

## 0.1 One-Hot Encoding (OHE)

Used for nominal (unordered) categorical features. It creates a new binary column for each category. **'handle\_unknown="ignore"'**: If an unseen category appears during testing/validation, it's ignored, and the resulting one-hot vector will have zeros for all category columns. **'sparse\_output=False'**: Returns a dense NumPy array instead of a sparse matrix. **Binary Features ('drop="if\_binary"')**: For a feature with only two categories (e.g., "yes"/"no"), this argument creates only one resulting column (e.g., 1 for "yes" and 0 for "no"), avoiding redundancy.

## 0.2 Ordinal Encoding

Used for ordinal (ordered) categorical features (e.g., "Good", "Average", "Poor"). It maps each category to an integer value. **Difference from OHE**: Ordinal encoding uses a single column of integers, assuming an order. OHE uses multiple binary columns and assumes no order. **rdering**: Manually ordering categories is important to correctly reflect the underlying relationship. **Unknown Categories**: Without careful configuration, an unknown category during testing/validation could lead to an error or an arbitrary value assignment, impacting model performance. **Multiple Ordinal Columns**: Pass a **list of lists** to the 'categories' parameter of 'OrdinalEncoder', where each inner list contains the ordered categories for one column.

## 0.3 Cases where it's OK to break the golden rule

If We know the categories in advance and pass the list of known/-possible categories. It's OK to incorporate human knowledge in the model.

## 0.4 Text Data Representation (NLP)

Raw text data (e.g., SMS, emails) has no fixed length, so it needs to be transformed into a fixed-length numerical representation. **Popular Representations**: Bag-of-Words (BOW), TF-IDF, and Embedding representations.

## 0.5 CountVectorizer

Converts a collection of text documents (the **corpus**) into a matrix of token counts (Bag-of-Words representation).

- **Output Structure**: Each row is a document, and each column is a unique word (token) in the vocabulary. The cell value is the word count in that document.
- **Preprocessing**: By default, performs **lowercasing** and gets rid of **punctuation**.
- **Data Type**: 'fit.transform' expects a **Series** of text, unlike other transformers that take a DataFrame.
- **Sparse Matrix**: The output is typically a Compressed Sparse Row (CSR) matrix because most documents only contain a small subset of the total vocabulary, leading to huge computational savings by only storing non-zero elements.

## 0.6 CountVectorizer Key Hyperparameters

- **'binary=True'**: Uses presence/absence (1 or 0) of words instead of their counts.
- **'max\_features'**: Only considers the top  $k$  most frequent words in the corpus, controlling the number of features.
- **'max\_df' / 'min\_df'**: Ignores words that occur in too many (e.g., 90% of documents - potentially a stopword) or too few documents, respectively.
- **'ngram\_range'**: Considers sequences of words (n-grams) instead of single words.

## 0.7 Discretizing (Binning)

The process of transforming numeric features into categorical features.

- **Purpose**: Easier interpretation, maintaining privacy (e.g., children-5, teenager-15, young adults-25), or capturing non-linear relationships in linear models for easier interpretation or to maintain privacy, or to capture non-linear relationships.
- **'sklearn' Tool**: Use the 'KBinsDiscretizer' transformer.

## 0.8 Automated Hyperparameter Search

Treats hyperparameter selection as a large search problem.

- **Why it's needed**: Poor hyperparameters can lead to an underfit or overfit model.
- **Methods**: Manual (expert knowledge) or Data-driven (Automated) optimization.



## 0.9 Exhaustive Grid Search: 'GridSearchCV'

- **Cost**: The required number of models grows exponentially with the number of hyperparameters. E.g., 5 hyperparameters with 10 values each means  $10^5$  CV folds.
- **Pipeline Syntax**: Hyperparameters in a pipeline are accessed using a double underscore ('\_'), e.g., 'svc.\_C' or 'columntransformer.\_countvectorizer.\_max\_features'.
- **Final Model**: After finding the best hyperparameters ('best\_params\_' based on 'best\_score\_'), it automatically retrains a model on the entire training set with these best settings.

## 0.10 Randomized Search: 'RandomizedSearchCV'

- **How it works**: Samples configurations randomly from the defined hyperparameter space until a budget ('n\_iter') is exhausted. It doesn't check every combination.
- **Advantages**: Faster than Grid Search, especially when the number of hyperparameters is large. It's more likely to find important parameters because it's not wasting time exploring useless parameter values.
- **Distributions**: Can draw values from continuous probability distributions (like 'loguniform' for 'C' or 'gamma') instead of discrete lists.
- **Recommendation**: Generally recommended over 'GridSearchCV', as it can explore the search space more effectively for a given computational budget.

```
from sklearn.model_selection import GridSearchCV
# pipe_svm includes a preprocessor and an SVC
param_grid = {
    "svc__gamma": loguniform(1e-5, 1e3), # Exponential ranges are
    common
    "svc__C": uniform(0.1, 1e4),
}
gs = GridSearchCV(pipe_svm, param_grid=param_grid, n_jobs=-1)
gs = RandomizedSearchCV(pipe_svm, param_distributions=param_dist,
    n_iter=100, # Number of combinations to try, n_jobs=-1,
    return_train_score=True, random_state=123)
gs.fit(X_train, y_train)
gs.best_score_
results = pd.DataFrame(gs.cv_results_)
gs.score(X_test, y_test)
```

## 0.11 Optimization Bias (Overfitting the Validation Set)

- **Concept**: When you search over a huge number of hyperparameter combinations, you risk getting a model with a seemingly low cross-validation error purely by chance (similar to taking many random tests and picking the best one).
- **The effect**: The 'best\_score\_' (CV score) becomes an overly optimistic estimate of the model's true performance.
- **Solution**: This is why we must use a completely separate Test Set for the final evaluation ('gs.score(X\_test, y\_test)'). The test score is the true, unbiased estimate of generalization performance.

## Naive Bayes Classifier

**Bernoulli Naive Bayes** classifier is a variant of the Naive Bayes algorithm primarily used for **discrete binary data**. It is particularly effective for text classification tasks where features represent whether a certain word *occurs* or *does not occur* in a document.

**Binary Feature Vectors**: This classifier assumes that all feature vectors are binary (0s and 1s). For a document, a feature  $x_i$  is 1 if the word is present and 0 if it is absent.

**Naive Assumption**: it assumes that the features are **conditionally independent** given the class  $C_k$ .

**Smoothing (Additive/Laplace Smoothing)**: To prevent zero probabilities when a feature does not occur with a certain class, Laplace smoothing is applied. The default smoothing parameter  $\alpha$  is typically 1. High  $\alpha$  means overfitting (means we are adding large counts to everything and so we are diluting the data), low means underfitting.

**Gaussian Naive Bayes** This variant is used when features are continuous.

**Feature Vectors**: Assumed to be continuous and normally distributed. If not make it, using powerTransformer() (e.g., height, temperature)

**Conditional Probability (Likelihood)**: The likelihood  $P(x_i|C_k)$  is calculated using the Probability Density Function (PDF) of the Normal distribution

**Training**: The model simply needs to compute the  $\mu_{ik}$  and  $\sigma_{ik}^2$  for

every feature  $i$  and every class  $C_k$  from the training data. There is no concept of "smoothing" as used in discrete models.

```
def gaussian_pdf(x, mean, variance):
    return (1 / np.sqrt(2 * np.pi * variance)) * np.exp(-np.power(x
        - mean, 2) / (2 * variance))
observed_weight = 106
observed_sugar_content = 11
likelihoods = {}
for fruit in ['Apple', 'Orange']:
    likelihoods[fruit] = {}
    for feature, observed_value in [('Weight (in grams)',
        observed_weight), ('Sugar Content (in %)',
        observed_sugar_content)]:
        mean = df[df['Fruit'] == fruit][feature].mean()
        variance = df[df['Fruit'] == fruit][feature].var()
        likelihoods[fruit][feature + "=" + str(observed_value)] =
            gaussian_pdf(observed_value, mean, variance)
```

## Linear Models: Core Concepts

Linear models constitute a fundamental class of algorithms that make a prediction  $\hat{y}$  using a **linear function** of the input features  $x$ : where  $w$  is the vector of coefficients (weights) and  $b$  is the bias (intercept). **Linear Regression (Regression)**: Predicts a **continuous** output  $\hat{y} \in \mathbb{R}$ . It optimizes the loss function (e.g., Mean Squared Error) to minimize the distance between  $\hat{y}$  and the true output  $y$ . **Logistic Regression (Classification)**: Predicts a **probability score** for binary classification. The linear output is passed through the sigmoid function to map it to  $[0, 1]$ . **Linear Support Vector Machine (Linear SVM)**: A classification model that finds the hyperplane with the largest margin separating the classes. It is generally robust and efficient.

## Model Parameters and Optimization

**Hyperparameter**: A parameter whose value is set **prior** to the training process (e.g.,  $\alpha$  in Lasso/Ridge regularization,  $C$  in SVMs). It controls the model's complexity and learning rate. **Interpretation of Coefficients ( $w_i$ )**: The magnitude and sign of a coefficient  $w_i$  indicate the strength and direction of the relationship between the feature  $x_i$  and the prediction  $\hat{y}$ , assuming all other features remain constant.

## Probability Scores and Functions

**Predicting Probability Scores**: For classification, linear models often output a score that can be interpreted as the probability of belonging to a certain class (e.g., in Logistic Regression). **The Sigmoid Function ( $\sigma$ )**: Used in binary classification (like Logistic Regression) to map the linear output (logit) to a probability between 0 and 1.

## Sigmoid vs. Softmax:

**Sigmoid**: Used for **binary classification** or independent multi-label classification. **Softmax**: Used for **multi-class classification** (one class mutually exclusive from others). It converts a vector of scores into a probability distribution that sums to 1.

## Case Analysis

For a classification task predicting  $P(\text{Class A})$ : **Most Confident Cases**: Predictions closest to 0 or 1 (e.g., 0.01 or 0.99). These are cases where the model is highly certain about its classification. **Least Confident Cases**: Predictions closest to the decision boundary (e.g., 0.49 or 0.51). These are cases where the model is uncertain and the data point is near the separating hyperplane. **Over Confident Cases**: High probability predictions (near 0 or 1) that turn out to be **wrong**. This often indicates poor calibration or overfitting.

## Multi-Class Classification

Handled either by extending the linear function to output a score for each class (e.g., using the **Softmax** function) or by decomposing the problem into multiple binary problems (e.g., One-vs-Rest).

## 0.12 Strengths of Linear Models:

**Interpretability**: Coefficients provide clear insight into feature importance. **Efficiency**: Fast to train and predict, and scale well to large datasets. **Simplicity**: Less prone to overfitting on low-dimensional data.

## 0.13 Limitations of Linear Models:

**Limited Expressiveness**: Cannot capture complex non-linear relationships without manual feature engineering (e.g., adding polynomial features). **Sensitivity to Outliers**: Especially for Linear Regression, they can be easily skewed by extreme values. **Independence Assumption**: Performance suffers if features are highly dependent on each other.