Antmicro

MyST Editor - User Manual

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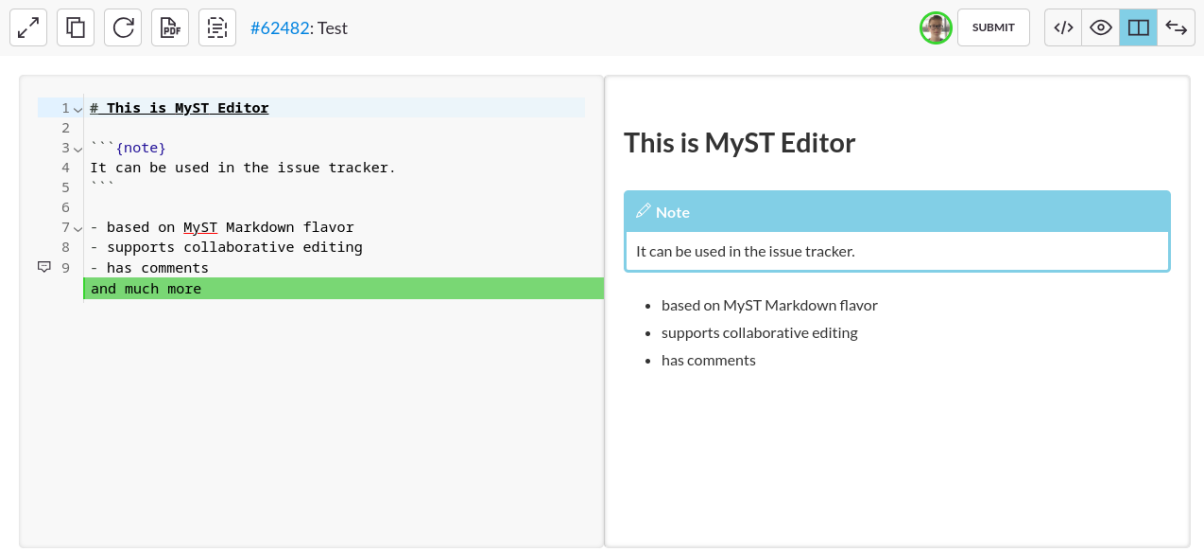
CHAPTER

ONE

INTRODUCTION



MyST Editor is a collaborative Markdown editor. It uses MyST - a Markdown flavor intended for technical documentation. For a general introduction to the MyST syntax, please refer to the MyST Markdown Guide. The goal of this manual is to introduce the editor's features and describe how to use them effectively.

This manual consists of the following chapters:

- *Topbar* - discusses the elements of the editor topbar
- *Collaboration* - discusses functionalities related to collaborative edition
- *Mermaid Diagrams* - discusses support for Mermaid diagrams
- *Rich Links* - introduces editor-specific syntax for linking to external entities
- *Comments* - showcases how to use comment functionalities

To try MyST Editor, go to its current demo.

CHAPTER

TWO

TOPBAR

The editor topbar contains information and buttons.

2.1 Left side buttons

Figure 2.1: Left-side topbar buttons

Starting from the left, the left side topbar visible in Figure 2.1 includes the following buttons:

- `Fullscreen` - toggles fullscreen editor mode
- `Copy document as HTML` - copies the rendered document exported as HTML
- `Refresh issue links` - re-renders all *rich links* in the document
- `Print to PDF` - save the rendered document as a PDF file or print it
- `Templates` - applies a template for projects that support the feature.

> **Warning**
>
> Applying a template while there is already text in the document will replace all the text with the template. You can undo this action, however any comments in the document will be removed.

2.2 Document Name

Displays the name of the document, for example the name of an issue, documentation page or meeting.

2.3 User Avatars

Avatars of users currently editing a document will be displayed in the topbar. With several collaborators, only a couple avatars are displayed with an indicator of how many more are editing.

> **Tip**
>
> Hovering over an avatar or the “more users” indicator reveals usernames.

2.4 Custom Buttons

Depending on the configuration of the editor, you can add more buttons.

2.5 View Mode Buttons

Figure 2.2: View Mode buttons

MyST editor has several view modes, activated with buttons on the right side of the topbar, as illustrated in Figure 2.2. Starting from the left, the buttons serve the following functions:

- `Source` - only show the Markdown source code
- `Preview` - only show a rendered document preview
- `Dual Pane` - **(default)** - show Markdown on the left and a rendered preview on the right
- `Diff View` - show changes made to the document
- `Resolved Comments` - show resolved comments, for more information see *Resolving Comments*.

CHAPTER

THREE

COLLABORATION

MyST allows multiple users to edit a document simultaneously. You can see how many users are editing a document by looking at their avatars in the *topbar*. A username and a color are assinged to each user.

You can see the cursors of other users in their respectful colors in the editor with their usernames attached. Your cursor will be a simple vertical bar.

Whenever someone makes a selection it will also be visible.

3.1 Connection Issues

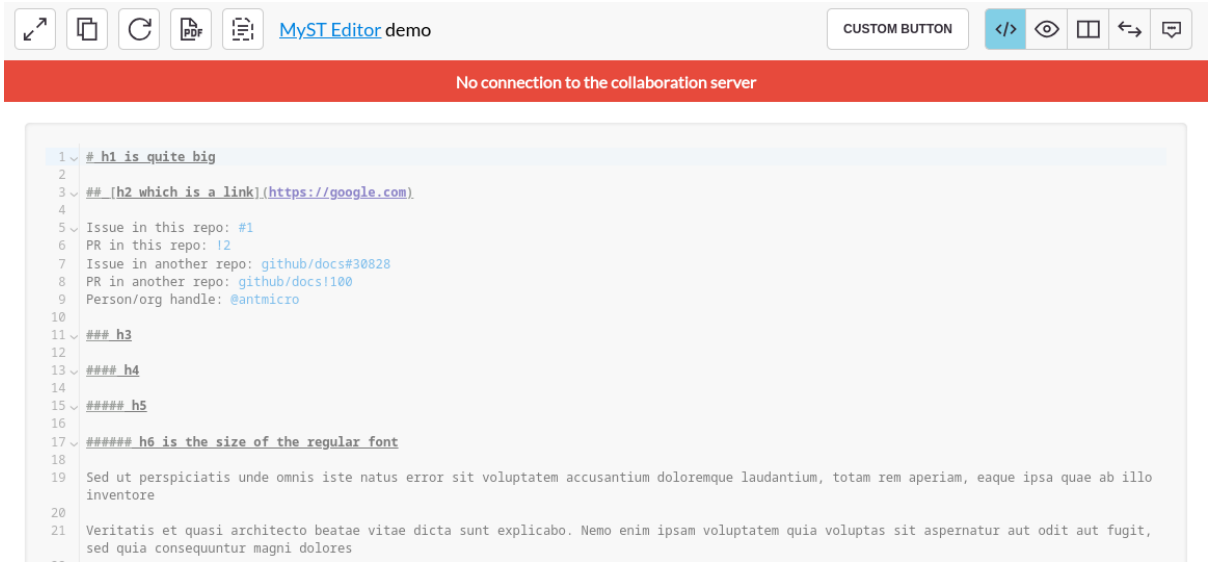


Figure 3.1: Connection Error

Should you run into connection problems, an error will be displayed and the editor will be locked. In such case, please check your internet connection and restart the editor. If you do have internet access and the issue still continues, the collaboration server might be offline.

Warning

Changes made in the editor while offline are lost, but a connectivity error should lock the editor and prompt you to restart.

3.2 Other Collaborative Features

There are many more MyST features aimed at collaboration. For more information refer to the *Comments* and *Rich Links* sections.

CHAPTER

FOUR

MERMAID DIAGRAMS

MyST allows users to include various diagrams in their documents using the Mermaid library. For an explanation on how to create diagrams, refer to the `Diagram Syntax` section of the Mermaid Documentation. Here is an example graph in MyST:

````
```mermaid
  graph TD;
      A-->B;
      A-->C;
      B-->D;
      C-->D;
```
````

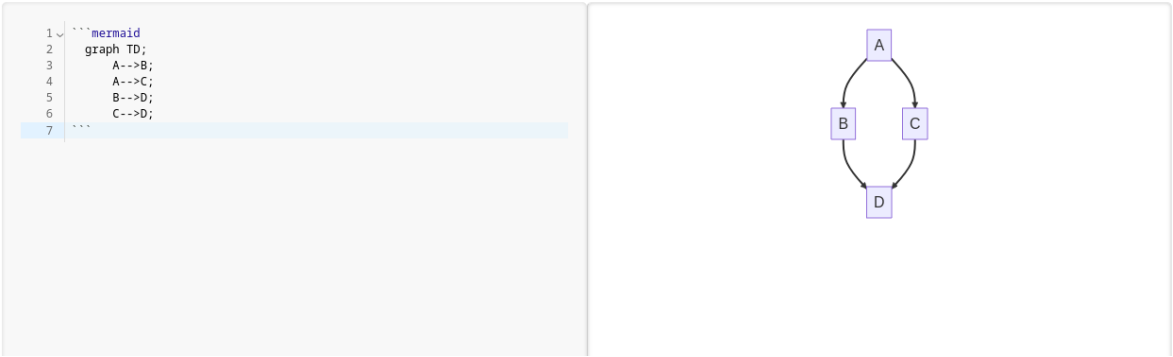


Figure 4.1: Mermaid Graph

CHAPTER

FIVE

RICH LINKS

MyST editor offers convenient links for integrating with parts of your chosen infrastructure. Below we provide examples of the functionality integrated with GitHub's infrastructure.

You can test these functionalities in the MyST Editor demo.

5.1 Issues

You can link to an issue by using a issue number and optionally a repository name. Without a repository name, the editor will assume the same repo MyST is deployed to.

```
#<issue number>
eg. #11111

<repo>#<issue number>
eg. github/docs#11111
```

5.2 Pull Requests

You can link to a pull request by the PR number and optionally the git repository name:

```
!<PR number>
eg. !213

<repo>!<PR number>
eg. antmicro/myst-editor!2
```

5.3 Mentions

You can mention another user, which will render a link to their profile.

```
@<username>
eg. @jdoe
```

5.4 'Say' phrase

You can put your username next to a string of text within an inline code block by using the `{say}` custom role:

```
{say}`<text>`
eg. {say}`something` -> will render as: <username> says: 'something'
```

5.5 Refreshing Links

To refresh all rich links within a document, click the `Refresh issue links` button in the *left section of the topbar*.

CHAPTER

SIX

COMMENTS

To leave feedback for other users collaborating on a document without changing the document text itself, you can leave comments.

6.1 Adding a Comment

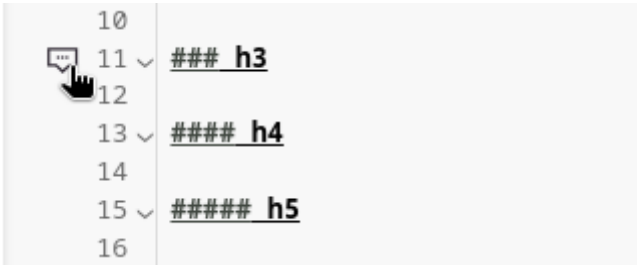


Figure 6.1: Add comment

To add a comment, hover your cursor over the editor gutter (to the left of line numbers) on the line you want to comment on. This should make the comment icon appear. Click on the icon to create a comment.

6.2 Toggling Comments

Clicking on the comment icon can be used to hide/show a comment. By default when you load a document, all preexisting comments will be expanded. All new comments will be expanded as well.

6.3 Collaborating on a Comment

Comments can span multiple lines and multiple users can participate in writing a single comment. MyST Editor enables comment discussions through a concept of line authorship. Every line of a comment is highlighted in the color of the line's author. When you hover over a line, you can also see its author's avatar to the left of the comment. If you want to participate in a discussion, it is recommended to add a new line (for example at the end of a comment you want to reply to).

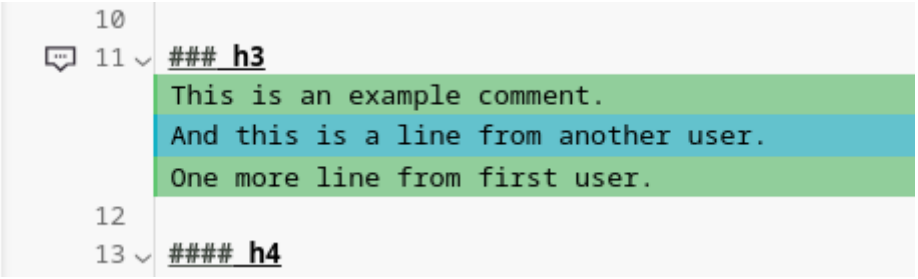


Figure 6.2: Multiple comment authors

6.4 Moving Comments

As new lines are added above a line with a comment, the comment will move with its original line. Pressing `enter` at the beginning of a commented line will also move it downwards.

> **Warning**
>
> Pressing backspace at the beginning of a commented line will delete the comment.

You can also move comments via drag and drop. To move a comment to another line, drag its icon to the left of the desired line's number.

> **Tip**
>
> Moving a comment onto another comment will append its contents.

6.5 Deleting Comments

> **Warning**
>
> Deleting a comment will delete input from all users, not just your text.

In order to delete a comment you can:

- Press backspace at the beginning of a commented line
- Delete/cut a selection containing the commented line
- Hover over the comment icon and press the delete button
- Press the delete button in the resolved comments view (details in the *Resolving Comments* section).

6.6 Resolving Comments

MyST Editor offers a comment resolution functionality.

To resolve a comment, hover over its icon and click the resolve button. This will move it to the `Resolved Comments` view in the *topbar* where it will be accessible. Click the `Resolved Comments` button to see it. Such comments are annotated with the following information:

- Comment author
- User who resolved the comment
- Comment resolution time
- Origin text line

You can access more options by hovering over the ... button in the top right of a comment.

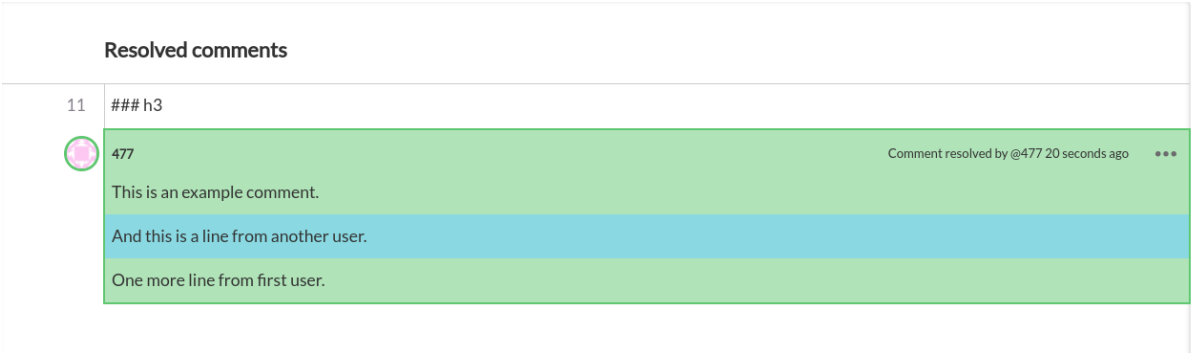


Figure 6.3: Resolved comment

6.6.1 Restoring Comments

After a comment is resolved, it will keep track of the line it was attached to. Should the text in the line or its line number change, it will be reflected in this view. You can bring back a comment to the editor by clicking the restore button in the ... menu.

In case there is another comment in a resolved comment's line, the restore button will read `RESTORE AND MERGE`, indicating that the original line is occupied. When you press this button, the resolved comment will be added to the bottom of the newer comment.

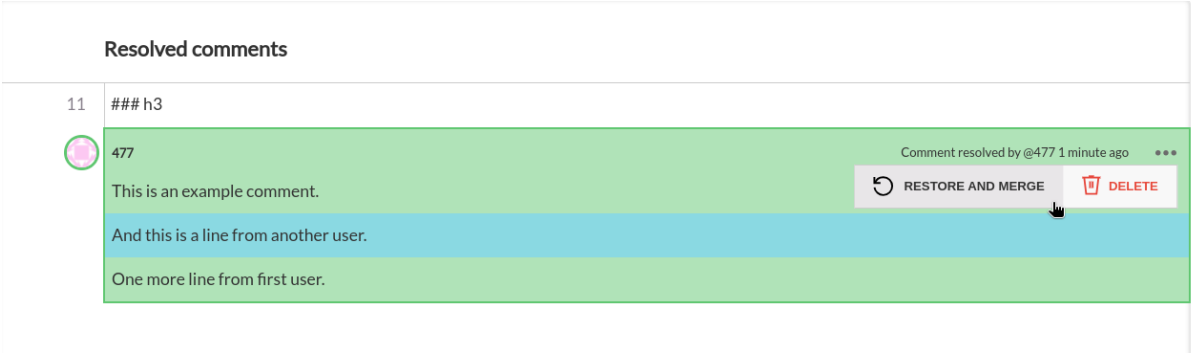


Figure 6.4: Merging comments

Orphaned Comments

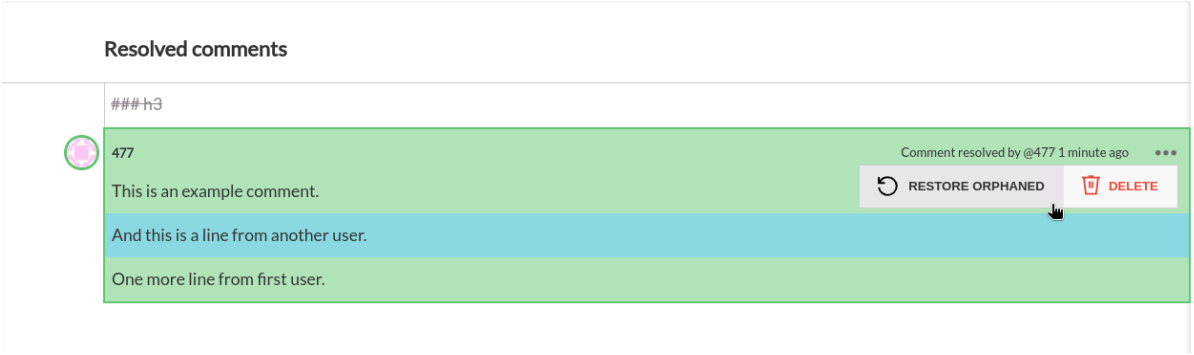


Figure 6.5: Orphaned comment

If a resolved comment does not have a line number next to it or the text of the commented line is crossed out, the line the comment was assigned to has been deleted. Such a comment is considered `orphaned`. If you try to restore such a comment, it will be added to the last line of the document. From there you can move it wherever you want.

> **Warning**
>
> Applying a document template to a document with resolved comments, will make all of them `orphaned`.

6.7 Suggestions

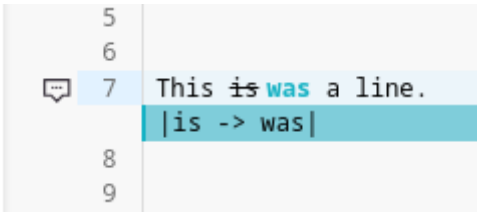


Figure 6.6: Change suggestion

You can suggest changes to a line in a comment. To do so you can use the following syntax within the comment:

```
|<text to replace> -> <replacement>|
eg. |is -> was|
```

This will cross out all the occurrences of such text within the line and place a suggested replacement next to them in the document. The suggestion will be colored after the color of the comment line it is in. Clicking the colored suggestion will apply it, which can be undone/redone. This will only apply one occurrence of the suggestion.

> **Note**

Suggestions only match against whole words/symbols. If you want to match a certain occurrence of a word, try adding more context (more words/symbols around it).

Tip

If you don't specify a replacement, the text between `||` will be highlighted. This can be useful to bring attention to a section of a line.

```
eg. |something| - this will highlight the word something
```