

NOTE TAKING

FOR RESEARCH AND FOR LIFE
USING OBSIDIAN



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SOFTWARES

OBSIDIAN



Note taking - Local storage and option to sync to cloud

For automatic export of notes from Zotero, add community plugin: Zotero Intergration

ZOTERO



Reference Manager - store pdfs and notes online too.

OVERVIEW

Learn a different way of
knowledge management system using the Obsidian app.

**INTRODUCTION TO
OBSIDIAN APP**

**FRAMEWORK FOR
ACADEMIC NOTETAKING**

**QUERIES AND OTHER
INTERESTING THINGS**

PREPARE

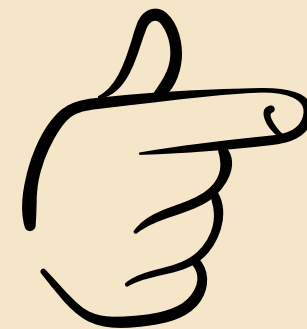
1. Download the folder from Drive

2. Open Obsidian



3. Download/Open Zotero

4. Wait!



<https://tinyurl.com/PADnotetaking>



WHY?

Why should I start using this framework?

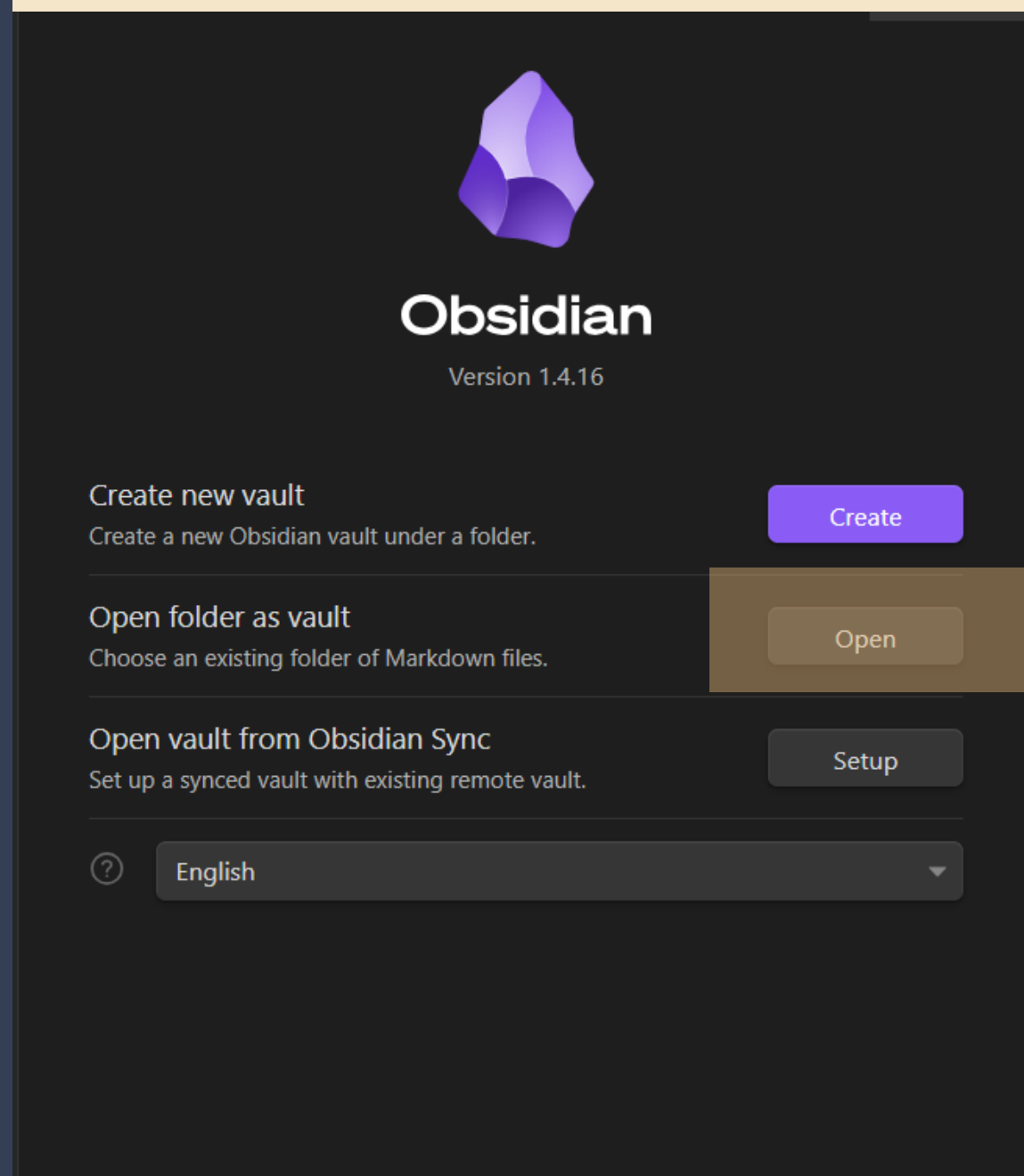
Why not continue to use OneNote or similar?

- Increase time in taking notes but drastically reduce time when writing/using notes
- Easier way to retrieve information whenever you need to
- Keep only the information you need
- Connect ideas while taking notes
 - Facilitates retrieval of info
 - Improves understanding of the material
 - Increases the chance you will remember the topic



SETUP: OBSIDIAN

Grab the file and do the following:



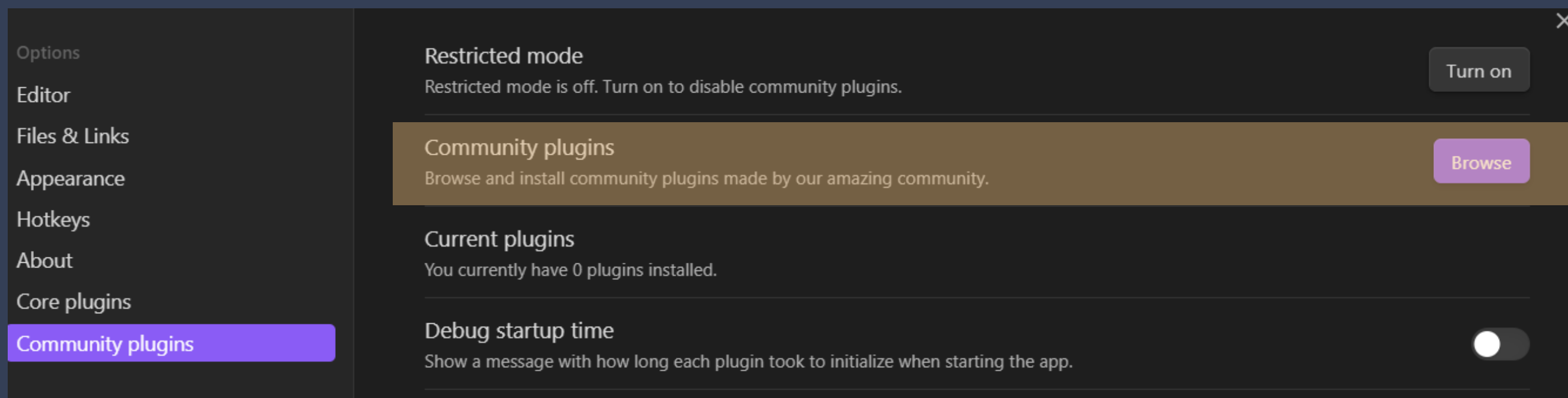
Open the Folder Basic_Vault you've just downloaded

It will be your initial Vault!



INTRODUCTION

Grab the file and do the following:



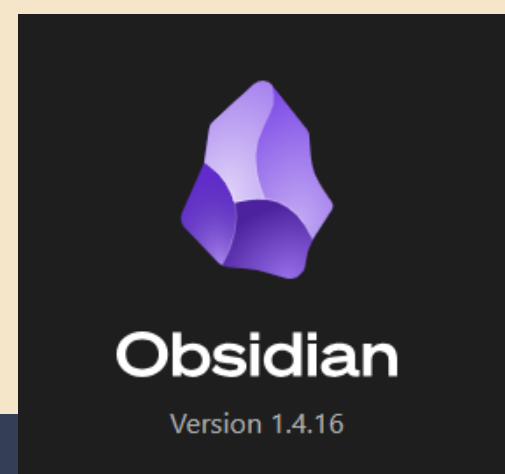
Browse for:

- Zotero Intergration
- Dataview



SETUP: OBSIDIAN

Grab the file and do the following:



Showing 61 plugins:

Dataview

By Michael Brennan

📄 1,217,486

Updated 11 days ago

Advanced queries over your vault for the **data**-obsessed.

Lint

By Victor Tso

Dataview

📄 1,217,486

Version: 0.5.64

By [Michael Brennan](#)

Repository: <https://github.com/blacksmithgu/obsidian-dataview>

Last update: [11 days ago](#)

Advanced queries over your vault for the data-obsessed.

Install

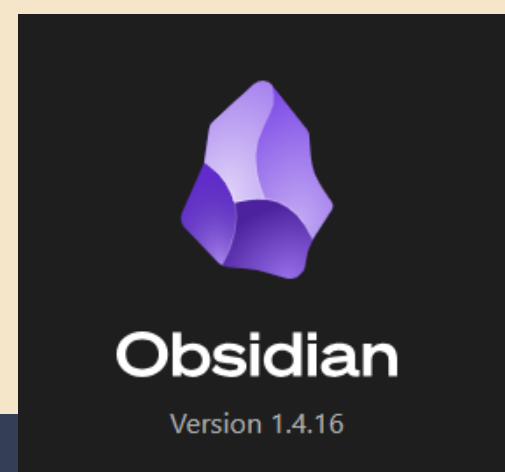
Copy share link

Install & Enable



SETUP: OBSIDIAN

Grab the file and do the following:



Showing 6 plugins:

Zotero Integration
By mgmeyers
🔗 160,608
Updated 24 days ago

Insert and import citations, bibliographies, notes, and PDF annotations from **Zotero**.

Citations

Zotero Integration

🔗 160,608
Version: 3.0.12
By [mgmeyers](#)
Repository: <https://github.com/mgmeyers/obsidian-zotero-integration>
Last update: [24 days ago](#)

Insert and import citations, bibliographies, notes, and PDF annotations from Zotero.

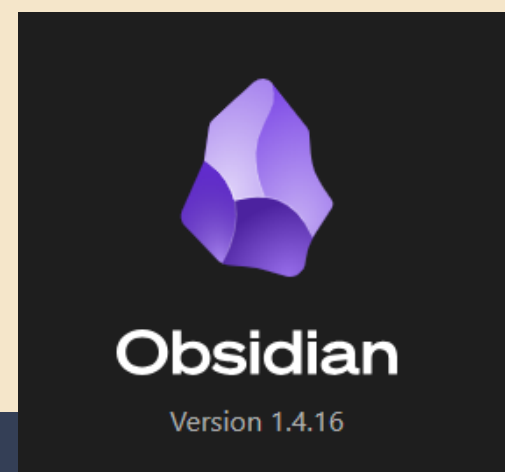
[Install](#) [Copy share link](#)

Install & Enable & Options



SETUP: OBSIDIAN

Grab the file and do the following:



General Settings

PDF Utility

Extracting data from PDFs requires an external tool. This plugin will still work without it, but annotations will not be included in exports. [Click the button to download.](#)

Download

PDF Utility Path Override

Override the path to the PDF utility. Specify an absolute path to the pdfannots2json executable. [Download the executable here.](#) You may need to provide Obsidian the appropriate OS permissions to access the executable.

📁

Database

Supports Zotero and Juris-M. Alternatively a custom port number can be specified.

Zotero ▾

Note Import Location

Notes imported from Zotero will be added to this folder in your vault

Example: folder 1/folder 2

Open the created or updated note(s) after import

The created or updated markdown files resulting from the import will be automatically opened.

☐

Which notes to open after import

Open either the first note imported, the last note imported, or all notes in new tabs.

First imported note ▾

Enable Annotation Concatenation

Annotations extracted from PDFs that begin with '+' will be appended to the previous annotation. Note: Annotation ordering is not always consistent and you may not always achieve the desired concatenation result

☐

Download

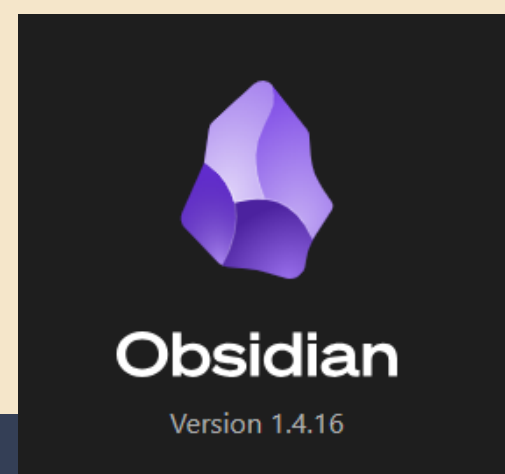
01.Literature Notes/

Enable



SETUP: OBSIDIAN

Grab the file and do the following:



Import Formats

Add Import Format

Add Import Format

Import Image Settings

Rectangle annotations will be extracted from PDFs as images.

Image Format

jpg ▼

Image Quality (jpg only)

90

Image DPI

120

Image OCR

Attempt to extract text from images created by rectangle annotations. This requires that [tesseract](#) be installed on your system. Tesseract can be installed from [homebrew on mac](#), various linux package managers, and from [here on windows](#).





SETUP: OBSIDIAN

Name

Import #1

Output Path

{{citekey}}.md

The file path of the exported markdown. Supports templating, eg `My Folder/{{citekey}}.md`. Templates have access to data from the Zotero item and its first attachment.

Image Output Path

{{citekey}}/

The folder in which images should be saved. Supports templating, eg `Assets/{{citekey}}/`. Templates have access to data from the Zotero item and its first attachment.

Image Base Name

image

The base file name of exported images. Eg. `image` will result in `image-1-x123-y456.jpg` where `1` is the page number and `x123` and `y456` are the x and y coordinates of rectangle annotation on the page. Supports templating. Templates have access to data from the Zotero item and its first attachment.

Template File

Search... | ▾

Open the data explorer from the command pallet to see available template data. Templates are written using [Nunjucks](#). See the [templating documentation here](#).

Bibliography Style

Search... | ▾

Change name to: Import Zotero

z.Images/{{citekey}}/

z.Templates/LitNote



SETUP: ZOTERO

Grab the files and do the following:

Better BibTeX for Zotero

Make Zotero more useful for us LaTeX holdouts

 Better BibTeX for Zotero



Zotero Integration

<https://retorque.re/zotero-better-bibtex/>

File: zotero-better-bibtex-6.7.136.xpi

Tools > Add-Ons >  > Install Add-On from File
select xpi file > Enable

INITIAL SETUP SUMMARY

KEEP CALM AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS

Obsidian Setup



Download Obsidian

Open Basic Vault (from my folder or from scratch)

Install Community Plugins:

- Dataview
- Zotero Integration *

Zotero Setup *



Download Zotero

Install Better Bibtex Add-On

***If wanted to use Zotero Integration with Obsidian
(highly recommended)**

FRAMEWORK

FROM THE REFERENCE TO YOUR PAPER

PHASE 01: SELECT AND COLLECT

- Select papers from different sources
- Decide when to read them
- Use a tag system that make it easier to know what to read when you are ready!

PHASE 02: READ AND HIGHLIGHT

- Read paper
- highlight and comment in Zotero
- Extract annotation
- Go to Obsidian and Import notes from Zotero to your vault
- Write quick summary of the paper (3 sentences +/-)

PHASE 03: PROCESS YOUR NOTES AND FIND INFO

- Go through your notes and extract important information using links
- Write additional comments
- Link your new knowledge to your old knowledge.

PHASE 04: CONNECT AND WRITE

- Go through your notes and see the similarities and differences between your ideas.
- Link more ideas
- Create Maps of Contents, or Writing Prompts to connect those ideas together in a text.
- Export to Word or Latex

RESEARCH PAPERS WORKFLOW

Phase 1:

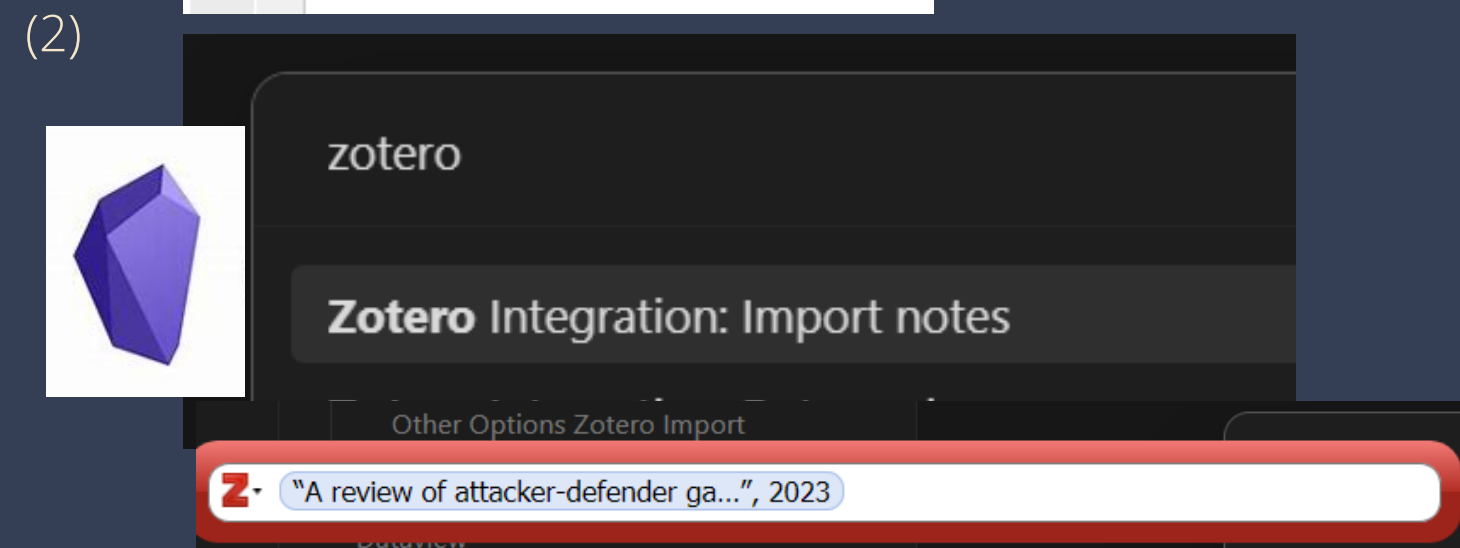
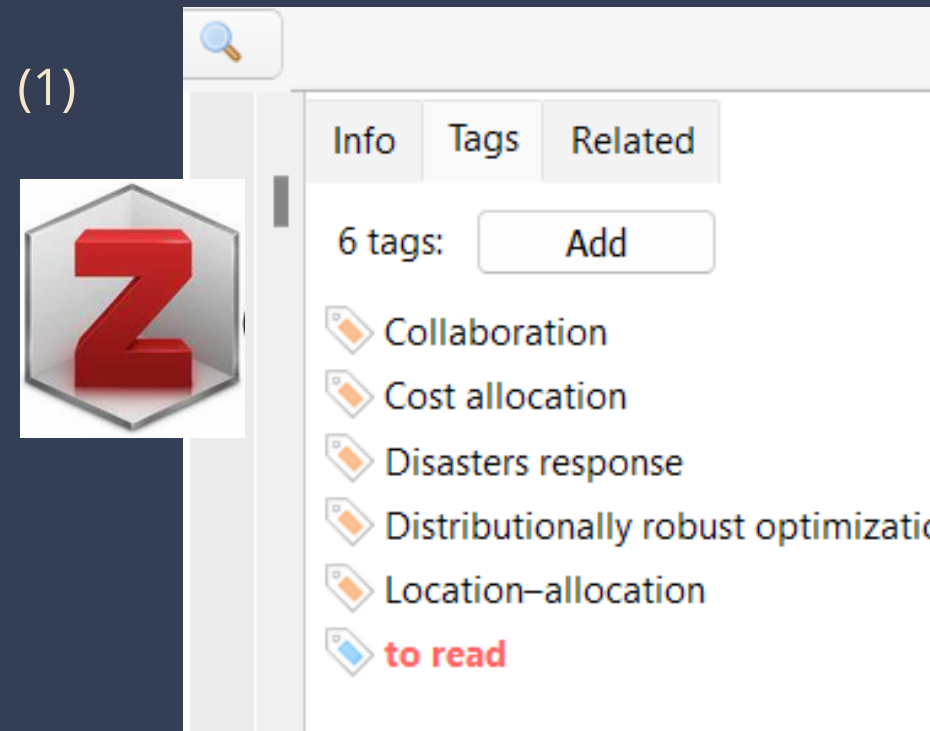
1. Select Papers from different sources (Research Rabbit, Elicit, Connected Papers, Google scholar, Review Papers...)
2. Add paper with PDF to your Zotero
 - a. Use of Zotero plugin is optional but highly recommended
3. Add paper to the main folder, don't try to categorize it right now.
4. Decide if paper should be read now or later.

Phase 1



NOTETAKING WORKFLOW

Phase 2



Phase 2



#toread Tag
(1)



Skim the paper



Is it
relevant?

Yes



Read the paper

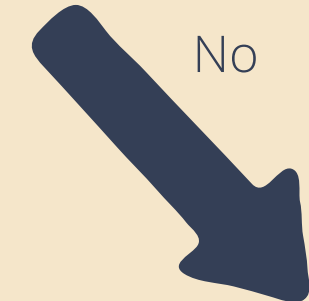


Highlight and
comment

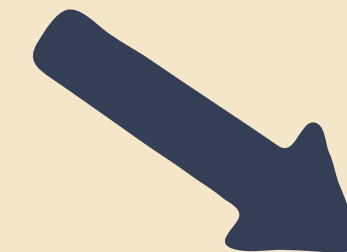


Send it to Obsidian
(2)

No



Tag it as
#irrelevant



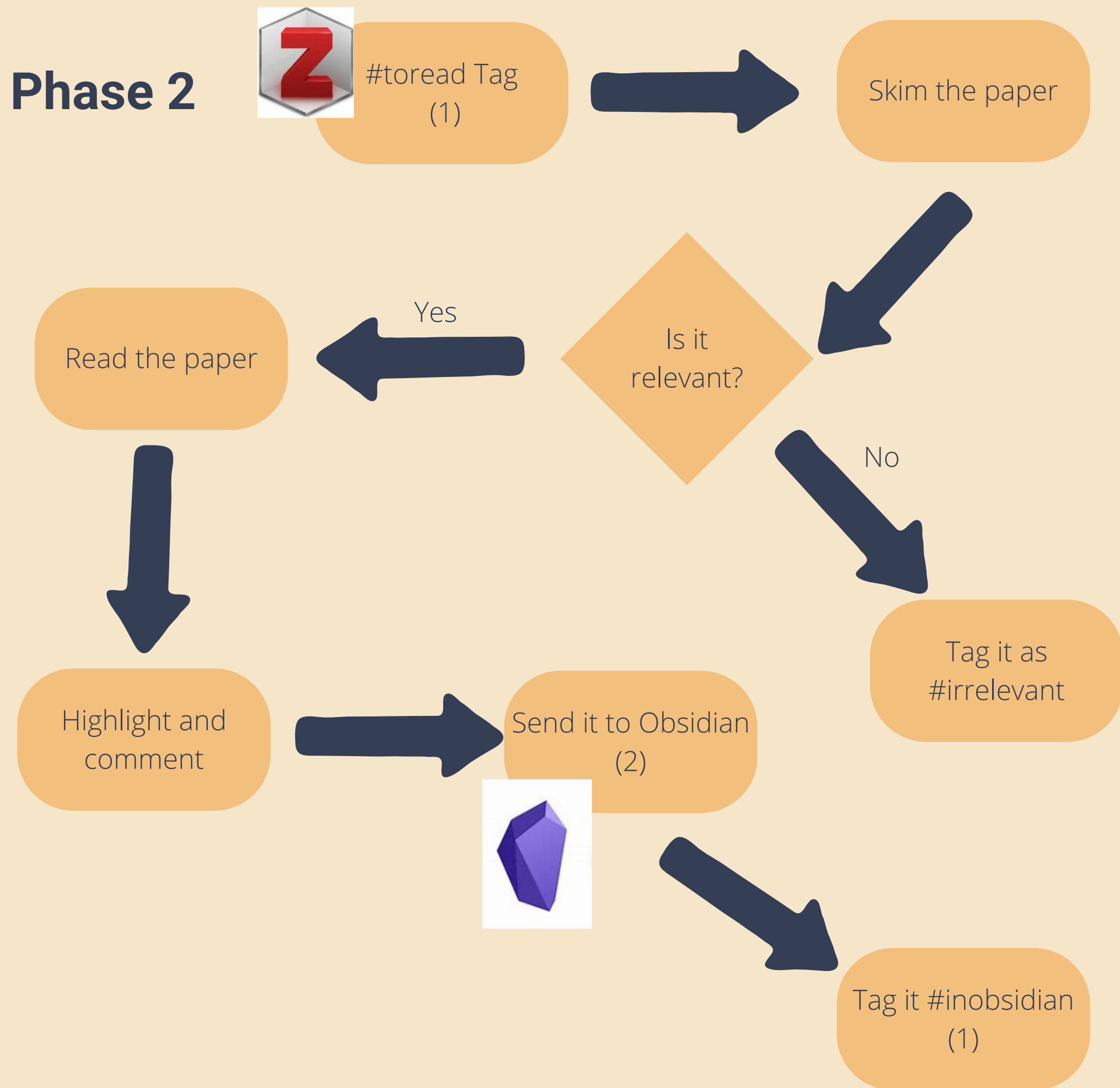
Tag it #inobsidian
(1)

NOTETAKING WORKFLOW

Phase 2

- Skim paper - is it worth it?
- Read, Highlight and comment the paper (in Zotero*)
- Add Note from Annotation in Zotero*
- Send it to Obsidian using Zotero Integration Plugin* or copying and pasting.
- Delete #toread tag, and tag paper as #inobsidian so you don't wonder again in the future if you've taken notes from it yet (in Zotero*)

Phase 2

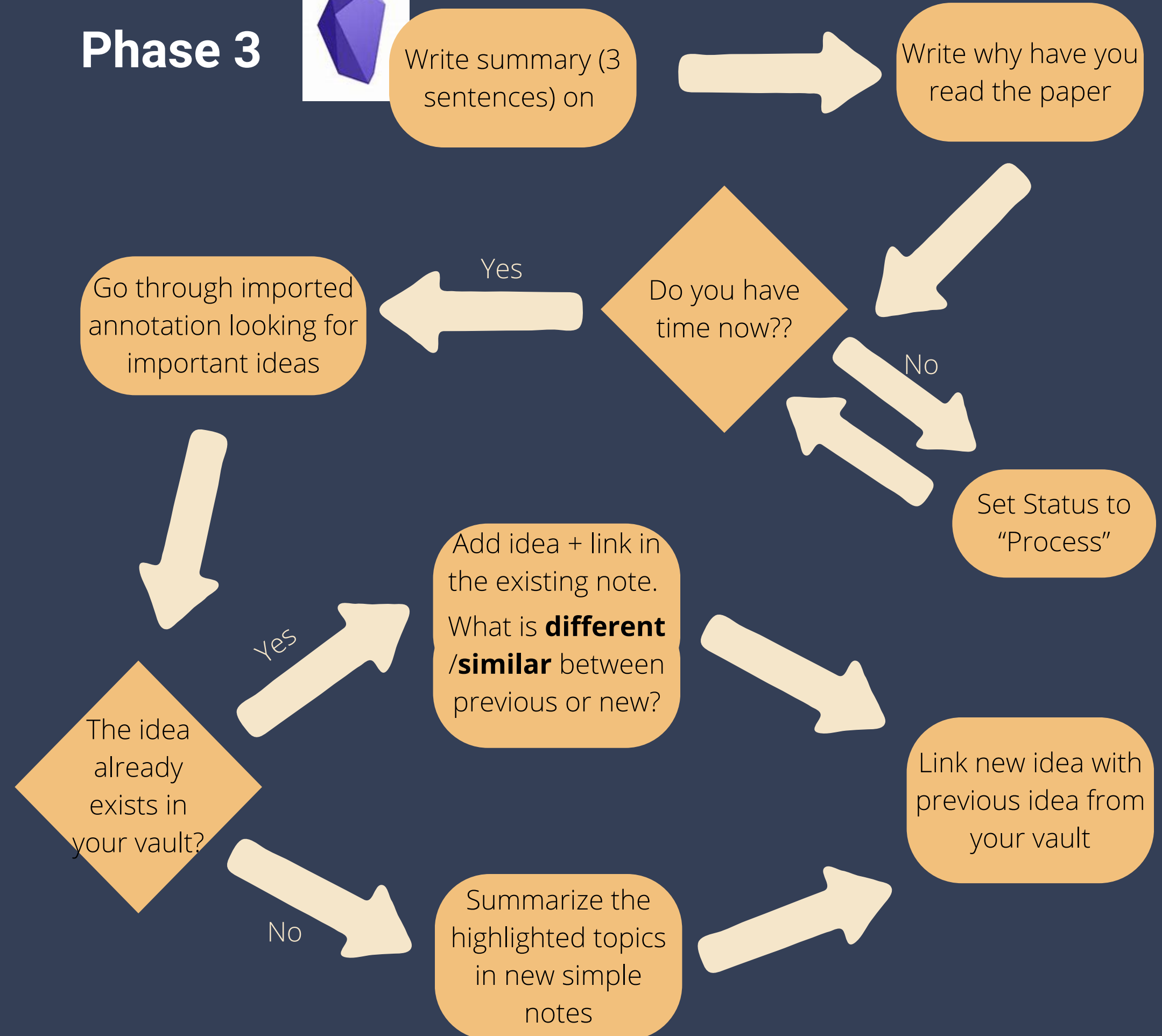


PROCESSING NOTES WORKFLOW

Phase 3

- Go through your notes and extract important information using links
- Write additional comments
- Link your new knowledge to your old knowledge.

Phase 3

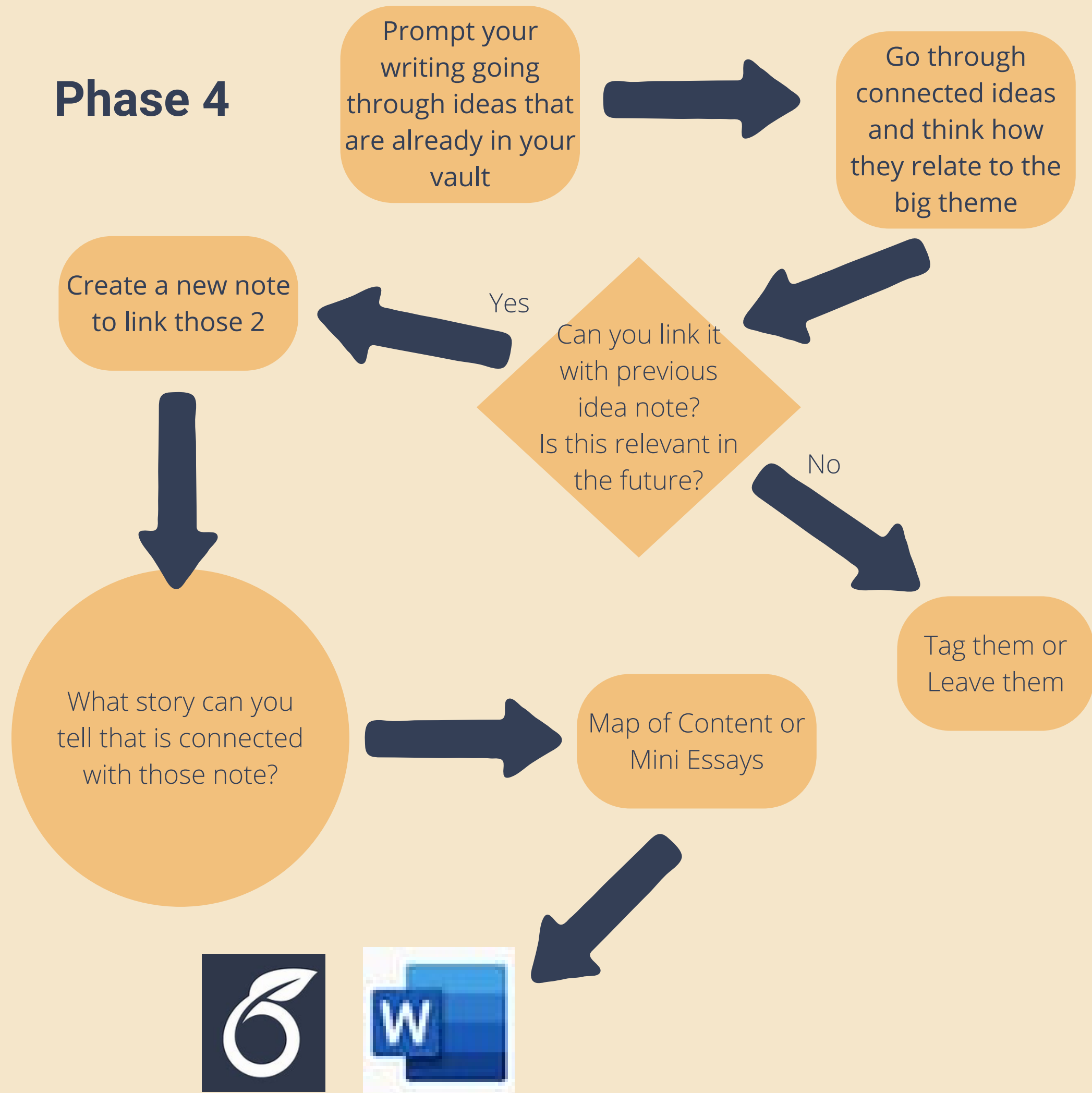


NOTETAKING WORKFLOW

Phase 4

- Go through your notes and see the similarities and differences between your ideas.
- Link those ideas
- Connect ideas together in a text.
 - Maps of Concepts- Add all the ideas that are connected in one note, as a “Table of Contents”
 - Writing Prompts - connect ideas in form of text with references.
- Export to Word or Latex


Phase 4



QUERIES + DATAVIEW

FROM THE REFERENCE TO YOUR NOTES - A GLIMPSE ON THE POSSIBILITIES

Papers Summary - Lit Review Tool

[DQL, JS and Inlines - Dataview \(blacksmithgu.github.io\)](#) 

List of papers

List papers that are connected with a specific tag or topic (any metadata you used)

File (3)	Main-Focus	Year
hunt2023ReviewAttackerdefenderGames	review	2023
bakker2020MultiGameModelingCounterSmuggling	model	2020
amon2023ExploringHeterogeneityFarmers	data	2023

List of papers with a specific Tag (Game-Theory AND Terrorism)

- [hunt2023ReviewAttackerdefenderGames](#)

Open To-dos

I can add todos into my daily tasks and show them here in one list.

[2023-11-16](#) (1)

☐ I have that doubt I need to answer

Timeline

An example timeline displaying one dot per source note I have added on that day. It gives me an overview of how much i have read. Just as a motivation. (You might need to step back to Dec 2022, to see any "action").

Nov 2023

< TODAY >

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

QUERIES + DATAVIEW

FROM THE REFERENCE TO YOUR NOTES - A GLIMPSE ON THE POSSIBILITIES

Research Diary

🔍 "tag:#research-diary"

▼ 2023-11-16

#research-diary I did that today.

▼ Daily_Notes

#research-diary

Citations from Outlines

1. Creating Citations from your Outlines

Template for pulling all citations from the "Example Essay" from the 01.Literature-Notes" folder that I reference in this note.

File (2)

DOI


[hunt2023ReviewAttackerdefenderGames](#)

10.1016/j.ejor.2023.04.009

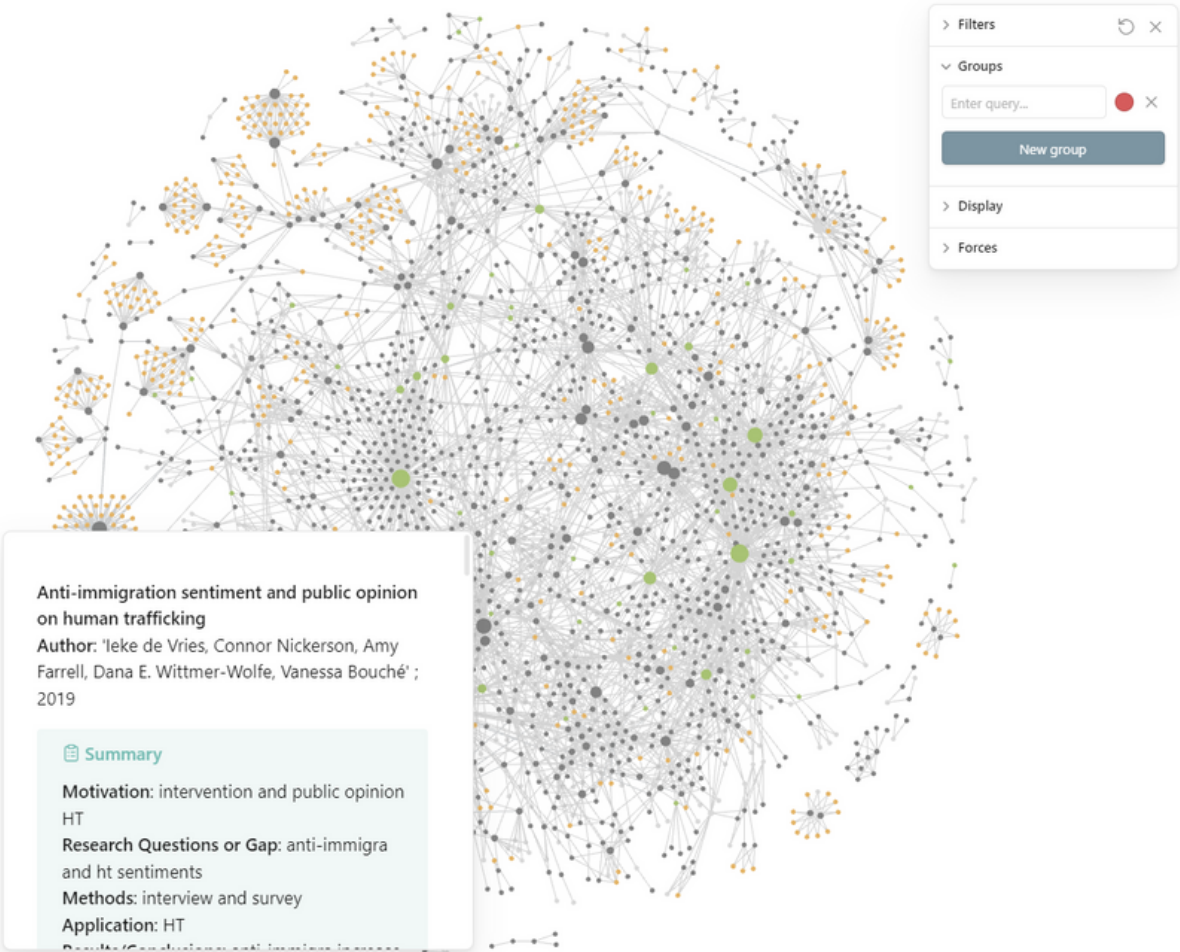
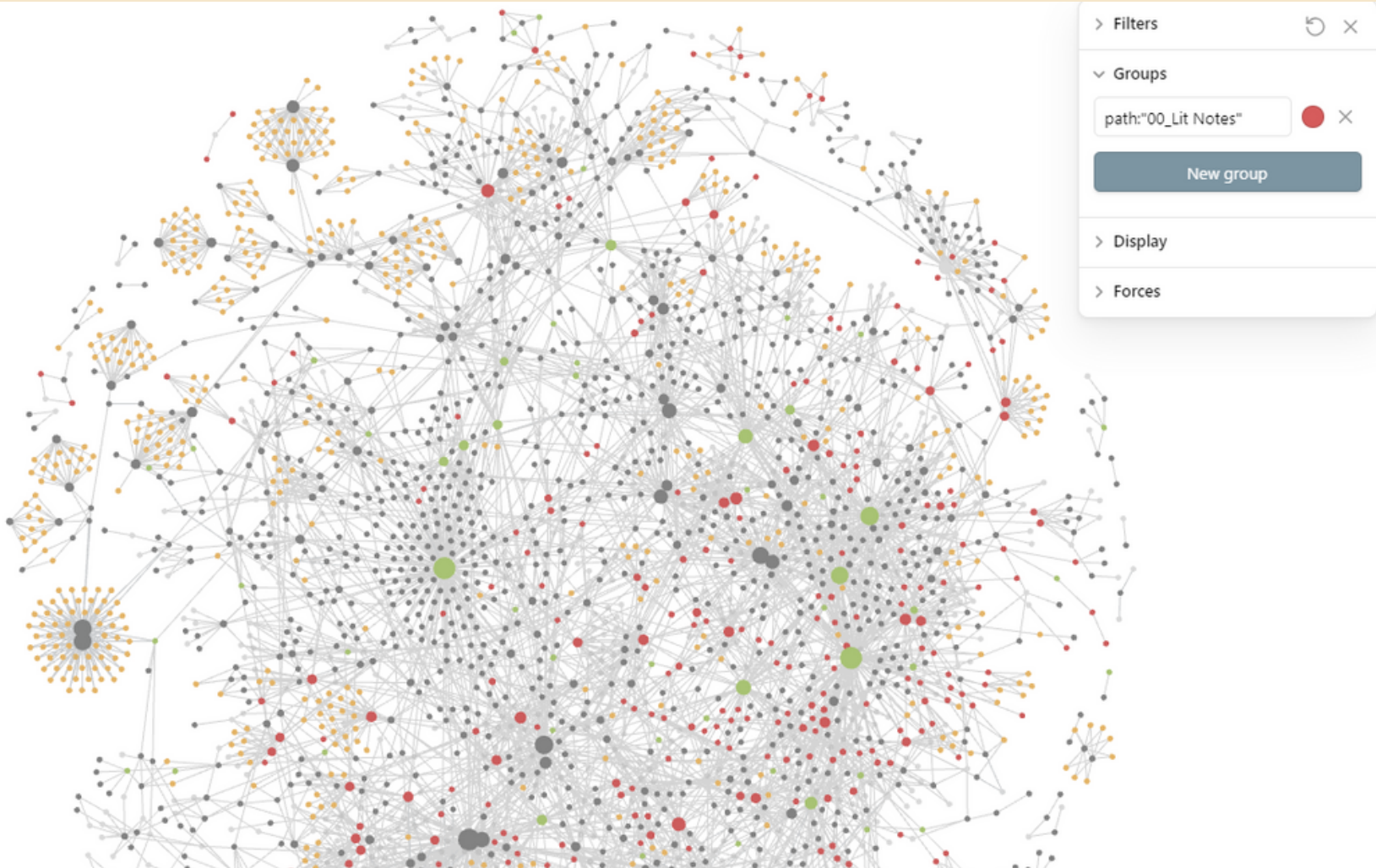
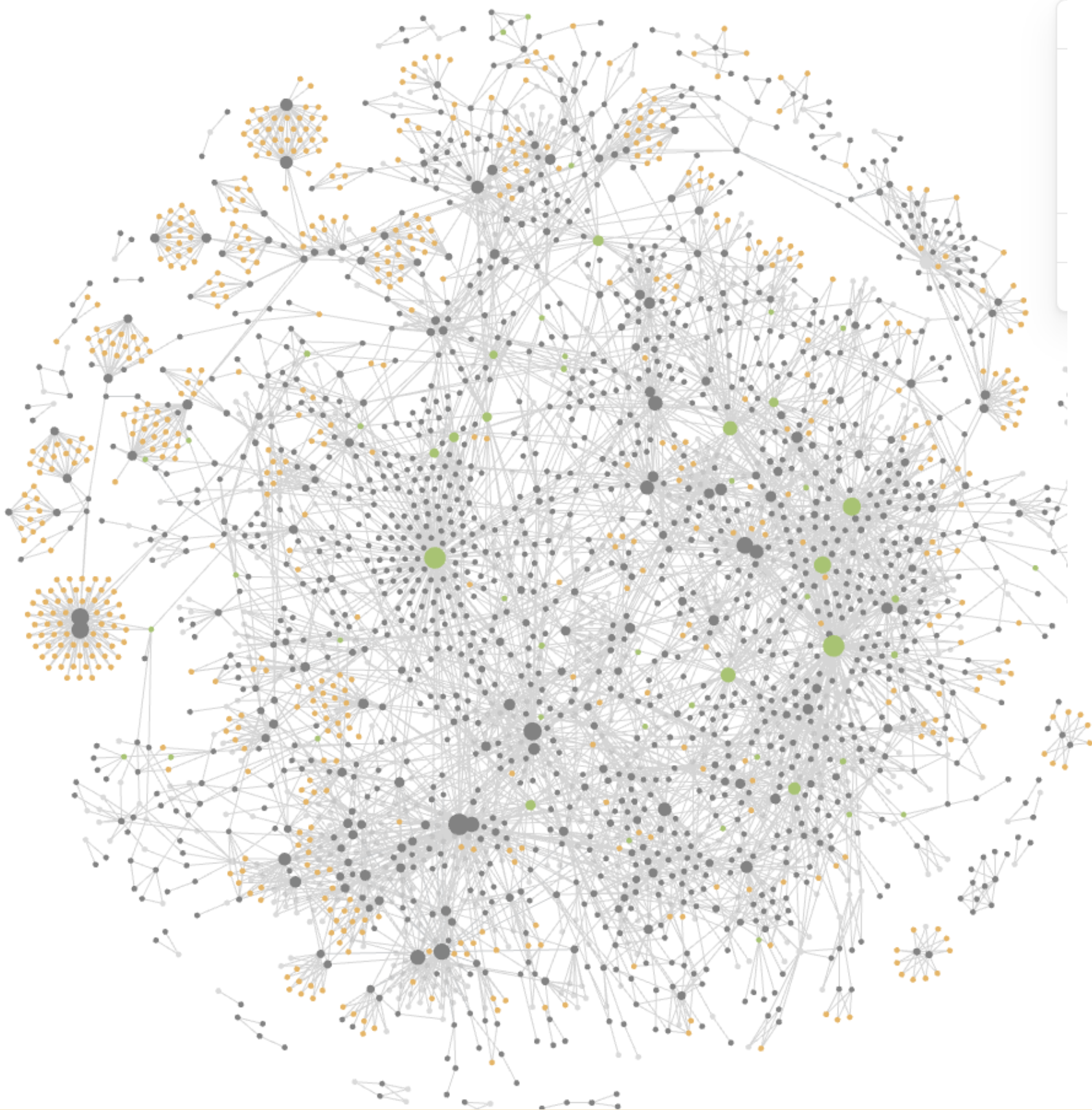
[amon2023ExploringHeterogeneityFarmers](#)

-

This allows you to copy paste a list of referenced DOIs.

Paste your DOI list to [Bibtex](#)  to generate a list of citations in the correct format.

GRAPHVIEW



Q/A

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