

Ruby - Misc #14610

Enhance Proc docs

03/16/2018 11:10 AM - zverok (Victor Shepelev)

Status:	Closed	
Priority:	Normal	
Assignee:	duerst (Martin Dürst)	
Description		
<p>What caught me recently while mentoring students: there is almost no "canonical" explanation about procs in Ruby's core docs: Nothing in doc/*.rdoc, and for the Proc class, documentation of what it is and what it does is pretty spartan.</p> <p>I am trying to fix this by adding to Proc class header documentation.</p> <p>Things added:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. More friendly and detailed explanation of the whole concept.2. Different methods of creating lambda and non-lambda procs.3. Lambda semantics.4. Conversion to proc from other objects and &. <p>About (3): currently, Proc docs <i>do have</i> an explanation about it, but there are two problems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• it all placed in docs for predicate method #lambda? (like nobody should be interested in the concept unless uses this method);• from my perspective, it uses pretty unfortunate wording: instead of talking about proc object semantics, it calls non-lambdas behavior "tricks", and informally tells about "procs with tricks"/"procs without tricks". <p>If my class documentation would be accepted, I propose to cut the explanations in #lambda? method down to a one-liner ("If the proc has lambda semantics. See class docs for an explanation about lambdas." or something like that.)</p>		

Associated revisions

Revision 57a67eb8a476bb0a73385a09c1c35b2d55be524e - 12/12/2018 07:37 AM - duerst (Martin Dürst)

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From: Victor Shepelev zverok.offline@gmail.com

git-svn-id: svn+ssh://ci.ruby-lang.org/ruby/trunk@66355 b2dd03c8-39d4-4d8f-98ff-823fe69b080e

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Revision 57a67eb8 - 12/12/2018 07:37 AM - duerst (Martin Dürst)

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History

#1 - 03/16/2018 11:18 PM - shevegen (Robert A. Heiler)

Agreed.

If my class documentation would be accepted,

You added a lot more examples too if I understand the patch correctly, so I guess it is better than the old status quo.

The old status quo did not have ... a lot of examples, which is not good. Examples help a LOT. They are often easier to

understand than any wall of text - if they work that is. :)

And there was also some more documentation added about Symbols versus Strings in ruby by ... (I forgot the name, i am so sorry) some ruby hacker. So I think it is quite likely that the patch will be added.

The only remark I have to make is that I think the old intro is a bit better.

E. g.:

"Proc objects are blocks of code that have been bound to a set of local variables."

versus

"Proc object is an incapsulation of a block of code, that can be stored in local variables, passed to methods and other procs and called."

Actually I think I just noticed a typo in your patch. :)

"**+Proc** object is an incapsulation of a block of code, that can be stored in local variables, passed to methods and other procs and called."

The part "and called" seems a bit odd. I assume you refer to "called in another proc"?

Anyway. The above are mostly just details; it's not as if the old documentation is perfect either. :)

Some other changes I'd suggest would be e. g.:

"You can tell lambda from regular proc by `#lambda?` instance method."

towards

"A lambda can be distinguished from a regular proc object by the `#lambda?` instance method. Example:"

And a single-line example.

Anyway, I agree with your statements above, so my comment should be seen as suggestions to +1 to your patch. In general the ruby docs are an area where a lot of things can be made better, so it's great that people such as you help improve these parts of ruby.

#2 - 05/17/2018 07:25 AM - naruse (Yui NARUSE)

- *Tracker changed from Misc to Bug*
- *Assignee set to 13939*
- *Backport set to 2.3: UNKNOWN, 2.4: UNKNOWN, 2.5: UNKNOWN*

#3 - 08/09/2018 10:43 AM - hsbt (Hiroshi SHIBATA)

- *Status changed from Open to Assigned*

#4 - 12/11/2018 10:04 PM - zverok (Victor Shepelev)

- *Tracker changed from Bug to Misc*
- *Backport deleted (2.3: UNKNOWN, 2.4: UNKNOWN, 2.5: UNKNOWN)*

Added by zverok (Victor Shepelev) 9 months ago.
Updated by hsbt (Hiroshi SHIBATA) 4 months ago

Sorry, is it possible to have this merged before 2.6 release? What can I do for it?..

#5 - 12/12/2018 01:52 AM - duerst (Martin Dürst)

- Assignee changed from 13939 to duerst (Martin Dürst)

I'll try to have a look at it later today or tomorrow.

#6 - 12/12/2018 07:37 AM - duerst (Martin Dürst)

- Status changed from Assigned to Closed

Applied in changeset trunk|r66355.

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From: Victor Shepelev zverok.offline@gmail.com

Files

proc_docs.patch	6.41 KB	03/16/2018	zverok (Victor Shepelev)
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