

AI PATHWAY ADVISING ASSISTANT

TRANSFER AND MAJOR PATHWAY ADVISING ASSISTANT (PLAN-PAL)

An integrated AI assistant in a student portal that tells engineering students what to take next—
and when the class actually runs.

AUTHORS

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The Problems

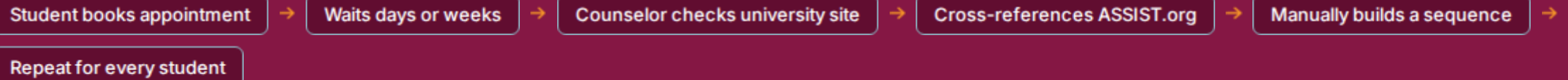
What do I take next?

- ME and EE have completely different sequences.
- Each transfer school has different requirements.

When does it actually run?

- Some courses only run fall. Some run every 2 years.

ADVISING WORKFLOW BOTTLENECK



Students:

- Repetitive & Time Consuming Questions

Faculty and Counselors:

- ME and EE often ask similar questions and take similar classes.
- Pull information from several websites.
- Each transfer school has different requirements.
- Each student has different circumstances and previous transcripts.

Curated Data and Preparation

Everything the bot needs to give a real answer

AVC Catalog

- Program Maps
- Course Descriptions
- Prerequisite Chains
- Campus Website

Schedule History

- 4 years of prior AVC class schedules
- Used to reveal real course offering patterns

ASSIST.org

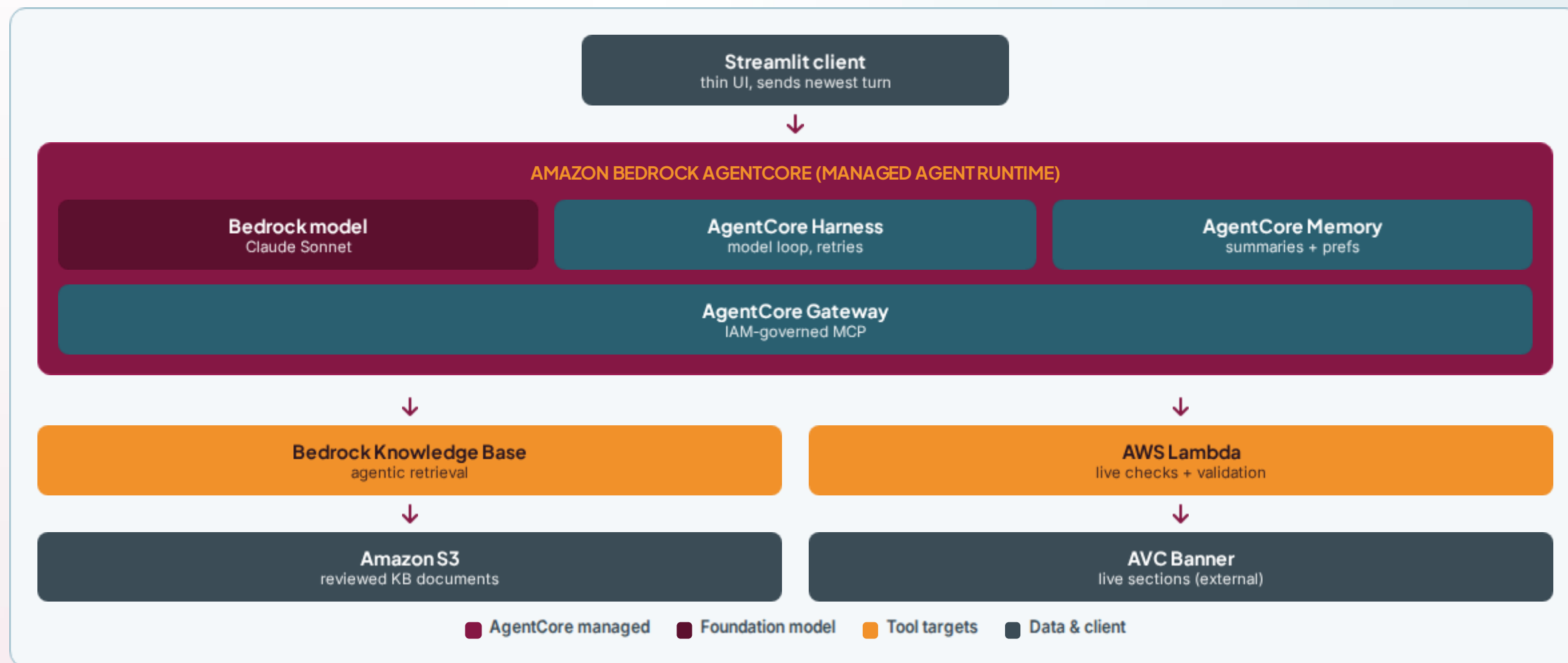
- AVC → university course equivalencies
- Used for articulation mapping, not pathway design

University Requirements

- Degree requirements from the target university's catalog and department pages

Pathway Agent

A retrieval-grounded AI chatbot.



What Success Looks Like

↓ Repetitive advising questions

Counselors focus on complex cases

↑ Self-service resolution rate

Students get answers without an appointment

↓ Time-to-answer

Seconds vs. days waiting for advising

↓ Semester delays

Fewer students blindsided by offering timing

Long-Term Advantages

- Reduced time-to-transfer.
- More students finishing on time.
- More departments onboarded after the pilot.

Privacy & Guardrails

Safe, responsible, and always human-backed

No Student PII

No student records. The privacy data of students do not be leakage outside.

Human Always in the Loop

REMARK reminds students to verify the information with a counselor at the end.

Transparent AI

Every answer cites its source. So students know they're talking to a tool.

Harnessing AI

A support system that keeps AI on track.
Reduce hallucinations.

Roadmap/Next Steps

Engineering pilot → all disciplines → every CCC campus

Phase 1: Camp Pilot

- ✓ ME & EE at AVC
- ✓ Single transfer target
- ✓ RAG demo + CLI
- ✓ AIMAC audit

Phase 2: Web Launch

- ✓ Embed on avc.edu
- ✓ Counselor feedback loop
- ✓ Accuracy review
- ✓ SMS / Poppy integration

Phase 3: CCC Network

- ✓ Open-source via DxHub
- ✓ Any CCC plugs in their data
- ✓ Shared ASSIST layer
- ✓ Public accessibility report

The catalog + schedule + ASSIST format is discipline-agnostic. Adding a new major or campus is an ingestion operation — not a rebuild.

Thank You!

Q&A

