

LabelEncoder and OneHotEncoder

One hot encoding is the technique to convert categorical values into a 1-dimensional numerical vector .

The resulting vector will have only one element equal to 1 and the rest will be 0.

The 1 is called Hot and the 0's are Cold. This is where its name of one hot encoding comes from.

X = [Dog, Cat, Bird]

After one hot encoding each element of our vector X, we end up with the following:

Dog = [1 0 0]

Cat = [0 1 0]

Bird = [0 0 1]

Why one hot encode numerical categorical variables?

Our machine learning algorithm can only read numerical values.

It is essential to encoding categorical features into numerical values.

One Hot Encoding with Pandas

Data Set

The data set we use here is from UCI Machine Learning Repository. It is used to predict whether a patient has kidney disease using various blood indicators as features. We use pandas to read the data in.

```
In [2]: import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import seaborn as sns
```

```
In [3]: tips = sns.load_dataset("tips")
tips.head()
```

```
Out[3]:
```

	total_bill	tip	sex	smoker	day	time	size
0	16.99	1.01	Female	No	Sun	Dinner	2
1	10.34	1.66	Male	No	Sun	Dinner	3
2	21.01	3.50	Male	No	Sun	Dinner	3
3	23.68	3.31	Male	No	Sun	Dinner	2
4	24.59	3.61	Female	No	Sun	Dinner	4

```
In [4]: tips.dtypes
```

```
Out[4]: total_bill    float64
tip              float64
sex              category
smoker           category
day             category
time            category
size            int64
dtype: object
```

Data has various categorical features, such as 'sex' (Male and Female) , 'smoker' (yes or No) , 'day' (sun, mon..) and so on.

```
In [5]: # Categorical boolean mask
categorical_feature_mask = tips.dtypes=='category' #for Qualitative data dtype can be of type "object" also
categorical_feature_mask
```

```
Out[5]: total_bill    False
tip              False
sex              True
smoker           True
day             True
time            True
size            False
dtype: bool
```

```
In [6]: # filter categorical columns using mask and turn it into a list
categorical_cols = tips.columns[categorical_feature_mask].tolist()
categorical_cols
```

```
Out[6]: ['sex', 'smoker', 'day', 'time']
```

LabelEncoder converts each class under specified feature to a numerical value.

```
In [7]: tips
```

```
Out[7]:
```

	total_bill	tip	sex	smoker	day	time	size
0	16.99	1.01	Female	No	Sun	Dinner	2
1	10.34	1.66	Male	No	Sun	Dinner	3
2	21.01	3.50	Male	No	Sun	Dinner	3
3	23.68	3.31	Male	No	Sun	Dinner	2
4	24.59	3.61	Female	No	Sun	Dinner	4
...
239	29.03	5.92	Male	No	Sat	Dinner	3
240	27.18	2.00	Female	Yes	Sat	Dinner	2
241	22.67	2.00	Male	Yes	Sat	Dinner	2
242	17.82	1.75	Male	No	Sat	Dinner	2
243	18.78	3.00	Female	No	Thur	Dinner	2

244 rows × 7 columns

```
In [8]: # import labelencoder
import sklearn
from sklearn.preprocessing import LabelEncoder
# instantiate labelencoder object
le = LabelEncoder()
```

```
In [9]: # apply le on categorical feature columns
tips[categorical_cols] = tips[categorical_cols].apply(lambda col: le.fit_transform(col))
tips[categorical_cols]
```

```
Out[9]:
```

	sex	smoker	day	time
0	0	0	2	0
1	1	0	2	0
2	1	0	2	0
3	1	0	2	0
4	0	0	2	0
...
239	1	0	1	0
240	0	1	1	0
241	1	1	1	0
242	1	0	1	0
243	0	0	3	0

244 rows × 4 columns

All the categorical feature columns are binary class.

But if the categorical feature is multi class, like: day column in the tips then

LabelEncoder will return different values for different classes .

One-HotEncoding

```
In [10]: from sklearn.preprocessing import LabelEncoder, OneHotEncoder
from sklearn.compose import ColumnTransformer

ct = ColumnTransformer([("encoder", OneHotEncoder(), list(categorical_feature_mask))], remainder = 'passthrough')

one_hot_enc = ct.fit_transform(tips)
```

```
In [11]: pd.DataFrame(one_hot_enc)
```

```
Out[11]:
```

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	16.99	1.01	2.0
1	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	10.34	1.66	3.0
2	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	21.01	3.50	3.0
3	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	23.68	3.31	2.0
4	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	24.59	3.61	4.0
...
239	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	29.03	5.92	3.0
240	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	27.18	2.00	2.0
241	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	22.67	2.00	2.0
242	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	17.82	1.75	2.0
243	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	18.78	3.00	2.0

244 rows × 13 columns

```
In [12]: one_hot_enc.shape
```

```
Out[12]: (244, 13)
```

```
In [13]: tips.shape
```

```
Out[13]: (244, 7)
```

HAPPY LEARNING **