Markdown Cells

As mentioned before, cells can also be used for text written in Markdown. Markdown is a formatting syntax that allows you to include links, style text as bold or italicized, and format code. As with code cells, you press **Shift + Enter** or **Control + Enter** to run the Markdown cell, where it will render the Markdown to formatted text. Including text allows you to write a narrative alongside your code, as well as documenting your code and the thoughts that went into it.

Below is a brief summary of markup concepts. At the bottom of this page, you'll find very good resources to learn and practice markup concepts:

Headers

You can write headers using the pound/hash/octothorpe symbol # placed before the text. One # renders as an h1 header, two #s is an h2, and so on. Looks like this:

Header 1

Header 2

Header 3

renders as

Header 1

Header 2

Header 3

Links

Linking in Markdown is done by enclosing text in square brackets and the URL in parentheses, like this [Udacity's home page](https://www.udacity.com) for a link to Udacity's home page.

Emphasis

You can add emphasis through bold or italics with asterisks or underscores (* or _). For italics, wrap the text in one asterisk or underscore, _gelato_ or *gelato* renders as *gelato*.

Bold text uses two symbols, **aardvark** or __aardvark__ looks like **aardvark**.

Either asterisks or underscores are fine as long as you use the same symbol on both sides of the text.

Code

There are two different ways to display code, inline with text and as a code block separated from the text. To format inline code, wrap the text in backticks. For example, `string.punctuation` renders as **string.punctuation**.

To create a code block, start a new line and wrap the text in three backticks

```
import requests

response = requests.get('https://www.udacity.com')
```

or indent each line of the code block with four spaces.

```
    import requests

    response = requests.get('https://www.udacity.com')
```

Note: You won't see the spaces here in the page for the above! Udacity's classroom is rendering the spaces directly as a code block.

Math expressions

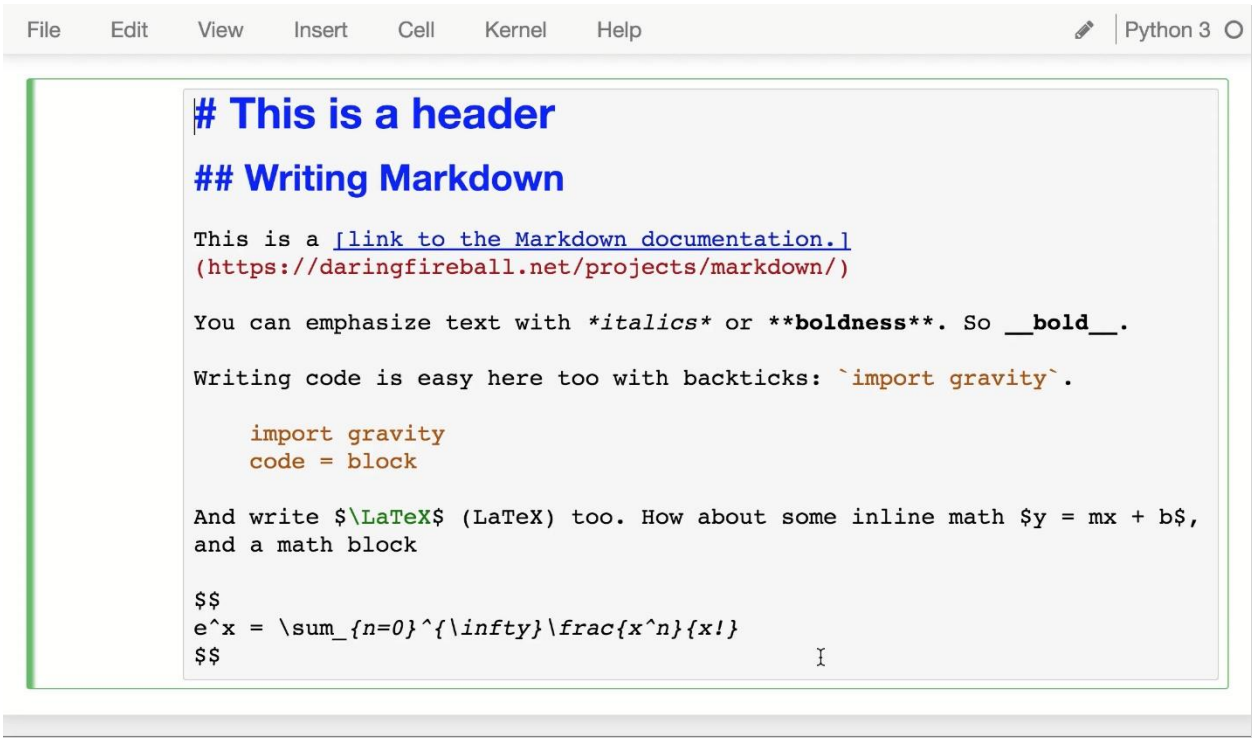
You can create math expressions in Markdown cells using LaTeX symbols. Notebooks use MathJax to render the LaTeX symbols as math symbols. To start math mode, wrap the LaTeX in dollar signs $y = mx + b$ for inline math. For a math block, use double dollar signs,

$$

y = \frac{a}{b+c}

$$

This is a really useful feature, so if you don't have experience with LaTeX, here is a tutorial on using it to create math expressions.



Markdown Tutorial and Cheatsheet

To get a better hands-on practice with markdown text, we recommend you to try this interactive tutorial on basic markdown concepts. Also, you can bookmark either of the following two cheatsheets:

1. Github markdown cheatsheet
2. Cheatsheet by Adam Pritchard

We recommend making use of the Markdown cells. Your notebooks will be much more readable compared to a bunch of code blocks.