

The Mesh Digital Agora Deliberation System Architecture

Abstract. Mesh is a structured discourse system that represents conversation as a graph of typed entities. Claims exist as stable objects with unique identifiers. Evidence binds to assertions through explicit citation links. Challenges target specific premises, inferences, or conclusions rather than messages as a whole. The system supports progressive formalization: participants begin with informal discussion and introduce structure incrementally as complexity warrants. Multiple surfaces—publishing, curation, discussion, and deliberation—share a common foundation, so work performed in one context becomes available in others. Arguments constructed in one deliberation can migrate into related deliberations with provenance preserved. The network of deliberations forms a higher-level graph where cross-references, overlapping claims, shared sources, and imported arguments create explicit relationships. As participants contribute to this shared structure, the system accumulates institutional memory: conclusions traceable to their grounds and arguments available for reuse across contexts.

1. Introduction

Mesh provides infrastructure for collective inquiry. When groups need to coordinate around complex questions—evaluating policy options, analyzing technical tradeoffs, reaching shared conclusions—they require more than message exchange. They require a way to see the structure of a discussion: what has been claimed, what supports each claim, where disagreements lie, and what remains unresolved.

Mesh addresses this need by representing discourse as a graph rather than a sequence of messages. Every assertion promoted into the system becomes an addressable object. Every piece of evidence attaches explicitly to the claims it supports. Every challenge specifies its target: a premise, an inference step, or a conclusion. The result is a deliberation that participants can inspect, extend, and reference—a record that persists beyond the conversation and compounds over time.

The system is designed around progressive formalization. A discussion can remain informal indefinitely—real-time chat for coordination, threaded posts for durable exchange. When a thread becomes consequential, participants can introduce structure incrementally: promoting assertions into claims, attaching evidence, constructing arguments, and composing outputs. The platform accommodates both casual check-ins and multi-year institutional deliberations within the same architecture.

Mesh exposes multiple surfaces that share a common foundation. Publishing provides longform writing with annotation and deliberation hosting. Curation provides source collection with deduplication and citation workflows. Discussion provides informal exchange with upgrade paths to deliberation. Deliberation provides structured argument construction with artifact production. Discovery provides a feed of activity and a network of relationships across deliberations. These surfaces are entry points into the same underlying system, so claims created in one context can be cited, supported, challenged, and reused in others.

Architecture at a Glance

The system organizes reasoning into three layers:

Layer	Purpose	Key Artifacts
Claims & Evidence	Transform informal ideas into canonical, evidence-linked assertions	Propositions, Claims, ClaimEdges, Evidence
Arguments & Dialogue	Structure reasoning with premises, conclusions, schemes, and tracked moves	Arguments, ArgumentChains, DialogueMoves, Commitments
Outputs & Artifacts	Compose reasoning into publishable, citable documents	Thesis, TheoryWorks, KbPages, DebateSheets

All structures conform to the **Argument Interchange Format (AIF)** ontology, enabling interoperability with academic argumentation tools and ensuring that reasoning graphs can be exported, analyzed, and verified independently.

For Developers

This document serves as both conceptual orientation and implementation reference. The central UI orchestration component is [DeepDivePanelV2](#) (located at [components/deepdive/DeepDivePanelV2.tsx](#)), which connects the subsystems described herein through a tabbed interface with floating sheets for deep exploration. Understanding this component provides a practical entry point into the codebase.

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1. Global System Design

This section presents the big-picture architecture—the conceptual framework that explains *why* the system is structured the way it is, before diving into implementation details. This section reflects the **current implemented state** of the platform as of December 2024.

1.1 The Problem We Solve

Why Good Decisions Are Hard to Make Together

Every organization—whether a company, a government agency, a nonprofit, or a community group—faces the same fundamental challenge: **how do you reason well together?**

Good collective decisions require several things that are surprisingly difficult to achieve:

- You need to see the reasoning, not just the conclusion.** When someone proposes "we should do X," you need to understand *why*—what evidence supports it, what assumptions underlie it, what alternatives were considered. Without this, you can't evaluate the decision or improve it.
- You need to navigate complexity.** Real questions generate dozens of claims, each supported or challenged by others, referencing different sources. Linear documents and threaded comments can't represent this structure. People either oversimplify or get lost.
- You need to know who said what and why.** Ideas shouldn't float anonymously. Every claim should have an author, a source, and a context. When claims conflict, there should be a clear way to trace the disagreement.
- You need arguments to get better, not just louder.** When someone finds a flaw in reasoning, there should be a path to address it—to strengthen the premise, acknowledge the limitation, or revise the conclusion. Most platforms reward winning arguments, not refining them.
- You need to build on prior work.** When a team spends months analyzing a question, that analysis shouldn't disappear when the project ends. Future teams facing similar questions should be able to find, reference, and extend that work.

These aren't exotic requirements. They're what thoughtful reasoning looks like. But current digital tools make all five nearly impossible.

What's Broken Today

The platforms where groups discuss important questions—email threads, Slack channels, Google Docs, comment sections—were not designed for structured reasoning. They're optimized for conversation, not deliberation.

Problem	What Happens	What It Costs
No shared structure	Ideas exist as prose, not as claims with explicit relationships	Disagreements become rhetorical battles rather than structured analysis
Evidence is disconnected	Sources live in attachments, footnotes, or separate documents	No way to trace a claim back to its grounds, or see what depends on disputed evidence
No institutional memory	Reasoning scatters across threads, docs, meetings, and email	Every discussion starts from scratch; past conclusions can't be cited or audited
No path to resolution	Comments pile up but don't converge toward conclusions	Decisions get made elsewhere (or not at all), without clear justification

These aren't just inconveniences. They erode the ability of institutions to justify their decisions, of teams to learn from past analysis, and of communities to resolve disagreements constructively.

What We Build Instead

The solution isn't "better comments." It's infrastructure for reasoning—a method and data model that treats arguments as structured objects rather than unstructured text.

Agora provides:

- **Canonical claims:** Discrete assertions with stable identifiers that persist across contexts. When you reference "Claim #247," everyone is talking about the same thing.
- **Typed relationships:** Explicit structure showing how claims relate. Does A *support* B, *rebut* it, *undercut* the inference, or *undermine* a premise? The system distinguishes these.
- **Scheme-based reasoning:** Arguments built using recognized patterns (e.g., argument from expert opinion, argument from analogy) with automatically surfaced questions that challenge each pattern.
- **Dialogue tracking:** Every assertion, challenge, and concession recorded as a move in an ongoing dialogue, with full provenance (who, when, in response to what).
- **Composable outputs:** Deliberations produce documents, knowledge base pages, and exportable graphs that persist as institutional memory—citable, auditable, and extensible

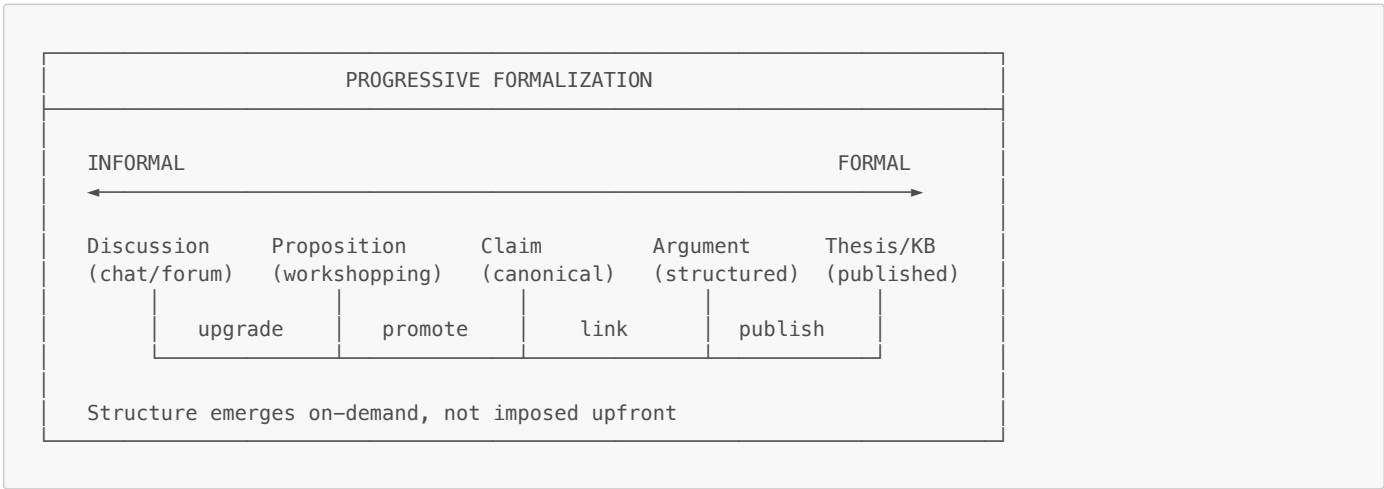
1.2 Core Design Philosophy

The architecture embodies four key principles that distinguish Agora from both traditional forums and document-centric collaboration tools.

Progressive Formalization

Not all conversations require formal structure. A team checking in on project status doesn't need argumentation schemes. A policy working group evaluating regulatory options does.

The system applies **progressive disclosure**: structure activates only when complexity warrants it. Users can stay in lightweight discussion mode indefinitely, or upgrade to full deliberation when formalization becomes valuable. The same platform serves casual check-ins and multi-year institutional deliberations.



Currently Implemented Transitions:

- **Discussion → Deliberation:** Via `DeliberateButton` component, creates linked deliberation space
- **Proposition → Claim:** Via `PromoteToClaimButton`, elevates validated propositions to canonical claims
- **Claim → Argument:** Via `AIFArgumentWithSchemeComposer`, creates structured arguments with scheme
- **Argument → Thesis:** Via `ThesisComposer`, composes claims/arguments into legal-style documents

AIF-Centric Architecture

Academic argumentation research has produced a standard for representing argument structures: the **Argument Interchange Format (AIF)**. Rather than inventing proprietary representations, Agora implements AIF as its canonical data model. This provides:

- **Interoperability:** Export to tools used in argumentation research and formal verification
- **Theoretical grounding:** Decades of research on argument semantics, attack types, and extension computation
- **Explicit structure:** Clear distinction between content (I-nodes), inference (RA-nodes), conflict (CA-nodes), and preference (PA-nodes)

AIF Node Type	Description	Implementation
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AIF Node Type	Description	Implementation
I-node (Information)	Propositions/claims containing content	Claim, AifNode (nodeKind='I')
RA-node (Rule of Application)	Inference steps applying schemes	Argument, AifNode (nodeKind='RA')
CA-node (Conflict Application)	Attack relations (rebut/undercut/undermine)	ArgumentEdge, AifNode (nodeKind='CA')
PA-node (Preference Application)	Priority/ordering relations	AifNode (nodeKind='PA')
DM-node (Dialogue Move)	Locutions in dialogue (WHY, GROUNDS, CONCEDE)	DialogueMove, AifNode (nodeKind='DM')

Dialogue-First Reasoning

Arguments don't exist in isolation—they emerge through **structured dialogue**. Someone asserts a claim. Another participant challenges it ("WHY do you believe that?"). The original author provides grounds. A third party undercuts the inference. Each of these is a **dialogue move** with explicit semantics.

This dialogue-first approach means every structure in the system has provenance: who created it, when, in response to what. Arguments are not free-floating logical objects but moves in an ongoing conversation.

```
DialogueMove (locution) → creates → AifNode (content)
                             → records → who said what, when, in reply to what
```

Implemented Move Types: ASSERT, WHY, GROUNDS, CONCEDE, RETRACT, CLOSE

Confidence & Uncertainty

Real-world reasoning involves uncertainty. Premises may be likely rather than certain. Evidence may be partial. The system treats confidence as first-class, tracking it at multiple levels:

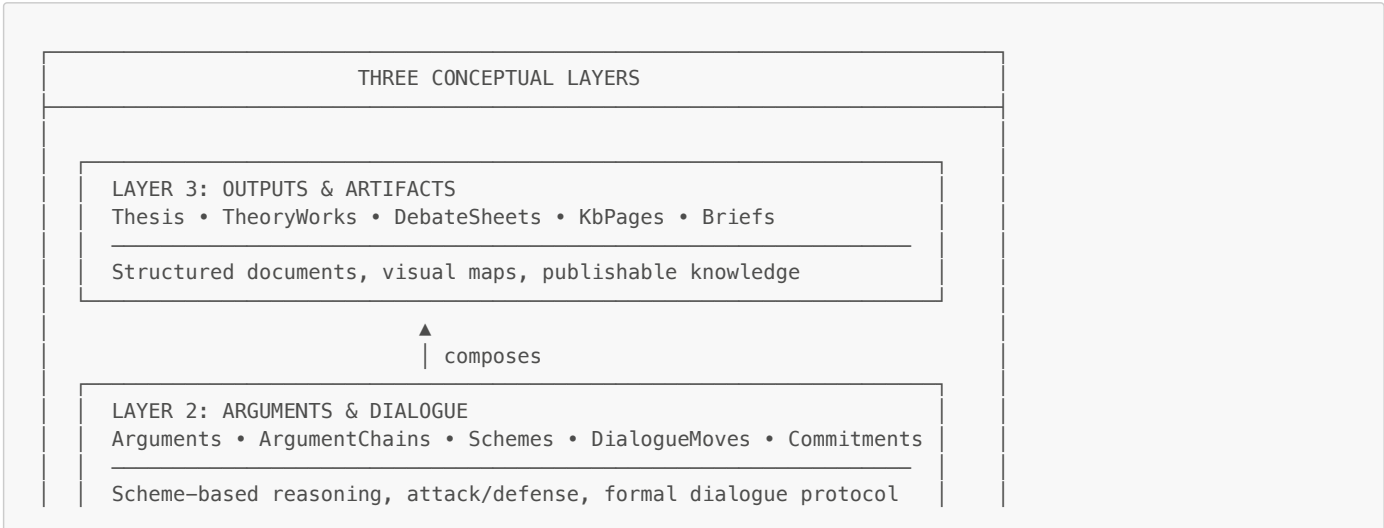
Scope	Implementation	UI
Per-argument	Argument.confidence (0.0-1.0)	Confidence sliders in composers
Aggregation mode	DeliberationState.confMode	Product / Min toggle
Dempster-Shafer intervals	Deliberation.dsMode	DS Mode toggle in header
Temporal decay	Argument.lastUpdatedAt	Stale badges on old arguments

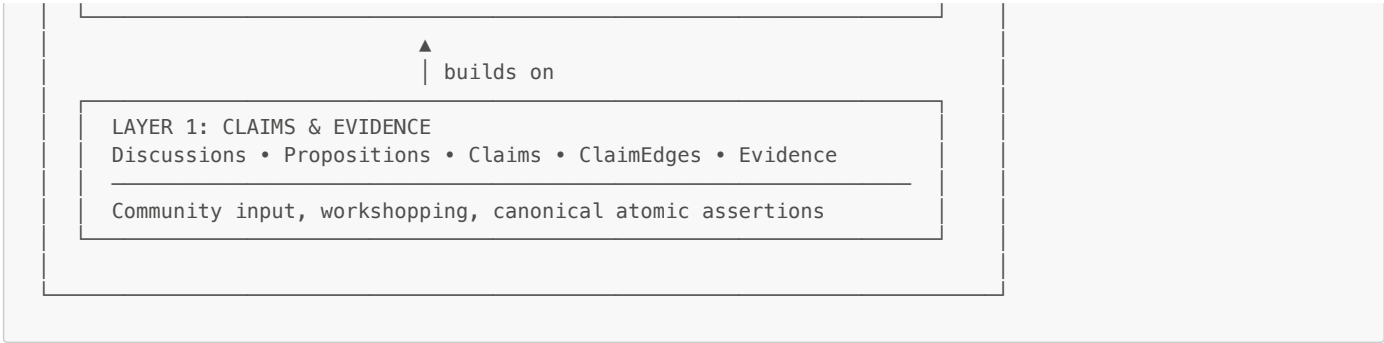
This allows the system to distinguish between strongly-supported conclusions and tentative hypotheses, and to surface when previously confident conclusions have become stale due to lack of recent validation.

1.3 The Three Conceptual Layers

The platform organizes reasoning into three distinct but connected layers. Each layer builds on the one below, adding structure and formalization as needed. A deliberation might use only Layer 1 (informal discussion with workshopping). A policy analysis might span all three, culminating in published thesis documents that cite structured arguments grounded in canonical claims.

This layered architecture reflects how reasoning actually works: ideas start informal, get refined through dialogue, connect into argument structures, and eventually crystallize into outputs that persist beyond the conversation.





Layer 1: Claims & Evidence (Currently Implemented)

Purpose: Transform informal ideas into canonical, evidence-linked assertions.

The foundation of structured reasoning is the **claim**—a discrete assertion that can be referenced, linked, attacked, and defended. But claims don't appear fully-formed. They emerge from informal discussion, get refined through community workshopping, and only graduate to canonical status when they've proven their value.

This layer provides the path from "someone said something in a meeting" to "we have a stable assertion we can build arguments around."

Component	Model	Key Features
Discussions	Discussion	Forum-style threads, chat mode, upgradable to deliberation
Propositions	Proposition	Workshopping with votes (PropositionVote), endorsements, replies
Claims	Claim	Canonical assertions with MOID identifiers, negation relations
ClaimEdges	ClaimEdge	Typed relations: SUPPORTS, REBUTS, UNDERCUTS, UNDERMINES
Evidence	ClaimEvidence	Citations with confidence, source URLs, CSL metadata
Contraries	ClaimContrary	ASPIC+ explicit contrary relations between claims

Key Components:

- [PropositionComposer](#) / [PropositionComposerPro](#): Create propositions with evidence
- [PromoteToClaimButton](#): Elevate validated propositions to canonical claims
- [ClaimMiniMap](#) / [CegMiniMap](#): Visual navigation of claim relationships
- [ClaimDetailPanel](#): Deep-dive into individual claims with CQ status

Layer 2: Arguments & Dialogue (Currently Implemented)

Purpose: Structure reasoning with explicit premises, conclusions, and inferential steps.

Claims alone don't make arguments. An argument connects claims through inference: "Given premises A and B, therefore conclusion C." The strength of this inference can be challenged. The premises can be disputed. The inference pattern itself can be questioned.

Layer 2 provides the machinery for structured argumentation. Arguments reference **schemes**—recognized patterns of reasoning (argument from expert opinion, argument from analogy, argument from cause to effect) with **critical questions** that expose their vulnerabilities. When you create an argument using a scheme, the system automatically surfaces the questions that would challenge that reasoning pattern.

Crucially, all activity in this layer is mediated by **dialogue moves**. You don't just add an argument to the graph—you ASSERT it. Someone else doesn't just attack—they explicitly REBUT or UNDERCUT. This makes the discourse structure as important as the logical structure.

Component	Model	Key Features
Arguments	Argument	Premise claims → conclusion claim, scheme reference, confidence
Premises	ArgumentPremise	Links claims as premises with role/order
Edges	ArgumentEdge	Inter-argument relations: ATTACK (rebut/undercut/undermine), SUPPORT
Schemes	ArgumentScheme , ArgumentSchemeInstance	Walton schemes with critical questions
Diagrams	ArgumentDiagram	AIF graph representation of argument structure
Chains	ArgumentChain , ArgumentChainNode , ArgumentChainEdge	Threaded reasoning with scopes
Scopes	ArgumentScope	Hypothetical/counterfactual groupings

Component	Model	Key Features
Dialogue Moves	DialogueMove	ASSERT, WHY, GROUNDS, CONCEDE, RETRACT, CLOSE
Commitments	Commitment	Participant commitment stores for dialogue tracking

Key Components:

- AIFArgumentWithSchemeComposer: Create arguments with scheme selection
- AIFArgumentsListPro: Browse/filter arguments with scheme breakdown
- ArgumentActionsSheet: Attack menu with rebut/undercut/undermine options
- SchemeNavigator / SchemeSuggester: Browse and match argumentation schemes
- ArgumentChainCanvas: Visual canvas for threaded argument chains
- DialogueInspector: View dialogue move history and commitments
- CommitmentStorePanel: Track participant commitments

Layer 3: Outputs & Artifacts (Currently Implemented)

Purpose: Compose reasoning into publishable, citable artifacts.

Deliberation should produce durable outputs. When a working group spends months analyzing a policy question, the result shouldn't evaporate when the project ends. It should persist as institutional memory—citable, auditable, and available for future groups facing similar questions.

Layer 3 provides artifact types designed for different publication needs: **Thesis documents** for legal-style structured arguments with prongs and supporting evidence; **TheoryWorks** for longer-form analysis using established frameworks (Deontological, Instrumental Harm, Teleological Consequentialist, Original Position); **KbPages** for knowledge base entries that compose blocks of content with live links to underlying claims and arguments; **Briefs** for generated summaries.

These artifacts don't just reference the underlying reasoning—they link to it. A thesis claim points to the canonical claim it's asserting. A KB block embeds a live view of an argument that updates as the underlying structure evolves.

Component	Model	Key Features
Thesis	Thesis, ThesisProng, ThesisProngArgument	Legal-style structured documents
TheoryWorks	TheoryWork	Longform DN/IH/TC/OP frameworks
DebateSheet	DebateSheet, DebateNode, DebateEdge	Visual debate mapping
KbPages	KbPage, KbBlock	Knowledge base pages with block system
Briefs	BriefCompiler	Generated summaries from deliberation content
Glossary	GlossaryTerm	Per-deliberation term definitions

Key Components:

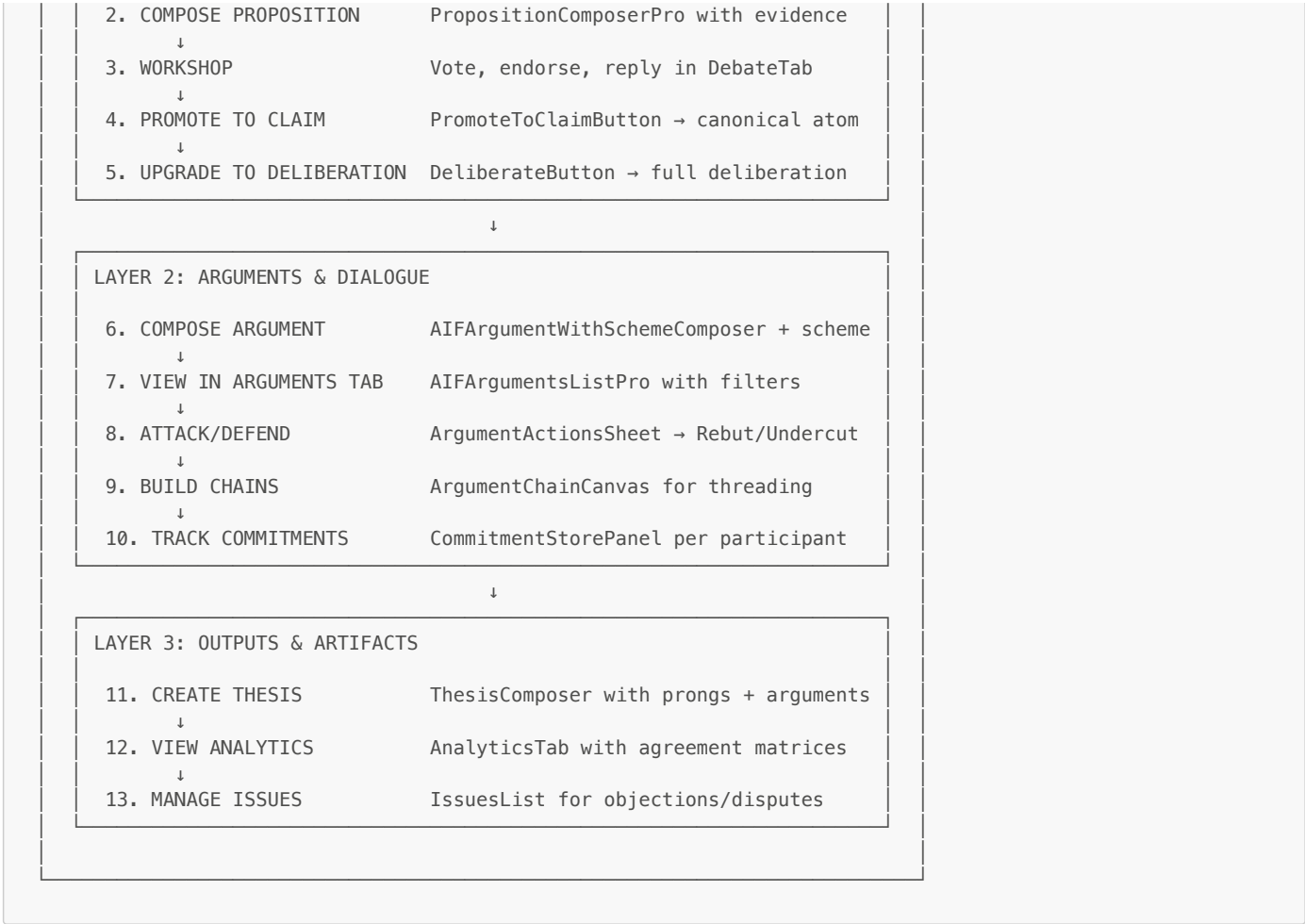
- ThesisComposer / ThesisRenderer: Create and view structured thesis documents
- WorksList / WorkDetailClient: Browse and edit TheoryWorks
- KbPageEditor: Rich block-based knowledge page editor
- BriefCompiler: AI-assisted brief generation
- DefinitionSheet: Deliberation glossary management

1.4 The User Journey (Actual Flow)

The three-layer architecture translates into a concrete user journey. A participant might enter at any point—joining an existing deliberation, creating a new proposition, or composing an argument against an existing claim. But the canonical path from scratch illustrates how the layers connect.

The journey below represents the **currently implemented** flow. Every step has working UI components and backend support. This is not a roadmap—it's a description of what the platform does today.





Step	Action	Key Component	Key Model	Status
1	Enter Discussion	DiscussionView, ForumPane	Discussion	<div>✓</div> Implemented
2	Compose Proposition	PropositionComposerPro	Proposition	<div>✓</div> Implemented
3	Workshop	PropositionsList	PropositionVote, PropositionEndorsement	<div>✓</div> Implemented
4	Promote to Claim	PromoteToClaimButton	Claim (sourceProposition)	<div>✓</div> Implemented
5	Upgrade to Deliberation	DeliberateButton	Deliberation (upgradedFromDiscussionId)	<div>✓</div> Implemented
6	Compose Argument	AIFArgumentWithSchemeComposer	Argument, ArgumentSchemeInstance	<div>✓</div> Implemented
7	View Arguments	AIFArgumentsListPro	Argument, ArgumentDiagram	<div>✓</div> Implemented
8	Attack/Defend	ArgumentActionsSheet, AttackMenuProV2	ArgumentEdge, DialogueMove	<div>✓</div> Implemented
9	Build Chains	ArgumentChainCanvas, ChainsTab	ArgumentChain, ArgumentChainNode	<div>✓</div> Implemented
10	Track Commitments	CommitmentStorePanel	Commitment	<div>✓</div> Implemented
11	Create Thesis	ThesisComposer	Thesis, ThesisProng	<div>✓</div> Implemented
12	View Analytics	AnalyticsTab, CommitmentAnalyticsDashboard	(computed)	<div>✓</div> Implemented

Step	Action	Key Component	Key Model	Status
13	Manage Issues	IssuesList, IssueComposer	Issue, IssueLink	<div><div>✓</div>Implemented</div>

1.5 The DeepDivePanelV2 Hub

Architecture documents often describe systems in terms of modules and data flows, but users experience systems through interfaces. The **DeepDivePanelV2** component is where theory meets practice—where the careful layering of propositions, claims, arguments, and dialogue manifests as clickable tabs and draggable panels.

This single component (~1861 lines in `components/deepdive/DeepDivePanelV2.tsx`) serves as the **central orchestration hub** for all deliberation interfaces. Every deliberation in Mesh renders through this component. Understanding its structure provides the clearest map of what the system actually does, because every feature visible here is a feature that exists.

The hub organizes the full feature set into tabs and floating sheets:



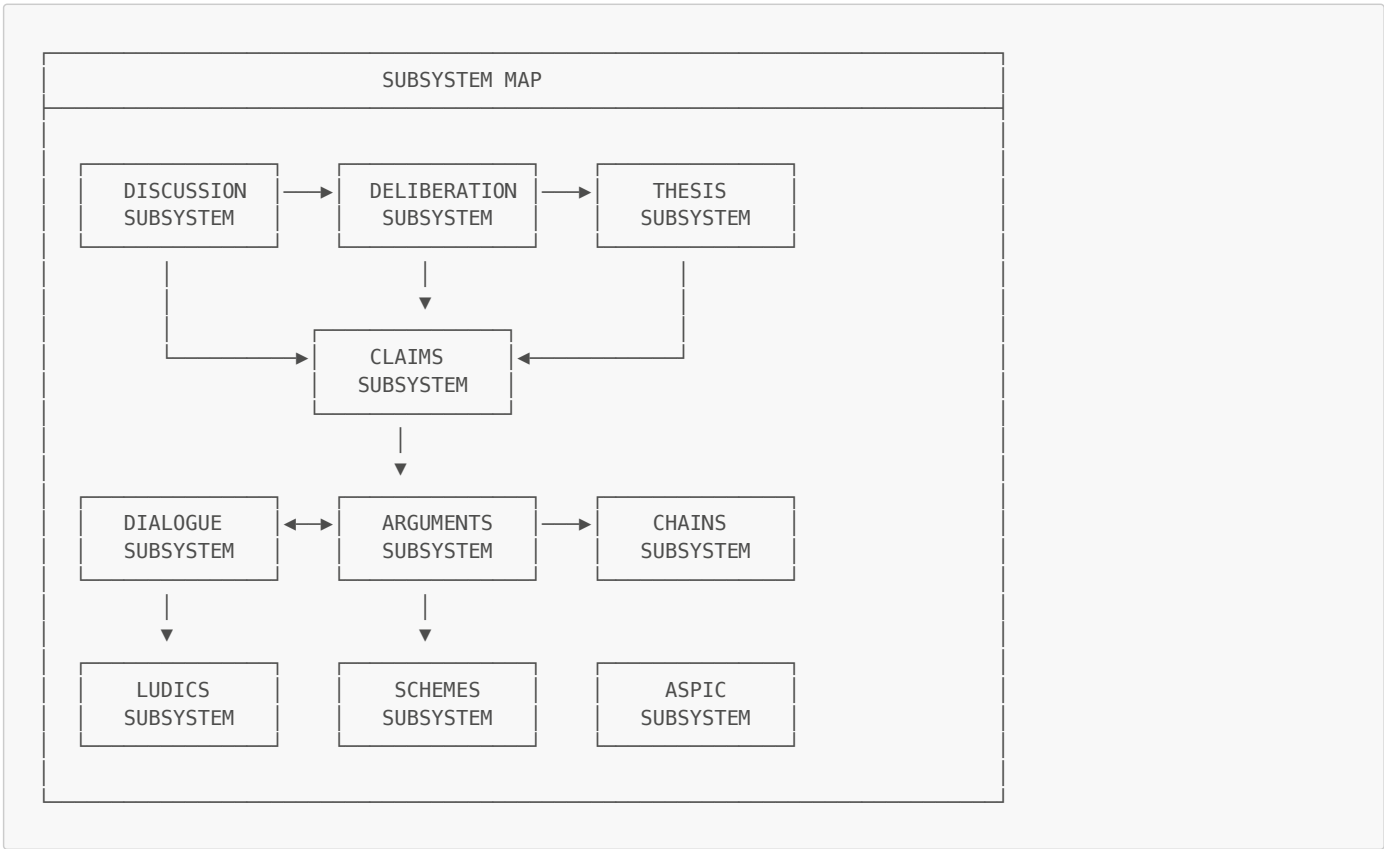
Tab Details:

Tab	Primary Components	Purpose
Debate	DebateTab, PropositionsList, ClaimDetailPanel	Main workspace for claims and propositions
Arguments	AIFArgumentsListPro, SchemeBreakdown, AspicTheoryPanel	Structured argument browsing with scheme analysis
Chains	ChainsTab, ArgumentChainCanvas	Build threaded argument chains with hypothetical scopes
Ludics	LudicsPanel, BehaviourInspectorCard	Game-theoretic dialogue analysis
Admin	DiscourseDashboard, IssuesList, ActiveAssumptionsPanel	Moderation and issue tracking
Sources	EvidenceList	View and rate evidence sources
Thesis	ThesisListView, ThesisComposer	Create legal-style structured documents
Analytics	AnalyticsTab, CommitmentAnalyticsDashboard	Participant agreement matrices

1.6 Key Subsystems Overview

The deliberation platform is not a single application—it is a **federation of subsystems**, each handling a distinct aspect of the reasoning process. These subsystems are deeply interconnected but conceptually separable, allowing developers to understand one domain without mastering all of them simultaneously.

The diagram below shows how subsystems relate. The general flow moves from informal (Discussion) through formal (Arguments, Dialogue) to output (Thesis), with Claims serving as the central currency that all subsystems share. Ludics and ASPIC provide analytical overlays that enrich the core argumentation without blocking basic functionality.



Subsystem	Primary Purpose	Key Models	Key Components
Discussion	Forum/chat conversations	Discussion, ForumComment, Conversation	DiscussionView, ForumPane
Claims	Canonical atomic assertions	Claim, ClaimEdge, ClaimEvidence	ClaimMiniMap, ClaimDetailPanel
Arguments	Structured reasoning	Argument, ArgumentPremise, ArgumentEdge	AIFArgumentsListPro, ArgumentActionsSheet
Dialogue	Move-based discourse	DialogueMove, Commitment	DialogueInspector, CommitmentStorePanel
Schemes	Argumentation patterns	ArgumentScheme, CriticalQuestion	SchemeNavigator, SchemeSuggester
Chains	Threaded argument flows	ArgumentChain, ArgumentChainNode, ArgumentScope	ArgumentChainCanvas, ChainsTab
Ludics	Game-theoretic analysis	LudicDesign, LudicAct	LudicsPanel, BehaviourInspectorCard
ASPIC	Defeasible reasoning	ClaimContrary, extension computation	AspicTheoryPanel, GroundedExtensionPanel
Thesis	Structured documents	Thesis, ThesisProng	ThesisComposer, ThesisRenderer
Deliberation	Core orchestration	Deliberation, AifNode, AifEdge	DeepDivePanelV2, DebateTab

1.7 Design Principles (Implemented)

Architectural principles only matter if they constrain actual implementation decisions. The principles below are not aspirations—they are constraints that the existing codebase actually satisfies. Each row in the table links a named principle to concrete implementation evidence.

These principles emerged from the theoretical foundations discussed in Section 9 (particularly AIF, Walton schemes, and Girard's Ludics), but they have been operationalized into database columns, API contracts, and UI behaviors. When a principle appears here, it means the system will break if

that principle is violated during development.

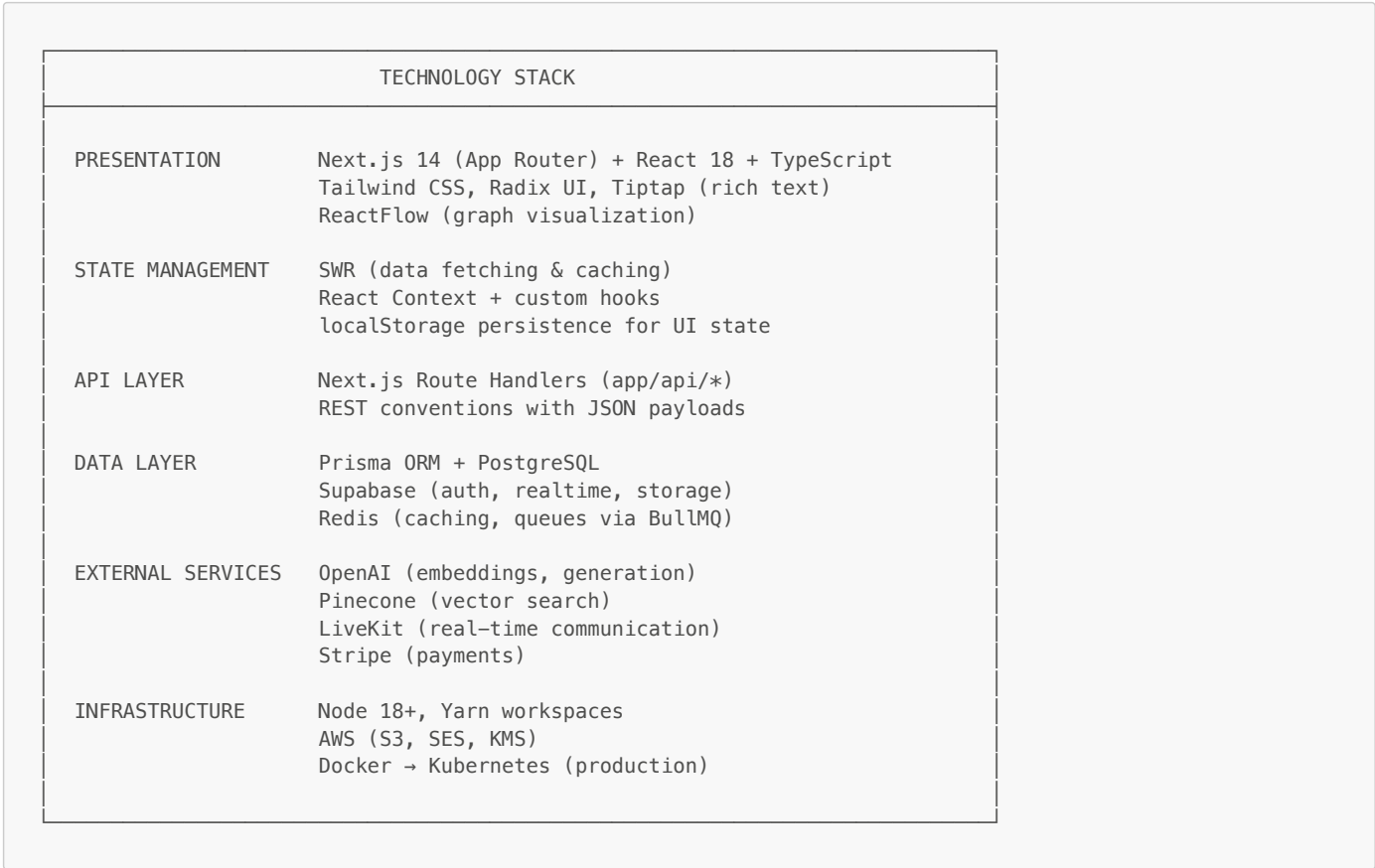
Principle	Description	Implementation
AIF Compliance	Argument graphs follow AIF ontology	<code>AifNode</code> , <code>AifEdge</code> with nodeKind (I/RA/CA/PA/DM)
Dialogue Provenance	Every structure has creator/move tracking	<code>createdByMoveId</code> , <code>introducedByMoveId</code> on models
Scheme-Based Reasoning	Arguments reference Walton schemes	<code>ArgumentScheme</code> , <code>ArgumentSchemeInstance</code> , CQ system
Progressive Disclosure	Simple tools first, power on-demand	Discussion → Deliberation, Proposition → Claim
Commitment Tracking	Participant positions are recorded	<code>Commitment</code> model, <code>CommitmentStorePanel</code>
Attack Taxonomy	Rebut/Undercut/Undermine distinguished	<code>ArgumentEdge.attackType</code> , <code>ArgumentAttackSubtype</code>
Confidence Quantification	Uncertainty modeled explicitly	Per-argument confidence, DS mode, temporal decay
Composable Outputs	Artifacts build on each other	Thesis references claims/arguments, KB cites deliberations

2. Technical Architecture Overview

Section 1 presented the *conceptual* architecture—what the system does and why. This section presents the *technical* architecture—how the system is actually built, what technologies compose it, and how data flows through its layers.

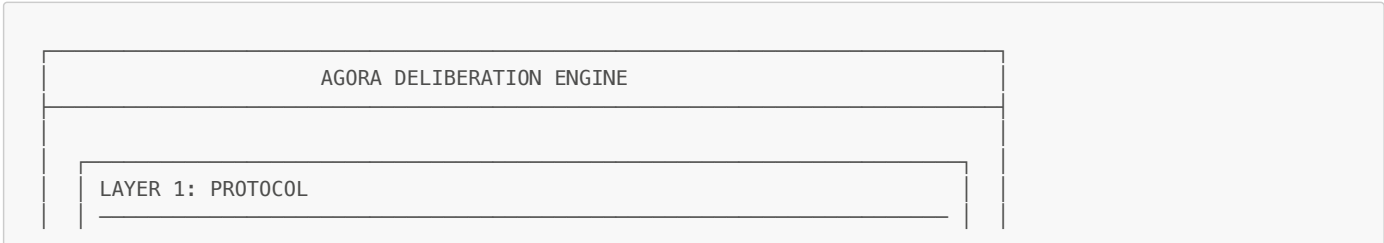
2.1 Technology Stack

The Agora deliberation system is built on a modern TypeScript stack optimized for real-time collaborative applications:



2.2 Three-Layer Formal Argumentation Architecture

The technical implementation maps to a **three-layer formal argumentation architecture** drawn from research in computational argumentation. Each layer handles a distinct aspect of structured dialogue:





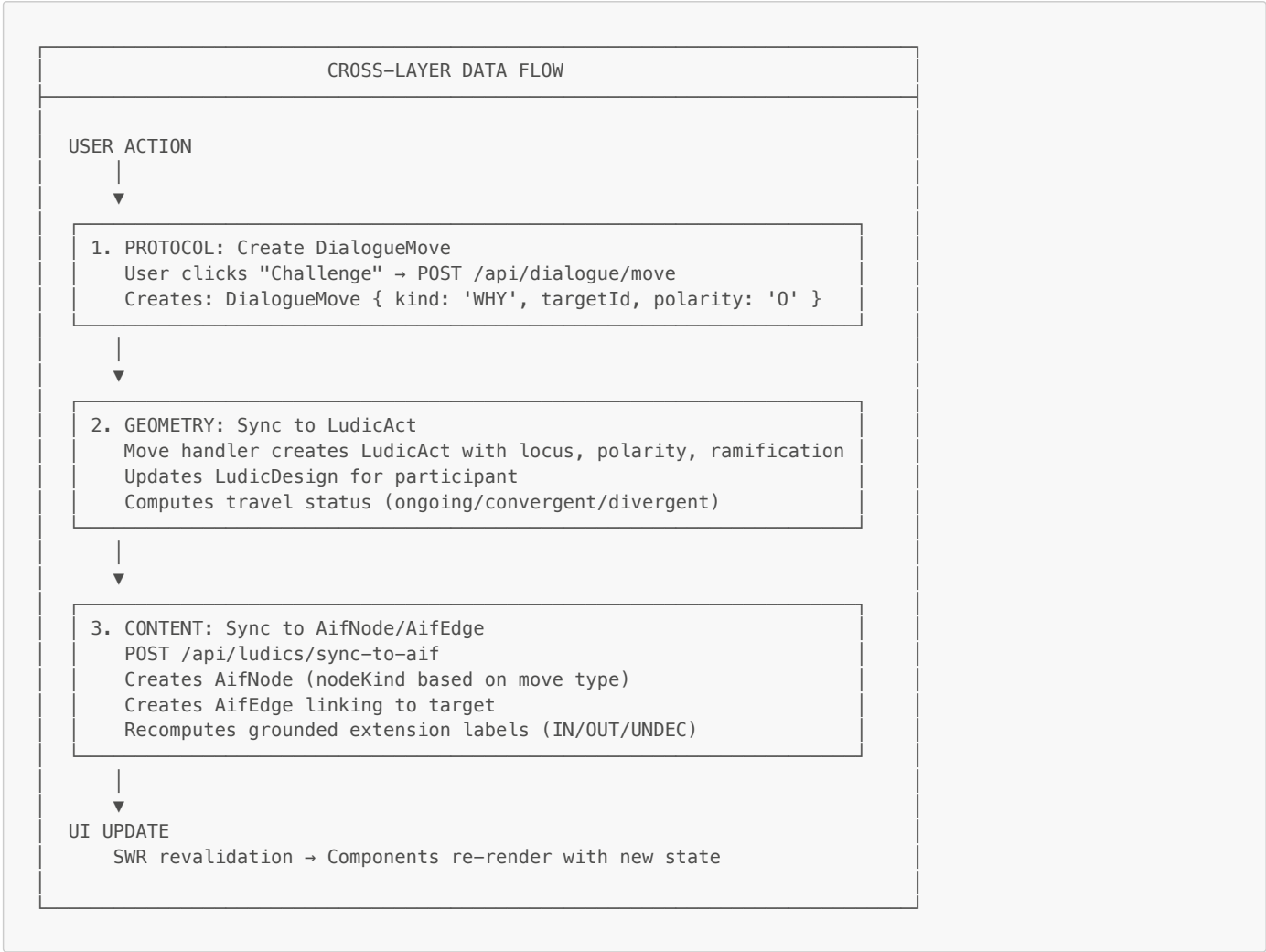
2.3 Layer Mappings to Codebase

Each theoretical layer maps to specific subsystems and database models:

Theoretical Layer	Subsystem	Key Models	Key API Endpoints	Key Components
Protocol	Dialogue	DialogueMove, Commitment, DialogueVisualizationNode	/api/dialogue/legal-moves, /api/dialogue/move, /api/dialogue/commitments	DialogueActionButton, CommandCard, DialogueInspector, CommitmentStorePanel
Geometry	Ludics	LudicDesign, LudicAct, LudicLocus, LudicTrace	/api/ludics/designs, /api/ludics/acts, /api/ludics/step, /api/ludics/sync-to-aif	LudicsPanel, LociTreeWithControls, BehaviourInspectorCard, TraceRibbon
Content	Arguments/Claims/Schemes	AifNode, AifEdge, Argument, Claim, ArgumentScheme, ClaimContrary	/api/aif/graph, /api/aif/schemes, /api/arguments/*, /api/claims/*	AIFArgumentsListPro, AifDiagramViewerDagre, SchemeBreakdown, AspicTheoryPanel

2.4 Cross-Layer Data Flow

The three layers are not independent—they interact through well-defined synchronization paths:

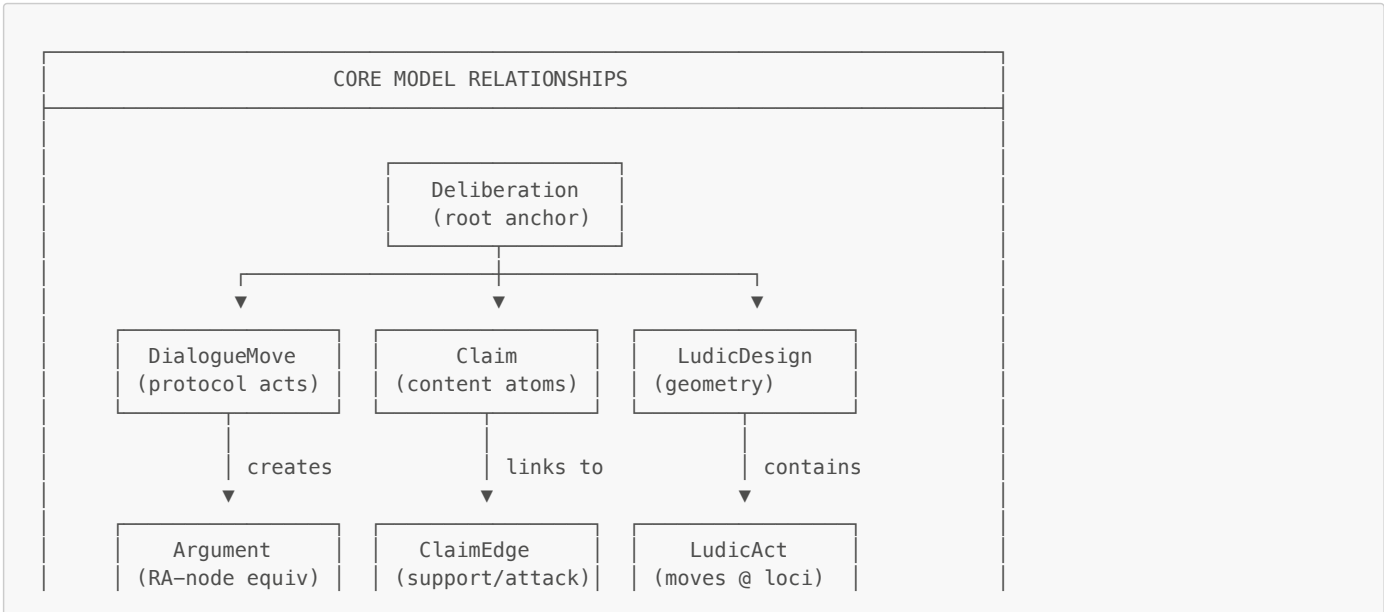


Key Synchronization Endpoints:

- /api/ludics/sync-to-aif: Syncs LudicAct rows to AifNode/AifEdge for visualization
- /api/aif/evaluate: Recomputes grounded semantics labels after graph changes
- /api/dialogue/commitments: Derives commitment stores from DialogueMove history

2.5 Database Model Relationships

The core models form a connected graph with clear provenance chains:





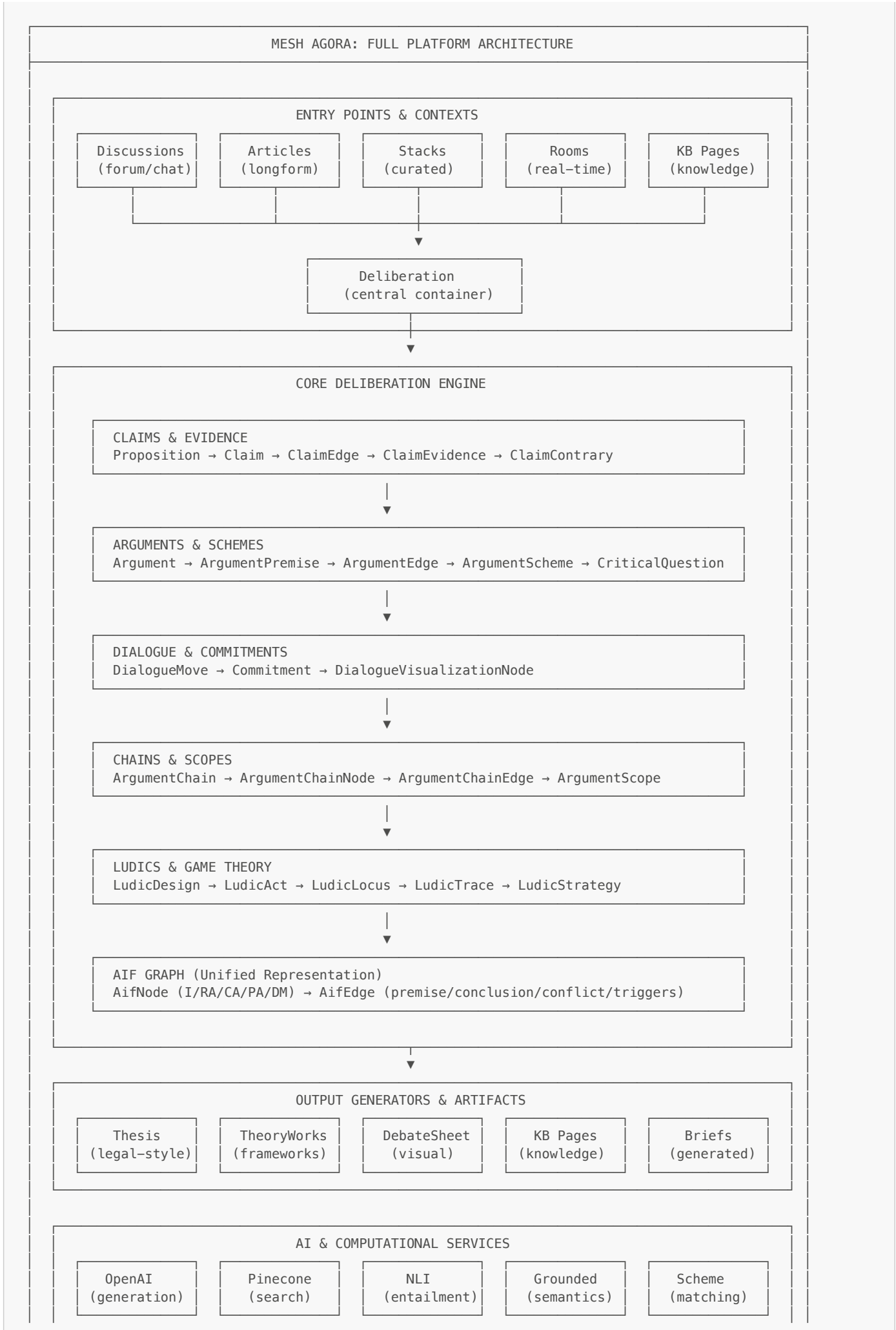
2.6 API Route Organization

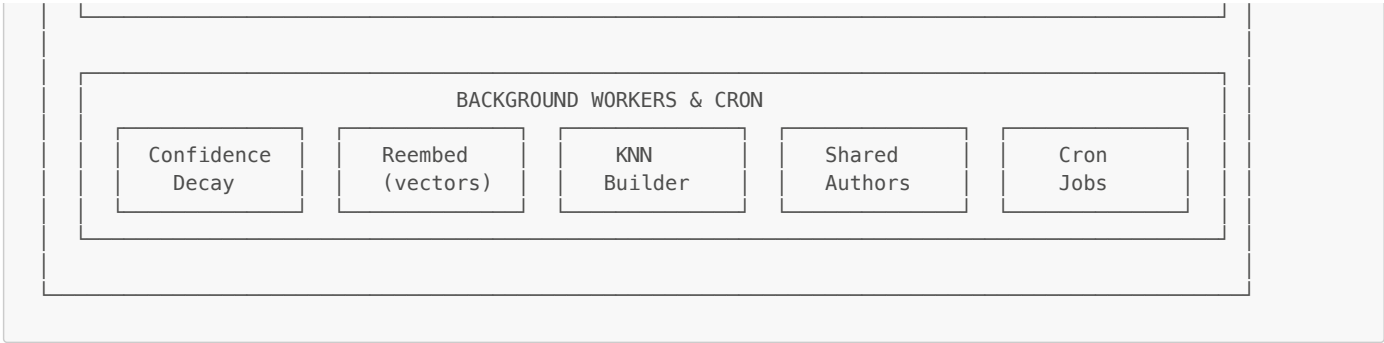
The API layer is organized by domain, with consistent patterns across subsystems:



2.7 Full Platform Architecture (Beyond the Three Layers)

The three-layer formal argumentation architecture (Protocol → Geometry → Content) describes the *core reasoning engine*. But the full Mesh platform encompasses much more: entry points, output generators, AI services, background workers, and integrations. This section presents the complete end-to-end architecture.





2.8 Entry Points & Hosting Contexts

A deliberation doesn't exist in isolation—it's always attached to a hosting context. The platform supports multiple entry points, each with its own UX patterns and use cases:

Entry Point	Model	Description	Path to Deliberation
Discussion	Discussion	Lightweight forum/chat threads for informal conversation	DeliberateButton upgrades to full deliberation
Article	Article	Longform content with embedded deliberation anchors	Annotations spawn focused deliberations
Stack	Stack, StackItem	Curated collections with commentary	Stack items can anchor deliberations
Room	AgoraRoom	Real-time spaces for synchronous deliberation	Deliberation is the room's primary content
KB Page	KbPage	Knowledge base entries with embedded arguments	Blocks link to underlying deliberations

Deliberation Hosting:

```
model Deliberation {
  hostType DeliberationHostType // 'room' | 'article' | 'stack' | 'discussion'
  hostId   String                // ID of the hosting entity

  // Upgrade path from Discussion
  upgradedFromDiscussionId String? @unique
  upgradedFromDiscussion   Discussion?
}
```

2.9 Complete Subsystem Inventory

The platform comprises the following subsystems, each with its own models, API routes, and UI components:

Core Reasoning Subsystems

Subsystem	Purpose	Key Models	Key API Routes	Key Components
Deliberation	Container & orchestration	Deliberation, DeliberationRole, DeliberationPref	/api/deliberations/*	DeepDivePanelV2
Discussion	Lightweight entry point	Discussion, DiscussionMessage, ForumComment	/api/discussions/*	DiscussionView, ForumPane
Claims	Canonical assertions	Claim, ClaimEdge, ClaimEvidence, ClaimContrary	/api/claims/*	ClaimMiniMap, ClaimDetailPanel
Propositions	Pre-claim workshopping	Proposition, PropositionVote, PropositionEndorsement	/api/propositions/*	PropositionComposerPro, PropositionsList
Arguments	Structured reasoning	Argument, ArgumentPremise, ArgumentEdge	/api/arguments/*	AIFArgumentsListPro, ArgumentActionsSheet
Schemes	Argumentation patterns	ArgumentScheme, ArgumentSchemeInstance, CriticalQuestion	/api/schemes/*, /api/aif/schemes/*	SchemeNavigator, SchemeBreakdown

Subsystem	Purpose	Key Models	Key API Routes	Key Components
Chains	Threaded argument flows	ArgumentChain, ArgumentChainNode, ArgumentChainEdge, ArgumentScope	/api/argument-chains/*	ArgumentChainCanvas, ChainsTab
Dialogue	Move-based protocol	DialogueMove, Commitment, DialogueVisualizationNode	/api/dialogue/*	DialogueInspector, CommandCard
Ludics	Game-theoretic analysis	LudicDesign, LudicAct, LudicLocus, LudicTrace	/api/ludics/*	LudicsPanel, LociTreeWithControls
AIF	Graph representation	AifNode, AifEdge	/api/aif/*	AifDiagramViewerDagre
ASPIC	Defeasible reasoning	ClaimContrary + extension computation	/api/aspic/*, /api/contraries/*	AspicTheoryPanel, GroundedExtensionPanel

Output & Artifact Subsystems

Subsystem	Purpose	Key Models	Key API Routes	Key Components
Thesis	Legal-style documents	Thesis, ThesisProng, ThesisProngArgument	/api/thesis/*	ThesisComposer, ThesisRenderer
TheoryWorks	Framework analysis	TheoryWork, TheoryWorkCitation, TheoryWorkClaim	/api/theory-works/*	WorksList, WorkDetailClient
DebateSheet	Visual debate mapping	DebateSheet, DebateNode, DebateEdge	/api/debates/*	DebateSheetCanvas
KB	Knowledge base	KbPage, KbBlock, DebateCitation	/api/kb/*	KbPageEditor
Briefs	Generated summaries	(computed)	/api/briefs/*	BriefCompiler
Glossary	Term definitions	GlossaryTerm	/api/glossary/*	DefinitionSheet
Issues	Objection tracking	Issue, IssueLink	/api/issues/*	IssuesList, IssueComposer

Supporting Subsystems

Subsystem	Purpose	Key Models	Key API Routes	Key Components
Evidence	Source management	ClaimEvidence, ClaimCitation	/api/evidence/*, /api/citations/*	EvidenceList
CQ	Critical questions	CriticalQuestionResponse, CqResponseVote	/api/cq/*, /api/cqs/*	CriticalQuestionsV3
Votes	Endorsement tracking	PropositionVote, ArgumentApproval	/api/votes/*	Vote buttons, approval UI
Analytics	Commitment analytics	(computed from Commitment)	(internal)	AnalyticsTab, CommitmentAnalyticsDashboard

2.10 AI & Computational Services

The platform integrates several AI and computational services that augment the core reasoning functionality:

AI & COMPUTATIONAL SERVICES

EMBEDDINGS & SEARCH

- OpenAI embeddings for claims, arguments, evidence
- Pinecone vector index for semantic similarity search
- Used in: scheme matching, similar claim detection, search

Implementation: lib/pineconeClient.ts, workers/reembed.ts



2.11 Background Workers & Scheduled Jobs

Long-running or periodic tasks run outside the request-response cycle via background workers:

Worker	File	Purpose	Trigger
Confidence Decay	workers/decayConfidenceJob.ts	Apply temporal decay to stale argument confidence	Cron (daily)
Reembed	workers/reembed.ts	Recompute embeddings for modified content	BullMQ queue
User KNN Builder	workers/user-knn-builder.ts	Build user similarity graphs	Cron
Shared Author Edges	workers/computeSharedAuthorEdges.ts	Link deliberations by shared authors	Cron
Candidate Builder	workers/candidate-builder.ts	Build recommendation candidates	Cron
Token Refresh	workers/tokenRefresh.ts	Refresh integration tokens	Cron

Worker Infrastructure:

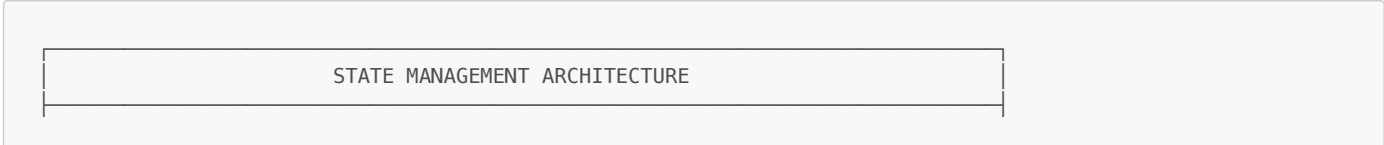
```
// workers/index.ts - Entry point
// Uses BullMQ for job queues, backed by Redis
// Run with: npm run worker
```

Cron Routes (app/api/_cron/):

- close_auctions/ - Close expired auctions
- Various scheduled maintenance tasks

2.12 State Management Architecture

The frontend manages state at multiple levels:



SERVER STATE (SWR)

- useSWR hooks for API data fetching
 - Automatic revalidation on focus, interval, mutation
 - Optimistic updates for responsive UI
- Example: `useSWR(`/api/deliberations/${id}`)`

COMPONENT STATE (React hooks)

- useDeliberationState – tab, config, UI toggles
 - useSheetPersistence – floating sheet open/close state
 - useMinimapData – graph visualization data
- Location: `lib/hooks/*`, `components/deepdive/hooks/*`

PERSISTENT STATE (localStorage)

- Sheet positions and sizes
 - User preferences
 - Draft content (propositions, arguments in progress)
- Key pattern: `dd:sheets:${deliberationId}`

AUTH STATE (Supabase)

- Session management via Supabase SSR
 - User context via AuthContext
- Implementation: `lib/AuthContext.ts`, `lib/supabase-*.ts`

2.13 Component Directory Structure

The UI is organized into domain-specific component directories:

```

components/
├── deepdive/                # Main deliberation interface
│   ├── DeepDivePanelV2.tsx  # Central orchestration (1861 lines)
│   ├── v3/tabs/             # Tab implementations
│   ├── hooks/               # Deliberation-specific hooks
│   └── CegMiniMap.tsx       # Claim-evidence graph
├── arguments/              # Argument composition & display
│   ├── AIFArgumentsListPro.tsx # Argument list with filters
│   ├── AIFArgumentWithSchemeComposer.tsx # Create with scheme
│   ├── ArgumentActionsSheet.tsx # Attack/defend actions
│   └── SchemeBreakdown.tsx     # Scheme visualization
├── claims/                 # Claim management
│   ├── ClaimMiniMap.tsx      # Claim relationship graph
│   ├── ClaimDetailPanel.tsx  # Claim inspector
│   └── CriticalQuestionsV3.tsx # CQ interface
├── chains/                 # Argument chain canvas
│   ├── ArgumentChainCanvas.tsx # Visual canvas editor
│   ├── ChainNode.tsx         # Individual node
│   └── ScopesPanel.tsx       # Scope management
├── dialogue/               # Dialogue protocol UI
│   ├── DialogueInspector.tsx  # Move history
│   ├── DialogueActionButton.tsx # Trigger moves
│   └── command-card/         # Move execution UI
├── ludics/                 # Game-theoretic views
│   ├── LociTreeWithControls.tsx # Locus tree
│   ├── BehaviourInspectorCard.tsx # Strategy analysis
│   └── TraceRibbon.tsx       # Interaction trace

```

```
| aif/                                # AIF visualization
|   | DialogueAwareGraphPanel.tsx
|   | CommitmentStorePanel.tsx
|
| aspic/                              # ASPIC+ interface
|   | AspicTheoryPanel.tsx
|   | GroundedExtensionPanel.tsx
|
| thesis/                             # Thesis documents
|   | ThesisComposer.tsx
|   | ThesisRenderer.tsx
|
| propositions/                       # Proposition workshopping
|   | PropositionComposerPro.tsx
|   | PropositionsList.tsx
|
| discussion/                         # Discussion/forum
|   | DiscussionView.tsx
|   | ForumPane.tsx
|
| kb/                                 # Knowledge base
|   | KbPageEditor.tsx
|
| map/                                # Graph visualizations
|   | Aifdiagramviewerdagre.tsx
```

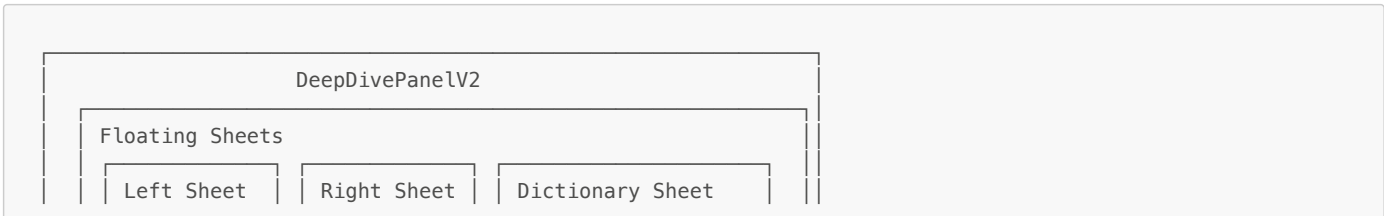
2.14 Library Directory Structure

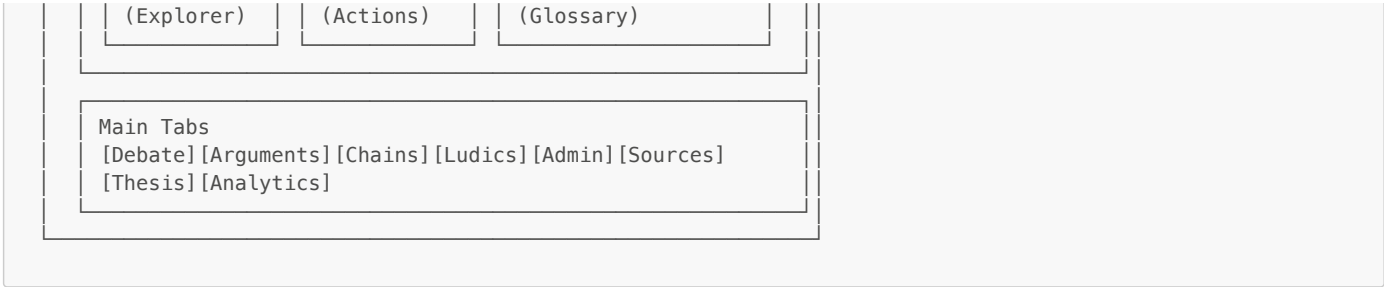
Shared logic and utilities are organized in **lib/**:

```
lib/
| dialogue/                          # Dialogue protocol logic
|   | legalMoves.ts                 # Legal move computation
|   | types.ts                     # MoveKind, MoveForce
|   | movesToActions.ts            # UI action mapping
|   | validate.ts                  # Move validation
|
| ludics/                           # Ludics computation
|   | designs.ts                   # Design operations
|   | traces.ts                    # Trace computation
|
| aif/                              # AIF graph utilities
| schemes/                         # Scheme matching & catalog
| semantics/                       # Grounded semantics
| nli/                             # Natural language inference
| chains/                          # Chain utilities
|
| hooks/                           # Shared React hooks
| models/                          # Prisma schema
|   | schema.prisma                # 6989 lines
|
| prismaclient.ts                  # Prisma client singleton
| redis.ts                         # Redis client
| queue.ts                         # BullMQ queue setup
| pineconeClient.ts               # Pinecone vector client
|
| supabase-*.ts                    # Supabase client variants
```

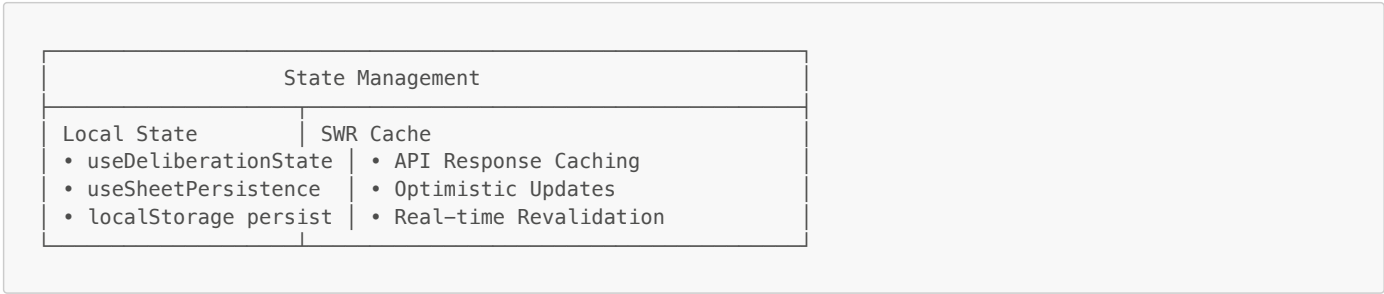
3. Architectural Layers

3.1 Presentation Layer (React/Next.js)

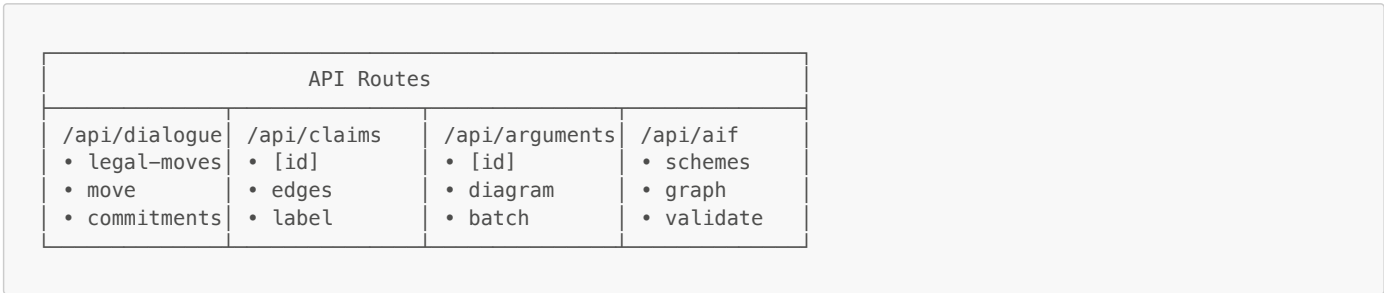




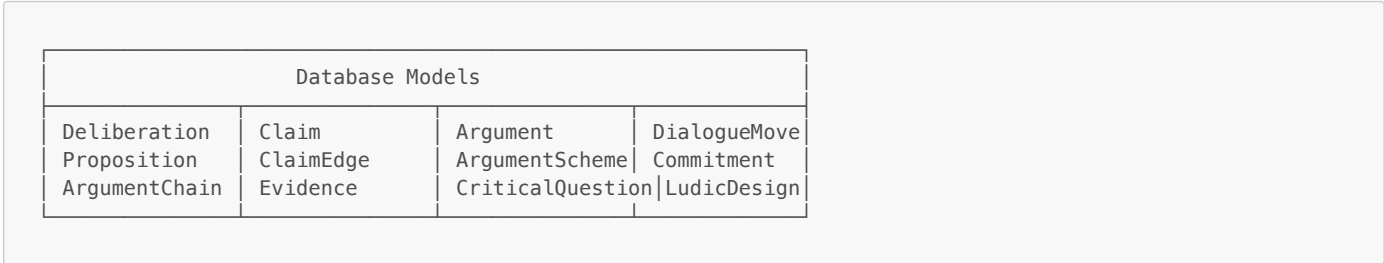
3.2 State Management Layer



3.3 Service/API Layer



3.4 Data Layer (Prisma/PostgreSQL)

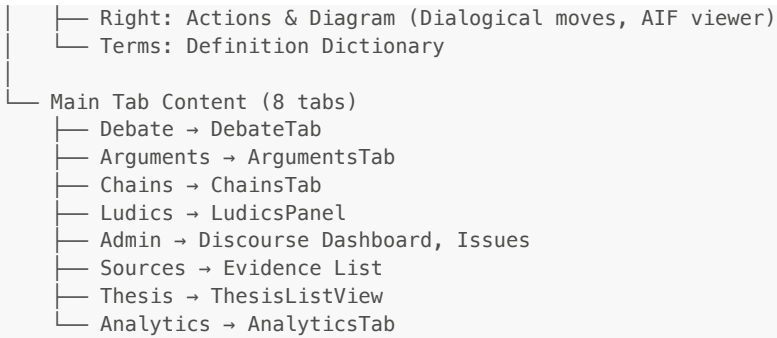


4. DeepDivePanelV2 - Central Hub

4.1 Component Structure

DeepDivePanelV2 serves as the **main orchestration component** for deliberation interfaces. Located at `components/deepdive/DeepDivePanelV2.tsx` (~1861 lines).

```
DeepDivePanelV2
├── Props
│   ├── deliberationId: string (required)
│   ├── selectedClaimId?: string
│   ├── hostname?: string
│   └── onClose?: () => void
├── State Management
│   ├── useDeliberationState() - Tab, config, UI state
│   ├── useSheetPersistence() - Floating sheet state
│   └── useMinimapData() - Graph visualization data
├── Floating Sheets (3)
│   └── Left: Graph Explorer (Claims/Arguments/Commitments/Analytics)
```



4.2 Key Imports & Dependencies

```

// Core UI Components
import { FloatingSheet, SheetToggleButton } from "../ui/FloatingSheet";
import { Tabs, TabsList, TabsContent, TabsTrigger } from "../ui/tabs";

// V3 Tab Components
import { ArgumentsTab, AnalyticsTab, DebateTab } from "../v3/tabs";
import { ChainsTab } from "../v3/tabs/ChainsTab";

// Visualization Components
import { AFMiniMap } from "@components/dialogue/minimap/AFMiniMap";
import { AifDiagramViewerDagre } from "@components/map/Aifdiagramviewerdagre";
import CegMiniMap from "../CegMiniMap";
import ClaimMiniMap from "../claims/ClaimMiniMap";

// Dialogue Components
import { DialogueInspector } from "@components/dialogue/DialogueInspector";
import { DialogueActionsButton } from "@components/dialogue/DialogueActionsButton";
import { CommandCard, performCommand } from "@components/dialogue/command-card/CommandCard";

// AIF Components
import { DialogueAwareGraphPanel } from "@components/aif/DialogueAwareGraphPanel";
import { CommitmentStorePanel } from "@components/aif/CommitmentStorePanel";

// ASPIC Components
import { AspicTheoryPanel } from "@components/aspic/AspicTheoryPanel";

// Ludics Components
import LudicsPanel from "../LudicsPanel";
import BehaviourInspectorCard from "@components/ludics/BehaviourInspectorCard";

```

4.3 State Hooks Used

```

// Deliberation state management
const { state: delibState, actions: delibActions } = useDeliberationState({
  initialTab: 'debate',
  initialConfig: { confMode: 'product', rule: 'utilitarian', dsMode: false, cardFilter: 'all' },
});

// Sheet persistence (localStorage-backed)
const { state: sheets, actions: sheetActions } = useSheetPersistence({
  storageKey: `dd:sheets:${deliberationId}`,
  defaultState: { left: false, right: false, terms: false },
});

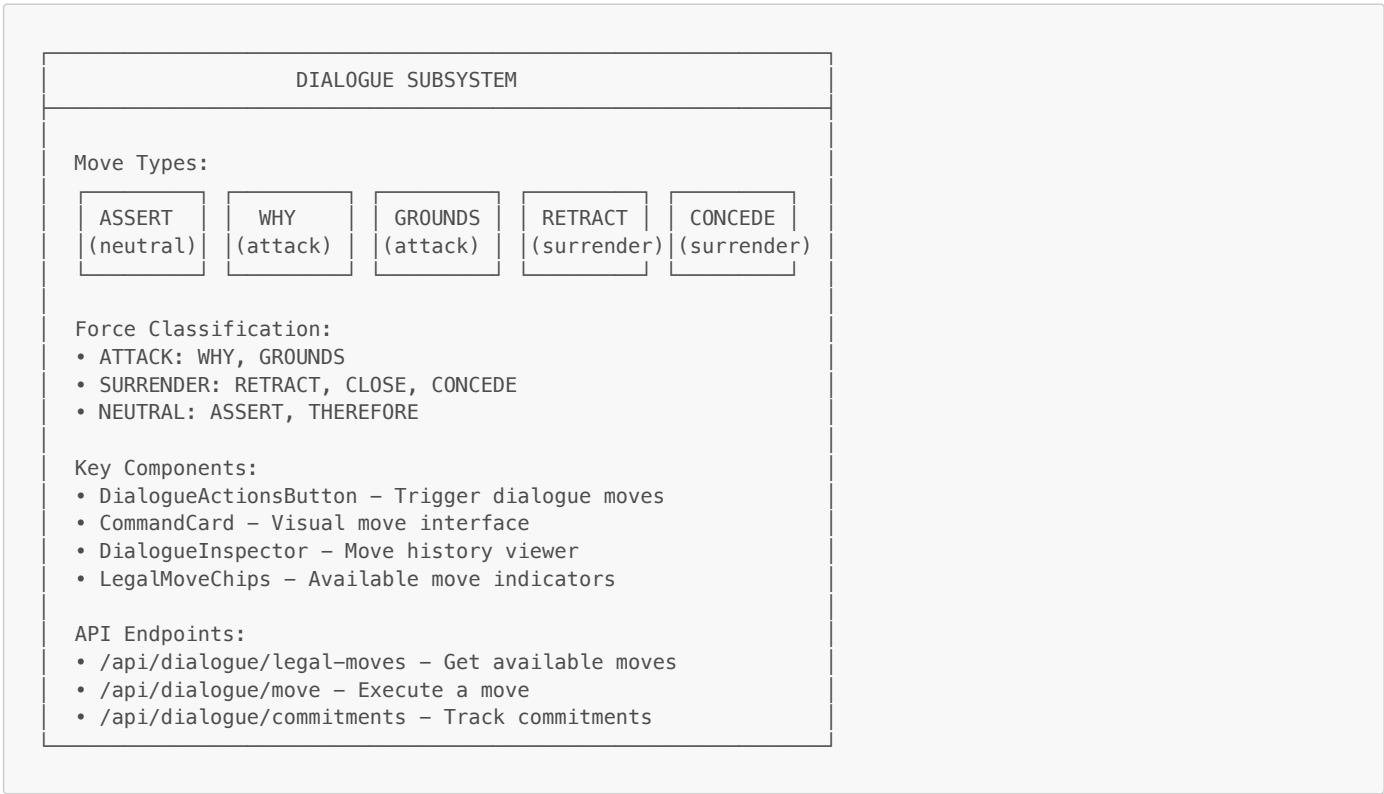
// Minimap data fetching
const { nodes: minimapNodes, edges: minimapEdges, loading, error } = useMinimapData(deliberationId, {
  semantics: 'grounded',
  supportDefense: true,
  radius: 1,
  maxNodes: 400,
});

```

5. Core Subsystems

5.1 Dialogue Subsystem

Purpose: Manages formal dialogue protocol (PPD moves)

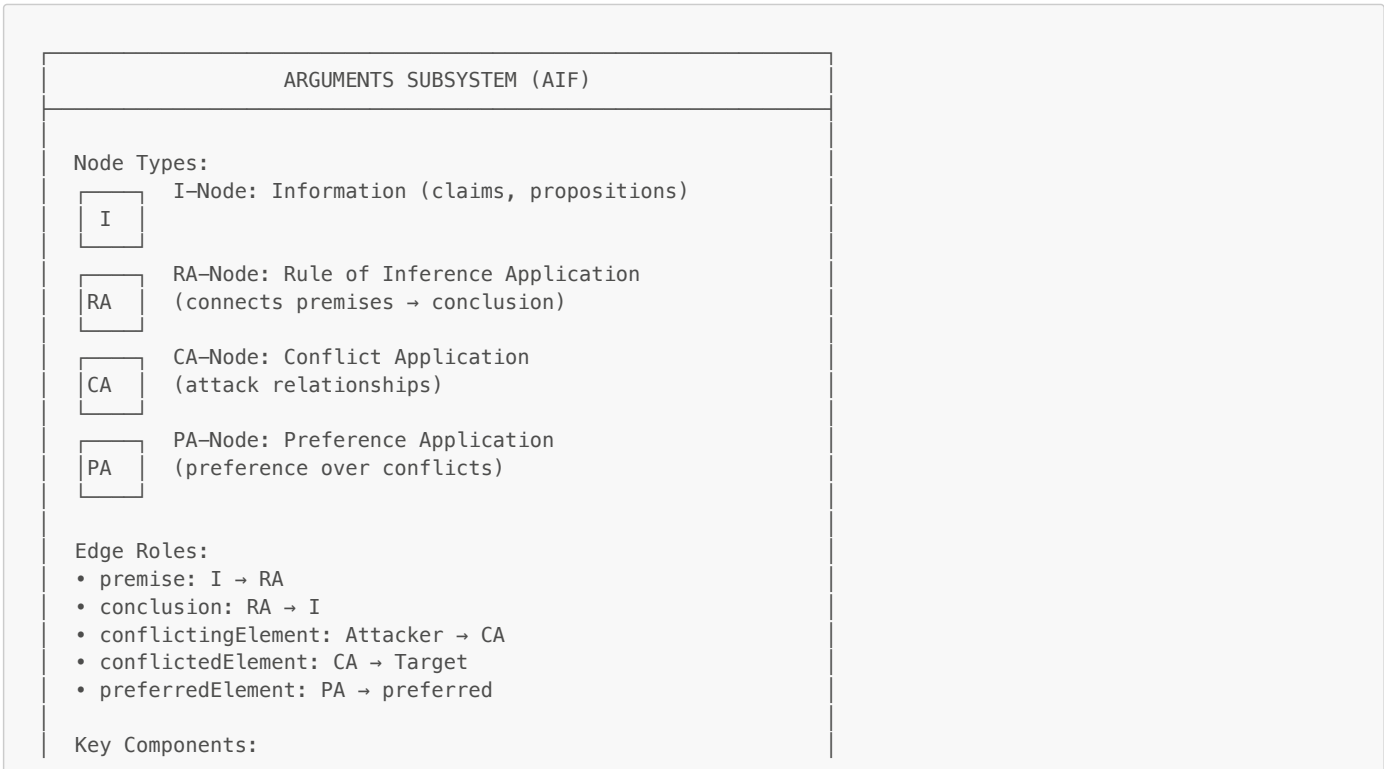


Key Files:

- components/dialogue/DialogueActionButton.tsx
- components/dialogue/command-card/CommandCard.tsx
- lib/dialogue/legalMoves.ts
- lib/dialogue/types.ts

5.2 Arguments Subsystem (AIF)

Purpose: Structured argumentation using Argument Interchange Format



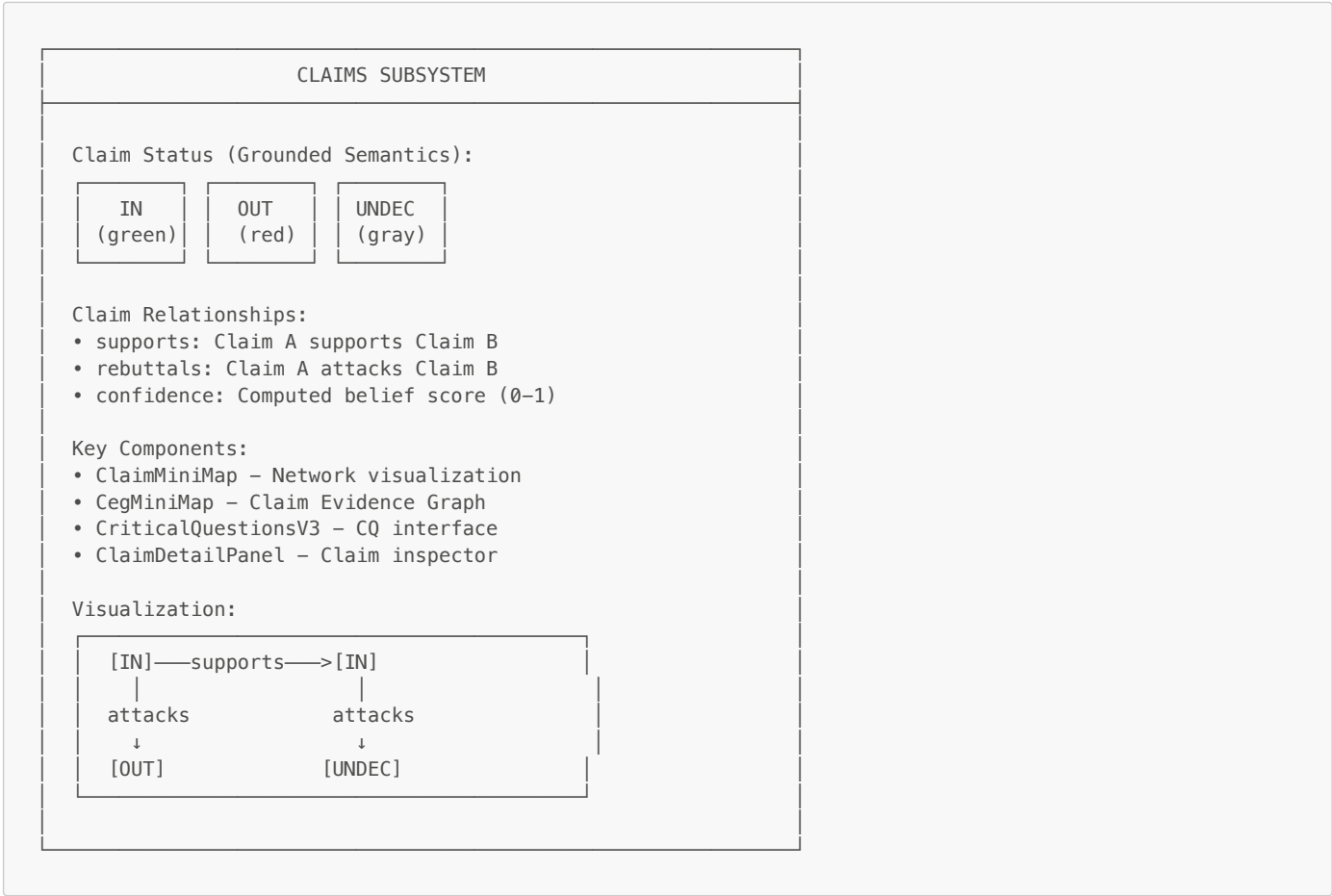
- AIFArgumentsListPro – Argument list view
- AIFArgumentWithSchemeComposer – Create arguments
- AifDiagramViewerDagre – Graph visualization
- SchemeBreakdown – Scheme analysis

Key Files:

- components/arguments/AIFArgumentsListPro.tsx
- components/arguments/AIFArgumentWithSchemeComposer.tsx
- components/map/Aifdiagramviewerdagre.tsx
- lib/arguments/diagram.ts

5.3 Claims Subsystem

Purpose: Manage atomic propositions and their evaluation

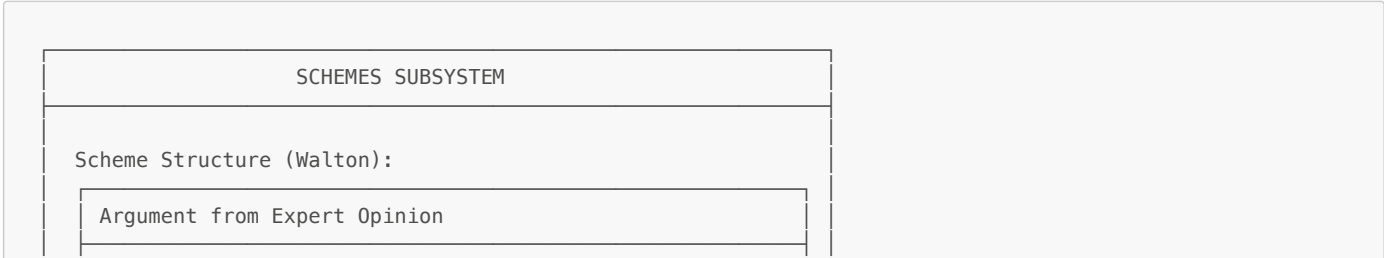


Key Files:

- components/claims/ClaimMiniMap.tsx
- components/claims/CriticalQuestionsV3.tsx
- components/deepdive/CegMiniMap.tsx
- app/api/claims/[id]/route.ts

5.4 Schemes Subsystem

Purpose: Argumentation schemes and critical questions



Premises:
P1: E is an expert in domain D
P2: E asserts that A is true
P3: A is within domain D
Conclusion:
C: A is true (presumably)

Critical Questions:
CQ1: How credible is E as an expert?
CQ2: Is E an expert in domain D?
CQ3: What did E actually assert?
CQ4: Is E reliable?
CQ5: Is A consistent with other experts?
CQ6: Is E's assertion based on evidence?

Attack Types:

- REBUTS: Attacks the conclusion directly
- UNDERCUTS: Attacks the inference rule
- UNDERMINES: Attacks a premise

Key Components:

- SchemeBreakdown – Visual scheme structure
- SchemeSelector – Scheme picker
- ArgumentCriticalQuestionsModal – CQ interface
- SchemeNetBuilder – Multi-scheme networks

Key Files:

- components/arguments/SchemeBreakdown.tsx
- components/arguments/ArgumentCriticalQuestionsModal.tsx
- app/api/aif/schemes/route.ts
- app/server/services/ArgumentGenerationService.ts

5.5 Ludics Subsystem

Purpose: Game-theoretic analysis of dialogue

LUDICS SUBSYSTEM

Core Concepts:

Locus: Address in dialogue tree (e.g., "0.1.2")
Polarity: P (positive/assertive) or 0 (negative/query)
Daimon (†): Convergence marker (dialogue terminates)

Act Types:

- PROPER: Regular move with polarity and locus
- DAIMON: Termination signal (†)

Travel Status:

ONGOING
(playing)

CONVERGENT
(†,agreed)

DIVERGENT
(disagreed)

Design Structure:

Proponent Design (pos acts)

- └ Act at locus "0"
 - └ ramification: ["0.1", "0.2"]
- └ Act at locus "0.1"

Opponent Design (neg acts)

- └ Act at locus "0" (WHY?)

└─ Act at locus "0.1" (challenge)

Key Components:

- LudicsPanel – Main ludics interface
- LociTree – Locus visualization
- TraceRibbon – Interaction trace display
- BehaviourInspectorCard – Strategy analysis

Key Files:

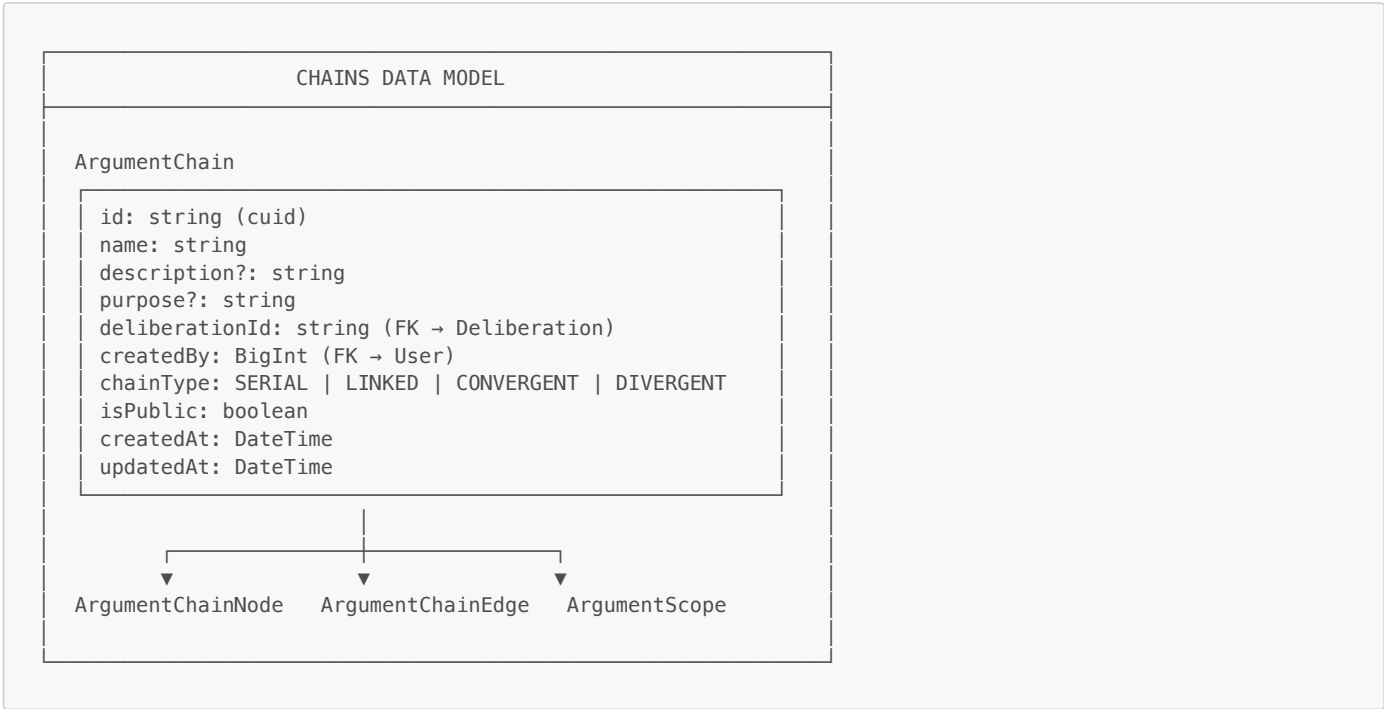
- components/deepdive/LudicsPanel.tsx
- components/ludics/LociTreeWithControls.tsx
- packages/ludics-core/types.ts
- packages/ludics-react/LociTree.tsx

5.6 Chains Subsystem (Comprehensive)

Purpose: Link arguments into coherent threads with epistemic scoping, visual canvas editing, and export capabilities.

The Argument Chain system is a core feature of the Agora deliberation platform that allows users to organize, visualize, and export structured arguments. It supports multiple view modes, epistemic status tracking, hypothetical reasoning scopes, and AI-assisted essay generation.

5.6.1 Data Model Architecture



<div><div>epistemicStatus: EpistemicStatus (default: ASSERTED)</div><div>scopeId?: string (FK → ArgumentScope)</div><div>dialecticalRole?: DialecticalRole</div><div>targetType?: ATTACK_NODE ATTACK_EDGE</div><div>targetEdgeId?: string (for edge attacks)</div></div>

ArgumentChainEdge - Represents relationships between nodes:

<div>ArgumentChainEdge</div> <div><div>id: string (cuid)</div><div>chainId: string (FK → ArgumentChain)</div><div>sourceNodeId: string (FK → ArgumentChainNode)</div><div>targetNodeId: string (FK → ArgumentChainNode)</div><div>edgeType: SUPPORTS REFUTES ENABLES PRESUPPOSES QUALIFIES EXEMPLIFIES UNDERCUTTING_ATTACK REBUTTING_ATTACK UNDERMINING_ATTACK</div><div>strength: Float (0.0 – 1.0)</div><div>description?: string</div><div>createdAt: DateTime</div></div>

ArgumentScope (Phase 4) - Defines hypothetical reasoning contexts:

<div>ArgumentScope</div> <div><div>id: string (cuid)</div><div>chainId: string (FK → ArgumentChain)</div><div>scopeType: HYPOTHETICAL COUNTERFACTUAL CONDITIONAL OPPONENT MODAL</div><div>assumption: string (e.g., "Suppose X...")</div><div>description?: string</div><div>color?: string (hex color for visual display)</div><div>parentScopeId?: string (for nested scopes)</div><div>depth: Int (nesting level, default: 0)</div><div>createdBy: BigInt (FK → User)</div><div>createdAt: DateTime</div></div>

5.6.2 Epistemic Status System (Phase 4)

The epistemic status system tracks the commitment level and modal status of arguments:

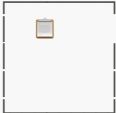

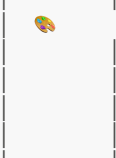

EPISTEMIC STATUS VALUES	
<div><div>✓</div><div>(Green)</div></div>	<div>ASSERTED</div> <div>Default status – claimed as true</div> <div>Represents the "actual world" position</div>
<div><div>💡</div><div>(Amber)</div></div>	<div>HYPOTHETICAL</div> <div>"Suppose X..." – exploring possibilities</div> <div>Used within HYPOTHETICAL scopes</div>
<div><div>💜</div><div>(Purple)</div></div>	<div>COUNTERFACTUAL</div> <div>"Had X been the case..." – contrary to fact</div> <div>Exploring alternative histories</div>
<div></div>	<div>CONDITIONAL</div>


<div><div>?</div><div>(Blue)</div></div>	<div>"If X, then Y" – dependent on conditions</div> <div>Arguments that depend on uncertain premises</div>
<div><div>🤔</div><div>(Gray)</div></div>	<div>QUESTIONED</div> <div>Under active challenge or inquiry</div> <div>Status uncertain pending resolution</div>
<div><div>✖</div><div>(Red)</div></div>	<div>DENIED</div> <div>Explicitly rejected or refuted</div> <div>Marked as false or unacceptable</div>
<div><div>⏸</div><div>(Orange)</div></div>	<div>SUSPENDED</div> <div>Temporarily set aside</div> <div>Not currently active in deliberation</div>

Dialectical Roles - Position within the argument structure:

DIALECTICAL ROLES	
PROponent	– Advances the main thesis
OPponent	– Challenges the main thesis
MEDIator	– Seeks common ground
CRITIC	– Evaluates argument quality
THESIS	– Main position being argued
ANTITHESIS	– Counter-position to thesis
SYNTHESIS	– Resolution combining thesis/antithesis
OBJECTION	– Specific challenge to an argument
RESPONSE	– Answer to an objection

5.6.3 View Modes

CHAIN VIEW MODES	
<div><div></div></div>	<div>LIST VIEW</div> <div>Simple list of all chains in deliberation</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create new chains• Delete/rename existing chains• Quick navigation to chain details
<div><div></div></div>	<div>THREAD VIEW</div> <div>Linear conversation-style display</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arguments shown in sequence• Inline support/attack indicators• Comment and annotation support
<div><div></div></div>	<div>CANVAS VIEW (ReactFlow)</div> <div>Interactive graph visualization</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drag-and-drop node positioning• Visual edge connections• Scope boundaries (Phase 4)• Hypothetical mode focus• Mini-map navigation
<div><div></div></div>	<div>PROSE VIEW</div> <div>Narrative text export</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arguments as flowing paragraphs• Relationship connectors ("therefore", "but")• Copy-friendly format



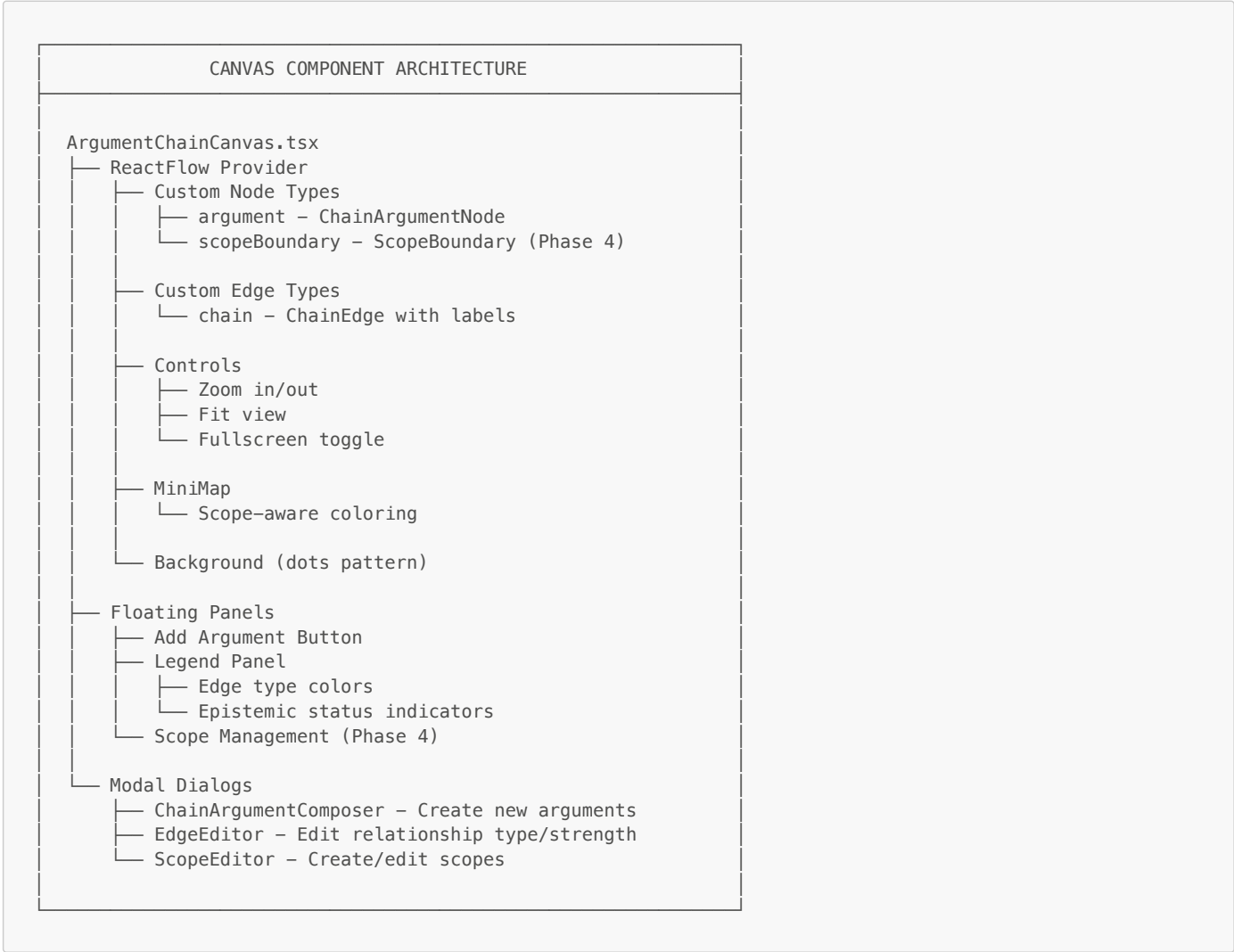
ESSAY VIEW

AI-generated structured essay

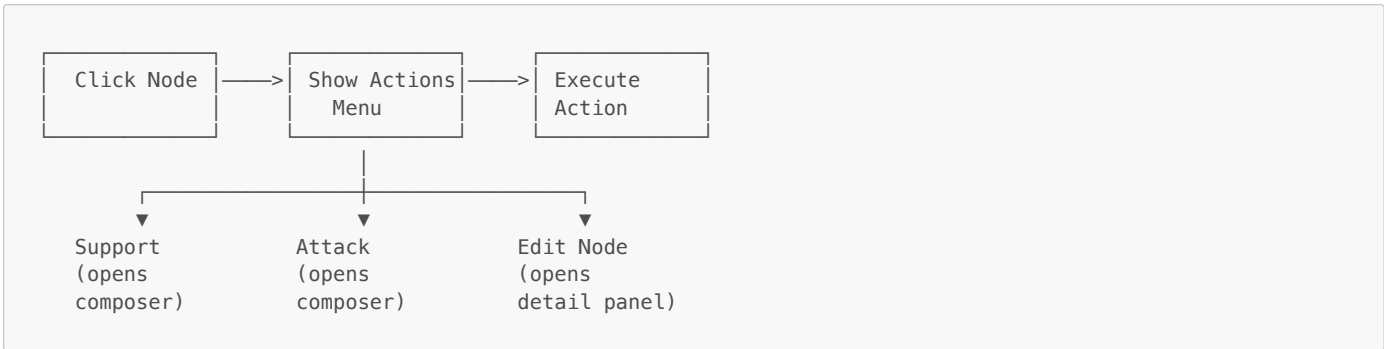
- Introduction, body, conclusion
- Citation formatting
- Academic-style output
- PDF export capability

5.6.4 Canvas Architecture (ReactFlow)

The ArgumentChainCanvas uses ReactFlow for interactive graph editing:



Node Interaction Flow:



5.6.5 Scope Boundaries (Phase 4)

Visual containers for hypothetical reasoning:

SCOPE BOUNDARY RENDERING

💡 HYPOTHETICAL: Suppose a \$50/ton carbon tax...

[Arg 1]————>[Arg 2]

>[Arg 3]<—

⌵ Collapse

🗿 Toggle

✎ Edit

Features:

- Colored border matching scopeType
- Draggable header to reposition
- Collapse/expand toggle
- Visibility toggle (dim when not focused)
- Click header to enter "Hypothetical Mode"
- Nodes can be dragged into/out of scopes

Hypothetical Mode:

- When activated, non-scope arguments are dimmed
- New arguments created in this mode auto-assign to the scope
- Composer shows scope context banner
- Visual focus on the hypothetical reasoning thread

5.6.6 Key Components

Component	Location	Purpose
ChainsTab	components/deepdive/v3/tabs/ChainsTab.tsx	Main tab orchestration
ChainListPanel	components/chains/ChainListPanel.tsx	List view of all chains
ArgumentChainCanvas	components/chains/ArgumentChainCanvas.tsx	ReactFlow graph canvas
ArgumentChainThread	components/chains/ArgumentChainThread.tsx	Linear thread view
ChainProseView	components/chains/ChainProseView.tsx	Narrative export
ChainEssayView	components/chains/ChainEssayView.tsx	AI essay generation
ChainArgumentNode	components/chains/ChainArgumentNode.tsx	Custom ReactFlow node
ChainArgumentComposer	components/chains/ChainArgumentComposer.tsx	Argument creation dialog
ScopeBoundary	components/chains/ScopeBoundary.tsx	Visual scope container
EpistemicStatusBadge	components/chains/EpistemicStatusBadge.tsx	Status indicator

5.6.7 API Endpoints

/api/chains/

- ├ GET /
- ├ POST /
- ├ GET /[chainId]
- ├ PATCH /[chainId]
- ├ DELETE /[chainId]
- └ /[chainId]/nodes/
 - ├ POST /

List all chains for deliberation

Create new chain

Get chain with nodes and edges

Update chain metadata

Delete chain

Add node to chain

29 / 42

└─ PATCH	/[nodeId]	Update node (position, role, status)
└─ DELETE	/[nodeId]	Remove node from chain
└─ PATCH	/[nodeId]/scope	Assign node to scope
└─ /	[chainId]/edges/	
└─ POST	/	Create edge between nodes
└─ PATCH	/[edgeId]	Update edge type/strength
└─ DELETE	/[edgeId]	Remove edge
└─ /	[chainId]/scopes/	
└─ GET	/	List all scopes for chain
└─ POST	/	Create new scope
└─ PATCH	/[scopeId]	Update scope
└─ DELETE	/[scopeId]	Delete scope
└─ /	[chainId]/export/	
└─ GET	/prose	Export as prose text
└─ POST	/essay	Generate AI essay

5.6.8 User Flow: Creating a Chain with Scopes

Step 1: Create a New Chain

1. Navigate to Deliberation → Chains Tab
 2. Click "New Chain" button
 3. Enter:
 - Name: "Carbon Tax Policy Analysis"
 - Description: "Examining carbon pricing policy options"
 - Purpose: "To evaluate arguments for and against carbon taxation"
 4. Click "Create"

Step 2: Add Main Arguments (ASSERTED)

1. Click "+" button or empty canvas area
 2. Composer opens with default ASSERTED status
 3. Enter argument:
 - Conclusion: "Climate change requires immediate policy action"
 - Add premises from existing claims or create new
 - Select argumentation scheme (e.g., Expert Opinion)
 4. Click "Add to Chain"
 5. Repeat for other main arguments

Step 3: Create Hypothetical Scope

1. Click "Add Scope" button in canvas toolbar
 2. Configure scope:
 - Type: HYPOTHETICAL
 - Assumption: "Suppose a \$50/ton carbon tax is enacted in 2025"
 - Color: Amber (#f59e0b)
 3. Click "Create Scope"
 4. A visual boundary appears on canvas

Step 4: Add Arguments Within Scope

- Option A: Click inside scope boundary

 - Composer auto-fills scope context
 - Status defaults to HYPOTHETICAL

Option B: Use Hypothetical Mode

 1. Click scope header to activate mode
 2. Non-scope arguments dim
 3. Create arguments normally
 4. All new arguments auto-assign to active scope

Option C: Drag existing arguments into scope

- Drag node into scope boundary
- Confirmation dialog appears
- Node status updates to match scope type

Step 5: Create Edges

1. Hover over source node
2. Drag from connection handle to target node
3. Select edge type:
 - SUPPORTS (green)
 - REFUTES (red)
 - QUALIFIES (blue)
 - etc.
4. Optional: Set strength (0-100%)

Step 6: Export

Prose View:

- Click "Prose" tab
- Copy formatted text

Essay View:

- Click "Essay" tab
- Click "Generate Essay"
- AI produces structured academic essay
- Download as PDF or copy

5.6.9 Seed Script Pattern

For testing or bulk data creation, use the seed script pattern:

File: `scripts/seed-test-chain-scopes.ts`

```
/**
 * Seed Script Structure:
 * 1. Configuration - deliberationId, userId, chain metadata
 * 2. Scope definitions - hypothetical contexts
 * 3. Argument definitions - with epistemic status and scope refs
 * 4. Edge definitions - relationships between arguments
 * 5. Execution - create in proper order
 */

// Configuration
const CONFIG = {
  deliberationId: "your-deliberation-id",
  userId: "12",
  chainName: "Your Chain Name",
  chainDescription: "Description...",
  chainPurpose: "Purpose...",
};

// Define scopes
const SCOPES: ScopeData[] = [
  {
    id: "scope-hypothetical-1",
    scopeType: "HYPOTHETICAL",
    assumption: "Suppose X happens...",
    color: "#f59e0b",
  },
];

// Define arguments with epistemic status
const ARGUMENTS: ArgumentData[] = [
  {
    id: "arg-1",
```

```

    conclusionText: "Main thesis...",
    premises: [{ text: "Premise 1" }, { text: "Premise 2" }],
    schemeKey: "practical_reasoning",
    epistemicStatus: "ASSERTED",
    dialecticalRole: "THESIS",
  },
  {
    id: "arg-2",
    conclusionText: "Hypothetical consequence...",
    premises: [{ text: "Given X..." }],
    schemeKey: "causal",
    epistemicStatus: "HYPOTHETICAL",
    scopeRef: "scope-hypothetical-1", // Links to scope
    dialecticalRole: "THESIS",
  },
];

// Define edges
const EDGES: EdgeData[] = [
  {
    sourceArgId: "arg-1",
    targetArgId: "arg-2",
    edgeType: "ENABLES",
    strength: 0.85,
    description: "Main thesis enables hypothetical exploration",
  },
];

// Execution order:
// 1. Create arguments (with claims)
// 2. Create chain
// 3. Create scopes
// 4. Create nodes (with scope connections)
// 5. Create edges

```

Running the seed script:

```

# Ensure schema is up to date
npx prisma db push
npx prisma generate

# Run seed script
npx ts-node -P tsconfig.scripts.json -r tsconfig-paths/register scripts/seed-test-chain-scopes.ts

```

5.6.10 Key Files Reference

Core Components:

- `components/deepdive/v3/tabs/ChainsTab.tsx` - Tab orchestration
- `components/chains/ArgumentChainCanvas.tsx` - Main canvas (~900 lines)
- `components/chains/ChainArgumentComposer.tsx` - Argument creation dialog
- `components/chains/ChainArgumentNode.tsx` - Custom ReactFlow node
- `components/chains/ScopeBoundary.tsx` - Visual scope container
- `components/chains/EpistemicStatusBadge.tsx` - Status indicator

API Routes:

- `app/api/chains/route.ts` - Chain CRUD
- `app/api/chains/[chainId]/route.ts` - Single chain operations
- `app/api/chains/[chainId]/nodes/route.ts` - Node operations
- `app/api/chains/[chainId]/edges/route.ts` - Edge operations
- `app/api/chains/[chainId]/scopes/route.ts` - Scope operations

Database Schema:

- `lib/models/schema.prisma` - Prisma schema definitions
 - `ArgumentChain` model
 - `ArgumentChainNode` model

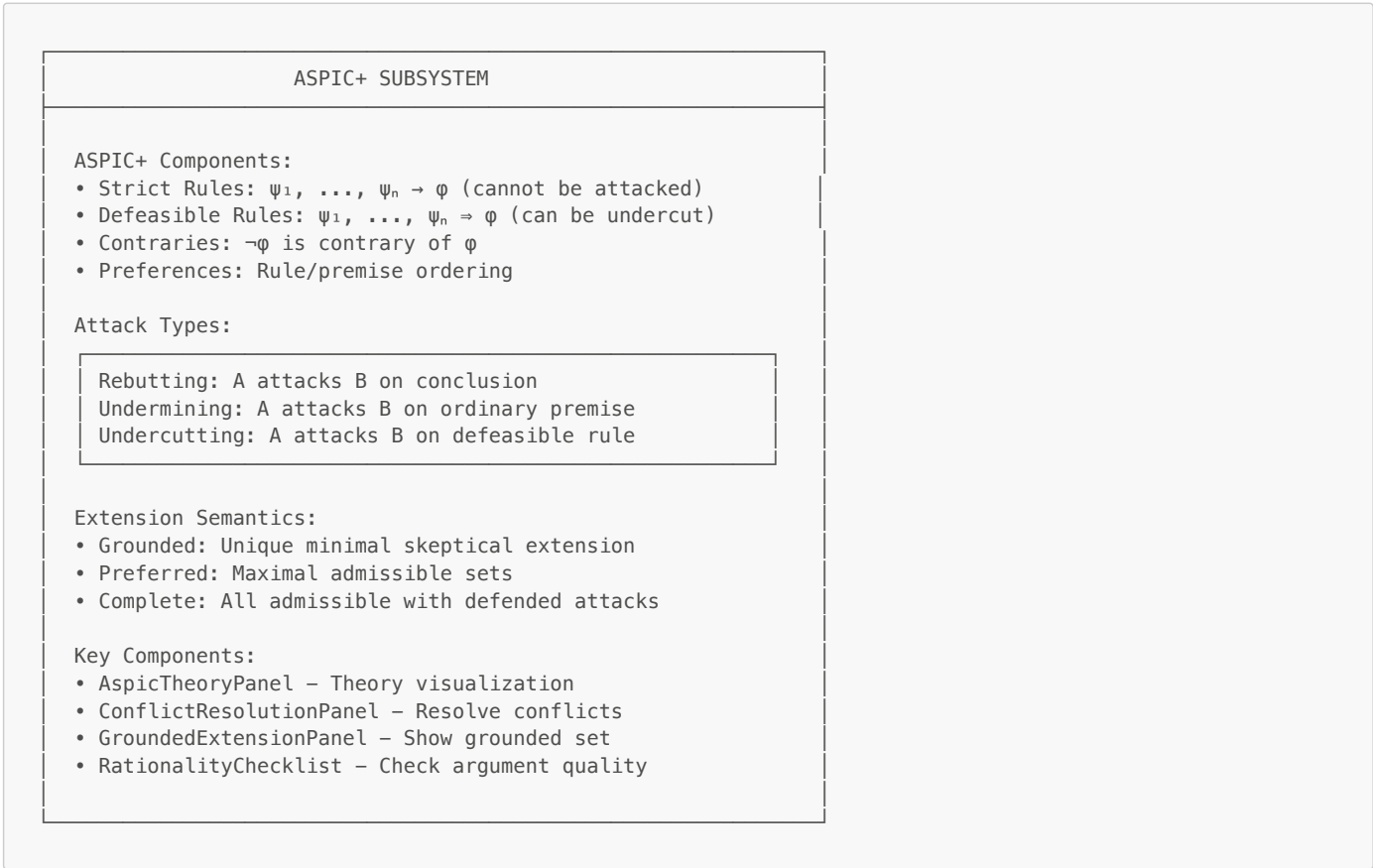
- `ArgumentChainEdge` model
- `ArgumentScope` model
- `EpistemicStatus` enum
- `ScopeType` enum
- `DialecticalRole` enum

Seed Scripts:

- `scripts/seed-test-chain.ts` - Basic chain seeding
- `scripts/seed-test-chain-scopes.ts` - Chain with scopes (Phase 4)

5.7 ASPIC Subsystem

Purpose: Formal argumentation framework (ASPIC+)

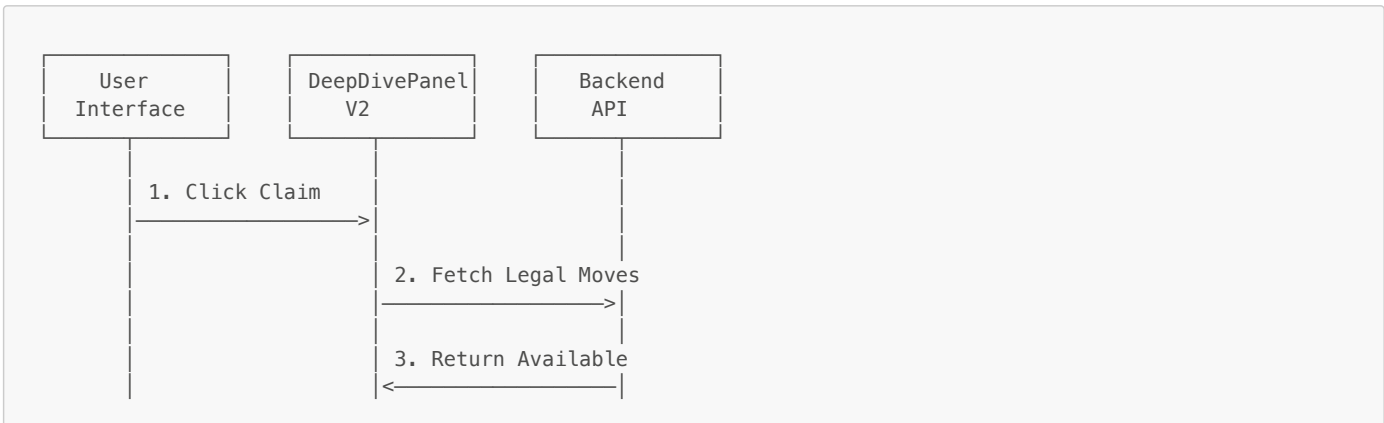


Key Files:

- `components/aspic/AspicTheoryPanel.tsx`
- `components/aspic/ConflictResolutionPanel.tsx`
- `components/aspic/GroundedExtensionPanel.tsx`

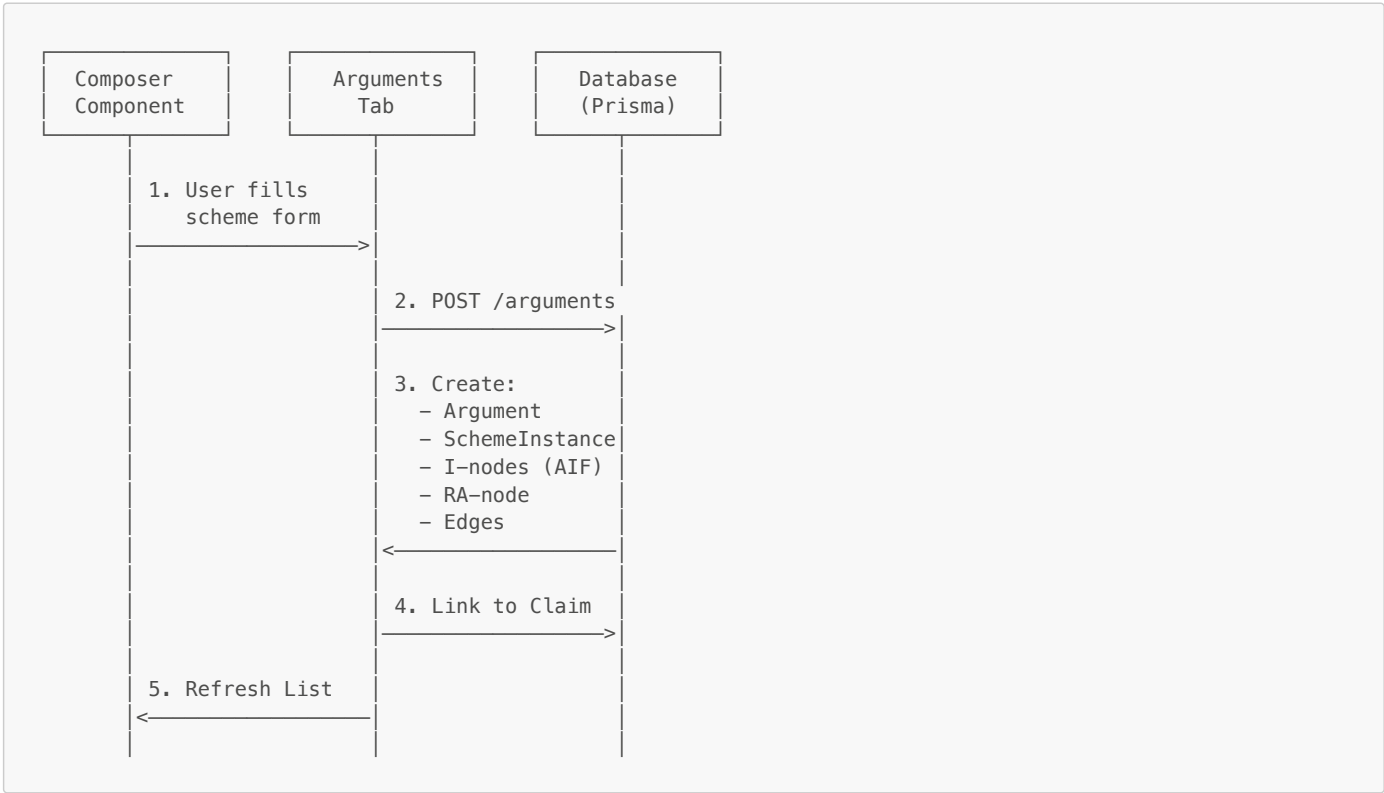
6. Data Flow Diagrams

5.1 Dialogue Move Flow

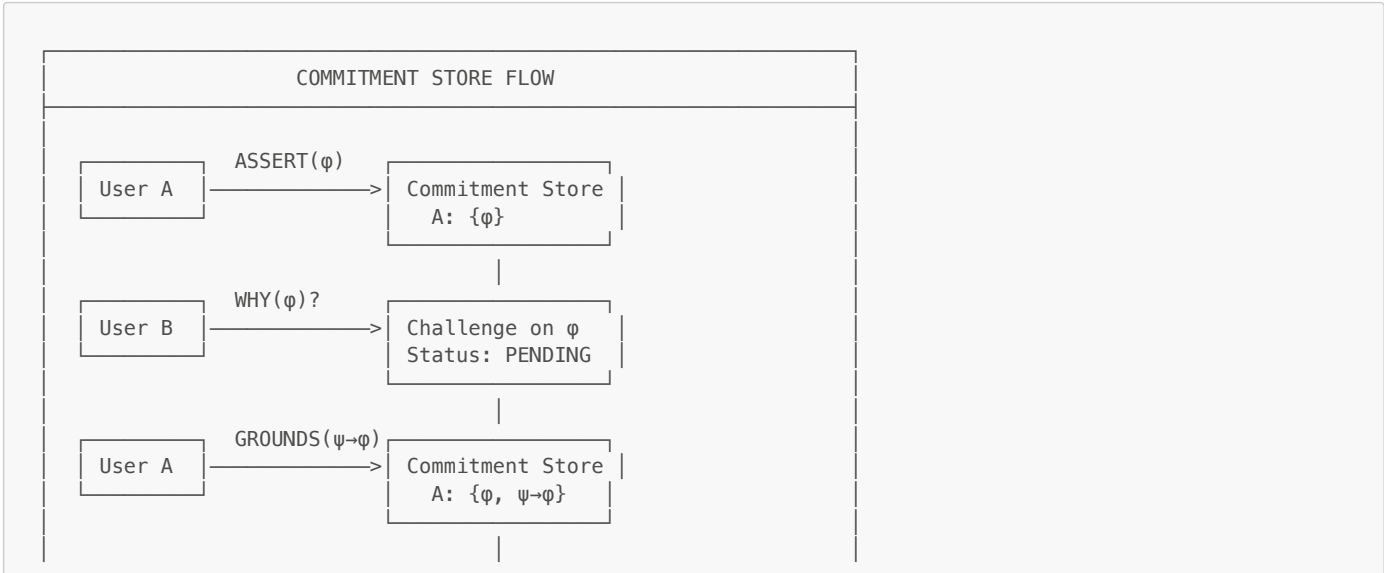




5.2 Argument Creation Flow



5.3 Commitment Tracking Flow



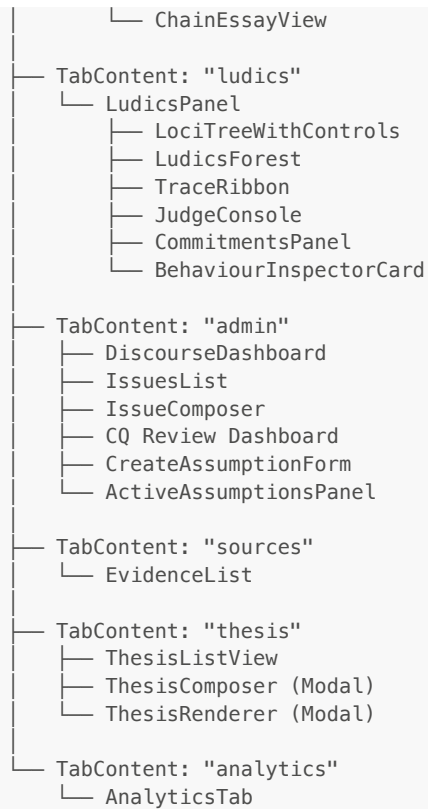


7. Component Hierarchy

6.1 Full Component Tree

```

DeepDivePanelV2
├── ConfidenceProvider (Context)
├── StickyHeader
│   ├── StatusChip
│   ├── ChipBar (Rule, Confidence, DS Mode)
│   ├── Link to /admin/schemes
│   ├── Link to Dialogue Timeline
│   └── DiscussHelpPage
├── FloatingSheet [Left] - "Graph Explorer"
│   ├── Tab: Arguments
│   │   └── DialogueAwareGraphPanel
│   │       └── AifDiagramViewerDagre
│   ├── Tab: Claims
│   │   └── CegMiniMap
│   ├── Tab: Commitments
│   │   └── CommitmentStorePanel
│   └── Tab: Analytics
│       └── CommitmentAnalyticsDashboard
├── FloatingSheet [Right] - "Actions & Diagram"
│   ├── DialogueActionsButton
│   ├── CommandCard (legacy)
│   └── DiagramViewer
├── FloatingSheet [Terms] - "Dictionary"
│   └── DefinitionSheet
└── Tabs (Main Content)
    ├── TabContent: "debate"
    │   └── DebateTab
    │       ├── NestedTabs
    │       │   ├── Discussion → ThreadedDiscussionTab
    │       │   ├── Propositions → PropositionComposerPro, PropositionsList
    │       │   ├── Claims → ClaimMiniMap, DialogueInspector
    │       │   └── Sheet View → DebateSheetReader
    │       └── DeliberationSettingsPanel
    ├── TabContent: "arguments"
    │   └── ArgumentsTab
    │       ├── NestedTabs
    │       │   ├── All Arguments → AIFArgumentsListPro
    │       │   ├── Create → AIFArgumentWithSchemeComposer
    │       │   ├── Schemes → SchemesSection
    │       │   ├── Networks → NetworksSection
    │       │   ├── Nets → NetsTab
    │       │   └── ASPIC → AspicTheoryPanel, ConflictResolutionPanel
    │       ├── ArgumentNetAnalyzer (Dialog)
    │       └── AttackArgumentWizard (Dialog)
    └── TabContent: "chains"
        └── ChainsTab
            ├── ChainListPanel
            ├── ArgumentChainThread
            ├── ArgumentChainCanvas
            └── ChainProseView
  
```



8. API Architecture

7.1 Core API Routes

/api/		
└─ dialogue/		
└─ legal-moves/	GET	- Available dialogue moves
└─ move/	POST	- Execute dialogue move
└─ move-aif/	POST	- AIF-aware move execution
└─ commitments/	GET	- Commitment stores
└─ contradictions/	GET	- Detect contradictions
└─ open-cqs/	GET	- Open critical questions
└─ claims/		
└─ [id]/		
└─ route.ts	GET/PATCH/DELETE	- Claim CRUD
└─ top-argument/	GET	- Best supporting argument
└─ edges/	GET	- Claim relationships
└─ label/	POST	- Compute status label
└─ ca/	POST	- Create CA (conflict)
└─ cq/summary/	GET	- CQ status summary
└─ batch/	POST	- Bulk operations
└─ search/	GET	- Search claims
└─ arguments/		
└─ [id]/		
└─ route.ts	GET/PATCH/DELETE	- Argument CRUD
└─ diagram/	GET	- AIF diagram data
└─ batch/	POST	- Bulk create
└─ search/	GET	- Search arguments
└─ aif/		
└─ schemes/	GET	- All schemes
└─ graph-with-dialogue/	GET	- Full AIF graph
└─ dialogue/[id]/		
└─ commitments/	GET	- Dialogue commitments
└─ validate/	POST	- Validate AIF structure
└─ import/	POST	- Import AIF
└─ export/	GET	- Export AIF



7.2 Key API Response Shapes

```

// Legal Moves Response
interface LegalMovesResponse {
  moves: LegalMove[];
  targetId: string;
  targetType: 'claim' | 'argument' | 'proposition';
  locusPath: string;
}

interface LegalMove {
  kind: MoveKind; // ASSERT, WHY, GROUNDS, RETRACT, CONCEDE, CLOSE
  force: MoveForce; // ATTACK, SURRENDER, NEUTRAL
  targetId: string;
  locusPath: string;
  cqId?: string;
  schemeKey?: string;
  label: string;
  description: string;
  enabled: boolean;
  disabledReason?: string;
}

// AIF Graph Response
interface AIFGraphResponse {
  nodes: AIFNode[];
  edges: AIFEdge[];
}

interface AIFNode {
  id: string;
  kind: 'I' | 'RA' | 'CA' | 'PA';
  label: string;
  schemeKey?: string;
  schemeName?: string;
  dialogueMoveId?: string;
  locutionType?: string;
}

interface AIFEdge {
  id: string;
  from: string;
  to: string;
  role: 'premise' | 'conclusion' | 'conflictingElement' | 'conflictedElement' | 'preferredElement';
}

```

9. Theoretical Foundations

8.1 Formal Argumentation Theory

The system implements several formal frameworks:

8.1.1 Abstract Argumentation (Dung)

An Abstract Argumentation Framework (AF) is a pair $\langle A, R \rangle$ where:

- A is a set of arguments
- $R \subseteq A \times A$ is an attack relation

Semantics:

- Conflict-free: $S \subseteq A$ is conflict-free iff $\nexists a, b \in S: (a, b) \in R$
- Admissible: S is admissible iff S is conflict-free and defends itself
- Grounded: Unique minimal complete extension

8.1.2 ASPIC+ Framework**ASPIC+ extends AF with:**

- Strict rules: $X_1, \dots, X_n \rightarrow Y$ (deductive)
- Defeasible rules: $X_1, \dots, X_n \Rightarrow Y$ (presumptive)
- Contrariness function: \neg (maps formulas to contraries)
- Preference ordering: $<$ (over rules and/or premises)

Attack types:

- Rebutting: Argument for $\neg\phi$ attacks argument for ϕ
- Undermining: Argument for $\neg\psi$ attacks premise ψ
- Undercutting: Argument attacks applicability of defeasible rule

8.1.3 Argument Interchange Format (AIF)**AIF Ontology:**

- I-nodes: Information nodes (claims, data)
- S-nodes: Scheme nodes
 - RA-nodes: Rule Application (inference)
 - CA-nodes: Conflict Application (attack)
 - PA-nodes: Preference Application (preference)
 - TA-nodes: Transition Application (dialogue)

Edge types:

- Scheme fulfillment edges (premise, conclusion)
- Support/attack relationships
- Preference relations

8.1.4 Ludics (Girard)**Key concepts:**

- Locus (α): Address in interaction space
- Designs: Sets of chronicles (interaction sequences)
- Polarity: Positive (asserts) / Negative (questions)
- Daimon (\dagger): Termination marker (convergence)

Interaction:

- Two designs interact by matching positive/negative acts
- Convergent: Reaches daimon (agreement)
- Divergent: Blocked (disagreement)

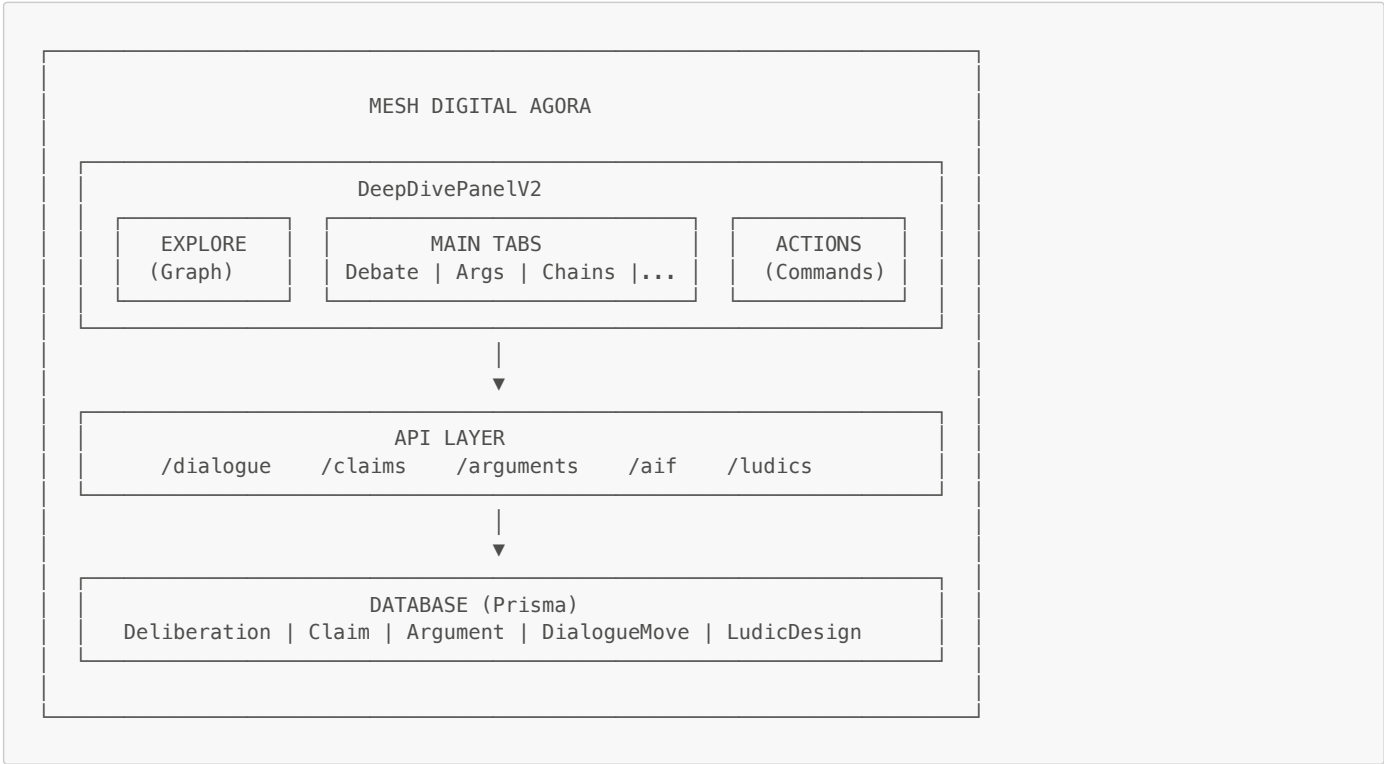
8.2 PPD Protocol Rules**Move Kinds and Forces:**

Move Kind	Force	Effect
ASSERT	NEUTRAL	Adds claim to commitment store
WHY	ATTACK	Challenges a commitment
GROUND	ATTACK	Provides justification
RETRACT	SURRENDER	Withdraws a commitment
CONCEDE	SURRENDER	Accepts opponent's claim
CLOSE	SURRENDER	Ends branch (daimon \dagger)
THEREFORE	NEUTRAL	Derives conclusion
SUPPOSE	NEUTRAL	Hypothetical assertion
DISCHARGE	NEUTRAL	Exits supposition

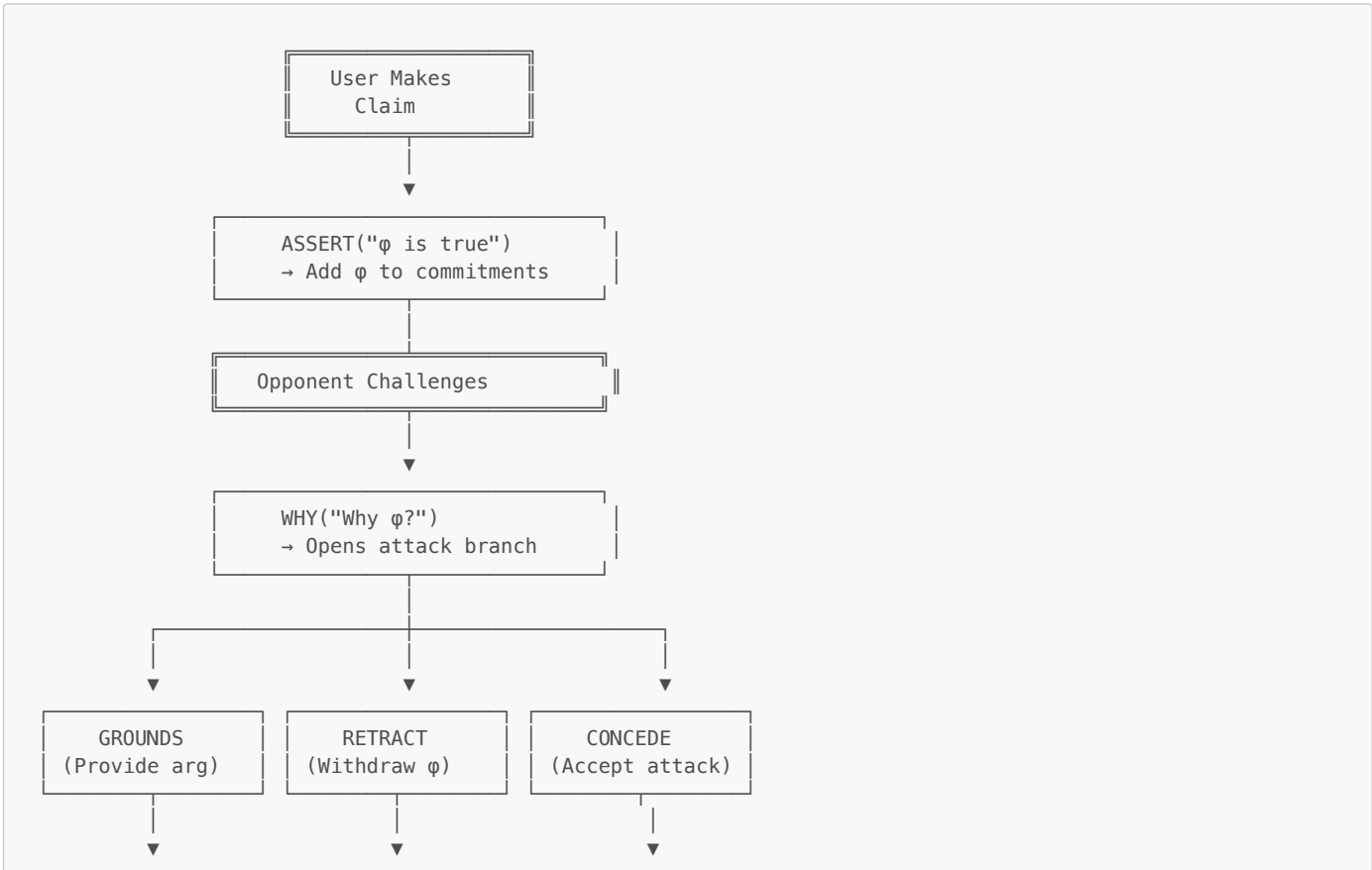
- Key Invariants:
- R4: No duplicate reply to same target/locus/key
 - R5: No attacks on surrendered/closed targets
 - R7: Cannot concede directly if WHY was answered by GROUNDS

10. Whiteboard Diagrams

9.1 System Overview (Simple)

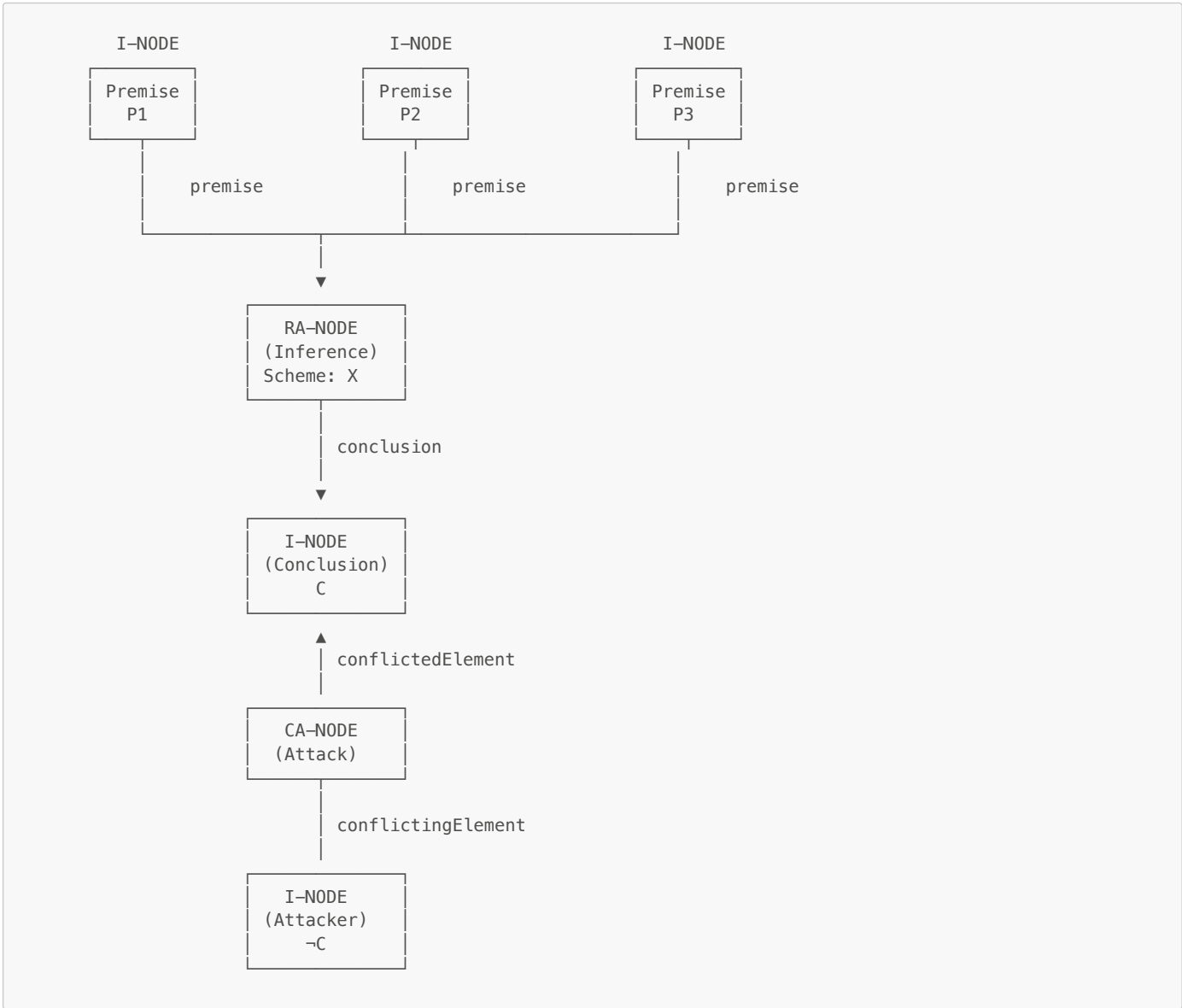


9.2 Dialogue Flow (Whiteboard)

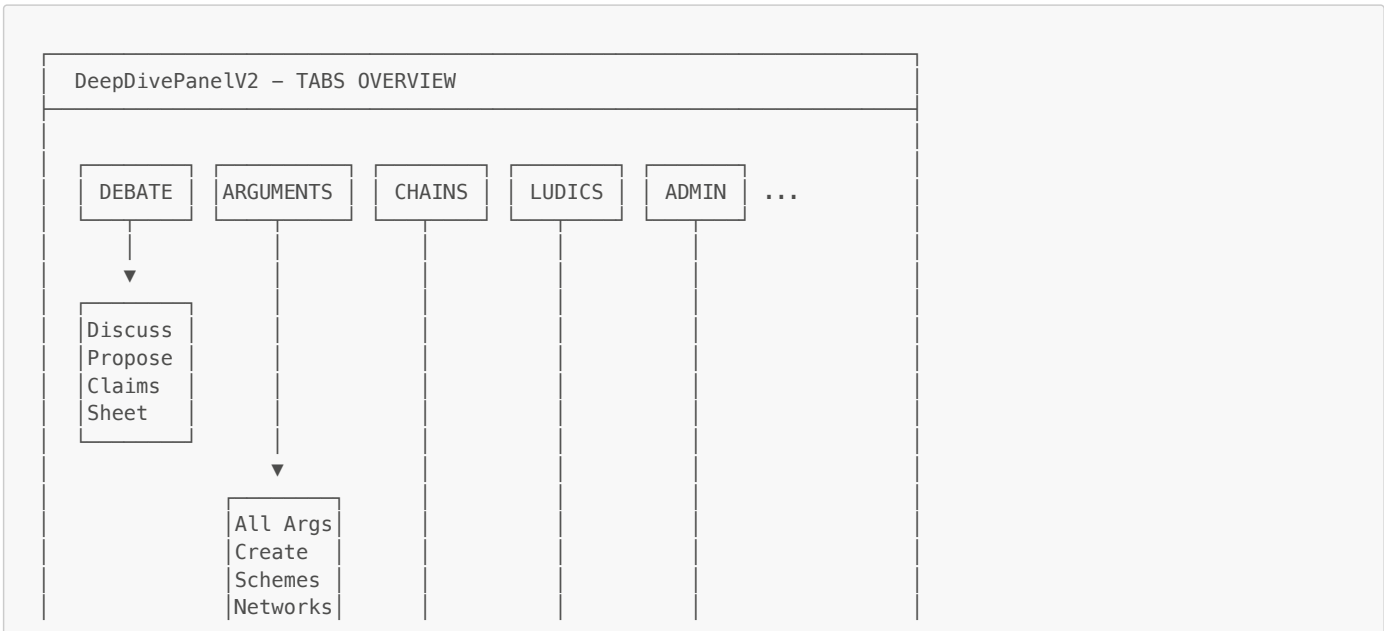


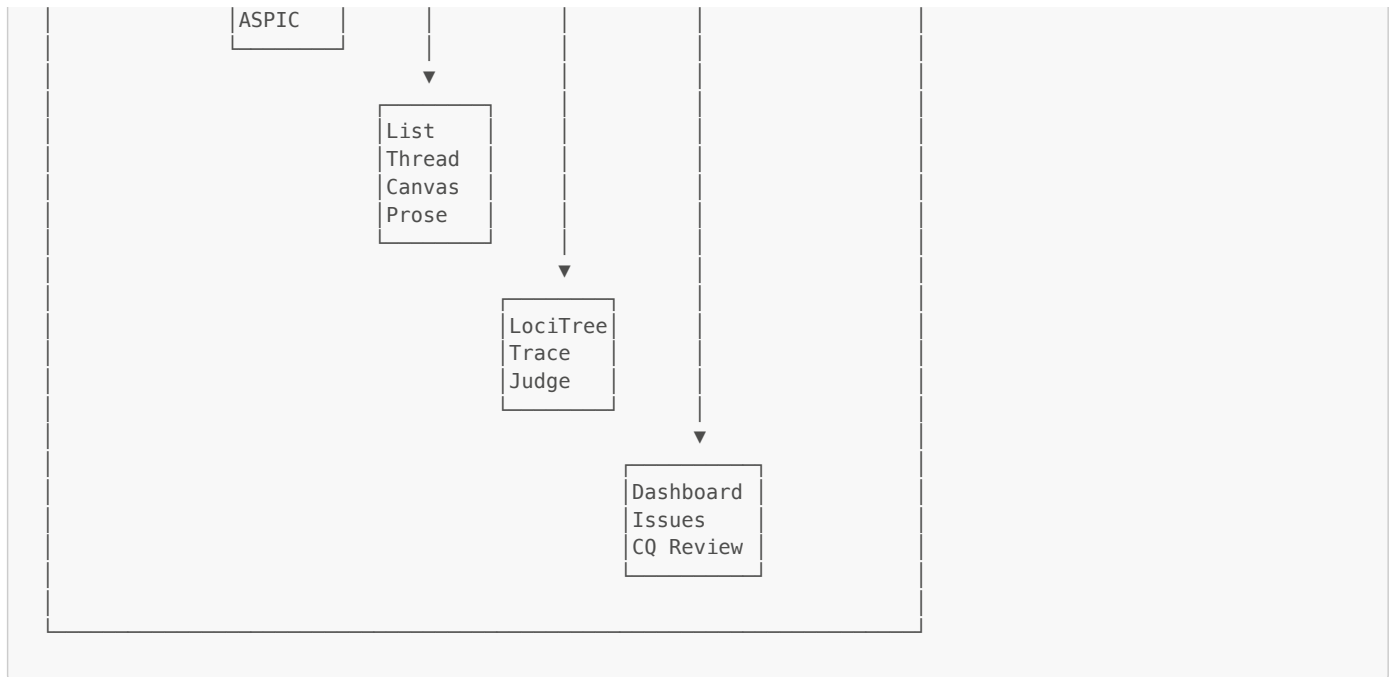
Branch continues (more challenges)	Branch closes (SURRENDER)	Branch closes (SURRENDER)
---------------------------------------	------------------------------	------------------------------

9.3 AIF Node Structure (Whiteboard)



9.4 Tab Structure (Whiteboard Reference)





Appendix A: File Location Quick Reference

Core Panel

- `components/deepdive/DeepDivePanelV2.tsx` - Main orchestration (~1861 lines)

V3 Tab Components

- `components/deepdive/v3/tabs/DebateTab.tsx`
- `components/deepdive/v3/tabs/ArgumentsTab.tsx`
- `components/deepdive/v3/tabs/ChainsTab.tsx`
- `components/deepdive/v3/tabs/AnalyticsTab.tsx`

V3 Hooks

- `components/deepdive/v3/hooks/useDeliberationState.ts`
- `components/deepdive/v3/hooks/useSheetPersistence.ts`

Dialogue Components

- `components/dialogue/DialogueActionButton.tsx`
- `components/dialogue/command-card/CommandCard.tsx`
- `components/dialogue/DialogueInspector.tsx`

Argument Components

- `components/arguments/AIFArgumentsListPro.tsx`
- `components/arguments/AIFArgumentWithSchemeComposer.tsx`
- `components/arguments/SchemeBreakdown.tsx`

Visualization

- `components/map/Aifdiagramviewerdagre.tsx`
- `components/claims/ClaimMiniMap.tsx`
- `components/deepdive/CegMiniMap.tsx`

Ludics

- `components/deepdive/LudicsPanel.tsx`
- `packages/ludics-core/types.ts`
- `packages/ludics-react/LociTree.tsx`

ASPIC

- `components/aspic/AspicTheoryPanel.tsx`

- `components/aspic/ConflictResolutionPanel.tsx`

Libraries

- `lib/dialogue/types.ts`
- `lib/dialogue/legalMoves.ts`
- `lib/arguments/diagram.ts`

Backend Services

- `app/server/services/ArgumentGenerationService.ts`
- `app/server/services/NetIdentificationService.ts`

Appendix B: Glossary

Term	Definition
AIF	Argument Interchange Format - standard ontology for argumentation
ASPIC+	Structured argumentation framework with strict/defeasible rules
CA-node	Conflict Application node (attack relationship)
CQ	Critical Question - challenges to argumentation schemes
Daimon (†)	Termination marker in Ludics indicating convergence
Deliberation	A structured discussion/debate instance
Grounded Semantics	Unique minimal skeptical extension of arguments
I-node	Information node (claims, propositions)
Locus	Address in Ludics interaction space (e.g., "0.1.2")
PA-node	Preference Application node
Polarity	P (positive/assertive) or O (negative/questioning)
PPD	Protocol for Persuasion Dialogues
RA-node	Rule Application node (inference relationship)
Scheme	Argumentation pattern (e.g., Argument from Expert)
