



DRUPALCAMP
SPAIN 2015
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D7 Panels

From Zero to Hero in 2000 Seconds





Topic of this talk:

Building stuff with Panels in Drupal 7



Schedule (more or less):

- 1. Getting started (10 min)**
Why Panels? CTools, Pages and Variants, overriding Pages vs Custom Pages.
- 2. Digging deeper (10 min)**
Contexts, Panel nodes, Mini Panels, custom panes, Views content panes.
- 3. More advanced Panels stuff (10 min)**
Panels Everywhere, Semantic Panels, Code Enigma's approach, custom panel plugins.



Intended audience:

1. New site builders with **no** Panels experience
2. Site builders with **some** Panels experience, eager to see more advanced stuff and custom code.



Run away to another talk while you still can. Hurry!



Still here?

Ok, let's go.

(warning: promotional content ahead)



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AND CHELSEA



Ok. Let's get on with it.



Part 1

Getting started with Panels

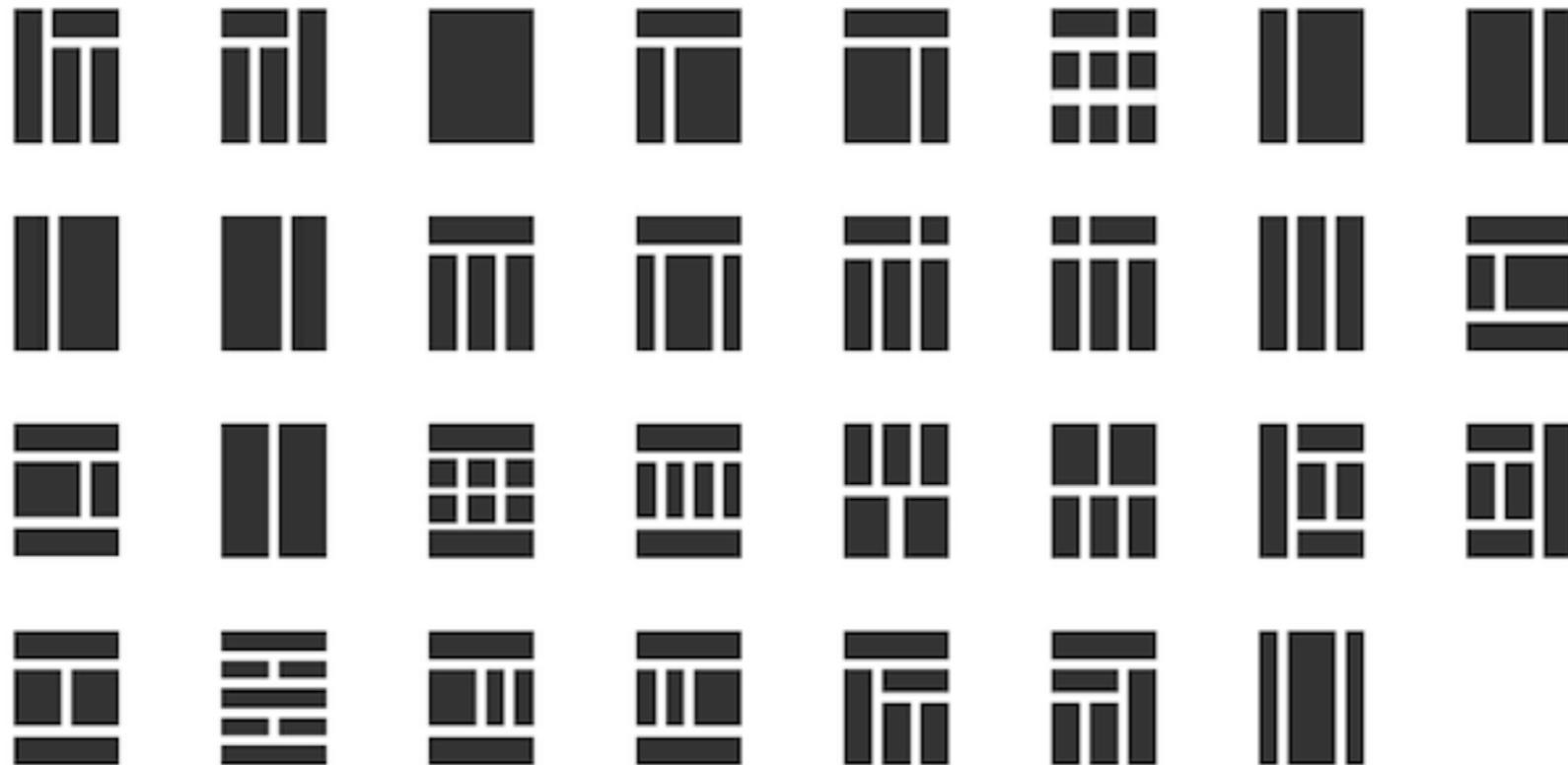


What is this **Panels** thing of which you speak?

“A module that allows you to visually create custom, re-usable page layouts with a drag-and-drop interface.”

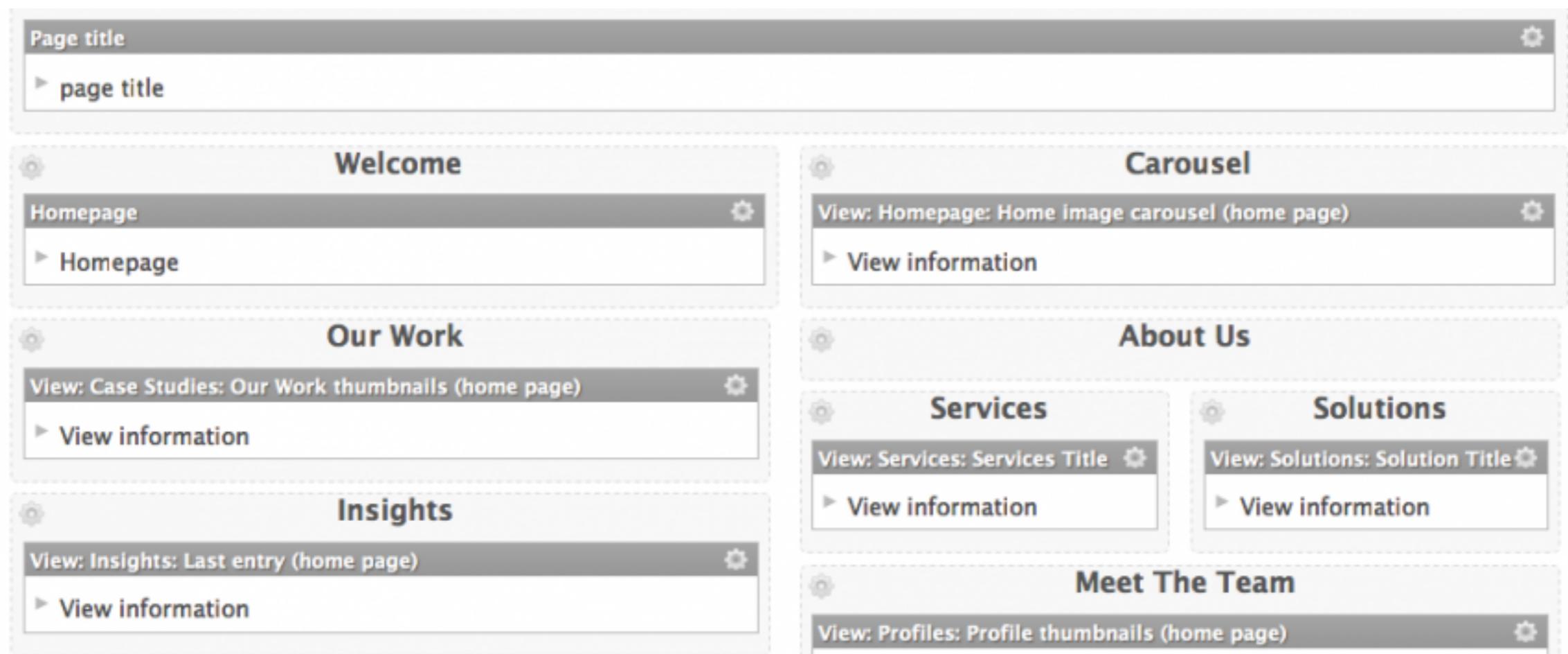


example panel layouts:





Drag-and-drop interface:



Page title

▶ page title

Welcome

Homepage

▶ Homepage

Our Work

View: Case Studies: Our Work thumbnails (home page)

▶ View information

Insights

View: Insights: Last entry (home page)

▶ View information

Carousel

View: Homepage: Home image carousel (home page)

▶ View information

About Us

Services

View: Services: Services Title

▶ View information

Solutions

View: Solutions: Solution Title

▶ View information

Meet The Team

View: Profiles: Profile thumbnails (home page)

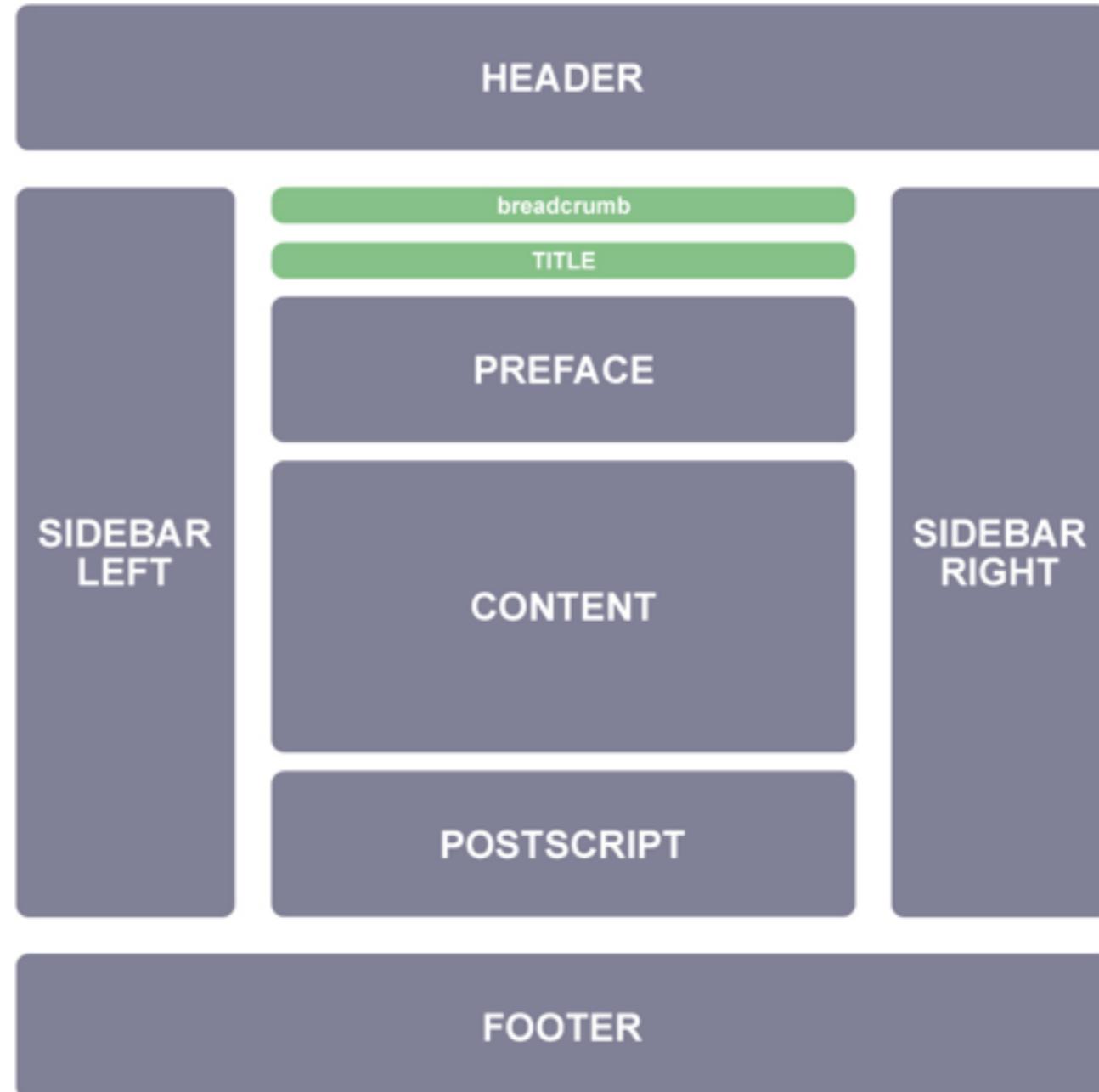


Doesn't the **theme system** have **regions** for exactly this purpose?



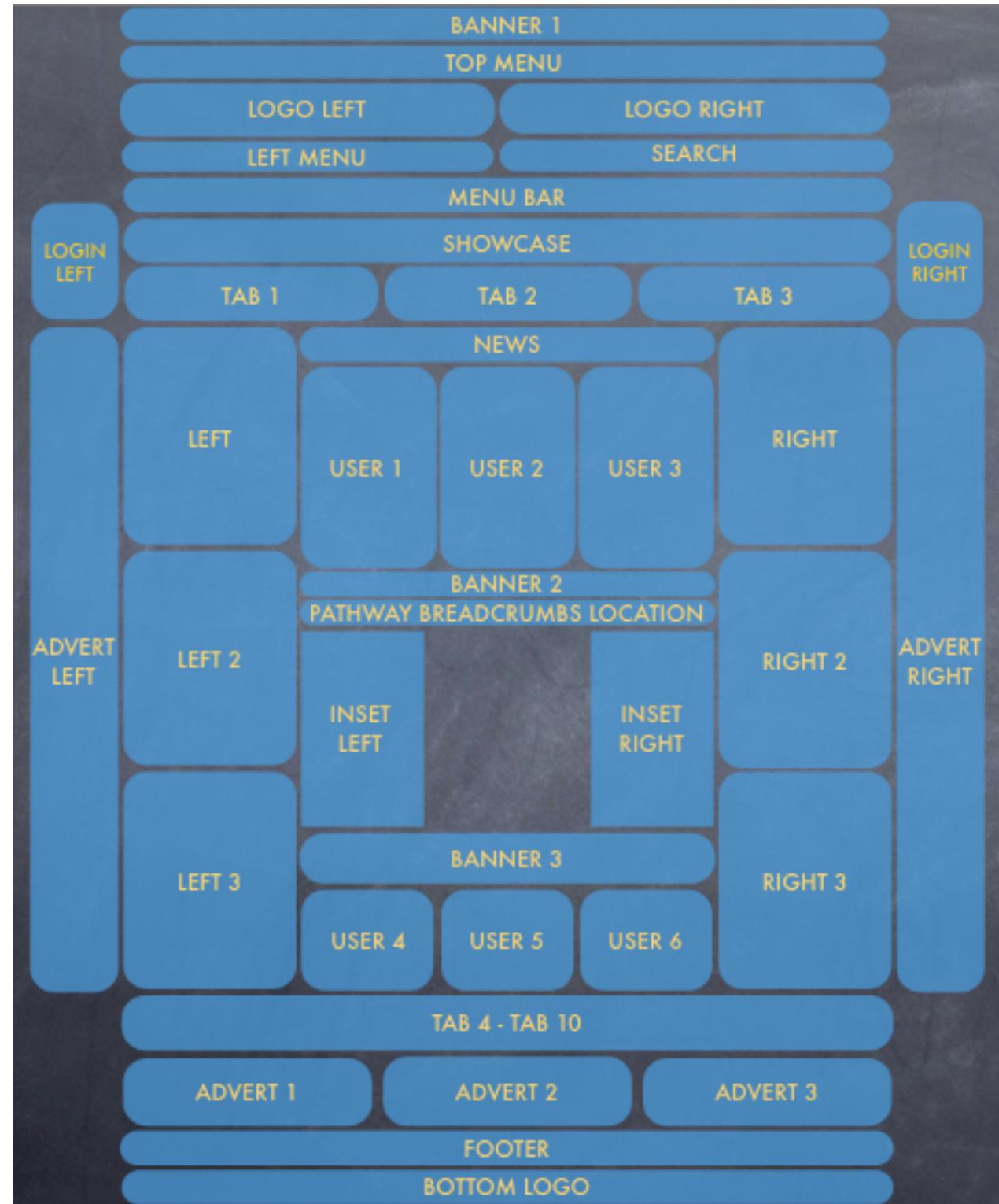
¡Si, verdad!

Theme regions give
a lot of flexibility:





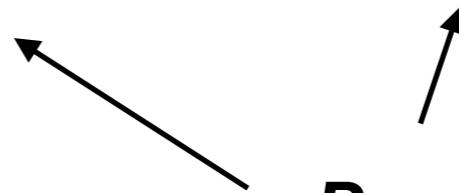
Sometimes maybe
even a little too much
flexibility:





Some of the limits of the core regions-and-blocks building approach

- only blocks can be put in regions
- any given block can only be placed in one region
- blocks have limited display logic / visibility rules
- blocks are not exportable
- tricky to have radically different layouts in different sections of your site
- blocks interface is not the most intuitive/easy to use for non-tech users



Panels addresses
all this \o/



Second reason to use Panels: micro-layouts

- Break apart pages (nodes, forms, search results, ...) and re-assemble them in a panel **without custom template files**
- Multiple layouts for the same page, with complex logic to decide which layout to use:
 - Role based
 - Device based
 - Content-type based
 - Content based
 - ...



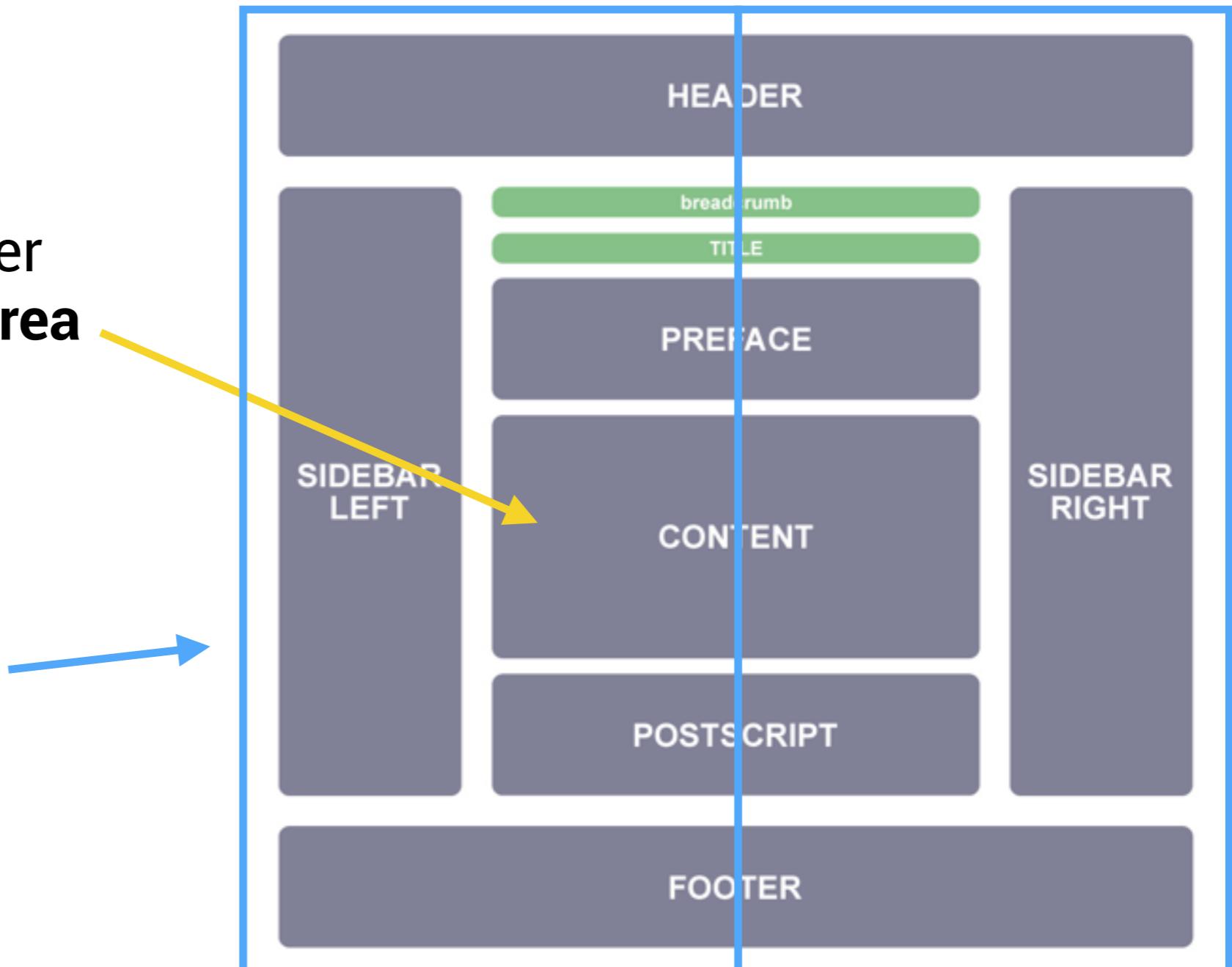
Some core concepts (1/2)

- **Page Manager** (part of the CTools module)
 - hooks into the menu system
 - lets you override the display of things like nodes, users and terms
- Each Page consists of one or more **Variants**
- Each Variant has a **variant type (panel)**
- Each Variant can have **selection criteria and context settings**
- Each Panel Variant has a **Panel layout** with **Panel Regions** that contain one or more **Panel Panes**



Some core concepts (2/2)

- Panel pages can either take up the **content area** of your theme...
- ...or **bypass all theme regions** completely





Demo

- Create a custom homepage
- Override node/x paths
- Override node/x/edit paths
- Enable easy management UI for end-users



Part 2





Node Panels

- new Content Type 'Panel'
- Each Panel node has its own settings
- used for one-off panels

demo



Mini Panels

- Tiny, re-usable panels without a path or selection criteria, made available as a block
- To be used in the core block system or as a panel inside another panel



demo





Custom Content Panes

Configure new New custom content Close Window

Administrative title

This title will be used administratively to identify this pane. If blank, the regular title will be used.

Title

Body

Text format Filtered HTML More information about text formats

• Web page addresses and e-mail addresses turn into links automatically.
• Allowed HTML tags: <a> <cite> <blockquote> <code> <dl> <dt> <dd>
• Lines and paragraphs break automatically.

Make this content reusable ▾

Finish Cancel



Views Content Pane Displays

- make result of a view available as a Panel pane
- optionally pass Panel context info to the View Display's Contextual Filter
- optionally make some of the View Display's settings available in the Panel pane's settings

demo



Part 3





Panels Everywhere

Default site template

Summary	Variants » Search » Selection rules					
Variants	Variant operations					
▸ Homepage						
▼ Search	Control the criteria used to decide whether or not this variant is used. If there is more than one variant on a page, when the page is visited each variant is given an opportunity to see if its selection rules will pass. The first variant that meets its criteria (as specified below) will be used.					
Summary	<table border="1"><thead><tr><th>TITLE</th><th>DESCRIPTION</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>String: URL path</td><td>Current path is "search"</td></tr></tbody></table>		TITLE	DESCRIPTION	String: URL path	Current path is "search"
TITLE	DESCRIPTION					
String: URL path	Current path is "search"					
General						
Selection rules						
Contexts						
Layout						
Content						
Preview						
▸ Nodes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> All criteria must pass. <input type="radio"/> Only one criteria must pass.					
▸ Unmanaged pages	<input type="button" value="Update"/> <input type="button" value="Update and save"/>					
▸ Sitewide						



Semantic Panels / Planer

- a CTools **style plugin** that gives you full control over the HTML output of Panels panes:

Individually add/remove the

- HTML element
- CSS Classes
- Other attributes

Of pane titles, pane content, and pane wrappers.



Planer

Style settings for style Planer (Pane "European Structural & Investment Funds")

WRAPPER

HTML element

Add default classes

If checked default classes will be added on this element. Without default classes contextual links won't work.

Add CSS class(es)

CSS class(es)

Add additional attribute(s)

Additional attributes

Write the full attribute, one per line.
e.g. id=main



Custom Panel plugins

- on-demand “blocks”
- per-instance block settings
- isolated “block” code per section

training module demo



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