

# reStructuredText to LectureDoc<sup>2</sup> (rst2ld)

*rst2ld* enables the conversion of lecture slides authored in **reStructuredText** to **LectureDoc2** format.



# Setup a Project

1. create a directory in which you want to store your slides; e.g., `mkdir slides`
2. change to the director: `cd slides`
3. initialize git: `git init`
4. add the LectureDoc2 and restructuredTextToLectureDoc2 projects to the folder as submodules:
  - `git submodule add https://github.com/delors/LectureDoc2`
  - `git submodule add https://github.com/delors/reStructuredTextToLectureDoc2`

## Setup a Project - Optional

1. add script to generate slides (<https://github.com/Delors/Lectures/blob/main/gen-slides.zsh>)
2. add "docutils.conf" when necessary (<https://github.com/Delors/Lectures/blob/main/docutils.conf>); i.e., if you have mathematical (`.. math::`) expressions in your slides and want to refer to a specific version of MathJax.
3. add .gitignore file with "\*.rst.html" if you don't want to archive the generated web pages

# Generating PDFs

In general, PDFs are generated by converting the HTML files to PDFs using a browser. As of 2024 Safari has the best support for printing HTML to PDF (don't use the **Export as PDF...** feature; use **Print → PDF**). Chrome works in most cases reasonably well, Firefox often fails miserably.

A script (<https://github.com/Delors/Lectures/blob/main/gen-pdfs-from-slides.zsh>) for generating PDFs using Safari on Mac OS (v. 14.4.1) is available. This script requires that LectureDoc is found in the **LectureDoc2** subfolder. This script basically automates Safari by simulating user input. Hence, while the script is running you should not use your Mac.