HW2: Final Project

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Dataset

For my dataset I used a dataset about Credit card transactions from 2019, I found the original dataset on Kaggle. (<https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/priyamchoksi/credit-card-transactions-dataset/data>)

This dataset has more then 1.000.000 data points. This is a bit much for the scope of this project.   
To make the dataset more usable, I wrote a Python program that get’s 15.000 data points evenly spread across the original data.

This data gets saved in a new data set that I can use. This way I can use this smaller dataset but I still have data from a full year (2019).

My newly transferred dataset can be downloaded in Kaggle.  
(<https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/brogaming/15000-card-transactions-dataming>)

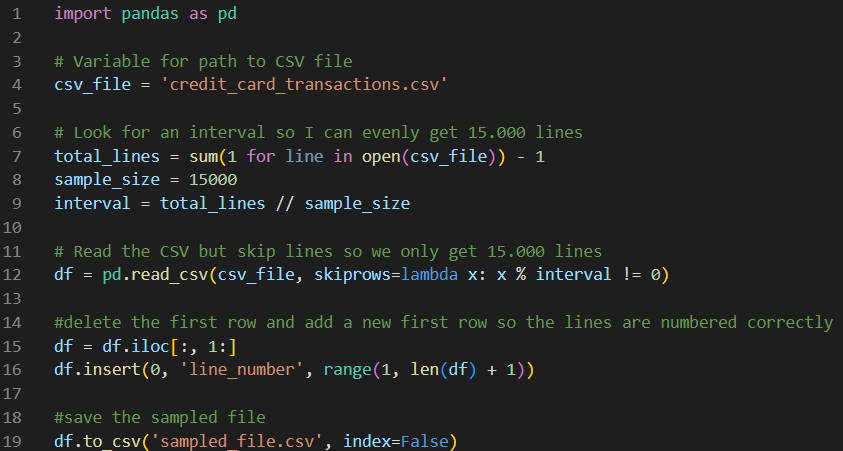


Figure 1: Python Program to select 15.000 evenly spread lines

Introduction to the dataset

**Content**

The dataset includes various attributes for each transaction, such as:

* **Transaction Details**: date and time, card number (hashed) , merchant, category, and amount.
* **Cardholder Information**: Name, gender, address, city, state, Occupation and date of birth.
* **Fraud status**: a value indicating fraud status.

**Features**

1. **line\_number**: Unique number for each transaction. Interval Numerical
2. **trans\_date\_trans\_time**: Timestamp of the transaction. Interval Numerical
3. **cc\_num**: The credit card number used. Nominal Categorical
4. **merchant**: The merchant where the transaction occurred. Nominal Categorical
5. **category**: The type of thing/service that is bought. Nominal Categorical
6. **amt**: The amount spend. (In USD) Ratio Numerical
7. **first:** First name of the cardholder. Nominal Categorical
8. **last:** Last name of the cardholder. Nominal Categorical
9. **gender:** Gender of the cardholder. Nominal Categorical
10. **street:** Street name where the cardholder lives. Nominal Categorical
11. **city:** City where the cardholder lives. Nominal Categorical
12. **state:** State abbreviation where the cardholder lives. Nominal Categorical
13. **zip:** Zip code of the cardholder. Nominal Categorical
14. **lat:** Latitude of the address of the cardholder. Ratio Numerical
15. **long:** Longitude of the address of the cardholder. Ratio Numerical
16. **city\_pop:** City population of the city of the cardholder. Ratio Numerical
17. **job**: The cardholder’s job title. Nominal Categorical
18. **dob**: The cardholder’s birth date. Interval Numerical
19. **trans\_number**: A unique identifier for the transaction. Nominal Categorical
20. **unix\_time:** The time the purchase is done standardized to unix time. (amount of seconds since 00:00:00 UTC, 1 January 1970) Ratio Numerical
21. **merch\_lat:** Latitude of the address of the merchant. Ratio Numerical
22. **merch\_long:** Longitude of the address of the merchant. Ratio Numerical
23. **is\_fraud**: Indicator of whether the transaction is fraudulent. Nominal Categorical
24. **merch\_zip:** Zip code of the merchant. Nominal Categorical

**First 10 rows of the dataset**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **line\_number** | **trans\_date\_trans\_time** | **cc\_num** | **merchant** | **category** | **amt** | **first** |
| 1 | 2019-01-01 00:42:26 | 4,51E+15 | fraud\_Macejkovic-Lesch | shopping\_pos | 8,57 | Margaret |
| 2 | 2019-01-01 01:31:53 | 5,02E+11 | fraud\_Weber and Sons | food\_dining | 98,24 | Melissa |
| 3 | 2019-01-01 02:14:41 | 4,39E+12 | fraud\_Wiza, Schaden and Stark | misc\_pos | 34,76 | Charles |
| 4 | 2019-01-01 03:04:28 | 4,59E+18 | fraud\_Hills-Olson | grocery\_net | 25,89 | Amber |
| 5 | 2019-01-01 03:57:43 | 2,13E+14 | fraud\_Ruecker, Beer and Collier | shopping\_net | 87,91 | Craig |
| 6 | 2019-01-01 04:45:43 | 4,51E+18 | fraud\_Rau and Sons | grocery\_pos | 124,7 | Monica |
| 7 | 2019-01-01 05:39:44 | 3,03E+13 | fraud\_Bartoletti-Wunsch | gas\_transport | 56,65 | Christine |
| 8 | 2019-01-01 06:24:59 | 3,51E+15 | fraud\_Corwin-Collins | gas\_transport | 79,27 | Christine |
| 9 | 2019-01-01 07:10:26 | 4,06E+18 | fraud\_Christiansen, Goyette and Schamberger | gas\_transport | 92,76 | Patricia |
| 10 | 2019-01-01 07:57:37 | 3,82E+13 | fraud\_Jast-McDermott | shopping\_pos | 127,2 | Jesse |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **last** | **gender** | | **street** | **city** | **state** | **zip** | **lat** | **long** |
| Williams | F | 165 Jerry Meadows Suite 460 | | Surrency | GA | 31563 | 31,6489 | -82,1982 |
| Phillips | F | 5069 Scott Pass Apt. 654 | | Meadville | MS | 39653 | 31,4285 | -90,8578 |
| Rodriguez | M | 240 Tracy Forges | | Easton | KS | 66020 | 39,3391 | -95,0999 |
| Lewis | F | 6296 John Keys Suite 858 | | Pembroke Township | IL | 60958 | 41,0646 | -87,5917 |
| Franco | M | 9242 Vanessa Ramp Apt. 525 | | Smithfield | IL | 61477 | 40,4855 | -90,2856 |
| Cohen | F | 864 Reynolds Plains | | Uledi | PA | 15484 | 39,8936 | -79,7856 |
| Johnson | F | 8011 Chapman Tunnel Apt. 568 | | Blairsden-Graeagle | CA | 96103 | 39,8127 | -120,641 |
| Burns | F | 343 Hannah Parkway | | Comfort | WV | 25049 | 38,1372 | -81,5962 |
| Mendoza | F | 1683 Davidson Freeway | | Mendon | UT | 84325 | 41,71 | -111,982 |
| Roberts | M | 8415 Vaughn Squares Apt. 788 | | Acworth | NH | 3601 | 43,196 | -72,3001 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **city\_pop** | **job** | **dob** | **trans\_num** | **unix\_time** | **merch\_lat** | **merch\_long** | **is\_fraud** | **merch\_zipcode** |
| 1324 | Engineer, technical sales | 1926-07-12 | 70ed1a189a6bce479e564b120f2379d9 | 1325378546 | 32,023302 | -82,58345 | 0 | 30473 |
| 2799 | Therapist, horticultural | 1961-01-21 | 6658882e9274e3d6fc3dffa5593b8ad6 | 1325381513 | 30,906565 | -90,486622 | 0 | 70444 |
| 1442 | Air broker | 1982-05-20 | e6e3f462abfffdf22115360310622e20 | 1325384081 | 38,78936 | -95,405907 | 0 | 66047 |
| 2135 | Psychotherapist, child | 2004-05-08 | 76c33ab500644d7795159d1a0eaa243c | 1325387068 | 40,888445 | -87,409615 | 0 | 47922 |
| 631 | Futures trader | 1973-02-14 | 3ff25009cf03ea68e805219047373cb2 | 1325390263 | 40,55495 | -89,50587 | 0 | 61535 |
| 328 | Tree surgeon | 1983-07-25 | 12edfc2306c9e242adccce59a838cbac | 1325393143 | 39,088298 | -79,538272 | 0 | 26271 |
| 1725 | Chartered legal executive (England and Wales) | 1967-05-27 | c198762abf80d696e56eaa0646632488 | 1325396384 | 39,25212 | -120,809112 | 0 | 95959 |
| 630 | Fine artist | 1959-07-30 | b47ec7498c7c19de4801a850b99c433f | 1325399099 | 38,686653 | -80,803493 | 0 | 26624 |
| 2078 | Scientist, audiological | 1963-06-13 | caedb2e95360b4615a85193357810e38 | 1325401826 | 42,599951 | -112,758179 | 0 | 83271 |
| 477 | Naval architect | 1988-04-15 | df2704afe7f9631383e6de2cd787eba0 | 1325404657 | 43,32428 | -73,067471 | 0 | 5739 |

Table 1: First 10 rows of my dataset.

Target/application

**Application 1:**This dataset is interesting for a couple of reasons. First, it contains a large amount of cardholder data, which allows us to analyse purchasing patterns. We can determine valuable information about consumer behaviour by looking at who and where money is spend.  
🡪 I assume that people from bigger populated cities have a bigger spending pattern then people in smaller cities.

**Application 2:**There is also data about the product/service being purchased. This can us help determine, when a specific category of products is bought the most and by who. Understanding and analysing this data can help us with targeted advertisement.  
🡪 I assume that in the summer vacation there are more experience based (services) spendings and in the winter (holiday season) more items (goods).

**Application 3:**Another key data point is the data point about fraud. By using machine learning or other data analysing techniques we could possibly find fraudulent transactions. This could help people that will otherwise lose money by this transactions.  
🡪 I hope to find a clear feature in the data that can help me categorize a transaction into fraudulent transactions or honest transactions.

Data preprocessing

First I check if there is any data missing in my dataset.



Figure 2: Code to check if there is any data missing.

After running this code I found out that the “merch\_zipcode” feature has 2302 rows that are not filled in. Because we also have the city that the product is bought in the postal code is not that important for our analysis. I will discard the “merch\_zipcode” column entirely.

Now I will clean up my data, some columns are not necessary to keep for our analytics, so we will discard this columns. The columns I will drop are:

* first -> I want my data to make general conclusions about groups of people, so we don’t need specific names of people. This will also make our data more anonymous.
* last
* cc\_num
* street -> I want to look at the city/state where people buy their products, I am not interested in the specific street.
* zip -> Because we already have the city name in our dataset, we don’t need the zip codes anymore.
* (merch\_)lat -> I won’t use this super specific address details.
* (merch\_)long
* trans\_num -> We can identify the transaction by the line\_number so we don’t need this transaction number separately

You could say I should also drop my “trans\_date\_trans\_time” column because we have the unix time saved in our data frame. I won’t do this because I will need the months to determine if a transaction is done in the summer or winter. By having the datetime stamp this will be much easier.

 Figure 3: Drop columns that are not necessary.

I have the date of birth in my table, it’s more practical for our analysis to have the age of the costumer by hand. We add an age column to our dataset using the “dob” column. After adding this age column we can drop the “day of birth” column entirely. This is called feature engineering.

Afbeelding met tekst, schermopname, software, Multimediasoftware

Automatisch gegenereerde beschrijving

Figure 4: Calculate the age out of the date of birth.

Eventually I also want to get rid of some outliers in my dataset. This outliers could influence the mean or other statistics that I will eventually use in my analysis. To calculate the outliers I used the Z\_scores, every data that has a higher Z-score then 3 will get discarded. This is done for some important numerical features.



Figure 5: Get rid of outliers using the Z\_scores.

The preprocessed dataset can be found here:  
<https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/brogaming/preprocessed-dataset-transactions-dataming/data>

**Preprocessing for pattern mining (Application 1):**

I want to use pattern mining to see what kind of categories of goods or services are bought more in big cities against small cities.

For this application we firstly need to make a column that contains if a city is big or small, I determined that a big city is a city from 20.000 people (this dataset contains American cities).



Figure 6: Make a new column where big cities are True and small cities are False.

Because we want to get useful association rules we should have more then one category per transaction. Our original dataset only has one category per transaction. I really want to test out the Apriori algorithm so I made some code to randomly add a random amount of categories to each transaction. We can then get useful information out of the association rules.

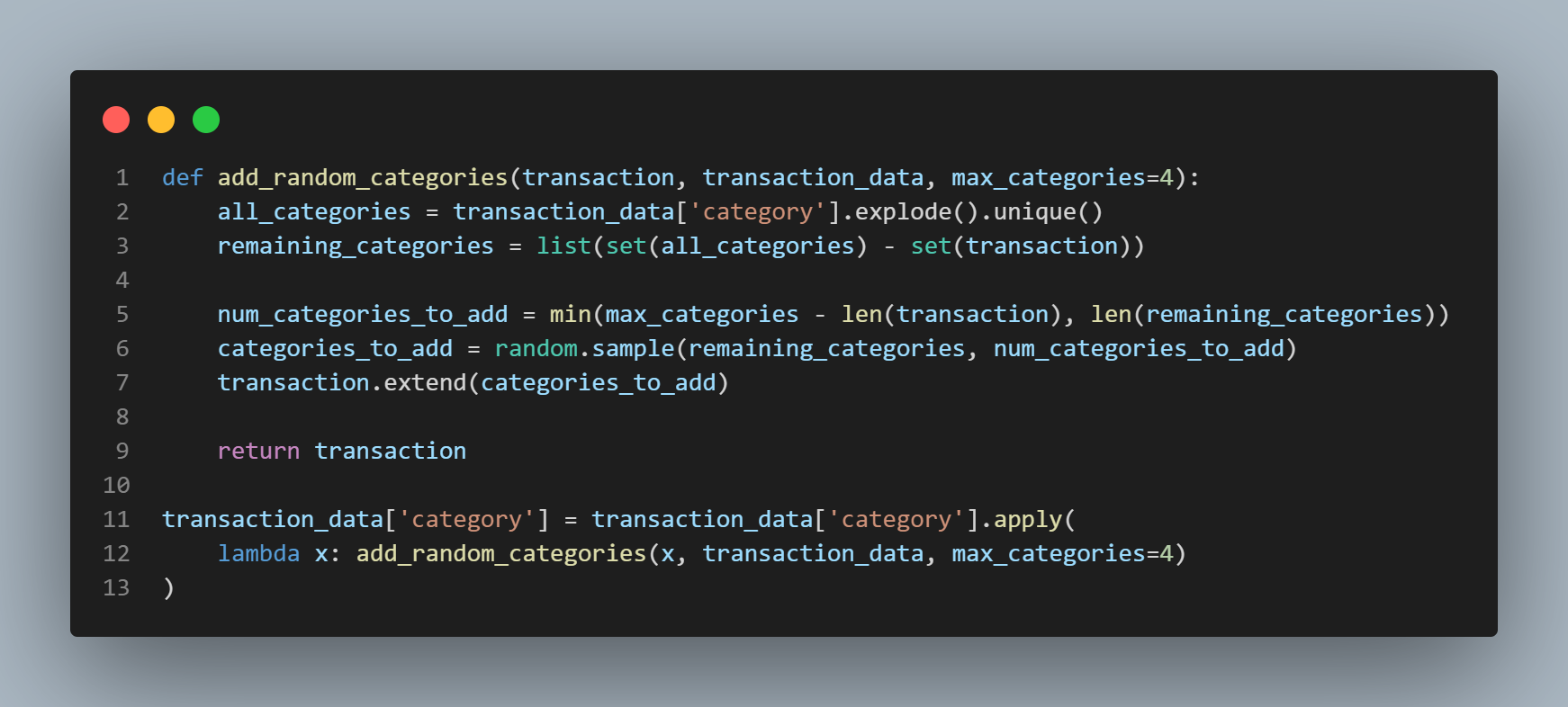


Figure 7: Add random categories to each transaction so I can use Apriori algorithm.

After that I one-hot encode the category column so it becomes a binary matrix. This is necessary for the Apriori algorithm, that can only accept True or False values.

This preprocessed dataset can be found on Kaggle:  
<https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/brogaming/preprocessed-dataset-for-apriori>

**Preprocessing for Decision three model (Application 2):**

We want to look if services or goods are most popular in the winter or summer. Before we van find this information we have to do some feature engineering to get the necessary columns.

Out of the “trans\_date\_trans\_time” column I can get the month that the transaction is done, after I determine what months are winter and summer months and make two extra columns.

If the month of the transaction is a winter months it will add a “1” to that column, and visa versa for the summer months.

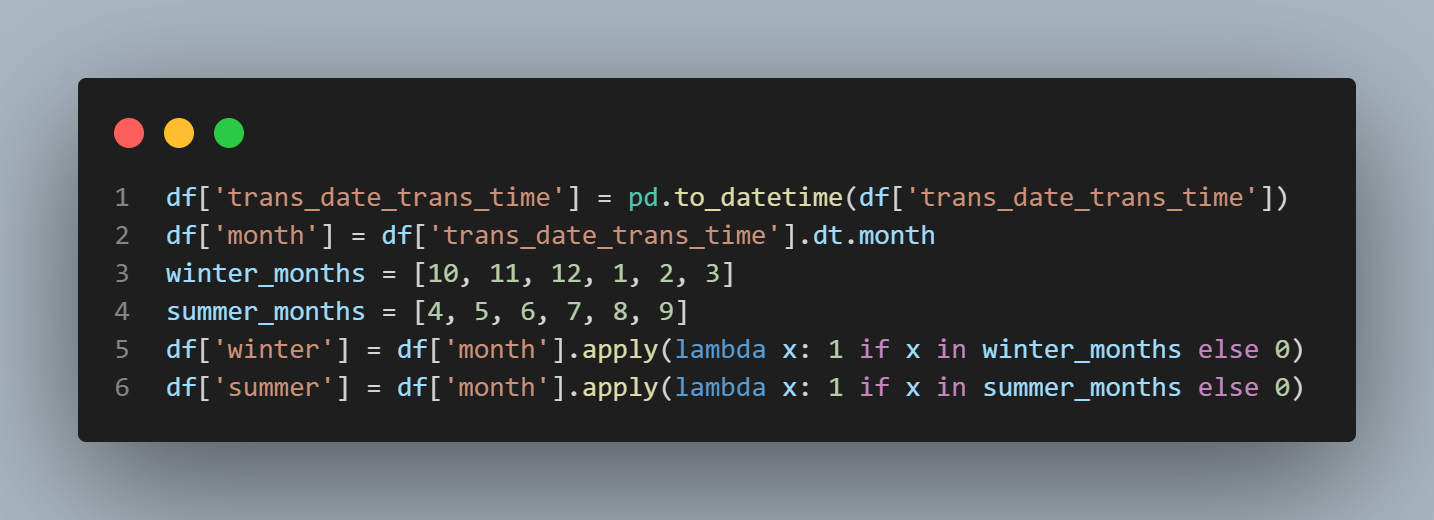


Figure 8: Make two columns with winter and summer month encoding.

For the services and goods columns I first determined which categories fit in what field and then did the same process with filling in 1’s and 0’s in the corresponding columns.

Afbeelding met tekst, schermopname, Lettertype

Automatisch gegenereerde beschrijving

Figure 9: Make two columns with service and goods encoding

We can save this four new columns and have the necessary data for our Decision three.

Data can be found on Kaggle:  
<https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/brogaming/preprocessed-dataset-for-decision-three>

**Preprocessing for Classification model (Application 4):**

Before we can train our classification model we should do some more preprocessing on our data. Most machine learning models can only accept numerical values and so every categorical string value has to be encoded into integers.

To do this we can use label encoding and/or one hot encoding. Label encoding will give every unique value in a column a number label, this will result in one column for each column that has to be encoded. But it can cause for trouble because the AI model can think that the relation between the numbers has a specific meaning while that’s not the case.

One-hot encoding changes every unique value in a column to it’s own column and add binary values to it (1 where the column is True and 0 where it’s False). This can cause for a lot of columns if we one hot encode a column with lots of unique values.

We choose to use one hot encoding on columns that don’t have a lot of unique values and label encoding on the other ones.

Every numerical value has to be normalized, this so the model doesn’t have to work with different scales and different order of values.

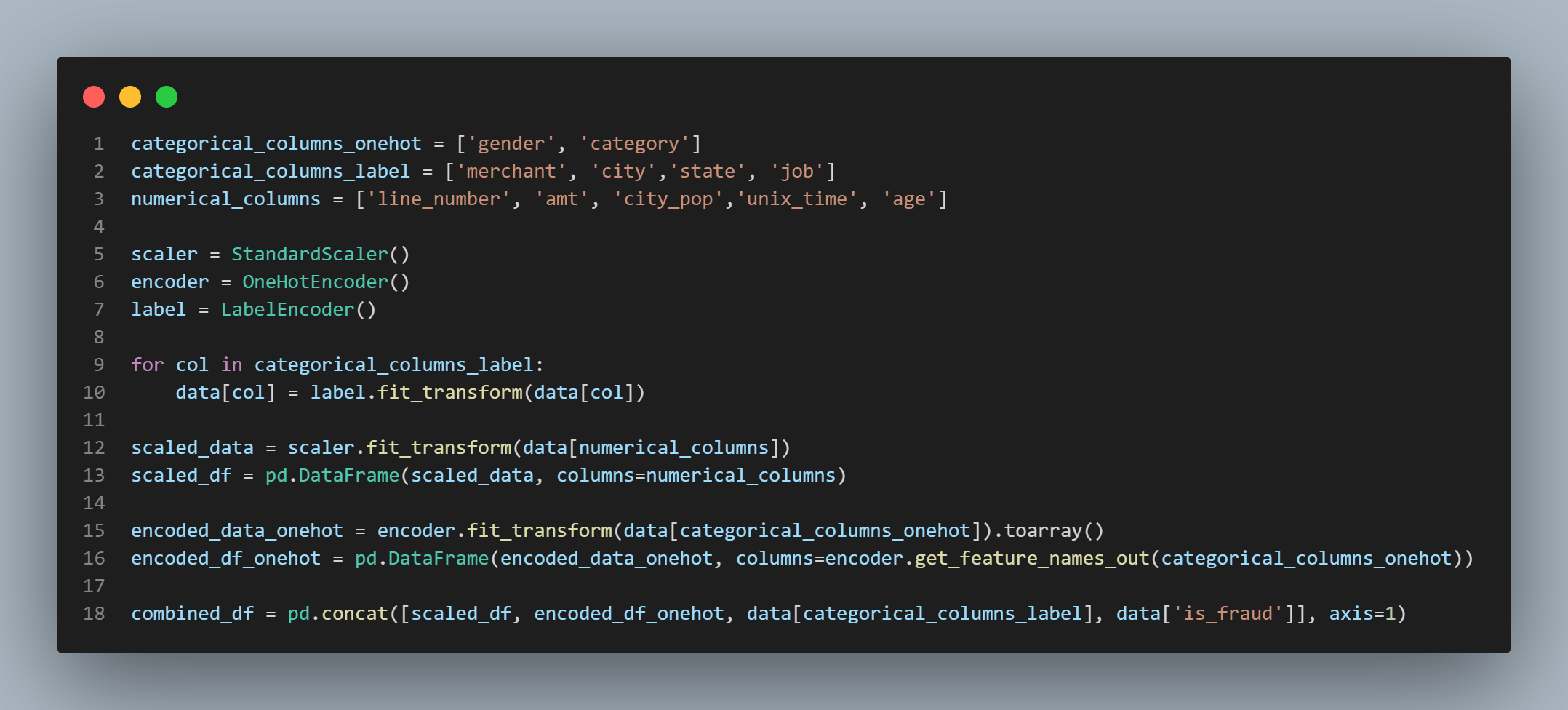


Figure 10: Preprocessing for the classification model.

The data from this preprocessing can be found on Kaggle:  
<https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/brogaming/preprocessed-ai-dataset-transactions-datamining>

Tools/methods

**Tools**

I will be using Python for the data mining techniques I will do at this dataset. I chose Python because it’s well-known for it’s data manipulation, analytics and machine learning possibilities.

Python has a lot of useful libraries like:

* Panda’s for data structures and manipulation
* scikit-learn for Machine learning techniques
* sciPy for statistical calculations
* NumPy for mathematical practices
* Mlxtend for pattern mining algorithms
* MatPlotLib for visualisation of the results
* …

All data will be read and saved from and to a CSV file.  
Code can be found on my GitHub:

**Methods**

**Application 1:**  
To check if people are buying more in bigger cities, I will use the **Apriori algorithm**. This is a method for discovering patterns in large datasets. It can identify frequent itemsets and the relationships between them. By using the Apriori algorithm to my transaction data, I can discover trends in product purchases in cities with high populations and see if they differ from smaller cities.

**Application 2:**  
For this application, I will use a **decision tree** to predict whether products are mostly bought in the winter or summer. A decision tree works by splitting data based on the most important features. By having good splits we can classify items into different categories. We can train the model (choosing the splits) by using the data in our dataset.

**Application 3:**  
To see if a transaction is fraud, I will use the **Random Forest** algorithm. This method creates multiple decision trees and combines their results to make more accurate predictions. It’s great for detecting fraud because it can handle a lot of features in the data. Using these features, the model will classify transactions as fraudulent or not.

Results

Difficulties

I had a lot of difficulties with my data preprocessing. I knew what things where theoretically available from the class, but to actually implement them was vey difficult.

I also found it hard to find good metrics and ways to show if my models / association rules where good. I didn’t really know how to evaluate them properly.

Feedback

I found the class difficult and challenging, because we didn’t have any physical class. The online classes where a bit confusing and not really organized to me.   
The project was interesting but because we didn’t get any feedback on our Mid-Term yet and we could choose almost everything ourselves it was difficult to know if we where on the right track and what the professor actually expects from us.

Difference from proposal

I didn’t have big differences from the proposal. I only pre-processed my data and used it to tackle the problem I described in my proposal.