

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

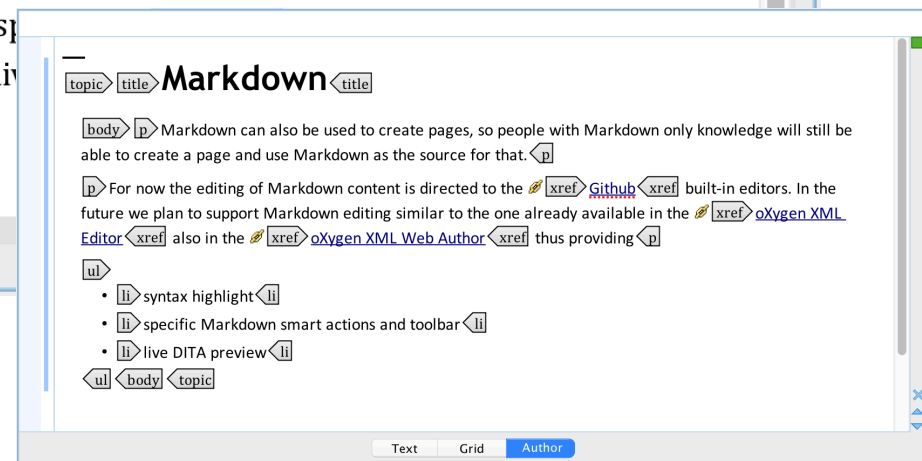
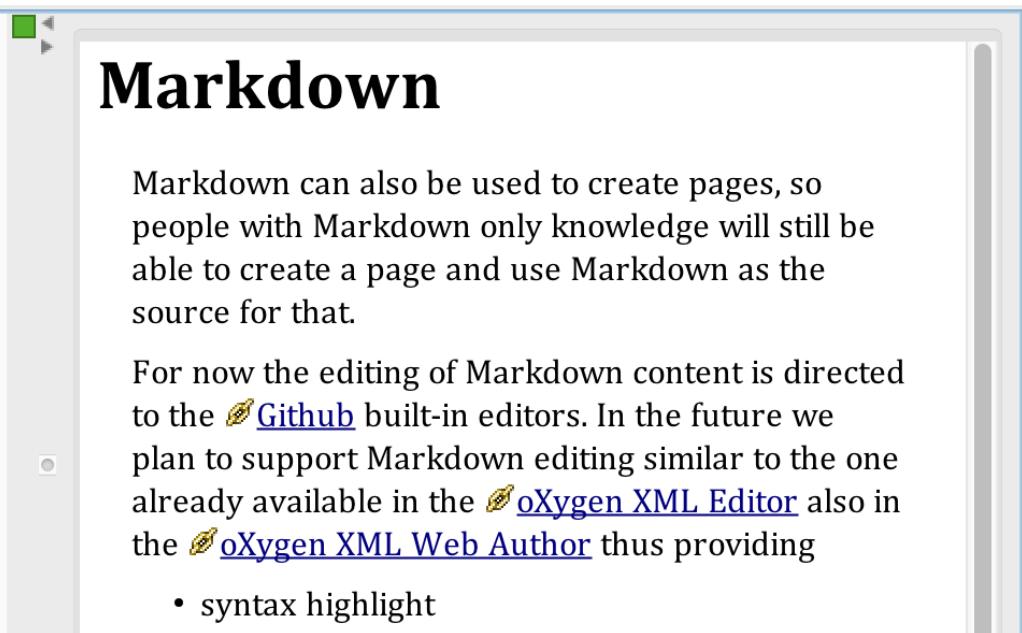
- As if the converted DITA topic was referred instead

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 \[Github\]
5 built-in editors. In the future we plan to
5 support Markdown editing similar to the
5 one already available in the \[oXygen XML
5 Editor\]
5 also in the \[oXygen XML Web
5 Author\]
5 thus providing
6
7 * syntax highlight
8 * specific Markdown smart actions and
8 toolbar
9 * live DITA preview
10
    
```



Path from Markdown to DITA

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

Example:

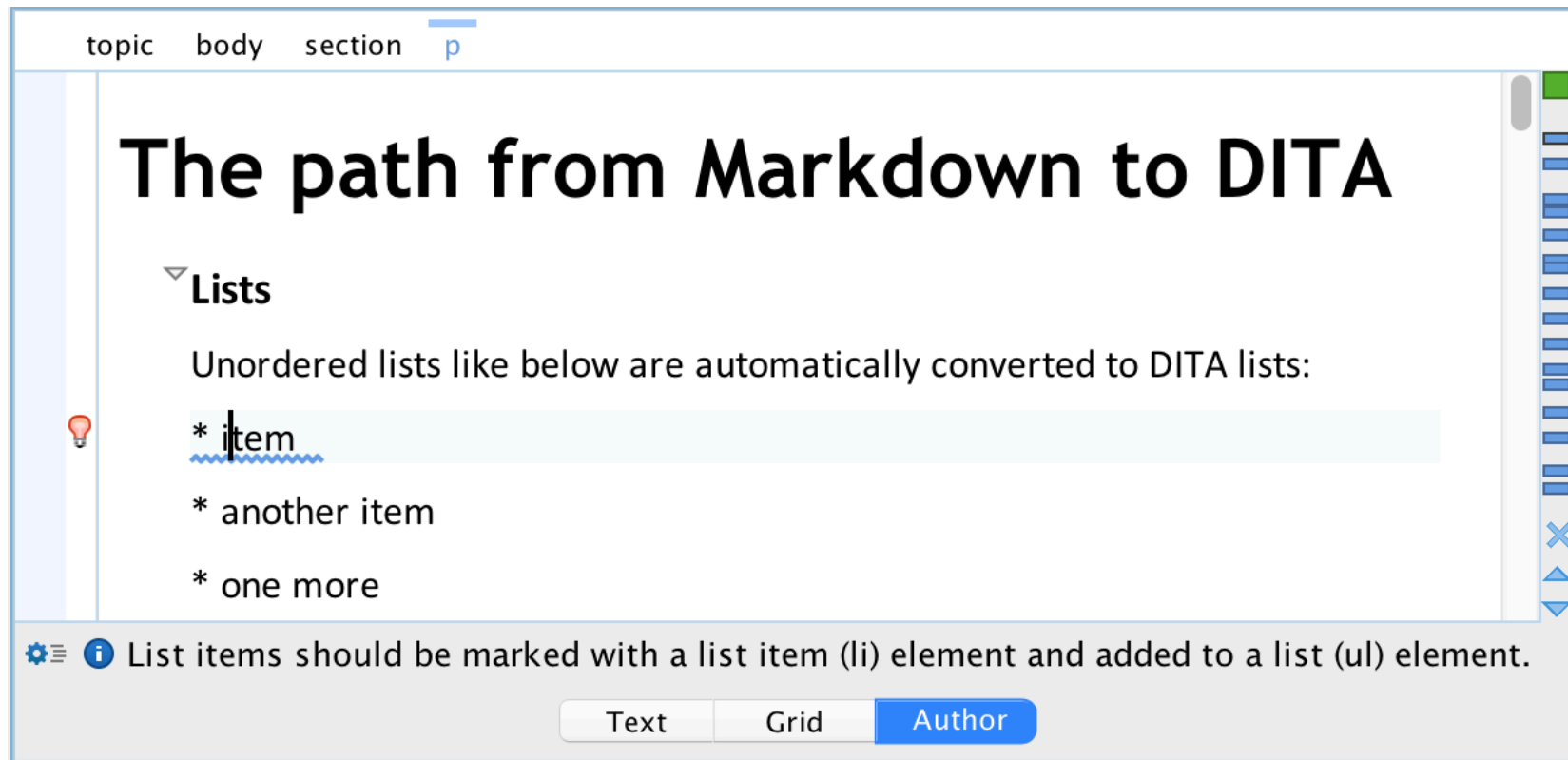
* item 1		• item 1	
* item 2	—————>	• item 2	item 1
* item 3		• item 3	item 2
			item 3
			

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

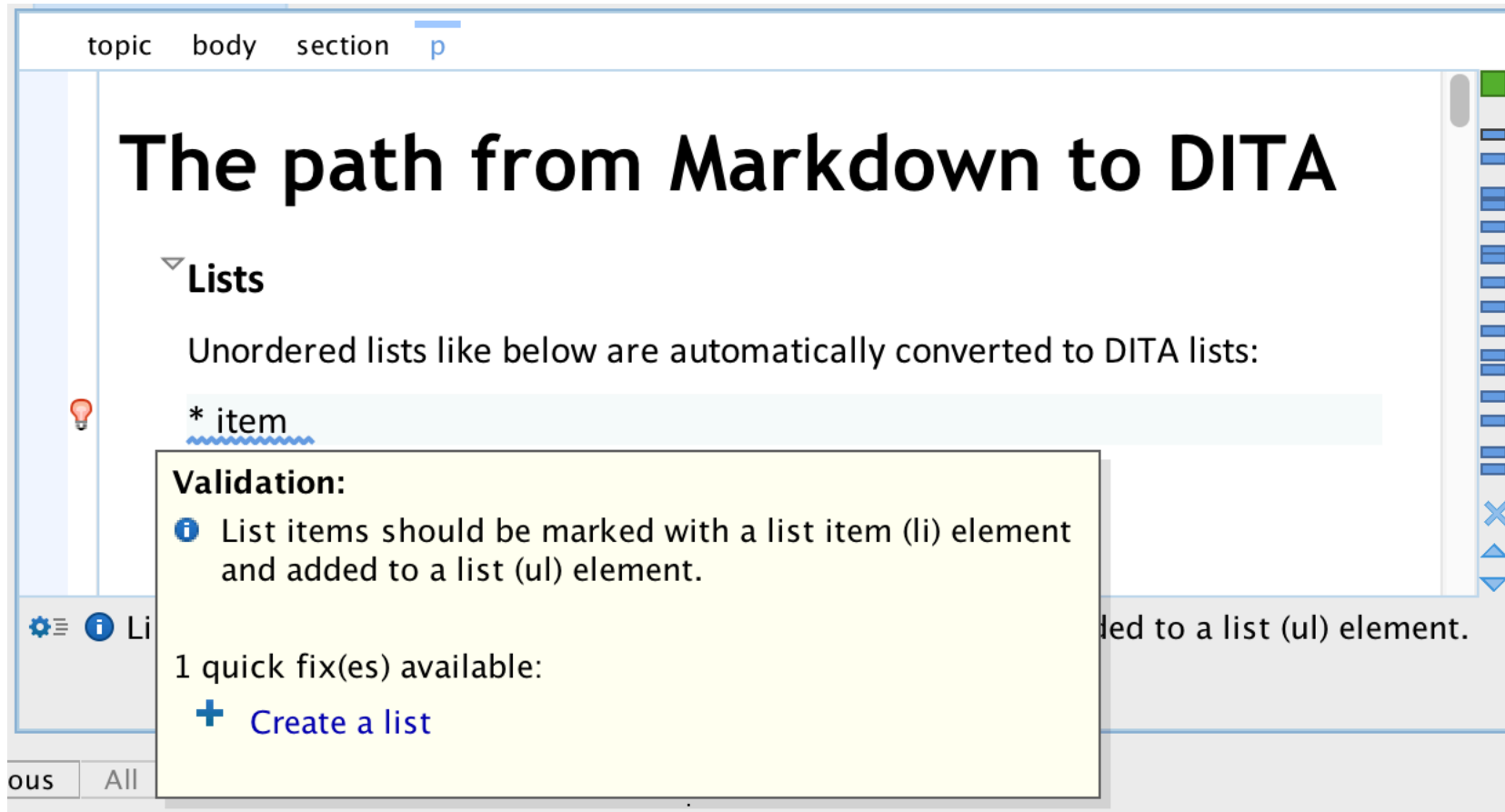
Recognized Markdown patterns

- 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 small 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", with "Author" being the active button.

Markdown lists to DITA



The screenshot shows the oXygen editor interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'topic', 'body', 'section', and 'p'. The main content area displays the title 'The path from Markdown to DITA' and a section header 'Lists'. Below this, a paragraph states: 'Unordered lists like below are automatically converted to DITA lists:'. A code block contains the markdown '* item', which is underlined in blue. A validation error box is overlaid on the code block, containing the following text:

Validation:

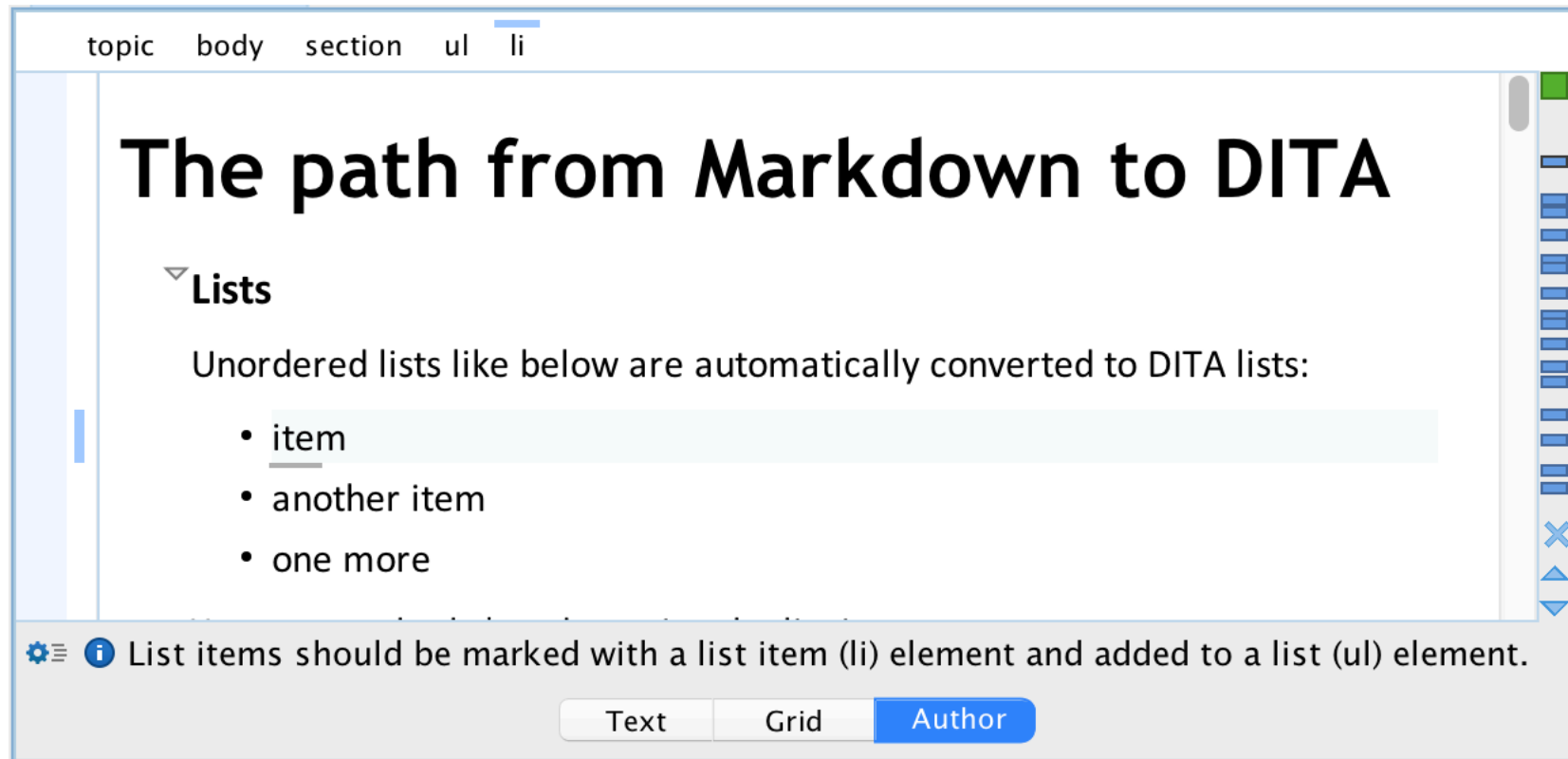
- List items should be marked with a list item (li) element and added to a list (ul) element.

1 quick fix(es) available:

- + Create a list

At the bottom of the editor, there are tabs for 'ous' and 'All', and a status bar showing 'Li' and 'led to a list (ul) element.'

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.

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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