



Markdown

Lecture 17

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Documentation beyond comments

- Literate programming remains important
- First level is within a file, particularly at the start
 - *Should be a statement about what the module/program does*
 - *Add comments as you write the code*
 - Not just prior to submission
- Beyond the individual file, README.txt or README.md
- In doc as in coding, keep it DRY – Don't Repeat Yourself (hat-tip Davor @ Archbee)
- Very good article by Codacy on best practices in doc, including some tools

Markdown – simple, portable text formatting

- One of the earliest things Unix was used for was typesetting text
 - *Roff (runoff) mid 1960s. Pre Unix*
 - *Nroff (new roff), later Troff (mid 1970s, Unix)*
 - Basis of the man pages
 - *TeX, LaTeX (mid 1980s)*
 - Large texts (theses); Maths
 - *HyperText Markup Language (HTML) (1993)*
 - Emphasis on screen rather than page
 - Idea of page markup
 - *Markdown (2004)*
 - Portability. Aimed at blogging, doc, readme files

Markdown core idea – visible tags

- Early type setting systems users add tags, italics, heading, etc,
 - *.i (italics), .H 1 (first level heading) - Troff*
 - *<i>, <h1> - HTML*
- MS-Word made the tags invisible
- Markdown goes back to the explicit tag idea, but makes the tags more intuitive.
 - *Subset of most useful features, cf LaTeX*

Some tags – headings, styles

Markdown	HTML	Effect
Heading =====	<h1>Heading</h1>	Level 1 heading
# Heading	<h1>Heading</h1>	Level 1 heading
Sub-heading -----	<h2>Sub-heading</h2>	Level 2 heading
## Sub-heading	<h2>Sub-heading</h2>	Level 2 heading
Extra blank line	<p>	New paragraph
(2 spaces at end of line)	 	Line break
<i>_italic_</i>	<i>italic</i>	Italic font style
bold	bold	Bold font style
<code>`monospace`</code>	<code>monospace</code>	Fixed font

Lists

Markdown	HTML	Effect
1. Socks 2. Then shoes	<code></code> <code> Socks</code> <code> Then shoes</code> <code><\ol></code>	Numbered List
* Horse * Cart	<code></code> <code> Horse</code> <code> Cart</code> <code><\ul></code>	Bullet List

- Lists can be inside other lists, e.g. bullet within numbered
- Numbering not automatic
 - Arguably no bad thing

More markdowns

Markdown	HTML	Effect
> Prepend greater than > before each block-quote line	<blockquote> Prepend ><p> before each block-quote line </blockquote>	Indented block quote
[Link to UWA](http://uwa.edu.au)	Link to UWA	Link to another page
![Image](https://study.com/cim ages/multimages/16/discount- 2345221_960_720.png, “markdown”)		Import image from URL

Many features absent cf LaTeX, HTML, e.g. tables

Where used

- Reddit uses Markdown to deal with submitted redds -> HTML
- R studio uses Markdown
- GitHub (its own version), Slack, Trello, Discord
- helpOSTS

Dillinger cloud Markdown processor

The screenshot shows the Dillinger web application. At the top is a dark navigation bar with a menu icon, the name 'DILLINGER', and buttons for 'PREVIEW AS', 'EXPORT AS', 'SAVE TO', 'IMPORT FROM', and a settings gear. Below this, the document name 'Untitled Document.md' is shown on the left, and 'READING TIME: 3 MIN READ WORDS: 549 CHARACTERS: 3734' is on the right. The main area is split into two panes: 'MARKDOWN' on the left and 'PREVIEW' on the right. The 'MARKDOWN' pane contains a list of lines of code, including a title, a description, a 'Powered by Solid' badge, a 'build passing' badge, and a 'Features' section. The 'PREVIEW' pane shows the rendered HTML version of the same content, including the title, description, badges, and a list of features. The interface is clean and modern, with a light gray background and dark text.

DOCUMENT NAME
Untitled Document.md

READING TIME: 3 MIN READ WORDS: 549
CHARACTERS: 3734


MARKDOWN

```
1 # Dillinger
2 ## _The Last Markdown Editor, Ever_
3
4 ![N | Solid](https://cldup.com/dTxpPi9lDf.thumb.png)(https://nodesource.com/products/nsolid)
5
6 ![Build Status](https://travis-ci.org/joemccann/dillinger.svg?branch=master)(https://travis-ci.org/joemccann/dillinger)
7
8 Dillinger is a cloud-enabled, mobile-ready,
9 offline-storage compatible,
10 AngularJS-powered HTML5 Markdown editor.
11 - Type some Markdown on the left
12 - See HTML in the right
13 - ✨Magic ✨
14
15 ## Features
16
17 - Import a HTML file and watch it magically
18 convert to Markdown
19 - Drag and drop images (requires your Dropbox
20 account be linked)
```

PREVIEW

Dillinger

The Last Markdown Editor, Ever

POWERED BY  Solid

build passing

Dillinger is a cloud-enabled, mobile-ready, offline-storage compatible, AngularJS-powered HTML5 Markdown editor.

- Type some Markdown on the left
- See HTML in the right
- ✨Magic ✨

Features

- Import a HTML file and watch it magically convert to Markdown
- Drag and drop images (requires your Dropbox account be linked)
- Import and save files from GitHub, Dropbox, Google Drive and One Drive
- Drag and drop markdown and HTML files into Dillinger
- Export documents as Markdown, HTML and PDF

Markdown is a lightweight markup language based on the formatting conventions

Type text,
export MD,
HTML, PDF

Can also input
text from file

<https://dillinger.io/>

Pandoc converts doc formats

Pandoc a universal document converter

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About pandoc

If you need to convert files from one markup format into another, pandoc is your swiss-army knife. Pandoc can convert between the following formats:

(← = conversion from; → = conversion to; ↔ = conversion from and to)

Lightweight markup formats

↔ [Markdown](#) (including [CommonMark](#) and [GitHub-flavored Markdown](#))
↔ [reStructuredText](#)
→ [AsciiDoc](#)
↔ Emacs [Org-Mode](#)
↔ Emacs [Muse](#)
↔ [Textile](#)
→ [Markua](#)
← [txt2tags](#)

HTML formats

↔ (X)HTML 4
↔ HTML5

Ebooks

Word processor formats

↔ Microsoft Word [docx](#)
↔ Rich Text Format [RTF](#)
↔ OpenOffice/LibreOffice [ODT](#)

Interactive notebook formats

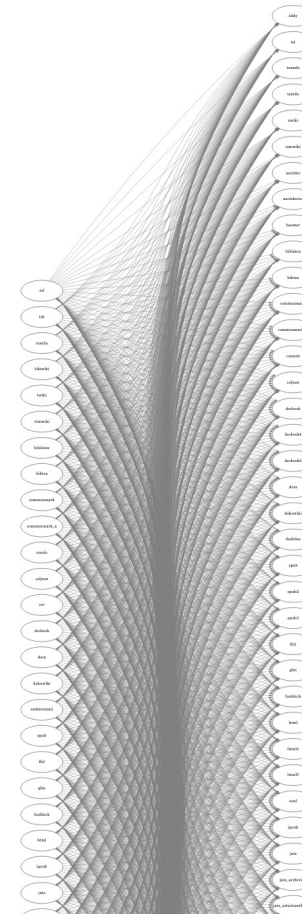
↔ Jupyter notebook ([ipynb](#))

Page layout formats

→ [InDesign ICML](#)

Wiki markup formats

↔ [MediaWiki markup](#)
↔ [DokuWiki markup](#)
← [TikiWiki markup](#)
← [TWiki markup](#)
← [Vimwiki markup](#)



The page
keeps on
going
below
what is
shown!

<https://pandoc.org/>



Vinnylanni @ WordPress

Beyond Markdown

- Code documentation is moving into typesetting
- Sphinx <https://www.sphinx-doc.org> has been used to create books as well as major software documentation, including Python 2 and 3.