

AI Assisted Coding

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Lab 3: Prompt Engineering – Improving Prompts and Context Management

Task Description-1

- Progressive Prompting for Calculator Design: Ask the AI to design a simple calculator program by initially providing only the function name. Gradually enhance the prompt by adding comments and usage examples.

The screenshot shows a code editor interface with two panes. The left pane displays a Python script named `assignment3.2.py` containing a `calculator` function. The right pane is titled "AI Assistant" and contains a detailed log of the AI's thought process and suggestions for improving the code. The log includes comments like "Create a Python function named calculator that takes two numbers and an operator (+, -, *, /) from the user, performs the selected operation, handles division by zero, and displays the result clearly." and "Now I'll add the calculator implementation and a small CLI demo to assignment3.2.py". The AI also suggests adding unit tests and provides a patch for the `calculator` function. The terminal at the bottom shows the command `python assignment3.2.py` being run and the resulting output of the calculator function.

```
def calculator(a=None, b=None, op=None):
    print("Invalid operator. Choose one of: + - * /")
    if a is None:
        a = _get_number("Enter the first number: ")
    if b is None:
        b = _get_number("Enter the second number: ")
    if op is None:
        op = _get_operator("Enter an operator (+ - * /): ")
    try:
        a = float(a)
        b = float(b)
    except Exception:
        print("Error: Invalid numeric input.")
        return None
    if op == '+':
        result = a + b
    elif op == '-':
        result = a - b
    elif op == '*':
        result = a * b
    elif op == '/':
        result = a / b
    return result
```

```
PS C:\Users\95425\Downloads\AIAssistant> python -u "c:\Users\95425\Downloads\AIAssistant\assignment3.2.py"
Enter the first number: 15
Enter the second number: 5
Enter an operator (+ - * /): +
Result: 15.0 + 5.0 = 20
PS C:\Users\95425\Downloads\AIAssistant>
```

Task Description-2

- Refining Prompts for Sorting Logic: Start with a vague prompt for sorting student marks, then refine it to clearly specify sorting order and constraints.

The screenshot shows the AI Assistant interface in a code editor. The main pane displays Python code for a sorting function:

```

def sort_marks_desc(marks):
    # ValueError if any mark is not an integer or out of 0..100 range.
    ...
    if not isinstance(marks, (list, tuple)):
        raise TypeError("marks must be a list or tuple of integers 0..100")
    validated = []
    for m in marks:
        if not isinstance(m, int):
            raise ValueError(f"All marks must be integers between 0 and 100, got {m}!")
        if m < 0 or m > 100:
            raise ValueError(f"All marks must be between 0 and 100, got {m}")
        validated.append(m)
    # Use built-in sorted (Timsort) for efficiency
    return sorted(validated, reverse=True)

if __name__ == '__main__':
    # Quick manual test
    print(sort_marks_desc([56, 90, 100, 0, 75]))

```

The right-hand panel shows a chat history and a terminal window output:

```

PS C:\Users\95425\Downloads\AIAssistant> python -u "c:\Users\95425\Downloads\AIAssistant\marks_utils.py"
[100, 90, 75, 56, 0]
PS C:\Users\95425\Downloads\AIAssistant>

```

Task Description-3

- Few-Shot Prompting for Prime Number Validation: Provide multiple input-output examples for a function that checks whether a number is prime. Observe how few-shot prompting improves correctness.

The screenshot shows the AI Assistant interface in a code editor. The main pane displays Python code for a prime number validation function:

```

def is_prime():
    Handles edge cases: negatives, 0, and 1 are not prime.
    Efficiently checks divisibility using 6k +/- 1 optimization up to sqrt(n).
    ...
    if not isinstance(n, int):
        raise TypeError("n must be an integer")
    if n <= 1:
        return False
    if n <= 3:
        return True
    if n % 2 == 0 or n % 3 == 0:
        return False
    i = 5
    while i * i <= n:
        if n % i == 0 or n % (i + 2) == 0:
            return False
        i += 6
    return True
    ...
if __name__ == '__main__':
    for val in (2, 4, 1, -3, 17, 18):
        print(f"Input: {val} + Output: {'Prime' if is_prime(val) else 'Not Prime'}")

```

The right-hand panel shows a chat history and a terminal window output:

```

PS C:\Users\95425\Downloads\AIAssistant> python -u "c:\Users\95425\Downloads\AIAssistant\marks_utils.py"
Input: 2 + Output: Prime
Input: 4 + Output: Not Prime
Input: 1 + Output: Not Prime
Input: -3 + Output: Not Prime
Input: 17 + Output: Prime
Input: 18 + Output: Not Prime
PS C:\Users\95425\Downloads\AIAssistant>

```

Task Description-4

- Prompt-Guided UI Design for Student Grading System: Create a user interface for a student grading system that calculates total marks, percentage, and grade based on user input.

The screenshot shows a code editor interface with two panes. The left pane displays the `grading_system.py` file:def grade_from_percentage(pct):
 """Return grade letter for percentage using given mapping.

 A: >90, B: >75, C: >60, D: <60
 """
 try:
 pct = float(pct)
 except Exception:
 return 'Invalid'
 if pct >= 90:
 return 'A'
 if pct >= 75:
 return 'B'
 if pct >= 60:
 return 'C'
 return 'D'

def grade_student(name, marks):
 """Compute total, percentage, and grade for a student.

 'marks' may be a dict mapping subject->mark or an iterable of numeric marks.
 Returns a dict with 'name', 'marks' (as dict), 'total', 'percentage', 'grade'.
 Percentage is calculated as the average mark (treating each subject as out of 100).
 """
 # Normalize marks into an ordered dict-like mapping
 if isinstance(marks, dict):
 subj_marks = dict(marks)
 else:
 # assume iterable of marks without subject names
 subj_marks = {f'Subject {i+1}': float(m) for i, m in enumerate(marks)}
 # Validate numeric marks and compute total

The right pane is the AI Assistant panel, which includes a code editor, a terminal, and various status indicators.

This screenshot shows the same code editor and AI Assistant panel as the first one, but with different code content in the grading_system.py file:def grade_student(name, marks):
 # Validate numeric marks and compute total
 total = 0.0
 count = 0
 for k, v in list(subj_marks.items()):
 try:
 mv = float(v)
 except Exception:
 mv = 0.0
 subj_marks[k] = mv
 total += mv
 count += 1

 if count == 0:
 percentage = 0.0
 else:
 average = total / count
 percentage = average # treating average as percentage (out of 100)

 grade = grade_from_percentage(percentage)
 return {
 'name': name,
 'marks': subj_marks,
 'total': total,
 'percentage': round(percentage, 2),
 'grade': grade,
 }

def interactive_grading_system():
 """Interactively accept multiple students and their subject marks.

 For each student:

The screenshot shows the PyCharm IDE interface. On the left, the project structure shows three files: assessment12.py, mark_utility.py, and grading_system.py. The grading_system.py file is open in the editor, displaying the following code:

```
def interactive_grading_system():
    """Interactively accept multiple students and their subject marks.

    For each student:
    - Prompt for student name (blank to finish)
    - Prompt repeatedly for subject name and mark (blank subject to finish)
    - Validate numeric marks
    - Compute and display total, percentage, and grade in formatted output
    """

    results = []
    print("Enter student data. Leave student name blank to finish.")
    try:
        while True:
            name = input("\nStudent name: ").strip()
            if name == '':
                break
            subjects = {}
            print("Enter subject name and mark. Leave subject blank to finish.")
            while True:
                subj = input(' Subject name: ').strip()
                if subj == '':
                    break
                mark_raw = input(' Mark (0-100): ').strip()
                try:
                    mark = float(mark_raw)
                except ValueError:
                    print(' Invalid mark - please enter a numeric value.')
                    continue
                subjects[subj] = mark
            rec = grade_student(name, subjects)
            results.append(rec)
    except KeyboardInterrupt:
        print("\nInterrupted - returning to caller.")

    return results
```

The right side of the screen shows the Python calculator function with error handling. A tooltip for the function provides the following details:

PYTHON CALCULATOR FUNCTION WITH ERROR HANDLING
It adds a new grading_system.py with Interactive CUI functions plus a demo, then run a quick non-interactive to verify output.

Edited → grading_system.py (108 L)
Created tools
python -c "import grading_system; grading_system.demo()"
Checked background terminal output
Progress added: grading_system.py with interactive CUI (calculate_results, assign_grade, and a non-interactive demo).
File → grading_system.py (200)
How to run demo:
python -c "import grading_system; grading_system.demo()"
To run interactively:
python grading_system.py
Would you like a pytest test for these functions or integration into an existing script?

The screenshot shows the PyCharm IDE interface. The grading_system.py file has been modified, and the right side of the screen shows the Python calculator function with error handling. A tooltip for the function provides the following details:

PYTHON CALCULATOR FUNCTION WITH ERROR HANDLING
It adds a new grading_system.py with Interactive CUI functions plus a demo, then run a quick non-interactive to verify output.

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Created tools
python -c "import grading_system; grading_system.demo()"
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Progress added: grading_system.py with interactive CUI (calculate_results, assign_grade, and a non-interactive demo).
File → grading_system.py (200)
How to run demo:
python -c "import grading_system; grading_system.demo()"
To run interactively:
python grading_system.py
Would you like a pytest test for these functions or integration into an existing script?

The screenshot shows the PyCharm IDE interface. The grading_system.py file has been modified again, and the right side of the screen shows the Python calculator function with error handling. A tooltip for the function provides the following details:

PYTHON CALCULATOR FUNCTION WITH ERROR HANDLING
It adds a new grading_system.py with Interactive CUI functions plus a demo, then run a quick non-interactive to verify output.

Edited → grading_system.py (108 L)
Created tools
python -c "import grading_system; grading_system.demo()"
Checked background terminal output
Progress added: grading_system.py with interactive CUI (calculate_results, assign_grade, and a non-interactive demo).
File → grading_system.py (200)
How to run demo:
python -c "import grading_system; grading_system.demo()"
To run interactively:
python grading_system.py
Would you like a pytest test for these functions or integration into an existing script?

Task Description-5

- Analyzing Prompt Specificity in Unit Conversion Functions: Improving a Unit Conversion Function (Kilometers to Miles and Miles to Kilometers) Using Clear Instructions.

The screenshot shows the VS Code interface with two tabs open: `grading_system.py` and `conversions.py`. The `grading_system.py` file contains the following code:

```
1 """Unit conversion tool
2
3 Defines `convert_distance(value, unit)` and provides an interactive loop
4 to perform multiple conversions until the user exits.
5
6 Supported units: 'km' (kilometers) and 'miles'.
7 Conversion: 1 km = 0.621371 miles
8 """
9
10 def convert_distance(value, unit):
11     """Convert distance between kilometers and miles.
12
13     Parameters:
14         - value: numeric distance (int/float or string parseable to float)
15         - unit: string, either 'km' to convert km->miles or 'miles' to convert miles->km
16
17     Returns:
18         - converted_value (float rounded to 2 decimals), output_unit (str)
19
20     Raises:
21         - ValueError for invalid unit or non-numeric value
22     """
23
24     if unit is None:
25         raise ValueError('Unit must be specified as "km" or "miles"')
26     u = unit.strip().lower()
27     try:
28         v = float(value)
29     except Exception:
30         raise ValueError('Distance value must be numeric')
31
32     if u == 'km':
33         return (round(v * 0.621371, 2), 'miles')
34     if u == 'miles' or u == 'mile':
35         return (round(v / 0.621371, 2), 'km')
```

The `conversions.py` file contains the following code:

```
10 def convert_distance(value, unit):
11     u = unit.strip().lower()
12     try:
13         v = float(value)
14     except Exception:
15         raise ValueError('Distance value must be numeric')
16
17     if u == 'km':
18         return (round(v * 0.621371, 2), 'miles')
19     if u == 'miles' or u == 'mile':
20         return (round(v / 0.621371, 2), 'km')
21     raise ValueError(f'Invalid unit: {unit!r}. Use "km" or "miles"')
22
23 def interactive_convert_loop():
24     """Prompt user for conversions until they choose to exit."""
25     print('Unit converter - 1 km = 0.621371 miles')
26     try:
27         while True:
28             raw = input("Enter value and unit (e.g. '10 km' or '5 miles'), or 'q' to quit")
29             if raw.lower() in ('q', 'quit', 'exit'):
30                 print("Goodbye.")
31                 break
32             if not raw:
33                 continue
34
35             parts = raw.split()
36             if len(parts) == 1:
37                 print("Please provide both value and unit, e.g. '10 km'.")
38                 continue
39             # join all but last as value in case of spaces in numbers (rare)
40             value_str = ''.join(parts[:-1])
41             unit = parts[-1]
```

A Chat window on the right side of the interface shows the AI Assistant providing instructions and code snippets related to the task.

```
def interactive_convert_loop():
    if not raw:
        continue

    parts = raw.split()
    if len(parts) == 1:
        print("Please provide both value and unit, e.g. '10 km'.")
        continue
    # join all but last as value in case of spaces in numbers (rare)
    value_str = ''.join(parts[:-1])
    unit = parts[-1]

    try:
        converted, out_unit = convert_distance(value_str, unit)
    except ValueError as e:
        print('Error:', e)
        continue

    # Format and display
    try:
        val_num = float(value_str)
    except Exception:
        val_num = value_str
    print(f'{val_num} {unit} -> {converted} {out_unit}')

except KeyboardInterrupt:
    print('\nInterrupted. Exiting.')

if __name__ == '__main__':
    interactive_convert_loop()
```

The screenshot shows a code editor interface with a sidebar titled "AIASSISTANT". The main area displays a Python script named "interactive_convert_loop". The script handles user input for distance conversion, dealing with units like km and miles. It includes exception handling for invalid inputs and floating-point operations. The sidebar contains several sections:

- CHAT**: A conversation log related to "PYTHON CALCULATOR FUNCTION WITH ERROR HANDLING". It includes messages from the AI about grading, calculating results, and displaying them.
- TODO**: A list of tasks:
 - File < assignment3.py> | grading_system.py:200 — contains the grading
 - CL and functions (calculate_results, assign_grade, display_results,
 - + marks.utility | marks.utility — currently empty.
- IDE**: A message: "Shall restore the `__grader__` and `__marks_grader__` implementations into `marks.utility` and paste the code here!"
- CODE**: A snippet: "Write a Python program that includes two functions `km_to_miles` and `miles_to_km`. Use correct conversion formulas, accept user input, and display accurate results with clear output messages."
- PLANNING**: A checklist:
 - ✓ **Parsed and implemented conversion program functions**
I'll add a small plan then create `conversions.py` with the two functions, CLI input parsing, and a demo.
 - ✓ **Managed and tracked todo items for planning**
Done — added the conversion utility.
- FILE**: A preview of `conversions.py`:

```
from conversions import km_to_miles, miles_to_km
print(km_to_miles(5)) # miles for 5 km
print(miles_to_km(5)) # km for 5 miles
```
- PROGRAMMATIC USE**: A snippet: "Want me to add unit tests (pytest) for these functions?"
- TODOS**: A list:
 - > Todos (0)
 - > + file changed +10 -1
- HELP**: Buttons for "Skip" and "Use".