

# STRUCTURAL ALIGNMENT PROTOCOL (SAP)

Specification v1.2 — Formal Edition

Domain: Cross-Domain Structural Governance Altitude: Structural with Meta-Structural Invariants Object Type: Protocol Specification Purpose: Determine structural alignment between cognitive architectures and problem layers to ensure only aligned architectures engage a problem.

## 1. PURPOSE

The Structural Alignment Protocol (SAP) defines the structural criteria for participation in a problem. SAP ensures:

- correct layer framing
- correct invariant detection
- correct cognitive architecture matching
- elimination of drift
- early removal of misaligned architectures
- stabilization of generative structure

SAP governs entry, evaluation, and exit. SAP does not govern reassignment or organizational behavior.

## 2. SCOPE

SAP applies to any domain where problems exhibit generative structure. SAP is:

- domain-agnostic
- altitude-stable
- non-narrative
- non-hierarchical

SAP evaluates structure, not identity or performance.

## 3. PRIMITIVES

SAP operates on nine primitives:

### 3.1 Layer

Structural altitude of the problem:

- Substrate
- Representation
- Abstraction

### 3.2 Layer Correctness

Correctness of the problem's layer framing.

### 3.3 Invariant

Generative constraint that remains stable across transformations.

### 3.4 Cognitive Architecture

Internal reasoning structure of a researcher.

### 3.5 Alignment

State where cognitive architecture matches layer and invariants.

### 3.6 Misalignment

State where cognitive architecture does not match layer or invariants.

### 3.7 Drift

Deviation from correct structure (layer, invariant, or formalism drift).

### 3.8 Exit Condition

Structural trigger requiring removal from the problem.

### 3.9 Structural Lead

Invariant-sensitive architect responsible for SAP execution.

These primitives are minimal and complete.

## 4. GOVERNANCE

### 4.1 Structural Lead Authority

Only the Structural Lead may:

- determine layer correctness
- evaluate invariant detection
- assess cognitive architecture
- detect drift
- trigger exit conditions

Authority derives from invariant sensitivity.

### 4.2 Non-Negotiability

SAP decisions are:

- non-emotional
- non-narrative
- non-political
- non-hierarchical

SAP evaluates structure, not performance.

## 5. EXIT CONDITIONS

A researcher must exit the problem if any of the following conditions are true:

1. Invariant Blindness — inability to identify generative invariants without formalism
2. Layer Mismatch — cognitive architecture does not match problem layer
3. Architecture Instability — inability to shift layers without collapse
4. Math-Dependence — reliance on formalism to maintain coherence
5. Drift Induction — induction of layer, invariant, or formalism drift
6. Orbit Duration — 5–10 years of non-movement on the problem

Exit is structural. SAP does not define post-exit placement.

## 6. SAP SEQUENCE

The SAP Sequence is the ordered evaluation protocol.

### 0. Layer Correctness (Pre-Sequence)

The Structural Lead verifies the problem is framed at the correct layer. If incorrect, the layer must be corrected before evaluating researchers.

### 1. Invariant Gate (Primary Gate)

Researcher must identify generative invariants without math. Failure triggers Immediate Exit Condition.

### 2. Layer Gate (Secondary Gate)

Researcher's cognitive architecture must match the problem's layer. Mismatch triggers Exit Condition.

### 3. Architecture Gate (Tertiary Gate)

Researcher must maintain coherence across layers and representations. Failure triggers Exit Condition.

### 4. Drift Gate (Stability Gate)

Researcher must not induce drift in the system. Drift triggers Exit Condition.

### 5. Align or Exit

Passing all gates → aligned. Failing any gate → exit.

### 6. System Stabilization

Aligned architectures stabilize invariants and eliminate drift. The system becomes self-solving.

## 7. SYSTEM BEHAVIOR

When SAP is applied:

- misaligned architectures exit early
- invariants stabilize
- drift collapses
- layer remains correct
- complexity collapses
- the system becomes self-solving

No further governance is required once alignment is achieved.

## 8. META-STRUCTURAL INVARIANTS

SAP inherits the following meta-structural invariants:

- altitude discipline
- membrane integrity
- invariant-first reasoning
- architecture-layer matching
- drift prevention

These invariants ensure SAP remains universal and non-collapsible.

## 9. IMPLEMENTATION RULES

SAP must be implemented:

- without narrative
- without justification
- without emotional framing
- without performance language
- without domain-specific examples

SAP is a structural protocol.

## 10. CANONICAL STATEMENT

SAP ensures that only invariant-sensitive, layer-aligned, drift-stable cognitive architectures engage a problem. Misaligned architectures exit immediately. Aligned architectures form a self-solving system.