Use of Javadoc

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First Edition



Javadoc

Javadoc is a program which is included in the Java Development Kit (JDK). Javadoc generates documentation based on the interfaces. As long as the interface and comments are correctly implemented, Javadoc will generate an interface with the same arrangement and layout as the documentation of standardized java classes and interfaces. Javadoc knows a few tags, these are keywords which are recognized by Javadoc. For example:

- @author, defines the author
- @return, defines the return value

Since programmers often want to include other information as well, it is possible to use your own tags. The following example shows how one should use these tags to successfully generate the Javadoc.

Generating Javadoc

The tags you create yourself have to be defined while executing the Javadoc. In this command all, in this practicum used, tags are already there. Windows however doesn't execute this command. Eclipse however can generate Javadoc as well. To use Eclipse to generate a Javadoc, use the following steps:

- 1. Project \rightarrow Generate Javadoc
- 2. Check whether the location of the javadoc command is set correctly. If you use the latest version of Java, the command should be something like: C:\ProgramFiles\Java\jdk{versionnumber}\bin\javadoc.exe. If you use a different Java version it wont be hard to find the correct Javadoc command.
- 3. Click Next.
- 4. Click again Next.
- 5. Add the following list of arguments to the screen Extra javadoc options:
- 6. nodeprecated
- 7. nodeprecatedlist
- 8. quiet
- 9. author
- 10. -tag elements:a:"Elements"
- 11. -tag structure:a:"Structure"

- 12. -tag domain:a:"Domain"
- $13. \ -{\rm tag\ constructor:a:"Constructor"}$
- 14. -tag param
- 15. -tag precondition:a:"PRE-condition"
- $16. \ \ \text{-tag postcondition:a:"POST-condition"}$
- 17. -tag throws
- 18. Click Finish

There is now a folder created with the name doc in the project. The generated documentation is in this folder.

Also, for Windows the <code>javadox.exe</code> can be found in either <code>C: \ProgramFiles\java\jdk\bin</code> or <code>C: \ProgramFiles(x86)\java\jdk\bin</code>. For Linux users it's best to use the terminal and type 'whereis javadoc', since it can change.