[] | assets/\_images/example-image.png

# Technical Docs

Antora

Version antora-mermaid, 2025-09-30

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This is practice website to try out antora and asciidoc.

## **Antora Intro**

This is personal notes from docs.antora.org. Just things I find useful.

## **Content Sources**

### **Symlinks**

Thing from here.

commands for \*nix

```
ln -s target.adoc link.adoc
```

If They are not in the same dir: 1. go to the directory when the link should be. 2. specify the relative form

When the target is not in the same dir

```
ln -s ../../path/to/target.adoc link.adoc
```

## **Component Versions**

These are fmor the Configure Component Sources section.

### versions

You can use refname as version: refname-projection.

Below is the same example from the docs

refname projection

```
name: colorado
version:
    v(?<version>+({0..9}).+({0..9})).x: $<version>
    feature/(*)/*: $1
```

### attributes in antora.yml

Set asciidoc attributes in antora.yml:

example from docs.antora.org

```
name: light
title: Data Light
version: '2.3'
```

```
asciidoc:
  attributes:
    table-caption: Data Set
    hide-uri-scheme: ''
    page-level: Advanced
    page-category: Statistics; Cloud Infrastructure
nav:
    modules/ROOT/nav.adoc
```

Also it is useful to know one can "soft set" attributes by attaching the @ modifier to the end. So that they can be overridden from a page.

example of soft set

```
asciidoc:
attributes:
table-caption: Data Set@
hide-uri-scheme: '@'
```

### Summary:

- 1. Hard setting a component version attribute using a string value with no trailing @ modifier (e.g., value or ") prevents a page from changing or unsetting the attribute.
- 2. Soft setting a component version attribute using a string value with a trailing @ modifier (e.g., value@ or '@') allows a page to change or unset the attribute.
- 3. Hard unsetting a component version attribute using the tilde symbol (~) prevents a page from setting the attribute.
- 4. Soft unsetting a component version attribute using a false value allows a page to set the attribute.

## **Resource ID**

## resource ID coordinates syntax and order

A resource ID contains five coordinates:

- 1. version
- 2. component
- 3. module
- 4. family
- 5. file

They are put together in the following manner:

version@component:mudule:family\$file.ext

examples xref with resource id

```
xref:v0.1@technical-docs::index.adoc[back to v0.1 index]
xref:index.adoc[index of the current version]
```

The above examples will give the link below:

- back to v0.1 index
- index of the current version

Note that the Family coordinate omits "s" from the family's name, like page\$, image\$, partial\$, etc. Also, the xref does not require if it is from a pages family. When it is required refer to thie docs.

So, if you want to have assets for all the content sources, one way to do it is assets content source. Then add it to the antora-playbook.yml.

example from other content source

image:assets::favicon-32x32.png[test picture: a green cat alien from formalhaut]

The example above



## **Antora UI**

## Supplemental UI

To make a few adjustments to the UI bundle. To see more, visit the antora docs.

The supplemental UI is overlaid onto the files in the loaded UI bundle. (either add or replace)

Under ui category, put supplementa\_files key. The key accepts either (exclusive)

- · path of a directory
- a map of virtual files

### Supplemental\_files with directory

You can specify with a relative or absolute filesystem path.

For relative paths:

- ~: relative to the user's home directory
- .: relative to the location of the playbook file
- \*+ or no prefix: relative to the current working directory

Example of supplementa\_files with directory

```
ui:
supplemental_files: ./supplemental-ui
```

The files in the specified directory will be added to the loaded UI bundle. The directory is assumed to be the root

## Supplemental\_files with virtual files

If the given value is an array, it is assumed to be a virtul file.

A virtual file entry has two keys: - path: relative path of the file in the UI - contents: three possibility - omit the contents key: create an empty file - file path: a single line ends with a file extension - the contents of the file will be assigned to the virtual file - contents: - use the given value as the contents

Example for the file path

```
ui:
    supplemental_files:
    - path: partials/head-meta.hbs
    contents: ./supplemental-ui/partials/head-meta.hbs
```

Example for the contents

## Static files

Publish files to the root of the published site: static files

The static files are identified using ui.yml

Example for favicon

```
ui:
    supplemental_files:
    - path: favicon.ico
    contents: ./supplemental-ui/favicon.ico
    - path: ui.yml
    contents: |
        static_files:
        - favicon.ico
```

## github troubleshoot

### github pages no css

Github Pages runs all files through Jekyll, which will remove all files with \_. This will remove all the css and js files generated with antora.

To disable this Jekyll feature, you have to put .nojekyll file to the root of the published site.

For more detailed explanation, checkout this page.

One way suggeted is to use the supplemental UI:

antora-playbook.yml that adds .nojekyll file

```
ui:
  bundle:
    url: <url-of-bundle-goes-here>
  supplemental_files:
  - path: ui.yml
  contents: |
    static_files:
```

```
- .nojekyll
- path: .nojekyll
```

For a brief explanation:

1. the first item under supplemental\_files adds ui.yml file:

ui.yml added by supplemental\_files

```
static_files:
- .nojekyll
```

Note that the static\_files means that the list of files will be placed in the root of the site. So, it will place the .nojekyll file on the root of the site

2. the second item under supplemental\_files adds .nojekyll file, which is empty

## **Pages**

Here are all about pages section.

## file name

The following files in the pages family directory will be ignore it

- a file name begins with a dot (.)
- a file name ends without a file extension

The following files will be cataloged but will not published:

• a file name starts with an underscore ():

Recommended (some are required) file name style:

- ends with .adoc file extension
- only URL-compliant characters
- all lowercase
- no space (` `)

## header and body

```
= Page Title
Optional Author <option@auth.com>; Directly Under Title <optional@email.com>; Output
to MetaTag
:description: A description of the page stored in an HTML meta tag. \
Break description into multiline if too long with '\'.
:keywords: comma-separated values, stored, in an HTML, meta, tag
// comment
// AsciiDoc Attributes
:sectanchors:
:url-repo: https://my-git-repo.com
:page-tags: name of a tag, name of a tag
// a blank line ends the page header
page body
```

• sectanchors, url-repo: optional asciiDoc attributes

## page title

About page title:

can contain text formatting

• page title **must not** contain resource references (xref, image, etc)

## asciiDoc document attributes

To circulate information in and out of pages, such as settings, styles, metadata.

Two kinds of attributes:

- built-in attributes
  - defined by asciidoc
  - intrinsic attributes: defined by Antora
- custom attributes
  - defined by author

Page attributes are prefixed with page-. They can be accessed using page.attributes.<name> in a UI templates.

*Types of page attributes:* 

- custom
- · predefined
- intrinsic

### **Built-in attribute**

Here are examples of built-in attributes

Built-in attribute

```
= Page Title
:toc: // set the table of content
:!toc: // unset the table of content
:table-caption:
:sectanchors: // adds an anchor to each section title
:sectanchors!: // To unset
:!sectanchors: // To unset
:xrefstyle: short // short, full, basic
```

Some AsciiDoc attributes are **not** applicable in the Antora environment:

- data-uri
- · allow-uri-read
- docinfo
- linkcss
- noheader
- nofooter

- webfonts
- outfilesuffix
- imagesdir: set by Antora, cannot be overriden

### **Custom attribute**

To store frequently used text and URLs.

Attribute name:

- only contains word characters (A-Z, a-z, 0-9, or \_) and hyphens
  - no dot (.) or a space
- begins with a word character
- recommended
  - to use only lowercase letters
  - avoid starting the name with a number

Attribute values can:

- be any inline content
- contain line breaks, but only if an explicit line continuation (+) is used.

Custom attribute

```
= Page Title
:url-repo: https://gitlab.com/antora/demo/docs-site

Use the set value like {url-repo}
```

### Precedence rules

The Attributes which are hard set or hard unset in the playbook or component escriptor (antora.yml) take precedence over attributes defined in a page.

## Page attributes

The name of the attribute must begin with page-. If you need to access the attribute from the UI template, you need the prefix.

Page attribute examples

```
= Page Title
:page-category: DevOps
:page-edition: Enterprise
:page-custom-attribute: custom value
:product-name: Name of My Product
:page-product-name: {product-name}
```

```
// attribute reference is resolved immediately
Main content.
```

Custom page attributes should be defined in the page header and start the name with page-.

Page attributes can also be defined site-wide in the Antora playbook or per component version in the component version descriptor.

### predifined page attribute

Predefined Page attribute examples

```
= Page Title
// configure alternate resource IDs
// value: comma-separated list of resource IDs
:page-aliases: old-page-name.adoc, v0.1@technical-docs::test-page1.adoc, assets::test-page2.adoc
// specify which UI template to apply
:page-layout: home
```

### Access page attributes from the UI template

Here is an example for toclevels

antora-playbook.yml or antora.yml

```
asciidoc:
  attributes:
    page-toclevels: 3@
    // trailing @: to be able to override in a page header
    page-pagination: ''
    // hardset (cannot be turned off by a page)
```

page header

```
= Page Title
:page-toclevels: 2
```

The page attributes can be referred like tocleves (without prefix page-):

use toclevels

```
{{page.attributes.toclevels}}
```

use pagination

```
{{#unless (eq page.attributes.pagination undefined)}}
```

```
<nav class="pagination">
...
</nav>
{{unless}}
```

access non-page attribute from the UI model

```
{{#with (resolvePage page.relativeSrcPath model=false)}}
{{./asciidoc.attributes.policy-number}}
{{/with}}
```

### intrinsic attributes

Automatically assigned runtime environment information by Antora. Read-only and should not be reassigned. Not visible to the component descriptor (antora.yml)

### intrinsic environment attributes:

intrinsic environment attributes:

- env=site
- env-site
- site-gen=antora
- site-gen-antora

### Example usage

```
ifndef::site-gen-antora[]
include::local-preview-settings.adoc[]
endif::[]
```

### site and config attributes

site and config attributes

- attribute-missing=warn
- !data-uri
- icons=font
- sectanchors
- source-highlighter=highlight.js
- site-title
- site-url

highlight.js is the only syntax highlighter that Antora currently supports.

You can check the list of intrinsic page attributes here.

### Access intrinsic page attributes

To access the values:

- In AsciiDoc: use the attribute reference syntax (technical-docs)
- In the UI model: use a template variable (page.attributes.component-name)

Example in a page

```
This page belongs to the *{page-module}* module in the *{page-component-title} {page-component-version}* component version.
```

### Some useful attributes

Here are some examples of attributes

Set ref text

```
= My Page
:reftext: This text will be used in xref
:navtitle: This will be used for nav
```

If they are not set, the default is page title.

Create a redirect with page-aliases

```
= Title of Target Page
:page-aliases: source-page-filename.adoc, version@component:module:source-page-
filename.adoc
```

Page aliases split across multiple lines

```
= Title of Target Page
:page-aliases: source-page-filename.adoc, \
version@component:module:source-page-filename.adoc
```

One can redirect a deleted page to a custom 404 page.

## xref

cross reference

structure of an xref macro

```
xref:version@component:module:file.adoc#elementID[optional link text]
```

If the version is not specified (and target page and current page belong to different docs components), Antora uses the latest version.

When the fragment (elementID) was specified, the link text is **not** automatically populated. You need to specify the link text for a fragment.

Xrefs in a navigation has one additional feature. Navigation files use the navtitle value to populate missing link text. If the navtitle is not set, then reftext value is used. By default Antora assigns a page's title to the reftext attribute at runtime.

example same component different version different module

```
xref:5.2@get-started:tour.adoc[excursions]
```

The same component (colorado) was omitted, The module get-started was specified.

## include

Example of inclue

```
include::version@component:module:file-coordinate-of-target-page.adoc[optional
attribute]
```

The barckets of the include can contain optional attributes, such as lines, tag, or tags.

To include content by line ranges, refer to this page.

*Include content by line ranges* 

```
include::antora-docs.adoc[lines=10..17]
include::antora-docs.adoc[lines=10..17;22..26;120..-3]
```

You may find that the include directive resolves the target page when the ./ token isn't used in the file coordinate. However, we strongly recommend using the ./ token when referencing a target page that is stored in the same subdirectory as the current page.

Include placement

```
A paragraph in the page.

include::resource-id-of-target-page.adoc[tag=value]

A line of content.

include::resource-id-of-target-page.adoc[]

Another line of content.
```

The second include will be a block with the line above and below.

## page-partial attribute

Abot the order of process. See docs

In short, the page-partial attribute in the included page instructs Antora to retain the AsciiDoc source until all pages have been converted. It is (soft) set by default, so it will just work.

It may, however, increase the peak heap usage. So, one can revert it in playbook file so that the page-partial is no longer set globally:

playbook.yml

```
asciidoc:
attributes:
page-partial: false
```

You must set the page-partial attibute on any page to be included

Shared page

```
= Shared Page
:page-partial:
Page contents.
```

Other page

```
include::shared-page.adoc[]
```

## **Antora snippets**

These are just taken from the official docs.antora.org.

## images

#### docs

Let's say you have an image file in assets component.

### image location

```
assets
|-- README.md
|-- antora.yml
'-- modules
    `-- ROOT
    `-- images
    `-- example-image.png
```

### Image examples

```
below is a block image example.
image::assets::example-image.png[]

You can also put inline image::assets::example-image.png[].

The image can link using xref: image:assets::example-image.png[The image alt text,xref=antora-pages.adoc].

The image can link using xref: image:assets::example-image.png[The image alt text,30,40,xref=antora-pages.adoc].

image::assets::example-image.png[The image alt text,50,50,xref=antora-pages.adoc]
```

The image with link:





The image macro has positional attributes (optional). Assign them before setting named attributes such as xref. The example above is alt, width, and height.

Current page deep link

```
image::panorama.png[xref=#elevation]
```

```
The range can be traversed by Cottonwood Pass, Independence Pass, or Hagerman Pass.

[#elevation]
== Pass elevations

The passes usually open in late spring.

One can also link to self:
image::panorama.png[link=self]
```

## partials

Reusable

A partial is not required to be an AsciiDoc file.

Example partials

```
[plantuml,my-schema,svg]
....
include::partial$diagrams/my-schema.puml[]
....
```

## attachment

Unlike pages, attachments don't have default reference text, so it's always good to specify link text to ensure a good reader experience.

Example attachment

Download xref:attachment\$practice-project.zip[the sample project] to try it out!

## AsciiDoc primer

AsciiDoc Primer note from antora docs.

## header

Header examples

```
= Page Title
:description: A description of this page.
:docrole: home
```

## Text emphasis, punctuation, typography

bold example

```
Make a *word* or *a phrase of text* bold in a single set of asterisks.
Bounded characters with a set of double asterisks. Like cha**act**ers, not cha*act*ers.
```

Make a word or a phrase of text bold in a single set of asterisks.

Bounded characters with a set of double asterisks. Like chaacters, not cha\*act\*ers.

The style of bold text depends on the font and the CSS tyles for <strong> HTML tag.

example mixed formatting

```
'*_monospace bold italic phrase_*' & ''**__char__**'acter''**__s__**''
```

italic example

```
An italic _word_, and an italic _phrase of text_.

Italic c__hara__cter__s__ within a word.
```

The style of bold text depends on the font and the CSS tyles for <em> HTML tag.

monospace example

```
A monospace 'word', and a monospace 'phrase of text'.

Monospace c'hara''cter''s' within a word.
```

The style of bold text depends on the font and the CSS tyles for <code> HTML tag.

```
Let's #highlight this phrase# and the i and s in th##is##.
```

The style of bold text depends on the font and the CSS tyles for <mark> HTML tag.

quotation raw text

```
.quotation mark
* 'normal single quote'
* "normal double quote"
* '`single quote and backtick.`'
* "`double quote and backtick.`"
```

### *quotation mark*

- 'normal single quote'
- "normal double quote"
- 'single quote and backtick.'
- "double quote and backtick."

### apostrophes raw

```
* The `'80s.
* The students`' books.
* I can't find Joey's house.
* I can't find Joey\'s house.
```

### apostrophes

- The '80s.
- The students' books.
- I can't find Joey's house.
- I can't find Joey's house.

### special characters

Some special characters are replaced with the appropriate character or unicode entity. The three special characters, <, >, and &, are always replaced first.

See the full table here Also this

### characters

```
§
§
&
(C)
```

```
(R)
(TM)
...
<=
<-
=>
->
```

- §
- &
- (C)
- (R)
- TM
- ...
- $\Leftarrow$
- . .
- ⇒
- *→*

Note that some special characters won't work for asciidoctor-pdf. It will work, however, if you use the numeric reference. discuss

For example, 8sect; will not work, but 8#167; will work fine with asciidoctor-pdf.

### escape replacement

If you don't want to replace into special character, escape with \.

ref

For example, .\... will show normal four periods .... instead of 3+1 ....

escape

```
`.\\...` `.\...` \....` \\§` `\§`
```

## subscript and superscript

subscript superscript examples

```
The chemical formula for water is H\sim2\sim0. What is the answer to E=mc^2^?
```

The chemical formula for water is  $H_2O$ . What is the answer to  $E=mc^2$ ?

## internal xref

Inline reference example here.

create internal xref

```
=== spectial characters

[#in-page-xref-example]
.apostrophes raw
[,adoc]
----
* The `'80s.
* The students`' books.
* I can't find Joey's house.
* I can't find Joey\'s house.
----
Inline referenc example [#inline-ref]#here#.
```

create internal xref

Below is the same from above block, but rendered. Note the deferences.

How to in-page cross reference:

- special characters
- [asciidoc-primer:::special-characters]
- this uses section's title
- this uses implicit ID

Link to above block

apostrophes raw

• go to the example block

### Inline reference

- [asciidoc-primer:::inline-ref]
- go to inline example

### URL

link to an external URL

Links that start with <a href="https://https.ftp.mailto">https://https://https://https.ftp.mailto</a>, etc. will automatically turned into hyperlinks.

To excape a URL, so that it is not active, prepend it with a backslash \.

URL examples

```
Visit the https://chat.antora.org[Antora chat room].

This URL is displayed, \https://gitlab.com, but isn't clickable.
```

Note that a URL with characters like \_ or ^ might not display correctly. See this troubleshooting

troubleshoot url

```
= Page Title
:url-peak: https://www.google.com/maps/place/Antora+Peak/@38.3249976,-
106.2355882,14z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x871572433f469bd7:0xd2bdf15e615cd269!8m2!3d38
.3249994!4d-106.2180786!5m1!1e4

{url-peak}[This URL] was complicated, but a page attribute came to our rescue!

pass:macros[URL goes between these brackets]
Anyone want to climb this 13er with me?
(pass:macros[https://www.14ers.com/13ers/peak.php?peakkey=4740])
```

## Lists

Ordered list example

```
. Step 1
. Step 2
.. Details
... Mini-details
... Micro-details
.... We're really down in the weeds now.
.. More details
. Step 3
```

### [lowergreek]

- . alpha
- . beta
- . gamma

### [start=4]

- . Picking up where we left off.
- . Add one more ingredient.
- . Mix and serve!
- 1. Step 1
- 2. Step 2
  - a. Details
    - i. Mini-details
      - A. Micro-details
        - I. We're really down in the weeds now.
  - b. More details
- 3. Step 3
- α. alpha
- β. beta
- y. gamma
- 4. Picking up where we left off.
- 5. Add one more ingredient.
- 6. Mix and serve!

### Unordered list example

```
* Item A
* Item B
** Item B1
*** Details
***** More details
***** Details about the details
** Item B2
* Item C
```

- Item A
- Item B
  - Item B1
    - Details
      - More details

- Details about the details
- Item B2
- Item C

Complex ordered and unordered lists

```
* A list item can contain two or more paragraphs or blocks of content.

+
[source,yaml]
----
artifacts:
expire_in: 1 week
----
+
====
An example block
====

** A literal paragraph doesn't require a list continuation.

$ antora antora-playbook.yml

* You can also mix list item types in the same list.

** Unordered list item
... Ordered list item
... Another ordered list item
+
term:: A description list term and content.
```

• A list item can contain two or more paragraphs or blocks of content.

```
artifacts:
expire_in: 1 week
```

An example block

• A literal paragraph doesn't require a list continuation.

```
$ antora antora-playbook.yml
```

- You can also mix list item types in the same list.
  - Unordered list item
    - i. Ordered list item
      - A. Another ordered list item

#### term

A description list term and content.

Alternatively, when a list item contains multiple blocks, you can wrap them in a delimited open block (--). Then you only need a single list continuation line to attach the open block to the list item.

example open block

```
* A list item that includes several blocks wrapped in an open block.

+
--
[source, yaml]
----
artifacts:
expire_in: 1 week
----
====
An example block
====
Another paragraph
--
```

• A list item that includes several blocks wrapped in an open block.

```
artifacts:
expire_in: 1 week
```

An example block

Another paragraph

### Description list

```
Keyboard::
Used to enter text or control items on the screen.
Mouse:: Used to point to and select items on your computer screen.

term 1::
This description needs two paragraphs.
To attach them both to term 1, use a list continuation (+) on the line separating the paragraphs.
+
This is the second paragraph for term 1.
```

```
term 2:: This description includes an admonition block.

Like additional paragraphs, blocks also need to be connected with a +.

+

NOTE: An admonition block that is part of term 2's description.

term 3::

* unordered list item

... ordered list item

... another ordered list item
```

### **Keyboard**

Used to enter text or control items on the screen.

### Mouse

Used to point to and select items on your computer screen.

#### term 1

This description needs two paragraphs. To attach them both to term 1, use a list continuation (+) on the line separating the paragraphs.

This is the second paragraph for term 1.

#### term 2

This description includes an admonition block. Like additional paragraphs, blocks also need to be connected with a +.



An admonition block that is part of term 2's description.

#### term 3

- unordered list item
  - a. ordered list item
    - i. another ordered list item

## and so on

More things covered by antora docs' asciidoc primer:

- Lists: Description Lists, Checklists
- Embed a Video
- UI Macros: Things like button, Keybinding and Menu syntax
- Source Blocks
- Admonitions
- Examples
- Sidebars

• Comments
For more asciidoc stuff Read further form the antora doc. Or visit the asciidoc.

## **AsciiDoc for STEM**

This page is just a note for asciidoc stem documentation.

## **Activate**

To activate STEM, you should put the stem attribute in the header.

To activate STEM support

```
= My Diabolical Mathematical Opus
Jamie Moriarty
// By default, assumes AsciiMath equations if not specified
:stem:
```

To use LaTeX notation by default

```
= My Diabolical Mathematical Opus
Jamie Moriarty
:stem: latexmath
```

These are just to set the default, so by setting explicitly onc can use both asciimath or latexmath.

## using with Antora

By default, the STEM will **not** work with the default Antora setup and default Antora UI.

## Mathjax

One way to use it is, using mathjax.

For Detailed instruction:

- the npm package
- For Antora

Here is a short instruction:

- 1. install Mathjax
  - global installation: npm i -q @djencks/asciidoctor-mathjax
  - local installation: add @djencks/asciidoctor-mathjax to your dev dependencies
- 2. add the extension to the playbook

```
asciidoc:
extensions:
- '@djencks/asciidoctor-mathjax'
```

## **Examples**

Inline stem

```
stem:[sqrt(4) = 2]
Water (stem:[H_20]) is a critical component.
A matrix can be written as stem:[[[a,b\],[c,d\]\]((n),(k))].
```

```
sqrt(4) = 2
```

Water (H\_20) is a critical component.

A matrix can be written as [[a,b],[c,d]]((n),(k)).

## use mermaid

#### **TODO**

- setup
- · use mermaid
- antora pdf

### mermaid with antora

It is from antora-mermaid extension.

### setup

npm install

```
npm i -D @sntke/antora-mermaid-extension
```

Then update the antora-playbook.yml:

antora-playbook.yml

```
antora:
    extensions:
        - require: '@sntke/antora-mermaid-extension' ①
            mermaid_library_url:
https://cdn.jsdelivr.net/npm/mermaid@10/dist/mermaid.esm.min.mjs ②
            script_stem: header-scripts ③
            mermaid_initialize_options: ④
            start_on_load: true
```

- 1 npm package name: @sntke/antora-mermaid-extension (required)
- 2 URL of Mermaid.js library (optional)
- 3 Stem that exists in the handlebar templates of UI bundle where HTML script element for mermaid.js is placed. (optional)
- ④ The argument to mermaid.initialize(). (optional) Make sure to convert the Mermaid config keys to snake case, e.g., startOnLoad → start\_on\_load or themeVariables → theme\_variables. Refer to the Antora docs for details.

If you don't need any options, just simply put as following:

antora-playbook.yml

```
antora:
    extensions:
    - '@sntke/antora-mermaid-extension'
```

Now you can put mermaid diagram and it will show in the browser.

### use mermaid

This extension visualized Listing Blocks (....) and Literal Blocks (----) of mermaid on HTML files.

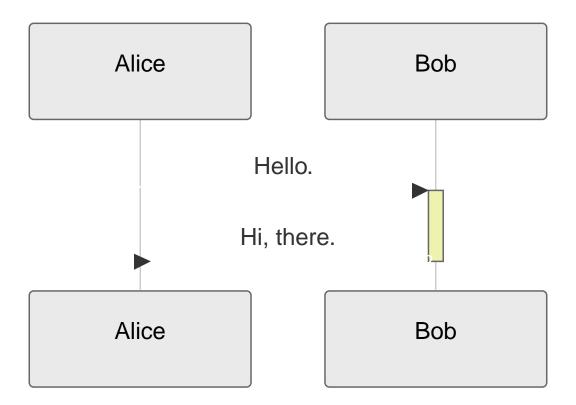
example mermaid

```
[mermaid]
....
sequenceDiagram
autonumber

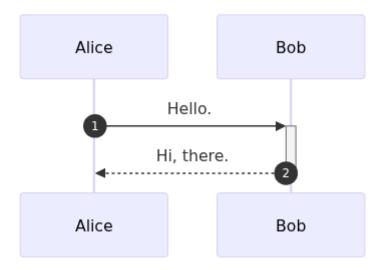
participant a as Alice
participant b as Bob

a ->>+ b : Hello.
b -->>- a : Hi, there.
....
```

Below is with the format=svg:



Below is with the format=png:



## mermaid to pdf

If you also want to create a pdf with antora, the mermaid diagram will not render out of the box. You need to set up couple of things.

- · asciidoctor-diagram
- mermaid-cli: mmdc this will render diagram
- update the command for assembler
- mmdc uses puppeteer with chromium, so set up for it...
  - either download dependencies
  - or download chromium
- also chromium sandbox (for docker)
  - either no-sandbox (dangerous)
  - or set it up properly

### setup

Install asciidoctor-diagram

```
gem install asciidoctor-diagram
```

You can as well use asciidoctor-kroki. The difference is that kroki uses kroki server, while asciidoctor-diagram renders locally. So if you want to use asciidoctor-diagram with mermaid, you need to install mermaid-cli.

Here I install mermaid-cli globally.

Install mermaid-cli

```
npm install -g @mermaid-js/mermaid-cli
```

This will enable the command mmdc. You can try out with mmdc -i input.mmd -o output.png to see it works properly. Note that mmdc needs chromium to render (at least for now), so we will install chromium later.

Now you have to tell the antora-assembler, who is making the pdf file, to use the asciidoctor-diagram. So, update the antora-assembler.yml file.

Update antora-assembler.yml

```
build:
command: asciidoctor-pdf -r asciidoctor-diagram
```

If you are using Bundler to manage gems (if Gemfile.lock), and you want to customize the command, make sure you prefix the command with bundle exec.

Update antora-assembler.yml

```
build:

command: bundle exec asciidoctor-pdf -r asciidoctor-diagram
```

Depending on your setting, this may be enough.

But if you are using docker, the mermaid-cli mmdc might not work, due to lacking libs.

Here is a possible fix (for debian), (it is from gpt, so might be not 100% correct)

Install dependencies for mmdc and chromium

```
sudo apt-get update
sudo apt-get install -y \
 libglib2.0-0 \
 libnss3 \
 libx11-6 \
 libatk1.0-0 \
 libatk-bridge2.0-0 \
 libcups2 \
 libdrm2 \
 libdbus-1-3 \
 libxcomposite1 \
 libxdamage1 \
 libxfixes3 \
 libxrandr2 \
 libgbm1 \
 libpango-1.0-0 \
 libcairo2 \
 libasound2 \
 libxkbcommon0 \
 libxkbcommon-x11-0
```

Altenatively, just install chromium. This may be better for people with apple silicon. Cause we can

specify this chromium for the puppeteer, which will smooth out some problems.

Install chromium

```
sudo apt-get update
sudo apt-get install -y chromium
```

Also, the mermaid-cli might still say that No usable sandbox!.

The easy way to fix it is adding no-sandbox to the mmdc. how-to-no-sandbox.

Only use this option, if you make your own charts.

First, make puppeteerConfig.json file:

example puppeteerConfig.json

```
{
    "executablePath": "/usr/bin/chromium", ①
    "args": ["--no-sandbox", "--disable-dev-shm-usage"] ②
}
```

- 1 you can specify the chromium to use.
- 2 In containers, /dev/shm is tiny, disable-dev-shm-usage avoids crashes

Then specify this config in your antora-assembler.yml. Note that puppeteer-config is prefixed with mermaid-: ref

example antora-assembler.yml

```
build:
    command: asciidoctor-pdf -r asciidoctor-diagram -a mermaid-puppeteer-config=<path-
to>/puppeteerConfig.json
```