

# SEP #3 : Add of a build documentation function

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Title: Add of a build documentation function

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Vote: "No: discussions and suggestions"

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## Abstract

This SEP proposes to add a new Scilab function in order to build Scilab's documentation. The current solution based on sh & DOS batch files is far from being efficient (hardcoded path, duplicate code, needs the Scilab Dev-Tools env...)

## Rationale

Scilab building documentation process has been **rewrote** for Scilab 5 using **docbook**. However, the way it has been done causes a serie of **strong issues**.

Then, it has been decided to **rewrite the build process**.

sh and DOS scripts (SCI/modules/helptools/bin/\*) are calling Java object with arguments detected locally into the script. Therefore, it is pretty **straightforward to move this into a Scilab function**.

The build documentation process manages:

- \* *XML scilab help => CHM*
- \* *XML scilab help => HTML*
- \* *XML scilab help => JH (Java Help)*
- \* *XML scilab help => PDF*
- \* *XML scilab help => Postscript*

To provide these features in Scilab, here is the **profile of the new function** proposed:

Note that the default master file is *SCI+"/modules/helptools/master\_"+getlanguage()+"\_help.xml*

*buildDoc( ) => Build the documentation to the Java Help format using the default master file*

*buildDoc( "format") => Build the documentation to the selected format*

*buildDoc( "format", "master-xml-file") => Build the documentation to the selected format using the specified XML file.*

*buildDoc( "format", " master-xml-file", "language" ) => Build the documentation to the selected format using the specified XML file for language*

Format can have the following values: "CHM ", "HTML ", "JH ", "PDF ", "PS "

Other features are also provided:

*\* Convert a Scilab 4 man file => docbook format*

=> This feature is **too specific** and won't be moved as a Scilab function (however, some work is needed on this file)

*\* Provides a stand alone viewer*

=> This feature is **too specific** and won't be moved as a Scilab function (however, some work is needed on this file)

*\* Check if a documentation file is conform to the reference syntax*

=> This feature will be **available from Scilab**

To provide this feature, here is the **profile of the new function** proposed:

Note that the default schema is *SCI/modules/helptools/schema /scilab.rnc*

*checkDoc() => Check the syntax of the default file help*

*SCI+ "/modules/helptools/master\_" + getlanguage() + "\_help.xml*

*checkDoc( " xml-file " ) => Check the syntax of the xml-file*

*checkDoc( " xml-file ", "reference-schema" ) => Check the syntax of the xml-file against a specified reference-schema*

In the meantime, the package *org.scilab.doc\_kit* would be renamed to *org.scilab.modules.helptools* to match the current architecture.

Note: This function won't be documented. Documentation generation should be used through *xmlto\** and not directly.

## Example Usage

```
buildDoc()
```

```
buildDoc(" PDF" )
```

```
buildDoc("JH" , "/home/sylvestre/scilab5/modules/helptools/master_fr_FR_help.xml" )
```

```
buildDoc("JH" , "/home/sylvestre/scilab5/modules/helptools/master_fr_FR_help.xml","en_US" )
```

```
checkDoc()
```

```
checkDoc( "/home/sylvestre/scilab5/modules/helptools/master_fr_FR_help.xml" )
```

```
checkDoc( " /home/sylvestre/scilab5/modules/helptools/master_fr_FR_help.xml",  
/home/sylvestre/scilab5/modules/helptools/schema/scilab-sylvestre.rnc" )
```

## Changelog

1.0 – Sylvestre Ledru <[sylvestre.ledru@scilab.org](mailto:sylvestre.ledru@scilab.org)> Initial version

1.1 – Sylvestre Ledru <[sylvestre.ledru@scilab.org](mailto:sylvestre.ledru@scilab.org)> Two typos fixed. SLIP renamed to SEP

1.2 – Sylvestre Ledru <[sylvestre.ledru@scilab.org](mailto:sylvestre.ledru@scilab.org)> Add a third input argument language (we cannot guess it for toolboxes). Add info about the fact that this function is private. Comment of Francois Vogel about a stupid message.

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