AI ASSISTED CODING

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Lab 3: Prompt Engineering – Improving Prompts and Context Management

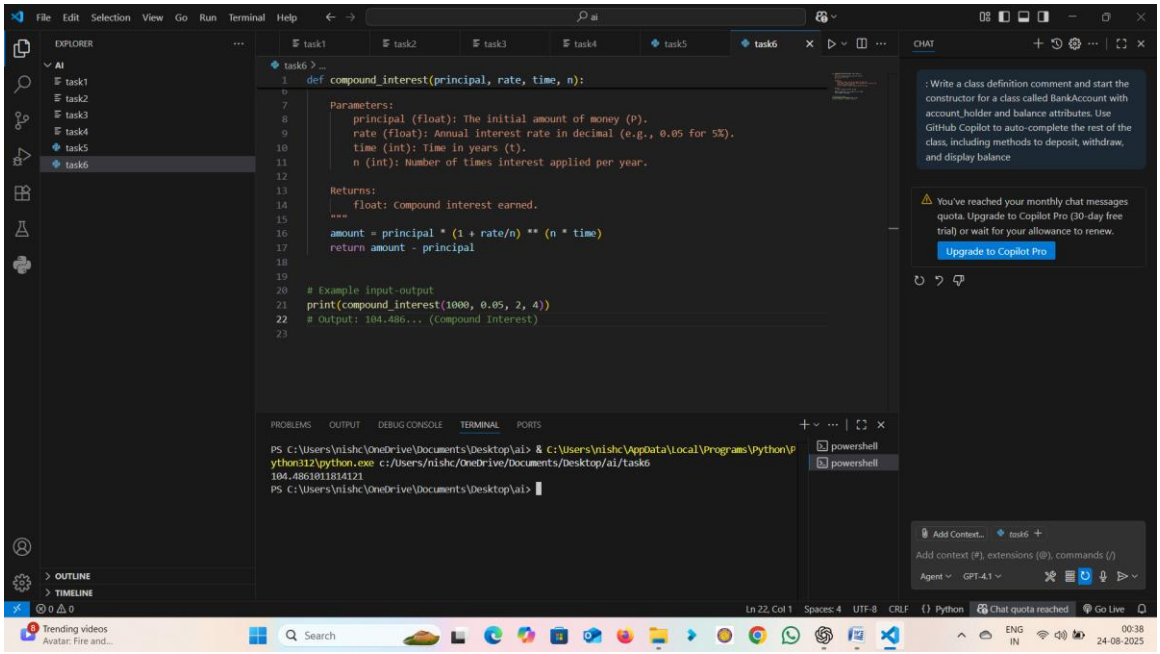
Task#1

Prompt: Ask AI to write a function to calculate compound interest, starting with only the function name. Then add a docstring, then input-output example.

Code generated:

AI Generated Code:

```
# Step 1
def compound_interest():
    pass
# Step 2 - with docstring
def compound_interest(principal, rate, time, n):
    """
    Calculate compound interest using formula:
    A = P * (1 + r/n)^(n*t)
    CI = A - P
    """
# Step 3 - with full logic and example
def compound_interest(principal, rate, time, n):
    amount = principal * (1 + rate/n)**(n*time)
    return amount - principal
print(compound_interest(1000, 0.05, 2, 4))  # 104.486..
```



Output: Input: P=1000, r=5%, t=2 years, n=4 → **Output**: 104.486 (compound interest)

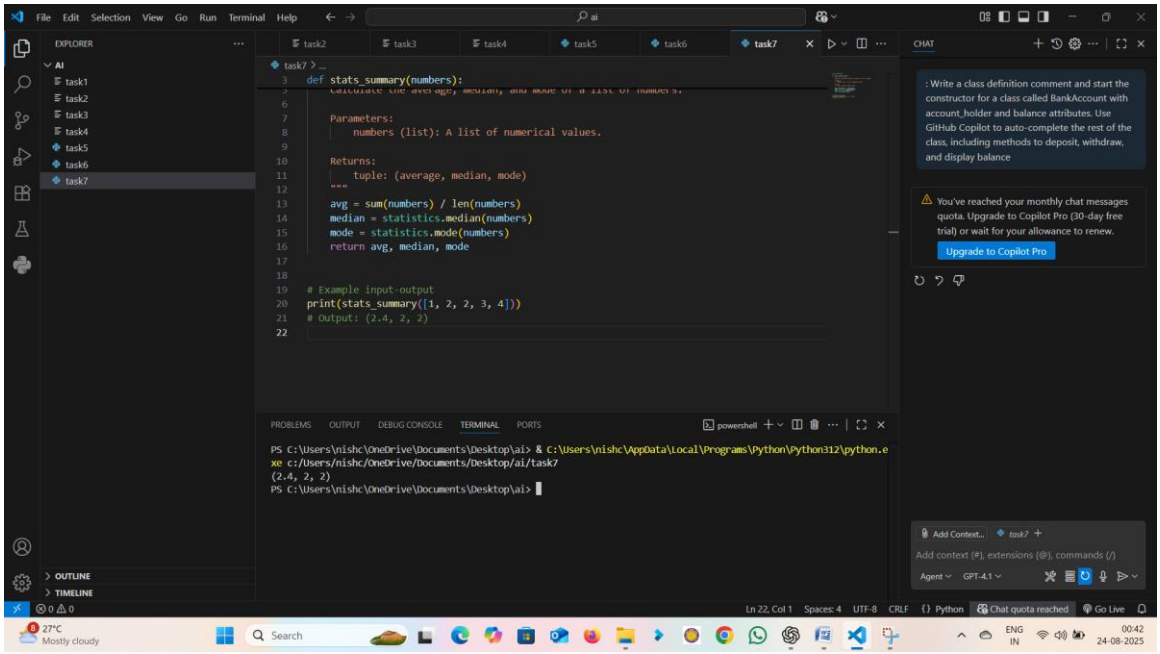
Observation: The task showed how step-by-step prompting helps in building a complete function. Starting with only the function name, then adding a docstring, and finally implementing the logic, made the AI produce accurate and clear code for calculating compound interest.

Task#2

Prompt: Do math stuff, then refine it to: # Write a function to calculate average, median, and mode of a list of numbers.

AI Generated Code:

```
import statistics
def stats_summary(numbers):
    avg = sum(numbers)/len(numbers)
    median = statistics.median(numbers)
    mode = statistics.mode(numbers)
    return avg, median, mode
print(stats_summary([1,2,2,3,4]))  # (2.4, 2, 2)
```



Output: Input: [1,2,2,3,4] → **Output**: Average=2.4, Median=2, Mode=2

Observation: A vague prompt produced poor results, but refining it led to a precise function that correctly calculates average, median, and mode. This highlights the importance of giving clear, specific prompts to obtain reliable code.

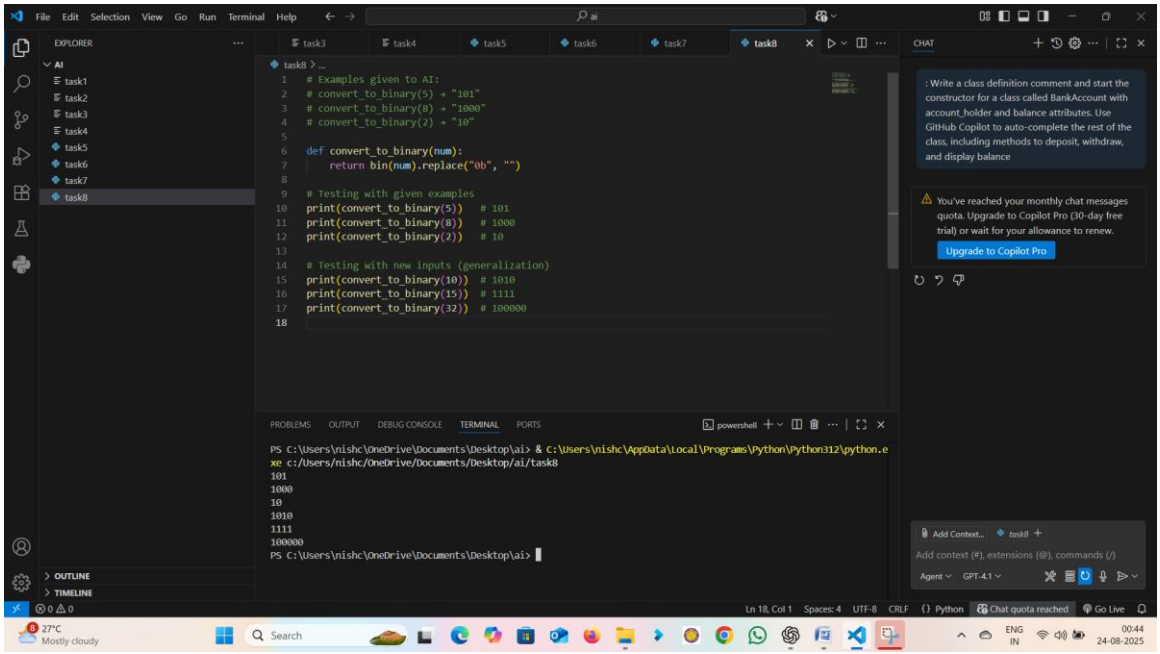
Task#3

Prompt: Provide multiple examples of input-output to the AI for convert_to_binary(num) function. Observe how AI uses few-shot prompting to generalize.

AI Generated Code:

```
def convert_to_binary(num):
    return bin(num).replace("0b", "")
print(convert_to_binary(5))  # 101

print(convert_to_binary(8))  # 1000
print(convert_to_binary(2))  # 10
```



Output: Input: 5 → Output: 101
Input: 8 → Output: 1000
Input: 2 → Output: 10

Input:10->output:1010

Input:15->output:1111

Input:32->output:100000

Observation: By providing examples, the AI learned the expected output format and generated correct code using Python's built-in bin() function. Few-shot prompting improved accuracy and reduced ambiguity.

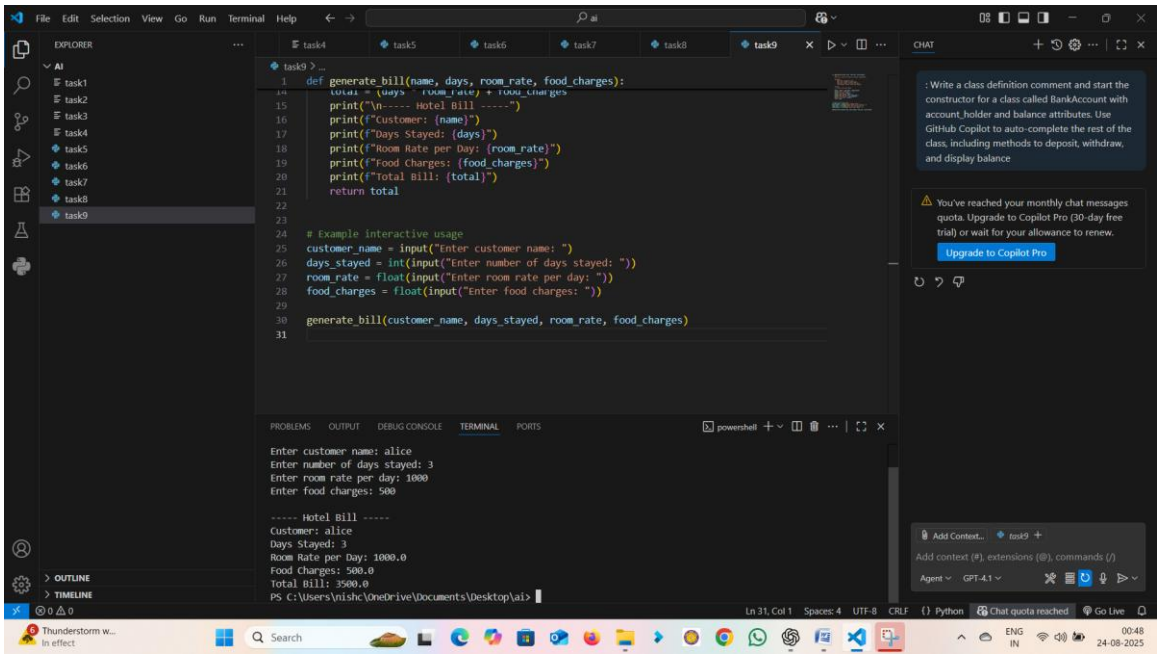
Task#4

Prompt: Create an user interface for an hotel to generate bill based on customer requirements.

AI generated code:

```
def generate_bill(name, days, room_rate, food_charges):
    total = (days * room_rate) + food_charges
    print("----- Hotel Bill -----")
    print(f"Customer: {name}")
```

```
    print(f"Days Stayed: {days}")
    print(f"Room Rate: {room_rate}")
    print(f"Food Charges: {food_charges}")
    print(f"Total Bill: {total}")
    return total
generate_bill("Alice", 3, 1000, 500)
```



Output: Customer: Alice, Days=3, Room Rate=1000/day, Food=500 → Total Bill = 3500

Observation: The AI generated a simple, text-based billing system that calculates total charges and prints a formatted bill. This shows how descriptive prompts can produce practical, user-friendly solutions tailored to real-world applications.

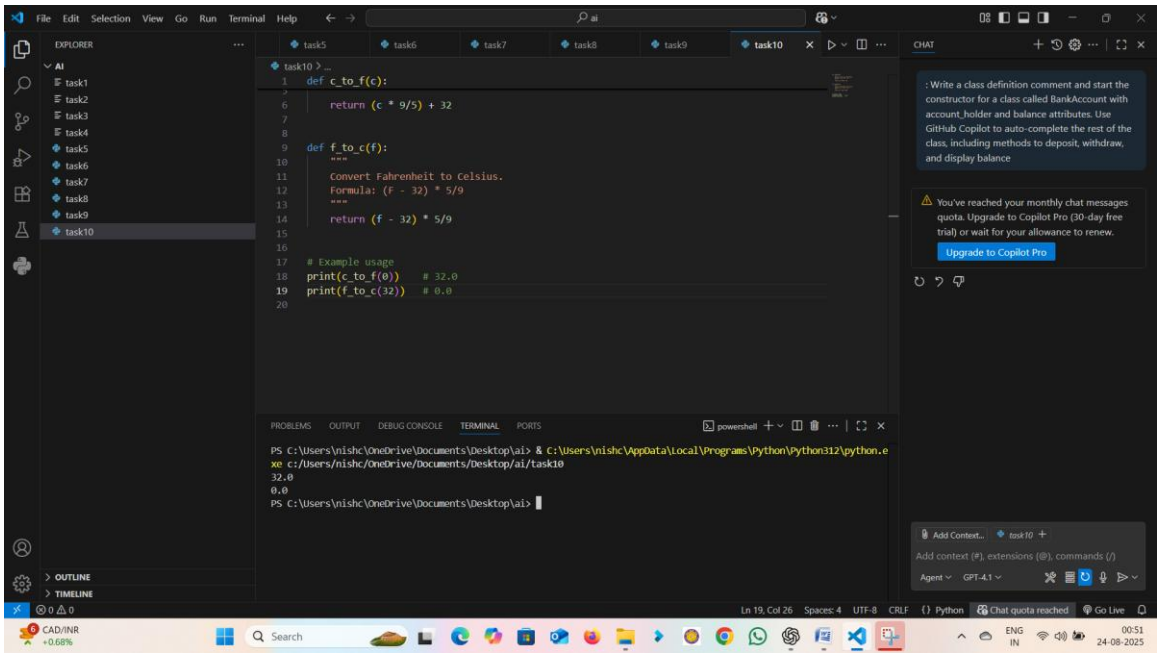
Task #5

Prompt: Analyzing Prompt Specificity: Improving Temperature Conversion Function with Clear Instructions.

AI Generated Code:

```
def c_to_f(c):
    return (c * 9/5) + 32
def f_to_c(f):
    return (f - 32) * 5/9
```

```
print(c_to_f(0))  # 32.0
print(f_to_c(32))  # 0.0
```



Output: Input: 0°C → Output: 32°F
Input: 32°F → Output: 0°C

Observation: The vague prompt gave incomplete or unclear results, while the specific prompt resulted in accurate conversion functions for Celsius and Fahrenheit. This demonstrates that prompt specificity directly affects the quality of AI-generated output.