fn make_expr_strptime

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This proof resides in "contrib" because it has not completed the vetting process.

Proves soundness of make_expr_strptime in mod.rs at commit f5bb719 (outdated¹).

make_expr_strptime returns a Transformation that parses strings in a dataframe column into temporal types.

1 Hoare Triple

Precondition

Compiler-verified

- Argument input_domain of type WildExprDomain
- Argument input_metric of type M
- Generic M implements OuterMetric
 - OuterMetric defines an associated type InnerMetric that must implement UnboundedMetric
- (ExprDomain, M) implements MetricSpace,
- Expr implements StableExpr<M, M>

Human-verified

None

Pseudocode

 $^{^{1}} See \ new \ changes \ with \ \texttt{git diff f5bb719...a9e8e83 rust/src/transformations/make_stable_expr/namespace_str/expr_strptime/mod.rs$

```
t_prior = input.make_stable(input_domain, input_metric) #
16
      middle_domain, middle_metric = t_prior.output_space()
18
      if strptime_options.format is None: #
19
          raise ValueError("format must be specified")
20
21
      if to_type == DataType.Time and not strptime_options.exact:
22
          raise ValueError("non-exact not implemented for Time data type")
23
24
      # never raise on error
25
      strptime_options.strict = False #
26
27
28
29
          ambig_value = literal_value_of(ambiguous)
30
      except Exception:
31
          ambig_value = None
      ambiguous = lit(ambig_value if ambig_value in {"earliest" "latest"} else "null")
32
33
      output_domain = middle_domain.clone()
34
35
      series_domain = output_domain.column
36
      # check input and output types
37
      if series_domain.dtype() != DataType.String: #
38
          raise ValueError("str.strptime input dtype must be String")
39
40
      if to_type not in {DataType.Time, DataType.Datetime, DataType.Date}:
41
          raise ValueError("str.strptime output dtype must be Time, Datetime or Date")
42
43
      # in Rust, this assigns to the series domain in output_domain
44
      series_domain.set_dtype(to_type) #
45
      series_domain.nullable = True
46
47
48
      def function(expr: Expr) -> Expr:
          return expr.str.strptime(to_type, strptime_options, ambiguous)
49
50
      return t_prior >> Transformation.new( #
51
52
          middle_domain,
          output_domain,
53
54
          Function.then_expr(function),
55
          middle_metric,
56
          middle_metric,
          StabilityMap.new(lambda d_in: d_in),
```

Postcondition

Theorem 1.1. For every setting of the input parameters (input_domain, input_metric, expr, M) to make_expr_strptime such that the given preconditions hold, make_expr_strptime raises an error (at compile time or run time) or returns a valid transformation. A valid transformation has the following properties:

- 1. (Data-independent runtime errors). For every pair of members x and x' in input_domain, invoke(x) and invoke(x') either both return the same error or neither return an error.
- 2. (Appropriate output domain). For every member x in input_domain, function(x) is in output_domain or raises a data-independent runtime error.
- 3. (Stability guarantee). For every pair of members x and x' in input_domain and for every pair (d_in,d_out), where d_in has the associated type for input_metric and d_out has the associated type for
 - output_metric, if x, x' are d_in-close under input_metric, stability_map(d_in) does not raise an

error, and $stability_map(d_in) = d_out$, then function(x), function(x') are d_out -close under output_metric.

2 Proof

Starting from line 4, expr is matched as if it were a strptime expression, or otherwise rejects the expression. All preconditions for make_stable on line 16 are compiler-verified, therefore by the postcondition t_prior is a valid transformation.

To prove that the output is a valid transformation, we must first prove that the transformation on line 51 is a valid transformation.

Proof. **Data-Independent Errors** Line 38 ensures that the input data is always a string type and line 41 ensures that the output data is always a temporal type, which are necessary preconditions for the strptime function in Polars. However, even if these checks were ignored when they would fail, then all possible choices of input dataset would fail, resulting in data-independent errors.

Line 26 disables raising an error when conversion fails. Conversion cannot be ambiguous because line 19 requires the format to be specified, but even if parsing were to be ambiguous, line 28 configures the parsing of ambiguous values to not raise.

Therefore, all errors that may be encountered while parsing result in null values, so no error can be raised by the strptime transformation. \Box

Proof. Appropriate Output Domain Line 45 constructs a series domain whose elements are of type to_type or null. Each string in the input data may either parse into to_type or fail and by 26 and 28 evaluate to null.

Therefore the output domain is the same as the input domain, but where the active column domain's data type is nullable values of type to_type.

Proof. **Stability Guarantee** strptime can be considered a 1-stable row-by-row transformation, as the date parsing is applied independently to each and every row. See make_row_by_row for a proof of the stability of row-by-row functions.

Since it has been shown that both t_prior and the strptime transformation are valid transformations, then the preconditions for make_chain_tt are met (invoked via the right-shift operator shorthand).