

Dan Austin

Data Scientist extremely passionate about building safe & composable agentic Al using large scale RL.

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Current role

Data Scientist | Fabric (Aviva Insurance)

- Independently designed and built Aviva's first customer-facing Al agent from conception to production deployment, achieving 4.5/5 average customer satisfaction scores.
- Built comprehensive evaluation framework combining LLM judges with software verification, adopted across multiple internal teams for agent quality assurance.
- Designed and implemented feedback flywheel system that continuously improves evaluation datasets based on production data, directly informing agent capability roadmap.

Recent LLM projects

Terminal Agent RL

- Implemented GRPO-based RL training infrastructure for training long-horizon terminal-based coding agents, scaling to 32x H100s across 4 nodes with Docker isolation per rollout.
- Achieved highest Qwen3 agent on Stanford's terminal-bench leaderboard using an untrained 32B model through prompt engineering and tool design, outperforming Terminus-Qwen3-235B.
- Benchmarked 17 LLMs as behavioural judges, finding Claude-4-Sonnet most accurate for evaluating desired agent behaviour and tool usage patterns.

T-Bench Agentic Data Pipeline

- Orchestrated 20+ parallel Claude Codes to generate hundreds of validated RL training tasks & environments for Terminal Agent RL project with distributed task management.
- Designed **3-stage multi-agent pipeline** with specialised agent roles, combining Al generation abilities with programmatic validation to ensure high quality training data at scale.

Calculator Agent RL

- Trained Qwen2.5 models (0.5B and 3B) via multi-turn GRPO to use a recursive calculator tool. achieving **62% absolute accuracy increase** $(27\% \rightarrow 89\%)$ on custom evaluation suite.
- Designed hybrid reward system combining Claude-3.5-Haiku judge for tool-use quality with programmatic answer verification, enabling stable multi-turn RL training.

About me

- · Training in Brazilian Jiu Jitsu
- Fluent in French
- Book lover
- I love AI and RL!

Previous employers

6+ years engineering / Al experience

- Contentsquare
- Publicis Sapient
- AiTuning (own org, many Al projects)