

Markdown support in oXygen

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Why Markdown support in oXygen?

- Mixed systems using Markdown+HTML+XML
- Offer some degree of validation
- Provide a way to evolve from Markdown to XML

Direct Markdown support

Authoring

- Syntax highlighting
- Helper actions to insert lists, tables, various inlines
- HTML preview

DITA-flavored Markdown support

Use Markdown to encode DITA topics

```
<topicref href="topic.md" format="markdown"/>
```

Authoring

- Syntax highlighting
- Helper actions to insert lists, tables, various inlines
- HTML preview
- DITA preview
- Refactoring – convert Markdown topic to DITA topic

Validation

- Detect missing title, report duplicate sections

Publishing

- As if the converted DITA topic was referred instead

DITA-aware Markdown editor



```

1 # Markdown
2
3 Markdown can also be used to create pages,
3 so people with Markdown only knowledge
3 will still be able to create a page and
3 use Markdown as the source for that.
4
5 For now the editing of Markdown content is
5 directed to the
5 [Github](http://www.github.com/index.html)
5 built-in editors. In the future we plan to
5 support Markdown editing similar to the
5 one already available in the [oXygen XML
5 Editor](http://www.oxygenxml.com/index.htm
5 l) also in the [oXygen XML Web
5 Author](https://oxygenxml.com/xml_web_auth
5 or.html) thus providing
6
7 * syntax highlight
8 * specific Markdown smart actions and
8 toolbar
9 * live DITA preview
10
                
```

Markdown

Markdown can also be used to create pages, so people with Markdown only knowledge will still be able to create a page and use Markdown as the source for that.

For now the editing of Markdown content is directed to the [Github](http://www.github.com/index.html) built-in editors. In the future we plan to support Markdown editing similar to the one already available in the [oXygen XML Editor](http://www.oxygenxml.com/index.html) also in the [oXygen XML Web Author](https://oxygenxml.com/xml_web_author.html) thus providing

- syntax highlight
- specific Markdown smart actions and toolbar
- live DITA preview

topic
title
Markdown
title

body
p
 Markdown can also be used to create pages, so people with Markdown only knowledge will still be able to create a page and use Markdown as the source for that.
 p

p
 For now the editing of Markdown content is directed to the [Github](http://www.github.com/index.html) built-in editors. In the future we plan to support Markdown editing similar to the one already available in the [oXygen XML Editor](http://www.oxygenxml.com/index.html) also in the [oXygen XML Web Author](https://oxygenxml.com/xml_web_author.html) thus providing
 p

ul

- li syntax highlight li
- li specific Markdown smart actions and toolbar li
- li live DITA preview li

ul
body
topic

Text Grid **Author**

Path from Markdown to DITA

- Recognize Markdown fragments in DITA topics
- Convert them automatically to DITA markup

Example:

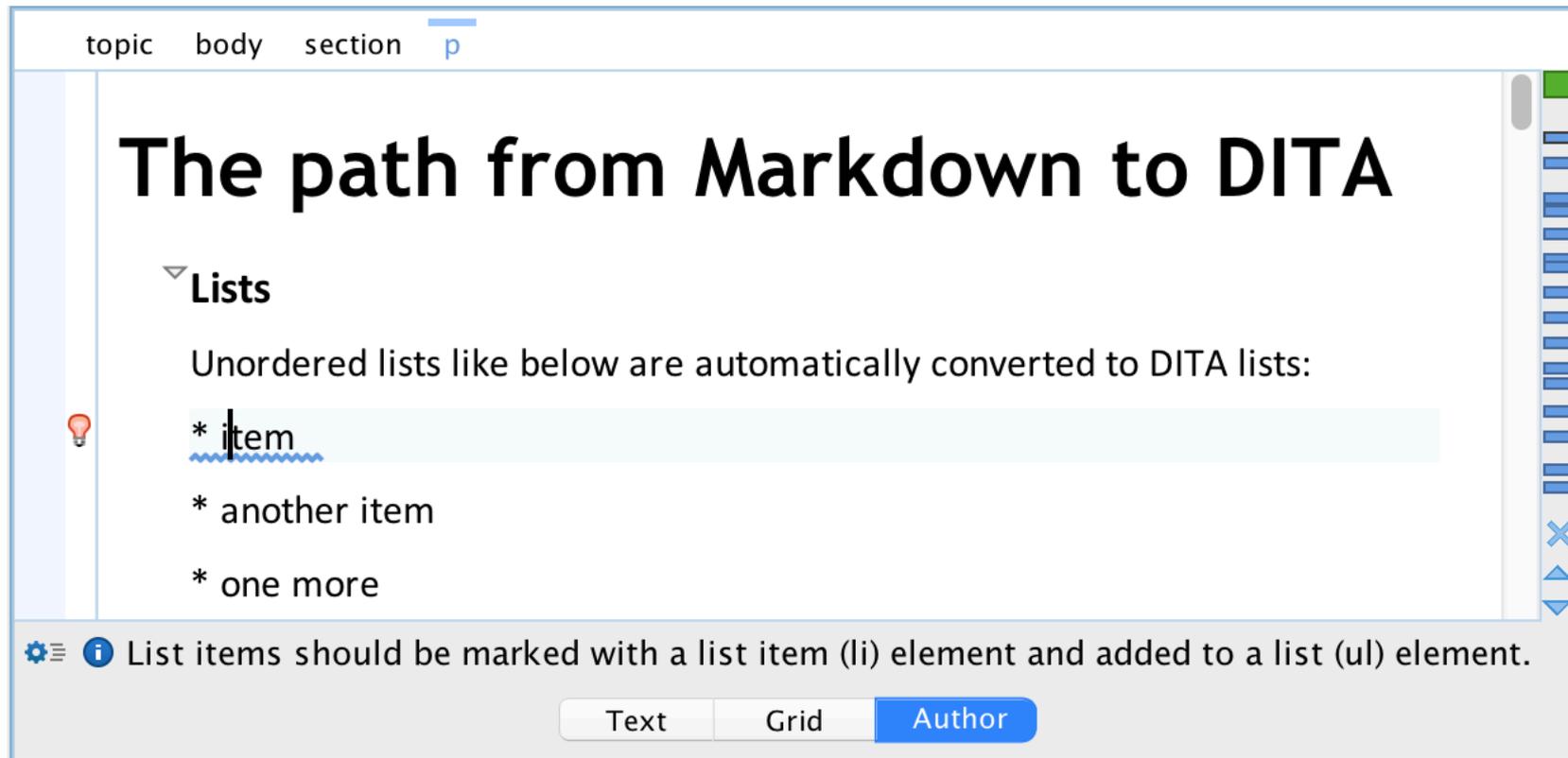
* item 1		• item 1	
* item 2	—————>	• item 2	item 1
* item 3		• item 3	item 2
			item 3
			

<https://github.com/oxygenxml/ditaMark>

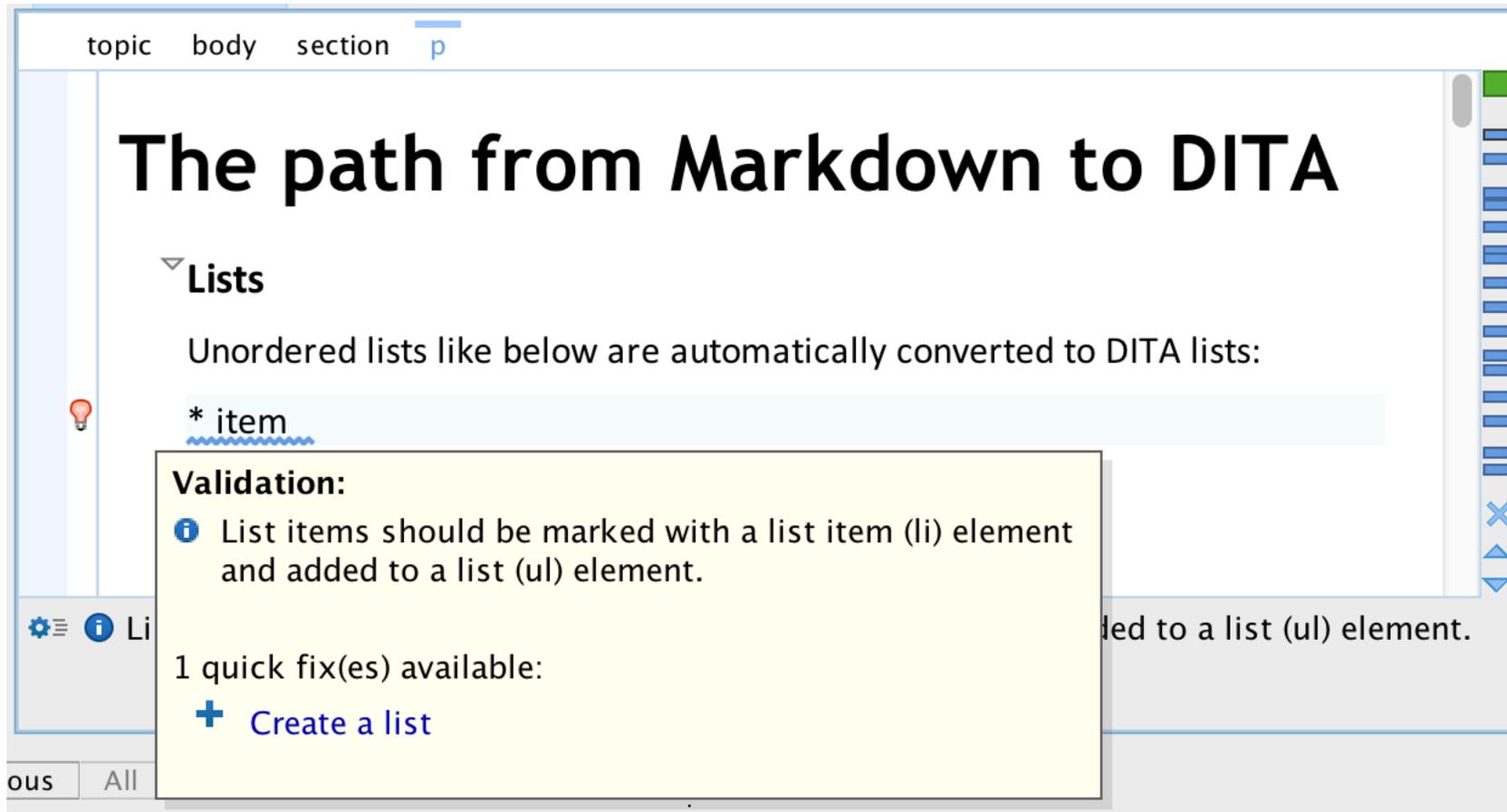
Recognized Markdown patterns

- Lists
 - * item or - item
- Quotes
 - > text
- Code blocks and inline code
 - ``` code and `inline code`
- Links
 - [link text](link URL) or <URL>
- Images
 - ![alternate text](URL) or ![alternate text](URL "title")
- Tables
 - | - | - | - | with or without a header
- Titles
 - # title or ## section

Markdown lists to DITA

The screenshot shows the Oxygen XML Editor interface. At the top, there are tabs for "topic", "body", "section", and "p". The main content area displays a large heading "The path from Markdown to DITA". Below the heading, there is a section titled "Lists" with a dropdown arrow. Under "Lists", a paragraph states: "Unordered lists like below are automatically converted to DITA lists:". Below this paragraph, there is a light blue highlighted text area containing a bulleted list: "* item", "* another item", and "* one more". The word "item" in the first list item is underlined with a blue wavy line. To the left of the list, there is a lightbulb icon. At the bottom of the editor, there is a status bar with a gear icon, an information icon, and the text: "List items should be marked with a list item (li) element and added to a list (ul) element." Below the status bar, there are three buttons: "Text", "Grid", and "Author".

Markdown lists to DITA



The screenshot shows the oXygen editor interface with a document titled "topic". The document content includes a section header "The path from Markdown to DITA" and a sub-section "Lists". Under "Lists", there is a paragraph: "Unordered lists like below are automatically converted to DITA lists:". Below this paragraph is a line of markdown text: "* item". A validation error is displayed over this line, stating: "Validation: List items should be marked with a list item (li) element and added to a list (ul) element." Below the error message, it says "1 quick fix(es) available:" and provides a button labeled "+ Create a list".

topic body section p

The path from Markdown to DITA

Lists

Unordered lists like below are automatically converted to DITA lists:

* item

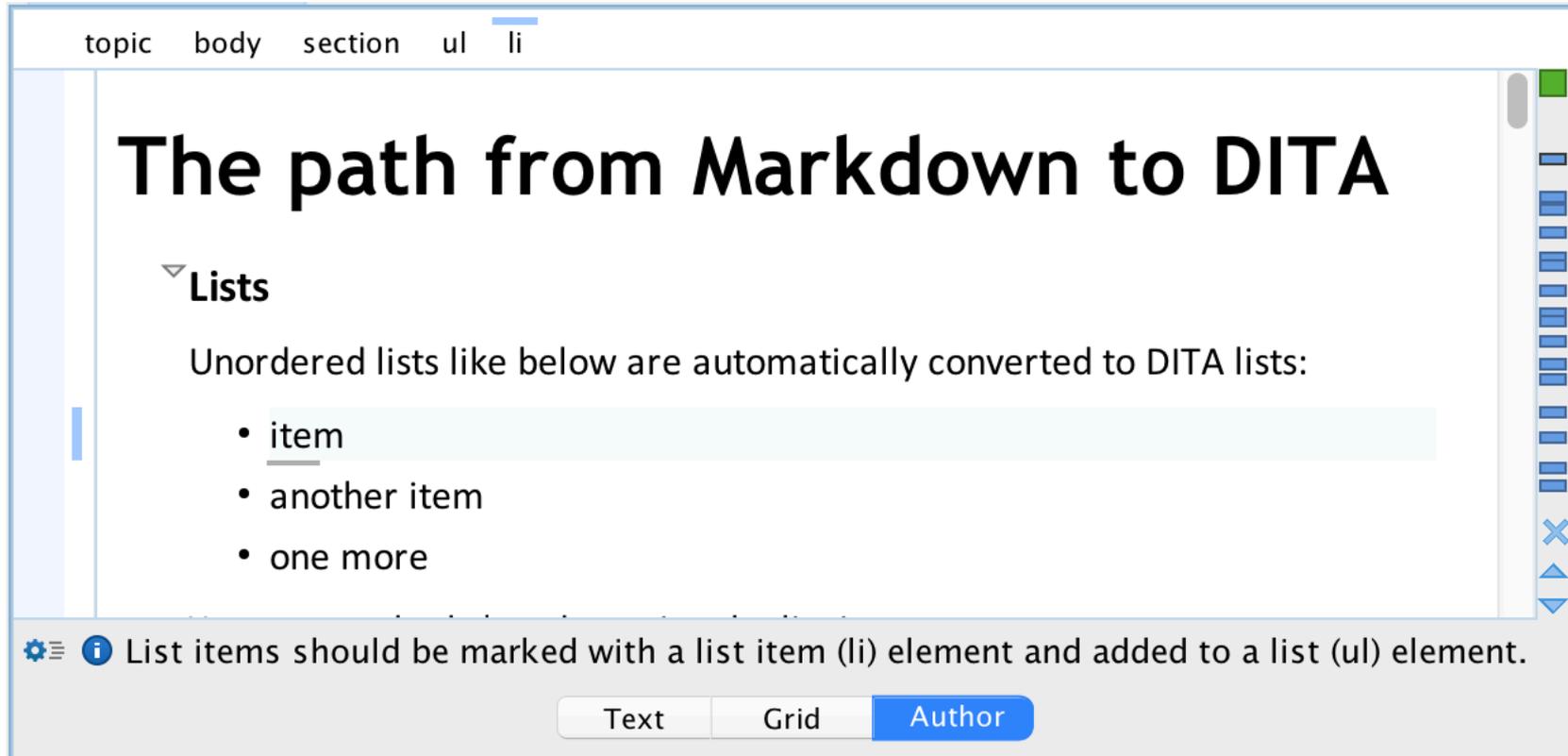
Validation:

- List items should be marked with a list item (li) element and added to a list (ul) element.

1 quick fix(es) available:

- + Create a list

Markdown lists to DITA

A screenshot of the Oxygen XML Editor interface. The top navigation bar shows "topic", "body", "section", "ul", and "li", with "li" selected. The main content area displays a DITA document with a title "The path from Markdown to DITA" and a section titled "Lists". Below the section title, there is a paragraph: "Unordered lists like below are automatically converted to DITA lists:". This is followed by an unordered list with three items: "item", "another item", and "one more". The first item "item" is highlighted with a light blue background. At the bottom of the editor, there is a status bar with a gear icon, an information icon, and the text: "List items should be marked with a list item (li) element and added to a list (ul) element." Below the status bar are three buttons: "Text", "Grid", and "Author", with "Author" selected.

topic body section ul li

The path from Markdown to DITA

Lists

Unordered lists like below are automatically converted to DITA lists:

- item
- another item
- one more

⚙️ ⓘ List items should be marked with a list item (li) element and added to a list (ul) element.

Text Grid Author

Take-aways

Markdown is supported in oXygen, either generic or with a focus on DITA

We can provide an easy path for people with Markdown knowledge to transition to XML

We notice a good level of interest in Markdown support, so it may be improved in the future:

- control validation with a schema or Schematron
- support Markdown also in the oXygen Web Author
- Markdown-aware diff

Thank you

Questions?



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<http://www.oxygenxml.com>