

Epydoc

API Documentation Extraction in Python

Edward Loper

Epydoc: Overview

- Extracts and organizes API documentation for a Python library.
- Extracts documentation from...
 - Docstrings
 - Inspection
 - Parsed source code
- And organizes it into a coherent reference...
 - Webpage (HTML)
 - Document (PDF)

Documentation Extraction

- It's convenient to *write* API docs in the source code...
- But it's not convenient to *read* them there.
- Solution: use a tool that...
 - Extracts API docs from the source code
 - Converts them into a readable format

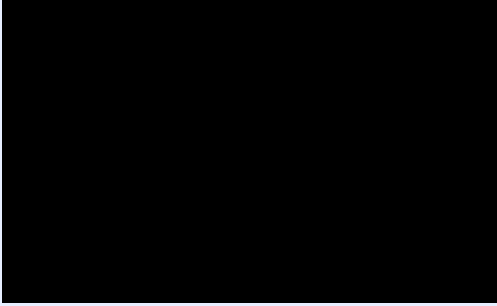
Avoiding Duplication

- Multiple objects can share the same documentation:
 -
 -
 -
- But duplicating their documentation is problematic:
 -
 -
 -

Avoiding Duplication

- Epydoc provides 2 mechanisms to avoid duplication:
 - *Documentation inheritance*: A method without docs in its file documentation from the method it inherits from.
 - *The “@include” field*: Special markup that can be used to include documentation from any other object.

**Webpage Output:
A Quick Tour**



Fields:

