Data Visualization: Subplots and Combining Visualizations

\$ echo "Data Science Institute"

Overview of this slide deck, we will:

- Learn about subplot notation in matplotlib
- Put multiple visualizations on the same axes objects
- Show errors
- Adjust figure layout
- Add images to plots

Subplots

Recall: How does matplotlib work?

- A **figure** is like a container that holds a set of **axes**
- The axes is our actual plot or graph
- A figure can hold multiple axes (like subplots)
- Every visual element of our plots colour, legends, axis titles and scales, text is called an artist and belongs to an axes (not to a figure)

Setting up

• Let's start by loading our libraries and generating some new sample data

```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import pandas as pd
import scipy
import PIL
import requests
np.random.seed(613)
x1 = np.arange(50)
y1 = np.random.randint(0, 75,50)
x2 = np.array(["Luffy", "Zoro", "Nami", "Usopp", "Sanji"])
y2 = np.array([110, 180, 240, 99, 220])
```

Introducing subplots

• In past lessons, to define our figure and its one axes, we would type:

```
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(5, 3))
```

• Now we want to have two plots next to each other, so we just have to define multiple axes and their relative positions:

Introducing subplots (cont.)

 Then we can use our new figure, with its two axes, and define the types of viz that we want to see in each

Activity: Customizing our plots

- Refer to past slides and class activities to customize the subplots we just made
- Think about adding titles or annotations, or modifying colour, marker type, and fonts –
 differently for each subplot
- Share your resulting images in the chat!



Subplots without a grid arrangement?

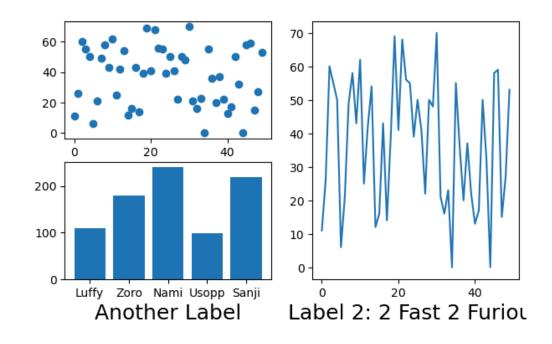
We can also arrange the subplots within our figure by using plt.subplot_mosaic()

Subplots without a grid arrangement - Data

• Once we've made our mosaic, we can add data to each of our subplots the same way we did before! Just reference each axes label in our someaxes list:

Modify figure layout

Let's try adding some very large x axis titles to our previous plot

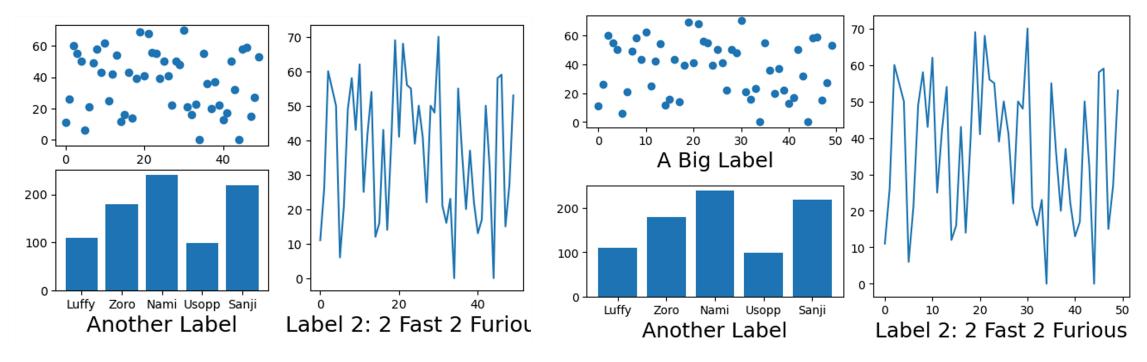


 The axis title for our scatter plot doesn't appear, and the axis title for our line plot is cut off!

- We can use layouts to make sure that our subplots fit neatly in our figure area
- There are two main kinds of layout we consider:
 - Tight layout adjusts subplots so tick labels, axis labels, and titles don't overlap or leave the figure area
 - Constrained layout works similarly except it also fits things like legends or colorbars

First let's see how a constrained layout changes our plot:

Layouts Comparison



No layout specified

Constrained layout

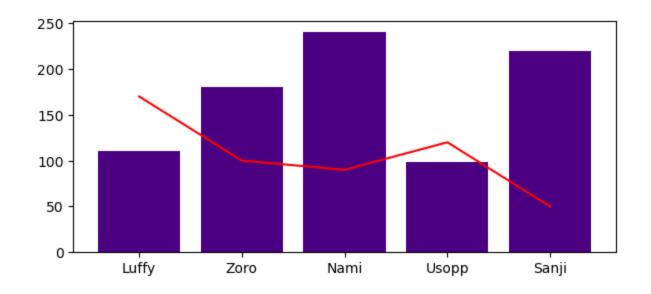
Multiple viz on one axes

Multiple viz on one axes object

Super easy: just call multiple plot methods on the same axes

```
# first make our sample data
x = np.array(["Luffy", "Zoro", "Nami", "Usopp", "Sanji"])
y1 = np.array([110, 180, 240, 99, 220])
y2 = np.array([170, 100, 90, 120, 50])
# define our figure and axes (just one this time)
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(7, 3))
# now call both bar and plot elements to the same axes (ax)
ax.bar(x, y1,
color = "indigo")
ax.plot(x, y2,
color = "red")
```

Multiple viz on one axes object



Annotations, shapes, etc. can be added as usual!

Add error information

• First, calculate standard deviation of our data

```
y2_sd = np.std(y2)
```

• Then plot our line as before

```
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(7, 3))
ax.plot(x, y2, color = "red")
```

Add error information

- Then use **errorbar()** to add in our error line (standard deviation in this case, but could be whatever value you calculated)
 - yerr specifies that we're plotting vertical error bars
 - fmt makes sure we're not plotting the actual data points, only the error

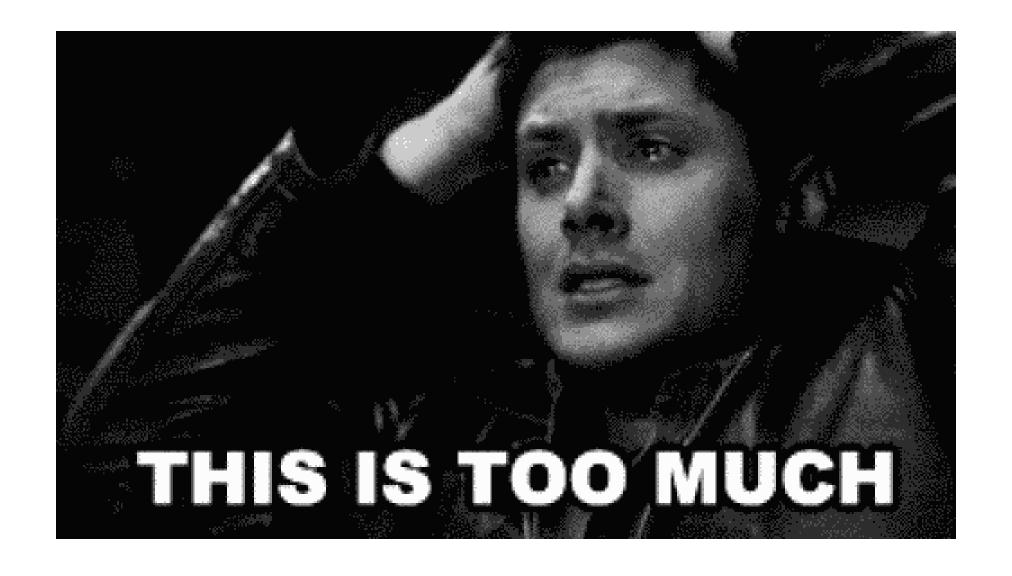
```
ax.errorbar(x, #our x values
    y2, #our y values
    yerr = y2_sd,
    fmt = "none")
```

Customizing errorbar appearance

Errorevery

 If we don't want to see error bars for every single point, we can specify intervals using errorevery

Add images to plots





Using images from the internet

First let's load our libraries

```
from PIL import Image # to open images
import requests # to get images from URLs
from io import BytesIO # to store images
```

Then get our image from the internet

```
response = requests.get('https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/c/cb/Monkey_D_Luffy.png')
image_file = BytesIO(response.content)
image = Image.open(image_file)
```

Adding an image to a plot

Now make a basic line plot (reusing our data)

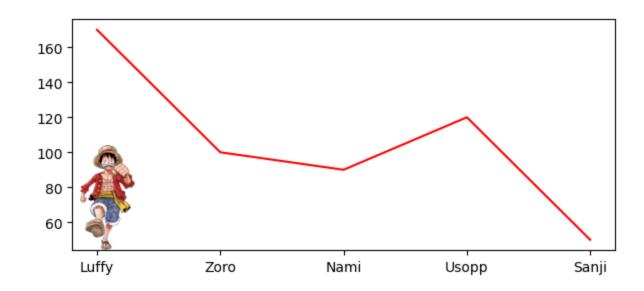
```
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(7, 3))
ax.plot(x, y2, color = "red")
```

• Then overlay a new axis ('ax_image') on our figure (on top of 'ax') to act as a container for our image

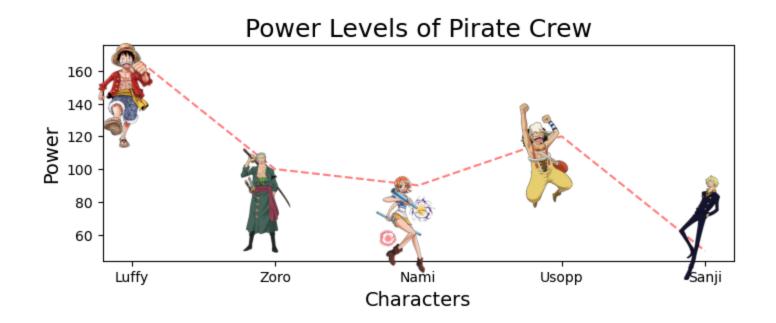
Adding an image to a plot

• Then add imshow() to add the image we prepared before

Adding images to our plots



What can we make?



Saving our visualizations

First, let's define where we want to save our visualization

```
path = 'C:/Users/...'
# can be full path or relative path
filename = '/fig1a.png'
```

Then save the visualization

```
plt.savefig(path+filename, dpi=300)
# note that path shouldn't end with / since filename starts with it
```



Assignment 3

Feedback!

Next session

- Data Visualization as Advocacy
- Examples of data visualization used for advocacy, and best practices
- Form, representation, and giving credit as means of incorporating advocacy into our own data visualization practices
- Moving beyond matplotlib other data viz libraries in Python