

# sklearn.preprocessing.OrdinalEncoder

»

```
class sklearn.preprocessing.OrdinalEncoder(categories='auto', dtype=<class  
'numpy.float64'>):
```

[\[source\]](#)

Encode categorical features as an integer array.

The input to this transformer should be an array-like of integers or strings, denoting the values taken on by categorical (discrete) features. The features are converted to ordinal integers. This results in a single column of integers (0 to `n_categories - 1`) per feature.

Read more in the [User Guide](#).

**Parameters:** **categories** : 'auto' or a list of lists/arrays of values.

Categories (unique values) per feature:

- 'auto' : Determine categories automatically from the training data.
- list : `categories[i]` holds the categories expected in the `i`th column. The passed categories should not mix strings and numeric values, and should be sorted in case of numeric values.

The used categories can be found in the `categories_` attribute.

**dtype** : number type, default `np.float64`

Desired dtype of output.

**Attributes:** **categories\_** : list of arrays

The categories of each feature determined during fitting (in order of the features in `X` and corresponding with the output of `transform`).

## See also:

[sklearn.preprocessing.OneHotEncoder](#)

performs a one-hot encoding of categorical features.

[sklearn.preprocessing.LabelEncoder](#)

encodes target labels with values between 0 and `n_classes-1`.

## Examples

Given a dataset with two features, we let the encoder find the unique values per feature and transform

the data to an ordinal encoding.

```
>>> from sklearn.preprocessing import OrdinalEncoder
>>> enc = OrdinalEncoder()
>>> X = [['Male', 1], ['Female', 3], ['Female', 2]]
>>> enc.fit(X)
...
OrdinalEncoder(categories='auto', dtype=<... 'numpy.float64'>)
>>> enc.categories_
[array(['Female', 'Male'], dtype=object), array([1, 2, 3], dtype=object)]
>>> enc.transform([['Female', 3], ['Male', 1]])
array([[0., 2.],
       [1., 0.]])

>>> enc.inverse_transform([[1, 0], [0, 1]])
array([['Male', 1],
       ['Female', 2]], dtype=object)
```

## Methods

<code>fit(self, X[, y])</code>	Fit the OrdinalEncoder to X.
<code>fit_transform(self, X[, y])</code>	Fit to data, then transform it.
<code>get_params(self[, deep])</code>	Get parameters for this estimator.
<code>inverse_transform(self, X)</code>	Convert the data back to the original representation.
<code>set_params(self, **params)</code>	Set the parameters of this estimator.
<code>transform(self, X)</code>	Transform X to ordinal codes.

```
__init__(self, categories='auto', dtype=<class 'numpy.float64'>)
```

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```
fit(self, X, y=None)
```

[\[source\]](#)

Fit the OrdinalEncoder to X.

**Parameters:** **X** : array-like, shape  $[n\_samples, n\_features]$

The data to determine the categories of each feature.

**Returns:** self

```
fit_transform(self, X, y=None, **fit_params)
```

[\[source\]](#)

Fit to data, then transform it.

Fits transformer to X and y with optional parameters fit\_params and returns a transformed version of X.

**Parameters:** **X** : numpy array of shape  $[n\_samples, n\_features]$

Training set.

**y** : numpy array of shape  $[n\_samples]$

Target values.

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**Returns:**     **X\_new** : *numpy array of shape [n\_samples, n\_features\_new]*  
                  Transformed array.

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**get\_params**(self, deep=True)

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Get parameters for this estimator.

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**Parameters:**   **deep** : *boolean, optional*

                  If True, will return the parameters for this estimator and contained subobjects that are estimators.

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**Returns:**       **params** : *mapping of string to any*

                  Parameter names mapped to their values.

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**inverse\_transform**(self, X)

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Convert the data back to the original representation.

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**Parameters:**   **X** : *array-like or sparse matrix, shape [n\_samples, n\_encoded\_features]*

                  The transformed data.

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**Returns:**       **X\_tr** : *array-like, shape [n\_samples, n\_features]*

                  Inverse transformed array.

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**set\_params**(self, \*\*params)

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Set the parameters of this estimator.

The method works on simple estimators as well as on nested objects (such as pipelines). The latter have parameters of the form <component>\_\_<parameter> so that it's possible to update each component of a nested object.

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**Returns:**   self

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**transform**(self, X)

[\[source\]](#)

Transform X to ordinal codes.

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**Parameters:**   **X** : *array-like, shape [n\_samples, n\_features]*

                  The data to encode.

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**Returns:**     **X\_out** : *sparse matrix or a 2-d array*  
Transformed input.

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