Sphinx, the Python Documentation System

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reStructuredText vs. Sphinx

- reStructuredText Primer
- Sphinx Markup Constructs

reStructuredText goal #10

Extensible. The markup should provide a simple syntax and interface for adding more complex general markup, and custom markup.

Vocabulary: directives

```
http://docutils.sourceforge.net/docs/ref/rst/
directives.html
.. name:: arguments
    :options:
    cont.ent.
.. figure:: picture.png
    :scale: 50 %
    :alt: map to buried treasure
    This is the caption of the figure
    (a simple paragraph).
```

Vocabulary: roles

```
http://docutils.sourceforge.net/docs/ref/rst/
roles.html
:rolename: 'interpreted text'
'interpreted text':rolename:
See :PEP: '287' for more information about
reStructuredText.
The area of a circle is
:math: A_{\text{c}} = (\pi/4) d^2.
```

Quick Start

% sphinx-quickstart

The TOC tree

- All documents must be linked from a TOC tree
- The master document (master_doc) is the root of the TOC tree hierarchy
- sub-TOC tree directives can appear anywhere so long as they're linked from another toctree
- TOC tree directives can be hidden
- This is not the same as the reStructuredText contents directive

```
.. toctree::
    :maxdepth: 2
    :glob:
    intro/*
    strings
    datatypes
    numeric
```

File organization

```
.. toctree::
    :maxdepth: 1

    majortopic_1/index
    majortopic_2/index
    majortopic_3/index
```

Cross-referencing documents

```
* :role: 'target'
 :role: 'title <target>'
* :role: '~parent.child.target'

    Objects (domains)

    Arbitrary locations (:ref: & "reference names")

    Documents (:doc: absolute or relative paths)

  • Downloads (:download:)
  • Index-generating references (:envvar:,:term:,..
    index::)
```

Semantic markup

```
• :abbr:
• :command:
• :program: & :option:
• :file:
• :kbd: 'C-x C-f'
• :manpage: 'ls(1)'
• :menuselection: 'Start --> Programs'
• :samp: 'print 1+{variable}'
```

conf.py tricks

It's Python!

- Version numbers
- Mocking

```
MOCK_MODULES = ['pygtk', 'gtk']
for mod_name in MOCK_MODULES:
    sys.modules[mod_name] = Mock()
```

Environments

Extensions

extlinks

```
:issue: '384'
```

• intersphinx (objects.inv)

```
:py:class: 'zipfile.ZipFile'
```

autodoc

```
.. automodule:: mypackage.mymodule
    :members:
autodoc-process-docstring(app, what, name,
obj, options, lines)
```

Templating

```
{% extends "!layout.html" %}
{%- block rootrellink %}
<a href="{{ pathto('index') }}">
       My home</a>&nbsp; | &nbsp; 
<a href="{{ pathto('home') }}">
       Documentation</a> &raquo;
{%- endblock %}
html additional_pages = {
    'index': 'index.html',
    '404': '404.html',
html sidebars = { ... }
```

Extensions

```
def setup (app):
    app.add_crossref_type(...)
    app.add_directive(...)
    app.add role(...)
    app.connect('event_name', handler)
    app.add_config_value(name, default, rebuild)
    app.add_node(node, \
            html=(visit_mynode_html, \
            depart_mynode_html))
    app.add_event(name)
    app.emit(event, *arguments)
```

Sphinx build events

http://sphinx.pocoo.org/ext/appapi.html#events

- builder-inited(app)
- source-read(app, docname, source)
- html-page-context(app, pagename, templatename, context, doctree)
- build-finished(app, exception)

```
app.builder.env
app.builder.outdir
app.config
app.builder.warn("Look out!")
```

Appendix: reStructuredText output formats

- rst2html
- rst2latex
- rst2man
- rst2odt
- rst2s5
- rst2xml

Appendix: Sphinx builders

- StandaloneHTMLBuilder
- DirectoryHTMLBuilder
- SingleFileHTMLBuilder
- HTMLHelpBuilder (Microsoft CHM)
 - QtHelpBuilder (KDE)
 - DevhelpBuilder (Gnome)
- EpubBuilder
- LaTeXBuilder
- TextBuilder
- ManualPageBuilder
- SerializingHTMLBuilder (pickle, simplejson, phpserialize)
- PickleHTMLBuilder
- JSONHTMLBuilder
- ChangesBuilder (versionadded, versionchanged and deprecated)
- CheckExternalLinksBuilder



Appendix: Other links

- http://rst2a.com/
- http://docutils.sourceforge.net/docs/user/links.html