Is the Simulation Kit a NEXTSTEP app?

Q:

A:

The Simulation Kit is not an application; it is acollection of nongraphical Objective-C objects, much in the same manner as the Indexing Kit from NeXT.

Q: Does the Simulation Kit include source code?A: The Simulation Kit includes source code for nineteen example objects (e.g.

summers, gains, and integrators) and simulations; source code is not provided for the seven abstract core classes which make up the foundation of the Kit.

Q: Does any documentation come with the Simulation Kit?

A: Each of the Simulation Kit objects (the fifteen example objects and the seven core objects) and the four example simulations are fully documented on-line and indexed for use with Digital Librarian. An introduction describes

the mothodology for modeling and simulation systems using the Simulation Kit.

- Q: Can the Simulation Kit be used to model discrete processes?

 A: The Simulation Kit is currently unable to model and simulation discrete (i.e. event-driven) systems; only continuous systems can presently be modeled and simulated with the Simulation Kit.
- Q: How are systems modeled and simulated using the Simulation Kit?
 A: The Simulation Kit uses a block diagram abstraction to model continuous systems; thus, a simulation is constructed of process objects (such as summers, gains, and integrators) which are connected by signal objects. Clock objects are used to control the timing of the simulation (such as the integration step time), and the simulation object manages the execution of the processes in the proper order.

- Q: How are new processes created using the Simulation Kit?
- A: New processes may be created by directly coding the function in Objective-C as a subclass of the process object or by combining existing process objects into a composite process object.
- Q: How do I obtain useful output from a simulation?
- A: The output from a simulation is generated as the simulation executes, and may be output to a file, to an application in which the simulation is embedded, to an external application, or any other manner that the programmer desires. Examples are provided for importing and viewing the output graphically through Mathematica as well as several other packages.