

Getting started with Compendium

Compendium is a robust piece of open source software developed in a series of research projects at the UK Open University's Knowledge Media Institute for over a decade. It was a core platform for the R&D program into hypertext, collective sensemaking and dialogue/argument mapping. It's not currently in development, but the last release is still highly functional, albeit not a commercially polished product. To learn more visit <https://utscic.edu.au/tools/knowledge-cartography> and <http://compendiuminstitute.net>

Installation

Install Compendium 2.0 Beta1:

<http://compendiuminstitute.net/download/downloadresearch.htm>

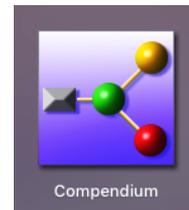
If this is inaccessible for any reason, then go to:

Windows: <https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/15264330/compendium/Compendium-2.0-beta1-Win.exe>

Mac: <https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/15264330/compendium/Compendium-2.0-beta1-Mac.dmg>

The Compendium icon should now be in your Launchpad (Mac) or Program Files (Windows).

Compendium is written in Java, so you also need to have Java installed:



Install Java:

Mac users should install the Java Runtime Environment JRE6:

https://support.apple.com/kb/DL1572?locale=en_AU

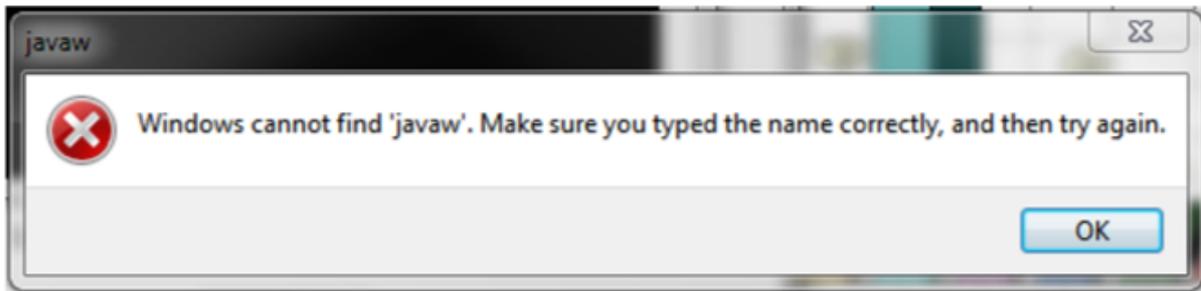
Windows users should install the latest Java from Oracle. When you go to <http://java.com> and click the download button it should take you to the correct page for your computer.

Note: The Windows Compendium installer is bundled with an old version of Java and offers you the option to install it — decline this.

Hopefully you can double-click on the Compendium application icon and launch it now: jump to p3...

Windows troubleshooting: editing the location of Java

If after installing Java and Compendium, you receive the following screen, an adjustment has to be made (sorry about this!).



To fix this problem you'll need to edit the directory location where your system looks for Javaw.exe:

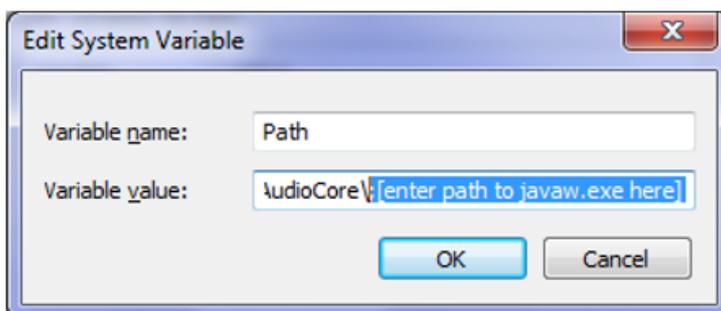
Javaw.exe will normally be installed in **C:\Program Files(x86)\java\jre6\bin** or something similar. This may be slightly different on your system, e.g.

- C:\Program Files\Java\jre*\bin
- C:\Program Files\Java\jdk*\bin
- C:\Program Files (x86)\Java\jre*\bin
- C:\Program Files (x86)\Java\jdk*\bin

Browse your Program Files, locate java, and copy the directory path (Ctrl-C). If you don't know how to do that, Shift-RightClick on the file and select **Copy as Path**:

<http://www.techrepublic.com/blog/windows-and-office/quick-tip-copy-both-the-path-and-the-file-name-to-the-clipboard>

Go to: **Control Panel->System->Advanced system settings->Environment Variables**, choose PATH and click EDIT (if you can't locate 'system', click on the 'Classic View'). Details for different Windows versions: <https://www.java.com/en/download/help/path.xml>



In the 'Variable value' field:

1. add a semicolon to the end of the list of paths
2. paste the path to the folder that contains javaw.exe — e.g.
C:\Program Files(x86)\java\jre6\bin

Phew, hopefully that's all working now!

If you get stuck, contact jack.schmidt@uts.edu.au to request help before the workshop, and he'll do his best to connect you to some tech support. Otherwise come along a bit earlier and we'll fix it on the day.

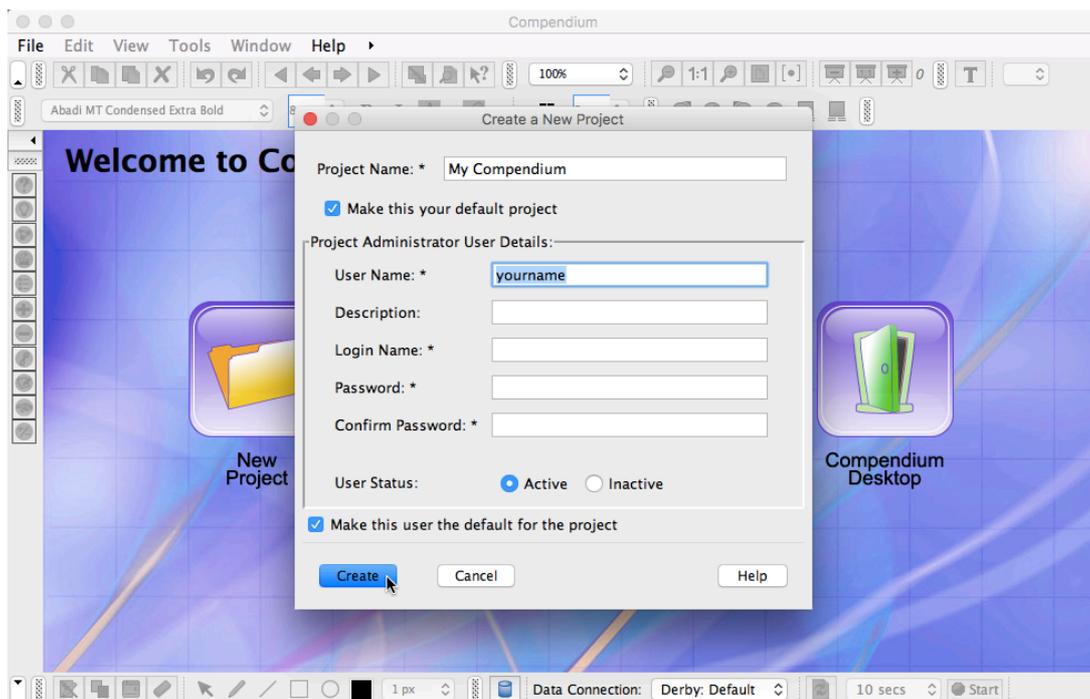
Launch Compendium

NOTE: Compendium uses the right-mouse button to drag links between icons. You can obviously do right-dragging on a laptop mousepad, but it's a lot easier with a real mouse!

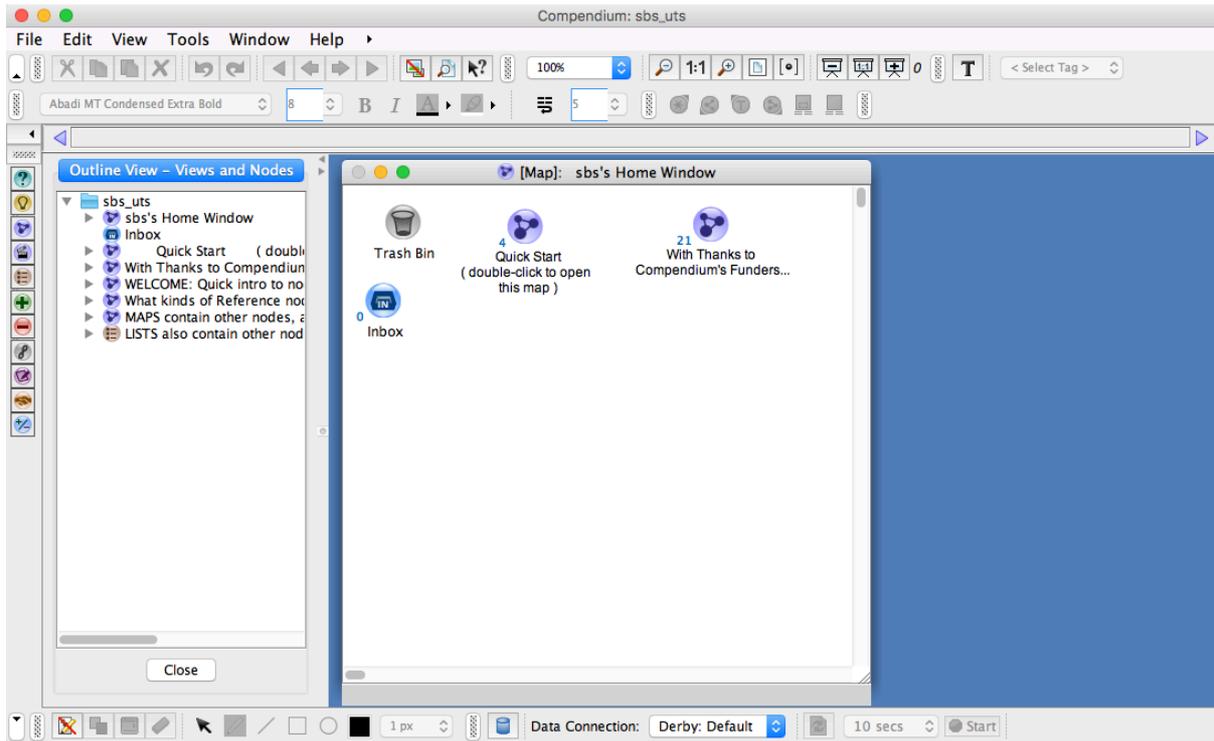
Once you've installed Compendium launch the application and you'll be presented with the welcome screen (Mac edition shown here but Windows/Linux are similar):



Click New Project and complete the form. Clicking the 2 checkboxes ensures you will only do this once:



Once the home Map opens, you're set to go:

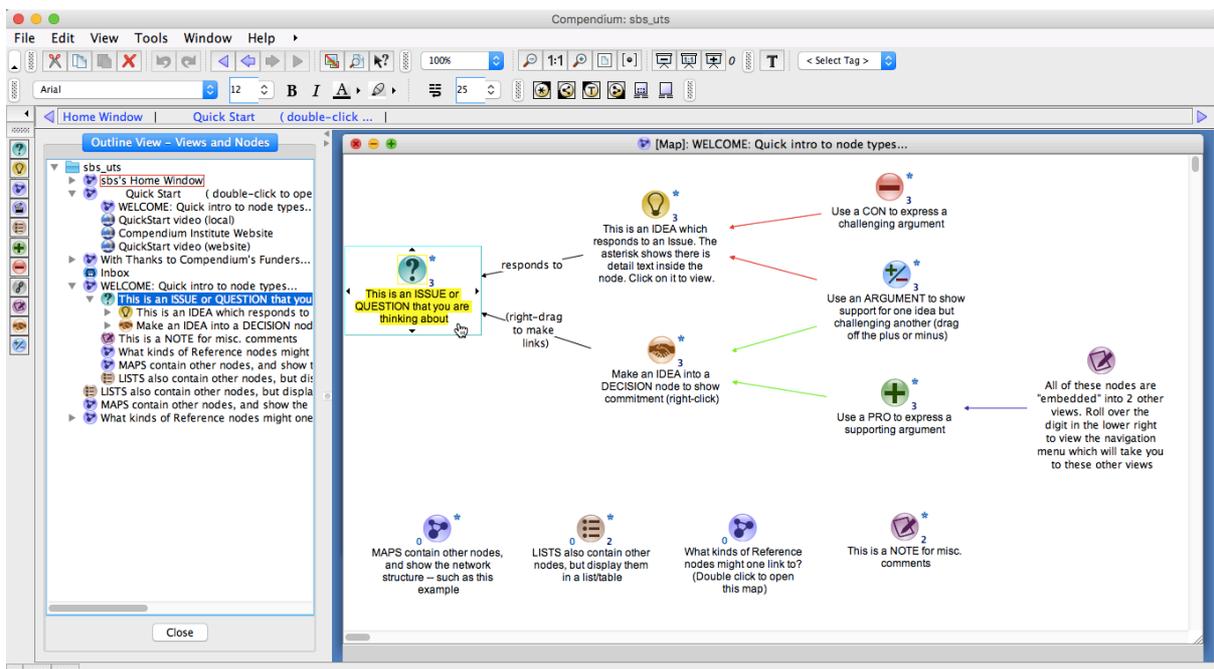


You can collapse toolbars and sidebars you maximise the mapping space if you want, but we open the sidebar just to make you aware that it's an option.

Double click on the **QuickStart** Map, and view the **video**.

Open the **WELCOME** Map to see the main types of icons for mapping issues, options, and arguments.

Drag icons around, drag new icons from the side-palette onto the canvas, double-click on icons to see what happens, and right-drag between icons to make links.



If you're feeling keen...

If you want to get going using Compendium before the workshop, take a look at the following:

The basics are on the Compendium Institute, now an archived website that supported the international user community until 2013:

Training videos: <http://compendiuminstitute.net/training/videos/index.htm> in particular **Nodes** and **Transclusions**, and **Modelling with Templates**

The tutorial and exercises will walk you through the different features of systematic hypertext visual mapping: <http://compendiuminstitute.net/training/training.htm>

Paul Culmsee's videos will give you a taster of some of more advanced mapping for sensemaking:

Powerful questions:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL2bQugt400o2ibLfBMZ2EiQT34vfkQ0LI>

Fun one mapping a thorny issue from The Lord of the Rings!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-sv5I59Fwx&index=2&list=PL2bQugt400o04Zt5z2x_wYmPIGAfIUhP9

Selected papers and books on the UTS:CIC homepage:

<https://utscic.edu.au/tools/knowledge-cartography>