

Apache Arrow

Lecture 21

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Apache Arrow

Apache Arrow is a software development platform for building high performance applications that process and transport large data sets. It is designed to both improve the performance of analytical algorithms and the efficiency of moving data from one system or programming language to another.

A critical component of Apache Arrow is its in-memory columnar format, a standardized, language-agnostic specification for representing structured, table-like datasets in-memory. This data format has a rich data type system (included nested and user-defined data types) designed to support the needs of analytic database systems, data frame libraries, and more.

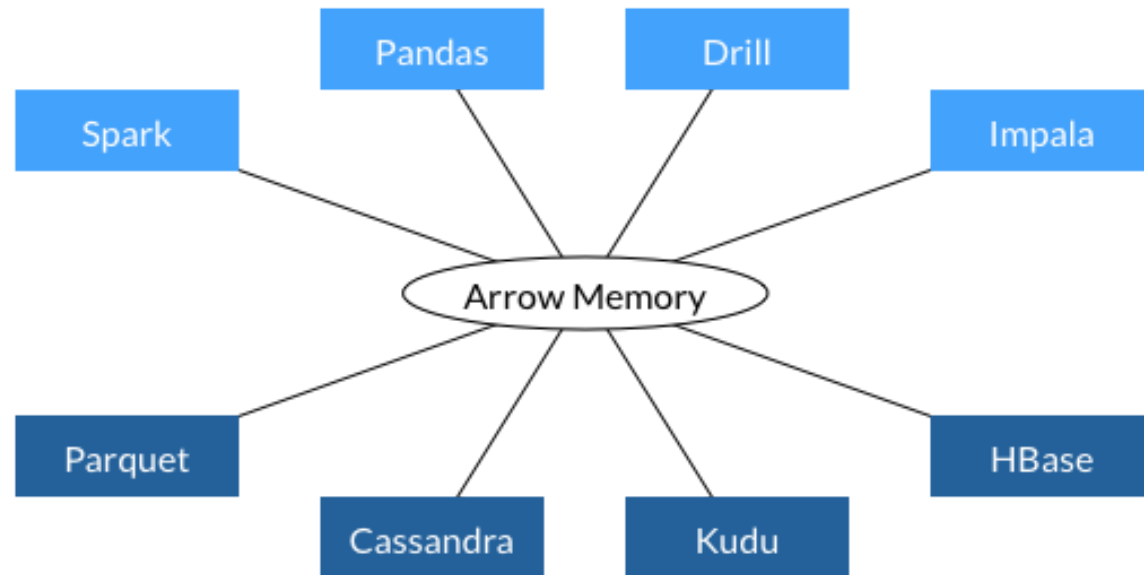
	session_id	timestamp	source_ip
Row 1	1331246660	3/8/2012 2:44PM	99.155.155.225
Row 2	1331246351	3/8/2012 2:38PM	65.87.165.114
Row 3	1331244570	3/8/2012 2:09PM	71.10.106.181
Row 4	1331261196	3/8/2012 6:46PM	76.102.156.138

Traditional Memory Buffer			Arrow Memory Buffer		
Row 1	1331246660		session_id	1331246660	}
	3/8/2012 2:44PM			1331246351	
	99.155.155.225			1331244570	
Row 2	1331246351			1331261196	
	3/8/2012 2:38PM		timestamp	3/8/2012 2:44PM	
	65.87.165.114			3/8/2012 2:38PM	
Row 3	1331244570			3/8/2012 2:09PM	
	3/8/2012 2:09PM			3/8/2012 6:46PM	
	71.10.106.181		source_ip	99.155.155.225	
Row 4	1331261196			65.87.165.114	
	3/8/2012 6:46PM			71.10.106.181	
	76.102.156.138			76.102.156.138	

Language support

Core implementations in:

- C
- C++
- C#
- go
- Java
- JavaScript
- Julia
- Rust
- MATLAB
- Python
- R
- Ruby



pyarrow

```
1 import pyarrow as pa
```

The basic building blocks of Arrow are **array** objects, arrays are collections of data of a uniform type.

```
1 num = pa.array([1, 2, 3, 2], type=pa.int8()); num
```

```
<pyarrow.lib.Int8Array object at 0x2b90c3ca0>
[
  1,
  2,
  3,
  2
]
```

```
1 year = pa.array([2019, 2020, 2021, 2022]); year
```

```
<pyarrow.lib.Int64Array object at 0x2b90c3d00>
[
  2019,
  2020,
  2021,
  2022
]
```

```
1 name = pa.array(
2     ["Alice", "Bob", "Carol", "Dave"],
3     type=pa.string()
4 )
5 name
```

```
<pyarrow.lib.StringArray object at 0x2b90c3dc0>
[
  "Alice",
  "Bob",
  "Carol",
  "Dave"
]
```

Tables

A table is created by combining multiple arrays together to form the columns while also attaching names for each column.

```
1 t = pa.table(  
2     [num, year, name],  
3     names = ["num", "year", "name"]  
4 )  
5 t
```

```
pyarrow.Table
```

```
num: int8
```

```
year: int64
```

```
name: string
```

```
----
```

```
num: [[1,2,3,2]]
```

```
year: [[2019,2020,2021,2022]]
```

```
name: [["Alice","Bob","Carol","Dave"]]
```

Array indexing

Elements of an array can be selected using `[]` with an integer index or a slice, the former returns a typed scalar the latter an array.

```
1 name[0]
```

```
<pyarrow.StringScalar: 'Alice'>
```

```
1 name[0:3]
```

```
<pyarrow.lib.StringArray object at 0x2b90c3e20>
```

```
[  
    "Alice",  
    "Bob",  
    "Carol"  
]
```

```
1 name[:]
```

```
<pyarrow.lib.StringArray object at 0x2b90c3d60>
```

```
[  
    "Alice",  
    "Bob",  
    "Carol",  
    "Dave"  
]
```

```
1 name[-1]
```

```
<pyarrow.StringScalar: 'Dave'>
```

```
1 name[::-1]
```

```
<pyarrow.lib.StringArray object at 0x2b9175060>
```

```
[  
    "Dave",  
    "Carol",  
    "Bob",  
    "Alice"  
]
```

```
1 name[4]
```

```
Error: IndexError: index out of bounds
```

```
1 name[0] = "Patty"
```

```
Error: TypeError: 'pyarrow.lib.StringArray' object does not support item assignment
```

Data Types

The following types are language agnostic for the purpose of portability, however some differ slightly from what is available from Numpy and Pandas (or R),

- *Fixed-length primitive types* - numbers, booleans, date and times, fixed size binary, decimals, and other values that fit into a given number
 - Examples: `bool_()`, `uint64()`, `timestamp()`, `date64()`, and many more
- *Variable-length primitive types* - binary, string
- *Nested types* - list, map, struct, and union
- *Dictionary type* - An encoded categorical type

Schemas

are a data structure that contains information on the names and types of columns for a table (or record batch),

```
1 t.schema
```

```
num: int8  
year: int64  
name: string
```

```
1 pa.schema([  
2   ('num', num.type),  
3   ('year', year.type),  
4   ('name', name.type)  
5 ])
```

```
num: int8  
year: int64  
name: string
```


Schema metadata

Schemas can also store additional metadata (e.g. codebook like textual descriptions) in the form of a string:string dictionary,

```
1 new_schema = t.schema.with_metadata({
2     'num': "Favorite number",
3     'year': "Year expected to graduate",
4     'name': "First name"
5 })
```

```
1 new_schema
```

```
num: int8
year: int64
name: string
-- schema metadata --
num: 'Favorite number'
year: 'Year expected to graduate'
name: 'First name'
```

```
1 t.schema
```

```
num: int8
year: int64
name: string
```

```
1 t.cast(new_schema).schema
```

```
num: int8
year: int64
name: string
-- schema metadata --
num: 'Favorite number'
year: 'Year expected to graduate'
name: 'First name'
```

Missing values / None / NaNs

```
1 pa.array([1,2,None,3])
```

```
<pyarrow.lib.Int64Array object at 0x2b90c3e80>
```

```
[
  1,
  2,
  null,
  3
]
```

```
1 pa.array([1.,2.,None,3.])
```

```
<pyarrow.lib.DoubleArray object at 0x2b90c3d60>
```

```
[
  1,
  2,
  null,
  3
]
```

```
1 pa.array([1,2,None,3])[2]
```

```
<pyarrow.lib.Int64Scalar: None>
```

```
1 pa.array([1.,2.,None,3.])[2]
```

```
<pyarrow.lib.DoubleScalar: None>
```

```
1 pa.array([1,2,np.nan,3])
```

```
<pyarrow.lib.DoubleArray object at 0x2b90c3e80>
```

```
[
  1,
  2,
  nan,
  3
]
```

```
1 pa.array(["alice","bob",None,"dave"])
```

```
<pyarrow.lib.StringArray object at 0x2b9175060>
```

```
[
  "alice",
  "bob",
  null,
  "dave"
]
```

```
1 pa.array([1,2,np.nan,3])[2]
```

```
<pyarrow.lib.DoubleScalar: nan>
```

```
1 pa.array(["alice","bob",None,"dave"])[2]
```

```
<pyarrow.lib.StringScalar: None>
```

Nest type arrays

list type:

```
1 pa.array([[1,2], [3,4], None, [5,None]])
```

```
<pyarrow.lib.ListArray object at 0x2b90c3e80>
```

```
[
  [
    1,
    2
  ],
  [
    3,
    4
  ],
  null,
  [
    5,
    null
  ]
]
```

struct type:

```
1 pa.array([
2     {'x': 1, 'y': True, 'z': "Alice"},
3     {'x': 2,           'z': "Bob" },
4     {'x': 3, 'y': False           }
5 ])
```

```
<pyarrow.lib.StructArray object at 0x2b90c3d60>
```

```
-- is_valid: all not null
```

```
-- child 0 type: int64
```

```
[
  1,
  2,
  3
]
```

```
-- child 1 type: bool
```

```
[
  true,
  null,
  false
]
```

```
-- child 2 type: string
```

```
[
  "Alice",
  "Bob",
  null
]
```

Dictionary array

A dictionary array is the equivalent to a factor in R or `pd.Categorical` in Pandas,

```
1 dict_array = pa.DictionaryArray.from_arrays(  
2     indices = pa.array([0,0,2,1,3,None]),  
3     dictionary = pa.array(['sun', 'rain', 'clouds', 'snow'])  
4 )  
5 dict_array
```

```
<pyarrow.lib.DictionaryArray object at 0x2b907bdf0>
```

```
-- dictionary:
```

```
[  
    "sun",  
    "rain",  
    "clouds",  
    "snow"  
]
```

```
-- indices:
```

```
[  
    0,  
    0,  
    2,  
    1,  
    3,  
    null  
]
```

```
1 dict_array.type
```

```
DictionaryType(dictionary<values=string, indices=int64, ordered=0>)
```

```
1 dict_array.dictionary_decode()
```

```
<pyarrow.lib.StringArray object at 0x2b91751e0>
```

```
[
  "sun",
  "sun",
  "clouds",
  "rain",
  "snow",
  null
]
```

```
1 pa.array(['sun', 'rain', 'clouds', 'sun']).dicti
```

```
<pyarrow.lib.DictionaryArray object at 0x2b907be60>
```

```
-- dictionary:
[
  "sun",
  "rain",
  "clouds"
]
-- indices:
[
  0,
  1,
  2,
  0
]
```

Record Batches

Between a table and an array Arrow has the concept of a Record Batch - which represents a chunk of a larger table. They are composed of a named collection of equal-length arrays.

```
1 batch = pa.RecordBatch.from_arrays(  
2     arrays = [num, year, name],  
3     names = ["num", "year", "name"]  
4 )  
5 batch
```

pyarrow.RecordBatch

num: int8

year: int64

name: string

```
1 batch.num_columns
```

3

```
1 batch.num_rows
```

4

```
1 batch.nbytes
```

69

```
1 batch.schema
```

num: int8

year: int64

name: string

Batch indexing

[] can be used with a Record Batch to select columns (by name or index) or rows (by slice), additionally the `slice()` method can be used to select rows.

```
1 batch[0]
```

```
<pyarrow.lib.Int8Array object at 0x2b9175240>
```

```
[  
  1,  
  2,  
  3,  
  2  
]
```

```
1 batch["name"]
```

```
<pyarrow.lib.StringArray object at 0x2b91752a0>
```

```
[  
  "Alice",  
  "Bob",  
  "Carol",  
  "Dave"  
]
```

```
1 batch[1::2].to_pandas()
```

	num	year	name
0	2	2020	Bob
1	2	2022	Dave

```
1 batch.slice(0,2).to_pandas()
```

	num	year	name
0	1	2019	Alice
1	2	2020	Bob

Tables vs Record Batches

As mentioned previously, `table` objects are not part of the Arrow specification - rather they are a convenience tool provided to help with the wrangling of multiple Record Batches.

```
1 table = pa.Table.from_batches([batch] * 3); table
```

```
pyarrow.Table
```

```
num: int8
```

```
year: int64
```

```
name: string
```

```
----
```

```
num: [[1,2,3,2],[1,2,3,2],[1,2,3,2]]
```

```
year: [[2019,2020,2021,2022],[2019,2020,2021,2022],[2019,2020,2021,2022]]
```

```
name: [["Alice","Bob","Carol","Dave"],["Alice","Bob","Carol","Dave"],["Alice","Bob","Carol","Dave"]]
```

```
1 table.num_columns
```

3

```
1 table.num_rows
```

12

```
1 table.to_pandas()
```

	num	year	name
0	1	2019	Alice
1	2	2020	Bob
2	3	2021	Carol
3	2	2022	Dave
4	1	2019	Alice
5	2	2020	Bob
6	3	2021	Carol
7	2	2022	Dave
8	1	2019	Alice
9	2	2020	Bob
10	3	2021	Carol
11	2	2022	Dave

Chunked Array

The columns of `table` are therefore composed of the columns of each of the batches, these are stored as `ChunkedArrays` instead of `Arrays` to reflect this.

Arrow + NumPy

Conversion between NumPy arrays and Arrow arrays is straight forward,

```
1 np.linspace(0,1,11)
```

```
array([0. , 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.6, 0.7, 0.8, 0.9, 1. ])
```

```
1 pa.array( np.linspace(0,1,6) )
```

```
<pyarrow.lib.DoubleArray object at 0x2b9175ae0>
```

```
[
  0,
  0.2,
  0.4,
  0.60000000000000001,
  0.8,
  1
]
```

```
1 pa.array(range(10)).to_numpy()
```

```
array([0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9])
```

NumPy & data copies

```
1 pa.array(["hello", "world"]).to_numpy()
```

Error: pyarrow.lib.ArrowInvalid: Needed to copy 1 chunks with 0 nulls, but zero_copy_only was True

```
1 pa.array(["hello", "world"]).to_numpy(zero_copy_only=False)
```

```
array(['hello', 'world'], dtype=object)
```

```
1 pa.array([1,2,None,4]).to_numpy()
```

Error: pyarrow.lib.ArrowInvalid: Needed to copy 1 chunks with 1 nulls, but zero_copy_only was True

```
1 pa.array([1,2,None,4]).to_numpy(zero_copy_only=False)
```

```
array([ 1.,  2., nan,  4.])
```

```
1 pa.array([[1,2], [3,4], [5,6]]).to_numpy()
```

Error: pyarrow.lib.ArrowInvalid: Needed to copy 1 chunks with 0 nulls, but zero_copy_only was True

```
1 pa.array([[1,2], [3,4], [5,6]]).to_numpy(zero_copy_only=False)
```

```
array([array([1, 2]), array([3, 4]), array([5, 6])], dtype=object)
```

Pandas -> Arrow

We've already seen some basic conversion of Arrow table objects to Pandas, the conversions here are a bit more complex than with NumPy due in large part to how Pandas handles missing data.

Source (Pandas)	Destination (Arrow)
<code>bool</code>	<code>BOOL</code>
<code>(u)int{8,16,32,64}</code>	<code>(U)INT{8,16,32,64}</code>
<code>float32</code>	<code>FLOAT</code>
<code>float64</code>	<code>DOUBLE</code>
<code>str / unicode</code>	<code>STRING</code>
<code>pd.Categorical</code>	<code>DICTIONARY</code>
<code>pd.Timestamp</code>	<code>TIMESTAMP(unit=ns)</code>
<code>datetime.date</code>	<code>DATE</code>
<code>datetime.time</code>	<code>TIME64</code>

Arrow -> Pandas

Source (Arrow)	Destination (Pandas)
BOOL	bool
BOOL with nulls	object (with values True, False, None)
(U)INT{8,16,32,64}	(u)int{8,16,32,64}
(U)INT{8,16,32,64} with nulls	float64
FLOAT	float32
DOUBLE	float64
STRING	str
DICTIONARY	pd.Categorical
TIMESTAMP(unit=*)	pd.Timestamp (np.datetime64[ns])
DATE	object (with datetime.date objects)
TIME64	object (with datetime.time objects)

Series & data copies

Due to these discrepancies it is much more likely that converting from an Arrow array to a Panda series will require a type to be changed in which case the data will need to be copied. Like `to_numpy()`, `to_pandas()` also accepts the `zero_copy_only` argument, however its default is `False`.

```
1 pa.array([1,2,3,4]).to_pandas()
```

```
0    1
1    2
2    3
3    4
dtype: int64
```

```
1 pa.array(["hello", "world"]).to_pandas()
```

```
0    hello
1    world
dtype: object
```

```
1 pa.array(["hello", "world"]).dictionary_encode()
```

```
0    hello
1    world
dtype: category
Categories (2, object): ['hello', 'world']
```

```
1 pa.array([1,2,3,4]).to_pandas(zero_copy_only=True)
```

```
0    1
1    2
2    3
3    4
dtype: int64
```

```
1 pa.array(["hello", "world"]).to_pandas(zero_copy_only=True)
```

```
Error: pyarrow.lib.ArrowInvalid: Needed to copy 1 chunk
```

```
1 pa.array(["hello", "world"]).dictionary_encode()
```

```
Error: pyarrow.lib.ArrowInvalid: Needed to copy 1 chunk
```


Zero Copy Series conversions

Zero copy conversions from `Array` or `ChunkedArray` to NumPy arrays or pandas Series are possible in certain narrow cases:

- The Arrow data is stored in an integer (signed or unsigned `int8` through `int64`) or floating point type (`float16` through `float64`). This includes many numeric types as well as timestamps.
- The Arrow data has no null values (since these are represented using bitmaps which are not supported by pandas).
- For `ChunkedArray`, the data consists of a single chunk, i.e. `arr.num_chunks == 1`. Multiple chunks will always require a copy because of pandas's contiguousness requirement.

In these scenarios, `to_pandas` or `to_numpy` will be zero copy. In all other scenarios, a copy will be required.

DataFrame & data copies

```
1 table.to_pandas()
```

	num	year	name
0	1	2019	Alice
1	2	2020	Bob
2	3	2021	Carol
3	2	2022	Dave
4	1	2019	Alice
5	2	2020	Bob
6	3	2021	Carol
7	2	2022	Dave
8	1	2019	Alice
9	2	2020	Bob
10	3	2021	Carol
11	2	2022	Dave

```
1 table.schema
```

```
num: int8
year: int64
name: string
```

```
1 table.to_pandas(zero_copy_only=True)
```

Error: pyarrow.lib.ArrowInvalid: Cannot do zero copy conversion into n

```
1 table.drop(
2     ['name']
3 ).to_pandas(zero_copy_only=True)
```

Error: pyarrow.lib.ArrowInvalid: Cannot do zero copy conversion into n

```
1 pa.table(
2     [num,year], names=["num","year"]
3 ).to_pandas(zero_copy_only=True)
```

Error: pyarrow.lib.ArrowInvalid: Cannot do zero copy conversion into n

Pandas DF -> Arrow

To convert from a Pandas DataFrame to an Arrow Table we can use the `from_pandas()` method (schemas can also be inferred from DataFrames)

```
1 df = pd.DataFrame({
2     'x': np.round(np.random.normal(size=5),3),
3     'y': ["A","A","B","C","C"],
4     'z': [1,2,3,4,5]
5 })
```

```
1 pa.Table.from_pandas(df)
```

pyarrow.Table

x: double

y: string

z: int64

x: [[1.111,-0.633,0.033,4.534,-0.104]]

y: [["A","A","B","C","C"]]

z: [[1,2,3,4,5]]

```
1 pa.Schema.from_pandas(df)
```

x: double

y: string

z: int64

-- schema metadata --

pandas: '{"index_columns": [{"kind": "range", "name":

An aside on tabular file formats

Comma Separated Values

This and other text & delimiter based file formats are the most common and generally considered the most portable, however they have a number of significant draw backs

- no explicit schema or other metadata
- column types must be inferred from the data
- numerical values stored as text (efficiency and precision issues)
- limited compression options

(Apache) Parquet

... provides a standardized open-source columnar storage format for use in data analysis systems. It was created originally for use in Apache Hadoop with systems like Apache Drill, Apache Hive, Apache Impala, and Apache Spark adopting it as a shared standard for high performance data IO.

Core features:

- The values in each column are physically stored in contiguous memory locations
- Efficient column-wise compression saves storage space
- Compression techniques specific to a type can be applied
- Queries that fetch specific column values do not read the entire row
- Different encoding techniques can be applied to different columns

Feather

... is a portable file format for storing Arrow tables or data frames (from languages like Python or R) that utilizes the Arrow IPC format internally. Feather was created early in the Arrow project as a proof of concept for fast, language-agnostic data frame storage for Python (pandas) and R.

Core features:

- Direct columnar serialization of Arrow tables
- Supports all Arrow data types and compression
- Language agnostic
- Metadata makes it possible to read only the necessary columns for an operation

Example - File Format Performance

Based on Apache Arrow: Read DataFrame With Zero Memory

Building a large dataset

```
1 np.random.seed(1234)
2
3 df = (
4     pd.read_csv("https://sta663-sp22.github.io/slides/data/penguins.csv")
5     .sample(10_000_000, replace=True)
6     .reset_index(drop=True)
7 )
8
9 num_cols = ["bill_length_mm", "bill_depth_mm", "flipper_length_mm", "body_mass_g"]
10 df[num_cols] = df[num_cols] + np.random.normal(size=(df.shape[0],len(num_cols)))
11
12 df
```

	species	island	bill_length_mm	bill_depth_mm	flipper_length_mm	body_mass_g	sex	year
0	Chinstrap	Dream	50.261096	18.764164	200.607259	3800.208171	male	2008
1	Gentoo	Biscoe	49.594921	13.085831	223.316267	5551.827810	male	2008
2	Chinstrap	Dream	45.919136	18.488115	190.024941	3450.928250	female	2007
3	Adelie	Biscoe	41.829861	21.047924	200.945039	4050.412137	male	2008
4	Gentoo	Biscoe	44.846957	14.669941	211.926404	4400.888107	female	2008
...
9999995	Gentoo	Biscoe	49.994321	14.545704	221.270307	5448.948790	male	2009
9999996	Chinstrap	Dream	51.568717	18.883271	196.283438	3749.222035	male	2007
9999997	Gentoo	Biscoe	38.937558	13.634993	212.118822	4650.113320	female	2007
9999998	Adelie	Torgersen	35.785542	17.751472	185.578798	3150.013148	female	2009
9999999	Adelie	Biscoe	38.170442	20.282051	182.632278	3600.463322	male	2007

[10000000 rows x 8 columns]

Create output files

```
1 import os
2 os.makedirs("scratch/", exist_ok=True)
3
4 df.to_csv("scratch/penguins-large.csv")
5 df.to_parquet("scratch/penguins-large.parquet")
6
7 import pyarrow.feather
8
9 pyarrow.feather.write_feather(
10     pa.Table.from_pandas(df),
11     "scratch/penguins-large.feather"
12 )
13
14 pyarrow.feather.write_feather(
15     pa.Table.from_pandas(df.dropna()),
16     "scratch/penguins-large_nona.feather"
17 )
```

File Sizes

```
1 def file_size(f):
2     x = os.path.getsize(f)
3     print(f, "\t\t", round(x / (1024 * 1024),2), "MB")
```

```
1 file_size( "scratch/penguins-large.csv" )
```

```
## scratch/penguins-large.csv          1018.68 MB
```

```
1 file_size( "scratch/penguins-large.parquet" )
```

```
## scratch/penguins-large.parquet      314.19 MB
```

```
1 file_size( "scratch/penguins-large.feather" )
```

```
## scratch/penguins-large.feather      489.14 MB
```

```
1 file_size( "scratch/penguins-large_nona.feather" )
```

```
## scratch/penguins-large_nona.feather 509.24 MB
```

Read Performance

```
1 %timeit pd.read_csv("scratch/penguins-large.csv")
```

5.2 s \pm 50.4 ms per loop (mean \pm std. dev. of 7 runs, 1 loop each)

```
1 %timeit pd.read_parquet("scratch/penguins-large.parquet")
```

713 ms \pm 11.7 ms per loop (mean \pm std. dev. of 7 runs, 1 loop each)

```
1 %timeit pyarrow.csv.read_csv("scratch/penguins-large.csv")
```

359 ms \pm 61.7 ms per loop (mean \pm std. dev. of 7 runs, 1 loop each)

```
1 %timeit pyarrow.parquet.read_table("scratch/penguins-large.parquet")
```

213 ms \pm 2.83 ms per loop (mean \pm std. dev. of 7 runs, 1 loop each)

```
1 %timeit pyarrow.feather.read_table("scratch/penguins-large.feather")
```

90.9 ms \pm 528 μ s per loop (mean \pm std. dev. of 7 runs, 10 loops each)

```
1 %timeit pyarrow.feather.read_table("scratch/penguins-large_nona.feather")
```

94.5 ms \pm 192 μ s per loop (mean \pm std. dev. of 7 runs, 10 loops each)

Read Performance (Arrow -> Pandas)

```
1 %timeit pyarrow.csv.read_csv("scratch/penguins-large.csv").to_pandas()
```

```
## 921 ms ± 75 ms per loop (mean ± std. dev. of 7 runs, 1 loop each)
```

```
1 %timeit pyarrow.parquet.read_table("scratch/penguins-large.parquet").to_pandas()
```

```
## 727 ms ± 41.8 ms per loop (mean ± std. dev. of 7 runs, 1 loop each)
```

```
1 %timeit pyarrow.feather.read_feather("scratch/penguins-large.feather")
```

```
## 542 ms ± 6 ms per loop (mean ± std. dev. of 7 runs, 1 loop each)
```

```
1 %timeit pyarrow.feather.read_feather("scratch/penguins-large_nona.feather")
```

```
## 547 ms ± 16.6 ms per loop (mean ± std. dev. of 7 runs, 1 loop each)
```

Column subset calculations - CSV & Parquet

```
1 %timeit pd.read_csv("scratch/penguins-large.csv")["flipper_length_mm"].mean()
```

5.21 s \pm 82.1 ms per loop (mean \pm std. dev. of 7 runs, 1 loop each)

```
1 %timeit pd.read_parquet("scratch/penguins-large.parquet", columns=["flipper_
```

80.8 ms \pm 619 μ s per loop (mean \pm std. dev. of 7 runs, 10 loops each)

```
1 %timeit pyarrow.parquet.read_table("scratch/penguins-large.parquet", columns=
```

85.8 ms \pm 599 μ s per loop (mean \pm std. dev. of 7 runs, 10 loops each)

```
1 %timeit pyarrow.parquet.read_table("scratch/penguins-large.parquet")["flipper
```

262 ms \pm 9.97 ms per loop (mean \pm std. dev. of 7 runs, 1 loop each)

Polars

What is Polars?

Polars is a lightning fast DataFrame library/in-memory query engine. Its embarrassingly parallel execution, cache efficient algorithms and expressive API makes it perfect for efficient data wrangling, data pipelines, snappy APIs and so much more.

The goal of Polars is to provide a lightning fast DataFrame library that:

- Utilizes all available cores on your machine.
- Optimizes queries to reduce unneeded work/memory allocations.
- Handles datasets much larger than your available RAM.
- Has an API that is consistent and predictable.
- Has a strict schema (data-types should be known before running the query).

Polars is written in Rust which gives it C/C++ performance and allows it to fully control performance critical parts in a query engine.

Polars vs Pandas

- Polars does not have a multi-index/index
- Polars uses Apache Arrow arrays to represent data in memory while Pandas uses Numpy arrays
- Polars has more support for parallel operations than Pandas
- Polars can lazily evaluate queries and apply query optimization
- Polars syntax is similar but distinct from Pandas

Demo 1 - NYC Taxis

