

Assignment - 9.1

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Lab Experiment: Automatic Documentation Generation & Code Comments

Problem 1:

Consider the following Python function:

```
def find_max(numbers):  
    return max(numbers)
```

Task:

- Write documentation for the function in all three formats:
 - (a) Docstring
 - (b) Inline comments
 - (c) Google-style documentation
- Critically compare the three approaches. Discuss the advantages, disadvantages, and suitable use cases of each style.
- Recommend which documentation style is most effective for a mathematical utilities library and justify your answer.

Problem 1: Documentation Styles

Given Function :

```
def find_max(numbers):  
    return max(numbers)
```

(a) Docstring Documentation:

```
def find_max(numbers):  
    """  
    Returns the maximum value from a list of numbers.  
  
    Parameters:  
        numbers (list): A list of numeric values.  
  
    Returns:  
        int or float: The maximum value in the list.  
    """  
    return max(numbers)
```

(b) Inline Comments :

```
def find_max(numbers):  
    # Use built-in max() function to find the largest  
    number  
    return max(numbers)
```

(c) Google-Style Documentation :

```
def find_max(numbers):  
    """  
    Finds the maximum value in a list.  
  
    Args:  
        numbers (list): List of numeric values.  
  
    Returns:  
        int or float: Maximum value from the list.  
    """  
    return max(numbers)
```

Critical Comparison :

Style	Advantages	Disadvantages	Use Case
Docstring	Standard, works with pydoc	Less structured	Small functions
Inline Comments	Simple, easy to read	No auto-doc support	Explaining logic
Google Style	Structured, readable, professional	Slightly verbose	Libraries & APIs

Problem 2: Consider the following Python function:

```
def login(user, password, credentials):  
    return credentials.get(user) == password
```

Task:

1. Write documentation in all three formats.
2. Critically compare the approaches.
3. Recommend which style would be most helpful for new developers onboarding a project, and justify your choice.

Problem 2: Login Function Documentation

Given Function :

```
def login(user, password, credentials):  
    return credentials.get(user) == password
```

(a) Docstring

```
def login(user, password, credentials):  
    """  
    Checks whether the provided user credentials are  
    valid.  
    """  
    return credentials.get(user) == password
```

(b) Inline Comments

```
def login(user, password, credentials):  
    # Compare stored password with input password  
    return credentials.get(user) == password
```

(c) Google-Style Documentation

```
def login(user, password, credentials):  
    """  
    Authenticates a user using provided credentials.  
  
    Args:  
        user (str): Username.  
        password (str): Password entered by the user.  
        credentials (dict): Dictionary of  
        user-password pairs.  
  
    Returns:  
        bool: True if login is successful, False  
        otherwise.  
    """  
    return credentials.get(user) == password
```

Comparison

- Inline comments: minimal help
- Simple docstring: lacks details
- Google-style: clear, onboarding-friendly

Problem 3: Calculator (Automatic Documentation Generation)

Task: Design a Python module named `calculator.py` and demonstrate automatic documentation generation.

Instructions:

1. Create a Python module `calculator.py` that includes the following functions, each written with appropriate docstrings:
 - o `add(a, b)` – returns the sum of two numbers
 - o `subtract(a, b)` – returns the difference of two numbers
 - o `multiply(a, b)` – returns the product of two numbers
 - o `divide(a, b)` – returns the quotient of two numbers
2. Display the module documentation in the terminal using Python's documentation tools.
3. Generate and export the module documentation in HTML format using the `pydoc` utility, and open the generated HTML file in a web browser to verify the output.

Problem 3: Calculator Module

calculator.py:

```
"""
Calculator Module
Provides basic arithmetic operations.
"""
```

```
def add(a, b):  
    """Returns the sum of two numbers."""  
    return a + b  
  
def subtract(a, b):  
    """Returns the difference of two numbers."""  
    return a - b  
  
def multiply(a, b):  
    """Returns the product of two numbers."""  
    return a * b  
  
def divide(a, b):  
    """Returns the quotient of two numbers."""  
    if b == 0:  
        return "Division by zero error"  
    return a / b
```

Problem 4: Conversion Utilities Module

Task:

1. Write a module named `conversion.py` with functions:
 - o `decimal_to_binary(n)`
 - o `binary_to_decimal(b)`
 - o `decimal_to_hexadecimal(n)`
2. Use Copilot for auto-generating docstrings.
3. Generate documentation in the terminal.
4. Export the documentation in HTML format and open it in a browser.

Problem 4: Conversion Utilities Module

conversion.py

```
"""
Conversion Utilities Module
"""

def decimal_to_binary(n):
    """Converts a decimal number to binary."""
    return bin(n)[2:]

def binary_to_decimal(b):
    """Converts a binary number to decimal."""
    return int(b, 2)

def decimal_to_hexadecimal(n):
    """Converts a decimal number to hexadecimal."""
    return hex(n)[2:]
```

Problem 5 – Course Management Module

Task:

1. Create a module `course.py` with functions:
 - o `add_course(course_id, name, credits)`
 - o `remove_course(course_id)`
 - o `get_course(course_id)`
2. Add docstrings with Copilot.
3. Generate documentation in the terminal.
4. Export the documentation in HTML format and open it in a browser.

Problem 5: Course Management Module

course.py

```
"""
Course Management Module
"""

courses = {}

def add_course(course_id, name, credits):
    """Adds a new course to the system."""
    courses[course_id] = {
        "name": name,
        "credits": credits
    }

def remove_course(course_id):
    """Removes a course using course ID."""
    courses.pop(course_id, None)

def get_course(course_id):
    """Returns details of a course."""
    return courses.get(course_id)
```