

Mastering Large NDArray Handling with Blosc2 and Caterva2

Francesc Alted / [@FrancescAlted@masto.social](https://masto.social/@FrancescAlted)

The Blosc Development Team / @Blosc2@fosstodon.org

CEO [i] ironArray / francesc@ironarray.io

PyData Global 2024

December 3th 2024

Agenda



Intro



NDArray: Blosc2's N-dim data container



LazyArray: Computing expressions and UDFs



Caterva2: Access to Blosc2 data from network



Conclusions

A Climate Warning



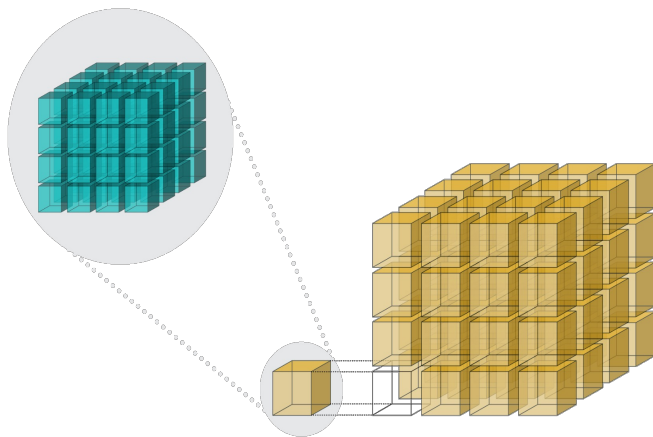
- Catastrophic rain in València area a month ago
- More that 200 deaths
- Tens of thousands Meuros in loses
- Global Warming is real!
- **Act and reduce you carbon footprint!**



Intro

What is Blosc2?

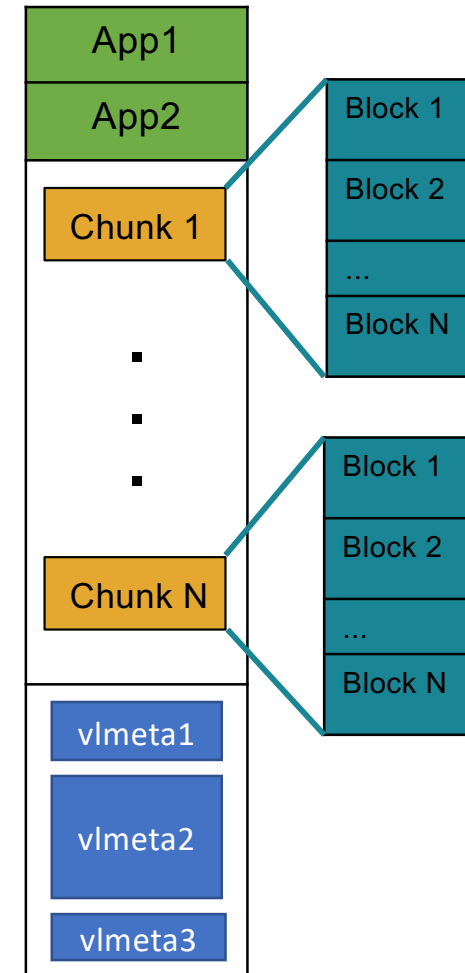
- ✓ Adds 63-bit containers.
- ✓ Metalayers for adding info for apps and users.
- ✓ Multidimensional blocks and chunks.



Header:
Fixed Length
Metalayers

Data:
Super-Chunk

Trailer:
Var Length
Metalayers
(up to 2 GB)



Who is ironArray SLU?

- We are the developers of PyTables, numexpr and Blosc ecosystems
- Team of experts empowering you to harness the full potential of compression for big data: we are here to help!

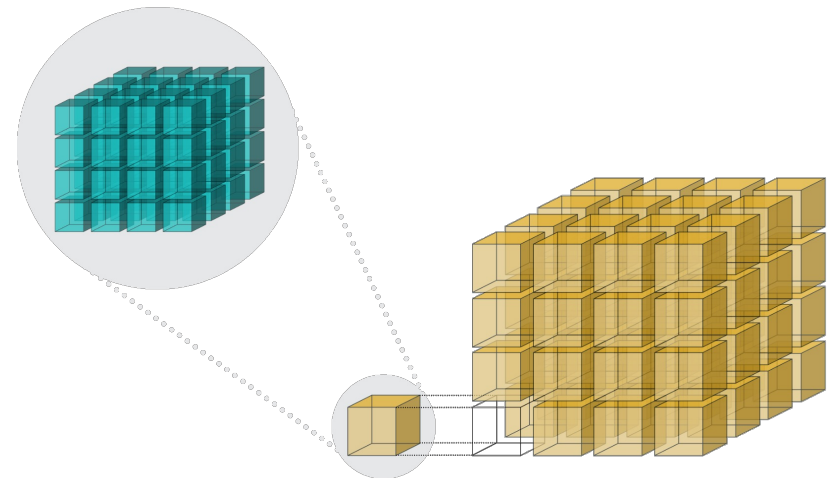


ironArray

<https://ironarray.io>

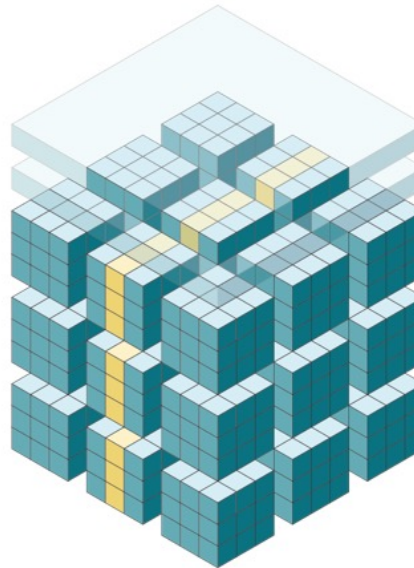


NDArray: N-Dim and compressed data

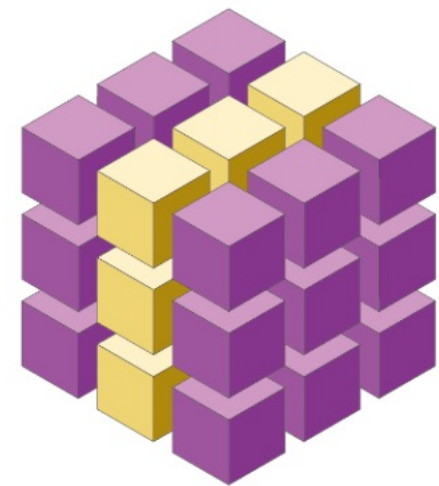


Leveraging the second partition in Blosc2 NDim

Much more selective and
hence, faster queries!

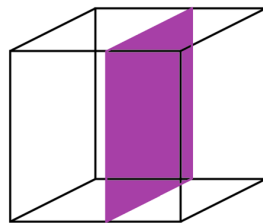


Blosc2 NDim

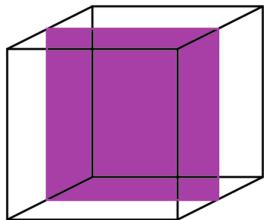


HDF5 / Zarr / others

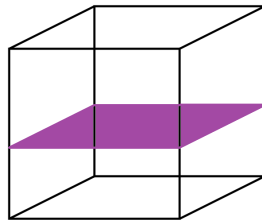
Reading orthogonal slices



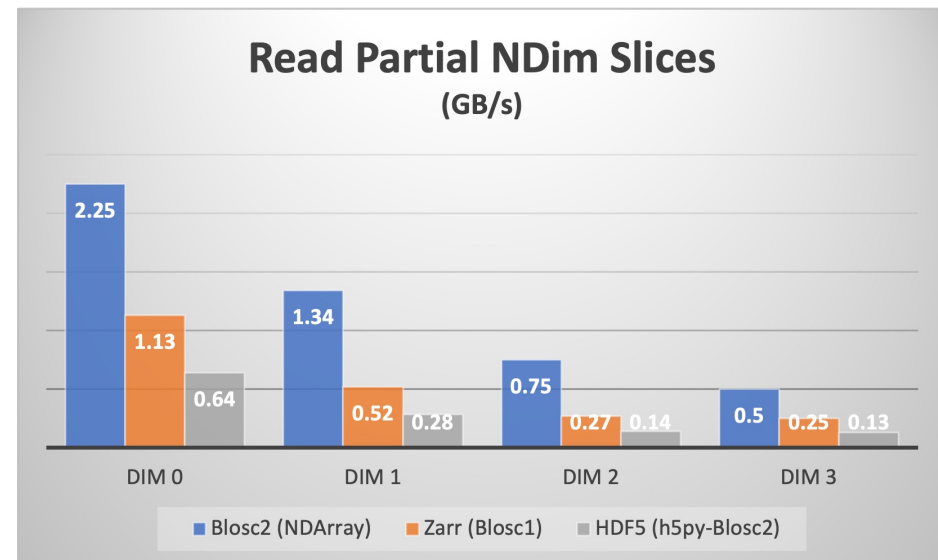
constant dim0



constant dim1



constant dim2



Faster slicing due to higher data selectivity in double partitioning

Hands-on time

Do these actions in command line:

- `git clone https://github.com/Blosc/Python-Blosc2-3.0-tutorial`
- `conda create -n blosc2-tutorial python=3.12`
- `conda activate blosc2-tutorial`
- `pip install -r requirements.txt`
- `jupyter lab`

And let's start with the first tutorial.

LazyArray: Computing expressions and UDFs



Computing expressions

You can perform a rich variety of mathematical expressions:

```
a = blosc2.arange(10)
```

```
la = sin(a) **3 + 1
```

The result (la) is an object that follows the [LazyArray interface](#).

This allows to operate with your NDArray objects on a lazy manner.

User Defined Functions

If expressions are not flexible enough, you can define your own function and use it for doing computations with arbitrary inputs. E.g.


```
def myudf(inputs_tuple, output, offset):  
    x, y = inputs_tuple  
    output[:] = x**3 + np.sin(y) + 1  
  
# a and b can be NDArrays or NumPy arrays  
la = blosc2.lazyudf(myudf, (a, b), a.dtype)
```



Hands-on time



- Let's continue with tutorial 2 (expressions)
- And then tutorial 3 (User Defined Functions)



Caterva2: On-demand access to remote Blosc2 datasets





Caterva2 highlights



- Share your Blosc2 data (and any kind of data actually) through the network.
 - Use a web interface: <https://ironarray.io/caterva2-doc/tutorials/web-client.html>
 - Command line: <https://ironarray.io/caterva2-doc/tutorials/cli.html>
 - High-level API: <https://ironarray.io/caterva2-doc/tutorials/API.html>

We provide **cat2cloud**, a cloud service for Caterva2: <https://ironarray.io/cat2cloud>

Hands-on time

- Go to cat2.cloud/demo and try the interface with me.
- Three groups:
 - @personal: only you can see or remove files here
 - @team: all your team can see or remove files
 - @public: the world can see everything (not remove)
- Try upload anything, from .b2nd files to .png, .pdf or .md, and visualize them.



Conclusion



Python-Blosc2 3.0 is ready for work!



With recently published 3.0.0 rc2 release, you can:

- Work with **large NDArrays**, be in-memory, disk or on the network
- **Compute** arbitrarily complex expressions (including reductions!) on a lazy manner
- Support for **User Defined Functions**
- With **Caterva2**, you can share your Blosc2 data in internet with easy and efficiency.

Blosc2: a highly efficient and flexible tool for
compressing and computing your data, your way



Thanks! Questions?



contact@ironarray.io

Compress Better, Compute Bigger, Share Faster