Xaringan in a Jekyll site

Made with Xaringan Rstat package

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Basics

What is Jekyll?

Jekyll is a static website generator. I use it for my personal website at zgfabian.github.com.

What is Xaringan?

The `xaringan` R package is an R Markdown extension based on the JavaScript library remark.js to generate HTML5 presentations of a different style. It's been developed by Yihui Xie.

The name "xaringan" came from Sharingan in the Japanese manga and anime "Naruto." The word was deliberately chosen to be difficult to pronounce for most people (unless you have watched the anime), because its author (me) loved the style very much, and was concerned that it would become too popular. The concern was somewhat naive, because the style is actually very customizable, and users started to contribute more themes to the package later. - Yihui Xie, the author of Xaringan (and many more) R package

"The Sharingan is an ability that allows a ninja to copy, by mere sight, their opponents' techniques while gaining incredible reflexes and perceptive abilities." - Urban Dictionary

Xaringan overview

```
# install
install.packages("xaringan")
# list available theme (+font) names
names(xaringan::list_css())
```

Some features of Xaringan

- Based on Rmarkdown and require some html, css and optimally js knowledge
- online and offline presentations
- pdf output with other packages (e.g. pagedown) or system tools (See details here.)
- slide separator: ---
- incremental reveal separator: --
- presenter notes separator: ???

Advanced features

- Highlight styles for code blocks via highlight.js. (cf. in YAML `highlightStyle`)
- to create custom xaringan themes `xaringanthemer` package is at your hand
- and `xaringanExtra` package is for advanced effects and layouts
- for more output formats, use `xaringanBuilder`. It can produce even gifs that everybody love (Not really.)

Configuration in Jekyll

Xaringan presentations are Rmarkdown files with YAML front-matter. I configured Jekyll to exclude them from rendering. Cf. Jekyll's `_config.yml`:

```
exclude:
  - "*.Rmd"
```

We render Rmarkdown files to html output. By this setup jekyll will not have to deal directly with markdown files. One potential drawback is that you can not use liquid tags (such as `{{ site.baseurl }}`). You have to use only **Rmarkdown**, **html** and pay attention to **YAML** syntax. (`ymlthis` package can provide assistance to format and structure Rmarkdown's yaml front-matter.)

Locate and pin your `remark.js`

- `remark.js` is served from a locally project folder. (In my case on `minimal-mistake` Jekyll theme it is `./assets/js/` folder)

```
output:
  xaringan::moon_reader:
    chakra: ../assets/js/remark-latest.min.js
```

Note: Mind your `remark.js` version. Xariangan provides a dedicated function, (`summon_remark`) to download the proper version of the `remark.js` script to your local disk, so you can render slides offline. You need to change the `chakra` argument of `moon_reader()` accordingly.

```
xaringan::summon_remark(version = "0.14.1", to = "../assets/js/")
```

```
output:
  xaringan::moon_reader:
    seal: false
    css: [default, rutgers, rutgers-fonts]
    lib_dir: ../static/xaringan-prez/libs
    chakra: ../../assets/js/remark-0.14.1.min.js # pinned version
```

Fine tuning

Remember that in yaml front matter every paths are relative. More importantly `lib_dir:` relative to `rmarkdown::render`'s `input:` file's directory, while `chakra:` is relative to `output_dir`.

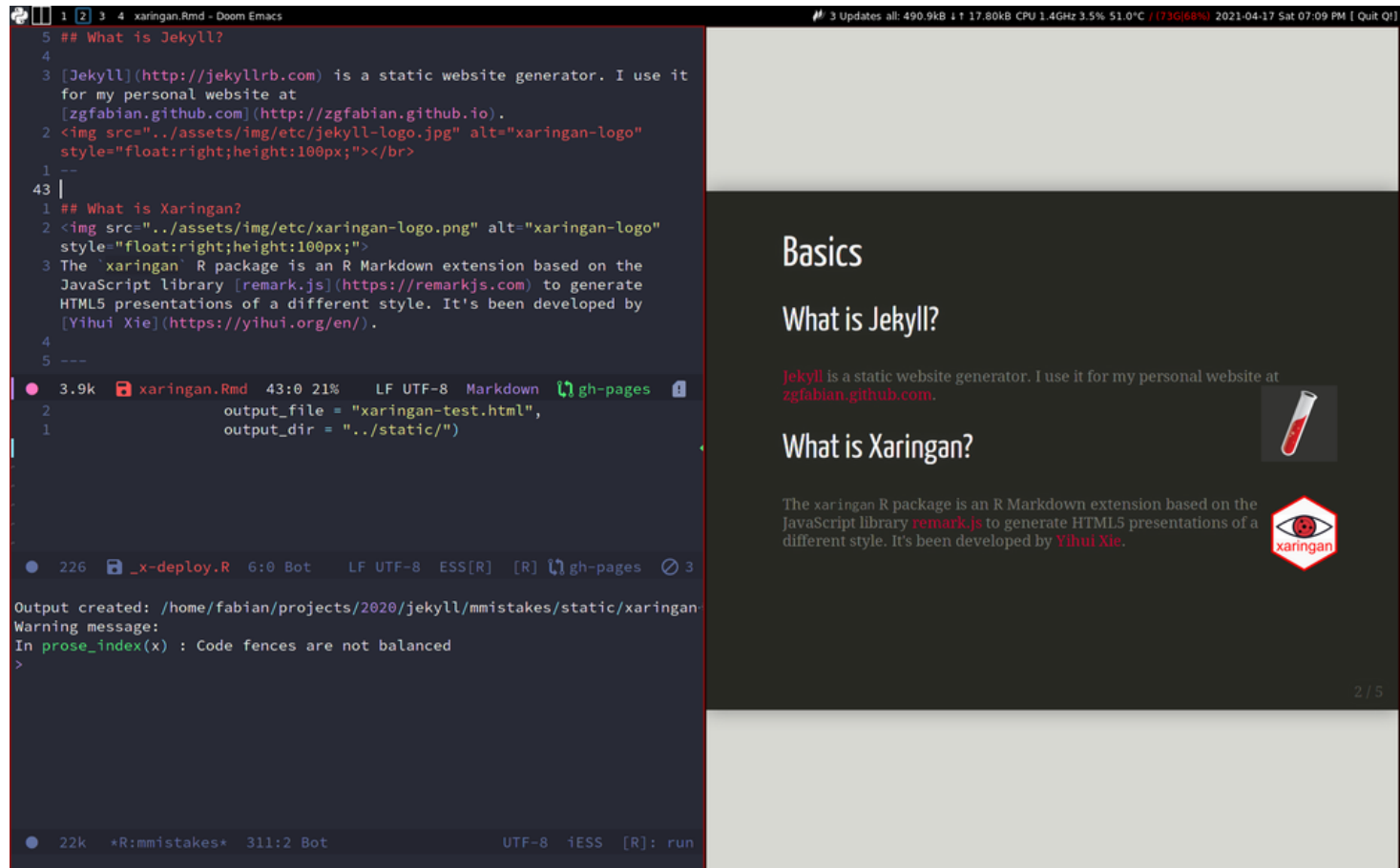an exampe: html header customization for proper favicon display should be specified in front-matter like this:

```
output:
  xaringan::moon_reader:
    includes:
      in_header: ../_includes/head/favicon-xaringan.html
```

and contents of `favicon-xaringan.html` would be:

```
<link rel="apple-touch-icon" sizes="180x180" href="../../assets/img/site/apple-t
<link rel="icon" type="image/png" sizes="32x32" href="../../assets/img/site/favi
<link rel="icon" type="image/png" sizes="16x16" href="../../assets/img/site/favi
<link rel="manifest" href="../../assets/img/site/site.webmanifest">
<link rel="mask-icon" href="../../assets/img/site/safari-pinned-tab.svg" color="
<meta name="msapplication-TileColor" content="#da532c">
<meta name="theme-color" content="#ffffff">
```

Xaringan outside Rstudio?

Doom Emacs + Emacs Speaks Statistics (ESS)) and Xaringan preview in Surf browser as an #rstat IDE

Further resources

- remarkjs.com - website
- xaringan in the Rmarkdown book
- R Markdown Reference Guide
- Google fonts

Other presentation tools

There are many alternatives to Xaringan including:

- Beamer - good old Latex
- Standalone remark.js - a complicated xaringan minus Rmd
- Reveal.js - for js (and org-mode) gurus
- Sozi, SVG-based zoom-in/out Prezi-like tool
- LibreOffice and horribile dictu: Powerpoint