

APL \ 360

IBM RESEARCH

APL\360

APL\360 is a conversational terminal system that has been operating within IBM since the Fall of 1966. Conceived as an experimental system for exploring certain aspects of computer science, its purpose required that it operate under a realistic load in an environment that was not artificially constrained. To this end, the members of the IBM Research staff, and others, were encouraged to learn the APL language and use the APL system. It was not anticipated that it would have the impact that it did:

In twenty months of regularly scheduled operation, clocking well over 100,000 terminal-hours of use, the availability of APL\360 has materially changed the computing habits of the Research organization.

Heavy users of batch processing have turned to APL for on-line development of their algorithms.

Many laboratory data reduction chores formerly done by batch operation or desk calculator are now executed in a timely way at local terminals, using locally written, stored APL programs.

Automatic collection of experimental data has, in many instances, been put on-line to APL.

Routine correspondence and technical papers are prepared at terminals, with the help of text-handling programs written in APL.

Many professional staff members who formerly were indifferent to, or actively resisted, the use of computers, have become steady users of the APL system.

In addition to IBM Research personnel, use of the system was offered to other locations within the IBM Company, and it was also used experimentally in elementary and secondary schools and in universities. The general findings may be summarized as follows:

Although APL is easy for a beginner to learn, non-programmers (as well as programmers) often develop an interest in sophisticated use of the language, because of its analytical power and mathematical structure.

The primitive array operations of APL make it a good language for scientific problems, text handling, and general data processing, because arrays are fundamental to all of these applications.

The use of a powerful, readily accessible computational facility can materially change the quality and orientation of an academic course.

Other things being equal, acceptance of time-sharing as a general mode of operation is strongly dependent upon its reliability and availability -- regularly scheduled hours are essential, and the more the better, including nights and weekends.

System features. APL\360 is based upon APL, the language first defined by K. E. Iverson in A Programming Language (John Wiley, 1962). It is an interpretive time-sharing system that builds upon the array operations and structural integrity of APL to provide a running system with the following salient characteristics:

Simple, uniform rules of syntax

Use of common symbols for the ordinary arithmetic operations

Free-form decimal input

A large set of primitive operators

Use of defined functions (programs) with the same facility and syntactic variety as primitive operators

Automatic internal conversions of data representation, with full double-precision arithmetic (16 decimal digits) when required.

Very fast response

A library structure built around workspaces that hold both programs and data

An immediate-execution mode completely free of irrelevant keywords

A comprehensive, integrated set of system commands for managing workspaces and libraries and for other essential functions

Three levels of security; account numbers, workspaces, and programs can be individually locked against use or display

Visual fidelity between hard copy and transmitted entries, which ensures reproducibility of results

Succinct diagnostic reports

Hardware and performance. The APL\360 system, comprising a time-sharing supervisor and an APL interpreter, runs in concert with a modified DOS Version 3, which appears the same as the standard DOS release of the corresponding change level. During APL operation it requires an S/360 machine with at least an H-level memory, a transmission control unit, and three disk drives.

The particular configuration used in the original Research experiment is a Model 50 H with a 2703 Transmission Control Unit and a 2314 Direct Access Storage Facility. This system has 61 ports, and with about that number in use seems to be a well-balanced system with regard to relative usage of the central processor and input-output equipment.

APL\360 has run (or is now running) experimentally on S/360 Model 40 and Model 65 machines, and will run on all larger models. It will also run on an S/360 Model 44 equipped with the Trap and Emulate RPQ. It supports IBM 2741 and 2740-1 Communications Terminals, and 1050 Tele-processing Terminals with or without paper tape or punched-card equipment.

Average reaction time of the Model 50 system (i. e. , time to respond to trivial requests from a terminal) peaks at about three-tenths of a second. With up to 40 ports in use, most such responses are essentially instantaneous; when fully loaded, there are occasional delays of as much as four seconds.

The time for serving non-trivial requests naturally varies according to the extent to which the CPU must be shared during the computation. Because the primitive operations of APL are defined on arrays, relatively little interpretive overhead is needed for many large computations, and the actual CPU time used for a typical computation may run from 20 to 50 times that for efficient compiled code; but the overall efficiency is likely to be comparable,

if not superior, to batch processing in many applications if the usual compiling and loading times for batch work are taken into account. If debugging time is included, the advantage of interpretive APL becomes even greater.

Applications. The workspace-centered organization of APL\360 makes it very convenient to assemble application packages, because a collection of programs and data in a workspace moves as a coherent unit whenever the workspace containing it is stored or activated. Some of the packages that have been developed on the experimental systems so far are:

A comprehensive collection of functions for statistical calculations

A coordinate geometry package that includes a position plotter

A management information system for controlling the allocation of manufacturing resources

A text-editing and composing facility

An algebraic manipulator that simplifies polynomials and operates on matrices of algebraic expressions

A bookkeeping system for balancing accounts

Many collections of programs for numerical analysis of both real and complex functions

The IBM Research Model 50 APL\360 system serves more than 700 active users whose work ranges over many fields: from simple desk calculations to experimental investigations of semi-groups, from laboratory data reduction to theoretical physics, from the working out of small programming problems to the design and modelling of major systems, and from administering arithmetic drill to elementary-school children to use in graduate-level engineering courses.

The accompanying appendix gives examples of operator-computer dialogue and the corresponding functions which would take place during sample terminal exercises.

Appendix

SAMPLE TERMINAL EXERCISES

)1776

010) 19.32.36 07/03/68 JANET

A P L \ 3 6 0

FUNDAMENTALS

12	3x4	Entry automatically indented
	X←3x4	Response not indented
	X	X is assigned value of the expression
12	Y← ⁻ 5	Value of X typed out
	X+Y	Negative sign for negative constants
7	144E ⁻ 2	Exponential form of constant
1.44	P←1 2 3 4	Four-element vector
	P×P	Functions apply element by element
1 4	9 16	
	P×Y	Scalar applies to all elements
-5 -10 -15 -20	Q←'CATS'	Character constant (4-element vector)
	Q	
CATS	YZ←5	Multi-character names
	YZ ₁ ←5	
	YZ+YZ ₁	
10	3+4×5+6	Correction by backspace and linefeed
	v	
	+5+6	
18	X←3	
	Y←4	
	(X×Y)+4	
16	X×Y+4	Executed from right to left
24		

```

X Y
SYNTAX ERROR
X Y
^
XY
VALUE ERROR
XY
^

4x3[5.1
20.4
(4x3)[5.1
12
4x[5.1
24
X←15
X
1 2 3 4 5
10
Y←5-X
Y
4 3 2 1 0
X[Y
4 3 3 4 5
X≤Y
1 1 0 0 0
01
3.141592654
0÷1 2
3.141592654 1.570796327
X←45 90
0X÷180
0.7853981634 1.570796327
101
0.8418709848
201 2
0.5403023059 -0.4161468365
301
1.557407725
-301
0.7853981634
30-3017
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Y+1 2
40Y
1.414213562 2.236067977
00÷Y
0 0.8660254038
701 2
0.761594156 0.9640275801
-70701 2
1 2

```

```

Entry of invalid expression
Shows type of error committed
Retypes invalid statement with
    caret where execution stopped
Multi-character name (not X*Y)

XY had not been assigned a value

SCALAR FUNCTIONS

Dyadic maximum

Monadic ceiling

Index generator function

Empty vector
    prints as a blank line
All scalar functions extend
    to vectors

Relations produce
    logical (0 1) results
Pi×1
Pi÷1 2

Conversion of X to radians

Sin 1
Cos 1 2
Tan 1
Arctan 1
Tan Arctan 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

(1+Y*2)*.5
(1-÷Y*2)*.5

Tanh 1 2
Arctanh Tanh 1 2

```

DEFINED FUNCTIONS

<pre> [1] ∇Z←X F Y [2] Z←((X*2)+Y*2)*.5 ∇ 3 F 4 5 P←7 Q←(P+1)F P-1 Q 10 4×3 F 4 20 ∇B←G A [1] B←(A>0)-A<0 [2] ∇ G 4 1 G ^6 -1 X←^6 G X -1 ∇H A [1] P←(A>0)-A<0 [2] ∇ H ^6 P -1 Y←H ^6 VALUE ERROR Y←H ^6 ^ ∇Z←FAC N;I [1] Z←1 [2] I←0 [3] L1:I←I+1 [4] →0×I>N [5] Z←Z×I [6] →L1 [7] ∇ FAC 3 6 FAC 5 120 TΔFAC←3 5 X←FAC 3 FAC[3] 1 FAC[5] 1 FAC[3] 2 FAC[5] 2 FAC[3] 3 FAC[5] 6 FAC[3] 4 TΔFAC←0 </pre>	<pre> Header (2 args and result) Function body Close of definition Execution of dyadic function F Use of F with expressions as arguments G is the signum function A and B are local variables Like G but has no explicit result P is a global variable H has no explicit result and hence produces a value error when used to right of assignment FAC is the factorial function L1 becomes 3 at close of def Branch to 0 (out) or to next Branch to L1 (that is, 3) Set trace on lines 3 and 5 of FAC Trace of FAC Reset trace control </pre>
---	--

MECHANICS OF
FUNCTION DEFINITION

<pre> ∇G←M GCD N [1] G←N [2] M←M N [3] →4×M≠0 [4] [1]G←M [2] [4]N←G [5] [1] [1] G←M [1] [] ∇ G←M GCD N [1] G←M [2] M←M N [3] →4×M≠0 [4] N←G ∇ [5] →1 [6] ∇ 36 GCD 44 4 ∇GCD [6] [4.1]M,N [4.2] [] ∇ G←M GCD N [1] G←M [2] M←M N [3] →4×M≠0 [4] N←G [4.1] M,N [5] →1 ∇ [6] ∇ 36 GCD 44 8 36 4 8 4 ∇GCD[]∇ ∇ G←M GCD N [1] G←M [2] M←M N [3] →4×M≠0 [4] N←G [5] M,N [6] →1 ∇ ∇GCD [7] [5] ^ ∇ </pre>	<pre> Greatest common divisor function based on the Euclidean algorithm Correction of line 1 Resume with line 4 Display line 1 Display entire GCD Function Close of display, not close of def Enter line 5 Close of definition Use of GCD 4 is GCD of 36 and 44 Reopen def (Use ∇ and name only) Insert between 4 and 5 Display entire function Fraction stays until close of def End of display Close of definition Iterations printed by line 5 (was line 4.1) Final result Reopen, display, and close GCD Line numbers have been reassigned as integers Close (Even number of ∇'s in all) Reopen definition of GCD Delete line 5 by linefeed Close definition </pre>
--	---

```

∇Z←ABC X
[1] Z←(33×Q+(R×5)-6
[2] [1□9]
[1] Z←(33×Q+(R×5)-6
      / 1 /1
[1] Z←(3×Q)+(T×5)-6
[2] ∇
      FAC 5

```

120

```

)ERASE FAC
FAC 5
SYNTAX ERROR
FAC 5

```

```

^
∇Z←BIN N
[1] LA:Z←(Z,0)+0,Z
[2] →LA×N≥ρZ∇
      BIN 3

```

VALUE ERROR

```

BIN[1] LA:Z←(Z,0)+0,Z
      ^

```

```

      Z←1
      →1
1 3 3 1
      BIN 4

```

VALUE ERROR

```

BIN[1] L1:Z←(Z,0)+0,Z
      ^

```

```

∇BIN[.1]Z+1∇
)SI
BIN[1] *
      →1

```

```

1 4 6 4 1
∇BIN[□]∇
∇ Z←BIN N

```

```

[1] Z←1
[2] LA:Z←(Z,0)+0,Z
[3] →LA×N≥ρZ

```

```

∇
SΔBIN←2
Q←BIN 3

```

BIN[2]

Z

1

→2

BIN[2]

→2

BIN[2]

→0

A function to show line editing
A line to be corrected
Initiate edit of line 1
Types line, stops ball under 9
Slash deletes, digit inserts spaces
Ball stops at first new
space. Then enter) T
FAC still defined

Erase function FAC
Function FAC no longer exists

An (erroneous) function for
binomial coefficients

Suspended execution

Assign value to Z
Resume execution
Binomial coefficients of order 3

Same error (local variable Z
does not retain its value)

Insert line to initialize Z
Display state indicator
Suspended on line 1 of BIN
Resume execution (BIN now correct)

Display revised function
and close definition

Set stop on line 2
Execute BIN

Stop due to stop control
Display current value of Z

Resume execution

Stop again on next iteration
Resume

Stop again
Branch to 0 (terminate)

INPUT AND OUTPUT

```
VMULTDRILL N;Y;X
[1] Y←?N
[2] Y
[3] X←□
[4] →0×1X='S'
[5] →1X=×/Y
[6] 'WRONG, TRY AGAIN'
[7] →3∇
MULTDRILL 12 12
2 10
□:
37
WRONG, TRY AGAIN
□:
20
6 7
□:
'S'
∇Z←ENTERTEXT
[1] Z←''
[2] D←ρZ
[3] Z←Z,□
[4] →2×D≠ρZ
[5] ∇
Q←ENTERTEXT
THIS IS ALL
CHARACTER INPUT

Q
THIS IS ALL CHARACTER INPUT
N←5
'NOTE: 1';N;' IS '1';1N
NOTE: 15 IS 1 2 3 4 5
```

```
P←2 3 5 7
ρP
4
T←'OH MY'
ρT
5
P,P
2 3 5 7 2 3 5 7
T,T
OH MYOH MY
T,P
DOMAIN ERROR
T,P
^
```

A multiplication drill
 ρN random integers
Print the random factors
Keyboard input
Stop if entry is the letter S
Repeat if entry is correct product
Prints if preceding branch fails
Branch to 3 for retry
Drill for pairs in range 1 to 12

Indicates that keyboard entry
is awaited

Entry of letter S stops drill
Example of character (□) input
Make Z an empty vector
D is the length of Z
Append character keyboard entry
Branch to 2 if length increased
(i.e., entry was not empty)

Keyboard
entries
Empty input to terminate
Display Q

Mixed output statement

RECTANGULAR ARRAYS

Dimension of P

Character vector

Catenation

Characters cannot be catenated
with numbers

```

M←2 3ρ2 3 5 7 11 13
M
2 3 5
7 11 13
2 4ρT

```

Reshape to produce a 2×3 matrix
 Display of an array of rank >1
 is preceded by a blank line

```

OH M
YOH

```

A 2×4 matrix of characters

```

6ρM
2 3 5 7 11 13
,M
2 3 5 7 11 13
P←,M
P[3]

```

A matrix reshaped to a vector

Elements in row-major order

```

5
P[1 3 5]
2 5 11
P[13]
2 3 5
P[ρP]

```

Indexing (third element of P)

A vector index

The first three elements of P

Last element of P

```

13
M[1;2]
3
M[1;]
2 3 5
M[1 1;3 2]

```

Element in row 1, column 2 of M

Row 1 of M

Rows 1 and 1, columns 3 2

```

5 3
5 3
A←'ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO PQ'
A[M]

```

The alphabet to Q
 A matrix index produces
 a matrix result

```

BCE
GKM

```

```

A[M[1 1;3 2]]

```

```

EC
EC

```

```

M[1;]←15 3 12
M

```

Respecifying the first row of M

```

15 3 12
7 11 13

```

```

      Q←3 1 5 2 4 6
      P[Q]
5  2  11  3  7  13
      Q[Q]
5  3  4  1  2  6
      P[3]
5
      )ORIGIN 0
WAS 1
      P[3]
7
      P[0 1 2]
2  3  5
      15
0  1  2  3  4
      )ORIGIN 1
WAS 0
      15
1  2  3  4  5

```

```

A permutation vector
Permutation of P

A new permutation

Present index origin is 1

Set index origin to 0

First three elements of P

Result of index generator
begins at origin

```

FUNCTIONS ON ARRAYS

```

      V←?3p9
      M←?3 3p9
      N←?3 3p9
      V
2  1  7
      M

7  9  4
5  8  1
1  5  7
      N
1  4  1
4  7  6
9  8  5
      M+N

8  13  5
9  15  7
10 13  12

```

```

Vector of 3 random integers (1-9)
Random 3 by 3 matrix
Random 3 by 3 matrix

```

```

Sum (element-by-element)

```

	$M \lceil N$		Maximum
7	9 4		
5	8 6		
9	8 7		
	$M \leq N$		Comparison
0	0 0		
0	0 1		
1	1 0		
	+ / V		Sum-reduction of V
10			
	x / V		Product-reduction
14			
	+ / [1] M		Sum over first coordinate of M
13	22 12		(down columns)
	+ / [2] M		Sum over second coordinate of M
			(over rows)
20	14 13		
	+ / M		Sum over last coordinate
20	14 13		
	⌈ / M		Maximum over last coordinate
9	8 7		
	X + 1.5		
	+ / (1 20X) * 2		Sin squared plus Cos squared
1			
	o / 1 2, X		Sin Cos X
0.0706	7822453		
	Y + o / 0 2, X		(1 - (COS X) * 2) * .5
	Y		
0.9974	949866		
	Y = 10X		An identity
1			
	$M + . \times N$		Ordinary matrix (+ . × inner)
			product
79	123 81		
46	84 58		
84	95 66		
	$M + . \leq N$		An inner product
1	1 1		
1	1 1		
2	3 2		
	$M + . \times V$		+ . × inner product with vector
51	25 56		right argument

2 1 V
7
V_{0..x15}

Outer product (times)

2 4 6 8 10
1 2 3 4 5
7 14 21 28 35
V_{0..≤19}

Outer product

0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1
V_{0..xM}

An outer product of rank 3

14 18 8
10 16 2
2 10 14

A blank line between planes

7 9 4
5 8 1
1 5 7

49 63 28
35 56 7
7 35 49

MIXED FUNCTIONS

Q←?10p5
Q
1 4 3 4 5 4 2 1 4 2
+/[1]Q_{0..=15}
2 2 1 4 1

A random 10 element vector
(range 1 to 5)

Ith element of result is number
of occurrences of the
value I in Q

2 1QM

Ordinary transpose of M

7 5 1
9 8 5
4 1 7
QM

Ordinary transpose of M (monadic)

7 5 1
9 8 5
4 1 7

T←2 3 4p124
T

An array of rank 3

1 2 3 4
5 6 7 8
9 10 11 12

13 14 15 16
17 18 19 20
21 22 23 24

3 1 2QT

Transpose of T (dimension
of result is 3 4 2)

1 13
2 14
3 15
4 16

5 17
6 18
7 19
8 20

9 21
10 22
11 23
12 24
1 1QM
7 8 7
1 1 2QT

Diagonal of M

Diagonal section in first
two coordinates of T

1 2 3 4
17 18 19 20
X←O(0,15)÷6
)DIGITS 4

Set number of output digits to 4

WAS 10

Q1 2 3°.OX

0.000E0	1.000E0	0.000E0	Table of sines, cosines, and tangents in intervals of 30 degrees
5.000E-1	8.660E-1	5.774E-1	
8.660E-1	5.000E-1	1.732E0	
1.000E0	1.744E-16	5.734E15	
8.660E-1	-5.000E-1	-1.732E0	
5.000E-1	-8.660E-1	-5.774E-1	

Q
 1 4 3 4 5 4 2 1 4 2
 $3\phi Q$
 4 5 4 2 1 4 2 1 4 3
 $-3\phi Q$
 1 4 2 1 4 3 4 5 4 2
 $0 1 2\phi[1]M$

Rotate to left by 3 places

Rotate to right by 3 places

Rotate columns by
different amounts

7 8 7
 5 5 4
 1 9 1
 $-2\phi[2]M$

Rotation of rows all
by 2 to right

9 4 7
 8 1 5
 5 7 1
 $1 2 3\phi M$

Rotation of rows

9 4 7
 1 5 8
 1 5 7

Reversal of Q

ϕQ
 2 4 1 2 4 5 4 3 4 1

Reversal of M along
first coordinate

$\phi[1]M$
 1 5 7
 5 8 1
 7 9 4
 ϕM

Reversal along last coordinate

4 9 7
 1 8 5
 7 5 1

		$U \leftarrow Q > 4$	
		U	
0	0	0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0	
		U/Q	Compression of Q by logical vector U
5			
		$(\sim U)/Q$	Compression by not U
1	4	3 4 4 2 1 4 2	
		$+U/Q$	
5			
		1 0 1/[1]M	Compression along first coordinate of M
7	9	4	
1	5	7	
		1 0 1/M	Compression along last coordinate
7	4		
5	1		
1	7		
		$(,M > 5)/,M$,M is 7 9 4 5 8 1 1 5 7
7	9	8 7	All elements of M which exceed 5
		$V \leftarrow 1 0 1 0 1$	
		$V \setminus 13$	Expansion of iota 3
1	0	2 0 3	
		$V \setminus M$	Expansion of rows of M
7	0	9 0 4	
5	0	8 0 1	
1	0	5 0 7	
		$V \setminus 'ABC'$	Expansion of literal vector inserts spaces
A	B	C	
		10 1 1 7 7 6	Base 10 value of vector 1 7 7 6
1776			
		8 1 1 7 7 6	Base 8 value of 1 7 7 6
1022			
		$(4\rho 10)\tau 1776$	4 digit base 10 representation of number 1776
1	7	7 6	
		$(3\rho 10)\tau 1776$	3 digit base 10 representation of 1776
7	7	6	
		10 10 τ 1776	
7	6		
		10 τ 1776	
6			
		24 60 60 1 1 3 25	Mixed base value of 1 3 25 (time radix)
3805			
		24 60 60 τ 3805	Representation of number 3805 in time radix
1	3	25	
		2 1 1 0 1 1 0	Base 2 value
22			

```

M
7 9 4
5 8 1
1 5 7
)ORIGIN 0

WAS 1
M[2;0]
1
(,M)[(ρM)12,0]
1
)ORIGIN 1

WAS 0
P
2 3 5 7 11 13
P17
4
P16
7
P14 5 6 7
7 3 7 4
Q←5 1 3 2 4
R←Q11ρQ
R
2 4 3 5 1
Q[R]
1 2 3 4 5
A←'ABCDEFGHJKLMNOPQ'
A←A,'RSTUVWXYZ'
A
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNPOQRSTUVWXYZ
A1'C'
3
J←A1'CAT'
J
3 1 20
A[J]
CAT

```

Indexing of matrix in 0-origin.
 Note relation to indexing of
 ravel of M

Restore 1-origin

Index of 7 in vector P
 7 is 4th element of P
 6 does not occur in P, hence
 result is 1+ρP

A permutation vector
 R is the permutation inverse to Q

A is the alphabet

Rank of letter C in alphabet is 3

$M \leftarrow 3$ 5p 'THREESHORTWORDS'
M

A matrix of characters

THREE
SHORT
WORDS

$J \leftarrow A_1 M$
J
20 8 18 5 5
19 8 15 18 20
23 15 18 4 19
A[J]

Ranking of M produces a matrix

THREE
SHORT
WORDS

3?5
5 1 2
6?5
DOMAIN ERROR

Random choice of 3 out of 5
without replacement

6?5
^
 $X \leftarrow 8?8$
X
4 6 7 2 5 1 8 3
 $\uparrow X$
6 4 8 1 5 2 3 7
 $X[\uparrow X]$
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
 $X[\downarrow X]$
8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

A random permutation vector

Grading of X

Arrange in ascending order

Arrange in descending order

Membership

$U \leftarrow A \in$ 'NOW IS THE TIME'
'01'[1+U]
00001001100011100011001000

U/A
EHIMNOSTW

(18) ∈ 3 7 5
0 0 1 0 1 0 1 0

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