

# SEP #24 : Introduce an easy way to manage sub chapters in the documentation

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Version: 1,0

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## Abstract

This SEP proposes to add the capability to manage sub chapters in the documentation keeping the automatic generation of the master document.

## Rationale

For now, in the current version of Scilab (5.1.1), it is not possible to add subchapter in the Scilab documentation. Subchaptering is a basic feature of Docbook and it is important in order to structure the documentation.

It is important that this feature will remain easy to use, will not break the current help system and still provide localization capabilities.

## Proposal

The idea is to match the directory tree. Into a module/toolbox directory (ex: *help/en\_US/*), if a subdirectory exists (ex: *help/en\_US/datatype/*), the creation of the master will take in account this subdirectory and all the XML files inside.

In order to set a correct name for the subchapter, the system will check the presence of a defined file called CHAPTER containing the title of the subchapter. This file will contain a tag name and the value. For now, the only tag will be *title*. In the future, we could add other items like *icons* for example. For example, the content of a CHAPTER file could be:

```
title = My Beautiful Title
icon = SCI/modules/core/help/icons/my_beautiful_icon.png
comment = This section is about
the Scilab language
```

Since all the help files are separated by language, no conflict will occur. Note that this file could be

used in the future for further usages.

As in the rest of the help build process, if help files are not available in a specific languages, the system will copy all of them from the english one. Including all the subdirectory

### **Example:**

For example, for the *core* module, we would want the creation of a subcategory for the Scilab language aspects. It would be:

Main directory: *modules/core/help/en\_US*

Chapter about the Scilab language: *modules/core/help/en\_US/language/*

Help files: *modules/core/help/en\_US/language/if.xml modules/core/help/en\_US/language/for.xml ...*

Title of the chapter : *modules/core/help/en\_US/language/CHAPTER*

### **Changelog**

1.0 – Sylvestre Ledru <[sylvestre.ledru@scilab.org](mailto:sylvestre.ledru@scilab.org)> & Pierre Marechal  
<[pierre.marechal@scilab.org](mailto:pierre.marechal@scilab.org)> - Initial version

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