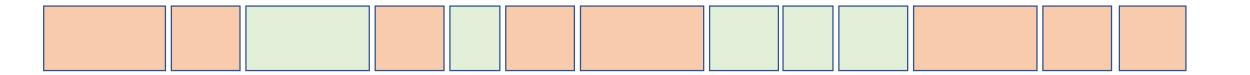
# Spanification

Adam Sitnik

#### Managed Heap: Workstation mode

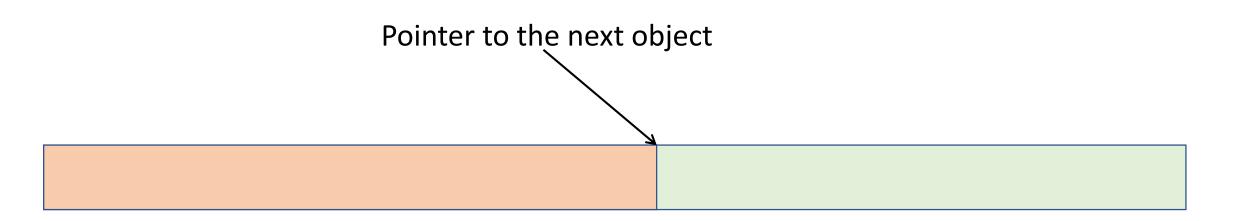


LOH: allocation: find a free segment in the list



Legend: free taken

#### SOH: allocation: pNext += requestedSize;

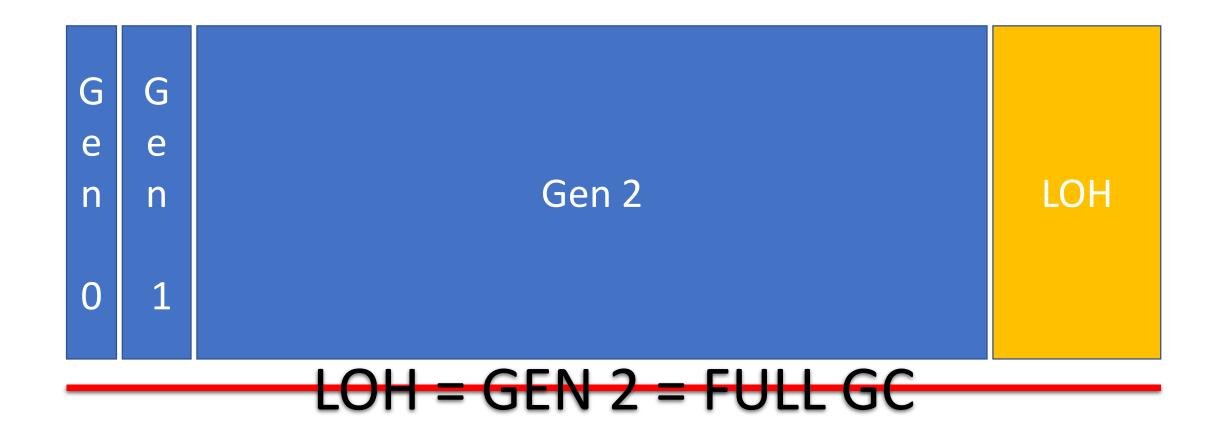


Legend: free taken

#### Garbage Collection

- Mark
  - Starting from the roots, mark all reachable objects as alive
  - In Background
- Sweep
  - Turning all non-reachable objects into a free space
  - Blocking
- Compact
  - To prevent fragmentation
  - Not always
  - Blocking

#### Cleanup: LOH = GEN 2 = FULL GC



#### Managed Heap: Server mode

| CPU #0 | 0 | 1 | Gen 2 | LOH |            |
|--------|---|---|-------|-----|------------|
| CPU #1 | 0 | 1 | Gen 2 | LOH |            |
| CPU #2 | 0 | 1 | Gen 2 | LOH | ONE<br>FOR |
| CPU #3 | 0 | 1 | Gen 2 | LOH | ALL,       |
| CPU #4 | 0 | 1 | Gen 2 | LOH | FOR<br>ONE |
| ()     | 0 | 1 | Gen 2 | LOH |            |
| CPU #n | 0 | 1 | Gen 2 | LOH |            |

Middle Ground between Server and Workstation GC by Maoni Running with Server GC in a Small Container Scenario Part 0 by Maoni

#### Unmanaged heap

Allocate and Free on demand

```
IntPtr pointer = Marshal.AllocHGlobal(bytesCount);
try
{
    Consume(pointer, bytesCount);
}
finally
{
    Marshal.FreeHGlobal(pointer);
}
```

- Must not store managed references, just values
- It's developer responsibility to free the memory
- Possible fragmentation issues

#### Stack

Allocated on demand, freed with stack unwind

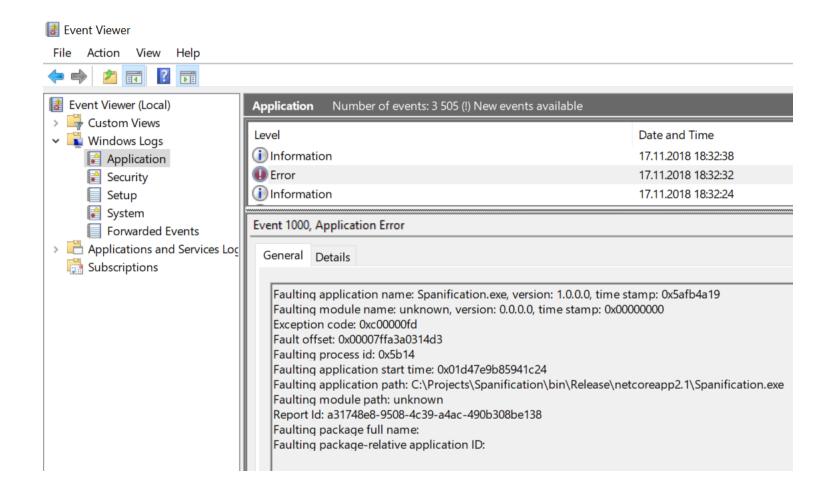
```
public unsafe void Stack(int bytesCount)
{
    byte* pointer = stackalloc byte[bytesCount];
    Consume(pointer, bytesCount);
} // the method ends, the stack unwinds
```

Until <u>recently</u>\*, only values

#### What is the output?

```
try
    byte* pointer = stackalloc byte[1_000_000 * 2]; // 2 MB
    Consume(pointer, 1_000_000 * 2);
    Console.WriteLine("OK");
catch (Exception e)
    Console.WriteLine("EXCEPTION");
PS C:\Projects\Spanification> dotnet run -c Release -f netcoreapp2.1
Process is terminating due to StackOverflowException.
```

#### Where can I find information about Unhandled Exceptions?



## Summary: Available Memory

|                       | Managed heap                     | Unmanaged heap | Stack                        |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|
| Safe                  | Yes                              | No type safety | Type safe, but can be deadly |
| What can be allocated | References and values            | Values only    | Values only*                 |
| Allocation            | Cheap                            | Cheap          | Cheap                        |
| Deallocation          | Comes at a price Can be blocking | Cheap          | Immediate                    |
| Who cleans up         | GC                               | Developer      | OS                           |

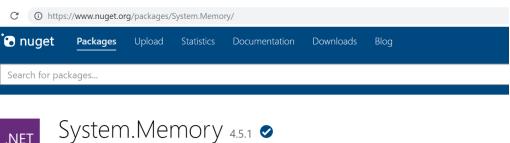
How to write a code that supports all kinds of memory

```
int Parse(string text)
int Parse(string text, int start, int length)
unsafe int Parse(char* pointer, int length)
unsafe int Parse(char* pointer, int start, int length)
```

#### Span<T>

- It provides a uniform API for working with:
  - Unmanaged memory buffers
  - Arrays and subarrays
  - Strings and substrings
- It's fully type-safe and memory-safe
- Almost no overhead
- It's a readonly ref struct

## System. Memory NuGet package



Provides types for efficient representation and pooling of managed, stack, and native r

Provides types for efficient representation and pooling of managed, stack, and native memory segments and sequences of such segments, along with primitives to parse and format UTF-8 encoded text stored in those memory segments.

Commonly Used Types:

System.Span

System.ReadOnlySpan

System.Memory

System.ReadOnlyMemory

System.Buffers.MemoryPool

System.Buffers.ReadOnlySequence

System.Buffers.Text.Utf8Parser

System.Buffers.Text.Utf8Formatter

7ee84596d92e178bce54c986df31ccc52479e772

When using NuGet 3.x this package requires at least version 3.4.

Requires NuGet 2.12 or higher.

Package Manager .NET.CLI Paket CLI

> dotnet add package System.Memory --version 4.5.1

#### → Dependencies

.NETCoreApp 2.0

System.Runtime.CompilerServices.Unsafe (>= 4.5.0)

.NETCoreApp 2.1

No dependencies.

.NETFramework 4.5

System Buffers (>= 440)

System.Runtime.CompilerServices.Unsafe (> = 4.5.0)

.NETFramework 4.6.1

System.Buffers (> = 4.4.0)

System.Numerics.Vectors (>= 4.4.0)

System.Runtime.CompilerServices.Unsafe (> = 4.5.0)

.NETStandard 1.1

NETStandard.Library (> = 1.6.1)

System.Buffers (> = 4.4.0)

System.Runtime.CompilerServices.Unsafe (> = 4.5.0)

.NETStandard 2.0

System.Buffers (>= 4.4.0)

System.Numerics.Vectors (> = 4.4.0)

System.Runtime.CompilerServices.Unsafe (>= 4.5.0)

MonoAndroid 1.0

System.Buffers (>= 4.4.0)

System.Runtime.CompilerServices.Unsafe (> = 4.5.0)

MonoTouch 1.0

System.Buffers (> = 4.4.0)

System.Runtime.CompilerServices.Unsafe (> = 4.5.0)

Portable Class Library (.NETFramework 4.5, Windows 8.0, WindowsPhoneApp 8.1)

System.Buffers (>= 4.4.0)

System.Runtime.CompilerServices.Unsafe (>= 4.5.0)

UAP 10.0.16299

System.Runtime.CompilerServices.Unsafe (> = 4.5.0)

Windows 8.0

System.Buffers (> = 4.4.0)

System.Runtime.CompilerServices.Unsafe (> = 4.5.0)

WindowsPhoneApp 8.1

System.Buffers (>= 4.4.0)

System.Runtime.CompilerServices.Unsafe (>= 4.5.0)

Xamarin.iOS 1.0

System.Buffers (>= 4.4.0)

System.Runtime.CompilerServices.Unsafe (> = 4.5.0)

Xamarin.Mac 2.0

System.Buffers (>= 4.4.0)

System.Runtime.CompilerServices.Unsafe (> = 4.5.0)

Xamarin.TVOS 1.0

System.Buffers (>= 4.4.0)

System.Runtime.CompilerServices.Unsafe (> = 4.5.0)

Xamarin.WatchOS 1.0

System.Buffers (>= 4.4.0)

System.Runtime.CompilerServices.Unsafe (>= 4.5.0)

#### C# 7.2

#### Supports any memory

```
Span<byte> stackMemory = stackalloc byte[256]; // C# 7.2

IntPtr unmanagedHandle = Marshal.AllocHGlobal(256);
Span<byte> unmanaged = new Span<byte>(unmanagedHandle.ToPointer(), 256);

char[] array = new char[] { 'i', 'm', 'p', 'l', 'i', 'c', 'i', 't' };
Span<char> fromArray = array; // implicit cast

ReadOnlySpan<char> fromString = "Spanification".AsSpan();
```

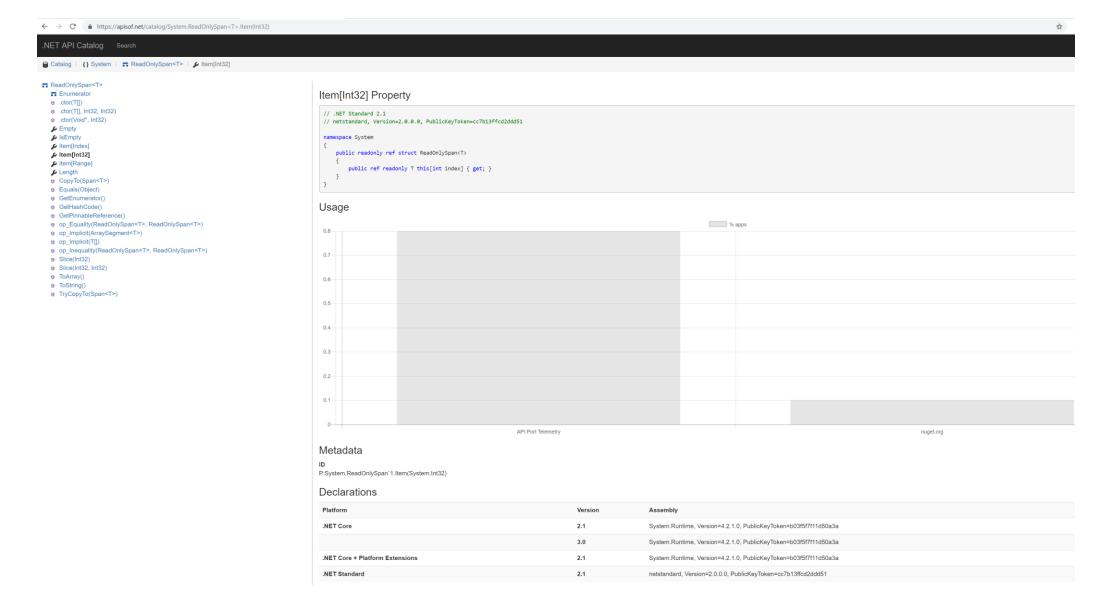
#### Span<T> API

```
public int Length { get; }
public ref T this[int index] { get; set; }
public Span<T> Slice(int start);
public Span<T> Slice(int start, int length);
public void Clear();
public void Fill(T value);
public void CopyTo(Span<T> destination);
public bool TryCopyTo(Span<T> destination);
```

#### ReadOnlySpan<T> API

```
public int Length { get; }
public readonly ref T this[int index] { get; }
public ReadOnlySpan<T> Slice(int start);
public ReadOnlySpan<T> Slice(int start, int length);
public void CopyTo(Span<T> destination);
public bool TryCopyTo(Span<T> destination);
```

## https://apisof.net

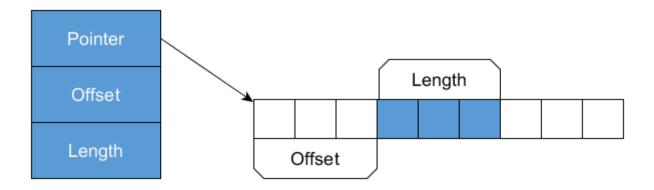


## **API Simplicity**

```
int Parse(string text)
int Parse(string text, int start, int length)
unsafe int Parse(char* pointer, int length)
unsafe int Parse(char* pointer, int start, int length)
int Parse(Span<char> input)
```

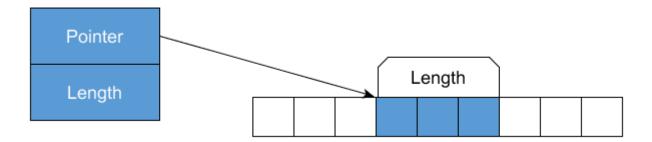
## Span for existing runtimes

.NET Standard 1.1 (.NET 4.5.1+)

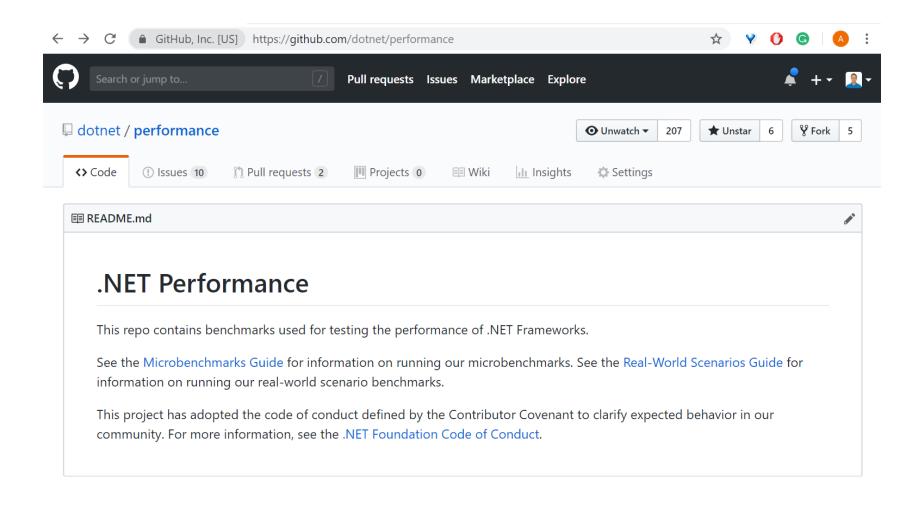


#### Span for new runtimes

.NET Core 2.0 and any other runtime supporting by-ref fields



#### https://github.com/dotnet/performance



## --list flat --allCategories Span

Span, IndexerBench, Ref. Span.IndexerBench.Fixed1 Span.IndexerBench.Fixed2 Span.IndexerBench.Indexer1 Span.IndexerBench.Indexer2 Span.IndexerBench.Indexer3 Span.IndexerBench.Indexer4 Span.IndexerBench.Indexer5 Span.IndexerBench.Indexer6 . Span.IndexerBench.ReadOnlyIndexer1 Span.IndexerBench.ReadOnlyIndexer2 Span IndexerBench WriteViaIndexer1 . Span.IndexerBench.WriteViaIndexer2 Span.IndexerBench.KnownSizeArray Span, IndexerBench, KnownSizeCtor Span.IndexerBench.KnownSizeCtor2 Span.IndexerBench.SameIndex1 Span.IndexerBench.SameIndex2 Span.IndexerBench.CoveredIndex1 Span.IndexerBench.CoveredIndex2 Span.IndexerBench.CoveredIndex3 Span.Sorting.QuickSortSpan Span.Sorting.BubbleSortSpan System.Collections.Clear<Int32>.Span System.Collections.Clear<String>.Span System.Collections.CopyTo<Int32>.Span System.Collections.CopyTo<Int32>.ReadOnlySpan System.Collections.CopyTo<Int32>.Memory System.Collections.CopyTo<Int32>.ReadOnlyMemory System.Collections.CopyTo<String>.Span System.Collections.CopyTo<String>.ReadOnlySpan System.Collections.CopyTo<String>.Memory
System.Collections.CopyTo<String>.ReadOnlyMemory System.Collections.IndexerSet<Int32>.Span System.Collections.IndexerSet<String>.Span System.Collections.IndexerSetReverse<Int32>.Span System.Collections.IndexerSetReverse<String>.Span System.Collections.IterateFor<Int32>.Span System.Collections.IterateFor<Int32>.ReadOnlySpan System.Collections.IterateFor<String>.Span System.Collections.IterateFor<String>.ReadOnlySpan System.Collections.IterateForEach<Int32>.Span System.Collections.IterateForEach<Int32>.ReadOnlySpan System.Collections.IterateForEach<String>.Span System.Collections.IterateForEach<String>.ReadOnlySpan System.Memory.Constructors ValueTypesOnly<Byte>.SpanFromPointerLength System.Memory.Constructors\_ValueTypesOnly<Byte>.ReadOnlyFromPointerLength System.Memory.Constructors\_ValueTypesOnly<Int32>.SpanFromPointerLength System.Memory.Constructors ValueTypesOnly<Int32>.ReadOnlyFromPointerLength System.Memory.Constructors<Byte>.SpanFromArray System.Memory.Constructors<Byte>.ReadOnlySpanFromArray System.Memory.Constructors<Byte>.SpanFromArrayStartLength System.Memory.Constructors<Byte>.ReadOnlySpanFromArrayStartLength System.Memory.Constructors<Byte>.SpanFromMemory System.Memory.Constructors<Byte>.ReadOnlySpanFromMemory System.Memory.Constructors<Byte>.SpanImplicitCastFromArray System.Memory.Constructors<Byte>.ReadOnlySpanImplicitCastFromArray System.Memory.Constructors<Byte>.SpanImplicitCastFromArraySegment

System.Memory.Constructors<Byte>.ReadOnlySpanImplicitCastFromArraySegment System.Memory.Constructors<Byte>.ReadOnlySpanImplicitCastFromSpan System.Memory.Constructors<Byte>.MemoryFromArray System.Memory.Constructors<Byte>.ReadOnlyMemoryFromArray System.Memory.Constructors<Byte>.MemoryFromArrayStartLength System.Memory.Constructors<Byte>.ReadOnlyMemoryFromArrayStartLength System.Memory.Constructors<Byte>.MemoryMarshalCreateSpan
System.Memory.Constructors<Byte>.MemoryMarshalCreateReadOnlySpan System.Memory.Constructors<String>.SpanFromArray System.Memory.Constructors<String>.ReadOnlySpanFromArray System.Memory.Constructors<String>.SpanFromArrayStartLength
System.Memory.Constructors<String>.ReadOnlySpanFromArrayStartLength System.Memory.Constructors<String>.SpanFromMemory System.Memory.Constructors<String>.ReadOnlySpanFromMemory System, Memory, Constructors < String >, SpanImplicitCastFromArray System.Memory.Constructors<String>.ReadOnlySpanImplicitCastFromArray System.Memory.Constructors<String>.SpanImplicitCastFromArraySegment System.Memory.Constructors<String>.ReadOnlySpanImplicitCastFromArraySegment System.Memory.Constructors<String>.ReadOnlySpanImplicitCastFromSpan System.Memory.Constructors<String>.MemoryFromArray System.Memory.Constructors<String>.ReadOnlyMemoryFromArray System.Memory.Constructors<String>.MemoryFromArrayStartLength System.Memory.Constructors<String>.ReadOnlyMemoryFromArrayStartLength System.Memory.Constructors<String>.MemoryMarshalCreateSpan System.Memory.Constructors<String>.MemoryMarshalCreateReadOnlySpan System.Memory.Memory<Byte>.Pin System.Memory.Memory<Byte>.ToArray System.Memory.Memory<Char>.Pin System.Memory.Memory<Char>.ToArray System.Memory.MemoryMarshal<Byte>.GetReference System.Memory.MemoryMarshal<Byte>.AsBytes System.Memory.MemoryMarshal<Byte>.CastToByte System.Memory.MemoryMarshal<Byte>.CastToInt System.Memory.MemoryMarshal<Byte>.TryGetArray System.Memory.MemoryMarshal<Byte>.Read System.Memory.MemoryMarshal<Int32>.GetReference System.Memory.MemoryMarshal<Int32>.AsBytes System.Memory.MemoryMarshal<Int32>.CastToByte System.Memory.MemoryMarshal<Int32>.CastToInt System.Memory.MemoryMarshal<Int32>.TryGetArray System.Memory.MemoryMarshal<Int32>.Read System.Memory.ReadOnlyMemory<Byte>.Pin System.Memory.ReadOnlyMemory<Byte>.ToArray System.Memory.ReadOnlyMemory<Char>.Pin System.Memory.ReadOnlyMemory<Char>.ToArray System.Memory.ReadOnlySpan.StringAsSpan System.Memory.ReadOnlySpan.GetPinnableReference System.Memory.ReadOnlySpan.IndexOfString System.Memory.Slice<Byte>.SpanStart System.Memory.Slice<Byte>.SpanStartLength System.Memory.Slice<Byte>.ReadOnlySpanStart System.Memory.Slice<Byte>.ReadOnlySpanStartLength System.Memory.Slice<Byte>.MemoryStart System.Memory.Slice<Byte>.MemoryStartLength System.Memory.Slice<Byte>.ReadOnlyMemoryStart System.Memory.Slice<Byte>.ReadOnlyMemoryStartLength System.Memory.Slice<String>.SpanStart

System.Memory.Slice<String>.SpanStartLength

System.Memory.Slice<String>.ReadOnlySpanStart System.Memory.Slice<String>.ReadOnlySpanStartLength System.Memory.Slice<String>.MemoryStart System.Memory.Slice<String>.MemoryStartLength System.Memory.Slice<String>.ReadOnlyMemoryStart System.Memory.Slice<String>.ReadOnlyMemoryStartLength System.Memory.Span<Byte>.Clear System.Memory.Span<Byte>.Fill System.Memory.Span<Byte>.Reverse System.Memory.Span<Byte>.ToArray System.Memory.Span<Byte>.SequenceEqual System.Memory.Span<Byte>.SequenceCompareTo System.Memory.Span<Byte>.StartsWith System.Memory.Span<Byte>.EndsWith System.Memory.Span<Byte>.IndexOfValue System.Memory.Span<Byte>.LastIndexOfValue System.Memory.Span<Byte>.LastIndexOfAnyValues System.Memory.Span<Byte>.BinarySearch System.Memory.Span<Byte>.GetPinnableReference System.Memory.Span<Char>.Clear System.Memory.Span<Char>.Fill System.Memory.Span<Char>.Reverse System.Memory.Span<Char>.ToArray System.Memory.Span<Char>.SequenceEqual System.Memory.Span<Char>.SequenceCompareTo System.Memory.Span<Char>.StartsWith System.Memory.Span<Char>.EndsWith System.Memory.Span<Char>.IndexOfValue System.Memory.Span<Char>.LastIndexOfValue System.Memory.Span<Char>.LastIndexOfAnyValues System.Memory.Span<Char>.BinarySearch System.Memory.Span<Char>.GetPinnableReference System.Memory.Span<Int32>.Clear System.Memory.Span<Int32>.Fill System.Memory.Span<Int32>.Reverse System.Memory.Span<Int32>.ToArray System.Memory.Span<Int32>.SequenceEqual System.Memory.Span<Int32>.SequenceCompareTo System.Memory.Span<Int32>.StartsWith System.Memory.Span<Int32>.EndsWith System.Memory.Span<Int32>.IndexOfValue System.Memory.Span<Int32>,LastIndexOfValue System.Memory.Span<Int32>.LastIndexOfAnyValues System.Memory.Span<Int32>.BinarySearch System.Memory.Span<Int32>.GetPinnableReference

## "Fast" vs "Slow" Span

dotnet run -c Release -f netcoreapp2.1 --filter System.Memory.Span<Char>.Reverse --runtimes net472 netcoreapp2.1

| Method  | Runtime | Size | Mean     | Ratio | Allocated<br>Memory/Op |
|---------|---------|------|----------|-------|------------------------|
| Reverse | Clr     | 512  | 217.8 ns | 1.00  | -                      |
| Reverse | Core    | 512  | 206.4 ns | 0.95  | -                      |

dotnet run -c Release -f netcoreapp2.1 --filter System.Memory.Span<Char>.Clear --runtimes net472 netcoreapp2.1

| Method | Runtime | Size | Mean     | Ratio | Allocated<br>Memory/Op |
|--------|---------|------|----------|-------|------------------------|
| Clear  | Clr     | 512  | 41.16 ns | 1.00  | -                      |
| Clear  | Core    | 512  | 17.00 ns | 0.41  | -                      |

#### Creating substrings before Span (pseudocode)

```
string Substring(string text, int startIndex, int length)
{
    string result = new string(length); // ALLOCATION!

    Memory.Copy(text, result, startIndex, length); // COPYING
    return result;
}
```

#### Creating substrings without allocation! (pseudocode)

#### Substring vs Slice: Benchmark

```
public class Slicing
    public IEnumerable<object> Arguments()
        yield return "Substring vs Slice";
        yield return string.Join(", ", Enumerable.Repeat("Substring vs Slice", 1000));
    [Benchmark(Baseline = true)]
    [ArgumentsSource(nameof(Arguments))]
    public string Substring(string text) => text.Substring(startIndex: text.Length / 2);
    [Benchmark]
    [ArgumentsSource(nameof(Arguments))]
    public ReadOnlySpan<char> Slice(string text) => text.AsSpan().Slice(start: text.Length / 2);
```

## Substring vs Slice: Benchmark results

| Method    | text               | Mean      | StdDev    | Ratio | Gen 0<br>/1k Op | Gen 1<br>/1k Op | Allocated<br>Memory |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Substring | Substring vs Slice | 10.860 ns | 0.0981 ns | 1.00  | 0.0076          | -               | 48 B                |
| Slice     | Substring vs Slice | 1.151 ns  | 0.0151 ns | 0.11  | -               | -               | -                   |

## Substring vs Slice: Benchmark results

| Method    | text                     | Mean         | StdDev    | Ratio | Gen 0<br>/1k Op | Gen 1<br>/1k Op | Allocated<br>Memory |
|-----------|--------------------------|--------------|-----------|-------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Substring | Substring vs Slice       | 10.860 ns    | 0.0981 ns | 1.00  | 0.0076          | -               | 48 B                |
| Slice     | Substring vs Slice       | 1.151 ns     | 0.0151 ns | 0.11  | -               | -               | -                   |
| Substring | Substring vs Slice x1000 | 1,703.534 ns | 8.8209 ns | 1.000 | 3.1815          | 0.1984          | 20024 B             |
| Slice     | Substring vs Slice x1000 | 1.145 ns     | 0.0135 ns | 0.001 | -               | -               | -                   |

## Slice is O(1)

| Method    | text                     | Mean         | StdDev    | Ratio | Gen 0<br>/1k Op | Gen 1<br>/1k Op | Allocated<br>Memory |
|-----------|--------------------------|--------------|-----------|-------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Substring | Substring vs Slice       | 10.860 ns    | 0.0981 ns | 1.00  | 0.0076          | -               | 48 B                |
| Slice     | Substring vs Slice       | 1.151 ns     | 0.0151 ns | 0.11  | _               | -               | -                   |
| Substring | Substring vs Slice x1000 | 1,703.534 ns | 8.8209 ns | 1.000 | 3.1815          | 0.1984          | 20024 B             |
| Slice     | Substring vs Slice x1000 | 1.145 ns     | 0.0135 ns | 0.001 | -               | -               | -                   |

#### Summary: Span basics

- Span<T> allows working with any kind of memory
- ReadOnlySpan<T> allows for read-only access
- Memory and type safe
- System.Memory package, C# 7.2
- .NET Standard implementation is fast, .NET Core is very fast
- Slice is O(1)

#### Let's parse a Utf8 line of floats..

```
[Benchmark(Baseline = true)]
public float OldWay()
    float result = 0;
    string line = Encoding.UTF8.GetString(utf8line);
   string[] splitted = line.Split(' ', '\t');
    foreach (string toParse in splitted)
        if (float.TryParse(toParse, out float parsed))
            result += parsed;
    return result;
```

## Let's Spanify it!

```
[Benchmark]
public float NewWay()
    float result = 0;
    ReadOnlySpan<byte> toParse = new ReadOnlySpan<byte>(utf8line);
   while (!toParse.IsEmpty)
        if (!Utf8Parser.TryParse(toParse, out float parsed, out int bytesConsumed))
            break;
        result += parsed;
       toParse = toParse.Slice(start: bytesConsumed + 1); // 1 is for ' '
    return result;
```

## 18% boost, no allocations

| Method | Count | Mean      | Ratio | Gen 0/1k Op | Allocated<br>Memory |
|--------|-------|-----------|-------|-------------|---------------------|
| OldWay | 100   | 15.74 us  | 1.00  | 3.5706      | 7496 B              |
| NewWay | 100   | 12.67 us  | 0.81  | -           | -                   |
| OldWay | 1000  | 153.90 us | 1.00  | 35.1563     | 74096 B             |
| NewWay | 1000  | 126.33 us | 0.82  | -           | -                   |

#### Utf8Parser

```
class Utf8Parser
   bool TryParse(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out bool value, out int bytesConsumed, char standardFormat = '\0')
   bool TryParse(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out byte value, out int bytesConsumed, char standardFormat = '\0')
   bool TryParse(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out DateTime value, out int bytesConsumed, char standardFormat = '\0')
   bool TryParse(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out DateTimeOffset value, out int bytesConsumed, char standardFormat = '\0')
    bool TryParse(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out decimal value, out int bytesConsumed, char standardFormat = '\0')
   bool TryParse(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out double value, out int bytesConsumed, char standardFormat = '\0')
   bool TryParse(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out System.Guid value, out int bytesConsumed, char standardFormat = '\0')
   bool TryParse(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out short value, out int bytesConsumed, char standardFormat = '\0')
   bool TryParse(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out int value, out int bytesConsumed, char standardFormat = '\0')
   bool TryParse(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out long value, out int bytesConsumed, char standardFormat = '\0')
   bool TryParse(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out sbyte value, out int bytesConsumed, char standardFormat = '\0')
   bool TryParse(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out float value, out int bytesConsumed, char standardFormat = '\0')
   bool TryParse(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out TimeSpan value, out int bytesConsumed, char standardFormat = '\0')
   bool TryParse(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out ushort value, out int bytesConsumed, char standardFormat = '\0')
   bool TryParse(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out uint value, out int bytesConsumed, char standardFormat = '\0')
   bool TryParse(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out ulong value, out int bytesConsumed, char standardFormat = '\0')
```

#### Utf8Formatter

```
class Utf8Formatter
    bool TryFormat(bool value, Span<byte> destination, out int bytesWritten, StandardFormat format)
    bool TryFormat(byte value, Span<byte> destination, out int bytesWritten, StandardFormat format)
    bool TryFormat(DateTime value, Span<byte> destination, out int bytesWritten, StandardFormat format)
    bool TryFormat(DateTimeOffset value, Span<byte> destination, out int bytesWritten, StandardFormat format)
    bool TryFormat(decimal value, Span<byte> destination, out int bytesWritten, StandardFormat format)
    bool TryFormat(double value, Span<byte> destination, out int bytesWritten, StandardFormat format)
    bool TryFormat(Guid value, Span<byte> destination, out int bytesWritten, StandardFormat format)
    bool TryFormat(short value, Span<byte> destination, out int bytesWritten, StandardFormat format)
    bool TryFormat(int value, Span<byte> destination, out int bytesWritten, StandardFormat format)
    bool TryFormat(long value, Span<byte> destination, out int bytesWritten, StandardFormat format)
    bool TryFormat(sbyte value, Span<byte> destination, out int bytesWritten, StandardFormat format)
    bool TryFormat(float value, Span<byte> destination, out int bytesWritten, StandardFormat format)
    bool TryFormat(TimeSpan value, Span<byte> destination, out int bytesWritten, StandardFormat format)
    bool TryFormat(ushort value, Span<byte> destination, out int bytesWritten, StandardFormat format)
    bool TryFormat(uint value, Span<byte> destination, out int bytesWritten, StandardFormat format)
    bool TryFormat(ulong value, Span<byte> destination, out int bytesWritten, StandardFormat format)
```

## Let's parse 6.5GB ML file line by line

```
[Benchmark(Baseline = true)]
public float OldWay()
    float result = 0;
   foreach (var line in File.ReadLines(FilePath))
        string[] splitted = line.Split(' ');
        foreach (string toParse in splitted)
            if (float.TryParse(toParse, out float parsed))
                result += parsed;
    return result;
```

```
using (var fileStream = new FileStream(FilePath, FileMode.Open, FileAccess.Read))
{
```

```
using (var fileStream = new FileStream(FilePath, FileMode.Open, FileAccess.Read))
{
   byte[] buffer = new byte[16000 * 8]; // 128 KB
   int bytesRead = 0;

while ((bytesRead = fileStream.Read(buffer, 0, buffer.Length)) > 0)
   {
```

```
using (var fileStream = new FileStream(FilePath, FileMode.Open, FileAccess.Read))
    byte[] buffer = new byte[16000 * 8]; // 128 KB
   int bytesRead = 0;
   while ((bytesRead = fileStream.Read(buffer, 0, buffer.Length)) > 0)
        var slice = new ReadOnlySpan<byte>(buffer, start: 0, length: bytesRead); // bytesRead != buffer.Length
        int newLineLength = 0;
        while ((newLineLength = slice.IndexOf((byte)0x0A)) > 0) // 0x0A = new line
```

```
using (var fileStream = new FileStream(FilePath, FileMode.Open, FileAccess.Read))
    byte[] buffer = new byte[16000 * 8]; // 128 KB
    int bytesRead = 0;
    while ((bytesRead = fileStream.Read(buffer, 0, buffer.Length)) > 0)
        var slice = new ReadOnlySpan<byte>(buffer, start: 0, length: bytesRead); // bytesRead != buffer.Length
        int newLineLength = 0;
        while ((newLineLength = slice.IndexOf((byte)0x0A)) > 0) // 0x0A = new line
            ReadOnlySpan<byte> utf8Line = slice.Slice(0, newLineLength);
            result += Parse(utf8Line);
            slice = slice.Slice(start: newLineLength + 1);
```

```
using (var fileStream = new FileStream(FilePath, FileMode.Open, FileAccess.Read))
    byte[] buffer = new byte[16000 * 8]; // 128 KB
    int bytesRead = 0;
    while ((bytesRead = fileStream.Read(buffer, 0, buffer.Length)) > 0)
        var slice = new ReadOnlySpan<byte>(buffer, start: 0, length: bytesRead); // bytesRead != buffer.Length
        int newLineLength = 0;
        while ((newLineLength = slice.IndexOf((byte)0x0A)) > 0) // 0x0A = new line
            ReadOnlySpan<byte> utf8Line = slice.Slice(0, newLineLength);
            result += Parse(utf8Line);
            slice = slice.Slice(start: newLineLength + 1);
        fileStream.Seek(-1 * slice.Length, SeekOrigin.Current); // we go back where the last line started
```

#### The difference

| Method | Mean    | Ratio | Gen 0/Op | Gen 1/Op | Gen 2/1 Op | Allocated Memory |
|--------|---------|-------|----------|----------|------------|------------------|
| OldWay | 138.9 s | 1.00  | 11562    | 636      | 1          | 72 760 971 232 B |
| NewWay | 104.3 s | 0.75  | -        | -        | -          | 128 200 B        |

72760971232 B - 128200 B = 72.76 GB

#### MemoryExtensions

**AsMemory** 

AsSpan

BinarySearch

CompareTo

**Contains** 

CopyTo

**EndsWith** 

Equals

IndexOf

IndexOfAny

**IsWhiteSpace** 

LastIndexOf

LastIndexOfAny

Overlaps

Reverse

SequenceCompareTo

SequenceEqual

**StartsWith** 

ToLower

**ToLowerInvariant** 

ToUpper

**ToUpperInvariant** 

Trim

TrimEnd

**TrimStart** 

#### What can be improved here?

```
using (var fileStream = new FileStream(FilePath, FileMode.Open, FileAccess.Read))
    byte[] buffer = new byte[16000 * 8]; // 128 KB
    int bytesRead = 0;
   while ((bytesRead = fileStream.Read(buffer, 0, buffer.Length)) > 0)
        var slice = new ReadOnlySpan<byte>(buffer, start: 0, length: bytesRead); // bytesRead != buffer.Length
        int newLineLength = 0;
        while ((newLineLength = slice.IndexOf((byte)0x0A)) > 0) // 0x0A = new line
            ReadOnlySpan<byte> utf8Line = slice.Slice(0, newLineLength);
            result += Parse(utf8Line);
            slice = slice.Slice(start: newLineLength + 1);
        fileStream.Seek(-1 * slice.Length, SeekOrigin.Current); // we go back where the last line started
```

#### ArrayPool

# Parsing 6.5 GB file allocating just 176 B

| Method     | Mean    | Ratio | Gen 0/Op | Gen 1/Op | Gen 2/1 Op | Allocated Memory |
|------------|---------|-------|----------|----------|------------|------------------|
| OldWay     | 138.9 s | 1.00  | 11562    | 636      | 1          | 72 760 971 232 B |
| NewWay     | 104.3 s | 0.75  | -        | -        | -          | 128 200 B        |
| NewWayPool | 104.2 s | 0.75  | -        | -        | -          | 176 B            |

#### Async

```
public float NewWayArrayPool()
{
    // (...)
    while ((bytesRead = fileStream.Read(buffer, 0, buffer.Length)) > 0)

public async Task<float> NewWayArrayPoolAsync()
{
    // (...)
    while ((bytesRead = await fileStream.ReadAsync(buffer, 0, buffer.Length)) > 0)
```

error CS4012: Parameters or locals of type 'ReadOnlySpan<br/>byte>' cannot be declared in async methods or lambda expressions.

# Span<T> is a Stack Only type (ref struct)

#### • Why:

- Span<T> can point to stack-allocated memory
- When the method ends or throws everything that was allocated on the stack is destroyed

#### Advantages:

- Safe Concurrency only one thread has access at the same time (no Struct Tearing)
- Short lifetime fewer interior pointers for GC to track

#### Stack Only: Must not be stored on a heap

```
class SomeClass
{
    StackOnly<byte> field;
}
async Task Method(StackOnly<byte> bytes)
```

#### Memory<T>

```
public readonly struct Memory<T>
{
    private readonly object _object; // String, Array or OwnedMemory
    private readonly int _index;
    private readonly int _length;

    public Span<T> Span { get; }

    public Memory<T> Slice(int start)
    public Memory<T> Slice(int start, int length)

    public MemoryHandle Pin()
}
```

#### Pass Memory from async to sync to get Span

```
public async Task<float> NewWayArrayPoolAsync()
    using (var fileStream = new FileStream(FilePath, FileMode.Open, FileAccess.Read))
        byte[] buffer = ArrayPool<byte>.Shared.Rent(16000 * 8); // 128 KB
        while ((bytesRead = await fileStream.ReadAsync(buffer, 0, buffer.Length)) > 0)
            ParseBlock(hew ReadOnlyMemory<byte>(buffer, start: 0, length: bytesRead), fileStream, ref result);
        ArrayPool<byte>.Shared.Return(buffer);
private void ParseBlock(ReadOnlyMemory<byte> memory, FileStream fileStream, ref float result)
    ReadOnlySpan<byte> slice = memory.Span;
    // using Span from here
```

# Parsing 6.5 GB in asynchronous way

| Method          | Mean    | Ratio | Gen 0/Op | Gen 1/Op | Gen 2/1 Op | Allocated Memory |
|-----------------|---------|-------|----------|----------|------------|------------------|
| OldWay          | 138.9 s | 1.00  | 11562    | 636      | 1          | 72 760 971 232 B |
| NewWay          | 104.3 s | 0.75  | -        | -        | -          | 128 200 B        |
| NewWayPool      | 104.2 s | 0.75  | _        | -        | -          | 176 B            |
| NewWayPoolAsync | 107.5 s | 0.77  | -        | -        | -          | 131 848 B        |

#### Generic Parser

```
public List<T> ParseFile<T>(string path, Func<ReadOnlySpan<byte>, T> lineParser)
{
    // (...)
    ReadOnlySpan<byte> utf8Line = slice.Slice(0, newLineLength);
    list.Add(lineParser(utf8Line));
```

error CS0306: The type 'ReadOnlySpan<br/>byte>' may not be used as a type argument

#### Stack Only: No Heap Limitations

```
struct SomeValueType<T> : IEnumerable<T> { }
void NonConstrained<T>(IEnumerable<T> collection)
void Demo()
   var value = new SomeValueType<int>();
   NonConstrained(value);
```

#### Boxing == Heap. Heap != Stack

```
.method private hidebysig
    instance void Demo () cil managed
   // Method begins at RVA 0x2054
   // Code size 21 (0x15)
    .maxstack 2
    .locals init (
        [0] valuetype Sample.SomeValueType`1<int32> 'value'
   IL 0000: ldloca.s 'value'
   IL 0002: initobj valuetype Sample.SomeValueType`1<int32>
    IL_0008: ldarg.0
    IL 0009: ldloc.0
   IL 000a: box valuetype Sample.SomeValueType`1<int32>
    IL 000f: call instance void Sample.Program::NonConstrained<int32>(class
    IL 0014: ret
-} // end of method Program::Demo
```

#### What Func and Action are?

```
namespace System
    public delegate void Action();
    public delegate void Action<in T>(T obj);
    public delegate void Action<in T1, in T2>(T1 arg1, T2 arg2);
    public delegate void Action<in T1, in T2, in T3>(T1 arg1, T2 arg2, T3 arg3);
    public delegate void Action<in T1, in T2, in T3, in T4>(T1 arg1, T2 arg2, T3 arg3, T4 arg4);
    public delegate void Action<in T1, in T2, in T3, in T4, in T5>(T1 arg1, T2 arg2, T3 arg3, T4 arg4, T5 arg5);
    public delegate void Action<in T1, in T2, in T3, in T4, in T5, in T6>(T1 arg1, T2 arg2, T3 arg3, T4 arg4, T5 arg5, T6 arg6);
    public delegate void Action<in T1, in T2, in T3, in T4, in T5, in T6, in T7>(T1 arg1, T2 arg2, T3 arg3, T4 arg4, T5 arg5, T6 arg6, T7 arg7);
    public delegate void Action<in T1, in T2, in T3, in T4, in T5, in T6, in T7, in T8>(T1 arg1, T2 arg2, T3 arg3, T4 arg4, T5 arg5, T6 arg6, T7 arg7, T8 arg8);
    public delegate TResult Func<out TResult>();
    public delegate TResult Func<in T, out TResult>(T arg);
    public delegate TResult Func<in T1, in T2, out TResult>(T1 arg1, T2 arg2);
    public delegate TResult Func<in T1, in T2, in T3, out TResult>(T1 arg1, T2 arg2, T3 arg3);
    public delegate TResult Func<in T1, in T2, in T3, in T4, out TResult>(T1 arg1, T2 arg2, T3 arg3, T4 arg4);
    public delegate TResult Func<in T1, in T2, in T3, in T4, in T5, out TResult>(T1 arg1, T2 arg2, T3 arg3, T4 arg4, T5 arg5);
    public delegate TResult Func<in T1, in T2, in T3, in T4, in T5, in T6, out TResult>(T1 arg1, T2 arg2, T3 arg3, T4 arg4, T5 arg5, T6 arg6);
    public delegate TResult Funckin T1, in T2, in T3, in T4, in T5, in T6, in T7, out TResult>(T1 arg1, T2 arg2, T3 arg3, T4 arg4, T5 arg5, T6 arg6, T7 arg7);
    public delegate TResult Func<in T1, in T2, in T3, in T4, in T5, in T6, in T7, in T8, out TResult>(T1 arg1, T2 arg2, T3 arg3, T4 arg4, T5 arg5, T6 arg6, T7 arg7, T8 arg8);
    public delegate int Comparison<in T>(T x, T y);
    public delegate TOutput Converter<in TInput, out TOutput>(TInput input);
    public delegate bool Predicate<in T>(T obj);
```

#### Generic Parser

```
public delegate T ParsingFunc<T>(ReadOnlySpan<byte> input);

public List<T> ParseFile<T>(string path, ParsingFunc<T> lineParser)
{
    // (...)
    ReadOnlySpan<byte> utf8Line = slice.Slice(0, newLineLength);
    list.Add(lineParser(utf8Line));
```

#### How do I convert an array of floats to a byte[] and back?



I have an array of Floats that need to be converted to a byte array and back to a float[]... can anyone help me do this correctly?

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I'm working with the bitConverter class and found myself stuck trying to append the results.



The reason I'm doing this is so I can save runtime values into a IO Stream. The target storage is Azure Page blobs in case that matters. I don't care about what endian this is stored in, as long as it input matches the output.

1

#### MemoryMarshal.Cast

```
private float[] arrayOfFloats;
// (...) setup
[Benchmark(Baseline = true)]
public byte[] OldWay()
   var byteArray = new byte[arrayOfFloats.Length * 4];
    Buffer.BlockCopy(arrayOfFloats, 0, byteArray, 0, byteArray.Length);
   return byteArray;
Benchmark
public Span<byte> NewWay() => MemoryMarshal.Cast<float, byte>(arrayOfFloats);
```

# MemoryMarshal.Cast is O(1)

| Method | Count | Mean        | Ratio | Gen 0/1k Op | Allocated<br>Memory/Op |
|--------|-------|-------------|-------|-------------|------------------------|
| OldWay | 4     | 13.2849 ns  | 1.00  | 0.0190      | 40 B                   |
| NewWay | 4     | 0.6356 ns   | 0.05  | -           | -                      |
| OldWay | 1000  | 311.4184 ns | 1.000 | 1.9155      | 4024 B                 |
| NewWay | 1000  | 0.6123 ns   | 0.002 | -           | -                      |

#### MemoryMarshal.Read is also O(1)

```
[StructLayout(LayoutKind.Explicit)]
public struct Bid
    [FieldOffset(0)]
    public float Value;
    [FieldOffset(4)]
    public long ProductId;
    [FieldOffset(12)]
    public long UserId;
    [FieldOffset(20)]
    public DateTime Time;
public class BinaryRead
    public Bid Deserialize(ReadOnlySpan<byte> serialized) => MemoryMarshal.Read<Bid>(serialized);
```

## MemoryMarshal API

```
class MemoryMarshal
    ReadOnlySpan<byte> AsBytes<T>(ReadOnlySpan<T> span) where T : struct
    Span<byte> AsBytes<T>(Span<T> span) where T : struct
   Memory<T> AsMemory<T>(ReadOnlyMemory<T> memory)
    ref readonly T AsRef<T>(ReadOnlySpan<byte> span) where T : struct
    ref T AsRef<T>(Span<byte> span) where T : struct
    ReadOnlySpan<TTo> Cast<TFrom, TTo>(ReadOnlySpan<TFrom> span) where TFrom : struct where TTo : struct
    Span<TTo> Cast<TFrom, TTo>(Span<TFrom> span) where TFrom: struct where TTo: struct
   Memory<T> CreateFromPinnedArray<T>(T[] array, int start, int length)
    ReadOnlySpan<T> CreateReadOnlySpan<T>(ref T reference, int length)
    Span<T> CreateSpan<T>(ref T reference, int length)
    ref T GetReference<T>(ReadOnlySpan<T> span)
    ref T GetReference<T>(Span<T> span)
    T Read<T>(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source) where T : struct
    IEnumerable<T> ToEnumerable<T>(ReadOnlyMemory<T> memory)
    bool TryGetArray<T>(ReadOnlyMemory<T> memory, out ArraySegment<T> segment)
    bool TryGetMemoryManager<T, TManager>(ReadOnlyMemory<T> memory, out TManager manager)
    bool TryGetString(ReadOnlyMemory<char> memory, out string text, out int start, out int length)
    bool TryRead<T>(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out T value) where T : struct
    bool TryWrite<T>(Span<byte> destination, ref T value) where T : struct
    void Write<T>(Span<byte> destination, ref T value) where T : struct
```

#### BinaryPrimitives

```
private byte[] output;
private int position;

public void WriteInt64BigEndian(long value)
{
    EnsureSize(sizeof(long));
    BinaryPrimitives.WriteInt64BigEndian(output.AsSpan(position, sizeof(long)), value);
    position += sizeof(long);
}
```

## System.Buffers.BinaryPrimitives API

```
short ReadInt16BigEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source);
short ReadInt16LittleEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source);
int ReadInt32BigEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source);
int ReadInt32LittleEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source);
long ReadInt64BigEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source);
long ReadInt64LittleEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source);
ushort ReadUInt16BigEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source);
ushort ReadUInt16LittleEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source);
uint ReadUInt32BigEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source);
uint ReadUInt32LittleEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source);
ulong ReadUInt64BigEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source);
ulong ReadUInt64LittleEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source);
ulong ReverseEndianness(ulong value);
ushort ReverseEndianness(ushort value);
byte ReverseEndianness(byte value);
long ReverseEndianness(long value);
int ReverseEndianness(int value);
short ReverseEndianness(short value);
uint ReverseEndianness(uint value);
sbyte ReverseEndianness(sbyte value);
bool TryReadInt16BigEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out short value);
bool TryReadInt16LittleEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out short value);
bool TryReadInt32BigEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out int value);
bool TrvReadInt32LittleEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out int value);
bool TryReadInt64BigEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out long value);
bool TryReadInt64LittleEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out long value);
bool TryReadUInt16BigEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out ushort value);
bool TryReadUInt16LittleEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out ushort value);
bool TryReadUInt32BigEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out uint value);
bool TrvReadUInt32LittleEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out uint value);
bool TryReadUInt64BigEndian(ReadOnlySpan<byte> source, out ulong value);
bool TryReadUInt64LittleEndian(ReadOnlySpan<br/>byte> source, out ulong value);
```

```
bool TryWriteInt16BigEndian(Span<byte> destination, short value);
bool TryWriteInt16LittleEndian(Span<byte> destination, short value);
bool TryWriteInt32BigEndian(Span<byte> destination, int value);
bool TryWriteInt32LittleEndian(Span<byte> destination, int value);
bool TryWriteInt64BigEndian(Span<byte> destination, long value);
bool TryWriteInt64LittleEndian(Span<byte> destination, long value);
bool TryWriteUInt16BigEndian(Span<byte> destination, ushort value);
bool TryWriteUInt16LittleEndian(Span<byte> destination, ushort value);
bool TryWriteUInt32BigEndian(Span<byte> destination, uint value);
bool TryWriteUInt32LittleEndian(Span<byte> destination, uint value);
bool TryWriteUInt64BigEndian(Span<byte> destination, ulong value);
bool TryWriteUInt64LittleEndian(Span<byte> destination, ulong value);
void WriteInt16BigEndian(Span<byte> destination, short value);
void WriteInt16LittleEndian(Span<byte> destination, short value);
void WriteInt32BigEndian(Span<byte> destination, int value);
void WriteInt32LittleEndian(Span<byte> destination, int value);
void WriteInt64BigEndian(Span<byte> destination, long value);
void WriteInt64LittleEndian(Span<byte> destination, long value);
void WriteUInt16BigEndian(Span<byte> destination, ushort value);
void WriteUInt16LittleEndian(Span<byte> destination, ushort value);
void WriteUInt32BigEndian(Span<byte> destination, uint value);
void WriteUInt32LittleEndian(Span<byte> destination, uint value);
void WriteUInt64BigEndian(Span<byte> destination, ulong value);
void WriteUInt64LittleEndian(Span<byte> destination, ulong value);
```



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#### .NET Core 2.1 ~

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#### System.Buffers

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#### System.Buffers Namespace

Xamarin

The <u>System.Buffers</u> namespace contains types used in creating and managing memory buffers, such as those represented by <u>Span<T></u> and <u>Memory<T></u>.

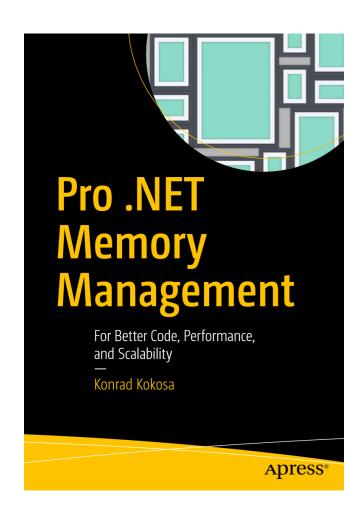
Azure

#### Classes

Segment<T>

| ArrayPool <t></t>     | Provides a resource pool that enables reusing instances of type T[]. |
|-----------------------|--|
| BuffersExtensions     |  |
| MemoryManager <t></t> |  |
| MemoryPool <t></t>    |  |
| ReadOnlySequence      |  |

## Chapter XIV: Advanced Techniques



#### Summary

- Span<T> makes it easy and safe to use any kind of memory
- System.Memory package, C# 7.2
- Memory<T> has no stack-only limitations
- Don't copy memory! Slice it!
- Use Utf8Parser and Utf8Formatter when working with UTF8
- Prefer read-only versions over mutable ones
- Prefer safe managed memory over native memory

# Questions?

# Thank you!