
zope.annotation Documentation

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1	Object Annotations	1
1.1	Annotation factories	1
1.2	Location	2
1.3	LocationProxies	3
2	zope.annotation API	5
2.1	Framework Interfaces	5
2.2	Attribute-Based Annotations	5
3	Hacking on zope.annotation	7
3.1	Getting the Code	7
3.2	Working in a virtualenv	7
3.3	Using <code>zc.buildout</code>	9
3.4	Using <code>tox</code>	10
3.5	Contributing to <code>zope.annotation</code>	11

Object Annotations

1.1 Annotation factories

There is more to document about annotations, but we'll just sketch out a scenario on how to use the annotation factory for now. This is one of the easiest ways to use annotations – basically you can see them as persistent, writable adapters.

First, let's make a persistent object we can create annotations for:

```
>>> from zope.interface import Interface
>>> from zope.interface import implementer
>>> class IFoo(Interface):
...     pass
>>> from zope.annotation.interfaces import IAttributeAnnotatable
>>> @implementer(IFoo, IAttributeAnnotatable)
... class Foo(object):
...     pass
```

We directly say that `Foo` implements interfaces `IAttributeAnnotatable` here. In practice this is often done in ZCML, using the `implements` subdirective of the `content` or `class` directive.

Now let's create an annotation for this:

```
>>> from zope.component import adapts
>>> from zope.interface import Attribute
>>> class IBar(Interface):
...     a = Attribute('A')
...     b = Attribute('B')
>>> from zope import component
>>> @implementer(IBar)
... class Bar(object):
...     adapts(IFoo)
...     def __init__(self):
...         self.a = 1
...         self.b = 2
```

Note that the annotation implementation does not expect any arguments to its `__init__`. Otherwise it's basically an adapter.

Now, we'll register the annotation as an adapter. To do this we use the *factory* function provided by *zope.annotation*:

```
>>> from zope.component import provideAdapter
>>> from zope.annotation import factory
>>> provideAdapter(factory(Bar))
>>> from zope.component import provideAdapter
```

```
>>> from zope.annotation.attribute import AttributeAnnotations
>>> provideAdapter(AttributeAnnotations)
```

Note that we do not need to specify what the adapter provides or what it adapts - we already do this on the annotation class itself.

Now let's make an instance of *Foo*, and make an annotation for it.

```
>>> foo = Foo()
>>> bar = IBar(foo)
>>> bar.a
1
>>> bar.b
2
```

We'll change *a* and get the annotation again. Our change is still there:

```
>>> bar.a = 3
>>> IBar(foo).a
3
```

Of course it's still different for another instance of *Foo*:

```
>>> foo2 = Foo()
>>> IBar(foo2).a
1
```

What if our annotation does not provide what it adapts with `adapts`? It will complain:

```
>>> class IQux(Interface):
...     pass
>>> @implementer(IQux)
... class Qux(object):
...     pass
>>> provideAdapter(factory(Qux))
Traceback (most recent call last):
...
TypeError: Missing 'zope.component.adapts' on annotation
```

It's possible to provide an annotation with an explicit key. (If the key is not supplied, the key is deduced from the annotation's dotted name, provided it is a class.)

```
>>> class IHoi(Interface):
...     pass
>>> @implementer(IHoi)
... class Hoi(object):
...     adapts(IFoo)
>>> provideAdapter(factory(Hoi, 'my.unique.key'))
>>> isinstance(IHoi(foo), Hoi)
True
```

1.2 Location

Annotation factories are put into the location hierarchy with their parent pointing to the annotated object and the name to the dotted name of the annotation's class (or the name the adapter was registered under):

```
>>> foo3 = Foo()
>>> new_hoi = IHoi(foo3)
```

```
>>> new_hoi.__parent__
<Foo object at 0x...>
>>> new_hoi.__name__
'my.unique.key'
>>> import zope.location.interfaces
>>> zope.location.interfaces.ILocation.providedBy(new_hoi)
True
```

Please notice, that our Hoi object does not implement ILocation, so a location proxy will be used. This has to be re-established every time we retrieve the object

(Guard against former bug: proxy wasn't established when the annotation existed already.)

```
>>> old_hoi = IHoi(foo3)
>>> old_hoi.__parent__
<Foo object at 0x...>
>>> old_hoi.__name__
'my.unique.key'
>>> zope.location.interfaces.ILocation.providedBy(old_hoi)
True
```

1.3 LocationProxies

Suppose your annotation proxy provides ILocation.

```
>>> class IPolloi (Interface):
...     pass
>>> @implementer(IPolloi, zope.location.interfaces.ILocation)
... class Polloi (object):
...     adapts (IFoo)
...     __name__ = __parent__ = 0
>>> provideAdapter (factory (Polloi, 'my.other.key'))
```

Sometimes you're adapting an object wrapped in a LocationProxy.

```
>>> foo4 = Foo()
>>> import zope.location.location
>>> wrapped_foo4 = zope.location.location.LocationProxy (foo4, None, 'foo4')
>>> located_polloi = IPolloi (wrapped_foo4)
```

At first glance it looks as if located_polloi is located under wrapped_foo4.

```
>>> located_polloi.__parent__ is wrapped_foo4
True
>>> located_polloi.__name__
'my.other.key'
```

but that's because we received a LocationProxy

```
>>> type (located_polloi).__name__
'LocationProxy'
```

If we unwrap located_polloi and look at it directly, we'll see it stores a reference to the real Foo object

```
>>> from zope.proxy import removeAllProxies
>>> removeAllProxies (located_polloi).__parent__ == foo4
True
```

```
>>> removeAllProxies(located_polloi).__name__  
'my.other.key'
```

zope.annotation API

2.1 Framework Interfaces

These interfaces define the source and targets for adaptation under the `zope.annotation` framework:

2.2 Attribute-Based Annotations

The default adapter implementation uses a special attribute, `__annotations__`, on the annotated object:

Because setting an attribute is somewhat intrusive (as opposed to storing annotations elsewhere), this adapter requires that its context implement `IAttributeAnnotatable` to signal that this attribute can be used.

Hacking on `zope.annotation`

3.1 Getting the Code

The main repository for `zope.annotation` is in the Zope Foundation Github repository:

<https://github.com/zopefoundation/zope.annotation>

You can get a read-only checkout from there:

```
$ git clone https://github.com/zopefoundation/zope.annotation.git
```

or fork it and get a writeable checkout of your fork:

```
$ git clone git@github.com:jrandom/zope.annotation.git
```

The project also mirrors the trunk from the Github repository as a Bazaar branch on Launchpad:

<https://code.launchpad.net/zope.annotation>

You can branch the trunk from there using Bazaar:

```
$ bazaar branch lp:zope.annotation
```

3.2 Working in a `virtualenv`

3.2.1 Installing

If you use the `virtualenv` package to create lightweight Python development environments, you can work with your checkout using a `virtualenv`. First, create the `virtualenv`:

```
$ /path/to/virtualenv --no-site-packages /tmp/hack-zope.annotation
```

Next, get this package registered as a “development egg” in the environment:

```
$ /tmp/hack-zope.annotation/bin/python setup.py develop
```

3.2.2 Running the tests

Run the tests using the build-in `setuptools` `testrunner`:

```
$ /tmp/hack-zope.annotation/bin/python setup.py -q test -q
running test
.....
-----
Ran 11 tests in 0.000s

OK
```

The `dev` command alias downloads and installs extra tools, like the `nose` testrunner and the `coverage` coverage analyzer:

```
$ /tmp/hack-zope.annotation/bin/python setup.py dev
$ /tmp/hack-zope.annotation/bin/nosetests
running nosetests
.....
-----
Ran 12 tests in 0.000s

OK
```

If you have the `coverage` package installed in the virtualenv, you can see how well the tests cover the code:

```
$ /tmp/hack-zope.annotation/bin/nosetests --with coverage
.....
Name                               Stmts  Miss  Cover  Missing
-----
zope.annotation                     4      0  100%
zope.annotation.attribute           59      0  100%
zope.annotation.factory             28      0  100%
zope.annotation.interfaces          15      0  100%
-----
TOTAL                               106    35   67%
-----
Ran 12 tests in 2.166s

OK
```

3.2.3 Building the documentation

`zope.annotation` uses the nifty `Sphinx` documentation system for building its docs. Using the same virtualenv you set up to run the tests, you can build the docs:

The `docs` command alias downloads and installs `Sphinx` and its dependencies:

```
$ /tmp/hack-zope.annotation/bin/python setup.py docs
...
$ /tmp/hack-zope.annotation/bin/sphinx-build -b html -d docs/_build/doctrees docs docs/_build/html
...
build succeeded.
```

You can also test the code snippets in the documentation:

```
$ /tmp/hack-zope.annotation/bin/sphinx-build -b doctest -d docs/_build/doctrees docs docs/_build/doct
...
running tests...

Document: narrative
-----
```

```

1 items passed all tests:
  54 tests in default
54 tests in 1 items.
54 passed and 0 failed.
Test passed.

Doctest summary
=====
  54 tests
  0 failures in tests
  0 failures in setup code
build succeeded.

```

3.3 Using `zc.buildout`

3.3.1 Setting up the buildout

`zope.annotation` ships with its own `buildout.cfg` file and `bootstrap.py` for setting up a development buildout:

```

$ /path/to/python2.7 bootstrap.py
...
Generated script '../bin/buildout'
$ bin/buildout
Develop: '/path/to/annotation/.'
...
Generated script '../bin/sphinx-quickstart'.
Generated script '../bin/sphinx-build'.

```

3.3.2 Running the tests

You can now run the tests:

```

$ bin/test --all
Running zope.testing.testrunner.layer.UnitTests tests:
  Set up zope.testing.testrunner.layer.UnitTests in 0.000 seconds.
  Ran 11 tests with 0 failures and 0 errors in 0.000 seconds.
Tearing down left over layers:
  Tear down zope.testing.testrunner.layer.UnitTests in 0.000 seconds.

```

3.3.3 Building the documentation

The `zope.annotation` buildout installs the Sphinx scripts required to build the documentation, including testing its code snippets:

```

$ cd docs
$ PATH=../bin:$PATH make doctest html
sphinx-build -b doctest -d _build/doctrees . _build/doctest
running tests...

Document: narrative
-----
1 items passed all tests:

```

```
    54 tests in default
54 tests in 1 items.
54 passed and 0 failed.
Test passed.

Doctest summary
=====
    54 tests
    0 failures in tests
    0 failures in setup code
build succeeded.
Testing of doctests in the sources finished, look at the results in _build/doctest/output.txt.
sphinx-build -b html -d _build/doctrees . _build/html
...
build succeeded.

Build finished. The HTML pages are in docs/_build/html.
```

3.4 Using tox

3.4.1 Running Tests on Multiple Python Versions

`tox` is a Python-based test automation tool designed to run tests against multiple Python versions. It creates a virtualenv for each configured version, installs the current package and configured dependencies into each virtualenv, and then runs the configured commands.

`zope.annotation` configures the following `tox` environments via its `tox.ini` file:

- The `py26`, `py27`, `py33`, `py34`, and `pypy` environments builds a virtualenv with `pypy`, installs `zope.annotation` and dependencies, and runs the tests via `python setup.py test -q`.
- The `nobtree` environment builds a virtualenv with Python 2.7, installs `zope.annotation` and its minimal dependencies (no persistent or BTrees), and runs the tests via `python setup.py test -q`.
- The `coverage` environment builds a virtualenv with `python2.7`, installs `zope.annotation` and dependencies, installs `nose` and `coverage`, and runs `nosetests` with statement coverage.
- The `docs` environment builds a virtualenv with `python2.7`, installs `zope.annotation` and dependencies, installs Sphinx and dependencies, and then builds the docs and exercises the doctest snippets.

This example requires that you have a working `python2.6` on your path, as well as installing `tox`:

```
$ tox -e py26
GLOB sdist-make: ../zope.annotation/setup.py
py26 sdist-reinst: ../zope.annotation/.tox/dist/zope.annotation-4.x.ydev.zip
py26 runtests: commands[0]
...
-----
Ran 11 tests in 0.000s

OK
----- summary -----
py26: commands succeeded
congratulations :)
```

Running `tox` with no arguments runs all the configured environments, including building the docs and testing their snippets:

```
$ tox
GLOB sdist-make: .../zope.annotation/setup.py
py26 sdist-reinst: .../zope.annotation/.tox/dist/zope.annotation-4.0.2dev.zip
py26 runtests: commands[0]
...
Doctest summary
=====
 54 tests
  0 failures in tests
  0 failures in setup code
  0 failures in cleanup code
build succeeded.

----- summary -----
py26: commands succeeded
py27: commands succeeded
py33: commands succeeded
py34: commands succeeded
pypy: commands succeeded
nobtree: commands succeeded
coverage: commands succeeded
docs: commands succeeded
congratulations :)
```

3.5 Contributing to `zope.annotation`

3.5.1 Submitting a Bug Report

`zope.annotation` tracks its bugs on Github:

<https://github.com/zopefoundation/zope.annotation/issues>

Please submit bug reports and feature requests there.

3.5.2 Sharing Your Changes

Note: Please ensure that all tests are passing before you submit your code. If possible, your submission should include new tests for new features or bug fixes, although it is possible that you may have tested your new code by updating existing tests.

If have made a change you would like to share, the best route is to fork the Github repository, check out your fork, make your changes on a branch in your fork, and push it. You can then submit a pull request from your branch:

<https://github.com/zopefoundation/zope.annotation/pulls>

If you branched the code from Launchpad using Bazaar, you have another option: you can “push” your branch to Launchpad:

```
$ bzz push lp:~tseaver/zope.annotation/cool_feature
```

After pushing your branch, you can link it to a bug report on Github, or request that the maintainers merge your branch using the Launchpad “merge request” feature.