Hypernomicon

User Guide

Written by Dustin J Allen

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Hypernomicon User Guide
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Introducing Hypernomicon

Hypernomicon is a free, open-source database software and productivity tool designed for academic researchers. Whether you're a student or a professor, Hypernomicon helps you trace arguments, connect ideas, and organize resources across your body of research. As your database grows, Hypernomicon automatically generates hyperlinks to connect related entries. These connections can spark insights that reshape your understanding of subject matter and open new directions for inquiry.

This introduction covers:

- ***What does Hypernomicon do?***
- ***Who is Hypernomicon for?***
- ***What to expect from this guide***
- ***Downloading and installing Hypernomicon***
- ***Launching Hypernomicon for the first time***

What does Hypernomicon do?

Hypernomicon combines several research tools into one integrated platform:

- Structured note-taking: Organizes research materials using categories that clarify conceptual content across your database.
- Dynamic database creation: Automatically generates hyperlinks and cross-references, building an interconnected web of ideas that can help you discover connections between research areas
- Mind and argument mapping: Represents relationships as trees and embeds terms in "semantic networks," illustrating connections between the information you enter
- File and folder management: Coordinates your research materials alongside your research process, letting you access sources without digging through folders
- Third-party reference integration: Syncs with third-party reference managers, Zotero and Mendeley, so you can use reference data from specialized tools

Hypernomicon stores information as a database of records. By linking and cross-referencing these records with automatically generated hyperlinks, this database becomes dynamic.

Who is Hypernomicon for?

Hypernomicon is a tool for researchers whose work depends on organizing and understanding relationships between interconnected ideas. Its interface labels come from common terms in Philosophy, but Hypernomicon helps researchers in many theoretical disciplines (literature, history, economics, law, theology, and so on). Hypernomicon is primarily used by:

- Graduate students
- Career academics
- Independent scholars
- Educators
- Philosophers

What to expect from this guide

This guide introduces you to Hypernomicon's features and interface elements. Hypernomicon is a flexible and multi-faceted tool, so you can find unique ways to integrate it into your workflow. You might begin by using Hypernomicon at a more basic level and then experiment with its more complex features once you get comfortable with it. This guide supports every step of your journey.

System requirements

Before installing Hypernomicon, make sure your system meets the technical specifications required to run the software. Table I.1 shows the requirements for operating system, Java, RAM, and storage space.

Technical component	System requirement
Operating system	Windows 7+, macOS 10.14, Linux
Java	Version 17 or later
RAM	4GB (minimum), 8GB (recommended)
Storage	500MB for application plus database storage space

Table I.1: Hypernomicon's system requirements

Downloading and installing Hypernomicon

Hypernomicon is an open-source technology and is completely free to download and use. Once downloaded, you never need to register, subscribe, sign up, or log in.

To download Hypernomicon

1. Navigate to Hypernomicon's SourceForge page.
2. Click **Download**.
3. Save the .zip file.
4. Extract the .zip file's contents.

Installation by operating system

The installation process changes slightly for each of the three operating systems that supports Hypernomicon. The software runs the same on Windows, macOS, and Linux.

To install on Windows

1. Extract to Program Files.
2. Run hypernomicon.exe.

To install on Mac

1. Drag the extracted folder to Applications.
2. Open **Terminal** and run: export HOSTNAME=hostname``.
3. Launch **hypernomicon.jar**.

To install on Linux

1. Extract to /opt or home.
2. Install if needed: sudo apt-get install libxss1 libgtk-3-0.
3. Run: **java -jar hypernomicon.jar**.

Note: For procedures, this guide defaults to Microsoft-based commands. For example, this guide will say **Press Ctrl+F** (Windows/Linux) instead of **Cmd+F** (macOS).

Launching Hypernomicon for the first time

Begin by letting Hypernomicon set up its file structure. Select or create an empty folder. Hypernomicon calls this your Root folder. Inside the root folder, Hypernomicon automatically sets up several folders and sub-folders, as detailed in ***Chapter 5: Working with files and PDFs on page 35***.

To get started with your first launch

1. Click **File**.
2. Click **New Database**.
3. Select or create an empty folder.

   Note: This is your Root folder.
4. Start adding records and customizing your database

Chapter 1: Navigating Hypernomicon

This chapter introduces Hypernomicon's interface and shows you how to navigate the application. You'll learn how each part of the layout supports research and record management tasks. By the end of the chapter, you'll know how to find, enter, and view information throughout Hypernomicon.

This chapter covers:

- ***Understanding the user interface***
- ***Using navigation, search, and command buttons***
- ***Launching queries with Hypernomicon's search functions***
- ***Creating and modifying records with command buttons***
- ***Integrating sources with external research buttons***
- ***Browsing records by type***

Understanding the user interface

Hypernomicon categorizes information using common terms from philosophy, such as debates, positions, and arguments. While specific panels, sub-tabs, and fields change between tabs, certain interface elements stay the same across the application. *Figure 1.1* shows the consistent parts of the user interface, labeling and locating key tools and panels.

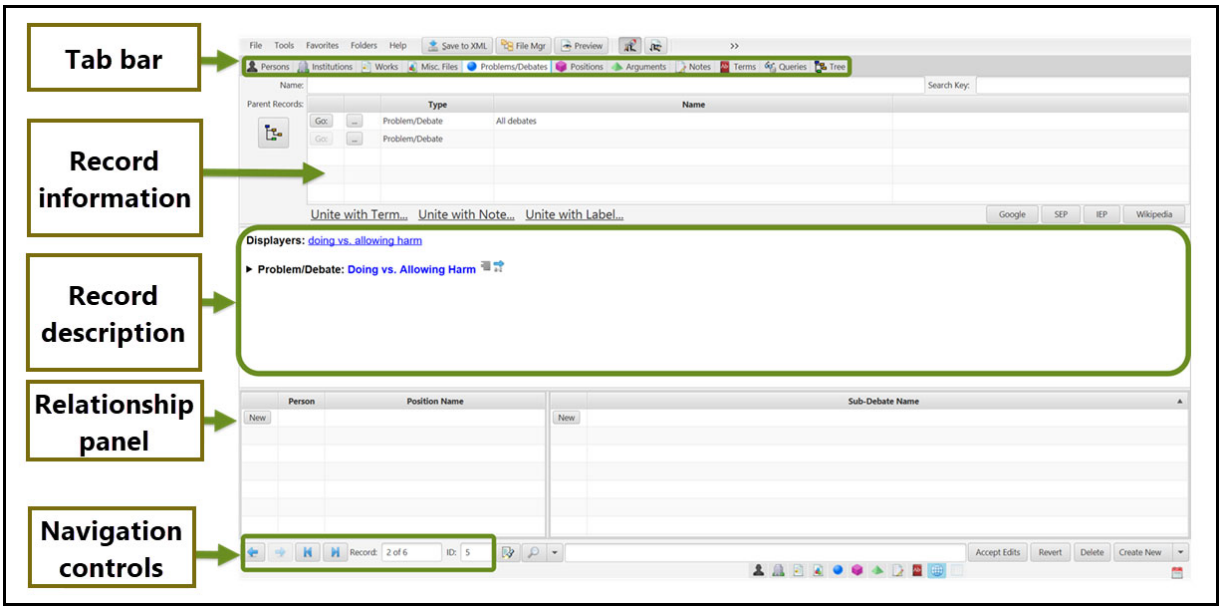

Figure 1.1: Hypernomicon's user interface

These elements stay consistent through all record tabs, so understanding them helps you across the application. *Table 1.1* lists each one, its function, and a tip for getting to know it.

UI Element	Function	Helpful hint
Tab bar	Navigate between records and functions.	After switching tabs, you can return to the same record.
Record information panel	Shows details specific to the current record type.	Fields vary based on type but fall into the same layout.
Record description	Enter detailed notes about the current record.	You can format text, but hyperlinks are automatically generated.
Relationship panel	Clarifies connections by showing related records.	Different record types have different relationship types.
Navigation controls	Navigate and browse with buttons and/or a search field.	Navigation bar stays the same across all tabs.

Table 1.1: The major components of the Hypernomicon user interface

Key concepts for understanding the user interface

Across all tabs and record types, Hypernomicon's logic stays consistent:

- One record at a time: Each tab always shows one record at a time— you're never looking at a list or overview of records, but only at one specific record
- Flexible navigation: Navigate and browse using your choice between multiple search modes or buttons
- Automatic saving: Every time you switch to a different record or change tabs, Hypernomicon saves your changes automatically
- Contextual information: Relationship panels change based on the record type, displaying the most relevant connections
- Hyperlinked descriptions: Description areas often contain automatically generated hyperlinks in blue, clickable text

Using navigation, search, and command buttons

The interface includes various tools for navigation, search, and record management. These search fields, search modes, and buttons help you move through the software with ease.

Understanding navigation buttons and controls

Figure 1.1 (above) shows four navigation buttons that can move you through your database. *Table 1.2* describes each of these buttons and its function.

Button	Button function
Back	Returns to the most recently viewed record, regardless of record type.
Forward	Moves forward through your navigation history if you've used the back button.
Previous	Shows the previous record within the current tab, ordered alphabetically.
Next	Shows the next record within the current tab, ordered alphabetically.

Table 1.2: Hypernomicon's navigation buttons and their functions

Launching queries with Hypernomicon's search functions

Hypernomicon's main search tool has two search modes: Find As You Type and Find Within All Fields. Each mode supports different types of searches.

Search mode	How it functions
Find As You Type	Hypernomicon's default search function. It works like a standard search engine. The search field updates as you type, quickly finding and displaying relevant results.
Find Within All Fields	Performs comprehensive searches through your entire database, then displays results in the Queries tab. This helps you discover content scattered across various record types.

Table 1.3: Hypernomicon's two major search functions

Searching for records

Which search mode you should choose depends on the type of results you're looking for, as well as your search preferences. Use Find As You Type for quick access to a specific record. Use Find Within All Fields to launch a more detailed inquiry.

To search for records

1. Press **Ctrl+F** to navigate to the search field.
2. Enter your search term.
3. Choose one of the search modes:

- In Find As You Type Mode, record results display instantly while typing. Click any result to navigate to that record.

- In Find Within All Fields mode, press **Enter** to run a comprehensive search, then view results in the Queries tab.

Tip: Name and describe terms consistently. Use the same spelling and formatting each time. Clear, consistent Search Key entries help make Hypernomicon's search functions much more powerful.

Switching between search modes

Different tasks will call for one search mode over the other. If the default Find As You Type search mode doesn't meet your needs, switch to a Find Within All Fields search instead.

To switch between search modes

1. Press **Ctrl+F** to navigate to the search field.
2. Press the same command again to toggle between the two search modes.

Creating and modifying records with command buttons

As described in *Table 1.4*, Hypernomicon features four command buttons.

Button	Button function
Create New	Creates a new record within the current tab and of its type.
Delete	Removes the currently displayed record and its relationships.
Undo	Reverses the most recent change made to a specific record.
Accept Edits	Saves changes made to the current record without navigating away from the record.

Table 1.4: Hypernomicon's command buttons and how they function

Integrating sources with external research buttons

The Hypernomicon interface includes four external search buttons. Each button provides instant access to a different reference resource, helping you find information quickly to explore new research leads. Together, these buttons span both academic and non-academic sources. See the use case for each in *Figure 1.5*.

- Google
- Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (SEP)
- Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy (IEP)
- Wikipedia

Researching externally with Hypernomicon's four sources

Source	Action	Use cases
Google	Click to perform a broad search based on relevant data on the current record page.	• Find downloadable versions of works • Verify or correct titles, authors, and citation details • Gather general information
Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (SEP)	Click for peer-reviewed information from philosophy's leading digital reference.	• Find trusted information on philosophical topics • Support background research with authoritative definitions and contextual information • Identify consensus positions on key issues
Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy (IEP)	Click if you prefer the Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy to the SEP, or to complement your SEP search.	• Discover additional perspectives • Research topics that the SEP does not fully cover • See SEP use cases
Wikipedia	Click for quick, general knowledge that supports your research.	• Locate reliable overviews of common topics • Find possible research starting points • Make connections outside of academia

Table 1.5: Each of Hypernomicon's external search resource buttons and when to use it

Browsing records by type

Before you can build or organize your database, you'll need to understand what Hypernomicon calls a record. A record is the basic unit of entry into your Hypernomicon database. When you enter a record into your database, it corresponds to one of the record type categories. For a description of these record types and their categories, see ***"Understanding record types and their tabs" on page 10***.

Browsing records within a tab

Each tab displays one record or special function at a time. Use Hypernomicon's navigation controls to move between different records within a tab.

To browse records within a tab

1. Click a record tab to view that record type.
2. Choose between:

• Using the navigation buttons to move through the record tab, or

• Using the search box to quickly jump to specific records.

Note: When you first create a database, Hypernomicon automatically generates default records for certain tabs (such as All Debates in the Problems/Debates tab). As you add your own research materials, your database of records grows.

Chapter 2: Record types and their tabs

Every entry in Hypernomicon belongs to a record type, and each record type has its own tab. Adding records in these tabs builds your database and structures your research. This chapter shows how records work and how to use them effectively.

This chapter covers:

- ***Understanding record types and their tabs***
- ***Best practices for adding records***
- ***Documenting discourse with Problems/Debates***
- ***Collecting perspectives with Positions***
- ***Recording reasoning with Arguments***
- ***Cataloging philosophers with Persons***
- ***Studying academic contexts with Institutions***
- ***Compiling reference information with Works***
- ***Supporting research with Notes***
- ***Organizing everything else with Misc. Files***
- ***Embedding record descriptions within other descriptions***

Understanding record types and their tabs

Hypernomicon categorizes your entries using record types. These record types correspond to terminology from Philosophy. Each record type has its own tab within the Hypernomicon user interface. Each of your entries into Hypernomicon falls under one of the record types shown in *Table 2.1*. Hypernomicon then sorts these entries for easy retrieval and analyzes their data to create hyperlinks.

Record type	Record information this tab organizes
Problems/Debates	Theoretical questions or disputed issues central to academic discussion.
Positions	Specific answers and stances taken within debates and problems.
Arguments	Lines of reasoning that support, counter, or object/respond to positions.
Persons	Philosophers, writers, and researchers authoring your database's works.
Institutions	Universities, research centers, and organizations linked to persons.
Works	Your PDF collection: Books, articles, publications, and other scholarly writings.
Terms	Vocabulary and definitions that enable automatic hyperlinking.
Notes	Reflections, notes, research planning.
Misc. Files	Reference materials outside other record types (syllabi, handouts, etc.).

Table 2.1: Each tab, from Problems/Debates to Misc. Files, corresponds to a record type

Best practices for adding records

Because every record type has unique properties, each one has its own best practices. Several best practices, however, apply to all record types:

- Use the SEP or IEP button to fill out record information with summaries from trusted authorities (see ***"Integrating sources with external research buttons" on Page 5***)
- Add records from their related record tab to link them automatically (see ***"Adding a position from the Problems/Debates tab" on Page 13***)
- Enter new terms as Search Keys to enable automatic hyperlinking (see ***"Connecting related entries with Search Keys and Unite" on Page 32***)
- Check for existing records before adding new ones— Hypernomicon's automatic hyperlinking works better without duplicate records (see ***"Generating database reports" on Page 27***)

Documenting discourse with Problems/Debates

The Problems/Debates tab centers your database at the heart of philosophy: its core problems and debates. This tab and its records form the foundation for your Hypernomicon database. Create records for the central debates in your research area.

Note: Records in the Problems/Debates tab are called "debate records."

Getting to know the Problems/Debates tab layout

The Problems/Debates tab starts with the All Debates record. From here, you'll add debate records related to your research. See *Figure 2.1* for the tab's layout and *Table 2.2* for available user interactions.

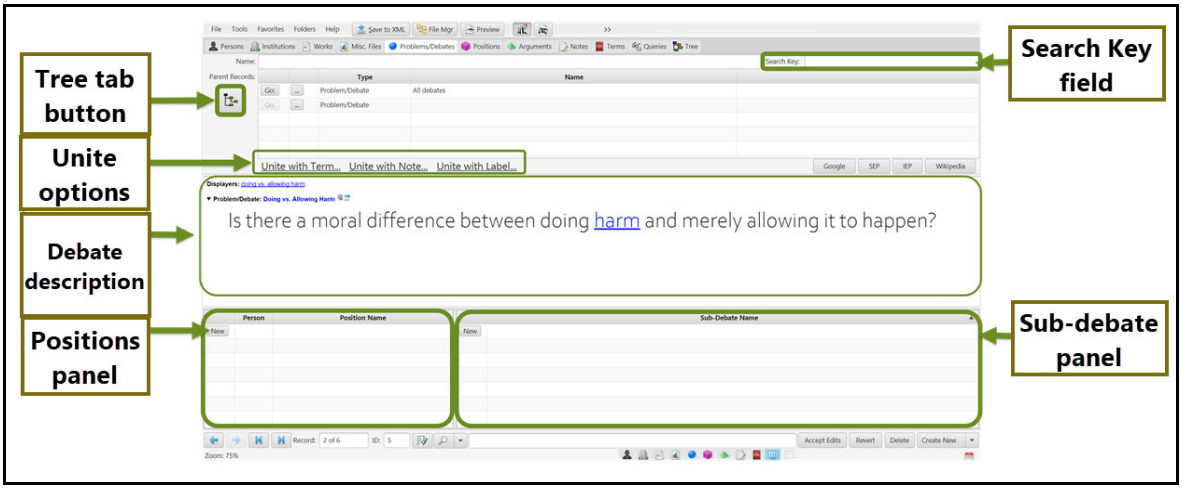

Figure 2.1: Components of the Problems/Debates tab

Some actions you can take in the Problems/Debate tab include:

UI Element	Actions
Name field	Add or change the name of the debate record.
Tree tab button	Navigate to the Tree view to see the debate in context of other records.
Unite options	Unite this record with a Term, Note, or Label.
Record description	Describe the philosophical problem/debate.
Positions panel	Click New to create a new position, Click Go to navigate to a related position.
Search Key field	Enter key terms from the record description as search keys.
Sub-debate panel	Click New to add a debate record, click Go to navigate to a related sub-debate,

Table 2.2: UI elements and their actions in the Problems/Debates tab

Creating a debate record

Debate records form the base all other Hypernomicon record types branch off from. All records connect back to debate records and their tab. When creating your debate records, write accurate descriptions that remain general enough to connect to all the positions grounded in that debate.

To create a debate record

1. Navigate to the **Problems/Debates** tab.
2. Click **New** in the **Sub-Debates** panel.
   A new debate record displays with its own ID number.
3. Enter a name for the debate in the **Name** field.
4. Click **Go:**.
5. Add a detailed description explaining the core question or issue in the description field.
6. Use the **Notes** section for additional context or personal observations.

Tip: In the record description, frame debates as questions rather than statements.

Collecting perspectives with Positions

Positions are the answers given and stances taken within debates and about problems. Your position records will capture a range of views about your topics of interest. Each position record contributes to your database's catalog of perspectives.

Creating a position record from the Positions tab

Debate records don't need to be created before entering a position, but every position belongs to a specific debate and should eventually link to it. The Problems/Debates tab includes a panel for entering positions, but you can also create a position record from the Positions tab.

To create a position record from the Positions tab

1. Navigate to the Positions tab.
2. Click **Create New**.
3. Enter a name for the position in the Name field.
4. Fill in the record description with the position's core claims.

Adding a position from the Problems/Debates tab

Hypernomicon also supports adding position records from the Positions panel on the Problems/Debates tab (seen in *Figure 2.1*). Every position depends on a particular debate. Adding positions records from the Problems/Debates tab automatically and correctly connects these records.

To add a position record using the Problems/Debates tab

1. Locate the Positions panel within the Problem/Debates tab.
2. Click **New.**

   You're brought to the new Position record in the Positions tab.
3. Name the Position.

   The position displays in its related debate record's description field and Debates List.

Recording reasoning with Arguments

Arguments provide the reasons to support a position. They also provide the reasons not to. Argument record entries come in several forms, each showing the close relationship between arguments and positions:

- Reasoning that supports a position
- Objections to that reasoning
- Counter-arguments that defend or attack positions
- Responses to objections

Adding an argument record from the Positions tab

Arguments provide the logic that holds a position up or brings it down. Hypernomicon's interface reflects this conceptual relationship in several ways. For example, Hypernomicon supports adding argument records using the Arguments panel of its related position record. *Figure 2.2* shows where to find the Arguments panel within the Positions tab.

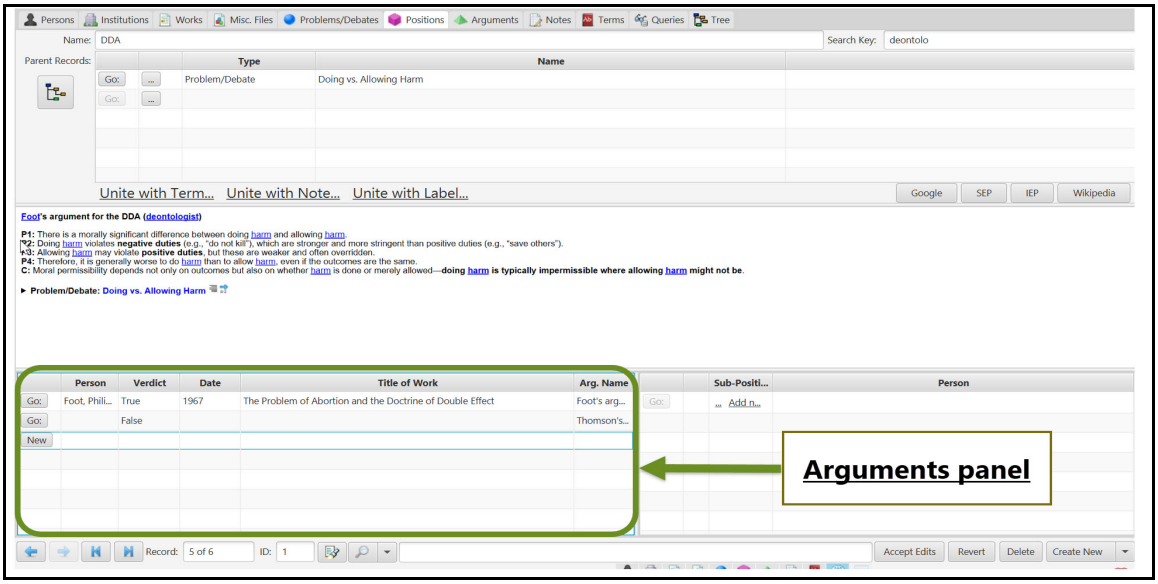

Figure 2.2: The arguments panel in the Positions tab

Before adding an argument record, create records for the position the argument relates to, the person who made the argument, and the work in which the argument appears.

To add an argument record from the Positions tab

1. Locate the Argument panel in the Positions tab.
2. Click **New**.

   The New Argument dialog displays, featuring the name and description of the Position.
3. Choose the correct argument type for your entry.
4. Click both:

   - The correct name from the **Persons list**.
   - The correct option from the **Argues that:** menu.
5. Click **Existing**.
6. Click the correct **Work this argument comes from** option.
7. Enter the page range where the argument occurs in the file.
8. Click **OK**.

   The argument displays in the list of positions within the tab.

Cataloging philosophers with Persons

Creating person records fills your database with the scholars, philosophers, and writers who author the works you research. Records in the Persons tab link to the works that person has authored and contain biographical information, like their Field, Specialty, and Rank.

To create a person record

1. Navigate to the **Persons** tab.
2. Click **Create New**.
3. Enter the person's full name, rank, status, field, specialty, website, and ORCID (if applicable).
4. Link to any Institutions affiliated with the person.

Note: Hypernomicon automatically enters all names from person records as Search Keys.

Using the Investigations sub-tab

The Investigations sub-tab in the Persons tab tracks a philosopher's research into specific topics and fields as it develops. Each investigation is tied to one person in your database and can only be added and viewed within their person record, as shown in *Figure 2.3*.

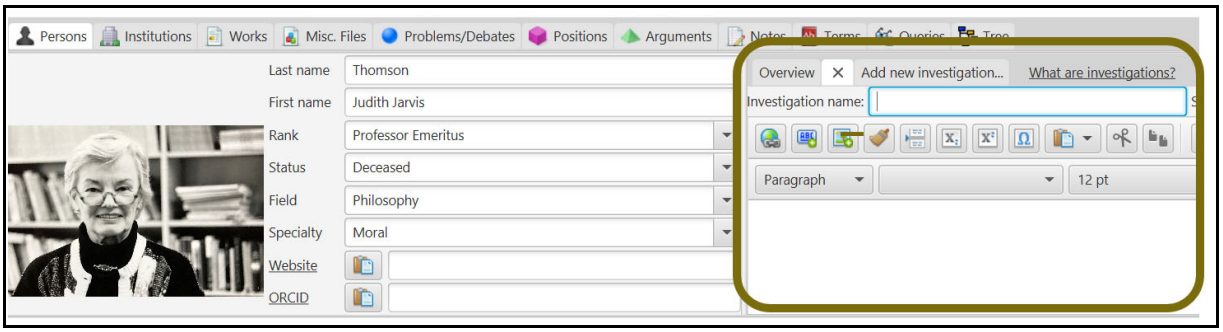

Figure 2.3: The Investigations sub-tab nested within the Judith Jarvis Thomson record in the Persons tab

To add an Investigation record

1. Navigate to the Persons tab and select a Person record.
2. Click the **Add new investigation** sub-tab.
3. Enter a name and a description.
4. Assign works by checking the Investigation(s) column next to each one.

   This Investigation displays as a tab in the Investigations sub-tab.

Studying academic contexts with Institutions

Institution records represent universities, research centers, and organizations tied to person records. As you add records, these entries reveal research patterns, trends, and outputs from academic institutions.

To create an Institution record

1. Navigate to the Institutions tab.
2. Click **Create New**.
3. Fill out all relevant fields (Type, Parent Institution, Location, Division, Website).
4. Link to affiliated Person records in your database.
5. Click **Accept Edits**.

Compiling reference information with Works

Work records are the books, chapters, journal articles, and other publications you add to your database as PDFs. The Works tab displays these records along with bibliographic details imported from your reference manager.

Hypernomicon can integrate with your reference manager. Linking to Zotero or Mendeley lets you import your reference data, sync PDFs, and avoid duplicate entries. Before filling your database with work records, follow the steps laid out in ***"Integrating your database with Zotero or Mendeley" on Page 46***.

To create a work record

1. Navigate to the Works tab.
2. Click **Create New**.
3. Import data from reference manager (if using this feature).
4. Upload or link the PDF file.
5. Verify that all bibliographic fields have been filled in.
6. Add relevant labels and categories.
7. Note key arguments, positions, or concepts addressed in the work.

Adding work records from the Persons tab

Hypernomicon supports adding work records from the Persons tab. Linking a philosopher's works as you create a person record binds that philosopher to their publications correctly from the start.

To add a work record from the Persons tab

1. Click **New Work**.
   The File Explorer displays.
2. Navigate to and click the PDF(s) associated with the Persons record.
   Note: The PDF data extracts automatically, or the file opens for you to copy and paste.
3. If not automatically filled, enter the work's Name, Type, and Year of Publication.
   Hypernomicon automatically creates a name for the file.

Note: To change naming settings, see ***"Changing automatic naming settings" on Page 44.***

Building your philosophical glossary with Terms

Whenever you introduce new concepts in a record description, add it to the Terms tab as a term record. The Terms tab also collects any Search Keys you have entered. Use the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (SEP) to supply terms with peer-reviewed, industry-standard definitions. For more on the SEP button, see ***"Integrating sources with external research buttons" on Page 5***.

To create a term record

1. Navigate to the **Terms** tab.
2. Enter the term exactly as it appears in your research.
3. Enter a concise definition in the description area.
4. Enter the term as a Search Key in the Search Key field.

Tip: Add any major term or concept that recurs in your research as a Search Key. For commonly modified terms, use a portion of the word instead of the entire word. For example, entering "deontolog" will hyperlink "deontological," "deontology," and "deontologist," with the same Search Key. For more on Search Keys, see ***"Connecting related entries with Search Keys" on Page 33***.

Supporting research with Notes

The Notes tab stores many types of reflections on record. They don't fit neatly into other record type categories, but tend to connect with them. Use the Notes tab for reflections on meetings with peers and mentors, project planning timelines, and ideas for conference presentations.

To create a note record

1. Navigate to the **All notes** record in the Notes tab.
2. Click **New** in the Sub-notes panel.
3. Enter a descriptive title in the **Name** field.
4. Add detailed description using the text editor.
5. Click the **ellipsis button** to link the note to its Project folder (see *Figure 2.4*).

Figure 2.4: The ellipsis button in the Create Folder panel

6. Add **Sub-Notes** (if required).

Tip: Add a note record to your favorites by selecting **Add to Favorites...** in the Favorites menu. This provides quick access to an active project's note record.

Assigning Key Works in the Notes tab

Many note records directly relate to a single work record, such as a book or journal article. Use the Key Works field and panel to connect the relevant work and note records, linking the note to the work it addresses.

To add a Key Work to the Notes tab

1. Click the drop-down menu in the Key Works panel.
2. Select the work you want to designate as a Key Work for this note record.
3. Select **Add**.

   The work record displays as a link in the Key Works field.

Organizing everything else with Misc. Files

Some PDFs don't fit as a work record but still belong in your database. Enter these as Misc. Files records. Common examples of miscellaneous files include:

- Research notes
- Conference handouts
- Course syllabi and reading lists

To create a Misc. File record

1. Navigate to the **Misc. Files** tab.
2. Upload or link the file.
3. Add a file **Name** and summary.
4. Categorize clearly for future retrieval.
5. Note relationships with other records in your database (if any).

Embedding record descriptions within other descriptions

Hypernomicon embeds record information directly into the descriptions and panels of related records, letting you see key details without switching tabs. For example, a position record displays the debate record it depends on in the Positions tab, and an argument record includes its related position record in the Arguments tab.

When Hypernomicon doesn't automatically generate a link between records that you want connected, you can manually link one record's description within another record. Here's one example of how:

To embed a position record description within a note record

1. Navigate to the button menu in the Notes tab.
2. Click **Edit Layout**.
3. Click the record with the description you want to embed.
4. Click **Insert**.
5. Click **Accept Edits**.

   The description of the chosen record is now embedded in the Notes tab description.
6. Click the triangle to show the description.

Chapter 3: Queries and the Tree tab

Hypernomicon's interface includes two major tabs that don't correspond with record types: a map of your research and a search engine to explore it. The Tree tab shows your research from a different point of view. It shows how debates, positions, arguments, and related records branch into an argument tree. The Queries tab lets you search across your entire database with advanced, customizable prompts that generate patterns, connections, and detailed results.

This chapter covers:

- **Gaining perspective with the Tree tab**
- **Visualizing and editing relationships with the Tree tab**
- **Running powerful searches with the Queries tab**
- **Adding detail to your query prompts**
- **Expanding on search results with Record Descriptions**
- **Launching queries from outside the Queries tab**

Gaining perspective with the Tree tab

The Tree tab displays relationships between records in a branching structure. The view it provides helps you trace debates, positions, arguments, and related records. As your database expands, the Tree tab clarifies the overall architecture of your research.

Access the Tree tab by clicking on the Tree tab in the interface, or by pressing the Tree tab button present in all record tabs (except for Persons and Institutions).

Record types in the Tree tab

The Tree tab shows how your records connect with and depend on each other. Because Hypernomicon's standard tab views only show one record at a time, the Tree tab provides a different perspective on the hierarchical relationships between the records in your database. For details on what the tree tab shows about records and record types, see *Table 3.1*.

Tree tab part	What The tree tab shows
Problems/debates	Full debate structure. How relationships between debates and sub-debates form the ground other record types build from.
Positions	Which positions link back to which debates, and which arguments grow out of which positions.
Arguments	How multiple arguments cluster around a single position with supporting or opposing reasoning.
Notes	All records referencing or linked to this note.
Labels	All items grouped under work labels.

Table 3.1: This table explains each record type that can be viewed within the Tree tab

Visualizing and editing relationships with the Tree tab

As a visualization tool, the Tree tab provides a unique point of view on your database. As an editing tool, it's a workspace where you can adjust how debates, sub-debates, and related records connect.

Viewing relationships in the Tree tab

The Tree tab displays your database of records and shows how your records connect. As your database grows, the tree tab continues to offer a helpful vantage point.

Tip: Double-click an item in the tree tab to navigate to that record's main tab.

To view relationships in the Tree tab

1. Navigate to the Tree tab.
2. Click the triangle icons in the Name menu.
   Sub-items display.
3. Check the **Show description** box.
4. Click an item to view its details.
   Details display in the description panel.
5. Click **Save to XML** to save changes.

Editing relationships in the Tree tab

The Tree tab allows you to edit records and the relationships between them. Drag and drop records to reorganize hierarchies, make connections, or remove relationships when they no longer apply.

Running powerful searches with the Queries tab

Hypernomicon's default search function helps you find, browse, and navigate to records with standard search tool functionality. The Queries tab can handle more complex prompts. Queries comb through your entire database of records to generate detailed results in response to specific prompts. These prompts combine up to two query factors, three parameters, and customizable evaluation logic. The queries tab has three major interface elements, as described in *Table 3.2*.

Queries tab panel	Description
Fields	Defines search criteria by selecting record types, query types, and parameters.
Results	Displays search result records in a sortable table.
Record Description	Provides detailed information about the record currently selected in the results.

Table 3.2: The Queries tab's panels and their functions

Running basic Queries

Running queries leads to uncovered connections and quick access to key records relevant to your research questions. If you think you may re-use a query or at least parts of it, click the **Add to Favorites** button so that you can easily re-enter the prompt.

To run a basic query

1. Click the **Queries** tab.
2. Click under Query Type in the highlighted row.
   A drop-down menu displays all types of records or Report as options.
3. Click under Query in the highlighted row.
   A drop-down menu displays specific Query prompts.
4. Select a specific Query Type from the drop-down.
5. Add up to three Parameters using their drop-down menus.
6. Click **Execute Query**.
   All matching records appear in the Query Results panel.
7. Organize results by clicking column headers (if necessary).

Sorting through query results

After running your query, you can review, sort, or navigate directly to records in the results:

- Record ID, Type, or Name
- Date Created / Modified / Last Visited
- Related records (Problem/Debate, Position, Displayed Records)

Tip: Hold shift while clicking a second column for multi-column sorting.

Adding detail to your query prompts

Explore the options in the query prompt drop-down menus. As you experiment with different combinations of query types, Hypernomicon generates unique parameter options. With this level of specificity, you can shape queries that target the exact information you require.

Adding evaluation logic to your queries

Evaluation Logic refines your searches by letting you tailor the logic of your prompt to suit your research questions. Hypernomicon defaults to "And" as the evaluation logic, but Custom Evaluation Logic also understands the phrases "or" and "not. For example:

Imagine you are researching moral philosophy. You execute a query with two parts to the prompt. In the first highlighted row, you pick the following options from the five drop-down menus:

- Query Type: ***"Any records"***
- Query: ***"Where displayed records"***
- Parameter 1: ***"Exclude record"***
- Parameter 2: "***Position"***
- Parameter 3: ***"Doctrine of Double Effect"***
- And then, in the second highlighted row, you fill out those same categories in this order: ***Argument records*** / ***that are mentioned by record*** / ***Person*** / ***Foot, Philippa***.

Using the three Evaluation Logic buttons, your query will generate different results:

- And: *"Any records where displayed record excludes records with the Position of Doctrine of double effect* ***and*** *argument records that are mentioned by Philippa Foot.*
- Or*: "Any records where displayed record excludes records with the Position of Doctrine of double effect* ***or*** *argument records that are mentioned by Philippa Foot.*
- Custom (in this case, you enter "1 and not 2")*: "Any records where displayed record excludes records with the Position of Doctrine of double effect* ***but not*** *argument records that are mentioned by Philippa Foot."*

Result: Each of these options has its own set of results, even though the two-part query stays the same.

Expanding on search results with Record Descriptions

The Queries tab's arrow buttons hide panels or collapse them. In your query results, record descriptions are hidden by default. Once revealed, this panel displays details about the results you click.

To expand on search results and reveal record descriptions

1. Navigate to the bottom of the Queries tab.
2. Click the upward arrow to display Record Information panel (see *Figure 3.1*).

Figure 3.1: The directional arrow buttons show and hide panels, fields, and other information

3. Select a search result.
4. The Record Description panel displays information for the selected result.

Customizing your results columns

Hypernomicon lets you adjust which columns appear in your query results, making it easier to sort and organize results with categories that suit your research:

To customize query results columns

1. Locate the plus button in your Query Results panel.
   A pop-up window displays with various Query Results options.
2. Check the field boxes that relate to your research.
3. Drag and drop columns to your preferred position.

Launching queries from outside the Queries tab

You don't need to be in the Queries tab to launch a query. The Mentions tab and search field are present in every major tab. Both offer an easy way to launch queries across Hypernomicon.

Running a query with the Mentions tab

From any record, click the Mentions tab icon to run a query for that record. This generates a list of every record in your database that mentions or links to the current record, regardless of record type. This helps you find indirect relationships and connections between your research materials.

Running a query with the Find Within All Fields search mode

These query searches scan the content of every record in your database. For a detailed explanation of the Find Within All Fields search mode, see ***Launching queries with Hypernomicon's search functions on Page 4***.

Using the File Actions tab

The File Results menu lets you organize the file results returned by queries. Choose between five actions to take and three other options:

Actions

- Clear Search Results Folder and Add All Results
- Clear Search Results Folder
- Copy Selected to Search Results Folder
- Show Search Results Folder in System Explorer
- Show Search Results Folder in File Manager

Options

- Include edited works
- Copy files without annotations
- Always copy entire PDF file

Generating database reports

In the Query Type drop-down menu, choose "Report" to run a report about your database. Of the three options shown, two are particularly relevant and helpful for keeping your research space organized:

- Dangling labels united to records with parent/child relationship: Shows work records that aren't currently in a parent/child relationship.

- Duplicate authors: Shows authors with similar names and offers the option to merge authors in cases of duplicates.

Chapter 4: Managing records

Hypernomicon automates many aspects of record management, but it also lets you edit, delete, and link records manually. Knowing when to rely on Hypernomicon and when to take control keeps your database well-maintained and optimally connected.

This chapter covers:

- ***Linking records: Debates, Arguments, and Positions***
- ***Deleting records from your database***
- ***Editing records by overwriting or updating***
- ***Forming semantic networks by connecting related entries***
- ***Connecting related entries with Search Keys and Unite***

Linking records: Debates, Arguments, and Positions

Three components are central to both Hypernomicon and philosophy itself:

- Debates
- Positions
- Arguments

Hypernomicon doesn't force you to follow a single workflow. It adapts to your research process. Still, most activity centers on the relationships between debate, position, and argument records, and working within their corresponding tabs. For an example that shows these record types in the flow of research, see ***"Appendix A: Example user workflow" on page 49***.

Connecting a position to a debate

Connecting a position to its related debate allows Hypernomicon to correctly identify and organize each record. Records of all types can be linked to one another. This example shows the steps of connecting position and debate records.

To connect a position to a debate

1. Navigate to the Problems/Debates tab.
2. Select **New** in the Position panel.
3. Create a new position record for a position related to this problem/debate.
   Note: If this position already exists in your database, link the existing position to the debate.
4. Enter the name of the position.
5. Provide a detailed description of the position in the Record Description panel.
6. Add supporting details and relevant sources.
7. Confirm that the position appears in the Debates tab and vice versa.
   Note: The position will also be visible in the Tree tab as a sub-item under the debate.

Tip: Whenever you notice a record's sub-panel within a different record type, adding your record from that sub-panel will generate these automatic connections. This saves you from having to manually link records that Hypernomicon can easily take care of.

Deleting records from your database

If you're confident that a record will no longer be of use for your research, you can delete it permanently from your database.

To delete a record

1. Navigate to a record.
2. Select **Delete**.
3. Review the warning message about potential impacts on linked entries.
4. Confirm deletion if you're certain the record and its connections should be removed.

Warning: Deleting a debate may affect its associated positions and arguments. Before deleting a record, analyze the record in the Tree tab to better understand its relationships throughout your database.

Editing records by overwriting or updating

Edit records either by overwriting their descriptions or simply updating them. Which method you choose depends on how significant your changes need to be. Edits save automatically when you close Hypernomicon or navigate away from a page, but you can select Accept Edits to lock your changes in. You can also press Revert to reverse any changes you've made since the last time Hypernomicon automatically saved the record.

Editing a record by overwriting

Overwriting a field fully replaces its content with new information. This helps when a record requires substantial changes, rather than minor edits.

To edit a record by overwriting

1. Navigate to a record.
2. Navigate to the field(s) you want to overwrite.
3. Select all existing content in a field with **Ctrl+A.**
4. Type the content you want to replace the selected text.
5. Click **Accept Edits**.

Note: After editing, don’t forget to verify that affected hyperlinks update appropriately.

Editing a record by updating

Updating a field lets you add, edit, or refine information while preserving much of the field's previous and content and structure. This helps when a record requires minor adjustments.

To edit a record by updating

1. Navigate to a record.
2. Make corrections or additions within a field.
3. Select **Accept Edits**.

Forming semantic networks by connecting related entries

Hypernomicon automatically generates hyperlinks between records, forming “semantic networks.” A semantic network represents knowledge in a web-like structure by displaying relationships between concepts. These networks reveal how your research records connect, often in unexpected ways, and form the intellectual architecture of your database.

Connecting related entries with Search Keys and Unite

Because Hypernomicon creates and maintains relationships between records automatically, adding records sparks an automatic process connecting your research. But there are also two major features that give you more control over your database, as both involve manually connecting related records:

- Unite: Combines, merges, and organizes multiple records and their relationships
- Search Keys: Triggers automatic hyperlinking when you enter key terms in record fields

Uniting and merging to connect records

Hypernomicon's Unite function creates and strengthens relationships between records. Uniting terms, notes, labels, and positions lets you manually create connections that Hypernomicon's automatic hyperlinking doesn’t catch. It also resolves redundancies and clarifies relationships. The Unite function is available in the Problems/Debates, Positions, Notes, and Terms tabs. All four tabs include the same Unite options, except for the Terms tab, which also offers a Merge with Term function.

To connect records using the Unite feature

1. Navigate to the Debate/Position, Note, or Terms tab.
2. Locate Unite options. For their location, view ***"Understanding the user interface" on page 2***.
3. Select a Unite action by clicking the Unite text matching the union you want to create.
   The **Term Select** dialog displays
4. Select what you wish to unite with the current entry.
5. Confirm your selection.
6. Navigate between related entries to confirm the new connections.

Connecting related entries with Search Keys

Search keys are specific terms, phrases, names, or attributes that trigger automatic hyperlinking between records. When you enter a search key in a record field, Hypernomicon generates semantic hyperlinks between that term and its related concepts.

As you add records, consider which of the names, terms, or phrases you are entering should be classified as Search Keys. Choose relevant terms that repeat throughout your research and stay consistent by using the same spelling and phrasing in record entries across your database.

To connect related entries with Search Keys

1. Identify a key term within a record tab.
2. Locate the **Search Key** field.
3. Enter relevant keyword(s) or phrase(s).
4. Click hyperlinked terms to follow connections to related concepts.

Chapter 5: Working with files and PDFs

Hypernomicon's file management system links your PDF collection directly to your database records. Each file becomes a part of Hypernomicon's intelligent ecosystem that organizes, renames, and preserves your research materials.

This chapter covers:

- ***Understanding the database file structure***
- ***Getting to know the eight core sub-folders***
- ***Creating sub-folders within the Topical sub-folder***
- ***Importing PDFs into Hypernomicon***
- ***Importing Misc. File records***
- ***Placing files manually***

Understanding the database file structure

When you create a new database, Hypernomicon installs a system of eight core sub-folders within the root folder you create for it. These sub-folders store and organize your research materials. While you can add your own custom folders, it's best to use the default structure.

Your root folder contains all eight sub-folders and their data. If you ever need to move your Hypernomicon database to another computer or want to back it up to a cloud service, just copy the root folder.

Getting to know the eight core sub-folders

Hypernomicon automatically manages the first six of its eight sub-folders (from Books to XML, see *Table 5.1*). You'll manually interact with the Topical and Works Not Entered Yet folders.

Name of sub-folder	Description of contents
books/	Complete works like monographs, book-length works, and single-author volumes.
papers/	Journal articles, conference papers, working papers, and other shorter works.
misc/	Random files like syllabi, handouts, administrative documents, reference materials.
pictures/	Pictures associated with Person records.
search results/	Files Hypernomicon stores based on query results.
XML/	XML files where record data is stored.
topical/	Files/folders organized by your personal research topics and projects.
works not entered yet/	PDFs that you've imported but haven't yet created corresponding Work records for,

Table 5.1: Each of the eight sub-folders with a description of its contents

Creating sub-folders within the Topical sub-folder

Keep any custom sub-folders in the topical sub-folder. Use these when a project requires its own research materials, such as:

- Classes you're taking or teaching
- Reading groups you're participating in
- Conferences you're attending or presenting at

Storing PDFs with the Works Not Entered Yet folder

Place any files that you plan on importing as works or Misc. Files records into the Works Not Entered Yet folder. When downloading a file to this folder while Hypernomicon is running, the import window launches automatically. This is one of several ways you can bring new files into your database.

Importing PDFs into Hypernomicon

When you import a file, Hypernomicon scans its metadata, suggests a destination folder, and prompts you to confirm or adjust its suggested placement. Once confirmed, Hypernomicon copies the file into the correct sub-folder and makes it available for linking to work records.

Hypernomicon provides multiple ways to import PDFs, so you can choose the method that fits your workflow:

- Drag-and-drop
- File dialog
- Manual placement

Hypernomicon does not allow mass importing of large blocks of PDFs. Instead, it guides you to intentionally add PDFs one at a time as they become relevant within your workflow. This helps to create an organized representation of your thought and research processes.

Importing PDFs using a Drag-and-Drop process

Drag-and-drop is the simplest way to import a PDF file. Drag the file into Hypernomicon and the system scans its metadata, suggests a destination folder, and prompts you to confirm or adjust the placement.

To import a PDF by dragging and dropping

1. Open your file explorer and navigate to your PDF files.
2. Select one or more PDF files.
3. Drag the files directly onto the Hypernomicon main window.
   Hypernomicon automatically detects file types and suggests appropriate folders.
4. Confirm placement or choose alternative locations.

Using drag-and-drop to import from a reference manager

You can drag PDF files directly from reference managers like Zotero or Mendeley. Keep in mind, however, that Zotero and Mendeley are made for citation management rather than file management. Because of this, their systems can introduce friction when used for organizing research materials.

After importing, it's best to rely on Hypernomicon's flexible file storage system for ongoing projects.

For details on integration, see ***"Integrating your database with Zotero or Mendeley" on Page 46.***

Importing PDFs with the file dialog

You can also import PDFs directly through the File menu. This helps if drag-and-drop proves inconvenient, which can happen when selecting files stored in cloud directories or external drives.

To import a PDF with the file dialog

1. Select **Import Work File** from the File menu.
2. Use the dialog to browse for and select a PDF file.

Importing PDFs into an existing work record

As well as creating work records to match a PDF that already exists in your database, you can also import PDFs and attach them to work records that already exist. This helps when you've entered bibliographic details first and want to link the file later.

To import a PDF into an existing work record

1. Navigate to the Works tab.
2. Create a new work record.
3. Locate the Main Files sub-tab.
4. Click **New**.

   The Work File window displays, prompting you to select a file from your database.
5. Select a file.

   Eight empty fields about the PDF display. Hypernomicon attempts to automatically fill them.
6. Fill in any field Hypernomicon fails to complete.
7. Click **OK**.

   Hypernomicon names the file and sorts it into the appropriate database sub-folder.

Importing Misc. File records

Not all research documents fit into a standard Hypernomicon record type. Syllabi, administrative forms, conference materials, and similar materials work best as Misc. Files. This record type is flexible on purpose, opening itself to a wide range of PDFs. Because of this variety, Misc. Files use a dedicated importing process.

To import a miscellaneous file

1. Select the File menu.
2. Click **Import Misc. File**.
   Your file system displays.
3. Select a file from your file system.
   The Miscellaneous file window displays, presenting options for importing the file.
4. Enter an appropriate file type in the record name field.
5. Click the **ellipsis button** to choose which folder the file imports into.
   Note: The default folder is Misc. Files.
6. Enter a description.
7. Enter Search Keys (if relevant).

Placing files manually

In most cases, Hypernomicon analyzes a file's metadata, consults web resources, and suggests the correct destination for your files. In other cases, you can manually place files that Hypernomicon struggles to sort correctly. When in doubt, leave file sorting to Hypernomicon.

Certain situations call for manual file placement. You may want or need to place files manually in situations involving:

- Unclear metadata
- Work records that span multiple categories
- Specific but not obvious folder destinations

Associating multiple works with one PDF file

Academic research involves accessing individual chapters, articles, or sections within a single large PDF file. Hypernomicon facilitates flexible connections to manage these relationships. This helps in cases of:

- Collected works of an author
- Issues of journals containing multiple articles
- Edited volumes containing individual chapters by different authors

To link multiple Works to a single PDF

1. Create a work record for the file.
2. Click **New Chapter**.
   Hypernomicon automatically identifies this new work with the same PDF file.
3. Enter the Title, Year, and Authors of the chapter within the Work tab.
   The chapter displays in the Sub-works sub-tab of the book's work record.
4. Set specific start and end pages for each work within the PDF.

Setting start and end pages

Define start and end pages within PDF files to match the page ranges relevant to your research. This lets Hypernomicon know which page to open to.

To set start and end pages

1. Open the Work record linked to your PDF.
2. Click **Preview**.
3. Scroll to the first page of the work within the larger work.
4. Locate **Start page**.
5. Click **Set**.
6. Scroll to the last page of the work within the larger work.
7. Locate **End page**.
8. Click **Set**.

Tip: When setting start and end pages, use the PDF page numbers, not printed page numbers.

Managing multiple PDFs for one work

Sometimes a work spans multiple PDF files or exists in different versions. For example, multi-volume works may be split across several PDF files, or your database could include multiple editions of a work. Hypernomicon handles these cases by letting you link multiple PDFs to a single work record. This way, all versions or volumes stay connected to the same entry in your database.

To manage multiple PDFs for one work

1. Navigate to the Works tab.
2. Click **New** in the Main Files sub-tab.
   Your File Explorer displays.
3. Locate the PDF in the File Explorer.
4. Select **Copy to new location**.
5. Click **OK**.
6. Mark the different versions of this file using the Description column in the Main Files sub-tab.
7. Note in the Work record description which PDF serves which purpose.

Organizing PDFs using work labels

Create work labels to organize works and their corresponding PDF files with user-defined tabs.

To add a work label record to a work record

1. Navigate to the Works tab.
2. Locate the Labels fields.
3. Click the ellipsis button.
   A tree displays, containing debates, labels, and notes.
4. Select **All labels**.
5. Choose a label to attach to the work record or right-click **All labels**.
6. Select **New label under this record**.
   The Label Name dialog displays.
7. Enter a name for the label.
8. Click **OK**.
9. Click **Select**.
   The work is both assigned to the work record and filed under a work label in the Tree tab.

Reading PDFs with built-in viewer and preview features

Hypernomicon includes a PDF viewing system that integrates with your database. This keeps you from needing to use external PDF applications and helps you contain your research workflow.

Using the Preview window

The Preview window displays any PDF linked to a record. *Figure 5.1* shows its layout and buttons, while *Table 5.2* explains each of the Preview window's features.

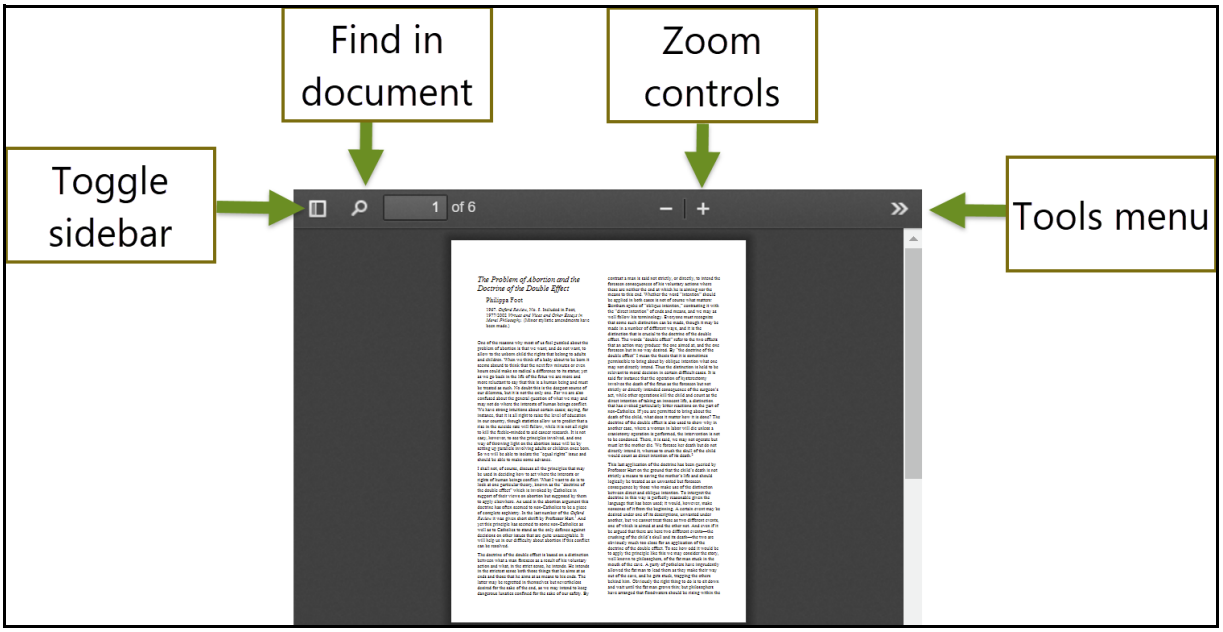

Figure 5.1: The PDF viewer's menu buttons

The Preview window's features include full PDF navigation, zoom and view options, page-jumping, multi-document support, and options to search within the PDF.

Preview window feature	What Preview window feature enables
Toggle sidebar	Navigate through and view pages with scrolling sidebar
Text tool selection	Grab text with Hand tool or highlight with Text Selection tool
Scroll selection tools	Horizontal, vertical, or wrapped scrolling
Zoom/view options	Adjusting magnification and viewing modes for optimal reading.
Search within PDF	Searching for specific text; can Match Case, Highlight All, or Search Whole Words only
Multi-document support	Keeping several PDFs open simultaneously.

Table 5.2: Hypernomicon PDF-viewing Preview window's features and functions

To use the preview window

1. Navigate to any record with linked PDF files.
2. Click **Preview** in the Works tab interface.
3. The PDF opens in a separate window.
4. Browse using standard PDF navigation controls and the features described in *Table 5.2*.

   Note: To open a file without using the Preview window, press **Launch**.

Organizing your database with the File Manager

Open the File Manager from the main window by pressing the File Manager button in the main interface. The File Manager is the safest place for editing, removing, and creating files and folders. Making changes in the File Manager minimizes the risk of disrupting your database.

Navigating the File Manager interface

As shown in *Figure 5.2*, the File Manager interface displays the contents of Hypernomicon's eight core sub-folders, along with their records, and the relationships between records. The toolbar controls basic editing functions like editing, creating, deleting, and navigating through the file structure.

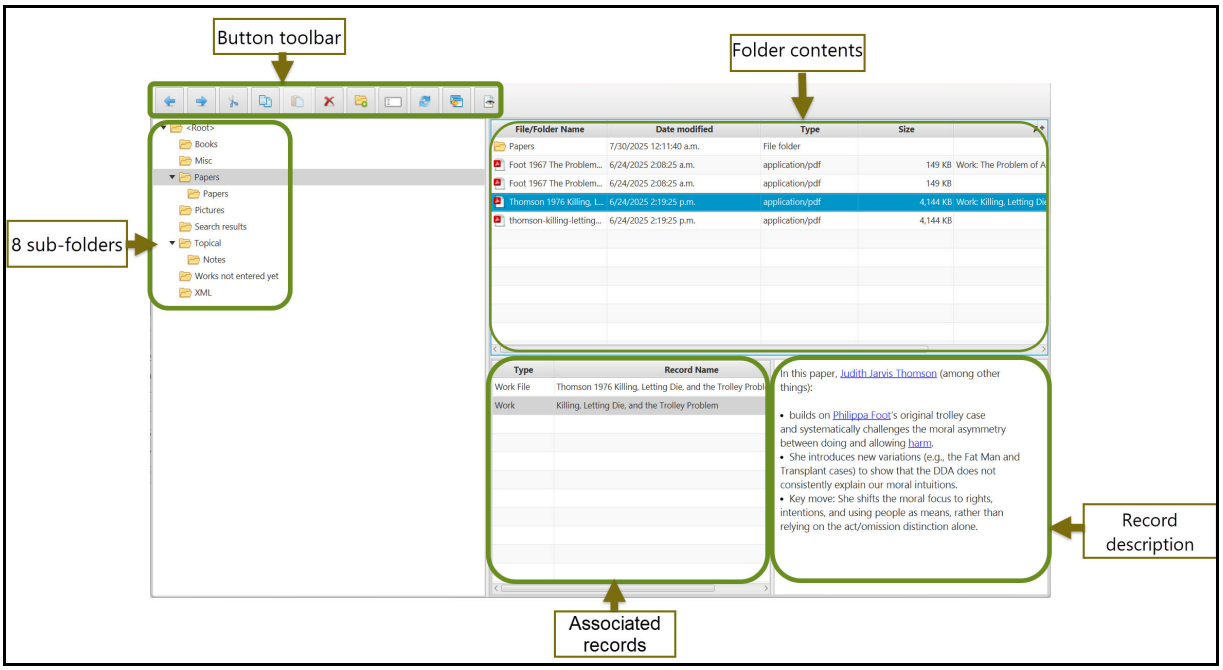

Figure 5.2: The File Manager window and its major components

Table 5.3 describes the main elements of the File Manager interface and their functions.

File manager element	Function
Folder menu (8 sub-folders)	Allows you to choose which of the eight sub-folders you want to display.
Folder contents panel	Displays the contents of any of the eight sub-folders you select.
Button toolbar	Contains buttons for refreshing, renaming, deleting, creating, previewing, cutting, copying, and navigating through folders and their contents.
Record description	Displays information about currently selected record.
Associated records	Displays list of records linked to currently selected record.

Table 5.3: The File Manager window's main elements and their functions

Searching for files

Hypernomicon provides several file location methods, but its search functions are the most reliable. For a search refresher, see ***"Launching queries with Hypernomicon's search functions" on page 4***.

To search for a specific file

1. Press **Ctrl+F** to access the search field.
2. Enter the name of the author, work, position, argument, term, or institution.

   A file window displays.

   Note: When you type the author's name, every work of theirs in your database displays.
3. For more specific results, enter more information into your query.
4. Right-click the work in the search results.
5. Click **Launch work file**.

Changing automatic naming settings

Because consistent naming makes file organization more effective, Hypernomicon assigns file names automatically. You can, however, adjust file-naming options to set a different naming convention.

To change how Hypernomicon automatically names your files

1. Click the **Tools** drop-down menu.
2. Select **Settings**.
3. Click **Work File Naming**.
4. Customize your file-naming settings.

Chapter 6: Integrating your reference manager

Instead of replacing your reference manager, Hypernomicon complements it. Zotero and Mendeley handle bibliographic data, while Hypernomicon manages your PDFs in a dynamic research workspace. Hypernomicon encourages you to integrate your reference manager. That way, you can import bibliographic data, sync PDFs, and maintain unified records without duplicating files.

This chapter covers:

- ***Integrating your database with Zotero or Mendeley***
- ***Using the Bibliographic Entry Manager***
- ***Creating bibliographic entries from record tabs***
- ***Keeping reference managers from importing duplicates***

Integrating your database with Zotero or Mendeley

Until you integrate your database with Zotero or Mendeley, Hypernomicon prompts you each time you open the application. Before starting, make sure you have:

- Your preferred reference manager installed
- Your Hypernomicon folder structure already in place

Begin integrating by clicking Yes when prompted, or by starting from the main interface.

To integrate with your reference manager

1. Click **Tools** in the menu bar.
2. Click **Settings**.
3. Click **Bibliography Manager**.
4. Click **Link to Zotero account or Link to Mendeley account**.
5. Click **Go to verification web page**.
   The reference manager's website displays.
6. Log in to your reference manager.
7. Click **Accept Defaults** (or your reference manager's equivalent).
   A verification code displays.
8. Copy the verification code.
9. Navigate back to Hypernomicon.
10. Paste the verification code into the Step 3 field.
11. Click **Verify**.
    A success message displays, confirming your database and reference library are linked.

Using the Bibliographic Entry Manager

The Bibliographic Entry Manager consists of various panels and buttons:

- The main panel lists every file in your reference manager library
- The Related Entries panel shows details about a selected entry's related records
- Pressing the sync button in the toolbar updates entries in both directions: from your reference manager to Hypernomicon and from Hypernomicon back to your reference manager

Assigning bibliographic entries to work records

Once your Bibliographic Entry Manager shows that you have successfully connected Hypernomicon with your external reference management software, you can begin assigning these bibliographic entries to your work records.

To assign a bibliographic entry to a work record

1. Click **Bib Mgr.** to navigate to the Bibliographic Entry Manager.
2. Select an entry from the main panel.
3. Click **Assign to Work Record**.

   The Select a Work Record dialog displays.
4. Select the File, Author, and Work records from their respective drop-down menus.
5. Click **Use Selected Work Record**.

   The How to Merge Fields window displays various options.
6. Select merge options.
7. Click **OK**.

   Reference entry copies into the work record and the work's ID displays in the Bibliographic Entry Manager.

Creating bibliographic entries from record tabs

You can also create bibliographic entries from various other locations within the user interface.

Using the Works tab to create bibliographic entries

Assign a reference manager entry from within the Works tab using the Bibliographic Entry button (see *Figure 6.1*). Whether the work is already in your database changes the steps to accomplish this.

To create a bibliographic entry for an already-existing work from the Works tab

1. Press the Bibliographic Entry button.

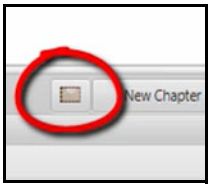

Figure 6.1: The Bibliographic Entry button

2. Select an existing entry.
3. Click **Assign to Work Record**. To create a bibliographic entry for a new work from the Works tab
4. Press the **Bibliographic Entry** button.

   The Bibliographic Entry Manager displays.
5. Click **Create New**.

   Bibliographic information fields display in the Related Entries panel.
6. Click **Auto-fill**.

   Hypernomicon uses file data and online resources to fill in fields.

   Note: When you return to the Works tab, you'll see that the Bibliographic Entry button has changed colour (see *Figure 6.2*). Pressing this button will now take you to the record's bibliographic information.

Figure 6.2: The colour of the Bibliographic Entry button has darkened

Keeping reference managers from importing duplicates

For reasons explained in ***"Importing PDFs into Hypernomicon" on page 37***, it's best to let Hypernomicon take care of PDF management while leaving reference management to Zotero or Mendeley.

To prevent reference managers from bringing duplicate file copies into your database

1. Open Zotero.
2. Open the Edit menu.
3. Click **Preferences**.

   Zotero's Preferences window displays.
4. Uncheck **Automatically attach associated PDFs and other files when saving items**.
5. Click **Sync** in the Zotero Preferences menu toolbar.
6. Uncheck **Sync attachment files in My Library using Zotero**.

Appendix A: Example user workflow

The moral debate about **Doing vs. Allowing Harm** is a central argument in 21st century ethics. It gave rise to the famous *Trolley Problem* and was first debated in various publications by Philippa Foot and Judith Jarvis Thomson.

In this walkthrough, you're a student taking a class on Contemporary Ethics and Moral Philosophy. Your final paper will focus on this issue, so you've decided to start building up a Hypernomicon database to deepen your understanding of this philosophical problem.

This walkthrough will demonstrate one path through Hypernomicon in seven sequential steps:

- ***Step 1. Creating a debate record***
- ***Step 2. Adding person records***
- ***Step 3. Assigning work records from each person record***
- ***Step 4. Adding a position record from the problems/debate tab***
- ***Step 5. Entering arguments***
- ***Step 6. Using term records and the Unite function***
- ***Step 7. Visualizing in the tree tab***

Step 1. Creating a debate record

You begin in the Problems/Debates tab. Click New in the Sub-Debate Name field and start filling out the basic record information. In this case, you name the debate "Doing vs. Allowing Harm." If you need a trustworthy definition for defining the debate, use the SEP button to find a peer-reviewed summary.

- For Problem/Debate records, see ***"Documenting discourse with Problems/Debates" on Page 11***
- For entering Search Keys, see ***"Connecting related entries with Search Keys" on page 33***

Step 2. Adding person records

You navigate to the Persons tab to add both contributors: Philippa Foot and Judith Jarvis Thomson. Doing this now will be useful when you add their Positions record in the Doing vs. Allowing Harm debate record. Both of their names will also be entered automatically as Search Keys.

For Person records, see ***"Cataloging philosophers with Persons" on page 15.***

Step 3. Assigning work records from each person record

Adding work records from the Persons tab ensures each Work is linked to the person who authored it. Create New Works for Philippa Foot's *"The Problem of Abortion and the Doctrine of the Double Effect."* Repeat for Judith Jarvis Thomson's *"Killing, Letting Die, and the Trolley Problem."* Just like in step two, Hypernomicon automatically adds the work titles and other relevant information as Search Keys.

If your PDFs are not already imported, see ***"Importing PDFs into Hypernomicon" on Page 37***

Step 4. Adding a position record from the problems/debate tab

Now, you add a position record for Philippa Foot's DDE (the Doctrine of Double Effect). You don't add a position record for Thomson because her paper counter-argues against Foot. You'll enter it as an argument record in the next step. You use the SEP button again and come back with this description of the DDE:

> *"The doctrine (or principle) of double effect is often invoked to explain the permissibility of an action that causes a serious harm, such as the death of a human being, as a side effect of promoting some good end. According to the principle of double effect, sometimes it is permissible to cause a harm as an unintended and merely foreseen side effect (or "double effect") of bringing about a good result, even though it would not be permissible to cause such a harm as a means to bringing about the same good end."*

For more on creating a position record, see ***"Collecting perspectives with Positions" on Page 12***

Step 5. Entering arguments

First, you enter Foot's argument for the DDE, summarizing the argument's reasoning. The easiest way to do this is by adding arguments from the Positions tab. Then you enter Thomson's counter-argument:

For Foot's argument, you enter:

> *P1: There is a morally significant difference between doing harm and allowing harm.*
>
> *P2: Doing harm violates negative duties ("do not kill"), which are stronger and more stringent than positive duties ("save others").*
>
> *P3: Allowing harm may violate positive duties, but these are weaker and often overridden.*
>
> *P4: Therefore, it is generally worse to do harm than to allow harm, even if the outcomes are the same.*
>
> *C: Moral permissibility depends not only on outcomes but also on whether harm is done or merely allowed. Doing harm is typically impermissible where allowing harm might not be.*

For Thomson's argument, you enter:

> *P1: If the doing/allowing distinction were morally decisive, it would consistently explain our moral intuitions across similar cases.*
>
> *P2: In many cases (such as the trolley problem), the doing/allowing distinction does not align with our moral intuitions.*
>
> *P3: Our judgments often depend more on factors like rights violations, intentions, or use of persons as means than on whether harm is done or allowed.*
>
> *P4: A principle that fails to explain or predict moral intuitions consistently cannot serve as a reliable moral rule.*
>
> *C: Therefore, the doing/allowing distinction is not a morally decisive principle, and DDA should not be used to determine permissibility on its own.*

For more on how to enter arguments and counter-arguments, and relate each to positions, ***see "Recording reasoning with Arguments" on Page 13***.

Step 6. Using term records and the Unite function

Create term records for concepts like *Doctrine of Double Effect*, *Permissibility of Killing*, *Trolley Problem*, *Deontology*, *Utilitarianism*. Since you're just starting your database, there won't be many records to Unite with yet. However, by starting to enter key terms, you create possibilities for future connections using the Unite feature.

- For term records, see ***"Building your philosophical glossary with Terms" on Page 17***
- To learn more about Unite, see ***"Uniting and merging to connect records" on Page 32***

Step 7. Visualizing in the tree tab

Figure A.1: The tree tab displays Positions, Arguments, Problems/Debates, Notes, and Labels

Your argument tree has hardly started growing, but you already see how problems, positions, and arguments relate to each other. From this screen, you can drag-and-drop connections, assign "child" records to new "parents," and expand or collapse branches.

For more on the Tree tab, see ***"Gaining perspective with the Tree tab" on Page 22***.

Appendix B: Supporting resources

If you have questions about Hypernomicon this guide didn't answer, you can explore additional resources online. **The Hypernomicon SourceForge page and YouTube channel were both immeasurably helpful in the creation of this user guide**.

SourceForge

You'll find Hypernomicon using SourceForge as its main support hub. Hypernomicon's creator actively responds to users. You can give feedback, ask questions, or even request features.

Ways to learn more about Hypernomicon on SourceForge include:

- ***Frequently asked questions***
- ***Report Bugs or Request Features page***
- ***General discussion forums***

YouTube

Hypernomicon's creator has put out several YouTube videos that explain specific Hypernomicon features.

Hypernomicon's YouTube channel includes these videos:

- ***Introductory Tutorial***
- ***Managing PDFs, Other Files, and Folders***
- ***Integrating Hypernomicon with Zotero and Mendeley***
- ***Queries***

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