SatNOGS Wiki

The purpose of this document is to outline an alternative structure for the basis of the wiki. After not being involved with the project in any depth in over 12 months it was difficult to negotiate the various parts to the documentation. Whilst there is probably enough information to develop a ground station, the information required is in various places and has a number of obsolete components that affect the experience.

The proposal is to reduce the overall quantity of documentation and place much of the detail within the wiki. This has 2 significant advantages, firstly a single source of documents and secondly the ability for changes to affected quickly (and verified) if / when there are significant developments.

The wiki currently has a structure that has a good structure. A slight change will, in my opinion, give us a better basis to work from. The structure is proposed to be changes as per figure 1 below
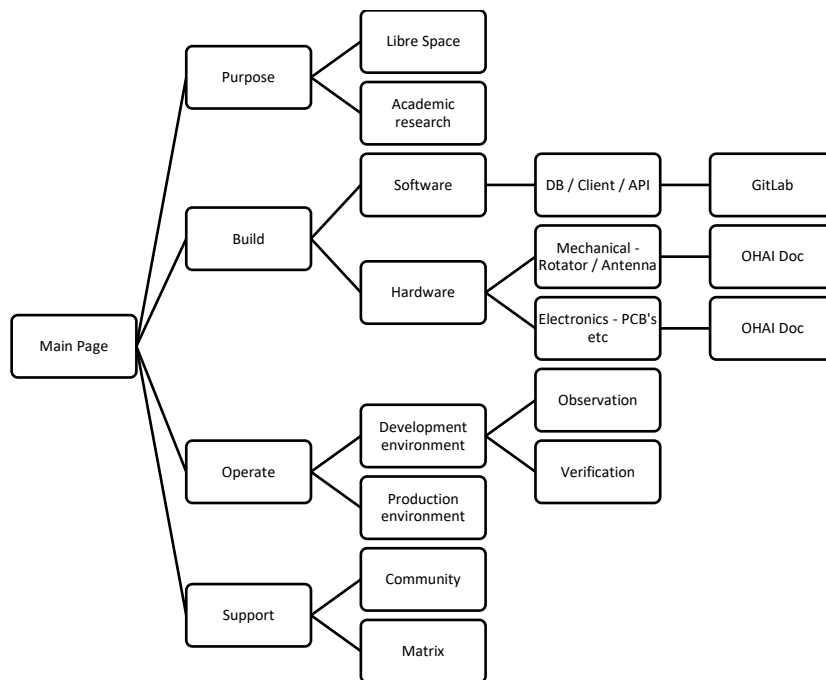

Figure 1 - proposed starting layout

Main Page

The current front page with obvious links is fit for purpose. Therefore, no significant difference is proposed. A change to the linking will be required to align to the proposed structure. Other changes such as including mechanical drawings of the rotator and other visual improvements will not harm but are not crucial for now.

Purpose

A new page to explain what SatNOGS is and how it fits in with the overall Libre Space organisation. Some detail on the Hackaday prize and some history / development of mechanical and web stuff.

Libre Space – What is Libre Space, what are they doing and how does SatNOGS fit in?

Academic research – current page with links could be consolidated into a section. Links as before but with a more appropriate referencing (Harvard?)

Build

Software

Database - Explain the database and where it gets it data from, how to contribute, what is the API and what does it do and how to install the DB

Client – Explain the baseline configuration (RPi + RTL-SDR). Where to get the image, how to install and complete the initial setup / configuration. How to update and test the install. Use the existing page

Hardware

Mechanical - Rotator & Antennas – Basis of design & link to OHAI do. Explain the type of antenna and how to choose / make. How to set to work the rotator on a bench and commission online

Electronics – PCB fabrication, choosing the right RTL-SDR and information of other known working types

Operate

Principles of operation. The two operational environments

Development Environment - Scheduling and verifying observation

Production Environment – Moving from dev to prod

Support

Troubleshooting – Common issues and resolution

Community and Matrix / IRC. Including contribution

Notes:

1. This proposal is only my opinion. Not based on much other than trying to find stuff. So, no reason why alternative solutions wouldn't be better.

2. This does not intend to break links or completely re-write pages, there is some good stuff in there that needs to be preserved.

3. I have no idea what language is used in wiki so forgive me if the terms are not correct.