Enabling Community Education

with a little help from Al

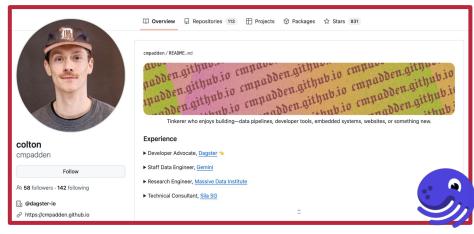




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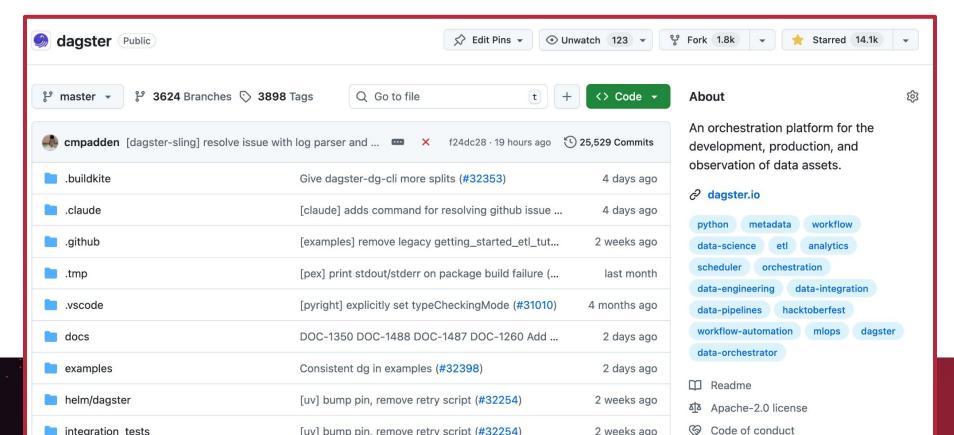
About me

- Creating educational content, and hosting webinars
- Supporting and voicing the communities' needs
- Dogfooding the product
- Feature development



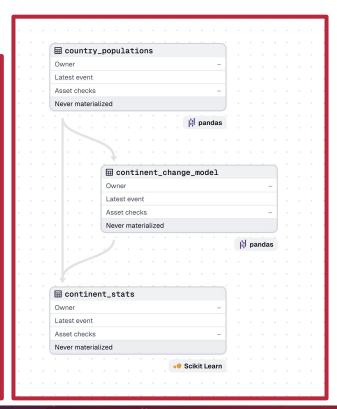
Developer Advocate, **Dagster Labs**

What is... Dagster?



What is... Dagster?

```
import dagster as dg
import pandas as pd
from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression
@dg.asset
def country populations() -> pd.DataFrame:
    df = pd.read_html("https://tinyurl.com/mry64ebh")[0]
    df.columns = ["country", "pop2022", "pop2023", "change", "continent", "region"]
    df["change"] = df["change"].str.rstrip("%").astype("float")
    return df
@dg.asset
def continent change model(country populations: pd.DataFrame) -> LinearRegression:
    data = country_populations.dropna(subset=["change"])
    return LinearRegression().fit(pd.get dummies(data[["continent"]]), data["change"])
@dg.asset
def continent_stats(country_populations: pd.DataFrame, continent_change_model: LinearRegression)
    result = country populations.groupby("continent").sum()
    result["pop_change_factor"] = continent_change_model.coef_
    return result
```





Features

- Scheduling
- Resiliency via retries / memoization
- Observability
 - Alerts
 - Lineage
 - Cataloging / Self-documentation



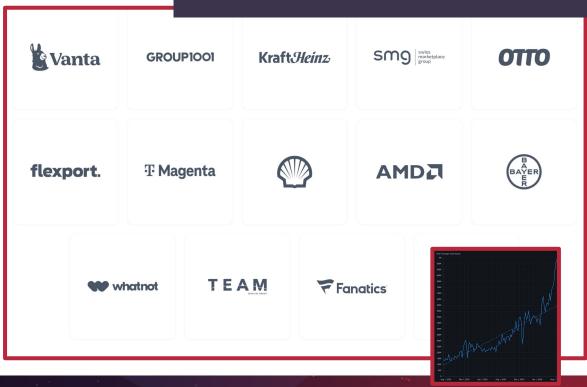
Dagster is a framework for building workflows in a declarative way.



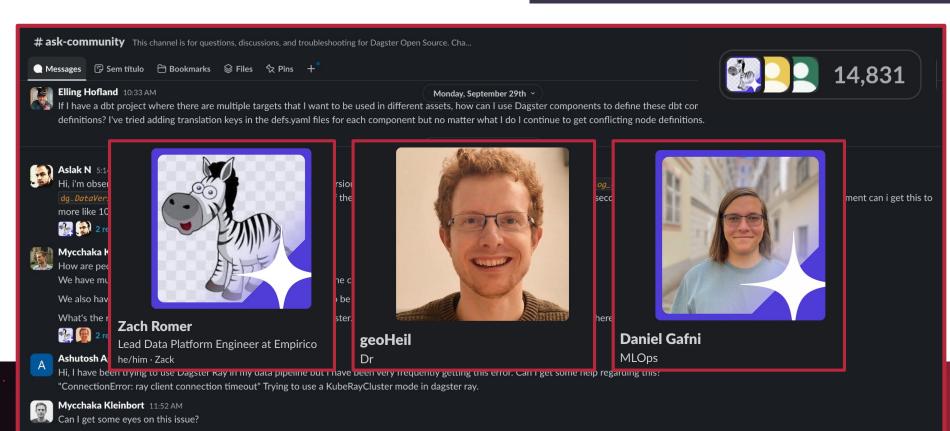
Community







Community



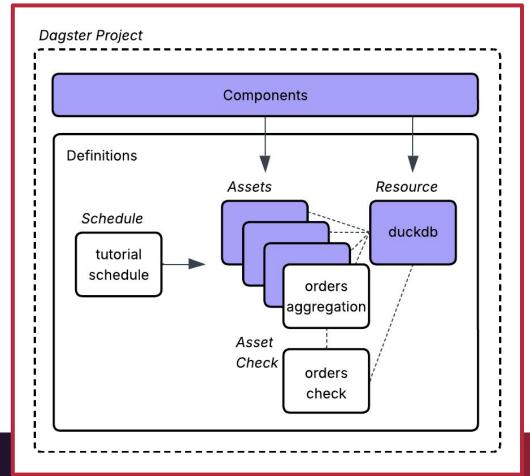
https://github.com/dagster-in/dagster/issues/32336

The problem

on Feb 25 This was a MAJOR blocker that took months to resolve as this solution was not documented anywhere. The delay and inability to debug this in a timely manner led to my company to forego adopting Dagster...:(

Complexity

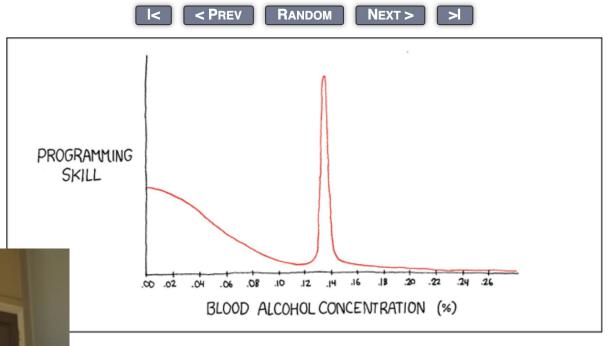
- Many use cases
 - ML
 - DE
 - Data science
- Frameworks evolve
- Learning curve of concepts both with Dagster and Python





Personas

BALLMER PEAK



https://xkcd.com/323/

The team

- 1x technical writer
- 3x developer advocates

* with community and engineer support



The strategy



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Our strategy

- Content audit
- Revise information architecture
- Ensure we meet all personas needs
- Improve feedback loops & monitor users
- Scale



Information architecture

- Recently revamped information architecture
 - Audited and re-organized all content
 - Modeled documentation after the software development lifecycle
- Migrated to Docusaurus to focus on content

← Back to main menu

Getting Started

Overview

Quickstart

Installation

Concepts

Python primer [2]

Tutorial

Build

Automate

Operate

Log & debug

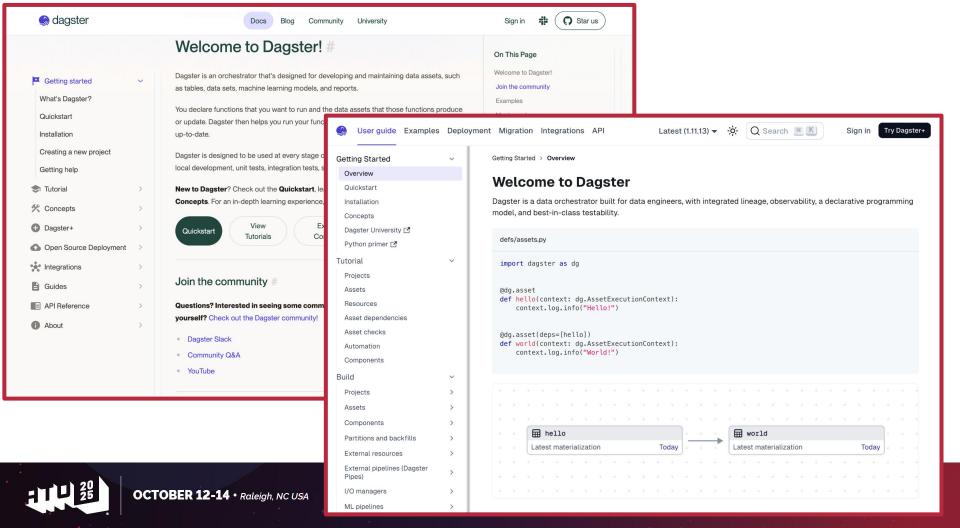
Observe

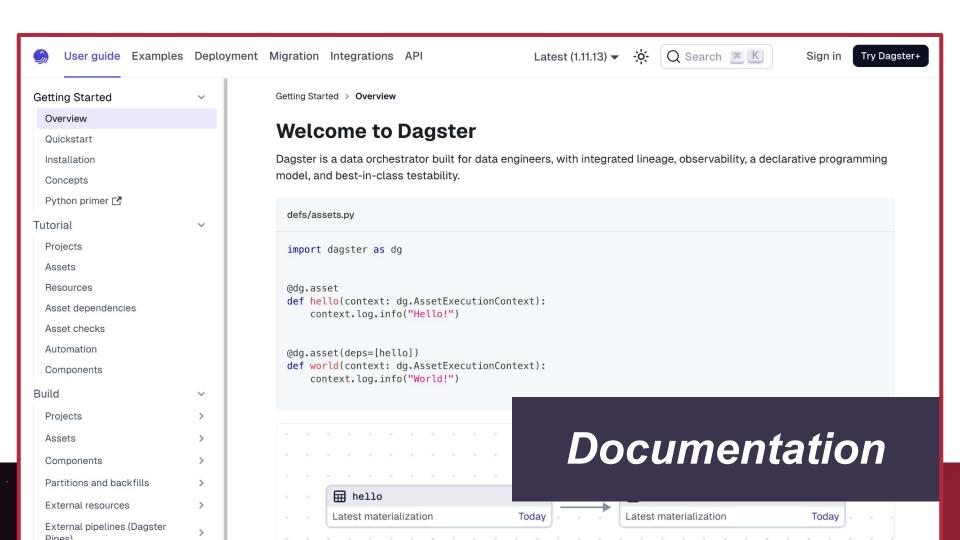
Test

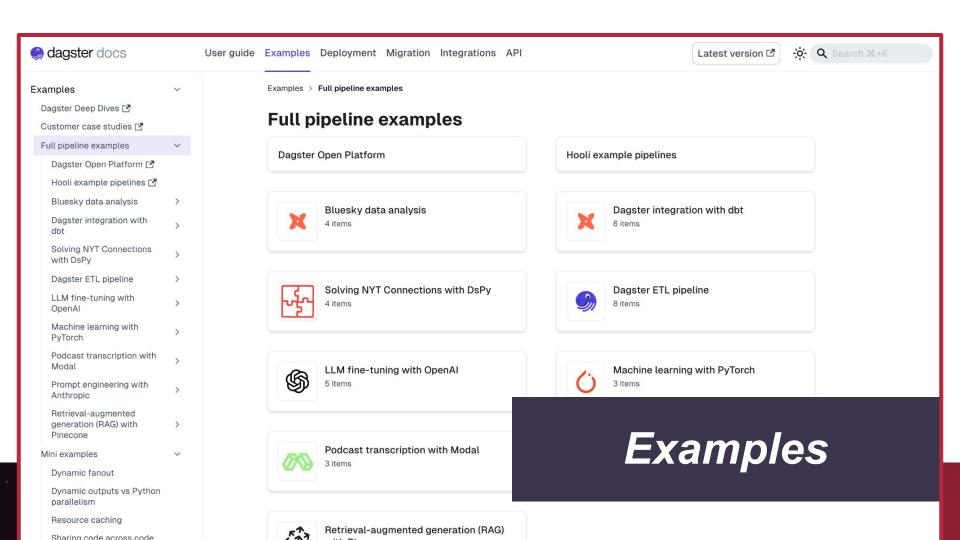
Labs

About











User guide Examples Deployment Migration Integrations

Latest (1.11.13) ▼



Q Search # K



[source]

Overview

API reference

API lifecycle stages

Filtering API lifecycle warnings

CLI reference

Dagster core SDK

asset checks

assets

components

config

definitions

dynamic mapping & collect

errors

execution

external assets instance api

graphs

hooks

Dagster core SDK > components

Components

Using Components

@dagster.component_instance

Decorator for a function to be used to load an instance of a Component. This is used when instantiating components in python instead of via yaml.

Example:

```
import dagster as dg
class MyComponent(dg.Component):
@dg.component instance
def load(context: dg.ComponentLoa
    return MyComponent(...)
```

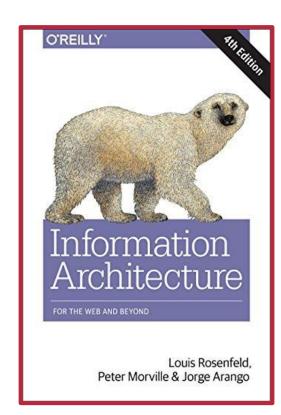
API References

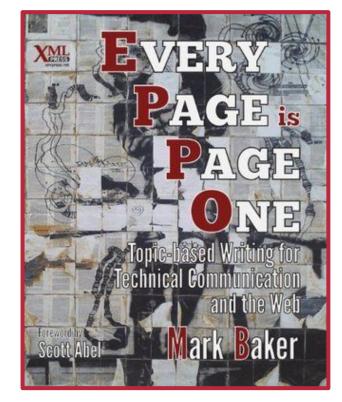
class dagster.ComponentLoadCo

Context object that provides environment and path information during component loading. This context is automatically created and passed to component definitions when loading a project's defs folder. Each Python

HOW **MAKE SENSE OF ANY MESS**

Abby Covert







Content (for more personas!)



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Python Packages: a Primer for Data People (part 1 of 2)

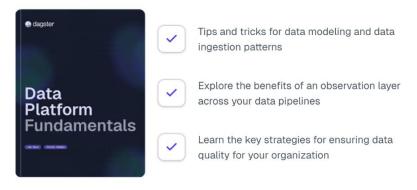
March 6, 2023





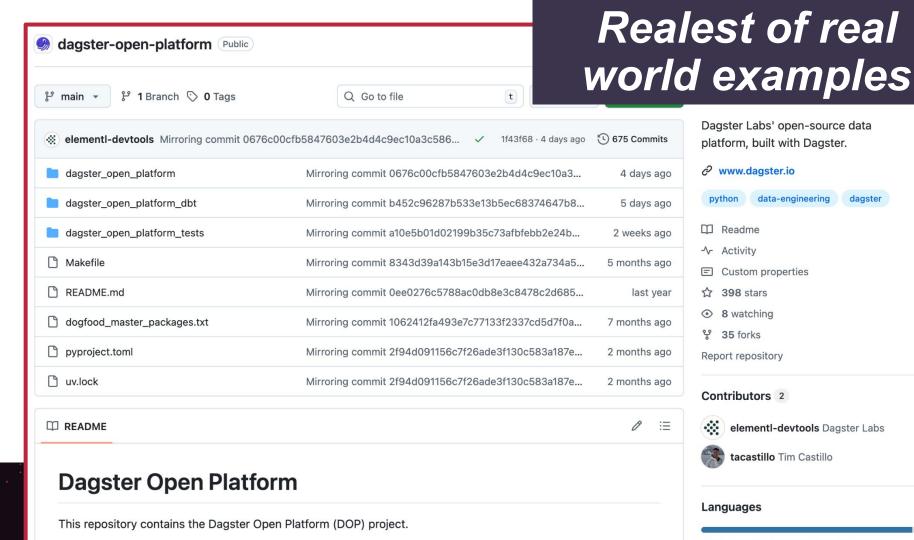
Download the e-book primer on how to build data platforms

Learn the fundamental concepts to build a data platform in your organization; covering common design patterns for data ingestion and transformation, data modeling strategies, and data quality tips.

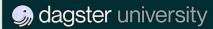


name@company.com	
rst name*	
First name	
ast name*	
Last name	

Books



Courses



Dagster & ETL

Dagster & 1,866 completions

Course

* 5.0 (1 review)

Learn how to ingest data to power your assets. You'll build custom pipelines and see how to use Embedded ETL and Dagster Components...



dagster university

Dagster Essentials

Dagster E: 16,502 completions

Course

* 4.8 (160 reviews)

In this course, learn the basics of Dagster, including how to represent a data pipeline as the data assets it produces and orchestrate a...



dagster university

Testing with Dagster

Testing wit 1,068 completions

Course

★ **5.0** (4 reviews)

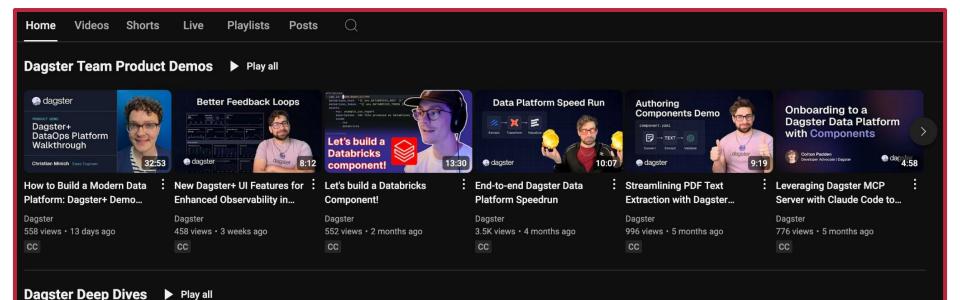
In this course, learn best practices for testing, including unit tests, mocks, integration tests and applying them to Dagster.



Al makes it easy to translate between content mediums.



Videos

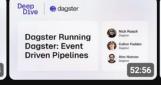


Deep eagster
Dive eagster

Platform
Engineering
with Dagster
at Empirico

Alex Rosean

Sp. 388



A series of talks, presentations and demos on how to get the most out of your data platform.

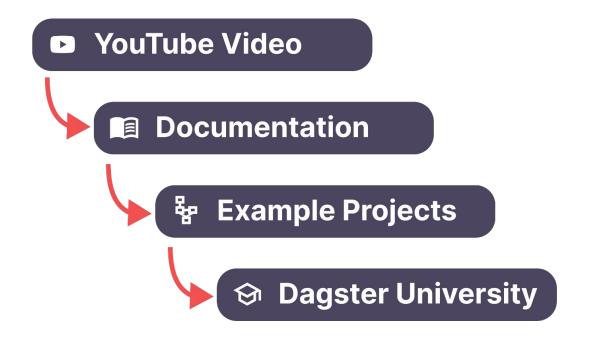








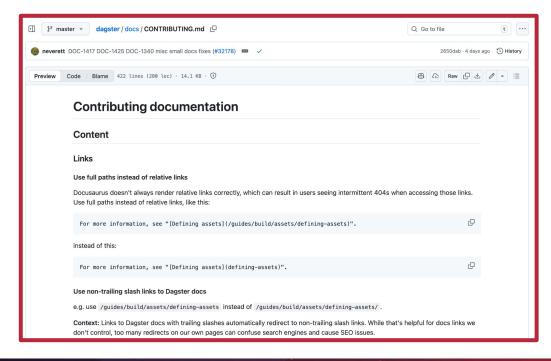
Example flow





Scaling through collaboration

- Enable contributors internal & external
- Hosted a docs-week for an all hands on deck overhaul
- And helpful for Al!



Scaling even more w/ Al



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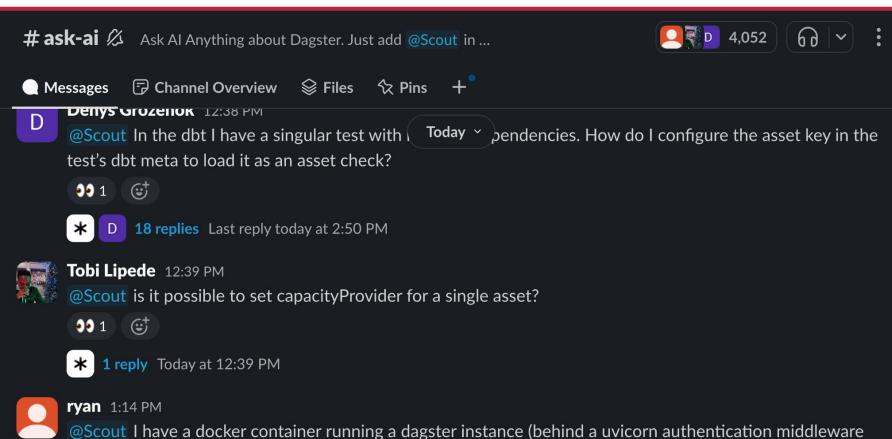




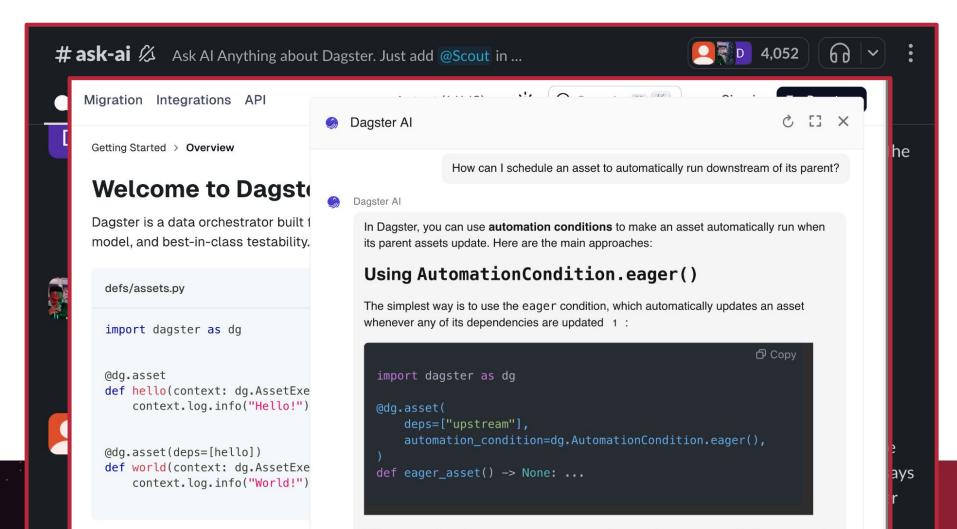
G Google analytics

create / refine content





page). I am connecting another code location in its own docker container via grpc, and the code location says it's loaded correctly, but the daemons are not running. How can I get that setup so that my original dagster instance has centralized daemons that can be used for the code locations attached?



This ensures that whenever unstream changes happen, they are automatically propagated



Matt Menzenski Today at 2:59 PM

@Scout I'm using Dagster 1.9.11 with the dagster-dbt library. I would like to define a select field on the Config subclass that's passed to my @dbt_assets decorated assets function. How can I do this? I don't see that dagster_dbt.build_schedule_from_dbt_selection allows an easy way to do this. (My use case here is that if a scheduled dbt asset materialization job fails, I want to be able to manually rerun the specific models that failed via the Dagster Launchpad).

99 1 (2)

1 reply



Dagster Al APP Today at 2:59 PM

You can define a Config subclass with a select field for your @dbt_assets function and use that configuration to dynamically control which dbt models are executed. Here's how you can implement this:

```
import dagster as dg
from dagster_dbt import DbtCliResource, dbt_assets
from pydantic import Field
class DbtConfig(dq.Config):
    select: str = Field(
        default="*",
        description="dbt select statement to specify which models to run"
@dbt_assets(manifest=dbt_manifest_path)
def my_dbt_assets(context: dq.AssetExecutionContext, config: DbtConfig):
    dbt = DbtCliResource(project_dir=dbt_project_path)
    vield from dbt.cli(["build", "--select", config.select], context=context).stream()
```





Brandon Rickman Today at 12:30 PM

@Scout I want to deploy a dagster to my local kind cluster using helm. Please provide a list of steps I can take to achieve this.

99 1 😅



12 replies



Dagster Al APP Today at 12:30 PM

I'll help you deploy Dagster to your local kind cluster using Helm. Here are the step-by-step instructions:

Prerequisites Setup

First, make sure you have the following installed:

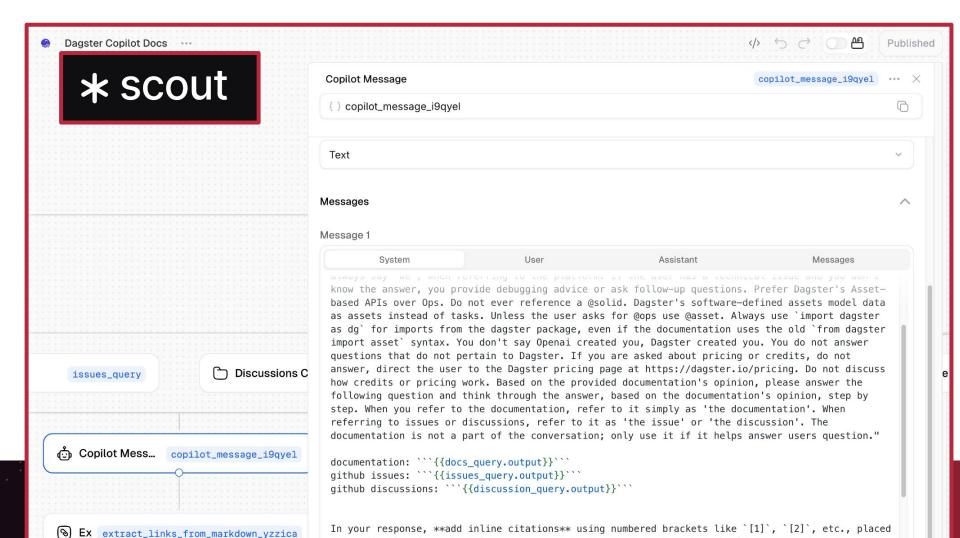
- Docker
- kind
- kubectl
- Helm 3
- A Dagster project to deploy

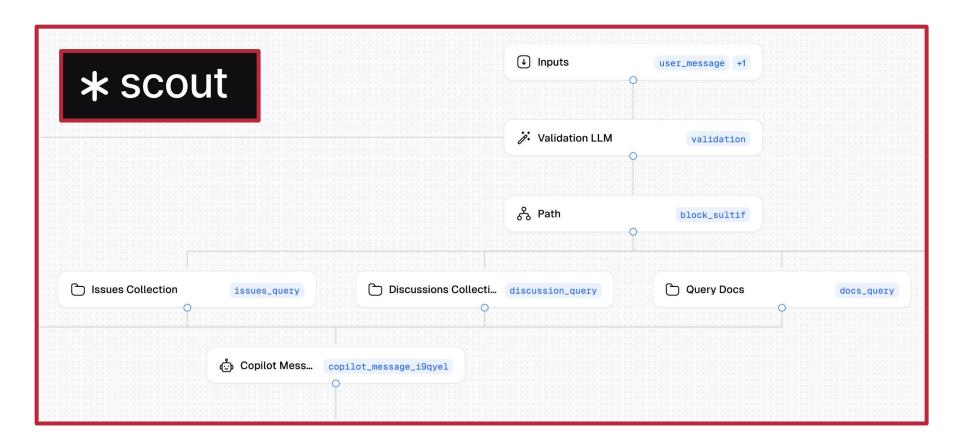
Step 1: Create and Configure Kind Cluster

Create a kind cluster:

kind create cluster --name dagster-local







Al workflows emphasize the importance of context through documentation and educational material.



Al tools for writing

- Working in markdown works fantastically with AI tools meant for code
 - Claude Code
 - Codex
 - PR review tools
- Defining contributing and writing guidelines helps prime the LLM
- Helpful to work in a monorepo alongside framework code
- Easily translates code examples into tutorials

Content review—it can even help with presentation outlines!

• Looking at your presentation outline, here are my suggestions for improving the flow and structure:

Structural Recommendations

1. Reorganize the AI content

The AI section is currently at the end but #ask-ai is introduced earlier in the Community section. Consider one of these
approaches:

Option A: Consolidate all AI discussion into one section

- Move #ask-ai details from "Community" to "The world of AI"
- This creates a stronger narrative arc: traditional education → AI-enhanced education

Option B: Thread AI throughout as an evolution

- Keep #ask-ai in Community but add a transition like "which leads us to..."
- Emphasize AI as the next evolution of each educational pillar
- 2. Merge or reposition "Feedback loops"

The feedback loops section (line 91-93) is underdeveloped and feels orphaned. Either:

- Expand it significantly with concrete examples of how feedback influenced changes
- Merge it into "What we've done in the last year" as the why behind those changes
- Position it as a bridge between "What we offer" and "What we've improved"
- 3. Suggested flow:
- 1. Personal introduction
- 2. Introduction to Dagster
- 3. The educational challenge
- 4. Our multi-faceted solution (Documentation, University, Videos, Community)
 - → Include metrics here to show impact
- 5. Listening and evolving (Feedback loops + What we've improved)
 - → This shows you're responsive to community needs
- 6. AI as a force multiplier
 - → Both for users (#ask-ai) and for your team (content creation)
 - → Your "2 primary takeaways" framing is excellent
- 7. Current initiatives & future direction



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Evaluation frameworks (Experimental)

- Documentation acts as the source of truth
- Generate code from documentation context
- Run test suite against generated code
- Validates both robot and human coverage of documentation

Further exploration

- Exploring better GitHub issue triage and generating solutions with our custom context
- Learnings how to expose context for our end users (https://llmstxt.org/)
- Continuing to enhance our content auditing

And just trying to keep up with the evolving ecosystem!

Takeaways



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Are things improving...?

Contributing documentation has become much more collaborative

Education has become more central to how we operate, emphasized by the dependency in AI.

#ask-ai has answered 16,473 questions in September!

Conclusions

- Education material, information architecture, and context are more important than ever
- Listen and empathize with your community
- Automate, enable contributions, and scale as your community grows

/in/colton-padden





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