# UFOs and preprocessing

PREPROCESSING FOR MACHINE LEARNING IN PYTHON





#### Identifying areas for preprocessing



#### Important concepts to remember

- Missing data: .dropna() and .isna()
- Types: .astype()
- Stratified sampling: train\_test\_split(X, y, stratify=y)



# Categorical variables and standardization

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#### Categorical variables

```
state country type
295 az us light
296 tx us formation
297 nv us fireball
```

One-hot encoding: pd.get\_dummies()

#### Standardization

- .var()
- np.log()



# Engineering new features

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#### UFO feature engineering

date	length_of_time	desc
6/16/2013 21:00	5 minutes	Sabino Canyon Tucson Arizona night UFO sighting.
9/12/2005 22:35	5 minutes	Star like objects hovering in sky, slowly m
12/31/2013 22:25	3 minutes	Three orange fireballs spotted by witness in E

- Dates: .dt.month or .dt.hour attributes
- Regex: \d and .group()
- Text: tf-idf and TfidfVectorizer



# Feature selection and modeling

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#### Feature selection and modeling

- Redundant features
- Text vector



#### Final thoughts

- Iterative processes
- Know your dataset
- Understand your modeling task





# Congratulations!

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#### What you've learned

- Preparing data for modeling:
  - Missing data
  - Incorrect types
  - Standardize numerical values
  - Process categorical values
  - Feature engineering
  - Select features for modeling



