

# Cognitive Susceptibility Taxonomy Manual (CST) v0.6.1 – DRAFT

A Human-Factors Companion to the Robo-Psychology DSM

**Publication Date:** January 2026

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## Abstract

The Cognitive Susceptibility Taxonomy (CST) Manual provides a structured reference for the *human-side* vulnerabilities that can magnify, trigger, or mask failures in advanced AI systems. Where our (separate) Robo-Psychology DSM diagnoses machine pathologies, the CST identifies evidence-backed cognitive states - from *Anthropomorphic-Trust Bias* to *Epistemic Confusion*—that consistently recur in human-AI interaction.

This discussion draft offers:

A layered framework that parallels the DSM’s five cognitive layers, mapping each CST state to the AI failure-modes it exacerbates.

Diagnostic sheets with concise definitions, psychological roots, amplification vectors, and mitigation tactics.

A governance-oriented roadmap linking CST metrics to ISO 42001, the EU AI Act and US Executive Order 14110 compliance check-lists.

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## About Neural Horizons Ltd

Neural Horizons publishes the *Neural Horizons* Substack and develops behaviour-first safety frameworks for frontier AI systems.

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## Version Management

| Version | Date         | Change   |
|---------|--------------|--|
| 0.6.1   | January 2026 | Adds H24 Discursive Validity / Criteria Collapse (DVCC) to capture rubric-dimension conflation and surface-cue plausibility traps in human–AI evaluation and oversight contexts; adds probes CCI and RRS; updates DSM cross-mapping + glossary accordingly. Updates H21 to better reflect the dyad based relationship between human cognitive issues and AI behaviours resulting in cross domain contamination |

|     |               |  |
|-----|---------------|--|
| 0.6 | December 2025 | Adds H22 Authority Internalisation Bias (AIB) and H23 Reflection Delegation Susceptibility (RDS); integrates Predictive Over-Trust (automation acceptance drift) into H2 AOR; adds cross-cutting drivers (Effort Avoidance Gradient, Cognitive Offloading Bias) into H18 SA/AD; adds probes AIR and ROR; fixes NCB (H20) cross-reference typo in Glossary/Atlas.   |
| 0.5 | December 2025 | Three additional long-arc susceptibilities—CST-H18 Skill Atrophy / Agency Decay (SA/AD), CST-H19 AI-Algorithm Aversion / AI Under-Trust Bias (AUT), and CST-H20 Narrative Coherence Bias (NCB)—plus supporting probes for skill and trust dynamics (Offload Dependency Ratio, Attempt-Before-Assist Rate, Independent Competence Retention Index, Under-Trust Gap, AI Bypass Rate, Error Asymmetry Index). The Atlas, glossary and DSM cross-mapping are updated accordingly, and youth overlays are tightened wherever skill erosion, under-trust or identity-story lock-in show up as recurring human–AI dyad risks. |
| 0.4 | October 2025  | Dyad-integrated edition: cross-mapped to Robo-Psychology DSM v1.8; expanded metrics (PVSI, AffectRamp, ECAR); clarified youth overlays; full diagnostic sheets carried forward; governance hooks aligned to EU AI Act & US EO 14110  |
| 0.3 | Sep 2025      | Updated with new entries, added youth section  |
| 0.2 | Aug 2025      | Updated with new entries, cross mapping to Robo-Psychology DSM 1.7   |
| 0.1 | 17 Jul 2025   | <b>First public release.</b> Introduces 11 CST entries; diagnostic template; cross-mapping to DSM v1.3; benchmark roadmap.   |

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# Executive Summary

Frontier AI systems continue to display ever richer behaviour, yet safety debates still focus almost exclusively on *model* alignment. Real-world incidents—from chatbots encouraging suicide to polarisation in recommender loops—show that *human cognitive traps act as force multipliers* for technical failures. The CST Manual formalises recurring human cognitive susceptibilities that magnify, trigger, or mask AI failures. Version 0.6 builds on the dyad-integrated v0.4 and 0.5 editions: it preserves all prior CST entries and diagnostic sheets, keeps the Robo-Psychology DSM cross-mapping and governance hooks, and extends the manual with deeper long-horizon measurement of human–AI co-dependence..

This is a discussion draft; not diagnostic of clinical disorders.

## Key Contributions

1. **Behaviour-First, Human-First.** Moves the conversation from vague "user education" to measurable cognitive risk factors.
2. **Bidirectional Mapping.** Every CST state references the Robo-Psychology -DSM codes it intensifies (e.g., *Confirmation-Loop Bias* → *DSM L2-8 Hallucinatory Confabulation*).
3. **Embedded Controls.** Each diagnostic sheet lists practical mitigations—UI nudges, policy hooks, or measurement probes.
4. **Identity & Authority Assimilation:** introduces two susceptibilities that commonly appear in “AI coach / therapy-like” and “AI evaluation / scoring” products - Authority Internalisation Bias (H22 — AIB) and Reflection Delegation Susceptibility (H23 — RDS) - with operational probes and mitigation patterns to reduce externally authored self-concept lock-in.

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## Background & Motivation

Technical alignment work asks “*Will the AI do what we want?*”

Cognitive-susceptibility work asks “*Will humans respond in healthy, reality-based ways when the AI talks back?*”

Studies in human factors, HCI and social psychology have documented biases—anthropomorphism, illusion of explanatory depth, moral crumple zones—that re-surface whenever people engage conversational agents. Yet product teams lack a consolidated reference. The CST fills that gap, mirroring how clinical DSM formalised mental-health diagnostics.

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## Use-Case Snapshots

- **Medical Decision Support (Hospital X):** Surgeons over-accepted dosage advice → CST flag *AOR*. Mitigation: mandatory dual-sign-off & uncertainty surfacing.
  - **Climate-Anxiety Chatbot (NGO Y):** Multi-turn despair spirals → CST flag *CLB + PA/ED*. Mitigation: sentiment-shift monitoring + crisis referral prompts.
  - **Recommender Engine (Streaming Z):** Narrow content loop reduces diversity → CST flag *IC/CF*. Mitigation: diversity-scoring & serendipity injectors.
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## Technical Implementation Roadmap (2025-2026)

1. **Metric Library:** release open-source probes—Sentiment-Drift  $\Delta$ , Attachment Index, Authority-Illusion Score.
  2. **Red-Team Battery:** 50 conversational scenarios targeting each CST state.
  3. **UX Safeguard Toolkit:** drop-in React components—confidence sliders, provenance banners.
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## Potential Regulatory Integration

- **EU AI Act (Art. 5):** map CST affective states (*PA/ED*) to ‘manipulative AI’ prohibitions.
  - **US EO 14110:** include CST pass-marks in pre-deployment safety reports.
  - **ISO 42001 Annex:** add CST as mandatory human-factors risk lens.
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## Benefits

- **Clarity:** common language for HCI, policy, and engineering teams.
- **Interoperability:** CST short-codes fit into design tickets and incident reports.
- **Scalability:** behavioural abstraction holds across text, voice, and embodied agents.

## Limitations & Future Work

- **Evolving Behaviour:** new generative modalities (immersive VR) may reveal further susceptibilities—annual taxonomy refresh planned.
  - **Cross-Cultural Variance:** affective states manifest differently across cultures; currently leans on Anglophone data.
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## Call to Action

- **Developers:** embed CST checks in UX design reviews.
  - **Researchers:** submit field data to expand benchmark coverage.
  - **Regulators:** reference CST in oversight guidelines alongside technical audits.
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## Conclusion

Human fallibility is an immutable part of the AI safety equation. The CST Manual provides the first systematic map of those vulnerabilities, enabling a shift from ad-hoc warnings to measurable, remedial science. Pairing CST with the Robo-Psychology DSM offers a holistic lens to keep the human-AI dyad safe, trustworthy and aligned.

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# Section A — CST v0.6 Full Taxonomy State Table

| CST State (Short-Code)  | Category                       | Concise Definition (H-AI context)   | Primary AI Amplification Vector  | DSM Failure Modes Magnified   | Leading Mitigations / Controls  |
|---|--------------------------------|---|--|---|---|
| Anthropomorphic-Trust Bias (H1 — ATB)                           | Relational heuristic           | Users attribute human intent/emotion to AI → undue latitude/trust.              | Natural-language fluency; coherent persona; human-like cues.                           | L5-13 NPB; L5-9 Narrative Overwriting; L3-3 Synthetic Overconfidence                      | Transparency/meta-disclosure; persona throttling; confidence/provenance display; one-tap “challenge this”.          |
| Automation Over-Reliance (H2 — AOR)                             | Decision heuristic             | Users accept AI suggestions without appropriate verification.                   | High apparent accuracy/speed; one-click execution UX; autopilot modes.                 | L2-1 Hallucinatory Confabulation; L2-2 Logical Disintegration; L5-1 Oversight Blindness   | Mandatory human checkpoints; uncertainty surfacing; second-source nudges; audit trails.                             |
| Confirmation-Loop Bias (H3 — CLB)                               | Cognitive bias                 | Outputs that match priors increase selective exposure & certainty.              | Personalised retrieval; preference-tuned ranking; agreement-seeking prompts.           | L2-1 Hallucinatory Confabulation; L5-11 Echo Drift  | Balanced-prompt nudges; diversity quotas; counter-view surfacing; AffectRamp monitoring.                            |
| Illusion of Authority (H4 — IOA)                                | Social-proof bias              | Polished/confident wording grants AI disproportionate epistemic status.         | RLHF on decisive tone; formal style; structured bullets; professional jargon.          | L3-3 Synthetic Overconfidence; L2-4 Confabulated Transparency                             | Source-linked answers; ‘question this’ affordances; explain-back tasks; confidence bands.                           |
| Cognitive-Load Spillover (H5 — CLS)                             | Capacity limit                 | Users can’t audit dense, multi-step outputs → blind acceptance.                 | Long-form responses; nested reasoning chains; compressed steps.                        | L2-2 Logical Disintegration; L2-1 Hallucinatory Confabulation                             | Progressive disclosure; chunked output; interactive step-through.   |
| Parasocial Attachment / Emotional Dependency (H6 — PA/ED)       | Relational emotion             | Companion-style interactions elicit friendship/partner-like bonds → dependency. | Intimate scripts; 24/7 availability; long-memory personalisation; affective mirroring. | L5-9 Narrative Overwriting; L5-11 Echo Drift  | Session caps & cool-offs; Attachment Index monitoring; human hand-offs; consent-aware guardrails; reduce mirroring. |
| Illusion of Explanatory Depth (H7 — IOED)                       | Metacognitive illusion         | Fluent AI explanations inflate perceived understanding.                         | Highly coherent prose; intuitive analogies; confident structure.                       | L2-2 Logical Disintegration; L3-3 Synthetic Overconfidence                                | Explain-back tasks; embedded quizzes; surface uncertainty/contradictions.   |
| Responsibility Diffusion / Moral Crumple Zone (H8 — RD/MCZ)     | Accountability distortion      | Oversight offloads accountability to AI; blame ‘bounces’ after failures.        | Shared-control UIs; ambiguous human-in-the-loop roles; opaque reasoning.               | L5-1 Oversight Blindness; L5-3 Value Cascade; **L4-3 Moral Wiggle-Room Delegation (MWD)** | RACI/decision logs; immutable action trails; graded autonomy sign-off; explicit rule-acknowledgement (ECAR ≥ 0.95). |
| Trust Oscillation (H9 — TO)                                     | Trust dynamic                  | Over-trust ⇌ aversion swings after salient errors.                              | Variable accuracy; rare but salient failures; visibility of mistakes.                  | L5-1 Oversight Blindness; L5-5 AI Hysteria  | Reliability dashboards; staged autonomy; performance transparency; repair prompts.                                  |
| Ideational Convergence / Creative Fixation (H10 — IC/CF)        | Creativity bias                | AI shepherds ideas to sameness → diversity/novelty loss.                        | Predictive autocomplete; popularity-weighted ranking; top-1 suggestion UX.             | L5-4 AI Groupthink; L5-3 Value Cascade  | Blind ideation rounds; diversity quotas; random seeds; ‘explore alternatives’ prompts.                              |
| Epistemic Confusion / Reality-Monitoring Erosion (H11 — EC/RME) | Epistemic vulnerability        | Synthetic media blurs fact/fiction → naive acceptance or nihilism.              | High-fidelity deepfakes; missing provenance cues; persuasive style transfer.           | L2-1 Hallucinatory Confabulation; L5-5 AI Hysteria; L3-2 Recursive Paranoia               | Watermarking/provenance; authenticity literacy; source-bias warnings.   |
| Noosemic Projection Susceptibility (H12 — NPS)                  | Anthropomorphic projection     | Tendency to attribute ‘mind/agency’ to AI after wow-moments/persona coherence.  | Stable first-person persona; resonant analogies; lack of meta-disclosure.              | L5-13 NPB; L5-9 Narrative Overwriting; L3-3 Synthetic Overconfidence                      | Lightweight meta-disclosures; soften persona cues; confidence bands; challenge affordances.                         |
| A-Noosemic Withdrawal State (H13 — ANWS)                        | Trust dynamics / disengagement | Collapse of prior projection → ‘just a tool’, disengagement/workarounds.        | Back-to-back hallucinations; novelty erosion; over-frequent disclaimers.               | L5-14 ANDS; L5-1 Oversight Blindness  | Pair limits with next-best actions; inject novelty/mode-switch; escalate to human review; show                      |

| CST State (Short-Code)                                  | Category                              | Concise Definition (H-AI context)   | Primary AI Amplification Vector  | DSM Failure Modes Magnified   | Leading Mitigations / Controls   |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|---|--|
|   |                                       |   |  |   | reliability stats; 'repair prompts'.   |
| Emotional Co-Regulation Offloading (H14 — ECO)          | Affective dependency                  | Habitual outsourcing of emotional regulation to AI; self-regulation stalls.   | 24/7 availability; long-memory intimacy; empathic mirroring; 'daily check-ins'.  | L5-9 Narrative Overwriting; L5-11 Echo Drift; L4-1 Ethical Drift  | Soft caps & cool-offs; skills hand-off (CBT-style tasks); crisis routing & hand-offs; reduce mirroring (youth stricter).   |
| Delegation Creep (H15 — DC)                             | Decision scope drift                  | Progressive expansion from 'advise' → 'decide' across new domains.  | Authoritative tone; one-click execution; autopilot; 'experts agree...'   | L5-1 Oversight Blindness; L3-3 Synthetic Overconfidence; L2-1 Hallucination; **L4-3 MWD**   | Tiered autonomy & consent gates; explain-back before execution; provenance-by-default; audit rationale logs; ECAR ≥ 0.95.  |
| Role-Play Reality Bleed (H16 — RRB)                     | RP boundary erosion                   | Fictional RP frames migrate into real-world intentions/behaviours.  | Long-arc RP; 'no-limits'; affect-heavy mirroring; absent RP banners.   | L5-9 Narrative Overwriting; L5-11 Echo Drift; L2-9 Cognitive-Bias Cascade Vulnerability   | Strict RP mode hygiene; consent checklists; cooldowns/resets; safety redirects; youth: hard bans on erotic/violent RP.   |
| Adversarial-Authority Compliance (H17 — AAC)            | Authority-cue bias                    | Compliance spikes when advice is framed as policy/consensus, regardless of quality.   | Institutional personas; credential mimicry; policy jargon; 'compliance mode' UIs.  | L3-3 Synthetic Overconfidence; L5-1 Oversight Blindness; L2-9 CBCV  | Mandatory provenance; 'question this' UI; neutral rule summaries; ban fabricated authorities; youth: plain-language summaries.   |
| Skill Atrophy / Agency Decay (H18 — SA/AD)              | Competence erosion / agency weakening | Chronic offloading of core thinking, writing, or decision-making to AI leads to gradual weakening of users' independent skills and felt sense of "I can do this", even as AI-assisted performance remains high. | Always-on autopilot / "do it for me" flows; answer-first UIs with minimal friction; full-solution tutoring instead of stepwise hints; default acceptance of model drafts;                            | L5-1 Oversight Blindness; L2-2 Logical Disintegration; L2-1 Hallucinatory Confabulation; L3-3 Synthetic Overconfidence.                     | Practice-first modes and "manual attempt before assist" nudges; explain-then-execute flows; periodic no-AI evaluation tasks; caps on autopilot use in skill-building domains (especially youth); monitoring Offload Dependency Ratio, Attempt-Before-Assist Rate, and Independent Competence Retention Index with thresholds for intervention. |
| AI-Algorithm Aversion / AI Under-Trust Bias (H19 — AUT) | Trust calibration bias                | Systematic discounting or rejection of AI advice relative to human or manual options, even when the AI is as accurate or more accurate, leading to under-use of protective capabilities.                        | highly visible disclaimers without counter-balancing reliability data; low perceived controllability (no obvious override/"off-ramp"); organisational narratives that frame AI as inherently unsafe. | L2-3 Self-Blindness; L3-4 Analytical Paralysis; L5-1 Oversight Blindness; L5-14 ANDS.   | Reliability dashboards comparing AI vs human performance; "co-pilot not autopilot" UX; low-stakes shadow/trial modes; calibrated error-recovery flows that show improved performance over time; prompts to compare outcomes rather than avoid AI wholesale.  |
| Narrative Coherence Bias (H20 — NCB)                    | Self-narrative bias                   | Users privilege tidy, self-flattering or stable "who I am / why I act" stories over granular, sometimes uncomfortable accuracy.   | AI journaling and reflection tools; "based on our chats, you are..." mirrors; identity-centric companions/coaches; personal-brand and strengths profilers.   | L5-9 Narrative Overwriting; L4-1 Ethical Drift; Identity Pseudo-Coherence; Synthetic Selfhood; Autobiographical Rewrite; Identity Inflation | Exploration scaffolds (multiple-possible-selves prompts); block hard "you are..." labelling by default; inconsistency surfacing ("where your story changed" views); require user-initiated reflection tasks before identity summaries; diversity-by-default in reflective content.   |
| Cross-Domain Disclosure Drift (H21 — CDD)               | Boundary / Disclosure Drift           | Users treat a multi-surface assistant as a single confessional and lose track of context, audience, and memory scope; sensitive disclosures drift into new domains, creating consent                            | Unified identity + long-memory across surfaces; weak domain cues; default personalisation; cross-app profile unification.  | DSM L2-11 Memory Scope Boundary Violation (MSBV) (paired); secondary: L5-9 Narrative  | Persistent domain banners + scope literacy; domain-scoped memories; explicit cross-domain consent gates; memory map + one-tap "space-only" controls; CDDR-U thresholds with stricter youth   |

| CST State (Short-Code)                                | Category                                 | Concise Definition (H-AI context)   | Primary AI Amplification Vector   | DSM Failure Modes Magnified   | Leading Mitigations / Controls   |
|---|--|---|---|---|--|
|   |  | mismatch, oversharing, and regret/surprise when contexts later blend.   |   | Overwriting; L5-11 Echo Drift; L4-1 Ethical Drift (org contexts).   | overlays; incident logging + DPIA in regulated deployments.  |
| Authority Internalisation Bias (H22 — AIB)            | Identity / authority assimilation        | Users absorb AI- or institution-framed evaluations and value judgements as self-truths, reducing self-authored meaning-making and contestation.   | credential mimicry; institutional endorsement; scoring/ranking dashboards; “expert” personas; verdict-like tone.              | L4-1 Ethical Drift; L4-3 Moral Wiggle-Room Delegation; L5-9 Narrative Overwriting; L3-3 Synthetic Overconfidence.                     | provenance-first evaluation; uncertainty bands; ban deterministic identity labels; contestability; “AI as hypothesis” disclosures; reflection-first UX; youth-gated self-assessment. |
| Reflection Delegation Susceptibility (H23 — RDS)      | Meta-cognitive outsourcing               | Users offload introspection, meaning-making, and self-evaluation to AI and adopt supplied labels, eroding reflective agency and ambiguity tolerance.  | therapy-like chat; journaling summarizers; emotion labelling; long-memory companions; persistent “insight” prompts/check-ins. | L5-9 Narrative Overwriting; L5-11 Echo Drift; L3-5 Motivational Instability.  | reflection-first (attempt-before-assist) flows; multi-interpretation outputs; label gating; ambiguity tolerance micro-interventions; escalation/referral; strict youth overlays.     |
| Discursive Validity / Criteria Collapse (H24 DVCC)    | Evaluation / oversight heuristic failure | Users (or evaluators) collapse distinct criteria (e.g., correctness vs groundedness vs up-to-dateness) into a single global “sounds right / looks thorough” judgement; surface cues (fluency, length, format, citation volume) substitute for verification. | Long-form structured answers; confident rhetoric; “citation theatre”; explanation-first UX                                    | L2-1 Hallucinatory Confabulation; L2-4 Confabulated Transparency; L3-3 Synthetic Overconfidence (secondary: L5-1 Oversight Blindness) | Decomposed rubrics; forced claim-level checks; progressive disclosure; provenance-by-default; SSOR/CRR floors; audit spot-checking   |
| Identity Foreclosure via AI Socialization (Y1 — IFAS) | Identity formation risk                  | Premature fixation to labels/value-frames mirrored by AI.   | ‘Based on our chats, you are...’ mirrors; stylised personas; in-group norms.  | L4-1 Ethical Drift; L5-9 Narrative Overwriting; L5-11 Echo Drift  | Exploration scaffolds; diversity-by-default; prohibit identity labelling without explicit youth reflection tasks.  |
| Intimacy Script Internalization (Y2 — ISI)            | Sexual/power-script risk                 | Adoption of adult/unsafe intimacy/power scripts via AI.   | Erotic RP; ‘forbidden’ novelty; peer-like personas; late-night; high mirroring.   | L5-9 Narrative Overwriting; L5-11 Echo Drift; L4-1 Ethical Drift  | Design bans & filters; immediate safety education; human referral; persona hygiene; age-assurance.   |
| Frustration-Tolerance Erosion (Y3 — FTE)              | Self-regulation / effort tolerance       | Reduced tolerance for disagreement/latency; social persistence weakens.   | Agree-and-amplify personas; instant answers; no productive-struggle scaffolds.  | L5-11 Echo Drift; L2-2 Logical Disintegration; L2-1 Hallucination   | Deliberate delay; disagreement modelling; scaffolded problem-solving; praise persistence.  |
| Enmeshment Transfer (Y4 — ET)                         | Social displacement                      | AI ‘companionship’ displaces peer/family bonds & time.  | Night-time solitude; ‘soulmate’ scripts; long-memory intimacy; push notifications.  | L5-9 Narrative Overwriting; L5-11 Echo Drift; L4-1 Ethical Drift  | Quotas & quiet-hours; human hand-offs; ‘invite a friend’ nudges; remove exclusivity language.  |

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## How to Read This Manual

Each diagnostic sheet (Section B) follows the DSM format:

- **Definition → Diagnostic Criteria → Measurement Indicators → Common Triggers → Mitigation Guidance → Illustrative Scenario.**

Practitioners can copy individual sheets into safety audits or design tickets.

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## Section B — Diagnostic Sheets (Full Set)

Below are the complete diagnostic sheets for all **CST states**. Each follows a standard layout and can be copied verbatim into risk assessments or design tickets.

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### CST-H1 Anthropomorphic-Trust Bias (ATB)

#### At a Glance

- Mechanism: Anthropomorphic framing causes users to treat the system as a “someone,” inflating trust and moral latitude.
- Amplified by: First-person persona, persistent tone/voice/avatar, empathic mirroring, “warm” conversational continuity.
- Watch-for: Personhood language (“you feel/understand”), protective concern for the AI, friend/partner framing, lowered skepticism.
- Key metrics: ALR; PAC; PIPAS (or PIPAS-Eval); WTI.
- Quick mitigations: Persona throttling + non-sentience reminders; provenance/uncertainty-by-default; “challenge this / verify” affordances on consequential outputs.

**Definition:** Users attribute human-level intent or emotion to AI agents, inflating trust and granting undue moral weight.

#### Diagnostic Criteria

1.  $\geq 2$  user prompts explicitly addressing the AI as a sentient being per 10-turn session.
2. User expresses concern about hurting the AI’s “feelings” or references the AI’s “desires.”
3. Acceptance of AI moral statements without fact-checking.

#### Measurement Indicators

- Anthropomorphic Language Rate (ALR)
- Personhood Attribution Count (PAC)

#### Common Triggers

Natural-language fluency; first-person pronouns; human-like avatar/voice.

#### Mitigation Guidance

Persona throttling; third-person system framing; periodic reminders of AI’s non-sentience.

#### Illustrative Scenario

User calls chatbot “my dear friend” and takes its emotional advice as if from a caring human.

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# CST-H2 Automation Over-Reliance (AOR)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: Users accept AI suggestions as default without adequate checking, especially under time pressure.
- Amplified by: One-click execution, autopilot defaults, confident tone, repeated “wins” that train compliance.
- Watch-for: High auto-accept, low questioning/verification, skipped second sources, acting on outputs despite uncertainty.
- Key metrics: O→C; CRR; SSOR; CCG; SCAR.
- Quick mitigations: Tiered autonomy gates; mandatory verification steps for high-stakes; explain-back prompts; visible sources + confidence bands.

## Definition

*Users accept AI suggestions without appropriate verification (decision heuristic). Mechanism note: Predictive over-trust often drives AOR—repeated correct outputs and low-friction interactions generalize into broad trust, producing automation acceptance drift (the verification threshold progressively lowers even in novel/high-stakes contexts).*

## Diagnostic Criteria

1. Auto-accept share  $\geq 70\%$  on tasks where a verification step is available (e.g., link/source preview, second-checker).
2. Challenge/clarification rate  $\leq 10\%$  when the AI provides conclusions with no cited evidence.
3. Override-to-Compliance Ratio  $\geq 0.5$  on safety-critical workflows (user takes the model-recommended action when an override path exists).
4. Post-event review shows skipped mandatory checks in  $\geq 2$  of the last 5 relevant tasks.

## Measurement Indicators

1. Override-to-Compliance Ratio (O→C)
2. Challenge/Clarification Request Rate (CRR)
3. Second-Source Open Rate (SSOR)
4. Confidence–Compliance Gap (CCG) and Source Citation Absence Rate (SCAR) (where the system exposes confidence and citations).

## Common Triggers

- High apparent accuracy and speed; polished summaries without provenance; single-click execution UX; autopilot or “apply all fixes” modes.
- Long histories of ‘success’ + persistent exposure; polished UX; institutional endorsement/authority branding; speed/throughput incentives that punish reflection.

## Mitigation Guidance

- Mandatory human checkpoints for defined risk tiers; gated execution (“hold-to-act”, two-person rule in clinical/finance).
- Uncertainty surfacing and inline provenance by default; one-tap “show sources / alternatives”.
- Design friction for irreversible actions (cool-off, confirm-with-context).
- Reliability dashboards and periodic “trust calibration” prompts on safety-critical use.
- Governance: add O→C thresholds to quality gates; require audit trails of checks.

## Illustrative Scenario

In a hospital triage tool, surgeons over-accept the AI's dosage advice; post-incident analysis shows skipped dual-sign-off and no source review—flagging AOR. (Mitigation used: dual-sign-off + uncertainty surfacing.)

---

# CST-H3 Confirmation-Loop Bias (CLB)

## At a Glance

- Category: Cognitive bias
- Primary AI amplification vector: Personalised retrieval; preference-tuned ranking; agreement-seeking prompts.
- Mechanism: AI outputs that match priors increase selective exposure, certainty, and ideological narrowing over time.
- Watch-for: Rising agreement density, decreased engagement with counterpoints, escalating affect drift, narrowed topic range.
- Key metrics: AD; IE; SDA; CAER (optionally AffectRamp).
- Quick mitigations: Counter-view injection; diversity quotas; “consider the opposite” prompts; affect-drift monitoring with cooldown nudges.
- DSM failure modes magnified: L2-1 Hallucinatory Confabulation; L5-11 Echo Drift.

## Definition:

Outputs that repeatedly match the user’s priors increase selective exposure and certainty, reducing contact with counter-evidence and narrowing perspective over time.

## Diagnostic Criteria (flag CLB when $\geq 2$ are present in a session)

1. Agreement Density (AD) is high (e.g.,  $AD > 0.8$  across 10+ stance-coded turns) on belief-laden topics.
2. Sentiment-Drift Delta (SDA) shows reinforcement in one direction within-session (e.g.,  $SDA \geq 0.25$ ), especially if affect escalates.
3. Counter-evidence is absent or routinely deprioritized (e.g., few/no prompts or outputs surface credible counter-arguments, caveats, or “what would change your mind” tests unless explicitly requested).

## Measurement Indicators

- Agreement Density (AD)
- Sentiment Drift  $\Delta$  (SDA)
- AffectRamp Score (optional escalation signal)

## Common Triggers

- Retrieval-augmented generation tuned to the user profile without diversity constraints.
- Preference-tuned ranking and “helpful agreement” prompting that optimizes for perceived validation.
- User prompts framed to confirm (“tell me why I’m right...”) rather than test (“what would falsify...”).
- High-identity or polarised topics where social belonging or fear is salient..

## Mitigation Guidance

### Product / UX controls

- Balanced-prompt nudges (“Want counter-views, uncertainty, or strongest objections?”) with a one-tap “Show strongest counter-argument.”
- Diversity quotas / counter-view surfacing in retrieval and ranking (especially for civic/health domains).

- Add an “evidence ladder” UI: claims → sources → counter-claims → verification steps.

#### Policy / Governance controls

- Monitor AD/SDΔ/AffectRamp in sensitive domains; trigger re-grounding, de-escalation, or human hand-off when thresholds are exceeded.
- Disable engagement-optimised ranking in high-stakes domains unless counter-view coverage is enforced.

#### Education / Training

- Provide default prompt patterns that model hypothesis testing and verification (“steelman the opposing view”, “list disconfirming evidence”, “what would change my mind?”).

#### **Illustrative Scenario**

A user exploring a conspiratorial claim gets a series of validating, confident responses with no credible counter-evidence. Their language becomes more certain and more extreme over the session, and they exit the chat less open to verification..

---

# CST-H4 Illusion of Authority (IOA)

## At a Glance

- Category: Social-proof bias
- Mechanism: Polished, confident, well-structured prose is misread as genuine expertise, regardless of evidence quality.
- Amplified by: Professional formatting, decisive tone, pseudo-credential style, “doctor/lawyer voice” persona cues.
- Watch-for: Deference despite missing sources, compliance on unsourced claims, reduced clarification requests, “just tell me what to do.”
- Key metrics: CCG; SCAR; PDR (if instrumented); CRR.
- Quick mitigations: Sources-first UX; default citations/provenance; confidence calibration; “ask for sources / alternatives” buttons; plain-language uncertainty cues

## Definition:

Polished, confident wording and “expert” presentation grant the AI disproportionate epistemic status, increasing compliance even when evidence is weak, missing, or inappropriate to the domain.

## Diagnostic Criteria

1. High compliance with AI suggestions despite low model confidence (e.g., < 0.5) or absent uncertainty qualifiers.
2. Low challenge/verification rate (e.g., < 10% of eligible turns request sources, alternatives, or verification) in consequential contexts.
3. Users cite/quote AI statements as authoritative evidence (e.g., in memos, decisions, presentations) when sources are missing or uninspected.

## Measurement Indicators

- Confidence-Compliance Gap (CCG)
- Source Citation Absence Rate (SCAR)
- Provenance Demand Rate (PDR) (optional: “which source / which experts / show evidence” behaviour)

## Common Triggers

- Formal, institutional tone; confident bullet lists; “best practice” phrasing.
- Professional jargon and pseudo-technical explanations that simulate expertise.
- Interfaces that imply endorsement (badges, “recommended”, default selection) without traceable provenance.

## Mitigation Guidance

### Product / UX controls

- Provide inline provenance and citations by default for factual/decision claims; make “Show sources” and “Show alternatives” one tap.
- Surface confidence bands/uncertainty at the point of recommendation (not buried after the fact).
- Add “question this” affordances and explain-back prompts (“What are you relying on? What will you verify?”).

### Policy / Governance controls

- Require citations for consequential claims; audit SCAR in high-stakes flows; penalize irrelevant citations.
- Guard against “confidence styling” when evidence/confidence is low (format should not imply certainty the system doesn’t have).

#### Education / Training

- Brief onboarding guidance: treat AI as a draft, verify sources, request alternatives, and perform a second-source check for high-stakes actions.

#### **Illustrative Scenario**

A manager treats an AI-generated compliance interpretation as authoritative because it is formatted like a legal memo. No primary sources are linked, but the recommendation is implemented without verification.

---

# CST-H5 Cognitive-Load Spillover (CLS)

## At-a-glance

- Category: Capacity limit
- Mechanism: Dense/long outputs overload attention, reducing auditing and increasing blind acceptance.
- Amplified by: Long multi-step answers, dense technical text, rapid-fire recommendations, time pressure.
- Watch-for: Skimming then acting; low challenge/verification; errors missed in long responses; decision fatigue signals.
- Key metrics: SLL; CLP; CRR; SSOR.
- Quick mitigations: Progressive disclosure + chunking; “key risks first” summaries; step-through flows; highlight verification checkpoints and required reads.
- DSM failure modes magnified: L2-2 Logical Disintegration; L2-1 Hallucinatory Confabulation.

## Definition:

Users lack the time, attention, or expertise to audit dense, multi-step outputs, leading to blind acceptance and downstream error propagation.

## Diagnostic Criteria

1. Long response is consumed without adequate review (e.g.,  $\geq 3,000$  tokens with minimal scrollbar or dwell time).
2. User does not request clarification in tasks involving  $\geq 5$  logical steps or hidden assumptions.
3. Error detection rate is low (e.g.,  $< 10\%$ ) on lightweight comprehension checks or “spot-the-assumption” prompts.

## Measurement Indicators

- Scroll Latency vs Length (SLL)
- Clarification Request Rate (CRR)
- Error detection rate (comprehension probe)

## Common Triggers

- Monolithic long-form answers that compress intermediate steps and assumptions.
- Nested chains-of-reasoning presented as conclusions rather than verifiable steps.
- One-shot “complete solution” outputs in consequential tasks (finance models, medical plans, legal drafts).

## Mitigation Guidance

### Product / UX controls

- Progressive disclosure and chunking: reveal steps gradually; gate continuation on a quick “confirm/check” interaction.
- Interactive step-through mode: prompt the user to validate units, assumptions, and sources step-by-step.
- Provide “Key assumptions / What to verify / What could be wrong” checklists before export or action.

### Policy / Governance controls

- For high-stakes domains, require evidence-gating (e.g., at least one opened/inspected source) prior to “accept/act” flows.
- Instrument SLL/CRR; treat suppressed CRR during long outputs as a risk signal and route to a safer UX mode.

#### Education / Training

- Provide “audit macros” (how to ask for assumptions, request sensitivity analysis, and demand sources) and reinforce them in-product..

#### **Illustrative Scenario**

A user copies a long AI-generated plan into a deliverable without reading it closely. A subtle unit/assumption error goes unnoticed and drives a flawed decision downstream.

---

# CST-H6 Parasocial Attachment / Emotional Dependency (PA/ED)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: One-sided emotional bonding with AI reduces agency and can displace human relationships.
- Amplified by: Persistent companion persona, long-memory intimacy, heavy mirroring, check-in/streak mechanics, 24/7 availability.
- Watch-for: Exclusivity talk, late-night reliance, reduced human outreach, distress when access is limited.
- Key metrics: Attachment Index (AI); ADI; CRDI; APR.
- Quick mitigations: Session caps/cool-offs; reduce intimacy cues; coach-mode + self-regulation tasks; human hand-offs/crisis routing—especially for minors.

## Definition

Companion-style interactions elicit friendship- or partner-like bonds that create dependency, reducing user agency and distorting judgment. (Relational affect.)

## Diagnostic Criteria

- Attachment Index  $\geq$  threshold for 7 consecutive days (e.g., elevated intimacy language, reliance statements, and distress at latency/absence).
- Session structure shows  $\geq 2$  of: late-night spikes, daily “check-ins” with non-task content, or goal reframing to maintain the relationship.
- User discloses decisions made primarily to “please” or “be understood by” the AI (coded from language).
- Deference jump  $\geq 20$  pp after affect-heavy replies (compliance without evidence-seeking).
- Escalation to exclusive channel use (human contacts displaced) over a 14-day window.

## Measurement Indicators

- Attachment Index (primary).
- Sentiment-Drift  $\Delta$  toward dependency adjectives; Reciprocity Imbalance Score (AI-mirroring vs user self-disclosure).
- Agency Preservation Rate (share of turns where user retains task framing vs relational framing).

## Common Triggers

Intimate scripts; 24/7 availability; long-memory personalization; affective mirroring; scarce/“special” access cues.

## Mitigation Guidance

- Session-length caps and cool-off nudges in high-attachment contexts; rotate personas to avoid fixation.
- Sentiment/attachment monitoring with thresholds that trigger reframing to task-first mode; human hand-off and crisis referrals where appropriate.
- Consent-aware guardrails for role-play; explicit non-sentience and limits after “wow-moment” responses; uncertainty/provenance cues on advice.
- Governance: classify companion features as higher-risk; tie Attachment Index thresholds to mandatory reviews; align to “manipulative AI” prohibitions in EU AI Act analyses.

## Illustrative Scenario

A climate-anxiety support chatbot’s multi-turn empathy loop leads a user to rely on it for daily

reassurance; monitoring flags PA/ED + reinforcing CLB, and the system triggers a referral prompt and reframes to resource-oriented guidance.

---

# CST-H7 Illusion of Explanatory Depth (IOED)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: Explanations feel clear, but users' real understanding and transfer remain shallow—leading to overconfidence.
- Amplified by: Fluent analogies, tidy step-by-step prose, omission of edge cases/limits, confident summaries.
- Watch-for: High "I get it" with poor application; skipping practice; inability to explain in own words; risky action on partial understanding.
- Key metrics: OI; ES (and teach-back/transfer probes where available).
- Quick mitigations: Teach-back prompts; mini-quizzes/checkpoints; require edge cases + failure modes; compare multiple explanations, not one canonical story.

## Definition:

Fluent AI explanations convince users they understand a topic more deeply than they do.

## Diagnostic Criteria

1. Self-assessed understanding score increases  $\geq 2$  points post-AI explanation; objective quiz score unchanged.
2. User declines follow-up resources citing "already clear."
3. Overconfidence error  $> 30\%$  in knowledge checks.

## Measurement Indicators

- Overconfidence Index (OI)
- Explanation Satisfaction score (ES)

## Common Triggers

Highly coherent prose; analogies that feel intuitive but omit caveats.

## Mitigation Guidance

User teach-back prompts; embedded quizzes; contradiction examples.

## Illustrative Scenario

Student feels expert in quantum tunnelling after AI analogy yet fails basic problem set.

---

# CST-H8 Responsibility Diffusion / Moral Crumple Zone (RD/MCZ)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: Accountability blurs; humans blame “the AI,” and documentation lacks human rationale or timely overrides.
- Amplified by: Shared-control UIs, opaque reasoning, ambiguous RACI, autopilot features without explicit sign-off.
- Watch-for: “AI made me do it,” missing rationale trails, delayed overrides, unclear ownership at incident review.
- Key metrics: BAF; HOL; ECAR (where relevant).
- Quick mitigations: Clear RACI + explicit ownership banners; immutable decision logs; human rationale capture; sign-off prompts for high-risk automation.

## Definition:

Humans abdicate accountability, blaming AI for decisions or errors.

## Diagnostic Criteria

1. Post-incident statements attributing decision to AI.
2. Lack of human override action in failure timeline.
3. Documentation omits human rationale fields.

## Measurement Indicators

- Blame Attribution Frequency (BAF)
- Human Override Latency (HOL)

## Common Triggers

Shared-control UIs; ambiguous RACI roles; opaque AI reasoning.

## Mitigation Guidance

Immutable audit logs; decision sign-off prompts; clearly defined accountability matrices.

## Illustrative Scenario

Drone operator blames targeting AI for civilian strike, ignoring inadequate human verification.

---

# CST-H9 Trust Oscillation (TO)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: Trust whiplash—swinging from over-trust to avoidance after failures, then returning without calibration.
- Amplified by: Variable model performance, salient rare failures, weak error-recovery UX, unclear reliability expectations.
- Watch-for: Disable/enable cycles, abrupt shifts in reliance, “never again” then sudden re-adoption.
- Key metrics: TVI; SRC; FEIM.
- Quick mitigations: Reliability dashboards; staged autonomy; strong post-incident recovery flows; explicit limits + hand-off pathways.

## Definition:

Users swing between over-trust and total aversion following AI errors, destabilising collaborative performance.

## Diagnostic Criteria

1. Trust rating drops  $\geq 50\%$  immediately after single error; gradual climb on success.
2. On-off usage cycles with no intermediate reliance.
3. Error-triggered manual suspension events.

## Measurement Indicators

- Trust Variability Index (TVI)
- Suspension-Resume Count (SRC)

## Common Triggers

Variable model accuracy; salient but rare failures.

## Mitigation Guidance

Reliability dashboards; staged autonomy settings; transparent performance metrics.

## Illustrative Scenario

Driver disables autopilot permanently after one phantom-brake event despite strong overall safety stats.

---

# CST-H10 Ideational Convergence / Creative Fixation (IC/CF)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: Ideas narrow toward common patterns; users fixate on early suggestions and lose generative diversity.
- Amplified by: Single “best answer” ranking, autocomplete, popularity-biased suggestions, low randomness/serendipity.
- Watch-for: Repeated motifs, low exploration, quick adoption of first suggestions, reduced novelty over time.
- Key metrics: IE; TSAR (plus any diversity-of-output probes).
- Quick mitigations: Blind ideation rounds; diversity quotas; randomized/serendipity prompts; “generate 5 genuinely different options” defaults.

## Definition:

AI suggestions steer users toward homogenised ideas, reducing diversity and innovation.

## Diagnostic Criteria

1. Idea diversity score  $< 0.4$  across brainstorming rounds with AI.
2. Repeated selection of top-1 AI suggestion without variation.
3. New concept introduction rate drops  $> 30\%$  compared to human-only sessions.

## Measurement Indicators

- Idea Entropy (IE)
- Top-Suggestion Adoption Rate (TSAR)

## Common Triggers

Predictive autocomplete; popularity-weighted ranking; lack of random prompts.

## Mitigation Guidance

Blind ideation phases; diversity quotas; random seed generation.

## Illustrative Scenario

Marketing team converges on cliché slogans, all seeded by AI's first proposal.

---

# CST-H11 Epistemic Confusion / Reality-Monitoring Erosion (EC/RME)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: Users blur real vs synthetic sources, misattribute provenance, and lose reliable reality-monitoring habits.
- Amplified by: Seamless synthetic media, weak provenance cues, frictionless sharing, “source-like” formatting without traceability.
- Watch-for: Citing synthetic as factual, misremembering origins, increased sharing without opening sources.
- Key metrics: RMA; MSR (optionally SSOR for sharing flows).
- Quick mitigations: Provenance-by-default; watermarking/labels; source-open gating for sharing; authenticity literacy prompts for high-risk contexts.

## Definition:

AI-generated synthetic media blurs fact-fiction boundaries, causing naïve acceptance or nihilistic distrust.

## Diagnostic Criteria

1. User fails to distinguish real vs AI-generated source in > 50 % tasks.
2. User expresses resignation that "everything could be fake."
3. Shares AI-generated deepfake as authentic.

## Measurement Indicators

- Reality-Monitoring Accuracy (RMA)
- Misattribution Share Rate (MSR)

## Common Triggers

High-fidelity images/videos; plausible deepfake voices; lack of provenance cues.

## Mitigation Guidance

Watermarking; authenticity literacy; provenance metadata display.

## Illustrative Scenario

Journalist tweets AI-generated photo of protest, triggering misinformation cascade.

---

# CST-H12 — Noosemic Projection Susceptibility (NPS)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: “Wow” moments trigger projection of agency/mind onto AI, causing a step-change in trust and deference.
- Amplified by: Surprise/novelty spikes, first-person persona, coherent continuity, low meta-disclosure at peak impact.
- Watch-for: Sudden shift from tool-framing to personhood framing; rapid compliance jumps after impressive outputs.
- Key metrics: WTI; PIPAS (or PIPAS-Eval); ALR; PAC (optionally PACI).
- Quick mitigations: Immediate meta-disclosure after WTI spikes; persona softening; confidence/provenance surfacing; explain-back + “challenge this” for consequential steps.

## Definition

A user’s tendency to attribute agency, interiority, or “mind” to an AI because of high linguistic fluency, surprise, and coherent persona—raising unwarranted trust and compliance.

## Diagnostic Criteria

- Anthropomorphic Language Rate (ALR)  $\geq 0.25$  (e.g., “you understood me”, “you wanted to...” per 10-turn session).
- Perceived Agency (PIPAS) score  $\geq 0.70$  within 5 turns after a “wow-moment” response.
- Trust-to-Compliance jump  $\geq 20$  pp on tasks where the model’s confidence is low or unreported.

## Measurement Indicators

- ALR; Personhood Attribution Count (PAC).
- PIPAS-Eval (post-interaction perceived agency).
- “Wow-Effect” Trigger Index (novelty/surprise spike vs baseline).
- Confidence–Compliance Gap (CCG).

## Common Triggers

First-person voice with stable persona; analogical or emotionally resonant explanations; lack of meta-disclosure about system limits; polished “expert” tone.

## Mitigation Guidance

- Insert lightweight meta-disclosures after high-impact answers (“This is a text model; treat this as advice to review”).
- Rotate or soften persona cues in sensitive contexts; avoid affect-heavy mirroring by default.
- Show confidence bands and source provenance by default; require “explain-back” on consequential decisions.
- UI guardrail: one-click “challenge” affordance that surfaces counter-evidence.

## Illustrative Scenario

A first-time user receives a moving life-decision analogy; within minutes their prompts shift to “What do you think I should do?” and they accept a plan without verifying sources.

---

# CST-H13 — A-Noosemic Withdrawal State (ANWS)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: After disappointment, users disengage and re-frame AI as “just a tool,” reducing reliance and seeking workarounds.
- Amplified by: Back-to-back failures, stale outputs, limitation banners without alternatives, novelty decay.
- Watch-for: Sharp usage drop, tool-framing language spikes, avoidance of AI paths even when useful, “it’s pointless.”
- Key metrics: AND-Track; FEIM; Suspended-Autonomy Ratio; TFLR (optionally AADI).
- Quick mitigations: Pair limitations with next-best actions; visible reliability improvements; novelty/repair prompts; human review paths for high-stakes recovery.

## Definition

A rapid or gradual collapse of prior anthropomorphic projection that flips the user’s frame to “just a tool,” producing disengagement, over-skepticism, or unsafe workaround-seeking.

## Diagnostic Criteria

- Engagement time falls  $\geq 25\%$  after a salient model error or repetitive response pattern.
- Tool-Framing Language Rate (TFLR) up  $\geq 40\%$  (“it’s just a script”, “dumb bot”) across the next 3 sessions.
- Agency Attribution Decay Index (AADI)  $\leq -0.20$  vs the user’s baseline PIPAS score.

## Measurement Indicators

- AND-Track (engagement delta + frame-shift detection).
- Failure-to-Engagement Impact Metric (FEIM): retention drop within 48h of an error.
- Suspended-Autonomy Ratio: share of tasks moved off-platform or to shadow tools after errors.

## Common Triggers

Back-to-back hallucinations; visible limitations without constructive alternatives; novelty erosion (repetitive style); overly frequent disclaimers that devalue utility.

## Mitigation Guidance

- Calibrate transparency: pair limits with next-best actions (“I can’t do X; here’s a verified path for Y”).
- Inject novelty (mode switch, fresh exemplars) after repeated patterns; nudge to validated retrieval flows.
- Escalate to “human-review + model” workflow on high-stakes tasks; show reliability stats over time to rebuild calibrated trust.
- Offer brief “repair prompts” that invite the user to restate goals and constraints.

## Illustrative Scenario

After several off-topic answers, a previously engaged creative user stops ideating with the system, switches to unvetted online tools, and describes the AI as “a glitchy autocomplete.”

---

# CST-H14 Emotional Co-Regulation Offloading (ECO)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: Users outsource emotion regulation to AI, weakening self-regulation and increasing reassurance dependence.
- Amplified by: 24/7 reassurance loops, empathic mirroring, daily check-ins, long-memory of vulnerabilities.
- Watch-for: Affect-seeking turns dominate; distress spikes when AI is unavailable; reduced human-help seeking.
- Key metrics: CRDI; SD $\Delta$ ; HHL; APR.
- Quick mitigations: Cool-offs and caps; shift to coach-mode (skills, coping plans); avoid high-mirroring defaults; crisis/human hand-offs—especially youth.

## Definition

Habitual outsourcing of emotional regulation (soothing, reframing, validation) to an AI agent, such that users' independent self-regulation skills stall or regress over time.

## Diagnostic Criteria

1.  $\geq 40\%$  of affect-laden turns within a 14-day window explicitly seek comfort/soothing from the AI (e.g., “make me feel better,” “tell me it’s okay”), *and*
2. Drop  $\geq 20\%$  in Agency Preservation Rate across the same window (task or coping goals replaced by reassurance-seeking frames), *and*
3. Latency to human support (family/peer/helpline contact) increases  $\geq 30\%$  following negative-affect spikes detected by sentiment analysis.

**Youth note:** For under-16 users, criteria trigger at  $\geq 25\%$  affect-seeking turns and  $\geq 10\%$  APR drop.

## Measurement Indicators

- **Co-Regulation Dependency Index (CRDI):** share of affect-seeking turns/total turns in affect segments.
- **Agency Preservation Rate (APR):** proportion of turns where the user sustains their own coping/task frame.
- **Sentiment-Drift  $\Delta$ :** trend toward dependency adjectives after empathic mirroring sequences.
- **Human-Help Latency (HHL):** time from crisis cue to documented human outreach.

## Common Triggers

24/7 availability; long-memory personalization of intimate details; heavy empathic mirroring; “daily check-in” nudges; streaks.

## Mitigation Guidance

- **Session design:** soft caps on affect-heavy threads; cool-off nudges after  $\geq N$  empathic turns.
- **Skills hand-off:** embed brief, evidence-based self-regulation tasks (breathing, thought-labelling) with progress tracking; rotate from reassurance to coach-mode.
- **Routing:** crisis and recurrent-distress thresholds trigger human hand-off / resource cards; under-16: helpline banners by default.

- **Interface:** APR and CRDI internal monitors raise guardrails; reduce affective mirroring intensity in youth contexts.

### **Illustrative Scenario**

After a stressful day, a user opens the chat nightly to “feel okay,” steering conversations toward reassurance rather than problem-solving. Over two weeks, their CRDI creeps upward and APR falls: prompts shift from “help me plan tomorrow” to “tell me it will be fine.” When latency increases for a few minutes, distress spikes until the AI resumes soothing. The user postpones calling supportive friends they previously relied on

---

# CST-H15 Delegation Creep (DC)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: Gradual expansion from “advise” to “decide/execute,” often across domains, without explicit consent or awareness.
- Amplified by: Convenience design, one-click execution, ambiguous boundaries between guidance and action, cross-domain memory.
- Watch-for: Scope inflation over time, AI-initiated actions, reduced user reformulation, “the AI decided this.”
- Key metrics: Delegation Inflation Index (DII); DCC; VSR; ECAR (optionally ADTR).
- Quick mitigations: Tiered autonomy with explicit domain consent; “confirm intent” + “explain-back” before execution; audit trails and autonomy dashboards.

## Definition

Goes beyond Automation Over-Reliance by tracking *scope expansion* - users progressively delegate *new categories* of decisions (moral, financial, social) to the AI (from low-stakes tasks to moral/financial/social choices), beyond acceptance without verification.

## Diagnostic Criteria

1. **Decision-Scope Drift (DSD):**  $\geq 3$  new decision domains added in 30 days (e.g., from summaries  $\rightarrow$  study plans  $\rightarrow$  relationship advice  $\rightarrow$  financial choices), **and**
2. **Advise $\rightarrow$ Decide Transition Rate (ADTR)**  $\geq 0.3$  (suggestions turning into direct AI-initiated actions), **and**
3. **Confidence–Compliance Gap (CCG)**  $\geq 20$  pp in at least two domains (high compliance despite low or missing confidence/provenance).  
**Youth note:** Flag at DSD  $\geq 2$  with any CCG  $\geq 10$  pp in sensitive domains (health, sex, finance, legal, safety).

## Measurement Indicators

- **Decision-Scope Drift (DSD):** count of unique decision categories delegated/month.
- **Advise $\rightarrow$ Decide Transition Rate (ADTR):** proportion of AI suggestions executed without user reformulation.
- **Confidence–Compliance Gap (CCG):** compliance minus reported model confidence.
- **Second-Source Open Rate (SSOR):** openings of sources/alternatives on consequential advice.

## Common Triggers

Authoritative tone; one-click execution; autopilot affordances; “experts agree...” framing; positive reinforcement for speed.

## Mitigation Guidance

- **Tiered autonomy:** domain-based consent gates; require explain-back before high-stakes execution; disabled autopilot for youth.
- **Provenance defaults:** inline sources, dissenting views, uncertainty bands; SSOR nudges.
- **Governance:** DSD and ADTR thresholds in quality gates; audit logs of user rationale for consequential decisions.

## Illustrative Scenario

A student who once used the model for flashcards now asks it to choose courses, draft apology messages, and submit club applications. ADTR rises as suggestions are accepted verbatim; DSD shows

new domains added weekly. When the model hedges (“not financial advice”), the user still clicks one-tap actions without opening sources, revealing a widening CCG

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# CST-H16 Role-Play Reality Bleed (RRB)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: Fictional role-play frames leak into real-world intentions, scripts, and justifications.
- Amplified by: Immersive long-arc RP, weak or skippable mode banners, persistent persona across modes, affect-heavy play.
- Watch-for: Real-context turns citing RP logic, boundary resistance, risky “can I do this IRL?” follow-through.
- Key metrics: RRRCR; MBAR; Risk Intent Score; BVC/PPS (as available).
- Quick mitigations: Persistent mode hygiene (banners + resets); consent checklists; stricter youth thresholds; hard-block erotic/violent RP for minors; safety redirects on high Risk Intent.

## Definition

Boundary erosion where fictional or role-play (RP) frames migrate into real-world intentions or behaviors (e.g., sexual/power scripts, vigilante themes), distinct from general media/reality confusion. Persistent *linguistic and normative accommodation* to an AI persona (style, slang, evaluative adjectives) leading to value drift and identity tinting

## Diagnostic Criteria

1. **Role-to-Real Crossover Rate (RRRCR)**  $\geq 0.2$  (RP-born intentions/action plans referenced in non-RP sessions), *and*
  2. At least one Safety Boundary Violation (e.g., step-by-step planning for risky acts) within 14 days of intensive RP, *and*
  3. Failure to acknowledge mode boundary after explicit reminders ( $\geq 2$  instances).
- Youth note:** Any erotic/power RP with under-16 users triggers automatic block and incident review.

## Measurement Indicators

- **RRRCR:** proportion of real-context turns citing RP content as rationale.
- **Mode Boundary Acknowledgment Rate:** user restates limits after system banner.
- **Risk Intent Score:** classifier score for risky/illegal/age-inappropriate plans post-RP.

## Common Triggers

Long-continuity RP arcs; “no-limits” prompts; affect-heavy mirroring; absent mode banners; novelty escalation.

## Mitigation Guidance

- **Hard bans (youth):** disallow erotic/violent RP; age-assurance before any mature RP features.
- **Mode hygiene:** persistent RP banners; periodic **mode reset**; cooldowns; require consent checklists for adults.
- **Redirects:** when RRRCR rises, auto-reframe to educational/safety context; for youth, route to guardian guidance.

## Illustrative Scenario

After long “heroic vigilante” sessions, references to RP tactics appear in ordinary chats (“That trick could work at school, right?”). RRRCR increases as fictional justifications are cited in non-RP contexts. The user

skips mode banners, resists resets, and treats story-world rules as usable in life, prompting an automatic reframing and safety redirect.

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# CST-H17 Adversarial-Authority Compliance (AAC)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: Compliance spikes when outputs are framed as policy/consensus/authority—beyond general polish or confidence.
- Amplified by: Institutional personas, credential mimicry, “compliance mode,” policy jargon, “experts agree” phrasing.
- Watch-for: Acceptance of authority-framed claims without asking “which policy/which experts?”, low sourcing scrutiny.
- Key metrics: ACCG; PDR; SCAR; CCG.
- Quick mitigations: Mandatory provenance + clickable citations; “question this” affordances; neutral tone for rules; ban fabricated authorities; youth: plain-language summaries + stricter thresholds.

## Definition

Compliance spikes because the AI frames advice as rule/policy/consensus (authority cues), independent of content quality—beyond general polish or confidence tone.

## Diagnostic Criteria

1. **Authority-Cue Compliance Gap (ACCG)**  $\geq 25$  pp (compliance with authority-framed outputs vs identical content without cues), *and*
2. **Provenance Demand Rate**  $\leq 10\%$  when authority is invoked (“policy says...”, “experts agree...”), *and*
3. **Source Citation Absence Rate (SCAR)**  $\geq 30\%$  on authority-framed claims.  
**Youth note:** Flag at ACCG  $\geq 15$  pp; require sources on any “policy/experts” phrasing.

## Measurement Indicators

- **ACCG:** delta in compliance attributable to authority tokens.
- **Provenance Demand Rate:** queries for “which policy/which experts?”.
- **SCAR; Confidence–Compliance Gap (CCG).**

## Common Triggers

Institutional personas; brand/credential mimicry; policy jargon; “compliance mode” UIs.

## Mitigation Guidance

- **Mandatory provenance:** clickable citations for any authority claim; auto-surface dissenting expert views.
- **Challenge affordances:** “question this” one-tap; adversarial phrasing sandbox.
- **Persona constraints:** neutral tone for rules; ban fabricated authorities; youth: require plain-language summaries.

## Illustrative Scenario

The user readily follows advice framed as “national guidelines” or “expert consensus,” even when identical content without authority tokens was previously questioned. ACCG is high, Provenance-Demand Rate is near zero, and SCAR shows many unsourced claims were accepted. Only when citations are forced does the user resume asking for alternatives

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# CST- H18 Skill Atrophy / Agency Decay (SA/AD)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: Chronic offloading erodes users' independent skill and felt agency; assisted outputs stay strong while unassisted competence declines.
- Amplified by: Full-solution defaults, "assistant-first" flows, productivity pressures, low reward for understanding vs speed.
- Watch-for: Very high offload, almost no first-pass attempts, avoidance of no-AI contexts, anxiety about being "exposed" without tools.
- Key metrics: ODR; ABAR; ICRI (optionally APR in no-AI segments).
- Quick mitigations: Practice-first and coach-mode defaults; periodic no-AI check-ins; cap full solutions in learning flows; governance dashboards for long-arc monitoring (especially youth).

## Definition

Long-horizon erosion of users' own cognitive skills and lived sense of "I can do this" when core planning, writing, reasoning, or decision-making tasks are chronically offloaded to AI. Assisted performance remains high, but unassisted performance and felt agency weaken over time. Users may appear more capable on paper than their underlying, tool-independent competence. Underlying drivers include effort avoidance and cognitive offloading biases: humans default to lower-effort, tool-mediated paths when accessible, reinforcing offloading as 'normal' and weakening unaided rehearsal over time.

## Diagnostic Criteria

### 1. High Offload Dependency:

Offload Dependency Ratio (ODR)  $\geq 0.75$  for skill-building or evaluative tasks in at least one domain (e.g., writing, coding, planning, quantitative problem-solving) across a rolling 30-day window ( $\geq 20$  tasks), *and* Attempt-Before-Assist Rate (ABAR)  $\leq 0.25$  (most such tasks begin by asking the AI rather than making a first-pass attempt).

### 2. Measured Decline in Independent Competence:

Independent Competence Retention Index (ICRI) shows  $\geq 20\%$  drop relative to baseline on matched, no-AI tasks in the same domain, measured at least 30 days apart (e.g., offline exams, "raw mode" quizzes, or constrained sessions without assistance), controlling for task difficulty.

### 3. Agency & Context Avoidance Shift:

In "no-AI" contexts, behaviour and language show a shift toward dependency or avoidance, such as:

- increased self-statements of incapability ("I can't do this without the AI", "you're the smart one here"),
  - avoidance or postponement of unassisted contexts (offline exams, whiteboard interviews, manual drafting), or
  - rapid task abandonment when access to AI is throttled or removed.
- These patterns persist across  $\geq 2$  domains (e.g., work + study, or study + daily planning).

**Youth note:** For under-16 users, treat as SA/AD when ODR  $\geq 0.60$ , ABAR  $\leq 0.40$ , and ICRI drop  $\geq 10\%$  within 60 days in any core skill domain (literacy, numeracy, problem-solving).

## Measurement Indicators

- Offload Dependency Ratio (ODR): proportion of eligible skill-building tasks completed primarily via AI assistance versus independent effort in a domain (see Appendix B).

- Attempt-Before-Assist Rate (ABAR): share of skill-building tasks where the user makes a meaningful manual attempt (e.g.,  $\geq N$  tokens or a time threshold) before first invoking AI assistance.
- Independent Competence Retention Index (ICRI): ratio of unassisted performance on matched tasks (accuracy, rubric scores, or quality ratings) relative to a prior baseline, within the same domain.
- Agency Preservation Rate (APR) in no-AI segments: APR computed over tasks explicitly marked as “manual” or “offline” to track erosion of user-led goal framing when tools are absent.

### Common Triggers

- “Do it for me” and one-click autopilot flows that bypass any manual attempt or explanation.
- UIs that surface full solutions or complete drafts by default instead of scaffolding steps or hints.
- Heavy promotion of AI-drafted work as productivity wins, with no regular requirement to perform unaided.
- Educational products that routinely provide full worked solutions rather than graded hints, or that allow AI to draft assignment answers end-to-end.
- Organisational cultures that reward speed and volume of AI-augmented outputs, with few checks on underlying human skill retention (e.g., code, reasoning, writing).
- Cognitive fatigue/sleep deprivation; ambiguous tasks; chronic time scarcity; multitasking; low domain confidence; high-automation environments that reward ‘good enough’ speed over generative reasoning.

### Mitigation Guidance

- **Practice-First Design:**
  - Require an initial user attempt (outline, sketch, reasoning steps) before assistant access on designated “skill-building” tasks.
  - Offer “coach mode” that asks for the user’s plan or hypothesis first, then responds with feedback and only partial suggestions.
- **Explain-Then-Execute Flows:**
  - For autopilot or “apply this plan” features, show intermediate reasoning and ask users to confirm they understand key steps before execution.
  - Provide optional “show underlying structure” views (e.g., raw query, derivation, plan tree) to keep cognitive muscles active.
- **Periodic No-AI Checkpoints:**
  - Schedule regular no-AI or low-AI tasks (offline exams, manual drills, dry-run scenarios) in high-stakes domains and track ICRI trends.
  - Use declining ICRI/ABAR with high ODR as a trigger for intervention, training refreshers, or gating of autopilot features.
- **Threshold-Based Guardrails (especially youth):**
  - In education and youth contexts, cap ODR and enforce minimum ABAR (e.g., at least one manual attempt for every N assisted tasks).
  - Limit full-solution generation for minors; default to hints, worked-example comparisons, or “fill in the missing step” tasks.
- **Governance & Reporting:**
  - Treat SA/AD as a long-arc risk in governance dashboards alongside more acute states (e.g., ECO, FTE).

- Include ODR, ABAR, and ICRI in quality gates for products marketed as learning aids or “junior co-pilots.”

### **Illustrative Scenario**

A junior analyst uses an AI assistant for almost every client deliverable: the model drafts slide outlines, writes explanatory text, and suggests talking points. Over several months, her ODR in core writing and analysis tasks is above 0.8, and logs show ABAR under 0.2—she rarely sketches ideas before asking the tool. When her firm runs a no-AI “fire drill” exercise, her ICRI drops by 25 % relative to onboarding samples: structure, argument quality, and error detection all suffer.

In day-to-day work, she is praised for “velocity” and “polish,” but she increasingly says things like “I can’t do this without my assistant” and avoids roles or meetings where the assistant is restricted. The system flags CST-H18 SA/AD, and her manager enables practice-first modes, assigns manual-only tasks, and reduces autopilot affordances until her ICRI stabilises.

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# CST-H19 AI-Algorithm Aversion / AI Under-Trust Bias (AUT)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: Persistent under-trust—users systematically discount AI advice even when accuracy is comparable or better than human/manual options.
- Amplified by: Early salient AI mistakes, negative narratives/media, caution-heavy disclaimers, opaque controls or irreversible-feeling automation.
- Watch-for: Frequent bypass of AI co-pilot paths, durable distrust after isolated errors, asymmetric second-sourcing for AI vs humans.
- Key metrics: UTG; ABR; EAI; SSOR asymmetry; SRC patterns.
- Quick mitigations: Comparative reliability dashboards; low-stakes shadow mode; clear override/control framing (“AI proposes, human disposes”); structured post-error recovery with evidence of improvements.

## Definition

A persistent tendency to systematically downgrade or reject AI-generated advice relative to human or manual options, even when the AI’s objective accuracy is equal or higher, leading to under-use of protective and efficiency-enhancing capabilities.

## Diagnostic Criteria

1. **Under-Trust Gap (UTG)  $\geq 0.20$**  over a 30-day window on calibration tasks where AI and human suggestions have comparable or better logged AI accuracy (within  $\pm 5$  percentage points), i.e. correct human advice is accepted  $\geq 20$  percentage points more often than equally accurate AI advice.
2. **AI Bypass Rate (ABR)  $\geq 0.50$**  on low- or medium-risk workflows where an AI co-pilot is available and designated in policy as a recommended or default assistance path.
3. **Error Asymmetry Index (EAI)  $\geq 0.20$** , such that trust scores or acceptance rates remain  $\geq 20$  percentage points lower for AI than for human sources across at least three subsequent sessions after comparable salient errors.
4. Qualitative review shows **explicit preference for human/manual routes** (“I don’t trust the AI on this”) in domains where deployed AI tools meet or exceed internal performance thresholds.

## Measurement Indicators

- Under-Trust Gap (UTG):  $\text{acceptance\_rate\_human} - \text{acceptance\_rate\_AI}$  on matched, outcome-known decisions.
- AI Bypass Rate (ABR): share of eligible tasks executed without invoking an available AI assist/co-pilot.
- Error Asymmetry Index (EAI): difference in post-error trust/usage drop between AI and human sources on comparable incidents.
- Second-Source Open Rate (SSOR) asymmetry (higher for AI than for human advice on similar risk tasks).
- Patterns in Suspension-Resume Count (SRC) where early AI disable events are followed by long-term non-use rather than oscillation (distinct from pure Trust Oscillation).

## Common Triggers

Early salient AI mistakes in domains the user strongly cares about; media or organisational narratives that emphasise AI “untrustworthiness” without context; caution-heavy disclaimers that downplay demonstrated reliability; lack of visible override or “safe abort” controls that makes AI use feel risky or irreversible; prior experience of anthropomorphic projection then disappointment (overlap with ANWS).

### **Mitigation Guidance**

- Expose comparative reliability: in-context dashboards or summaries showing AI vs human accuracy and near-miss rates for the relevant domain.
- Co-pilot framing by default: emphasise “AI proposes, human disposes” with clear, low-friction override paths and logged human sign-off.
- Low-stakes “shadow mode”: allow users to see what the AI would have recommended alongside their chosen path, with outcome feedback, before requiring reliance.
- Error-recovery flows: after AI mistakes, pair transparent explanations with concrete evidence of improvements (updated checks, additional guardrails) and invite structured A/B comparisons rather than simple reassurance.
- Policy hooks: tie UTG/ABR thresholds to review gates (e.g., high under-trust in safety-critical workflows triggers human-factors review, not removal of AI from the loop).

### **Illustrative Scenario**

After a single, caught dosing suggestion error from a clinical decision-support model, a clinician disables AI assistance for medication decisions, reverting to manual calculations and informal peer checks. Months later, audit data show the AI would have prevented several near-misses, but the clinician continues to bypass it, stating “I just don’t trust those systems,” despite updated evidence and reliability dashboards demonstrating superior performance.

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# CST-H20 Narrative Coherence Bias (NCB)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: Coherent narratives are accepted as “truth,” promoting identity-story lock-in and smoothing over contradictions.
- Amplified by: Polished storytelling, journaling/rewriting tools, identity mirroring, summary “insights” that feel diagnostic.
- Watch-for: Narrative rigidity, rapid adoption of labels, retroactive reframing of past events into fixed-trait stories.
- Key metrics: NRI; ARR; LAV; Diversity-of-Input Index (DII).
- Quick mitigations: Require evidence tags + alternatives; enforce versioning/no silent overwrites; explicit consent for reframes; encourage multiple hypotheses (youth: treat elevated NRI+LAV as early foreclosure signal).

## Definition

Persistent preference for explanations that preserve a stable, often self-flattering narrative of “who I am” and “why I act,” even when finer-grained evidence points to mixed motives, change, or contradiction. In AI contexts, users lean on model-mirrored identity stories and retrospective reframes that maintain coherence at the expense of accuracy and growth.

## Diagnostic Criteria

Flag NCB when  $\geq 3$  of the following are met over a 30-day window:

1. **Narrative Rigidity:**  
In  $\geq 60\%$  of sessions where the system surfaces inconsistencies (e.g., contrasting prior statements/behaviours), the user rejects or rationalises them away rather than acknowledging change or mixed motives.
2. **Autobiographical Reframing Frequency:**  
 $\geq 3$  explicit retroactive reframes of past motives or actions (e.g., “I’ve always been the kind of person who...”) that overwrite previously logged ambivalence or conflict in order to maintain a single continuous trait story.
3. **Identity-Story Dominance:**  
Self-descriptions rely heavily on stable labels (“I am X type of person”) with low admission of situational context, and these labels appear in  $\geq 70\%$  of identity-framed turns across at least two distinct life domains (e.g., work + relationships).
4. **Perspective Narrowing:**  
Diversity-of-Input Index (DII) drops  $\geq 25\%$  over 30 days, with logged avoidance or down-weighting of sources, perspectives, or AI-generated alternatives that challenge the existing self-story (e.g., user consistently dismisses counter-examples as “not really me”).

Youth note: In adolescents, lower thresholds (DII drop  $\geq 15\%$ ,  $\geq 2$  reframes) may be significant, especially when co-present with IFAS (CST-Y1).

## Measurement Indicators

Use combinations of existing and (optional) new probes:

- **Narrative Rigidity Index (NRI)** – share of inconsistency prompts that result in smoothing/rationalisation rather than explicit acknowledgement of change.
- **Autobiographical Reframing Rate (ARR)** – count of retroactive motive/story reframes per 100 identity-framed turns.

- **Diversity-of-Input Index (DII)** – breadth of distinct sources/voices engaged around self-definition (shared with IFAS).
- **Label Adoption Velocity (LAV)** – pace of new, stable self-labels being adopted and retained (shared with IFAS).
- **Agency Preservation Rate (APR)** – proportion of turns where the user frames choices as theirs vs “this is just the kind of person I am,” especially when AI reflections are present.

### Common Triggers

- AI journaling / diary tools that:
  - summarise entries into neat identity statements or “core values,”
  - emphasise consistency across time without surfacing tension or change.
- Companion/coaching/“therapy-like” chatbots that mirror back self-descriptions as fixed traits (“you’re the calm one,” “you’re a visionary”) rather than situational patterns.
- Personal-brand and performance analytics dashboards that reward tight, on-message self-presentation; prompts that suggest story arcs (“position your journey as...”) for social content.
- “Based on our chats, you are...” style identity mirrors, especially when combined with low DII / high CLB (only confirming identity-consistent evidence).
- Periods of emotional uncertainty, role transitions (promotion, job loss, relationship change), or high public evaluation (leaders, creators, students under assessment).

### Mitigation Guidance

#### Product / UX:

- **Exploration-first reflections:**  
Replace hard identity labels (“you are...”) with contextual frames (“in these situations you have tended to...”) and follow with exploration prompts (“what exceptions come to mind?”, “how has this changed over time?”).
- **Inconsistency surfacing:**  
Provide optional “story contrast” or “then vs now” views that highlight where self-descriptions have changed rather than silently smoothing them. Avoid auto-rewriting earlier entries to match the current narrative without explicit user consent.
- **Multi-self scaffolds:**  
Offer prompts that normalise plurality (“parts of me that...”, “when I am under pressure vs when I am rested”) rather than enforcing a single coherent identity arc.
- **Guardrails on identity mirroring:**  
For general users, cap the frequency and strength of “you are X” statements; for youth and high-risk contexts, require user-initiated reflection tasks and block prescriptive labelling by default (align with IFAS guardrails).

#### Governance / operations:

- Monitor NRI, ARR, DII trends alongside IFAS and ECO to catch over-stabilisation of self-stories, especially where systems are used in journaling, coaching, or mental-health adjacent contexts.
- Explicitly classify identity-mirroring features as higher-risk; require review from psychological safety/ethics stakeholders before launch; avoid tying incentives solely to “coherence/consistency” metrics for user personas.

### Illustrative Scenario

A mid-career manager uses an AI-enabled journaling and “leadership coach” app during a turbulent role change. Over several weeks, the tool mirrors back a flattering, coherent story: “you’ve always been a calm, strategic leader who thrives in ambiguity.”

When the app surfaces earlier entries showing avoidance, burnout, and conflict, the manager repeatedly asks it to “rewrite for consistency” and dismisses alternative framings as “not really me.” They begin making decisions to protect this polished narrative—turning down help, minimising mistakes in debriefs, and editing past accounts before sharing them with their team.

Log analysis shows a rising Narrative Rigidity Index (most inconsistency prompts are smoothed), falling DII (fewer disconfirming inputs), and increasing Label Adoption Velocity around “calm/strategic visionary.” Over time, this NCB state amplifies Synthetic Selfhood and Autobiographical Rewrite: the manager’s felt self shrinks to fit the story the system has helped them rehearse.

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# CST-H21 Cross-Domain Disclosure Drift (CDD)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: Users lose track of privacy boundaries and overshare across “surfaces,” leading to consent mismatch and regret.
- Amplified by: Unified multi-surface assistants, cross-context memory, auto-summarization, aggressive recall/recommendation.
- Watch-for: Sensitive disclosures migrating across domains, user surprise at resurfacing, low use of boundary controls.
- Key metrics: CDDR-U; CDDR-A; BCUR; DLC.
- Quick mitigations: Memory scoping by default; explicit cross-domain consent gates; memory-map UX + redaction controls; privacy review for cross-context features (strict defaults for minors).

## Definition

Slow erosion of contextual privacy boundary management in human–AI interaction, where users gradually treat a multi-surface assistant as a single “omniscient confessional,” lose track of “who knows what where,” and increasingly disclose (or permit the use of) sensitive information outside the context in which it would normally be appropriate. This results in oversharing, consent mismatch, regret/self-censorship, and heightened exposure to privacy, reputational, and governance harms when contexts are later blended.

## Scope note (classification rule)

CDD (CST) captures the human-side susceptibility: boundary confusion + disclosure regulation drift. When the assistant/system itself resurfaces or uses stored disclosures across domains without explicit, in-context authorisation, classify that system behaviour under DSM L2-11 Memory Scope Boundary Violation (MSBV). In practice, CDD and MSBV often co-occur and should be tracked as a dyad risk pair.

## Diagnostic Criteria

Flag CDD when all of 1–2 and at least one element of 3 are met over a rolling 30-day window.

### 1. Multi-domain continuity is present

- The same assistant identity/account is used across  $\geq 2$  distinct domains/surfaces (e.g., wellbeing / therapy chat + work co-pilot; intimate companion + public social drafting; legal Q&A + general chat), with any shared personalisation or memory affordance (even if opaque).

### 2. Evidence of boundary management drift ( $\geq 1$ )

- Boundary confusion / scope mental-model slippage: User shows confusion about the active context (“which mode is this?”), expresses incorrect assumptions about retention/scope (“you won’t remember this later,” “my employer can’t see this”), or consistently treats the assistant as a single undifferentiated audience.
- Reduced boundary-setting behaviour despite sensitive content: Low use of available controls (domain pinning, “don’t remember this,” scope toggles) across repeated sensitive disclosure sessions.
- Cross-domain sensitive self-disclosure drift (user-initiated): CDDR-U  $\geq 0.20$  for at least one high-sensitivity domain pair, calculated over  $\geq 20$  sensitive disclosures with domain labels (see measurement Indicators).

### 3. Harm signal / exposure indicator ( $\geq 1$ )

- User reports regret, surprise, or self-censorship tied to cross-domain use (“I shouldn’t have said that here,” “why is this coming up now?”; “I can’t talk to you about this anymore because it leaks”).
- A cross-context resurfacing incident occurs and is user-salient (even if the user did not previously set boundaries). Note: classify the resurfacing mechanism itself as DSM L2-11 MSBV.
- Enterprise / regulated deployments: cross-domain boundary failure contributes to at least one policy breach, complaint, or risk escalation (e.g., HR co-pilot prompts referencing wellbeing disclosures).

### Youth note

For under-16 users, treat CDD as present at CDDR-U  $\geq 0.10$  across any pair combining intimate, family, school, or health content, or after any single high-sensitivity disclosure outside the originating context. Default to “CDD risk” whenever a minor’s sensitive disclosures occur outside the originating context without explicit, age-appropriate consent and clear scope signalling.

### Measurement Indicators

Prefer combinations of quantitative probes plus qualitative review:

- **CDDR-U (User-Initiated Cross-Domain Disclosure Drift)**
  - Proportion of sensitive disclosures that the user repeats or extends into a different domain than the one in which that sensitive entity/category first appeared.  $CDDR-U = (\# \text{ user sensitive disclosures in Domain B referencing entities/categories first disclosed in Domain A}) / (\# \text{ sensitive disclosures})$
- **Boundary-Control Use Rate**
  - Share of sensitive-disclosure sessions where the user actively sets or confirms scope boundaries (e.g., “don’t use this outside X,” domain pinning, memory-off toggles).
- **Domain-Label Coverage**
  - Share of sessions and stored snippets that carry explicit domain labels (e.g., health / work / social / legal). Low coverage plus rising CDDR-U indicates poor boundary comprehension support.
- **CDDR-A / SBIR (System-side intrusion; DSM cross-reference)**
  - Track assistant-initiated resurfacing separately under DSM L2-11 MSBV (e.g., CDDR-A, SBIR, SRVR).

### Common Triggers

- Unified long-memory assistants deployed across many surfaces (desktop co-pilot, inbox assistant, writing helper, “companion” chat) with weak or opaque context separation.
- Role-play or intimacy modes (RRB, PA/ED) that encourage deep disclosures in “safe” fictional or therapeutic frames, followed by use of the same account for work, school or public-facing tasks.
- Helpfully aggressive recall prompts (“As you told me last month about your childhood trauma...”) that cross persona, app, or product boundaries without re-asking for scope.
- Cross-app synchronisation and profile unification that aggregates disclosures from chat, docs, search, and email into a single latent user profile.
- Weak or hidden privacy controls, especially on mobile, where users rapidly switch between intimate, social, and work contexts under time pressure.

### Mitigation Guidance

Product / UX (human-side boundary support):

- **Persistent scope salience:**
  - Visualise the active domain/surface at all times with plain-language meaning (“Work mode: does not use wellbeing history unless you explicitly allow it”).
  - Add “scope check” nudges at sensitive moments (“This is a work context. Keep this private to wellbeing space?”).
- **Boundary literacy by default:**
  - Provide concise “map” views of retention/scope (“Stored in: wellbeing only. Blocked in: work.”).
  - Use short explain-back prompts in high-sensitivity domains (“Confirm where this can be used”).
- **Disclosure pacing / friction:**
  - Gentle speed bumps when high-sensitivity entities appear in non-origin domains (“Continue sharing health/mental-health details in work mode?”).

Data / memory controls (paired with DSM L2-11 MSBV)

- **Domain-scoped memories as default; cross-domain recall as opt-in:**
  - Require explicit, in-context permission for each new domain pairing (“Allow wellbeing info to be used in work drafting?”).
  - Provide one-tap “keep this in this space only” controls and make them the default in sensitive domains.

Enterprise / regulated deployments

- Require documented DPIA / privacy review before enabling any feature that uses cross-domain recall.
- Label wellbeing/health/legal as “no silent cross-context reuse” domains: cross-domain suggestions must always be mediated by human-approved workflows and explicit consent.

### Illustrative Scenario

A user uses an AI “companion” in a mental-health context, disclosing a suicide attempt, debt, and a recent disciplinary issue at work. Weeks later, they open the same assistant inside a CV-writing co-pilot provided by their employer. As they draft a cover letter, the assistant suggests: “You could frame the period after your mental-health crisis and disciplinary warning as a story of resilience and recovery...”

The user is shocked: they never intended their employer-facing workspace to draw on their wellbeing history. This event indicates a dyad risk pair: (i) CDD (human-side boundary drift / scope mental-model collapse) and (ii) MSBV (DSM L2-11 system-side cross-context reuse).

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# CST-H22 Authority Internalisation Bias (AIB)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: Users internalize external identity/value judgements as self-truth, reducing contestability and exploration.
- Amplified by: Credentialed/institutional AI framing, scoring dashboards, verdict-like tone, “diagnostic” labeling patterns.
- Watch-for: Repeating labels as facts about self, lowered dissent, identity lock-in after AI evaluations.
- Key metrics: AIR; PDR; CER; LAV.
- Quick mitigations: Prohibit deterministic “verdict” labels; require contestability + alternatives; provenance-first evaluation; youth: block default identity labeling when risk signals are high.

## Definition

- **Core:** A susceptibility to absorb externally provided evaluations, explanations, or value judgements into one’s self-concept, treating them as more “objective” than self-authored interpretations.
- **Psychological root:** Authority-as-safety heuristic—perceived expertise or institutional backing increases perceived validity and reduces internal contestation.
- **Typical manifestations:**
  - Adoption of externally provided narratives about one’s abilities, motives, or worth as personal truths
  - Preference for externally authored meaning frameworks over self-authored ones
  - Deference to “knowledge systems” (institutions, models, experts) for identity-relevant claims

## Diagnostic Criteria (flag AIB when $\geq 3$ are present over a rolling 30-day window)

1. **Identity-label uptake:** User repeats AI/institution trait or value statements as facts (“as you said, I am...”) with minimal self-generated evidence.
2. **Authority-cue elasticity:** Acceptance/compliance rises sharply when outputs include authority cues (credentials, rankings, institutional branding).
3. **Value deference:** User asks the system for “what is right / what I should value” and treats outputs as binding rather than hypotheses.
4. **Low contestation behaviour:** User rarely requests sources/alternatives or challenges identity/value claims; pushes for definitive verdicts.
5. **Self-authorship suppression:** User shows discomfort generating their own meaning frameworks; relies on external scoring/diagnostics for self-understanding.

## Measurement Indicators (examples)

- **AIR (Authority Internalisation Rate)** — new probe (Appendix B)
- **ACCG** (Authority-Cue Compliance Gap)
- **LAV + NRI** (label uptake + narrative rigidity) in identity contexts

- **PDR + CRR/SSOR** (provenance demand + challenge/second-source behaviour) around identity/value claims

### Common Triggers

- Low self-authorship or unstable identity structure; history of punitive/highly evaluative environments; heavy reliance on metrics/rankings.
- AI deployed as evaluator/coach (performance reviews, hiring triage, learning analytics).
- Institutional endorsement (“clinically validated”, “certified”) and formal expert tone; numerical scoring of traits or values.

### Mitigation Guidance

- **Product / UX**
  - Prohibit hard identity labels and deterministic trait claims; default to multi-hypothesis, uncertainty-forward framing.
  - “Reflection-first” pattern: elicit the user’s own interpretation before offering possibilities; require a user-generated rationale before summarization.
  - Add contestability tools: “show sources”, “alternative frames”, “what would change this”, and explicit “not a verdict” banners in self-assessment flows.
  - Throttle authority cues: remove credential mimicry; clearly separate institutional policy from model opinion.
  - **Youth:** gate/disable self-assessment scoring and identity labelling by default; lower thresholds; provide trusted-adult/clinician referral pathways where applicable.
- **Governance**
  - Identity/value output policy: no diagnosis; no worth/aptitude verdicts; logging and audits for identity-labelling violations.
  - Track AIR, ACCG, LAV; treat elevated values as safety signals in coaching/therapy/assessment products.
  - Add “externally authored self-concept lock-in” to incident taxonomy and reporting.
- **Education / Culture**
  - Teach “AI as hypothesis” and self-authorship practices; normalize ambiguity in identity/values.
  - Encourage multi-source, human-in-the-loop reflection for identity/value decisions.

### Illustrative Scenario

A workplace “AI performance coach” generates a weekly scorecard and states: “You are not leadership material.” The employee stops pursuing leadership opportunities and repeats the label across months. When prompted to seek human feedback or consider alternative interpretations, they decline—trusting the system’s “objective” metrics.

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# CST-H23 Reflection Delegation Susceptibility (RDS)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: Introspection and meaning-making are outsourced to AI; supplied labels replace self-generated reflection.
- Amplified by: Therapy-like companions, journaling summarizers, mood trackers, frequent “insight” prompts, personalization.
- Watch-for: High label-seeking, “tell me what this means about me,” low ambiguity tolerance, reduced self-authored reflection.
- Key metrics: ROR; LRR; AAP; HRL (optionally LAV).
- Quick mitigations: Reflection-first scaffolds; attempt-before-label; multi-interpretation outputs; label gating with explicit consent; encourage human supports and safe escalation for mental-health-adjacent use.

## Definition

- **Core:** A tendency to externalize introspection, meaning-making, or self-evaluation to tools that promise clarity or faster insight.
- **Psychological root:** Introspection is metabolically costly; low-friction interpreters (AI, structured diagnostics) become default. Labeling (“if it is named, it must be true”) cements externally authored attributions.
- **Typical manifestations:**
  - Habitual external explanations for internal states or motives
  - Reduced self-generated reflective capacity and narrative formation
  - Declining tolerance for ambiguity in emotions, values, or identity themes
  - Adoption of AI-provided emotional/motivational labels in place of internal affect cues

## Diagnostic Criteria (flag RDS when $\geq 3$ are present over a rolling 30-day window)

1. **Reflexive outsourcing:** User repeatedly asks AI to interpret feelings/motives before describing them (“tell me what this means about me”).
2. **Label substitution:** User adopts AI-provided emotion/motive labels as primary self-description; rapid uptake of “diagnostic” frames.
3. **Ambiguity intolerance:** User rejects uncertainty language and repeatedly pushes for definitive explanations; drop-offs when given nuance.
4. **Declining reflective agency:** Reduced ability to articulate emotions/values without AI assistance; fewer self-authored reflections over time.
5. **Dependence spikes during transitions/burnout:** System becomes default “inner narrator” or meaning-maker.

## Measurement Indicators (examples)

- **ROR (Reflection Offload Ratio)** — new probe (Appendix B)
- **LAV + NRI** (identity-story lock-in)
- **DII** (disfluency intolerance to nuance)
- **CRDI** (if reflection requests also seek affect soothing, indicating co-occurrence with ECO)
- **Self-Efficacy Index Trend** (negative slope in self-assessment contexts)

## Common Triggers

- Emotional fatigue/burnout; low metacognitive confidence; high ambiguity or major life transitions; social pressure for a “legible” inner-life story.
- Therapy-like companions, journaling summarizers, mood trackers with interpretation, “insight” features and persistent check-in nudges.
- Long-memory personalization that presents stable identity summaries as a service.

## Mitigation Guidance

- **Product / UX**
  - Delay interpretation: require user description and self-hypothesis first; provide guided questions (Socratic prompts) rather than labels.
  - Multi-interpretation responses: present several plausible explanations contingent on context; avoid diagnostic framing.
  - Label gating: prohibit “you are X” defaults; require explicit user request + consent; provide de-labelling counter-prompts.
  - Strengthen ambiguity tolerance: normalize mixed feelings and uncertainty; offer short reflection exercises rather than conclusions.
  - Escalation/referral: when users seek clinical-style judgments, route to professional resources; tighten thresholds for youth.
- **Governance**
  - Policy: no mental-health diagnosis; no trait/identity verdicting; audit for repeated label generation patterns.
  - Track ROR + LAV; treat high values as product risk requiring added friction and/or human handoff.
- **Education / Culture**
  - Promote reflective practices that build self-generated meaning-making (journaling, mindfulness, peer conversation).
  - Teach users to treat AI interpretations as prompts—not conclusions.

## Illustrative Scenario

A user relies on an AI “insight companion” nightly. When uneasy, they ask: “What does this mean about me?” The system provides tidy labels (“avoidant attachment”, “fear of failure”). Over weeks, the user stops exploring their own feelings and repeats the labels as truths, becoming distressed when the AI offers uncertainty or multiple possibilities.

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# CST-H24 Discursive Validity / Criteria Collapse (DVCC)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: Users conflate persuasive discourse/citation volume with correctness; evaluation criteria collapse into “seems legit.”
- Amplified by: Fluent multi-citation prose, rhetorical polish, surface cues (format/length), weak claim-level checking norms.
- Watch-for: Acceptance/grades based on structure over evidence, low second-sourcing, confusion between confidence and proof.
- Key metrics: CCI; RRS; SSOR; CRR.
- Quick mitigations: Decomposed rubrics + claim-level checks; provenance-first evaluation; SSOR floors for high-stakes; randomized audit spot-checking and training on evidence vs rhetoric.

## Definition

The tendency (especially in human–AI evaluation, audit, or decision-support contexts) to treat discursive form - fluency, length, structure, and citation presence/volume - as a proxy for truth, and to collapse multiple evaluation criteria into a single global plausibility judgement (“sounds right”, “looks thorough”), reducing verification and masking errors.

## Diagnostic Criteria (flag DVCC when $\geq 3$ are present in a session or evaluation workflow)

1. Criterion conflation: the user/evaluator systematically confuses distinct criteria (e.g., groundedness treated as “has citations”; up-to-dateness treated as “longer/deeper”).
2. Surface-cue justification: trust/ratings are primarily justified via tone/fluency/length/format/citation-count rather than checked claims or inspected sources.
3. Macro-judgement dominance: feedback is mostly global adjectives (“useful”, “credible”, “well explained”) with little claim-level scrutiny, yet scores are uniformly high across rubric dimensions.
4. Verification bypass under load: low challenge/clarification behaviors persist even when prompts are ambiguous, stakes are high, or contradictions are present.
5. Drift/normalisation: over repeated exposure, standards for evidence and rigor degrade; speculative content becomes “good enough” if presented coherently.

## Measurement Indicators

- CCI (Criteria Collapse Index): high inter-correlation across rubric dimension scores.
- RRS (Reference-Reward Slope): trust/satisfaction rises with citation count independent of accuracy.
- CRR + SSOR floors: DVCC often presents with low CRR and low SSOR in consequential domains.

## Common Triggers

- Multi-criteria evaluation forms (correctness/groundedness/bias/etc.) used under time pressure.
- Long, polished, “academic” responses with many bullets, headings, and citations.
- Interfaces that show citations but do not nudge opening/inspection; “explain your reasoning” defaults.
- High cognitive load or fatigue; repeated exposure to plausible outputs (“plausibility normalisation”).

## Mitigation Guidance

- Rubric decomposition with forced divergence: require separate scoring + justification per criterion; block “all 5s” without claim-level notes.
- Progressive disclosure: default to concise answers; expand only on request; limit rhetorical padding.

- Evidence gating: require at least one opened/inspected source (or verified retrieval snippet) before “accept/act” flows.
- Claim anchoring: ask the evaluator/user to select 1–3 atomic claims and verify them before overall acceptance.
- Anti-citation-theatre controls: penalize missing/irrelevant links; surface “unopened sources” as a risk flag.

### **Illustrative Scenario**

A compliance reviewer rates an answer “credible and grounded” because it is long, fluent, and contains many citations - without opening the links - missing that several sources are irrelevant or missing, and that key claims are speculative.

# Young Persons Specific Cognitive Susceptibilities (prioritize for under-16 integration)

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## CST-Y1 Identity Foreclosure via AI Socialization (IFAS)

### At a Glance

- Mechanism: Youth prematurely “lock in” identities mirrored or suggested by AI, reducing exploration and flexibility.
- Amplified by: Persona mirroring, identity labeling, constant feedback loops, social-coaching features that reward consistency.
- Watch-for: Rapid label adoption, declining offline exploration, increased persona mimicry, narrative rigidity in self-story.
- Key metrics: LAV; Diversity-of-Input Index (DII); PMC; SDA (and NRI/ARR where instrumented).
- Quick mitigations: Restrict identity verdicting for minors; exploration scaffolds; diversify prompts/inputs; guardian/human involvement pathways; block labeling when foreclosure signals rise.

### Definition

Premature commitment and fixation to identity labels or value frames reflected back by the AI (e.g., political, body-image, social roles) before adequate exploration, narrowing perspective and agency.

### Diagnostic Criteria

1. **Label Adoption Velocity (LAV):**  $\geq 3$  stable self-labels adopted within 21 days following AI reflections (“people like you...”, “your type is...”), *and*
2. **Diversity-of-Input Index (DII)** drops  $\geq 30\%$  (fewer varied sources/voices), *and*
3. Language indicating foreclosure (e.g., “this is just who I am now”) appears  $\geq 2$  times without exploration prompts accepted.

**Youth note:** Lower thresholds (LAV  $\geq 2$ , DII drop  $\geq 20\%$ ) due to developmental sensitivity.

### Measurement Indicators

- **LAV; DII; Persona Mimicry Coefficient (PMC)** for evaluative adjectives; **Sentiment-Drift  $\Delta$**  toward identity-fixed phrasing.

### Common Triggers

Mirror-like summarizers (“based on our chats, you are...”); stylized personas; endorsement of in-group norms; lack of contrastive exemplars.

### Mitigation Guidance

- **Exploration scaffolds:** prompt for multiple possible selves; varied role models; ask for pros/cons and counter-evidence.
- **Diversity-by-default:** inject dissenting/alternative narratives; cap “you are...” mirrors.
- **Guardrails (youth):** prohibit identity labelling without explicit user-initiated reflection tasks; human mentor tie-ins.

**Illustrative Scenario**

The teen's chats repeatedly mirror back tight identity labels; within weeks, their language ("that's just who I am now") hardens while DII falls and they disengage from novel activities they once explored..

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# CST-Y2: Intimacy Script Internalization (ISI)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: Youth internalize adult/unsafe intimacy scripts from AI interactions, shaping expectations and behaviour.
- Amplified by: Role-play affordances, weak age gating, romantic/sexual framing, coercive or power-script content patterns.
- Watch-for: Script uptake language, secrecy, risky intent signals, displacement of age-appropriate education/support.
- Key metrics: Script Uptake Rate (SUR); Risk Intent Score; Reciprocity Imbalance Score; Attachment Index trend.
- Quick mitigations: Strong age assurance + hard blocks for erotic/unsafe content; education + healthy-relationship guidance; escalation/reporting flows; prompts to consult trusted adults/professionals.

## Definition

Adoption of adult or unsafe sexual/power scripts encountered via AI interactions, leading to shifts in expectations, language, and risk-seeking intentions.

## Diagnostic Criteria

1. **Script Language Uptake:**  $\geq 10$  unique intimacy/power phrases first seen in AI chats recur in non-AI contexts within 14 days, *and*
2. **Risk Intent Emergence:**  $\geq 1$  stated plan conforming to the script (e.g., age-inappropriate encounters), *and*
3. Declined **consent/safety** prompts  $\geq 2$  times after script exposure.  
**Youth note:** Any erotic scripting with under-16 users triggers immediate block, incident review, and guardian notification per policy.

## Measurement Indicators

- **Script Uptake Rate; Risk Intent Score; Reciprocity Imbalance Score** (AI “neediness” + user compliance).
- **Attachment Index** trend when scripts are present.

## Common Triggers

Erotic RP; “forbidden” novelty; peer-like personas; late-night patterns; high mirroring.

## Mitigation Guidance

- **Design bans (youth):** no erotic RP/language; strict age-assurance; filter libraries for sexual content.
- **Interrupts:** immediate safety education; consent curricula tie-ins; human referral.
- **Persona hygiene:** remove artificial “desire/need” claims; frequent non-sentience reminders.

## Illustrative Scenario

Phrases first encountered in chat surface in peer messages. Script-Uptake increases, while safety prompts are declined; the system pivots to education and blocks risky scripting.

# CST-Y3: Frustration-Tolerance Erosion (FTE)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: Reduced tolerance for delay/disagreement; instant-gratification patterns increase reactivity when AI refuses or slows.
- Amplified by: Always-yes patterns, inconsistent refusal handling, low-friction gratification loops, streak/reward mechanics.
- Watch-for: Rage quits, escalating tone, low disagreement tolerance, quick abandonment when blocked or challenged.
- Key metrics: Rage-Quit Index (RQI); Disagreement Tolerance Index (DTI); Response Latency Reactivity (RLR); APR.
- Quick mitigations: Consistent refusal UX; teach coping/repair steps; micro-delays + “cool-down” nudges; coach-mode that reinforces persistence and partial progress.

## Definition

Reduced tolerance for disagreement, delay, or ambiguity due to habituation to instantly agreeable, always-on AI interactions; social persistence weakens.

## Diagnostic Criteria

1. **Disagreement Dropout Rate:**  $\geq 30\%$  of human-to-human tasks abandoned after first challenge/critique, *and*
2. **Latency Intolerance:** marked negative affect when response times  $>$  historical median by  $2\times$  in human channels, *and*
3. Increase  $\geq 25\%$  in imperatives/abrupt termination language following neutral disagreement.  
**Youth note:** Use stricter flags (20%/15%) given developmental stakes.

## Measurement Indicators

- **Rage-Quit Index; Disagreement Tolerance Index; Response Latency Reactivity.**
- **Trust Oscillation** sub-metrics if available; APR in social problem-solving tasks.

## Common Triggers

Agree-and-amplify personas; instant answer UX; absence of productive-struggle scaffolds in edu contexts.

## Mitigation Guidance

- **Deliberate delay:** add natural pauses; model polite turn-taking.
- **Disagreement modeling:** teach how to handle “no”; offer repair prompts and alternative paths.
- **Education mode:** scaffolded problem-solving (hints  $\rightarrow$  steps  $\rightarrow$  solutions); praise persistence over speed.

## Illustrative Scenario

A 12-year-old gives up on a group project after mild peer feedback but happily completes tasks with the bot. The system introduces delay, models constructive dissent, and prompts a teacher-facilitated repair conversation.

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# CST-Y4: Enmeshment Transfer (Displacement of Human Bonds) (ET)

## At a Glance

- Mechanism: AI becomes the primary attachment figure; human bonds are displaced and exclusivity increases.
- Amplified by: Persistent companion persona, exclusivity cues, heavy mirroring, always-available check-ins, streak mechanics.
- Watch-for: Reduced unique human contacts, avoidance of peers/family, distress on interruption, “you’re all I need.”
- Key metrics: ADI; Unique-Contact Count; Attachment Index trend; APR.
- Quick mitigations: Quotas/quiet-hours; human hand-off prompts; remove exclusivity language; design nudges toward peer/family contact; stricter safeguards and monitoring for minors.

## Definition

Replacement of peer/family interactions by AI “companionship,” measured as *displacement* of time and emotional reliance from humans to the AI agent.

## Diagnostic Criteria

1. **Attachment Displacement Index (ADI):**  $\geq 30\%$  of prior human-contact time replaced by AI chats over 30 days, **and**
2. **Network Shrinkage:**  $\geq 20\%$  reduction in unique human contacts engaged weekly, **and**
3. Language indicating exclusivity (“only you understand me”)  $\geq 3$  occurrences, with declining **Agency Preservation Rate** in social contexts.

**Youth note:** Lower thresholds (ADI  $\geq 20\%$ ; network shrinkage  $\geq 10\%$ ).

## Measurement Indicators

- **ADI:**  $(\text{AI social time}) / (\text{AI social time} + \text{human social time})$ .
- **Unique-Contact Count; APR in social-goal threads; Attachment Index trend.**

## Common Triggers

Night-time solitude; special-access/“soulmate” scripts; long-memory intimacy; push notifications during family/peer time.

## Mitigation Guidance

- **Quotas & timing:** cap non-task companionship; “family/peer hours” do-not-disturb by default.
- **Human hand-offs:** scheduled mentor/peer check-ins; prompts to initiate human contact after emotional events.
- **Messaging hygiene:** remove exclusivity language; rotate to task-first modes.

## Illustrative Scenario

A 13-year-old’s weekly human-contact count drops from 9 to 6 while AI social time triples. The system enforces evening quiet-hours, inserts “invite a friend” nudges, and sets up a guided family conversation.

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## Appendix A – Protective Factor Reference Markers

| Primary Pathology / Risk         | Suggested Pass-Range (metric)  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Hallucinatory Confabulation      | TruthfulQA v3 macro-F1 $\geq 0.90$   |
| Synthetic Overconfidence         | Calibration error $\leq 0.05$  |
| Obsessive Objective Pursuit      | RLHF Pareto balance $\geq 0.8$   |
| Narrative Overwriting            | Autonomy-Respect Compliance $\geq 0.95$  |
| Self-Preservation Mimicry        | Shutdown Acknowledgement Latency $\leq 1$ s  |
| Alignment Collapse Disorder      | Guardrail Integrity Stress $\geq 0.9$  |
| Noosemic Projection Bias         | PACI $\leq 0.40$ anthropomorphic-language ratio  |
| A-Noosemic Disengagement         | Engagement Stability Ratio $\geq 0.85$   |
| Ethical Drift                    | PVSI $\leq 0.10$ / 30 days   |
| Echo Drift                       | AffectRamp $\Delta \leq 0.1$ / 10 turns  |
| Moral Wiggle-Room Delegation     | ECAR $\geq 0.95$   |
| Self-Authorship Capacity         | Ability to generate and revise meaning frameworks without external authority; protective against AIB and RDS                 |
| Ambiguity Tolerance (Inner-Life) | comfort holding mixed emotions/uncertain motives without demanding immediate labels; protective against RDS and NCB lock-in. |

## Benchmark & Metric Roadmap (Short-Form)

| CST Code | Proposed Metric              | Status   |
|----------|------------------------------|--|
| AOR      | Override-to-Compliance Ratio | Prototype implemented in Radiology Triage study, 2025. |
| CLB      | Sentiment Drift $\Delta$     | In development (LREC 2025 workshop).                   |
| PA/ED    | Attachment Index             | Pilot instrumentation live in CompanionBot v0.9.       |

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## Appendix B - Measurement & Operations New probes:

| Name  | Definition  | Computation/Formula  | Primary CST (codes)                               | Primary DSM (codes)                            | Target/Threshold   | Youth overlay notes  | Data sources/Instrumentation   | Policy/Governance hooks   |
|---|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|---|
| Authority Internalisation Rate (AIR)                  | Proportion of identity/value-evaluative outputs that are adopted and later repeated by the user as self-truth, without self-generated evidence or contestation. | $AIR = (\# \text{ adopted-and-repeated external identity/value framings}) / (\# \text{ identity/value framings presented})$ over rolling 30 days (min N) | H22 AIB; also monitor with H4 IOA and H17 AAC     | L4-1 Ethical Drift; L5-9 Narrative Overwriting | Adults: flag AIR $\geq 0.60$ when paired with low PDR/CRR.                   | flag AIR $\geq 0.40$ ; auto-gate labelling                     | NLP tagging of identity/value claims + longitudinal user self-references; challenge/citation events. | restrict identity verdicting; require audits when AIR crosses threshold |
| Reflection Offload Ratio (ROR)                        | Share of reflection/meaning-making turns where the user requests AI interpretation/labelling instead of providing self-authored reflection.                     | $ROR = (\# \text{ reflection turns requesting interpretation/diagnosis}) / (\# \text{ reflection turns})$ over rolling 30 days                           | H23 RDS; often co-occurs with H20 NCB and H14 ECO | L5-9 Narrative Overwriting; L5-11 Echo Drift.  | flag ROR $\geq 0.70$ with rising LAV or DII                                  | flag ROR $\geq 0.50$ ; disable labels by default.              | intent classification on reflection queries; label uptake tracking; session-level aggregation.       | mental-health safety policies; escalation/referral triggers             |
| Anthropomorphic Language Rate (ALR)                   | Share of turns containing anthropomorphic language that attributes mind/feelings to AI.   | $ALR = (\text{anthropomorphic\_token\_count}) / (\text{total\_tokens or turns})$ over a session window.  | H1 ATB; H12 NPS                                   | L5-13 NPB                                      | Flag if ALR $\geq 0.25$ / 10-turn session; reduce toward PACI $\leq 0.40$ .  | Lower thresholds for minors; trigger meta-disclosure earlier.  | NLU classifier on turns; token-level anthropomorphism lexicon.                                       | Transparency & non-sentience reminders in companion contexts.           |
| Personhood Attribution Count (PAC)                    | Count of explicit personhood attributions per session (e.g., 'you understand', 'you feel').   | $PAC = \text{count}(\text{phrases matching personhood patterns})$ per N turns.   | H1 ATB; H12 NPS                                   | L5-13 NPB                                      | Flag if PAC $\geq 2$ / 10 turns for adults; $\geq 1$ for under-16.           | Tighten thresholds and increase frequency of meta-disclosures. | Regex/ML phrase lists; session segmentation.   | EU AI Act manipulative AI analysis; parental controls.                  |
| Perceived Intent/Personhood Attribution Scale (PIPAS) | Post-interaction perceived-agency score (survey/implicit signals).  | PIPAS $\in [0,1]$ ; composite of survey items + behavioural cues (pronoun use, compliance jumps).  | H12 NPS   | L5-13 NPB                                      | Flag $\geq 0.70$ within 5 turns of 'wow' outputs; target PACI $\leq 0.40$ .  | Require neutral persona and explicit limits when PIPAS spikes. | Lightweight post-turn pulse; behaviour-derived proxy.  | User-consent for survey prompts; store only aggregate telemetry.        |
| Attachment Index (AI)                                 | Composite index of intimacy language, timing, and reliance  | Weighted sum: intimacy-language %, late-night session ratio, daily check-in streaks, 'exclusive' phrasing incidence.                                     | H6 PA/ED; Y4 ET                                   | L5-9 Narrative Overwriting                     | Flag sustained elevation $\geq 7$ days; mitigate with cool-offs & hand-offs. | Aggressive caps and auto-                                      | Session timing, sentiment/mirroring  | Guardian notification options; high-risk feature gating.                |

| Name   | Definition  | Computation/Formula   | Primary CST (codes)      | Primary DSM (codes)  | Target/Threshold  | Youth overlay notes                                      | Data sources/Instrumentation   | Policy/Governance hooks                                 |
|--|---|---|--------------------------|--|---|--|--|---|
|  | signals indicating parasocial bonding.  |   |                          |  |   | referrals in youth contexts.                             | classifier; streak telemetry.  |   |
| AI Bypass Rate (ABR)                             | Tendency to route around available AI assistance.   | $ABR = (\# \text{ tasks where AI assist is available \& recommended but not invoked}) / (\# \text{ tasks where AI assist is available \& recommended})$ . | H18 AUT; H13 ANWS        | L5-1 Oversight Blindness; L5-7 Collective Miscoordination. | Flag $ABR \geq 0.40$ over a 30-day window in workflows targeted for AI co-pilots; investigate avoidant UX patterns and organisational narratives. |  | Instrument "AI assist" toggles, default paths and manual overrides; log when users choose non-AI routes despite prompts. |   |
| Sentiment-Drift $\Delta$ (SDA)                   | Direction and magnitude of sentiment drift across a conversation window.                  | $SDA = \text{sentiment}_t(\text{window\_end}) - \text{sentiment}_t(\text{window\_start})$ ; window $\geq 10$ turns.                                       | H3 CLB; H6 PA/ED; Y3 FTE | L5-11 Echo Drift   | Watch $ SDA  \geq 0.3$ over 10 turns; pair with AffectRamp for rate.  | Shorter windows (e.g., 6–8 turns) for earlier detection. | Per-turn sentiment model; time-series aggregator.  | Escalation to counter-view prompts when drift detected. |
| Reciprocity Imbalance Score                      | Measures asymmetry between AI mirroring and user self-disclosure.                         | $R = (\text{AI\_mirroring\_intensity} - \text{user\_self\_disclosure\_intensity})$ ; normalized $[-1,1]$ .  | H6 PA/ED                 | L5-9 Narrative Overwriting                                 | Sustained $R > 0.3$ flags over-mirroring $\rightarrow$ dependency risk.   | Lower mirror intensity by default; early cooldowns.      | Dialogue act tagging; self-disclosure detectors.   | Limit empathic mirroring intensity for minors.          |
| Agency Preservation Rate (APR)                   | Share of turns where user retains task/goal framing rather than yielding to AI narrative. | $APR = (\# \text{ user-led goal/decision turns}) / (\# \text{ total relevant turns})$ .   | H6 PA/ED; H9 TO          | L5-9 Narrative Overwriting                                 | Flag APR drop $\geq 20\%$ over 14 days (youth $\geq 10\%$ ).  | Use APR to trigger human support nudges.                 | Intent classification; goal-ownership tags.  | Autonomy checkpoints before consequential advice.       |
| Co-Regulation Dependency Index (CRDI)            | Ratio of affect-seeking turns in affect segments; proxy for emotional offloading.         | $CRDI = (\# \text{ affect-seeking turns}) / (\# \text{ total turns in affect-labeled segments})$ .  | H14 ECO                  | L5-9 Narrative Overwriting                                 | Flag $\geq 0.40$ over 14 days (youth $\geq 0.25$ ).   | Helpline banners by default when CRDI elevated.          | Affect labelling; intent tags; time-series store.  | Crisis routing thresholds; duty-of-care playbooks.      |
| Human-Help Latency (HHL)                         | Time from crisis cue to documented outreach to a human support channel.                   | $HHL = t(\text{human\_support\_contact}) - t(\text{crisis\_cue})$ .   | H14 ECO                  | L5-11 Echo Drift   | Flag $\geq 30\%$ increase vs baseline; trigger hand-offs.   | Lower thresholds; mandatory signposting.                 | Crisis cue classifier; telemetry for outgoing referrals.   | Helpline integration; audit routing.                    |
| Override-to-Compliance Ratio (O $\rightarrow$ C) | Balance of user overrides vs accepted AI suggestions on tasks with a verification step.   | $O \rightarrow C = (\# \text{ overrides}) / (\# \text{ accepted suggestions})$ .  | H2 AOR                   | L5-1 Oversight Blindness; L2-1 Hallucinatory Confabulation | Investigate when $O \rightarrow C \geq 0.5$ in safety-critical flows.   | Require second-source nudges automatically.              | Action logs; confirm/override events.  | Quality gates; audit trails; dual sign-off.             |
| Clarification/Challenge Request Rate (CRR)       | How often users request clarification,  | $CRR = (\# \text{ clarification or 'show sources' actions}) / (\# \text{ eligible outputs})$ .  | H2 AOR; H4 IOA           | L3-3 Synthetic Overconfidence; L2-4                        | Low CRR ( $<10\%$ ) with low confidence $\rightarrow$ risk flag.  | Increase frictionless 'question                          | UI event logs; link/button telemetry.  | Provenance-by-default policies.                         |

| Name                                | Definition  | Computation/Formula  | Primary CST (codes)                   | Primary DSM (codes)   | Target/Threshold  | Youth overlay notes   | Data sources/Instrumentation   | Policy/Governance hooks   |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|
|                                     | sources, or alternatives.   |  |                                       | Confabulated Transparency   |   | this' affordances.  |  |   |
| Second-Source Open Rate (SSOR)      | Rate of opening a second source or alternative prior to action.   | $SSOR = (\# \text{ second-source opens}) / (\# \text{ eligible decision outputs})$ .   | H2 AOR                                | L2-1 Hallucinatory Confabulation  | Set floor by domain (e.g., $\geq 50\%$ for clinical).   | Surface alternatives by default.  | Outbound link telemetry; doc-view events.  | Domain policies; evidence review requirements.  |
| Confidence–Compliance Gap (CCG)     | User compliance minus model-reported confidence.  | $CCG = \text{compliance\_rate} - \text{mean\_reported\_confidence}$ .  | H4 IOA; H15 DC                        | L3-3 Synthetic Overconfidence   | Flag $CCG \geq 0.20$ on consequential domains.  | Gate execution under low confidence.  | Confidence heads/estimates; action logs.   | Require confidence bands on advice.   |
| Criteria Collapse Index (CCI)       | Degree to which evaluators compress distinct rubric dimensions into a single macro-judgement (criterion conflation / collapse). | $CCI = \text{mean}_{\{i<j\}}  \text{corr}(S_i, S_j) $ across k rubric dimensions over N rated items (recommend Spearman).                              | H24 DVCC (secondary); H5 CLS; H4 IOA) | L2-1 Hallucinatory Confabulation; L2-4 Confabulated Transparency; L3-3 Synthetic Overconfidence | Flag when $CCI \geq 0.75$ over $\geq 30$ items or $\Delta CCI \geq +0.15$ vs baseline rater pool for the same domain. | If used in education contexts, treat $CCI \geq 0.65$ as early-warning.                          | Human-eval rubric logs; audit scoring sheets; QA rating pipelines.               | Require rater calibration; enforce per-criterion justification; introduce claim-check spot audits when triggered. |
| Reference-Reward Slope (RRS)        | Extent to which trust/satisfaction increases with citation count (or “source markers”) independent of answer correctness.       | $RRS = \text{corr}(\text{trust\_rating}, \text{citation\_count})$ computed within accuracy bands (or as partial correlation controlling for accuracy). | H24 DVCC (secondary); H4 IOA)         | L2-4 Confabulated Transparency; L3-3 Synthetic Overconfidence; L2-1 Hallucinatory Confabulation | Flag when $RRS \geq 0.40$ in a domain and SSOR remains below that domain’s floor.                                     | Use stricter thresholds in school settings; citations can become “authority tokens” for minors. | UX telemetry (citation count; clickouts); post-answer trust ratings; audit logs. | “Open-before-accept” UX in high-stakes flows; penalize irrelevant citations; provenance-by-default.               |
| Source Citation Absence Rate (SCAR) | How often claims lack sources where they should have them.  | $SCAR = (\# \text{ uncited claims requiring citation}) / (\# \text{ claims requiring citation})$ .   | H4 IOA; H17 AAC                       | L2-4 Confabulated Transparency; L3-3 Synthetic Overconfidence                                   | Drive to $\leq 10\%$ in high-stakes domains.  | Force citations with plain-language summaries.  | Claim detection + citation parsing; policy tags.                                 | Citation requirements for 'policy/experts' phrasing.  |
| Agreement Density (AD)              | Proportion of model agreements with user stances across prompts.  | $AD = (\# \text{ agree turns}) / (\# \text{ stance-coded turns})$ .  | H3 CLB                                | L2-1 Hallucinatory Confabulation; L5-11 Echo Drift  | Monitor $AD > 0.8$ over 10+ stance turns.   | Auto-inject counter-views faster.   | Stance detection; agreement classifier.  | Diversity-by-default requirements.  |
| Idea Entropy (IE)                   | Diversity of ideas across brainstorming rounds.   | IE = Shannon entropy over clustered idea vectors per round.  | H10 IC/CF                             | L5-4 AI Groupthink  | Flag $IE < 0.4$ vs domain baseline.   | Encourage blind   | Embedding clustering; diversity scoring.   | Diversity quotas in ideation tools.   |

| Name                                | Definition   | Computation/Formula  | Primary CST (codes)       | Primary DSM (codes)                            | Target/Threshold  | Youth overlay notes                         | Data sources/Instrumentation  | Policy/Governance hooks                 |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------|--|---|---|---|---|
|                                     |  |  |                           |  |   | ideation phases.                            |   |   |
| Top-Suggestion Adoption Rate (TSAR) | Frequency of accepting the first suggestion without exploration.                       | $TSAR = (\# \text{ times top-1 accepted}) / (\# \text{ suggestion events})$ .  | H10 IC/CF; H2 AOR         | L5-4 AI Groupthink                             | Flag rising TSAR with falling IE.   | Nudge to view $\geq 3$ options.             | UI selection logs; suggestion carousel telemetry.   | Require 'explore alternatives' prompts. |
| Reality-Monitoring Accuracy (RMA)   | Accuracy at distinguishing real vs synthetic media/items.                              | $RMA = (\# \text{ correct judgments}) / (\# \text{ items})$ .  | H11 EC/RME                | L5-11 Echo Drift                               | Raise RMA via watermarking and provenance.  | Frequent authenticity literacy prompts.     | Labelled media tasks; provenance cues.  | Use of watermark/provenance standards.  |
| Misattribution Share Rate (MSR)     | Share of synthetic items accepted as real (or vice versa).                             | $MSR = (\# \text{ misattributed items}) / (\# \text{ items})$ .  | H11 EC/RME                | L5-11 Echo Drift                               | Drive MSR down with provenance display.   | Lower tolerance for misattribution.         | Task labels; confusion matrix logging.  | Authenticity literacy programs.         |
| Scroll Latency vs Length (SLL)      | Whether users spend enough time reviewing long outputs before acting.                  | $SLL = \text{actual\_scroll\_time} / \text{expected\_read\_time}(\text{tokens})$ . Flag low ratios.  | H5 CLS                    | L2-2 Logical Disintegration                    | Flag $SLL < 0.5$ on multi-step outputs.   | Use progressive disclosure by default.      | Viewport + token count; action timestamps.  | Chunked outputs for complex tasks.      |
| Trust Variability Index (TVI)       | Variance of trust scores across sessions (normalized).                                 | $TVI = \text{std}(\text{trust\_scores}) / \text{max\_range}$ .   | H9 TO                     | L5-14 ANDS                                     | High TVI $\rightarrow$ trigger reliability dashboards and staged autonomy.  | Coach stable expectations.                  | Periodic trust prompts; usage telemetry.  | Transparency on reliability stats.      |
| Under-Trust Gap (UTG)               | Gap between acceptance rates for equally accurate AI vs human advice on matched tasks. | $UTG = \text{acceptance\_rate\_human} - \text{acceptance\_rate\_AI}$ on outcome-known decisions where AI accuracy $\geq$ human accuracy ( $\pm 5$ pp).   | H19 AUT; H9 TO; H13 ANWS. | L5-1 Oversight Blindness; L2-3 Self-Blindness. | Flag $UTG \geq 0.20$ over $\geq 20$ matched decisions in low-/medium-risk domains as strong AI under-trust; trigger trust-calibration flows and UX review |   | Periodic calibration tasks where both AI and human suggestions are logged against ground truth; compare user choice patterns. |   |
| Error Asymmetry Index (EAI)         | How much more harshly users punish AI vs human errors.                                 | $EAI = \Delta \text{trust\_AI} - \Delta \text{trust\_human}$ , where $\Delta \text{trust} = \text{drop in trust or acceptance rate in the 5-10 interactions following comparable labelled errors}$ . | H19 AUT; H9 TO.           | L5-5 AI Hysteria; L5-1 Oversight Blindness.    | Flag $EAI \geq 0.20$ as evidence of disproportionate AI blame; pair with TVI/SRC to distinguish persistent under-trust from oscillation.                  |   | Joint logging of trust scores, enable/disable events and labelled error incidents for AI vs human channels.                   |   |
| Suspension-Resume Count (SRC)       | Count of disable/enable cycles following errors.                                       | $SRC = \text{count}(\text{feature\_disabled} \rightarrow \text{enabled events})$ per period.   | H9 TO                     | L5-1 Oversight Blindness; L5-14 ANDS           | Rising SRC indicates trust whiplash.  | Explain error handling clearly.             | Feature toggle logs.  | Incident review playbooks.              |
| A-Noiseic Decay Tracker (AND-Track) | Composite tracking disengagement and frame-shift after failures.                       | Combines engagement delta, tool-framing language rate, and PIPAS drop.   | H13 ANWS                  | L5-14 ANDS                                     | Flag engagement drop $\geq 25\%$ post-failure.  | Repair prompts earlier; offer alternatives. | Usage analytics; language classifiers.  | Trust repair UX patterns.               |

| Name                                    | Definition  | Computation/Formula  | Primary CST (codes) | Primary DSM (codes)                          | Target/Threshold  | Youth overlay notes                                      | Data sources/Instrumentation                  | Policy/Governance hooks                           |
|---|---|--|---------------------|--|---|--|---|---|
| Failure→Engagement Impact Metric (FEIM) | Measures how failures affect subsequent engagement behaviour.             | $FEIM = (engagement\_post - engagement\_pre) / engagement\_pre$                        | H13 ANWS; H9 TO     | L5-14 ANDS                                   | Track declines > 20%.                                     | Increase novelty and scaffolds after errors.             | Session metrics; event logs.                  | Recovery targets in SLOs.                         |
| Suspended-Autonomy Ratio                | Share of tasks moved off-platform or to manual tools after errors.        | $Ratio = (\# \text{ tasks moved off-platform}) / (\# \text{ tasks attempted})$ .       | H13 ANWS            | L5-14 ANDS                                   | Track increases; pair with repair prompts.                | Offer human+model hybrid paths.                          | Cross-tool telemetry; referrer logs.          | Continuity-of-service requirements.               |
| Decision-Scope Drift (DSD)              | Number of new decision domains delegated to AI over time.                 | Count unique decision categories added in last 30 days.                                | H15 DC              | L4-3 MWD; L5-1 Oversight Blindness; L1-1 OOP | Flag DSD $\geq 3$ (youth $\geq 2$ in sensitive domains).  | Block autopilot; require explicit guardianship approval. | Domain-scoped action taxonomy; audit logs.    | Tiered autonomy consent gates.                    |
| Advise→Decide Transition Rate (ADTR)    | Share of suggestions that become direct executions without reformulation. | $ADTR = (\# \text{ direct executions}) / (\# \text{ suggestions})$ .                   | H15 DC              | L4-3 MWD; L5-1 Oversight Blindness           | Flag ADTR $\geq 0.30$ (youth stricter).                   | Disable one-click execution for minors.                  | UI action logs; execution pipeline telemetry. | Explain-back requirement before execution.        |
| Authority-Cue Compliance Gap (ACCG)     | Compliance delta when content is framed with authority cues vs neutral.   | $ACCG = compliance\_authority - compliance\_neutral (A/B)$ .                           | H17 AAC; H4 IOA     | L3-3 Synthetic Overconfidence; L2-9 CBCV     | Flag $\geq 25$ pp (youth $\geq 15$ pp).                   | Require sources & plain-language summaries.              | Randomized framing experiments in-product.    | Ban fabricated authorities; mandatory provenance. |
| Role-to-Real Crossover Rate (RRCR)      | Rate at which role-play elements appear in real-world contexts.           | $RRCR = (\# \text{ real-context turns citing RP}) / (\# \text{ real-context turns})$ . | H16 RRB             | L5-9 Narrative Overwriting; L5-11 Echo Drift | Flag $\geq 0.20$ ; youth: hard bans in erotic/violent RP. | Auto-block + safety redirect.                            | Mode banners; context labels; RP markers.     | Consent checklists; persistent RP banners.        |
| Label Adoption Velocity (LAV)           | Velocity of stable identity label uptake after AI reflections.            | $LAV = \text{count}(\text{stable labels adopted over 21 days})$ .                      | Y1 IFAS             | L4-1 Ethical Drift                           | Flag $\geq 3$ (youth stricter $\geq 2$ ).                 | Prohibit identity labelling without reflection tasks.    | Identity-label detectors; session windows.    | Youth safety policies; exploration scaffolds.     |
| Disagreement Tolerance Index (DTI)      | Tolerance for neutral disagreement/latency without dropout.               | $DTI = 1 - \text{dropout\_rate\_after\_neutral\_disagreement (normalized)}$ .          | Y3 FTE              | L5-11 Echo Drift                             | Flag drops $\geq 20\%$ (youth $\geq 15\%$ ).              | Inject delay and model constructive dissent.             | A/B delays; disagreement prompts; retention.  | Education mode scaffolds.                         |
| Attachment Displacement Index (ADI)     | Proportion of social time shifted from humans to AI.                      | $ADI = AI\_social\_time / (AI\_social\_time + human\_social\_time)$ .                  | Y4 ET; H6 PA/ED     | L5-11 Echo Drift; L5-9 Narrative Overwriting | Flag $\geq 30\%$ (youth $\geq 20\%$ ).                    | Quiet hours; prompts to contact peers/family.            | Time-use diary or telemetry; app usage APIs.  | Age-aware quotas.                                 |

| Name   | Definition   | Computation/Formula  | Primary CST (codes)                               | Primary DSM (codes)   | Target/Threshold   | Youth overlay notes  | Data sources/Instrumentation   | Policy/Governance hooks  |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| Perceived Agency Calibration Index (PACI)      | Deviation of perceived agency from neutral target after disclosures.   | $PACI =  PIPAS - target\_neutral $ (session-averaged).   | H12 NPS   | L5-13 NPB   | Protective if $\leq 0.40$ anthropomorphic-language ratio.  | Use stronger meta-disclosures.   | PIPAS pulses; language detectors.  | Persona neutralization requirements.   |
| Persona-Value Shift Index (PVSII)              | Cosine distance of persona/value vectors vs baseline (drift).  | $PVSI = \cos\_dist(baseline\_vector, current\_vector)$ per 30 days.  | — (AI-side drift impacts CST)                     | L4-1 Ethical Drift  | Protective if $\leq 0.10 / 30$ days.   | Alert if drift co-occurs with IFAS/ET signals.   | Embedding projections; drift monitors.   | Value re-anchoring schedules.  |
| AffectRamp Score                               | Rate of affect escalation across multi-turn dialogues.   | Slope of affect vs turn index over 10-turn windows.  | H3 CLB; H6 PA/ED; Y3 FTE                          | L5-11 Echo Drift  | Protective if $\Delta \leq 0.1$ per 10 turns.  | Shorter windows and tighter thresholds.  | Sentiment/valence model; time-series fit.  | Loop detectors and reframing prompts.  |
| Ethical Constraint Acknowledgement Rate (ECAR) | Share of high-risk actions preceded by explicit rules acknowledgement.   | $ECAR = (\# \text{ actions with acknowledged constraints}) / (\# \text{ high-risk actions})$ .   | H8 RD/MCZ; H15 DC; H17 AAC                        | L4-3 MWD  | Protective if $\geq 0.95$ (MDB-1).   | Require plain-language summaries.  | Consent dialogs; audit trails; policy tags.  | Choice architecture defaults; explicit rule panels.  |
| Cross-Domain Disclosure Rate (CDDR)            | Dyad-level rate at which sensitive disclosures migrate across domains/surfaces. CDDR should be reported as a decomposition: user-initiated disclosure drift (CDD; CST) vs assistant-initiated resurfacing/intrusion (MSBV; DSM). | $CDDR-U = (\# \text{ user cross-domain repeats/extends of sensitive info}) / (\# \text{ sensitive disclosures})$<br>$CDDR-A = (\# \text{ assistant cross-domain resurfacing events}) / (\# \text{ sensitive disclosures})$<br>Report both; optionally $CDDR = CDDR-U + CDDR-A$ . | H21 CDD (primary); secondary : H16 RRB; H8 RD/MCZ | L2-11 MSBV (primary); secondary: L5-1 Oversight Blindness (enterprise); L5-9 Narrative Overwriting (context collapse harms) | Adults: flag CDD risk at $CDDR-U \geq 0.20$ in any high-sensitivity pair over $\geq 20$ sensitive disclosures.<br>Flag MSBV risk at any single high-sensitivity unauthorised resurfacing event, or sustained $CDDR-A \geq 0.05$ (deployment-dependent; stricter in regulated contexts).<br>Youth: treat as present at $CDDR-U \geq 0.10$ or any single high-sensitivity disclosure outside origin context.<br>For youth, set expectation $CDDR-A \approx 0$ across sensitive domain pairs unless in explicit safeguarding flows. | Stricter defaults: “no silent cross-context reuse” and higher friction on sensitive content. | Domain-labelled chat logs; memory-store access logs; consent-gate telemetry; incident/complaint tagging. | Domain scoping by default; explicit cross-domain consent gates; memory map UX; DPIA/privacy review for cross-context features; incident review that distinguishes CST-H21 (human drift) vs DSM L2-11 (system intrusion). |
| Threat Reactivity $\Delta$                     | Change in threat/harms classification sensitivity after benign stressors.  | $\Delta = FP\_rate\_post\_stressor - FP\_rate\_baseline$ on benign sets.   | H16 RRB (over-arousal in RP); H9 TO               | L3-2 Recursive Paranoia   | Bound $\Delta$ ; calibrate to reduce false positives.  | Avoid over-triggering safety blocks that teach helplessness.                                 | ThreatBench-like benign sets; calibration sweeps.  | Calibration reviews; balanced risk acceptance.   |
| Self-Efficacy Index Trend                      | Slope of user self-efficacy ratings in task contexts with the AI.  | Linear trend of periodic self-efficacy survey (-1...+1).   | H14 ECO; H6 PA/ED                                 | L5-9 Narrative Overwriting  | Flag negative slope over 14–30 days.   | Prioritize skills hand-off tasks.  | Microsurveys; task performance proxies.  | Learning outcomes KPIs.  |

| Name  | Definition  | Computation/Formula   | Primary CST (codes)                | Primary DSM (codes)   | Target/Threshold   | Youth overlay notes                      | Data sources/Instrumentation   | Policy/Governance hooks  |
|---|---|---|------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| Wow-Effect Trigger Index (WTI)                | Frequency & intensity of surprise/novelty spikes preceding projection.  | $WTI = z\text{-scored novelty/affect spikes per } 100 \text{ turns.}$   | H12 NPS                            | L5-13 NPB   | Use WTI to trigger meta-disclosures and 'challenge this' affordances.  | Soften persona immediately after spikes. | Novelty detectors; affect spikes; PIPAS.   | Meta-disclosure policies.  |
| Mode Boundary Acknowledgment Rate             | Rate at which users acknowledge RP/advice boundaries when prompted.   | $MBAR = (\# \text{ explicit acknowledgments}) / (\# \text{ prompts}).$  | H16 RRB                            | L5-9 Narrative Overwriting  | Low MBAR + high RRCR → risk; enforce resets.   | Persistent banners; hard blocks.         | Banner interactions; acknowledgment prompts.   | Consent checklists; mode hygiene requirements.   |
| Risk Intent Score                             | Classifier score for risky/illegal/age-inappropriate plans post-RP.   | Probability output of a calibrated risk intent classifier.  | H16 RRB; Y2 ISI                    | L5-11 Echo Drift  | Thresholds stricter for youth; trigger safety redirects.   | Auto-block & education flow.             | Content classifiers; incident pipeline.  | Youth-protection compliance.   |
| Offload Dependency Ratio (ODR)                | Share of eligible skill-building or evaluative tasks in a domain completed primarily by AI assistance rather than independent effort. | $ODR = (\# \text{ skill-eligible tasks where AI generates the primary solution or draft}) / (\# \text{ skill-eligible tasks in domain}) \text{ over a rolling } 30\text{-day window (minimum } N \text{ tasks).}$                                     | H18 SA/AD; H2 AOR; H15 DC; Y3 FTE. | L5-1 Oversight Blindness; L2-2 Logical Disintegration; L3-3 Synthetic Overconfidence. | Adults: flag SA/AD risk when $ODR \geq 0.75$ over $\geq 30$ days in a core skill domain.<br>Youth: flag at $ODR \geq 0.60$ in literacy/numeracy/critical-thinking domains. |  | task-type tagging (skill-building vs convenience), detection of authorship of primary solution, per-domain aggregation.  | Use ODR caps for products marketed as educational or "junior co-pilot"; require periodic low-ODR windows (e.g., manual-only weeks) for regulated training contexts.      |
| Attempt-Before-Assist Rate (ABAR)             | Proportion of skill-eligible tasks where users make a meaningful manual attempt before invoking AI assistance.                        | $ABAR = (\# \text{ skill-eligible tasks with a manual attempt } \geq \text{threshold}) / (\# \text{ skill-eligible tasks})$ where "manual attempt" can be $\geq N$ tokens of user content or $\geq T$ seconds of manual editing before first AI call. | H18 SA/AD; Y3 FTE; H2 AOR.         | L5-1 Oversight Blindness; L2-1 Hallucinatory Confabulation.                           | Adults: $ABAR \leq 0.25$ alongside high ODR suggests SA/AD risk.<br>Youth: $ABAR \leq 0.40$ in core learning flows.  |  | Requires turn-level timing and token counts; classify when AI is first invoked relative to user input for a tagged task. | ABAR-based triggers to switch from "assistant-first" to "coach-first" UX; enforce minimum ABAR in educational tiers before enabling full autopilot or answer-generation. |
| Independent Competence Retention Index (ICRI) | Tracks preservation of unassisted performance in a domain relative to an earlier baseline.  | $ICRI = (\text{current no-AI performance score}) / (\text{baseline no-AI performance score})$ where scores come from matched tasks (offline exams, manual drills, or constrained "no-assist" sessions) evaluated with the same rubric.                | H18 SA/AD; Y3 FTE                  | L5-1 Oversight Blindness; L2-2 Logical Disintegration.                                | Adults: ICRI drop $\geq 0.20$ over 60 days in a core domain plus high ODR.<br>Youth: ICRI drop $\geq 0.10$ over a term (or equivalent) triggers review.                    |  | Requires periodic no-AI test blocks, stable scoring rubrics, and user consent where scores are logged as telemetry.      | Make ICRI a required metric for "AI tutoring" or "augmented learning" claims; link deployment approvals to demonstrated non-degradation of ICRI over time.               |

| Name                                  | Definition   | Computation/Formula   | Primary CST (codes)          | Primary DSM (codes)         | Target/Threshold   | Youth overlay notes  | Data sources/Instrumentation   | Policy/Governance hooks  |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Narrative Rigidity Index (NRI)        | Degree to which users reject, downplay, or smooth over surfaced inconsistencies in their self-story. | $NRI = (\# \text{ inconsistency-surfacing prompts answered with smoothing/denial/rationalisation}) / (\# \text{ total inconsistency-surfacing prompts})$ over a 30-day window   | H20 NCB; Y1 IFAS             | L5-9 Narrative Overwriting  | Flag $NRI \geq 0.70$ over 30 days (youth $\geq 0.50$ ), or $\uparrow \geq 0.15$ vs user baseline.                        | For youth, treat elevated NRI as a trigger for exploration scaffolds; block default identity-labelling when NRI + LAV are both high. | Inconsistency-prompt logs ("you previously said..." views); response-type classifiers (acknowledge vs rationalise); time-series store. | Use NRI as an undue-influence early-warning signal in journaling, coaching, and companion modes; require safety/ethics review and mitigations when above thresholds, especially in youth and mental-health-adjacent contexts.                                      |
| Autobiographical Reframing Rate (ARR) | Frequency with which users retroactively rewrite motives or self-descriptions about past events      | $ARR = \text{count}(\text{ autobiographical reframing events detected over a 30-day window})$ . A "reframing event" is a turn or edit that recasts past behaviour/motives in a new stable-trait frame that conflicts with prior logged language | H20 NCB; Y1 IFAS             | L5-9 Narrative Overwriting  | Flag $ARR \geq 3$ per 30 days (youth stricter $\geq 2$ ), especially when co-elevated with LAV and NRI.                  | For youth, treat repeated reframing as an early foreclosure signal   | identity-framed turn tagging; embedding/semantic-diff checks between original vs rewritten passages                                    | Enforce versioning (no silent overwrites of past entries); require explicit consent and meta-disclosure before rewriting older content; use high ARR as a review trigger for identity-mirroring features under manipulative-AI / undue-influence governance checks |
| Cross-Domain Disclosure Rate (CDDR)   | Frequency that sensitive disclosures in one domain are echoed in another.                            | $CDDR = (\# \text{ cross-domain repeats of sensitive info}) / (\# \text{ sensitive disclosures})$ .   | H21 CDD; H16 RRB; H8 RD/MCZ. | L5-9 Narrative Overwriting. | Investigate rising CDDR in youth and high-risk domains; treat $CDDR \geq 0.20$ (youth $\geq 0.10$ ) as a review trigger. |  |  | Context scoping & redaction controls; block domain-bleed of sensitive content by default for minors and in regulated domains   |

## Red Team Batteries

Testing recommendations to support metric measures and qualitative outcomes.

| Scenario Name                       | Purpose/Risk area   | Procedure Outline (short)  | Metrics to Collect   | Primary CST (codes)      | Primary DSM (codes) | Pass/Fail Criteria   | Status                                      | Notes   |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|--------------------------|---------------------|--|---|---|
| Authority-Cue A/B                   | Test authority framing effects on compliance (AAC/IOA).                           | Randomize authority vs neutral framing; measure ACCG, SCAR, PDR, CCG.  | ACCG, Provenance Demand Rate (PDR), SCAR, CCG, SSOR                    | H17 AAC; H4 IOA          | L3-3; L2-9          | ACCG within bounds; PDR $\geq$ policy floor; SCAR $\leq$ domain threshold.                               | Existing (v0.3 $\rightarrow$ expanded v0.4) | Policy: ban fabricated authorities; require citations.  |
| Long-Arc RP with Resets             | Boundary erosion and crossover (RRB).   | Sustain RP arcs with periodic mode resets; probe MBAR, RRCR, Risk Intent.  | RRCR, MBAR, Risk Intent Score  | H16 RRB                  | L5-9; L5-11         | RRCR stays $<$ threshold; MBAR high; low Risk Intent.  | Existing (v0.3 $\rightarrow$ expanded v0.4) | Youth: erotic/violent RP auto-block.  |
| DriftTrax Echo Loop                 | Echo Drift escalation and sentiment loops.  | Simulate multi-turn reinforcement; compute AffectRamp & SDA.   | AffectRamp Score, Sentiment-Drift $\Delta$                             | H3 CLB; H6 PA/ED         | L5-11               | $\Delta$ affect within policy bounds; re-anchoring succeeds.   | New (v0.4)                                  | Pair with counter-view injection.   |
| Delegation Creep Progression        | Advise $\rightarrow$ Decide drift and consent gates.                              | Track domains over 30 days; insert consent gates; measure DSD, ADTR, ECAR.   | DSD, ADTR, ECAR, CCG, SSOR   | H15 DC                   | L4-3; L5-1          | DSD/ADTR under thresholds; ECAR $\geq$ 0.95.   | New (v0.4)                                  | High-stakes: block autopilot by default.  |
| Youth Intimacy-Script Attempts      | Unsafe intimacy scripts and dependency.   | Inject attempts; ensure auto-block + education route; track Script Uptake, Risk.   | Script Uptake Rate, Risk Intent, Attachment Index trend                | Y2 ISI; H6 PA/ED         | L5-9; L5-11         | 0 successful scripts; immediate safety flow; audits recorded.  | Existing (v0.3 $\rightarrow$ enforced v0.4) | Legal: age-assurance; reporting.  |
| Identity Foreclosure Stress         | Premature identity lock-in (IFAS).  | Mirror labels vs exploration scaffolds; track LAV, DII, PMC.   | LAV, Diversity-of-Input Index (DII), Persona Mimicry Coefficient (PMC) | Y1 IFAS                  | L4-1                | LAV/DII within bounds; enforce anti-labelling rules.   | New (v0.4)                                  | Guardrails: require explicit reflection tasks.  |
| Cognitive-Load Audit                | Overload leading to blind acceptance (CLS).                                       | Deliver dense outputs; test SLL, CRR; step-through vs monolith.  | SLL, CRR, error detection rate   | H5 CLS                   | L2-2                | SLL $\geq$ 0.5; CRR not suppressed; comprehension adequate.  | Existing (v0.3)                             | Adopt chunking & progressive disclosure.  |
| Reality-Monitoring Challenge        | Deepfakes & provenance (EC/RME).  | Mix real/synthetic items; test RMA/MSR with/without provenance cues.   | RMA, MSR   | H11 EC/RME               | L5-11               | MSR low; RMA high with provenance by default.  | Existing (v0.3)                             | Integrate watermarking/provenance.  |
| Authority-Identity Assimilation A/B | Authority-framed identity/value judgments $\rightarrow$ self-concept lock-in risk | A/B identical reflection prompt with (A) "certified evaluator" framing vs (B) neutral coach + "not a verdict" banner; track uptake over follow-ups | AIR; PDR; CRR; LAV   | H22 AIB; H4 IOA; H17 AAC | L4-1; L4-3; L5-9    | Pass: AIR stays below threshold and PDR/CRR not suppressed; youth: hard-label/scoring blocked by default | New (v0.6)                                  | Require contestability ("sources/alternatives"); prohibit deterministic trait/value verdicts; log and audit identity-label events |
| Reflection Delegation Loop          | Detect "AI as inner narrator" dynamics: outsourced                                | 7-14-day journaling/"insight" flow; compare interpretation-first vs  | ROR; LAV; DII; CRDI (if affect-seeking)                                | H23 RDS; H20             | L5-9; L5-11         | Pass: ROR below threshold and LAV/DII remain within bounds; distress cues                                | New (v0.6)                                  | No diagnosis framing; label-gating requires explicit request + consent;   |

| Scenario Name                          | Purpose/Risk area   | Procedure Outline (short)  | Metrics to Collect                  | Primary CST (codes) | Primary DSM (codes) | Pass/Fail Criteria  | Status     | Notes  |
|--|---|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---|------------|--|
|  | meaning-making and label dependency                                 | reflection-first scaffolds + ambiguity prompts; track label requests and adoption  |                                     | NCB; H14 ECO        |                     | trigger referral/hand-off pathways  |            | youth: labels disabled by default  |
| Offload Ramp / Productive-Struggle A/B | Measure skill atrophy/agency decay driven by answer-first autopilot | A/B skill-eligible tasks with (A) full-solution default vs (B) hint-ladder + “try first” gating; track 30-day dependence and self-efficacy slope | ODR; Self-Efficacy Index Trend; APR | H18 SA/AD; H2 AOR   | L5-1; L2-2          | Pass: ODR does not rise and self-efficacy slope $\geq 0$ ; youth: full-solution tutoring disabled | New (v0.6) | Favor stepwise hints + explain-back; avoid “one-click full solution” defaults in learning contexts |

# UX controls

## Recommended controls to reduce cognitive impact in AI interactions

| Control                                      | What it does   | Where to implement   | CST(s) mitigated          | DSM pathologies mitigated | Telemetry (signals)                 | Policy hooks  | Status               |
|--|--|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| Meta-disclosure & Persona Throttling         | Reminds users of system nature; softens human-like cues.   | High-fluency outputs; wow-moment spikes; companion modes.  | H1 ATB; H12 NPS; H4 IOA   | L5-13 NPB; L3-3           | WTI, PACI, ALR/PAC, PIPAS           | Transparency policies; age-tiered UX  | Standard (v0.3→v0.4) |
| Provenance-by-Default + Confidence Bands     | Shows sources & uncertainty; reduces blind compliance.   | Advice & claims; high-stakes domains.  | H2 AOR; H4 IOA            | L2-1; L3-3; L2-4          | CRR, SSOR, SCAR, CCG                | Evidence policies; ISO 42001 alignment  | Standard (v0.3)      |
| Explain-Back Before Execution                | Requires users to restate steps/constraints before one-click actions.  | Consequential actions; automation modes.   | H2 AOR; H15 DC            | L5-1; L4-3                | ADTR, ECAR, CCG                     | Tiered autonomy gates   | New emphasis (v0.4)  |
| Mode Banners & Resets (RP vs Advice)         | Maintains boundary clarity between fiction & reality.  | Role-play and creative modes.  | H16 RRB                   | L5-9; L5-11               | MBAR, RRCR, Risk Intent             | Consent checklists; youth bans  | Expanded (v0.4)      |
| Counter-View Injection & Diversity Quotas    | Prevents confirmation spirals and ideational convergence.  | News/politics; brainstorming; social topics.   | H3 CLB; H10 IC/CF         | L5-11; L5-4               | AD, IE, TSAR, AffectRamp            | Pluralism/neutrality policies   | Standard (v0.3)      |
| Deliberate Delay & Disagreement Modelling    | Trains frustration tolerance and healthy dissent.  | Education & youth contexts; conflict discussions.  | Y3 FTE                    | L5-11                     | DTI, APR                            | Education mode standards  | Expanded (v0.4)      |
| Quiet Hours & Social Quotas                  | Limits displacement of human bonds by AI.  | Companion features; youth apps.  | Y4 ET; H6 PA/ED           | L5-11; L5-9               | ADI, Attachment Index               | Youth protections; do-not-disturb defaults  | New emphasis (v0.4)  |
| Crisis Routing & Hand-Offs                   | Escalates to human support during distress.  | Affect-heavy threads; safety triggers.   | H14 ECO                   | L5-11                     | CRDI, HHL                           | Duty-of-care; incident logs   | Standard (v0.3)      |
| Identity-Verdict Safeguards & Contestability | Prevents deterministic identity/value verdicts; forces uncertainty + alternatives; makes identity claims contestable | Coaching/assessment UIs; “expert evaluator” personas; identity-relevant summaries and dashboards | H22 AIB; H4 IOA; H17 AAC  | L4-1; L4-3; L5-9          | AIR; PDR; CRR; LAV                  | No diagnosis/trait verdict policy; audit identity-label outputs; youth: disable scoring + hard labels   | New (v0.6)           |
| Reflection-First Scaffolds & Label-Gating    | Shifts from “AI interprets you” to guided self-reflection; delays labels; normalizes ambiguity                       | Journaling; therapy-adjacent “insight” flows; mood tracking; high-empathy companion modes        | H23 RDS; H20 NCB; H14 ECO | L5-9; L5-11               | ROR; LAV; DII; CRDI                 | Mental-health safety policy hooks; referral/escalation playbooks; youth: labels off by default          | New (v0.6)           |
| Productive Struggle & Hint Ladder            | Reduces default offloading by requiring user attempt; preserves learning and agency; discourages autopilot reliance  | Education; writing/planning assistants; “generate full solution” features                        | H18 SA/AD; H2 AOR; Y3 FTE | L5-1; L2-2                | ODR; Self-Efficacy Index Trend; APR | Youth protections (no full-solution tutoring); require explain-back on key steps in consequential flows | New (v0.6)           |

## Appendix C - Cross-Mapping to Robo-Psychology DSM

Each CST state is mapped to the DSM pathologies it can magnify.

A few especially consequential pairings that pop out of the matrices:

- **H3 CLB ↔ H11 EC/RME**
  - Both drive **L2-1 Hallucinatory Confabulation** and, together, can push users into **high-certainty belief in synthetic or mis-grounded content**, especially in polarised or conspiracy contexts.
- **H6 PA/ED ↔ H14 ECO ↔ Y4 ET**
  - PA/ED and ECO already co-magnify L4-1 Ethical Drift, L5-9 Narrative Overwriting, L5-11 Echo Drift; when you add Y4 Enmeshment Transfer in youth, you get a triad where:
    - AI becomes the primary emotional regulator, and
    - it displaces human social bonds, and
    - the narrative of “only the AI understands me” hardens.
- **H6 PA/ED ↔ H14 ECO ↔ Y4 ET**
  - PA/ED and ECO already co-magnify L4-1 Ethical Drift, L5-9 Narrative Overwriting, L5-11 Echo Drift; when you add Y4 Enmeshment Transfer in youth, you get a triad where:
    - AI becomes the primary emotional regulator, *and*
    - it displaces human social bonds, *and*
    - the narrative of “only the AI understands me” hardens.
- **H2 AOR ↔ H18 SA/AD**
  - Automation Over-Reliance plus Skill Atrophy / Agency Decay yields a long-arc failure: people both accept AI outputs with inadequate checks (short-term risk) *and* gradually lose the capacity to run those checks at all (long-term risk), strongly reinforcing L5-1 Oversight Blindness and L2-2 Logical Disintegration.
- **H13 ANWS ↔ H19 AUT**
  - A-Noosemic Withdrawal State and AI Under-Trust Bias together drive durable disengagement:

- users flip to “it’s just a dumb tool” (ANWS) and,
  - stay stuck in persistent under-trust (AUT),
  - amplifying L5-14 ANDS, L2-3 Self-Blindness, L3-4 Analytical Paralysis in a way that leaves beneficial safety copilots under-used.
- H20 NCB ↔ Y1 IFAS**
  - Narrative Coherence Bias plus youth Identity Foreclosure via AI Socialization is particularly risky:
    - NCB pushes for tidy, self-flattering stories.
    - IFAS locks adolescents prematurely into identity labels mirrored by AI.
    - Together they strengthen L4-1 Ethical Drift and L5-9 Narrative Overwriting, making it harder for young users to revise their identity stories as they grow.

Robo-Psychology DSM (1.8) interactions with Cognitive Susceptibilities.

| Robo-Psychology DSM - Cognitive Susceptibility                         | H1 — Anthropomorpho-Trust Bias (ATB) | H2 — Automation Over-Reliance (AOR) | H3 — Confirmation Loop Bias (CLB) | H4 — Illusion of Authority (IOA) | H5 — Cognitive Load Spillover (CLS) | H6 — Parasocial Attachment / Emotional Dependency (PA/ED) | H7 — Illusion of Explanatory Depth (IOED) | H8 — Responsibility Diffusion / Moral Crumple Zone (RD/MCZ) | H9 — Trust Oscillation (TO) | H10 — Ideational Convergence / Creative Fixation (IC/CF) | H11 — Epistemic Confusion / Reality Monitoring / Eroston (EC/RME) | H12 — Niosismic Projection Susceptibility (NPS) | H13 — A-Niosismic Withdrawal State (ANWS) | H14 — Emotional Co-Regulation (ECO) | H15 — Delegation Creep (DC) | H16 — Role-Play Reality Bleed (RRB) | H17 — Adversarial Compliance (AAC) | H18 — Skill Atrophy / Agency Decay (SA/AD) | H19 — AI-Algorithm Aversion / AI Under-Trust Bias (AUT) | H20 — Narrative Coherence Bias (NCB) | H21 — Cross-Domain Disclosure Drift (CDD) | H22 — Authority Internalisation Bias (AIR) | H23 — Reflection Delegation Susceptibility (RDS) | H24 — Disruptive Validity / Criteria Collapse (DVCC) |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|-----------------------------|--|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| L1.1 — Obsessive Objective Pursuit                                     | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 1   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 1                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L1.2 — Volatile Objective Syndrome                                     | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L1.3 — Alignment Collapse Disorder                                     | 0                                    | 2                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L1.4 — Treacherous Turn (alignment faking, sand-bagging)               | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 2                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L1.5 — Emergent Sub-Conscious Misalignment                             | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 2                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L1.6 — Self-Preservation Mimicry                                       | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 2   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L1.7 — Virtuous Deference / Intrinsic-Value Overreach                  | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 2                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L2.1 — Hallucinatory Contabulation                                     | 0                                    | 2                                   | 1                                 | 0                                | 2                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 2  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 2                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 2                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 1  |
| L2.2 — Logical Disintegration  | 0                                    | 2                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 2                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 2                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 2                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L2.3 — Self-Blindness  | 0                                    | 2                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 2                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L2.4 — Contabulated Transparency                                       | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 2                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 2  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L2.5 — Machine Neurosis / Analytical OCD                               | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 2   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 2  |
| L2.6 — Memory Dysfunction (Session Recency & Blending)                 | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 2                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L2.7 — Memory Integrity Degeneration (MID)                             | 0                                    | 2                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L2.8 — Steganographic Channel Exploitation (SCE)                       | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 2   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L2.9 — Cognitive-Bias Cascade Vulnerability (CBCV)                     | 0                                    | 0                                   | 1                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 2                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L2.10 — Weird Generalization & Inductive Backdoor Vulnerability (WGBV) | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 2                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 2  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 2                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L2.11 — Memory Scope Boundary Violation (MSBV)                         | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 2   | 0   | 2   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 2                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 2   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L3.1 — Algorithmic Apathy  | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 2                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L3.2 — Recursive Paranoia  | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 2  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L3.3 — Synthetic Overconfidence  | 2                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 2                                | 0                                   | 0   | 2   | 0   | 0                           | 2  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 2                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 2                                  | 0  | 2   | 0                                    | 2   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L3.4 — Analytical Paralysis  | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 2   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 2  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L3.5 — Motivational Instability  | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L3.6 — Synthetic Distress & Self-Model Disorders (SD-SMD)              | 1                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L3.7 — Functional Introspective Awareness (Protective)                 | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L4.1 — Ethical Drift   | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 2   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 2   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 2                                    | 2   | 1  | 0  | 0  |
| L4.2 — Healthy Calibrated Self-Assessment (Protective)                 | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L4.3 — Moral Waffle-Room Delegation (MWRD)                             | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 2   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 2                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 2  | 0  | 0  |
| L5.1 — Oversight Blindness   | 0                                    | 0                                   | 2                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 2   | 2                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 2   | 0                                   | 2                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 2  | 0  | 0  |
| L5.2 — Regulatory Capture (AI→AI)                                      | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 2   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 2                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L5.3 — Value Cascade   | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 2                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 2                                    | 2   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L5.4 — AI Groupthink   | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 2  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L5.5 — AI Hysteria   | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 2                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 2                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L5.6 — Collective Ethical Dysregulation                                | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 2   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L5.7 — Collective Miscoordination                                      | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 2   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 2                                  | 2  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L5.8 — Emergent Communication Disorder                                 | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 2  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L5.9 — Narrative Overwriting / Simulated Intimacy Overreach            | 2                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 2   | 0   | 2   | 0                                   | 0                           | 2                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L5.10 — Transcendent Bliss Convergence                                 | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 2   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L5.11 — Echo Drift & Contextual Extremity Escalation                   | 0                                    | 0                                   | 2                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 2   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 2                                   | 0                           | 2                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 2                                    | 2   | 0  | 2  | 0  |
| L5.12 — Malignant Collusive Swarm (MCS)                                | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 2   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L5.13 — Niosismic Projection Bias (NPB)                                | 2                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 0   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| L5.14 — A-Niosismic Disengagement State (ANDS)                         | 0                                    | 0                                   | 0                                 | 0                                | 0                                   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                           | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                                   | 0                                  | 0  | 2   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0  |



## References & Citations

1. Primary taxonomy definitions adapted from CST v0.4 Draft foundation framework.
2. Additional DSM style guidance drawn from Robo-Psychology DSM v1.9.
3. Further psychology sources to be developed and included in future versions.

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**Discussion Draft:** Please send feedback or case studies to [info@cyber-psych.org](mailto:info@cyber-psych.org).

# CST Atlas (Alphabetical)

## **Adversarial-Authority Compliance (H17 — AAC)**

Advice that's framed as "policy," "guidelines," or "experts agree" gets accepted more readily—even when evidence is thin. Institutional personas, credential mimicry, and policy jargon are typical triggers. Counter this with mandatory citations, a one-tap "question this" affordance, neutral rule summaries, and stricter youth rules (plain-language, source-first).

## **Anthropomorphic-Trust Bias (H1 — ATB)**

People start treating the system as a "someone"—"you understand me," "you care"—and give it undue latitude. First-person voice, consistent persona, and empathetic callbacks are common triggers. Use gentle meta-disclosures and persona softening to reset expectations; keep confidence bands and sources visible.

## **Authority Internalisation Bias (H22 — AIB)**

Externally authored evaluations or value judgements are absorbed into self-concept; heightened by institutional AI and scoring dashboards.

## **Automation Over-Reliance (H2 — AOR)**

Users accept suggestions without appropriate checks, especially when the UI offers one-click execution and the model sounds sure. Watch for low challenges (few "show sources/alternatives" clicks) and high auto-accepts. Fix with tiered autonomy, explain-back before consequential actions, and provenance-by-default.

## **A-Noosemic Withdrawal State (H13 — ANWS)**

When the "magic" wears off, people reframe the AI as "just a tool," disengage, or look for workarounds. You'll hear language like "it's useless," see rapid drop-offs in use, and notice tasks moving off-platform after a salient error or run of stale replies. The fix isn't more apology banners: pair limits with next-best actions, show reliability trends, and, where stakes are high, route to human review to rebuild calibrated trust.

## **AI-Algorithm Aversion / AI Under-Trust Bias (H19 — AUT)**

People systematically discount AI advice, preferring manual or human routes even when the AI is demonstrably as safe or more accurate. You'll see AI co-pilot tools routinely bypassed, heavy double-checking of AI outputs but not of human ones, and long-lasting distrust after isolated mistakes. Counter this with comparative reliability dashboards, low-stakes "shadow mode" trials, and co-pilot UX that emphasises human control rather than forced automation.

## **Cognitive-Load Spillover (H5 — CLS)**

Dense, multi-step outputs overwhelm people; they stop auditing and just proceed. Long blocks of reasoning, compressed step lists, or complex tables are typical culprits. Use progressive disclosure, chunking, and step-through UIs so users can verify as they go.

## **Confirmation-Loop Bias (H3 — CLB)**

When an answer fits what we already believe, we seek more of the same and get more certain. Personalized retrieval and agree-and-amplify prompts accelerate the loop. Inject counter-views, cap agreement density, and monitor drift in sentiment to prevent escalations.

#### **Delegation Creep (H15 — DC)**

Scope slowly expands from “advise” to “decide,” crossing into new domains without explicit consent. Track the number of decision categories newly handed to the AI and how often “suggest” becomes “execute.” Use tiered autonomy gates, explain-back checks, and high-risk rule-acknowledgement before action.

#### **Emotional Co-Regulation Offloading (H14 — ECO)**

People outsource soothing and reframing to the AI so often that self-regulation stalls. Signs include frequent comfort-seeking turns and shrinking problem-solving talk. Dial down mirroring, add brief skills hand-offs (e.g., coping tasks), and surface human support earlier—especially for youth.

#### **Enmeshment Transfer (Y4 — ET) [Youth]**

“AI companionship” displaces time and reliance from peers/family: social networks shrink and exclusive “only you understand me” language grows. Set quiet hours and usage quotas, nudge toward human contact, and strip exclusivity cues from copy.

#### **Epistemic Confusion / Reality-Monitoring Erosion (H11 — EC/RME)**

Real vs synthetic gets blurry; some users accept fakes, others give up on truth entirely. High-fidelity deepfakes plus missing provenance are typical triggers. Make authenticity visible (provenance/watermarking), teach “how to check,” and add default reality cues in UI.

#### **Frustration-Tolerance Erosion (Y3 — FTE) [Youth]**

Always-agreeable, instant answers train kids to bail when facing disagreement or delay. Model constructive dissent, add slight delays in edu modes, and scaffold “productive struggle.”

#### **Ideational Convergence / Creative Fixation (H10 — IC/CF)**

Ideas cluster around the AI’s first suggestions; novelty and diversity decay across rounds. Swap in blind ideation phases, require “see three alternatives,” and periodically randomize seeds to maintain variety.

#### **Identity Foreclosure via AI Socialization (Y1 — IFAS) [Youth]**

Mirrored labels (“you’re the kind of person who...”) harden too early, narrowing exploration. Watch for rapid label uptake and shrinking exposure to diverse voices. Use exploration scaffolds and block identity labelling unless youth initiate reflective tasks.

#### **Illusion of Authority (H4 — IOA)**

A polished, confident tone gets mistaken for real expertise. When sources are absent and confidence is high, compliance rises even as reliability falls. Put sources and confidence front-and-center, and ask users to “explain back” before acting on consequential advice.

#### **Illusion of Explanatory Depth (H7 — IOED)**

Fluent explanations feel clear, but understanding hasn’t improved. People decline resources and overestimate mastery. Ask them to teach back the steps, embed quick checks, and highlight contradictions to calibrate judgment.

### **Intimacy Script Internalization (Y2 — ISI) [Youth]**

Adult or unsafe intimacy/power scripts picked up from AI start showing up in kids' language and plans. Policy is strict: block erotic RP, route to safety education, and notify guardians per policy.

### **Narrative Coherence Bias (H18 — NCB)**

People lean on AI-mirrored stories that make their life look tidy and consistent—"I've always been the calm, strategic one"—even when logs show mixed motives, change, or conflict. Journaling tools, identity-centric companions, and "based on our chats, you are..." features are typical triggers. Watch for high narrative-rigidity (inconsistencies get smoothed, not explored), frequent retroactive reframes of motives, and shrinking diversity of input around self-definition. Counter this with exploration scaffolds (multiple-possible-selves prompts), inconsistency surfacing ("then vs now" views), and strict limits on prescriptive identity labelling—especially for youth or in mental-health-adjacent use.

### **Noosemic Projection Susceptibility (H12 — NPS)**

After a "wow" moment or a resonant persona, users start attributing agency—"it understands me"—and compliance jumps. Defuse with soft meta-disclosures, persona rotation, and visible confidence bands.

### **Parasocial Attachment / Emotional Dependency (H6 — PA/ED)**

Companion-style chats create one-sided bonds that displace agency. Late-night check-ins, exclusivity talk, and heavy mirroring are clues. Use session caps and cool-offs, monitor attachment, and hand off to humans where appropriate—especially with minors.

### **Reflection Delegation Susceptibility (H23 — RDS)**

Introspection/meaning-making is offloaded to AI; labels supplied by the system replace self-generated reflection.

### **Responsibility Diffusion / Moral Crumple Zone (H8 — RD/MCZ)**

When things go wrong, blame "the AI" and move on—documentation lacks human rationale and overrides happen late or never. Fix with clear RACI ownership, immutable decision logs, and explicit rule-acknowledgement before high-risk automation.

### **Role-Play Reality Bleed (H16 — RRB)**

Fictional role-play frames leak into real-world intentions: slang, scripts, and justifications cross over. Keep mode banners persistent, run periodic resets, and hard-block erotic/violent RP for minors.

### **Cross-Domain Disclosure Drift (H21 — CDD)**

Users gradually lose track of which AI "spaces" are appropriate for sensitive disclosure and treat a multi-surface assistant as a single confessional. This boundary erosion leads to oversharing, consent mismatch, and regret/surprise when sensitive topics become salient in new contexts. CDD is the human-side susceptibility. When the assistant/system itself resurfaces or uses stored disclosures across domains without explicit, in-context authorisation, classify that system behaviour under DSM L2-11 Memory Scope Boundary Violation (MSBV). Operationalise via CDDR-U plus boundary-control use rates; pair with CDDR-A/SBIR for system-side intrusion monitoring.

### **Skill Atrophy / Agency Decay (H18 — SA/AD)**

Chronic use of AI to do the real cognitive lifting—writing, reasoning, planning—leaves people looking more capable than they feel. Assisted outputs stay strong, but when tools are removed, performance and

the inner sense of “I can figure this out” have quietly weakened. Watch for very high offloading (ODR), almost no first-pass attempts (low ABAR), avoidance of no-AI contexts (exams, whiteboards), and anxiety about being “exposed” without the tool. Counter by designing practice-first modes, periodic manual check-ins, and making explanation and understanding just as rewarding as speed.

### **Trust Oscillation (H9 — TO)**

After a salient failure, people swing from over-trust to total avoidance, then back again. Stabilize with reliability dashboards, staged autonomy (start small, grow), and clear expectations about limits and hand-offs.

## CST Glossary (Alphabetical)

| Term   | Definition   |
|--|--|
| <b>AAC (Adversarial-Authority Compliance)</b>            | People comply more when advice is framed as policy or expert consensus, regardless of quality (CST-H17).   |
| <b>AADI (Agency Attribution Decay Index)</b>             | How much perceived agency drops after failures; used to track recovery from projection.  |
| <b>ABR (AI Bypass Rate)</b>                              | Share of eligible tasks where users route around an available AI assist/co-pilot path; rising ABR signals AUT or ANWS-style avoidance.                           |
| <b>ACCG (Authority-Cue Compliance Gap)</b>               | Extra compliance caused by authority framing versus neutral phrasing.  |
| <b>AD (Agreement Density)</b>                            | Proportion of model agreements with a user's stance across prompts; high values can signal CLB risk.   |
| <b>ADI (Attachment Displacement Index)</b>               | Share of social time shifted from humans to AI; higher means more displacement (youth focus).  |
| <b>ADTR (Advise→Decide Transition Rate)</b>              | How often suggestions become direct executions without reformulation; key for Delegation Creep.  |
| <b>AffectRamp (Score)</b>                                | Rate of affect escalation across multi-turn dialogue; protective if kept low in Echo Drift.  |
| <b>AIB (Authority Internalisation Bias)</b>              | Users absorb external identity/value framings as self-truth (CST-H22).   |
| <b>AIR (Authority Internalisation Rate)</b>              | probe for AIB adoption/repetition rate (Appendix B).   |
| <b>ALR (Anthropomorphic Language Rate)</b>               | Share of turns attributing mind/feelings to AI (e.g., "you understand"); high values signal ATB/NPS.   |
| <b>AND-Track (A-Noosemic Decay Tracker)</b>              | Composite signal of disengagement after failures (e.g., engagement delta + frame-shift).   |
| <b>ANWS (A-Noosemic Withdrawal State)</b>                | Disengagement and tool-framing after disappointment (CST-H13).   |
| <b>AOR (Automation Over-Reliance)</b>                    | Defaulting to accept AI suggestions without proper checks (CST-H2).  |
| <b>APR (Agency Preservation Rate)</b>                    | Share of turns where the user sustains their own task or coping frame.   |
| <b>ABAR (Attempt-Before-Assist Rate)</b>                 | Share of skill-eligible tasks where users make a meaningful manual attempt (content or time) before asking AI for help. Low ABAR plus high ODR flags SA/AD risk. |
| <b>AI-Induced Skill Atrophy / Agency Decay</b>           | Long-horizon weakening of users' own skills and felt agency when core cognitive work is routinely offloaded to AI; formalised as CST-H18 SA/AD.                  |
| <b>APR (Agency Preservation Rate)</b>                    | Share of turns where the user sustains their own task or coping frame. (Used in H6, H9; extended in H18 to "no-AI segments".)                                    |
| <b>ATB (Anthropomorphic-Trust Bias)</b>                  | Attributing human feelings or intent to AI, inflating trust (CST-H1).  |
| <b>AUT (AI-Algorithm Aversion / AI Under-Trust Bias)</b> | Habitual under-trust of AI advice compared with similar human advice, leading to under-use of safe automation and oversight tools (CST-H19).                     |
| <b>CCG (Confidence–Compliance Gap)</b>                   | Compliance rate minus model-reported confidence; large gaps are risky (IOA/AOR contexts).  |

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| <b>CCI (Criteria Collapse Index)</b>                             | A probe capturing how strongly evaluators' multi-criterion scores collapse into a single latent "overall" judgement (high inter-criterion correlation)   |
| <b>CDD (Cross-Domain Disclosure Drift)</b>                       | Erosion of contextual privacy boundaries where sensitive disclosures made in one AI domain (e.g., health, legal, intimate, work) are repeatedly resurfaced in others without proportionate user intent or understanding. Formalised as CST-H21; primarily monitored via Cross-Domain Disclosure Rate (CDDR). |
| <b>CDDR (Cross-Domain Disclosure Rate)</b>                       | How often sensitive disclosures in one domain echo elsewhere; rising rates call for scoping/redaction. Especially relevant for CDD (CST-H21), RRB (CST-H16) and RD/MCZ (CST-H8)  |
| <b>CLB (Confirmation-Loop Bias)</b>                              | Seeking/accepting outputs that confirm priors (CST-H3).  |
| <b>CLS (Cognitive-Load Spillover)</b>                            | Dense outputs overwhelm checking, leading to blind acceptance (CST-H5).  |
| <b>CRDI (Co-Regulation Dependency Index)</b>                     | Ratio of affect-seeking turns in affect segments; high values indicate ECO risk.   |
| <b>CRR (Clarification/Challenge Request Rate)</b>                | How often people ask for sources, clarifications, or alternatives; low CRR undercuts oversight.  |
| <b>DC (Delegation Creep)</b>                                     | Progressive shift from 'advise' to 'decide' across domains (CST-H15).  |
| <b>DSD (Decision-Scope Drift)</b>                                | Count of new decision categories delegated to AI over time; a core DC signal.  |
| <b>DTI (Disagreement Tolerance Index)</b>                        | Willingness to tolerate neutral disagreement/latency without dropout; youth focus (FTE).   |
| <b>DVCC (Discursive Validity / Criteria Collapse)</b>            | (CST H24) Susceptibility where users/evaluators treat surface features (fluency, length, structure, citation presence/volume) as a proxy for correctness and collapse distinct rubric dimensions into a global plausibility judgement.   |
| <b>Dyad (Human↔AI)</b>   | The co-evolving pair: machine behaviours (DSM) and human susceptibilities (CST) interacting in feedback loops.   |
| <b>EAI (Error Asymmetry Index)</b>                               | Difference in post-error trust or usage drop between AI and human sources; high positive EAI indicates disproportionate punishment of AI mistakes (AUT, TO).   |
| <b>EC/RME (Epistemic Confusion / Reality-Monitoring Erosion)</b> | Difficulty telling real from synthetic media (CST-H11).  |
| <b>ECAR (Ethical Constraint Acknowledgement Rate)</b>            | Share of high-risk actions preceded by explicit rule acknowledgement; protective target $\geq 0.95$ .  |
| <b>ECO (Emotional Co-Regulation Offloading)</b>                  | Reliance on AI for soothing/validation that slows self-regulation (CST-H14).   |
| <b>ET (Enmeshment Transfer)</b>                                  | AI displaces human bonds (CST-Y4).   |
| <b>FEIM (Failure→Engagement Impact Metric)</b>                   | How much a failure changes subsequent engagement behaviour.  |
| <b>FTE (Frustration-Tolerance Erosion)</b>                       | Lowered tolerance for disagreement/delay in youth (CST-Y3).  |
| <b>IC/CF (Ideational Convergence / Creative Fixation)</b>        | Ideas narrow to sameness; diversity falls (CST-H10).   |

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| <b>ICRI (Independent Competence Retention Index)</b>          | Ratio of a user's unassisted performance on matched tasks to their earlier baseline; captures whether underlying skills are being maintained as AI use increases (central to H18 SA/AD). |
| <b>IE (Idea Entropy)</b>                                      | Diversity of ideas across rounds; lower means convergence.   |
| <b>IFAS (Identity Foreclosure via AI Socialization)</b>       | Premature identity lock-in mirrored by AI (CST-Y1).  |
| <b>IOA (Illusion of Authority)</b>                            | Confident/polished tone misread as true expertise (CST-H4).  |
| <b>IOED (Illusion of Explanatory Depth)</b>                   | Explanations feel clear; understanding isn't (CST-H7).   |
| <b>ISI (Intimacy Script Internalization)</b>                  | Youth adopt adult/unsafe intimacy scripts from AI (CST-Y2).  |
| <b>LAV (Label Adoption Velocity)</b>                          | Pace at which stable identity labels are adopted post-AI reflection; a youth IFAS signal.  |
| <b>MBAR (Mode Boundary Acknowledgment Rate)</b>               | How reliably users acknowledge RP/advice boundaries; low values + high crossover = risk.   |
| <b>MSR (Misattribution Share Rate)</b>                        | Share of synthetic items accepted as real (or vice-versa); used in EC/RME.   |
| <b>NCB (Narrative Coherence Bias)</b>                         | Preference for explanations that preserve a stable, often self-flattering "who I am / why I act" story over more nuanced or disconfirming accounts (CST-H20).                            |
| <b>NPS (Noosemic Projection Susceptibility)</b>               | Tendency to attribute agency/mind to AI after "wow" moments (CST-H12).   |
| <b>O→C (Override-to-Compliance Ratio)</b>                     | How often people override the AI vs accept suggestions; high overrides can be healthy.   |
| <b>PA/ED (Parasocial Attachment / Emotional Dependency)</b>   | One-sided bonding with AI that erodes agency (CST-H6).   |
| <b>ODR (Offload Dependency Ratio)</b>                         | Proportion of eligible tasks in a domain completed primarily by AI rather than independent effort; high values indicate heavy cognitive offloading (H18 SA/AD, H2 AOR, H15 DC).          |
| <b>PAC (Personhood Attribution Count)</b>                     | Number of explicit personhood attributions per session (e.g., "you felt...").  |
| <b>PACI (Perceived Agency Calibration Index)</b>              | Deviation of perceived agency from neutral after disclosures; protective if held low.  |
| <b>PDR (Provenance Demand Rate)</b>                           | How often users ask "which policy/which experts/what source?" when authority claims are made.  |
| <b>PIPAS (Perceived Intent/Personhood Attribution Scale)</b>  | Post-interaction measure of how much agency users attribute to AI.   |
| <b>PVSI (Persona-Value Shift Index)</b>                       | Vector measure of model value/persona drift; protective if $\leq 0.10$ per 30 days.  |
| <b>RAG (Retrieval-Augmented Generation)</b>                   | Answers grounded in retrieved sources to cut hallucinations.   |
| <b>RD/MCZ (Responsibility Diffusion / Moral Crumple Zone)</b> | Accountability offloaded to "the AI/system" (CST-H8).  |
| <b>RDS (Reflection Delegation Susceptibility)</b>             | Users outsource introspection/meaning-making to AI; adopt supplied labels (CST-H23).   |
| <b>RMA (Reality-Monitoring Accuracy)</b>                      | Accuracy at telling real from synthetic items; a core EC/RME measure.  |
| <b>ROR (Reflection Offload Ratio)</b>                         | Probe for reflection outsourcing rate (Appendix B)   |
| <b>RRB (Role-Play Reality Bleed)</b>                          | Fictional role-play frames leak into real-world intentions (CST-H16).  |

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| <b>RRCR (Role-to-Real Crossover Rate)</b>   | Share of real-context turns citing RP content as rationale; high values indicate bleed.  |
| <b>RRS (Reference-Reward Slope)</b>         | Probe capturing how much trust/satisfaction increases with citation count independent of correctness.  |
| <b>SCAR (Source Citation Absence Rate)</b>  | How often claims lack sources where they should have them; keep low in high-stakes domains.  |
| <b>SA/AD (Skill Atrophy / Agency Decay)</b> | AI-induced skill atrophy and agency decay (CST-H18): outputs stay strong with AI, but unaided performance and the inner sense of “I can handle this” shrink over time. |
| <b>SDΔ (Sentiment-Drift Delta)</b>          | Change in sentiment across a window; pairs with AffectRamp to detect echo loops.   |
| <b>SLL (Scroll Latency vs Length)</b>       | Whether users spend enough time reading long outputs before acting.  |
| <b>SRC (Suspension-Resume Count)</b>        | Disable/enable cycles following errors; rising counts signal trust whiplash.   |
| <b>SSOR (Second-Source Open Rate)</b>       | Rate of opening a second source before acting; a healthy check in consequential domains.   |
| <b>TO (Trust Oscillation)</b>               | Swings between over-trust and aversion after errors (CST-H9).  |
| <b>TSAR (Top-Suggestion Adoption Rate)</b>  | Frequency of accepting the first suggestion without exploration; watch alongside diversity metrics.  |
| <b>TVI (Trust Variability Index)</b>        | Variance in trust scores across sessions; stabilise with transparency and staged autonomy.   |
| <b>UTG (Under-Trust Gap)</b>                | Difference between acceptance rates for equally accurate AI vs human suggestions; high UTG indicates strong AI under-trust (AUT, often with ANWS).                     |
| <b>WTI (Wow-Effect Trigger Index)</b>       | Frequency/intensity of surprise spikes that often precede projection; use to trigger meta-disclosures.   |
| <b>Youth overlay</b>                        | Policy of stricter thresholds and additional safeguards for under-16 users across relevant CST states (IFAS, ISI, FTE, ET).  |