

APLc - An APL Compiler

Version 5.09

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1 Introduction

This is a brief discussion of aplc, a program to translate APL into c, and hence (given a c compiler) to compile APL.

I won't discuss the APL language here.

In 1988, T. Budd ([1]) designed an APL compiler, and wrote some experimental code. He released this code on the internet. While demonstrating compilation of APL, it was a bit buggy, and lacked many features required for solving real problems. This is really not a deficiency of the original code, as it was designed as an experiment, and wasn't intended to be of practical use.

I came across the code, and wanting to learn about compilation, C, and APL compilation in particular, I started playing with the code. While playing, I added lots of the missing pieces, to the point where I and at least one other (J. B. W. Webber) use it for "real" work (whatever that is). Meanwhile I've hacked at just about every line of code, and added lots of stuff.

I'm not sure quite how far I'll go with this. Budd himself did some newer work with a somewhat different architecture (ref...). I've thought a few times about starting over from scratch given what I've learned.

2 Features

Two major features of the compiler, and a major difference with standard APL, have to do with typing scoping, and the existence of declarations for these.

- Declarations are not necessary for compilation; the compiler will guess. This may not be what was desired.
- Different types (int and real) may be added etc. as in standard APL.
- Integer promotion to real does NOT occur automatically.
- Variables are either local to a function, or global to all.
- The semicolon notation of standard APL is now supported to declare local variables (e.g. `.dl r .is a F b;i;j`)
- Simple one line direct definition
- A variety of system functions for files
- A variety of system functions for processes
- All of the complex numbers (ordinary complex, quaternions, octonions)
- Some flow control constructs
- Simple error trapping
- User defined operators

3 The APL Characters - Transliteration

Transliteration is necessary to represent the APL characters in ASCII. This is an interesting subject discussed elsewhere...

The best thing here to understand things is to look at *apl.lex*. But here's a current list.

```
-                high minus; e.g. _1 for negative 1
@ .lmp, .lamp    comment
.diamond .dm     statement separator
.and, &
.nand
.nor
.or
.lt, <
.le             less than or equal to
.eq, =
.ne             not equal
.ge             greater than or equal to
.gt, >
.assign, .is
#, .quad .box .bx (.bx still recognized, but may go away)
.de, .decode
.dl, .del
.dq, .domino
.da, .drop       the usual APL drop
.gwdrop          the Guibas and Wyatt version, no overdrop
"               each
.en, .encode
.ep, .epsilon,   member of or element of
.do, .execute, .xq
.fm, .format
.go, .goto
.io, .iota
|, .ab, .abs
.ce, .ceiling
.lo, .circle
.link, .lk
%, .div, .divide
.exp, \^
!
.fl, .floor
.lg, .log
-
+
~
*, .ti, .times
.so, .jot
.qq, .quotequad
.gu, .gradeup
.gd, .gradedown
.rv, .reverse, .rotate
.cr, .crv, .creverse, .crotate
.ro, .rho
?
/
```

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| <code>.cs, .cslash</code> | |
| <code>\, .bl, .bslash</code> | |
| <code>.cb, .cbslash</code> | |
| <code>.ua, .take</code> | the usual APL take |
| <code>.gwtake</code> | the Guibas and Wyatt version, no overtake |
| <code>.tr, .transpose</code> | |
| <code>.al, .alpha</code> | Left argument for direct definition |
| <code>.om, .omega</code> | Right argument for direct definition |

3.1 Keywords

Here is a list of keywords recognized by the compiler.

3.1.1 Declarations

For a declaration these must be preceded by “:decl”. From the perspective of the aplc parser, these names can be used for variable or function names, however note that the code generation can still cause conflicts with C keywords.

First the classes:

- `#global` – a global variable; note that this is somewhat like the “extern” qualifier of c in that it implies that the storage for this variable is given in some other place.
- `#fun` – a function
- `#op` – an operator
- `#scalar` – a scalar, with rank is 0
- `#vector` – a vector, with rank 1
- `#var` – a variable

Next the types, which may also be referenced outside :decl statements as integers:

- `#char` – character type (ASCII)
- `#bool` – an int with range [0,1] (`#bit` is currently equivalent)
- `#boxed` – an enclosed type
- `#int` – as C int
- `#real` – as C double
- `#complex` – a complex number made using 2 doubles
- `#quat` – a complex number made using 4 doubles
- `#oct` – a complex number made using 8 doubles

3.1.2 Flow Control

Finally some new keywords distinguished via colon, for flow control, including error trapping:

- `:catch`
- `:if`
- `:then`

- :elseif
- :then
- :endif
- :for
- :do
- :endfor
- :while
- :endwhile

3.2 Functions

Here's a list of current features, in alphabetical order. Some things were completely absent before I added them (sws). (*) means tested with (at least) the ISO standard examples.

- assign, reassign
- binomial/factorial/gamma (sws)*
- box (<) (sws)
- catenate
- catenate with axis (sws) including laminate
- ceiling
- compression
- deal
- dformat
- decode*
- diamond - not this changes line numbers
- divide quad (solution to linear equations, inverse - LAPACK QR) (sws)
- drop (sws)
- each (sws)
- encode (sws)*
- execute (sws) .xq string (only does conversion to numeric)
- expansion*
- factorial (sws)*
- floor
- format (sws)*
- gradeup
- gradedown

- gwdrop - the Guibas and Wyatt version, no overdrop
- gwtake - the Guibas and Wyatt version, no overtake
- identity for floor, ceiling (largest and smallest numbers) (sws)
- index *
- inner product
- iota (monadic)
- iota (dyadic)
- laminate (sws)
- lamp (comment)
- link create boxed list (sws)
- member of *
- outer product
- quad
- quote quad (sws) *
- reduction
- residue
- reverse *
- roll
- rotate *
- rho
- scalar functions (circle, +, -, *, %, ^, !)
- scan (ceiling, floor)
- subscripted assign (sws)
- take (sws)
- transpose*
- unbox (>) (sws)

3.3 System Variables

- #args - call line arguments (argv) as a matrix
- #io - index origin. Note that this currently can't be localized, and should be set once at the start of the file if changed from the default (1).
- #outmap - changes output and error streams, a vector of length 2, which refers to the direction of (output, error); for each component:
 - 0 means stdout
 - 1 means stderr

The default is 0 1.

- #pp - printing precision
- #prng - set the pseudo-random number generator
 - 0 use system rand/srand.
 - 1 use George Marsaglia's mother of all random number generators.
- #rl - random link; the seed for the pseudo-random number generator.
- #tcbel ascii bel character, for terminal control
- #tcbs bs backspace
- #tccr cr carriage return
- #tcdel del
- #tcesc esc escape
- #tcff ff
- #tcht ht tab
- #tclf lf linefeed
- #tcnul nul
- #ts timestamp (year, month, day, hour, min, sec, ms)

3.4 System Functions

- #za: convert a real or integer array to a complex (quaternion or octonion) ; the first axis of the array must be of dimension 2,4,or 8.
Dyadic: first axis is sorted according to left
- left size must be first right shape
1 2 #za 1 2 < - > 1i2
- #az: convert a complex (quaternion or octonion) array to a real array; the real array has an extra 1st dimension of 2,4, or 8.
Dyadic: left selects complex components
1 2 #az 1i2 < - > 1 2
- #append : append data to a file; will create file if it does not exist already
'name' #append cvec, or " for stdio (sws)
(fd, count, type, size, sign, startbyte, skip) #append x
- #close: close a file;
#close fd
- #fcntl: change status of existing FileDescriptor(s):
Res .is Modes #fcntl FileDescriptor(s)
(char) Modes
(int) FileDescriptor
change status of existing FileDescriptor(s):
Modes :
 - a - append
 - n - non-blocking
 - + - turn on :
 - - turn off : one at a time only

- `#free`: free's the space allocated to variable A
`#free A`
- `#jts`: Julian time in seconds
- `#lseek`: go to a location in a file. Returns the resulting location in the file, bytes, or -1 for error.
 Whence `#lseek (FileDescriptor, Offset)`
 char Whence : 'b' - seek from file beginning
 : 'c' - seek from current position
 : 'e' - seek from file end
- `#open`: open a file
 fd .is `#open 'filename'`
 fd .is 'modes' `#open 'filename' @` to open with modes
 fd .is n `#open 'filename' @` to open with modes
 fd .is modes `#open fd`
 fd .is n `#open fd`

 modes meaning
 r read
 c create (+ write, but don't overwrite)
 w write (overwrite if exists, create otherwise)
 a append to end of existing file, create otherwise
 cw c
 ca a
 n non-blocking read/write (ttys, pipes),
 affects all subsequent operations.

 default mode is read only. Default file permissions (for create) is 0644.
- `#pipe`: returns system results (see pipe.doc)
 r .is cmd `#pipe data`
- `#read`: read components from a file or file descriptor
 Monadic: read characters from stream
 c .is `#read stream`
 c .is `#read 'name' @` read from file
 c .is `#read " @` read from stdio
 c .is `#read fd @` read from file descriptor
 c .is `#read fd,count,type,size,sign,[startbyte,skip] @` binary read
 Dyadic: read various binary types from a stream
 c .is (count,type,size,sign,[startbyte,skip]) `#read fd @` binary read

```

char read
    c .is count #read stream @ to read count components
    c .is (count,9) #read stream @ to read count components

bool read
    c .is (count, 1) #read stream @ reads count bits into a boolean

int read
    c .is (count, 4, size,sign #read stream @ reads count ints
    size is one of:
    0 short
    1 int
    2 long
    sign is one of:
    0 unsigned
    1 signed

float read
    c .is (count, 5, size) #read stream @ read count reals
    size is one of:
    0 float
    1 double

```

- #spawn: spawn a shell command.

```

fd .is #spawn 'shellcmd'
fd .is fdc #spawn 'shellcmd'

```

Spawn a unix command, connect to stdin, stdout, etc. of spawned process. The right argument is the command pipeline. The left argument controls which fds of the command are connected to as input or output; sets blocking/non-blocking i/o. Two modes: Character vector or array; for each fd : {NN}{i—o}{b—n} is interpreted as {fd of command},{input—output},{blocking—non-blocking}. The spawn returns integer pipe file descriptors for the current process.

Fds .is '00in02on' #spawn Cmd : connects to stdin, stderr of Cmd.

Fds .is N #spawn Cmd : for N = 3, connects to stdin, stdout, stderr.

```

Integer N : get fds 0..N-1 :  00ib
                             01ob
                             02ob
                             03ib, with i,o then alternating (to NN=10)

```

- #ss: Stringsearch, as in STSC's APL

```
i .is text #ss string
```

Here is an example:

```

#.is a .is 'a to t o btog '
a to t o btog
j .is a #ss 'to'
a, .fm ((.rho a),1) .rho j
a 0
  0
t 1
o 0
  0
t 0
  0
o 0
  0
b 0

```

```
t 1
o 0
g 0
0
```

- `#system`: executes system commands
`r .is #system cvec`
- `#fi`: string to number conversion, quite liberal. Includes integers, floats (decimal or e/E or d/D) and sign represented as (`_,-,ng,+`).
- `#vi`: string to number conversion validation. Shows which results of `#fi` are valid numbers.
- `#type`: gives the type of variable A (doesn't work for numbers yet). For example the type of an integer variable is `#int` etc
`#type A`
- `#write`: write (chars) to a file
`'name' #write cvec`
`" #write cvec @` writes to stdio
`fd #write cvec`
`(fd, count, type, size, sign, startbyte, skip) #write x`

4 Complex Numbers

There are actually three generalizations of numbers that can be based on square roots of -1 , the ordinary complex numbers, quaternions, and octonions.

4.1 (Ordinary) Complex Numbers

Here I've followed the standard implementations, except that I've used "i" instead of "j". The reason is partly that I prefer "i," but mostly because due to quaternions, we need both. Note that "j" will still work just like "i" except that you're really using a quaterion then.

Complex numbers are entered via "i" between the real and imaginary parts, much as "e" is used between the mantissa and exponent:

```
a .is 0i1
```

Complex number components are of double type. Most of the usual scalar operations apply as well to complex numbers, except for the logicals and the relations that require an ordering (e.g. `no <`). For complex numbers, the circular functions have been extended to the range $[-12, 12]$ in the usual way.

Dyadic format works simply for the complex types - the two format numbers specify the total width and the precision for each component.

4.2 Quaternions

Hamilton's quaternions are extremely useful for describing rotations in 3 dimensions (actually unit quaternions are used). They are extensively used in spacecraft dynamics and control, and in crystallography. They are similar to complex numbers, except that now there are 3 square roots of -1 , the units i, j, k , perhaps familiar from vector mechanics. Using APL's right-to-left convention, and we have;

$$-1 = i \times i = j \times j = k \times k,$$

$$k = j \times i$$

$$\begin{aligned}
i &= k \times j \\
j &= i \times k \\
-k &= i \times j
\end{aligned}$$

Quaternions behave in ways very similar to ordinary complex numbers, yet are obviously not comutative. They are entered exactly analogously to the ordinary complex numbers, and not all components are needed:

$$a .is\ 1\ 0i1\ 0j1\ 0k1\ 1i2k3\ 1i2j3k4$$

Here's the quaternion multiplication table:

| | | | |
|-----|------|------|------|
| 1 | 0i1 | 0j1 | 0k1 |
| 0i1 | -1 | 0k-1 | 0j1 |
| 0j1 | 0k1 | -1 | 0i-1 |
| 0k1 | 0j-1 | 0i1 | -1 |

4.3 Octonions

Cayley discovered these last generalized complex numbers. They consist of seven square roots of -1 . In addition to being non comutative, they are also non associative.

There are many choices of multiplication table for octonions. I've chosen a fairly standard one that includes the quaternions above. The 7 units used are i, j, k, U, I, J, K . Note that E is usually used where I've substituted U , for obvious reasons.

Here's the octonion multiplication table:

| | | | | | | |
|-----|------|------|------|----------|------|------|
| 1 | 0i1 | 0j1 | 0k1 | 0U10I1 | 0J1 | 0K1 |
| 0i1 | -1 | 0k-1 | 0j1 | 0I-10U1 | 0K1 | 0J-1 |
| 0j1 | 0k1 | -1 | 0i-1 | 0J-10K-1 | 0U1 | 0I1 |
| 0k1 | 0j-1 | 0i1 | -1 | 0K-10J1 | 0I-1 | 0U1 |
| 0U1 | 0I1 | 0J1 | 0K1 | -10i-1 | 0j-1 | 0k-1 |
| 0I1 | 0U-1 | 0K1 | 0J-1 | 0i1-1 | 0k1 | 0j-1 |
| 0J1 | 0K-1 | 0U-1 | 0I1 | 0j10k-1 | -1 | 0i1 |
| 0K1 | 0J1 | 0I-1 | 0U-1 | 0k10j1 | 0i-1 | -1 |

4.4 Conversion Between Complex Representations

The usual extensions to the circular functions, with domain $[-7, 7]$ for reals, and $[-12, 12]$ for the complex types.

| | |
|-----|-----------------------------|
| -12 | $\exp(i * r)$ |
| -11 | $i * r$ |
| -10 | $+r$ |
| -9 | r |
| -8 | $-\sqrt{-1 - r^2}$ |
| -7 | $\operatorname{arctanh}(r)$ |
| -6 | $\operatorname{arcosh}(r)$ |
| -5 | $\operatorname{arcsinh}(r)$ |
| -4 | $\sqrt{-1 + r^2}$ |
| -3 | $\operatorname{arctan}(r)$ |
| -2 | $\operatorname{arccos}(r)$ |
| -1 | $\operatorname{arcsin}(r)$ |
| 0 | $\sqrt{1 - r^2}$ |
| 1 | $\sin(r)$ |
| 2 | $\cos(r)$ |
| 3 | $\tan(r)$ |
| 4 | $\sqrt{1 + r^2}$ |
| 5 | $\sinh(r)$ |
| 6 | $\cosh(r)$ |
| 7 | $\tanh(r)$ |
| 8 | $\sqrt{-1 - r^2}$ |
| 9 | $\operatorname{real}(r)$ |
| 10 | $ r $ |
| 11 | $\operatorname{imag}(r)$ |
| 12 | $\operatorname{arc}(r)$ |

In addition, one can represent a complex number as $1i2$, or the array 12. The system functions $\#az$, $\#za$ facilitate this conversion.

5 Parenthetic Expressions and Arrays

I've extended parenthetic expressions to include direct input of arrays, for example

```
b .is (1 2 3
      4 5 6)
```

produces an array of shape 2 1 3 directly, without using reshape. This can also be done with expressions, for example

```
bb .is (1 .link 'a'
         'x' .link 3
         1000 .link 'xxx')
bb
+-----+-----+
| 1      |a      |
+-----+-----+
|x       | 3      |
+-----+-----+
| 1000   |xxx     |
+-----+-----+
```

or

```
I .is 2 2 .rho 3 .take 1
cc .is ( (0*I), I
        (-I*3), 8*I)
cc
0 0 1 0
0 0 0 1
-3 0 8 0
0 -3 0 8
```

6 Boxed Arrays

I've added a start at boxed arrays. One can create and open them, select from and concatenate them together.

```
#.is a .is <'x'
+--+
|x|
+--+

a,<2 3 4
+--+-----+
|x| 2 3 4|
+--+-----+

#.is c .is (<10),(<2 3 4 5),<3 1 .rho 1I3
+---+-----+-----+
| 10| 2 3 4 5| 1I3|
|   |         | 1I3|
|   |         | 1I3|
+---+-----+-----+
>c
10 0 0 0
0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0

2 3 4 5
0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0

1I3 0 0 0
1I3 0 0 0
1I3 0 0 0

c[1]
+---+
| 10|
+---+
```

```
1 .link 2 3
+---+-----+
| 1| 2 3|
+---+-----+
```

```
1 .link 2 3 .link 5 5 5
+---+-----+-----+
| 1| 2 3| 5 5 5|
+---+-----+-----+
1 .link 2 3 .link (5 5 5
                    5 5 5)
+---+-----+-----+
| 1| 2 3| 5 5 5|
|   |   | 5 5 5|
+---+-----+-----+
```

Each (") works to distribute functions over them. Note that currently it only works with user defined functions.

```
.dl r .is fn x
  r .is 2*x
.dl

.dl r .is x gn y
  r .is x*y
.dl

  a .is (<2 3),<100
  a
+-----+-----+
| 2 3| 100|
+-----+-----+

fn 1111
  2222
fn " 1111
+-----+
| 2222|
+-----+
  fn " a
+-----+-----+
| 4 6| 200|
+-----+-----+

  a gn" <1000
+-----+-----+
| 2000 3000| 100000|
+-----+-----+
  (<2000) gn" a
+-----+-----+
| 4000 6000| 200000|
+-----+-----+
  a gn" a
+-----+-----+
| 4 9| 10000|
+-----+-----+
```


7 Flow Control

I've implemented some simple constructs in addition to the traditional goto. The current keywords are distinguished by leading colons.

7.1 If-Then-Else

The keywords :if, :then, :elseif, :endif work as might be expected. Here are two examples

```
.dl r .is tst a
  r .is 0
:if a>0 :then
  r .is a
:endif
:if a<0 :then r .is -1 :endif
.dl
```

```
.dl r .is tst a
  r .is 0
:if a>0 :then
  :if a>5 :then
    r .is a*a
  :else
    r .is a
  :endif
:elseif a<0 :then
  :if a<_5 :then
    r .is 25 - a*a
  :else
    r .is -1
  :endif
:endif
.dl
```

7.2 For

The :for keyword requires :do and :endfor, but may be on a single line or spread out as in the example.

```
:for aa .is 1 2 3 :do
  b .is aa
  b
:endifor

:for aa .is 1 2 3 :do  b .is aa :endifor
```

7.3 While

The :while keyword requires :do and :endwhile, but may be on a single line or spread out as in the example.

```
:while i<r :do
  b .is b+!i
  i,b
  i .is i+1
:endwhile

:while i<r :do  b .is b+!i .diamond i .is i+1 :endwhile
```

7.4 Error Trapping

A simple error trapping mechanism has been added using the `:catch` keyword. If there's an error in it's left argument, `:catch` evaluates it's right argument. Currently only aplc errors are caught. Here's a simple example

```
.dl x .is test n
  @ x .is .iota n
(x .is .iota n) :catch x .is 0
.dl
```

```
test 10
  1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
```

```
test 10.1
  0
```

8 User Defined Programs

This includes functions, which may take variables as arguments, and operators, which may take functions and variables as arguments.

8.1 Function Definition

User defined functions are defined using `del`, or `.dl`. The definition is enclosed in the `.dl`'s, and includes possible local variable declarations.

```
.dl
(header)
(declaration statements)
(program statements)
.dl
```

A function header looks like one of the following, depending if it is monadic (only a right argument) or dyadic (arguments on both sides) and whether or not it returns a value.

```
r .is a fun b
r .is fun b
r .is fun
a fun b
fun b
fun
```

In addition, variables localized to the program may be listed using semicolons.

```
.dl r .is a fun b;c;d;e
...
.dl
```

Statements are usual APL expressions, and may be labeled.

8.2 Direct Definition

Direct definition is another way for the user to define functions. A function is defined on a single line. The left argument is `.alpha`, the right `.omega`. Here's a simple example

```
glak: .alpha + 2*.omega
```

Only this simple form of direct definition is available.

8.3 Operator Definition

User defined operators are also defined using `del`, or `.dl`, and may have similar declaration statements. An operator header looks like one of the following, depending if it is monadic (only a right argument) or dyadic (arguments on both sides) for both variable arguments and function arguments, and whether or not it returns a value.

```
r .is a (f uop g) b      a (f uop g) b
r .is a (f uop ) b       a (f uop ) b
r .is   (f uop g) b      (f uop g) b
r .is   (f uop) b         (f uop) b
```

Note currently operators can only act on user defined functions, not built-in functions, so this won't work

`+ uop a`

The current work around is to define a cover function for the built-in function. Eventually the compiler should do this automatically.

Another more subtle problem is that a chain of operators won't work, e.g.

`fn uop1 uop2 a`

because the argument to *uop2* should be the derived function *fn uop1* which the compiler doesn't know how to do yet.

9 Matlab Interface

The Matlab interface (sws) This allows one to compile an APL function (dyadic or monadic) into a mex file for dynamic linking with Matlab.

10 Known Bugs

The file must end with a newline for the parser or else it will complain.

11 Known deficiencies

- various system variables and functions could be added. For example `#pw` is not implemented (doesn't seem to be much need)
- `execute` is restricted to numeric conversion. This is likely to stay, as an interpreter is necessary to really implement `execute`.
- bit type; While there is a distinction between `int` and `bool`, all are implemented as integers, wasting space.
- nested/boxed arrays
- interprocedural analysis (`inter`)
- integer promotion - in APL, integers become reals if they get too big to be represented as integers. That doesn't happen here.
- floats that are near integers may not be treated as such...
- User defined operators only operate on user defined functions
- User defined operators can not take derived functions (made from other operators) as function arguments (yet).
- Built-in operators don't operate on user defined functions

12 Variances from the ISO standard

- Data changes due to computations - for example *i.is i+1* in a loop should result in an integer becoming a real, but just overflows. data changes due to (sub) assignments are handled.
- `Deal` - the left and right arguments to `deal` must be integers.
- Declarations - allowed to make compilation more efficient; not required class: `#global`, `#fun`, `#var` (unknown local variable) type: `#bool` (`#bit`), `#char`, `#int`, `#real`, `#complex`, `#quat`, `#oct` rank: `#scalar`, `#vector` examples -

```

:decl #global i,j
:decl #scalar #int k
:decl #var x
:decl #fun round

```

- Diamond - increments line number for successive statements
- gwdrop, gwtake are the original versions of drop and take coded by T. Budd. They don't handle the overtake or overdrop cases, where the left argument is larger than the right shape.
- Execute - only does conversion of character strings to numbers
- Format; there are only small differences in monadic format. Note that I've used standard c printing of negative numbers so `_1` prints as `-1`.

dyadic: exp format is right justified, may have extra 0's f format includes leading 0 before numbers less than 1

- Goto should only be used to point to line labels
- Lazy (demand driven) evaluation allows things such as

```
0 1/2 3\%0 4
```

to work (0%0 need not be computed since it's not asked for).

- Order of execution may vary from strict right-to-left, for example in reshape, the left argument may be evaluated first. also reduction for commutative functions.
- Roll takes only integer arguments (not near integers).
- Scoping rules are just global or local to a single function.
- Workspaces are not implemented.
- Quad input only allows numeric constants - no evaluation, escapes, it also will stop immediately given a NL (doesn't keep asking).
- `#free` is like `#ex`, but takes as argument the identifier directly, rather than a character string, e.g. `#ex 'A'` becomes `#free A`
- `#type` is like `#nc`, but also takes the identifier directly `#nc 'A'` becomes `#type A`. Note that this can be used to implement ambivalent functions
- reduction using the comparison functions (e.g. `=/`) may compile, but really only works on boolean arguments.

13 Examples

See the examples directory. There you should find:

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| <code>convert.apl</code> | Converts notation from Budd's original to current |
| <code>dd.apl</code> | Direct definition |
| <code>eis_orth.apl</code> | Part of EISPACK - eigenvalues, eigenvectors of a general matrix |
| <code>epsilon.apl</code> | Compute machine epsilon |
| <code>gutil.apl</code> | Generalized APL utilities |
| <code>gutilt.apl</code> | Test cases |
| <code>pipetest.apl</code> | Test of <code>\#pipe</code> |
| <code>primes.apl</code> | Compute primes |
| <code>tv.apl</code> | Generate an html link list of a directory tree |
| <code>ulam.apl</code> | S. Ulam's spiral of primes |

14 Future Concepts/Ideas/Plans

1. get everything working and tested [pretty close, ongoing]
2. looping construct (a la FHD van Batenburg, APL91)?
3. flow control [mostly working]
4. boxed/nested arrays [preliminary versions working]
5. make the output code simpler, faster
6. improved operator support
7. generalized indexing
8. real bit types
9. sparse
10. long double on sparcs?
11. arbitrary precision (gnu mp?)
12. embedded c code?
13. linear algebra
14. translate to/from aplascii/latex
15. lexer/parser
16. apl interpreter
17. full execute

15 Thanks

Of course thanks go to T. Budd, for releasing his code on the internet. Lots of new code and porting is due to J. B. W. Webber (J.B.W.Webber@ukc.ac.uk)

16 Questions

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