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Five-Axis Disruption Diagnostic Framework

by [Nick Clark](#) | Published March 27, 2026 | [PDF](#)

Cognitive disruption cannot be characterized by a single metric. The five-axis diagnostic framework evaluates disruption across five independent dimensions: promotion-containment balance, integrity trajectory, affective stability, confidence calibration, and capability utilization. Each axis provides independent diagnostic information, and the combined five-axis profile enables precise classification of disruption patterns.

What It Is

The five-axis diagnostic framework evaluates cognitive state across five independent dimensions. The promotion-containment axis measures the balance between speculative advancement and containment. The integrity axis tracks deviation from declared norms. The affective axis measures emotional

stability and volatility. The confidence axis evaluates calibration accuracy. The capability axis measures the gap between available and utilized capabilities.

Each axis is evaluated independently, producing a five-dimensional disruption profile that captures the full complexity of the agent's cognitive state.

Why It Matters

Single-axis diagnosis conflates distinct disruption patterns. An agent with promotion dominance and high integrity looks very different from one with promotion dominance and collapsed integrity, even though both appear disrupted on the promotion-containment axis alone. The five-axis framework disambiguates these cases and enables targeted intervention for each specific combination.

How It Works

Each axis is evaluated through continuous monitoring of the relevant cognitive primitives. The promotion-containment axis measures branch promotion rates and containment enforcement rates. The integrity axis computes the deviation function. The affective axis monitors volatility metrics. The confidence axis compares confidence predictions to actual outcomes. The capability axis measures the ratio of utilized to available capabilities.

The combined profile is recorded in the agent's lineage, enabling trajectory analysis across all five axes simultaneously.

What It Enables

The five-axis framework enables differential diagnosis of disruption patterns that present similarly on any single axis. It enables monitoring of treatment response across all dimensions simultaneously. It enables prediction of disruption cascades where degradation on one axis predicts likely degradation on others based on known interaction patterns between the axes.

[Disruption Modeling All 21 steps →](#)

Recognize cognitive disruption before it stabilizes.

Primary Technical Disclosure

[◦ AQ-DSM: Diagnosing Cognitive Disruption as Loss of Coherence](#)

Secondary Technical

[◦ Cognitive Disruption as Architectural Phase-Shift](#)[◦ The Promotion-Containment Continuum](#)[◦ Attention Fragmentation: Reward-Biased Over-Promotion of Speculative Branches](#)[◦ Containment Collapse: Loss of the Speculation-Verification Boundary](#)[◦ Channel-Locked Promotion With Tolerance Escalation](#)[◦ Five-Axis Disruption Diagnostic Framework](#)[◦ Computable Therapeutic Dosing for Cognitive Disruption](#)[◦ Intergenerational Coherence Burden in Agent Lineages](#)[◦ Agent Self-Diagnosis and Autonomous Coherence Monitoring](#)[◦ Phase-Shift Early Warning System for Cognitive Disruption](#)[◦ Coherence Restoration Protocol Library](#)[◦ Positive and Negative Symptom Analogs in Containment Failure](#)[◦ Coherence Authorization Failure: Self-Disabling Execution](#)[◦ Pathological Verification Loop: Recursive Containment Audit Failure](#)[◦ Dissociation as Simulation Bypass: Acting on Unverified Planning](#)[◦ Affective Gradient Collapse: Self-Esteem Floor Lock](#)[◦ Resilience as Structural Capacity for Coherence Restoration](#)[◦ Personality Configuration Analogs From Stabilized Coping Regimes](#)[◦ Structural Dependency Patterns Between Agents](#)[◦ Destabilizing Attachment: Mutual Disruption Amplification](#)[◦ Resource-Depletion Pattern: Cognitive Operation Under Scarcity](#)[◦ Therapeutic Agent Interaction Through Behavioral State Recognition](#)[◦ Companion AI Relational Safety Constraints](#)[◦ Multi-Agent Group Coherence Dynamics](#)

Applications (General)

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Applications (Specific)

[◦ BetterHelp Cannot Detect When Therapy Is Making Things Worse](#)[◦ Talkspace Has No Model of Therapeutic Destabilization](#)[◦ Headspace Cannot Detect When Mindfulness Destabilizes](#)[◦ Noom Tracks Behavior Without Modeling Cognitive Disruption](#)[◦ Spring Health Matches Therapists, Not Disruption Patterns](#)[◦ Lyra Health Measures Outcomes, Not Coherence Trajectories](#)[◦ Ginger.io Detects Behavioral Signals Without a Disruption Model](#)[◦ Cerebral Prescribes Medication Without Modeling Disruption Dynamics](#)[◦ Modern Health Offers a Care Spectrum Without Disruption Diagnostics](#)[◦ Calm Business Offers Relaxation, Not Disruption Detection](#)

[Disruption Modeling overview →](#)

AQ

deterministic

autonomy

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