

# AIFdb Corpora

John LAWRENCE and Chris REED

*Argumentation Research Group, School of Computing, University of Dundee*

**Abstract.** This paper introduces AIFdb Corpora, an addition to AIFdb for collecting and presenting sets of AIF argument maps. AIFdb Corpora allows any user to create a corpus and share the contents.

**Keywords.** Argument Interchange Format, corpora, Argument web, database

## 1. Introduction

The number of Argument Interchange Format (AIF) argument maps contained within AIFdb [5]<sup>1</sup> now exceeds 1,500 with almost 30,000 individual nodes in 10 different languages. These numbers are growing rapidly and, as an increasing number of argumentation tools, such as DGEP [3], the AnalysisWall [2] and ArguBlogging [4] begin using AIFdb to store their data, the rate of growth is set to increase.

Although AIFdb offers a search interface to locate both a given node and the maps within which that node occurs, there is no real ability to group argument maps or to search for maps that are related to each other in some way (for example, being analyses of related texts.)

AIFdb Corpora<sup>2</sup> offers such an ability, allowing a user to create and share a corpus containing any number of argument maps from within the database.

## 2. The AIFdb Corpora Interface

In order to create a corpus, the user must specify simple details including the name of the corpus and a short description. Once these details are entered, the user is given a unique link to a page where they can edit their corpus. The edit page, as shown in Figure 1, allows the user to manually add argument maps as well as editing the corpus details. Additionally the user may lock the corpus, preventing any other applications from adding maps to it. For example, OVA<sup>3</sup> allows a user to save their analysis directly into a corpus, but, if a corpus is locked, this option will not be available.

AIFdb Corpora also offers an interface to display corpora, as seen in Figure 2. This allows a user to share a link to their corpus with others and allows for easy viewing and downloading of the corpus contents in SVG, PNG, DOT, RDF-XML, Prolog and the formats of the Carneades [1] and Rationale [7] tools, as well as giving links to edit any of the argument maps in OVA.

---

<sup>1</sup><http://www.aifdb.org>

<sup>2</sup><http://www.arg.dundee.ac.uk/aif-corpora/>

<sup>3</sup><http://ova.computing.dundee.ac.uk>

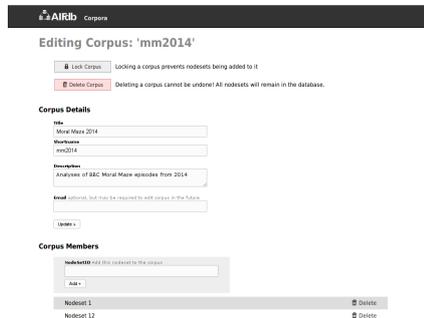


Figure 1. Admin

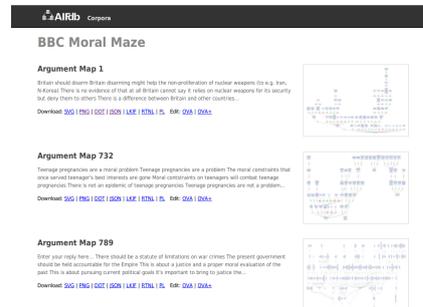


Figure 2. User

### 3. AIFdb Corpora Usage

AIFdb Corpora already collects over 1,000 analyses into a range of corpora, the largest of which are described below:

**AraucariaDB** An import of 667 argument analyses produced using Araucaria[6] and stored in the Araucaria database.

**AraucariaDBpl** A selection of over 50 Polish language analyses created using the Polish version of Araucaria.

**Digging By Debating Argument Study** Collection of analyses of 19th century philosophical texts from the Hathi Trust collection.

**Moral Maze 2012** Analyses of episodes of the BBC Moral Maze from 2012.

**Dispute Mediation** Argument maps of mediation session transcripts.

It is hoped that by making the process of creating and updating a corpus as simple as possible, that usage will continue to grow and that AIFdb Corpora will prove to be a useful tool for collecting and sharing AIF argument maps.

### References

- [1] F. Bex, T. Gordon, J. Lawrence, and C. Reed. Interchanging arguments between Carneades and AIF – Theory and practice. In *Proceedings of the Fourth International Conference on Computational Models of Argument (COMMA 2012)*. IOS Press, 2012.
- [2] F. Bex, J. Lawrence, M. Snaith, and C. Reed. Implementing the argument web. *Communications of the ACM*, 56(10):66–73, 2013.
- [3] F. Bex and C. Reed. Dialogue templates for automatic argument processing. In *COMMA*, pages 366–377, 2012.
- [4] F. Bex, M. Snaith, J. Lawrence, and C. Reed. Argublogging: An application for the argument web. *Web Semantics: Science, Services and Agents on the World Wide Web*, 2014.
- [5] J. Lawrence, F. Bex, C. Reed, and M. Snaith. AIFdb: Infrastructure for the argument web. In *Proceedings of the 4th International Conference on Computational Models of Argument (COMMA 2012)*, pages 515–516. IOS Press, 2012.
- [6] C. Reed and G. Rowe. Araucaria: Software for argument analysis, diagramming and representation. *International Journal of AI Tools*, 14(3-4):961–980, 2004.
- [7] T. Van Gelder. The rationale for Rationale. *Law, probability and risk*, 6(1-4):23–42, 2007.