

**Covid-19 has caused devastating problems with the country's economy. You have been assigned to forecast the unemployment rate for next month (June 2020). Using a Recurrent Neural Network forecast one month into the future of what the Unemployment Rate will be for next month.**

**Make sure to back test your model against one or two previous months**

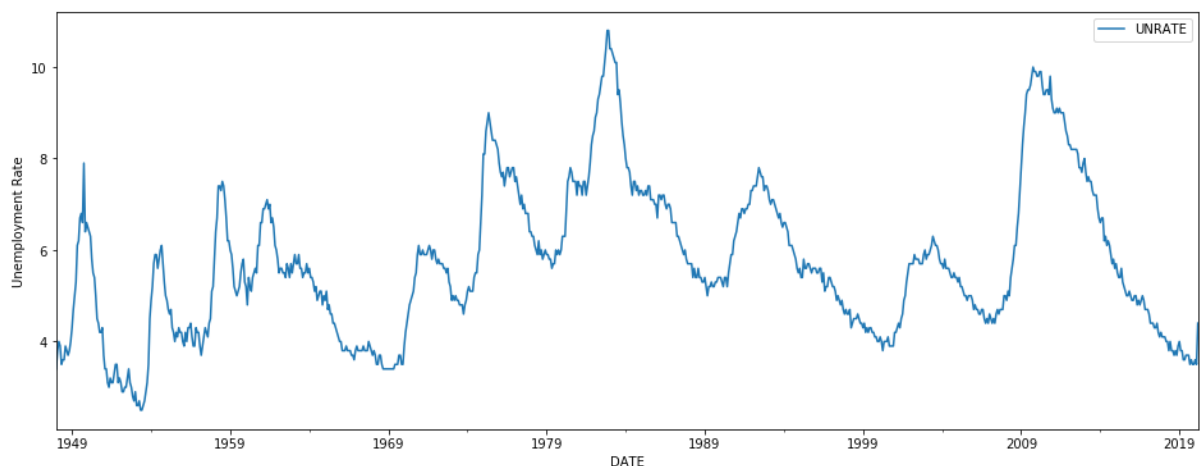
```
In [1]: import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import seaborn as sns
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

## import Data

- Data was collected from the Federal Reserve Economic Data Website
- <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/UNRATE> (<https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/UNRATE>)
- Data begins Jan 1948 through march 2020

```
In [2]: data = pd.read_csv("resources/unemployment_rate.csv", parse_dates = True
, index_col="DATE")
```

```
In [3]: data.plot(figsize = (16,6))
plt.ylabel("Unemployment Rate");
```



## Data Sample

- We will take 5 years of data to test
- This will be 60 months in total
- This will give us enough data to test out model on

```
In [4]: sample_size = 60
```

```
In [5]: sample_index = len(data) - sample_size
```

```
In [6]: sample_index
```

```
Out[6]: 807
```

```
In [7]: len(data)
```

```
Out[7]: 867
```

## Train Test Split

```
In [8]: train = data.iloc[:sample_index]
```

```
In [9]: test = data.iloc[sample_index:]
```

```
In [10]: train.shape
```

```
Out[10]: (807, 1)
```

```
In [11]: test.shape
```

```
Out[11]: (60, 1)
```

## Scaling the data

- This will allow our model to consider the outliers and the behavior of the data better

```
In [12]: from sklearn.preprocessing import MinMaxScaler
```

```
In [13]: scalar = MinMaxScaler()
```

```
In [14]: train_scaled = scalar.fit_transform(train)
```

```
In [15]: test_scaled = scalar.transform(train)
```

## Time Series Generator

- We will create the generator to train our model
- length will be 3 months- Our model will train to attempt to predict 3 months of Unemployment Rates

```
In [113]: length = 2
```

```
In [114]: from tensorflow.keras.preprocessing.sequence import TimeseriesGenerator
```

```
In [115]: gen = TimeseriesGenerator(train_scaled,train_scaled,length=length, batch_size=1)
```

## Early Stopping

- This will allow our model to train and stop when beginning to overtrain
- Also will allow us to set our epoch at a high value to train longer if possible

```
In [116]: from tensorflow.keras.callbacks import EarlyStopping
```

```
In [117]: stop = EarlyStopping(monitor="val_loss", mode = "min", patience=20)
```

## Validation Generator

- Allows the model to compare the training data to. We will use our testing set

```
In [118]: val_gen = TimeseriesGenerator(test_scaled,test_scaled, length=length, batch_size=1)
```

## Creating Model

- We will use a LSTM model to prevent gradient decay of our network

```
In [119]: from tensorflow.keras.models import Sequential  
from tensorflow.keras.layers import LSTM, Dense
```

```
In [120]: n_features = 1
```

```
In [121]: model = Sequential()  
model.add(LSTM(units = 250, activation = "relu", input_shape = (length,n_features)))  
model.add(Dense(units = 1))  
model.compile(optimizer = "adam", loss = "mse")
```

## Fitting Model

- We will add all of our created parameters to to boost efficiency in training

```
In [122]: model.fit_generator(generator=gen, validation_data=val_gen, epochs=40, c  
allbacks=[stop])
```

```
Epoch 1/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 0.0100
- val_loss: 0.0012
Epoch 2/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 0.0014
- val_loss: 0.0011
Epoch 3/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 0.0014
- val_loss: 0.0010
Epoch 4/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 0.0014
- val_loss: 0.0015
Epoch 5/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 0.0013
- val_loss: 0.0011
Epoch 6/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 0.0012
- val_loss: 9.0027e-04
Epoch 7/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 0.0013
- val_loss: 9.9298e-04
Epoch 8/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 0.0010
- val_loss: 7.7924e-04
Epoch 9/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 0.0010
- val_loss: 8.1457e-04
Epoch 10/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 0.0011
- val_loss: 7.3941e-04
Epoch 11/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 9.2004
e-04 - val_loss: 6.9342e-04
Epoch 12/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 0.0010
- val_loss: 8.6859e-04
Epoch 13/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 8.7828
e-04 - val_loss: 9.6106e-04
Epoch 14/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 8.4787
e-04 - val_loss: 7.3521e-04
Epoch 15/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 7.9738
e-04 - val_loss: 7.9432e-04
Epoch 16/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 8.8170
e-04 - val_loss: 6.6762e-04
Epoch 17/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 8.8365
e-04 - val_loss: 6.9428e-04
Epoch 18/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 8.1471
e-04 - val_loss: 7.2798e-04
Epoch 19/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 8.3920
e-04 - val_loss: 8.3959e-04
```

```
Epoch 20/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 8.3831
e-04 - val_loss: 6.2917e-04
Epoch 21/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 8.3469
e-04 - val_loss: 6.5456e-04
Epoch 22/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 7.8537
e-04 - val_loss: 8.5316e-04
Epoch 23/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 7.9547
e-04 - val_loss: 8.0352e-04
Epoch 24/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 8.1381
e-04 - val_loss: 7.0247e-04
Epoch 25/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 8.0431
e-04 - val_loss: 6.3282e-04
Epoch 26/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 7.8246
e-04 - val_loss: 6.7598e-04
Epoch 27/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 7.7531
e-04 - val_loss: 0.0019
Epoch 28/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 8.1814
e-04 - val_loss: 9.9667e-04
Epoch 29/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 7.8402
e-04 - val_loss: 6.5742e-04
Epoch 30/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 7.4684
e-04 - val_loss: 6.4425e-04
Epoch 31/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 7.4811
e-04 - val_loss: 0.0014
Epoch 32/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 7.8432
e-04 - val_loss: 0.0010
Epoch 33/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 7.8852
e-04 - val_loss: 8.1593e-04
Epoch 34/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 7.7648
e-04 - val_loss: 9.1759e-04
Epoch 35/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 8.1643
e-04 - val_loss: 6.8340e-04
Epoch 36/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 8.1314
e-04 - val_loss: 6.7990e-04
Epoch 37/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 7.6006
e-04 - val_loss: 0.0010
Epoch 38/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 7.6761
e-04 - val_loss: 0.0012
```

```
Epoch 39/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 7.6807
e-04 - val_loss: 9.2922e-04
Epoch 40/40
805/805 [=====] - 21s 26ms/step - loss: 8.2927
e-04 - val_loss: 6.6779e-04
```

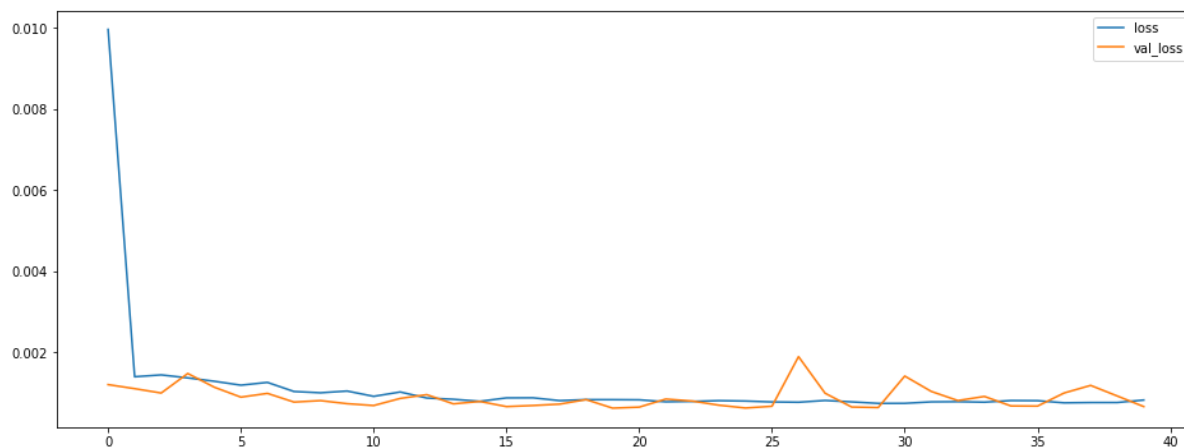
```
Out[122]: <tensorflow.python.keras.callbacks.History at 0x7f287e0c5d50>
```

## Model Performance

- Lets take a look at how our model did training
- appears that our model trained very well and did not overtrain at the end
- We will test the the model by making soe predicitons

```
In [123]: pd.DataFrame(model.history.history).plot(figsize = (16,6))
```

```
Out[123]: <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x7f28803700d0>
```



## Predicitons

- We will test our model on predicting the test data before forecasting
- This will give us a better understanding of the model accuracy

```
In [124]: test_predictions = []
batch = train_scaled[-length:]
current_batch = batch.reshape((1,length,n_features))
for x in range(len(test)):
    current_predictions = model.predict(current_batch)[0]
    test_predictions.append(current_predictions)
    current_batch = np.append(current_batch[:,1:,:], [[current_predictio
ns]], axis = 1)
```

## inverse predicitions

- our model was trained on scaled data so we must inverse that process to get the true values

```
In [125]: true_predicitions = scalar.inverse_transform(test_predictions)
```

## Matching True and Test

```
In [126]: test["predictions"] = true_predicitions
```

```
/home/ubuntu/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-packages/ipykernel_launcher.p
y:1: SettingWithCopyWarning:
A value is trying to be set on a copy of a slice from a DataFrame.
Try using .loc[row_indexer,col_indexer] = value instead
```

```
See the caveats in the documentation: https://pandas.pydata.org/pandas-
docs/stable/user_guide/indexing.html#returning-a-view-versus-a-copy
"""Entry point for launching an IPython kernel.
```

## Plotting Test and Predictions

- Using the LSTM model the predicitions are mostly accurate for the first value forward. We will consider this for our forecast and take a close look at the first month forward.
- model predicition on 2015 was 5.28 and the true value was 5.4. This was pretty close in prediction
- We will run our forecast below

```
In [127]: test.head()
```

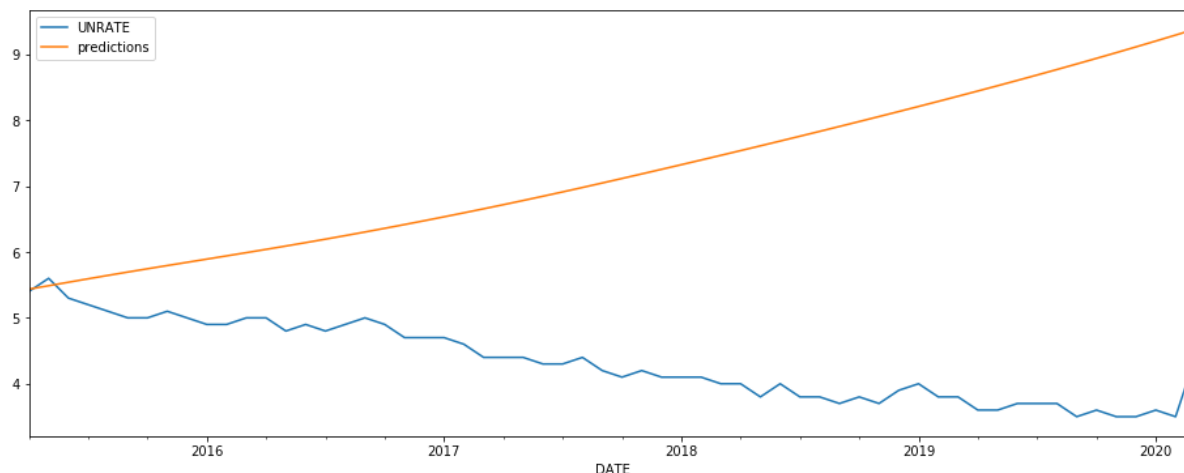
Out[127]:

	UNRATE	predictions
DATE		
2015-04-01	5.4	5.435588
2015-05-01	5.6	5.487394
2015-06-01	5.3	5.540391
2015-07-01	5.2	5.592756
2015-08-01	5.1	5.644289



```
In [128]: test.plot(figsize = (16,6))
```

```
Out[128]: <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x7f287b1a6890>
```



## Forecasting with model

- Our forecast will be to predict the next month of May 2020

```
In [129]: forecast = []
periods = length
first_batch = train_scaled[-length:]
c_batch = first_batch.reshape((1,length,n_features))
for x in range(periods):
    pre = model.predict(c_batch)[0]
    forecast.append(pre)
    c_batch = np.append(c_batch[:,1:,:], [[pre]], axis=1)
```

## Inverse Forecast

```
In [130]: true_forecast = scalar.inverse_transform(forecast)
```

```
In [131]: true_forecast
```

```
Out[131]: array([[5.43558815],
                 [5.48739359]])
```

## Time Series creation for forecast

- must begin at the end of the data at month's start
- last day in data shown below

```
In [132]: data.tail()[-1:]
```

```
Out[132]:
```

UNRATE	
DATE	
2020-03-01	4.4

```
In [133]: time_index = pd.date_range(start="2020-4-1", periods=periods, freq="MS")
```

```
In [134]: time_index
```

```
Out[134]: DatetimeIndex(['2020-04-01', '2020-05-01'], dtype='datetime64[ns]', freq='MS')
```

```
In [135]: forecast_data_frame = pd.DataFrame(true_forecast, index=time_index, columns=["forecast"])
```

## Model Predicts the unemployment rate for 4/2020 will be 5.28

- we will plot this on a graph below

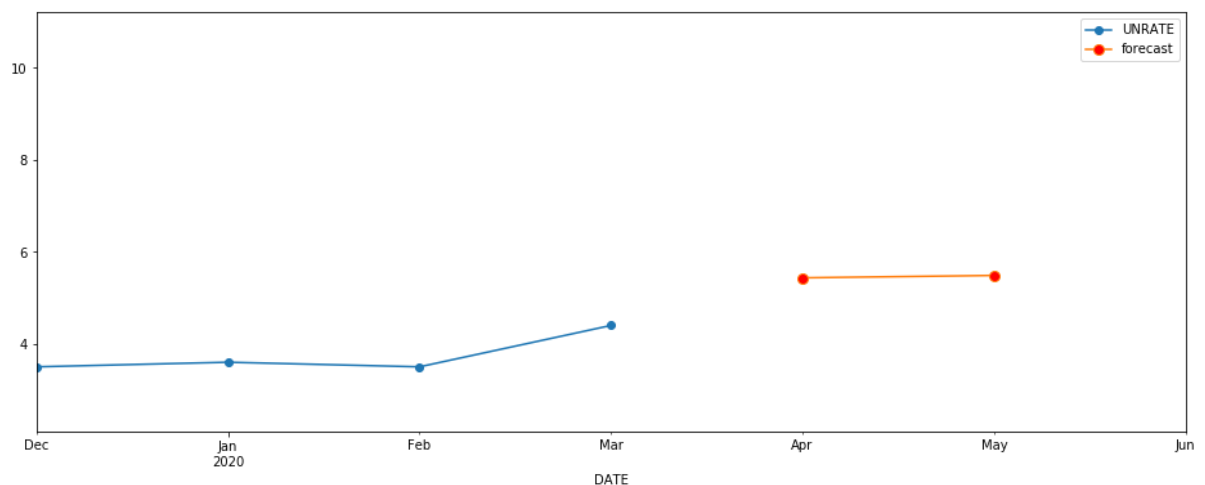
```
In [136]: forecast_data_frame
```

```
Out[136]:
```

forecast	
2020-04-01	5.435588
2020-05-01	5.487394

```
In [137]: ax = data.plot(figsize = (16,6), marker = 'o')
forecast_data_frame.plot(ax = ax, marker = "o", mfc = "r", ms = 8)
plt.xlim("2019-12-30", "2020-6-1")
```

```
Out[137]: (599, 605)
```



## Saving Model

```
In [151]: model.save("unemployment_Model.h5")
```

## Back testing the model

- We will take the data up to year end 2018 and forecast for jan 1 2019
- This will allow us to see how our model performed

```
In [ ]:
```

```
In [139]: new_data = data.loc["1948-01-01": "2018-12-1"]
```

```
In [140]: new_scalar = MinMaxScaler()
```

```
In [141]: new_data_scaled = new_scalar.fit_transform(new_data)
```

## Forecast and back testing

```
In [142]: forecast = []
          period = length
          b = new_data_scaled[-length:]
          curr_batch = b.reshape((1,length,n_features))
          for x in range(period):
              predd = model.predict(curr_batch)[0]
              forecast.append(predd)
              curr_batch = np.append(curr_batch[:,1:,:], [[predd]], axis=1)
```

```
In [143]: t_forecast = new_scalar.inverse_transform(forecast)
```

```
In [144]: t_forecast
```

```
Out[144]: array([[3.98228661],
                 [4.04095157]])
```

```
In [145]: new_data.tail()[-1:]
```

```
Out[145]:
```

UNRATE	
DATE	
2018-12-01	3.9

```
In [146]: t_index = pd.date_range(start="2019-1-1", periods=period, freq='MS')
```

```
In [147]: t_index
```

```
Out[147]: DatetimeIndex(['2019-01-01', '2019-02-01'], dtype='datetime64[ns]', freq='MS')
```

```
In [148]: fotecast_Df =pd.DataFrame(t_forecast,index=t_index, columns=["forecast"])
```

```
In [ ]:
```

## Model Predicts 3.98

- True value was 4.0
- Model is very Accurate in predictions of unemployment rate

```
In [149]: fotecast_Df
```

```
Out[149]:
```

	forecast
2019-01-01	3.982287
2019-02-01	4.040952

```
In [150]: data.loc["2019-1-1"]
```

```
Out[150]: UNRATE      4.0
Name: 2019-01-01 00:00:00, dtype: float64
```

```
In [ ]:
```

```
In [ ]:
```