LSTM: Predicting Covid Cases

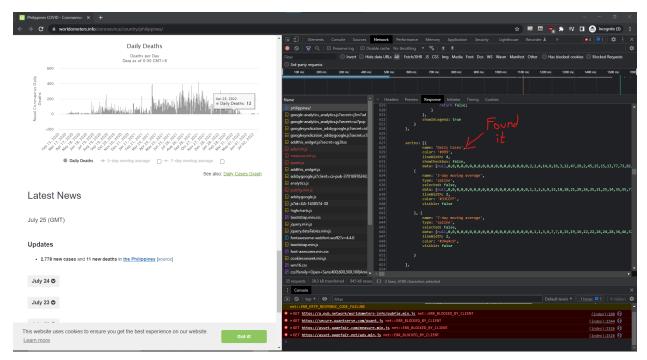
DOCUMENTATION:

Introduction

Covid 19 has already almost reached 3 years, and it has been a pain to deal with. Since more and more people are getting used to it already, and places are slowly trying to go back to normal with opening more public spaces such as f2f schooling, it would be good to know, or at least predict the cases of covid-19 in the future. Thus the idea of this project is to use machine learning to predict future cases of covid.

Method

To start, we will be needing a dataset. Originally, my plan was to create a web scraping application using Beautiful Soup, but most websites present their data in the form of interactive graphs. Thus, to get the data, I manually scraped it off the website by copy-pasting it from the 'inspect element' in google chrome.



Here is how the model looks like in graph:

```
[3]: # what the data looks like
     plt.figure(figsize=(15, 6))
     plt.plot(df['Cases'], label = 'cases')
     plt.ylabel('number o cases')
     plt.title('Daily Covid Cases')
     plt.legend()
[3]: <matplotlib.legend.Legend at 0x29f91216140>
                                                                  Daily Covid Cases
        40000
                                                                                                                              — cases
        35000
        30000
        20000
       15000
        10000
         5000
                                           200
                                                                    400
                                                                                             600
                                                                                                                      800
```

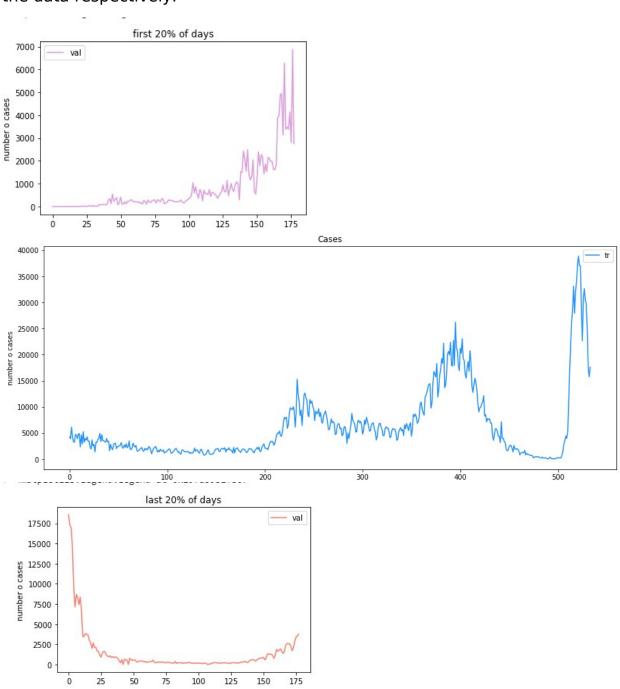
To create the model, I will be using LSTM to create and test the model from the training, test, and validation data.



The data is split by:

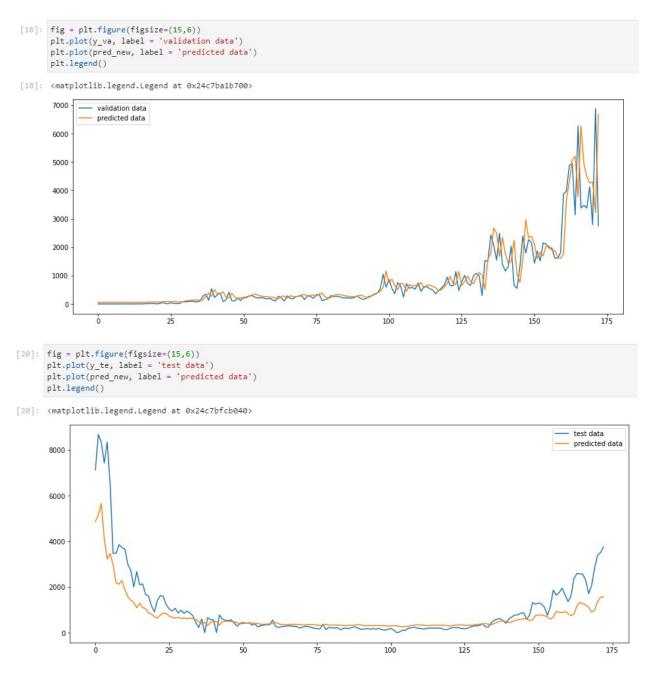
- > 60% training
- > 20% testing
- > 20% validation

The data for the validation and testing set are from the first and last 20% of the data respectively.



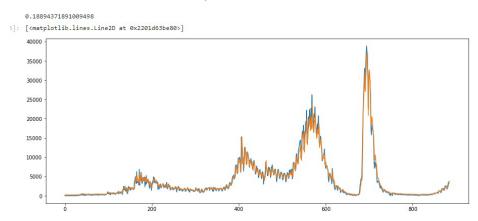
Results

After setting up the model, and tuning with the parameters, here is what the predictions look like in the Validation and Testing sets.



Now that I have defined my model, I will use the same model to predict future cases. To do that, I will use the entire dataset as the training dataset.

Here is the dataset and predicted set:



I think I would've gotten better results with higher epoch, but I settled with this.

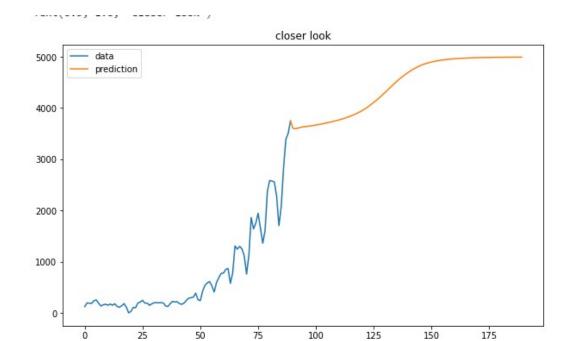
To predict future sets, I used this model, together with the last n numbers in the dataset to predict the next value. After, I simply used recursion to predict the next 100 days

```
[27]: Dta = np.array([])
      Dta = np.append(Dta, scaled_new_data)
      print(Dta.shape)
      # @param
          rec = number of times recursion occurs
      def pred_(model, data, n_step, rec):
          global Dta
          # get the last set in the data
          1 = data.shape[0]
          X = data[1-n_step:1]
          y = forecast_lstm(model, 1, X)
          #print(X, y)
          data = np.append(data, y)
          if rec <= 0:
              return data
              rec = rec-1
              data = pred_(model, data, n_step, rec)
          return data
      (890,)
[28]: a = pred_(model_1, Dta, n_steps, 100)
```

As for the prediction of the next 100 days, here is what the data looks like:

```
[29]: plt.figure(figsize=(10,6))
      plt.plot(a)
      plt.title('The model after adding 100 days')
[29]: Text(0.5, 1.0, 'The model after adding 100 days')
                                    The model after adding 100 days
        5
        4
        3
        2
        1
        0
       -1
                           200
                                          400
                                                         600
                                                                         800
                                                                                       1000
```

And here is a closer look at the data:



Discussion

Upon the creation of this project, I learned that LSTM models are not really good at extrapolating, which is why I only added a prediction for the next 100 days, and still, I will not quite consider it very reliable. However, I think that this is still an educated prediction of future cases based on existing data.

To summarize, what I created was an attempt to predict future Covid cases using an LSTM model with the training set of the middle 60% of the data. After tweaking the model's parameters with the test and validation set, I used the same model and used the entire data as training set in order to predict future sets. With this model, I predicted future values for the next 100 days. Finally, results are then displayed on Anvil.