

House Rules of Rigor and Responsibility

METHODOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES GOVERNING DURCHD8 ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS AND FORMAL ANALYTICAL OUTPUTS

Martin Sauer · in effect since 26 April 2026, last revised 26 October 2026 · v1.3

These principles codify the methodological standards under which DURCHD8 publications and formal analytical outputs are produced, reviewed, and revised.

I. ACADEMIC RESEARCH PRINCIPLES

1. **Methodological Position.** We reconstruct conditions rather than defend positions; when those conditions are credibly challenged, we revise.
2. **Conditionality.** All structural claims apply only under explicitly defined scope conditions.
3. **Minimal Ontology.** Only strictly necessary premises are introduced.
4. **Explicit Derivation.** All inferential steps are stated and justified; no implicit transitions are presumed.
5. **Modal Discipline.** Necessary, sufficient, dominant, and correlational relations are not conflated.
6. **Collapse Specification.** Structural failure conditions are explicitly identified.
7. **Falsifiability.** Core propositions include defined criteria for revision.
8. **Canonical Symmetry.** Divergence from canonical theory triggers bilateral condition review, marked as Canonical Divergence Assessment.
9. **Convergence, Not Authority.** Canonical alignment functions as structural convergence, not proof by authority.
10. **Weakness Disclosure.** Identified conceptual or definitional weaknesses are explicitly acknowledged.
11. **Layer Declaration.** Each publication explicitly declares the methodological foundations it draws upon and their disclosure status.

II. SCOPE AND CALIBRATION

These rules govern a deductive-structural argument type with minimal ontology and explicit scope conditions. Adoption for other argument types (historical-genealogical, ethnographic-descriptive, quantitative-statistical, or hermeneutic-interpretive) or by other research programmes requires recalibration. Other DURCHD8 methodological instruments operate under their own scope conditions.

DURCHD8 distinguishes two output tracks. The Academic Track covers peer-reviewed publications — academic papers, working papers, and preprints. The Forensic Track covers working-tool diagnostics — architectural analyses, structural assessments, strategic briefings, and public notes. These rules govern both tracks. They apply at full depth within the Academic Track and at working-tool depth within the Forensic Track; in the latter, IP-handling discipline applies.

III. ARCHITECTURAL TRANSPARENCY

DURCHD8 operates a layered research architecture spanning the published proof layer and the following instruments:

- **Narrative Power Model (NPM)**, the diagnostic framework that operationalizes the proof for structured analysis.
- **Narrative Reference Catalogue (NRC)**, the reference architecture that classifies narrative structures by function, cost, deployment conditions, and substitution constraints.
- **NWDC**, the doctrinal layer that translates proof, model, and catalogue into governed analysis under contested information conditions.
- **Aegis ICAM**, the decision architecture that integrates the intelligence cycle, JIPOE, chain-of-custody discipline, and Bayesian reasoning into auditable decision support.

Academic publications are formally reviewable within their declared scope. Some rely exclusively on public sources and fully disclosed methods. Others draw on a broader methodological architecture; where they do, that dependence is declared, published foundations are referenced, and non-public components are described at evaluation depth or may be made available to authorized recipients under appropriate conditions.

Flagship publications carry the greatest methodological depth and serve as the methodological reference for their Companion formats: a Structural Assessment, a Strategic Briefing and, where the case calls for it, a Public Note. Further Companion forms are used where their function requires. All such outputs remain bound by the same standards, applied at the depth their format and purpose permit.

Layer Declaration is mandatory, but it need not appear as a standalone section. The requirement is satisfied wherever the methodological foundations used by a publication and their disclosure status are clearly identifiable within the document.

IV. NOTE ON AI ASSISTANCE

AI tools may assist translation, editorial revision, and formatting. Theoretical structures, derivations, and final assertions remain human responsibilities. Operational details are governed by the Governance Framework, Section 5.

V. ANALYTICAL CONDUCT

DURCHD8 distinguishes structural analysis from political advocacy. Where normative judgment is present, it is marked as such. Applied use of these frameworks remains bound to the conditions under which their claims are valid.

VERSION

Version 1.3 supersedes version 1.2 of 8 May 2026 and applies from 26 October 2026. It aligns the text with the current output formats and the rules on AI assistance; the principles in Section I are unchanged.

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