

What is QDA?

QDA or Qualitative Data Analysis is the analysis of non-numerical data such as text, transcripts, images, audio, or video. The different types of qualitative methodology include grounded theory, ethnography, narrative analysis, phenomenology, and case studies, among others. For more on QDA, please access our [Digital Tools for Qualitative Data Analysis Slideshow](#).

Introduction to CAQDA--Taguette, MaxQDA, and Atlas.ti

Computer Assisted Qualitative Data Analysis (CAQDA) software supports the labeling and classification of data. The analytical advantages include visualizing qualitative observations, quantifying qualitative observations, labeling relationships, and networking labels and data. The software available for us under the NYU institution are Taguette, ATLAS.ti, and MaxQDA. There are a wide variety of options, but these are freely available to us and you can get special support with these.

Tutorial Data

Please note that for this exercise the required files can be accessed and downloaded using the link below

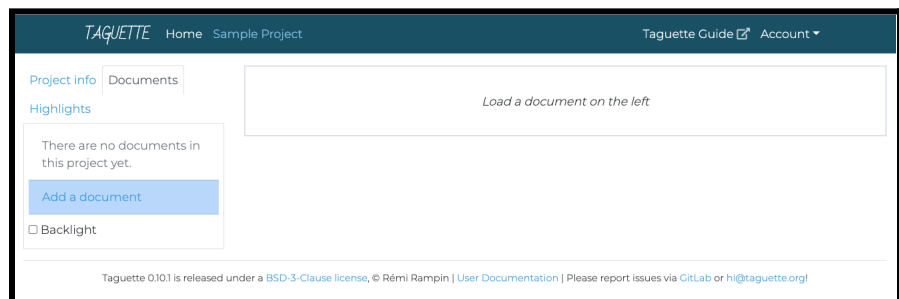
- [QDA Sample Data](#)

Taguette

Taguette can be accessed at <https://www.taguette.org/>. It is a free qualitative research software with local and server versions. The local version opens the command line, but runs in a browser window. The local version does not require the internet.

Creating a Project and Navigating the Workspace

Upon entering the website, click **Try it** and **Register now** to create an account. After you've registered yourself, click **Create a project** to create a project. Name your project and give it a description. The



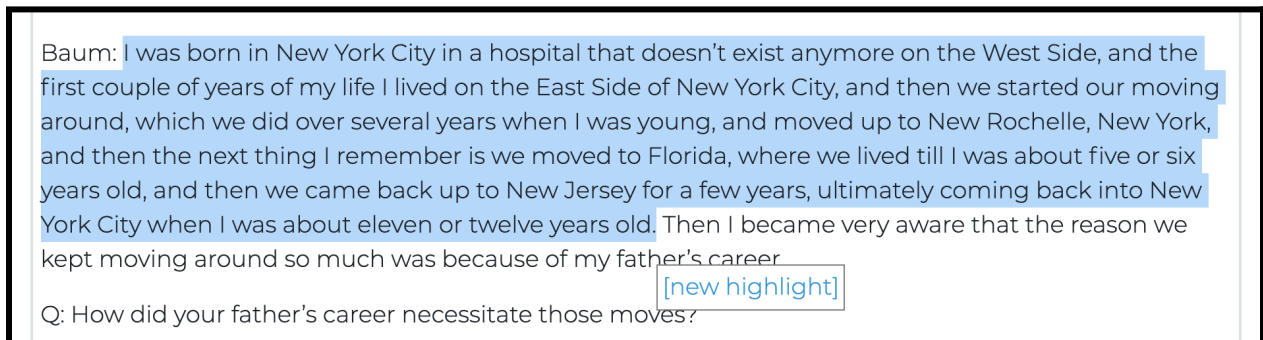
workspace is a two panel design. The left side is navigational and the right side allows interaction with the content.

Importing Content

To import a document, select **Add a document, Choose File**, and select the document you wish to import from your file directory. You can name your document and add a description. After you've done so, click **import**. To view your document in the content pane, click on the document title.

Applying Highlights

A highlight or a tag is a label or classification of data, referred to as a code in other CAQDA software. To apply a tag, highlight a segment and click **[new highlight]**.

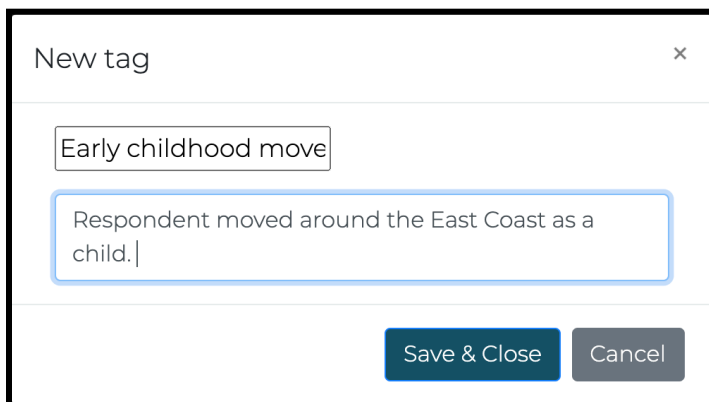


Baum: I was born in New York City in a hospital that doesn't exist anymore on the West Side, and the first couple of years of my life I lived on the East Side of New York City, and then we started our moving around, which we did over several years when I was young, and moved up to New Rochelle, New York, and then the next thing I remember is we moved to Florida, where we lived till I was about five or six years old, and then we came back up to New Jersey for a few years, ultimately coming back into New York City when I was about eleven or twelve years old. Then I became very aware that the reason we kept moving around so much was because of my father's career.

Q: How did your father's career necessitate those moves?

[new highlight]

By default, you can apply the tag "interesting." However, you may want to create a tag by



New tag

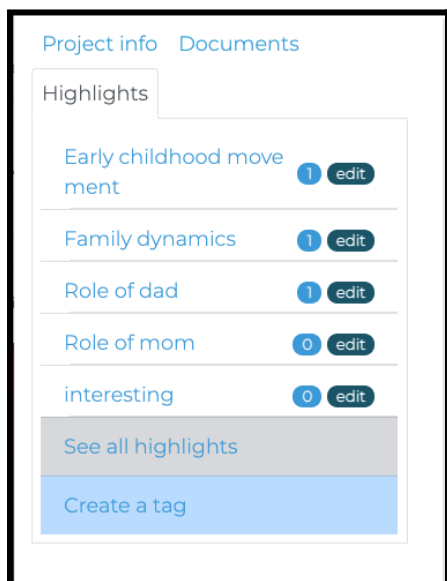
Early childhood move

Respondent moved around the East Coast as a child.

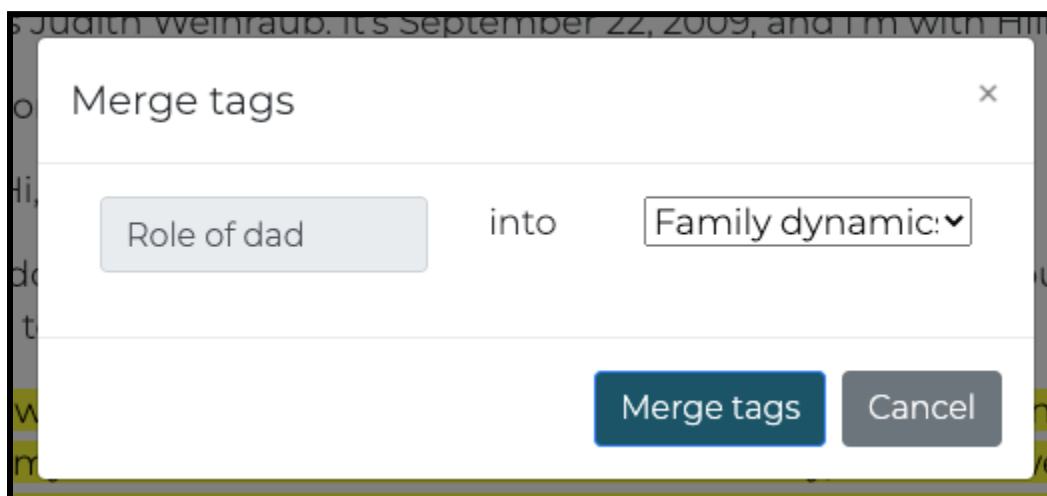
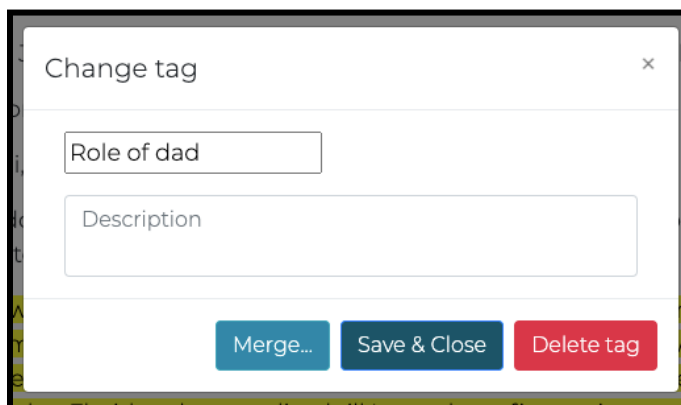
Save & Close Cancel

clicking **create a tag**. Here, I've created a tag called, "Early childhood movement" and added a description, "Respondent moved around the East Coast as a child." Click **Save & Close**, select the new tag, and click **Save & Close** again. The highlighted will have a yellow highlight applied.

Merging Tags



Perhaps as you continue tagging, you find that some tags overlap and you may want to merge the tags. In the navigation pane, you will see that I have “Family dynamics,” “Role of dad,” and “Role of mom” as tags. Because I see some overlap, I want to merge all three of the tags into “Family dynamics.” First, click **edit** in “Role of dad,” then click **Merge...** and then it gives you the option to **merge tags** “Role of dad” into “Family dynamics.” You can repeat this process with “Role of mom.”



Project info
Documents

Highlights

Name
Sample Project

Description

Manage collaborators

Export codebook

- QDC (XML)
- Excel
- CSV
- HTML
- DOCX
- PDF

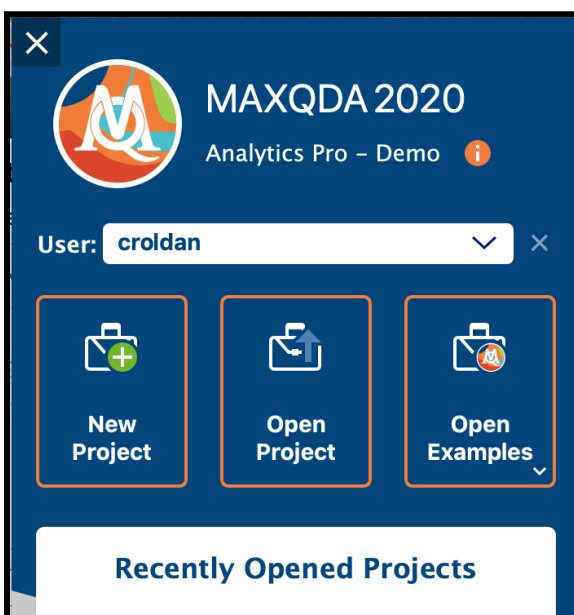
Exporting Codebook

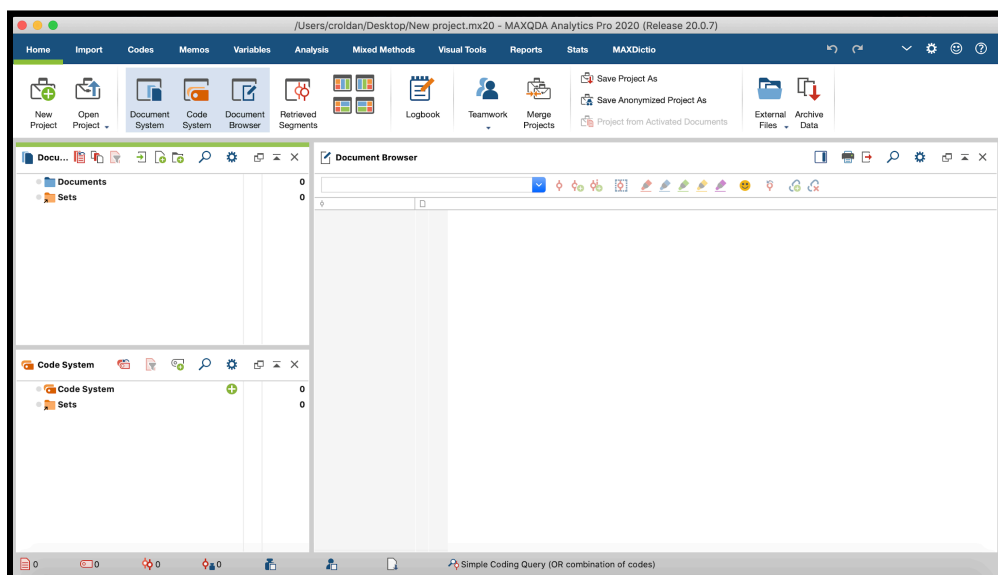
Exporting a codebook allows you to have access to the tags you've created outside of Taguette. For example, you can export the codebook as an excel file and it will create a table that contains tag, description, and number of highlights information.

tag	description	number of highlights
interesting	Further review required	0
Early childhood movement	Respondent moved around the East Coast as a child.	1
Family dynamics		2

MaxQDA

To access MaxQDA, visit the Virtual Computer Lab (VCL) via [Virtual Computer Lab](#). Log in using your NYU credentials and select the MaxQDA icon to get started. Once the software has opened, you can click the **New Project** icon to start a new project.

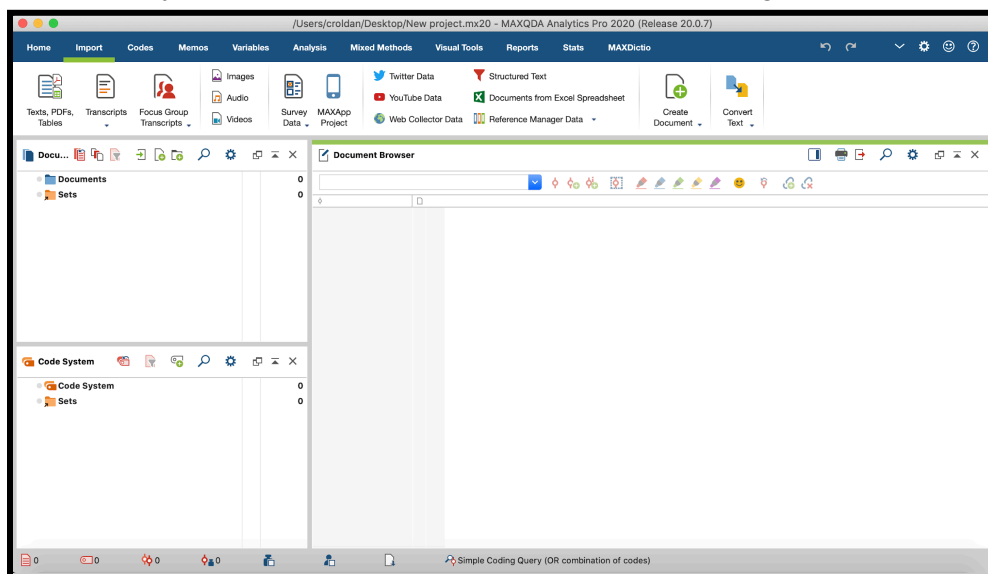




The interface of MaxQDA is divided into 4 panels. The left side includes the document manager and code systems whereas the right panel is where you view your content. The top panel is a navigation bar that allows you to interact with your data.

Importing Content

If you click the **import** button, you have the option to import a variety of content including texts, PDFs, tables, interview transcripts, focus group transcripts, images, audio, videos, survey data, twitter data, youtube data, excel data, and reference manager data.



Select the data you wish to import as part of your project.



Once imported, your data will appear on the left as part of your primary documents manager. If at any time you wish to export data, you can click on this button on the top right:



Coding

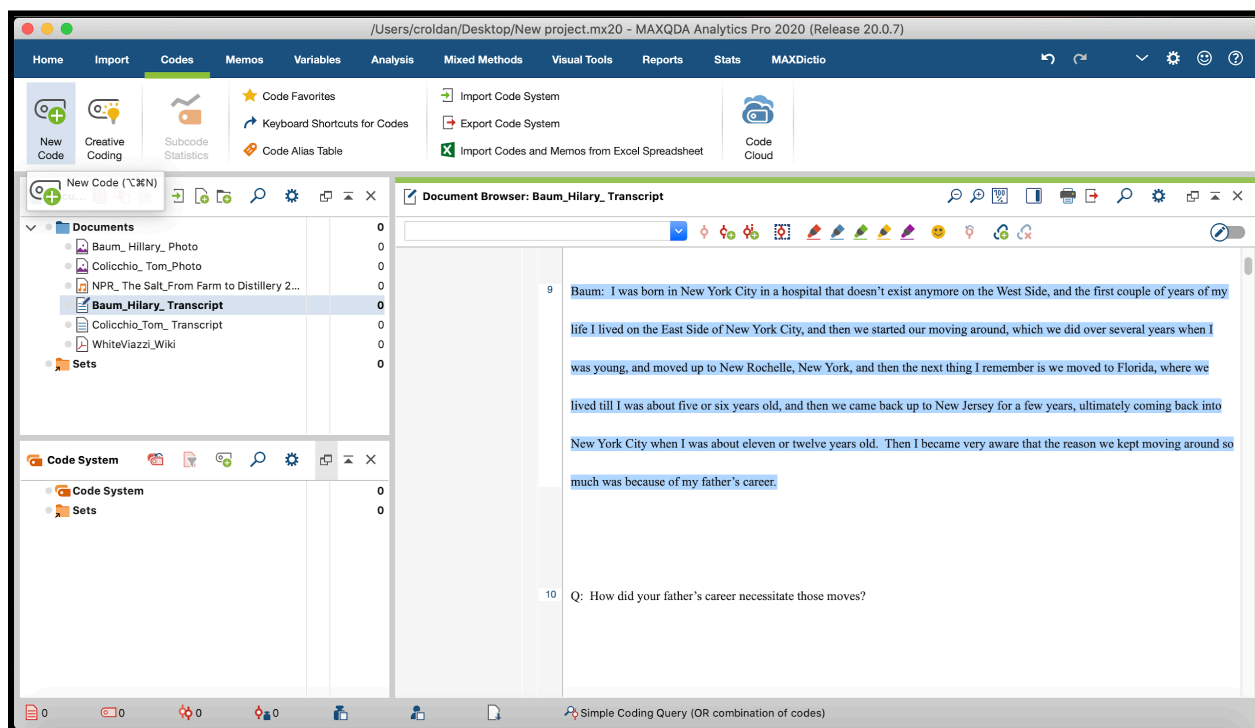
Coding as mentioned earlier under the Taguette section is the classification of data. Deductive and inductive reasoning might be of use when applying codes:

- Inductive reasoning – is *probable*, based upon the evidence given (bottom-up logic) expanding on the logic & evidence given
- Deductive reasoning – links premises with conclusion (top-down logic) A conclusion is reached by applying general rules that hold over entirety of a closed domain of discourse, narrowing the range under consideration until only the conclusion(s) is/are left

There are different types of coding methods available in MaxQDA:

- Code Bank – create a designated list of codes
- Open Coding – spontaneously code as you go
- Auto Coding – code using Keyword Search Function
- List Coding— pick multiple codes from a list
- Quick Coding— use last code applied
- Focus Group Coding— automatically identify and code each speaker in focus group document

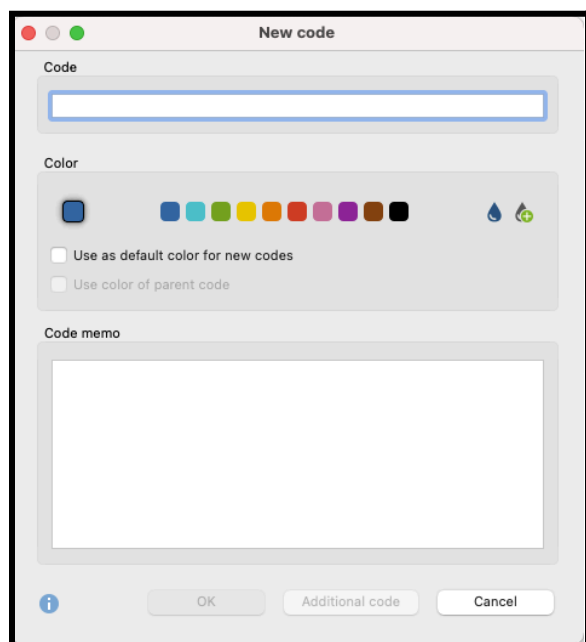
These different utilities are available under the code tab:



Specifically with these buttons in the content manager:

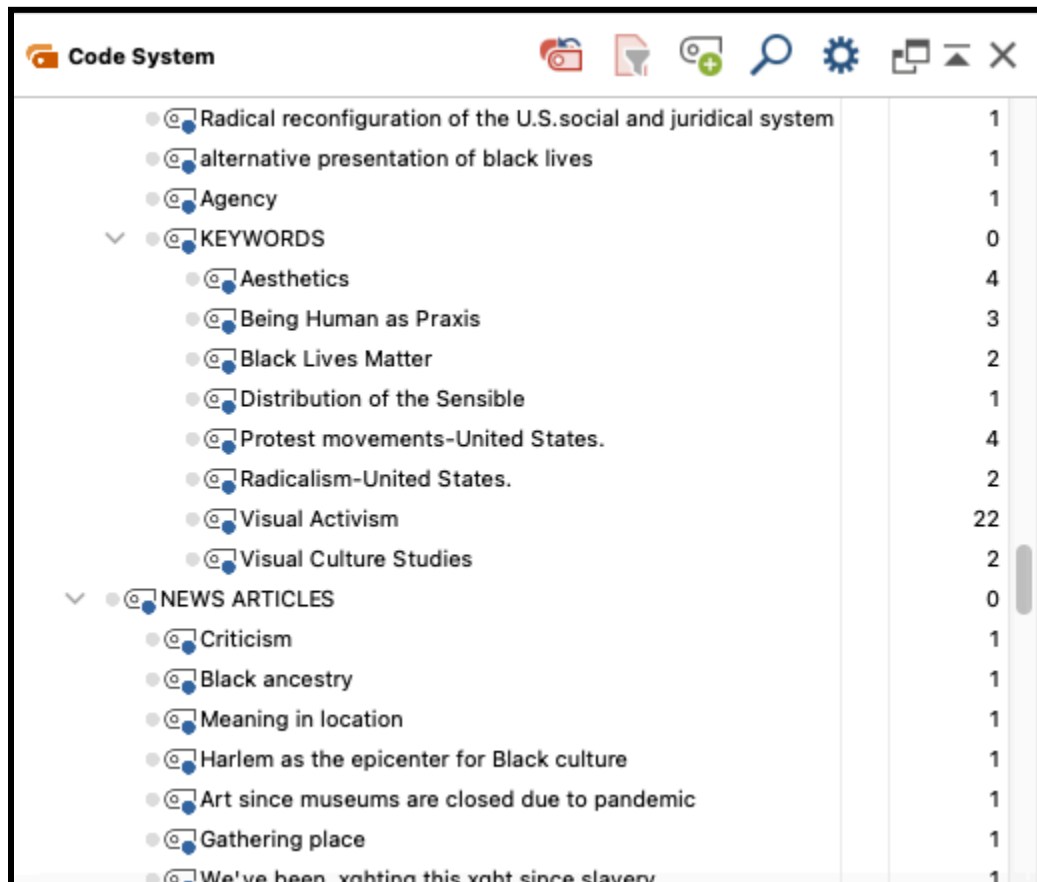


The first button allows you to code the highlighted segment with a recently selected code from the drop down menu on the left. The second button allows you to code with a new code. When coding with a new code, you are prompted to name the code, select a color if you wish, and write a code memo. The third button allows you to code in-vivo which creates a code out of the highlighted segment. The fourth button puts you in open coding mode, meaning that everytime you highlight a segment, the new code window appears, prompting you to create new codes.



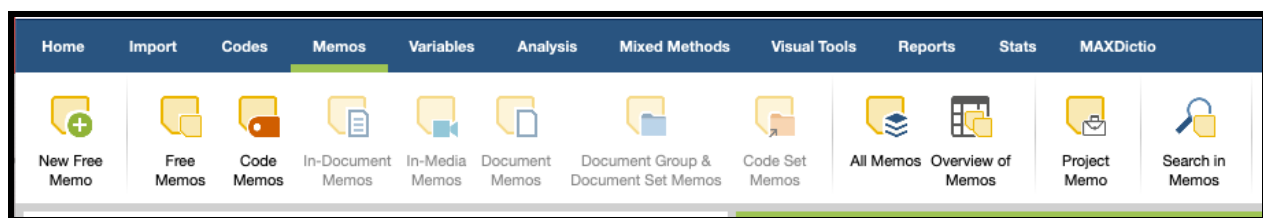
Organizing Codes

As you code, you may find the need to categorize your codes or create code hierarchies. You can click and drag codes to organize them within the code management pane to create parent and sub-codes.



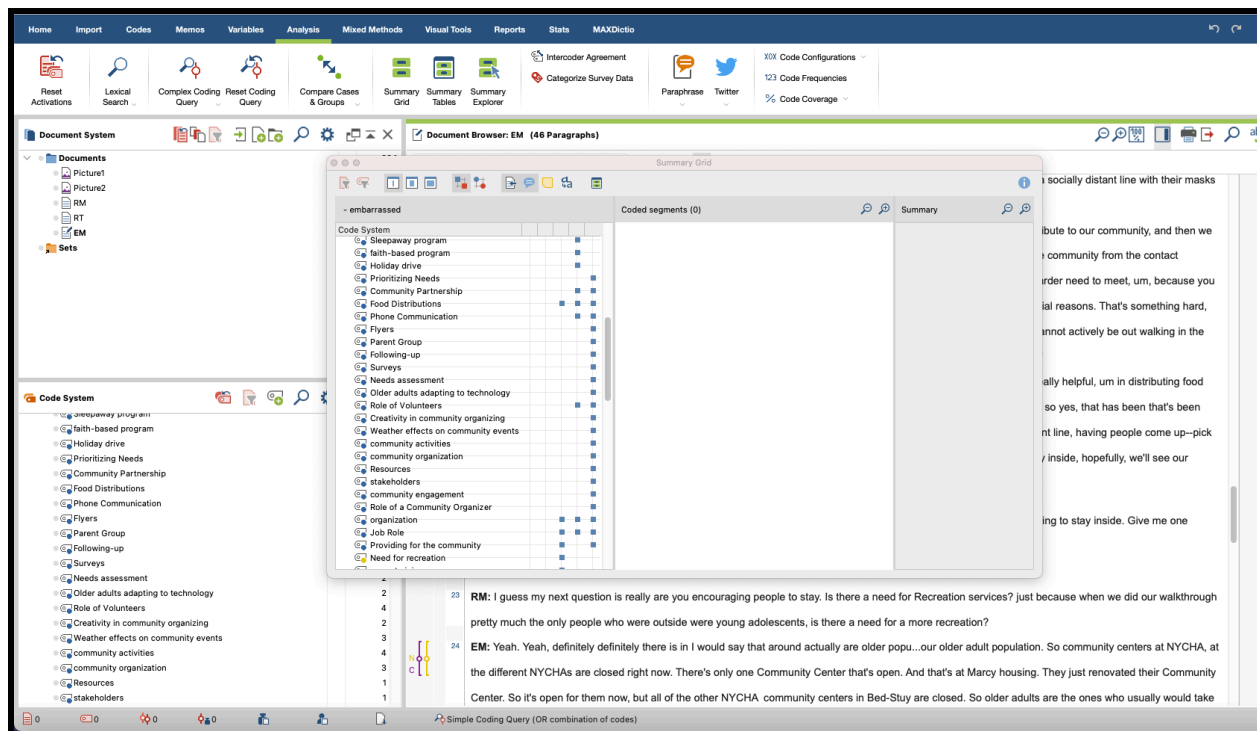
Memos

Memos that you create in regards to codes could be accessed under the memos tab. You can also create free memos.

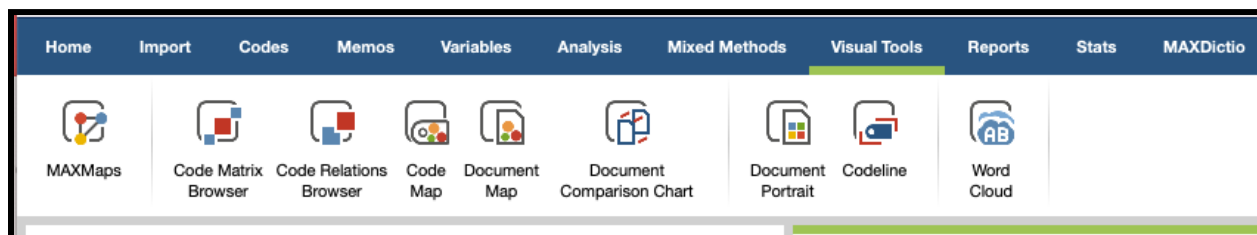


Analyses

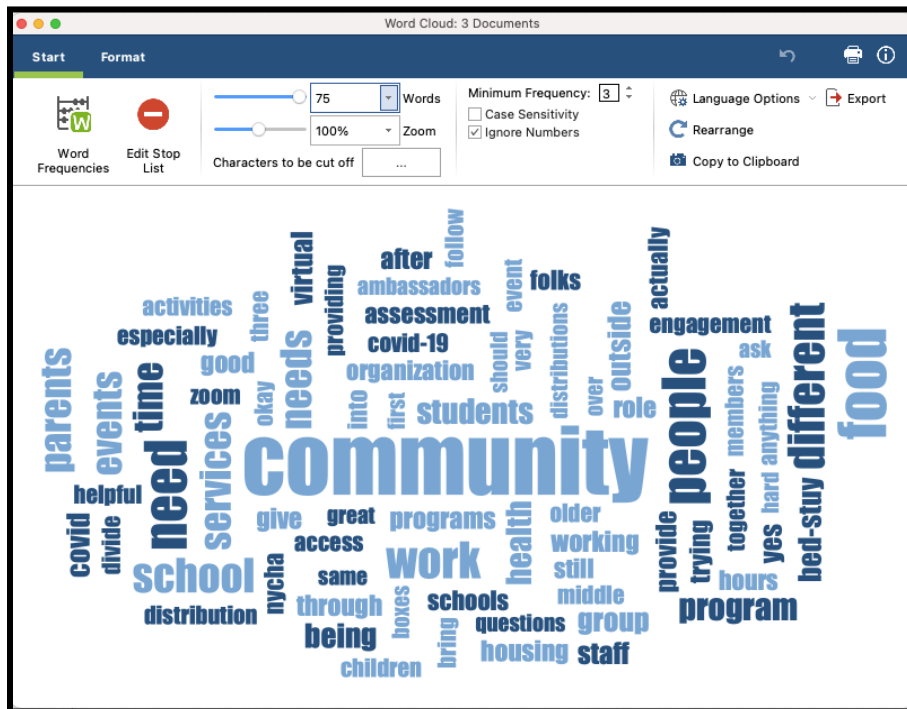
Analyses can be performed under the analysis tab. For example, you can create a summary grid and compare codes that occur across different data entities.



You can also use visual tools for analysis such as a word cloud or a document map.

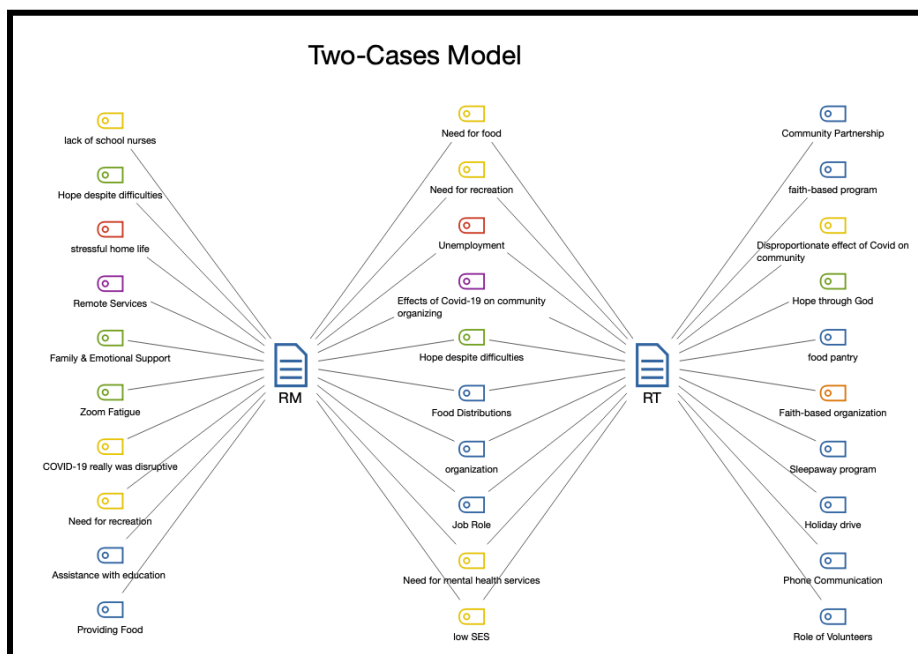


If you click **Word Cloud** and drag documents to analyze, the most often occurring words will populate in the form of a cloud. You can edit stop lists if you wish to ignore certain words as well as view frequencies of words.



If you click **MAXMaps>New Document Model>Two-Cases Model**, you can create a map

visualization that allows you to see which codes intersect across two documents:



These are some examples of the different analyses you can perform in MaxQDA.

Exporting and Saving a Project

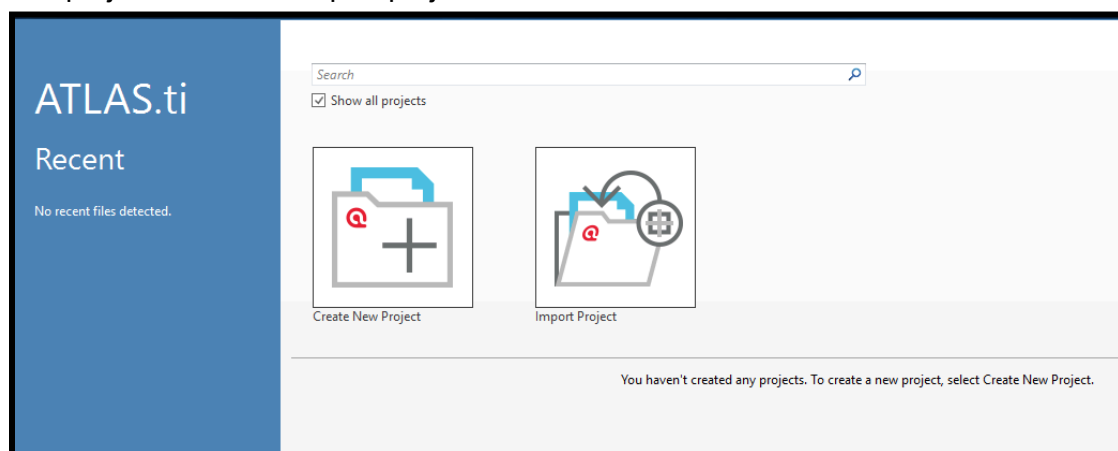


All content could typically be exported with this button:

By default, MaxQDA backs up your project so there is no need to save. However, it is strongly advised not to rely on saving your work to the VCL, so one option for saving your work from the VCL to your local device can be found here: [Virtual Computer Lab \(VCL\): File Management](#). Otherwise, you can save your project as different types of MaxQDA files (i.e., .mx20 or .mx18 files) as well as .qdp files if you click **Save project as** under the home tab. A .qdp file allows for the transfer of projects across different qualitative data analysis software.

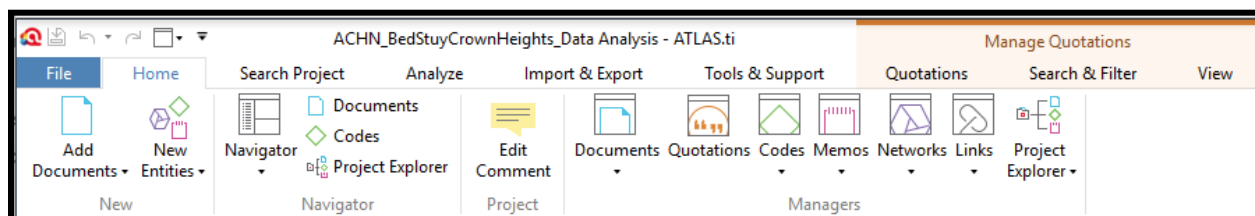
Atlas.ti

Access to Atlas.ti is also available through the [VCL](#). Once there, you have options to create a new project as well as import projects.

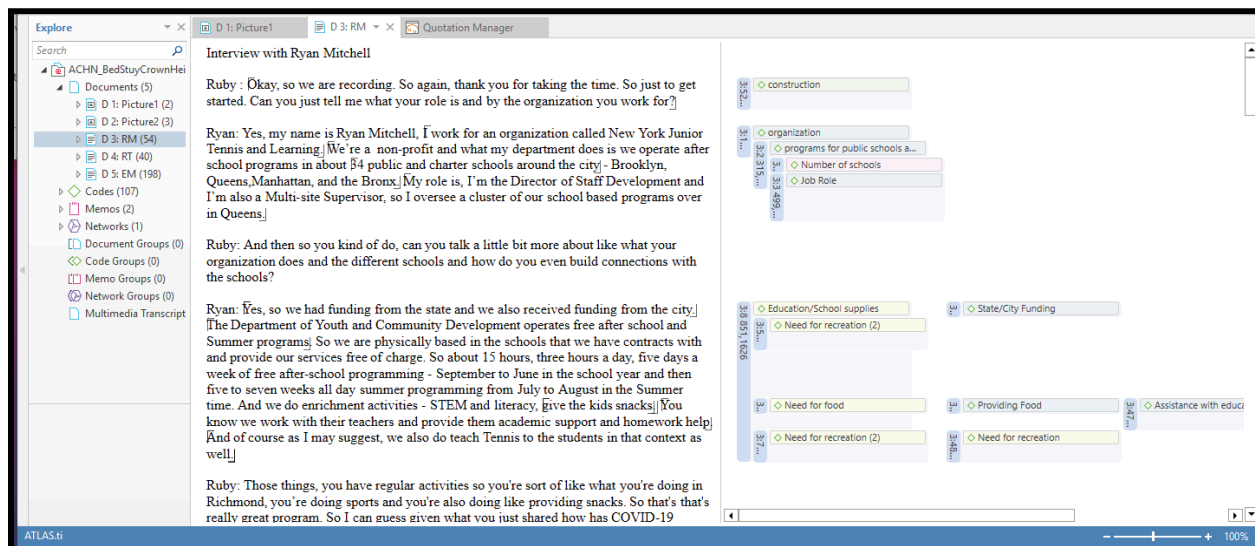


Importing Content

From the home tab, you can add different kinds of documents such as transcripts or pictures as well as create different entities such as codes, memos, and networks.

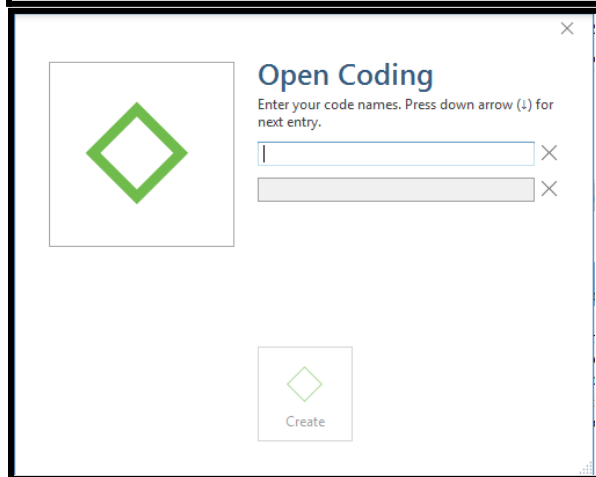
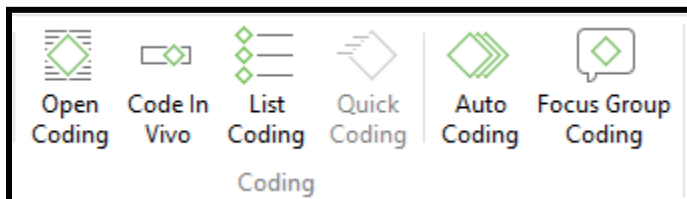


Similarly to MaxQDA, the explorer panel is on the left and content appears on the right as tabs.



Coding

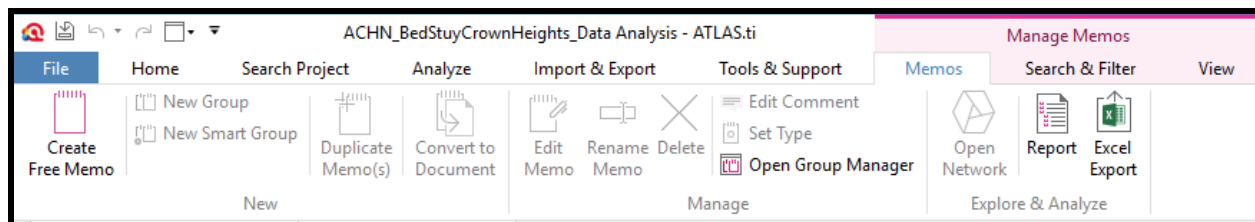
When you go to highlight a segment of your document, the document tab automatically opens up. You have different options for coding such as open coding, which allows you to create



codes, coding in-vivo which creates codes out of selected segments, list coding which allows you to apply 1 or more codes that have already been created, auto coding which allows you to perform a lexical search that automatically applies a code to selected words, and focus group coding, which codes focus group transcripts according to speaker or participant patterns in the transcript (e.g., Peter: or @Peter). Codes could be reviewed in the explorer pane as well as any potential memos you've created. By default, codes are alphabetized and there is no option for code restructuring or organization like in MaxQDA.

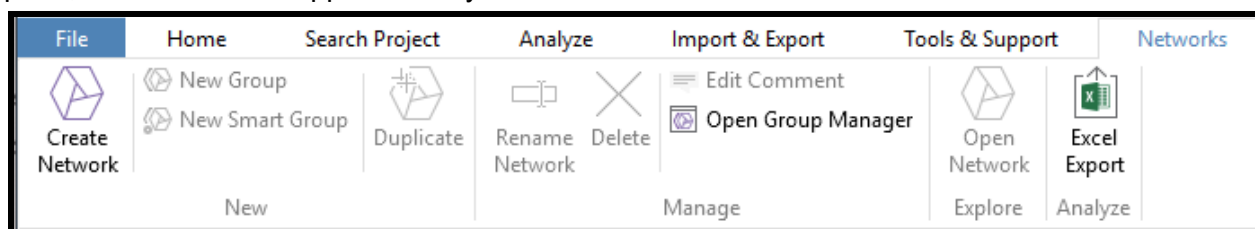
Memos

Memos can be created from the memos tab. Simply select **Create free memo** and a blank memo will appear for you to write.

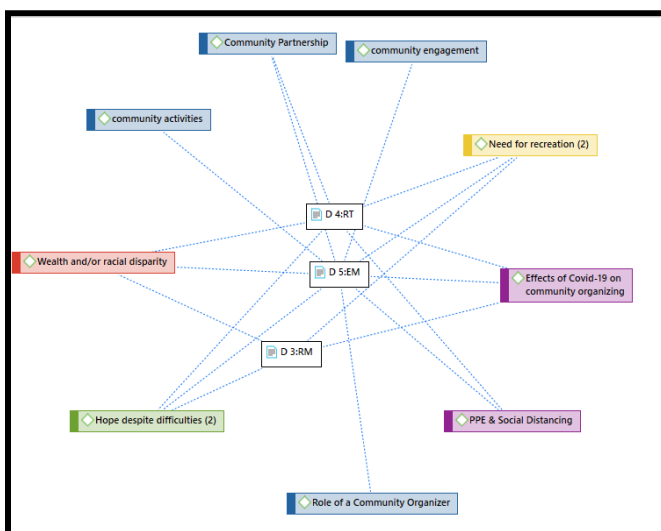


Analyses

An example of an analysis that Atlas.ti can perform is a network map. A network map can help you visualize codes that occur across documents. If you click into **Networks** in the explorer pane, the network tab appears and you can **Create Network**.



A new window will appear where you can drag different documents and codes to see how they interact with one another. In this example I've created, it includes the transcripts and codes that have appeared at least 5 times because the likelihood that they occur across different documents is higher.



You can change the display by choosing different **routing** and **layout** options under the network tab.

community

food people think rm day actually come good right also services group definitely go need ruby can work health way thank school needs parents lot one figure always programs able little em provide trying will covid ryan now really things time program housing bit well going outside virtual something staff give question virtual something staff

Exporting and Saving a Project

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