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Pandas dropna() - Drop Null/NA Values from DataFrame

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Pandas Python

By Pankaj

Developer and author at DigitalOcean.

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Pandas DataFrame dropna()

- Pandas DataFrame dropna() function is used to remove rows and columns with Null/NaN/NaT values.
- 2. The *dropna()* function parameters are:
 - a. axis: {0 or 'index', 1 or 'columns'}, default 0. If 0, drop rows with null values. If 1, drop columns with missing values.
 - b. **how**: {'any', 'all'}, default 'any'. If 'any', drop the row/column if any of the values is null. If 'all', drop the row/column if all the values are missing.
 - c. thresh: an int value to specify the threshold for the drop operation.
 - d. subset: specifies the rows/columns to look for null values.
 - e. **inplace**: a boolean value. If True, the source DataFrame is changed and None is returned.











While we believe that this content benefits our community, we have not yet thoroughly reviewed it. If you have any suggestions for improvements, please let us know by clicking the "report an issue" button at the bottom of the tutorial.

1. Pandas DataFrame dropna() Function

Pandas DataFrame dropna() function is used to remove rows and columns with Null/NaN values. By default, this function returns a new DataFrame and the source DataFrame remains unchanged. We can create null values using None, pandas.NaT, and numpy.nan variables. The dropna() function syntax is:

dropna(self, axis=0, how="any", thresh=None, subset=None, inplace=False)

- axis: possible values are {0 or 'index', 1 or 'columns'}, default 0. If 0, drop rows with null values. If 1, drop columns with missing values.
- how: possible values are {'any', 'all'}, default 'any'. If 'any', drop the row/column if any of the values is null. If 'all', drop the row/column if all the values are missing.
- thresh: an int value to specify the threshold for the drop operation.
- **subset**: specifies the rows/columns to look for null values.
- inplace: a boolean value. If True, the source DataFrame is changed and None is returned.

Let's look at some examples of using dropna() function.

2. Pandas Drop All Rows with any Null/NaN/NaT Values

This is the default behavior of dropna() function.

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Output:

```
Name ID Salary Role

0 Pankaj 1 100 CEO

1 Meghna 2 200 None

2 David 3 NaN NaT

3 Lisa 4 NaT NaT

Name ID Salary Role

0 Pankaj 1 100 CEO
```

3. Drop All Columns with Any Missing Value

We can pass axis=1 to drop columns with the missing values.

```
df1 = df.dropna(axis=1)
print(df1)
```

Output:

```
Name ID
0 Pankaj 1
1 Meghna 2
2 David 3
3 Lisa 4
```

4. Drop Row/Column Only if All the Values are Null

Output:

```
Name ID Salary Role

0 Pankaj 1 100 NaT

1 Meghna 2 200 NaT

2 David 3 NaN NaT

3 NaT NaT NaT NaT

Name ID Salary Role

0 Pankaj 1 100 NaT

1 Meghna 2 200 NaT

2 David 3 NaN NaT
```

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o. Datai raine Drop nows/columns when the threshold of hun

values is crossed

Output:

```
Name
           ID Salary Role
0 Pankaj
                100 NaT
  Meghna
                200 NaT
                NaN NaT
   David
         NaT
     NaT
         NaT
                NaT NaT
    Name ID Salary Role
0 Pankaj 1
              100 NaT
              200 NaT
  Meghna 2
```

The rows with 2 or more null values are dropped.

6. Define Labels to look for null values

Output:

```
ID Salary Role
               100 CEO
0 Pankaj
                200 NaN
  Meghna
   David
                NaN NaT
                NaT NaT
    Lisa NaT
    Name ID Salary Role
0
  Pankaj
              100 CEO
  Meghna
              200
                   NaN
   David 3
              NaN NaT
```

We can specify the index values in the subset when dropping columns from the DataFrame.

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```
Name ID
0 Pankaj 1
1 Meghna 2
2 David 3
3 Lisa NaT
```

The 'ID' column is not dropped because the missing value is looked only in index 1 and 2.

7. Dropping Rows with NA inplace

We can pass inplace=True to change the source DataFrame itself. It's useful when the DataFrame size is huge and we want to save some memory.

```
import pandas as pd

d1 = {'Name': ['Pankaj', 'Meghna'], 'ID': [1, 2], 'Salary': [100, pd.NaT]}

df = pd.DataFrame(d1)

print(df)

df.dropna(inplace=True)
print(df)
```

Output:

```
Name ID Salary
0 Pankaj 1 100.0
1 Meghna 2 NaN

Name ID Salary
0 Pankaj 1 100.0
```

8. References

- Python Pandas Module Tutorial
- Pandas Drop Duplicate Rows
- Pandas DataFrame dropna() API Doc

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