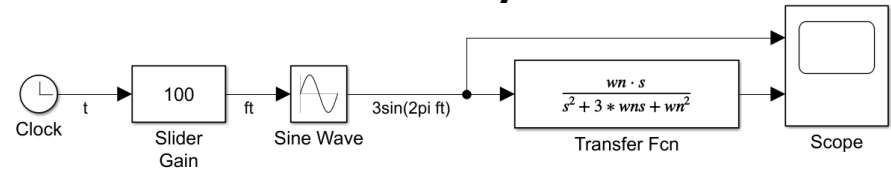
➤ 1: Dynamic Systems



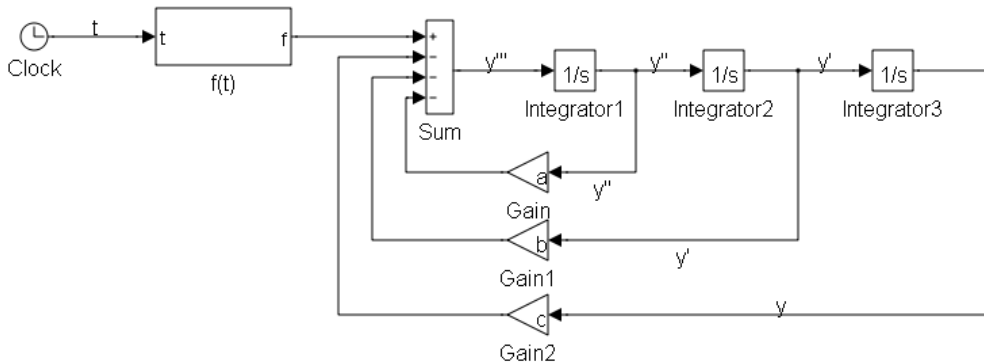
➤ 3: Simultaneous ODEs



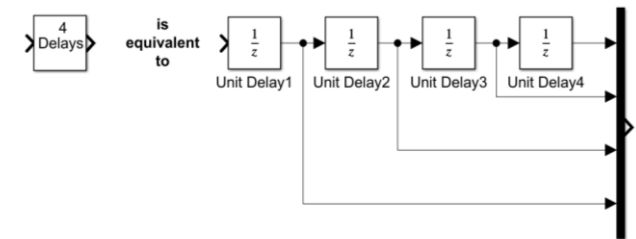
➤ 4: Linear Systems



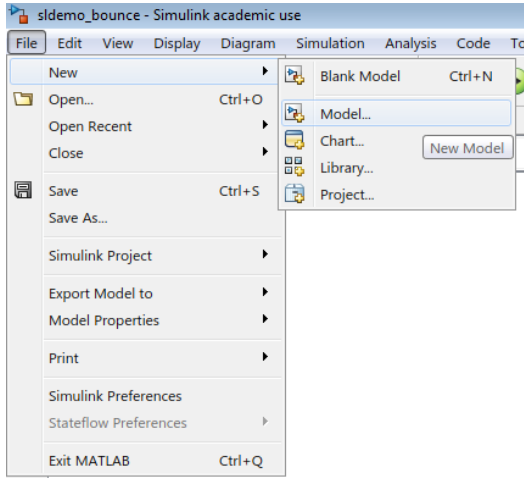
➤ 2: Ordinary Differential Equations (ODEs)



➤ 5: Discrete Systems



EXAMPLES



New Examples

Search

Explore featured modeling and simulation examples for a head start solving your problem using Simulink.

[Simulink Documentation](#) | [Getting Started](#) | [Blocks and Other Reference](#) | [Release Notes](#)

Simulink View All

<p>Modeling an Automatic Transmi...</p>	<p>Aircraft Longitudinal Flight Control</p>	<p>Modeling a Fault-Tolerant Fuel C...</p>	<p>Four Hydraulic Cylinder Simulati...</p>
<p>Simulation of a Bouncing Ball</p>	<p>Parallel Simulations Using Parsi...</p>	<p>Introduction to Accelerating Mod...</p>	<p>Rapid Accelerator Simulations U...</p>

Simulation of a Bouncing Ball

By The MathWorks, Inc.

[Open Example](#)

This example shows how to use two different approaches to modeling a bouncing ball using Simulink®.

The plot shows Position (y-axis, scaled by $\times 10^{-3}$) versus Time (x-axis, from 20 to 22). The legend indicates three data series: 'Integrator' (blue line), 'Second-Order Integrator' (magenta line), and 't*' (red line). The 'Integrator' series shows a series of small oscillations between approximately 0.5 and 1.0. The 'Second-Order Integrator' series shows a series of larger oscillations between approximately 1.0 and 4.0. The 't*' series shows a single sharp peak at approximately 20.4, reaching a position of about 7.0.

GOOD CODING PRACTICE IN SIMULINK

✓ Keep your model **readable**

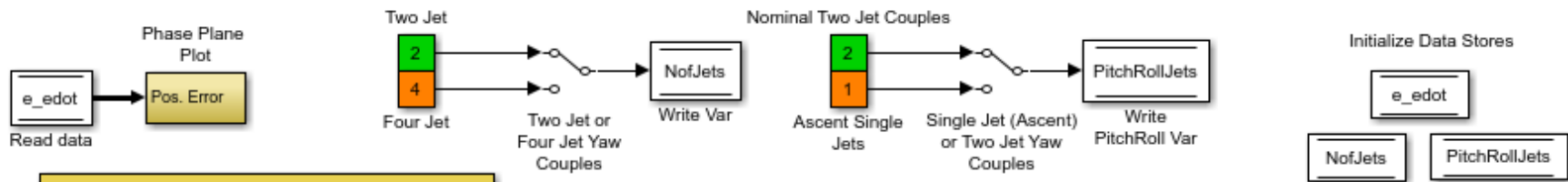
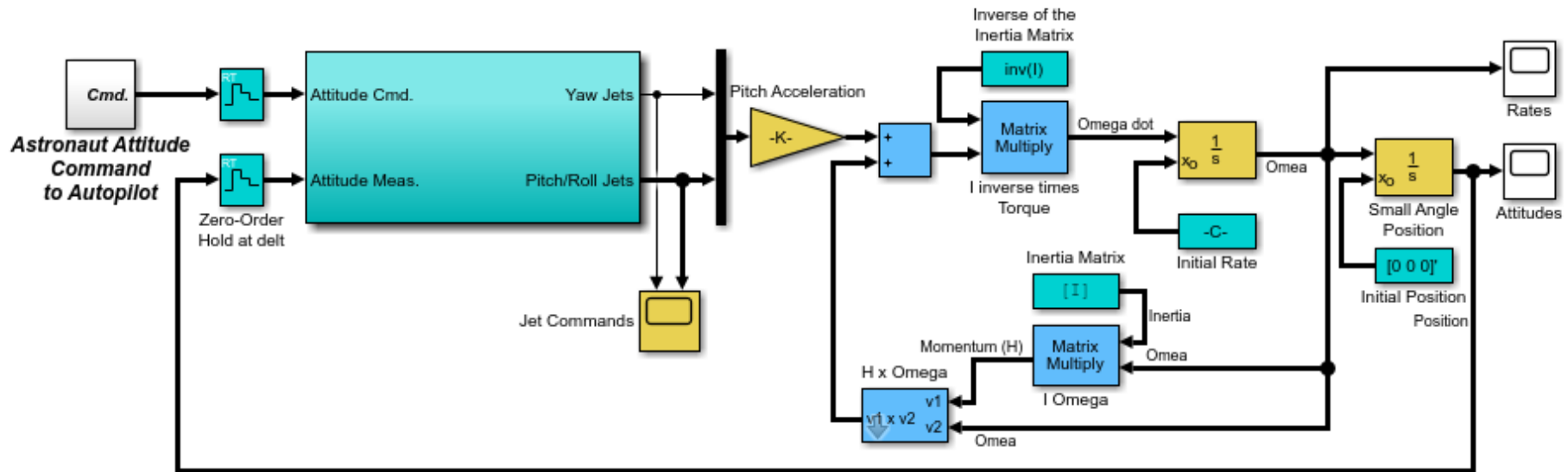
Make use of **annotations**, but keep them brief

Make use of the **colours** for different blocks

As your model evolves, don't be afraid to **reorganise**

The Lunar Module Digital Autopilot Design

How it Would be Done Today!



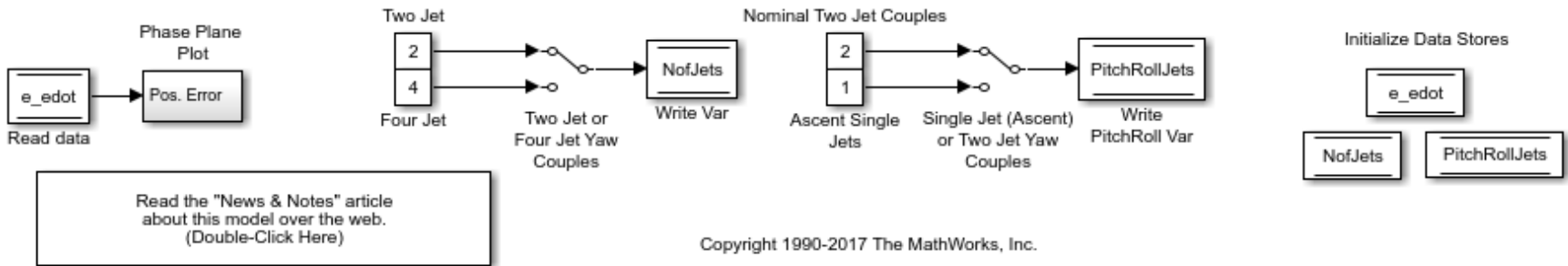
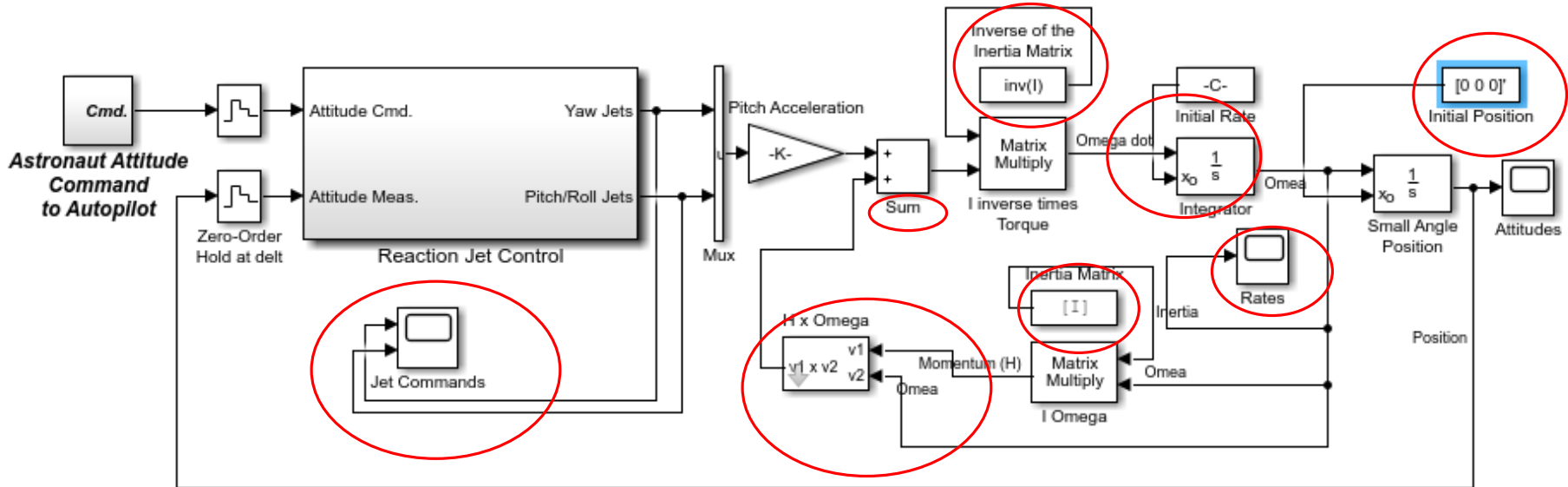
Read the "News & Notes" article about this model over the web. (Double-Click Here)

Copyright 1990-2017 The MathWorks, Inc.

The Lunar Module Digital Autopilot Design

?

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Combat this by adding automatic annotation to plots or blocks

Set up key parameters in a MATLAB script

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Set up key parameters in a MATLAB script

✓ Use **tools when debugging**

Make use of the **Display** options to find dimension mismatch problems

Use **temporary scopes** or displays to investigate errors

✓ You can't know everything Simulink does – **use documentation & google!**

THE SOLVER

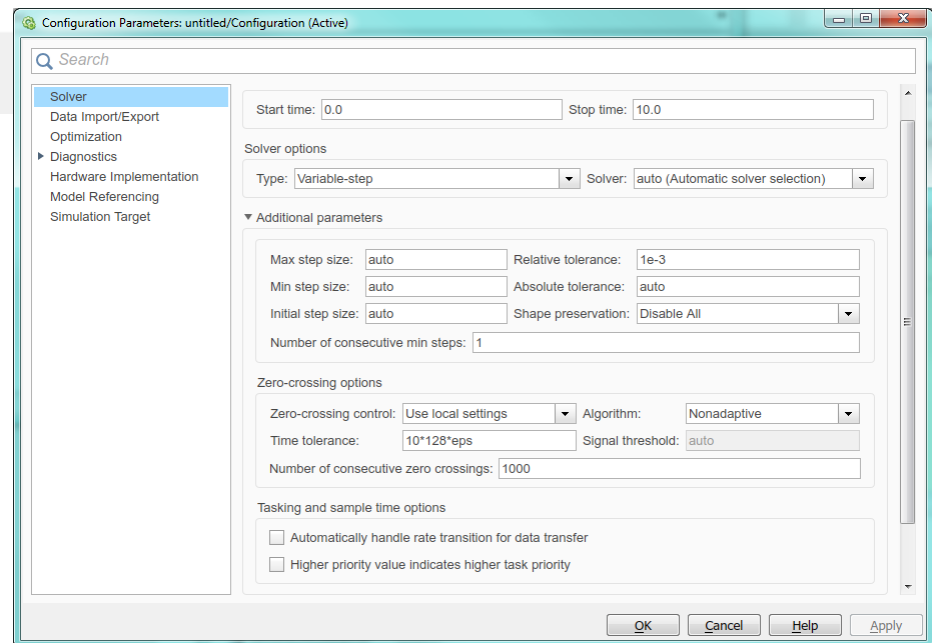
So, we've been modelling systems, that is solving equations.
Yet we haven't had to code up any numerical analysis techniques.

The useful thing is that Simulink takes care of that for us.
But we still need to know what it is doing behind the scenes!



Model Settings

All of the settings related to how to numerically solve the equations of the model are found in "Model Configuration Parameters" Cog.



THE SOLVER

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Model Settings

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The Solver: Zero-Crossing Options

A variable-step solver dynamically adjusts the time step size, causing it to increase when a variable is changing slowly and to decrease when the variable changes rapidly. This behaviour causes the solver to take many small steps in near a discontinuity because the variable is rapidly changing in this region. This improves accuracy but can lead to excessive simulation times.

Simulink uses a technique known as zero-crossing detection to accurately locate a discontinuity without resorting to tiny time steps. Usually this technique improves simulation run time, but it can cause some simulations to halt before the intended completion time. Understanding how Simulink's zero-crossing detection algorithms, adaptive and non-adaptive, work is beyond the scope of the course. The table below should help you overcome some errors associated with zero-crossing, particularly a halting model. Implementing most of the changes, involves using the **Model Configuration Parameters dialog (MCP) box**, accessed via the Cog symbol.

Possible Change...	How to make this change...	Rationale for making this change...
Increase the number of allowed zero crossings	Increase the Number of consecutive zero crossings on the Solver pane in the MCP box.	This may give your model enough time to resolve the zero crossing.
Disable zero-crossing detection for a specific block	First, clear the Enable zero-crossing check box on the block's parameter dialog box. Then, select Use local settings from the Zero-crossing control pull down on the MCP box.	Locally disabling zero-crossing detection prevents a specific block from stopping the simulation because of excessive consecutive zero crossings. All other blocks continue to benefit from the increased accuracy that zero-crossing detection provides.
Disable zero-crossing detection for the entire model	Select Disable all from the Zero-crossing control pull down on the Solver pane of the MCP box.	This prevents zero crossings from being detected anywhere in your model.
Reduce the maximum step size	Enter a value for the Max step size option on the Solver pane of the MCP box.	This can insure the solver takes steps small enough to resolve the zero crossing. However, reducing the step size can increase simulation time, and is seldom necessary when using the Adaptive algorithm.
Use the Adaptive Algorithm	Select Adaptive from the Algorithm pull down on the Solver pane in the MCP box.	This algorithm dynamically adjusts the zero-crossing threshold, which improves accuracy and reduces the number of consecutive zero crossings detected. You can now specify Time tolerance and Signal threshold .
Relax the Signal threshold	Select Adaptive from the Algorithm pull down and increase the value of the Signal threshold option on the Solver pane in the MCP box.	The solver requires less time to precisely locate the zero crossing. This can reduce simulation time and eliminate an excessive number of consecutive zero-crossing errors. However, relaxing the Signal threshold may reduce accuracy.

Number of consecutive min step: []

Zero-crossing options

Zero-crossing control: Use local settings Algorithm: Nonadaptive

Time tolerance: 10*128*eps Signal threshold: auto

Number of consecutive zero crossings: 1000

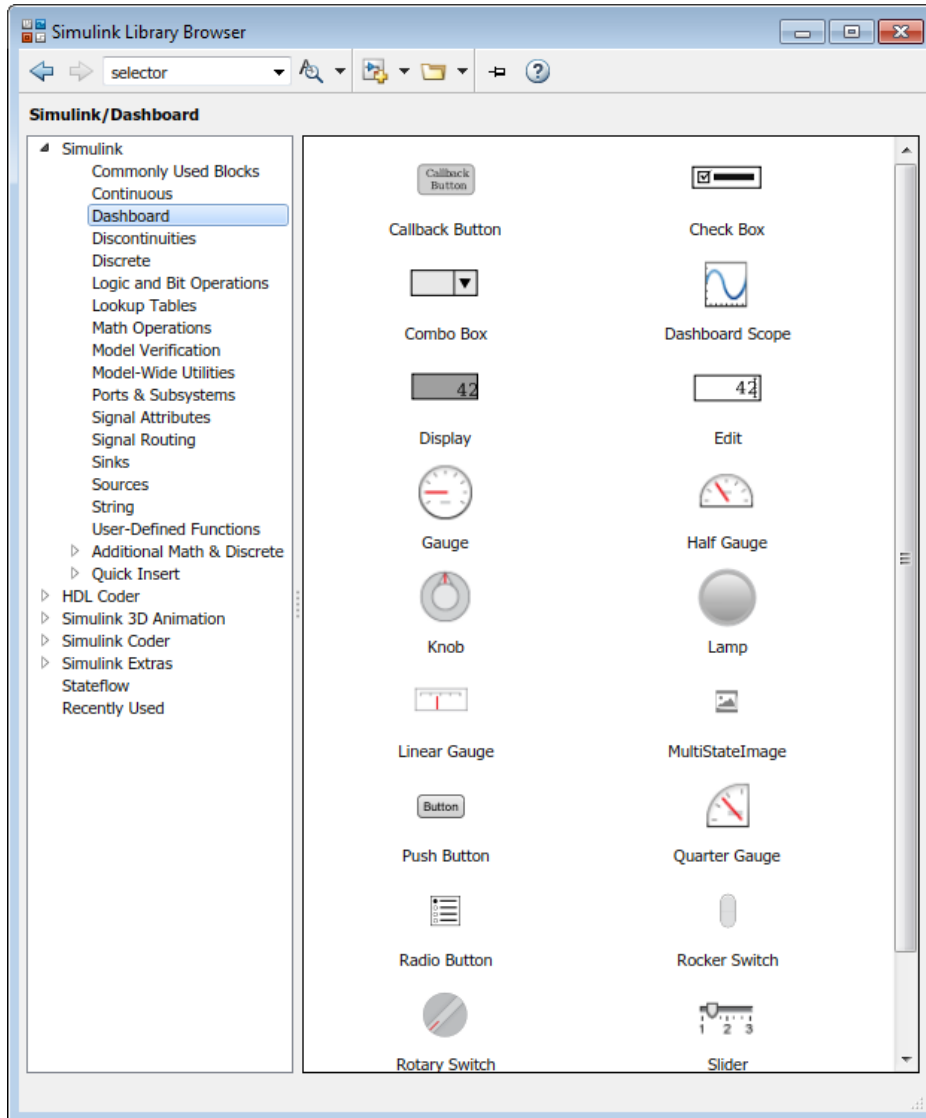
Tasking and sample time options

Automatically handle rate transition for data transfer

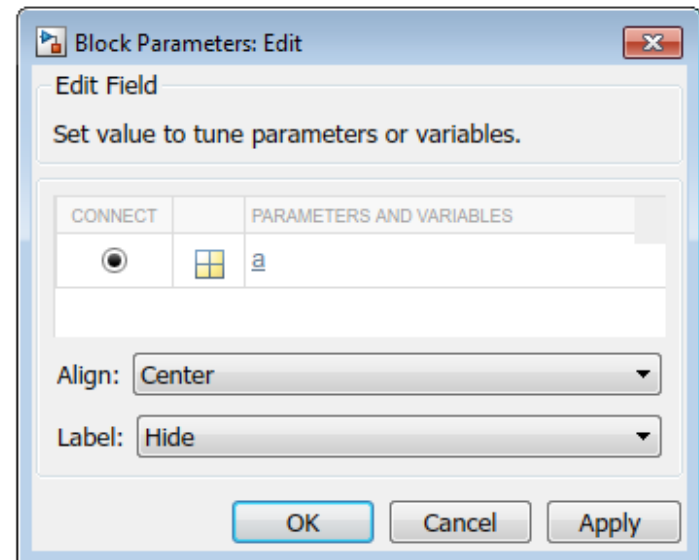
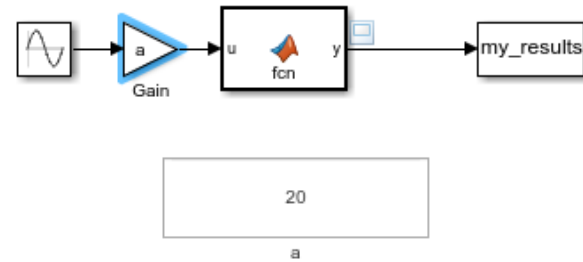
Higher priority value indicates higher task priority

OK Cancel Help Apply

OTHER FEATURES - DASHBOARD

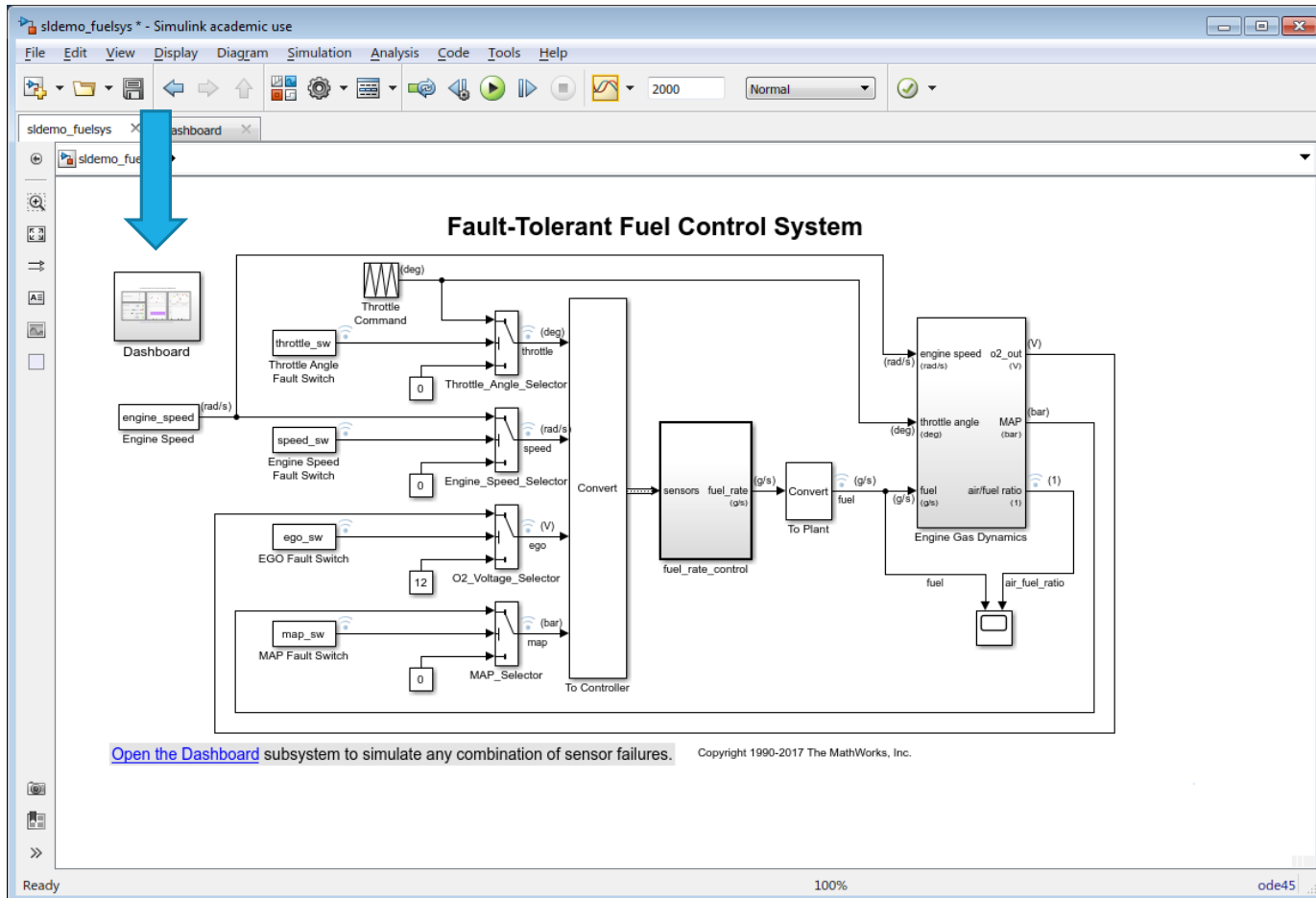


Control and visualize your Simulink models during simulation and while paused.



OTHER FEATURES - DASHBOARD EXAMPLE

sldemo_fuelsys

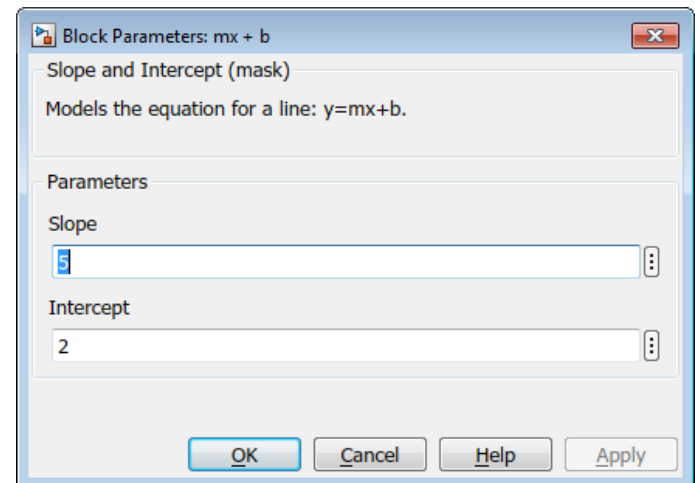
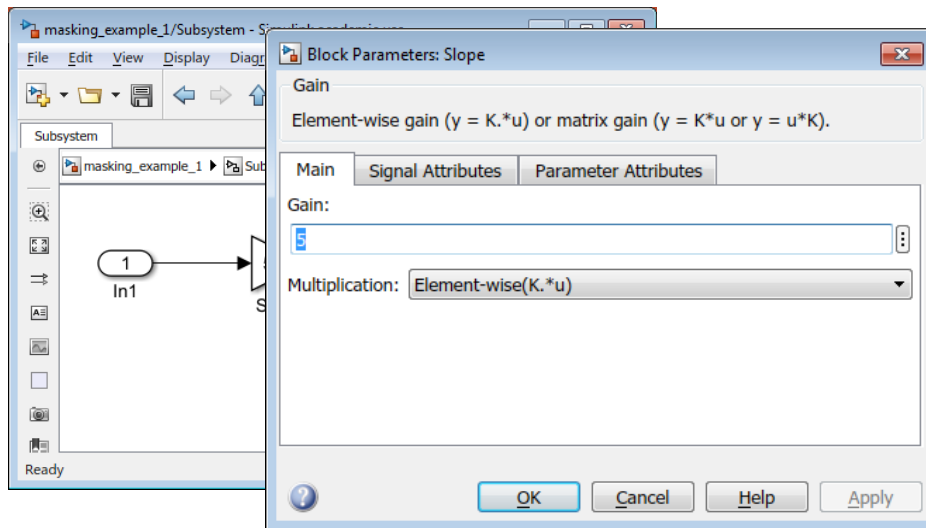
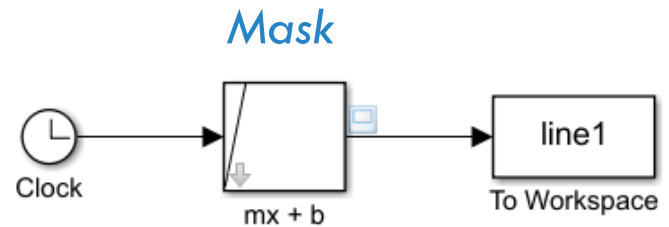
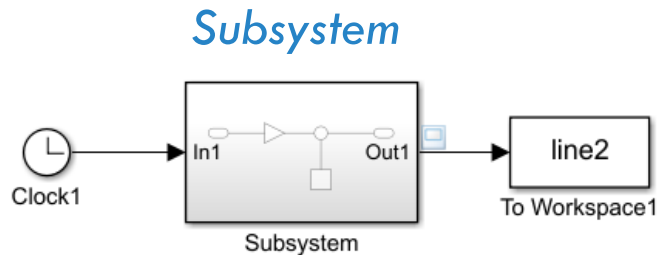


```
open_system([matlabroot '\toolbox\simulink\simdemos\automotive\fuelsys\sldemo_fuelsys'])
```

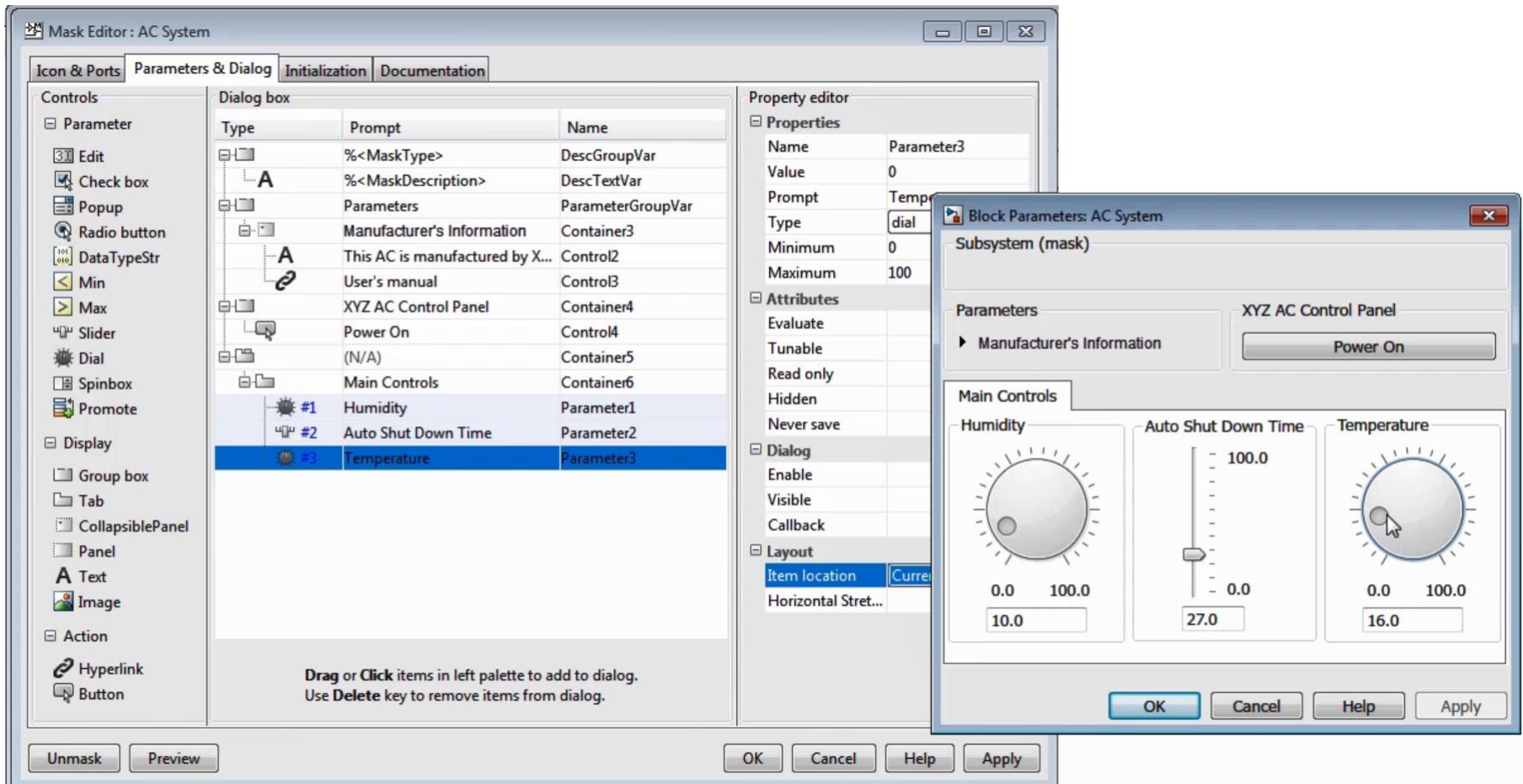
OTHER FEATURES - MASKS

A **mask** is created from a subsystem. A **masked subsystem**:

- Offers a custom interface for that subsystem
- Hides the content
- Makes system appear as a "built in" block (custom icon & parameter dialog box.)



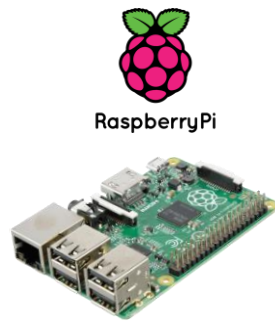
OTHER FEATURES – MASKS WITH DASHBOARD



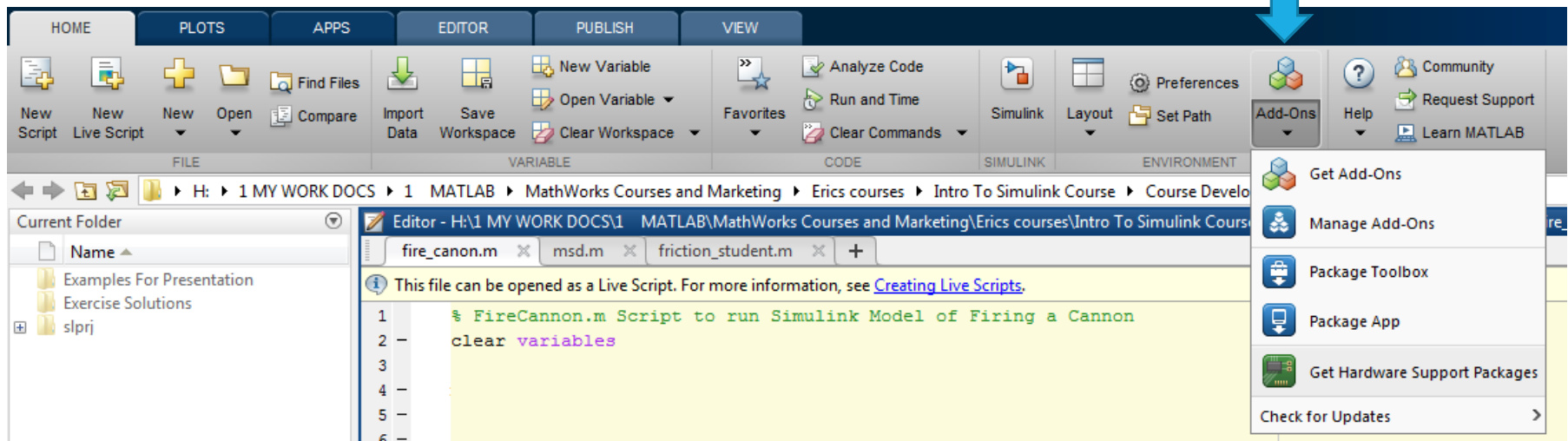
For intro to masks, [see this video](#). For how to create a mask using the Mask Editor, [see this video](#).

OTHER FEATURES – HARDWARE SUPPORT

Simulink can be used to interface with lots of different hardware. It is used to develop algorithms to run standalone on devices.

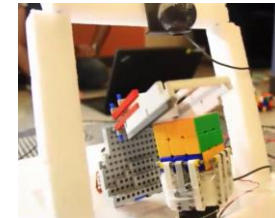


Devices use custom blocks gained through **Hardware Support Packages**:



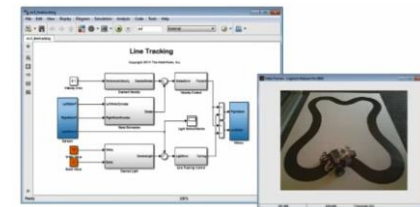
OTHER FEATURES – HARDWARE SUPPORT

Example Arduino blocks:



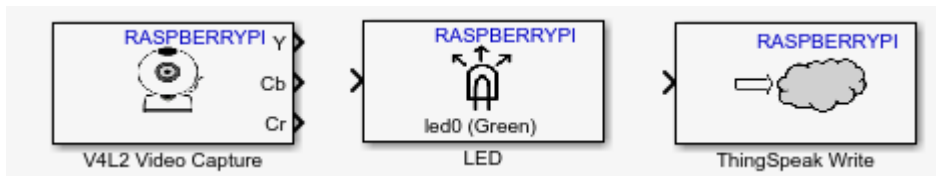
Rubik's Cube Solver

Example EV3 blocks:



Line Following Robot

Example Raspberry Pi blocks:



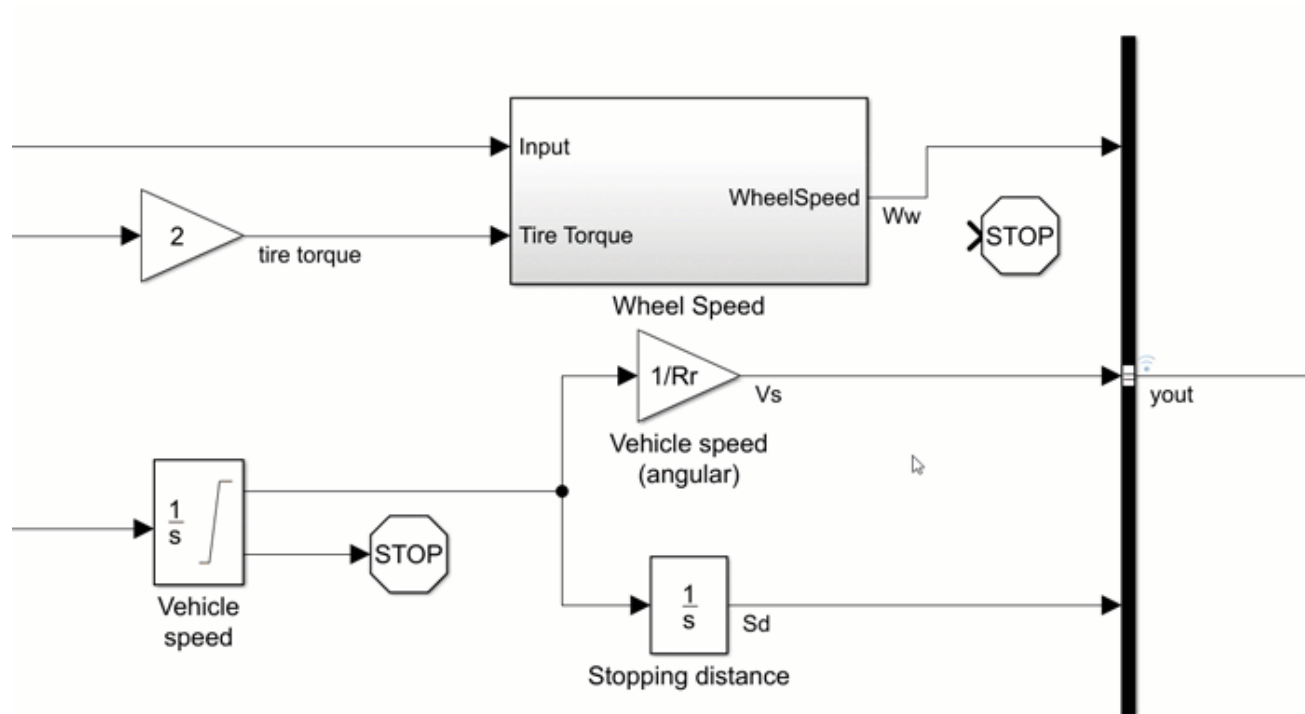
Tweeting Security System

SIMULINK VERSIONS

Simulink models created in newer versions must be exported before use in older versions.

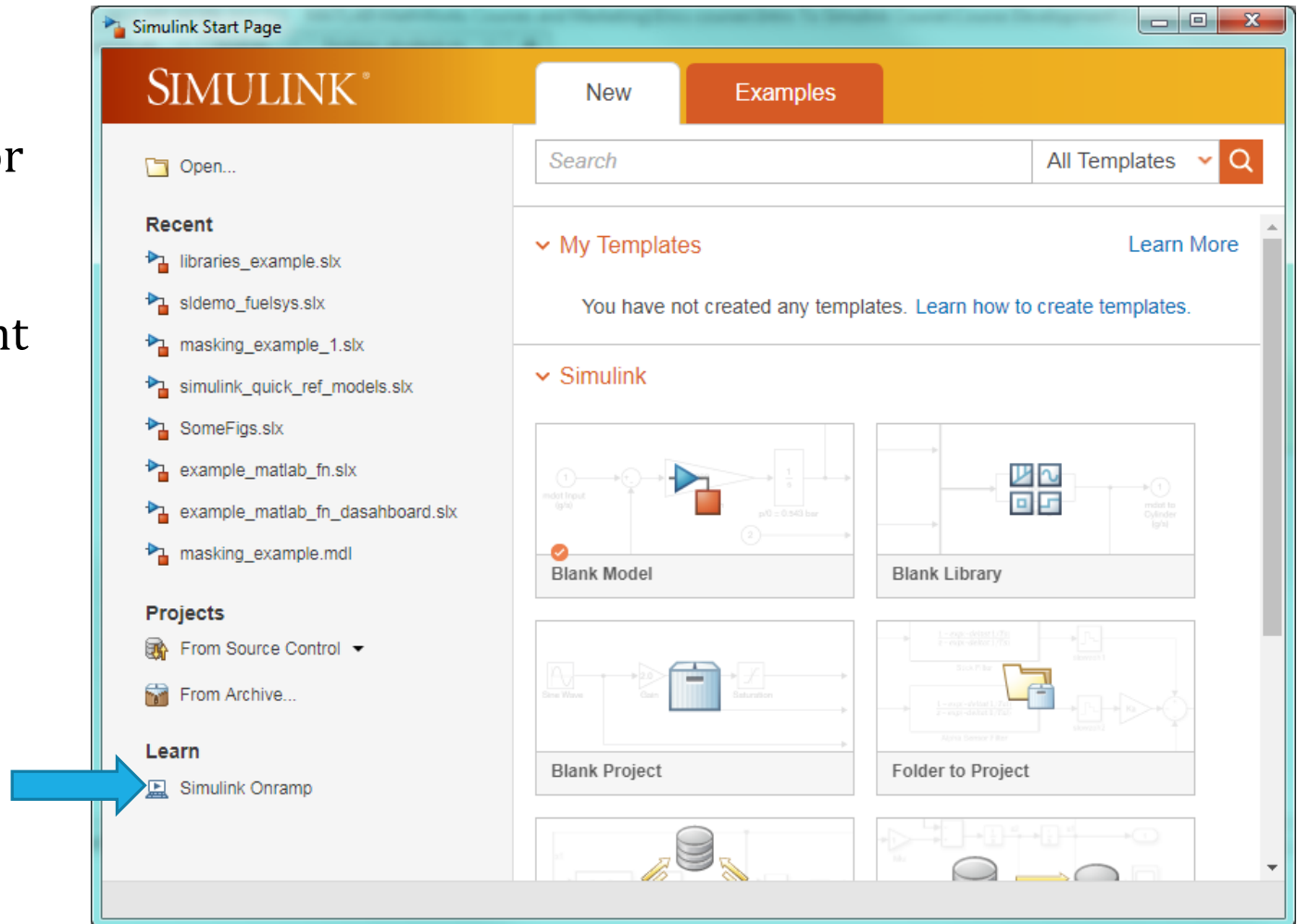
From 2018b major improvements:

Automatic Port Creation, **Edit on Block Icon** & **Simulink On Ramp**



SIMULINK ONRAMP

- [Download](#) for 2018b
- Free
- Great Content
- ~3 hours



Simulink_Onramp - Simulink academic use

File Edit View Display Diagram Simulation Analysis Code Tools Help

10.0 Normal

Training - Tasks

4.2 Basic Logic

Task 1

Task 2

The Compare to Constant block (**Simulink > Logic and Bit Operations**) determines how a signal compares to a specified constant. The constant value is specified as a block parameter.

TASK

- Copy and paste the existing Sine Wave block, and change its **Frequency** to **2** rad/sec.
- Add a Compare to Constant block to the model and connect it to the 2 rad/sec Sine Wave and the Signal Assessment block.
- Set the parameters such that the block outputs **1** when the signal is greater than or equal to (\geq) 0.1.

[Hint](#) | [See Solution](#) | [Reset](#) Submit

Task 3

Further Practice

Simulink_Onramp

Sorry, that is not correct. Please resolve the issues with the following assessment blocks: [Signal](#) [Assessment1](#).

```

    graph LR
      SW[Sine Wave  
Freq, 1 rad/sec] --> G0[> 0]
      G0 --> SA[Signal Assessment]
      SW1[Sine Wave1  
Freq, 2 rad/sec] --> G1[>= 1  
Compare To Constant]
      G1 --> SA1[Signal Assessment1]
  
```

Training - Assessment

Task 2 Signal

Value

Time

— Signal requirement — My signal • Incorrect

[Inspect signal in figure window](#)

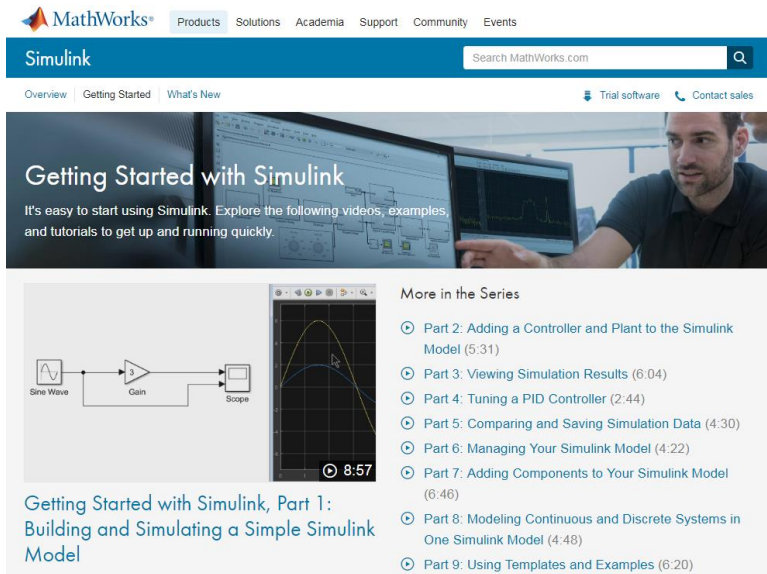
Requirements

✘ Does the connected signal meet the requirement?

Ready 109% auto(VariableStepDiscrete)

WHERE NEXT?

- Try Exercise 2 or 3
- Use the Examples on launch
- Explore the features mentioned in this talk
- Ask for support installing MATLAB
- Visit the [Simulink Getting Started webpage](#) for videos
- If you have your own laptop, try Simulink Onramp



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Getting Started with Simulink

It's easy to start using Simulink. Explore the following videos, examples, and tutorials to get up and running quickly.

Getting Started with Simulink, Part 1: Building and Simulating a Simple Simulink Model

More in the Series

- Part 2: Adding a Controller and Plant to the Simulink Model (5:31)
- Part 3: Viewing Simulation Results (6:04)
- Part 4: Tuning a PID Controller (2:44)
- Part 5: Comparing and Saving Simulation Data (4:30)
- Part 6: Managing Your Simulink Model (4:22)
- Part 7: Adding Components to Your Simulink Model (6:46)
- Part 8: Modeling Continuous and Discrete Systems in One Simulink Model (4:48)
- Part 9: Using Templates and Examples (6:20)



ON RAMP COURSE CONTENT

1. Course Overview

See what Simulink Onramp has in store

- ✓ Course Overview
- ✓ Running Simulations

2. Simulink Graphical Environment

Learn about Simulink blocks and signals

- ✓ Blocks and Parameters
- ✓ Identifying Blocks and Signals

3. Inspecting Signals

Visualize signal values during simulation

- ✓ Inspecting Signals
- ✓ Simulink Scopes Overview

4. Basic Algorithms

Use math and logic operators to write algorithms

- ✓ Mathematical Operators
- ✓ Basic Logic
- ✓ Conditional Statements

5. Obtaining Help

Access documentation from Simulink

- ✓ Obtaining Help

6. Project - Automotive Performance Modes

Practice working with math and logic operators

- ✓ Project - Automotive Performance Modes

7. Simulink and MATLAB

Use MATLAB variables and functions in Simulink

- ✓ MATLAB Workspace Variables
- ✓ MATLAB Function Block

8. Dynamic systems in Simulink

Review dynamic systems and learn how they relate to Simulink

- ✓ Dynamic Systems

9. Discrete systems

Model discrete-time systems

- ✓ Discrete Systems

10. Continuous systems

Model continuous-time systems

- ✓ Continuous Systems

11. Simulation Time

Choose the simulation duration

- ✓ Simulation Time

12. Project - Modeling a Thermostat

Practice your understanding of discrete dynamic systems

- ✓ Project - Thermostat

13. Project - Peregrine Falcon Dive

Practice your understanding of continuous dynamic systems

- ✓ Project - Peregrine Falcon Dive

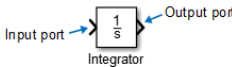
ONRAMP TEXT & QUIZZES

Simulink Onramp (8% complete)

2.1 Blocks and Parameters: (1/2) Introduction

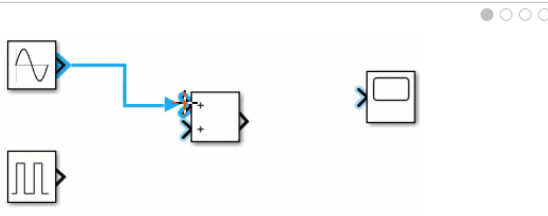
Simulink Basics

As you've just seen, Simulink uses graphical elements to represent the inputs, outputs, and calculations. Connections between blocks are made at ports.



Input port → $\frac{1}{s}$ ← Output port
Integrator

A signal is a piece of information, such as a numeric value, which can change over the course of a simulation. Signals at input ports, perform an operation, and return signals at output ports. Signal lines are visual representations of signals that connect block ports and show where a signal flows: from output ports to input ports, and in the direction of flow.



To connect blocks, first click on a port. All suitable connections will be highlighted. Click on a second port to create the connection.

Click the **Next** button below to create your first Simulink model.

← PREVIOUS | NEXT →

Simulink Onramp (13% complete) Isobel Mear ?

2.2 Identifying Blocks and Signals: (2/2) Quiz

← PREVIOUS | NEXT →

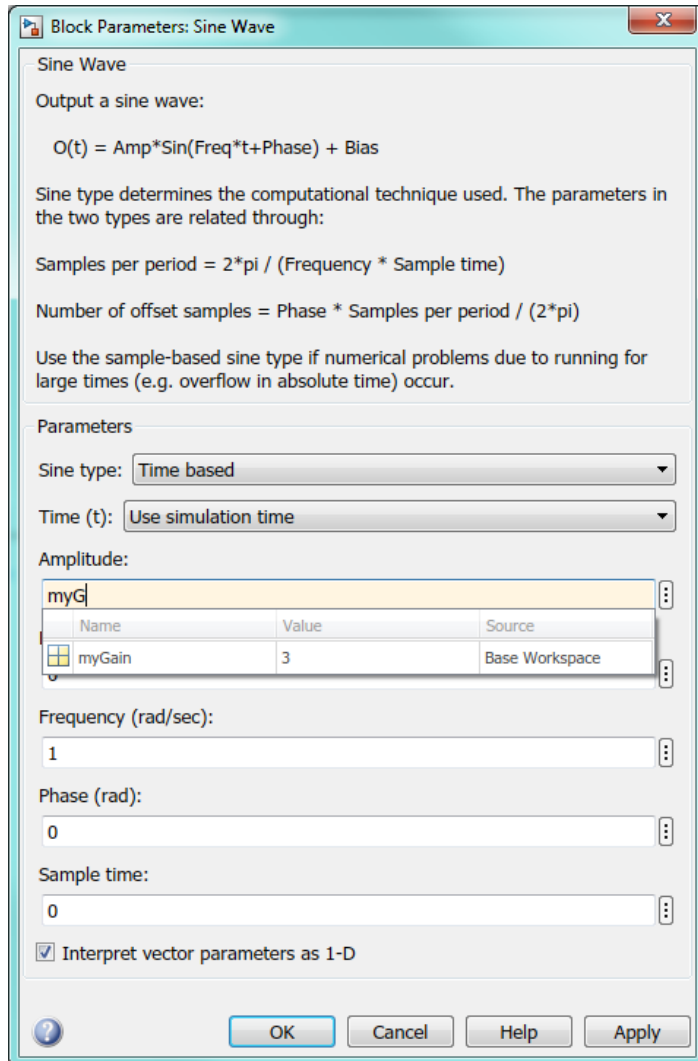
Quiz

(Select all that apply) Which of the following is true about Simulink signals?

- Signals contain data that can be constant or time-varying.
- Signal flow is bidirectional.
- Signals are represented by lines with arrowheads.

Submit

2018B — LINKING VARIABLE NAMES

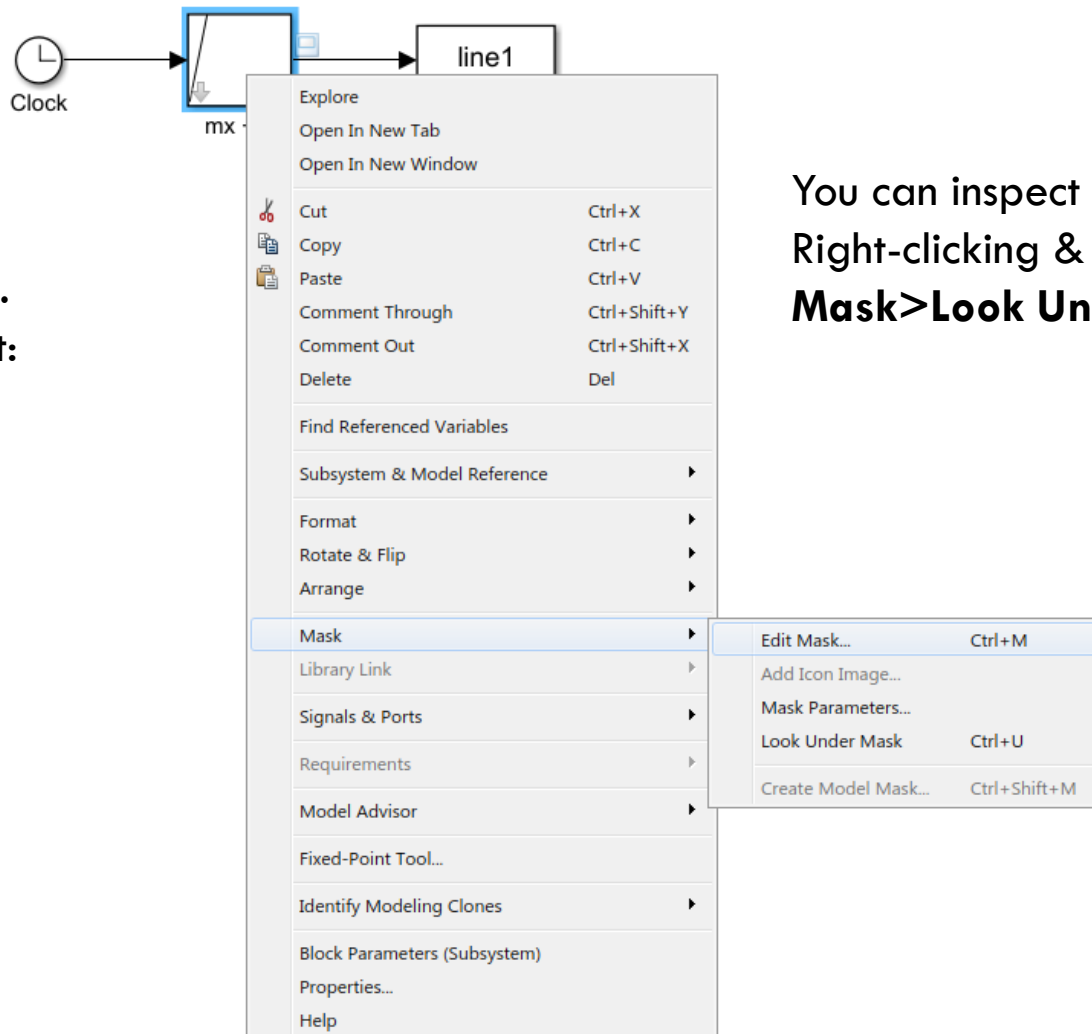


WHERE IS MATLAB/SIMULINK USED?



OTHER FEATURES - MASKS

Create a mask by selecting a subsystem. Right-clicking & select: **Mask>Create Mask**



You can inspect by Right-clicking & select: **Mask>Look Under Mask**

MATLAB R2018a - academic use

HOME PLOTS APPS EDITOR VIEW

Insert Find Files Compare Go To Comment % % % Breakpoints Run Model Stop Model Build Model Go To Diagram Simulation Target Edit Data View Report Help

FILE NAVIGATE EDIT BREAKPOINTS RUN SIMULINK

C:\Users\engst643\Documents\MATLAB\Examples\simulink_general\sldemo_bounceExample

Current Folder

- slprj
- aero_dap3dof.slx
- my_results.mat
- sldemo_bounce.slx
- sldemo_bounce_overview.png
- sldemo_bounce_two_integrators.slx
- sldemo_bounceExample.m

Variables - ans

tout ans

2x51 double

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
1	0	0.2000	0.4000	0.6000	0.8000	1	1.2000	1.4000	1.6000	1.8000	2	2.2000	2.4000	2.6000	2.8000	3	3.2000	3.4000	3.6000	3.8000	4	
2	0	0.5960	1.1683	1.6939	2.1521	2.5244	2.7961	2.9563	2.9987	2.9215	2.7279	2.4255	2.0264	1.5465	1.0050	0.4234	-0.1751	-0.7666	-1.3276	-1.8356	-2.2704	
3																						
4																						
5																						
6																						
7																						
8																						
9																						
10																						
11																						

Editor - Block: example_matlab_fn/MATLAB Function

```

1 function y = fcn(u)
2     u = u + 5;
3     y = 3*u;
4

```

Workspace

Name	Value	Bytes
ans	2x51 double	816
tout	51x1 double	408

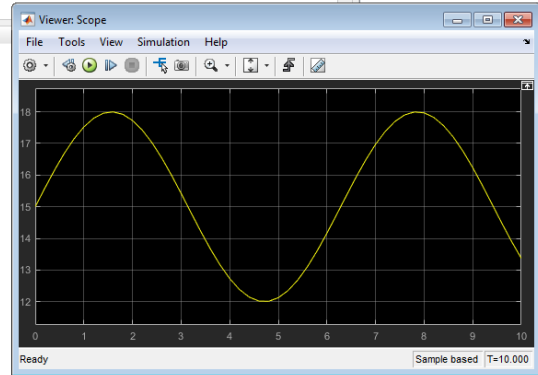
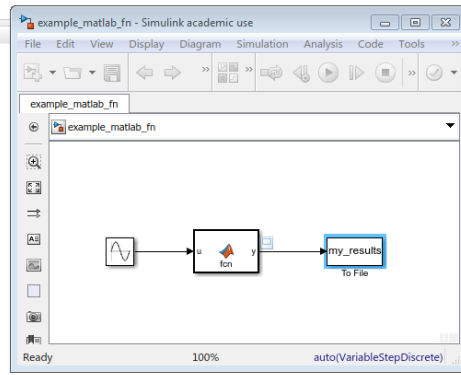
Command Window

```

>> load('my_results.mat')
>> load('my_results.mat')
>>

```

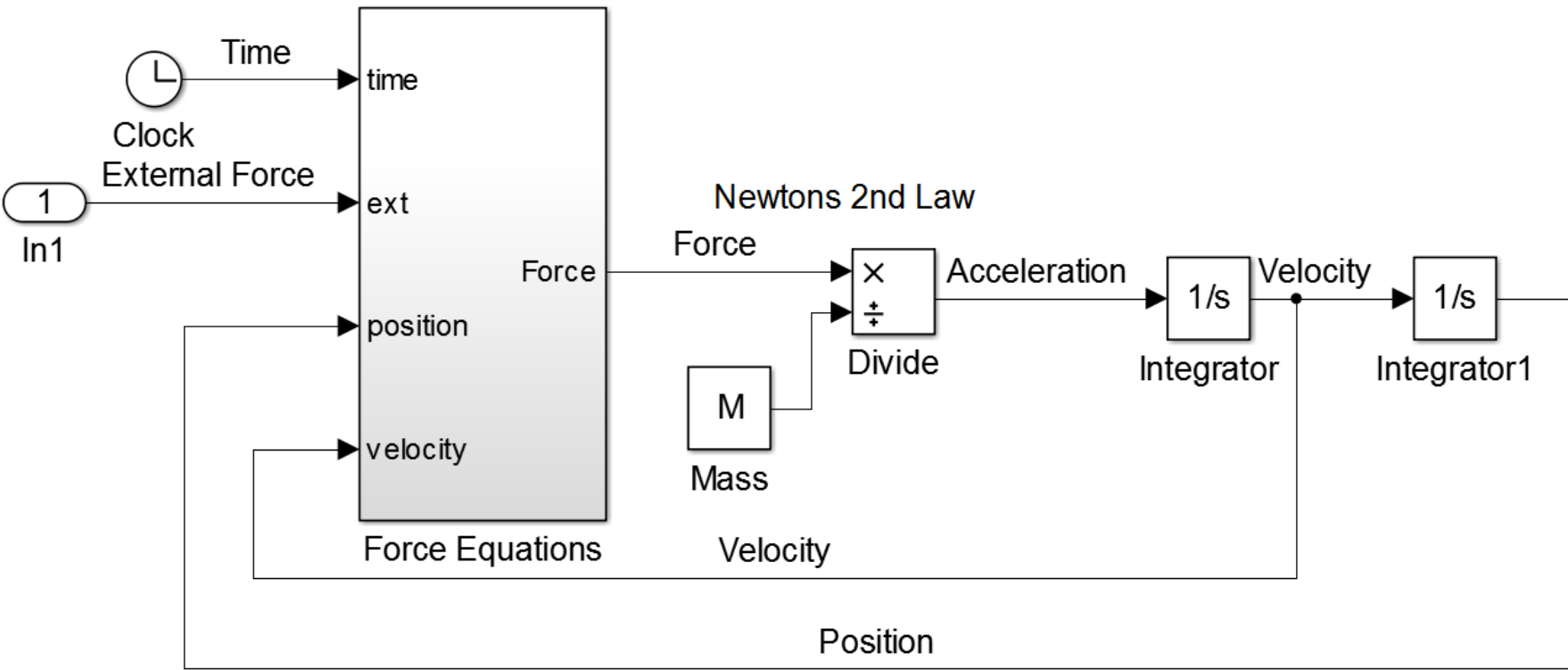
my_results.mat (MAT-file)



An Introduction to Using Simulink



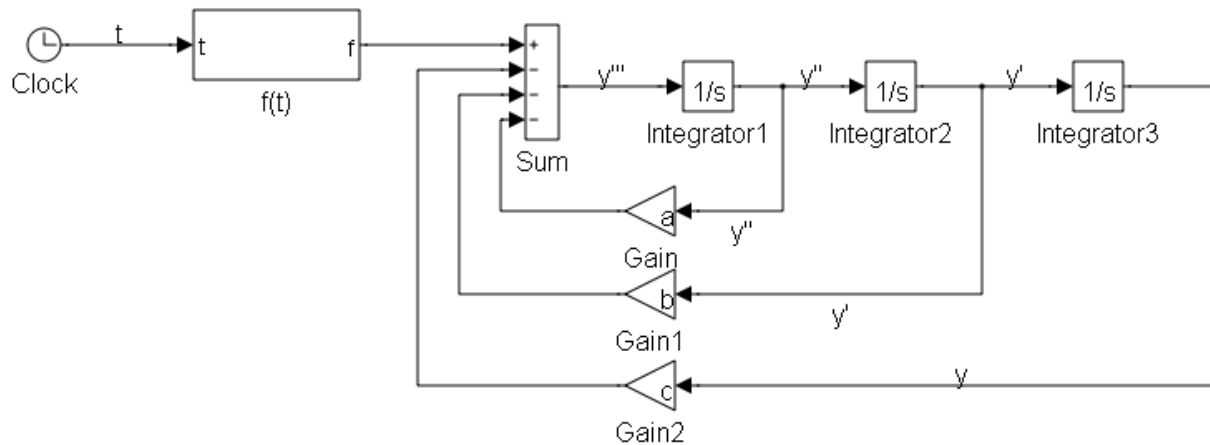
Dynamic System



Ordinary Differential Equations

$$\ddot{y} + a\dot{y} + by + cy = f(t)$$

$$\ddot{y} = f(t) - a\dot{y} - by - cy$$



Simultaneous ODE

$$\dot{x} = 1 - 0.2x - y$$

$$\dot{y} = x$$

$$x(0) = y(0) = 0$$

Simultaneous ODE

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -0.2 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x(0) = y(0) = 0$$

Simultaneous ODE

$$\dot{U} = C + AU$$

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \quad C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} -0.2 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\dot{U} = C + AU$$

