

The background is a dark blue gradient. On the left, there is a large, semi-transparent circular image of a circuit board. Overlaid on this and the background are several geometric shapes: a blue parallelogram and a green parallelogram in the upper left, and a series of white, stepped, rectangular blocks in the upper right, resembling a microchip or a staircase.

Building a Docs as Code system

Lisha Li

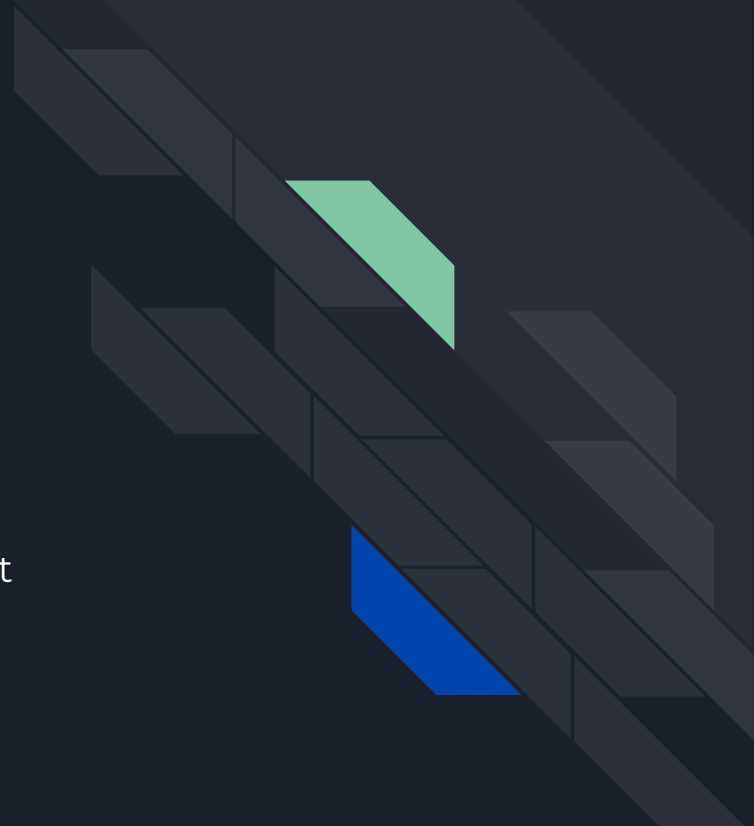


About Me

- I live in Vancouver Canada
- 14+ years of experiences writing end-user and developer docs
- Experiences with doc infrastructure design:
 - Built a DITA XML documentation system
 - Built a Confluence documentation system
 - Built a Docs-as-Code documentation system

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What is Docs as Code?

An approach or system that you create and maintain your documentation using the same tools as you do with your programming code.



Why Docs as Code?

- Keep your documentation in sync with your code
- Use the same tools to review code and documentation changes
- Writers and developers can work together
- Automated testing, building, and publishing



Manage the Docs

Manage your documentation using a source control system like:

- GitHub
- Bitbucket
- GitLab



Write and Build the Docs

Write the documentation in plain text markup and build the output with a static site generator (SSG):

- Markdown -> Almost any SSG
(<https://jamstack.org/generators/>)
- reStructuredText -> Sphinx (for Python)
- AsciiDoc -> Antora/ some SSG with plugins



Authoring Tools

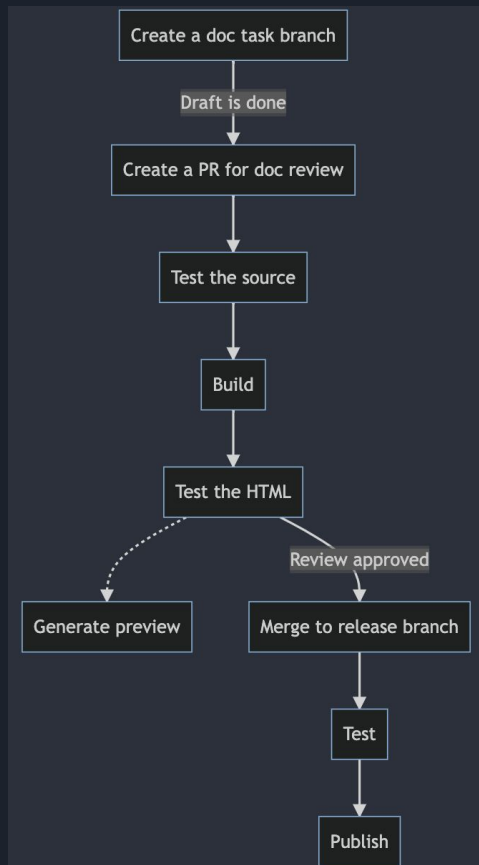
- Any text editor
 - Visual Studio Code (<https://code.visualstudio.com/>)
 - Atom (<https://atom.io/>)
 - Notepad++ (<https://notepad-plus-plus.org/>)
- Online IDE tool
 - Gitpod (<https://www.gitpod.io/>)



Test the Docs

- Style and prose linter
 - Vale (<https://vale.sh/docs/>)
- HTML checker
 - Htmltest (<https://github.com/wjdp/htmltest>)
 - Muffet (<https://github.com/raviqqe/muffet>)
 - HTMLProofer (<https://github.com/gitorikian/html-proofer>)
 - LinkChecker (<https://github.com/linkchecker/linkchecker/>)
- Code linter
 - Pylint (<https://pylint.pycqa.org>)
 - JSLint (<https://www.jshint.com/>)

Docs as Code CI/CD Workflow





A Real World Docs as Code Example I Built

<https://developer.liveswitch.io/index.html>

- Bitbucket
- Azure Pipelines
- Vale
- DocFX (developer guide and API reference)
 - Redoc (REST API reference)
 - Doxygen/TypeDoc (client API reference)
- AWS S3 buckets (public site and doc preview)



A Demo Docs as Code Repo I Built

<https://github.com/lilisha100/docs-as-code-demo>

- GitHub
- GitHub Action to automate the workflow
- Markdown
- Vale
- DocFX to build developer guide/client and REST API references
- Htmltest
- Gitpod for doc editing and preview
- GitHub Pages to host the doc online



Thank you!

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