**TA rough draft**

**Intro**

In “Creating and Evolving Developer Documentation: Understanding the Decisions of Open Source Contributions” Barthélémy Dagenais and Martin P. Robillard discuss the aspects of effective documentation. Using statistical methods and interviews, the authors determined how documentation is written and best practices for writing documentation methods. The statistical methods were primarily used to determine how documentation is currently written. Interviews were primarily used to determine which documentation methods fit with which project types. Although documentation methods differ for different types of projects, all projects benefit from good documentation in similar ways.

**Methods**

* Interviews
* Historical analysis
* Statistics

**Document types**

Wikis

* Describe a wiki
* Low barrier of entry
* Can become not concise
* Comment section is an alternative
* All projects that had wikis eventually ditched them

Getting started docs

* Describe it
* Works for marketing
* APIs don’t have it
* Good (easy) for users, but difficult to write.

Reference docs

* Describe it

Document with every change

* Describe it
* Embarrassment driven development

Separate docs team

* Describe it

Updating based on questions

* Describe it
* Encourages users

Conclusions