

2014 REXxLA International Rexx Language Symposium Proceedings

René Vincent Jansen (ed.)

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Introduction

History of the International REXX Language Symposium

In 1990, Cathie Dager of SLAC¹ convened the organizing committee for the first independent REXX² Symposium for Developers and Users. SLAC continued to organize this annual event until the middle of the 1990's when the REXXLA took over that responsibility. Symposia have been held annually since 1990.

About REXXLA

During the 1993 Symposium in La Jolla, California, plans for a REXX User Group materialized. The REXX Language Association (REXXLA), as it was called, is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the use and understanding of the REXX programming language. REXXLA manages several open source implementations of REXX.

The selection procedure

Presentation proposals are solicited yearly using a CFP³ procedure, after which the REXXLA symposium committee reviews them and votes which presentations are selected for the symposium. The presentations are peer reviewed before being presented. Presenters are not compensated for their presentations.

Location

The 2014 symposium was held in Memphis, Tennessee, USA from 4 May 2014 to 7 May 2014.

¹Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, since 2008 SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory

²Cowlshaw, M. F., **The REXX Language** (second edition), ISBN 0-13-780651-5, Prentice-Hall, 1990.

³Call For Papers.

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ooRexxDoc - A Tool for Generating Javadoc-Like Documentation for ooRexx Programs – Rony G. Flatscher

Date and Time

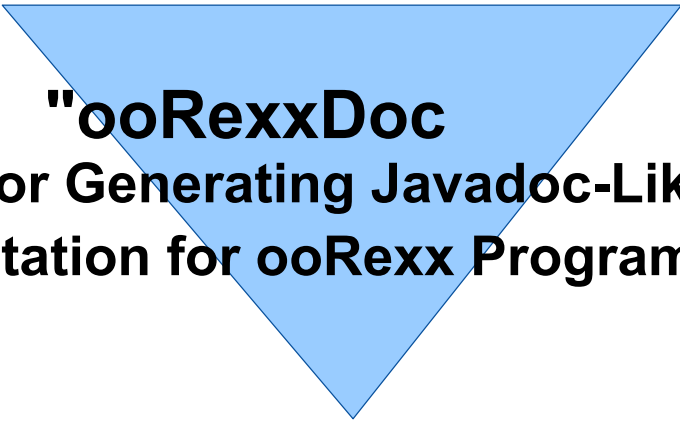
5 May 2014, 14:30:00 CET

Presenter

Rony G. Flatscher

Presenter Details

Rony works as a professor for Business informatics (“Wirtschaftsinformatik”) at the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration (Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien) and uses Open Object Rexx for teaching Business Administration and MIS students the object-oriented paradigm, as well as remote-controlling (automating) Windows and Windows end-user applications (e.g. MS Office, Open Office) as well as Java and Java applications (he is the author of BSF4ooREXX, the ooREXX-Java bridge, which uses Apache BSF and had Rony invited to become an ASF member). He consults and trains in all of his research fields.



"ooRexxDoc A Tool for Generating Javadoc-Like Documentation for ooRexx Programs"

International 2014 Rexx Symposium
Memphis, Tennessee

© 2014 Rony G. Flatscher (Rony.Flatscher@wu.ac.at)
WU Vienna, Austria (<http://www.wu.ac.at>)



Overview

- Documentation of programs
- A ski seminar project
 - Alexander Seik
 - ooRexxDoc
 - Principles
 - GUI
 - Configuration file
- Demonstration

Documentation of Programs, 1

- „Real“ programmers do not like to document!
- „Rexx programs can be read like English, hence no need to document!“
- Programs are usually written under time pressure
 - No time planned for extensive documentation
 - While programming everything seems to be clear, why waste time to document?
- How about
 - Needing to change Rexx programs years later?
 - Other programmers trying to extend (or fix) your program?

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Documentation of Programs, 2

- The Java folks came up with a nice idea
 - Some documentation has to be done anyway, so some documentation is always present
 - Make it easy for „real“ programmers to write documentation
 - Write a tool („javadoc“) that scans the Java source code and creates automatically a documentation
 - Allow Java programmers to easily mark comments that should be added to the documentation
 - The resulting documentation should be usable via a normal web browser
 - Documentation can be placed on a server or locally

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▼ A Ski-seminar Project

- Find a student who
 - Knows Java and JavaDoc
 - Knows ooRexx
- Task to tackle
 - Study JavaDoc and come up with a documentation utility that does the same for ooRexx programs
- Found student
 - Alexander Seik
 - Works as a Java programmer
 - Enrolled to both of my „Business Programming“ classes at WU Vienna

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▼ Principles, 1

- Rexx files get analyzed
 - Routines get identified
 - Arguments
 - Return value
 - Directives get identified
 - Subdirectives get extracted
 - Dependencies among Rexx programs („packages“)
 - „ooRexxDoc-comments“, if available
- Create JavaDoc-like HTML-based documentation

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Principles, 2

- Ad „ooRexxDoc-comments“
 - Start with `/**` and ends with `*/`
 - May contain *annotations* led in with `@`
 - `@author`
 - `@condition`
 - `@deprecated`
 - `@param`
 - `@return`
 - `@see`
 - `@since`
 - `@version`

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GUI, 1

ooRexxDoc

Title

Input (required)

Output (required)

(Directory will be created if it does not exist. Content will be appended to an existing directory)

Overview Text
(Text will be displayed on the start page)

Info-Properties
(E.g. Author: Rexxler)

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GUI, 2

ooRexxDoc

Title

Input (required)

Output (required)

(Directory will be created if it does not exist. Content will be appended to an existing directory)

Overview Text
(Text will be displayed on the start page)

Info-Properties
(E.g. Author: Rexxler)

Create Doc

Add

Remove

Browse

Add

Remove

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Configuration File, 1 (XML)

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<oorexxdoc>
  <parser>
    <input></input>
    <output></output>
  </parser>
  <title></title>
  <header>
    <property>
      <key></key>
      <value></value>
    </property>
    <property>
      <key></key>
      <value></value>
    </property>
  </header>
  <overview>Sample Text</overview>
</oorexxdoc>
```

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Demonstration

- Prerequisite
 - Java
 - <http://sourceforge.net/projects/oorexdoc>
- Program name: `ooRexxDoc.jar`
 - „jar“: Java archive, a zip archive
- GUI
 - Double click on jar file
- Command line
 - `java -jar ooRexxDoc.jar`
 - Uses default configuration file named `ooRexxDoc.xml`
 - `java -jar ooRexxDoc.jar myConfigurationFile.xml`

REXX Language Coding Techniques – Virgil Hein

Date and Time

5 May 2014, 16:00:00 CET

Presenter

Virgil Hein

Presenter Details

Virgil has been with IBM for 38+ years working in software development. In his current position as an IBM Business Manager he is responsible for all facets of a set of mature technology products. This includes responsibility for strategy, business management, development, marketing, sales, service, and support. Main products include Office Vision products, BookManager, REXX, and OS/2. In this position the main goals are focused on maintaining/increasing customer satisfaction, supporting customer efforts to migrate to follow-on solutions, and finding creative means of increasing mature/growth product revenue. As the product owner for the IBM REXX Compiler, Virgil is closely involved with a variety of REXX activities both inside and outside of IBM.