

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE AN EXPERT

Stories from the Open Source
Frontlines

Alenka Frim

OPEN SOURCE

... open source software (OSS), a global public good that plays a vital role in the economy and is foundational for most technology we use today ...

https://www.hbs.edu/ris/Publication%20Files/24-038_51f8444f-502c-4139-8bf2-56eb4b65c58a.pdf

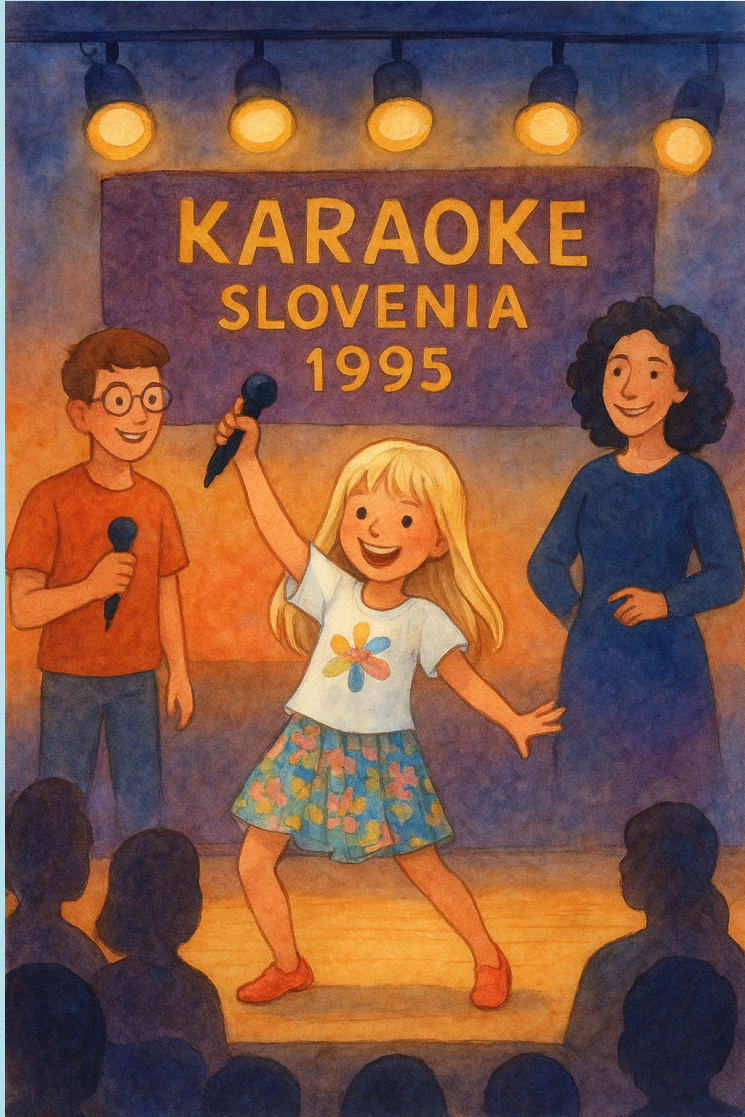
Open source fosters a collective approach to problem-solving.

<https://www.turing.ac.uk/blog/open-source-software-why-it-matters-and-how-get-involved>

Developing and deploying open source software is no longer just a novel idea. It's a strategic necessity in a fast-changing digital world.

<https://www.bcg.com/publications/2021/open-source-software-strategy-benefits>

KARAOKE



CAN THE DATA ECOSYSTEM BE OVERWHELMING?

Do you remember a time when you ...

... felt you were not smart enough?

... you were afraid of being wrong?

CAN THE DATA ECOSYSTEM BE OVERWHELMING?

Have you [a data scientist, engineer, developer, educator, open-source contributor/maintainer], in the past year, felt one of the following?

You can see how people vote. [Learn more](#)

Burnout / lack of motivation	57%
Imposter syndrome (any kind)	23%
Loneliness	17%
None of the above	3%

30 votes • Poll closed

DR. CAT HICKS

Psychologist for Software Teams

Developer Thriving Learning Culture

People are always
looking for cues to
weather or not they are
in a safe place for
learning





BUILDING PLAYFULNESS

TYPE CHECKING SUPPORT

- **Rok Mihevc** wanted to find a solution for the Type Checking support in PyArrow
- took the opportunity to brainstorm ideas on EuroPython sprints



EuroPython

- Worked towards POC with **Patrick J. Roddy**

TYPE ANNOTATIONS IN PYARROW

[Python] Gradually add type checks to Arrow, initial step #45

 Open rok wants to merge 10 commits into `main` from `gradual_pyarrow_stubs` 

 Conversation 11

 Commits 10

 Checks 24

 Files changed 18



rok commented [last month](#) • edited ▾

Owner ...

This proposes adding type annotation to pyarrow by adopting pyarrow-stubs into pyarrow. To do so we copy a subset of pyarrow-stubs's stubfiles into pyarrow tree. We then add annotation checks for some stubsfiles and some test files and make sure checks pass. Annotation checks should be expanded until all (or most) project files are covered in future work.

PR introduces:

1. adds [pyarrow-stubs](#) into `arrow/python/pyarrow/`
2. fixes pyarrow-stubs to pass mypy and pyright check
3. adds mypy and pyright check to CI (crudely)
4. adds a tool (`update_stub_docstrings.py`) to keep annotation docstrings in sync with source docstrings
5. adds docstring sync check to CI (crudely)



TYPE ANNOTATIONS IN PYARROW

```
import pyarrow.compute as pc
```

```
pc.
```

↑ (f)	all(array, skip_nulls, min_count, opt...	pyarrow.compute
↓ (f)	scalar(value)	pyarrow.compute
↑ (f)	array_take(array, indices, boundschec...	pyarrow.compute
↑ (f)	sum(array, skip_nulls, min_count, opt...	pyarrow.compute
↑ (f)	array_filter(array, selection_filter,...	pyarrow.compute
↓ (f)	cast(arr, target_type, safe, options,...	pyarrow.compute
↓ (f)	abs(x, memory_pool)	pyarrow.compute
↓ (v)	abs_checked	pyarrow.compute

TYPE ANNOTATIONS IN PYARROW

```
import pyarrow.compute as pc
```

```
pc.strftime()
```

pyarrow.compute

```
def strftime(timestamps: Date32Scalar | Date64Scalar | Time32Scalar[Any] |  
TimestampScalar[Any] | DurationScalar[Any] | MonthDayNanoIntervalScalar |  
Date64Scalar | Time32Scalar[Any] | Time64Scalar[Any] | TimestampScalar[Any] |  
MonthDayNanoIntervalScalar | ChunkedArray[Date32Scalar | Date64Scalar |  
[Any] | TimestampScalar[Any] | DurationScalar[Any] | MonthDayNanoIntervalScalar |  
/,  
format: str = "%Y-%m-%dT%H:%M:%S",  
locale: str = "C",  
*,  
options: StrftimeOptions | None = None,  
memory_pool: MemoryPool | None = None) -> StringScalar | StringChunkedArray
```

Format temporal values according to a format string.

For each input value, emit a formatted string. The time format string and locale can be set using the `options` parameter. The `format` string is a C-style format string. The `%S` (seconds) format code depends on the input time precision: it is an integer for timestamps with the required number of fractional digits for higher precisions. Null values emit null. An error is returned if the specified locale does not exist in the system's locale database, or if the specified locale does not exist in the system's timezone database, or if the specified locale does not exist in the system's timezone database.

Params: `timestamps` – Argument to compute function.

`format` – Pattern for formatting input values.

APACHE ARROW

Would I be any good at software development in Open source?

Official Implementations

The Apache Arrow project houses a collection of libraries for different programming languages. Use the links in the table below to access the documentation and source code for these libraries.

Language	Docs	Source
C++	C++ Docs	C++ Source
C GLib	C GLib Docs	C GLib Source
C#	C# Docs 	C# Source
Go	Go Docs 	Go Source
Java	Java Docs	Java Source
JavaScript	JavaScript Docs 	JavaScript Source
Julia	Julia Docs 	Julia Source
MATLAB	MATLAB Docs 	MATLAB Source
Python	Python Docs	Python Source
R	R Docs 	R Source
Ruby	Ruby Docs 	Ruby Source
Rust	Rust Docs 	Rust Source
Swift	Swift Docs 	Swift Source

ARROW R PACKAGE

Lots of good first issues!

☐ **Open** 15 **Closed** 45

Author ▾ Labels ▾ Projects ▾ Milestones ▾ Assignees ▾

☐  **[R] Update R package to use R 4.1+ native forward pipe syntax** **Component: R** **good-first-issue** **Type: enhancement**
#47106 · amoeba opened on Jul 14 ·  22.0.0

☐  **[R] concat_tables on a record_batch causes segfault** **Component: R** **good-first-issue** **Type: bug**
#47000 · warnes opened on Jul 5

☐  **[R] Update the docs to show how to avoid situations like data loss with leading zero in partition column** **Component: R**
good-first-issue **Type: enhancement**
#39660 · arthurgailes opened on Jan 17, 2024

Lots of support from the maintainers!

  **apache/arrow** **ARROW-13137: [C++][Documentation] Make in-table references consistent**  5

#10630 by AlenkaF was closed on Jul 5, 2021 • Approved

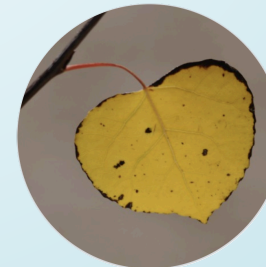
  **apache/arrow** **ARROW-12867: [R] Bindings for abs()** **Component: R**  24

#10519 by AlenkaF was closed on Jun 21, 2021 • Changes requested

  **apache/arrow** **ARROW-12198: [R] bindings for strtptime** **Component: R**  46

#10334 by AlenkaF was closed on Jun 4, 2021 • Approved

HELPED ME BUILD MY COMMUNITY



BUILDING CURIOSITY



APACHE ARROW FORMAT

Apache Arrow defines a language-independent columnar memory format for flat and nested data, organized for efficient analytic operations on modern hardware like CPUs and GPUs.

APACHE ARROW FORMAT

The Arrow memory format also supports zero-copy reads for lightning-fast data access without serialization overhead.

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YOGIC APHORISMS

Yogaś citta vṛtti nirodhaḥ

Chitta is the consciousness which includes the mind, the intellect and the ego. Yoga is a method of silencing the vibrations of the chitta.

~ <https://bksiyengar.com/modules/iyoga/iyoga.htm>

Single reading

vs

re-reading

reading multiple texts



DOCUMENTATION IN OPEN SOURCE

- do the documentation!
- elevate documentation skills
- don't look down on documentation work!



DOCUMENTATION IN OPEN SOURCE

-  aphorism structure

Aphorism → Translation → Commentary

PyArrow Tables

Instances of `pyarrow.Table`, a logical table data structure in which each column consists of one or more `pyarrow.Array` objects of the same type.

<http://arrow.apache.org/docs/python/data.html#tables>

BUILDING BRAVERY

IMPACT OF OS

and open standards!



TABULAR DATA STRUCTURES

Python

- select a dataframe library to work with tabular data

R

- built in columnar tabular data structure called `data.frame`

Fragmentation of the Python dataframe libraries.

DATAFRAME INTERCHANGE PROTOCOL

In 2021 **Ralf Gommers** from Quansight took on the task to:

- facilitate the discussion
- to construct a **dataframe interchange protocol**
- allow converting one type of dataframe into another

DATAFRAME INTERCHANGE PROTOCOL

[Array API](#)[DataFrame API](#)[Blog](#)[Annual reports](#)

Consortium for Python Data API Standards

Consortium includes representatives from both open source Python libraries and the industry.

LIBRARY INSTEAD OF A PROTOCOL

Marco Gorelli

Narwhals, the dataframe
“translator”

compatibility layer
between Python
dataframe libraries

Narwhals



ADOPTING A WIDER STANDARD

Joris Van den Bossche and **Will Jones**

- wanted to use the Apache Arrow columnar format
- de facto standard
- all about zero-copy

Enable data interchange without the need to depend on PyArrow.

ARROW PYCAPSULE PROTOCOL

C data interface

Implemented in 2020 by **Antoine Pitrou**

Inspired by the Python buffer protocol.

Later additions: C stream interface and C device interface

Capsules

part of Python C API

Envelopes for the C Data Interface structs

More content on the Arrow PyCapsule Protocol:

The expanding Apache Arrow universe

Joris Van den Bossche | PyData Paris 2024



EXAMPLE BEFORE

```
1 df_polars = pl.DataFrame({"a": [1,2], "b": [0.1, 0.2]})
2
3 # Convert polars to datafusion
4 ctx = datafusion.SessionContext()
5 df_datafusion = ctx.from_arrow(df_polars.to_arrow())
6
7 # and convert back to polars
8 pl.DataFrame(df_datafusion.to_arrow_table())
```

EXAMPLE AFTER

```
1 df_polars = pl.DataFrame({"a": [1,2], "b": [0.1, 0.2]})
2
3 # Convert polars to datafusion
4 ctx = datafusion.SessionContext()
5 df_datafusion = ctx.from_arrow(df_polars)
6
7 # and convert back to polars
8 pl.DataFrame(df_datafusion)
```

COMMUNITY BENEFITS



[Python] Promote usage of the Arrow PyCapsule Protocol (for the C Data Interface) #39195



kylebarron on Jul 23, 2024 · edited by kylebarron

Edits ▾

Contributor



I've been working a bit to promote the protocol; here's a running tally:

implemented: (at least partially, return objects with pycapsule protocol and/or check for existence of protocol in constructors)

- pandas: [🔗 ENH: support the Arrow PyCapsule Interface on pandas.DataFrame \(export\) pandas-dev/pandas#56587](#), [🕒 ENH: support the Arrow PyCapsule Interface on pandas.Series \(export\) pandas-dev/pandas#59518](#), [🔗 ENH: support Arrow PyCapsule Interface on Series for export pandas-dev/pandas#59587](#), [🕒 ENH: add basic DataFrame.from_arrow class method for importing through Arrow PyCapsule interface pandas-dev/pandas#59696](#)
- ibis: [🔗 feat\(pyarrow\): support Arrow PyCapsule interface on `ibis.Table` objects ibis-project/ibis#9143](#), [🔗 feat\(pyarrow\): support `\_\_arrow\_c\_schema\_\_` on `ibis.Schema` objects ibis-project/ibis#9665](#)
- pyarrow
- nanoarrow
- [arro3](#)
- [lonboard](#)
- [pyogrio](#)
- gdal [🔗 Python bindings: add a `ogr.Layer.WriteArrow\(\)` method consuming `\_\_arrow\_c\_stream\_\_` or `\_\_arrow\_c\_array\_\_` interfaces OSGeo/gdal#9133](#), [🔗 Python bindings: implement `\_\_arrow\_c\_stream\_\_\(\)` interface for `ogr.Layer` OSGeo/gdal#9043](#)

THANK YOU!

GitHub profile



Slides

