Multi-Agent RAG System - Full-Stack Integration Guide

Overview

This document provides a comprehensive guide to the full-stack architecture of the Multi-Agent RAG System, explaining how the frontend and backend components work together to create a powerful research document analysis platform.

System Architecture

The system follows a modern client-server architecture:

- 1. **Frontend**: Next.js application providing user interface
- 2. **Backend**: FastAPI service orchestrating AI agents
- 3. External: Azure OpenAI API and filesystem storage

Architectural Principles

- **Separation of Concerns**: Clear boundaries between presentation, business logic, and data access
- Asynchronous Processing: Long-running tasks handled via background processing
- Event-Driven Communication: Real-time status updates through polling and events
- Modular Agent Design: Specialized AI agents with focused responsibilities

Data Flow

1. Query Submission

- 1. User enters a query and selects crew type in the frontend
- 2. Frontend sends a POST request to /api/crew with query and crew type
- 3. Backend generates a job ID and initializes a job in the job manager
- 4. Backend starts a background task to process the request
- 5. Job ID is returned to the frontend for status tracking

2. Job Processing

- 1. Backend creates the appropriate crew based on front-end user choice (Analysis or Summary)
- 2. Crew orchestrates its agents to perform document processing
- 3. Each agent performs its specialized task using tools
- 4. Events are logged throughout the process

5. Results are accumulated and stored in the job entry

3. Status Updates

- 1. Frontend polls the /api/crew/{job id} endpoint at regular intervals
- 2. Backend returns current job status, events, and any available results
- 3. Frontend updates its UI with the latest information
- 4. When the job completes, frontend displays the final result and stops polling

Integration Points

API Contract

Start Job Endpoint

Request:

```
POST /api/crew
Content-Type: application/json

{
    "user_query": "string", // Required for analysis crew
    "crew_type": "analysis|summary" // Crew type selection
}

Response:

{
    "job_id": "uuid-string"
}
```

Job Status Endpoint

Request:

```
GET /api/crew/{job_id}
```

Response:

```
"job_id": "uuid-string",
"status": "STARTED|COMPLETE|ERROR",
"result": {
    "user_query": "string",
    "result": "string"
},
"events": [
    {
      "timestamp": "ISO-8601 datetime",
```

```
"data": "string or object"
}
]
```

Data Structures

Job Object

Deployment Configuration

Development Environment

Frontend:

- Server: http://localhost:3000
- Environment: .env.local with NEXT PUBLIC API URL=http://localhost:3001

Backend:

- Server: http://localhost:3001
- Environment: .env with Azure OpenAI credentials

Production Considerations

1. Environment Variables:

- o Store sensitive credentials in secure environment variables
- Use production URLs for API endpoints

2. **CORS Configuration**:

- Update backend CORS settings to allow only production frontend origin
- Set appropriate headers for security

3. **Scaling**:

- o Deploy frontend to a static hosting service (Vercel, Netlify)
- Deploy backend to a container orchestration platform (Kubernetes, Docker Swarm)
- Implement message queue for job processing (RabbitMQ, Redis, Azure Service Bus and Azure SQL)
- Use containerized workers for document processing

Local Development Setup

Prerequisites

- Node.js 16+ for frontend
- Python 3.8+ for backend
- Azure OpenAI API access

Start Development Environment

1. Start Backend:

```
cd backend
python -m venv venv
source venv/bin/activate # On Windows: venv\Scripts\activate
pip install -r requirements.txt
uvicorn fast crew api:app --host 0.0.0.0 --port 3001
```

2. Start Frontend:

```
cd frontend
npm install
npm run dev
```

3. Access the application at http://localhost:3000

Best Practices

Error Handling

1. Frontend:

- Use toast notifications for user-friendly error messages
- o Implement error boundaries for component-level error handling
- o Handle network errors gracefully with retries and fallbacks

2. Backend:

- o Return appropriate HTTP status codes
- Provide meaningful error messages
- Log detailed error information for debugging

Performance Optimization

1. Frontend:

- Optimize bundle size with code splitting
- Implement memoization for expensive computations
- Use pagination or virtualization for large event logs

2. Backend:

- Implement caching for frequently accessed resources
- Use efficient document processing algorithms
- o Optimize database queries with proper indexing

Security Considerations

1. API Security:

- o Implement rate limiting
- Add authentication for production environments
- Validate and sanitize all inputs

2. Data Security:

- o Ensure secure storage of sensitive documents
- Implement proper access controls
- Consider encryption for sensitive data

Extending the System

Adding New Crew Types

1. Backend Changes:

- o Create new agent classes in agents.py
- o Add new task definitions in tasks.py
- o Create a new crew class in crew.py
- Update API endpoint to handle the new crew type

2. Frontend Changes:

- o Add the new crew type to the dropdown in InputSection.tsx
- o Update the useCrewJob hook to handle any crew-specific logic
- o Add specialized rendering for the new crew's results if needed

Adding New Document Types

1. Backend Changes:

- o Add new document loaders in the tool implementations
- Update text processing for the new document type
- o Add specialized handling for format-specific features

2. Frontend Changes:

- o Add support for uploading the new document type
- o Implement any specialized visualization for the new format

Troubleshooting

Common Issues

1. **CORS Errors**:

- o Ensure backend CORS middleware is properly configured
- o Check that frontend is using the correct API URL

2. **Job Processing Timeouts**:

- o Increase the timeout settings in axios requests
- o Implement checkpoint saving for long-running jobs

3. Document Processing Failures:

- o Check file format compatibility
- Verify document encoding is supported
- o Ensure document size is within token limits

Debugging Tools

1. Frontend:

- o React Developer Tools for component inspection
- Network tab in browser DevTools for API requests
- Console logging with specific tags for tracking

2. Backend:

- Request logging middleware
- Debug-level logging for detailed operations
- o Interactive API documentation via Swagger UI

Reference Documentation

- Backend Documentation
- Frontend Documentation
- Azure OpenAI API Documentation
- CrewAI Documentation
- FastAPI Documentation
- Next.js Documentation