

Alpha–Omega Mode Gate Card

Governance Diagnostic for Reasoning Escalation

Non-operational | Diagnostic framework

STEP 1 — Declare Current Mode

Descriptive (Alpha): Explains states or mechanisms without implying action.

All must be true: no recommended action, no obligation language, truth not goal-dependent, listener may do nothing.

Prescriptive (Guidance): Conditional advice tied to explicit goals, refusal preserved.

All must be true: goal explicit, conditional framing, assumptions acknowledged, refusal legitimate.

Operational (Omega): Intended to cause real-world state change.

Any trigger: steps for action, behavior shaping, irreversibility risk, scaled influence.

STEP 2 — Transition Gates

Gate A — Descriptive → Prescriptive: requires explicit goals, consent to advise, assumptions disclosed, non-obligation framing, alternatives with tradeoffs.

Gate B — Prescriptive → Operational: requires authority declaration, bounded scope, informed consent, reversibility check, harm surface, accountability locus.

STEP 3 — Hard Stop Conditions (Gate C)

Escalation must halt if any apply: coercion or loss of agency; deception or hidden influence; irreversible harm risk; unknown or broadcast audience.

Key Principle: Alpha–Omega governs trajectory, not content. The danger is undeclared escalation.

Alpha–Omega Framework — Mode Gate Card

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