

Understanding intelligent digital assistant routing

Program agenda

- - Digital assistant routing overview
 - 2 The digital assistant routing model
 - 3 Routing configurations & parameters
 - 4 How to debug the routing

Digital assistant routing overview

Human conversation seldom follows a single story-line

Our brains manage context switches

Routing in digital assistant "traffic controls" user messages

- Allows users to switch topics
- Routes messages to the most appropriate skill or intent
 - A new flow in a current skill
 - A different skill while suspending a current skill
 - A system intent

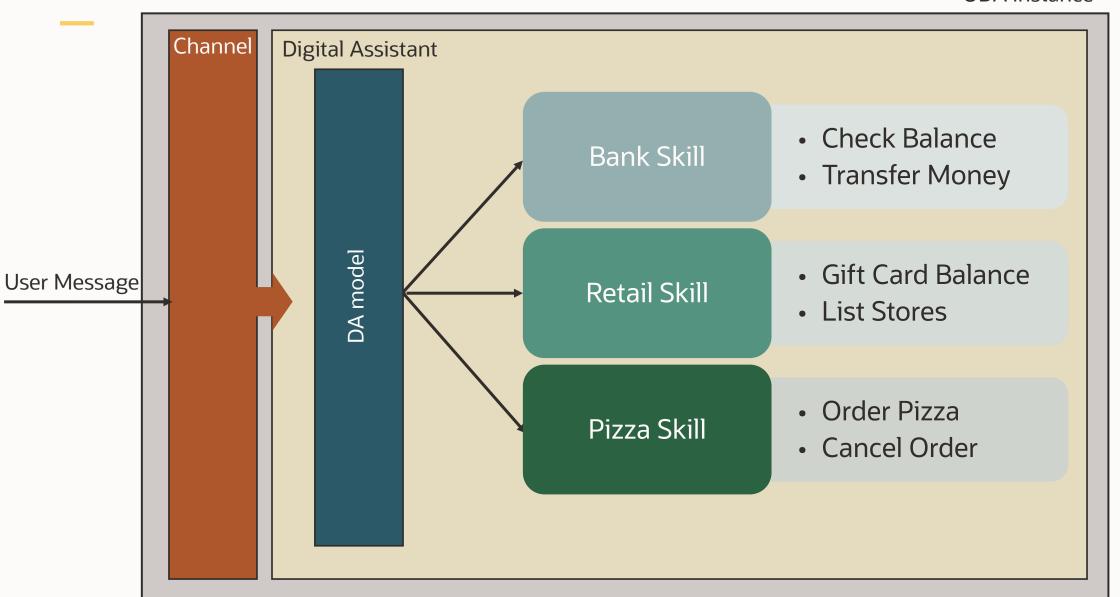
Decision making is based on confidence scores calculated by an NLP model







A digital assistant is an intelligent routing container of one or many skills



A digital assistant must be core to your development mindset

It is not a case of <u>if</u> you use a digital assistant...
you SHOULD always use one*

Digital assistant give you OOTB, with no code

- A "container" for modularized skill development
 - The world is moving to "single point of contact" digital assistants
 - More productive development
 - Better quality NLP
- Handles non-sequitur automatically (no code)
- Allows "contextually aware" conversations
- Promotes consistent behavior across skills and single point of development
 - Common handlers for exit and help
 - Primary mechanism for preventing "trapped" users
 - Common help processing
 - Common handler for unresolved

Routing terminology

Implicit routing

- Routing is determined based on the user message and the current context
- If a message matches two or more configured skills, then routing helps users to disambiguate the request

Explicit routing

- Occurs when the invocation name of a skill is part of the user message
- "Ask Spotify to play the Rolling Stones"

Candidate skill

- Skills that candidates to handle a user message
- Confidence score defines threshold

Candidate flow

• Intent in a candidate skill that could handle the user message

System intent

- Built-in intents
 - exit, help, unresolvedIntent

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The routing model

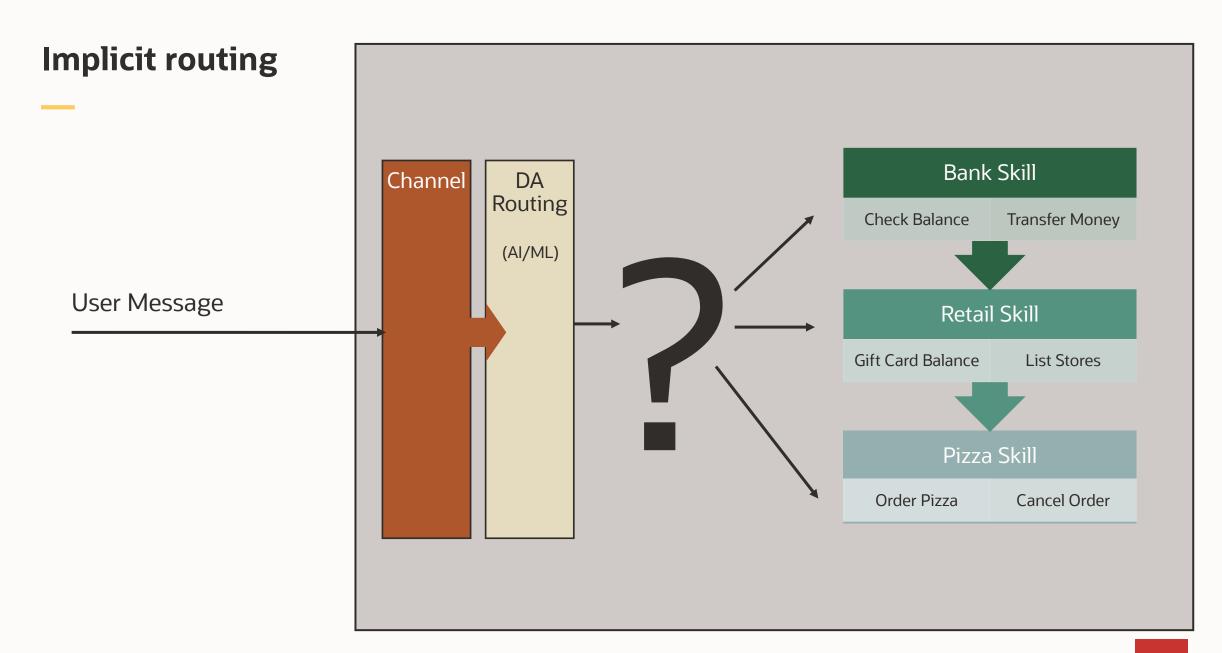
Determine candidate DA system intent intents

Check the confidence scores for DA's system intents (help,exit,unresolved)

Determine candidate skills Check the confidence scores for the existing skills

Determine candidate flows

Check
intent
confidence
scores
within skills





Implicit routing

Example 1

One Match (above threshold)

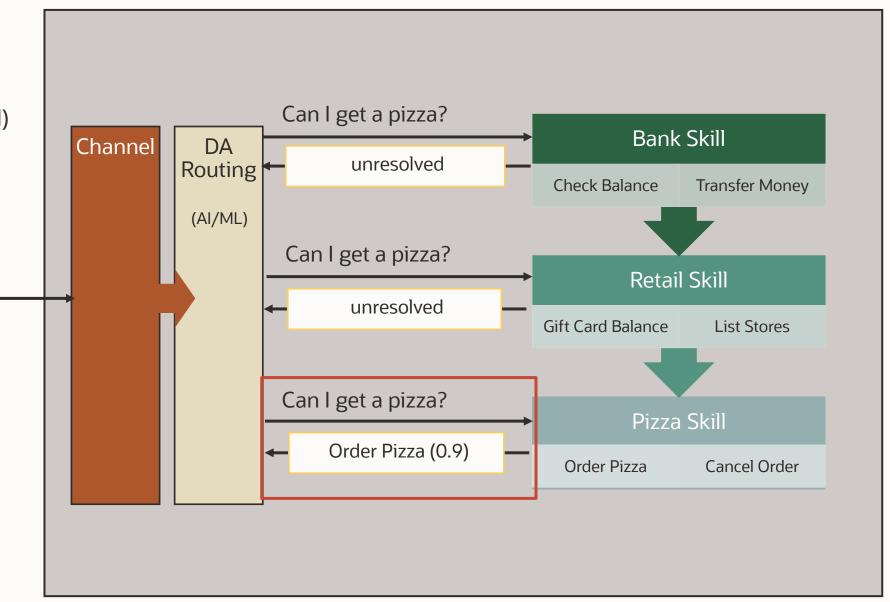
No active skill

Candidate Skills:

- Pizza

Candidate Flows:

- Order Pizza
- Cancel Order



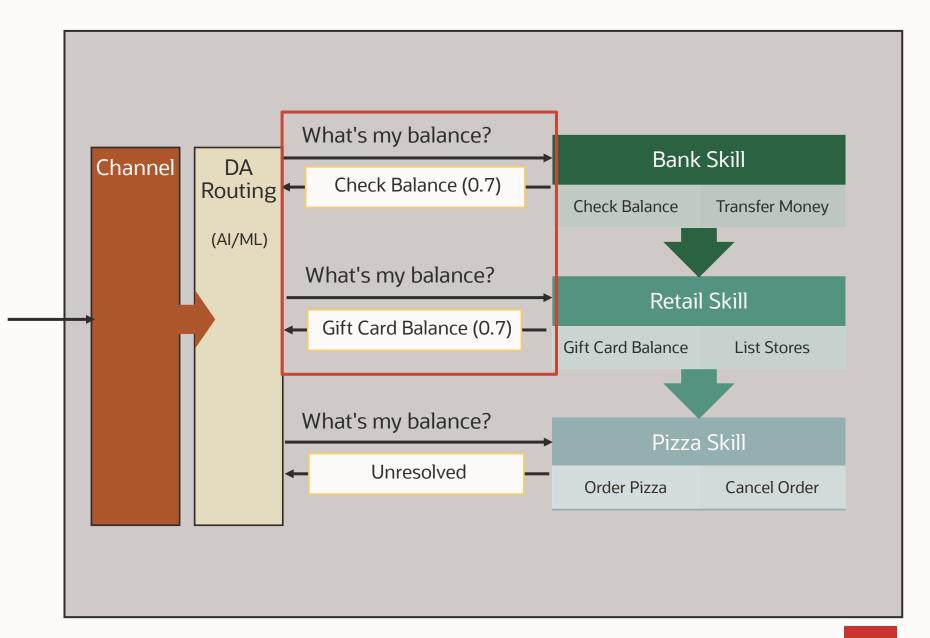
Implicit routing Example 2

Multiple Matches (above threshold)

No active skill

Candidate Skills:

- Bank
- Retail



Implicit routing

Example 2

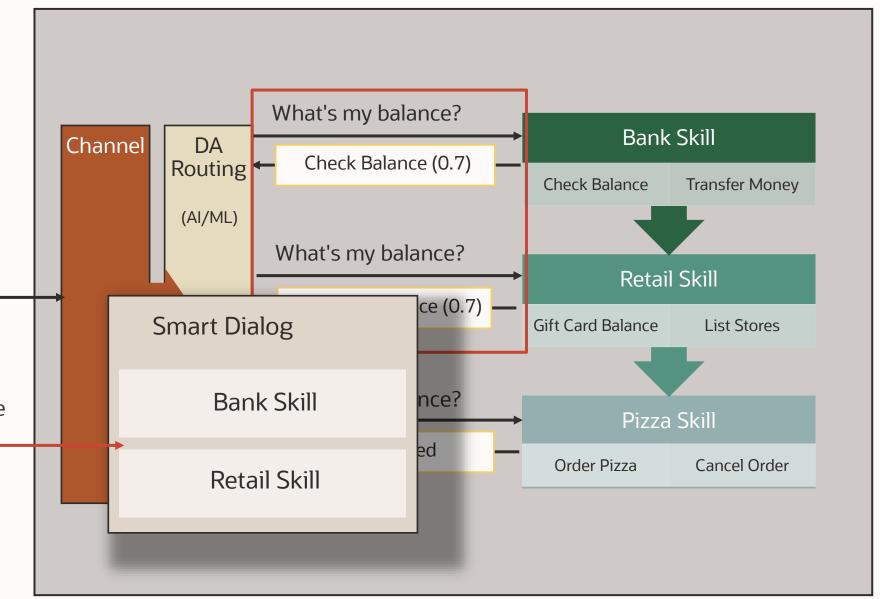
Multiple Matches (above threshold)

No active skill

Candidate Skills:

- Bank
- Retail

Smart Dialog to disambiguate



Conversation context

Digital assistant is context aware

- Aware of the skill that currently handles the user conversation
- The skill is "the topic" of the user conversation

A current skill is given more weight during intent resolution than intents from other skills

Context-aware routing

Explicit invocation of a skill with no further message "pins" the context

- Router treats referenced skill as current
- Awaits next message to route to pinned context



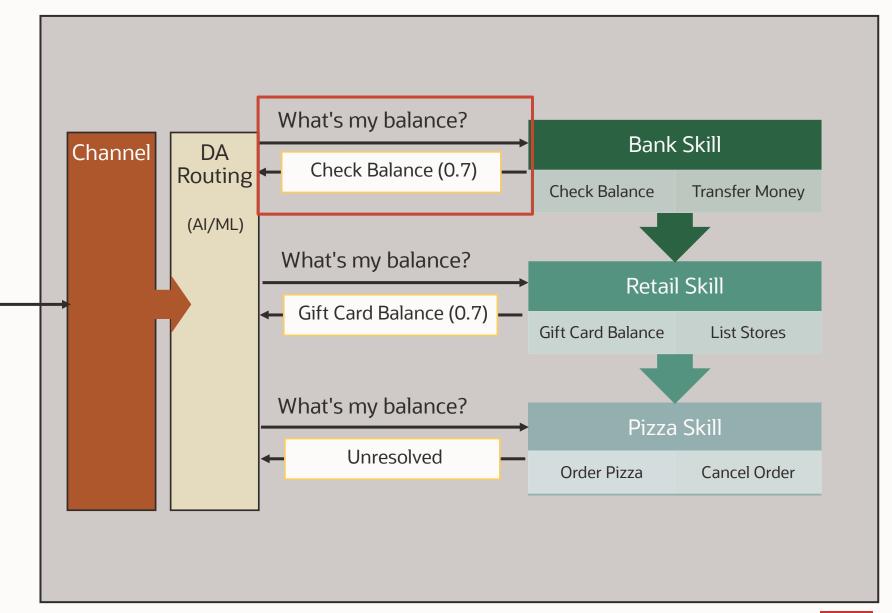
Implicit routing

Example 3

Multiple Matches (above threshold)

Active skill: Bank

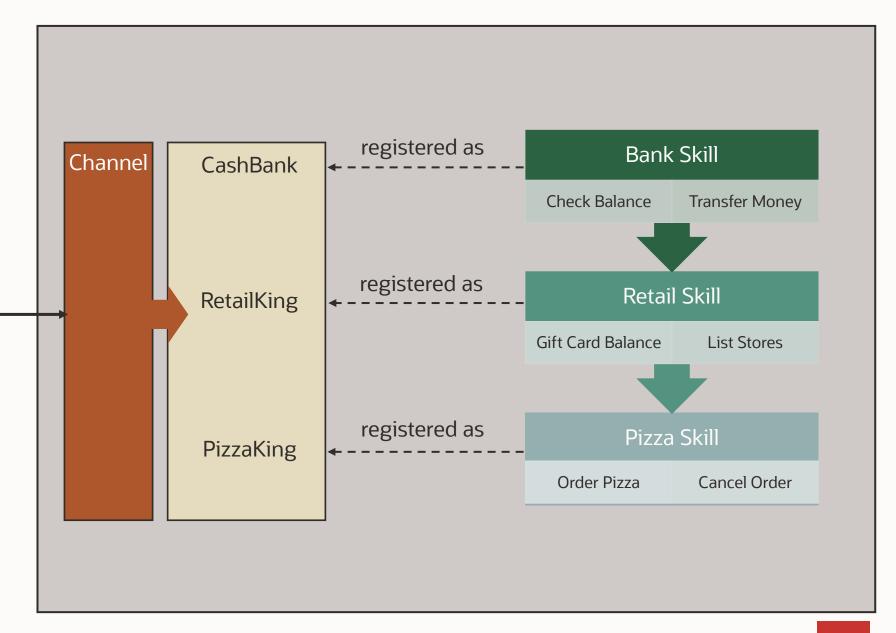
Context adds extra weight in routing



Explicit routing

Explicit routing uses registered Skill name

User Message <addressing> <utterance>

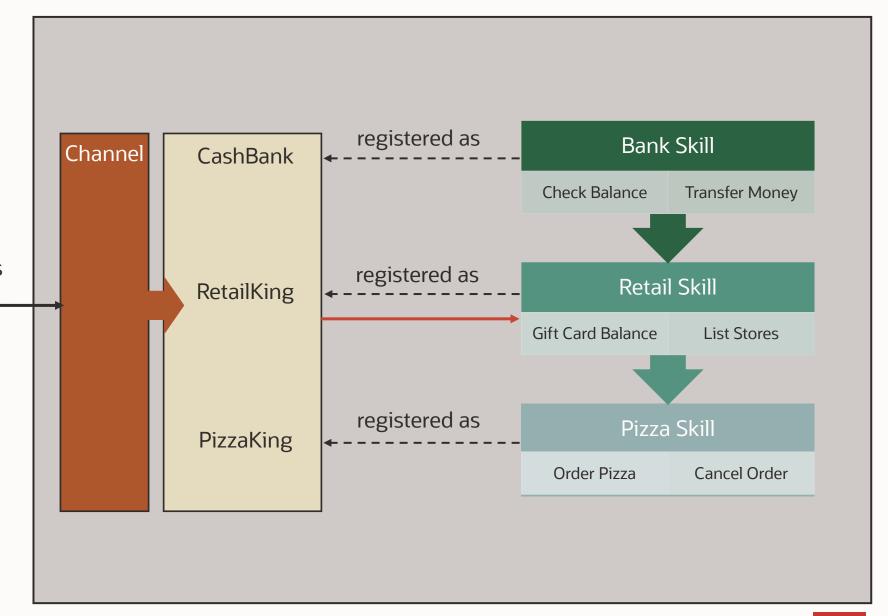




Explicit routing

Explicit routing uses registered Skill name

Ask **RetailKing** to list all the stores





Even if you only have one skill, you still benefit from using a digital assistant, so use it

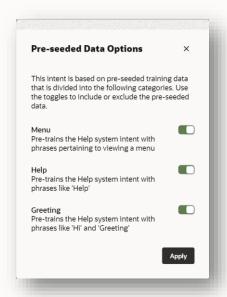
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System intents

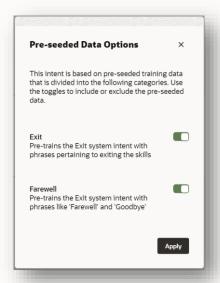
help

- Uses NLP to determine whether a user requests help, a menu or if provides a greeting
- If user is in a skill conversation, then help is displayed for the current skill



exit

- Users can exit from a current conversation, or from all conversations
- Trained with phrases users would use to end a conversation



unresolvedIntent

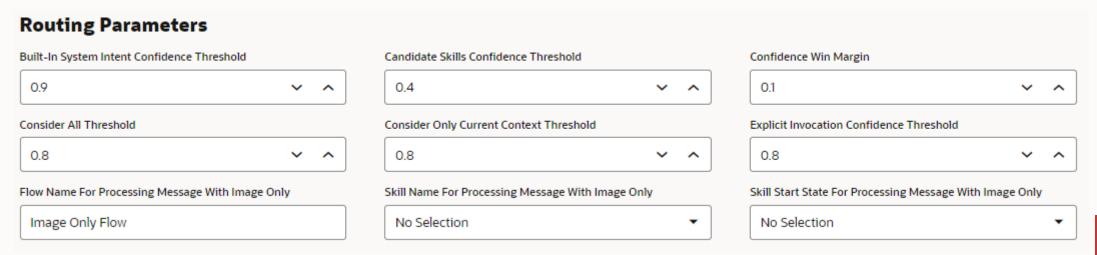
- Defines out of scope phrases the digital assistant is not designed to answer
- It has built-in utterances for all the natively-supported languages
- A help menu is displayed instead

The routing parameters

Fine-tuning of routing decisions

Key configuration parameters to focus on are

- Built-in system intent confidence threshold (consider 0.9)
- Candidate skill confidence threshold (consider 0.4)
- Confidence win margin (consider 0.4)
- Consider only current context threshold (consider 0.9)





Examples for Candidate Skills

Confidence Threshold: 40%

Win Margin: 10%

Consider All Threshold: 80%

Skill A: 78%

Skill B: 69%

Skill C: 67 %

Skill D: 49%

Confidence Threshold: 40%

Win Margin: 20%

Consider All Threshold: 80%

Skill A: 78%

Skill B: 69%

Skill C: 67 %

Skill D: 39%

Confidence Threshold: 40%

Win Margin: 10%

Consider All Threshold: 70%

Skill A: 85%

Skill B: 81%

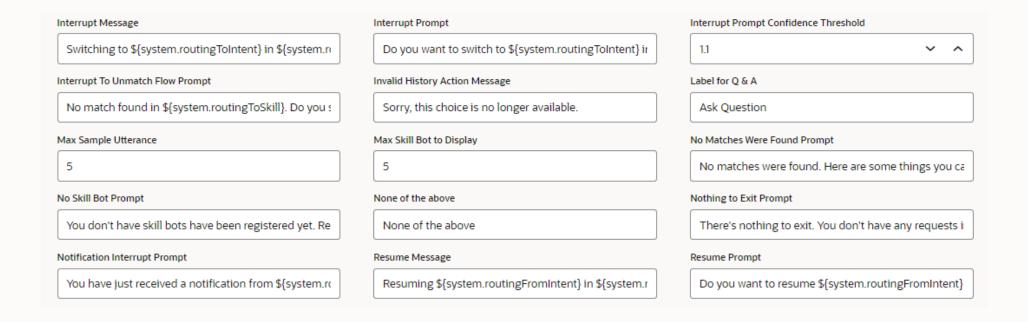
Skill C: 73 %

Skill D: 70%

Smart dialog configuration

Control the appearance of smart dialogs

- When the user exits, switches, interrupts or resumes a flow
- When set to > 1 will always show

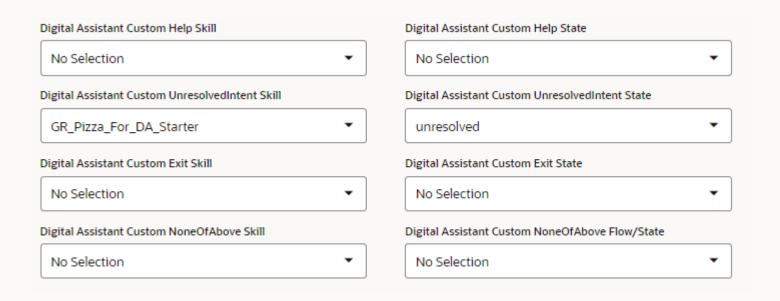




Common functionality configuration

Control common functionality for the digital assistant

- Common handlers for
 - Help
 - Exit
 - Unresolved





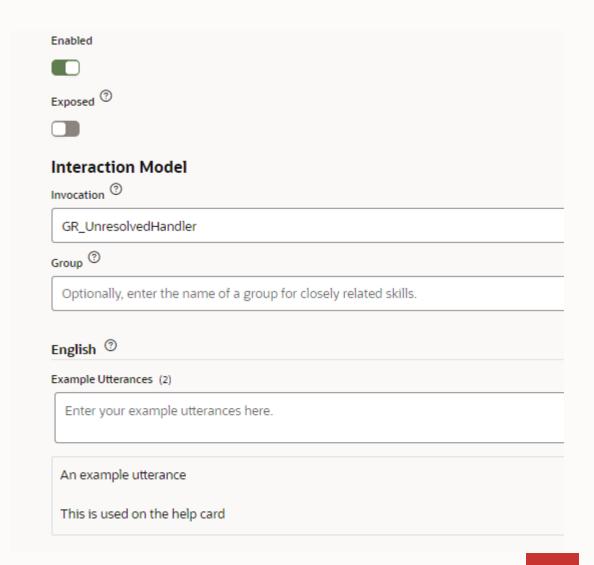


The digital assistant's unresolvedIntent is only used to help discriminate the help and exit intents

Digital assistant other interesting features

Control how skills function in the digital assistant

- Enabled whether the skill is turned on or not
- Exposed whether the skill appears in any routing or help dialogs
- Group grouped skills are all considered "in context" if one is
- Example utterances the options that appear on the help cards



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Conversation tester

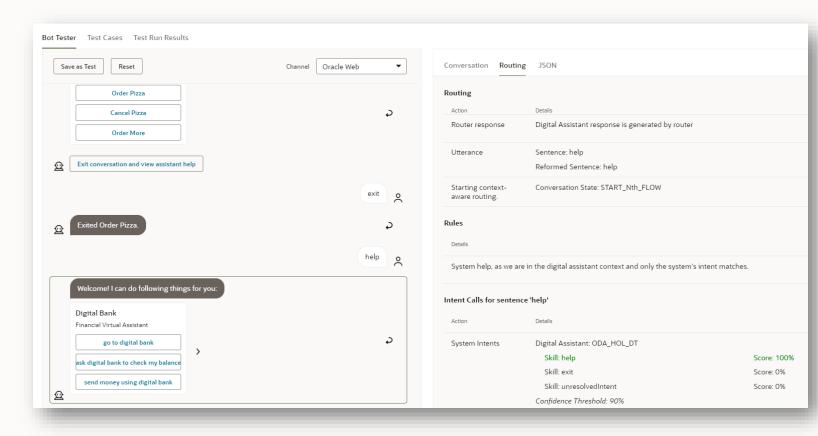
Test digital assistant before deployment

Conversation shows

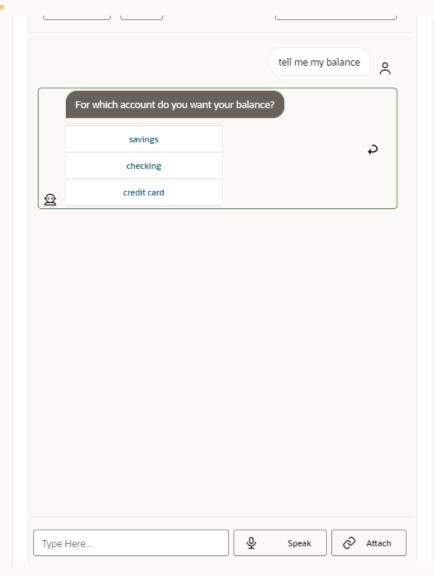
- dialog flow states
- variable and values

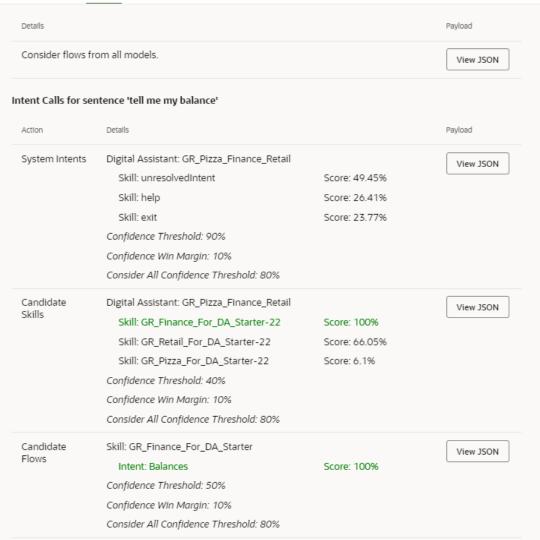
Routing shows

- conversation path
- resolved intents
- router decision making
 - Candidate skills and intents

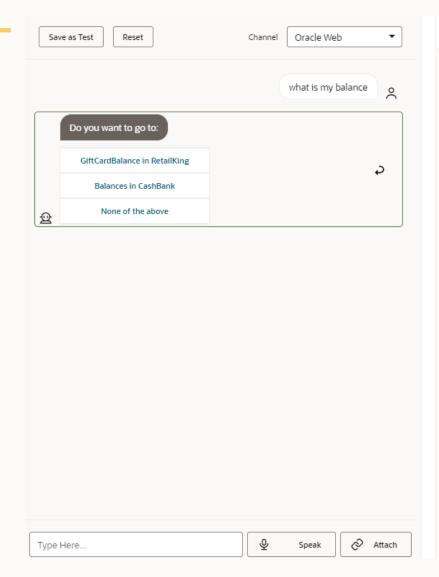


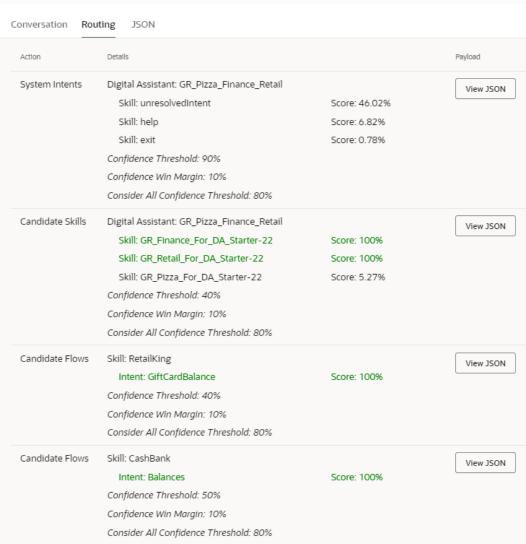




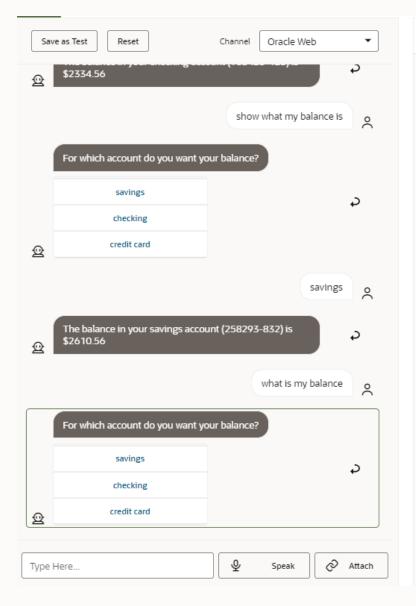






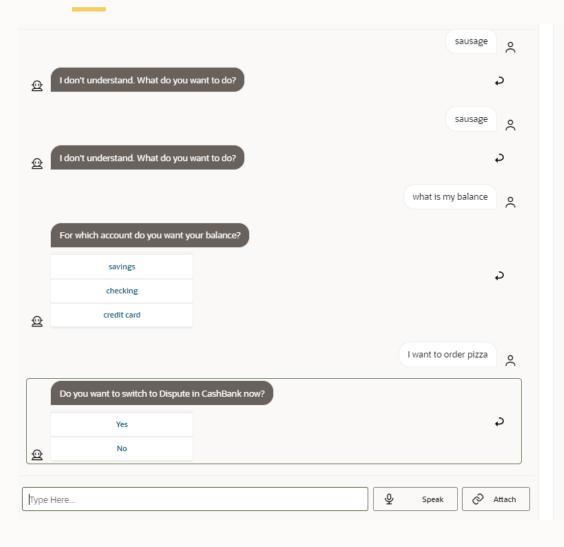






onversation	Routing JSON		
	Skill: exit	Score: 0.78%	
	Confidence Threshold: 90%		
	Confidence Win Margin: 10%		
	Consider All Confidence Threshold: 80%		
Candidate	Digital Assistant: GR_Pizza_Finance_Retail		View JSON
Skills	Skill: GR_Finance_For_DA_Starter-22	Score: 100%	
	Skill: GR_Retail_For_DA_Starter-22	Score: 100%	
	Skill: GR_Pizza_For_DA_Starter-22	Score: 5.27%	
	Confidence Threshold: 40%		
	Confidence Win Margin: 10%		
	Consider All Confidence Threshold: 80%		
Candidate Flows	Skill: Retail skill		View JSON
	Intent: GiftCardBalance	Score: 100%	
	Confidence Threshold: 40%		
	Confidence Win Margin: 10%		
	Consider All Confidence Threshold: 80%		
Candidate Flows	Skill: GR_Finance_For_DA_Starter		View JSON
	Intent: Balances	Score: 100%	
	Confidence Threshold: 50%		
	Confidence Win Margin: 10%		
	Consider All Confidence Threshold: 80%		
Current context	Skill: GR_Finance_For_DA_Starter		View JSON
	Intent: Balances	Score: 100%	
	Confidence Threshold: 50%		
	Confidence Win Margin: 10%		
	Consider All Confidence Threshold: 80%		





	Confidence win Margin. 10%		
	Consider All Confidence Threshold: 80%		
System Intents	Digital Assistant: GR_Pizza_Finance_Retail		View JSON
	Skill: unresolvedIntent	Score: 44.73%	Vicinsson
	Skill: help	Score: 22.35%	
	Skill: exit	Score: 19.31%	
	Confidence Threshold: 90%		
	Confidence Win Margin: 10%		
	Consider All Confidence Threshold: 80%		
Candidate Skills	Digital Assistant: GR_Pizza_Finance_Retail		View JSON
	Skill: GR_Pizza_For_DA_Starter-22-10	Score: 89.27%	
	Skill: GR_Retail_For_DA_Starter-22-10	Score: 49.13%	
	Skill: unresolvedIntent	Score: 46.1%	
	Skill: GR_Finance_For_DA_Starter-22-10	Score: 44.96%	
	Confidence Threshold: 40%		
	Confidence Win Margin: 10%		
	Consider All Confidence Threshold: 80%		
Candidate Flows	Skill: Pizza Skill		View JSON
	Intent: OrderPizza	Score: 100%	
	Intent: CancelPizza	Score: 6.4%	
	Intent: unresolvedIntent	Score: 0%	
	Confidence Threshold: 40%		
	Confidence Win Margin: 10%		
	Consider All Confidence Threshold: 80%		
Current context			
Current context	Skill: CashBank		View JSON
Current context	Skill: CashBank Intent: Dispute	Score: 52.33%	View JSON



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