
sphinxcontrib-mscgen Documentation

Release 0.4

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1 About

This extension allow [Mscgen](#)-formatted MSC (Message Sequence Chart) diagrams to be included in [Sphinx](#)-generated documents inline.

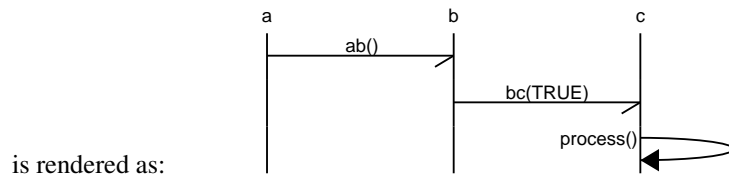
[Mscgen](#) is a small program (inspired by [Graphviz Dot](#)) that parses MSC descriptions and produces images as the output. MSCs are a way of representing entities and interactions over some time period, very similar to UML sequence diagrams.

You can see the latest documentation at the [sphinxcontrib-mscgen website](#) or [download it in PDF format](#).

1.1 Quick Example

This source:

```
.. msc::  
  
    hscale = "0.5";  
  
    a,b,c;  
  
    a->b [ label = "ab()" ] ;  
    b->c [ label = "bc(TRUE)" ];  
    c=>c [ label = "process()" ];
```



2 Download

You can see all the [available versions](#) at [PyPI](#).

3 Install

3.1 Requirements

- [mscgen](#) (0.14 or later).
- [epstopdf](#) for LaTeX/PDF output.

3.2 From source (tar.gz or checkout)

Unpack the archive, enter the `sphinxcontrib-mscgen-x.y` directory and run:

```
python setup.py install
```

3.3 Setuptools/PyPI

Alternatively it can be installed from [PyPI](#), either manually downloading the files and installing as described above or using:

```
easy_install -U sphinxcontrib-mscgen
```

3.4 Enabling the extension in Sphinx

Just add `sphinxcontrib.mscgen` to the list of extensions in the `conf.py` file. For example:

```
extensions = ['sphinxcontrib.mscgen']
```

4 Usage

The `Mscgen` program is used to render the MSC, so you should refer to its documentation for details on how to specify the diagram. You should have the program installed for this extension to work. If you need LaTeX output, you'll need the `epstopdf` program too.

This extension adds the `mscgen` and `msc` directives. The former let you specify a full diagram, the later let you omit the `msc { ... }` bits so you can jump right to the important stuff.

For an example on using the `msc` directive see the Quick Example. If you need full control over the MSC diagram you can use the `mscgen` directive:

```
.. mscgen::

    msc {
        hscale = "0.5";

        a,b,c;

        a->b [ label = "ab()" ] ;
        b->c [ label = "bc(TRUE)" ];
        c=>c [ label = "process()" ];
    }
```

Which renders to exact the same image as the Quick Example.

4.1 Configuration

A few configuration options are added (all optional, of course ;) to `Sphinx` so you can set them in the `conf.py` file:

mscgen: location of the `mscgen` program. It's expected to be in the `PATH` by default. The full path, including the binary, should be given if that's not the case.

mscgen_args: extra command line arguments for `mscgen` (should be a list of strings).

mscgen_epstopdf: location of the `epstopdf` program. It's expected to be in the `PATH` by default. The full path, including the binary, should be given if that's not the case.

mscgen_epstopdf_args: extra command line arguments for `epstopdf` (should be a list of strings).

Remember to enable the extension first (see Install for details).

5 ChangeLog

This file describes user-visible changes between the extension versions.

5.1 Version 0.4 (2009-11-21)

- Add [website](#).
- Change license to [BOLA](#).
- Minor code cleanups.

5.2 Version 0.3 (2009-06-05)

- Fix a bug when exposed when `epstopdf` fails.
- Add `[]` to `\includegraphics` in LaTeX output so it can be centered in figures using `\centering`.
- Improve documentation.

5.3 Version 0.2 (unreleased)

- Add image maps support for HTML output.

5.4 Version 0.1 (unreleased)

- Initial version.

6 License

I don't like licenses, because I don't like having to worry about all this legal stuff just for a simple piece of software I don't really mind anyone using. But I also believe that it's important that people share and give back; so I'm placing this work under the following license.

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4. Help someone who needs it.
5. Don't waste. Anything, but specially energy that comes from natural non-renewable resources.
6. Be tolerant. Everything that's good in nature comes from cooperation.