Introduction

SocraticTOC

Socratic Questioning in TOC Thinking Processes

A mind map for thinkers who want to improve their logic.

Content

Acknowledgment

I am thankful to Dr. Shoshi Reiter, Personal & Organizational Leadership Coach, Israel. She inspired me to develop this mind map and discussed several important subjects with me.

I am thankful to my old TOC friend Leo Lauramaa, Management Consultant, Finland, for his intensive tests and valuable comments.

I am also thankful to the Corel Corporation, represented by the German

Corel GmbH

Geschäftsbereich Mindjet

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I have to admit, that without the Mindjet Mindmanager® Software for Windows, I would not have been able to create such a powerful interactive HTML5 mind map.

Why this mind map?

Based on my daily work with the TOC Thinking Processes to get a better understanding of the world and systems around me, to solve problems, to evaporate conflicts/contradictions, and to make realistic plans, I have found it very useful to combine the thinking processes with Socratic questioning to improve my qualitative logic trees.

Socratic questioning is a form of disciplined questioning that can be used to pursue thought in many directions and for many purposes.

It is including

- to explore complex ideas,
- to get to the truth of things,
- to open up issues and problems,
- to uncover assumptions,
- to analyze concepts,
- to distinguish what we know from what we do not know,
- to follow out logical consequences of thought or,
- to control discussions.

Socratic questioning is based on the foundation that thinking has structured logic, and allows underlying thoughts to be questioned.

The application of the CLR – Categories of Legitimate Reservations in combination with Socratic questioning is presented by the mind map.

The TOC Thinking Processes themselves and their applications are not discussed in the mind map. Therefore, the mind map is not intended to replace existing processes or methodologies. It can not be used alone without a deep understanding of the TOC Thinking Processes, and it can not replace a deep study of the processes neither from books nor from courses. The focus is on the CLR.

That is all? Not more?

The TOC Thinking Processes are still the best basket of tools for me to describe verbally a situation including logic and path dependency. In parallel, I am interested in causal inference and invariant causal prediction to answer What-If questions in data analytics. In this area, but also in artificial intelligence classification and regression application fields, we need logic and verbalized arguments to look with critical eyes on the results of machine created outcome. The TOC Thinking Processes with Socratic questioning can be the groundwork to improve decisions and avoid costly mistakes even in the artificial intelligence world.

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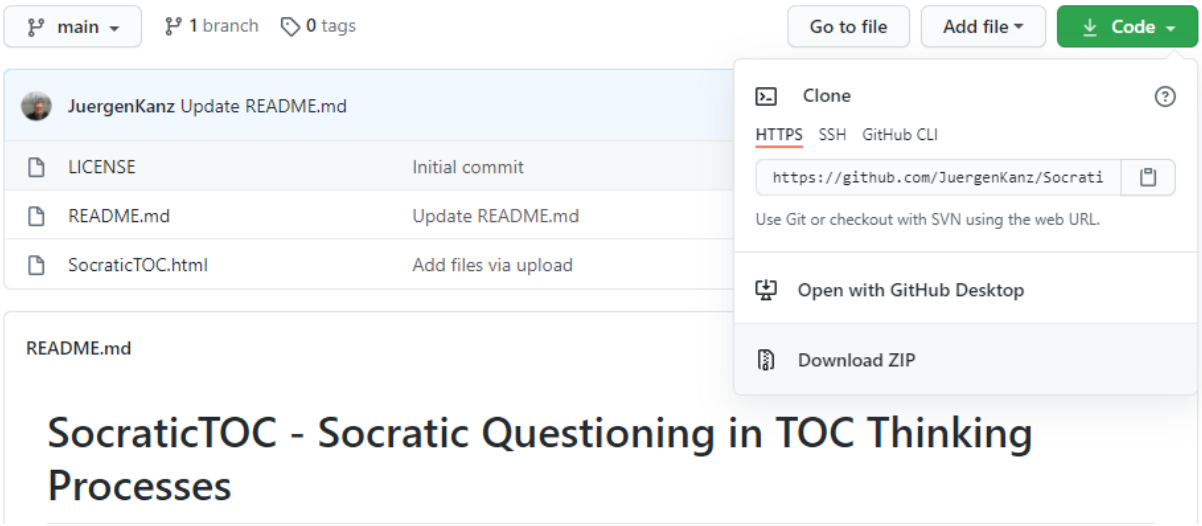
File download from Github

The URL for SocraticTOC is: https://github.com/JuergenKanz/SocraticTOC

On this page push the green “Code” button and click on “Download Zip”:



A Zip-compressed “SocraticTOC-main.zip” file will be automatically downloaded to your standard download folder.

Unzip the file with an appropriate software tool.

Save the content (4 files) in your preferred folder on your computer system.

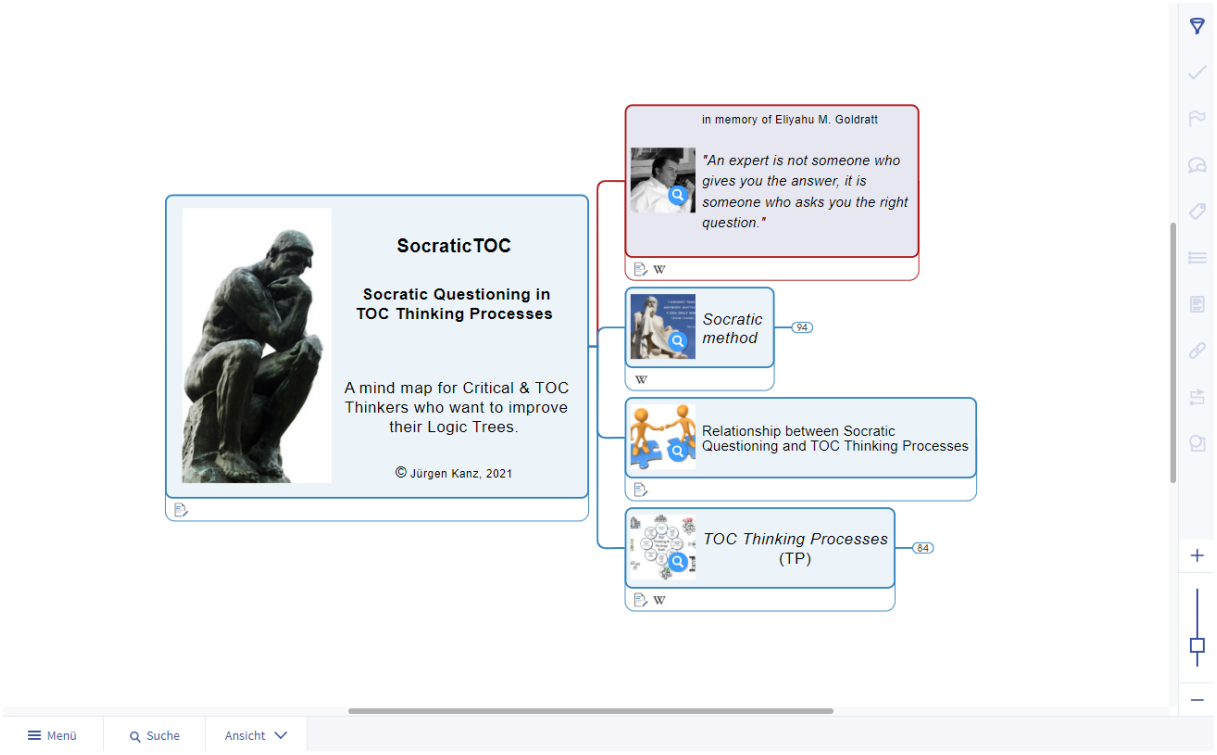
Open the mind map

Double-click on the “SocraticTOC.html” file.

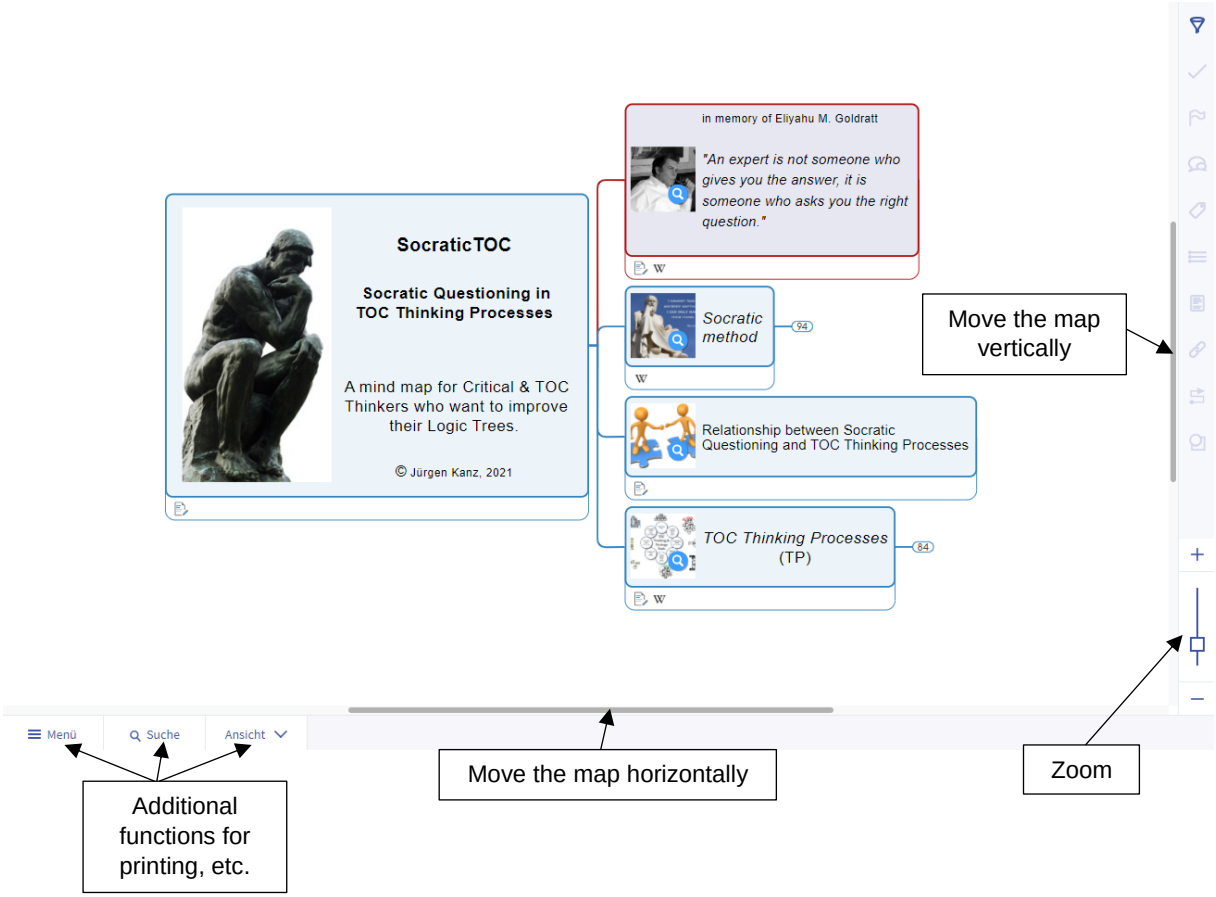
This action will start your web browser and the HTML file will be opened.

What you get is the landing page of an interactive HTML5 file.

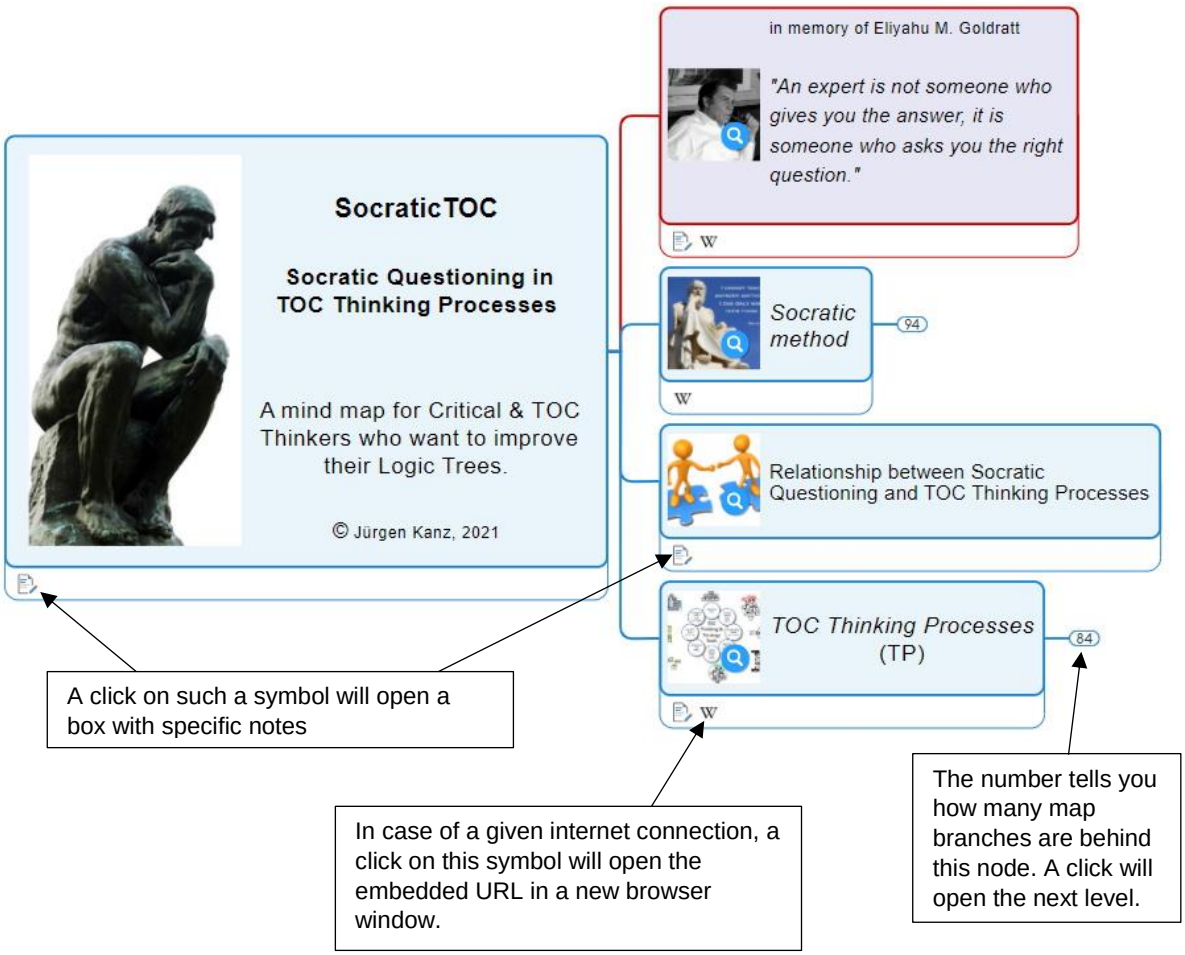
Landing page

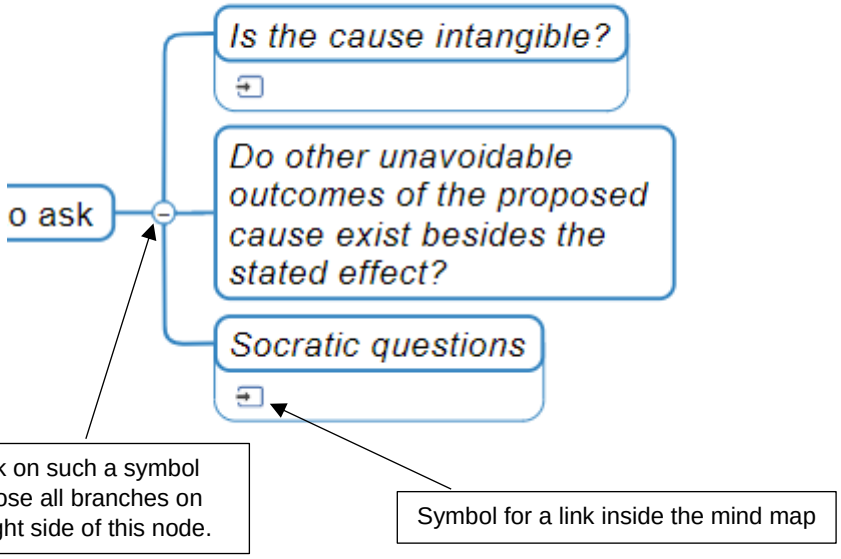


Framework functionality



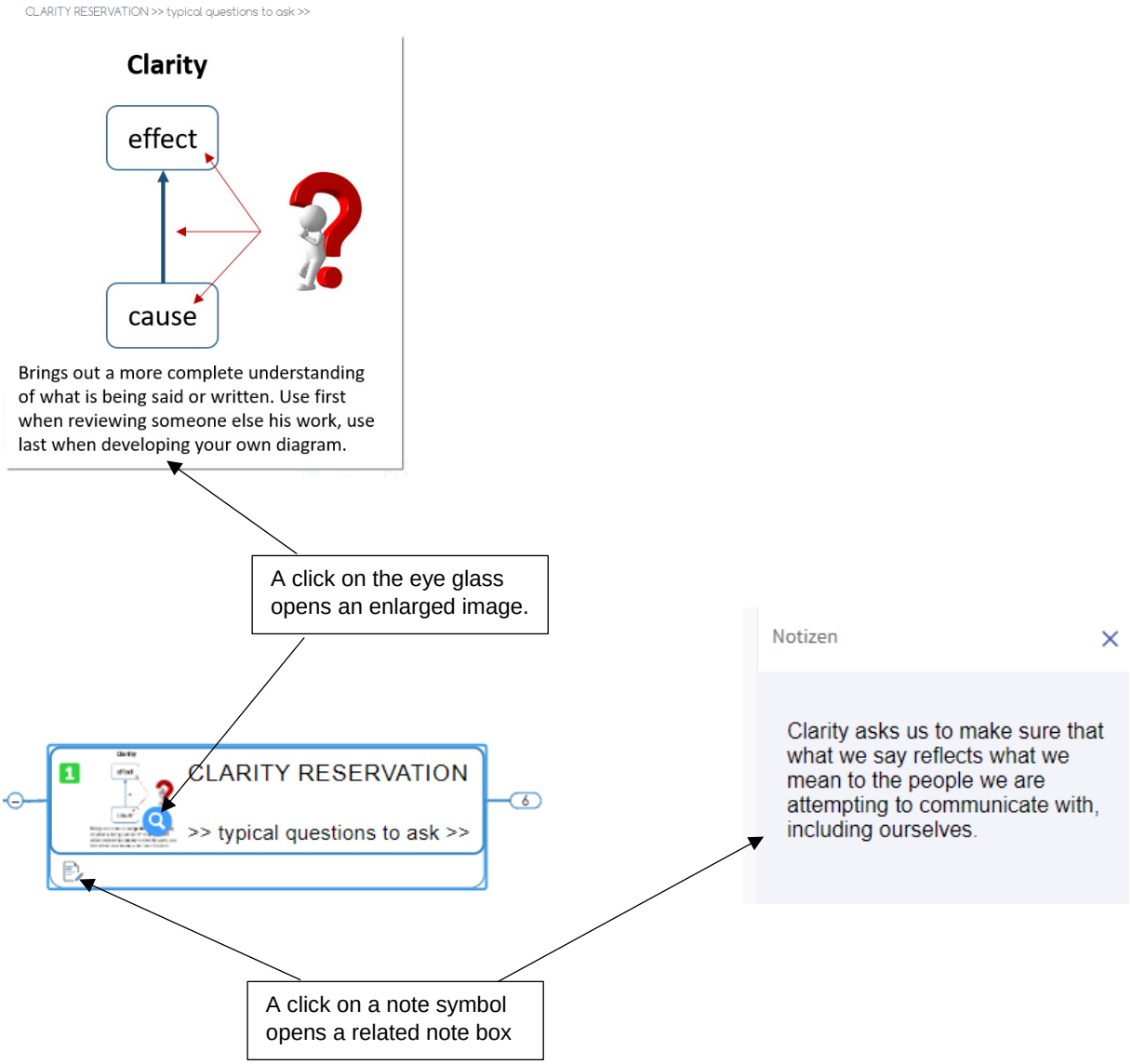
Mind map functionality





More information

Many elements of the map provide additional information for the reader.



Resources

Web:

TOC for Education, http://www.tocforeducation.com/

TOCICO Theory of Constraints International Certification Organization, http://www.tocico.org/

The Foundation of Critical Thinking, http://www.criticalthinking.org/

Books:

Richard Paul and Linda Elder, “The Thinker's Guide to Socratic Questioning”, 2016, ISBN-13: 978-0944583319

Lisa J. Scheinkopf, “Thinking for a Change: Putting the TOC Thinking Processes to Use”, 1999, ISBN-13: 978-1574441017

William H. Dettmer, “The Logical Thinking Process: A Systems Approach to Complex Problem Solving”, 2007, ISBN-13: 978-0873897235

Umesh P. Nagarkatte and Nancy Oley,” Theory of Constraints: Creative Problem Solving”, 2017, ISBN-13: 978-1138056053

Software:

Mindjet Mindmanager 21, http://www.mindmanager.com