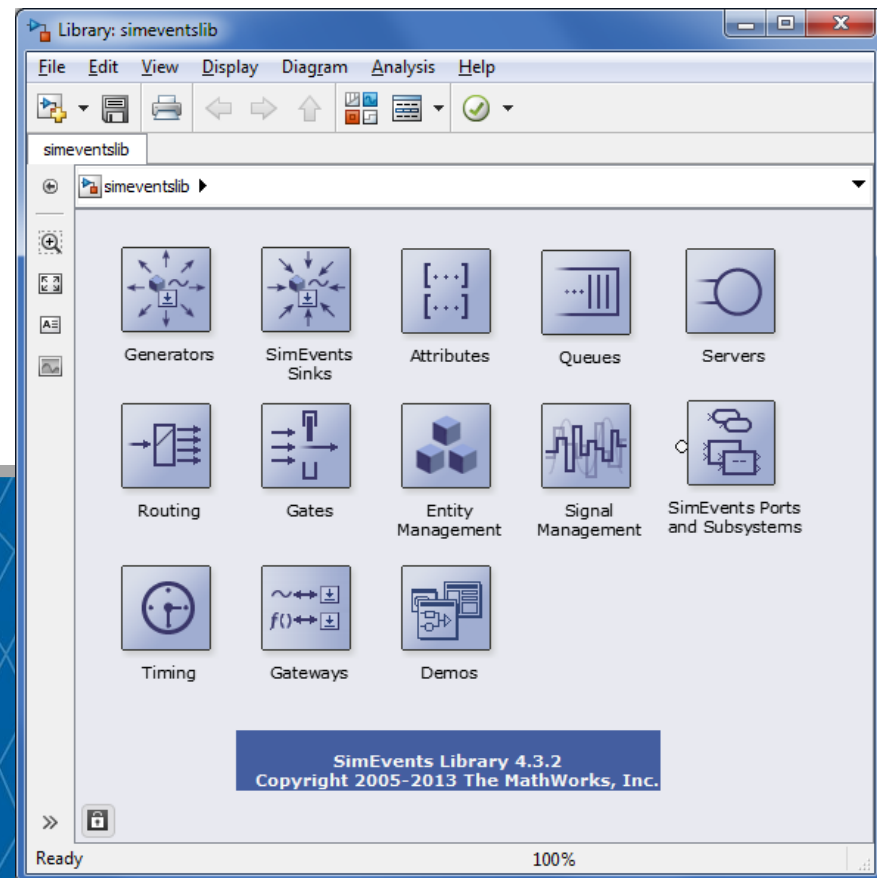


# Modelling and Analysis of Discrete Event Simulations



*Daryl Ning*  
*Applications Engineer*

*MathWorks Australia*  
*Level 5, Tower 1*  
*495 Victoria Ave*  
*CHATSWOOD NSW 2067*

# Agenda

- What is a Discrete Event System (DES)?
- DES Examples using SimEvents
  - Video streaming over a bandwidth limited channel
  - Batch production process
- SimEvents Tutorial
- Taking SimEvents Further
  - Custom routing example
  - Applying parameter sweeps
  - Incorporating optimisation
- Summary

## What you will learn:

- SimEvents is useful to model non-deterministic, discrete event systems.
  
- SimEvents is useful for analysing, for example,
  - Resource contention
  - Congestion/bottlenecks/processing delays
  - System throughput
  - Scheduling and routing
  
- SimEvents can leverage the power of MATLAB and Simulink to extend simulation and analysis capabilities.

## TriVector Verifies Time Latencies for Ares I Rocket

### Challenge

Analyze the time latency of health and status information aboard NASA's Ares I rocket

### Solution

Use Simulink and SimEvents to **model packet-level communications**, run discrete-event simulations, and **assess end-to-end latencies**

### Results

- Requirements validated one year sooner
- Timing specification problems uncovered
- Latency analysis results communicated visually



NASA's Ares I rocket.

“Our SimEvents model for Ares I contains more than 45,000 blocks and tracks end-to-end delivery time for approximately 20,000 packets per second across multiple buses. This level of detail enabled us to **validate requirements and identify issues with the timing requirements prior to hardware design.**”

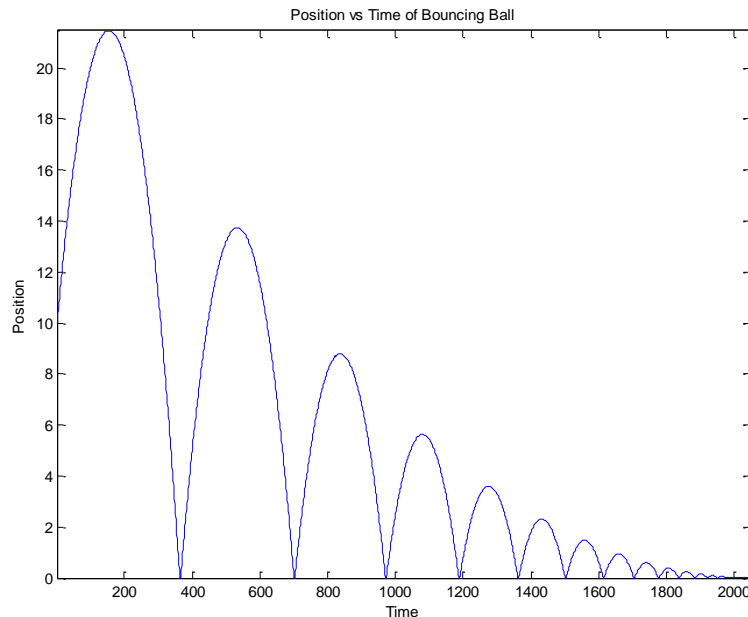
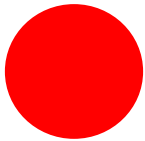
Kerry Alexander  
TriVector Services

# What is a Discrete Event System?

A system whose state changes based upon the occurrence of discrete events

# Time Driven vs. Event Driven

## *Time Driven – Bouncing Ball*



State of the system is dependent on time and physical parameters.

- Initial height of ball
- Initial velocity of ball
- Gravity

**Deterministic**

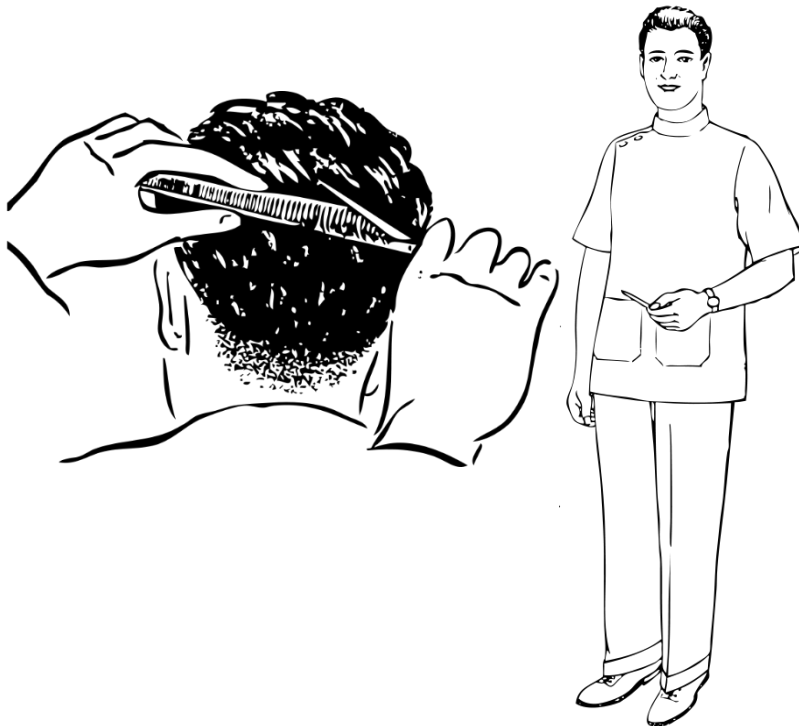
**→ SIMULINK**

# Time Driven vs. Event Driven

## *Event Driven – Barber Shop*

State of the system does not change unless an **event** occurs.

- Customer arrives
- Customer queues
- Customer leaves



**Non-  
Deterministic**

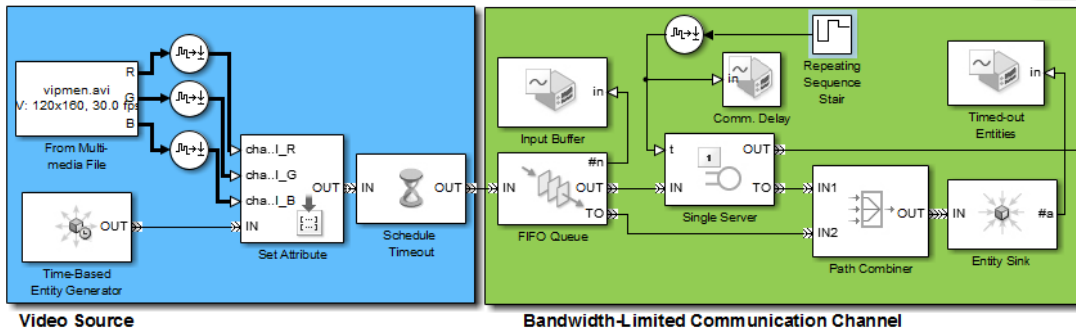
**→ SIMEVENTS**

# Example Applications of DES

- Supply chain and logistics
- Mission planning
- Packet based communications
- Real-time operating system models
- Business and operational processes
- Manufacturing processes
- Service scheduling
- Etc.

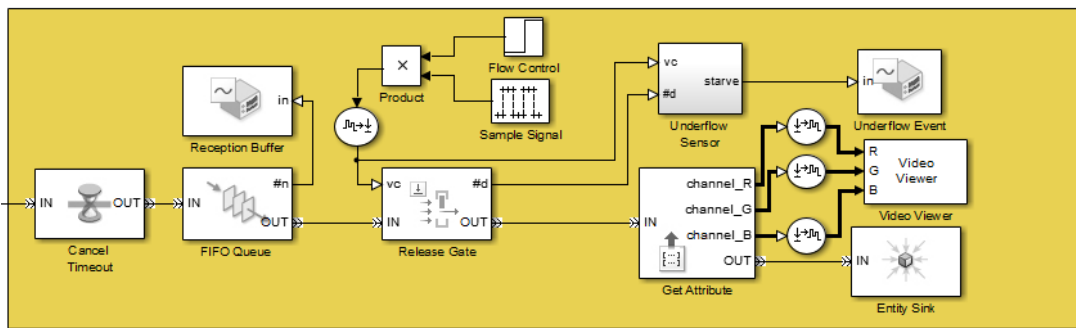
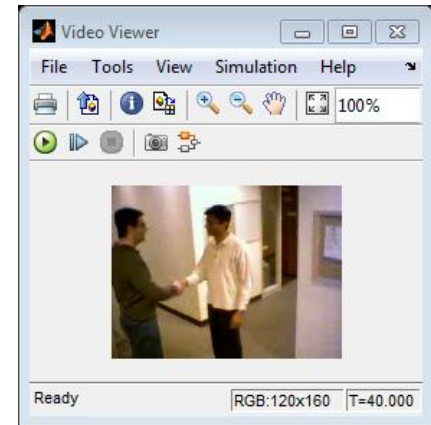


# Example: Video Streaming

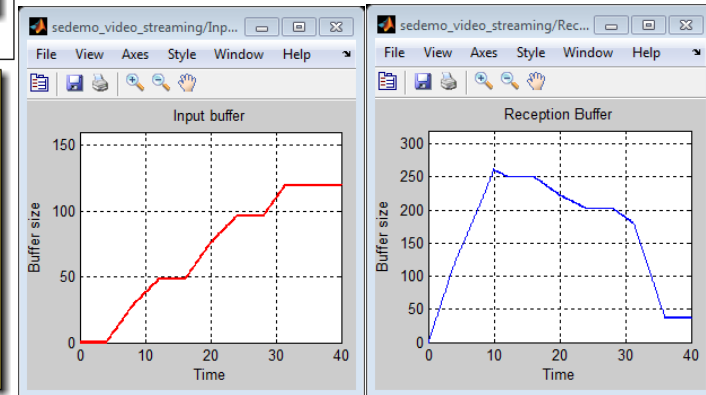


Video Source

Bandwidth-Limited Communication Channel

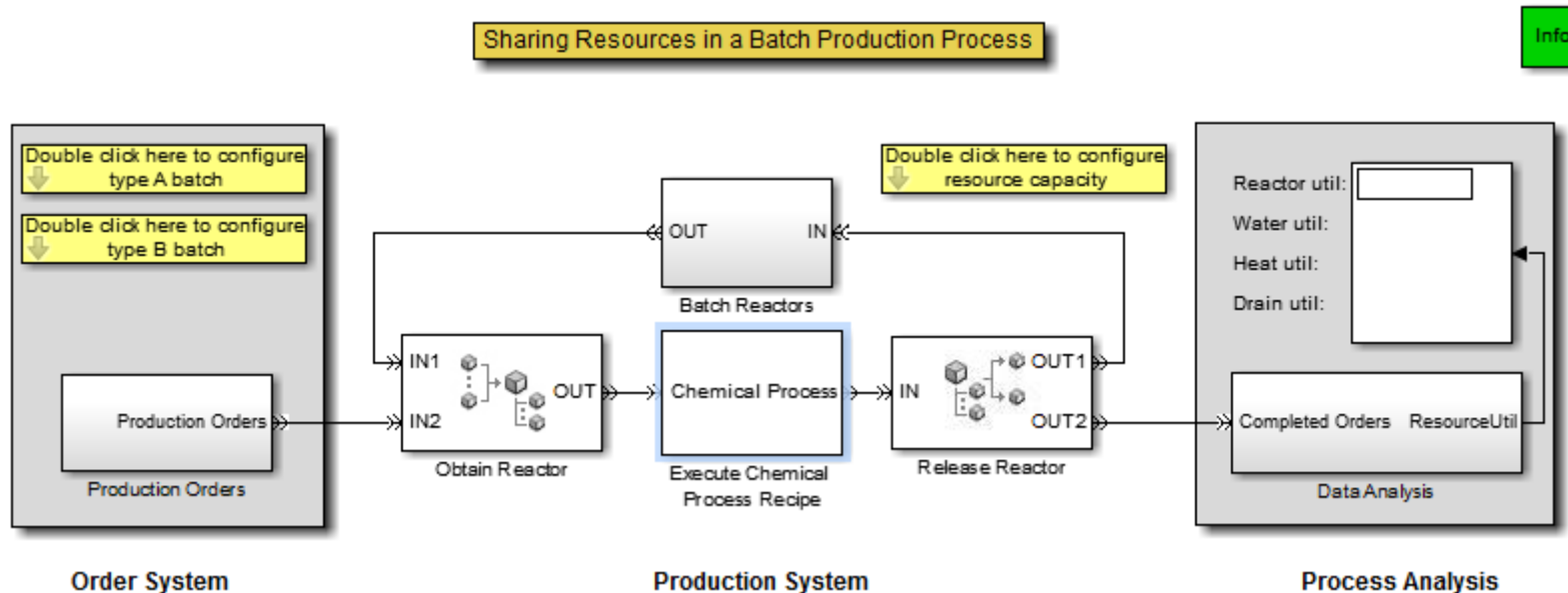


Video End-User



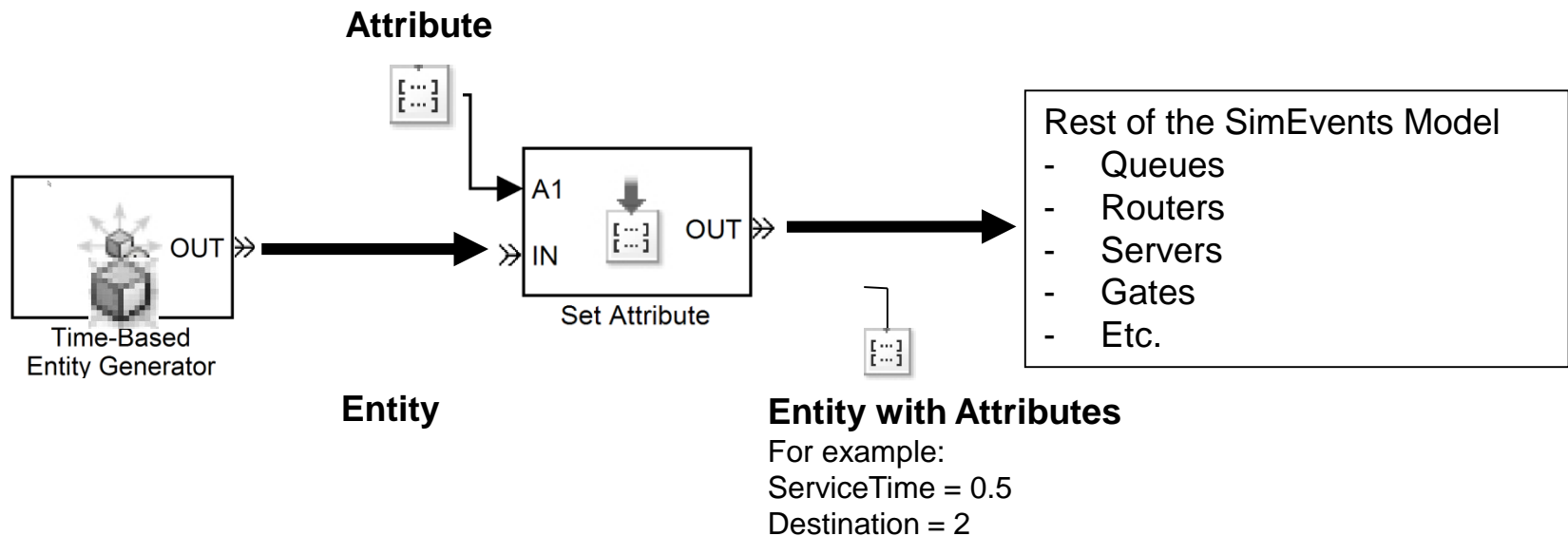
- Simulates a bandwidth limited communications channel
- Analysis of simulation results gives insight into how the channel affects received video quality.

# Example: Batch Production Process



- Simulates the use of shared resources in a batch production process
- Analysis of simulation results gives insight into how we can alter the resource profile to improve the performance of the system.

# SimEvents: Basic Model of Computation



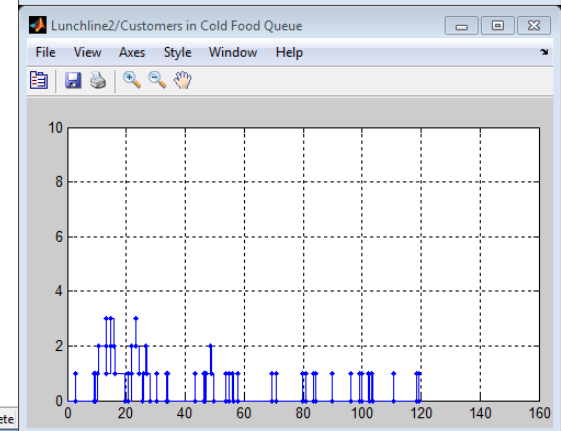
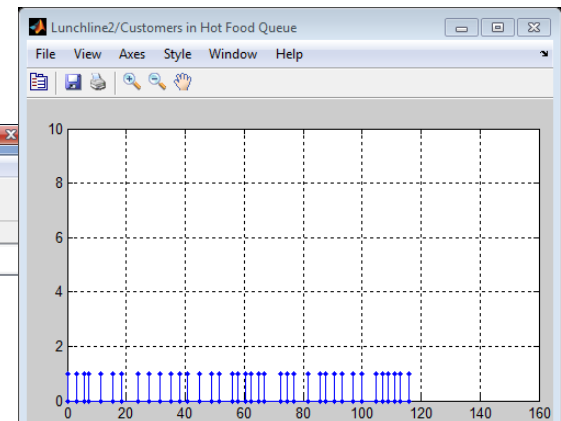
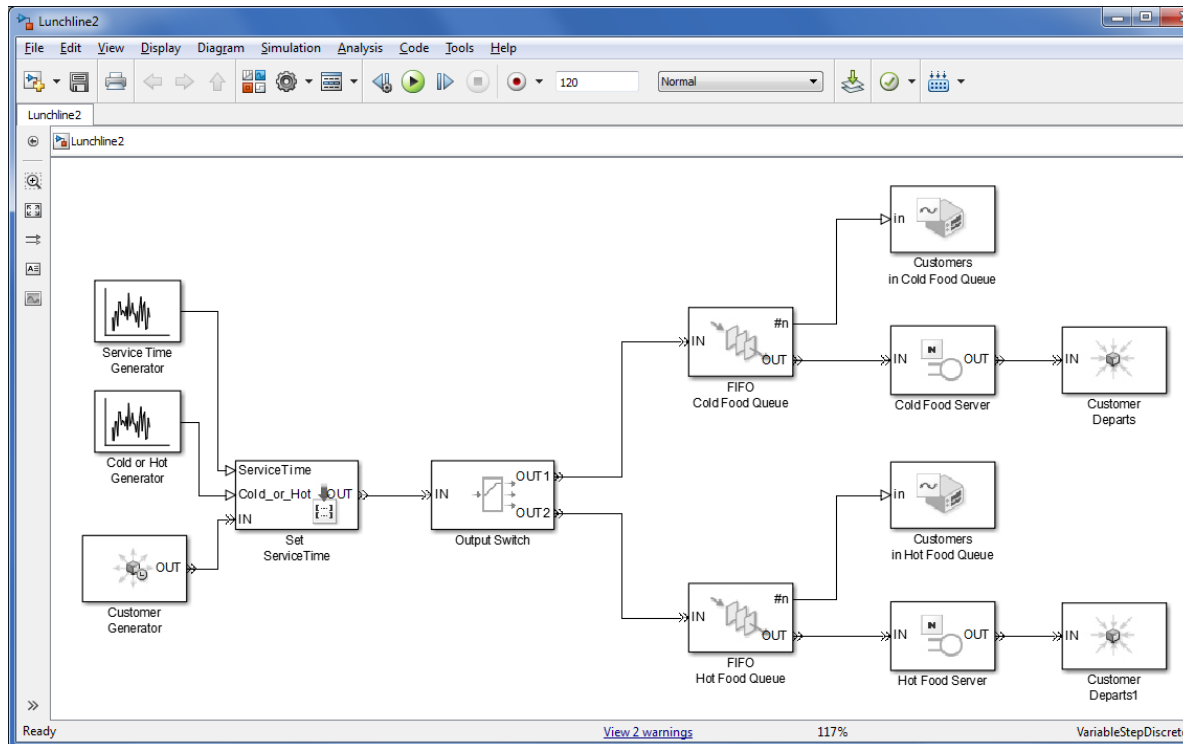
- **Entities**
  - Abstraction of something in the simulation (e.g. data packet, people, vehicles)
  - Move through queues, servers, gates, and switches
  
- **Attributes**
  - Numerical data carried by entities (i.e. Video frame, Length, Dest. Address,)
  - Attach unlimited number of Name-Value pairs to entities

# Other Examples of Systems Using SimEvents

<b>Application</b>	<b>Entities Represent</b>	<b>Modeling</b>
<b>Processor</b>	<b>Instructions Interrupts Processes</b>	<b>Processing Times Processor Utilisation Throughput Latency</b>
<b>Communication Channel</b>	<b>Data Frames Data Packets Components of a protocol</b>	<b>Channel Loading Channel Congestion Data Loss Latency</b>
<b>Business and Operational Processes</b>	<b>Physical information Messages People</b>	<b>Latency Resource Contention Probable Outcomes</b>
<b>Supply Chain and Logistics</b>	<b>Equipment Vehicles Products</b>	<b>Average wait times Throughput and congestion Effects of failure</b>

# SimEvents Tutorial

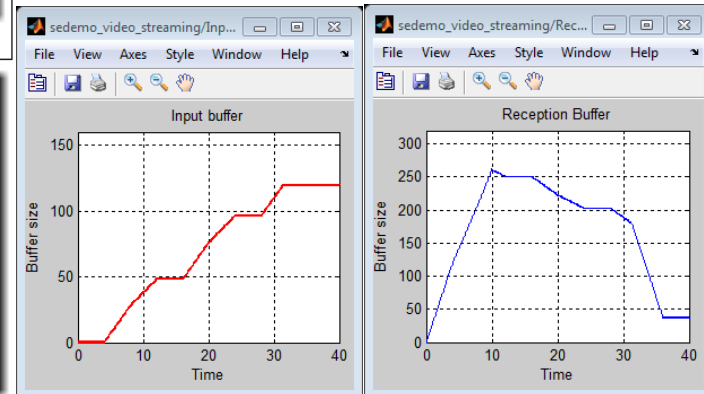
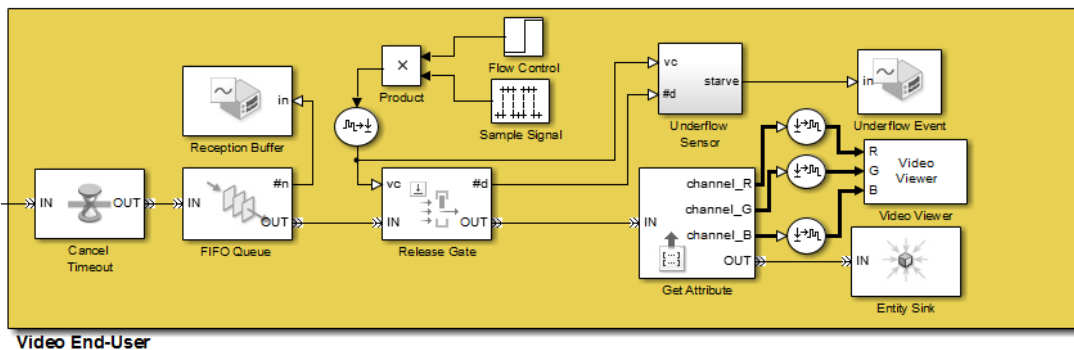
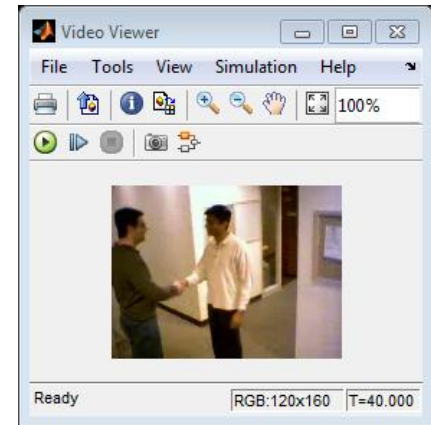
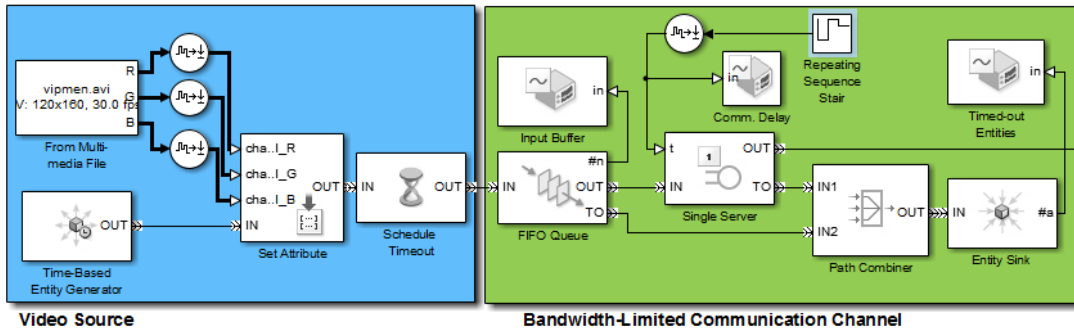
- Event driven, non-deterministic simulation
- Customers in a queue



# SimEvents Tutorial Summary

- SimEvents adds an event calendar to Simulink
- Library of commonly used DES blocks
- Drag and drop blocks to construct models
- Entities with custom data attributes
- Deterministic or non-deterministic simulations
- Blocks internally collect statistics about events
- Visualise data using scopes

# Video Streaming: Revisited



- Simulates a bandwidth limited communications channel
- Analysis of simulation results gives insight into how the channel affects received video quality.

# Taking SimEvents Further

- SimEvents is fully integrated with MATLAB and Simulink.
  
- We can leverage the power of MATLAB and Simulink for more powerful modelling and simulation capabilities, e.g.
  - Combine Simulink and SimEvents blocks for hybrid time and discrete event driven simulations
  - Drive simulations from MATLAB scripts to perform parameter sweeps and/or sensitivity analysis
  - Access to Toolboxes, e.g.
    - Optimisation and statistical analysis
    - Parallel Computing



# Integration with MATLAB and Simulink

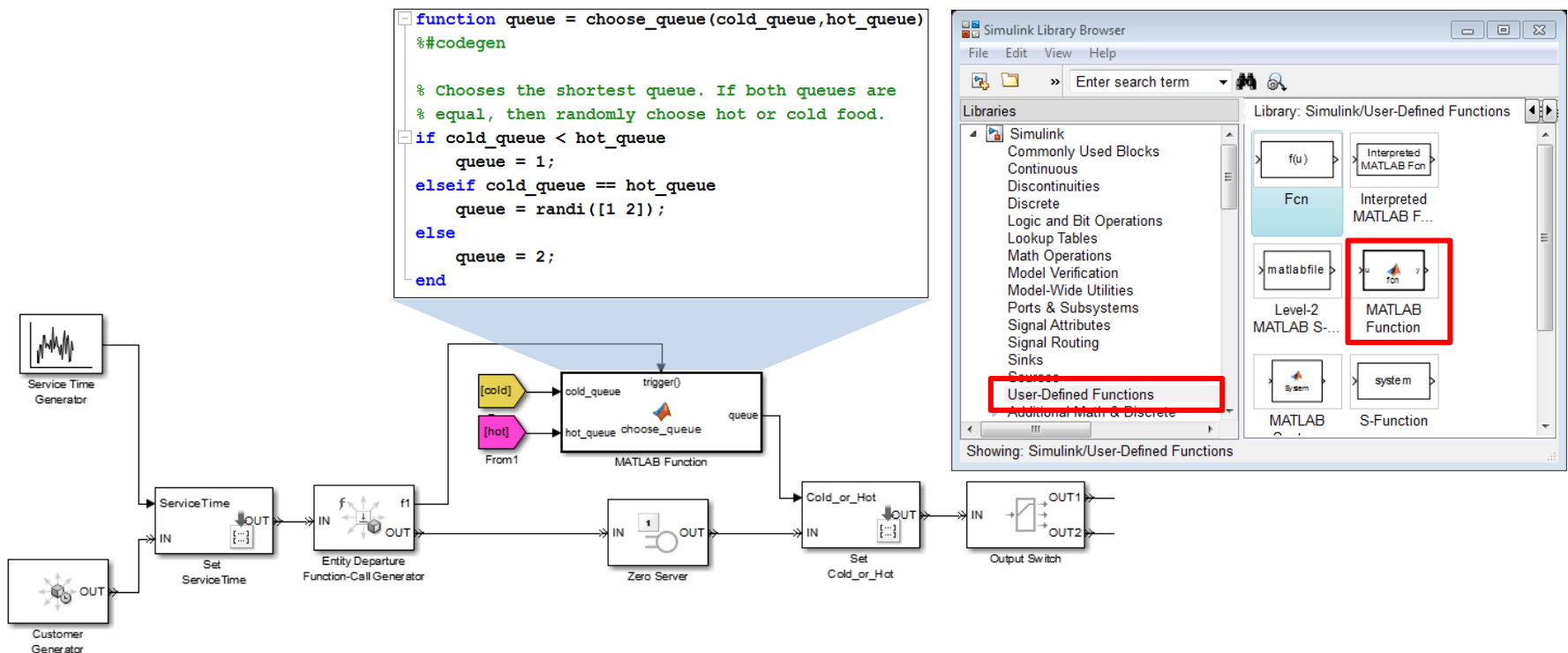
## *Examples*

1. MATLAB Function block from Simulink Library
  - Incorporate MATLAB code within model
2. MATLAB Scripting
  - Drive a model using MATLAB to manage input parameters
3. Leverage Optimisation Toolbox
  - Incorporate optimisation into the simulation

# Integration with MATLAB and Simulink

## MATLAB Function Block

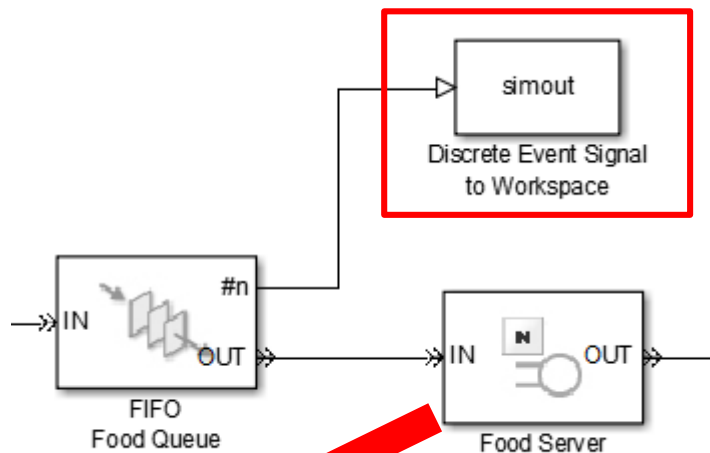
- Use MATLAB code to control the routing of customers based on the current state of the food queues
- Customers will join the shortest queue



# Integration with MATLAB and Simulink

## MATLAB Scripting

- Drive the simulation with a MATLAB script
- Read from and write to EXCEL sheets



N-Server  Control  Timeout  Statistics

Number of servers:

Service time from:

Attribute name:

```

%% Import data and initialise variables
importSimData; % Automatically generated using Import Tool
mdl = 'Lunchline1_param.slx';
resultsFilename = 'SimResults.xlsx';
figure(1);
plotnum = 1;
numSims = length(NumServers);

%% Run simulations, plot results, and write to XLS

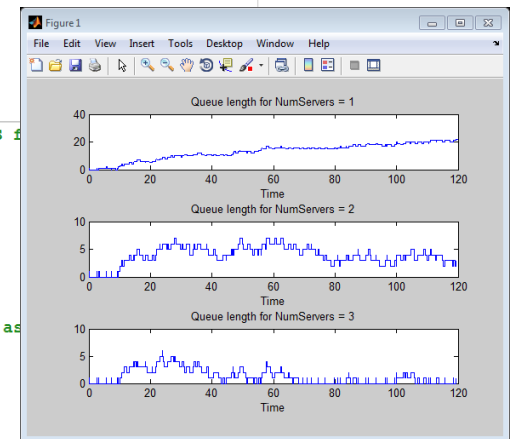
for i = 1:numSims
    % Define simulation data
    simMean = Mean_ServiceTime(i);
    simSTD = STD_ServiceTime(i);
    simServers = NumServers(i);

    % Run simulation. Data is saved to workspace as
    sim(mdl);

    % Plot Queue
    subplot(numSims,1,plotnum);
    stairs(simout.time,simout.signals.values);
    title(['Queue length for NumServers = ' num2str(simServers)]);
    xlabel('Time')

    % Increment plot number
    plotnum = plotnum+1;

    % Write Results to EXCEL spreadsheet
    sheetname = ['NumServers ' num2str(simServers)];
    xlswrite(resultsFilename,[simout.time simout.signals.values],sheetname,'A1')
    xlswrite(resultsFilename,{'Mean:',simMean},sheetname,'D1')
    xlswrite(resultsFilename,{'StdDev:',simSTD},sheetname,'D2')
end
    
```



# Integration with MATLAB and Simulink

## Optimisation

- Revisit the Batch Production Process model
- Drive the simulation with a MATLAB script
- Wrap an optimisation problem around the simulation
  - Find the optimal number of resources based on a cost function

```
% Execute genetic algorithm solver
[finalResult,fval,exitflag] = ga(@productionCost,4,[],[],[],[],...
    lb,ub,[],IntCon,opts);

% Cost function that assign different values to the decision variables in
% the model
function obj = productionCost(vecX)
    cost = [100 200 200 200]*vecX';
    assignin('base','x',vecX);
    [~,~,z] = sim('batchProcess_optim');
    backlog = z(end);
    obj = backlog*10000+cost;
end
```

## Lockheed Martin Builds Discrete-Event Models to Predict F-35 Fleet Performance



F-35s ready for flight.

### Challenge

Predict F-35 fleet performance to minimize life-cycle costs and maximize mission readiness

### Solution

Build a discrete-event model of the fleet with Simulink and SimEvents, **use MATLAB Distributed Computing Server to accelerate thousands of simulations**, and interpolate the results with Neural Network Toolbox

### Results

- **Simulation setup time reduced from months to hours**
- Development effort lessened
- **Simulation time cut by months**

“By building a model with **Simulink and SimEvents** and running discrete-event simulations on a computer cluster, **we rapidly identified many opportunities to maximize F-35 fleet performance** while minimizing development and execution efforts.”

Justin Beales  
Lockheed Martin

# Summary

- Simulation is a valuable tool for understanding the dynamics of a system
  
- SimEvents adds Discrete Event Simulation (DES) capabilities to Simulink. It is used to model the movement of some physical “entity” through a process.
  
- SimEvents is useful for analysing, for example,
  - Resource contention
  - Congestion/bottlenecks/processing delays
  - Throughput
  - Scheduling and routing

# Summary

- Example Applications
  - Supply chain and logistics
  - Mission planning
  - Packet based communications
  - Real-time operating system models
  - Business and operational processes
  - Manufacturing processes
  - Service scheduling
  - Etc.

# Summary

- Since SimEvents is built upon a MathWorks environment, you can leverage the power of MATLAB and Simulink to:
  - Combine Simulink and SimEvents blocks for hybrid time and discrete event driven simulations
  - Drive simulations from MATLAB scripts to perform parameter sweeps and/or sensitivity analysis
  - Access Toolbox functionality and capabilities, e.g.
    - Optimisation and statistical analysis
    - Parallel Computing



# Further Information

<http://www.mathworks.com.au/products/simevents/>

**SimEvents**  
Model and simulate discrete-event systems

**Overview**

SimEvents<sup>®</sup> provides a discrete-event simulation engine and component library for Simulink<sup>®</sup>. You can model event-driven communication between components to analyze and optimize end-to-end latencies, throughput, packet loss, and other performance characteristics. Libraries of predefined blocks, such as queues, servers, and switches, enable you to accurately represent your system and customize routing, processing delays, prioritization, and other operations.

With SimEvents you can design distributed control systems, hardware architectures, and sensor and communication networks for aerospace, automotive, and electronics applications. You can also simulate event-driven processes, such as the execution of a mission plan or the stages of a manufacturing process, to determine resource requirements and identify bottlenecks.

- ▶ Key Features
- ▶ Discrete-Event Simulation
- ▶ Predefined and Domain-Specific Libraries
- ▶ Analysis and Visualization

Documentation *fx* Functions Blocks Data Sheet

**Try SimEvents**  
» Get trial software

**TRY OR BUY**  
Contact Sales  
Product Trial  
Pricing and Licensing

**What's New**  
From Teresa Hubscher-Younger, SimEvents Technical Expert

◀▶ Nature publication features SimEvents model of Cardiac Death  
» Email Teresa

**Technical Resources**  
Support  
New Features  
Technical Articles  
System Requirements  
User Stories

**User Community**  
Answers  
Blog: Guy and Seth on Simulink  
File Exchange  
Link Exchange

Operations Research and Optimization of Discrete Event Simulation  
» View webinar

**Request a Trial**

# Training courses - Sydney

Course Name	Course Code	Start Date	End Date	City
<a href="#">MATLAB Fundamentals</a>	MLBE	5-Aug-14	7-Aug-14	Sydney
<a href="#">Stateflow for Logic Driven System Modeling</a>	SLSF	14-Aug-14	15-Aug-14	Sydney
<a href="#">Embedded Coder for Production Code Generation</a>	SLEC	16-Sep-14	18-Sep-14	Sydney
<a href="#">MATLAB Fundamentals</a>	MLBE	30-Sep-14	2-Oct-14	Sydney
<a href="#">MATLAB Programming Techniques</a>	MLPR	14-Oct-14	15-Oct-14	Sydney
<a href="#">Physical Modeling of Multidomain Systems with Simscape</a>	SLPM-S	16-Oct-14	16-Oct-14	Sydney
<a href="#">Statistical Methods in MATLAB</a>	MLST	11-Nov-14	12-Nov-14	Sydney
<a href="#">Image Processing with MATLAB</a>	MLIP	13-Nov-14	14-Nov-14	Sydney

Course Name	Course Code	Start Date	End Date	City
<a href="#">MATLAB Programming Techniques</a>	MLPR	12-Aug-14	13-Aug-14	e-learning
<a href="#">MATLAB Fundamentals</a>	MLBE	2-Sep-14	4-Sep-14	e-learning
<a href="#">Simulink for System and Algorithm Modeling</a>	SLBE	11-Sep-14	12-Sep-14	e-learning
<a href="#">MATLAB Fundamentals</a>	MLBE	9-Dec-14	11-Dec-14	e-learning

# Training courses - Adelaide

Course Name	Course Code	Start Date	End Date	City
<a href="#">Simulink for System and Algorithm Modeling</a>	SLBE	21-Aug-14	22-Aug-14	Adelaide
<a href="#">Image Processing with MATLAB</a>	MLIP	9-Sep-14	10-Sep-14	Adelaide
<a href="#">MATLAB Fundamentals</a>	MLBE	4-Nov-14	6-Nov-14	Adelaide
<a href="#">Parallel Computing with MATLAB</a>	MLPC	18-Nov-14	19-Nov-14	Adelaide

Course Name	Course Code	Start Date	End Date	City
<a href="#">MATLAB Programming Techniques</a>	MLPR	12-Aug-14	13-Aug-14	e-learning
<a href="#">MATLAB Fundamentals</a>	MLBE	2-Sep-14	4-Sep-14	e-learning
<a href="#">Simulink for System and Algorithm Modeling</a>	SLBE	11-Sep-14	12-Sep-14	e-learning
<a href="#">MATLAB Fundamentals</a>	MLBE	9-Dec-14	11-Dec-14	e-learning

# Training courses - Brisbane

Course Name	Course Code	Start Date	End Date	City
<a href="#">Simulink for System and Algorithm Modeling</a>	SLBE	22-Oct-14	23-Oct-14	Brisbane
<a href="#">Optimization Techniques in MATLAB</a>	MLOP	24-Oct-14	24-Oct-14	Brisbane
<a href="#">MATLAB Fundamentals</a>	MLBE	11-Nov-14	13-Nov-14	Brisbane

Course Name	Course Code	Start Date	End Date	City
<a href="#">MATLAB Programming Techniques</a>	MLPR	12-Aug-14	13-Aug-14	e-learning
<a href="#">MATLAB Fundamentals</a>	MLBE	2-Sep-14	4-Sep-14	e-learning
<a href="#">Simulink for System and Algorithm Modeling</a>	SLBE	11-Sep-14	12-Sep-14	e-learning
<a href="#">MATLAB Fundamentals</a>	MLBE	9-Dec-14	11-Dec-14	e-learning

# Training courses - Melbourne

Course Name	Course Code	Start Date	End Date	City
<a href="#">MATLAB Fundamentals</a>	MLBE	19-Aug-14	21-Aug-14	Melbourne
<a href="#">Building Interactive Applications in MATLAB</a>	MLGU	22-Aug-14	22-Aug-14	Melbourne
<a href="#">Physical Modeling of Multidomain Systems with Simscape</a>	SLMPM-S	22-Sep-14	22-Sep-14	Melbourne
<a href="#">MATLAB Programming Techniques</a>	MLPR	23-Sep-14	24-Sep-14	Melbourne
<a href="#">Statistical Methods in MATLAB</a>	MLST	25-Sep-14	26-Sep-14	Melbourne
<a href="#">MATLAB Fundamentals</a>	MLBE	14-Oct-14	16-Oct-14	Melbourne
<a href="#">Optimization Techniques in MATLAB</a>	MLOP	17-Oct-14	17-Oct-14	Melbourne
<a href="#">Parallel Computing with MATLAB</a>	MLPC	28-Oct-14	29-Oct-14	Melbourne
<a href="#">Signal Processing with MATLAB</a>	MLSG	30-Oct-14	31-Oct-14	Melbourne
<a href="#">Signal Processing with Simulink</a>	SLBE-G	18-Nov-14	20-Nov-14	Melbourne

Course Name	Course Code	Start Date	End Date	City
<a href="#">MATLAB Programming Techniques</a>	MLPR	12-Aug-14	13-Aug-14	e-learning
<a href="#">MATLAB Fundamentals</a>	MLBE	2-Sep-14	4-Sep-14	e-learning
<a href="#">Simulink for System and Algorithm Modeling</a>	SLBE	11-Sep-14	12-Sep-14	e-learning
<a href="#">MATLAB Fundamentals</a>	MLBE	9-Dec-14	11-Dec-14	e-learning

# Training courses - Perth

Course Name	Course Code	Start Date	End Date	City
<a href="#">Statistical Methods in MATLAB</a>	MLST	26-Aug-14	27-Aug-14	Perth
<a href="#">Simulink for System and Algorithm Modeling</a>	SLBE	28-Aug-14	29-Aug-14	Perth
<a href="#">MATLAB Fundamentals</a>	MLBE	23-Sep-14	25-Sep-14	Perth

Course Name	Course Code	Start Date	End Date	City
<a href="#">MATLAB Programming Techniques</a>	MLPR	12-Aug-14	13-Aug-14	e-learning
<a href="#">MATLAB Fundamentals</a>	MLBE	2-Sep-14	4-Sep-14	e-learning
<a href="#">Simulink for System and Algorithm Modeling</a>	SLBE	11-Sep-14	12-Sep-14	e-learning
<a href="#">MATLAB Fundamentals</a>	MLBE	9-Dec-14	11-Dec-14	e-learning

# Training courses - New Zealand

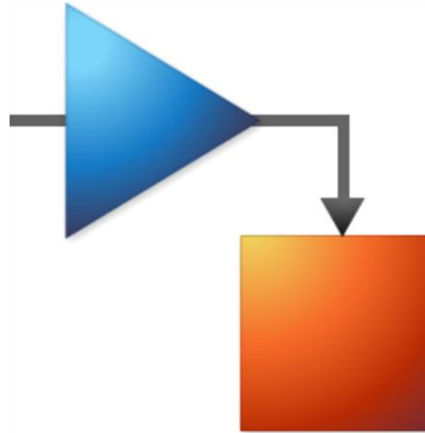
Course Name	Course Code	Start Date	End Date	City
<a href="#">Signal Processing with Simulink</a>	SLBE-G	3-Sep-14	5-Sep-14	Christchurch
<a href="#">Statistical Methods in MATLAB</a>	MLST	7-Oct-14	8-Oct-14	Wellington

Course Name	Course Code	Start Date	End Date	City
<a href="#">MATLAB Programming Techniques</a>	MLPR	12-Aug-14	13-Aug-14	e-learning
<a href="#">MATLAB Fundamentals</a>	MLBE	2-Sep-14	4-Sep-14	e-learning
<a href="#">Simulink for System and Algorithm Modeling</a>	SLBE	11-Sep-14	12-Sep-14	e-learning
<a href="#">MATLAB Fundamentals</a>	MLBE	9-Dec-14	11-Dec-14	e-learning

# Training courses - OnLine

Course Name	Course Code	Start Date	End Date	City
<a href="#">MATLAB Programming Techniques</a>	MLPR	12-Aug-14	13-Aug-14	e-learning
<a href="#">MATLAB Fundamentals</a>	MLBE	2-Sep-14	4-Sep-14	e-learning
<a href="#">Simulink for System and Algorithm Modeling</a>	SLBE	11-Sep-14	12-Sep-14	e-learning
<a href="#">MATLAB Fundamentals</a>	MLBE	9-Dec-14	11-Dec-14	e-learning





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