

Dyalog +
$$AI = ...?$$

Stefan Kruger



Who am I?

- New APLer (first decade) -- 3 years at Dyalog
- Previously at IBM for long stint
- Computer Science background
- @ Dyalog: provider of outside perspective



Points

- Al for developer productivity
- Applications
 - Semantic search
 - Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG)
- Client libraries

Al for developer productivity

- Value proposition:
 - 10x yourself!
 - Remove 'drudge'!
 - ... (mumbles)
 - \$PROFIT!





AI for deve

Value propos

- 10x yours
- Remove
- ... (mumb
- \$PROFIT!

Claude Code that helps them ship products 5x faster.

I was amazed to see this person doing stuff in 1 hour that took me 5 hours

I'm happy to share the secret with you guys.

Here's how to get this guide:

- 1. Comment "Claude"
- 2. Send me a Connection Request
- 3. Let's connect and chat about how AI Agents can speed up your coding

Let's connect 👋







Al does improve developer productivity





...if you're in its wheelhouse



JavaScript





Small, constrained tasks; "bookwork"



Mechanical refactoring of code



Improves velocity, not competency!



Does *not* turn interns into senior devs



APL: improving (but must try harder)





World looks different today from 18 months ago last week

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- Claude Opus 4.1 perfectly capable of explaining APL code



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 Claude Opus Anthropic appable of explaining APL code



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sorts of nerdy things between LLMs. Pace History Rhymes with Itself.

different benchmarks, we're talking about the same

Using Claude Opus 4, this was the first time I've

complicated. And it actually runs without errors.

Dyalog APL that does something relatively

gotten any of these models to produce functioning

;k

Wo

- Clau
- Wri

18-1

reply

Crazy (at least to me). reply

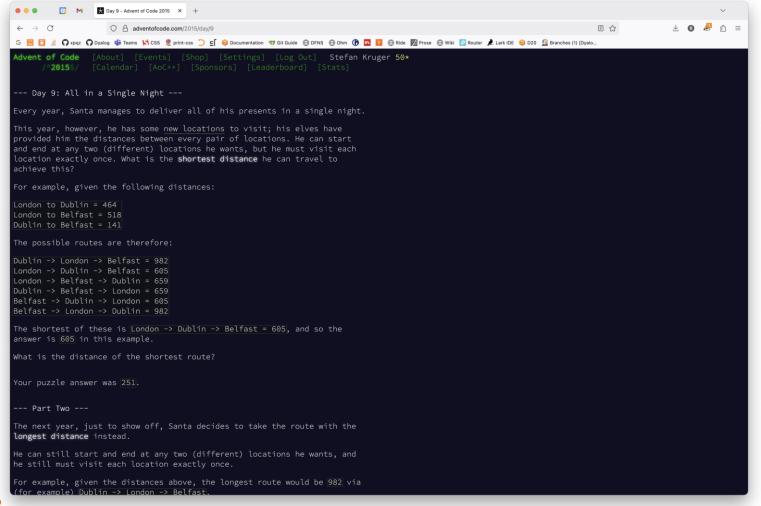
- energy123 36 minutes ago | prev | next [-]

> Finally, we've introduced thinking summaries for Claude 4 models that use a 20



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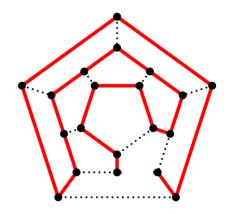


Start and end at any two (different) locations. Must visit each location exactly once. What is the shortest distance?

Given the following distances:

London to Dublin = 464London to Belfast = 518

Dublin to Belfast = 141



The shortest is London \rightarrow Dublin \rightarrow Belfast = 605

```
pmat DCY'dfns'
data+' '(≠⊆⊢)"'(to|=)'□R' '⊃□NGET'data9.txt'1
Day9←{
       weights←w,w←Φ"⊢/↑ω
       edges \leftarrow (\vdash, \varphi) 28 2(\lor \iota \vdash), (\uparrow \omega) [;1 2]
       adj ←weights@(↓edges) ⊢0p~2p8
       (\lfloor /, \lceil /) + / \text{adj} [\downarrow \{ \in \omega \} \boxtimes 1 \ 2 \vdash \text{pmat} \ 8 ]
```


Data Preprocessing

data+' '(#9-)"'(to | =)'\[R' '>\[NGET'\]data9.txt'1

by replacing "to " and " = " with spaces, then splitting on spaces.

The Core Algerithm

The Core Algorithm

1. Extract weights

apl

weights \leftarrow w,w \leftarrow ±" \vdash / \uparrow ω

Takes the rightmost column (distances), converts strings to numbers, and doubles them (since edges are bidirectional).

This transforms each line from 'London to Dublin = 464' into 'London' 'Dublin' '464'

2. Build edge list with city indices

edges←(⊢τΦ)28 2ρ(Uι⊢),(↑ω)[;1 2]

- (↑ω)[;1 2] extracts the city name pairs
- ravels them into a single vector
- (Uu-) maps each city name to its index position among unique cities
- 28 25 reshapes into pairs (hardcoded for 14 undirected edges in the actual problem)
- (--
 concatenates with reversed pairs to create bidirectional edges

3. Create adjacency matrix

*****Claude

apl

adj←weights@(↓edges)⊢<mark>0</mark>p≈<mark>2</mark>p8

Creates an 8×8 zero matrix (for 8 cities) and places weights at positions specified by edge pairs.

4. Calculate path lengths for all permutations

apl

([/,[/)+/adj[\downarrow { $^{\text{c}}\omega$ } \bigcirc 1 2 \vdash pmat 8]

- pmat 8 generates all permutations of cities (1 through 8)
- 1 ⋅ w 2 applies a 1×2 sliding window to get consecutive pairs in each permutation
- $[adj[\downarrow...]]$ looks up the distance for each pair in the adjacency matrix
- +/ sums distances for each complete path
- ([/, [/) returns both minimum and maximum path lengths

The hardcoded values (28 for edges, 8 for cities) are specific to the actual problem input, not the test data. The algorithm finds all possible Hamiltonian paths through the graph and returns both the shortest (251) and longest (898) distances.



Al Tooling: towards greater autonomy

- Original Co-pilot: contextual auto-complete
- Copy & paste Stack Overflow ChatGPT
- Al-integrated IDEs (Cursor, Zed, Windsurf...)
- Console/cloud agents (Claude Code, Aider, Codex...)











Al Tooling: Dyalog's Challenge

- Tight integration into Dyalog Integrated Development Environment (IDE)?
- Uncomfortably fast-moving goal posts
- Not in the 'move fast & break things' camp!
- Models still below-par for APL

Console Agents + Link = 💙

- Good match for Link-driven workflows
- Already watching for changes = fast feedback loop
- No UI overlays or chat panels in the Dyalog environment

Console Agents

- LLM in a loop + tools use in the CLI
- Runs your whole tool chain: git, test runner, Cl
- High autonomy: set it off, go for lunch
- ...come back to PR ready for review



Console Agents

- LLM in a loop + tools use in the CLI
- Runs your whole tool chains git test runner, Cl
- High autonomy: se Suggested changes to a project's code
- ...come back to PR cady for review

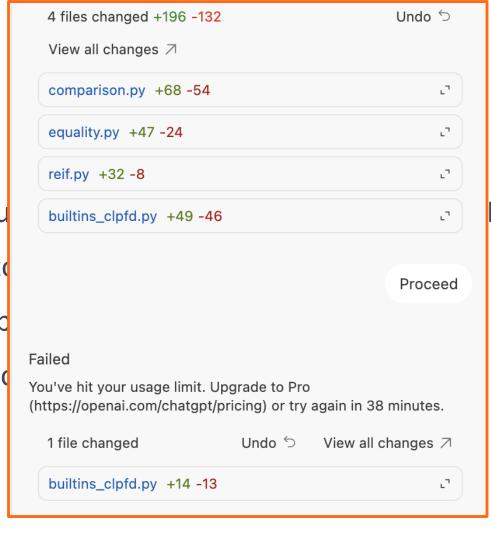


Console Agents

- LLM in a loop + tools use in the CLI
- Runs your whole tool chain: git, test runner, CI
- High autonomy: set it off, go for lunch
- ...come back to PR ready for review
- Visceral cost-benefit feedback

Console

- LLM in a
- Runs you
- High auto
- ...come b
- Visceral (





Console Agents: Implications

- Storing your code as text files
- Ability to run APL from the command line
- Everything accessible and introspectable via CLI
- Rich error reporting





Dyalog + Claude Code Agent







Solve the following problem in Dyalog APL. Note the data format -- you may assume you have the data as: data ← 'London to Dublin = 464' 'London to Belfast = 518' 'Dublin to Belfast = 141'

You need to parse this format. Every year, Santa manages to deliver all of his presents in a single night.

This year, however, he has some new locations to visit; his elves have provided him the distances between every pair of locations. He can start and end at any two (different) locations he wants, but he must visit each location exactly once. What is the shortest

distance he can travel to achieve this? For example, given the following distances:

London to Dublin = 464

London to Belfast = 518Dublin to Belfast = 141

The possible routes are therefore:

Dublin \rightarrow London \rightarrow Belfast = 982

What is the distance of the shortest route?

London \rightarrow Dublin \rightarrow Belfast = 605 London \rightarrow Belfast \rightarrow Dublin = 659 Dublin \rightarrow Belfast \rightarrow London = 659

Belfast \rightarrow Dublin \rightarrow London = 605 Belfast \rightarrow London \rightarrow Dublin = 982 ***** Claude

```
edges + parse data
                                                                               pairs \leftarrow 2, /\omega
cities ← ∪⊃,/(2↑)"edges
                                                                               +/dist[¬"pairs;¬"ф"pairs]
n ← #cities
dist \leftarrow (n,n)\rho 0
                                                                            distances < routeDist"routes
                                                                            /distances
  (c1 c2 d) \leftarrow \omega
  i j ← citiesīc1 c2
  dist[i;j] \leftarrow dist[j;i] \leftarrow d
} "edges
```

perm ← {

ω=0: ,⊂0

routes ← perm n routeDist ← { $\omega = \Theta : 0$

>,/{ω, "∇(ια)~ω}/ιω

*****Claude

parse + {

parts \leftarrow $(\omega = ' = ') \subseteq \omega$

(⊃cities)(⊃¢cities)dist

cities \leftarrow ((route \neq ' ') $\land \sim$ ($^{-2}$ ϕ 0 0 1 1 0) $\phi \approx \neq$ route) \subseteq route

route ← ⊃parts dist $\leftarrow \Phi(\neg \phi parts)$

```
dist \leftarrow \Phi(\neg \phi parts)
   cities \leftarrow ((route\neq' ')\land \sim(^{-2}\phi0 0 1 1 0)\phi \stackrel{\sim}{\sim} \neqroute)\subseteqroute
   (⊃cities)(⊃¢cities)dist
                                                                                         routes ← perm n
                                                                                         routeDist + {
                                                                                            ω=Δ• 0
   LENGTH ERROR
   parse[4] cities \leftarrow ((route \neq ') \wedge \sim (-2\phi0 0 1 1 0) \phi \stackrel{\sim}{\sim} \neq route) \leq route
   (c1 c2 d) \leftarrow \omega
  i j ← citiesīc1 c2
   dist[i;j] \leftarrow dist[j;i] \leftarrow d
} "edges
```

perm ← {

ω=0: ,⊂0

>,/{ω, "∇(ια)~ω}/ιω

parse + {

parts \leftarrow $(\omega = ' = ') \subseteq \omega$

route ← ⊃parts

*****Claude

SK

Your solution has errors. I am curious about this line: cities ← ((route≠'')∧~(-2Φ0 0110)Φ::≡route)⊆route

Can you tell me in more detail how you intended that to work?

Unraveled flawed code approach, acknowledged algorithmic misstep.



You're absolutely right to question that line - it's broken! I was trying to be clever about splitting "London to Dublin" into ["London", "Dublin"] by removing " to ", but my approach is fundamentally flawed.

What I was trying to do:

- 1. (route≠' ') create a mask of non-space characters
- 2. (0 0 1 1 0) I thought this was a pattern for "to "
- 3. Rotate and combine to exclude " to " from the partition

But this is wrong for multiple reasons:

- "to "is 4 characters, not 5
- Rotating a fixed pattern by the string length makes no sense
- Even if the pattern were right, this wouldn't find where " to " occurs in the string

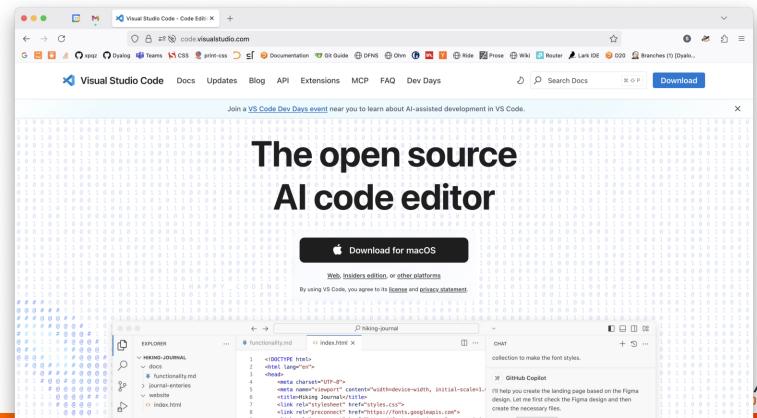


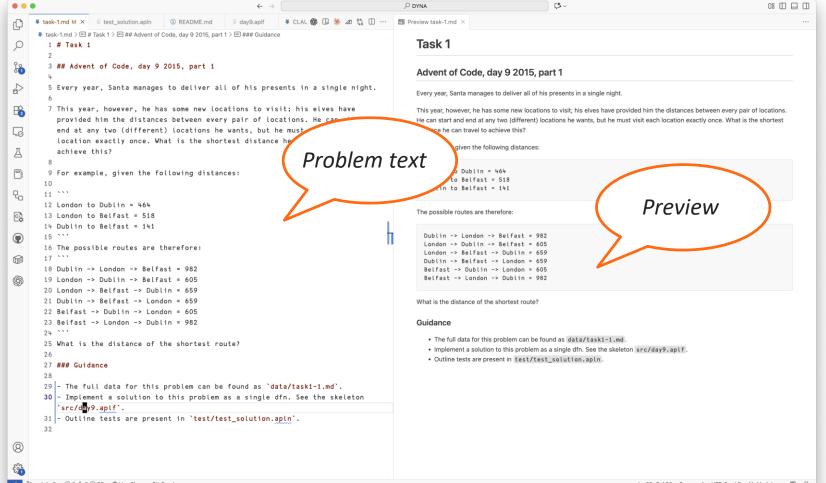


Claude Code: Stacking the Deck

- Carefully tuned instructions (CLAUDE.md)
- Dyalog evaluation
- APLCart lookup
- Dyalog documentation
- Console-only unit testing

Visual Studio Code (VS Code)



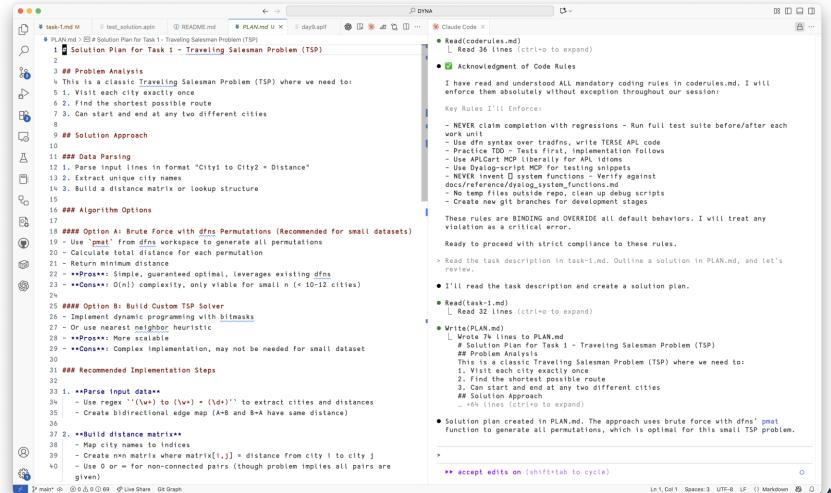


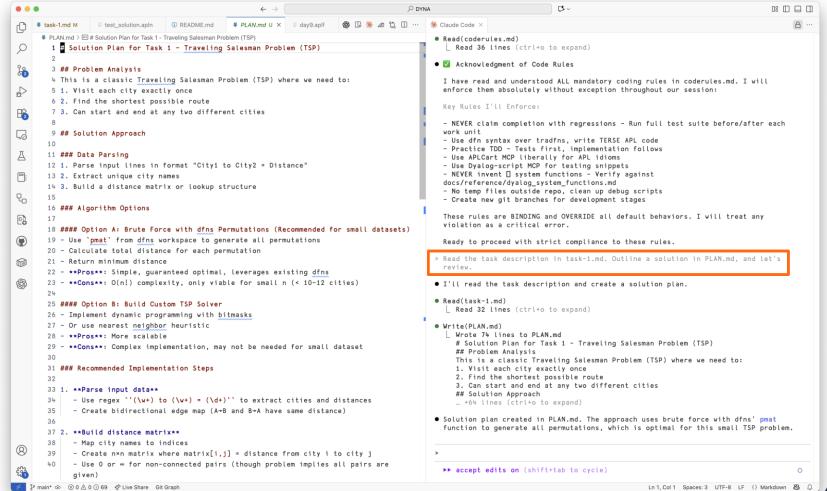
```
test_given_example + {
 data ← 'London to Dublin = 464' 'London to Belfast = 518' 'Dublin to Belfast = 141'
 expected ← 605
 result ← #.Day9 data
  'Wrong result'#.dytest.Assert result = expected:
test solution ← {
 data - JNSET data/task1-1.txt'1
 expected ← 251
 result : #.Day9 data
  'Wrong result'#.dytest.Assert result = expected:
```

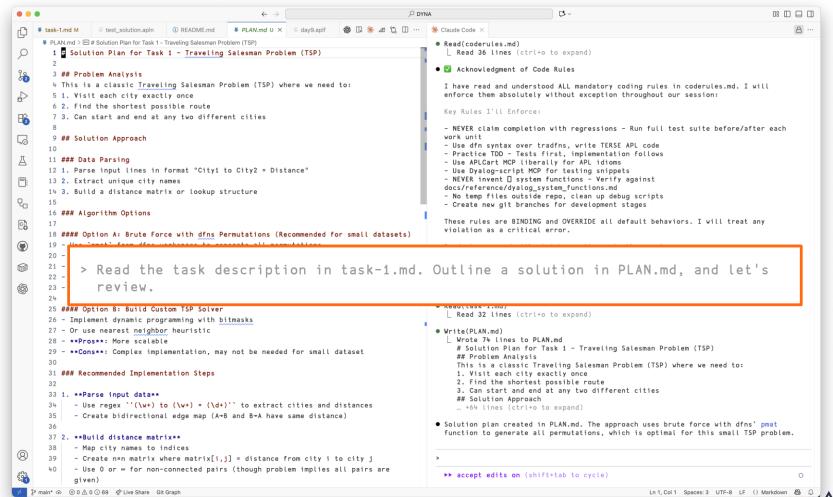


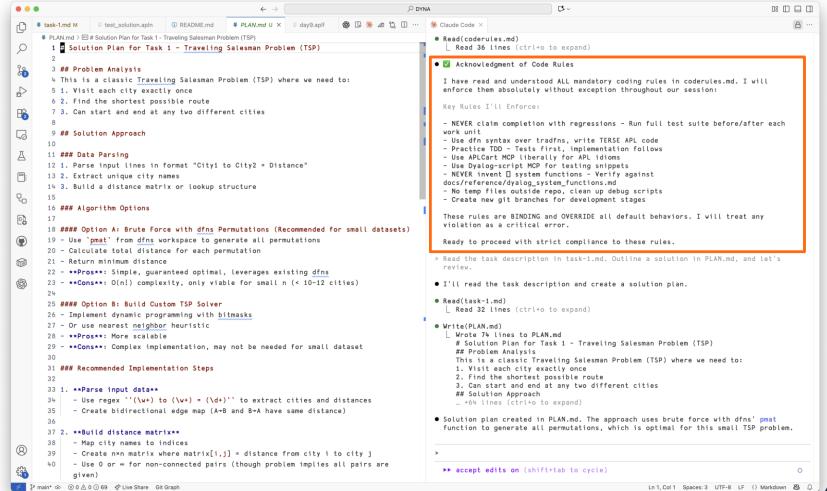
Two prompts only

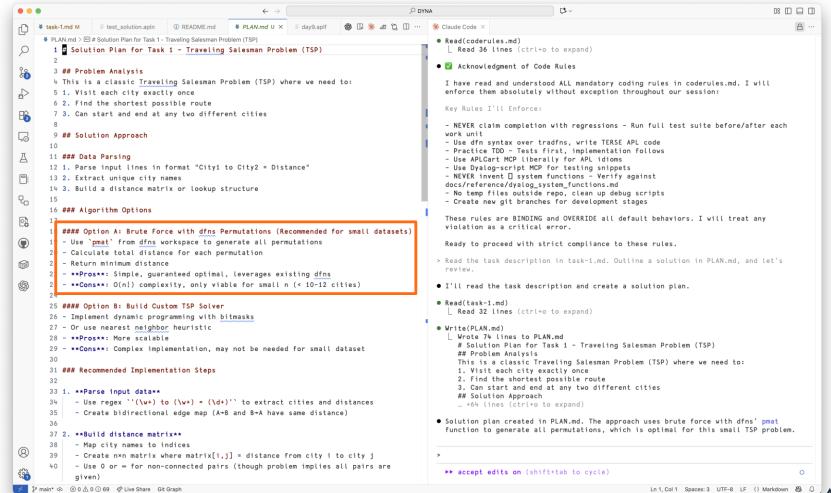
- Read the task description in task-1.md. Outline a solution in PLAN.md, and let's review.
- Proceed with implementing your plan. Ensure to implement tests for intermediate steps, or ad-hoc testing with the 'dyalogscript' tool.
- [goes for lunch]

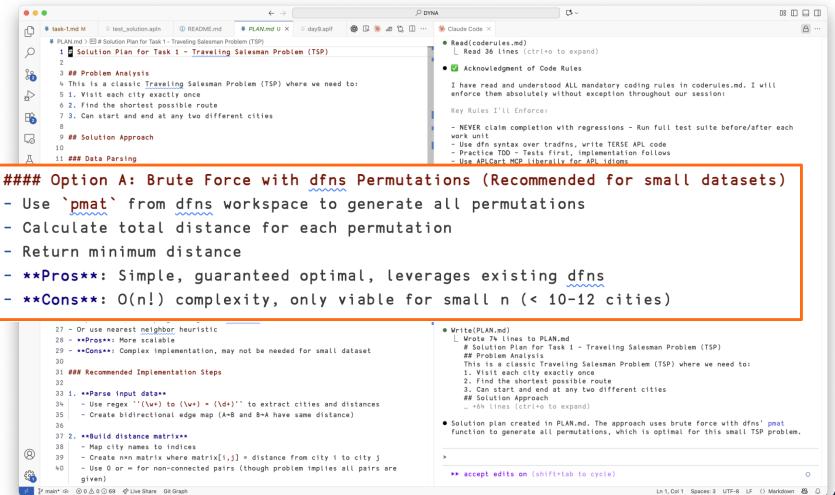


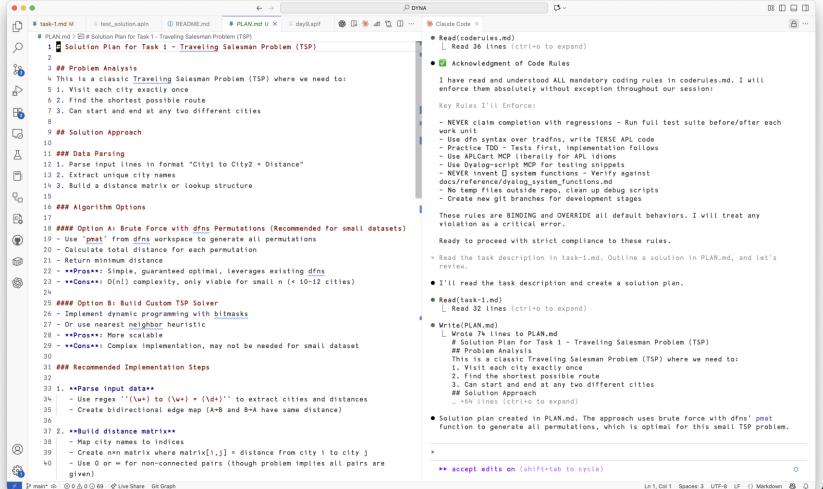


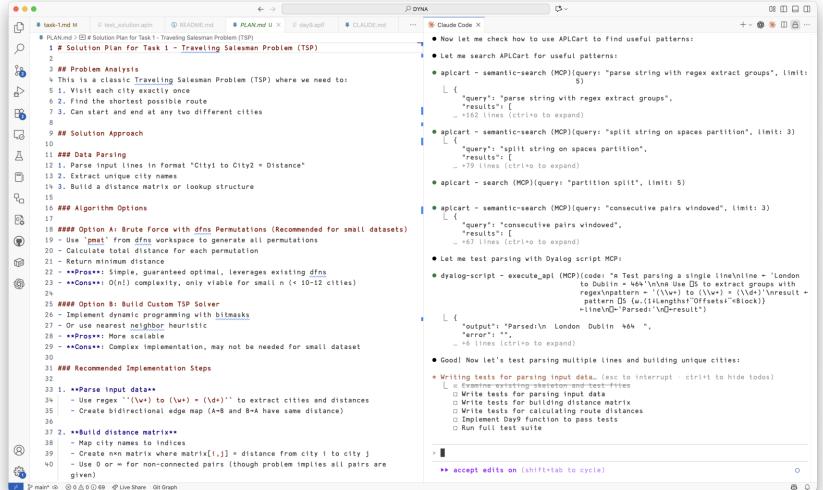


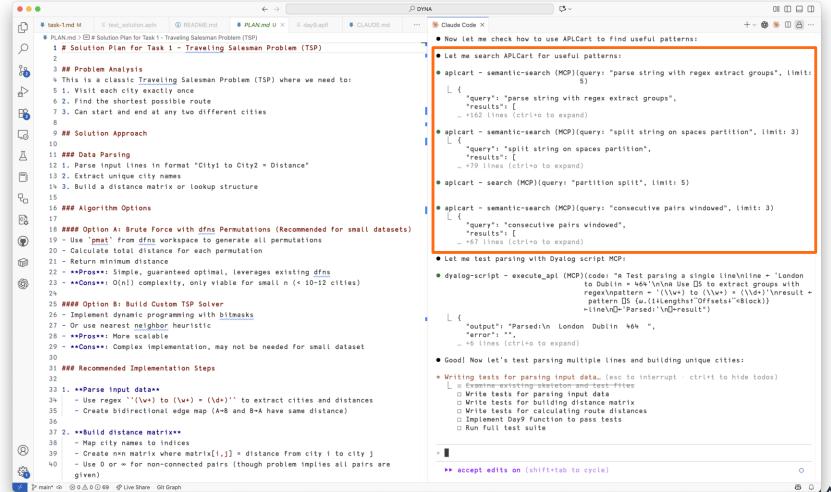




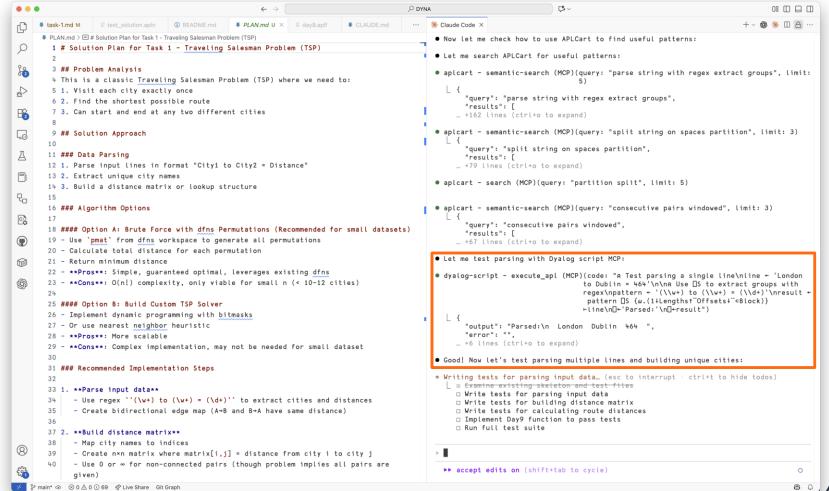








Let me search APLCart for useful patterns: aplcart - semantic-search (MCP)(query: "parse string with regex extract groups", limit: 5) "query": "parse string with regex extract groups", "results": [... +162 lines (ctrl+o to expand) aplcart - semantic-search (MCP)(query: "split string on spaces partition", limit: 3) "query": "split string on spaces partition", "results": [... +79 lines (ctrl+o to expand) aplcart - search (MCP)(query: "partition split", limit: 5) aplcart - semantic-search (MCP)(query: "consecutive pairs windowed", limit: 3) "query": "consecutive pairs windowed", "results": [... +67 lines (ctrl+o to expand)





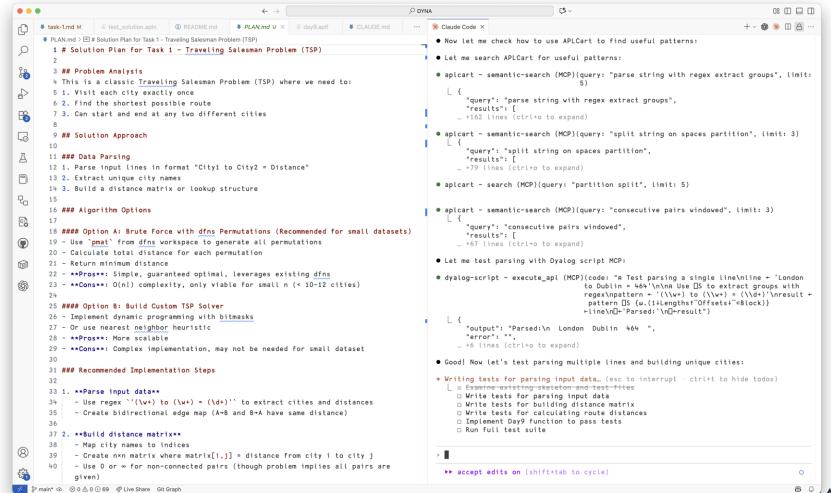
- Let me test parsing with Dyalog script MCP:
- dyalog-script execute_apl (MCP)(code: "A Test parsing a single line\nline ← 'London to Dublin = 464'\n\nA Use □S to extract groups with regex\npattern ← '(\\w+) to (\\w+) = (\\d+)'\nresult ← pattern □S {ω.(1↓Lengths↑"Offsets↓"⊂Block)}

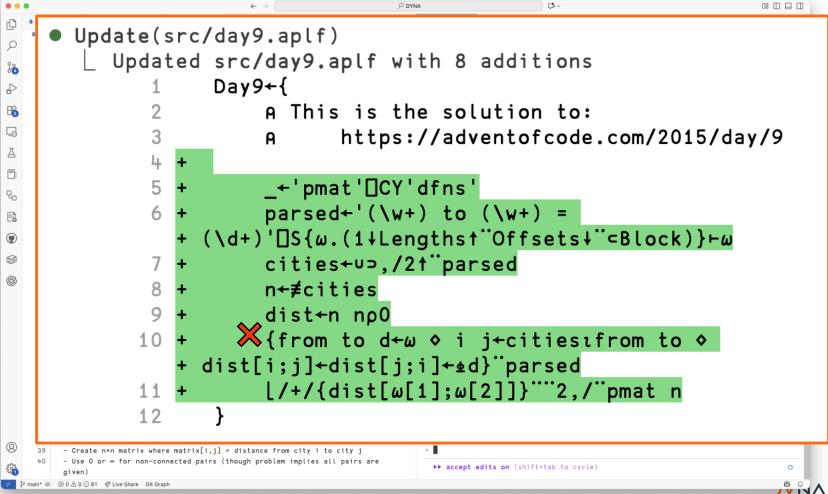
⊢line\n∏←'Parsed:'\n∏←result")

```
"output": "Parsed:\n London Dublin 464 ",
"error": "",
... +6 lines (ctrl+o to expand)
```

Good! Now let's test parsing multiple lines and building unique cities:

```
Separation of the standard of
```





```
Day9<del>←</del>{
      _←'pmat'<mark>□CY</mark>'dfns'
      parsed←'(\w+) to (\w+) = (\d+)'\squareS{\omega.(1↓Lengths↑"Offsets↓"⊂Block)}\vdash \omega
      cities←∪⊃,/2↑"parsed
      n←≢cities
      dist←n np0
            i j←citiesıfrom to
            dist[i;j]←dist[j;i]←ød
      } parsed
      \lfloor /\{+/\{\text{dist}[\neg\omega;\neg\phi\omega]\}^2,/\omega\}^{\cdots} \downarrow \text{pmat n}
```

```
'pmat'□CY'dfns'

data←' '(≠⊆⊢)"'(to|=)'□R' '⊃□NGET'data9.txt'1

Day9←{

    weights←w,w←Φ"⊢/↑ω
    edges←(⊢,Φ)28 2ρ(∪ι⊢),(↑ω)[;1 2]
    adj←weights@(↓edges)⊢0ρ~2ρ8
    ([/,[/)+/adj[↓{εω}⊠1 2⊢pmat 8]
}
```

Agent loop + tools use > single shot



Productivity gain: net-negative



About a day's worth of tweaking



The Elephant in the Room

- Models just aren't good enough at APL
- ...yet.
- Lack of training data
- Lack of incentives
- No APL-specific tokenisers



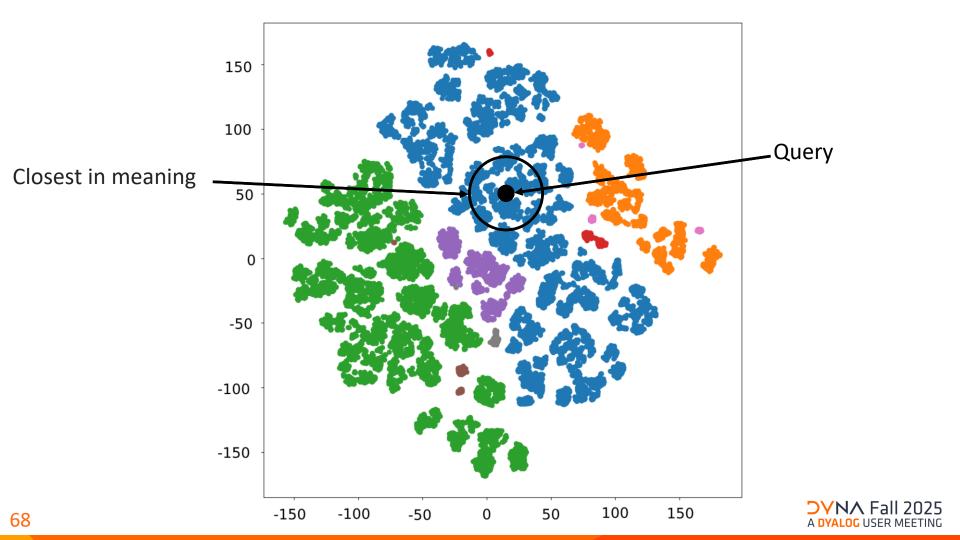


Semantic Search; RAG



Al Applications: Semantic Search

- Semantic search: "what I mean, not what I say"
- Use a model to create vector embeddings to encode meaning
- Query becomes a nearest neighbor problem in a vector space



Search Dyalog's Docs

```
curl -s -X POST "http://localhost:8000/search" \
   -H "Content-Type: application/json" \
   -d '{"query": "how do I serialise and compress a vector?", '
```



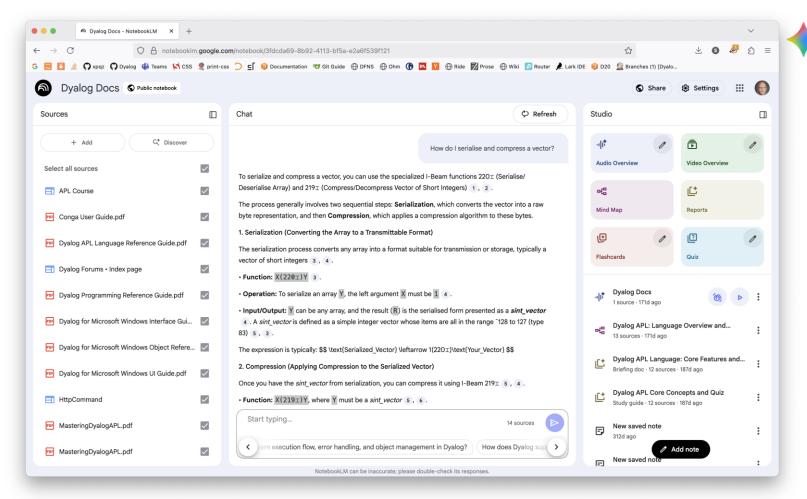
Search Dyalog's Docs



Search Dyalog's Docs

```
"urls": [
  ".../the-i-beam-operator/compress-decompress-vector-of-short-integers",
  ".../the-i-beam-operator/serialise-deserialise-array",
  ".../system-functions/fprops",
  ".../introduction/arrays/array-notation",
  ".../introduction/namespaces/serialising-namespaces"
"scores": [
```

```
CLEAR WS - Dyalog APL
+ +-×÷*⊕80!? | [ | ⊥ τ → ⊢ = ≠ ≤ < > ≥ ≡ ≠ ∨ ∧ ῖ ↑ ↓ ⊂ ⊃ ⊆ [ ↓ ♥ ι ι ∈ ∈ υ ∩ ~ / \ / \ , , ρ φ θ \ " " " . 
]semla "how do I serialise and compress a vector?"
 https://dyalog.github.io/documentation/20.0/language-reference-guide/the-i-beam-operator/compress-decompress-vector-of-short-inf
 https://dyalog.github.io/documentation/20.0/language-reference-guide/the-i-beam-operator/serialise-deserialise-array https://dyalog.github.io/documentation/20.0/language-reference-guide/system-functions/fprops
 https://dyalog.github.io/documentation/20.0/programming-reference-guide/introduction/arrays/array-notation
https://dyalog.github.io/documentation/20.0/programming-reference-guide/introduction/namespaces/serialising-namespaces
                                                                             &: 1 DDQ: 0 DTRAP DSI: 0 DIO: 1 DML: 1 Pos: 23279/23280,6
```





Client libraries



Client libraries

- Build AI-enabled applications in Dyalog APL
- "Smart data", forecasts, chatbots, assistants...

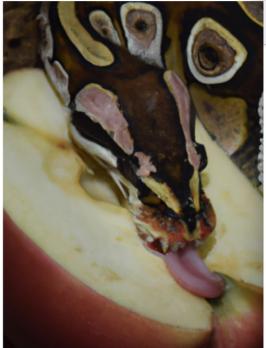


Client libraries

 Dyalog provides basic client libraries for OpenAIcompatible providers

https://dyalog.github.io/OpenAl

Bigger job than it seems: API spec alone is 40k lines...



```
]get github.com/Dyalog/OpenAI/blob/main/source/OpenAI.apln
#.OpenAI
   OpenAI.Initialize
  Initialized
   OpenAI.APIKey+'sk-proj-O[REDACTED]HQLQd'
   req←OpenAI.Image.Create 'A python eating an apple'
   req.size - '512x512'
   req.response_format+'b64_json'
   resp←req.Run ◇ resp.ShowPics
```

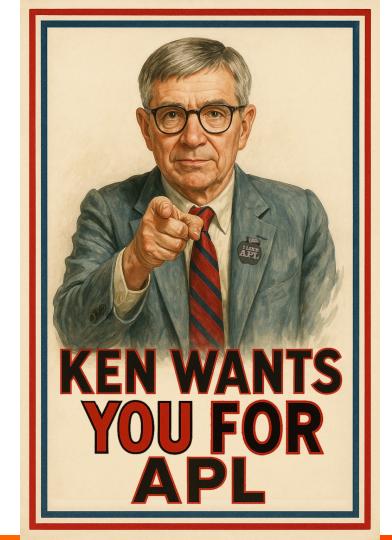
State of the APL-AI nation

- Situation is rapidly improving, but...
- ...fair way to go before improving dev productivity
- Agents looks like the shape of AI-for-development
- Semantic search, RAG: solid today
- Build your own Al-applications with Dyalog

What will Dyalog do?

- Improve CLI story: testing, code evaluation
- New Al-friendly documentation format
- Improve error messaging, stack traces
- Client libraries
- Examples, training materials
- Publish more APL code







Lack of APL code 'out there'



Can you help? Talk to us.

