



DYALOG



APL Germany

## News from Dyalog

*Gitte Christensen, CEO*

*Morten Kromberg, CTO*

## Status

- ◆ For some years now we have declared ourselves ready to start marketing Dyalog and APL
- ◆ There is a growing demand for new APL'ers to take over where the old ones left (or are now leaving/retiring)
- ◆ But young people are not what they used to be 😊



## Status

- One of our insights is that maybe we need young people to talk to young people
- and besides we also need a generation change at Dyalog like so many other APL shops



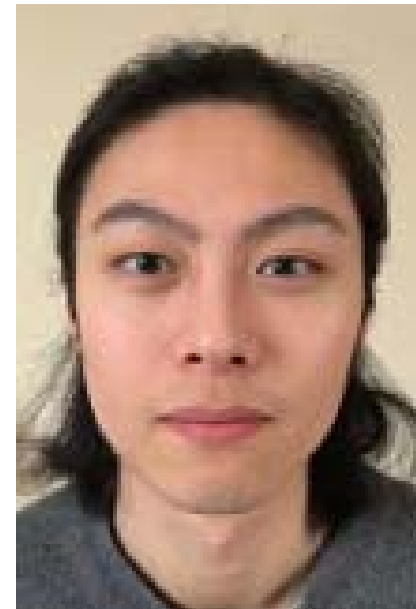
## New faces

- ◆ Stine Kromberg,  
Msc Business Administration and  
Information Management With a Minor  
in Maritime Business
- ◆ Stine is managing the accounts at  
Dyalog and is also a competent project  
manager



## New faces

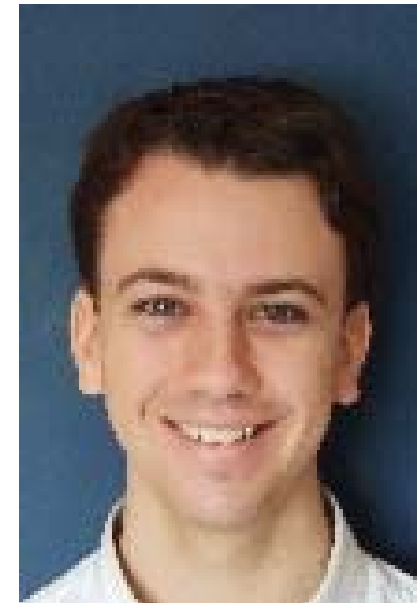
- ◆ Shuhao Yang  
Msc Quantum Technologies
- ◆ Shuhao is part of the interpreter development team at Dyalog



## New faces

- ◆ Rodrigo Girão Serrão  
Msc Mathematics and Informatics

Rodrigo has a great passion for teaching and is currently working on a rework of Bernard Legrand's tutorial on Dyalog APL



## New faces

- ◆ Karta Kooner  
PhD Physics, String theory

Karta has joined the interpreter development team



## You already know

- Adam Brudzewsky  
Fell in the APL pot as a kid

Adam is participating in language design and is a vigorous APL evangelist in particular through the APL Orchard

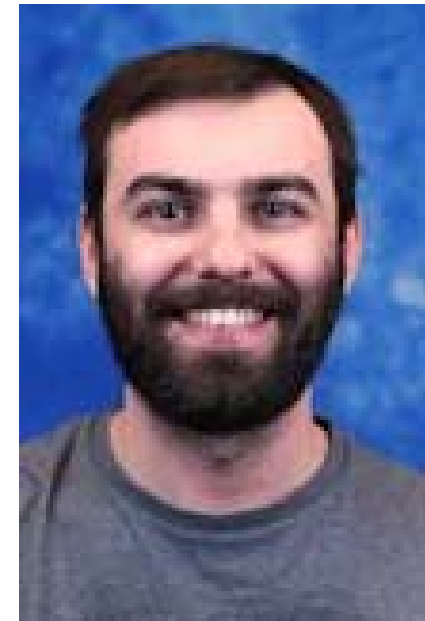




## You already know

- Richard Park  
Msc Physics

Richard is developing training material and webinars on APL and is now looking for opportunities to learn application development



## You already know

- ◆ Aaron Hsu  
PhD Information Technology

Aaron is working on the co-dfns compiler and a fierce APL evangelist especially targeting the Functional computing community and HPC



- So what are all these 35- up to?



# Documentation and Training Materials

- ◆ Reworked Mastering Dyalog APL
- ◆ Maintain high frequency of webinars
  - ◆ And webcasts
- ◆ New and improved TryAPL
- ◆ Open Source Project Templates
  - ◆ Running APL applications as services / daemons under Windows and Linux
  - ◆ Deploying and operating secure and load-balanced solutions in Dyalog APL
  - ◆ Continuous integration, generating containers from APL code in GitHub, deploying to the cloud



## Mastering Dyalog APL

Search this book...

- 1. Introduction - Will You Play APL With Me?
- 2. Getting Started
- 3. Data and Variables
- 4. Some Primitive Functions**
- 5. User-Defined Functions
- 6. First-Aid Kit
- 7. Appendices

Powered by [Jupyter Book](#)



# 4. Some Primitive Functions

## 4.1. Definitions

In APL, data is processed using what we call *functions*. It is important to distinguish between two types of functions:

### 1. *Primitive Functions*:

- they are part of the APL language;
- they are represented by symbols like  $\rho$ ,  $\ominus$  and  $\uparrow$ ; and
- they cannot be overwritten or removed.

### 2. *User-Defined Functions*:

- as their name implies, they are written by the user;
- they are represented by names, for example *Average* or *Budget*; and
- they can be overwritten and removed.

APL has a very rich set of primitive functions. In this chapter, we will explore just a few of them; many others will follow in subsequent chapters.

In the introduction to this book, we mentioned that in traditional mathematics, some symbols can be used with a single argument or two arguments. For example, in the expression  $a = x - y$  the minus sign means subtract, whereas in  $a = -y$  the minus sign indicates the negation of  $y$ .

The first form is called the “*dyadic*” use of the symbol. The second form is called the “*monadic*” use of the symbol.

It is the same in APL, where most of the symbols (functions) have a *monadic* and a *dyadic* meaning. For example, here  $\rho$  obtains the shape of the  $1\ 2\ 3\ 4$  vector:

```
 $\rho$  1 2 3 4
```



Contents

- 4.1. Definitions**
- 4.2. Some Scalar Dyadic Functions
- 4.3. Order of Evaluation
- 4.4. Monadic Scalar Functions
- 4.5. Left and Right Tacks
- 4.6. Processing Binary Data
- 4.7. Processing Nested Arrays
- 4.8. Reduce
- 4.9. Axis Specification
- 4.10. Our First Program
- 4.11. Concatenate
- 4.12. Replicate
- 4.13. Position (Index Of)
- 4.14. Where
- 4.15. Index Generator
- 4.16. Ravel
- 4.17. Empty Vectors and Black Holes
- 4.18. Exercises
- 4.19. The Specialist's Section
- 4.20. Solutions

TryAPL

tryapl.org

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FILE INTRO LEARN PRIMER LINKS HELP

## Got a minute? — Try APL!

APL is an array-oriented programming language that will change the way you think about problems and data. With a powerful, concise syntax, it lets you develop shorter programs that enable you to think more about the problem you're trying to solve than how to express it to a computer.

TryAPL runs on Dyalog, which you can [download for free](#), or try it now by entering an expression (use the language bar above to type the special APL symbols), or clicking one of these expressions, followed by **Enter**, to see it in action:

<code>2 + 2</code>	No points for guessing this
<code>4 2 3 + 8 5 7</code>	Functions apply to arrays
<code>!10</code>	Generate the first ten integers
<code>+/!100000</code>	Sum the first 100 000 integers
<code>×/!10</code>	A long, slow way to write <code>!10</code>
<code>Avg+{(+/ω)÷#ω}</code>	Average is the sum divided by the count
<code>Avg 1 6 3 4</code>	... and apply it
<code>throws←?10000p6</code>	Store 10 000 dice throws
<code>+/1=throws</code>	Of 10 000 throws, how many 1s?
<code>+/(!6)∘.=throws</code>	Frequency of all 6 possibilities
<code>'Hello, World!'</code>	Not just about maths!
<code>{α,#ω}⊖'Mississippi'</code>	See?

## What can APL do for you?

Are you a Problem Solver (a domain or subject matter expert with problems to solve) or a Programmer (someone who translates those solutions into a computer-executable format)? Problem Solvers benefit from APL's ability to

```

TryAPL Version 3.4.5 (enter ]State for details)
Mon May 03 2021 11:50:27
Copyright (c) Dyalog Limited 1982-2021
Avg+{(+/ω)÷#ω}
Avg 1 5 2 4 3
3
  
```

TryAPL TryAPL x +

tryapl.org

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# Cheat Sheet

## Primitives

Use the language bar above to insert glyphs. Click on a glyph below to print basic usage and how to type it. Enter `]help` followed by a symbol for details; for example `]help +`.

### Mathematics

`+ - * ÷ [ [ * ! | ⊙ ⊠ ⊥ ⊤ ?`

### Logic and Comparison

`~ ^ v ~ v < > ≥ = ≠ ≡ ≠`

### Structural

`ρ , ⍋ ϕ θ ⊞ ↑ ↓ c ⊆ ≡`

### Selection and Set Operations

`⊃ / \ / \ ~ ≠ u n ⊎ ⊎`

### Search and Ordering

`⍷ ⊆ ∈ ⊆ ⊆ ⊆`

### Operators

`⋆ ⋆ ⋆ . / \ / \ ⊞ ⊞ ⊞ ⊞ ⊞ ⊞`

### Miscellaneous

`⍒ + ⊕ ⊕ ⊕ ⊕ ⊕ ⊕ ⊕ ⊕ ⊕`

## Additional features

The below subset of Dyalog's functionality is also supported in TryAPL. Enter for example `]help ]display` for details:

```
TryAPL Version 3.4.5 (enter ]State for details)
Mon May 03 2021 11:50:27
Copyright (c) Dyalog Limited 1982-2021
Avg←{(+⍵)+#⍵}
Avg 1 5 2 4 3
3

Epsilon (ε)

Monadic function: Enlist

    mat
  1 2 3
  4 5 6
    ε 0 mat (7 8) 9
  0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
    ε 2 3⍵1 'abc'
  1 abc 1 abc 1 abc

Dyadic function: Membership

    'abc' 4 ε 4 'ab' 'abcd'
  0 1
    mat ε 6 2 7 4
  0 1 0
  1 0 1

|Tab: e e <tab>
|Prefix: <prefix> e
```

TryAPL Version 3.4.5 (enter ]State for details)  
 Mon May 03 2021 11:50:27  
 Copyright (c) Dyalog Limited 1982-2021  
 Avg+((+/ω)≠ω)  
 Avg 1 5 2 4 3  
 3

---

Epsilon (ε)  
 Monadic function: Enlist

```

mat
1 2 3
4 5 6
ε 0 mat (7 8) 9
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
ε 2 3p1 'abc'
1 abc 1 abc 1 abc

```

Dyadic function: Membership

```

'abc' 4 ε 4 'ab' 'abcd'
0 1
mat ε 6 2 7 4
0 1 0
1 0 1

```

Tab: e e <tab>  
 Prefix: <prefix> e

## Useful links

### APL Wiki

Most information is available on the [APL Wiki](#), for example:

- [Learning resources](#)
- [How to run APL](#)
- [Online documentation](#)

### Getting help

Having trouble? You might find your question already answered on:

- [APLcart](#)
- [Stack Overflow](#)

If that didn't do it, just get in touch with the welcoming community:

- Chat in [the APL Orchard](#), a very active chat room
- [Ask a question](#) on Stack Overflow
- Post on [the Dyalog Forums](#)
- Ask on the [/r/aplj](#) subreddit
- Dyalog social media: [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#)

### Recommended videos

There are lots of good APL videos out there, including these hand-picked masterpieces:

- [Conway's Game of Life in APL](#)
- [Palindromic Expression for Phi in APL](#)
- [A Sudoku Solver in APL](#)
- [APL demonstration 1975](#)
- [Why APL Is Still Cool](#) (at QCon 2011)
- [Design Patterns vs Anti pattern in APL](#) (at FnConf17)
- [Pragmatic Functional Programming](#) with Dyalog's CTO (Talks at Google, 2015)
- [Dyalog TV](#) (webinars and user meetings)



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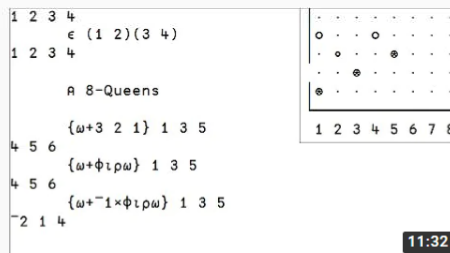
### Dyalog Modern Programming Language | Morten Kromberg | Talks at Google

12K views · 5 years ago

Talks at Google

APL is a member of the family of languages that are approaching middle age (Ken Iverson's book titled "A Programming ...

CC



### Depth-first search in APL

6.9K views · 6 years ago

DyalogLtd

Step-by-step development of a depth-first tree-search operator in an APL session. NB: The concepts in this little video are fairly ...



### Dyalog Webinars: Fast APL

272 views · Streamed 1 year ago

DyalogLtd

Richard Park lays out some basic guidance of fast (or rather 'not slow') APL code. He presents an overview of topics related to ...

# The APL Competition and APL Seeds

- ◆ <https://www.dyalog.com/student-competition.htm>
- ◆ <https://www.dyalog.com/apl-seeds-user-meetings/aplseeds21.htm>



## What you can do

- ◆ Use those resources to educate new APL'ers
- ◆ Admittedly it is all in English, but most young people are well versed in English
- ◆ Point young acquaintances of yours to the APL competition – you can even win a price if they do 😊



