

Enhancing NumPy Documentation- Brief Proposal- GSoD 2021

Introduction

Good documentation lets people help themselves when they get stuck .This is a brief version of my proposal for Google Season of Docs 2021 project HIGH-LEVEL RESTRUCTURING AND END-USER FOCUS with NumPy. I am providing a brief explanation of my project plan in this proposal. A more in depth proposal with timelines , all planned strategies , document structures will be submitted after more discussion with the mentors and community.

Project Goals

The prime objective of the project is to make the documentation of NumPy more readable , attractive and comprehensive for beginners and experienced users. Hence the updated documentation should fix problems like duplication of content , lack of how-tos, ambiguity etc which are present in the current version.For achieving this various strategies and changes should be employed to the current version.Here ,we are discussing some of them , which I am planning to implement.

Planned Improvements

The documentation will emphasize on improving the NumPy fundamentals -Reference, Tutorials, How-tos and Explanations.

The first and foremost is **improving the style, voice, and tone** of the document.The documentation should be in simple, easy-to-understand sentences.I will use a conversational tone which achieves a balance between colloquial and formal language, that is suitable for providing knowledge and information.The sentences are kept short and precise rather than long paragraphs.Improving the tone itself would increase the readability and appeal of the documentation to a great extent.

The second change would be to **remove duplication and ambiguity** from the documentation. Removal of duplicate content from documentation helps to make it more concise and easy and increase searchability.Removing ambiguity and making the documentation more explicit helps beginner level users to a great extent.

Next and the most important change would be to **improve the structure of documentation**. For this part I will bring the main ideas discussed in the [NumPy Enhancement Proposal \(NEP\) 44](#) Which are:

- Reorganizing the docs into the four categories mentioned in 1, namely Tutorials, How Tos, Reference Guide and Explanations (more about this below).
- Creating dedicated sections for Tutorials and How-Tos, including orientation on how to create new content;
- Adding an Explanations section for key concepts and techniques that require deeper descriptions, some of which will be rearranged from the Reference Guide.

Apart from this , restructuring the document will bring the right content under the right section which greatly reduces confusion and adds other aspects such as more bullet points which helps the users to get exactly what they want with less effort.

The next enhancement would be **adding more examples and visual elements**. More examples for implementation would be added to the documentation along with visual elements wherever possible. Adding this will greatly enhance the readability of the document and examples helps users a lot.

Conclusion

Apart from all these changes, I will employ more strategies to make the document as readable , appealing to a wide audience while maintaining a good technical standard. Other aspects such as ease of translation will also be taken to consideration while preparing the document.

About Me

Name : Mahesh S Nair | Former GSoCer | Open-Source enthusiast | Quality Assurance Specialist

Email : mahesh6947foss@gmail.com

Country,TimeZone : India , GMT+5:30 Hours