Week 3: Using RNNs to predict time series

Welcome! In the previous assignment you used a vanilla deep neural network to create forecasts for generated time series. This time you will be using Tensorflow's layers for processing sequence data such as Recurrent layers or LSTMs to see how these two approaches compare.

Let's get started!

NOTE: To prevent errors from the autograder, you are not allowed to edit or delete some of the cells in this notebook. Please only put your solutions in between the ### START CODE HERE and ### END CODE HERE code comments, and also refrain from adding any new cells. **Once you have passed this assignment** and want to experiment with any of the locked cells, you may follow the instructions at the bottom of this notebook.

```
import tensorflow as tf
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from dataclasses import dataclass
from absl import logging
logging.set_verbosity(logging.ERROR)
```

Generating the data

The next cell includes a bunch of helper functions to generate and plot the time series:

```
def plot series(time, series, format="-", start=0, end=None):
    plt.plot(time[start:end], series[start:end], format)
    plt.xlabel("Time")
    plt.ylabel("Value")
    plt.grid(False)
def trend(time, slope=0):
    return slope * time
def seasonal pattern(season time):
    """An arbitrary pattern"""
    return np.where(season_time < 0.1,</pre>
                    np.cos(season time * 6 * np.pi),
                    2 / np.exp(9 * season time))
def seasonality(time, period, amplitude=1, phase=0):
    """Repeats the same pattern at each period"""
    season time = ((time + phase) % period) / period
    return amplitude * seasonal pattern(season time)
def noise(time, noise level=1, seed=None):
```

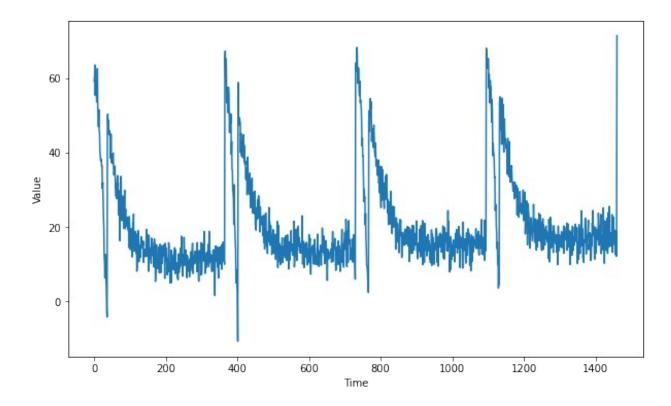
```
rnd = np.random.RandomState(seed)
return rnd.randn(len(time)) * noise_level
```

You will be generating the same time series data as in last week's assignment.

Notice that this time all the generation is done within a function and global variables are saved within a dataclass. This is done to avoid using global scope as it was done in during the first week of the course.

If you haven't used dataclasses before, they are just Python classes that provide a convenient syntax for storing data. You can read more about them in the docs.

```
def generate time series():
    # The time dimension or the x-coordinate of the time series
    time = np.arange(4 * 365 + 1, dtype="float32")
    # Initial series is just a straight line with a y-intercept
    y intercept = 10
    slope = 0.005
    series = trend(time, slope) + y_intercept
    # Adding seasonality
    amplitude = 50
    series += seasonality(time, period=365, amplitude=amplitude)
    # Adding some noise
    noise level = 3
    series += noise(time, noise level, seed=51)
    return time, series
# Save all "global" variables within the G class (G stands for global)
@dataclass
class G:
    TIME, SERIES = generate_time_series()
    SPLIT TIME = 1100
    WINDOW SIZE = 20
    BATCH SIZE = 32
    SHUFFLE BUFFER SIZE = 1000
# Plot the generated series
plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6))
plot series(G.TIME, G.SERIES)
plt.show()
```



Processing the data

Since you already coded the train_val_split and windowed_dataset functions during past week's assignments, this time they are provided for you:

```
def train val split(time, series, time step=G.SPLIT TIME):
    time train = time[:time step]
    series train = series[:time step]
    time valid = time[time step:]
    series_valid = series[time step:]
    return time train, series train, time valid, series valid
# Split the dataset
time train, series train, time valid, series valid =
train val split(G.TIME, G.SERIES)
def windowed dataset(series, window size=G.WINDOW SIZE,
batch_size=G.BATCH_SIZE, shuffle_buffer=G.SHUFFLE_BUFFER_SIZE):
    dataset = tf.data.Dataset.from_tensor_slices(series)
    dataset = dataset.window(window size + 1, shift=1,
drop remainder=True)
    dataset = dataset.flat map(lambda window: window.batch(window size
+ 1))
    dataset = dataset.shuffle(shuffle buffer)
```

```
dataset = dataset.map(lambda window: (window[:-1], window[-1]))
  dataset = dataset.batch(batch_size).prefetch(1)
  return dataset

# Apply the transformation to the training set
dataset = windowed_dataset(series_train)
```

Defining the model architecture

Now that you have a function that will process the data before it is fed into your neural network for training, it is time to define you layer architecture. Unlike previous weeks or courses in which you define your layers and compile the model in the same function, here you will first need to complete the create_uncompiled_model function below.

This is done so you can reuse your model's layers for the learning rate adjusting and the actual training.

Hint:

- Fill in the Lambda layers at the beginning and end of the network with the correct lamda functions.
- You should use SimpleRNN or Bidirectional (LSTM) as intermediate layers.
- The last layer of the network (before the last Lambda) should be a Dense layer.

```
def create uncompiled model():
    ### START CODE HERE
    model = tf.keras.models.Sequential([
        tf.keras.layers.Lambda(lambda x: tf.expand dims(x, axis=-1),
input shape=[None]),
        tf.keras.layers.Bidirectional(tf.keras.layers.LSTM(32)),
        tf.keras.layers.Dense(1),
        tf.keras.layers.Lambda(lambda x: x * 100.0)
    ])
    ### END CODE HERE
    return model
# Test your uncompiled model
uncompiled model = create uncompiled model()
try:
    uncompiled model.predict(dataset)
    print("Your current architecture is incompatible with the windowed
dataset, try adjusting it.")
else:
```

```
print("Your current architecture is compatible with the windowed
dataset! :)")
Your current architecture is compatible with the windowed dataset! :)
```

Adjusting the learning rate - (Optional Exercise)

As you saw in the lecture you can leverage Tensorflow's callbacks to dinamically vary the learning rate during training. This can be helpful to get a better sense of which learning rate better acommodates to the problem at hand.

Notice that this is only changing the learning rate during the training process to give you an idea of what a reasonable learning rate is and should not be confused with selecting the best learning rate, this is known as hyperparameter optimization and it is outside the scope of this course.

For the optimizers you can try out:

- tf.keras.optimizers.Adam
- tf.keras.optimizers.SGD with a momentum of 0.9

```
def adjust_learning_rate():
   model = create uncompiled model()
   lr schedule = tf.keras.callbacks.LearningRateScheduler(lambda
epoch: 1e-6 * 10**(epoch / 20))
   ### START CODE HERE
   # Select your optimizer
   optimizer = tf.keras.optimizers.SGD(lr=1e-6, momentum=0.9)
   # Compile the model passing in the appropriate loss
   model.compile(loss=tf.keras.losses.Huber(),
                optimizer=optimizer,
                metrics=["mae"])
   ### END CODE HERE
   history = model.fit(dataset, epochs=100, callbacks=[lr schedule])
   return history
# Run the training with dynamic LR
lr history = adjust learning rate()
Epoch 1/100
- mae: 12.4813 - lr: 1.0000e-06
```

```
Epoch 2/100
mae: 5.7988 - lr: 1.1220e-06
Epoch 3/100
mae: 5.1565 - lr: 1.2589e-06
Epoch 4/100
mae: 4.7396 - lr: 1.4125e-06
Epoch 5/100
mae: 4.3782 - lr: 1.5849e-06
Epoch 6/100
mae: 4.1023 - lr: 1.7783e-06
Epoch 7/100
mae: 3.9466 - lr: 1.9953e-06
Epoch 8/100
mae: 3.7929 - lr: 2.2387e-06
Epoch 9/100
mae: 3.6842 - lr: 2.5119e-06
Epoch 10/100
mae: 3.5858 - lr: 2.8184e-06
Epoch 11/100
mae: 3.5715 - lr: 3.1623e-06
Epoch 12/100
mae: 3.6778 - lr: 3.5481e-06
Epoch 13/100
mae: 3.6431 - lr: 3.9811e-06
Epoch 14/100
34/34 [============== ] - 1s 16ms/step - loss: 3.1730 -
mae: 3.6417 - lr: 4.4668e-06
Epoch 15/100
mae: 3.3567 - lr: 5.0119e-06
Epoch 16/100
mae: 3.3555 - lr: 5.6234e-06
Epoch 17/100
mae: 3.4315 - lr: 6.3096e-06
Epoch 18/100
```

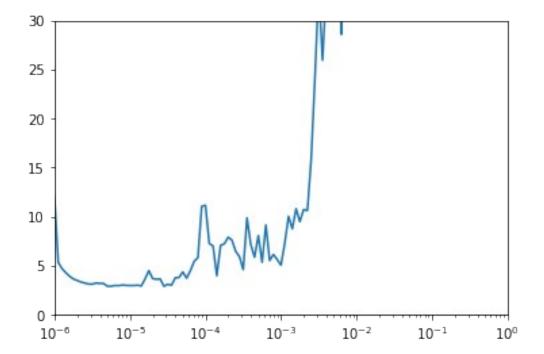
```
mae: 3.4204 - lr: 7.0795e-06
Epoch 19/100
mae: 3.4829 - lr: 7.9433e-06
Epoch 20/100
mae: 3.4405 - lr: 8.9125e-06
Epoch 21/100
mae: 3.4273 - lr: 1.0000e-05
Epoch 22/100
mae: 3.4343 - lr: 1.1220e-05
Epoch 23/100
mae: 3.4632 - lr: 1.2589e-05
Epoch 24/100
34/34 [============= ] - 1s 18ms/step - loss: 2.9170 -
mae: 3.3828 - lr: 1.4125e-05
Epoch 25/100
mae: 4.1133 - lr: 1.5849e-05
Epoch 26/100
mae: 4.9680 - lr: 1.7783e-05
Epoch 27/100
mae: 4.1457 - lr: 1.9953e-05
Epoch 28/100
mae: 4.0710 - lr: 2.2387e-05
Epoch 29/100
mae: 4.1107 - lr: 2.5119e-05
Epoch 30/100
mae: 3.3466 - lr: 2.8184e-05
Epoch 31/100
34/34 [============== ] - 1s 18ms/step - loss: 3.0901 -
mae: 3.5575 - lr: 3.1623e-05
Epoch 32/100
34/34 [============== ] - 1s 16ms/step - loss: 2.9940 -
mae: 3.4584 - lr: 3.5481e-05
Epoch 33/100
mae: 4.2258 - lr: 3.9811e-05
Epoch 34/100
```

```
mae: 4.2502 - lr: 4.4668e-05
Epoch 35/100
mae: 4.8281 - lr: 5.0119e-05
Epoch 36/100
mae: 4.1752 - lr: 5.6234e-05
Epoch 37/100
mae: 4.9611 - lr: 6.3096e-05
Epoch 38/100
mae: 5.9068 - lr: 7.0795e-05
Epoch 39/100
mae: 6.2980 - lr: 7.9433e-05
Epoch 40/100
- mae: 11.5257 - lr: 8.9125e-05
Epoch 41/100
- mae: 11.6393 - lr: 1.0000e-04
Epoch 42/100
mae: 7.7327 - lr: 1.1220e-04
Epoch 43/100
mae: 7.4896 - lr: 1.2589e-04
Epoch 44/100
mae: 4.4384 - lr: 1.4125e-04
Epoch 45/100
mae: 7.5461 - lr: 1.5849e-04
Epoch 46/100
mae: 7.6991 - lr: 1.7783e-04
Epoch 47/100
mae: 8.3786 - lr: 1.9953e-04
Epoch 48/100
mae: 8.0859 - lr: 2.2387e-04
Epoch 49/100
mae: 6.9322 - lr: 2.5119e-04
Epoch 50/100
mae: 6.3898 - lr: 2.8184e-04
```

```
Epoch 51/100
mae: 5.0674 - lr: 3.1623e-04
Epoch 52/100
mae: 10.3565 - lr: 3.5481e-04
Epoch 53/100
mae: 7.6405 - lr: 3.9811e-04
Epoch 54/100
mae: 6.3318 - lr: 4.4668e-04
Epoch 55/100
mae: 8.5501 - lr: 5.0119e-04
Epoch 56/100
mae: 5.8206 - lr: 5.6234e-04
Epoch 57/100
mae: 9.6243 - lr: 6.3096e-04
Epoch 58/100
mae: 5.9882 - lr: 7.0795e-04
Epoch 59/100
mae: 6.6072 - lr: 7.9433e-04
Epoch 60/100
mae: 6.0962 - lr: 8.9125e-04
Epoch 61/100
mae: 5.5198 - lr: 0.0010
Epoch 62/100
34/34 [============== ] - 1s 16ms/step - loss: 7.2696 -
mae: 7.7538 - lr: 0.0011
Epoch 63/100
34/34 [============= ] - 1s 16ms/step - loss: 10.0176
- mae: 10.5081 - lr: 0.0013
Epoch 64/100
mae: 9.2299 - lr: 0.0014
Epoch 65/100
- mae: 11.2906 - lr: 0.0016
Epoch 66/100
mae: 9.9609 - lr: 0.0018
Epoch 67/100
```

```
- mae: 11.2020 - lr: 0.0020
Epoch 68/100
- mae: 11.0962 - lr: 0.0022
Epoch 69/100
- mae: 16.3499 - lr: 0.0025
Epoch 70/100
- mae: 24.7132 - lr: 0.0028
Epoch 71/100
- mae: 33.8640 - lr: 0.0032
Epoch 72/100
- mae: 26.4321 - lr: 0.0035
Epoch 73/100
34/34 [============= ] - 1s 19ms/step - loss: 33.2288
- mae: 33.7280 - lr: 0.0040
Epoch 74/100
- mae: 42.2732 - lr: 0.0045
Epoch 75/100
- mae: 34.6568 - lr: 0.0050
Epoch 76/100
- mae: 47.4927 - lr: 0.0056
Epoch 77/100
- mae: 29.0489 - lr: 0.0063
Epoch 78/100
- mae: 44.3049 - lr: 0.0071
Epoch 79/100
- mae: 40.7229 - lr: 0.0079
Epoch 80/100
- mae: 47.5690 - lr: 0.0089
Epoch 81/100
- mae: 104.2139 - lr: 0.0100
Epoch 82/100
- mae: 120.8414 - lr: 0.0112
Epoch 83/100
```

```
- mae: 86.8032 - lr: 0.0126
Epoch 84/100
- mae: 103.1752 - lr: 0.0141
Epoch 85/100
- mae: 104.9434 - lr: 0.0158
Epoch 86/100
- mae: 74.9781 - lr: 0.0178
Epoch 87/100
- mae: 174.1582 - lr: 0.0200
Epoch 88/100
- mae: 164.8546 - lr: 0.0224
Epoch 89/100
- mae: 130.3894 - lr: 0.0251
Epoch 90/100
- mae: 145.1418 - lr: 0.0282
Epoch 91/100
- mae: 233.8620 - lr: 0.0316
Epoch 92/100
- mae: 552.6073 - lr: 0.0355
Epoch 93/100
- mae: 403.4353 - lr: 0.0398
Epoch 94/100
- mae: 410.4295 - lr: 0.0447
Epoch 95/100
- mae: 497.2671 - lr: 0.0501
Epoch 96/100
1008.7015 - mae: 1009.2015 - lr: 0.0562
Epoch 97/100
- mae: 442.8403 - lr: 0.0631
Epoch 98/100
- mae: 492.3184 - lr: 0.0708
Epoch 99/100
1078.2622 - mae: 1078.7611 - lr: 0.0794
Epoch 100/100
```



Compiling the model

Now that you have trained the model while varying the learning rate, it is time to do the actual training that will be used to forecast the time series. For this complete the create_model function below.

Notice that you are reusing the architecture you defined in the create_uncompiled_model earlier. Now you only need to compile this model using the appropriate loss, optimizer (and learning rate).

Hint:

- The training should be really quick so if you notice that each epoch is taking more than a few seconds, consider trying a different architecture.
- If after the first epoch you get an output like this: loss: nan mae: nan it is very likely that your network is suffering from exploding gradients. This is a common problem if you used SGD as optimizer and set a learning rate that is too high. If you encounter this problem consider lowering the learning rate or using Adam with the default learning rate.

```
def create model():
 tf.random.set seed(51)
 model = create uncompiled model()
 ### START CODE HERE
 model.compile(loss="mse",
        optimizer=tf.keras.optimizers.SGD(lr=1e-8,
momentum=0.9),
        metrics=["mae"])
 ### END CODE HERE
 return model
# Save an instance of the model
model = create model()
# Train it
history = model.fit(dataset, epochs=50)
Epoch 1/50
- mae: 12.0391
Epoch 2/50
- mae: 6.3302
Epoch 3/50
- mae: 5.2117
Epoch 4/50
- mae: 4.9525
Epoch 5/50
- mae: 4.9286
Epoch 6/50
- mae: 4.8260
Epoch 7/50
- mae: 4.8333
Epoch 8/50
- mae: 4.7623
Epoch 9/50
- mae: 4.7611
```

```
Epoch 10/50
- mae: 4.6977
Epoch 11/50
- mae: 4.6835
Epoch 12/50
- mae: 4.6615
Epoch 13/50
- mae: 4.6270
Epoch 14/50
- mae: 4.6572
Epoch 15/50
- mae: 4.6461
Epoch 16/50
- mae: 4.5812
Epoch 17/50
- mae: 4.5549
Epoch 18/50
- mae: 4.5399
Epoch 19/50
- mae: 4.5194
Epoch 20/50
- mae: 4.4911
Epoch 21/50
- mae: 4.5084
Epoch 22/50
- mae: 4.4918
Epoch 23/50
- mae: 4.4054
Epoch 24/50
- mae: 4.3920
Epoch 25/50
- mae: 4.4137
Epoch 26/50
```

```
- mae: 4.3952
Epoch 27/50
- mae: 4.3501
Epoch 28/50
- mae: 4.3600
Epoch 29/50
- mae: 4.3269
Epoch 30/50
- mae: 4.3004
Epoch 31/50
- mae: 4.2894
Epoch 32/50
34/34 [============== ] - 1s 16ms/step - loss: 44.5668
- mae: 4.2941
Epoch 33/50
- mae: 4.2694
Epoch 34/50
- mae: 4.2633
Epoch 35/50
- mae: 4.2597
Epoch 36/50
- mae: 4.2390
Epoch 37/50
- mae: 4.2458
Epoch 38/50
- mae: 4.2172
Epoch 39/50
- mae: 4.2064
Epoch 40/50
- mae: 4.1989
Epoch 41/50
- mae: 4.1699
Epoch 42/50
```

```
- mae: 4.1728
Epoch 43/50
- mae: 4.1893
Epoch 44/50
- mae: 4.1631
Epoch 45/50
- mae: 4.1548
Epoch 46/50
- mae: 4.1186
Epoch 47/50
- mae: 4.1285
Epoch 48/50
- mae: 4.1111
Epoch 49/50
- mae: 4.1114
Epoch 50/50
- mae: 4.0950
```

Evaluating the forecast

Now it is time to evaluate the performance of the forecast. For this you can use the compute_metrics function that you coded in a previous assignment:

```
def compute_metrics(true_series, forecast):
    mse = tf.keras.metrics.mean_squared_error(true_series,
forecast).numpy()
    mae = tf.keras.metrics.mean_absolute_error(true_series,
forecast).numpy()
    return mse, mae
```

At this point only the model that will perform the forecast is ready but you still need to compute the actual forecast.

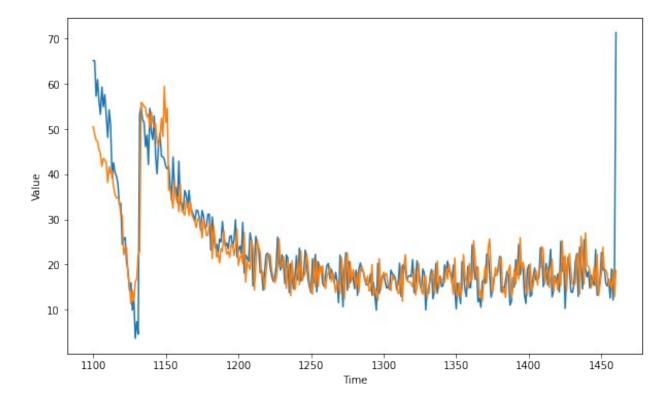
Faster model forecasts

In the previous week you used a for loop to compute the forecasts for every point in the sequence. This approach is valid but there is a more efficient way of doing the same thing by using batches of data. The code to implement this is provided in the model forecast below.

Notice that the code is very similar to the one in the windowed_dataset function with the differences that:

- The dataset is windowed using window_size rather than window_size + 1
- No shuffle should be used
- No need to split the data into features and labels
- A model is used to predict batches of the dataset

```
def model forecast(model, series, window size):
    ds = tf.data.Dataset.from tensor slices(series)
    ds = ds.window(window_size, shift=1, drop_remainder=True)
    ds = ds.flat map(lambda w: w.batch(window size))
    ds = ds.batch(32).prefetch(1)
    forecast = model.predict(ds)
    return forecast
# Compute the forecast for all the series
rnn forecast = model forecast(model, G.SERIES,
G.WINDOW SIZE).squeeze()
# Slice the forecast to get only the predictions for the validation
set
rnn forecast = rnn forecast[G.SPLIT TIME - G.WINDOW SIZE:-1]
# Plot it
plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6))
plot series(time valid, series valid)
plot series(time valid, rnn forecast)
```



Expected Output:

A series similar to this one:

```
mse, mae = compute_metrics(series_valid, rnn_forecast)
print(f"mse: {mse:.2f}, mae: {mae:.2f} for forecast")
mse: 37.07, mae: 4.14 for forecast
```

To pass this assignment your forecast should achieve an MAE of 4.5 or less.

- If your forecast didn't achieve this threshold try re-training your model with a different architecture (you will need to re-run both create_uncompiled_model and create_model functions) or tweaking the optimizer's parameters.
- If your forecast did achieve this threshold run the following cell to save your model in a tar file which will be used for grading and after doing so, submit your assignment for grading.
- This environment includes a dummy SavedModel directory which contains a
 dummy model trained for one epoch. To replace this file with your actual model
 you need to run the next cell before submitting for grading.
- Unlike last week, this time the model is saved using the SavedModel format. This is done because the HDF5 format does not fully support Lambda layers.

```
# Save your model in the SavedModel format
model.save('saved_model/my_model')

# Compress the directory using tar
! tar -czvf saved_model.tar.gz saved_model/
INFO:tensorflow:Assets written to: saved_model/my_model/assets

INFO:tensorflow:Assets written to: saved_model/my_model/assets

saved_model/
saved_model/my_model/
saved_model/my_model/keras_metadata.pb
saved_model/my_model/variables/
saved_model/my_model/variables/variables.data-00000-of-00001
saved_model/my_model/variables/variables.index
saved_model/my_model/saved_model.pb
saved_model/my_model/assets/
```

Congratulations on finishing this week's assignment!

You have successfully implemented a neural network capable of forecasting time series leveraging Tensorflow's layers for sequence modelling such as RNNs and LSTMs! This resulted in a forecast that matches (or even surpasses) the one from last week while training for half of the epochs.

Keep it up!