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**fletcher**

**Fletcher contributors**

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## MOTIVATION

Fletcher was started as weekend project to see how far you could get by using pandas' new `ExtensionArray` interface together with Numba and Apache Arrow to build a fast string type. Since then it has evolved into a project to explore the general issues that you experience when using a non-numpy storage for pandas columns.

Fletcher's main aim is now to provide a general `ExtensionArray` implementation to support Apache Arrow-backed columns in pandas. We restrict ourselves in the development of fletcher to use only pure Python code and do all compilation just-in-time using Numba. On the one side, this makes distribution of this package much simpler as we don't ship native code, on the other side it is also dogfooding for the Apache Arrow developers working on this project to better understand what is needed to accelerate Python code using Numba on top of Apache Arrow.

While Fletcher is currently not in a state where you can use it in day-to-day work, it already provides valuable feedback to pandas on where its `ExtensionArray` interface is still bound to NumPy. In addition, it also provides feedback to Apache Arrow on what functionality is missing to use it as the backend of a DataFrame library. A long-term goal of fletcher is to provide enough input to the pandas and Apache Arrow community to eventually let pandas use `pyarrow` as a hard dependency for backing some of its column types.

As an end-user, you watch Fletcher's development over the next months when you are interested in the efficient implementation of the following data types:

- Nullability for numerical data (all other data supported by fletcher also supports efficient nullability masks)
- strings
- nested structures like `List[...]` or `Struct[...]` or any recursive combination of that.



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### 2.1 Roadmap

#### 2.1.1 Should this be merged into pandas one day?

Yes, we definitely want to have parts of `fletcher` as part of `pandas`. There are plans for a native string type and a list type where Apache Arrow would be the preferable data structure.

#### 2.1.2 If this is merged into pandas, is there still a need for `fletcher`?

Definitely! `fletcher` functions as glue for all available types in Apache Arrow as `pandas.ExtensionDtype`. Only a subset of these types will make its way into `pandas`, thus the string functions that return a boolean result in `pandas` will return a `pandas.BooleanArray` (bytemask-backed numpy array) whereas the ones in `fletcher` will keep returning a `fletcher.FletcherBaseArray` (bitmask-backed Arrow array).

Furthermore, an additional goal of `fletcher` is to support working with `numba` on top of `pyarrow.Array` structures. These utilities will not make their way into `pandas` as there we don't want to introduce a hard `numba` dependency.

### 2.2 Development





## 3.1 fletcher package

### 3.1.1 Subpackages

fletcher.algorithms package

Subpackages

fletcher.algorithms.utils package

Submodules

fletcher.algorithms.utils.chunking module

Utility functions to deal with chunked arrays.

fletcher.algorithms.utils.chunking.**apply\_per\_chunk** (*func*)  
Apply a function to each chunk if the input is chunked.

fletcher.algorithms.utils.chunking.**dispatch\_chunked\_binary\_map** (*a: Any, b: Any, ops: Dict[str, Callable]*)

fletcher.algorithms.utils.chunking.**dispatch\_chunked\_binary\_map** (*a: pyarrow.lib.ChunkedArray, b: Any, ops: Dict[str, Callable]*)

fletcher.algorithms.utils.chunking.**dispatch\_chunked\_binary\_map** (*a: pyarrow.lib.Array, b: Any, ops: Dict[str, Callable]*)

Apply a map-like binary function where at least one of the arguments is an Arrow structure.

This will yield a `pyarrow.Arrow` or `pyarrow.ChunkedArray` as an output.

#### Parameters

**a:** scalar or `np.ndarray` or `pa.Array` or `pa.ChunkedArray`

**b:** scalar or `np.ndarray` or `pa.Array` or `pa.ChunkedArray`

**op: dict** Dictionary with the keys ('array\_array', 'array\_nparray', 'nparray\_array', 'array\_scalar', 'scalar\_array')

### fletcher.algorithms.utils.kmp module

Utility functions for the Knuth Moris Pratt string matching algorithm.

```
fletcher.algorithms.utils.kmp.append_to_kmp_matching(matched_len: int, character:
                                                    int, pat: bytes, failure_function:
                                                    numpy.ndarray) → int
```

Append a character to a Knuth Moris Pratt matching. This function can be used to search for *pat* in a text with the KMP algorithm. Parameters ———— *matched\_len*: int

The length of the previous maximum prefix of *pat* that was a suffix of the text. Must satisfy  $0 \leq \text{matched\_len} < \text{len}(\text{pat})$ .

**character: int** The next character of the text.

**pat: bytes** The pattern that is searched in the text.

**failure\_function: np.ndarray** The KMP failure function of *pat*. Should be obtained through `compute_kmp_failure_function(pat)`.

**int** The length of the maximum prefix of *pat* that is a suffix of the text after appending *character*. Always  $\geq 0$  and  $\leq \min(\text{matched\_len} + 1, \text{len}(\text{pat}))$ .

```
fletcher.algorithms.utils.kmp.compute_kmp_failure_function(pat: bytes) →
                                                    numpy.ndarray
```

Compute the Knuth Moris Pratt failure function. Parameters ———— *pat* : bytes

The bytes representation of the string for which to compute the KMP failure function.

**Numpy array f of len(pat) + 1 integers.**  $f[0] = -1$ . For  $i > 0$ ,  $f[i]$  is equal to the length of the longest proper suffix of  $\text{pat}[i]$  that is a prefix of *pat*. Since, only proper suffixes are considered, for  $i > 0$  we have  $0 \leq f[i] < i$ .

```
>>> comp
```

## Module contents

### Submodules

#### fletcher.algorithms.bool module

```
fletcher.algorithms.bool.all_op(arr: Union[pyarrow.lib.ChunkedArray, pyarrow.lib.Array],
                                skipna: bool) → bool
```

Perform all() on a boolean Arrow structure.

```
fletcher.algorithms.bool.all_true(arr: pyarrow.lib.Array) → pyarrow.lib.Array
```

Return a boolean array with all-True, all-valid with the same size .

```
fletcher.algorithms.bool.all_true_like(arr: pyarrow.lib.Array) → pyarrow.lib.Array
```

Return a boolean array with all-True with the same size as the input and the same valid bitmap.

`fletcher.algorithms.bool.any_op` (*arr*: `Union[pyarrow.lib.ChunkedArray, pyarrow.lib.Array]`,  
*skipna*: `bool`) → `bool`

Perform any() on a boolean Arrow structure.

`fletcher.algorithms.bool.bitmap_or_unaligned` (*length*: `int`, *a*: `bytes`, *offset\_a*: `int`, *b*: `bytes`,  
*offset\_b*: `int`, *result*: `numpy.ndarray`) →  
`None`

Perform OR on two bitmaps without any alignments requirements.

`fletcher.algorithms.bool.bitmap_or_unaligned_with_numpy` (*length*: `int`, *valid\_bits\_a*:  
`bytes`, *a*: `bytes`,  
*offset\_a*: `int`, *b*:  
`numpy.ndarray`, *result*:  
`numpy.ndarray`, *valid\_bits*:  
`numpy.ndarray`) → `int`

Perform OR on a bitmap with valid bitmask and a numpy array with truthy rows.

`fletcher.algorithms.bool.bitmap_or_unaligned_with_numpy_nonnull` (*length*: `int`,  
*a*: `bytes`, *off-*  
*set\_a*: `int`, *b*:  
`numpy.ndarray`,  
*result*:  
`numpy.ndarray`)  
→ `None`

Perform OR on a bitmap and a numpy array with truthy rows.

`fletcher.algorithms.bool.masked_bitmap_or_unaligned` (*length*: `int`, *valid\_bits\_a*:  
`bytes`, *a*: `bytes`, *offset\_a*:  
`int`, *valid\_bits\_b*: `bytes`, *b*:  
`bytes`, *offset\_b*: `int`, *result*:  
`numpy.ndarray`, *valid\_bits*:  
`numpy.ndarray`) → `int`

Perform OR on two bitmaps with valid bitmasks without any alignment requirements.

`fletcher.algorithms.bool.or_array_array` (*a*: `pyarrow.lib.Array`, *b*: `pyarrow.lib.Array`) →  
`pyarrow.lib.Array`

Perform `pyarrow.Array | pyarrow.Array`.

`fletcher.algorithms.bool.or_array_nparray` (*a*: `pyarrow.lib.Array`, *b*: `numpy.ndarray`) →  
`pyarrow.lib.Array`

Perform `pa.Array | np.ndarray`.

`fletcher.algorithms.bool.or_na` (*arr*: `pyarrow.lib.Array`) → `pyarrow.lib.Array`

Apply `array | NA` with a boolean `pyarrow.Array`.

`fletcher.algorithms.bool.or_vectorised` (*a*: `Union[pyarrow.lib.Array,`  
`pyarrow.lib.ChunkedArray]`, *b*: `Any`)

Perform OR on a boolean Arrow structure and a second operator.

**fletcher.algorithms.numpy\_ufunc module****fletcher.algorithms.string module**

```
fletcher.algorithms.string.apply_binary_str (a: Union[pyarrow.lib.Array,
pyarrow.lib.ChunkedArray],
b: Union[pyarrow.lib.Array,
pyarrow.lib.ChunkedArray], *, func:
Callable, output_dtype, parallel: bool
= False)
```

Apply an element-wise numba-jitted function on two Arrow columns.

The supplied function must return a numpy-compatible scalar. Handling of missing data and chunking of the inputs is done automatically.

```
fletcher.algorithms.string.get_utf8_size (first_byte: int)
```

```
fletcher.algorithms.string.shift_unaligned_bitmap (valid_buffer: pyarrow.lib.Buffer,
offset: int, length: int) →
pyarrow.lib.Buffer
```

Shift an unaligned bitmap to be offsetted at 0.

**fletcher.algorithms.string\_builder module**

```
class fletcher.algorithms.string_builder.LibcMalloc
```

```
Bases: numba.core.types.function_type.WrapperAddressProtocol
```

**Methods**


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<i>signature()</i>	Return the signature of a first-class function.
--------------------	-------------------------------------------------

---

```
signature ()
```

Return the signature of a first-class function.

**Returns**

**sig** [Signature] The returned Signature instance represents the type of a first-class function that the given WrapperAddressProtocol instance represents.

```
fletcher.algorithms.string_builder.byte_for_bits (num_bits)
```

```
fletcher.algorithms.string_builder.finalize_string_array (sba, typ) →
pyarrow.lib.Array
```

Take a StringArrayBuilder and returns a pyarrow.StringArray. The native memory in the StringArrayBuilder is free'd during this method call and this is unusable afterwards but also doesn't leak any memory.

```
fletcher.algorithms.string_builder.malloc_nojit (size: int)
```

**fletcher.algorithms.string\_builder\_nojit module**

**class** fletcher.algorithms.string\_builder\_nojit.**BitVector** (*initial\_size: int*)

Bases: object

Builder that constructs a buffer based on bit-packed chunks.

As the memory is owned by this object but we cannot override `__del__`, you need to explicitly call `delete()` to free the native memory.

**Methods**


---

<code>expand()</code>	Double the size of the underlying buffer and copy over the existing data.
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---

<code>append_false</code>	
<code>append_true</code>	
<code>delete</code>	
<code>get</code>	

`append_false()`

`append_true()`

`delete()`

`expand()`

Double the size of the underlying buffer and copy over the existing data.

This allocates a new buffer and copies the data.

`get (idx)`

**class** fletcher.algorithms.string\_builder\_nojit.**ByteVector** (*initial\_size: int*)

Bases: object

Builder that constructs a buffer based on byte-sized chunks.

As the memory is owned by this object but we cannot override `__del__`, you need to explicitly call `delete()` to free the native memory.

**Methods**


---

<code>append(byte)</code>	Append a single byte to the stream.
<code>append_bytes(ptr, length)</code>	Append a range of bytes.
<code>append_int16(i16)</code>	Append a signed 16bit integer.
<code>append_int32(i32)</code>	Append a signed 32bit integer.
<code>append_int64(i64)</code>	Append a signed 64bit integer.
<code>append_uint32(i32)</code>	Append an unsigned 32bit integer.
<code>expand()</code>	Double the size of the underlying buffer and copy over the existing data.

---

<b>delete</b>	
<b>get_int16</b>	
<b>get_int32</b>	
<b>get_int64</b>	
<b>get_uint32</b>	
<b>get_uint8</b>	

**append** (*byte*)

Append a single byte to the stream.

**append\_bytes** (*ptr, length*)

Append a range of bytes.

**append\_int16** (*i16*)

Append a signed 16bit integer.

**append\_int32** (*i32*)

Append a signed 32bit integer.

**append\_int64** (*i64*)

Append a signed 64bit integer.

**append\_uint32** (*i32*)

Append an unsigned 32bit integer.

**delete** ()

**expand** ()

Double the size of the underlying buffer and copy over the existing data.

This allocates a new buffer and copies the data.

**get\_int16** (*idx*)

**get\_int32** (*idx*)

**get\_int64** (*idx*)

**get\_uint32** (*idx*)

**get\_uint8** (*idx*)

**class** `fletcher.algorithms.string_builder_nojit.StringArrayBuilder` (*initial\_size:*  
*int*)

Bases: `object`

Numba-based builder to construct `pyarrow.StringArray` instances.

As Numba doesn't allow us to override `__del__`, we must always call `delete` to free up the used (native) memory.

## Methods

<b>append_null</b>	
<b>append_value</b>	
<b>delete</b>	

**append\_null** ()

**append\_value** (*ptr, length*)

`delete()`

`fletcher.algorithms.string_builder_nojit.byte_for_bits(num_bits)`

`fletcher.algorithms.string_builder_nojit.finalize_string_array(sba, typ) → pyarrow.lib.Array`

Take a `StringArrayBuilder` and returns a `pyarrow.StringArray`. The native memory in the `StringArrayBuilder` is free'd during this method call and this is unusable afterwards but also doesn't leak any memory.

## Module contents

### 3.1.2 Submodules

#### fletcher.base module

**class** `fletcher.base.FletcherBaseArray`

Bases: `fletcher.string_mixin.StringSupportingExtensionArray`

Pandas `ExtensionArray` implementation base backed by an Apache Arrow structure.

#### Attributes

##### T

**base** Return base object of the underlying data.

**dtype** Return the `ExtensionDtype` of this array.

**nbytes** The number of bytes needed to store this object in memory.

**ndim** Return the number of dimensions of the underlying data.

**shape** Return the shape of the data.

**size** Return the number of elements in this array.

#### Methods

<code>all([skipna])</code>	Compute whether all boolean values are True.
<code>any([skipna])</code>	Compute whether any boolean value is True.
<code>argmax()</code>	Return the index of maximum value.
<code>argmin()</code>	Return the index of minimum value.
<code>argsort([ascending, kind, na_position])</code>	Return the indices that would sort this array.
<code>astype(dtype[, copy])</code>	Cast to a NumPy array with 'dtype'.
<code>copy()</code>	Return a copy of the array.
<code>dropna()</code>	Return <code>ExtensionArray</code> without NA values.
<code>equals(other)</code>	Return if another array is equivalent to this array.
<code>factorize([na_sentinel])</code>	Encode the extension array as an enumerated type.
<code>fillna([value, method, limit])</code>	Fill NA/NaN values using the specified method.
<code>isna()</code>	Boolean NumPy array indicating if each value is missing.
<code>ravel([order])</code>	Return a flattened view on this array.
<code>repeat(repeats[, axis])</code>	Repeat elements of a <code>ExtensionArray</code> .
<code>searchsorted(value[, side, sorter])</code>	Find indices where elements should be inserted to maintain order.

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<code>shift([periods, fill_value])</code>	Shift values by desired number.
<code>sum([skipna])</code>	Return the sum of the values.
<code>take(indices, *, allow_fill, fill_value)</code>	Take elements from an array.
<code>to_numpy([dtype, copy, na_value])</code>	Convert to a NumPy ndarray.
<code>transpose(*axes)</code>	Return a transposed view on this array.
<code>unique()</code>	Compute the ExtensionArray of unique values.
<code>value_counts([dropna])</code>	Return a Series containing counts of each unique value.
<code>view([dtype])</code>	Return a view on the array.

**all** (*skipna: bool = False*) → Optional[bool]  
 Compute whether all boolean values are True.

**any** (*skipna: bool = False, \*\*kwargs*) → Optional[bool]  
 Compute whether any boolean value is True.

**astype** (*dtype, copy=True*)  
 Cast to a NumPy array with 'dtype'.

#### Parameters

**dtype** [str or dtype] Typecode or data-type to which the array is cast.

**copy** [bool, default True] Whether to copy the data, even if not necessary. If False, a copy is made only if the old dtype does not match the new dtype.

#### Returns

**array** [ndarray] NumPy ndarray with 'dtype' for its dtype.

**property base**  
 Return base object of the underlying data.

**property dtype**  
 Return the ExtensionDtype of this array.

**isna** () → numpy.ndarray  
 Boolean NumPy array indicating if each value is missing.  
 This should return a 1-D array the same length as 'self'.

**property ndim**  
 Return the number of dimensions of the underlying data.

**property shape**  
 Return the shape of the data.

**property size**  
 Return the number of elements in this array.

#### Returns

**size** [int]

**sum** (*skipna: bool = True*)  
 Return the sum of the values.

**unique** ()  
 Compute the ExtensionArray of unique values.  
 It relies on the Pyarrow.ChunkedArray.unique and if it fails, comes back to the naive implementation.



**Returns****uniques** [ExtensionArray]**value\_counts** (*dropna: bool = True*) → pandas.core.series.Series  
Return a Series containing counts of each unique value.**Parameters****dropna** [bool, default True] Don't include counts of missing values.**Returns****counts** [Series]**See also:****Series.value\_counts****class** fletcher.base.**FletcherBaseDtype** (*arrow\_dtype: pyarrow.lib.DataType*)

Bases: pandas.core.dtypes.base.ExtensionDtype

Dtype base for a pandas ExtensionArray backed by an Apache Arrow structure.

**Attributes****itemsize****kind** Return a character code (one of 'biufcmMOSUV'), default 'O'.**name** Return a string identifying the data type.**names** Ordered list of field names, or None if there are no fields.**type** Return the scalar type for the array, e.g.**Methods**

<code>construct_array_type()</code>	Return the array type associated with this dtype.
<code>construct_from_string(string)</code>	Construct this type from a string.
<code>example()</code>	Get a simple array with example content.
<code>is_dtype(dtype)</code>	Check if we match 'dtype'.

**example ()**

Get a simple array with example content.

**property itemsize****property kind**

Return a character code (one of 'biufcmMOSUV'), default 'O'.

This should match the NumPy dtype used when the array is converted to an ndarray, which is probably 'O' for object if the extension type cannot be represented as a built-in NumPy type.

**See also:****numpy.dtype.kind****na\_value = <NA>**

**property name**

Return a string identifying the data type.

Will be used for display in, e.g. `Series.dtype`

**property type**

Return the scalar type for the array, e.g. `int`.

It's expected `ExtensionArray[item]` returns an instance of `ExtensionDtype.type` for scalar `item`.

**class** `fletcher.base.FletcherChunkedArray` (*array, dtype=None, copy=None*)

Bases: `fletcher.base.FletcherBaseArray`

Pandas ExtensionArray implementation backed by Apache Arrow.

**Attributes****T**

**base** Return base object of the underlying data.

**dtype** Return the ExtensionDtype of this array.

**nbytes** Return the number of bytes needed to store this object in memory.

**ndim** Return the number of dimensions of the underlying data.

**shape** Return the shape of the data.

**size** Return the number of elements in this array.

**Methods**

<code>all([skipna])</code>	Compute whether all boolean values are True.
<code>any([skipna])</code>	Compute whether any boolean value is True.
<code>argmax()</code>	Return the index of maximum value.
<code>argmin()</code>	Return the index of minimum value.
<code>argsort([ascending, kind, na_position])</code>	Return the indices that would sort this array.
<code>astype(dtype[, copy])</code>	Cast to a NumPy array with 'dtype'.
<code>copy()</code>	Return a copy of the array.
<code>dropna()</code>	Return ExtensionArray without NA values.
<code>equals(other)</code>	Return if another array is equivalent to this array.
<code>factorize([na_sentinel])</code>	Encode the extension array as an enumerated type.
<code>fillna([value, method, limit])</code>	Fill NA/NaN values using the specified method.
<code>flatten()</code>	Flatten the array.
<code>isna()</code>	Boolean NumPy array indicating if each value is missing.
<code>ravel([order])</code>	Return a flattened view on this array.
<code>repeat(repeats[, axis])</code>	Repeat elements of a ExtensionArray.
<code>searchsorted(value[, side, sorter])</code>	Find indices where elements should be inserted to maintain order.
<code>shift([periods, fill_value])</code>	Shift values by desired number.
<code>sum([skipna])</code>	Return the sum of the values.
<code>take(indices[, allow_fill, fill_value])</code>	Take elements from an array.
<code>to_numpy([dtype, copy, na_value])</code>	Convert to a NumPy ndarray.
<code>transpose(*axes)</code>	Return a transposed view on this array.

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<code>unique()</code>	Compute the ExtensionArray of unique values.
<code>value_counts([dropna])</code>	Return a Series containing counts of each unique value.
<code>view([dtype])</code>	Return a view on the array.

**copy()** → `pandas.core.arrays.base.ExtensionArray`  
Return a copy of the array.

#### Parameters

**deep** [bool, default False] Also copy the underlying data backing this array.

#### Returns

**ExtensionArray**

**factorize** (*na\_sentinel=-1*)

Encode the extension array as an enumerated type.

#### Parameters

**na\_sentinel** [int, default -1] Value to use in the *codes* array to indicate missing values.

#### Returns

**codes** [ndarray] An integer NumPy array that's an indexer into the original ExtensionArray.

**uniques** [ExtensionArray] An ExtensionArray containing the unique values of *self*.

---

**Note:** *uniques* will *not* contain an entry for the NA value of the ExtensionArray if there are any missing values present in *self*.

---

#### See also:

**factorize** Top-level factorize method that dispatches here.

#### Notes

`pandas.factorize()` offers a *sort* keyword as well.

**fillna** (*value=None, method=None, limit=None*)

Fill NA/NaN values using the specified method.

#### Parameters

**value** [scalar, array-like] If a scalar value is passed it is used to fill all missing values. Alternatively, an array-like 'value' can be given. It's expected that the array-like have the same length as 'self'.

**method** [{ 'backfill', 'bfill', 'pad', 'ffill', None }, default None] Method to use for filling holes in reindexed Series *pad* / *ffill*: propagate last valid observation forward to next valid *backfill* / *bfill*: use NEXT valid observation to fill gap

**limit** [int, default None] If method is specified, this is the maximum number of consecutive NaN values to forward/backward fill. In other words, if there is a gap with more than this number of consecutive NaNs, it will only be partially filled. If method is not specified, this is the maximum number of entries along the entire axis where NaNs will be filled.

#### Returns

**filled** [ExtensionArray with NA/NaN filled]

**flatten** ()

Flatten the array.

**property nbytes**

Return the number of bytes needed to store this object in memory.

**take** (*indices*: Union[Sequence[int], numpy.ndarray], *allow\_fill*: bool = False, *fill\_value*: Optional[Any] = None) → pandas.core.arrays.base.ExtensionArray  
Take elements from an array.

#### Parameters

**indices** [sequence of integers] Indices to be taken.

**allow\_fill** [bool, default False] How to handle negative values in *indices*. \* False: negative values in *indices* indicate positional indices

from the right (the default). This is similar to `numpy.take()`.

- True: negative values in *indices* indicate missing values. These values are set to *fill\_value*. Any other other negative values raise a `ValueError`.

**fill\_value** [any, optional] Fill value to use for NA-indices when *allow\_fill* is True. This may be `None`, in which case the default NA value for the type, `self.dtype.na_value`, is used. For many ExtensionArrays, there will be two representations of *fill\_value*: a user-facing “boxed” scalar, and a low-level physical NA value. *fill\_value* should be the user-facing version, and the implementation should handle translating that to the physical version for processing the take if necessary.

#### Returns

**ExtensionArray**

#### Raises

**IndexError** When the indices are out of bounds for the array.

**ValueError** When *indices* contains negative values other than `-1` and *allow\_fill* is True.

See also:

`numpy.take`

`pandas.api.extensions.take`

#### Notes

`ExtensionArray.take` is called by `Series.__getitem__`, `.loc`, `iloc`, when *indices* is a sequence of values. Additionally, it's called by `Series.reindex()`, or any other method that causes realignment, with a *fill\_value*.

**class** `fletcher.base.FletcherChunkedDtype` (*arrow\_dtype*: `pyarrow.lib.DataType`)

Bases: `fletcher.base.FletcherBaseDtype`

Dtype for a pandas ExtensionArray backed by Apache Arrow's `pyarrow.ChunkedArray`.

#### Attributes

**itemsize**

**kind** Return a character code (one of 'biufcmMOSUV'), default 'O'.

- name** Return a string identifying the data type.
- names** Ordered list of field names, or None if there are no fields.
- type** Return the scalar type for the array, e.g.

## Methods

<code>construct_array_type(*args)</code>	Return the array type associated with this dtype.
<code>construct_from_string(string)</code>	Attempt to construct this type from a string.
<code>example()</code>	Get a simple array with example content.
<code>is_dtype(dtype)</code>	Check if we match 'dtype'.

**classmethod** `construct_array_type(*args) → Type[fletcher.base.FletcherChunkedArray]`  
 Return the array type associated with this dtype.

### Returns

**type**

**classmethod** `construct_from_string(string: str) → fletcher.base.FletcherChunkedDtype`  
 Attempt to construct this type from a string.

### Parameters

**string** [str]

### Returns

**self** [instance of 'cls']

### Raises

**TypeError** If a class cannot be constructed from this 'string'.

## Examples

If the extension dtype can be constructed without any arguments, the following may be an adequate implementation. `>>> @classmethod ... def construct_from_string(cls, string) ... if string == cls.name: ... return cls() ... else: ... raise TypeError("Cannot construct a '{}' from " ... "{}".format(cls, string))`

**class** `fletcher.base.FletcherContinuousArray(array, dtype=None, copy: Optional[bool] = None)`

Bases: `fletcher.base.FletcherBaseArray`

Pandas ExtensionArray implementation backed by Apache Arrow's `pyarrow.Array`.

### Attributes

#### T

**base** Return base object of the underlying data.

**dtype** Return the ExtensionDtype of this array.

**nbytes** Return the number of bytes needed to store this object in memory.

**ndim** Return the number of dimensions of the underlying data.

**shape** Return the shape of the data.

**size** Return the number of elements in this array.

## Methods

<code>all([skipna])</code>	Compute whether all boolean values are True.
<code>any([skipna])</code>	Compute whether any boolean value is True.
<code>argmax()</code>	Return the index of maximum value.
<code>argmin()</code>	Return the index of minimum value.
<code>argsort([ascending, kind, na_position])</code>	Return the indices that would sort this array.
<code>astype(dtype[, copy])</code>	Cast to a NumPy array with 'dtype'.
<code>copy()</code>	Return a copy of the array.
<code>dropna()</code>	Return ExtensionArray without NA values.
<code>equals(other)</code>	Return if another array is equivalent to this array.
<code>factorize([na_sentinel])</code>	Encode the extension array as an enumerated type.
<code>fillna([value, method, limit])</code>	Fill NA/NaN values using the specified method.
<code>flatten()</code>	Flatten the array.
<code>isna()</code>	Boolean NumPy array indicating if each value is missing.
<code>ravel([order])</code>	Return a flattened view on this array.
<code>repeat(repeats[, axis])</code>	Repeat elements of a ExtensionArray.
<code>searchsorted(value[, side, sorter])</code>	Find indices where elements should be inserted to maintain order.
<code>shift([periods, fill_value])</code>	Shift values by desired number.
<code>sum([skipna])</code>	Return the sum of the values.
<code>take(indices[, allow_fill, fill_value])</code>	Take elements from an array.
<code>to_numpy([dtype, copy, na_value])</code>	Convert to a NumPy ndarray.
<code>transpose(*axes)</code>	Return a transposed view on this array.
<code>unique()</code>	Compute the ExtensionArray of unique values.
<code>value_counts([dropna])</code>	Return a Series containing counts of each unique value.
<code>view([dtype])</code>	Return a view on the array.

`copy()` → pandas.core.arrays.base.ExtensionArray

Return a copy of the array.

Currently is a shadow copy - pyarrow array are supposed to be immutable.

### Returns

**ExtensionArray**

`factorize(na_sentinel=-1)`

Encode the extension array as an enumerated type.

### Parameters

**na\_sentinel** [int, default -1] Value to use in the *codes* array to indicate missing values.

### Returns

**codes** [ndarray] An integer NumPy array that's an indexer into the original ExtensionArray.

**uniques** [ExtensionArray] An ExtensionArray containing the unique values of *self*.

---

**Note:** *uniques* will *not* contain an entry for the NA value of the ExtensionArray if there are any missing values present in *self*.

---

**See also:**

**factorize** Top-level factorize method that dispatches here.

## Notes

`pandas.factorize()` offers a *sort* keyword as well.

**fillna** (*value=None, method=None, limit=None*)  
Fill NA/NaN values using the specified method.

### Parameters

**value** [scalar, array-like] If a scalar value is passed it is used to fill all missing values. Alternatively, an array-like ‘value’ can be given. It’s expected that the array-like have the same length as ‘self’.

**method** [{‘backfill’, ‘bfill’, ‘pad’, ‘ffill’, None}, default None] Method to use for filling holes in reindexed Series *pad* / *ffill*: propagate last valid observation forward to next valid *backfill* / *bfill*: use NEXT valid observation to fill gap

**limit** [int, default None] If method is specified, this is the maximum number of consecutive NaN values to forward/backward fill. In other words, if there is a gap with more than this number of consecutive NaNs, it will only be partially filled. If method is not specified, this is the maximum number of entries along the entire axis where NaNs will be filled.

### Returns

**filled** [ExtensionArray with NA/NaN filled]

**flatten** ()

Flatten the array.

**property nbytes**

Return the number of bytes needed to store this object in memory.

**take** (*indices: Union[Sequence[int], numpy.ndarray], allow\_fill: bool = False, fill\_value: Optional[Any] = None*) → `pandas.core.arrays.base.ExtensionArray`  
Take elements from an array.

### Parameters

**indices** [sequence of integers] Indices to be taken.

**allow\_fill** [bool, default False] How to handle negative values in *indices*. \* False: negative values in *indices* indicate positional indices

from the right (the default). This is similar to `numpy.take()`.

- True: negative values in *indices* indicate missing values. These values are set to *fill\_value*. Any other other negative values raise a `ValueError`.

**fill\_value** [any, optional] Fill value to use for NA-indices when *allow\_fill* is True. This may be `None`, in which case the default NA value for the type, `self.dtype.na_value`, is used. For many `ExtensionArrays`, there will be two representations of *fill\_value*: a user-facing “boxed” scalar, and a low-level physical NA value. *fill\_value* should be the user-facing version, and the implementation should handle translating that to the physical version for processing the `take` if necessary.

### Returns

**ExtensionArray**

### Raises

**IndexError** When the indices are out of bounds for the array.

**ValueError** When *indices* contains negative values other than  $-1$  and *allow\_fill* is True.

See also:

`numpy.take`

`pandas.api.extensions.take`

## Notes

`ExtensionArray.take` is called by `Series.__getitem__`, `.loc`, `iloc`, when *indices* is a sequence of values. Additionally, it's called by `Series.reindex()`, or any other method that causes realignment, with a *fill\_value*.

**class** `fletcher.base.FletcherContinuousDtype` (*arrow\_dtype: pyarrow.lib.DataType*)

Bases: `fletcher.base.FletcherBaseDtype`

Dtype for a pandas `ExtensionArray` backed by Apache Arrow's `pyarrow.Array`.

### Attributes

**itemsize**

**kind** Return a character code (one of 'biufcmMOSUV'), default 'O'.

**name** Return a string identifying the data type.

**names** Ordered list of field names, or None if there are no fields.

**type** Return the scalar type for the array, e.g.

### Methods

<code>construct_array_type(*args)</code>	Return the array type associated with this dtype.
<code>construct_from_string(string)</code>	Attempt to construct this type from a string.
<code>example()</code>	Get a simple array with example content.
<code>is_dtype(dtype)</code>	Check if we match 'dtype'.

**classmethod** `construct_array_type` (*\*args*)

Return the array type associated with this dtype.

### Returns

**type**

**classmethod** `construct_from_string` (*string: str*)

Attempt to construct this type from a string.

### Parameters

**string**

### Returns

**self** [instance of 'cls']

### Raises

**TypeError** If a class cannot be constructed from this 'string'.



## Examples

If the extension dtype can be constructed without any arguments, the following may be an adequate implementation. >>> @classmethod ... def construct\_from\_string(cls, string) ... if string == cls.name: ... return cls() ... else: ... raise TypeError("Cannot construct a '{}' from " ... "{}".format(cls, string))

```
fletcher.base.pandas_from_arrow (arrow_object: Union[pyarrow.lib.RecordBatch,
                                                pyarrow.lib.Table,
                                                pyarrow.lib.Array,
                                                pyarrow.lib.ChunkedArray], continuous: bool = False)
```

Convert Arrow object instance to their Pandas equivalent by using Fletcher.

### The conversion rules are:

- {RecordBatch, Table} -> DataFrame
- {Array, ChunkedArray} -> Series

### Parameters

**arrow\_object** [RecordBatch, Table, Array or ChunkedArray] object to be converted

**continuous** [bool] Use FletcherContinuousArray instead of FletcherChunkedArray

## fletcher.io module

```
fletcher.io.read_parquet (path, columns: Optional[List[str]] = None, continuous: bool = False) →
                        pandas.core.frame.DataFrame
```

Load a parquet object from the file path, returning a DataFrame with fletcher columns.

### Parameters

**path** [str or file-like]

**continuous** [bool] Use FletcherContinuousArray instead of FletcherChunkedArray

### Returns

**pd.DataFrame**

## fletcher.string\_array module

```
class fletcher.string_array.TextAccessor (obj)
```

Bases: *fletcher.string\_array.TextAccessorBase*

Accessor for pandas exposed as `.fr_strx`.

### Methods

<code>cat(others)</code>	Concatenate strings in the Series/Index with given separator.
<code>contains(pat[, case, regex])</code>	Test if pattern or regex is contained within a string of a Series or Index.
<code>endswith(pat)</code>	Check whether a row ends with a certain pattern.
<code>replace(pat, repl[, n, case, regex])</code>	Replace occurrences of pattern/regex in the Series/Index with some other string.

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<code>slice([start, end, step])</code>	Extract every <i>step</i> character from strings from <i>start</i> to <i>end</i> .
<code>startswith(pat)</code>	Check whether a row starts with a certain pattern.
<code>strip([to_strip])</code>	Strip whitespaces from both ends of strings.
<code>zfill(width)</code>	Pad strings in the Series/Index by prepending '0' characters.

<b>count</b>	
<b>isalnum</b>	
<b>isalpha</b>	
<b>isdecimal</b>	
<b>isdigit</b>	
<b>islower</b>	
<b>isnumeric</b>	
<b>isspace</b>	
<b>istitle</b>	
<b>isupper</b>	

**cat** (*others*: *Optional[fletcher.base.FletcherBaseArray]*) → `pandas.core.series.Series`  
Concatenate strings in the Series/Index with given separator.

If *others* is specified, this function concatenates the Series/Index and elements of *others* element-wise. If *others* is not passed, then all values in the Series/Index are concatenated into a single string with a given *sep*.

**contains** (*pat*: *str*, *case*: *bool = True*, *regex*: *bool = True*) → `pandas.core.series.Series`  
Test if pattern or regex is contained within a string of a Series or Index.

Return boolean Series or Index based on whether a given pattern or regex is contained within a string of a Series or Index.

**This implementation differs to the one in pandas:**

- We always return a missing for missing data.
- You cannot pass flags for the regular expression module.

#### Parameters

**pat** [*str*] Character sequence or regular expression.

**case** [*bool*, default *True*] If *True*, case sensitive.

**regex** [*bool*, default *True*] If *True*, assumes the *pat* is a regular expression.

If *False*, treats the *pat* as a literal string.

#### Returns

**Series or Index of boolean values** A Series or Index of boolean values indicating whether the given pattern is contained within the string of each element of the Series or Index.

**count** (*pat*: *str*, *regex*: *bool = True*) → `pandas.core.series.Series`

**endswith** (*pat*)

Check whether a row ends with a certain pattern.

**isalnum** ()

`isalpha()``isdecimal()``isdigit()``islower()``isnumeric()``isspace()``istitle()``isupper()``replace(pat: str, repl: str, n: int = -1, case: bool = True, regex: bool = True)`

Replace occurrences of pattern/regex in the Series/Index with some other string. Equivalent to `str.replace()` or `re.sub()`.

Return string Series where in each row the occurrences of the given pattern or regex `pat` are replaced by `repl`.

**This implementation differs to the one in pandas:**

- We always return a missing for missing data.
- You cannot pass flags for the regular expression module.

#### Parameters

**pat** [str] Character sequence or regular expression.

**repl** [str] Replacement string.

**n** [int] Number of replacements to make from start.

**case** [bool, default True] If True, case sensitive.

**regex** [bool, default True] If True, assumes the `pat` is a regular expression. If False, treats the `pat` as a literal string.

#### Returns

Series of string values.

`slice(start=0, end=None, step=1)`

Extract every `step` character from strings from `start` to `end`.

`startswith(pat)`

Check whether a row starts with a certain pattern.

`strip(to_strip=None)`

Strip whitespaces from both ends of strings.

`zfill(width: int) → pandas.core.series.Series`

Pad strings in the Series/Index by prepending '0' characters.

**class** `fletcher.string_array.TextAccessorBase(obj)`

Bases: object

Base class for `.fr_str` and `.fr_strx` accessors.

**class** `fletcher.string_array.TextAccessorExt(obj)`

Bases: `fletcher.string_array.TextAccessorBase`

Accessor for pandas exposed as `.fr_str`.

fletcher.string\_array.**buffers\_as\_arrays** (*sa*)

## fletcher.string\_mixin module

**class** fletcher.string\_mixin.**StringSupportingExtensionArray**  
Bases: fletcher.string\_mixin.\_IntermediateExtensionArray

### Attributes

#### T

**dtype** An instance of 'ExtensionDtype'.

**nbytes** The number of bytes needed to store this object in memory.

**ndim** Extension Arrays are only allowed to be 1-dimensional.

**shape** Return a tuple of the array dimensions.

**size** The number of elements in the array.

### Methods

<code>argmax()</code>	Return the index of maximum value.
<code>argmin()</code>	Return the index of minimum value.
<code>argsort([ascending, kind, na_position])</code>	Return the indices that would sort this array.
<code>astype(dtype[, copy])</code>	Cast to a NumPy array with 'dtype'.
<code>copy()</code>	Return a copy of the array.
<code>dropna()</code>	Return ExtensionArray without NA values.
<code>equals(other)</code>	Return if another array is equivalent to this array.
<code>factorize([na_sentinel])</code>	Encode the extension array as an enumerated type.
<code>fillna([value, method, limit])</code>	Fill NA/NaN values using the specified method.
<code>isna()</code>	A 1-D array indicating if each value is missing.
<code>ravel([order])</code>	Return a flattened view on this array.
<code>repeat(repeats[, axis])</code>	Repeat elements of a ExtensionArray.
<code>searchsorted(value[, side, sorter])</code>	Find indices where elements should be inserted to maintain order.
<code>shift([periods, fill_value])</code>	Shift values by desired number.
<code>take(indices, *[, allow_fill, fill_value])</code>	Take elements from an array.
<code>to_numpy([dtype, copy, na_value])</code>	Convert to a NumPy ndarray.
<code>transpose(*axes)</code>	Return a transposed view on this array.
<code>unique()</code>	Compute the ExtensionArray of unique values.
<code>view([dtype])</code>	Return a view on the array.

## fletcher.testing module

`fletcher.testing.examples` (*example\_list: List[Any], example\_kword: str*)  
Annotation for tests using hypothesis input generation.

It is similar to the `@example` annotation but allows specifying a list of examples.

### Parameters

**example\_list:** list of examples

**example\_kword:** which parameter to use for passing the example values to the test function

### Returns

**method:** wrapper method

## 3.1.3 Module contents

**class** `fletcher.FletcherBaseArray`

Bases: `fletcher.string_mixin.StringSupportingExtensionArray`

Pandas ExtensionArray implementation base backed by an Apache Arrow structure.

### Attributes

#### T

**base** Return base object of the underlying data.

**dtype** Return the ExtensionDtype of this array.

**nbytes** The number of bytes needed to store this object in memory.

**ndim** Return the number of dimensions of the underlying data.

**shape** Return the shape of the data.

**size** Return the number of elements in this array.

### Methods

<code>all([skipna])</code>	Compute whether all boolean values are True.
<code>any([skipna])</code>	Compute whether any boolean value is True.
<code>argmax()</code>	Return the index of maximum value.
<code>argmin()</code>	Return the index of minimum value.
<code>argsort([ascending, kind, na_position])</code>	Return the indices that would sort this array.
<code>astype(dtype[, copy])</code>	Cast to a NumPy array with 'dtype'.
<code>copy()</code>	Return a copy of the array.
<code>dropna()</code>	Return ExtensionArray without NA values.
<code>equals(other)</code>	Return if another array is equivalent to this array.
<code>factorize([na_sentinel])</code>	Encode the extension array as an enumerated type.
<code>fillna([value, method, limit])</code>	Fill NA/NaN values using the specified method.
<code>isna()</code>	Boolean NumPy array indicating if each value is missing.
<code>ravel([order])</code>	Return a flattened view on this array.
<code>repeat(repeats[, axis])</code>	Repeat elements of a ExtensionArray.

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<code>searchsorted(value[, side, sorter])</code>	Find indices where elements should be inserted to maintain order.
<code>shift([periods, fill_value])</code>	Shift values by desired number.
<code>sum([skipna])</code>	Return the sum of the values.
<code>take(indices, *[, allow_fill, fill_value])</code>	Take elements from an array.
<code>to_numpy([dtype, copy, na_value])</code>	Convert to a NumPy ndarray.
<code>transpose(*axes)</code>	Return a transposed view on this array.
<code>unique()</code>	Compute the ExtensionArray of unique values.
<code>value_counts([dropna])</code>	Return a Series containing counts of each unique value.
<code>view([dtype])</code>	Return a view on the array.

**all** (*skipna: bool = False*) → Optional[bool]  
 Compute whether all boolean values are True.

**any** (*skipna: bool = False, \*\*kwargs*) → Optional[bool]  
 Compute whether any boolean value is True.

**astype** (*dtype, copy=True*)  
 Cast to a NumPy array with ‘dtype’.

#### Parameters

**dtype** [str or dtype] Typecode or data-type to which the array is cast.

**copy** [bool, default True] Whether to copy the data, even if not necessary. If False, a copy is made only if the old dtype does not match the new dtype.

#### Returns

**array** [ndarray] NumPy ndarray with ‘dtype’ for its dtype.

**property base**  
 Return base object of the underlying data.

**property dtype**  
 Return the ExtensionDtype of this array.

**isna** () → numpy.ndarray  
 Boolean NumPy array indicating if each value is missing.  
 This should return a 1-D array the same length as ‘self’.

**property ndim**  
 Return the number of dimensions of the underlying data.

**property shape**  
 Return the shape of the data.

**property size**  
 Return the number of elements in this array.

#### Returns

**size** [int]

**sum** (*skipna: bool = True*)  
 Return the sum of the values.

**unique** ()  
 Compute the ExtensionArray of unique values.

It relies on the `Pyarrow.ChunkedArray.unique` and if it fails, comes back to the naive implementation.

### Returns

**uniques** [ExtensionArray]

**value\_counts** (*dropna: bool = True*) → `pandas.core.series.Series`

Return a Series containing counts of each unique value.

### Parameters

**dropna** [bool, default True] Don't include counts of missing values.

### Returns

**counts** [Series]

See also:

**Series.value\_counts**

**class** `fletcher.FletcherBaseDtype` (*arrow\_dtype: pyarrow.lib.DataType*)

Bases: `pandas.core.dtypes.base.ExtensionDtype`

Dtype base for a pandas ExtensionArray backed by an Apache Arrow structure.

### Attributes

**itemsize**

**kind** Return a character code (one of 'biufcmMOSUV'), default 'O'.

**name** Return a string identifying the data type.

**names** Ordered list of field names, or None if there are no fields.

**type** Return the scalar type for the array, e.g.

### Methods

<code>construct_array_type()</code>	Return the array type associated with this dtype.
<code>construct_from_string(string)</code>	Construct this type from a string.
<code>example()</code>	Get a simple array with example content.
<code>is_dtype(dtype)</code>	Check if we match 'dtype'.

**example()**

Get a simple array with example content.

**property itemsize**

**property kind**

Return a character code (one of 'biufcmMOSUV'), default 'O'.

This should match the NumPy dtype used when the array is converted to an ndarray, which is probably 'O' for object if the extension type cannot be represented as a built-in NumPy type.

See also:

**numpy.dtype.kind**

**na\_value = <NA>**

**property name**

Return a string identifying the data type.

Will be used for display in, e.g. `Series.dtype`

**property type**

Return the scalar type for the array, e.g. `int`.

It's expected `ExtensionArray[item]` returns an instance of `ExtensionDtype.type` for scalar item.

**class** `fletcher.FletcherChunkedArray` (*array, dtype=None, copy=None*)

Bases: `fletcher.base.FletcherBaseArray`

Pandas ExtensionArray implementation backed by Apache Arrow.

**Attributes**

**T**

**base** Return base object of the underlying data.

**dtype** Return the ExtensionDtype of this array.

**nbytes** Return the number of bytes needed to store this object in memory.

**ndim** Return the number of dimensions of the underlying data.

**shape** Return the shape of the data.

**size** Return the number of elements in this array.

**Methods**

<code>all([skipna])</code>	Compute whether all boolean values are True.
<code>any([skipna])</code>	Compute whether any boolean value is True.
<code>argmax()</code>	Return the index of maximum value.
<code>argmin()</code>	Return the index of minimum value.
<code>argsort([ascending, kind, na_position])</code>	Return the indices that would sort this array.
<code>astype(dtype[, copy])</code>	Cast to a NumPy array with 'dtype'.
<code>copy()</code>	Return a copy of the array.
<code>dropna()</code>	Return ExtensionArray without NA values.
<code>equals(other)</code>	Return if another array is equivalent to this array.
<code>factorize([na_sentinel])</code>	Encode the extension array as an enumerated type.
<code>fillna([value, method, limit])</code>	Fill NA/NaN values using the specified method.
<code>flatten()</code>	Flatten the array.
<code>isna()</code>	Boolean NumPy array indicating if each value is missing.
<code>ravel([order])</code>	Return a flattened view on this array.
<code>repeat(repeats[, axis])</code>	Repeat elements of a ExtensionArray.
<code>searchsorted(value[, side, sorter])</code>	Find indices where elements should be inserted to maintain order.
<code>shift([periods, fill_value])</code>	Shift values by desired number.
<code>sum([skipna])</code>	Return the sum of the values.
<code>take(indices[, allow_fill, fill_value])</code>	Take elements from an array.
<code>to_numpy([dtype, copy, na_value])</code>	Convert to a NumPy ndarray.
<code>transpose(*axes)</code>	Return a transposed view on this array.

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<code>unique()</code>	Compute the ExtensionArray of unique values.
<code>value_counts([dropna])</code>	Return a Series containing counts of each unique value.
<code>view([dtype])</code>	Return a view on the array.

**copy()** → `pandas.core.arrays.base.ExtensionArray`  
Return a copy of the array.

#### Parameters

**deep** [bool, default False] Also copy the underlying data backing this array.

#### Returns

**ExtensionArray**

**factorize** (*na\_sentinel=-1*)

Encode the extension array as an enumerated type.

#### Parameters

**na\_sentinel** [int, default -1] Value to use in the *codes* array to indicate missing values.

#### Returns

**codes** [ndarray] An integer NumPy array that's an indexer into the original ExtensionArray.

**uniques** [ExtensionArray] An ExtensionArray containing the unique values of *self*.

---

**Note:** *uniques* will *not* contain an entry for the NA value of the ExtensionArray if there are any missing values present in *self*.

---

#### See also:

**factorize** Top-level factorize method that dispatches here.

#### Notes

`pandas.factorize()` offers a *sort* keyword as well.

**fillna** (*value=None, method=None, limit=None*)

Fill NA/NaN values using the specified method.

#### Parameters

**value** [scalar, array-like] If a scalar value is passed it is used to fill all missing values. Alternatively, an array-like 'value' can be given. It's expected that the array-like have the same length as 'self'.

**method** [{ 'backfill', 'bfill', 'pad', 'ffill', None }, default None] Method to use for filling holes in reindexed Series *pad* / *ffill*: propagate last valid observation forward to next valid *backfill* / *bfill*: use NEXT valid observation to fill gap

**limit** [int, default None] If method is specified, this is the maximum number of consecutive NaN values to forward/backward fill. In other words, if there is a gap with more than this number of consecutive NaNs, it will only be partially filled. If method is not specified, this is the maximum number of entries along the entire axis where NaNs will be filled.

#### Returns

**filled** [ExtensionArray with NA/NaN filled]

**flatten** ()

Flatten the array.

**property nbytes**

Return the number of bytes needed to store this object in memory.

**take** (*indices*: Union[Sequence[int], numpy.ndarray], *allow\_fill*: bool = False, *fill\_value*: Optional[Any] = None) → pandas.core.arrays.base.ExtensionArray  
Take elements from an array.

#### Parameters

**indices** [sequence of integers] Indices to be taken.

**allow\_fill** [bool, default False] How to handle negative values in *indices*. \* False: negative values in *indices* indicate positional indices

from the right (the default). This is similar to `numpy.take()`.

- True: negative values in *indices* indicate missing values. These values are set to *fill\_value*. Any other other negative values raise a `ValueError`.

**fill\_value** [any, optional] Fill value to use for NA-indices when *allow\_fill* is True. This may be `None`, in which case the default NA value for the type, `self.dtype.na_value`, is used. For many ExtensionArrays, there will be two representations of *fill\_value*: a user-facing “boxed” scalar, and a low-level physical NA value. *fill\_value* should be the user-facing version, and the implementation should handle translating that to the physical version for processing the take if necessary.

#### Returns

**ExtensionArray**

#### Raises

**IndexError** When the indices are out of bounds for the array.

**ValueError** When *indices* contains negative values other than `-1` and *allow\_fill* is True.

See also:

`numpy.take`

`pandas.api.extensions.take`

#### Notes

`ExtensionArray.take` is called by `Series.__getitem__`, `.loc`, `iloc`, when *indices* is a sequence of values. Additionally, it's called by `Series.reindex()`, or any other method that causes realignment, with a *fill\_value*.

**class** `fletcher.FletcherChunkedDtype` (*arrow\_dtype*: `pyarrow.lib.DataType`)

Bases: `fletcher.base.FletcherBaseDtype`

Dtype for a pandas ExtensionArray backed by Apache Arrow's `pyarrow.ChunkedArray`.

#### Attributes

**itemsize**

**kind** Return a character code (one of 'biufcmMOSUV'), default 'O'.

- name** Return a string identifying the data type.
- names** Ordered list of field names, or None if there are no fields.
- type** Return the scalar type for the array, e.g.

## Methods

<code>construct_array_type(*args)</code>	Return the array type associated with this dtype.
<code>construct_from_string(string)</code>	Attempt to construct this type from a string.
<code>example()</code>	Get a simple array with example content.
<code>is_dtype(dtype)</code>	Check if we match 'dtype'.

**classmethod** `construct_array_type(*args) → Type[fletcher.base.FletcherChunkedArray]`  
Return the array type associated with this dtype.

### Returns

**type**

**classmethod** `construct_from_string(string: str) → fletcher.base.FletcherChunkedDtype`  
Attempt to construct this type from a string.

### Parameters

**string** [str]

### Returns

**self** [instance of 'cls']

### Raises

**TypeError** If a class cannot be constructed from this 'string'.

## Examples

If the extension dtype can be constructed without any arguments, the following may be an adequate implementation. `>>> @classmethod ... def construct_from_string(cls, string) ... if string == cls.name: ... return cls() ... else: ... raise TypeError("Cannot construct a '{}' from " ... "{}".format(cls, string))`

**class** `fletcher.FletcherContinuousArray(array, dtype=None, copy: Optional[bool] = None)`  
Bases: `fletcher.base.FletcherBaseArray`

Pandas ExtensionArray implementation backed by Apache Arrow's `pyarrow.Array`.

### Attributes

#### T

**base** Return base object of the underlying data.

**dtype** Return the ExtensionDtype of this array.

**nbytes** Return the number of bytes needed to store this object in memory.

**ndim** Return the number of dimensions of the underlying data.

**shape** Return the shape of the data.

**size** Return the number of elements in this array.

## Methods

<code>all([skipna])</code>	Compute whether all boolean values are True.
<code>any([skipna])</code>	Compute whether any boolean value is True.
<code>argmax()</code>	Return the index of maximum value.
<code>argmin()</code>	Return the index of minimum value.
<code>argsort([ascending, kind, na_position])</code>	Return the indices that would sort this array.
<code>astype(dtype[, copy])</code>	Cast to a NumPy array with 'dtype'.
<code>copy()</code>	Return a copy of the array.
<code>dropna()</code>	Return ExtensionArray without NA values.
<code>equals(other)</code>	Return if another array is equivalent to this array.
<code>factorize([na_sentinel])</code>	Encode the extension array as an enumerated type.
<code>fillna([value, method, limit])</code>	Fill NA/NaN values using the specified method.
<code>flatten()</code>	Flatten the array.
<code>isna()</code>	Boolean NumPy array indicating if each value is missing.
<code>ravel([order])</code>	Return a flattened view on this array.
<code>repeat(repeats[, axis])</code>	Repeat elements of a ExtensionArray.
<code>searchsorted(value[, side, sorter])</code>	Find indices where elements should be inserted to maintain order.
<code>shift([periods, fill_value])</code>	Shift values by desired number.
<code>sum([skipna])</code>	Return the sum of the values.
<code>take(indices[, allow_fill, fill_value])</code>	Take elements from an array.
<code>to_numpy([dtype, copy, na_value])</code>	Convert to a NumPy ndarray.
<code>transpose(*axes)</code>	Return a transposed view on this array.
<code>unique()</code>	Compute the ExtensionArray of unique values.
<code>value_counts([dropna])</code>	Return a Series containing counts of each unique value.
<code>view([dtype])</code>	Return a view on the array.

**copy()** → pandas.core.arrays.base.ExtensionArray

Return a copy of the array.

Currently is a shadow copy - pyarrow array are supposed to be immutable.

### Returns

**ExtensionArray**

**factorize** (*na\_sentinel*=-1)

Encode the extension array as an enumerated type.

### Parameters

**na\_sentinel** [int, default -1] Value to use in the *codes* array to indicate missing values.

### Returns

**codes** [ndarray] An integer NumPy array that's an indexer into the original ExtensionArray.

**uniques** [ExtensionArray] An ExtensionArray containing the unique values of *self*.

---

**Note:** *uniques* will *not* contain an entry for the NA value of the ExtensionArray if there are any missing values present in *self*.

---

**See also:**

**factorize** Top-level factorize method that dispatches here.

## Notes

`pandas.factorize()` offers a *sort* keyword as well.

**fillna** (*value=None, method=None, limit=None*)  
Fill NA/NaN values using the specified method.

### Parameters

**value** [scalar, array-like] If a scalar value is passed it is used to fill all missing values. Alternatively, an array-like ‘value’ can be given. It’s expected that the array-like have the same length as ‘self’.

**method** [{‘backfill’, ‘bfill’, ‘pad’, ‘ffill’, None}, default None] Method to use for filling holes in reindexed Series *pad* / *ffill*: propagate last valid observation forward to next valid *backfill* / *bfill*: use NEXT valid observation to fill gap

**limit** [int, default None] If method is specified, this is the maximum number of consecutive NaN values to forward/backward fill. In other words, if there is a gap with more than this number of consecutive NaNs, it will only be partially filled. If method is not specified, this is the maximum number of entries along the entire axis where NaNs will be filled.

### Returns

**filled** [ExtensionArray with NA/NaN filled]

**flatten** ()

Flatten the array.

**property nbytes**

Return the number of bytes needed to store this object in memory.

**take** (*indices: Union[Sequence[int], numpy.ndarray], allow\_fill: bool = False, fill\_value: Optional[Any] = None*) → `pandas.core.arrays.base.ExtensionArray`  
Take elements from an array.

### Parameters

**indices** [sequence of integers] Indices to be taken.

**allow\_fill** [bool, default False] How to handle negative values in *indices*. \* False: negative values in *indices* indicate positional indices

from the right (the default). This is similar to `numpy.take()`.

- True: negative values in *indices* indicate missing values. These values are set to *fill\_value*. Any other other negative values raise a `ValueError`.

**fill\_value** [any, optional] Fill value to use for NA-indices when *allow\_fill* is True. This may be `None`, in which case the default NA value for the type, `self.dtype.na_value`, is used. For many `ExtensionArrays`, there will be two representations of *fill\_value*: a user-facing “boxed” scalar, and a low-level physical NA value. *fill\_value* should be the user-facing version, and the implementation should handle translating that to the physical version for processing the take if necessary.

### Returns

**ExtensionArray**

### Raises

**IndexError** When the indices are out of bounds for the array.

**ValueError** When *indices* contains negative values other than  $-1$  and *allow\_fill* is True.

See also:

`numpy.take`

`pandas.api.extensions.take`

## Notes

`ExtensionArray.take` is called by `Series.__getitem__`, `.loc`, `iloc`, when *indices* is a sequence of values. Additionally, it's called by `Series.reindex()`, or any other method that causes realignment, with a *fill\_value*.

**class** `fletcher.FletcherContinuousDtype` (*arrow\_dtype: pyarrow.lib.DataType*)

Bases: `fletcher.base.FletcherBaseDtype`

Dtype for a pandas `ExtensionArray` backed by Apache Arrow's `pyarrow.Array`.

### Attributes

**itemsize**

**kind** Return a character code (one of 'biufcmMOSUV'), default 'O'.

**name** Return a string identifying the data type.

**names** Ordered list of field names, or None if there are no fields.

**type** Return the scalar type for the array, e.g.

### Methods

<code>construct_array_type(*args)</code>	Return the array type associated with this dtype.
<code>construct_from_string(string)</code>	Attempt to construct this type from a string.
<code>example()</code>	Get a simple array with example content.
<code>is_dtype(dtype)</code>	Check if we match 'dtype'.

**classmethod** `construct_array_type(*args)`

Return the array type associated with this dtype.

### Returns

**type**

**classmethod** `construct_from_string(string: str)`

Attempt to construct this type from a string.

### Parameters

**string**

### Returns

**self** [instance of 'cls']

### Raises

**TypeError** If a class cannot be constructed from this 'string'.

## Examples

If the extension dtype can be constructed without any arguments, the following may be an adequate implementation. >>> @classmethod ... def construct\_from\_string(cls, string) ... if string == cls.name: ... return cls() ... else: ... raise TypeError("Cannot construct a '{}' from " ... "{}".format(cls, string))

```
class fletcher.TextAccessor (obj)
    Bases: fletcher.string_array.TextAccessorBase
    Accessor for pandas exposed as .fr_strx.
```

## Methods

<i>cat</i> (others)	Concatenate strings in the Series/Index with given separator.
<i>contains</i> (pat[, case, regex])	Test if pattern or regex is contained within a string of a Series or Index.
<i>endswith</i> (pat)	Check whether a row ends with a certain pattern.
<i>replace</i> (pat, repl[, n, case, regex])	Replace occurrences of pattern/regex in the Series/Index with some other string.
<i>slice</i> ([start, end, step])	Extract every <i>step</i> character from strings from <i>start</i> to <i>end</i> .
<i>startswith</i> (pat)	Check whether a row starts with a certain pattern.
<i>strip</i> ([to_strip])	Strip whitespaces from both ends of strings.
<i>zfill</i> (width)	Pad strings in the Series/Index by prepending '0' characters.

<b>count</b>	
<b>isalnum</b>	
<b>isalpha</b>	
<b>isdecimal</b>	
<b>isdigit</b>	
<b>islower</b>	
<b>isnumeric</b>	
<b>isspace</b>	
<b>istitle</b>	
<b>isupper</b>	

**cat** (*others: Optional[fletcher.base.FletcherBaseArray]*) → pandas.core.series.Series  
Concatenate strings in the Series/Index with given separator.

If *others* is specified, this function concatenates the Series/Index and elements of *others* element-wise. If *others* is not passed, then all values in the Series/Index are concatenated into a single string with a given *sep*.

**contains** (*pat: str, case: bool = True, regex: bool = True*) → pandas.core.series.Series  
Test if pattern or regex is contained within a string of a Series or Index.

Return boolean Series or Index based on whether a given pattern or regex is contained within a string of a Series or Index.

**This implementation differs to the one in pandas:**

- We always return a missing for missing data.

- You cannot pass flags for the regular expression module.

#### Parameters

**pat** [str] Character sequence or regular expression.

**case** [bool, default True] If True, case sensitive.

**regex** [bool, default True] If True, assumes the pat is a regular expression.

If False, treats the pat as a literal string.

#### Returns

**Series or Index of boolean values** A Series or Index of boolean values indicating whether the given pattern is contained within the string of each element of the Series or Index.

**count** (*pat: str, regex: bool = True*) → pandas.core.series.Series

**endswith** (*pat*)

Check whether a row ends with a certain pattern.

**isalnum** ()

**isalpha** ()

**isdecimal** ()

**isdigit** ()

**islower** ()

**isnumeric** ()

**isspace** ()

**istitle** ()

**isupper** ()

**replace** (*pat: str, repl: str, n: int = -1, case: bool = True, regex: bool = True*)

Replace occurrences of pattern/regex in the Series/Index with some other string. Equivalent to str.replace() or re.sub().

Return string Series where in each row the occurrences of the given pattern or regex `pat` are replaced by `repl`.

#### This implementation differs to the one in pandas:

- We always return a missing for missing data.
- You cannot pass flags for the regular expression module.

#### Parameters

**pat** [str] Character sequence or regular expression.

**repl** [str] Replacement string.

**n** [int] Number of replacements to make from start.

**case** [bool, default True] If True, case sensitive.

**regex** [bool, default True] If True, assumes the pat is a regular expression. If False, treats the pat as a literal string.

#### Returns



**Series of string values.**

**slice** (*start=0, end=None, step=1*)  
Extract every *step* character from strings from *start* to *end*.

**startswith** (*pat*)  
Check whether a row starts with a certain pattern.

**strip** (*to\_strip=None*)  
Strip whitespaces from both ends of strings.

**zfill** (*width: int*) → pandas.core.series.Series  
Pad strings in the Series/Index by prepending '0' characters.

`fletcher.pandas_from_arrow` (*arrow\_object: Union[pyarrow.lib.RecordBatch, pyarrow.lib.Table, pyarrow.lib.Array, pyarrow.lib.ChunkedArray], continuous: bool = False*)

Convert Arrow object instance to their Pandas equivalent by using Fletcher.

**The conversion rules are:**

- {RecordBatch, Table} -> DataFrame
- {Array, ChunkedArray} -> Series

**Parameters**

**arrow\_object** [RecordBatch, Table, Array or ChunkedArray] object to be converted

**continuous** [bool] Use FletcherContinuousArray instead of FletcherChunkedArray

`fletcher.read_parquet` (*path, columns: Optional[List[str]] = None, continuous: bool = False*) → pandas.core.frame.DataFrame

Load a parquet object from the file path, returning a DataFrame with fletcher columns.

**Parameters**

**path** [str or file-like]

**continuous** [bool] Use FletcherContinuousArray instead of FletcherChunkedArray

**Returns**

**pd.DataFrame**

Use Apache Arrow backed columns in Pandas 0.23+ using the ExtensionArray interface.

Fletcher provides a generic implementation of the `ExtensionDtype` and `ExtensionArray` interfaces of Pandas for columns backed by Apache Arrow. By using it you can use any data type available in Apache Arrow natively in Pandas. Most prominently, `fletcher` provides native String und List types.

`fletcher` provides two, slightly different implementations. There is `FletcherChunkedArray` which is based on `pyarrow.ChunkedArray`, i.e. it consists of a collection of one or more continuous `pyarrow.Array` instances. Thus the backing memory can be a single memory region but it isn't required. This makes operations like `concat` copy-free as the result will be a `ChunkedArray` that consists of the union of the chunks of the inputs. In contrast it makes algorithm implementation a bit more complex as we need to implement all algorithms to iterate over all rows of all the arrays, not simply `0..n-1` of a single array.

The other implementation is `FletcherContinuousArray` which is based on a single `pyarrow.Array` instance. While this makes operations like `concat` more costly, it greatly improves usability and extensibility by being a much simpler structure. One can always assume that the backing memory region is a continuous block of memory and iterate with simple `0..n-1` indexing over the rows.

At the moment, we don't provide a default `FletcherArray`-named implementation as we are uncertain which of the two above implementations will be the most accepted one. Once we know to which implementation users converge, we will name that one `FletcherArray`.

In addition to bringing an alternative memory backend to NumPy, `fletcher` also provides high-performance operations on the new column types. It will either use the native implementation of an algorithm if provided in `pyarrow` or otherwise provide an implementation by itself using `Numba`.

Usage of `fletcher` columns is straightforward using `Pandas`' default constructor:

```
import fletcher as fr
import pandas as pd

df = pd.DataFrame({
    'str_chunked': fr.FletcherChunkedArray(['a', 'b', 'c']),
    'str_continuous': fr.FletcherContinuousArray(['a', 'b', 'c']),
})

df.info()

# <class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
# RangeIndex: 3 entries, 0 to 2
# Data columns (total 2 columns):
# #   Column          Non-Null Count  Dtype
# ---  ---
# 0   str_chunked      3 non-null     fletcher_chunked[string]
# 1   str_continuous   3 non-null     fletcher_continuous[string]
# dtypes: fletcher_chunked[string](1), fletcher_continuous[string](1)
# memory usage: 166.0 bytes
```

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