

The Euclid system is a Collaborative Hypertext system which helps users create and understand arguments. An argument is not simply a discussion between two parties who argue. Any reasoned discourse can be considered an argument. The interaction between writers and their audiences or among a group of people trying to win their cases are both examples of argumentation. Euclid supports long-term collaboration, that which takes place over weeks, months or years.

The arguments written with the Euclid system can be transformed into the traditional written format. The application augments the process of writing papers from the brainstorm stage through the construction of the paper and the subsequent rebuttals by other authors.

This talk is an argument developed with the Euclid system. It argues that the Euclid system is a valuable tool for all who wish to make their ideas clear to themselves and to others. Examples of arguments will be presented, and reasons for using the system will be discussed. The program can be used as a forum in which to discuss academic research, politics, moral issues, or any other controversial topic. Perhaps the talk and the paper will convince you that this type of system will help future generations develop their ideas.