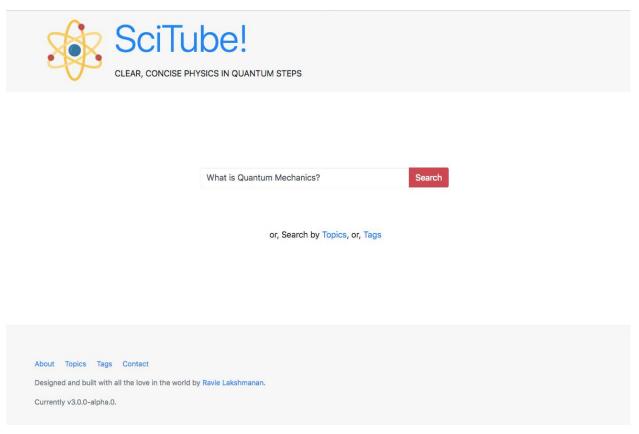
Part IV: Design Decisions:

- 1. A topics page to explore different topics that a user can search for: When the user is using the website, he either needs to know the different topics he can search or be given an option to explore the topics in a easy manner so that he can navigate to the right video without much effort. My original design was incorporate all the topics (each of which directs the user to a specific video) in the form of a drop down in the homepage. But testing it as a user myself, I found the approach to be clumsy and confusing as the purpose of the dropdown wasn't exactly clear. I separated the functionality into two:
 - a. Have a home page with a search bar
 - b. A second Topics page that users can browse through to land in a particular video.

What I like about the new design is that it keeps things simple and clutter-free, while clearly delineating the two functions (search and browse) into two distinct aspects. One possible drawback I can foresee with this approach is that the Topics page can still be confusing to the users as the number of videos increase. One potential solution is to further group them into sub-categories so that it makes the exploration task more easier and intuitive.



Home page with the search box prominently placed in the center



| What is Quantum Mechanics? | Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle Explained | Schrodinger's Cat Explained |
|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| String Theory Made Simple | Standard Model of Particle Physics | Einstein's Theory of Relativity |
| Quantum Entanglement | Quantum Computers | The Big Bang |
| Planck's Constant | Special Relativity | Quantum Mechanics (Part 1) |
| Quantum Mechanics (Part 2) | Light is Waves | General Relativity |

The Topics page that allows users to browse the different topics

- 2. Tagging Videos: One feature that came up during user testing in class was the capability to tag videos based on specific tags to the user's liking so that he can revisit them later. In order to implement this feature I created a new HTML page that allowed users to search videos based on tags they added so far as part of using the website. Initially when the user visits the page from the main home page, he is shown the message that he hasn't tagged any video. But when the user is watching a video, he has the option to tag a video.
 - a. All he has to do is click the button "Tag Video".
 - b. The user is then displayed a pop-up that he can use to tag the video.
 - c. Then he can navigate back to the Tags page anytime he want to view the tagged video again.

I like the fact that tagging gives users a handy way to access the videos they have watched or taken notes of, so that they can come back to it later. But it's possibly not the best approach as the list can become too long, making it unwieldy and confusing to the user. A playlist of the videos based on the tags is perhaps a better idea to deal with this problem.



You don't have any tagged videos! Start watching a video to tag it. :)

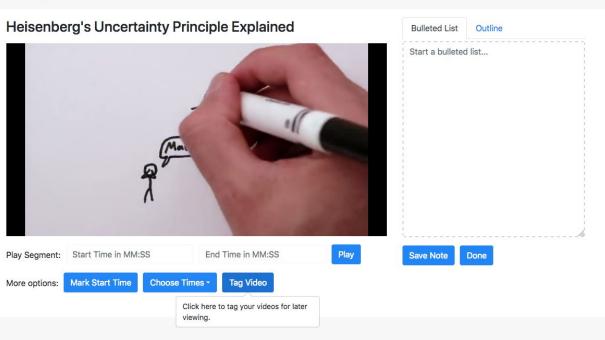
About Topics Tags Contact

Designed and built with all the love in the world by Ravie Lakshmanan.

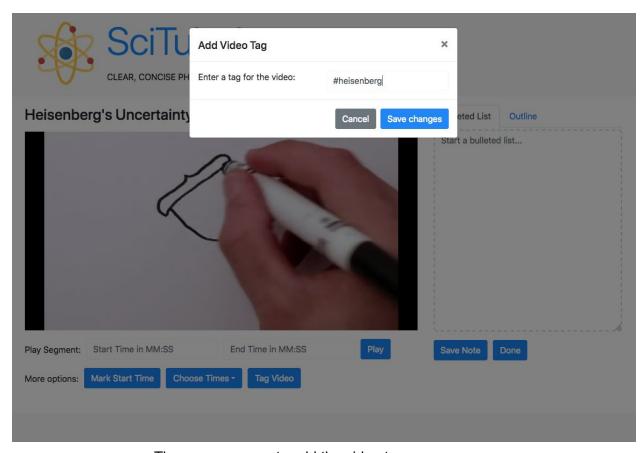
Currently v3.0.0-alpha.0.

Visiting the Tags page when no videos have been tagged





Button to tag a video in the video page



The popup screen to add the video tag



Videos you have tagged:

#heisenberg

About Topics Tags Contact

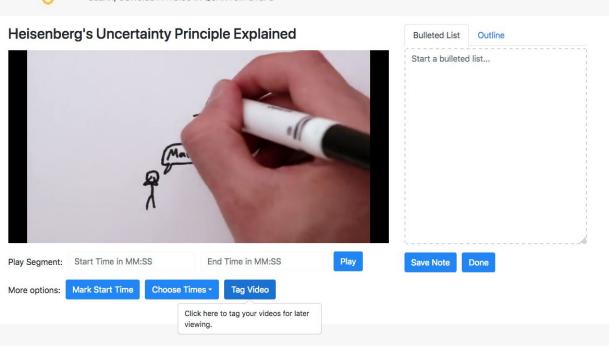
Designed and built with all the love in the world by Ravie Lakshmanan.

Currently v3.0.0-alpha.0.

The tags added so far. Clicking a tag takes the user straight to the video.

3. Notepad Area: Another feature that I had conceived differently was the notepad area. When the website was still in the paper prototype phase, I kept the playing video in the center, almost taking the whole page. The notepad was kept right below it. But during my initial testing, I found that most users didn't scroll all the way down to see the notepad, thus defeating the purpose of the feature. I also found that most people didn't want to scroll as they were watching the video. I therefore reduced the video embed size, while adding a notepad section right next to it, so that users can take notes side by side. This way I found that users didn't have to scroll while still maintaining a clean design that wasn't confusing. What I however found in subsequent testing was that having the notepad as a textarea element, which limits the content to plain text and nothing else. This could be extended further to be a more feature-rich text editor with basic text formatting options like (Bold, italic and underline) and capabilities to add hyperlinks straight into it.





The video page with the notepad next to the video