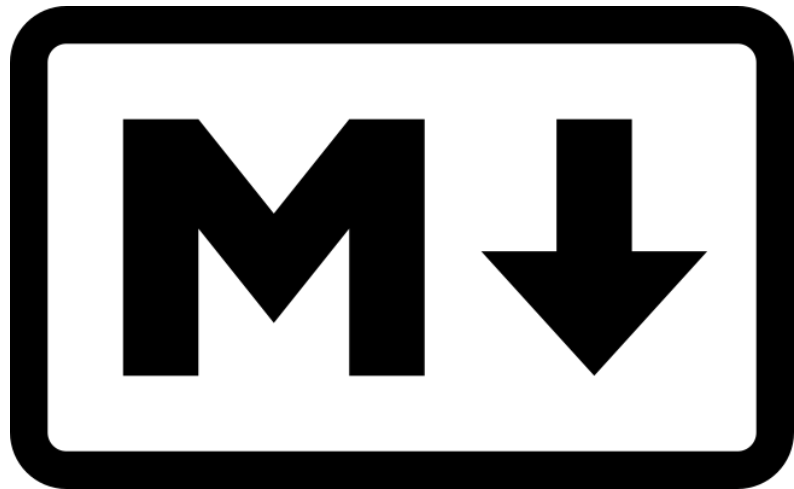


Using markdown for documentation



Melanie Ganz
Cyril Pernet
Robert Oostenveld

Intended Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate a workable knowledge of Markdown syntax

Markdown exercise

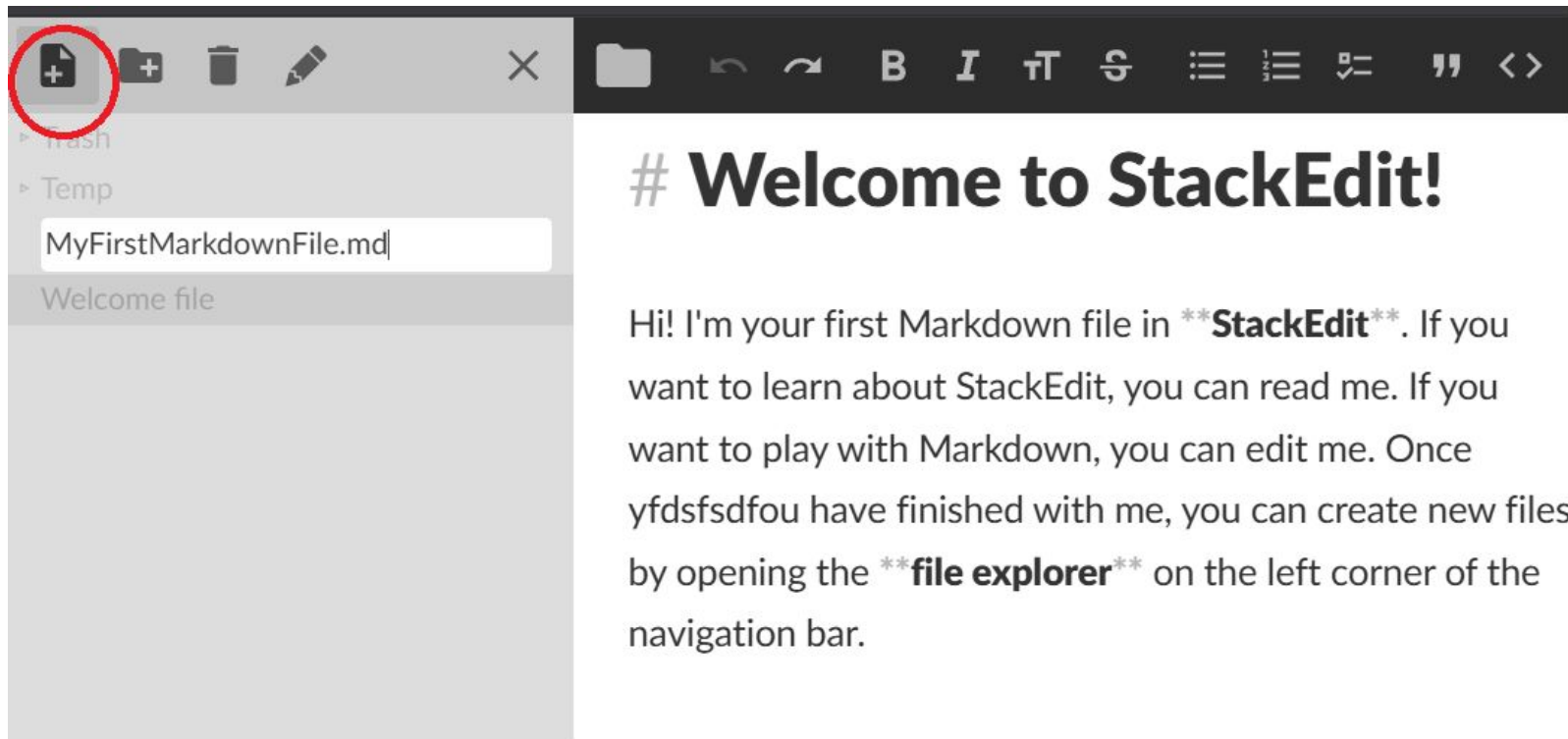
Go to Stackedit, an online markdown editor:

<https://stackedit.io/app#>

(no registration needed)

Let's write some markdown here together!

Let's make a new file in stackedit called **"MyFirstMarkdownFile.md"**.



Headers in markdown

To make headers in Markdown, you preface the phrase with a hash mark (#). You place the same number of hash marks as the size of the header you want. For example, for a header one, you'd use one hash mark (# Header One), while for a header three, you'd use three (### Header Three).

In the file let's make a header with the name of our course.
And a second level header titled "Markdown exercise".

Different fonts in markdown

Now let's play with different fonts in markdown:

- to make phrases bold in Markdown, you can surround words with two asterisks (******)
- to make a phrase italic in Markdown, you can surround words with an underscore (*_*)
- You can do this for multiple words
- You can also combine the two

Add the following text to your file using the appropriate fonts:

Let's write some markdown text together here!

Use different fonts, such as bold and italics as well as their combination!

Links in markdown

There are two different link types in Markdown:

- The first link style is called an inline link. To create an inline link, you wrap the link text in square brackets followed by round brackets [test](link)
- The other link type is called an anchor link for in text link, just as before but adding a hash [text](#text).

Write 'This is the Gitub main page' and add an inline link to <https://github.com/>

Write 'This links to the subtitle' and add an anchor link to subtitle

Links in markdown

Didn't work??

Well stakEdit is a web client, turns out you can combine standard markdown with LaTeX and html (pretty cool) -- here use an id tag with curly brackets next to the subtitle, e.g. `## Markdown exercise {#my-subtitle}`

Write 'This links to the subtitle' and add an anchor link to subtitle using the id tag

Images in markdown

Images also have two styles

- The first image style is called an inline image link. To create an inline image link, enter an exclamation point and then do as usual `![]()`,
- For a reference image, you'll follow the same pattern as anchor links.

Let's add an image with the markdown logo to our document. Find the markdown logo on our GitHub pages and insert it as an inline image into the document.

Links in markdown

Didn't work??

The URL <https://github.com/.../blob/...> is *not* a direct image link — it is an HTML page.

👉 StackEdit (and Markdown in general) can only display images from a *direct image link*, i.e. something ending in [.jpg](#), [.png](#), etc. — served with the right content type ([image/jpeg](#)).

👉 The trick here is to change the beginning of the address to fetch the content of the html page, i.e. <https://raw.githubusercontent.com/...>

Lists in markdown

Lists can be unordered or ordered.

- To create an unordered list, you'll want to preface each item in the list with an asterisk (*)
- An ordered list is prefaced with numbers, instead of asterisks.

Let's make a header of level three called 'It's Me' and add a list of the things about you (name, type of studies/work).

Wrapping up -- what is markdown?

- Markdown is a lightweight markup language for creating formatted text using a plain-text editor.
- It's written in what people like to call “plaintext”. Plaintext is just the regular alphabet, with a few familiar symbols, like asterisks (*) and backticks (`).
- Already looks decent in any text editor, and looks good when rendered to HTML, PDF, ...

Why is markdown useful to learn?

- Text written in Markdown can be easily shared between computers, mobile phones, and people.
- Markdown is widely used in blogging, instant messaging, online forums, collaborative software, documentation pages, and readme files, for example on GitHub.
- Many academics use Markdown to write documentation, a good example is the community project “The Turing Way” <https://the-turing-way.start.page/>

How can I learn markdown?

There are many great online resources:

<https://www.markdownguide.org/>

<https://www.markdownguide.org/cheat-sheet/>

Lesson style tutorials:

<https://www.markdowntutorial.com/>

<https://commonmark.org/help/tutorial/>

Some editors include a Markdown preview: e.g. Visual Studio, ...

Online Markdown editors: StackEdit, HackMD, ...

Before closing

Go to Stackedit, and export that markdown file as .md, we'll use it in the next lesson

The screenshot shows the 'MyFirstMarkdownf' application interface. The top bar includes a file explorer icon, navigation arrows, bold (B), italic (I), text color (T), background color (G), list (≡), and link (≡) icons. The title bar reads 'MyFirstMarkdownf' with a refresh icon, an upload icon, and a '#' icon. The main content area is divided into three sections:

- Left Panel (Source):** Contains the raw markdown code:

```
![Let's display the markdown logo]
(https://raw.githubusercontent.com/CP
ernet/ReproducibleQuantitativeDataSci
ence/main/markdown/Markdown-
mark.jpg)

### It's Me
* Cyril, NeuroImaging, stats, Data
Science
* Melanie, NeuroImaging, Machine
Learning, Data Science
```
- Center Panel (Preview):** Displays the rendered markdown, including a large logo and the heading 'It's Me' followed by a bulleted list:
 - Cyril, NeuroImaging, stats, Data Science
 - Melanie, NeuroImaging, Machine Learning, Data Science
- Right Panel (MENU):** A sidebar with the following options:
 - File properties (Add metadata and configure extensions.)
 - Table of contents
 - Markdown cheat sheet
 - Import/export (highlighted)
 - Print
 - Badges (8/93) (List application features and earned badges.)