The argumentation Package

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Version 1.5 [2025/02/09]

\begin{af}[argumentstyle=gray,namestyle=monospace] \argument{a}



```
\argument[right=of a1]{b}
    \argument[below=of a1]{c}
    \argument[right=of a3]{d}
    \lambda ttack{a1}{a2}
    \lambda ttack{a2}{a3}
    \attack[bend right]{a3}{a4}
    \label{af:example}
\end{af}
```

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1 Quick Guide

To create an argumentation framework in your LATEX-document, you first have to import the argumentation package in the preamble:

```
\usepackage{argumentation}
```

You can then create a new **af** environment in which the argumentation framework can then be built:

You may want to wrap the **af** environment in a **figure** environment in order to add a caption and reference label. You can also add a label inside the **af** environment via $\label{\langle label \rangle}$. Anywhere in your document, you can then reference the af with $\ref{\langle label \rangle}$.

Inside the af environment, you can then add an argument as follows:

```
\arg \{\langle name \rangle\}
```

Here, $\langle name \rangle$ is the name of the argument displayed in the graph and the argument is automatically assigned an *identifier* of the form: $a1, a2, \ldots$

To properly add further arguments, you also need to specify a position. The **argumentation** package offers two easy ways of doing that:

```
\largument[\langle dir \rangle = of \langle argId \rangle] \{\langle name \rangle\}\largument\{\langle name \rangle\} at (\langle posX \rangle, \langle posY \rangle)
```

The first instance is *relative positioning* where $\langle dir \rangle$ is the direction of placement relative to the argument with the identifier $\langle argId \rangle$, with $\langle dir \rangle$ typically being one of: right, left, above, below.

The second instance is *absolute positioning* where $(\langle posX \rangle, \langle posY \rangle)$ is a set of coordinates, for example something like (2, 0), (0, -2) or (-1, 3.5).

The next step is adding attacks. For that you can simply use the following command:

 $\left(\frac{a1}{42}\right) \left(\frac{a2}{42}\right)$

Substitute $\langle a1 \rangle$ and $\langle a2 \rangle$ with the identifier of the two arguments. Alternatively, you can also directly create bidirectional attacks and self-attacks with the following two commands:

 $\begin{aligned} \label{eq:lastick} & \label{altack} \\ & \label{altackk} \\ & \label{altack$

To customize the look of the arguments and attacks and for a detailed overview over all options and commands provided by this package, please refer to the following example or to the full documentation in Section 3.

2 Example Usage



Figure 1: The AF F_2 created with the argumentation package.

```
\usepackage[namestyle=math]{argumentation}
. . .
\begin{document}
. . .
\begin{figure}[ht]
    \centering
    \begin{af}
        \argument{a}
        \argument[right=of a1]{b}
        \argument[right=of a2]{c}
        \argument[rejected,right=of a3]{d}
        \argument[right=of a4,incomplete]{e}
        \argument[below=of a1]{f}
        \argument[inactive,right=of a6]{g}
        \argument[accepted,right=of a7]{h}
        \argument[right=of a8]{i}
        \argument[right=of a9]{j}
        \annotation[right,yshift=-0.4cm]{a5}{$a\lor b$}
        afname{F_{ref}af:ex2}} at (-1,-1)
        \selfattack{a1}
        dualattack{a1}{a6}
        \dualattack[inactive]{a6}{a7}
        \attack[inactive]{a8}{a7}
        \attack[inactive]{a7}{a2}
        \lambda ttack{a5}{a10}
        \lambda ttack{a10}{a9}
        \lambda ttack{a9}{a4}
        \annotatedattack[below,incomplete]{a4}{a5}{$x$}
        \support{a4}{a3}
        \support{a9}{a3}
        \label{af:ex2}
    \end{af}
    \caption{The AF $F_{\ref{af:ex2}}$ created with the \argumentation package.}
    \label{fig:example}
\end{figure}
. . .
\end{document}
```

3 Documentation for Version 1.5 [2025/02/09]

The argumentation package provides an easy way for creating argumentation frameworks¹ in IATEX-documents. It builds on the TikZ package for drawing the argumentation graphs. The argumentation package provides simplified syntax while keeping the same customisation options and keeping full compatibility with all TikZ features. In addition to that, the argumentation package provides the ability to label and reference the created argumentation frameworks as well as some other additional features.

The argumentation package can be imported via the command

\usepackage[(options)] {argumentation}

In the following, we give an overview over the functionality of the argumentation package. Most importantly, that includes the af environment to encapsulate the created argumentation frameworks, the command \argument{ } to create argument nodes and the attack{ }{ } command to create attack edges. Options to customise the appearance of arguments and attacks are described in Section 4.

3.1 The af Environment

The argumentation package provides an environment for creating argumentation frameworks in IAT_{EX} -documents.

```
\begin{array}{l} \label{eq:login} \\ & \left( options \right) \\ & \left( environment \ contents \right) \end{array}
```

\end{af}

The af environment supports referencing. For that add the command $\label{\langle label}$ anywhere inside an af environment. The AFs are automatically numbered in ascending order of occurrence. The $\langle label \rangle$ allows you to reference the corresponding AF via $\ref{\langle label \rangle}$ anywhere in the document.

If you want to create an AF that is excluded from the automatic numbering, the **argumentation** package provides the **af*** version of the environment, which has the same functionality otherwise:

 $\geq \{af*\}$

The af (and af*) environment also accepts the package style options (see Section 4). Locally set style options override defaults and the values set globally with the package import.

In general, the **af** environment extends the **tikzpicture** environment, meaning all TikZ commands and parameters can be used for the **af** environment. The **argumentation** package also provides the options small or tiny for the **af** environment to create smaller AFs. This is especially useful for two-column layout documents.





(a) An AF created with the small option set.

(b) An AF created with the tiny option set.

Figure 2: Argumentation frameworks using the small and tiny option of the af environment.

¹Dung, P. M. (1995). On the acceptability of arguments and its fundamental role in non-monotonic reasoning, logic programming and n-person games. Artificial intelligence.

3.2 Creating Arguments

Inside an **af** (or **af***) environment, you can create argument nodes for the argumentation framework with the following command

 $\left(\left(options \right) \right) \left(\left(id \right) \right) \left(\left(name \right) \right)$ at $\left(\left(posX \right), \left(posY \right) \right)$

 $\langle options \rangle$ (optional) a list of TikZ style parameters and/or relative positioning information.

- $\langle id \rangle$ (optional) the identifier of the new argument. Per default, when omitted, arguments will automatically be assigned an identifier of the form: $a1, a2, a3, \dots$
- $\langle name \rangle$ the displayed name of the argument.
- (posX),(posY) (optional) the coordinates where the argument is placed. Must be omitted if
 relative positioning is used.

3.2.1 Positioning

The argumentation package also provides the ability to use *relative positioning* instead of absolute positioning via coordinates. For that, it relies on relative placement via the TikZ-library positioning. The relative positioning information is provided as an optional parameter via $[\langle options \rangle]$ as follows

$\arg[\langle dir \rangle = of \langle argId \rangle] \{\langle name \rangle\}$

- (dir) The direction of placement relative to the argument (argId). Typically one of: above, right, left or below.
- $\langle argId \rangle$ The identifier of another argument.

(*name*) The displayed name of the argument.

Additionally, you can adjust the horizontal/vertical position of an argument by adding $xshift=\langle v \rangle$ or $yshift=\langle v \rangle$ inside the [...]. The value $\langle v \rangle$ is hereby the horizontal/vertical offset, e.g., -6.6ex or 1cm.

In the following, we list some useful style options for the **\argument** command, provided by the argumentation package:

inactive	The argument is displayed with grey outline and text.
incomplete	The argument is displayed with a dotted outline.
invisible	The argument node is completely transparent.
accepted	The argument is displayed with green background color.
rejected	The argument is displayed with red background color.
undecided	The argument is displayed with cyan background color.
highlight	The argument is displayed with yellow background color.

Table 1: Some style options for the \argument command (for exact definition see Section 5).



3.3 Creating Attacks

To create an directed attack between two argument nodes, you can use the following command. The parameters $\langle arg1 \rangle$ and $\langle arg2 \rangle$ are the identifiers of the two arguments.

 $\left[\left(options \right) \right] \left\{ \left(argId1 \right) \right\} \left\{ \left(argId2 \right) \right\}$

 $\langle options \rangle$ (optional) a list of TikZ style parameters.

 $\langle arg1 \rangle$ Identifier of the attacking argument.

 $\langle arg 2 \rangle$ Identifier of the attacked argument.

To simplify creating special types of attacks, like bidirectional attacks or self-attacks, the following two commands are provided.

 $\langle options \rangle$ (optional) a list of TikZ style parameters.

 $\langle arg1 \rangle$ Identifier of the first argument.

 $\langle arg 2 \rangle$ Identifier of the second argument.

 $\left| \left(argId \right) \right|$

 $\langle options \rangle$ (optional) a list of TikZ style parameters.

 $\langle arg1 \rangle$ Identifier of the self-attacking argument.

For selfattack you might want to specify the position of the attack loop. For that, you should provide the start and end point of the attack-edge (as a degree from 0 to 360) via the optional TikZ-parameters $in=\langle degree1 \rangle$ and $out=\langle degree2 \rangle$. The default values are in=0 and out=60.

If you want to attach a value to an attack edge, you may use the following command.

 $\ \left(annotatedattack \ \left[\langle options \rangle \right] \ \left\{ \langle argId1 \rangle \right\} \ \left\{ \langle argId2 \rangle \right\} \ \left\{ \langle value \rangle \right\}$

- (options) Optional TikZ parameters. Must also include one of the following parameters to specify placement of the annotation relative to the attack arrow: above, below, left, right.
- $\langle arg1 \rangle$ Identifier of the attacking argument.
- $\langle arg 2 \rangle$ Identifier of the attacked argument.
- $\langle value \rangle$ The text that is annotated.

As an alternative to the standard attack arrow, you can use the following command.

$\operatorname{support} [\langle options \rangle] \{\langle argId1 \rangle\} \{\langle argId2 \rangle\}$

 $\langle options \rangle$ (optional) a list of TikZ style parameters.

- $\langle arg1 \rangle$ Identifier of the supporting argument.
- $\langle arg2 \rangle$ Identifier of the supported argument.

Some useful style options for the attacks (and other edges) are listed below:

inactive	The attack is displayed in grey.
incomplete	The attack is displayed with a dotted line.
invisible	The attack is completely transparent.
selfattack	Use if source and target of the attack are the same node.
bend right	The attack arrow is bent to the right.
	Can additionally provide the angle, e.g., bend right=40.
bend left	The attack arrow is bent to the left. Can also provide an angle.

Table 2: Some useful style options for the **\attack** (and related) commands. For the exact definition see Section 5.



3.4 Beamer

Most commands provided by the **argumentation** package support *overlay specifications* used for creating presentations with **beamer**². To specify overlay information, use <X> directly after the command name, where X is for instance a number, a list of numbers or any other form of overlay specification (see **beamer** documentation for more information). All commands for creating AFs introduced so far support overlay specifications.

In accordance with the beamer cover types, the argumentation package provides the two cover modes: transparent and invisible. In transparent mode arguments and attacks that are inactive on a slide are rendered in gray, and in invisible mode they are completely invisible on inactive slides.

²https://tug.ctan.org/macros/latex/contrib/beamer/doc/beameruserguide.pdf

3.4.1 Experimental Features

Warning: The following features are experimental and the performance is not necessarily optimized yet. If you want to reuse (parts of) previously created argumentation frameworks in some form, the argumentation package provides some useful commands that can be enabled via the package option beamer=true. While primarily intended for the use inside the beamer document class when creating presentations, the commands also work in any other document class. Each command required the label of some argumentation framework and a list of argument IDs of that framework and then creates a copy of that framework, with some changes depending on the command.

$aflabeling { (af-label) } { (argument list) }$

Applies the style parameter accepted to all arguments in $\langle argument \ list \rangle$, the parameter rejected to those attacked by arguments in $\langle argument \ list \rangle$ and undecided to all other arguments.

$afextension \{ \langle af-label \rangle \} \{ \langle argument \ list \rangle \}$

Applies the style parameter accepted to all arguments in (argument list).

$\left(af-label \right)$ { $\left(argument \ list \right)$ }

Applies the style parameter inactive to all arguments in (*argument list*) and those attacked by them. All attacks involving at least one such argument also receive the parameter inactive.

\afrestriction {(af-label)} {(argument list)}

Applies the style parameter invisible to all arguments *not* in (*argument list*). All attacks involving at least one such argument also receive the parameter invisible.

See Figure 3 for some examples.





(a) Result of \aflabeling{af:example}{a1}. (b) Result of \afextension{af:example}{a1,a3}.



(c) Result of \afreduct{af:example}{a2}. (d) Result of \afrestriction{af:example}{a3,a4}.

Figure 3: Example usage of the four commands provided by the beamer package option.

3.5 Other Commands

The argumentation package also provides some additional features. The following command can be used to create a text annotation next to an argument node in the argumentation framework. The annotation we be placed above the argument node, to adjust its position you should use xshift and yshift. $\ \left(annotation \left[\langle options \rangle \right] \left\{ \langle argId \rangle \right\} \left\{ \langle value \rangle \right\}$

 $\langle options \rangle$ Optional TikZ style parameters.

 $\langle argId \rangle$ Identifier of the argument.

 $\langle value \rangle$ The annotation text.

The command \afname can be used to create a simple text node inside the AF. Mainly intended to add the name of the AF into the picture, you can generally put any text there. The command behaves essentially exactly like the \argument command.

```
\alpha = [\langle options \rangle] (\langle id \rangle) \{\langle name \rangle\} = (\langle posX \rangle, \langle posY \rangle)
```

(options) (optional) a list of TikZ style parameters and/or relative positioning parameters.

(*id*) (optional) Identifier of the text node. If omitted the identifier will be caption.

 $\langle text \rangle$ Text to be displayed.

(posX), (posY) (optional) the coordinates for placement. Omit if using relative positioning.

If you want to define your own style for arguments, attacks or supports, you may use one of the following commands to override the package-wide settings to your liking. For that you may also reuse some of the pre-defined parameters of the **argumentation** package (see Section 5).

```
\setargumentstyle \{\langle style \ parameters \rangle\} \\ \setatackstyle \{\langle style \ parameters \rangle\} \\ \setsupportstyle \{\langle style \ parameters \rangle\} \\
```

Similarly, you can also use the following command to override the default settings of the af environment, e.g., the node distance.

```
\setafstyle { (style parameters ) }
```

Finally, when using the $\operatorname{argumentstyle} = colored$ package option, you may use the following command to set the color scheme.

```
setargument colorscheme { outer color } { (inner color ) }
```



3.5.1 Argumentation Macros

To facilitate referencing argumentation frameworks and working with them in general, the argumentation package provides some additional macros that can be enabled with the package option macros=true. Most importantly, there is the macro $\fill label \$ which works like the ref command but adds the reference number directly into the index of the AF symbol. You may redefine any of the first four commands if you prefer a different naming scheme for AFs.

\AF	F
\arguments	A
\attacks	R
\AFcomplete	F = (A, R)
\afref{af:example}	F_1
\fullafref{af:example}	$F_1 = (A_1, R_1)$

Table 3: Macros provided by the package option macros=true and their respective output.

4 Package Options

The argumentation package comes with some package options to customize the appearance of the created argumentation frameworks as well as some additional features. All style package options can both be set globally when importing the package and also locally for each af environment. To import the argumentation package, use the following command in the preamble of your LAT_FX -document:

\usepackage[{options}]{argumentation}

The following package options are currently available:

- argumentstyle (default standard) Globally sets the appearance of the argument nodes. The argumentation package provides five options: standard, large, thick, gray and colored. Detailed descriptions of these options can be found below.
- attackstyle (default standard) Globally sets the appearance of the attack edges. The package comes with three available options: standard, large and modern. Detailed descriptions of these options can be found below.
- **supportstyle** (default standard) Globally sets the appearance of the support edges. The package comes with three available options: standard, dashed and double. Detailed descriptions of these options can be found below.
- namestyle (default none) Sets the text formatting applied to the argument names in the document. The package comes with five available options: none, math, bold, monospace and monoemph. Detailed descriptions of these options can be found below.
- indexing (default numeric) Enables or disables automatic generation of TikZ node-IDs for the created arguments. The available options are: none, numeric and alphabetic. Under the default numeric indexing the generated argument IDs are of the form $a1, a2, \ldots$. With alphabetic indexing the IDs will simply be letters: a, b, \ldots . If none is selected, no IDs will be generated and you are required to provide them for each argument via the parameter ($\langle id \rangle$) of the \argument command.
- **macros** Boolean (default false) When enabled provides additional macros for naming and referencing argumentation frameworks (see Table 3).
- **beamer** Boolean (default false) When enabled, provides the commands for recreating argumentations frameworks described in Section 3.4.

In the following we give an overview of the different options for the style parameters that can be used to customise the created argumentation frameworks. For the exact definitions of these parameters, refer to Section 5.

$argumentstyle = \langle option \rangle$

standard Circular argument node with normal size argument name.

- large Larger font of the argument name.
- thick Thick black outline and normal size argument name.
- gray Thick gray outline, light gray background.
- colored Thick blue outline, light blue background.



```
attackstyle = \langle option \rangle
```

standard Standard 'stealth' TikZ arrow tip.large Arrow tip is larger and sharper.modern TikZ ModernCS arrow tip.







(a) attackstyle=*standard*

(b) attackstyle=large



Figure 5: Available options for attackstyle.

supportstyle=(option)

standard Same tip as attack arrow, perpendicular mark on arrow line.dashed Dashed arrow line and same tip as attack arrow.

double Double arrow line and large flat tip.





$namestyle = \langle option \rangle$

none	No effect applied to argument name.
math	The argument name is rendered as $math$ text.
	(name must be given without mathemode).
bold	The argument name is rendered in bold .
	(name must be given without mathemode).
monospace	The argument name is rendered in monospace font.
	(name must be given without mathemode).
monoemph	The argument name is rendered as <i>name</i> .

a \mathbf{b}

 $(a) \longrightarrow (b)$

(a) namestyle=none

(b) namestyle=math

 \boldsymbol{a} b (c) namestyle=bold

a b

(d) namestyle=monospace

а Ъ

 $(e) \ \mathsf{namestyle}{=}\mathit{monoemph}$

Figure 7: Available options for namestyle. You can of course apply any formatting yourself when using the default namestyle=none.

5 Style Parameter Reference

For reference, the style parameters provided by this package are listed below. You may use or redefine them at your own discretion.

Ti <i>k</i> Z-keyword	style parameters	
argument size argument argument standard argument large argument thick argument gray argument colored	<pre>contains the currently selected argument size contains the currently selected argument style and size circle,inner sep=0,outer sep=0,draw=black circle,inner sep=0,outer sep=0,draw=black,font=\large circle,inner sep=0,outer sep=0,draw=black,line width=0.1em argument thick,fill=gray!30,draw=gray!65,text=black!80 argument thick,fill=aigblue!40,draw=aigblue!80,text=black!80</pre>	
attack attack standard attack large attack modern selfattack	<pre>contains the currently selected attack style -{stealth'} -{Stealth[scale=1.25]} -{To[sharp,length=0.65ex,line width=0.05em]} loop,min distance=0.4em,in=0,out=60,looseness=4.5</pre>	
support support standard support dashed support double	<pre>contains the currently selected support style attack,postaction={decorate,decoration={}} attack,densely dashed -{Classical TikZ Rightarrow},double</pre>	
inactive incomplete accepted rejected undecided highlight invisible	<pre>fill=none,draw=gray!50,text=gray!60 densely dashed fill=green!40 fill=red!40 fill=cyan!40 fill=aigyellow!60 draw=none,fill=none,opacity=0.0</pre>	
standard small tiny	<pre>node distance=6.6ex,argument size/.style=minimum size=4.5ex, attack width/.style=line width=0.05em node distance=3.5ex,argument size/.style=minimum size=3.4ex, attack width/.style=line width=0.045em node distance=2.3ex,argument size/.style=minimum size=2.6ex, attack width/.style=line width=0.03em,font=\small</pre>	

Table 4: Reference list of TikZ-style parameters provided by the argumentation package.

6 Version History

[v1.5 2025/02/09]

- Added support for beamer overlay specifications to \argument{ }, \attack{ }{ } and related commands.
- Added covered parameter for af environment to select between *transparent* and *invisible* rendering of inactive arguments/attacks on slides.
- Bugfix related to experimental beamer commands.

[v1.4 2024/10/31]

- Added functions **\aflabeling**, **\afextension**, **\afreduct** and **\afrestriction** that recreate (parts of) previously created argumentation frameworks. Can be enabled via the package option beamer=true.
- Added internal storage of arguments and attacks of an argumentation framework to enable further computations.
- Added environment **af*** for argumentation frameworks that are unlabeled/uncounted.
- Added command \setargumentcolorscheme{ }{ } to change color scheme of the colored argument style.
- Added command \setafstyle{ } to set global style options for the AFs.
- Added optional parameter ((*value*)) to \attack command to add a label to the attack edge (undocumented for now).
- Major revision of the documentation.
- Various minor changes to internal functions, naming scheme and comments.

[v1.3 2024/09/25]

- Added support for $label{ }$ and $ref{ }$ to af environment.
- Added commands \AF, \arguments, \attacks and \AFcomplete to facilitate consistent naming of AFs. Have to be loaded with the package option macros=true.
- Added commands \afref{ } and \fullafref{ } to reference AFs.
- adjusted scaling of nodes and arrows for larger page sizes.
- added new style options for arguments.
- Various minor fixes and changes regarding the **namestyle** package option.

[v1.2 2024/06/07]

- Changed Syntax of \argument command. The *id* parameter is now given inside parenthesis instead of curly braces and is optional.
- Added absolute positioning to $\ \text{argument}$ command, like for TikZ nodes.
- Added package option indexing to toggle automatic generation of identifiers for created argument nodes. Can be set to *none*, or selected between *alphabetic* and *numeric* (default).

- All package style options can now also be set locally in the **af** environment.
- Adjusted \annotatedattack to require position parameter.
- Various minor bugfixes regarding the namestyle package option.
- Added new argumentstyle large.

[v1.1 2023/12/03]

- Adjusted standard styles.
- Added command for creating annotated attacks.
- Now only provides one environment, which can be parameterised.
- Changed option management to pgfkeys.
- Updated and improved documentation.

[v1.0 2023/11/05]

• First Version.