

CSCI 1377

Tools for Thought

Hypertext III

Zettelkasten

“Each note is only an element that derives its quality from the web of references and cross references within the system. A note that is not linked to this web becomes lost in the file; the file forgets it.”

— Niklaus Luhmann



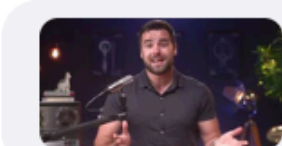
The ULTIMATE Second Brain Setup in Notion

1.3M • 4y ago

Thomas Frank Explains ✓

Get Ultimate Brain for Notion: <https://thomasjfrank.com/brain> - Use UBLAUNCH at checkout to g...

CC

 17 chapters Introduction | Home Page | Quick Capture | Daily Planning | ...



SECOND BRAIN

TASKS **NOTES** **PROJECTS**

45:17

NOTION BLOCKS



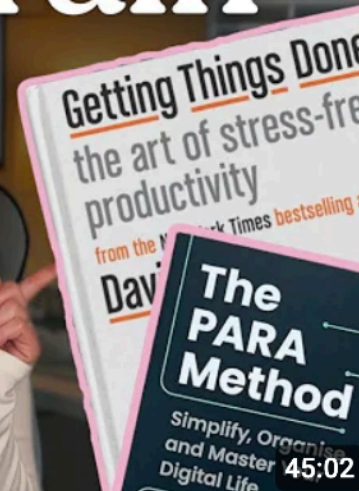
11:54

NEVER FORGET ANYTHING



33:57

Second Brain



45:02

PhD in 2.5 Years?



53:47

Obsidian



14:44



8:40

KNOWS EVERYTHING



19:09

Note-taking system



4:46

The future of hypertext

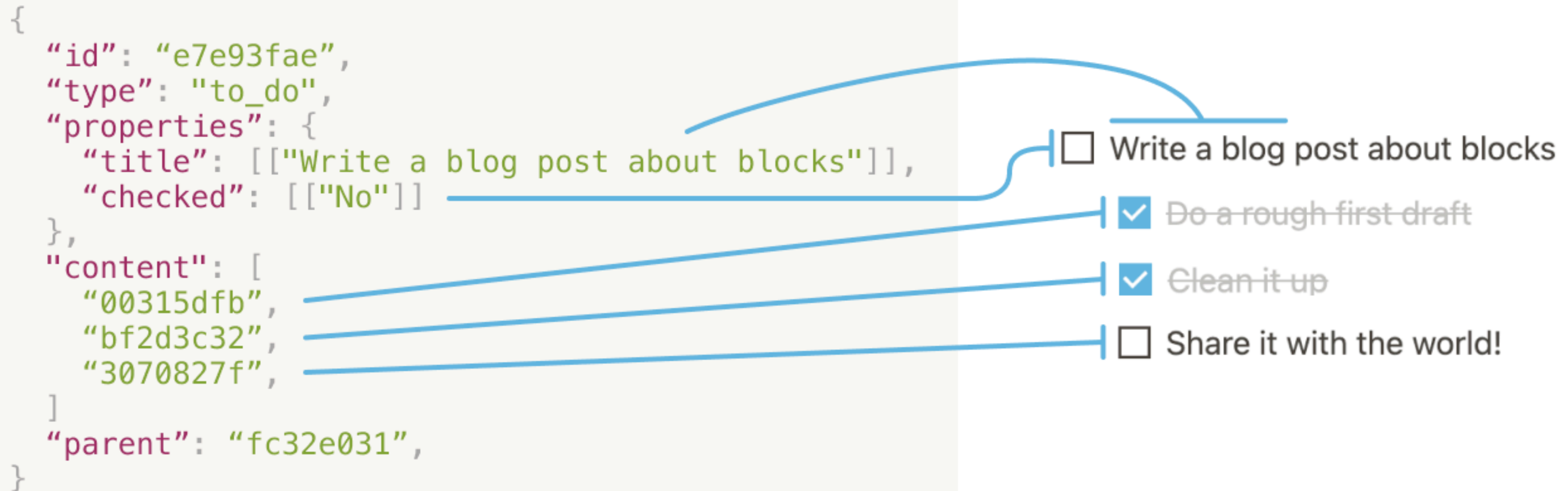
Today's focus:

- Nodes: beyond documents
- Links: beyond URLs
- Content: beyond text & graphics
- Navigation: beyond 1D

Other dimensions:

Finding,
viewing,
authoring,
collaboration,
annotation,
versioning

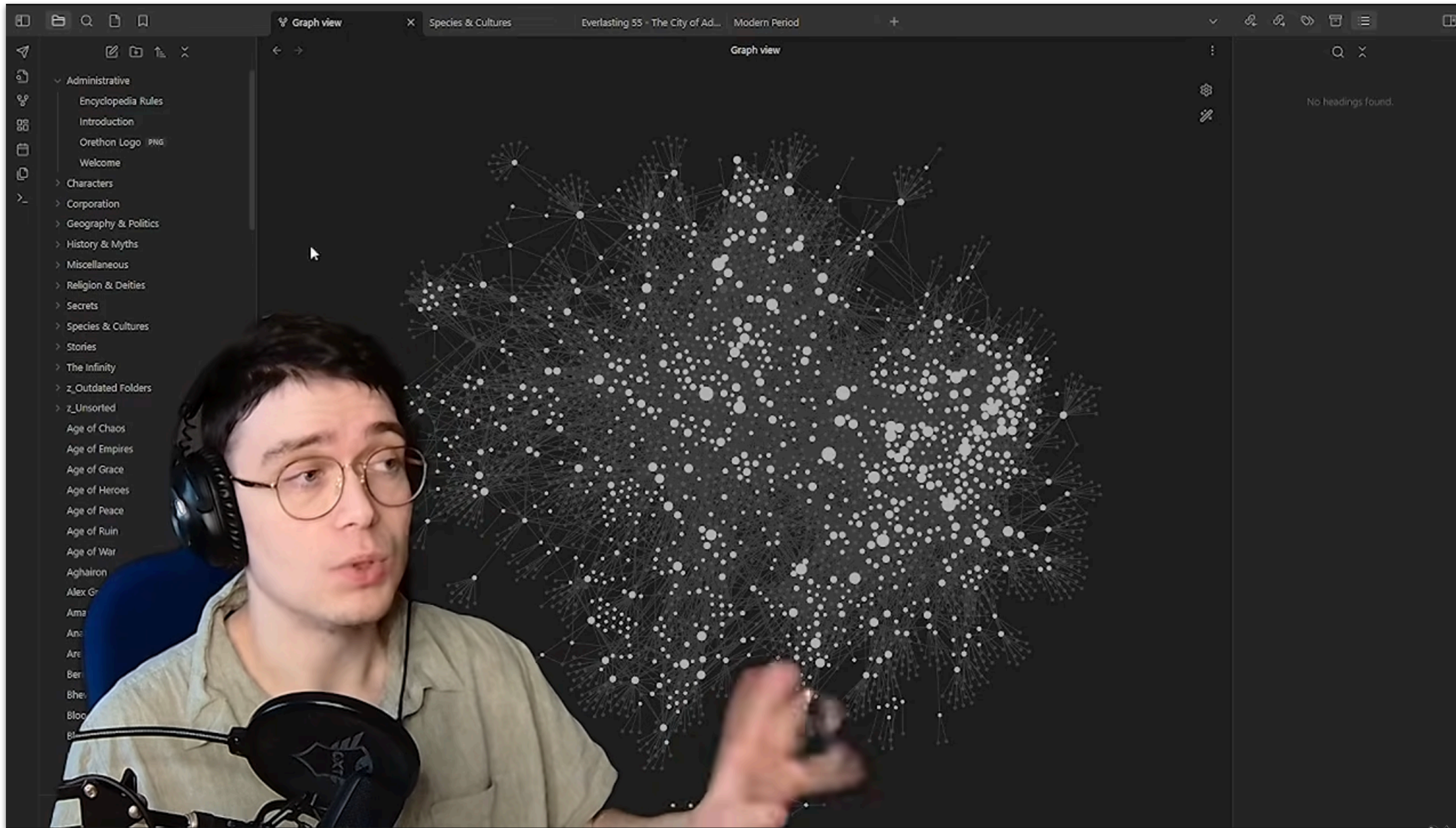
Nodes: Notion's data model is built on blocks



Nodes: Notion's data model is built on blocks

- Content is manipulable at the block level
- All blocks have identifiers and can be linked
- Blocks can be individually transcluded
- Trade-off: interoperability & archivability vs. plain documents

Links: Obsidian uses bidirectional title links

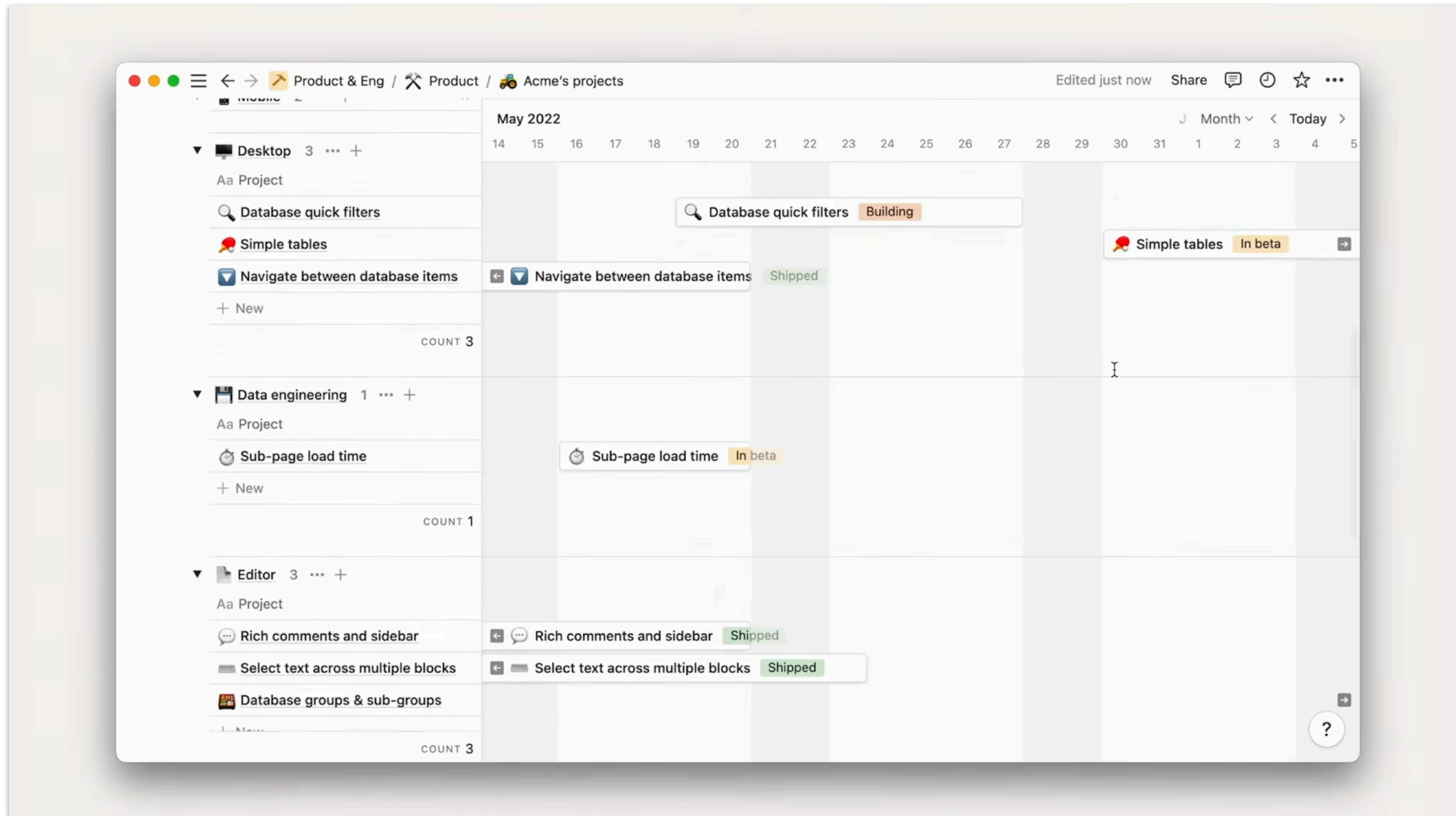


<https://youtu.be/Vmlh7EjrdIk?t=476>

Links: Obsidian uses bidirectional title links

- `[[Title]]` vs. `<a href="https://...">Title</a>`
- Obsidian as a closed system offers backlinks & unlinked mentions
- Dead links as a feature, not a bug

Content: Notion provides databases & views



<https://youtu.be/e9AvolZqEJk?t=52>

Content: Notion provides databases & views

- Tools like Notion are trying to pull Excel-like features in
 - See also: Airtable
- Direct manipulation database != spreadsheet
 - Typed columns
 - No margins, freeform formatting (see: spreadsheets lecture)
- Different tasks require different views
 - Essentially a persistent query + representation over the database

Content: Coda adds formulas to documents

Hey Maria Marquis 🙌

Your tasks are 50 percent complete

Here are your top priority tasks:

! Past due

- @Enablement

Due today!

All launch tasks

Feature Team

Feature	Launch task	Owner	Team
New mobile app	Blog post		Marketing
	Send mocks to the devs		Product
	Outreach to 50 clients		Sales
	Draft Community Post copy		Product
	Draft Community Post copy		Marketing
	Enablement		Sales

Add Name

All launch tasks .Filter(Owner =User() AND Due =Today()).bulletedList()

= @Blog post

f BulletedList() Tab

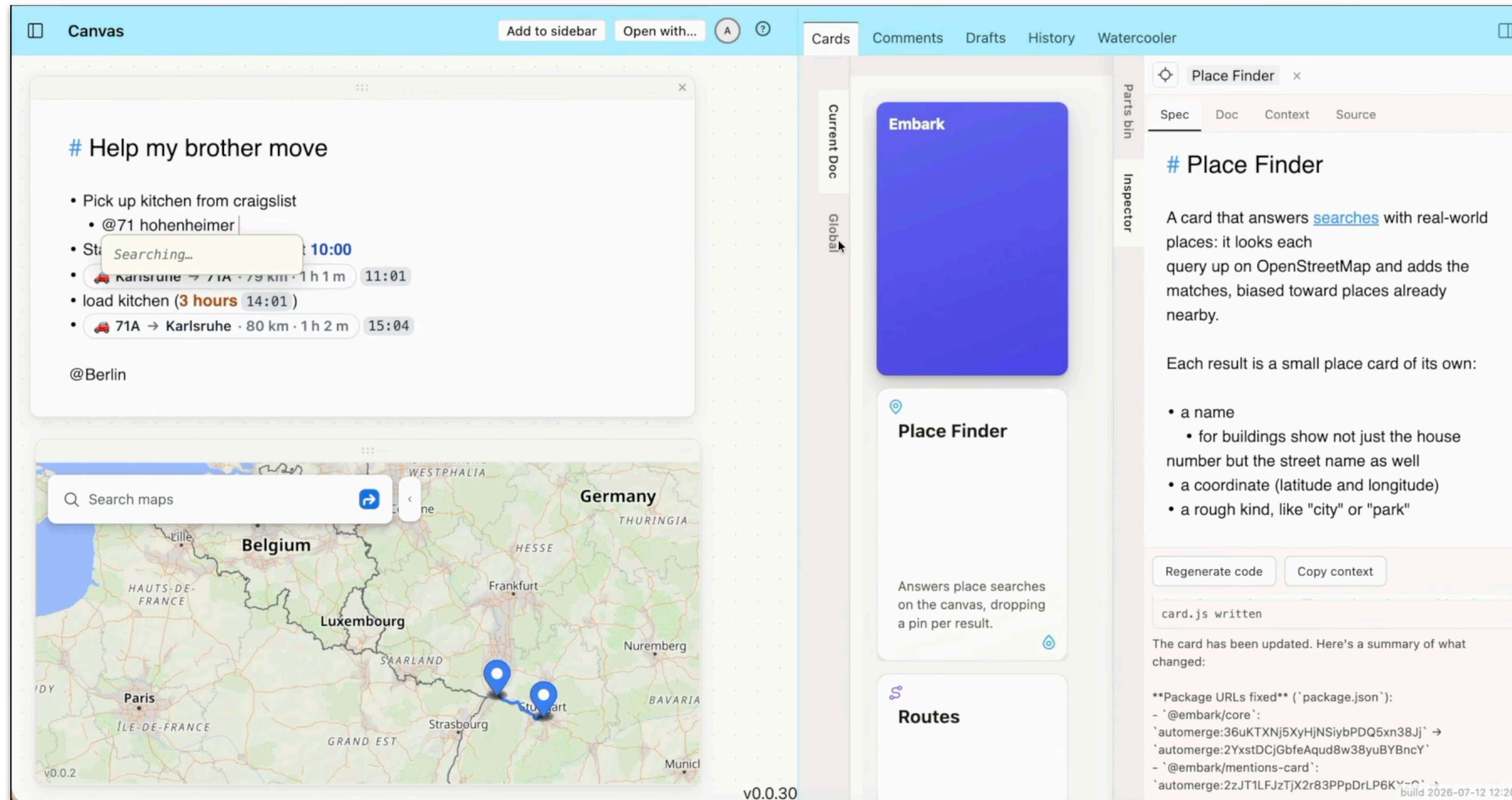
BulletedList()
Create a bulleted list of values
EXAMPLES
BulletedList("Dog", "Cat", "Mouse")
= • Dog • Cat • Mouse
INPUTS
value... : A value or list of values

https://youtu.be/cw61T_pgMeU?t=23

Content: Coda adds formulas to documents

- Formulas permit custom rather than pre-baked database views
 - Progress bar, “past due” indicators
- Coda’s formula language is much more ambitious than your standard spreadsheet
 - `Tasks.Filter(Owner = User() and Date = Today()).bulletedList()`

Content: Patchwork provides an extensible platform for integrating dynamic content

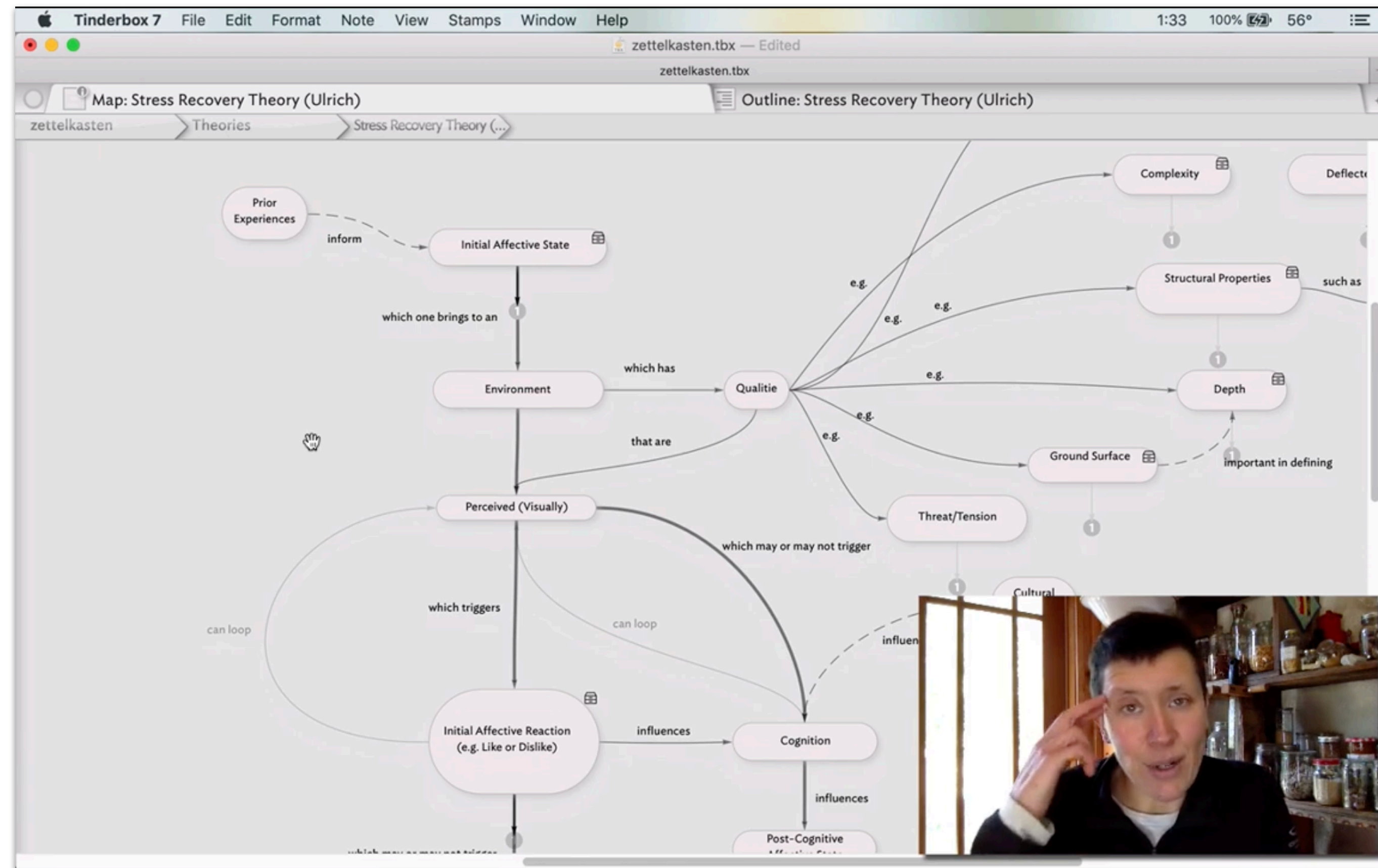


<https://youtu.be/4UxGijnuXEs?t=1481>

Content: Patchwork provides an extensible platform for integrating dynamic content

- Patchwork embodies an anti-app ethos
 - Docs, maps, spreadsheet shouldn't be separate apps!
- Notion < Obsidian < Patchwork in terms of extensibility
 - Drawbacks of extensibility: extension bugs, interoperability issues

Navigation: Tinderbox uses spatial hypertext



https://youtu.be/J_q6IRuLNVA?t=46

https://youtu.be/_DT_Un3M06o?t=10

Navigation: Tinderbox uses spatial hypertext

- Tinderbox is a 2.5D space
 - Extra .5D is not present in many other spatial hypertext / canvas systems
- Nodes can be spatially linked or hyperlinked
- Space offers landmarks to spur memory!