

Tango Doc workshop 2023

Slack channel:

<https://tango-controls.slack.com/archives/C052WKJU61L>

Notes

- 3 Full days
- 1 Goal per day
- Would be nice to have something executable - see and run examples. E.g., Jupyterbook. Static docs are also very important.
- Document everything in PyTango with examples in PyTango's high-level API
- Workshop will be on-site, with a remote option.

Agenda

Day	Who	What	Goal	Expected result
0	Everybody	Participants arrive	Avoid time loss if some participants arrive on days 1 and need to catch up.	Everybody is on site when day 0 ends.
1	All	Tooling	Decision what tooling will be used	Presentations (5min max) of various toolings. Group decides afterwards which tooling will be used. Timeboxed to max 1 hour. Default tooling is, if no agreement, mkdocs
1	Groups	Rearranging the structure	Combine the useful parts of Tango Doc and Pytango Doc into new unified structure	Repo with useful files and correct structure is available, and people can start collaborating. And the new tool can build!
2	Groups	Overview Write new parts like tutorials Massage existing docs	Comprehensible and consistent text that addresses new users only. Great intro for new users. Accurate docs in the right place.	Tango Doc top level documentation to provide an overview over Tango Controls. PyTango Doc is connected to Tango Doc where examples and implementation information for

				users are needed.
3	Groups	Make sure examples all work Publish V1!	Reliable, easy to understand examples	Doc contains runnable examples, at least for PyTango. Published the MVP (at least as good as existing docs)
4	Everybody	Participants leave	Provide full three days of focussed work	Everybody has left by the end of day 4.

Preparational work

What	Who	Comment
Try out tools	JupyBook: Andy MyST: Anton mkdocs: Benjamin Sphinx, readthedocs + doxygen (breathe): Corné	make an example of a few pages, mkdocs, MyST, Sphinx, Breathe
Make a Google Doc from the Tango docs PDF	Corne	743 pages!
Make a Google Doc from the PyTango docs	Anton	(Get PDF building working again...)
Review existing docs	Group	We will grade each page and mark it for inclusion/improvement Deadline: 31. August
Identify unsupported docs/tools for moving to the bin.	Group - from the review via spreadsheet	(archive.org keeps everything)
Remove absolute versions from text where possible	Group	Make a note during review.
Replace absolute versions with "supported since XYZ version"	Group	
Identify conflicting/misleading/unclear information/statements	Group	
Propose an outline of book	Thomas J	Follow The Grand Theory of

		Documentation
Learn how to write a Jupyterbook with embedded code and create draft from existing PyTango documentation	Piotr / Antoine / ?	Will be part of preparing the 5min demos of the tooling.

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Meeting notes from the doc workshop at the Tango Controls Community meeting 2023

Attendees: Thomas Juerges, Thomas Ives, Ulrik Pedersen, Yury Matyevev, Johan Coetzer, Corne Lukken, Wojciech Wantuch, Verity Allan, Dominik Hollatz, Benjamin Bertrand, room 57 😊, Anton Joubert.

Goal for workshop 29 June 2023:

- Have a meeting this year!
- Hybrid but preference on in person
 - Potential locations:
 - Krakow
 - ESRF
 - ASTRON
- Work packages
- Homework
 - Tooling:
 - Sphinx, readthedocs + doxygen (breathe) - Corne
 - mkdocs - Benjamin
 - MyST - Anton
 - JupyterBook - Andy
 - Hierarchical structure/categories of docs
 - **Read/Watch: The Grand Unified Theory of Documentation:**
<https://documentation.divio.com>
 - Rate the existing docs:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1IXCboZY4s3HWk3xW_RLYbaZKnQrd1y3eYDSsPONkkO0/edit?usp=sharing
 - Spreadsheet listing each page - **Corne to create it.** Include PyTango docs and Tango docs.
 - Rating: good, neutral, bad
 - Comments: e.g., this thing is in the wrong place.

- Don't fix any typos or do any editing!
- Suggest the domain and page it should be in.
- **Deadline: 31 August 2023.**
- Design the structure for our docs.
- Extract all the examples we have, for various languages. Do we want to keep them? Are they still relevant?
- **Don't review existing API docs.**
- References (link to these, ideally searchable): RFC, cppTango API, PyTango API, Java API.

Common workflow for new starter:

- Installation instructions, so the developer has the tools installed locally and can follow along.
- Tutorials: with nodb to start with. We need to reduce the amount of context people need to have in their head.

Categories of docs?

- Good landing page
- General overview
- Installation
- Tutorial
- API docs
- Other tools: Taurus, Sardana,

When new user is starting:

- Confusing that we have many entry points - tango docs, pytango docs, cpp API reference - all looks different and how does a new user know where to find things?
 - Common theme for all the docs will make it easy for new readers. (E.g., could combine doxygen docs in Sphinx docs - e.g., breathe?)

Structure:

- Overview page
 - Clear indication what package the documentation is for
 - The TC RTD navigation panel is good in how it is structured, re-use it or parts of it
- Nice to have: switching languages one example with a single click. E.g., zmq and fastapi docs.
- Follow model: Explanation, Tutorial, Howtos, Reference
 - Reference: cppTango class reference, etc.

Tried ChatGPT! It has a good idea of what Tango is, although it is convinced that we only use zmq, and not CORBA anymore. It later changed its mind and apologised for being wrong about the use of CORBA in Tango... But the damage was done and we don't trust it to write our documentation for us.

Challenges:

- Versioning of cppTango/PyTango could affect tutorials. Ideally, examples should only use a stable API.
- Keep API references in its own repo.

- Nice to have: examples that are checked via CI. Otherwise, we need someone to check manually.
- Docs show out of date “latest release”. Could use badges, like we do in our repos.

Shared training material:

- Can we put this in one place, for a good training course?
- Eventually, it could cover the whole Tango ecosystem?
- Have some things from ICALEPCS workshops, training from SKAO sessions.
- Probably a bit out of scope for the docs workshop.
- Could have a repo like tango-training. Or a wiki...