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```
In []: # Licensed under the Apache License, Version 2.0 (the "License");
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```

Regression with TensorFlow

We have trained a linear regression model in TensorFlow and used it to predict housing prices. However, the model didn't perform as well as we would have liked it to. In this lab, we will build a neural network to try to tackle the same regression problem and see if we can get better results.

Loading and Preparing the Data

The dataset we'll use for this Colab contains California housing information taken from the 1990 census data. We explored this data in a previous lab, so we won't do an analysis here. As a reminder, the documentation for the dataset can be found on Kaggle.

Upload your kaggle.json file and run the code block below.

```
! chmod 600 kaggle.json && (ls ~/.kaggle 2>/dev/null || mkdir ~/.kaggle) && mv k

chmod: kaggle.json: No such file or directory

Once you are done, use the kaggle command to download the file into the lab.

In []:

!kaggle datasets download camnugent/california-housing-prices
!ls

california-housing-prices.zip: Skipping, found more recently modified local copy
(use --force to force download)
california-housing-prices.zip slides.md
colab-key.zip slides.pptx
colab.ipynb

We now have a file called california-housing-prices.zip that we can load into a
DataFrame.
```

```
import pandas as pd
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
housing_df = pd.read_csv('california-housing-prices.zip')
```

housing_df

Out[]:		longitude	latitude	housing_median_age	total_rooms	total_bedrooms	population	house
	0	-122.23	37.88	41.0	880.0	129.0	322.0	
	1	-122.22	37.86	21.0	7099.0	1106.0	2401.0	
	2	-122.24	37.85	52.0	1467.0	190.0	496.0	
	3	-122.25	37.85	52.0	1274.0	235.0	558.0	
	4	-122.25	37.85	52.0	1627.0	280.0	565.0	
	•••		•••					
	20635	-121.09	39.48	25.0	1665.0	374.0	845.0	
	20636	-121.21	39.49	18.0	697.0	150.0	356.0	
	20637	-121.22	39.43	17.0	2254.0	485.0	1007.0	
	20638	-121.32	39.43	18.0	1860.0	409.0	741.0	
	20639	-121.24	39.37	16.0	2785.0	616.0	1387.0	

20640 rows × 10 columns

Next we can define which columns are features and which is the target.

We'll also make a separate list of our numeric columns.

```
In [ ]:
         target column = 'median house value'
         feature columns = [c for c in housing df.columns if c != target column]
         numeric feature columns = [c for c in feature columns if c != 'ocean proximity']
         target_column, feature_columns, numeric_feature_columns
Out[ ]: ('median_house_value',
         ['longitude',
          'latitude',
           'housing_median_age',
           'total rooms',
           'total_bedrooms',
           'population',
          'households',
          'median income',
          'ocean_proximity'],
         ['longitude',
           'latitude',
           'housing_median_age',
           'total_rooms',
           'total bedrooms',
           'population',
           'households',
           'median income'])
```

We also reduced the value of our targets by a factor in the previous lab. This reduction in magnitude was done to help the model train faster. Let's do that again.

```
Out[]: count 20640.000000

mean 2.068558

std 1.153956

min 0.149990

25% 1.196000

50% 1.797000

75% 2.647250

max 5.000010

Name: median house value, dtype: float64
```

And we filled in some missing total_bedrooms values.

```
In [ ]: has_all_data = housing_df[~housing_df['total_bedrooms'].isna()]
    sums = has_all_data[['total_bedrooms', 'total_rooms']].sum().tolist()
    bedrooms_to_total_rooms_ratio = sums[0] / sums[1]
    missing_total_bedrooms_idx = housing_df['total_bedrooms'].isna()
    housing_df.loc[missing_total_bedrooms_idx, 'total_bedrooms'] = housing_df[
        missing_total_bedrooms_idx]['total_rooms'] * bedrooms_to_total_rooms_ratio
    housing_df.describe()
```

Out[]:		longitude	latitude	housing_median_age	total_rooms	total_bedrooms	po
	count	20640.000000	20640.000000	20640.000000	20640.000000	20640.000000	20640
	mean	-119.569704	35.631861	28.639486	2635.763081	537.719351	1425
	std	2.003532	2.135952	12.585558	2181.615252	420.848774	1132
	min	-124.350000	32.540000	1.000000	2.000000	1.000000	3
	25%	-121.800000	33.930000	18.000000	1447.750000	295.000000	787
	50%	-118.490000	34.260000	29.000000	2127.000000	435.000000	1166
	75%	-118.010000	37.710000	37.000000	3148.000000	647.000000	1725
	max	-114.310000	41.950000	52.000000	39320.000000	6445.000000	35682

Exercise 1: Standardization

Previously when we worked with this dataset, we normalized the feature data in order to get it ready for the model. Normalization was the process of making all of the data fit between 0.0 and 1.0 by subtracting the minimum of each column from each data point in that column and then dividing by the delta between the maximum and minimum values.

In this exercise you will need to standardize all of the feature columns. Standardization is performed by subtracting the mean value of each column from each data point in that column

and then dividing by the standard deviation.

Hint: When you are done call describe() and ensure that the standard deviation for every feature column is 1.0`

```
In []:
    housing_df.loc[:, numeric_feature_columns] = (
        housing_df[numeric_feature_columns] -
        housing_df[numeric_feature_columns].mean()) / (
            housing_df[numeric_feature_columns].std())
    housing_df[numeric_feature_columns].describe()
```

Out[]:	longitude		latitude	housing_median_age	total_rooms	total_bedrooms	ķ
	count	2.064000e+04	2.064000e+04	2.064000e+04	2.064000e+04	2.064000e+04	2.06
	mean	-1.429215e-12	-7.636681e-14	1.817399e-15	-9.590802e-17	3.758299e-17	-2.80
	std	1.000000e+00	1.000000e+00	1.000000e+00	1.000000e+00	1.000000e+00	1.00
	min	-2.385935e+00	-1.447533e+00	-2.196127e+00	-1.207254e+00	-1.275326e+00	-1.25
	25%	-1.113182e+00	-7.967694e-01	-8.453727e-01	-5.445566e-01	-5.767377e-01	-5.6
	50%	5.389006e-01	-6.422715e-01	2.864502e-02	-2.332048e-01	-2.440766e-01	-2.2
	75%	7.784775e-01	9.729330e-01	6.642943e-01	2.347971e-01	2.596673e-01	2.64
	max	2.625216e+00	2.957996e+00	1.856137e+00	1.681517e+01	1.403659e+01	3.02

One-Hot Encoding

The ocean_proximity column will not work with the neural network model that we are planning to build. Neural networks expect numeric values, but ocean_proximity contains string values.

Let's remind ourselves which values it contains:

```
In [ ]: sorted(housing_df['ocean_proximity'].unique())
Out[ ]: ['<1H OCEAN', 'INLAND', 'ISLAND', 'NEAR BAY', 'NEAR OCEAN']</pre>
```

There are five string values. In our linear regression Colab we told TensorFlow to treat these values as a categorical column. Each string was converted to a whole number that represented their position in a vocabulary list: 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4.

For neural networks it is common to see another strategy called one-hot encoding. One-hot encoding is the process of taking a column with a fixed list of string values and turning it into multiple columns containing only zeros and ones.

For instance the column ocean_proximity containing five strings would be converted to five columns containing ones and zeros:

op_sub_hr	op_inland	op_island	op_near_bay	op_near_ocean
0	0	0	1	0
0	1	0	0	0
0	1	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	0
0	0	0	0	1
0	0	1	0	0

Notice that in each row, only one column has a value of $\, 1 \,$. The rest are all $\, 0 \,$. This is the "one-hot" in one-hot encoding.

As you can imagine, it doesn't scale well for columns with many distinct values. In our case, 5 is perfectly reasonable.

Let's manually one-hot encode our data.

```
for op in sorted(housing_df['ocean_proximity'].unique()):
    op_col = op.lower().replace(' ', '_').replace('<', '')
    housing_df[op_col] = (housing_df['ocean_proximity'] == op).astype(int)
    feature_columns.append(op_col)

feature_columns.remove('ocean_proximity')
housing_df</pre>
```

Out[]:		longitude	latitude	housing_median_age	total_rooms	total_bedrooms	population	hou
	0	-1.327803	1.052523	0.982119	-0.804800	-0.971179	-0.974405	-0
	1	-1.322812	1.043159	-0.607004	2.045841	1.350320	0.861418	1
	2	-1.332794	1.038478	1.856137	-0.535733	-0.826233	-0.820757	-0
	3	-1.337785	1.038478	1.856137	-0.624199	-0.719307	-0.766010	-0
	4	-1.337785	1.038478	1.856137	-0.462393	-0.612380	-0.759828	-0
	•••	•••						
	20635	-0.758808	1.801603	-0.289180	-0.444974	-0.389022	-0.512579	-0.
	20636	-0.818702	1.806285	-0.845373	-0.888682	-0.921280	-0.944382	-1.
	20637	-0.823693	1.778194	-0.924829	-0.174991	-0.125269	-0.369528	-(
	20638	-0.873605	1.778194	-0.845373	-0.355591	-0.305857	-0.604415	-0
	20639	-0.833676	1.750104	-1.004285	0.068407	0.186007	-0.033976	0

20640 rows × 15 columns

Exercise 2: Split the Data

We want to hold out some of the data for validation. Using standard Python or a library, split the data. Put 20% of the data in a DataFrame called testing_df and the other 80% in a DataFrame called training_df. Be sure to shuffle the data before splitting. Print the number of records in testing_df and training_df in order to check your work.

Student Solution

```
In [ ]: # Shuffle
    housing_df = housing_df.sample(frac=1)

# Calculate test set size
    test_set_size = int(len(housing_df) * 0.2)

# Split the data
    testing_df = housing_df[:test_set_size]
    training_df = housing_df[test_set_size:]

print(f'Holding out {len(testing_df)} records for testing. ')
    print(f'Using {len(training_df)} records for training.')

Holding out 4128 records for testing.
Using 16512 records for training.
```

Building the Model

We will build the model using TensorFlow 2. Let's enable it and go ahead and load up TensorFlow.

```
import tensorflow as tf
tf.__version__
Out[]: '2.4.1'
```

When we built a TensorFlow LinearRegressor in a previous lab, we were using a preconfigured model. For our neural network regressor, we will build the model ourselves using the Keras API of TensorFlow.

We'll build a **sequential** model where one layer feeds into the next. Each layer will be **densely connected**, which means every node in one layer connects to every node in the next layer.

A few things are required for our network. We need to have 13 input nodes since that is the number of features that we have (8 original numerical columns, plus the 5 one-hot encoded ocean proximity columns that we added). We also need to have one output node since we are trying to predict a single price value.

Let's see what that would look like:

```
from tensorflow import keras
from tensorflow.keras import layers

# Create the Sequential model.
```

```
model = keras.Sequential()

# Determine the "input shape", which is the number
# of features that we will feed into the model.
input_shape = len(feature_columns)

# Create a layer that accepts our features and outputs
# a single value, the predicted median home price.
layer = layers.Dense(1, input_shape=[input_shape])

# Add the layer to our model.
model.add(layer)

# Print out a model summary.
model.summary()
```

Model: "sequential_2"

Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #
dense_2 (Dense)	(None, 1)	14
Total params: 14 Trainable params: 14 Non-trainable params: 0		

Above we have basically recreated our linear regression from an earlier lab. We have all of our inputs directly mapping to a single output. We didn't choose an activation function, and the default activation function for a Dense layer is a linear function f(x) = x.

Note that the way we built this model was pretty verbose. You typically see simple models like this built in a more compact manner:

Model: "sequential 3"

```
Layer (type)

Output Shape

Param #

dense_3 (Dense)

(None, 1)

Total params: 14

Trainable params: 14

Non-trainable params: 0
```

Also notice that the layers are named dense_1, dense_2, etc.

If you don't supply a name for a layer, TensorFlow will provide a name for you. In small models, this isn't a problem, but you might want to have a meaningful layer name in larger models.

Even in simple models, is dense_2 a good name for the first layer in a model?

Exercise 3: Name Your Layers

The default naming scheme for layers can start to become confusing, especially if you repeatedly run a cell block to iterate on your model design.

In this exercise consult the Dense documentation and find the argument that allows you to name your layer. Use that argument in the code below to name your layer 'the_only_layer'. Note that you might have to consult the documentation for the parent classes of Dense.

Also, don't forget to answer the question below the code block!

Student Solution

Model: "sequential_4"

```
Layer (type)

Output Shape
Param #

the_only_layer (Dense) (None, 1)

Total params: 14
Trainable params: 14
Non-trainable params: 0
```

Which class did the parameter that you used originate from?

Layer

Making a Deep Neural Network

Where neural networks really get powerful is when you add **hidden layers**. These hidden layers can find complex patterns in your data.

Let's create a model with a few hidden layers. We'll add two layers with sixty-four nodes each.

```
In [ ]:
    from tensorflow import keras
    from tensorflow.keras import layers

feature_count = len(feature_columns)
```

```
model = keras.Sequential([
    layers.Dense(64, input_shape=[feature_count]),
    layers.Dense(64),
    layers.Dense(1)
])
model.summary()
```

Model: "sequential_5"

Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #
dense_4 (Dense)	(None, 64)	896
dense_5 (Dense)	(None, 64)	4160
dense_6 (Dense)	(None, 1)	65
Total params: 5,121 Trainable params: 5,121 Non-trainable params: 0		

We now have a deep neural network model. The model has 13 input nodes. These nodes feed into our first hidden layer of 64 nodes.

The first line of our model summary tells us that we have 64 nodes and 896 parameters. The node count in 'Output Shape' makes sense, but what about the 'Param #' of 896?

Remember that we have 13 input nodes feeding into 64 nodes in our first hidden layer. The layers are densely connected, so each of the 13 input nodes connects to each of the 64 nodes in the next layer. 13 * 64 = 832 connections. Add another 64 for the number of nodes in the layer, and you get the 896 number.

This pattern repeats for the next layer. 64 nodes connecting to 64 nodes: 64 * 64 + 64 = 4160.

And finally 64 nodes connect to the final output node: 64 * 1 + 1 = 65.

This makes for a total of 5121 parameters in the model. Even a very small neural network like this can have a lot of trainable parameters inside of it!

Before we start training it, we need to tell TensorFlow how and what to optimize the model for using the compile method. In our example below, we are optimizing for mean squared error using the Adam optimizer. We'll calculate and report the mean squared error and mean absolute error along the way.

```
In []: model.compile(
    loss='mse',
    optimizer='Adam',
    metrics=['mae', 'mse'],
)
model.summary()
```

Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #
dense_4 (Dense)	(None, 64)	896
dense_5 (Dense)	(None, 64)	4160
dense_6 (Dense)	(None, 1)	65
Total params: 5,121 Trainable params: 5,121 Non-trainable params: 0		

Training the Model

We can now train the model using the fit() method. Training is performed for a specified number of **epochs**. An epoch is a full pass over the training data. In this case, we are asking to train over the full dataset 50 times.

In order to get the data into the model, we don't have to write an input function like we did with the Estimator API. The Keras API provides for a much more direct format.

```
In []: EPOCHS = 50

model.fit(
    training_df[feature_columns],
    training_df[target_column],
    epochs=EPOCHS,
    validation_split=0.2,
)
```

```
2021-09-26 12:58:58:755732: I tensorflow/compiler/mlir/mlir graph optimization p
ass.cc:116] None of the MLIR optimization passes are enabled (registered 2)
Epoch 1/50
424 - mse: 1.1158 - val loss: 0.5905 - val_mae: 0.5570 - val_mse: 0.5905
Epoch 2/50
0.5184 - mse: 0.5161 - val loss: 0.4746 - val mae: 0.5148 - val mse: 0.4746
Epoch 3/50
0.5239 - mse: 0.5256 - val_loss: 0.5054 - val_mae: 0.5419 - val_mse: 0.5054
Epoch 4/50
0.5136 - mse: 0.5063 - val loss: 0.4900 - val mae: 0.5236 - val mse: 0.4900
Epoch 5/50
0.5153 - mse: 0.5116 - val_loss: 0.4651 - val_mae: 0.5030 - val_mse: 0.4651
0.5178 - mse: 0.5212 - val loss: 0.4751 - val mae: 0.4957 - val mse: 0.4751
Epoch 7/50
0.5158 - mse: 0.5183 - val loss: 0.4699 - val mae: 0.5087 - val mse: 0.4699
Epoch 8/50
0.5116 - mse: 0.5030 - val loss: 0.4836 - val_mae: 0.5216 - val_mse: 0.4836
Epoch 9/50
```

```
0.5114 - mse: 0.4877 - val loss: 0.4820 - val mae: 0.4976 - val mse: 0.4820
Epoch 10/50
0.5104 - mse: 0.5009 - val_loss: 0.4708 - val_mae: 0.5015 - val_mse: 0.4708
Epoch 11/50
0.5046 - mse: 0.4936 - val loss: 0.4637 - val mae: 0.4998 - val mse: 0.4637
Epoch 12/50
0.5073 - mse: 0.4978 - val_loss: 0.4671 - val_mae: 0.5036 - val_mse: 0.4671
Epoch 13/50
0.5118 - mse: 0.5007 - val_loss: 0.4796 - val_mae: 0.5245 - val_mse: 0.4796
Epoch 14/50
0.5093 - mse: 0.4963 - val_loss: 0.4712 - val_mae: 0.5080 - val_mse: 0.4712
Epoch 15/50
0.5074 - mse: 0.4917 - val_loss: 0.4639 - val_mae: 0.4966 - val_mse: 0.4639
Epoch 16/50
0.5045 - mse: 0.4858 - val loss: 0.5131 - val mae: 0.5190 - val mse: 0.5131
Epoch 17/50
0.5119 - mse: 0.5051 - val loss: 0.4697 - val mae: 0.5063 - val mse: 0.4697
Epoch 18/50
0.4979 - mse: 0.4718 - val_loss: 0.4768 - val_mae: 0.5197 - val_mse: 0.4768
Epoch 19/50
0.5084 - mse: 0.4866 - val loss: 0.4763 - val mae: 0.5073 - val mse: 0.4763
Epoch 20/50
0.5057 - mse: 0.4933 - val_loss: 0.4709 - val_mae: 0.4958 - val_mse: 0.4709
Epoch 21/50
0.5148 - mse: 0.5153 - val loss: 0.4692 - val mae: 0.5021 - val mse: 0.4692
Epoch 22/50
0.5038 - mse: 0.4881 - val loss: 0.4683 - val mae: 0.5079 - val mse: 0.4683
Epoch 23/50
0.5070 - mse: 0.4942 - val loss: 0.4731 - val mae: 0.5013 - val mse: 0.4731
Epoch 24/50
0.4998 - mse: 0.4749 - val loss: 0.4810 - val mae: 0.5030 - val mse: 0.4810
Epoch 25/50
0.5038 - mse: 0.4850 - val_loss: 0.4746 - val_mae: 0.5112 - val_mse: 0.4746
Epoch 26/50
0.5168 - mse: 0.5193 - val loss: 0.4726 - val mae: 0.4985 - val mse: 0.4726
Epoch 27/50
0.5102 - mse: 0.5036 - val loss: 0.4645 - val mae: 0.4993 - val mse: 0.4645
Epoch 28/50
0.5091 - mse: 0.4946 - val_loss: 0.4726 - val_mae: 0.5047 - val_mse: 0.4726
Epoch 29/50
0.5070 - mse: 0.4963 - val loss: 0.4653 - val mae: 0.4989 - val mse: 0.4653
Epoch 30/50
0.4978 - mse: 0.4783 - val loss: 0.4737 - val_mae: 0.5176 - val_mse: 0.4737
```

```
Epoch 31/50
    0.5037 - mse: 0.4817 - val loss: 0.4723 - val mae: 0.5149 - val mse: 0.4723
    Epoch 32/50
    413/413 [========================] - 0s 617us/step - loss: 0.4755 - mae:
    0.5046 - mse: 0.4755 - val_loss: 0.4730 - val_mae: 0.4938 - val_mse: 0.4730
    0.4948 - mse: 0.4812 - val loss: 0.4649 - val mae: 0.5056 - val mse: 0.4649
    Epoch 34/50
    0.5034 - mse: 0.4897 - val_loss: 0.4666 - val_mae: 0.4968 - val_mse: 0.4666
    Epoch 35/50
    0.5023 - mse: 0.4894 - val_loss: 0.4688 - val_mae: 0.4962 - val_mse: 0.4688
    Epoch 36/50
    0.4979 - mse: 0.4727 - val_loss: 0.4627 - val_mae: 0.5028 - val_mse: 0.4627
    Epoch 37/50
    0.5013 - mse: 0.4794 - val_loss: 0.5152 - val_mae: 0.5612 - val_mse: 0.5152
    Epoch 38/50
    0.5025 - mse: 0.4905 - val loss: 0.4661 - val mae: 0.4985 - val mse: 0.4661
    Epoch 39/50
    0.5084 - mse: 0.4969 - val_loss: 0.4649 - val_mae: 0.5055 - val_mse: 0.4649
    Epoch 40/50
    0.5043 - mse: 0.4936 - val_loss: 0.4658 - val_mae: 0.5054 - val_mse: 0.4658
    Epoch 41/50
    0.5087 - mse: 0.4952 - val loss: 0.4679 - val mae: 0.4961 - val mse: 0.4679
    Epoch 42/50
    0.5034 - mse: 0.4933 - val_loss: 0.4640 - val_mae: 0.5032 - val_mse: 0.4640
    Epoch 43/50
    0.4973 - mse: 0.4716 - val loss: 0.4684 - val mae: 0.5077 - val mse: 0.4684
    Epoch 44/50
    0.5061 - mse: 0.4925 - val_loss: 0.4694 - val_mae: 0.5049 - val_mse: 0.4694
    Epoch 45/50
    0.4941 - mse: 0.4656 - val loss: 0.4675 - val_mae: 0.4999 - val_mse: 0.4675
    0.5049 - mse: 0.4882 - val loss: 0.4685 - val mae: 0.5134 - val mse: 0.4685
    Epoch 47/50
    413/413 [========================] - 0s 598us/step - loss: 0.4845 - mae:
    0.4997 - mse: 0.4845 - val loss: 0.4783 - val mae: 0.5005 - val mse: 0.4783
    Epoch 48/50
    0.5076 - mse: 0.4900 - val loss: 0.4649 - val mae: 0.5009 - val mse: 0.4649
    Epoch 49/50
    0.5042 - mse: 0.4904 - val loss: 0.4770 - val mae: 0.4960 - val mse: 0.4770
    Epoch 50/50
    0.4980 - mse: 0.4816 - val loss: 0.4659 - val mae: 0.5000 - val mse: 0.4659
Out[ ]: <tensorflow.python.keras.callbacks.History at 0x7fa82d286130>
```

We can now see how well our model performs on our validation test set. In order to get the model to make predictions, we use the predict method.

Notice that the predictions are lists of lists. This is because neural networks can return more than one prediction per input. We set this network up to have a single final node, but could have had more.

Exercise 4: Calculating RMSE

At this point we have the predicted values from our test features and the actual values. In this exercise you are tasked with computing the root-mean squared error of those predictions. Given the predictions stored in predictions above, write code that computes the root mean squared error of those predictions vs. the truth found in testing_df . Print the root mean squared error.

Student Solution

```
import math
from sklearn import metrics
root_mean_squared_error = math.sqrt(
    metrics.mean_squared_error(
    predictions * TARGET_FACTOR,
    testing_df[target_column] * TARGET_FACTOR
))
print(root_mean_squared_error)
```

67086.37054826478

Improving the Model

In the exercise above, you likely got a root mean squared error very close to the error we got in the linear regression lab. What's going on? I thought deep learning models were supposed to be really, really good!

Deep learning models can be really good, but they often require a bit of hyperparameter tuning. Aside from the breadth and depth of the hidden layers, the activation function for the model can have a big impact on how a model performs.

Earlier we mentioned that the default activation function for Dense layers is the linear function f(x) = x. It turns out that if you stack layers of linear functions, you just get a single linear function, so the network that we built is basically just one big linear regression.

We can change the activation function layer by layer for our model. In order to do that, we just pass an activation argument to our Dense class. Keras has many built-in activations that you can reference by name like:

```
layers.Dense(64, activation='sigmoid')
```

For activations that aren't built into Keras, you can use the full path to their class:

```
layers.Dense(64, activation=tf.nn.swish)
```

The tf.nn namespace is a little crowded, but there are activations functions in there including swish, leaky_relu, and more.

Exercise 5: A Better Activation Function

Experiment with different activation functions and find one that performs better than the linear activation that we used above. You can set the activation function on any or all of the layers in the network. The functions don't have to be the same.

Print out the root mean squared error once you find an acceptable activation function.

Student Solution

```
In [ ]:
         from tensorflow import keras
         from tensorflow.keras import layers
         feature count = len(feature columns)
         model = keras.Sequential([
           layers.Dense(64, input_shape=[feature_count], activation='relu'),
           layers.Dense(64, activation='relu'),
           layers.Dense(1, activation='relu')
         1)
         model.compile(
           loss='mse',
           optimizer='Adam',
           metrics=['mae', 'mse'],
         EPOCHS = 50
         model.fit(
           training df[feature columns],
           training df[target column],
           epochs=EPOCHS,
           validation split=0.2,
         )
         predictions = model.predict(testing df[feature columns])
         mean_squared_error = metrics.mean_squared_error(
```

```
(predictions) * TARGET FACTOR,
  testing df[target column] * TARGET FACTOR
print("Mean Squared Error (on training data): %0.3f" % mean_squared_error)
root_mean_squared_error = math.sqrt(mean_squared_error)
print("Root Mean Squared Error (on training data): %0.3f" % root mean squared er
Epoch 1/50
0.8464 - mse: 1.5169 - val_loss: 0.4302 - val_mae: 0.4932 - val_mse: 0.4302
Epoch 2/50
0.4478 - mse: 0.4033 - val_loss: 0.3593 - val_mae: 0.4247 - val_mse: 0.3593
Epoch 3/50
0.4272 - mse: 0.3728 - val loss: 0.3363 - val mae: 0.4179 - val mse: 0.3363
Epoch 4/50
0.4241 - mse: 0.3736 - val_loss: 0.3264 - val_mae: 0.4009 - val_mse: 0.3264
Epoch 5/50
413/413 [===============================] - 0s 673us/step - loss: 0.3461 - mae:
0.4048 - mse: 0.3461 - val_loss: 0.3231 - val_mae: 0.3969 - val_mse: 0.3231
Epoch 6/50
0.4032 - mse: 0.3417 - val_loss: 0.3176 - val_mae: 0.4020 - val_mse: 0.3176
Epoch 7/50
0.3924 - mse: 0.3184 - val loss: 0.3132 - val mae: 0.3870 - val mse: 0.3132
Epoch 8/50
0.3949 - mse: 0.3282 - val loss: 0.3070 - val mae: 0.3897 - val mse: 0.3070
Epoch 9/50
0.3825 - mse: 0.3115 - val loss: 0.3138 - val mae: 0.3874 - val mse: 0.3138
Epoch 10/50
0.3905 - mse: 0.3194 - val loss: 0.3184 - val mae: 0.4147 - val mse: 0.3184
Epoch 11/50
0.3869 - mse: 0.3166 - val loss: 0.2959 - val mae: 0.3747 - val mse: 0.2959
Epoch 12/50
0.3804 - mse: 0.3105 - val_loss: 0.3022 - val_mae: 0.3809 - val_mse: 0.3022
Epoch 13/50
0.3809 - mse: 0.3092 - val loss: 0.2925 - val mae: 0.3763 - val mse: 0.2925
Epoch 14/50
0.3746 - mse: 0.2993 - val loss: 0.2935 - val_mae: 0.3858 - val_mse: 0.2935
Epoch 15/50
0.3677 - mse: 0.2895 - val loss: 0.2911 - val mae: 0.3741 - val mse: 0.2911
Epoch 16/50
0.3740 - mse: 0.2999 - val loss: 0.2908 - val mae: 0.3724 - val mse: 0.2908
Epoch 17/50
0.3698 - mse: 0.2932 - val_loss: 0.2886 - val_mae: 0.3675 - val_mse: 0.2886
Epoch 18/50
0.3639 - mse: 0.2802 - val loss: 0.2860 - val mae: 0.3746 - val mse: 0.2860
Epoch 19/50
```

```
0.3633 - mse: 0.2819 - val loss: 0.2933 - val mae: 0.3919 - val mse: 0.2933
Epoch 20/50
0.3619 - mse: 0.2781 - val_loss: 0.2840 - val_mae: 0.3776 - val_mse: 0.2840
Epoch 21/50
0.3573 - mse: 0.2733 - val loss: 0.2780 - val mae: 0.3646 - val mse: 0.2780
Epoch 22/50
0.3553 - mse: 0.2707 - val_loss: 0.3051 - val_mae: 0.3766 - val_mse: 0.3051
Epoch 23/50
0.3516 - mse: 0.2632 - val_loss: 0.2849 - val_mae: 0.3682 - val_mse: 0.2849
Epoch 24/50
0.3513 - mse: 0.2612 - val_loss: 0.3178 - val_mae: 0.3998 - val_mse: 0.3178
Epoch 25/50
413/413 [==============================] - 0s 570us/step - loss: 0.2676 - mae:
0.3569 - mse: 0.2676 - val_loss: 0.2799 - val_mae: 0.3601 - val_mse: 0.2799
Epoch 26/50
0.3588 - mse: 0.2749 - val loss: 0.2734 - val mae: 0.3573 - val mse: 0.2734
Epoch 27/50
0.3570 - mse: 0.2742 - val loss: 0.2780 - val mae: 0.3675 - val mse: 0.2780
Epoch 28/50
0.3497 - mse: 0.2671 - val_loss: 0.2968 - val_mae: 0.3972 - val_mse: 0.2968
Epoch 29/50
0.3528 - mse: 0.2679 - val loss: 0.2701 - val mae: 0.3562 - val mse: 0.2701
Epoch 30/50
0.3443 - mse: 0.2537 - val_loss: 0.2704 - val_mae: 0.3592 - val_mse: 0.2704
Epoch 31/50
0.3466 - mse: 0.2563 - val loss: 0.2734 - val mae: 0.3567 - val mse: 0.2734
Epoch 32/50
0.3463 - mse: 0.2594 - val loss: 0.2727 - val mae: 0.3539 - val mse: 0.2727
Epoch 33/50
0.3463 - mse: 0.2547 - val loss: 0.2848 - val mae: 0.3819 - val mse: 0.2848
Epoch 34/50
0.3457 - mse: 0.2549 - val loss: 0.2735 - val mae: 0.3663 - val mse: 0.2735
Epoch 35/50
0.3413 - mse: 0.2506 - val_loss: 0.2692 - val_mae: 0.3495 - val_mse: 0.2692
Epoch 36/50
0.3417 - mse: 0.2472 - val loss: 0.2966 - val mae: 0.3953 - val mse: 0.2966
Epoch 37/50
413/413 [===============================] - 0s 568us/step - loss: 0.2503 - mae:
0.3445 - mse: 0.2503 - val loss: 0.2812 - val mae: 0.3693 - val mse: 0.2812
Epoch 38/50
0.3383 - mse: 0.2466 - val_loss: 0.2863 - val_mae: 0.3640 - val_mse: 0.2863
Epoch 39/50
0.3453 - mse: 0.2504 - val loss: 0.2769 - val mae: 0.3532 - val mse: 0.2769
Epoch 40/50
0.3432 - mse: 0.2530 - val loss: 0.2749 - val_mae: 0.3516 - val_mse: 0.2749
```

```
Epoch 41/50
0.3400 - mse: 0.2523 - val loss: 0.2658 - val mae: 0.3516 - val mse: 0.2658
Epoch 42/50
0.3410 - mse: 0.2502 - val_loss: 0.2731 - val_mae: 0.3515 - val_mse: 0.2731
Epoch 43/50
0.3367 - mse: 0.2450 - val loss: 0.2810 - val mae: 0.3706 - val mse: 0.2810
Epoch 44/50
0.3373 - mse: 0.2469 - val_loss: 0.2720 - val_mae: 0.3649 - val_mse: 0.2720
Epoch 45/50
0.3314 - mse: 0.2372 - val_loss: 0.2689 - val_mae: 0.3533 - val_mse: 0.2689
Epoch 46/50
0.3342 - mse: 0.2382 - val_loss: 0.2723 - val_mae: 0.3500 - val_mse: 0.2723
Epoch 47/50
0.3381 - mse: 0.2446 - val_loss: 0.2692 - val_mae: 0.3508 - val_mse: 0.2692
Epoch 48/50
0.3355 - mse: 0.2426 - val loss: 0.2711 - val mae: 0.3593 - val mse: 0.2711
Epoch 49/50
0.3378 - mse: 0.2472 - val_loss: 0.3079 - val_mae: 0.3684 - val_mse: 0.3079
Epoch 50/50
0.3351 - mse: 0.2414 - val loss: 0.2823 - val mae: 0.3660 - val mse: 0.2823
Mean Squared Error (on training data): 2835015765.907
Root Mean Squared Error (on training data): 53244.866
```

Visualizing Training

At this point, we have a pretty solid neural network regression model. It performs better than our linear regression model, though it does take a while to train.

Training time is largely a product of two factors:

- 1. The size of the model
- 2. The number of epochs

Larger models take longer to train. That shouldn't come as a surprise. Remember from above that we calculated the number of parameters in our model. Every layer that is densely connected adds many more parameters that need to be adjusted during training.

Our goal is to find a model that is big enough, but not too big. This, it turns out, is very much an area where experimentation is required.

The second determination of model training time is the number of epochs. We can choose an arbitrary number of epochs from one to infinity. How many do we need?

It turns out that we can be much more scientific about this parameter. As a model begins to converge, there is less and less benefit for each subsequent epoch.

More training does not necessarily mean a better model.

There are a few ways to determine the appropriate number of epochs. One is to plot the error and see when it flattens out.

It turns out that our model actually returns the error values when you fit the model.

```
In [ ]:
         model = keras.Sequential([
           layers.Dense(64, input_shape=[feature_count]),
           layers.Dense(64),
           layers.Dense(1)
         1)
         model.compile(
           loss='mse',
           optimizer='Adam',
           metrics=['mae', 'mse'],
         EPOCHS = 5
         history = model.fit(
           training df[feature columns],
           training df[target column],
           epochs=EPOCHS,
           verbose=0,
                                           # New parameter to make model training silent
           validation_split=0.2,
         history.history
```

```
Out[ ]: {'loss': [0.6914031505584717,
           0.5216115117073059,
          0.5207009315490723,
          0.5094817876815796,
          0.50879651308059691,
          'mae': [0.5852765440940857,
          0.5183658003807068,
          0.5199006795883179,
          0.5155811905860901,
          0.51268428564071661,
          'mse': [0.6914031505584717,
          0.5216115117073059,
          0.5207009315490723,
          0.5094817876815796,
          0.5087965130805969],
          'val loss': [0.5172968506813049,
          0.49058935046195984,
          0.4676525890827179,
          0.48629119992256165,
          0.4728599190711975],
          'val mae': [0.5433453917503357,
           0.5126517415046692,
          0.5102482438087463,
          0.5018937587738037,
          0.5010738372802734],
          'val mse': [0.5172968506813049,
          0.49058935046195984,
           0.4676525890827179,
```

```
0.48629119992256165,
0.4728599190711975]}
```

Notice that the history.history contains our model's loss (loss), mean absolute error (mae), mean squared error (mse), validation loss (val_loss), validation mean absolute error (val_mae), and validation mean squared error (val_mse) at each epoch.

It would be useful to plot the error over time. In the next exercise, you will create a visualization that will help us determine when to stop training the model.

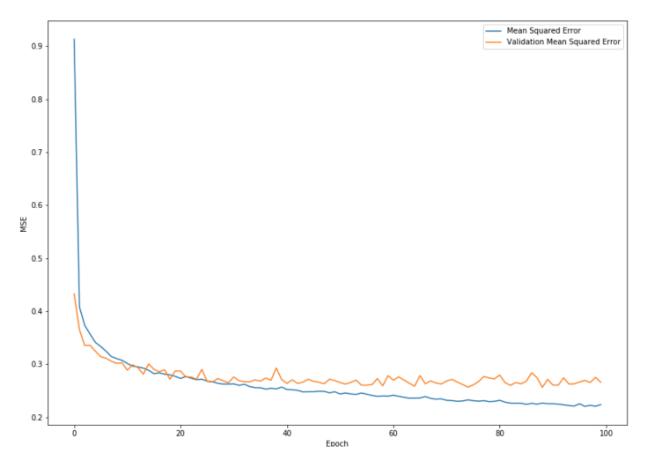
Exercise 6: Plotting Error

Use matplotlib.pyplot or seaborn to create a line plot that shows the mean squared error and the validation mean squared error per epoch.

In the code block below, we save the errors per epoch in the variable <code>history</code> . Inspect the variable and plot a line plot which has the epoch on the x-axis and the mean squared error on the y-axis. There should be two lines on the visualization: mean absolute error and validation mean absolute error.

Note that we created the model with the default activation function. Use the activation function that you found to be more useful in exercise 5.

The result should be a line plot of epoch and error with two lines similar to:



In []:

```
In [ ]: | model = keras.Sequential([
           layers.Dense(64, input_shape=[feature_count]),
           layers.Dense(64),
           layers.Dense(1)
         ])
         model.compile(
           loss='mse',
           optimizer='Adam',
           metrics=['mae', 'mse'],
         )
         EPOCHS = 100
         history = model.fit(
           training_df[feature_columns],
           training_df[target_column],
           epochs=EPOCHS,
           verbose=0,
           validation_split=0.2,
         )
```

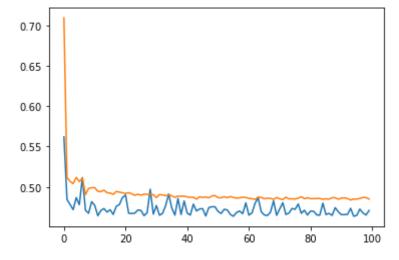
Student Solution

```
In [ ]: history_dict = history.history

#['val_mse]
#['mse']

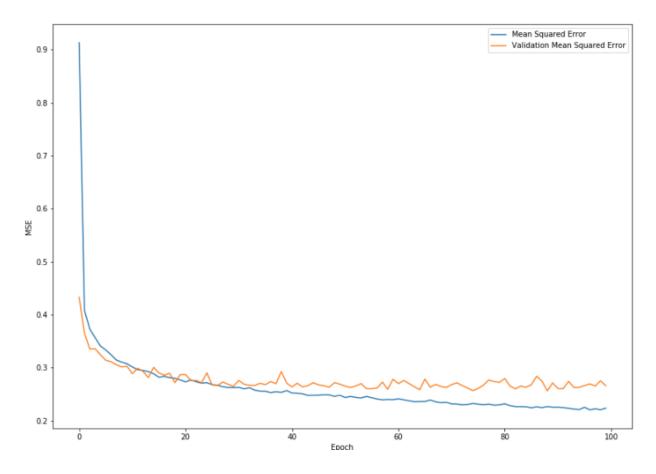
y_1 = history_dict['val_mse']
y_2 = history_dict['mse']

plt.plot(y_1)
plt.plot(y_2)
plt.show()
```



Interpreting Loss Visualizations

We have now created a visualization that should look something like this:



But how do we interpret this visualization?

The blue line is the mean squared error for the training data. You can see it plummeting fast as the model quickly learns.

The orange line is the validation data. This is a holdout set of data that the model checks after each epoch. You can see it dropping pretty quickly, too, but then it seems to stabilize somewhat by 20 epochs.

Toward the right side of the graph, you can see that our validation set says volatile but relatively flat, while our training data set keeps getting better and better.

Should we train more or less?

The constantly reducing blue line is actually a signal of overfitting on the training data.

The flat(ish) orange line signals this model is as good as we can get.

For this model we could possibly stop training after even 25 epochs and get similar performance.

But how do you know when to stop?

Luckily there is an early stopping algorithm that allows a model to stop training when validation data isn't improving.

In the example below, we set up a model to train for 1000 epochs; however, we add an early stopping callback. Early stopping stops training when the model isn't progressing upon validation.

If you run the code block below, you'll see far fewer than 1000 epochs run.

```
In [ ]:
         model = keras.Sequential([
           layers.Dense(64, input_shape=[feature_count]),
           layers.Dense(64),
           layers.Dense(1)
         ])
         model.compile(
           loss='mse',
           optimizer='Adam',
           metrics=['mae', 'mse'],
         EPOCHS = 1000
         early stop = keras.callbacks.EarlyStopping(monitor='val loss', patience=10)
         history = model.fit(
           training df[feature columns],
           training_df[target_column],
           epochs=EPOCHS,
           validation split=0.2,
           callbacks=[early stop],
```

```
WARNING:tensorflow:Falling back from v2 loop because of error: Failed to find da
ta adapter that can handle input: <class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>, <class
'NoneType'>
Train on 13209 samples, validate on 3303 samples
Epoch 1/1000
ae: 0.5471 - mse: 0.6024 - val loss: 0.5527 - val mae: 0.5278 - val mse: 0.5527
Epoch 2/1000
ae: 0.5127 - mse: 0.4962 - val loss: 0.5246 - val mae: 0.5167 - val mse: 0.5246
Epoch 3/1000
ae: 0.5118 - mse: 0.4906 - val loss: 0.5353 - val mae: 0.5074 - val mse: 0.5353
Epoch 4/1000
ae: 0.5092 - mse: 0.4874 - val loss: 0.5266 - val mae: 0.5176 - val mse: 0.5266
Epoch 5/1000
ae: 0.5053 - mse: 0.4828 - val loss: 0.5374 - val mae: 0.5182 - val mse: 0.5374
Epoch 6/1000
ae: 0.5068 - mse: 0.4834 - val loss: 0.5229 - val mae: 0.5254 - val mse: 0.5229
Epoch 7/1000
ae: 0.5080 - mse: 0.4861 - val loss: 0.5379 - val mae: 0.5336 - val mse: 0.5379
Epoch 8/1000
ae: 0.5051 - mse: 0.4824 - val loss: 0.5282 - val mae: 0.5150 - val mse: 0.5282
Epoch 9/1000
ae: 0.5048 - mse: 0.4802 - val loss: 0.5209 - val mae: 0.5084 - val mse: 0.5209
```

```
Epoch 10/1000
ae: 0.5033 - mse: 0.4794 - val loss: 0.5417 - val mae: 0.5265 - val mse: 0.5417
Epoch 11/1000
ae: 0.5023 - mse: 0.4783 - val_loss: 0.5341 - val_mae: 0.5218 - val_mse: 0.5341
Epoch 12/1000
ae: 0.5028 - mse: 0.4777 - val_loss: 0.5248 - val_mae: 0.5103 - val_mse: 0.5248
Epoch 13/1000
ae: 0.5022 - mse: 0.4763 - val_loss: 0.5259 - val_mae: 0.5232 - val_mse: 0.5259
Epoch 14/1000
ae: 0.5053 - mse: 0.4829 - val_loss: 0.5291 - val_mae: 0.5183 - val_mse: 0.5291
ae: 0.5020 - mse: 0.4765 - val_loss: 0.5296 - val_mae: 0.5287 - val_mse: 0.5296
Epoch 16/1000
ae: 0.5008 - mse: 0.4757 - val_loss: 0.5347 - val_mae: 0.5347 - val_mse: 0.5347
Epoch 17/1000
ae: 0.5018 - mse: 0.4776 - val_loss: 0.5209 - val_mae: 0.5169 - val_mse: 0.5209
Epoch 18/1000
ae: 0.5022 - mse: 0.4774 - val_loss: 0.5251 - val_mae: 0.5187 - val_mse: 0.5251
Epoch 19/1000
ae: 0.5006 - mse: 0.4765 - val_loss: 0.5175 - val_mae: 0.5139 - val_mse: 0.5175
Epoch 20/1000
ae: 0.5018 - mse: 0.4754 - val loss: 0.5216 - val mae: 0.5175 - val mse: 0.5216
Epoch 21/1000
ae: 0.5000 - mse: 0.4759 - val_loss: 0.5254 - val_mae: 0.5117 - val_mse: 0.5254
Epoch 22/1000
ae: 0.5014 - mse: 0.4753 - val_loss: 0.5228 - val_mae: 0.5305 - val_mse: 0.5228
Epoch 23/1000
ae: 0.5006 - mse: 0.4736 - val loss: 0.5169 - val mae: 0.5229 - val mse: 0.5169
Epoch 24/1000
ae: 0.5001 - mse: 0.4741 - val loss: 0.5243 - val mae: 0.5088 - val mse: 0.5243
Epoch 25/1000
ae: 0.5003 - mse: 0.4749 - val loss: 0.5220 - val mae: 0.5111 - val mse: 0.5220
Epoch 26/1000
ae: 0.4993 - mse: 0.4743 - val loss: 0.5258 - val mae: 0.5262 - val mse: 0.5258
Epoch 27/1000
ae: 0.5005 - mse: 0.4740 - val loss: 0.5394 - val mae: 0.5468 - val mse: 0.5394
Epoch 28/1000
ae: 0.5006 - mse: 0.4752 - val_loss: 0.5327 - val_mae: 0.5292 - val_mse: 0.5327
Epoch 29/1000
13209/13209 [============== ] - 1s 60us/sample - loss: 0.4723 - m
ae: 0.4994 - mse: 0.4723 - val_loss: 0.5308 - val_mae: 0.5325 - val_mse: 0.5308
ae: 0.5008 - mse: 0.4756 - val loss: 0.5374 - val mae: 0.5058 - val mse: 0.5374
Epoch 31/1000
```

Conclusion

We have now learned how to build a deep neural network to solve a regression problem. We have visualized our loss in order to determine when we might stop training, and we have utilized early stopping to avoid wasting time training a model.

Welcome to deep neural networks. They are deceptively simple to build, but they are very complex to master. When you can build a model to fit a domain, you can create amazing predictions that rival human experts.