Faculty of Computers, Informatics and Microelectronics

Technical University of Moldova

PSI

Laboratory work # 4

Code Documentation

Author:
Petru Negrei

Supervisor:
A. Railean

November 2014

1 Introduction

1.1 Objective

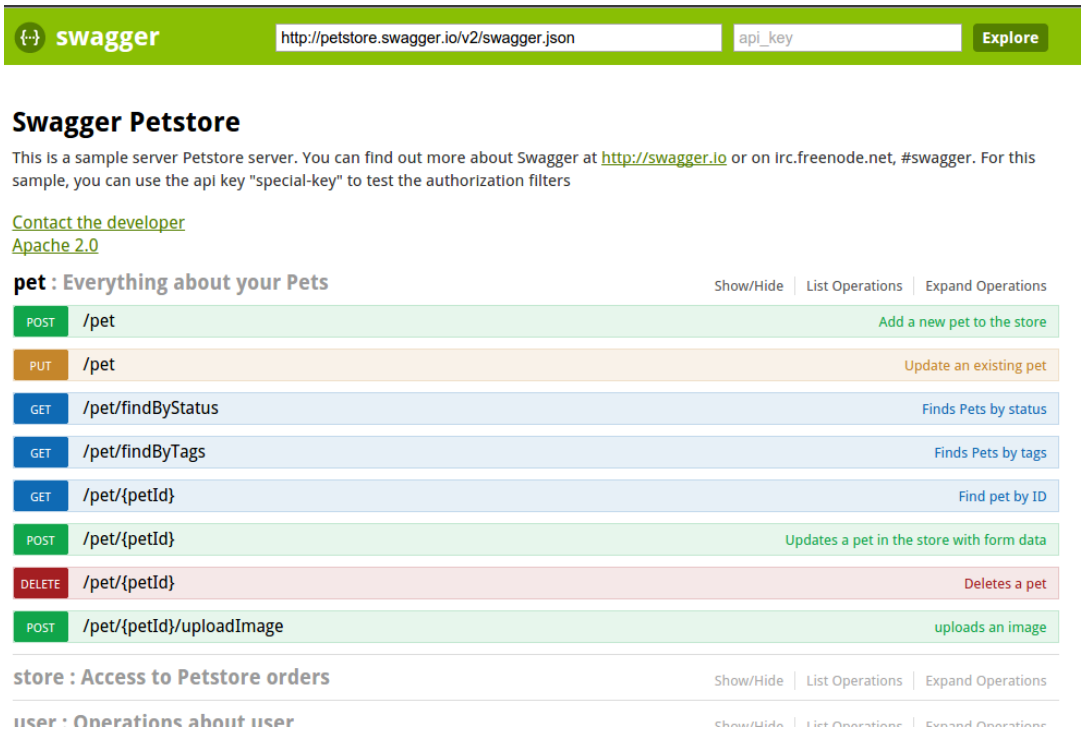
- Analyze and study available tools for code generation.
- Find advantages and disadvantages of using a certain tool.

2 Tools

2.1 API documentation

In this laboratory work I choose the Swagger API tool for generating the api documentation.

Swagger is a simple yet powerful representation of your RESTful API. With a Swagger-enabled API, you get interactive documentation, client SDK generation and discoverability.



Minimum Configuration

```
Swagger::Docs::Config.base_api_controller = ActionController::API
Swagger::Docs::Config.register_apis({
  "1.0" => {
     controller_base_path: "",
     api_file_path: 'public',
     base_path: "http://localhost:3000"
  }
})
```

Example of documentation

```
# ...
class AppointmentsController < ApplicationController

  swagger_controller :appointments, 'Dates'

  # GET /dates
```

```
    swagger_api :index do
      summary 'Returns all dates'
      response :unauthorized
    end

    # GET /dates/1
    swagger_api :show do
      summary "Fetches a single date"
      param :path, :id, :integer, :required, "Date Id"
      response :unauthorized
      response :not_found
    end

    end
  end
```

To generate run:

```
$ rake swagger:docs
```

3 Yard

YARD is a documentation generation tool for the Ruby programming language. It enables the user to generate consistent, usable documentation that can be exported to a number of formats very easily, and also supports extending for custom Ruby constructs such as custom class level definitions. Above is a highlight of the some of YARD's notable features. Update the rake and guard file.

```
    $ vim Gemfile
    gem "yard"
    $ bundle
    $ yardoc # to generate new documentation
    $ vim Rakefile
    require 'rdoc/task'
    ...
    YARD::Rake::YardocTask.new
    ...
    $ vim Guardfile

    guard rake, :task => 'yard' do
      watch(%r{^lib/(.+)\.rb)
      watch(%r{^(markdown|md|rdoc|)})
     end
```

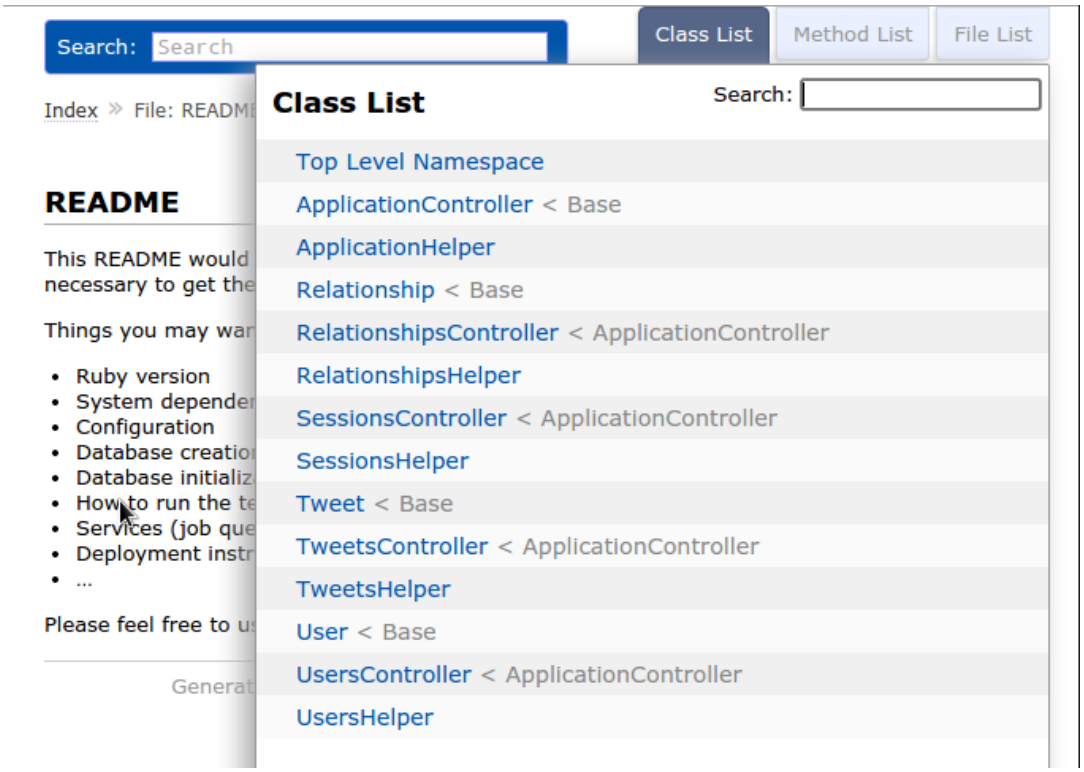
Examples of markup language used for creating documentation.

```
# @author Yakuda Katz
# @return [String] description
# @param name [Conway::Cell] description
# @param name [#method] description
...
# @see Conway::World
# @see Conway::World#method
# @see #method
...
# @example descrprion
#  Cell.new(state: :dead),alive? #false
...
# @yield [ cell ] cell description
# @yieldparam cell [Conway::Cell] description
# @note description
...
# @!group Name
 ...
# @!endgroup
```

```
# only first word count rest is show as descripiton
# ... {Word#method descripiton} ...
# {link text}
# {include:file:config/example.rdoc}
# {include:Conway::Utils::Serializer} # show the comment
```

In order to generate the documentation you need to run the following commands. The first one will also show how much your application is covered by documentation. The second one wiill start a server at port 8088 so you can see generated files.

```
$ yard
$ yard server
```



For more information about yard you can check their Startup Guide. Yardoc.

4 Conclussion

After analyzing the avalaible tools for generation documentation of your code I found out that most of them support additional features that will help to easily browse and read the existing code. You can add comments to your code using markdown syntax thus when the documentation will be generated it will be outputed in the format you desire. Most of these tool provide a lot functionality out of the box and provide an easy way to create documentation for your code.